

1950

**REWIND**  
**SCUGOG**  
THE  
**FIFTIES**

1959

BY J. PETER HVIDSTEN

*Before* *it was*  
*History* *it was*  
*News*

**REWIND SCUGOG:**

**THE FIFTIES**

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Rewind

50's

The  
Fifties

**BY J. PETER HVIDSTEN**



*Looking west along Queen Street, Port Perry during the winter of 1940-1941. On left can be seen a portion of the canopy of the Williams garage, with the United Church and Town Hall 1873 further along the street.*

# 1950

## Council discusses Scout Hall and parking issues

*Port Perry Star, February 15, 1950*

The regular meeting of the Port Perry Council for February was held on Monday evening.

Mr. Sam Griffen approached the Council with a request on behalf of the Boy Scouts organization that the land upon which the Scout building is to be put be deeded to the Boy Scouts instead of leased. The Provincial Headquarters felt that it was unwise to build on leased ground.

Mr. Griffen briefly described the plan of the proposed building as follows: A log building with a basement and fireplace. (The building was described in more detail in the report of the annual Scout meeting some weeks ago.) \$2,500.00 has already been raised for this purpose.

The Reeve replied that the Boy Scouts were a worthy organization but the chief objection in giving a deed was that council would lose control of the building. Mr. Griffen said that plans would be submitted to the council for approval. The building would cost \$4,000 to \$5,000, not counting the labour donated.

Councillor Dymond felt that there should not be any objection to such a building, to cause them to withhold the deed. The Reeve felt the town solicitor should be instructed to look into the matter of giving a deed which would revert to the town in case of the disbanding of the Scout organization.

A delegation was received from the Business Men's Association to discuss the problem of local parking. Several suggestions were made and it was considered best to withhold the use of parking meters as long as possible in the anticipation of some other solution. It was proposed that a parking area be made – the corner of Perry and North Streets suitability for parking were discussed, by using tile in the creek. Other areas discussed included one being at the rear of the Post Office.

## President and directors elected for the new Port Perry Hospital

*Port Perry Star, February 23, 1950*

Monday evening the newly appointed Board of Directors of the Port Perry Hospital met in the Council Chambers and after acquainting new members with some of the By-law facts the Directors proceeded to elect its executive.



*Herb Brooks*

President, Herbert Brooks; Vice-President, Don Crozier; Sec. (pro-tem), Mrs. C. Sleep; Asst. Sec. Treas., E. Hayes.

House Committee – Mr. Martyn, Mrs. Sleep, Mr. Suggestt.

Property Committee – Mr. G. Reesor, Mr. Tetlow, Mr. Bruce, Mr. Heaslip.

Finance Committee – Mr. D. Crozier, Mr. E. Martyn, Mr. Heaslip.

The Property Committee was instructed to contact Engineers as to Heating, Sanitation, Wiring, Laundry, and secure plans and estimates that will be approved by the Board of Health. Ask for tenders on these plans and specifications, then present these facts to the various councils, along with the amount required of them.

After securing the assurance of receiving this amount, the Finance Committee would be able to go to the government and secure grants to cover their share of the costs.

At the close of the meeting Mr. Hayes read a letter which he felt covered the Hospital situation from its beginning to the present. The letter was received by the Board of Directors as being very complete and a regret was voiced that it had not been given at the public meeting, but that the press be asked to publish it for the benefit of the public.



*In February 1950 Sam Griffen of Lake Scugog Lumber presented council with plans for a log building for a Scout Hall, at the corner of Lilla (Simcoe) and Perry St., to be built at a cost of between \$4,000 and \$5,000. A ceremony marking the start of construction took place on Thurs., June 15 with Mrs. George Lane turning the first sod. Work began in June 1958 for an addition to the existing hall.*

## Council authorizes \$125,000 funding for new hospital

*Port Perry Star, March 16, 1950*

The hospital situation was reviewed and the following motion made and passed: "That this Council assume on behalf of the Corporation of the Village of Port Perry the pro-rata share of the estimated balance of cost of construction of the Memorial Hospital - Port Perry, being 40 percent of the \$125,000, e.g. \$10,000, and that this amount be raised by the issue of debentures guaranteed by the Corporation of the Village of Port Perry, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Hospital Board and to each of the Councils of Reach, Cartwright and Scugog Townships."

In other matters - a request for the extension of the water main on Union Avenue was received. This and other extensions have been granted by the Council for the Waterworks Dept. in 1950. A purchase of a truck for the town was also recommended.

## Dr. Dymond subdues armed man with a hyperdermic needle

*Port Perry Star, May 11, 1950*

Risking his life armed with nothing more than a hypodermic needle, Dr. Matthew B. Dymond, Friday, subdued a man barricaded in a house in Port Perry with a shot gun.



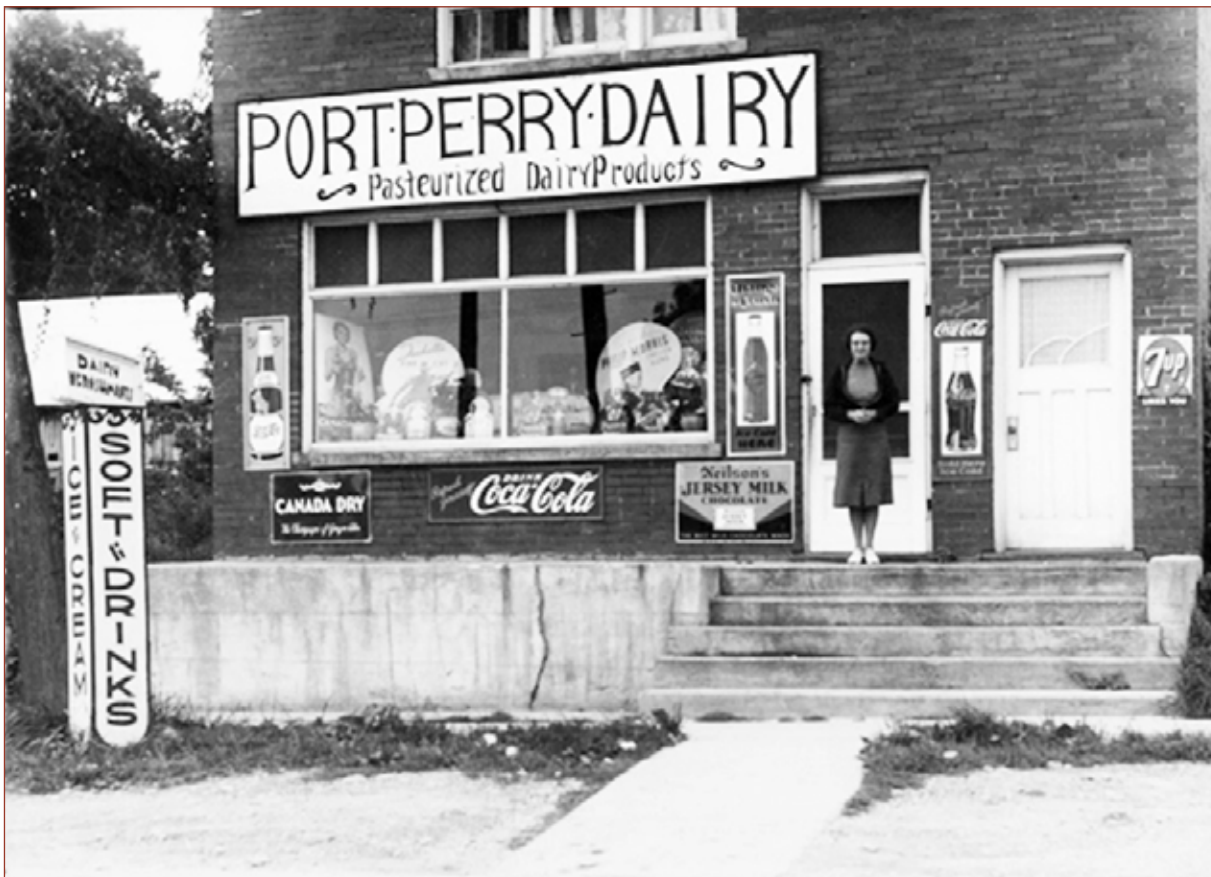
*Dr. M.B. Dymond*

The 25-year-old man, released from the Ontario Mental Hospital at Whitby 2 1/2 years ago, suddenly went berserk this week, attacked his 60-year old mother and his cousin's wife.

The mother managed to phone Dr. Dymond and the doctor, Chief Constable George Holmes and Provincial Police Constable Gordon Keast raced to the house. Constable

Keast walked up with a drawn gun, and ordered the door opened. He was refused.

Dr. Dymond, with a hypodermic needle hidden in his hand, walked up to the door and persuaded the man to open it. Once inside he administered an injection, the man calmed down and was returned to the Ontario hospital.



*The Port Perry Dairy as it looked in 1950s. The lady standing on front porch is employee Cora Gerrow who later married Irwin Tripp, who operated the garage next door to the dairy bar.*



*A group of teenage girls pose for this picture around a 'May Pole' on the outdoor skating rink located beside the Port Perry High School in the 1950s. The rink was located north of the school on Rosa St, near the corner of MacDonald Street.*

## Arthur Brunton honored by Pakistan Government

*Port Perry Star, June 8, 1950*

On Thursday last, in the reception salon of the Pakistan Embassy in Ottawa, Arthur Brunton, Port Perry poultry breeder, in the presence of 500 dignitaries of many nations, including the Prime Minister of Pakistan and Prime Minister L. St. Laurent of Canada, was honored by the Governor-General of Pakistan.

He was presented with an exquisitely lovely hand-wrought silver tray, decanter and silver cups, a gift from His Excellency in recognition of the generous gesture of goodwill of Mr. Brunton in sending to him, without charge, five dozen hatching eggs from a world record egg-producing strain of Rhode Island Reds.

The incident which led to this presentation occurred in January of this year. Mr. Brunton received from the High Commissioner for Pakistan in Canada, an order for two and a half dozen hatching eggs of his famous world's record egg-producing strain. Mr. Brunton filled the order, but sent five dozen eggs instead of 2 1/2 dozen, and when asked for his bill, he said there were a gift as a gesture of goodwill from Canadian farmers.

So far as Mr. Brunton was concerned, the transaction was ended, but on Wednesday last, he received a telephone call to be in Ottawa the next



*Arthur Brunton*

day, where the presentation was made to him.

The success of Arthur Brunton in developing his world record strain of Rhode Island Reds has also won him fame in poultry circles across Canada. In the Canadian poultry Review of July 1949, a special article was devoted to Mr. Brunton's "Reds."

### January 1950

Port Perry Council - Reeve Ernie Hayes; councillors - W.H. Peel, Dr. M.B. Dymond, Richard Frise, W.J. Carnegie.

Innes Motor Sales of Manchester was the Plymouth, Chrysler and Fargo dealer.

Reach Township attains 100th anniversary.

### February 1950

At a meeting of the Business Men's Association Mr. Sam Griffen outlined plans to begin construction of the new arena as soon as the weather was permissible.

Mr. Sam Griffen presented council with plans for a log building for a Scout Hall to be built at a cost of between \$4,000 and \$5,000.

Over \$430 was raised for the new arena at a Gala Night, featuring Bingo and a dance at the high school. Miss Zula Jackson was the lucky winner of a draw for a 1950 General Electric Washing Machine.



*Port Perry Dairy and Supertest gas station owned by Irwin Tripp in background circa 1945.*

### **March 1950**

Ron Peel of Peel's Poultry Farm is featured on the front page of the Farmer's Magazine.

Port Perry Council agreed to raise approx. \$10,000 by way of debentures for the construction of Memorial Hospital.

A second Gala Night was held at the High School with \$1,400 being raised for the new arena.

### **April 1950**

A finance committee for the building of the new Scout Hall was formed comprising of Wentworth Watson, Mansell Gerrow, Ernie Sulman, Jack Whitby.

Port Perry Junior Institute and Junior Farmers organized with Netta Melnychuck as president.

A committee was appointed to deal with immediate action on construction of a new school for Port Perry.

### **May 1950**

Sixty five windows in the main building at the fairgrounds were broken.

Mr. Jack Sharpe of Uxbridge won a new Meteor car in draw held at the Gala Night held for the new arena. The draw added \$1,500 to the building fund.

## **"Corky" the 330 lb. clown entertains**

*Port Perry Star, June 14, 1950*

"Corky" the well known swimmer and water clown visited Birdseye Center Park and assisted in the official opening of the swimming pool for the 1950 season. The pool is situated in the spacious park with its lovely trees-shading the modern cabins, looking out upon the beautiful scene down Lake Scugog.

He gave an excellent performance of skill in balancing, water stunts and swimming strokes.

The 330 pound clown arrived at the tank in one of Williams Motor Sales "Prefect" cars. In spite of his bulk he demonstrated the ease with which one enters or leaves these small cars. "Corky" introduced himself to the large crowd around the "Birdseye" pool as a good-will ambassador for the local merchants.

In his stunts he used products from the stock of Port Perry merchants – such as Silverwood's Ice Cream, milk from Port Perry Dairy, a delicious looking salad from the Delicateria; tasty products from Gerrow's Bakery; fresh fruit from Palmer's Groceteria and bottles of refreshing "7-Up" also entered his program.

This huge man is really spectacular in the ease with which he carries out his stunts in the water. He demonstrated swimming, using a combination of four different strokes at one time; swimming sideways; breast stroke in reverse and a good reason why he is called "Corky". The first stunt was balancing a full opened bottle of 7-Up on his forehead as he floated on his back; then he rolled over making a complete turn without spilling the bottle or its contents. His famous 7-Up trick consists of balancing six tumblers of water and one bottle of 7-Up as he floats on his back then without touching the bottle with his hands he filled a tumbler from the bottle which was balanced on his head.



## Work gets underway on new Recreation Centre

*Port Perry Star, April 13, 1950*

The first move towards a new arena took place with 1,000 bags of cement being transported from Myrtle Station in four hours last Saturday.

This was made possible by the free service of several trucks and many men, who volunteered to help make the start toward the erection of our Recreational Centre.

This co-operation made a net saving for the Centre of \$50.00. The Committee wish to express their appreciation to those who did the work.

### June 1950

Mr. Fred. Christie became the youngest District Chairman in the Province of Ontario when he was elected Chairman of District No. 4, Ontario Agriculture Societies.

### July 1950

Work gets underway on the new recreation centre, although it has been downgraded to just an arena.

Work has been completed in widening, repairing and beautifying the west end of Queen St., including removal of the boulevard.

Plans for the construction of Community Memorial Hospital were approved.

## New by-law allows angle parking only on both sides of Queen Street

*Port Perry Star, June 14, 1950*

At its last meeting, Port Perry Council passed By-law 1162, respecting the regulating of traffic on Highway within the Corporation of Port Perry. The By-law was approved by the Department of Highways and reads as follows:

1. Within the corporate limits on Queen Street between Water Street and Perry Street there shall be no parking or standing of any vehicle excepting at an angle of 45 degrees, between the curb of the highway and the side of the vehicle adjacent to the curb.

2. Within the corporate limits on Queen Street between Perry Street and John Street there shall be no parking or standing of any vehicle excepting it shall stand or be parked adjacent to the curb of the Highway and parallel with the curb.

3. Within the corporate limits on Queen Street between Water Street and John Street no vehicle shall stand or be parked longer than two hours at one time between the hours of 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturday, and between the hours of 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on all other days, excepting Sundays and holidays.

Dual parking and over-night parking within the corporation limits are prohibited. Every person who contravenes this By-law shall be liable to minimum fine of \$1.00 and a maximum fine of \$10.

**An official ceremony marking the start of construction of a new Scout Hall, at the corner of Perry and Lilla Streets, took place on Thursday, June 15, 1950, with Mrs. George Lane turning the first sod.**



*North side of Queen St., Port Perry taken about 1950. Stores on the street, from right to left, the White Spot Restaurant, Dominion grocery store, I.R. Bentley's Jewellery Store, Bell Telephone office, Parrish Hardware and Lawrence Drug Store, on the corner.*

# Largest attendance enrollment in public school history

*Port Perry Star, September 7, 1950*

End of summer was marked on Tuesday by the procession of children, and mothers, heading toward the, red brick building on the hill. After all the names were down and the lists of books packeted and all the confusion of new comers and the excitement of meeting old school mates, we find an attendance registered of 225 – the highest ever recorded for Port Perry Public School.

Miss Joblin, who has been our very capable Kindergarten-Primary teacher for some years, is to be assisted this year by Mrs. Elmer Lee with the work of Grade I.

Mrs. Lee, who has had nine years teaching experience in rural schools, will also give a half day weekly to Grade 8 work. With this able assistant, Mr. Cornish the principal, plans to spend some time in

general supervision of the classes.

Something different is to be attempted in the arts and crafts of the Public School. Miss Metier and Mrs. MacFarlane now hold specialist degrees in Arts and Crafts and will have the supervision of this work in all forms. All teachers are back refreshed by rest and stimulated with new ideas and plans for a better than ever school year.

The High School has also shown an increase in registration. Strangely enough, the figure for attendance was also given as 225, the same as that of the Public. School.

Several new teachers have been added to the High School staff, and no doubt many new ideas and plans have grown during the summer vacation. All in all it appears to be a very fine year ahead.

## Boat burns to water line a lakefront wharf

*Port Perry Star, July 29, 1950*

Monday evening a motor launch burned to the water line along side the Port Perry wharf. The launch was being used by Mr. Frank Honey who was putting it in for repairs.

As Mr. Honey was checking the spark plugs of the motor, when a spark ignited gas fumes and caused an explosion – blowing Mr. K. Bateman and Frank Lyle into the water. Frank Honey had three fingers badly burned and also his arms, face and hair were singed. Frank Lyle received slight burns. Two other men, George Lukes, and Joe Schenks escaped serious injury.

Spectators shoved the boat out from the wharf where it burned to the water. In drifting out from the wharf the burning boat endangered other boats at anchor but was pulled clear in time.

## August 1950

Port Perry held its 20th annual Sports Day with horse racing, baseball and a four block long racing car derby from Cochrane St. to Beare’s Garage. In the evening there was bingo and dancing in the street.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Durkin celebrated the 15th anniversary of their Five Cent to One Dollar Store in Port Perry.

St. John’s Anglican Church, Blackstock marks its Centennial.

## October 1950

Memorial Library receives gift of beautiful chairs from late Charles Stewart during an open house for the public.

## November 1950

Port Perry Yacht Club held their awards dinner at the Delicateria Restaurant. Don Simpson was elected Commodore and Don Carnegie Vice-Commodore.

## December 1950

Mr. David Carnegie, 67, a prominent local businessman passes. He one time operated the Carnegie Lumber and Grist Mill, and for the past 35 years was a hardware merchant.

Public School children tried out the ice at the new arena for the first time on Dec. 20, 1950. The first student to step on the new ice surface was Bob Carnegie.



*The interior of the new arena shows the truss roof in place and work beginning on the spectator stands. Photo taken in September 1950, by the Molson photographer.*



*Judges look over the entries in one of the horse show classes at the Port Perry during the 1950s. In the background can be seen the old grandstand at the fair. The old wooden structure was completely destroyed by fire in May 1967.*

## Port Perry Canadian Legion opens its new hall

*Port Perry Star, December 28, 1950*

On Friday, December 22, the Canadian Legion, Branch 419, opened its new hall for the first time. About 15-20 veterans and their friends enjoyed a pleasant social evening.

As this was the last meeting for 1950, the business was the election of officers for 1951.

Following is the slate of officers:

President, Frank H. Smith; Vice-President, Reg Moorehouse; Sec.Treas., John D. Christie; Sgt. at Arms, John L. Sweetman; Assistant, George Burnett.

Executive Committee: George Parry, Herb Dobbs and Alan Walsh. Padre, J.T. Coneybeare.



*Looking down at the racetrack and booths at the Port Perry Fair, September 1950. Photo by the Molson Photographer.*

# 1951

## Archer Motors 25 years as a GM dealer

*Port Perry Star, January 11, 1951*

This month marked the 25th Anniversary of Harold R. Archer, Port Perry, as a General Motors Dealer. On January 2, 1926, Mr. Archer became the fourth dealer to sign a contract with General Motors Products of Canada for the sale of Pontiac cars, and General Motors Parts.

At the present writing, he is the oldest Pontiac Dealer in the Dominion of Canada, in years of service.

In fitting, tribute, this occasion was marked on January 4, 1951 by a presentation by General Motors to Mr. Archer, of a Silver Plaque; suitably inscribed, commemorating his 25 years of loyal association with General Motors. In addition, Mr. Archer was presented with a desk-lamp.

The presentation took place in the beautiful showrooms of Archer Motor. Sales, in Port Perry, and was witnessed by the entire staff of the dealership, as well as a few local citizens who have been close friends, and constant customers of Mr. Archer's.

After the presentation, the entire party retired to banquet hall of the Delicaterra Restaurant and following dinner, Mr. Archer was congratulated by members of the General Motors party.

The entire presentation and dinner was a surprise to Mr. Archer, and was a every big success. The arrangements were made by Robert Archer, Mr. Archer's son, and Mr. Ken McDonald, of General Motors, and to them must go the credit for a very successful evening.

### January 1951

Voters in Reach Twp. decided to support the Memorial Hospital with \$12,500 share of the building cost.

Port Perry Council - Ernest Hayes, Reeve; councillors Dr. M.B. Dymond, Harry Peel, Hugh Santer and Frank Hastings.

### February 1951

The Canadian H.W. Gossard Co. Ltd. open branch in Port Perry in the Town Hall.

The largest crowd ever attended the first Port Perry Carnival held in the beautifully decorated arena and enjoyed skating demonstrations by a number of Toronto guest skaters.

### March 1951

Mrs. Zula M. Jackson and Mrs. Gertrude Jackson received honors for their years of service in United Church Sunday School.

Dr. H.C. Hall of Oshawa suggested the former Port Perry Hospital re-open for maternity and other cases to help take the additional demand off Oshawa Hospital.

**PORT PERRY COMMUNITY MEMORIAL RECREATION CENTRE**

DR. D. C. McWATSON  
DR. R. D. DREW  
M. A. WERREW  
HON. A. PEEL  
HAROLD R. ARCHER  
JACK HEIN  
A. V. GRUPPEN  
ART CHERRISH

PRESIDENT - TED JACKSON  
VICE-PRESIDENT - HARRY PEEL  
SECRETARY - BOY ORNDEN  
TREASURER - J. HOFFMANN

KEVIN R. HAYES  
J. G. LOVE  
A. W. LAWRENCE  
C. CARTER  
A. MCGILLIVRAY  
R. HODDY  
J. J. ORR  
ART BRUNTON

PROUDLY ANNOUNCE

**OFFICIAL OPENING**

MEMORIAL GARDENS

by Hon. Leslie Frost, Premier of Ontario  
Hon. Arthur Welsh, Provincial Sec'y  
**Guard of Honor**  
THE PORT PERRY LEGION POST      Commander - John L. Sweetman

MARTIAL MUSIC  
Under Direction of Pipe Major John Reid

**'General Motors War Vets Pipe Band'**

**DISTINGUISHED GUESTS**

His Worship Mayor Michael Starr, Oshawa.      Mr. Wm. MacBrien, Chairman of the Board, Maple Leaf Gardens  
Mr. Ted (Teeder) Kennedy      Stars of Toronto Maple Leaf Hockey Team      Mr. John Ross Roach, Former N.H.L. Goalie Star  
Mr. Sid Smith.

Radio Station CKLB, Oshawa will carry the complete ceremony to their listening audience

**Tri-County League Hockey Game**

PROCEEDINGS COMMENCE AT 8.15 P.M. SHARP      ADMISSION-\$1.00 PER PERSON

**FRI. JANUARY 12, 1951**



Premier Leslie Frost opened the Port Perry Community Memorial Recreation Centre on Friday evening, January 12th, by cutting the ribbon held by Jean Williams, left, and Mayreen James, two Port Perry High School students slected by their fellow pupils for this honour.



*The new Port Perry Community Recreation Centre and arena was officially opened on Friday, January 12, 1951.*

## Impressive opening ceremony for new Port Perry arena

*Port Perry Star, January 18, 1951*

An impressive ceremony, marked the official opening of the Port Perry Community Memorial Recreation Centre on Friday evening of last week.

In opening the Memorial Gardens, Premier Frost congratulated warmly and sincerely the fine spirit of co-operation which has been shown by the people of Port Perry, Reach and Scugog. A great roar of applause thanked him when he handed the cheque for \$1,000.00 to Ted Jackson, President of the Committee. This amount completes the government grant of \$5,900 to the project.

A brief religious service by Rev. W.C. Smith and Rev. John Coneybeare dedicated the building to the welfare of the community. A Guard of Honour from the local Canadian Legion Post under command of John Sweetman came to attention while the "Last Post" and "Revielle" were sounded with the flag salute.

Jean Williams and Mayrenne James skated to the centre of the ice surface and unwound a long strip of ribbon which was cut by the Premier as he spoke "We dedicate this Community Centre

to the men who served, suffered and died to maintain our way of life, in two world wars."

Roy Cornish, secretary of the committee, introduced COL Wm. A. MacBrien, chairman of the board of the Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto, a former Port Perry boy, who, after reminiscing about his boyhood days in sports in Port Perry, congratulated the community on its splendid new arena. He introduced Teeder Kennedy, captain of the Maple Leafs

hockey team, and Sid Smith, of the same team.

Andy Lawrence, chairman of the building committee, introduced John Ross Roach, a native of Port Perry and former star NHL goalkeeper.

The ceremony was completed by a message of thanks by President Ted Jackson to all who had helped to make the dream of a Port Perry arena come true, and who had joined in the opening ceremonies.



*Ted Jackson, second left, Chairman of the Community Memorial Recreation Centre committee is seen here with Premier Leslie M. Frons, centre, who formerly opened the new facility. At right is Col. W.A. McBrien, native of Port Perry and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Maple Leaf Gardens. In back are Captain Teeder Kennedy and Sid Smith, of the Toronto Maple Leafs hockey team.*

### Old John Street Hospital sold

*Port Perry Star, March 1, 1951*

Word has been received that Mr. Morris, of Toronto, has purchased the old Hospital building with a view to using it as a nursing home, under the direction of a capable matron.

The \$8,500, paid to the Community Memorial Hospital Committee will be a further inducement for them to hasten in their building program. We are pleased to know that at least some relief is coming for our critical hospital situation.

### Chapel for Pine Grove Cemetery

*Port Perry Star, March 1, 1951*

We were pleased to note in the yearly report of the Prince Albert Pine Grove Cemetery Co., that a number of donations had been received toward the building of a chapel in this fine cemetery. There has been a long felt need for a building of this character, but as this company is not a profit making institution, the receipts barely cover the cost of upkeep, it was decided the only way left open to raise funds, was by public donation. There are many living at distant points, as well as locally that will be interested in this undertaking; who come back periodically to visit the graves of relatives and friends.

This building when completed will be known as the Pine Grove Memorial Chapel.

### Women honoured for half a century service to United Church

*Port Perry Star, March 15, 1951*

Mrs. Zula M. Jackson and Mrs. Gertrude Jackson received recognition of their years of devoted service in the United Church Sunday School on Friday evening.

Mrs. Gertrude Jackson, who has given generously of her time and musical talent has assisted in the Primary Department for 27 years, while Mrs. Z.M. Jackson headed the Department for fifty years.

This 50 continuous years of service is as far as we know, a record in the United Church Sunday School work and Mrs. Z.M. Jackson can point out families in Port Perry in which three generations have been pupils who came under her guidance.

But whether it be a record or not it is definitely a remarkable service to this community and one which

has been much appreciated as was shown by the crowd who were present on Friday evening to witness the presentation of illuminated addresses and gifts.

### Over 3,000 spectators watch Lake Scugog boat races

*Port Perry Star, May 21, 1951*

With perfect weather prevailing, Port Perry saw the largest crowd ever to witness a Regatta on Lake Scugog, when over 3,000 spectators enjoyed 36 power-boat races.

There were two spills by boats going over 50 m.p.h., but no one was injured and quick action by the crash boats soon cleared the course.

Speed boats were entered from New York, Windsor, St. Catherines, Hamilton, Oshawa, Bowmanville and other points.



A large crowd gathers along Water St., and in Palmer Park in May 1951 to watch the speed boat races during the Port Perry Yacht Club Regatta at the lakefront. More than 3000 spectators enjoyed the day, which featured 36 speed boat races. In the centre of the picture, is the former Yacht Club building, which was removed from the lakefront in 1975.

## Fire guts Morrow Farm Equipment building

*Port Perry Star, May 21, 1951*

At one a.m. Sunday a fire was noticed burning in the building occupied by Morrow Farm Equipment and Lakeshore Knitting Mill on Perry Street. It was reported almost instantaneously by Jack Whitmore, who rang the alarm bell and by Miss M. Clark who called the local telephone exchange.

The brief time it took the volunteer Fire Brigade to arrive, the blaze had made rapid headway and it required many hours of effort to extinguish the fire.

Surmise has pointed to two possible causes of this great loss; boys were seen earlier in the evening tossing firecrackers at the building and it is believed on may have slipped under a door to explode among eerily ignited material, smouldering away to blaze up later. The other possibilities urged spontaneous combustion.

Valiant effort on the part of the Fire Brigade brought the blaze under control about an hour after it was report and prevented its spread to nearby buildings, but firemen were keep busy for hours by smoldering wool and burning debris.

Seven tractors were removed from the premises by Gordon Morrow, the owner, and volunteers who drove them to the DeNure bus yards.

Unfortunately the Knitting Mill was unable to rescue anything of value and many papers as well as thousands of dollars worth of machinery, raw material and finished garments were destroyed.

Total loss of building and equipment is estimated at from \$100,000 to \$125,000, which is partially covered by insurance.

## Tribute paid to "one of world's best " scientists

*Port Perry Star, June 8, 1951*

Dr. Earnest A. Hodgson, Chief Seismologist of the Dominion of Canada and Mrs. Hodgson, who reside at the corner of Casimir and Perry Streets, have recently attended in Ottawa a meeting of the Seismologist Society of America at which Dr. Hodgson was honored as "One of the world's very best seismologists."

The three day conference of the Society took place at the Chateau Laurier Hotel in Ottawa



*The south end of the burnt-out Morrow Farm building shortly after the fire.*

## Parking by-law amended, angle parking allowed only on north side of Queen St.

*Port Perry Star, June 8, 1951*

One year after passing by-law, which provided for angle parking on both sides of Queen Street, between Water and Perry Streets, council repealed the section of the by-law pertaining to angle parking.

It was replaced with the following: "Within the corporate limits on the north side of Queen Street, between Water Street and Perry Street, there shall be no parking or standing of any vehicle excepting at an angle approximating forty-five degrees, between the curb of the Highway and the side of the vehicle adjacent to the curb; and within the Corporate limits on the south side of Queen Street between Water Street and Perry Street, there shall be no parking or standing of any vehicle excepting it shall stand or be parked adjacent to the curb of the highway and parallel with the said curb. The by-law change will be enforced effective on Monday, June 18, 1951.



*Epsom Public School about 1950. In 1954 a serious fire, which could have destroyed the village's landmark, took place in the school. Following the fire the belfry was taken down.*

## Work underway on installation of asphalt floor in new arena

*Port Perry Star, June 21, 1951*

Much activity is going on in the Recreation Centre this week leveling and making ready for an asphalt floor which will make this building available for many other activities, such as dancing and carnivals which were formerly held on the street (and so the prey of weather).

The approximate cost of this floor is \$2,900, and will give a hard surface to the whole skating area. This will be an added asset to the community's activities, as its available to all organizations in the district.

## Queen Street getting a face-lift

*Port Perry Star, June 28, 1951*

Workmen have been busy filling holes in the approaches to Queen Street and a hard surface gutter has been placed down the north side of the road to help carry off the surface water after a heavy rain.

Some of the streets have been freshly graveled and the parking spaces in the down town area newly painted. You will remember, of course, that angle-parking is on the north side of street only, and parallel parking for the south side of Queen street in business block.

These changes, together with the parking space at the rear of the Post Office, have greatly improved driving conditions in the village especially on Saturday evenings when congested conditions were formerly most prevalent.

We hope this repair work will continue through the summer and will include broken sidewalks.

## Move one of towns oldest houses

*Port Perry Star, June 21, 1951*

One of the oldest houses in Port Perry, is being moved back from 257 Queen St. and will be facing on John Street. This will make room for the new building being planned by Mr. Arthur J. Carnegie.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and family, who now occupy this home will be leaving Port Perry to reside in Oshawa.

### April 1951

Dr. M.B. Dymond was guest speaker at a banquet to commemorate the battle of Vimy Ridge at Del's banquet hall.

Town council signed a contract to have town sprayed to keep mosquitoes down this summer.

The town quashed plans for a nursing home on John St., but approved use of the old Hospital for a rooming house or apartment.

### May 1951

Proceeds from a second Gala Night completes final payment for the Recreation Centre.

More than 3000 spectators enjoyed the Port Perry Yacht Club Regatta at the lakefront, which featured 36 speed boat races.

### June 1951

A fourth operators station on the switchboard at the Bell Telephone office is added. Number of phones connected to the exchange is 1238.

### July 1951

Hon. Paul Martin announces Canada to provide Old Age Security pensions for persons 65 years of age.



Garage on the southeast side of Perry and Mary Streets, was purchased by Archer Motor Sales.





*View of Queen Street, looking west from the old grain elevator in 1950.*



*Lakeview Theatre in former St. Charles Hotel, a Hatchery and Dowson's Grocery in building at right on Queen St., during 1950.*

## Town votes for beer warehouse

*Port Perry Star, August 16, 1951*

Based upon the 1948 voters list the necessary 25% of the number of voters have signed the petition requesting the Council to put to the vote the question of whether a Brewers' Warehouse should be located in Port Perry,

The following resolution was passed by the Council:

"That the Clerk be hereby authorized to forward the beer petition of Thomas McNeill and others along with the Certificate of Sufficiency to the Liquor Control Board of Ontario,"

This certificate was forwarded on the 11th day of August but the vote cannot be held until two months have expired from this date. The vote will probably be held late in October.

## Plans for landscaping of hospital

*Port Perry Star, June 28, 1951*

Upon invitation of the local Junior Farmers, Professor We all. of Ontario Agricultural College, has prepared a plan for landscaping of the new hospital.

This plan shows driveways, walks, planting arrangements, type of trees and shrubbery to use, filter beds for septic tank and and inner or sun court. Anyone interested may see the plan in the window of the law office of Mr. A.W.S. Greer.

No further official word has been received regarding the progress being made to complete the hospital building.

Gate receipts at Port Perry Fair topped \$2,000 with close to 6,000 people attending the fair.

*Port Perry Beverages was the supplier of Kist soft drink products, including Orange Kist for 5c.*

## Tender for new Public School higher than was estimated

*Port Perry Star, August 16, 1951*

The Public School Board have presented the village Council with the tender received for the construction of the new school, which is as follows: H.M. Brooks Co., - \$259,443.00.

Deduct for chain link fence, colus drive and removing apple trees.....	\$ 5,500.00
Balance.....	\$253,943.00
Add Architects fees (6%).....	\$ 15,236.58
Fencing and tree removal.....	\$ 1,320.42
Cost of building site.....	\$ 4,500.00
Total Cost.....	\$275,000.00

The estimate arrived at last year was \$185,000.00. This tender presumes the, use of equipment from the present school building.

In answer to the request for approval of the tender, the town Council passed the following resolution:

"That this council is of the opinion that the estimated cost of the new Public School building is exorbitant and the estimate should be returned to the Public School Board for reconsideration. In the event that this estimate cannot be reduced materially, this question should be submitted to a vote of the people."

## Don't be Misled by False Rumors!

**PORT PERRY IS VOTING  
OCTOBER 24th FOR A  
BREWER'S RETAIL STORE ONLY**

To establish this outlet sixty percent of the town's electors must vote in favour. If this question carries the town remains under local option on all other types of outlets.

No further vote can be held for three years from October 24th. In any future vote no beverage room, cocktail bar or licensed outlet of any kind can open here unless sixty percent of the electors vote in favour—just as in the present vote. The strict terms of the law are stated above.

**PORT PERRY COMMITTEE  
FOR LEGAL CONTROL**

Thos. McNeill, Chairman

*Ad promoting the vote for a Brewer's Retail store in Port Perry.*

### July 1951

More than 1200 area residents attended the Lions Club Carnival and Dance at the Memorial Arena.

Employees of H.W. Gossard Co. from Toronto and Port Perry enjoyed a picnic at Pleasant Valley Ranch.

### August 1951

A petition is being circulated around town to request Council to bring a vote to the people on having a Brewer's Warehouse in Port Perry.

A drinking fountain is to be erected close to the Palmer Memorial Park.

Port Perry's clerk-treasurer John F. Raines received word a vote on a Brewer's Warehouse would take place on Oct. 24.

### September 1951

Staff of the Port Perry Star gathered to say farewell to Bill Harrison who accepted a position with the *Oshawa Times-Gazette*.

Port Perry passed a bylaw issuing a \$34,000 debenture over 20 years at 4 1/2 per cent for the new hospital.

### October 1951

Miss Olive Wallace appointed Assistant Professor in Food Administration MacDonald Institute, Guelph.

Ed. Storry and his workmen removed the tower from the Town Hall, which has been considered unsafe for some time.

