

Brome County News

Thursday,
August 1, 1991



Sutton man and woman live dream come true

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RECORD/SHARON McCULLY

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Brome County Community Billboard

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Saturday, August 3

A flea market to benefit of St. Paul's Anglican Ladies Guild will be held at the Mansonville Anglican Church Hall from 10 to 3. Crafts, old and new items, home baking, drawings, books, lunch counter.

The Ladies Guild of the Church of the Good Shepherd will hold its annual bazaar from 10 till 1 at the Grace Church parish hall in Sutton. Great assortment of baked goods, handicrafts, white elephant table and books.

The Ladies Auxiliary of Granby will be holding their monthly flea market from 9 to 3 at the Legion Hall, 172 Court Street in Granby. For information call Agnes Lavigne at 372-3615.

August 3 and 4

There will be a giant flea market and craft sale from 9 to 3 at the Austin Town Hall. Proceeds for The Austin Kids And Us youth club. For more information call (819) 847-1618 or 843-2169.

August 5 till 9

If you or anybody you know are between the ages of 4 and 14 come and see what day camps are all about. There is no admission but voluntary donations would be accepted. Children are asked to bring their own lunch. Donations of cookies for snack time would be greatly appreciated. Ages 4 to 6 from 10 till noon, ages 7 to 14 from 10 till 3 at the All Saints' Anglican Church. For information: Sinpoh Han 298-5396 after 7 p.m., Brenda Lapaine 295-3252, Julie Montagne 295-3196.

Friday, August 16

The annual garden party held by the Austin Women's Institute usually held on the first Friday of August, has been rescheduled to August 16. It will be held at Austin Town Hall. Everyone welcome.

CHURCH SERVICES

St. Edouard Church, Knowlton

— Saturday: 7:00 p.m. French
— Sunday: 9 a.m. English, 10:30 French

Grace Anglican Church, Principale Street in Sutton

— Sunday: 10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Calvary United Church, Pleasant and Maple St. in Sutton

— Note: There will be no service during the month of July. Regular service will continue at Dunham United Church in Dunham at 9:30 a.m.

Olivet Baptist Church, Maple Street in Sutton

— Sunday: 11:30 a.m.

St-André de Sutton, Main Street North

— Saturday: 7 p.m.
— Sunday: 8 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Church of the Good Shepherd, Glen Sutton

— Sunday: 7 p.m.

All Saints Anglican Church, Abercorn

— Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

St-Simon d'Abercorn

— Sunday: 9:30 a.m.

Notre Dame des Graces, Glen Sutton

— Sunday: 8:30 a.m.

Mansonville United Church, Mansonville

— Bolton Center: 9:15 a.m.

— Mansonville: 11:00 a.m.

— Vale Perkins: 2:00 p.m.

Trinity Church, Cowansville

— 9:00 a.m. Holy Communion BAS (1962 Rite)

— 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion BAS (Modern Rite) and church school.

Christ Church, Cowansville will meet at 330 Bruce Blvd, Cowansville

— 10 a.m. Holy Communion according to the Book of Common Prayer

(There will be only one service of worship each Sunday in the Cowansville-area United Church. All services are at 9:30.)

— July 28 and August 4 the service will be held at Brigham United Church

— August 11, 18, 25, and Sept. 1 at Emmanuel United Church in Cowansville.

All Saints Anglican Church, Dunham

— 10:30 a.m. Services and Sunday School

— first Sunday of the month: Choral Eucharist (BCP)

— third Sunday of the month: Morning Prayer (BCP)

— second, fourth, and fifth Sundays of the month: Choral Eucharist BAS (1962 Rite)

Note-Book of common prayer is used on all festivals.

Bishop Stewert Memorial Church of The Holy Trinity, Frelighsburg

— 9:00 a.m. Services and Church School Holy Communion-BAS

(Modern Rite) except fourth Sunday each month where morning prayer is said.

St. James Anglican, Foster

— 9:30 a.m. Sunday mass with holy Communion. (summer season until Oct. 13).

St. James the Apostle, Stanbridge East.

(Monthly schedule of 10:30 a.m. services)

First Sunday, Holy Communion (BCP).

Second Sunday morning prayer(BCP).

Third Sunday 1962 Eucharist (BAS).

Fourth Sunday, Modern Eucharist (BAS).

Fifth Sunday, Morning Prayer (BAS).

Knowlton Creek Pastoral Charge schedule change

— July 28 will be held at Knowlton United at 11:00

— Aug. 4 at the Creek United at 9:30

— Aug. 11 at Knowlton United at 11.

Bedford Pastoral Charge (United Church)

Joint services for the Month of August:

— Aug. 4 — Philipsburg 11 a.m.

— Aug. 1 — Bedford 10 a.m.

— Aug. 18 — Stanbridge East 9:30 a.m.

— Aug. 25 — Mystic 10 a.m.

ARTS CALENDAR

August 3 to 25

Arts Sutton Gallery presents the paintings of artists David Bierk. The vernissage will be held Saturday August 3 between 2 and 5. The gallery, located at 7 Academy is open Thursday thru Sunday from 1-5.

Till August 3

Theatre Lac Brome presents *Man of La Mancha* by Dale Wasserman, Joe Darion and Mitch Leigh. Directed by Jack Langedijk and Carrie Foster, the play was one of Broadway's longest running musical classics. This production brings to life Don Miguel de Cervantes and his tale of Don Quixote, the aging would-be knight. The production features such songs as 'The Impossible Dream,' 'Dulcinea,' and 'Little Bird.' It is a story of romance, hope and chivalry.

August 7-24

Nurse Jane Goes to Hawaii will be presented at the Brome Lake Theatre. Written by Allan Stratton and directed by Jack Langedijk, the play is about a Harlequin romance writer who comes to spend an illicit weekend with a respectfully married man and starts a chain of events which involves all the classic elements of a farce.

August 9, 10 and 11

Brome Beaux Arts present a free concert by Trios Sonos at the Old Brick Church in West Brome. Trios Sonos, consisting of Helmut Lisky on violin, Leslie Snider on piano and Michel Kozlovsky on piano will be joined by Aleskey Dyachkov on the viola and Zbignew Borowicz on the double bass. The musicians will present works by Schumann, Ives and Schubert. For information call 263-2346.

ALL SUMMER

The Brome County Historical Society invites everyone to stop in for a visit to the museum. This summer's theme is "Music Festival" and features a collection of musical instruments and sheet music from 1900 to 1930. The music and songs of this era reflect the many and varied characteristics of the people who made Canada their home: French, Irish, Scottish, English and European. The museum, consisting of five buildings, is situated on Route 243, Lakeside Road in Knowlton. It's open Monday to Saturday between 10 and 5, and Sunday from 11 to 5 until August 29. For more information please call 243-6782.


Once again, Missisquoi Museum extends an invitation to the whole family to come and enjoy this year's exhibition "The Long Cold Winter: A Victorian view of winter in Missisquoi County 1850-1900". The exhibition highlights the Victorian passion for winter games, sports, transportation and fashion. Governed by the winter weather, the people of Quebec developed a rich and charming subculture and Missisquoi County was no exception. Take time to visit Hodge's General Store and Bill's Barn which houses a large collection of farm machinery and carriages. The museum is open daily 10 till 5 until October 13. Admission charged. For more information call (514) 248-3153.

COMMUNITY NOTES

The Missisquoi County Women's Institutes are offering a bursary to any resident of Missisquoi County in good academic standing who is starting or pursuing higher education in Quebec. Applications should be made before August 15, 1991, to Mrs. June Lamey, Box 46, Frelighsburg, Que. J0J 1C0. Telephone 298-5401.

Experience the warmth of your community centre. The Reilly House Community Centre in Mansonville welcomes you to visit the Tea Room, tourist bureau with copier facilities, Etcetera gift shop, Nearly New clothing rooms, Bargain Basement of miscellaneous items, including an amazing variety of reading material such as books and magazines. Place New Horizons is a hall with complete kitchen utilities, space to rent upstairs, and is home to the United Church office. Come and enjoy the camaraderie of staff and volunteers.

