

THIRTY - NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

of the

**WATERLOO HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**



NINETEEN FIFTY - ONE

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**WATERLOO HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**



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KITCHENER, ONTARIO

MAY, 1952

COUNCIL

1952

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SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

The 39th annual meeting of the Waterloo Historical Society was held in the City Hall, Kitchener, on November 9th, 1951. Earlier in the year, namely on April 11th, a meeting of the Society was held in the City Hall, Galt. At both meetings there was a good attendance of members and friends of the Society. Interesting papers and addresses were given at both meetings.

It is hoped that our local historians will continue to make the necessary research and prepare further historical material for printing in our reports from time to time.

It was on May 3rd, 1852, that the provisional Council of the County of Waterloo held its first meeting and elected Dr. John Scott as Warden. The centennial celebration of that event is being planned by the present Council.

The grants from the larger municipalities have been received by the Society and are greatly appreciated. Without this assistance the Society would not be able to continue its work.

Appreciation is also here expressed of the accommodation provided by the Kitchener Public Library Board for our Museum collection and for providing heat and light free.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FOR 1951

Receipts:

Balance at Jan. 1, 1951	\$ 284.30
Members' Fees	156.00
Donation	10.00
Sales of Reports	12.98
Bank Interest	3.59

Grants:

City of Kitchener	\$ 50.00
City of Galt	25.00
City of Waterloo	30.00
Town of Preston	15.00
Town of Hespeler	10.00
County of Waterloo	60.00
	190.00
	\$ 656.87

Disbursements:

38th Report	\$ 203.90
Printing	21.77
Postage and Stationery	29.90
Curator and Janitor Service	51.00
General Expense	11.15
Secretary	75.00
	392.72
Balance	\$ 264.15

Audited and found correct.

Emily Seibert, March 12, 1952.



Dr. John Scott

THE YEAR "1852" IN THE HISTORY OF ONTARIO,
(UPPER CANADA) AND OF WATERLOO COUNTY

By Jennie F. Cowan

In the summer of 1851, the Legislative Assembly and Council passed a Bill making certain alterations in the Territorial Divisions of Upper Canada for the purposes of Representation and for judicial and municipal purposes. By this new Act any time after the 1st of Feb., 1852, it was lawful by an Order in Council for Elgin, Waterloo, Ontario, Brant, Grey, Lambton, and Welland to set up provisional municipal councils; and as soon as the Court House and Gaol were erected, the County formerly existing would be dissolved.

By this Act, the townships of Waterloo, Wilmot, Wellesley, Woolwich, excepting the Pilkington Tract, and the northern part of the township of Dumfries, including the corporation of Galt, would become the County of Waterloo.

A County of Waterloo had been existing from 1850. It was made up of 27 townships, including Waterloo, Wilmot, Woolwich and Wellesley. Guelph was the county town. From 1842 to 1849 most of these townships formed the District of Wellington, and the township commissioners met at Guelph. Before the formation of the District of Wellington, most of these townships had been part of a larger district, namely the District of Gore. Dumfries had been one of the many townships in this district, 1816-'42, but had never been a part of the District of Wellington nor of the earlier County of Waterloo. From 1850 to 1852 Dumfries was part of the United Counties of Halton and Wentworth.

North Dumfries became one of the new townships in the United Counties of Wellington, Waterloo and Grey in 1852. Pilkington was another new township having been formed from the Pilkington Tract and some land taken from Nichol Township. During the year, 1852, the reeves and deputy reeves, who formed the provisional county council of Waterloo, met in Berlin, arranging for the erection of the Court House and Gaol. They also attended county council meetings in Guelph, so had a very busy year.

It is interesting to note that 1852 was half way between 1837 and 1867. In 1867, the citizens were led to look beyond the Province of Canada (Upper and Lower Canada) and join with other provinces to form the Dominion of Canada. It had been in 1837 that many citizens were aroused to take more interest in the political life of their new country, when a few citi-

zens rebelled after losing faith in ever obtaining much needed reforms by parliamentary procedures, press, and petitions to the government in Britain.

After the Union of Upper and Lower Canada in 1842, the Baldwin - La Fontaine government was quick to extend the principle of self government. An article in the Guelph Advertiser, Dec. 26, 1850, copied from the Huron Signal, shows what had been the result of the measures of 1842 and 1850 . . . "the municipal council as at present constituted exerts such a wholesome control over the local affairs of its own township that its conduct is of more immediate interest to the inhabitants than the conduct of the provincial legislature." The article lamented the fact that party politics were still playing too big a role in municipal affairs.

In 1849, the Baldwin government felt the citizens were worthy of more representation in the Legislative Assembly for the population was increasing. By the Representation Bill, proposed in 1849, the new County of Waterloo was to consist of the townships of Puslinch, Beverly, Dumfries, including Galt, Waterloo and Wilmot townships. The new County of Wellington was to consist of the townships of Mornington, Wellesley, Maryborough, Peel, Woolwich, Guelph, Nichol, Garafraxa, Erin and Eramosa.

Before the government brought te bill up for its second reading, the opposition, in a surprise move, one day moved that the second reading of the bill be hoisted for nine months, 20 voted for the motion, 55 against. But according to a clause in the Act of Union the bill would need two-thirds of the members to carry it. The number of members was at this time 84, and since 56 had not voted against Sir Alan's motion, Mr. Baldwin considered it was not safe to bring it up for the second reading. Some contended that the Speaker should be given a vote to save the bill. The Dundas Warder said "Mr. Baldwin did not think it right that the Speaker should vote, and thus afforded another striking instance of his devotedness to what he considered constitutional practice, rather than accomplish an important and much desired measure."

Some members tried to introduce private bills after the smothering of the Representation Bill. One of them was for the creation of a new county, by the name of Bruce, to consist of the townships of Dumfries, Waterloo, Wilmot, Wellesley, north half of Blenheim, north half of Beverly, first six concessions of Puslinch, and the township of Woolwich, excepting the Pilkington Tract. All the private bills failed, for the members felt that changes should be made on a provincial wide plan.

The General Index to the Journal of the Legislative Assembly for the years 1841 - '51 show that the citizens of Upper Canada were very much excited about the Territorial Divisions Bill, which was being sponsored by Mr. Hincks of the Reform party. Petitions of particular interest to the citizens of Waterloo County were as follows:

One in 1849 called for the dividing of Dumfries; another opposed division,

Three in 1850 asked for Dumfries to be joined to the proposed County of Waterloo without division,

One in 1851 asked that Dumfries be attached to Brant, and if this be impossible, that at least that portion in which Ayr is situated be attached to Brant.

Two in 1850, asked for the erection of the new County of Waterloo,

Four in 1850 were against it. These came from the townships of Nichol, Puslinch, Eramosa and the county council of the County of Waterloo as then existing, (27 townships),

One in 1850 from the west side of Beverly which asked to be attached to the new proposed County of Waterloo,

One from Wellesley that no division be made of the township of Waterloo until the county seat of the new county be established; and that a new municipality be formed out of the southern part of Peel and Maryborough, and added to the new county, and that the county seat thereof be not established at Galt,

One in 1850 asked for the establishment of Galt as the county seat,

One in the same year was against this,

One in 1849 asked for the division of Waterloo Township,

One in the same year and another in 1850 against any division.

(In 1837, when the District of Wellington was first being proposed with Guelph as the centre for the court buildings and council meetings, a protest was signed at a meeting in Woolwich Township. Over 600 had gathered from several townships. See "The Beginning of Things", by Byerly, 1935.)

The movement for the division of Waterloo Township seems to have arisen from a feeling that Waterloo Township did not

have sufficient strength in the Wellington District. At a meeting in 1849, Dr. John Scott felt Waterloo Township would have ample representation when Berlin and Preston were incorporated, and a resolution was passed opposing any division of the township. A protest meeting was held one week later in the south, because too few had received any word of the meeting, since only three days notice was given. The resolution asking for the dividing of the township had gone from this meeting. It was in the same year that the practice of holding all township meetings in Berlin began; previously the councillors had been meeting alternately in Preston and Berlin.

In 1852, Preston was incorporated, the first municipality within the township of Waterloo. The Municipal Corporation Act came in force in 1850, and the townships of Waterloo, Woolwich, and Wilmot were incorporated then, also Galt. Wellesley was the last township in our county to be opened up for settlement, and it was incorporated in 1852. North Dumfries was incorporated then, due to the fact the Territorial Divisions Act divided the township of Dumfries.

Gerrymandering usually plays some part whenever changes are being made in electoral divisions. This happens no matter which party is in power, for the members of the party in power know their own ridings and where is the greatest support for their own party. They do not want to make changes which will make their own future or that of their party insecure, but rather try to make changes which will increase the safety of their own seats and the strength of their own party.

Dumfries was recognized by the beginning of the 1830's as a municipality in which the settlers were taking a keen interest in the political issues of the day, and of the need of reforms in the government of this land to which they had come, chiefly from New York State and Scotland. When the government in power began to fear that McKenzie might lead the people of Upper Canada to rebel, Absalom Shade, a member of the government was asked if the government should be prepared for a rising in Dumfries. He assured them he had great faith in the stability of the citizens of Dumfries. He knew they were concerned about reforms, but he also knew they were proud of their ability to debate on political issues, and of their faith in, as well as their loyalty, to the Crown.

Did the reform party divide one of their strongholds, the township of Dumfries, in order to promote the interests of the Reform party in both Brant and Waterloo? Or did they find

they had to leave the southern half in the electoral district of Mr. David Christie, M.P., whose home was in South Dumfries?

Whether the petitions from the citizens of our townships, and from other townships, or whether the political interests carried the most weight in 1851, the citizens of today have no cause to regret the uniting of the townships of Waterloo, Wilmot, Wellesley, Woolwich and North Dumfries, for the union of 1852 has proved of inestimable value to the citizens of the county and the province.

FIRST MEETING OF WATERLOO COUNTY COUNCIL,
COPIED FROM "DEUTSCHE CANADIEN"

The first meeting of the Provisional Council of the County of Waterloo, was held at the Township Hall, Berlin, on Monday, the 3rd day of May, 1852.

A. Shade, Reeve, Galt, acted as Chairman.

Present were:

Dr. John Scott, Reeve, Waterloo Township.

H. Snyder, Deputy Reeve, Waterloo Township.

Jacob Hespeler, Reeve, Preston.

Dr. C. McGeorge, Reeve, North Dumfries.

D. Ferguson, Deputy Reeve, North Dumfries.

John Ernst, Reeve, Wilmot Township.

A. Kaiser, Deputy Reeve, Wilmot.

John Meyers, Reeve, Woolwich Township.