## Port Perry remains "dry" despite record number of votes cast for Brewer's store

*Port Perry Star, October 24, 1951*

The issue of whether Port Perry should be "wet" or "dry" is finally settled for another three years. This vote was preceded by many weeks of strenuous campaigning, with feeling running high at times, and was climaxed with the heaviest vote recorded in Port Perry. Eighty-eight percent of those eligible turned out to vote.

In order to obtain a Brewer's Warehouse it was necessary to get 60% of the voter's consent. This objective was not reached. The number of votes for the warehouse was 511, as opposed to 485 or 51.3% of the votes cast.

This is the third time the question of alcohol outlets for Port Perry has been turned down. In August 1935 the number to vote "yes" was 40.4 percent. Another vote in August 1948 received even less, with 35.9 percent voting "yes".



*This crowded view of Queen St., Port Perry was taken about 1950 during the arrival of Santa Claus, seen in the centre of the picture, below the Dominion sign greeting the children. Stores at this time, seen in the background are from left, the Bell Telephone office, I.R. Bentley Jewellery Store, Dominion Grocery Store, Robertson Electric and Earl Jackson's Restaurant and Bakery.*

# James Goodall mill at lakefront destroyed by fire

*Port Perry Star: October 18, 1951*

Port Perry suffered another sever loss to its business area when a sudden blaze leveled the mill of James Goodall & Co. on the waterfront today.

In an interview, Mr. Ira Aldred said that the plant was empty of all save one workman who was doing repair work on a diesel engine. The worker was using an extension curd with an electric light and

while busy around the machine he accidentally dropped the light smashing the bulb, which caused a spark that touched off the oil that was being used to clean the parts of the machine.

The man hastened to get help to extinguish the flames, but in the few minutes that help was arriving the whole front of the building was enveloped in fire and the lumber yard next door was threatened.

Although the local fire brigade was at the scene ten minutes after the alarm was turned, in the storage room of the Lake Scugog Lumber Co. was already starting to burn and two streams of water were immediately turned upon it. The damage to their building was estimated at \$2,000.

The blaze in the Grist Mill had attained such proportions that it was apparent that the building could not be saved and all efforts were turned to prevent the spread of the blaze to the lumber yard nearby. Two streams of water were turned upon it from the water main and five more strains were obtained by using the pumper in the lake.

As the fierce heat of the fire mounted a call was sent to the Uxbridge fire brigade for help and they responded promptly with their fire engine. At this time it was feared that the fire would get into the lumber yard and become uncontrollable. However by the time the Uxbridge truck had arrived the crisis had passed and after waiting until they were sure that the blaze was in hand they, our good friends from Uxbridge, returned home. Their promptness in coming to our aid was much appreciated and had the wind freshened a little more, then likely their help would have been much needed.

The James Goodall Co. Ltd. have suffered a 'heavy loss. The value of the building is estimated at \$60,000 and the contents \$35,000. It is only partially covered by insurance.

There have be several grist mills in Port Perry, The original building at this location was built by the Paxtons. It was destroyed by fire many years ago and later replaced by James Carnegie and Sons by the present brick structure which was razed today. The loss of this business will be severely felt by Port Perry and the farming community around it.



*Pictures taken by Ivan Parkinson shows the Goodall Mill engulfed in fire.*

## Manager and his wife tied-up in attempted robbery of bank

*Port Perry Star, December 6, 1951*

Five men who took the names of escaped convicts, forced an entry into the apartment over the Canadian Bank of Commerce on Saturday, but were frightened off by the ringing of the telephone.



*J.R. Helm*

While they were tying up bank manager Mr. J.R. Helm, his wife and son, the telephone rang. Mrs. Helm was allowed to answer but warned not to mention the hold-up. Some one asked for her son, Robert, and was told to call later.

Mr. T. Asher, the caretaker, who had answered the doorbell, was forced up stairs and all four people were bound hand and foot with sheets and towels, their mouths and eyes were taped. The robbers who had previously been told by Mr. Helm that he could not open the safe, prepared to blow it up, but before they were able to accomplish this the phone rang again and the bandits fled.

Half an hour later Mrs. Helm had succeeded in freeing her hands and was able to release the others and give the alarm.

Inspector William J. Franks of the, Criminal Investigation Bureau of Toronto district Ontario Provincial Police is in charge of the investigation. The same group of men are said to have broken into Silverwoods Dairy and W.J. Carnegie's office recently, in each case stealing a small sum of money.



*The Canadian Bank of Commerce, Port Perry.*



**BIRDSEYE CENTER, PORT PERRY, ONT.**

*Birdseye Centre swimming pool, was located in the Birdseye Centre Cabin Park, Port Perry, Ontario.*

# 1952

## Tenders for garbage collection

*Port Perry Star, February 14, 1952*

On January 29th, sealed tenders were received for the collection of garbage. The tenders were as follows:

Wm. Ross	\$1,450
E. G. Kennedy	\$2,500
Ross Strong	\$1,800
Earl King	\$1,700

The contract regarding the collection of garbage was changed to read "no ashes or bulk from any factory premises shall be removed in excess of the average amount from any residence or store."

In a second council item, it was decided to place battleship linoleum over plywood on the floor of the corporation building and paint the two offices. The estimated cost of the plywood to be \$93.80 and for the linoleum \$340.00. Both prices include labour. Mr. Ed. Balfour is doing the papering, and the painting is to be done by the caretaker.

## Board provides an update on progress at the new hospital

*Port Perry Star, March 6, 1952*

While the general construction work is still held up on account of winter weather, the work on the contracts for plumbing, heating and electrical installations is being carried on inside the hospital building. We are ready to go ahead with the construction work in the early spring.

The Board is now pleased to report that the approval of the Provincial Government has been given for some changes in the plans, whereby in addition to a number of minor alterations, most of the rooms which allowed for only one bed, will be changed by the removal of partitions into rooms to allow for three beds.

This will give the hospital seven wards of three beds each, two wards of two beds each, and two single or private rooms.

Meetings of the Hospital Board and Committees have been held recently making preparations to go ahead and complete the building and get the hospital ready for operations as soon as possible.

Up to the present time no organized appeal has been made for funds to finance this project but the monies obtained from debentures, government grants, sale of old hospital and sundry donations will pay for a large percentage of the total cost. It is now expected that additional funds will be required for furnishings.

## Hospital receives \$25,00 grant

*Port Perry Star, March 13, 1952*

Port Perry Hospital was informed it will receive a \$25,000 grant, from the Department of National Health and Welfare.

A building which formerly housed munitions workers is being renovated and turned over to the arts of healing. This was disclosed here today by Hon. Paul Martin, minister of National Health and Welfare, with the announcement of a \$25,000 grant from federal funds to help meet the construction costs of the new Community Memorial Hospital at Port Perry.

The building being used for the new hospital was formerly located at Ajax. It was dismantled, moved to Port Perry and re-assembled on its new site.

When completed later this year, it will have space for 22 beds, a nine-bassinet nursery and modern medical, surgical and obstetrical facilities to serve about 5,000 people in Port Perry and district.

## Bell to expand and improve local telephone service

*Port Perry Star, April 24, 1952*

An extensive construction program designed to expand and improve rural telephone lines in the Port Perry exchange area is now under way, A. A. Gillespie, Bell Telephone manager for this region announced this week.

The work is being undertaken for four main reasons, Mr. Gillespie said. These are: To reduce the number of subscribers on rural lines; to provide service for waiting applicants and new customers; to provide public telephone service where it is required, and to bring existing poles and wires up to company standards.

## Thieves blow safe at Silverwoods

*Port Perry Star, May 22, 1952*

On Tuesday night thieves entered the premises of Silverwoods Dairy in Port Perry and blew the safe, escaping with the contents, which consisted of around \$2,000 in vouchers and cash.

Discovery was made Wednesday morning by an employee, Mr. Alf Dowson who found the safe demolished and the room littered with bits of steel and plaster of paris. Mr. Hewitt, the manager, was informed immediately and the local police called. Mr. Holmes called in the Provincial Police who are expected to bring in a finger print expert. This is the third time since December 1951 that thieves have forced their way into the Silverwoods Dairy, but both previous attempts were thwarted by the interference of neighbours.



*Alf Dowson*



*Aerial view, circa 1950, of Brunton Farms and hatchery, on Concession 6, just west of Port Perry.*

## Fire destroys Brunton's hatchery

*Port Perry Star, June 12, 1952*

Fire, thought to have started from a seized electric motor following a thunderstorm which caused hydro cut-off on Sunday night, burned Brunton's Hatchery building in the early hours of Monday morning.

The family was awakened by Ivan Parkinson and Jim Heayn who were returning home from the north and who saw the fire from the Greenbank hill and raced to locate it. The building was already doomed, but prompt action of the Port Perry Fire Department saved a large barn standing a short distance from the burning smaller building.

A 12,060 gallon reservoir of water on the farm was immediately put into use by the fire department's new portable pump. This portable pump in operation released the fire truck to return to town for more water as an added precaution against a later flare up which could have occurred. The building, partly covered by insurance, will be rebuilt immediately.

## Williams Motors broken into and robbed

*Port Perry Star, June 19, 1952*

Williams Motor Sales was again entered and robbed of merchandise. This is the fifth time this garage has been robbed since starting business.

Silverwoods Dairy has been entered four time since November of last year. Beare Motors was robbed twice during the past year. An attempt was made to force an entry into the bank during the past year. On Monday thieves entered the premises of Williams Motor Sales through a year window and among the goods carried away were car radios, seat covers, garage equipment, mechanics tools, spot light and probably tires.

To effect their escape they chose a customers car, which was parked back of another car. This latter car was driven out the garage doors and then returned after the escape car had been removed. The garage doors were closed and locked before the thieves left the garage.

The stolen car was picked up in Toronto on Wednesday and returned to Port Perry. None of the other stolen articles were recovered.

### January 1952

Dr. Ernest A. Hodgson, assistant Seismologist at the Dominion Observatory has retired to Port Perry. Dr. Hodgson has been charting earthquakes for 37 years and became famous after tracing and reporting an earthquake in the St. Lawrence River in 1925.

1952 Council - Reeve Ernest Hayes; Councillors Hugh Santer, Harry W. Peel, Frank Hastings and Grant Tease.

Librarian Edna B. Ingram reports 7,154 books circulated during 1951 at Port Perry Public Library.

### February 1952

King George VI, died peacefully in his sleep on February 6. The throne was automatically taken over by 25 year old Queen Elizabeth II.

Port Perry Memorial Gardens Arena was built and paid for in three years, turning a \$1,993. profit in its first year of operation.

Schools, offices and banks in Port Perry closed Feb. 15th for the funeral of King George VI.

Kenneth Jackson announced the opening of his new "Flamingo Restaurant."

United Church Choir under Mrs. Elsie Dobson won \$75 and the coveted Kiwanis Shield at the festival held in Toronto.



*Kenosha House hotel in Caesarea, circa 1915, from a post card.*

## Woman dies in fire which burns Caesarea hotel to ground

*Toronto Globe & Mail, July 17, 1952*

An elderly woman, partly cripple in one arm, was trapped by flames any burned to death just before dawn at Caesarea on Sunday, after she had rushed into her flaming wooden hotel to save some valuables. Her 13-year old dog, Lucky, followed her into the house and perished with her.

Eight Toronto people, holidaying for the weekend, got out of the hotel it the nick of time. Four had to leap from a second-floor window to save themselves. One man made the 20-foot jump with his son in his arms as the flames raced through the house.

The woman who was burned to death was 67-year old Mrs. Tilly Harran, wife of Fred Harran, proprietor of Kenosha House, a tourist hotel, about nine miles from Port Perry.

Mrs. Sally McBride, of Toronto, is in St. Michael's Hospital, with a broken right leg following her frantic jump to safety. Mrs. Helen Skene also of Toronto, discovered the fire soon after 4 o'clock in the morning. She said that she and a friend, Marjory Barton, with whom she was sharing the room booked into the Kenosha House at 8 o'clock last night and had spent the evening at a friend's cabin. The two women returned to the hotel at 2 a.m.

Everything was quiet and everybody was asleep when we got in," Mrs. Skene said. "Suddenly, after we'd been asleep for a couple of hours, Marjory woke me and said 'I'm sure there's a fire somewhere.' I jumped up and ran down stairs." Mrs. Skene said even before she opened the front door she could see a red glow. "When I looked along the veranda, I saw the old couch they had there ablaze and the flames creeping up the walls. The crackling was terrific.

"I ran up stairs and into the old couple's room and shouted, 'Madam, the hotel's on fire', and then I ran into our room and told Marjory to get up, but quick. We grabbed our things including my cocker, Brucie.

My car was parked right next to the house, and I'd forgotten my key. Men were around by this time, and I opened the door, and we pushed it down to the lake. I've never felt such a heat. Cinders were flying and nobody could get near the place. It all went up in few minutes."

Police believe that a smoldering cigarette butt,

### Barn, animals lost in barn fire

*Port Perry Star, August 14, 1952*

A \$50,000 fire on the farm of Laverne Suggitt, three miles north-east of Nestleton, Saturday night, leveled a huge L-shaped barn and destroyed its contents.

The barn, recently renovated, contained some 6,000 chickens, 1,500 bushels of grain, 4,000 bales of hay and a small quantity of pigs and calves. The barn was converted into a four-storey structure last year with one section being converted into a chicken house and a heating system installed.

As Suggitt and his wife began to feed chickens in one section of the big barn, fire broke out in another. Suggitt said there appeared to be a flash and immediately the whole structure seemed to blaze up.

Other district farmers attracted by flames, which shot high in the air, rushed to the scene and got a few animals out of the building.



which had slipped behind the chesterfield on the verandah, caused the disaster. The fire tore through the recently painted building in a few minutes, and at sunup, all that was left of the 14-room, two-storey hotel were heaps of black, smoking ruins.

Mrs. Griffith Pritchard, who was staying at the hotel with her husband and five year-old son David, said she was awakened by shouts of "Fire". "But there didn't seem to be much excitement", said Mrs. Pritchard, so we just got together our bags and were ready to leave when Mrs. McBride rushed into our room and screamed that we couldn't go down-stairs because the stairs were on fire.

My husband tore out the screens, and I jumped first, thinking I'd catch David. But then Griffith was beside me. "He'd jumped with our boy in his arms. David only had pyjamas on and we carried him to a friend's place nearby." Mrs. McBride was slightly panicky and fell when she hit the ground after her jump. Sunday night doctors at St. Michael's reported that her condition was satisfactory.

The daughter of the Harrans, 48 year-old Mrs. Alice Padget, of Toronto, was slightly injured when she fell carrying a bucket of water to the fire. The bucket brigade of neighbours and vacationists was driven back by the heat and gave up when they realized nothing could save the hotel. The heat from the blaze blistered the paint on the village store more than 60 feet from the hotel. Store owner Art McColl and his family evacuated their premises because they believed that their building would catch fire in the intense heat.

### March 1952

James Glenn MacMaster, son of Dr. and Mrs. D.C. MacMaster of Port Perry was winner of the beautiful child photo contest held in Oshawa.

The Christine Bakery opens in the Carnegie building opposite Beare's Garage on Queen St.

### April 1952

Port Perry Star re-prints 300 copies of the late Samuel Farmer's book "On The Shores of Scugog" for sale at \$1.75 per book.

Don Crozier and Everett Prentice rescued two boys caught in an ice flow on Lake Scugog for six hours, by breaking through 150 yards of ice to reach the boat and tow it to shore.

A vote to raise the necessary money for a new public school by debentures was approved with 262 in favor and 71 against.

### May 1952

Flamingo Restaurant became the new waiting area for DeNure Bus Lines and Colonial Coach Lines.

Ted. Griffen and Robt. Helm of Port Perry among the graduates of Ryerson Institute. Mr. Griffen in Architectural Technology and Mr. Helm in Electronic Technology.

The Business Men's Association elected Mr. J.C. Love as president and Albert Cawker as 1st vice president.

### June 1952

Port Perry Beverages announces the bottling of Pure Spring beverages at the plant.

Contract for new school given to Bennet and Pratt, of Weston, for \$253,000.

## Joel Aldred teams up for TV show with Laddie Dennis

*Port Perry Star, August 14, 1952*

When Canadian Westinghouse rolls out the commercial television band-wagon along CBC channels in September by raising the curtain on the award-winning dramatic show "Studio One", a top team of demonstrators will deliver the selling punch for the company's products.



*Ladie Dennis*

Laddie Dennis, a sparkling brunette whose talents have found their way into almost every phase of radio from announcing to writing and producing, will team up with Joel Aldred, one of Canada's top radio personalities, to handle the commercial assignment.

Although the Westinghouse premiere will bring about their first appearance before such a vast audience, neither Laddie Dennis nor Joel Aldred are strangers to the public or to the art of swaying the buying habits of a mass market. Laddie has been pushing consumer products for many nationally known sponsors for some time on radio as well as modeling

and doing stints of film work along commercial lines.

Sandy haired, six-foot plus Joel Aldred, who will handle demonstration requiring the masculine approach, has been selling for almost half of his life. At 17 he was on, the road for Coca Cola and reputed to be their youngest salesman on the North American continent. A couple of years later he decided to sell democracy in Europe with Germany being his territory and R.C.A.F. Bomber Command his Head Office.

He returned in 1945. with a D.F.C. and 3,000 flying hours under his belt and retiring from the service. Since then Aldred has become known to thousands as a powerful selling voice. Listeners have heard him from early morning to late evening on such programs as Don McNeil's "Breakfast Club", CBC Trans-Canada's "Mystery Theatre", coast-to-coast quiz "Take a Chance" and many others. He also is no stranger to film work, being a spare time producer of industrial motion pictures.



*Joel Aldred*

## Large new tank will bring cool spring water to residents

*Port Perry Star, August 21, 1952*

Cool spring water will be flowing into Port Perry's new 5,700 tank by the end of the month, contractor Joe Solose of Niagara Falls said this week.

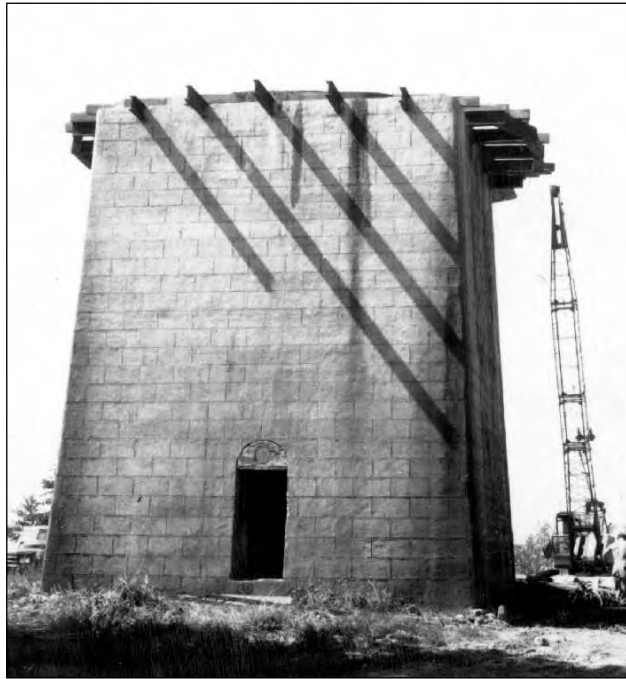
A veteran of 31 years in erecting and repairing distillery, brewery, winery and water tanks, Mr. Solose has six workmen on the job at the Queen street site after efforts to repair the 14-year-old tank proved fruitless. "I don't know how the old wooden tank stayed up there", he said. "It was so badly dry-rotted that it wouldn't make good firewood."

Mr. Solose had words of praise for the co-operation received from Waterworks Chairman Hugh Santer, the council, officials, merchants, and the town and people in general. Mr. Solose had to obtain 60-cycle motors for two machines. Councillor Grant Tease of Lakeshore Knitting and Cawker Bros., local butchers, kindly loaned new 60-cycle motors.

Now the complicated operations of building the tank is well underway. Early this week the men were busy cutting ends off the specially prepared lumber to make sure all wood was good.

Assembling of the floor on the under layers is the next operation. A second scaffold, inside the tank is erected and staves added. Then flagging is put between the joints and a floor built on top of tank after which a centre-piece down the conical tower. It will then be roofed and tar-papered and the pipes joined with gaskets and an overflow pipe added.

The completed job will then undergo tests. The tank which will be 26 feet in diameter and 22 feet in height will be over-all, approximately 52 feet high. It is hoped that late next week the job will be completed.



### July 1952

Kenosha House burned to ground in early morning fire at Caesarea. Eight tourists escape but Mrs. Tilley Harran, 67, wife of proprietor, dies after rushing into the hotel to save some valuables.

Atkinson Foundation donates \$4,200 to Community Memorial Hospital for purchase of essential equipment.

### August 1952

General Motors announced Bryden Motors, operating out of Irwin Tripp's Supertest Service Station on Water St. beside the Port Perry Dairy, the local dealer for Chevrolet-Oldsmobile.

## Public School, water tank nearing completion

*Port Perry Star, September 4, 1952*

One of Port Perry's major building operations is well underway and another is nearing completion, on the westerly areas of Queen Street. Preliminary work on the \$250,000 public school, which has been underway one month, is almost completed and the new water tank is expected to be ready by this weekend.

The classroom section of the school is being built in the shape of a "T" will be ready for brickwork soon, and all the concrete walls in this section will be poured by Monday. This part contains six classrooms, teachers rooms and washrooms.

The ultra-modern auditorium is located at the front in the centre of the east and west wings. The east wing in which the kindergarten section is

situated, has been delayed, due to the excavation.

Eleven Port Perry and district carpenters and labourers are working on the job at present including Jimmy Hope, Oliver Holmes, Jim Smeels, L.W. Boxall, Bruce Redmond, Frank Henry, W. St. John, George Smith, B. King, H. Hackley, and B. Colbey, the latter two coming from Uxbridge.

Despite recent rains which has slowed up work on the water tank contractor Joe Solose expects to have the job completed by Saturday.

The last of the 18 iron rod hoops is expected to be adjusted around the tank by to-day. The building of the roof and testing will complete the job. One foot of water has already been tested in the tank and by Friday the builders will fill the whole tank.

**August 1952**

A new survey shows 352 people who live in Port Perry work in Oshawa.

Harold Archer Motors opens a White Rose service station, located on the south east corner of Perry and Mary St. in Port Perry

**September 1952**

Kindergarten suspended for one year because school is overcrowded.

Fire levels barn and grain crop of Elmer Aldred, Seagrave.

Council opts to lift rent controls in Port Perry effective March 1953.

Charlie Popert opens shoe store in Leonard Block.

Work completed on new water tower and is now in full operation.

**Suspend kindergarten for one year**

*Port Perry Star, September 18, 1952*

Over 40 Port Perry five-year-olds will have to wait until next September to start Kindergarten-Primary or Grade one the Public School Board decided at a Thursday night meeting.

Faced with a record enrollment the board in a statement to the press says all possible consideration was given to carrying on the class but that they reluctantly decided that it was impractical for the coming term.

The resolution from Secretary R.D. Woon pointed out that additional staff would required to continue the kindergarten class as well as additional accommodation and financial provision for these had not been made.

Public school principal Roy Cornish says he is sorry to see the class suspended for the year but under the circumstances nothing else could be done. "We have the same enrollment within five of last year not counting those ready to start the kindergarten-primary," he pointed out, "When we closed last term there were, 239 registered and to date we have 235 pupils at public school,"

Mr. Cornish said it would be possible to accept the K-P class but that it would be just a matter of marking attendance and wouldn't do- justice to grade one, the new five-year-old -pupils or the teachers. The resolution, as unanimously passed.

**School drops plan to close due to Scarlet Fever**

*Port Perry Star, October 2, 1952*

The scarlet fever outbreak in Port Perry which had Public School officials considering closing the building, is now under control, Medical Officer of Health Dr. George M. Rennie states.

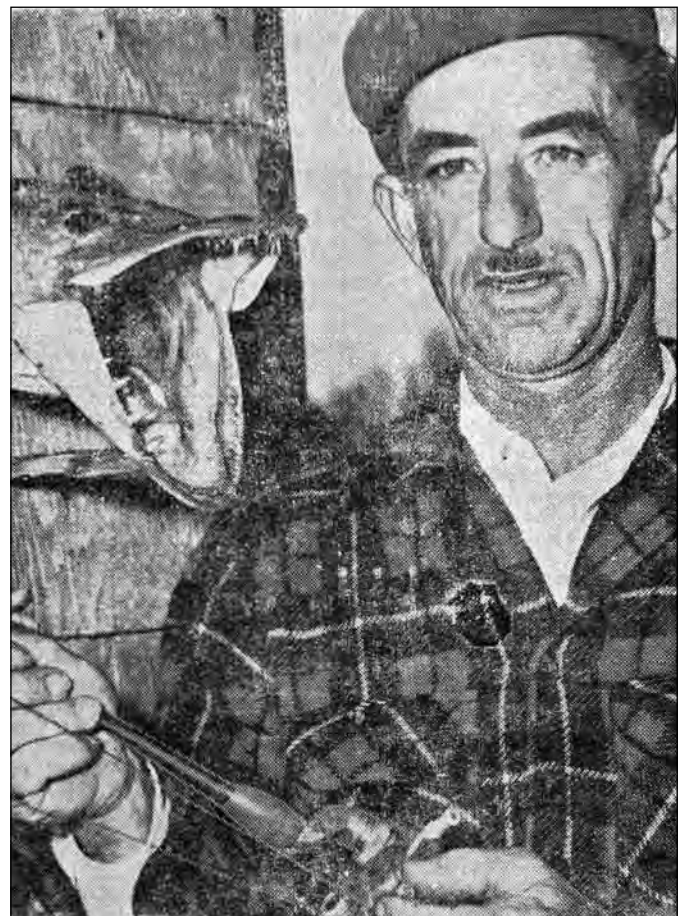
Although no new cases have been reported for almost a week, Dr. Rennie states that it would be advisable for parents to keep children away from large groups for a couple of weeks' yet. "It is just about stamped out now," said the, M.O.H. who informs that about 25 were placarded during the outbreak.



*Dr. George Rennie*

"Recently I have released one and gained one case however a cold spell or change in the weather would just about end it," Dr. Rennie added. "At one time there were about 10 pupils out of an enrollment of 250 out of public school".

Principal Roy Cornish, who distributed a letter to parents last week warning of the prevalence of the disease says it seems that scarlet fever is on the wane. "We still have ten out of school, but I understand their were a number of pre-school children afflicted." He reports that students are starting to come back to their classrooms.



*One of the largest fish caught during the past season is this 26 lb. Musky, the head of which is shown. The proud owner is Harry Harran, veteran Caesarea angler who caught this big one on Dominion Day.*



## Brunton Farms opens modern new hatchery at Port Perry

*Port Perry Star, October 30, 1952*

The dreams of several years were realized over the week-end when Art Brunton opened his ultra-modern Brunton Farms Hatchery at the junction of 7A Highway, Scugog Road and the sixth concession of Reach.

The imposing white building and the up-to-date hatching equipment is the result of almost a quarter century in the hatching business and several thousand miles of travelling through-out the continent. Several of the innovations in the building, including the design itself are taken from the very latest introduced in the United States and Canada, says Mr. Brunton.

Over the week-end many residents including a surprising number of visitors were attracted to the modernly designed building. The one-storey, cement block, steel reinforced building, is set off by a pylon which is a story in itself. Besides adding character to the structure the pylon serves as a chimney and at the base as a vault. The proprietor has installed a 50-year-old steel vault which once served the late lawyer John Crozier.

The visitors who make the tour are greeted on entering by a modern glass enclosed office finished in natural plywood with glass block windows. To the right is the new feed division and the latest in hatchery equipment. Five Bundy Incubator rooms that can handle 30,000 eggs, have been installed and hatching will commence next week. These units are the most modern in Canada and are automatically controlled as to temperature and air conditions. The movements of the eggs racks are even timed to simulate the half roll the mother hen gives the eggs during setting.

At the east end of the building is new retail chicken sales department with impressive refrigerated show case, and the new Rotiss-O-Mat barbeques chickens. This unique service is just a sideline to the hatching business, Mr. Brunton points out.

At the rear of the building is ample space for the shipping department which will be kept busy meeting train shipping schedules shortly. At the west end of the building is the garage entrance and refrigerators for the holding of eggs ready for hatching. Also in this area will be installed a new Speed-O-Matic egg grader which automatically grades eggs.



## Public School most modern up-to-date possible

*Port Perry Star, October 16, 1952*

Port Perry School has been designed to give the student body and teachers the most up to date accommodation possible, says the architects in a report to the board. "Many innovations have been incorporated into the design to give comfortable, healthy and pleasant surroundings for those who are to use it," said a spokesman.

The school is located well back from Queen Street in order to minimize the traffic hazard and to reduce the chances of distraction caused by a traffic artery. The School is composed of an Auditorium, Kindergarten, Staff facilities and eight classrooms. One of these classrooms is for the use of the Principal and is therefore located next to his office. The remaining seven are all grouped together in one wing of the school.

Construction Port Perry School is a one-storey building with a small basement, large enough to take the mechanical and electrical equipment. The floors for the majority of the school consist of a concrete slab resting on the ground.

One of the requirements of the plan was that the auditorium might be used for various community activities. The design takes this into account and places the auditorium close to the main entrance.

## King Pin Lanes five-pin bowling alley opens in Port Perry

*Port Perry Star, November 6, 1952*

The popular pastime of five-pin bowling came to Port Perry Saturday night when the new King Pin Lanes opened on Scugog Road.

It looks like the game is here to stay as quite a number of bowling enthusiasts, beginners and experienced players have already been attracted to the new layout which is almost entirely the work of the proprietor Wesley Stata, of Oshawa.

Mr. Stata is a carpenter by trade and has worked with a construction firm in Oshawa since 1940. A bowling enthusiast for many years he chose Port Perry to open up his new venture.

The 32' x 90' building which is situated across from Reesor Lumber Co., has a concrete foundation and a metal exterior. Three regulation size alleys, 60 feet long, have already been constructed by Mr. Stata and he plans to build three more in the near future.

The interior of the building is nicely finished in fibre board and plywood and includes two washrooms. At the right of the entrance is a confectionary bar.

## Set date for opening of Memorial Hospital

*Port Perry Star, November 20, 1952*

Port Perry and district's New Community Memorial Hospital building has been completed, a new superintendent has been appointed and a date for the official opening will be set shortly.

This was announced today by chairman Herb Brooks who states that the hospital board will meet the first of next week to iron out details and to decide an opening date. "When we open depends partly upon our new matron, organizing her staff, the auxiliary, and many other details", said Mr. Brooks.

The new superintendent is Frances G. Hincks of Bracebridge, who has a wide experience in all phases of nursing. "I think it is wonderful," is the way the new superintendent described the new 32-bed hospital. "It is most modern", she added. Miss Hincks also had words of praise for the ladies who have shown great interest in the formation of the Auxiliary.

## Ladies form Auxiliary for new hospital

*Port Perry Star, November 20, 1952*

A group of 30 women representing the 12 surrounding communities of Port Perry, met at the new Community Memorial Hospital in Port Perry to discuss and form a Hospital Auxiliary, under the capable leadership of Miss Hincks, the superintendent.



*Frances Hincks*



*Jeanne Dymond*

The meeting opened with a word of welcome and introductions. Miss Hincks then explained the purpose and work of an auxiliary. After a period of questions and discussion, the group chose their executive and auxiliary members. The Auxiliary executive are as follows:

Honourary President - Miss Hincks

President - Mrs. M.B. Dymond

Vice-President - Mrs. Frank Godley

Secretary - Mrs. Stan foster

Treasurer - Mrs. Jessie Robertson.

The Auxiliary members are as follows: Mrs. C.A. Glass (Port Perry); Mrs. Fred Lamb (Manchester); Mrs. G.E. Nelson (Utica), Mrs. Oval Boe (Seagrave); Mrs. Allen Moore (Shirley); Mrs. Ray Medd (Epsom); Mrs. Roy Taylor (Blackstock); Mrs. Howard McMillan (Greenbank); Mrs. Ruth Proutt (Nestleton) and Mrs. Russell Pogue (Scugog).

## Corner stone laid for Port Perry's \$250,000 public school

*Port Perry Star, November 27, 1952*

Everyone but the weatherman co-operated as the date stone of the new \$250,000 Public School was laid at a well-attended ceremony at the Queen Street building site Friday afternoon.

Rain coats and umbrellas were in vogue as students, teachers, board members; council members and citizens watched the short ceremony carried out. After board member Storey Beare placed the document box, the block inscribed "1952" was lowered. Miss Eunice Harris with umbrella in one hand and silver trowel in the other declared the stone 'well and truly laid' as hundreds looked on.

The steady downpour failed to dampen the spirits of the young students who will be future occupants

of the fine structure. Under the direction of Mrs. Elsie Dobson, music instructor of the school, the pupils sang "The Maple Leaf Forever".

Taking part in the ceremony were ministers Rev. John Riddell, Rev. R. Wylie and Rev. H. Swabey, board member Norman Heayn and Chairman Cecil King. Principal Roy Cornish, Reeve Ernest Hayes and Inspector A.A. Archibald of Whitby gave short addresses.

The contents of the document box included present day stamps and coins and a special copy of the Port Perry Star, revised at the request of the school board with a new headline "Corner Stone Ceremony November 21, 1952".

## Murray Williams sells his car dealership to Bryden Bros.

*Port Perry Star, December 11, 1952*

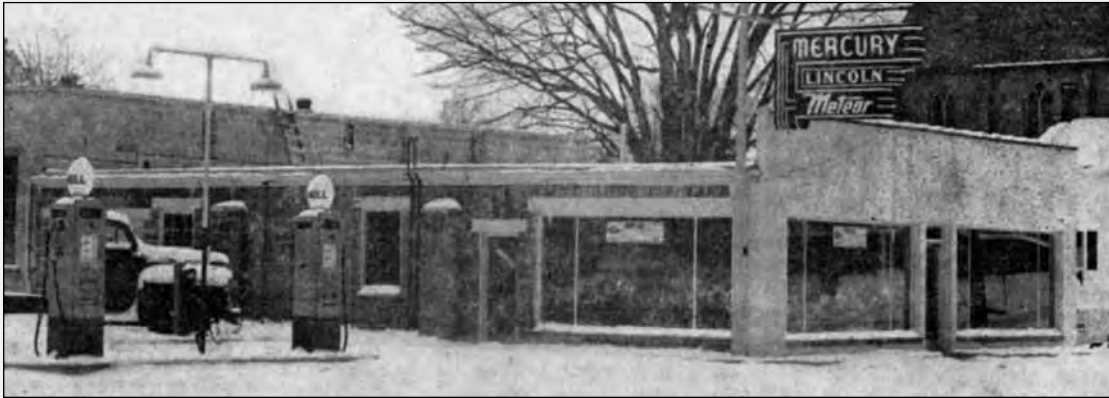
Veteran garage owner and car salesman in Port Perry and district for over 30 years, Murray Williams of Williams Motor Sales announces that the Queen Street business has been purchased by Bryden Motors.

The new owners, Art and Vern Bryden, announcement there will be no change outside of the switch in the car agency from Ford's Mercury, Lincoln, Meteor to General Motors Chevrolet and Oldsmobile. "The staff and equipment will remain

the same and we will continue to hold the same agencies.

Mr. Williams, who was forced to make the move on the advice of a physician, will remain with the new firm in a sales capacity.

The new owners are no strangers to Port Perry having been residents since late in August when they obtained the GM agency and began operations at Tripp's Garage.



## U-Turns prohibited on Queen St., except at the Water and Queen St. intersection.

*Port Perry Star, December 18, 1952*

"U-Turns ' on Port Perry's main street are no more; legally that is!

As result of By-law #1198 passed by council recently, U-Turns on Queen Street, except at one intersection, are prohibited and the offenders liable to fines.

The by-law was deemed necessary by council due to the increased volume of traffic on Queen street within the village limits and because the thoroughfare is used as an alternate route for Provincial Highway 7A.

"Operators of motor vehicles and traction engines are prohibited from making U-turns on Queen street in the village except at the intersection of Water and Queen where they are permissible," the by-law reads. Signs will be erected on both sides of Queen in the area regulated and at appropriate intervals stating the law.

## Reeve resigns, Harry Peel assumes position

*Port Perry Star, December 11, 1952*

Ernest Hayes ended six years of service on Village Council by resigning as Reeve of Port Perry at a special meeting. His successor is senior councillor, Harry Peel, who was unanimous choose of the council at the special session.

Mr. Peel took over the chair Friday and was officially declared Reeve for the remainder of the term at Monday's regular council meeting.

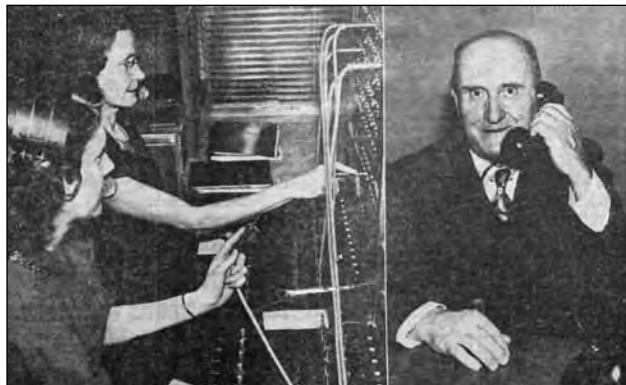
Mr. Hayes, who accepted the position of Hydro Clerk eight weeks ago, started his new duties on Monday morning.

