

FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL VOLUME

of the

**WATERLOO
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**



NINETEEN FIFTY-EIGHT

FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL VOLUME

of the

**WATERLOO
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**



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KITCHENER, ONTARIO
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1959

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PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

We welcome the members of the Historical Society to our annual meeting, and extend a warm welcome to our guests.

For several years the attendance at our public meetings has been steadily growing. This is an indication of your increased interest in the work of the society.

As this is the last time I shall be presiding at the annual meeting as your president, there are a few observations I wish to leave with you.

I esteem it an honor to have served as your president during the last three years. It has been a pleasant experience due largely to the fine co-operation I have received from the members of the Executive Council.

I have fond hopes for the future of the Society. It would be a fine thing if the new president would be able to announce at the next annual meeting that our membership had increased from its present 270 to 600. This is quite possible—if each member would secure one new member the result would be near the objective. One new member of the society who joined two months ago has already secured forty new members and six renewals.

With reference to the Pioneer Village project at Doon, in which I feel sure you all have a deep interest, might I suggest that we be on our guard against discouragement as a result of probable delays, criticisms, and the many problems that may arise. Let us never lose our enthusiasm until we have successfully achieved the fulfillment of Dr. Broome's vision.

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said "Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm".

I have been associated for many years with your new president Mr. Barrie in historical work and I can assure you that he has in good measure that quality of enthusiasm which Emerson said was so essential to achievement. He will be a fine president.

F. E. Page



SECRETARY'S REPORT—1958

During 1958 two open meetings, two council meetings and two executive meetings were held.

On May 27th, an open meeting was held at the Kress Hotel, Preston. Mr. Nathaniel Stroh delivered an interesting address on the Indian Settlements in Waterloo County before the coming of the white man. He had some very fine articles on display. These included pottery, arrowheads, pipes, tomahawk, jewellery and an Indian scalp. Mr. W. H. E. Schmalz showed pictures taken by his son on a recent trip to Europe.

During the past year many priceless articles have been presented to the Museum. Among these are the Cash and Minute book of S.S.3, Waterloo, (now known as the Pines) dating from 1855; an English Bible dated 1610; and a wedding dress and suit over 60 years old.

Copies of our 1957 volume were sent to all members of the councils of: Waterloo County, Galt, Preston, Hespeler, Waterloo, Elmira, Ayr, North Dumfries, Woolwich, Wilmot and Waterloo Townships.

270 members have paid their 1958 membership. We are sorry to report that four members passed away during the year. Dr. Ward Woolner, Miss Sylvia Bock, Mr. Irvin Harlock and Mr. James Webster.

We acknowledge with sincere thanks the grants from the cities towns, villages and townships and county.

We appreciate the accommodation provided by the library for the museum and archives and the wonderful co-operation of the library staff.

Grace E. Hall.



“BRIGHTENING THE CORNER”

The Museum Committee throughout the year has cleaned, rearranged, mended and accepted gifts. This year the usual amount of glass was replaced on the showcases. One of the baby buggies went through a major overhauling. Clean signs were constantly sullied, misplaced or lost by the enthusiasm of the viewers.

However, water-filled floors and dismal surroundings have been no deterrent to the people who have enjoyed the Waterloo Historical Museum. They came from near and far. One group toured the Museum as a parting present before taking up residence in Pennsylvania.

Two twelve year old lads, who had been weekly visitors, are now in the process of setting up their own museum.

Many school classes and organizations visited the museum during the year. These groups were instructed by Miss Grace Schmidt of the Library Staff, Mr. Stroh or other members of the Museum Executive or Library Staff.

Mr. Nathaniel Stroh, appointed this year as Saturday Custodian, has been a great drawing card.

Treasured gifts have been varied — ranging from dresses to pictures of great sport events.

In 1959? — The first endeavour to brighten the light to the hideaway would be to “touch up” the old out-door sign or purchase a new one.

Museum Committee

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

1958

Receipts:

Balance on hand January 1st, 1958	\$1,700.57
Members' fees	302.00
Sales of reports and other books	28.00
Bank interest	47.15
Miscellaneous	1.18
Grants:	
Galt	\$100.00
Waterloo	100.00
Hespeler	25.00
Elmira	25.00
Preston	50.00
Ayr	10.00
Townships:	
Woolwich	25.00
Woolwich	25.00
Waterloo	100.00
Wilmot	25.00
	660.00
	\$2,738.90

Disbursements:

45th Annual Volume	\$386.50
Publications Committee	15.62
Stationery & Printing	31.49
May and Annual Meetings	23.00
Advertising	15.96
Curator	36.00
Postage and Exchange	40.19
Secretary	75.00
Janitor	40.00
Ontario Pioneer Community	500.00
Miscellaneous	10.46
	1,174.22
Balance	\$1,564.68

Audited and found correct.

February 6, 1959.

Nathaniel Stroh,

72 Erb Street East, Waterloo.

FROM WATERLOO TO WATERLOO

By G. Elmore Reaman, Ph. D.

Dr. G. E. Reaman, Director of the Community Education Programme at Waterloo University, wrote "The Trail of the Black Walnut."

In April, 1958, a request came from the secretary of the municipality of Waterloo, Belgium to the municipal clerk of Waterloo, Ontario, stating that his city was establishing a municipal museum and that he was writing to all the Waterloos in the world asking for some historical items characteristic of each place for their museum.

In conversation with Mayor Harold Paikin of Waterloo I learned of this request and informed him that Mrs. Reaman and myself would be in Belgium the early part of June. It was then decided to set up a committee to choose certain historical items which I might present personally to Waterloo, Belgium.

Thinking that the Department of External Affairs in Ottawa would appreciate the opportunity to assist in making this a goodwill mission, I contacted them and they very willingly agreed to cooperate. This they did by advising the Canadian Consulate in Brussels of our intended visit and directing that the municipality of Waterloo, Belgium, be advised of their interests.

Here, in Waterloo, the committee that included Donald A. Roberts, president of the Waterloo Chamber of Commerce, decided to send one large brass key about twenty inches in length with an inscription; a special leather bound copy of "The Trail of the Black Walnut"; and a folding panel four feet by six feet on which to display three of the historical plates of the Pennsylvania German Folklore Society of Ontario, maps of Waterloo area, pictures of Waterloo College, the Centennial Booklet and 1928 and 1957 volumes of the Waterloo Historical Society.

The Canadian Embassy in London, having arranged for hotel accommodation for us at Waterloo, Belgium, upon our arrival at Brussels some four weeks later, we were met by Mr. McClimont of the Trade Department of the Canadian Embassy who introduced us to the First Counsellor, Mr. G. S. Stoner. We found a letter waiting for us from M. Cluyse, the Communal Secretary of Waterloo stating that he would like to take us for a tour of Waterloo battlefield.

Late on the morning of June 18 we went to the Canadian Embassy where we were to meet the Ambassador M. C. P. Hébert of Montreal. He was most cordial and we had a pleasant visit with His Excellency. He expressed his regrets at being unable to go to Waterloo because he was already committed to an evening with the Swiss Ambassador. He was sending, he told us, Mr. Stoner, the First Counsellor, to represent him.

M. Marc Boudouin from the Embassy took us to lunch. Then about 2:45 we started for Waterloo, about twelve miles out from Brussels. We were driven to the City Hall where the Canadian Ensign was flying beside the Belgian flag and were taken to the office of M. Robert Cluyse, the Communal Secretary, who took charge of us. M. Cluyse had some knowledge of English and with my knowledge of French we were able to converse quite well. He had arranged for a city car and chauffeur to drive us about and our first visit was to the Caillou Farm at Mt. St. Jean where Napoleon had his headquarters.

We met the man in charge of the museum who asked us to sign the Guest Book which contained such famous names as Henry, Duke of Gloucester. Many things connected with Napoleon were on display, his bed — a folding camp bed which he used on his campaigns and on which he was laid out after his death; his hat, his table and cloth on which he wrote; his chair, letters in his handwriting, maps; his death mask; his son Jerome's hat. In one room was a skeleton found on the battlefield and identified by the buttons as a soldier who had fought in the battle.

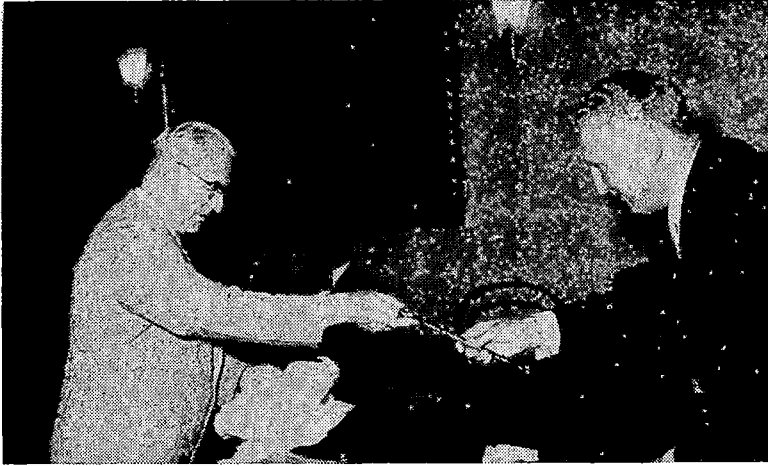
We were taken to the garden to see the little Memorial Monument, open on one side to show the pile of bones of soldiers dug up on the farms round about.

Returning to the house we stood by the window looking out over the whole countryside rolling away toward Waterloo district and recalled that it was 143 years ago that Napoleon had stood at that same window on an earlier June 18.

Driven back toward Waterloo we came to the Panorama, a circular building with a central platform raised about 25 feet and reached by a stairway. Between the platform and the wall actual replicas of the battle are shown with horses and riders in life size so that it appears as if one were looking at the actual battle while on the walls are scenes depicting the fighting. It was all depressingly realistic.

Along the roads on the way back to Waterloo stood several war monuments: memorials to the Hanoverians, Belgians and French, also a statue of Victor Hugo who wrote his "Les Misérables" in a house nearby.

We drove along the main street of Waterloo to the Wellington Museum in front of which stands a life size model of a Gordon Highlander. The house, built in 1705, is a large stone building. Since that time it has been owned by the same family and the woman in charge, a descendant, showed us the museum, housed in a large upstairs room. In 1958 the house was bought by the city and it is all



**DR. RÉAMAN PRESENTS THE KEY OF WATERLOO, ONTARIO TO
M. JULES DESCAMPE, BURGEMESTRE OF WATERLOO, BELGIUM**

to be used as a museum, hence their request for historical contributions. The house was Wellington's headquarters, actually about three miles from the battlefield.

In the room were his bed, and another one, that of Col. Sir Alexander Gordon. On display were pictures of Wellington's home, Appley House, Hyde Park Corner in London; letters written by Wellington; also letters written by him in French. Displayed under glass was a copy of the London "Times" with Wellington's dispatches re the battle, etc. in it. There stood his armchair and table with his dispatch box on it, also a letter in which he said the battle was to be called "Waterloo".

Here we were joined by M. Maurice Gérard who spoke English quite well. M. Cluysé told us he was a Protestant and that there were quite a few Protestants in Waterloo as well as members of Jehovah Witnesses and Christian Science. We were taken across the

street to visit Église de Waterloo; St. Joseph is the saint. The front part of the church was built about 1690 when Belgium was under the Spaniards. Because of a forest all around reaching as far as Brussels (much of it still remains as a great park), the woodsmen wanted a church and the Spanish King, Charles II, thought it would be well to provide one for them. The rest of the church was built in the 1700's. The chairs, (no pews) straight backed, were arranged it seemed to us, to look backward, but they were not for sitting but for kneeling.

We were driven back to the City Hall to M. Cluyse's office where we were joined by Mr. G. S. Stoner. Here also we met the Burgemestre, M. Jules Descampe, the Council and guests.

Next we were escorted to the Council Chamber by a uniformed guard, passing between others stationed at the door. The Chamber was rectangular in shape. Down each side was a long table with a shorter one across the front. A row of chairs lined the walls behind the tables and on these the Council and specially invited guests sat. Three chairs were placed directly in front of and facing the shorter table and to these Mrs. Reaman first, myself and Mr. Stoner were escorted. A beautiful painting almost life size of an old lady and two old gentlemen hung on the front wall and another, equally beautiful, hung on the wall to our left. It portrayed Victor Hugo thoughtfully looking toward the lion on the Pyramid Mountain. The painting on the wall immediately in front of us of the three old people, two men and a woman, in Flemish dress, had an interesting story. The old lady was a sister of one of the men and all three were over 100 years old. The old lady had a ride in the first Ford car owned in the district. (By the way Flemish is the language spoken quite a bit in that area; even the French has a Flemish accent and is difficult to understand.)

The Burgemestre sat at the middle of the table facing us and reminded us of Prime Minister Diefenbaker—tall, similar build and features, and curly hair. M. Cluyse was seated on his left. The Burgemestre gave an address of welcome in French to which I replied in French and presented the key, book, and letter from Mayor Paikin; the other items had not yet been cleared by Customs.

M. Lucien Gerke, Secretary of the Société D' E'tudes Historiques and Folkloriques de Waterloo — Braine L'Alleud read a historical paper. This was presented to me to bring back to Canada. Mr. Stoner spoke for the Embassy, first in French then in English; I followed at greater length in English. M. Gérard gave a resumé in French as most of those present knew no English.

Wine was served and we were toasted, followed by a toast by Mr. Stoner to Waterloo.

A short social time followed and soon Mr. Stoner and we were driven to M. Descampe's home, a beautiful place on the edge of the

city. The spacious house stood in park-like grounds with many flowerbeds and spreading trees. The butler met us at the door and we were shown to the drawing rooms fragrant with roses and stocks. M. and Mdme. Descampe were waiting to welcome us, together with their 21 year old son, a tall, blonde, delightful young man. Among the guests were:

M. Maurice Gérard, Councilman.

M. Lucien Gerke, Secretary of the Société D'Etudes Historiques de Waterloo — Braine L'Alleud.

M. Léon Depster — President of the above society.

A Count and Countess.

A Baron and Baroness, whose names I have forgotten.

All had gone all out to do honor to the representatives of Waterloo, Ontario.

