

*Scrapbook Collection of Catherine McMullen Mann*

*Book #14*

*1979 - 1980*

*By*

*Catherine McMullen Mann*



# Program committee set for historical society

South Norwich Historical Society held its first meeting of the year at Woodlawn on January 8 with 13 members and visitors present.

Joyce Pettigrew read correspondence, consisting of a letter from a former area resident, Orrena Buchner Hanley, now residing in Toronto, also letters from the Ontario Historical Society concerning a liaison officer for LACAC, and Joyce agreed to continue to act as officer.

Treasurer's report was given by Marj Pearce. The Woodlawn maintenance report was given by president Bill McMullen, Sr., and \$100 is to be donated to the maintenance fund.

A discussion was held concerning a donation to Innisfree, another historical site in the immediate area, and it was decided to await their financial maintenance report.

In connection with the newsletter it was suggested anyone having any interesting date please contact Joyce Pettigrew.

Bill McMullen read a letter from the Ontario Historical Society stating South Norwich Historical Society had been accepted on an affiliated status.

Program committees for 1979 are as follows: January, Bill McMullen, film; Anna

and Lorne Treffry, lunch. February, Juanita Deroo, with Mrs. Hopkins as guest speaker. March, Muriel Gehring in charge. April, Catherine Mann, with Mr. Vic Moore as speaker. May, Boyd Little and Mrs. Lillian White, with essay winners as speakers. June, Rick Singer in charge of annual tour. September and October, are awaiting volunteers. November, Orris Beecroft in charge, with Harry Barrett as speaker.

To date the government grant has not been received for the Quakers and Pine Street meeting house plaque and it was noted that the matter of a plaque at Treffry's Mill should be looked into in the near future.

Film, The Drylanders, settling in the Western Provinces, was unable to be seen due to a malfunction of the projector.

Coffee and lunch were served.

## Officers installed by Otterville UCW

OTTERVILLE (C) — The January meeting of the United Church Women was held in the schoolroom of the church on Thursday evening. The president, Mrs. Melville Beecroft, presided and opened the meeting with a New Year's message.

Rev. Earl Moore was present and installed the slate of officers for 1979.

Hymn "Standing at the Portal" was sung followed with "The Lord's Prayer."

Mrs. Boyd Little, secretary, read the minutes of the December meeting, also the minutes of the executive meeting which was held last week at the home of the president. Announcement was made of the Oxford Presbyterial, January 31.

Mrs. Irvin Gehring, convener of the program, presided for the worship service the theme being

"Time is Walking - Walking with God Throughout the Year Ahead" was prepared by Mrs. Donald Stewart and led the members who read responsively from the program.

The Scripture reading which was read responsively was read from printed program followed with a hymn, "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" followed with prayer.

Mrs. George Douma presented a story by tape called "The House Without a Chimney". This story was composed and narrated by their son, Felix Douma.

Mrs. Gary Walther demonstrated how to collect and arrange dry flowers in containers.

The meeting closed with prayer by Mrs. Gehring and a social time closed the meeting.

## Sunshine Club

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mrs. John McSkimming, newly elected president of the Sunshine Club in Otterville, presided for the January meeting which was held at the home of Mrs. Robert Pettigrew Thursday evening attended by 15 members and two who joined that evening.

The slate of officers for the next term of office will be as follows:

Past president, Mrs. James McMurchy; president, Mrs. John McSkimming; 1st vice president, Mrs. Roland Harrison; 2nd vice president, Mrs. David Hussey; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Robert Pettigrew; news reporter, Mrs. Irie Tsutomu; good cheer, Mrs. James McMurchy; special activities, Mrs. Fred Pearce and Miss Dorothy Wardell; Christmas boxes, Mrs. Jay Durkee, Mrs. Frank Gould and Mrs. Gordon Shearer.

Mrs. McSkimming welcomed the members and asked for their continued support during her term of office. Many notes of appreciation were read from shut-ins and other folk in the village who were remembered by the club at Christmas time.

Pancake luncheon which has been one of the special events convened by the club each year in the Parish Hall was mentioned and plans are underway.

## Euchre party at Otterville

OTTERVILLE (C) — Three tables of progressive euchre were in play at the Parish Hall on Thursday evening, which was sponsored by the members of the St. John's Church Club. The next euchre will be held on Thursday evening, February 1 at 8 p.m.

Prizes for the ladies were won by Mrs. Vida Lees and Mrs. Margaret McIntosh. The men's prizes were won by David McKibbin and Mrs. Wilfred Addison.

Mr. and Mrs. Blaine Oatman were winners of the mystery prize.

## W.I. donates to children's hospital

OTTERVILLE (C) — The January meeting of the Otterville Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. William A. McMullen on Friday evening.

The president, Miss Vera Welsh, welcomed the members and thanked Mrs. Murray Treffry, first vice-president for presiding for the December meeting. She also thanked the hostess and committee.

The meeting opened with the Institute Ode and Mary Stewart Collect followed with the Lord's Prayer.

The roll call was

responded to with the members telling "A Member Nation of the Commonwealth."

Notes of appreciation were read from those who received Christmas Cheer boxes from the Institute. A report was given of the useful gifts which were sent to the Sunshine Cupboard for cancer patients.

Mrs. Donald Gorrie, a member of the Institute, was honoured due to moving to their new home in Woodstock. Mrs. G.M. Downing spoke a few words of regret.

speaking on behalf of the Institute, describing how much she would be missed in meetings and the village. Mrs. Gorrie was presented with a cup and saucer for which she expressed appreciation, and of the friendship in the village.

In response to an appeal, a cash donation was sent to the War Memorial Sick Children's Hospital in London.

The February meeting of the Institute will be held at the home of Mrs. Murray Treffry on Friday afternoon February 9 at 2 p.m. Mrs. Donald Pettigrew of Springford will be the guest

speaker, taking as her subject "Canadian Culture."

Mrs. Harry Pickersgill gave a paper which was prepared by the convener, Mrs. William McMullen. The British Commonwealth Nations and this was followed with pictures of Edmonton. These pictures entailed many sport activities and were very interesting.

The meeting closed with the singing of "God Save The Queen" followed with "The Institute Grace." Mrs. McMullen was the program convener and Mrs. Harry Pickersgill and Miss Vera Welsh were the committee.

## Happy Bluebirds hold meeting

OTTERVILLE (C) — Members of the Happy Bluebird Club held their first meeting of the year at the home of Mrs. Hiram Mitchell of Norwich on Tuesday evening, January 23.

President Mrs. Daisy Ash welcomed the members, thanked the hostess and the

meeting opened with the "Housewives' Creed," followed with "The Lord's Prayer."

The roll call was answered by the members paying their membership.

Mrs. Josepha Rosehart invited the members to her home for the February

meeting. Mrs. Stanley Morris gave a reading.

The Milldale group was in charge of the evening and this was spent in a good old-fashioned visit. The members were pleased to see Mrs. Ash present, following her illness which confined her to hospital and

home for several months.

The members assisted the hostess at the social hour. At this time Mrs. Morris gave the courtesy remarks on behalf of the club.

## Church holds Vestry meet

OTTERVILLE (C) — Annual Vestry meeting of St. John's Anglican Church was held in the parish hall on Wednesday evening, conducted by the Rector H. Herring. There was a small attendance due to the weather condition.

Rev. Herring opened the meeting with prayer. Carl Howse was re-elected Vestry clerk and read minutes.

Reports of organizations of the church were read; Church treasurer's report given by Eva Deveney; and statistical report by Mr. Herring, who paid fitting tribute to the late Jack Riste, a Lay-reader and a valued church member in many services.

Missionary budget and report of the Church club was given by Eva Deveney. Ladies Guild report was presented by Mrs. Nate McMullen; and Sunday school report and cemetery board both given by Carl Howse.

The board of managers and officers were returned to office with a few exceptions.

Following a short business meeting the minister closed with prayer. Jan/79



# Celebrate birthday with cake, corsage

OTTERVILLE (C) - Mrs. Max Avey of Otterville, accompanied by her husband, was the guest of honor at a family dinner party in honor of the former's birthday, at a restaurant in Tillsonburg on Saturday, January 27, 1979.

Attending the party were Mr. and Mrs. Howard Avey and daughter, Miss Lana Avey of Tillsonburg; Mr. and Mrs. Dale Avey of Springford; Mr. and Mrs. Ross Avey and daughter Miss Rhonda Avey of Paris and Mr. David Avey of Owen Sound.

Also attending were Mrs. Avey's sisters, Mrs. Robert

Malcolm of Hamilton, Mrs. Catherine Force of Woodstock and Darrell VanEvera of Tillsonburg. Mrs. Avey was the recipient of a lovely corsage and a birthday cake from the family, as well as other remembrances along with birthday cards conveying best wishes.



Rev. and Mrs. D.R. Gorrie have resigned their ministry in Otterville Baptist Church and plan to retire in Woodstock. They began their ministry in Port Arthur with the Royal Life Mission in 1949, and two years later accepted the pastorate of Fellowship Baptist Church in the same city. In the ensuing years they have served congregations in Toronto, Ottawa, Thunder Bay, Mount Forrest and Georgetown, before coming to Otterville.

January 17, 1979

## 20 YEARS AGO

January 29, 1959

A curling team from Otterville, namely Mrs. Derwood Spicer, Mrs. Roy Rachar, Mrs. Jack Furlong and Miss Dorothy Wardell who represented the Norwich Curling Club, participated in the Stratford bonspiel, held at Stratford. The local team won in games with Stratford and Hamilton, but lost out in the final game with Fergus.

## In the \$500 Cash Draw,

connected with the special Minor Hockey Night held here Tuesday evening, William Hogg was holder of the 100th ticket drawn to win the \$400 Cash Prize. Those winning the \$25 cash prizes were Charles Bishop; a split ticket held by Adam Oliver and Dr. Batson of Otterville, Alex Slaght of Otterville and Dr. G.N. Krueger of Woodstock.

## 25 YEARS AGO

January 1954

Melbourne Haley, ex-reeve of South Norwich and widely known exhibitor and judge of cattle, passed away at his home on Monday, January 25, in his 87th year.

## 25 YEARS AGO

January 1954

The Melody Kids, a newly-organized local orchestra, made their debut Saturday night in the Orange Hall, when they played to a capacity crowd of eager dancers.

Otterville - Ninety-year-old George Parker, LaSalette is observing his 70th year, in Odd Fellowship, joining Tecumseh Lodge September 1, 1884.

# Farewell gathering for pastor

OTTERVILLE (C) - The congregation of the Otterville Baptist Church met on Tuesday evening in the Sunday school room of the church with their Pastor Rev. D.R. Gorrie and Mrs. Gorrie, who are retiring and leaving for their new home in Woodstock.

Mrs. John Hansford and Mrs. Hilda Stockmans were in charge of the evening. A hymn sing was enjoyed by all, with Mr. Brian Davis as pianist.

Larry Hansford read a Psalm of Praise. Mr. Robert Marshall conducted a quiz.

Mr. Bruce Stover, chairman of the Board of Deacons, called Rev. and Mrs. Gorrie to the platform and gave the address.

"We have gathered here tonight to honor our Pastor and Mrs. Gorrie so I would like to say a few words on behalf of everyone present," said Mr. Stover.

"It seems like a short time you folks have been with us,

but we have enjoyed your fellowship while you laboured with us during the past two and one-half years," he said.

"There are those who have mentioned what you have meant to them, also those in the village will remember your calls, kind deeds done, so these will be memories long remembered."

"So tonight we would like you to accept this gift from the church and friends as a token of love and remem-

brance," he said.

"If you are in the area we would invite you to call on us whether it be in the Church or in the home," he added.

"As you are retiring we trust God will grant you many years together and may God richly bless you both," concluded Mr. Stover.

Mr. Gorrie expressed their thanks. Rev. and Mrs. Gorrie are retiring from the ministry January 15. A social time followed with lunch being served by the committee.

## 50 YEARS AGO

January 1929

Breaking out shortly after 6 o'clock Saturday evening, the most destructive fire in Woodstock's history completely destroyed the old building of the LaFrance Plushes, Ltd., Dundas and Beale Streets, with damage estimated about \$225,000.

MILLDALE - The death occurred on January 25, of Emeline Williams, (colored) an aged and highly respected resident of this place.

## 100 YEARS AGO

January 1879

Boring for oil is still going on upon Dr. Carroll's property in Otterville. A great number have faith in the venture.

# Norwich to borrow \$1 million

Norwich Township council passed a bylaw to allow the borrowing of up to \$1 million during Tuesday night's session.

The money would be used to meet expenditures until taxes are collected for this year.

In other council business, Township Clerk Robert Watkins was directed to write to the Oxford County Board of Education to voice council's concern over the

proposed closing of Springford school.

Future growth of ward two (Norwich village) also came under discussion in Tuesday night's meeting. It was moved that a study should be undertaken, with assistance from the Oxford Planning Board and the Ministry of the Environment, to determine future sewer requirements in the ward.

"The system is about at its maximum," said Mayor

Jack Burn. Mayor Burn stressed the necessity of determining future growth in the ward.

"That was part of my inaugural address," he said.

A motion was also passed which asked that the present Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee retain its present membership until the future of the old post office building is decided.

Jan/79



In other words funding would be required for maintenance and restoration.

However, with co-operation and effort, this mill site could once more be the reason for Otterville's existance and an asset and attraction for the surrounding area.

The village has a beautiful park, an attractive and useful Hall, some very interesting heritage homes as well as some equally attractive modern ones. The village has much going for it. With emphasis on the mill site, the commercial section can become more attractive and inviting - an exciting town in which to live.

Support your community - Everyone's benefits



# Lion's club names teams for Tippicanoe Contest

OTTERVILLE (C) - The regular meeting of the Norwich - Otterville Lions Club was held in the Parish Hall, Otterville on Monday evening. Lion president Ron Kiddie presided.

There were 47 members present and five visitors, including three members from Hagersville Lions Club.

Past Governor Howard Fleming introduced Lion Ed Kincaid of Belmont Lions Club. Lion Ed has been blind since 1973 and was accompanied by his leader dog Wolf. Lion Ed outlined the various projects begun in this area to assist the several types of handicapped persons.

These projects have been greatly assisted by area Lions Clubs and other service clubs. The speaker was thanked by Lion Bill Orth, who presented a cheque for the Leader Dog Association on behalf of the Club.

Deputy District Governor Ed Langley of the Hagersville Lions Club addressed the meeting.

Two teams were chosen to take part in the annual Tip-

Canoe contest to be held at the Tillsonburg Community Centre February 9th.

Lion Mel Smith reported on plans for the annual Valentine Dance to be held at the Norwich Community Centre Saturday, February 10th.

Lion Bob Spek reported plans for the annual Lady Night on Friday, February 16. One bus will leave from the Township Office, Otterville at 4 p.m. and the other bus will leave from Norwich Legion at 4:30 p.m.

The new Dereham District Lions Club are planning 100 per cent attendance at the next regular meeting on February 12th.

The Convention draw was won by Lion Ed McFarland.

# South African exchange student likes Otterville

Christine Martin, an exchange student from Johannesburg, South Africa, got her first look at snow recently and found it all "rather beautiful."

Miss Martin is staying with the Grant Mountain family in Otterville and is attending classes at Norwich District High School. She considers Otterville a

pleasant change from life in the city of Johannesburg.

"I like it, I really do," she said. "I wasn't that fond of living in the city."

Johannesburg is the biggest city in South Africa but compared to the city of Toronto, "it isn't that big at all," according to Miss Martin.

She is visiting Canada for a year and will be staying with four host families during her visit. The program is sponsored by Rotary International.

Although she has made a smooth transition to life in Canada, she has found some problems with various terms which are used in this country. Miss Martin recently purchased a ski jacket which is referred to as an "anorak" in South Africa. She found it necessary to buy some winter clothing to cope with the Canadian winter.

"Now I'm pretty well kitted out," she said.

Miss Martin attended a boarding school in Pietermaritzburg which is about 620 kilometers from Johannesburg. Although she found Norwich high "very different" from boarding school, she said she "likes it very much." She said her classmates at Norwich High are very friendly.

"I know them all," she said. "They're all very helpful."

Miss Martin is very in-

terested in sports and participated in swimming, basketball and tennis in Johannesburg. She has won many prizes for these activities.

"I really like tennis," she said.

Her family in Johannesburg includes two sisters, Penny and Lindsey, and a brother, David.

She intends to study at Stellenbosche University in South Africa and would like to become a physical education teacher. This is an "Afrikaans" university, explained Miss Martin. Afrikaans is a dialect of the Dutch language and is used as an official second language in South Africa.



Exchange student Christine Martin, right, is enjoying her stay in the area. With Christine is Norwich District High School student Joe Van Den Borre.

Wednesday, January 24, 1979 THE TILLSONBURG NEWS Section 1 P. 7

# Receive grant for mill purchase

The Long Point Region Conservation Authority has been awarded a \$71,662 provincial grant for the purchase of the 93-acre Rock's Mill property on the Big Otter Creek east of Tillsonburg, a spokesman for Oxford MPP Harry Parrott's office said Monday.

Although the conservation authority had not been officially notified of the

Conservation Authority Act grant Tuesday, authority resources manager Phil Hale said that if no problems arise, the sale could be finalized as early as Feb. 15.

The authority has optioned the land and the property is currently being surveyed, Mr. Hale said. The total estimated cost of the project is \$136,500.

Once the deal is finalized, the authority will im-

mediately prepare an overall plan for use of the property. Preliminary plans call for the land to be used for three main purposes. These are outdoor recreation, protection of the river valley from development and for flood plain control and as the site of conservation demonstration projects.

The authority also plans to lease the grist mill on the property to the private sector. The mill closed August 18 when the heirs of Warren Rock, who died in 1971, decided to put it up for sale. Under the operation of part-owner Fred Kniffen, the mill served 200 regular customers in the area.

The Rock's Mill site has

been the scene of mill operations for more than 100 years. The first mill was built in the 1820's by the Stover family. It was sold in the 1850's to Adam Spencer and was acquired in this century by Henry and John Rock. The mill closed in 1971 when a new dam was built. It was destroyed by fire and rebuilt in 1937.

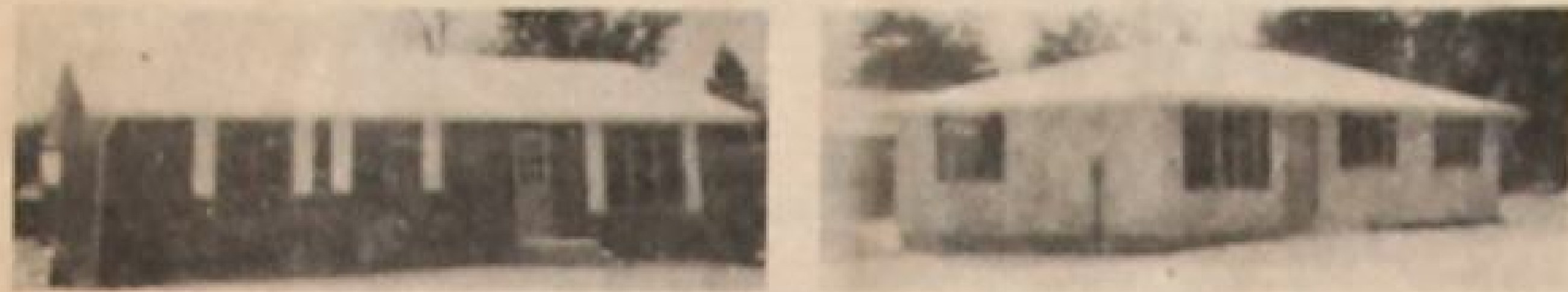


# Joël J. Vermeersch

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Joel J. Vermeersch Real Estate is pleased to announce the appointment by Michael Ash Construction Ltd. as agents for the above quality homes. "Mike" has lots in Norwich, Tillsonburg and area on which to build your dream home. At present, two homes are under construction in Callen's Subdivision at Delhi, to be ready for spring occupancy.



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Priced at \$49,900

## Legal Notices

### Land, Buildings & Equipment For Sale By Tender

This commercial property, located in the Village of Otterville (described as Lots 6 to 10 inclusive, 43 to 46 inclusive and 106 and 107, Registered Plan 388A, County of Oxford) is for sale under Power of Sale by virtue of default in a loan secured by a realty and chattel mortgage.

The property comprises approximately 8 acres in the village of Otterville. The buildings consist of a wood frame structure, two stories high measuring 25 ft. x 120 ft. with a 20 ft. x 40 ft. extension. Contained on the property is a fire damaged area, approximately 130 ft. x 80 ft. consisting of a large quantity of scrap metal and materials. This may be included within the tender or on the basis of being cleared by the vendor prior to sale. There is also a partially damaged wood frame steel clad storage shed

measuring 100 ft. x 38 ft., open at one end, and a pole shed with roof only. Floors are poured concrete. Four silos are also located on the property.

Arrangements to inspect the assets may be made by contacting Mr. P.H. Cash, in London, Ontario at (519) 434-2144.

Written tenders, addressed to Mr. P.H. Cash, c/o Suite 1000, 197 York Street, London, Ontario, N6A 1B2, will be accepted until 3 P.M. on February 12th, 1979. A certified cheque for 10 percent of the amount tendered must be included as a deposit (payee to be designated) and will be returned without interest if the tender is not accepted, or forfeited as liquidated damages if the tender is accepted, and sale not completed by the purchaser.

The highest or any tender shall not necessarily be accepted. Financing will be considered if required.

*TIP TOP CANNERS OLD  
PROPERTY AND BUILDINGS*

## —Announcement—



Ray Gooding

Otter Lumber Company, Otterville, Rick Craggs, General Manager takes pleasure in announcing that Ray Gooding has now joined the company as Sales Manager.

Ray brings with him 27 years of experience in the lumber and construction industries.

He will be happy to put this experience to work for you and prepare free estimates for your building requirements.

## OTTER LUMBER

— Owned & Operated By Otterville Lumber Ltd. —

Otterville *Jan 79* 879-6972



# OUR 3RD ANNIVERSARY

AT

## JANNY'S SUPERIOR

EFFECTIVE WED. p.m. JANUARY 31, 1979 MAIN STREET OTTERVILLE 879-6592

GELLO JELLY POWDERS 3oz 3/69¢ reg. 31¢	BEEMID PURE CREAMED HONEY 2lb 1/14 reg. 2.49
MELLOW ROAST INSTANT COFFEE 4oz 3.55 reg. 4.31	LIBBY'S DEEP BROWNED BEANS 14oz 2/79¢ reg. 5.00

DR. BALLARD'S SPECIALTY DOG FOOD	
beef chunks, stew 14oz	39¢
ALLEN'S ORANGE CRYSTALS	
4's	85¢
NEILSON'S ROSEBUDS AND MACAROONS	
cello 12oz	\$1.79
GAINES DOG MEAL	
10kg	\$5.99
CARNATION INSTANT BREAKFAST	
assorted 6's	\$1.29
ST WILLIAMS JAMS	
straw., rasp. 9oz	55¢
JOHNSON'S BABY POWDER	
397g	\$1.99
DAD'S OATMEAL COOKIES	
16oz	\$1.05
CHEF BOY R D RAVIOLI	
15oz	59¢

\*CANADA DRY ENVIROPACKS\*\*  
 ONLY \$1.99 + dep.  
 \*PURE SPRING INTRODUCTORY OFFER\*\*  
 ONLY 39¢ bottle + dep.

PRODUCE	
CALIFORNIA HEAD LETTUCE	
each head	59¢
ONTARIO DELICIOUS APPLES	
3lb bag	99¢
ONTARIO CARROTS	
2lb bag	39¢

SHIRRIFF GOOD MORNING MARMALADE	24oz	\$1.19
MITCHELL'S FANCY APPLE SAUCE	28oz	79¢
AYLMER CATSUP	32oz	\$1.19
DREAM WHIP DESSERT TOPPING	3oz	59¢
SHIRRIFF SCALLOPED POTATOES	5oz	59¢
HILLS BROTHERS COFFEE	1 LB	\$3.39
KELLOGG'S RICE KRISPIES	575g	\$1.25
MILK BONE LARGE DOG BISCUITS	32oz	\$1.09
NORTHLAND FIREPLACE LOGS	6lb	99¢
SAICO SWEET ORANGE JUICE	48oz	75¢
SAICO SWEET BLENDED JUICE	48oz	75¢
SAICO UNSW. GRAPEFRUIT JUICE	48oz	75¢

SCHNEIDER'S		
FRYING CHICKENS 2 1/2 * 3 1/2 lb	1b	75¢
CHICKEN LEGS OR BREASTS	1b	95¢
"KISS OF ORANGE" SIDE BACON	1b	\$1.58
WIENERS (not foot longs)	1b	\$1.28
LUNCHEON MEATS 6oz (reg. 79¢)		63¢
BEEF STEAKETTES	1b	\$1.48
PORK MINI SIZZLER SAUSAGE	1b	\$1.58
1 COMPLETE CUT UP AND COOKED BOX OF CHICKEN	2 lb	\$3.48

WE RESERVE THE RIGHTS TO LIMIT QUANTITIES



## Committee wants P.O. tower, facade saved

A delegation from the Norwich Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee Monday requested Norwich Township council to retain the tower and facade of the 66-year-old post office building and use the building for a post office again.

Federal works officials attended a December meeting of council and said that the building would be too costly to renovate. At that time council passed a resolution which agreed to demolition but requested that the clock and bell be retained in any new design.

Joyce Pettigrew, chairman of LACAC, asked that council consider the streetscape of Norwich village, and realize the necessity for an architecturally appropriate building to complement the streetscape.

The federal works department and postal officials decided last August that the interior of the building was no longer suitable for use as a post office, due to the steps to the entrance and lack of space inside the building.

Mrs. Pettigrew felt these difficulties could be overcome.

"Architects can do many things," she said. "The facade could be retained and a new building put in behind."

"If the clock tower goes down, part of your heritage goes down," she said.

At the meeting in December, an architect from public works said that the tower is part of the building, and can't be separated.

Mayor Burn said that he felt an engineer should judge this and not an architect.

Although public works official Stanley Ostrowski told council at the December

meeting that the clock and bell could be incorporated in a new design, no guarantee was given regarding the final design.

"They could put it in the closet," remarked Mrs. Pettigrew.

Although federal works officials have expressed their desire to co-operate with local intentions, some councillors expressed doubt that this was the case.

"They'd do anything we wanted, as long as it's what they want," said Councillor Cecil Mingle.

Several petitions have been circulated in the village which indicate strong support for retaining the building. Mrs. Pettigrew stressed that the best indication of support would be individual letters to government officials.

It was decided that the township clerk would arrange a second meeting

with public works and LACAC members attending.

Norwich Township LACAC was the first to be established in Ontario under the Ontario Heritage Act in 1975. Its responsibilities include establishing an inventory of historical property and offering information on conservation. Under the terms of the Heritage Act the committee can request council to

designate a property as of historical importance, and can postpone demolition for 270 days.

Mrs. Pettigrew said that their primary intent is to encourage voluntary preservation. The streetscape of the village is done in 1880's style. LACAC requested that if the post office facade can't be retained, a building of suitable style should be erected.

# School merger still forecast

WOODSTOCK (Bureau) — The Springford citizens' committee asked the Oxford County board of education Monday to drop a \$1-million school consolidation project from its capital forecast, but the board took no action.

The project was the number one item on a 1979 capital spending forecast the board has submitted to the education ministry.

It would consolidate five rural schools

— Ostrander, Delmer-Culloden, Rotary, Westmount and Springford — into a regional school with 13 classrooms, a gymnasium and a library.

The board met with concerned parents in November to discuss the proposal. At that time the board said funds, if approved, could be used to improve the existing schools as an alternative.

However, according to education ministry guidelines, money for capital pro-

jects can only be used for the purpose stated, spokesman Harvey Cowan said, eliminating the possibility of using the money for additions or renovations.

The school board has said it will meet with parents if the capital money is allocated. But the Springford group wants a survey and meeting between the board and parents before any capital money is allocated.

The Springford citizen's committee is

the only group organized to fight the proposal. About 40 parents attended the meeting Monday.

However, a parent spokesman told the board she had conducted a survey of homes in the Delmer-Culloden area. Of 171 surveyed, 149 were against consolidation, 15 had no comment and seven were in favor.

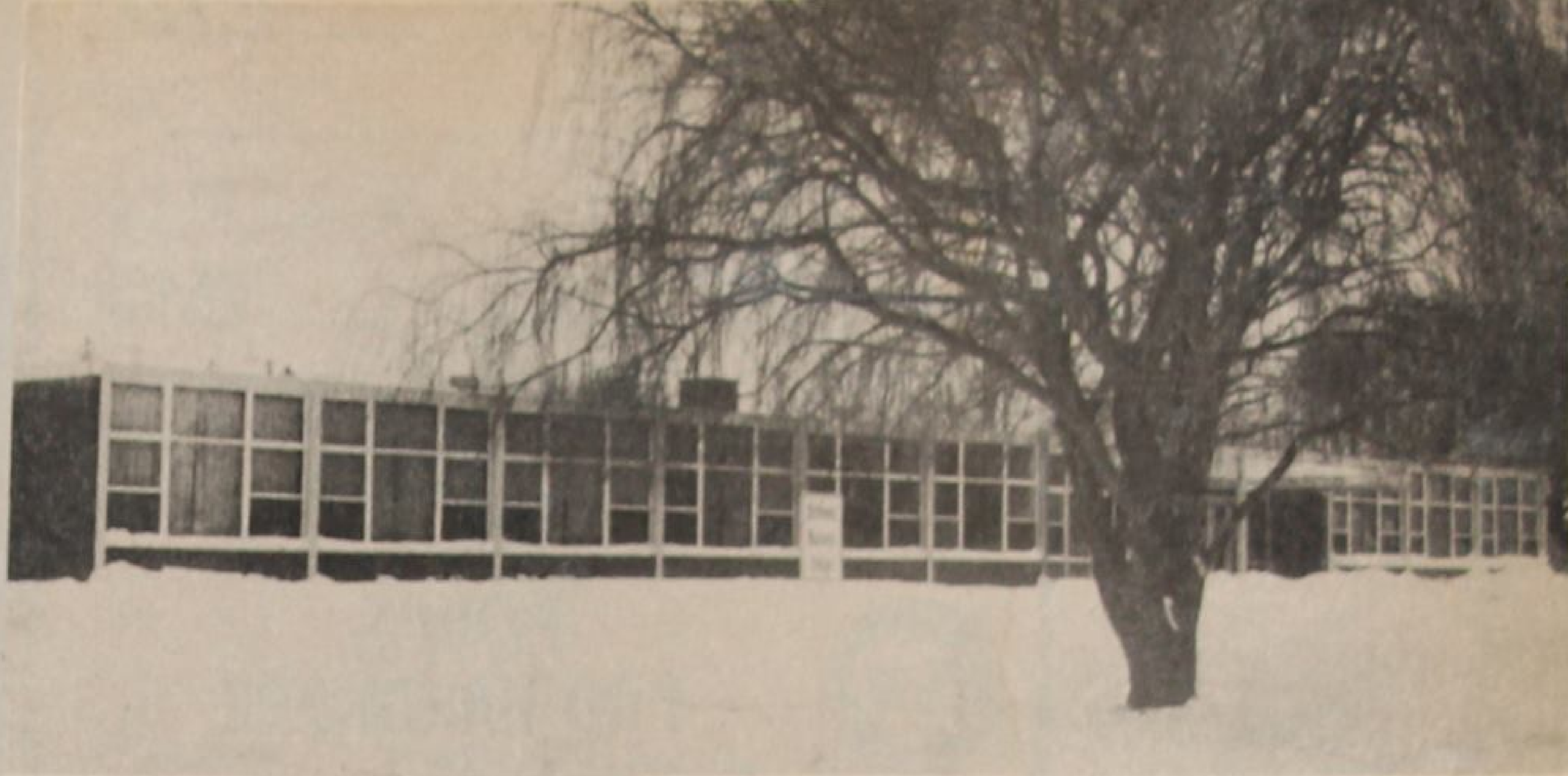
Cowan said a survey of Springford parents showed 90 per cent against consolidation.

Zorra Township trustee Bruce McLeod pointed out to the Springford delegation the decision will affect other schools involved in the merger. The Springford school is 19 years old, but the Culloden school, built in the 1880s, is without such facilities as hot water.

"Have you thought what the effect would be on the other persons? There's no way we can help the people who need the most help without the assistance of everyone."

Board trustee Wilma Boughtflower of Woodstock told the group the board would take no permanent action without consulting the parents.





Springford School was built in 1959. Students from grades two to six attend the school. Physical education activities take place in the basement of the school and there is a small library in the front hall.

Jan 179.

ZETTE January 17, 1979



Don Marshall and Wayne Williams, members of the Trail Trotters Snowmobile Club, presented the proceeds from a bingo night to Don Pettigrew and Bob Smith of the Springford and Area Concerned Citizens Committee on Friday. The \$157 donation will aid in the citizen's struggle to ensure that Springford school does not close.

## Donate to school fund

The fight to keep Springford school open received support in the form of a \$157 donation from the Trail Trotters Snowmobile club on Friday.

The money was accepted by Don Pettigrew and Bob Smith, members of the Springford and Area Concerned Citizens Committee. The snowmobile club organized a bingo night to raise the funds, which was held on January 3 at the South Norwich Fish and Game clubhouse.

The club plans to continue supporting the Springford

citizen's cause.

"We'll do whatever we can to help," said Wayne Williams of the snowmobile club.

Mr. Pettigrew said that he felt the campaign to keep the school open was proceeding favorably, and is supported by a majority of citizens.

"Although there are some we'll never sway," he added.

Mr. Pettigrew described the group's activities as an effort to provide citizen input into the decision making process by the Oxford board of education.

"They've discussed it

among themselves from their viewpoint," he said.

"We're trying to give a local viewpoint."

He felt that the final decision should reflect the opinion of the board of education and the citizens concerned. He stressed the need to retain the school.

"It's too good a school to go under," he said. "It's only 19 years old."

The group has a "strategy meeting" planned for Tuesday night at the United Church in Springford, beginning at 7:30.



**HANK WILLIAMS DIED  
NEAR OAK HILL, W. VA.,  
ON JANUARY 1, 1953.  
HE WAS 29.**

**THE DRIVER OF THE  
NEW 1953 CADILLAC  
FLEETWOOD, NOT WANTING  
TO DISTURB HIM, DROVE  
FOR FIVE HOURS BEFORE  
REALIZING THE  
RECUMBENT PASSENGER  
IN THE BACK SEAT WAS  
DEAD.**

**THE CORONER'S REPORT  
STATED ALCOHOL WAS  
PRESENT IN THE BLOOD  
STREAM; HOW MUCH WAS  
NOT SPECIFIED.**

**JANUARY 27, 1979 — 8:30 P.M.  
Alumni Hall  
The University of Western Ontario**

McNeill Producers Inc. presents:  
**HANK WILLIAMS —**  
**"How He Never Gave"**  
by the Talbot Theatre Management  
Committee.  
Friday, January 27, 1979 - 8:30 p.m.  
Alumni HALL, The University of Western Ontario  
Tax Exempt - No Refunds  
General Admission: \$5.00 and \$6.00 at the door

NO  
582



# Tillsonburg

BY DR. J.W. COOPER  
for Tillsonburg Historical  
Museum Society

What was Tillsonburg like before it was Tillsonburg? It is not an entirely idle question, for it is the starting-point for any consideration of local history. Tillsonburg cannot be separated from the townships around it. A worthwhile answer to the question must include both town and countryside.

Tillsonburg and its neighbourhood were forest-covered. What is difficult for us today is to realize how extensive and dense the forests were. Some evidence comes from the surveyors, for they noted the kinds of trees and the nature of the soil as they ran their lines. Thus, from 1809, when Mahlon Burwell began laying out the Talbot Road to 1832 when Roswell Mount was completing the surveys of Dereham Township, there are the surveyors' notes. More revealing of the nature of the forests were the descriptions left by those who spent their lives in them. In this category, high marks must go to the Rev. Thomas Greene, the Anglican missionary, who in the late 1830's itinerated in modern Oxford, Norfolk, and Elgin counties. Greene's letters to his patron, the Rev. W.J.D. Waddilove 2, abound in references to the forests: "the thick forest of pines" between Norwich and Dereham; "the dreary pine woods which seemed in some places to shut out almost every ray of light"; "the long woods (near Courtland)... one vast forest of pines and no vestige of a house or cultivation." In rainy weather, Greene's horse stumbled knee-deep in the sodden pine-needles. He looked forward to winter: "From the bad state of the Bush Roads, I have not been able to visit... my outposts for the last three weeks.... The snowy and sleighing Season will soon commence and then I shall be 'up and stirring.'" Even ten years later, there was not much change. In the summer of 1848, Archdeacon Neil Bethune "left the hospitable house of Mr. Doby (Col. Alexander Dobbie)" in Bayham for the Dereham church. "This Church... is a very attractive object on emerging from the woods," a pleasing reference to St. Charles and an indication of the extent of the forests.

An elaborate passage from Anna Jameson carries less conviction, although it crystallizes Greene's impressions:

"So thick was the overhanging foliage that it not only shut out the sunshine but almost the daylight; and we travelled through a perpetual gloom... There were no flowers... The earth... was a black, rich vegetable mould into which the cart-wheels sank a foot deep; a rank, reedy grass grew round the roots of the trees and sheltered rattlesnakes and reptiles." 3

Tillsonburg seems to have stood on the border between the broad-leaved forests of the northern townships and the pine lands of Bayham, Middleton, and Malahide. The surveyors noted maple, ash, walnut, and various kinds of oak. Pines, as noted, chiefly impressed Thomas Greene.

The commercial possibilities of the forests were recognized early. In mid-summer 1815, Mahlon Burwell wrote enthusiastically of the wealth of the forests and of the promise of Otter Creek as a means of transportation. 4 However, twenty years were to pass before anything was realized. In 1815, there was no market for Lake Erie pine, and no means of getting it to market. The early settlers burned the forests to clear their fields - or used black walnut for piggeries and snake fences. E.A. Owen, the historian of Long Point, wrote of the wilderness of stumps that replaced the forests. 5 Nor does it seem that much was done to capitalize on the first bi-product of land clearing, the making of potash. Only one "ashery" in all Dereham was recorded in the Census of 1851. It was a rarely gifted newcomer, such as George Tillson, who saw the possibility of charcoal-making and its use in the smelting of bog ore.

The opening of canals, in 1825 the Erie between Buffalo and Albany, and in 1829 the Welland between lakes Erie and Ontario, effected a revolution. Axe-prepared or "squared

timber" was in high demand in Britain for construction purposes. Staves, cut from oak, were required for the making of barrels and hogsheads, indispensable articles in the West Indian trades. Until 1845 or thereabouts, the preparation of squared timber was the main occupation of the Tillsonburg area. "The best and largest pines on record came from Haldimand, Norfolk, Brant and Elgin." 6 The trees were felled in winter, drawn by oxen to the nearest streams, and with the spring freshets, sent down to the lake ports, Stanley, Burwell, and Dover. There, the timber was formed into rafts for despatch by way of Montreal and Quebec (or New York) to the British Isles. As late as 1851, Thomas Shenston, the industrious collector of local statistics, believed that about four million feet "in log" was exported from Dereham. He noted in particular trees intended for masts. "The best one brought \$450." 7

The streams that emptied into Lake Erie were seen to be essential. "Otter Creek," declared Burwell, "discharges more Water than all the small Rivers... excepting the Grand." He added optimistically that when "a few Drifts" were removed, "Boats may descend from the Mills at Norwich to its Mouth." This was a rosy view, although one of George Tillson's first constructions was "a lock," presumably to allow the passage of timber across his dam. In the 1840's, Joseph Ruggles, Tillson's cousin displayed "great energy in clearing the Otter of jams and obstructions to raft timber."

To contemporaries, the shortcomings of the Otter were concentrated at its mouth. Sand brought down by it, or deposited by the prevailing westerly winds, piled up bars and shoals. Piers, constructed in 1834 by

a private harbour company, were destroyed by gales late in 1837. By 1844, however, it was estimated that 20,000 pounds would have to be expended if Burwell was to realize its destiny as "the natural outlet" for the forest country in rear. 8 While government pondered (as it is still pondering nearly 130 years later), produce was "scowed" across the shallow Otter mouth to vessels anchored in Lake Erie.

The Otter was a source of power as well as a means of transportation. At Tillsonburg, and to the southward, the valley narrowed thus providing numerous dam sites. It was for this reason above all others that George Tillson selected lots 3, 4, and 5, XII concession Dereham. They covered the Otter and its tributaries, Clear and Stoney creeks, whose rapid fall and narrow ravines were highly valued. Log-framed and filled with earth or stones, the dams could be cheaply and quickly built. At one time or another there were more than a dozen of them between Tillsonburg and Vienna. 9

Mills, chiefly saw mills and grist mills, were placed at dams. Their machinery was operated by ponderous over-shot wheels. The saw mills, even one "of very primitive construction," such as George Tillson's first, brought on a further step in economic development. They produced lumber, boards and planks, in contrast to the axe-dressed, squared timber. The trees the farmer felled were brought to the mill, and he received, usually, cash. Thus, an economy based on money began. In the southern

townships, a good many of the farmers leased their forests to lumber companies. They employed professional loggers, "Canucks," "Pennsylvania Dutch", and "Yorkers." This motley host swept the countryside of its trees, exposing soil that was too light for the cereal farming of the XIX century. It had to wait for the tobacco-growing of the XX century to find its prosperity.

Numerous secondary industries depended on the saw mills, sash and door factories, planing mills, mills making shingles, and shops specializing in lathe-turned wooden articles. The saw mills ended many of the familiar features of pioneer life. The squared timber house gave way to the frame house. Thus, George Tillson lived and died in a log house

overwhelming majority were woodworking. 11 Road construction and road improvement followed, since lumber required more careful handling than timber. The fortunes of Tillsonburg rose with the building of the Ingersoll and Port Burwell Plank and Gravel Road. The forest industries, first timber and then lumber, made a community.

## NOTES

1. The surveyors' reports are preserved in the Public Archives of Ontario, Toronto.

2. The Rev. W.J.D. Waddilove was an English clergyman and largely responsible for raising the Upper Canadian Travelling Mission Fund. Over a period of about 13 years, 11 missionaries were maintained. The letters written by them to Waddilove form a prime source for social history. "The Letters of Thomas Greene," contributed by

at the foot of the Vienna Road. His son, Edwin Delevan, built the frame house, still standing on London Street, for the girl he married in 1850.

The United States was the chief market for lumber. 10 In 1846, the R.J. Walker Tariff reduced import duties, and in 1854 the Reciprocity Treaty swept them away entirely from natural products. During the life of the Treaty, that is to say till 1866, the export of lumber followed north to south lines. The prosperity of Tillsonburg and its district depended on it. "Lumber is the business of this place," was a characterization frequently repeated. Vienna became a boom town, "the most prosperous place in the Peninsula (modern southwestern Ontario)." In the autumn of 1863, The Tillsonburg Observer listed 12 local industries, the

T.R. Millman to Some Men and Some Controversies (centennial volume of the Diocese of Niagara), provides an excellent evaluation of Greene.

3. Anna Jameson, Winter Studies and Summer Rambles in Canada (London, 1838) Vol. 11 p. 232.

4. Burwell to Thomas Ridout. Townsend, UC; 26 June, 1815, Survey Records, Vol. XIII, No. 40.

5. E.A. Owen, Pioneer Sketches of the Long Point Settlement (Toronto, 1898), p. 245.

6. G.W. Hotchkiss, History of the Forest Industry of the North West (Chicago, 1898).

7. T.S. Shenston, The Oxford Gazetteer (Hamilton, 1852), p. 136.

8. "Report", Board of Works, December 1844; Journals, Legislative Assembly, Canada.

9. Otter Valley Conservation Report, 1957; "History, map of mill sites," pp 85-6.





Mills along John Pound Rd.



Mill pond and Bloomer St. - John Pound Road area, looking south across Simcoe St., once the industrial heart of the community.





This photograph shows Otterville on a busy Friday afternoon.

February 28, 1979 THE NORWICH GAZETTE



This photo shows Otterville during a typically busy Friday afternoon. Our apologies for last week's photo which must have been taken during a quiet moment.



**HERITAGE DAY 1979**

The Editor: Today, February 19, being Heritage Day, I wish to take this opportunity to thank you and The Tillsonburg News staff for their co-operation in providing coverage to the surrounding area, of events and articles pertaining to our heritage.

Your writers and photographers have been most co-operative, and have provided excellent coverage of local events.

Your willingness to publish articles, written by others, portraying local history is also much appreciated.

Canadians, since our Centennial in 1967, are just beginning to become interested in their heritage. Efforts such as yours are essential, if we are to assume a Canadian identity. Only with a pride in the past, can we develop our future.

Joyce Pettigrew

*Letters to the Editor*

Dear Sir: At approximately 3 p.m. today I went into one of the local stores (yes there is more than one store in the village of Otterville), and was immediately asked if I had seen the February 21, 1979 issue of The Norwich Gazette, and since I hadn't at that time, was shown the picture of Main Street.

At times one adjective can say more than a thousand words, which is what has happened, when reading the heading under the photo. Being very upset, I started home, still with the photo and caption on my mind, only to turn back and stop on Main Street to count 13 cars and pickup trucks parked on the street, but then I must admit this was a Thursday afternoon and not a Friday so I suppose you would say the village was "extremely" busy. I then travelled south off Main Street onto Dover Street to find four more vehicles parked near the corner of Dover and Main.

Why is Otterville being ridiculed by the news media lately? This is my third letter to the editor of three different newspapers which featured Otterville and/or Norwich Township in the last eight months. My letters were printed in the other newspapers and I received telephone calls and personal thank-you's for "sticking-up" for my home town, which I hope other residents will be inspired to do.

For several years I have kept scrapbooks pertaining to local events, history and photos, perhaps this is the reason Otterville "features and comments" are brought to my attention by others.

Some news items date back to 1890. In perusing my books this winter I cannot find where Otterville has been ridiculed as much as it has these past eight months.

Do reporters nowadays not take any pride in their work by contacting local businessmen (except for ads) or residents to see if this is a typical business day? In my opinion they were asked to take a photo of Otterville but no thought or research was required when inserting the caption.

Some villages and towns do not grow as quickly as others due to municipal government rules and boundary lines but let's not deter them from trying to progress and keep on the map. Perhaps some time I will read the complete edition but at present glancing through the rest of the pages has not desquited my thoughts enough to peruse this Special Report edition.

May I suggest for your 1980 Special Report edition a review of the progress of Otterville be researched and reported along with interesting photos.

Mrs. Ken (Catherine) Mann

**Sorry**

The Gazette would like to apologize for the photograph of Otterville printed in last week's edition. The error was unintentional and was not designed to cause embarrassment. We have included a photograph of Otterville in this week's edition which was taken during a more typical busy afternoon.

Editor.

**OBA promotes**

**Otterville Feb/79**

The Otterville Businessman's Association plays an important role in community life in the village of Otterville.

"We try to do things that are of interest to the community," said President Bill Sanders. "Pretty well everybody in business is considered a member."

One of their major projects was their involvement in Otterville's Christmas parade this year. They also held a 50-50 draw to furnish the kitchen of the refurbished Otterville Community Hall. They plan a sports day to be held shortly after school is dismissed for the summer.

"It's more or less a kid's day," said Mr. Sanders.

He said the membership has a core of about 20 members but added that "there are a lot of people

who participate in the things we do."

"We hold dances over the winter, which brings the people together," he said.

Mr. Sanders stressed that any money raised through their efforts goes back to the community.

"We're non-profit," he said. "The money goes for the benefit of the community."

The association was formed approximately five years ago, according to Mr. Sanders, who has been president for two years.

The association holds meetings on the second Monday of each month and anyone interested may contact Bill Sanders or Wanda Gould for information.



PO Box 14  
Otterville, Ont.  
February 8, 1979

The Editor,  
Delhi News-Record  
Argyle Ave.  
Delhi Ont.

Dear Sir:

Have just received and read your Feb. 7/79 issue featuring Norwich and Otterville and feel sad that Otterville has apparently lost its identity in the regional government of Norwich Township.

There are 14 advertisements for Norwich and 16 for Otterville, if I counted correctly, thus Otterville does have retailers. There are five historical items concerning Norwich village and perhaps you could say one for Otterville as the item pertains to a local industry along with a photo of company executives. I note this is the only photo pertaining to Otterville

while there are eight photos concerning Norwich. By reading the article I take it the writer found only social events (five items) written by a correspondent to be of any interest.

In February 1978 I mailed to your paper seven typed single-spaced 8"x14" pages concerning Otterville industries past and present. I realize I did not cover all the industries at that time. One of three newspapers printed this historical item and when I inquired why your paper did not print or return my pages, I received a telephone call to be told they were not prepared to print the item at that time but would like to keep same for future reference to which I agreed.

Had my data been referred to at this time, surely the writer of the Norwich, Otterville feature could have found more than social events and perhaps taken a photo or two of the historical buildings in Otterville, along with the current changes in the village.

This is the second newspaper within a year I have written to concerning features of Otterville as it appears as long as there is advertising of local retailers it doesn't really matter if an authentic view of the village is made by the writer. Doing a little research or interviewing residents would be advised for future articles.

I am sure there must be more Otterville residents who are proud to say Otterville is my home town and certainly want to keep it on the map.

Mrs. Ken (Catherine)  
Mann

# Bulk kiln production to double at Powell

OTTERVILLE — Bulk kiln output will soon double at Powell Agri-Systems plant here, creating up to 50 more jobs.

Construction of a 15,000 square addition to the plant is nearing completion. This additional space will double the plant's manufacturing area for MaxiMiser bulk kilns and also provide room for the assembly of one and two-row tobacco combines and high clearance sprayer-toppers.

Powell currently employs about 100 persons at the plant. Howard Avey, vice president and sales manager, expects full time employment will increase to about 150 persons as new manufacturing facilities come on-stream.

The company, which manufactures all the equipment for total tobacco mechanization, located here in 1967. The following year a 50,000 square foot plant was built.

All components for the

portable MaxiMiser kilns, two and four-row transplanter and two and four-row automatic toppers and high clearance sprayers are manufactured at the plant.

This year the company is introducing a new MaxiMiser 180 bulk kiln with 20% more curing space than its standard model. The larger kiln is designed for farmers using automatic harvesters and who wish to fill more than a standard kiln per day. It is also offering equipment for the field loading of curing carts to farmers wishing to use larger curing containers in conjunction with combines.

Other new Powell lines this year include the first three-wheel power driven sprayer-topper to be marketed. Equipped with flotation tires, Mr. Avey said its traction takes it anywhere. The company is also introducing its Generation III one and two-row combines.

Mr. Avey said demand for Powell equipment was up 100% last year and the company is looking forward to another very good year.



Powell Agri-Systems Ltd. executive officers, Robert W. Wilson, president, left, and Howard Avey, vice president and sales manager. Mr. Wilson is also president of Powell Manufacturing Co. Inc., Bennettsville, South Carolina. (News-Record Photo)

## Coach's birthday not forgotten

OTTERVILLE (C) — Pierre Pinnoy, North St., Otterville was honoured at his home on Saturday evening when members of the juvenile ball team paid a surprise visit in remembrance of his birthday, though the actual date was Tuesday, Jan. 30.

Pierre was the coach for the juvenile team for 1978 and this was given in return for his services.

Present for the happy event were Mr. and Mrs. Gary Dykstra and Mr. and Mrs. Gary Walters and Richard Picknell.

Special thanks was given to Joe Webb and Pat Pinnoy who helped throughout the evening and to Bill Richardson for the use of his stereo.

Pierre thanked the team for the pleasant time spent.

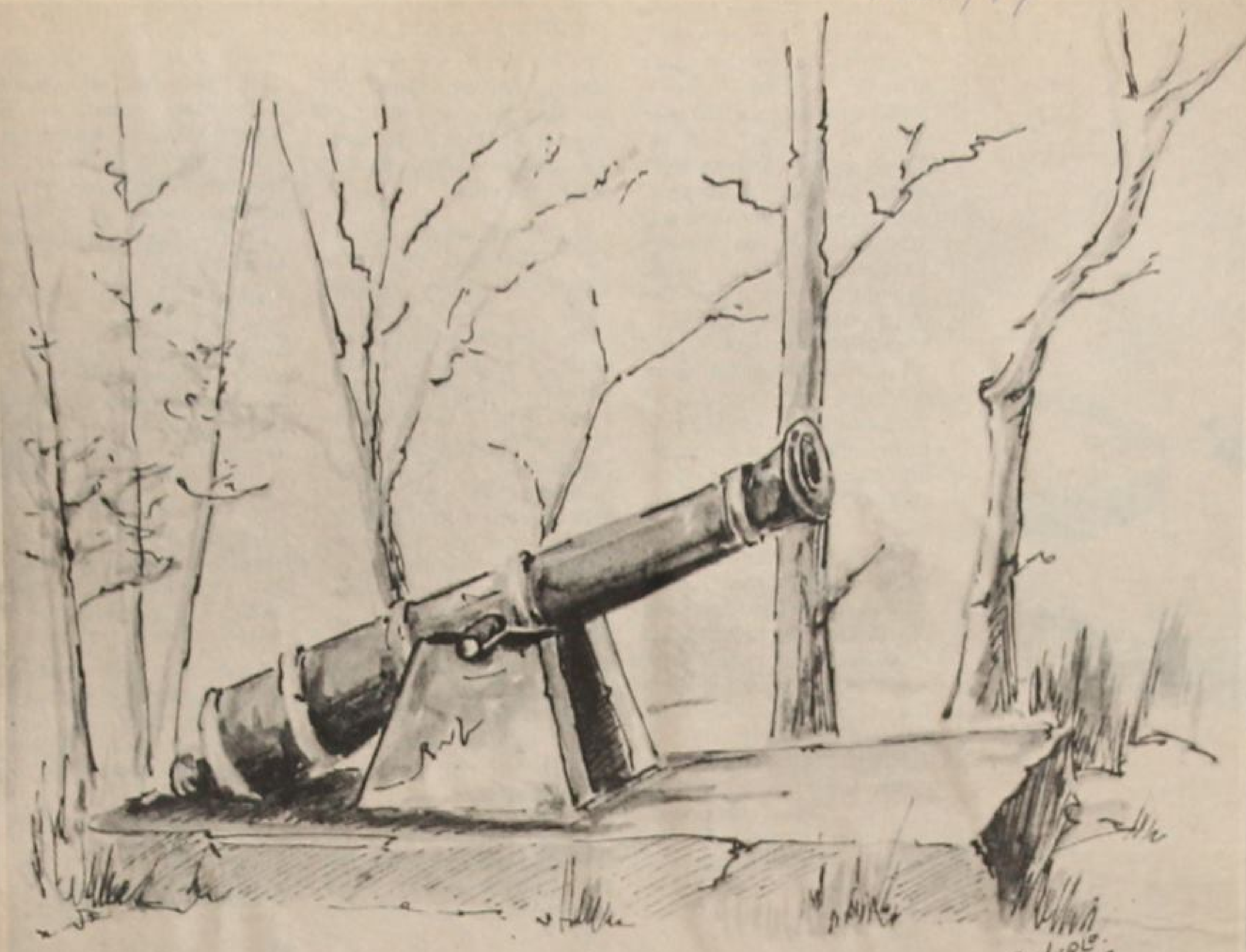
Page 14 Section 2 THE NORWICH GAZETTE February 21, 1979



This is a scene near Otterville, photographed on a cold winter afternoon.



Feb/79



-CANNON-  
OTTERVILLE PARK.

ROMERLO '78

By Ray VanMierlo

February 21, 1979 THE NORWICH GAZETTE Section 2 Page 11



Shown above is the Township of Norwich Council. Seated in the front row are Councillor Helen Smith, Mayor Jack Burn and Councillor-at-large Roger Orth. In the back row are Councillor Robert Pettigrew, Deputy Clerk John Gilbert, with Councillors Bill Sanders, Jack Walther, Hardee Richardson, Cecil Mingle, John Heleniak, Township Clerk Robert Watkins and Councillor Carman Sweazey.

OTTERVILLE (C) - Kathy Durkee was a guest at the birthday party for her cousin Lori Barnim, Otterville, who celebrated her 11th birthday on Monday.

Feb/79  
Hospital, London. A speedy recovery is wished for these ladies who are hospitalized.

### Leisure club has treat

Members of the St. John's Church Club sponsored a progressive euchre in the Parish Hall on Thursday evening with three tables in play. Prizes for ladies were won by Mrs. Winnie Leach for ladies high and ladies low was won by Mrs. Blaine Oatman. Men's prizes were won by Mrs. Harry Pickersgill for the men's high and Blaine Oatman, low for men. Mrs. Myrtle Innis won the ladies prize for lone hands and William Pellow for the men. The next euchre will be held March 1 in the Parish Hall.

OTTERVILLE (C) - Members of the Otterville Leisure Club and friends celebrated St. Valentine's Day and enjoyed a dinner party at a Tillsonburg restaurant February 14.

The dinner was planned by Mr. and Mrs. Sam Lucas, members of the club.

Following the dinner, members returned to the Woodlawn club rooms where a program of music and readings was enjoyed. Mrs. Sam McSpadden played many selections on the piano accordion and the Thorne Brothers from Norwich also assisted in presenting musical numbers. There were more than 30 in attendance.

Rev. and Mrs. Bruce Hisey of St. Marys were midweek visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Emery Harvey.

Mrs. Fred Pinnoy is a patient in the Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital. Mrs. Daisy Ash is a patient in St. Joseph's Hospital in London, Mrs. Henry Leach is a patient in the Victoria

Due to weather conditions the regular meeting of the club was cancelled for last week at Woodlawn Centre.

### Social time for Bluebirds

OTTERVILLE (C) - The February meeting of the Happy Bluebirds was held at the home of Mrs. Josepha Rosehart, Dover St. on Tuesday evening.

time which followed with the members of the Otterville group assisting the hostess.

There were eight members present.

On behalf of the members, Mrs. Stanley Davis thanked the hostess and assistants for the enjoyable evening.

Owing to the illness of the president, Mrs. Daisy Ash, the meeting was in charge of Mrs. Lillian Morris.

Meeting opened with the Housewives' Creed, followed with The Lord's Prayer, after which the Bluebird Song was sung.

Several cards were signed for shut-in members and friends.

Mrs. McElhone invited the members to her home for the March meeting. Several games of cards were played and all enjoyed the social

### Club holds pancake luncheon

OTTERVILLE (C) - The members of the Sunshine Club held their annual Pancake Luncheon in the Parish Hall on Tuesday February 27.

More than 200 persons from the village and area attended.

The members of the club appreciated the volunteer non-members who gave a hand at the rush hour. Many of these were employees at a factory office or school.

The proceeds from this worthwhile project will be used in purchasing park equipment for the children.

Mrs. John McSkimming, president of the club, appreciated the help given by members and others for the day.

### Canadian culture topic for Institute

Feb/79

OTTERVILLE (C) - February meeting of Otterville Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Murray Treffry on Friday afternoon and was largely attended.

Approval was given of a cash donation to the Community Hall, also to the Adelaide Hoodless Fund; to the student exchange from Africa who is at present staying at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Mountain. As usual the Institute will be sponsoring a Spring Rummage Sale, which will be held early in April. Further plans will be made at the March

meeting. Speaker for the meeting was Mrs. Donald Pettigrew of Springfield, who spoke on "Canadian Culture." Mrs. Pettigrew was introduced by the convener of the program Mrs. Murray Treffry.

The hostess was assisted by Mrs. Bruce Barnard, Mrs. Lorne Treffry, and Miss Vera Welsh.

Appreciation was expressed to the speaker, to Mrs. Treffry and her committee for the enjoyable afternoon.

Mrs. Lorne Treffry gave a reading, "An Old Fashioned Valentine," and Mrs. Treffry gave a paper on "Maple Syrup."



# Annexation threat major concern

Township of Norwich council is operating at a busy pace, according to Mayor Jack Burn.

"I never expected to see so many important problems so quickly," he said. Mayor Burn cited annexation and the controversial Holbrook garbage problem as two areas of interest. Another area of concern was the recent decision regarding the Norwich post office building.

"How many times in your life are you going to be faced with replacing a post office," he said. Despite the hectic pace, he remains optimistic that things will return to normal.

"I would hope that our major problems would slacken," he said.

Annexation remains a concern with Mayor Burn, particularly since the release of a planner's report commissioned by the city of Woodstock. The report cited areas of future expansion for the city, including a sub-

stantial portion of Norwich township.

"What it's all about is taking 1200 acres from the township," he said.

Although Woodstock Mayor Wendy Calder has downplayed the importance of the report, Mayor Burn does not take its significance lightly.

"You don't spend \$35,000 without an intent," he stated, referring to the cost of the planner's report.

The problem of garbage disposal has become of prime importance also, particularly with the Holbrook landfill site.

Mr. Burn mentioned that a solution to the problem could involve systems using incineration.

This system is safer as it leaves only charred material to dispose of. This system does not leave material which can leech into soil.

"You don't need number one agricultural land to dispose of something that won't weep into the soil," he said.

Mayor Burn started in municipal politics as a councillor in East Oxford in 1972. This was followed by two years as a councillor in ward four, and two years as councillor-at-large.

As mayor, he finds his schedule a busy one.

"At the moment I'm geared up for 17 regular meetings a month," he said.

A typical week includes sessions with the agriculture, recreation, protection and works committee of the township. He also has responsibilities on county council, including the regular meetings, along with the various committees.

Although the schedule is busy, he finds the township committee meetings rewarding.

"I find it interesting to be made aware of the various problems," he said.

Before restructuring the schedule for a person involved in municipal politics was not so heavy, according

to Mayor Burn. There were usually 15 regular meetings scheduled, and the pace was more relaxed.

"We had time for

visiting," he said. "Now we have so much to do that we don't have much spare time."

Restructuring has brought



Shown here is Jack Burn, Mayor of the Township of Norwich.

other changes but Mayor Burn feels it is too early to tell what effect these changes will have.

"It's not old enough to assess it yet," he said. "Regardless of that, it's the only plan we have. We have to make it work."

"If we want a strong township and a strong county we have to make it work."

The added time required for municipal life has made it difficult for many people to hold office.

"It has eliminated many political positions for many very capable people," he said.

Mayor Burn explained his own reason for entering municipal politics.

"I found myself with spare time," he said. "It was my turn to start putting instead of taking."

He praised the work of past councils.

"I have been very impressed with the councils we have had," he said. "The previous mayors have done an extremely fine job."

Mr. Burn lived in the village of Norwich for the first 17 years of his life. He currently resides in Eastwood, and has operated a body shop in Woodstock for 22 years.

## Bob Watkins handles 'red tape' problems

Many people are not aware of the red tape involved in property transactions, according to Robert Watkins, Township of Norwich clerk.

"It can be difficult to explain these things sometimes," he said.

Mr. Watkins said that the township does not want to "overregulate" people. As clerk, it is his job to carry out the wishes of township council.

"We have to enact the policies which council forms," he said.

A property transaction can involve rezoning, severance or a minor variance application. With the exception of a minor variance, these decisions are subject to ultimate approval by the Ontario Municipal Board. A minor variance has a 21-day appeal period, however.

Mr. Watkins also described the situation with new housing starts in the village.

Currently the Golden Gardens subdivision has draft approval on 55 lots. Draft approval is dependent on rezoning, a subdivision agreement and a registration of the actual plan of the subdivision.

The Ontario Municipal Board had received an objection to the proposed subdivision, and there will be a hearing on the matter. The hearing is tentatively scheduled for April.

Although a subdivision agreement has been completed between the developer and the township, this agreement has not been

signed. This agreement covers such details as roads, water, services, lot fees and buffer zones. "Right down to the seeding and sodding," said Mr. Watkins.

Mr. Watkins said it was a better agreement than earlier ones and cited improved specifications for road surfaces as one example of this improvement.

"We gain from experience," he said.

He mentioned three other properties which developers are interested in, but developers are being held up

pending expansion of sewer and water services.

"It isn't advisable to proceed at the moment," he said.

These areas include land between North Court and Main St. in the west end of the village, an area on the west side of Centre St. and a small parcel of 13 lots to the south of this, which would involve an extension of Spring St.

Mr. Watkins has been with the Township of Norwich since it was formed in 1975. Previous to this he was with the Township of North Norwich for 12 years.





# Township uses 35% of taxes

Fred Lowes handles two jobs for the Township of Norwich, as he is both treasurer and tax collector.

"In our case its combined," he said. "In some municipalities there are two different individuals."

Mr. Lowes started in 1967 as clerk treasurer for the former village of Norwich. After restructuring he

became deputy-treasurer for the township and became treasurer in 1976.

Mr. Lowes supplied a partial breakdown of where the tax dollars are spent.

"A large part of the money is not for our township purposes," he explained.

A large portion of the tax dollar goes to the county educational system. This

portion amounts to 37.6 per cent. The county also takes another 7.4 per cent for other purposes. This leaves 35 per cent to be used in the Township of Norwich.

This 35 per cent is divided among protection, roads, recreation and agriculture. Money is spent on agriculture "to a very limited extent," explained Mr. Lowes.

The finance committee spends 24.5 per cent on such items as administration costs, debenture debts, planning and legal matters.

The upkeep and repair of roads accounts for 35.5 per cent.

The protection department, which includes fire and police departments, street lighting and garbage pick-up, accounts for 29.5 per cent.

Recreation and community services takes 10.1 per cent to use on halls, parks and the community centre.

The agriculture services involve only .4 per cent of the tax dollar. This is spent on drainage, tile loans and dog control. Also included in this sum are livestock claims.

"As years go by the emphasis does change," explained Mr. Lowes. "These percentages will change."

He said that the substantial percentage spent on recreation and community services is due to the presence of urban centres in the township.

"Urban centres create demands for playgrounds and parks," he said.



Shown above is Fred Lowes.

Treasurer and Tax collector for the Township of Norwich.

# Reconstruction period for drain system

Norwich Township is in a period of "reconstruction and improvement" regarding its drainage systems, according to Deputy Clerk John Gilbert, who handles municipal drainage administration for the township.

"At the present time, and for some years, the majority of the township has been serviced by drains constructed in the late 1800's to mid 1900's," he said.

Some of these drains have been in operation "since the

time the settlers came in," according to Mr. Gilbert.

Mr. Gilbert said the drains are rebuilt according to demand, not according to an overall scheme.

"As a drain goes haywire, we have to mend it or rebuild," he said.

The drains are designed by an engineer and the work is done by an area contractor. It is possible for a farmer to borrow money at a preferred rate from the provincial government to finance improvements to a privately

owned drain. For example, government will loan up to 75 per cent of the cost at 6 per cent over 10 years.

As spring approaches, the busy season for drainage work begins.

"April and May are awfully busy during the spring thaw," he said. "If there are problems with a drain, that's when you're going to find them."

Generally the construction period runs from May to November. It can take up to a year and a half for a major drainage construction project.

There are changes taking place with drainage technology according to Mr. Gilbert.

"Drains are getting much more expensive," he said. "Because the land is worth that much more, it is worth it to spend a few extra dollars for long term productivity."

The materials used in drainage work are gradually changing, he said. Plastic is becoming increasingly popular, and there is a switch from clay to concrete. There is also a trend toward closed drains rather than open ones. This does away with much of the maintenance involved, as an open drain will "silt up" and have to be cleaned periodically, according to Mr. Gilbert.

Mr. Gilbert started off working in the Delhi township office just after graduating from a commercial high school course in Delhi. He has also held municipal posts in Ancaster, Burford and Innisville townships. Prior to coming to Norwich, he was self-employed doing house renovations. Before that he spent almost three years as Burford Township's clerk treasurer.

"As far as municipal work, I'm going on 20 years in municipal experience," he said.



Shown here is John Gilbert.

Deputy-Clerk for Norwich Township.



The secretarial staff at the Township of Norwich office is shown above. They are Agnes Savill, Marjorie Watkins and Donna Moore.



# South Norwich Historical Society meets

NORWICH (C) - Monthly meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society was held February 12 at Woodlawn with a good attendance. President Bill McMullen, Sr., chaired the meeting.

It was moved that LACAC

be advised that this area is interested in a seminar concerning community effort to maintain historical buildings and data, and suggested that local newspapers be asked to print the winning essays in May,

as this is historical information.

Catherine Mann is to write the Minister of Culture and Recreation to apply for a grant to erect a plaque commemorating the flour and grist mill.

Bill McMullen, Muriel Gehring and Juanitta DeRoo also Mrs. J. Hopkins of Norwich, volunteered to help transcribe the tombstones in the Otterville Cemetery in the spring with anyone else interested to contact one of the committee.

Nominating committee for the April election of officers is as follows, Ed Moore, Mel Beecroft and Joyce Pettigrew.

Juanitta DeRoo introduced the guest speaker, Mrs. Joanne Hopkins, who is in charge of the archives in Norwich. She gave a very interesting talk on the archives and how geneology is working with history. Now people are interested in geneology than ever before and it is unfortunate that our forefathers did not keep better records of dates and events. She reminded us when recording history now to make sure all is written down not just birth, marriage and death dates. Some things may not seem so important today but could be to future generations. One of the problems in locating our forefathers is that they seemed to travel quite a bit and all the family did not move in the same direction. Diaries are a very helpful source of information, along with old letters as they seem to indicate the daily events.

Photographs show changes in communities as well as everyday living and Mrs. Hopkins reminded us to date and name the people or buildings along with their location. Mrs. Hopkins closed with a poem and

stated that history is our heritage.

Mrs. DeRoo thanked Mrs. Hopkins and presented her with a small token of appreciation.

Next meeting of the Society will be held March

12, at Woodlawn at 8 p.m. with Muriel Gehring speaking on Hawtreay and Sommerville.

Meeting closed with refreshments served by Juanitta DeRoo and a social time followed.

February 14, 1979 THE NORWICH GAZETTE Page 15

## Day of prayer service planned

OTTERVILLE (C) - "Do Something for Somebody" was the reading given by President Mrs. Melville Beecroft who opened the meeting of the United Church which was held in the school room of the Church on Thursday evening.

The reading was followed with prayer and followed with the Lord's Prayer in unison.

Announcements included the World Day of Prayer service which will be held in the Fellowship Baptist Church, Otterville on Friday, March 2.

Also coming up will be the Spring Bazaar sponsored by the UCW to be held on Friday, April 27 in the United Church.

The members will be in charge of the morning service in the United Church

on Sunday, February 25 at 11:15.

Another date will be the March meeting of the United Church Women when Mr. and Mrs. Melville Beecroft will show their pictures which were taken while on their trip to South America.

Following a hymn, the minutes of the previous meeting were read, Mrs. Irvin Gehring gave the treasurer's report and a card of appreciation was read from Mrs. Harold Arthur.

Mrs. Earle Petch read a letter from the Leprosy Mission thanking the members for their donation of used stamps which has been an important project of the group. The members were also reminded of saving their Dominion store cashier's slips to be sent to the Leprosy Mission.

## Club makes supper plans

OTTERVILLE (C) - The members of the Sunshine Club held their regular meeting at the home of Mrs. John McSkimming.

The hostess, who is the president, presided and welcomed the members.

Twelve members responded to the roll call, which was suggested by the president, "Your Special Day."

Plans for the pancake

dinner was the main topic for the evening. It was scheduled for the Parish Hall on Tuesday, February 27, 1979.

Appreciation was expressed to the hostess for the lovely evening.

Meeting of the Sunshine Club was held at the home of Mrs. Grant Mountain with a good attendance. The roll call, suggested by Mrs. Don

Neale, was responded to by members telling of a new recipe they had tried.

Draw on a lovely Valentine cake, made by Mrs. Gordon Shearer, was won by Mrs. John McSkimming.

Further plans for the pancake luncheon were made.

The hostess was assisted by Miss Dorothy Wardell at the social time.

Thanks was extended to Mrs. Mountain by Mrs. Ross Dow.

## Plan luncheon, euchre

OTTERVILLE (C) - St. John's Ladies Guild met at the home of Mrs. Myrtle Riste, John St. on Thursday, February 8.

President Mrs. Violet Howse opened the meeting with prayer and Mr. Herring read Scripture from St. Matthew 24.

Roll call was answered with 10 present and one visitor.

Minutes were read by Mrs. Georgina Spicer in the absence of secretary, Mrs. Dorothy Durkee, and treasurer, Mrs. Winnie McMullen, gave her report.

Sewing was handed out to members. The St. Patrick's Day noon luncheon and euchre was set for March 7 at the Parish hall, 11:30 - 1:30 and 2 - 4 for cards.

Members were reminded of the World Day of Prayer at the Baptist Church,

Friday, March 2.

Next meeting Feb. 22 at the home of Mrs. Winnie McMullen.

Mr. Herring closed with prayer, and the hostess, Mrs. Riste, assisted by Mrs. Davis, served a lovely lunch.

## Luncheon, euchre planned by Guild

OTTERVILLE (C) - The members of the St. John's Anglican Church Ladies Guild met at the home of Mrs. Nare McMullen on Thursday, February 22, 1979.

The president, Mrs. Violet Howse, opened the meeting with prayer and all repeated The Lord's Prayer. The Scripture reading was presented by Mrs. Harold Durkee. The roll call was answered by the members and one visitor. The minutes were read and approved. Correspondence was dealt with and cards were signed

for shut-in members.

The report of the treasury was given by Mrs. Nate McMullen.

Plans for the noonday luncheon and euchre party for March 7 were finalized.

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A letter of appreciation for a donation to the Norwich Girl Guides and Brownies was read. Lion Nels Gleason reported on a recent visit by four members to the Tillsonburg Lions Club.

Lion Andy Vandenberghe reported that the annual Lions Family Night would be held on our regular meeting night, Monday, March 12, at the Legion Hall.

Lion Mel Smith reported that over \$1000 was raised by the Club at the Sweetheart Ball held in the Norwich Community Centre, February 10.

Plans are underway to hold a dance in the Norwich Community Centre, Saturday, May 12.

Lion Bob Spek reported on the annual Lions Ladies' Night, held February 16, with a trip to London. This was considered an outstanding party by all who attended.

There will be a sale of Easter candy within the area as a fund-raising project. The candy is supplied by the handicapped workshop near London.

Lion Tony Drescher reported that representatives of the club (Lions Colin Cope, Russ Stangel and Don Pettigrew) did well in a recent Lions curling bonspiel in Simcoe (two wins one loss).

Nominations for the year 1979-80 were held with the following Lions nominated: past president, Ron Kiddie; president, Bob Spek; first vice, Gord Shearer; second vice, Norm Fidin; third vice, Les Dickson, Colin Cope, Jack Walker, Rene DeCooman, Tony Drescher, and John Leitch.

Secretary, Lou Ferraro; treasurer, Andy Vandenberghe; two-year directors, George Klosler,

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# Talk on 100 Huntley St.

Feb/79

OTTERVILLE (C) — Recently, United Church members were pleased when the Rev. Gordon Williams resigned from the Harriston United Church to become a full-time member of the staff at 100 Huntley Street.

Someone may ask, "What is Huntley St.?" It is a Christian program which is produced in their own studios at the same address in Toronto and can be seen daily 9:30 until 11 a.m. (Monday through Friday) and from 10 to 11:30 a.m., Saturday on Channel 6.

Interesting guests tell how their lives were changes - some suddenly and others gradually. Thirty telephone counsellors pray and counsel many people who phone every day to the ministry seeking to know Jesus personally, yielding to His love and reaching out for alleviation from physical, mental and spiritual suffering.

In addition, they produce a children's program, Circle Square at 3:30 Saturday afternoon (and also on Channel 13 at 7:30 a.m.) as well as Inside Track, a program designed to please teenagers. (Channel 6 at 3:30 Saturday afternoon.)

On January 29 while a guest on the program, the Reverend Wesley Oaks of King Street United Church in

London predicted a great revival in the next few years in the United Church of Canada. Two days later, his prediction seemed evident when the moderator, the Right Reverend George Tuttle, inspired the viewing audience with his testimony of faith.

This is the subject of the interesting talk, accompanied with pictures, which Mrs. McSpadden gave at the UCW meeting at last week's meeting.

Mrs. Rod Taylor, convener of the worship service, was assisted by her committee Mrs. Sam McSpadden, Mrs. Grace Gehring, Mrs. Jean Stewart and Mrs. Nelson Gleason.

The offering was presented by Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Stewart. Hymn "All That I Am" was sung after which the Scripture lesson was read by Mrs. Stewart, taken from 1 Corinthians, verse 4 and 5. This was followed with a meditation.

"Love is the Greatest Gift" was sung. Another portion of Scripture from 1 Corinthians, verse 3 was read by Mrs. Gordon Gehring. Mrs. Donald Stewart gave a reading "Hearts and Love." Mrs.

Gordon Gehring led in prayer. "He Touched Me" was the solo sung by Miss Karen McSpadden.

Mrs. Sam McSpadden gave a talk and showed slides while a member of the staff at 100 Huntley St.

The convener thanked all who had taken part in the meeting and invited the ladies to the table for the social time.

# Anglican parish changes

OTTERVILLE (C) — In St. John's Anglican Church on Sunday, February 25, 1979, Rev. Herbert Herring conducted the morning worship to the congregation, taking for his theme "Love" from 1st Corinthians 13. Mrs. Violet Howse was the organist.

Rev. Herring has ministered at the St. John's Church for the past nine years and through the changing of the Parish by the Rector, Rev. Herring will be the minister at Norwich, St. Charles, Dereham and Scotland. Otterville will become a congregation with St. Albans Church, Delhi.

On Sunday afternoon Rev. Tim Hill and congregation of Delhi came to Otterville to meet with the local congregation to seek information regarding services and their programs in general. The time set for the Otterville service will be 9:30 a.m. Rector Hill will commence his ministry at Otterville on Sunday morning, March 4. At this time

several of the ladies served a light lunch.

Later in the afternoon at 5 p.m. the ladies were in charge of a delicious potluck dinner honouring Rev. and Mrs. Herring who came from Port Rowan to the Norwich Pastoral charge, which included St. Charles, Dereham and Otterville.

Rev. and Mrs. Herring have given much of their time to commitments in the area and they have been deeply appreciated in all they have done.

Following the dinner, Arthur Picknell, Peoples Warden expressed with regret that Rev. Herring would be no longer the Rector of St. John's and wished him well in his services in the future.

Mr. Picknell presented Rev. Herring with a well filled purse. The Misses Janice and Karen Cowan who are teachers in the Sunday School presented Rev. Herring with a book "Lore and Legend of Long Point" and to Mrs. Herring a kitchen hanger for pot

holders, from the Sunday School. The ladies also presented Mrs. Herring with a rose in a bowl from their grandmother Mrs. Smith.

Rev. Herring expressed thanks for the gifts and for all the kindness shown to them during their ministry in Otterville.

All sang "For They Are Jolly Good Fellows"

Another celebrant for the day was Lloyd Durkee, two-year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Jay Durkee, who received a prettily decorated birthday cake with two lighted candles.

## ADAM THOMAS OLIVER

OTTERVILLE (C) — Adam Thomas Oliver of Otterville passed away Wednesday, February 14, 1979 at his home in his 57th year.

Mr. Oliver was born in Burford Township, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Archie Oliver. He lived in Springford and Otterville for the past 30 years, where he was owner of Adam Oliver Insurance Agency.

He was a member of the Otterville United Church.

Surviving is his wife, the former Elaine McEwan; three daughters, Mrs. Terry (Dianne) William of Woodstock, Mrs. Henry (Brenda) Winnenz of St. Catharines, Shelly at home and one son, Michael at home. Also survived by one sister Helen (Mrs. Jack Spicer) of Brantford and a brother, George Oliver at Burford.

Mr. Oliver was predeceased by three brothers, Lawrence, Nelson and Cecil.

The funeral service was held from the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home on Saturday afternoon, February 17 at 2 p.m. and was conducted by Rev. Einor Egilson of Sambra, Ont. Mrs. William A. McMullen was the pianist.

Among the many memorial donations were to the Otterville United Church, the Gideon Bible Society, Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital, the Ontario Heart Fund, Oxford Diabetic Association, Canadian Friends Service Committee, and Tillsonburg Mentally Retarded.

Pallbearers were Jim Oliver, Todd Oliver, David Spicer, Jerome Oliver, Robert McEwan, Peter Malcolm.

Interment was in the Otter Cemetery.



Rev. Herb Herring was honored on Sunday.

## Church Services

OTTERVILLE UNITED OTTERVILLE (C) — With Mr. Moore away on vacation, Dave Barnim was the speaker for Sunday, February 18, at the United Church.

1979 He was assisted by the local Brownie and Girl Guide troops in a very impressive and enjoyable service.

In keeping with the 1979 theme, "The International Year of the Child," Mr. Barnim spoke on the rights of children all over the world.

These rights are:

1. The right to affection, love and understanding.
2. The right to adequate nutrition and medical care.
3. The right to protection against cruelty and neglect.

4. The right to a name and nationality.

5. The right to education, play and recreation.

6. The right to special care if handicapped.

7. That all children be amongst the first to receive relief in times of disaster.

8. The right to learn to be a useful member of society and to develop individual abilities.

9. The right to be brought up in the spirit of God in peace and universal brotherhood.

10. Let all children enjoy these rights regardless of race, colour, sex, religion, national or social origin.

Offering was received by Colin Cope, Lorne Treffry, Stuart Godby and Don Chisholm.

## ALBERT HANDSAEME

Albert Handsaeme of RR 1, Otterville, passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Wednesday, February 7, 1979, in his 51st year.

Born at Wardsville, he was a son of the late Florimond Handsaeme and the former Maria DeBackere. He grew up in the Delhi area and was a tobacco farmer near Otterville for the past 17 years.

Surviving are his wife, the former Bessie Herseele, two daughters, Mrs. Erik (Barbara) Dekeyser of RR 1, Langton, and Mrs. Bart (Doreen) Rombout of RR 5, Waterford; one son, Lawrence Handsaeme at

home; one sister, Mrs. Marcel (Celina) Van Belle of Vittoria; one brother, Andrew Handsaeme of Langton; five grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by one brother, William Handsaeme in 1971, and by one sister, Mrs. Alice Van Damme in 1965.

Resting at the Murphy Funeral Home, Delhi, until Saturday, thence to Our Lady of LaSalette R.C. Church, for Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. said by Rev. Fr. George Childs.

Interment in Delhi Cemetery.





Otterville public school participants in the Norwich Legion's public speaking contest chose a wide array of topics. Prize winners were, left to right: Elaine Arthur, first prize junior, who spoke on The Muppets; Dianna Van Hooren, second prize senior, whose topic was block parents; Janet Broad, first prize senior,

who talked about crib death; and Kathy Nunn, third prize senior, whose topic was UFO's. Elaine and Janet took part in zone level competition in Ingersoll last weekend, where Elaine took first prize. She will go the area finals in South Brant in April.

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and Many Other Unique Items

COME AND VISIT US



Gordon Pennington, right, was elected chairman and Ramsay Cairns was named vice-chairman of the Long Point Region Conservation Authority executive during the authority's annual meeting Tuesday. Mr. Pennington succeeds Roy Smith.

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Otterville



## Announcement



C.E. (CHUCK) VAN PARYS

Adam Oliver is pleased to announce that Chuck VanParys has now joined his insurance agency. Chuck brings with him 10 years of experience in the insurance business and I trust you will give him the same warm welcome given to me for over 30 years.

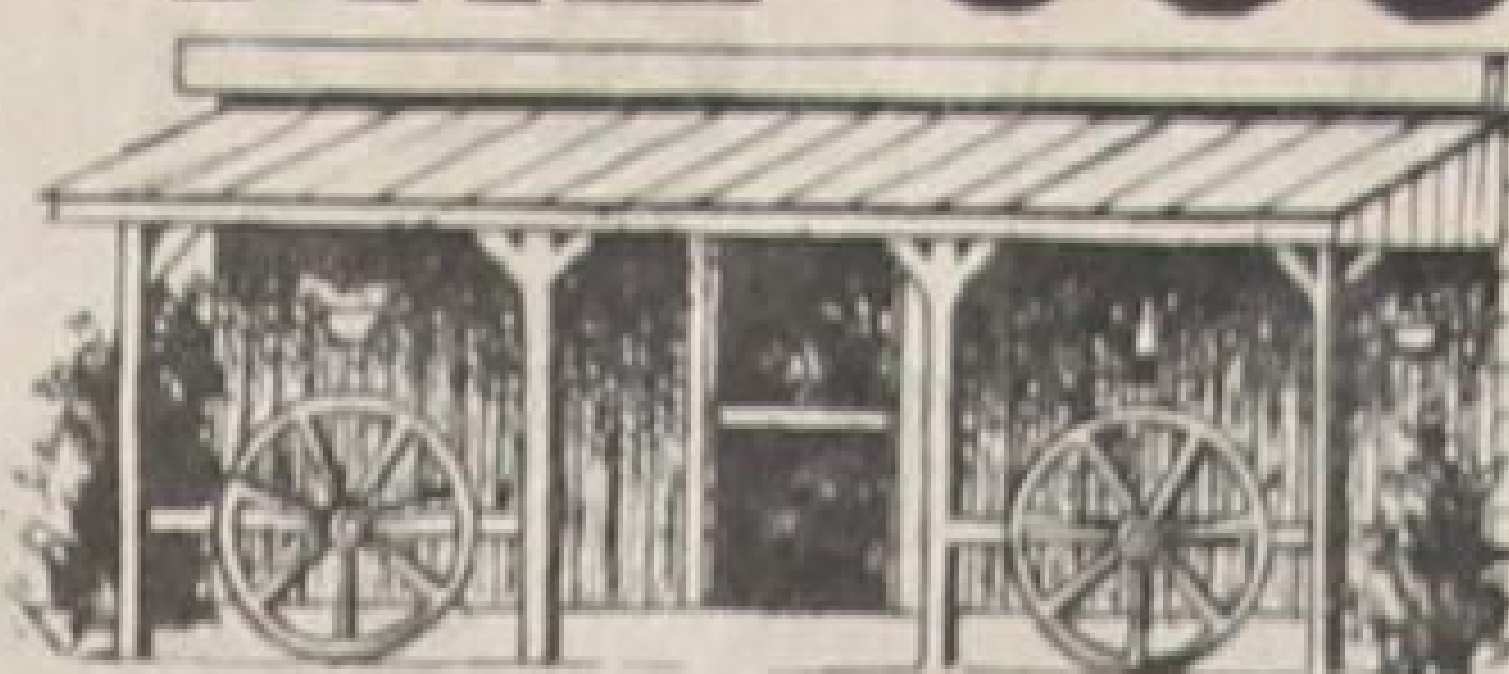
Adam T. Oliver

### Adam Oliver Agency

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Otterville, Ontario 879-6583

# THE COUNTRY STORE



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## Sanders Mart

(Otterville's Convenience Store)

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OTTERVILLE

879-6411

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## AUCTION SALE

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WED., FEB. 28th  
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COINS & BILLS  
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ETC.

Selling for the Estate of the late Mr. and Mrs. E. Arthur (Otterville), along with other selected additions, such as: solid walnut VICTORIAN BED (complete); press back chairs; MASON & RISCH PIANO and Bench; several beautiful ROOM SIZE RUGS; brass HARNESS BELLS; Dutch weight driven WALL CLOCK; Singer console model sewing machine; old treadle sewing machine; modern wringer washer; Zenith Deluxe STEREO; two console COLOUR TV's, WALNUT TEA WAGON with tray; HANGING PANTRY OIL LAMP; set of six carved oak Queen Anne style diners; stained glass window; pine jam cupboard; WALNUT PARLOUR and LAMP TABLES; WALNUT WASHSTAND; ladderback chairs; Victorian and French parlour chairs; partial washbowl set; TWO OAK MEDICINE CHESTS; footstools; small oak DISPLAY CASE; rockers; CANADIAN

FAN BACK CHAIR; oak HALL MIRROR with coat hooks; two three-piece dinette sets; lamps; pictures; electric lawn mower and hedge trimmers; iron kettles; boxes of Fisher-Price toys; hand and garden tools, etc., etc.

GLASS AND CHINA, ETC. -- Several pieces of Sterling Silver; milk glass and other oil lamps; a large offering of good glass and china such as Nippon, Noritake, Bisque figurined, Vasoline, Vienna Austria, Camphor, Crystal, etc., etc. Partial Listing Only.

COINS AND BILLS -- Selling at 8 p.m. in our rear auction rooms, approx. 175 lots of good coins and bills for the investor to collector, such as -- 1955 Canadian Arnprior UNC \$1.00; 1945 and 46 Silver Dollars; several OLYMPIC COIN SETS; Jamaica \$20 GOLD piece (proof); 1912 Canadian \$5 Gold piece (Abt. UNC); PROOF LIKE SETS from around the world. A LARGE OFFERING.

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# Norwich Township rich in history

NORWICH — A rich and lively historic past is a highlight of this township.

The original township site was surveyed by William Hambley in 1799. It consisted of 12 concessions

and was divided into lots of 200 acres each.

The following year, William Wilcox received 15,000 acres as a government grant which he mortgaged to Thomas Grey.

But the Quakers were responsible for the true beginnings of this township. In 1809, Peter Lossing and Peter deLong journeyed from Dutchess County, New York and purchased the entire government grant for \$7,500.

Family names of the first settlers, such as the Stovers, Cornwalls, Motts, Snyders, Sackriders, Cornells, Hutlets, Emighs have persisted to this day.

During the first year of settlement, 32 acres were sowed for crops. By the second year of settlement, a full 735 acres was put into crop production. By 1818 there were 11 families with 67 children.

On the farms, Indian corn, barley, buckwheat, cheese, wool, hay, maple sugar, flannel, cattle, sheep and hogs were produced.

A Holstein cow, Calamity Jane made the area famous by being judged the best of all breeds in the province in 1895.

By 1830 the village had a post office and doctor. The necessities of life were brought to the local general store by wagon from Toronto or Niagara. By 1847 the village had a sawmill, a distillery, ashery, carriage shop, two stores, furniture makers, blacksmiths and a tannery.

The first cheese factory was founded in 1864 on Quaker Street.

In the early 1920s the tobacco industry came to the district. But during the past decades, corn has changed the face of the township and today huge elevators still service the many acres of corn land.

This entire township is built along the Otter Creek. Orchards have sprung up along the fertile valleys of the small stream.

In the year 1855 the township was divided in two, North Norwich and South Norwich. January 1, 1975, 120 years later, the township was once again re-joined following restructuring of Oxford County.



A cast iron railing crowning the front porch roof was a feature of homes such as this built in the 1860's and 70's. (News-Record Photo)



According to "With Mortar and Pine", a book compiled by the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee, the Italinete style was very popular in the 1860's and 70's. A massive square shaped and high pitched roof are indications of this style. (News-Record Photo)



The Holy Trinity Anglican Church on Stover Street is an example of the Gothic Revival architecture fashionable in the 1860's, according to "With Mortar and Pine" by LACAC. This building was erected in 1867, the year of confederation. (News-Record Photo)



# Authority buying historical mill

Rock's Mill, located east of Tillsonburg on the Big Otter Creek, will soon become the property of the Long Point

Region Conservation Authority, a LPRCA official said.

Phil Hale, resources

manager for the authority, said the LPRCA has guaranteed to buy the mill and will close the sale some

time before April 15.

Once the purchase of the 42-year-old mill and the 93 acres it sits on is finalized,

work will begin on an overall plan for the use of the property, Mr. Hale said. The authority has already "done a lot of thinking" on the future of the property, but actual preparation of the plan starts after the sale is closed, he said.

Preliminary plans for the Rock's Mill property include provisions for outdoor recreation, protection of the river valley from development and for flood plain control and use of the area as a site for conservation demonstration projects.

The authority received word in January that it would receive a \$71,662 provincial grant toward the estimated \$136,500 total cost of the project.

The LPRCA plans to lease the grist mill to a private operator, he said.

"There have been a couple of inquiries, but they haven't been breaking down the doors yet," he said.

Before the mill closed in August of 1978, it produced up to 25 tons of grist a day. The first mill at the site was built in the 1820's by the Stover family who sold it in the 1850's to Adam Spencer. It was acquired in this century by Henry and John Rock. The mill closed in 1911 for the construction of a new dam and again in 1937 when fire destroyed it, followed by the construction of a new mill.

The mill had about 200 regular customers before it closed in August, former

part-owner Fred Kniffen said.

In its heyday, the mill used to process hard wheat flour for bread, marketing it as "Rock's Pride" and under other names. Pastry flour was produced at the mill up until the spring of 1978, phased out when it was known the mill was to be closed.

The mill also used to process buckwheat flour and shipped two carloads of it to New Brunswick every winter.

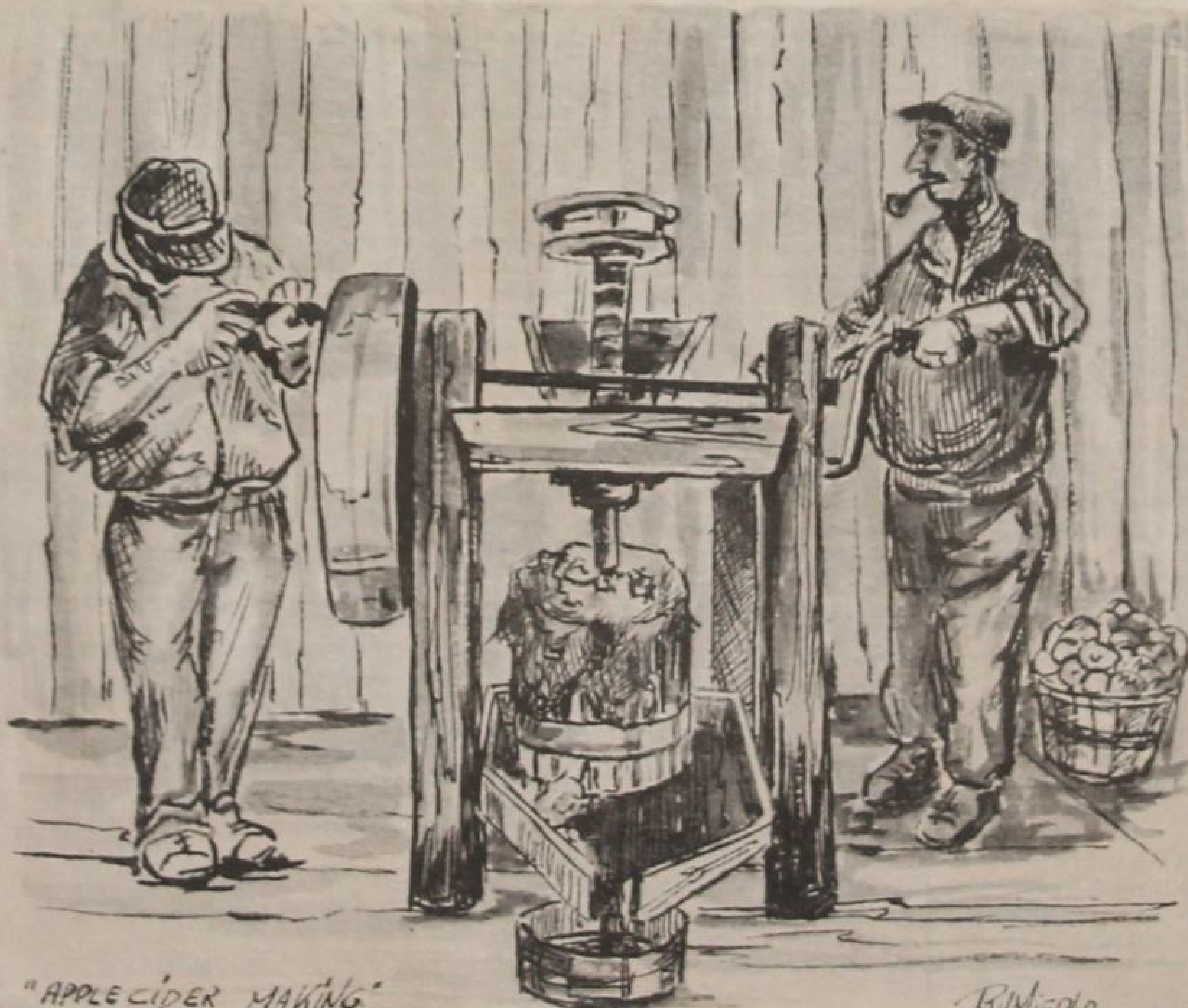
Feed produced at the mill was once marketed through local general stores, but in recent years farmers preferred to pick up their feed at the mill.

When it was still in operation, the mill employed five men and processed 20 to 25 tons of grain per day. Two turbines driven by water power run the mill and two five-horsepower motors run the grain elevators.



The Long Point Region Conservation Authority will close its purchase of Rock's Mill by mid-April. The

mill was built in 1937, after fire destroyed the original building.



"APPLE CIDER MAKING"

R. MIERLO



# Norwich Post Office has 65-year history

NORWICH — The old Norwich Post Office has been the focal point of discussion in this village

since it was damaged by fire last November. Efforts of the Local Architectural and

Conservation Advisory Committee to preserve the old structure has resulted in a great deal of interest concerning the architecture and history of the building.

L.A.C.A.C. has responded by doing some research into this building, for which the contract was let on July 2,

1914. The contractor was Nagle and Mills of Ingersoll.

The Norwich Post Office is apparently of the Tuscan Villa design, used for domestic buildings in the 1820 to 1860 period.

Prior to this, post offices were built in the Romanesque style, such as

the one in Woodstock, using stone as the building material.

The post office was the symbol of Federalism and intended to be the focal point in the landscape. In a like fashion, libraries were built in distinctive styles as

a symbol of the importance of literature.

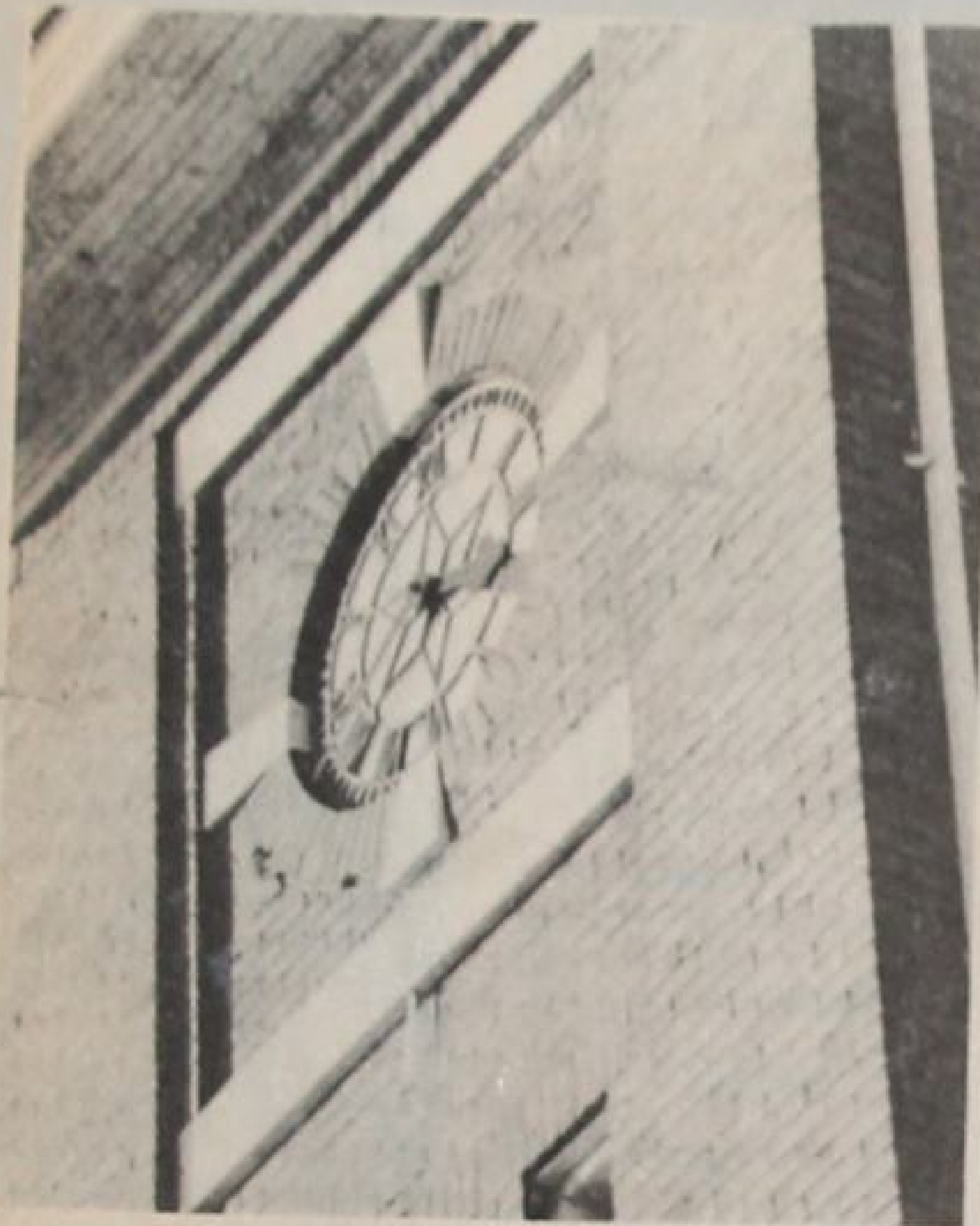
The Tuscan Villa style featured a tower which allowed for the inclusion of a prominent clock. The clock was installed in 1915 and was built by A.J.B. Joyce and Co. of England.

This particular style always incorporated a tower with a low pitched roof. The Norwich Post Office tower is 60 feet high.

The style is also characterized by round headed windows. With the Norwich Post Office, the prominent round arches over recessed windows provide the same effect.

The stone around the clock face effectively emphasizes the four points of the clock.

The exterior of the building has remained intact — even to the original downspout. Only the doors have been changed.



Stone around the clock face emphasizes the four points of the clock. (News-Record Photo)



Dating back to the early 1900 's the old Norwich Post Office is the focal point of the main street in the village. (News-Record Photo)



The customs office and entrance was located in the simulated second tower of the post office. (News-Record Photo)



The Tuscan Villa style characterizing the old Norwich Post Office features a tower, which allows for the inclusion of a prominent clock. (News-Record Photo)



# Council votes to retain PO tower

A plan to incorporate the clock tower with a new post office building was chosen by Norwich Township council during its meeting with federal public works officials on Feb. 12.

Public works presented three plans to the council. One plan called for the construction of a new building on the site, without the clock tower. A plan recommended by public works officials called for the renovation of the old building, with additions being made to increase efficiency of postal operations.

The recommendation of council will go before the project review committee in Ottawa for a final decision on the matter.

Public works spokesman Stanley Ostrowski said that renovating the existing building would be \$40,000 cheaper. He said that although council's recommendation of a combined tower and new building must be approved by the officials in Ottawa, it is likely they would favor the wishes of the township.

"It's not like they will go against you," he said.

Council used a recorded vote to determine a preference between the two plans.

The plan to restore the existing building was defeated by a vote of seven to four. The plan to retain only the tower was favored seven to four.

Concern was expressed during the discussion period

before the vote that the old structure would be inconvenient for the public, due to the stairs required for the existing building.

Public works officials

stated that the plan to retain the entire structure would use a ramp to facilitate entrance for the elderly and disabled. This plan also called for an addition to be

built in the loading area of the building.

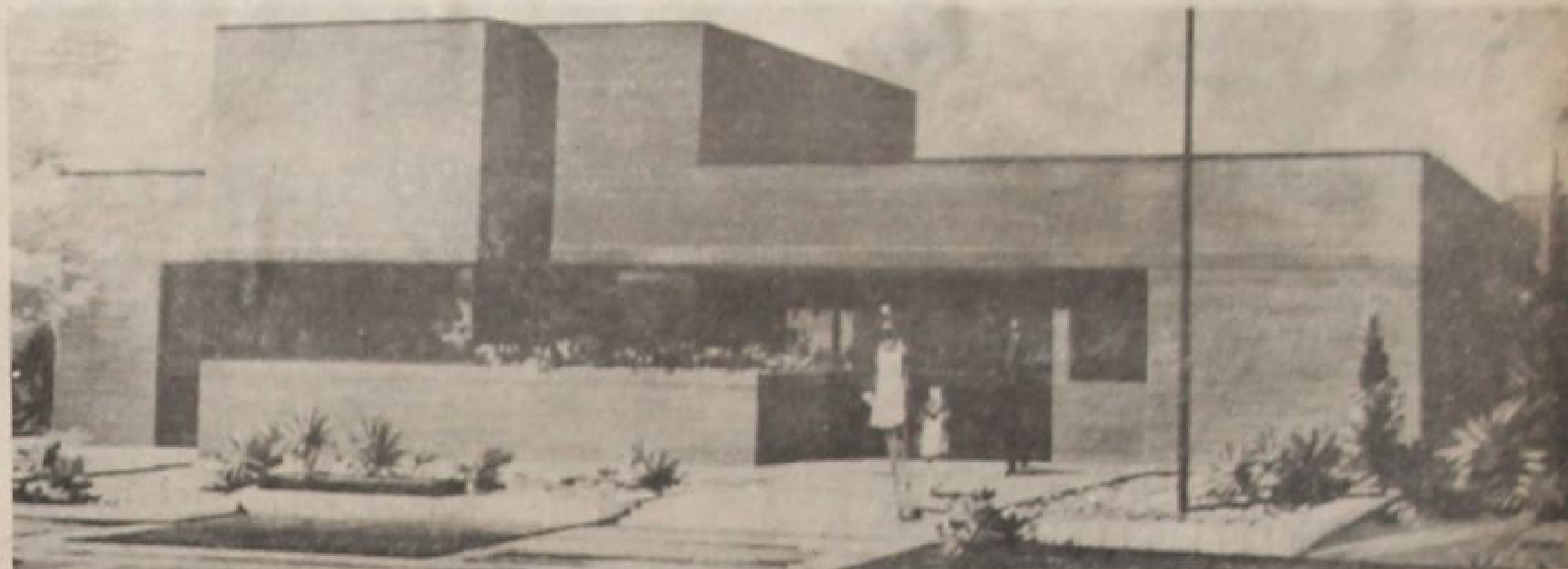
Mayor Jack Burn spoke in favour of retaining the existing structure.

"Nobody gave me per-

mission to destroy this 65 year-old building," he said. "I can't see a modern building there."

The meeting was attended

(Continued on Page 2)



The Township of Norwich Council voted to retain the post office tower and incorporate it with a new

building on February 12. The above drawing is a tentative design which would be modified to accept the old tower.

(Continued from Page 1) by the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee. Joyce Pettigrew, of the LACAC, asked if the existing building could be renovated to bring the floor down to street level. This would eliminate the need for ramps and stairs. According to Mr. Ostrowski, this would not be feasible due to the design of the structure.

Les Mondich, information officer for public works, said that the red brick building to the east of the post office will be demolished no matter

which plan is accepted. He said the owners of this property have accepted an offer to sell.

This lot would provide parking if the old building is retained. If a new building with the tower is constructed it would extend over this lot. Parking for six cars would be provided to the rear of the building.

Mr. Mondich said public works in Ottawa is guided by a heritage policy. The heritage department acts in a "watchdog" capacity and makes recommendations.

According to a postal

spokesman who attended the meeting, the new building is designed to service the estimated needs of the village for a "minimum of ten years."

Mr. Ostrowski said it would take up to two months before a decision is made by the project review committee in Ottawa.

"I kind of think they'll go for the council's recommendation," he said.

The building would not be ready until March 31, 1980 "at the earliest," he said.

"We're behind schedule as it is," he said.

## Area stamp auction excites collectors

By Rose Simone  
Staff Writer

When Ethel Poldon of Norwich died she left an unusual legacy.

Many leave behind antique collections of sorts, but Ethel left a collection of thousands of individual items each of which tells a story of its own.

These stories are in the form of old fashioned post cards and stamps dating back to the late 1800's.

This Saturday at the Otter Valley auction rooms in Otterville, the unique collection will be auctioned off.

Bob Carney, auctioneer, says there are literally thousands of stamps and post cards.

Most of the collection includes Canadian issues with a few foreign stamps in the collection.

There are more than 200 special stamps that might pique a collector's curiosity.

There are also hundreds of mint stamps, many of the early issues, and they come in singles, blocks, plate blocks, panes, coil strips, sheets and part sheets.

Thousands of the stamps are cancelled and hundreds are on covers.

Miss Poldon and her brother Harold were avid stamp collectors and operated the old Norwich Post Office for 33 years.

While many collectors are interested in stamps, there is just as much interest in the old envelopes and post cards.

Fancily written and addressed with old quill pens, many of these date back to the late 1800's. There are old fashioned photo albums full of these preserved envelopes and stamps.

The enormity of the collection is inherent in the fact that it took six weeks to sort the envelopes, cards and stamps into lots, according to Mr. Carney.

He figures it will take five hours to auction it all off on Saturday.

The lots have book values of anywhere from \$10 to \$200.

Mr. Carney believes there are many avid stamp collectors in the area.

Moreover, after he advertised the auction in a nation-wide collector's catalogue, he received inquiries from as far away as the US, Montreal and Vancouver.

Stamps are an investment to these collectors, just the same as gold or stocks, points out Mr. Carney.

It is certainly more than a unique hobby. Mr. Carney notes a press report of a recent stamp auction where a block of four stamps sold for \$92,000.

The value of stamps is dependent, like anything else, on supply and demand.

The fewer stamps in an issue, the more peculiar the stamp, and the condition of the stamp are all determining factors of its value.

Much of the value is also nostalgic. Some of the old envelopes are sealed by old-fashioned sealing wax.

One envelope, addressed back in 1856 was sent from Quebec Lower Canada, to Norwich, Canada West.

Many of the cards and envelopes were sent from post offices which don't even exist anymore says Mr. Carney.

Previews of the collection will take place Friday between 9:30 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. and on Saturday until sale time at 1:00 p.m.



It took six weeks to sort and package the thousands of stamps and envelopes left by Ethel Poldon of Norwich. Bob Carney will auction the collection off Saturday at the Otter Valley Auction Exchange. (News-Record Photo)



# Edison home part of Greenfield

Nestled among some 85 historic structures in Greenfield Village, Dearborn, Michigan, is a rather unpretentious house which holds a great deal of Canadian history and is linked to the great inventor, Thomas Edison.

A simple clapboard house, it was originally built near the Otter Creek in Vienna. The homestead shares the honor of being both the home of Thomas A. Edison's grandfather, a war hero, and the first clapboard house to be constructed in the province.

When Henry Ford I moved the house to Greenfield Village in 1933 as part of his preservation plans, he positioned the house so its view of a Pennsylvania covered bridge in the village was identical to the original view of a bridge over Otter Creek. Purple lilac bushes were imported to match the original shrubbery, trees were planted to match those at the former site and a large boulder was brought to the village to complete the transplant.

The Edison family interplay between

Canada and the United States did not begin with the moving of the home. Thomas Edison's great grandfather, John Edison, began life in the New World in Caldwell, N.J. While he might have become a prosperous landowner, Edison remained a staunch Tory when the American Revolution began and was forced to flee to Canada.

Among the family members taking refuge in Nova Scotia was his eldest son, Samuel Ogden Edison, later to be known as "Captain Sam." Born in New Jersey in 1768, Captain Sam played a pivotal role in the family development.

After 28 years in Nova Scotia, Sam Edison either received or was awarded 600 acres of pineland along the Otter Creek in Ontario, about two miles inland from Lake Erie.

Taking the entire clan, now numbering 19, including his seven-year-old son, Sam, Jr., Captain Sam set off to reach the wild lands to the west. After a summer of travel

they reached their land and built a sturdy log cabin in early fall of 1811.

Less than six months after reaching their new home, word reached Sam Edison that war had been declared between Canada and the United States. Edison volunteered to raise a company and became a captain of the First Middlesex Regiment.

While he didn't take part in many conflicts, his unit was present at the fall of Detroit and at that time he and his men were permitted to return home to provide for their families.

In 1816, with much of the land cleared and vestiges of civilization creeping into the rugged Ontario countryside, Captain Sam built his clapboard house. When he completed the task, people came from miles around to see the results.

Sparing no expense, Captain Sam had the window glass and nails brought in from Hamilton - no little task with the roads in bad shape. The framing of the house itself had - and has - no nails. All the fastening was done with wooden pins. The posts are mortised into the sills and cross timbers are mortised into the posts. Even the sheathing under the siding is tongued and grooved by hand.

It was in this house in 1828 that Sam, Jr., married Nancy Elliott. The Sunday parlor where the ceremony took place is furnished today with period pieces, many donated by Edison family members.

But the simple joys of home-life were simply not to be. Sam Junior was a bit of a political radical. In 1837 he became involved in William Lyon MacKenzie's plot to over-throw the government. With Federalists on his trail, Sam escaped to the United States across the frozen St. Clair River while his stepmother sidetracked his pursuers by acting as though the young man was hiding in the root cellar.