P. Winger, Deputy Reeve, Woolwich Township.

John Hawk, Reeve, Wellesley Township.

G. Hawke, Deputy Reeve, Wellesley Township.

On motion of J. Ernst, seconded by A. Kaiser, Dr. John Scott was elected Warden of the County of Waterloo.

The Warden took the Chair after which he delivered the following address:

Gentlemen:

Allow me to return you thanks for the Honorable distinction you have conferred upon me in electing me Provisional Warden of the important County of Waterloo. In return permit me to congratulate you upon the attainment so far of your long cherished desire of being a new and independent County and on the proud position you now occupy as the first Municipal Council.

The necessity of a separate and independent centre of Municipal and Judicial Jurisdiction, has long been felt and acknowledged by the inhabitants of the Territory compassing the new County of Waterloo and I think you will agree with me that the Legislature has evinced a high degree of sagacity and discrimination in selecting the townships to compose the County.

Let us glance at the topographical features and we find three of the most important townships in it, Woolwich, Waterloo and North Dumfries, linked together by the noble stream, the Grand River, into which, after passing through Waterloo, flows the Speed at Preston. Higher up, after traversing Wellesley and Woolwich, it is joined by the picturesque Conestogo. To the southwest of the County, we find the River Nith wandering through Wellesley and Wilmot and after traversing the Township of Blenheim, (the north half of which, if the almost unanimous wish of the inhabitants were granted, must shortly be annexed to the County), likewise, joining the Grand River. These main arteries along with a multitude of smaller tributaries are now nearly all employed in propelling machinery of every description and to an amount not to be equalled in any section of Canada West.

Within the County you have 20 large Grist Mills, the number of Saw Mills, I cannot enumerate, besides Carding and Fulling Mills, Foundries, Tanneries and Factories of almost every description and all in constant and active operation.

The possession of such a vast supply of water power, the general fertility of the soil, the extensive amount of Pine timber, a healthy climate and industrious and enterprising population, now numbering according to the late census, over 26,000, excellent roads and good markets, render your County one of the most favored in Upper Canada and present a field for the investment of capital in almost every department of industry, not to be surpassed in the Province.

Again the completion of the Galt Branch of The Great Western Railway, while it will incalculably facilitate the transmission of your exports and imports, will closely connect your County with every other part of this vast continent.

The central location of your County Town will render the transaction of Municipal and Judicial business cheap and convenient, as no party can possibly travel over 20 miles to attend Court or Council, thus curtailing and equalizing mileage in the service and execution of Writs and Processes and rendering easy and convenient the attendance of all parties having business to transact at the County-town.

Furthermore, the location of the County-town of Berlin opens up new fields for railway enterprise as undoubtedly at no distant day, it will be connected by railway, either with the Galt Branch of the Great Western, or the Toronto and Guelph railway. Again the proximity and intimate connection in every point of view existing between the County and the County of Perth, render their interest mutual and which if judiciously and fairly developed, must tend to the advantage and prosperity of both.

Your first duty, then Gentlemen, will be to adopt promptly, measures for erection and completion of your County Building, so as to procure as early a separation as practicable, from the other Counties with which you are now united, as from the geographical position of at least one of those Counties, your interest can never become identical. The necessity and expediency of this step will, I feel confident, meet with your unanimous approval.

In accomplishing therefore, this important object, for which the Legislature has proclaimed you a Provisional Council, I sincerely hope you will act with unanimity and promptitude, as by so doing you will not only carry out the benevolent enactments of the Legislature, but you will accelerate the settlement and improvement of adjoining Townships and prompt the general welfare and prosperity of your own noble County.

William Davidson was elected Clerk of the County of Waterloo and C. H. Ahrens, became Treasurer.

The address was engrossed on the Minutes.

The whole Council was named a Committee to procure a site for the County Building.

The Warden was authorized to procure a Seal for the Corporation.

The Warden was authorized to advertise in the Journal, and Express, the British Colonist, the Brantford Herald, and the two Galt papers and the three German papers in the County for plans and specifications for the Court House and Jail, the successful producer to receive 10 Pounds.

The Council adjourned to meet again on Tuesday, May 18th.

The Council met in the Township Hall in Berlin on the last Tuesday, May 18th, and the Committee previously appointed, reported and recommended that Lot 8, near the Township Hall, and owned by Frederick Gaukel be selected for the site of the County Buildings. The lot consisted of two and a half acres of land,

and it was suggested that Mr. Gaukel be approached to donate this land free of any charge.

On May 31st, the Committee reported through John Ernst, Chairman of the building committee, that Mr. Gaukel was prepared at any time when required to issue a free deed of the said lot of land in favor of the Provisional Council of the County of Waterloo as a token of gratitude to the County in getting Berlin appointed the County seat.

The plans for the County Buildings as submitted by Mellish and Russell of Brantford were received and examined and adopted and the amount of 10 Pounds was paid.

The plans were accepted, the building to be completed by December 1st, 1852. On June 14th, various petitions were presented asking the Council to delay the erection of the County Buildings. On that date, however, the contract was awarded to Mellish and Russell of Brantford for the sum of 4,875 Pounds.

The cornerstone for the County Building was laid on June 29th; a large gathering had assembled to witness the ceremony, dwellings had been decorated for the ceremony.

The Council met for the first time in the new County Building on Saturday, January 15th, 1853.

EARLY THEATRES OF WATERLOO COUNTY
AN ARTICLE BASED UPON THE BERLINER JOURNAL,
1859-1899

By Carl F. Klinck, Ph.D.

Since Berlin, Waterloo and Preston were never garrison towns, the familiar pattern of very early theatrical performances by British officers is not found in this part of Canada West. Nor is it likely that the Mennonite pioneers or their descendants in the nineteenth century fostered drama. An editorial in the *Berlin Chronicle* of September 11, 1857, denouncing fiction as dangerous and immoral, suggests that Waterloo County people of Anglo-Saxon stock may have been too fundamentally Calvinistic to breed sponsors of play-acting. They left such trifling chiefly to the Lutheran and Roman Catholic immigrants of the 1840's and 1850's, whose high spirits and love of living had not been curbed in Europe by non-conformist inhibitions.

The culture of these new Canadians who came directly from Germany has been only partially understood. Their reputation as sponsors of singing and band-playing must not be allowed to ob-

scure their other attainments. Vocationally they were trained men, tradesmen most of them, who also had an education extending to the arts associated with language. It is the object of this paper to show what they, especially in the first generation, knew about plays. Their children and grandchildren, it is true, lost their hold on the native tongue; the arts of reading, speaking and acting which depended upon the German language were lost or canceled out when their descendants learned English. To us, then, they appear, except in music, culturally sterile; but, seen in historical perspective, the early Germans have the glow of an old world culture, a rich language, and arts which had taken centuries to develop.

Conscious of their unique heritage, they formed their Turner societies, which served as clubs and gave opportunities, not only for physical exercise, but for music, recitations, and the theatre. Between 1859 and 1865 these *Verein* were in their heyday. The annual Turnfest always concluded with a play or two and a dance. But out of the programme for the winter season arose the first Little Theatres in Waterloo County. The Turners did not come together as the young people of a church so often do to raise money for the organ fund. They were organized as a community club to produce comedies and even tragedies by popular German playwrights; their executive consisted of a Speaker, a Secretary, a Gymnastic Teacher, and a Manager of the Theatre. The members read Schiller and taught their children to act; some of them tried to write plays, others wrote elementary theatrical criticism. The spectators laughed at *Zwei Herren und ein Diener*, and it is recorded several times that they wept when seeing *Lenore*. Benedix, Friedrich, Gutzkow, Holtei, Kettel, and especially Korner were playwrights whose names had advertising value.

There were only four dramatic societies in Canada West in 1860, said William Kirby's *Niagara Mail* (quoted February 16, 1860), and two of them were in Waterloo County: the Deutsches Theater des Turnvereins in Preston (not to speak of the affiliated Kinder-Theater), and the Turner-Theater in Berlin. The *Berliner Journal's* record of activities for the Preston theatre is more comprehensive than that for Berlin or St. Agatha. The last of these, it may be said, is noteworthy because its Knaben-Theater (Boys' Theatre) had a playwright and director in the person of Father Eugene Funcken, C.R., founder of the Orphanage, and brother of the founder of St. Jerome's College. The Preston Turners were proud of their stars and supporting players, listing them in full in paid advertisements. The result for us is happy indeed.

We know, therefore, that the parts in *Zwei Herren und ein Diener* were taken by Herr Ante, Herr Lehman, Herr Goetz, Madame Koetsch, Fraulein Bittman, and Herr Schopp. If guesswork based upon *The Canada Directory* is even reasonably correct, we can say more about these local players. Louis Ante was a tailor; J. C. Lehmann, a lime burner, quarrier and pump-maker; Mrs. Koetsch, probably the wife of Ernest A. Koetsch, M.D.; Miss Bittmann, a member of the family of John Bittmann, a printer; Goetz and Schopp are unidentified. Miss Guggisberg, a member of the family of Frederick Guggisberg, who ran the Preston chair and cabinet factory, played opposite Lehmann in a celebrated production of *Lenore*. Other actors were Louis Neubronn, a cigar maker; George Stehle, a painter; Charles Quirmbach, a bailiff; Mrs. Reimann, wife of a blacksmith; Herman (?) Utech, probably a painter; and Miss Jakobs, probably a daughter of Ludwig Jakobs. Two members of this family come into the record, an older Ludwig who was a school teacher, and a younger one who later set up a bookbinding establishment on King Street in Berlin. Their theatre was George Roos's Hall, in Preston's first brewery, near the railroad station.

The children acted in their own theatre, in the hall belonging to Hermann von Ende, a tobacconist, assessor, collector and farmer. The names of the juvenile actors belong to the families of Roos, Ebert, Stehle, Lamb, Fuchs, Clare (the iron founders), Gmelin, Moogk, Jakobs, Druck, Kastner, and Klotz (a celebrated name in the town's history).

The Berlin Turners met in F. Riegelmann's Hall and later in the St. Nicholas Hotel at the corner of King and Frederick Streets. Lack of space prevents more detail found in the pages of the *Journal* from being included in this article. There is evidence of considerable activity until 1865; about that time theatrical performances became sporadic. People became more excited about circuses, concerts, parades, and even a tight-rope performance over the market square in the presence of thousands of spectators. The Turnverein faded out although musical societies carried on. High German was often levelled to the Pennsylvania dialect unless it was consciously sustained. Mr. W. V. Utley in his *History of Kitchener* (page 245) has given an ironic report concerning the 1880's, "one year the Berlin Dramatic Society presented two playlets: 'A Cup of Tea' and 'Papa Hat's Erlaubt'." The mingling of the languages is significant. Music became the meeting ground since it needs no words, no special knowledge of a racial heritage.

