A Review Of 1951 From The Files Of The Witness

Jan. 1 — Riverview Inn was completely gutted by fire in the early hours of New Year's morning.

Jan. 3 — The Township of West Gwillimbury moved its offices from the Bank of Commerce building to the township's new municipal building on Highway 88 at the western limits of the town.

Jan. 4 — The fine new Holland Marsh home of Mr. and Mrs. George Michim was destroyed by fire.

Jan. 8 — Mr. H. F. S. Gardner, prominent Bradford businessman, passed away.

Jan. 12 — Arthur Harrison was chosen by fellow students and staff at B.D.H.S. to represent the school on a visit to United Nations at Lake Success.

Jan. 5 — Bond Head Community Hall committee burned the mortgage on the building.

Jan. 10 — Mr. J. Alexander Dutcher, life-long resident of the district, passed away following a brief illness.

Jan. 17 — The new Bradford District High School Board held its inaugural meeting, with the following members: T. H. Gardner, Arthur Evans, Matt. Kneeshaw, Jas. Catania, Murray Faris, Wm. Bowles and F. Doane.

Jan. 21 — Bradford Public School Board held its inaugural meeting and named T. H. Gardner chairman.

Jan. 17 — Mrs. F. C. Ryan (Bessie Sutherland), passed away at her home in St. Catharines.

Jan. 24 — Thornton's mill was completely destroyed by fire during the early evening.

Jan. 29 — Ben Steers won Ontario Yorkshire Breeders' Award and was presented with a gold watch, at the annual banquet at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto.

Jan. 31 — Simcoe County Council approved the building of an extension to the County Home at Beeton.

Several break-ins at homes in town having occurred, police urged that citizens notify them when from home for a period of time and also when suspicions were arroused by actions of anyone around a property.

Jan. 31 — A "Preparedness" meeting was called by Legion but attracted very small attendance.

Feb. 1 — "Bill" Arnold of Vancouver purchased the former Murrell Motor Sales and Garage and took possession of the business, operating under the name of Arnold Motors.

James Steers addressed the Ontario Plowmen's Association at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, on the plowing of a curving furrow.

Feb. 4 — Orville Todd, former reeve of Innisfil and ex-warden of Simcoe County, passed away very suddenly at his home near Churchill.

Feb. 5 — Hon. W. Earl Rowe addressed Bradford Lions Club.

Feb. 9 — Bradford Council given estimate re sewerage system at $275,000.

Feb. 19 — Bradford Businessmen's Association was formed with Arthur Evans as president.

Feb. 16 — Bradford Branch of the Canadian Legion received its charter.

Feb. 17 — Miss Bessie Dodd passed away at Akron, N.Y., at the age of 98. The funeral was held in Bradford.

The Holland Marsh Drainage Commission repaired canal banks and was ready for the February thaw.

Feb. 24 — Jack Doane, competing in the 1951 Inter-Collegiate boxing championships at Montreal and representing O.A.C. at Guelph, won the 140-lb. crown by taking the decision from Druin of McGill University in the final.

March 3 — Miss Adelaide Keaney, member of the Canadian Bank of Commerce staff here, received severe and serious injuries in a motor accident north of Bradford. Her injuries included both legs being broken.

March 9 — Date set by Bradford Council for vote re sewerage on April 9.

March 14 — The new Canadians attending classes at B.D.H.S. entertained for the teachers and those who acted as hostesses for parties in their honour during the term.

C. T. S. Evans, K.C., and Dr. G. L. Blackwell were appointed members of York County Hospital Board.

March 16 — Bradford figure skaters held carnival and crowned Lorna Hunt "Queen of the Carnival."

March 22 — Hendrich Verkuyl, a member of the newly named Springdale community, was killed in a truck-train crash near Fenwick, Lincoln County.

March 27 — Graeme Darling lost six head of cattle which smothered when a straw stack toppled on them.

The directors of Bradford Businessmen's Association authorized their secretary to write Council requesting more frequent and more efficient cleaning of streets, suggesting Wednesday afternoon and Sunday morning for such cleaning and also suggesting the placing of trash cans at various points along the streets in the business section.

March 31 — Bradford Lions Club issued statement showing that hockey expenses for the season, paid by the club, were $484.43.

April 1 — The spacious new rectory built by the congregation of the Church of the Holy Martyrs was opened to interested friends when the ladies of the congregation held "open house."

April 9 — Bradford property owners voted 3 to 1 in favour of a sewerage system and disposal plant for the village.

April 7 — West Gwillimbury Township Council named committee to look after erecting road signs on all roads in the township.

April 21 — The completely renovated and enlarged Canadian Bank of Commerce building was officially opened and customers and bank officials from out of town visited and inspected the building.

April 25 — A review of the history over the past century with Trinity Anglican Church was published in anticipation of the church's centennial.

April 25 — West Gwillimbury Township residents visited consolidated school in Nelson Township and were greatly impressed.

April 25 — Churchill's new Community Hall was officially opened.

Curlers were delighted with their experiment on the test ice formed at Bradford Co-Operative Storage.

May 4 — Sid Smith of Toronto Maple Leafs attended and spoke at Bradford Lions Club dinner honouring Midget and Pee-Wee hockey players.

May 4 — Bradford Public School Board ordered furnishings for the new school.

May 21 — Arthur Harrison addresses Bradford Lions Club, telling of his trip to United Nations' Assembly at Lake Success.

May 24 — A "mile-a-minute" drive was made to the Sick Children's Hospital, Toronto, with Carl Cairns after he was kicked on the temple by a horse.

June 10 — Trinity Church, Bradford, celebrated 100th anniversary. The special speaker at the morning service was Rev. Canon J. W. McDonald of Wycliffe College, Toronto, and in the evening The Right Rev. A. R. Beverley, M.A., D.D., gave the sermon. A reception in the church room followed the evening service.

June 16 — Dr. V. O. Claridge, widely known general practitioner in the Tottenham district, died suddenly at his home.

June 24 — A two-minute twister tore a three-mile gouge across Midhurst village, leaving a trail of destruction in its wake.

June 23 — Innisfil Township celebrated its centennial in Innisfil Park.

FORMER TOWNSMAN NOW HOME FROM HOSPITAL

W. D. (Casey) Stewart of Leaside, who was for several weeks a hospital patient following a heart attack, was able to be home before Christmas.

While Mr. Stewart must continue to have care and rest he is making quite satisfactory progress toward recovery.

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