## Blackstock phone exchange opens

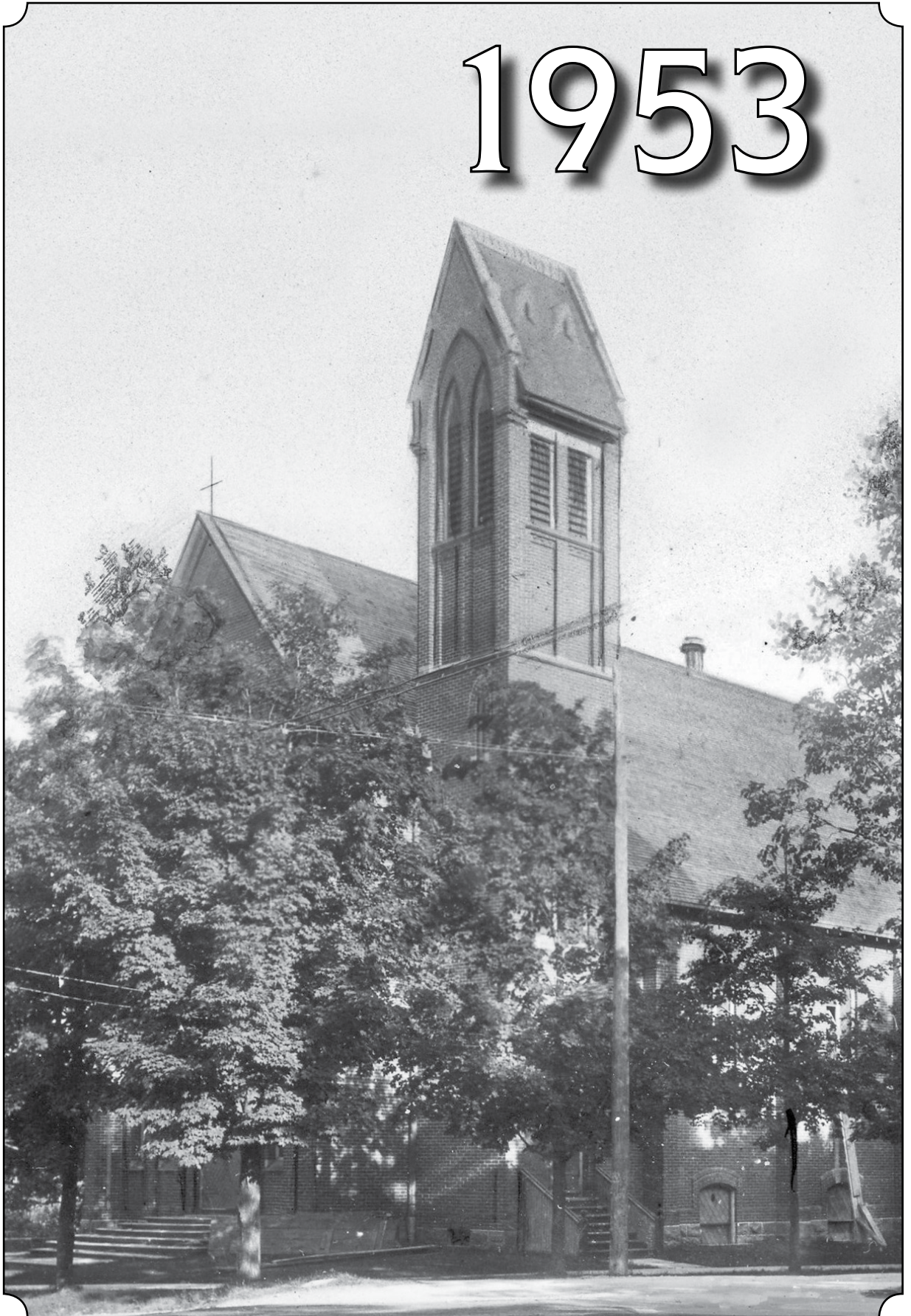
*Port Perry Star, December 18, 1952*

Mrs. Marjorie Burnet (at back), newly appointed chief operator and Doreen Cochrane were hard at work within minutes of the opening of the Blackstock Exchange as local telephone users tried out the new system. Other operators of the new exchange are Ruth Hamilton, Croa Crozier and Mrs. Jean Hedge.

The new telephone exchange at Blackstock was officially opened last week by Henry Thompson, clerk of Cartwright Township and a phone subscriber for 37 years (right), who spoke by telephone to Grant Thompson.



# 1953



*The Port Perry United Church, was surrounded by mature Maple trees, in 1953.*

# 1953



*The new Port Perry Community Memorial Hospital, January 1953.*

## Large crowd attends official opening of new hospital

*Port Perry Star, January 8, 1953*

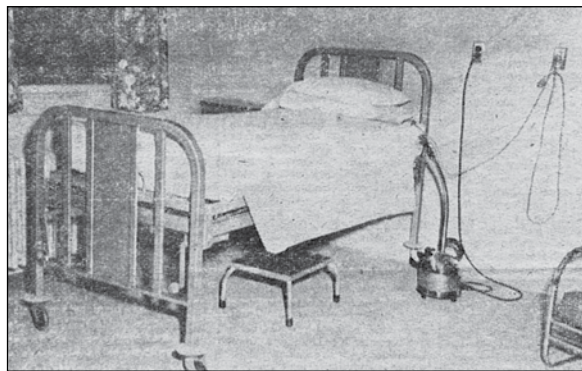
Officials, politicians, civic dignitaries, clergy, school children and hundreds of citizens rubbed shoulders yesterday afternoon as, the climax to three and one half years of work, worry and toil were realized on the official opening of the new Community Memorial Hospital.

The record crowd thronged the corridors of the bright, beautifully decorated 32-bed hospital and overflowed outside to hear the one-hour long program of speeches and view the ribbon-cutting ceremony on the spacious front verandah. Hon. G.A. 'Tiger' Welsh, one of the two Ontario government representatives, helped perform the brief opening duties by simply saying, "I take a great deal of pleasure on behalf of the Province of Ontario to declare this hospital officially open." Mrs. Neil Malcolm, of Blackstock, a member of the board, presented the scissors and Frances G. Hincks, the superintendent, snipped the wide red ribbon.

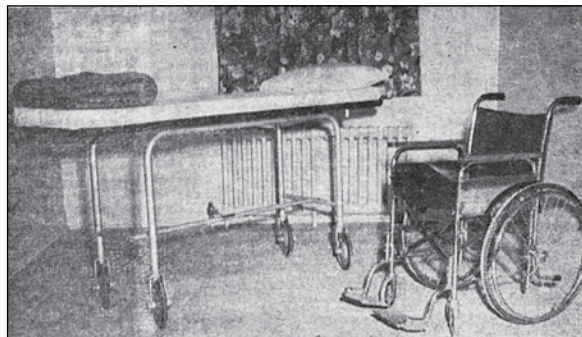
This opened the way for the official inspection tour of the building where the nursing staff aided by the ladies auxiliary were on hand to welcome the hundreds of visitors and explain the layout and equipment. Just when the patients will be accepted no official hint was given during the day when patients will follow where crowds toured yesterday, but one well-informed source states the hospital will be 'open for business' within two weeks.

Premier Frost and Hon. Paul Martin, federal Minister of Health were not able to be present but the latter forwarded a telegram of regret and offered

congratulations to the community. The telegram was read by secretary-treasurer Gordon Reesor who was co-chairman with Herbert Brooks, chairman of the hospital board.



*The new steam kettle unit.*



*Stretcher and wheel chair.*



## Harry Peel acclaimed Reeve of Port Perry

*Port Perry Star, January 1, 1953*



*Harry Peel*

Port Perry stayed true to form last week as Harry Peel was acclaimed Reeve for 1953 – becoming the 21st consecutive acclamation for the Reeveship of the village.

As result of this acclamation Mr. Peel became the 14th man to head the local council since 1907.

The record for the longest term as Reeve goes to W.M. Letcher who held the honoured position for 13 years, almost twice as long as the late George Gerow who was Reeve from 1911 to 1917.

According to reports Mr. Letcher was the last man to contest the Reeveship, when he 'opposed' Robert Somerville in 1932.

A successful hardware merchant, Mr. Peel, in taking over the chair, has an experienced group of councillors who have a variety of experience in various businesses in town.

Looking over Monday's ballot one sees one merchant (Hugh Santer), one manufacturer, (Grant Tease), one physician (Dr. Matthew B. Dymond) and one funeral direct-or (Archie L. McDermott). Even the defeated candidates had considerable business experience, Gordon Carnegie being a hardware merchant, J.J. Gibson a poultryman and Sam Griffen a builder and a merchant.

Mr. Peel and his new council will be sworn into their positions a week from Monday, January 12 at 11 a.m. and in the evening of the same date the inaugural session will be held.

### January 1953

Former Maple Leaf netminder, Turk Broda, hired by Port Perry Hockey Club to instruct local bantam, midget and juvenile players

Mr. Herbert Brooks, chairman of Community Memorial Hospital for the past four years, tendered his resignation.

Jessie McArthur, Blackstock, chosen by the Anglican Church to attend Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in London, England.

Mrs. Lloyd Pogue is first patient at new hospital on January 21. The first baby was Charles McIntyre, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gerry Nelson, born Jan. 26.

### February 1953

Cec. Hooey, prop., says that some of his older customers tell him that barbering has been done in his shop for 65 years. Could be oldest barbershop in Ontario.

Simpson-Sears announces it will open a order office in town.

### March 1953

Three break-ins during storm, Beare Motors, Bryden Motors and Carnegie Hardware the victims.

Elgin "Hutch" Hutchinson wins Lions Club draw for DeSoto Firedome 8 valued at \$4,600.

Jean Samells, Port Perry, one of 13 Ontario girls chosen to view Coronation, London, England.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Atkinson and their nine children, of Saintfield, were left homeless after narrowly escaping from blaze which destroyed their home.

*January, 1953*

**Mrs. Dehl Bentley is one of first women jurors for Ontario County. She served on jury for five days with Supreme Court.**



*Dehl Bentley*

## Hospital will begin patient admissions January 19, 1953

*Port Perry Star, January 15, 1953*

The new Community Memorial Hospital, officially opened here on January 7, will start serving the needs of Port Perry and district next week. Superintendent Frances G. Hincks announced yesterday that "providing everything goes as planned" the 32-bed building will be open Monday, January 19 for medical and maternity patients. "Surgical patients will be admitted as soon as provision can be made for them," Miss Hincks added.

Hours open for visitors will be from 3 to 4 p.m. in the afternoon and 7 to 9 p.m. in the evening, daily, it was also announced. Miss Hincks pointed out that in common with the ruling of other hospitals maternity patients may only be visited by the husband and the patient's mother. "This is for the patients own protection," she explained.

The Superintendent states that the nursing situation has "brightened" considerably since the official opening ceremonies and several appointments to the staff have been made. "Three full time and five part time registered nurses are now on the staff and we are considering further applications."

The busy Superintendent passed on thanks to all those who made the opening ceremonies of the hospital last week such a success. She paid a special tribute to the members of the ladies auxiliary who turned out in record numbers from the town and district to help direct the large crowd, explain the various wards and serve tea to guests.

## Disgusted citizens demand Chief of Police shoot dogs

*Port Perry Star, January 15, 1953*

Port Perry is going to the dogs – at least according to some south-end citizens who demand some action be taken about a `disgraceful' situation.

In a letter to council, the 'petition' which contained seven names, asked that Chief George Holmes shoot all female dogs running at large and that all dogs be tied up in the summertime. Reeve Harry Peel asked the matter be investigated to see how serious it is.

Council agreed the complaint should be turned over to Chief Holmes, but added comments. "I think we'll need a machine gun", "Or a bazooka gun," quipped another councillor. "We feel it is a common disgrace to have a female dogs running at large," said the letter writer.

"It is not decent to see on the streets and our lawns before the eyes of women and children. We ask the law be enforced to a degree that such as female dogs running out be shot by Mr. Holmes. Also ALL dogs be tied. up in the summer. It is not right some are running loose all the time."

The 'petition' declared that it was no use making laws unless the village was going to enforce them.

"I am getting a few to sign this to let you see I am not alone in this demand. We are disgusted and feel it a disgrace to all the ways

### April 1953

Albert Cawker elected president of the Port Perry Businessmen's Association. First Vice-President is Irving Boyd and 2nd Vice-President is Les Virtue.

Dr. Alexander Graham Christie, a former Manchester boy, is honored by John Hopkins publication "The Vector." Dr. Christie is professor emeritus of John Hopkins School of Engineering.

### May 1953

Schools in Prince Albert and Manchester having growing pains. Talk of consolidated school to help cope with future growth.

Port Perry Yacht Club hold their Outboard Regatta with entries from far and wide.

### June 1953

Public holiday declared June 2, 1953 for Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II. Week of celebrations includes special church services, track and field meet, community picnic, parade, fireworks and dancing and a Gala Ball on June 5.

A lightning strike on the roof of Dr. J.B. Lundy's garage put a gaping two foot hole in the roof and damaged his car.

Jack Hope opens Hope's IGA Food Store.

## Port Perry Post Office quietly marks it's 100th year of mail service

*Port Perry Star, February 19, 1953*

Quietly and without ceremony or celebration Port Perry's Post Office marked 100 years of mail service and started on the second century some time during 1952.

Postmaster for almost a quarter of that time, from 1852 when the post office was first established here, is George Hull who started his 24th year in that position February 1. Mr. Hull, as far as history reveals is about the fifth person to hold the position

which includes and impressive list of men including the original postmaster Joseph Bigelow, who was also Port Perry's first Reeve.

Mr. Hull succeeded John Burnham who died in 1928 as official postmaster, and his daughter Mrs. Marion Orde assumed the position until 1930

The post office and mail service have come a long way since those early pioneer days of 1852. The present building, which was under construction around 1912, is almost 40 years old. Very few structural changes have taken place in that time but the amount of mail that passes through is greatly increased.



*Postmaster George Hull, left, at post office with his son Bruce and wife Marion working in the background on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the post office, in 1953.*

## Hooey's thought to be the oldest barber shop in Ontario

*Port Perry Star, February 26, 1953*

A building that dates back to the days when "Shave Two Bits" was a saying, may be the oldest barber shop in Ontario.

The old but formidable frame structure which is situated on Queen Street, next to the old Sebert House, and owned by Arthur Carnegie, has been the continuous home of some well-known tonsorial artists since before the turn of the century. Among those who have carried out their profession there are: Jim Pearson, Joe Gerrow, Joe Cooney, George Williamson, George Gibson, Hiram Wanamaker, Bill Tipp, Herb Hope, Charlie Palmer, Percy Hooey, Jack Cowie, most of whom have passed on.

The present proprietor, genial Cecil (Cec.) Hooey, who has been barbering there for over a quarter of a century, says that some of his veteran customers claim the building has been a barbershop for close to 65 years. Cec. was taught the fine points of the profession by the late Bill Tipp, who worked for many years with Cec's father.

The shop, which at one time was a shooting gallery, has changed very little down through the years but the same friendliness and service prevails. The present furnishings, of this old-time shop date back many years. "The only thing new around here is me", said the proprietor, and in the next breath he told about his assistant young Harold Jeffrey, a G.M. worker who barbered a year and a half in Toronto and now holds down "number two chair" on Saturdays.



*Cec Hooey, far back, in his barber shop in 1953. He is seen with from left, Lloyd Harrison, in the chair, and young barber Harold Jeffrey. Howard Dobson, Reeve of Reach Township sits in the chair in front of Mr. Hooey.*

"This was also new when I broke in," said Cec. pointing to the floor and a well worn groove circling the chair which indicates a great number of hair cuts, shaves, shampoos since Cec. started as a boy of 18 in 1925.

At that time it was common for the gentlemen of leisure to hold down the waiting chairs of the shop for hours and Cec. recalls how nervous he was shaving his first customer while these fellows looked on. If someone had said, "you big fellow will never make a barber", I would have quit right then but it just so happened that my first customer for a shave was Dr. Bob Archer and he gave me encouragement.

At that time you could get a hair cut for 25 cents and a shave for 15 cents, and the youngsters got "clipped" for 15 cents.

## Thieves loot local businesses of cash, radios

*Port Perry Star, March 5, 1953*

Port Perry's perfect crime record for 1953 was shattered amidst Wednesday's heavy winds and rainfall as three local businesses were broken into and robbed of about \$67 in cash and radios valued at \$100.

The thief or thieves, taking advantage of the dark night and the elements, selected two garages, Beare Motors and Bryden Motors, and Carnegie, Hardware for their robberies. Chief of Police George Holmes who investigated the break-in states that in all cases entry was gained by breaking small rear windows and the 'main objective' was the cash register and petty cash.

Largest cash total was lost at Carnegie's where a 12" x 14" window was smashed entering a store room and the door was forced to enter the store. The cash register was opened and \$47 in petty cash taken. Some money, reported to be for tickets for last night's Boy Scout Banquet was also reported to have been taken.

At Beare Motors the thieves took approximately \$15 in petty cash from the cash register after breaking a rear window to gain entrance. At Bryden's they made their biggest haul taking three or four mantel radios at about \$25 each. About \$3 in silver is also missing. Again, a smashed rear window was left as the only evidence. Apparently the Brydens' burglar alarm did not operate.

Chief Holmes said that no clues were left in the three places.

## Issue permits for 15 homes at \$100,000

*Port Perry Star, March 19, 1953*

The arrival of spring in Port Perry brings the biggest building boom in some months!

Building permits issued for 15 homes at an estimated total cost of over \$106,000. Only 18 permits have been passed this year and all but three have been for new homes, ranging in cost from \$5,000 to \$11,000.

Most popular building site in the current 'spring rush is Simcoe Street where, local residents plan eight new homes. Three new houses are to be constructed on Bigelow Street, and one each on Sexton, Lilla and Scugog streets and Union Avenue.

## Community Memorial Hospital busy during first six weeks of service

*Port Perry Star, March 5, 1953*

Community Memorial Hospital has admitted 81 patients, and 27 operations have been performed during the first six weeks of service, Superintendent Frances Hincks informed yesterday.

The hospital, which opened to medical patients January 21, accepted the first surgical patient on February 11, and since then 23 minor operation have been carried out and four majors surgeries, said Miss Hincks. The first major operation was performed last Thursday.

During the month of February the hospital averaged 16 patients per-day with the peak being reached on February 25 when 20 beds were occupied. Making allowances for the nurses presently living in the hospital and the addition of two other beds; the hospital can now accommodate 24 patients plus nine babies in the nursery.

"I'm amazed at the number of patients we have admitted to date", said the superintendent.

## Father saves two young children from fire by lowering them through window

*Port Perry Star, March 19, 1953*

Residents of Saintfield are rallying to the aid of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Atkinson and nine children who were left homeless by a sudden blaze which destroyed their two storey frame farm house just before midnight Saturday.

Mr. Atkinson who snatched up his two young sons, Wayne 3, and Murray 1, and put them through a down stairs window, was unable to save anything out-side of the baby's crib. They were the only occupants of the house at the time of the fire as Mrs. Atkinson and six other children were attending a show in Uxbridge.

According to reports Mr. Atkinson, who was sleeping in a downstairs bed-room was awakened shortly before 11 p.m. by excessive heat. He investigated and on opening the door to the living room was faced by a blazing inferno. Mr. Atkinson just had time to don his trousers and sox and pick up his two youngest children from the same bedroom and make an exit via a window. He sustained cuts and minor burns on his face and burns on his back getting through the smashed frame.

Once outside he set down the crib and the two children and flagged a transport on the highway nearby. The transport driver sent in the alarm from McKinnon's store at five to eleven and about 15 minutes later the Sunderland fire brigade arrived.

Mr. Atkinson had been unable to gain re-entry into the blazing house, so fast, did the flames spread. It was impossible for the fire brigade to fight the blaze but they were able to save the nearby barn. Hoses were laid from a nearby "creek after it was found that little water was left in the Atkinson well. Firemen didn't leave until the fire was completely extinguished and surrounding buildings out of danger, around 4 a.m.

Since the fire the Atkinsons who have been taken in by neighbours, have been flooded by numerous gifts of clothing from generous friends. Residents of this area are also planning a euchre and shower for the Atkinson family on Friday evening at Saintfield school. Everybody is welcome to attend the event with all proceeds going to the fire victims.

### July 1953

Talks begin about installing artificial ice in the arena, at a cost of about \$26,000.

Work begins at the combined public and high school to renovate it to become the new High School only. Lake Scugog Lumber and Peel's Hardware are local contractors.

### August 1953

Chief Constable Geo. Holmes resigns after many years of service to the village. O.P.P. to police village until new chief chosen.

First twins born at hospital to Mr. and Mrs. James Cameron of Uxbridge, a boy and a girl on August 31.

### September 1953

Artificial ice is to be installed in arena by November. Blitz Campaign started to raise funds with canvas of the town, with \$5,000 raised in first week.

### October 1953

Official opening of renovated high school takes place Oct. 16 with Principal J.L. Crane master of ceremonies.

Port Perry's population is now 1961.

Mr. Archie Menzies from Peterboro is new Chief of Police for Port Perry.

Port Perry Yacht Club to hold Canadian National Championship Regatta on November 12.

Wren Blair of Oshawa, appointed new Director and GM of the Memorial Gardens Arena for coming year.

### November 1953

Roy H. Cornish, 21 years principal of the local public school, received a letter and medal from Queen Elizabeth for his contributions to education.

Merlin Letcher named president Provincial Lawn Bowling Association of Ontario.

Formerly Christine Bakery, known as Swiss Bakery gets new owner. Mr. O. Arnio is new proprietor.

### December 1953

Reeve and Council for 1954 elected by acclamation. Only 26 turn out for nomination meeting. Mr. Merlin Dowson only new councillor.

Malcolm Bailey defeats Harry Phoenix 570-485 for Reeve of Reach Twp.

County Council grants \$10,000 toward Port Perry Community Memorial Hospital.

## Former Water Street dump site cleaned and covered

*Port Perry Star, May 7, 1953*

The corner south of Silverwoods is undergoing a transformation. Mr. Stuart Sweetman is changing a garage warehouse into a modern Imperial Service Station.

The old town weigh scales will be removed from their present sight, and last, but by no means the least, the dump is being leveled and over 100 yards of earth has already been secured to give it a covering.

This has long been a desire of the Council and at last the opportunity has come up for them to get the material within reach of their budget. This will cover the tin cans and other rubbish, and they hope eventually, with the assistance of all citizens to be able to fill the remainder of the marsh spot west of the road.

If you have any sub-soil that would make clean fill, kindly get in touch with Councillor Archie L. McDermott or any member of the council. We are sure there will be some arrangement made to use it.

This is the time of the year when everyone is on the clean-up, and with the co-operation of its citizens Port Perry could not only be the prettiest, but almost the cleanest little town in Ontario. Let's get behind our Council in this move to beautify the town and make sure our own yards and ditches are clean, too.



*Sweetman's Motors, located on the southwest corner of Water and Casimir St., as it looked in 1957. Stewart Sweetman was the authorized Chrysler dealer for the area*

## Hospital's first patient has twins

*Port Perry Star, September 3, 1953*

Mrs. Lloyd Pogue, of R.R.3, Uxbridge, who was the first patient of the new Community Memorial Hospital at Port Perry, returned to the hospital to give birth to twins on September 9th.

The twins, both boys, were the 100th and 101st babes to be born since the hospital opened in January, and were the second set of twins to be born here.



*This 1950s view of the lakefront shows the old "dock house" at the end of the wharf and a float-plane getting ready to take-off.*

## Jean Samells selected to attend Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II

*Port Perry Star, May 14, 1953*

Fifty Canadian teenage girls will sail next week for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth, and a month-long tour of England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and France.

The girls, among whom is Port Perry's Jean Samells, are guests of Canadian-born international industrialist W. Garfield Weston, and will sail May 22 from Montreal on the Empress of France.

All outstanding students chosen in cooperation with provincial education departments for their leadership qualities and ability to absorb the experiences of the tour, the girls will arrive at Liverpool May 29, three days before the Coronation.

They have special seats for the Coronation. In England, the group will see the Derby at Epsom Downs, visit the Tower of London, attend a performance of the Royal Military Tournament which will be opened by the Queen, visit the House of Commons and House of Lords and see the Coronation River Pageant on the Thames, near Windsor.

Midway in their tour, the girls will visit France. They will see Paris and historic points including the Arch of Triumph, Eiffel Tower, Invalides, the Louvre, Notre Dame Cathedral and Versailles. At Dieppe, the group will lay a wreath on the Canadian War Memorial.



*Sixteen year-old Jean Samells of Port Perry is seen here holding a model of the horse-drawn coach to be used by Queen Elizabeth II during her Coronation.*

## Interior changes at Port Perry High School progressing rapidly

*Port Perry Star, July 17, 1953*

The work of altering the present combined Public and High School building to become the new High School was let to two local firms – the general contract to Lake Scugog Lumber and the plumbing contract to the Peel's Hardware.

Work commenced on Thursday last week, beginning with the removal of many partitions in order to enlarge and re-arrange the corridors and rooms. A great difference in appearance is already noted after only four days of work.

On the first floor a main corridor is being constructed to connect the present corridors in each end of the school and will run along the east side of the gymnasium. Opening off the corridor will be the teachers conference room, the principal's office, and the men teachers' and ' lady teachers' rooms. The principal's office will have a glass front facing on the new corridor.

In the north end there will be five classrooms, one in the basement and two on each the first and the second floors. Directly above the teachers' rooms will be the Home Economic room, the largest room in the school. In the basement new locker rooms with change rooms and showers for boys and for girls will be constructed. The boys' locker rooms, etc. will be in the north west corner and the girls in the south east corner.

## Village residents will be canvassed for artificial ice

*Port Perry Star, September 24, 1953*

A canvass of the citizens of the village a Port Perry, on behalf of the Port Perry Memorial Recreational Centre, for the purpose of immediate installation of an artificial ice plant, in the "Gardens", will take place in Port Perry on Monday night, September 28th.

The Recreational Centre Committee will have canvassers knocking at your door, asking for your generous donation. The committee recognizes that this is a democratic country, each man and woman being master of his or her own purse strings, and it is good that this is so. However, the installation of an artificial ice plant is a big undertaking and the financing of such a project cannot be accomplished by a few, but must have the whole-hearted co-operation and support of every citizen. of our progressive community.

One of the, advantages of an artificial ice plant in Port Perry will be, that it will enable your committee to allocate free skating for school children for at least five months of the year, instead of a possible few days as in the immediate past. Also, Minor Hockey in this community can be planned and organized with a surety of available ice.

The total monies required in this campaign, for complete installation of ice plant will be approximately \$25,000. Donations to this worthy project are exempt from income tax.

We earnestly, ask for your serious consideration and, generous support. Our slogan still is "Invest In Youth" – our greatest asset is our girls and boys.



*Port Perry Public School opened its doors to students on September 2, 1953. Until this time, students attended the combined public/high school on Rosa St. The school was later renamed R.H. Cornish Public School, in honour of its principal, Roy H. Cornish.*

## New Port Perry Public School holds opening ceremonies

*Port Perry Star, September 3, 1953*

It was a "Red Letter Day" for Port Perry on Wednesday, September 2, the formal opening of the new Public School took place in the school auditorium. The extreme heat of the day and the fact that the ceremonies took place during the holidays affected the attendance somewhat.

However, the many friends of the school who attended were delighted with the well-arranged program and the good-taste of the speakers. Each one remembered that the day was exceptionally hot and spoke briefly but very much to the point.

Rev. R.H. Wylie opened the ceremonies with a short scripture reading and prayer. Mr. Norman Heayn, chairman of the Public School Board then made us officially welcome to the School and thanked Mr. Roy H. Cornish and the staff for all they had done toward the preparations for this day.

Port Perry Reeve Harry Peel, extended a welcome from the corporation and told us that there had been a million dollars worth of new construction in Port Perry during the past five years and a 30% increase in the population. These had been two very good reasons for the need for the new school.

The new building is not only modern in plan and decor, but up to date in classroom arrangement and facilities. One attractive feature will be noted in the separation of the Kindergarten-Primary from the older classes of the school.

There are nine classrooms in all, all are air conditioned. The floors are of easy, to keep clean tiles and variations of three tone colour schemes are used to brighten the rooms and rest the eyes of the pupils. With the health of the pupils eyes in mind ground glass "blackboards" of a soft green shade have been in-stalled. The large windows will occupy a full wall of each classroom and so provide plenty of natural light. Ample storage space is included in each room.

There is also a classroom auditorium with space for 300 people. This room has a hard wood floor and

an adequate stage with accommodation. Large doors open into the room from the entrance corridor, and at the other end of the room a door opens to give handy access to a small cafeteria which can be used for public meetings, etc.

The floors of the corridors are of terrazzo, and at suitable intervals are set-in wall fountains. The washrooms are attractive and of ample size with facilities up-to-date.

### R.H. Cornish received medal from Queen Elizabeth II

*Port Perry Star, October 22, 1953*

Mr. Roy H. Cornish, who has been principal of the Port Perry Public School for 21 years, was agreeably surprised to receive a letter and medal from her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.



The letter which read in part as follows: By command of Her Majesty the Queen, the accompanying Medal is forwarded to R.H. Cornish, Esq. to be worn in commemoration of Her Majesty's Coronation."

The medal was sent "for having made an outstanding contribution over an extended period of education in Port Perry, as Principal of Port Perry

Public School, and also for having contributed his services so generously to the welfare of the community."



The building above, was the Port Perry Treasure's office for much of the 1940s and 1950s. This small structure was located just south of the present municipal office, where Books Galore & More is located today. The brick building at right is the rear of 209 Queen St. In 1953, the treasurers office was moved from this building to 160 Queen Street. In 1960 to was moved into the new municipal office on Perry Street. After being vacated, in November 1953, the building was taken to the corner of the Hwy. 7&12 and the Concession 8, were it was to become a store.

## Improved and renovated High School official re-opening

Port Perry Star, October 22, 1953

Friday, October 16 saw the the official Re-opening Dedication and general open house of Port Perry High School, when parents and others crowded the building to see the marvelous changes inside. Certainly the results are worthy of the effort on the part of the School Board, principal, architect, staff and workmen, who co-operated during the summer



South entrance to the Public & High School was for girls only.

and fall to provide a completely renovated and better planned school quite capable of meeting the needs of a growing population.

Mr. J.L. Crane, principal of the High School, very capably handled the job of Master of Ceremonies, with the members of the Central Ontario County Area High School Board on the platform, the members of the teaching staff were introduced to the public. Mr. Stewart MacFarlane, Vice-Chairman of the Board, spoke a few words of praise to those responsible for the finished school, especially mentioning Mr. Crane, who devoted his entire summer to the project, and Mr. R. Peel, local member of the Board and Mr. Ted Griffin, architect, who was in charge of the works.

The present school board succeeded in securing considerable additional accommodation at a cost of around \$25,000. Former principal Mr. C.R. McClellan congratulated the board, principal and all concerned upon their achievement. The speaker also dwelt upon the history of the school which was established in 1871.

Upon the close of his remarks he declared the addition open to the public.



# 1954

## Mother, four children escape into 20-degree below zero weather seconds before explosion

*Port Perry Star, January 14, 1954*

Seconds before an oil stove exploded blowing every window out of their home, Mrs. Elsie Forsyth, 29, led and assisted her four small children out into 20-degree below zero weather early to-day. The children stood in bare feet in two inches of snow while shattered glass hurled around them. The mother had only bedroom slippers on her feet.

The Forsyth home is some two and a half miles north of Greenbank on No. 12 highway and near the 13th con. formerly the Stone farm.

Mrs. Forsyth said she was getting breakfast for her husband, Joseph, also 29, who had gone to a nearby garage to get his car. "I smelled smoke and ran upstairs to the children," she said. Asleep in their beds were Karen, one, Paul, three, Joseph, five and D'Arcy, six.

"I had to wake them all," Mrs. Forsyth said. "I picked up Karen and Paul. Joe and D'Arcy ran down stairs ahead of us. The house was filled with swirling smoke and we were all gasping for breath."

Mrs. Forsyth said she had turned around to run back into the home for clothing for the children when the explosion ripped through the building. "It was followed by a mass of flames and I couldn't get near.", she said.

She said she and the children stood watching the blaze in the "perishing" cold for five minutes until a motorist picked up the children and drove them to a neighbor's. "Another motorist picked me up and drove me there," Mrs. Forsyth said.

## Hospital marks its first birthday

*Port Perry Star, January 21, 1954*

On January 7, the Community Memorial Hospital attained the age of one year, and it is considered that much of the struggle for existence is past and the "infant" shows healthy signs of progress.

During the past year this hospital treated 730 patients and 139 babies arrived safely; 236 operations were performed. The breakdown of figures shows the percentage from various localities. Reach Twp. 26.4%; Port Perry 29.62%; Cartwright 16.76%; Scugog Twp. 5.24%; Uxbridge Town and Township 11.48%. All other localities 10.50 percent.

No figures were released regarding the relative costs and returns at the date, but it is reported that conditions are improved.

## Ted Griffen Yacht Club Commodore

*Port Perry Star, February 11, 1954*

The Port Perry Yacht Club held its annual election of officers on Sunday, February 7th, when a full representation from all parts of Ontario elected the hard working, popular Port Perry lad "Ted" Griffen as their Commodore for 1954.

Another native of Port Perry, "Phil" Orde was raised to Vice-Commodore, and Dr. H.H. Webster, of Oshawa, is now Rear Commodore.

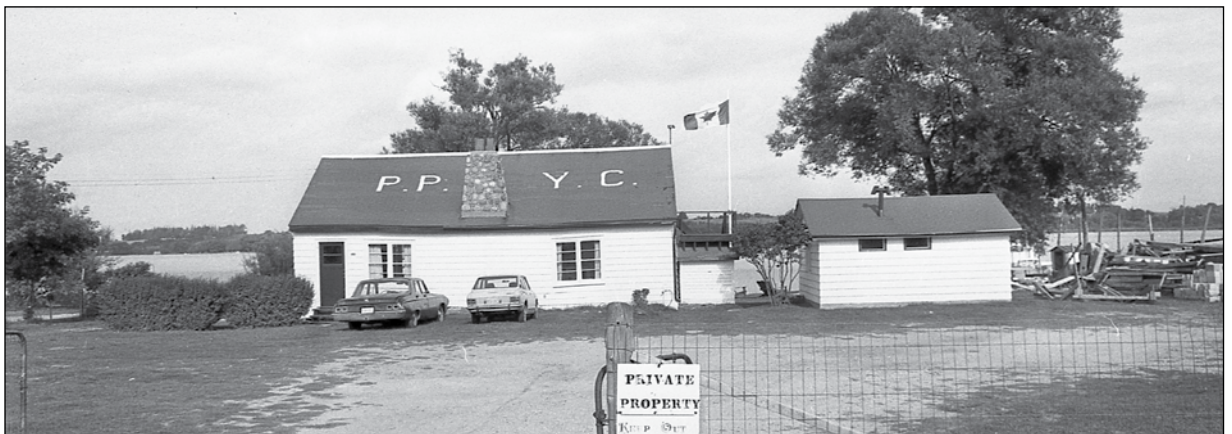
The four Trustees are Roy Wotten, Dave Bowman, Ed. Gresik, all of Oshawa, and Bill Baker of Port Perry. Ernie Sulman, Port Perry, was re-elected Captain of the Sailing Division.

Mrs. Phil Orde, of Port Perry, is Treasurer of the Club, taking over the duties from Mrs. H.H. Webster, who found it necessary to resign due to added business and domestic responsibilities.

The Port Perry Yacht Club is al-ready working on the coming season's activities with the Annual Regatta on the 24th of May promising to be a highlight of the year.



*Ted Griffen*



*Port Perry Yacht Club was located along Port Perry's lakefront, across from Mary Street.*

## Rescue ten cattle from icy cold Lake Scugog

*Port Perry Star, March 25, 1954*

Informed by phone that a herd of cattle were on the ice heading toward the open water near the causeway, two members of the "Star" staff hastened to the place and found 10 cows already through the ice.

Neighboring farmers and town men obtained ropes and ventured out on the treacherous ice. The daring of Mr. Anson Gerrow and Mr. Hugh Hiltz in approaching the very edge of the broken ice to place the noose over the head of each animal enabled the other men to haul the cattle to safety. Then the herd was turned back down the lake and returned through the pasture from which they had broken away.

Had any of the numerous farmers who watched the herd travelling up the ice turned them back earlier much risk and effort would have been avoided.

It is believed that the cattle, which are the property of Cliff and Al Redman, became free because someone, probably skiing, had cut the fence wire leaving a gaping hole. We are glad to be able to report that all the animals survived the ordeal.

## Port Perry Dairy damaged by fire and water

*Port Perry Star, March 25, 1954*

At 1 p.m. Sunday afternoon a flash fire occurred while the co-partners of the Port Perry Dairy were making alterations to refrigeration storage space. Heating hydrolene with a blow torch, to seal cork lining on the wall, it took fire and immediate efforts by George Parry and Don Pargeter could not extinguish it.

The fire department was called and as the fire had reached the inside of the ceiling above it was quite apparent that it would take a lot of water to get it under control. Four lines of hose were laid from the corner hydrant and thousands of gallons of water were poured into the building, mostly through upstairs windows so that it would soak down through.