The *Berlin Chronicle* carried on through the years, reflecting the doings and opinions of its German or bilingual readers.

During 1896 it showed great interest in the erection of an Opera House on Queen Street, built by Mr. A. Walper next to his hotel. The dimensions of the building were faithfully reported on September 3rd, and the formal opening about two weeks later. Here George O. Philip was to enjoy a notable career as manager.

Nothing could be neater than this curve of theatrical history. "Pop" Philip, said his obituary in the *Kitchener Record*, got his start as an actor in Preston, the town which had been the home of the Turner-Theater and Kinder-Theater. Moreover, after a professional career elsewhere, Philip was brought back to live in Preston by George A. Clare, a member of the iron founder's family which was represented among the children's players of Preston in the 1860's. Preston acquired an Opera House in 1893, but "Pop" Philip went to Berlin, where he acted as manager for many of the finest shows which reached Canada. His greatest success was his own production of *Faust*, with Oscar Rumpel as the star. In these years, until the arrival of the moving pictures, the Berlin stage was part of a far-flung theatrical circuit. That exciting story is yet to be told.

THE GLADSTONE FAMILY OF AYR, ONTARIO

By Bessie B. Whitson

In the Spring of 1840, William Gladstone and family left their home in Robeston, Selkirkshire, Scotland, to settle in Canada. The following is a list of the family:

Wm. Gladstone, the father, aged 76 years; his wife, Elizabeth Davidson, aged 54; their eldest son, Robert, 27; his wife, Mina Nichol, 28; Marion, 25; Margaret, 23; Walter, 20; James, 18; Catherine, 16; Willie, 12.

Considering the ages of the parents, it is evident that it was the young family which brought them to this new land.

It is generally understood that at least two of the family, Walter and James, had preceded them by at least a year, for there is every evidence that they had taken an option on land and had a small home ready at Nithvale for the family when they arrived at Ayr.

The tract of land on which they settled was taken over by the father and older brother and it lay in the southwest corner of what is now North Dumfries; its boundaries reached, from what is now Piper and Bruce Streets, on the north, to about

one-half mile south, and from Swan Street on the east, to part way to Slabtown. It is that portion of land through which the River Nith winds its determined curves.

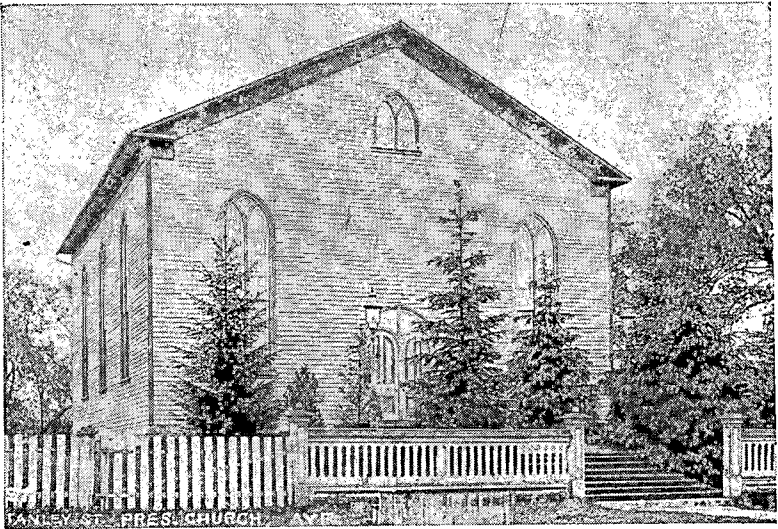
About one-third of the Village of Ayr now occupies part of this land. All the first deeds of those who own property on Rose, Walter, Church, Water and William Streets and those on the south of Piper and Bruce and on the west of Swan Streets were issued by the Gladstones; barring those who had Squatters' Rights, also the whole of Victoria Park was included in what was known as the Gladstone Block.

I think it wise to describe each member of the family separately. Marion Gladstone, the elder daughter, married William Patterson, a Scotsman. They had one daughter and one son. The daughter married Andrew Scott and the son married Jennie Anderson. They, in turn, raised large families in Ayr and their descendants are now scattered through Ontario, the Canadian West and the United States.

Margaret Gladstone married Robert Hall, one of Ayr's early pioneers, who plied his trade as a carpenter in a shop he had erected on Northumberland Street. No doubt, Hall built a good many of Ayr's early homes. He built and occupied the red brick house, lately occupied by Mr. Saunders. They had two daughters and five sons who took part in Ayr's activities and social life for many years and now their descendants are scattered also, through Canada and the United States.

Catherine Gladstone, the youngest daughter, married Mr. Rose. They had a family of three daughters and two sons. The parents and family lived in Ayr. The family moved west after their parents died early in life, and they took up land around Newdale, and Strathclair, Manitoba, where they have been very successful in farming and have large holdings in that district.

It can be said of the Gladstones, as of the majority of the settlers of Dumfries, that they came with courage and perseverance to succeed, their chances here were better than in the Old Land. We can almost imagine their vision and confidence in the future of this new country. One thing this family had was ability and skill. It has been said by many, who lived in the earlier days, that all the Gladstones, both women and men, had clever hands and they were not afraid to use them. The women were all efficient in all branches of household affairs, and their needlework and knitting, their patch quilts and tufted bedspreads and their mats were greatly admired and are talked of even today.



Stanley St. Presbyterian Church, Ayr

Not many years after coming to this country, James Gladstone erected two large buildings on the east side of what is now known as Walter Street and here he manufactured pegs—wooden pegs, of all sizes, from shoe pegs to large pegs used in barn building. In the stone building, 40 ft. x 26 ft. which still stands there is a long work-table attached to the wall, the top of which is approximately two and one-half inches thick and attached to it is a handmade wooden lathe, still in good condition and on the wide board which makes the facing of the table are many bored holes of many different sizes, showing the various sizes of pegs made. The frame addition which stood to the north of the stone building was taken down many years ago. James must have had quite a good business making pegs, for the late Robert Hall of Toronto stated in recent years, that, when a lad, he spent many a happy hour watching the proceedings of the eight men at work making pegs.

James Gladstone had married Jennie Edgar, and they built for their home the red brick house on the corner of Walter and Piper Streets. Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone lived there for many years and then moved to Salem and Elora where he erected and did business in that vicinity. His home in Ayr was then used for years as the Methodist Church parsonage and is now owned and occupied by Mr. G. S. Dalrymple.

Walter Gladstone was perhaps the most enterprising of the family. His first business undertaking, after being settled, was erecting a small building on the south bank of the River Nith, part way between Nithvale and Slabtown, where he made chairs. (It was known in those early days as the Nithvale Chair Factory.) He made kitchen, rocking, and arm-chairs. He got his power from a small stream that flowed from the wooded bank and emptied into the Nith. The stream disappeared when the forest was removed. No doubt, many of the early chairs in this district were made there. James Gladstone Fair has a beautiful arm-chair which is still in good condition and as sturdy and attractive as when it was first made.

His next undertaking came in 1842, when the Presbyterian Congregation which worshipped in the log meeting house (and which had been erected one mile east of Ayr, in 1834 by John Manson) found that the congregation had outgrown the building and they decided to build near where the new settlement was growing and the Church Managers called for tenders. There were four men who replied and young Walter Gladstone's tender was accepted. This new church was built on the south side of Stanley

Street and was opened for worship on Sunday, October 15, 1843. This church was afterwards known as "Stanley Street Church."

A statement by the congregation reads that the church was built in a "workmanlike manner" to the satisfaction of the congregation and Walter Gladstone was paid 303 pounds, 18 shillings, 4½ pennies. Soon after in 1844, Walter Gladstone was given the contract to build a similar church for the newly organized Knox Church congregation. This, he built on a lot on the west side of the Nith, where the Community Centre now stands. This, Gladstone finished by the fall of 1845 and rumour has it that when it was finished, the money was not forthcoming so Walter held the key for some months until he got his money. In later years when this action was criticized by some, a good Scottish lady said, "There wasna' onything wrong wi' that, Wattie was just a good canny Scot."

In the early 50's, Walter Gladstone erected a frame building on the corner of Stanley and Swan Streets, in which he conducted a General Store for a good number of years. It was a large building. On the Swan Street side, it occupied the full length of the lot which must be 60 feet. It fronted Stanley Street and its width occupied the full lot. This building contained on the ground floor a good-sized store, a small shop to the left and on the Swan Street side, rooms suitable for shops and offices. The top storey had a good-sized dwelling where the family lived and to the south, a large room which, in the pioneer days was called "The Hall." There was also a small dwelling behind the small shop. Gladstone married June Easton. Their family lived in the large dwelling above the store for the years when he was in business.

In the large room, "The Hall," Ayr's first newspaper, "The Ayr Observer," was edited and printed by John McLean.

Gladstone left Ayr in 1869, but he had retired from business about three years previously. Succeeding him in the store were Hendershott and Donaldson. They were followed by Michael Scott.

This building has been a boon to Ayr. It has stood for almost a century, and after the general store went out of business, itinerants of various occupations have found accommodation in this building — professional men, lawyers, dentists, veterinaries, bakers, tailors, tinsmiths, saddlers, barbers, and the King Edward Club.

In "The Hall" above, after the printing press was moved out, different young people's societies held their weekly meetings.

there: such as The Young Men's Christian Association, The Ayr Temperance Society, The Young People's Singing School and the occasional dance. Archibald Cuthbertson told of the many happy times the young people had in meeting to practise their choruses and plays. One-third of this building has been removed but the main store still stands. It is owned and operated at present, by Robert Cochrane who conducts a hardware and electrical store and above there are three nice modern apartments.

In 1856, when the Farmers' and Mechanics' Institute was formed, Walter Gladstone was elected its first Treasurer and James Gladstone served on its managing board. Walter Gladstone was the first agent for the Waterloo Mutual.

In the 1860's, there was quite an agitation in this vicinity to move to Missouri, United States. This idea was fostered by the Reverend Duncan McRuer, of Knox Church, Ayr, and Walter Gladstone. The result was that, in 1869 the following families left to take up land in that state. They were Reverend Duncan McRuer and wife Torrance and seven children, Walter Gladstone and wife, June Easton and eight children, William Gladstone and wife, Helen Pringle and four children, Robert Pringle and wife and five children, Peter McPherson and family, Hugh Wallace and family, the Kerrs — Eliza, Jim and William. Altogether there were forty people who left Ayr for Missouri. These people founded the Scottish settlement in the County of Gentry, Missouri, and they named their settlement "Gentry." They first built their homes and in 1871, they organized the first Presbyterian Church in that part of the State with the Reverend Duncan McRuer as their minister. In 1878 they finished building their church. In 1948 they celebrated the 70th anniversary of worshipping in the little white church and the 77th anniversary of the organization of the congregation. At that service were Gladstones of the fifth generation.

