

From Tribune files — thirty-six years ago

Claremont land sale

\$30,000 for 200 acres

What were folks talking about on the street corners of Stouffville, Gormley, Claremont and Goodwood 35 years ago? To find out, The Tribune's editor dusted off the files of November and December 1943 and discovered the following stories.

One of the largest land deals recorded in the Whitby Registry Office during the last quarter century saw the holdings of the Forsyth Estate sold to North Shore Realty Company. The property was located three miles north of Claremont in Uxbridge Twp. The 449 acres, including 200 acres of virgin forest sold for a figure of between \$25,000 and \$30,000. The Mill Valley Lumber Co., was planning to ship trainloads of lumber from the station at Claremont

to the United States and Canadian war plants.

An impressive Armistice Day Service was held in the Stouffville United Church with Rev. Capt. Partridge the guest speaker. He was joined by Rev. Douglas Davis and Rev. Frank Herman of the Stouffville Anglican Church. Four flags were dedicated and brought forward by Mary Williams, representing the C.G.I.T., Pte. Bruce Davis, representing His Majesty's Forces; Supply Officer Donald Hodgins and Air Cadet Flt. Sgt. Stanley Ball. They were received by Ormsby Lehman and Carl Boadway on behalf of the Official Board. Musical numbers included a coronet solo by Alice Forsyth. At the Memorial Park Gates, wreaths were laid by Mrs. Douglas Davis and Mrs. John Castle.

Despite a shortage of shells, a large number of men from the area headed north for the annual deer hunt. Included were Bill Armstrong, Bill Greenbury, Chas. Atkinson, Walter Pipher, Reg Stouffer, Sam Armstrong, Chris and Frank Baker, George

Lee, Nels Byer, Wm. Reesor, Daws, Hare, E.A. Button, Jack Todd, Wm. Burkitt, Bob Snowball, Elgin Wagg, Jack Pennock, Tim O'Neill, Elmer Daniels, Walter Holden and 'Red' Forsyth.

Five Stouffville hunters came upon a most unusual sight while hunting in northern Haliburton—the death fight between two male deer. Dr. S.S. Ball, Jack Smits, Harry Ratcliff, Myron Anderson and Tommy Kerr found the two animals in a stream, their horns securely locked. Apparently, the animals became engaged in a terrific battle, with the larger one throwing its rival over a log and breaking its back. The pair then rolled into a nearby river. The victor was dragged below the surface by the vanquished and drowned. Their horns were so tightly locked, the hunters had to cut both heads off to bring home the evidence.

A flu epidemic swept through Stouffville, forcing the high school to close when more than 50 students were taken ill as well as two members of the staff.

Only a handful of ratepayers attended the nomination meeting in Ratcliff's Hall, returning reeve A.E. Weidon; councillors Hugh Boyd, Walter Brillinger and A.V. Nolan by acclamation. Also acclaimed were school trustees Don Chadwick, Lloyd Turner and J.W. McMullen. H.O. Klinck was selected to serve on the Cemetery Commission.

An interesting chapter was written into the records of the Markham and East York Agricultural Society when the mortgage, that once stood at around \$3,500 was burned. The ceremony was held at The Tremont Hotel and included the president, John Scott, Peter Reesor, W.F. Cockburn, R.H. Crosby, R.S. Ward and the Hon. George S. Henry.

Ted Cadieux of Stouffville was one of several airmen to receive his pilot's wings during graduation ceremonies at Hagersville.

Fourteen teams were entered in the Stouffville Horse Show, the largest number in many years. Participants included Alin Lewis, Stouffville;

Vincent Baker, Stouffville; Jos. Cooney, Stouffville; Anthony Featherstone, Claremont; Roy Hall, Brooklin; Heber Down, Brooklin; R.H. Pringle, Richmond Hill; Jimm Reed, Whitby and Leitchcroft Farms, Markham.

Reeve O.B. Heisy was returned to the position of reeve of Markham Village by acclamation. Frank Burkholder was nominated but declined to let his name stand. Nominated for Council were W.J. Payne, Charles Reesor, Edward Reeve, Edwin Roffey, John Torrance and Frank Tunney.

Pilot Officer Jack Drewey received his wings and commission at the Winnipeg R.C.A.F. Training Station. Jack attended public and high school in Stouffville and was a member of the Stouffville Air Cadet Squadron before enlisting.

A loud speaker was pressed into service for an auction sale at the Mansion House of goods belonging to D.F. Holden and Sons. The unit allowed auctioneer Clarke Prentice to be heard all over town.