The heavy smoke kept the firemen out of the building for quite some time during which the interior of the front apartment and its contents were completely ruined. Downstairs the fire was held to the front of the building and the damage included the refrigerator storage and milk bar, both a total loss. Pasteurizing and bottling equipment in the rear section received only water and smoke damage. The water on the electrical equipment will be the biggest hold up to getting under way again as it will have to be thoroughly dried out.

No valuation has been placed on the damage as yet but it will be high and it will take a lot of work to repair the damage to the building.



*Photo from the Port Perry Star of the fire at the Dairy Bar on Water Street.*



## Gold Cord Awarded

*Port Perry Star, March 18, 1954*

Miss Kent Gerrow was presented the Girl Guides highest award, the Gold Cord. Kent is the first Girl Guide from Port Perry to be so honoured.

### January 1954

Manchester School children find weather balloon in field near school which came from the U.S.A.

Port Perry Memorial Hospital received second grant of \$10,000 from County Council.

### February 1954

Lions Basketball team wins their 12th straight game.

Wm. McKinley, formerly of Scugog, celebrated 100th birthday.

### March 1954

G.H. Walker, Port Perry awarded Master Breeder Shield of the Holstein Friesian Association.

Mrs. Grace Farmer, wife of former editor and president of the Port Perry Star Co. Ltd., died March 15.

### April 1954

Two large, rare Whistling Swans seen near Lake Scugog.

Dowson's Red and White Store is five years old.

## Brignall Ambulance Service returns to Port Perry

*Port Perry Star, May 13, 1954*

It is nice to know that Port Perry is to again have an Ambulance Service. It will be a comfort to know that a local service is available for those who are unfortunate enough to be seriously ill or injured.

Charles Brignal, Jr., has had his sedan converted into an ambulance in a very ingenious manner. By making the side post so that it can be removed and swung out with the door, he has made the interior of the car easily accessible for the comfortable stretcher which is held firmly in place inside the car. The car has also been equipped with a red light.



*Charlie Brignal, jr.*

Charlie, who has done most of the work of reconverting the sedan is to be congratulated upon the really professional appearing job he has turned out, and we know that many people in the village and surrounding district will have occasions for being thankful to Charlie for his service.

## Lightning rips through house roof

*Port Perry Star, August 26, 1954*

At 3 p.m. on Tuesday morning lightning struck the house of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Vance, just south of Port Perry. It had glanced off a tree and entered the north-east corner of the building, ripping down through the roof and into the bedroom where they were sleeping.

Mr. and Mrs. Vance both had their hair singed as their bed was situated in the corner where the lightning came in. As it ripped through the roof it split timbers and moved the brick wall on the east side out at least six inches. On entering the bedroom, one complete window was knocked out and plaster was strewn over most of the room, as it followed the wires down stairs to a newly decorated room, where damage was done in several places and a small fire was started in the partitions.

After finding that his telephone had also been damaged by the lightning and would not work, Mr. Vance jumped into his car and drove to Port Perry, where he contacted the operator. The Port Perry Fire Brigade were soon on the job and the small fire was soon extinguished. Damage to the Vance house was considerable but at time of writing, actual cost had not been determined.

## New concrete floor poured for Community Memorial Arena

*Port Perry Star, July 15, 1954*

The work of pouring the concrete floor in the Memorial Gardens arena is now completed. The men commenced the job of pouring and levelling about 10 a.m. on Tuesday morning and continued until 10 p.m., about 12 hours of solid hard work.

At the present time it is undergoing a special curing stage. It is covered with an inch and a half of sawdust which is kept moist at all times. It will be in this state until about 22nd of the month.

The floor cost approximately \$6,700. It is a special concrete used exclusively for ice arenas, serving for many purposes – dancing, roller skating, games of all sorts. This floor is a 3,000 lb. base slab, is about 4" in depth covering the pipes by an inch and a half.

An other feature in the making of this floor is that all pipes were raised on steel "I" beams so that the floor is quite flexible. It required one weeks work to raise the pipes on the "I" beams, and twelve hours to pour the concrete (over 1,000 bags of cement used), with eight hours to finish the floor which was machine and hand troweled, leaving a burnished finish.

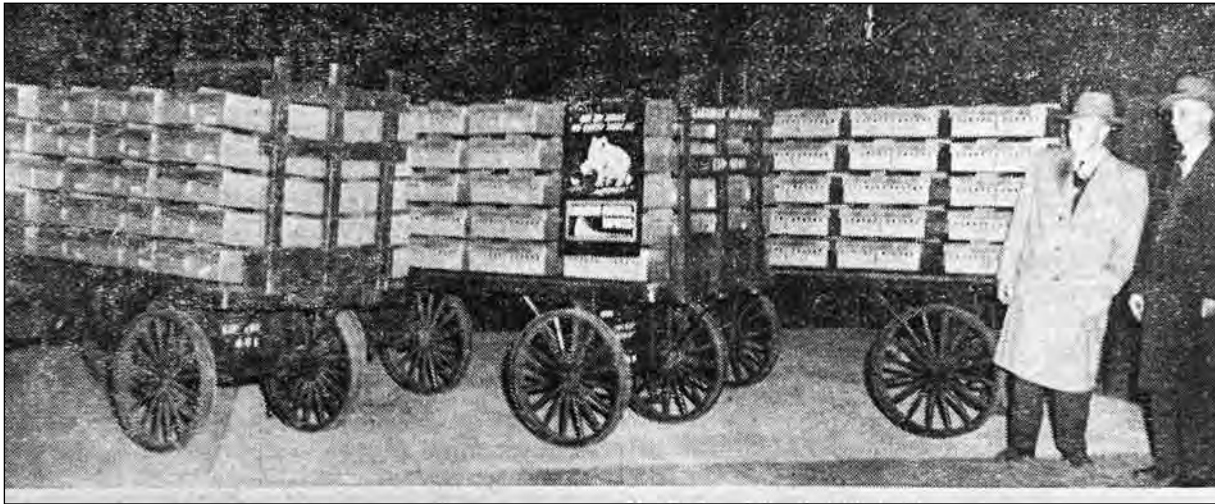
The only volunteer labour used was to place the sawdust over the finished floor, as the pouring is a highly specialized job. Raines Transport trucked the sawdust from Blackstock free of charge.

This floor will be of use the year around. Plans are in the making for a monster Bingo; square dance using the whole floor; some talk of using it every second week for wrestling and the Gala Opening for hockey will be early in October.

The Business Men will be using it in a few weeks for their Carnival and Dance on Civic Holiday.



*The above pictures show the machinery mixing the concrete at the rear of the arena, and the pouring of the mixture around the pipes.*



## Peel's ships 14,000 chicks to market

*Port Perry Star, May 6, 1954*

A record breaking express shipment of 14,000 baby chicks from Ron A. Peel's hatchery, Port Perry, left the CNR depot there last Thursday night consigned to T.M. Bastien at Embrun, Ontario.

The shipment went to Montreal and was there transferred to another train to go to the Ottawa Valley centre.

The shipment, valued at about \$3,000, was contained in 140 shipping cases, or 100 chicks to a box. Mr. Peel explains that his hatchery never stops producing baby chicks the year round. One hatch a week is produced and his shipments average 35,000 chicks per week the year round.

Mr. Goodfellow, CNR express agent, Oshawa, and Mr. Peel are shown view the shipment read for loading.

### May 1954

Ux-Spring Motors at corner of Hwy #12 and #47 closes it's businesses with a gigantic public auction sale.

**Ambulance service started in town by Charles Brignal Jr.**

Cartwright Central Public School picked as name for new four room Blackstock school.

### June 1954

Rev. Dr. J. Lewis McLean, former Port Perry boy, elected moderator of the 80th General Assembly Presbyterian Church.

## Toronto Maple Leafs to play Pittsburg Hornets in Port Perry

*Port Perry Star, September 16, 1954*

Through the kindness of Port Perry's good friend Bill MacBrien, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Maple Leaf Gardens, Toronto, and the courtesy of Mr. Conn Smythe, Manager of Maple Leaf Hockey Club, the citizens of Port Perry and area are going to have the rare opportunity of witnessing one of the best games of hockey, ever to be played in Port Perry.

Mr. Conn Smythe and Assistant Manager Mr. Hap Day, are bringing to Port Perry Arena their last year's Maple Leafs, plus many new players, to play a game against Pittsburg Hornets. There will be about 45 star hockey players in both clubs.

This will be one of the very best games you could possibly see, as the boys will all be giving their best, trying for a place on the big team for the coming season.

The Toronto Maple Leafs will be coached by King Clancy and the Pittsburg Hornets by Howie Meeker, two former stars of the Maple Leafs. The entire proceeds are being given by the Lions Club to the Port Perry Rink Committee to help pay the costs of installation of Artificial Ice Plant and cement floor.

PORT PERRY LIONS CLUB PRESENTS  
**HOCKEY NIGHT**  
**in PORT PERRY**  
**Toronto Maple Leafs**  
 VS.  
**Pittsburgh Hornets**  
 ON  
**Thursday, September 30**  
 GAME TIME 8.30 P.M.  
 Notables who will be present for this game, are:  
 COL. W. A. H. MacBRIEN,  
 Chairman of Board of Directors of Maple Leaf Gardens.  
 CONN SMYTHE, Manager of Maple Leaf Hockey Club  
 HAP DAY, Assistant Manager  
 KING CLANCY, Coach  
 TEEDER KENNEDY, Captain of Toronto Maple Leafs  
 HOWIE MEEKER, Coach of Pittsburgh Hockey Club  
 FOSTER HEWITT, Famous Sports Broadcaster  
**THERE WILL BE AN ADVANCED SALE OF TICKETS**  
 Tickets may be purchased from the Stores in Port Perry and  
 in Oshawa  
**SALE PRICE—Reserved \$1.50. General \$1.25**  
**Students \$1.00**

Rev. Keith MacMillan elected commissioner to General Council of United Church (Greenbank boy).

Church of Ascension dedicates new vestry.

**August 1954**

Dr. Beverly Smallman and family will move to England where he will continue research work, and will be working with Dr. Feldberg, a world famous physiologist.

The new concrete floor at the arena is covers 6 1/2 miles of pipes for artificial ice. Cost of the new floor about \$6,700.

Reach Council requested the Minister of Highways put a new surface on the highway between Manchester and Port Perry.

M.P. Michael Starr announced a contract had been let for resurfacing of Hwy. #12 between Myrtle and Greenbank and also 7A Hwy. between Manchester and Port Perry.



Port Perry Fairgrounds a busy spot for annual fall fair.

**Make improvements to lawn bowling clubhouse property**

*Port Perry Star, September 2, 1954*

Those of you who have glanced down at the Lawn Bowling Club House recently will have noticed quite a change.

First of all the building, which in recent years had began to sag in certain places, was levelled up and a new roof put on. The creek at the rear has been re-routed so as to keep the water from running under the building in the spring and washing it away from the foundation.

And after this had been accomplished, a coat of paint really brightened up the place. And all in all the club house has been made more pleasing to look at and of which the executive and members can be justly proud.

**Ottawa teenager smashes world speed record on Lake Scugog**

*Port Perry Star, September 16, 1954*

Ron Biggs, a 16 year-old school boy from Ottawa, piloted his hydroplane over a measured mile on Lake Scugog and cross the finish line at a speed of over 57 miles per hour, to smash the world record for BH powerboats.

His record of 57.052 miles per hour erases a mark of 56.967 set last September by American driver Burt Ross, Jr., at Devil's Lake, Oregon.

Canadian records were established in 10 other outboard classes, as the Port Perry Yacht Club sagged the first official speed trials in the Dominion's history.

Biggs, whose boat "S'cuse Me" was power by a regular stock motor, soot the show from seasoned professionals from both sides of the border. Many of the drivers who pitted their skill against the stopwatch were fresh from victories at the CNE.



## Hurricane Hazel damage wide spread throughout district

*Port Perry Star, October 21, 1954*

The residents of this community are very thankful indeed that they suffered so little damage compared to other areas. For one thing we missed the torrential rain which caused floods that wrecked so much havoc elsewhere.

But in spite of our gratitude that the damage was not worse, it was quite bad enough. The high winds of Friday Midnight brought down countless trees – often uprooting them. Blocks of pavement were frequently heaved out of the ground as so many of these fallen giants lined our roads and sidewalks.

As well as broken pavements innumerable breaks were made in telephone and hydro wires and most of Port Perry was without electricity for 10 to 15 hours, and consequently no water, since the electric pump forces the water into the storage tank.

Some rural areas were without electricity for two or three days. Hydro and telephone crews have worked unceasingly to restore service. The Bowling Green creek was a wash of the club house floor, which fortunately had been raised a few months ago. A group of men with trucks, etc. worked several hours to release this lake of water.

During the height of the storm wind lifted the newly shingled roof off of the lake side residence



*The 25 year-old Band Stand in Palmer Park collapsed during the height of the storm.*

of Philip Orde. Much damage was done to his recently decorated home; but heavy rains would have made the destruction complete.

A huge tree fell on the home of Jas. MacMillan on the Oshawa road. Quite early in the evening, the band stand at the lakefront park was turned over and badly smashed. Numerous television aerials were brought down in this district and many roofs were blown off of barns in the area.

So far we have received no word of anyone being injured – although some narrow escapes are reported. Murray McLaren of Scugog, barely missed being struck by the roof of his barn when it was dumped into the

barn yard.

The greatest damage is reported to be the Cartwright area, where the high winds caused considerable havoc. One metal barn, that of Grant Jackson, Blackstock, was completely demolished on top of his combine. It has been said that at least half the farms on the Cadmus line east of Blackstock suffered some damage, much of it extensive.

Word was received that quite a bit of damage was done to trees and tombstones in Pine Grove Cemetery. The work of cleaning up and restoring order is in progress. Carpenters, hydro and telephone workers deserve much credit for their untiring efforts.



*The roof of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Orde can be seen laying on the ground, removed by winds of Hurricane Hazel.*

## New public school opens in Cartwright

*Port Perry Star, October 7, 1954*

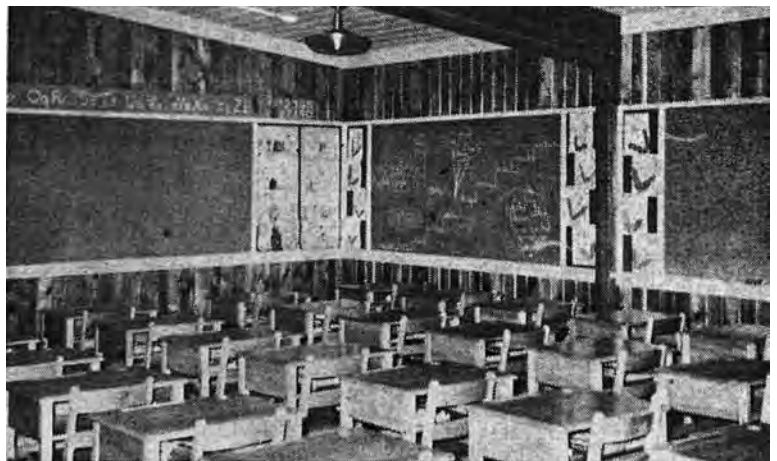
On Friday, October 1st, the village of Blackstock had the honour of playing host, to a large attendance at a very eventful dedication.

The new Central Public School which has been under construction for the past year was officially opened by Mr. J.R. McCarthy, superintendent of education for the Province of Ontario.

The school, which consists of four large and beautiful classrooms, office, teachers' lounge and a small lunch counter, will serve the children of the Township of Cartwright.

The official dedication was opened with the singing of the Maple Leaf, followed by the school choir.

Mr. Roy Turner, the new school principal spoke on the history and aims of the Blackstock schools and introduced the very capable teaching staff who will work with him for the coming year.



## Port Perry remains "dry" after fourth defeat

*Port Perry Star, November 18, 1954*

For the fourth time "wet" forces in Port Perry have gone down to defeat at the hands of the "dry". At the conclusion of a plebiscite in the village on Monday, only 89 votes were lacked by the backers of a liquor and beer warehouse in the village which has been without legal outlet since 1916.

The ballots were no sooner counted than the leader of the "wets" Tom McNeil, announced that he would launch a protest to His Honour Judge E. Pritchard, in Whitby.

About one hour after the three polls closed, Village Clerk, John Raines, was advised by returning officers that those voting in favour of the establishment of liquor stores totalled 560; those voting against such stores, totalled 521. This gave the "wets" a margin of 51.8 percent but was considered short of the 60 percent required to bring liquor into the village.

This was considered a very high vote in the village where only 1,239 persons are eligible to vote.

Mr. McNeil, who had championed the "wets" in what has been reported as a very quiet campaign, shortly asked Clerk Raines to consult Judge Pritchard about the irregularities which he claimed had been reported to him.

### September 1954

The Toronto Maple Leafs played a game against the Pittsburgh Hornets at Memorial Gardens Arena in Port Perry. Leafs were coached by King Clancy and Hornets by Howie Meeker. Leafs won 4-0.

Mrs. W.M. Letcher was honored when she retired from Library Board after 29 years service.

Port Perry has increased in population during the past 12 months. Last year the population was 1,961, but this year there are 2,058 people residing in the community.

### October 1954

John L. Sweetman, Scugog Twp. reeve for the past five years, resigned to become road foreman for the County. Anson Gerrow was acclaimed as the new reeve.

### November 1954

A Curling Club was formed, with Grant MacDonald as president. Club played first games in Memorial Gardens arena.

Flamingo Restaurant re-opens in new location. Completely new interior (formerly S. Jeffrey Harness Shop).

Keith VanCamp of Nestleton wins National Dairy Council Award.

Jimmy Taylor's 5c to \$1 store opens December 4.



*Flaming Restaurant, operated by Kenneth Jackson, operated from this building at 223 Queen Street in 1954.*

## Enlarged Flamingo Restaurant opened

*Port Perry Star, November 18, 1954*

After weeks of waiting and inconvenience to himself and to those who were passengers on the bus lines passing through Port Perry, Mr. Ken Jackson is happy to be opening his new, enlarged Flamingo Restaurant.

Ken has been working hard to get every thing in spick and span order for the day when he would again be able to serve the very best meals and coffee and snacks to his loyal friends and customers.

We know when you visit him in his new quarters you will soon belong in this group, too, for the restaurant is beautifully decorated and large enough to accommodate a good crowd, with ample room for those who are waiting for the bus on the cold days to come. In good order, too, is the kitchen from which come the meals for which the Flamingo is famous.

We congratulate Ken on his fine place.



*Bill Beare, left, and brother Storey Beare, owners of Beare Motors Ltd., are seen here in November 1954, at the "Preview Showing" of the new Chrysler models of Dodge and DeSoto vehicles for 1955.*



*The Beare Motors garage, and Chrysler Dealership was located at 268 Queen St.*



## Police Chief captures three men who robbed by gunpoint

Port Perry Star, December 30, 1954

The quick-witted daring of Port Perry Police Chief Archie Menzies resulted last Thursday night in the capture of three men suspected of being gunmen who held up the Prince Albert post office near Port Perry and made off with nearly \$80 in cash last week.

Unarmed and alone, he collared the three young men, believing they were still carrying a pistol, with which the bandits had already threatened to kill.



Police Chief  
Archie Menzies

A nine millimeter Browning automatic pistol, a full magazine, overalls and hoods worn by the gunmen were recovered from a ditch near Seagrave. A paper bag containing over \$80 in notes and silver was later discovered hidden in the oil filter of the 1948 Ford Mercury in which the three were in.

Two women were alone in the Prince Albert post office and general store when two gunmen wearing Ku Klux Klan-type hoods entered at approximately 5:45 and held them up at pistol point. Mrs. Leta Doupe, who with her husband James Doupe, runs the store, and Mrs. Joy Newnham, an employee, were packing Christmas parcels when the men came in.

Mrs. Newnham came to the front of the store. She says, "At first I thought it was a joke, but they soon showed us they were not joking." As one of the intruders stood over Mrs. Newnham and forced her to empty the cash register, his armed companion made his way to the rear of the store and ordered Mrs. Doupe to kneel on the floor and place her arms over a packing case. He held the pistol to her shoulder.

Meanwhile, the third bandit waited outside in the "souped-up" automobile. Before making their escape, the thugs cut the telephone wires and left one woman on the floor at the back of the store. They threatened to shoot them if they attempted to follow them from the store.

Terrified, the two women waited for almost 15 minutes before 17 year-old Carol Heayn, who had just arrived on the bus from Oshawa, came in to collect her family's mail. Carol ran to the Doupe house, two doors away, and telephoned Police Chief Menzies. Although it was just outside his area, Chief Menzies arrived at the scene within minutes after telephoning the Whitby detachment of the OPP.

Carol, who has known Mrs. Doupe for almost four years, lives just around the corner from the store, on Union Avenue. She described the scene when she arrived. "When I came into the store I saw Mrs. Doupe and Mrs. Newnham at the back and I thought someone had tripped and fallen. Then Mrs. Doupe asked me to telephone for the police. I ran to the store phone and found the wires cut, so I telephoned from Mrs. Doupe's house,"

Carol, a stenographer at General Motors south



The Prince Albert General Store, and Post Office, was operated by Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Doupe. The original small store, seen above, was removed about mid-1960 and a modern new one building was built, which opened August, 25, 1960 as a Carload Food Market.

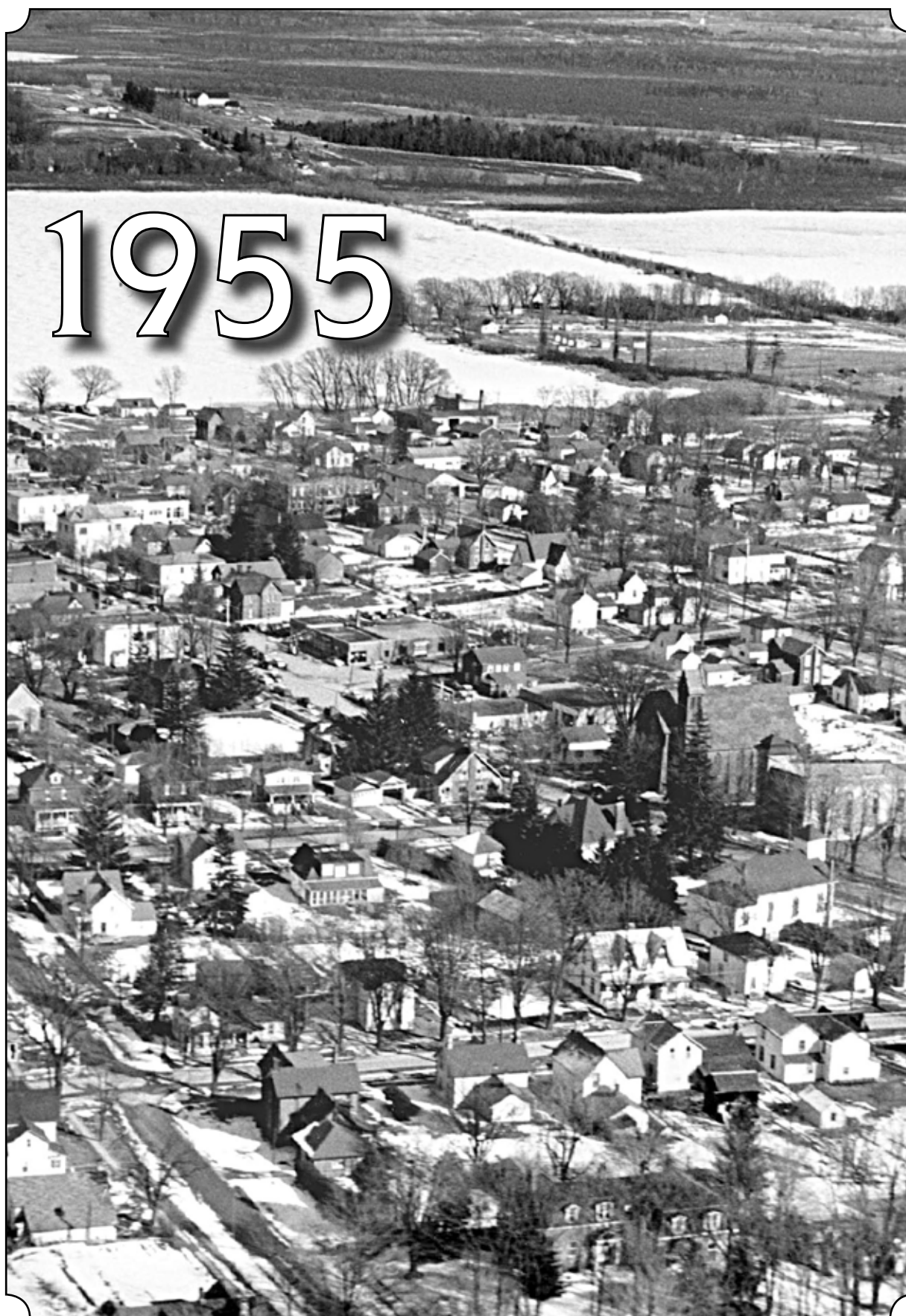
plant, was returning from Oshawa with her father, Gordon Heayn, who waited at the corner while she collected the mail. Mr. Doupe, who left a little more than 90 minutes before the hold-up was called home from General Motors where he is working on the night shift.

Enquiries reveal the bandits visited the store to reconnoiter during the afternoon, returning to Port Perry for supper. Chief Menzies arrived at the post office armed with an automatic American carbine. After questioning the two women he began a thorough door-to-door check. He was told by a woman living near-by she had seen two men answering his descriptions drinking Coca-Cola in the store that afternoon.

In Oil Filter As Chief Menzies was questioning one of the people reported to have seen the men the suspected car drove up and he ran to the car and arrested the three occupants.

Chief Menzies reports that he received wonderful cooperation from many people, who contributed reliable information which led to the capture of these bandits, and he praised their accurate observations.

Charged with armed robbery before a justice of the peace at 1:30 Friday morning were Kenneth J. McDonald, his brother John, and Jack Bould, all of R.R. Hampton, Ontario. The three men, between the ages of 21 and 25, were remanded in custody and appeared in the Oshawa court Friday morning. They spent rest of the night at Whitby, where they were taken by Ontario Provincial Police.



*This section of a large aerial picture of Port Perry shows the central area of town in 1957.*

## Fire damages Epsom one-room schoolhouse

*Port Perry Star, February 3, 1955*

The education of 32 children from of the village of Epsom was cut short today, when their one-room rural school was damaged by fire early on Monday.

The damage was confined to the floor of the building and small holes in the roof but the desks and books were charred from the extensive heat.

Port Perry officials said the damage was between \$2,000 and \$3,000. They said the fire must have started near the furnace. The floor was burnt through for about ten feet around the heater and flames had eaten away parts of the roof.

The fire was discovered about 1:10 a.m. and trucks were sent, from Port Perry and Uxbridge. Port Perry officials noted that the person who discovered the blaze had the presence of mind to keep the doors and windows locked, thus containing the blaze.

The lone teacher at the school, Mrs. R. Wilbur, said that the interior was pretty well damaged.

Plans have been made to carry on school in the basement of the United Church at Epsom. A change in these arrangements may be made at a later date.

# 1955



*W. Harry Peel, right, Reeve of the Village of Port Perry was elected 101st Warden of County of Ontario in January 1955. Above he is seen being sworn in at County Clerk, William Manning.*

### January 1955

Mr. R.D. Woon retired as Secretary Treasurer of the Port Perry, Reach and Scugog Agricultural Society after holding the position for 16 years.

Elmer J. Gibson was inaugurated as Reeve for the Township of Reach.

Innes Motor Sales, Port Perry is the local dealer for Fargo trucks.

### February 1955

Women's Auxiliaries decorated and outfitted the Children's Ward at Community Memorial Hospital with new beds, tables, chairs, books and toys.

Bell Telephone reports 60 phones added in '54, bringing the total in the local exchange to 1175.

Manchester Credit Union, started late last year, held its first annual meeting in the Myrtle Hall. President is Robt. Walker of Port Perry.

Mrs. Arthur Brock of the Scugog Chapter I.O.D.E. dedicated memorial shelf at library in honor of members who have passed away. **March 1955**

## Harry Peel elected Ont. County Warden

*Port Perry Star, January 20, 1955*

After four ballots were taken W. Harry Peel, Reeve of the village of Port Perry, was elected to the highest municipal post in the County of Ontario, Warden for 1955.

Warden Peel bested Reeve George Todd, of Pickering Township, and Reeve Wilfrid Hart, of Rama Township. It is the first time in 17 years that Port Perry's Reeve has been elected to the Wardenship of the County. Four members of Council were nominated for the office but one withdrew.

Reeve Peel, in a brief address before balloting began, noted that it had been 17 years since his municipality had been represented by the Warden and added that if the County Council should see fit to hold centennial celebrations this year, he would do his utmost to make the event one that would go down in the honorable history of this county.

Reeve Hart recalled that in 1880, Reeve J.E. McPherson, of Rama Twp. had been elected Warden of Ontario County and in all the years since, not one Reeve of Rama had been elected to the Warden's chair.

From the opposite corner of the county, Pickering Township, Reeve Todd noted that he had served on the county council since 1950 and now only three other members of the council were still in office.

Deputy-Reeve Patrick Duffy, of Mara Township, in announcing that he would not stand for the Wardenship this year, paid tribute to the three men who were in the running. "They are a lot of good men."

## Two Caesarea men drowned as car plunged through ice on lake

*Port Perry Star, March 10, 1955*

Two Caesarea men, Earl Thomas Burr, 31, and Fred Frayer, 51, were drowned in Lake Scugog last Sunday afternoon when their car broke through the ice, and plunged into deep water about 500 feet from shore.

A companion, John Neill, 38, also of Caesarea, managed to escape from the car as it was going through the ice, and scrambled to safety after making a desperate effort to save Burr.

According to information given to the police, the men had driven out over Lake Scugog, and stopped the car to give Neill's dog a run on the ice. When the dog, a collie, tired, they returned to the car, and started back to Caesarea. They had gone only a short distance when the car went into a crevice in the ice, and slid down into the water.

Fred Frayer was driving the car, and Neill was in the front seat with him. As the car was going down, Neill, according to police, crawled over into the back seat, and shoved Burr out of the car, then climbed out himself. Frayer, and the dog, went down with the car.

Burr, however, slid into the water, and in spite of the



*A diver for the Dept. of Transport, descended into the frigid waters of Lake Simcoe Monday morning, where he recovered the body of Fred Frayer, 51, of Caesarea. Earl Burr, 31, also of Caesarea drowned in the same accident.*

efforts of Neill, who tried to hold him out, he slipped out of Neill's grasp and went down in about 20 feet of water.

Frayer, who is the owner of Frayer's pavilion and boathouse at Caesarea, was very familiar with the lake, and used to boast that he knew it like the back of his hand. George Blyth, Caesarea storekeeper, said that in some places the ice was 18 inches thick, and was considered safe. Frayer and Burr, he said, had made a trip over the same area on Saturday with a load of logs.



*The Epsom Public School In February 1955 a serious fire, which could have destroyed the village's landmark, took place in the school. Following the fire the belfry was taken down.*



*The Children's Ward in the Community Memorial Hospital in Port Perry now has a new modern look due to the generous gift by the Women's Auxiliary, consisting of fine beds, chairs, tables, cupboard, and a colourful assortment of books and toys.*

## Retail stores agree to begin opening Friday nights 'till nine

*Port Perry Star, April 21, 1955*

Retail merchants, at a well attended meeting in the Library, on Monday, April 18th, voted to try Friday night opening till 9 o'clock, beginning the 1st of June, and continuing until the end of August. Stores will be open until 9 Saturday nights as usual.

The main purpose of the meeting was the desire of some merchants to open Friday nights instead of Saturday nights. As Port Perry is basically a farming community it was felt by some merchants that the farmers would prefer Saturday night opening at present rather than Friday night.

After much discussion the following motion was presented by Mr. I.R. Bentley, seconded by Gordon Carnegie - "That the Retail Stores in Port Perry remain open Friday nights until nine o'clock for the months of June, July and August and Saturday night until nine." This was voted upon and accepted.

A Retail Merchant's Section was formed to deal with all matters concerning businesses only. Jim Taylor, Mrs. Kay Vandermark, and Jack Hope to be on the committee with Mr. Jim Taylor chairman.

## Blaze spreads rapidly destroying Utica's Memory Hall

*Port Perry Star, April 14, 1955*

The entire community of Utica, six miles west of Port Perry, turned out to assist the Port Perry fire Brigade Saturday afternoon when fire for a while threatened the whole hamlet.

When the fire, which is believed to have started in the roof from a spark of a nearby grass fire, was over, the villagers were without their Memorial Hall, a one-storey building which had stood on the four corners of the village for more than a half-century.

Firemen, hampered by roads which were almost impassable because of spring thaws, arrived to find that the building was beyond saving. Volunteers had managed to save a few chairs and the piano. A large portrait of the donor of the hall, the late Walter Horn, was not saved.

Due to the high wind that sprung up flying embers ignited a number of grass fires along the road and a straw stack, at Chet Geer's, nearly half a mile away burst into flames. This caused much concern for a time as it was dangerously close to the barn, and water supply was limited, until Jack Hill, of the Department of Lands and Forest arrived with another pump and additional hose to pump water from a nearby creek.

Frank McGregor and Charles Lakey, proprietors of the Utica General Store, diagonally across the corner from the hall, feared that the strong winds would carry the embers to their building and pending the arrival of firemen, played a garden hose on the roof and walls of their store to prevent it taking fire. "The community hall burned right to the ground in less than a half-hour. Five minutes after the fire started, you couldn't get inside the building. It burned like a match-box", said Mr. McGregor.

Firemen's efforts were not wasted, however, for the

fire from the hall on the south side of the road, leaped the road and began in the grass on the north ditch. It also leaped a cross-road and burned along the south ditch and through a rail fence and volunteers were hard put for some time to keep the flames from ravaging the fields to the north of the village.

Firemen stated later that a burning shingle must have flown from the hall to the straw stack of Chet Geer's, a half-mile east of the hall. They immediately rushed there. The barn escaped damage and when Mr. and Mrs. Geer arrived home, it was to find firemen putting the finishing touches to a fire which might have left them with a very serious loss as their entire stock was inside the barn.

The building was insured for \$3,000.



*During the 1950s, the Port Perry Rod and Gun Club began holding an annual Carp Derby on Lake Scugog. One summer, more than 450 carp were caught during the popular two-day event. Pictured here is the Carp Derby organizing committee in May 1955: from left, Earl Geer, Arthur Brock, game warden Ben Smith, and Ottis Hamilton.*

## Rod & Gun Club carp derby

*Port Perry Star, May 12, 1955*

The Port Perry Rod & Gun Club's annual Carp Derby has been set for the successive Sundays of May 29 and June 5. Although this contest is open to any entrant, the members are reminded that there are additional separate prizes awarded to them on the basis of their overall catch.

Last year some 250 fish were taken, some of them "whoppers" and proven anglers declare that even a two-pounder provides sufficient fight for thrills.

Rules for the derby are simple and to add to the ease of catch the area will have been baited previous to derby time. We hope to lure a goodly number of fish into the area to provide keen spirit for all contestants. Special "Carp" bait will be available at a reasonable charge at the place of registration. Participants are urged to register before starting to fish.



Large crowds came to Port Perry to see the first speedboat races of the season on Lake Scugog.

**March 1955**

Anglican Church receives gift of organ and other items from Catholic Apostolic Church in Toronto, which is closing.

Barbara Love was crowned Queen of Carnival for the Memorial Gardens Ice Revue.

**April 1955**

Pee Wee hockey team captures Peterborough District Championship and Central Ont. crown for second year.

A fire April 9 at the Memory Hall, Utica, totally destroyed the building which had stood at the four-corners of the village for more than half a century.

Port Perry Public School children receive first of three shots of a Poliomyelitis vaccine.

**May 1955**

Dr. M.B. Dymond was nominated to represent the Conservatives in the next Provincial election. The largest crowd ever assembled for a nomination meeting in Canada, 500, met at the Port Perry Memorial Gardens arena, with Dr. Dymond winning the nomination in five ballots.

Port Perry is assured a member in the Provincial House as Liberal candidate W. Tom Harris is also a Port Perry citizen.

**Thrills galore at Port Perry speedboat races**

*Port Perry Star, May 26, 1955*

The largest crowd ever to attend the annual Port Perry Yacht Club speedboat races saw a record list of entries perform on Monday, the seemingly unbelievable feat of boating on air. In fact, that was literally what had to be done if one wished to win at Canada's first regatta of the 1955 season.

Competition was very keen and some local drivers distinguished themselves by finishing among the winners. Probably the most spectacular event of the day was during the "Grand Finale" when Ken Burch from Jordon Station, Ont., crossed the finish line in first place, traveling at approximately 65 miles per hour in a D Class Hydro, then started to sail up into the air. The driver dropped into the lake while still traveling at high speed and the boat and motor sailed on over his head to land nearly thirty feet further on – a wet but lucky man.

The St. John's Ambulance Corps was in attendance but fortunately no serious accident occurred to mar the day.

Future P.P.Y.C. races are scheduled for June 12, June 26th, July 17th, and the ever popular marathon from Port Perry around Scugog Island to Caesarea and return, August 7th. These are all for club members only.