Brome County Community Billboard is published as a free service to the community. If you have a notice you wish to have appear in the Billboard, send it to: Brome County Community Billboard, c/o The Record, 88 Lakeside Road, Brome Lake, Quebec, JOE 1V0; or 2850 Delorme St., Sherbrooke, Quebec, J1K 1A1. Or just drop it by the Knowlton office. Material must be received by Monday noon, the week of publication. Always be sure to include a phone number.



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the Record

CIRCULATION DEPT. 819-569-9528 FAX: (819) 569-3945
KNOWLTON OFF.: 514-243-0088 FAX: 514-243-5155

Randy Kinnear, Publisher	569-9511
Charles Bury, Editor	569-6345
Lloyd G. Scheib, Advertising Manager	569-9525
Richard Lessard, Production Manager	569-9931
Mark Guillette, Press Superintendent	569-9931
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Francine Thibault, Composition	569-9931

Subscriptions by Carrier: weekly \$1.80


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1 month-	\$34.00

These prices do not include GST.

Established February 9, 1897, incorporating the Sherbrooke Gazette (est. 1837) and the Sherbrooke Examiner (est. 1879).

Published Monday to Friday by The Record Division, Groupe Quebecor Inc. Offices and plant located at 2850 Delorme Street, Sherbrooke, Quebec, J1K 1A1.

Publications Mail Registration No. 1064.



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Courtship: Falling in love through correspondence

By Sharon McCully

COWANSVILLE—Who says a courtship must include candlelight dinners and romantic evenings? Certainly not Norman

and Melchora Staines. This happy couple fell in love, became engaged, and planned their marriage without ever having met.

Norman is a Glen Sutton farmer who works from dawn to dusk with his brother and uncle on the scenic Sutton valley farm.

Melchora was a sales clerk in the Philippines who yearned for adventure and a promising future.

Today they're man and wife. "A neighbour of mine was married to a Philipino girl and I happened to mention one day that I wouldn't mind having a wife like he has," Norman recalls.

That was cue enough for his neighbor's wife to write her cousin Melchora.

Melchora broke the ice by writing to Norman. Norman answered. Melchora told him about life in her country. Norman told her what it was like to be a farmer in rural Quebec. They exchanged pictures. They wrote about their families and they wrote about their dreams.

Finally, after several months of exchanging letters, Norman popped the question. An ecstatic Melchora accepted. They were engaged and shortly afterward, Melchora applied for a fiancée's visa to come to Canada.

"We planned our marriage

by letter," says Melchora.

Two weeks after arriving in Canada, Melchora and Norman were married. "She is much better than I ever expected," says Norman reinforcing his statement with a peck on the cheek.

"Norman's a great husband," added Melchora. "He's very good and very kind, and I'm so happy." The only fly in the ointment is the long hours that make up a farmers' work day.

"I wish we could spend more time together," Melchora said. "I find it lonely sometimes."

Melchora will be less lonely now following the birth this week of the couple's first child. The 8 pound, 2 ounce baby girl was born Saturday to the happy couple, and immediately named Melinore, a combination of both their names.

The happy couple returned to their Glen Sutton farmhouse with daughter Melinore this week.

"It's a dream come true," says Norman.



Norman and Melchora Staines named their new daughter Melinore, a combination of their names.

Facing and escaping reality at Lake Brome Theatre

By Karen Stairs

LAKE BROME — One of Broadway's longest-running musical classics, *Man of La Mancha*, which is now playing at Lake Brome Theatre, offers a chance to confront and escape life.

Lead character Don Quixote declares that the greatest madness of all is to be living life as it is, rather than the way it should be experienced.

Montreal-based Foolhouse Theatre Company gives a first-rate performance of this musical. Set against the desperate backdrop of the Spanish Inquisition, *Man of La Mancha* portrays how hope can restore the human soul.

Mirror reflections of ourselves are not always pleasant and yet this play is a life-sized mirror of our lives. As a spoonful of sugar helps the medicine go down, light humor eases the comfort we feel when the question why we live is asked.

Call 243-0361 for tickets. Plays ends August 3.



Jack Langedijk, Glenn Roy, And Karen Angle perform in the dramatic play, *Man of La Mancha* until August 3.

Denise et Joseph Beaudry

À L'ÉTAGE

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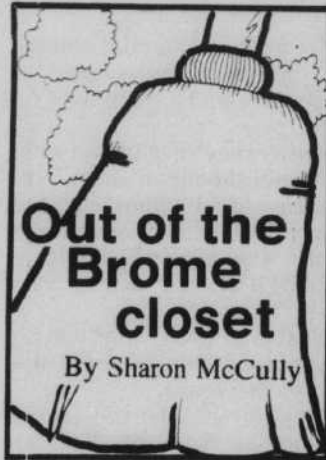
Women now want to be 'the colonel'

Call me stubborn. Call me opinionated or call me arrogant. But please don't call me honey. Or dearie. Or sweetheart.

I nearly choked on the nib of my pen the other night when in the midst of a public meeting, the mayor of a municipality informed the large crowd that notes of the discussion would be recorded by "two very lovely ladies" acting as secretaries.

He didn't add that the meeting would be chaired by "the handsome" Robert Demarais. Nor did he mention that the "cute Michel Poirier" would be available to respond to legal questions.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not a die-hard, raving feminist who lobbies for inclusive language, or one who would change the words of the Lord's Prayer. But those subtle "little lady" references which diminish women and perpetuate a code of behavior burn me up. It's what



makes women good little cooks, and men, chefs; women, secretaries and men, administrative assistants. It's what presumes men govern, and women record.

In most cases, it's as innocent as it is pervasive.

An engineer told me recently there is only "one little girl" in his engineering firm. What, no

little boys? I have no doubt the mayor thought he was flattering the two women — who incidentally are qualified secretaries hired to do a very difficult and demanding job. What does lovely have to do with it? Who cares if they're butt ugly with hair on their chests as long as they can do the job? In the context of a job, "lovely lady" has the same ring as "bubble brain," "space cadet", "air-head" or "ditz."

It reminded me of the letter-writer who criticized "today's women" for being unduly sensitive about men in the workplace who make comments about their feminine attributes.

"In by-gone days, he wrote, women used their feminine guiles to attract attention. How else do you think they ever became the colonel's lady?" Well, sorry bud. Women today don't want to be the colonel's lady. They want to be the colonel.

Pub du Boulevard: on sale for 2 million

BROMONT — In a few months, a new commercial structure will be completed in Bromont — Les Promenades du Boulevard. Covering a 16,600 sq.ft. area, this New England style building will accommodate a dozen factory outlets.

Owned by Pierre Loiselle, a Granby businessman (Mobilier Philippe Dagenais, Le Pub du Boulevard) and by W. & L. Choinière Construction, Les Promenades du Boulevard will be built on the site presently occupied by the Pub du Boulevard, facing Les Versants de Bromont, another factory outlet centre. Since construction is scheduled to begin in September (to be completed for the December 15th opening date) the Pub must be sold and moved in the near future.

"Factory outlets usually concentrate on the clothing in-

dustry," affirms co-owner Pierre Loiselle, "but we plan to diversify with gift shops, china shops, jewelry shops, etc. and, not to forget, a restaurant."

Loiselle thanks the City of Bromont and its mayor Pierre Bellefleur. "Other cities were interested in our project and would have liked to welcome us — the Laurentide region, among others, is encouraging this type of investment. But we are three Granby natives and we prefer to invest as close to home as possible."

A number of spaces have already been reserved and the owners are negotiating with Brand Name companies.

For information about this major investment in Bromont, Loiselle can be reached at (514) 777-1061 (Granby) or (514) 243-0828 (Knowlton).



To make way for the construction of Promenades du Boulevard, the Pub du Boulevard is for sale.