It is worthy of note that Reverend Duncan McRuer's son followed in his father's footsteps and served the Presbyterian Church for a good many years. A granddaughter of William and Helen Gladstone served under the same church as missionary in India, while a granddaughter of Walter and June Gladstone served in the same capacity in Africa.

William, the youngest son who was only twelve years old when he came to Canada, followed his two older brothers and became a woodworker. Most of his life in Ayr was spent working with his brothers. As stated before, he married Helen Pringle and went to Missouri with the others.

William Gladstone, the father of this large family, died in 1852, twelve years after coming to Canada and the farm on which he first settled at Nithvale was entailed to his eldest son Robert, the farmer of the family. Five years later, in 1857, Robert's wife Mina Nichol, died and he was left with his mother, his two daughters and one son, William. Robert was a rugged man, who worked hard and steady, clearing the land and joining with the other pioneers in building roads and constructing bridges and culverts,—this with pick and shovel,—not with cement and bulldozer. Fairly early in life he was stricken with rheumatism and by the early seventies he was forced to walk with the aid of two canes and his son William managed the farm. Robert Gladstone died in 1898, at the age of 86.

I have tried to give a short description of each member of this pioneer family and in closing, I would like to tell what my husband, who was a grandson of Robert Gladstone told me, namely, that his grandfather loved the River Nith, in spite of its rampages. The river was quite a companion to him during his crippled years. He claimed he could forecast the weather by its moods and sounds.

The River Nith and the Gladstones have never been separated for over one hundred and twelve years. At present there lives in the old home (enlarged) Robert and his wife of the fourth generation and their son, William, and his wife. On the high land on the farm, their daughter and husband have built their home and there are three children who make the sixth generation.

In our beautiful cemetery where lie Ayr's beloved dead, there lie those of five generations of Gladstones.

NEW MACHINERY FOR HISTORIC MILL

By C. M. Snider

From the early days of the pioneers Flour Milling has been an important industry in Waterloo County. The mill was one of the first trades to be established as a necessary part of the life of a new settlement. Many of the towns and cities of today are located on former flour mill sites. At one time or another 35 mills existed in Waterloo County. Their location was usually determined by water power. Of these 35 only 5 mills produce flour today. Just previous to World War 2 only 3 mills were grinding, namely Preston and Baden in the South and St. Jacobs

in the North. These non-operating mills closed down for various reasons but the conditions largely responsible are as follows—improved transportation, irregular water supply and flood, fire, lack of technical knowledge and failure to modernize.

In 1851 the St. Jacobs mill began its first century of operations on the south bank of the Conestogo River. The system used at that time was mill-stones and reels. Water from a dam just above the mill provided the power until the flood of 1869 washed out the ground embankment. Presumably the dam was repaired and used until 1884 when E. W. B. Snider built a wooden dam $1\frac{1}{8}$ miles up the river. The same owner replaced the wooden dam with one of concrete in 1905. The dam of 1905 submerged another wooden dam built by Valentine Ratz in 1844. In 1939 the head race was deepened by power shovel to remove the excessive silt deposited by the floods of the past years. At the same time the water wheels were enclosed in a new concrete penstock. The extremely high floods of 1948, 1949 and 1950 almost wrecked the concrete dam and extensive repairs were required on the part of the present owners to maintain its usefulness as a power unit. Two water wheels are in operation, one of 50 H.P. on the chopper and one of 100 H.P. on the mill.

As the flow of water in the latter part of the 19th century became more erratic steam was added as an auxiliary power. With advent of Hydro in the 20th century steam was discarded and today 40 motors of various sizes from $1/6$ to 100 H.P. supplement the water.

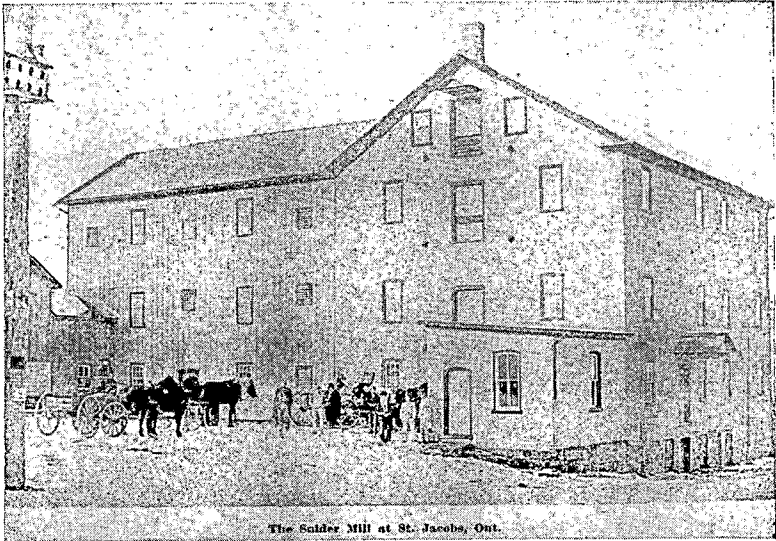
The process of modern flour milling is complicated and difficult to explain. Basically it is a matter of classifying, grinding and sifting in stages to separate the flour from the bran and shorts. The system of stones and reels was imported from Europe with the early settlers. No other system was known until 1875. To repeat the records it was at this time that E. W. B. Snider had in his employ a man named John Braun, a German miller. John Braun told of a revolutionary machine developed in Hungary to replace the cumbersome stones. It was known as a Roller Mill and did the grinding better and faster. After examining samples of this flour, E. W. B. Snider ordered one of these machines. It arrived at St. Jacobs on Sept. 22, 1875. The original invoice indicates the cost was £114:11:1 with freight at £16:13:5 and duty \$57.64. Some of the early rolls were made of porcelain but were liable to crack if overheated. Steel replaced the porcelain and the new roller mill was universally adopted. This was the first roller mill to be used

in North America. Since this type of roller mill is still in use today the importance of this event in the history of flour milling can readily be realized. It is interesting to learn at this late date that Aaron Witmer of Winona, Ont., assisted his father in the installation of the new machine. Aaron Witmer is 90 years of age.

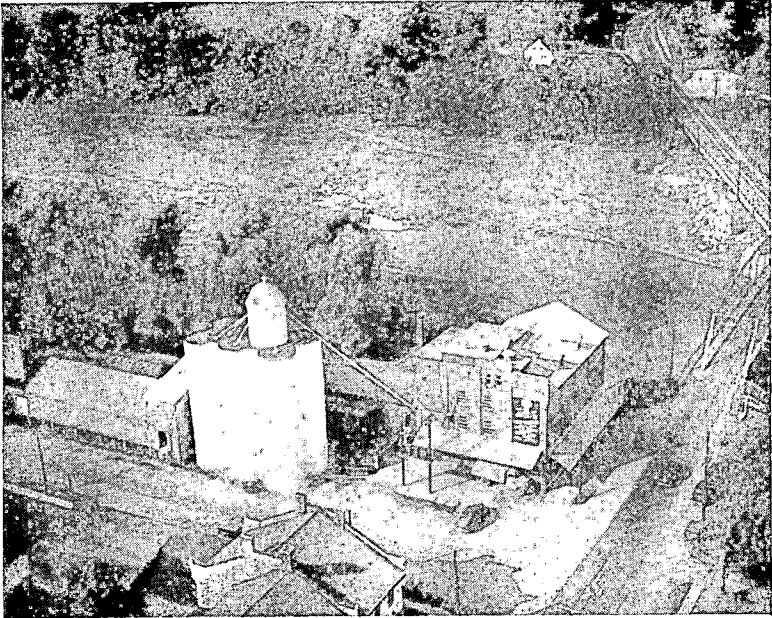
Flour was produced for the next number of years with rolls and reels. However milling was soon to be influenced by another machine of radical design — the plansifter. The plansifter was invented by a miller named Carl Haggemacher of Hungary and was introduced to the United States about 1890. One plansifter did the work of 6 or more reels. The plansifter required less power, less space, fewer square yards of expensive silk and maintenance was reduced. It also had greater capacity and flexibility, made cleaner separations and consequently made better flour. While reels were still used on the tail of the mill they were doomed to follow the stones into discard. St. Jacobs mill installed plansifters about 1900. The system now was rolls and plansifters, a transformation spread over 50 years.

In 1919 W. J. Snider of Conestogo purchased St. Jacobs mill in order to have railway facilities. Improved transportation was having its effect on mills off track. He operated the mill until 1922 when fire destroyed this historic mill. A new brick structure was built on the same site and new concrete elevators were erected for grain storage. W. J. Snider continued operations until his death in 1927. The mill was destroyed again by fire in 1931. However this time the brick walls remained standing and when the interior had been replaced another mill was started in 1935.

While many replacements were made in the machinery it was not until 1951 that the mill added another page to its historic record. The English firm of Henry Simon Ltd. had developed flour milling machinery which was superior to other machinery in operation and efficiency. The ultimate in their system was the pneumatic mill in which all material was elevated by air and vacuum. In the case of St. Jacobs the Simon machines were the obvious choice for modernization and sufficient machinery was purchased for the purpose. The Simon Co. drafted a new flow based on the English "Long System." The changes required by the new flow were so extensive that it was necessary to close the mill down for seven weeks while the improved process was installed. Two Canadian representatives of the Simon Co., T. C. Mills and R. Buckbarrow of Toronto, call-



The Snider Mill at St. Jacobs, Ont.



The Snider Mill at St. Jacobs

ed weekly to observe the progress of the reconstruction. The layout and design of the new mill were completed by C. M. Snider, fourth generation miller and President of The Snider Milling Co. Ltd. The entire respouting job was done in record time by the local tinsmith, Alvin Thoms. The new installation was under the expert hand of Wm. Hachborn, head miller and millwright, who has been with the company for 37 years. St. Jacobs mill is in charge of Byron Schwartz, who began milling in New Dundee in 1889. Today at an active 78 the modernization adds one more chapter to his record of 62 continuous years of milling experience.