**M.B. Dymond elected to Ontario Legislature**

*Port Perry Star, June 16, 1955*

Dr. M.B. Dymond took the lead early in the evening as returns came in and held it all the way. The Progressive Conservative candidate in Ontario County Riding, Dr. Dymond, of Port Perry was elected to his first seat on the Ontario Legislature with a thumping majority over Thomas Harris, Liberal, and Roy Scott C.C.F.

It was a night to celebrate, no matter which candidate of the three was elected, the celebration was sure to be held in Port Perry. Dr. Dymond and Mr. Harris are both Port Perry residents and Mr. Scott lives about five miles north of the village on a farm.

In the village of Port Perry, scene of a PC convention which drew 3,500 persons to nominate Dr. Dymond from six potential candidates, the village gave him its firm support, 605 votes with Mr. Harris second with 371.

## Sod turned for massive Oshawa Shopping Centre

*Port Perry Star, July 28, 1955*

The first sod was turned on Friday, July 22, 1955, for the new Oshawa Shopping Centre.

Located on a 53 acre tract of land on King St. West (No. 2 -Highway) at Stevenson's Road, in the west end of Oshawa, less than a mile from the four corners, the latest Principal Investments' \$10,000,000 project will be one of Canada's largest shopping centres and one of the finest on the continent.

Almost two years of economic and statistical research has preceded the finalized plans which will include the best features of the most important and largest regional type shopping centres built to date.

Initial tenants will include the T. Eaton Co., Limited, with a \$2 million department store which will be the hub of the 60-store shopping centre. S.S. Kresge Co. will have a variety store occupying 21,000 square feet.

Loblaws Groceries will install the largest unit in their chain.

Fairweather Company will have a one storey junior department store with a square footage of approximately 12,000 square feet.

Oshawa Shopping Centre will be of the kind known as the "Mall" type – a development where a group of stores is lined up on either side of promenade or "Mall", and divided into sections with the department store occupying the centre.

The other stores will flank it or face it across an attractively treated promenade – adjoining courts and arcades will be beautifully landscaped with shrubs, flowers and fountains.



*Lake Scugog Lumber was located at the north end of Water Street, beside the lake and Birdseye Centre Park.*

## Mid-afternoon fire razes Russel Hood home on Scugog Island

*Port Perry Star, August 18, 1955*

A mid-afternoon blaze at the home of Russell Hood, Scugog Island, completely gutted the house, and destroyed much of the furnishings. The fire started in the chimney.

About 3 o'clock the fire was first noticed but it was some 20 minutes later that the Port Perry fire brigade was called and by the time they had travelled the distance to the 11th concession (not far from Scugog Store) the fire had made considerable headway.

The fire fighters were able to remove some of the furniture but could do little to halt the blaze. The house was being occupied by two families.



*This aerial post card picture shows Birdseye Centre Park, with its cabins built along the lakeshore on the beautiful property.*

## Lake Scugog chosen to hold the C.N.E. speed boat races

*Port Perry Star, September 18, 1955*

The Port Perry Yacht Club had a surprise and unexpected visitor over the weekend, when the Canadian Boating Federation dropped in and brought about 80 racing outfits with it, looking for a suitable place to hold the speed-boat races that were postponed Friday and Saturday at the C.N.E. because of the great Lumsden swim and bad weather.

A telephone call from the C.N.E. was received Saturday afternoon by Don Smith, Commodore of the Port Perry Yacht Club, asking for assistance, and after an emergency call to Club Directors and securing the green light from the Village of Port Perry – an S.O.S. went out to club race officials in Oshawa, Toronto and Port Perry to be on hand.

Police, Ambulance and loud speaker were secured, buoys, barges and crash boats were made ready – timers, flagmen, starters and many other equally important personnel were alerted – and in a matter of "minutes" the stage was set for two days of boat racing to be squeezed into one afternoon.

Due to the splendid co-operation of the racers, officials and the local folks trying to conduct a waterfront business, everything ran as "smooth as silk", starting at 1 p.m. and finishing at about 6.30.

### May 1955

Roy Scott, of Seagrave, nominated as the C.C.F. candidate in Ontario Riding.

### June 1955

Memorial Gardens to hold Professional Wrestling every other Saturday during the summer. Ringside seats \$1.

Bob Howsam opened the Western Tire and Auto Supply store on Queen St. across from Beare Motors.

### July 1955

Reach Twp. changes Nomination Day to the last Friday before the last Monday in November. Election Day will be first Monday in December.

### August 1955

Mac Christie, Manchester, was filmed doing his morning chores at the farm for a television show called Country Calendar.

Port Perry Yacht Club held a 36 miles marathon race on Lake Scugog, from Port Perry to Caesarea and back, with 15 boats entered.

## Municipal Board awards DeNure Bus Lines \$18,000

*Port Perry Star, September 1, 1955*

The Ontario Municipal. Board has awarded compensation totaling \$41,000 to two bus companies which claim their business was "adversely affected" as a result of annexation by the City of Oshawa of a part of East Whitby Township.

The judgment awarded \$18,000 to the Fred DeNure Bus Lines Limited and a total of \$23,000 to Garton Coach Lines. Both sums are to be paid by the city.

The applications for compensation by the transport companies were heard separately by the board here last May 25 and 26.

The DeNure Line, in its application, claimed the loss of business resulting from extension of the Oshawa Railway Company service into annexed areas at the request of the city. The city directed the ORC last January 24th to extend its bus service to serve residents of the former. East Whitby area annexed in 1951. DeNure provided excellent bus service to this area, and was in operation before the area was annexed in 1951 and had continued to give good service

right up until the time the Oshawa Street Railway Co. extended their lines into this area early this year.

The applicant and its predecessor have been engaged continuously in the business of transportation of passengers and express parcels since 1952 between Port Perry and Oshawa, under a license issued by the Ontario department of highways.

An application by the Oshawa Railway Company (a subsidiary of the Canadian National Railways) for an extension to operate into the affected area was dismissed by the Municipal Board in 1947.

Thus the applicant (DeNure) enjoyed exclusive operating authority in the portion of the annexed area until March 14th, 1956.







*An aerial view of the Lake Scugog Lumber Co. property at Port Perry, about 1955.*

## Ray Hobbs' Garage burns to the ground at Manchester

*Port Perry Star, October 6, 1955*

A Manchester garage burned to the ground within an hour of its catching fire on Sunday morning.

The Port Perry Fire Department were called at 9:00 a.m. Sunday, to a fire which had broken out in a garage owned by Ray Hobbs, R.R. 4, Port Perry. On arriving five minutes later, the firemen found the blaze to have reached such height that it was impossible to get near it. Oil and grease fed the flames until the inferno was completed beyond control.

Fireman Harvey Mahaffey, one of the men fighting the fire, said, "You couldn't get near the building for the terrific heat, the cement blocks in the walls cracked and fell, apart, until the building was down to about three feet from the ground."

The timely arrival of the firemen, however, prevented what might have been an even more disastrous blaze. With the fire in the garage out of control, they concentrated their hose on the gasoline pumps in front of the building, and despite the heat, managed to prevent them from bursting into flame.

Fred Colbear, who worked in the garage, said that the fire started in a truck, which was inside the garage at the time. Colbear towed the blazing truck outside, and a customer drove out another truck that was in the building. Unable to recover a car that was in the garage, the two men fought the fire with fire extinguishers until the arrival of the fire reels.

The garage was left a total loss, along with the car, and all the garage equipment.

## Bryden Motors sold to Howard Challis

*Port Perry Star, October 6, 1955*

Mr. Howard Challis, who was manager of the Hammond Motor Sales in Bradford, has purchased Bryden Motors in Port Perry and will operate under the name of Howard Motors.

He has had many years experience in this field all along the line, in fact he still holds his A1 Mechanic License.

A member of the Lions Club in good standing Mr. Challis will be welcomed to Port Perry Lions where his reputation as a fine worker has already preceded him.

Mr. Challis and his family have moved into the house recently vacated by Mr. Frank Godley. We welcome Mr. and Mrs. Challis to Port Perry.

## New dentist opens practice

*Port Perry Star, October 27, 1955*

Dr. Robert G. McNab wishes to announce that he will open an office for the practice of Dentistry in the newly enlarged and remodeled offices owned by Dr. George Rennie and Dr. Matthew B. Dymond.

Dr. McNab, whose home was in Oshawa, graduated from the University of Toronto Dental College in 1951. Since graduation he has been in the Army Dental Corps and is now attached to the R.C.A.F. station at Trenton, Ont.

For the past three Saturdays the Doctor has been in his offices here and now expects that he will be ready to practice continuously beginning November 1st. His Telephone number is Port Perry, 556.



*Dr. R.G. McNab*

## Haugen's Drive-In Restaurant opened in September 1955



Ivan Haugen purchased the properties his new Drive-In Restaurant was constructed on in April 1955. It is believed he opened before September the same year. Above is an exterior view of the building and below to views of the original interior seating areas.



## Gas fire at Haugen's Drive-Inn Restaurant at Manchester

Port Perry Star, November 3, 1955

Haugen's Drive-Inn Restaurant at Manchester was almost the scene of a bad fire earlier this week. Only the prompt action of a number of folk prevented the total destruction of this new building.

While the Ontario Shore Gas supply truck was filling the tanks used for cooking Tuesday morning, gas leaked from one of the connections and was apparently set on fire by a spark from the exhaust fan that was running above the spot where the tanks stood. A spout of flame shot up to the eave which started to burn; this jumped

through a small window and ignited the grease in the deep fryer.

Mrs. Frank Johnson, a nearby neighbour, was out getting an armful of wood for her stove when she saw the first burst of flames. Without a moment's hesitation she dropped the wood and put in a call for the Port Perry Fire Brigade which responded promptly, due to the co-operation of the Port Perry Telephone Girls. At the same time others were hurrying to help.

A mechanic from the Manchester Garage brought a fire extinguisher, and a crew of Hydro men who were passing stopped and brought their extinguisher.

Then the fire brigade arrived and quickly had a spray of water turned on the hot tanks, to cool them, so that other fire men could approach and were able to push the tanks away from the building with pike poles, after which they were doused with CO2 foam.

It is indeed fortunate that these tanks did not explode while they were so hot. The driver of the gas truck had his hair badly scorched and received light burns on his face, but he remained on the scene until the fire was out, after having removed his truck to a safe distance from the blaze.

Mrs. Haugen says that they expect to have the Restaurant repaired; cleaned and ready for business again in about a week.



Picture shows flames coming from Haugen's Restaurant.

## Emmerson Motel apartments fill long-felt need for accommodations in Port Perry

*Port Perry Star, December 8, 1955*

No longer need the citizens of Port Perry look dazed when someone asks where they can find accommodation—the answer is the Emmerson Motel – (entrance through a pleasant green door across from the post office.)

These beautifully decorated rooms have been planned to suit a variety of people – from the folk who want a comfortable room for a few hours, to those who want to stay for some time. The motel type room which over looks the parking lot and has a magnificent view of the lake is thoughtfully arranged to accommodate two people. Two comfortable beds with bedside table, and individual lights; a small desk with drawers; a comfortable chair with reading light; a luggage rack; ample wardrobe space and a private three-piece bath.

Everything is spick and span and the colours beautiful and restful. These rooms can serve a double purpose, too, by tilting the beds up against the wall and adding a few chairs, adequate space is found for a committee meeting or sales conference.

In addition to the rooms just described, there are two bachelor apartments, each a complete unit with kitchen, dinette, bathroom, bedroom and sitting room. The kitchen has cupboard, with dishes, etc., sink, refrigerator and stove. The bath though small is complete with tub, etc. The dinette takes the form of a dividing counter between kitchen and sitting room. The bed conveniently folds up out of the way giving plenty of living space.

Again the colors are restful and interesting, the rooms spacious and light. The two bachelor housekeeping rooms can become one suite, if desired, by opening double connecting doors, and would be ideal for a family group or two couples holidaying together.

The patrons parking lot is, of course, entered from North Street, and a stairway leads up to the corridor. Mrs. Suggitt can be summoned by a buzzer, and she will take the reservations.

Mr. Harold Emmerson and son George have plans to enlarge the place in time and these plans for the future include a lounge as well as additional units.

We feel confident that these delightful rooms will be very popular with travellers and tourists and will do much to increase the popularity of our village.



*The Emmerson Motel was located on the second floor of this building.*

## Grant MacDonald new principal at Port Perry high school

*Port Perry Star, December 15, 1955*

Mr. Grant MacDonald has been appointed the Principal of Port Perry High School. His duties will commence with the New Year as Mr. J.L. Crane leaves at the Christmas season for his new position in the Essex High School.

Mr. MacDonald has given some nine or ten years service with the Port Perry school, is the head of the Commercial and Mathematics department, and will be well received as principal by the student body. Congratulations! Mr. MacDonald.

### September 1955

The Del Restaurant was taken over by Mr. and Mrs. Ivor Lawrence.

### October 1955

Dr. R.G. McNab announces opening of practice of Dentistry in the building owned by Drs. Rennie and Dymond.

### November 1955

Cost to operate the Memorial Gardens Recreation Centre (Arena) for the past 12 months was \$14,570.00.

Mr. J.L. Crane, principal of Port Perry High School, resigned to take up duties as principal of Essex Dist. High School, near London, Ont.

### December 1955

Twenty-two Port Perry businesses take part in an Appreciation Day promotion every Saturday for the next 52 weeks, with draws every Saturday in front of the Post Office.

Mr. R.D. Woon honored for many years of service to Port Perry Reach and Scugog Agricultural Society.

F.W. Brock and Son becomes A.W. Brock Department Store. Have been in business 75 years.

Radio personality Joel Aldred donated \$5,000 state-of-the-art operating room table to Community Memorial Hospital in memory of his brother Bill and cousin Wm. Morrish.

# 1956



Phil Orde

## President Ted Griffen and full executive of the Port Perry Chamber of Commerce resigns

*Port Perry Star, February 2, 1956*

At the well attended Business Men's Association banquet in the "Del" Restaurant on Friday night, one saw the finish of the local association after 22 years of service to the community. The executive for 1956 resigned in a body to make it possible for a new organization which, it is believed can serve the community under today's conditions.

In tendering his resignation, President Ted Griffen pointed out that the Business Men's Association had no definite program to follow which frequently resulted in lack of co-operation, and he and other members of the executive felt that the time had come to make a change. Mr. Griffen asked Mr. Storey Beare to take charge of the meeting and to introduce the guest speaker.

Following the guest speaker, the meeting was opened for discussion. Mr. Beare asked Dr. Dymond, M.P.P. for a few words on this subject. Dr. Dymond felt that the Chamber of Commerce could meet the needs of

the Community.

Mr. Ronald Peel expressed an opinion that the needs of the Community were greater than at any previous time and that more efficient organization was needed to meet the growing problems. He felt that the Chamber of Commerce provided the means to accomplish this.

The new dentist, Dr. McNab, was introduced to the meeting and his opinion asked, which was in favor of the Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Sam Griffen expressed some doubts regarding the help and cooperation which could be obtained from the central office of the Chamber of Commerce and more questions and answers continued for an hour or so, until Mr. S. Griffen moved that a branch of the Chamber of Commerce be formed in Port Perry.

A nominating committee was named with Mr. Ron Peel as chairman. They are to present a slate of officers at a dinner meeting on Friday, February 24th.

## Port Perry Yacht Club elects Phil Orde Commadore at its annual meeting

*Port Perry Star, February 9, 1956*

The Port Perry Yacht Club held its Annual Election of Officers February 5th, 1956, with some enthusiastic "Old Salts" back on deck to help with this important event.

The success of the Club in 1956 is assured, due to the fact that nearly every member elected has had wide and varied experiences with Clubs and boats of all types and sizes. Suffice it to say that with inboard, outboard, sailing and social talent represented on the Committee, the Port Perry Yacht Club is certain to enjoy another successful season.

The cruising members with the large inboards and houseboats will be pleased to learn they now have a new extra heavy marine railway with a power winch to ease the labors of launching and dry-docking, and those with the small outfits will have a new floating dock to tie up to, this season.

The outboard race drivers now have all the equipment necessary to set up a complete race course to practice on or hold Club races, including the full scale starting clock that is run accurately by electricity.

The following were elected: Commodore, P. W. Orde, Port Perry; Vice-Commodore, Bill Baker, Port Perry; Rear Commodore, Frank Ardron, Toronto; Secretary, Mrs. Dorothy Orde, Port Perry; Treasurer, Don Smith, Oshawa, and Fleet Captain, Harvey Rowe, Manchester.

**A.W.BROCK**  
DEPARTMENT STORE

**REMODEL**

**SALE**

75 years in business, we are now renovating our main store —new ceiling, new walls, new lights, new linoleum floor, electric sign, and new store front later.

ALL TO KEEP UP WITH THE TIME AND GIVE PORT PERRY A LARGE MODEL STORE

*Clearance* **VALUES**

**25% Discount on Winter Dresses, Snow Suits, Men's Wind-breakers, Skates, Skis, Ski Boots, Remnants of Prints etc.**

<p><b>Wabasso Cottons Now Arriving</b></p> <p>SHEETS .....\$6.25 pair PILLOW SLIPS .....\$1.65 pair PRINTS IN NEW PATTERNS</p>	<p><b>Nylon Hosiery 89c. pair</b></p> <p><b>Linoleum Tile, .10, .12, .20</b></p> <p><b>Venetian Blinds, \$4.95</b> <small>..... sizes up to 36 inches x 64 inches. WHITE or EGG SHELL</small></p>
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**Made-to-Measure Suits**  
FIT GUARANTEED  
**\$59.50 — \$69.50**  
**Free Pants with each suit.**

Phone 43 Port Perry

**January 1956**

A.W. Brock renovates store with new ceilings, walls, lights, linoleum floors and electric sign.

Reach Twp. council inauguration - Reeve E.J. Gibson, Dept. Reeve Howard McMillan; Councillors Edward Oyler and Glen Wanamaker.

Port Perry Legion Branch 419 elects Frank Godley president, and Mike Hlozon vice-president.

**February 1956**

Phil W. Orde elected Commodore of the Port Perry Yacht Club.

James Hunter, Albert Fulford and Clive Boyd first Port Perry boys to receive their Queen Scouts badges.

The inaugural meeting to form the Port Perry Chamber of Commerce took place Feb. 28 with Storey Beare elected president; Harry Peel, vice pres.; C. Edward (Ted) Griffen, 2nd vice pres.; and Frank Godley, sec./treas.

**March 1956**

Irwin Tripp sells garage business to Robert Archer. Archer Motors appointed authorized dealer for Pontiac-Buick and GMC Trucks.

Williams Motors is the Mercury, Lincoln, Meteor dealer for Port Perry.

Fred. Lamb takes over as Secretary Treasurer of the Agriculture Society.

**April 1956**

Brooklin hockey team wins All-Ontario Junior "D" Title. Four of the team's players, Bob Carnegie, Garnet Warriner, Jack Owen and Bill Cornish are Port Perry boys.

Hospital reports during 1955 there were 936 admissions and 155 births.

**Three receive Queen Scout badges**

*Port Perry Star, February 16, 1956*

On Monday night February 11, the Annual Scout Father and Son Banquet was held in the Scout Hall. Mr. Jack Atkinson and Charles Pilling, Commissioners from Provincial Headquarters were present to make two very special awards.

Following the dinner served by the Scout Mothers Auxiliary, Mr. Les MacDonald, chairman of the Group Committee, called upon Commissioner J. Atkinson to make the awards. Mr. Atkinson reviewed the years of Scouting and Cubing in Port Perry, going back some twenty years. At that time one man was responsible for starting a Cub Pack in Port Perry.

During the ensuing years he has seen the group develop from 10 boys to the present complement of approximately 85. Mr. Atkinson then called upon Stan Ploughman to accept his Long Service Medal for 20 years of faithful service to the Scout Movement in Port Perry.

Mr. Atkinson then called upon three Scouts - James Hunter, Albert Fulford, and Clive Boyd, and their fathers to come forward and receive their Queen Scout Badges. Mr. Atkinson presented the badges to the fathers, who in turn had the honour of presenting the badges to their sons. These boys are the first in Port Perry to receive the Queen Scout Badge.

Troop Leader James Hunter, on behalf of the other Queen Scouts, thanked Commissioner and especially thanked his Scout Master, Howard Hall, for his time and efforts in assisting and training the boys for their Queen Scout Badges. Commissioner Charles Pilling, acting on behalf, of the Group Committee, presented the boys with their Queen Scout rings which are made of sterling silver with the Queen Scout Emblem.



*Gerrow's Bakery, 204 Queen Street, Port Perry.*

**GERROW'S BREAD**  
IS MADE FOR  
THE PEOPLE WHO WANT THE BEST

**Week-End Specials**  
"CHOCOLATE DATE LAYER CAKE" "ANGEL CAKE"  
"CHOP SUEY LOAVES"

**GERROW'S BAKERY**

Phone 32W G. M. GERROW

MAKE MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 13th, A HAPPY EVENT.  
**Give Mother a box Smiles'n Chuckles**  
GIFT WRAPPED CHOCOLATES.

**Saturday Specials**  
"BANANA LAYER CAKE" "CHERRY TARTS"

**GERROW'S BAKERY**

Phone 32W G. M. GERROW

## Visit to the place of the best chicken

*Port Perry Star, February 23, 1956*

It takes approximately 10 weeks from the time a chick breaks the shell at a hatchery such as Peel's Poultry Farm is shipped to a grower who feeds it a specialized diet to insure rapid growth as well as the best meat obtainable for to delight and satisfy the human appetite.

Yet on Saturday last, a bus filled with guests invited by Mr. J.J. Gibson and his wife Hazel, meeting first at their modernized and spacious home where the happy group became acquainted with each other for there were farmers, merchants, bankers, and even lowly newspaper man among the assembly.

We were taken to Toronto to the new Swiss Chalet, at 1415 Yonge St. This is the newest of chicken palaces and as you would expect of a palace it was finished to the Queen's taste, yes, and the King's, too.

Here the group were escorted to a reserved section. In a matter of minutes large plates of the most delicious chicken nestled in potato chips, accompanied with a small dish of sauce were set in front of the hungry group who proceeded without delay to enjoy the food.

Now, in order to enjoy chicken they say, you have to pick it up, and that is just what you do for the main desire of the Swiss is for to have you enjoy your meal. After the chicken comes a finger bowl and lots of napkins, after that a cup of coffee and if you have room you may also have dessert, ice cream, etc.

Following an enjoyable meal, the group were given a tour of the kitchen and also down to the basement where the ovens and refrigeration units are housed. Opening the oven door you see long spits of dressed chicken slowly turning and gradually browning to the point of mouth-watering desire.

The bus returned to the Gibson's where the appreciation of the evening was expressed sincerely by all, and the realization of just what part the J.J. Gibson & Son, Dressing Station plays in keeping a Chicken Palace operating successfully.



*J.J. Gibson*

## Port Perry to have dial phones by 1958

*Port Perry Star, June 7, 1956*

Port Perry will have dial telephones in 1958, J.W. Lowry, Bell Telephone manager for this region, told the Executive members of the Port Perry Chamber of Commerce Tuesday evening.

In addition to improved local service, the introduction of the dial system in Port Perry will also result in speedier long distance service, the manager revealed. Ultimately telephone users themselves will be able to dial from their own telephones direct to most centres in North America.

Before the dial system can be inaugurated in Port Perry, several complicated and costly projects must be carried out over a period of almost two years.

Property for a new building must be purchased, the building must be designed and erected, switching equipment must be engineered and built to suit the needs of the community; the entire wire and cable network serving the area must be overhauled and altered, and every telephone instrument must be replaced by a modern dial instrument.

### May 1956

Dancing at Caesarea's Edgewater Pavilion every Saturday night.

Miss Eleanor Hutchison becomes the second guide from Port Perry to receive her Gold Cord.

### June 1956

Pickard's Hardware becomes local agent for Adam's Furniture of Oshawa.

The Elizabeth Shoppe opens in new location opposite Post Office.

Paving is underway along Highways 7A and 12.

Councillor Merl Dowson takes over duties of Reeve Harry Peel, while he convalesces following a heart attack.

### July 1956

Ontario County Council learns a new jail for 64 prisoners to be built in Whitby, including two death cells.

Hazel M. Wallace celebrated her 30th year with Bell Telephone in Port Perry.

Branch 419 members bid farewell to Reg. Moorhead, known locally as "Mr. Legion", who is leaving town.

### August 1956

Canadian industrialist E.P. Taylor buys the 438 acre "Elmcroft" farm of George McLaughlin, at north end of Oshawa.

Two CBC broadcasters spent a day in town tape-recording a broadcast with local people about Port Perry, for their show "Let's Find Out."



*Hazel Marguerite Wallace, of Port Perry is celebrating her 30th year of continuous service with Bell Telephone Co., in Port Perry. Mrs. Wallace started as an operator in 1926 and is now occupied with the business department of the local exchange.*

## Storey Beare elected president at inaugural of Chamber of Commerce

*Port Perry Star, March 1, 1956*

On Friday, February 24th, 48 members of the Port Perry Business Mens' Association attended a dinner meeting at the Delicateria Restaurant, for the purpose of winding up the Association's affairs and formulating the new Port Perry Chamber of Commerce, to serve Port Perry and the outlying communities.



Storey Beare

Mr. W. Thomas Harris, who served as chairman of the meeting, called upon Mr. Howard Hall, secretary, to read the minutes of the last meeting, and Dr. A.C. Bathie, treasurer for the final financial report, both of which were approved and adopted.

Mr. Harris then called upon Mr. Harry Peel, Reeve of Port Perry, to read the proposed Constitution and By-laws, submitted by a special committee. These were fully approved in principle and held over for further action.

Mr. Anson Gerrow, Reeve of Scugog Township; and Mr. Elmer Gibson, Reeve of Reach Township, approved the naming of the organization Port Perry Chamber of Commerce, although it is understood that individuals and businesses of the outlying municipalities are to be welcomed to membership.

Mr. Harris then read the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee, as follows: President - Mr. Storey E. Beare; 1st Vice-Pres. - Mr. Harry Peel; 2nd

Vice-Pres. - Mr. Edward Griffen; Secretary-Treas. - Mr. Frank Godley

The slate of officers was approved and adopted, and Mr. J.C. Whitby, J.P., was called upon to administer the Oath of Office for Messrs. Beare, Peel and Griffen.

The following Directors for the Chamber were nominated and elected: Mr. Anson Gerrow; Mr. Elmer Gibson; Mr. Andy Lawrence; Mr. Archie McDermott; Mr. Ronald A. Peel; Mr. Arthur Panabaker; Mr. Thos. Harris; Mr. John Helm.

The newly-elected President of the Chamber, Mr. Storey Beare ex-, pressed his gratitude to the older business men for their praiseworthy efforts in the past in the interests of Port Perry and community, and graciously thanked the meeting for the trust and confidence imposed in his election.

**Week-End SPECIALS, MAY 11-12**

YORK CREAM CORN, 20 oz .....	15c.
MAPLE LEAF SOAP FLAKES, Large Size .....	32c.
BLUE and GOLD PEAS, 15 oz. ....	2 for 35c.
WAGSTAFFE CHERRY PIE FILL, 20 oz. ....	29c.
AYLMER DICED BEETS, 20 oz. ....	2 for 23c.

The Store will be open Every Evening till 9  
Except Tuesday.

**DOUPE'S STORE**

PHONE 485W, PRINCE ALBERT  
Free delivery on all orders of \$2.00 or over.



## Lawn bowling cancelled due to flooding

*Port Perry Star, July 19, 1956*

The local lawn bowlers have had to forego their games for two weeks, due to the flooding of the greens by the many rainstorms. The big rainstorm of a week ago Monday, really gave a lot of trouble due to the creek backing up, the greens were covered by 18 to 24 inches of water. With a few more days of dry weather, hope is high that by Monday next, bowling will be in full swing.

## Father drowns in Lake Scugog while saving his 10 year-old daughter

*Port Perry Star, June 28, 1956*

Herbert Propper, of Toronto, drowned in the waters of Lake Scugog, near Caesarea on Sunday, despite the efforts of David Wood, of Willowdale to effect his rescue.

Propper exhausted himself keeping his 10 year-old daughter Barbara, afloat until rescue came. Wood was able to reach the girl with an oar; but the father could not lift his arms to grasp the oar. The man turned and disappeared in about 15 feet of water.

Mr. and Mrs. Propper and their four children, had rented a cottage at the resort hamlet of Caesarea. Their sons had been paddling a canoe on the lake and the girl wanted to join them. Police said Propper, a good swimmer, had often warned his children about danger in the water and small boats. He refused to allow the girl to join his sons but promised to take her himself later.

Police said the father and daughter set out from shore in the canoe. After about ten minutes, it tipped and both were thrown into the water. The girl could not swim.

Propper managed to reach his daughter and keep her head above water. In an outboard motor boat nearby by David Wood, who was nearby in a motor boat, reached them in minutes and pushed an oar out to them. Propper helped his daughter hold the oar and watched as the young boy pulled her into his boat.

David then pushed the oar to the man. It was at this moment the man sank.

## Teen Town forms, holds successful dances

*Port Perry Star, August 2, 1956*

By now most of you will have seen our posters for the Jamboree on Monday, August 6 in Port Perry Arena, but you may still be wondering "What's this Teen-Town business about anyway".

There is a list of general regulations which will soon be in circulation include the following: Age limit 13 to 20 inclusive. To become a member 50 cents and a filled out application form is necessary. No gambling, alcohol or profane language allowed at Club activities. All members must understand that the sponsors cannot be responsible for loss damage while at any Club activity. In all it won't exactly cramp our style!

We also have a list of officers a mile long that will interest most folks: President, Bruce Taylor; Vice-President, Claudette Boulenger; Gary Menzies, Barbara Heyes; Secretary, Donna Jeffrey; Treasurer, Garnet Warriner; Directors, Carol Tanton, Lorne Wilkin, Merva Skerratt, Jack Nottingham, Grant Cawker; Disc Jockey, Bob Huntley.

We have already had a few well attended meetings and a dance, sponsored by the Port Perry Lions Club, which was a smashing success, with over 150 rug-cutters present.

For their co-operation and donations we thank Mr. Ivan Haugen and Mr. P. Lawrence for donuts, and Uxbridge and Port Perry Beverages for soda pop. So send your friends from all a-round, And bring yourselves to Teen-Town. Please note, Parents are requested as both active and supervisory guests.



*Port Perry works department truck makes its way across the flooded causeway from Scugog Island during the spring of 1957.*

## Dangerous "Chicken" game devised

*Port Perry Star, August 23, 1956*

Teenagers converging on Port Perry to attend Saturday night dances have devised a new death-defying car game to replace "chicken".

Unlike "chicken", in which two cars race head-on, the driver swerving first being declared the loser, the new game ostensibly is designed to test the nerves of both drivers and girl friends.

The girls are lined up and the cars are driven toward them at high speed. The last girl to break is the winner.

Chief Constable Archie Menzies said he hasn't yet learned the name of the new game, but warned that anyone caught playing it will face charges.



## Legion bids farewell to "Mr. Legion"

*Port Perry Star, August 2, 1956*

An impressive ceremony was held last Friday night when Reg. Moorhead, known locally as "Mr. Legion", was honored and presented with a travelling bag. Mr. Moorhead earned the nickname as a result of his long and impressive record of service in Legion affairs, both locally and provincially.

On presenting the farewell gift to Mr. Moorhead, Branch President Frank Godley, on behalf of the members and officers of Port Perry Branch 419, paid tribute to the outstanding personal efforts of Mr. Moorhead in obtaining financial assistance for veterans, their widows and dependents.

He stated that, if the dollar value of increased grants obtained by Mr. Moorhead could be assembled in one-dollar bills, they would more than fill his traveling bag, being over \$40,000 in the past years.

As an original organizer of the Branch 419, President for three continuous years (1950-53), Welfare Officer for many years, and a continual booster of the Legion, Mr. Moorhead's contribution would long be remembered by his many friends and comrades.

In accepting the gift from his comrades, Mr. Moorhead urged veterans of all wars, past and future, to maintain their present cooperation and harmony in fighting the veteran's battles in peacetime.

Seventy members, including Branch Padre, Major Rev. B.D. Armstrong, D.D., and Comrade Dr. M.B. Dymond, M.L.A., attended this function, which included the 1955 Grey Cup football game in Vancouver in colour, and a tasty buffet lunch. We understand that Mr. Moorhead is moving to West Toronto to take a new position



*Port Perry Legion Branch President Frank Godley is shown presenting the farewell gift to Reg Moorhead on behalf of members and officers of the local branch of the Legion.*



*Pickard's Hardware store, 180 Queen Street, Port Perry.*

### August 1956

Ruby Leask and Shirley Ann Crozier compete in CNE Dairy Queen Contest in Toronto.

W.A. Farmer and Irving A. Boyd of the Port Perry Star were among the press members invited to be first to travel on the newly opened Highway 401 Toronto by-pass.

### September 1956

Enrollment at Port Perry High School hits 284, forcing use of the last basement room as a classroom.

Town of Port Perry is selling public school debentures bearing interest at 5 percent to investors.

### October 1956

Howard Motors Chevrolet-Oldsmobile celebrates first anniversary on October 1.

Chamber of Commerce pays tribute to R.B. Smallman at a special meeting and present him with traveling bags.

Ron Lowcock opens Port Perry Motors, authorized dealer for Volkswagen cars, at Sweetman's Service Station.

Cartwright Council approves issue of \$50,000 debenture for school addition.

## Blacksmith retires, after 48 years service to community

*Port Perry Star, September 13, 1956*

Richard Benjamin Smallman, one of Port Perry's oldest established businessmen has closed his doors. The blacksmith shop of Mr. Smallman is now only history.

Mr. R.B. Smallman came to Port Perry in 1908, at first in the employ of Mr. Samuel Graham who was horseshoer and blacksmith. Mr. Smallman soon purchased the business from his employer and has been giving the community the best of service ever since.

Mr. Smallman did not content himself with merely being a good blacksmith, he also gave generously of his time and talents to the community and church.

All his life he was an active member of the Methodist (now United) Church and transferred to the Port Perry Church when he came to the village. In 1909 he was appointed to the Official

Board and is now the oldest member in years of service on that Board. He is also an Elder of the Session. Many years were devoted to the Sunday School, as a teacher and also as Superintendent, a position he held for 16 years.

In 1922 he was a member of the Port Perry Council, and helped to bring the Hydro to Port Perry and Uxbridge, jointly. Mr. Smallman is the only surviving member of that group, and has some rather interesting stories of 'how hydro came to Port Perry'.

In 1925 Mr. Smallman was appointed to the Board of Education, on which he served for nine years. During this period he was for two years the Chairman of the Board and for one year the Chairman of Finance.

A further contribution to the community was his position on the Business Men's Association. He was a member from its inception and participated actively in its work, including two years as Secretary.

But Mr. Smallman's life was not all business. In 1912 he married Ethel May Doubt, and provided a good home for his two sons and daughter. They must have received the best of home training for they have all proved themselves in their chosen work.

The community and their many friends wish for Mr. and Mrs. Smallman many years of happiness in our community.



*Ben Smallman*



*New trash can purchased by the Chamber of Commerce to be placed along Queen Street.*



*North side of Queen Street, 1956. Cars angle parking in front of the Blong Block in the centre of town. Businesses from left, The Elizabeth Shoppe, Midtown Appliances, Lake Scugog Lumber sales office, Jackson's Pastries, Greer & Kelly and Levinsons.*

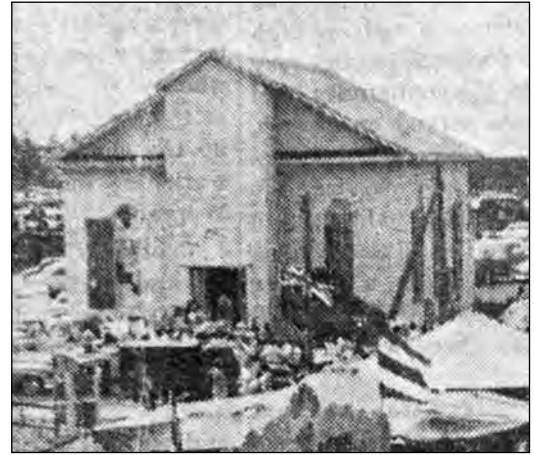
## Building damaged at Fair Grounds

*Port Perry Star, November 1, 1956*

For the second time since Fair Day the main building at the Fair Grounds has been broken into and considerable damage done. Twelve windows have been broken, glass jars smashed and two of the big showcase windows deliberately broken.

This is probably the work of a few minors but it casts a reflection on all of those who might use the Fair Grounds as a playground. The grounds make an ideal place for youngsters to play but it is felt that they should respect the property and not commit these acts of vandalism.

In future, anyone caught breaking into, entering or otherwise destroying any of the buildings on the Fair Grounds will be prosecuted.



## Rod & Gun Club annual wild duck dinner

*Port Perry Star, November 8, 1956*

Ninety five Rod & Gun Club members, their guests and friends sat down to the ninth annual dinner of turkey and wild duck at the Boy Scout Hall on Friday, November 2nd. The wild duck were provided to the club by Mr. Philp F. Osler.

Head table guests were, besides the President, Mr. Arthur Brock, and Mrs. Brock, Mr. Stanley Hudson and Miss Irene Fell, of the Dept. of Lands and Forests, Dr. M.B. Dymond, M.P.P., and Mrs. Dymond, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Harris.