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Memorial service held for Nettie Mudgett

SUTTON — A memorial service for the late Nettie Mudgett was held in combination with the morning service at Olivet Baptist Church, Maple Street on Sunday, June 16.

Rev. Walter Stairs spoke of Nettie in his usual pleasant manner. Several of her favorite hymns were sung during the service.

A niece, Evelyn, attended from Massachusetts, also a nephew Albert from Burlington, Vt., who gave an excellent eulogy tribute of her life and told of the many things she accomplished alone. He also reminisced

about his memories from early childhood.

After the service, relatives and friends gathered at the W.I. hall in Abercorn for refreshments, furnished and served by the W.I. members of the Abercorn Guild and cousins of the deceased.

Nettie lived in Sutton for many years, moving to Abercorn in her late years where she resided until she entered the Sutton Foyer several years prior to her death. She was well known in this area, highly respected, another older citizen gone to rest.

Gaining momentum: Canada's newest polo club



Today, fifteen clubs are recognized by the Canadian Polo Federation including its newest member, the Brome Polo Club.

By Sharon McCully

DUNHAM—There simply isn't any reason anymore not to play polo.

The fledgling eight-member Brome Polo Club has removed all the obstacles.

"It's affordable, we have year-round facilities, and everything we need to create a healthy club is right here," commented club president Jacques Coderre.

"We even offer a free lesson for anyone interested in trying out the sport."

For the past year, club members have been playing polo — often referred to as "the sport of Kings" — on the expansive Dunham farm and indoor arena owned by Quebec Labor Mi-

nister André Bourbeau.

Bourbeau's son Eric, owner of a Montreal computer company, is a regular player and founding member of the club.

Members of the club range in age from 15-50.

"When we first started playing, we didn't have facilities near-by for the horses, and our field was not ideal," noted Helgi Soutar, the driving force behind the establishment of the local club.

WON'T FIND BETTER

"But this is perfect, she said, "You won't find better anywhere."

Soutar's daughter Anabel, a university student, is also a club member.

Soutar began her crusade to form a local polo club five years ago after purchasing an 18 year old thoroughbred quarter horse already schooled in the game by former owner Steve Shutt.

"Dixie already knew how to play polo," Soutar said. Coderre, who began playing polo only two years ago, was not so lucky. He had to teach his horse the game. Coderre said novice players should try to buy a horse already familiar with the game of polo.

"You can teach a horse to play, but if you're just learning the game yourself, it's easier if you can focus your energy on perfecting your own skills," he

said.

An investment of \$2,000-5,000 should get you started in the sport. Although there's no shortage of horses and riders in the region, Coderre noted that not all horses are suitable for playing polo.

"Most of the horses in the area are schooled in eventing or English riding," Soutar added.

DEMANDS A LOT

The demands of the sport require a robust horse with speed, stamina, a competitive spirit, and good temperament, Coderre said.

These horses love to play the game, he said stroking his horse who stood still for 15 minutes occasionally nuzzling competing mounts as he waited for the next "chukker."

A chukker is a rigorous 7-8 minute game where teams of four attempt to put the ball in the opposing teams net. A full game consists of six seven and a half minute chukkers. Because of the demands of the game, most polo players change horses twice or three times during a game.

"That doesn't mean it's necessary to have two or three

horses," added Coderre. "Club members usually share horses." Polo enthusiasts play a few chukkers most evenings at the Dunham field.

During the winter months, play moves to the adjacent indoor arena. For a full game, members look to the Stowe Polo Club for competition or the Montreal Polo Club.

"It's a team sport played with an offense and defence much like hockey or soccer or other team sports," says Coderre. "I suppose that's why so many hockey players are attracted to the game."

Best known for his interest in polo is Los Angeles Kings defencemen Larry Robinson. The hockey star played with the Brome Club last year to help promote the game locally.

The ancient sport has grown in popularity recently. In 1985, there were four polo clubs in Canada. Today fifteen clubs are recognized by the Canadian Polo Federation including its newest member, the Brome Polo Club.

Anyone interested in playing the game should call Helgi Soutar at 243-0289, or drop by the field most evenings.



the Record

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Waterloo business fights sign law

By Sharon McCully

KNOWLTON — Dave and Mary Picken plan to fight an order from the Office de la langue Francaise to remove offending English words from the 18 foot sign outside their Waterloo farm equipment store.

"We believe as merchants we should be able to advertise to our customers in the language we choose," Mary Picken said in an interview.

Picken said half the company's clientele is English-speaking.

"We have five employees and all of them are French," Picken said. "They know we serve our French-speaking customers in French. They think it's stupid we have to change the words on the sign."

"This isn't about French and

English," she added. "Our customers are half and half English and French and we think we should have the right to make a business decision about advertising to our customers."

Picken said she and her husband first received notice their sign was illegal last January.

"They phoned and asked if we planned to change it, and my husband said no," Picken said. "Then we received a summons to appear in court in September." The 18-foot sign which spans the front of the eight-year-old Waterloo business has the French words *Equipment Agricole Picken Inc.* across the top with the English words *Picken's Farm Equipment* below. The signs also contains the offending word "sales," a translation of *ventes*

et services.

Picken said the company would have advertised in French with or without a law. "Half our customers are French-speaking, Picken said. Picken estimates replacement costs for a new sign would be in the neighborhood of \$4000.

"It's not just the money, it's the principle," she said.

"Eventually, I think the law will have to be changed," she said. "It causes conflict in people where there was no conflict before."

Picken said she has written to Townshippers Association and Equality leader Robert Libman seeking support.

"If enough people stand up for the principle, maybe it will be enough to change the law," she said.

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Attendance is up at Foster Horse Show

KNOWLTON — The official money counters haven't given a final tally, but both entries and attendance at this year's Foster Horse Show were up, making organizers optimistic they may have topped last year's \$20,000 take.

All proceeds from the show are donated to the Brome Mis-

sisquoi Hospital. Since its inception 41 years ago, the Foster Horse show has donated more than \$200,000 to the hospital. In the past three years, the show has brought in \$20,000 annually.

Competition results of competitions will be available next week.



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APPRAISAL

In today's article I will discuss one of the most interesting subjects in real estate: Appraising the value of your property. Appraisal is a step-by-step process of determining the "value" of interest in your property at a certain time. Interest can include the value of the land as well as the improvements and any intangible rights inherent in the ownership of the property. All real estate activity centers around "value". Government policies, taxation, zoning, location and interest rates all affect this value. A knowledgeable realtor will use appraisal principles and factual information in order to determine the asking price for a property. All too often though, realtors are called upon to give their opinion of market value with no more than one visit to the property itself. This type of appraisal is rarely correct and should be avoided. Seasoned professional realtors can tell you that estimating the value requires more than just a visit because the market value is based on factual information. Very often the total amount invested by individuals in their property exceeds its real appraised value. Investing in a new roof or a swimming pool does not increase your property's value by the cost of those renovations. If you are contemplating improvements or renovations to your property, I urge you to ask your realtor for his or her opinion on what it will mean in terms of the added value. In some cases, you will find that improvements you are considering will cost twice as much as they will add to the value. The home's location and the floor plan layout both have real tangible effect in the selling of your property.

Remember that market value is different from the value that bankers, insurance brokers, and your municipality place on your property. Insurers place value on replacement in case of loss, bankers place value on the security of which they lend, and your local town hall uses statistical analysis to determine value. If the market shows a general increase of 20%, expect to see your appraisal increase proportionally.

All questions are welcome on this or any other aspect of real estate.

Drilling near Raquette Club: Promising source of water

By Sharon McCully

KNOWLTON — Town of Brome Lake mayor Gilles Decelles says results of drilling near the Raquette Club look promising as a future source of water.

"The test-well would seem to indicate we could get between 300,000-400,000 gallons per day," Decelles said.

Decelles said a number of factors are responsible for the recent water shortage including this summer's long dry spell.

But Decelles hinted a loss of knowledge and expertise within the town's public works department may be another factor.