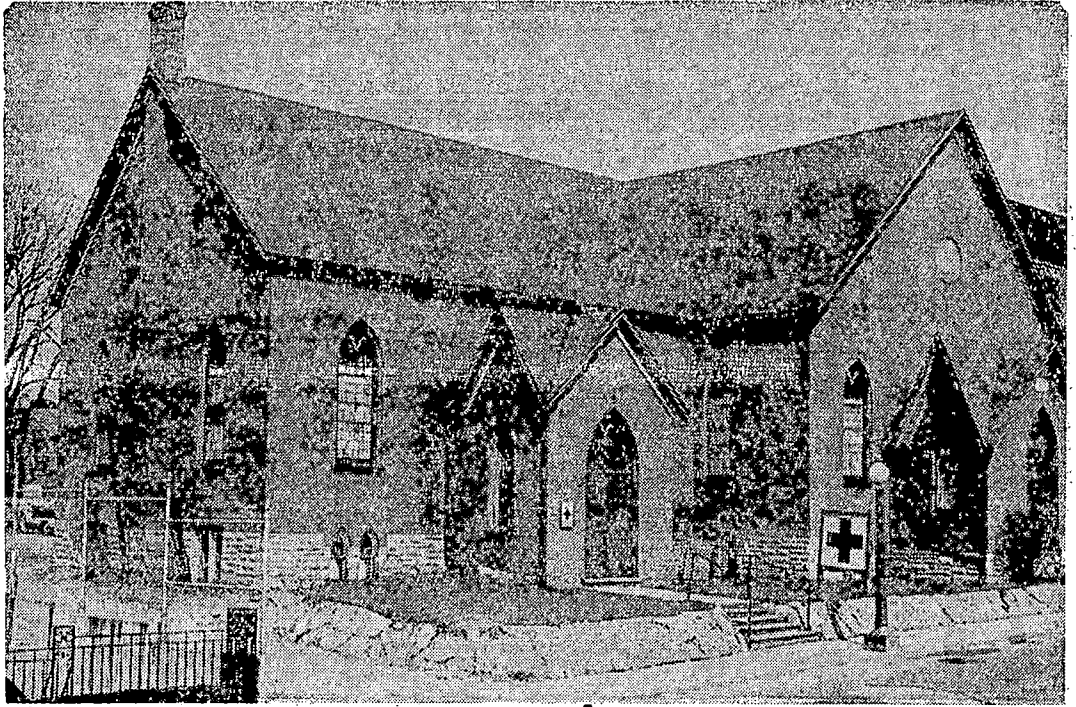
Places were laid for sixteen in the dining room lighted by a gorgeous chandelier. Bowls of lovely roses from Madame's garden visible from the windows were on the mantel. A cream colored damask cloth with small fleurs de lis embroidered down the centre part, covered the table and a bowl of pale mauve iris with no green, and silver plates of sweets made a most attractive centre-piece.

The formal dinner, served by the butler and a footman, was delicious to the taste and delightful to the eye. The Host and Hostess sat on either side of the table at the middle with the guests of honor beside them thus placing us in the centre of the assembled group.

Following dinner which lasted about two hours everyone retired to the drawing rooms again for conversation.

About 11:30 p.m. we said our farewells and left in the Embassy car with an English chauffeur who had married a Belgian woman following the war. We dropped Mr. Stoner at his home in Brussels and were soon back at our apartment in Rue de la Concorde feeling that what had begun in Waterloo, Ontario, as an answer to a request had really developed into a most interesting event of goodwill with Waterloo, Belgium, and that efforts on the part of all concerned had certainly been worthwhile.





EARLY WATERLOO TOWNSHIP HALL

KITCHENER-WATERLOO RECORD

HISTORIC BUILDING DISMANTLED

During recent years many thousands of people have passed by "Kitchener's Red Cross" building on Queen Street North and they may have done little more than note that its style and windows indicated that it had been a church. When, late in 1958, it was torn down some interest was aroused by its 110 years of history.

In 1848 Waterloo Township constructed a colonial-style building. At that time the building which later had many alterations had a projecting roof which was supported by tall posts.

It was in this hall that repeated efforts were made by the Waterloo Township Council to have the county seat established in Berlin. Several meetings concerning the county town were held in 1850. In 1852, the cornerstone for a county building was laid at the Frederick-Weber-Queen block on land donated by public-spirited Frederick Gaukel.

Sometime later the township hall was moved and ownership passed to the Crown Lands Department. The building was rented by the department to a printing firm. It was in this building that the early newspapers, "Deutsche Canadier" and "Telegraph" were printed.

Early in 1875, the late Sheriff Moses Springer was given authority to dispose of the building. It is said that he offered the structure to Edgar Chrysler for the bargain price of \$200, if the purchase were made within twenty-four hours for church purposes.

The Methodists snapped up the offer and soon were busy transforming the building. A basement was constructed and the frame building was veneered with brick. Altogether \$5,000 was spent on alterations and improvements before the building was dedicated as a church in 1879.

Another \$5,000 was expended when the wing was added to the west side in 1891. In 1904 the church property was sold by the Methodists for \$7,000 to the newly organized St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. When this congregation moved to Benton Street the property was sold to the new First English Lutheran Church for \$14,000. This first entirely English speaking congregation in Berlin took possession June 10, 1914. Then in 1938 this congregation moved to its new building at the corner of King and Green Streets, beside the Kitchener and Waterloo Collegiate and Vocational School.

During the Second World War the building was occupied by the Red Cross Society. Here for many years hundreds of women collected, made and stored tons of useful supplies that awaited final distribution. Here also, returns were made for a number of K-W Federated Charities Campaigns.

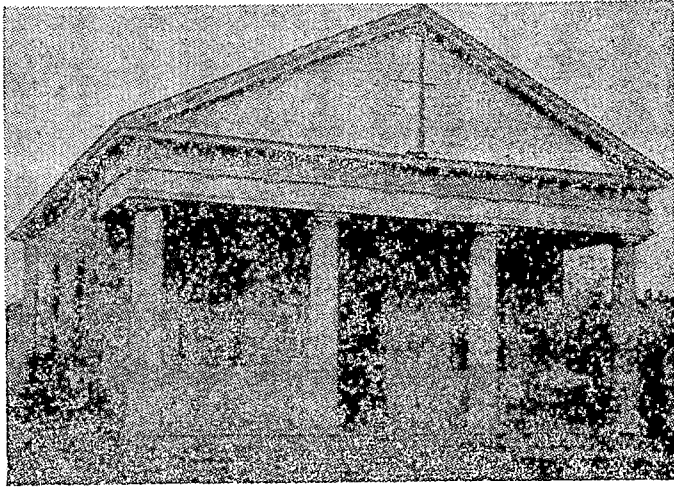
In 1948, the Kitchener Library Board with the view of possible expansion spent \$8,000 for the property. Since that time the Library Board has acquired a larger property north of the county buildings. Until a new library building is erected, the area on which this historic building stood for more than a hundred years will be used for parking.

As the building was taken apart various stages of construction were evident. And so, there passed from sight but not from memory a building that served well as a township hall, a printery and newspaper office, a church for three congregations and a Red Cross headquarters.



SKETCHING THE RAZING OF HISTORIC BUILDING

KITCHENER-WATERLOO RECORD



THE EVENING REPORTER, GALT

SOME EARLY HISTORY OF THE GALT COLLEGIATE

By Andrew W. Taylor

The illustration is taken from *Picturesque and Industrial Galt*, 1902, and is there identified as "formerly the Girls' Division of the Galt Collegiate Institute". In 1958, the building is the Lutheran Church on North Street. It was erected in the 1840's as a chapel for the Wesleyan Methodists, with generous support from Isaac Sours (pronounced Soors) the father of Methodism in Galt. After the union of the Wesleyans with the New Connexion and Primitive Methodists and the formation of Wesley Congregation (now Wesley United church) the building was sold to the Galt High School board for the sum of \$1,000. It is probable that adjoining land was bought for a school yard.

Tassie School

When this took place the Galt High School, under the principalship of Dr. Tassie, was famous throughout North America. Fewer than a third of the students were local, the rest coming from such centres as Hamilton, Toronto, London, Montreal, Quebec and Halifax. At a time when the trend was for boys to be sent across the line to be educated in the USA, Dr. Tassie had students from several States of the Union in the Galt school. The Ontario Department of Education was formed in 1871 and Dr. Tassie's school became one of the first six Collegiate Institutes (Local Colleges) in the Province. Of these six, Galt's was considerably the largest and had a special difficulty in that it had always been for boys only and the new regulations required that male and female pupils be admitted on an equal basis.

School For Girls

To meet this situation the Galt Board, after consultation with Dr. Egerton Ryerson, purchased the Wesleyan Chapel to be used as a separate division for girls. At the official opening, April 15, 1872, Dr. J. K. Smith a member of the High School Board and Minister of Knox's church was in charge of the ceremonies.

With the addition of the Girls' School the Board described their Collegiate Institute as "a chief ornament of our town and one of the most eminent educational institutions in the Province."

Attendance of young ladies rose to 40 and to increase the number advertisements were placed in the Galt Reporter, the Dumfries Reformer, the London Advertiser, the St. Thomas Home Journal, the Stratford Beacon, and the Huron Signal. The teacher for the first two years was Miss Gillin. Her salary was \$600 a year. She was followed by Miss Louisa Lundy who served until her marriage in October 1875. Miss Allen took over as Lady Principal for a period of six years, the Board speaking of their high estimation and their satisfaction with her excellent work. Miss Scrimger was assistant teacher for a time.

The caretaker's duties included seeing that the water tank was emptied every morning and filled with pure water. He had to cut, split, and carry in all fuel.

Became Armoury

When Dr. Tassie resigned in April 1881, the Board decided to make the main Collegiate co-educational. The Wesleyan Chapel was sold to The Crown for \$750 and it became the Galt Armoury, probably until 1914. During this latter period there were times when it was rented to the Public School Board. In September, 1907, a beginners' class was moved from upstairs in the Market Building to the Armoury. Shortly afterwards a committee reported that the ventilation, accommodation, and general surroundings were not in keeping with progressive school work. Places were found for the children, mainly in Dickson and Victoria schools.

Because of its ties with the early days, this building is one which we should be careful to preserve.



CONFERENCE OF THE WORLD ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH

By David Barrie

David Barrie who has been very active in Junior Farmer and 4H Club work spoke at the 1958 annual meeting. His coloured slides of the delegates from many countries were most interesting.

It was my good fortune as president of the Junior Farmers of Ontario to be chosen to represent Canada at the second world youth conference held in Beirut, Lebanon, from August 25 to September 2, 1957. Travelling by plane from Malton by way of New York, Amsterdam and Rome, I landed at Beirut where seventy delegates from fifty-two countries were meeting to discuss the problems concerning youth.

Lebanon is a small country, one hundred and twenty miles by thirty-five miles, and has a population of one and a half million. It is bordered by Syria on the north and by Palestine on the south. The official language is Arabic although French and English are used quite extensively. Agriculture and the tourist trade are the main sources of revenue.

At the conference the main subjects for discussion were:

1. Difficulty in creating and developing rural youth organizations.
2. The part played by rural youth in fundamental education, and development of under-privileged countries.
3. A study of the types of rural organizations in existence.
4. How the World Assembly of Youth might help rural youth.
5. The vocational training of rural youth.
6. The exchange of rural youth.

During the conference the opportunity was given us to visit many parts of the country where much of the farming is done as it was in Biblical days.

On the way home I visited Rome, Paris and Amsterdam. While in France and Holland, I spent several days on farms in both of these countries.

On arriving home I had the pleasure of a ten day visit by George Cave, a native of British Guiana. He was most impressed by the advance made in the use of modern methods in farming and by the colour of Ontario maple trees in the fall.



BIRTH OF THE BUTTON IN CANADA

By Idessa Zimmerman

Mrs. Zimmerman has given some of the history of the button industry in Kitchener (Berlin) and has related some facts about the men who played leading roles. Idessa (Eichler) Zimmerman contributed the "History of Bridgeport" in the 1950 volume.

The beginning of the button industry in Canada goes back to Emil Vogelsang. Mr. Vogelsang was born in Germany, May 8th, 1834, and passed away from a heart attack May 6th, 1894. He was married twice and had three children from the first marriage, and seven children from the second marriage to Margarete Cress (Jan. 6, 1843 - Apr. 9, 1927).

In 1958 two daughters are still living; Mrs. A. W. Voelker, 82 Albert St., Waterloo and Miss Edith Vogelsang who for many years was a nurse at Rochester, N.Y. Emil Vogelsang is remembered by them as a wonderful father who was very kind to his family. He was a cultured gentleman who spoke English, German and French fluently. The records indicate that he was an honest business man and that even during times of financial adversity he paid in full all his just debts.

Mr. Vogelsang had learned the craft of making buttons from ivory nuts in Germany, and came to Berlin (Kitchener) in 1866, with the backing of H. S. Huber, of Berlin. In 1866 Mr. Vogelsang opened a manufacturing shop in the old Simpson block, on West King Street. A few months later he and Henry S. Huber formed a partnership and founded the Pioneer Button Works. This partnership lasted for some years.

Then Mr. Vogelsang started a factory of his own. He interested Mr. J. Woelfe in the enterprise and they awarded Jacob Y. Shantz, a Mennonite from Pennsylvania, the contract to erect a \$20,000.00 building at the corner of King and College Streets, Berlin. Before the building was up, Mr. Woelfe withdrew. Mr. Shantz purchased an interest in the button works for a sum equal to the price of the building, and entered a seven year agreement with Mr. Emil Vogelsang to supervise the manufacturing of buttons.

When the button factory was at the corner of King and College Streets the Vogelsang home was west of it, facing King Street. Mr. Vogelsang was a member of the Swedenborg church which was located at the corner of King and Water Streets (Eaton's store in 1958).

Jacob Y. Shantz's great grandfather came from Switzerland in 1737 and settled in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. His widowed



EMIL VOGELSANG

1834 - 1894

**FIRST MANUFACTURER
OF BUTTONS
IN CANADA**

grandmother came to Canada with her fourth and fifth sons, Issac and David, from Pottstown, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania in 1808 and settled on the south-east side of the Preston Road about one and a half miles from Berlin. Two years later in 1810 she was followed by her third son, Jacob, (1781-1867) and his wife Mary Yost (1784-1869) whom he married in 1805 and these were the parents of Jacob Yost Shantz. Jacob Y. Shantz was born near Berlin May 2nd, 1822 and died at the home of his daughter Ida, October 28, 1909. He was six feet tall, with an erect carriage, and his voice was like a deep organ note. He was married three times. In 1843 he married Barbara Biehm (Apr. 7, 1819 - May 16, 1853). On December 6, 1853, he married Nancy Brubaker, who was born September 19, 1832, and died in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, while there on a visit, on October 1, 1870. On October 1, 1871 he was married to Sarah Shuh (June 9, 1823 - April 29, 1893). After Jacob Y. Shantz's first marriage, he took possession of his farm, still known as Jacob Shantz's place, where he resided for some 40 years and then moved to Berlin. He had a family of 12 children, 5 from the first marriage and seven from the second.

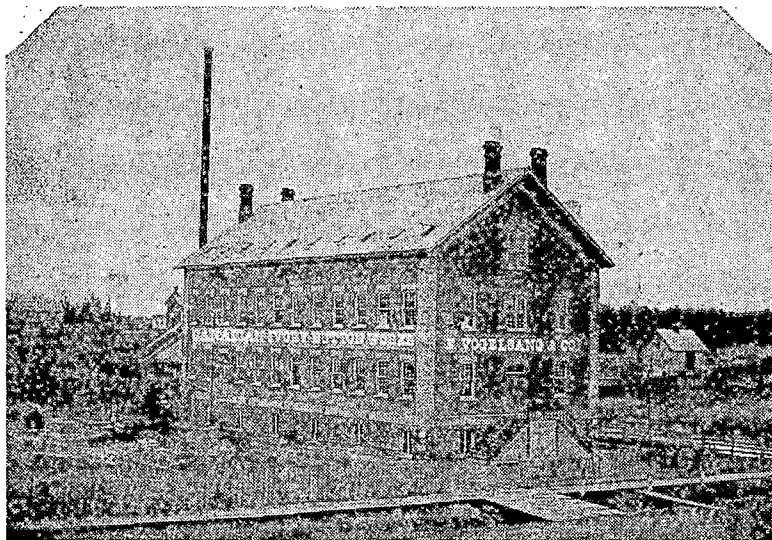
In addition to the extensive farm buildings there was a saw mill south-east of the house with power supplied by Shantz Dam, into which Schneider Creek flowed. Mr. Shantz's father was a builder and contractor and owner of Canadian block, corner of King and Foundry (Ontario) Streets.