In the President's remarks after the dinner, he welcomed the guests and friends, and reviewed some of the year's work of the Club, especially the work at the P.P.H.S. during the past winter.

Mr. Stan Hudson, guest speaker, from the Dept. of Lands and Forests, Maple office was introduced by Mr. Ben Smith. In his talk, he expressed the appreciation of the work of conservation done by the Port Perry Club.

He also spoke of the planting of our game fish:- 100,000 muskie fry and 2,000 fingerlings; large mouth bass 10,000; speckled trout, yearlings, 7,000; brown trout yearlings. Pelts of fur bearing animals in the 1955-56 season, fall until spring:- Beaver 128; Fox 60; Mink 141; muskrat 4267; raccoon 154, weasel 92; squirrel 58, pheasants 5,780.

Dr. Dymond presented the Ottis Hamilton trophy to Milt Butson for the largest bass. There was no entries for the Art Brock trophy for the largest muskie.

## Port Perry Boy Scouts continue to grow

*Port Perry Star, November 1, 1956*

The annual meeting of the Group Committee was held in the Scout Hall, Monday, October 22nd.

The reports from the leaders were very encouraging and all told of an active year. The attendance in Scouting has increased considerably and we now have three packs with a full enrolment. At the present rate it now appears that in the very near future we will have to add even another pack.

Howard Hall reported on his Scout Group. He has an enrollment of 27 and since last year has had three boys receive their Queen's Scout Badge. Two of these boys are trying for their Bushman's Thong, seven hope to be First Class Scouts, seven will soon be Second Class Scouts, and the remainder will qualify as tenderfoots. Howard gave a lot of credit for all this work to his assistant, Wes Lane.

Gordon Goode, whose cub pack originally numbered 19 now has 29. He has a wonderful group of boys but would appreciate more leaders to assist in keeping these lads interested.

Art Fulford reporting for Cubmaster Stan Ploughman quoted a pack of 26 boys. In this pack nine boys have been invested since last year and two more will be ready shortly.

During the year the boys have gone on several hikes besides having an active summer camp.

## LUMBER AND BUILDERS' SUPPLIES

SEE US for your needs in LUMBER and BUILDERS' SUPPLIES. . We carry only No. 1 grades and therefore assure you of the best quality.

Whether your job be large or small we will give you the best possible service.

## REESOR FUEL & LUMBER

PHONE 73

PORT PERRY

## Scugog Island congregations form new church

*Port Perry Star, December 20, 1956*

Sunday, Dec. 2nd will long be remembered on Scugog Island. In the horse and buggy days, it was found necessary to have four Churches on the Island, which then constituted a Pastoral Charge.

The Indian Church fell into disrepairs and finally had to be torn down. The Centre Church, "Grace" burned down about 1942, and overtures were made to the "Foot" Church and the "Head Memorial" to join forces, and rebuild one church for the Island.

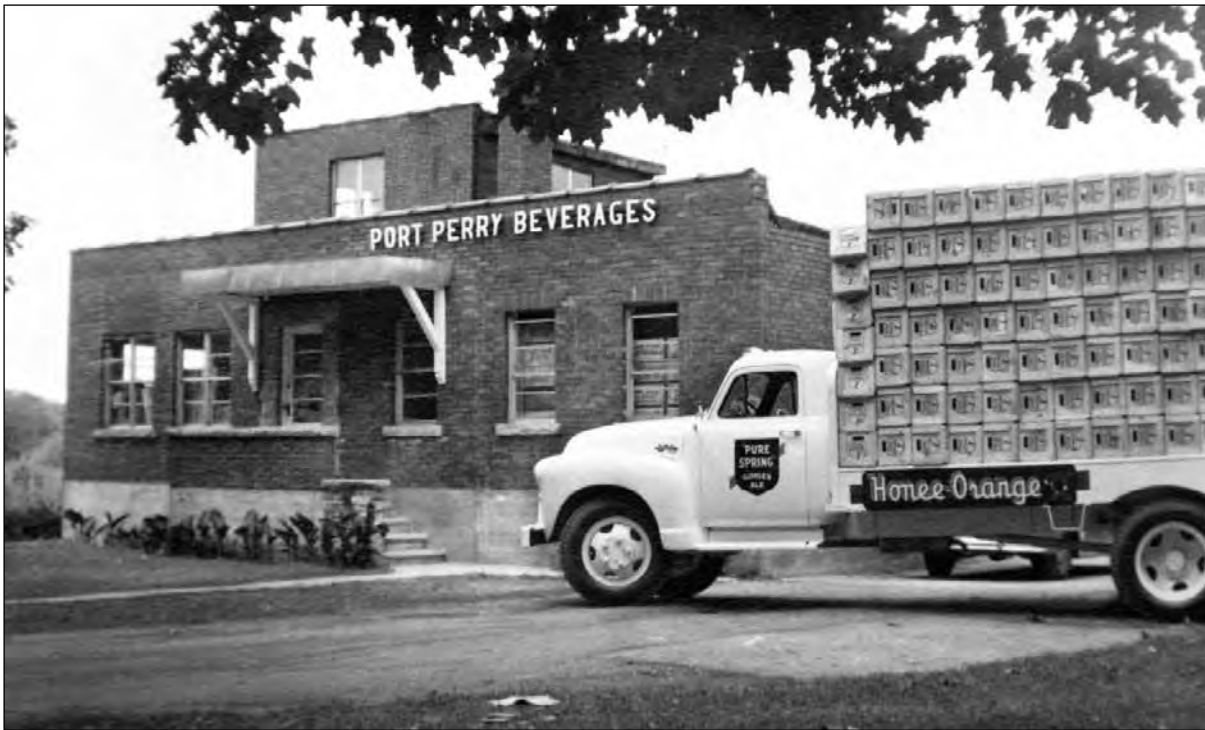
The result was that the Church at the "Foot" was dismantled, and with the purchase of another Church building, a new Church arose at the Centre. At that time the "Head Memorial" were not ready to join. By the action of the Members of the Indian Mission, Grace Church, and Head Memorial, a new Church came into

being December 2nd, 1956, namely "Scugog United Church."

The Minister Rev. J.K. Braham, conducted the morning service in the Centre Church, and the Chairman of Oshawa Presbytery, Rev. S.C.H. Atkinson officiated at the evening service in the Head Church.

Over 40 new members were received by Letters of Transfer and Profession of Faith, as well as 91 from the three Uniting Congregations. The Centre church will be used for the morning service and the Head Church for the evening service once a month. There are two Sunday Schools and two Women's Associations.

The Pastoral Charge now consists of: Scugog United, Manchester United, and Prospect United."



*The red brick Port Perry Beverages plant was located on Perry St., north, in this 1956 picture. The company became the bottler of Pure Spring beverages in 1951 and was operated by Murell and Gordon Goode.*

## J.J. Gibson acclaimed Reeve for Port Perry 1957

*Port Perry Star, November 29, 1956*

At one of the best attended Nomination Meetings held in recent years, reports were heard from last years council.

Reeve Harry Peel was welcomed back after an illness of many months. Acting Reeve Merlin Dewson outlined the work completed in the previous year and the progress made in the water situation. It appears that sufficient supply of water has been located although it is a little early to be sure.

Councillor Cordon Carnegie gave a brief report on the Hydro. Councillor J.J. Gibson reported on Welfare & Parks. Clerk, Jack Raines, was elected Chairman for

the nominations. A large number of nominations were made, nine for Reeve, 16 for Council, seven for School Board.

J.J. Gibson, was acclaimed as Reeve for the village of Port Perry. Four of the following nominated candidates, all new, will be elected to the next council – Frank Godley, Tom Harris, Art Cox, Irving Boyd, Geo. Holmes.

Candidates for School Board, three to be elected:– Walter Sonley, Dr. MacMaster, Charles Reesor, Stanley R. Bruton, Archie Farmer, Cec. King.

## Record Christmas volumes for local mail services

*Port Perry Star, December 27, 1956*

That Port Perry is growing is very evident when the Christmas mails are sorted. Each year a growing volume of cards, letters and parcels passes across the sorting tables of the local office.

Mr. W. G. Hull, Postmaster, assisted by his son Bruce Hull and Mrs. Hull were able to keep the mail moving along at this busy season with extra help from Charles Brignall and Herb Buckland, and the regular mail carriers, Clarence Graham, Grant Hunter, Norman Yeo, Hugh Strong and Ivan Gray.

This Christmas season chalked up some records for the local mail handlers – largest number of cards posted one day - 15,120; largest number of cards received approximately 36,000.

From December 5th to December 24, there were 85,000 letters and cards posted locally.

Because of the shortage of lock boxes there is a very large general delivery which adds to the work of the postmen who spend much time at the wicket handing out mail. Plans had been made for alterations to provide for more box space. These plans were not approved by Ottawa and had to be redrawn. The new plans have been approved and it is hoped that these alterations will be made in the new year providing greatly increased lock box space as well as other conveniences which will make for easier handling; of the growing volume of mail.

It is understood that if these plans are carried out it will be possible for the box holder to pick up his mail at any time - day or night.



*Gerrow Bakery delivery trucks. Left, Grant Gerrow, and in second truck, employee Wentworth Watson, who later purchased the bakery.*

### November 1956

Dr. W. A. Sangster was guest of honor at the Durham-Ontario Dental Society, where he was presented with a desk set for his years of service to Port Perry.

Skating is still popular. More than 300 skaters took to the ice for the first public skating at Memorial Arena this winter.

One of Canada's largest and most beautiful Shopping Centres opens in Oshawa.

Scouts appeal to community for donations to install a new furnace in the Scout Hall.

Chamber of Commerce installs new signs at west and east end of town directing tourists to downtown Port Perry shopping centre.

### December 1956

Port Perry Council for 1957: J.J. (James) Gibson, Reeve, by acclamation; Councillors W.T. Harris, Arthur Cox, Irving Boyd and Frank Godley.

Scugog Island church congregations unite to form the new Scugog United Church located at the Centre of the Island.

**Featuring**  
**SPRING**  
**LAMB**  
 Custom  
**Slaughtering**  
**CAWKER BROS.**  
 "THE FAMILY BUTCHER"  
 PORT PERRY      PHONE 29



*Cawker Brothers store featuring – fish,meats and poultry, Queen Street, Port Perry.*

# 1957

## Test shows ample water supply for village

*Port Perry Star, January 10, 1957*

During the past seven or eight months the village has been making test drillings to locate a new and sufficient water supply. Many thousands of dollars have been spent in this search as it is essential that a larger supply of water be found to provide for the quickly growing needs of this village.

The best sites found in this search were near the Oshawa Road just south of Port Perry. One on Earl Martyn's property looked good but was found not sufficient after longer tests. Later drilling was made on Stanley Robinson's land, at a spot about two miles south of the village boundary.

A three inch pipe was first put down and a large enough quantity of water was found that a ten inch pipe was driven down. Last week a 72-hour official test was made and an average of about 215 gallons per minute was pumped. In the course of this test over one million gallons of water were pumped.

It is the intention of the Council to bring this water supply in an eight inch pipe directly into the six inch main at Lilla Street. A pump house will be erected at the well, the mains laid before the water supply is available to the village.

## Council discuss new agreement with Police Chief Archie Menzies

*Port Perry Star, February 14, 1957*

Police Report for 1956 by Chief Constable Archie C. Menzies with the following recommendations:

1. That 1957 bicycle licenses be purchased. Approved.
2. That a sum of money be set aside to allow Mr. and Mrs. Menzies to attend the Chief Constables Association this year. Council approved of \$100 for that purpose.
3. That a pension fund be set up. Council to consider this matter.



Chief A. Menzies

4. Recommend parking meters. The Council to consider this matter. (b) Man to assist the Chief. Council decided no.
5. That a telephone be installed in Police Cruiser. Council decided no.
6. That a brake tester be purchased – Council approved.
7. That my salary be increased to \$14,500 a year from Jan. 1, 1957. Council decided on this

recommendation by the following motion: Motion – That the Chief Constable's salary be raised to \$4,000 per year with the apartment in municipal building free, retroactive to January 1, 1957; and that the Chief Constable be required to keep a daily log of his police mileage – forms to be supplied.

8. That a new Police Station be arranged. Under consideration by the Council.

9. That \$400 to \$500 be spent on Library for Court House furniture – Under consideration with municipal offices.

NOTE: At a meeting on February 21, council brought forward a by-law regarding car allowance for the Police Chief. The offered a flat rate of \$1,000 per annum for patrolling with the limits of the Village of Port Perry and an additional 8¢ per mile for out of town, with a mileage log to be kept for all out of town travel.



*The Del Restaurant on Queen Street, 1954.*

## Dr. Beverley N. Smallman is new chief entomologist at Ottawa

*Port Perry Star, February 28, 1957*

Dr. Beverley N. Smallman, principal entomologist at Science Service laboratory here has been appointed Chief of Entomology in Science Service in Ottawa, it was announced last week. He will take up his new position April 1st. Dr. Smallman's chief duties will be to co-ordinate the research.

Dr. Smallman is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R.B. Smallman of Port Perry, and attended Port Perry Public and High Schools before attending university.

## Alert citizen saves Wester Tire store from costly fire

*Port Perry Star, February 28, 1957*

A serious fire was in the making last Thursday evening, but. Mr. Tom Sandiland, while crossing the road to his apartment, noticed that the lights of the Western Tire Store were not as bright as usual and stepped aside to investigate.

He discovered that the place was full of smoke and thinking that the oil stove was acting up he called the owner, Mr. Bob Howsam who came at once. Bob checked the oil stove and found it okay, then noticed that the smoke came from under the cellar door. Finding that the cellar door was hot he called the fire brigade.

They responded promptly. Bringing their smoke masks into use, they were able to locate the source without letting in fresh air. The trouble was found to be

under the stairs where children's wagons and tricycles were stored. Anti-freeze was also stored in this area and the cardboard cartons containing it were smoldering. The extinguishers were brought into play and the fire quickly controlled. The fire is believed to have started with spontaneous combustion.

During this time someone became worried about Mrs. Bateman, who lives in the apartment above the store. Ringing and knocking failed to rouse her, and calls were made to her friends without locating her. Mr. John Ballard who owns the building was called upon to open up the apartment when it was discovered that she was out. Fortunately so, for the rooms were filled with smoke and the furnishings were considerably blackened.

### January 1957

Port Perry Council 1957 - Reeve J.J. Gibson; Councillors Arthur Cox, Frank Godley, W. Tom Harris, Irving A. Boyd.

Port Perry businesses announce new store hours: Friday to 9 p.m., Wed., to 12:30 p.m. and all other days until 6 p.m.

New water well for town found on Stanley Robinson property south of town yielding 45 gallons per minute natural flow.

Charles Popert re-opens former Del Restaurant and moves pool room to same premises.

Owen Reader completes course in electronics and sets up Radio and T.V. repair shop.

### February 1957

Comrade Michael Hlozan was installed as president of Legion Branch 419, Port Perry.

Council endorses telephone answering locations for fire calls in the homes of Chief W.G. Raines, Harry DeShane, Mervin DeNure, Geo. Parry, Keith Mark, Charles Lown and the fire hall.

Police Chief Menzies salary was raised to \$4,000 per year, plus \$1,000 for mileage.

### March 1957

Miss Audrey Kent, featured in a double page spread of the Weekend Telegram featuring her work with angora rabbits.

Remuneration to Reeve and Councillors was increased to \$300 and \$200 respectively effective Jan. 1, 1957.

## Sell old dump site to Tripp Construction

*Port Perry Star, April 18, 1957*

At the regular meeting of Council of the village of Port Perry on April 13, 1957, council discussed the tender for the purchase of : Lots 210, 211, 212, and parts of Lots 213 and 216, along with the CNR "right-of-way" adjacent to said land.

Only one tender was received, that of the Tripp Construction Company, and it was accepted by the following resolution.

"That we (Village of Port Perry) accept the tender of Tripp Construction Ltd. for lots 210, 211, and 212 and parts of lots 213, 216 and 217 for the price of Eight Hundred Dollars (\$800.00) on condition that

1. Tripp Construction Ltd. will, for a period of two years, contract to supply dirt fill, and will cover and level a garbage disposal area, to be designated by the Corporation, on the east side of Water Street, without remuneration.
2. That the existing lease between the Corporation and Tripp Construction Ltd. will be cancelled and that all claims which Tripp Construction Ltd. or the Corporation may have under such lease will be discharged.
3. That Tripp Construction Ltd. will, within two years, erect on these lands a building having an approximate value of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) with specifications acceptable to the Corporation Building Inspector, which he will certify when completed, will have such a value.

### **BULLDOZING - EXCAVATING**

TRENCHING, LOADING, DRAGLINE, CLAM WORK  
ROOT and ROCK RAKE FOR LAND CLEARING  
SAND, GRAVEL, CRUSHED STONE, LOAM, FILL  
FREE ESTIMATES—by Hour or Contract.

### **TRIPP CONSTRUCTION LIMITED**

Phone 392W (Office)  
Residence—Wm. Tripp 392W and Joe Tripp 392J

## Gary Edgar honoured with Tom Longboat Medal

*Port Perry Star, April 18, 1957*

Port Perry High School was honored on Friday afternoon when one of its students received the outstanding award from the amateur Athletic Union of Canada, The Tom Longboat Medal.

This medal is awarded to the Indian student in Southern Ontario showing the greatest proficiency in sport, leadership, character and general proficiency. Geo. Gary Edgar of the Mississaugas of Scugog Band was presented with this coveted award by Mr. John McRoberts of Toronto, President of the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada.

Assisting in this ceremony were Mr. Featherstone, superintendent of Simcoe Indian Agency, and Mr. Harry Mingay, Inspector of Indian Schools in Southern Ontario. Mr. Chandler of Scugog, representative of the Central Ontario County High School Area for Scugog and Mr. Grant MacDonald, Principal of the High School also spoke.

Mr. MacDonald in the capacity of Chairman introduced Mr. Featherstone who spoke of the honor bestowed upon Simcoe Indian Agency, the Mississauga Band, Scugog Township, The Port Perry High School, the Edgar family and upon Gary himself, saying that he was pleased to have a part of this important occasion.

Gary's achievements are as follows: 1955-56 Lake Ontario Bantam "B" champion (basketball). This includes the Uxbridge, Lakefield, Whitby area. Track and Field Champion (junior) 1955 and Intermediate 1956. Outstanding player in midget hockey for two years.

Outstanding player in the Legion sponsored baseball league.

Regular member of the Junior Basketball Team, P.P.H.S.

Regular member of the Gym team, Port Perry High School.

Excellent contributor to Inter-Mural Athletics,

Gary also had to maintain a high standard of proficiency in all other of his subjects in the High School in order to be eligible for this medal. We congratulate Gary upon his achievement and hope he can go on to success in wider fields.



*Gary Edgar, centre, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Edgar of Scugog Island.*

## Storey Beare elected president of Chamber of Commerce

*Port Perry Star, April 25, 1957*

The Board of Directors of the local Chamber of Commerce held their first meeting of the 1957-58 season, to appoint new officers for the coming season.

By unanimous choice, Mr. Storey E. Beare was re-elected President for the new term. Messrs. Arthur Panabaker and Ted Griffen were elected 1st and 2nd Vice-President respectively. Mr. Frank Godley was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer. Messrs. W. Thomas Harris, and Howard Hall were elected Directors.

The following newly elected Directors were appointed as chairmen of the various committees: Tourist & Publicity - E. G. Michell; Agricultural - Anson Gerrow; Civic & Industrial - Wm. Carnegie; Membership - Howard Challis; Commercial - Sam N. Griffen; Programme - Dr. John Price; Finance - W. Geo. Emmerson.



*Hoskin's Carload Groceteria, Blackstock, March 1957.*

**COFFEE SHOP - Now  
Re-Opened In Their  
New Location The  
Former 'Del' Restaurant**

OUR NEW FACILITIES MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO NOW SERVE HOT SANDWICHES, STEAKS, and of course, OUR USUAL FRIENDLY CUP OF COFFEE, PIE, Etc.

**C. POPERT, Prop.**



## Scugog Village resort being developed on Scugog Island

*Port Perry Star, May 9, 1957*

The excellent opportunities of Lake Scugog as a summer playground are being developed by the Causeway Investments of Scarboro. Over a five year period they plan to improve 30 large tracts of Lakeshore property for sale to folk who want to own cottages in this area.

The first project, to be known as Scugog Village is already well on the way to completion. Located on the shore a mile or so east of Eden's store it is laid out in lots for 62 cottagers. The cottages will be custom built, and will be circles around a centre park area. This centre park will contain a wading pool for the smaller children, with swings, teeter-totters etc. for their amusement.

Every cottage will have an open space both front and back many will have their own shore. It is planned to have every



*One of the cottages under construction.*

lot self contained with its own water supply, septic tank, flush toilets, heavy wiring, plumbing, and chimney. These will have three bedrooms and are approximately 20 x 30 feet.

With a down payment of \$495 and monthly payments of a little better than \$38 per month, one of these lovely places can be purchased. Values are from \$3,995 and the cottages can be had either completely finished or ready for the owner to do his own finishing.

A great deal of work has been done on the lake shore. A miniature harbour has been made for the motor boats along side a large park area with an excellent bathing beach.

Mr. Glen VanCamp is responsible for the very extensive work which has been accomplished in bulldozing and leveling this beautiful park area. Tons and tons of mud, weeds and silt have been removed from the shore to reach a fine gravel beach.

Another lagoon is planned to run up back of the cottages on the north side and will make additional shore for more cottagers as well as more anchorage for the motor boats.

## Largest carp caught by 10 year-old girl

*Port Perry Star, June 6, 1957*


Milton Butson, of Port Perry, was a third-time winner in the Port Perry Carp Derby yesterday but bowed to a 10 year-old miss who landed the big one. Walking off with the prize for the biggest fish of the day was Darlene Michie, 10, of R.R. 3 Port Perry.

Butson, who last week claimed prizes for the biggest carp and the most fish, won the prize for catching the most in the two days of the derby.

The derby began on Sunday, May 26, and on that day there were 100 entries and 105 fish caught. Yesterday, there were 35 entries and 95 fish caught.

Darlene caught a 10 pounder off the causeway yesterday, one of four she landed; and qualified for first money in the big fish department. Last week, Butson claimed first money with a 10 pounder, too. This week, he was given the prize for catching the most in two days of the derby, 14 carp.

COUSIN *Glen* SAYS



SOME MEN CARRY A LETTER OF CREDIT ON THEIR FACE, WHICH IS HONORED WHEREVER THEY GO.

**Plywood**

**Arborite** ✓

**Floor Tile**

**Ceiling Tile**

**Doors, Trim**

**Masonite, etc.**

TERMS ARRANGED ON HOME IMPROVEMENTS

**JOHN BALLARD LUMBER**

PORT PERRY      PHONE 280

SPECIAL

SMALL ARBORITE TABLE TOPS—50c., \$1.00, \$1.50  
may 1 t.f.



*Boathouses near the east end of Beech Street, Port Perry.*

## Council takes no action on Beech St. boathouses

*Port Perry Star, July 11, 1957*

Regular Meeting of Council of the Village of Port Perry held in the Municipal office on Monday, July 8, 1957 at 7.30 p.m. Reeve J. J. Gibson in the chair and Councillors Arthur T. Cox, Irving A. Boyd, Frank Godley and W. T. Harris.

Boathouses at easterly end of Beech Street became the topic of discussion and the following resolution was passed:

That the Corporation of Port Perry take no action in regard to the boat-houses at the east end of Beech St., whereas we feel that the public have not suffered or been cut off from approach to Lake Scugog and whereas the shore has been cleaned up and weeds and rubbish removed and the whole appearance greatly improved, and whereas the buildings being built are of suitable construction and appearance. Carried.

A second matter was the sale of the corporations office on Queen St. It was moved and seconded, that the Clerk-Treasurer be authorized to offer the present Corporation premises on the south side of Queen Street for sale by tender, lowest or any offer not necessarily accepted, pending the making of a conditional offer to Purchase on the Tease Building. Carried.

## Warning of forged cheques being passed in town

*Port Perry Star, July 4, 1957*

Once again Port Perry merchants have received a very potent warning to be careful in accepting cheques to be cashed. Late last year forged cheques were passed on local merchants.

This week MacGregor's Meat Market and Dowson's Red & White Store were victims of this racket. The cheques were made out in the name of a well-known customer of the merchants and were presented after banking hours to be cashed.

It is believed that the forger must have been someone local as an attempt was made in one case to confirm the validity of the cheque by phoning the man whose signature was used, but he proved to be out of town for the weekend.

A careful examination of the cheque in this case would have shown the endorsement corresponding with the signature - but this is not always the case. Extra care is advised in every case.



*Dowson's Red & White food store, located at 158 Queen Street.*

### March 1957

Port Perry Chamber of Commerce held their first annual dinner meeting since being formed and elected Storey Beare president of the new board of directors.

"Tug" Wilson has returned to Port Perry and set up a TV and radio repair shop.

### April 1957

Lake Scugog Lumber Co. Ltd. hold grand opening of their remodeled and renovated store.

Midtown Appliances buys out Phoenix Electric.

Corporation sells six lots along Water St., formerly used as a dump, to Tripp Construction for \$800 plus conditions which include construction of a building valued at \$30,000 on the land within two years.

### May 1957

Miss Nellie McGregor was honored at a retirement dinner after serving 42 years with the Bell Telephone Co. in Port Perry.

Two youngsters, Wayne, 8, and John Craig, 7, left home for a hike and did not return by night, but were found safe miles from home near Claremont the following day after a massive search by more than 200 people for the missing boys.

Miss Jeanne Williams wins contest to meet recording star Pat Boone at the King Edward Hotel in Toronto.

Art. Brunton elected Deputy Dist. Governor of Zone 10, District A3 Lions International.

### June 1957

To offset more than \$2,000 in debt for operation of the Memorial Centre Arena during 1956, a monster auction was held.

Due to serious hot, dry spell, water is down to four feet in tower. Residents urged to ration water.

### July 1957

Reeve J.J. Gibson, Archie L. McDermott and John Raines are criticized for building boathouses on road allowance to lake at east end of Beech St. Council takes no action.

Local calls from public telephones in Port Perry set at 10¢ per call.

Dr. M.B. Dymond, M.P.P., appointed Minister of Reform Institutions.

Final arrangements are made to bring new supply of fresh water into Port Perry from well south of town.



## Scugog "Foot School" damaged by fire

*Port Perry Star, July 18, 1957*

The shed near the foot school, S.S.#3, which stores paper and supplies for the school, was burned and completely destroyed on Monday afternoon. The fire spread to the school and burned the rear of the building. Mrs. Wm. Loates, whose property adjoins the school lot, first noticed the smoke coming from the shed, and immediately called the fire department and the neighbours. The fire is believed caused by combustion, and the damage has not yet been evaluated.

## Attractive sign donated to hospital

*Port Perry Star, July 4, 1957*

An attractive new sign has been donated to Community Memorial Hospital. The dark wood and light lettering looks very well with the white building in the background. Mr. J.J. Gibson, who is the donor, is to be congratulated upon his forethought as the sign will be a definite asset to strangers looking for our hospital and an attractive advertisement to passing motorists.

## Jimmy Frise comic strips found

*Port Perry Star, August 22, 1957*

Ralph Laing, an Oshawa commercial artist, recovered two paintings 10 years ago from a pile of papers and refuse thrown out of a printing shop in Belleville.

The paintings, two original comic strips of "Juniper Junction", were painted in the gaudy colour and style of the late Jimmy Frise. Mr. Laing recognized the items as original water color caricatures, drawn by Mr. Frise for the Sunday section of a Montreal newspaper April, 1947.

The cartoonist, whose comic strip was followed weekly by thousands of people, died at Toronto June, 1948. Mr. Frise's characters first appeared under the title "Birdseye Centre". He wrote and drew of real people. Birdseye Centre was actually a take-off on the little village of Seagrave, near Port Perry.

It was at Seagrave that Mr. Frise spent the early years of his life. It has been almost 10 years since the Oshawa artist rescued the cartoon originals. He has kept them carefully until this time and he intends to frame them behind glass.



### Council proposes purchase of Tease Knitting Co. building on Perry St.

*Port Perry Star, July 25, 1957*

Minutes of a regular meeting of Council of the Village of Port Perry, council discussed Tenders for sale of the municipal building on Queen St.

Council considered one tender received that of Mr. John Ryba in the amount of \$10,000.00 with a down payment of \$4,000.00 cash and \$6,000.00 to be secured by a first mortgage.

Council prepared a Resolution, and it was moved that the Property Committee be authorized to contact the Executor of the late Norman G. Tease Estate, and the trustees of the mortgage holders of that Estate, to discuss the proposed Offer to Purchase the said Tease Building, on the following terms:

- (1) Down payment of \$5,000.00 cash, and
- (2) The balance of \$6,000.00 to be secured by an open first mortgage on the present Town Office building on Queen Street, payable \$150.00 quarterly as to principal, and bearing interest at 6% per annum. Total price \$11,000.00 Carried.

### Texaco Service Station opens on 7A highway near Oshawa Road

*Port Perry Star, August 22, 1957*

The beautiful new Texaco Service Station is now open for business.

Situated on the busy 7A highway and the even busier Oshawa Road, it is located in an excellent position to serve the needs of the motoring public. For sometime now there has been considerable speculation about who would fill this fine position.

Charles Reesor, well known Port Perry man will have charge of the new station. Texaco gas is rated among the best on the market and this combined with the affable disposition of Charlie should spell success.

*The Tease Knitting Mill, also referred to as the Lakeshore Knitting Mill, opened a new facility on Perry Street in the early 1950s. This view of the factory shows the west and south ends of the building with a loading door at the south. It later was renovated and became the municipal office for the Village of Port Perry.*

### John Orde selected to represent businessmen in quest for liquor outlets

*Port Perry Star, October 17, 1957*

At a recent meeting of a number of Port Perry business and professional people,



*John Orde*

Mr. John Orde, a local businessman, was elected chairman of the Citizens' Committee.

The purpose of this committee is to present to the citizens of Port Perry the advantage of having properly controlled Government stores in Port Perry.

Businessmen and women feel that

Government stores in Port Perry would increase assessment and generally stimulate business.

The time has come, in order for us to compete with larger shopping centres who have these facilities, that we in turn must be in the same competitive position. Therefore we affirm the necessity of having properly controlled Government retail stores in Port Perry.

# The new Utica Memory Hall officially opened

*Port Perry Star, November 7, 1957*

Friday night, October the 25th, the new Utica Memory Hall was officially opened by the Honourable Dr. M.B. Dymond, member of the Provincial Parliament, and newly appointed minister for the Department of Reform Institutions.

Dr. Dymond in his opening remarks said he felt honoured by having the opportunity of opening the new and beautiful hall and that his close connection with many members of the community as a family doctor had made him feel a part of them.

He told the audience present that the first hall was built in 1899 and presented to the community as a gift by the late Mr. Thomas Horn who owned the farm next to the hall. "The name, Memory Hall," said the speaker, "is a splendid one." When Mr. Horn presented the hall to the community, his only stipulation was that church and school activities could be held free of charge.

He commended the community on the fine public spirit they had shown from the day of cleaning up after the fire until the completion of the beautiful hall, of which they had all reasons to be very proud.

Present for the occasion, also was Warden of Ontario County, Mr. Morley Bain, Reeve of Scott Township, who brought greetings from the other members of county council.

M.C. during the evening was the building committee chairman, Mr. Ralph Wilbur, who with the assistance of Chester Geer, as treasurer, and Bruce Bailey, as secretary, have looked after the administrative

part of the building. Mr. Geer said that 8,000 hours of free labour had been given by the members of the community and by the surrounding farmers, since the footing was poured a year ago. This is a tremendous effort in itself, but money was needed to build this 30'x72' structure. Of this \$3,000 was realized through fire insurance; a grant from the provincial government in the amount of \$2,285 gave the building fund another boost, and the balance of about \$4,000 has been raised through activities and donations in the community.

Built on concrete foundation, the cement block building has a full size basement, and the interior upstairs has wood panelling on the lower half of the walls and masonite panelling on the upper half. The floor is of beautiful gleaming hardwood, and at the one end a stage is built.



*The interior of the Utica Hall was filled to capacity for the official opening of the hall on October 25, 1957. The original Utica Memory Hall, opened in 1899 was destroyed by fire April 9, 1955.*

## Flu epidemic at Port Perry High School

*Port Perry Star, October 17, 1957*

The Port Perry High School, which was closed last week, when more than 100 pupils were absent with flu, re-opened classes on Wednesday of this week.

The effects of the flu were felt early in the previous week, with some 60 pupils absent, 100 more went on the sick list a week ago, some pupils collapsing in the classroom and parents were called to come after them.

It is hoped that the worst of the flu epidemic is over.

## Official opening of second water well

*Port Perry Star, November 21, 1957*

Friday afternoon of last week Mr. Byron Larmour of the Ontario Water Resources Commission pulled the switch which marked the formal opening of the second well for fresh water supply to Port Perry.

It is now some two years since the move was started to locate an additional water supply for the towns rapidly expanding requirements. Much time and money was spent before a satisfactory spring was located.

After a sufficient flow of water was found a great deal of planning and legal work was involved, especially as regards financing, before work could be started to direct the fresh water into the town's mains. It actually took fourteen different group including the Department of Mines, Oshawa Suburban Roads Commission, Ontario County Council, Ontario Water Resources Commission, Goodberry Construction, Johns Mansville, Railway Engineering & Power, Tripp Construction and many others including local workmen.

Following the official opening the Port Perry Council entertained the official representatives from the Government, Councils and companies participating in the construction of the well. Guests were served a dinner at the home of J.J. Gibson, Reeve of Port Perry,

### August 1957

Maple Leaf Gardens Wrestling begins at Port Perry Memorial Arena with the "Mighty Ursus vs. "Gene Kiniski"

Dr. M.B. Dymond, withdraws from active practice but will remain in Port Perry. Dr. John Diamond will take over his practice.

Ratepayers petition council to hold plebiscite regarding outlets for sale of beer and liquor. Council agrees to hold vote.

### September 1957

Testimonial Dinner held in Oshawa to honor Ontario Ridings two cabinet ministers. Hon. Dr. M.B. Dymond, M.P.P., Min. of Reform Institutions and Hon. Michael Starr, M. P., Min. of Labour

Schools were closed and the town was without water for a day after Bell Telephone trenchers cut through a water line, draining the water tank.

### October 1957

Port Perry Star publishes a 16 page 50th Anniversary Historical Edition.

Storey and Bill Beare, of Beare Motors given Long Service Award from Chrysler Corp. who they have represented since 1932 when their father, Cecil Beare became a representative.



*Port Perry Fire Department, 1957. Members of the Port Perry Fire Department in front of old Town Hall, where the fire truck was kept. The truck was a 1945 International Air Force crash truck, the first motorized fire truck for the local department. Members are, from left, Harvey Mahaffy, Charlie Lown, Bill Gibson, George Parry, Merv DeNure, Jack MacGregor, Jack Cook, Chief Guy Raines, Bruce Beare, Harry Deshane, Ben Pickard, Howard Gibson, Bev Kent, Don Carnegie, Ray Webster and Keith Mark.*



*John Orde's Marine at the lakefront Port Perry in 1957.*

## Villagers vote in favor of beer and liquor outlets after 41 year drought

*Port Perry Star, November 21, 1957*

From the first thing in the morning it was obvious that the voting turn out would likely be the largest ever seen in Port Perry. Officials reported an almost constant stream of voters at each of the polling booths. The total number of votes recorded were 1,200. In the end, 63 percent of residents voted in favor of a Brewers' Retail Store; and 61 percent in favor of a Liquor Store.

The question of the liquor outlets for Port Perry has been the main topic of conversation for several weeks past. The campaign for the Business Men's Committee was handled by Mr. John Orde, and much credit is due to him for the completely fair and straightforward manner in which the question was presented to the voters.

Mr. Smallman and Mr. Milne were in charge of the other side of the question and showed their capabilities in the ads and literature they presented. In the minds of most of the citizens it was simply a question of whether it would become legal to buy beer and liquor in Port Perry or whether those who wanted it should be forced to take their business elsewhere.

As in every controversial question there were some who allowed their emotions to carry them beyond the point of reason and quite blot out the true question in their minds. But apparently these folk were not in the majority.



*Garage and town truck of Beare Motors, located at the southeast corner of John and Queen St., 1957.*

Bert (H.G.) Hutcheson installed as the first life member of the Port Perry Lions Club.

### **November 1957**

Since the opening of the Oshawa Shopping Centre, six stores have closed and four more have announced they are closing.

The largest turnout ever for a vote (92 percent) approve legal outlets for beer and liquor in Port Perry after 41 years. Twelve hundred people voted 63 percent in favor or a warehouse for beer and 61 percent for a liquor store.

A switch was turned to formally open the second well for fresh water to Port Perry, some two years after the search for a new supply began.

### **December 1957**

Port Perry acclaims its council with Reeve J.J. Gibson at the helm. In Reach Twp. Robt. C. Baird was acclaimed along with his entire council.

Principal Roy H. Cornish honored by Board of Education for 25 years service at the public school in Port Perry.

Van's Men's and Boys Wear closing out business on December 21., 1957.

