

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1951

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



—Photo by Palmer Studio  
**MR. AND MRS. LESLIE FERNS**, 161 Wellington street, cutting the cake on the occasion of their thirty-second wedding anniversary, which was observed at the home of their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brokenshire, north of Talbotville, on Wednesday, January 3. A number of friends and relatives attended a dinner party in their honor and Mr. and Mrs. Ferns were the recipients of many gifts.

Jan. 3rd

1951

## SILVER WEDDING ANNIVERSARY



—Photo by Stollery.

**MR. AND MRS. E. BARNES**, 97 Locust street, who are observing their silver wedding anniversary on Saturday, Sept. 18, when they will be at home from two to six o'clock, followed by a family dinner in the evening. The marriage of Mildred Ramey, daughter of Mrs. Mary Ramey and the late John Ramey, of Talbotville, and Ernest Barnes, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Barnes, 76 Chestnut street, was solemnized at Grace Church parsonage by Rev. A. E. Moorehouse, now of Sarnia, on Sept. 18, 1923. Mr. and Mrs. Barnes have made their home in Talbotville and St. Thomas since their marriage.



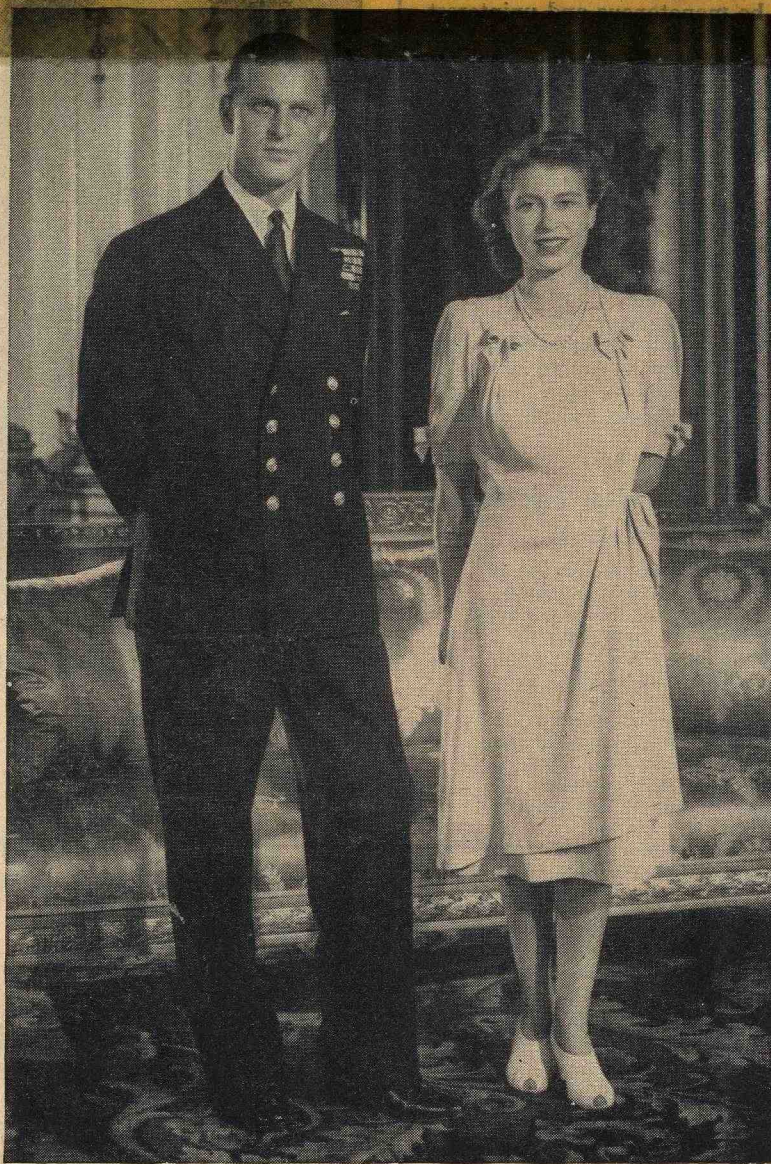


—Photo by Stollery

**M**R. AND MRS. DONALD LEON CLARKE cut their wedding cake following their marriage on Saturday afternoon, June 2, in Central United Church. The bride, formerly Dorothy Jean Soper, Reg.N., is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence L. Soper, 20 Maple street, and her husband is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold D. Clarke, Talbotville.