He built a four-room addition to Suddaby School and he was the earliest of the extensive builders of private residences. Jacob Y. Shantz also was a builder. Mr. Shantz assisted in starting a felt boot and shoe factory, and the Maude Foundry, but his chief and most permanent industrial venture was the ivory button industry which was introduced into Canada from Europe by Emil Vogelsang.

Ivory buttons were made from vegetable ivory nuts, grown in the equatorial regions of South America. These squat palm trees grew great clusters of brown nuts, which were called Tagua, and were collected by the natives of Ecuador. They were floated down the rivers to Guayaquil, Esmeraldas, and Manta from where they were shipped to the outside world. Among the many varieties of these nuts the ones grown in equatorial areas proved to be best. They have been known to Europeans since 1528 when Pizarro, the conqueror, first carried them back to Spain. The skilled craftsmen of Spain and Italy soon found many uses for the Tagua nuts, fashioning them into chessmen, miniatures and buttons, much as they did the elephant tusk ivory. The Tagua nut button became the preferred button of many of the courtiers of the 16th and 17th century, because they not only took clear, vivid dyes, but could be bevelled and rounded so that they did not cut the thread by which they were sewn. When the commercialization of industries took place in the early 19th century, it was only natural to expect that buttons of vegetable ivory should be made in large quantities and by manufacturers not only in Italy, but throughout the world. As the demand for large volumes of vegetable ivory grew, the economy of Ecuador became more and more dependent on the Taguaros and the Tagua palm. This was the industry which Emil Vogelsang started. The Company which Mr. Vogelsang and Mr. Shantz operated had at one time 200 or more employees.

The industry first got under way with a stock of African vegetable ivory nuts, which were kiln-dried to remove moisture so as to loosen and remove the shell from the nut, ready for the sawing operation. The nuts were cut or sawed into slabs and pieces with a saw with 84 teeth revolving at 5,600 R.P.M. They were then selected and classed and turned into numerous patterns. In turning, pieces were held by grips in lathes and blanks cut out with face and back tools revolving at 6,000 R.P.M. Blanks were then tumbled in wire barrels to remove flash from edges and to make ready for drilling of holes, after which they were scoured and polished in wooden drums and prepared for the colouring operation. The blanks were soaked for 12 hours to open the pores of the material. Colour chemicals made into a paste were then sprayed through screens on to the unprotected parts of the button, and penetrated into the surface making a mottled effect. After the faces of buttons were sprayed the balance of the faces and backs were treated in a bath of colour chemicals, and the colour was finally developed in a second bath of chemicals to withstand light, then the buttons were again polished in drums.

The Vogelsang and Shantz Button factory operated on a large scale and at one time had 60 button turners. They were exporting to Chicago and New York markets in great quantities and to the British Possessions overseas. Some of the people who worked in this factory were the Roschman brothers, Rudolph and Richard, who later started the Roschman Button factory in Waterloo, Ontario. Also employed were the Pequegnat brothers who came from Switzerland and were very happy to be met and greeted in their native language by Emil Vogelsang. Later they started the Pequegnat Clock Company. In the manufacture of the first buttons, in this city, foot power was used. A man by the name of Simonds came from Rochester to Berlin with button experience and worked as a salesman for the button factory for some years.



**VOGELSANG FACTORY AT QUEEN AND COURTLAND,
KITCHENER IN 1871**

After the seven years agreement was up, and the partnership dissolved in 1871, Emil Vogelsang then erected a big new factory at the corner of Queen Street South and Courtland Avenue, which was named the Canadian Ivory Button Works and the name was still visible some years ago. J. M. Schneider worked for E. Vogelsang when this factory was built. Later Mr. Schneider started his meat-packing business. Mr. Vogelsang owned the property in the Queen-

Courtland-David block. Here he built a large square house with the barn near David Street. When he moved to Port Elgin this Queen St. residence was sold to Peter Moyer. He operated this factory until 1878 when he moved to Port Elgin and the factory was taken over some years later by William Greene & Rome Company Limited (W.G.R.) who opened the first shirt and collar manufacturing industry in the city, the beginning of Cluett-Peabody Company. Then the building was occupied by Oscar Rumpel felt boot factory. In 1958 the MacDonald Electric Company occupies the building.

When Mr. Emil Vogelsang moved to Port Elgin, he started another button factory, the Emil Vogelsang Button Company, and a sign on this building is still visible in 1958. He continued this factory for a period of eight years.

The Shantz Button Company continued, and formed a stock company of which some of the early members were, Philip Gies, Daniel Detweiler, and George Boehmer. The Boehmer Box Company was started in 1872, due to the fact that so many boxes were required in the button industry. The Shantz Button Company was the first to generate electricity in the town of Berlin. More than 50 people who worked at the Shantz Button Company went to the United States button plants to work. Some of the people employed were three of Jacob Y. Shantz's sons; Moses, Dilman, and John who followed this industry here in Berlin and then went to the button companies in Rochester, N.Y. and Buffalo, N.Y. Also one other son, Jacob was employed in Berlin. The Shantz button factory manufactured both horn and moulded shellac plastic buttons and also made machinery for the Rochester and Buffalo plants.

There is no doubt that Jacob Y. Shantz served the shortest term as Mayor in the city of Berlin (Kitchener). He was influenced by his friends and became mayor in 1882 but resigned after only four days. The office was then filled by William Jaffray until the end of 1883.

It was to the Shantz Button Company that David Gross came as a boy of ten years of age. He had been working on a farm near Conestogo, when he packed his belongings and walked to Berlin to look for work. He was born in Roseville October 14, 1866. The career of Dave Gross, as he was known by his many friends in the Twin Cities, is a very interesting one. It stands out as an assurance of the reward that comes to faithful and untiring effort. His first task with the Jacob Y. Shantz button factory was the shelling of ivory nuts. He stuck to his work of cracking ivory nuts, and soon became a machinist. Mr. Gross developed a flair for improving machines that were turning out buttons for the firm, and was the inventor of automatic button drilling machinery. He became assistant superintendent for the Jacob Y. Shantz Company. Many of the machines used were designed in the firm's own machine shop.

In its earlier years the company only manufactured vegetable ivory buttons, but as years passed other lines were added. About 1875 the company began to manufacture pearl buttons from mother-of-pearl and fresh water shell. Up to this time pearl buttons were only obtainable in Japan. While some fresh water shell was imported from the Mississippi River district, a larger part of fresh water shell originated in the beds of the Grand and Thames Rivers in Ontario. Ocean pearl shell was imported, the white shell coming from the waters around Australia, and the black shell from around the island of Tahiti. These shells were cut into blanks by tubular revolving saws, then scoured to remove the saw marks, and fed into slowly revolving chucks, to be ground to uniform thickness by faster revolving emery wheels. The blanks were again revolved in chucks and the faces were cut by stationary hard steel tools, and then were once more held in chucks and the holes were drilled and countersunk in automatic machines one to six at a time. Some buttons had two holes, some four and some were self-shanks. They were then scoured in revolving drums to eliminate marks and to make them smooth, and then polished in revolving crocks with hot water and acid. Sometimes the buttons required a final buffing to give them their high lustre. This company was the first company to give one week of holidays with pay. Also employed in the company were David Gross' brothers, William, Nelson and Herbert. William and Herbert went to Buffalo to work in the button company there, and later returned to Canada. The button plant built by Messrs. Vogelsang and Shantz (the pioneer button factory of Canada) had increased business tremendously, and after 29 years of growth and expanding business, the plant suffered a disastrous fire. For many years the northwest corner of King and College streets contained the ruins of what was once the button factory erected by Messrs. Vogelsang and Shantz.

In 1899 the plant moved to the empty building previously occupied by Compton Corset Manufacturers on Water Street North, the present site of Dominion Button Manufacturers Limited (1958). The button industry in Berlin forged ahead and became the largest employer of labour in the community by 1910, at one time employing close to 1000 workers. Berlin was tagged as "Buttonville" because it had the only button factories in Canada. The business, incorporated as a joint stock company in 1895 and known as the Jacob Y. Shantz & Sons Company Limited, in 1910 suffered another fire, which completely destroyed the plant. After the destruction by fire, the plant was rebuilt and Mr. David Gross purchased the business for himself and associates. The following employees were elected May 11, 1912, David Gross, President; J. B. Shantz, Vice-President; Solomon Brubaker, Secretary-Treasurer; F. W. Dreger, William Gross, Fred Bechler, Charles Hoffman, Louis Hopp, William Oswald, Rudolph Kramer, Owen Bean, Fred H. Boehmer, and Noah Wagner.

Mr. David Gross was twice married, having a son Mervin from the first marriage, and a daughter Audrey from the second. He was

very interested in municipal affairs and spent 40 years in politics. Mr. Gross entered municipal life in 1901 when he was elected to the town council. He served as deputy reeve and reeve for a number of years, representing the town on the county council. With the exception of 1907, 1911 and 1913, he sat with the town and city council and during the years 1917-19 of the First World War, he served as mayor of Berlin (Kitchener). He retired at the end of 1919. He brought to municipal administration the same business judgment that placed him at the head of Dominion Button Manufacturers Limited, which developed from the dissolution of the old Jacob Y. Shantz Company.

After retiring from civic life in 1919, he re-entered in 1922 when he was elected to the Public Utilities Commission, and became chairman in 1933 on the retirement of the late August R. Lang. He retired from the commission at the end of 1937. For years he was a member of the Waterloo North Conservative Association. He was nominated to contest the riding for the party in 1926 and was defeated by W. D. Euler, now a Senator, and one of his very best friends. He was a member of the Kitchener Board of Trade. In a prominent place on one of the walls of his office was a picture of the pathway that leads to the mountain peak of success. It was a symbolic picture which tells an inspiring story to those who would achieve and to Mr. Gross it was a constant reminder through many years of the goal for which he set out. He remarked one time, "I keep it there always as a reminder, for when a man quits striving, he is liable to slip back. One must ever strive on".

While David Gross was head of the Dominion Button Manufacturers, he and his brother Nelson also had for a time the first garage and automobile agency in Kitchener, called Gross Garage and Electrical Company.

All the men who had been elected to Dominion Button Manufacturers Limited had long and varied experiences and had become thoroughly efficient in their various departments as button workers. The plant of owner-worker management which developed, created a spirit of co-operation in all departments of the company and each employee took unusual pride in the product and strove to give it a full measure of his technical skill.

Mr. Gross passed away at Rochester, Minnesota, where he underwent surgery at the Mayo Clinic, on Saturday, June 3rd, 1944. At the time of his death David Gross had completed 67 years of service in the button industry. His name will be forever impressed upon the pages of the city's history.

Mervin Gross, son of David Gross, was born November 18, 1896 in Berlin, and worked at the Gross Garage and Electrical

Company, washing and repairing cars, and doing electrical work. He started work at Dominion Button Manufacturers on September 4, 1914 at the age of 17. Beginning with rough work he gained experience in all divisions of the company and finally he was placed in charge of personnel and purchasing, and made assistant manager and director. Later he was appointed vice-president which post he held until the death of his father when he assumed the presidency. In 1920 the company started the manufacture of buttons from galalith, the first plastic material to be used for this purpose. Later catalin and lucite were introduced. Mr. Mervin Gross took a very keen interest in the development of the plastic button from new plastic materials which were being developed from phenol and urea formaldehyde. He started the manufacture of the plastic button, and made frequent trips to the United States in this interest. He was responsible for the company launching into the production of compression moulded buttons in 1935, and this became the leading button line in the company's range. A temporary division was set up in the warehouse for the moulding of these buttons, and later in 1944 the building adjoining Dominion Button Manufacturers Limited, was turned into the Plastic Division, to keep pace with the ever growing demand. Now plastics of many types have displaced the ivory nut, and even the original pearl buttons. Popular colours are simulated by plastics at less cost than the original materials. Moulds have replaced most of the lathes in the manufacturing process. The durability of thermo-setting process plastic buttons has long been proven. They are not affected by heat or moisture and lend colour-fast properties not found in other synthetic processes. Some wood and casein buttons are also made in the plant. Mervin Gross is keenly interested in the business and admits that he has taken few holidays. However, he travels frequently in the interest of the firm and visits the United States. He is a Rotarian and was one of the early members of the Plastic Society. Mr. Gross was married twice. On June 25th, 1924 he married Alberta Fischer, and from this union they had three daughters, Irene, Vera and Florence and one son Robert. His first wife died March 18, 1940. Mervin Gross married Esther Hannon, widow with one daughter Shirley, on November 7, 1945. His main interest is his family, and he does some fishing and enjoys raising flowers.

Today Dominion Button has over 5000 patterns dating back to 1912. Buttons have been made from almost every type of material ever used for this purpose. More than 1200 different colours are produced in a single pattern, with buttons ranging from between a quarter inch to two inches in diameter. Button manufacturers will tell you that the button, just like everything else, changes in style, but more frequently it is only a seasonal colour change. Stock warehouses, maintained in Toronto, Montreal, and Winnipeg, enable the company to distribute promptly.

Two other button companies were established in Berlin, one

of which was Kitchener Button Industries Limited, which was founded by George Schlee who was a building contractor, and who also organized the first rubber industry in Kitchener. This button plant was established in 1907 on Victoria Street North. It also produced vegetable ivory, casein and wood buttons, as well as furniture knobs, rosettes, radio control knobs and the ever popular "Yo-Yo's". The plant's original product was vegetable ivory buttons. Since December 1950 the company has been operated by an American Company as a Canadian subsidiary, which has manufactured and imported plastic buttons. The Mitchell Button Company was originated by William Mitchell Sr. and his son William and was first started on Frederick Street, Pequegnat block, in 1915, later transferring to Gaukel Street and then to the present site on Victoria St. North. At first the plant manufactured buttons from mother-of-pearl and fresh water shell. Compression moulding was started in 1942, producing plastic buttons, and recently plastic knobs, handles, industrial parts and specialties.

Since the Second World War, the button companies in Canada have experienced severe competition from the cheap labour countries of the world, such as Japan, Hongkong, Italy and India, where it has been possible to make the finished button and to export it to Canada at a cheaper price than the button can be made here. Also there has been mass production of buttons in the United States, with the "dumping" of surplus stock in our country at cut-rate prices. Unless something can be done to aid this once, vast growing industry, it may well be the end of the button business in Canada.

This is the history of the beginning of the button in this country and to Kitchener is given the distinction of having the first button company in Canada, and the second on the North American Continent.



"A people which takes no pride in the noble achievements of remote ancestors will never achieve anything worthy to be remembered by their remote descendants."

Macauly.