"In the past, Charlie Barnes used to clean the brook to remove the silt before it built up," Decelles said.

"And Mr. Wilms did preventive maintenance to avoid the kind of problems we're having now." "When Barnes left, and Wilms left and (former mayor) Blackwood left, they took the knowledge with them," Decelles said. There's nothing written."

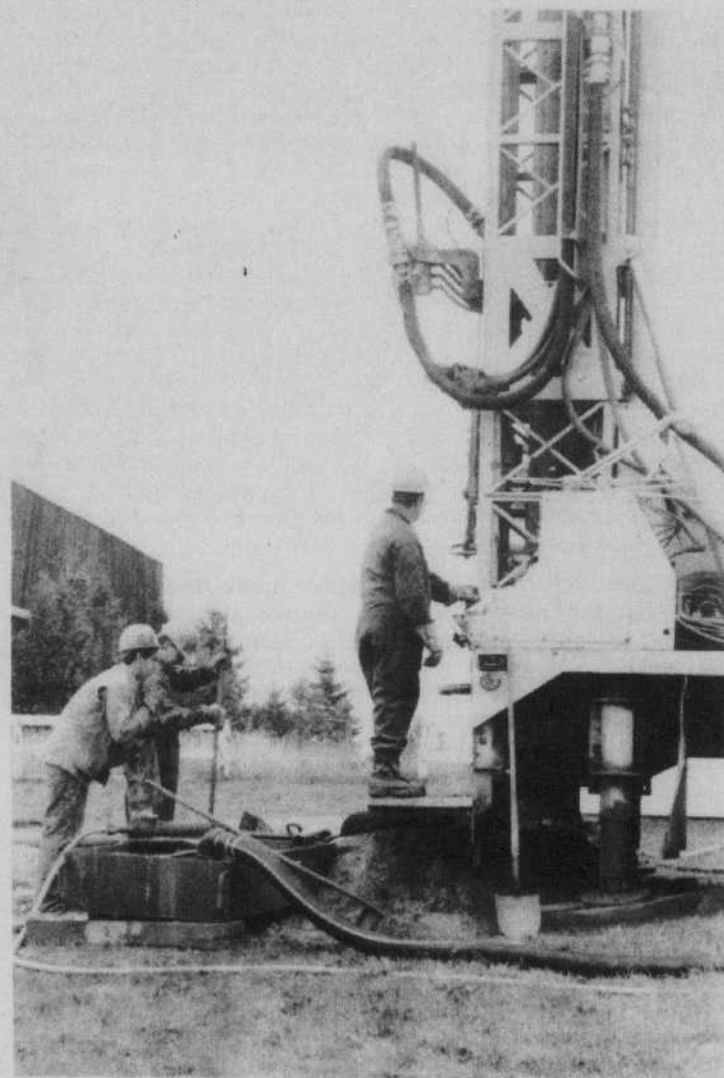
Barnes who was superintendent of Public Works from 1956-1976, said the town occasionally experienced water shortages in the past during dry spells. But this is the worst I've ever seen."

"And we never had any problems with coliform" he added. "We never let it come to that." Residents of Brome Lake have been advised they can now

drink tap water without boiling it. But the restriction on hosing remains in place.

Town manager Jacques

Francoeur estimates it could be 6 to 8 months before alternate water sources are available.



Drilling ... desperately digging for water.

Golden Age Club news

MANSONVILLE — Twenty-three members attended the meeting on Tuesday, July 23. Door prizes were won by Julienne McDuff, Cecile Hamelin, Raymond Bedard and Iris Milroy.

A sympathy card was signed for Flora and Clifton Jersey and their family in the recent death of their granddaughter Susan Jersey Charby. Lina Tomuschat suggested we make a collection from all present for the CHU Hospital at Sherbrooke in memory of Susan. The sum of \$50 was realized and sent to the hospital.

Lunch consisted of garden fresh lettuce, potato salad, slices of chicken breast, marble cheese, bread, pickles, johnny cake, zucchini bread and poppy bread, white cake

with maple frosting, lime jello and pineapple, whipped topping and cold drinks. The food was donated by Verlie Aiken, the club, George Hamelin, Betty Beaulieu, Evelyn Dubuc, Grace Dorfman, Mary Schoolcraft and Rita Mossa.

Elsie Knowlton gave a donation as she wasn't able to help with the "Mini Mart." Thanks Elsie.

500 winners: Cecile Hamelin, Lucille Leclair, Julienne McDuff and Jeanne D'Arc Carrier.

Game winners: Mildred Atyeo, Raymond Bedard, Mary Schoolcraft, Verlie Aiken, Porter Knowlton, Lina Tomuschat, Elsie Knowlton, Rita Mossa, Thelma Wilkins and Juliette Laliberte.

**Richard Proulx
Johanne Béland
ARCHITECTS**



5 Victoria
Knowlton, Qc.
JOE 1V0
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Young talents perform well

Some 20 young musicians of Knowlton, under the guidance of Frank Vidlak, gathered at Lake Brome Theatre to entertain parents, friends, and tourists in town a few weeks ago. The piano students were taught by Gail Watt and the violin students attended Suzuki Violin School.

The students presented their program in a joyful, relaxed at-

mosphere, which was enthusiastically accepted by the audience.

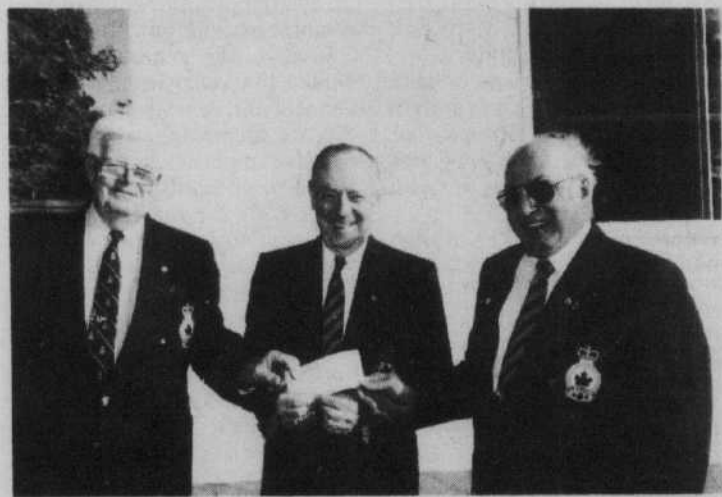
"It was wonderful to listen to these youngsters. You surely should make this an annual event and we shall be back," a tourist said.

A special thanks to Lake Brome Theatre, which graciously provided their premise without charge.



A few weeks ago, piano and violin students, under the guidance of Frank Vidlak, performed a successful recital at Lake Brome Theatre.

Presentation of cheque



March of Dimes Chairman Al Morrison, assisted by Vice-Chairman Romeo Pelletier, presented a cheque of \$1,714 to Comrade Vince Messervey of Montreal — a past Provincial President of Quebec Command of the Legion and now a member of the Executive Committee of the Quebec March of Dimes.

UCW meeting

FOSTER — Only the four members of the executive met in the Creek United Church Hall for the July 17 U.C.W. meeting. The devotions and program were held over for the August 21 meeting.

Business accomplished was re-affirming a donation to be given to the parents of each of the five children of our congregation who have attended

campus for a week, earlier in July. These campers were Laura and William Allen, children of Loren and Margot Allen; Christopher, son of Joy Pud-dester; Jamie, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Ratcliff; and Robbie, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Allen who attended Camp Livingstone, Lake Lovering, Ayer's Cliff. The other four went to Quebec Lodge, Lake Massawippi, North Hatley.

Donations to the "No-bake sale" are being handed in and much appreciated. Plans for future meetings were discussed.

The Fall Rally will be mid-August, specific date to be obtained and the Fall rummage sale dates tentatively will be October 18 and 19. No more information had been received regarding the catering service we had been contacted to do.