1951





Nov. 20th.  
1947.

The Royal Bride and Groom photographed in the White Drawing Room of Buckingham Palace.



Thurs. Nov. 20th, GUESTS AT THE WEDDING 1947



# Letters Deal With Talbot Family, 'Gay Tom Talbot'

Copies of letters written by Edward J. Talbot, of Victoria, B.C., to his nephew, Henry George Talbot, of Surrey, England, have been forwarded to The Times-Journal by the former. The letters were written with the intent of giving the English boy something of the history of the Talbot family. They contain some interesting information about Col. Thomas Talbot, pioneer of this district who founded the Talbot Settlement. From them one learns that there were two branches of the Talbot family, one English, the other Irish, the Irish being the less known of the two, and the branch to which Col. Thomas Talbot belonged. The Premier Earl of England is the Earl of Shresbury, and he may be considered to be the present head of the "House of Talbot."

Following are the parts of the letters dealing with Col. Talbot:

"I will call your attention to a member who helped to make history and geography in Canada, and am copying from clippings from newspapers I saved some years ago. The first and longest is of May 21, 1924. The others of later date appear to be answers to questions about the first. Under the heading: 'When 'Gay Tom Talbot' Became an Empire Builder' from the Victoria Daily Times:

"On May 21, 1803, Colonel Thomas Talbot landed at what is now Port Talbot on the north shore of Lake Erie to found there his settlement, which afterward grew to such an important factor in the development of the Province of Ontario. The man and his work are both interesting and romantic. At this date he was in the full vigor of his manhood at thirty-two, and had seen a good deal of life both in Europe and America.

"Belonging to an ancient and aristocratic Anglo-English family, he was provided with a commission in the army at the age of eleven, became a captain at the age of twenty-one, major at the age of twenty-two, and lieutenant-colonel at the age of twenty-four. For a year or two while in his 'teens he had served as one of the junior aides-de-camp to his relative the Marquis of Buckingham, at that time Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. One of his comrades in this position was the youthful Arthur Wellesley, later to become the hero of Britain's wars as the Duke of Wellington. The boys were close friends and remained so to the end of their lives, which lay so far apart in every way. When eighty years of age, Colonel Talbot visited England once more in 1851; he dined with the great 'Iron Duke' at Apsley House, and the two who had hardly seen each other in half a century, greeted each other as Arthur and Tom.

parture for the wilds of Upper Canada, where he remained almost continuously for the rest of his long life, building the foundation of an empire, and hewing even with his own arm, civilization out of primeval savagery."

"At a later date than that of this description of the Colonel, some account of the Talbot settlement was given with illustrations in an American magazine. The name I have forgotten, but it described the immense log building, built after the style, and named after, Malahide Castle, the home of the Colonel's ancestors. A cutting from the question and answer column of the Family Herald and Weekly Star, Montreal, that I saved gives the following account: 'Malahide Castle on the sea coast, about ten miles north of Dublin, it is claimed, is the oldest inhabited stronghold in Ireland. A most picturesque place, it has extensive encircling woods, which makes it an ideal residence in summer or winter, while the little town of Malahide is similar to an English village adjoining a nobleman's well cared for estate. Malahide furnishes the unusually rare instance of a baronial estate having continued for nearly seven centuries and a half in the heirs male of the ancestors on whom it had been originally conferred. Henry II gave the manor to Richard de Talbot in 1174, and his male descendants have resided at Malahide ever since, except for a brief period during Cromwell's time, when they were driven out for seven years.'"