WELLESLEY TOWNSHIP

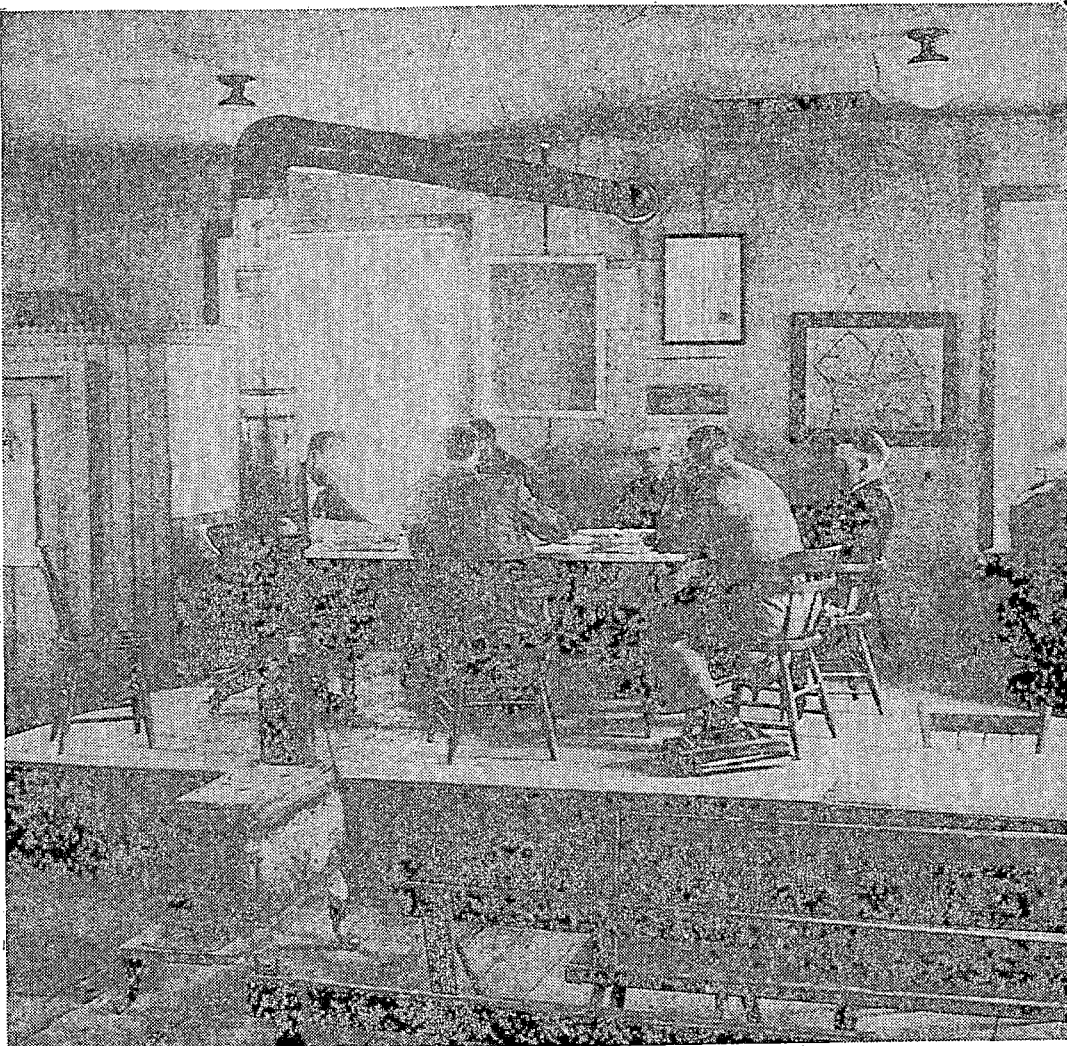
Wellesley was the last township of Waterloo County to be opened for settlement. In the early days, along with the townships of Maryborough and Peel now in Wellington County, it was part of "The Queen's Bush". On old maps it is marked as "Clergy Reserve". When Upper Canada was first divided into districts, this area was in the District of Hesse, and then, on further subdivision, in the District of Home. In 1816, Governor Francis Gore established the District of Gore, which was divided into two counties by Lake Ontario and the Governor's Road. The southerly one was Wentworth. The present County of Waterloo was included in the northern county, Halton. When the District of Wellington came into existence, in 1842, it contained twenty-seven townships, four of which were Wellesley, Woolwich, Wilmot, and Waterloo. Dumfries remained in the District of Gore. A sketch of Wellesley Township, as published in Parsell's Atlas, 1881, follows.

Wellesley is the most north-westerly township of Waterloo County, extending to Wellington County on the north, Perth County on the west, and bordering Wilmot and Woolwich on the south and east respectively. Its soil is of a generally excellent quality, and adapted to purposes of agriculture; and its surface, though somewhat rolling in certain localities, is none too much so at any point. There are small swampy areas as well.

Wellesley was the latest settled of all the townships of this county. This was owing, not to its inferiority, but to the fact that its lands continued to be held by the Government, and were not placed upon the market until the adjoining townships of Wilmot and Woolwich were well, and almost densely settled. It would seem that the pioneers of Wellesley located about 1832; at any rate in that year there were a couple of residents on the west side of the Woolwich townline, where the village of Heidelberg now is, and there were none elsewhere in the township. The parties referred to were Messrs. Blum and Anselle, the latter a Frenchman. Blum settled Lot 11, Con. A, and Anselle Lot 9, north of the present highway, where he kept tavern for a considerable period. Shortly thereafter, the line between that point and St. Clements displayed signs of civilization in the cabins of several settlers, among whom were the Beisang, Curtis and Faerster families, who were followed by the Kertes and Lachner families, all of whom were clustered in the vicinity of Heidelberg.

In St. Clements, the pioneer was Adolphe Schittler; he was followed soon after by John Stroh, who opened a tavern where the present hotel stands. In that hostelry was kept the Post Office, opened within a short time of the location of the pioneer. There had first been a combined log schoolhouse and chapel, erected in

the vicinity. On the advent of a missionary he was asked to suggest a name for the proposed post office, whereupon, like many pious missionaries of the Roman Catholic faith, he suggested the name of the saint whose name is now enshrined in the village cognomen. A store was opened by Borres and Glyck about forty years ago, and the second store was established by Herbert Gillis. In 1844 Ambrose Starr arrived and located in the promising village, and



WELLESLEY TOWNSHIP HALL

KITCHENER-WATERLOO RECORD

Reeve Donald Freeman (left, behind stovepipe) of Linwood presides at May 1958 Wellesley Township Council meeting at Crosshill.

from that time forward has exercised a leading influence in the shaping of local events.

The township was not surveyed till 1842, by which time there were several communities of "squatters" already located at different points, though the real settlement did not commence until after the survey, when the land was taken up very early, and in an incredibly brief time Wellesley took rank among the rapidly developing townships of this region.

The vicinity of Hawkesville was settled by the Hawke family about 1846. The brothers of that name, John, Gabriel, Percival and William, came in from England, accompanied by their father, who was then past the prime of life. They built a grist mill where the village now is as soon as they came in, and some time afterward a saw mill was built by Percival about four miles further west; Gabriel opened the first store in the place soon after. There had been a squatter named Schweitzer on the site of the village, but the Hawkes bought his interest and he removed. The family continued to mould the destinies of the locality for many years, but the only one of them now remaining in the village of their founding is William. The village never reached a population of more than about 200.

In 1846, or the year following, the vicinity of Linwood was settled, pioneers having been Thomas Ransom on the south-west, and John Brown on the north-east corner lot, east of the village. Robert Crooks was the first to locate, and others worthy of mention in this connection were William Owens and Archibald Calder. To the west of Linwood, Wm. G. Woodman and Andrew Case were among the first. The village now possesses a population of about 200, two stores, two hotels, and the usual concomitants. The south-westerly part of the township numbered among its pioneers William Chalmers, on the Mornington town line, Charles Robertson and Christian Ernest.

The locality of Crosshill was settled about the time of the township survey, the pioneers having been David and William Hastings. The Glaister family (consisting of mother and four sons) and George Hewitt located at a very early day. The village now boasts one store, two taverns, post and telegraph offices, and a small array of mechanics' shops.

Bamberg is a small and unpretentious village near the south centre of the township, containing but few inhabitants and fewer attractions of a commercial order. John Moser and the Kroatsch family came in about 1842.

Wellesley village is the most important place in the township as regards commercial and industrial attractions. Its population is now almost exclusively German-speaking. The site whereon the place stands was originally located by John Smith, a squatter, who came in before the survey, and afterwards built the first saw mill. He was here but a short time when a Mr. Miller came in and pur-

chased his interests, after which he sold a number of lots and the village was pretty well under way ere the survey had been long completed. Other pioneers were Christian Boshart, Charles Ottman and John Zoeger, the last named of whom opened the first store in town, but subsequently removed. Twenty years ago the two stores which the village boasted were kept by John Saer and Christian and Henry Doerhing, the brothers last named operating a grist mill as well. Among the present attributes of Wellesley are two furniture factories, knitting factory, grist and saw mills, foundry, three carriage factories, woolen factory, three stores, an equal number of hotels, three German Protestant churches, and a population of about six hundred.

In the north-western corner of Wellesley, an Irish settlement was early formed. The balance of the western survey is peopled chiefly by English and Scottish; Amishmen in the south-east, and a settlement of Hessian Lutherans along the "Fifth Line", constitute, all in all, quite a medley, so far as nationality is concerned, but the chief rivalry existing between the different classes has been the praiseworthy one of industry and decorum.

* * *

Mr. C. B. Barbour of Wellesley has supplied the following information concerning the village of Crosshill: Our township was surveyed in 1842. Crosshill being at the centre, the township hall was built there in the year 1860. The post office was established in 1852, named after Crosshill, a village in Scotland. The first settlers were the Hastings, Glaisters and Hewitts in the year 1846, followed by Campbells, Hutchesons, Barbours, Scotts, Mansers, Wilfords, and others. At one time Crosshill had a volunteer company of the 29th Battalion, 52 men without the officers. Nathaniel Tilt was the first captain, followed by William Barbour. They trained in a drill hall behind the site of Boyd Church. The battalion was called for service in the Riel Rebellion, but by the time they arrived in New Hamburg the trouble was over. Reverend James Boyd was one of the firsts ministers, from 1859 to 1888. Services were held in the township hall.

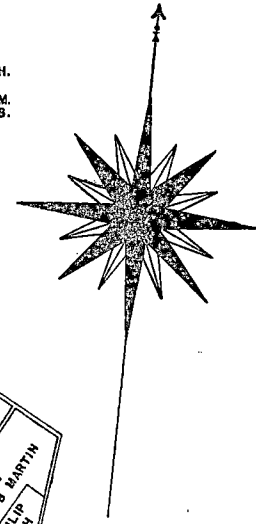
Miss Dolly McKay, the librarian at Linwood, has taken the following facts from a historical research book there: Wellesley Township was named in honor of Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington. The Township Council was established in 1848, with meetings at Crosshill. The Guelph-Goderich line and the Linwood station of the C.P.R. date from 1906. The line from Linwood to Listowel started in 1908 and was discontinued about 1935. Passenger service from Guelph to Goderich was discontinued in 1956. The 1958 population of Wellesley Township is 5,003.

☆ ☆ ☆

WELLESLEY TOWNSHIP
OF THE
COUNTY OF WATERLOO
CANADA WEST
1861

EXPLANATIONS

- COMMON ROADS
- ROAD ALLOWANCE
- NOT OPENED
- CHURCHES
- SCHOOL HOUSES
- GRIST MILLS
- SAW MILLS
- STEAM SAW MILLS
- BLACKSMITH SHOPS



WELLESLEY

- GEORGE DEPPISH.....SADDLE AND T. MAKER.
- PETER BERDY.....INN-KEEPER AND BUTCHER.
- ANDREW SCHILY.....CABINET MAKER, ARCHITECT AND MASTER BUILDER.
- WILLIAM DOERSAM.....BLACKSMITH AND HORSE SHOER.
- ARCHIBALD SCOTT.....PAINTER.
- JAMES MC CLEHAN.....GENTLEMAN.
- JOHN DIEMEN.....AUCTIONEER.
- JAMES MC CREATH.....MULER.
- LUDWIG SCHMITT.....CARPENTER AND HOTEL-KEEPER.
- MATHIAS ZIRWUS.....BLACKSMITH AND HORSE SHOER.
- ALEXIUS MEYER.....TINSMITH AND ROOFEN DECKER.
- HENRY DOERING.....PROPRIETOR OF GRIST AND SAWMILLS, AND GENERAL MERCHANT.
- HENRY ZOEGER.....GENERAL MERCHANT, POST MASTER, INN-KEEPER, COM. IN COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH AND AGENT FOR MARRIAGE LICENCES.

TOWNSHIP OF WELLESLEY

- JOHN BRAENDE.....SHOEMAKER AND FARMER. LOT 14, CON. A.
- FERDINAND WALTER.....INN-KEEPER, POST-MASTER, WEIMER.
- THOMAS KNIGHT.....SHOEMAKER, LOT 8, CON. 7, NEAR CROSSHILL.

LINWOOD

- F & J. WRIGHT.....PROPRIETORS OF STEAM SAW MILL & GENERAL MERCHANTS.
- JOHN E. BOOMER.....CABINET-MKR & CARPENTER.
- ALFRED BOOMER.....COM. IN CRT OF Q.B., CONVEYR, BC

CROSSHILL

- WILLIAM TILT.....GENERAL MERCHANT.
- ALEX. NELSON.....BUILDER.
- HUGH HUTCHISON.....
- WILLIAM HASTINGS.....JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.
- JAS. MC CUTOHEON.....POST MASTER.
- JAMES MCALISTER.....CARRIAGE BUILDER.
- GEO. OAKLY.....PROPRIETOR "QUEEN ARMS HOTEL".

HEIDELBERG

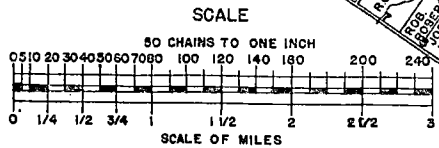
- HENRY A. MILLER.....MERCHANT AND HOTEL-KEEPER.
- JOHN KRAPLER.....POST MASTER.
- FREDERICK GOTTLIEB.....TEACHER, U.S. NO. 11.
- DANIEL STAHLBOHMIDT.....MINISTER OF GERMAN EVANG'L LUTH. CHURCH.
- CHRISTOPHER WEIDENHAMER.....CARPENTER.
- FR. DELION, M. D.....PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

ST. CLEMENTS

- WM. OELSCHLAGER.....MERCHANT.
- P. COLUMBIA MESSNER.....GATHOLIC FRIEST.
- MARTIN SCHNEIDER.....PROP'R "QUEEN'S ARMS HOTEL".
- JOSEPH FREIBURGER.....PROPRIETOR OF "BRITISH HOTEL".

HAWKSVILLE

- JOHN HAWKE.....MILLER.
- M.P. EMPY, ESQ.....CLERK OF DIV. COURT, CONVEYANCER & C.
- JOHN M. PEARSON.....BALIFF, INN-KEEPER AND AUCTIONEER.
- B.H. MUDGE.....TANNER AND CURRIER.
- J.B. HILBORN.....WAGGON AND CARRIAGE MAKER.
- E.G. LACKNER.....GENERAL MERCHANTS, SADDLE AND HARNESS MAKER.
- HAWKE & STEIBS.....CABINET-MKR & MASTER BUILDER.
- CHARTER K. WELLS.....SHOE MAKER.
- JOSEPH MARKHAM.....DUNCAN ANDERSON.....CARPENTER.
- RICHARD THOMPSON.....BLACKSMITH, WAGGON AND CARRIAGE MAKER.
- GEORGE NOLLAR.....BLACKSMITH, WAGGON AND CARRIAGE MAKER.
- JOSEPH BOND.....BLACKSMITH, WAGGON AND CARRIAGE MAKER.



