

Accident claims

lives of Warwick couple

A three vehicle accident in last Wednesday's blinding snowstorm resulted in the tragic death of Warwick Township Reeve John Pedden and his wife Marie. Visability was nil when the accident occurred on Hwy. 22 near the Pedden home. The couple's daughter, Mrs. Shirley White of Arkona was driving. She is listed in stable condition in Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital suffering from multiple fractures.

The White vehicle was travelling west on Hwy. 22 when it was involved in a head-on collision with a vehicle driven by Paul Braybrook of Sarnia. He and his passenger are also in Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital. Following the initial impact, the vehicles were hit by a third eastbound car.

The highway was closed for a three hour period following the accident that occurred at 3:24 p.m. Heavy snow, high winds and blinding visability hampered the cleanup operation, necessitating the closure of the road.

Reeve Pedden was in his 11th year as Warwick Township Reeve, having served on council an additional eight years. In

last November's election, he defeated his opponent by 14 votes. He was very proud of the accomplishments and improvements in the township including the new emergency



van purchased for the Warwick Township Fire Dept. last year. The popular Reeve knew everyone in the township and was always ready to listen to any problems of the ratepayers. He felt the people of Warwick had given the council a large vote of confidence in the last election by returning every member of the council although each seat was contested. Reeve Pedden was looking forward to another progressive two years in council following the election.

As Reeve of Warwick, John was a member of Lambton County Council for many years and will be sadly missed. His experience in County matters as well as township matters made him a valuable member of many committees. No date has been set to fill the vacant position in Warwick.

Mrs. Pedden was a soft spoken lady, always supportive of her husband.

A double funeral was held Saturday afternoon from the Harper Funeral Home in Watford. Burial took place in Arkona. A Masonic service was held at the Funeral Home on Friday night. Close to 100 masons from the area attended the service.

Collision kills Warwick reeve

FOREST (Bureau) — Warwick Township Reeve John Pedden and his wife, Mary, of RR 8, Watford, were killed Wednesday night in a three-car collision on Highway 22, one kilometre east of Highway 7.

Their daughter Shirley White, 36, was sent to Strathroy General Hospital for emergency surgery following the accident, about 4.25 p.m., Forest OPP said.

Paul Bray-Brook, 24, of 290 North Christina Street, Sarnia, and his passenger Rhonda Grochowski, 27, of Sault Ste. Marie were also taken to hospital.

(Lynn Over)