Sam crossed over to Port Huron, Michigan, and later moved for safety to Milan, Ohio, where he set up a lumber and feed store. Eventually Sam sent for his wife and it was in Ohio that Thomas Edison was born.

As a child, however, young Tom often visited his grandfather's home in Vienna. One time the inquisitive child was found at a neighbors, calmly trying to hatch some eggs by sitting on them.

Originally two rooms, by 1860 the house

was enlarged to its present size. It now consists of a kitchen, two bedrooms, Sunday Parlor, everyday parlor and a woodshed downstairs, with two bedrooms upstairs. Today it maintains a place of honor in Greenfield Village, not far from Edison's Menlo Park, N.J., laboratory, where he completed many of his greatest experiments, including the incandescent light a century ago this year.

The Menlo Park Compound, with the main laboratory, the carbon shed, carpenter shed, brick machine shop, glass house and library include the buildings where Edison spent his 10 most brilliant and creative years. His inventions here include the carbon button telephone transmitter, phonograph, electric pen improvements, incandescent lamp and lighting system and the electric railway as among the 420 patents obtained while at Menlo Park.

Other Edison related buildings now part of Greenfield Village include the Sarah Jordan Boarding House from Menlo Park, N.J., where many of Edison's unmarried employees stayed, the Edison West Orange, N.J., Laboratory 11, site of his work on wax phonograph cylinders and his "talking doll" creations and his 1884 Fort Myers, Fla., Laboratory, where he experimented on finding other sources of rubber with the support of Henry Ford and Harvey Firestone.

Whether it's a stroll to the rather folksy

home of Edison's forebearers, a visit to the laboratory where he perfected the incandescent light or a look at his personal car on exhibit in adjacent Henry Ford Museum a wealth of Edison lore is available at the complex.



Frances Jehl, Edison's assistant (left), President Herbert Hoover, Henry Ford and Thomas Edison pause for a moment after Edison's re-creation of the first successful incandescent lamp Oct. 21, 1929. The event took place in Edison's old Menlo Park lab, which had been moved from New Jersey to Greenfield Village, Dearborn, Mich.



The steps of Smiths Creek Station, where the youth Thomas Edison was ejected because his chemicals had caused a train fire, were a fitting site for his arrival at Greenfield Village, Dearborn, Mich., on Oct. 21, 1929. The occasion was Light's Golden Jubilee. With Edison are Henry Ford (far left) and President Herbert Hoover. Mrs. Edison holds an umbrella over her husband's head.



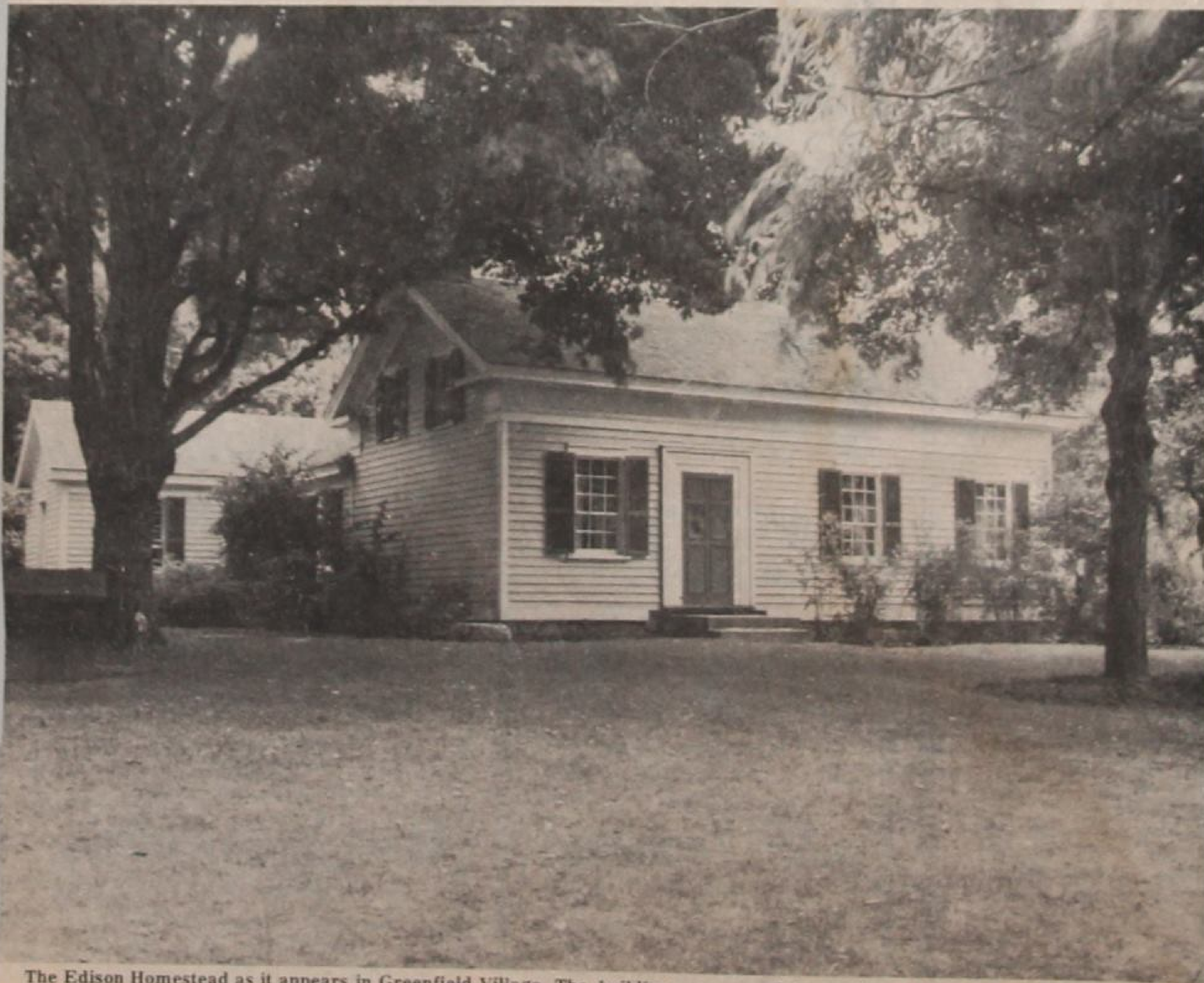
# The Tillsonburg News

Wednesday, February 7, 1979

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The kitchen of the Edison Homestead from Vienna as it looks to visitors to Greenfield Village.



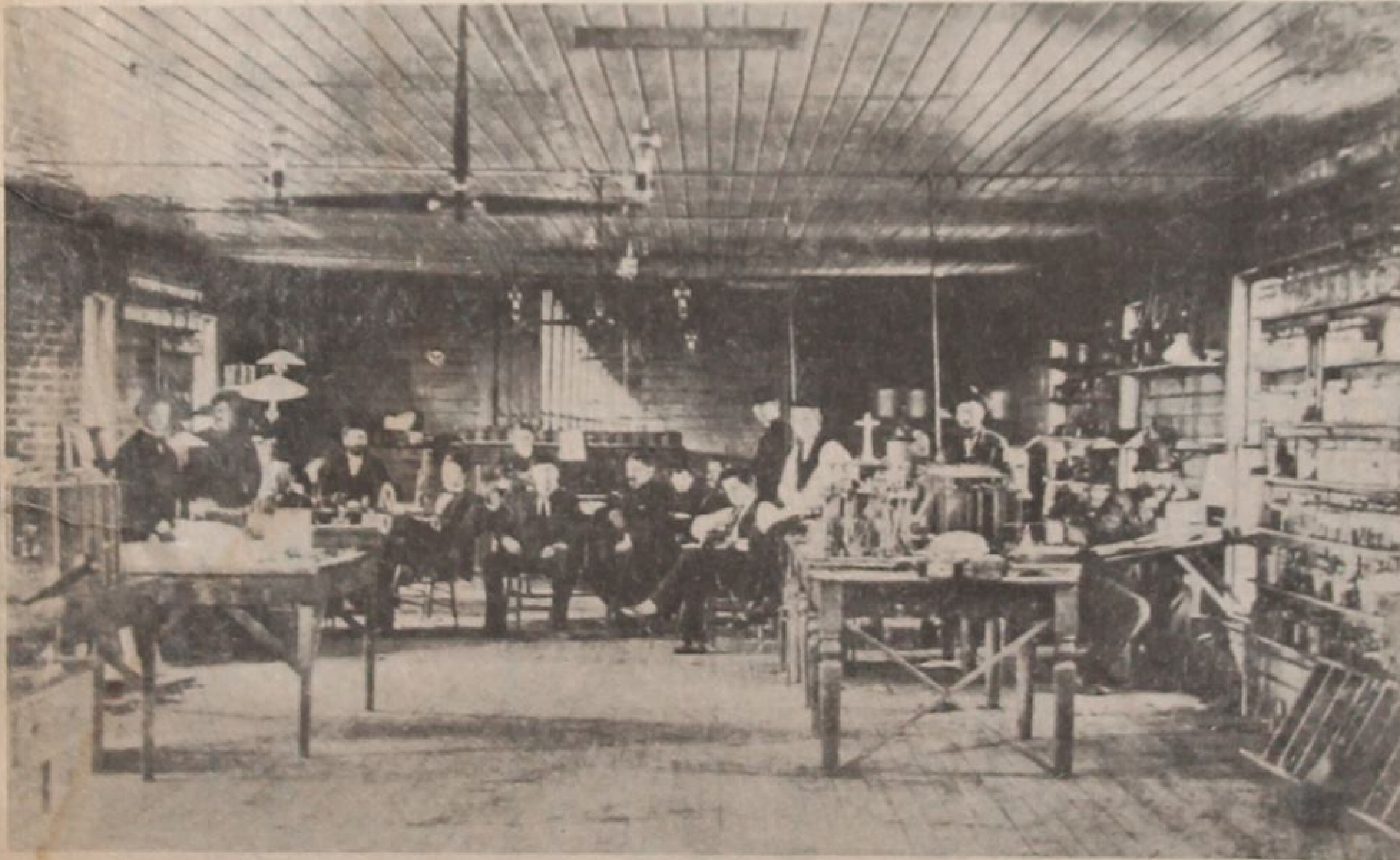
The Edison Homestead as it appears in Greenfield Village. The building was moved from Vienna in the 1930's. An historical plaque marks the former site in Vienna.





Visitors today tour the Menlo Park laboratory in which Thomas Edison and his associates produced inventions such as the phonograph and the incandescent lamp. The laboratory, now in Greenfield Village, Dearborn, Mich., was restored so accurately

by Henry Ford in 1929 that Edison, when he visited it, occasionally forgot he wasn't in New Jersey. The Glass House, where light bulbs and other glass instruments were produced, is visible in the background.



One of the few photographs taken inside the Menlo Park lab, when it was on its original site in New Jersey, this picture shows Edison (left center, wearing cap) and his workers Feb. 22, 1880.

From this lab came Edison's greatest inventions, among them the phonograph, the incandescent bulb, and the electric pen. (Ford Archives - Henry Ford Museum).



Rather more than a century ago (1861-1868), Tillsonburg was dazzled by the prospects of an oil boom. What a contrast to today! To the question, "When will the oil become exhausted?" our ancestors were assured, "when the sea is, and not before." The boom rapidly turned into a bust, but before it did, Tillsonburg had a brief hour of fame and the expectation of endless and easy wealth.

#### THE SETTING

"The Tillsonburg Oil District" was the phrase in general use. "The whole course of the Otter Creek and the small streams and gullies" adjacent to Tillsonburg were considered to form "the best oil lands in Canada." "On the flats of the Otter below Tillsonburg" (presumably Coronation Park), was a spring with a constant flow of petroleum. Above Tillsonburg was "a fine sulphur spring (whose) gas... burns with a bright blue flame." From "Nigger Gully", a picturesque spot that cannot now be determined, petroleum seeped into the Otter. Southward through Richmond the prospects were most encouraging: "Oil and gas would arise... (from the Otter)... sufficient to ignite readily from a match." "At one point, gas rose from the bed of the stream... sufficient to keep the water raised above the surface" near Vienna, "a burst of gas had covered the trees and bushes with... petroleum:" at Burwell, "the shale burns equal to coal."

"The oil mania" that afflicted Tillsonburg was a spin-off from the petroleum finds made in Kent and Lambton counties. A correspondent in *The Tillsonburg Observer* put it forcefully "The oil mania seized on the brains of some enterprising people." It was hardly surprising. The first commercially successful well was opened in 1857 at Enniskillen; by 1863

production stood at some 100,000 barrels a year. Tillsonburgers saw no reason why they should not do as well, in view of the encouraging signs referred to in the preceding paragraph.

Technical operations (and equipment) were reasonably simple. A hole was dug down to the underlying rock -- in the Tillsonburg area it was usually found at a depth of about 30 feet. This was a pick-and-shovel job well within the range of any well-digger. Drilling was then commenced, an operation prudently left to professionals. The drill, actually a heavy metal wedge, attached to a cable was activated by horses or oxen. The drill was not rotated, but bit its way into the rock by impact, the action resembling that of a pile-driver. (Rotary drilling was not used till the present century.) From time to time, the drill was lifted in the hope of a "show" of petroleum. If the show indicated petroleum, pumping was begun, usually by means of a small steam-engine. (It was noted in Tillsonburg's favour that there was an abundance of water-power, an interesting comment on a local energy-source.) Sometimes, drilling released a natural flow of oil and the problem became one of containment. A heading or "derrick" housed the pulleys over which the cable ran and the derrick's stark outline became the universal hallmark of the oil industry.

#### SOME EARLY HISTORY

The earliest developments seem to have been as follows: In August 1861, "the nasal organs of the inhabitants of Tillsonburg were assailed by a very objectionable effluvium, whereupon... a stampede took place in the direction of Messrs. Watkins and Myles' wells." Oil had been struck at "the Indian Spring" in modern Coronation Park. Watkins and Myles (also known as Watkins, Myles, and Craige) were a Hamilton partnership, but native talent was at work, too. Lachlan McLaren was drilling in Coronation Park, and at an unspecified site, E.D. Tillson. Much of the oil from the well ran into the Otter (or over neighbouring cabbage patches) before tanks could be improved for its containment. After some 60 hours the flow stopped, nor could the best efforts of a

power engine cause it to resume. Nevertheless, some of the salvaged oil was sold. Slight as the achievement was, it served as inspiration for the following six or seven years. McLaren and Tillson seem to have had no success, and, apparently operations came to a halt.

#### THE TILLSONBURG OIL COMPANY

The earliest organized follow-up was the Tillsonburg Oil Company, also known as The Joint-Stock Oil Company. It was set up in 1863. Late in October 1862, an organizational meeting had been held in McLean's Hall (Oxford Street), Tillsonburg. The provisional directors included Dr. Ault, T.A. McNamara, proprietor of the first newspaper, *The Herald and General Advertiser*, E.D. Tillson, L. McLean, W. McDonald, and George Younie. In July 1863 they were formally registered under the corporate name of the Tillsonburg Joint-Stock Oil Company. Shares sold for \$5, although an installment option allowed for purchase at 50c a month. Capitalization was equally modest, \$1000. Who those fortunate persons possessed of \$5 (or even 50c) were, we do not know, for the stock-books of the Company have disappeared. Nor do we know precisely where it began operations. Two sites are mentioned, "in rear" of Mr. Tillson's grist mill or of his planning mill -- on the north side of Bloomer Street at either its western or eastern ends.

Early in September of 1863, "the favourable progress" of the Tillsonburg Oil Company was rudely interrupted. The drill became detached from the cable at about 250 feet underground and eluded all efforts to bring it to the surface. Work stopped, nor was it resumed till June 1864, when the drill was recaptured. It was not exactly a brilliant performance and it seems to have produced a shake-up in the directorate of the Tillsonburg Oil Company, W.S. Law replaced Mr. S.B. Newcomb as secretary and treasurer.

W.S. Law was the founder, proprietor, editor, and chief compositor (sometimes the only compositor) of *The Tillsonburg Observer*. Nonetheless, he found time to run a variety of other enterprises, including the Oil Company. He was, in effect, the manager. Interested in the theoretical, as well as in the practical aspects of petroleum extraction, he was the only man in Tillsonburg capable of giving effective direction. Delinquents among the installment buyers of stock were ordered to pay up, or face forfeiture. Capitalization was doubled in order to buy new equipment. Finally, Law set out to publicize the Tillsonburg Oil Company in particular, and the petroleum industry in general.

Thus "The Observer" became a main source of information on the next phase of "the oil mania." It was fuelled (for once the cliché is apt) by events outside Tillsonburg. The passing of the speculative boom in the Petrolia and Oil Springs fields sent the marginal operators scampering; also pried loose at about the same time were operators in the United States. They arrived in stagecoach loads from Ingersoll or St. Thomas, men with imposing titles (and probably dubious credentials), "Brig-General Peck;" "The Hon. Col. George B. Lincoln;" men with queer occupations, "a pair of oil smellers." Simple old Tillsonburg was turned upside down. It was impossible to get a good meal for less than 25c. An "Oil Exchange Hotel" graced Broadway (site of the Royal Bank) with its glittering bar and stock of the best cigars.

#### LATER PETROLEUM COMPANIES

In this stimulating atmosphere "the prospects brighten(ed) for the Tillsonburg Oil Company." The persevering Lachlan McLaren resumed his well-digging. (His three earlier attempts had caved in.) Messrs. Miles and Watkins considered starting work again at Indian Springs. Newcomers were hailed as allies rather than rivals. The first was the Oxford Oil Company, formed in mid-June 1865. Its promoter was William Henry Smith better known as the compiler of *The Canada Gazetteer and Canada, Past, Present, and Future*. (In his leisure, Smith pulled teeth. He was a surgeon-dentist by profession.) A more grass-roots organization was the United Townships Company, embracing Dereham, Bayham, Norwich and Middleton. To the east was the Lynedoch, or Big Creek Company. Even Springford had a company. Numerous other organizations, described as companies figured in the columns of "The Observer." Some, such as "the Detroit and Tillsonburg," seem to have represented joint Canadian and United States enterprises others such as for example, "the Buffalo Company," and the "Eaton Company," were American. A "Hamilton Mechanics' Company" was recruited from the workmen of the Great Western Railway shops.

Brisk speculation in real estate was an accompaniment of the mania. The shrewder holders of land sold outright, doubtless insisting on cash on the barrel head. In this category were George Barker Tillson, the oldest son of George Tillson, and Mathew Burn. They sold land on the Otter or Stoney Creek flats for \$100 an acre. Oil lands were leased; occasionally, the proprietor himself undertook exploitation. Options were taken on land as far south as Vienna, and as far north as Norwich. Drilling, of course, was attempted in a more restricted area, between approximately Richmond and Otterville. In July 1866, Law put on sale in his bookshop a map of "The Oil Region in the vicinity of Tillsonburg." It showed graphically the concentration round Tillsonburg and at isolated points elsewhere. At about the same time, it was said that 25 wells had been sunk -- the top figure recorded.

In contrast to this vast promotional effort, the actual output of petroleum was very small. In July 1866, the production at the Bellevue well of five barrels in a 24 hour period was hailed as sensational. Oil was certainly secured, but

stones...(were) ...projected to the top of the derrick." An upsurge of water flooded the well and even forced the heavy drill upwards. The well was capped and not reopened. Following this incident, the blue-eyed Arabs of Tillsonburg began to fold their tents. By August, apparently only one operation, that of the Hibbard and Avery partners, remained, and it was pleading for public support. About a year later, "The Observer" wrote a simple but telling obituary: "AUCTION: steam-engine, oil rig, and cable. Property formerly belonging to Hibbard and Avery."

#### A GRAIN OF SALT

Accompanying the oil mania was an interest in the extraction of salt. The issues of "The Observer" that noticed petroleum, contained enthusiastic forecasts for salt: Tillsonburg reposed on "an immense salt basin." In 1864, when the operations of the Oil Company were at a standstill, Law presented an enticing picture, "SALT -- a source of immense wealth for all concerned." Throughout 1867, as the hopes for petroleum declined, the expectations for salt were magnified, "an indisputable fact, a salt basin underlies this village!"

never in commercial quantities. Encouraging "show," were numerous but there was no genuine "strike."

Dramatic failures in 1865 and 1866 must have disheartened all but the most determined. In November 1865, operations at the Tillsonburg Company's well and that of the United Townships' were halted. Tools weighing over half a ton became "stuck" in the Tillsonburg well and were released only after 10 days' labour by an expert from Bothwell.

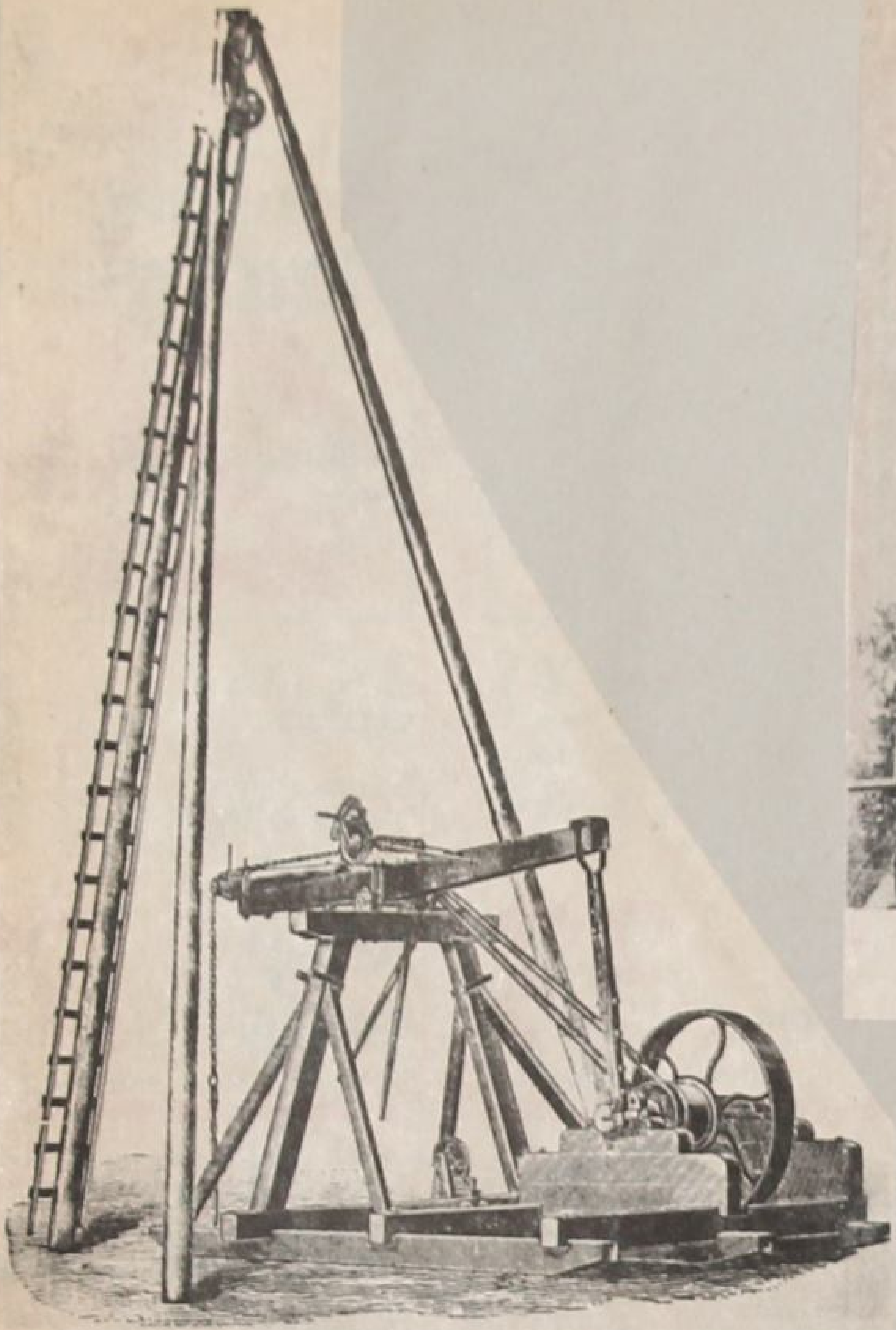
"The misfortune" at the Townships' was not specified. It is not clear that either site was used thereafter.

Late in July 1866, a fire and an explosion at the well on the farm of F.R. Hawkins, XI Concession, Dereham, became the talk of the township. It was long the playful custom of Sunday visitors to throw matches and lighted candles down the well. On July 22, "this rather dangerous amusement," produced a general conflagration that was mastered only with difficulty by the Tillsonburg fire-engine. Two days later, the drill struck a pocket of natural gas. "Immediately immense numbers of

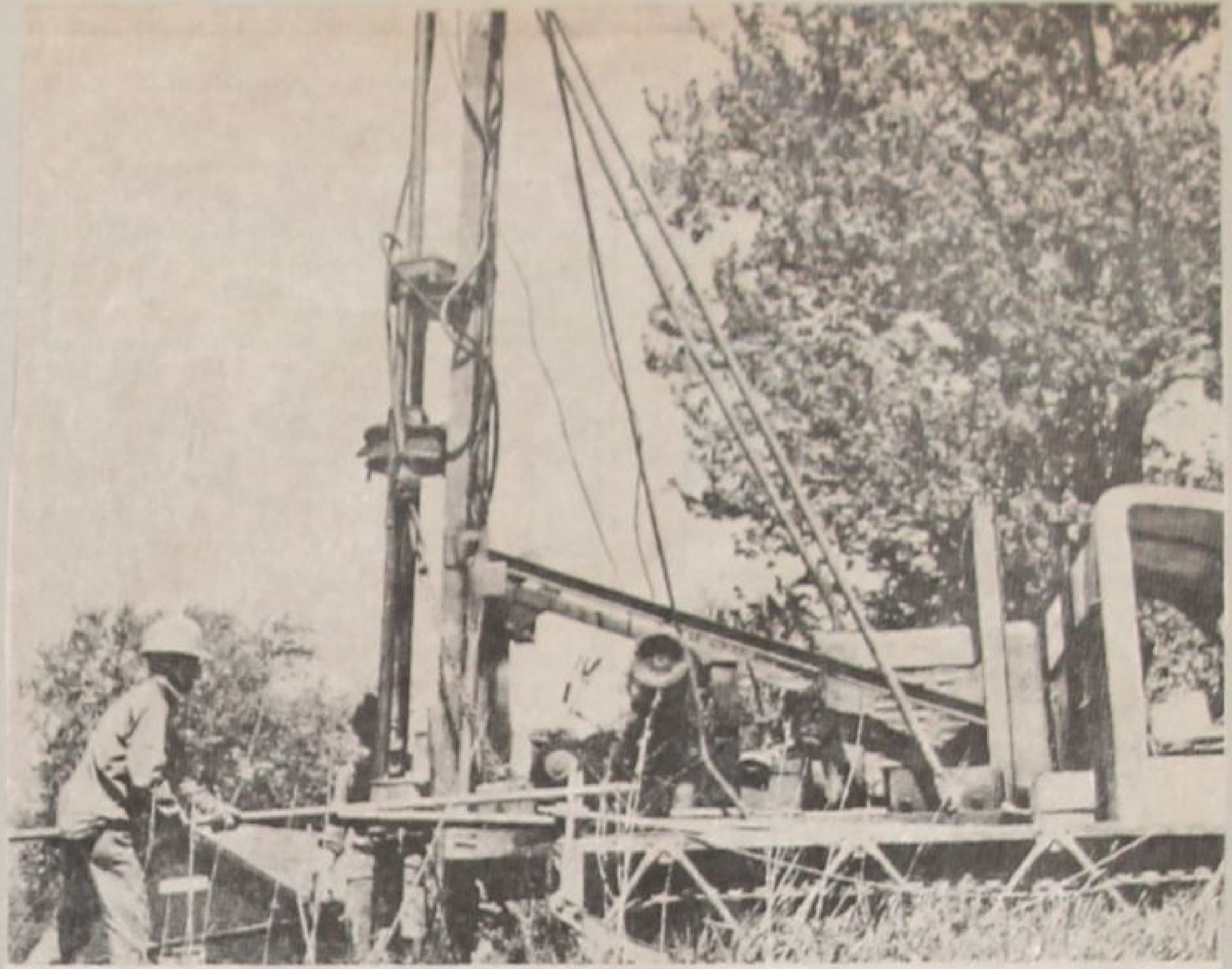
Hibbard and Avery who had not found oil, were urged to go for salt. An expert was summoned: A Mr. D. Van Norman (whose surname was a recommendation in itself) arrived from Saginaw (Mich.) to pronounce the local product "as fine salt as... we have seen." In August 1867, the Tillsonburg Salt Company was organized, with E.D. Tillson as president, Law as secretary, and a board of directors drawn from "the substantial citizenry." The Salt Company was no more successful than its predecessor, the Oil Company. Strong brine was certainly encountered, but at great depth and never in commercially attractive quantities.

The manias, major and minor, passed quickly. When in 1876, *The Topographical and Historical Atlas of Oxford County* was published, there was no mention of either oil or salt. On the map of Tillsonburg, however, "salt wells" were indicated. They lay at the foot of the Forge hill. Five years later, even they had disappeared from the panoramic drawing "Tillsonburg, 1881." Tillsonburg had gone back to making its money the hard way.

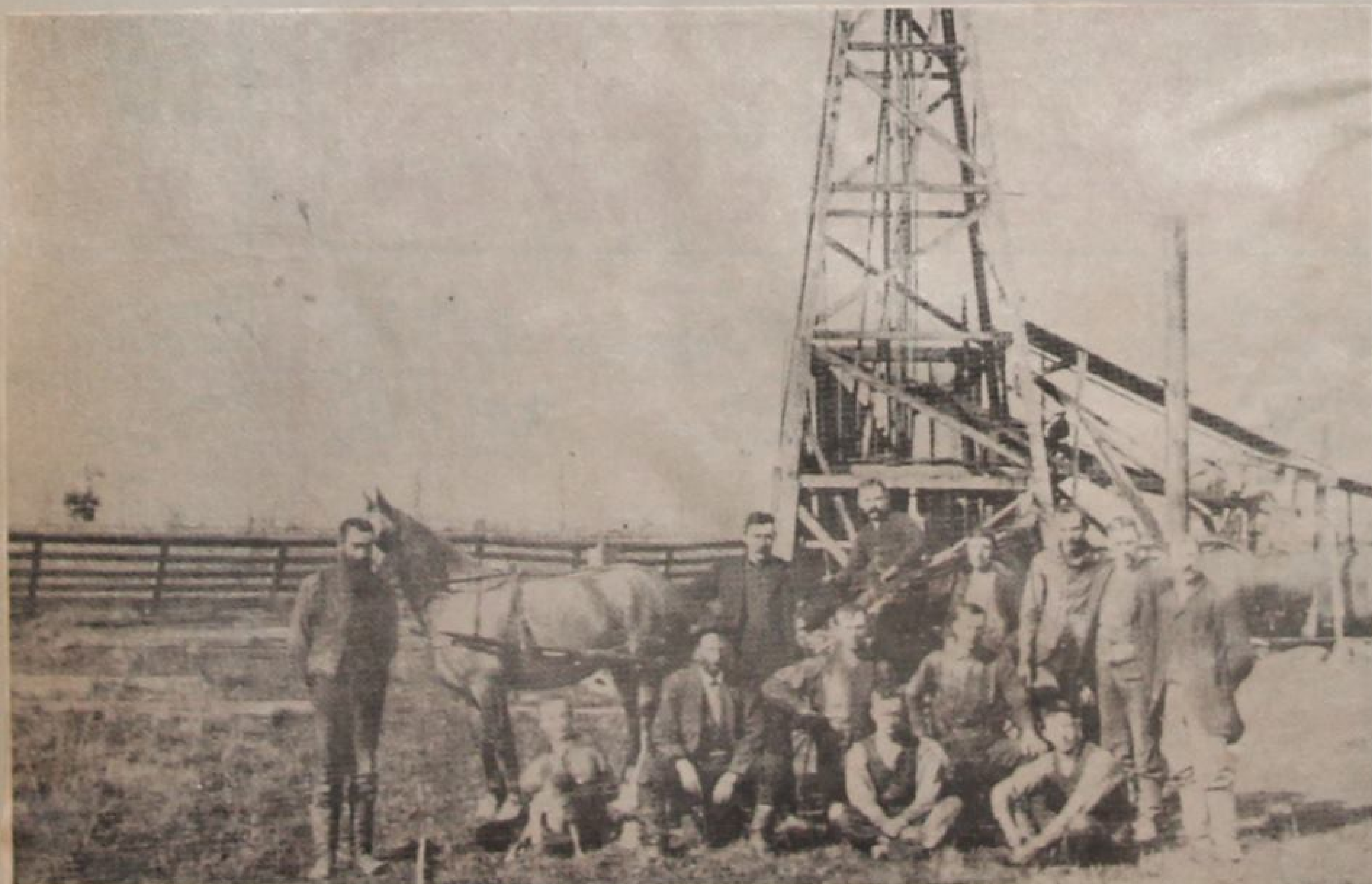




An early oil rig



Men working in the early oil fields



A crew of oil workers pose with their horse during a rest from drilling



# All roads lead to . . .

It was the promise of iron manufacturing that drew George Tillson to the site of Tillsonburg.<sup>1</sup> Raw material, iron ore, came from the swamps of Houghton and Middleton. Fuel, charcoal, was supplied by the surrounding forests. Energy, as vital in 1825 as now, was provided by the Otter. The dissolution of the Normandale partnership freed Tillson for this new venture.<sup>2</sup>

"Casting-ware" was how contemporaries described Tillson's product. The phrase was Joseph Pickering's and appeared in *Inquiries of an Emigrant*...1824 to 1830.<sup>3</sup> It was applied to iron objects made from a mould or casting. The passage from "Inquiries" is of the highest interest:

A new iron furnace and forge establishing on Otter Creek forty miles below here (Port Talbot) where good hands get...thirteen dollars...per month and board and fifteen...offered for the summer, payable chiefly in their casting-ware.

It is the earliest reference in print to Tillsonburg and was dated 1826. In addition to the astronomical wages, it is to be noted that they were paid in trade -- not in money. Clearly Tillson intended that the workers should double as the sales force. They were to carry the pots, frying pans, and kettles to the frontier customers.

It did not work out. The iron venture was not a success. We do not know why. Possibly the bog ore was insufficient or unsatisfactory.<sup>4</sup> Tillson turned to developing his lands for settlers. In 1836 or 1837 he surveyed the high ground on which Tillsonburg now stands. New enterprises were encouraged by land grants, and, possibly by money grants as well. Easy access to the outside world was needed,<sup>5</sup> hence, Tillson was drawn into a new activity, promotion and construction of roads. For the last twenty years or so of his life -- from about 1840 to 1864 -- he struggled to draw Tillsonburg into the general road pattern of southwestern Ontario.

It was not easy. Tillsonburg was placed about half way between the major east and west roads, Governor's Road and Talbot Street. Governor's Road, parts of modern Queen's Highway 2, was begun in the late 1790s. In its first form it provided a land-link between the Grand and Thames rivers.<sup>6</sup> Talbot Street, as contemporaries called it, was surveyed between 1809 and 1811 by Mahlon Burwell<sup>7</sup> for the benefit of Col. Thomas Talbot's extensive properties.<sup>8</sup> In general, it followed "the most eligible Ground," but frequently Burwell "found it necessary to make a great number of turns."<sup>9</sup> Thus Talbot Street wandered between Tyrconnel and Delhi, missing Tillsonburg by some eight or nine miles. Of north and south roads, there were none of importance.

Tillson's first move was to become road commissioner for Dereham Township. The Road Books of the Courts of Quarter Session of the old districts of London and of Brock contain numerous petitions praying for north and south roads. Tillson had a powerful ally in his son-in-law, Benjamin Van Norman, a member of the councils, and the first Warden of Oxford County. Together they struggled to overcome local prejudice against "angling roads," i.e. those that cut diagonally across the concessions. Not unnaturally, farmers objected to having their land divided, and their lack of "progressiveness" was a sore point with the early developers. Scant success attended most of Tillson's efforts: The curious northward swing of the Tenth Concession at the Five Points is all that remains of the projected direct road to Norwich. London Street recalls the dreamed-of road to London. It did not get west of Stoney Creek.<sup>10</sup>

In one direction, Tillson was spec-

tacularly successful. He secured connections with Talbot Street, westward towards Aylmer and eastwards towards Courtland, then known as Ronson's Corners. It was a Pyrrhic victory, for it was while working on this section in the spring of 1864 that Tillson contracted the pneumonia that killed him.

Of greater significance in changing road pattern was the provincial government. In 1842 in the wake of the Rebellion, it took over the road between London, the central garristown, and Stanley, a promising lake port. The road was graded, surfaced, and provided with bridges.<sup>11</sup> In terms of construction, it was the first major north-south road. At long last, the natural lines of Ontario's economic development received recognition -- back country to lake-front.<sup>12</sup> In 1849, the Province enacted a statute empowering joint-stock companies to build roads "and other Works" and to charge tolls.<sup>13</sup> In the ensuing "toll road fever" private initiative asserted itself and a pattern of roads designed to serve local needs was constructed.<sup>14</sup>

As early as September 1849, there was organized in Tillsonburg, the Ingersoll and Port Burwell Road Company. Among the two hundred subscribers to this project were George Tillson and his sons, George Barker and Edwin Delevan. Together with Benjamin Van Norman, they held over two hundred shares, or nearly three times as many as any other combination. In all, Tillsonburg and its district controlled about three hundred of the total 1850 shares.<sup>15</sup> The Ingersoll-Burwell road, commonly known as "the Plank and Gravel" was the pioneer in Oxford. Although "the Woodstock and Huron Road" was formed about a month earlier (August 1849), its construction was delayed until 1851; by that date, the Ingersoll-Burwell road was on its last lap -- the Vienna-Burwell connection.<sup>16</sup>

It exemplified perfectly the inland-lake front movement of trade. The route, with slight deviations, was that of Queen's Highway 19. "Plank and Gravel" referred to its construction. Over juicy sections, for example, the notorious Harris's Swamp, north of Mount Elgin, heavy three-inch planks formed the surface. Probably, they were Bayham pines<sup>17</sup>, since not all the forest wealth of that township was exported the planks were laid along the axis of the road and were held together by cross-transomes.<sup>18</sup> Elsewhere, gravel was used, and although "macadamizing" was an old practice in the United Kingdom, it was new to Canada. Eight toll-gates were maintained along the route, five of them being in Dereham. The location of the gates cannot be determined, although it is known that one was at Salford.

The Ingersoll-Port Burwell Road was a seven days' wonder. It was sufficiently wide to allow two teams to travel abreast, however, so heavy was traffic that south-bound teams had to use the west side of the road; north-bound teams, the east.<sup>19</sup> Timber and farm produce passed over the Road. Passengers went by stage-coach. Baldwin's hotel (which occupied the site of Heath's Departmental Store) was mid-point.<sup>20</sup> There, horses were changed and passengers steeled themselves for another three or four hour's journey to Ingersoll or Burwell.<sup>21</sup>

When Shenston published his "Gazetteer" in 1852, he listed four toll roads in Oxford County, Ingersoll-Port Burwell, Woodstock-Huron, Woodstock-Otterville, and Otterville-Port Dover, the latter being partly in Norfolk. By 1867, there were thirteen.<sup>22</sup> The history of the Woodstock and Huron Road has been investigated fully by K.L. Coles, the former County-

Engineer. It resembles closely that of the Ingersoll-Burwell. Woodstock and Zorra interests were concerned in opening a north-south route. The north-south direction was a factor in the continued prosperity of the Woodstock and Zorra Road -- there was no railway competition.

Absence of railway competition also favoured the Ingersoll-Burwell Road. The Air Line (Norfolk and Western) and the Canada Southern (Penn-Central) crossed the Road at Tillsonburg; at Ingersoll there was the Great Western (Canadian National). They encouraged farmers to team to the railway crossings. It was the decline in lumbering in Bayham, not rail competition that led to the drop in road tolls.<sup>23</sup> Railway competition did not materialize until the Canadian Pacific took over John Teal's rickety Tillsonburg, Lake Erie, and Pacific.<sup>24</sup> By that period, all the toll roads had become the objects of public execration.

Criticism of sorts was an old story: As early as 1866, a "Lover of Good Roads," in *The Tillsonburg Observer* denounced the proprietors of "the Plank and Gravel" for its "present disgraceful state."<sup>25</sup> About ten years later, the newspaper itself complained "the plank (section) is in a disgraceful state...accidents are liable to happen."<sup>26</sup> Bridges also were neglected. Under the title "At Last!" "The Observer" applauded E.D. Tillson's repairing "the ancient structure...known as the White Bridge,"<sup>27</sup> however, five months later the job was still not finished and the paper was moved to question the wisdom of leaving public utilities in private keeping.<sup>28</sup> In this context was the road company wise in setting a new toll gate between Tillsonburg and the Air Line Station?<sup>29</sup>

In 1901, the Ontario legislature, doubtless sensing the drift of opinion, adopted an enabling act that permitted the county councils to acquire the toll roads.<sup>30</sup> Oxford was not exactly a pace-setter. It was 1904 before it passed the necessary bylaw and 1907 before the Ingersoll and Port Burwell Road came under county control.<sup>31</sup> The proprietors received \$15,500 by far the largest compensation paid.

Clearly, the pioneer-dream of all roads leading to Tillsonburg was not realized. Nonetheless, it was imaginative to secure the commanding position on the Ingersoll-Burwell road, the main north-south route. In the age of the Walker Tariff and of the Reciprocity Treaty, when for some twenty-years, North American trade followed natural lines, Tillsonburg found itself in a preferred place.

<sup>1</sup> Peter Lossing to William Baldwin, "Norwichville," 22 Nov., 1824; Baldwin Papers, Metropolitan Toronto Library Board.

<sup>2</sup> W.J. Patterson, "The Long Point Furnace," *Canadian Mining Journal*, Vol XL., pg. 544-549.

<sup>3</sup> In 1832, Joseph Pickering published *Inquiries of an Emigrant...Narrative of an English Farmer, from...1824 to 1830*...Pickering was a supervisor under Talbot. His entries were in diary form. The one referring to Tillsonburg was for 26 April 1826, Pg. 79-80.

<sup>4</sup> Otter Valley Conservation Report, 1957, "History," pg. 33 ff. for a discussion of Tillson's difficulties.

<sup>5</sup> E.C. Guillet, *The Story of Canadian Roads* (Toronto, 1967) Pg. 47 ff.

<sup>6</sup> A.H. Breithaupt "Dundas Street and other early Upper Canadian Roads," *Papers and Records, Ontario Historical Society* (1924), Vol. XXI, Pg. 5-10.

<sup>7</sup> - A. Blue, "Colonel Mahlon Burwell," *Proceedings of the Royal Canadian Institute* (1899) VOL. 11, No. 8.

By Dr. J. I. Cooper

For Tillsonburg  
Historical Museum Society



8 Landon and Middleton, *The Province of Ontario, a History* (Toronto, 1924) two vols., "The Talbot Settlement," Vol 1, Pg. 118 ff.

9 Otter Valley Conservation Report, 1957, "Transportation," Pg 118 ff.

10 - Wadsworth, Unwin, and Brown, *Topographical and Historical Atlas of the County of Oxford* (Toronto, 1876), Pg. 72-73.

11 - J.E. Alexander *L'Acadie or Seven Years' Exploration in British America*, (London, 1849) two vols. Vol. 1, Pg. 140.

12 H.A. Innis, "An Introduction to the Economic History of Ontario..." *Essays in Canadian Economic History* (Toronto, 1956) Pg. 108-122.

13 *Provincial Statutes of Canada XII Vict.*, cap. 84, Pg. 587; royal assent, 5 May 1849.

14 W.H. Smith, *Canada, Past, Present, and Future* (Toronto, 1851), map of the main roads in Middlesex, Oxford, and Norfolk, Pg. 84-85.

15 *Stock Book of the Ingersoll and Port Burwell Road Company*, Land Registry Office, County of Elgin, St. Thomas, Ontario.

16 T.S. Shenston, *Gazetteer of Oxford County* (Hamilton, 1852) Pg. 131.

17 D.J. Hall, *Economic Development of Elgin County* (Petrolia, 1972), Pg. 52.

18 Sometimes the planks were laid at right angles to the axis, as in the corduroy roads. Builders adapted their method to local conditions.

19 S.E. Hatch, "The Township of Bayham," *A Pictorial Atlas of Elgin County* (St. Thomas, 1896).

20 Tremaine's map of Oxford (1857) has a cut of the hotel with the stage drawn up on Brock Street.

21 *The Tillsonburg Observer*, 8 June 1865, gave three hours as the travelling time between Ingersoll and Tillsonburg.

22 *Oxford and Norfolk Gazetteer*... (Woodstock, 1867), Pg. 20.

23 Hall, "Elgin County," Table XII.

24 J. Teal, *Who Built The Tillsonburg, Lake Erie, and Pacific Railway?* (Tillsonburg, n.d.).

25 *The Tillsonburg Observer*, 25 October 1866.

26 - "Observer," 27 October 1877.

27 "Observer," 16 September, 1881.

28 "Observer," 10 February, 1882.

29 "Oserver," 24 May, 1891.

30 *Statutes of Ontario*, 1 Ed VII, cap. 38, "An Act to Facilitate the Purchase of Toll Roads...Pg. 84 ff.

31 *By-laws of the Municipal Council of Oxford*; February 1904 bylaw 519, and Special March Session 1907, bylaw 558.



TILSONBURG FROM THE EAST.



### 25 YEARS AGO

March 1954

Carroll Brothers Hardware are entering the final stage of their enlargement program, including the erection of a new 90 by 40 foot metal shop and the doubling of their retail door sales space.

Well-known ex-police sergeant, Samuel T. Ham passed away following a heart seizure on March 15.

### 50 YEARS AGO

March 1929

Straffordville - Orrin Bartlett, the tax collector, has been selling some people's stock for taxes, and others will follow if they do not get busy.

J.C. Backus has the largest sugar bush in Norfolk on his home farm near his sawmill and flour mill. There are more than 5,000 maple trees in his bush.

### 75 YEARS AGO

March 1904

Charles Ingersoll, after whom the town of Ingersoll in Canada was named, is dead, at Flint, Mich., age 84 years.

The position of Postmaster of Tilsonburg, which became vacant by the death of the late E.D. Tillson, Esq., has been filled, as is generally known, by the appointment of W. McGuire, editor of The Liberal, who will assume office next month.

### 100 YEARS AGO

March 1879

**DEREHAM CENTRE** — This thriving little village, is, as its name indicates, situated at the centre of Dereham Township. Four years ago the Butler Bros. built a saw mill here, and lately they have added a mill for grinding feed, and a cheese box factory; they have also put in a new Rotary Machine, at a cost of \$800. There is a new Brickyard in course of construction, which with other improvements in building, makes matters look quite lively here. Last year there were erected five new buildings, including a fine brick parsonage for our

### JOHN BRADY

John Brady of 802 James St., Delhi, passed away at Norfolk General Hospital, Simcoe, on Sunday, March 25, 1979, in his 60th year.

Born at Lions Head, he was a son of the late Lesley Brady and the former Annie Hicks. He was a tobacco farmer in the Delhi area since 1941.

Surviving are his wife, the former Irene Van Braekel; nine children, Leslie Brady of Delhi, Mrs. Jack (Lucille) Freiburger of Brantford, John Brady, Jr., of Otterville, Jim Brady of Delhi, Larry Brady of La Salette, Mrs. Emiel (Linda) DePauw of Courtland, Garry Brady, Terry Brady and Brad Brady, all at home; one brother, Clayton Brady of Warton; and 12 grandchildren.

He was predeceased by two brothers and one sister.

Resting at the Murphy Funeral Home, Delhi, where service will be held Tuesday, March 27, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. F.J. Hurley.

Interment in Tillsonburg Cemetery.

Memorial donations to the Ontario Heart Foundation would be greatly appreciated by the family.

minister. We can now boast of a Saw Mill, Blacksmith Shop, Carpenter Shop, Grist Mill, two Churches and a School House, and it is proposed to have a Town Hall erected here. There is also another serious want, and that is, a Post Office.

### 20 YEARS AGO

March 12, 1959

A terrific game of hockey was played here Tuesday evening, when the Norwich Combines came through with a top team effort to upset Selkirk 4-3. Bob Furlong, Larry Pitz, Vaughan Ward and Dave Bowes scored for the Combines with Vaughan Ward gathering in two assists, Bob Gillespie, Don Broad, Bob Furlong and Wayne Swanton getting one each.

Joseph N. Holborn, teacher of Boys Physical Training, History and some other subjects at the Norwich High School for the past nine years, submitted his resignation to principal, Mr. St. John, having accepted a similar position on the New Market High School staff for the year 1959-60. A very hard worker, he sought no easy way out and he was able to get the best out of those he taught at all times. He is admired by all the students, by the boys especially, and they hate to think of his leaving.

### March 1954

Hawtrey - Mrs. Mackintosh of Norwich has purchased the old red brick school here and expects to move in this week.

Betty Lou Horlick and Doreen Kirkland received Guiding's highest award, the Gold Cord, at a meeting on Monday night.

## Shower

**OTTERVILLE (C)** — Miss Gwen Walters, March bride-elect was honored with a miscellaneous shower by her relatives and friends at the home of Mrs. Margaret Barnim on Tuesday evening. There were 30 in attendance.

The evening was spent with the members enjoying several contests.

The bride-elect was assisted by Misses Joanne Barnim of Otterville and Sandra Long, Langton.

The hostess served dainty refreshments and Gwen thanked all for their lovely gifts and coming to the party.

The wedding will take place in the Otterville United Church, Saturday, March 31 and the reception will be at the Legion Hall, Norwich.



Dennis Fairall, Tournament co-convenor presents C.D. Richardson with the Men's "B" single Sterling Fuels championship trophy. TABLE TENNIS



Mrs. Minnetta Martin of Tillsonburg celebrated her 88th birthday on March 19 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Christo of 32 Woodcock Dr. Attending the party, besides her daughter, Mrs. Christo and Mr. Christo, were her grandchildren, Sherrill and Doug Babbey, Shirley and Gary Christo and Nancy and Doug MacLennon, and great-grandchildren, Melissa and Meredith Babbey and Carolyn and David Christo. Mrs. Martin returned home for the party after a two month visit with her grandson, Gary, and family in Bramalea.

## Mail courier for 28 years

**OTTERVILLE (C)** — Jack Freeland of Otterville, a mail-courier for the past 28 years, for RR 1, Mount Elgin was honored in the Mount Elgin Community Hall on Thursday evening, March 1, 1979. He was accompanied by Mrs. Freeland.

Upwards of 75 friends from the courier's route were in attendance to spend an evening with Mr. and Mrs. Freeland who were loyal workers in Her Majesty the Queen's Service.

When entering the hall a lovely corsage was pinned on Mrs. Freeland, while Mr. Freeland received a boutonniere.

Mr. Ivan Hammond of Mount Elgin was the capable chairman for the evening. After an enjoyable program of musical numbers and readings, Mr. and Mrs. Freeland were called to the platform where the chairman, on behalf of those present, voiced the appreciation speaking of both guests of their loyalty to the courier service. Mr. Hammond and Mr. Ross Albright presented them with an oil painting, a coffee maker and floral arrangement. Though taken completely by surprise each thanked all those who had made such a pleasant evening, one to be long remembered.

31 N 3	SEC. ROW SEAT	ARENA	SUN.	DETROIT HOCKEY CLUB	
			MAR.	NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE	
			4	BOSTON	
			1979	- VS. -	
			GAME	RED WINGS	
			34	\$8.00	NO REFUND
				OLYMPIA STADIUM 5920 GRAND RIV.	



# Leisure Club hears FACS worker

OTTERVILLE (C) - Children's Services of Oxford County was the guest speaker at the meeting of the

Otterville Leisure Club which was held at the Woodlawn Adult Centre on Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. Ward told the members about some of the areas of work in the county and of the children who are placed in foster homes who are provided with new clothing to boost their morals and set them on a par with other children, in their new community.

The Family and Children's Services try to re-establish harmonious relations in disturbed family units, by counselling and advice.

Legal proof of child abuse is necessary before C.A.S. officials can act. Teenagers are sometimes adopted by suitable foster parents, and with government assistance given the opportunity to more advanced education.

Mrs. Ward was born in Middleton Township in Norfolk County. She received her education at Courtland Public School, High School Tillsonburg, Nurses Training at St. Thomas Memorial Hospital, and following Post Graduate work at Montreal.

Mrs. Ward moved to Woodstock in 1950 and coming to C.A.S. in 1962. Her hobbies are knitting, crocheting, sewing, oil painting, gardening, furniture refinishing.

In keeping with the "Year

of the Child" a fund raising project in charge of Mrs. David Kennedy was adopted and through cash donations given by the individual members of the club more than \$100 was donated to the work of the C.A.S. and presented to Mrs. Ward by President Colin Robinson.

Mrs. Ward thanked the members for their generosity. Following this part of the program the members enjoyed games of cards and several went to the recreation room for the

game of their choice.

Prior to the social hour president Colin Robinson announced the three members who had celebrated birthdays during the month of March. These were Mr. Fred Moore, Mr. Harry Lee and Mrs. Harold Waring. Happy Birthday was sung and a social time was spent. Lunch was in charge of Mrs. Annie Pritchard, Mrs. Isabel Tincknell, and Mrs. Amie Cowie who served ice-cream and cookies.

## Happy Bluebird Club

OTTERVILLE (C) - Mrs. George McElhone was hostess at her home on Main St., Otterville on Tuesday evening to the members of the Happy Bluebird Club.

The members welcomed the president, Mrs. Daisy Ash, who has been a shut-in for several weeks.

The meeting opened with the Housewives' Creed, followed with "The Lord's Prayer." The Happy Bluebird song was sung after which minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mrs. Jenny Mitchell and thank-you notes were read. Mrs. Ash thanked the members for the plant which was sent to her.

The Bluebird Club was organized 31 years ago and the members decided a special night should be held. Suggestions were given as to place, and Woodlawn Adult Centre, Otterville was chosen. The date will be Saturday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m. for a potluck supper. A variety program will be presented during the evening.

The members enjoyed several games of cards after which the hostess was assisted by the members serving lunch. The President, Mrs. Ash, expressed appreciation to Mrs. McElhone and her assistants.

## May bus trip planned by clubs

OTTERVILLE (C) - The business meeting of the Otterville Leisure Club was held at Woodlawn Community Centre on Wednesday with 25 members present.

President Colin Robinson presided and the meeting opened with "O Canada." In the absence of the secretary, Mrs. Fred Cole, the secretarial duties were in charge of Mrs. Max Avey.

There was much discussion in regard to the members taking a bus trip to Woodstock, May 5 for a concert to be given by the Barbershoppers. This is left for further suggestions.

There will be no meeting at the Woodlawn on Wednesday, March 14 due to a meeting being held in Delhi. The rooms will be open for those who care to go for entertainment.

Coming up on April 25 there will be a guest speaker from the Multi-Service Committee to give the members further knowledge of this program.

The Scripture lesson "Christ and the Children," a collection of verses from the Gospels was read responsively.

Mrs. George Robinson gave a reading "Going to Jesus," the story of a mother taking her little ones to see Jesus.

Mrs. Wilma Butler gave the devotional message on Deborah, a woman of great faith who was willing to be used of God - to give of her time and her talent, who should challenge every woman to follow her example.

Mrs. Hilda Stockmans closed the meeting with

prayer. A social time followed and the hostesses were assisted by Mrs. Murray Treffry in serving lunch.

A get-well card was signed by the ladies to be sent to Mrs. Henry Leach, a member of the group who is convalescing in the Caressant Care Nursing Home, Ingersoll, following eye surgery. Mrs. Paul Hill gave the courtesy remarks.

## Otterville UCW March meeting

OTTERVILLE (C) - The March meeting of the Otterville U.C.W. was held on Thursday evening, March 15. The business portion of the meeting was conducted by the president, Orris Beecroft, and the secretary, Jean Little.

The focus of the worship portion of the meeting was a Bible study on Deborah. This portion of the meeting began with a song, "God So Loved the World." The study was introduced by Barbara Cope. The scriptural basis for the study, Judges 4: 4-24 and Judges 5, was read by Ethel Arthur, Laura Hooker, and Barbara Cope. Laura Hooker led in prayer. The offertory music was the song, "Magic Penny." Nancy Walther presented a retelling of the Biblical references. It was titled "Deborah Goes to Battle."

Three discussion groups formed to consider three different aspects of the study. The group came together again for a closing reading and the song, "Love One Another." A social time followed.

Barbara Cope gives very special thanks for the help

and participation of Ethel Arthur, Edith Avey, Laura Hooker, Betty Walther, and Nancy Walther.

## Zone meet for seniors

OTTERVILLE (C) - President and Mrs. Colin Robinson, accompanied by Mrs. Annie Pritchard, members of the Otterville Leisure Club, attended the executive meeting of the Zone Rally No. 3 in the spacious reconditioned hall at Delhi on Wednesday, March 14.

Nineteen clubs were represented at this meeting which claimed the official date of May 16 for the Zone Rally. They were invited by Burford to hold the Rally at the Burford Agricultural Hall with that club being the hosts.

Those attending were requested to bring a picnic lunch and tea and coffee will be supplied.

Outside entertainment will be invited for the afternoon. This plans to be an interesting day at Burford for Senior Citizens to meet.

## Home care services talk given at meet

OTTERVILLE (C) - Charles O. Lyons, executive director of M.S.W. London, of the Home Care Services for Tillsonburg area, was guest speaker at the regular meeting of Otterville Leisure Club meeting held at Woodlawn Community Centre on Wednesday.

The speaker was introduced by president Colin Robinson, who presided for the meeting.

Mr. Lyons in his informative talk told members of the unit's program, assisting those who are

unable to care for heavier duties in their homes, and explained to them how Home Care can be secured. Many helpful suggestions were submitted and the speaker asked members to contact Mr. and Mrs. Max Avey delegates of this area, who will give information to the office in Tillsonburg.

The working staff of eight are especially busy at this time of year but every effort would be put forth to help those in need.

The office is situated on Ridout St., Tillsonburg, and

the phone number is 842-9007.

Mr. Lyons was taken on a tour of the house by Mr. Avey and preceding his talk congratulated the Club on the spacious rooms and outstanding facilities.

During the brief business meeting, a letter was read from Waterford Senior Citizens inviting members of the Leisure Club to their dinner meeting on Monday, April 23, at 12:30 p.m.

Club members enjoyed several games of cards and lunch was served by Mrs. Annie Pritchard and Mrs. Gladys Ritenburg, who were assisted by others.



# Otterville marks Day of Prayer

OTTERVILLE (C) - The annual World Day of Prayer service was held in the Fellowship Baptist Church, Otterville on Friday afternoon March 2 with 30 women of the village and visitors from Springford attending.

Mrs. Bruce Stover, president of the Women's Missionary Fellowship presided and welcomed those attending.

The service on the program leaflet was prepared this year by students in the Pan-African leadership course for women at Zambia.

Ladies of St. John's Church Guild, Mrs. Violet Howse and Mrs. Harold Durkee, took part in the devotional of "Growth and Knowledge."

"Growth in Faith" was lead by Mrs. Colin Cope. Mrs. Violet Howse and Mrs. Harold Durkee took part in the Scripture and prayer of

"Growth in Hope," and Devotional on "Growth in Love" by Mrs. Melville Beecroft.

There being suggestions for special speakers for the service, several ladies gave short readings. Mrs. Melville Beecroft - Faith; Mrs. Marion Dowds - Hope; and Mrs. Hilda Stockmans - Love; Mrs. Brian Davis read the Scripture lesson.

During the service, Mrs. Murray Treffry accompanied by Mrs. Boyd Little, sang a solo "Reach Out To Jesus."

The offering was presented by Mrs. Paul Hill and Mrs. Charter Davis.

Mrs. Delmer Clinton was the pianist for the service.

Seated at the front with the president, Mrs. Stover were Mrs. Harold Durkee, Mrs. Violet Howse, Mrs. William Dowds, Mrs. Brian Davis, Mrs. Melville Beecroft and Mrs. Colin Cope.

# Family supper plans made for WMF meet

OTTERVILLE (C) - The Women's Missionary Fellowship of the Baptist Church held their March meeting in the Sunday schoolroom of the church with Mrs. Delmer Clinton and Mrs. Jack Walters as joint hostesses. President, Mrs. Bruce Stover presided for the opening and gave the call to worship.

Plans were made for the April meeting, a family supper with Mr. and Mrs. Grant Robinson, missionaries on furlough, as guests.

Letters were read from Missionaries Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Pollard and Dr. Hazel Wrigglesworth, also a letter from Helen Bello, the native girl supported in Nigeria.

Mrs. Stover offered the Missionary prayer. Mrs. Dwight Davis was in charge of the devotional program on the Year of the Child, and read a poem, Jesus Loves the Little Children, all Children of the World. Scripture lesson was Christ and the Children collection of verses from the gospel read responsively. Readings were also given by Mrs. George Robinson and Mrs. Wilma Butler, and closing prayer was given by Mrs. Hilda Stockmans.

A social time followed the meeting with the hostess assisted by Mrs. Murray Stover with lunch.

A get well card was signed for Mrs. Henry Leach, a member of the group in Caressant Care Nursing Home, Ingersoll following eye surgery.

Mrs. Paul Hill gave courtesy remarks.

# 'urkey supper plans made

St. John's Church Club, Otterville met in the Parish hall on March 21 following the Lenten service. Meeting opened with Hymn 802 with president Violet House at the organ. Violet read Scripture and led in prayer. Minutes prepared by Evelyn Picknel were read by secretary Florence Saunders. Discussion on coming events included a euchre in the parish hall April 5, to be the last for this season; arts and crafts and home baking sale in the township hall, March 31, 10-12 a.m.; annual turkey supper, April 29. Rev. T. Hill was present and spoke briefly.

Meeting closed with prayer, lunch and a social time. Next meeting April 18.

# Lions plan barbecue

OTTERVILLE (C) - Regular meeting of Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the basement of Springford United Church on Monday evening, March 26. Lion president, Ron Kiddie, presided and there were 41 members and one visitor present. Caterers were the Springford United Church Women.

A donation to the Canadian Red Cross Society was approved as well as a donation to the Oxford Federation of Agriculture. The Club decided to again barbecue chicken for Woodingford Lodge Auxiliary on June 9.

There were reports of several Lion inter-club visits during the past month. Plans are underway for the annual chicken barbecue to be held in the Community Park, Otterville, on Saturday, June 16.

Lion Colin Cope reported on 1978 activities by the Lions Club in the Community Park, Otterville. The past year was very busy with many improvements completed.

There was an election for incoming third vice-president, all other positions for various club positions having been previously decided at the club meeting of February 26.

Lion Colin Cope was elected third vice-president. Convention draw was won by Lion Lou Ferrero.

Next meeting will be held in Norwich, April 9, when the district (A2) effective speaking finals will be held. There will be three girls and three boys speaking.

# Cleaning bee at church

OTTERVILLE (C) - The St. John's Ladies Guild met at the home of Mrs. Florence Church on Thursday afternoon March 29 with six members answering the roll call.

President Mrs. Violet Howse opened the meeting with "A Letter From a Friend" taken from "The Living Message". The Lord's Prayer was repeated in unison.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. A letter from the United Church Women inviting the ladies to attend their Easter Thank-Offering meeting April 19 at 8 p.m.

Treasurer Mrs. Nate McMullen gave her report.

Cards were signed for Mrs. Lottie Armstrong and Jim Durkee. The next meeting will be a cleaning bee at the church with a potluck lunch on April 12 at 9:30 a.m.

There will be a service on Good Friday at 10 a.m. The president closed with prayer and a delicious lunch was served by the hostess.

The president expressed appreciation to Mrs. Church for the pleasant time spent.

A discussion then followed concerning dogs running at large on days when garbage is collected.

# S. America travelogue presented

OTTERVILLE (C) - Have you ever had a dream about a wonderful, exciting, adventurous trip to South America?

The members of the Otterville Pastoral charge, along with other folk in the village, gathered in the Sunday school room of the United Church to enjoy such a trip. Guides for the interesting trip were Mel and Orris Beecroft.

Starting at the northwestern section of the country they travelled southward then toward the Sao Paulo area and back north as far as Brasillia. The short tour up the Amazon for two days was the most adventurous part.

The offering was received by Mrs. Isabel Harris and Mrs. Jean Little, the proceeds being used in the redecorating of the church.

Rev. Earl Moore on behalf of the attendance thanked Mr. and Mrs. Beecroft for sharing their exciting travelogue and experiences with them.

## DR. W. ERNEST JAMES

OTTERVILLE (C) - Funeral service for the late Dr. W. Ernest James, a former resident of Norwich, was held at Dorchester, Monday afternoon, conducted by Rev. D. Docken of Dorchester United Church and Rev. W.O. Mather of London, who was a warm friend of Dr. James for many years. He paid high tribute to his dedicated work as a veterinary surgeon.

Dr. James was born in North Norwich township 91 years ago, and graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College at the last class held in Toronto University in 1914, and set up his practice in Norwich until 1931 when he moved to Dorchester. He was married in 1916 to Clara Addison who predeceased him last September. Dr. James was a life member of the Ontario Veterinary Association and was active in his profession until he was 85. He was also a 60-year member of St. John's Masonic Lodge of Norwich. He had been a patient in Chateau Gardens Nursing Home for the past two years.

He is survived by his daughter, Phyllis (Mrs. Everett Crockett) of Dorchester and two grandchildren, Kevin and Carolyn Crockett, both of Edmonton, Alta. Two brothers predeceased him, George in 1971 and Ephriam in 1975.

The casket bearers were William McLaren, Archie Armour, and James Longfield all of Dorchester, Ronald Young of London, Brock Addison of Dundas and Donald Addison of Simcoe. Mar 179

# Otterville Sunshine Club

OTTERVILLE (C) - The regular meeting of the Sunshine Club was held at the home of Mrs. Audrey Harrison on Thursday evening with a good attendance.

In the absence of the president, Mrs. John McSkimming, the hostess presided for the meeting.

During the business there was much discussion in regard to purchasing equipment for the Community Park for the children's pleasure. The club

members have realized a substantial amount from the pancake dinner which they served to the public.

There was also some discussion in regard to the members having a night out. Mrs. Gordon Shearer invited the members to her home for the next meeting which will be on Thursday April 12.

The hostess was assisted by Mrs. Erie in serving a dainty lunch. The appreciation of the club to Audrey and assistant was expressed by Mrs. Don Chisholm.

ORGANIST - CHOIR leader for Otterville United Church. Salary negotiable. Reply to Mrs. J. Walther, RR 1, Otterville, NOJ 1R0, or phone 879-6816. 31

Mar 16 / 79



# \$96,000 deficit in Norwich, not much tax hike coming

The Township of Norwich is "sitting well" financially despite a \$96,000 deficit and it won't necessarily mean a great increase in taxes according to Treasurer Fred Lowes.

In an interview after the presentation of the annual auditor's report, Mr. Lowes said that the deficit is "a matter of concern."

"It's going to be tough to pick up," he said. "But it doesn't necessarily denote a great increase in taxes."

The auditor's report was presented to township council on March 1 by Edward Aitken of Millard, Rouse and Rosebrugh accounting firm in Simcoe.

The deficit was caused mainly by a shortfall in the amount of grants received from the provincial government, in the amount of \$60,000. Although this amount was included in the budget, it was disallowed by the ministry of transportation and communications.

Mr. Lowes stressed that the deficit was also caused by capital expenditures which were planned for 1979, but were done in 1978. An example of this is work on the approach to a bridge on Church Street in Otterville. Although a provincial subsidy was received for the bridge, it was not received for the bridge approach in time for the auditor's report. Verbal approval has since been received for the work.

Mr. Aitken stressed that council for the most part had budgeted well for expenditures during 1978. He mentioned that monthly checks on expenditures would be useful in following the budget for each year.

The township received \$2,623,550 in revenue from taxation during 1978 and had budgeted for revenues of \$2,568,214.

A total of \$1,104,678 of this was spent on public education.

Roughly 33 per cent of the tax revenue collected is used by the township.

In 1977 the township received \$2,373,511 in taxes.

Revenue from Ontario grants amounted to \$385,095 compared to \$424,474 which had been budgeted. In 1977 the township received \$452,760 from Ontario grants.

Total revenue for 1978 was \$3,215,416 compared to a budgeted revenue of \$3,188,083. In 1977 revenue was \$3,006,688.

Expenditures for the year totalled \$3,330,147 compared to the budget figure of \$3,188,083. In 1977 expenditures amounted to \$3,036,147.

Largest single expenditure was \$1,452,086

for education costs, compared to a budgeted sum of \$1,430,106 while \$679,600 was budgeted for transportation expenditures, the actual figure for the year amounted to \$742,866.

A total of \$195,741 was given to Oxford County, compared to \$137,610 in 1977.

General government expenditures amounted to \$297,437 slightly above the budgeted figure of \$294,000. This was well below the 1977 figure of \$347,505. During 1977, \$50,000 was transferred to a reserve fund of working capital.

Under general government expenditures are salaries, election expenses, upkeep on buildings, and various administration costs. Also included is the interest on temporary borrowing, which amounted to \$65,000.

Protection to persons and property expenditures totalled \$265,705 compared to the budget figure of \$263,300. This expenditure for fire protection included \$64,594 under general expenditures which was under the budget sum of \$65,000.

Capital expenditures for fire protection amounted to \$31,895 under the budgeted figure of \$32,000.

Police expenditures under protection expenses amounted to a total of \$107,568

under the budgeted figure of \$110,500. General expenditures were \$102,942 short of the amount budgeted of \$108,500.

A total of \$141,115 was spent on recreation and cultural services which exceeded the budget figure of \$116,205. Included in this figure was \$21,603, the net cost of operating the community centre for the year. This exceeded the budget figure of \$11,900. Mr. Aitken stressed that this was the first full year of operation for the centre which made budget estimates difficult. He added that arenas and halls did not usually make money.

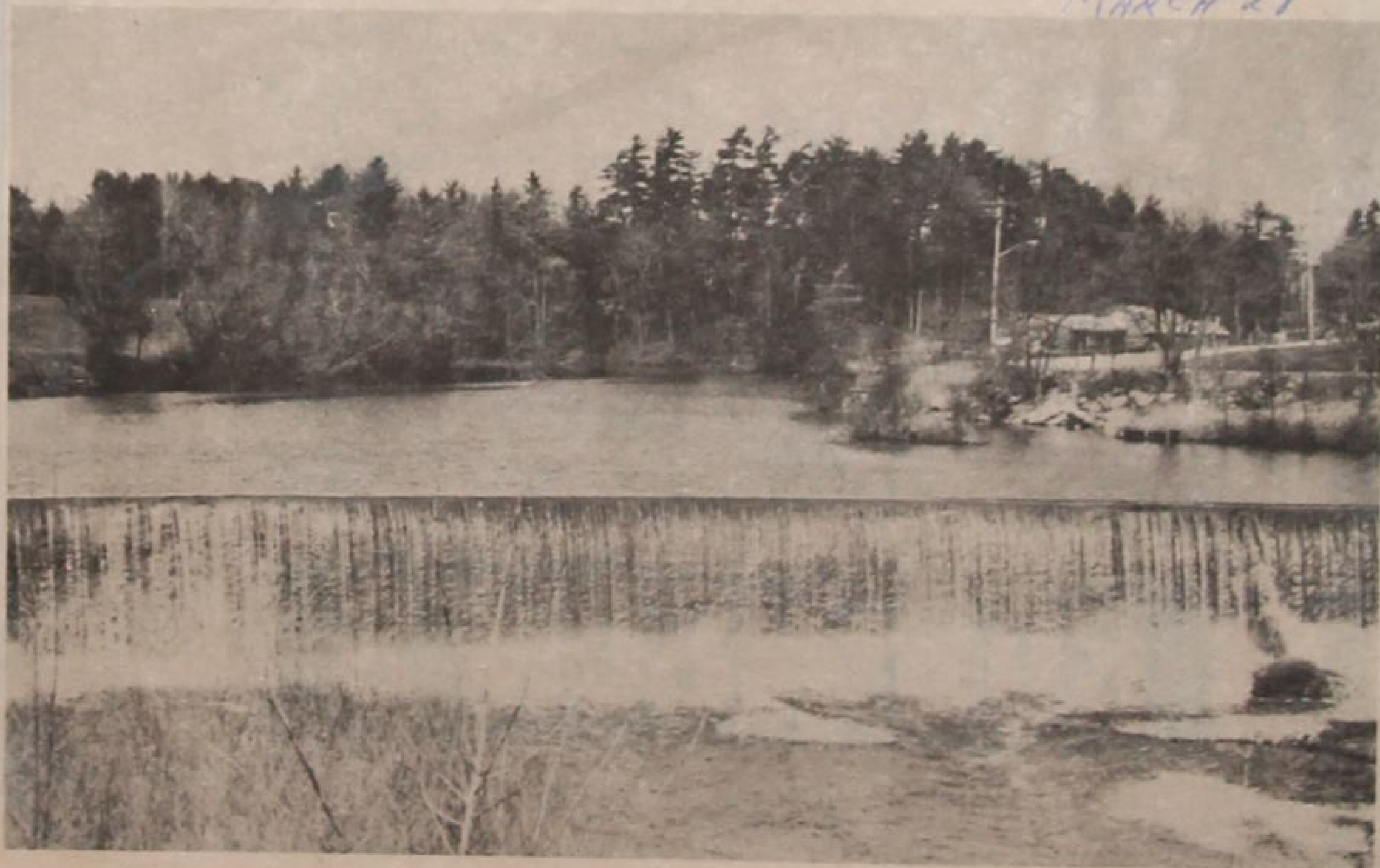
"I've never seen arenas or halls make money," he said. "You get good use out of the building."

The cost of operating the centre is considerably down from the 1977 figure of \$33,874. In 1978 the centre took in more revenue with a total of \$83,419 generated, compared to \$50,989 in 1977.

A total of \$1,104,678 of tax revenue generated from the residential and farm assessment was used for public education \$548,633 of this went toward secondary school education, with \$556,045 being spent on public schools.

## Looks like spring! 1979

MARCH 28



Recent warm weather has removed most of the ice from the Otter Creek, as shown by this spring scene.

### Births

DeWACHTER - August and Jean DeWachter are proud to announce the arrival of Michael Richard Blaine, a long-awaited wee brother for Julie. Michael was born on March 16, 1979 at Victoria Hospital, London, weighing 8 lbs. 4 ozs. Happy grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Blaine Oatman and Mrs. Achiel DeWachter. 5



# JANNY'S SUPERIOR

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JELLO JELLY POWDERS 3oz 4/88¢ reg 3lea	TANG ORANGE CRYSTALS 4's 99¢ reg 1.25
SYLVANIA LIGHT BULBS asst. 2's 66¢ reg 99	SUNLIGHT Detergent 12ltr. \$4.93 reg 5.86

POST HONEYCOMBS 400g \$1.29	TOP CHOICE BURGERS beef, cheese 1 KG \$1.59
MITCHELL'S FANCY APPLE SAUCE 19oz 2/\$1.00	E.D. SMITH PIE FILLS 19oz pumpkin--79¢ cherry, blue. \$1.39
AYLMER BOSTON BROWN BEANS 14oz 2/89¢	GEM LONG GRAIN RICE 2lb 79¢
ARMOUR STEWS beef, irish 24oz \$1.19	LIPTON'S CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP 2's 47¢
AYLMER SOUPS tomato, vegetable 10oz 4/\$1.00	DOVE REGULAR SOAP white, pink 3's \$1.29
MR. MUSCLE OVEN CLEANER 14oz \$1.49	GLAD GARBAGE BAGS 26x36 10's \$1.15

DREAM WHIP DESSERT TOPPING 6oz \$1.29	MONARCH SOFT MARGARINE 2lb \$1.59
NABISCO SHREDDIES 500g 83¢	BRUNSWICK SARDINES 3 1/2oz 3/\$1.00
SUNLIGHT LIQUID DETERGENT 1.5L \$1.79	CATELLI MACARONI & SPAGHETTI 500g 2/\$1.00

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 THANK-YOU ALL!  
 "Best Wishes Grace & George in your new venture"

Sincerely,  
 Henry and Jane Vanden Brink  
 +children.  
 "See you at  
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# Otterville Institute plans rummage sale

1979  
OTTERVILLE (C) — The March meeting of the Otterville Women's Institute was held at Woodlawn Community Centre on Friday afternoon.

The president, Miss Vera Welsh, presided and welcomed the members for the afternoon.

Meeting opened with the Institute Ode, Mary Stewart Collect, followed with The Lord's Prayer. Mrs. Jack Walther was the pianist.

The roll call was answered with the members telling of a pioneer saying which influenced them, and also to bring with them or tell of a family keepsake.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and the treasurer's report was given by Mrs. Walther.

A note of appreciation was read from Mrs. Fred Cole who has been a shut-in at her home for the past several weeks.

Miss Welsh gave a reading.

A cash donation was made to the Woodlawn Community Centre, and the members were reminded of the upcoming Institute activities. March 26 is Summary Day at Oxford Fairgrounds, Woodstock, from 1:45 to 3:15 p.m.

Wednesday, April 4 is the Food Forum at Tillsonburg, and March 27 is the Spring Board Meeting at Springford.

Final plans were made for the Spring Rummage Sale which will be held in the Otterville Community Hall on Saturday morning, April 7 from 9 to 11 a.m. Donations may be left at the hall on Friday.

The annual meeting of the Institute will be held in the Community Hall on Friday, April 6. A potluck luncheon will be held at noon preceding the meeting. Members are asked to bring in their reports for the meeting and also silverware for the dinner.

The convener of the program was Mrs. Fred Cole, Curator of the Tweedsmuir Scrap Books, and these were displayed on tables about the rooms where the members may view them. These books were in excellent shape and many happy memories revealing history of the past and present were brought to mind.

The meeting closed with "O Canada" and Institute grace. The social committee, Mrs. Agnes McElhone, Mrs. Melville Beecroft, Mrs. Jack Walther and Miss Vera Welsh served a dainty lunch.

Though Mrs. Cole was absent, appreciation of her work was heard from the members as they viewed the pictures, dates and write-ups with pride.



He's at it again! Grant Mountain eagerly surveys the links at the Runway Golf Course. Mr. Mountain will be teaching golfing skills as part of the adult education night classes offered by the Oxford County board of education at Norwich District High School. There will be courses in tennis and spring floral arranging. Registration will be held March 13 and 14 from 7 to 9 p.m. Courses will be run if sufficient numbers of students register and if staff can be obtained.

Norwich, Ontario, Wednesday, March 14, 1979

Vol. 54 - No. 11

Single Copy 20 Cents

## Council agrees to pay extra Otterville pool bill

Norwich Township council decided to pay the controversial extra \$3845 bill for the Otterville pool on Monday.

The council session was attended by Dennis Vass, a representative of Gilvesy Construction, who built the pool in 1974. Also attending the meeting was Ken Vallee, engineer for the township at that time.

The bill has been disputed for several years as council claimed the extra cost was caused by a delay in constructing the pool. Due to this delay construction was carried out in late February and March which made access difficult.

"You abandoned the project," said Councillor Jack Walther, a member of council at that time. "Then came the spring thaw, and you started to pour."

Mr. Vass said the delay was caused because his firm did not receive firm approval from the township.

"It was not us that delayed

the project," he said. "We were not given the go-ahead until February 1 of the year."

Mr. Vass said that part of the extra cost was due to the extra labor involved in using wheelbarrows to transport cement when trucks were not able to cross the wet ground.

An addendum to the contract stated that the township was responsible for maintaining the access road.

"The township agreed to maintain the road, but through conditions we were not able to," said Mr. Vallee.

The township had also negotiated a free access through the DeWatcher farm for January and February.

The old pool was removed in January and this cost amounted to \$4,000.

Mr. Vass said that his firm did not have a written contract until the project was nearly completed.

"We couldn't sign a contract if we had no control over access," he said.

"If you won't accept our

verbal statement why should we accept yours?" said Mr. Walther.

Mayor Jack Burn asked if the figure could be negotiated. Mr. Vass said that the figure had been negotiated and that the company was now after "bare costs."



White's Flowers and Gifts have moved to a new location in the west end of the village. The store is operated by Ed and Shirley White. OTTERVILLE

MAR/79



# 50 years of skill in curling brooms

BY NANCY GALL

There's a small shop off John Street in Norwich where Norm Lees takes sorghum fibres, Phillipine mahogany and 50 years of skill and turns them into curling brooms destined for sporting goods outlets all over southern Ontario.

Mr. Lees has been making brooms since 1928 while still a school boy, although the advent of the vacuum cleaner and cheap imported brooms has changed the kind of broom he makes.

House brooms were big business in the 1920's but the vacuum cleaner cut a wide swath in demand for brooms. Then in the 1950's, brooms imported from Poland finished off the Canadian house broom business, selling for half the price of the Canadian product.

At one time, the shop also produced liquid wax applicators made of lambswool on the end of a wooden handle. These became less popular as carpeting and non-waxable flooring

replaced linoleum and hardwood floors. Cost of materials went up and they became too expensive to produce on a large scale, although a Norwich hardware shop still sells them, Mr. Lees said.

He still makes some house brooms but most of his time is spent making curling brooms. Curling became popular in Ontario during the early 1950's, just before cheap imported house brooms came on the market.

Between 100 and 200 dozen curling brooms leave his shop every year with each broom taking about 40 minutes to make. Most big manufacturers of curling brooms hire outside help to make the bands that hold the brooms when they're not in use, but Mr. Lees does every step of the process himself, including making the bands, painting the handles and sewing the brooms.

The basic raw material for a curling broom is broom corn, actually a form of sorghum. It produces seeds rather than cobs of corn and

in Europe the seed is used for cattle feed, Mr. Lees said. Until ten years ago, broom corn was available only in the stalk form and had to be processed before it could be used. Now it comes in bales, divided into separate lengths and seeded by a machine invented in Italy.

Brittle stems, which can split and break, are discarded when making curling brooms. Mr. Lees shakes each bunch of broom corn to remove short fibres and then removes any seeds which may be left by running the bunch over a scraper made of rotating spikes.

This part of the process can be hard on novice broom makers, who invariably suffer from an irritating, though not serious, skin condition known as, logically enough, "broom-makers' itch."

"Everyone gets it for the first two or three weeks and there's nothing you can do about it, but if you stay with it another week the itch goes away and you never get it

again," Mr. Lees said. The itch is thought to be caused by pollen and tiny fibres from the broom corn.

The corn is then moistened to prevent the binding wire from cutting through.

If the fibre is not to be used immediately, it is placed in a freezer to prevent mould and mildew. During muggy weather in the summer an air conditioner and dehumidifier are brought into use to retard mould formation.

The fibre is attached to the handle with 18-gauge galvanized wire. There are 80 lbs. of tension on the wire, Mr. Lees said. The fibres above the neck of the broom are trimmed with an easily-sharpened knife called a skiver.

Mr. Lees places a long vinyl "flapper" surrounded with polypropylene fibre in the centre of some of his brooms. The flapper's purpose is to create noise when the broom is brushing the ice. It also creates extra weight in the tip so the broom will flop, Mr. Lees said. Brooms without the polypropylene reinforcement are faster, but the choice of broom depends upon the sweeping style of its owner.

"Everybody sweeps a little differently," Mr. Lees said. He can custom-make brooms for curlers to suit their individual style once he has seen how they sweep.

Covered brooms with a polypropylene centre are coming into use and Mr. Lees expects them to become more popular. Corn brooms gradually deteriorate, leaving little bits of fibre on the ice. Brooms made of the synthetic material are "almost indestructible," and stand up better to the more vigorous sweeping style used these days.

For the curler who does a

lot of travelling, Mr. Lees makes brooms with collapsible aluminum handles. One of these models doubles as a container for "refreshments," complete with an attached straw.

Handles for the brooms are made of Phillipine mahogany, a strong, light, fine-grained wood. Until the 1950's all broom handles were made of fir from British Columbia, until the company that supplied the handles lost its source of wood to the chipboard and plywood industries.

The handles are given two coats of lacquer applied with a leather "squeegee," a rectangular piece of leather perforated with holes through which the brooms are pulled. The resulting finish is smooth and unmarred by streaks or uneven patches.

The curling brooms go through two separate sewing processes, the first on a machine dating back to 1903.

The correct string tension is the secret of a good curling broom, Mr. Lees said.

The second string is sewn on by hand and has to be fairly loose. It's a skill few people possess nowadays, he said.

He has been at his 41 John Street location since 1951 when he was in partnership with his brother, Gordon. Mr. Lees bought the partnership in 1959.

Mr. Lees retired from a job in Woodstock last year and now works full time in the broom shop.

"I can't sit around," he says. "I keep going all the time."

His is one of the few old hand-trades left around, he says, and he never gets bored at it.

"Broom-making is in the same category as wood-working - You're making something with your hands and every one is different."



# Otterville Features



## Afternoon card party

Members of the Otterville Leisure Club meet one afternoon a week at the Woodlawn Adult Community Centre in Otter-

ville to play cards, billiards, shuffleboard and enjoy a social get-together.

## Mill village focal point

By SUZANNE HANSON

Nestled on the bank of the Otter River, the picturesque Treffry mill is still the focal point of the Otterville community.

In the 1850's, mills like it were the economic and, to a smaller extent, the social nuclei of the region, said E.M.W. Gibson in a 1958 report to the Otter Creek Conservation Authority on the need to purchase the mill property to preserve it as a regional museum.

More than 20 years later the Otterville community is again pressing the Long Point Region Conservation Authority (formed by the amalgamation of the Otter Creek and Big Creek Conservation Authorities) to purchase the mill property, which includes the 2.5 acres around the mill and 39 acres, including the dam and mill pond, on the north side of Oxford County Road 19.

With the prospect of the mill being sold to a private buyer, residents in the area have rallied overwhelming support for the preservation of the mill as a public property and historic site. The Authority has yet to make a decision, but it is hoped it will purchase the

mill in order that the structure might be preserved for future generations.

Mills such as the Treffry grist mill were the very reason for the existence of early communities such as Otterville. Although there are other mills of historic interest located in the Otter Valley, the Treffry mill has several decided advantages as a museum over them, said Mr. Gibson in his report.

First of all, it is located on a paved road to provide easy access to the site and second, it has had fewer building alterations in the past 100 years, thus remaining the most authentic mill in the area. Thirdly, it is situated in the largest centre of all the existing mills and the paved road is also a feeder to the major Ontario highway route, Highway 3, for American tourists.

The structure is in remarkably good condition considering the age and continuous use of the building. The mill is still operated by its present owner Lorne Treffry who has been doing custom work there for almost 30 years.

Built in 1845 by Edward G. Bullock, the mill was

initially used for the custom grinding of flour. However, three sets of stones have long since been removed in order to convert it to a feed mill.

The mill is considered to be the oldest continuously operating water-powered mill in Ontario, although the wooden paddle wheel was replaced by a metal turbine in the early 1900's. Constructed of huge pine beams, the clapboard-covered, three-story structure rests on a field stone foundation.

The Treffry mill was not the only mill in that vicinity in those early days of the community. The first mill on the site was built in 1807 on land then owned by John Earl. There is no information concerning the fate of that mill but the land was subsequently purchased by William Cromwell.

Mr. Cromwell built numerous mills upstream and initiated much of the early business in town which was known as Cromwell Mills for a number of years.

Mr. Bullock, an Englishman, then acquired the mills and land and built the present mill in 1845. He also owned a woolen mill and a saw mill. At that time the dam was further up the river supplying the power for these mills.

The mill property later passed into the hands of E.M. Schooley who conducted a milling business until Solomon B. Lossing became the owner in 1880, then Roy Lossing, followed by a Mr. Graves of Tillsonburg who took ownership, then George Springay, followed by Reg Lossing. The mill then closed for four to five years and in 1943 Ernest Treffry purchased the mill and restored the machinery. From 1952 to the present, Lorne Treffry has been the owner.

For decades, Otterville was the fastest growing settlement in the county. It boasted numerous flourishing businesses and was the focal point of the area. With the development of the mill property in combination with the park and downtown area, it can be once again.

As a museum, the mill could provide a valuable insight into the history of an area settled on a waterway and the resulting mill-centred community.





The second string is sewn onto the curling broom by hand, as Norm Lees of Norwich demonstrates. Mr. Lees started making house brooms in 1928 but now most of his business is devoted to curling brooms.



Norm Lees removes seed from a bunch of broom corn with a special scraping machine. The four-inch spikes on the rotating barrel remove the seeds, leaving the broom fibre.



# Early days of Hawtrey, subject of S. Norwich Historical Society talk

A well attended monthly meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society was held at Woodlawn on March 12. President Bill McMullen Sr., chaired the meeting, minutes were read by Catherine Mann and correspondence was read from the ministry of culture and recreation and Ontario historical society. Joyce Pettigrew presented a rough outline of the inscription for the grist mill plaque and Lorne Treffry gave approval for the plaque to be erected on his mill property. Marj Pearce gave the treasurer's report.

Judges for the essay contest were appointed with the winners to be speakers at the May meeting.

Next regular meeting will be held Monday, April 9, at Woodlawn with Mr. Victor Moore as guest speaker.

Mrs. Muriel Gehring gave a very interesting talk on the village of Hawtrey. She had a map indicating the streets and buildings originally in Hawtrey, along with photos and school records. Mrs. Gehring stated the village of Hawtrey is situated near the extreme south-east corner of Oxford County Lot 1, Con. 11, Norwich Township and part of Norwich Gore. The name was given by the Post Office department. About 1870 the Port Huron and Port Dover Railway was constructed at the north of the village and the Canadian Southern Railway at the south. The two railroads crossed about 1½ miles east of Hawtrey and the crossing was called Port Dover junction until the Post Office department changed the name to LaSalette.

In 1812 Richard Cartwright was granted 2000 acres in the south part of Norwich Gore, smaller parts of which were later sold to the Bank of Upper Canada, John Simcoe McCauley, John Beard, Edmund Deeds, John Nickerson, Samuel Arthur, Michael O'Brian and Steven Murphy.

In 1870 Hawtrey was a thriving village with a drug store, a doctor, church, town hall, two hotels, two railway stations, two blacksmith shops, a cobbler, three livery stables, three stores, as well as a post office. The village was subdivided and registered as Plan No. 198 in April, 1876.

By the turn of the century Dr. Carter, the drug store, the cobbler and two of the stores were six of business.

The first postmaster was George Southwick (November 1, 1868 - October 4, 1881). The mail was delivered to Hawtrey by stage. In 1881 Charles J. Treffry took over the duties as postmaster, followed by Sam A. Innis until March 31, 1914, when the post office was closed. Since that time the village and district have been served by rural mail delivery from LaSalette and Otterville. Hawtrey had received and dispatched mail twice daily.

The general store remaining in the village was built by George Southwick with the post office located in same. Sam A. Innis and Harvey Innis rented the store in partnership which dissolved in 1899. George Jeny joined Sam A. Innis as partner, later Innis left Jeny only to return to buy the red brick building which he owned for 20 years and sold to Harvey Boyce. Mr. F.J. Beck bought the store in 1918 and rented it to the United Farmers of Ontario for two years. In 1920 Mr. and Mrs. J.F. Beck started keeping store until 1970 when Mrs. Beck became ill for a short time.

John Armstrong built a white brick building near Southern railway on the east side of the road. This building was used as a hotel for overnight guests and meals and whiskey were served. A ballroom in the hotel is where dances were held for many years and oyster suppers served. About 1905 the hotel was sold to Mr. McMonegal and ceased to operate when local option became law in South Norwich Township. The building was torn down and moved away in approximately 1915.

One blacksmith shop near the Southern railway was owned by G.C. Henderson. The other blacksmith shop, owned by Messrs. Thomas and John Clark with William and Arch McGregor as part-time employees, was located midway between the two railroads. Thomas Clark met an untimely death by

drowning in McKnight's pond in 1903 at the age of 59.

There were three livery stables, one owned by Mr. William Betram between the red brick store and Southern railway, one owned by John Armstrong near his hotel, and the third owned by Henry Southwick on the north-west corner of Concession 10, where he also had his hotel.

Walter Townsend was the village police and found plenty to keep him busy.

North of the old school, tent meetings were held and they were so successful it was decided to build a church which is still standing west of the store on Cecelia Street. The Church was known as the Gospel Hall and was built by the Anitia Brethren with undenominational meetings being held every Sunday evening.

The town hall, located on the north-east corner of Main and Cecelia Streets, was used by Sam Innis as a storage, stable and ice house with an auditorium on the second floor. Most of the residents attended their own church Sunday mornings but they met together in the afternoon for Sunday school with Miss Emma Treffry, and Mary Ann Treffry as teachers and Henry Sutton of the Friends Church from Milldale teaching the senior Bible class. George Southwick was the builder of the

town hall and had a shop on the second floor. The hall had a belfry with the large bell being rung at 7 a.m., noon, 1 p.m., and 6 p.m. The hall was later used as a grist mill by Mr. Beck. The mill, run by tractor, was later torn down and the Beck residence built nearby. The Canadian National Railway station was purchased by the Beck's and enlarged to be used as a sawmill, which was also powered by tractor.

The railroads were both single line tracks until 1906 when the Michigan Central R.R. added a track from Windsor to Fort Erie. This provided better freight and passenger service. The M.C.R. ran excursions to Niagara Falls, Port Stanley and Detroit and the Grand Trunk to Port Dover. The Canadian Southern R.R. changed its name to Michigan Central, to New York Central, to Penn Central, which went into bankruptcy in the 1970's and was taken over by Am track. The Grand Trunk was taken over by Canadian National and service to Hawtrey was discontinued. Between 1915-1930 farmers shipped milk to the City Dairy on the G.T.R. morning train and the young people took the train daily to Woodstock to attend Collegiate.

The mills at Hawtrey are as follows: George Carter (1851) Lot 7, Con. 11, steam mill 10 horse cutting 800,000 board feet per year, em-

ployed six men, and in 1861 Mr. Carter had two mills producing 1,500,000 board feet and employing 18 men.

Thomas Moore (1857) Lot 1, Con. 9, with two mills employed 10 and cut 280,000 board feet.

Pickle and Company saw mill (1857) located on Gore 10.

E. Pine Mire (1880) located on the present Beal Farm.

Henry Southwick Planing Mill was located in the south of the village.

Mrs. Gehring also read the report of the first meeting (August 1, 1870) held to decide on a school section No. 14, for Hawtrey as until that time children attended either No. 1 School on 8th Concession of South Norwich township or a school built on the south-east corner on the now David Arthur farm, on 10th Concession, ½ mile east of 59 Highway.

January 2, 1871, first annual meeting was held to set teachers salary, provide for expense of school by tax levy, and appoint a trustee.

January 23, 1871, a meeting of all taxpayers was held to decide site of school and another meeting was held January 30, 1871, for same purpose.

February 14, 1871, a meeting was held to decide upon a plan for the school, followed by a second meeting on March 28, 1871, with a plan outlined and builders and painters ap-

pointed. Miss McNamara was to be hired as teacher, \$16 per month without board, commence agreement from 20 June, 1871. Nancy Midgough was hired in 1872 for \$240. In 1874 the school had to be moved as it was built on railroad property. The school was moved a few hundred feet south of its original location on August 10, 1874. In 1890 a fifth class was introduced into the school. In 1891 it was decided to build a woodshed on the school. December 9, 1911, school burned and the Gospel Hall was rented for school purposes for \$2 per month. May 11, 1911, a meeting of ratepayers was held in regards to school plans and grounds. Tenders were called on August 25 and school was to be completed by October 31, 1911. Summer of 1927 saw hydro and lights installed in the school. In 1936 a new furnace was installed in the school and hot lunches were to be served. In 1945 the pupils from Hawtrey were bused to the Otterville school.

Mrs. Gehring concluded with excerpts from an old diary of the Treffry family, being one of the prominent Hawtrey residents.

Bill McMullen, Sr., thanked Muriel Gehring for her very interesting talk and the applause from those present indicated all enjoyed the evening.

Mrs. Gehring served refreshments.



Now a private residence, the school in Hawtrey went out of use in 1945 when area children were bussed to school in Otterville. The school was built in 1911, after the original school burned.



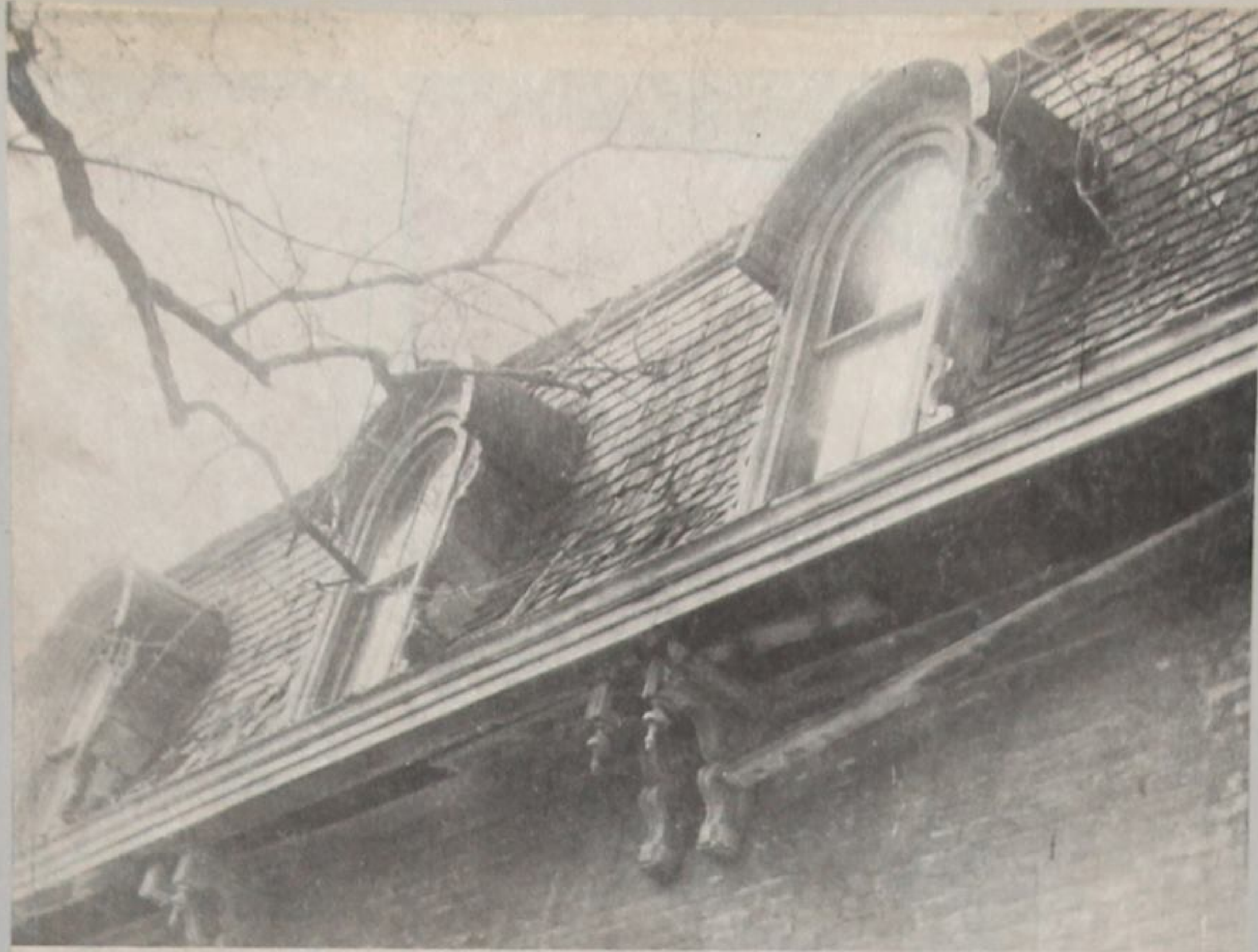


An abandoned piece of farm machinery is part of the landscape on a quiet lane in Hawtrey.



Non-denominational meetings were held each Sunday in the Gospel Hall, above. The hall was built by the Anitia Brethren.





This view of the upper south side of Beck's General Store shows the ornate carving that must have made

this one of the more elegant buildings in the village during its heyday.



Board and batten construction and carving on the porch lintels can be seen in this weathered pioneer

building in Hawtrey. The structure is located beside the general store.



# 1978 review of Otterville Park

OTTERVILLE (C) - The past year's activities in the Community Park, Otterville, were reviewed at a recent meeting of the Otterville members of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club.

The Lions park committee operates the park concessions for Norwich township, and all revenues (\$6,800) are returned for park operations.

Total expenditures to the township were \$25,300 including rebuilding the tennis court, 10 new picnic tables, four new bleachers, and pool operations.

Connie Grabstas was head lifeguard at the pool, Joanne Armstrong assistant. Guards were Christine McMullen, Darlene Smith, Wilma McMullen and Patricia White. Bathhouse attendant was Kathy Davis.

There were 183 swimming students in six different classes. Morning weekday lessons were held during July.

The Norwich-Otterville Lions Club has sponsored free buses to the pool from the Norwich, Springfield and Burgessville areas for the

past several years. The Lions Club also sponsors the annual May 24 fireworks display attended by about 2,000 persons in

1978, proceeds returning to the park, there will be a draw for a gas barbecue this May 21.

The Otterville minor ball

association has an active comprehensive program for area youth. This association assisted in resurfacing the ball diamond in 1978.

## Leisure Club hears FACS worker

OTTERVILLE (C) - Children's Services of Oxford County was the guest worker with Family and

Otterville Leisure Club which was held at the Woodlawn Adult Centre on Wednesday afternoon.

Mrs. Ward told the members about some of the areas of work in the county and of the children who are placed in foster homes who are provided with new clothing to boost their morals and set them on a par with other children, in their new community.

The Family and Children's Services try to re-establish harmonious relations in disturbed family units, by counselling and advice.

Legal proof of child abuse is necessary before C.A.S. officials can act. Teenagers are sometimes adopted by suitable foster parents, and with government assistance given the opportunity to more advanced education.

Mrs. Ward was born in Middleton Township in Norfolk County. She received her education at Courtland Public School, High School Tillsonburg, Nurses Training at St. Thomas Memorial Hospital, and following Post Graduate work at Montreal.

Mrs. Ward moved to Woodstock in 1950 and coming to C.A.S. in 1962. Her hobbies are knitting, crocheting, sewing, oil painting, gardening, furniture refinishing.

In keeping with the "Year

of the Child" a fund raising project in charge of Mrs. David Kennedy was adopted and through cash donations given by the individual members of the club more than \$100 was donated to the work of the C.A.S. and presented to Mrs. Ward by President Colin Robinson.

Mrs. Ward thanked the members for their generosity. Following this part of the program the members enjoyed games of cards and several went to the recreation room for the

game of their choice.

Prior to the social hour president Colin Robinson announced the three members who had celebrated birthdays during the month of March. These were Mr. Fred Moore, Mr. Harry Lee and Mrs. Harold Waring. Happy Birthday was sung and a social time was spent. Lunch was in charge of Mrs. Annie Pritchard, Mrs. Isabel Tincknell, and Mrs. Amie Cowie who served ice-cream and cookies.

## May dance report at Lions meet

OTTERVILLE (C) - The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the Parish Hall, Otterville Monday evening, April 23. Lion President Ron Kiddie presided. There were 39 members and two guests present.

A letter of appreciation for a recent donation to the Norwich District Youth Exchange Committee was read.

Lion Mel Smith reported upon preparations for the May dance to be held in the Norwich Community Centre, Saturday, May 12. Tickets are available from all the members.

The club will be selling \$10 tickets on a 1979 Buick Electra to be drawn for at the annual carnival, September 8.

There were reports of recent inter-club visits to both the Courtland and Langton Lions Club. There was an invitation for members to attend the annual Port Dover Lions Club Fish Fry June 8.

Two new members, Lions

Ray O'Neil and Art Vandenberghe were inducted by Lion President Ron, assisted by Lions Howard Fleming, Albert Cornwell and John Davis.

Lion Howard Fleming showed slides from the 1978 International Convention in Tokyo. The convention draw was won by Lion Andy Vandenberghe.

## Marks 89th birthday

OTTERVILLE (C) - Close friends and neighbours of Mr. Fred Welsh were entertained on Wednesday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Melville Beecroft. The event honoured Mr. Welsh who celebrated his 89th birthday April 1.

A delicious supper was served by Mr. and Mrs. Beecroft to the following guests of the evening. Mr. Welsh and Miss Vera Welsh, Mr. and Mrs. Max Avey, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cole, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Barnard, Mr. and Mrs. George Jull and Mr. and Mrs. Beecroft.

Following the dinner hour on behalf of the friends present, Mrs. Beecroft presented Mr. Welsh with a plant for which he thanked his friends.

## Rummage sale planned by W.I.

OTTERVILLE (C) - Members of Otterville Women's Institute are reminded of the April meeting to be held at the Otterville Community Hall, on Friday afternoon, April 6, at 2 p.m. This will be the annual meeting and will be preceded with a potluck dinner at noon. Members are asked to bring silverware and cups and a dish for the dinner.

Conveners are requested to have their reports ready to present.

Following the meeting, members will be receiving donations of used clothing, etc., for the rummage sale on Saturday morning, April 7 in the hall. Doors will open at 9 a.m. and close at 11 a.m.

## Otterville W.I. hold rummage sale

OTTERVILLE (C) - The annual Spring Rummage sale sponsored by the members of the Otterville Women's Institute was held in the Otterville Community Hall on Saturday morning from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. Upwards of \$150 was added to the treasury.

Mrs. Jack Walther and Mrs. Irvin Gehring were the clerks awaiting the customers. Many pieces of good used clothing were sold.

Miss Vera Welsh is the retiring president completing her two years in office for the Institute.

## Guild meets at Otterville

OTTERVILLE (C) - St. John's Anglican Guild met on Thursday, April 26 at the home of Mrs. Myrtle Riste.

There were seven members and one visitor answered the roll call. President Mrs. Violet Howse opened the meeting with prayer "Come Ye to the Lord's House" and all repeated "The Lord's Prayer."

Mrs. Dorothy Durkee read an article on "Meditation."

The minutes were read and approved and correspondence dealt with. Treasurer Winnie McMullen gave her report.

The lunch was discussed for the church get-together on May 16. The next meeting will be held at the Parish Hall May 10 when Mrs. E. Strudwick will be the hostess. The meeting closed with prayer, and a social hour continued.

OTTERVILLE (C) - The business meeting of the Otterville Leisure Club was held at the Woodlawn Adult Centre on Wednesday afternoon.

President Colin Robinson presided and the meeting opened with the singing of "O Canada" with Mrs. Nate McMullen at the piano.

In the absence of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Cole, who are treasurer and secretary of the club the minutes of the previous meetings were read by Mrs. Max Avey who acted as secretary.

The members were reminded of the invitation which they had received from the Waterford group inviting them to a dinner meeting on April 23 at 12:30. Members of the Leisure Club were asked to assist with the program.

The Zone meeting No. 3 will be held at Burford May 16.

It was decided that new music books be purchased for the club and also a lamp for the piano.

Due to wintry weather conditions, the social committee Mrs. Annie Pritchard and Mrs. Evelyn Waring served refreshments early in the afternoon for a brief social hour.

## CHURCH NEWS

OTTERVILLE UNITED Church service began for this Sunday, April 8, with the organ prelude by Mrs. Brad Kempston and Call to Worship by Rev. Earl D. Moore.

Scripture lessons were read from Acts 1: 6-11 and St. Luke 19: 28-44.

In a talk to the children, who remained in the church for this Palm Sunday, Mr. Moore explained to them what communion is. Communion is the partaking of bread and wine or grape juice, which are symbols of Christ's body and blood, which he shed for us, that we might have eternal life.

The sermon was entitled "The Choice of the Disciples."

The choir performed two enjoyable numbers this Sunday. The second song was a duet by Miss Joanne Thompson and Miss Carolyn Hanson.

A communion service followed. *Apr 8/79*

- Otterville U.C.W. Easter Thankoffering April 19, 8 p.m. Mrs. Hevner is guest speaker.

- April 22 Covenant Players, Otterville at 11:15.

- Christian Family Sunday, May 13. The Sacrament of Infant Baptism will be observed.



# Mrs. Murray Treffry heads Otterville WI

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mrs. Murray Treffry was named president of the Otterville Branch of the Women's Institute at the annual meeting which was held in the Community Hall, Otterville on Friday, April 6.

Other officers for the two year term will be: past president, Miss Vera Welsh; president, Mrs. Murray Treffry; first vice-president, Mrs. Harry Pickersgill; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Jack Walther; district director, Miss Vera Welsh; alternate, Mrs. Mel Beecroft; branch directors, Mrs. Irvin Gehring, Mrs. Max Avey and Mrs. Ernest Pettigrew. Press officer is Mrs. Harold Waring.

Conveners of standing committees: agriculture, Mrs. Irvin Gehring; consumer affairs, Mrs. David Kennedy; cultural affairs,

Miss Vera Welsh; world affairs, Mrs. Mel Beecroft; resolutions, Mrs. Murray Downing; family affairs, Mrs. Ivan Leitch; citizenship, Mrs. Harold Durkee; cards and flowers, Mrs. Harold Waring; education, Mrs. Lorne Treffry; Canadian industries, Mrs. William A. McMullen.

Social committee, Mrs. Bruce Barnard, Mrs. William A. McMullen and Mrs. Harry Pickersgill; curator, Mrs. Fred Cole; auditors, Mrs. Earle Petch and Mrs. W.L. Addison; nominating committee, Miss Vera Welsh and Mrs. Irvin Gehring.

During the business hour it was decided that a two-minute talk on the Canadian provinces be given by the convener of that meeting starting with British

Columbia which will be given at the September meeting.

Mrs. Mel Beecroft gave a report on the Spring board meeting which was held at Springford.

Announcement was made of the bus trip which will be convened by Mrs. Murray Downing in June. The bus trip will be to the Adelaide Hoodless Home on June 7. The bus fare will be \$3.50 and those wishing to go should contact Mrs. Downing with your fare before April 30.

The May meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Bruce Barnard on May 11 at 2 p.m. The guest speaker will be from the Arthritic Society, and will be convened by Mrs. Ivan Leitch.

The meeting was preceded with a potluck dinner in the hall and following the noonday meal the members

busied themselves preparing for the rummage sale which was held the next day and was very successful.

## UCW theme on year of child

OTTERVILLE (C) — A well attended Easter Thank-offering meeting of the Otterville United Church Women was held in the church parlours. Guests from other local congregations shared the presentation by Mrs. D. Hevenor of Tillsonburg.

The theme of the meeting was the "International Year of the Child."

Mrs. Melville Beecroft, president, welcomed all the members and guests and gave an introducing reading "I Am the Child."

Mrs. Ruth Colver read a poem "May You Climb, Till Your Dream Comes True." Mrs. Jack Walther sang a solo "Morning Has Broken" and was accompanied by her daughter Miss Trudy Walther at the piano.

Mrs. William Hanson gave the devotional, stressing the spring time meaning of the new beginning and a reference to prayer in an election year for guidance in voting.

Mrs. Hevenor prefaced her talk by explaining the sources of information and the meaning of the "International Year of the Child."

To consider those less fortunate and to have faith and hope for all children. Also were included stories of the children of the Bible, the trials, persecutions, and the miracles performed by Jesus, whose whole life showed concern for the children. The final portion of her theme was a pictorial of the hymn "All Things Bright and Beautiful" with demonstrative slides for each verse as it was sung by her daughter.

Mrs. Jim Squance thanked Mrs. Hevenor and presented her with a book about the Township of Norwich, "With Mortar and Pine."

Mrs. Earl Moore offered the Benediction and the group were invited to have a social hour mingling with the guests present from St. John's Anglican, Otterville Baptist, Local Catholic Women, Springford and New Road United. All left with a greater appreciation of the gift of all children of the world.

Announcement was made of the Spring Bazaar in Otterville United Church on April 27, also a Thankoffering service in the St. John's Anglican Church in May.

## St. John's Church Club plans coming events

The April meeting of the St. John's Church Club, Otterville was held at the home of Evelyn Picknell with ten present.

The meeting opened with prayer by the President Violet House, and Scripture by Eva Deveney.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by secretary Florence Saunders, and treasurer's report by Eva Deveney.

Upcoming events were discussed and plans made for euchre in the parish hall, Wednesday, April 25 at 8 p.m. Turkey Supper April 29, from 4 to 7 p.m.

Rummage Sale evening of May 11, 7-9 p.m. and morning May 12, 9-11 a.m.

The ladies of St. John's Church are holding a Friendship Night, May 16 to which all ladies of the village are invited. Speaker being arranged for.

Get well cards to be sent to Mrs. Lottie Armstrong and Richard Picknell, both in hospital.