TAKEN
FROM TREMAINE'S MAP, 1861.
BY RAY PALECZNY, MARCH, 1959.

BIBLES OF HISTORIC INTEREST TO CITIZENS OF WATERLOO COUNTY

By Jennie F. Cowan

Mrs. T. D. Cowan, a former president of the Waterloo Historical Society, has made valuable contributions. Her interest in Bibles was evidenced by the display that she organized for W.H.S. at the International Plowing Match in 1954.

There are in the museum of the Waterloo Historical Society a number of Bibles brought into this county in its early days. While none of these is as old as some to be found in homes, a study of them is most worthwhile. This can help one to appreciate the work of printers of earlier centuries, and the special work done in our own day.

In a show case in our present museum there are some interesting Bibles. One is attracted to the brightly coloured and much decorated leaves of an open book, for they show some fractur art work done in these parts in 1823. Benjamin Eby, the original owner of this Bible, recorded on these pages interesting events in his life, as the monks had decorated books in earlier days.

Benjamin Eby was the first bishop ordained among the Mennonites of Waterloo County, and the second in Canada. He may have brought this Bible with him from Pennsylvania in 1807. It was printed in Basil, Switzerland in 1778.

Close to it is a smaller Bible printed in Pennsylvania in 1776. This is one of the third editions made by Christof Sauer, who was the first to print the Bible in German in that state. As he made his own type, ink, and paper, as well as binding his own books, it is not strange that he did not include as many decorative scrolls and helps for the readers as European printers did. A Bible shown in the same case, printed in Albany, N.Y. in 1835, in the Chippewa tongue, is very much smaller and plainer.

Most of the 18th and 19th century Bibles in a bookcase in the museum are in German, using the Martin Luther translation. While there were around seventeen or eighteen translations from the Vulgate into German, before Dr. Luther undertook one, his translation has held for Germans the same position the James I version has held for English speaking people.

These German Bibles are large, and beautifully decorated with much scroll work, large capital letters and many pictures. They have leather covers, sometimes tooled, other times studded with metal and provided with metal corners and strong clasps. We would call them commentaries today, for in addition to the books of the Old and New Testaments, and the Apocryphal books, they contain concordances,

BIBLIA,

Das ist:

Die Sprache

Heilige Schrift

Alten und Neuen Testaments,

Versteuget durch

Doct. Martin Luthers.

Weswegen

Über die alten Summarien, Concordanzen, Zeit-
Historien, und Namen-Register,

mit

Kurzlichen, einem jeden Vers. beygefügeten, Auslegungen,
accurat- und vollkommenen Summarien am Rand,
Neuen und lehrreichen Vorreden über viele Bücher beyder Testamente,
Vorstellung der vornehmsten Materien oben auf einem jeglichen Blatt,
Vermehrung der Parallel-Stellen, Einrückung der Chronologien,
und Unterscheidung der Haupt- und Nacht-Sprachen
durch eine besondere Schrift

G D E in Ehren

und allen Heils- begierigen Seelen zum Unterricht und Trost
versehen und herausgegeben durch

M. Friedrich Sackler und M. Theodor Seruler,

Wesiland Diener am Heil. Evangelio in der Kirche zu Basel.

Unsere Herrn. Käyfl. Majest. allergnädigsten Privilegio, wie auch mit gnädigstem Privilegio Unser. Königl.
Ordn. der Hochscholtheit, und Approbation R. M. Theologischen Facultät in der hohen Schül zu Basel.

Neue Auflage,

Mit noch mehrern Auslegungen, sammt einer verbesserten
Zeit-Rechnung und unterschiedlichen dazu dienlichen
neuen Figuren versehen.

B A S E L,

Hey und in Verlag D. Michael Schürkenen, M D C C X C V I I

TYPICAL BIBLE TITLE PAGE

dictionaries, glossaries or special articles to help the reader study the scriptures.

A Bible, bearing the name Ezra Eby, was printed in Amsterdam in 1786. The books of the Apocrypha are not included. The Old Testament books had been accepted by an Act of Consent passed in Amsterdam in 1771, and the books of the New Testament by the National Synod at Dordrecht in 1618-19. Probably Mr. Eby had secured this old Bible when he was compiling his history of families in Waterloo Township.

Another Bible with a Martin Luther translation was printed at Altdorf in 1740. It had been for use in Denmark, for an article at the beginning of this edition is ascribed to Queen Sophia, and the book has been printed with the consent of the majesty.

There are three volumes of a set of seven which were published in Berlenberg, (now known as Berleberg, in West Germany). The first volume was completed in 1726, the third in 1732, and the seventh in 1739. One does not know if the missing volumes of this Bible have been destroyed at some time, or are still in homes in this county, in Pennsylvania or elsewhere. They were in the Betzner and Brech families.

These volumes do not contain the Martin Luther translation. Mr. Ezra Eby states the Betzner family had been members of the German Reformed Church in Wurtemberg before migrating to Pennsylvania in 1755.

"Der Grosse Brockhaus" of the Toronto Reference Library reveals the Berleberg Bible was one carefully translated from original texts. In Vol. VII one finds that the Apocryphal books are placed after Revelations, and only two books printed. But later writings as those of Nicodemus, Barnabus, Clement, etc. are added.

We are fortunate in this county, in having even older German Bibles in homes, than there are in the museum. One of the Schneider families brought in from Pennsylvania, a Bible printed by Froschauer, of Zurich in 1560. It is now in the home of Mr. W. W. Snider of St. Jacobs. The blank front and back pages have apparently been used regularly from the time it was purchased to register family records. No doubt, the publishers in the 19th century who inserted special pages within their books to register births, marriages and deaths believed they were improving their editions. However as one comes in contact with the older Bibles, one realizes this can be a debatable subject.

The Amish Mennonites also brought Bibles printed by Froschauer of Zurich, directly into this county from Alsace-Lorraine. One printed in 1550, is now owned by David Wagler of the Wellesley area. Another of an earlier date is in the home of Christian Gerber of Millbank.



NEW TESTAMENT

Christoffel Froschouer went to Zurich in 1519 from Germany, and two years later started printing Bibles. He died in 1564. The title pages of these Bibles do not display boldly the name of Martin Luther. Froschouer worked a great deal with Zwingli; he also printed in English and is credited with publishing Matthew Coverdale's Bible in the English language in 1535. Hans Luft of Wittenberg was Martin Luther's favourite printer.

Mr. Michael Wagler of Wellesley has a very fine edition of this very early period with Doctor Martin Luther's translation. There is included Dr. Luther's interpretation of the story of the Creation, in which he supplies names to two daughters of Adam and Eve.

A Bible, printed in Wittenberg in 1610, by Lorentz Seuberlich is in the home of Mrs. Gladys Breithaupt. Even before Margaretha Riehl's parents came to America, from Muehlhausen, Alsace, this young maiden had brought a younger brother and this large Bible to Baltimore. They were ninety-two days in crossing, and such a storm arose as they neared America, that the captain was forced to make for the Baltimore harbour, even though his passengers had expected him to take them to New York.

This 1610 edition reveals that by that time some printers were placing all the books of the Apocrypha between the books of the Old and New Testaments. In earlier Bibles, one can find them all

close to Esther; in others, they are divided, some in that position, and the remainder between the Old and New Testaments.

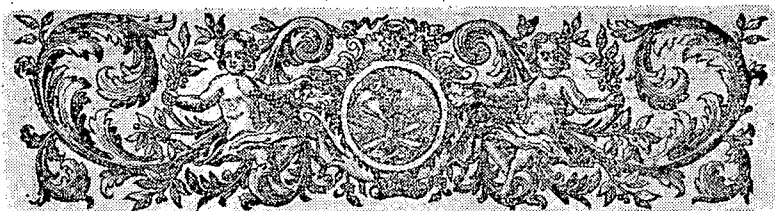
The printer of this edition made use of small woodcuts placed to make the scriptures intelligible to poor readers. The earlier Bibles have many of these. By 1610, the number of literate people had increased and printers did not face the same competition their predecessors had. The Bibles of the 13th century were mainly pictures with a few verses of Scripture added.

Mr. Ward Vair of Galt has entrusted to Mr. W. C. Barrie a Bible which the Ontario Pioneer Community Foundation may use at Doon. It was printed in London, England in 1610. Robert Parker was the Printer to the *Kings Majestie in 1610 and also in 1611 when the King James version was first used.

This Bible is one of the "Geneva" Bibles. This version was first used in 1560, and became popular with the Puritans in England as well as in Scotland. From 1568-1610 the Anglicans used the "Bishops" version.

The "Geneva" Bible was also known as the "Breeches" Bible for in the seventh verse of the third chapter of Genesis, one finds "They sewed fig tree leaves together and made themselves breeches." In this Bible there are some small wood-cuts, as well as a full page one. While the Roman type lettering is used a great deal, the verses of scripture are in Old English. There is an article at the beginning by T. Grashop, "How to take profit in reading of the Holy Scriptures." After Revelations, one finds "The Whole Booke of Psalms collected into English meeter . . . with apt notes to sing them withal." "If any be afflicted, let him pray, and if any be merie, let him sing Psalms."

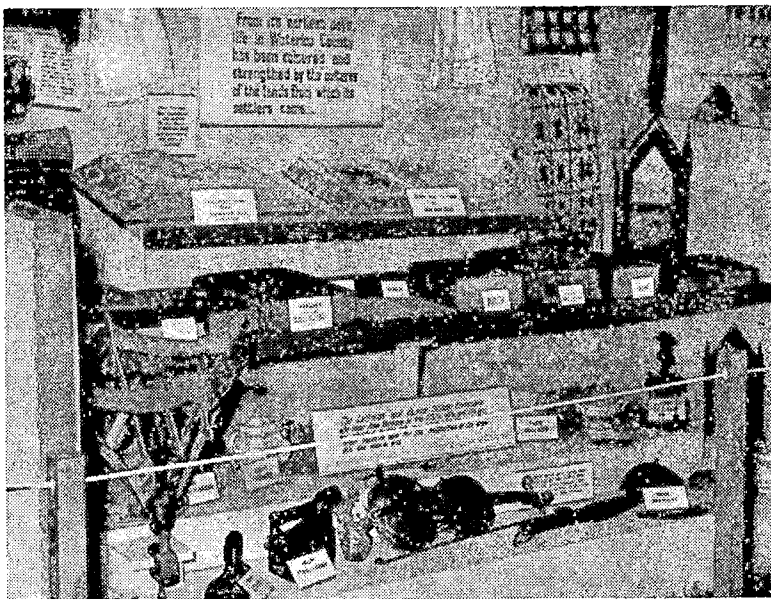
* No apostrophe used in his book or others at that time.



BIBLES CONTAINED PICTURES AND DECORATIVE WORK

St. Jerome's College has a very fine edition of the Vulgate brought into this county by 1864. It was printed in Paris in 1662. It is the revision done by Popes Sixtus V and Clementis VIII. The revision made by Pope Sixtus V 1585-90 was done from one of the best manuscripts of the Vulgate. Of all the old Bibles in our county it has the finest maps of the Holy Land and the lands bordering on the Mediterranean Sea. The name "Sanson" appears on these maps.

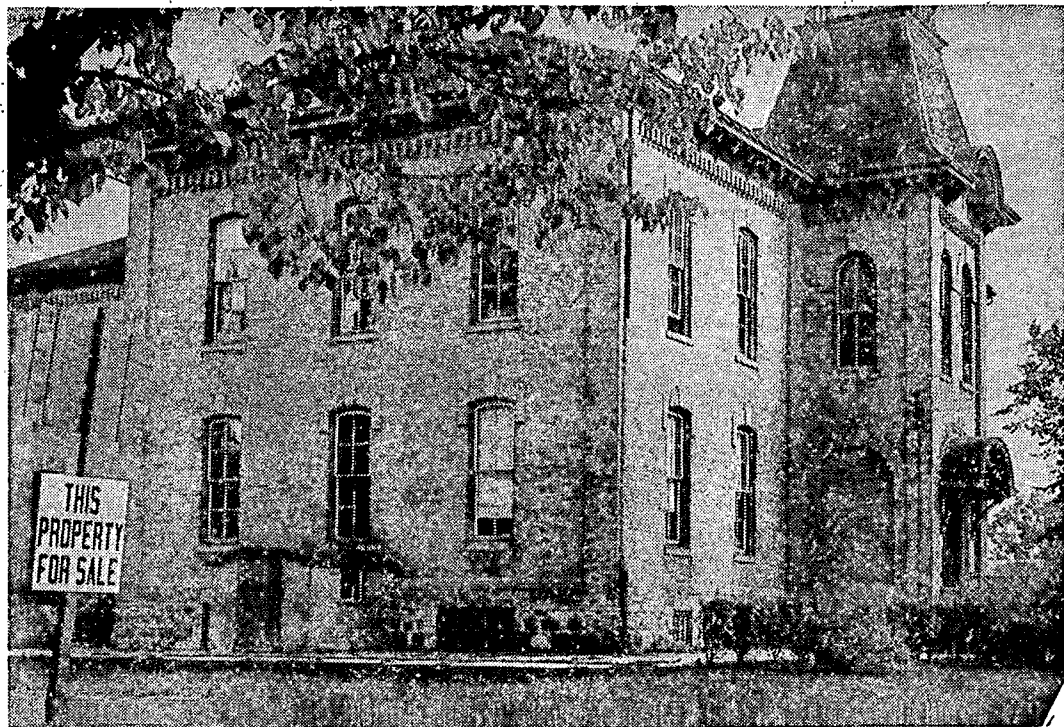
We know there are many Bibles printed in the 18th and 19th centuries in homes throughout Waterloo county. There will likely be many which we have not seen, but this article should help us deepen our appreciation of the fine Bibles the early settlers brought with them.



"From its earliest days life in Waterloo County has been coloured and strengthened by the cultures of the lands from which its settlers came." This display of "The Book" and other treasured articles brought by pioneers was in the history tent at the International Plowing Match at Breslau in 1954. See W. H. S., 1954 volume, p. 37.

Mrs. Cowan's interest in Bibles as a means of depicting history started when, in the early 1940's, she prepared a store-window display to publicize a meeting of the Waterloo Historical Society.

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NEW HAMBURG'S OLD PUBLIC SCHOOL

NEW HAMBURG SCHOOL BUILDING RAZED

New Hamburg's old public school, known locally by several generations of residents, and a landmark in the town for many years has been sold and during the past winter months razing of the building was undertaken.

The decision to demolish the building was made by the municipal council when it was found that no buyer could use the building as it stood. The large white brick two-storey building was erected in 1874 at the corner of Waterloo and Louis streets and served as a public school until 1950 when the new Grandview public school was erected. For the next five years the building was used by the high school area for high school purposes. In 1955, when the new Waterloo-Oxford District High School began operating, the old school was turned over to the municipality of New Hamburg. Later

the building was offered for sale, and while several interested parties discussed purchase, no transaction was completed, and late last autumn the decision was made to have the building removed, and the land sold for residential use.