A technical description of the new machinery is not possible in this article but the design is sturdy, efficient and modern in every respect. The sifter is free swinging, self balancing and incorporates the best in milling engineering. The new purifiers have very accurate air control and make 19 clean separations. The new dust collector has singular reclaim features proven by the fact that it can trap flour particles as small as .0002 inch in diameter. The older machines were overhauled and rearranged and the big day arrived to see the wheels turn again. After three more weeks of adjusting the mill settled down once more to day and night operation.

Milling has known many periods of trial but in spite of adverse markets, depressions, fire and flood, the first hundred years have been accomplished. St. Jacobs was now the most modern small mill in Canada.

"ONE HUNDRED YEARS"

AN OUTLINE OF THE HISTORY OF THE GALT
COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOL
PREPARED FOR PRESENTATION AT THE CENTENARY
DINNER ON FEB. 9, 1952

By T. H. Wholton, M.A.

On the twenty-first of January, 1852, there appeared the following advertisement in the Dumfries Reformer:

"Galt Grammar School, Michael C. Howe, A.B., Scholar of T.C.D., Master. The trustees of this institution having secured the services of Mr. Howe, whose Attainments are of the Highest Order, beg leave to acquaint the Parents and Guardians of Children who may wish to avail themselves of its advantages, that it will be opened (D.V.) for the Reception of Pupils, on Monday, the 2nd of February next. The School will be held for the present in the Town Hall, and

Classes will be formed to prepare for the Exhibitions in Upper Canada College, and for Scholarships in Trinity College and the University. Terms: For classics and English, \$4 per quarter. For English alone, \$3 per quarter.

In 1853 Mr. William Tassie, who was operating a school in Hamilton, was brought to be head of the Galt Grammar School. Regarding William Tassie's scholarship the writing of the Honourable Beattie Crozier leaves us the inference that Tassie knew not much more than just what he was required to teach. However, I think that Crozier being a writer was taking some advantage of poetic or other licence. Mr. James Kerr, whose account of Tassie seems to be thoroughly considered, says: "No attempt was made to show the thought of the author or to point out felicities of his diction or the beauties of his style. Minute attention was given to points in grammar or quantities in scansion and to mythological allusions."

At the reunion of 1902 the Honourable James Young said, "Some think that our old friend Dr. Crozier, whom we all admire, has been a little too caustic on the worthy doctor in his famous book 'My Inner Life', and I doubt if some of those present would have been so successful in business, law and other walks of life if the doctor had not tickled them up occasionally with his inspiring birch."

Regarding Tassie, Dr. Carscadden summed up as follows: "He was a good sample of the Old Dominion who believed that the rod was the best remedy for indolence, indifference, listlessness, and laziness."

In studies Latin predominated: The games played by the boys were football, baseball, and cricket. Tassie never participated. Kerr says that he was as inaccessible as a mountain peak. He was known to watch cricket matches sometimes, believing that this game was the most useful in the making of gentlemen because unseemly differences of opinion between the spectators and players on the one hand, and the umpire on the other, did not arise.

There are two bits of evidence which seem to prove that Tassie built a great school. (a) Upper Canada College had been established in 1829 with a brilliant staff and well backed by grants. And for some years Upper Canada College stood in place of a Provincial University. The grammar schools of Ontario were instructed to model their courses upon that of Upper Canada College; first, because it was a good course, and second, because many boys who began their studies at other grammar schools were compelled to finish at Upper Canada College. So well did Tassie meet the challenge implicit in these instructions, that his school came to be grouped with Upper Canada College in the minds of men everywhere. As late as 1926 Professor Maurice Hutton writing in the June issue of *The Canadian Magazine* re-

ferred to "The two or three picked schools of the seventies of the last century, Upper Canada College and the Galt High School chiefly." (b) During the forties the Provincial authorities had appointed committees to inquire into the state of education in the province. They reported that it was not good, and one of the points they made was that fathers could send their sons to be educated in the States, and have them obtain a better education at very little extra cost, even when the expense of travelling back and forth was included. In so far his own school was concerned Tassie reversed that trend. Boys came to him from many parts of the States as well as from all over Canada. In 1871 Queen's recognized his achievement by conferring upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws.

In 1872 his school headed the list of six schools on which were conferred the name and privileges of Collegiate Institutes. (Local Colleges).

The six schools were:

School	Masters	Average Attendance of boys in classics.
Galt	12	120
Hamilton	4	74
Peterborough	4	73
Cobourg	4	65
Kingston	4	63
St. Catharines	4	62

This means that the school was increasingly required to meet Provincial standards and conform to pedagogical methods which were uniform throughout the Province. This, Dr. Tassie was either unable or unwilling to do, and the school went down somewhat and suffered a loss in attendance. In 1881 he and his whole staff resigned.

The Board chose as his successor Mr. John E. Bryant, M.A. (Maths) Tor. who was then head master of Pickering College, and who had had successful experience as principal at Whitby and Clinton. Dr. James McQueen, who is here to-night, and who attended this School seventy years ago, describes him as efficient and popular. Girls were admitted to the school and offered the same courses as the boys. A literary and musical society was formed, sport was encouraged, a teacher of painting and drawing was engaged and also a teacher of commercial work, and the school immediately regained its former prestige. Mr. Bryant suffered an almost complete loss of hearing and resigned in 1884.

His successor was Thomas Carscadden who had come to the school with him in '81 as English master. He was to continue as

principal for thirty years, a long period of steady growth and achievement. The original building had been a long, narrow stone rectangle, but by 1876 wings had been built to the west and east making a cross-shaped building two stories high but not fully occupied. As the enrolment increased the whole of this building was used and the coal stoves dispensed with in favor of a hot water heating system. In 1885 Dr. Carscadden had the pleasure of having the Prince of Wales scholarship come to the school. It was won by Harry Cody, a boy who entered in '81 at twelve years of age. In 1894 Mr. R. S. Hamilton joined the staff as Science master, a position which he was to hold for the next forty years, during which time he became one of the best known and most popular men of this whole area.

In 1899 Cadet Corps No. 21 was organized and trained by Col. A. J. Oliver, and in 1901 Miss J. W. Carter, the first woman member of the staff, was appointed. The school had about trebled in enrolment since Bryant's day and a new building was required, so the corners of the cross were filled in, a third storey added, and in 1906 a building which was a stone cube, if we ignore the shape of the roof, was opened.

In 1911 the first permanent secretary was appointed and Dr. Carscadden says that a better choice could not have been made. Though she is not able to be present, there is no one here tonight more interested in the success of this gathering or in the ups and downs of our school, because Miss Jaffray has a loyalty for this school which amounts to jealousy for its good name.

In 1914 Thomas Carscadden left the principalship and resumed his position as English master, which position he was to fill until 1924, when he finally retired, having taught school for fifty-four years, forty-three of them in Galt. When I knew him he seemed rather frail, but he could not have been, for he lived for another ten years and died in May 1934 at the age of 86. He had become one of the leading secondary school men in the Province and the degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him by the University of Toronto in 1925. His manner was courtly, for example, there were many of us who had come to the school in '23 fresh from the College of Education when the staff had been expanded, and we were all entertained graciously by Mrs. Carscadden and Dr. Carscadden. He would always prefix his invitation saying, "Mrs. Carscadden sends her compliments, and would you come to dinner, etc.

The local newspaper at the time of his death published several columns about his long and interesting life, and I think that the account was most happy in one brief sentence which said "His was a quiet power."

During the last years of Dr. Carscadden's principalship the vocational education idea was very much in the air, and when his successor Mr. A. P. Gundry was appointed it was with the idea that he would devote much of his time to developing that idea. But as Mr. Gundry stood upon the station platform in Strathroy waiting for the train which was to bring him to make his home in Galt he heard the news that we were at war, and so the vocational education development was necessarily left in abeyance. Mr. Gundry threw himself into the direction of all those things that a school can do in time of war. Three hundred and forty-eight of our pupils and ex-pupils answered the call. There were awarded to them one V.C., two French Legion of Honour, sixteen Military Crosses, (four of them with bars), two D.S.O.'s, one French Croix de Guerre, one Belgian Croix de Guerre, one D.C.M., one O.B.E., one D.F.C., four Military Medals and numerous Mentions in Dispatches. I am quoting from Miss Jaffray's meticulously kept records. When it was over, 47 men and one woman had made the supreme sacrifice.

In 1919 there was an agitation to change the Education Act to effect a more equitable distribution of the cost of secondary education, between the municipalities. The Galt Board took a leading part in this effort and when they were successful they proceeded with the development of vocational education. It was then necessary for Mr. Gundry to apply himself to the task of conducting a school and building a school at the same time. Plans were accepted which called for additions to both north and south ends of the stone cube in Scottish baronial architecture, as it was thought that that type would harmonize best with the rugged but nondescript existing style. The result, you may judge for yourselves. Our present building may not be one-hundred per cent harmonious architecturally, but many people think that it has character. The last bill for equipment was paid in August, 1925, and in September Mr. Gundry died. He had known for some considerable time that the number of his days was short, but he never let up and never forgot or allowed anyone else forget that there was a job to be done. And there is quite a large number of eminently successful members of the teaching profession in Ontario today who received their first training from Mr. Gundry. There are half a dozen of them here to-night. In the summer of 1925 died also Mr. MacGeorge, the old caretaker who made his home on the grounds for over forty years and who was known affectionately to everyone as "Old Mac."

At the end of 1925 many changes seemed to occur simultaneously. The old appointed board ceased to exist and an elected board of new members, with the exception of one man, assumed control. There was a new building, because the additions were greater than the orig-

inal. There was a new job to be done in the development of a technical department. There was an evening school as large as the day school. And there was a new and inexperienced principal.

Within the school there were three new institutions which turned out to be very helpful. (a) The School Captaincy. Through the generosity of the late Dr. Thomas Porter a former pupil, a school captaincy was set up, and the following year the Staff Players Club founded a Girl Captaincy along similar lines. (b) The Staff Players Club. This organization served three purposes. First, it gave the recently increased staff an opportunity to play together as well as work together and thus become a better team. Second, it showed the pupils that teachers were human enough to enjoy strutting their hour in borrowed plumage, or that if they did not enjoy it they were willing to do so for the good of the show. And third, it did a public relations job for us. For example: When the first curtain rose on the first play the present principal of the Ryerson Institute of Technology was discovered embracing one of the woman members of the staff down stage centre. Tassie Hall was packed, many having come, no doubt, to see a group of teachers make fools of themselves; and the roar that went up was such that I was very thankful that Tassie Hall was built of stone and on the ground floor. The embrace was perfect. I had arranged it myself with great difficulty because neither of the players seemed to have had any experience along those lines. (c) The annual Service of Remembrance, brief, simple, as formally correct as we can make it, with a maximum of pupil participation, and a ritual unchanging from year to year. It seems to stand out in the memories of former pupils. Moreover it is good training. Last Wednesday we were able to hold, without forewarning, a service at which the deportment of our pupils was exemplary. No group of adults ever, anywhere or at any time could have shown by their attitude a more deeply felt and dignified grasp of the meaning of the news which we had received in the morning.