Juanita Deroo was welcomed as a new member.

The meeting closed with prayer by the president and lunch and a social hour was enjoyed.

### JAMES ALBERT LAWRENCE

James Albert Lawrence, formerly of Otterville, passed away at Woodingford Lodge, Woodstock, on Saturday, April 7, 1979, in his 92nd year.

His wife, the former Florence Haley, predeceased him.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Frank (Alta) Irwin of Collingwood, Mrs. Charles (Marjorie) Hopkins of Hamilton; three sons, Carman Lawrence of Tillsonburg, Murray Lawrence of Cambridge and Stanley Lawrence of Toronto; 15 grandchildren; and 22 great-grandchildren.

Resting at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service will be held Tuesday, April 10, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Merrill James of St. Paul's United Church, Tillsonburg.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

A memorial service will be conducted by Tecumseh Lodge, No. 182 tonight (Monday) at 8 o'clock at the Funeral Home.

### ALBERT LAWRENCE OTTERVILLE (C) —

Funeral service for the late Albert Lawrence who passed away at Woodingford Lodge, Woodstock on Saturday, April 7, 1979 was held from the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home on Tuesday at 2 p.m. Rev. Merrill James, Minister of St. Paul's United Church, Tillsonburg conducted the service. Mrs. William A. McMullen was the pianist.

Pallbearers were Edward Moore, Charter Davis, Fred Hill, Fred Moore, Carl Howse and Don Chisholm.

Interment was in the Otter Cemetery, Otterville. Memorial services were conducted by the OES on Sunday at 8 p.m. and by the IOOF on Monday at 8 p.m. The late Mr. Lawrence was a member of both organizations.

### THOMAS EARLE PETCH

Thomas Earle Petch of Otterville passed away in the Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Tuesday, April 10, 1979 in his 80th year.

Born at Markham, Ontario, he was the son of the late William Petch and Elizabeth Eckhart.

The late Mr. Petch was a retired CNR station agent coming from Maundamin, Ontario to Otterville in 1943. He was an agent for 47 years.

Mr. Petch was a member of the St. John's Masonic Lodge 104 and of the Otterville United Church.

Surviving are his wife, the former Edith Painter; one daughter, Mrs. Don (Naureen) Brodie of St. Agatha; three sons, Dr. Howard Petch and Bill Petch, both of Victoria, B.C., and Donald Petch of Ancaster; nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by a sister, Mrs. Eva McClintock.

Funeral service for the late Thomas Earle Petch was held from the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville on Friday afternoon at 2 p.m.

The service was conducted by Rev. Earle Moore, Minister of Otterville United Church. Mrs. William A. McMullen was the pianist.

Memorial donations were to the Heart Foundation, Canadian Cancer Society, Diabetic Association, Gideon Bible, Otterville United Church and Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital.

Pallbearers were Trevor Brodie, Merlin Upton, George Chisholm, Lloyd Peat, George Davis and Gordon Leonard.

Interment was in the Otter Cemetery, Otterville.



Isabel Harris, Dorothy Neal, Orris Beecroft, Lorraine Downing and Anna Treffrey with one of the many quilts on display at the Otterville United Church Spring Bazaar on April 27. /79



# Happy Bluebird Club

OTTERVILLE (C) - Mrs. George McElhone was hostess at her home on Main St., Otterville on Tuesday evening to the members of the Happy Bluebird Club.

The members welcomed the president, Mrs. Daisy Ash, who has been a shut-in for several weeks.

The meeting opened with the Housewives' Creed, followed with "The Lord's Prayer." The Happy Bluebird song was sung after which minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mrs. Jenny Mitchell and thank-you notes were read. Mrs. Ash thanked the members for the plant which was sent to her.

The Bluebird Club was organized 31 years ago and the members decided a special night should be held. Suggestions were given as to place, and Woodlawn Adult Centre, Otterville was chosen. The date will be Saturday, April 28 at 6:30 p.m. for a potluck supper. A variety program will be presented during the evening.

The members enjoyed several games of cards after which the hostess was assisted by the members serving lunch. The President, Mrs. Ash, expressed appreciation to Mrs. McElhone and her assistants.

## Bluebirds celebrate

### 31st anniversary

1979

OTTERVILLE (C) - More than 30 members, former members and friends met at the Woodlawn Adult Centre on Saturday evening, April 28, to celebrate another birthday for the Happy Bluebird Club since it's organization 31 years ago.

The club honoured Mrs. Hildred Hurley of Tillsonburg who was present for the evening and who helped at the time of forming the club.

The president, Mrs. Daisy Ash, introduced Mrs. Hurley and gave a short history of the club's meeting and social activities.

At 7 p.m. all sat down to a well laden table of potluck which was convened by Mrs. John Pritchard. The dinner was finished with a treat of birthday cake in honor of the club.

Following the supper hour a pleasant time was spent looking at the Bluebird scrap book which was compiled by the president. Many memories were brought to mind.

There was an interesting program and the president welcomed all who came and a special welcome to those assisting on the program.

Included on the program were Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Smallman of Norwich playing piano duets. Readings by Mrs. George Lowe, Mrs. James Squance and Mrs. Clarence Morris. Mrs. Annie Pritchard and Mr. James Squance gave humourous jokes. Mrs. Harold Waring gave a

whistling selection of numbers accompanied by Mrs. Nate McMullen at the piano. A selection of numbers on the harmonica was given by Mrs. Harry Lee. Nancy and Robert Davis sang a duet "Jesus Loves Me" and "Name the Capital" and Nancy Davis sang "Jesus Bids Us Shine" and was accompanied at the piano by Mr. Smallman.

This concluded the program. Books were passed around and with Mr. Smallman at the piano, a hearty sing-song was enjoyed. This finished off with "Good Night Ladies."

Mrs. Waring invited the members to her home for the May meeting when the members of the Milldale group will have charge.

# Historical Society selects officers

OTTERVILLE (C) - South Norwich Historical Society met at Woodlawn Adult Centre on April 9th, 1979 with a good attendance. President Bill McMullen Sr. opened the meeting and Catherine Mann read minutes.

A special thank you note was expressed to The Tillsonburg News for taking photos to coincide with the Hawtreay story submitted.

Treasurer's report was presented by Marjorie Pearce and Joyce Pettigrew and excerpts from Mrs. Daisy's letter.

Ed Moore, chairman of the nominating committee, presented the following slate of officers for 1979. Past president, Bill McMullen Sr.; president, Rick Singer; vice president, Lorne Treffry; recording secretary, Catherine Mann; correspondence secretary, Joyce Pettigrew; treasurer, Marjorie Pearce; directors: one year, Fred Lounsbury and Mac Hicks; two year, Muriel Gehring and Ron Brayley; three year, Doreen Mountain and Delmer Clinton.

Membership, Nina Hicks and Evelyn Waring; program, Juanitta Deroo, Bill McMullen Sr. and Fred

Pearce; newsletter, Joyce Pettigrew, Bill McMullen Sr. and Ed Moore; food booth, Fred Lounsbury, convener.

President Singer presided over the remainder of the meeting. Boyd Little reported on the May meeting.

Ken Mann introduced the guest speaker Mr. Vic Moore of Burgessville.

Mr. Moore is an employee

of the North Norwich Telephone system and displayed a small portion of his glass telephone and telegraph insulators which he collects as a hobby.

Mr. Mann thanked Mr. Moore for his very interesting talk and presented him with a small token of appreciation.

Convener Catherine Mann served refreshments.



RR 1, Otterville

1 1/2 storey with barn and fish pond. *Glenn Belmont*

Dover St., Otterville

Beautiful home with two car garage plus workshop. M.L.S.

## \$7,000 coin collection stolen at Otterville

TILLSONBURG (Bureau) - Provincial police here are investigating the theft of a coin collection valued at \$7,000 which was taken from a private home in Otterville Sunday. *Apr 29/79*

Police said Monday the theft happened during the afternoon while the occupants were away. The thief is believed to have broken into the home through a back door. Police, who did not release the name of the victim, said the collection is not insured. *J. G. Barrett*

## Letters to the Editor

Sir: Norwich Township as restructured with the new regional government, stretching from the southern outskirts of Woodstock in the north to the northern outskirts of Delhi to the south, has within its confines a number of special features, among them is the beautiful, natural park on the banks of Otter Pond and Otter Creek, at the northern edge of the charming village of Otterville. It was only natural, after living more than three score years in the vicinity of its playground of youthful years, that one would feel the need of refreshing the memory of those years, so much so, as to introduce its charm to grandchildren.

Thus it was recently as we proceeded to enter the unique foot bridge as an entrance to the wooden area, we were chagrined, disappointed, and saddened to find the entrance gate, padlocked and bolted to disallow any visitors, any out of doors enjoyment in the daylight hours of 8 a.m. to sundown.

Meeting at this gate, were other visitors from London with children to join children from Toronto. The question naturally was "why such a

situation?" the answer, vandalism of park facilities was so severe, it forced those in charge to take this protective measure.

A natural question follows. How long must the public continue to pay a penalty, as a result of mischief and irresponsible misbehavior on the part of others who have no sense of value of expensive units? What steps are being taken to influence such actions for improvement. World renowned food scientists declare, boldly, as the result of extensive research, man is what he eats and drinks. His thinking, his actions are determined in this way, they continue to expand this theory, that sugar, wherever found is toxic to the nervous system of man, they continue to say that the primary culprits in such actions are the products of the brewing industry, together with all derivatives of the coffee and coco beans. How long will it take for society to learn this lesson, that man thinks and acts in relation to his food and drink intake?

Sam A. Innis  
"Sunnyside"  
Norwich



Past-presidents at the Happy Bluebirds anniversary held Saturday, April 28 at Woodlawn in Otterville. Left to right, Annie Pritchard, Lillian Morris, Katie Pearce. Front row, Daisy Ash and Bertha Lee. *Apr 28/79*



# Council

## to pay

### for hole

*Apr 7/79*  
Township of Norwich council agreed to pay \$168 to Otter Contracting for digging a hole at the East Oxford dump site, but refused a \$50 bill for moving equipment to the site.

Mel Smith, of Otter Contracting, appeared in council during Monday's session and told council that he did not wish to be hired for any other work.

"I don't need this aggravation," he said. "Nobody knows what's going on."

Confusion arose over whether or not Mr. Smith had been authorized to dig the hole at the site. He said he had visited the site with Councillors Robert Pettigrew and Hardee Richardson.

Mayor Burn asked Smith who had instructed him to dig the hole, and he replied that Councillor Pettigrew did.

This was denied by Councillor Pettigrew.

"I told you not to go," he said. "You asked to go up there. You were after the job."

Mr. Smith mentioned other instances when problems had arisen in doing township work. He cited the example of a job involving his sewer cleaner last spring.

"I was the fall guy on that one," he said.

Mayor Burn stated that these problems were a "two way street."

"Do you think Mel Smith is always right?" he asked.

Mr. Smith stated at one point that he didn't want the \$50 in question.

"Just wipe the bill clean," he said.



Canada Post  
Postes Canada

Otterville, Ontario  
NOJ 1R0

24 April 1979

Lock Box Customers

Otterville, Ontario

NOJ 1R0

Effective 7th. May 1979 Lock Box Lobby hours at the Otterville, Ontario Post Office will be:

7.00 A.M. to 6.00 P.M. - Monday to Friday

7.00 A.M. to 1.00 P.M. - Saturday

Closed - Sundays and Holidays

#### Important

Any Lock Box customers who wish to have access to their Lock Box 24 hours a day, 7 days a week may apply to the Postmaster for a key to the Lock Box Lobby door.

A deposit of \$1.00 is required and will be refunded on return of the key.

*C. Furlong*

C. Furlong  
Postmaster

Use your postal code. Indiquez le code postal.

## 3¢ April postal rate hike

*1979*  
You'll have to add three more cents after April 1 to the pile of change it takes to mail a letter in Canada.

Postal rates will go up April 1 to 17 cents from 14 cents for first class letters and post cards mailed to Canadian and U.S. addresses. Third class mail, including greeting cards, will cost 15 cents to mail, up from 12 cents.

Tillsonburg Postmaster Ken Gagnon anticipates a heavier load of mail, but not necessarily due to a rush of people mailing before the rates go up. March and April are traditionally heavy months at the post office, with income tax returns and Easter Seal mail being posted.

Some businesses which normally send out bills between the first and the tenth are mailing early, however.

"A lot of businesses which normally bill between the first and the tenth will mail before or up to Saturday," he said.

There is some good news to offset the rate increase. About 130 households in the Tillsonburg area will receive home mail delivery in the near future, part of an across-Canada extension of service to 153,000 homes announced by Postmaster-General Gilles Lamontagne Wednesday.

The extension will cost the government an estimated \$15 million and will create about 800 new letter carrier jobs. The

government's freeze on home delivery, started in 1975, will be lifted, Mr. Lamontagne announced two weeks ago. The freeze prohibited any extension of letter carrier delivery beyond existing routes, meaning residents in new subdivisions and suburban areas received their mail through general delivery or in group delivery boxes.

## Echoes of other years

### Postage soars up to 5¢

April 1 — 7

25 YEARS AGO — 1954  
POSTAGE UP — On April 1, the postal rate for out-of-town letters increased from four to five cents. Rate for local delivery became four cents. New series of stamps marked the occasion.

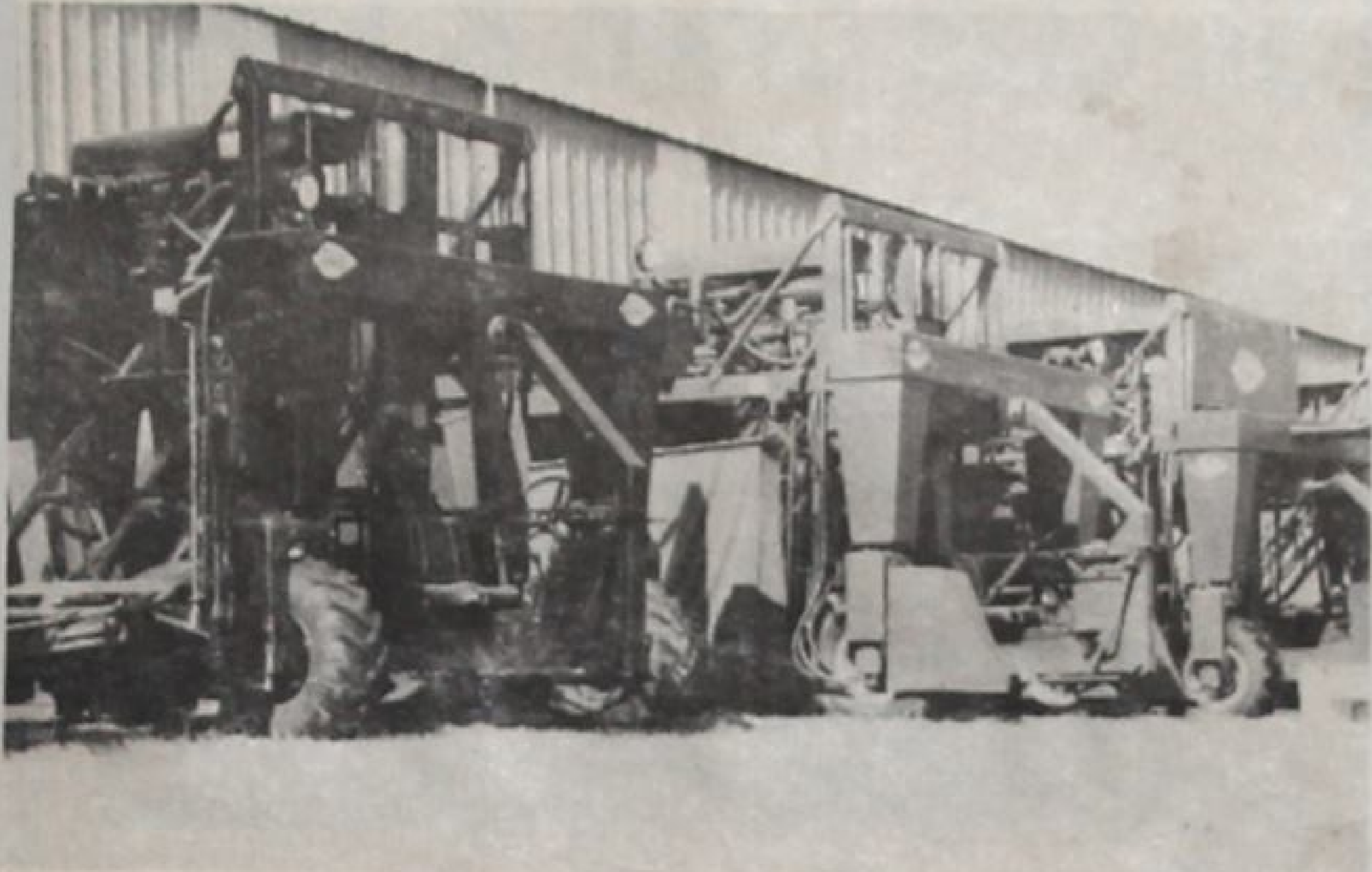




The Otterville Mill was built in 1845 and is operated by Lorne Treffry. Although it was changed to a metal

turbine in 1910, it is still operated by water provided by the Otter Creek.

Page 14 THE NORWICH GAZETTE April 11, 1979



Tobacco farming equipment at Powell Agri-Systems in Otterville. The firm has recently completed a major expansion and is one of Otterville's main industries.



St. John's Anglican Church on a sunny afternoon in Otterville.

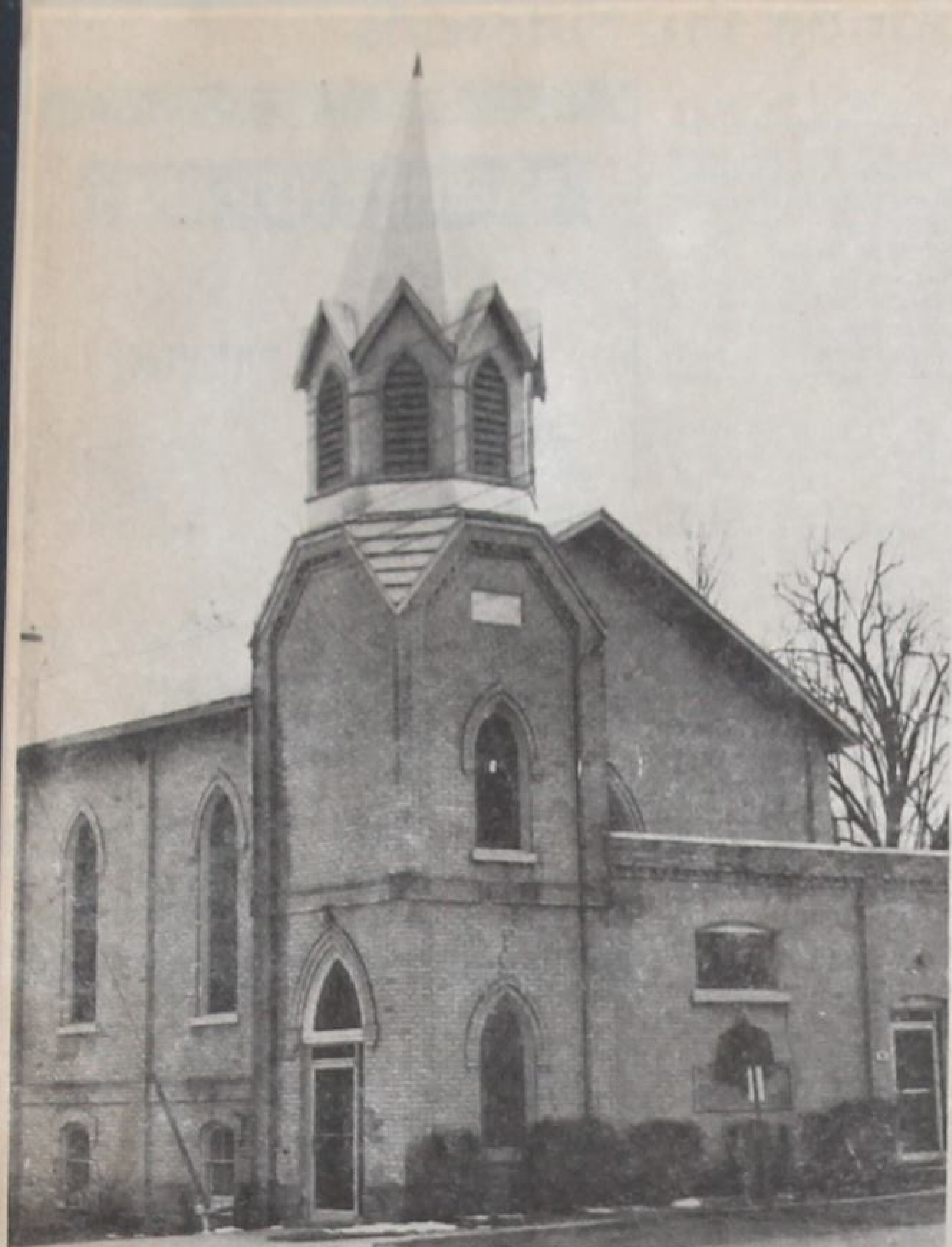


Both families are pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of Jill Laura Nadine, daughter of Mr. Morris Farrell and the late Eva Farrell to Richard Lee, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Richardson. Ceremony to be held May 4, 6:30 p.m. at Norwich United Church.



Fellowship Baptist Church in Otterville, during recent wintry weather.





Otterville United Church is located at the eastern end of the village of Otterville.

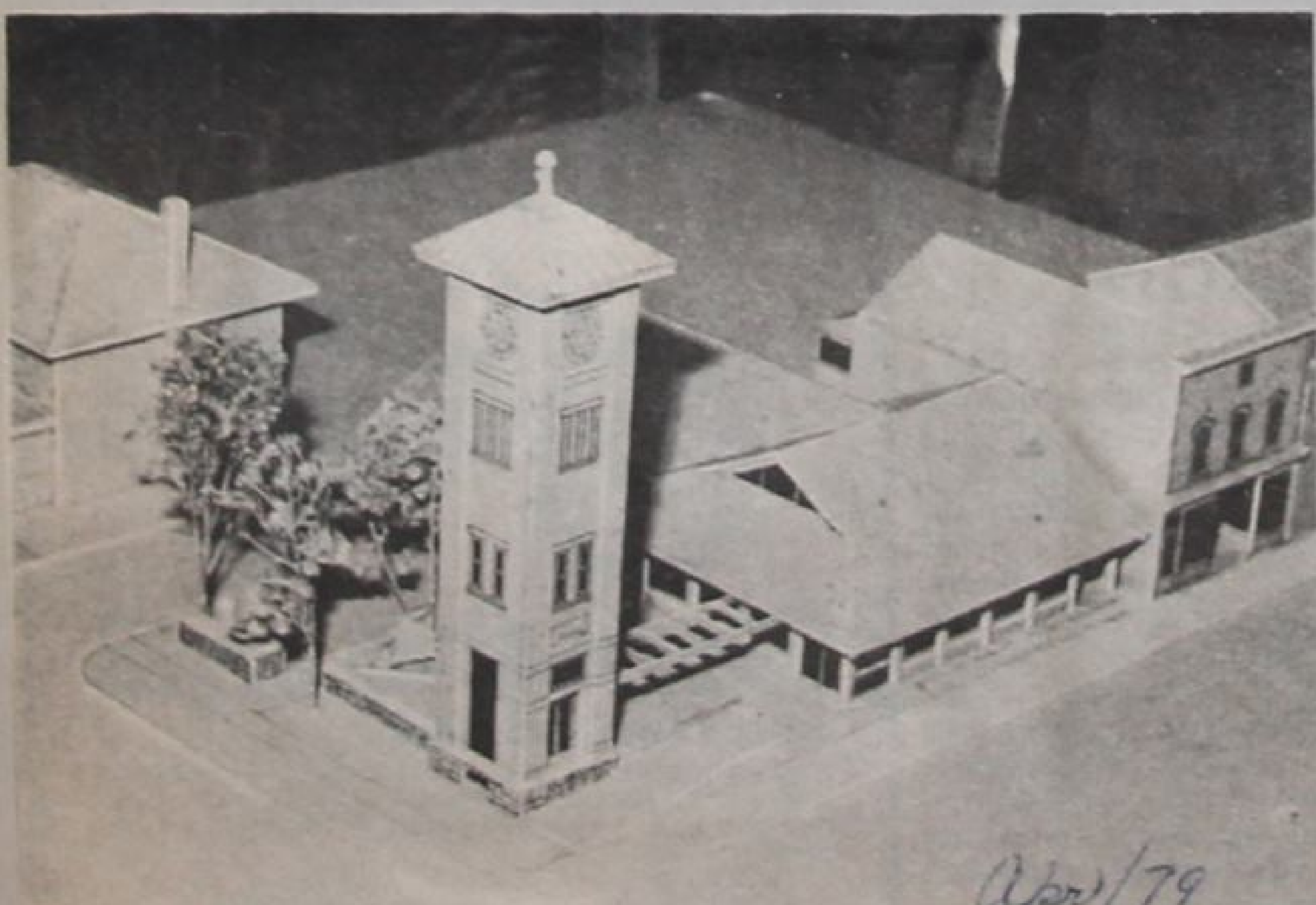
*Apr 11/79*



This Royal Bank was originally built as "Paxton's Bank," in 1893 by Robert Paxton on Main Street in Otterville.



Laura Hooker, right, received this plaque signed by Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau to honor her service with the Otterville Post Office. On the left is Postmistress Catherine Furlong. Mrs. Hooker received the plaque for 12 years service, but will still be employed by the post office. "I'm going to keep on with my mail route," she said.



A "study model" of the plan for the new Norwich post office. The plan retains the old tower, but it is detached from the new building. Federal public works officials said the plan will provide an efficient office for postal operations, and blend with the existing streetscape.

*Apr 79*

## CABBAGE PATCH

Home Crafts



• Macrame • Home Made Quilts • Doll Clothes • Home Made Wood Carvings • Stuffed Animals • Pillows • Afghans • Home Made Tables, Bars, etc. Plus Many More Gift Giving Items.

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\*\*ATTENTION \*\* OPEN WEDNESDAY NIGHT BECAUSE OF, GOOD FRIDAY

# JANNY'S SUPERIOR

EFFECTIVE WED. p.m. - SATURDAY APRIL 14, 1979 OTTERTVILLE 879-6592

STOKELY'S Fancy HONEY POD PEAS 14oz 29¢ reg 45¢	TANG ORANGE CRYSTALS 650g \$1.44 reg 1.99
STOKELY'S Fancy CORN shelled, 14oz kernel 12oz 29¢ reg 47¢	MAXWELL HOUSE Instant COFFEE 10oz \$4.92 reg 5.99
MAPLE LEAF Canned Hams cut 1/2 lb \$3.49 reg 4.69	SCOTT Towels 1PLY cst. 2's 99¢ reg 1.19

CARNATION COFFEE MATE 16oz \$1.49	CARNATION INSTANT MILK 3lb \$4.09
FRENCH'S PREPARED MUSTARD 16oz 55¢	ALCAN H.D. FOIL WRAP 18"x25' \$1.33
CAMPBELL'S CHICKEN NOODLE SOUP 19oz 3/88¢	CHRISTIES P.P. CRACKERS plain, salted 450g 89¢
OCEAN SPRAY CRANBERRY SAUCE jellied, whole 14oz 65¢	MONARCH ALL PURPOSE FLOUR 3.5kg \$2.19
TIP TOP SALTED MIXED NUTS TINS 350g \$1.49	GAINES DOG MEAL 1kg \$6.59
BROWN BEAR CREAMED HONEY 2lb \$2.29	PALMOLIVE LIQUID DETERGENT 32oz \$1.49
PALMOLIVE HAND SOAP reg. 3's 99¢	CHEF BOY-R-D CHEESE PIZZA 818g \$1.59
DOLE PINEAPPLE IN JUICE assorted 19oz 69¢	WELCH'S PRUNE NECTAR 40oz \$1.39

RED ROSE O.P. TEA BAGS 120's \$3.49	KELLOGG'S BRAN FLAKES 600g 99¢
LYSOL SPRAY AIR FRESHENER 185g \$1.19	GLOXY 2 RUG CLEANER 22oz \$2.29
LIBBY'S ALPHAGETTI, SPAGHETTI, ZOODLES 14oz 49¢	

\*\*\*\*\*

As the new proprietors of JANNY'S SUPERIOR STORE, we would like to thank you for the warm welcome you have given to us and to our family since we arrived in Otterville.

We hope to get to know you personally in the near future, and ask you to make yourselves acquainted with us as you shop in our store.

We shall endeavour to serve you, our customers, to the best of our ability with fair prices and quality products.

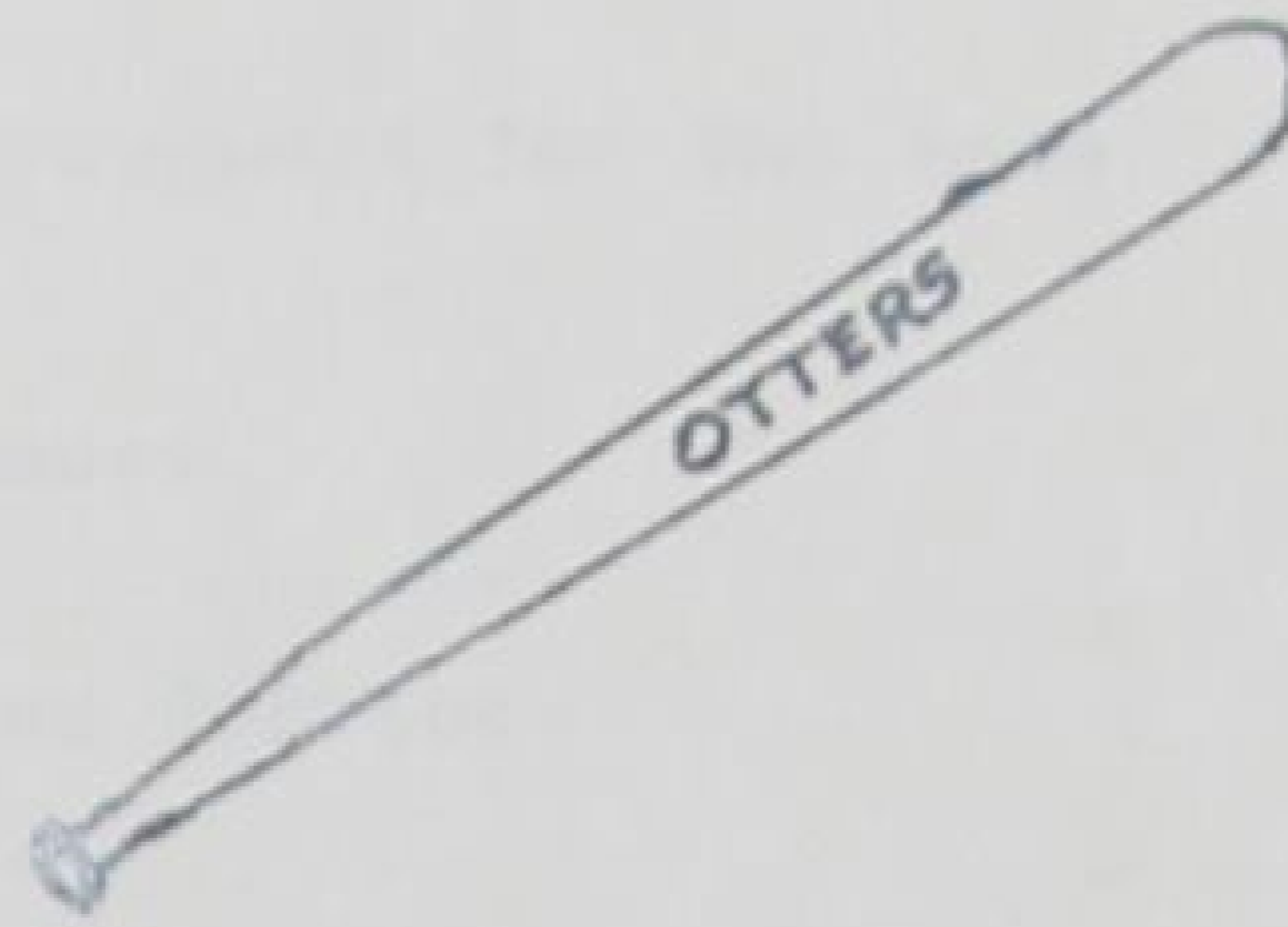
Sincerely,  
GRACE AND GEORGE THORNE  
and family

PRODUCE	
LETTUCE each	45¢
ENGLISH CUCUMBERS each	59¢
CARROTS 2lb bag	49¢
DELICIOUS APPLES 3lb bag	\$1.09

BURN'S	
3-PAK LUNCHEON MEAT 1 LB	\$1.49
SIDE BACON 1b	\$1.49
DINNER HAMS f.c. 1b	\$2.28
HALF HAMS 1/2-bone f.c. 1b	\$2.18
HAMS whole, 1/2shank 1b	\$1.45



INTRODUCING THE OTTERVILLE  
INTERMEDIATE BALL CLUB!!!!



Come out and support the 1979 edition of the all new Otterville Otters. The team is entered in the North Oxford Intermediate Softball League with Bright, Burgessville, Embro, Innerkip, Hickson, Oxford Centre, and Princeton.

On Friday evening, June 8th , and all day Saturday June 9th an Intermediate Softball Tournament will be held in the Otterville Park, eight teams will be competing for cash prizes.

Tickets for a 50-50 draw are now available from any team member or executive. The draw will be made Saturday, June 9th, at the tournament.

In addition to regular season play the Otters will be entered in the Ontario Regional Playdowns, dates to be announced at a later time.

The OTTERVILLE OTTERS:

Coach; Bob Rachar, Manager; Richard Picknell.

Players; Dave Felder, Bob Furlong, Lynn Gehring, Roy King,  
Frank Kozuch, Dick Learn, Colby Miller, Pat Pinnoy,  
Pierre Pinnoy, Gary Rachar, C.D. Richardson,  
Randy Ryder, Gary Walters, John Walther, Joe Webb.

Executive; Bob Butler, Colin Cope, Tim Moore.



The following sponsors have shown support for the team and the executive.

Adam Oliver Insurance.  
Best Weigh Scale.  
Chapples Mobile Feed Service.  
Cope Home Hardware.  
Davis Brothers Plumbing.  
DeWachter Electric.  
Finch's Pro Hardware.  
Forsyth Plumbing & Heating.  
Groeneveld's Garage.  
Janny's Groceries Ltd.  
Lion's Park.  
McMullen's Machine Shop.  
Nelson Gleason, Funeral Home.  
Otter Contracting.  
Otter Lumber Co.  
Otterville Heating Service.  
Powell Agri-Systems.  
Royal Bank.  
Speedy Electric.

For your convenience we have attached a copy of the regularly scheduled games.

We welcome you to our games and hope you enjoy the season.



OTTERVILLE OTTERS 1979 SCHEDULE

Tuesday	MAY 15	Otterville AT Innerkip	AWAY
Friday	" 18	Burgessville AT Otterville	HOME
Tuesday	" 22	Otterville AT Princeton	AWAY
Friday	" 25	Oxford Centre AT Otterville	HOME
Friday	June 1	Bright AT Otterville	HOME
Tuesday	" 5	Otterville AT New Dundee	AWAY
Friday	" 8	Hickson AT Otterville	HOME ( Cancelled )
Tuesday	" 12	Otterville AT Embro	AWAY
Thursday	" 14	Otterville AT Hickson	AWAY
Friday	" 15	Innerkip AT Otterville	HOME
Tuesday	" 19	Otterville AT Oxford Centre	AWAY
Friday	" 22	Embro AT Otterville	HOME
Sunday	" 24	Princeton AT Otterville	HOME
Friday	July 6	New Dundee AT Otterville	HOME
Friday	" 13	Otterville AT Burgessville	AWAY
Sunday	" 15	Princeton AT Otterville	HOME
Sunday	" 29	Innerkip AT Otterville	HOME
Thursday	Aug 2	Otterville AT Embro	AWAY
Thursday	" 9	Otterville AT Oxford Centre	AWAY
Sunday	" 12	Bright AT Otterville	HOME
Tuesday	" 14	Otterville AT Burgessville	AWAY
Friday	" 17	Hickson AT Otterville	HOME
Tuesday	" 21	Otterville AT New Dundee	AWAY
Thursday	" 23	Otterville AT Bright	AWAY

\*\* ALL GAMES TO START AT 8:30 P.M..

NOTE: On June 8th & 9th Otterville Otters will be holding their first annual ball tournament at the Otterville Lions Park. Plan to attend, bring your family and friends.

Thank you,  
Otterville Otters Ball Club.



# Otterville anniversary celebrated

1979

OTTERVILLE (C) — Otterville Baptist Church celebrated its 121st Anniversary on Sunday, May 6, with a good attendance at both morning and evening services. Two former Pastors were present for the occasion. Rev. and Mrs. Walter Nicholls of Downsview, Ont. and Rev. and Mrs. Donald R. Gorrie of Woodstock, Ont.

Former members and friends were welcome from various other churches. Mr. Bruce Stover, Chairman of the Board of Deacons was in charge of both services with Mrs. Wilma Butler as pianist.

Rev. George McAlpine of Toronto, a representative of Evangelical Alliance Mission and formerly a Missionary in the Chad, was the guest speaker for both services.

In the morning service he preached from the first chapter of Haggi asking the question "Why was this Church Built?" It was that Jesus Christ might be glorified as the Word as preached and taught, pointing out that people must be dedicated to God's plan to trust God for the next week if they expect growth and blessing. In the evening service Rev. McAlpine spoke from Numbers 13: 17-55, the account of the report of Moses of the spies who were sent to Canaan. Ten with an unfavourable report, and two willing to trust God for

the victory. Mr. McAlpine titled his message "Grapes, Giants, and Grasshoppers." The promised land of plenty were offered by God to the people, but they listened to the 10 spies instead of God's report from the two spies who trusted Him. Today as then we must go forward with God - be quiet, listen for His voice and be quick to obey His voice.

Special music for the day was provided by Mr. and Mrs. John Pettit and family of Bancroft. Their family orchestra consisting of Mrs. Helen Pettit, piano; Miss Ruth Pettit, first violin; Keith Pettit, second violin; Gordon Pettit, viola and Allan Pettit, cello, rendered two musical packages in the morning service - "A Shelter In The Time of Storm" and "O How Wonderful" and three packages at the evening service "The Last Mile of The Way," "Revive Us Again," and "Assurance March."

Mrs. Ruth Pettit rendered two violin solos accompanied by her mother Mrs. Helen Pettit at the morning service "I Will Pilot Thee" and at the evening service "Because He Lives." Following the evening service a fellowship hour was held in the Sunday School room and lunch was served by Mrs. Hilda Stockmans, Mrs. John Hansford and Mrs. Brian Davis.

The church and Sunday

School room were beautifully decorated with spring flowers.

## Otterville Personals 1979

Mrs. Harold Waring, Otterville 879-6455

OTTERVILLE (C) — Rev. and Mrs. George McAlpine were weekend guests with Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Stover of RR 2, Tillsonburg.

Mr. and Mrs. John Pettit, Ruth, Allan, Keith, Gordon and Marilyn were dinner guests with Mr. and Mrs. Charter Davis and supper guests with Mrs. Wilma Butler.

Rev. and Mrs. Walter Nicholls of Downsview were weekend guests with Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hill and dinner guests Saturday evening with Mrs. Harold Waring.

The Women's Missionary Fellowship of the Baptist Church held their May meeting at the home of Mrs. Murray Treffry. The president, Mrs. Bruce Stover, gave the call to worship from Isaiah 66:3. "As one whom his mother comforteth so will I comfort you" pointing out that as a child goes to his mother, so God's children can always go to Him in every circumstance.

Missionary letters were read from Rev. and Mrs. Roy Hiron and Dr. Hazel Wigglesworth. Mrs. Hilda Stockmans offered the missionary prayer.

An invitation to attend the special missionary meeting of the North Broadway Baptist Church Ladies was accepted. Plans were made

for a special meeting to be held at the church on Tuesday evening, June 5, and invitations were to be sent to the ladies of the neighbouring churches. Mrs. Mary Veltman of Springford writer of the weekly newspaper column "Hand in Hand with Christ," is to be the guest speaker.

Mrs. Paul Hill was in charge of the devotional program and gave a few thoughts on "Mothers - Partners with God." Mrs. Fred Hill read the Scripture lesson from 1st Samuel 1-28, the account of Hannah, the praying mother who gave her child to God for His service. Mrs. John Hansford gave a reading "A Mother's Prayer." Mrs. Earl Cooper of Courtland was the guest speaker and brought a very inspiring message on "The Christian Home." God instituted the home and in His word find the rules and guide lines for a successful, happy, home - a home that glorifies God.

Mrs. Delmer Clinton was pianist.

A social time followed and the hostess was assisted by Mrs. Hilda Stockmans and Mrs. John Hansford in serving refreshments.

Mrs. Dwight Davis gave the courtesy remarks and presented Mrs. Cooper with a gift.

## Retires from post office

OTTERVILLE (C) - Mrs. Laura Hooker has returned to her home after spending the past three weeks with her daughter, Mrs. Richard Hallam, at Dawson Creek, British Columbia. Mrs. Hooker was also a visitor at Victoria and Vancouver.

Prior to her vacation, Mrs. Hooker who has been a part-time employee in the Otterville Post Office for the past 12 years, retired from this position but continues with the mail delivery on route 2. She has just completed 18 years.

Upon her retirement the staff at the office made a surprise visit to her home to spend an evening which was spent in playing cards and a social time.

Mrs. Hooker was presented with a lovely clock by Mrs. Kathy Furlong accompanied with best wishes from the staff.

Mrs. Hooker, though taken by surprise, thanked the visitors for the lovely gift which would be a happy remembrance of her time spent in the office. Mrs. Donald Neale, Otterville, has accepted the position vacated by Mrs. Hooker.

## To purchase genealogy books

A well attended meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society was held at Woodlawn adult community centre on Monday, May 14, with president Rick Singer, presiding.

Catherine Mann read minutes; May Pearce gave the treasurer's report; and Joyce Pettigrew read a thank-you letter from the Harold Innis Foundation; Rick Singer, convener of the bus trip to the Ontario agricultural museum in Milton, stated the bus is

booked for June 16, to leave Otterville community hall at 8:30 a.m. and return by 5 p.m. Anyone interested, telephone Rick at 842-3748.

Volunteer help was requested for the food booth at Norwich historical show on June 1, 2 and 3, please contact Joyce Pettigrew.

Don McPherson gave a report on research to date at the patent office in Hull, Quebec concerning carpet sweepers made in Otterville by the Otter Sweeper Co. It was decided to submit a

resume to the government commemorating the grist mill and the Bullock families.

Mac Hicks gave a report of his research of local history from old newspapers at The Tillsonburg News. Fifty dollars is to be donated to the Norwich Historical Society to purchase books regarding genealogy study, as Mrs. Hopkins, archivist, has started a library towards this study.

Due to lack of interest this year, it was suggested changes be made in the

essay contest for local public school students with perhaps other historical societies joining in. May Pearce and Juanitta DeRoo are conveners for the September meeting and Don McPherson and Rick Singer for the October meeting.

Following the meeting Lillian White, convener, showed slides of St. Augustine, Florida, and the Kennedy Space Centre. Bill McMullen Sr., thanked Lillian and refreshments and a social time followed.

## INNISFREE FARMS Conference Centre

Modern facilities for seminars, retreats, meetings, dinner parties, small weddings, overnight accomodations for 24.

- Catering Available
- Reasonable Rates

LITTLE LAKE ROAD  
OTTERVILLE, ONTARIO  
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# Celebrate twenty-fifth wedding anniversary

OTTERVILLE (C) - In honor of the 25th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Clarke Dell, RR 1, Otterville, an anniversary dinner was held on Saturday evening, May 12, at the Town Gate Inn, Tillsonburg. The evening was attended by 20 close friends.

Mrs. Dell received the guests, wearing a floor-length rose Ponte di Roma dress with a yellow rose corsage.

The tables were centred with a beautiful arrangement of orchids, daisies, red carnations, and baby breath with red roses at each end of the table.

Donald MacPherson, Norwich, was master of ceremonies. Blessing was said by Kerry MacPherson. Donald gave the toast to Clarke and Myrtle, to which both responded. Speeches were also given by Harold Singer and Jack Freeland.

The anniversary cake was decorated with sparklers and cut by Mrs. Dell. The party then gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dell and the evening was spent in visiting and looking at pictures.

The bride and groom of 25 years were assisted by little Tanja MacPherson in opening the many lovely gifts for which Clarke and Myrtle thanked their friends.

Lunch was served by Mrs. William G. McMullen and Mrs. Jack Freeland.

On Sunday, May 13, The Dells were completely surprised when their family gathered to honor them on this happy occasion.

Guests were present from Stratford, Aylmer, Hamilton, Tillsonburg, Norwich and Otterville.

Mr. and Mrs. Dell were married at the Otterville Manse, May 15, 1954, with the late Rev. George Wylie officiating.

Mrs. Dell was the daughter of the late Mr. and

Mrs. Walter Brown. Mr. Dell is the son of Mrs. Roxina Dell, a resident of the Norvilla Nursing Home, Norwich, and the late Clarke Dell. Attendants at the wedding were Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Murphy of Aylmer.

Mr. and Mrs. Rod Taylor have returned to their home after a three weeks' holiday in England.

## Ladies' Guild hosts neighboring churches

OTTERVILLE (C) - The St. John's Church Ladies Guild were hosts to the neighbouring churches which included The Fellowship Baptist, United Church and St. Albans, Delhi on Wednesday evening.

The service opened with a hymn and prayers were said, and the Scripture read.

Mrs. Violet Howse, president, welcomed the ladies and introduced the speaker, Mrs. John Carlisle of Kitchener.

Mrs. Carlisle spoke of her interest in the 53 weekend taking place at London and also the Year of The Child. Her message gave a great deal of food for thought.

Mrs. Tim Hill of Delhi thanked the speaker and presented her with a gift. The offering was presented by Miss Edna Furlong and Mrs. Florence Saunders. This was followed with a hymn.

The ladies retired to the Parish Hall for a social gathering and at the close appreciation was expressed by Mrs. Wilma Butler for the Baptist Church ladies, by Mrs. Melville Beecroft for

the United Church Women. Those taking part during the evening were Mrs. Howse, Mrs. Marion Dowds, Mrs. Dorothy Durkee and Mrs. Nate McMullen organist for the service.

## Church club to hold June picnic

OTTERVILLE (C) - The St. John's Church Club met at the parish hall with 11 members present. Prior to the opening, members viewed the beautiful memorial stained glass window depicting the "Last Supper," recently installed in the church.

The meeting opened with prayer by President Violet House, and scripture by Marion Dowd.

Secretary's report was read by Florence Saunders. Treasurer's report by Eva Deveney included the proceeds from the annual turkey supper, which was the best yet. This is the biggest project for the year. She also reported on the rummage sale recently and the euchre parties, which were also very successful.

Wenda Smith offered to get flowers to plant in the corner bed at the church.

Next meeting will be a picnic at the parish hall June 27 at 6:30 p.m. This will conclude activities until the fall season. The president closed with prayer. Marion Dowd conducted games. Lunch was enjoyed.

# Picnic time at Otterville

OTTERVILLE (C) - Mrs. David Kennedy is a patient in the St. Joseph's Hospital in London. We wish for her a speedy recovery.

Picnic time made it's first appearance in the Community Park, Otterville on Sunday June 3 when Mr. and Mrs. H.W. MacDougall who were former residents of Otterville enjoyed their noon-day lunch in the park, which is always a most inviting spot.

They were accompanied by their daughter, Mrs. David Utman and son Shane, of Ottawa and Mrs. Janet Lenhardt and children of Burgessville. They reported a good repast and the beauty of nature was wonderful.

On Sunday, June 10 members of the Presbyterian Church, Norwich enjoyed a picnic dinner in the same spot.

Mr. and Mrs. Maitland Almost and Mr. and Mrs. Morley Almost of London were Monday evening guests with Mrs. Harold Waring.

Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Roberston have returned to their home in Scotland after having spent the past two weeks with Mr. and Mrs. John McSkimming and also visiting other relatives in Canada.

Mrs. Ernie Garnet has

returned to her home after spending two weeks in University Hospital, London. Members of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club from Otterville attended the 2A Lions Convention which was held at Niagara Falls during the past weekend. The Otterville Fire Department truck was among the decorated floats in the parade there.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Addison of Simcoe were recent visitors with their uncle and aunt Mr. and Mrs. Wilfrid Addison.

Miss Maude Hussey returned to her home in Guelph on Thursday after spending several days with Mr. and Mrs. Max Avey and other friends in the village. Miss Eva Deveney and Mrs. Harold Waring accompanied her.

Jack Calvert of Dorchester spent Tuesday afternoon with Mr. and Mrs. Wilfrid Addison.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Avey attended the wedding and reception of Russell Hoare and Wendy Losee whose marriage took place in Curries United Church on Saturday, June 9 at 3:30 p.m. The reception was held at Fairview Centre, Woodstock.

Mrs. Daisy Ash, Milldale

received the sad news on Saturday of the death of her nephew, Gordon MacMillen of Georgetown in his 46th year.

## Lions plan chicken barbecue

OTTERVILLE (C) - The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the Parish Hall, Otterville on Monday evening May 28. Lion Vice-President Gordon Shearer presided.

There were 42 members in attendance.

Preparations are well advanced for the annual chicken barbecue to be held in the park, Otterville June 16.

Lion Les Dickson is organizing ticket sales on the new Buick Electra to be drawn for at the annual carnival, September 8. Tickets will be \$10 this year.

Several members and families are planning to attend the District A Convention in Niagara Falls, Ontario June 1-5.

The Lions Club decided to again sponsor Minor Ball in Springford, Otterville, Norwich, and Burgessville on a per capita basis.

Lion Glen Gilmore reported that the annual Fireworks display held in the park, Otterville, May 21 was successful. In spite of the chilly weather there was a good crowd and a small profit was realized. This was the largest fireworks display ever held in the Park.

The Convention draw was won by Lion Mike Fidlin.

## Resident complains Farm cut off from Norwich township

OTTERVILLE - Gabe De Dobbelaer is beginning to feel cut off from the rest of Norwich Township and its services.

Mr. DeDobbelaer told Norwich council the only access to the property he sharecrops for Mrs. Denys on RR 3 Tillsonburg is by way of a tunnel under the Con Rail tracks south of Otterville.

He said the tunnel, built in 1906, is so small tobacco trucks, farm equipment and, during the winter, fire trucks, can't reach the farm.

He said lack of fire protection during the winter is a real threat to the property and persons who live there.

Mr. DeDobbelaer asked the township to assist him in getting Con Rail to install a level crossing to provide access to the farm.

He said he has approached Con Rail but the railroad won't act without the assistance of the township.

"Thank goodness we've never had a fire because in the winter there is no access," he said.

Ice build up on the road leaves fire trucks no clearance to get through, he explained. "We would like to have the crossing installed as soon as possible."

Mayor Jack Burn said though he sympathizes with the residents, the township is not obliged to provide fire protection.

Councillor Jack Walther said, "The railway is hard to deal with but they are not impossible."

Mr. DeDobbelaer "should have a good chance of negotiating with the railroad. The township may not provide financial support but could contact the railway in support of the requests."

"I think the railroad should update their crossings," said councillor Hardee Richardson.

He said the railway should provide real access to farms and residences which are inaccessible because of the increasing size of farm equipment and service vehicles.

Council voted to support Mr. DeDobbelaer in his discussions with the railway.

## Help Wanted

WANTED EXPERIENCED tractor driver for planting, phone 875-4975. 31

WANTED THREE persons for pulling and planting, three miles south of Riley's, call after 6 p.m., 842-3878. 31

FULL OR part-time plant pullers, may work in harvest and stripping, phone Ken Mann 879-6412 noon or after 6 p.m. 31



# Speaks on church affairs

OTTERVILLE (C) - The St. John's Ladies Guild of Otterville was held at the home of Mrs. Harold Durkee on Thursday afternoon with 13 present.

The president, Mrs. Violet Howse opened the meeting with prayer, and all

repeated The Lord's Prayer.

The Scripture reading was presented by Mrs. Harry Pickersgill reading from 1st Peter 4-7. The roll call was answered by eight members and three visitors. Members of the previous meeting were read and approved.

An invitation was read from the Fellowship Baptist Church to their annual special meeting to be held in the church on Tuesday evening, June 5 at 8 p.m.

The next meeting will be held in the Parish Hall, June

14 with the president being the convener.

Rev. Tim Hill spoke briefly concerning the affairs of the church, and closed the meeting with the Benediction.

A social time followed with cake and ice cream being served. The social hour was in honour of the president, Mrs. Howse, who had celebrated a birthday during the week.

## Leisure Club plans picnic at Otterville

OTTERVILLE (C) - Members of the Otterville Leisure Club held their regular meeting at the Woodlawn Community Centre on Wednesday afternoon with a good attendance.

The president, Colin Robinson, presided for the business meeting when plans were further advanced for the picnic which will be held in the Park on Wednesday June 20. At this time the club will host the members of the Waterford Senior Citizens. Members of the club are asked to bring provisions for the table with a dish for first course and dessert.

There will be a good program of amusement and later on the day will feature a tour for visitors and members to the Woodlawn Community Centre and the Executive will be pleased to "Show and Tell."

Craft material has been purchased for the cupboard. One more meeting, then the picnic and this will be the conclusion of the regular weekly meetings, though anyone may go to Woodlawn at anytime for their past time. The bus trip to the Lion Safari will be June 25, of which Mrs. John Pritchard is convener. Meeting closed with lunch and a social time.

OTTERVILLE (C) - Miss Debbie Cooper, a member of the staff of the Royal Bank, Otterville, has returned to her home after spending a holiday in England.

Mrs. Evelyn Cooper and daughter Debbie who have been residents in the village for a long time, moved last week to their new home in Tillsonburg.

Mrs. W.R. Myrick and son Douglas of Tillsonburg called on their cousin, Mrs. H.A. Waring on Monday afternoon.

Mrs. R.E. Pettigrew returned to her home last week after a holiday with her son, Mr. Hugh Pettigrew and Mrs. Pettigrew and family, in Ottawa.

Pat Pinnoy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pinnoy, Otterville, graduated from Fanshawe College, London, on Friday, June 29th, 1979.

He received his degree in Business Accounting and has accepted a position with Canada Packers in Listowel, Ont.

## McMullen family reunion

OTTERVILLE (C) - The 16th annual McMullen reunion was held on Sunday, June 17 in the spacious Otterville Community Park.

At 5 p.m. a delicious chicken dinner, accompanied by many goodies was served to 30 relatives present, who registered from Sarnia, Woodstock, Tillsonburg and Otterville.

President Howard McMullen of Woodstock held a short business meeting when officers for 1980 were

elected.

Past president, Howard McMullen; president, Ken Mann; treasurer and sports convener, Wilma McMullen and Mrs. W.A. McMullen.

The third Sunday in June was the date set for the 1980 picnic which will be held at Southside Park in Woodstock.

Games and contests were enjoyed with many prizes

and all enjoyed a peanut scramble. Following the

grandchildren.

The funeral service, which was very largely attended, was held from the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville on Monday, July 2, at 2 p.m.

Rev. Earl Moore, minister of the Otterville United Church, conducted the service. Mrs. William A. McMullen was the pianist.

Memorial donations were to the Ontario Heart Foundation, Canadian Cancer Society, Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital, and Lutheran Villa.

Pallbearers were Lyle David, Fred Sherman, Alf Stubbs, Pat Sprague, Tony Drescher, and John Fabian.

Interment was in the Oyster Cemetery.

Members of the United Church Women served lunch in the church hall following the service.

## Coon finds window

The racoon? Unfortunately it didn't survive the fall into the church from the roof.

(The Huron Church News June, July 1979).

An inquisitive racoon has discovered a long hidden stained glass window in St. Charles Church, Dereham.

Recently the tower of the church crumbled. With the scaffolding in place, a racoon from the neighbouring forest area decided to do some investigating.

The inquisitive racoon climbed the scaffolding and fell into the tower.

Unable to find a way out, the racoon clawed its way through the plaster wall and fell into the church.

The rector, the Rev. Herb Herring, inspecting the hole, noticed a small stained glass window that had been hidden by the ceiling for one hundred years.

A parishioner, Lawrence Ecker, has incorporated the newly-discovered window into the existing decor.

Mr. Herring told the Huron Church News that he hadn't decided whether the window would be known by the name of the donor or as the "Coon Window."

## Otterville parade set

The Otterville Businessman's Association has organized a parade to be held at 9:30 a.m. in Otterville on June 23.

The parade will form at the Norwich Township yard to the east of the village, and will begin a day of outdoor activities. There will be a skateboard contest at 10:30 a.m., with a pet show scheduled for 11 a.m.

There will also be races and other activities in the afternoon, and organizers are hoping that the Otterville pool will be ready for use to allow swimming.



Norwich Postmaster Gordon Shearer received a Suggestion Award Certificate on May 16 for an idea which has been accepted for use across Canada. Mr. Shearer was presented with the award and a cheque for \$150 by Ben Baker, postal manager for the south-western district. Mr. Shearer's suggestion improved the audit form which is used to balance accounts. Mr. Baker said the improved form was, "a more complete form than the older one was." Mr. Shearer won a district award for the idea several years ago. The award certificate is signed by the deputy postmaster general.





Art Picknell, Otterville, with one of several beautifully restored motorcycles he displayed at the Steam Show. This was a 1940 Harley-Davidson with a sidecar.



Sleeping Bag, two-year-old pacing filly by Meadow Skipper captured the second division of the Canadian Series at Blue Bonnets Raceway in Montreal, June 6. Trainer-driver Doug Arthur of Norwich, Ontario picked this filly out of a sale in Kentucky last fall for \$45,000 for owner John C. Bourinot of Peterboro, Ontario. She not only turned in the fastest mile of the three divisions but set a North America season's best in 2:02.2. This filly is aimed at many important stake events in the U.S. and already remarks have been made that she looks like she could be another like Handle With Care who was by the same sire and turned out to be a world's champion. Doug has had a few other great pacing colts but mentioned she is the best he ever had at this time. He knew that she was very competitive but never thought that she was capable of going this fast at this time. He went on, "I never pushed her but just let her go on her own and she came out of the race in perfect condition."

# OPEN HOUSE

QUEEN STREET IN OTTERVILLE

FOR MICHAEL ASH CONSTRUCTION LTD.



Wednesday, June 27, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

Thursday, June 28, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

Friday, June 29, 7 p.m.-9 p.m.

Saturday, June 30, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Sunday, July 1, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Builders Special If SOLD On Above Dates Only

## FREE Refrigerator & Stove

## 10<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>% MORTGAGE

This quality built home has many extras

Your Host: Bill Sanders 879-6411



# Nuptials at Otterville

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Davis  
and  
Mr. and Mrs. John Weszner  
request the honour of your presence  
at the marriage of their children  
Julie Marie  
to  
George Steve  
on Friday the twenty-ninth day of June  
nineteen hundred and seventy-nine  
at two-thirty o'clock  
St. John's Anglican Church  
Otterville, Ontario

Dinner: 5:30 p.m.  
Reception: 8:00 p.m.  
German Hall, Delhi, Ont.

St. John's Anglican Church, Otterville, was the setting on Friday, June 29, 1979, at 2:30 p.m. for the wedding of Julie Marie Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Davis of RR 1, Otterville, and George Steve Weszner, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Weszner, Sr., of 264 Harris St., Delhi. Rev. H. Herring conducted the service, and Jean McClintock of Otterville accompanied the soloist, Ruth Colver of Otterville, friend of the bride, who sang during the service.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride chose a floor-length gown of white satin and white chiffon,

trimmed with lace, and enhanced with a floor-length veil trimmed with matching lace. The bride carried an arrangement of pink roses and white orchids.

Patricia Newell of Tillsonburg, friend of the bride, was maid of honor and wore a floor-length gown of powder blue polyester with chiffon cape, worn with daisies trimmed with baby's breath in her hair, and carried a bouquet of white mums and blue daisies with pink trimming.

Gowned identically were the bridesmaids, Cathy Lynn Davis of London, sister of the bride, Violet Cliche of Woodstock friend of the

bride, Kelley Davis and Robin Davis, both of Otterville, sisters of the bride, and Donna Murray of Otterville, friend of the bride.

Jody Smith was flower girl and wore a powder blue cotton gown with pink flowers, trimmed with matching lace. She wore an identical headdress to that of the bridesmaids and carried pink and blue daisies. Gowned identical to the flower girl was Christine O'Brien of Otterville, friend of the groom.

Rick Weszner of Tillsonburg, brother of the groom, was best man, and ushers were Martin Grim of Woodstock, John Stickles and Wayne Stickles, both of Norwich, Wayne Schooley of Delhi, all friends of the groom, and John Davis and Robert Davis of Otterville, brothers of the bride. Ring bearer was Ronnie Davis of Otterville, cousin of the bride.

Reception for 475 guests was held at the Delhi German Hall, decorated with red roses for the occasion.

Bride's mother received guests in a coral, floor-length gown worn with a corsage of coral orchids. Groom's mother chose a mint green, floor-length gown worn with a corsage of rust orchids.

For a wedding trip to Sturgeon Falls, the bride wore a dusty rose, knee length dress.

Guests were present from Germany, Texas, London, Ottawa, Cleveland and Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. Weszner are residing at RR 1, Norwich.



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE STEVE WESZNER



Oakland wins consolation

# Hit gives Harrington Sports Otterville tourney

BY DOUG SMITH

It's tough enough to lose a fastball game by giving up an extra inning run, but it's even tougher when you lose a game by just giving up a hit. The Otterville Otters can attest to that.

In a pair of extra inning games that may be unequalled for excitement in tournament play this year, Oakland defeated Burgessville 3-2 in eight innings to win the consolation title of the Otterville Fastball tourney, while in the grand championship, Harrington Sports of Simcoe and Otterville Otters played to a 1-1 tie but the Sportsmen were given the title after a ninth-inning single broke a deadlock in the number of hits.

The system used by tournament officials to break ties is complicated, confusing and, for the most part, unfair.

If, after seven innings, two teams are tied, the game goes nine innings, with regular baseball scoring rules applied. If the teams are still tied after nine innings, the team with the most hits is awarded the victory.

This puts the outcome of the game, and in this case the tournament and the \$200 first prize that went with it, in the hands of the official scorer.

Harrington Sports rode the super pitching of Dave Darbshire to the tournament win. He pitched in every game for Harrington and was named their most valuable player in the tourney.

Dave Felder picked up the pitching award for Otterville and it was his clutch pitching that kept them in the final game. But it was also his mistake that may have cost the host team the title.

The tourney finale was a wild and woolly affair, as Harrington came back to cop the honors on a ninth-inning single by Rick Mummery.

It was a pitching duel of classic proportions between Darbshire and Felder as they lock horns in a scoreless tie until the top of the sixth.

It wasn't as if neither team had any scoring chances before the sixth, as both Harringtons and Otterville had chances to take an early lead.

In the top of the fourth, Otterville's Bob Furlong singled to lead things off and

advanced to second on a fielder's choice. He then went to third on a wild pitch but was left stranded there when Darbshire fanned Pat Pinnoy.

Harrington had a chance to take the lead in the fifth, when, with one out, Rick Boughner reached second on an Otterville error. This was as far as Sportsman batter had reached in the game and he was left there when Felder came through in the clutch, striking out Rich Miller.

Otterville pushed across a run in the top of the sixth and it looked as if that would be all that was necessary to win the game.

With one away, Darbshire issued one of his six walks, this one to John Walter. Dick Learn then banged a single to left putting men on second and third with hot hitting Furlong due up.

Furlong was intentionally walked, much to the dismay of the large, vociferous Otterville crowd. This brought up pitcher Felder, with the bases loaded and a chance to break open the game.

He hit a difficult ground ball at Harrington third baseman Miller, who bobbed the ball, allowing Walter to score the game's first run. Miller had enough presence of mind to get Learn going to third however, and Darbshire then whiffed Pat Pinnoy to end the threat.

Harrington went down in order in the bottom of the sixth and after Otters went three up, three down in the seventh, it looked as if the one-run margin would stand up.

But the greatest fluke of the year, one that will be talked about for months to come, allowed Harringtons to score the tying run and send the game into extra innings.

With one out, Don Dixon drove a double down the left field line and then an error put runners on second and third with one away.

Then came the play. Felder went to make his delivery to Rudy D'Hondt but couldn't get the ball out of his hand and it rolled slowly half way to the plate. Dixon, on third, saw this and took off for home, scoring the tying run without a play being made on him.

It was a shame that Felder had to give up a run that way, but maybe it just wasn't in the cards for Otterville to win. Otterville had a couple more chances to win, in the eighth and ninth.

The golden opportunity came in the eighth, as Darbshire seemed to want to give the game right back to Otters. He walked the first three hitters in the inning, loading the bases with none out and Furlong at the plate again.

But Darbshire showed just what he's made of, as he struck out the next three batters on just 11 pitched to get out of the jam without any damage being done.

Then in the ninth, Otterville got a runner to second base with two out, but Darbshire came through again, striking out Joe Webb to end the inning.

With Harringtons needing just a base hit to win the game and the tournament, Rick Mummery wasted no time in ending things,

driving Felder's first offering of the inning to left field for the hit that won it for Harringtons.

It's a shame the game had to end as it was enjoyable, exciting and crowd-pleasing entertainment.

Pitching was the name of the game, and Darbshire and Felder were magicians on the mound.

The right-handed Harringtons pitcher struck out no less than 21 Otterville batters. This display of ability alone was deserving of the MVP award he picked up. He walked six (one intentionally) and gave up just three singles.

Felder was no slouch either, striking out eight and not giving up a walk. He was touched for four safeties, three singles and a double.

Learn, Furlong and Pierre Pinnoy were the only Otters to pick up hits. Mummery, with the game winner, Boughner, Dixon and Doug Timpf were the hitters for Harringtons.

Harringtons had little trouble in getting to the final, wiping out two teams by a combined score of 14-0. They beat Mt. Elgin Mounties 10-0 in an opening round game before dumping Governor Simcoe Hotel 4-0 in one semi-final.

Otterville won their semi-final 5-4 over Timberjack of Woodstock after getting by King of Woodstock 5-3 in an opening round game.

The consolation final, while not being able to match the grand final for excitement, was a great game itself.

It took a pinch hit single by Bob Swanton in the top of the eighth inning to drive home

the winning run and give Oakland a 3-2 win over Burgessville.

Rob Paxton led off with a double for Oakland and after moving to third on a fielder's choice scored on Swanton's drive to centre field.

Oakland almost won the game in regulation time, but Burgessville rallied for a run in the bottom of the seventh to tie the game and send it into extras.

Dave Pearson drove home Joel Crittendon with the tying run in the seventh, after Crittendon had singled and stolen second.

Oakland had taken a 1-0 lead in the second when a walk to Bill Logan, a stolen base, a sacrifice bunt and a misplayed fly ball gave them the run.

Burgessville came right back to tie the game in the bottom of the same inning on a triple by Crittendon and a sacrifice fly to centre by Burt Schaafsma.

Oakland went ahead 2-1 in the fourth without getting a hit. A walk to Bill Ball, a bunt, a passed ball and a fielder's choice brought home the second run. This set the stage for the last inning Burgessville run and the winning Oakland run in the eighth.

Burgessville, after losing their opening round game to Timberjack of Woodstock 4-3, beat King of Woodstock 6-2 to get to the consolation final. Oakland had lost to Governor Simcoe Hotel 6-0 in opening round action before edging Mt. Elgin 5-4 in the other consolation semi-final.

	R	H	E
Mt. Elgin	020	110	00
Oakland	4	66	2
Consolation Final			
	R	H	E
Oakland	010	100	01
Burgessville	3	5	2
Championship Final			
	R	H	E
Otterville	000	001	000
Harrington Sports	1	3	2
Felder and Pinnoy; Darbshire and Timpf. W - Darbshire, L - Felder. None out when winning hit occurred.			



You are cordially invited to attend  
the Wedding Reception  
following the marriage of

Lynn

daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Harrison

and

Kevin

son of Mr. and Mrs. James Bickell

on Saturday, the 16th of June, 1979

at eight-thirty o'clock

Norwich Community Centre



K.L. Bickell

## Leisure club welcomes Waterford seniors

OTTERVILLE (C) - The Community Park, Otterville, received many gracious comments on its beauty which entailed nature, picnic space, ball diamond, tennis courts, the swimming pool and the picnic booth, as the visitors from the Waterford Senior Citizens who were guests of the Otterville Leisure Club enjoyed the day in June.

The hosts for the day put on a splendid display for the noonday meal which was preceded with barbecued weiners and rolls and hamburgs. Cooks for this department were Colin Robinson, Fred Cole, Mel Beecroft, and Fred Moore while others stood by to give assistance if needed.

At 12:30 more than 60 sat down to a variety of salads, pickles, pie and cake and goodies to complete the dinner. Mrs. John Pritchard was the table convener and assisted by other members.

Following the dinner hour several contests were enjoyed, the first being conducted by Colin Robinson in which the contestant was blindfolded and asked to draw a face. This was won by Mrs. Ada Dredge of Waterford.

Cyril Kirkland placed the most clothes pins in the milk bottle. Mrs. Pritchard was in charge of the nylon host act which was won by Mr. Jim Allan of Waterford.

Mrs. Harold Waring presented a prize to the eldest lady from Waterford and Mr. Snively of Waterford was the eldest man. Mrs. Isabel Tinknell, Norwich, won the spot prize and the man having the least change in his purse was Charlie Bradford of the Otterville Club.

This concluded the sports program.

On behalf of the Waterford Club, Mrs. Milton Dredge, president of the club thanked the Otterville Club for the pleasant time spent.

President Colin Robinson replied and thanked the visitors for coming and invited them to visit Woodlawn Centre where the Club meets each Wednesday.

The visitors made their way to Woodlawn, where they met the committee in charge who were pleased to show and tell.

Members are reminded that the regular meetings are closed for the two months. However those wishing to go and spend leisure hours may do so at any time.

Page 6 THE NORWICH GAZETTE Wednesday, July 4, 1979



The Otterville Leisure Club welcomed guests from Waterford recently. Working at the barbecues are

Colin Robinson, Mel Beecroft, Fred Cole and James Squance.



# Otterville Personals

Mrs. Harold Waring, Otterville 877 4455

## MISS E. MARGARET PENNINGTON

The death occurred on Tuesday, July 3, 1979, of Miss E. Margaret Pennington, at Central Park Lodge, Retirement Home, Toronto. Miss Pennington spent her early years in Hawtrey,

being a daughter of the late Miles and Margaret Pennington and a granddaughter of the late C.J. and Alice Treffry, all former residents of Hawtrey. For a number of years, Miss Pennington was employed by the Imperial Oil Limited, Toronto, and previous to her retirement in 1946 had been secretary to the manager of the Ontario Division of the company.

Miss Pennington is survived by a niece, Ann, Mrs. Lawrence Rodwell, Detroit, Michigan; a nephew, Edwin M. Pennington, Chicago, Illinois; and a niece, Joan, Mrs. Neal Halstead of Puslinch, Ontario, a niece, Mary, Mrs. H. Warmington of Guelph. Predeceasing her were two brothers, Charles of Norwich and London; Edwin of Otterville and two sisters, Alice and Alma, Mrs. Henry Wingrove, of Moffatt, Ontario.

The funeral was held from the Arn and Son Funeral Home, Norwich, on July 5, 1979 with the Rev. G.P.

Parson of Woodstock officiating.

The pallbearers were: Archie Hanson, Harry Hanson, Tom Hanson, John Palmer, Bob J.R. Kelly, and Jim Kitchen.

Interment was made in Milldale Cemetery.

## JOHN REGINALD PAYNE

OTTERVILLE (C) - John Reginald Payne of Otterville, 79, passed away in the Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Monday, July 16, 1979.

Born in England he was the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Payne.

He was predeceased by his wife, the late Birdie Steinhoff, and one daughter, Doris, (Mrs. Thomas Clifford). Survived by one daughter, Mrs. Burt (Muriel) Pauli of Otterville; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; four brothers, Victor of Toronto, Joseph, Arthur and Kenneth in England.

The complete funeral service was held from the Nelson F. Gleason Home on Wednesday, July 18 at 2 p.m. and was conducted by Rev. Merrill James of St. Paul's United Church, Tillsonburg. Mrs. William A. McMullen was the pianist.

Memorial donations were to the Canadian Cancer Society, Heart Foundation, Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital. Interment in Oakwood Cemetery, Simcoe.

## THANKS FIREMEN

The Editor: I had the opportunity to serve on the Protection to Persons and Property Committee while on council. This committee undertook to co-ordinate the fire departments in the township relative to uniformity of purpose - to save lives and property - using the equipment and manpower at hand.

We were able to encourage the volunteer force to participate in training sessions

using standard fire-fighting procedures. The lessons for this program were designed by William McMullen Jr., of Otterville, and instruction given during the regular volunteer firemen's training sessions. This was a new concept - four units training as one. This idea was not easy to promote, obstacles seemed to appear without foundation. Gradually the idea caught on.

We, in Norwich, have had two major fires in our core

area. Our volunteer firemen deserve special thanks for their courage and their willingness to serve their Township.

Our four departments were on the scene at Scott's Big V fire, functioning as one unit. Firemen and ratepayers, should be aware of the contribution of William McMullen Jr. So often we forget to say "Thanks".

Yours very truly,  
N.R. Lusk.

## OPEN HOUSE

Mon., July 2 to Fri., July 6/79  
Every night 7:00-9:00 P.M.



New home featuring three bedrooms, full basement, sodded front yard on 113'x90' lot. \$45,900 - financing. Wellington St., Otterville. Follow the signs.

Host - Peter Mowat

The family of Harold and Clara Arthur would like to extend an invitation to all their friends and relatives to attend an Open House in honour of their 40th Wedding Anniversary at the Otterville United Church, 2-4 p.m., July 22, 1979. Best wishes only, please.

## Appreciations

Harold and Clara Arthur wish to thank their relatives and friends for the good wishes mailed to our home and those expressed personally. We thank the United Church for the use of their hall, the United Church Women for the delicious refreshments, the Woodlawn Senior Citizens for the use of their facilities, the Carpet Bowlers for the beautiful flowers and Albert and Marion Lewis for the nostalgic ride to Woodlawn. A grateful thanks to our family for organizing the interesting events for a memorable 40th anniversary.



Julius Narancsik, 44 Main St., Norwich, was the winner of \$100 in groceries in a contest sponsored by Otterville Supermarket. Left is Grace Throne and on the right is Mrs. Rod Taylor of Otterville. The draw was held on Monday, July 30 and the ticket was drawn by Bruce Everest, of the Royal Bank in Otterville.

In Tillsonburg Provincial Court Wednesday before Judge R. G. Groom, Anthony Hussey, 25, Otterville, pleaded guilty to dangerous driving May 19.

Hussey was charged following a police chase along Lisgar Avenue, Broadway and North Streets at speeds up to 90 miles per hour. During the chase, Hussey went through a number of stop signs and forced another vehicle off the road, eventually losing control of his own vehicle and driving into an open field.

He was fined \$400 or two months in jail. Hussey had five previous Highway Traffic Act convictions.

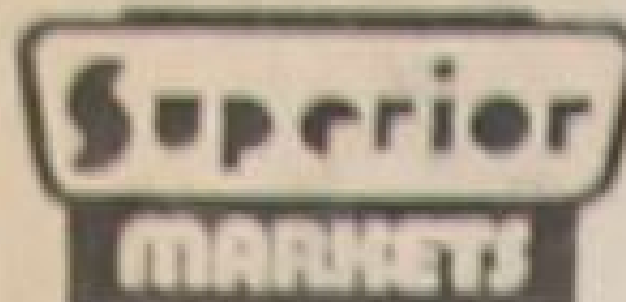
Harry Stephen Hanson, 18, RR 2, Otterville, was given a conditional discharge and ordered to keep the peace and report to a probation officer once a week for six months for mischief in relation to private property. Evidence presented by the crown revealed Hanson kicked a car belonging to Tibor Bogar following an argument outside of the Royal Hotel April 19.

Larry Wayne White, 28, 60 North St. East, Otterville, was fined \$300 or 21 days in jail for driving while the percentage of alcohol in his blood exceeded 80 milligrams of alcohol in 100 millilitres of blood July 8. Blood alcohol readings were 0.13 and 0.12.

Edward R. Bishop, 18, RR 1, Walsingham, was placed on probation for one year, ordered to keep the peace, report to a probation officer once a week and perform 50 hours of community service for mischief in relation to public property. Bishop knocked over number of stop signs along Lisgar Avenue by running over them with his vehicle, May 13, causing \$262.41 in damage.

Kenneth M. Deroo, 17, 86 Main St., Otterville, was placed on probation for two years, ordered to keep the peace, report to a probation officer once a week and perform 50 hours of community service work for mischief in relation to public property. Deroo damaged an air conditioning vent in the Tillsonburg community centre May 10.





# OTTERVILLE SUPERMARKET

(Janny's Superior Market Ltd.)

## "THANKS NEIGHBOURS"

FOR MAKING OUR GRAND OPENING A HUGE SUCCESS. GRACE & I REALLY APPRECIATE YOUR SHOPPING AT OUR STORE. MR. EVEREST OF THE OTTERVILLE ROYAL BANK MADE THE GROCERY COUPON DRAW MON., JULY 30th & THE WINNER IS JULIUS NARANCSIK OF NORWICH. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE SEARS CATALOGUE STORES ARE GOING TO OPEN AN OUTLET IN OUR STORE IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE APPROXIMATELY AUG. 5th. WATCH FOR OUR ANNOUNCEMENT.

THANK YOU AGAIN - GEORGE & GRACE.

 Maxwell House Instant <b>COFFEE</b> Reg. \$5.99 10 oz. <b>SPECIAL \$5.43</b>	Jolly Millar <b>ORANGE CRYSTALS</b> Reg. .69 <b>SPECIAL .52</b>	WELCH'S PURE <b>GRAPE JELLY</b> Reg. \$1.35  <b>SPECIAL .85</b>
Welchde <b>GRAPE DRINK</b> Reg. .95 48 oz. <b>SPECIAL .85</b>	 Libby's Deep Brown <b>BEANS</b> with pork in tomato sauce 14 oz. Reg. .56 <b>SPECIAL 2/.83</b>	LIBBY'S <b>SAUERKRAUT</b> 28 oz. Reg. .69 <b>SPECIAL .65</b>
Brunswick <b>SARDINES</b> 3 1/4 oz. in oil or tomato sauce Reg. .43 <b>SPECIAL .39</b>	Catelli <b>LONG SPAGETTI</b> 2 lb. Pkg. Reg. \$1.05 <b>SPECIAL .85</b>	CATELLI <b>R.C. MACARONI</b> 2 lb. Pkg. Reg. \$1.05 <b>SPECIAL .85</b>
Sunlight <b>DETERGENT</b> 6L Reg. \$3.33 <b>SPECIAL \$2.75</b>	Scott <b>TOWELS</b> 2's Reg. \$1.35  <b>SPECIAL \$1.09</b> 1 ply	<b>LIFEBOAY SOAP</b> (Bathsize) 2's Reg. .99 <b>SPECIAL .85</b>
Purina <b>SEANIP DINNER</b> 1Kg. Reg. \$1.23 <b>SPECIAL \$1.09</b>	Stuart House <b>GARBAGE BAGS</b> 10's Reg. \$1.05 <b>SPECIAL .99</b>	<b>PAMPER'S</b> Overnight Diapers 12's Reg. \$1.85  <b>SPECIAL \$1.79</b>
Grill Time <b>BRIQUETS</b> 5lb. Bag Reg. \$1.09 <b>SPECIAL .99</b>	Esso <b>CHARCOAL LIGHTER</b> 32 oz. Reg. .79 <b>SPECIAL .69</b>	Saico Mandarin <b>ORANGES</b> 10 oz. Reg. .78 <b>SPECIAL .69</b>
Ontario No. 1 <b>HEAD LETTUCE</b>  <b>SPECIAL .29</b> ea.	Produce Specials U.S.A. No. 1 <b>CANTALOUPE</b> <b>SPECIAL .59</b> ea.	Ontario No. 1 <b>CELERY STALKS</b>  <b>SPECIAL 39</b> ea.

POP 6 pack 26 oz. PEPSI 1.79 case plus deposit  
 26 oz. C-PLUS & WINK buy 2 get 1 free

# AUCTION SALE

ANTIQUES, FINE FURNITURE  
 COLLECTABLES, COINS, ETC.

SAT., JULY 28th 1979  
 AT 11 A.M.

AT THE  
 OTTER VALLEY AUCTION ROOMS  
 OTTERVILLE

Selling furnishings, etc., from the homes of Mr. R. Poole and the G. Goodale residence of Otterville along with an ESTATE from DETROIT, MICH., and household contents of Mr. C. Laker of London, Ont. (moved to B.C.). Partial listing only (A VERY LARGE SALE) -- HANGING OIL LAMP; gas circulating heater; Antique Sideboard with high back; drop front secretary desk; set of six very old bow back chairs; oval (CHERRY) Drop Table with leaves; Washstands and Commodes; several real good Rocking Chairs; two and four piece Settee Sets; boxes of old books; Old Pictures and Frames; Blanket Boxes and Trunks; Dressers and Chests; Old Drop Leaf Kitchen Table; Treadle Sewing Machine; many old Beds in Iron and Brass, Spool, etc.; large "Beer" Crock; Living Room Suites; several assorted Parlor and Lamp Tables; Copper Boiler; Press Back and other Wooden Chairs; nine piece WALNUT DINING ROOM SUITE; M/W Sewing Cabinet; Portable TV; Console Colour TV; Office Chairs; large pile of USED LUMBER; inside and outside Doors; Rollaway; Old CROSLY DE FOREST RADIO (working); three piece KROEHLER BEDROOM SUITE; four piece Walnut Bedroom Suite; ELECTROLUX VACUUM (with power head); nearly new PHILLIPS MOD. 4 COLOUR TV and stand; matched pair RD. MAHOG. LAMP TABLES; old OIL LAMPS; loads of good GLASS AND CHINA; Box Lots galore; 1810 ADAM SETTEE (RARE); two DOOR FRIDGE AND MATCHING ELECTRIC STOVE (Harvest Gold); Moffat four burner Electric Stove; Bunk House Fridge; Auto. Washer and Dryer; Shop Vac. Trundle Bed; DEHUMIDIFIER; Bicycles; Elec. Lawn Mower; Snow Blower; Wicker Chair; HUNDREDS AND HUNDREDS OF ITEMS.

COINS AND BILLS -- Approx. 125 or more lots of good collectable Cdn. and Foreign Coins and Bills. TO BE SOLD IN OUR REAR AUCTION ROOMS AT 1 p.m. Sharp.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE -- All of the household goods will be sold OUTSIDE. In the event of bad weather, the household goods will be sold the following day (SUNDAY). This will be our FINAL AUCTION SALE AT THIS LOCATION as we have converted our premises to the sale of quality new home furnishings. We are open daily Mon. to Fri., 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. DO DROP IN, YOU'LL LOVE OUR PRICES.

BOB CARNEY AUCTIONEER  
 PHONE 879-6420

"For Auctions with Action"  
 call "Otter Valley Auctions"

NA  
 -7



# Happy Bluebirds gather

OTTERVILLE (C)—Eight members of the Happy Bluebird Club, namely Mrs. Daisy Ash, Mrs. Jennie Mitchell, Mrs. Stanley Davis, Mrs. Mary VanKerrebroeck, Mrs. Josepha Rosehart, Mrs. Zuella Hicks, and Mrs. Harold Pearce, attended the July meeting which was held at the home of Mrs. Harold Waring on Tuesday July 24.

The president, Mrs. Daisy Ash, presided and opened the meeting with the Creed followed with The Lord's Prayer. The Bluebird Song was sung.

The president welcomed the members and a special welcome to Mrs. Zuella Hicks who had not been present for the past several meetings and also to Mrs. Pearce, another life-long club member. Mrs. Hicks is having a birthday Sept. 22 when she will be 88 years young.

The roll call was answered with the members telling

something they had accomplished that day.

An invitation was accepted to hold the August meeting at the home of Mrs. Clarence Morris, Norwich Aug. 28.

A get-well card was signed by the members for Mrs. John Pritchard who is a patient in the Woodstock General Hospital.

Mrs. Jennie Mitchell gave two readings, "Old Fashioned Dinner" and "A Tumbler in the Sink".

Members of the Cornell and Otterville groups were in charge of the evening and the hostess was assisted in the social hour.

Appreciation by Mrs. Stanley Davis was given to Mrs. Waring for the evening

and Mrs. Waring thanked the members and took delight in showing the club the display of petunias, geraniums and other flowers at the rear of the house.

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MR. AND MRS. CLAYTON ARTHUR

## Tillsonburg couple married fifty years

Close to fifty friends and relatives gathered at the Rotary Wing of the Community Centre on Sunday evening, July 29, when a dinner was held in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Arthur.

A retired farmer, Mr. Arthur is a son of the late Thomas and Mary Arthur of South Norwich. Mrs. Arthur is a retired school teacher, having taught in Malahide, Windham and Middleton. She was the former Alice Sealey, daughter of the late Fred and Clara Sealey of Aylmer.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur were married at the Woodstock Baptist Parsonage by Rev. J. LaFlair. They resided at Summerville for 32 years, and in the Tillsonburg area for the past 18 years.

Active in church work, Lodges and the community, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur are members of Delmer United Church and of the Senior Citizens, Gay 60 to 90 Club. Mr. Arthur is also a member of the Rebekah Lodge, Odd Fellows and Encampment, and Mrs. Arthur is a member of the Rebekah

Lodge, Shrine of Jerusalem, a life member of the Eastern Star, life member of Delmer U.C.W. and life member of Summerville Women's Institute.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur have three children, Mrs. Bruce Adlington (Mary Jane) of Straffordville, Mrs. Edward Marvin (Rosemary) of Mount Hope, and Robert Arthur of Tillsonburg.

The couple received many beautiful gifts, floral arrangements and cards, as well as monetary gifts. They received plaques from Governor General Ed Schreyer, Prime Minister Joe, Clark, Premier William Davis; and congratulatory letters from Hon. Harry Parrott, M.P.P., Oxford Dr. Bruce Halliday, M.P., Oxford and from Pierre Elliot Trudeau, leader of the opposition, Ottawa.

Entertainment was provided by the Melody Makers.

Guests were present from Rockford, Illinois, Union Mills, Indiana, Mount Hope, Woodstock, Sweaburg, Dundas, Dunnville, Delhi, Otterville, Tillsonburg and Straffordville.

## 85th birthday celebrated

OTTERVILLE (C) — Miss Gladys Nobbs of Otterville was honored on the occasion of her 85th birthday on Thursday afternoon, at the

home of Mrs. Donald Pettigrew of Springford.

The party was in the form of a surprise and was attended by neighbours and friends.

A very pretty birthday cake with candles, accompanied by ice cream, and completed with a cup of tea was served by the hostess who was assisted by Mrs. Mary Murray, Miss Dorothy Wardell and Mrs. Jack Walther.

Happy Birthday was sung for Miss Nobbs as well as Mrs. Gladys Goodale who celebrated her birthday last Sunday.

Greeting cards were presented to Gladys and a card was signed by all for Mrs. Goodale. A card of appreciation was also signed by the visitors for Mrs. Pettigrew.

Miss Nobbs expressed appreciation for the pleasant afternoon.

Mrs. R.E. Pettigrew and Miss Gladys Nobbs were evening guests with Mr. and Mrs. Donald Pettigrew on Thursday evening.

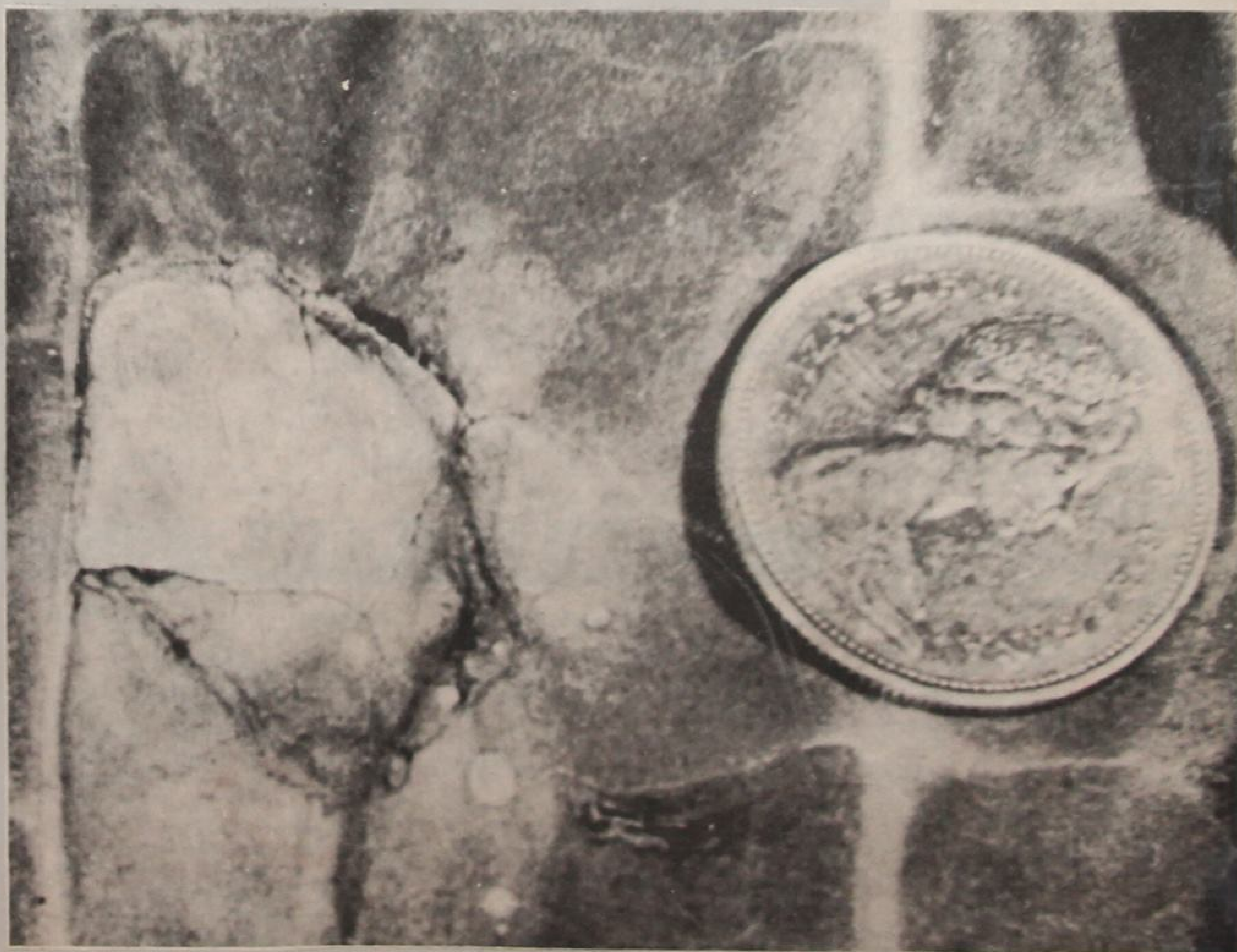




Infected by blue mold, Steve Mayoresak's tobacco farm on Potter's Road was sprayed in an attempt to retard or prevent the spread of the disease but the chemical had no apparent effect on

the disease. It was feared the spray left high residue making the crop unsaleable and it was later cut down.

The bottom photo shows one of the blotches on the top of the leaf, as large as a quarter.





# Blue mold spreading

Blue mold hit George Fulop's two RR 2, Tillsonburg farms more than a week ago. Since that time, the disease has spread to the entire crop. He does not know whether he will be able to harvest the 82 acres or will have to cut them down.

Mr. Fulop has stopped topping and spraying and said he is waiting to determine what he will do with the disease-infected crop.

The severity of the disease varies from crop to crop, but under the right conditions, spreading is rapid.

Transmitted by wind, the disease thrives best under the recent conditions of high humidity and cool nights. Hot, dry weather usually stems the rapid growth.

Once the disease spreads to a crop, it

takes a minimum of five to seven days for symptoms to appear.

Mr. Fulop's third farm, near Glen Meyer where the disease is not so widespread, shows no signs of blue mold.

Tobacco Extension Specialist Norm Sheidow said the disease is spreading rapidly and shows no signs of slowing down.

The Delhi Tobacco Research Station and the Ontario Crop Insurance Commission recently tested a spray on two Potter's Road tobacco farms owned by Steve Mayorscak and Ralph Vuylsteke afflicted with the disease. They found the chemical had no apparent effect on it. The two crops were cut down under Crop Insurance authorization.

Mr. Mayorscak reported one of the first cases of blue mold about four weeks ago. He said he suspected the disease was brought to the area with seed shipped from Sun City Florida. Mr. Mayorscak bought the seed

from Fernlea Flowers in Delhi and shipped it to Sun City to be individually potted.

Mr. Mayorscak said he understood the plants were thoroughly inspected before they were imported and said U.S. customs should be faulted if the disease was picked up in Florida.

Blue mold is identified by yellow blotches on the upper leaf surface and a grayish-blue downy mildew on the underside of the leaf.

The infection usually strikes the lower leaves of the stalk but crops seriously infected have the disease through the entire plant.

Larry Scanlon of the Ontario Crop Insurance Commission said the office has received "a steady stream" of claims within the past several days.

Crop Insurance insures about 70 per cent of Ontario's 2,600 tobacco producers. Mr. Scanlon estimated with the 100 claims reported to crop insurance, another 40 farmers that have the disease are uninsured.

The special committee recommended producers with tobacco damaged by the disease, who are covered by crop insurance, to notify the commission immediately.

Mr. Scanlon said crop insurance is currently not authorizing any farmers to cut down their infected crops.

"The experts feel cutting down the tobacco won't stop the spreading. We feel it better to leave it than to put equipment through the crop," he said.

Crop insurance recently announced that blue mold is an insured peril but any insured grower that sprays his crop, making it unsaleable, will not be covered.

Crop insurance guarantees the producer's allotment up to 80 per cent and also guarantees the negotiated minimum board price up to 80 per cent.

Under this agreement, crop insurance would guarantee 80,000 pounds or 80 per cent of a 100,000 pound allotment.

"If a farmer falls short of 80 per cent of his allotment because of blue mold, crop insurance will pay \$1.16 a pound minus 25 cents for harvesting charges," Mr. Scanlon said.

Crop insurance also guarantees the farmer negotiated board price for the tobacco he ships.

"He is (the insured) is guaranteed the negotiated minimum price for 80 per cent of his allotment regardless of grade or whether it's special factor or not," Mr. Scanlon said.



The underside of tobacco leaves infected with blue mold is shown in the top photo. The disease is readily identified by yellow blotches on the leaf's surface and a grayish blue downy mildew on the underside of the leaf.





Alice and Clayton Arthur waited patiently for their cue to take part in the senior citizen fashion show at the community centre Thursday. During the show, the couple was presented with a gift from show organizers in recognition of their 50th wedding anniversary coming up this Saturday.





The empty windows of town hall look down over a carnival set up for the Tillsonburg Business Association's Sidewalk Days. Besides the ferris wheel, there's a roller coaster and a variety of

other rides and concession booths, just what kids on summer vacation like to see. *July 179*





**LANDMARK RAZED** -- At 2 p.m. on Friday, July 20, 1979 a 4,200 lb. iron wreckers ball started swinging against the brick walls of Town Hall and three hours later, only a shattered portion of the

front wall remained. A half hour after, that, too, was a pile of rubble. The removal clears the way for a downtown shopping centre.



72 YEARS AGO  
AUGUST 1907

Acacia — Orn Oatman was given the contract at Port Burwell for the cement work of the new bridge and has started the same.

The Tillson Co. are increasing their force of coopers.

Mr. Jacob Mills is hauling brick from Sinden and Fox's yard for a new house he will erect on Lisgar Avenue.

Otterville, July 25 - On July 24th Otterville

celebrated the Centennial of its existence. A baseball match between the village players and a team of farmer boys resulted in a score in favor of the latter by 12 to 7.

## LOOKING BACK

THIRTY-FIVE YEARS AGO  
AUGUST 24, 1944

Upwards of 500 home defence troops have reached the Norfolk, Oxford, Elgin tobacco area to help harvest the big crop of this year. The growers will pay \$3.50 to the army paymaster for each day's work per man, and will pay an additional \$2.50 daily to the Red Cross. A goodly number of the soldiers are from Quebec.

With the grain harvest completed, farmers are turning their attention to plowing for fall wheat seeding. Silo filling is likely to commence shortly. The harvest season has been one of the earliest in years.

Upon instructions from the Federal government and as a war measure to conserve electricity, the post office clock has gone unlighted over a long period but now there are hopes that the "juice" may be again turned on shortly.

TWENTY YEARS AGO  
AUGUST 27, 1959  
The Norwich Skip-A-Longs lost to Glen Mills Saturday

night to the tune of 15-8 in the second game of the P.W.S.U. playdowns. The Skips won the first game here 11-4 last week.

Winners in the local Otterville swim meet recently were:

Free Style: Girls 8 and under- Lois Chisholm, Kathy Jardine, Janie McMurchy.

Boys 8 and under- Johnny Walther, Tom Powell.

Girls 10 and under- Marlene Finch, Louise Chisholm, Helen Collver.

Boys 10 and under- David Downing, Mark Bishop, Chuck Alward.

Girls 12 and under- Linda Addison, Mary Ann DeWachter.

Boys 12 and under- Eddie Douma, Gary Walther, Gordie Hill.

Girls 14 and under- Karen McMurchy, Ann Powell.

For the 6th consecutive year Gordon W. Innes, of Woodstock won the Premier Exhibitor honours at the Oxford County Black and White Day, held August 28, in connection with Woodstock Fair.

WOODCARVINGS, Animals, Birds, Figurines, Radehorses, also rural mail box. HARRY LEE OTTERVILLE, 879-6995. Corner of Queen and Dover Sts.

### Births

SMITH - Ron and Wenda, RR 1, Otterville are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, April Ashley, 5 lbs. 15 oz., on Monday, August 6, 1979, at Tillsonburg Memorial Hospital. A sister for Jodi and Neil. 5

## Otterville News

Rev. Donald Gorrie of Woodstock was the guest speaker in the Fellowship Baptist Church, Otterville on Sunday morning. Accompanied by Mrs. Gorrie, they were dinner guests with Mrs. Harold Waring.

Mrs. Winnie Leach attended the funeral of her sister, the late Mrs. Kathleen Drinkrow which was held in Flint, Michigan on Monday, August 6, 1979.

The late Mrs. Drinkrow is survived by two sisters, Mrs. Muriel Huffman of Simcoe and Mrs. Winnie Leach, Otterville. Also two brothers Harold Attlebury of Simcoe and Morley Attlebury of Norwich, Ontario.

Mrs. Thelma Garnett has returned to her home after spending several days with her sister, Mrs. Lawson Spicer and Mr. Spicer and other relatives at Tobermory.

Mrs. Olga Clifford has returned to her home after a ten day visit with relatives and friends at Oshawa, Port Hope, St. Catharines, and Welland. She was accompanied by Miss Alma Hewitt of London.

Mr. and Mrs. Colin Robinson spent Thursday with Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Robinson at Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Christensen and daughter Sandy of Elmsdale, Nova Scotia called on friends in the village on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Avey

attended the Losee Family reunion which was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Grant Losee and family at Woodstock on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Martin of Toronto were Sunday guests with Mr. and Mrs. Colin Robinson. Mrs. Violet Martin of North Fort Meyers, Florida returned home with them after having spent the past four weeks with her brother Mr. Robinson and Mrs. Rodney Robinson of Hamilton spent part of the day with them.

The village and area are reminded of the Decoration Day which will be held in the cemeteries of the Township on Sunday, August 19th. There will be no service at the Otter Cemetery.

Mrs. Cyril Leach of Brantford spent several days last week at the home of Mrs. Earle Petch.

Mrs. Ted McElhone and family of Orangeburg, South Carolina who have been holidaying with Mr. and Mrs. Carman Scott and Mrs. George McElhone were recent guests with Dr. and Mrs. Matthews in Hamilton.

Mrs. Eunice Brown, sons Lawrence and Stanley, and grandson Craig have returned to their homes after having spent a week with relatives in Quebec.

Mrs. Thurman Smith of Alcon, Tennessee spent Thursday with her cousins Mrs. Jack Freeland and Mr. Freeland.

## Otterville post office flag taken

OTTERVILLE (C) — The post office flag, lowered to half-mast in respect to the Right Honorable John Diefenbaker, has been taken, and village residents are upset about it.

Commented one resident: "It seems a shame in this time of trouble, strife and sadness that an individual or individuals would stoop so low as to take the flag of our country, which was lowered at half-mast in respect to the Right Honorable John Diefenbaker."

"Don't they feel guilty? There must be some reason for this. Are they trying to prove something to somebody? Why don't they make a better image of themselves for the younger generation?"

## Decoration Day services well attended

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mr. and Mrs. Rod Taylor entertained their aunt, Mrs. Charles Kelly of Burgessville, and their daughter, Janet, Sunday evening in honour of their birthdays. Miss Pauline Johnson of Simcoe was also a guest.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Roland of St. Catharines were Thursday evening guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Freeland.

Mr. and Mrs. Post and sons, Johnny and Corey, of Nova Scotia and Mrs. Grace Morris of Woodstock are visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Pinnoy.

A number from the village attended the annual Decoration Day service at Bookton on Sunday. Other cemeteries in the area having Decoration were at Otter Cemetery, Otterville, Springfield, New Road and Milldale. Aug 16/79

Mark Pounder and daughter, June, son-in-law, Malcolm Todd, and their daughter, Louise, from Durham County, England, are guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Rachar and the latter's brother, Jack Pounder. Mr. Pounder is a brother of Mrs. Roy Rachar, Jack's father, and this is their first visit to Canada. While here they will also visit Mr. and Mrs. Bob Rachar of Delhi and Bob and Judith Watson of Guelph.

Mrs. V. Glendenning of Simcoe called on Mrs. Harold Waring on Monday afternoon.

Mrs. Violet Howse has returned to her home after having spent a holiday in the Canadian West with relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reddick of Peterborough were Monday guests of Mr. and Mrs. Colin Robinson.

## Otterville News

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mr. and Mrs. Jack Freeland accompanied by Mrs. J.P. Heatley of Chatham and Mr. and Mrs. Robert English of Norwich called at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Bull, Beamsville. They were sorry to learn Mrs. Bull was a patient in the Joseph - Brant Hospital, Burlington.

Mr. and Mrs. Emery Harvey were Sunday guests with Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Batlett of Tillsonburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Emery Harvey returned to their home on Thursday after a two-week holiday with their son Morley Harvey at Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island. They enjoyed their trip very much, which was taken by TCA.

Mrs. Leonard Lee of Oak-

ville and Mrs. William McDowell of Mississauga, and Dr. Clair Arthur and Mrs. Arthur of Preston, were among those attending the Decoration at Otter Cemetery, Otterville.

Robert Cooper, formerly of Otterville, has returned home from Saudi Arabia, where he has been working as a cable-repair foreman with the Bell Telephone. He is holidaying with his wife and family in St. Catharines and also his mother, Mrs. Evelyn Cooper, brother Dave, sister-in-law Marjorie and sister Deborah in Tillsonburg as well as friends in Otterville.

Mr. Cooper will return to Saudi Arabia, until December when he will return to his home permanently.



**KENNETH DAVID  
ARTHUR**

Kenneth David Arthur of RR 2, Otterville, passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Wednesday, August 15, 1979, in his 65th year.

Surviving are his wife, the former Ann McNeil; one son, Brian Arthur of Hamilton; two grandchildren; and two brothers, Clayton Arthur of Tillsonburg and Jim Arthur of Otterville.

Resting at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, until noon Saturday, thence to Otterville United Church for service at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earl Moore.

Interment in Bookton Cemetery.

**GLADYS MAY  
BLENKINSOP**

Mrs. Harold Blenkinsop of Queen St. E., Beachville, passed away at Alexandra Hospital, Ingersoll, on Thursday, August 16, 1979, in her 82nd year.

She was the former Gladys May Jull.

Surviving, besides her husband, are one daughter, Mrs. Paul (Betty) Hill of RR 1, Norwich; three sisters, Mrs. John (Annie) Pritchard of Norwich, Mrs. George (Beatrice) McCurdy of Delhi, and Mrs. George (Gertrude) Mayhew of Port Francis; one brother, George Jull of Otterville; four grandchildren; and one great-granddaughter.

She was predeceased by her first husband, George Berryman, in 1931; and by a son, Ronald.

Rested at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service was held Saturday, August 18, at 3:30 p.m. conducted by Pastor Don Gorrie.

The pallbearers were Melbourne Smith, Glen Hill, Kevin Hill, Don McKee, Keith Jull, and George Branigan.

Interment in Bookton Cemetery.

**KENNETH DAVID  
ARTHUR**

Funeral service for the late Kenneth David Arthur of RR 2, Otterville, who passed away on August 15, 1979, was held at the Otterville United Church on Saturday, August 18, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earl Moore.

Mrs. William A. McMullen presided at the organ and accompanied the soloist, Mrs. Jack Walther, who sang *Whispering Hope*. The congregation sang the hymn *What A Friend We Have In Jesus*.

Memorial donations were to the Oxford Diabetic Association, Canadian Cancer Society, Ontario Heart Foundation, Gideon Bible Society, Otterville United Church, St. John's Anglican Church and Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital.

Pallbearers were Bill Arthur, Donald Arthur, Keith Arthur, Dr. Clair Arthur, Robert Arthur and Gus Butz.

Interment in Bookton Cemetery.

Nelson F. Gleason Home, Otterville, in charge of arrangements.

**LAVINA PHILLIPS**

Otterville (C) — Mrs. Lavina Phillips, 32 St. Andrew St. Aylmer, died in the St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital on Thursday, August 23 in her 85th year.

Born in Corinth on September 12, 1894, she was the daughter of the late William and Martha (Purdy) Logan.

The late Mrs. Phillips was a member of the St. Paul's United Church and Arkess Rebekah Lodge No. 168 Springfield.

She was predeceased by her husband Thomas H. Phillips in 1949 and her sister, Pearl Smith.

Surviving are two sons, Lloyd of RR 1 Aylmer, Melvin of St. Thomas, two daughters, Mrs. Violet Howse, Otterville, and Mrs. Clara McAnulty of Toronto.

**MURIEL PAULI**

Mrs. H. H. Pauli of Otterville passed away at University Hospital, London, on Saturday, August 18, 1979, in her 65th year.

She was the former Muriel Payne, daughter of the late Birdie Steinhoff and Reginald Payne.

Surviving, besides her husband, are one daughter, Mrs. Joan Neale of Tillsonburg; and three grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her first husband, Elwood Brown, in 1964, and by a sister, Mrs. Doris Clifford, in 1974.

Rested at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service was held Tuesday, August 21, at 2 p.m., conducted by Rev. Dr. Thomas Ristine of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

An Eastern Star service was held Monday at 8 p.m. at the Funeral Home, under the auspices of Norwich Chapter 175.

Donations to the Tillsonburg Hospital or any charitable organization would be appreciated by the family.

Also surviving are 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. The funeral service was held on Monday August 27 at the H.A. Kebbel Funeral Home, Aylmer. Rev. Norman Jones of St. Paul's United Church conducted the service, assisted by Rev. George Shields of Littlewood. During the service Mrs. Edna McIntyre of Springfield sang as a solo "How Great Thou Art". Burial was in Otter Cemetery, Otterville.

Pallbearers were Merlin Howse, Thomas Phillips, William Phillips, Howard Phillips, James Phillips, David Phillips.

Members of the Arkess Rebekah Lodge conducted a memorial service at the Funeral Home, on Sunday evening.

**BERTHA MARIE MOORE**

Mrs. Edward S. Moore of Otterville passed away in England on Wednesday, August 29, 1979, in her 54th year.

She was the former Bertha Marie Briggs.

Surviving, besides her husband, are two daughters, Mrs. Larry (Dianne) Smith of Springfield and Mrs. Vic (Margaret) Hamm of Otterville; two sisters, Mrs. Kenneth (Vera) Bouck of Walsingham and Mrs. David (Barbara) Jones of Niagara Falls; one brother, William Briggs of Tillsonburg; and three grandchildren.

Resting at the Nelson Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, for visitation Thursday from 2 to 4:30 p.m. and 7 to 9 p.m. Funeral service will be held Friday, September 7, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earle Moore.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

The casket will remain closed.

**MARIE MOORE**

OTTERVILLE (C) - The funeral service for the late Mrs. Marie Moore, beloved wife of Edward S. Moore, who passed away in England August 29, 1979, was held from the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home in Otterville,

on Thursday, Sept. 6, 1979. Rev. Earl Moore conducted the service. Mrs. William A. McMullen was the pianist.

Memorial donations were to the Canadian Friends Service, Ontario Heart Foundation, Canadian Cancer, Diabetic Association, Arthritic and Rheumatism, Tillsonburg Hospital and Gideon Bible Society.

The bearers were: Charles Weeks, William McMullen Sr., Ted Briggs, Ron Sage, Guy Vandekerchove and Bill Howse.

Interment was in the Otter Cemetery.

Following the service, the relatives and friends met in the hall of the United Church where tea was served.

**FRANCIS (FRANK)  
WILLIAM SIMMONS**

Funeral service for the late Francis (Frank) William Simmons of 26 Saunders St., Tillsonburg, who passed away on August 22, 1979, was held at the H.D. Verhoeve Funeral Home, Tillsonburg, on Saturday, August 25, at 3 p.m. conducted by Rev. William Stanley of North Broadway Baptist Church and Rev. Lawrence E. Mason of Tillsonburg.

Two solos were sung by Mr. Keith Buchner of Brownsville, All the Way My Savior Leads Me and



# Open house held for 50th anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. David Chambers of 21 Cook St. Norwich, held open house on Sunday, August 12, at the Norwich Public School auditorium in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.

They were married in 1929 at the home of the bride's parents in Cornell, with Rev. Harold Johnston officiating. They were attended by the bride's sister, Anna Maunder, as bridesmaid and Sam Chambers, brother of the groom, as best man. Olive Maunder, sister of the bride, was flower girl, and Miss Dolly Broad, friend of the bride, sang "I Love You Truly," accompanied at the piano by Miss Thelma Maunder, sister of the bride.

Following their wedding trip to Saginaw, Michigan; they resided at Otterville on a farm for five years and later farmed in Elgin County and North Norwich prior to retiring to Norwich in 1962.

Both are members of Norwich United Church. Mrs. Chambers is a member of the U.C.W., the Utility Club, the Golden Age Club and The Norwich Women's Institute, of which she is a past president.

Mr. Chambers is a former councillor and reeve of North Norwich Township, also a former councillor of Norwich Village; a member of the Otter Creek Conservation Authority, Norwich District High School Board, and was an agent and adjustor of Otter Mutual Insurance Co. Presently Mr. Chambers is a member of the Norwich Public Utility Commission.

They have five sons, Fergus of Ottawa, Spencer of Calgary, William of Fergus, Donald of Picton, Howard of Sudbury, also 14 grandchildren. All were present at the open house with the exception of Spencer and family of Calgary, who were unable to attend.

Around 250 relatives, neighbors and friends attended the open house on Sunday to extend congratulations and best wishes.

For receiving, the bride of 50 years chose a floor-length gown of dusty rose, brocaded polyester with corsage of yellow roses and dusty rose ribbon.

Grandsons, David Chambers of Fergus and Brian Chambers of Ottawa, welcomed the guests and Jeffrey Chambers of Fergus attended the guest book. The tea table was covered with a white linen damask cloth from Ireland and centered with three tier wedding cake, enhanced on each side with a beautiful floral arrangements of yellow roses and feathered mums, tall lighted tapers in silver holders and silver tea services at each end.

Pouring were Mrs. Clarence Stover, Mrs. Lorne Treffrey and Mrs. Kenneth Scott, all sisters of the bride, also Mrs. Sam Chambers, sister-in-law, and Mrs. Maude Eaton, cousin. Mrs. Sam Lucas, friend, and Mrs. Lloyd Chambers of Newmarket, niece.

Inviting the guests to the tea room were Mrs. Ray McQueen and Mrs. Bruce Chambers, nieces. Serving were Mrs. Jim Chambers, Mrs. Mervin Scott, Mrs. Carl McQueen, Mrs. Murray Treffrey, Miss Nancy Scott.

Serving the wedding cake in silver baskets were granddaughters, Janice Chambers of Fergus, Karen Chambers of Ottawa and Rebecca Chambers of Picton.