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GIVE GENEROUSLY

Creek Church represents simplicity of Baptist life

Here is another in our series of articles on churches in the Brome County region written by local authors.

By Phyllis Hamilton

A little white clapboard church built in the style of early Baptist meeting houses is known to one and all as "The Creek Church."

Today it represents the United Church of Canada, with a clergyman from Knowlton conducting services there as part of a two-point pastoral charge.

The simplicity of Protestant life was reflected in the designs of its churches. This building, with its long rectangular windows, its Gothic type roof surmounted by a tower and open belfry and steep spire, serves as a typical example.

The windows each have their original 24 clear-glass panes through which the beautiful countryside flows in to create the impression of worshipping in the beauty of holiness.

Previous to 1878, services for the Creek area were held in the local school house. The congregation was known as the Free Will Baptist Society.

The need for a larger, more suitable, accommodation was

required. In April of 1878, three trustees, Stephen Whitehead, Daniel Withan and Henry Buckland, purchased the land from James Rooney for the sum of twenty-five dollars. Later that year, the church building was constructed on the present site.

Rev. Rufus W. Collins from Vermont was the minister when the church was built. It is not known how long Collins ministered here or when the congregation changed from Baptist to Methodist affiliation.

Records dating from 1885, that is seven years after church construction, suggest that the Creek Church became a part of the South Stukely Methodist Circuit in the year when Rev. C.H. Lawrence was the minister.

Forty years later, in 1925, during the incumbency of Rev. Charles Huxtable, the congregation became part of the United Church of Canada.

The Creek Church remained on the South Stukely Circuit until the departure of Rev. W.H. Thompson in 1943. In that year, because of a shortage of ministers or because rural travel methods were changing from live to mechanical horse po-

wer, or due to the loss by fire of the parsonage in South Stukely, or perhaps a combination of all these facts, the South Stukely Circuit was discontinued and the Creek Congregation, along with that of the Brill Church, were joined to the Knowlton Pastoral charge.



Thompson was the last of the horse-driving pastors and he enjoyed that means of travel more than he did driving his car.

Since horse-drawn vehicles were the only mode of transportation in 1878, a shed was built along the full width of the church property at the rear of the church to shelter the horses during services.

In the winter, the blankets or "buffaloes" which had helped to keep the occupants of the sleigh warm on their way to church, were thrown over the horses' backs to keep them comfortable during their stay in the shed, which was fully enclosed and had two long sliding doors along its front side.

In the original plan of the

building, the congregation entered at the pulpit end of the church through doors at either side of the vestibule. The church was lighted by coal oil (kerosene) lamps in the form of two brass chandeliers suspended over the central aisle.

These were designed in the shape of a boat anchor, and supported a brass shaded lamp at each tip of the anchor. These chandeliers were weighted and could be pulled down for better lighting and easy access for maintenance. A length of small copper tubing with one end bent into a semi-circle was used to extinguish the lamps.

Other simple lamps, supported by metal hangers attached to the walls both up and downstairs, constituted the lighting system. Electricity was installed in the early 1930s.

Originally, the building was heated by a large wood-fueled furnace located in the basement, which had to be refueled every hour or so and produced the added disadvantage of ashes which had to be disposed of.

A propane gas-fueled furnace, installed about 1963, now supplies the heat for the main body of the church, with the addition in 1978 of a gas heater in the basement and electric base boards in 1985.

For the first half century of its existence the church had no bell but in 1928 Mary Blake purchased the unused Methodist Church of West Shefford and donated the bell as a memorial. It is said that it was installed with considerable difficulty but it now calls the worshippers to services at "The Creek Church."

Major renovations have been made to the church in 1903, 1964

and 1985. It is presumed that the original floor plan was reversed in 1903.

Records indicate that some of the alteration work was done by Hiram, Phelps, Frank Mizer and Dave Inglis. From 1903 to 1964 the pulpit stood on a two step platform which extended only the width of the small central projection of the west end wall. On the north side of the pulpit platform the area remained at the main floor level.

The area on the south side of the pulpit was raised one step above the pew level. A foot pedal-operated pump organ stood at the front edge of the lower platform with its back to the congregation. Lena Quilliams played this organ for many years. In those days, there was usually a mixed choir at her back. During one era, very capable cornet and violin players contributed their talents to the service.

A humorous incident was related to me by Stanley Quilliams of Foster. His mother had placed him on the front pew while she played the organ, and after service everyone went home and forgot the sleeping baby in the pew beside the organ.

Beaulah Witcher was organist for many years and she was followed by Jean Webster, who presently plays for the services at "The Creek". In 1964, an electric organ replaced the original instrument.

In 1964, the renovations included the rearranging of the chancel and renewing or repairing its furnishings. Paneling, painting and a new carpet were added with the many hours of work being contributed by members of the congregation. Members also made the new furnishings and installed them as memorial tributes. Donald Hume gratuitously installed the panelling in the chancel area at this time.

The modification carried out in 1985 involved the digging of a well and installation of an electric pump, installation of a septic absorption field, and a washroom was added. The cement basement floor was replaced and tile and the basement walls panelled and kitchen modernized to create a very pleasing church hall.

Every fall, a ham supper, which is the main money-making event for the church, is put on by the board of stewards. The original instigators of this event were Ernie and Joy Banks of Foster and their continued support is greatly appreciated.

The church is also indebted
See next page



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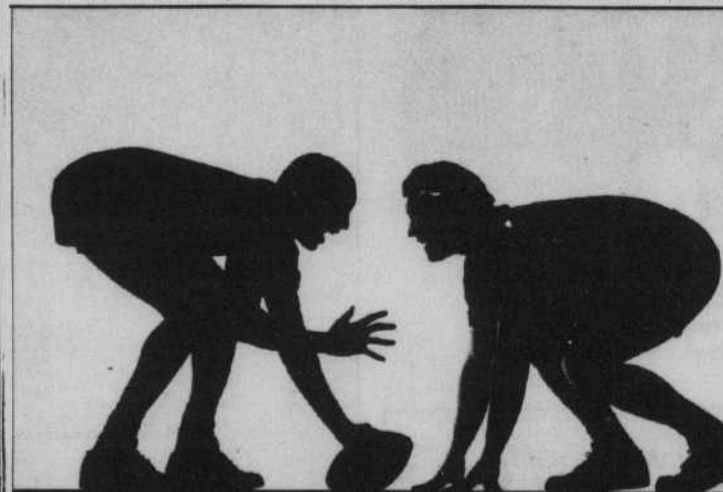
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Women have played a prominent role in church life

Continued from last page

to individuals like George Mizener, who supplied the pavement; A. Stuart McLean, who gave the cedar hedge; and the shade trees which border the grounds were brought through the thoughtful kindness of Percy Honey, who planted them with his own strong hands.

Margot Webster Allen started a Sunday School in 1978 and this is still active with an average of five to seven children attending weekly. Recently, a youth group was also started to maintain the interest of the younger generation.

From the beginning of the Creek Church, women have played a prominent part. The

Ladies Aid of the Methodist Church was organized at the home of Mrs. Martin Mizener on Aug. 24, 1887.

Later, this group was known as the Ladies Circle and then in the late 1930's as the Women's Association (WA). In 1962, the United Church Women (UCW) was founded. The complete renovation of the church hall and kitchen in 1985 has facilitated the group's activities. The present president is Margot Allen and there are 17 members who raise money chiefly by rummage sales and contribute this revenue to various worthwhile charities.

In 1990, Creek Church sadly lost G. William (Bill) Webster

and Byron Roland Mizener who were two stalwarts of the congregation. George Allen also passed away and, although not a member of this church, he occasionally attended worship with some of his good friends here.

Today it is Rev. John Finlayson who serves the congregation which includes members of the Inglis, Mizener and Quilliams families who have been associated with Creek Church since its inception 113 years ago.