# 1958

## Chief Menzies gives Police Report to Port Perry council

*Port Perry Star, January 30, 1958*

Gentlemen: It is with great pleasure that I present to you my fifth annual report dealing with the activities of the Port Perry Police Department, together with the statistical data for the year ending December 31st, 1957.

During the year Port Perry proper has been free of any major crime for which I commend the citizens highly. I should like to pay special tribute to Reeve J.J. Gibson and Councillor W.T. Harris, my police committee for their co-operation to this Department during 1957. I would also thank the rest of the council for their co-operation extended to me during 1957.

It has been a year of long hours and hard work, but on completion of this report it is with a great deal of pride I point out to council we have one of the cleanest Towns in Ontario.

### Recommendations

1. That 1958 Bicycle licenses be purchased as enclosed. These licenses will do for life of bicycle at a fee. Fee of \$1.00.
2. That a Hydro pension fund be set up. I believe we were promised this pension last year to take effect the first of 1958.
3. That a man be hired to assist me. With two liquor outlets coming into effect this year I believe this will increase traffic conditions a great deal. I don't feel I can carry on another year without a man.
4. That meters be installed on main street also around park.
5. That \$1,500 be set aside for Police Cruiser to be paid to me in 24 payments on 15th and 30th of each month. Also that mileage log be discontinued, I feel information of this log is for Police Dept. only. If my Police Committee wish to take up with me any questions pertaining to Police Cruiser they can have this information at their pleasure.
7. That a new Police Station and Court Room be built.
8. That the Village of Port Perry pay half of my P.S.I. This is usual in all Police Dept.

## Drifting snow blinds two motorists

*Port Perry Star, February 6, 1958*

The high winds of Tuesday whipped up the snow with such velocity that two drivers crossing the causeway were unable to see each other although both had their headlights on. They crashed head-on.

The tow truck of Beare Motors Ltd. had been called to assist an island motorist and was proceeding east on the causeway in second gear, when it met a heavy sedan car driven by Mr. Duivesteyn of Burketon Station. Both vehicles suffered extensive damage, and Mr. Don Anderson who was in the tow truck received a severe bump on the head. Mr. Ross Hutchinson, who was driving the tow truck was unhurt. The left front of the tow truck was considerably damaged and the sedan was also extensively damaged.

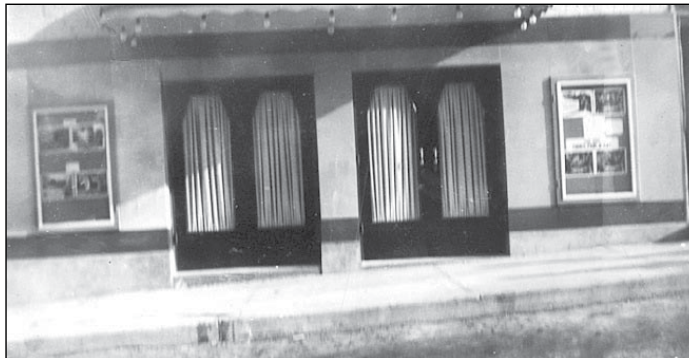
### January 1958

Reesor Fuel and Lumber are issuers of Motor and Drivers Licenses at their offices, corner of Water and Scugog St.

Village purchases land behind Post Office for \$1,500.

Hospital Board holds party to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the opening of the hospital.

Police Chief Menzies requests council to build a new police station and courtroom, and that a second officer be hired. No action taken.



*Lakeview Theatre, Queen Street, Port Perry.*

## LAKEVIEW THEATRE

WILL RE-OPEN on THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY,

**January 9 - 10 - 11**

with the great Technicolor hit

**"GIANT"**

starring **ROCK HUDSON, ELIZABETH TAYLOR,**  
and **JAMES DEAN.**

Due to the length of this feature only one showing nightly, starting at 7.30.



## "King Winter" shows no mercy on Port Perry and area

*Port Perry Star, February 20, 1958*

Port Perry Public School children were happy to be given a holiday on Monday when a faulty heating system, combined with extra low temperature, made classrooms unbearably cold. However, there was little evidence of the holiday spirit as the children trudged back home through icy winds and blowing snow.

We hear that one young man walked one and a half miles to reach the school bus on Monday morning. In true pioneer spirit he dressed in all the warm clothing he could wear, covering his face with scarf and snow goggles before he faced the storm; and he did get to school. Many ears, noses and cheeks were reported frozen.

Many High School students were also absent as the buses were unable to plow through snow drifts in the side roads.

"King Winter" shows no mercy on any of us as the severe cold enters the fourth day. With high winds and temperatures which sometimes dropped below the 20 degrees below zero mark, there were few places that seemed comfortable and fuel handlers, plumbers and garages were kept busy answering calls for help.

One hardware reported receiving 600 calls on Monday asking for help in thawing pipes. Housewives worried as the coal dwindled in the bin, many motorists had difficulties with stalled engines, and snow drifts.

A great many people decided to telephone their messages rather than brave the vile weather. The Bell Telephone exchange handled a record 8000 local calls and about 400 long distance calls on Monday alone. This is about double the usual number of local calls.

Numerous accidents were reported. A collision on the Manchester road involved cars driven by Jim Smith, of Port Perry, and Emile Donnelly of R.R. Port Perry. Mr. Owen Readers's Volkswagen was turned over on the Oshawa Road and Mr. Harold Hockens suffered a like fate on the Manchester Road. The McDermott-



Panabaker truck was ditched on the way to Caesarea and the Lamonts of Scugog were said to have been involved in a crash on the causeway. Many others were bogged or blown off the track.

Two bus loads of Uxbridge High School students were stranded on 47 Highway for a time on Tuesday afternoon. The students were on their way to Port Perry for an inter-school basketball game. When they were finally cleared of snow the spectators returned to Uxbridge and the players came on to Port Perry where they played their game.

Possibly they consider it worth the effort as they now lead the two-game total point series by 5 points over Port. The Uxbridge players remained in Port Perry until about 9 p.m. when the roads had been opened again and DeNure Bus was able to transport the young folk home.

Motorists trying to cross the causeway (Hwy. 7A) were no so fortunate, however. Three or more cars were stranded for the night. At 9.30 Wednesday morning the snow plow had not been able to reach the abandoned cars.

After being stranded in town last night when the causeway became impassable the Fulford boys walked home this morning pulling a toboggan with a barrel of oil when they learned that the fuel supply had run out at their home on Scugog Island.



### February 1958

Two bus loads of area residents traveled to the Embassy Club, Toronto to dance to John Orde's orchestra.

Council prepared to sign a gas franchise with Consumer Gas Company for installation of a gas system in the town.

Corporation signs a subdivision agreement with Arthur J. Carnegie and William J. Carnegie to develop the Carnegie Subdivision.



## Carnegie Bros. join the Crest Hardware chain

*Port Perry Star, March 6, 1958*

The Carnegie Bros. are starting their Grand Opening celebration tomorrow as Crest Hardware, formerly Carnegie Hardware, after completely renovating their store.

New counters and new lighting, display hardware, housewares, electrical and plumbing supplies with their customers convenience in mind. Everything is clearly priced for easy examination.

The Crest organization is a group of independently owned hardware stores across Ontario working hand in hand to bring to their customers better service and merchandise at lower prices.

Carnegie Brothers, Robert, Harry, Gordon and Donald, took over the management of the store after the death of their father, Mr. Dave Carnegie, 1949. The Carnegie Bros. invite everyone to visit them during their Grand Opening this Friday and Saturday. There is a gift for every member of the family.

## Tripp Construction hired to complete waterway, and clear up lakefront

*Port Perry Star, March 13, 1958*

Councillor Boyd reported to council the need to complete the waterway at the corner in of North and Perry Streets to the culvert under the old C.N.R. right-of-way; and to clean up of the lakeshore at the foot of Mary St. Mr. Boyd obtained a price on the two jobs from Tripp Construction at \$450.00.

Council decided the projects would be in the best interests of the municipality. They authorize the Tripp Construction Ltd. to complete the waterway from Perry and North Streets to the culvert under the old railway (waterfront) and also clear the lakeshore at the foot of Mary Street to the satisfaction of Council.

## Discuss dock house, lakefront hazards

*Port Perry Star, March 27, 1958*

Mr. Otis Hamilton appeared before Council, on behalf of the Port Perry Rod & Gun Club, with a written request to rent the east part of the dock house for the period from June 1st to October 15th, 1958. His request stated further that he had been given this privilege for the past few years and would appreciate very much if council see fit to grant it again this year. Council explained that they intend to use this portion of the dock house for bathers to change their clothing.

On behalf of the Club, Mr. Hamilton stated that he wanted to bring to the attention of council two hazards at the waterfront which should be investigated. First, the scrub rail around the wharf should be replaced, as some of the rail has decayed, and retaining bolts are sticking out, which could very easily damage a boat.

Secondly, off the shore of Birdseye Center Park, there is an old wreck, believed to be the remains of the old steamer "Stranger". This old boat is a hazard as the water over it is very shallow and could very easily damage an outboard motor or a boat.

Council assured Mr. Hamilton that they would investigate these two hazards and bring them to the attention of the Superintendent of the Trent Canal System if necessary.

## Wharf house sagging into lake

*Port Perry Star, April 17, 1958*

When the spring ice began to melt, it soon became apparent that the ice was all that was supporting the north wall of the wharf house. The piling which had showed some signs of decay last fall, had collapses entirely during the winter and left the north side of the house without support.

The wharf house was build by the government in the year 1915. Mr. Charles L. Vickery was the man who superintended the job. At the time it was built, tug boats were still operating on the lake, but for many it will be remembered chiefly as a change house, for in those days of the young lads did most of their swimming at the dock, there benign swimming pool such as is available today.



*The dock house, or wharf house, located at the end of the government wharf, before it deteriorated.*

## Merchants update their stores, but parking is also important

*Port Perry Star, March 13, 1958*

That our town is a going concern is evident in the busy spring renovations which are being undertaken in the various stores on our main street.

At present Crest Hardware (Carnegie's) is in the lime light with a complete overhaul which puts them right in the field with the most modern and up-to-date places.

Recently Lawrence's Drug Store have been re-arranging and modernizing their display area, and Peel's Hardware are making extensive changes to keep pace with the trends of today's shopping.

It is not long since Bruton's Drug Store, Brock's Department Store and Dowson's Grocery were re-planned and improved. No doubt others will follow this lead.

While much has been done to improve the fronts of the stores, the show windows and display counters, we seem to have forgotten there is one other factor in modern shopping – that is the car! Cars have become a big part of our modern life and with mother doing an increasing amount of the family shopping and carting, parking space has become one of the modern

shopping facilities. Hence the shopping centres!

Quite a few of our business places have the space at the rear of their buildings for parking but so far they have not made the best use of this as a "sales getter". If we hope to compete with the big shopping plazas we could do a lot to make parking easier for the women shoppers by cleaning up these parking areas and improving the rear appearance of the stores.

A few signs with directions and some paint would do quite a bit to help in this way. We quite realize that there are other problems which might arise as the result of increasing the use of the rear of the stores such as that of truck delivery and storage room, but we feel some, thought will over-come difficulties.

The parking problem is one that will require a solution if we are to meet modern shopping competition. Parking, meters may help to keep the streets clear but they will not be help in the matter of convenience for the shoppers. The store which takes the lead in making the rear view of their business attractive and of easy access will be taking a for

## Port Perry High School COSSA Senior 'B' Champions



Pictured above are the new COSSA Senior "B" Champions from Port Perry High School. They won the Championship held in Barrie, March 13, 1958, by ousting Albert College in the final game. From left to right they are: front row, David Mosienko, mgr.; Brian Taylor (left gard) Harry Kiezebrink (centre); Bob Carnegie (left forward); John Croxall (right forward) Grant Cawker (1st alt.) Ivan Parkinson, coach. Back row: Gary Edgar (alt.); Bill McMillan (alt.); Ralph Honey (alt.); Jim Burnett (alt.); Dale Lowcock (alt.); Rone Willerton (alt.).



Port Perry High School Senior Girls were the COSSA Sr. "B" finalists in Peterborough, March 13, 1958, when they were defeated by Belleville School for the Deaf in the finals. Pictured above are the PPHS Sr. Girls basketball team, left to right, front row: Georgia Brock, coach; Irene Ptomely; Alice Williams; Ina Kiezebrink; Carol Espie; Mary Louise Pickard. Back row: Ruby Hutchinson; Sharon Haugen; Carol Beare; Gloria Hastings; Pat Asling; Mary Lou Robertson.

## Installation of dial telephones underway in Port Perry

*Port Perry Star, April 17, 1958*

Crews of Bell Telephone installers started visiting homes and business establishments in Port Perry this week with the new telephones which will go into use when the dial exchange opens this summer.

Besides installing the new telephones, the Bell men are showing telephone users how to operate them. None will go into use until the entire exchange is converted to dial operation.

At that time, all telephone numbers here will be changed. The new ones will include the Exchange designation YUKon 5, and four other figures.

J.W. Lowry, Bell Telephone manager for this region, suggested that customers take advantage of the installers' visits to have extra telephones installed in convenient locations – such as bedrooms, kitchens, workshops, and recreation rooms – throughout their homes.

There will be no installation charge if this is done while the installer is there. Telephones are available in several colours, designed to harmonize with the decor of individual rooms. For these, colour charges apply.

### March 1958

The Carnegie brothers, Robert, Harry, Gordon and Donald hold a grand opening of the recently renovated Carnegie Hardware store, under the new name of Crest Hardware.

Port Perry Lions Club honor charter member H. G. Hutcheson with a life membership on his 86th birthday.

W. H. Peel's Hardware become Bell Telephone's agency in town for accounts and service matters, starting March 31.

Scout Hall building fund for hall extension gets underway.

The sunken hull of the old Carnegie Mill steamer "The Stranger", just off Birdseye Centre, is a hazard to outboard motors, reports Mr. Otis Hamilton.

### April 1958

Mike Starr swept a victory in Ontario Riding with a 16,106 majority, the largest every recorded in the riding.

Sharon Haugen, escorted by Steve Fralick, was chosen Queen of the High School "At Home."

John Christie elected president of Canadian Legion, Branch 419.

Dr. M.B. Dymond given new portfolio as Minister of Transport.

### May 1958

Polio clinics being held throughout the area for children and adults up to 40 years of age.

Mr. Donald Milne purchased the manufacturing department of the Great West Saddlery Co. in Peterborough, but will continue to live here.

Arthur Panabaker elected president of the Port Perry Chamber of Commerce.

Port Perry Curling Club unveil plans to build a \$43,000 curling club and have it open for the next season.

### June 1958

A new Brewers' Retail store at the juncture of Queen St. and Hwy. 7A opened for business June 2, 1958.

George Stone's Men's Wear opens on Queen St., Port Perry.

Corporation purchases the Tease Building on Perry St. for \$11,000.

## Chamber of Commerce learns causeway to received only minor repairs this year

*Port Perry Star, May 8, 1958*

The District Engineer of the Dept. of Highways came into town in response to the letter from the Chamber of Commerce, Port Perry. Mr. Storey Beare, the President, pointed out the need for improved conditions on Hwy. 7A, stressing the amount of traffic using this through fare.

It had been suggested that the hill between the two causeways be cut down and used as fill to straighten and widen the road as it skirts the end of the island and crosses the lake. However, after some investigation it was considered to be too big a job for the Dept. of Highways own workers, and would need to be let out for contract.

If this is done considerably more planning and time will be required before the project could be attempted.

The Engineers found the causeway at the Port Perry side to be in good condition, the chief need being for new guard rails. A section of culvert on the east causeway has caved in and is being replaced.

They promise the usual care, some patching, some cleaning along side, and a new guard rail. However it seems that any extensive improvements will have to wait. The District Engineer says that he will report the conditions to the Department of Highways for their consideration.

## Local Curling Club members approve construction of a \$43,000 curling arena

*Port Perry Star, May 8, 1958*

The Port Perry Community Curling Club last Wednesday night approved final steps for the construction of a \$43,000 curling arena for this community. It is planned to have the structure ready for the next curling season.



*Dr. A.C. Bathie*

Plans were approved in principle at the annual Curling Banquet in March following a report by the finance committee chairman, Dr. A. C. Bathie.

Committees were set up to delve into the details of construction, finance and membership. The Building Committee under the direction of Oscar Beare, chairman, have the details of ice plant and equipment under consideration.

The ice plant will range from \$18-19,000 to install. The building will cost \$24,000 and will be of cement block construction, domed roof spanning four ice pads. Club rooms will be on two floors, both 35 feet by 60 feet.

Construction is expected to commence about July 1st on the Robert Kenny property near the west end of the Port Perry Fair grounds.

Membership in the new curling club will cost \$210. Twenty five dollars of which is to consist of an initiation fee, \$185 will be in the form of a bond mortgage certificate to be retired in the future. Curling fees will be \$25 per year.

Membership as pledged to date has reached the 120 mark. A goal of 200 members is a full complement for the four pad curling arena which will be underway shortly. Canvassers have set the objective date as June 15th for collection of membership fees.



The new Brewer's Retail store, in the former Brunton Chicken Hatchery building, is located at the juncture of Scugog St. and Queen Street, the point where Highway 7A divides. The store will be open Friday evenings until 9 p.m. as well as daily, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The retail store opened for business on June 2, 1958.

## Thief breaks store window, steals rifle

Port Perry Star, June 12, 1958

Early Tuesday morning the window of Peel's Hardware was smashed by someone throwing a suitcase filled with lead slugs through it. The thief or thieves apparently did not attempt to enter the store, but did take a five chamber repeater pump gun valued at about \$80.00 which was being displayed in the window. This appears to be the only article taken.

The suitcase, which was abandoned, is being held by the police who believe it to have been stolen earlier from a store in Weston which had been robbed of a truck load of articles on Monday.

The smashing of glass awakened residents in the area. Mr. Fralick said that the noise woke him about 5 a.m. Chief Menzies is investigating.

## Carp Derby nets more than 400 fish

Port Perry Star, June 19, 1958

Two very pleasant and happy weekends of June 1st and June 8th along the shores and docks of Port Perry were spent.

June 1st was not one of the brightest days but there was plenty of carp taken out by those who entered the derby. From the data which was received for that day there was 200 or more carp taken during the day. For the prizes for that day Leroy Robertson and Stewart Collins, both of Port Perry had eight carp.

June 8th, during the early morning, there were many carp taken out and again some who had registered did not stay for weigh in time. There was plenty of carp taken from the dock, the break water wall, the bay and from the Port Perry bridge. For the two day period there was plenty carp of four and five pounds. For the two day total there was 400 to 500 carp taken.

At weigh in time the final day there was two large ones taken, but not a new record. The old record is 21 lbs. taken from the dock. The prizes for the final largest fish for the day, Janet Bagshaw, of Toronto who is not more than 10 years age, landed a 16 lb. carp. It was as long as she was tall. Another large one was hooked by James Read, of Port Perry, 13 lbs.

The most for one day, Stewart Collins won with 15, and most for the two days also Stewart Collins with 23 carp.

## Mud from Lake Scugog used a Holland Landing

Port Perry Star, June 12, 1958

According to a report, a Dutch Syndicate has purchased the "mud rights" on Lake Scugog and is presently engaged in making exhaustive tests of the lake bottom.

For the past few days a strange craft comprised of a platform erected on a number of oil drums has been busily plying the lake recording the various depths and taking hundreds of samples from the bottom which are placed in small cans and labelled as to location from which they were taken and the depth at which they were secured.

The craft is equipped with a depth finder which records on graphs the depth of water and the depth of the mud available on the bottom before getting down to hard pan.

According to the graph readings to date, the average, depth of Lake Scugog is eight feet and the deepest portion recorded was 13 feet.

According to one of the Engineers operating the craft, the soil at the bottom of Lake Scugog is reported to be rich in materials required for the production of crops, particularly vegetable crops. The Holland Marsh area which has been under heavy production for some years is said to be becoming depleted. In some of the essentials necessary for the production of plant life.

Scugog bottom mud will be transported to the Holland Marsh area and spread over the acres of land now under cultivation in that district with a view to restoring the soil to its original fertility.

# Four men drowned in one of Lake Scugog's most tragic accidents boating accidents

*Port Perry Star, June 19, 1958*

The chance finding of a gasoline tank on the west shore of Scugog Island on Saturday afternoon touched off an investigation which revealed the worst boating accident on Lake Scugog in at least a quarter century. Four youths from Toronto, the oldest only 20, drowned when their rented outboard motorboat capsized about noon on Saturday.

Drowned are: Michael Madden, 16; Robert Walker, 18; Larry O'Connor, 17, and Douglas Mortson, 20. The bodies of Madden and Walker were recovered early Saturday after-noon when the tragedy was first discovered. O'Connor's body was found about 4 p.m. on Sunday and Mortson's body was recovered about 8.30 p.m.

Howard Stacey, 63, a cottager at Cedar Shores Beach, and his brother, Roy, first stumbled onto the gasoline tank which led to discovery of the multiple drowning. They were walking along the west shore of the island, about 500 feet north of their cottage about 1:15 p.m. when they found the red tank washed ashore. They looked out onto the lake and noted a life preserver floating towards shore about 75 feet out.

Realizing that something must be wrong, they hurried back to the cottage of Don MacMillan, their neighbour, and got him to pilot his boat out to the area in the lake where they had seen the life preserver a float.

"We had not gone very far when we spotted another preserver about 100 yards off shore," he said. They made for it and found one of the youths. One hand had caught through the arm strap as though he had attempted to put it on as he sank.

"Less than 100 feet away we saw the bottom of the aluminum boat. About two inches of it was showing above the water," he said.

John Orde, who had rented the boat earlier that morning, arrived to assist. Still in MacMillan's boat, they returned to the capsized boat and attempted to tow it ashore. They had great difficulty doing so, as the stern appeared to be dragging on the bottom.

Orde attempted to detach the motor and found the second youth under the boat, his arm entangled in the gasoline feeding line leading from an auxiliary tank to the motor.

Dragging continued throughout the following day with the Port Perry Yacht Club making every boat available for dragging. A large number of civilian volunteers took part in the search. It was Don MacMillan, who had taken part in the recovery of the bodies of Madden and Walker on Saturday, who found Mortson's body on Sunday.

John Orde said that the youths had aroused him at 7 a.m. Saturday to rent the boat and motor for a fishing trip. He said that they were dressed warmly and appeared to be familiar with boats. He said he asked them if they knew how to operate the motor and although they said they did, he gave them a demonstration.

Supplied with the boat were life preservers. He said it was the worst boating accident in the past 25 years. Asked about the value of life-jackets, Mr. Orde said. "they mean nothing when they are stuffed in the bow of the boat."

He said that the boat the four were using would have kept them afloat even if it had been filled with water, because of the air tanks under the seats. He said that if they had been able to hang onto the boat after it overturned, they could have remained there indefinitely until help arrived.



*View of the north side of Queen Street, 1958.*



*Reeve J.J. Gibson makes first call on dial telephone, speaking with Ivan Kerry, in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.*

## New telephone fire alarm system going into effect in Port Perry

*Port Perry Star, June 26, 1958*

A modern emergency reporting system will soon take over the job of protecting Port Perry homes and offices from the ravages of fire and other disasters.

The system will be installed by the Bell Telephone Company and will operate through the telephone network. It will go into use July 6 when the exchange here is converted to dial operation.

The emergency system will consist of seven special telephones installed in the homes of members of the volunteer fire brigade. To report a fire, a person would merely dial the number assigned to the emergency reporting system - YUkon 5-2345. All seven of the special telephones will ring simultaneously. The first fireman to answer will obtain the details, and using a key associated with his telephone, will start the siren wailing.

The seven telephones connected with the special emergency line cannot be used for outgoing calls - although other members of the department can listen in to the fire report - but siren codes can be used to let all know the approximate location of the blaze.

J.W. Lowry, Bell Telephone manager for this region, said that "effective fire protection is dependent on the speed in which an emergency can be reported. Port Perry's fire alarm system has been designed specifically to meet the needs of this community."



*The new Bell Telephone Company building on Queen St.*

## Reeve J.J. Gibson launches dial phones with a call to P.E.I.

*Port Perry Star, June 26, 1958*

Telephone users in Port Perry contributed largely to the success of the changeover of some 1,200 telephones from manual to dial operation early Sunday.

This was the opinion expressed by Bell Telephone officials who reported this week that the new dial telephone system has functioned smoothly from the start.

The dial system was inaugurated formally by Reeve J.J. Gibson who placed the first call using the new facilities. Reeve Gibson spoke with Ivan Kerry, Charlottetown, P.E.I., a former Port Perry boy. The call was made at 3.05 a.m. and of course Ivan was roused from a sound sleep; but was very pleased to receive the call.

The changeover to dial service climaxed many months of planning and preparation, and was an example of split-second timing and close co-ordination. The operation took less than two minutes, to complete, and there was virtually no interruption in service. At approximately 3 a.m. Sunday a group of men wearing safety glasses and standing behind the main frame in Port Perry's old exchange building pulled on strings and almost immediately the air was filled with tiny fuses.

With the fuses removed, the manual switchboard was dead. As the last fuse fell to the floor, a signal was passed over a special telephone line to the new dial exchange building on Queen Street where more technicians were stationed. These men also were holding cords, attached this time to hundreds of small plastic insulators, used to prevent the equipment from functioning.

The moment the appropriate signal was given, the men yanked on the cords and the insulators fell clear. Port Perry's Dial System was in operation.

All telephones in Port Perry now bear YUkon 5 numbers. Although the work, of connecting local calls has been taken over by intricate dial switching equipment, telephone operators will be on duty in Oshawa handling long distance calls and assisting persons needing help in obtaining or dialing a number.





After 41 years without liquor outlets in town, in 1957 residents voted in favor of legal outlets for beer and liquor in Port Perry. In June 1958, the Liquor Control Board opened its first store (above) at the corner of Queen & Perry Street. Photo above shows store just prior to opening, and below, a section of the interior of the LCBO store.

The Liquor Control Board store opened at the corner of Queen and Perry St. (old Willard Block) June 13, 1958.

New emergency reporting system installed in seven homes of firemen will alert them of fires or other disasters.

### July 1958

Dial telephones go into service at 3:01, Sunday, July 6th. All telephone numbers change beginning with YUkon 5.

Reesor Fuel and Lumber build new warehouse and lumber shed.

Police Chief Menzies recommends parallel parking for Queen Street. Consideration to be given next year by council.

Progress on Scout Hall addition well underway with roof completed and walls ready for log siding.

Mrs. Hazel Wallace retires after 32 years with Bell Telephone. Receives silver tea service from D. W. McIntosh.

Council lets tenders for addition to new municipal office, according to plans proposed and designed by Mr. Ted. Griffen.

### August 1958

Work is underway at water Well #1 cleaning the screen and surging the well of sand and silt to try and bring it back to 150 gallons per minute.



## Clerk, Hydro and Police offices moved into new Perry St. building

*Port Perry Star, September 4, 1958*

The Clerk's Office, the Hydro Office and the Police Office have been moved to the cement block building on Perry Street north, formerly occupied by the Tease knitting mill.

The plans call for new Municipal and Hydro offices to be built onto the front of the present building. This will improve the appearance of the factory-style construction and allow for the growth of the town.



The storefront of George Stone Men's Wear on the south side of Queen St., 1958. Cawker's Meat Market was located to the west and Brock's Dept. Store to the (left) east.

**Announcing the  
Opening of  
Geo. Stone's  
Men's Wear  
Friday, June 6th.**

To the People of Port Perry and district:

We are prepared to offer the finest in merchandise, both for work and for leisure. We will feature such famous names as FORSYTH, CARHART, KITCHEN, SCOTT McHALE.

To all who visit our modern store between June 6th and 13th we offer a **FREE CHANCE TO WIN A CUSTOM TAILORED TIP TOP or FLEET STREET SUIT.**  
Your own choice of style and fabric

**Sanitary survey shows high counts of coliform in 14 water courses**

*Port Perry Star, August 28, 1958*

A report by the Commission on a sanitary survey of the Village of Port Perry, states that there is a need for sewers and a proper Sewage Treatment plant for Village of Port. Perry.

The Survey showed the analysis of the water in 14 water courses leading to Lake Scugog and the membrane filter Coliform Count per 100 ml. showed in some cases as high as 1,000,000.

It was recommended in the report that the Village of Port Perry should establish a pro-gramme to exclude contaminated wastes at their outlet so that the discharges will not impair the quality of the waters in the natural watercourses, or in those of Lake Scugog.

The Clerk was instructed to acknowledge the letter of Dr. A. E. Berry, and state that council plan to investigate the matter of Sewage Disposal and try to improve the existing conditions, however Council would appreciate further information on treatment plants for industrial waste as to how they are constructed and the estimated cost.

## Village acquires building for new municipal office building

*Port Perry Star, June 26, 1958*

At the regular meeting of Council of the Village of Port Perry held in the Municipal Office on Friday, July 4, 1958 a report was brought forward regarding the new Municipal Office.

W. T. Harris reported that a concrete plan of the proposed new office with estimated cost of the project should be obtained without delay. He recommended that the property committee see some other Municipal offices that have been built recently.

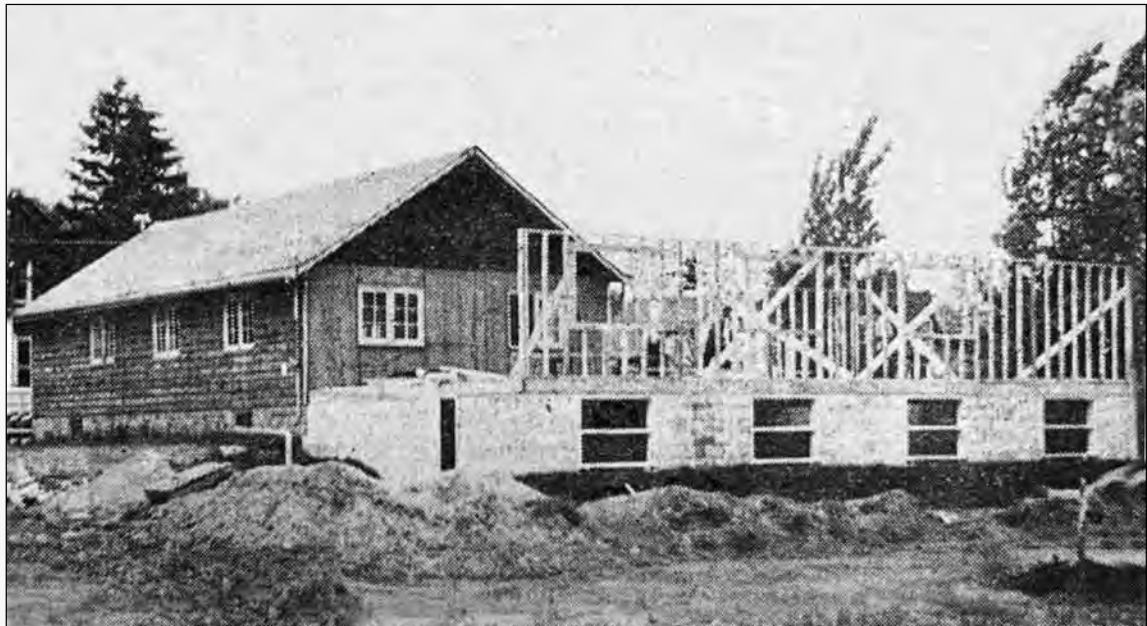
It was decided that a committee composed of Reeve J.J. Gibson, Councillors Irving A. Boyd, and Arthur T. Cox with Mr. Ted Griffen visit the municipal offices of the Town of Uxbridge; Township of Gwillimbury; the Town of Orillia, and the Town of Midland.

The Corporation of Port Perry is now faced with

the necessity of obtaining new Municipal Offices, and toward this end have acquired a small factory building in downtown area at a cost of \$11,000.00. This building is about five years old and is said to have cost about \$18,000. to erect.

It will be necessary to renovate and add to the building. At the present time the Hydro System have a separate office in our existing Municipal Offices and they use about one third of the space as well as some of the Municipal equipment.

The Corporation plan to provide office space in the new quarters and have planned to have the new accommodation financed by surplus Hydro funds. Renovations must be commenced immediately since we are required to move by September 1st, 1958.



## Progress well underway on Scout Hall addition

*Port Perry Star, July 17, 1958*

Because of the generous support of community organizations, individual citizens and business establishments, the new addition to the Scout Hall is well on its way towards completion.

We were fortunate in receiving offers from various community minded groups. The basement was excavated by Mr. Norman Mairs and to him we are grateful in getting our building underway.

The building blocks were offered on a non-profit scheme by Mr. Sam. Griffin. All the lumber dealers and other building contraction people have supplied materials at a considerably reduced mark-up. The Tripp Construction Company have assisted us in the installation of the steel beams as well as moving our camp equipment to its new site. The shingles necessary to cover the new addition have all been supplied by a very liberal donor who wishes to remain anonymous. For the electrical construction we have also received a very generous offer from Mr. Gordon Robertson who has kindly consented to wire the new addition.

We express our appreciation to Mr. Allis Dowson who accepted the responsibility of supervising the entire construction problem, ably assisted by Mr. Ben Pickard.

Donation to date are \$5,773.45, but we are still some \$1,500 short of our objective to fully complete the building. If you feel you could assist as further financially at the present time or lend us a hand in insulating or sheeting the interior in the early fall we would greatly appreciate it.

## Four men rescued after boat overturned

*Port Perry Star, September 4, 1958*

Four Port Perry men were rescued from an overturned boat in Lake Scugog on Sunday evening by two Whitby residents who heard their cries for help more than a mile away. The rescue took place about three miles north of Port Perry dock, off Honey's Beach, about 7:15 p.m.

Brought to Port Perry from the overturned boat were Dr. George Rennie, brothers Jack and Mack Hope and Gordon Morrow, who said they had been in the water a half an hour before being rescued.

The Martins, cousins, said they heard a cry for help and ran to the water's edge. Then they heard a voice say, "this way". They looked north on the lake, he said, and saw a boat overturned with three men clinging to the bow, which showed above the water, about one-half mile from the Martin deck.

The two ripped sped to the overturned boat. When they arrived, said Bill Martin, they found a fourth man also in the water. "He was unconscious," said Mr. Martin, "and was very blue. I thought he was done for." He said that four life jackets drifted in the lake within 20 feet of the boat.

They pulled all four into their boat and headed for Orde's landing at Port Perry, leaving the overturned boat still in the water. On the way, one of the Hope brothers applied artificial respiration to the unconscious man in the boat, whom the Martins believed to be Gordon Morrow.

"If we had not heard them, I think they would have drowned," said Bill Martin. He credited one of the Hope brothers with saving Morrow's life by keeping his head above water while he clung to the overturned boat and by giving him artificial respiration as soon as Morrow was taken aboard the Martin boat. The rescue took place near the spot where four Toronto men drowned earlier this year.

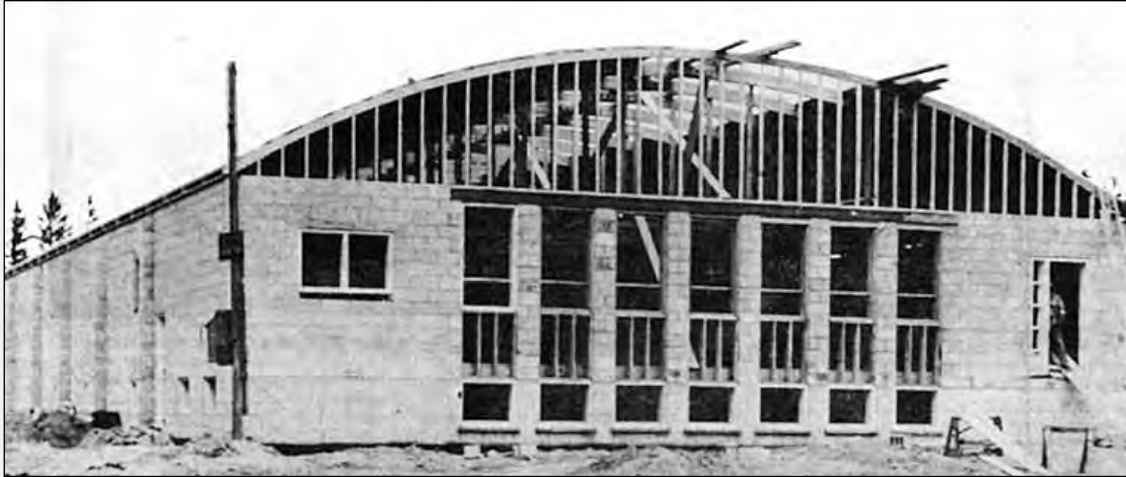
## Tender let for new office building

*Port Perry Star, September 11, 1958*

At the regular meeting of the council of the Village of Port Perry, sealed tenders where opened for the addition to the new village office building.

The Tender of the Lake Scugog Lumber & Coal Co. in the amount of \$10,766.00 was accepted by the following resolution:

Moved by Irving Boyd, seconded by Frank Godley, that the tender of Lake Scugog Lumber & Coal Co. in the amount of \$10,766.00 for the proposed addition to the new Municipal Bldg., be accepted, subject to approval of specifications by the Building Inspector and the completion of a contract.



## New curling rink construction moving along quickly

*Port Perry Star, September 18, 1958*

Construction on the Port Perry Community Curling Club's new rink has proceeded at a rapid pace. Saturday a volunteer group of 30 curlers finished sheeting in the roof of the cement block structure. This week will see the building closed in and ready for inside finishing.