"The seven years above mentioned of the Talbot family being driven from Malahide Castle probably occurred in 1649. It was in September of that year that Cromwell's soldiers took the strongly fortified town and seaport of Drogheda and made a terrible example of the inhabitants, who had sided with the Royalists. This town was built on both sides of the river Boyne, about four miles from the sea and twenty-six miles north of Dublin. Another enquirer received the following information: 'Colonel Talbot of the British army, and also a member of the Legislative Assembly of Upper Canada, and who died in February, 1853 was the fourth son of Richard Talbot of Malahide Castle, Ireland, who married Margaret, the eldest daughter of James O'Reilly, of the ancient Milesian princely house of Breffney. This lady was created first Baroness Talbot of Malahide in her own right, by royal letters patent in 1831. A letter to Lord Talbot de Malahide, Malahide Castle, Dublin County, Ireland, would reach the present head of the house.'"

"Talbot was too active a temperament to be able to endure army life in peace time, and in 1791, as a lieutenant, he obtained leave while his regiment was in garrison at Quebec, to accompany Colonel John Graves Simcoe, the new Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, as his private secretary. He was present at the opening of the first legislatures of Upper Canada on September 17, 1792, in Navy Hall at Niagara-on-the-Lake, then called Newark. Next year he traveled with Governor Simcoe on his survey of the western part of the province as far as Detroit, which was still in charge of the British garrison. He was delighted, as was his chief, with the country, and both apparently allowed their imaginations full play with its great future. They visited the site of the present city of London, Ontario, on the Thames, and there Simcoe determined should eventually be the capital of Upper Canada and perhaps the metropolis of all Canada.

"During the winter of 1792-1793 at Niagara-on-the-Lake there had been considerable social activity, and balls had been given in Navy Hall itself, probably the only place where they could be given in that primitive community. At these Tom Talbot was in his element, for he was a handsome and attractive young officer. At one of these functions were present the beautiful and accomplished daughters of Sir William Johnson by his Indian wife Molly Brant, sister of the great Mohawk war chief, Joseph Brant. To one of these young ladies Talbot seems temporarily to have lost his heart, but apparently she was not similarly affected.

"Throughout the summer and autumn of 1793, Governor Simcoe used his private secretary as negotiator with various Indian tribes in West, on which missions Talbot acquitted himself very creditably.

"Then in 1794 he rejoined his regiment in England, taking with him a love of the wild, and an enthusiasm for Upper Canada. All through the earlier struggles with the French Republic and the rising General Bonaparte, Talbot served with his unit, mainly in Holland. His service was not greatly distinguished, perhaps, because the army to which he was attached was not involved in a very glorious campaign.

"At home in London, however, he plunged into a round of gaiety, not to say dissipation, which gave him the nickname of the 'Gay Tom Talbot.' He was the close friend of the Duke of Cumberland, one of George III sons, who afterward became King of Hanover, and he was well-known to the other princes, the Duke of Kent, the Duke of York and the Duke of Clarence. Apparently the life he led was one prolonged whirl of fashionable excitement and it was rumored that a royal princess had shown too tender an interest in the personable young colonel. Perhaps this was the reason that he suddenly sold out his commission, and resigned from the army on Christmas Day of 1800. His friends and acquaintances were amazed at this almost unaccountable action, and his immediate de-



# H. M. Queen Mary's Magic Carpet.

Among Myriad Attractions at the CNE There is Always One Special Exhibit to Catch Attention — In 1950 it Proved to be Queen Mary's Carpet Winning Dollars for Britain.

By JUNIA.

SURE we must drop in to see the Carpet, said I casually, as we entered the Coliseum at the Canadian National Exhibition on a rather moist and drippy day. Drop in, nothing. The queue reached away back, one of those solid queues with no single file about it. Slowly we moved towards the wicket to put down our quarters and inside moved again some four deep round the room behind railings, with the Carpet hanging in full view at the end. There were many pictures and displayed also was the big box of wood, with handmade, burglar-proof locks, and padded lining, which holds the carpet when not on display. There is a silk square in which to wrap it, and a zippered bag to hold it when traveling in its aluminium case. We learn about the artists who made the designs, about the wool shortage which resulted in some variation of colour in the background, and about the hours spent by Queen Mary in making the carpet.