During the afternoon, Mrs. Clarence Stover, sister, and Mrs. William McMullen played quiet music and Mrs. Marguerite Lymburner and Mrs. Grace Pond of Dunnville, cousins, sang two beautiful duets, "Because He Lived" and "O Day of

Gladness."

Following the open house, a reception and family dinner was held in the banquet room of the United Church, served by the ladies of the U.C.W. to around 100 guests.

Seated at the head table were the bridal party of 50 years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Stover, Mrs. Sam Chambers, Mr. and Mrs. David Chambers, Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Treffrey and Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Scott.

Prior to the dinner, Mrs. Lymburner and Mrs. Pond, accompanied by Mrs. William McMullen, sang "The Lord's Prayer" Grace was returned by Rev. Burton Crowe

Following the dinner, their eldest son, Fergus of Ottawa, was master of ceremonies. He reminisced on the past years and the many changes during his parents' wedded life, and thanked them on behalf of his brothers for their aid, encouragement, their education, and the discipline. He stated their generation have seen more changes than any other generation born into society, and the social changes in family and community life. He said he was not sure the present younger generation can stand up and accept the changes as the generation of his parents did.

The grandchildren each presented their grandparents with gifts and were thanked by their grandmother.

Mrs. Lymburner and Mrs. Pond, by request of the bride and groom, sang a duet, "Precious Memories."

Clarence Stover brother-in-law, reminisced and told many stories of the bride and groom, as young people. Wilson Clark, a cousin, dressed as a lady and Mrs. Lorne Treffrey sister, dressed as a man, performed an old fashioned dance while Mr. Stover sang "Put on Your Old Grey Bonnet,"

accompanied by his wife, Thelma.

Kenneth Giles of Palermo, a cousin, brought best wishes from the Ball Family.

Fergus Chambers expressed appreciation to

the Ladies of the Church for their lovely dinner.

Mr. and Mrs. Chambers were the recipients of many messages of congratulations including those from Governor-General Edward Schreyer; Pierre Trudeau,

leader of the Opposition, Hon. Harry Parrott, M.P.P. for Oxford, and Dr. Bruce Halliday, M.P. for Oxford.

They also received many cards, gifts and flowers, among them a trip to Ireland presented from their family.



MR. AND MRS. DAVID CHAMBERS



# Mould menacing tobacco

By Carol Bruman  
of The Free Press

TILLSONBURG — A blue mould disease menacing Southwestern Ontario's tobacco belt has already destroyed \$6 million worth of crops and could ruin more if an epidemic breaks out.

Larry Scanlon, manager for the Ontario Crop Insurance Commission, said that if forecasts continue for rain and temperatures below 16, blue mould will spread rapidly.

The only way blue mould — characterized by yellow blotches on the upper surface of tobacco leaves and a greyish-blue mildew underneath — can be stopped is by hot, dry weather, Scanlon said.

So far, blue mould has invaded about 60 farms in the area of Tillsonburg, Otterville, Langton and LaSalette.

Steve Mayoresak of Potter's Road, Tillsonburg, reported the first case of blue mould four weeks ago. Since then, he has dug up his 52-acre crop on the advice of tobacco experts at the Delhi research station.

The experts, working in conjunction with the agriculture ministry, first tried to retard the disease and salvage Mayoresak's \$150,000 crop by spraying it with chemicals, the farmer said. Last Friday, however, the crop was dug up.

In the meantime, neighboring farmers such as Frank Stier and George Fulop are complaining because their crops have been hit by blue mould. They maintain that Mayoresak should have dug up

his crops sooner to prevent the disease from spreading.

Although no one is certain where the disease originated, Mayoresak said he suspects it was in Sun City, Fla., where his seed was shipped to be grown into seedlings.

After buying seed from Fernlea Flowers in Delhi, Mayoresak shipped them to Speedling Inc. in Sun City to be individually potted.

"Blue mould is common among tobacco crops in North Carolina but re-

mains dormant because of the hot, dry climate there," he said.

Mayoresak said he believes many lawsuits will be filed by irate farmers because of enormous revenue losses. And he maintains that U.S. customs should be faulted for not inspecting plants properly, if indeed the disease was picked up in Florida.

Looking over his 48-acre farm, Stier scratches his head and nods in disbelief. "I was just getting ready to prime. The stalks were nice and high. The leaves

were large. It was a mighty fine crop until blue mould struck."

Many tobacco farmers who don't insure their crop face heavy losses, but Stier considers himself lucky. Ontario crop insurance has agreed to cover 80 per cent of his losses. Last year his crop earned more than \$100,000.

Ontario's 2,600 tobacco growers received a record \$267.9 million last year for 163 million pounds exported to 42 countries.

Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers'

Marketing Board officials and agriculture ministry representatives are to announce today when farmers can be expected to receive insurance payments.

Tobacco board chairman Ted Raytrowski met Tuesday night with Scanlon, other representatives of the crop insurance commission and several Tillsonburg farmers to discuss methods of payment.

Agriculture ministry officials were to be at the Tillsonburg meeting to answer questions on whether the fungus is likely to recur after infected crops are dug out.

Wednesday, August 1, 1979

*London Free Press*



By Ed Héal of The Free Press

Frank Stier, left, and George Fulop, both tobacco farmers for 40 years, examine blue mould in Fu-

lop's crop. The disease, which has ruined both their crops, has destroyed more than \$6 million

worth of tobacco in Southwestern Ontario's tobacco belt. (Another picture is on Page A4.)



Aug 2/79

# Sunny skies may not save tobacco crop

By Carol Bruman and Mary Kehoe of The Free Press

TILLSONBURG — Sunshine is expected to return to this area today — but it may be too little and too late to help hundreds of farmers whose tobacco crops have been devastated by blue mould disease.

Sunny, dry conditions are needed to halt the epidemic that threatens half of Ontario's 2,600 tobacco growers. However, the London weather office predicted Wednesday night that more disease-breeding humidity and showers should return Sunday.

An estimated 350 farmers have already been hit by the mould and "well over 200 claims" have been made to the Ontario crop insurance commission, said spokesman Larry Scanlon of Tillsonburg.

Even if most of the crop survives, Scanlon said "it's already a disaster for everybody involved."

The commission has said insured farmers will be compensated as for any other peril, such as hail, and Scanlon said payments could reach into the millions.

He said commission officials from Toronto were to meet Wednesday night with local members to discuss the situation and a statement will likely be released today.

Meanwhile, Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Marketing Board chairman Ted Raytrowsky of the St. Williams area was heading to Toronto with other board officials. He indicated before leaving that the group may later travel to Ottawa.

A marketing board spokesman said there is no estimate of the number of tons spoiled by the mould, which is characterized by yellow blotches on the upper surface of the leaves and a greyish-blue mildew underneath. The spokesman also said no one knows how tobacco prices will be affected.

Dr. Sovhy Gayed, a pathologist at the Delhi research centre, has been talking to agriculture experts in North Carolina, where blue mould is affecting crops despite the state's hot, dry climate.

"They recommended not to use chemicals to retard the disease, because spraying leaves a residue on tobacco, making it unsalable," he said, adding that buyers claim some chemicals ruin the body and flavor of tobacco.

Lionel Edwards, an inspection officer with the U.S. agriculture department in Raleigh, N.C., said in a telephone interview Wednesday that blue mould has struck half the farms in North Carolina, ruining one-quarter of the state's crop.

"It's impossible to give figures and translate the damage into dollars yet, but all I've been hearing for the past six weeks is blue mould disease," he said.

The mould, which usually attacks tobacco during its seedling stage, began infesting crops in Florida and moved north rapidly.

Edwards said cigarette manufacturers aren't expected to suffer tobacco shortages, because a surplus of the crop is harvested annually in the U.S.

The board has confirmed, however, that flue-cured tobacco will be sold under the present agreement between the Canadian tobacco manufacturers' council and the marketing board.

After meeting with the Ontario tobacco

manufacturers' council, Delhi research station officials and the crop insurance commission in Tillsonburg on Tuesday, the board recommended "only tobacco which is severely damaged and considered unsalable" should be dug up.

"It is further recommended that producers continue normal cultural practices," the board said.

Blue mould was reported in tobacco greenhouses during the 1960s but has not menaced stalks in the field since 1945, when it did little damage because of good weather conditions.

The first case of blue mould was reported four weeks ago by Steve Mayoressak of Potter's Road, Tillsonburg. He has been forced to dig up his 52-acre, \$150,000 crop after attempts to retard the disease with chemicals failed.

Although no one is certain where the disease originated, Mayoressak said he suspects it was in Sun City, Fla., where his seed was shipped to be grown into seedlings.

Ontario's 2,600 tobacco growers received a record \$267.9 million last year for 103 million pounds exported to 42 countries.

## Disaster or overplay?

# Experts divided

By Gord Wainman and Carol Bruman of The Free Press

Blue mould is not only causing untold damage to Southwestern Ontario's multi-million-dollar cigarette tobacco crop, it also has the experts disagreeing.

Plant scientist W. E. McKeen of the University of Western Ontario calls it a disaster but two provincial crop specialists say the potential is there for a disaster but the situation hasn't reached that point yet.

"It's through the whole area just east

of Tillsonburg," said McKeen. "There's no doubt in my mind that it's a disaster." The mould has also been reported in the Brantford area.

But provincial crop specialist Ralph Shaw in a telephone interview from Delhi urged that "cool heads" prevail.

"It's serious. But the tendency is to overplay it. . . . We shouldn't let it build up in our minds that it's an epidemic that will ruin the whole crop."

McKeen said that in his surveys east of Tillsonburg in the last few days he hasn't found any disease-free fields.

But Norm Sheidow, a tobacco expert at Delhi, said that between Delhi and Till-

sonburg, where the heaviest concentration exists, some fields have not been hit. East of Delhi some fields have been hit but the concentration is diminished.

Sheidow emphasized that because a leaf has spots of mould (believed either brought in with seedlings from the southern United States or carried by winds) doesn't mean it can't be sold.

"There are rumors about that blue mould tobacco won't sell, but it will" although it will be downgraded, fetching growers a reduced price.

Henry Ediger of Toronto, manager of the Ontario Crop Insurance Commission, is in Delhi to help process a flood of in-

insurance claims. About 350 claims have been filed and he said it is estimated 500 of the 2,600 tobacco farms have been affected by the mould to some extent.

The experts agree that the only thing that will retard the spread of the disease is hot dry days with temperatures over 21 and nights that don't dip below 16. The London weather office says days will be partly cloudy with highs over 21 for today and Saturday, with lows down as far as 14.

Blue mould, characterized by yellow blotches on the upper surface of tobacco leaves and a greyish-blue mildew under-

## On area tobacco farms rain is four-letter word

TILLSONBURG — George Fulop winced at the sight of clouds.

"Rain again," he murmured, shaking his fist in mock defiance.

The tobacco farmer stands to lose more than \$200,000 to blue mould this year, but still cracks a smile.

"Why burden others with my problem?" he philosophized.

One can't help but notice, however, that rain is considered a dirty four-letter word now to those who used to cherish wet days in the tobacco belt.

Blue mould, which has contaminated Fulop's 86-acre crop, along with 150 others in Tillsonburg, Otterville, Langton and LaSalette, thrives on rain and temperatures below 16. It

is estimated that it has ruined \$18 million worth of tobacco.

Last month, before the dreaded fungus was detected, Fulop anticipated his crop would fetch top prices on the export market.

"Who would want to buy this stuff now? Import buyers claim the mould will ruin the body and flavor sought in fine tobacco," he said, pointing to a leaf covered with fuzzy greyish-blue mildew.

Then he pointed to nine new \$9,000 kilns, which have not been used to dry tobacco.

"It's a shame. I hope the winter is severe enough to kill the fungus so I can use the kilns next year," Fulop said.

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spores are being spread by winds, farmers should be aware that it can be carried from one farm to another on clothing and machinery.

Sheidow said that leaves with mould spots will be salable but they will be downgraded depending on the extent of infection. There is no harm to smokers of tobacco with mould damage, he added.

McKeen said that already one 52-acre field has been plowed under because of irreparable damage and he has seen one other field that should be.

"Each field turned under is worth \$3,000 an acre, so on the one field alone the damage is worth over \$150,000," he said.

The first case of blue mould was reported four weeks ago by Steve Mayoressak of Potter's Road, Tillsonburg. He has plowed under his 52-acre crop after

attempts to retard the disease with chemicals failed.

F. A. Todd, a tobacco expert with the U.S. agriculture department's extension service in Raleigh, N.C., said in a telephone interview Thursday flue-curing does kill blue mould spores, leaving tobacco salable.

"If mould spots are very large, however, leaves will disintegrate in the kiln." In North Carolina, where the disease has plagued 95 per cent of the state's

225,000 farms since May 20, Todd said this year's harvest has brought good prices nevertheless.

He estimated the mould has reduced the value of this year's crop by one to two per cent.

"That translates into a \$10-million to \$15-million loss," he said.

Ontario's 2,600 tobacco growers received a record \$267.9 million last year for 103 million pounds exported to 42 countries.



LONDON FREE PRESS

## Suspected mould source

ban

## U.S. tobacco seedlings facing

By Carol Bruman  
of The Free Press

Aug 4/79

DELHI — Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise, shocked to learn that blue mould has now hit 500 farms in the Ontario tobacco belt, says U.S. seedling imports should be banned to prevent future crop contamination in Canada.

Blue mould, now threatening to cripple Southwestern Ontario's tobacco crop if cool, humid weather persists, is suspected to have been carried here by seedlings grown in Sun City, Fla.

Wise told about 300 farmers during a meeting at Delhi's tobacco research station Friday that the contaminated seedlings weren't scientifically tested before crossing the border at Windsor. "Inspection takes too much time, so Canadian customs officials usually accept health certificates issued by the U.S. agriculture department."

Mike Murray, a director of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board, warned of repercussions because of infected seed slipping through cus-

toms. "It all comes down to negligence. When the dust settles on this, there are going to be lawsuits like you wouldn't believe."

Farmers also learned that a worldwide search is under way to find a chemical to combat blue mould.

Dr. Sovhy Gayed, a plant pathologist at the Delhi research station, said spraying with such chemicals would be a last resort because it would leave unwanted residues on plants. "Southwestern Ontario is renowned for low chemical residues

(in tobacco). Buyers prefer our tobacco this way."

Gayed said chemicals are also needed to fight the fungus, capable of remaining in the ground through winter and affecting future crops. "We want to discover how to get rid of it for good."

He suggested that farmers can fight the spread of blue mould by cutting the flowers off and using sucker spray on plants. Bottom leaves can also be removed to let air circulate.

However, hot, dry weather is needed to kill the disease. While the London

weather office forecasts hot, sunny conditions today and Sunday, Monday and Tuesday are expected to be warm and humid with a chance of thundershowers, ideal mould-breeding weather.

Robert Carson, director of the London-Middlesex environment health service, said the fungus will not harm people. "I don't think there is any way it can affect humans in a harmful way. Moulds are very common, especially in cereal crops.

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Mon. Aug. 6/79

## Tobacco crop 'still large' despite mould

By Gord Wainman  
of The Free Press

Tobacco farmers' battle against blue mould is intense, and there's no indication the disease is winning the war, the chairman of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board said Sunday.

Ted Raytrowsky has been working day and night with tobacco experts the past week to work out a holding action farmers can use to reduce the effects of the disease, brought into Canada on imported U.S. seedlings.

"There's no use in panicking at this point," he said, pointing out that as board chairman he is concerned for the 350 to 600 farms thought to be affected, and as

a grower he is concerned because the crop on his own St. Williams area farm is infected.

"Even if all the 350 persons who have reported to crop insurance (commission) had to destroy their entire crop, which isn't necessary, the 230-million-pound crop would be reduced by only 24 million pounds," Raytrowsky said. "A crop in the neighborhood of 200 million pounds is still a large crop."

Raytrowsky primed the lower leaves of his crop a week ago and found blue mould. When he discovered the disease, he stripped up to four leaves off the bottom of some plants to reduce the danger of it spreading further up the plant. Tobacco plants have up to 18 leaves and maturing leaves are primed from the bottom up, at the rate of several a week,

until the plant is stripped, usually by mid-September.

When Raytrowsky cured the diseased leaves, the quality was poor at first, but he did find some improvement in later curing.

"You have to salvage what you can because it's better than living off crop insurance. If you had to live off the insurance, you'd starve."

U.S. farmers live with blue mould and have learned to cope, he said. "Blue mould is an off-and-on occurrence in the states, where it's in epidemic proportions this year."

Norm Sheidow, a government tobacco specialist at Delhi, said the weekend was generally hot and dry, conditions which halt the spread of the mould. While the situation remains "serious" and im-

provement depends on hot, dry weather for the remaining month of the harvest, the situation isn't yet a "disaster," he said.

"The heavy concentration continues to be east of Tillsonburg. I haven't heard of any reports in the Aylmer area," Sheidow said.

Light infestations have been reported as far east as Brantford, and for the first time in the Drumbo area three farms reported mould on the weekend. Drumbo is northeast of Tillsonburg. Tobacco is grown as far west as Essex County, southeast of Windsor.

The key to holding the mould in check is the weather in the next few weeks, Sheidow said. "We can take a few days of rain here and there, but not a week of it at once."

As farmers continue the weekly harvest of leaves, the crop outlook should also improve because tougher upper leaves aren't as susceptible to mould as the lower leaves, he said. And farmers who cure leaves with only a few spots of mould should have no trouble selling at auction. "One or two spots on a leaf probably won't affect the grade of the leaf or the price."

Raytrowsky said farmers are still guaranteed an average \$1.16 a pound by manufacturers on leaves not reduced below regular grades by blue mould.

Raytrowsky added that crop insurance adjusters said Sunday only 300 acres of tobacco have been ordered destroyed. "When you consider 100,000 acres is planted, that's a drop in the bucket."

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## 'Spore showers' may transport mould

By Gord Wainman  
of The Free Press

The term "spore showers" may be as jolting to Ontario tobacco growers as "acid rain" is to other farmers.

Furney Todd, a tobacco expert from North Carolina State University, said Monday that windblown spore showers may be carrying crop-devastating blue mould spores "by the trillions" from U.S. fields across the Great Lakes to Ontario tobacco fields.

Ontario tobacco specialist Norm Sheidow of Delhi agreed spores could be infecting Ontario's crop, but added that Canadian experts still feel infected seed-

lings from Florida were the initial cause of this year's outbreak.

Todd agreed the seedlings imported into Ontario this spring could have been carrying the mould.

"It's always dangerous to transplant tobacco plants from one locale to another," said Todd, pointing out southern tobacco states have been heavily infected this year.

"We think it started in Florida and hopped north from 35 to 100 miles a jump by spore showers," he said. Cloudy, humid or foggy weather, which protects windblown spores from destruction by the sun, are ideal conditions for spore showers.

Todd said spore showers appear to have been responsible for the northern movement of the disease. Two weeks ago, Kentucky, about 350 miles as the spore flies from Ontario, reported blue mould.

"Kentucky is loaded with it, and although I haven't heard yet from Ohio experts, I expect they've got it there too," he said.

Tom Reid, a public relations officer for Fernlea Flowers Ltd. at Delhi, a supplier of seedlings to Ontario growers, said the firm hasn't been able to confirm that the seedlings it brought in from Florida were infected. The firm thinks the spore shower theory is more plausible.

"In 1938, 1944 and 1936, blue mould moved north from U.S. states into Ontario causing problems here, and we think that's what's happened this year," Reid said.

Sheidow said there has been a steady flow of calls over the holiday weekend from farmers either reporting suspected crop infections or seeking information on blue mould.



# Commission funding mould cleanup in effort to salvage tobacco crop

LONDON FREE PRESS

TILLSONBURG — The Ontario crop insurance commission has agreed to pay for removal of the bottom five leaves of tobacco plants infected with blue mould in an effort to salvage the crop.

To speed the cleanup, the commission will give permission by telephone to farmers to remove and destroy infected bottom leaves, the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board said Friday.

Adjusters will later visit the farms to

ensure cleanup was necessary.

The commission will pay up to \$40 an acre for the cleanup and will also pay compensation on the diseased plants.

For crops damaged beyond salvage, the commission warns farmers to contact officials and have damage inspected before plowing the crop under. The board advises the same procedure for growers insured under private insurance plans.

The board also warned farmers with heavy infestations not to plant tobacco in

the infested fields next spring.

For crops deemed beyond salvage, farmers are advised:

- The plant should be chopped or shredded.

- The remains should be disced completely into the soil to rot, a move which should be done on a warm sunny day after the dew has dried — suggested period 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- The addition of 25 pounds of nitrogen per acre or 75 pounds of ammonium nitrate will promote rotting.

- If regrowth of sucker plants occurs, the field should be worked again before rye is planted in the fall.

A local task force of representatives from the tobacco board, domestic manufacturers, leaf dealers, insurance commission and the Delhi research station is investigating compensation for both the insured and uninsured.

## Growers to abandon tobacco salvage

Wed Aug 8

STRAFFORDVILLE — Tobacco farmers with fields severely infected by blue mould have been advised by the Ontario crop insurance commission to abandon salvage efforts.

The Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board learned Tuesday that blue mould is a systemic disease that will relentlessly eat away the stalk of the tobacco plant. Thus, the insurance commission will not pay farmers the \$40 an acre promised earlier to remove the bottom leaves of infected plants.

"Taking off lower leaves is a futile exercise," said Norm Sheidow, a spokesman for the Delhi tobacco research centre. "The disease is here. There is no

eliminating it this season. There are new outbreaks every day."

At a meeting here with 75 tobacco growers, he said the crop insurance commission will cover up to 80 per cent of a farmer's losses because of blue mould.

Sheidow told farmers not to harvest crops if leaves are very spotted because the leaves "will rot in the kiln." However, if only five or six spots are detected in an entire field, the crop can be salvaged, he said.

Insured farmers will be guaranteed a minimum of \$1.16 a pound for harvested tobacco and 91 cents a pound if the crop is not harvested, he said.

## Blue mould on its way, Aylmer growers warned

By Randy Ray  
of The Free Press

AYLMER — Blue mould has not infected tobacco crops in this area but it is only a matter of time until the disease arrives, local growers were told Thursday night.

Alvin Lindsay of RR 2, Aylmer, a director for District 3 of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board, said growers are engaged in a race against time with their multi-million-dollar tobacco crop at stake.

"If the crop can be taken off before the mould gets here, we're all right," Lindsay said in an interview after speaking to 150 area growers. "But if it beats the harvest, there's trouble. . . It takes only a week to destroy the plants."

Lindsay said the disease already has damaged or destroyed tobacco crops 15 kilometres east of here, near Langton, Stratfordville and Eden.

The first case of blue mould was reported in early July in the Tillsonburg area. Since then, it has hit many crops in that area and spread northeast to the Brantford and Drumbo areas.

Seedlings imported from Florida have taken most of the blame for bringing the disease, a leaf-damaging mildew which breeds in cool, damp conditions. The mould's spores are thought to be spreading on the wind.

During the meeting, called to advise growers of the mould situation, Lindsay provided tips on how growers can speed the maturing of crops and thus avoid the blight. He also advised that anyone who notices signs of the mould on his plants should take them immediately to the Delhi tobacco research station.

## Tobacco mould may be slowing

Aug 15/79

The spread of blue mould across Southwestern Ontario's multi-million-dollar tobacco belt may be slowing down, a tobacco expert at the Delhi research station said Wednesday.

"I can't say it's stopped, but I think it's slowed down," said Milt Watson. He noted that the slowdown has occurred despite the absence of hot, dry weather that retards the spread of the disease.

He agrees with other experts that about half of the province's 2,600 farms have some degree of blue mould infection, but he wouldn't speculate how close Ontario will come to a target harvest of 230 million pounds.

"I think giving any figure now would be a pretty darned wild guess," he said, because the harvest which began at the first of August won't be complete until mid-September.

More than 300 farmers' crops have been destroyed by blue mould, and Watson warned that some anxious farmers with less than total damage are harvesting immature tobacco which can't be properly cured.

Tobacco experts have advised farmers not to replant tobacco on plowed-under tobacco fields next year in case spores survive the winter.



# Ottawa to order bad tobacco destroyed

Aug 17/79

Government inspectors will soon have the authority to order tobacco crops infected with blue mould destroyed, Agriculture Minister John Wise said Thursday.

He said the federal cabinet will likely pass the empowering regulations within a week.

"Our immediate aim in being able to order this destruction is to prevent the spread of disease spores from one field to the next."

He said any crop considered worthless one in which no leaves can be salvaged will be ordered destroyed. He didn't specify what would happen to a field only partially infected.

Many farmers in the tobacco belt already have plowed their crops under since this prevents spores from germinating over the winter and infecting next year's crop.

Wise also said the new regulations would provide for destruction of any crop next year that is found to be infected.

Provincial horticulture specialist Peter Flemming of Simcoe said Thursday there's no chance that blue mould will spread to vegetable crops.

He said he wanted to squelch fears which might result from a story in Thursday's Toronto Globe and Mail, suggesting the mould could be spreading to vegetables.

"They sure went on hearsay on that one. That sort of story could get farmers across the province worried that blue mould will be hitting their vegetable crops and it won't," he said.

"At this time of year with the cooler, damper weather that we normally get, mildews and other moulds are quite common on commercial vegetables. It hits every year and this year maybe a bit

more than normal because of the weather."

Because of the publicity surrounding devastation in the province's multi-million-dollar tobacco crop, it has become the "fad" to call any disease blue mould, said Flemming.

Norm Sheidow, a tobacco specialist at the government research station in Delhi, said the report that close to 100 per cent of the crop will be lost to blue mould is exaggerated.

"We've already got tobacco primed and cured. And the outlying tobacco areas are still blue mould free," said Sheidow. The harvest began about two weeks ago and winds up in mid-September.

"It is possible we might harvest less than half the crop, but it's a little early to say," Sheidow said. Indications are that the disease is slowing down, he added.

The government at this point feels about half of the 230-million-pound crop has some degree of infection. Most growers carry crop insurance and payouts are expected to run between \$50-\$100 million, depending on the spread of the disease during the rest of this season.

Meanwhile, a committee of farmers in the Burford area is angry about slow compensation from insurance companies.

"There is nothing we can do about the mould," said committee leader George Phulop Jr., "but there is strength in numbers and if we pull together we might be able to make these private groups come to our aid or we can threaten liability."

Phulop said a boycott of the companies is also a possible weapon farmers have. Several private insurers were invited to a meeting Wednesday — attended by 350 farmers — but none attended.

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## Crop insurance is the answer

The federal government has made a fair offer to Western Ontario tobacco farmers whose crops have been damaged or destroyed by blue mould. Farmers who blame government negligence for their blue mould losses tend to overlook their own obligation to buy adequate crop insurance. Uninsured tobacco growers are partly responsible for their own plight.

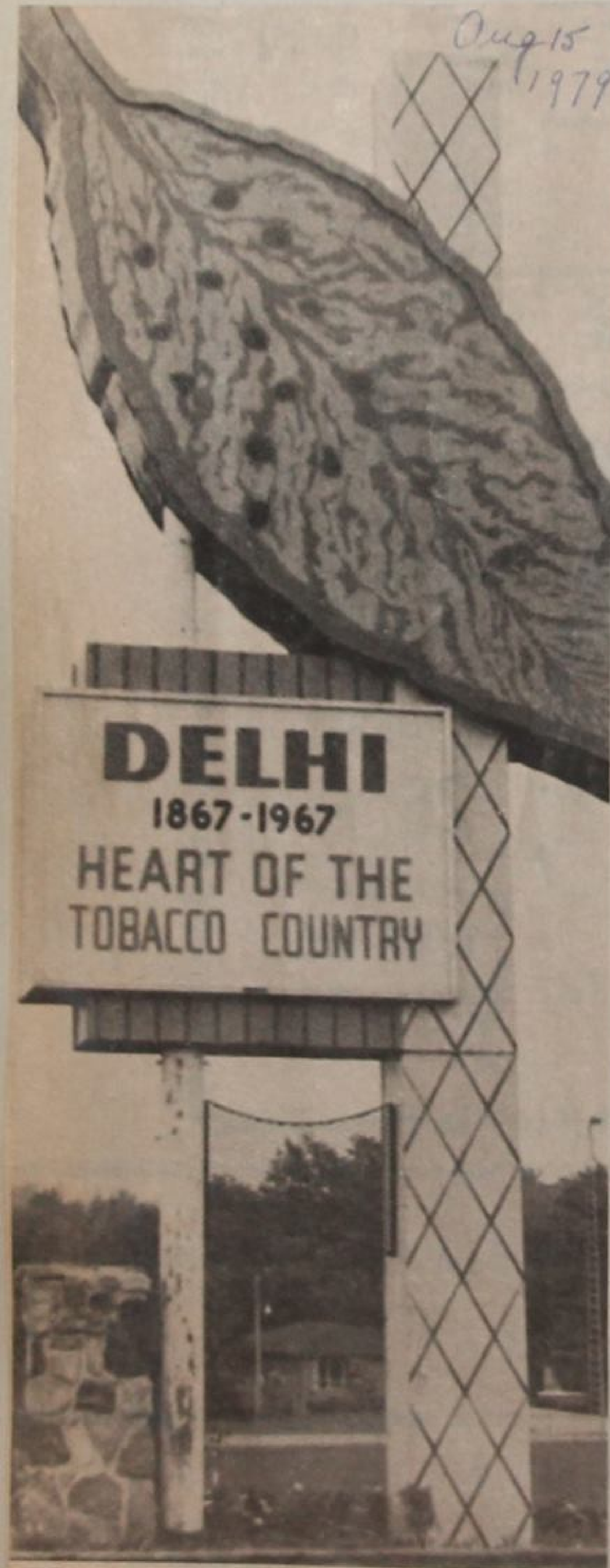
Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise has been more than generous in proposing a program of loan guarantees to stave off bankruptcy for victims.

Yet Alan Lenczner, a Toronto lawyer representing the farmers, insists they should get full restitution for their losses from the federal government, because negligent agriculture department

inspectors allowed mould-infected seed into the country.

That contention is open to question. Some tobacco experts believe the mould could have been carried into Ontario by spore showers rather than imported seeds. Settling this question in the courts could take years of litigation and prevent the federal government, as Wise has noted, from proceeding with the loan-guarantee program.

Uninsured farmers would be well advised to forgo litigation and accept Wise's compensation offer. Those who plan to stay in the tobacco growing business should also follow the example of the majority of their colleagues who protect themselves with adequate crop insurance.



Is blue mold becoming the trademark of this year's blue-cured tobacco crop? Someone evidently thought so and painted blue blotches on the big neon tobacco leaf marking the entrance to Delhi.





Dave Eaton's Kountry Korner is now in full operation, with a garage, restaurant and variety store.

# Kountry Korner revitalized

The vacant garage at the intersection of the Otterville Road and Highway 59 has now become Kountry Korner, a busy combination of garage, restaurant and variety store.

Owner of the operation, Dave Eaton, opened the business about a month ago, and said business has been "very good."

Mr. Eaton, a licensed mechanic, operated a

garage in Woodstock for 14 years, and moved to the new location when they outgrew their old premises.

He said that he and his wife, Lois, always wanted to open a highway location with a restaurant and garage and that the new location was, "pretty well what we always wanted."

His father-in-law, Bev Cattel of Norwich, also works at the business.

Although the Eatons are currently living in Woodstock they have plans to move to the area, "if we can find a nice lot", said Mr. Eaton.

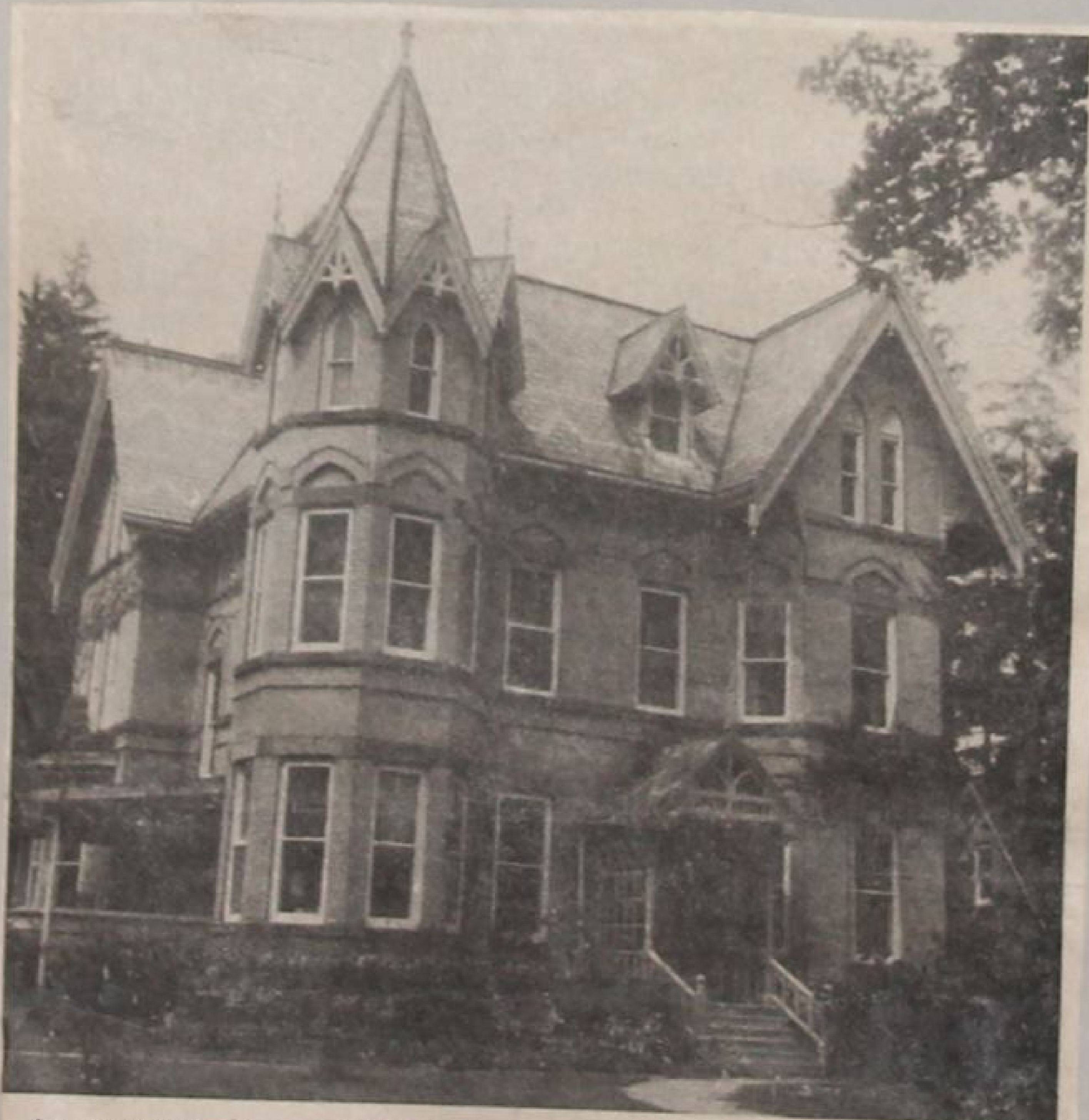
He stressed that the

friendliness of the area people had been "overwhelming." "We have to rely on our customers," he said. "We really appreciate them coming in."

Mr. Eaton has been in the

automotive business for 21 years, including several years in the towing business.

The old garage was vacant for about four years, and it took about five weeks to put it in shape.



A committee has been established to raise funds to purchase Coniston Place, the former Tillson home at 28 Tillson Ave.

## Seek community support

Aug 179

# Want to preserve historic home

A committee has been established to raise funds to purchase Coniston Place, the former Tillson home at 28 Tillson Ave.

Committee member John Unsworth, a member of both the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee and the Tillsonburg and District Historical Museum Board, said the new committee is being chaired jointly by G.H. Leachman and Ralph Cook.

Mr. Unsworth said the committee hopes to set up a foundation to buy the house and preserve it as it is. But before steps are taken in this direction "we thought we'd better test the waters to see if there is any commitment in the community to preserve it."

Although Florence Burn, owner of the three-storey brick structure, would not confirm it is for sale, she did say she would like to see it preserved.

"I think I would certainly consider it (selling the house to the committee) if I knew what was going to happen to it," she said.

Mrs. Burn is not anxious to see the house designated as a historic building.

"It doesn't need to be made into a historic site, it is an historic site. It's the home of the founder of the town."

Mr. Unsworth said the committee hopes to buy the furnishings as well as the house. Government grants are available for maintenance once the building is purchased.

"People are much more aware of how transitory their past is...what with demolition of town hall...Many thought of it as the town's last real landmark building," he said.

The house was purchased from the Tillson Estate in 1929 by Charles VanDyke Corless, a native of Oxford County, who was recognized as Canada's foremost Canadian mining engineer. Dr. Corless occupied the house until his death in 1954. Mrs. Burn is Dr. Corless's youngest daughter.

The house was built in the 1880's or 1890's for Edwin D. Tillson, youngest son of the town's founder, George Tillson.



Aug 26/79



Mr. Frank Hicks, of Springford was honored Sunday on the occasion of his 90th birthday when family and friends gathered at an open house reception, held at Springford Baptist Church. A special violin-shaped cake was baked in recognition of his lifelong hobby as a fiddler. Mr. Hicks was born in Cornell on August 23, 1889 and spent some years farming in the area. He resided in Tillsonburg for 27 years and for the past 14 years has lived in Springford. His first wife, Laura Lefler, died in 1960. The couple had five children: Mrs. Hilda Hicks, Ostrander; a boy, Ivan, who died in his youth; Mrs. Joyce Cooper, South Middleton; Mrs. Freda Silverthorn, Ostrander; and Lyle Hicks, Tillsonburg. He married his present wife, the former Eric Oatman, in May, 1962.

**KENNETH DAVID ARTHUR**

Funeral service for the late Kenneth David Arthur of RR 2, Otterville, who passed away on August 15, 1979, was held at the Otterville United Church on Saturday, August 18, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earl Moore.

Mrs. William A. McMullen presided at the organ and accompanied the soloist, Mrs. Jack Walther, who sang Whispering Hope. The congregation sang the hymn What A Friend We Have In Jesus.

Memorial donations were to the Oxford Diabetic Association, Canadian Cancer Society, Ontario Heart Foundation, Gideon Bible Society, Otterville United Church, St. John's Anglican Church and Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital.

Pallbearers were Bill Arthur, Donald Arthur, Arthur, Robert Arthur and Gus Butz.

Interment in Bookton Cemetery.

Nelson F. Gleason Home, Otterville, in charge of arrangements.

**LAVINA PHILLIPS**

Otterville (C) — Mrs. Lavina Phillips, 32 St. Andrew St. Aylmer, died in the St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital on Thursday, August 23 in her 85th year.

Born in Corinth on September 12, 1894, she was the daughter of the late William and Martha (Purdy) Logan.

The late Mrs. Phillips was a member of the St. Paul's United Church and Arkess Rebekah Lodge No. 168 Springfield.

She was predeceased by her husband Thomas H. Phillips in 1949 and her sister, Pearl Smith.

Surviving are two sons, Lloyd of RR 1 Aylmer, Melvin of St. Thomas, two daughters, Mrs. Violet Howse, Otterville, and Mrs. Clara McNulty of Toronto.

Also surviving are 11 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. The funeral service was held on Monday August 27 at the H.A. Keibel Funeral Home, Aylmer. Rev. Norman Jones of St. Paul's United Church conducted the service, assisted by Rev. George Shields of Littlewood. During the service Mrs. Edna McIntyre of Springfield sang as a solo "How Great Thou Art". Burial was in Otter Cemetery, Otterville.

Pallbearers were Merlin Howse, Thomas Phillips, William Phillips, Howard Phillips, James Phillips, David Phillips.

Members of the Arkess Rebekah Lodge conducted a memorial service at the Funeral Home, on Sunday evening.



# Oxford Centre residents quietly assess damage

By CHRIS HOLLAND

The morning was so quiet it made one feel uneasy. Only hours before, the communities of Oxford Centre and New Durham had been hammered by nature's worst fury, and now an uneasy peace seemed to fill the air, as citizens began to realize the extent of the devastation.

The night before there had only been time for action, as residents of these predominantly farming communities took steps to protect loved ones, livestock and property. But in the first light of day, the night's fury stilled, people began to return to the wreckage of their homes and farms.

An attempt to enter Oxford Centre by the Stage Road failed, as the road had been completely blocked by fallen trees. Brian Workman, a member of the Burgessville fire department, was on duty turning cars back and had been stationed there since 3 a.m.

When questioned about the damage in Oxford Centre, he replied: "It's a hell of a mess," and he advised this reporter to enter the village along East Oxford Concession Five.

The road was open, but the trip was dicey as one drove apprehensively toward the village, dodging power lines and fallen trees. In many instances, there was a only a bare margin to pass through, between the roadside and the trees which had been hurled to the ground. One drove over power lines, and hoped they were not alive, although after the damage last night it seemed impossible there could be electric power.

But it wasn't until looking down the hill toward Oxford Centre that one realized what a tornado could do. The village of Oxford Centre, formerly a pleasant, attractive spot, was now just a collection of shattered foundations and rubble. Cruisers from the Ontario Provincial Police rolled ceaselessly up and down the road, and residents stood in groups, talking quietly and shaking their heads. Many had stayed up all night, ensuring that loved family and friends were not trapped in the wreckage of homes and barns.

Herds of dairy cattle milled aimlessly around piles of wood and lumber which had formerly been barns. Farmers found it necessary to shoot several cattle which had been injured during the night.

Norwich Township Mayor Jack Burn, on

his way to a special meeting of council scheduled for 7 a.m. at the Oxford Centre Fire Hall, said council had been in a protection committee meeting the previous night and had come to Oxford Centre when they heard the news. Members of council, with members of the Burgessville and Oxford Centre fire departments, helped residents search houses for anyone who might be trapped.

R. Armstrong of Oxford Centre, was at work clearing trees from his yard.

"There's lots worse than this," he said.

"At least we still have walls and a roof," his wife added.

After leaving Oxford Centre, it was possible to locate the village of New Durham by following the path of the tornado.

A collection of police cruisers and parked cars marked the entrance to the village, and the damage seemed to begin almost as one passed this boundary. Houses which had

been surrounded by pleasant shade trees were now buried in piles of dirt and shattered tree trunks. Despite the severe damage viewed while walking through the village, the worst was yet to come, for it was just east of the village that the tornado spent its force.

Philip Burtis, whose farm was severely damaged, pointed out a hydro transformer which had been buried three feet in the earth of his lawn by the wind. He said he and his wife had spent the time during the storm in the basement.

"That's what saved us, I guess," he said.

He said he had lost cattle during the night, but didn't know how many, as he was still trying to get calves out of the ruined barn.

Norwich Village was able to escape widespread damage, although Fire Chief Les Snow reported that one house was struck by lightning at 6 Palmer St. No damage estimate was available.



The walls of this old stone house in Vanessa withstood the force of Tuesday's tornado, but the roof did not.



# Three die in tornado

A black funnel of death cut a wide swath of destruction through Brant, Oxford and Haldimand-Norfolk last night.

It may be days before the total extent of the damage is known, but the grim tally will be high; at least three lives, injuries in the hundreds, property losses in the millions.

A rare occurrence in Ontario, the tornado or tornadoes - struck shortly after 7 p.m. and virtually wiped out some hamlets in its path as it cut through an area stretching from Hickson, through the southwestern portion of Woodstock, passing to the east of Norwich, on through Vanessa and toward Simcoe.

Homes, churches, schools, industries and farm buildings were ripped apart by the storm's fury; vehicles were tossed about like toys.

Tornadoes are usually formed in association with thunderstorms that are in the

vicinity of either a squall line or front which invades a region where a layer of warm, dry air overlies moist air.

Along with last night's tornado, heavy rainstorms were reported in several areas.

Widespread blackouts occurred as nine major circuits in Ontario Hydro's main transmission line from Hamilton area to London were knocked out. Power was restored in Tillsonburg after about 42 minutes, but remained out this morning in badly-damaged areas.

Telephone lines were also cut, making it difficult to obtain information on the full extent of the storm. Roads were blocked in some areas by fallen wires, trees, overturned vehicles and wreckage from buildings.

Emergency crews - ambulance, utilities, police - were rushed to the hardest-hit areas to assist in rescue and repair efforts. Their efforts were also hampered by the loss of

phones, making a virtual door-to-door effort necessary to search for possible injured persons.

Worst concentration of damage occurred in the Southwestern part of Woodstock, around the Highway 401-59 area. Reports indicate some 400 homes destroyed or severely damaged. About 130 persons were taken to Woodstock General Hospital, and 30 admitted, three in serious condition.

Environment Minister and Oxford MPP, Dr. Harry Parrott flew over the area of destruction with Attorney General Roy McMurtry this morning to ascertain if provincial assistance would be required. He was to issue a statement this afternoon.

Following a conference with Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Thomas Wells this morning, Dr. Parrott's office announced the province is prepared to provide aid. If a relief fund is set up by the

municipality, the province will match funds raised, dollar for dollar.

Norwich Township Council held an emergency meeting this morning to discuss the situation.

Sgt. Bernie Crane, head of the Tillsonburg OPP detachment said the storm touched only the northeast corner of their patrol area. Five or six houses were damaged but no injuries resulted.

William Snyder, 51, of RR 3, Norwich was killed when the tornado caught his van and threw it off the Beaconsfield Road in the 8th concession of East Oxford.

A Harley area woman is reported to have died in the wreckage of her home.

## New Durham woman dies

The death of one New Durham woman has been confirmed by police as a result of the tornado which struck there at 7:15 last night.

And "quite a number" of people were injured during the twister, a police spokesman at the scene said.

Almost all of the homes in the village were damaged to some extent and a number were destroyed. In addition, cattle barns were destroyed, causing loss of some livestock.

The twister struck at exactly 7:15 p.m., according to New Durham resident Doris Duke, speaking in an interview with The News this morning.

"I've never seen anything like it in my life," commented Doreen Stannard of Stannard's General store. "It looked like it was miles away...the clouds were gray and tumbling across the sky and the next thing we knew it hit."

"It's hard to describe because it happened so quickly."

Mrs. Stannard said that following the first pass of the tornado, "It got deathly hot and then poured rain again."

"We were lucky here," she said, referring to the condition of the store which only suffered broken windows, "down the road they have no houses left."



Last night's tornado paid no heed to this speed limit sign in front of this New Durham house.



# Vanessa practically levelled by storm

The village of Vanessa was practically levelled by last night's sudden twister.

Gerald Dierick, one of the area's largest land owners told The News last night every building on his farm was levelled, with the exception of one small dwelling where his father resides.

In the village, few homes escaped without damage and many were destroyed when the tornado, making its way southeast from Woodstock, hit the small village at 7:30 p.m.

"You couldn't see anything," said Frank Hill, who lives just on the outskirts of the village, "the air was green with water and it went across the road in waves."

Ontario Provincial Police cordoned off the area shortly after the tornado hit, and many roads were blocked by fallen trees. The Teeterville fire department was on standby in the village all night, but no fires were reported.

A police spokesman at the scene

Wednesday morning said at least one person was taken to hospital in Hamilton.

Mr. Dierick said that of the 13 members of his family and employees at his place, only one son, Frank, suffered serious injury. He was taken to Norfolk General Hospital in Simcoe, suffering a large gash in his back inflicted when a glass patio door in the family residence caved in. Four female employees in the bunkhouse that was levelled escaped with only scrapes and bruises.

The Diericks this spring had switched to bulk curing, installing 50 new bulk kilns. "They were tossed around like match sticks," he said.

Damage estimates in the village are not available, but Mr. Dierick estimated damage to his property alone will exceed \$1 million.

Police in Vanessa were aided by the Cobra Radio Emergency Club of Simcoe, as the 20-member CB club manned road blocks and helped with the clean up this morning.

# Tornado relief offices set up

Oxford-Brant-Haldimand-Norfolk Disaster Relief Committee has set up two offices in Woodstock and Waterford to handle inquiries and damage claims resulting from the tornado Tuesday night that cut a swath of destruction from Hickson to Lake Erie.

The offices open today at the Woodstock social services building, which can be reached at 539-8700, and at 76 Main St. in Waterford, which can be reached at 443-4233. Both offices can also be reached by calling Zenith 18010. They will be open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The offices will provide information on industries damaged by the tornado, on claims for relief assistance and on where and how donations to the disaster relief fund may be made.

Monetary contributions to the fund may be made at any chartered bank, trust company or municipal office.

A number of radio stations, including CKOT Tillsonburg and CKDK Woodstock, are joining in a fund-raising drive today.



With most of its stained-glass windows still intact, this church at the main corner in Vanessa suffered the loss of its upper storey in last week's violent tornado that swept through Oxford and Brant

Counties and Haldimand-Norfolk Region, leaving little standing in its wake.





On a hill overlooking these farms just south-east of Oxford Centre, the path of destruction of last Tuesday's tornado can be seen. Buildings in the direct path of the tornado were literally razed, trees broken off or uprooted entirely and vehicles swept up to be found

later high in trees. Fires burning on the site are disposing of unsalvagable rubble and wood.

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Standing on the main street in Vanessa looking west, there's nothing but destruction as far as the eye can see. There is more

standing of this house in the village than most others which were hit by last Tuesday's tornado.

## Premier to view area

Ontario Premier William Davis was scheduled to visit the tornado devastated areas of Oxford and Brant counties and Haldimand-Norfolk Region today, Oxford MPP Harry Parrott announced Friday.

Accompanied by Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Thomas Wells, Mr. Davis was to fly to the area by helicopter and meet with local officials in Waterford, Vanessa, Burford and Woodstock. In Woodstock, Mr. Davis will

meet with Oxford County Warden Ken Webster; in Waterford, with Mayor George Dmetric and Regional Chairman Keith Richardson; in Vanessa with Mayor Arn Sayeau; and in Burford with Mayor John Clement.

The province is committed to working with the local communities in providing relief for the people affected by last week's tornado, Dr. Parrott said.



## Storm carries personal articles for miles

Tornado stories abound along with the devastation created by the August 7 storm.

Personal belongings and debris were carried miles after being sucked up by the winds.

A Hagersville area man, Harold Wilson, was reported to have found two \$100 Canada Savings bonds in a field while combining. They bore the name of a Woodstock resident, and had been carried some 35 miles. Mr. Wilson also found other papers from Woodstock, along with a pair of pants, and assorted debris.

Harry Green, of RR 2, Ohsweken, also reported he

had found items from the Woodstock area.

Driver's licence of a Woodstock resident was found in Dunnville, and in Waterford, a 13-year-old boy, Clark Hoskins, picked up a copy of the Woodstock paper in his front lawn.

There were reports of farm equipment and even motor vehicles that had simply disappeared in the storm.

Years from now it is likely that personal effects of storm victims will be turned up in forests and fields where they were finally deposited as the storm's fury diminished.

## Norwich appealing for provincial aid

Norwich Township council is appealing to Oxford MP Bruce Halliday and MPP Harry Parrott for a disaster designation for areas of the township hit hard in last night's tornado, council decided at a special meeting this morning in Oxford Centre.

The council formed a special committee of Mayor Jack Burn, Fire Chief Gary Fischer, Clerk Robert Watkins and Treasurer Fred Lowes to deal with emergency situations without having to call a meeting of council.

A disaster designation for the areas in the north of the township levelled in last night's storm would enable the township to qualify for provincial aid, Mr. Burn said this

morning. Council met in Oxford Centre to see first hand the destruction levelled on the village by the tornado.

"I haven't seen anything like that previously, except war pictures," Mr. Burn said.

Mr. Burn attended a meeting today in Woodstock with South-West Oxford, Blandford-Blenheim, East Zorra-Tavistock and Woodstock mayors, and Oxford MPP Harry Parrott, environment minister. A representative of the ministry of intergovernmental affairs called the township office to say an investigation would be made within the next couple of days by that department, Mr. Watkins said.

An Ontario Provincial Police helicopter was flown in from Toronto this morning to search the areas that cannot be reached any other way. The areas still not accessible this morning by land vehicles will be checked by the helicopter for stranded or injured people, an OPP spokesman said.

Checkpoints are set up at the entrances to Oxford Centre and anyone without a valid reason for entering the village is being asked to go around it in order not to interfere with efforts of local residents and police to salvage as much as possible of the village.

Ontario Hydro is asking residents of the affected area to use electricity only for essential purposes since 28 towers are down on the bulk transmission facilities. There is no way power can be supplied from the east because of the tower losses.

The utility is relying on the Lambton generating station in Sarnia to supply power to this area.

For tobacco farmers who sustained damage and loss of crops in last night's storm, the Ontario Crop Insurance Commission is taking claims today.



The black funnel cloud was captured on film as it cut its path of destruction through Woodstock Tuesday night.

The photo was taken by Dominic Scalisi, a Woodstock real estate salesman.



# Destruction hits strip of homes near Woodstock

by Joe Matyas  
of The Free Press

WOODSTOCK — Barbara Davies sounded as if she was talking about her grocery list. She was calm and reasoned, but her words spoke of life and death.

"It's a good thing we weren't in bed," she said about an hour after a twister tore a path through the Woodstock area Tuesday evening.

"One of us, or maybe both, would either be in the hospital or maybe not here at all."

Mrs. Davies and her husband were in the kitchen and dining room area of their RR 3, Woodstock, home when the tornado raced past their house and snapped the tops off a row of 12-metre poplar trees in their backyard as if they were match sticks.

The accompanying winds smashed their bedroom windows onto the bed, ripped the moldings from bedroom door frames and tore off evestroughs.

Just before this happened, Mrs. Davies watched her backyard picnic table sail out of the yard as if it were a wind-blown dandelion seed.

A neighbor, a few houses up the road on the opposite side, watched as his carport was blown from its moorings and carried across Highway 2, where it finally struck another home.

Bob Ewen said he didn't know whether he felt worse about losing his carport or having it do damage to the home of his

friend, Joe Henderson, who was on vacation with his family.

The Ewens, who were house-sitting for the Hendersons, said their own residence suffered only minor damage but the Henderson home was a shambles.

Huge trees were uprooted on the property, large sections of shingles were torn away and the winds turned the kitchen into a nightmarish salad of glass, broken dishes, strewn food and kitchen utensils.

Vi Ewen said the residents of damaged homes on the 1.6-kilometre strip were worried about the interpretation their insurance companies would place on the freak storm.

"I don't know whether this is an act of God, an accident or what," said Mrs. Ewen, "but I'm worried for the sake of my neighbors."

Roy and Liz Hannenburg, who live about half a dozen houses west of the Hendersons, had considerable roof damage to their home.

Hannenburg said the winds knocked the moorings from the carport, toppled log uprights supporting the roof and caused the carport portion of the roof to twist. The result was buckling and breaking of the roof in the front of the house, right over the living room.

Rain damaged the drywall ceiling in their living room and drenched their rugs and furniture. Hannenburg and his neighbors spent the evening placing canvas and plastic sheets under bricks on the roof.



An aerial photo shows a section of Woodstock flattened Tuesday by the tornado which swept through the city and

district, killing two people and leaving millions of dollars damage.



LONDON FREE PRESS

# Pass needed for Oxford tornado area

Aug 11

Sightseers can forget about touring areas hit by Tuesday night's devastating tornado in the Oxford, Brant and Norfolk county regions, police said Friday.

Police will continue to seal off roads this weekend to prevent rubberneckers from interfering with cleanup operations following rumors that busloads of people from as far away as Niagara Falls and Detroit plan to head for the area.

Residents will be issued passes to allow them through barricades, said Woodstock police Detective Dave MacKenzie.

Provincial police Cpl. Ray Tebo said in Woodstock the sightseers are becoming thicker and he fears the problem will peak this weekend.

Already heavy cleanup equipment destined for Oxford Centre, one of the communities levelled by the storm, has been delayed by bumper-to-bumper traffic on the normally quiet roads, Tebo said.

He said he's heard rumors of busloads of people planning trips, but he's not sure how to check out such stories.

Major charter operators, however, say no tours have been planned.

Tebo said curiosity seekers are cutting through fields to get a closer look at damage, and with so many people in the area it could be two weeks before missing items can be identified with the storm or looters.

Only one case of looting has been investigated so far, Tebo said.

In rural areas, according to Norwich Township Coun. Bill Sanders, people are starting fires to dispose of debris and he fears explosions if the flames and heat get too close to septic tanks and methane gas.

The Housing and Urban Development Association of Canada (HUDAC) is compiling a list of companies available to do home repairs and trying to assist home owners in obtaining materials, an association spokesman said.

He said there is evidence of ripoff artists who contract to do limited repairs to buildings without doing proper inspections of all repairs required.

Contractors are registering with HUDAC and residents wanting to know about a firm's reputation can get information from the Woodstock city engineer's department.

Woodstock General Hospital reports there are 16 persons still in hospital, four of whom are in serious condition.

The Red Cross supply depot has sufficient clothing to take care of the expected demand but a spokesman said they need bedding. Supply depots in restaurants and stores say they require toiletry items.

A disaster relief committee hopes to raise funds by sending letters to companies, municipalities and individuals across the country.

The committee will have offices opened in Woodstock and Waterford by Monday to handle inquiries and damage claims. The Woodstock number will be 539-8700 while the Waterford number will be 433-1233. The offices will be open between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Tornado victims will receive 90 cents to the dollar for damages not covered by insurance on homes and 75 cents to the dollar for businesses. Farms and farm equipment are considered under the business category.

At a meeting of mayors Friday morning it was learned that 80 per cent of tobacco crops are insured, but only 20 per cent of corn crops. Environment Minister Dr. Harry Parrott said crop damages could reach \$100 million.

An 11-station radio hookup headlines a list of fund-raising projects that are coming to the aid of tornado victims.

But London Mayor Al Gleeson said his city shouldn't dip into the public tax coffers to help areas devastated by the storms. Public tax money already is coming from the province and the rest should be from private sources, Gleeson said Friday.

Gleeson's sentiments apparently weren't shared by Brant County council, though. That body has pledged \$25,000 for the relief fund.

In Sarnia, Mayor Andy Brandt said Friday he is recommending to council that between \$500 and \$1,000 be given. That is a minimum suggested amount, he said, and if council wants to give more, he would consider any proposals.

"It is important that we raise as much money as we can."

Two London radio stations are getting into the act. CKSL plans to dedicate air time Monday to programming aimed at raising money. And CFPL is one of the 11 stations around Southern Ontario to join the "tornado relief fund" program, also scheduled for Monday.

The multi-station hookup is the brain-

child of Gord Maratto, general manager of Eastern Broadcasting, a holding company for several eastern Canadian stations.

The stations will be connected so that a 15-minute broadcast can be heard around the area in an attempt to highlight storm damage and encourage pledges, Maratto said.

The broadcasts will begin at 7:45 a.m.

and continue every hour until 6 p.m. Monday. They will be anchored by CTV newscaster Harvey Kirck and will originate from Woodstock.

In Woodstock, workers at a textile plant have challenged each other to come up with the largest amount in donations. As well, an anonymous source in the Kitchener area has donated \$5,000 to the Woodstock Red Cross and a fund has been established in Cambridge.

Ontario Hydro spokesman Don Carmichael said hundreds of homes are a write-off and hydro service won't be restored until the homes are rebuilt.

Residents whose homes and farms must be demolished have been told by a Haldimand-Norfolk Region official they don't require demolition permits before proceeding. Permits normally cost about \$10.

The spokesman advised residents in the tornado zone to make their properties safe by removing rubble and demolishing buildings that can't be saved.

The Holland Hitch of Canada plant is being repaired and is expected to be back in operation Aug. 20. Employees will be recalled by phone or registered letter, a United Auto Workers Union spokesman said Friday.

Eight plants in Woodstock were destroyed or seriously damaged.

Robert White, UAW Canadian director, has asked federal Employment Minister

Ron Atkey to waive the mandatory two-week period before the unemployed can apply for unemployment insurance benefits.

Meanwhile, the privately owned Norwich telephone company received \$100,000 from the province Friday to repair lines.

Despite heavy damage to Southside Public School in Woodstock, classes will open in September, Oxford County board

of education chairman Wilma Boughtflower said Friday. She said kindergarten classes will be held at other city schools.

Frank Sloan, director of education for the Oxford County separate school board, said trustees are awaiting an engineer's report before deciding what to do about St. Patrick's Separate School and the privately owned John Knox Christian School, both destroyed by the tornado.



The Ontario banner was the only thing standing at the site of the Anglican Christ Church in Oxford Centre on Sunday as members of the congregation worked to clean up the rubble left after the destruction of the church in last Tuesday's tornado. An open-air service was held at the church Sunday morning using a pile of salvaged bricks from the building for an altar and the cemetery next door for seating the congregation. Music was provided on an

electric organ powered by a generator. Rev. John E. Swain is on vacation in England and has not yet been told of the destruction of his church, as far as congregation members know. Sunday's service was led by Bishop David Ragg of London and a former minister of the church from Lennoxville, Quebec, who heard of the disaster and returned to his former parish to help.



## Body to rest in Commons rotunda

# State funeral set for Diefenbake

OTTAWA (CP) — The body of John George Diefenbaker will be laid in state today in the Parliament buildings just a few dozen yards from the Commons chamber where the former prime minister became a living legend during the last 39 years.

A full state funeral will be held Sunday for the 83-year-old father of the Bill of Rights who died Thursday from a heart attack in the study of his home.

The body will then be carried slowly across the country by train to Saskatoon for burial Wednesday, stopping at cities and towns en route where the people Diefenbaker called "my fellow Canadians" will have an opportunity to pay their last respects.

Diefenbaker, who served as prime minister from 1957-63, will be buried at the Diefenbaker Centre near the University of Saskatchewan along the banks of the Saskatchewan River.

According to Diefenbaker's wishes, the remains of his second wife, Olive, will be exhumed from an Ottawa cemetery and also be transported by train for burial at the university, where he first studied law and later served as chancellor. Mrs. Diefenbaker died in December, 1976.

Dief the Chief, as he was known to many Canadians and to the Saskatchewan voters who sent the staunch monarchist to the House of Commons following every election since 1940, died

clutching some parliamentary papers.

"I think it was the way he would have wanted to go," Keith Martin, his executive assistant, told reporters.

Moments after Martin announced the death of the former Progressive Conservative leader, flags on Parliament Hill were lowered to half mast and black bunting surrounded his portrait in a corridor near the Commons.

Tributes from the queen, Prime Minister Clark, old friends and political rivals mourned the politician who held audi-

ences spellbound during the 1950s and 1960s with his vision of the north and dreams of one Canada.

He rose as usual Thursday morning at 5:15 a.m. EDT and began reading some papers concerned with the opening Oct. 9 of the first Parliament dominated by the Conservatives since Lester Pearson defeated Diefenbaker's splintered party in 1963.

Archie McQueen, a Hamilton school teacher who has been spending summers with Diefenbaker as a special assistant,

found the body about 7 a.m. sprawled on a couch in the study of his home in posh Rockcliffe Park, an Ottawa suburb. The study was filled with mementoes of his greatest hero, Sir John A. Macdonald, the first prime minister.

Efforts to revive Diefenbaker were unsuccessful and he was pronounced dead by his long-time physician, Dr. J. C. Samis.

Diefenbaker had recently recovered from a bout of pneumonia he claimed had brought him uncomfortably close to death. Less than a week ago, he was boasting about his newly regained health and was talking excitedly about planned trips to China and the North Pole.

His last full day, Wednesday, was spent in his memorabilia-filled Parliament Hill office, preparing for the new Parliament. He also made a rare appearance at the National Press Club to celebrate the acquisition of a new billiard table.

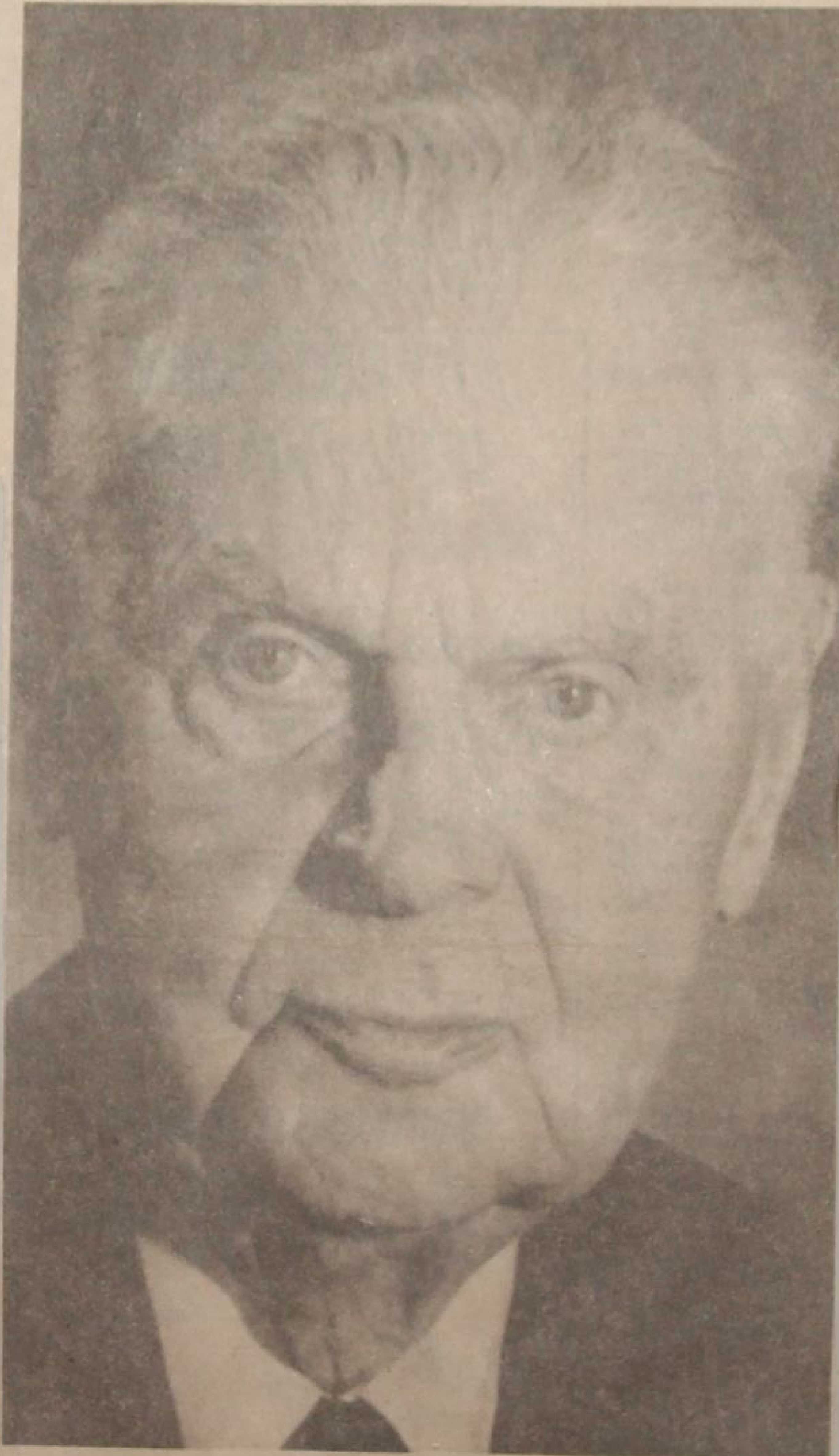
That evening at home, he continued working and watched part of a baseball game on television before retiring at 10 p.m.

Diefenbaker was to have gone to the Yukon today to participate in the opening of the Dempster Highway, linking the Yukon to Inuvik, N.W.T., a project conceived during his days as prime minister.

Parliament Hill was flooded by tributes moments after his death.

"Canada has lost a man of great sta-

ture," the queen said in a statement issued from London.



Former prime minister John Diefenbaker, who died Thursday at age 83, is shown in a photo taken June 7, the day he was sworn in as MP after the May 22 general election. (CP)



# Church filled for evening of music

An evening of rare beauty in the field of music was presented Sunday evening, Sept. 9, in the sanctuary of the Norwich United Church. The church was filled almost to overflowing, attesting to the anticipation of those present of the ability of the artists to provide an evening of entertainment worth attending.

Mr. John Avey, born and raised in Norwich, has been studying voice for the past two years at the Royal Academy of Music in London, England. Miss Jennifer Isaacs of Watford, England, is also a student at the Academy, having studied the flute since the age of 14 years. Mr. Joseph Van Beek, organist of the Delhi United Church, began his musical studies at the age of five years, and has much experience in this field.

John opened the program with Vincent Youman's "Without a Song" and in contrast followed with the exciting aria from Handel's Messiah, "Thou Shalt Dash Them." Once again in contrast, but showing the virtuosity of the same composer, John sang Handel's beautiful "Where E're You Walk" from the opera "Semele." All three numbers were well executed and the pianissimo passages showed control and beauty of tone, proving that the change from baritone to tenor was a wise decision.

Jennifer chose as her opening, Johann Sebastian Bach's "Sonata for Flute" in E flat major. It consists of two movements, Siciliano and Allegro Moderato. Bach is renowned for his perfection in composing and his musical artistry was not lost in the flowing beauty of this number so beautifully played by the flautist.

Ralph Vaughan-Williams, a contemporary composer, in his "From Far from Eve and Morning," gave the tenor soloist an opportunity for an inner expression of loveliness. A tribute to Mr. Doug Avey was given by John when he sang his uncle's favourite aria, "Celeste Aida," from the opera "Aida." This acknowledgment was much appreciated, and the aria was very well sung with control and feeling, to the lovely soft tones of the final high note. Jennifer's two flute solos, which followed, were relaxing and idyllic. Schuman's "Romance No. 1" and Godard's "Idylle" were charmingly presented. Jennifer, herself, is a charming young woman, both lovely to look at and delightful to listen to. She was gowned in a long paisley

dress of fine autumn colours, enhanced by graceful medieval sleeves.

Following intermission, the accompanist, Mr. Joseph Van Beek, who was excellent in his support of the singer and instrumentalist, performed as an artist in his own right. The organ solo, "The Holy City," beloved by many, was a painting in music and Mr. Van Beek's expertise on the keyboard was well proven when he skillfully played Bach's "Tocatta and Fugue" in D minor. The haunting Negro spiritual, "Deep River," was John's first selection in Part II, followed by the inspirational "Somebody Bigger than You and I." As a tribute to the memory of the late Annie Alexander, a long time family friend, the well-loved "How great Thou Art" was sung, followed by another favorite, Malotte's "The Lord's Prayer". John truly expressed his faith in these sacred numbers.

Setting a different mood, Jennifer's technique and years of hard work and practice evidenced themselves in the difficult and lilting, "Waltz," by Godard. What delightful listening!

To conclude his portion of the program, John, who is tall, blonde and handsome,

as a Helden tenor should be gave of himself in the aria from "Turandot" by Puccini, "Nessun Dorma," (No One Sleeps). John's exceptional voice and his concentrated studying are showing in his ability to control and project this lovely tenor sound. His home town is very proud of him and will follow his endeavours with keen interest.

The technically difficult concerto in D major by Cecile Chaminade, held the audience spellbound as Jennifer's flute expressed the idyllic forms of nature, and executed it with such apparant ease and grace. Norwich is very fortunate to have had Jennie as a guest for several weeks and this area is indeed blessed to have an accomplished musician like Joseph Van

Beek in our midst. A return engagement of these three artists, sometime in the future is much anticipated.

Mr. and Mrs. Beverly Avey and their family entertained guests following the concert, in the Parish

Hall of Holy Trinity Anglican Church. Jennifer and John return to England this Tuesday.

## Leisure Club donates \$100 to tornado fund *Sept/79*

OTTERVILLE (C) - Members of the Otterville Leisure Club met at the Woodlawn Community Centre on Wednesday afternoon for their first meeting to open the activities for the fall and winter months.

President Colin Robinson presided for the meeting and welcomed those present;

especially the first Vice-President Mrs. Annie Pritchard who had been confined to hospital in the recent weeks.

The minutes of the previous meeting and report of activities throughout the summer was reported by Fred Cole.

A report was given of the

picnic which was held in the park when the members of the Waterford Senior Citizens were entertained.

It was unanimously decided that the club make a donation of \$100 to the Tornado Fund. This concluded the business and the afternoon closed in the usual way with a cup of tea and conversation.

## Auction Sales

### NOTICE! *Sept 1979*

Due to the requests of our many customers and friends we have decided to continue with our auction sales at the OTTER VALLEY AUCTION ROOMS IN OTTERVILLE, and we are NOW ACCEPTING CONSIGNMENTS of good clean saleable merchandise for our next auction sale. PHONE 879-6420 NOW to arrange for pick up or drop things off at our auction rooms

in Otterville - Mon. to Fri. 9-9; Sat. 9-5. ESTATE AUCTION & BUSINESS LIQUIDATIONS ARE OUR SPECIALTIES. Sell your goods "The Modern Way - The Auction Way." For TOP PRICES and PROMPT PAYMENT Phone us Now at 879-6420.

Bob Carney  
Auctioneer

"For Auctions with Action"  
- call "Otter Valley Auctions"

## Celebrating 50th anniversary

OTTERVILLE (C) - Mr. and Mrs. Delmer Clinton of RR 1, Norwich, celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary and in honor of the occasion "Open House" was held on Sunday, September 23 from 2-5 p.m. at the spacious home of their daughter, Mrs. Murray Treffry, Main St. W. Otterville.

Mr. and Mrs. Clinton were married at the Baptist Parsonage by the Pastor H.S. Bennett, pastor of the Otterville Baptist Church.

Their attendants were Mrs. Elmer Hannon (the former Thelma Hill) cousin of the bride and Fred Hill, brother of the bride.

Mrs. Clinton was the former Evelyn Hill, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Hill and Mr. Clinton's parents were the late Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Clinton. Mr. and Mrs.

Clinton are well known throughout the area. Mr. Clinton, an electrician, is still a busy man at his trade.

Mrs. Clinton has previously been organist of the Sunday School and pianist in the church. She is a member of the Women's Missionary Fellowship and she and her husband are members of the Otterville Historical Society. Mr. Clinton is also a member of the Baptist Church.

Their family numbered seven and included Mrs. Norma Reed, Sault Ste. Marie; Kenneth Clinton, Toronto; Murray Clinton, at home; Donnie Clinton, Springfield; Mrs. Murray Treffry, Otterville; and Mrs. Audrey Harrison, Otterville. A son, Douglas, passed away five years ago.

Upwards of 125 relatives and friends and neighbours called at the "Open House"

to extend their Best Wishes.

For receiving, the bride chose a street length printed polyester in shades of pink and grey and gold coloured mums made the pretty corsage. The groom wore a gold coloured mum.

Pouring tea throughout the afternoon were Mrs. Morley Clinton, Mrs. Fred Hill and Mrs. Elmer Hannon.

Serving the dainty lunch were Mrs. Audrey Harrison, Mrs. Kenneth Clinton, Mrs. Jim Angood, Rhonda Treffry, and Mrs. Evelyn Walters.

Attending the register was the groom's sister Mrs. Dennis Groat of London. The bride's table was centred with a chrysanthemum arrangement.

At 6:30 the family and relatives met at the United Church where a delicious turkey anniversary dinner was served by the members of the United Church

Women.

Following the dinner Mr. Kenneth Clinton was MC for a short program which was enjoyed when a vocal duet number was sung by Mrs. Jim Angood and Mrs. Murray Treffry, which was compiled by Mrs. Groat to the tune of "O, Where Have You Been Billy Boy?" Mrs. Groat also composed a poem which was read.

Mr. Fred Hill, brother of the bride, gave a short speech and included Best Wishes to the happy couple. Mr. Dennis Groat, brother-in-law, also voiced memories of the past and concluded with Best Wishes.

The couple then opened their many lovely gifts to which they expressed their appreciation.

Guests were present from Toronto, London, Jarvis, Tillsonburg, Woodstock, Norwich and Otterville.



# Charge area man with murder of wife

A Norwich Township man was taken into custody Friday following the shooting death of his wife, Sandra.

Charged with second degree murder is Hedwig Stockman, 42, of Lot 7, Con 11, Norwich Twp. The body of his wife, Sandra Stockman, 33, was found on the grounds of the farm home shortly after 9:30 a.m. Friday.

An autopsy showed she had died of multiple gunshot wounds.

Provincial police at Tillsonburg received a call at 9:30 a.m. Friday to go to the RR 2 Otterville home, when the body was found on the property. Coroner Dr. R.H. Hall of Norwich was notified, and an autopsy performed later at St. Joseph's Hospital in London confirmed the cause of death. Stockman was taken into custody shortly after.

The man appeared before a justice of the peace Friday and remanded in custody to appear for a bail hearing at Woodstock at 2 p.m. today. The couple have four children, the oldest, a boy of 14.

Evidence shows that Mrs. Stockman was shot three times at close range. A small calibre handgun was seized.

Investigating officers are Detective Inspector N.M.J. Rhiness and Inspector E. Gibson of the criminal investigations branch, OPP.

## LAURENCE M. THOMSON

Laurence M. Thomson of RR 5, Langton, passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Saturday, September 22, 1979, in his 83rd year.

Born in Houghton Township, March 10, 1897, he was a son of the late Thomas Clifford Thomson and the former Annie Knevel.

Mr. Thomson was a general storekeeper at Kinglake for several years, until retiring.

Surviving are his wife, the former Mary (Mayme) Brown; one sister, Mrs. E. Evelyn Prong of RR 2, Port Burwell; and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by two brothers, Winston and Kenneth.

Resting at the Ostrander's Funeral Home, Tillsonburg, where service will be held Tuesday, September 25, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Arthur W. Heise of Houghton Brethren in Christ Community Church.

Pallbearers will be Don Brinn, Grant Bartlett, Jack Jennings, Brian Hedges, Jack McCord and Lyle Lemon.

Interment in St. Luke's Cemetery, Vienna.

Toronto, and Constable R.J. Martin with Sgt. B.G.F. Crane of the Tillsonburg OPP detachment.

Mrs. Stockmans was the former Sandra Hunter Arthur, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Arthur of Otterville.

Surviving, besides her husband and her parents, are three sons, Teddy, Richard and Jeremy, one daughter Suzanne, all at home; two sisters, Mrs.

Jerry (Jean) Day of South Carolina and Mrs. John (Sharon) Harris of Simcoe; and one brother, William Arthur of Dunnville.

Resting at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville until Monday, thence to Otterville United Church where service was held at 2 p.m.

Interment in Bookton Cemetery.

The casket will remain closed.

## SANDRA STOCKMANS OTTERVILLE (C) —

Funeral service for the late Sandra Stockmans of Lot 7, Con. 11, Norwich Township, who passed away on Friday, September 7, 1979, was held at Otterville United Church on Monday, September 10, at 2 p.m.

Organist for the service was Betty Walther. Mandie Eddie of Utah played her guitar and sang three selections.

Pallbearers were Keith Arthur, Donald Arthur, David Arthur, Brian Arthur, Billie Eddie and Tom Hanson.

Flower bearers were Yancy Eddie, Floyd Lewis, Robert Arthur, Frank Clark, John Harris, Tom McGiveron and Bruce Adlington.

Memorial contributions were made to Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital; the Cancer Society; the Heart Foundation; The Diabetic Association; Gideons; the Arthritis and Rheumatism Society; Otterville United Church; and Tillsonburg District Association for the Mentally Retarded.

Interment was made in Bookton Cemetery.

Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, in charge of arrangements.

## MRS. KEITH HOWSE

Mrs. Keith Howse passed away in Niagara Falls on Monday, September 24, 1979 in her 49th year.

She was the former Florence Lorraine Rosehart, daughter of Evaline Rosehart of Tillsonburg and the late Clarence Rosehart.

Surviving are three sons Keith Howse, Otterville; Larry Howse and Dale Howse both of Tillsonburg.

Also surviving are two brothers Kenneth Rosehart of Windsor, and Robert Rosehart of Thunder Bay and six grandchildren.

She was predeceased by her husband Keith Howse in 1968 and by a son Erroll Howse in 1952.

The funeral service was held from the Nelson Funeral Home in Otterville on Thursday afternoon and was conducted by Rev. Herb Herring, Rector of Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Norwich. Mrs. William A. McMullen was the pianist. Pallbearers were Reginald Walters, Carl Howse, Dale Howse, Larry Howse. Memorial donations were to the Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital and Canadian Cancer Society.

Interment was in the Otter Cemetery, Otterville.

# Historical society plan events

The regular monthly meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society was held at Woodlawn Community Centre, September 10, 1979.

President, Rick Singer called the meeting to order.

Minutes were read by Catherine Mann. Treasurer's report was presented by Marj Pearce. Joyce Pettigrew read the correspondence and reported that no Canadian patent was issued to a

Bullock for a carpet sweeper between 1869 and 1885, but reported the Society now has a copy of the patent of a New Dominion Spinning Wheel made by Thomas Wright and registered in 1869.

Bill McMullen, Sr., is in charge of the Ontario History and Historical Sketches of Ontario books and anyone wishing to read same is to contact him.

Joyce Pettigrew is in charge of the November 12 stew supper at which time Harry Barrett will be speaker. Lorraine Downing is chairperson for the luncheon at Woodlawn in connection with the Heritage Conservation in Rural Areas convention to be held at Innisfree on November 17.

Rick Singer has asked the members for suggestions as to where small artifacts may be placed for safety and public observance.

Don McPherson asked for local agricultural photos for the Norwich Historical Society's agricultural pictorial book to be published in connection with the 1980 plowing match.

October meeting will be held on Monday, October 8, at 8 p.m. with Lyle Tait speaking on the History of the Mills along the Otter River.

Following the meeting Juanita DeRoo introduced Bill McMullen, Jr., who showed a very interesting film, The Dry Landers, which presented the hardships and pleasures of early settlements in the West. Refreshments were served by convenors Marj Pearce and Juanita DeRoo.

# Marion Dowd heads St. John's church club

1979  
OTTERVILLE (C) — September meeting of St. John's Church Club Otterville was held at the parish hall.

Lila Freeland presided at the organ, Scripture was read by Marion Dowd, and President, Violet Howse led in prayer.

Thank you cards from the Hills and Phillips family were read.

It was decided to have a rummage sale in the town hall, October 26, afternoon and evening, and a beef supper in the parish hall on November 11th, 4 to 7 p.m.

Election of officers was conducted by president Howse and resulted as follows:

Past president, Violet Howse; president, Marion Dowd, vice-president, Stephanie Durkee; secretary, Florence Saunders; treasurer, Eva Deveney.

Violet Howse was thanked for her leadership during her term of office, and Marion Dowd assumed her chair and

conducted the remainder of business.

October 14th at 3 p.m. will be the dedication of the new stained glass window above the altar, followed by lunch.

Meeting closed with prayer and tea and cookies provided by Marion were enjoyed.

# Open House OTTERVILLE



Saturday, Sept. 1, 2:00-4:00 P.M. 1979  
Double lot backyard link chain fenced. Excellent condition. Price reduced.  
Your hostess Cecile Alexander representing Vermeersch Realty Ltd. 525 50's



# AUCTION SALE!!

BUILDING MATERIALS - HARDWARE - TRUCKS - POWER SHOP TOOLS - FIXTURES - REAL ESTATE - OFFICE EQUIPT. etc.

SAT. SEPT. 8th - 10 A.M. 1979

A very large stock of Building Materials - Paint - Hardware etc. such as 2x4-6-8-10-12 (many full lifts) 4x4 and 6x6; 1x4 6-8-10-12; APPROX. \$20,000 worth of 2x4 Calif. REDWOOD LUMBER; HUNDREDS OF SHEETS OF PLYWOOD, ASPENITE, ARBORITE, PEGBOARD, STYROFOAM; Pouring and other insulation; Over 200 interior and exterior doors; STEEL GARAGE DOORS; Ceiling Tile; Drywall; Door Frames; Wire Screening; Windows; NEW VANITIES; Panelling; TRIM; Bricks; Blocks; Angel Stone; chimney tile; drainage tile; PORTLAND, MASONRY and MEDUSA CEMENT; metal roofing and siding; TOOLS; caulking; 30 pre-built ROOF TRUSSES; saw horses; weathertite insul board; rough lumber; steel scaffolding; fireplace forms (heatilators) rolls of RUG UNDERLAY (foam); Vapour Barrier; LOTS OF PINE LUMBER etc. etc.

VEHICLES -- M/F FORK LIFT TRACTOR - 1971 Chevrolet CE5180 STAKE TRUCK with hydraulic lift; 1964 DODGE 400 STAKE TRUCK 1972 and 1973 Chevrolet Custom PICK UP TRUCKS; MTD riding lawn mower. ALL VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD AS IS.

SHOP AND OFFICE EQUIPT.; DeWalt RADIAL ARM SAW; ROCKWELL RADIAL ARM SAW; General 14' PLANER; LARGE TABLE SAW; wood lathe (table model); All shop tools are heavy duty and in good working condition. 3 FILING CABINETS; DESKS AND CHAIRS; OFFICE SAFE; PARTNERS DESK; TYPEWRITER; CALCULATORS; Billing Machine; Vacuum Cleaner etc.

PROPERTY -- To be sold subject to standard conditions of sale and a very nominal reserve. Property consists of Lots 37, 38, 39 and the north half of lots 40 and 41, all on the south side of North St. and lot 38 and part of lot 37 on the north side of Main St., on which are located several frame buildings as used in the operation of a well equipped lumber business. Full particulars available by contacting the auctioneers.

TERMS -- cash day of sale, lunch available.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE -- If you are in the market for building materials of any kind, you owe it to yourself to attend this VERY LARGE SALE as this company's loss could be your gain. ALL of the GOODS and CHATELS are to be SOLD WITHOUT RESERVE. ALL SALES FINAL Thank you.

Bob Carney Auctioneer  
Phone 879-6420

"For Auctions with Action"  
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OTTER LUMBER



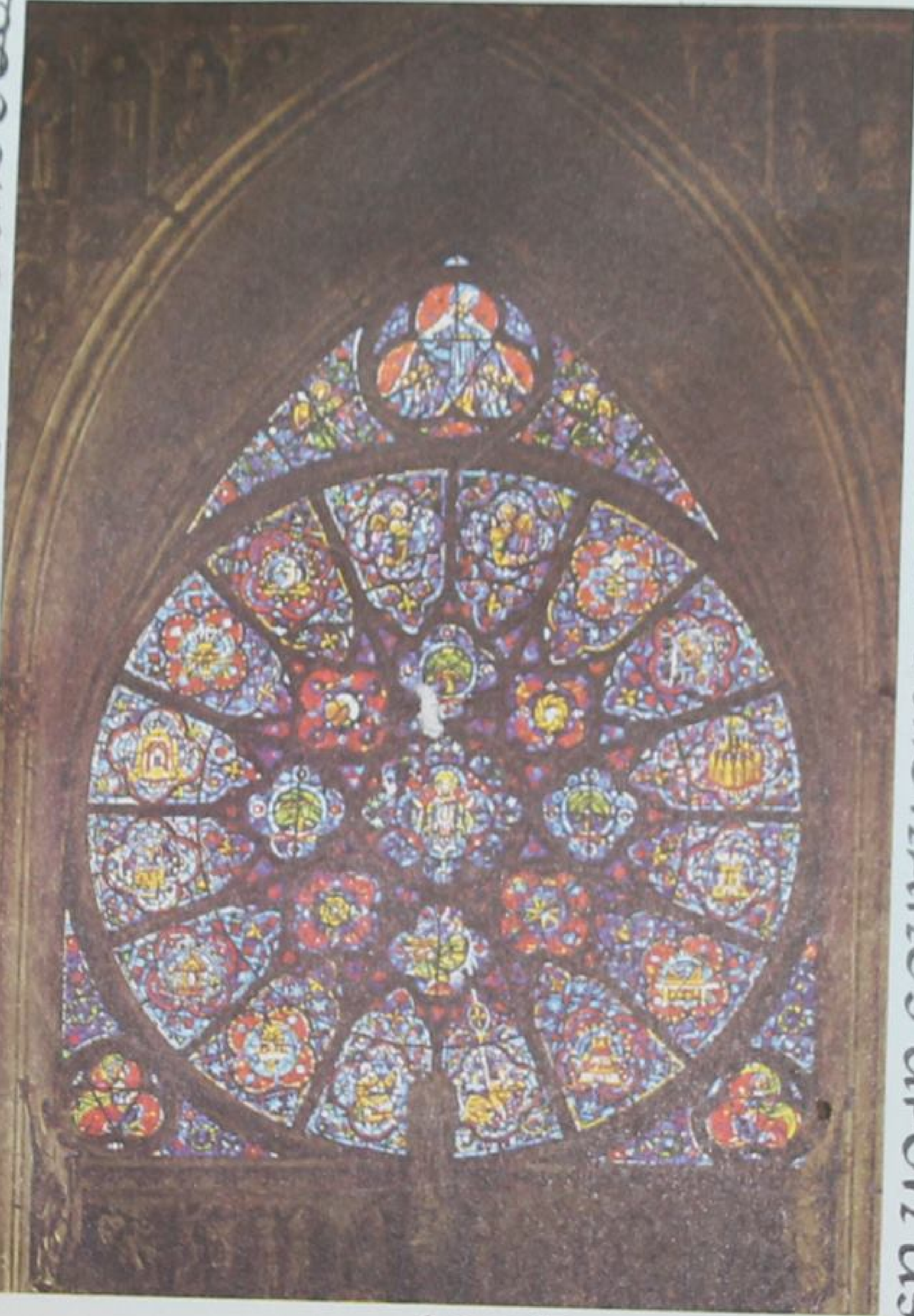
Jim Durkee, Otterville, was the lucky winner of the 1979 Buick Electra drawn at the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club Carnival. Handing the keys to Jim is Robert Spek, Lion president. The winning ticket was sold by Dr. Murray Downing, and on his right is Colin Cope, games chairman for the carnival. Although the proceeds have not been tabulated, treasurer Andy Vandenberghe said Sunday that the carnival was successful again this year due to the excellent community support it received.



BE UPON US AND ESTABLISH

LET THE BEAUTY OF THE LORD OUR GOD

THOU THE WORK OF OUR HANDS UPON US



DEDICATION



Trinity XVIII, October 14, 1979

My Dear Friend in Christ,

'The Last Supper' is an appropriate theme depicted in a stained glass window for an Anglican Church. Certainly, the window we are dedicating today in the Sanctuary teaches that part of the Anglican spirit. The Eucharist will always be the heart and soul of Anglican worship.

The people of St. John's are especially thankful to Mrs. Florence Burn of Tillsonburg for her generous gift. The window is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of her sister Gladys and Carl Langer and their son Charles of Kent, England.

A beautiful piece of art, the Sanctuary Window was created by a group of artists in Cambridge, England. The arrangements and installation of the window were through Edwards Glass of London.

Special thanks go to those of the congregation who have worked hard to make this a special day. Through many weeks of the summer, there has always been someone with a paint brush or mop in hand. Today it shows. What a beautiful Church in which to worship God!!!

This is a special Service in which the Otterville Community has been invited to participate. Please feel welcome to come to the Altar Rail to receive Communion.

Coffee, tea and sandwiches are provided after the Service in the Parish Hall.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Timothy F. Hill

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH  
OTTERVILLE, ONTARIO

THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY  
OCTOBER 14, 1979.

A DEDICATION SERVICE FOR THE  
MEMORIAL WINDOW IN THE SANCTUARY

A DEPICTION OF THE  
'LAST SUPPER'

GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING  
MEMORY  
OF

GLADYS AND CARL LANGER & THEIR SON CHARLES  
OF KENT, ENGLAND

BY HER SISTER  
FLORENCE CORLESS BURN

DEDICATED BY

THE VENERABLE FRANK MACRITCHIE  
(FORMERLY ARCHDEACON OF BRANT)



## Norwich Township Council Briefs

### Road super resigns

Norwich Township council accepted with regret the resignation of Robert Butler as Township Road Superintendent, effective November 30, 1979.

Applications to fill the position will be accepted until 5 p.m., October 23.

### New firetruck

Council accepted the tender of King Seagrave for a 1980 G.M.C. firetruck for \$58,102.

The cab and chassis will be purchased from Fidler Pontiac Buick Norwich where it will also be serviced. The delivery date is expected to be some time next year.

### BP Oil expands

A minor variance was granted to BP Oil, south of Norwich on Highway 59, allowing for the construction of a larger facility there.

The existing structure will be dismantled and a new modern office building and warehouse will be constructed in its place.

The frontage will be roughly the same but it will extend further to the back of the lot.

### Apple day

Council accepted a recommendation to allow the annual Boy Scouts Apple Day to be held on October 26 and 27.

### Police constable resigns

The resignation of Police Constable Dave Vivian was accepted by Norwich Township council effective October 26.

### New firehall doors

Council accepted a recommendation to install two 12 by 12 foot overhead insulated steel doors in the Ward Four firehall to prevent the excessive heat loss from the building in winter.

### Six-day liquor sales

A request to Norwich Township council that the Liquor Control Board outlet in town be open six days a week the year round was carried.

### Manure pits fenced

A request by Councilor Bill Mingle that a bylaw requiring the fencing of manure pits be drawn up for next meeting was accepted by Norwich Township council.

Councillor Jack Walther said many neighboring townships have such legislation for safety reasons.

### Cemetery survey okay

Norwich Township council decided to take no action on a complaint by Marian DeWatcher that the Darkie cemetery northwest of Otterville was improperly surveyed along her property.

It was decided by council that the survey had been done correctly and the cemetery fence was properly located.

## Rebekah award to Otterville woman

The decoration of chivalry was presented to Wilma Butler, Otterville, at a special ceremony held at the Etobicoke Olympian Auditorium on Saturday, October 20, 1979.

The award is presented through the Oddfellows and Rebekahs to anyone in the Rebekah Lodge who has been active in the lodge and the community. It was presented to 53 individuals from all over Ontario at the October 20 ceremony. Lois Bradfield of Ingersoll was another recipient of the award from this area.

Mrs. Butler is a member of the Violet Rebekah Lodge 330 and is also this year's District Deputy President of the East St. Thomas District 17.

Attending the decoration ceremony in Etobicoke were her son and daughter and

families and a mini-bus-load of Rebekahs and friends.

## Church Club

OTTERVILLE (C) — The St. John's Church Club met in the parish hall October 17th.

The meeting opened with a hymn with Wenda Smith at the piano.

President Marion Dowds led in prayer and gave a reading. Evelyn Picknell read the Scripture. Minutes of the last meeting were read by secretary Florence Saunders, and treasurer's report received. The club decided to hold a cleaning bee the last Thursday of each month 9-11 a.m. Plans were finalized for the rummage sale in the Town Hall October 26th.

Also details of beef supper November 11th with sittings at 4, 5, 6, and 7 p.m. Tickets to be sold in advance at \$4.50 for adults, children under twelve \$2. The committee to meet Friday morning at Wenda Smith's to draw up lists etc.

A donation to the church memorial fund will be made in memory of Mrs. Lottie Armstrong.

The meeting closed with prayer led by President Marion Dowds.



Florence Corless Burn, Tillsonburg, was present at a special service in Otterville's St. John's Anglican Church Sunday afternoon to dedicate the window she gave to the church in memory of her sister, Gladys, and Carl Langer and their son, Charles, of Kent, England. Taking part in the special dedication service were the venerable Frank Macritchie, formerly Archdeacon of Brant (left), Reverend Timothy F. Hill, incumbent of St. John's in Otterville and St. Alban's in Delhi, and Reverend R. Anions, St. John's parish in Simcoe shown above with Mrs. Burn. In the background is the window given by Mrs. Burn, "The Last Supper." It was created by a group of artists in England.



OTTERVILLE (C) — Mr. and Mrs. Jack Freeland, Mrs. J.P. Heatly of Chatham, and Mr. Archie Jull of Norwich called at the Funeral Home, Simcoe on Monday evening to pay respects to their aunt Mrs. A.S. Jull who passed away in the Norfolk County Nursing Home on Sunday October 15, 1979. Mrs. Winnie Leach of Otterville accompanied them.

Mrs. Harold Waring and Miss Eva Deveney were Tuesday guests with Miss Maude Hussey in Guelph.

A surprise party was given to Mrs. Daisy Ash in honour of her birthday on Tuesday October 9, 1979, by her daughters, Mrs. Marion Chambers, Mrs. Roalie Wilson and Mrs. Joane Avey, who are all close neighbours of their mother.

At noon 20 sat down to a chicken dinner with all the trimmings. This was accompanied by two beautiful decorated birthday cakes served with ice cream. The afternoon was spent in visiting and several games of cards.

Mrs. Elsie McSpadden played accordion music and a good old-fashioned sing-song was enjoyed. Before returning to their homes all wished Daisy "Happy Birthday" and many more to follow.

Mr. and Mrs. Rod Taylor and family attended the wedding of Miss Velma Johnson of Toronto, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Grenville Johnson to Mr. Paul Burley son of Mr. and Mrs. Bev. Burley, Toronto. The wedding took place in the Trinity United Church, Bloor Street Toronto.

Misses Lynn and Janet Taylor were bridesmaids and Mr. Scott Taylor was usher.

The reception was held at the Park Plaza Hotel.

Mrs. Daisy Ash was a recent guest with her son Henry Ash Jr. and Mrs. Ash at their home in Newmarket in honor of the former's birthday. Other guests with Mr. and Mrs. Ash were Mr. and Mrs. Peter Keatint and daughter Nancy and Mrs.

I wish to express my thanks and appreciation for the many flowers, plants, cards and messages of concern, and especially the prayers of the three congregations of the Parish for me while I was mending from a broken ankle. Thank you all. - Mrs. Mary Herring. Oct 31/79 7

Al and Lorna Barnim of Burgessville, wish to extend a special thank you to their sons Bruce, Brian and Brad, daughter Dianne, all their relatives and friends for the lovely surprise 25th Wedding Anniversary party, given in their honor on October 12th. Also for all the lovely gifts, money and cards, best wishes and anyone who helped make it such a happy occasion. Thanks again. - Al and Lorna Barnim. 7

Keatint's mother of Windsor. Mrs. James Squence returned to her home on Friday after a weeks' stay in the Tillsonburg Hospital.

Miss Gladys Nobbs was a recent guest with her cousins Mr. and Mrs. Bert Jackson in Tillsonburg. Later in the day Miss Nobbs accompanied Mr. Kent Jackson of Toronto to Mr. and Mrs. Alex Jackson's at Pleasant Valley where they were dinner guests with their cousins.

Mrs. Joe Mics and Mrs. Harold Waring attended the miscellaneous shower for Miss Barbara Keller of Langton. The shower was held in the basement of St. Ladislaus Church, Courtland.

Mrs. David Kennedy returned to her home on Wednesday after several weeks stay in the Tillsonburg Hospital.

# Consolidated school OK'd in Oxford

Oct 22/79

WOODSTOCK (Bureau) — A consolidated public school for the southwest part of Oxford County was approved Monday by the Oxford County board of education.

The board included the proposal for the \$1.3-million building in its five-year capital forecast despite a last-minute plea from the Springford Home and School Association.

Springford is one of four schools that will close when the project is completed. The others are Delmer, Ostrander and Rotary Westmount, all near Tillsonburg.

Money to build the school will come from education ministry grants and board capital reserve funds. The ministry approved the project in principle earlier this year and allocated funds for 1981.

The school will have 13 classrooms, a library resource centre, a gymnasium and a small shop and family studies room. The site, which has not been selected, is expected to be near Tillsonburg. Projected enrolment is 324 pupils.

A report by school superintendent R. W. Pilgrim says the new building is expected to save the board \$46,000 a year in plant operation and professional staff salaries.

About 50 Springford school parents attended the meeting, but were unable to change the board's mind during a 90-

minute discussion of the proposal, first suggested a year ago.

Parent spokesman Harv Cowan asked that the Springford school be excluded from the proposal because of strong local opposition. In a 19-page submission, Cowan said the parents oppose the proposal because it would mean increased busing for pupils and an end to the rural school atmosphere.

An amendment to exclude Springford from the proposal was defeated by a 10-4 vote and the original motion to include the school in the capital forecast was carried 11-3.

Blandford-Blenheim trustee Gow Harvey told the parents the consolidated school will benefit pupils and taxpayers by offering better educational facilities and because it won't require tax money to build. "I think we would be derelict in our duty if we didn't provide this consolidated school when we can."

## GORDON QUINN

Gordon Quinn of RR 1, Salford, passed away suddenly at his residence on Friday, October 19, 1979, in his 49th year.

Surviving are his wife, the former Ruby Mills; two daughters, Jeannine Quinn and Joanne Quinn, both at home; his parents, George and Gladys Quinn of RR 1, Salford; three sisters Mrs. Raymond (Marion) Layton of Ingersoll, Mrs. Eric (Margeurite) Slater of Ailsa Craig, and June Quinn of RR 1, Salford; and two brothers, Harley Quinn of RR 1, Salford and Burton Quinn of Wellwood, Man.

He was predeceased by one sister, Ella Mae Stirling in 1977.

Rested at the McBeath Funeral Home, Ingersoll, where service was held Monday, October 22 at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. John Steuther.

Interment in Harris St. Cemetery, Ingersoll.

## LOTTIE JAMIESON (COTTON) ARMSTRONG

Lottie Jamieson (Cotton) Armstrong of Otterville, passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Monday, October 15, 1979, in her 79th year.

She was predeceased by her husband, Wellington Armstrong.

Surviving are one daughter, Mrs. M. E. (Mona) Pettigrew of Windsor; four sons, Eldon Armstrong of London, Ivan Armstrong of Waterloo, Vern Armstrong of Guelph and Eugene Armstrong of Hamilton; one sister, Mrs. Una Hemhill of British Columbia; two brothers, Oscar of London, and Jack, in Alberta; 17 grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Resting at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service will be held Thursday, October 18, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Timothy Hill.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

The casket will remain closed.

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mr. and Mrs. George Misner of St. Catharines and Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Morley of Tillsonburg were guests of Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Addison on Monday.

Mrs. David Kennedy is a patient in the District Memorial Hospital, Tillsonburg.

A number from this area attended the Ploughing Match which was held at Chatham last week.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Crockett of Dorchester visited their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. W.L. Addison on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pinnoy attended the wedding reception on Saturday evening for Mr. and Mrs. Rick DeMaeyer whose marriage took place at Courtland on Saturday. The bride was the former Cindy Spring.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilfrid Addison attended the wedding of their grandson David W. Addison to Joan Wilson at the Georgetown

United Church on Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Donald Addison of Simcoe accompanied them.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Morley of Burgessville and Mrs. Harold Waring of Otterville were dinner guests with Mr. and Mrs. Robert English, Norwich on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Addison of Hamilton, Bermuda have been spending their vacation with relatives and friends in this area and attended the wedding of their younger son David and Joan Wilson on Saturday. Oct/79

Gazette





## Hanging in there

Former Otterville resident Joanne Pettigrew spent Thursday afternoon hanging 17 of her art works at the Ingersoll Creative Arts Centre for a showing that started Sunday and runs through to December 9.

# Joanne Pettigrew art on display

BY C.J. CLARK

A former Otterville resident is having her own art exhibit at Ingersoll's Creative Arts Centre.

Joanne Pettigrew, now of Toronto, has 17 of her works on display. The show started Sunday and continues to December 9. Any Friday or Sunday between 2 and 4 p.m. her art work can be seen.

"I was encouraged by my grandmother (Dr. Lois Batson) when I was young," Ms. Pettigrew said of her introduction into the art world.

She was raised in Otterville and later attended Glendale High School in Tillsonburg. The school didn't offer art courses at the time, so upon graduating, she went to McMaster University and took an honors fine arts course. From there it was to Toronto, where she now works part-time at the Grange Gallery.

When not working at the gallery, Ms. Pettigrew busies herself creating art work for art galleries. The show at the Creative Arts Centre features multimedia works which include lithography, etching, conte, silkscreen and pastel.

Her first love, however, is sculpture in wood and medal casting. She terms her work "representational" which is neither realism or abstract, but rather a combination of the two.

"My work doesn't make a living for me," Ms. Pettigrew said, "but I would like it to. At the moment, it is not an immediate possibility, though."

To help supplement her income she

does freelance illustrations. On a local level, her drawings can be seen in the book *With Mortar and Pine*, about the township of Norwich.

She has also contributed to the University of Toronto Graduate and the Women's Press Almanac. Currently she is working on some more illustrations for *Scene Changes*, a theatrical magazine.

For many of Ms. Pettigrew's works, she does what she calls studies. These are variations of one subject. For example, one field scene in *Ingersoll* took her about 50 attempts before she was satisfied with the end result.

"Sometimes you can hit it right off," she said, "but it doesn't happen too often."

Many artists are never altogether content when a work is finished and Ms. Pettigrew is no exception.

"One is never completely satisfied," she said. "And if someone is, there must be something wrong. There should always be room for improvement."

In the future, Ms. Pettigrew would like to do more freelance work. She also does commissioned works, but one day would like to relieve herself of such tasks.

"I would prefer being totally independent," she said.

One day she may be. In the meantime, she battles it out with numerous other artists in Toronto for recognition, and the elusive dream of being able to support oneself on artistic abilities only.



MR. AND MRS. DANIEL LEE BARNIM  
(Heirloom Photography, Brantford)

Otterville United Church was the setting for the November 17th marriage of Nancy Lynn Sprague, daughter of Mrs. Inez Ryckman and Mr. Robert Sprague, to Daniel Lee Barnim, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Barnim.

The bride, given in marriage by her brother, Randy Sprague, chose a full-length gown of white polyester. The gown featured a scoop neckline and three layers with the final layer forming a train. The crown headpiece had lace and beads with a three-quarter length veil and she carried a silk cascade of peach portrait roses and white lilies.

Susan Porchak, friend of the bride, was maid of honour and wore a full-length, A-line dress of turquoise. The neckline had a pleated frill covering the shoulders. She carried a silk nosegay of turquoise flowers.

Bridesmaids were Norma Sprague, sister-in-law of the bride, Joanne Barnim, sister of the groom, Lisa Sprague, sister of the bride and Lori Barnim, sister of the groom. They were dressed identically to the maid of honour. Kim Walters, cousin of the

groom, was flowergirl and was dressed in an A-line dress of turquoise which had a detachable cape. She carried a white basket of silk turquoise flowers.

Best man was Rick Ryder, friend of the groom and ushers were Robert Sprague, brother-in-law of the groom, C.D. Richardson, friend of the groom, and Duane Barnim, brother-in-law of the groom. Ring-bearer was Danny Ferguson, cousin of the bride. They were all dressed identically in grey tuxedos.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the Norwich Community Centre. The bride's table featured a three-tiered wedding cake, trimmed in turquoise roses.

The mother of the bride chose a full-length cranberry red dress with pleated skirt. Her corsage was of white portrait roses. The mother of the groom chose a pale green dress with dark green jacket to match. Her corsage was of yellow portrait roses.

Following a wedding trip to North Bay, the couple are now living in Norwich.

The bride was honoured with two showers before the wedding, one given by the maid-of-honour and the second by Mrs. Barbara Zimmer of Embro.





**LLOYD BRUCE (TUCKER) STROUD**  
 OTTERVILLE (C) — Lloyd Bruce (Tucker) Stroud, formerly of Springford, passed away at Woodingford Lodge, Woodstock, on Tuesday, November 6, 1979, in his 80th year.  
 He was predeceased by his wife, Lillian Curran in 1979.  
 He was also predeceased by a brother, Merle Stroud in 1967.  
 Born at Springford, he was the son of the late Thomas Stroud and Elizabeth Wardle. He was a mechanic by trade and was also a member of the Springford United Church.  
 He is survived by a number of nieces and nephews.  
 The funeral service was held at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, on Thursday, November 8, with the service conducted by Rev. Earl Moore. Mrs. William A. McMullen was the pianist.

**MRS. FREDERICK W. LEE**  
 OTTERVILLE (C) — Mrs. Frederick W. Lee, a lifetime resident of Springford, passed away on Thursday, November 8, 1979, at the home of her daughter Mrs. Don (June) Lowrie, RR 3, Tillsonburg, in her 87th year.  
 Mrs. Lee was the former Myrtle Winnifred Haley, daughter of the late Melbourne Haley and Sarah Jane Malcolm.  
 Mrs. Lee was a life member of the United Church Women of the Springford United Church and for many years had served in the Women's Institute in which she was a member at the time of her death.  
 She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Allan (Beatrice) Raney of Orillia, Mrs. Don (June) Lowrie of RR 3, Tillsonburg; two sons, Robert and Donald Lee, both of Springford; two sisters, Mrs. Roy Lapiere of Springford and Mrs. Lawrence Mason, Tillsonburg; one brother Earl Haley of Springford, nine grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.  
 The late Mrs. Lee was predeceased by her husband in 1959, and two daughters Jean in 1938 and Mrs. James (Doris) Ross in 1973, also by a sister, Mae Haley.  
 The funeral service was held at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, on Saturday afternoon and was attended by many.  
 Rev. Einar Egilsson of Sombra, a former minister of the Otterville charge.

**Present books**

Guide leader Simone Groeneveld and Brownie leader Marion Dowds of the 1st Otterville Company present Lorene McMullen with a set of Brownie and Guide books for the Otterville Library. The company held an enrolment

ceremony for 12 Brownies, five Guides and four Pathfinders at the Otterville Community Hall on Wednesday. (TN/photo)

**Guild plans euchres**

Otterville (C) — St. John's Church Ladies' Guild met at the home of Mrs. Winnie Leach on Thursday, Nov. 14. President Mrs. Violet Howse opened with prayer. Mrs. Olive Pickersgill gave a reading "Meditation."  
 Roll call was answered by seven members and one visitor. Treasurer Mrs. Winnie McMullen gave her report, including a very successful bazaar on Nov. 8th.  
 The Christmas dinner will be held at the home of Mrs. Violet Howse.

*Nov. 1979*  
 The Guild also decided to hold their euchre parties this season in the Community Hall at 8 p.m., starting Nov. 23 and Dec. 7.  
 Meeting closed with prayer by the president. The hostess was assisted by Mrs. Margaret Davies in serving lunch and a social time was enjoyed.

**Cemetery meeting**

Otterville (C) — The members of the Milldale Cemetery Board met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarke Dell on Saturday evening. President Mrs. Jack Freeland presided. Minutes were read by Donald Macpherson, who also gave the treasurer's report. Outstanding accounts were paid and business items were

discussed.  
 The date of the annual meeting was set for April 12, 1980, when plot holders or interested persons are urged to attend. This meeting will be held in the Archives building in Norwich.  
 The hostess served lunch and a social time was enjoyed.

**GRACE ELIZABETH LEERYDYER**  
 Grace Elizabeth Lee Ryder of RR 1, Otterville, passed away at St. Joseph's Hospital, London, on Wednesday, November 21, 1979, in her 56th year.  
 Surviving are her husband, Donald Ryder; three sons, Terry, Ricky and Randy, all at home; two sisters, Mrs. Lillian Hyndman and Mrs. Vera Hyndman of RR 1, Norwich; three brothers, Earl of Harley, Lloyd and Gordon of RR 1, Norwich.  
 Resting at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, until noon on Friday, November 23, thence to Bookton Presbyterian Church, for funeral service at 2 p.m. with Rev. Fred Cromey officiating.  
 Interment in Bookton Cemetery.

**MRS. JEAN HILLIER**  
 Otterville (C) — A former resident of Otterville, Mrs. Jean Hillier, wife of the late Fred Hillier, passed away in the St. Marys Memorial Hospital on Friday, November 16, in her 89th year. She was a daughter of the late William Ottewell and Sarah Johnson, and had lived in London for the past 14 years.  
 She is survived by a daughter, Margaret Ann of London, also a step-daughter, Mrs. Myra Baudry of Windsor.  
 Rested at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, Saturday. The graveside service was conducted by Rev. Ron Pockington of London for prayer and interment in the Otter Cemetery at 2 p.m.

**OTTERVILLE (C)** — Members of the Otterville Leisure Club were guests with the members of the Senior Citizens in the United Church Hall at Burford on Monday. *Nov/79*  
 At noon all sat down to a delicious dinner, served by the hosts.  
 Following dinner, all enjoyed a musical program. James Squance gave a number of selections on the harmonica and Colin Robinson gave readings. Card bingo was another number on the program.

President Colin Robinson of Otterville voiced appreciation to the Burford folk for their kindness, inviting the Leisure Club for the day, and wished the club continued success.

**OTTERVILLE BUSINESSMEN'S ASSOC'N.**

**DANCE**

Saturday, November 24, 1979

Otterville Community Hall, Otterville

DANCING	9:00 to ?	LUNCH
		\$6.00 ea.



Marg Hillier (30)  
 Systems Development

*Nov 1979*



# History of schools given at Springford WI meeting

SPRINGFORD — The Women's Institute met at the hall on October 23, and during business it was decided to send donations to the local recreation committee, the tornado disaster fund and the Tillsonburg hospital building fund. Sherrill Babbey will be attending the London area conference in St. Marys on November 2 and representatives attending the county conference were asked to take an article for a layette for the roll call.