The building, during its lifetime had been renovated, and an extra wing was built on the rear in 1904 to accommodate more students. The school was the third building to serve the cause of education locally, the first being a log building near the corner of Bleams Road and Wilmot Street. The second school, a red brick structure, was built on the site of the present community centre in 1852, and when it was replaced in 1874, the old red brick building served as a showhouse for agricultural fairs. The latter building was dismantled to make room for the old frame rink which was built in 1905.

While many residents regret the removal of the building from the local scene, they also realize that nothing is as permanent as change, and change makes history.

E. Ritz, I. W. McNaughton.



INDEPENDENT TELEPHONE SYSTEMS

By Ivan M. Hilborn

Mr. Hilborn has been secretary-treasurer of the New Dundee Rural Telephone Company since 1927 and a director for the past 17 years. His father, the late Amos Hilborn, was a member of the first board of directors and served as a director for 33 years. Mr. Hilborn spoke at the W.H.S. annual meeting at the Kress Hotel, Preston on November 14, 1958.

My first contact with a very small independent telephone system was at my grandfather's mill in the neighbouring village of Blair in the middle 90's.

One of my uncles who was a telegraph operator constructed this home made system connecting the mill office with my grandfather's house up the street toward the village.

Grandmother would use a short wooden stick, perhaps twice the size of a lead pencil and tap the end of this against a metal button fastened to the back of a small square wooden box on the kitchen wall and to which the end of a single wire was attached. This tapping sound could be readily heard in the mill office which had similar equipment. When it was answered with the same tapping operation,

grandmother would shout into the box in the kitchen, the cheery call, "Dinner's ready".

My next contact with an independent telephone system was in the village of Drayton where a single wire telephone line was in use between a book store in the village and the Grand Trunk Railway station, some three-quarters of a mile distant. The main purpose of this circuit was for the drivers of the horse drawn buses to ascertain from the station if the passenger trains were on time or not before they ventured out in bad weather.

Then in my home village of New Dundee, the late J. C. Hallman had built a single wire telephone line connecting his farm home, two and one-half miles north on the Huron Rd., with E. H. Thamer's General Store. This circuit was later incorporated into the New Dundee Rural Telephone system when it was started in 1908. This company observed its 50th anniversary July 29, 1958.

Another independent system was in use for some years prior to 1908 between the Grand Trunk station at Petersburg and Kavelman's store in New Dundee. This was also used to relay telegraph messages between the telegraph office at Petersburg and New Dundee.

No doubt many of us, when we think of the telephone, think of the Bell Telephone Company as being the only telephone company. While it is the largest system of our day, there are also many other major systems and many independent systems as well.

Statistics are usually rather dry and uninteresting, yet we sometimes must use them to illustrate the point. These will show that all telephones are not Bell Telephones. The Bell Telephone Company of Canada is the major system only in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec and is a link with other major systems in the Trans Canada Telephone System.

In 1957 Ontario had 346 independent telephone systems. Of these 184 were connecting companies that operated their own switch boards, while 162 were service station companies that leased switching service from other companies. In the Dominion of Canada there were 4,811,781 telephones or 28.6 telephones per 100 population. There were 534,688 telephones under the control of independent companies. The Bell Company was the only major system in Ontario and Quebec. Here they had 2,954,844 phones. There were provincial systems in other provinces. The Yukon Territory had only 196 phones in 1957.—From the Annual Report of Ontario Telephone Authority.

Some amusing things happen in relation to telephone systems as they do in other activities.

The Bell Telephone Company installed a small switch board in New Dundee about 1903, sold a few telephones in the village and also constructed two rural circuits to serve about 18 subscribers.

Then they discontinued the development of the rural area and for a period of about five years these 18 rural subscribers were the only ones who enjoyed the benefits of the rural telephone.

During the five-year period between 1905-1908 a unique arrangement was in use at the local exchange in Thamer's Store. Since there was no night or Sunday service whatever, when the operator left the switchboard one rural circuit was connected to the telephone in the medical doctor's office and the other rural circuit to that in the office of the veterinary surgeon.

So if someone took sick during the night or the weekend in the home of any subscriber on the circuit connected to the medical doctor's office, they could call the doctor directly and have him make a professional call or consult him as necessary. The same arrangement prevailed on the circuit connected to the office of the veterinary surgeon. However if someone on the circuit connected to the office of the veterinary surgeon took ill during the night they would call the veterinarian who would get dressed, walk three blocks and ring the office door bell of the medical doctor and inform him that his services were required at a certain rural home. Likewise if some subscriber on the circuit connected to the office of the medical doctor required the services of the veterinarian during the night, they would call the medical doctor who would get dressed and walk the same three blocks to inform the veterinarian where his services were needed.

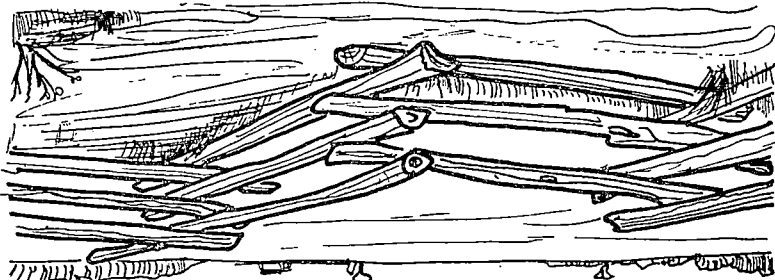
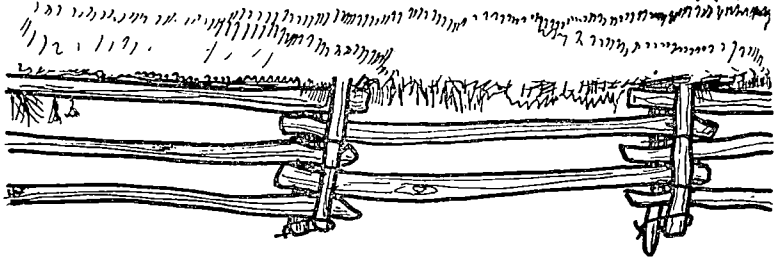
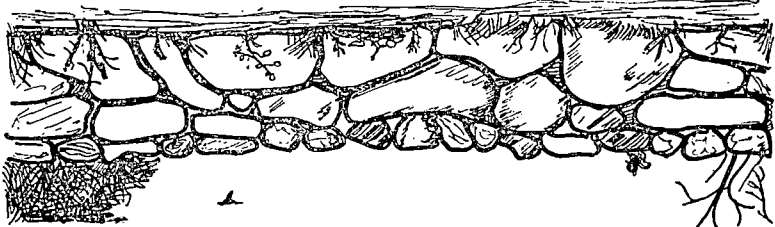
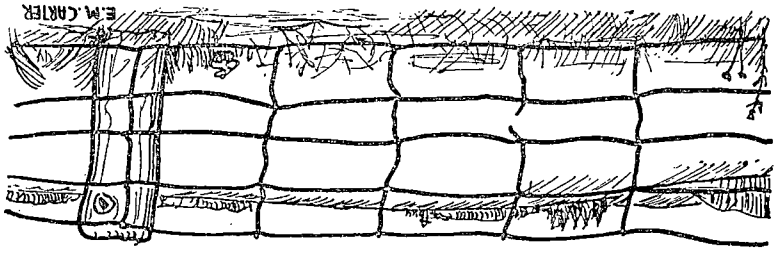
What a contrast between then and now and yet the early telephone service filled the needs of its day.

The service man for the New Dundee Rural Telephone Company tells some interesting stories of his work.

On one service call he found the housewife busily engaged in doing the weekly ironing and to save time she hung one of her dresses on the telephone crank, thus shorting the whole circuit. She was entirely oblivious to the fact that she had rendered the whole circuit useless. One of her neighbours had to go to the home of another neighbour connected on another circuit, to report the trouble.

During the early days of the telephone in our district, one lady would invariably don a clean apron before she talked on the telephone. Perhaps she had visions of television, not being too far distant.

So to those of us who had previously thought of only one telephone company or system, we would again remind you that there are hundreds of independent telephone systems in Canada. Three of them are in our own Waterloo County, namely — the Wellesley Municipal Telephone System, the Wilmot Municipal Telephone System and the New Dundee Rural Telephone Company Limited. Together these three systems have approximately 2,000 subscribers.



FENCES IN WATERLOO COUNTY

By R. S. Oberholtzer

In the days of the early settler, as each parcel of land was being cleared for the growing of crops, it was necessary to build fences for the purposes of keeping livestock either in or out, when pasturing during the summer season.

The two most suitable and available types of fence were split rail and pine stump, material for which was provided abundantly by nature. The main requirements were ambition and muscle.

During the winter months, after the house firewood was cut for the coming winter, they cut suitable cedar logs from the swamps, and split them into rails of approximately four inches in diameter. Fences were built during the slack work periods in other months of the year.

There were two common kinds. The first, known as the Snake Line, was of simple construction and withstood the storms, but required a strip of land eight to nine feet in width. This land was lost for production of food but produced a wild growth of brush and weeds and made a good protection for preservation of wild life. Later, with the aid of wire reinforcement, these fences were built in a straight line and therefore required less than half the land area. This improved the control of fence-row weeds and created a neater appearance.

Pine stumps were often used. By nature their root structure is shallow and criss-crossed and from eight to ten feet in diameter. When put in a row on their sides they were fairly effective. Also the pine stumps were of a long lasting nature without rotting.

Later, board fences became popular, especially near the farm buildings. There is still a Horizontal Gap Board Fence in existence on the highway from Blair to Galt on Cruickston Park farm. Here, also, are cut stone fences.

In some districts there was an abundance of stones near the surface of the soil. These were not only a nuisance but also presented a hazard. A great many stones were used in the foundation and walls of barns and houses. Tons of good granite were hauled to town for building purposes, the average price being one dollar per load. This was usually winter-time work for the young farm lads. Often they wanted extra cash for better clothing, or a buggy, or to make a good impression with the fair sex. Extra large stones or boulders which were from three to five feet in diameter were sometimes placed to act as a boulder fence row.

Bohemian Stone Fences

In the latter part of the nineteenth century Mr. Martin Loher and his wife migrated from Bohemia (now part of Czechoslovakia) to the U.S.A. After a time they moved to the vicinity of Galt, Ontario, where fellow-countrymen were established. Having had experience and a high reputation in the art of stone cutting, Mr. Loher was engaged by the more wealthy farmers to build stone fences. Many are still to be seen and are quite picturesque. He claimed his work would be good for one hundred years. The operation was contracted for at \$1.50 per rod. Later the price was \$2.50 to \$3.00 when, over a period of close to three years, from 1904 to 1907, almost two miles of fence was built for the Wilks family of Blair. The eldest daughter and son helped their parents in the work. Colour combinations and the granite with a better cutting grain were used to enhance the appearance, while less desirable rock was placed in the foundation. In an average day of twelve hours they accomplished a rod and a half of fence, the farmer keeping them supplied with stone. They usually camped at the scene of their operation.

Their fence building was halted very suddenly in 1913 when the father lost his life in a fire that completely destroyed their home near Sheffield. After this tragedy the three daughters, Teenie, Arnie, and Mary, soon moved to the U.S.A., but the son, Martin, with his mother, moved to Hespeler where he worked at the Woollen Mill. For the past thirty-eight years he has been employed with the Gilson Manufacturing Company of Guelph and is still working an eight-hour day at the age of seventy-five.

During the latter part of the nineteenth century the steel industry started the manufacture of woven wire fencing* which greatly improved the appearance, reduced maintenance, and minimized the amount of land required for fence-row purposes. Barbed wire was introduced for temporary use along river lots and other areas requiring fencing for short periods of time.

Older fences are fast disappearing with the trend of the times, and to a great extent a new improved temporary electric fence is used for stock control. Where in the olden days livestock used to be driven along the highways on foot, it is now transported by truck.

Most of the fences we have described can be seen on picturesque Highway 97 from Galt to Freelon.

* Wire fences were considered very new in 1870, but by the 1880's councils were offering a bonus to farmers who would build them along township roads.



Martin Loher and his son at work. Note their shelter in the background. This fence still stands at Lot S1E, Con-
cession 9, North Dumfries, Fearn Lodge, on Highway #24, south of Galt. Martin Loher Jr. was born December 23, 1883,
at Nichol's farm, which is the first in Beverly township as one travels east from Galt on Highway #97. The barn at the
left rear was built about 1819 and taken down about 1907. See the W. H. S. 1946 volume, p. 9.

ELMDALE SCHOOL HISTORY
S. S. NO. 8, WATERLOO TOWNSHIP

By Emily L. Seibert

Miss Seibert, who served for many years as secretary-treasurer of the Waterloo Historical Society, prepared this history for the fiftieth anniversary of the buff brick schoolhouse, situated on the north side of Highway 7, west of Kitchener. Miss Seibert taught at Elmdale for five years.

On this occasion, the fiftieth year of this school, let us go back and trace the history of education in this community.

In the very early days children received some formal teaching, from travelling teachers, usually retired army officers who came along, taught the "three R's" a few months and then went on to richer fields or a community of better bed and board. Isaac Willson grandfather of Mrs. V. H. Hattin, travelled with the teacher as he was not content with part-time instruction. He and his descendants served the community well, as the records of school affairs show that the Willsons took a leading role.

The first school known as School Section No. 8 in the Township of Waterloo in Wellington District may have been built in 1840 or soon after that for it is definitely a known fact that No. 9 Waterloo was built in 1844. This first school was a frame structure measuring twenty-six feet square and was located on the Chris Snyder farm. This farm is now owned by Henry Gingerich, the present trustee representing Elmdale on the School Board of Waterloo Township School Area No. 2. According to Caleb Shelly this school that accommodated an average of twenty-four pupils when sold, was added to and became the dwelling that still stands and is occupied by the Gingerich family.

The oldest recorded article concerning this frame pioneer school deals with the hiring of a teacher in 1847. This contract between teacher and trustee was signed by trustees—Samuel Shantz, Jacob M. Oberholtzer, Jacob Brubacher, the teacher Adam J. Ruby, and a witness Jacob Rheinhart. The salary stipulated was £60 per annum payable in quarterly payments. The financial statement for 1847 gives definite proof that the school was in operation before that date and that Adam J. Ruby was not the first teacher.

The following excerpt shows errors but it proves the two disputable points and shows that those men of limited learning were attempting to carry on in a business-like manner.