Clergy who have ministered at the Creek:

Rev. Rufus Collins.....1878-
Rev. C.H. Lawrence .1885-1888
Rev. Henry Young.....1888-1891

Rev. W. Smith.....1891-1894
Rev. Samuel Teeson .1894-1895
Rev. John Folkes.....1895-1899
Rev. Richard Eason .1899-1901
Rev. A. Fairbairne ...1901-1905
Rev. Carl Allum1905-1906
Rev. John Garvin1906-1910
Rev. F.J. Hayden1910-1912
Rev. M. Gibb.....1912-1917
Pastor W.J. Ward1917-1921
Rev. Charles
Huxtable1921-1928
Rev. R. Merrifield1928-1931
Rev. W.H. Thompson 1931-1943
Supplies1943-1944
Rev. R.A. Mitchell....1944-1948
Rev. Dr. E.H. Gray ..1948-1957
Supply Ministers.....1957-1958
Rev. J.D. McCord.....1958-1961
Rev. Th. van Petegem 1961-1965
Rev. D.C. Warren.....1965-1974
Rev. Peter Joyce1974-1979
Mr. Dennis Dwyer
(student).....1980-
Rev. Jack W. Hobbs .1980-1984
Rev. M. Hartgerink ..1984-1988
Rev. P. Hartgerink ...
Mr. Malcolm Roberts (lay minister)1988-1989
Rev. J. Finlayson1989-

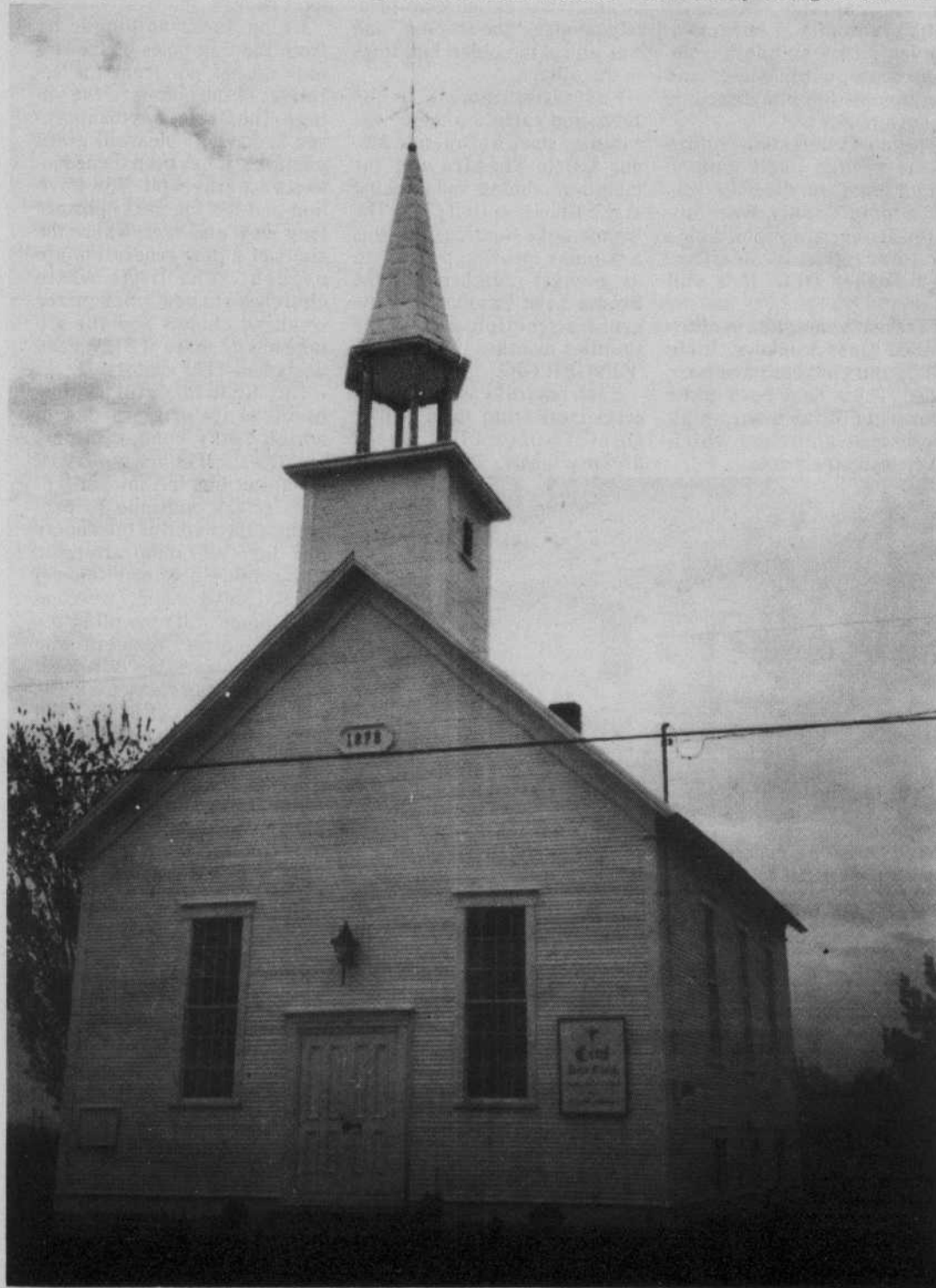
There are many memorials from the congregation, such as the electric organ donated in memory of Peter Angus McLean and his wife, Sarah Allnut, by Mr. and Mrs. A. Stuart McLean; the pulpit in

memory of Mr. and Mrs. Forrest Inglis given by Clayton, Muriel and family; the communion table given by George B. Mizener; the old wall clock at the rear of the church given by Mrs. Hiram Phelps in memory of her husband; the baptismal font given by Mr. and Mrs. Byron Mizener in memory of Mr. and Mrs. C. Warren Mizener. Many other gifts listed in the memorial book on the stand at the front of the church are a testimony to the generosity of "The Creek Church".

SOURCE

History of the Creek Church — 1878-1988 by Stanley Quilliams.

Settlers coming into a new and challenging land developed their communities around the church and most schools were started by the religious educators of the day. With this in mind the Sir John Johnston Branch of the United Empire Loyalists is researching the history of the old churches of the Eastern Townships. Anyone wishing to submit a history of their local church can send it to: Phyllis Hamilton, 555 Church St., Granby, Quebec, J2G 4S2.



The Gothic type roof surmounted by a tower and open belfry and steep spire is an example of a Protestant church. Each windows have their original 24 clear-glass panes.



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Knowlton is an all-year-round tourist attraction

By Rean Meyer

Recently, friends back east sent me two items clipped from their local newspapers which they knew would be of interest. The subject was the village of Knowlton in the Eastern Townships.

The first one was from a Toronto paper and was pretty light-weight as the reporter did little but gush over the trendy boutiques and places with names like *le Pub*.

The second, from a Montreal paper was by a more serious-minded person expressing concern over the direction the architecture is taking in this once sleepy and still picturesque place referred to by the Quebec government as *Lac Brome*.

Neither account however, conveyed to the reader the essence of that which lies beyond the main street.

Surrounded by modest-sized mountains and numerous lakes, Knowlton is now an all-year-round tourist attraction. This is a change from summer retreat I remember when I was a boy and young adult in the 1940s. The local people were United Empire Loyalists and farmers descended from early pioneers. Actually, there were two sets of part-time dwellers in addition to the villagers.

SMART SET

The "smart set" were some of the Montreal establishment who discovered Brome Lake during the long hot summer prior to and after the Great

War (1914-18). Their large houses and estates were at the eastern edge of the lake. The lesser nobility, the merchants from Granby, maintained cottages on the opposite side of the lake.

Some of the prominent families I remember are: the Scullys, who manufactured and sold caps and other accoutrements for the military; the Norcrosses; and P.S. Fisher (he was a pilot with the Royal Flying Corps during World War I). Philip Fisher owned "Alva House" and it was there during the 1976 Olympics that the Queen and Prince Philip together with Charles, Andrew and Edward stayed during the equestrian events at nearby Bromont and in which Princess Anne participated.