The date of April 26, 1980, has been set for a spring rummage and bake sale.

Clara Wardle won the draw for the crib quilt made by the Institute, and members collected \$1,872, in the canvass for the Hospital building fund.

Carol Tribe, who has been attending the crewel and embroidery course in Woodstock, explained different stitches and discussed the upcoming course for all interested, to be held in November.

Clara Wardle gave the motto, the past is never dead unless the people of the present make it so. Roll call was answered by showing an object from olden times, with a clay ink well, china bone dish, folding key, and a restored china doll being some of the interesting objects shown.

Poem, One Room School, was read, and Ruth Ann

Haley led in choruses which were sung at school years ago.

Brian Rice, principal of Burgessville public and museum school, was the speaker and showed slides on the history of schools in South Norwich, from the first Spitler log school built in 1812, to the present in which Springford and Otterville are the only two schools remaining. It was pointed out that there was a negro school; that hot lunches were first introduced at Cornell; and that John

Diefenbaker's father taught at Milldale.

Lunch was served by Clara Wardle and Margaret Oatman.

Prior to the meeting a fashion presentation by Mrs. Brenda Ingratta, home economist for Oxford County, was enjoyed, with two sets of slides discussing basic wardrobe planning and fashions for the full figured woman, being shown.

Next meeting November 20, with Carol Tribe convenor.

## Installation held for WI president

Otterville (C) 1979  
November meeting of the Otterville Women's Institute was held at Woodlawn Community Centre on Friday, Nov. 2, at 2 p.m. Mrs. Harry Pickersgill, first vice-president, opened the meeting.

Mrs. Pickersgill gave a reading in keeping with "Remembrance Day," which was followed with two minutes silence.

The roll call was responded to by the members telling of their birth place and the school which they attended.

Correspondence included a thank-you note from Mrs. David Kennedy. Mrs. Jack Walther, district president, conducted an installation ceremony for Mrs. Harry Pickersgill, which placed her in office as president of the Institute. The members took part in the brief ceremony.

The motto was given by the hostess, Mrs. Lorne

Treffry, in which she read interesting facts on Saskatchewan.

Another interesting talk was given by Mrs. Jack Walther on the F.W.I.O. convention which she had attended in Saskatchewan this past summer.

Mrs. Walther had many clippings and pictures from the press assembled on a large plaque which illustrated her interesting talk and she also showed movies which gave complete coverage of her visit there.

Mrs. Walther accompanied her husband, who was also attending an agricultural tour of farm lands in the area, at the same time.

"Happy Birthday" was sung to Mrs. Wilfrid Addison, who was a celebrant on the 12th.

The committee served lunch and a social time completed the interesting meeting.

## Bluebirds plan party

OTTERVILLE (C) — The members of the Happy Bluebird Club held their regular meeting at the home of Mrs. Harold Waring on Tuesday evening. The president, Daisy Ash presided and opened the meeting with the Creed and was followed with "The Lord's Prayer."

Minutes of the preceding meeting were read by Jennie Mitchell and the roll call was answered with the members telling where they were born and what school they attended.

Plans for the December Christmas party were made and Woodlawn Adult Centre was chosen for the potluck dinner to be held on Saturday evening, December 1.

Meat will be supplied and the remainder of the dinner to be potluck. Members were reminded to bring food, silverware and dishes for themselves.

Otterville members were in charge of the meeting. A get-well card was signed for Ida Rachar and "Happy Birthday Wishes" were sung for Mrs. Mack McNally. Mrs. Waring gave two readings "Country Courtship" and "The Modern Clothesline" and also conducted a humorous contest.

The hostess was assisted by Mrs. McNally in serving refreshments and a social time was enjoyed. There were ten ladies present.

On behalf of the club Helen Davis gave the courtesy remarks to the committee in charge of the evening.

## Leisure Club visits museum

OTTERVILLE (C) — The November business meeting of the Otterville Leisure Club was held on Wednesday afternoon at the Woodlawn Community Centre. The meeting was largely attended. President Colin Robinson presided and business was dealt with. Plans were made for the

visit to the Museum at Burgessville on Wednesday. The Christmas dinner party will be held in the Otterville United Church on Wednesday Dec. 5 at 12 noon. The members will then return to the Woodlawn where a Christmas program will be presented.

The club members graciously welcomed Ms. Karen McSpadden and her class from the school who presented several musical numbers. The club also took part in the music.

Wednesday was also the day for remembering the birthdays of the month. These celebrants were Mrs. Gladys Ritenburg, Mrs. Mack McNally and Mr. Fred Cole. Mrs. Annie Pritchard and Mrs. Ritenburg were the social committee and a lovely birthday cake was made by Mrs. Ritenburg for the occasion.

The final meeting for 1979 was held at Woodlawn in November. The discussion focused on the use to be made of the vault in the Town Hall and the feasibility due to moisture problems. Joyce Pettigrew spoke briefly on the LACAC conference held at Innisfree on November 17. Further discussion concerning the format change of school essays to be held in the new year.

The following donations were approved. The Woodlawn Adult Community Centre is to receive \$100 and a donation of \$100 is to go to the tornado relief fund.

The meeting was then adjourned and the remainder of the evening was most pleasantly spent enjoying Harry Barrett's slides and commentary on Long Point. Mel Beecroft thanked Mr. Barrett and presented him with a small token of appreciation.



HERITAGE CONSERVATION - A COMMUNITY EFFORT

Sponsored by: The Ontario Historical Society  
Norwich Township LACAC  
The South Norwich Historical Society  
Norwich and District Historical Society  
The Ministry of Culture and Recreation

A one day Conference entitled "HERITAGE CONSERVATION - A COMMUNITY EFFORT" will be held on Saturday, November 17th, 1979, at the Innisfree Conference Centre, Otterville, Ontario.

The aim of the Conference will be to create an opportunity for Planners, Businessmen's Associations, Heritage Groups and the General Public in Oxford, Haldimand-Norfolk, Elgin, Brant and Middlesex to meet and discuss their mutual fields of interest. Endorsing agencies are the Ministry of Culture and Recreation, The Ontario Historical Society, The Norwich and District Historical Society, The South Norwich Historical Society and the Norwich Township LACAC. Speakers from these organizations along with municipal government representatives, planners and business people will talk on the pertinent subjects chosen for the Conference.

The Innisfree Conference Centre is located on the homestead of Harold Innis, one of Canada's foremost historians. The luncheon will be served at the Woodlawn Centre, an interesting example of an alternate use for a preserved building and one which shows what is possible when a community cares about its heritage.

Due to the intimate size of the main conference room and in an effort not to run concurrent sessions, it will be necessary to limit the number of attending delegates. Pre-registration by November 12, 1979, is essential. Luncheon, coffee and a Conference Kit will be provided in the Conference fee of \$12.00.

It is with pleasure that we invite your organization to send three representatives to the Conference. The registration form and agenda are attached. Please send your registration by November 12th, 1979, to the address given on the form.

Heather Broadbent  
The Ontario Historical Society

Joyce Pettigrew  
Norwich Township LACAC

Conference Coordinators

(map on reverse)

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REGISTRATION FORM

Mr. Jim Hill,  
Box 135,  
Norwich, Ont. NOJ 1P0 (519) 863-2033

Dear Mr. Hill:

Please register the following as delegates to the "HERITAGE CONSERVATION - A COMMUNITY EFFORT" CONFERENCE on Saturday, November 17th, 1979, at the Innisfree Conference Centre, Otterville, Ontario:

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
(name and address)
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

A cheque for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (\$12.00 per person) is enclosed.

signed,

\_\_\_\_\_  
organization







# Hold Christmas

## WI meeting

OTTERVILLE (C) — The December Christmas meeting of the Otterville Women's Institute was held at the Woodlawn Community Centre on Friday, December 14, with a small attendance.

The roll call was answered by the members with "A custom of Christmas past." The President Mrs. Harry Pickersgill presided and the meeting opened with the Institute Ode and the Lord's Prayer.

The minutes of the November meeting were read and approved.

Miss Vera Welsh, convener of the meeting, gave the motto "Keep Christmas". A paper prepared by Mrs. W.R. Harris on Manitoba was given by Mrs. Melville Beecroft. Christmas stories were read by Miss Vera Welsh and Mrs. Harold Durkee. The members donated an article for the Sunshine Cupboard in the Tillsonburg Hospital. Carols were sung throughout the meeting.

An announcement was made of the January meeting which will be held at the home of Mrs. Beecroft on Friday, January 11 at 2 p.m. The guest speaker will be Mrs. Donald Pettigrew of Springford who will speak on Ireland.

A social time concluded the meeting and the president thanked the hostess, who was convener of cultural affairs, for the

pleasant afternoon, and the social committee who assisted.

## Leisure club visits Simcoe

OTTERVILLE (C) — Members of the Otterville Leisure Club enjoyed a bus trip to Simcoe recently to view the artistic display of Christmas lighting there.

The weather temperatures were ideal for those viewing on foot or by car or bus but there was no snow which would have made it look more like Christmas. However, it was a most enjoyable evening convened by Mrs. John Pritchard and Mr. Colin Robinson. The evening added much to the program of the club.

## Sunshine Club meets

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mrs. Roberta McMurchy was host to the members of the Sunshine Club which was held at her home on Thursday evening.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and the roll call which was selected by Marion Pettigrew was answered with the members telling what they would like as a night course in connection with Fanshawe College.

Cards for sick and shut-ins

were signed by the members of which 15 were present.

Mrs. Marjorie Pearce invited the members to her home for the next meeting which will be the Christmas meeting to be held December 13.

Christmas baskets were discussed and these will be packed at a later date. Mrs. Pearce assisted the hostess in serving lunch and courtesy remarks were returned to the hostess and assistants for the enjoyable evening.

## Sunshine club names officers

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Christmas meeting of the Sunshine Club was held at the home of Mrs. Fred Pearce with 18 members present.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and plans were made for the Sunshine baskets to be packed and distributed.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. John McSkimming on Thursday evening January 10.

The roll call is being suggested by Mrs. Evelyn Picknell. The lunch assistant will be Mrs. Audrey Harrison.

Gifts were exchanged among the Secret Pals.

The officers for 1980 were presented by Mrs. Robert Pettigrew. They are: Past

President - Mrs. Etta McSkimming; President - Mrs. Audrey Harrison; 1st Vice-President - Sandra Hussey; 2nd Vice-President - Inger Irie; Secretary-treasurer - Doreen Mountain; Press Reporter - Margaret Shearer; Special Activities - Lily Chisholm; Jean Dow, Etta McSkimming, Good Cheer - Stephanie Durkee. Christmas Boxes - Marjorie Pearce, Robert McMurchy, Dorothy Neale and Joanne Kapin.

The hostess was assisted in serving a Christmas lunch and a social time was enjoyed.

Courtesy remarks were expressed by Mrs. Margaret Shearer coupled with Season's Greetings to the host and assistant, also to all those present.

## Christmas party for Leisure club

OTTERVILLE (C) — The members of the Otterville Leisure Club held their Christmas party at Woodlawn Centre on Wednesday, December 5. The members enjoyed a noon dinner which featured turkey and all the trimmings in the Hall of the Otterville United Church with 50 persons present. It was served by the United Church Women.

Following the dinner the members went to Woodlawn where a Christmas program was enjoyed. President Colin Robinson presided for the program which opened with "O Canada". Mrs. Sam McSpadden accompanied the singing on her piano accordion.

The Thornes of Norwich added much to the program with guitar and violin music. Mrs. Nellie Taylor gave a piano solo "Star of the East" and this was followed with the singing of carols.

Mrs. Harry Lee gave a reading "How Prayer was answered" and other readings were by Mrs. John Pritchard "The Cold Spare Room" and Mrs. Melville Beecroft "The Holy Night."

At the close of the program a collection was taken in aid of Crippled Children in place of exchanging gifts among the members. The donation will be \$50.

It was mentioned with regret that Mrs. Max Avey was unable to attend due to a severe cold. Other members absent were mentioned also.

## Christmas program presented by Otterville Baptist

Otterville Baptist Sunday School presented their annual Christmas program on Thursday evening December 20 with their parents and friends.

Robert Marshall, Superintendent of the Senior Department acted as chairman. The nursery, kindergarten and Grade one pupils presented a Christmas exercise under

the supervision of their teachers Mrs. Bruce Stover and Mrs. Brian Davis.

Gordon Pathy representing the Young Peoples class gave a reading "Was it really so." Rhonda Treffry, Nancy Marshall and Sherry Walters sang "Silent Night." The Christmas story from Luke 2:1-20 was read by Paul Babcock. A duet "There's a

Song in the Air" was sung by Robert and Nancy Marshall.

Six students of Mrs. Aubrey Babcocks grade 9 class presented a play "Better than Moping". The entire Junior Department under the direction of their superintendant sang a Christmas song "Many Years Ago". Jeffery Harrison, Sharon Smith and Jill Avey of Mrs. Hilda Stockmans class gave a Christmas presentation. The Youth Fellowship group presented a skit "To the World With Love" with special lighting and sound effects directed by David Pathy.

A play "The Christmas

Garden" was presented by Lisa Oenema, Janette Butler, Terry Hill, Oshie Irie, Terry Treffry and Randy Avey. The Adult Bible Class sang "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne." Attendance Awards were presented to Donna Butler, Terry Hill, Janette Butler, Lisa Oenema, Bret Butler, Crystal Davis and Cindy Davis. Gifts were distributed from the Christmas tree by the young men from Mrs. Wilma Butlers young peoples' class.

Lunch and a social time in the Sunday School room was enjoyed by all with the ladies of the Adult Bible Class in charge.

Mr. Bruce Stover, chairman of the Deacons' Board, presented Pastor and Mrs. Earl Cooper with a gift from the church and Pastor Cooper closed the evening with prayer.

Mrs. Jean McClintock, Musician of the Rebekah Assembly of Ontario and Mrs. Wilma Butler, District Deputy President of East St. Thomas District No. 17 of the Rebekah Assembly of Ontario were guests at the 25th Annual Christmas party of the Past Noble Grands of Springfield Oddfellow Lodge on December 17, 1979 held in the Lodge Rooms in Springfield.

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## Guild holds euchre

OTTERVILLE (C) — The St. John's Ladies Guild held their first Euchre Party of the season in the Community Hall Friday evening with five tables in play. Winners were - ladies' high, Ellen Beemer; gents' high, Vida

Lees playing a man's card. Gent's high - Vida Lees, playing a man's card; ladies' low - Clara Foster; gents' low, Mac McCreedy. Lucky draw - Fred Lane; travelling prize - Dorothy Lane.

OTTERVILLE (C) — Robert Cooper of St. Catharines, formerly of Otterville and an employee with Bell Canada in Saudi Arabia, returned home to spend Christmas with his wife and family. Robert also visited his mother Mrs. Evelyn Cooper, his sister Deborah, brother David and sister-in-law Marjorie all of Tillsonburg. While in the

area he had the opportunity to visit with friends in Otterville.

After a weeks' trip to Florida he has now returned to Saudi Arabia until May when he will return home to be here permanently.



# Otterville WMF names officers

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Womens Missionary Fellowship of the Baptist Church held their Christmas meeting on Tuesday evening December 4, in the Sunday School room of the church.

The meeting was preceded by a Christmas dinner at 7 p.m. convened by the social committee: Mrs. Wilma Butler, Mrs. Brian Davis and Mrs. Jack Walters.

The president Mrs. Bruce Stover presided for the opening service and brought some thoughts from the first Christmas: Jesus, our Saviour, was born to die, wrapped in swaddling clothes even at His birth. The Christmas offering was to be sent to our missionaries Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Pollard and

Dr. Hazel Wrigglesworth. Mrs. Hilda Stockmans led in the missionary prayer. The slate of officers for 1980 was presented and accepted. They are as follows:

Past President- Mrs. Bruce Stover; President- Mrs. Fred Hill; 1st Vice President- Mrs. Wilma Butler; 2nd Vice President- Mrs. Brian Davis; Secretary-Treasurer- Mrs. Charter Davis; Pianist- Mrs. Delmer Clinton; Good Cheer Convener- Mrs. Hilda Stockmans; Telephone Convener- Mrs. Paul Hill; Social Committee- Mrs. Robert Butler, Mrs. Brian Davis, Mrs. Jack Walters, and Mrs. Kenneth Lee.

The members were

reminded to bring their used stamps to the January meeting.

Mrs. Bert Hill was in charge of the devotional program which opened with the singing of several carols. The scripture lesson Luke 2:1-20 was read by Mrs. Robert Butler.

The theme of the candle lit service was "Jesus, the Light of the World". Mrs. Hill brought to our attention the lights of the first Christmas when Jesus came to be the Light of the World. It is our responsibility as Christian women to let His light shine through our lives.

During the candle lighting service candles were lit by seven ladies, Mrs. Brice

Stover lighting the centre candle representing Jesus the light of the world. The light He brings was represented by six smaller candles lit by Mrs. Brian Davis- the light of hope; Mrs. Hilda Stockmans- the light of faith; Mrs. Thomas Barnes- the light of truth; Mrs. Fred Hill- the light of peace; Mrs. Tom Irie - the light of brotherly service; Mrs. Dwight Davis- the light of love.

Following the service a social hour was enjoyed with coffee and Christmas cookies served by the committee and Christmas gifts were exchanged. Mrs. Fred Hill gave the courtesy remarks.



Mr. and Mrs. Harry Pickersgill are pleased to announce that their youngest son Jeff, has successfully passed his exams as a Medical Laboratory Technologist. Jeff attended Norwich District High School, Mohawk Medical School of Technology and has accepted a position in the Royal Alexandria Hospital in Edmonton, Alberta.

Dec 5/79



Glenda Jean Davis, daughter of Glen Davis and the late Jean Davis, received her Bachelor of Education Degree from Althouse College at the Fall Convocation at the University of Western Ontario. Glenda is a graduate of Norwich District High School and the University of Waterloo. She is presently employed at Mohawk College, Hamilton, Ontario.

OTTERVILLE (C) — The December Christmas meeting of the Otterville Women's Institute was held at the Woodlawn Community Centre on Friday, December 14, with a small attendance.

The roll call was answered by the members with "A custom of Christmas past." The President Mrs. Harry Pickersgill presided and the meeting opened with the Institute Ode and the Lord's Prayer.

The minutes of the November meeting were read and approved.

Miss Vera Welsh, convener of the meeting, gave the motto "Keep Christmas". A paper prepared by Mrs. W.R. Harris on Manitoba was given by Mrs. Melville Beecroft. Christmas stories were read by Miss Vera Welsh and Mrs. Harold Durkee. The members donated an article for the Sunshine Cupboard in the Tillsonburg Hospital. Carols were sung throughout the meeting.

An announcement was made of the January meeting which will be held at

the home of Mrs. Beecroft on Friday, January 11 at 2 p.m.

The guest speaker will be Mrs. Donald Pettigrew of Springford who will speak on Ireland.

A social time concluded the meeting and the president thanked the hostess, who was convener of cultural affairs, for the pleasant afternoon, and the social committee who assisted.

## Made life member

OTTERVILLE (C) — The United Church Women's Christmas meeting was held in the schoolroom of the church on Thursday evening. Fifty-four persons enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner which was prepared by the members of the group.

Prior to the dinner Mrs. Sam McSpadden played Christmas Carols on her piano accordion.

Following the dinner the meeting opened with the president Mrs. Melville Beecroft presiding. She gave

a reading "He who lives for himself" which was followed with "The Lord's Prayer" in unison. The scripture lesson, taken from Luke 2:4-14, was read by Mrs. Leslie Gehring.

Mrs. Earle Moore read a thankyou note from Mrs. Max Avey who had been remembered during her illness.

Mrs. Earle Petch expressed thanks to Rev. and Mrs. Moore for their many kind acts and presented them with a plant. Mrs. Moore replied.

Mrs. Rod Taylor addressed the retiring president Mrs. Melville Beecroft speaking of her continuous loyalty to the church, choir, U.C.W. quilting, as well as other duties in the church.

At this time a Life Membership pin from the members was pinned on Orris by Mrs. Earle Moore in appreciation. Several selections were performed by the 13-member Teeterville Male Choir, well-known in the area. Three Otterville members are actively involved in the choir, John and George Davis and Murray Wardell.

The messages in song were interspersed with readings by Dr. Craig. All enjoyed singing Christmas carols and at the close of the program the visitors were thanked for their generous contributions of music.

## Bluebirds hold party

OTTERVILLE (C) — The members of the Happy Bluebird Club held their annual Christmas party at Woodlawn Community Centre on Sunday, December 2. A potluck dinner filled the tables to capacity and all enjoyed the Christmas goodies.

After a social time the members enjoyed the Christmas program which was conducted by Mrs. Joseph Rosehart. All enjoyed the carol singing with Mrs. Raymond DeMontmorency at the piano. Mrs. Harold Waring gave the welcome to the members and their families numbering more than 20.

Mrs. Nellie Taylor gave a piano solo "Star of the East" and a piano number was given by Mrs. DeMontmorency. Readings were given by Mrs. Clarence Morris "Christmas", Mrs.

John Pritchard - "Keep Christ in Christmas", Mrs. Harold Waring - Christmas Is Coming" Mrs. Joseph Rosehart - "The Trail to Christmas", Mrs. George Lowe- "Mother's Birthday Present".

The members appreciated the musical number of the little folk when Jill Avey sang "Winter Wonderland" Jill Avey and Nancy Davis sang a duet, "It's Beginning to look like Christmas", "Frosty, The Snowman," and "Jingle Bells." Nancy

and Robert Davis sang a duet "Rudolph, The Red Nose Reindeer," and the children sang a number of choruses.

This completed the program and President Mrs. Ash thanked all for coming, those who helped with the dinner and the little folks for helping with the program. She announced the January meeting 1980 would be held at the home of Mrs. Jennie Mitchell on the fourth Tuesday and closed with Christmas Greetings to all.

## Santa parade

## for Otterville

Otterville residents are busy preparing for their Santa Claus parade coming up on Saturday, December 15.

The parade, scheduled to begin at 1 p.m., will leave from the township shed winding up at the Otterville school for hot chocolate and donuts.

This is the second year for

the parade and organizer Mary Lou Pickering, Otterville, is hoping for a full community effort. She and the other two organizers, Terry Oatman of Springford and Linda Huffman of Otterville, can be contacted by any individuals or organizations wishing to put a float in the parade.

Mrs. Pickering can be contacted at 879-6455.



OTTERVILLE

SANTA CLAUS PARADE

DECEMBER 15, 1:00 p.m. - ?

STARTING POINT - TOWNSHIP YARD

TO - OTTERVILLE SCHOOL

HELP TO BRING " COMMUNITY SPIRIT " TO

OUR 2ND ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE .

What we need is a Community Band, made up of everybody in the community who can play a musical instrument.

ANY AGE

All interested participants please come to a meeting at the Otterville Town Hall, Wednesday, December 5 th at 7:00 p.m.

Help to make this years parage a terrific success!

# Otterville parade has 25 floats

*Dec 15/79*

This year's Santa Claus parade in Otterville was bigger and better than ever, said one of the parade organizers, Mary Lou Pickering.

There were about 25 floats entered in the second annual community parade on Saturday, which included a guest appearance by Santa himself. A variety of local floats of excellent quality were entered, said Ms. Pickering, including several from Norwich and Tillsonburg.

Prizes were awarded to the best three floats in the parade with the three judges Bob Pettigrew, Boyd Little and Linda Noels presenting the trophies. The trophy for first place went to the Ot-

terville-Springford Schools float, while second place went to the Springford Home and School Association and third place went to the float entered by the Otterville Girl Guides.

Following the parade, all in attendance were invited up to the public school for hot chocolate and donuts served by the Sunshine Club. There they also got an opportunity to put in their order with old Saint Nick.

Parade organizers Ms. Pickering, Terry Oatman, and Linda Huffman were extremely pleased with the community effort and the quality of this year's parade and would like to thank all who participated to make it the success that it was.



The grade 2 and 3 class at Otterville Public School presented a skit on the old-favorite, Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer at the school's Christmas assembly Friday morning.

Above Santa selects his reindeer for the Christmas Eve journey. A good attendance of parents and friends were out for the special assembly.



The grade 1 and 2 class at the Otterville Public School presented a skit called the Naughty Elf at the special Christmas Assembly held at the school Friday morning for

parents and friends. All of the classes at the school put on a presentation.

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Lee and son Scott were holiday visitors with Mrs. Lee's mother Mrs. Alice Spinks at Eau Claire.

Mr. and Mrs. Nate McMullen spent Christmas Day with their daughter Mrs. Kenneth Mann and Mr.

Mann. Other guests for the day were Miss Margaret Ann Hillier of London, Mrs. Myra Beaudry of Windsor and Mrs. Jack Riste of Otterville.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Avey were Christmas visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Ross Avey and family at Paris.

Mrs. Leonar Lee of Oakville, Miss Gladys Nobbs and Mrs. Harold Waring of Otterville were recent guests with Mr. and Mrs. Melville Beecroft.

Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Robinson and sons of Hamilton, and Mr. and Mrs. William Robinson of Stoney Creek were New Year's day guests with their parents Mr. and Mrs. Colin Robinson.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Freeland entertained at a family dinner on Christmas Day, the former's mother Mrs. William Freeland of Mount Elgin, also his sister Mrs. Thelma Williams of Dundas, Mr. and Mrs. Winston Williams and daughter Christine, of Ancaster, Mr. Tim Williams of Edmonton, Alberta, Mrs. Harold Waring and Mrs. Alice DeGraeve of Otterville.

Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Addison and daughter Shannon of Mississauga, Mr. and Mrs. David Addison of Hamilton, and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Addison of Simcoe were Christmas week visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Wilfrid Addison.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Keller and friend of Langton, Mrs. Martin Magashazi and Mrs. Harold Waring were guests with Mrs. Joe Mics during the holiday.

*Dec 1/79*



**MISS LEILA CARROLL**

Miss Leila Carroll of Norwich passed away at Maple Manor Nursing Home, Tillsonburg, on Monday, December 10, 1979, in her 96th year.

Born at Toronto, July 14, 1882, she was a daughter of the late Dr. James Carroll. She lived most of her life in Norwich with the exception of a few years in Vancouver, B.C., and had been a resident of Maple Manor Nursing Home for the past nine years. She was a member of Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Norwich, for many years and was well-known in the Norwich area where she taught piano and theory for 65 years. She also taught music in the schools from Grade 1 to 13 for 23 years. She always had great interest in all her pupils and continued to have throughout her life. In many families she taught piano to three generations. Miss Carroll travelled extensively in Canada and the United States and had visited England, Belgium, Holland, Germany, France, Spain, Egypt, Algiers, Palestine, Galilee and the Madeira Islands. She was always happy to tell of her experiences.

Surviving are two nephews, Ghent Carroll of Toronto and Jack Carroll of Norwich; four nieces, Mrs. H. A. (Elsie) Butler of Norwich, Mrs. George L. (Jennie) Daiken of Burford, Mrs. Percy (Ann) Booth of Comox, B.C., and Miss Leila Carroll of Courtney, B.C.; and several cousins.

Resting at the Arn and Son Funeral Residence, Norwich, where service will be held Thursday, December 13, at 2 p.m., with Rev. H. D. Herring of Trinity Anglican Church officiating.

Friends may call at the Funeral Residence on Wednesday from 7 to 9 p.m.

Interment in Norwich Cemetery.

**RICHARD BRAYLEY**

Richard Brayley 76 passed away suddenly at his home on Main St. in Otterville on Wednesday afternoon, December 5.

Born in Swansea, Wales he came to Canada at the age of eight years and made his home at Milldale with Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mash.

A farmer in the area he moved into the village where he lived for several years, semi-retired.

He was predeceased by his wife the former Hughena (Innis).

Surviving are two sons Ronald RR 3, Tillsonburg, and Harold RR 2 Otterville. He is also survived by five grandchildren, a niece and nephew in Wales.

The late Mr. Brayley was a member of the Springford Baptist Church. Funeral service was held from the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home in Otterville on Monday, December 10 at 2 p.m. and was conducted by Rev. Gibson Brown assisted by Rev. L.E. Mason.

Mrs. William A. McMullen was the pianist accompanying Mrs. Gordon Haley who sang a solo "The Lord Is My Shepherd."

Memorial donations were to Ontario Heart Fund, Canadian Cancer, Canadian Bible Society, Canadian Friends Service, St. John's Anglican Church.

The bearers were Clark Dell, Bill Hanson, Lewis Flewelling, Gordon Haley, Don Wilcox and Murray Haley.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

**MRS. ELMER PEARCE**

Mrs. Elmer Pearce of Otterville passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Friday, December 21, 1979, in her 74th year.

The former Elsie Parry, she was a daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Otis Parry. Her husband, Elmer, predeceased her in 1962.

Surviving is one sister, Mrs. Charles (Dorothy) Young of RR 4, Ingersoll; and several nieces and nephews.

Mrs. Pearce was predeceased by three sisters, Mrs. A. Mac (Ida) Hall, Mrs. Myrton (ora) Showers and Mrs. Bert (Stella) Taylor; and by one brother, Stanley Parry.

Rested at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where the complete service was held Sunday, December 23, at 3 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earl Moore. Mrs. William McMullen played hymns before and after the service.

Temporary entombment in Ingersoll Mausoleum with interment later in Delmer Cemetery.

Memorial donations were made to the Ontario Heart Foundation, the Canadian Cancer Society, Tillsonburg Memorial Hospital, The United Church Missions and Otterville United Church.



*In Loving Memory*

**Green Honored**

A scroll bearing the signatures of 3,000 well-wishers from the Tillsonburg-Langton area was presented to Brownsville native Gary Green, recently named head coach of the NHL Washington Capitals, at a pre-game reception Wednesday in Toronto. On hand for the presentation, in the Hot Stove Lounge of Maple Leaf

Gardens were, from the left, Bob Goldham and Brian McFarlane, Hanking coach Green, both of Hockey Night in Canada; the youngest mother of a coach in the NHL Marg Green, Gary's sister Marilyn and his father Harry. The Caps scored four first period goals and went on to dump the Leafs 8-2. (TN Sports).

**MISS FLORENCE (FLOSSIE) RAYMOND**

Miss Florence (Flossie) Raymond of Springford passed away on Friday, December 7, 1979, at the St. Williams Nursing Home, in her 92nd year.

Born at Port Royal, she was a daughter of the late Nathan Raymond and the former Eliza Hurley.

Surviving is one sister, Mrs. Lillian Schaffner of Wisconsin and several nieces and nephews.

Rested at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service was held Sunday, December 9, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. John Bell of St. Catharines.

Interment in Springford Cemetery.

Memorial donations to the Heart Fund, Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital or the Canadian Leprosy Commission would be greatly appreciated.

*Dec/79*



*The Twenty Third Psalm*

The Lord is my Shepherd: I shall not want:  
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures:  
He leadeth me beside the still waters.  
He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the  
paths of righteousness for his name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the  
shadow of death, I will fear no evils  
for thou art with me: thy rod and  
thy staff they comfort me.  
Thou preparest a table before me in the  
presence of mine enemies:  
thou anointest my head with oils:  
my cup runneth over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow  
me all the days of my life: and I will  
dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

The Singing Tower at Mountain Lake, Florida, contains one of the world's largest carillons and was given to the American people by Edward Bok.

FUNERAL SERVICE FOR

**Miss Effie Rose Nelson**

of 156 Bidwell Street, Tillsonburg

PASSED AWAY

in Tillsonburg on

Monday, December 31, 1979

Resting at the Ostrander Funeral Home,  
Tillsonburg for service on Friday, January 4 at  
2:00 p.m.

CLERGY

Pastor William Stanley

INTERMENT

Tillsonburg Cemetery



# Letters to the editor

Dec/79

To the Editor:

My sister is one of the 250 victims of the August 7 tornado who have received word that they do not qualify for any benefits whatsoever from the Tornado Relief Fund. What do you call a victim?

Picture a nice old-fashioned farm house well over 50 years old situated on a lot on the south side of the road running through the eastern part of New Durham. Remember, lots of us prefer an old house to a new one. This particular house had lots of interior work done during the last 10-12 years. The work included panelling, a refurbished kitchen and bathroom. The mortgage was paid off; a new car at last and retirement years not too far off. Insurance coverage consisted of \$20,000 on the house and \$10,000 on the contents. Not enough of course but with premiums so high it would have to do for

now. Sitting pretty, you think? Let's see.

On August 7 the tornado roared through New Durham and many of you saw what was left of that row of homes, the United Church and several farms. What happened to my sister's home? The whole back part was gone. What was left at the south was plastered with manure from the neighbouring dairy farms. The interior was a shambles. The new car and a small barn were both demolished. They were told by the insurance adjusters that they would get full coverage. The car was replaced very soon. After salvaging what they could they rented a trailer to camp in, burnt the wreckage and made the decision to build a new home. A three bedroom house to replace the three bedroom house they lost.

How in this age of inflation can you replace a house and contents for \$30,000? Already the new home has over

\$50,000 in it and there are no rugs and an unfinished basement. Their old furnace was salvaged and they are using it now and making do with a \$50 fridge. The Tornado Relief Fund told them as their house was only worth \$20,000 and they received this in insurance they are not eligible for a penny from the fund!

When I think of the people who donated these millions of dollars just to help people like this to get back on their feet I feel sick at heart. Those of you who donated to this fund must demand an explanation. Are administrative costs eating up this donated money? How many people are being paid with money meant for the victims of this disaster? It should have been purely volunteer work. What kind of person wants to be paid with money meant for the victims of this disaster? I and the others signing this letter demand a full explanation of this travesty of goodwill.

Yours truly,  
Ruth A. Almas,  
Harry Almas,  
Jean Sumsion,  
Ferka Vermeulen,  
Rick Horney,  
Jane Horney,  
Harry Heemskerk,  
Margaret Heemskerk,  
N. Burt Whitehead,  
Marion Whitehead,  
Charles Croley,  
Alene Croley,  
Diane Hooper,  
Gwendolyn Becker,  
Bud A. Becker,  
Rick Whitehead,  
Linda Whitehead.



Mr. and Mrs. Sam McSpadden, Milldale (top of picture) have taken in a refugee family from Laos. The family of three is sponsored by the United Church, Otterville and is living with the McSpaddens in their home. Above with the McSpaddens are: (left to right) Nobouphasavanh Simountha, his four-year-old son Sianouza and his wife Maniviene.

Dec/79  
The Dairyland Advertiser Page 9

## The way things used to be



From the Dec. 14, S-R.

Just by looking at the sign which tells us gasoline was selling at 30 cents a gallon, you can tell things have really changed in Woodstock. With the increase in taxes on gas announced this week, it now costs us about four

times as much. This postcard shows The Avenue Service Station in Woodstock in 1926. That is Pat Miners standing in front of the station. The post card was supplied by Mrs. R. Ovington of RR 2, Princeton.



# Letters to the editor

Dec/79

Dear Editor: Soon it will be Christmas and 1979 will come to a close. I'm sure everyone in our community will remember this year as a year of years. We all in one way or another either lost a great deal or tried to help the ones that lost so much in the disaster that hit our community on August 7, 1979.

I do a little writing and poems and I wondered if you would like to use the lines I wrote about the tornado or not. It is perfectly O.K. if you don't use it, but thought I would like some of the subscribers to have a memento to keep along with everything else that has been written about this terrible ordeal that befell our counties.

We enjoy your Gazette very much because it is about the people we know and a breath of something else besides grief and terror that everything you read is full of.

I remain a happy subscriber.

Dora Bertrand  
(Mrs. Wutred Bertrand)

## The Terrible Tornado of '79

Away to the north one  
August day,  
She started to wind her  
fretful way,  
Picking up momentum and  
southward she came,  
Near Tavistock her wicked  
way became  
A terror to all she visited  
along the way,  
August the 7th was that  
unforgettable day  
A whirling tornado, not a  
wild breeze  
Picking up barns, houses and  
trees,  
Scattering animals and  
crops, every which way,  
A black swirling funnel, a  
demon at play.

Rolling thunder, flashing  
lightning of several  
storms became

Amalgamated as along she  
came.

Devastation, after she  
passed, no one can fully  
explain.

A newly built subdivision in  
south Woodstock

Nothing left but rubble, brick  
and rock,

Factories, churches, farms  
she cared not who,

As she whipped along  
destroying homes, old  
and new.

Transports on 401 flung on  
their sides

Cars caught in her fury by  
the roadside.

Then down through our quiet  
countryside

Her full force she rent nearly  
one mile wide.

About 7 p.m. when dairy  
herds are stabled and  
milking begins

She tumbled the barns  
trapping everything  
within,

Oxford Centre, New Durham  
and Vanessa all wiped out

Demolishing trees and  
crops, everything scat-  
tered about.

The lovely old trees that  
graced our countryside

For a century or more were  
uprooted to die.

The stones in the cemetery  
lay there on their sides,

Our Church was a pile of  
brick and wood beside.

New homes and barns will be  
built up again,

But our maples are gone that  
swayed in the rain,

That budded in spring and  
shed in the fall.

The spruce and cedar that  
stood so tall.

Oh God, who gave us these  
beautiful trees,

Help us to keep them and  
enjoy them please

Not cut them down so  
needlessly,

For concrete and buildings  
heedlessly.

But for this we thankfully  
pray,

Few lives were lost on that  
horrible day.

Composed and written by  
Dora Bertrand



Legislative Buildings, Queen's Park



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OTTAWA



SEASON'S GREETINGS  
AND BEST WISHES FOR THE  
COMING YEAR

HARRY AND ISOBEL PARROTT

Isobel & Harry.

*Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year*

Sincerely,  
Janet & Bruce Halliday



# 14-year-old recounts events leading to mother's slaying

By Randy Ray  
of The Free Press

THURS.  
DEC 13, 1979

WOODSTOCK — Edward Stockmans thought his feuding parents were on the verge of a reunion the day his mother was shot to death, an Ontario supreme court jury was told here Wednesday.

Edward, 14, testifying at the second-degree murder trial of his father Hedwig, said the scene outside the family home Sept. 7 made it apparent his father and mother were making "a fresh start."

But minutes after the pair began talking Edward said he heard three rapid gun shots and came out of the family's RR 2, Otterville, home to find his mother Sandra, 33, dead.

Stockmans, 42, an Otterville area farmer, was charged with second-degree murder Sept. 7, after provincial police found his wife's body beside a metal farm building. She was shot in the head three times.

Edward, the second witness called by Oxford County Crown Attorney Fred Porter, led off about two hours of testimony explaining the events leading up to the death of his mother.

The day before, Edward said he was at the Oxford County courthouse in Woodstock where his estranged mother and father had both made applications for custody of the four Stockmans children. Later that day his father said his mother would be permitted to visit the children on Saturdays.

On Sept. 7, Edward, a Grade 9 student at Valley Heights Secondary School at Langton, said his mother arrived at the family farm in the morning as Edward and his father were about to go pigeon shooting.

Stockmans, who was carrying a .22-calibre revolver, and Edward met Mrs. Stockmans

at the road and after a brief conversation, the boy said he returned to the home, leaving his parents alone.

Edward said he looked out a window a few minutes later and saw his father get out of the car with a bleeding nose. Edward came out of the house briefly, but returned to watch television.

The boy said the next time he glanced out the window his parents were fighting.

"Mom was sort of fighting with daddy. Dad was sort of backing off. . . . They were wrestling. . . ."

Edward said his father then told him to call police. As he did, he said he heard three shots "right in a row."

Edward said he then ran from the house meeting his father with the revolver in his hand. He ignored a command from his father that he get into the family truck and instead went looking for his mother.

"I saw her laying there. I yelled her name. She never moved so I ran up to the house."

Edward said he and his father then drove off in the truck to a relative's residence in Langton where Stockmans blurted out his story.

"On the way . . . he kept saying, 'I'm sorry, I love you.' . . . He couldn't believe it, it was like a nightmare."

Stockmans was charged with second-degree murder later that day.

Under cross-examination by defence counsel Don Crawford of London, Edward said he had some hope after his mother's arrival Sept. 7 that his parents' differences would be patched up.

But Edward also unfolded a bizarre sequence of events under cross-examination which took place during July and August after his mother left the family.

He told the jury he saw his mother only twice in July and August. On July 18, he said

his mother and a relative came to the family farm and took the four children without Stockmans' permission. The children were snatched from a cornfield after the relative "started breaking windows with a pipe," Edward said.

He said his mother kept the children away from their father for seven days before they were allowed to call him. She took them to the Simcoe-Delhi area, Brantford, Toronto, Honey Harbour and Waterloo before they were returned to him, he testified.

While with their mother, Edward said he and his brothers and sister spent several evenings alone while their mother was out.

He said the family also saw her Aug. 26 when she and a male friend followed them into church in Courtland.

When they sat down behind the family, his father took them to the front of the church, he said. When his mother and the male friend moved behind them again, Stockmans took the children outside where the mother "attacked" him, said Edward.

"Mom had dad on his knees. She was pulling his hair and kicking him."

Edward said the summer was also marred by mysterious breakins at the family home, vandalism on the property and strange phone calls, which, combined with the other incidents made the Stockmans children afraid of their mother.

He said the children began sleeping on the main floor with their father "because we were afraid someone would come and bust the house open." After the shooting, Edward said he had "never seen him (Stockmans) in this state before. . . . He was shocked and pale and was holding the gun around the cylinder. He was crying very hard."

The trial continues at the Oxford County courthouse today at 10 a.m. before Mr. Justice Dennis O'Leary.

## Brother hollered 'I shot her,' woman tells murder trial jury

By Randy Ray  
of The Free Press

FRI.  
DEC 14

WOODSTOCK — "There's been an accident. . . . I shot her, I shot her. . . ."

These were the words of Hedwig Stockmans less than 30 minutes after his wife, Sandra, 33, was shot to death, an Ontario supreme court jury was told here Thursday.

Danielle DeCoopman, Stockmans' sister, testified that she and her husband, Ronald, were outside their RR 2, Langton farmhouse on the morning of Sept. 7 when Stockmans and his son, Edward, arrived in their truck.

Stockmans, whom she calls "Ed," was hollering and covered with blood.

"He was clutching himself. We ran toward each other . . . then I noticed the blood. I thought he was hurt. He grabbed me and said, 'Dan, there's been an accident. . . . I shot her, I shot her.'" DeCoopman testified, her face covered in tears.

Stockmans, a 42-year-old Otterville area cash crop farmer, was charged with second-degree murder after police found his wife's body outside the couple's home on their RR 2, Otterville farm. She had been shot in the head three times with a .22-calibre pistol,

court was told in previous testimony.

DeCoopman, the third witness called by Oxford County Crown Attorney Fred Porter, said Stockmans had a gun stuffed down the front of his jeans and repeatedly threatened to commit suicide.

"He begged us to take Ted (Stockmans' son Edward) into the house. He said 'let me go, in a few minutes it will be all over,'" DeCoopman said.

"He was crying all the time, saying he was sorry, 'I love her, it should never have happened'."

DeCoopman testified that her brother later handed the gun to her husband.

Her testimony was interrupted several times when she began sobbing. Stockmans and several spectators were also in tears.

DeCoopman said that after calming her brother at her farm by talking in their native Flemish language, she said she and her husband drove to Stockmans' farm 18 miles away on Concession 11 of Norwich Township. There, DeCoopman said, she was met by police and eventually identified Sandra's body which was found on the ground beside a metal farm building.

Testimony Wednesday revealed that 14-year-old Edward Stockmans had called police after Sandra arrived at the

farm and his parents began fighting. The Stockmans had been apart since June when Sandra left her husband and four children.

Under cross-examination by defence counsel Don Crawford of London, DeCoopman told the jury her brother was "very religious" and "still in love with his wife."

She said Stockmans threatened to commit suicide because he lost his wife and that he said "there was no more to live for," not because it was his intention to kill both her and himself.

She testified her brother never stopped caring for Sandra despite the rocky road their marriage took after she left.

With comments similar to those introduced into evidence Wednesday by Edward Stockmans, she described how Sandra harassed Stockmans and their children.

She said a friend of Sandra's, Brian Bannister, bothered the family several times while she was visiting at the home. She said a justice of the peace ordered Bannister to stay away from the Stockmans farm.

On one occasion, she said Bannister drove his van through Stockmans yard "hollering and using obscene language."



"That night we all slept with baseball bats at our chests," she said, referring to spending the night at her brother's farm.

On other occasions DeCoopman said she and her brother and his children found broken windows, a smashed fence, 750 gallons of diesel fuel spilled on the grounds and other damage when they returned home to the farm.

Incidents such as these, she said, prompted her to report Bannister to a justice of the peace. "I feared for their (children's) lives," she said.

When Crawford asked DeCoopman if her brother loved his estranged wife, she replied: "Oh yes sir, Lord yes. He was still in love with her."

Dr. E. M. Davies, a pathologist at St. Joseph's Hospital in London who conducted the autopsy on Sandra's body Sept. 7, told the jury the woman died from two of three gunshot wounds to the head. She said the bullets entered Sandra's face in the upper part of her right eyelid, on her right cheek and in the centre of her upper lip. The third bullet could not have been fatal, she said.

Robert Simpson, an investigator with the firearms section of the Centre of Forensic Sciences in Toronto, said samples of Sandra's skin showed the shots were fired from "an inch or less away." He said the revolver believed to be the murder weapon had fired three shots and testing showed it would not discharge accidentally.

B. M. Dixon of the centre's chemistry section said tests on the hands of Hedwig and Sandra showed "elevated" amounts of lead, barium and antimony on the husband's hands only. These elements are usually deposited on the hands of a person who discharges or handles a gun, he said.

But, under cross-examination by Crawford, Dixon said elevated amounts of these elements on the hands wasn't absolute proof a gun had been fired.

Dixon said the lack of elevated amounts of the materials on Sandra's hands didn't eliminate the possibility that she had held or fired a gun.

The trial continues today before Mr. Justice Dennis O'Leary.

## Jury told of threats by murder suspect

By Randy Ray  
of The Free Press

LONDON FREE PRESS  
SAT. DEC 15, 1979

WOODSTOCK — Hedwig Stockmans threatened to kill four people last summer — including his wife Sandra — an Ontario supreme court jury was told here Friday.

The jury of seven men and five women was also told that Stockmans admitted to threatening his wife with a gun and tearing her pants off to see if she had been "with a man."

Stockmans, 42, an RR 2, Otterville cash crop farmer, was charged with second-degree murder Sept. 7 after provincial police found his wife's body outside their farm home on the 11th Concession of Norwich Township.

Mrs. Stockmans, 33-year-old mother of four, had been shot in the head three times with a 22-calibre pistol. The couple had been apart for more than two months.

The dead woman's mother, Betty Arthur of Otterville, testified that on July 1, a day after his wife had left him, Stockmans admitted threatening to kill her.

"He was ranting and raving . . . he told us he had threatened to kill her and he was sorry," Arthur said.

On July 18, Arthur said she took Sandra to the Stockmans' farm after receiving "three or four excitable phone calls."

Stockmans was "upset, in a rage," she said, and threatened to kill both her and Sandra. When her husband, James Arthur, arrived on the scene and began smashing windows to distract Stockmans, the accused ran out of the house, Arthur said, knocked her husband to the ground and threatened to kill him, too.

Minutes later Mrs. Stockmans and her parents took the four children away from their father. Mrs. Stockmans kept the children for about a week before return-

ing them, according to earlier testimony.

Sandra's sister, Sharon Harris of RR 2, Simcoe, testified she accompanied Stockmans to Vancouver July 15 to find his wife who, the jury was told earlier, had hitchhiked to the West Coast with Brian Bannister, a male friend.

After arriving in Vancouver, she and Stockmans met Mrs. Stockmans and saw Bannister on several occasions. In at least two instances, she said, Stockmans threatened to kill Bannister, 20, of Simcoe.

She said he twice tried to push her out of the way to get at Bannister, shouting, "I'll kill the bastard. I'll kill the bastard." Both times Bannister ran away unharmed, she said.

While attempting to persuade Sandra to return to Otterville, Harris said she learned why her sister left her husband.

She said Stockmans was on his knees pleading with Sandra to return home to their family and telling her he loved her when his wife suddenly screamed and blurted:

"How can I think of you loving me when every time I've closed my eyes in the past two weeks all I've seen is you tearing my pants off me . . . to see if I'd been with a man."

Harris said Sandra had told her Stockmans had a gun during the episodes. When she asked him if this was true, she said he shrugged his shoulders and replied, "What else could I do."

Stockmans and Harris eventually persuaded Sandra to return to Otterville, she said. Sandra lived with her parents until she died.

Harris' husband, John, testified that he was in Stockmans' truck on July 1 when the accused made a verbal threat on Mrs. Stockman's life.

He quoted Stockmans as saying he would give Sandra \$100,000 "but he wasn't going to give all the money he worked for to the boyfriend, . . . he said, 'I'll kill her first'."

Under cross-examination by defence lawyer Don Crawford of London, the Harris's admitted their family's feelings were "no longer favorable" toward Stockmans.

In earlier testimony Friday, Bannister, a Simcoe musician and camera salesman, said he first met the Stockmans in January when they visited his store to buy a camera. Bannister said he began "hanging around" with Mrs. Stockmans about a month-and-a-half later, and eventually developed a relationship with her.

He told the jury he was present during acts of vandalism — broken windows, dumping of fuel — on the Stockmans property, but he never did any himself. He blamed the incidents on his friends.

"We were not doing it to harass (Stockmans) . . . (but) more or less to aggravate," he said.

Bannister also told the jury Mrs. Stockmans was at his Port Dover residence July 1 when his girl friend was there. He said Mrs. Stockmans had two guns with her and got involved in a scuffle with the girl.

He said he left with Mrs. Stockmans for Vancouver a short time later.

The trial continues Monday at 10 a.m. before Mr. Justice Dennis O'Leary.



## Murder trial concludes

# Find Stockmans not guilty

Hedwig Stockmans of RR 2, Otterville was found not guilty of second-degree murder Thursday in the shooting death September 7 of his 33-year-old wife.

Following more than five hours of deliberations, the verdict was reached by a supreme court jury in Woodstock at 6:30 p.m.

The 42-year-old cash crop farmer was charged with murder after Tillsonburg OPP found his wife's body outside the couple's 11th Concession of Norwich farmhouse. She had been shot in the head three times at close range with a .22-calibre revolver.

Stockmans put his hands to his face and started sobbing after hearing the verdict. Defence lawyers Don Crawford and Barry Fick of London rushed to his side and put their arms around him as he remained seated in the prisoner's dock.

He was embraced by his brother-in-law Ronald DeCoopman when he moved into the gallery.

By Randy Ray *FRI*  
of The Free Press *DEC 21*

WOODSTOCK — An Ontario supreme court jury found Hedwig Stockmans, 42, not guilty of second-degree murder Thursday in the shooting death Sept. 7 of his 33-year-old wife, Sandra.

The verdict was announced at 6:50 p.m. after more than five hours deliberations.

Stockmans, a prosperous RR 2, Otterville, cash crop farmer, was charged with murder after Tillsonburg OPP found his wife's body outside the couple's farmhouse on the 11th Concession of Norwich Township. She had been shot in the head three times at close range with a .22-calibre revolver.

Stockmans, after hearing the verdict, put his face in his hands and began sobbing loudly. Defence lawyers Don Crawford and Barry Fick of London rushed to his side and put their arms around him as he remained seated in the prisoner's dock. Several members of the gallery also broke down in tears.

Mr. Justice Dennis O'Leary then told Stockmans he could leave the dock and he moved to the gallery where he was embraced by brother-in-law Ronald DeCoopman.

When court was dismissed, Stockmans swept his son Jeremy up in his arms and moved swiftly outside the courtroom where he was surrounded by overjoyed friends and relatives, including two other sons and a daughter.

The jury of seven men and five women retired to consider its verdict about 12:45 p.m. During its deliberations the jury had before it evidence given by about 50 witnesses during six days of testimony, including 82 exhibits.

In his two-hour and 25-minute charge to the jurors, O'Leary said the crown must have proved that Stockmans killed his wife intentionally before he could be found guilty of second-degree murder. "The intent must be there at the time of the act."

O'Leary explained that the second-degree murder charge could be reduced to manslaughter if a jury felt intent had not been proved.

And he pointed out that under certain circumstances the jury might conclude the shooting was accidental or in self defence and would have to acquit Stockmans.

O'Leary said it was obvious Stockmans was harassed during the past summer after his wife left him. He said it was also clear that he loved his wife dearly

and that evidence showed Sandra Stockmans provoked her husband the day she died.

"You need proof of intent (to convict on second-degree murder). . . . I can't understand how you can find this man guilty of murder on the evidence given."

Later he said it was up to the jury to decide whether Stockmans' wife died as he defended himself or if he was angry and provoked and shot her.

O'Leary said it was important for jurors to decide if Stockmans ever got the gun he said his wife had taken from his pants. "If he got the gun couldn't he have saved himself?"

He said the jury also had to consider the close range at which the shots were fired. He reminded jurors the shots all hit Mrs. Stockmans' face in the same general area and were fired from one inch away. He suggested "such infliction would have had to be intentional."

Oxford Crown Attorney Fred Porter had suggested Stockmans had threatened his wife July 1 prompting her to leave him. He said that on Sept. 7 she visited the Stockmans' farm to deliver some photographic slides to son Edward and was the victim of an attack provoked by Stockmans. He said the attack culminated when Stockmans fired three shots into his wife's head as she was on the ground or falling near a metal barn on their property.

Crawford, in his final summation Wednesday, said Stockmans was attacked by his wife and was fighting for his life when she was shot. He said the shooting, which was not denied by Stockmans, was unintentional.

When court was dismissed by Mr. Justice Dennis O'Leary, Stockmans swept his son Jeremy up in his arms and moved swiftly outside the courtroom where he met overjoyed friends and relatives.

The jury of seven men and five women retired to consider its verdict about 12:45 p.m. It had heard evidence from about 50

witnesses during the six days of testimony.

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(Continued on Page 4)

(Continued from Page 1)

could be reduced to manslaughter if a jury felt intent had not been proved. And he pointed out that under certain conditions the jury could find that the shooting was accidental or in self defence and would have to acquit Stockmans.

Justice O'Leary said it was obvious that Stockmans was harassed during the past summer after his wife left him. He said it was also clear that he loved his wife and that the evidence showed Stockmans had been provoked by Sandra Stockmans the day she died.

Justice O'Leary also said the jury had to consider the close range at which the shots were fired. He said the shots all hit Mrs. Stockmans in the face in the same general area and were fired from one inch away, suggesting "such infliction would have had to be intentional."

During the six days of testimony it was shown that Mrs. Stockmans died Sept. 7 of three gunshot wounds to the head after she and her husband were in a fight at the family's farm. Witnesses, including Stockmans, said he and Edward were going out to shoot some pigeons when Mrs. Stockmans arrived at the farm. Stockmans was carrying a .22 calibre revolver.

Testimony showed the couple began fighting in the car after their son was sent back to the house. Edward testified that his father called to him to telephone police when his parents began fighting. While he was doing that, he said he heard three shots and went outside to find his mother lying on the ground.

Stockmans testified his wife grabbed the gun from his belt and threatened to kill him. He said he could only recall lunging for the gun and then seeing her on the ground.

He did not dispute he shot his wife, but said he never intended to kill her.

In his final submission, after hearing the last of 20 defence witnesses Wednesday, Mr. Crawford told the jury Stockmans believed his wife was going to kill him and there was "no question she probably would have," but that it was up to the jury to decide if Stockmans used "appropriate force" after he lunged for the gun she held to his face.

He also suggested Mrs. Stockmans may have come to the farm in an attempt to get her husband to strike her in order to help her claim for custody of the children. Stockmans had been granted interim custody.

Mr. Crawford said the gun might have

gone off when Stockmans lunged for it, the bullets striking her in the right side of her face. Marks across the road, flattened grass near the struggle and blood on the outside of the car were consistent with Stockmans' evidence.

The major difference between the evidence presented by the crown and the defence was the credibility of witnesses, Mr. Crawford said. Crown evidence presented by Mrs. Stockmans' mother, father, sister and brother-in-law that Stockmans had threatened both his wife's life and that of others, was disputed by the defence.

Mr. Porter told the jury that Mrs. Stockmans had been frightened and prompted to leave her husband July 1 because of his threats against her. Stockmans' anger and desire to retain custody of his children were shown by his threats on the lives of Mrs. Stockmans and her parents, he said.

The fact that Mrs. Stockmans parked on the roadside and not in the driveway show that she did not come to the farm to provoke her husband, Mr. Porter said, but to deliver some slides in the family mailbox.

Blood samples taken from the outside of the car similar to that of Stockmans were consistent with someone trying to get into the vehicle, he said.

Mr. Porter also said that the police had found the car keys removed from the ignition and questioned why Mrs. Stockmans may have done that.

He said if the gun had gone off when Stockmans put his hand over it while his wife held it, only one shot would have fired, not three. He also questioned whether the drag marks across the road showed Mrs. Stockmans voluntarily crossed it.

He noted that blood specks were found on the lower part of the wall of the corrugated building where her body was found and suggested she may have been shot three times when she was on the ground.

Mr. Porter noted that Stockmans did not try to assist his wife after the shooting and instead of calling an ambulance, drove to his sister's home. The minor scrapes on his body were not evidence that a "life and death" struggle occurred, Mr. Porter said.

Dr. Harry Hudson, a London psychiatrist, testifying for the defence, said Wednesday that events similar to those encountered by Stockmans seconds before his wife died, could cause amnesia and affect someone's ability to recall what happened.



# Murder suspect 'mixed-up,' wife labelled unpredictable

By Randy Ray  
of The Free Press

WOODSTOCK — Hedwig Stockmans was portrayed at his murder trial in Ontario supreme court here Monday as "mixed up and emotional" and his dead wife Sandra was described as "quick-tempered" and unpredictable.

During the final day of crown testimony, witnesses said Stockmans, 42, was still very much in love with his wife but regularly changed his views about their faltering marriage.

"One minute it was love and one minute it was hate . . . he was very mixed up," Ronald Vandenbusche of RR 1, Delhi, said of Stockmans, who spent the past summer apart from his 33-year-old wife.

Stockmans of RR 2, Otterville, was charged with second-degree murder Sept. 7 after police found his wife's body outside the couple's farmhouse on the 11th concession of Norwich Township. She had been shot in the head three times with a .22-calibre revolver.

Mrs. Stockmans left her husband and their four children on June 30, the jury of seven men and five women was told in earlier testimony.

Vandenbusche, one of eight witnesses called Monday by Oxford Crown Attorney Fred Porter, said Stockmans told him he loved his wife but didn't know how he could take her back.

"Ed (Stockmans) said he still wanted to take her back but said, 'How can I do it?'" Vandenbusche said. "I told him he's got to follow his own heart."

Vandenbusche, a real estate agent and friend of Stockmans for several years, told the jury that Mrs. Stockmans was "fun-loving" but "a hard person to figure out."

He described her as "quick-tempered" with a personality which could change from anger to cheerfulness rapidly.

Vandenbusche described fights involving Mrs. Stockmans on two occasions, both at Harvestfest celebrations in Delhi.

In 1977, when a girl grabbed his wife, Vandenbusche said Mrs. Stockmans arrived and "threw the girl away." Another time, when Stockmans and Vandenbusche were talking with a woman, Mrs. Stockmans grabbed her by the hair and threw her to the ground "with no warning."

Vandenbusche also gave evidence disputing that given Friday by crown witness John Harris, Mrs. Stockmans' brother-in-law. Harris had told Porter that on July 1, during a drive in Stockmans' truck to another family farm to feed horses, the accused said he would kill his wife before giving up all the money he had worked for to her boyfriend.

But Vandenbusche told the jury he was at Stockmans' farm on July 1 and never saw Stockmans and Harris leave together. He also testified that there were no horses at the farm Harris had named.

Dorene Zukiwski, a hairdresser who gave Stockmans a hair permanent on Aug. 27, said he told her several times his wife would "never get the kids."

Under cross-examination by defence lawyer Don Crawford of London, she said that "one minute he would talk about how he loved her, then turn against her."

Three members of the provincial police detachment at Tillsonburg who were at the Stockmans farm on the day of the woman's death, testified that they saw "scrape marks" across the road in front of the farm where Mrs. Stockmans parked the car she was driving Sept. 7.

The officers, Constables Walter Bagley and Larry Gow and Sgt. Bernie Crane, said the marks were apparently made when something was dragged from behind the car across the gravel road. Bagley and Gow said they ran parallel and were one to one and a half feet apart.

Under cross-examination by Crawford,

Gow said the marks could have been made by "people standing and scuffling."

Earlier, Stockmans' son Edward testified that he saw his father and mother fighting some distance away from the car after Stockmans got out of the vehicle with a bleeding nose. Stockmans had a .22-calibre pistol at the time, which he planned to use for pigeon shooting, the boy testified last week.

In earlier testimony Monday, Const. P. G. Moore, a dog handler with the OPP at London, said a search of a 200-by-200-foot area around the death scene on Sept. 8, using a German shepherd, turned up no weapons.

The revolver Stockmans carried a day earlier was turned over to provincial police on the day of the death.

Crawford is expected to call his first witness at 10 a.m. today when the trial continues before Mr. Justice Dennis O'Leary.

## Stockmans, wife in violent fight before shooting, murder trial told

By Randy Ray *WED*  
of The Free Press *July 19*

WOODSTOCK — Hedwig Stockmans told an Ontario supreme court jury here Tuesday he was involved in a "violent" struggle with his wife Sandra on Sept. 7 which ended when she fell motionless to the ground at their Otterville area farm.

But during his day-long testimony, Stockmans said the last thing he remembered was lunging at the gun she was holding to his face in a desperate bid to save his life.

"She pulled the gun out of my pants, stuck it in my face and said 'I'll kill you,'" Stockmans told the jury. "I went for it and the next thing I remember was she laying there . . . I don't remember hearing shots."

Stockmans, 42, of RR 2, Otterville, was charged with second-degree murder after police found his wife's body outside the couple's farmhouse on the 11th Concession of Norwich Township. She had been shot in the head three times with a .22-calibre revolver.

During more than five hours of testimony, often interrupted when he broke down in tears, Stockmans recounted details of his family's emigration to Canada from Belgium in 1951, his education, an earlier marriage in 1961, his rise to prosperity in farming, his relationship with Sandra and the events before and after their marriage broke down in June when she left him and their four children.

On three occasions, members of Sandra's family — her father James Arthurs and sister Sharon Harris — left the courtroom, apparently unable to cope with evidence being given.

Questioned by defence lawyer Don Crawford of London, Stockmans testified he was on his way to a tobacco kiln on the farm with his son Edward, 14, on Sept. 7 when his wife pulled up in her father's car on the road in front of the farm. Stockmans said he was carrying a .22-calibre revolver with which he and his son planned to shoot pigeons.

Stockmans said he and Edward went to greet Sandra. On the way, he said he stuffed the revolver into his pants because the law prohibits carrying guns across roadways.

When they reached the car, Stockmans said, he had a few words with his wife before she moved over and told him to get in the driver's seat. Edward left, he said.

Stockmans said they had some discussion before Sandra suddenly smacked him on the left side of his face, opening a cut beside his nose. Then, he said, she began blaming him for scaring their children. She called him names before he put her in a headlock in an attempt to control her.

"She kept hitting me and hitting me . . . she grabbed my hair, the passenger door opened and we suddenly fell out in the ditch."

Stockmans said his wife continued to call him names and strike him as he attempted to cross the road with her hanging on until they reached a grassy portion of the farm.

He said she kept screaming "hit me, hit me, hit me."

Next, he said, she jumped him and they both fell to the ground with her scratching, hitting and clawing him. Stockmans testified that he then yelled for his son to call police.

When they reached the corner of a corrugated barn where her body was later found, Stockmans

said his wife pulled the revolver from his pants and "stuck it in my face."

"I seen the gun right in my face . . . I thought she was going to kill me . . . death was in front of my eyes when I went for the gun."

Stockmans said he didn't remember hearing the three shots which were brought up in earlier evidence by son Edward. He said he couldn't remember if he got the gun away when from his wife or what he did with it after she fell to the ground.

When Crawford asked him if he was "disputing the fact he shot her," Stockmans replied, "No." marks that he would kill her if she didn't tell him what was going on. She left the family that night, fleeing through a bedroom window, he said.

Stockmans said of his earlier testimony, "I just an expression I used, love her very much."

Cross-examined by Oxford Crown Attorney Fred Porter, Stockmans, who said his farm was vandalized regularly

by Brian Bannister, a friend of his wife, and they were scuffling. He also said he had no windows and signs and turned on his fuel tanks, releasing hundreds of gallons of fuel.

Despite the constant harassment, which he felt his wife had something to do with, Stockmans said he continued to love her.

On several occasions during his testimony, Stockmans disputed earlier evidence that he had threatened other people's lives.

He said Sharon Harris, Sandra's sister, was lying when she testified that he had threatened to kill Bannister. And he denied saying he held a gun to his wife and tore off her pants to see if she had been with another man, as stated Friday by Harris.

Stockmans also testified that he never told John Harris, Sharon's husband, that he would kill Sandra before giving up all his money to her and Bannister, also given in evidence Friday. He also said he never threatened to kill the Arthurs, Sandra's parents, during an incident on his farm July 18, also given in evidence by Betty Arthur.

Stockmans said the only time he hit Sandra was 12 years ago when he caught a hired farmhand lying on top of her in their home.

Defence testimony before Mr. Justice Dennis O'Leary continues today.



# Defence, crown make final arguments

By Randy Ray  
of The Free Press

THURS  
DEC 20

WOODSTOCK — Was Hedwig Stockmans a man much in love with his wife who was fending for his life during a violent struggle in which she was shot to death?

Or was he a man grown angry during the past summer who suddenly turned aggressor Sept. 7 and was responsible for the death of his wife Sandra in a desperate attempt to keep his four children?

The first possibility — raised by defence counsel Don Crawford and the second by Oxford Crown Attorney Fred Porter — are the key issues to be decided in the trial of Stockmans, a 42-year-old Otterville area farmer, on a charge of second-degree murder, an Ontario supreme court jury was told Wednesday during final submissions by counsel.

The jury of seven men and five women is expected to retire today to consider its verdict following the charge by Mr. Justice Dennis O'Leary.

Stockmans of RR 2, Otterville, was charged after police found his wife's body outside the couple's farmhouse on the 11th Concession of Norwich Township. She had been shot in the head three times with a .22-calibre revolver.

During six days of testimony it was shown that Mrs. Stockmans, 33, died after she and her husband were involved in a fight on their farm.

Witnesses, including Stockmans, testified that he and his son Edward were on their way to a tobacco kiln on the farm when Sandra pulled up in her father's car on the road in front of their farm. Stockmans was carrying a loaded .22-calibre revolver which he and his son planned to use to shoot pigeons.

Testimony was given that they began fighting in the car after Edward, 14, left. The fight continued outside the car and

they gradually worked their way across Concession 11 to a metal farm building where her body was found.

Last week, Edward told the jury he saw his parents fighting and was told by his father to call police. While doing that he heard three shots and rushed outside to find his mother lying on the ground.

Stockmans, who testified Sandra grabbed his gun and threatened to kill him, said he drove to his sister's home after his wife fell to the ground. Tuesday, he said the last thing he recalled was lunging for the gun, then seeing her lying on the ground.

Stockmans, in testimony Tuesday did not dispute he shot his wife. He said he did not intend to kill her.

In his final submission after hearing evidence from the last of 20 defence witnesses Wednesday, Crawford told the jury Stockmans believed his wife was going to kill him.

He said there was "no question she probably would have," but added it was

up to the jury to decide if Stockmans used "appropriate force" after he lunged for the gun she held to his face.

"Would a man who loved his wife kill her? There's no darn way he would ever form that intent."

Crawford also suggested Sandra might have arrived at the farm the day she died in an effort to have her husband "land her a couple" of punches to give her ammunition she might use in a later attempt to gain custody of their four children. The day before the her death Stockmans was granted interim custody.

Crawford said during the fight Stockmans' hand could have gone over his wife's when he went for the gun, directing it toward the right side of her face, where, earlier testimony showed, the three bullets struck.

He also said marks across the road, flattened grass near the scene of the struggle and blood on the outside of the driver's side of her parents' car were

## Stockmanns acquittal Jan/80 appealed by crown

The acquittal of Hedwig Stockmans, 42, on a charge of second degree murder in connection with the shooting death of his wife has been appealed.

The crown filed the notice of appeal with the court of appeal Thursday. David Watt, senior prosecutor for the attorney general's department will argue the case for the crown.

Mr. Watt said the basis for the appeal relates to the trial judges instructions

to the jury on the issues of provocation and self defence.

An Ontario supreme court jury found Mr. Stockmans not guilty of second degree murder December 20. He was charged after his 33-year-old wife Sandra's body was found outside on the couple's Otterville area home on the 11th Concession of Norwich Township September 7. She had been shot in the head three times.

consistent with evidence given by Stockmans.

Crawford said the major difference between crown and defence evidence was the credibility of witnesses.

He pointed out that evidence given by Sandra's father, mother, sister and brother-in-law, all crown witnesses, regarding threats made by Stockmans, was denied by the accused. Evidence given by John Harris, Sandra's brother-in-law, was also disputed by another witness, he reminded the jury.

Porter told the jury that death threats made by Stockmans against his wife frightened her and prompted her to leave him July 1. He said threats he made on the lives of Sandra and her parents later in July showed he was upset and angry and did not want to lose his children.

The crown attorney disputed Crawford's suggestions that Sandra wished to provoke her husband Sept. 7, noting that she parked on the road instead of enter-

ing the driveway because she planned to deliver some slides in the family mailbox.

He said blood samples similar to that of Stockmans which were found outside the car were consistent with someone trying to get into the vehicle.

"His version of how he entered the car is not correct. Was he the aggressor at that point? That's for you to say," he said to the jury.

Porter also pointed out that the police found the keys had been removed from the car's ignition and asked, "why would Sandra remove the keys?"

He asked the jury to consider the drag marks across the road and ask whether she went voluntarily across it.

Porter argued that if Stockmans put his hand over his wife's while she held the gun the jamming of two fingers in the trigger area would allow only one shot, not three.

He also noted that a picture of the death scene showed specks of blood on the lower part of the wall of the corrugated building where her body was found.

"Was she shot three times when she was on the ground?" he asked.

Porter also noted that Stockmans did not try to assist his wife after the shooting and did not call an ambulance. He said the minor scrapes on Stockmans' body did not indicate that a "life and death" struggle had occurred on the morning of Sept. 7.

During defence testimony Wednesday, Dr. Harry Hudson, a London psychiatrist, said events similar to those encountered by Stockmans seconds before his wife died could cause amnesia and affect a person's ability to recall what happened.

The trial resumes today at 10 a.m.

## Acquittal appealed Jan 17/80

The crown has appealed the acquittal last month of Hedwig Stockmans on a charge of second-degree murder in the shooting death Sept. 7 of his 33-year-old wife Sandra.

David Watt, senior prosecutor for the attorney-general's department who will argue the case for the crown, said notice of appeal was filed with the court of appeal Thursday.

Stockmans, 42, an Otterville area cash crop farmer, was found not guilty by an Ontario supreme court jury Dec. 20 in Woodstock after an eight-day trial. He was charged after police found his wife's body outside the couple's farmhouse on the 11th

Concession of Norwich Township. She had been shot three times in the head.

Watt said the grounds for appeal relate to the trial judge's instructions to the jury on the issues of provocation and self-defence.



# Letters to the Editor

Fills News Feb 8/80

I would like to appeal to your readers in a matter of grave concern to all citizens of this county.

I have personally spoken to a staggering number of people in the past two weeks and have asked them an important question - can a person be tried for the same crime twice? The answer they gave me, was a unanimous NO.

However, the answer to that question is a definite YES, which came as a complete shock to them all. After all, the majority of this county are not lawyers or involved in legal matters to the extent that they are aware of all the laws in this land.

I will refer to a recent trial held in Woodstock, Ontario in December of 1979, which will prove the point I'm trying to make. The trial in question was for a charge of second degree murder involving a husband charged for the murder of his wife. A jury was picked and the trial proceeded, producing evidence beyond a reasonable doubt to the jury members (a selection of 12 men and women) that the charged man was innocent of the crime. A verdict of not guilty was brought in and he was acquitted. Case closed.

Not so.

Five weeks later, it was announced that the verdict was being challenged and an appeal was pending.

Now I ask you, why was the taxpayers money used to select 12 men and women to sit on this jury, for the duration of the trial, and turn around weeks later and deem their decision as unacceptable to justice.

If the prosecution and the Crown did not feel that the 12 selected people were reliable or competent, why were they allowed to sit on that jury and have the right to determine a verdict, at the expense of the accused, the taxpayer and to themselves.

I feel that an injustice has been committed to all concerned in this trial, and question the power and right of the Attorney General's office in controlling the destiny of a human being when he has already been accused, tried and acquitted.

We talk about freedom and democracy, I'd like to know where it disappeared to because in this specific case, neither of the terms apply.

With an election fast approaching, we as Canadians had better take a long hard look at whose hands we are putting our destinies into. The days of "innocent until proven guilty" seem to have dropped by the wayside and been replaced with "guilty until the government agrees with the verdict."

A Concerned Citizen

Ed's note: Under Canadian law, a person may not be tried twice for the same offence, providing the trial is conducted according to law. An appeal may be lodged by the Crown only if it feels an error in law has been made. Grounds for appeal in the case referred to above are "misdirection of the trial judge" according to the request for appeal. A decision whether to grant the appeal has not yet been made. It is up to the court to determine whether there was in fact an error in law.



# Powell plant expansion remains at standstill

The planned expansion of Powell Agri-Systems on Wellington Street in Otterville is currently at a standstill.

Powell received approval of a minor variance from Norwich Township council required to go ahead with the expansion of its facility on November 27 but objections to the expansion were voiced by Mr. and Mrs. William Hudson whose home is across the road from the plant.

The matter must now go before the Ontario Municipal Board for a hearing.

The minor variance, if allowed, would permit Powell to build the addition to the plant 35 feet closer to the boundary than is allowed in the township's bylaw. In the bylaw, a setback of 60 feet is required.

The Hudsons are objecting to the expansion as they believe the noise level at the plant would be increased with the new structure closer to the road. The Hudsons also complained of the

employees parking cars along Wellington Street in front of their residence.

London lawyer Richard Mahoney, who is representing the Hudsons in the matter, said the noise from the plant was making Mrs. Hudson ill. For that reason she and her husband, who have lived in the house for 43 years, have moved to Tillsonburg. Mr. Hudson's grandson is now occupying the house, said his son Larry Hudson. "It doesn't matter whether we live there or not," said Larry Hudson. "Our interest is still maintained." After living in the house for 43 years Mr. Hudson said his parents did not want to move but the noise from the plant was severely affecting his mother's health.

"Powell must be treated fairly," he said, "But so must all the residents in the community."

Mr. Lynch said a petition had been circulated to all of the residents within 200 feet of the proposed structure

requesting their approval of the expansion. He said the Hudsons were the only residents who declined to sign.

Mr. Hudson said there are at least five neighbors in the immediate area of the plant that were not even approached to sign the petition.

Powell Treasurer Gerry Lynch said he did not know when the OMB hearing would be scheduled but he did say he thought it would be favorable to Powell's position.

"It could take six months to a year before the appeal is completed," he said in an interview last week.

With the recent good weather, had the project been able to proceed, the foundations would have been in and the building up and ready to commence operation by March or April. The addition to the plant would have meant the creation of 30 jobs in addition to the present 120 employed at the plant.

He said there are others besides his parents who would sign against the expansion proposed in that area.

Mr. Lynch told council in November that Powell was willing to sign an agreement guaranteeing the Hudsons that the noise and parking problems would be dealt with.

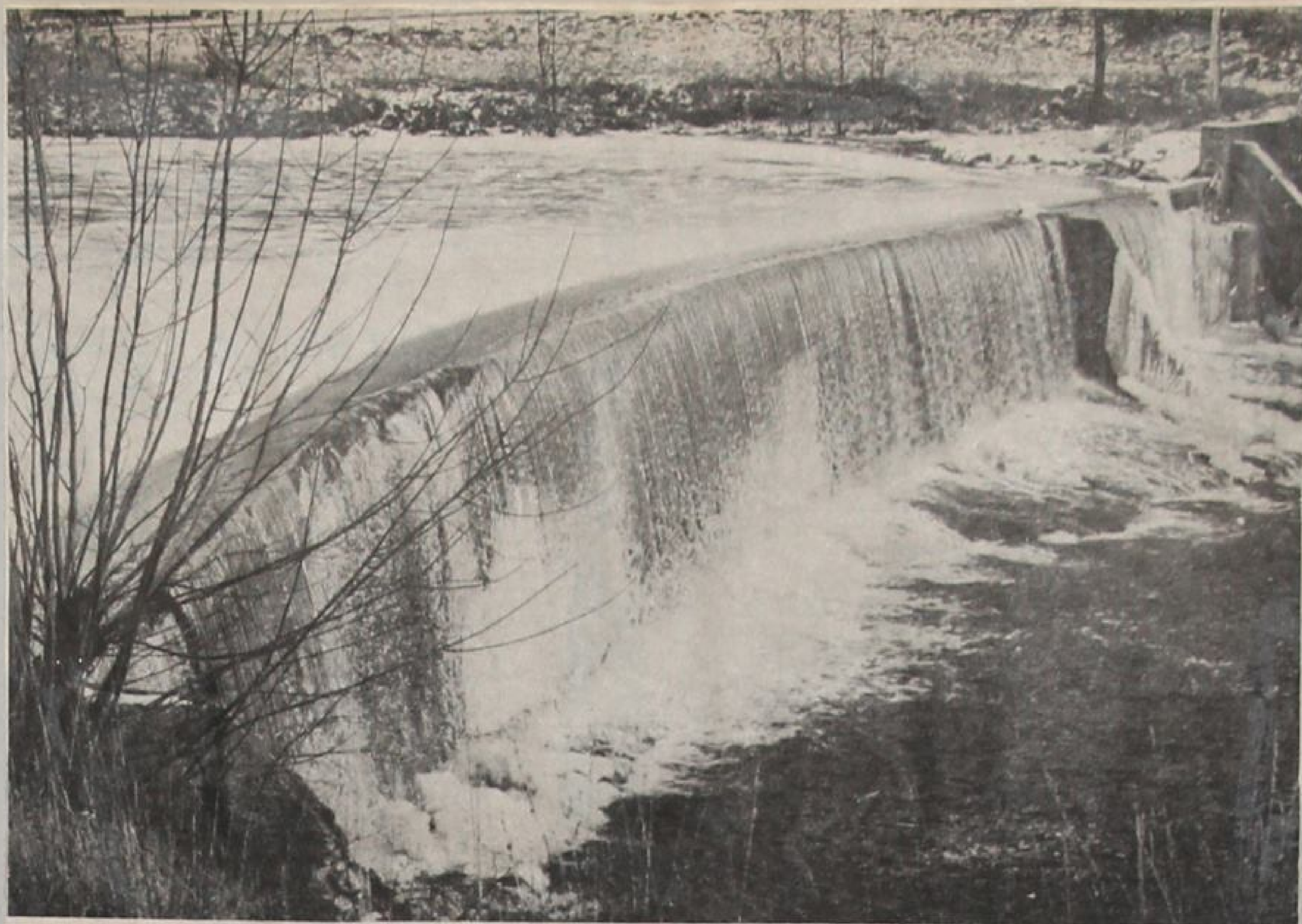
"We've moved the parking from that street so no one parks there now," said Mr. Lynch. "We've done our utmost but it really doesn't change their opinion."

Mr. Hudson said Powell has reneged on promises for the last 10 years. He said the company has broken other township bylaws and "it's time Powell started abiding by the bylaws."

"Why don't they build behind the existing plant," said Mr. Hudson. He said what is being requested is more than a minor variance as it moves the plant extremely close to the Hudson property.

"We'll definitely fight this to the last," said Mr. Hudson.





Otterville Dam

JAN 1980

## Norwich Township Council Briefs

### TV bylaw

Township Clerk Bob Watkins was authorized by Norwich council to prepare the necessary bylaw required to execute an agreement with Nor-Del Cablevision Ltd. for the next council meeting. The bylaw will be voted on at that time.

### Winter storage vault

Council passed a recommendation to grant \$1,600 to the Norwich Cemetery Company to cover the balance of the cost of constructing a winter storage casket vault in the present garage at the cemetery.

The unit can hold 21 caskets during the winter until work can be done in the ground in spring. The project will cost \$2,500 and when completed the vault will be used by Norwich, New Durham, Burgessville, and Otterville.

### Report on water system

The Norwich Public Utilities Commission will be asked by Norwich Township council to provide a written submission to council on the impact of the proposed county water system on the PUC's water systems.

### Fire escape planned

Norwich Township council directed Clerk Bob Watkins to proceed with plans to install a fire escape in the council chamber located downstairs in the municipal offices in Otterville.

### Commissions reduced

The Township of Norwich council recognized as the official insurance agents of the township Adam Oliver, James A. Butler, Norman Lusk and Cayley-Leitch.

A recommendation was also passed that the Frank Cowan Company, which handles the municipal insurance for the township, reduce the commissions received by those official agents from 12.5-15 per cent to 7.5 per cent in order to reduce the cost of insurance to the township.

## Hire bridge engineers

Norwich Township Council has hired Springbank Consultant Engineering of Woodstock to design and construct a bridge in the 7th Concession between lots 11 and 12, north of Otterville.

Township Clerk Bob Watkins said council had hoped it could install a steel culvert in the road, but it would appear from the preliminary examination by the engineer that a bridge is necessary.

If a bridge is required, additional and more detailed planning is necessary and he doubts the bridge could be tendered this year.

Mr. Watkins said even if plans were completed this spring, ministry approval of them must also be sought. It would then be too late in the year to tender the project as most firms would have their quota of jobs for the season.

In other business at its meeting on Tuesday, January 22, council was informed the firm of Leonard Dickson Architects has been hired to design the new community centre building in Oxford Centre. The previous building was destroyed in the August 7 tornado.

It was also announced that

Councillor Helen Smith has been appointed as the township representative to the board of directors of the Norwich and District Historical Society.

## Ken Peers speaks on tornado relief

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held on Monday evening January 28. Lion President Bob Spek presided.

There was a large attendance with 44 members and eight guests including five members of the Straffordville Lions Club.

Lion Fred Thompson introduced the guest speaker, former Oxford Warden Ken Peers, chairman of the tornado relief fund.

Mr. Peers spoke of the outstanding response of individuals, businesses, local, regional, and provincial governments. The fund more than met its objectives in a very short period of time. Willing and generous help came from every direction. Lion Albert

Cornwell thanked the speaker.

Several members are planning to attend the Annual District A Convention in Ottawa May 30. The Lions fire truck will be transported to Ottawa for this occasion.

The Club has agreed to donate \$500 towards the purchase of a new car for V.O.N. purposes.

Other Oxford County Lions Clubs have been requested to donate toward this purchase.

There will be an executive meeting Monday evening Feb. 4. The next meeting will be Feb. 11. The Convention draw was won by Lion Lou Ferraro.



# 1980 Otterville UCW executive elected

OTTERVILLE (C) — The first meeting of 1980 for the Otterville United Church Women was held January 17 in the church parlors. The out-going president Mrs. M. Beecroft conducted the first part of the business com-

pleting her term of office. She thanked the ladies for her Life Membership pin which she received and wished the in-coming president the continued help of the group.

The new Executive was presented and Mrs. Moore conducted a meaningful installation with a reading, a prayer and a resume of "The Purpose of the United Church Women."

The incoming executive are: Past President - Mrs. M. Beecroft; President -

Mrs. Isabel Harris; Ist Vice President - Mrs. Irvin Gehring; Secretary - Mrs. M. Downing; Treasurer - Mrs. Don Neale; Social Convener - Mrs. Lorne Treffry; Friendship and Visitation - Mrs. Rod Taylor and Mrs. Harold Waring; Manse Representative - Mrs. Don Neale; Newsletter Editor - Mrs. Colin Cope; Press Publicity - Mrs. Harold Waring; Archives - Mrs. Edith Petch; Nominating Committee - Mrs. Bill Hanson, Mrs.

Edward White, Mrs. M. Beecroft, Auditor - Mrs. Harold Ryder.

Mrs. Harris started her office with the minutes and business. Two important items discussed were the continuation of support to the Adopted Child, and the Live Love Project. Ladies were reminded of the World Day of Prayer, also a special service week with Dr. Colin Claige, organized by the group.

Mrs. Harris turned the evening over to Mrs. Carney

and her committee. The topic was dealing with a "New Year New Decade and New Resolutions" for all to consider. She also read three letters from the Missionary in Brazil who has been involved in the Live Love project. His description of poverty and hardships in his area and his work in establishing congregations pointed out the need for the Project. Others contributing to the program were Mrs. White, "A Mothers Conversation with God

throughout a busy day", and a "Message in Music" presented by Mrs. Cope and Mrs. Little.

During the social period Mrs. S. McSpadden related their family experiences with the Church Refugee family living in their home. Mr. and Mrs. McSpadden are very involved with the families in this area transporting them to classes in Norwich taking them shopping and introducing them to Canadian customs and stores.

## Leisure club officers installed

OTTERVILLE (C) — The first meeting of the New Year of the Otterville Leisure Club was held at Woodlawn Community Centre on Wednesday afternoon at 2 p.m.

The meeting opened with "O Canada" and 27 members present.

President, Colin Robinson presided and welcomed the members and the minutes of the last meeting were read by Mrs. Fred Cole. The treasurer's report was given by Fred Cole.

The installation of officers for the coming year was conducted by Harry Lee, chairman of the nominating committee, assisted by Charles Bradford.

The officers for 1980-81 will be: president, Mrs. John Pritchard; first vice president, Mel Beecroft; second vice president, Mrs. Sam Lucas; secretary, Mrs. Fred Cole, treasurer, Fred Cole, (Mr. and Mrs. Cole returned to office for another term), Good Cheer convenors, for Norwich, Mrs. Isabel Tincknell; for Ot-

terville, Mrs. Max Avey.

Press, Mrs. Harold Waring; pianists, Mrs. Nate McMullen, assistant, Mrs. Harry Lee.

Supplies for knitting, Mrs. Fred Moore; program, Mr. Harry Lee, to have assistance when needed; bus convenors, Otterville, Colin Robinson; Norwich, Bruce Alexander.

Deep appreciation was expressed to Mr. Colin Robinson, retiring president of the Leisure Club, for the past two years. Harry Lee, a former president of the club, pinned the U.S.C.O. Past President's pin on Mr. Robinson.

Colin, an ardent worker in the group who was given generous support by his wife, Alice, was frequently promoting bus trips, a get-together with neighboring clubs, or other forms of activity was well supported by the members of the club.

Colin thanked the members and expressed the very best for Mrs. Pritchard and newly-elected slate of officers and asked for the

continued support of the club.

The remainder of the afternoon was spent in several games of cards.

Mrs. Lee, the newly-elected convenor of the kitchen, was the hostess for the social time and served warm tea biscuits with homemade jam, tea and coffee.

The members expressed appreciation to Mrs. Lee. The next meeting, January

### Otterville

OTTERVILLE (C) — A Sale of furniture at the Otterville Country Store, owned and operated by Bob and Jean Carney, was held on January 3 and 4. During this period there were five special draws made and two of these were won by two ladies of Otterville. Mrs. Stanley Leach won the first prize and her neighbor Mrs. Dorothy Durkee won the second. Other prizes were won by residents of the Tillsonburg, Delhi and Vanessa areas.

16, will open at 1:30 p.m. and will continue at this time through January, February, and March, then revert to 2 p.m. in April.

The V.O.N. will be at the home of Mrs. Harold Waring on Monday, January 28, and the ladies of village and community are asked to keep this date in mind for Foot Care Treatment.

OTTERVILLE (C) — The members of the St. John's Anglican Church Women held their regular meeting at the home of Mrs. Nate McMullen on Thursday afternoon. There were seven members present to answer the roll call by paying their membership. *Jan 10/80*

The president Mrs. Violet Howse presided and opened the meeting with prayer followed with The Lord's Prayer. The minutes were read and approved and correspondence dealt with.

It was decided to hold a Beef Pot Pie Luncheon at the Parish Hall on January 30 Wednesday at 11:30 a.m.

Mrs. Harold Durkee invited the members to her home for the next meeting Jan. 24.

The president closed the meeting with prayer and a bountiful lunch was served by the hostess.

## Trip to Ireland shared with W.I.

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mrs. Donald Pettigrew of Springford was the guest speaker at the January meeting of the Otterville Women's Institute which was held at the home of Mrs. Melville Beecroft on Friday afternoon. There were 12 members present.

Mrs. Pettigrew, who had visited Ireland recently, told of her tours throughout accompanied with slides which the members enjoyed very much. Mrs. Pettigrew was introduced by the president and on behalf of the members was presented with a gift from the Institute by Mrs. G.M. Downing who thanked her for sharing her trip and attending the meeting.

The meeting opened with the Opening Ode and Mary Stewart Collect. In the absence of the secretary Mrs. Jack Walther, the minutes were read by Miss Vera Welsh.

The roll call was answered with the members telling "Something they had learned or observed from an immigrant coming to Canada."

Mrs. Avey thanked the members for the card which she received during her illness.

In the absence of the Good Cheer convener Mrs. Pickersgill reported there were six boxes of treats delivered to the shut-in members in the Institute.

Correspondence was read and dealt with. Mrs. William A. McMullen will be in charge of the February meeting.

Mrs. Beecroft was convener of the meeting and

read a story on "Newfoundland" as well as showing a few slides.

The meeting closed with "The Queen" and the Institute grace after which Mrs. Beecroft was assisted by Mrs. Cole in the social hour.

The president expressed appreciation to the hostess and to Mrs. Pettigrew and all those who had taken part in the meeting.

## Happy Bluebirds at Otterville

OTTERVILLE (C) — Members of the Happy Bluebird Club held their first meeting of the new year at the home of Mrs. Hirma Mitchell in Norwich. There was a good attendance.

The president Mrs. Daisy Ash presided for the meeting which opened with the Creed, followed with "The Lord's Prayer".

The roll call was answered with the members giving a New Year's Resolution. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and the financial report was given by Mrs. Helen Davis.

Mrs. Lillian Morris gave a reading entitled "A New Year's Resolution" and Mrs. Daisy Ash read "A New Year's Day Prayer".

The February meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Daisy Ash and the Milldale group will be in charge.

The Norwich group then took charge of the remainder of the evening and games of euchre were enjoyed. The members thanked Mrs. Mitchell and committee for the enjoyable evening.

### OTTERVILLE FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mr. Earl Cooper conducted the morning worship service and read Scripture from Psalms 148:5. The congregation sang How Great Thou Art with Dwight Davis as pianist.

David Pathy read Scripture from Mark 4, 35-41. In his message, Mr. Cooper said the three things necessary to be a disciple of Christ are working diligently, trusting implicitly and bowing reverently.

Ushers were Paul Babcock and Larry Hansford.



Canadian Heritage Home. Beautiful setting in Otterville. Ideal for historical buff to finish restoring, an original. Seeing is believing, \$39,900.



## Mr. Beverley Monk marks 95th birthday

1980

NEW ROAD (C) — Mr. Beverley Monk celebrated his 95th birthday on January 30 and with his son, Edward Monk and Mrs. Monk enjoyed a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Ellis of Byron and Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Scott of Tillsonburg on Sunday afternoon January 27 with afternoon tea and

birthday cake. On Wednesday afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Fred Brown visited with the Monk's and enjoyed tea and birthday cake.

Dinner guests at night with the birthday honouree and Mr. and Mrs. Ed Monk and Rob were the former's sister, Mrs. Fred Grimmett, Mrs. Timothy Monk of Tillsonburg and Mr. Jeff Monk of Springford.

Mr. Monk received greetings from the Gov. Gen., Mr. Edward Schreyer, Prime Minister Clark, Liberal Leader Trudeau, Premier William Davis, Dr. Bruce Halliday, M.P., and Dr. Harry Parrot, M.P.P., and also received a plaque from the Ontario Government which was delivered by Mrs. Harry Parrott. Cards of best wishes were received from family which was delivered by Mrs. Harry Parrott. Cards of best wishes were received from family and friends expressing many happy returns of the day.

## Historical society officers to remain through 1980

The first meeting of the decade of the South Norwich Historical Society was held January 14, 1980 at Woodlawn Adult Community Centre with a large attendance.

President Rick Singer called the meeting to order. Minutes of the previous regular meeting and December 3, 1979 executive meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's report was presented with a motion for an outstanding bill to be paid.

It was reported nothing further had been done concerning the vault problems. It was announced there was a possibility of obtaining another vault but following a discussion it was decided to abandon this as the Historical Society has no building in which to place the vault.

In regards to the school essay contest it was decided to contact the past conveners for their ideas in changing

the format. Bill McMullen Sr. and Ed Moore are to investigate the cost of the Society having a Food Booth at the International Plowing Match in Oxford.

Joyce Pettigrew read a thank you letter from Woodlawn. She also asked for submissions for the society's newsletter. Lorraine Downing convener of the LACAC Conference luncheon sponsored by the society reported \$134 had been turned over to Woodlawn. Don McPherson stated the Norwich Historical Society had passed an amendment to have one member from South Norwich Historical Society as a director of the Norwich Society, with the first meeting being held Thursday, January 17. Following a discussion it was decided that a representative be appointed at our next meeting if no one volunteers.

It was decided upon a

motion passed and carried to change the fiscal year-end from April to December 31 with the present slate of officers remaining in office until the end of 1980. The officers are as follows: Past President - Bill McMullen; Senior President - Rick Singer; Vice-President - Lorne Treffry; Recording Secretary - Catherine Mann; Corresponding Secretary - Joyce Pettigrew; Treasurer - Marjorie Pearce; Directors - one year, Fred Lonsbary; two years, Muriel Gehring, Ron Brayley; three years, Doreen Mountain, Delmer Clinton; Membership - Nina Hicks, Evelyn Waring; Program Committee - Juanita DeRoo, Bill McMullen Sr., Fred Pearce; Newsletter - Joyce Pettigrew, Bill McMullen Sr., Ed Moore; Food Booth - Fred Lonsbary.

A letter was read from the Minister of Culture and Recreation stating they see

no difficulty in processing the grant application for the Grist Mill Plaque. Joyce Pettigrew is to look after the plaque inscription.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, February 11 at Woodlawn with convener Muriel Gehring speaking on Somerville. March meeting will have Bill McMullen, Sr., speaking on The Canning Factory. Conveners of the June bus trip will be Don McPherson and Rick Singer. Lunch committee for February will be Marj Pearce, March, Muriel Gehring, April, Catherine Mann and May, Joyce Pettigrew.

Following the close of the meeting, Rick Singer introduced Thora and John Harvey of Woodstock who showed slides of the controversial County Jail also the Court House and surrounding area. Along with a very interesting commentary on the structure and feasibility of recycling these buildings rather than destroying the jail, they asked for those persons interested in preserving the jail to contact their council or attend "Save The Jail" meetings.

Joyce Pettigrew, convener, then showed slides on archeology in Scotland and Ireland. Juanita DeRoo thanked Joyce for the very interesting commentary and slides and noted the wonders of the problem of preserving 100-200 year old present buildings after seeing preserved stone architecture dating back to 2,000 and 3,000 B.C.

Refreshments were served by convener Doreen Mountain and a social time concluded the evening.

## Missionary Fellowship meets

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mrs. Wilma Butler was hostess for the January meeting of the Missionary Fellowship of the Baptist Church. The newly elected president, Mrs. Fred Hill, read Ephesians 3: 13 - 21, commenting that we need God and hoped we would all lean on Him throughout 1980 and opened with the hymn "I Need Thee Every Hour".

Missionary letters were read from Missionaries in Nigeria, Kenya, and the Philippines. Mrs. Wilma Butler led in the Missionary prayer.

Mrs. Hilda Stockmans began the devotional program with the hymn "Another Year Is Dawning." Mrs. John Hansford read the scripture lesson from Hebrews II. Mrs. Ted Oenema read a short reading and comment about

Abraham the homeless stranger in the Land of Promise and said that we must follow God's leading as He knows best. This was followed by the reading of a poem, "The Clock of Life."

Mrs. Bruce Stover brought the New Year's Message from Deuteronomy II, 11 - 12. She said that Moses was born to deliver God's people out of Egypt.

He didn't want to do this

but God gave him a helper in Aaron who guided him along the way until he became more confident and then continued by himself in God's plan. Christians today are often sent helpless to guide them in the right way.

Mrs. Ken Lee closed in prayer and the president gave the courtesy remarks.

A social time followed and the hostess was assisted by Mrs. Robert Butler in serving lunch.

### CORA DAIKEN

Mrs. Charles Daiken passed away at Huron Lodge, Windsor, on Monday, January 14, 1980, in her 89th year.

Born at Windham Centre, she was the former Cora Gillett. She had lived in Otterville, Burford and Windsor. Her husband predeceased her in 1960.

Surviving are two sons, George Daiken of Burford and Murray Daiken of Windsor; two daughters, Mrs. Gordon (Viola) Turner of Elwood City, Penn. and Mrs. Norman (Bertha) Wilkins of Cambridge; one sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Clark of Kitchener; and nine grandchildren.

She was predeceased by a son, P.O. Alex John Daiken, R.C.A.F. in 1943.

Rested at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home,

Otterville, where service was held Thursday, January 17, at 1 p.m. conducted by Pastor Ray Nicholson of Fellowship Baptist Church, Burford.

Mrs. William McMullen, Jr., played hymns before and after the service. Pallbearers were John Wilkins, Vern Daiken, Norman Riches, Stan Gillett, Bill McMullen and George Davis.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

Memorial donations were received for the Ontario Heart Foundation, Muscular Dystrophy, Arthritis and Rheumatism Society, Cancer Society and St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto.

## Hagersville takes Kinsmen title

Hagersville Livingstons defeated Tillsonburg Kinsmen 4-1 to win the championship of the third annual Kinsmen Cystic Fibrosis hockey tournament Saturday, an event which raised more than \$1,500 for Cystic Fibrosis research.

Tournament officials estimate between \$1,500 and \$2,000 was raised during the one-day, eight team tourney

which saw Livingstons from Hagersville and Tillsonburg cop top honors.

The Hagersville team won the grand championship while the Tillsonburg Livingstons squad won the consolation title with a 9-2 decision over Otterville Oldtimers.

The tournament was followed by a dinner and a dance for all participants

and at the banquet the most valuable players from each team were announced.

For Hagersville Livingstons, goalie Stu Robertson was chosen most valuable while Murray Roswell took the MVP honors for Tillsonburg Livingstons. Pete Walker of Tillsonburg Kinsmen was his team's MVP, Kevin Church won the honor for Otterville

while Mark Feduck of Tillsonburg News was his club's most valuable player. For the Tillsonburg Sunday Morning team, Wayne Sykes was MVP, Stan Chauvin was most valuable from Aylmer Kinsmen and Mike Holmes was the MVP from the Port Dover Kinsmen.

The organizers of the tournament would like to thank everyone for par-

ticipating in the tournament, the dinner and the dance.

### 35 YEARS AGO January 25, 1945

Otterville outscores Norwich in hockey. A hockey game between Norwich and Otterville teams was played on the Otterville rink with the local team winning the game by a large margin.



# Community worker, H.A. Ostrander dies

One of Tillsonburg's leading citizens and a local funeral director for over 60 years, Harry A. Ostrander of 22 Broadway passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Friday, January 25, 1980, in his 88th year.

Mr. Ostrander graduated as a funeral director in 1917, and built up a family business which now includes his son, Ewart, and grandson, Harry E. Ostrander.

Long a supporter of the local hospital, he has been both a member and chairman of the property committee.

He also served as a member of the board of St. Pauls United Church for many years; served on the public school board and high school board for many years and was chairman of the building committee when Annandale High School was built in 1950.

A member of the Tillsonburg Lions Club for 50 years, he served as president in 1939-40. He served on many committees, notably the eyesight committee, where he was particularly interested in young people who

needed help to obtain glasses and medical attention.

Mr. Ostrander was a Past Noble Grand of

(Continued on Page 4)



HARRY A. OSTRANDER

(Continued from Page 1)  
Otter Lodge No. 50, IOOF, and a member for 69 years; a member of Lisgar Encampment No. 13; a member of the Rebekah Lodge; Past Master of Vienna Masonic Lodge, No. 237, AF and AM; a charter member of Ashlar Lodge No., 701 AF and AM; a life member of King Hiram Lodge No. 78, AF and AM; Past Grand Steward of the Grand Lodge of Ontario; a member of Tillsonburg Shrine Club and Mocca Temple, London, and a past president of the Western Ontario Funeral Directors' Association.

An enthusiastic supporter of local sports, he took a special interest in baseball, lawn bowling and curling. At the age of 78, he completed a 25-mile walkathon to aid the mentally retarded; and raised more than \$500 in a skateathon for the second ice pad in 1977.

In 1978 he was chosen Tillsonburg's Citizen of the Year for the "modest and unassuming way he has exemplified a lifetime of community involvement and humanitarian interests."

Mr. Ostrander was born in Dereham Township, August 30, 1892, son of the late

Elmer Ostrander and the former Annie Culp. His wife, the former Ileta Wilson, predeceased him November 30, 1975.

Surviving are one daughter, Mrs. Phyllis Tidy of St. Catharines; one son, Ewart Ostrander of Tillsonburg; four grandchildren, Mrs. Robin (Diane) Moore of London; Harry Ostrander of Tillsonburg; Douglas Ogilvie of St. Catharines and Drew Ogilvie of Toronto; and five great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by one daughter, Miss Helen Ostrander; by one sister, Miss Myrtle Ostrander; and by three brothers, Sanford Ostrander, Morley Ostrander and Otis Ostrander.

A Masonic Service was held Sunday evening at the Ostrander's Funeral Home under the auspices of Vienna Masonic Lodge, No. 237, AF and AM, with Rt. Wor. Bro. Ken Emerson, W. Bro. Lloyd Chute, W. Bro. Jack Petrie and W. Bro. Van Chute officiating.

Funeral service will be held Tuesday, January 29, at 11 a.m. at St. Pauls United Church with Rev. Merrill James officiating. Interment in Tillsonburg Cemetery.

## No more Inka Dinka Do

Show business mourns passing of Durante, 'a beautiful guy'

L.F.R.  
JAN 30/80  
SANTA MONICA, Calif. (UPI) — Jimmy Durante, the gravelly voiced Schnozzola who kept audiences laughing for more than half a century, died Tuesday of a lung ailment. He was 86.

A St. John's Hospital spokesman said he died of pneumonitis, complicated by the effects of several small strokes. Durante had been in hospital four weeks.

Funeral arrangements were incomplete.

After the announcement of his death, the word "beautiful" came to the lips of many of the Hollywood celebrities who worked with Durante through the years.

Lucille Ball, the retired queen of television comedy, said:

"Jimmy Durante was a beautiful human being. Even that wonderful nose was a thing of beauty. He will be missed by everyone."

Generous with his time and his money, Durante didn't seem to have an enemy.

He broke into show business as a piano player in a Coney Island saloon at the age of 17.

After he achieved artistic and financial success, he helped many others along the way.

He earned a fortune during a career that spanned the era from honky-tonk joints to speakeasies of the roaring '20s to television. Friends said he gave most of it away — to charitable causes or almost anyone with a hard luck story.

He dropped a bundle every time he went to the race track. He listened to almost any tout and was known sometimes to have a bet on every horse in a race.

Durante suffered a stroke in 1972 and was partially paralysed. After that he stayed pretty much within the confines of his Beverly Hills home with his second wife Margaret who survives him. They had an adopted daughter Cecille.

A skinny singer named Frank Sinatra was among those he helped up the ladder of success.

"The world lost a great friend when Jimmy Durante breathed his final 'Inka Dinka Do,'" said Sinatra. "He came to my aid when I was just a kid with stars in my eyes, just as he came to the aid of a world looking for laughs and songs and entertainment all during his lifetime."

Comic Henny Youngman said: "He was a beautiful guy. He encouraged me when I was young."

Jackie Gleason: "I worked with Jimmy and I was a great admirer of his and I'm very sad at his passing."

Milton Berle: "He was a doll. There wasn't a bad bone in that man's body. We worked together on TV in later years. I will never forget his 75th birthday. At his party we rigged a breakaway piano that fell into a thousand pieces when he sat down to the keyboard. Jimmy laughed harder than anyone else."

George Burns, another

oldtimer, said: "Jimmy never played as much vaudeville as I did and we were never on the same bill. But I remember him clearly . . . Jimmy was a very funny, warm man. He was a nice human being, the kind you always wanted to hug."

Jack Carter: "He was the kindest man I ever met. He was beautiful."

Bob Hope: "He was a super guy and a good friend. There's nothing he wouldn't do for you. We will miss him."

Durante's last regular show was ABC-TV's Jimmy Durante Presents The Lennon Sisters, a musical variety series introduced in the fall of 1969. Prior to that he starred in several series of his own.

He was born on New York's lower East Side, left school in the seventh grade and never mastered the English language — he butchered it and made mispronunciations part of his act. Catastrophe, for example, was castastrophe.

After his start in the saloons, Durante formed an act in 1923 with Lou Clayton and Eddie Jackson which was featured on Broadway and in cabarets as Clayton, Jackson and Durante.

Durante emerged as the star of the trio when he began ad libbing jokes at the keyboard. He was a wizened little dynamo on the stage, pounding the piano, singing and making rapid-fire wisecracks.

He made his first movie in 1931 and became a film favorite, appearing without his partners. But he re-

mained loyal to Clayton and Jackson and they continued to work with him in night clubs.

Clayton died of cancer in 1950 with Durante at his side. Long after Jackson had ceased to contribute to the act, Durante kept him as a side-kick in his television shows.

Durante's trademarks — in addition to his prominent nose — were such songs as Inka Dinka Do and I Know Darn Well I Can Do Without Broadway, But Can Broadway Do Without Me? He loved to

interrupt his own act by bellowing the catch phrase, "stop da music!"

He ended his television shows with: "Goodnight, Mrs. Calabash, wherever you are." He once explained that Mrs. Calabash was a reference to his first wife, Maude Jeanne, who died in 1943.

Durante starred in such films as Two Girls And A Sailor, Ziegfeld Follies, Music For Millions and The Cuban Love Song. His stage hits included The New Yorker, Show Girl, Jumbo and Strike Me Pink.



Jimmy (Schnozzola) Durante died on Tuesday at age 86. (UPI)



## Negotiating price

# May buy Coniston Place

A committee established to purchase Coniston Place, the former Tillson home at 28 Tillson Ave., is currently negotiating a sale price for the house with owner Florence Burn.

Committee member John Unsworth said that once a price has been set, a foundation will be established to raise the money. Coniston Place Foundation is the name of the proposed foundation.

Mr. Unsworth said the committee plans to buy the house and its furnishings and then open it to the public. He said the house will be

operated in the same way as is Eldon House in London.

Mr. Unsworth and representative from Whitehern, an historical house in Hamilton which is open to the public, recently toured Coniston Place.

Whitehern Curator Marilyn Soules, following the tour, encouraged the committee to purchase the building. She said the house is particularly valuable because it has the original furnishings.

"It is very rare to find a home (with historical significance) with the original furnishings," she

said. "That's what really tells the story.

"It is worth keeping. If the house is not bought, Tillsonburg will be losing out on something."

Coniston Place was purchased from the Tillson Estate in 1929 by Charles VanDyke Corless, a native of Oxford County, who was recognized as Canada's foremost mining engineer. Dr. Corless occupied the house until his death in 1954. Mrs. Burn is his daughter.

The house was built in the 1880s or 1890s for Edwin D. Tillson, the youngest son of the town's founder, George

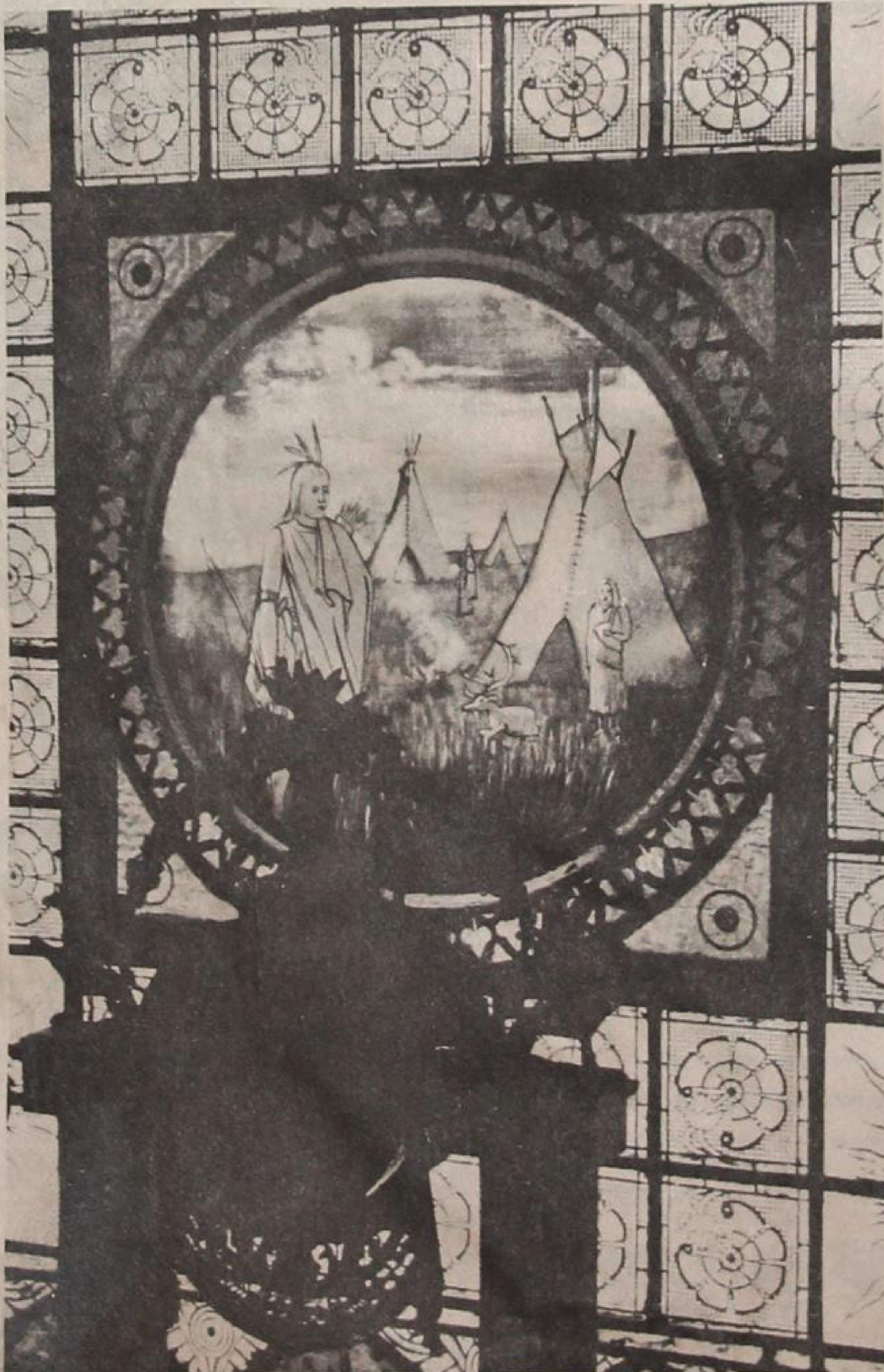
Tillson.

Coniston Place is not the original Tillson homestead. That frame house is located on Oxford Street.

The steeply pitched

gables, pointed arched window heads, ornate porches, towers and dormers reflect a gothic influence which was popular in the late 1800s.

## Photostory by Jim Hevenor



### Stained glass

This stained glass window, depicting an early Canadian prairie scene, is located midway on the main stairway of the house between the ground floor and the second floor. The silhouette of a clock is in the foreground.



### Period furnishings

Unlike many historic homes across the province, the Burn house is furnished with period furniture. This grandfather clock, for example, stands in the front hall of the house.





