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Interesting Sidelights on Return To England

(By George Abell)

Nationalization hasn't made much difference to the railways in England as far as can be seen. The locomotives and carriages have a little sign saying "British Railways" instead of L.M.S. (London, Midland and Scottish in this part of the country) but otherwise no change in the drabness of the station, the cheerfulness and courtesy of porters and platform attendants or the size of the coaches which look like toys after Canadian railroad cars. We were away about 11.30 and the sun came out then so had a good chance to look at the country on the trip. First impression was of activity. Several buildings, bridges, etc., were being erected along the right of way in the first mile or so. We passed by the great freight docks where the boats were loading for all over the world. There were acres and acres of tractors, cars, trucks, crated machinery and warehouses with labels on everything "export." I might say Britain is producing far more than ever in history but there is very little for home market. More of this situation at a later date. The country is largely farming with factories, brick yards, etc., scattered here and there for 70 or 80 miles south east of Liverpool. Everywhere the farmers were harvesting. A lot of fall wheat was still in shock due to the wet summer and everywhere the oat and barley crops were being harvested.

As this was Sept. 14 you can see how late the harvest was. But what strikes your eye immediately is the farm machinery. Every farm seemed to have a Ferguson tractor, a Fordson Major tractor, a big potato digger and a Massey Harris self-propelled combine.

The last time I helped harvest in England was 1943 and nobody had ever heard of a combine then but they seem to know all about them now. Farming is a very complex business here as everything is controlled and subsidized but I will give you all the details on this at a future date.

It was interesting to see the canals again. They are very pretty and seem to run everywhere. Only about 20 feet wide but wind over hills and even cross the railroad tracks someplaces. There are lots of the long diesel powered canal barges that carry freight all over England by this system. They are kept spotlessly clean, all brass-work shined and the families live aboard all their lives as each man owns his own boat.

But the thing that makes you know its England is the trainloads of coal cars. The cars are only open boxes on wheels about 8'x10' and hold between 12 and 15 tons of coal by the looks of them. They are everywhere. In long trains or side tracks, in marshalling yards and speer lines going to towns and factories. The country's whole economy is built around coal as it is the only plentiful raw material. Every factory, home (if you can get it) and business burns coal. As outside of Wales and Scotland there is no hydro development, all electric power is generated by steam from coal. They say here that this island is made of coal and surrounded by fish and nobody but the labour government could bring on a shortage of both at once.

Our train roared along at a good clip through towns and cities and two hours and twenty minutes after leaving Liverpool we were in Euston station which is about 120 miles I think but not sure. And what a cheerful return to London. The heavens opened up and seemed to be trying to rain a week's rain in an hour. The station was jammed and couldn't locate my family till finally a little figure standing on a big crate attracted my attention and sure enough it was the male half of my terrible twins nearly falling off my perch with excitement at seeing me. About half an hour and a million words later we were all going down the underground station at Euston for the last lap of the trip.

I hope the subway they are building in Toronto is as good as the London Underground for just to see it is well worth a trip to London. The escalators which lead to different levels must be among the longest in the world. This is a subject for another day for the London Underground has always been to me among the world's great feats of engineering. The British people seem to be still wearing the same type of clothes as ever. Few colors in either men's or women's clothes but most people were cheerful and at least got a good laugh at the sight of the three kids climbing all over me and all trying to talk at once. In no time we were at Tower Hill station and came up into the streets right across the road from London Bridge.

The long trip was over.

Biggest One Of The Season



Here's a whopper—a 24 1/2 pound pike, pulled through the ice of Cook's Bay at Lake Simcoe by Roy Heaton of Stouffville who is shown here displaying his prize. Roy tells us the largest one he has heard of, being caught in recent years was 29 pounds. The big fellow was hooked on

a copper line baited with a half pound minnow. The biggest trouble was to handle the thrashing giant once he was pulled into the fish shack. Roy was splashed from head to foot and has several scars where he was bitten as he battled to get the fish out of the shack on the ice where it was despatched with an axe.

Mrs. Asa Sider Is Eighty-Seven Today

The Tribune is happy to extend congratulations to one of the town's ladies who will reach her 87th birthday today (Thursday, Feb. 1st). She is Mrs. Asa Sider who makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Denton Law of Main Street. Mrs. Sider has always resided in the district of Gormley and Stouffville.