Eleven year old Elaine Rae, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Rae, was injured when struck by a car on Main Street West. She was taken to Dr. Ball's office and later transferred to Toronto.

There were 41 entries in the North York Plowing Match held near Sharon. Class winners were Ronald Marquis, Sunderland; Roy Smity, Gormley; Stewart Ball, Uxbridge; Donald McMillan, Queensville; Bruce Timbers, Stouffville; Ivan McLaughlin, Cedar Valley; Allen Wells, Stouffville; Robert Timbers, Stouffville and George Timbers, Stouffville.

Councillor Reuben Stiver introduced a resolution at Markham Council, ordering the introduction of a bylaw requiring children to be home at a stated hour in the evening. Original requests had come from Unionville, United Church, the W.M.S. and the Women's Institute, the Lutheran Ladies Aid and the W.A. of the United Church. Some of the organizations suggested the deadline be 9:30 p.m. at the age of 14 years.



Native Ringwood resident marks 105th birthday

On Monday, Dec. 10, Priscilla Pipher, formerly of Ringwood and now a resident at the Stouffville Nursing Home, marked her 105th birthday. On hand for the party, complete with cake and candles, was Priscilla's niece, Grace Sherdahl, 325 Elm Road, Stouffville. —Jim Thomas.

SERVICE DIRECTORY

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High interest rates

Hurts farmers

Increased interest rates are causing hardships for many farmers and will eventually lead to a decline in productivity, Peter Hannam, President, Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA), told the Pine Ridge Branch of the Ontario Institute of Agrolgists.

Hannam said the increase in prime rates from 8 1/4 per cent in early 1978 to 13 per cent today is costing farmers an estimated \$700-million in extra interest charges on short-term loans alone.

The OFA estimates farm indebtedness in Ontario is now \$3.2-billion; short-term back loans amount to \$1-billion and \$3.4-billion is owed to supply companies, dealers and individuals. The balance is made up of mortgages and long-term loans for expansion, new equipment or improved facilities.

The OFA estimates, every one per cent increase in interest rates cost farmers an additional \$32-million dollars per year. Last year interest costs represented 12 per cent of the operating expenses on Ontario farms and Hannam expects the percentage will increase considerably this year. Consumers will have to pay that bill.

Hannam said young farmers are in serious financial difficulty. Many have large mortgages on their \$200-400,000 farms and are dependent upon the banks for short-term

loans until their products are sold.

"I expect many young people will be forced off their farms this winter and others will be so far in debt they will never get out", he said. Hannam warned this would have serious long-term effects for the industry, because often the young farmers are the most progressive.

Hannam said, well-established farmers are also being hurt. "At 12 per cent you might go ahead and buy new machinery or facilities, but at 14 or 15 per cent it just doesn't make economic sense", he said.

Hannam concluded, farm efficiency would decline leading to both reduced farm incomes and higher consumer prices. He also forecast a difficult year for the farm supply industry. He called on both Provincial and Federal governments to re-evaluate current economic policies and their impact on the food industry, and to take drastic steps if necessary to cushion the effect on high interest rates on agriculture for the benefit of producers, consumers, and all other segments of this all-important industry.

Golden Age Club

Christmas dinner

The Claremont Golden Age Club met Dec. 6 with thirty members in attendance. All were welcomed by the president, Margaret Benson. The annual Christmas dinner is Thursday evening (tonight) at 6 p.m. Euchre winners were Peg Jenkinson, Mary Hill and Alma Jones. At the Golden Age Club euchre, winners were Art Parrott, Norris Hardy, and Bill Coates; Doris Wilson, Ruby Jones and Blanche Tindall. Draw winners were Aldine Evans and Ralph Jones. The next seniors' meeting is Thurs., Dec. 20 at 1:30 p.m.

The Claremont Baptist Mission Circle will meet on Mon., Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m., in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Drake. The word for the roll call is "Joy".

Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville

"CITIZEN OF THE YEAR"

I take pleasure in nominating as "Citizen of the Year" for 1979. The following are my reasons:

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This event is being sponsored by The Stouffville Tribune with a view to honoring one citizen each year for outstanding service to his or her community. The person selected will be recognized at a banquet held early in the new year. Deadline for the receipt of nominations is Jan. 31, 1980.

Entries can be mailed to Post Office Box 40, Stouffville, Ont., or left at The Tribune Office, 54-56 Main Street.

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