**Historic home**

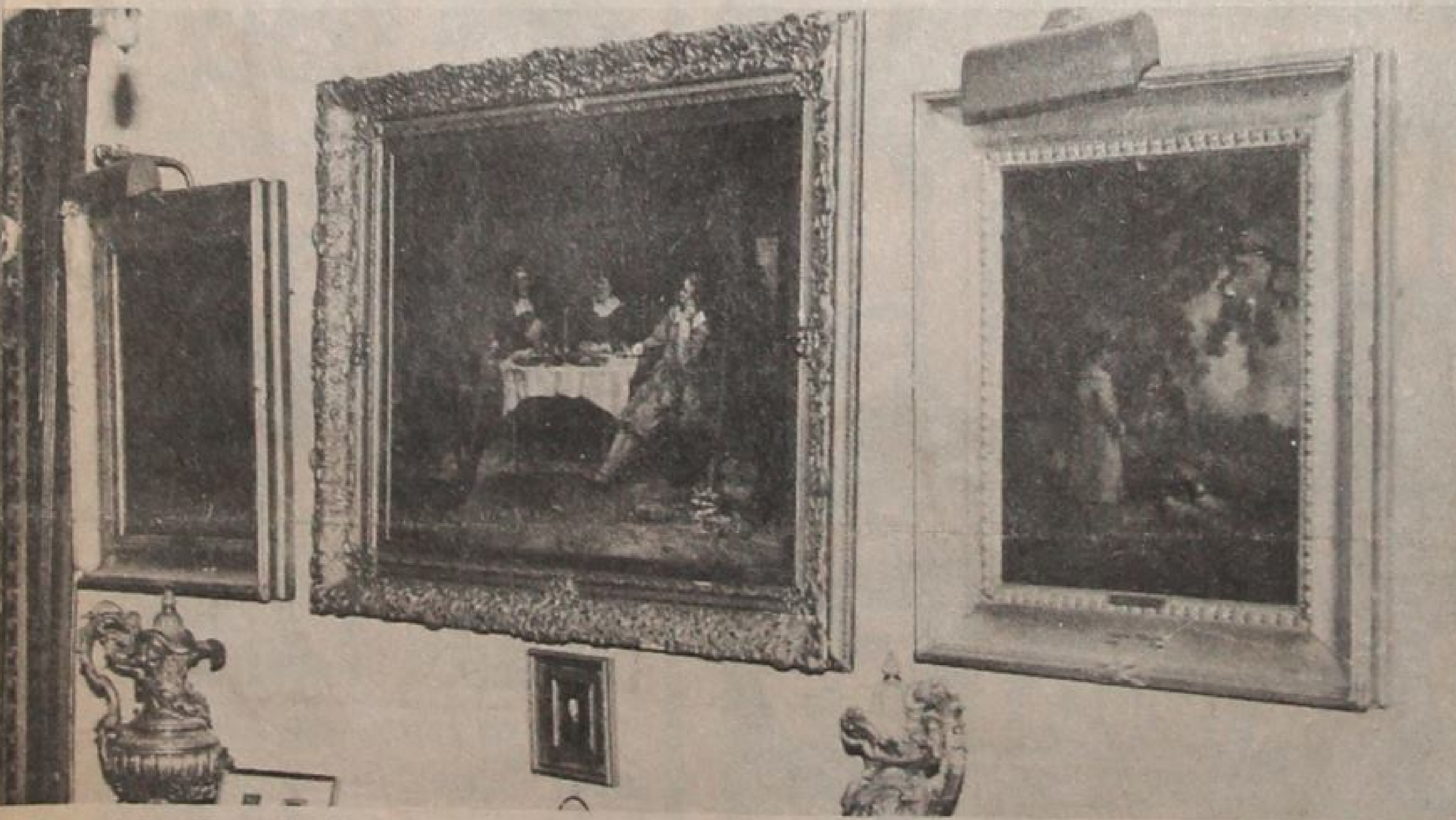
The Burn house at Tillson Avenue and Hyman Street was

built by E. D. Tillson, son of the town's founder George Tillson, in the latter part of the 19th century.



**Miniature carving**

Shown life size, this carving and another matching one decorate the front panels of a bureau beside the dining room of the house.



**Front hall paintings**

The walls in the Burn home are adorned with a number of

paintings. These three works are hanging in the front hall of the home.



# Plan plaque for old mill

The South Norwich Historical Society held its monthly meeting on February 11, at Woodlawn. President Rick Singer welcomed the large gathering of members and visitors and called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read. The treasurer's report was presented. A letter from Norwich Historical Society was read requesting the South Norwich Historical Society to send a representative to be on their Board of Directors. After a lengthy discussion our Society declined.

Bill McMullen Sr. reported on the progress of the vault use and on Plowing Match booth.

Carl Howse was elected to fill the vacancy of the late Mr. Mac Hicks as a one-year director.

A motion was made to look into the purchasing of a portable microfilm reader as eight members had met in January to begin compiling the history of South Norwich Township for publication. The next meeting is to be held Wednesday, February 20, at 7:30 p.m. at Woodlawn and anyone interested is asked to attend.

The inscription for the Grist Mill Plaque was presented, and a committee of Joyce Pettigrew, Bill McMullen Sr., Gordon Bowerman and Lorne Treffry are to make plans for the unveiling of the plaque when ready.

The meeting closed and Muriel Gehring gave a very interesting and informative talk, along with photos of Summerville.

Juanitta DeRoo thanked Mrs. Gehring and presented her with a small token of appreciation.

Refreshments were served by convener Mrs. Marj Pearce, and a social time followed.

## Car, train collide

Driver of a car that collided with a train at 3:35 p.m. Friday escaped injury, but a total \$2,200 damage was caused. Feb 28/80

Tillsonburg OPP reported that George Thorne, Otterville, was westbound on County Road 19 at Ostrander when his 1974 Chev collided with a northbound CPR train at the level crossing east of the hamlet. Damage to Thorne's station wagon was \$2,000 and damage to the front of the train, operated by Douglas Lupson, London, was \$200.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, March 10, at Woodlawn with Mr. Bill McMullen, Sr. speaking on The Tip-Top Canners. Everyone is welcomed.

## St. John's club planning supper

OTTERVILLE (C) — The February meeting of the St. John's Church Club was held in the Parish Hall February 20 with a good attendance.

The meeting opened with a reading from "The Living Message" by Marion Dowds and prayer. It was decided to have our annual turkey supper Sunday, April 20 from 4-7 p.m. and a garage sale on the church lawn May 10.

Rev. and Mrs. Darling are invited to our next meeting at the home of Wenda Smith, March 19. Mr. Darling is newly appointed to the parishes of St. Albans, Delhi and St. John's Otterville.

Yarn and needles were handed out to make squares for afghans.

The meeting closed with prayer and a social time enjoyed.

## Woodcraft hobby talk at Institute

OTTERVILLE (C) — The February meeting of the Otterville Women's Institute was held at Woodlawn Adult Centre on Friday February 15 with a small attendance.

The president Mrs. Harry Pickersgill presided and the meeting opened with the Opening Ode and Mary Stewart Collect followed with "The Lord's Prayer."

Two minutes silence was observed for two former members of the Institute, the late Mrs. Edna Davis and the late Mrs. Charles Daiken. Mrs. Jack Walther was the pianist.

The roll call was answered with the members naming "A Cottage Industry". A thank you note was read from the family of Edna Davis.

The president read the correspondence after which Miss Vera Welsh read a paper on "Quebec".

Mrs. Pickersgill, convener of the program as well as hostess for the meeting, introduced her neighbors Mr. and Mrs. Colin Robinson of Mill Street.

Mr. Robinson, assisted by his wife, gave an interesting talk on his hobby of woodcrafts and had many pieces of his work on display.

Interested in this line of work in which he started at an early age, he was employed with a company and after coming to Otterville a few years ago built himself a workshop at his home where he turns out table lamps, picture frames, spoon racks and various other interesting pieces.

There was a draw on a spoon rack at the conclusion of his talk and Miss Vera Welsh held the lucky ticket.

Mr. Robinson was thanked by the president who presented him with a gift in appreciation of his visit.

The meeting closed and Institute grace was sung prior to the social hour. The table was decorated in keeping with St. Valentine's Day and the members were given a favor from the table to take home.

The meeting also honored a senior member of the Institute, Mrs. R.E. Pettigrew, who had celebrated her 89th birthday. A prettily decorated cake was made and decorated by Mrs. Pickersgill. This was accompanied with icecream, tea and coffee. Birthday wishes was expressed to the birthday celebrant.

# Leisure club enjoys Valentine Day outing

OTTERVILLE (C) — The members of the Leisure Club held their weekly meeting at the Woodlawn Adult Community Centre on Wednesday February 13 at 2 p.m.

In keeping with St. Valentine's Day, the members had dinner at a local restaurant which was enjoyed very much, returning to Otterville for their afternoon meeting.

Harry Lee presided as convener of the program which included a reading by Mrs. Waring, a short humorous skit by Mrs. Sweazey and Mr. Lee. Mr. Lee then passed jokes to the members who each read one.

Appreciation for cards received from shut-in members was given by Bruce Alexander, Mrs. R.E. Pettigrew, Mrs. Jim Squance, and Mrs. Katie Mies.

Happy Birthday was sung

to Mrs. Florence Moore. The afternoon concluded with games of euchre. The president Mrs. Annie Pritchard read a couple of announcements regarding a bus trip to Washington, the bus originating from Tillsonburg.

Another trip is to be taken to the Thousand Islands and Ottawa Valley sometime in May or June.

Colin Robinson, a member of the Oxford County Canadian Diabetic Association, announced having tickets for sale on a lamp which he had made as a fund raising project. Many members made their purchase. He also announced a Bake Sale sponsored by the Diabetic Association which will be held March 14 in the Norfolk Mall at which time the ticket on the lamp will be drawn. Mr. Robinson also made the suggestion that ladies wishing to contribute

to the bake table mark their baking for diabetic or otherwise.

There were more than 30 attending the meeting.

## Fellowship plans for world day of prayer

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Women's Missionary Fellowship of the Otterville Baptist Church was held at the home of the president Mrs. Fred Hill on Tuesday evening.

The theme of the program was "Love". One of the opening remarks by Mrs. Hill was that the loneliest person in the world is one without love. The hymn "I Love Him" was sung.

A letter from the Christian Science Centres was read with thanks for the gift they had received. Plans for the World Day of Prayer and Family Night Supper were discussed.

Mrs. Bruce Stover invited the ladies to their 50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration which will be held on March 9 in Cornell Hall.

Mrs. Stover read letters from Rev. and Mrs. Roy Hiron Nigeria, and Dr. Hazel Wrigglesworth from the Philippines.

Mrs. Fred Hill gave a reading "I'd Pray If I Knew What To Say", and also lead in the Missionary Prayer.

Mrs. John Hansford was in charge of the devotional part of the program with scripture reading by Mrs. David Hill. Mrs. Paul Hill gave a reading "He will be Silent in Love".

Mrs. Hilda Stockmans brought the message with Mrs. Murray Treffry and Mrs. Robert Butler assisting.

The theme was that God is limited through unbelieving people. We must trust in the Lord and not try to do things by ourselves. Mrs. William Butler closed with prayer.

A social time was enjoyed following the meeting. Mrs. Robert Butler assisted the hostess in serving lunch. Mrs. Paul Hill gave the courtesy remarks.

## Otterville students winners in Legion public speaking

Two young people from Otterville will be going on to compete at the zone level in the public speaking competitions sponsored by the Royal Canadian Legion.

Pam Tisdale and Lisa Oenema, both of Otterville, were among 18 young people to take part in the Norwich Branch 190 competitions held at the Legion on Saturday. The competition is an annual event sponsored by the Legion for students from schools throughout the township.

Although the high school students are invited to participate in the competition there are rarely any who do, said Legion member Ross Franklin. He said there were no high school students involved in the competition this year but he would like to encourage them to take part in future competitions.

The two winners of the branch competition go on to zone competitions in Tillsonburg on March 8, said Mr. Franklin. If they win they go on from there to the district level, then to provincial and finally to the Dominion level competition.

The contestants in the competition from grades

four to six included Tammy Noe, Norwich; Valerie Force, Norwich; Pam Tisdale, Otterville; and Cheryl Howard, Norwich. The first, second and third place winners among those Pam Tisdale, Tammy Noe and Valerie Force.

The contestants from grades seven and eight included: Louise Bodden, Norwich; Barry Knight, Norwich; Karen Dow, Otterville; Jennifer White, Otterville; Nancy Marynissen, Otterville; Stephanie Harris, Otterville; Korinne McKay, Burgessville; Michele Couwenberg, Burgessville; Kevin Hagith, Norwich; Steve Millsum, Otterville; Janette Butler, Otterville; Lisa Oenema, Otterville; Elaine Arthur, Otterville; and Erich Irie, East Oxford.

The first, second and third place winners from grades seven and eight are: Lisa Oenema, Erich Irie and Stephanie Harris.

Judges for the competition were Rev. Max Johnson, Rev. Herb Herring and Dorothy Romanick. Contestants were judged on how well they projected their voices, the story they told, their posture, memory and hand gestures.



# Talk on men of trees

The regular meeting of Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held Monday February 11, in the Legion Hall, Norwich. Lion Chief Robert Spek presided. Forty four members and four visitors were present. Lion Les Dickson was introduced by Lion George Klosler, and he chose to speak on the Oxford Men of the Trees.

He described the formation of the organization in 1971, by men of the county concerned about preserving our woodlots and trees before they become completely removed. They also concern themselves with promoting and assisting in a reforestation program. Each year since the organization was formed, 40,000 new seedlings have been sold by the society, with assistance from the Junior Farmers.

Lion Les also emphasized the importance of proper care and control of the harvesting of woodlots, and how they help in soil conservation by preventing erosion. Our forest industry employs a large number of people, and represents a substantial part of our natural resources.

Specifically, the industry employs 300,000 people, who earn \$3 billion annually. They produce \$7 billion of goods, \$6 billion of which are exported, representing 20 per cent of Canada's total export.

He also described a county arboretum which was established near Innerkip in 1974, and here are planted, in groups of four, various varieties of trees that will survive in our climate. It is possible to make memorial donations to the county to

promote the purchase of trees for this tract, or for the restoration of trees in any part of the county.

A tree workshop is to be held in Woodstock on March 14, 1980, sponsored by the Men of the Trees, and conducted by the Ministry of Natural Resources. All interested people are invited to attend. The Men of the Trees are also organizing and encouraging the replanting of trees in the tornado area.

Lion Tony Drescher expressed appreciation to Lion Les for his informative talk, and presented him with a gift. Minutes of the last regular meeting and executive meeting were read by Lion Secretary Lou Ferraro.

Tickets are to be sold on a 1980 Buick Skylark to raise funds for future projects.

Lion Albert Cornwell reported on a meeting held recently in Woodstock, for the purpose of organizing and operating a refreshment booth at the 1980 International Plowing Match in Oxford. The booth will be operated jointly by Oxford County Lions Clubs. Lions Paul Wood, Gary Walther and Art Van DeByl represented the club at the Tillsonburg Tippy Canoe contest and placed second.

Convention draws were won by Lions Tony Drescher and Howard Fleming.

The meeting closed with singing of The Queen.

## Local Lions to visit other clubs

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the Parish Hall on Monday evening February 25, 1980.

Lion President Bob Spek presided. There were 42 members, one guest and a visiting member from the Smithville Lions Club present.

Lion Colin Cope introduced the guest speaker Lion Murray Downing who spoke upon several past events in the history of the Club. Lion Nels Gleason thanked the speaker.

Club members have recently visited the Beamsville Lions Club. Plans were discussed for all members to take in visitation to area Lions Clubs within the next few weeks.

Lion Howard Fleming, Lion Colin Cope were in charge of the induction of a

charge of the induction of a new Lion Harris Cheese. Lion Gord Shearer and Lion John Heleniak was the sponsoring Lion.

Lion Ron Kiddie presented the slate of Lion nominees for the coming year. Past President - Bob Spek; President - Gord Shearer; 1st Vice President - Norm Fidlin; 2nd Vice President - Colin Cope; 3rd Vice president - Les Dickson; Treasurer - Murray Wardell; Secretary - Colin Cope; One Year Directors - George Klosler; Two-Year Directors - Ron Kiddie, Ed McFarland.

Voting for Club directors will be held on March 24. The next Directors meeting will be held on Monday March 3.

The next regular meeting will be Family Night Monday March 10. Lion Gord Shearer won the Convention prize.

### FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST

OTTERVILLE (C) — A Baptismal service was conducted by Mr. Earl Cooper at the 11 a.m. worship service, assisted by Mr. Charter Davis and Mrs. Wilma Butler, pianist.

Friends and relatives gathered to see these two people commit their lives to Jesus Christ as their Lord and Saviour. In his message Mr. Cooper spoke on the understanding of believers Baptism.

Ushers were Larry Hansford and Paul Babcock.

Pastor Donald Gorrie closed the service with prayer.

# Happy Bluebirds renew membership

OTTERVILLE (C) — The monthly meeting of the Happy Bluebird Club was held at the home of the resident Mrs. Daisy Ash on Tuesday evening Feb. 26.

The hostess opened the meeting with the members repeating the Housewives' Creed, was followed with The Lord's Prayer.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mrs. Penny Mitchell and approved. The roll call was answered with the members giving their maiden name

and school they attended.

The membership fee will be 50 cents per member for renewal membership. Mrs. Helsdon, of Norwich, sent greetings to the club which the members were pleased to receive.

Games of euchre were enjoyed before the members took part in a social time with the Milldale group in charge. Mrs. Lillian Morris thanked Daisy for the pleasant evening. The March meeting will be in charge of the Otterville ladies.

### CHURCH SERVICES

OTTERVILLE (C) — Morning worship was held in the St. John's Parish Hall on Sunday with Mr. Carl Howse of Otterville in charge of the first Sunday in Lent service. He was assisted by Robert Picknell who read the Epistle from Corinthians 2:6-15. The Gospel was read by Jack Freeland St. Matthew 4:1.

Mrs. William Dowds led in the responsive reading of Psalm 38. In the announcements Mr. Howse reported the coming of the newly appointed Rector who will be arriving March 15.

The regular meeting of the St. John's Guild will be held at the home of Mrs. Winnie Leach on Thursday afternoon Feb. 28.

Mr. Howse, in speaking with the children explained to them the "Beginning of the Lenten Season and in his sermon on "The Pharisee and Publican".

Mrs. Jack Freeland was the organist for the service. Mr. Arthur Picknell was usher.



Rev. Grant Darling

Moving to Delhi in March

FROM BRANTFORD

Wednesday, February 27, 1980 THE TILLSONBURG NEWS Section 2 Page 1

## Sunshine Club holds regular meet

OTTERVILLE (C) — The members of the Sunshine Club held their regular meeting at the home of Mrs. Audrey Harrison on Thursday evening. The president welcomed the members and roll call was answered with the members giving their suggestion on "What is wrong with the people today?"

There was much discussion making plans for the annual Pancake luncheon which will be held in the Parish Hall Tuesday February 19. Further plans will be made at the next meeting which will be held at the home of Mrs. Stephanie Durkee.

The hostess was assisted by Mrs. Marion Pettigrew and an appreciation was given to the hostess and

assistants by Mrs. Donald Neale. There were 13 members present at the meeting.

### Pancake luncheon held

OTTERVILLE (C) — The annual Pancake luncheon was served on Tuesday Feb. 19 in the Parish Hall of St. John's Anglican Church, Otterville. It was well attended by the merchants, office staff of the township, teachers and pupils and employees of Powells.

This project, organized by the members of the Sunshine Club several years ago, has become an annual attraction.

Mrs. Roberta McMurchy is the president at the present time and further plans at a later date will decide purchasing of something essential for the Community Park.



Corner of Main and John St., Otterville - eight rooms, two baths, vinyl sided, top condition, big lot. \$42,900. MLS.

## Message on year of child

OTTERVILLE (C) — The February meeting of the Otterville U.C.W. was held Thursday evening, February 21, in the Sunday school room. 1980

The President, Isabel Harris, opened the meeting with a reading to set the theme for the program to follow the business meeting. The opening concluded with a group song with Jean Little as pianist for the evening.

After the business meeting, the program was presented by the committee for February. Grace Gehring led the order of service. Another group song opened the program. Jean

Stewart read the Scripture lessons and Vicky Walther led in prayer. Offertory music was provided by Jean Little and the whole group joined in a dedication song.

Barbara Cope presented the main message related to the 1979 International Year of the Child. The program concluded with a group song. Barbara Cope closed the meeting with prayer and an invitation to the group to remain for refreshments, provided by the February program committee.

### COMING EVENTS

1. The World Day of Prayer service to be held on Friday, March 7, 1980 at 2

p.m. in the Otterville United Church Sunday school room.

2. A Spring Luncheon and Bazaar to be held on Thursday, April 24, 1980 in the Otterville United Church Sunday school rooms. Watch for details after the March meeting.

3. The Easter Thankoffering meeting will be held on Thursday, March 20, 1980 at 8 p.m. in the Otterville United Church. The Reverend Mr. Wesley Ball, Thamesford United Church, is the guest speaker. All interested people are cordially invited to this special meeting.



# LACAC's goal to increase awareness

Many people, if they have even heard of LACAC aren't sure what it is really all about. The Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC) was established in the township in September, 1975, to assist in the preservation of local architecture.

The first rural LACAC to be established, the committee was formed to advise and assist the Norwich Township council in all matters related to the preservation and conservation of the local heritage, said the committee's out-going chairman Joyce Pettigrew.

The province encouraged the formation of such bodies, under the Ontario Heritage Act.

Although there is only one building in the township, the Oddy House (now known as the Woodlawn Community Centre), that has been designated as a heritage building, three others in the township have been recommended for designation by LACAC. They are the Hager - Moore house on Main Street, Norwich; the Clarke - Sutton house on Quaker Street and the Treffry mill in Otterville.

Township council decided at a meeting in December to make notice of its intention to designate the properties. All three requests for designation have the owners' approval.

A designation does not mean the owner of the property must keep the building up to any particular standards. Neither is there any obligation to incur expenses in the restoration of the property's heritage elements, said Mrs. Pettigrew. The designation does not restrict the sale of the property but it does mean the new owner must abide by the designation.

Not even a heritage designation is a permanent protection, however. Designations can be lifted and a structure torn down or altered. What it does provide is a 180-day stay of execution during which time LACAC can work to prove to council the value of retaining the building. If that fails, the province can be asked to step in to determine the value of preserving the structure, said Mrs. Pettigrew.

It is not the aim of the Norwich Township LACAC to press for designations on historical structures. "It has

been this committee's hope to convince people that important buildings should be kept without resorting to designation." It is also the committee's policy not to designate unless the owner is in agreement.

"Our effort has always been directed at encouraging people to appreciate and conserve their heritage themselves," said Mrs. Pettigrew. This involves educating people about the historical significance of the various structures in the township. LACAC has done this in a variety of ways. A series of newspaper articles with sketches of some of the unique structures in the township was the project of three young people in 1977. These and many more articles were included in a book called "With Mortar and Pine" compiled by LACAC and published with the assistance of the area historical societies. Almost 1,000 copies of the book were sold locally in a year without any advertising, said Mrs. Pettigrew.

A conference was put on last year by LACAC as a means of increasing public awareness of the value of preserving our heritage. It has been suggested this year

that LACAC get involved in putting together a series of filmstrips on local architecture for use in area schools.

This, like the committee's inventory of historical structures in the township, could be done by students as a summer project. Although it is incomplete, the inventory lists over 100 structures throughout the township, said Mrs. Pettigrew.

A series of slides with a text were compiled by one summer student last year on local architecture, focusing on the Norwich Main Street. These slides are kept at the Norwich archives.

Much of the effort to educate the public should be directed at the young people, said Mrs. Pettigrew. Groups such as LACAC should be explaining the evolution of buildings to them and getting them to appreciate their heritage.

There has been a change in attitude among many people, she said. More and more people are recognizing the value of older buildings and are working to restore them instead of tearing them down to build new structures.

What is also needed is an increased awareness of the need to preserve the rural landscape. Many people are

not aware of the vast changes taking place throughout the countryside. More of the old barns, buildings and fences that are torn down and replaced should also be preserved, said Mrs. Pettigrew.

25 YEARS AGO  
February 1955

Otterville - Grant Mountain, who recently completed his course as a barber at the Trade School at Toronto, has opened a barber shop under the Royal Bank and commenced business on Saturday.



Lorne Treffry is still operating his old grist mill in Otterville and has many regular customers to keep him busy. The mill has been designated by the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee as a heritage building.



## \$2,000 boost for hall fund

Otterville Businessmen's Association president June Ash presented a cheque for \$2,000 to Gord Shearer, chairman of the township's advisory committee for the Otterville Community Hall, Saturday night. The money will go toward furnishings in the hall as part of an overall renovations project. Mr. Shearer said \$12,000 would be needed in total for the furnishings and kitchen equipment. About \$4,000 has already been raised, and a Wintario grant has been applied for. Renovations to the hall, in which Guy Lombardo and his Royal Canadians once played when they were just starting out, were done by Michael Ash Construction Ltd. Ed White's orchestra donated its talents for the benefit dance Saturday and Heleniak's of Norwich made a substantial contribution toward the food. Donations of time and money have come from many members of the community. (TN



# DEATHS

## ERIE SHEPPARD WILLETT

Mrs. Nelson Willett of RR 1, Norwich, passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Monday, February 4, 1980, in her 84th year.

Surviving are seven daughters, Hazel Mitchell of Otterville, Mrs. Roy (Audrey) Clifford of RR 1, Norwich, Mrs. Maurice (Ina) Blais of Windham Centre, Mrs. Douglas (Elsie) Christo of Otterville, Mrs. Arthur (Mary) Weatherup of RR 7, Simcoe, Mrs. Errol (Edith) Hunt of Paris and Mrs. Charles (Gladys) Ferguson of Otterville; one sister, Mrs. Emma Lee of Oakville; 19 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Resting at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service will be held Thursday, February 7, at 2 p.m.

Interment in Bookton Cemetery.

## EDNA WYATT DAVIS

Mrs. George Davis of 30 Main St., Otterville, passed away at her residence on Tuesday, February 5, 1980, in her 84th year.

She was predeceased by her husband.

Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. Leonard (Patricia) Neale of Tillsonburg; Mrs. Jack (Dorothy) Stanford and Mrs. Carolyn Ellington, both of Peterborough; two sons, John Davis and George Davis, both of Otterville; and 12 grandchildren.

She was predeceased by a grandson, Rob, in 1977.

Resting at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service will be held Friday, February 8, at 2 p.m. Visitation Wednesday 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursday, 3:30 to 4:30 and 7 to 9 p.m.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

## NORMAN SWIFT

OTTERVILLE (C) — Norman Swift passed away suddenly at his home in Florida, it was learned last week.

Surviving is his wife, the former Marjorie Fish and several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Swift was well-known in Otterville having spent vacations here with his wife at the home of her parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. J. Wesley Fish.

Attending the service in Florida were Mr. Frederic Fish, brother of Mrs. Swift, and Mrs. Fish of Brampton, Mrs. Leonard Lee of Oakville and Mrs. William McDowell of Mississauga will be spending some time later with their sister, Mrs. Swift, in Florida.

WM. E. **HAJDU** REAL ESTATE LTD.

OFFICE 863-3539      OFFICE 863-3644

## ANNOUNCEMENT



WM. E. HAJDU REAL ESTATE LTD. is very pleased to announce the appointment of ROBERT "BOB" BUTLER to its Sales Staff.

Bob is a welcome addition to the staff and looks forward to serving his many friends and neighbours for their Real Estate needs. This appointment is indicative of WM. E. HAJDU REAL ESTATE LTD. efforts to bring quality professional personnel to the residents of Oxford County.

Bob may be reached at our Office by calling 863-3539 or 863-3644 or at his residence in Otterville 879-6807.



### A touch of realism

Some of the delegations to Glendale's third annual UN Assembly came in the native dress, or a reasonable fac-

simile, of their countries. *WILMA* Willy McMullen, left and Jan Spek of Norwich District High School represented the Republic of the Maldives. (TN Photo)



# Norwich needs development

Norwich Township council should be promoting the township if industry is going to be attracted to it, said Mayor Jack Burn. Industry must be attracted if the township is going to keep people in the area and encourage new families to move in.

For that reason Mayor Burn said he will be suggesting to council that it allot funds for the purchase of industrial lands in the township. Those lands could be serviced and advertised for sale to industries. If there are industries there will be people and with them children to attend the schools.

"I have a great concern for the education of our children," said Mayor Burn. It is his fear that without new growth in the community it will just be a matter of time before the Otterville public school and even the Norwich high school - like Springfield Public School - are threatened with closure.

Up until it was amended in June 1979, Bill 95 would not allow individual municipalities to purchase land for industrial purposes. The official plan for Oxford County outlined the appointment of an industrial commissioner to oversee all industrial development in the county.

Mayor Burn said he personally voted against amending the bill. "We now have eight municipalities fighting for the same industries. One industrial commissioner would have been better to prevent this sort of competition for industry," he said.

In the last few years there has not been sufficient industrial and commercial growth in the township to satisfy him, said Mayor Burn. It is up to council now to take the initiative and encourage such development.

Mayor Burn said he was opposed to the restructuring of Oxford County which amalgamated the previously separate municipalities into one operating body. However, he said it is still too soon to assess how well it is working.

"I think if people would try as hard to make it work as to tear it apart we would be better off." He said the official plan is too easily amended when it doesn't work the way people want it to.

Mayor Burn said he was opposed to restructuring

because "it removes so many things from our daily way of life. The government is too far away from the

people. The county controls everything from road signs to debenture debts."

There are several projects

that Norwich Township council has been working on or has completed during its term of office, said Mayor

Burn. One of the priorities now is to complete the fund-raising drive for the arena in the village of Norwich.

undertaken this year, nothing is definite until the finalized budget is released in May.



The job has its frustrating moments but Jack Burn said he has enjoyed his term in office as Mayor of Norwich Township. As yet, he hasn't given any thought to whether he will run for office again in the elections on November 30.

Another project in Norwich which should be completed this year, is the new washroom facilities at the North Court park. The Otterville community centre has also been undergoing extensive repairs and a new community centre and park to replace those destroyed by the tornado will be constructed at Oxford Centre.

Although they have only been included in the preliminary budget, Mayor Burn is quite optimistic the new stoplights will be installed at the main intersection in Norwich. Progress with the rebuilding of the post office is not so definite and there is still no clear date for the construction of the new facility.

The new cable television system in Norwich will definitely be an attraction to the area, said Mayor Burn. Nor-Del Cablevision Ltd. has been given the go-ahead by council and the Public Utilities Commission and work is progressing on the system.

As for projects to be

## ENJOYS JOB

The job of mayor has had its frustrations, but Mayor Burn admits he has enjoyed it. With nine months left in his term of office, he said he has given little thought to whether he will run again in the November 30 election marking the end of this council's two-year term.

This year will mark Mayor Burn's eighth consecutive year in municipal politics. He served as councillor on the former East Oxford council for two years, as a Ward Four representative on the Township of Norwich council, as a councillor at large for two years and is now finishing his second year as mayor.

With 17 regular meetings a month adding up to about 775 hours, excluding the time he spends on homework for meetings and on serving in a public capacity, the job is a demanding one.

Born in Norwich, he lived there for the first 17 years of his life, then moved to Woodstock and later to the Eastwood area where he has lived for the past 10 years. He owns an Auto Body business in Woodstock.

## Urges county fire alert system

Feb/80

Norwich Township Mayor Jack Burn is disappointed that a county-wide fire alert system is still not in operation.

"The county promised a fire alert system would be in place by now and \$140,000 was put in the budget for it last year but it is still not in place," he said.

The matter of the county-wide system has been discussed by area chiefs since 1963. The system would use radios for instant contact between fire vehicles anywhere in the county as well as a paging system to contact volunteer and off-duty members of the county's fire departments.

All firecalls would be handled through a central dispatcher in Woodstock and there would be one telephone number for all the firecalls in the county. Now firemen must rely on the telephone system to be advised of fires and emergencies, said Mayor Burn. If no one is home they have no way of learning about a fire.

Mayor Burn said delays in

implementing the system have resulted because of the concern on the part of the three urban municipalities - Ingersoll, Woodstock and

Tillsonburg - that they would be paying for a system that is already in place in their centre. He said another cause for the delay was the

hiring last year of an engineer - consultant from Ottawa to gather data so the county could tender the system. He was slow

completing the job.

"The system's got to be in place this year and I would expect that it would be," said Mayor Burn.



The term of office for this year's Norwich Township council will be up in November this year. Council members shown above are: (left to right) Bob Pettigrew, deputy-clerk John Gilbert, Bill Sanders, Jack Walthers, Hardee Richardson,

Cecil Mingle, John Heleniak, Clerk Bob Watkins, and Carman Sweazey. Seated are Helen Smith, Mayor Jack Burn and Roger Orth.



## For township clerk

# Planning fills much of time

It is up to the clerk and his deputy-clerk to handle the day-to-day activities of the township, including the preparation of agendas for meetings, recording the minutes of council, handling the correspondence and all the paper work related to the township's operation.

It is the job of the elected council to establish the priorities but it is up to the clerk to carry them out, said Norwich Township Clerk Bob Watkins.

Township planning takes up the greatest portion of the clerk and deputy clerk's time, he said. This includes the official plan for the county, set down in 1975 when it was restructured, as well as the zoning bylaws, minor variances, and land severances.

Although the township has no control over land severances, it can provide comments on a proposed

severance to the county land division committee which does make the decisions. Usually no comment is made unless there are objections, said Mr. Watkins.

"One of the problems with planning is that a great number of people are not aware of the amount of time it takes to process the various applications," said Mr. Watkins. Some can take up to four months.

Although many people may see this length of time as an inconvenience and a needless delay, it is a form of protection to those persons immediately affected by the minor variances, the land severances or the changes in bylaws, he said.

It has become obvious over the years that certain groups are not compatible and should be kept separate. If the township permitted haphazard uses of property, the property values would be

lowered and conflicts would arise.

"I don't see how the time period could be shortened. The abutting property owners and others concerned should have the opportunity to say whether the changes are in the best interest of all and whether the change is desirable," he said.

For that reason the proper steps must be gone through and even after a decision to allow a change is made, a 21-day appeal period must follow to permit all parties ample time to object to the change. If objections are raised, the matter then goes to the Ontario Municipal Board for a hearing, said Mr. Watkins.

The other alternative to this method would be to leave the decision to council without any regard for the persons in the immediate area. If that should be the

case, decisions could be made that would not be in the best interests of the people.

Every year the requests for minor variances from the zoning bylaws increase. In 1975 there were about 11 applications while 1979 saw 43 minor variance applications, said Mr. Watkins.

The majority of these applications are for reductions in the required road setbacks.

The volume of work in the township offices has required that duties be split between the clerk and his deputy clerk John Gilbert.

The deputy-clerk looks after the areas of recreation and community services as well as business under the heading of agriculture including drainage, livestock protection and related areas.

Mr. Watkins is responsible for the areas of protection and public property and public works. These four areas are also represented by four standing committees of council, he said.

Although agriculture has one of the smallest budgets, it is one of the heaviest areas as far as the workload is concerned, said Mr. Watkins. This is because of the attention required in the areas of municipal drains and tile drain loans to farmers. Some of the drains in the municipality date back

to the late 1800's. These break down and have to be repaired, said Mr. Watkins. There are always petitions from farmers and other residents for new drains, requiring hearings.

Mr. Watkins has been with the township of Norwich since it was formed in 1975. Prior to that he was the clerk for the Township of North Norwich for 12 years.

Deputy-Clerk Gilbert had experience in the municipal field in the Burford township office as clerk-treasurer as well as municipal posts in Ancaster and Innisville townships prior to coming to Norwich Township.



Township Clerk Bob Watkins said township planning takes up the greatest portion of his time. Because of the volume of work in the office, the duties have been split between him and deputy-clerk John Gilbert.



Deputy-clerk John Gilbert goes over the proposed plans for the Oxford Centre community hall. He has been deputy-clerk with the Township of Norwich for a little over two years and is responsible for the areas of recreation and agriculture.



# New face in office

There's a new face around the Norwich Township municipal offices in Otterville. Ron Smith, who had been employed in the township's Ward 1, took over the position of Township Roads Superintendent on December 1, 1979 and is now working out of an office in the municipal building.

Mr. Smith is responsible

for overseeing the work in all four wards, with a crew of 15 men including four foremen. It is his job to carry out the work as instructed by council.

There are 277 miles or roads in the township to be maintained, said Mr. Smith. Although they are generally in "pretty fair shape," some still require some work.

However, "we're restricted by the funds available to us." Some grants are available from the province, depending on how large the job is, he said. One instance might be for the construction of a bridge.

Simple maintenance of the roads takes a large share of the township's budget.

(Continued on Page 5)



Township roads superintendent Ron Smith has only been in the position since December. He was previously employed in Ward 1.

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## Norwich council makes board appointments

The 1980 schedule of appointments to the various boards and committees in the township are as follows:

South Norwich Cemetery Board - Harry Armstrong, Irvin Gehring, Myrtle Hurley, Fred Lonsbary, Harold Arthur, and John Heleniak.

East Oxford Recreation and Community Centre Advisory Committee - Richard Roberts, Hardee Richardson, Alice Abbey, William Hampson Jr., James A. McDowell, Joseph Hampson.

Norwich Arena and Recreation Advisory Committee - Roger Orth, Fred Lowes, Don McMullen, Ross Warboys, William Smith, Jack Walther, Don Miller, Leslie Buckrell, Alfred Lossing, Terry Hutchinson, Carl Beal and Les Dickson.

Springford Advisory Committee - Lloyd Smith,

Jack Walther, Don Silverthorn, Paul Scott, Robert Pettigrew, William Marshall, Robert Turnbull, Elsie Oatman, and William Sanders.

South Norwich Parks Advisory Committee - Jack Walther, George Davis, Robert Pettigrew, Dorothy Wardell, Murray Downing, William Sanders, Gordon Shearer, Colin Cope, and Dave Walters, chairman of minor ball.

Committee of Management W.P. Dennis Athletic Park - Cliff Hughes, W.L. Dickson, Ross Hughes, Roger Hughes, Roger Orth, Charles Rockett, Ross Warboys.

Norwich Medical Centre Advisory Committee - James Butler, Russell M. Hall, Carman Sweazey, Eric Mannell.

Burgessville Library and Community centre Advisory Committee - Pat Smith, June Lenhardt, Ruth Cohoe, Mary

Yeoman.

Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee - Peter Hager, Mrs. A.C. Holdsworth, Joyce Clark, James Hill, John Heleniak, Jane Curry, William Dowds, and Douglas Wilson.

East Oxford Library Board - Beth Yeoman, Lois Ward, Iva Manson, Mary Schell, and Judy Armstrong.

South Norwich Library Board - Laurene McMullen, Jean Stewart, Marion Pettigrew, Catherine Sanders, Dorothy Wardell.

Norwich Library Board - Louise Lossing, Edith Harrison, Gretchen Pollock, Helen Smith, John Heleniak, and Rev. Herb Herring.

Woodlawn Adult Community Centre Advisory Committee - Fred Cole, Murray Downing, Robert Pettigrew, Jack Walther, William McMullen Sr. and Doreen Mountain.

## Norwich Township Council Briefs

### Trees needed

Norwich Township Clerk Bob Watkins is to advise the Oxford Men of the Trees that approximately 200 trees will be required for road allowances in the area destroyed by the tornado.

### Experience programs

Norwich Township Councillor Hardee Richardson will contact the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority to discuss the possibility of work in Norwich Township that may be sponsored by the Experience program coordinated by the Ontario Youth Secretariat.

### Canvass for funds

Township residents will be canvassed in an attempt to raise the remaining funds needed for the Community Centre fund with the deadline for all donations to be April 15.

A letter will be circulated to all residents and advertising will be done in local papers. The township council will finance the fund raising campaign costs.

### Oxford centre hall

Architect Leonard Dickson was in attendance at Norwich council's meeting on Monday to present the preliminary plans for the new Oxford Centre community centre.

The plans indicate the one-floor building to be 4,472 square feet with a seating capacity of 150 people. With some changes the plans were approved by council and Mr. Dickson will now prepare detailed working drawings with tenders to be opened by March 25.

## Norwich faces \$60,000 bill unless campaign hits goal

NORWICH (Bureau) — Norwich Township council will have to absorb a \$60,000 bill for the Norwich Community Centre unless a fund-raising campaign reaches its goal by its spring deadline.

The centre, built in 1976, is being financed through a grant from Wintario, which is contributing \$2 for every \$1 raised locally, spokesman Murray Hilliker said Wednesday.

The fund is about \$20,000 short of its \$173,000 objective. Unless the money is raised on time, the township will not re-

ceive the \$40,000 matching grant from the province, leaving it \$60,000 short.

Hilliker said about \$153,000 has been raised since the fund was started in 1976. The centre, which serves most of the township, has an ice surface and auditorium.

Township treasurer Fred Lowes said the township applied for the grant in 1976 and was given three years to raise the donations. If the campaign is unsuccessful the \$60,000 difference will be picked up by the township and probably passed on to ratepayers through taxes, he said.



# Council seeks advice on rail underpass

Norwich Township Council will seek legal advice on whether it is responsible for the construction of a farm access under the Conrail railway line crossing the Denys property at R.R. 3, Tillsonburg.

A request was made by Violet DeDobbelaere on Monday on behalf of her mother Suzanne Denys, for assistance in obtaining an improved access under the line crossing her property. Mrs. DeDobbelaere had requested council's

assistance in obtaining a level crossing last spring but said she was told council could not put any money into a level crossing on private property. The only way it could be obtained would be for Mrs. Denys to bear the expense herself.

For that reason she has abandoned attempts to obtain the level crossing and is now trying to enlist council's support in her request for the reconstruction of the tunnel.

At present there is no way

to get through the tunnel with large farm equipment, said Mrs. DeDobbelaere. The 18½-foot clearance in width is not a problem, she said, but the height of 9 feet three inches is a definite problem. She said the main access to the south end of the farm is through the tunnel under the Conrail line. The farm is located on Lot 21, Concession 10 in the former Township of South Norwich, near Cornell.

"My mother has paid taxes for 50 years on this

farm property and she feels she hasn't had the services that other people in the township have had," she said. Mrs. DeDobbelaere claims the township owns the lane or roadway travelling under the railway line and should therefore be responsible for its upkeep and for assisting in the reconstruction of the tunnel.

"It is an unimproved road allowance and there is no way the township can afford to improve it for just one farm," said Councillor Jack

Walther.

Council questioned whether the roadway is a registered right of way or a given road.

"There are lots of registered right of ways in the township and we don't have to keep up right of ways," said Councillor Roger Orth.

A representative of the Canadian Transport Commission (CTC) in Toronto was in attendance at council's meeting on Monday to outline the steps that could be taken if the township assumed responsibility for the roadway.

Based on an estimated total cost of the project, which would be about

\$30,000, the township would be responsible for 37½ per cent, the federal government 50 per cent and Conrail for the balance of the cost, said E.J. Denenfeld, acting chief of railway crossings and construction programs with the CTC.

It is important to find out when the railway was constructed, said Mr. Denenfeld. Any railway structures built after 1904 must provide safe and adequate facilities for all traffic going under or over the railway. If the tunnel was constructed after 1904 then the railway did not provide the required 14-foot clearance and the railway

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

company is obligated to contribute to the reconstruction, he said.

Mr. Orth raised the point that the strip of land in question may be owned by the Long Point Region Conservation Authority which also owns land on the south side of the railway tracks.

"I think we're all sympathetic to the situation but we cannot invest tax dollars in this until we are sure whether we own the land or not," he said.

Mayor Jack Burn said council will be consulting with a lawyer regarding the ownership of the roadway and its responsibility in the matter.

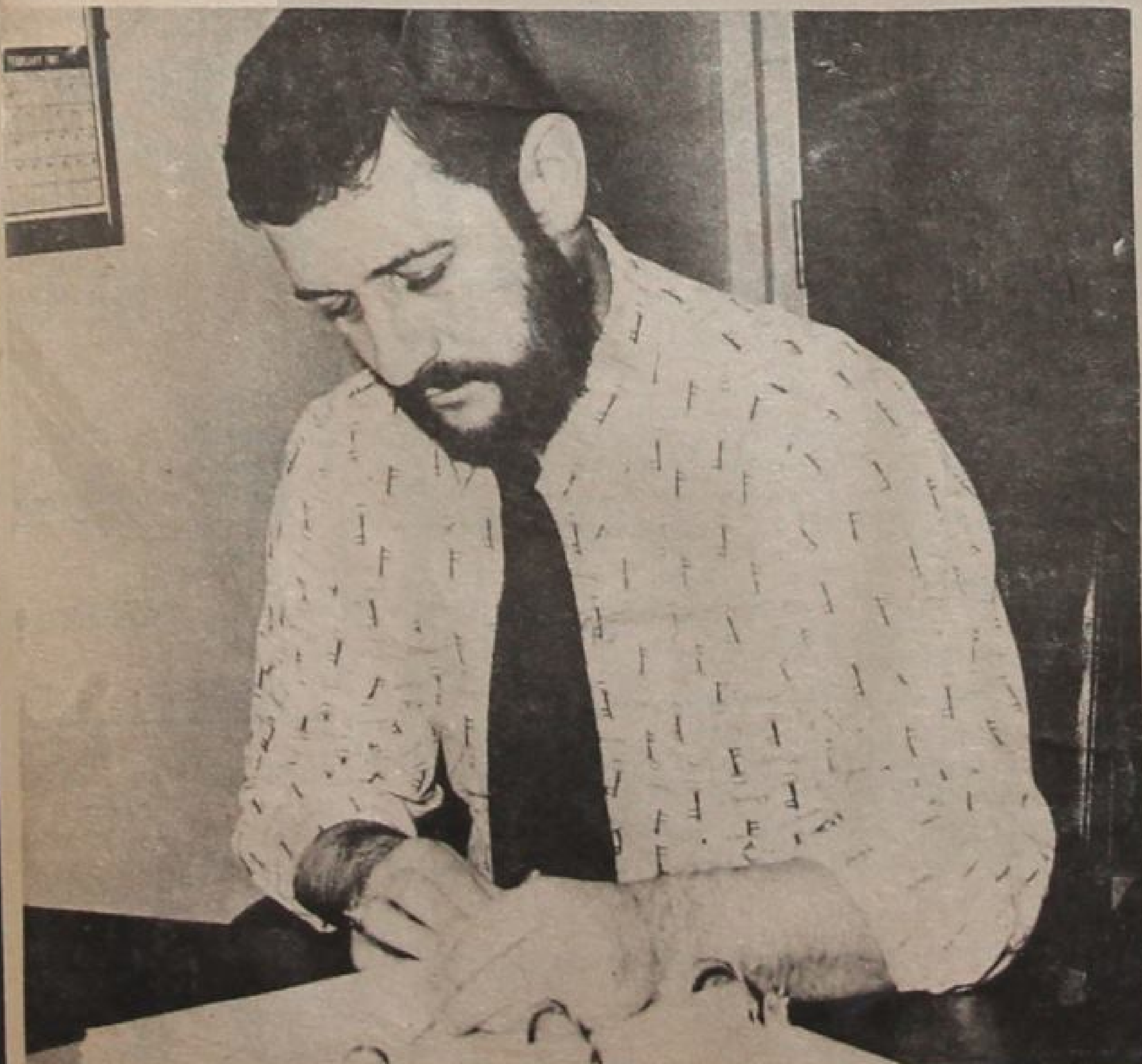


## Royal Bank Trophy

The Tony Piron skipped rink captured the Royal Bank Trophy at the annual two-day Mixed Bonspiel. Murray

Downing, left, presented the trophy to Tony and Dianna Piron and Harley and Leslie Jackson.

Friday, February 22, 1980



## Preparing a budget

Norfolk Township treasurer Merlin Howse is busy preparing the 1980 budget for the township. He wants to have everything wrapped up before the end of March. (TN Photo)

Indeed not many curlers other than the chairpersons for that particular bonspiel would spend two or three days from 8:30 in the morning until 10:30 in the evening, keeping exact monitor of every score on every ice of every team and entering same on sheets and board.

Of course there is another person in this class that gives service without reward - that is Murray Downing. Except for a short period some years ago when he was getting an essential organ fine tuned Murray has made every skip's name - card that goes up over the sheets of ice.

Murray also draws and paints the tobacco leaf on the ice every year and makes the tobacco leaf and inscribes it with every tobacco belt winner on the big board adjacent to Ice 1.

To Murray, June and Willard we certainly doff our McBroom Tam O'Shanter. Curling Is Fun!

Feb/1980



# Summerville once thriving place

The following article on the history of Summerville was researched and written by Muriel Gehring. It was presented at the February meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society.

In the 1820's Summerville was known as Sherwood Settlement as most of the residents were the Sherwood, Addison and Titus families. While teaching in the community, Miss Corrie Robertson of Ingersoll, suggested the name be changed to Summerville as it was such a pleasant place to live. Thus Sherwood Settlement became Summerville.

## CHURCHES

At that time there were two churches, a Wesleyan Church on the west side of Summerville road (now 59 Highway) and south of the tenth concession and the Methodist Church which stood on the east side of Summerville road, north of the tenth concession where Kenneth Arthur's service station is now located.

The Methodist Church had a large membership and one to be remembered as "Old Daddy" Grey, a black man, who always sat in the third row from the front. His fervent "Bless the Laud" was always inspiring. His son Benny and daughter Ida were also faithful members and Ida sang in the choir. Later the two congregations joined and services were held in the Methodist

Church.

The land for this church had been donated by Mr. H.A. Titus from the corner of his farm. Mr. Titus also donated a bell for the church and land for the cemetery. Around 1918 the church closed and the building remained vacant for a few years. It was later moved by Mr. William Holmes of Otterville and made into a residence on Dover St., Otterville, the second house north of the present post office.

The first library was located in the Methodist Church. Mr. J. Singer canvassed the district for money and books for the library which was well-used by the community.

Mr. R.C. Addison was the funeral director and Mr. B.W. Collver always drove the pallbearers in a lovely rig with a team of shining black horses.

The church congregations held picnics at Mr. H.C. Wood's and at Port Dover. Social events were held in the homes.

In 1908 the ladies formed the Ladies' Aid. The meetings usually began at 4 p.m. and ended in a social evening at the home of Mrs. S.C. Martin, Mrs. Austin Addison and Mrs. Rueben Hussey. In the summer (homemade) ice cream socials were held in the church shed, east of the church, with a program following in the church.

In the winter, oyster

suppers were held at Mrs. Austin Addison's. A team of horses and a sleigh were available to take the diners back to the church for the concert. A blackberry festival was held at the home of Mr. Hemstreet with the Otterville Band as entertainment.

The story is told (by one of the boys) of Mr. Peter Addison, well known person of the church, who was in charge of making communion wine. Peter had several boys, who were inclined to be mischievous at times and they watered the wine. When Peter tasted the wine at the communion table he knew at once what had happened. He hurried from the church, whipped his horses up the road to round up the boys and the whip was again used.

## EARLY SCHOOLS

The first school, with wooden benches, stood on the southeast corner of the Titus farm, a quarter mile east of the Methodist Church. A wooden trough piped water to the school from the springs on the hill. The school apparently burned and some of the children attended Hawtreys school.

In 1872 a new school was built south of the then Southern Railway single track line. There was a lot of discussion as no one wanted their children to cross the railway track. This was settled by arbitration. A meeting of arbitration was called to value the new

school site for School Section 8 in the Township of South Norwich, owned by Mr. Charles Hussey, and it was resolved: 1) That the sum of \$60 be paid by the trustees of said section for the acre of ground selected for the school site and; 2) That the trustees pay the expense of arbitration, the amount being \$8.

It was signed at Otterville on the 16th day of August, 1872, by William Carlyle, Peter Wyatt and William Treffry.

The land was purchased from Mr. Charles Hussey and the school was built of red brick, by Mr. Howey of Delhi, with stove pipes running the full length of the school. In 1920 a furnacette was installed and in the early 1920's a deep well was dug by Mr. Austin of Delhi.

Until this time water was carried from Mr. Hussey's house, which later burned, south of the school, in two granite pails - one for the boys and one for the girls. Granite dippers were used for drinking purposes. The wood was carried into the cloak rooms by the pupils at recess and the older pupils, fired the stove several times during the day.

In 1879 the trees were planted in the school yard by pupils under the supervision of teacher Mr. A. Gertwood.

In 1900 there were 47 pupils registered with an average attendance of 38 in May and 37 in August as pupils attended school for 10 days in August until 1915 when it no longer became a school month.

In November 1918 the school was closed for three weeks due to an influenza epidemic. The teacher taught all eight grades and acted as principal, as well as noon hour supervisor. In 1934 hydro was installed.

The schools of South Norwich Township held fairs with exhibits and parades. There was keen competition among the schools. The fairs were first held at the old Otterville school and later in the Otterville park.

Muriel Gehring has in her possession a list of teachers and their salaries from 1873-1947. June 1947 was the

closing of Summerville school after which the pupils were bused to Otterville. Shortly after this the school was sold and later became a tobacco striproom.

## POST OFFICE

In May 1910, Summerville was granted a post office. However, it could not be called Summerville as there already was a post office near Toronto by that name. Thus it was named Hussey Post Office in honor of Mr. Charles F. Hussey who was the postmaster. It was also in his home the post office was kept. Mr. Hussey received stamps to the value of \$6.40 estimated to last two months.

The Michigan Central Railway carried the mail, although the train only slackened, opened the door wide, threw out the mail and Mr. Hussey would throw in the out-going mail.

It was told by the late Mr. George Singer, born 1866, and who lived his active life in Summerville retiring in Otterville, that the area where his father lived (now Harold Singer farm on Concession 11) was covered with beautiful white pine trees. Some people would cut them, float the logs down the Otter River to Spencer Mills, now owned by the Warren Rock estate, where the logs were made into lumber.

No one had any ready cash of any amount but they never went into debt. When Mr. Singer was a small boy he could remember his family cutting and piling wood along the railway track. The trains would pick the wood up to fire the engines and this was the main source of income for many families.

The railway was built around 1870-72 as a single track and was known as the Southern Railway. In 1906 the railway was known as Michigan Central and another track was laid making it a double line. It later became known as the New York Central, then The Penn Central which went into bankruptcy about 1975 and the line is now known as Amtrac.

There was a hotel owned by Mr. G. Webster in the "V" on the coal road. Oddly enough the Sons of Temperance met in a room in the hotel, with the first meeting in the fall of 1884. In 1886 the hotel burned.

Mr. W. Reavely ran a toll gate on the corner of the coal road and Concession 11. Mr. E.M. Schooley had a small saw mill near the 12th Concession.

In 1878 the 11th Concession was changed as the old road was farther south. The coal road was built of charred



About all that remains of the once thriving community of Summerville is this cemetery on the hill. The stones were placed in two straight rows in 1967 and the ground levelled. Some of the early Summerville pioneers are buried there.



logs and called the corrugated road. Some of the old logs can still be seen in the spring when frost comes out of the ground.

Mr. H.A. Titus had a brick yard on his farm and also on the farm across the road. Mr. Howey had a blacksmith shop on the 10th Concession west. The cheese factory was built on the south side of the 10th Concession a quarter mile east of what is now Highway 59. The factory was built by Mr. Jonathon Titus. The first cheese makers were J. Abrams and P. Swindle. Others involved were Mr. Morris, Mr. Grey, Mr. Steinhoff, James McIlwraith, S. Buckborough, and Mr. Cornell. The cheese factory in operation for over 50 years burned in 1916. Some of the bricks are built into the garage on Irvin Gehring's farm.

#### CEMETERY

The Summerville Women's Institute asked the South Norwich Township Council to help restore the cemetery. In 1967 the stones were placed in two straight rows and the ground was levelled. The Summerville Cemetery sign was made and erected by Mr. William McMullen, Sr. The Women's Institute had asked Mr. McMullen to construct the sign as this was to be their centennial project. When the bill came it was for materials only, as he had donated his many hours of work. Some of the Summerville pioneers buried there are Silverthorn, Hansel, Snyder, Comfort, Reavely (1873), Addison, Pettit, Squance (1794-1880), Forman, Mansfield, Harris, Singer, Somers, Smith, Gilmore, Gray, Wood, Titus and others. A Captain Blewitt's stone is very impressive and can be seen from the highway. The stone is etched with grapevines and an anchor.

Some people have known Summerville as Arthur's Corners as at one time four Arthur brothers owned a farm on each corner and one Arthur's Service Station which is now a residence.



This grave marker in the Summerville cemetery is very impressive, looking like an old tree trunk etched with grape vines and an anchor. The stones in the cemetery were placed in two straight rows and the ground levelled in 1967.



## HISTORICAL FEATURE

# Hail to forefathers of the hamlet

By J.I. COOPER

At some point in the history of every community in South-Western Ontario, the name of Colonel, the Honourable Thomas Talbot crops up. It is certainly true in the instance of Tillsonburg, although Talbot probably never set foot in the town. He provided the pattern of settlement along Lake Erie, of which Tillsonburg was a part. Mahlon Burwell, Talbot's confidant and sworn-man, surveyed much of the Tillsonburg neighborhood and gave his name to one of Tillsonburg's chief neighbours.

### COLONEL MAHLON BURWELL

Mahlon Burwell (1783-1846) was the son of a New Jersey Loyalist. (His unusual Christian name was Biblical, and the curious may trace it by reading the Book of Ruth.) Burwell grew up on the Niagara frontier and entered the civil service of upper Canada as a land-surveyor. In the course of a long professional career that extended from 1809 to the late 1830's, Burwell travelled over, surveyed, and mapped much of present-day Norfolk and Elgin counties. Malahide and Bayham townships are his memorials (1). He selected and plotted the sites of Port Burwell and Vienna. Burwell was the first person of standing to appreciate the possibilities of the Otter Valley. In 1809, Burwell was directed by the Surveyor-General, Thomas Ridout, to take in hand the road that Colonel Talbot wished to be carried through his domain. Thus, at the beginning of his career, Burwell was brought into close contact with the most commanding figure in, what is now, Southwestern Ontario.

### COL. THE HON. THOMAS TALBOT

Thomas Talbot (1771-1853) was a younger son of Lord Talbot de Malahide in the peerage of Ireland. Taking the realistic view that he had reached his ceiling in the army -- he was a lieutenant colonel --, Talbot sold out his commission in 1800 - 5000 - and migrated to Canada (2). A great deal of nonsense has been written on his motives, emanating chiefly from literary ladies, beginning with Mrs. Simcoe and running on through to Mrs. Traill and Mrs. Jameson. There was no romantic secret -- Talbot was not an Irish landlord's son for nothing. His ambition was an estate, "my Principality", he called it. He knew Canada, having served on the staff of Upper Canada's first lieutenant-governor, John Graves Simcoe. Talbot had other useful friends; for example, two royal dukes, Cumberland and Kent. The Duke of Kent (the father of Queen Victoria) commanded the Quebec garrison when Talbot was making his tour of duty. Talbot used these advantages shrewdly. He asked for (and received) half a township, a pension, and a seat on the Legislative Council, the body chiefly concerned with the distribution of land. Talbot also became the government's supervisor of settlement in Southwestern Ontario, receiving 150 acres of land for each settler he placed on fifty acres.

Talbot quickly realized that without ports along Lake Erie and roads inland, he was to have few settlers. Settlers were clamouring to come in; Scots crofters and Irish peasants and a motley crowd of foot-loose New Englanders and New Yorkers. Hence the frustrations of Talbot; hence the call for Mahlon Burwell.

### THE UNTRACKED WILDERNESS

Burwell's efforts to reach his master at what is now Port Talbot underscored the difficulties of travel one hundred and seventy years ago. Wisdom prompted an approach by water:

"Friday...Loaded the boat early and rowed against the wind to the carrying place...of Long Point (the modern causeway)."

"Saturday...Rowed against the wind to...Big Otter Creek; the wind blew hard and we lay by. About 6...P.M., it calmed and we rowed...to Catfish Creek (Port Bruce)...There was a heavy swell and on entering the mouth of the Creek, the boat had like to have filled and my trunk and papers got wet..."

"Sunday...There was such a violent sea that it was impossible to proceed..."

"Monday...The Lake raged most tremendously...so that we could not move out of the mouth of the Creek. I searched for the limits between the townships of Yarmouth and Houghton..."

"Tuesday...Early in the morning I set out with a pretty rough lake and rowed hard until two o'clock...when we reached Port Talbot."

Five days between Long Point and Port Talbot may seem excessive; an overland journey cost Burwell twenty-four (3).

Virtually all of Burwell's active life was spent in the Talbot settlement. His first assignment was the Talbot Rd. or more accurately the central sections between modern Delhi and Port Talbot. He was less concerned with the extremities, east to Fort Erie and west to Amherstburg. The Road was intended to make accessible (and therefore attractive to settlers) Colonel Talbot's extensive properties scattered through some twenty townships south of the Thames. In general, the Talbot Road coincided with Queen's Highway No. 3, although there were important deviations. The best-known locally, was made by George Tillson between approximately Courtland and Aylmer. The original Talbot Road by way of Richmond and Straffordville became a sort of country lane. The Road was brought slowly into operation. Talbot was not willing to spend money when he could require others to do so; his settlers were forced to clear and maintain the Road across the front of their properties. In the early 1820's, it was reported that stage-coaches were in service on the Talbot Road (4). Perhaps

they were on certain sections, but for many years the Road remained as Burwell and his surveyors left it, only a blazed trail. Nevertheless the Talbot road provided what its designer intended, a travel-route back from the Lake front, and means of unlocking the inland townships.

### THE EMPIRE OF MAHLON BURWELL

Burwell was also active in township surveys. The most important of these was begun in 1811 when he surveyed Bayham and Malahide, hitherto parts of Yarmouth and Houghton. The new townships made an immediate impression on Burwell. They became, in fact, the heartland of his empire. In June 1815, he reported enthusiastically to Ridout on "Otter Creek...There are also beautiful groves of white pine timber on each side of the Creek interspersed with groves of other timber...no doubt...ere long considerable quantities of timber will be conveyed down that stream from Norwich (township) and other places to the lake. It would appear as if nature had intended the mouth of...Big Otter for a place of greater importance than any other in the District of London...and it is possible that such will be the case before many years."

Burwell secured land at the mouth of the Otter where he laid out the village of Port Burwell; three miles upstream he surveyed Vienna. These river-mouth villages, along with Port Bruce, Sand Hills, and Clear Creek, he saw as starting-points for travel inland by means of the rivers. Roads and later railways should supplement the waterways. When he became chairman of the provincial government's committee on railways, Burwell spoke for railways inland from the lake fronts, as well as railways paralleling the lake shores. The congestion on modern inland travel routes underscores the wisdom of Burwell's views.

Burwell had his fingers in many other pies. He was the registrar of deeds for the London district, an area that included modern Oxford, Middlesex, and Elgin counties. During the War of 1812-1814 he was a serving soldier--much of his service being spent in United States prisoners of war camps. Burwell was picked up in the summer of 1814 as second best to Colonel Talbot, whom the American were particularly anxious to capture. "Americans" in this context included a good many of Talbot's disgruntled settlers, Scots, Irish and English, who used the war to get back at the neighbourhood tyrant. In 1812, Burwell was elected MPP for Oxford and Middlesex and continued to sit till there was no longer an Upper Canada to sit for (1841). He was a useful parliamentarian, with a specialist's knowledge of transportation--and schools. Latterly Burwell became detached from the region of his traditional interest, Bayham and Malahide. He directed his energies towards founding a landed estate on Lake Huron. He failed in this project of grandeur, and when he died (1846) he was buried--appropriately--about half way between his old and new loves, at Tyrconnell. Another Burwell, Colonel John, a nephew, kept the family name green at the old stand. John Burwell was a dedicated Tory, and in the era of the Rebellion of 1837 devoted so much energy to roughing-up Reformers, that he produced an exodus from the Burwell lands; for example, members of the Edison family.

### THE END OF COLONEL TALBOT

Talbot survived Burwell some 10 years, but with most of old fire gone. He was still capable of a rousing speech such as the one he delivered at St. Thomas, when he denounced his latest enemies, "the...Damned Cold Water Drinking Societies." Usually he missed the point. In 1849 Talbot broke the first ground at London for the line of the Great Western. It was nearly six years before the Railway reached London, and when it finally arrived it was about three miles from the site of Talbot's sodbusting exploit. (5)

Burwell and Talbot belong to the very early period of Tillsonburg's experience. Burwell's preoccupation with the Otter Valley was a decisive factor, for the Otter figured in George Tillson's strategy. Talbot provided a liberal education in land development. That lesson certainly was not lost.

### REFERENCES

- (1) The only extended note on Burwell is Archibald Blue's "Colonel Mahlon Burwell, land surveyor," *Transactions of the Royal Canadian Institute*, 1899.
- (2) The best biography of Talbot is Fred Hamil's, *Lake Erie Baron*. C.O. Ermatinger's *The Talbot Regime* is rather too kind to Talbot.
- (3) Only a small part of Burwell's survey-notes survive. The quotation above and later one, describing the Otter, have been printed many times. eg., Blue's "Burwell", and Middleton and London, Ontario, *the History of a Province*, 1615-1929.
- (4) E.C. Guillet, *Pioneer Travel in Upper Canada*, page 181.
- (5) Talbot's ceremony was on Richmond Street North, approximately at the modern Canadian Pacific Station. The Great Western used the Canadian National route to the south. The GW station was on York Street at Richmond.





Alpha

As the old asp said when he swallowed his tail, "This is the end."

To say the least, it's a peculiar feeling to be pounding the old Remington for the last time before being put out to pasture. Writing this column has been a lot of fun. If Chuck McKnight had only known, I would probably have been willing to pay him for the privilege of having it published, but it's too late now, boss.

During its run, it is even possible that Viewfinder has cost The News a few subscriptions, if some of the vituperative letters received regarding its contents are to be believed, but at least they have been in the minority. And all letters, whether brickbats or bouquets, are an indication that someone is at least interested enough to read the stuff.

Wednesday was a night to be remembered. I knew of course, that the staff had planned a little get-together, but had no hint of its magnitude. Such a gathering of old friends was hard to believe, even though a number of them

# Viewfinder

By Frank Rubie

Feb-1/80



Omega

took the opportunity to tell a lot of lies. I have on occasion been roasted separately but never collectively, and it's quite an experience, Judge Bob Groom was master of ceremonies, and sitting beside the judge is infinitely preferable to appearing before him. There were also several cops around to keep order, at which task they failed utterly.

Biggest surprise of all was the appearance of son and daughter with their spouses, a couple of grandchildren and a brother.

The editorial staff even went to the trouble of putting out a four-page tabloid containing Rubie history and fiction, and managed to do so with such secrecy that I suspected nothing.

At the top of this column is a faint indication of what 17 years with a newspaper will do to a person. It has been an interesting time, however, with a fair variety of experiences.

One of my earlier assignments was to do an article on making maple syrup,

and to this end, I travelled to the farm of Bunny Wilson, west of Springfield, where I learned that Bunny was out in "the bush" and was pointed in that general direction, across a ploughed field.

It was evident that not even my trusty Volkswagen would ever make the trip, so I started off on foot, the half-mile or so to the sugar shack.

Man, was it muddy! By the time I arrived I was half way to my knees in South Norwich soil, and could barely lift one foot after the other, but I got the story and some photos. Only on the way back did I learn that there was a much easier if somewhat longer route.

A few years later I met Bunny Wilson at a gathering and he recalled my visit.

"I suppose you guys laughed yourselves silly, watching me come across that field," I said.

"Well, it was kind of amusin'" he admitted.

Had only been on the job a few days when Bill Pratt sent me over to Glendale High School (which had been recently opened) to get photos of their shop program. It took longer than planned, and I began to get worried for fear that Bill would think I was goofing off.

So, I phoned in. "Bill, I'm sorry, but this is going to take a little longer than I figured, maybe another half hour," I reported.

"Heck, that's alright, take all the time you want," he answers.

It was a real relief to find that I wasn't going to be fired.

To all the wonderful people around this office, so long, it's been great working with you. And to all my friends and faithful readers, thank you for your help and co-operation, your criticisms and your praises. I would never advise anyone to go into the newspaper business, but I wouldn't have missed it for the world.

- 30 -

## Auction Sales

### Estate Auction Sale

An outstanding offering of antique china, glass and furnishings on

Friday, Feb. 15th commencing at 11 a.m.

The sale will be held in the Lion's Auditorium, Tillsonburg Sports Complex, 45 Hardy St. The doors will open at 9 a.m.

Included will be the complete contents of the home at 156 Bidwell St. featuring such items as: drop front limed oak combination desk and book case; four side chairs with slip seats; corner what-not; several rockers; prints; radios; vacuum; organ stool; portable TV; many old books; dining table; antique couch; antique side board; dressers; chests of drawers; electric sewing machine; depression glass; Noritake; Nippon;

cranberry hobnail hanging lamp shade; several coloured glass tumblers; flash glass pieces; many fine pieces in pressed glass; five compotes; flow blue pieces; Robbie Burns plate; Victoria and Albert plate; Cosmos water jug; oil lamps; Bridal Rose china, (service for 12); Limoges china; fruit bowl and nappies with gold trim; iron kettles; iron fry pan; child's wicker rocker; chesterfield suite; old picture frames; toilet sets; beds; bedding; quilts; pine jam cupboard; book shelves; fruit jars; pedestal table; wringer washer; gas range and many other items of interest.

Lunch will be available. The auctioneer or executors are not responsible for accidents on the premises.

For The Estate of Effie Nelson  
Canada Permanent Trust Company  
Executors  
William Hawkins  
Ingersoll  
Auctioneer  
485-3392



JACK BAILEY

## Queen-maker Jack Bailey dies at 72

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (UPI) — Jack Bailey, the radio and television emcee who for 20 years offered American women the chance to be queen on Queen For A Day, has died of cancer at the age of 72.

Bailey was host of the long-running daytime series from 1944-64, crowning a total of more than 5,000 queens. He started each show with the question, "Would you like to be queen for a day?"

The popular show featured five contestants each day. After introducing them to the studio audience, Bailey would encourage them to tell why they wanted to win the title and prize money, usually to help a poor or ailing friend or family member.

He would then ask the audience to decide which woman should be queen for a day, would crown her and award her prize.

Jan Feb 4



## Happy Bluebirds plan for birthday

OTTERVILLE (C) — Members of the Happy Bluebird Club held their March meeting at the home of Mrs. Harold Waring on Tuesday evening with eight members present.

Mrs. Daisy Ash, president of the club, presided and the meeting was opened with the Housewives Creed, followed with The Lord's Prayer and later the Bluebird Song was sung.

Minutes of the February meeting were read by Mrs. Stanley Davis and membership dues were paid. Roll call was something which

will be out-dated in 50 years' time.

Two readings were given by Mrs. Waring "Making A Garden" and "Agriculture Courtship". Included in the business were plans for celebrating the Birthday of the Club. It was decided the members go to dinner at a local restaurant April 20, then to the home of Mrs. Lillian Morris to complete the day.

Otterville ladies were in charge of the evening. Mrs. Josepha Rosheart and Mrs. Waring served the lunch for the social time to which Mrs. Mary Vankerbroeck gave the courtesy remarks.

## Family night held by Fellowship

OTTERVILLE (C) — Annual family night supper of the Women's Missionary Fellowship was held in the Sunday school room of the Baptist Church. A bountiful meal was served by the social committee. Mrs. Robert Butler, Mrs. Jack Walters and Mrs. Ken Lee. Everyone was welcomed by president, Mrs. Fred Hill. After supper Mrs. Ted Oenema led in a sing-song with Mrs. Wilma Butler at the piano.

A letter was read from the United Church Women inviting ladies of the church to their Easter meeting on Thursday, March 20. Letters were also read from Dr. Hazel Wrigglesworth from the Philippines and Miss Helen Bello, an African girl helped by the W.M.F. Mrs. Wilma Butler led in the

Missionary prayer and Mr. Paul Babcock read Scripture.

Mr. Dwight Davis was master of ceremonies for the program which followed. The adult Bible class sang two hymns, and the junior department of the Sunday School rendered two numbers.

Mr. Earl Cooper told the children a story about chickens and how miraculously God developed them. Following was a skit "Reflections in My Mirror" portrayed by Mrs. Ted Oenema, Mrs. Tom Irie, Mrs. John Hansford and Mrs. Hilda Stockmans.

Mr. Dwight Davis thanked the ladies for the lovely meal and for their part in the program.

Robert Marshall closed with prayer.

## Hear history of canning

The South Norwich Historical Society met at Woodlawn on March 10 with President Rick Singer chairing the meeting. 1980

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Catherine Mann. It was decided to await a reply from the International Plowing Match Association before the Society makes its decision on a food booth at the 1980 Match. The purchase of a portable microfilm reader was delayed until the Society learns if Wintario grants will be available again.

It was decided to apply for two students from the

Experience '80 Program to help with historical research of the former South Norwich Township. Correspondence was read with special attention given to a request concerning information on the United Womens Farm Organization every meeting in this area. Any information would be appreciated by contacting Joyce Pettigrew.

Rick Singer reported on meetings with the Long Point Conservation Authority and Norwich Township Council regarding the Treffry Grist Mill. The next regular meeting will be held at Woodlawn on Monday, April 14 at 8 p.m. with Mr. Brian Rice giving a

slide presentation of the History of South Norwich Schools which was researched and produced by students last summer.

The meeting then adjourned. The speaker Bill McMullen Sr. needed no introduction by Rick Singer. Bill gave a very interesting and humorous history on The Tip Top Canners along with labelled cans, payroll books and photos for all to peruse.

Joyce Pettigrew thanked Bill and presented him with a small token of appreciation.

Refreshments were served by convenor Juanita DeRoo and a social time followed.

# WI annual planned

OTTERVILLE (C) — The March meeting of the Otterville Women's Institute was held at the Woodlawn Adult Centre on Friday at 2 p.m. with a small attendance.

Mrs. Harry Pickersgill, president, opened the meeting with the Institute

Ode and Mary Stewart Collect followed with "The Lord's Prayer".

Mrs. Fred Cole, Curator of the Tweedmuir Books, was the convener of the interesting meeting. Mrs. Jack Walther was the pianist.

The members responded

to the roll call by naming something which would be out-dated in 50 years time and to name something which would take its place.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read as well as the treasurer's report by Mrs. Walther.

Correspondence included a "Thank-You" note from the Daiken family. Summary Day will be held in Woodstock April 8. A letter was read from the Sick Children's Hospital in London with suggestions as to what was needed for infants including mitts, booties, and weighing blankets.

In aid of the work being done in the Community Hall the Institute gave a cash donation.

The annual meeting of the Otterville Branch of the Institute will be in the Community Hall on Friday April 11 at 12:30 p.m. at which time a potluck dinner will be served prior to the meeting. Following the meeting the member will submit donations of used clothing and articles for the Rummage Sale which will be held in the Community Hall starting at 9:30 a.m. Donations will be received at the hall on Friday.

Mrs. Fred Cole, with the aid of a map which she had drawn of New Brunswick, gave interesting highlights of that place.

Mrs. Ronald Avey of Norwich, a teacher and curator in the Burgessville Museum showed movies of the Experience 79 project on schools in the former South Norwich Township. The pictures were most interesting and brought back many memories of those schools relatives and friends had attended.

The speaker was introduced by Mrs. Cole and thanked by Mrs. Jack Walther who presented her with a gift.

The meeting closed with "The Queen" and the Institute grace.

Mrs. Cole was assisted in serving lunch for the social time to follow. At this time the members had the pleasure of looking through the Tweedsmuir books which were in charge of Mrs. Cole. Appreciation was expressed to her for her work which she is doing in clipping and pasting.

## Officers honored at Eastern Star

The Sentinel, Warder, Secretary and Treasurer of Norwich Chapter 175 O.E.S. were honored at the March meeting of the Chapter held Wednesday evening.

The well attended meeting was presided over by Worthy Matron Lillian Oatman and Worthy Patron Norman McIntyre.

Members of McDonald Chapter Tillsonburg performed the opening drill and Brant Chapter, Brantford, conducted the closing exercises.

The Worthy Matron welcomed the guests from Brantford, Tillsonburg, Scotland, Ingersoll, Port Dover, Innerkip, and Vittoria, and introduced Christine Swatridge, of McDonald Chapter, a member of the grand Chapter Estral Committee; Myrtle Dickinson, District Deputy Grand Matron of District Four Tillsonburg; and Betty Knechtel of Halo Chapter Scotland, District Deputy Grand Matron of

District 18.

During a short business period two donations were made, one to the Norwich Community Centre Building Fund and one to assist a local family who were recently burned out.

The Worthy Matron read a poem to each honored officer pertaining to their office and presented each with a gift. The officers introduced their guests and presented each with a gift.

Happy Birthday was sung to Florence Poole, Norman McIntyre and Carl Howse.

Following the close of Chapter, a skit, "A Minister's Mistake" was presented by Lillian Oatman, Josephine Howse and Norman McIntyre. Lou Nagle gave a reading.

Lunch was served in the banquet hall, decorated with green shamrocks and candles in honor of St. Patrick's Day.

A draw for a basket of groceries was won by Donald Clarkson of Brantford.

## Rebekah district annual

OTTERVILLE (C) — East St. Thomas District 17 of the Rebekah Assembly of Ontario I.O.O.F. held their annual meeting in the Odd-fellows Hall, Otterville, on Monday afternoon March 31.

District Deputy President Wilma Butler of Violet Rebekah Lodge 330 presided. Representatives present from the eight lodges in the District gave their annual reports of their respective lodges.

District secretary-treasurer Olive Pickersgill read the minutes of the last meeting and gave the treasurer's report.

Charity Rebekah Lodge 377 Harrietsville recommended Mrs. Lorraine Rath as the incoming district deputy president to take office in June for the 1980-81 term. Following the meeting a program was presented by the entertainment committee. Supper was served by Noble Grand Violet Howse and her committee.



JUST LISTED in Otterville, 1½ storey, four bedroom home, paved drive, quiet location, low taxes. At a price you can afford \$32,500. Excl.



# Hold Easter *Mar 20/80* thank-offering

OTTERVILLE (C) — Rev. Wesley Ball, minister of the Thamesford United Church, was the guest speaker at the Easter Thank Offering meeting which was held in the Otterville United Church on Thursday evening. More than 70 ladies and men were present.

Mrs. W.S. Harris, president of the group, presided and opened the service reading "Prayer of Confession".

Mrs. Sam McSpadden was the convener of the meeting and Mrs. Jack Walther was the pianist.

Mrs. Ruth Colver, Mrs. Bertha Gehring, Mrs. Jean Caney and Mrs. Stella Hanson were the ushers.

Prior to the message Ms. Karen McSpadden sang a solo "The Stranger of Galilee". Choruses were sung throughout the service. The speaker gave an evangelistic message bearing out the title "Thanks For What."

Churches which were represented from out of town were Norwich United, Delhi United, Catholic Women's League, St. John's Otterville, Fellowship Baptist Otterville, and Springford United.

It was a full evening of fellowship, meditation. Following the service, all met in the school room where a bounteous lunch of

cookies, squares, tea and coffee was served.

The churches expressed appreciation for the service of inspiration and social time which they had enjoyed.

# Anniversary draw *Mar/80*

OTTERVILLE (C) — Bob Carney, owner of the Otter Valley Auctions Ltd. Main St. Otterville, and his wife Mrs. Carney have been in business in the village for the past five years. They sponsored a successful anniversary sale at their store last week and shoppers attending had the

opportunity of dropping their name in for a draw.

Those who were lucky were - Mrs. Philip Mahler - Aylmer; Karen Parson, Tillsonburg; Erma Dadurka - Delhi; Lila Freeland - Otterville; Esther Nold - LaSalette; Mrs. Bob Grant, Stratfordville; Mrs. Irvin Winn, Port Rowan; and Mary Knack, Langton.

# World prayer day well attended

OTTERVILLE (C) — World Day of Prayer service was held in the United Church on Friday, March 7, and was well attended. *1980*

The service was conducted by representatives from the three churches, the theme being, "Responsible Freedom."

Call to worship was given by Mrs. Stuart Harris and the service opened with the hymn, "From Greenland's Icy Mountain."

Introduction to prayer was given by Mrs. Fred Hill of the Baptist church and Scripture lesson was read by Mrs. Harold Durkee of St. John's Anglican Church. Hymn, "Jesus Shall Reign," was sung and prayer introduction was by Mrs.

Stuart Harris followed with a solo by Mrs. Jack Walther, "Did You Think To Pray This Morning."

Speaker for the service was Mrs. Murray Downing of Otterville United Church who spoke on "Responsible Freedom" which added much to the enrichment of the special service.

Dedication of the offering was by Mrs. Brian Davis of Otterville Baptist Church.

The service closed with the hymn "Take My Life and Let It Be." Benediction was given by Mrs. Fred Howse of St. John's Anglican Church.

The 1981 World Day of Prayer service will be held in St. John's Church, Otterville.

# St. John's Guild *1980*

OTTERVILLE (C) — St. John's Ladies Guild met at the home of Mrs. Violet Howse on Thursday March 20. *1980*

Mrs. Dorothy Durkee read the scripture. Mrs. Howse welcomed Mrs. Darling, our new minister's wife to our midst.

Roll call was answered with seven members

present. Minutes were read and approved. Correspondence was dealt with. Treasurer Mrs. McMullen gave her report. It was decided that we hold our Christmas Bazaar on Thursday Nov. 6 in the Parish Hall.

Next meeting will be held April 3 at the home of Mrs. Winnie Leach.

# Gordon Shearer elected Lions Club president

OTTERVILLE (C) — Regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the United Church basement on Monday evening, March 24; with Lion president, Bob Spek, presiding. *1980*

Dinner was served by the United Church Women. There were 51 present including four Grantham Lions, three Vittoria Lions, one Wainfleet Lion and three guests.

A letter of appreciation was received for past donations to the Lions School for the Deaf. They have now retired their large original debt.

In appreciation for helping with their annual chicken barbecues for the past eleven years, the Woodingford Auxiliary has invited the club to hold their first May dinner meeting as guests at their Lodge.

Arrangements have been completed to hold the annual ladies night in London on April 23 (Wednesday). This includes dinner and the Nana Mouskouri show.

Lion Doug Large of the Grantham Club introduced Lion District Deputy Jack Timlock who spoke promoting his candidacy for District Governor of A-2.

Lion Paul Wood has handed out car tickets for the Lions Club this fall. Executive meeting is changed to April 8 at 8 p.m. at the Lion Chief's home.

Selection of officers for the coming year resulted as follows: president, Gordon Shearer; 1st-Vice, Norm Fidlin; 2nd Vice, Colin Cope; 3rd Vice, Les Dickson; secretary, Colin Cope; treasurer, Murray Wardell; 2 yr. directors, Ed McFarland, Ron Kiddie; 1 year director, George Klosler, Don Miller; Past president, Bob Spek.

# Otterville takes NIHL consolation in sweep

Game one Sunday night saw Otterville beat Fisher Control 11-3.

The win gives Otterville their best of three consolation series two games to none.

Murray Roswell and C.D. Richardson led Otterville with three goals each.

Roy King had two goals. Gary Walters, Colin Hutchinson and Doug Beattie scored the other Otterville goals.

## BEST OF THREE CONSOLATION SERIES

W L P

Otterville 2 0 4

Fisher Control 0 2 0

Otterville wins series 2-0.

three in the best of five final between ICL and the Norwich Greenshirts. Game

time is 7 p.m. Admission is \$1, children 12 and under get in free.

## GENERAL MEETING

### OTTERVILLE MINOR BALL

### 'ELECTION OF EXECUTIVES'

In planning for the 1980 season

Monday, March 31st, 8 p.m.

— at the fire hall

PLEASE ATTEND

35 YEARS AGO  
MARCH 29th 1945

On March 22, members of the Norwich and Otterville platoons of the Oxford Rifles enjoyed a delicious banquet dinner in the township hall at Otterville. This dinner was prepared and served by the ladies of the Yotto Metus Club.

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the Sunshine Club was held at the home of Mrs. Jean Dow on Thursday evening. The president Mrs. Audrey Harrison presided.

During the business it was decided that Court Whist would be the program for the next meeting which will be held at the home of Mrs. Sandra Hussey. It was also decided to hold a Lawn Sale in June. In keeping with St. Patrick's Day a cake was made on which tickets were sold. Helen Day held the lucky ticket.

Members expressed appreciation for the pleasant time spent.



MARCH 12 T. NEWS

# Dam '10 years down road'

By SUZANNE HANSON

Following a field trip to the site of the proposed Tillsonburg dam and discussion with the Long Point Region Conservation Authority's Resource Manager Phil Hale, the Township of Norwich council decided Monday to defer a decision on whether to support or oppose the proposal until more information can be obtained.

The dam, first proposed in 1957, would be built on a site upstream from Tillsonburg on the Big Otter Creek near the Tillsonburg-Norwich Township boundary. A London planning firm, James F. MacLaren Ltd., has undertaken a feasibility study at the request of Tillsonburg. Mr. Hale said the LPRCA is responsible for the study and is paying the bills for it. He said Tillsonburg is carrying the one-third of the cost not covered by provincial grants, however.

Tillsonburg favors construction of the dam to provide an increased water supply and an easterly access to the town along the top of the dam, said Mr. Hale. There would also be some limited flood control benefits

and water for irrigation purposes. The dam's reservoir would also provide a new recreational area as well as augmenting stream flow during the summer.

The town would stand to gain the most by the construction of the dam, with the increased water supply and the easterly access to the town, said Mr. Hale. There would be minimal benefit to the Township of Norwich in the form of water for irrigation. This is not a very high priority, he said, as the farming practices at this point in the township do not make major use of irrigation.

The benefit of the flood control provided by the dam would benefit everyone from Tillsonburg on down, said Mr. Hale.

He strongly emphasized that the study being done is purely a feasibility study to determine whether the dam would resolve the problems.

"The study is not intended to justify something we want to build," he said.

If the dam should prove to be feasible, and

he stressed the "if," Mr. Hale said the history of other dams would indicate that it would be 10 years down the road.

"Tillsonburg doesn't need the water supply until 1990, so that is no problem" said Mr. Hale.

Following the feasibility study, the next stage will be an environmental assessment study on the impact of the dam on the environment. That would be followed by a preliminary engineering study to determine the amount of land that would be under water, the flow of the dam and the overall impact on the area.

Mr. Hale stressed that nothing has been decided on the proposal. At this point, all that is being looked at are costs and benefits - the costs of construction, the benefits to be obtained from such construction and whether they warrant the construction of a dam.

Members of Norwich Township council had earlier voiced concern about the impact the dam would have on large portions of wildlife areas in the township.

# Board refuses to reconsider Springford school twinning

MARCH 12, 1980 T. NEWS

By SUZANNE HANSON

The controversial issue of the Springford school may have been decided once and for all in the opinion of the Oxford County Board of Education, but the Springford ratepayers are not prepared to give up the fight to keep their school open.

In a last ditch effort to save the school, the Springford Home and School Association asked the Board of Education Monday night to reconsider the twinning of Otterville and Springford public schools as an alternative to closing Springford to include it in the \$1.3 million consolidated school to be built in the southern end of the county.

The board voted not to give the proposal any further consideration having rejected the proposal in October on the basis of a feasibility report by the administration.

Although the board's trustees had looked favorably on a proposal to bring Springford students together with Otterville students in the Otterville public school, the Home and School Association was not willing to accept that alternative. It is just another form of consolidation, said the association's spokesperson Nancy Lester. The association wants the 19-year-old Springford school to be kept open and utilized.

"I'm sorry the Otterville people did not have the opportunity to look at putting all the kids into Otterville," said Zorra Trustee Bruce McLeod. "That might have been an alternative to look at and I'm upset it hasn't been looked at. The only alternative you've

come up with is to say that Springford school must stay open."

Norwich Trustee Helen Dickson said she was really enthusiastic about twinning eight or nine months ago.

"Since then I've done quite a bit of investigating on my own and I'm convinced twinning is really just a stop-gap measure until the students are accommodated in one school or the other," she said.

She said she could go along with twinning for a year or two, "but what's the point?" Otterville will not be changed. It will need to be updated and it won't be. Then it is too late for Springford to be included in the consolidated school, she said.

The board must be sensitive to the needs and desires of the people, but its primary concern must be for the education of the

children, said Blandford-Blenheim Trustee Gow Harvey.

"I'm not just talking about the students from Springford but of all the rest of the schools, including Otterville," he said.

"I beg of the Springford people to support whatever school does come out of this as strongly as they have Springford," he said.

Trustee Wilma Boughtflower was concerned about the increased busing for both Otterville and Springford students under the twinning proposal.

"I cannot support the twinning proposal," she said. "I think this matter has been dealt with fairly and has been given a lot of consideration."

The board has said, in effect, that the Springford school will be part of the consolidated school plan, said board Chairman Ron Doney. But the Springford

residents are not prepared to give up on the 15-month long fight to save their school.

Mrs. Lester said the residents will regroup to decide on their next course of action. She said the Education Minister Bette Stephenson will also be contacted regarding the issue.

Although a site for the proposed consolidated school to be built near Tillsonburg has not yet been selected, four trustees were appointed to a building committee to begin the search for an architect to design the school. Mr. Doney said a site for the school should be selected within two months.

The consolidated school will include students from Rotary Westmount, Delmer-Culloden, Ostrander and Springford schools. It is hoped the school will be open for classes by September, 1981.

## Offer accepted

MARCH 12 N.G.

The offer by the Township of Norwich to purchase the seven acres of land north of the community centre, has been accepted by the Associated Financial Services Ltd.

The proposed use for the

parcel of land known as the Anderson property, will eventually be for industrial purposes, said Mayor Jack Burn. The title for the land, purchased for \$40,500, is now being searched and should be clear in 10 days.

## Contract awarded for construction

MARCH 12 N.G.

A contract has been awarded by Norwich Township council for the construction of facilities at the North Court Park in Norwich.

Quotations ranging from \$21,400 to \$28,848 were received from four different firms and the lowest tender

of \$21,400 made by Latos Construction of Tillsonburg was accepted. A six-week completion date is expected from the time the project gets underway.

The facilities at the park will include washrooms, a storage building and a concession stand.



# Parents suggest twinning of Otterville, Springford schools

BY SUZANNE HANSON

The twinning of Springford and Otterville public schools has been presented to the Oxford County board of education as an alternative to the closure of the Springford school.

The Springford Home and School Association, following meetings with board representatives and area residents, prepared a report outlining the proposal and presented it to the board on March 5. The report will be discussed at the board's regular meeting on March 10.

"The report represents a compromise position which would twin the Springford public school with the neighboring Otterville public school," said Nancy Lester, a member of the Springford Home and School Association.

By twinning the two schools, the association hopes the Springford school would be allowed to operate as a primary school for kindergarten to Grade 3 and

Otterville as a junior and intermediate school for Grades 4 to 8.

The proposal has been presented to parents and residents of both communities and was favorably received, said Mrs. Lester. Of the 125 people who attended a meeting on the matter in Springford, 93 per cent were in favor. Of the 117 who attended a similar meeting in Otterville, 56 per cent were in favor of the proposed alternative.

There is less support for the proposal in Otterville, said Mrs. Lester, as it is the first time the idea has been presented to them.

She said the board will be discussing the proposal at its meeting Monday night but she is not sure if a vote will be taken to accept or reject it.

A committee made up of representatives of the Springford Home and School Association and members of the board of education met in February to discuss the alternatives to closing the Springford school and including it in the proposed \$1.3 million

consolidated school to be built near Tillsonburg.

At that meeting it was suggested that all Springford students be sent to Otterville public school. This would still mean the closure of the Springford school, however, and the home and school association took the matter back to the Springford residents for further discussion, said Mrs. Lester. It was then the idea of twinning the two schools was re-introduced.

The twinning proposal was first presented as an alternative to the board last year but was rejected by the trustees in October on the basis on a report prepared by the board's administration.

The home and school association feels twinning the two schools would make efficient use of both facilities and collecting students of the same grade level would prove educationally sound. It would also allow both communities to continue the operation of their small, rural schools.

Letters to  
the editor

## : Continuing fight

MAR 12  
T.N.

The Editor:

The Springford Home & School Association called a meeting of members and ratepayers in the Springford School area on Feb. 28, 1980 and asked them to indicate their choice of three alternatives, i.e.,

- 1) twinning of Otterville and Springford schools
- 2) consolidated school in Otterville
- 3) consolidated school in Tillsonburg.

Ninety-three per cent favoured twinning with Otterville, 5.5 per cent favoured the consolidated school in Tillsonburg.

Accordingly, since the Oxford County Board of Education had never shown any initiative by going to Otterville to discuss twinning with the people there, as was suggested by the Minister of Education at a meeting in her office in June of last year, the Springford Home and School Association did go to the Otterville School area parents and ratepayers on March 4, 1980 with the proposal of twinning, at which time 57 per cent of the families represented voted in favour of further consideration of twinning the Otterville and Springford schools.

Based on the aforementioned information, the Springford Home and School Association submitted a 3½ page report to the Board of Education for inclusion in the agenda for its March 10 regular meeting, wherein a request was again made that the Board investigate the possibility of twinning the Otterville and Springford schools, with community involvement. The Board refused this request at its last night meeting. The Springford H & S members and ratepayers were disappointed, but certainly not surprised, by the actions of our County Board last night. It was evident once again that our local trustees are insensitive to the wishes of the people who elected them. Discussions with several trustees prior to last night's meeting led us to believe that the Director of Education had once again been hard at work playing his sixteen-string banjo. We are frustrated by the fact that no one has come out with any real good reasons why the twinning proposal cannot work, when we had been led to believe on more than one occasion by the Director of Education that twinning was a possible alternative to the closure of the twenty-year old, six-room Springford Public School.

The Springford area people left last

night's Oxford County Board of Education meeting with a clear conscience and the satisfaction that we have and will continue to work to maintain our Springford School which has and can serve the educational, social, and emotional needs of our children better than a large, new, more impersonal, consolidated school.

The Board has constantly maintained that it is most concerned about the quality of education it can provide for the students. In that, at least, we agree. We feel, however, that without parent and community involvement in education, the school facilities and programs are of no importance. Our local Board and many other public school boards in Ontario seem to be of the opinion that if they only had enough money they could cure all the ills of society through special programs. It is our feeling that Boards of Public Education in general must learn to use the parents and the community in the education of children, rather than to ignore their requests and attempt to usurp the authority of concerned parents.

Barbara Wilson, Member,  
Springford Home and  
School Association



# Sugar Bush: an old art gone modern



When subsistence farming was predominant, the operation of a sugar bush was a small-scale activity requiring a great deal of time and labor. The syrup, toffee and sugar that early Canadian settlers made with maple sap was used for household consumption. But in the middle of the twentieth century, this seasonal activity began to expand and became an additional source of income for the farmer.

The origin of maple syrup production is not well known. According to historical accounts, however, Indians collected and boiled maple sap before the first Europeans arrived in America. Their methods were primitive; equipment consisted of axes (for tapping), wooden troughs and spouts, and birch-bark containers.

This art of "sugar-making", handed down from one generation to the next, constitutes a rich Canadian heritage. Approximately 70 per cent of the world's maple syrup is produced in Canada, with the other 30 per cent being produced in the United States.

Last year, 14 million trees were tapped in Canada, and in 1979 this figure will likely increase to almost 15 million. And still, only 20 per cent of the nation's sugar-bush potential is exploited.

In 1978 Canada produced 1.6 million gallons (7,315 kilolitres) of maple syrup, more than half of which was exported to the United States.

Quebec holds the monopoly in the maple products industry. The province has the finest maple stands in the world and a climate well suited to production. Quebec supplies 92 per cent of Canada's entire production, with Ontario, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick sharing the remainder. The Beauce and the Eastern Townships

are the main producing areas and have large numbers of sugar maples — also called rock maples. The sap of this variety has the highest sugar content. Next in order of sweetness are the red maple, silver maple and black maple.

The techniques of extracting and processing maple sap remained unchanged for more than a century. Then, stimulated by the post-war economic boom, the maple products industry made great strides after the 1950s.

However, a shortage of labor and marketing problems subsequently produced ups and downs and several sugar bushes fell into disuse.

The production of maple products has been on the decline for the last 15 years. But with the creation of the International Maple Syrup Institute, the industry has gained new life in recent years. Producers are showing new interest in this natural resource, and an increasing number who are concerned with product quality are replacing outdated equipment with modern facilities.

The objective of the institute is to promote and standardize the quality of maple products. The institute, which is subsidized by the governments of Quebec, Canada and the United States, now has more than 15,000 members. It has played a major role in developing new grading standards recently adopted by the Fruit and Vegetable Division of Agriculture Canada. These new regulations are designed to promote the marketing of maple products and make them more attractive to consumers.

The institute also has adopted a symbol showing half a maple leaf, a bucket, a spout and a drop of sap. The symbol, which constitutes a guarantee of quality

and uniformity, was launched to stimulate supply and demand. Since the symbol can be placed only on products that meet the stringent quality standards of the institute, it attests that a product is genuine. In addition to stimulating consumer interest and increasing volume of sales, the symbol also prompts producers and processors to increase production and improve techniques.

As a result, vacuum pumping systems which use tubing from tree to collecting vat have begun to replace traditional methods of sap extraction in many sugar bushes. The number of trees on which the new system is used has doubled in the past year. Vacuum pumping is now the method by which sap is collected from 25 per cent of all maples tapped in Canada.

Although this system requires a large initial outlay, the high costs are quickly offset by the benefits. Vacuum pumping is more sanitary and more efficient and requires less labor. It is possible to extract a greater amount of sap from maples without affecting their growth. In addition, trees can be tapped earlier in the spring so the sugar bush is more profitable and production more even.

There is no doubt that the efforts spent in developing the maple products industry have produced good results. But the natural factors on which early settlers placed emphasis have not changed

and continue to have a bearing on the yield and quality of the product.

It still takes between 35 and 40 gallons of sap to make one gallon of maple syrup. And weather conditions in the month preceding tapping, the condition of the soil, freshness of sap at evaporating time, the cycle of freezing at night and thawing in the day during the tapping period, and the efficiency of management are still basic to maple syrup production.

Demand for maple products is still strong and it should increase if high standards of quality and marketing structures are maintained. For its part, the institute is exploring new commercial markets. Japan, for example, could become a major customer in the near future.

Because of the vast undeveloped potential and the progress through research, the future looks promising for the industry. Scenes of a child sipping maple sap from a bucket or of a horse pulling a full barrel through scenic woodland may already belong to a colorful past, but the end product still remains a unique treat.



# RETIREMENT IS

By Allan Upshall

In recent years, many industries and governmental offices have provided courses or seminars for their employees to help them to prepare for life after retirement. Many of Ontario's Community Colleges, universities and secondary schools and many public libraries offer similar courses to the public at nominal rates.

Interest in preparing for retirement is relatively new because retirement itself is an event which was scarcely known a few generations ago. Our grandfathers, and in many cases our fathers, worked all their lives. Pension plans were hardly known. Old Age Security and the Canada Pension Plan didn't exist.

The following facts from the "Report of the Special Senate Committee on Retirement Age Policies" illustrate how much progress has been made in the last half-century.

- 1927 — Old Age Pension started — \$20.00 per month — payable at age 70 — subject to a means test — payable only to British subjects resident in Canada for 20 years.
- 1949 — Old Age Pension — \$40.00 per month — still with means test.
- 1952 — Old Age Security became effective — no means test — easier residence requirements — paid as a right to those 70 and over — \$40.00 remained constant until 1957.
- 1964 — Old Age Security — \$75.00 per month at age 70 — Old Age Assistance paid from age 65 to 69 subject to an income test.
- 1965 — Old Age Security indexed to Consumer Price Index annually to a limit of 2 per cent.
- 1966 — Commencing this year age for Old Age Security was reduced one year at a time until it reached 65 in 1970.
- 1966 — The Canada Pension Plan began.

1967 — The Guaranteed Income Supplement began, subject to an income test.

1973 — Old Age Security was fully indexed to Consumer Price Index — later in same year indexing was done on a quarterly basis.

1974 — Ontario started Guaranteed Annual Income System.

1975 — Spouses Allowance for persons 60 to 64 — married to a recipient of Old Age Security — subject to income test.

If you live in a city, town or village that has no course in retirement, get a group together and start one. A school, a service club or a Royal Canadian Legion branch will very likely give you assistance in finding a suitable room in which to meet, and in approaching the professional people to give the instruction.

Two evening hours a week for six or seven weeks will go quite a way towards making men and women who are nearing retirement aware of the adjustments that they are facing, and giving them some suggestions about increasing the enjoyment of their later years.



## Editorial Opinion

# Otterville has potential

From time to time the Gazette features particular areas in the township in stories and pictures. This week focuses on Otterville.

There is a lot of potential in Otterville for it to be once again the thriving community it was in its early days. Whether or not that potential will ever be fully realized remains to be seen.

The residents of that area have taken a major step in ensuring the future vitality of that community and it was pleasing to see such community support when the residents rallied around to push for the preservation of the Treffry mill property through public ownership.

However, if they succeed in persuading the Long Point Region Conservation Authority to purchase the mill property for public use, they should not stop there.

There must be continued and active community support for the project, not only spiritually but financially if the property is to be properly developed and maintained.

The South Norwich Historical Society has bravely offered to take on the responsibility for the upkeep of the property - a major undertaking for a small organization - and the operation of the mill in whatever manner is decided to be appropriate. The society would therefore depend to a great extent on the support of the community on an on-going basis.

But Otterville needs more than a historic mill that

would, it is hoped, bring in tourists to restore the town's vitality.

The mill development should be part of a package that encompasses the park, the Woodlawn Centre and any other points of interest in the immediate area. The downtown area could also be dressed up to be more appealing to those passing through. Much could be learned from the example of Elora, a small town near Kitchener that has benefited greatly from the tourist traffic coming to view the gorge.

Elora has not, however, relied solely on the gorge to bring the people. It has also given its downtown area a facelift - rebuilding and renovating the existing businesses - and catering to the tourist's fancy for purchasing hand crafted, antique and souvenir items.

A little lumber and nails and a few coats of paint could go a long way in improving the appearance of downtown Otterville. There are many attractive highlights in the town - why not make the most of them.

There is always talk on how appealing Otterville was during its sesquicentennial celebrations years ago. Why not work together to come up with an overall improvement project that will again make Otterville a place that tourists won't be able to resist? Once word is out what an attractive place Otterville is, people are bound to come, particularly if there are places to see and facilities for them.

# Township had deficit in 1979

By SUZANNE HANSON

In spite of an operating deficit of \$83,086 in 1979, Norwich Township council must be commended on its attempts to keep its expenditures under control, said Ed Aitken in his auditor's report to council Monday.

The interest charges on the temporary borrowings of council account for \$40,000 of the deficit, he said. The other major portion of the deficit was accounted for by the road subsidy of about \$40,000 that did not come in from the

government as had been expected.

Mr. Aitken pointed out that although there was a deficit at the end of 1979, council had picked up \$95,000 of the 1978 deficit and reduced it by about \$12,000.

Mr. Aitken's report showed that while the township's revenues were \$3,705,106, its expenditures were \$3,788,192, accounting for the deficit of \$83,086.

A large part of the deficit resulting from interest charges is due to the interest on money borrowed to

finance the construction of municipal drains.

The interest costs were up on the municipal drain loans, Mr. Aitken said. "The rate was fixed when the drains were debentured but the interest didn't stay fixed. No one could foresee the time when interest rates would go up to 18 per cent when a rate of 12 per cent was put in place."

Councillor Roger Orth said the user should pay more of the cost of the construction of the drains. "The rest of the taxpayers are paying the

interest on these drains."

The taxable assessment in the township in 1979 was \$17,656,625, up \$398,000 over 1978, said Mr. Aitken. The township receives 32 per cent of that assessment, the county 10 per cent and the boards of education 53 per cent. An additional five per cent goes for telephone and telegraph taxation. The total taxation for 1979 was \$3,077,777.

The collection rate for 1979 taxes was 93-94 per cent, which is not much different than other municipalities,

said Mr. Aitken.

In his analysis of the township's expenditures, for 1979, Mr. Aitken found that the general government expenditures for members of council and general costs of administration were \$422,920, up from \$294,437 in 1978. This was due to increases in interest on temporary borrowings, increased legal fees, salaries and taxes allowed and rebated.

Under Protection to Persons and Property, the expenditures were up to

\$288,557 from \$265,705 in 1978. In Transportation Services, expenditures were down to \$696,433 from \$742,866. This was mainly because there were no major road expenditures in 1979.

In the area of Environmental Services, the expenditures were up to \$55,233 from \$51,623 in 1978 and Health Service, which include the medical centre and cemeteries, were up slightly to \$18,941 from \$18,932.



# Octagonal house has practical use

By SUZANNE HANSON

The Woodlawn Adult Community Centre in Otterville is one example of how a historic building can be put to a practical use in the community.

The octagonal house, which now sits on the site of the first church in the area, the Quaker Church (1819-1903) at the west end of Otterville, is actively used by the senior citizens of the area.

The Otterville Leisure Club meets at the centre once a week and other groups such as the Women's Institute and the Historical Society are also regular users of the facility. Families hold their Christmas parties and family get-togethers such as anniversary parties there as well.

Although the centre is well-used by the community, said the treasurer of the Leisure Club Fred Cole, of Otterville, there are still many days that it is vacant and available for the use of community or family groups.

Several alterations have been made in the structure's interior in order to accommodate the new use but the basic design of the building still remains.

In an age of energy consciousness, architects might do well to look to the example of this house built by Thomas Wright in 1861.

Mr. Wright, then a wood-turner in Milldale, built this house of unusual structure supposedly based on a theory put forth by Dr. Orson Fowler in a book he wrote in 1853.

The book, "The Octagonal House—A Home for All", encouraged people to be their own architects and emphasized the practicality of octagonal dwellings.

Dr. Fowler, who disliked square forms, argued that an eight-sided structure was far more beautiful. On the practical side, he pointed out that octagonal dwellings contain one-fifth more room than rectangular buildings and they require fewer steps for housework. With central heating, the house is easier to heat more efficiently and it makes greater use of the sun's rays with a window in all eight sides.

Mr. Wright, an Irish immigrant who first settled in London, married a Quaker girl from Milldale. They, with their family moved to

Milldale from London in 1853. Mr. Wright was so influenced by Dr. Fowler's book that he built an eight-sided house based on Dr. Fowler's design.

His structure, however, had a major innovation. Mr. Wright built an extension or to the house which provided the traditional woodshed and summer kitchen. However, it was so designed that the house still had windows on all eight sides.

The house, named Woodlawn Place by Mr. Wright, was occupied by him and his family until the turn of the century. In 1911 it was purchased by John Oddy who lived in it with his family until he died in 1959 and the house was left vacant.

Then, virtually forgotten, the house fell into disrepair

and such was its state when Mr. and Mrs. McKay Davis purchased the property in 1969. In the spring of 1975, a group of local citizens took an interest in the house and the McKay family decided to donate the structure to the Township of Norwich for restoration.

A new site was found for the house and it was moved,

in three pieces, to the west end of Otterville.

In 1977 the renovations were complete and the centre was established as a permanent activity centre for the senior citizens of the area. More than 100 years after it was constructed, Thomas Wright's uniquely-designed house still proves its usefulness.

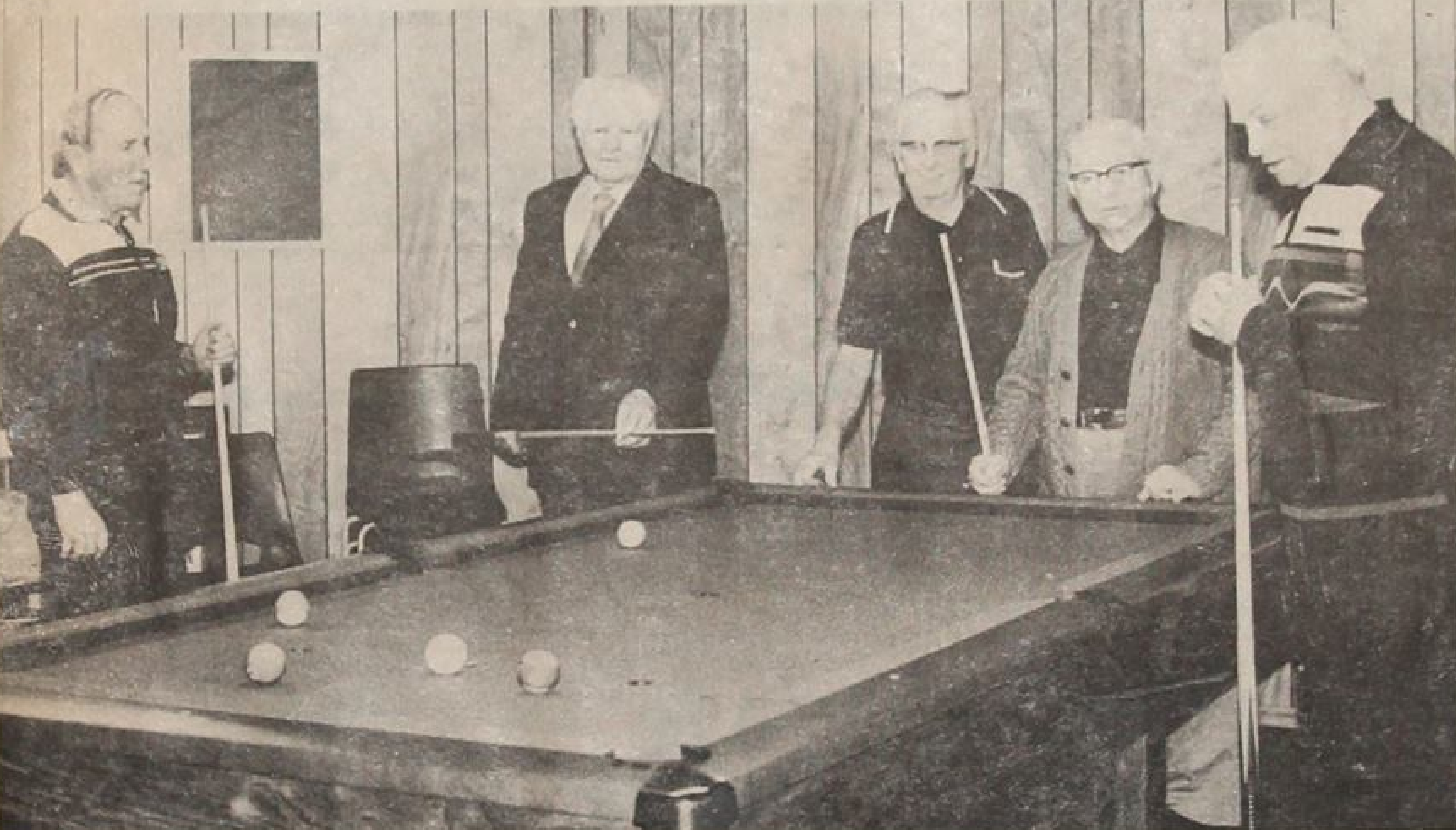
## Woodlawn centre has busy year

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Advisory Board of Woodlawn Adult Centre met recently at the centre in Otterville for their first meeting of 1980.

A review of 1979 business showed a busy year for the Centre, with many organizations using the facilities for meetings, Fanshawe College holding sewing and quilting courses, several families gathering there for Christmas parties as well as the South Norwich Historical Society providing a luncheon for 80 people in connection with a one-day conference held in the area

last November by the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee.

Besides the usual utility expenditures, the Woodlawn Advisory Board pays the general maintenance of the Centre. In 1979 this included the painting of the exterior of the house and the provision for storm screen windows for the basement. These expenditures are met by donations to the board. It is, therefore hoped for a full schedule of uses for the house in 1980. Fred Cole of Otterville has once again kindly offered to look after the reservations.



### Pool sharks

This bunch of pool sharks are members of the Otterville Leisure Club who meet once a week at the Woodlawn Adult

Community Centre located at the west end of Otterville once known as Erbtown.



Woodlawn Adult Community Centre located to the east end of Otterville, is a unique and rare example of the octagonal house promoted by Dr. Orson Fowler in 1853. The house is now a permanent activity centre for the Otterville Leisure Club.



# Township has no duty to maintain roadway

On the advice of its solicitor, Norwich Township council decided Monday to advise Suzanne Denys, of RR 3, Tillsonburg, that the township does not have a duty to maintain the roadway passing under the Conrail railway line on the Denys property.

The road was never assumed as a township road, said Mayor Jack Burn, so there is no duty on the part of council to maintain the road.

Violet DeDobbelaere had come before council in February on behalf of her mother, Mrs. Denys, to request council's assistance in constructing an improved access under the railway line crossing her property, Lot 21, Concession 10, in the former Township of South Norwich, near Cornell.

At present there is no way to get through the tunnel with large farm equipment, said Mrs. DeDobbelaere. The main access to the south end of the farm is through the tunnel. Mrs. DeDobbelaere claimed the township owned the roadway and should therefore be responsible for its upkeep and assisting with the construction of the tunnel.

A representative of the Canadian Transport Commission told council in February the cost of the tunnel construction would be about \$30,000.

Council referred the matter at that time to a solicitor for advice on the ownership of the roadway and council's responsibility in the matter.

## Annual bus trip planned by historical society

The South Norwich Historical Society met at Woodlawn with a good number in attendance on April 14. <sup>180</sup>

The minutes of the previous regular and executive meetings were read by Catherine Mann. Marj Pearce presented the treasurer's report.