Tuesday evening some fifteen of the immediate family, together with their wives or husbands met at the Law home for a birthday supper in honour of the event.

Members of the family are Mrs. Denton Law (Sarah), Mrs. Winifred Timbers (Mabel), and Joseph of Stouffville, John of Gormley, Peter of Lansing, Levi of Vancouver, Mrs. Jesse Dewsbury (Annie) of Richmond Hill, and Mrs. Fred Hill (Lydia) of Long Branch. A daughter Mary (Mrs. Seth Wideman) and a son Wesley are deceased.

Mrs. Sider enjoys fairly good health, considering her age, and will doubtless derive great enjoyment from remembrance of friends and relatives.

Agincourt Accident Case Watched with Interest Here

In an out-of-court settlement, Gordon J. Brown, Agincourt, was recently awarded an undisclosed sum described as a "fair percentage" of the \$12,500 he was claiming in an action against the Department of Highways. The heavy limb of an elm tree fell across No. 7 Highway smashing in the all-metal cab of his truck.

"It was a typical spring day last Easter," recalled Brown. "I was driving along watching where I was going when I suddenly blacked out."

He was hospitalized eight days with a fractured vertebrae. It is understood that a similar case of this kind which occurred at the east end in Stouffville several months ago, was awaiting the outcome of the Agincourt settlement before proceeding.

Whitchurch Will Move to Interest New Industries

Clerk John Crawford has been instructed by the Whitchurch Township Planning Board to communicate with the Toronto Industrial Commission concerning the possibility of interesting firms to locate new plants within the township.

The matter of bringing in new industry was brought up for discussion by Councillor E. L. McCarron at the regular meeting of Whitchurch Township Council on Thursday evening.

"Townships around us are getting small industries, as the large concerns are decentralizing," he stated.

Mr. McCarron stated that he believed if the industry was located in the township many labourers would become home owners instead of tenants. If the present setup continued, Whitchurch would become a harbourer of labor, while surrounding municipalities where the industries were located would reap all the benefits. This would be a very unbalanced condition, he declared.

"I have been given to understand, that even if the township charged their full assessment and gave no special benefits to an in-

dustry, it could still operate here cheaper than in the metropolitan area," continued Councillor McCarron.

"Would the benefits of the added industrial assessment be greater than the added costs imposed by additional residents?" queried Councillor Bayeroff.

"I believe that they would," replied Councillor McCarron.

Suggests Provincials Police Lakes Council agreed that the Police Committee should approach the Provincial Police with a view to having them handle the policing of the two township lake resorts this coming summer.

Councillor McCarron stated that it was not too early to start making some move to better the police situation, and if the Provincial Police would handle these two lake spots, the local constable would be free to enforce local by-laws.

"We couldn't do anything with them before," declared Councillor Legge.

However, council agreed that it was worth a try, and left it to the police committee to look into the matter and report to the next meeting on Feb. 10th.

Thirteen Breakins Believed Work of One-Man Gang

A total of thirteen breakins, all but one in homes, which aroused the citizenry throughout the area during the weekend, are believed by police, to be the work of one man. Four of the housebreaks were in Stouffville on Saturday night. One store and one house here were entered on Sunday evening, while the marauder broke into six homes in Markham and one at Unionville on the Sabbath. Total amount of the cash loot amounted to between \$300 and \$400 with such items as a revolver, watch, cigarette case among the other items listed missing.

First indication of the burglary attack came about 8.15 p.m. Saturday night when Mrs. Loton housekeeper for E. B. Leavens, local postmaster, returned to her home on Main St., to find the door locked from the inside. A skeleton key from a neighbor finally gained entrance and it was discovered that a heavy safe in the house had been pried open and papers scattered about. However, the intruder in his apparent haste failed to notice the cash box, and nothing of value was taken. Entrance had been made through a cellar window.

At the K. R. Davis home on north Church St. about \$25 in cash was carried away by the thief who forced the back door. The dining-room and bedrooms were completely ransacked, but nothing was broken, and even dishes piled on the floor came off without a crack.

The Robt. Snowball home on Rose Ave., another victim, suffered the loss of a revolver and a ladies' wrist watch, and again bedrooms were completely searched. Entrance was gained in this instance by forcing off a rear storm window and breaking the window latch.