	Dr.	Cr.
	\$ cts	\$ cts
1847 Trustees to Section Eight		
March 31 to Rate Bill	37 79	
Sept. 18 To Government fund	16 21	
By a balance against us from 1846		2 10
By an account and a Visitor's Book		1 00
Paid to George S. Howard, teacher		54 00
	54 00	57 10
		54 00
Balance in our favor		3 10
Dec. 31 To Rate Bill	48 74	
Feb. 15 To tax	19 10	
Paid to Adam Jacob Ruby, teacher		61 25
By last Quarter balance		3 10
	67 84	64 35
	64 35	
Balance on hand	3 49	

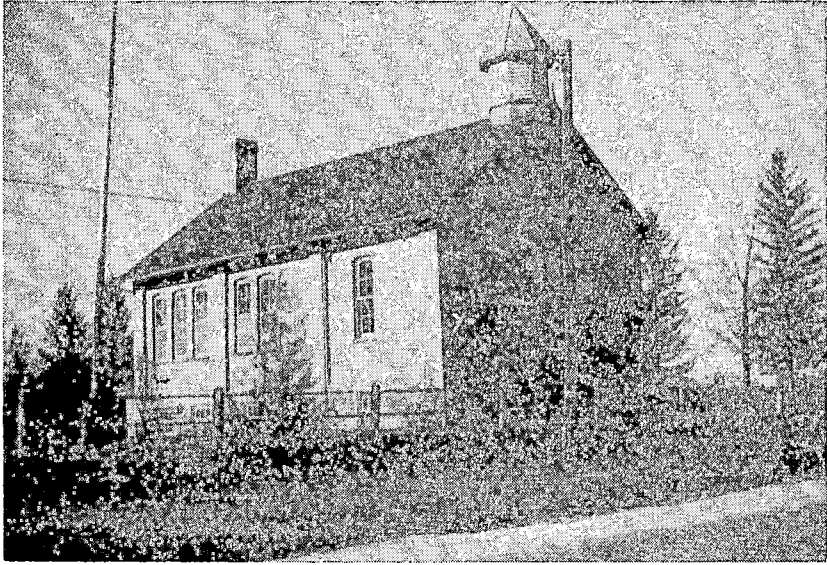
Here is an interesting little jotting found in the first minute book, "The 'hole' population both young and old in the year 1861, 314." This may have been the factor that necessitated the building of the second school house in 1862. It was a stone building and stood almost opposite the present school. A box-stove provided heat; those sitting nearby roasted, those farther afield froze. Two amusing stories are told about this method of heating. One concerns a heat saver and the other a near fire. A salesman contacted the trustees offering a marvellous new invention called 'the Dobbin Drum'. "This drum," the salesman stated, "will save half your fuel." The local blacksmith from Waldo Corners, scratched his bald head and asked, "Vill, von iner szvue drumma kaffe det sell unser ganz holtz sparra?" (Well, if we bought two drums would we save all our fuel?) Sometimes it was the duty of the teacher to start the fire and Miss Lizzie Berry had the misfortune to almost set the school on fire, with her novel method of drying the kindling. Each evening when the fire was dying down she placed the kindling on the stove in preparation

for her morning duty but one night it became too hot and burst into flames. Luckily a ratepayer passing by saw the reflection of the flaming wood, rushed in and saved the situation. Are you interested in the price of fire wood? In 1863 it was just \$2.50 a cord. This included being cut into proper length, carted to the school and piled in the shed. Mr. Hornby, the second last teacher in the stone school, conducted a night school and trained the young people in the art of public speaking. The fee for the course was 5c per pupil per night. Out of this emerged a debating society and some with chuckles recall the debates held with neighboring Mannheim.

Teachers In The Days of The Old School

— 1862	Records incomplete
1862 — 1863	John Bean
1863 — 1864	Emmanuel Ruby
1865 — 1876	Daniel Zimmar
1876 — 1877	R. Bryden
1878 — 1879	A. Lake
1880 — 1881	W. Farrand
1882 — 1883	Morgan Moyer
1884	A. Hilborn
1885 — 1886	H. Ward
1887 — 1888	H. N. Miller
1889 — 1890	Miss Eby
1890 — 1891	Edgar Heist
1891 — 1892	Miss Fischer
1893 — 1895	Miss Mary Berry
1895 — 1896	Miss E. Bingeman
1897 — 1901	Miss Lizzie Berry
1902 — 1903	Miss Clark
1903 — 1904	John Cairns
1904 — 1905	Mr. Hornby
1905 — 1907	Hugh Ross

The following was noted in the records for 1906. Annual School Meeting, Dec. 26, 1906—E. W. Willson, Secretary; Henry Schaaf, Chairman—"Moved by Noah Bechtel seconded by Charlie Moser that a special meeting be held not later than the first week in Feb. to consider the building of a new school house. Trustees to get estimate etc. beforehand." This special meeting for which Mr. Hugh Ross acted as secretary was held on Jan. 25, 1907. The trustees presented the idea of building but a much heated discussion followed, for those who had come prepared to oppose the issue had rounded up every ratepayer to the last man. The vote was lost. Sixteen were in favor, while twenty-one were opposed. No record can be found stating when the ratepayers changed their minds about the trustees'



**S.S. No. 8 ELMDALE
WATERLOO TOWNSHIP**

plans for building but on Feb. 9, 1907 a meeting was held and the main item of business was the consideration of a new site on the north side of the road. It was moved by John Gildner and seconded by Caleb Shelly that the trustees build on the old site. An amendment was moved by E. W. Willson and seconded by Wm. Harlock that the trustees build on a site on the east side of the C. Brubacher lane. Naturally more heated discussion followed and then all adjourned to examine the old and newly proposed sites. A vote was taken and the amendment was carried by a majority of five votes. Many today feel that the move to the new site was made because the old location was too boggy. Caleb Shelly confirms the wet state of the property by telling that under the present highway at that particular spot lies a corduroy road and that type of road was frequently built in marshy spots in pioneer days. Others maintain they moved across the road so that the front door would not be exposed to the cold north wind.

C. Brubacher was paid \$125 for the land, Ignatz Wey of Berlin (Kitchener) \$30 for the plans and G. Hamacher, the contractor \$1846.50. These expenditures do not fully picture the cost of building for the financial statement of 1907 lists other items such as; lumber, stone, nails, furnace, blinds, slate boards etc. The old stone school was sold to Henry Schaaf for \$30. Much of the stone was re-

sold to Berlin builders for the building of foundations. Beams, etc. and even the old lock are now part of the Henry Schaaf home which is now owned and occupied by his son Arthur Schaaf.

In 1911 Miss J. Good (Mrs. Ford Willson of Preston) named the school Elmdale because of the large elms along the Brubacher lane.

School attendance grew steadily down through the years but when many began to build small homes on the outskirts of Kitchener the school became overcrowded. In 1928 and 1929 it became impossible for one teacher to carry on and so the class room was divided lengthwise by a curtain and on one side Miss C. MacKay instructed the senior pupils while Miss M. Lawrence and the juniors held forth on the other side of the make-shift partition. Kitchener soon annexed the land in its west end and the following year the school attendance dropped, the red curtain was removed and Elmdale again became a one-teacher school.

In 1945 S.S. No. 8 Waterloo joined Waterloo School Area No. 2 and Mr. W. Schmitt one of the trustees at the time went on to become the trustee for Elmdale, under the new scheme of school administration.

Teachers From 1907 to 1957

1905 — 1908	Mr. Hugh Ross
1908	Miss Bessie VanEvery
1908 — 1910	Miss Grace E. Wing
1910 — 1914	Miss Jennie Good
1914 — 1920	Miss Mamie Good
1920 — 1922	Miss Leila Pogson
1922 — 1923	Miss L. Good
1923	Miss Howlett (Sept. - Dec.)
1924 — 1928	Miss Crissie MacKay (Jan. - Dec.)
1928 — 1932	Miss M. Lawrence
1928	Miss Mary McEwen
1932	Miss Myrtle Stafford
1933 — 1936	Miss Doris Bettger
1936 — 1937	Miss Thelma McIntyre
1937 — 1938	Mr. John Fenn
1937 — 1957	Miss K. Snider, Music Supervisor
1939 — 1942	Miss Enid Willoughby
1942 — 1945	Miss Viola Kennedy
1945 — 1946	Miss Margaret Dickson
1946 — 1948	Miss McKewn
1948 — 1954	Miss Emily Seibert
1954 — 1957	Mrs. Shirley (Abner) Martin

Over the years men bearing the following surnames have been school board members: Shantz, Brubacher, Bechtel, Oberholtzer, Schaaf, Eby, Willson, Keller, Walmsley, Ruby, Bingeman, Huether, Gildner, Strebel, Witmer, Scheifle, Snyder, Schmidt, Neeb. Four generations of the Brubachers, three generations of the Willsons and two generations of Oberholtzer and Shantz families have served. E. W. Willson was the secretary-treasurer for 30 years. On the whole their work was harmoniously carried on but sometimes they were slightly financially embarrassed and borrowed from people of the neighbourhood. In 1864 the secretary-treasurer made this little note, "July 23rd due me from school section for part paid Elisabeth Knoun for washing school house \$00.72 cents not having any school money on hand at the time." Then examining his account for the year you find that this woman was paid \$1.00 for the annual summer washing that the school was given. Evidence is found time after time that the teacher who was supposed to be paid quarterly received remuneration when tax money and government grants were received. He might receive \$33.65 at one time because that was the county assessment grant and at a later date of the same year get \$82.01.

In 1871 a Visitors Book was started and records of visitors were kept up to Dec. 2, 1925. Interested parents and trustees dropped in frequently, stayed a short time and signed the book after making some comments that were usually very flattering about the teacher's ability and the pupil's conduct and progress. Only one unfavourable remark is entered in the book and that was done by Mr. Thomas Pearce the first inspector who wasn't satisfied with the second class. This book also tells of the Examination Days held in Dec. Parents and teachers from nearby schools came early in the morning and heard the scholars' oral tests. In the afternoon the pupils entertained them with a concert of music, readings, plays, etc. Public Examination Days were the forerunners of the modern rural school Christmas Concert. The last entry in this interesting book was the Christmas entertainment Dec. 21, 1925.

A school's record of achievement is based on its graduates and on the whole, students of this school have become upright citizens.

* * *

The plans for a 1957 reunion developed as a result of a happy meeting of two former schoolmates, Ida Bechtel and Irene Strebel.

Not having seen each other since school days their paths crossed in 1954 at the K-W Hospital School of Nursing Graduation when their daughters Miss Jean Shantz and Miss Betty Neeb graduated. At first neither recognized the other. They, Mrs. John Shantz, Breslau and Mrs. H. J. Neeb, Tavistock, were merely guests of honour

at a Graduation tea. But as time went on Ida continued to see in Mrs. Neeb resemblances of a long, lost friend. Both were thrilled to have made connections again. Time did not permit to exchange news and views about all that had happened since they sat in the new, yellow brick school-house, so a family visit was arranged, especially including the young nurses who had brought the long-separated mothers together again.

Seeing how much they had to share in these visits they thought of the many others who would also enjoy meeting again. They, too, wanted to see the rest of their long lost friends, know what they were doing, whom they married and how many children they had. But who would start it all?

In the summer of 1956, Hugh Ross the first teacher in the new school 50 years ago called at the Brubacher home. Here he met Ida's sister Sarah, (Mrs. William Knarr), who told Ida of having met their former teacher. This seemed to be the spark Ida needed to ignite the smouldering embers. She soon found occasion to call in Millbank to have a visit with Mr. Ross. Here, Reunion was discussed again. Everyone agreed it would be fine, but who would go ahead? Finally in January 1957 Ida reminded Irene that if a Reunion were to develop this, being the Fiftieth Anniversary would be an ideal time to celebrate.

Thanks be to Irene, she took action promptly and requested permission from the school board to hold a Fiftieth Anniversary Reunion. This was granted.

In February a small group of interested persons met at the home of Mrs. Norma Hattin, Kitchener. Out of this group came the organization which planned the reunion of June 21, 1957.

—Mrs. Elmer G. Brubacher

* * *

Registration for the reunion began at 1 p.m. and was followed by games and a pot luck supper. In addition to musical numbers, the evening programme featured a play "To Build or Not to Build" or S.S. No. 8 . . . 1907. The names in the programme and those who participated represented many who had been associated with education in the community.

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KITCHENER CONVERTS TO NATURAL GAS

On May 28, 1958 the Kitchener PUC ceased the manufacture of gas at its Gaukel and Charles Streets plant. Eventually the sprawling plant, consisting of several shabby buildings and a large holding tank, will have disappeared. Then this area which lies just a block south of King Street can be utilized by city planners. Thus the advent of natural gas provides Kitchener with an opportunity to correct past errors.

There seems to be no record of the date when the Berlin Gas Company began operations. The original minute book cannot be found. Probably the privately owned firm started business about 1883.

In a minute book, with entries from Feb. 1, 1895 to Nov. 30, 1903, reference is made to incorporation under the Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1887. Head office was at 18 Queen Street North. Capital stock which had been \$25,000 was increased to \$40,000 in 1887 and to \$100,000 in 1897.

The firm was controlled mainly by members of the Breithaupt family. As well as supplying manufactured gas for domestic, industrial and street-lighting purposes, the company generated electricity for home and street lighting. In 1895 electricity was sold to another Breithaupt enterprise — the Berlin and Waterloo Street Railway Company. Power was supplied to two street cars. At the same time electricity was sold to Waterloo for eight arc street lights. Later the company had to sell its lines in Waterloo to the town.

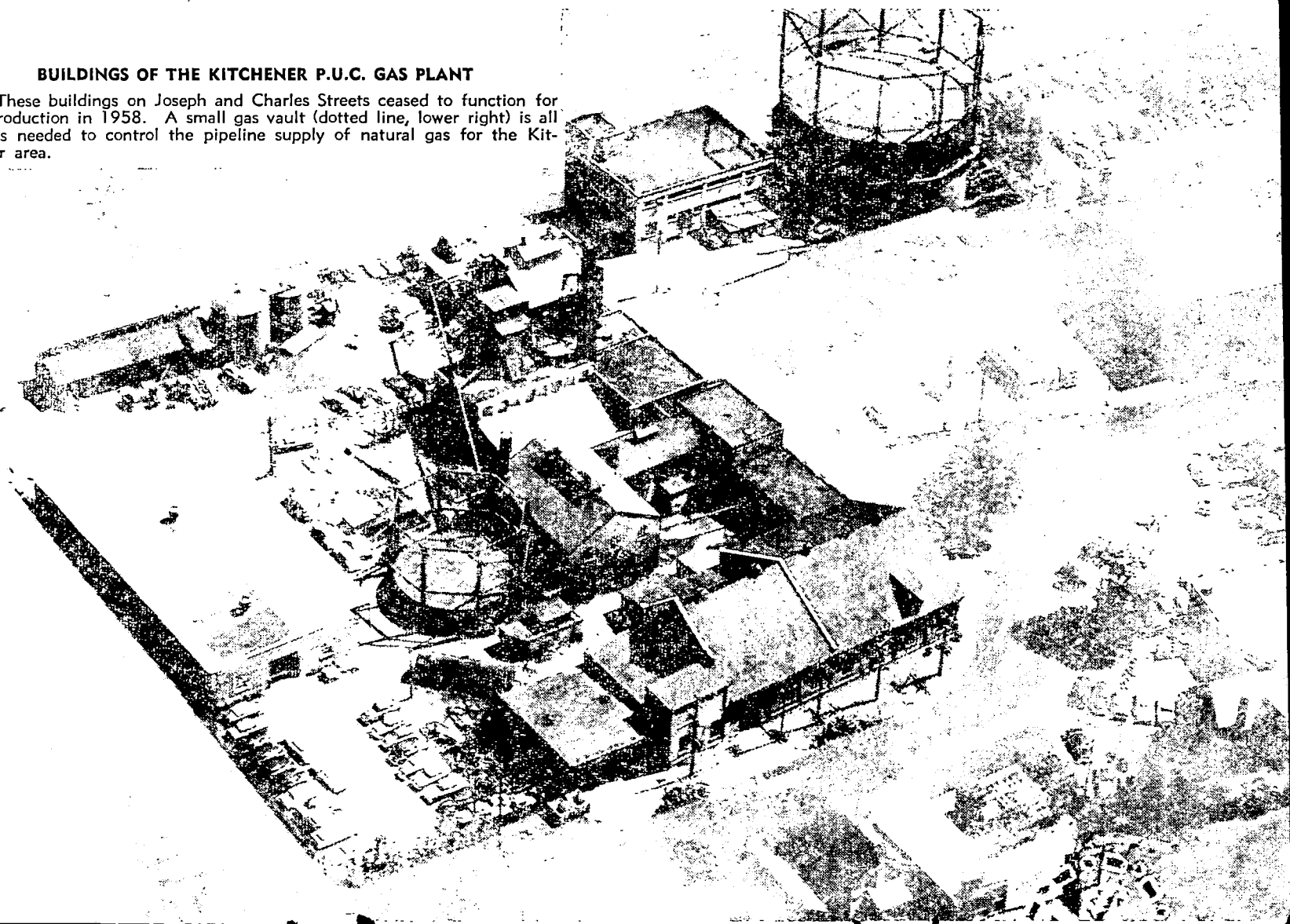
During its years of operation the Berlin Gas Company constructed additions almost every year. Despite losses from its electrical department, the firm made modest profits.