President Rick Singer reported on the Treffry Mill property stating it was a low priority on the Long Point Conservation agenda.

A tentative date of Saturday June 14 was set for the annual bus trip this year to the Octagonal jail and Museum in Goderich and the Ben Miller Mill near Goderich.

Joyce Pettigrew read the

correspondence which included a letter from a Hamilton Heritage group visiting this area on Friday, May 2; excerpts from Dr. Cooper's history of Negroes in this area; excerpts from the Ontario Historical Bulletin pertaining to the November conference at Innisfree and a letter from the Ontario Historical Society regarding future workshops and seminars, also a letter from a Real Estate company advising of heritage homes and properties for sale in Ontario.

It was decided to leave the exact date for the unveiling of the Mice Plaque up to the committee in charge. Possible dates are June 28 to

July 1.

The next regular meeting is May 12 at Woodlawn with the guest speaker from the Long Point Conservation Authority.

The meeting adjourned and Boyd Little introduced Brian Rice through those efforts the school museum at Burgessville became a reality.

Mr. Rice gave a very informative talk on early education, followed by the showing of slides on the history of South Norwich Schools. A display of early educational artifacts were available for all to peruse. Mr. Rice was presented with a small token of appreciation. Refreshments were served and a social time followed.

## Bluebirds mark birthday

OTTERVILLE (C) — The members of the Happy Bluebird Club held the April meeting at the home of Mrs. Jenny Mitchell in Norwich on Tuesday, April 29. There was a good attendance.

The president Mrs. Daisy Ash presided and welcomed the members and visitor, and opened the meeting with the Housewives Creed followed with "The Lord's Prayer." The members joined in singing "The Bluebird Song."

The roll call was responded to with the members reading a clipping from the newspaper. Mrs. Douglas Carroll who has recently moved to their new home in Norwich invited the members to her home for the May meeting.

This meeting was a special

event as it was the 32nd birthday of the club. Much credit was given to Mrs. Ash who has held the presidency on several elections of officers through the years and though the membership is much smaller through the years still the few do stay together and the club was rightly named for "The Happy Bluebirds."

Mrs. Lillian Morris gave a reading "Fear Knocked at the Door, Faith Answered."

Mrs. Ida Rachar who has been absent from the club through illness was graciously welcomed to the meeting.

Mrs. Mitchell was assisted in serving a dainty lunch for the social hour to which Mrs. Lillian Morris thanked the hostess for the pleasant time spent.



### War memorial

This cairn, located at the entrance to the Lions' park in Otterville, was erected in 1932 as a memorial to those who fought in the First World War.

## Lions club members major park supporters

One of the busiest places around on a summer day is the South Norwich Lions Community Park located north of Otterville, across the Otter River.

With much assistance from the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club, the park and its facilities have been operated by the community since 1891. The Lions' Club has contributed a "lion's share" of the cost of that operation and the cost of improving the park over the years.

It was around the turn of the century that Robert Paxton applied for the charter to start the Otter Park Company, selling shares in it at \$1 each. The money was used to clear an acre of land and build a footbridge across the Otter River to the park. Later 10 more acres were added.

July 1, 1949 saw the opening of the pool as a memorial to the Second World War and the 1940's also saw the construction of tennis courts and floodlights for the ball diamond.

The wading pool at the park was replaced in 1977 and an addition was built onto the north side of the pavilion by the Lions Club. Four new bleachers were also constructed at the park and new picnic tables were purchased in 1979.

The Otterville Sunshine Club has also added a variety of playground apparatus to the park for the enjoyment of the children.

The two ball diamonds at the park see a lot of action in the summer with an active minor ball program in the town. Swimming lessons are available at the pool in July

from the Red Cross Society and the Lions Club continues to operate a bus to bring children from Otterville, Norwich, Springford and Burgessville to the pool during the summer months.

June and July are very busy months at the park for family picnics and get-togethers. Often there are four or five different picnics on a weekend with people coming from all over to use the park facilities—some of the nicest in the area.

The park even saw its first wedding last year as a young couple who had searched all over for a suitable place to get married finally settled on the Otterville park as the ideal location.

The Norwich-Otterville Lions Club responsible for much of the park's upkeep, is the oldest joint club in Canada, having been formed in 1937. *APRIL 18, 1955*

## Rummage sale held by WI

Following the annual April meeting of the Otterville Women's Institute, the members received and displayed donated clothing for the Rummage Sale which was held on Saturday morning in the Otterville Community Hall.

There were not quite so many shoppers as had been other years however the clerks were kept on the move and a satisfactory sum was realized at the desk.

Appreciation was given to Mrs. William A. McMullen

who convened a period for tea and cookies following the sales.

Many fine comments were heard among the shoppers as they took a good study of the remodelling of the Otterville Community Hall.

Mrs. Iris Czinkota of Sioux Lookout, Warden of the Rebekah Assembly of Ont. I.O.O.F., spent several days with Mrs. Wilma Butler while making her official visits to the Rebekah Lodges in this district.

### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

APRIL 1955

Otterville - Two stained glass windows were unveiled by Miss Edna Furlong at St. John's Anglican Church on Sunday morning.



# Recalls Otterville canning plant history

Otterville has had many thriving businesses over the years. A focal point in the area because of its location on the Otter River, the community evolved around the mills located on the river.

Other industries followed, among them the Tip Top Cannery in later years. The following account of the history of Tip Top Cannery was presented by William McMullen Sr. at a recent meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society.

In 1924 and 1925, Otterville had some industry such as the Otterville Manufacturing Company, which was manufacturing hand corn planters, piano stools, small tables etc. Also, the Tredrite Shoe Company which made a complete line of men's and women's shoes as well as the famous "Bunny Foot" for children.

There were a number of shops featuring the different trades such as Ruben Springay who was grinding chop and making some flour; Charles Forman Electric and Bicycle Shop; Addison Carriage Works which had turned to doing garage work, and Jack Tomblin who was shoeing horses and blacksmithing as well as some work on cars, although Jack was not much of an automobile mechanic.

In 1924 - 1925 Doc Bell who was a retired farmer living in Otterville and selling some real estate, learned that Hyslops of Greenville were planning on setting up another factory in the old Bell plant in St. George. After some negotiations, he persuaded them to build a factory in Otterville.

The Hyslops were canning tomatoes in Greenville before 1925. The building they were in was an old Brewery at one time, and Hyslop made fruit baskets there before they started canning tomatoes. David Hyslop told me when they started, they peddled canned tomatoes from store to store in Hamilton. In this way they built up a market.

The new factory was called "Otterville Cannery" during the first years, and later became "Tip Top Cannery". This made three factories - one at Burlington canning fruit and jam; one at Greenville canning peas and tomatoes; and the new one at Otterville canning peas, green beans, tomatoes, corn, pumpkins, carrots, beets and apples.

A great deal of interest was aroused in this venture as it meant jobs for local people and also as a chance for local farmers to sell some cash crops.

Work was started on the new building as soon as the frost was out of the ground. I remember Sam Treffry, Jack Wilson and others cutting the tall pines on the property and pulling out the stumps and grading the ground to get ready for the foundations.

Frank Quinn was hired as manager; Lorne Husted as foreman; and Sam McBride, a millwright, was in charge of building and installing machinery. All three men came from Port Dover. Some of the first men hired were: Norm Pickersgill, Ken Griffin, John Cole, Steve Sapelak, Elam Snyder, Jim Peacock, Herb Bean and Ruben Springay.

During construction, it was necessary to put up a smoke stack. This job fell to Jim Wardle who had the job of standing a steel pipe, three feet in diameter and 60 feet long, up on a brick base 20 feet high. Many people came to watch this job being done. The steel pipe weighed 4,360 pounds.

At that time all heavy machinery came in on the train such as boilers, engine, viners, etc. Charles Daiken trucked a lot of the smaller machines such as recleaners, bucket conveyors, blanchers, etc. which were manufactured by Huntley Manufacturing in Tillsonburg. This plant (the Huntley plant) was in the old brick part of the present Livingston's plant.

The first year, the Company had only two viners, so they must have had 150 - 175 acres of peas the first year; a viner handles about 75 acres per season.

Canning started the last week in June and lasted until November, apples being the last thing canned.

Cans came in box cars. They were stacked in tiers and unloaded with can forks. Each can fork picked up about 14 cans at a time and placed them on a track in the car which went from there to the can filler in the factory. Three or four people would be unloading cans and they were really busy for as the car became empty, cans had to be carried from the end of the car to the centre. Help was always worked out so that no one had time to rest, but there was always a way. Just put three or four cans on the track the wrong way. When they arrived at the filler and seamer wrong side up, they would jam up in the machine and you could get a few minutes rest. But, when questioned, no one ever did it. You would lose your job if caught because there was no shortage of help and no unemployment insurance.

In 1926 two more viners were installed and also another steam engine. Then in 1929, two more viners were added making a total of six viners. Then about 1948, four more viners were installed at Holbrook making a total of ten machines. This meant 750 to 800 acres of peas could be handled. By this time, 90 to 100 cans a minute were being canned, plus the 110-ounce cans for hotels and restaurant trade.

Threshing peas started at 6:30 in the morning and canning started at 7 a.m.; and went on until 10 at night, some nights being as late as 11. This meant 1 a.m. before the cans arrived at the warehouse. Days were long and hot as the heat radiating off the canning machines and cookers and boilers kept the temperature and humidity high all day.

People would call around in the evening to see what was going on and to talk. I think the worst time of the day was when these people left and darkness fell - it made you feel alone as no one came to talk. Everyone was tired and if you sat down you went to sleep. When you woke, you felt as though you had slept for hours.

About 600 tons of coal was used per season, all unloaded by hand, wheeled to the boiler room by hand and fired by hand. This also made about 60 tons of ash to be handled by hand per season.

Some of the wage rates in the 30's were as follows: 1931 - 15 cents to 40 cents per hour; 1939 - 22 cents to 40 cents per hour; 1948 - 40 cents to 75 cents per hour; 1951 - 75 cents to 85 cents per hour and 10 per cent bonus.

A shipment of tomatoes went to Victoria Hospital in London and soon word came back that there were flies in the tomatoes. Ed Turner, Fred Furlong and myself were detailed to go up and see how serious this was. Turner tried to tell the man that it was impossible for flies to be in the tomatoes, so he sent for the dietician who brought a can with her. When it was opened, it produced a number of fruit flies. The dietician refused to accept the shipment as she explained they had a number of patients in the hospital just looking for something to complain about. Fred agreed to have the truck pick up the tomatoes and send some from another day's pack to replace them. This solved the problem.

At first, most corn canned was Stoles Evergreen. This was white corn on large ears. Golden Bantam corn was not popular and was hard to sell. I remember a carload of

Bantam corn went out labelled "Wentworth Brand". It came back, and the labels were all torn off and relabelled with another label. This seemed to solve the problem with Wentworth Brand corn. The label seemed to sell the product.

In the first years of canning corn, all husking was done by hand. The corn shed would be full of men and women and children husking corn by the bushel. When you filled a bushel, your ticket would be punched.

Then came the first huskers. These were Morall Machines, secondhand, and had a lot of worn out roller chains on them. They were always falling apart and every time a chain went into the silo filler with the husks, it went through the top of the silo pipe instead of going in the silo. This meant a repair job right away for the husks went through the hole as well and would be on the roof and in the yard - it was like a storm.

It was not long before New Food machinery huskers were installed and 16 women could husk more than a whole shed full of people could husk by hand. Indian women were the best at feeding huskers and corn cutters.

In 1928 most of the corn pack spoiled and it was a great loss to the cannery. They called it cold corn as it was put in the cans at about 160 - 180 degrees and corn won't keep unless it is up to about 200 degrees before going in the can. The filler operator had to keep constant watch on the thermometer and if the temperature dropped he would stop for a minute or so till the heat came up again. He also watched for the filler tank to boil over as hot corn would make a bad burn.

Carloads of corn were shipped back to Otterville and all cans with swelled heads were sour. Most of this was given to the farmers for pig feed. This was a job every night opening cans of corn for the pigs. Some of the corn was put in the retorts and heated. A small hole was punched in the lid and when the gas and steam came out the hole was soldered over. This corn was sold to someone as "Polka Dot" brand.

Next came pumpkins, then apples. By the time October and November came, the place was always cold and wet with steam hovering in the building, and continuous trouble with belts shrinking and slipping. When they came off they were hard to get back on as they were short and pulleys would be

wet. We were always putting a piece in the belts and if the weather warmed up the piece had to come out again. According to today's standards, it was a very primitive place, but you got a lot of experience making things go.

In the first years, green beans were snipped by hand some at the factory, but most were taken to people's homes and families would snip beans in the evening to get extra money. The beans were picked up next morning and taken back to the cannery. Later mechanical bean snippers were purchased.

The company kept a supply of oil lanterns on hand as it was quite common for the electric power to go off in a thunder storm. Canning could be carried on for some time because everything was run by the steam engine. Electric motors ran the pumps at the spring and when all water was gone, canning had to stop until the power was restored.

One Sunday evening about July 15, 1935, the town fire bell started to ring. On looking around we saw a heavy cloud of black smoke going skyward close to the smoke stack at the cannery which was soon followed by flames. By 10 p.m. there was not much left of the factory.

The viner shed was saved as the buildings were all bricked up and not damaged. It was not long before a new steam pipe was installed to the shed engine, boiler trim replaced, and peas were threshed in Otterville and taken to Greenville to be canned nights. William McMullen, Harry Treffry, Alex Thurlby, John Coff, Had Chrysler and some others were sent to Greenville to can nights. The Greenville boiler room was partly below ground level and the boilers small and had very poor draft. I was glad to be out of there.

By 1940, Hyslops had bought the old Otterville Manufacturing building and the shoe factory for warehousing and storage. It was then decided to make fruit pectin in the shoe factory.

Dave Hyslop made an appointment for myself and Ed Turner and Fred Furlong to visit a plant in Cobourg. We had instructions to keep our eyes open and find out as much as we could about their process. But before the time came to go, word was received that there would be no visitors at their factory. It was easy to understand why. However, Dave decided to go it on his own, so cook tanks and a cider press and filter were set up in the shoe factory.

At that time, Canada Vinegars were kiln drying apple pulp for the pectin trade, so truck loads of pulp were bought and stored in the shoe factory. The apple pulp was cooked in wooden tanks, pressed out in the cider press, then pumped through the filter and put up in barrels. It looked good and tasted good. The reason for making pectin was that it could be used at the Burlington factory in processing fruit. This operation only lasted a couple of years and was discontinued. Rats were a problem in the bags of pulp. Occasionally a dead rat would get cooked up in the cook tank and that batch had to be dumped and the tank scoured out.

I well remember the Depression years when the train came in to the factory. There would be 15 or 20 men riding on the box cars and

when the train stopped, most would get off and set up camp around the old coal shed. Most of the men that had been there for several days would get on the train and leave. They would come over to the boiler room in the evening to get some hot cans of peas which I always had on hand for them. There were a lot of good men with nothing to do. Some like to talk politics or history or different trades. Some went to people's houses for a hand out or to a garden to help themselves. Some would be asleep and have a sign up "do not disturb".

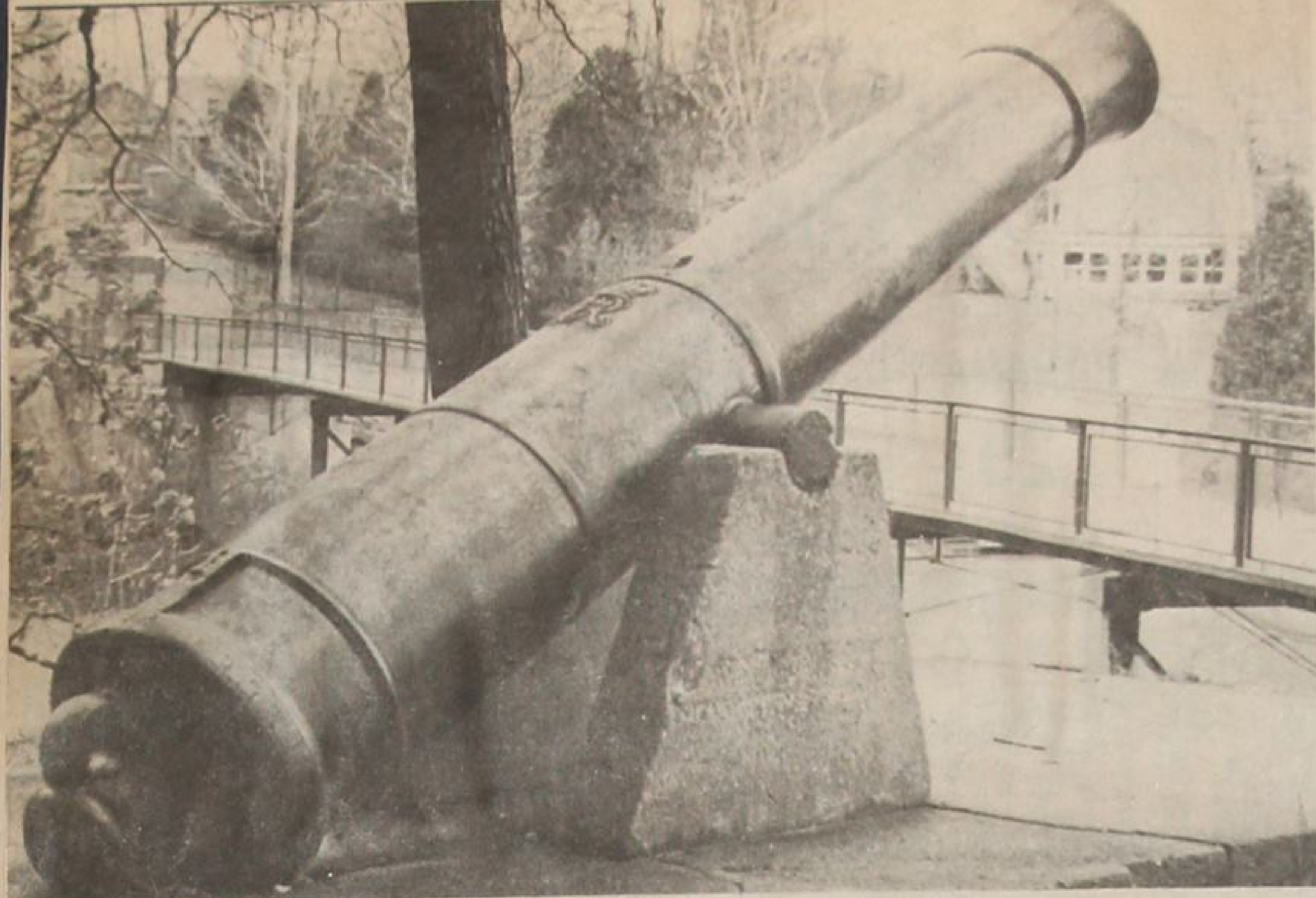
Norm Pickersgill went out and hired two transients to work on the pea straw stack. Norm gave each one a fork and took them out to the stack. When they looked up and saw men up there lugging the tangled straw coming up from six threshing machines, they handed Norm the forks and went back to the coal shed. They were wise for that.

By 1960 things at the Cannery were on the decline. Borden Roberts had replaced Ed Turner as manager and he found it difficult to get the equipment in proper repair and had a lot of lost time due to breakdowns.

I think it was in 1961 the pea crop was planted and about May 15, Hyslop decided not to can another crop and the growers took the factory over and canned the pea crop. This did not prove successful for the farmers. Now reduced to scrap and they had difficulty with sales.

So that was the end of the Tip Top Cannery, and all three factories were sold.





Cannon in Otterville park

## Otterville-Norwich Lions donate to bring arena fund to objective

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the Parish Hall, Otterville on Monday evening, April 28. Lion President Bob Spek presided.

There was a very large attendance with possibly the largest number of visitors to attend a meeting. There were 18 members from the Vienna Club, four members from the Fisherville Club,

two from the Courtland club, and two guests. The total attendance was 68.

Spokesmen from the three visiting clubs spoke, outlining various projects underway in these localities.

Treasurer Andy Vandenberghe reported that approximately \$2,400 had been raised at the recent club fish-fry. All proceeds will be used for local projects.

Lion Fred Thompson

reported that the total of \$171,000 to be raised for completion of the Norwich Community Centre appears to be accomplished. The Norwich-Otterville Lions Club will assume the remaining \$13,000 to complete the project.

Lion Gord Shearer reported that Club's Annual Ladies Night which was held in London, Wednesday, April 23, was successful and enjoyed by all.

Lion Harris Cheese is the Lion representative on the Norwich District High School student exchange. This year's student Ake will be arriving late in August from Sweden. He is 17 years of age.

The Lions club is the local sponsor of this project which is organized by the Rotary Club and has been the

financial supporter as well.

There will be a clean-up work night Wednesday evening May 7. Any local assistance will be much appreciated. Lion Colin Cope reported that this year's fall carnival, September 12 and 13 in the Norwich Community Centre, will be completely re-organized with a Friday Night Carnival and a Saturday Night Dance and Car Draw.

The annual chicken Barbecue will be held in the Park, Otterville, Saturday night June 21.

The next regular meeting will be held at Woodingford Lodge Woodstock Monday evening May 13.

The Convention draw prizes were won by Lion John Vandewyngaerde of the Vienna Club and Lion Ray Rohrbach of the Fisherville Club.



Adam Michael Oliver, son of Elaine Oliver and the late Adam Oliver of Otterville, was admitted to the Bar of the Law Society of Upper Canada on April 14, 1980, at the University of Western Ontario. He ranked second in his class of 117 in the London section of The Bar Admission Course. Michael will continue his father's insurance agency in Otterville.

**GERMAINE G. ROBEYS**  
OTTERVILLE (C) — Following a lengthy illness, Mrs. Germaine G. Robeys, beloved wife of Bernard Robeys of RR 1, Norwich, passed away at Norvilla Nursing Home in Norwich on Wednesday, April 9, 1980, in her 79th year.

Born in Belgium, she was a daughter of the late Remi Goosens and the former Marie Moreau.

Surviving, besides her husband, are one son, Marcel Robeys, at home; one daughter, Mrs. Henri (Agnes) Toulmain of Delhi; one sister, Mrs. Alice DeGraeve of Otterville; and two grandchildren.

She was predeceased by

one sister and two brothers. Prayers were said at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home on Thursday evening at 7:30. Funeral service was held at Our Lady of LaSalette R.C. Church on Friday morning at 10 o'clock by Rev. Fr. G.F. Childs.

Memorial donations were made to the Ontario Heart Foundation, the Canadian Cancer Society and the Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital.

Pallbearers were Ralph Vuylsteke, Theo Vandekerckhove, Walter Vandekerckhove, Guido Vandekerckhove, Orton Kyes and Gordon Lee.

Interment in LaSalette R.C. Cemetery.

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Otterville Baptist Church celebrated its 122nd Anniversary on Sunday, April 27.

Mr. Earl Cooper of Courtland was in charge of both services, with Mrs. Wilma Butler pianist.

Dr. Gerry Benn, president of the London Baptist Seminary seeking to help and encourage students in the word of God, to be soul winners and church planters, was the guest speaker for both services.

Using the Scripture lesson I Timothy 2:1-8, Dr. Benn spoke on the three important decisions in your life: "Where will I spend Eternity, whom will I marry and what will I do with my life?" Special music was

provided by Mrs. Gary Chipps accompanied by Francis Fletcher of Courtland Baptist Church who brought messages in song for the morning service, which were:

"God proved His Love on Calvary," and Jesus Loves Me"

In the evening service she sang "Unworthy" and "Calvary conquered My Heart"

Ushers for the morning service were Mr. Larry Hansford and Mr. Paul Babcock.

In the evening service Dr. Benn spoke from I Corinthians 10: 1-13. The fact of temptation, the faithfulness of God, and the freedom from defeat.

Following the evening service a lunch was served in the Sunday School room and fellowship was enjoyed. The church was beautifully decorated.

## Reach target for Norwich centre fund

Only days before the deadline, the necessary money has come in to realize the full amount of the Wintario grant of \$342,000 for the Norwich community centre.

Through public and private contributions, a total of \$158,075 has been raised through the community centre fund-raising committee, said committee chairman Fred Thompson. The balance lacking, of slightly less than \$13,000, was donated through the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club.

By completing the fund-raising project on time, the taxpayers of Norwich Township have been saved more than \$500,000 toward the cost of the Norwich Township community centre, said Mr. Thompson. Had the mark not been met by the end of this month, the township would only have been eligible for the two to one Wintario grant on those funds raised by that date.

The thermometer officially hit the top on Monday.

The community centre club has indicated it will remain active for an indefinite period to further assist in the project.

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# Mrs. Harry Pickersgill heads

## Otterville Institute branch

OTTERVILLE (C) — The annual April meeting of the Otterville Women's Institute was held in the Otterville Community Hall on Friday April 2.

The meeting was preceded by a delicious potluck dinner. The roll call was responded to with the members paying their annual fees. There were nine members present.

A report of the District Spring board meeting was given by District Director Vera Welsh.

President Mrs. Harry Pickersgill expressed her appreciation to the members for their support during the past year.

The Otterville W.I. is indeed grateful to Mrs. Pickersgill for assuming the office as president in the middle of the year, and doing such an excellent job.

Conveners of standing committees gave their

reports. The report of the nominating committee was given by Miss Welsh.

Mrs. Lorne Treffry presided for the election and installation of officers for 1980-81. They are as follows: Past President, Mrs. Vera Welsh; President, Mrs. Harry Pickersgill; 1st Vice-President, Mrs. Murray Downing; Secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Jack Walther; District Director, Miss Vera Welsh; Alternate, Mrs. Mel Beecroft; Branch Directors, Mrs. Irving, Mrs. Max Avey, Mrs. Laura Pettigrew; Delegates to District Annual, Mrs. Harry Pickersgill; Mrs. M. Downing, Miss Vera Welsh. Delegate to Annual Convention, Mrs. Harry Pickersgill; Nominating committee, Mrs. Irvin Gehring, Mrs. Harry Pickersgill; Social Committee, Mrs. William McMullen Jr., Mrs. H.

Pickersgill, Mrs. M. Downing; Public Relations Officer and Good Cheer, Mrs. Harold Waring; Auditors Mrs. W. Addison and Mrs. Earle Petch; Canadian Industries, Mrs. William A. McMullen Jr.; Cultural Affairs, Miss Vera Welsh; Agriculture, Mrs. Lorne Treffry; World Affairs, Mrs. Stuart Harris; Citizenship, Mrs. Harold Durkee; Education, Mrs. Irvin Gehring; Resolution, Mrs. M. Downing; Curator, Mrs. Fred Cole; Family Affairs, Mrs. Ivan Leitch; Consumer Affairs, Mrs. Edith Petch and Mrs. W. L. Addison.

# Rebekah warden entertained

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Delhi Fidelity Lodge and Violet Lodge, Otterville, jointly entertained the Warden of the Rebekah Assembly of Ontario in the IOOF Hall, Otterville, on Monday evening April 7.

Fidelity Lodge, Delhi, opened and closed Lodge in a very proficient manner. Honored guests were welcomed and introduced.

Sister Nina Eakers J.P.N.G. introduced Sister Helen Spicer, Past-President of the Rebekah Assembly, Sister Eva Deveney J.P.N.G. of Violet Rebekah Lodge introduced Sister Jean McClintock, Musician of Rebekah Assembly. Sister Jean Cheney P.D.D.P. of Fidelity introduced Sister Wilma Butler D.D.P. of East

St. Thomas District 17, Sister Ruby Gray N.G. of Fidelity Lodge Delhi introduced Sister Iris Czinkota-Warden of the Rebekah Assembly of Ontario.

Sister Jean McClintock was escorted to the centre of the floor and it was announced that Sister Jean had been asked at the Good Friday Rally by the International President Sister Lucille Mulligan to be her Courtesy Musician.

The initiation degree will be put on by Edna Lodge, St. Thomas, on our candidate in Otterville on May 5.

Assembly Warden spoke briefly and congratulated us on our lovely Lodge Hall. Also to the color bearer from Fidelity Lodge on the reverent way she performed

her duty. Our Warden comes from Sioux Lookout and she told us the pianist in their Lodge was 96 years young. Her only quote was "We have to let the outside know what we do on the inside."

Sister Helen Spicer spoke briefly and wished Violet Lodge and Fidelity Lodge all the best for the rest of the year. She also thanked Sister Wilma D.D.P. for the lovely dinner provided for them and friends Monday evening.

Sister Wilma Butler and Sister Jean McClintock spoke briefly. Noble Grand Sister Ruby Gray thanked the Warden for her lovely message and announced their dance at the Lodge Hall April, 26. Brother Carl Howse announced that the Oddfellows were entertaining the Rebekahs and husbands or friends on April 30 with a potluck dinner at 7 p.m.

Several humorous and Easter readings were presented by the Fidelity Lodge which was directed by Ruby Gray.

Fidelity Lodge performed the closing exercises followed by a delicious lunch which was served by the committee downstairs.

# Students present musical Cinderella

Students of Springford and Otterville Public Schools and their parents and friends were treated to an outstanding performance of

the operetta Cinderella last week.

Students from grades three to eight at Otterville public school presented the

operetta for the Springford students on Wednesday afternoon, for the Otterville students on Thursday afternoon and for parents

and friends on Thursday evening.

The students had been working diligently since January to prepare for the

operetta, rehearsing parts and assisting with the creation of costumes and sets, said Otterville teacher, Karen McSpadden. A lot of teachers were involved in the project and contributed greatly to making it the success that it was.

This was the first time such a project had been undertaken at the Otterville school and both staff and students can be pleased with the results. The enthusiasm of all those involved was amazing, said Ms. McSpadden.

All of the students involved in the musical production, which did not include any speaking parts but was all in song, gave exceptional performances.

The lead roles were sung by Lisa Oenema (Cinderella); Mike Nunn (Prince); Wendy Groeneveld and Irene Poredos (as the two step-sisters). There were 21 other students who sang in the chorus as the ladies and lords at the ball, and the fairy god mothers. Numerous other students, teachers and parents were involved in the behind-the-scenes work of changing sets and applying make-up.

The key to restored speech is being able to retain one's tongue in such surgery. Without it there can be no speech although those who lose their tongues can be trained to use a computer-like message sender. *Apr 18/80*

Esophageal speech is not ordinary speech. Indeed it has somewhat of a "Donald Duck" or "robot-like" monotone quality to it. But it is speech, that most unique form of communication between humans.

"It's the way we share with people and when it's taken away we feel very socially isolated," says Mary Young, a social worker at St. Joseph's Hospital, who works with patients learning to speak again.

The method patients choose to speak, be it with an artificial larynx or mechanical aid or through esophageal speech, is their own choice, she said.

"I never realized I wouldn't be able to make a noise," says 60-year-old Irvin Gehring who runs a 170-head beef farm at RR 2, Otterville. He'd been told he wouldn't be able to speak but no noise was a shocker.

Gehring can laugh about it today but it was something else not even to be able to say "ouch" when they put a needle into him after his surgery last December.

Since then, he has not only begun to learn new speech patterns but has gone back to "living one day at a time." The important thing for Gehring was that he had a 95 per cent chance of cure.

It was hard driving back home the day he was told about his cancer, says his wife Jean "but I said 'we're going to fight this, you've got to be a fighter.'"

Family support is essential say the Gehrings and others who have undergone such surgery and the loss of speech for a time afterward.



### Step-sisters

Cinderella (centre) played by Lisa Oenema, helps her two step-sisters (Irene Poredos and Wendy Groeneveld) to prepare for the prince's ball. The three girls were playing in the operetta Cinderella presented to students and parents last week in Otterville. The students from Otterville Public School had been working on the musical since January.



# Special motorcycle helps handicapped get into action

By SUZANNE HANSON

Mouths drop open and heads turn when Richard Picknell of Otterville rides by with his motorcycle.

Although the motorcycle appears at first to be un-manned by a driver, a closer look reveals that the handle bars have been shifted over and Richard is driving the bike from a special sidecar attached to the motorcycle.

Richard, now 26, was injured in a car accident in 1974 which left him paralyzed from the armpits down. Classified as a low quadraplegic, Richard does have the use of his arms and is thus able to get himself in and out of his hand-powered van.

However, his 750 Hondamatic motorcycle with the sidecar permits him greater ease of movement as he is able to drive his wheelchair right onto the sidecar platform, eliminating the need to abandon the wheelchair and hoist himself into a vehicle. The van is still more practical when weather is poor, but the motorcycle makes moving around much easier.

The specially-designed sidecar, believed to be the only one of its kind in Canada, was manufactured by Tomco Enterprises Ltd. in Kansas.

Richard was not even aware such a device was available until he saw a wire photo in an area newspaper one day that showed a judge in Texas driving a motorcycle from a sidecar. Richard, who has been riding motorcycles since he was 12, decided to try and locate the builder.

Although the wire agency would not release the judge's address to him, they did agree to send a letter from Richard to the judge who in turn sent him back a pam-

phlet on the motorcycle, said Richard.

About four weeks ago, Richard made the trip down to Kansas to have his motorcycle outfitted with the special sidecar. It is necessary to take your own bike down, said Richard, as customs regulations prohibit moving motorcycles sold in the United States across the border into Canada.

It took about six days for the builder to construct the sidecar and install it on the bike.

"A lot of work goes into the bike and a lot of safety features are built in," he said.

Each one is custom-built for the rider, taking into consideration his or her body measurements and weight, as well as the size and weight of the wheelchair, said Richard.

The builder also puts the bike through numerous tests with the sidecar before the rider is even allowed on it. He also guarantees the workmanship for a six-month period.

Richard is so enthusiastic about the benefit of such a device to handicapped people such as himself, that he has decided to market the sidecar for the builder in Canada. As a salesman for the company, he would be involved in making the arrangements for transporting the bikes down to Kansas to be outfitted, and bringing them back to Canada.

Although it costs about \$2,050 in American funds to have the sidecar installed, it is of great value to the person who does a lot of moving around, particularly on numerous short trips, said Richard.

"The main selling point of the bike is the ease of getting

(Continued on Page 6)

(Continued from Page 2)

on and off of it," he said.

The bike is also easy to handle with the sidecar attached. There is no problem holding the bike up and it is not difficult to manoeuvre or turn with. As long as you can drive there is no problem, he said.

He does admit it is somewhat of an odd sight to see a motorcycle coming down the road without a rider.

"Some people stop right on the road to take a look at the weird motorcycle."

So far there are only about 30 such bikes across the entire United States and

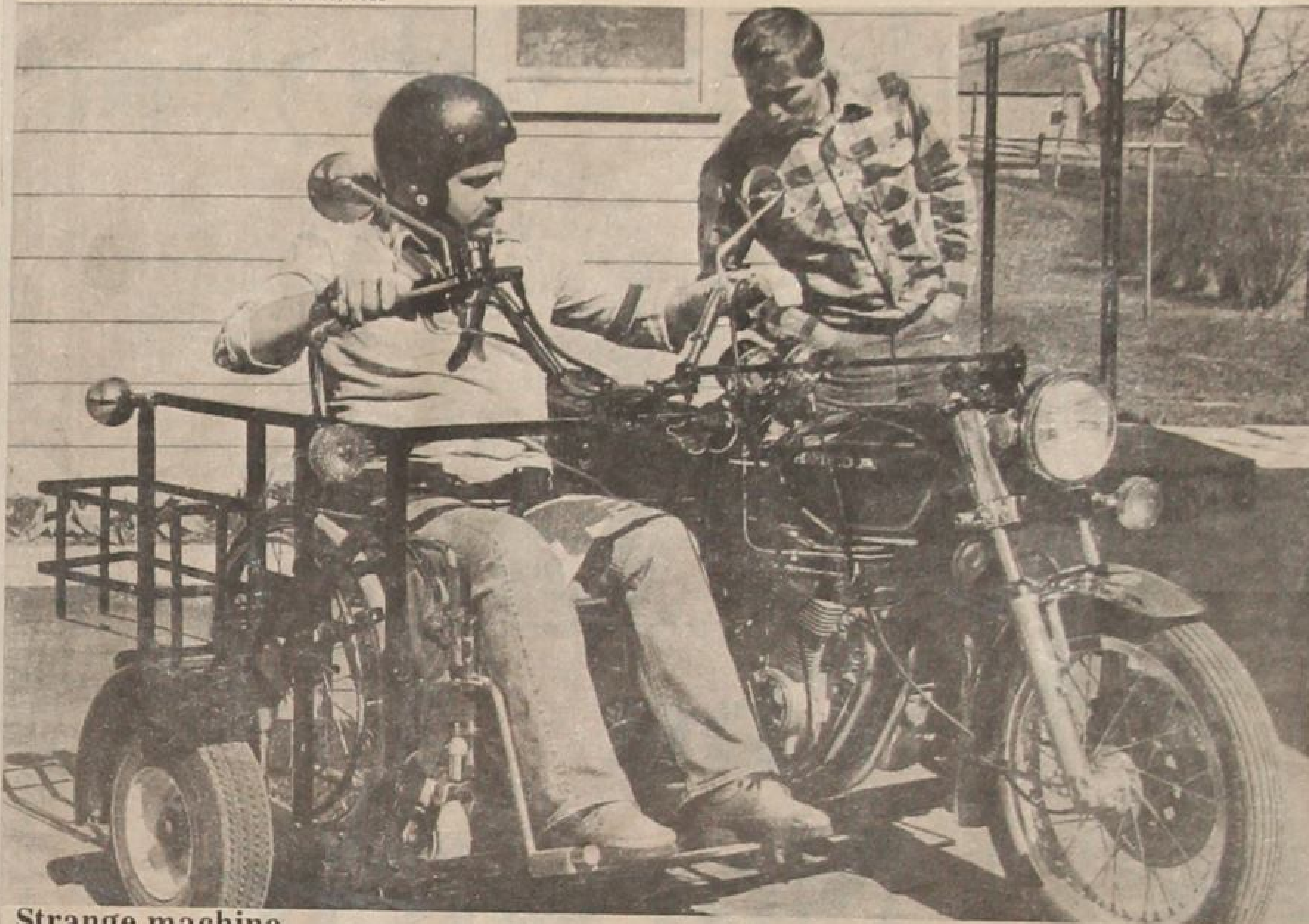
Richard's is the only one in Canada. He hopes to address the Canadian Paraplegic Association in the near future to tell them about the availability of the motorcycle and sidecar. He has also passed out pamphlets in the hospital and hopes to get some attention from the Toronto media. Because of the large population of Toronto, there are more handicapped persons there per capita to reach than in smaller centres.

Richard has always had an interest in motorcycles, probably inherited from his father, Art, who restores antique bikes. He and his father had tossed around

some ideas on their own on some sort of device for handicapped people using a motorcycle but had not come up with anything as good as the one Richard now has.

Although he has had to spend a lot of time in the hospital, Richard has been working on his degree in economics at the University of Western Ontario. That business knowledge should aid him in his latest experience of promoting this new type of motorcycle.

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## Strange machine

Bob Nant (right) looks over some of the features on the 750 Honda motorcycle belonging to his friend Richard Picknell, of Otterville. The sidecar on the bike was specially designed and built in Kansas to accommodate the wheelchair of a

handicapped individual. Richard does admit he gets some strange looks when he drives by with the bike. He hopes to promote the sale of the device in Canada to aid other handicapped individuals such as himself.





Fred Welsh, of Otterville, displays a plaque received from the province of Ontario and a certificate from Governor-General Edward Schreyer in honor of his 90th birthday. Mr. Welsh celebrated his birthday last Tuesday, April 1. The Province of Ontario plaque was presented by Mrs. Harry Parrott last Wednesday. About 80 people came to extend their good wishes to Mr. Welsh on his birthday.

## Fred Welsh honored on 90th birthday

Fred Welsh, of Main Street, Otterville, was honored with an Open House on the occasion of his birthday Tuesday, April 1, at home with his daughter Vera Welsh.

The all-day celebration started at 10 a.m. with the arrival of guests. In all Mr. Welsh received about 80 visitors extending good wishes.

Assisting his daughter Miss Welsh in the kitchen were Mrs. Mel Beecroft and Mrs. Jones who served in the morning and afternoon while Mrs. Bruce Barnard, Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Oliver Hill served in the evening.

Among the many good wishes received were a plaque from Oxford M.P.P. on behalf of the Government of Ontario and a certificate of congratulations from the

Governor-General of Canada Edward Schreyer.

Interested in the news of the day, Mr. Welsh reads his daily newspaper and enjoys listening to taped readings from the library.

A prettily decorated cake made and decorated by a close friend, was served with ice cream to the guests who called throughout the day from distant points in all areas.



### Fashion Show

Kelley Davis, (left) grade 12, and Jacquie Krygsman, grade 11, are two of the models in the annual fashion show being put on by the Norwich high school home economics club. Above Kelley models the two-piece, polyester blend floral print top with a matching skirt. Jacquie models a navy velour top. All of the outfits being modelled in the fashion show to be put on the evening of April 24 at the school, were made by the students.



# Last of Edisons recalls early Vienna

Nora Ogden Edison Coombs may be Thomas Alva Edison's first cousin, but the 95-year-old woman is also a living record of the history of the village of Vienna, because she has lived there all her life.

Thomas Edison's invention of the electric light and phonograph are more often than not associated with the United States because he befriended carmaker Henry Ford and worked out of an American laboratory, but Mrs. Coombs stresses the fact that she pronounces her name the Canadian way — Eedison — not the American way — Eh-dison.

She does not begrudge her cousin, whom she never met, any of his fame and fortune. She would just like it to be known that she is a Vienna Edison.

Thomas Edison himself visited the old Edison homestead infrequently and Mrs. Coombs' father taught him to swim when he visited his grandfather, Samuel Edison Sr., "because he had such delicate health and it was thought it would do him good."

Thomas's father, Samuel Edison Jr., opposed the British rule so much he took sides with William Lyon Mackenzie in the Upper Canada Rebellion of 1837. He had to flee Canada and it was in the United States that Thomas Alva was born. Before their flight to the USA, Samuel Jr.'s wife was the first school teacher in Vienna, Mrs. Coombs said.

Mrs. Coombs said she "belongs to a rebel family." She still owns the farm near the Otter Creek which one can see from her back veranda. It provides income from rent and will be hers until she dies. All the girls of the family worked on the farm when the eligible young men were away fighting in World War I, she recalled.

Mrs. Coombs' sister Annie was very sick and dying in 1931, and Henry Ford, the rich philanthropist, offered her treatment at the Ford Hospital. Mrs. Coombs stayed with her for one year in the USA, but Annie did not respond to treatment and died shortly afterward.

The old Edison homestead near the Otter Creek was moved at the suggestion of Ford to Dearborn, Michigan. Even the nails were pulled out and put back in, she said.

Mrs. Coombs recalls there was a drama club in Vienna at one time and the population then was 2,000. People from all over Bayham Township used to come to Vienna to trade. The population now is about 250.

Mrs. Coombs declares that her grandfather named the village and saved it from the less appealing name of Shrewsbury.

Colonel Burwell had just ridden in from Port Burwell after giving that village his name and was about to dub Shrewsbury, when Samuel Sr. stayed his hand and insisted the hamlet be called Vienna after the city in Austria.

Mrs. Coombs is the last of the Edisons of Vienna and after she is gone, some of her legacy may end up in the Friends of Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum as have some of her cousin's belongings.

Mrs. Coombs said she has lived many years and feels she has "lived her life out". But her living legacy is still to inform and regale curious people with tales of pioneering days and insights into her famous cousin.



## Pitching them in

Brent VanParys was giving his pitching arm a work-out at practices for the Norwich Angers last Thursday evening and Saturday morning. He and Bill Fidlin will be sharing the mound for the Angers in Memorial Fastball League action this season. The season gets underway with a home opener at Dillon Park in Norwich on Sunday, May 4.

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS

All persons having claims against the Estate of EFFIE ROSE NELSON, late of the Town of Tillsonburg, in the County of Oxford, Retired Book-keeper, Deceased, who died on December 31st, 1979, are required to file particulars of same with the undersigned on or before May 16, 1980, after which date the estate will be distributed without regard to unfilled claims.

Dated at Tillsonburg, Ontario, this 18th day of April, 1980.

GIBSON, LINTON, TOTH & CAMPBELL  
Barristers and Solicitors  
36 Broadway  
Tillsonburg, Ontario  
N4G 3P1  
Solicitors for the Executor

Apr 25/80  
26th would have been her birthday. T.F.



## Thomas Edison visited here

This plaque on Highway 19 in Vienna marks the site of the historical 1811 homestead of Samuel Edison, grandfather of the famous inventor, Thomas Alva Edison. Thomas lived in the United States and used to visit here often. The actual house was moved to Dearborn, Michigan by Henry Ford after Samuel's death. It can be seen at the Friends of Greenwich Village and Henry Ford Museum in Michigan. Nora Ogden Edison Coombe, 95, is the only living relative of the inventor. She lives in Vienna. (TN photo)



# Historical Society to unveil plaque

The May meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society was held at Woodlawn.

Juanita DeRoo introduced the guest speaker, Marilyn Light from the Long Point Conservation Authority. The subject of her slides and speech was "19th Century Gardens," and what flowers and weeds found growing in our area today were present in the 19th century. Mrs. DeRoo thanked Marilyn for her interesting and informative documentary.

President Rick Singer then opened the meeting with the minutes of the past regular and executive meetings being read. Rick gave a report on the status of the Treffry Mill and the township council meeting stating a committee had been formed to investigate fund-raising for purchase of the mill.

June 14 is the annual bus trip leaving Otterville at 8:30 for the Goderich Museum, Ben Miller Mill and gift shop and the Goderich Octagonal Gaol. Anyone interested is to contact Rick Singer at

842-3748.

Lila Freeland was in charge of the worksheet for the food booth at the Norwich Historical Society Steam Show.

Joyce Pettigrew reported that due to high cost and no available grants for a new microfilm reader, she is trying to obtain a used reader. Two university students with South Norwich ties are eligible for the Experience '80 grant and will begin research on June 16.

A discussion was held concerning the change of the regular meetings to the third Monday with the result the next meetings will be held on September 15, October 20 and November 17 on a trial basis.

Rick Singer read a letter from the Ontario Historical Society regarding a three-day seminar.

Don MacPherson gave a "commercial" on the upcoming Steam Show.

It was decided to drop the idea of operating the food booth at the International Plowing Match but the booth

would be available for rent to interested parties.

The unveiling of a plaque commemorating the 135-year-old mill at Otter-

ville will be held on Sunday, June 29 at 4 p.m. followed by a chicken barbecue at 5 p.m.

A limited number of tickets at \$5 each are available from Lorraine Downing or Colin

Cope by June 22.

The meeting then adjourned.

## Otterville U.C.W. meets

OTTERVILLE (C) — The May meeting of the United Church Women was held in the school room of the church on Thursday evening.

The president Mrs. Isabel Harris presided and welcomed the members to the meeting. Mrs. Harold Ryder was the convener and Kelly Walther was pianist. The

meeting opened with a hymn and was followed with the Scripture reading I Corinthians 1-13, read by Joyce Hanson. Nancy Walther offered prayer. The collection was presented by Myrtle Addison and Nancy Walther.

Kelly Walther gave a piano solo. Mrs. Harold Ryder gave a reading "Living and Learning."

Following a hymn "Pass It On" Nancy Walther gave a poem "A Brook" and this was illustrated with slides by Mrs. Ryder, who also gave slides on "The Life of An Ostrich in South Africa." Mrs. Ryder closed the meeting with prayer.

Mrs. Elaine Oliver was the acting secretary for the meeting. A social time completed the evening.

## Resolution on mill

OTTERVILLE (C) — The May meeting of the Otterville Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Ivan Leitch in Norwich. There was a good attendance.

The president Mrs. Harry Pickersgill presided and welcomed the members. The meeting opened with the Opening Ode, Mary Stewart Collect, followed with "The Lord's Prayer".

The roll call was answered with the members telling where they would like to go for vacation.

The president reported on the work which had been

done in the flower bed at the park and also that Mr. and Mrs. Edward White are in charge of the Park for the summer.

Six of the members attended the District Annual convention which was held at Brownville earlier in the month.

Mrs. Lorraine Downing gave a most interesting talk on Prince Edward Island and also presented a resolution regarding the

Treffry Mill which was later given to Norwich Township Council.

The guest speaker for the meeting was Mrs. Dorothy Griffin of London. Mrs. Griffin had many interesting facts to give the ladies on her work at the Good Will Workshop in London. Her talk was followed with slides.

The speaker was introduced by Mrs. Leitch, convener of the meeting, and was presented with a gift following her talk.

### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO MAY 1955

Otterville - The village trustees met in the community hall where another trustee, Charles Hopkins, was sworn in taking the place of Donald Addison who is moving to the Belwood district where he has purchased a farm.

## Bluebird club meets

OTTERVILLE (C) — Members of the Happy Bluebirds held their regular meeting at the home of Mrs. Douglas Carroll in Norwich. President Mrs. Daisy Ash welcomed the members and voiced appreciation to Mrs. Carroll for the invitation to her new home in Norwich.

Roll call was answered with members giving some humorous past experience.

Mrs. Josepha Rosehart invited members to her home for the June meeting.

Several games of euchre were enjoyed along with a social time. The president thanked the hostess and those who assisted for the enjoyable evening.

### 35 YEARS AGO May 17, 1945

The iron bridge at Milldale, which spans the Otter Creek, collapsed from the weight of two Bren gun carriers. A convoy of these carriers passed through Norwich from the Woodstock Training School, and it was while crossing the bridge that one of the vehicles threw one caterpillar chain drive, causing the machine to crash the west side of the structure with such force that the vehicle swung to the opposite side and came to rest against the railing.

## Pool opening June 28

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the Parish Hall, Otterville, Monday evening, May 26. Lion president Bob Spek presided.

The club decided to enter a softball team in the Windham Lions Club tournament in Windham Centre July 5. Lion Gary Walther will be in charge of the team.

Arrangements are finalized for the several teams who plan to attend the District A Convention in Ottawa May 28 to June 3.

The Club's antique fire engine will be transported to Ottawa for the Saturday parade.

The Lions Park committee

plan to open the swimming pool in the Community Park, Otterville, on Saturday, June 28. Registration for swimming classes will likely be held in the Park June 28 and 29.

The Lions Club again plan to operate the free bus service to the pool on the same schedule as last year beginning Friday, July 4.

Lion Ron Kiddie announced that plans are being made for the annual chicken barbecue to be held in the Community Park, Otterville, June 21.

Lion Bill Orth introduced the guest speaker his father Russell Orth. Mr. Orth gave a humorous and enlightened talk on Homewood Heating.

Farm mechanization from the use of steam up to the

present use of combustion engine was covered. Many examples of these antique machines will be displayed at the annual Steam Show in Norwich June 6-8.

The speaker was thanked by Lion Ed McFarland.

The Lions Club plans to help put on the chicken barbecue to be held by the South Norwich Historical Society in connection with

the unveiling of the historical plaque for the Treffry Mill in Otterville Sunday, June 29.

Lion Gord Shearer announced that the annual ball game and fireworks display held in the Community Park, Otterville, May 19 was well attended, and a great success. The Convention prizes were won by Lions Darwin Scott, Gloyd Cole and Mel Smith.



# OMB cans Powell expansion

By SUZANNE HANSON

A decision made by Norwich Township council granting a minor variance to Powell Agri-Systems Ltd. for expansion of its facility in Otterville was over-ruled at an Ontario Municipality Board hearing held in Otterville on Monday.

Council approved in November the minor variance to permit Powell to build an addition to the existing facilities located on Wellington Street. The minor variance was required to allow Powell to build 35 feet closer to the boundary than is allowed in the townships bylaw. According to the bylaw, a setback of 60 feet is required.

The decision went to the OMB because of objections by William Hudson and his wife to the minor variance. Mr. Hudson owns the residential property directly across from the Powell plant and the proposed addition. His complaint was based on the fact that the noise level already present at the plant would be drastically increased with the construction of the addition.

Solicitor for the Hudsons, Richard Mahoney of London, said in November that the noise from the plant was adversely affecting Mrs. Hudson's health. Parking by employees along Wellington Street in front of the Hudsons' residence was also a problem, said Mr. Mahoney.

Powell representative Gerry Lynch said in November that the company was willing to sign an agreement with the Hudsons promising to eliminate the parking problem and control the noise level at the plant.

However, at the hearing on Monday, it was ruled that the variance was not of a minor nature, said township Clerk Bob Watkins. The variance would bring the plant addition out 25 feet from the centre of the road instead of 60 feet.

Commenting on the OMB's decision, Powell spokesman Robert Rankin said the company would not be putting up an addition anywhere on the property. The addition, as proposed to council, would have served the company's needs he said.

"This decision puts a halt to our expansion plans in Otterville," said Mr. Rankin. "If we are unable to expand in Otterville, we will have to go elsewhere. The addition would have enlarged the present facility and in time would have meant the hiring of additional help."

Mr. Hudson's son Larry, of Tillsonburg, said he was satisfied with the OMB's decision. He said his parents had lived in the house on Wellington Street for 43 years but because of the plant noise had temporarily moved to Tillsonburg. He said they are now living in the house in Otterville once again.

Although the house is not for sale, Mr. Hudson said it could be fore sale "if Powells want to buy the house and the price is right. My father shouldn't stand in the way of progress." He said a company as successful as Powells should be able to afford the purchase of the Hudson property and go ahead with the expansion as proposed.

Mr. Rankin said Powell is giving no consideration to the purchase of the Hudson property.

Mr. Hudson said his parents are now living in the house and have no plans to move, although the noise from the plant is still a problem for them. The only change made by Powell was to eliminate the parking problem on Wellington Street, said Mr. Hudson. As far as the noise levels from the plant, nothing has changed.

## Jones-Chisholm vows spoken

OTTERVILLE (C) — Otterville, and Philip Ferns, benjamena plants and arecae palms with candelabra decorated Otterville United Church on Saturday, May 3, 1980, at 4 o'clock for the wedding of Laura Ann Chisholm of 541 Hamilton Rd., London, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Chisholm of John St.,

and Philip Bromley Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Jones of Georgetown. Rev. Earl Moore officiated. Mrs. Marion Avey of Norwich was organist and played Praise My Soul as the bride came down the aisle and Trumpet Voluntary as the couple left the church. Miss Heather

Squires of St. Thomas, friend of the bride, was soloist and sang The Wedding Song and If during the service.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride chose to wear her mother's wedding gown of 32 years ago, a floor-length gown of brocaded white satin with sweetheart neckline, bustle back with long petal sleeves and a small train. She carried a floral arrangement of rubrum lilies with stephanotis, Deifenbach leaves and spiders.

Steve Bannon of Brampton, friend of the groom, was best man, and ushers were Wayne Day of London, brother-in-law of the bride, and Steve Jones of Georgetown, brother of the groom.

Dinner for 35 guests was held at the Elm Hurst, Ingersoll, decorated with mums and white candles for

the occasion, with a wedding cake centering the bride's table.

Mrs. Chisholm chose a street-length gown of pink silky crepe de chine worn with a japhet orchid. The groom's mother chose a street-length dress in soft blue woven crepe, worn with a corsage of pink sweetheart roses and stephanotis.

Bride's gifts were a gold ring to the bridesmaid and also one to the groom. Groom's gifts were a diamond bracelet to the bride and a gold pocket watch to the best man.

Following a wedding trip to Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, the couple is residing in Georgetown.

Guests attended the wedding from Paris, Brantford, Georgetown, Brampton, London, St. Thomas and Woodstock.

### Married



Dr. and Mrs. Julius Narancsik, who were married May 17, in Otterville United Church. Mrs. Narancsik was the former Janet Taylor. They are presently residing in London, where the groom is interning at St. Joseph's Hospital.

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NORWICH-OTTERVILLE LIONS

ANNUAL

**FIREWORKS**

DISPLAY

OTTERVILLE PARK

MONDAY, MAY 19th /80

JUVENILE

FASTBALL GAME 7:30 P.M.

**Fireworks at Dusk**

**BIGGER & BETTER THAN EVER**

— Draw For 7 Pc. PATIO SET

Tickets Still Available At Fireworks Display

ADMISSION: Adults \$1.50

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Your Host: Gail Lewis  
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14-Area Deaths

MCMULLEN

At Tillsonburg Hospital, on May 15th, 1980, Nate McMullen, of Otterville, in his 80th year. Beloved husband of Winnifred Young, dear father of Mrs. Kenneth (Catherine) Mann, of Otterville, also survived by two sisters, Mrs. Edith Kendrick, of Norwich and Mrs. Mabel Hillier of California. Predeceased by three brothers Edwin McMullen, his twin brother Nean McMullen, Lester McMullen and one sister Mrs. Agnes Graves. Mr. McMullen was a member of IOOF Tecumseh Lodge 182, St. John's Lodge, 104 AF and AM, Oxford Chapter The Royal Arch Masons, 18, Mocha Temple Shrine AAON of London, and St. John's Anglican Church. Friends may call at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where funeral service will be held on Saturday, May 17th, at 2 P.M. Reverend Grant Darling officiating. Interment in Otter Cemetery. Friends who wish may make memorial donations to St. John's Anglican Church Memorial Fund, or Tillsonburg District Hospital.

NATE McMULLEN

Nate McMullen of Otterville passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Thursday, May 15, 1980, in his 80th year.

He was a member of IOOF Tecumseh Lodge 182; St. John's Lodge, 104 AF & AM; Oxford Chapter The Royal Arch Masons, 18; Mocha Temple Shrine AAON of London, and St. John's Anglican Church.

Surviving are his wife, the former Winnifred Young; one daughter, Mrs. Kenneth (Catherine) Mann of Otterville; and two sisters, Mrs. Edith Kendrick of Norwich and Mrs. Mabel Hillier of California.

He was predeceased by three brothers, Edwin McMullen, his twin brother Nean McMullen, Lester McMullen; and one sister, Mrs. Agnes Graves.

Resting at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service will be held Saturday, May 17, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Grant Darling.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

Memorial donations to St. John's Anglican Church Memorial Fund or Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital would be gratefully acknowledged.

NATE McMULLEN

Funeral service for the late Nate McMullen of Otterville, who passed away on May 15, 1980, was held at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, on Saturday, May 17, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Grant Darling of St. John's Anglican Church.

Mr. McMullen, a highly respected citizen of Otterville, was born in Otterville, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. William McMullen. He was a tobacco farmer.

Mrs. William McMullen, Jr., played hymns before and after the service.

Pallbearers were Cliff Rachar, Lyle Davis, Ted Church, Paul Groeneveld, Carl Howse and Bob Butler.

The service was largely attended and memorial donations were made to St. John's Memorial Fund, Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital, the Cancer Society, Gideons, the Diabetic Association and the Heart Foundation.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

We wish to express our heartfelt thanks to those who visited and sent cards to Nate McMullen while in hospital, to the nurses on first and second floor south for their attentive care, to Dr. Liwampo and Dr. Ort. No words seem adequate to express our sincere thanks to Dr. Murray Downing for all his help. Our sincere appreciation to those who sent cards, food, floral tributes and memorial donations, to Rev. G. Darling, Rev. S.R. Lupton and Rev. E. Moore, to the pallbearers and pianist, to the Nelson Gleason family and to the St. John's Church ladies for all their kind deeds at the time of the loss of a dear husband and father. Your acts of kindness will always be remembered. - Winnie McMullen, Catherine and Ken Mann. 8

UNITED SENIOR CITIZENS OF ONTARIO Inc

Club No. 717 OTTERVILLE, ONT.  
 Club Name Senior Citizens Leisure Club  
Nate McMullen  
**Star Member**  
 Expiry Date Dec 31 1980  
Fred Cole  
 Treasurer

Signature of member



No. 66  
 This is to Certify that  
Nate McMullen  
 Who has signed his name in the margin  
 IS A MEMBER OF  
**ST. JOHN'S LODGE, NO. 104**  
**AF. & AM., G.R.C.**

**NORWICH - ONTARIO**  
 Dues paid to June 24 1980  
Harry A. Hanson Secretary

**MOCHA TEMPLE**  
 A. A. O. N. M. S. OF LONDON, CAN  
 Not valid unless signed by Noble named.  
**3212**



This is to Certify that Noble  
**4187**  
**NATHAN MCMULLEN**  
**BOX 63 MAIN ST**  
**OTTERVILLE**  
**ONTARIO, CANADA** NOJ1RO

It is a member of the above Temple and declared to be in good and regular standing during the year  
**1980**  
Nathan W. Russell  
 RECORDER

**INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS**  
**Official Certificate**  
 \$10.00 April 2 1980  
 This Certifies that Bro. Nate McMullen  
 whose signature appears in the margin hereof  
 is a member of the Tecumseh Lodge No. 182 I.O.O.F.  
 of Otterville Jurisdiction of Ontario  
 the sum of Ten Dollars  
 in full for all charges to Sept 30 1980  
 EXCEPT ASSIGNMENTS LEFT AFTER THE DATE OF THIS CERTIFICATE  
 No. 28 Stuart Godby Secretary  
 Not valid after Sept. 30, 1980

**OXFORD CHAPTER, No. 18**  
 R.A.M. -- G.R.C.  
 WOODSTOCK, ONTARIO

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT  
 COMPANION Nate McMullen  
 Whose signature appears on the margin, is a member  
 of Oxford Chapter R.A.M. No. 18 and declared to be  
 in good standing to Dec. 31st. 1980  
James [Signature]  
 SCRIBE E

**UCO MEMBER IDENTIFICATION CARD**  
**CARTE D'AFFILIATION**  
**NATE MCMULLEN**  
**BOX 53**  
**OTTERVILLE ONT**  
 BRANCH SUCCURSALE 2850-04 MEMBER MEMBRE 00734292  
 SIGNATURE

**Sixty Plus** EXPIRES MARCH 1, 1981  
Nate McMullen  
 SIGNATURE OF HOLDER  
**Nate McMullen**  
 ISSUED TO  
[Signature]  
**W.R.S. Harris** OFFICIAL SIGNATURE **Manager**  
**THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA**  
3642 No. **551348**



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# St. John's Lodge

A. F. & A. M.

No. 104 — — — — — G. R. C.

ESTABLISHED A. L. 5858 — — — — — A. D. 1858

Norwich - Ontario

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REGULAR MEETINGS  
THIRD MONDAY OF EACH MONTH

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W. M.

17½ Court St. NORWICH Phone 863-2429

V. WOR. BRO. HARRY A. HANSON  
Secretary

BURGESSVILLE R.R. 2 Phone 424-9791

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### Queen presented

*May/80*  
Gordon Shearer (left) was presented with a portrait of Queen Elizabeth II by Oxford MP Dr. Bruce Halliday on behalf of the federal government. The picture is to be displayed in the newly renovated Otterville Hall.

Page 2 THE NORWICH GAZETTE May 28, 1980



### Dake House Hotel

The Dake House Hotel was built by Neil Dake in 1882 and served the local community and many travellers for

numerous years. Most recently known as the Norwich District Co-operatives, the structure was damaged by fire last Wednesday evening.

# Apartment gutted by fire, estimate loss over \$30,000



**McMULLEN FAMILY**  
**OTTERVILLE (C)** — The 17th annual McMullen reunion was held in the pavilion of the community park on June 15. Owing to cool weather, the attendance was not as large as usual.

Relatives spent the afternoon visiting preceding the delicious chicken dinner which was enjoyed by all. Relatives signed the guest register, and president Kenneth called a brief business meeting when it was decided to have the picnic the second Sunday in June in place of the usual third Sunday. An invitation was accepted to hold the picnic at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald McMullen of RR 1, Beachville.

Program was convened by Miss Karen Dow and Mrs. William A. McMullen.

First draw was won by Patrick Deroo and second draw by Kenneth Mann.

Other winners were: shoe kicking contest, Richard Deroo; a balloon contest, Mrs. Ross Dow and Paul Dow.

All took part in the peanut scramble.

Miss Karen Dow will be program convener for 1981.

Relatives were present from Woodstock, Sarnia, Beachville and Otterville. Happy Birthday was sung to Mrs. Nate McMullen whose birthday was on that day.

The families left for their homes at 7 p.m. due to cool weather but all enjoyed the time spent together.

The Sunshine Club of Otterville are having a lawn sale at 27 Main St., Saturday, June 7, 9 a.m. - 1980

**WILFRID LAWRENCE ADDISON**

Wilfrid Lawrence Addison passed away at his home in Otterville on Sunday, June 8, 1980, in his 80th year.

Surviving are his wife, the former Myrtle R. Fisher; two sons, Donald Wilfrid Addison of Simcoe and Richard Paul Fisher Addison of Bermuda; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by one son, Sgt. Douglas Addison, RCAF, in 1943 and by three brothers and one sister.

Mr. Addison was the last member of the Addison family.

Resting at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service will be held Tuesday, June 10, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earl Moore.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

**WILFRID LAWRENCE ADDISON**

Funeral service for the late Wilfrid Lawrence Addison of Otterville, who passed away on June 8, 1980, was held at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, on June 10, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earl Moore.

Mr. Addison, a life long resident of Otterville, was a son of the late Charles Edward Addison and the former Mary Ann Lawrence. He was a Funeral Director for over 30 years, and also operated a furniture store for a number of years. Mr. Addison was a member of Otterville United Church; St. John's Lodge No. 104, AF & AM, for more than 50 years; and a member of Norwich Chapter of the O.E.S. for over 30 years.

Mrs. William McMullen played Hymns before and after the service.

Pallbearers were grandsons, Wayne Addison, Douglas Addison and David Addison, nephews Brock Addison, Stanley Addison and Ev Crockett.

Memorial donations were made to Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital, Otterville United Church, the Diabetic Association, the Cancer Society and the Heart Foundation.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.



**Executives Installed**

The Norwich-Otterville Lions Club installed their new executive recently. In the front row, left to right, are: Howard Fleming, past district governor; Robert Spek, past president; Colin Cope, secretary; Murray Wardell, treasurer; and Les Dickson, third vice-president. In the second row are: Ron Kiddie, director; George Klosler, director; Mark

Gilmore, Lion tamer; Gord Shearer, president; and Norm Fidlin, first vice-president. In the third row, Ed McFarland, two-year director; Don Miller, one-year director; Gary Walther, assistant Lion tamer; Art Van De Byl, tail twister; Tim Moore, tail twister; and Nelson Gleason, bulletin editor.

**Combined bus trip**

**OTTERVILLE (C)** — Members of the Otterville Women's Institute and the United Church Women combined their spring outing. By bus the two groups travelled to Caledonia on Thursday, June 12.

The day was perfect for a boat cruise on Big Creek to Lake Erie and the Grand River.

This was accompanied by an interesting commentary given by the Captain who gave brief facts of the work of the Indians.

A delicious dinner was served on the boat and the 46 ladies expressed appreciation to Lorraine Downing, convener of the day.

Mrs. Harry Pickersgill president of the Institute expressed thanks to Lorraine for all the arrangements made and announced the meetings would cease for each group until September.

*1st Supper in new kitchen & lounge hall*

**Final meeting held by area Lions Club**

**OTTERVILLE (C)** — The regular and final meeting of the Norwich - Otterville Lions Club was held in the Community Hall Otterville Monday evening June 23. Lion president Bob Spek presided.

Donations were authorized to the Springford, Burgessville, Norwich and Otterville minor ball teams. These teams have been supported by the Lions Club in the past several years.

The Lions Club will again give financial support to the foreign student exchange for the coming year in regard to a student attending the Norwich District High School for the next school year.

Past District-Governor Howard Fleming was in charge of the induction committee assisted by Lions Colin Cope and Norm Fidlin.

Three new members were inducted: Lions Bill Sanders and Doug Boyle sponsored by Lion John Heleniak and Lion Norm Lusk sponsored by Lion Tony Drescher.

Lion Howard also conducted the installation of the new officers for the year 1980-81 as follows: Past president - Bob Spek; president - Gord Shearer; first vice-president - Norm Fidlin; second vice-president - Colin Cope; third vice-president - Les Dickson; Lion Tamer - Mark Gilmore; Assistant Lion Tamer - Gary Walther; Directors - George Klosler - one year; Don Miller - one year; Ed McFarland - two years; Ron Kiddie - two years; Treasurer - Murray Wardell; Secretary - Colin Cope; Tail Twister - Tim Moore; Assistant Tail Twister - Art Van De Byl.



Maureen Christine Vandenberghe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jean Vandenberghe, RR 1, Otterville, Ontario, graduated from the University of Western Ontario, on Friday, June 13, 1980, with an Honours Bachelor of Arts Degree in History. She was on the Dean's Honour List. In 1978 Maureen won the Bishop Prize in Religion, and this year she was awarded the O-Pee-Chee Scholarship. Maureen attended Otterville Public School, and is a graduate of Norwich District High School.

**Frost hits area crops**

Unseasonably cold temperatures Monday night resulted in frost damage to area crops, the extent of which will not be known for a couple of days, said Peter Brown, assistant agricultural representative for Oxford County Tuesday.

He said it may take a day or two for the frost damage to show up. Some tobacco

damage had already been reported Tuesday in the Delhi area along with some frost-bitten strawberry crops in the Tillsonburg area.

Mr. Brown said this is one of the coldest springs on record. If the cold weather persists, area crops could be permanently and seriously

affected. Frost warnings have also been issued for Thursday evening.

Mr. Brown said the crops have already been affected by the recent cold weather. Some corn plants are lying dormant and are starting to turn brown because of the lower temperatures. He said a few days of warm weather could reverse the damage.

JUNE 17



## St. John's Anglican Music Evening held

OTTERVILLE (C) — An evening of music and song was held in the St. John's Anglican Church, Otterville on Sunday evening June 8th at 7 p.m. 1980

The Teeterville Male choir directed by Mr. Stanley Seaton was in attendance with the congregation joining in hymn singing.

Mrs. Jack Freeland, organist of the church, delighted the congregation with familiar hymns of organ music before the program.

Rev. Grant Darling, Rector of St. John's

Church, gave the welcome and offered prayer.

The numbers bearing a message which were given by the choir were "Glory In My Heart", "Just a Closer Walk With Thee", "How Great Thou Art", "God Hath Not Promised", and "Seek Ye The Lord".

The choir and congregation were invited into the Parish Hall where a time of visiting and fellowship were enjoyed. The choir was again heard in several selections, all numbers being unaccompanied.

## Ethel Arthur heads lodge

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Past Grands Club of Violet Rebekah Lodge No. 330, Otterville, met at the home of president Sister Edith Avey. Thirteen members were present.

Election of officers resulted as follows: past president, Edith Avey; president, Ethel Arthur; 1st vice- Ruth Colver; 2nd vice, Vera Welsh; sec. treas., Olive Pickersgill.

A card was signed for Sister Eva McMullen. Plans were made to go to the Cove Room in Port Dover to complete the term of meetings for the summer.

Sister Avey held two interesting contests; Sister Anna Treffry was winner of the first and Sister Ruth Colver won the guessing game of how many jelly beans were in a fancy jar.

Sisters Helen and Edith served a delicious lunch assisted by Vera Welsh.

# Series of errors sink Otterville

A three-run third inning blast by Dave Reiser was all Straffordville Juniors needed as they went on to down the Otters 5-2 in Four County Fastball League action, at Otterville Thursday night.

The hit was even bigger when considering the Juniors had just two off Otter chucker Dave Felder, but six errors plagued Otterville. Mike Wells picked up the victory tossing a five-hitter.

It was errors that enabled both Underhill and Pete Everitt to reach base in the third. Jamie Catton's fielder's choice erased Everitt at second setting the stage for Reiser's three-run blast.

The Otters got singletons

back in the fourth and fifth. In the fourth the Otters loaded the bases when John Walther and Pat Pinnoy walked and Colby Miller beat out a long bunt.

The lone Straffordville error on a ball hit by Jim Miles scored Walther but Wells reached back to get out of trouble stranding three on the bases. In the fifth Joe Webb scored on Pat Pinnoy's single.

Otterville booted six all together, two more in the Straffordville sixth enabling Brent Stewart and Wells to reach safely. Both later scored on fly balls to the outfield accounting for two final runs without a hit.

The game was called after

sixth (start of seventh) when a dispute followed Bob Smith hitting for Felder, and Felder coming back into pitch to start the seventh. Details on the ruling were not available.

In picking up the win Wells limited Otterville to just five hits with seven strikeouts and six walks. Felder, equally effective, gave up just the two hits, fanned three and had flawless control.

Miller had two hits, both singles, for the Otters while team mates Pierre Pinnoy doubled and Pat Pinnoy and Joe Webb rapped singles. Reiser's homer and a single by Randy DeClercq accounted for the Straffordville hitting.

## OTTERVILLE OTTERS

### 2nd Annual Fastball Tournament

Friday Evening, June 6th and

Saturday, June 7th 1980

— At The —

### OTTERVILLE LIONS PARK

8 teams competing for cash prizes

- Harringtons - Simcoe
- Governor - Simcoe
- King - Woodstock
- Timber Jack
- Otterville
- Springfield
- Burgessville
- Ingersoll McNab Motors

ADMISSION: Friday Evening \$1.00, Saturday \$2.00



## Walking

The simple act of walking to the ordinary person as they walk the gravel dirt road of the countryside, rarely fails to bring an aspect of adventure, with pleasant surprises along the way.

Recently, on the dirt road from the fourth concession of Norwich Township (which embraces Norwich village) south to the eighth concession (which embraces the village of Otterville) an incident of an inspiring nature, was taking place on the northern most fringe of Otterville, as a large group of youngsters from the Norwich elementary school were found to be very busy raking, shoveling and doing all other work necessary to put a plot of ground, grown over profusely with bushes and trees of all sizes into a more beautiful park-like environment. Under the aggressive sensitive leadership of a well known Norwich young man whose primary aim is to beautify the countryside.

An overwhelming majority of the citizens of the area were unaware that this plot of ground was the burial ground of a group of negro slaves who had escaped from the land of slavery to a land of freedom, our very own Canada.

History research tells that a church did exist on this plot of ground because the negro slave was especially sensitive to the power and love of Almighty God.

The Norwich youngsters were being a part of history in having a miracle of transformation take place on account of work. Only one slab of stone was uncovered, its printing not decipherable. To note the eternal resting place of a noble band of charming lovable people whose colour was black. Crossing the border into Canada, settling first in the Chatham area, coming from there to the southern part of Norwich Township, Otterville and Hawtrey.

A 90 year old negro lady from Chatham remembers the happenings of the coloured folk of that time long ago. It is inspiring to note that at long last present day society is beginning to appreciate the strength of character of these folk, who are so much a part of our heritage.

Sam A. Innis  
"Sunnyside"  
Norwich

## Wm. Sanders Real Estate Broker and Insurance

6 Main Street

PHONE 879-6411

Otterville

## NOTICE

Mr. William Sanders is pleased to announce the opening of a new Real Estate and General Insurance Office in the area. Mr. Sanders has been in the Real Estate business as a salesperson and has now obtained his Real Estate and Insurance Brokers Licenses and would be pleased to serve you regarding all your Real Estate and General Insurance needs.



MR. WILLIAM SANDERS



## Norwich Township Council Briefs

### Files suit against township

A former officer with the Norwich Township Police Department is suing the township for wrongful dismissal or breach of contract, council was advised Monday.

Former Constable David Vivian is filing a \$50,000 statement of prosecution plus legal costs, said Township Clerk Bob Watkins.

Mr. Vivian submitted his resignation on September 25, 1979. Council passed a resolution to engage the firm Learner and Learner of London solicitors to prepare the township's defence.

### Thanks to students

Council decided to send a letter of thanks to Paul Steinberg's geography 350 class at NDHS for the excellent clean-up job undertaken at the Darkie Cemetery near Otterville and at the Norwich conservation area last week as part of Pitch-In Day.

### Residency requirement waived

Norwich Township council reversed an earlier decision and decided to waive the 12-month residency requirement for admission to the Winston Manor Senior Citizen Housing Units in Norwich for Mr. and Mrs. Verl Hilts, of Tillsonburg, subject to approval by the Oxford County Housing Authority.

The request was originally denied because the Hilts have never been township residents. Their daughter is, however. It was also pointed out that the residency requirement was waived for citizens who had not lived in Norwich for over 25 years.

Councillor Bill Sanders said he did not feel they should still be treated as township residents.

## Township to get Wintario grants

The Township of Norwich is one of seven groups in Oxford County to receive part of \$133,018 in Wintario grants, the ministry of culture and recreation announced Friday.

The Township of Norwich is to receive \$3,788 to buy kitchen equipment and chairs for the community hall in Otterville and the Tillson Avenue Parents-Teachers Association in Tillsonburg is to get \$2,662 to build a creative playground.

The South Norwich Fish and Game Club will receive \$5,908 for renovations to its building and the Drumbo parks and recreation board is to receive \$1,088 for

playground equipment.

The Tillsonburg Legion track and field club will receive three grants totalling \$646 to attend meets in Toronto and Alberta. The Creative Leather Craft Society will get \$1,466 to attend a crafts conference in Vienna. The Woodstock curling club gets the largest grant of \$97,460 to renovate its rink.

To date in 1980, the Wintario grants program has provided more than \$36.5 million to be directed toward the support of cultural and recreational facilities and activities in Ontario. The grants come from the proceeds of the Wintario lottery.

# Norwich accepts market-value assessment

By SUZANNE HANSON

Norwich Township council gave the go-ahead Monday to representatives of the regional assessment office in London to proceed with the implementation of equalized assessment in the township.

Following a presentation by two members from the regional assessment office, council decided to proceed with the implementation of the program in 1980 for 1981, subject to a further study showing the tax impact of re-assessment. Council reserves the right either to proceed with the program or to withdraw from it at that time.

Earl Winter, regional assessment officer, said the tax impact study should be ready for presentation to council sometime in September or October.

Five of the county's eight municipalities have already implemented or are undertaking implementation of equalized assessment, said Mr. Winter. Under Section 86 of the Assessment Act, factors would be developed to relate assessment on properties to the 1975 market value. Those factors would be applied to the individual market value of each property in the municipality. This would not alter the municipality's overall assessment, however.

"All we do is redistribute the tax sharing more equitably among the ratepayers in the municipality," said Mr. Winter. "The overall idea of it is to bring in a more equitable tax base...with no additional assessment to the municipality."

Such a plan will put a greater tax burden on residential and farm properties, said Mr. Winter.

"In a market value situation, land is where the value is," said assessment officer John Garrett.

The main advantage of equalized assessment is that individual ratepayers will start to pay their fair share, whether that be more or less, said Mr. Garrett. The setting of mill rates will also be simplified for the township. At present there are many rates throughout the township. Under the new system there would be one collective rate for the township as a whole.

In the township there are at present 459 residential properties that are over-assessed, said Mr. Garrett, and 587 properties that are under-assessed. There are 74 commercial properties over-assessed and 74 under-assessed with 26 within the median of the assessed ratio. In the area of industrial properties, 10 are over-assessed, nine are under-assessed and two are within the median according to the new factors, said Mr. Garrett.

Of the 1,278 farm properties in the township, 539 are currently over-assessed, 330 are within the median and 409 are under-assessed.

"There is quite a disparity in the level of assessment within the township," said Mr. Garrett.

He said South-West Oxford, Blandford-Blenheim and Ingersoll are all going into equalized assessment this year leaving East Zorra-Tavistock and Tillsonburg that haven't made any move at all toward implementing it. Woodstock and Zorra have already implemented it.

## History in area

History? You want history? The historical sites and museums in Tillsonburg and surrounding area offer a well rounded selection of people, places, and things that helped make the area what it is today.

To start out on a trip into the past, the Tillsonburg and District Historical Museum holds a collection of photographs and objects of what used to be. (Did you know stoneware was manufactured in Tillsonburg?)

The Tobacco Museum in Delhi presents a history of tobacco farming and the Norwich historical museum complex houses a collection of early farm machinery used in the area.

The Norwich museum building itself is a point of interest, as it is a former Quaker meeting house. The archives hold a bundle of old photographs and family histories in the Norwich area as well.

Otterville's community centre is also a building of interest, as it is one of the few remaining eight-sided houses built. While you're there, slip into the museum to find out more about the area.

Port Burwell's Trinity Anglican Church may be of interest also. It was originally given an endowment of Mahlom Burwell, the village's founder, in the form of a land grant.

If all this isn't enough to keep a person occupied, there are several mills still existing that were built by founder George Tillson's son, such as Treffery's mill in Otterville and the Backus mill in Port Rowan.

### FIFTY YEARS AGO JUNE 1930

Notice - George Clark has taken over the agency for St. Thomas Steam Laundry. Good work guaranteed. Phone 85.

Cornell was the scene of a disastrous fire Saturday forenoon, when the store and dwelling, the property of Mr. Henry Weaver, was totally destroyed.



# Cannery engine to go in show

By SUZANNE HANSON  
William McMullen Sr. has had a passion for steam engines ever since he was a boy and that interest has taken him to England, the place where the steam engine originated, twice.

Mr. McMullen and his brother Gordon from Otterville have been busy the past few weeks working to get an old stationary steam engine from the former Tip Top Cannery in shape for the annual Norwich and District Historical Show taking place in Norwich this weekend.

The engine was made in Galt about 1910 by Goldie and McCullough, famous engine builders and boiler makers.

The first steam engine at Tip Top Cannery came from Dominion Steel in Hamilton but it was destroyed in the 1935 fire at the cannery. That engine was replaced with the engine now in Mr. McMullen's possession. It came

from the Quance Mills in Delhi, and stayed at the cannery until it was removed about four years ago by Mr. McMullen who worked at Tip Top Cannery for about 20 years.

Although the engine is actually small in comparison to the huge 1,000 horse power models used in some factories, the 75 horse power engine weighing about six tons was used to drive the line shaft on all the machines in the cannery. It was the main engine for the plant, said Mr. McMullen. Steam power was the only source of power ever used at the cannery until it ceased operation about 1964, said Mr. McMullen.

It has taken a lot of work to get the engine operational, but he and his brother hope it will be ready to display at the steam show this weekend. He said they also have a boiler that can be supplied with steam from the

engine. When it's put back into operation it will be the first time since 1964 when it ceased operation at the cannery.

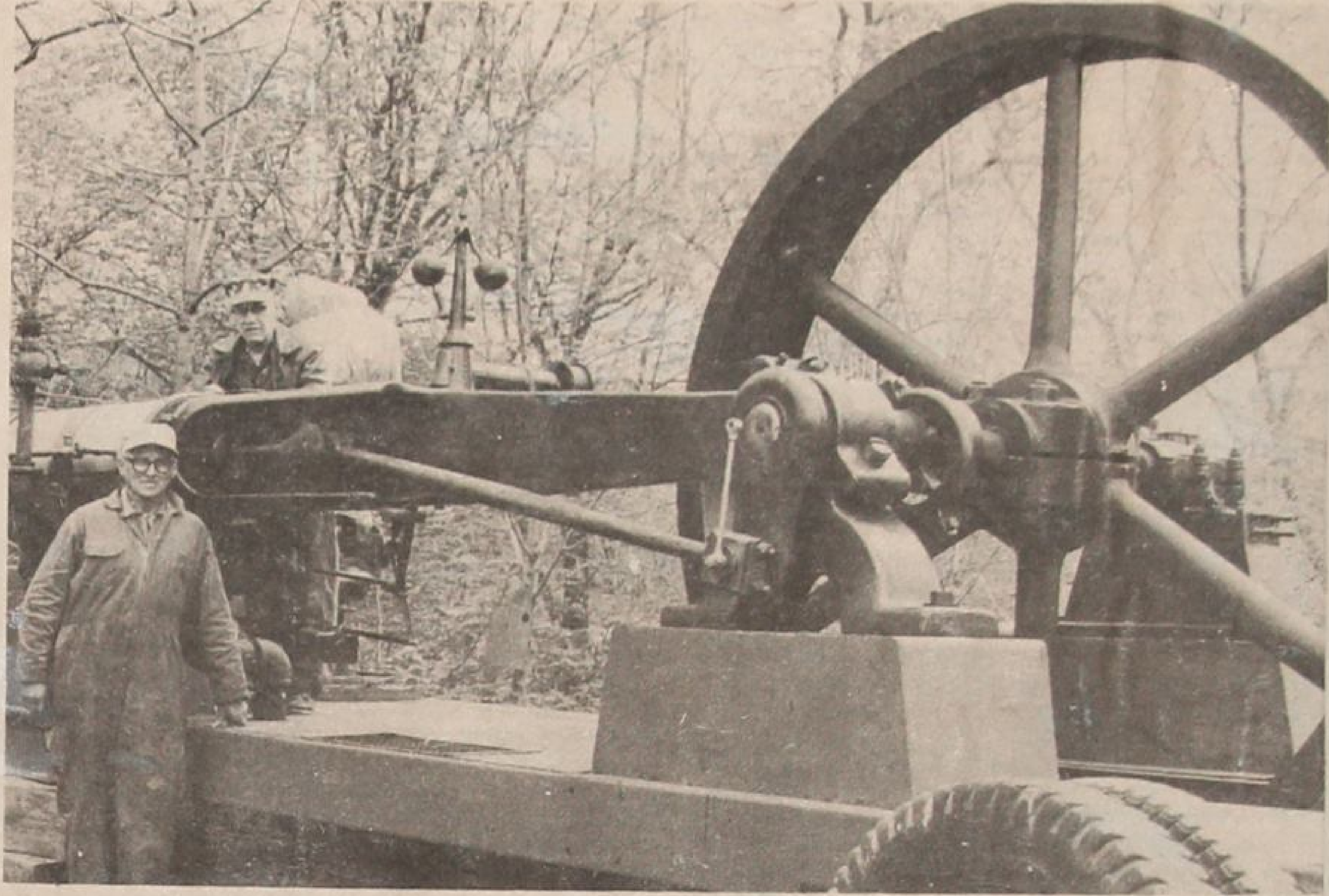
Although it is a stationary

engine, the McMullen brothers have mounted it on a trailer to make it portable.

Mr. McMullen has operated a machine shop in Otterville since 1946. That

shop is unique in that it still uses a flat belt and a line shaft to power the machinery. His interest in old machinery is not confined to steam engines. He

also has a 1940 John Deere tractor and a 1930 Goodison Thrasher. He has displayed them and steam pumps in the steam show since it first began 10 years ago.



William McMullen Sr. (standing) and his brother Gordon from Otterville have been busy the past few weeks preparing this stationary steam engine, once used in the Tip Top Cannery, for display in this year's annual Historical Show in Norwich. The engine was made in Galt in 1910.



**Preparing for show**  
William McMullen Sr., of Otterville, has been working on this 75 horse power steam engine to get it ready for the annual Historical Show in Norwich at which steam and gas engines and antique farm equipment are on display. The engine used to power the line shaft on all the machines in the Tip Top Cannery in Otterville.

Piles of twisted metal sheeting and an assortment of other debris, including a battered bathtub, were collected from the 33-acre Grand River Conservation Authority area at Oxford Centre on Saturday.

About 80 local residents, members of the Boy Scouts, school children and members of the Oxford Sportsmen's and Oxford Fish and Game Clubs took part in the one-day clean-up blitz organized as part of the province-wide Pitch-In Day sponsored by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

The swampy conservation area at Oxford Centre was littered with debris left behind by the August 7 tornado that devastated much of Oxford Centre when it swept through the area. The volunteers worked diligently, hauling debris up out of the conservation area, from 9:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. when they were rained out.

During that time workers filled a 45-foot truck trailer with junk and had collected enough to fill two more. The loads of garbage were taken to local landfill sites and the scrap metal was sent to local dealers.

Clean-ups also took place at 12 other sites throughout the county over the weekend, involving more than 300 people. These included clean-

ups Friday at the Norwich Conservation area and the Darkie Cemetary near Otterville by geography students at Norwich District

High School; a clean-up of the Hickson trail; the Thames River in Ingersoll and the Woodstock fairgrounds.



**Clean-up blitz**  
About 20 students, members of Paul Steinberg's Geography 350 class at NDHS, took part in the province-wide Pitch-In Day by cleaning up the Darkie Cemetery near Otterville on Friday. The students also cleaned up the Norwich conservation area. While cleaning up the conservation area, students were to become more familiar with the physical features of the area.



# Motorcycle collection will be at week-end show

By SUZANNE HANSON

Motorcycles are becoming more and more popular in North America but the machines are certainly not new to Art Picknell of Otterville who has been riding them since 1928 and collecting them since 1964.

Between himself and his son Richard, they have about 17 working motorcycles in their collection, mostly vintage models that are fast becoming rareties.

Mr. Picknell will be showing about six motorcycles at the Historical Show this weekend in Norwich as part of the inside displays at the arena. Also in his display will be a chain-driven tricycle dating to the early 1900's.

Mr. Picknell said he has owned a motorcycle since 1928 and even admits to having gone on his honeymoon on one. But he didn't begin collecting them seriously until 1964 when some models began to become more scarce. Since he retired from his job as a lay-out and set-up welder for Truck Engineering in Woodstock in 1974, he has been able to devote a good deal of his time to seeking out and restoring old motorcycles as well as researching the history of the various models and their manufacturers.

One of the rarer bikes in his collection is a 1927 Douglas made in Bristol, England. The company that made that bike started production in 1907 and continued operation until financial difficulties forced its shut down in 1957.

The first motorcycle Mr. Picknell ever had was a 1917 Indian, model O, with an opposed flat-twin cylinder. "That is what inspired me to buy the Douglas," said Mr. Picknell, as the two bikes are of a similar style. The clutch in the fly-wheel in these models is similar to a steam engine's and is rare in a motorcycle design, he said. The 350cc Douglas is a rare specimen in this part of the country.

Also in his collection is a British-made Ariel 1,000. Ariel was one of the oldest motorcycle companies in Britain having gone into

business during the late 1800's. Some of the other British models included the Triumph, Vincent, Francis-Burnett, Norton, Douglas and the Royal Enfield. Mr. Picknell has seven British bikes in his collection as well as German, American and Japanese models.

The most popular bikes in North America were the Indian and Harley Davidson in the 1930's and 40's with the two companies running in close competition. In the 1920's there was a very large manufacturing group in the United States including the makers of the Henderson, Cleveland, Thor, the Pope, the Flying Merkel, the Yale, the Reading Standard, the Excelsior and the Ace.

"In the old days you had to train yourself to ride a motorcycle but now they are built to suit pretty well everyone." Mr. Picknell said that mastering a motorcycle was not one of the easiest tasks in the old days either.

He initially traded his bicycle for his first motorcycle on an even trade with the condition that he could obtain the parts necessary to get the motorcycle in running order. He was unable to do that, so the trade was off. He gave the 1917 Indian back in return for his bicycle.

"The next one I got (a 1917 Excelsior made in Chicago) was running. That's when my troubles really began," said Mr. Picknell. "I was determined I would ride it." In the end his persistence paid off and he learned to handle the motorcycle. His only regret now is that he doesn't still have that first motorcycle in his possession—even if it didn't work.

Mr. Picknell would like to see this country get into motorcycle production. As a vehicle they are becoming more and more popular, although they are not used for as many functions as they were years ago. The push back then was to promote the idea that the motorcycle could do just as much as a car, said Mr. Picknell. Motorcycles were even used commercially for such uses as making deliveries with a side car.

He admits the motorcycle

has undergone changes over the years in its design. "The biggest change in bikes would be the automatic drive and the electric starter back in 1912, however, but it was almost as large as the engine and therefore wasn't practical.

Mr. Picknell enjoys attending shows such as the historical show as it gives him an opportunity to meet up with people interested in motorcycles. It can also provide him with leads on other bikes or motorcycle parts he might be interested in. It's often difficult to find parts for some of the older bikes.



## Vial of Life

Norwich pharmacist Robert Scott displays one of the vials supplied for the Vial of Life program now in operation in Norwich Township. The vial contains vital information related to an individual's health on the form at the left and is kept in the refrigerator where it can be found in an emergency.

# Start Vial of Life program for area

Norwich Township residents are being encouraged to take part in a new lifesaving program.

The Vial of Life program is designed to provide lifesaving information in the home in case of a crisis or an emergency. One of the organizers of the program locally, Chief Robert Knight of the Norwich Township Police Department, said the program is spreading quickly across Ontario.

The program is for individuals who live alone, senior citizens, parents who leave their children at home with babysitters and non-English speaking im-

migrants. It applies to all who wish to provide for their care in case of fire, sudden illness, accident or other emergency.

The program is very simple. A form is filled out bearing the name of the individual's doctor, medical insurance number and information relating to special medical problems, medications, and allergies. This form is then placed in a vial or pill bottle and fastened to the underside of the upper right hand shelf of the refrigerator where it will be easily found by rescue personnel if the need arises. A second label on the outside of the refrigerator notifies

rescue personnel the vial is there.

The refrigerator was chosen for the location of the information because it is easily accessible, everyone has one and it offers protection against fire, said pharmacist Robert Scott who is also involved with the program.

With this information right at their finger tips, rescue personnel can then go right to work to save lives.

The program, which is being sponsored locally by the Norwich Township Chamber of Commerce, went into operation this week. Material for the Vial of Life is available from Chief Knight 863-2641 or 863-2947 and Mr. Scott 863-2401. In Otterville information and forms are available from Colin Robinson, 879-6472 and in Springford from Sherrill Babbey 842-5392.

Mr. Scott said he is trying to interest Tillsonburg and Woodstock in setting up their own Vial of Life programs.



# Plans underway for Springford fair

SPRINGFORD — Even though a charter has not arrived yet, the plans for Springford Fair are already in the works.

The newly-formed Springford Area Agriculture Society has a great team of workers already volunteering their services on various committees.

Bob Turnbull is in charge

of the parade and would be happy to hear from you if you wish to enter a float or other entry in the parade. Approval to request the "Mocca Temple Band" from London to lead the parade has already been given. It was agreed by all in attendance that a well known band like the "Mocca Temple" will be a great

attraction for the parade and Springford Fair.

A pet show is organized and the convener for this is Mrs. Bob Turnbull (Eleanor). The rules for the pet show will appear in the prize list book which will be available by the end of June or you may contact Eleanor on this. Bob Hussey is convener for afternoon

entertainment and has some great fun ideas as nail driving contest, cross cut saw contest and tug-of-war team contests.

Dorothy Smith is convener over school exhibits and a prize list will be presented to the schools in the area before school is out so a great competition can be planned. Doug Rice is convener for

evening entertainment and an "Amateur Talent Show" is planned. The rules for the talent show are not yet complete, but you may contact Doug if you wish to enter.

Mrs. Bob Pettman is convener for the flower show competition and for vegetables section. A great competition is expected for

this category. Eunice Rauw is convener over homecraft and baking for all categories and has volunteer assistance from Dorothy Schott. Much time and effort have already gone into this area of competition and a prize list will be available by the end of June for all members and be mailed to them. For non-members who wish to obtain a copy, they may contact the secretary (842-2532) or any of the executive.

It has been decided that a membership fee of \$2.00 entitles the member to five free competitive entries at the fair and a fee of \$1.00 per entry after five be charged. Non-member fees will be \$1.00 per entry. Junior members under age 19 the day of the fair will be allowed as many entries as they wish for their \$2.00 membership fee.

Jack Weeks has volunteered to convene commercial exhibits and entries and we have already had requests to save space for some of these. It is well known that it costs a lot of money to stage an agriculture fair and since we only have the membership fees for starters, it was imperative that we have a convener over fund raising. Dale Avey accepted this undertaking and we hope that if he should ask you for support that you will favour us generously. If you do not wish to wait for his asking, you may contact Dale any time (842-2420).

The Springford Athletic Club will sponsor a barbecue the evening of the fair. They have offered a return of 25 per cent of the profits from this venture to the fair board.



## Heavenly music

The official dedication of an organ donated to the Bookton Presbyterian Church by Robert and Isabel Arthur took place on Sunday afternoon at the church. Shown above by

the organ are (rear) Rev. Fred Cromeley, pastor of the church, Miss Arthur and Mr. Arthur (front). Seated at the organ is the church's organist Marjorie Lee.

# Church overflows for dedication

Approximately 200 people-members of the Bookton Presbyterian Church, friends and relatives of Robert Arthur—filled the tiny church to overflowing on Sunday afternoon to witness the dedication of a

magnificent new organ.

The organ was donated to the church by Mr. Arthur and Isabel Arthur, of RR 3, Scotland, in memory of Mr. Arthur's parents Thomas and Elizabeth Arthur. Now

92 years old, Mr. Arthur was christened in the Bookton Church. The present structure replaced that building in 1891.

Performing the dedication service was Rev. Fred

Cromeley, pastor of the church. Jim Orr of Woodstock presented a variety of musical numbers to highlight the features of the organ. A dinner at the home of Mr. Arthur followed the dedication service.



# Leisure club has final meeting

OTTERVILLE (C) — The annual outing for members and friends of Otterville Leisure Club travelled by bus to Doon Village and returned by way of Woodstock where they enjoyed their dinner, arranged by Colin Robinson and those who assisted in contacting the folk.

Club members also held their final get-together for the summer in Woodlawn Community Centre. There was a good attendance. The day started with a potluck dinner, followed by a brief meeting where President Annie Pritchard presided.

The meeting opened with O Canada and two minutes of silence was held for two members, the late Nate

McMullen and Wilfrid Addison.

Final plans were made for the fall bazaar which will be

held on Saturday, Sept. 13.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lee were in charge of the remainder of the afternoon.

Happy Birthday was sung to those with birthdays in June. With Nellie Taylor at the piano, a sing-song was

held and pictures were taken.

Members played cards upstairs and games down-

stairs. The president thanked all for coming.

Meetings will resume in September.

## Lions work for community

BY DELL MCCOMBS

The Norwich-Otterville Lions Club is one of the largest and most active organizations in the community.

After completing a most successful year in 1979, plans are underway for a repeat performance for 1980 with the first meeting of the fall slated to be held on August 25 at Lion Albert Cornwall's farm with a beef barbecue.

The coming year will come under discussion then starting with plans for the annual Lions Carnival to be held on Friday evening, September 12 and a dance and draw for the car to be held on Saturday evening, September 13 to get the season rolling.

Officers for 1980 are: President, Gordon Shearer; Past-President, Robert Spek; first vice-president, Norman Fidlin; second vice-president, Colin Cope; third vice, Leslie Dickson; Secretary, Colin Cope and Treasurer, Murray Wardle.

The club meets twice a month on the second and fourth Monday for a dinner meeting. The executive meets the first Monday of each month, alternating between Norwich and Otterville.

Major projects of the club include the maintenance of the Lion Park in Otterville, busing children to the swimming pool in the park from Otterville, Springford, Norwich and Burgessville during the summer months, and supplying transportation for local citizens who require it.

They also sponsor the annual Blood Donor Clinic, the Veteran's Night at the Royal Canadian Legion Hall, and a Hallowe'en Party in Otterville.

Their largest projects have been the Norwich Community Centre, to which they have contributed around \$45,000, and the Otterville Community Hall which is now renovated and equipped with a new kitchen and washrooms following an addition of 24 feet. When all the work is completed sometime in September, the club will hold their regular meeting on the fourth Monday of each month there. They are also planning to hold an Open House there in the fall.

Money-making projects include the annual chicken

barbecue, the fish fry, an annual Oktoberfest and the Sweetheart Ball; as well as selling tickets on a car; the fireworks display at Otterville Park each Victoria Day weekend and the annual Carnival in the Norwich community centre. All proceeds go to support community projects.

Locally, the Lions support minor baseball and hockey clubs; Scouts and Cubs and the Lighthouse. Among other groups supported are the Lions Care of Canada, ef-

fective speaking, Hearing and Speech Action, work with the deaf and the Leader Dog program for the blind as well as the Lions International Foundation and Sight Conservation.

Local Lions participate in various parades and the weekend of June 1 they attended the Lions 60th Convention of the Multiple District of Ontario, Labrador and Quebec in Ottawa, taking the old Norwich Fire Truck to add to the festivities.

## August picnic supper for Happy Bluebirds

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mrs. Stanley Davis opened her home to members of the Happy Bluebird Club for the July meeting. There was a good attendance.

President, Mrs. Daisy Ash, presided for the meeting and Mrs. Jennie Mitchell read minutes. Roll call was answered with members telling "Something they had to be thankful for." *July 80*

A letter was read from the Mary Hastings' press after which Mrs. Daisy Ash gave a very interesting report of the day she spent at the Mary Hastings' reunion held at Springbank Park, July 19. Daisy reported meeting a number of members from various clubs whom she had not met for so long and was happy to pass the word along that the Happy Bluebird

Club had celebrated its 32nd birthday.

Mrs. Katie Lowe of Norwich invited members to her home for the August meeting when a picnic supper will be served at 6 p.m. Members are asked to bring food, cutlery, and dishes. They are also requested to be prepared to help with the program.

Readings were given by Mrs. Josephine Rosehart and Mrs. George Lowe. Ann and Marie Davis each played a selection on the organ and Nancy Davis gave music on the accordion and her twin brother, Robert, played selections on the guitar.

Josepha Rosehart voiced appreciation to Helen for the enjoyable evening and to those who took part in the program.

Meeting closed with a social time.

## Bleachers collapse *July 1980*

A bleacher collapsed at Otterville Park Sunday afternoon while 15 adults and 10 children were seated on it to have their photograph taken.

Tillsonburg OPP said the bleacher collapsed

sideways, causing minor injuries to four adults, three of whom were taken to Tillsonburg District Hospital, and were later released.

Constable Walter Baguley investigated the incident.

## Couple wed 25 years *19*

Margaret Walter and Donald Barnim were married on July 16, 1955, at St. Pauls United Church, Tillsonburg in a service conducted by the minister, Rev. W. Aldworth. Their attendants were Norma Clifford and Floyd Hussey.

Margaret is the daughter of Reg and the late Emily Walter and Don is the son of Blanche and the late Jack Barnim.

Both have spent all their lives in the Otterville area, where Don works for the Township of Norwich.

For their 25th wedding anniversary, their attendants, now Mr. and Mrs. Hussey entertained them in London at the Friars' Cellar, to a lovely meal, later returning to Otterville town hall where their children, family and friends were waiting to surprise them with a party.

The evening was spent dancing to music provided by Don Longthorne. Friends and relatives were present from Tillsonburg, Durham, Preston and surrounding areas.

Don and Margaret have five children, David of Toronto, engaged to Debra Cooper, Dan of Norwich married to the former Nancy Sprague, Joanne, Duane and Lori at home.

Don and Margaret, assisted by Floyd and Norma, opened the many beautiful gifts.

The family put on a lovely buffet lunch including two cakes decorated for the occasion.

It was a memorable evening, long remembered and appreciated by Don and Margaret.



**DELBERT ISAAC  
WRIGGLESWORTH**

Delbert Isaac Wrigglesworth of RR 1, Otterville, passed away on Saturday, July 5, 1980, in his 84th year.

Son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Wrigglesworth, he was a life-long resident of the area and was assessor of the former South Norwich Township. Mr. Wrigglesworth was a member of the Canadian Order of Foresters, Court 285, Norwich, and a life-long member of Otterville Fellowship Baptist Church.

Surviving are one daughter, Dr. Hazel Wrigglesworth of the Phillipines; two sons, Ronald Wrigglesworth and Donald Wrigglesworth, both of Woodstock; and two grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his first wife, the former Gladys Stockton; by his second wife, the former Ida Rose Pudge in 1977; and by a daughter Helen Harrison in 1969.

Resting at the Arn and Son Funeral Residence, Norwich, until Wednesday noon, thence to Otterville Fellowship Baptist Church for service at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. D. R. Gorrie of Woodstock.

Interment in North Norwich Gore Cemetery.

**CHARLES FREDERICK  
LEACH**

Charles Frederick Leach of 16 George St., Norwich, passed away at Windsor on Thursday, July 3, 1980, in his 71st year.

He was a son of the late Fred Leach and the former Della Daiken.

Surviving are three sons, Bruce Leach of Amherstburg, Harry Leach of Brantford and Stanley Leach of RR 4, Woodstock; two sisters, Mrs. Ida Rachar and Mrs. Ruby Christo, both of Norwich; and seven grandchildren.

Rested at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service was held Sunday, July 6, at 2:30 p.m. conducted by Pastor Donald Gorrie.

Mrs. William McMullen played hymns before and after the service, which was largely attended.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

Memorial donations were made to the Canadian Cancer Society, the Heart Fund, Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital and to Gideon Bibles.

**CATHARINE ELIZABETH  
KENNEDY**

Mrs. David Kennedy of Otterville passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Sunday, July 13, 1980, in her 67th year.

She was the former Catharine Elizabeth Ackland.

Surviving, besides her husband, are three daughters, Mrs. Thomas (Jean) Pitts of Mississauga, Mrs. John (Carol) Matthews of Woodstock and Mrs. Howard (Barbara) Hopkins of Byron; two sons, William Albert Kennedy of Midhurst and Bruce Erwin Kennedy of Mountain View, California; one brother, Erwin J. Ackland of London; and nine grandchildren.

Rested at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service was held Tuesday, July 15, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earl Moore.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

Norwich Chapter No. 175, Order of the Eastern Star, held a memorial service Monday evening at 8 o'clock at the Funeral Home.

Memorial donations to the Oxford Lung Association would be appreciated by the family.

**CATHARINE ELIZABETH  
KENNEDY**

Funeral service for the late Catharine Elizabeth Kennedy of Otterville, who passed away on July 13, 1980, was held at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, on July 15, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earl Moore.

Among the survivors are a daughter, Mrs. Thomas (Jeanne) Pitts of Mississauga.

Mrs. Kennedy was predeceased by her parents, Albert N. Ackland and the former S. Harriett Hill, and by her step-mother, Phoebe Ackland, who raised her. She was born in Strathroy and

started teaching kindergarten at Otterville, then taught for a number of years at Delhi public school. She was a member of Norwich Chapter 175, O.E.S. and a Past Worthy Matron; a member of Otterville United Church; of the U.C.W.; of the Women's Institute and of Otterville Leisure Club.

Pallbearers were Thomas Pitts, John Matthews, Howard Hopkins, Brad Ackland, Ted Ackland and Doug Ackland.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

Memorial donations were made to Oxford Lung Association, Canadian Cancer Society, Ontario Heart Foundation, Otterville United Church, Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital and the Oxford County Diabetic Association.

**IRVIN GARFIELD  
GEHRING**

Irvin Garfield Gehring of RR 2, Otterville, passed away at St. Joseph's Hospital, London, on Thursday, July 24, 1980, in his 61st year.

Surviving are his wife, the former Jean Walther; one son, Les Gehring of RR 2, Otterville; two daughters, Linda of Hamilton and Mrs. Jerry (Joan) Porter of Eden; three granddaughters, Amy Gehring, Erica Gehring and Lindsay Porter; a twin sister, Mrs. Iva Zimmer of Delhi; and two brothers, Stanley Gehring of Otterville and Harry Gehring of Vancouver.

Resting at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service will be held Saturday, July 26 at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earl Moore.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

Memorial donations to the Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family.

A memorial service by IOOF Tecumseh Lodge no. 182 will be held tonight (Friday) at 8:30 at the Funeral Home.

**IRVIN GARFIELD  
GEHRING**

Funeral service for the late Irvin Garfield Gehring of RR 2, Otterville, who passed away on July 24, 1980, was held at Otterville United Church on Saturday, July 26, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earl Moore. 1980

Mr. Gehring had lived on the farm south of the village, where he was born, all his life. He was a member of the Board of Stewards of Otterville United Church and was a school trustee for South Norwich Township for a number of years.

The funeral service was largely attended. Pallbearers were Boyd Little, Mel Beecroft, Fred Cole, Jack Graham, Gordon Gehring and Gary Walther.

Also largely attended was the IOOF service held by Tecumseh Lodge No. 182 on Friday evening at 8:30, at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville.

Memorial donations were made to the Canadian Cancer Society, to Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital and to Otterville United Church.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

## Norwich Township Council Briefs

### Stoplights coming

Norwich Township council was advised Monday that the stoplights should be in place at the main intersection in Norwich sometime in August or September.

### Blacksmith shop to go

Norwich Township council accepted a recommendation by the protection to persons and property committee to pay Al Thompson \$600 upon the complete removal of the old blacksmith shop at the intersection of County Road 18 and The Baseline Road (Norwich Gore).

This payment is to be shared equally by Oxford County and the township. The offer is valid only if the building is completely removed within 90 days of Mr. Thompson being notified of the offer. The removal of the building is desired by council to improve the visibility at the intersection.

### New fire chief

Norwich Township council accepted the appointment of Brian Workman, RR 1, Burgessville, as the new fire chief for the township on Monday.

Mr. Workman was selected from among four applicants interviewed for the position. The protection to persons and property committee will decide when he is to officially take on his new duties.

Until that time, outgoing Fire Chief Gary Fischer will remain in the post.

### Tenders accepted

Norwich Township council accepted the two lowest tenders submitted for a single axle truck and a tandem truck as recommended by the public works committee at council's meeting Monday.

The tenders of \$26,105 for the single axle dump truck and \$56,035 for a tandem axle diesel truck with snow plow equipment were submitted by Fidlin Pontiac-Buick of Norwich.

### Appreciate efforts

Norwich Township council agreed Monday to send a letter to Allen Pollock of Norwich expressing its appreciation of his work on the flower beds in the Norwich mini park, done without remuneration.

# Norwich needs radios, pagers

T.N.  
July 23

Norwich Township council decided Tuesday that its four fire departments will need four mobile radio units and 65 pagers in addition to the four mobile radio units it already has and the four being supplied by Oxford County for the fire communications system.

Council was responding to a letter from Oxford County Engineer Don Pratt requesting information on the township's equipment needs for the county-wide system being established. Norwich Township council will inform Mr. Pratt that it would like to have input into the type of pagers being purchased as well as information on the operating cost to the township of the centrally-operated dispatch system proposed by the county.

The price and effectiveness of the pagers varies, said newly appointed township Fire Chief Brian Workman.

"You're better off to spend more money to get better sets," he said. They will stand up better over time.

The cost of the pagers could be as high as \$285 each, said Mr. Pratt in his letter to

council. The estimated price he gave for the mobile radio units was \$975. At those prices, the equipment would cost the township \$23,425.

With the new communications system, which should be in place by the end of this year, all fire calls in the township would go to the central dispatch in Woodstock and be relayed to the volunteer firemen in the appropriate area. The firemen would receive the location of the fire on the pager to be carried with them at all times.

The fire communications system recommended by the county's public works committee will consist of a base station at the Woodstock Fire Hall, a radio repeater station, a 100-foot antennae structure on Bower Hill in Woodstock and 21 mobile radios (four in Norwich Township) to be installed in fire trucks in each of the fire stations throughout the county.

The fire alert system, of which the pagers are part, will be supplied by the individual municipalities. It is being designed by a consultant.



# Lead Otterville

On Saturday, July 12, the Norwich PeeWee Boys started their league playoffs with Otterville.

In the opening game, in a best of three series, Norwich used a 10 run second inning to defeat Otterville 14-3.

Todd Christo had a single, double and a triple while Dan Vanbesien had two singles and a double and Chris Hayes had three singles to lead the Norwich hitters. Richard Grieco had a pair of singles and Rob McCall had a triple and a single. Tim Christo, Mike Gratton and

Darren Smith each had a single.

J. Arthur had a double for Otterville while B. Braun, E. Barnim and M. Nunn each had a single.

Tim Christo on the rubber for Norwich walked eight and struck out 15 while E. Winegarden walked four and struck out seven for Otterville.

The second game of the series will be in Otterville. Otterville 120 000 0-3 Norwich 0(10) 202 x-14 Winegarden and Arthur Christo and Vanbesien.

SEC. 11 ROW 13 SEAT 30

FIELD LEVEL CHAIR  
EST. \$6.11  
STAD. TAX .25  
SALES TAX .64 \$7.00

Sun. 1:30  
JULY 13 1980



SEC. 11 ROW 13 SEAT 31

FIELD LEVEL CHAIR  
EST. \$6.11  
STAD. TAX .25  
SALES TAX .64 \$7.00

Sun. 1:30  
JULY 13 1980



# Otters take pair

Otterville Otters, getting strong pitching from Bob Smith and Dave Felder, defeated Straffordville Intermediates 10-2 and Springford Blues 5-1 in a pair of Four Counties senior fastball league games.

In the win over Straffordville, Smith fired a one-hitter while Pat Pinnoy blasted a two-run home run to high light a four-run fifth inning that put the game away for Otters.

Smith also aided his own pitching cause by slamming out four of the 12 hits Otterville got. Roy King had three of the hits while Dave Davis got two and C.D.

Richardson and Pat and Pierre Pinnoy got one apiece. Dean Pressey managed the only hit off Smith, a single.

Against Springford, Felder hit a bases-loaded triple in the first inning and then fired a three-hitter to pace Otters to the win.

Three players had walked ahead of Felder's blast and Otterville scored two more runs in the fifth after Springford got on the board in the third.

Felder, Richardson and Pierre Pinnoy had the only hits for Otters off Springford pitching while Carl Wilcox got two hits and Paul Scott one for Otterville.