Mrs. A. Fuller's home, next door to the Leavens' house was also entered, but nothing was found amiss. Mrs. Fuller is absent for the winter.

On Sunday evening, Manager Ken Phillips of the local Dominion Store, surprised the thief when he entered the front door of the store. However, before Mr. Phillips could get a light on or attempt to apprehend the intruder, he made good his escape through the rear exit.

Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Johnson who occupy the upper apartment in the Archie Campbell home in the west-end, heard someone downstairs on Sunday evening, and came down believing it to be Mr. Campbell, occupant of the first floor. However, the thief who had apparently walked boldly in the front door which was not locked, heard their approach and all Mr. Johnston could catch a glimpse of, was a black car driving off into the darkness. Nothing was touched in the house.

Hardest hit in the Markham raid was Mr. Percy Wideman who lost more than \$200 in cash when his home was entered, while another hundred dollars was gathered from the residences of Mr. and Mrs. Henderson, Howard Middlebrook, Mel. Williams, Miss V. Birrell, and Frank Raymer. The Unionville home entered, was that of Mr. F. Pollard on No. 7 Highway.

Newmarket-Whitchurch Annexation Complete

Only two minor complaints were registered against the annexation of the northwest corner of Whitchurch Township by Newmarket, when the case was heard before representatives of the Ontario Municipal Board on Tuesday. The Reliance Oil Co. and Imperial Oil Co. objected to the change due to the early closing bylaw in town, and questioned the Board as to the possibility of special dispensation in the case of their service stations.

The formal order for annexation is expected to be completed today or tomorrow, and will become legal twenty-eight days hence.

Start Ice Cutting At Musselman's Lake

On Monday the ice cutters went to work carving out the blocks from Musselman's Lake and will be busy for a few weeks supplying their customers around the town and local district. The ice is of a much better variety than last year with most blocks averaging about fifteen inches in depth. Because of the lack of snow the job is much easier since all snow must be cleared from the frozen surface before operations can begin. Power-driven saws are used to slice through heavy ice and the blocks are then loaded onto trucks standing by with the help of power loaders. Much of the winter harvest is for Maple Leaf Dairy, while some is also disposed of to local farmers.

Herb. Rose, Stouffville Clipper, punctured his foot with a large spike on Monday.

Markham Agriculture Group Elects E. Graham

Earl Graham of Markham was elected president of Markham and East York Agricultural Society Friday night.

Other officers are: vice-presidents, Lloyd Turner, Stouffville, and J.D. Lanthier, Gormley; sec'y-treas., Roy H. Crosby; assistant, Mrs. Roy H. Crosby, and livestock director, Charles Boynton, Gormley.

Dates for the Markham Fair this year will be October 4, 5 and 6.

Evangelistic Campaign Concludes Feb. 5th

Last addresses by Rev. E. J. Wilson of Ottawa, in the current evangelistic campaign being held in the United Missionary Church, Stouffville, will be heard Monday evening, Feb. 5th. Misses Laura and Orma Tompkins of Plymouth, Mich., bring special musical messages, each evening. Services are continuing each evening except Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 10 and 11 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.

Clippers Tie with League-Leading Petes

Despite the fact that they took to the ice three men short, including their ace goalkeeper Jack Rhodes, Stouffville Clippers came up with a 6-6 tie against Peterborough Petes in an exhibition game at Port Perry on Tuesday night. The Petes are currently leading the eastern senior circuit.

The local crew had a big margin on the play and after spotting the liftlock boys a three goal lead in the first period, they started to roll. A breakaway in the dying moments of the game gave Peterborough the tie.

Lewis, Machin, Hochberg, Gibson and Couch were the goal-getters. Jack Warriner, sub goalie, pressed into service for the first time this year, turned in a good night after a jittery first period.

DEATH

WIDEMAN — Suddenly at her home, Main Street, Stouffville, on Tuesday, Jan. 30, 1951, Cora Wideman, daughter of the late L. C. Wideman, and loving sister of Lorna. Resting at the Chapel of L. E. O'Neill for service Friday, Feb. 2nd, at 2 p.m. Interment Stouffville Cemetery.