Just down the road a piece and adjacent to the Golf Club was Senator Foster's walled estate "Blarney Castle". Its slate-roofed towers were reminiscent of a French chateau, a contradiction of its Irish name. Here, on the park-like grounds, majestic peacocks strutted and set off a cacophony of sound if one ventured near. The senator was born and reared in Knowlton. On the opposite side of the road and bordering the Knowlton Golf Club was the newly built plantation-style house of Earl Spafford, president of the Imperial Tobacco. It was (and still is) called "Brome Stages."

ATTRACTIVE FARM

At the other end of the lake was a most attractive model

farm, "the Gables" with its herd of jersey cattle. Across the road was a fast-running creek which emptied into the lake by means of a sluice gate and water fall. The creek was crossed by a wooden bridge which led to cottage country and the duck farm.

Overlooking the lake at this point was the ivy-covered English-style country house of the Norcross family its many millioned windows overlooking an English garden. As with many of these estates, the grounds were extensive and required a retinue of gardeners. The property changed hands and the Brucks, who operated a textile mill in Cowansville, occupied it until eventually it became a convent. Unfortunately, the main house, out buildings and the grounds fell into disrepair through neglect.

The most interesting feature in the village itself from a young lad's perspective was the Brome County War Museum. Its big attraction was a First War fighter plane, a German *Fokker DVII*. It is still there.

In recent years, 19th century stained glass windows, Bible stands and chalices have been added. These have been taken from some of the many small Protestant churches which have closed their doors.

ANGLICAN CHURCH

Also in the village directly across from the old wooden fire hall with its hose-drying tower and hand-hauled apparatus was the Anglican Church built of stone. Its design that of the Norman period and similar to those county churches which are found throughout England. Next door was the comfortable old house of a distinguished soldier, Major-General C.B. Price. He was president of Elmhurst Dairies and honorary colonel of the Royal Montreal Regiment.

The local Legion was in a moldering stone building right on the river bank off the main street. It was called appropriately enough, "the Dug-out" and was one of the oldest buildings in the village.

For entertainment, in the 1940s and early 50s there was summer stock at Braeside Manor Little Theatre and for members, dining and dancing at the Knowlton Golf Club. The Brome Lake Boating Club was a popular meeting place with its younger members but the Brome Lake Pavilion was the great attraction during the summer months.

WINGER GIG

Each Saturday night the Escorts fresh from their winger gig at Westmount Hall, played dreamy music. The vocalist's

name was Ginny and she and the orchestra were professionals in that their music never showed the strain they must have experienced on those sweltering evenings. There was no air-conditioning and all the musicians wore jackets.

The Escorts theme song was "Up a Lazy River" which always revives pleasant memories when I hear it. Two favorite numbers that were definitely not dreamy but just good fun were "Stone Cold Dead in the Market" and "Cigarettes and Whisky and Wild, Wild, Women". There were no alcoholic drinks served at the Pavilion but Moores' Inn was right next door.

Union Jacks no longer fly from the flag poles of the former estates nor from the verandas of the houses in the village. The Gables has disappeared as have its pleasant green pastures. It has been turned into a vast gravel pit. The Pavilion and the Inn next door are long gone and everywhere the signs of a new generation are evident. The little white churches are now much prized weekend chalets and the village has its share of BMWs and designer-clad visitors.

But Knowlton still retains much of its original charm which tacky condominiums and the swell of newly-arrived urbanites has left unchanged. Old-timers continue to pronounce the name of the county and lake as *broom* after the 19th century peer and Colonial official for whom they were named. Some still remember the young summer-resident who acquired ownership of a local newspaper as a young man. His name was Conrad Black. And some, on occasion, even visit *le Pub*.

Rean Meyer is a retired newspaper and magazine editor who now freelances as a writer having retired to Victoria.



The Old Academy, built in 1854, now stands as the Paul Holland Knowlton memorial building in Knowlton.



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The Bingo game: Old standard back in style

By Karen Stairs

From the rebirth of Jazz music to the fashionable 60s retro look, the old standards are back in style and Bingo is one of them.

Gone are the days of single cards and door prizes. Bingo is big business. The Oddfellows Bingo in Knowlton at 7 o'clock Sunday night, disperses \$1550 each week — the maximum allowed on their permit from the Régie des lottos.

Bingos are carefully regulated in Quebec. They are not allowed to advertise and the proceeds have to be given to charity. Eugene Jones is one of the Bingo's chief organizers.

"People think we're getting rich from this," he says, "but everything we make goes back into the community."

Last year that accounted for over \$20,000 in donations being pumped into local non-profit, charitable organizations.

The Bingo attracts an average crowd of 140 players. Caller Randy Durrell says, "Some of them come to have fun and others come to win."

Calling for the uninitiated is announcing the numbers as they are sucked up into place by the impartial air machine. **PLAY EVERY NIGHT**

For the devout player, there is a well travelled circuit through Richford, North Troy, Cowansville and Jay Peak. A game for every night of the week if you're so inclined.

It is this elite group, who play as many as 50 cards per game. "They're constantly scanning their cards," says Durrell. Still, he believes Bingo is a game of chance. "With 50 cards you're simply increasing your chances," he says.

Special games are also played, where Bingos have to be formed either around the center, or in various shapes, such as an H or a plus sign.

Durrell is a self-confessed Bingo addict, although as caller he is not allowed to play. "I used to play every night but Thursday," he says.

"I really miss it when I have to be away," says Durrell. "You get to meet a lot of nice people." In fact, on a recent trip Disney world, a Cowansville woman recognized him from the Knowlton Bingo.

Like ball players brushing their teeth between innings, the hard core players have their

own rituals. "It's really funny to see," says Durrell. "They get their charms out rubbing them and making faces at me."

OWN RITUALS

Like ball players brushing their teeth between innings, the hard core players have their own rituals. "It's really funny to see," says Durrell. "They get their charms out rubbing them and making faces at me."

Regular, Lillian Brown, says that since leaving her elephants and wish bones at home, she has been winning more often. "I do have my favourite seat though," she says, "and I have to arrive early to get it."

Charms range from the traditional rabbits feet to pictures of grandchildren, or an array of crisp one and two dollar bills.

Bingo was brought to Knowlton by the Legion in the early 60s. It was not until 1977 that the Oddfellows began to hold one there on Tuesday nights.

"They were very helpful in getting us started," says Roger Jones, Grand Master of the International Order of Oddfellows for Quebec and one of the game's original organizers.

There is a final game jackpot of \$600 which is split if more than one person calls Bingo at once.