And as we listened to the talk we realized that the heart is touched by human affairs. Here is a woman who has been respected and loved by people of many lands. Her skill with her needle is part of her tradition as wise wife and mother and queen. When she made the carpet as her contribution to the need of her country for dollars, she was acting exactly like millions of women who bake a cake or embroider a towel to help fill the purse for some cherished cause.



*Jeanne Rhéaume Designs for Canadart.*

Mrs. Rhéaume won the 1950 Art Association Spring Show Award, and her designs were among those shown at the C.N.E.

Judging by the multitudes crowding to see the carpet her contribution will be large but the idea is so familiar it makes the Queen seem very close to other women. The IODE bought the carpet, will display it widely, sending all profits to the Queen Mary Carpet Fund, and finally giving it to Canada, as part of the treasure in our National Gallery.

Canadian women nowadays wear Canadian clothes made in Canadian styles to suit Canadian living. It is one of the major developments in our industry and Fashions Shows at the Ex surely play their part in building appreciation of home-grown talent. Under the supervision of Kate Aitken, Director of Women's Activities, the Show this year had fashions for children, for students, for business women, and for career women. Many items displayed for business wear are just right for the busy rural woman and the home woman. Plaids, including tartans, dominant the junior styles and are shown in accessories for women. And just to show that plaids are IT I saw a mail box outside a nice farm home which was painted in plaid design, with the name on a board above the box. Maybe it was the family tartan, or maybe they just thought it would look gay. But there it was.

CANADIAN ideas also created the Design for Living show in which makers of furniture and appliances showed modern rooms, each one of which has suggestions for wise people who know how to interpret and adapt. In the Bride's Kitchen we met a friendly woman whose tongue told of her English origin and she was thrilled to see such fine things made in Canada. She loved the china particularly and had heard of the clay found here with its high quality to rejoice the heart of any potter. Built-in furniture, colour schemes, durable floors of linoleum, and kitchen equipment were among the things that kept the notebooks busy. The clear colours impressed us. Canada is a land of sunshine in most of its wide areas, and our flowers and foliage are apt to come in clear bright tones. This does not mean gaudy interiors, except for special rooms. One of the attractive schemes was in a dining room where a dinner service of a famous English china, in soft mauve tones, gave the key to wallpaper, drapery and carpet, in which this tone was picked up and repeated and blended with soft green and other harmonious colours. But the china was the only import and in most of the displays Canadian china was used.

1950.



But destiny interposed. For though emerging victoriously from the war, Britain had been gravely weakened by her exertions and it became evident that the country could not any longer provide her citizens with a livelihood unless they were prepared, by labour and sacrifice, to pay their way in the world. Realising this, Queen Mary decided that her duty was to set the nation an example and thereupon she wrote to the Prime Minister offering for sale for dollars the carpet which she was in the act of finishing. Although the suggestion was made that the proceeds of the sale, when changed into sterling, should be given to one of the many charities which have enjoyed her encouragement, the Queen Mother was clear in her desire that any money her handiwork might earn should go to the National Exchequer. And so it will be.

THE disposal of the carpet has been entrusted to a committee representative of the nation, which has arranged for its exhibition first in London and then in North America. When its tour ends, a decision will be made between the various bids received; the only conditions of sale are that payments must be in dollars and that the ultimate home must be a public institution.

The carpet measures 10 ft. 2 ins. by 6 ft. 9½ ins. and contains about a million stitches. The designs were adapted, on the Queen's instructions, by the Royal School of Needlework from 18th-century originals at London's Victoria and Albert Museum and elsewhere. Never used previously in their present form, they will never be made available to anyone else. The colours reflect Her Majesty's personal choice, though restricted as regards the backgrounds by the shortages which arose in war.

The carpet is thus unique in design. It is equally remarkable for being the only one of comparable size to be worked by a Queen. But, above all, its history typifies a life where the love of beauty and craftsmanship has gone hand in hand with devoted service to the community.