In 1927 the Prince of Wales Scholarship was brought to the School again by Miss Christine Elmslie.

Before we had had time to graduate more than two small classes from our new technical department the jobs for which we were preparing the boys were no longer to be had, for then began those long years when speakers going up and down the land and writers in magazines told us that teachers were doing a great job because there were many pupils in the schools in those days who if they were not in school might be riding the rods or in jail. So we assumed the role of policemen. We have very recently been called baby-sitters, but we know that no matter what they call us we are the same old pedagogues to whom the Roman patricians gave the responsibility of

keeping the rising generation out of their parents' hair. But we think the job is well worth doing and we like it. Out of adversity come some good things. For example, depression conditions hastened our decision to employ a full time librarian, and this was done in 1931. In the same year two more rooms were added to provide science laboratories for the vocational school.

In 1934 the legislature decreed that municipalities of more than 1200 population should pay the full cost of secondary education themselves instead of having the cost spread over the entire county. The town of Preston decided that this being the case they would prefer to pay for their education in Preston. Consequently they withdrew from this School 175 pupils. This left the Galt board with no alternative but to cut their losses, and as a result our staff was decreased slightly over one-seventh, that is, by five teachers and our machine shop closed. This shop, however, was almost immediately turned over to the Provincial Youth Training Organization and so did not stand idle. The teachers noticed the Preston withdrawal most because it took out of our schools some very good pupils judged from the academic viewpoint. The pupils and general public noticed it because we lost a number of very good football players. Preston had always contributed to the personnel of the football team out of all proportion to their enrolment.

In 1936 our wood-working teacher for the past twenty years, Mr. Frank Phelan, died. Mr. Phelan had endeared himself to the whole community by his philosophical acceptance of all things, and by his ability to ease any situation, however tense, with a sparkle of humor.

The sport which had been encouraged first by Mr. Bryant developed toward the end of Mr. Carscadden's day into teams which compete successfully for the Hough Cup. The donor of this trophy is alleged to have stipulated that when competition for it ceased, it should come to rest in this School. And I think that there are some senior citizens who have not quite forgiven me for not finding this Cup and bringing it back here. I have never seen it and have no idea where it is. But since hearing about it, my admiration for those two or three knights who did succeed in finding the Holy Grail, has increased greatly.

In the early days of this century soccer seems to have been dropped in favour of rugby, and the Inter-Scholastic Rugby League was formed by Guelph, Brantford, and Galt. Somewhere about 1920 Kitchener was permitted to join, and although each of these three schools is now twice as big as we are, I am sure they will admit without straining their generosity that they still find our teams worthy of their skill and their prowess.

In 1939 again war. The School bent its energies to all of those activities which are included under the term war effort. The machine shop was turned over to the Navy for the training of naval artificers, and the school raised money at the rate of some years \$1000, some years \$1200, and some years \$1400. When that war was over there were seventy-eight more names of the fallen to add to our memorial plaque.

We are now old but I don't think that we are old-fashioned. In most innovations we have been at or near the head of the parade. When our library was opened there were two that I know of, Oshawa and London Central. In Guidance we must have been near the beginning, because the teacher who developed our department holds the first guidance specialist's certificate in the Province, and in the development of a Practice Office we and Stamford were, I believe, well to the fore. Last Easter I was informed that we were first to have our Industrial Relations Committee formed and functioning.

Throughout the years this School has been fortunate in having as trustees men and one woman who could not be stampeded by either the grumbling of ill-informed majorities or by vociferous minorities. There has always been a majority on the Board which has been willing to give their time patiently, to get the facts in all times of stress, and when the facts are brought out either the tensions disappear or the remedies become obvious.

I have heard dozens of definitions of education and I have seen the aims of education put in a hundred ways, some of them weird and wonderful. But before I ever heard of education, I had before me the old Biblical precept "Fear God. Honour the king." That is, character which commands respect and character which renders respect to all to whom respect is due. I submit that for a hundred years this school has done its best to contribute to the broadening stream of Canadian nationhood, young men and women who fear God and honour the king. And so we go on.

SHOEMAKER FAMILY HISTORY

By August Boehmer

The Shoemakers were members of that great band of non-conformists who followed the teachings of Menno Simons, a religious leader of the early half of the sixteenth century. They maintained a form of Christianity which, discarding the sacerdotal idea, acknowledged no authority outside the Bible and a man's own conscience, limited baptism to the believer and stressed those precepts which vindicated the sanctity of human life and the given word. During

the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries they moved about western Europe, ever seeking for a permanent home where they could be free to practice their simple but sincere religious beliefs in peace. During the opening years of the eighteenth century, many of them, despairing of finding their freedom in Europe, emigrated to America, settling, for the most part, in Pennsylvania where William Penn had assured religious freedom to all. The first parties to cross the ocean came from Holland but soon parties from Germany, Switzerland, France, England, Poland and even Russia were on their way to the New World. They settled largely in Lancaster, Berks, Franklin, Bucks and Montgomery counties, Pennsylvania, where large numbers of their descendants still reside. During the early years of the nineteenth century many of them moved to Upper Canada where they settled on a tract of land, called "The German's Company's Tract", situated on both sides of the Grand River in what is now Waterloo County. The "German Company" was a non-profit co-operative venture, the funds being largely subscribed by co-religionists in Pennsylvania, the sole object being to assist those of their members, who had moved to the bush of Upper Canada, to acquire sufficient farm land of suitable quality and at reasonable cost for their sons when they grew up. After the loans were repaid, the company was dissolved. The fair treatment they had received from the British Government previous to the revolution was a large factor in their choice of another British colony for their future homes.

The route they followed in their trek to Upper Canada was roughly in a northerly direction to the head of the Finger Lakes in New York State, thence westward to Buffalo. Parties from Lancaster County usually took the route through Williamsport, Painted Post, Bath, Dansville, Genesee, and Batavia to Buffalo, while those from Montgomery County usually followed a more easterly route from Reading through Wilkes-Barre, Elmira, Watkins Glen, Canandaigua and Batavia to Buffalo. They crossed the Niagara River at Queenstown on flat boats, a type of wooden scow in use at the time, and proceeded on through Cadareenstown (St. Catherines), Dundas and through the Beverly Swamp to Waterloo Township. The distance was about 450 miles and usually took about eight weeks to make the journey with their heavily loaded Conestoga wagons.

(I) JACOB SHOEMAKER (6996), the first of the name in America, was born in Canton Berne, Switzerland, probably about 1676. At the age of twelve, he moved to the German Palatinate with his parents, where they had been promised religious freedom. With the passing of years and change of rulers, these promises were forgotten to a large extent. Consequently, in 1737, his parents having died in the meantime, Jacob Shoemaker turned

his face westward, landing at Philadelphia and settling in Germantown where he resided for seven years. He then moved to Lower Salford Township, Montgomery County, where he died about the year 1751. According to tradition he was married to Mary Kunder. He had a large family but the names of only four are recorded, the rest having presumably died in infancy or remained in Europe. The four whose names are known were Peter, Jacob, George and John.

(II) JACOB SHOEMAKER (6997), the second of the surviving sons of (I) Jacob, was born in the German Palatinate on March 31st, 1708, and came to America with his parents in 1737. In 1740 he was married to Susannah Scheuler, a native of Basle, Switzerland, who was born on February 19th, 1719. His farm was located near Schiebach, now Skippack, in Montgomery County. The date of his death is not recorded but his wife died on November 20th, 1789. Their family consisted of three sons and five daughters, namely: Michael, George, Gertrude, Catharine, Anna, Elizabeth, Jacob and Mary.

(III) JACOB SHOEMAKER (7004), the seventh child of Jacob, was born on his father's farm near Skippack on July 27th, 1754. He married Mary Tyson (7540) and in 1775 they moved to Swamp Creek, Frederick Township, Montgomery County, where he built a grist mill. They had a family of three sons and two daughters whose names were, John, George, Jacob, Elizabeth and Mary. After the decease of his first wife, he married Magdalena Longenecker, widow of Henry Urmy, (7602) but had no children by this marriage. After the death of his second wife, he made his home with his son, John, (7005), on the old homestead near the mill on Swamp Creek. In 1828, his son John having died, he moved to Canada, bringing along John's widow, formerly Mary Shantz, and their three youngest children, as well as his own daughter, Mary, and her husband, George Bechtel. They went to Waterloo and resided with his grandson, Jacob S. Shoemaker (7006), the eldest son of John, who had made the trip to Canada some years previously. In 1830 he moved to Bridgeport where his grandson, Jacob S., had built a dam and sawmill. He died at Bridgeport on November 19th, 1847, at the age of 93 years and is buried in the Mennonite Cemetery in Kitchener.

The Tysons came to America from Germany. Reynier Tyson crossed the ocean and settled in Germantown, Pennsylvania, about the year 1692. Cornelius Tyson came from Crefeld, Germany, and settled in Germantown in 1703. Thus we find that the Tysons were among the earliest of the Mennonite families to cross the ocean. All the Tysons who settled in Pennsylvania and whose

descendants emigrated to Upper Canada were descended from either of the above named gentlemen but to trace the true line of descent is impossible at this date. The names of five, all of one family, are recorded, namely: Mary, Esther, Catherine, Isaac and John. They are probably grandchildren of one of the above pioneers.

(III) MARY TYSON (7540), was born on April 7th, 1752. She was married to (III) Jacob Shoemaker by whom she had five children. She died on July 12th, 1803.

(IV) JOHN SHOEMAKER, the eldest son of (III) Jacob, was born in Frederick Township on May 12th, 1775, and spent his boyhood days on his father's farm. During busy times he helped his father in the mill. On May 2nd, 1797, he married Mary Shantz, who was born March 13th, 1775, and died April 6th, 1866. He had farmed at his father's place until 1827 when he met with an accident which ultimately brought on dropsy and other diseases which caused his death on Jan. 30th, 1828. They had nine children, two of whom died at an early age, all born in Frederick Township. They are as follows: Jacob S., Isaac, John S., Barbara, Mary, Joseph, Magdalena, Veronica, David.