On Jan. 26, 1897, Ezra Carl Breithaupt, 31-year-old engineer, and secretary-manager and president of the Berlin and Waterloo Street Railway Company, and William Aldrich, electrical engineer lost their lives. These two men, carrying a storm lantern, were checking the gas gallonage in storage. There was an explosion and employees and citizens rushed to the yard to find the area in flames. Mr. Breithaupt had been blown 25 feet on to a roof. He died at his home the following night. Mr. Aldrich was killed instantly and his body was found under the wreckage.

(Concluded on page 57)

BUILDINGS OF THE KITCHENER P.U.C. GAS PLANT

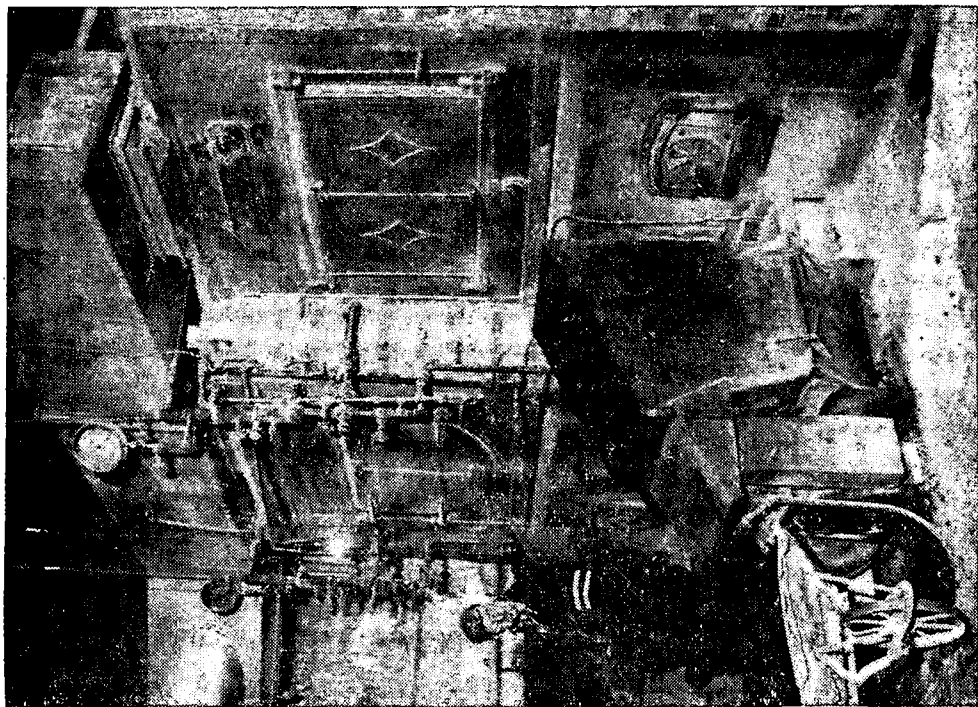
These buildings on Joseph and Charles Streets ceased to function for gas production in 1958. A small gas vault (dotted line, lower right) is all that is needed to control the pipeline supply of natural gas for the Kitchener area.



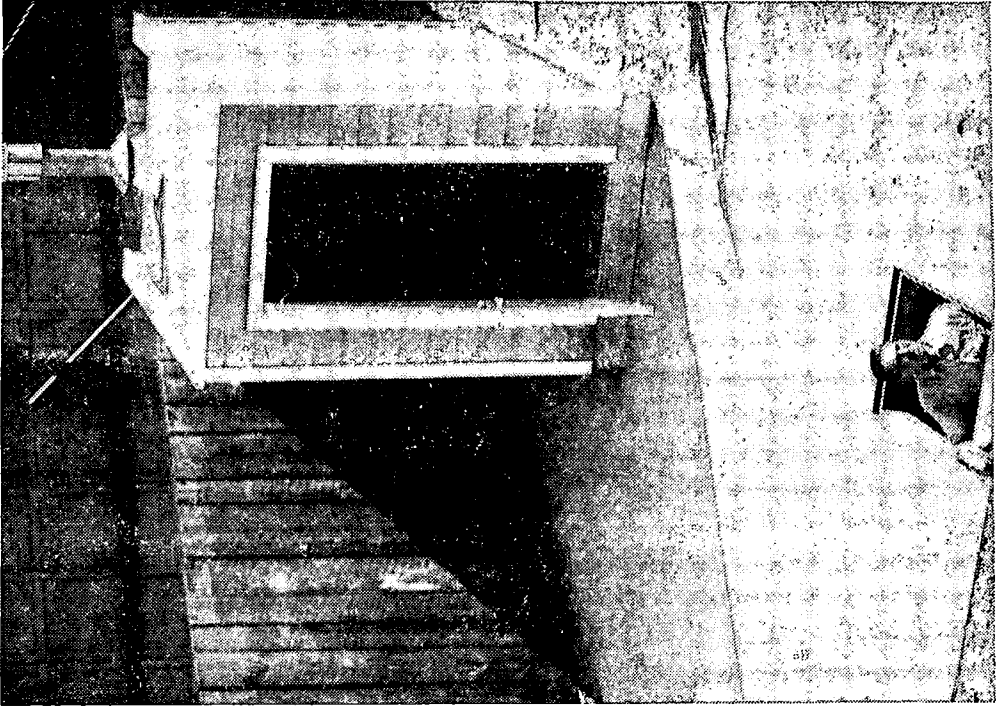


KITCHENER-WATERLOO RECORD

COAL FROM HOPPERS INTO FURNACE

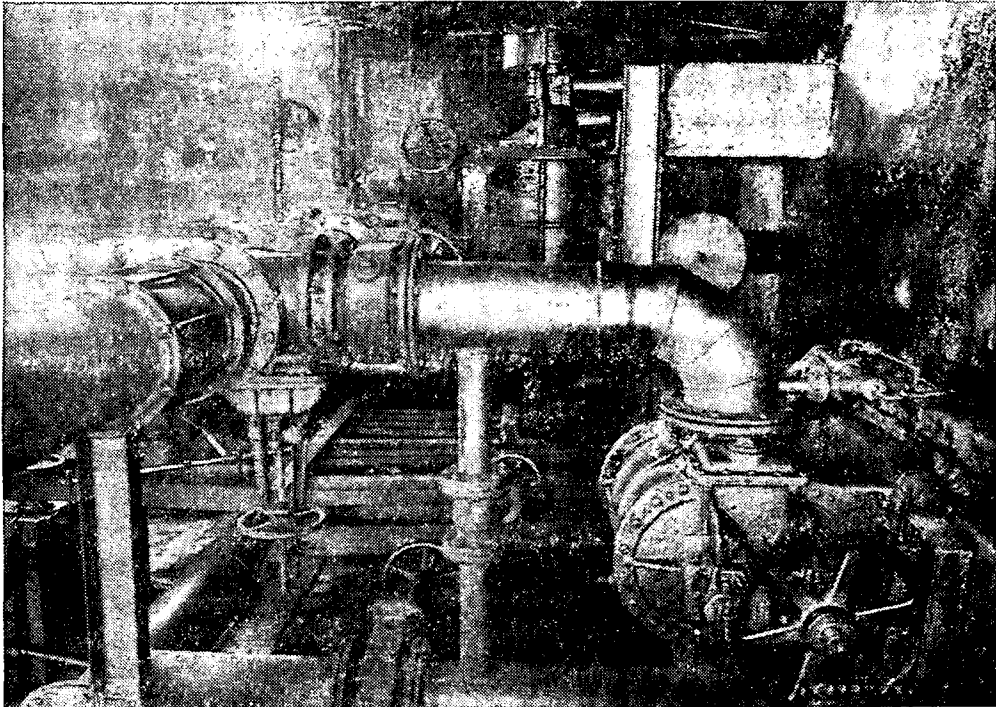


STEAM PLANT



GAS VAULT

KITCHENER-WATERLOO RECORD



FILTERS FOR CLEANING GAS

In 1903 for \$90,000 the city bought the gas and electric works and in December of that year the PUC took over the manufacture of gas. At that time the company had built a new plant and had 440 gas consumers and 79 electric users. Power from Niagara Falls came to the city in 1910, and in 1913 the commission reported that it had 2,002 users of manufactured gas and 1,078 consumers of electricity. In 1914 the Light Commission built the Charles Street gas holder with a capacity of 350,000 cubic feet. It replaced the holder built in 1897. Peak year for manufactured gas was in 1943 when use of electric power was restricted and consumers used 228,519,800 cubic feet.

Prior to the cessation of activity, the plant was on 24 hour operation and thirteen men were employed. Twice a week a carload of coal from West Virginia was processed in the "gas works". In 1958 the rambling collection of buildings became obsolete when a 20x12x11 foot vault provided all the required space. The concrete vault lies below ground level, and not only the size but the neatness of arrangement are in marked contrast to the old plant. Here are all the valves needed to control the flow of natural gas from the gas fields hundreds of miles away into the city mains.



63RD WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Mr. and Mrs. John Geisel of Elmira, parents of ex-reeve Walter Geisel are probably Waterloo County's longest wedded couple. On January 16, 1958 they had their 63rd anniversary of becoming man and wife. As this 1958 volume was being prepared for publication they celebrated their 64th anniversary. Mr. Geisel is in his 92nd year and his wife in her 90th and both are enjoying remarkably good health for their years. They have a family of five, all living, 12 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.



North Waterloo's oldest voter in the March election was Mrs. Margaret Madden, 103, of 31 Bruder Ave., Kitchener. She had intended to walk to the poll with her daughter, Mrs. J. J. O'Sullivan, but relented and accepted a ride.



DIED IN 1958

Miss Sylvia Bock of New Dundee passed away on June 21. She was a council member of the Waterloo Historical Society, charter member and president for eight years of the New Dundee Women's Institute, president of the Library Board and member of the Park Board. She had always lived in New Dundee.

J. G. (Jack) Brown, 58, former Kitchener mayor and Liberal M.P.P. for North Waterloo died November 11. His pleasant personality and wide interests made him known to people in all walks of life. His public career was one that few can hope to surpass, ranging as it did from Legislature, mayor and council for seven years to YMCA, Boy Scouts, Kiwanis, Federated Charities, Hospital Commission, Waterloo-Wellington Airport, Chamber of Commerce, Waterloo College and numerous other organizations where his experience as a chartered accountant was of great value. He gave much effort to the work of First United Church, Waterloo.

Andrew Feick, a former Kitchener alderman and ex-member of the Kitchener Park Board died December 26 at the age of 93.

Mrs. John Flynn, Hespeler's oldest native-born resident died November 6. The former Mary McTearnan, she spent practically all of her 97 years in the town. A member of St. Mary's R.C. church, she was first president of the Catholic Women's League. She had also devoted considerable time to the activities of the Women's Institute and the Nursing Association.

Harry Griffin, 74, of Ayr, twice warden of Waterloo County died September 25.

A well known and esteemed resident of New Hamburg, Mrs. Alex F. Hahn died October 28. Mrs. Hahn was a charter member of the Sisterhood of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, and charter and life member of New Hamburg Women's Institute. She was secretary of that group for many years and was a past-president of the South Waterloo District Women's Institute. Until recently she was secretary of the local Red Cross Society.

Kitchener's "walking-mayor", Dr. Stanley F. Leavine, 61, died July 27. He was one of the best known physicians and surgeons in the city. He was a former Conservative member of the Ontario Legislature and had previously served two terms as mayor and a number of years as a leading alderman. Dr. Leavine was a member of the original organizing group of the Ontario Pioneer Community.

Rev. C. H. Little, 86, retired Waterloo College Seminary professor who had read the Bible 1500 times, died in Waterloo on March 31.

L. Clare Moyer, 70, retired clerk of the Senate and Master in Chancery, died in Florida on October 4. Mr. Moyer was the only man other than a senator with the lifetime privilege of a seat on the floor of the Upper Chamber of Canada's Parliament. A native of Preston, he reported for the Toronto Star and the Regina Leader before studying law in Saskatchewan where he was admitted to the bar in 1915. Overseas he won the D.S.O. and was mentioned in despatches. He served as chief secretary to the late prime minister Mackenzie King. Later he practised law in Ottawa until his appointment as sixth Senate clerk since Confederation.

Ex-magistrate Hugh Robert Polson, 80, termed the "Will Rogers" of the Waterloo County Bench where he served for ten and a half years, died March 3, in Toronto.

Mrs. Ophelia Rife, 104, Waterloo County's oldest resident died March 3 in Hespeler. See her story in the W.H.S. 1956 volume.

James S. Webster, 91, was a reliable source of information about Galt's history until his death on October 19. He had seen the development from a village with muddy roads, wooden sidewalks and oil street-lights to a modern and expanding city. Building contractor, later, issuer of motor vehicle licences, Mr. Webster was the oldest member of the Galt Curling Club. He was prominent in lodge circles and a member of First United Church.

At 79, Dr. Ward Woolner, well known Ayr physician died June 29. In 1954 when he had practised in Ayr for 50 years, he was honoured by the people of the community he had served so well. In his early days he had made many trips on snowshoes and had taken his fees in farm produce. There have been few village physicians who have been as well known in both the Ontario and Canadian Medical Associations. During his 55 years of practice he had been reeve of Ayr, member of the School Board, chairman of the Ayr Library Board and officer of the Waterloo Historical Society. Dr. Woolner was a member of Ayr United Church and Ayr Masonic Lodge.



The map of Wellesley Township, Waterloo County on pages 30 - 31 was copied without correcting obvious errors. Even the same name was spelled in different ways and the spelling did not agree with that in "Sutherland's County of Waterloo Gazetteer and Directory — 1864."

"Some indeed among us are not so much griev'd for the present state of our affairs, as apprehensive for the future—

They observe, that no Revenue is sufficient without Economy, and the most plentiful Income of a whole People from the natural Productions of their Country may be dissipated in vain and needless Expenses, and Poverty be introduced in place of Affluence."

Benja. Franklin.

The Waterloo Historical Society urges all readers to send to the publication committee any historical material related to Waterloo County.