Building chairman Oscar Beare and Job Superintendent Bob Kenny report work is progressing on schedule and that ice should be ready for curling on November 1st. Laying of pipes and ice equipment is expected to start about October 1st.

Membership chairman Jack Hayes reports some 80 curlers have so far paid there \$200 membership fee. A drive is now in progress to encourage prospective curlers to join now, in order to keep construction going ahead to meet the tentative November lot opening.

Some thirty Port Perry men are actively working on committees in support of the new \$42,000 centre, and many members are freely donating time for work that is difficult to let by contract.

## Gibson & Son open new building at poultry plant

*Port Perry Star, October 30, 1958*

J.J. Gibson & Son entertained about 250 business acquaintance and friends upon the occasion of the official opening of new delivery loading and general office building at their poultry plant on Bigelow Street, Port Perry.

This new construction will make for easier handling in loading and unloading as the trucks can enter the loading ramp right in the building and the doors can be shut to keep out the weather if desired.

The many guests enjoyed a pleasant evening in dancing and also the delicious lunch of broiled chicken, salad and rolls.



*Port Perry Medical Centre, located on the south side of Queen St., across from the Port Perry Star building, 1958.*

### September 1958

The Clerk's office, Hydro office and Police office moved to building on Perry St., formerly occupied by the Tease knitting mill. New addition planned for the front of building.

Enrollment at Port Perry Public School was up 34 pupils to a high of 434 students registered.

Mrs. Jeanne Dymond was on hand to greet Princess Margaret on her recent Royal Tour.

A tender from Lake Scugog Lumber for \$10,766.00 for an addition to the municipal office was approved.

### October 1958

Dept. of Transport grants village permission to remove dock house to a site of their own choosing on shore.

John Reba, of John's Shoe Shop, purchases former town office on Queen St. and remodeled it for his Port Perry Shoe Hospital.

Testimonial Dinner held for Dr. M.B. Dymond by the Chamber of Commerce.

### November 1958

Acute shortage of water in the area, many wells running dry. Some people opening hydrants to fill tanks. Town says these people will be prosecuted.

A new marine hoist designed and built by Harold Holtby, has been installed at J. Orde Marine at the lakefront.

## Community Figure Skating Club to be formed in Port Perry

*Port Perry Star, November 6, 1958*

Last Monday evening a group of people met at the Port Perry Public School in the interest of forming a Community Figure Skating Club.

This venture was sparked by Mrs. George Stone, a former and very active member of the Peterborough Figure Skating Club. Mrs. Stone had done considerable groundwork in preparation for the meeting contacting the arena for time available, making inquiries to determine what support would be received for this activity and arranging for someone experienced in this type of recreation to explain the organization of such a club.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Golaska of the Peterborough Figure Skating Club were present, and Mr. Golaska presented the group with a brief history of figure skating, an outline of the Canadian Figure Skating Association, purposes of a club, organization, financing, methods of group participation on ice, and equipment.

A committee was formed and the following slate of officers was drawn up:

President – Miss Georgia Brock  
 Vice-Pres. – Mrs. M. B. Dymond  
 Secretary – Mrs. Keith Mark  
 Treasurer – Mrs. Harry Mark

Directors – Mrs. Gordon Goode, Mrs. Arthur Brunton, Mrs. Gordon Carnegie. Junior Directors – Margaret Terrett Jayne Carnegie

Ice Committee – Mrs. Geo. Stone, Mr. Ron McKenzie

The Skating Club opens its season on Tuesday, November 11, 4:30 - 6:30 at the Port Perry Memorial Arena and every Tuesday and Friday at those hours until the end of March.



October 9, 1958

## John's Shoe Hospital opens

*John Reba's "Port Perry Shoe Hospital", in its new location on the south side of Queen Street, almost across from his former location.*

*Mr. Reba has been fixing shoes in this village for nearly four years. He recently purchased this building, the former municipal office for Port Perry. He has now remodelled it and has now opened his business.*

## Water shortage most acute in years

*Port Perry Star, November 13, 1958*

The fine autumn days which Port Perry has enjoyed have been the cause of the most acute water shortage in many years. A large proportion of the wells in this area are dry and water is being hauled to supply the needs of the many farmers and other residents.

This has led to another problem. Unauthorized people have been found trying to force open the hydrants in order to fill tanks. This results in damaged water hydrants, waste of water and the extra pumping needed to keep the water tank filled.

Any person seen taking water from a town hydrant should be reported at once to the town clerk or to the police.

In order to safeguard our water supply and equipment the council have authorized Alan Martyn, of Prince Albert, and Country Cartage Ltd., of Sunderland, to obtain water from the town. In this way the town will be able to keep track of the amount of water taken. It will also guard against depleting our own tanks which are also used for fire fighting, as well as seeing that the equipment is not damaged.

Please take note that anyone who attempts to take water without written authorization from the town office, signed by the town clerk, will be prosecuted.

Let us all hope and pray that rain will soon come to fill the empty wells before the freeze up.



*The new Curling Rink opens its doors to its member to curl, in November 1958, although all work inside is not completed.*

# 1959

## Store at Sonya destroyed by fire

*Port Perry Star, January 1, 1959*

A fire in this Brock Township hamlet has left a family of five children homeless. The general store, which was operated by Mr. and Mrs. Day, burned to the ground Wednesday afternoon, December 24.

Little Britain Fire Department was the first brigade to arrive. They answered the call at 2 p.m. The deputy fire chief of the Little Britain fire department, William Cornish, estimated damage at approximately \$20,000. He said that if the fire departments from Little Britain, Sunderland and Port Perry had not arrived in time, the whole hamlet, consisting of approximately 15 houses, might have gone up in smoke. Little Britain and Sunderland are about eight miles from Sonya.

The family occupied the house and store until noon Wednesday and were believed to be in Oshawa. The cause of the fire is unknown. Firemen said that the fire had too much of a start, before neighbors noticed it, to save the premises.



*Sonya General Store, about 1920.*

## Blackstock postmaster served community 30 years

*Port Perry Star, January 1, 1959*

A great change in the volume of mail at Blackstock Post Office is reported by Charles G. Yenning, who has been postmaster for the past 30 years. "The sale of stamps for Christmas cards has risen from 2,000 to 10,000," said Mrs. Yenning.

Mr. and Mrs. Yenning have operated the Blackstock Post Office for the past 30 years, as of December 22. Concerning the stamps, Mrs. Yenning said that the stamps sold for one cent 30 years ago.

The 30 years Mr. Yenning has been postmaster are consecutive, with the exception of 1940 when he was an instructor during the Second World War. He also served in the First World War as a lieutenant.

In 1953 he received a 25-year service medal from the government. In 1923 Mr. Yenning married the former Ella Ferguson, and in December, the same year, they took over the post office.

The post office has been at its present location for 21 years. It was first located where the mill is now located. In 1928 there were 50 box holders. Now there are 75.

## Trent engineer reports on water levels for Lake Scugog

*Port Perry Star, February 5, 1959*

At the regular meeting of council for the Village of Port Perry, Mr. Otis Hamilton appeared to hear the report of deputation which went to Peterboro re: the water level of Lake Scugog.

Councillor Godley reported that he and Reeve Gerrow of Scugog, Councilors Carter and Heayn, from Scugog; and Mr. Philip Orde from the Port Perry Rod and Gun Club waited on Mr. W.D. Bennett, Supt. Engineer of the Trent Canal to discuss the water level in Lake Scugog and its effect on fishing, trapping, and tourists in the area.

Mr. Bennett explained that more evaporation and less rain fall during the average season, was the reason for the low water during 1958.

Mr. Bennett stated further that they would keep the water at any level requested if those requesting higher water would be responsible for flood claims and assume all legal liability.

The deputation requested an increase in the water level from 10' 4" to 10' 6" and Mr. Bennett stated that he would try to meet their request but also pointed out that Lake Scugog is different than most other lakes, as they can only let water out of Lake Scugog, but cannot let water in. If the water level is increased to any great amount that someone will have to take the responsibility, flood claims.

## Dangerous blaze ignites in engine room at Master Feeds elevator

*Port Perry Star, February 5, 1959*

That it pays to co-operate with your neighbours was definitely proved when fire was discovered in the engine room of Master Feeds on Tuesday afternoon.

The situation had the makings of a disaster. The hydrants at the east end of Queen St. were frozen, a strong wind was whipping across the lake, which would blow any blaze across the street if it were to break out into the open, and if the fire were to have reached the grain bins, the problem would indeed be serious.

Chief Guy Raines sized up the potentials quickly and decided to summon assistance at once, rather than wait until the fire got out of hand.

The Uxbridge and Oshawa Brigades who belong to the Mutual Aid program for Ontario County were prompt in their response. The Reach pumper truck was also brought to the scene of the fire and with the assistance of extra, pumpers and extra hose, water was taken from the lake and the blaze confined to the engine room where it started. The hydrants, which were left open - thawed out in about half an hour, and was used later.

When Mr. Mahaffy discovered the ceiling of the engine room on fire he at once put in a call for the local fire brigade who were soon on the scene. A quick evaluation of the conditions sent them back for the



Reach tank truck which is housed in Port Perry. This pumper carries some 1,000 gals of water and was promptly put into action.

Citizens assisted firemen to cut holes in the ice, which meant cutting through about two feet of ice & snow. The Port Perry truck was hooked up to pump water from the lake, as was the Uxbridge truck which arrived soon after the hole was cut.

The Oshawa brigade was also very speedy in their response, but when they arrived it was found that the situation was pretty much under control, and they stood by until it was considered that the danger of spreading the blaze was at a minimum.

### January 1959

Lynn Fair of the Ont. Department of Agriculture says lack of rainfall during June, July and August has caused the worst water shortage in Ontario County in past 12 years.

Hon. M.B. Dymond, Minister of Health, officially opens the 29 bed, \$415,000 Cottage Hospital in Uxbridge.

Douglas Edenborough became the first Port Perry boy chosen to be a Page Boy for the Legislative Assembly at the Parliament Buildings.

Council approved the plans presented by Wm. Beare for an addition to Port Perry High School which will include six classrooms, cafeteria, auditorium/gymnasium for \$250,000.

### February 1959

Joel Aldred was the guest speaker at the Chamber of Commerce Agriculture Night, and spoke on the trials of a 'gentleman farmer.'

Mr. Bob Howsam sold his interest in the Western Tire Automotive Store to Mr. Joe Turbitt.

Council decided to refinish the downstairs part of the new municipal building for a police office and cells.

## Coal shed roof collapses under weight of heavy snow load

*Port Perry Star, March 5, 1959*

The roof of the coal sheds at the Port Perry Fuel's Coal yard suddenly collapsed under the weight of snow on Friday afternoon.

Although precautions were taken to put extra braces under the roof, the supports suddenly gave way. Fortunately no one was working in the shed at the time. However, there was quite a mess which required four men working all day Saturday to clear away.

Plans are made to replace the structure as soon as the weather permits.

In view of the number of roofs which have collapsed under the weight of snow this winter the committee in charge of the Memorial Gardens Arena, in Port Perry, have given the structure a thorough examination and say that the building is in fine condition. The roof is so shaped that the snow slides off quite easily and at present is almost entirely free of the accumulation seen on other types of roof.

Other places as well as the arena have been given an inspection. Members of the local Fire Brigade who have been in the habit of inspecting business places for fire hazards have also given their attention to the roofs and where the pile of snow has appeared to be excessive have warned owners of the danger.



## Two daylight robberies in Port Perry

*Port Perry Star, February 12, 1959*

Port Perry was the scene of two more robberies. This time in broad daylight.

Saturday noon hour was the time chosen by the thief or thieves, who must have spent some time studying the habits of their victims. The timing was perfect. Reesor Fuel and Lumber who have been issuing the licenses for cars, trucks, etc. found that \$720.00 was missing when they returned to the office after noon hour. Entry to the office was gained through the storage building and by jimmying the door into the office.

A smaller sum, about \$72.00, was taken from the office of the Port Perry Medical Centre at about the same time. Mrs. Tease was out for lunch at the time.

It is believed that these robberies likely tie in with a series of "breaking and entering" which have occurred in some nearby centers, such as Markham, Stouffville and others in that general area.

## Thieves strike Reesor Fuel & Lumber

*Port Perry Star, March 5, 1959*

Sometime during Monday night thieves again succeeded in entering the office of the Reesor Fuel and Lumber Co. This time they smashed the door to the lumber storage room and jimmyed the office door. Whether or not they expected to find the safe locked is anyone's guess.

In any case they were equal to the occasion, "borrowing" the acetylene welding equipment from Tripp Construction Limited nearby, they did a professional looking job of cutting open the safe and found \$500.

In order to prevent passing motorists from noticing their presence in the glass fronted office the thieves had erected a tarpaulin and plywood screen, behind which they apparently had plenty of time for their work as nothing inside the safe was damaged by the heat of the torch.

It should be pointed out that there is no longer any need for local merchants to keep large sums of money in their premises with the newly installed night deposit system at the Bank of Commerce in Port Perry.

## Thieves break into Brewer's Warehouse but all they got was a few drinks

*Port Perry Star, March 5, 1959*

The more we see the work of the thieves in this area the more it appears to be that they are local residents – one could scarcely call them citizens. At least a local resident must be spying out the ground for them.

Monday night, once again the day that Chief Menzies was away, they attempted to crack the safe at the Brewer's Warehouse, Queen St. west. This time they borrowed acetylene welding torch from Spencer's Garage at Greenbank, but their attempts to cut open the safe were not successful.

Always resourceful they borrowed the tow truck from Pargeter's Garage and tried to winch the safe out of the building. This effort was also a failure. They received nothing for their work.

Mr. Gord Thomas, manager of the Warehouse, said that all this work must have made them a little thirsty as they had helped themselves to a few drinks. Also they must have been pretty confident that they would not be disturbed for as far as is known all this went on with the place fully lighted.

We were informed that Mr. Pargeter's keys for the tow truck were taken from their secret hiding place, (which was supposed to be known to only three people) so it would seem even more certain that someone locally is studying the area and planning the robberies.



*Reesor Fuel & Lumber plant and office on the northwest corner of Water Street and Highway 7A.*



## Thieves damage building, steal ten outboard motors from Orde's Marine

*Port Perry Star, April 23, 1959*

A gang of thieves paid another visit to Port Perry last Wednesday night April 15th. The storage shed of John Orde Marine was broken open and some ten motors that had been stored for the winter season were carted away along with some tools. A truck from Stewart Sweetman's Garage was taken to haul away the loot.

Considerable damage was done to the building in the efforts to gain entry. A hole was broken through the wall of a shed to get some tools. An outside door of the booth was jimmied, but as it was barred on the inside this attempt failed. Persistent as always, another try was made to enter the booth and was accomplished by prying open the booth window.

In addition to the outboard motors being taken considerable mess was made in the workshop by upsetting a pail of dope over the floor etc., as well as the damage done to the wall and doors in breaking in.

Three boys have been charged by Chief Menzies in connection with previous robberies at Reesor's and at the Brewery.

## Ted Griffen new Chamber president

*Port Perry Star, April 30, 1959*

The Port Perry Chamber of Commerce held a luncheon meeting at noon on Monday at the Flamingo Restaurant, to elect a slate of officers for 1959-60.

President Arthur Panabaker handed over the office to the incoming President, Ted Griffen, and his 1st vice-president, John Orde, and 2nd vice-president, Storey E. Beare. Elected as two-year Directors were Harvey Mahaffy, John Orde, Glenn Van Camp, Ted Griffen and Storey E. Beare. The new 1 year Directors are Dr. John Price, Sam Griffen, Alan Craig, George Emmerson, Arthur Brock and Frank Godley, who relinquishes the office of Secretary-Treasurer to Howard Hall.

It was decided that the Board of Directors would meet monthly on the last Monday of each month, for luncheon at the Flamingo Restaurant, the next meeting to be held on May 25th. Membership dues will be levied on the basis of \$10 yearly for business and professional members, and \$5 yearly for all other Associate Members.

President-elect Ted Griffen announced that the principal project for the coming year would be the improvement of the local lakefront.

### March 1959

Ronald Werry elected president of the 1959 Ontario County Jr. Farmers.

The roof of Port Perry Fuel's coal shed collapsed due to the weight of snow. Town officials are checking roofs around town due to the heavy snow loads.

Tender for removal of dock house from Reginald Armstrong for \$10 approved. Must be removed by April 1, 1959.

### April 1959

Chief Constable Menzies recommends council eliminate U-Turns at Water and Queen St. Council turns down request saying U-Turns are not dangerous if regulations are observed.

Municipal and Hydro employees now working out of the new offices on Perry Street. Official opening to be held later.

### May 1959

A delegation appeared before council requesting the dump be moved from Water St., as it is an eyesore and source of contamination.

Councillor Boyd reports a new dumping site has been arranged on C.N.R. right-of-way at North Street.

### June 1959

Chief Constable A.C. Menzies presented council with a letter of resignation effective June 14.

Dr. M. B. Dymond returned for a second term as representative in the Ont. Legislature for Ontario Riding.

## Council considers better off-street parking

*Port Perry Star, May 14, 1959*

Council, realizing that Queen Street is not properly signed, decided that efforts should be made to make better off-street parking as a first move to bettering the parking conditions.

It was recommended that the shed owned by the Village be moved to a new location and to ask the Canadian Legion their plans for vacating the site behind the post office, or if they had any plans for the immediate future, as the Corporation would like to use all this land for a parking lot.

It was also decided to check on the ownership of the lanes beside the post office, leading to and from the present parking lot.



*Port Perry' Council for 1959, seated front, Reeve J.J. Gibson with councillors, from left, Arthur Cox, Thomas J. Harris, Irving A. Boyd and Frank Godley*



*Chief A. Menzies*

## Police Chief hands in resignation

*Port Perry Star, June 4, 1959*

Chief Menzies has handed in a resignation from his duties as Police Chief of Port Perry Police Department. The resignation is to become effective June 14th, as the chief has accepted a position with General Motors which commences on June 15.

Chief Menzies has proved an effective deterrent to crime in Port Perry for the past six or more years. Policing in Port Perry will be undertaken by the Provincial Police until such time as other arrangements are made by the Town Council.

## High School Cadets make impressive showing

*Port Perry Star, June 4, 1959*

One of the "big" days of the school year, the Cadet Inspection, took place on Friday of last week. The weather proved favourable and the interest was high.

The cadets formed on the south campus and carried on under the instructions of their commanding officers, accompanied by the cadet band. On the reviewing stand were Inspecting officers, the Lieut. Col. M. C. Finley, Ed. of Ontario Regiment, Capt. J. Costeloe, representing Head quarters Central Ontario Area.

Mr. William Beare represented the Board of Education, Mr. Gordon Goode was on the stand to present the Cadet Trophy.

Lieut. Costeloe reviewed the ranks of the girls corps while the Lieut. Col. Finley and Capt. Costeloe inspected the boys' corps.

Field demonstrations were shown by the Bren gun teams, the signal teams, a section attach, physical education by the girls and a band demonstration.

The cadettes and cadets of the High School presented a very good appearance this year. Instructors are Capt. Ivan W. Parkinson, Lieut. Ray Litt, Lieut. John Jefford, Capt. G. MacDonald and Miss Georgia Brock.

## Game Warden Ben Smith nabs man who netted 700 bass, muskie in Lake Scugog

*Port Perry Star, June 11, 1959*

Local sportsmen were aghast at the catch which was taken from a Toronto fisherman by local Game Warden Ben Smith recently.

Warden Smith says that he received a call saying that a man was netting fish in Lake Scugog. Upon investigation he found the man with a catch of some 700 or more fingerlings, mostly bass and muskies.

Apparently many of our "new Canadians" do not appreciate the sport side of fishing, being concerned only with providing food for immediate use, or perhaps for sale.

## Rod & Gun Club holds annual Carp Derby

Port Perry Star, June 11, 1959

Over the past two week-ends, May 31st and June 7th, a very successful Carp Derby was held, sponsored by the Rod & Gun Club. As far as can be learned there were over 500 carp taken out by all fishermen, with 160 persons registering. There were 200 taken out by derby fans.

This year is the most successful year that the Club has ever had. Weather for both days was perfect, and there were some very fine specimen of carp taken, many six lbs. and better.

The first day, May 31, Joe Lippert was the lucky one for the big one 13 1/2 lbs. and Jas. Read the most with 23. June 7th was also a beautiful day and many carp were taken out. Ricky Snook's captured the big one, 13 1/2 lbs. There was another 11 lb. carp taken.

## Grant Christie honoured on his retirement

Port Perry Star, August 13, 1959

Last Thursday evening the members of Reach Council, former Reeves, Township employees and their ladies met at Dundrennan Farm to honor Mr. Grant Christie, retiring Clerk-Treasurer.



Grant Christie

Reeve Howard McMillan was Master of ceremonies. Mr. and Mrs.

Christie were asked to take chairs in the centre of the lovely big living room and Mrs. Christie was presented with a corsage. Mr. Christie was presented with a reclining chair and Mrs. Christie a bouquet of red roses.

Reeve McMillan called upon former Reeves and members of the present council. All paid tribute to Mr. Christie for his kindly advice and council over the years.

Mr. Christie entered municipal work in 1925 and continued until elected Warden of the County in 1934. He has been Clerk-Treasurer for ten years.



Sgt. R.J. Cameron

## Council appoints new Police Sergeant

Port Perry Star, June 11, 1959

After considering the applications for a Police Sergeant and having interviewed three of these applicants, Council decided that Mr. R.J. Cameron, of Midland, seemed to be the most suitable man for the position.

It was moved and seconded that Mr. R.J. Cameron, be engaged Police Sergeant for the Village of Port Perry, subject to the necessary contract being signed by the contracting parties. Carried.



Reach Twp. Council held their inaugural meeting in the Township Hall on January 5th. Members of the 1959 council are, front left, Allan Crosier; Reeve Howard McMillan; Dep.-Reeve Ed (Sam) Oyler. Back left, Russell Rodd and Earl Martyn. - Jan. 8, 1959



Heavy flooding followed the break-up of ice on Lake Scugog during the spring of 1960, as can be seen by this picture. The flooded cabins were located in Birdseye Centre, at the north end of Water St. The causeway from Port Perry to Scugog Island was also covered with water for more than six weeks.

### Huge bass caught by visitor while vacationing at Birdseye Centre

*Port Perry Star, June 11, 1959*

Mr. William Busch of Buffalo caught a grand daddy of the bass family! It was while Mr. Busch was vacationing at "Birdseye Center", that he spent a little time fishing a short distance off shore.

On Saturday, July 4th, he fastened onto a 6 1/2 lb. bass measuring 24 inches long. The weight and length were checked by Mr. H. Lansley and Mr. C. Pogue of Toronto.

### Council calls for Tripp Construction to full-fill land purchase contract

*Port Perry Star, August 13, 1959*

The Clerk of the Village of Port Perry was instructed by Council, to write Tripp Construction as follows:- The Reeve and Council have directed me to call to your attention paragraph lettered 'C' of your offer to purchase, made to the Corp. of Port Perry under date of May 11, 1957.

Quote: "Tripp Construction Ltd., will, within two years, erect on the herein described lands, a building having an approximate value of \$30,000., with specifications acceptable to the Municipal Corporation Building Inspector and which the Inspector certifies, when completed will have such a value".

More than two years has elapsed since this contract was signed and while we understand that you are negotiating to erect the required building, it is believed that some concrete steps should now be taken to complete your contract since it was a very important consideration in the sale of the property.

### Plenty of large Muskie being pulled from Lake Scugog

*Bowmanville Statesman, September 10, 1959*

This seems to be a good year for lunge in Lake Scugog. Many have reported snagging some of these big fighting game fish this season, and now that the cool weather is here, they appear to be biting better than ever.

Roy Smith, of Port Perry, has had exceptionally good luck. After loosing two nice ones earlier on in the summer, while casting near his cottage at Pine Point, he got a 10 pounder into his boat on the 27th of August.

Then again last Sunday, September 20th, Roy, accompanied by his son Donald, hooked a 12 pounder while using a silver minnow as a lure. Twenty minutes later, after a terrific battle, he had it safely landed. It was 37" in length and about 15" inches in girth.

Len Trull has the rest of the cottagers at Williams' Point in a real frenzy. Saturday he tossed in a line into Lake Scugog just off his dock and came up with an 11 pounder muskie. The word soon spread and almost all his neighbours tried their hand without success all week end.

On Monday, to show it was no accident, Len again flipped his 5 lb. test line into the water. This time a 22 pounder, 44" long, hit his lure and was duly landed

Lake Scugog is noted to be one of the best Lakes in the Province for lunge fishing, so you better get out that tackle box, the season isn't over yet, and who knows, you might have your dream come true - that of catching one of those foxy, fighting fools - a Maskinonge.

**June 1959**

The Chamber of Commerce request council have the Village of Port Perry changed to the Town of Port Perry. Council agreed to check with Dept. of Municipal Affairs for further information.

**July 1959**

Miss Doreen Evans, R.R. 3 Uxbridge, declared Ontario County Dairy Princess. Her sister Doris was runner-up.

Council hires second constable, Mr. Eric Place of Port Credit.

Work on rebuilding a section of the Oshawa Rd. just north of the ridges is underway. The grade of the hill to be cut down, road straightened and paved.

Council decides there is no sufficient advantage to changing from a 'Village' to a 'Town', so will not apply at this time.

**August 1959**

Mr. Grant Christie honored by friends and former colleagues as he retires as clerk-treasurer of Reach Twp. after 10 years service.

**September 1959**

Port Perry Public School opens with a record high attendance of 440 pupils. Mrs. Grace Hastings is the new music instructor.

Port Perry High School reports a registration of 339, the highest number ever to enroll.

Dr. A.C. Bathie elected president of the Ontario Chiropractic Association at convention held in Toronto.

**October 1959**

Stan and Mel Gerrow enter into a sub-division agreement with the Corp. of Port Perry.

Town water supply turned off for five hours while water tank is cleaned. Complaints concerning odor and taste initiated the action.

**November 1959**

Port Perry Curling Club gets underway for its second season. Clubrooms are finished and ice surface is in superb curling condition says ice-maker Gord Holdershaw.

Chamber of Commerce continues to push council to change status of Port Perry from Village to a Town.

**Cedar Creek teenager fatally injured**

*Port Perry Star, August 13, 1959*

On Monday evening, shortly after 6:15, Larry Larocque, 15 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Victor Larocque of R.R. 2, Port Perry, was fatally injured when his gun, a .22, accidentally discharged. He and his two younger brothers, Rickie and Paul, were standing in the open shed in the south barn on George Kilpatrick's farm.

Larry was able to walk part of the way down the road toward the Kilpatrick house, while Rickie ran for help. Dr. John Diamond of Port Perry, was called. When he arrived he asked that the Coroner, Dr. G. M. Rennie, be called.

The bullet, a .22 long, entered the abdomen and moved upward to the heart. The body was removed to Port Perry by the Brignall Ambulance. The Whitby detachment of the O.P.P. conducted the investigation.

**Caesarea "Holiday Inn" dance hall goes up in a "great ball of fire"**

*Bowmanville Statesman, September 10, 1959*

A fire completely destroyed the Holiday Inn, a restaurant and dance hall, in Caesarea last Wednesday evening, September 2nd. Several cottagers were evacuated from their homes near the burning dance hall.

The fire started soon after 6 p.m. and threatened a line of cottages in the vicinity for more than an hour as it tore through Lake Scugog's oldest dance hall, gutting the building.

The blaze was battled by fire trucks from Caesarea and Port Perry for more than two hours, but by the time the firemen had gained control of the flash fire, the building was totally wrecked.

The Caesarea Fire Chief, Charles Miller, said afterwards that the dance hall went up like a great ball of fire. "One spark and the cottages would have gone as well," he added. The restaurant and dance hall was owned by William McLenachan, Blackstock, and Albert Ellis, Nestleton. They bought the place last winter, and remodelled the building completely before re-opening early in May.

It is believed that the renovation work of the structure cost \$20,000, and that the restaurant and dance hall were probably worth almost \$30,000. In addition to the building, much expensive equipment was lost.

One of the owners, William McLenachan, gave the alarm. He had gone to the restaurant and closed the door, and then suddenly noticed that flames were pouring out of the upstairs rooms. He re-opened the door to be met by a wall of flames sweeping through the building.

Mr. McLenachan called the fire department, and disconnected three tanks of propane gas, rolling them across the street to safety. The 80' by 80' structure burned rapidly. The Caesarea fire truck arrived at the scene within minutes of the fire breaking out, but it was already too late.

Despite the efforts of loyal firemen and those from Port Perry the dance hall and restaurant were consumed by the flames. They succeeded in preventing the spread of the fire to neighbouring buildings.

Ontario Provincial Police from the Bowmanville Detachment attended the fire. It is thought to have started from faulty fuses in the kitchen which might have been damaged in the storm the previous night.



*Dr. A. C. A. Bathie (left) and his wife, Dr. Helen Bathie, both Port Perry chiropractors, was elected president of the Ontario Chiropractic Association. The election took place at the annual convention of the O.C.A. in Toronto, on September 19th.*

## Fidelity Lodge members officially opens new Port Perry Temple

*Port Perry Star, December 10, 1959*

For many years it had been a cherished dream of the brethren that Fidelity would have its own Temple, and by careful planning, generous donations of time, thought, energy, enthusiasm and money, this dream has materialized.

On July of 1958, the first sod was turned in the presence of the then ruling Master W. Bro. N.W. Heayn, and under his guidance and supervision the building was completed by March 1st, 1959.

Fidelity Lodge met, in this new Temple from March 10th, 1959, till December 8th, 1959, under special Dispensation from the Grand Master. On December 8th, 1959, Fidelity Lodge was honoured by having M. W. Bro. C. MacL. Pitts the Grand Master, of the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, officiate at the Dedication of the newly completed Temple.

This was the third time the Grand Master of, our Grand Lodge has visited Fidelity, but the first time since 1907. A total of 260 Masons attended a beautifully prepared dinner. The guests were from many parts of Ontario as well as a good turnout of our own members.

At the conclusion of the dinner all assembled in the Lodge room where a most solemn Ceremony was presided over by the Grand Master and assisted by Grand Lodge. This day, Tuesday December 8th, 1959, the occasion of the Dedication Ceremony of our new Temple will always be remembered in the annals of Fidelity Lodge. The ruling Master is W. Bro. H. M. Slater.



*The Masonic Hall, Port Perry was Dedicated on December 8, 1959.*

## Port Perry Reeve and council are acclaimed for 1960

*Port Perry Star, November 26, 1959*

The annual Town meeting was held in the library with a small turnout of local citizens. Mr. Jack Raines, town clerk called for nominations for the offices of reeve, deputy-reeve, three councillors and three members for the Public School Board.

Mr. J.J. Gibson was the only nomination for reeve. Mr. W.T. Harris and Mr. Arthur Cox were nominated for the new office of Deputy-reeve. Mr. Cox declined in writing to accept the office.



*Reeve J.J. Gibson*

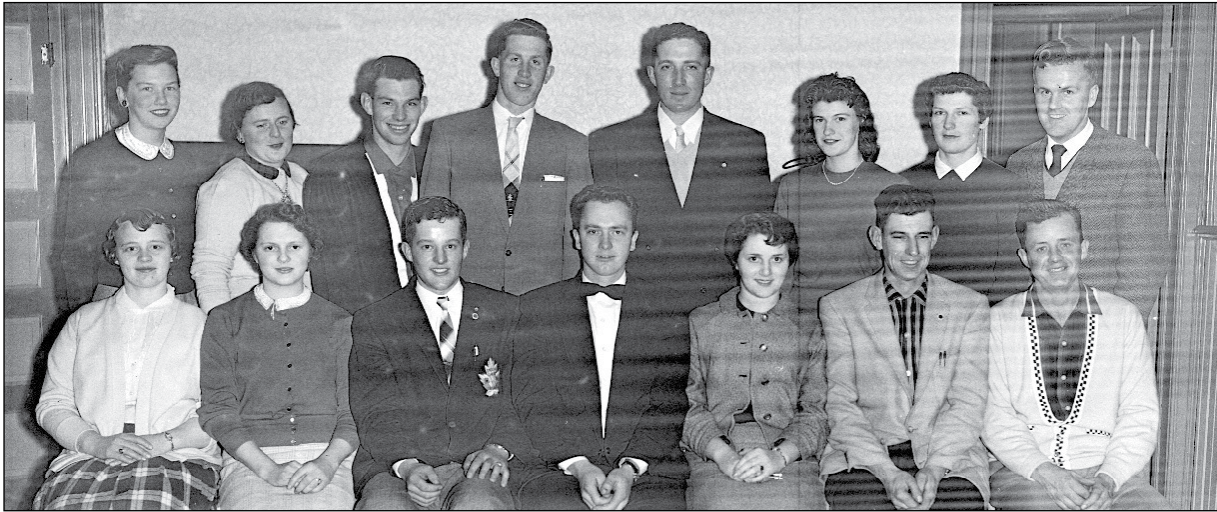
Nominated to the Council were Mr. Arthur Cox, Irving Boyd, Frank Godley, Robt. Kenny and John Jefford. Of these Mr. Godley and Mr. Jefford declined.

In the Public School Board the following were nominated, Mr. Wm. Williams, Mr. Howard Hall, Mr. Merlin Dowson and Mr. Robert Kenny. Mr. Kenny declined. This fills all the offices by acclamation.

Mr. J.J. Gibson is entering his fourth term as reeve. The office of Deputy Reeve will be held in Port Perry for the first time. Tom Harris native son of Port Perry having the honour. The Council of the past three years has been returned except that Mr. Robert Kenny takes the place of Mr. Godley who declined the office this year.

In Reach Township, only a small group of citizens showed an interest in the meeting. All offices were filled by acclamation, as follows:

Reeve, Howard McMillan; Deputy-reeve, Edward Oyler; Councillors, Earl Martyn, Alan Crozier, Russel Rodd. School Board, Morely Bruce, James Doupe, Neil Hunter.



1959 ONTARIO COUTY JR. FARMERS EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTORS. Front row, from left - Shirley Appleton, Donna Johnson, Frank Barkey, Secretary-Treasurer; Ronald Werry, President; Jeanne Alsop, Vice-President; Walter Kerry, County Director to the Provincial Association; Bert Pearson, Past President. Second row, from left; Carol Lamb, Lois Tregunna, Keith Shier, Alan Ross, Stewart Armand, Carol Midgley, Ruby Dusty, Alvin Blades, Assistant Agricultural Representative

## Ice storm causes severe damage to Port Perry and area

*Port Perry Star, December 31, 1959*

The ice storm which has followed the Christmas holiday has caused wide spread damage among the trees and wires that line our streets. Many homes are still without hydro even on Tuesday afternoon.

Teams of local men have worked long weary hours to clean up the debris, cutting up broken trees and clearing the streets, along with gangs of men from the hydro and telephone companies.

A large tree crashing down at the back of the Gossard factory tore hydro wires and brackets from both the Gossard building and the United Church resulting in a power failure in that area. Hydro brackets were also torn from the homes of Bob Crosier, Mrs. Garvey and the Misses Harris. At the Harris home the verandah railing was also torn out with the bracket.

A tree crashed onto the Lovell home on Ella St., damaging the roof. Two cars were reported injured by falling branches, the owners being Allan Oke and John Franssen. A great many T.V. and radio aerials are down.

In addition to crews of local workers the telephone and hydro folk have worked ceaselessly to restore service, and yet many areas are still without these essential services. The Hydro have brought crews of workmen from areas as far away as North Bay and Ottawa to assist in the gigantic task imposed on the Oshawa-Toronto-Hamilton areas by the storm. Workmen from the Huntsville district also assisted.

Several transformers will have to be replaced completely before power can be restored and in some sections the lines have been broken in so many places that a complete restringing job is needed.

The ordinary citizen owes a great deal to these courageous workers who have literally taken their lives in their hands in many instances. The business of handling live wires and climbing poles can be dangerous enough under the best of conditions but add ice, wind and darkness and the most ordinary job becomes a real danger.

## Three drowned when car topples over wall into Oshawa Harbour

*Port Perry Star, December 17, 1959*

Three persons, from the Port Perry area, drowned when their car toppled over a retaining wall at Oshawa Harbour and sank in 35 feet of water on Monday, December 14.

The car was located by an Oshawa skindiver, Raymond W. MacKay, and raised by a crane four hours later. The victims were identified as Harvey Rowe, 51, of R.R. 1, Port Perry, Judith Claire Wallis, 16, of Port Perry, and her sister, Arlene Marie, 15, daughters of Mrs. Jean Wallis.

Three young men on Lakeshore Road said they saw the 1959 yellow car drive around a warning sign that blocks the end of the road, and proceed toward the harbour wall, about 100 feet away.

They saw the car brake lights go on, as the vehicle approached the edge of the cement harbour wall. He said he could occupants in the front and back seats of car and heard them scream as it went over the wall, and watched as the rear red lights of the car as it sank beneath the water.

The three ran to their homes to notify the police, who arrived on the scene about five minutes later and traced tire tracks in the slush to the edge of the retaining wall.

The Oshawa Fire Department was called in and Mr. MacKay located the car on his first dive, and on two subsequent dives sealed the vehicle and attached ropes so that a construction crane could lift the car.



# THE FIFTIES

*Before it was  
History it was  
News*

**BY J. PETER HVIDSTEN**