

## WILLIAM JOHN WATSON

A highly esteemed resident of the Scotch Settlement and Bond Head area, Mr. William John Watson, passed away in Toronto on Wednesday last, February 28, in his 83rd year, following a short illness. During the past few months Mr. and Mrs. Watson had made their home between the home of their son in the Scotch Settlement and Toronto and at Christmas time Mr. Watson had gone into the city where he suffered a stroke a few weeks before his death.

A descendant of a pioneer South Simcoe family, William John Watson was born in 1868 on concession 7, lot 3, Tecumseth Township, a son of Charles Watson, who came to Bond Head from the County of Cavan, Ireland, in 1846, and Karolyn Sproule, whose home was near Beeton. Almost eighty years ago, in 1872, the Watson family moved to concession 5, lot 8, West Gwillimbury, and in that Scotch Settlement district Mr. Watson has been well known over that long period of years. After his marriage to the former Ida Jane Banting, they made their home on the adjoining farm, lot 7, later farming both farms. In 1930 Mr. and Mrs. Watson moved to a farm on Highway 88, near Bond Head, while their son remained in the Settlement.

Mr. Watson was active in church work throughout his life. He was a Bible Class teacher for many years and also served as an elder in the Scotch Settlement and Bond Head churches.

He was known for his love of horses and in his earlier years had marked success with his registered Clydesdale horses at sales and in the show ring. In politics he was a Conservative.

Mr. Watson is survived by his widow; three daughters, Karolyn and Jean of Toronto and Mrs. Norman Coutts (Isobel) of Cookstown; one son, Charles, on the old home in the Scotch Settlement; five grandchildren; and two sisters, Mrs. William Rowe (Isobel) of Newton Robinson and Mrs. J. J. Brown (Susan) of the Scotch Settlement. A daughter, Marion, predeceased him in 1929, also a sister, Mrs. George Brown (Mary Anne).

The funeral was held on Saturday afternoon, March 3, from the home of his son, Charles. The services were conducted by Rev. E. C. McLarnon of the Scotch Settlement Presbyterian Church and interment was in the Scotch Settlement Cemetery.

The pallbearers were Wilfred McLellan, Donald Sutherland, John F. Gray, Gordon Brethet, John McLean and Donald Sutherland.

The flower bearers were nephews, namely, Watson Rowe, Chas. Brown, Edwin Brown, Rea Agnew, Macdermott Wilson and Donald Stewart.

The beautiful floral tributes included flowers from both the Scotch Settlement and Bond Head churches and organizations, the Toronto Hydro, as well as those from other friends, relatives and associates.