(V) JACOB S. SHOEMAKER, was the eldest son of (IV) John and was born April 24th, 1798. After quitting school he entered his father's mill where he worked until the spring of 1820, when he emigrated to Canada. He came to Abraham Erb in Waterloo who needed a practical miller and hired him. After working here two years he returned to his home in Pennsylvania for a visit to his parents and friends. On July 2nd, 1822, he married Elizabeth Schneider, who was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, on Jan. 2nd, 1802, and died in Preston, Ontario, Nov. 26th, 1876.

Sometime during 1827 or 1828 he bought Lot No. 59, German Company Tract comprising 600 acres, and afterwards became the founder of Bridgeport, Ont. In 1829 he built a large dam (which is still there) and sawmill and in 1830 erected the large roller mills now in the possession of Shirk and Snider. He resided in Waterloo until 1830 when he moved to Bridgeport where he soon owned a store, woollen mill, oil mill, and distillery in addition to the sawmill and roller mills. In 1840 he built a large house which is still standing and is used as a dwelling. He became a victim of the great financial depression of 1851, and sold the mill to Elias Eby and Barnabas Devitt and then moved to Preston with his son-in-law, Joel Clemens, and from there to Blenheim Township in Oxford County, where he erected a sawmill and had a successful business. His last days were spent with his daughter, Barbara (Mrs. H. Huber of Berlin) where he died March 20th,

1875. Both he and his wife are buried in the East Mennonite Cemetery in Kitchener. He was said to have been a man of unblemished character and sterling integrity. They had eleven children as follows: Barbara, John, Mary Ann, Magdalena, Elizabeth, Joseph, Isaac, Hannah, Jacob, Isabella, Simon.

(VI) JACOB SHOEMAKER was born on March 4th, 1842, and died August 14th, 1919, in Kitchener. On April 5th, 1866, at Hawkesville he married Eliza Hall who was born January 4th, 1849, and died June 11th, 1891. They were married by Rev. J. K. Swift, Primitive Methodist Minister. He worked in his father's mill at Bridgeport in his early years and later became a successful fruit merchant. Their union was blessed with twelve children as follows: Sarah Elizabeth, James Edward, Sheldon, Julien, Roland Hall, Luana Eliza May, Aliffia Lucena, Jacob Leroy, Bertha Magdalena, Barbara Nettie, Clinton, Angus Lorne.

It is interesting to note that after the next generation, this particular Shoemaker line became extinct as all the children are girls.

A NONAGENARIAN REMEMBERS

By Georgina H. Thomson, M.A.

Reference Librarian, Calgary Public Library
Calgary, Alberta.

1878 was an election year for the young Dominion of Canada, and political meetings were the order of the day up and down the land. One of these meetings in the little town of Strasburg in Waterloo Township was attended by my father, George Brodie Thomson, who, though now in his 92nd year, has still a clear memory of those far-off days when he was growing up on his father's farm a few miles from Strasburg. He still remembers that meeting and likes to talk about it.

In those days, he says, though a meeting might be called by the supporters of one party they would allow their opponents to speak turn about on the same platform, the privilege of final rebuttal, however, going to the party that had called the meeting. The chairman would be a local man, and young Geordie's father sometimes took the chair at meetings called by Sir John A. Macdonald's supporters.

Strasburg, though a small place on the Huron Road, had a large tavern for the refreshment of travellers, and a shed for their horses and rigs. It was in a hall above this shed that the meeting in question was held.

The two candidates for South Waterloo were both present. James Young, the Reform candidate, was a Scotsman from Galt who had represented South Waterloo since the first Confederation government in 1867. When only 18 years old he had bought the *Dumfries Reformer* and had become widely known for his editorials. He won his seat in 1867 single-handed against strong Tory opposition. In 1872 and 1874 he was re-elected by acclamation, and held the important offices of Chairman of the Committee on Public Accounts, and Chairman of the Committee of the Whole on Supply. He had sponsored such historic measures as "Vote by Ballot" and the publication of the House of Commons Debates, and was a brilliant and fluent speaker.

Against such a formidable opponent was a newcomer to the political arena, Mr. Samuel Merner. Mr. Merner was an immigrant of German origin who had learned the blacksmith trade at Preston and later set up his own shop at New Baden. This had grown into a foundry which he ran with great success, later establishing another at Waterloo Village. My father remembers him as a big stout man, highly respected in the community where he had held such offices as Justice of the Peace, Councilman and Reeve. Now he was running for the House of Commons, calling himself an Independent, but supporting the protection policy of Sir John A. Macdonald, with its rallying cry of "Canada for the Canadians!" This and the unfinished railway to link up British Columbia with the Eastern provinces were the two main issues of the election. Mackenzie's government had been forced to resign because of discontent with his piecemeal method of construction and the slow progress of the railway. Now this night at Strasburg the two questions were to be threshed out on the platform.

Before the meeting Mr. Merner encountered Mr. Young walking up and down the verandah in front of old Mr. Walder's general store and postoffice, and stopped to speak to him, but Mr. Young ignored his greeting and walked on. "Jimmie Young was a very proud man," my father says.

There was a large crowd at the meeting, but they were quiet and gave each man a fair hearing. My father does not remember much of Mr. Young's speech except that he spoke eloquently and well, loyally supporting the Mackenzie government.

Then Mr. Merner was on the floor. In his strong German accent he attacked the railway policy of the Liberals. "What about those steel rails that the Mackenzie government bought? Why those steel rails they lie there till they rot," he shouted.

Then flaunting his independence he cried, "What about Shimmie Young? Shimmie Young is a tool in the House. When I goes down to Ottawa I don't care for Shon A. Macdonald nor Alexander Mackenzie nor no oder man. I go there on mine own record." The audience, many of German descent, applauded him loudly.

After election day, when the votes had been counted, it was found that Mr. Merner had won by 44 votes. Quite possibly the Strasburg meeting had turned the scales for him. When the results were known, a crowd of young fellows, including young Geordie Thomson, collected a lot of tar barrels and coal-oil and had a bonfire in which they burned a stuffed figure of "Jimmie" Young, amid great hilarity.

Mr. Merner held only one term of office and his utterances in the House might be independent, but according to Hansard, they were few. Mr. Young did not return to federal politics, but was later persuaded to run for the Ontario Legislature, was elected and sat for a number of years, being appointed Provincial Treasurer under the Mowat government. When ill health forced his retirement, he devoted himself to writing history, and is remembered particularly for his "Reminiscences of the Early History of Galt and the Settlement of Dumfries," and "Public Men and Public Life in Canada."

BRIEF BIOGRAPHIES—

Alexander Rodgers Goldie died November 9th, 1951. He was born June 11th, 1873, the son of John Goldie and Margaret Rodgers Goldie. He was educated in the Galt public schools and the Collegiate Institute. He graduated at the University of Toronto in 1893 as a Bachelor in Science.

After graduation he naturally became connected with the Goldie-McCulloch business, was appointed assistant manager in 1895 and manager in 1896 at the death of his father.

When in 1923 the Goldie-McCulloch Ltd. was merged with Babcock-Wilcox, Mr. Goldie became vice-president of the latter company, and president in 1932.

He always displayed keen interest in civic and community affairs. He was an alderman in 1903-'5, president of the Galt Hospital Trust. He was active in patriotic work during both wars.

He was a devoted member of the Central Presbyterian Church.

He was a brilliant player on the Galt team of the Western Football Association.

His first wife, Nora Gibson, died in 1906. He later married Grace Wilson who survives, also two sons, John G. and A. Gibson and two daughters, Mary and Margaret E., now Mrs. C. F. Busler of Toronto.

Karl K. Homuth was lost to the County on March 19th, 1951. He was the son of one of the pioneer families of Waterloo County. Born in Preston, he received his education in the public schools of Preston and the Galt Collegiate Institute. Toward the close of 1917 he took charge of the Otto Homuth Wool Stock Company and became president in 1928.

He became a member of the Preston Municipal Council in 1917. In 1918 he was elected to the Ontario Legislature for South Waterloo.

In the federal election in 1938 he was elected to Parliament.

He was a member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church.

He married Minnie Rahn who survives with one son and two daughters.

William J. Pelz passed away on February 8th, 1951. A native of Preston, he served the community in many capacities. He was a member of the Preston Council for 16 years and was mayor from 1941 to 1945.

He was a member of Grand River Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Kitchener.

He is survived by his wife, the former Maude Clemens, three daughters and three sons.

Arthur B. Pollock died on December 16th, 1951. He was born May 24th, 1877, at Linwood, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. David Pollock.

He organized the Dominion Electrohome Industries Limited and began the manufacture of radio sets in 1925.

He was a member of St. John's Anglican Church and a member of Grand River Lodge A.F. & A.M.

Surviving are his widow, the former Racis Boehmer and one son, Carl.

Alexander Schaefer departed this life February 16th, 1951. Born near St. Agatha, he was the son of the late William Schaefer and Susana Hoffman.

He was educated in the public schools and the K-W Collegiate.

After operating a farm on the Petersburg highway, he moved to Kitchener in 1920.

He was elected to City Council in 1926 and served until 1939; he was again returned in 1941 and served until 1948.

He attended St. Matthew's Lutheran Church.

He married Louise Kraehling who survives with two sons, Walter and Wilfred and two daughters, Mrs. Wilmot Doering and Mrs. Vincent Arnold.

Miss Evelyn Lillian Breithaupt, member of a prominent Kitchener family, passed away September 9th, 1951. She was educated in the Kitchener public schools and the Ontario Ladies College at Whitby.

She was vice-president of the Kitchener branch of the Canadian Red Cross and provincial vice-president of the I.O.D.E., past regent of both the Municipal Chapter and the Queen Anne Chapter. She was also a member of the local Council of Women.

She was an active member of Zion Evangelical Church and a member of the choir for many years.

Miss Breithaupt was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Louis Breithaupt.

On September 14th, 1951, Kitchener lost an outstanding citizen in the person of John Christian Breithaupt. One of the community's most prominent citizens, he was born February 27th, 1859. He was educated in the Kitchener public and high school and at Northwestern College at Napierville, Ill.

He had been director and manager of tanneries of the Breithaupt Leather Company Ltd., and vice-president of the Equitable Life and Accident Insurance Company in Waterloo.

He was a former mayor, reeve and alderman of the city and a member of the Water Commission and chairman for 49 years.

He was a member of Zion Evangelical Church.

Surviving are his widow, the former Caroline C. Anthes, two sons, J. Edward and Walter H., and two daughters, Mrs. Ernest A. Harris and Mrs. Allan E. Duffield.