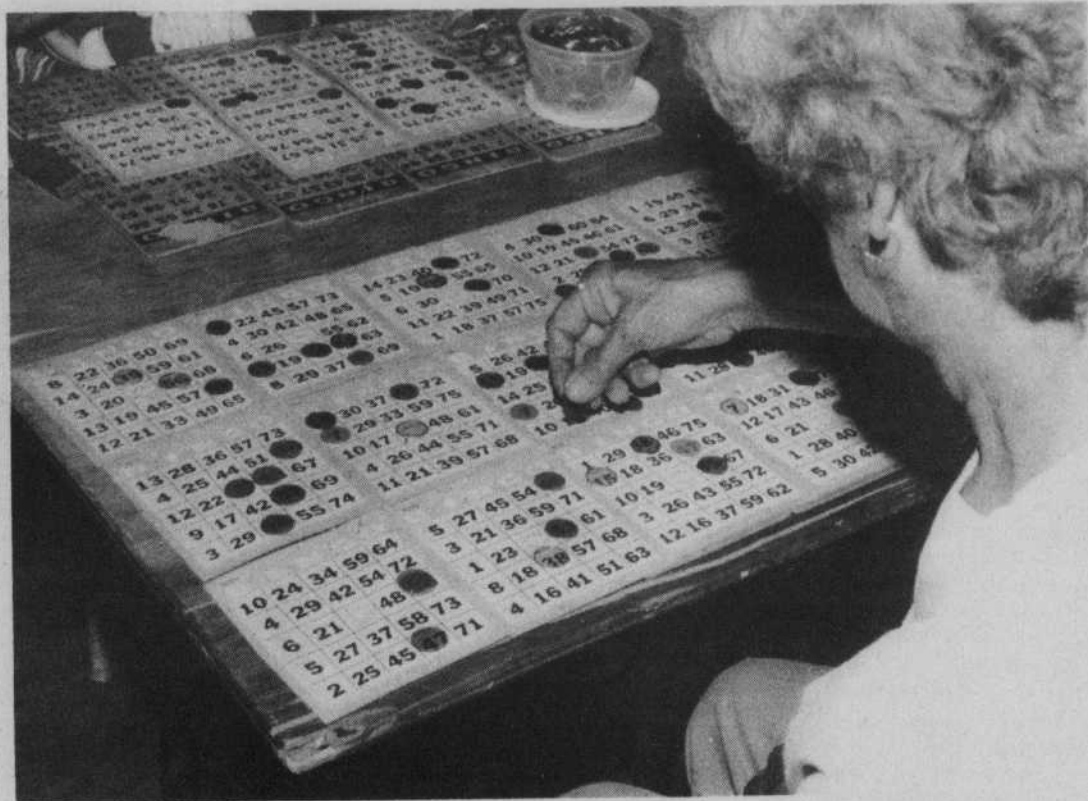
The Jones brothers are a little discouraged with all the government intervention that restricts the winnings they can offer. "We can't even have door prizes unless its subtracted from our \$1550 limit," says Roger.

From the rebirth of Jazz, to the fashionable 60s retro look, the old standards are back in style. Everything old is new again. Bingo included.

Gone are the days of single cards and door prizes. Bingo is big business.

The Knowlton game used to attract a number of American players but since their games are not as closely regulated, fewer and fewer make the trip over the border to play. "We need that community support though," says Eugene. "Since it's the community that benefits."

The visiting with friends and excitement of possibly winning some extra cash, combine to make it an enjoyable evening for those who attend, while benefitting some very worthy, local causes.



Some play bingo just for the thrill of it. Others play because they want to win money. One thing for sure is that the social context plays a major part in getting so many people involved with the game.



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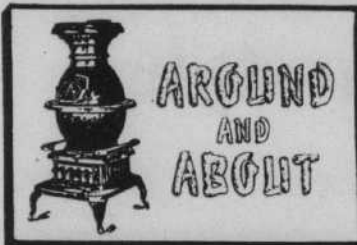
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Mansonville

Bertha Nichols

Mrs. Harold McEnroe of Montreal North spent some time with her sister, Verlie Aiken, and together they called on Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Smith, Newport Centre and Mrs. Myrtle Walsh, Derby Line, Vt. They spent a few days with Miss Mildred Waldron in Sawyerville and while there called on the following people: Mr. and Mrs. Crescent Bain, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon French, Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey French, Mrs. Edith Bellam, Mrs. Evelyn Macey, Mr. and Mrs. Hollis Cairns in Lennoxville; Mrs. Lottie Dougherty at the St. Paul's Home, Bury; Duncan McLeod and Miss Margaret Matheson, Sherman Residence, Scottstown; Mr. and Mrs. Victor Bell and Mrs. Hazel Blair, East Clifton. They attended Eaton Corner Day at the Compton County Museum where they renewed old acquaintances and met new friends.

Callers at the home of Verlie Aiken were Mr. and Mrs. Roy Aiken and Leanne Gendron, West Brome, also Mr. and Mrs. Frank Methot, North Sutton.

Rev. and Mrs. Walter Stairs are away on holidays. On July 14 Mr. and Mrs. Russell Coates were in charge of the morning services. On Sunday, July 21, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Brouil-

lette of Knowlton conducted the service and on July 28 Mrs. Brian (Mary) Bedard, North Hatley, will be the guest speaker.

Sutton

Mable Boyce 538-2946

Charlie Asseltine and Margaret Desnoyers were in Burlington, Vt., to meet his sister Pat Korman who was returning home after visiting her sister June in Ohio and her brother Hersel in Tennessee.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Miltimore were dinner guests of their daughter and son-in-law, Grace and Gordon Bullock in Glen Sutton on Sunday, July 21. They also called on Iris Larocque, Mrs. Anne Poitras and Archie Parker in Glen Sutton.

Mrs. Norma Moynan, Bridgewater, N.S. was an overnight guest on July 22 at the home of her parents Evelyn and Walter Miltimore enroute to Iqaluit, N.W.T., where she will be employed by Bell Telephone. Her husband Bob is already there. Grace Bullock motored her sister Norma to Ottawa on July 23 to board a plane for Iqaluit.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Miltimore and daughter Norma Moynan of N.S. were supper guests of Mrs. Shirley Wilson and Herb Cole in Fulford.

Mrs. Harold Boyce and Nancy called on Mary Hamelin in Mansonville recently.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Boyce and family of Selby Lake and Mrs. Irene Boyce of Knowlton were evening callers at the Boyce home. Flossie Fuller of Knowlton and friend Richard of Waterloo also called at the same home Saturday afternoon.

St. James Guild meets

FOSTER — The July meeting of St. James Guild convened in the church hall on Wednesday afternoon, July 10 at 2 p.m.

The President, Dorothy de Solla called the meeting to order, welcomed members and visitors. We were pleased to have Molly Price back to the guild after an extended absence and also happy that Judy Price and Muffy could join us. The Lord's Prayer and guild prayer were recited in unison.

Ten members responded to the roll call and two new members were welcomed.

The minutes of the June meeting were read and approved. The treasurer gave her report. Proceeds of the June rummage sale amounted to \$282.25. A donation had been received from the McLellan family. Donations had been sent to the Brome Lake Aquatic Program and one to the Bible Society in memory of Bob Price. The

corresponding secretary reported sympathy and get-well cards sent and a thank-you received from the McLellan's.

The last of the Anglican cook books had been sold with \$60. realized.

The next rummage sale would be on July 27 with cookies furnished by Suzy Allen and Phoebe McBride.

The guild wishes to thank all who furnished food for the tea held following the funeral of Bob Price.

Bills were presented and paid for supplies for the hall.

The August meeting will be hosted by Loys Heatherington in the hall on Wednesday afternoon, August 14 at 2 p.m.

The lucky draw was won by Ethel Marsh. The president moved the adjournment, seconded by Muffy Price.

Following the benediction, refreshments furnished by Molly Price, were served.

East Farnham

June Royea

Miss Hilda McEwing and Mrs. Bernice Thomas attended the Goodwill Night at the Oddfellows Hall in Knowlton on July 13 and reported a nice evening.

Mr. and Mrs. John Barrand have returned home after being away four months visi-

ting relatives in B.C. and in the Yukon. Mrs. Barrand called Mrs. Hugh Collins (nee Elizabeth Collins) on the phone.

Mrs. Harriet Comeau, Miss Hilda McEwing, Mrs. Bernice Thomas and Mrs. June Royea were calling on Mr. and Mrs. Bob Lasalle at their cottage on Lake Champlain on Sunday, July 7.

The Flea Market held on the United Church lawn on Saturday, July 13 was a decided success.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Pow have been visiting the BMP Hospital quite often as Gordon's step-mother Mrs. Lois Pow from Edith Kathan Home, West Brome, has been a surgical patient.

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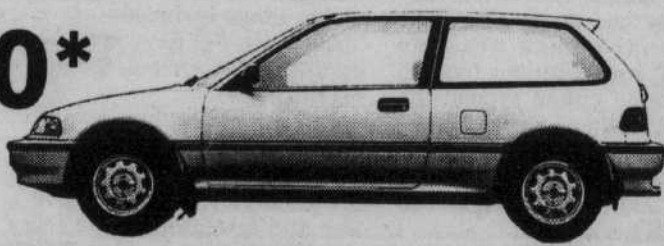
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