Suggests Smaller School For Lake Wilcox Section

If proper arrangements can't be made for a \$100,000 school let's spend \$10,000 or \$15,000 for a two-room school on a smaller site. It might do for two or three years. This was the suggestion of Councillor E. L. McCarron on Thursday evening, as Whitchurch Township Council discussed the recent proceedings in the Oak Ridges-Lake Wilcox public school problem.

"It will be recalled that some time ago a new section was established owing to the heavy population. A site was chosen for a new \$100,000 school, but the proposed site was rejected by the ratepayers at a public meeting. A Board of Arbitration was then set up to choose another site; and their decision will be final. They are still proceeding with negotiations along this line.

In the meantime arrangements have been made to handle the forty to fifty Lake Wilcox children at the Oak Ridges' school until June.

"I don't believe that a six or eight room school should be built if the ratepayers don't want it," stated Mr. McCarron.

It was revealed by Road Supt. E. Davis that the township engineers would be at Lake Wilcox shortly to lay out specifications for the proposed re-surfaced north lake road. Once these specifications are available, tenders for the work can be called.

The hearing before the Ontario Municipal Board on the annexation of a portion of the northwest corner of the township, by the town of Newmarket, is scheduled to be held on Tuesday of this week. Several appeals against the annexation have been registered, Clerk John Crawford told council, and these with any others are to be heard this week. L. P. Evans and Ed. Logan are the Planning Board representatives who will attend the meeting, and Councillors Bayeroff and Legge represented the township.

Mr. Lambert Wilson was re-ap-

pointed Whitchurch representative on the Holland River Conservation Committee, and L. P. Evans was re-appointed as township representative for the Humber Valley Committee.

Clerk John Crawford was instructed to write to Newmarket Council concerning the recent press reports of Whitchurch Council discussion on the alleged failure of the Newmarket Fire Brigade to attend promptly, a fire on Gorham street some months ago. Whitchurch Council agreed that they had definitely been misinformed on the incident and regretted any inconvenience or embarrassment caused the Newmarket Fire Dept. over the affair.

The final decision given in the equalized assessment appeal in which Whitchurch was involved was tabled on Thursday evening, and revealed a decrease of \$675,000 in favor of Whitchurch. Providing the County rate remained the same as in 1950, the township county levy would be approximately \$10,000. However, it was believed that due to the fact York County over-all equalized assessment was down several millions, a slight increase in rate could be expected.

The annual report of the York County Children's Aid was also tabled for council perusal, and showed actual expenditures in 1950 to have been \$344,783.76, with estimated expenditures in 1951 some \$65,000 higher still. The largest item in the account sheet was that of the maintenance of children in Boarding Homes, which amounted to \$183,700.00.

Standing Committees named for this year are as follows: Finance, Timbers, McLaughlin, Bayeroff, Roads and Bridges, Legge, Timbers, Bayeroff; Bylaws and permits, Bayeroff, McCarron, Timbers; Police and property, McLaughlin, Legge, McCarron; Health and welfare, McCarron, McLaughlin and Legge.

High School Area Move All Very Hush Hush

The Tribune has learned this week through council sources in Stouffville that a move may be made shortly in the Provincial Government House by Markham members of the local High School Area Board in conjunction with Markham Township and Markham Village to have the School Act amended in such a way as to permit our southern neighbors to form a new High School Area. Representation is understood to have been made to the Department of Education for the second time to have the area re-divided, and as before the Markham members were told this could only be done providing Markham was willing to join some other area such as Richmond Hill. This is according to the Act, and only an amendment of such Act could alter the case.

This new move in the current High School Area deadlock was formulated at a special meeting of

the southern Board members and members of the Markham Village and Township Council) and was held without the knowledge of either the Whitchurch, Stouffville or County representatives, it is learned by The Tribune.

Whether or not Whitchurch and Stouffville would strenuously oppose the secession of the two Markhams from the present area is not known; it is definite, however, questioning several northern members of council that they do not propose to countenance any switch of additional territory along the north Whitchurch-Markham townline, from that originally designated as lying within the Stouffville area. Stouffville council members as well as thoroughly aroused and are expected to discuss at their regular meeting this Thursday evening, steps to be taken to safeguard the local High School against any encroachment through special legislation being sought by the Markham delegation.