NEW ABERDEEN

By Ira Kinzie

Another of the early villages of Waterloo Township, once prominent in the pioneer life was the settlement known as New Aberdeen, located 5 miles south of Kitchener. Settlement of this village commenced in 1824 and the village was laid out in 1846, with George Davidson as Postmaster. In 1850 New Aberdeen contained about 150 inhabitants, had a grist mill, saw mill, pottery, 3 churches, Presbyterian, Mennonite and Lutheran. In 1864 there was a boot and shoe store, blacksmith shop, cabinet shop and wagon shop. At this time the population was about 100, among the residents were John Gurgle, David Geiger, the teacher, John Hepworth, William McKay, Fred Kaiser, William Wilson, William Watson and others. In 1870 the population dwindled, Joseph Thompson was shoemaker, George Davidson lumber dealer, John Gerrie, school teacher, Peter Hamacher, shoemaker, William Kay, Postmaster and wagon maker, William Marshall, carpenter, and Henry Weyde, grocer. By the 80's the post office of New Aberdeen, and the name no longer appeared as a village in the township.

ROSEVILLE

By Ira Kinzie

There is no one living that knows the origin of this village; but the most ancient document shows that Christian Shantz bought a tract of land from Robert Beasley in the year 1805. This had been a very active village at the close of the 19th century. It consisted of 4 churches in the village and the near vicinity, four hotels, a blacksmith shop, a shoemaker, also a printing establishment which is in operation at the present time by Louis Kaiser, probably one of the oldest men in the Roseville School Section. One general store also operated with a Post Office which ceased to function years ago. A saw mill was constructed by Benjamin Hallman and David Bricker, later operated by James Barton and last of all by David Clemens.

The village was named after a Mr. Rose who had been the first shoemaker. Mr. Christian Kaiser was the first blacksmith, also operating a cooper shop in his spare time and making bar-

rels for the Goldie Milling Co. of Greenfield. Mr. Goldie would fetch the barrels with an ox team.

As the community was mostly a dense forest, and the means of transportation for the settlers was by ox team which had to travel over rough roads, and wolves were in abundance, the settlers needed stopping off places for the nights, and that was the reason for the large number of hotels.

The old settlers tell us of an opening in the forest about two miles north of the village, and strange as it may seem the wolves would gather every afternoon and put up an awful howl. Also about a farmer who had been helping a neighbor to thresh and was attacked by a bear on his way home, but who broke his pitchfork on the old Bruin.

Roseville, at one time was noted for having the best sheep in the world. John Rutherford, a Scotch farmer, north of the village, captured the Grand-Champion Prize at the World Fair in Chicago in 1893 when exhibiting his sheep.

John Durstine was one of the first school teachers in the village, and lived two miles west of the village. While on his way to school one day he came across a rattler.

On May 11th, 1852, the trustees of the Lutheran congregation, namely Christian Kaiser, George Heilareigel and William Potter, bought 15,000 square feet of land from John R. Detweiler for the erection of a church in which to worship. Some years later it was sold to the United Brethren and is in use at the present time.

In 1853 a Union Church house was built one mile west of the village by the Mennonite and the Evangelical people. That ceased to function in 1898 and was demolished later. A new one was built in the village which was dedicated Aug. 14th, 1898, and is in use at the present time by the Evangelical people. In 1855 a stone church was built one half mile west of the village to replace a log church, just a few rods west on the same side of the road. We find no record of the date when this church was built, but one of my informants tells me he well remembers hearing his mother say that when 12 years of age, she and her sister used to walk to service in that church. They lived three miles from there and that was in 1836. The church was named after Rev. Jacob Detweiler who migrated from Pennsylvania in 1822 and bought from Mr. Dickson, a tract of land comprising four farms just west of the village. In addition to the church property more land was purchased for a burial ground. At that time the registration of deaths was not compulsory, so we can find no record of the first burials. The earliest on a stone, which now remains, is dated 1833.

In 1856 a brick church was built one mile east of the village, called the Hallman Mennonite Church, to replace a log one, which stood across the road adjoining the cemetery. The service in the church was discontinued early in the 80's, some seventy years ago.

CENTENNIAL OF MAPLE GROVE SCHOOL

By Miss Edna Hunsperger and Mr. Enan Hunsperger

There are still a few living witnesses of the very early days at Maple Grove. These silent and stately bystanders have followed the progress which man has failed to record or preserve. If only trees could talk, how interesting, accurate and detailed our search into the past could be! Incidents joyful and romantic as well as tearful and humiliating could all be shared among us on this our centennial celebration. However, facing realities, we shall endeavour to assemble the few scattered fragments which make up our rich but hazy past.

Our earliest record is a memorial dated October 4, 1848 regarding the sale of one rood of land on the south side of the road, twenty-two chains and seventy-one links from the eastern limit of Lot 11. This was sold by Henry Wanner and his wife Hannah to the Wellington District Council for the price of five shillings for the purpose of a school—School Section No. 27. This land, one quarter mile west of the Wanner Church, was again sold by the trustees of School Section No. 20, on July 2, 1859, to Henry Wanner for five shillings. On the same date is recorded the sale of the present site by Henry Wanner to the trustees of School Section No. 20, Waterloo, for the price of one dollar. It would appear that during the interval 1848-1859 the currency had changed and the county divisions had altered locating us in Waterloo County rather than in Wellington District. An 1861 map shows the owner of the Wanner farm (now Stanley Harlock's) as John W. Martin, the Wanner's adopted son.

Our search for historical source material on the school itself has not been fruitful. In an interesting article written by R. L. Parker, teacher in 1937, he refers to an old account book dating back over one hundred years. The present historical committee has not been able to locate this book but from Mr. Parker's article we note that in the very early days of the three R's, pupils paid a monthly fee of twenty-five cents for their schooling. Teachers received very modest salaries, one recorded being fourteen dollars per month, and boarded in turn at different homes.

Among the earliest trustees recorded were John S. Clemens, Isaac Clemens, James Hilborn and Joel Clemens. The oldest pupils

known to us attended school in 1865-66 and are here with us today. They are Tillie Sauder (Mrs. Thomas Vickerman) and Cornelia Clemens (Mrs. Peter E. Shantz). Mrs. Shantz recalls Mr. Thomas Hilliard as her first teacher. Mr. Hilliard later became school inspector and still later founder of the Dominion Life Assurance Company of Canada. Other teachers prior to 1880 were Mr. Henderson, Mr. J. Suddaby (of Suddaby School, Kitchener), Nellie Shaw, John Robinson, Gitty Claflin and Charles Mulloy. Miss Claflin taught in the Junior room and was later married to Mr. Mulloy.

The main school building was built in 1850 and provided one large room. This was occasionally divided for junior and senior classes under two teachers. The south centre window now replaces the original front entrance. Small cloak rooms on either side of this doorway were used as classrooms for junior pupils. Between classes these pupils were seated on benches in the aisles. In 1875 the wing was built to provide additional accommodation. Much of the work on the building was done by senior boys, possibly 16-18 years of age, who attended school in winter only and assisted on the farms in spring and summer. Miss Keziah Martin, a daughter of Samuel W. Martin who lived on what is now the Nahrgang farm at Speedsville, was the first teacher in this new part of the building. Her younger brother Samuel L. Martin taught the whole school for a number of years during the 1880's.

Miss Elizabeth (Lizzie) Snyder, a daughter of Levi Snyder, was also one of the early junior teachers. She later married Noah Shiry and they farmed on her father's farm just west of the school.

George Copeland and V. R. Conway, sons-in-law of John W. Martin on whose farm the school is located, both taught during the 1870-80 period. Mr. Copeland later farmed here and his family attended the school. As a farmer he was a public spirited individual and also a wise disciplinarian. In spring, at the close of the maple syrup season, he visited the school and presented each pupil with a pat of maple sugar as a reward for unmolested sap buckets in his woods adjoining the school.

While pioneer teachers dealt with the secular education of the coming generation, other pioneers were attending to their spiritual needs. The Wanner Mennonite Church was built in 1837, the Hagey (or Bechtel) Mennonite Church in 1842 and the Zion Wesleyan Methodist (now United) Church in 1851.

The Great Western Railway Galt-Guelph branch which formed the southern boundary of this school section was built in 1858. New Hope was renamed Hespeler at this time after Jacob Hespeler who was active in promoting the railway. Previously a stage coach



Maple Grove School, 1889

route crossed this section via the John Eisenbach road to Fisher's Mills and Guelph. Two hotels were located in Fisher's Mills at that time. The stage stop hotel building is now James Stager's flourishing general store.

Many small industries operated by water power were thriving in the community. A sawmill had been built in the early days by a Mr. Fisher. This was the beginning of Fisher's Mills. In 1854 the property was purchased by Thomas Stewart. The mill pond was enlarged and a flour mill built previous to 1861. In 1864 Mr. Stewart again sold the property to Aaron Clemens. After his death in 1888 the mill was operated by his estate for a few years. During the early nineties, the opening period of wheat farming in the Canadian West, the owners decided to dismantle and move the entire flour mill with equipment to Birtle, Manitoba. Joseph S. Shantz and Absolom B. Snyder then purchased the old mill site and operated the sawmill and a feed grinding mill. After one year Mr. Shantz purchased the entire business. A cider and apple butter mill was added and, at about the turn of the century, a generating plant was operated (for about five years) supply electric power for the town of Hespeler. The feed mill is now operated by his son A. J. Shantz who has developed a modern feed mixing plant and also a seed cleaning department to serve this community. The sawmill is still operated seasonally.

The site of the present village of Beaverdale also boasted industries in the earlier days. The large farm on the east side of the road had been pioneered by Squire Ellis, an Irishman who came from Pennsylvania with the Mennonite settlers of this district. He was a Justice of the Peace. A certificate has been found which shows that he performed the marriage rites for Jacob Witmer and Anna Reist, grandparents of Leslie D. Witmer in the year 1828.

Squire Ellis' son William, and his family, conducted a number of industrial enterprises on the farm. A cheese factory was operated for quite a number of years. In a small shop owned by the Ellis Estate, near the present Dan Beaver residence, Mr. John Shupe manufactured washing machines, and later, when the market for this commodity became glutted, the building was used as a shingle mill. A similar shingle mill was located at Speedsville on the present Ross Armstrong property. Limekilns were to be found about the community as well, the one for this area being on the Ellis farm and operating from approximately 1890-1908.

A woolen mill was located on the Speed River at Speedsville, owned by Thomas Stewart according to the 1861 map. This was later operated by Mr. Hunt and by Samuel C. Martin, a son of John W. Martin and in more recent years by the Vickerman broth-

ers, Thomas and Frederick. After their passing, the property was sold and the mill building is now being used as a magnesium foundry.

The community blacksmith shop of the late nineteenth century was situated on the north east corner of the Fisher Mills-Beaverdale Road intersection and was operated by Fountain Winters.