# Otterville juyes win tournament

*July 1980*

The South Oxford Softball Association decided to do away with league juvenile playoffs this year and held a two-day tournament to decide the League Champions. The top six teams were in the tournament with each team having to be beaten twice before they were out.

The Midget Boys will also decide their championship this way on the diamond of the team finishing in first place.

The Norwich juveniles won their opening game with a 4-1 win over Oxford Centre.

Dale Grieco led Norwich with a single and a double while Randy DeGroot had a double. Murray Lancaster, Dwayne DeVos, Greg Butcher and Blair Chambers each had singles for Norwich.

Steve Day hit a home run for the only run for Oxford Centre. Doug Oliver had a double while M. Crawford and D. Sumsion each had a single for Oxford Centre.

Oxford Centre 000 000 1-1  
Norwich 022 000 x-4  
Crawford and Sumsion; Chambers and Grieco.

The second game saw Otterville blank Norwich 6-0. Andrew Malcolm had a pair of singles to lead the Norwich attack. Randy DeGroot had a double while Doug Bowerman, Murray Lancaster and Blair Chambers each had a single.

L. Hansford, Troy Miller, Ted Briggs and B. Neale each had a pair of singles for Otterville. Kevin Church had a double, while Ron Wells,

Ken DeRoo, J. Davis and D. Hussey each had a single. Norwich 000 000 0-0  
Otterville 003 111 x-6

McKie, Chambers and Grieco, Wells and DeRoo.

On Sunday, July 20, Norwich scored a pair of runs in the seventh inning to edge Oxford Centre 2-1 and eliminate them from further competition.

Bill McKie, the winning pitcher for Norwich, drove in both runs in the decisive seventh inning with one of his two singles in the game. Chris Haggith, Dwayne DeVos, Dale Grieco and Murray Lancaster each had a single.

B. Wood, M. Crawford and Alyea each had a single for Oxford Centre.

Oxford Centre 000 000 1-1  
Norwich 000 000 2-2  
Facett and Day; McKie and Grieco.

In the finale, Otterville defeated Norwich 5-2 to win the tournament. Murray Lancaster and Andrew Malcolm each had a single and a double for Norwich. Dwayne DeVos had a double, while Dan Cattell, Chris Haggith and Blair Chambers each had a single.

Ken DeRoo paced Otterville with a single and a home run. L. Hansford, J. Davis and G. Pathy each had a pair of singles.

Ron Wells had a double while Troy Miller, Paul Babcock, Kevin Church and P. Finch each had a single. Norwich 200 000 000-2  
Otterville 020 001 20x-5

Chambers and Grieco; Wells and DeRoo.

Page 12 Section 1 THE TILLSONBURG NEWS Wednesday, July 23, 1980

## In ORSA opener

# Otterville downs Jarvis

Otterville Otters, scoring early and then halting a late rally, defeated Jarvis J's 7-5 in the first game of the opening round of the Ontario Rural Softball Association playoffs, last week in Otterville.

Otters, of the Four Counties league, scored six

of their runs in the first six innings and then watched as the J's, who play in the Tri-County league, rallied for a five-run seventh innings.

However, Otters held on for the win and added an insurance marker in the eighth inning, giving them a one game lead in the best of

three series.

While Jarvis used one big inning to account for its runs, Otterville never scored more than twice in one frame but got at least one run in six of their eight innings.

In the first inning, C.D. Richardson scored on a wild pitch after singling to give

Otters a 1-0 lead and they stretched the margin to 2-0 in the second as Doug Furlong reached on an error, was sacrificed to a second by Mark Holbrook and scored on another wild pitch.

Otterville scored two more runs in the third inning as Pierre Pinnoy slammed a two-run home run and the lead grew to 5-0 in the fifth as Richardson scored on the third Jarvis error.

Holbrook got his second hit of the game in the sixth inning and scored the sixth Otterville run when Pat Pinnoy connected for an rbi triple.

In the seventh inning, Jarvis finally got its bats in working condition, scoring five times to narrow the lead to 6-5. The big blow of the inning was a three-run home run by losing pitcher Chuck Anderson, a hit which followed rbi singles off the bats of Mike Adamowich and Brian Veldhuis.

Otters, with their lead seriously threatened, added an insurance run to the total in the eighth as Bill Richardson, running for Pierre Pinnoy, scored on a single by John Walther.

Otters had nine hits off Anderson with C.D. Richardson, Pierre Pinnoy and Holbrook getting two each and Joe Webb, Walther and Pat Pinnoy adding one apiece. For Jarvis, Anderson had two hits while Craig McKeen, Hal Brown, Bruce Fleming, Randy Martin, Dave King, Adamowich and Veldhuis had one each.

Anderson struck out seven and walked three while on the mound for J's and Bob Smith and Jim Miles combined to fan 13 and walk none for Otters.

## Bantam boys win opener from Otters

On Wednesday evening July 2, the Norwich Bantam Boys defeated Otterville 13-4 in the first game of their best of three series.

Darryl Morgan, Jerry Vandebussche and Tim Thompson each had a single and a home run for Norwich. J.B. Hahn had a pair of doubles while Dwayne Vanbesien had a single and a triple. John Bruce and Dennis Clifford each had a single. Max Holbrook, Mark Fallowfield, Rob Kovacs, Paul Gehring and Dan Laforge each had a single for Otterville.

J.B. Hahn and Darryl Morgan both worked on the mound for Norwich as the duo combined to walk nine and strike out ten. Mike Hill and Mark Fallowfield combined to walk five and strike out one for Otterville.

The second game will be in Otterville on Tuesday, July 8, with a third game if necessary to be played in Norwich.

Otterville 000 020 2-4  
Norwich 332 401 x-13

Hill, Fallowfield (4) and Arthur, Hahn, Morgan (7) Hahn (7) and Bruce.

OTTERVILLE 7 JARVIS 5

R H E  
Jarvis 000 000 300 - 5 9 3  
Otterville 112 011 01x - 7 9 2  
Anderson and Brown; Smith, Miles (7) and Pat Pinnoy. W - Smith, L - Anderson. HR - Jarvis, Anderson; Otterville, Pierre Pinnoy.





Maureen Vandenberghe ponders a 1948 assessment roll from what was known as Little Ireland in Oxford County. She is compiling a history of Little Ireland which will eventually be incorporated into a history of Oxford County, a book sponsored by the Norwich and District Historical Society. (Staff Photo)

## Little Ireland, part of Oxford's past

NORWICH — Do you know who your ancestors were and where they lived or what they did?

Maureen Vandenberghe, a graduate student in history at Western University, is compiling information for a book to be published about the history of Oxford County. She says there is a real surge of interest in local, regional, and, especially, family history in Ontario.

"Oxford County has some of the most well documented historical data in the province and people are really getting involved in their past here," Maureen said. "Whether it was all started by the television series 'Roots', or just a form of escapism into the past, I don't know," she added.

Maureen is working on an historical reconstruction of what was once called Little Ireland, which was located on the Hawtry Road. She makes use of old birth and marriage certificates, wills, assessment rolls, church records, voters' lists, land registries, diaries, local storytellers and even some of the older cemeteries in order to determine where the town was, who lived there and how it grew.

"I have to draw a balance between statistics and dry facts and the personal, individual historical anecdotes about people who lived in the area," Maureen said. "People are so keen on tracing a colourful ancestor these days that it is

difficult to find a medium measure of both fact and local, historical human interest."

The Norwich archives, where Maureen spends some of her time researching is a busy place.

"People come from all over to delve into their family histories and you can't exaggerate how busy the archives really are," Maureen explained.

One of the more frustrating aspects of attempting to reconstruct a community which no longer exists, is locating the necessary documents and reference material in time.

"People just do not know how important some of these old records are and sometimes they simply get tossed out rather than taken to the local museum, archives or historical society. If these vintage records are not preserved properly, a piece of our past could be lost forever. All it takes is the initiative of a few people at municipal offices and registries," Maureen said.

One difference between our ancestors and ourselves is the concept of municipal affairs.

"There used to be a much more localized form of government in community affairs. It meant people knew where the money was coming from and this had a major bearing on how it was spent."

"I have met many interesting people

## Council seat in Norwich to be left vacant

OTTERVILLE — Norwich Township council members have decided to leave the seat of the late Councillor Ross Warboys vacant until Dec. 1 in recognition of his past services to the township.

Former Councillor Warboys was electrocuted on his Burgessville farm, July 15, when he came in contact with a live wire while clearing away debris from the aftermath of a storm.

Under the Ontario Municipal Act, a new

election may be held to fill a vacant seat after March 31 of an election year but this is not a strict stipulation.

"Council may appoint a person to fill the vacant seat, but they don't have to and in this case, they chose not to," Clerk Bob Watkins of Norwich Township said.

Municipal elections will be held in November.

"Ross Warboys was a very capable councillor and he will be difficult to replace," Mayor Jack Burn said.

## Crime school for business

OTTERVILLE — The Tillsonburg detachment of the Provincial Police have organized a seminar to inform area merchants how to deal with fraud and shoplifting as well as retailer's rights.

The seminar will be held July 31st at the Norwich Community Centre from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The seminar will be sponsored by local area police forces; Fanshawe College and the Norwich Township Chamber of Commerce.

A representative from a credit card company will address the bankers and retail employees invited to attend. Vandalism, fraud and shoplifting will be discussed and the focus will be on the business community, according to a Tillsonburg OPP spokesman.





**Commemorating anniversary**

Norwich Post Master Gordon Shearer displays one of the plates and mugs designed to commemorate the 150th anniversary of postal service in Norwich. The plates and mugs, depicting the post office building gutted by fire in November 1978, are on sale at the post office trailers in Norwich.





Rachar, Merlin Howse, Neil Davies, Ted McElhone, Garner Scott and Bill McMullen. Back, from left, scorekeeper Stewart Godby, Ken Mann, Keith Arthur, Bob Smith, Bob Furlong, Archie McDougall, Alex Smith and coach Gary Rachar.

**Otters revisited**

Many members of the 1966 Otterville Otters ORSA Intermediate A championship team turned out for an exhibition game with the 1980 Otters Saturday night. Members of the 1966 team were: front, from left, Dave Arthur, Gary

**In oldtimers fastball**

*July 26*

# 60s still alive in Otterville

Fastball is not just for the young.

At least not in Otterville, where Otters from years past came together Saturday night to do battle with the 1980 Otterville Otters.

While the current Four Counties fastball league Otters came out as 6-5 winners, they were hard-pressed to defeat their predecessors, many of whom had played on numerous Ontario Rural Softball Association champions in the 50s and 60s.

The game, played before a capacity crowd, included players from former Otterville teams that had won ORSA titles in Intermediate A and B between 1957 and 1967.

Included in the players from by-gone years who took part in the exhibition was Bob Smith, the only old-timer who still plays for the present day Otters. During

the game, he threw three innings of two-hit ball for his former team-mates against his present day counterparts.

The 1980 Otters did most of their scoring in the first three innings against the oldtimers, hitting for three runs in the first inning and two in the third.

On the contrary, the oldtime Otters waited until late in the game to get into the swing of things as they scored two runs in the sixth to make the count 6-2 and then made the game close by scoring twice in the eighth and once in the ninth.

In the first inning, Joe Webb slammed a three-run home run to give the 1980 Otters an early lead and they made the score 5-0 in the third as Dave Felder knocked a run in with a triple and Pat Pinnoy bunted Felder home. Otters scored the winning run in the fifth

inning as Jim Miles drove in the winning run when he hit into a double play.

Facing Miles, who pitched the last four innings for 1980 Otters, the Oldtimers got a pair of runs in the sixth as Gary Rachar and Alex Smith each knocked in runs. In the eighth, the Oldtimers got another two runs as Smith crashed a two-run home run.

The old fellows got their final run in the ninth as Bob Smith reached on an error and scored on a wild pitch and two sacrifice flies.

Bob Gilliespie, Bob Smith and Alex Smith each pitched three innings for the Oldtimers and combined to strike out nine and walk only one. Felder, who threw the first five innings, and Miles, who took over and finished the game for this year's team, combined to fan 11 and walk none.

Webb, John Walther and Pat Pinnoy each had two hits

for the present-day team while C.D. Richardson, David Davis, Felder and Lynn Gehring all had singles. Alex Smith and Archie McDougall had a pair of hits for the Oldtimers while Keith Arthur, Gilliespie, Bill McMullen, Joe McElhone and Don Arthur had singles.

Other members of the Oldtimers who took part in the game were Neil Davies, Bob Furlong, Tom Furlong, Merlin Howse, Richard Kozuch, Murray Malcolm, Ken Mann, Ted McElhone, Garner Scott, Mike Wist, Gary Walthers, coach Roy Rachar and scorekeeper Stuart Godby.

As the saying goes, a good time was had by all.

'80 OTTERS		6		OLDTIMERS		5	
		R	H	E			
'80 Otters	302 010 000	-	6	10	6		
Oldtimers	000 002 021	-	5	9	3		

Felder, Miles (6) and Pat Pinnoy; Gilliespie, B. Smith (4), A. Smith (7) and McElhone, Rachar (4). HR: '80 Otters, Webb; Oldtimers, A. Smith.



# Are you helping to kill your home town?

(The following article has appeared in a number of community newspapers in Western Canada. It's something to think about).

Are you helping to kill your home town by shopping in the larger towns and cities?

If so - sit for a moment and think of what you are doing to yourself, your neighbours, your young and old folks.

Think carefully of what it would be like to live in any town that has no little grocery store or other small business.

You say, "Why not close the doors for good," after all he doesn't always have fresh fruit, the particular cut of meat you want, he doesn't handle your special cocktail mix, he only carries six different types of cereal and you just must have the seventh!"

"And my goodness, his prices, my dear; do you know I can buy a can of beans three cents cheaper in the city? And we got licorice ice cream, something you can't ever buy here."

"Would you believe it, I saved \$3.27 on groceries the last time I shopped in the city?"

Now everyone wants to go to the city and save \$3.27, but wait lady - you're not telling it like it is. It cost \$15.00 for gas and oil, it cost \$34.00 to feed you and the children because you saved so much on groceries you insisted on eating in a classy cafe.

While the kids have stated they want to shop for new jeans, you decide to buy another pant suit to hang up beside the eight suits you already have.

And Dad isn't hanging around, he needs a haircut and a few repairs and a couple of new tools.

Why not get these now?

Then after a day's hard work of saving so much money; might as well have a snack for the road. Dad can gas up and get the spare tire fixed while the kids buy soda pop and chocolate bars.

Meanwhile the home town businesses are hanging on by their teeth 'till they can't bear the pain any longer, so they quietly close their doors. Some will move away, some will become disillusioned and others will just give up and go on welfare.

Soon the town starts raising taxes.

They have no choice, they have lost business and house taxes which helped pay for schools, sewage and water, hospitals, policing, garbage removal and road repairs.

Farm property devalues, you have to go miles to get repairs; you lose your school grants and you've lost a future generation to the bigger towns and cities.

Some day you will wake up with a sore throat, you need your tonsils out. Too bad people, the hospital closed its doors last month and the doctor left town last week.

You have to get to a doctor now. Take a train, "What's a train?" Take a bus, "Sorry, no bus!" Take a car, "We got a car but got no gas!"

Before you know it, the grocery store has closed, the beauty shop has called it quits, the dress shop sold dresses instead of jeans, the barber left, the druggist took off - families have to leave town to find work, leaving a glut of houses behind that are falling into ruin and are not being taxed.

"Darn! I knew there was a good reason for buying my gas, oil and tires at home but no one told me the reason."

You are being told now fella! Wake up Canadians. You men who work for your money should have some small say as to where it is spent and you gals who are

making your own money shouldn't have to be told, you should know.

"There's an old saying, "You never miss the water till the well runs dry." This applies to any business - you'll never miss the mechanic, the grocer, the doctor, the school teacher, the barber, the baker, the minister, the farmer, the dressmaker, the druggist, the painter or the carpenter - till they are all gone.

Small towns have so many advantages. First one being you are a person, not a face or a number. People know your name and stop to chat.

Your small town businesses go out of their way to be accommodating, they'll deliver your groceries and your furniture for free, not so in larger centres.

The kids can roam freely and are known by all and cared about. The senior citizens can walk to shop, they don't have to fight for a bus seat or call a cab which most couldn't afford.

Youngsters benefit from oldsters' wisdom and oldsters stay young at heart because of youngsters.

Your teacher wants your children to learn and prosper. Your doctor does care about your health and your neighbours do care about your happiness and your businessmen want to serve you.

So do yourself a favour and patronize your home town business! You might surprise yourself and find you are an individual, important to your community's well-being - not just a passing face amid a million other passing faces.

If you all put your \$3.27 savings back in your home town, it has to thrive and prosper. Remember the deterioration of your town starts with you and your shopping habits. If your habits are bad, change them. If your habits are good, not to worry.

**NEXT SATURDAY**  
70419  
**Small town business**



**On decline**  
In a survey of four Southwestern Ontario counties, Free Press reporter Lyn Hynes found the trend toward small-town residents doing their shopping in larger centres is taking its toll on main street businesses.



# Struggling supermarket in peril of economic

Stories by Lyn Hynes  
of The Free Press

July 26

OTTERVILLE — Grace Thorne feels like she's sliding down a sharp incline, waiting for the inevitable thud of bankruptcy when she reaches the bottom.

For 1½ years, Thorne has struggled with a new business in this rural community of 740 people and now predicts that it's a losing battle. Co-owner of the Otterville Supermarket with her husband, George, she is only one of many merchants with fairly new businesses who face tough times because of today's economic conditions.

But the struggle is complicated for merchants like Thorne who depend heavily on farm customers for their business. Many are waiting to see if gloomy economic predictions for the farm economy will be borne out.

Last fall, Agriculture Canada forecast Ontario net farm incomes would decrease by 40 per cent in 1980. And that translates into fewer sales for many businesses in communities where farmers spend their money.

Thorne firmly believes the stressful wait to see what this year's harvest would bring was one of the main contributors to a heart attack her husband suffered in June. It's made things doubly hard for her, trying to run the store alone.

Yet many of the problems she's experiencing are not unique. Businessmen in other Southwestern Ontario communities share concerns brought on by economic conditions, failed efforts to get customers to buy locally and problems faced when trying to start a new business in a small town.

The Thornes say they did their homework before buying the Otterville supermarket. Having previously owned two businesses in London, the couple researched the village which is just northeast of Tillsonburg, the neighborhood and the store.

Business was good at the time, so they decided to go ahead. "When we first came here, everybody said, 'Be prepared for harvest. You'll be so busy you won't be able to keep up with it,'" Thorne said.

And sales were good — for about the first three weeks. Then they started to drop off as the couple lost business from the Dutch population in the area to which the previous owner had catered.

Despite the lost business, the couple was optimistic enough to make renovations to the market out of their own pockets. "We figured that once the harvest came, there would be no problems getting money again," she said.

But it was just around harvest time last year when blue mould began to hit the tobacco crops in the area, taking everyone by

surprise. "Nobody had any work and nobody had any money."

When the Thornes tried to get a loan to cover renovation costs after the fact, they were refused. Thorne said they were told the loan was too risky because Otterville was located in a depressed area. "So we kept sliding back," she recalls.

Their problems were complicated by a small-town way of doing things with which they were unfamiliar and considered bad business practices. Allowing customers to charge their groceries on account goes against the grain, Thorne said. "That was fine in years gone by, but the way interest rates are and the cost of buying, you can't do that anymore."

Cutting out the charges, some involving \$200 accounts, created bad feelings among the remaining customers and some of them

refused to come back to the store, Thorne said.

The customers that were left treated the market as a variety store, picking up select items or whatever was on sale, but doing their major shopping elsewhere.

As a result, Thorne has raised prices. "When you're paying 18 or 19 per cent interest at the bank and when you're only marking up your groceries by 25 per cent, you're only making six per cent — and your overhead is more than that. In fact, you're not making anything. You're going in the hole."

Thorne says she is considering a further mark-up. And what this means to her is that local prices will be less competitive with those at grocery stores in larger communities. Thorne says she has no choice in the matter: "I've either got to go up or go bankrupt."

All the while, she has been working a six-day week, 13 hours a day trying to keep the store in order. And the long hours have backfired on her. She can no longer offer as much of the personal service small-town stores boast about. "It's just dragging us down to the point where you're just so tired and you don't have any time to talk to the customers."

Thorne doesn't like what's happened to the store in that regard and neither do her customers. But coming into the community from London, she admits to having always felt like a bit of an outsider. And she says it's getting worse.

"It's a village where the parents have lived here, the grandparents have lived here. Everybody's related. They just won't accept you, that's all."

The atmosphere made the couple decide



The Thorne family operating Otterville's only supermarket are waiting for the inevitable — bankruptcy. George and Grace with their children, Doug, 12, Jackie, 13, and Jim, 16, work long hours trying to keep the business above water. Business was good until blue mould hit the tobacco crops last year.

By Sam McLeod of The Free Press

to leave their home in the village in January and move with their children to an apartment in Dorchester. "It's almost as if we're foreigners here," she said.

Thorne has been told that the supermarket is simply too big for a community the size of Otterville. "We're considering closing part of the store off and bringing the stock into a smaller area." But she has reservations about that solution, too. "Once people see that," Thorne said, "they're going to say, 'Are they on their way out?'"

She thinks more changes will cause another round of negative reactions to the store. She says any more "sliding back" might be disastrous to the business. As it is now, neither she nor her husband has collected real wages since the store opened.

Efforts to lure customers with special sales have also backfired. "We try to offer high cost items at cost," Thorne said. "They come in and they buy all the specials and that's all they buy. You're losing money, you're just changing dollars."

Thorne doesn't understand the economics of shoppers who choose to drive to larger centres for their groceries. With Tillsonburg a 10-minute drive away, she figures they're not saving any money in the long run after gas costs are added to the savings they've gleaned from bargains.

"Instead of having six choices of corn, we may only have three, but in the end it's costing them more money to go to the big store. But you can't make them see that — and you certainly can't twist their arm to make them come to shop in your store."

The trend toward city buying may not be new to small-town merchants, but with tight economic conditions, it is taking its toll on main street businesses. Thorne remembers a time when the village had a bake shop of its own, a furniture store, a pizza parlor and a barber shop. Otterville no longer has any type of restaurant. As businesses closed up, some have moved in to fill the empty space over the years, yet there are still a number of vacant stores in the business area.

"I remember when this used to be a booming little place," Thorne said. "And it's getting to be a ghost town." With the grocery store as a major drawing card to many small rural communities, Thorne wonders what will happen to Otterville business if her store closes and no one moves in again. "There's not going to be much here, anyway."

"The business has a lot of pressures and we realize that," she said. "We'll work our 13 hours a day to hang in there. But to be honest with you, I've got to think of the future. It's inevitable we're going to go bankrupt."

"It's going to be touch and go if we can hang in till August."



# Otterville supermarket out of business

T.N.  
July 30

Owners of the Otterville Supermarket, who have been struggling to make ends meet since they bought the store 1 1/2 years ago, declared bankruptcy Monday, July 21.

George and Grace Thorne, of Dorchester, declared the bankruptcy of the company they jointly own, Janny's Superior Market Ltd., said Allan Clarke, representing the trustees Deloitte, Haskins and Sells Ltd. of St. Thomas. Mr. Clarke said the Thorne's both declared personal bankruptcy as well.

The Thorne's bought the store, which depends on farm customers, before last year's tobacco harvest. Although business was good at the time of purchase, the Thorne's said it dropped off after blue mold hit the crops.

Mr. Clarke said preliminary estimates show that the liabilities of the estate total about \$200,000, including mortgages on the real estate and a chattel mortgage on the equipment. Estimated assets, including the

value of the building and equipment, are \$120,000, he said.

A sale of all merchandise in the store is being held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights of this week.

**BANKRUPT**

**LARGE, FULLY STOCKED  
GROCERY STORE**

**— CASH & CARRY SALE —**

**TUES. JULY 29, WED. JULY 30,  
THURS. JULY 31**

**6 PM to 10 PM OTTERVILLE**

Under Trustee's instructions from Deloitte, Haskins & Sells Ltd., the COMPLETE grocery inventory of Janny's Superior Market Ltd., Otterville, will be discounted to CLEAR . . . Meat, Frozen Foods, Cigarettes, Pop, Spices, Sugar, Coffee, Canned Goods Galore, Packaged Goods, Candy, Jeans, Boots, Ice Cream, Personal Care Products, Cards, Cereals, Flour, Cleaning Supplies, Cake Mixes, Baking Supplies, Seeds, and so the list goes on & on. Save \$\$\$\$\$\$ while you can.

Location: Main Street — The Village of Otterville — Between Hwys. 19 & #59 — South of the Hwy. 401.

Sale Conducted By  
**Mid-Western Auctioneering**

Head Office #73 Hwy. — "Little Aylmer"  
773-5335 OR 644-0665  
THE PROFESSIONALS — "WE CARE"

## NOTICE TO CREDITORS

In the matter of the bankruptcy of JANNY'S SUPERIOR MARKET LTD., with head office in the Township of North Dorchester, in the County of Middlesex, in the Province of Ontario.

Notice is hereby given that Janny's Superior Market Ltd. filed an Assignment in Bankruptcy on the 21st day of July, 1980 and that the first meeting of creditors will be held on the 11th day of August 1980, at the hour of 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon, at the office of the Official Receiver, 217 York Street, Third Floor, London, in the Province of Ontario, and that to be eligible to vote, creditors must file with us prior to the meeting proofs of claim and where necessary, proxies.

Claims against the estate must be filed with the Trustee before distribution is made; otherwise, the proceeds of the estate will be distributed among the parties entitled thereto without regard to such claims.

**DELOITTE, HASKINS  
& SELLS LIMITED,**  
Trustee  
136 Centre Street  
St. Thomas, Ontario  
N5R 3A2  
Attention:  
A. J. Clarke, C.A.,  
(519) 631-8250

# Struggle over for Otterville merchant

LFP July 31/80

OTTERVILLE — The only supermarket in this police village 15 kilometres northeast of Tillsonburg has gone bankrupt.

George and Grace Thorne declared voluntary bankruptcy July 21 after a 1 1/2-year struggle to turn a profit as owners of Janny's Superior Market Ltd. (also known as Otterville Supermarket Ltd.) on Main Street.

A spokesman for the London bankruptcy branch of the federal consumer and corporate affairs department said Wednesday the firm is claiming debts of \$203,475.82 against assets of \$120,746.56. He said assets include store fixtures, shelf stock, cash and a van.

The first meeting of creditors is slated for Aug. 11 in London, said trustee Alan Clarke of the St.

Thomas bankruptcy firm of Deloitte, Haskins and Sells.

In recent interviews with The Free Press, the Thornes complained that business had steadily dwindled since they bought the store, they could no longer afford to hire staff and were working 13 hours a day, six days a week in a last-ditch attempt to survive. Clarke said the Thornes are taking a brief holiday now in the

wake of their firm's collapse.

Though sales were slow for the Thornes, business was "extremely brisk" Tuesday night as shoppers flocked to a bankruptcy sale in which all store stock was reduced 15 per cent, Mona Bedford of Mid-Western Auctioneering said.

She said prices will be cut 20 per cent tonight and 25 per cent Thursday night in the last sale session.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Aug 5/80

### Despite shopping competition, Otterville is alive and well

Sir: I wish to reply to the July 26 article by Free Press reporter Lyn Hynes entitled *Struggling supermarket in peril of economic disaster*.

Just for the record, the Otterville Supermarket has been closed for approximately the last two weeks or more.

When the Thornes took over this store it was a highly successful operation, as any Otterville and area resident will agree. I agree there is a trend for many people to shop in the larger centres but at the same time, if people are looked after properly and met with a pleasant, courteous atmosphere when they enter a place of business (and merchandise is available for sale) they have a tendency to want to come back to shop at that store again.

As for the Thornes or any other storekeeper "raising prices" because their business is falling off, they are simply cutting their own throats by driving more and more people away. I wish to draw attention to the fact that when the Thornes purchased the Otterville Supermarket, all of the stores or businesses now vacant on the main street of Otterville (with the exception of the lum-

berrary) were already vacant.

Otterville boasts a variety store (expanded), two insurance businesses, two hardware stores, a bank, a gift shop, a thriving garage with two mechanics (also new residents of Otterville and doing well), a 9,000-square-foot furniture store (expanded four times), a real estate office, a large tobacco equipment manufacturing company (expanded), a large tool and die shop (expanded several times), a machine

shop, three electrical businesses, a building construction company, a heavy equipment contractor, a car wash, two doctors, an appliance dealer, a plumbing and sheet metal shop, hairdressing shops and more.

I am sure when the Otterville Supermarket again reopens, and I am sure it will, under new management it will again thrive as it has in the past. We look to shopping in our "home town" as Otterville is alive and well.

BOB CARNEY

### Making friends

Sir: I am writing about the article *Struggling supermarket in peril of economic disaster* by Lyn Hynes, in the July 26 Free Press.

As a newcomer to Otterville, I wish to take issue with Grace Thorne's observation . . . "Everybody's related. They just won't accept you, that's all . . ."

Our family has not found this to be true at all. We have been through several moves and are accustomed to making ourselves at home and making new friends wherever we are. An important key to success is making new friends and taking part in community activities. You "go to the people" and do not just wait for the people to come to you. Feeling comfortable and at home in a community is very much within oneself, and not totally dependent on external factors.

Otterville  
BARBARA COPE

### SOB STORY

The Editor:  
In regard to the sob story for the Otterville Grocery store (July 26 London Free Press) where was (the) reporter...when the going was good? We would have loved to have had half a page to tell everybody the GOOD things of Otterville people and area.

First, how we were never made to feel like foreigners (quote and unquote) but that the people supported us wonderfully, and the blue mold would not have made any difference! We found the people of Otterville faithful customers, excellent charge accounts, friendly, pleasant, made good "customer-friend" relationships, and gave a great feeling in the store of satisfaction. Our business was NOT from the Dutch people as falsely stated, but 98 per cent Canadian.

So to all who supported us then (and now...) both financially and morally, thank you again.

Former owners of Janny's  
Groceries (1979)  
Henry and Janny  
Van den Brink  
and children



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Objections raised to lack of positive coverage about Otterville

Sir: I am writing with regard to the articles in the July 26 Free Press concerning the Otterville supermarket. I wonder why your reporter was so eager to hear one side of the story and not the other — that of the customers.

I should like to comment on the statement that the Thornes, who operated the store, received no wages. My husband runs his own business and receives no wages. He makes enough to live on, but the idea that he write himself a pay cheque each week is laughable. I imagine that most owners of small businesses receive no actual cheque each week.

My main purpose in writing is to make the complaint that in 1978 this village ran its own Santa Claus parade. It was the first time such a parade had been put on without the co-operation of another town or village. I personally called The Free Press — well ahead of time — to request a photographer and a reporter, or at least a brief mention of our parade in your paper. We received no coverage. If you have more space for "news" in July, let us know and we'll run a parade in July. (A second Santa parade, bigger and better than the first, was held in December, 1979.)

The store here was run successfully for about three years prior to the

Thornes' arrival by Henry and Jane Vandenbrink, but we have yet to see an enthusiastic review in a London paper. The remark that the Thornes were treated "like foreigners" puzzles me. My husband and I are foreigners (we immigrated in 1969) and have received royal treatment in Otterville. Possibly the vil-

lage residents follow the precept "do as you would be done by."

By all means report our unsavory news — we don't want any cover-ups, but please comment on our good news too. We'd like equal space for the positive side.

Otterville

MARION DOWDS

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Supermarket story went astray

Sir: In reply to your feature article *Struggling supermarket in peril of economic disaster* (Free Press, July 26), more attention should be given to people who persevere with hardships to succeed.

This article was based on the opinions of the Thornes instead of a broader inquiry of this community.

The Thornes stated "they depended heavily on farm customers for their business." Yet they didn't seem to realize that the tobacco farmers must be temporarily dependent on the storekeeper to carry their accounts as a convenience during busy times. In regard to the amount of \$200 charged, anyone with a family of six knows that this is only a little more than a week's groceries; never mind feeding a tobacco gang, where staples are purchased by the case.

In another part, the Thornes mentioned that "sales started to drop off as the couple lost business from the Dutch population in the area to which the previous owner had catered." The Dutch customers were from a neighboring community and consisted of immediate family and close friends of the previous owner. The loss of that number of custom-

ers wouldn't truly have affected their business greatly.

Grace Thorne also admitted that "coming into the community from London, she always felt like a bit of an outsider." Thorne was raised in a rural community near Ingersoll (Foldens) and later moved to another rural community near London (Belmont).

I was born and raised in London and came to Otterville 6½ years ago with my husband and four children. Unlike Thorne, I have felt like a "stranger in paradise." I have appreciated the fact that my children were free to play or walk anywhere in town, even in the evening, unattended — one of the many things that wouldn't be possible in London and many other communities.

We have also been lucky enough to receive a great deal of support and help from a plumber, electrician, appliance dealer, mechanic, hardware store owner, mill operator, bank employee after hours and even on holidays. These were all successful businessmen of this community. We have formed more worthwhile and sincere friendships here than elsewhere.

A more factual feature could have been obtained by maybe interviewing the previous owner who has successfully operated three small businesses in the area with her sincere, honest and considerate attitude. This could serve as a public apology to the former owner and also the residents of Otterville — something I feel is owing.

(MRS.) ROSE ANNE THOMPSON  
Otterville

### Thanks, Otterville

Sir: As residents and businessmen in Otterville, we are upset with the bad publicity (Free Press, July 26) directed at our village due to the bankruptcy of the local grocery store.

We bought our business in April, 1977, and appreciate the good response from the area. It is evident that something went wrong with the business mentioned, but it was thriving when the Thornes acquired it and whatever the problem was, we do not feel the fault had anything to do with the area.

LURENE McMULLEN,  
Otterville McMullen's Machine Shop Ltd.



## One business went under but

By Mark MacMillan  
Staff Writer

OTTERVILLE — Despite some regrets, Otterville residents and merchants remain optimistic about the future in the aftermath of the closing of the town's only supermarket.

The Otterville Supermarket's doors are shut, but life and business in the small community goes on.

"The situation is regrettable but things won't come to a standstill due to the loss of one business," said Colin Cope. "People tend to think things will always be there in a small community, but we have to struggle and accept change just like the big city," the owner of Home Hardware in Otterville said.

The effect of the supermarket loss is definitely a problem but Otterville citizens are looking on the bright side.

"Sure a lot of the older townspeople will have to go out of town for fresh meats now. But, the supermarket business has thrived here and it can, and will, again," Harry Pickersgill, a resident in Otterville for 60 years said.

Otterville townsfolk don't feel the supermarket closed because the owners were outsiders.

"I take exception to the idea the owners

were treated as outsiders. I was only an Otterville resident for a little more than a year and a half when I ran for Norwich council," said Ald. Bill Saunders. "I came in second in total votes out of six people, so I think that shows that people moving in

from elsewhere were treated fairly," he said.

A Norwich councillor, real estate broker and owner of Sander's Mart in downtown Otterville, Mr. Sanders said he is "sorry to see any business leave the downtown core,

because we need them."

Otterville has a population of 740, but the proximity to larger centres is a two way street, according to Mr. Cope.

"With the proximity to larger centres, it means we (local businessmen) can offer a better selection to the customer. It takes

time and effort to build up a clientele in a small town, and you have to work at it."

While many shops remain empty in downtown Otterville, secondary industries like Kramer Tool and Die and Powell Agri-Systems are thriving in the community. Kramer has recently

completed another addition and Powell, celebrating its 20th anniversary, has had increasing domestic and international sales in 1980, according to Vice-President and Sales Manager Howard Avey.

Located in the downtown core in Otterville are an insurance and real estate business, a bank, two hardware stores, an appliance store, a grocery-variety store and a furniture business.

"Small towns exist because people want them to," Mr. Cope said. "It is as simple as that, you need the support of the people."

## July weather extremes damaging to area crops

Some Norfolk area farmers will not be pleased that weather records were set in July, especially those who fell victim to a once in 25-year rainfall during the latter part of the month, according to J.R. Richards, Norfolk agriculture representative.

Mr. Richards recently determined rainfall levels across the Norfolk area. He reports that as much as 9.9 inches of rain fell in the Jericho area south of Delhi last month. During the storm of July 21-22, 5.5 inches fell on farms in that area. This was the worst hit area, according to Mr. Richards' statistics.

Rain levels recorded in other areas show about 6.7 inches fell in the Fairground and Langton areas last month. St. Williams got about 7.9 inches and Port Ryerse, Walsh and Vittoria got levels that ranged from 5.4 inches to 6.1 inches.

In areas to the north and east of Norfolk, rain levels were lower, said Mr. Richards. For example, the Delhi Research Station received 3.6 inches for the month; Courtland got 4.26 inches and Windham Centre received 4.75 inches.

Mr. Richards said temperatures "soared" in July, building up heat units on crops. In the Langton area there was a total of 1,794 heat units built up as compared to last year when there was 1,752. Vittoria recorded 1,830 heat units with the Simcoe Weather Office showing heat unit buildups of 1,658 as compared to 1,606 last year.

"We have no long term records for these locations," said Mr. Richards, "but Norfolk is in the 2,900 to 3,100 heat unit area, so we are looking for about 1,200 to 1,300 heat units from Aug. 1 to Sept. 20 for a normal crop year."

## Facelift for community centre

By Mark MacMillan  
Staff Writer

OTTERVILLE — Few buildings have the distinction of serving as the focal point of community life, the way the South Norwich Community Hall has, for more than a century.

The ghosts of former Otterville councillors, civil servants, drama club members and even the Sons of Temperance can almost be heard once inside the hall, which was built in 1864.

The community hall is being renovated for the first time since 1939 and Gord Shearer, the man behind the project, feels it will continue to be a hub of local activity.

"We have put more than \$80,000 into the renovations and additional equipment of the hall over the past three years and I think once people know the facilities are modern and available to anyone, the investment will be a good one," Mr. Shearer said.

Renovations began three years ago when the South Norwich park and hall advisory committee, chaired by Mr. Shearer, got the go ahead from Norwich Township council to build a 24 by 30 foot kitchen and washroom addition.

"Since then, we have taken it step by step in order to lighten annual taxation on the public purse as well as do things right. We raised \$12,000 through donations, dances and a Wintario grant to purchase kitchen and hall equipment. We have also

completed the panelling, insulation and new wiring in 1979," Mr. Shearer said.

Renovations in 1980 include a new roof for the old hall, painting and the final touches for the project which is expected to be complete by the end of this year.

The hall was originally a church built by the Sons of Temperance. Later the local drama club used the building extensively. About the turn of the century the building adopted the present name, the South Norwich Community Hall.

"An extensive remodelling took place from the early 1920's until 1939. At that time, a banquet hall, kitchen, town clerk's office and council chambers were instituted. The municipal offices were located at the hall until the new municipal offices were built next door in 1967," Mr. Shearer explained.

The face lift for the antique hall will allow for wedding receptions, banquets, dances, public meetings and other general community use. The hall has a capacity of 140 people according to the Liquor Licensing Board of Ontario.

"We didn't really meet with much resistance when we asked council to embark on this renovation project," Mr. Shearer said.

"I think council realized the necessity of the project and the useful purpose the hall serves in Otterville and the surrounding area."

Future projects related to the present renovations include landscaping, additional freezing and refrigeration equipment and air conditioning.

Dances have been put on by an informal group of area citizens and have been extremely successful, according to Mr. Shearer. The group plans to put money raised at future dances back into the hall.

"We have had a very positive reaction from everyone involved and a lot of local support. I feel it is important to update and continue to use facilities such as the South Norwich Community Hall. You have to update things in a small town like ours," Mr. Shearer said.



Otterville townspeople have witnessed the recent closure of the Otterville Superior Market, the only supermarket in the village. Local citizens will have to travel elsewhere to purchase fresh meat from now on. Local businessmen, however, are confident that the closure will not have a major affect on downtown business operations. (Staff Photo)



# Kramer completes fourth expansion

**BY SUZANNE HANSON**  
Kramer Tool and Die has expanded three times since locating in Otterville and it is now undertaking its fourth expansion to the operation which designs and makes tooling for metal stamping. With the new addition to the building, the facility will occupy over 3,500 square feet. The company, owned by

Don Kramer and Ken Antosuc, started out in a garage with four machines. They now have seven machines in operation daily with seven full-time employees. Although the amount of work done depends on the orders received, such a variety of work is done for different people that the company is busy all the time.

They work with all types of metal - mild steel, tool steel, stainless steel, brass and bronze.

In addition to doing work for anyone who works with metal, the company does a lot of general machine shop work and welding. They also make specialized tools to do

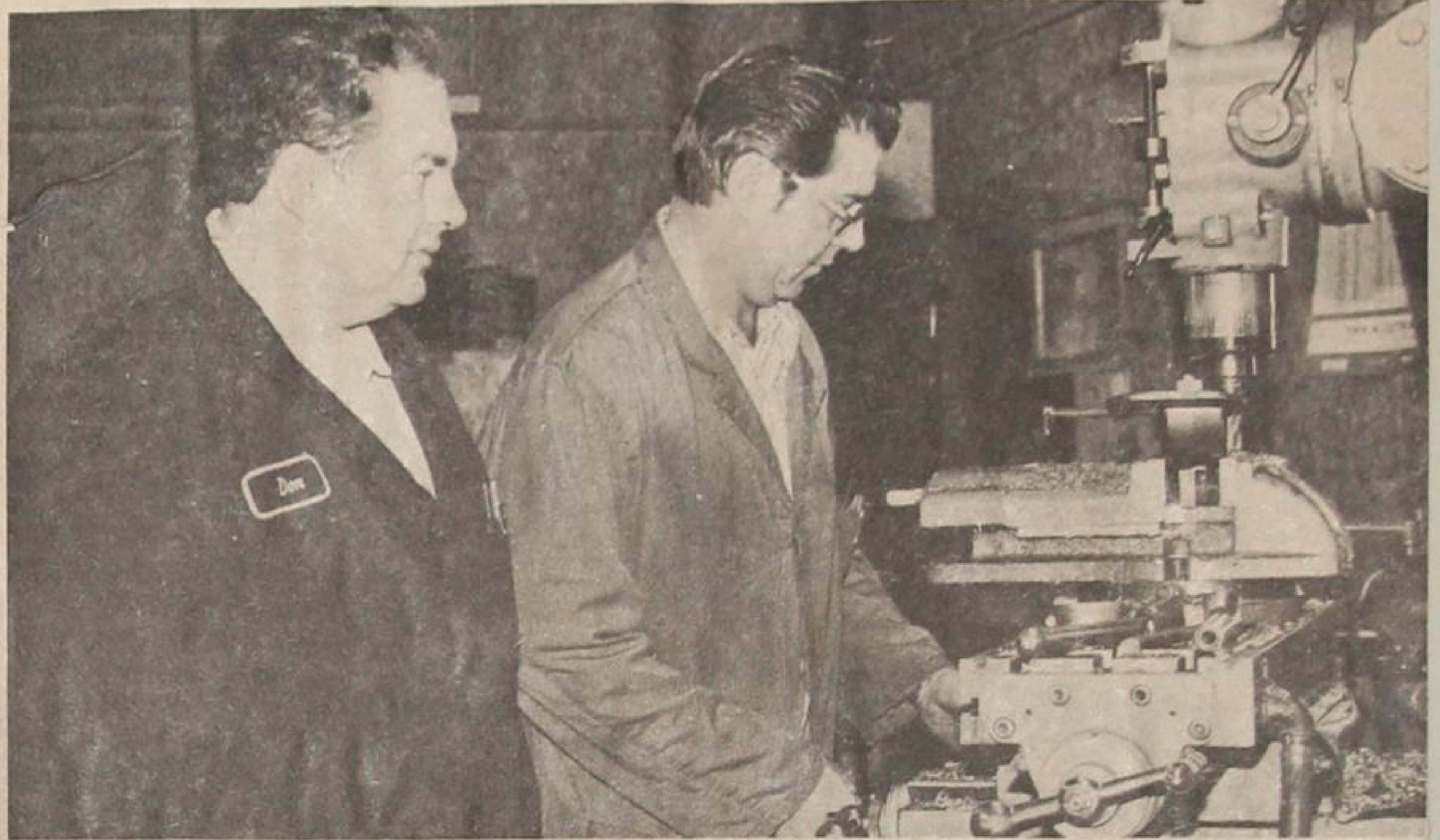
specific jobs. Repair work for farmers and industries is a large part of their work.

The actual stamping of metal is not done in the shop, merely the manufacturing of the dies (tools) to make that stamp used by various industries to produce a part. Different dies are used to

make different parts and every part has to have its own die, said Mr. Kramer.

Most metal products are stamped in a die, said Mr. Kramer, including car parts, door hinges and an endless list of other products people take for granted in their daily routines.

The plant is centrally located to serve the Delhi, Tillsonburg, Woodstock and Simcoe areas. Because the lot his facility is located on was less expensive and his taxes lower he said he can charge lower rates. He also said there are few such shops in the area.



### Company owners

The owners of Kramer Tool and Die, Don Kramer and Ken Antosuc (right) have expanded their shop three times since

locating in Otterville and are now undertaking the fourth. Above Mr. Kramer looks on as Mr. Antosuc operates the verticle milling machine used to cut and shape metal.



A new roof is just one of the many renovations to be completed this year at the South Norwich Community Hall, in Otterville. The hall has been used extensively since it was built by the Sons of Temperance in 1864. The village library is still located in the basement of the building which will now accommodate wedding receptions, banquets, public meetings and other local get togethers. (Staff Photo)

## Norwich Township Council Briefs

### Fire chief appointed

By-laws were passed at Monday's council meeting appointing Brian Workman, a 14-year veteran of the fire department, as fire chief and fire prevention officer for Norwich Township.

### Dogs on hold

Councillors approved a by-law prohibiting dog-owners from letting their dogs run at large. Mayor Jack Burn said the by-law, is intended to protect people and property. It co-ordinates the by-laws in effect in each of the four former townships.

### 200 trees to plant

Council requested the Men of the Trees to find suitable areas in the township to plant 200 trees it ordered from the Grand River Conservation Authority. The trees, intended for road sides in the tornado area cost two dollars each, including delivery and planting.

### Buggy signs

A motion was passed recommending signs be put along Middletown Line indicating that horse-drawn vehicles use the road. This was requested by the Mennonites due to the number of accidents on the road.

### Oxford Centre Hall opening

The new Oxford Centre Hall will officially open Sept. 20. Plans for the ceremony include a dedication at 4 p.m., and a barbecue from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.



# New township fire chief veteran with department

By HILARY LINTON

The new fire chief for Norwich Township, Brian Workman, has been in the fire department for over 14 years.

Fighting fires is a family affair for Mr. Workman, whose great-grandfather, Basil Baines, was Norwich village fire chief for a long time. His cousins and brother have also worked with area fire departments.

"I just kind of grew up with it," Mr. Workman said.

A sense of dedication was his major reason for wanting to become fire chief, said Mr. Workman. A new chief was needed when Gary Fischer retired, and, after "a lot of thought," Mr. Workman applied for the job.

"I have an idea that I can help," he said.

Mr. Workman is now the leader of 61 firefighters in four departments - Ot-

terville, Oxford Centre, Burgessville and Norwich. His duties include building inspections for fire safety, investigations and reports after fires, training of firemen and fire prevention awareness.

The new job is going to be time consuming, and Mr. Workman admitted there may be the occasional conflict with his work as a machinist in Woodstock. Mr. Workman hopes the situation will work itself out in time.

Fire prevention is one of the new chief's most serious concerns. Encouraging more people to buy smoke detectors and increasing public awareness about the hazards of electrical wiring and wood stoves are the best and cheapest means of insurance, he said.

"People will spend money on life and fire insurance, but they won't spend \$15 on a

smoke detector," said Mr. Workman.

Getting the message across to the public, however, is the difficult part. A strict enforcement of fire regulations when inspecting schools, institutions and businesses is one means by which Mr. Workman hopes to increase awareness and reduce fire losses.

"You're not doing anybody a favor by overlooking him," he said.

Mr. Workman noted there is a very different attitude about fire safety in Eastern Canada, where there is a lot of bush.

"People seem to be more careful with cigarettes and matches there," he said, because bush fires are more common.

Norwich Township's grid system, the only such fire call system in the county, is an accurate means of

quickly locating and arriving at the scene of a fire. The grid, which is adopted from the one used by the ministry of mines and resources, divides the township into numbered squares. Every building has a particular number, which, when given to the fire department, allows them to locate the exact scene of a fire.

"I would like to see the grid system carried on through the rest of the county," said Mr. Workman.

He feels the system eliminates the communication problems often experienced when nervous and upset callers try to give the address of a fire.

He said, however, there should be more co-operation with homeowners in this program. Few people know their fire call number, without which the system is useless, he said.

Another system which should improve the department's ability to fight fires is the fire alarm system. The county has approved the system, said Mr. Workman, which has a central dispatch in Woodstock. All firemen in the township would carry pagers, which would alert them instantly in case of fire.

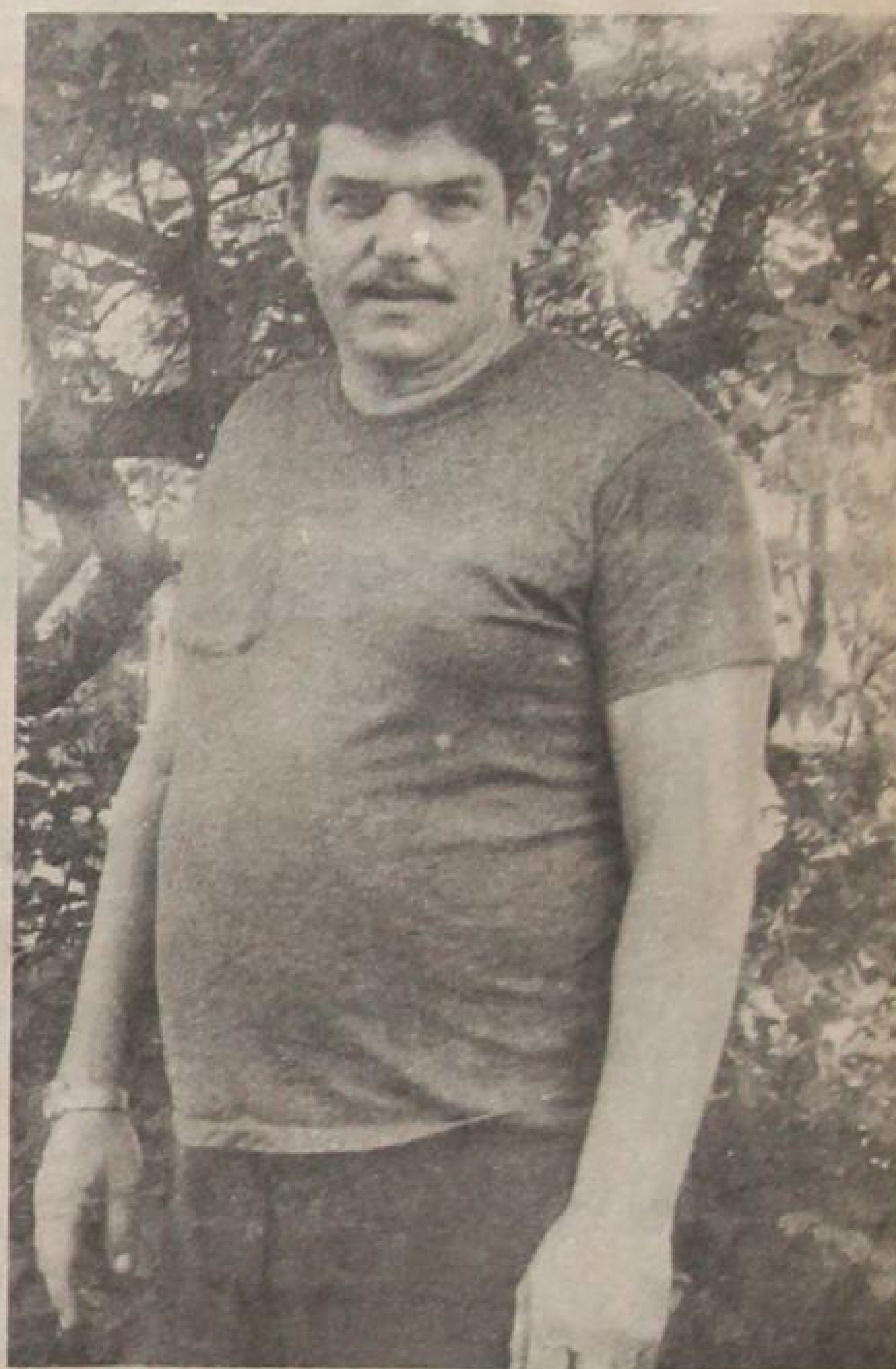
The alarm system avoids false alarms, is quicker and allows the dispatcher to contact all firemen, said Mr. Workman.

Mr. Workman, who has been at the new job for three weeks, has been president of

the Oxford County Mutual Aid Association, which consists of all fire departments in the county, for eight years. He has also been captain of the Burgessville

fire department for three months.

He has completed courses in fire prevention, put on by the Fire Marshal's Office, and basic auto extrication.



**New fire chief**

Brian Workman of Burgessville is the new fire chief for Norwich Township. He has been on the job for three weeks.

## Norwich council says no to severance

Norwich Township council has decided to restrict development in the area of Well 2 in Otterville in order to protect the water supply from that well.

A request made to council for a lot 133 feet by 171 feet, to be severed from the property of the Mary E. Kilpatrick estate for development, was turned down by council because of the proximity of the property to the well.

A ministry of environment study completed last year on the cone of influence of the well determined it to be 1,000 feet but it was later dropped to 700 feet. The property to be severed, however, comes within 500 feet of the well.

Council is concerned that if the development is allowed

only 464 feet from the well, effluent from septic tanks could contaminate the water supply.

In a letter to council, Jim Janse of the ministry of the environment said the ministry has advised what could happen if development is allowed but the well is council's responsibility.

"Should the municipality allow the development to proceed within the cone of influence of the well they must be prepared to move the wells in the event that the nitrate levels exceed this ministry's drinking water objectives," said Mr. Janse in his letter.

Since the Kilpatrick property is within the 700-foot cone of influence established by the ministry, council felt it would be advisable to prohibit the development.

Otterville has the best water in the county and we would like to keep it that way, said Mayor Jack Burn. Well 1, located about one-quarter of a mile from Well 2, already has nitrate levels close to the maximum approved by the ministry he said.

"There's a very high risk factor here and I don't think any council wants to be responsible for it. We aren't using it (Well 1) very much."

Mayor Burn said council should be aware of the pollution problems that can occur, referring to the Denby situation in SouthWest Oxford. In that instance, wells were polluted by a landfill site and an alternate source of water had to be supplied to the residents.

Council also passed a recommendation that a letter be sent to the Norwich Township Public Utilities Commission to investigate in the near future a safer location for a water well in Otterville, keeping in mind that lands surrounding the well area are currently changing hands and may be readily available.

Councillor Bob Pettigrew said the present well location is not adequately buffered from residential and farm pollution and a new site far away from the present development should be sought.



# Powell expansion plans delayed

416-18  
TN

By SUZANNE HANSON

Another attempt by Powell Agri-Systems Ltd. in Otterville to expand its production facilities will be delayed, if not curtailed.

Norwich Township council approved the passing of a bylaw last Monday to change to industrial the zoning on the property sought for purchase by Powell. However, an earlier decision of the county's land division committee to sever the parcel of land to be sold has been appealed by Hugh Zimmer, an area landowner.

The approximately 20 acres sought by Powell at the corner of John and Mill Streets to expand its existing facilities is part of a 78-acre farm package owned by Ross Adlington of RR 3, Tillsonburg. Mr. Adlington wishes to sever the parcel into three sections with 47 acres to be sold to an adjoining landowner, 20 acres to be sold to Powell and the remainder to be retained by him.

The land division committee approved the severances in April but the appeal by Mr. Zimmer of that decision will mean the matter must go before an Ontario Municipal Board

hearing, said County Planner Peter Atcheson.

Should there be an appeal of the industrial zoning bylaw passed by township council last week, that matter will probably be heard at the same OMB hearing he said.

Had there been no appeals or objections to the severance or re-zoning, Powell had hoped to go ahead with the expansion by this fall, said Powell spokesman Robert Rankin.

The expansion plans include additional production facilities to the east of the existing plant, increased storage space and plans to build a sales and service outlet.

Earlier plans to expand to the north of the plant were thwarted when a required minor variance was overruled by the OMB in May. A Wellington Street resident, William Hudson, living north of the proposed expansion objected to the minor variance granted by township council because of the increased noise levels that would result.

Township Clerk Bob Watkins said at the time of that OMB hearing that

council's decision was overruled because the OMB didn't consider the minor

variance of 35 feet to be minor in nature.

Without the additional

property, the Powell facility has nowhere to expand but up, said Mr. Rankin. A date

for the OMB hearing on the severance decision has yet to be set.

## DEATHS

### BLANCHE MINNIE BARNIM

Mrs. Jack Barnim passed away at her home in Otterville on Saturday, August 23, 1980, in her 74th year.

She was the former Blanche Minnie Willett.

Surviving are three sons, Allen Barnim of RR 1, Burgessville, George Barnim and Donald Barnim, both of Otterville; two sisters, Mrs. Clara Boulton and Mrs. Ethel Woodard, both of Florida; one brother, Nelson Willett of RR 1, Norwich; two half-sisters, Mrs. Hubert (Florence) Hussey of Otterville and Mrs. Clarence (Margaret) Robbins of Tillsonburg; 30 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; a friend, Willard Wilson; and two daughters-in-law, Audrey Barnim of Springford and Lillian Barnim of Otterville.

She was predeceased by a daughter, June, and by three sons, Alex, Clifford and Murray.

Rested at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service was held Tuesday, August 26, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earl Moore.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

Memorial donations to the Heart Fund would be appreciated by the family.

### JOHN S. FORIS

John S. Foris of Otterville passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Monday, August 11, 1980, in his 82nd year.

His wife, the former Elizabeth Kovacs Kovacs, predeceased him in 1978.

Surviving are three daughters, Mrs. Steve (Margaret) Tarr of RR 2, Otterville, Mrs. Henry (Elizabeth) Heil of RR 1, LaSalette, and Mrs. Ken (Helen) Paridean of Tillsonburg; two sons, Stephen Foris of RR 1, Eden, and John Foris of Brantford; 11 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; a brother, Joseph Foris of Tillsonburg; and three sisters and one brother in Hungary.

He was predeceased by a grandson, Ronald, and by a great-grandson, Keith.

Rested at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, until Wednesday, August 13, thence to Calvin Presbyterian Church, Delhi, for service at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. W.D. Jarvis of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Tillsonburg.

Interment in Otter Cemetery.

Prayers were said Tuesday evening, August 12, at 8:30 at the Funeral Home.



### Look up, way up!

Emery Harvey tries to reach the top of a 10 foot stalk of sweet corn growing in his back yard in Otterville. Mr. Harvey attributes the tall stalk to early planting and watching out for spring frosts. (TN photo).



# Otterville skater in Lake Placid seminar

By SUZANNE HANSON  
Nine-year-old Debbie Corbeil of RR 1, Otterville is always smiling but lately she's had more to smile about than usual.

The budding young skater is one of 200 to be selected from among 2,000 who applied for a special skating seminar being held at Lake Placid during the first week of September.

Debbie was picked to take part in the seminar because of the high level of her skating ability at such a young age. The skaters taking part in the seminar will be from Canada, the United States, Great Britain and possibly some other countries, said Debbie's mother Marlene. Colorado skating coach Carl Fassi organizes the seminar held annually at Lake Placid. A number of coaches take part in the seminar to demonstrate their various methods.

The idea behind the seminar is to see what level the skaters are at and to see how they compare with each other. It is also an opportunity to learn techniques from each other, said Debbie.

While taking part in the seminar, the skaters will be working on jumps, figures, dances and their on and off-ice training. During the week all the skaters will be staying together at the lodge at Lake Placid. Although Jim and Marlene Corbeil will be going down with their daughter, they will not stay with her.

Staying on their own gives them maturity, said Mrs. Corbeil. It gets them used to being on their own, something essential if they get seriously into competition.

Although she is only nine years old, Debbie already exhibits a poise and maturity far beyond her years. Her involvement in training and competitions has contributed greatly to that maturity.

"It's been really good for her personality," said Mrs. Corbeil. "She gets to meet so many different people and learn how to get along with them."

Debbie started skating about three years ago at the age of six in the same way many other youngsters start. It was an after school activity that she thought she'd like to try. But the natural ability possessed by Debbie was soon recognized and the Corbeils were urged to help her develop it.

A year ago she started training in Guelph and the year before she skated in Preston but her home club remains Norwich. During the winter months she trains in Norwich and Delhi with one evening out of the week spent in Guelph. During the school year her training schedule is a rigorous one as she spends from six to seven hours, five days a week on the ice training. During the summer she spends even more time, training five days a week from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.

Asked if she minds the strict training schedule, Debbie gave her head a definite shake "no".

"I don't mind it. I like it a lot. But you can't just go on the ice and fool around," she said. "You have to be out there working."

Mrs. Corbeil said she doesn't know where Debbie gets all her energy from. In addition to skating she also manages to take guitar instruction and has even been in some guitar competitions. But Debbie is happiest when she's out on the ice.

"Whenever I have a break from skating I get bored," she said. She sometimes gets a month off in the summer and one to two weeks away from training during the year but she said she would rather be skating full-time.

She seldom has time for television and spends her time either skating, in school, sleeping or perhaps swimming or working on her guitar. The rigorous training has not had any effect on her academic standing either, despite the long hours. Debbie got the highest marks in her grade three class this past year and she won an academic award from the school, said Mrs. Corbeil.

Debbie's Guelph coach Malcolm Cannon from Great Britain will also be taking part in the week-long seminar at Lake Placid. He is extremely pleased that Debbie was selected to go. She will probably be the youngest skater there at her level.

The future holds much promise for the lively young skater who has already fared well at various competitions in London, Toronto, Guelph, Preston and Niagara as well as at local clubs. From those competitions she has won seven first place trophies and 10 medals—eight of those for first place and two for second.

The confidence Debbie exudes is contagious. To her competition is a challenge and she is confident that she eventually will progress through the sectionals, divisionals, the Canadians and the Worlds to make it to her ultimate goal—the Olympics—someday.

"After I go to the Olympics—I might not go but I hope so—I would like to make it into the Ice Capades or the Ice Follies," Debbie said of her future plans. And she has the drive needed to make it. Her parents have never had to push her into it. She willingly accepts the tough training schedule. It is something she wants to do and she enjoys it, said Mrs. Corbeil.



## Loves to skate

Debbie Corbeil spends a large percentage of her time on ice, training rigorously to improve her skating talents. Her hard work has paid off as she was selected recently to take part in a special skating seminar to be held in Lake Placid.



# Otters in ORSA finals

9008

Otterville Otters, behind the six-hit pitching of Bob Smith, moved into the Ontario Rural Softball Association finals with a 7-2 win over Rainham Centre, Friday in Fisherville.

Otters, who will meet either Freelon or Badonock in the provincial finals, rallied from a 1-0 deficit in the middle innings to take the win.

John Walther wiped out the Rainham Centre lead with a two-run home run in the fourth inning and Otters

put the game away with three in the sixth. Smith knocked in one run with a double in the inning, another scored on an error and Doug Furlong's sacrifice fly supplied the other rbi.

Otters added single runs in the seventh, on Roy King's sacrifice fly after Ron Wells' triple, and in the ninth, as C.D. Richardson singled home Wells, who had doubled.

Smith, who struck out six and did not walk a batter in nine innings, was touched for

a run in the first on a double by Fred Nagel and another in the eighth on a single by Nagel.

Apart from the offence supplied by Wells and Smith's pitching, each had a fine game defensively. Third baseman Wells made one diving catch while Smith stopped numerous Rainham Centre blasts up in the middle.

Wells' double and triple led Otterville at the plate while Walther had the home run, Roy King, Smith and Pierre

Pinnoy all doubled and Richardson got one single. Nagel had a pair of hits to lead Rainham Centre while Bill Roth, Gary Gee, Paul Folsom and Frank Roth got one each.

A pair of Rainham Centre pitchers combined to strike out seven and walk two.

## Otterville edges Freelon 1-0 in opener of ORSA final series

Aug 17

Pierre Pinnoy and Ron Wells hit back-to-back home runs in the first inning and Otterville scored two unearned runs in the eighth as Otters dumped Freelon 5-4 in the first game of the Ontario Rural Softball Association finals, Monday in Freelon.

Otters can wrap up the best-of-three ORSA final with a win in game two, tonight (Wednesday) in Otterville at 8:30.

Freelon put on a determined rally in the late stages

of Monday's game, but fell just one run short. Otters took a 5-2 lead after the eighth inning but the hosts scored twice in the bottom of the ninth to close the gap considerably.

Otterville jumped out to a quick 3-0 lead on the power of first inning home runs by Pierre Pinnoy and Wells. Joe Webb singled ahead of Pinnoy's two-run blast and Wells followed suit with a solo shot.

Sid Lang closed the gap to 3-1 with a lead-off home run

for Freelon in the fifth but Otters came back to score twice in the eighth and take an insurmountable lead.

Two errors in the inning were instrumental in Otters scoring two runs. Ron Wells reached first on one fielding miscue and Doug Furlong's bunt was mishandled by the pitcher to put runners at first and second.

When Wells took off in an attempted steal of third, Freelon catcher Randy Dowling threw the ball into left field, allowing both

runners to score.

Faced with the prospect of scoring four times in the last two innings just to tie, Freelon got close to Otters.

Singles by Dowling and Tim Killington and an Otterville error led to a single run in the eighth and Freelon scored twice in the ninth on another Otterville error, a double by Len Tweedle, a Don Moir single and an infield out.

The winning pitcher was Dave Felder, Otterville's starter who gave way to Bob Smith in the eighth. The pair combined to strike out five and walk two while loser Glen Jamieson, who went the distance, fanned 11 and issued one free pass.

Webb and Pat Pinnoy had two hits for Otters and Pierre Pinnoy, Wells, C.D. Richardson, Roy King, Furlong and Felder got one. Sid Lang, Randy Dowling, and Dave Lang got two hits for Freelon with Jamieson, Tweedle, Moir, Killington and Doug Dowling adding singles.

### OTTERVILLE 5 FREELTON 4

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Freelon	000	010	012-4 11 2

Felder, Smith (8) and Pat Pinnoy; Jamieson and Dowling. W - Felder, L - Jamieson. HR: Otterville, Pierre Pinnoy, Wells; Freelon, Lang.

## Otters win ORSA

Home run hitting and great relief pitching have led Otterville Otters to the Ontario Rural Softball Association A championship.

Backed by two home runs from Pierre Pinnoy and one from Ron Wells and five innings of no-hit relief from Jim Miles, Otters defeated Freelon 6-2 to win the best of three provincial final series in two straight games, Wednesday in Otterville.

Pinnoy and Wells each slammed a circuit clout in the first inning as Otterville took a 3-0 lead. Pinnoy's blast, a solo shot to deep right field came after C.D. Richardson walked and scored on a wild pitch. Wells made the score 3-0 with a booming drive to centre field.

After Freelon scored twice in the fourth inning to

make the score 3-2, Otters called in Miles to relieve starter Dave Felder and he slammed the door in the visitors faces.

Ten of the 15 batters Miles faced over the final five innings went down on strikes as he didn't allow a hit and walked only one in an excellent relief appearance.

Felder, who along with Pinnoy were presented with game balls after the contest, had done a fine job in the first four innings. The pitcher allowed only two hits, both in the fourth inning as Freelon scored twice. Colin Jones smacked a two-rbi single to score Doug Lang and Len Tweedle with the runs.

Otters salted away their championship with two runs in the sixth inning and one in the eighth. Pinnoy was once

again the hero in the sixth inning as his two-run home run scored Roy King ahead of him and he also drove in another run in the eighth with a sacrifice fly. That hit gave him four runs batted in on the game, as he well deserved the game ball he was given.

Only Doug Lang and Jones got hits for Freelon while Pinnoy had two for Otterville and Wells, Richardson, King, Miles and Lynn Gehring got singles. Losing pitcher Dave Lang struck out five and walked two while Felder fanned four and walked one.

The provincial title doesn't end the season for Otters as they must face Mount Elgin Mounties in Four Counties fastball league playoffs starting Friday in Otterville.





### Family affair

It was somewhat of a family affair at the Shriners Fall Ceremonial held in Simcoe on Saturday as the five Hanson brothers were initiated together into the Shriners. Shown above with their two sponsors Keith Bannister and Tom Ar-

thur they are: (left to right) Bill Hanson, RR 2, Otterville, Tom Hanson, Norwich, Bruce Hanson, RR 3, Scotland, Harry Hanson, RR 2, Burgessville, Archie Hanson, RR 1, Salford and sponsor Mr. Arthur. In the rear is Mr. Bannister.

## Five brothers join Shriners

More than 1,000 Shriners from all over Southwestern Ontario were in Simcoe on Saturday to take part in the annual Fall Ceremonial of the Mocha Temple, London.

Ceremonials, held in the Spring and the Fall, are a time when new members are admitted to the fraternity. The Ceremonial in Simcoe on Saturday had slightly more

significance than usual because of the fact that five blood brothers were admitted to the fraternity at one time.

Admission to Shriners is the ultimate for a mason and the five Hanson brothers have achieved that honor together. On Saturday Archie, Harry, Bruce, Bill and Tom were all initiated into

the order under the sponsorship of Keith Bannister of Simcoe and Tom Arthur of Scotland.

Also honored on Saturday was Noble William Johnston of the Norfolk Shrine Club. He first became a Mason in January 1926 and was ultimately invested with Honorary Inspector General 33 degree in 1963.



Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Smart of RR 1, Otterville are pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of their only daughter, Kim Alexandrina to Lyle John McClelland, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. William McClelland of RR 3, Norwich. The wedding will take place August 2, 1980 at 6:30 p.m. at Norwich Baptist Church.

## Plan commemorative service on anniversary of tornado

One year to the day since a tornado swept through Oxford, Brant and Haldimand-Norfolk leaving a trail of destruction in its wake, the Woodstock Ministerial Association is holding a commemoration service at Southside Park.

The service will take place Aug. 7 at 7:30 p.m. near the Parkinson Road entrance to the park.

The Salvation Army band will provide music, with the Mennonite Gospel Heralders of Tavistock singing special selections. The service will be conducted by ministerial association president Rev. Michael Farr. The sermon will be preached by Rev. H. Eshuis, whose Maranatha

Christian Reformed Church, on Norwich Avenue in Woodstock, was destroyed by the tornado.

Other speakers at the service will include Oxford MPP Harry Parrott and Ken

Peers, tornado relief committee chairman.

In case of rain, Oliver Stephens public school on Fyfe Avenue has been chosen as an alternate site for the service. Those

wishing to attend have been asked to bring their own chairs.

The Chalmers United Church Men's Fellowship is in charge of ground arrangements.





### Gore Blacksmith's

The old blacksmith shop at the Norwich Gore, no longer in use, will be torn down in September.

# Historic shop coming down

BY HILARY LINTON

In the days of the blacksmith, there were many horses to be shod and buggies to be built, but only a few blacksmith shops and skilled blacksmiths.

The blacksmith shop at Norwich Gore will be demolished in September, ending a century of history for Norwich area farmers.

Thomas Witts of Norwich and his father before him, who was a blacksmith at Norwich for 52 years, made their livings shoeing horses, building buggies and repairing machinery for area farmers. They provided an important service for many people.

"When I was a kid there were always horses there to be shod," said Philip Caley, a long-time neighbor. "Everybody in the neighborhood came for miles."

There used to be three buildings plus the house on the 15-acre property, Mr. Caley said. One shed was for cattle, one for building the buggies and the third was the blacksmith shop.

They were all torn down over time, except the 80-year old house. The original shop, which was built at least 100 years ago, was rebuilt by Mr. Witts about 50 years ago, Mr. Caley said.

Mr. Witts worked in the original shop with his father,

Thomas Witts senior and two brothers, until 1925 when he took over the business. He operated the shop until 1975, when the contents were auctioned and the property was sold.

Mr. Witts, now 82, made wagons, buggies and democrats with his father. They were "excellent buggy builders," said Mr. Caley. In 1958, as horses and buggies were disappearing, Mr. Witts sold some of his equipment. He stayed in business, however, making tobacco boats and wagons, and repairing and welding machinery.

Mr. Witts, who now lives in Norwich, said horses needed new shoes every four to six weeks. He bought the shoes and would heat them up on the forge to fit to the horse's foot.

"Some of them was kind of mean," he recalled, but most horses gave him little trouble. Mr. Witts said that he built the shop which now stands, about 30 years ago.

He also did many repairs, he said, like setting loose wagon tires and welding machinery.

John Slater, who has lived on the farm next to the

blacksmith shop for 40 years, said Mr. Witts was a good shoer. Most people in the district went there to have their horses shod, he said, although there was another blacksmith in Norwich.

"Tom was a genuine blacksmith and he had a big business," he said.

The days of the smithy are long gone, however, and the shop will be demolished this September. Al Thompson, new owner of the property, said the old building is of no use for his business, which is general repair of farm equipment. The building is too old, he said, and is not suitable for anything other than storage.

The shop is on the corner of county road 18 and Baseline Road, and is on part of the road allowance for Baseline Road, said Bob Watkins of the township office. The shop is a serious traffic hazard, he said, because it blocks visibility to the west for southbound travellers.

The agreement which has been reached with Mr. Thompson regarding the removal of the building is "strictly for the good of the visibility of the intersection," he said.

By SUZANNE HANSON

An era of history in Norwich ended in a pile of rubble this week as the old West Taylor Bickle broom factory was torn down.

"It's an old place and it has to go," said owner James Cassidy of Norwich last week. The building was in very poor condition so he decided to tear it down and move the broom-making

operation into the adjacent shed.

The business has seen many changes over the years and the going has not all been easy. The story is the same as that of many small independent businesses—it's difficult to compete with cheap imported products. Mr. Cassidy is one of those small businessmen who has felt the

pinch and that is partly why he is scaling down his operation. While the brooms he produces are of a better quality, "The price is what people look at," he said.

Mr. Cassidy took over the business in June of 1978, but its history dates back much earlier. The broom-making business was originally established in 1894 by E.H. Thomas with one

broom-maker and a helper. In a year or two, the two Thomas brothers moved into an old school house and added brushes and woodenware to their line of products. In 1901 nearly 100 hands were employed in the plant.

But in 1902 they took their entire plant, brick by brick, to St. Thomas. Following that the Norwich Broom

Factory was established with James Doherty as manager. In two to three years he bought the business and in 1905 he sold it to West, Taylor and Bickle.

In 1907 the building and plant were destroyed by fire but the present structure was built and re-equipped within four months.

From that time on the markets grew and extended to as far away as the West Indies, the British Isles, Sweden and Switzerland and the broom factory was soon the largest in the British Empire. About 40,000 dozen brooms and whisks were produced yearly in the factory ranging from corn brooms, corn whisks and rubberset brooms to fibre brooms and fibre whisks together with Dustmaster mops and deck mops in all sizes.

Norwich resident Charlie Bailey is one of the oldest living employees of the

# torn down

# Old broom factory

broom factory. Mr. Bailey, now almost 92 years old, spent 32 of those years employed in the broom factory.

"I don't know where I could have found a better place to come to live or a better place to come to work," he said of his years living in Norwich and working in the broom factory. "The place was full of personality."

It was 1972 before he finally retired from the job at the age of 84.

"I guess it was pretty near time I quit working," chuckled Mr. Bailey. But he is proud of the good and active life he has enjoyed.

Mr. Bailey also prides himself on having been a quality broom-maker. Broom-making is a job that has to be done a great deal by hand. It requires a certain amount of skill and you don't last long at the job if you don't have that skill, said Mr. Bailey.

"Some of the boys were real fast. They could produce eight to 12 dozen brooms in a day."

While he was often called on to repair the sewing machines, Mr. Bailey was most often found operating them. The work of a good broom-maker was a pleasure to sew, he said.

The brooms from the factory were sold all across Canada and some even went to South America in those days.

"They made an exceptionally good line of house brooms, warehouse brooms and whisks. They also made some fibre brooms as fill-ins," he said.

Mr. Bailey enjoyed his years at the factory and was sorry to hear the old building was coming down. He is now residing at Norvilla Nursing Home, but on the wall of his house on the corner of North Court and Washington

Streets, he still has a reminder of those days in the factory. On that wall hangs one of the best-made corn brooms in the country—made right in Norwich.

While the business today is being scaled down considerably from those early days of 100 employees, it is still in operation to make quality corn household brooms and curling brooms. About six people are employed at the factory which should be back in operation in about one month.

Not all of the old building will be torn down, said Mr. Cassidy. A portion of it is being saved to serve as the offices for the business.



# Otterville U.C.W. resumes season

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Autumn season for Otterville United Church Women opened Thursday evening with a dessert meeting. After enjoying the interesting squares, the ladies assembled in the Sunday School hall for the business and program.

The meeting was opened with a memorial service in memory of two members Mrs. David Kennedy and Mrs. Wilfrid Addison.

Many items were dealt with and business regarding the turkey supper which will

be held in the Church Hall on October 27, was initiated.

The program Oberammergau was turned over to Orris Beecroft and her committee. Orris gave a description of the town in Bavaria where the Passion Play originated, and a history of its progress during the 350 years of its existence. The organization of the program allowed a half million people to see it this year. She then showed slides to illustrate her talk and completed it with the Passion Play itself.

## St. John's groups plan for events

OTTERVILLE (C) The St. John's Club and Guild met at the home of Evelyn Picknell with 15 members and one visitor present. Mrs. Dowds' mother-in-law from Scotland was introduced and welcomed, as was our Rector, Mr. Darling.

President Marion Dowds opened with readings from "The living message" and quote from the rectors monthly letter.

The secretary Florence Saunders gave the report of the last meeting in July and Winnie McMullen gave the report on the plowing match dinner in the Arena Complex where they served 260 people.

Discussion on coming events included Oct. 4, St. John's Parish Hall sale of arts, crafts and home baking, 10 - 12 a.m.; Nov. 6,

Guild bazaar; Nov. 9, cabbage roll supper; Dec. 7, Christmas Congregational pot-luck supper, 5 p.m. The Guild is also serving at two weddings and one installation.

The uniting of the Guild and Club was found not feasible as no suitable time and date was agreed upon.

A card was sent to Emma Strudwick who is in Tillsonburg Hospital.

The rector, Mr. Darling, spoke to us using the theme "Outreach and giving", stressing, "The more we give, the more we get."

Evelyn and Bob served lunch and a social time was enjoyed by all. Wenda and Marion thanked Mr. Darling for his talk, and Evelyn and Bob for their hospitality.

Next meeting will be at Marion Dowds' on Oc. 15.

## Bluebirds decide to continue

OTTERVILLE (C) — Members of the Happy Bluebird Club met at the home of president, Mrs. Daisy Ash, on Tuesday evening. Roll call was "Something I intend to do this winter outside my every day tasks."

There was much discussion on continuing the club which has been an organization for the past 32 years. Members felt it was a good way to meet neighbors and friends, thus the club will continue.

October meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. H.A. Waring with Otterville group in charge.

Cards were enjoyed after which the hostess was assisted in the social hour.

Mrs. Stanley Davis thanked the hostess for the pleasant evening.

# Family law for women topic at W.I. meeting

OTTERVILLE (C) — September meeting of the Women's Institute was held at Woodlawn Community Centre on Friday evening, September 13, at 8 p.m.

President Mrs. Harry Pickersgill presided and the meeting opened with a service in memory of two members who had passed away, Mrs. David Kennedy and Mrs. Wilfrid Addison. The president read a message "We Lost A Friend Today," composed and written by Mrs. Lorraine Downing.

Roll call was answered with members telling how to welcome a new citizen to the community.

Cards of appreciation were read from the Kennedy family and the Addison family.

Activities to remember; the fall board meeting to be held at Salford on October 7; and the annual fall rummage sale in the community hall on Saturday October 18, 9 a.m.-12 noon.

Mrs. Harold Durkee, convener of citizenship, presided for the program and a reading was given by Mrs. Waring, "Garden Argument."

Guest speaker for the meeting was W.J. Weir, Q.C. Tillsonburg Lawyer, and his subject was "Family Law for Women." Mr. Weir defined phrases and cited many cases pertaining to his subject in his humorous manner. His most interesting talk was followed with a question period.

Mrs. Harris presented the speaker with a gift for which he thanked the group.

Meeting closed with cookies and tea being served

by the committee, Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Harris and Miss Vera Welsh.

Mrs. Waring was hostess for the meeting.

## Elections in November for historical society

The September meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society was well attended at Woodlawn.

Joyce Pettigrew introduced the guest speaker, Maureen Vandenberghe, who gave a very interesting and extensive talk on "Moore's Mills" and "Little Ireland", two areas which she researched in detail while in the employ of the Society as part of the Experience '80 program.

President Rick Singer called the meeting to order. Mrs. Pettigrew read the minutes of the September 8 executive meeting. Mr. Singer reported the June bus

trip to the Ben Miller Mill and Goderich Gaol did not materialize but several members accompanied the Tillsonburg Historical Society who had planned the same trip.

Treasurer Marj Pearce presented her report and also a quilt for the Society is ready for quilting at the United Church.

A research workshop is being planned in conjunction with the Norwich Historical Society with Mrs. Pettigrew and Mary Murray working with the Norwich group.

Bill McMullen Sr., Ed Moore and Lila Freeland agreed to become the

nominating committee for the November election of officers.

There was no further news to report on the Mill property. Hasti-notes are available from Lorraine Downing with proceeds to go to the Mill foundation.

Don McPherson brought copies of "Other Times", the publication available from the Norwich Historical Society.

The next regular meeting will be October 20 at Woodlawn with Bill McMullen, Sr., speaking on Ships and Engines in England.

## Leisure Club bazaar is well patronized

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the Otterville Leisure club was held in the Woodlawn Centre on Wednesday afternoon, September 17, at 2 p.m. '80

Cards were enjoyed for most of the afternoon and the president later called the gathering to order when the secretary-treasurer gave the financial report of the bazaar which was a boost to the treasury.

Other items of business were discussed. The meeting closed and Mr. and Mrs. Cole were in charge of the lunch.

The annual Fall Bazaar sponsored by the Otterville Leisure Club was held in the Community Hall on Saturday, September 13.

Items of homemade articles, which included crafts, baking, needlework, and

woodwork along with vegetables, plants and various other items, sold well as the afternoon opened at 2 p.m.

Tea tables were well patronized and tickets were on sale all afternoon on three afghans.

Approximately at 4 p.m. the president Mrs. Annie Pritchard announced the draw and the winners were Vanetta Henry, Harley; Ruth Townsend, Port Rowan and Olive Dean, Tillsonburg.

Every table was well-filled, showing the deep interest the members are sharing in club work. The president voiced appreciation to all who had helped in making preparations for the day which was a decided success financially.

OTTERVILLE (C) — Members of the Leisure Club held their weekly meeting at Woodlawn Centre on Wednesday, September 10.

President Mrs. Annie Pritchard and treasurer Fred Cole received tickets sold on an afghan to be drawn at the bazaar to be held Saturday, September 13, in the community hall.

Games of cards were enjoyed upstairs while the men played pool and shuffleboard downstairs.

Mrs. Max Avey and Mrs. Harold Waring were in charge of the kitchen duties.

## Leisure club to co-host zone rally

OTTERVILLE (C) — The first meeting of the Leisure Club was held on Wednesday afternoon September 3, at the Woodlawn Centre with the president Annie Pritchard presiding.

The meeting opened with the singing of "O Canada" with Bertha Lee at the piano.

Violet Cole, secretary of the club, read the minutes of the previous meeting and reported of events throughout the holiday. Mrs. Cole also gave the roll call after which Fred Cole, treasurer of the club gave the financial report.

Mel Beecroft reported on the Executive meeting of Zone 3 Rally which was held in Brantford on Wednesday morning.

Further plans were made in regard to the bazaar which will be held in the

Otterville Community Hall Saturday, September 13. There was much discussion too in regard to the Zone Rally which is being held at the Community Centre in Norwich on October 22. The members of the Norwich Golden Age Group and the members of the Otterville Leisure Club will host the Rally.

Mrs. Martin Magashazi thanked the members for the cards sent to her while she was a patient in the Tillsonburg Hospital.

The remainder of the afternoon was spent in playing cards and the men folk enjoyed their games in the basement.

A social time completed the afternoon when Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Pritchard served lunch.

### Flag stolen

A Canadian flag was stolen from the Otterville post office September 5, 1980

Tillsonburg OPP said two men were charged in connection with the theft. Value of the flag is estimated at \$12.

Constable Frank Abbott investigated the occurrence.



# Missionary Fellowship

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mrs. Robert Butler was the hostess for the September meeting of the Women's Missionary Fellowship of the Baptist Church.

The president Mrs. Fred Hill welcomed a new member Mrs. Earl Cooper, our new pastor's wife. Mrs. Hill read a poem "One Day At A Time".

The hymn "In Times Like These" was sung followed by prayer. The secretary, Mrs. Charter Davis read the

minutes and gave the roll call. Mrs. Ted Oenema led in the missionary prayer.

Mrs. Robert Butler was leader for the devotional part of the meeting entitled "Fruitfulness". Hymn "For the Beauty of the Earth" followed with the scripture parable of the Vine and the Branches. Mrs. Butler demonstrated an illustration of a bunch of grapes that Christians should reproduce by having love, goodness, joy, faith, peace, meekness,

long-suffering, temperance, and gentleness.

Mrs. James Twinem of Courtland was the guest speaker and brought the message on being fruitful. She said as Christians we should be willing to serve in the Lord's work and not have the attitude of "Let George do it."

Mrs. Twinem quoted the Scripture "To him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not to him it is a sin". She likened Christians to being

the thread and God the needle and that we should follow God in obedience and surrender as the thread follows the needle.

Mrs. Butler thanked Mrs. Twinem for her message and Mrs. Cooper closed with prayer.

A social time followed and the hostess was assisted by Mrs. Brian Davis and Mrs. Cooper in serving lunch.

Mrs. Hill gave the courtesy remarks and presented the speaker with a gift.

## Park equipment bought by Sunshine club

### Honor former residents at open house

OTTERVILLE (C) — "Open House" was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Melville Beecroft on Thursday afternoon, September 2 in honor of two former residents of Otterville Mrs. Leonard (Fish) Lee of Oakville and Miss Dorothy Edmunds a former member of the teaching staff of Otterville Continuation School.

Ladies of the village were delighted to see the guests of honor and were served tea or coffee and dainty goodies by Mrs. Rod Taylor and Mrs. Boyd Little.

Mrs. Beecroft was in charge of the guest book when 30 names were registered.

Guests thanked Mrs. Beecroft and her assistants for the enjoyable afternoon.

OTTERVILLE (C) — Members of the Sunshine Club held their first meeting for the fall and winter season at the home of president Mrs. Audrey Harrison on Thursday evening.

The hostess presided and roll call, suggested by Mrs. Dorothy Neale, was "Something that bothers me around the house." Mrs. Doreen Mountain secretary-treasurer reported on the activities of the summer, including the garage sale which netted the sum of \$225. The club purchased equipment for Otterville Park which included a bench at the side of the pool, a bicycle stand and a picnic table.

Members of the club accepted an invitation to meet with the Institute at Woodlawn on Thursday evening, October 9.

Mrs. Doreen Mountain assisted the hostess for the social hour and Mrs. Lillie Chisholm expressed appreciation.

## Memorial service at UCW

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Autumn season for Otterville United Church Women opened Thursday evening with a dessert meeting. After enjoying the interesting squares, the ladies assembled in the Sunday School hall for the business and program. *Sept/80*

The meeting was opened with a memorial service in memory of two members Mrs. David Kennedy and Mrs. Wilfrid Addison.

Many items were dealt with and business regarding the turkey supper which will be held in the Church Hall on October 27, was initiated.

The program Oberammergau was turned over to Orris Beecroft and her committee. Orris gave a description of the town in Bavaria where the Passion Play originated, and a history of its progress during the 350 years of its

### MURIEL HUFFMAN

Mrs. Archie Huffman of Norfolk Hospital Nursing Home, formerly of Teeterville, passed away at Norfolk General Hospital, Simcoe, on Thursday, September 25, 1980, in her 87th year.

She was the former Muriel Attlebery, and was predeceased by her husband. Mrs. Huffman was a lifelong member of Teeterville Baptist Church, the Teeterville Women's Institute, and was the first curator of Windham Township Museum.

Surviving are two sons, Clare Huffman of RR 3, Vanessa, and Douglas Huffman of Waterford; one daughter, Mrs. William (Cynthia) Burroughs of Teeterville; eight grandchildren; two brothers, Harold Attlebery of Simcoe and Morley Attlebery of Norwich; and one sister, Mrs. Winnie Leach of Otterville.

She was predeceased by two brothers, Wilfred Attlebery and Kenneth Attlebery, and by a sister, Kathleen Drinkrow.

Rested at the Graves Memorial Chapel, Scotland, where service was held Saturday, September 27, at 3:30 p.m. conducted by Rev. Adolph Hahn.

Interment in Vanessa Cemetery.

existence. The organization of the program allowed a half million people to see it this year. She then showed slides to illustrate her talk and completed it with the Passion Play itself.

Besides four visitors present there was a good attendance of members. The October meeting will be on October 16 and will be arranged by Nancy Batson and her committee.

## Eastern Star has first meeting *Sept 1980*

Norwich Chapter 175 O.E.S. held their September meeting last Wednesday evening in the Chapter rooms.

Worthy Matron Lillian Oatman and Worthy Patron Norman McIntyre welcomed all, following the summer recess.

Reports were received from the various committees. Edith Petch, and Shirley McPherson of the flower committee reported on the members who were ill.

In the communications the dates of the upcoming Grand Chapter at the Royal York Hotel Toronto, starting September 23, were announced.

Happy Birthday was sung in honor of the birthday of the Worthy Matron Lillian Oatman. Secretary Mary Storey was presented with her 50-year membership pin by Vivian Peat.

The charter was draped in memory of two members

Catherine Kennedy and Wilfrid Addison.

The following officers were elected to office for 1980-81: Worthy Matron Josephine Howse; Worthy Patron Carl Howse; Associate Matron Delores Evoy; Associate Patron Norman McIntyre; secretary Mary Storey; treasurer Annie Pritchard; Conductress Lillian Oatman; Associate Conductress Katie Lowe; Auditors, Edith Petch, Enid Morley and Dorothy Durkee; trustees Ernie Morley, Florence Saunders and Lloyd Peat.

The installation of officers will be held at the October meeting.

### EDNA GRACE HUDSON

Funeral service for the late Mrs. William Hudson of Otterville, who passed away on September 8, 1980, was held at St. John's Anglican Church, Otterville, on September 11 at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Grant Darling.

Mrs. Hudson was the former Edna Grace Wereley, and was born in Lynedoch, daughter of the late George Wereley and the former Ethel Davis.

Organist for the funeral service was Mrs. Lila Freeland.

Pallbearers were Guy Hudson, Brent Hudson, Rick Hudson, Steve Hudson, Scott Moody and Brian Howse.

Memorial donations were made to the Canadian Cancer Society, The Canadian Bible Society, St. John's Anglican Church and Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital.

Interment in the Parish Cemetery.

Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, in charge of arrangements.

### EDNA GRACE HUDSON

Mrs. William Hudson of Otterville passed away at St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital on Monday, September 8, 1980, in her 69th year.

She was the former Edna Grace Wereley.

Surviving, besides her husband, are two daughters, Mrs. Stanley (Marion) Williams of Aylmer and Mrs. Ronald (Betty) Moody of Kitchener; four sons, William Hudson and Harold Hudson, both of London, Larry Hudson of Tillsonburg and Robert Hudson of Aylmer; 19 grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; eight sisters, Mrs. Aubrey (Marguerite) Simpson of RR 5, St. Thomas, Mrs. Bevin (Dorothy) Paddon and Mrs. Fred (Alice) Gladding both of St. Thomas, Mrs. Ernie (Betty) Hollands of Bright, Mrs. Ronald (Joyce) Charlton of Kitchener and Mrs. Nancy Dunn of Aylmer; and three brothers, Douglas Wereley and Hubert Wereley, both of Aylmer and William Wereley of St. Thomas.

She was predeceased by a sister, Mrs. Alfred (Irene) Paul.

Rested at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville until noon Thursday, thence to St. John's Anglican Church for service at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Grant Darling.

Interment in Anglican Church Cemetery.

### MYRTLE ADDISON

Mrs. Wilfrid Addison of Otterville passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Friday, September 12, 1980, in her 80th year.

She was the former Myrtle Fisher.

Her husband, Wilfrid Addison, predeceased her June 8, 1980.

Surviving are two sons, Donald Addison of Simcoe and Richard Addison of Bermuda; four grandchildren; and one sister,

Mrs. Clara Cooper of Tillsonburg.

Rested at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, where service was held Monday, September 15, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earl Moore.

Interment in the family plot in Otter Cemetery.

### MYRTLE ADDISON

Funeral service for the late Mrs. Wilfrid Addison of Otterville, who passed away on September 12, 1980, was held at the Nelson F. Gleason Funeral Home, Otterville, on September 15, at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Earl Moore.

Mrs. Addison was born in Norfolk County, daughter of the late Thaddeus Fisher and the former Ella Smith. She was a member of Otterville United Church and of the U.C.W.; a member and Past Matron of Norwich O.E.S. 175; secretary of the Past Matron and Past Patron Club; life member of Otterville Women's Institute being past district president for two years and past district secretary for six years; a Silver Cross Mother, having a son Douglas killed with the RCAF in Germany in 1944; and a member of the Otterville Leisure Club.

She had lived in Otterville for the past 58 years and for 50 years, with her husband, operated the Otterville Funeral Home and Furniture Store.

Mrs. L. McMullen played hymns during the service.

Pallbearers were Wayne Addison, Douglas Addison, David Addison, Stan Addison, Brock Addison and Ev Crockett.

Interment in the family plot in Otter Cemetery.

Memorial donations were made to the Canadian Heart Foundation, Canadian Cancer Society, Diabetic Association; Gideon Bibles, Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital and Otterville United Church.



# Villagers support plant

SEPT 28  
1980

By KATHY MAY

Plans for the expansion of Otterville's major industry seems to be dividing the village.

Despite the protests, of a handful of Otterville residents against Powell Agri-Systems expansion plans, the majority of residents are supporting the plans in a bid to keep the industry in town.

About 170 Norwich Township residents crowded into the Otterville Community Hall Sunday to protest the objections against Powell's expansion. Eight residents have objected to the company's proposal to rezone a 13-acre parcel of land for the construction of an assembly plant, service shop and showroom.

Powell has been waiting for more than a year and half to expand and is busting at the

seams. Residents fear the protest will delay Powell's plan even longer, forcing them to move out of town. If the objections are not withdrawn the matter will be turned over to the Ontario Municipal Board, delaying the whole project eight to ten months.

Emotions ran high during the meeting, and following a stormy debate local residents struck a three member committee to try to resolve the differences dividing the village. Many were convinced the objections are clouded by misunderstandings about Powell's plans. Norwich Councillor Roger Orth, said only one of the objectors really understood what was proposed in the plan.

"Some of the objections could be eliminated if they were explained," Norwich Mayor Jack Burn said.

A petition circulated through the village

last week and collected more than 300 signatures supporting the rezoning bylaw for Powell's expansion.

"And the 300 people signed the petition in less than 48 hours," Mel Smith, chairman of the meeting, said.

Residents left Sunday's meeting vowing to write personal letters to the Ontario Municipal Board supporting the company's request for a zone change.

Powell is one of the largest industries in Norwich Township. The company, which manufactures tobacco equipment and supplies, employs about 110 residents, mostly from the immediate Otterville area. One employee estimated the company pumps about \$1 million in wages back into the community.

"There are few of you that haven't got a

son or someone that makes a direct or indirect living from Powell," Mr. Smith said to the crowded hall.

"It will be a terrible shame for this town, if we lose that industry. Can you imagine what that section of town will look like with just used buildings and warehouses? Really bad, really bad."

Powell has been trying to expand their operation for more than a year and a half. Last spring the company tried to expand northward until it met protest from several nearby homeowners. An OMB hearing overturned Powell's proposal, bringing their plans to a grinding halt.

So Powell sought another plan and decided to purchase the 13-acre tract across from its existing plant on John Street. Once

(Continued on Page 4)

(Continued from Page 1)

again their efforts were thwarted when council received eight last minute objections to the zone change.

Many of the councillors were sketchy on just what the objections were. They said several were worried about the devaluation of their property and that the machinery would ruin the appearance of the area. Bob Rankin of Powell said a farmer objected to the plan because it may affect the water table.

Mayor Jack Burn said he could not release the names of the objectors until he found out whether their identity could be disclosed.

Powell officials said the residents' fears about the company's future are well-founded. The company is locked in and has no place to grow.

"If we can't have that property across the road, we're going to have to get out of there," Mr. Rankin said in an interview Sunday.

"Otterville has to make up their minds as to what they want to do. We've held off for a year and a half. We tried to put up a building last fall, but it was stopped. Now we're faced with another winter with nothing done."

"We have to expand and we're confined to that little island. If we can't go out, and we can't go up, we'll have to move out."

Most of the plant's production is concentrated at the Dover Street site, but to keep a pace with its growing business, Powell has had to rent buildings and property scattered throughout the village for storage and assembly. Mr. Rankin explained these make-shift facilities are outdated and inefficient.

"We have to pull it all together to make it economically sound."

The loss of Powell could have far-reaching effects on the village's "vitality".

Residents pointed out Powell's closing could push up their taxes, deflate property values, drive people out of town, force school closings, increase hydro rates and even jeopardize the efficiency of the village's fire department.

"It will increase the value of your property, making more demand for more people to live in your community...Let them (Powell) move out of town...then see the value of your property," Mr. Smith said.

Many of the department's 15 firemen work at Powell, making them readily available during emergencies. Only two other firemen work in Otterville, with the rest employed outside the area. Fire Chief Bill McMullen said Powell has always co-operated with the department, shutting down lines so firemen can respond to calls.

"If they (Powell) move out, we'll be caught some day and you can't put that kind of responsibility on two or three people to fight fires," he said.

Several students told the meeting they have paid their way through college and university with Powell wages, earned during the summer. Mike Webb is a diabetic and has worked for Powell for about a year. He said Powell hired and trained him for jobs that would least aggravate his condition when many other companies would not have given him the chance.

"Powell has been a steady employer despite adversity," he said.

Several residents said Powell's closing could also blacklist the village from any industrial expansion.

"They'll be afraid to come in," one of them quipped.



## Important to village

This sign at the entrance to Otterville emphasizes the importance of the plant to many of the village's residents. Powell Agri-Systems has been attempting to expand its operation but has been thwarted by objections from some members of the community.



# New principal for Otterville-Springford

Not only was it the first day at school last week for many students, it was also the first day at the Otterville Public School for its new principal Fred Brown.

Mr. Brown, 37, comes to the Otterville-Springford schools from Broadway Public School in Woodstock where he was principal for two years. Prior to that he was principal at the Delmer-Culloden schools and before that taught at Maple Lane, Tillson Avenue and Rolph Street public schools in Tillsonburg.

After 15 years of teaching he is used to the routine of opening week, and he found the usual problems at Otterville-Springford. He is, however, finding the job a bit busier as he must divide his time between the two schools.

The time spent at each school reflects the student population at each with three-quarters of his time spent at Otterville. There are 205 students at Otterville as compared to 78 at Springford, he said.

Having dealt with a split school set-up before at Delmer-Culloden, the problems encountered are not new to him. Administratively the schools are run as one unit but there are problems in carrying materials back and forth between the two schools.

Communication is also a definite problem, he said. When there is something he wants to tell the teachers at Otterville, he can simply drop into their classrooms to give them the message. But with Springford he must

make a note of the matter in order to remember to convey the message when he visits the school.

Due to the demands of the job, Mr. Brown is only able to teach one class to the students, but he does feel it is

important to keep a hand in

"I would never like to be in the position where I wasn't teaching because you can lose contact with the kids. Teaching is important for principals. You forget how to teach if you're out of the

classroom too long."

While he enjoys the contact with the students and hopes they will feel free to come to him with their problems, he does see the need to "keep a line between the teachers and the pupils."

While he hopes the students aren't afraid of him as principal, he feels they do need to have that respect for authority.

Mr. Brown sought the move to Otterville-Springford in order to ex-

pand his own experience and to be closer to his home in Tillsonburg. In addition to Mr. Brown there are four other new staff members bringing the total staff at both schools to 13, full-time and part-time.



## New principal

The new principal at the Otterville-Springford public schools was on hand to meet the students in their first week of school last week. Fred Brown comes to the schools from Broadway Public School in Woodstock where he was principal for two years.





**Super chefs**

Katie Sanders (left), Ed White and Bill Sanders (right) were kept busy frying up hotdogs, hamburgers and french

fries to feed the hungry youngsters at the annual Lions Carnival at the community centre, Friday night.



**Car draw winner**

Norwich-Otterville Lions president Gordon Shearer presented Aubrey Babcock of Otterville with the keys to a brand new car won by Mr. Babcock in the Lions car draw.

The winning ticket was sold to Mr. Babcock by Murray Downing (right). The draw for the Buick Skylark was made last Saturday night at the Lions Septemberfest dance. (NG Photo).





Sept 22/80

### Lion honored

The Otterville Lions Club honored Fred Thompson, right, the community centre fund 1977-80. Howard Fleming presented the plaque Monday. (TN Photo).



### Cabbage slicer

Lions Murray Wardell and Fred Thompson were kept busy slicing cabbage Friday night to make the sauerkraut for the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club's annual Oktoberfest celebration on October 25. About 40 heads of cabbage, making about 30 gallons of sauerkraut, were chopped up at Gordon Shearer's in Otterville.

## Lions plan Oktoberfest

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the Community Hall, Otterville, on Monday September 23. There were 42 members and two guests present.

Past President Fred Thompson was honored by a short address from past district Governor Howard

Fleming on behalf of the club. This was in recognition of the many past club and community services rendered by Lion Fred. He was presented with a gift in turn thanked the club.

Carnival chairman Colin Cope and treasurer Lion Murray Wardell both reported on the annual carnival. This year a good profit was realized.

Lion Fred Thompson reported on the Club's attendance in the Delhi Harvest Festival last week. Lion Gord Shearer reported that the club float received third prize in the district A convention which was held in Ottawa last May.

Lion Andy Vandenberghe reported that attendance for the free bus service to the swimming pool during summer, sponsored by the Lions Club, was 690 children, up considerably from the preceding summer. Lion Andy also reported donations had been approved to the Norwich minor hockey and to the Canadian Arthritic Society.

Lion Ron Oatman reported that the annual Blood Donor Clinic will be held on Monday evening October 27, the location to be announced soon.

Lion Les Dickson reported that the annual club Oktoberfest will be held in the Norwich Community Centre on Saturday, October 25. Tickets will be limited and will be available from any Lion member. Doors will open earlier, at 7 p.m.

There will be special German polka music and an added special dance group. Hopefully polka instruction will again be available.

The convention draw was won by Lion Roy O'Neil.



# Otters lead in league semi-finals

A five-run third inning proved too much to overcome as the Springford Blues went down to a 6-2 defeat to the Otters, in a

Four County Fastball League semi-final series games at Otterville Monday night. Otters take a one game

lead in the best-of-three semi-final series with game two slated for Thursday night in Springford at 8:30 p.m.

Mowat and Seitz were the four Blues hits.

Errors aided Otterville in the big five-run third when both John Walter and C.D. Richardson reached on Springford miscues with Walters scoring on a passed ball and Roy King's bunt single scoring Richardson.

Dave Felder, the winning pitcher, aided his own cause with a single that scored King and Pierre Pinnoy followed with a two run homer to complete the five run outburst.

Blues got two back in the fifth when Gary Seitz singled and came around on a triple by Fred Smith. An error on a ball hit by Springford chucker Greg Volkaert scored Smith.

Otters closed out the scoring in their half of the fifth when C.D. Richardson singled was advanced to third and scored on a passed ball completing the 6-2 Otterville decision.

Felder, working four and two-third innings, picked up the victory allowing all four Springford hits with eight strike-outs and a walk. Bob Smith, in relief over the final two and a third frames threw hitless ball with one free pass. Volkaert gave up six hits with six going down on strikes and one walk in a losing cause.

Pinnoy's home run and a pair of singles by Wells paced the Otters hitting attack with solo singles by Richardson, King and Felder. A triple by Smith and singles by Paul Scott, Pete

## Pitch, hit in 12 inning win

# Miles, Furlong pace Otters

Jim Miles pitched magnificently in relief and Doug Furlong drove in the winning run in the bottom of the 12th inning as Otterville defeated Straffordville juniors 5-4 in game three of their best of five Four Counties fastball league final, Tuesday in Otterville. *SEAT 23*

The win gives Otters a two games to one lead in the final with game four scheduled for last night (Thursday).

Furlong's 12th inning hit,

which broke the tie that had existed since the fifth inning, scored C.D. Richardson with the winning run after he had drawn a walk off losing pitcher Mike Wells and stolen second base.

The hit made a winner out of pitcher Miles, whose relief work after taking over from Bob Smith had held Straffordville to nothing. Miles worked 9 2-3 innings in relief and allowed only one hit while walking just one batter and striking out 23.

That feat was almost matched by the efforts of Wells, who took over from Straffordville starter Brent Stewart after Stewart faced just one batter in the first inning. Wells went the rest of the way for the juniors, striking out 14 while allowing six hits and walking two.

Otterville fell behind 4-0 in the game before rallying with two run innings in the fourth and fifth to pull into a tie.

Randy Declercq's rbi

single scored Stewart with the first Straffordville run in the opening inning and they added three more scores in the third. In that inning, Wells and Stewart each singled before Dave Reiser doubled them home and Declercq drove in another run with a bunt single.

Miles started his club on the comeback in the fourth inning as he tripled to score Furlong, who had doubled, and Bill Richardson, who was running for Pierre Pinnoy after he had singled.

Otters completed the comeback in the next inning as they scored two more runs. John Walther doubled to left field before Ron Wells walked and both runners stole bases. Joe Webb's sharp single to right field scored Walther and Wells and created the tie.

came in the fifth frame with two down and Doug Furlong on third following a walk and steals of second and third.

Straffordville got one back in the sixth when Reiser reached on one of five Otter errors. Reiser took second on a wild pitch and scored when Bailey Stewart's long fly ball skipped off the tip of the rightfielder's (not identified) glove.

Singles by Darrell DeBlair and Paul Ens had Straffordville runners at first and second when an error on a ball hit by Wells loaded the bases in the final seventh inning.

DeBlair crossed the plate with the winning run while the other two runners advanced when Reiser reached on another miscue by Otterville. A walk to Bailey Stewart scored Ens and Wells scored a final run on a sacrifice by Randy DeClercq.

Ens, with two singles, led all hitters while Straffordville team mates Wells, Reiser and DeBlair had one each. Pat Pinnoy doubled with singles by Pierre Pinnoy and Doug Furlong accounting for the three Otterville hits.

## Rally to down Otters

# Straffordville tops Otters

Key hitting and a pair of costly errors enabled Straffordville to snap a 1-1 deadlock with three runs, in the final seventh inning, for a 4-1 victory over the Otters in a Four County Fastball League final playoff game, at Otterville, Thursday night. *SEAT 18*

With the win Straffordville juniors take a 1-0 lead in the best-of-five league final.

Mike Wells worked a full seven innings to pick up the victory. Wells held the Otters to just three hits, sent nine down on strikes and issued one free pass.

Otters, with an early 1-0 lead, got six and a third innings from starter Jim Miles with the final two-thirds handled by Bob Smith. Miles, the loser, gave up all five hits and struck out 13 with two walks. Smith added a strikeout.

Otters opened the scoring with two out in the second when Joe Webb was safe at first on a Straffordville miscue. Doug Furlong singled and Pat Pinnoy scored Webb with a double, while Furlong and Pinnoy were left stranded at third and second respectively.

The defensive play of the game went to Dave Reiser when the Straffordville shortstop went well back on the grass to pull in a shallow fly ball to centre field by C.D. Richardson. The play

ENTER GATES 2, 4, 9 or 15

418 | B | 16

SEC. ROW SEAT

UPPER RESERVED

Est. Price \$5.00  
City Surcharge .50 \$5.50

DETROIT TIGERS

RAIN CHECK

SEPT. 28 SUNDAY - 1980 -

Good This Date Only

Admit One - Set forth on the back of this ticket. Not valid for admission to a subsequent game. This season only if not played on this date. This ticket may be exhibited for a ticket of equal value.

NO MONEY REFUNDED

ENTER GATES 2, 4, 9 or 15

418 | B | 17

SEC. ROW SEAT

UPPER RESERVED

Est. Price \$5.00  
City Surcharge .50 \$5.50

DETROIT TIGERS

RAIN CHECK

SEPT. 28 SUNDAY - 1980 -

Good This Date Only

Admit One - Set forth on the back of this ticket. Not valid for admission to a subsequent game. This season only if not played on this date. This ticket may be exhibited for a ticket of equal value.

NO MONEY REFUNDED

Zeroes were posted on the scoreboard for both teams until the 12th, when Otters broke through and took the game. Furlong's long drive to centre field snapped the deadlock by driving Richardson home with the winning run.

Furlong and Miles each got two hits for Otterville while Wells, Webb and Walther had one each. Randy Declercq got a pair of safeties for Straffordville with Stewart, Reiser, Darryl DeBlair and Wells picking up singles.

OTTERVILLE 5  
STRAFFORDVILLE 4

R H E  
Straffordville 103 000 000 000 - 4 6 4  
Otterville 000 220 000 001 - 5 7 5  
Stewart, Wells (1) and K. Declercq;  
Smith, Miles (3) and Pat Pinnoy. W -  
Miles, L - Wells.



# Otterville wins league crown

Who said lightning doesn't strike twice in the same place? *SEPT 29*

It did Monday night, in Otterville, when Doug Furlong scored John Walther with a 12th inning single to capture the Four County Fastball League championship with a 5-4 decision over Straffordville juniors.

While the winning run came in the 12th inning, officially, the teams had played less than two innings - are you sufficiently confused - all part of replaying the protested portion of game three in the best-of-five final.

In the original game, won 5-4 by the Otters - again in 12 innings and again on a run scoring single by Furlong - a Straffordville protest of an 11th inning incident was upheld and the game, from that point, ordered replayed.

With two out and Francis Underhill at first Jim Miles, winner in the original game, struck out Straffordville's Darrell DeBlair, the first batter to the plate from the point of the original protest.

Mike Wells, loser in the original game, returned to the rubber for Monday's replay sending the side down in order in the Otterville 11th.

Miles, with 23 strikeouts in just over nine innings of relief in the first game, again had the strikeout pitch working and in the Straffordville 12th fanned Paul Ens and Mike Wells and, after a single by Brent Stewart, cut down Dave Reiser on strikes, his fourth strikeout while facing as many batters.

In the Otterville 12th Walther drew a walk, went to second on a sacrifice bunt by C.D. Richardson and stole

third. Ron Wells, out on a fine running catch by Reiser at short, gave Furlong his second chance - remember he drove home the winner in the original game - and he came through with a single to score Walther and the game was history, the Otters taking the title with a 5-4 victory.

The portion of the game that counted, prior to the 11th when the protested incident occurred, was played back on Tuesday, Sept. 23, in Otterville.

At that time the series was deadlocked at a game apiece and Straffordville had jumped into a 4-0 lead after three innings, all coming off starter Bob Smith prior to Miles taking over with one out in the third frame. Extra innings were forced when Otters rallied with two runs in both the fourth and fifth innings knotting it at 4-4.

Randy DeClercq singled in the opening inning, scoring Stewart with the opening run. In the third Straffordville added three more when Wells and Stewart each singled and were doubled home by Dave Reiser, who later scored on a bunt single by DeClercq.

Miles also did it with the bat and, in the original game, started his Otters on the comeback trail with a fourth inning triple to score Furlong, who had doubled and Bill Richardson, who was running for Pierre Pinnoy after he had singled.

In the next inning Otters scored two more runs. John Walther doubled to left, Wells walked and both runners were safe after pulling off a double steal. Joe Webb then lined a sharp single to right scoring both Walthers and Wells to create the 4-4 deadlock.

Six and a half scoreless innings followed, including the Straffordville 11th when the protested incident occurred - and later upheld - until Furlong's long drive scored Richardson with the

winning run giving the Otters what they thought was a 2-1 lead in the best-of-five series.

A 6-0 shutout, in Straffordville Sunday, had the Otters winning the league championship, but, the Straffordville protest was upheld forcing the Monday replay of the protested portion in Otterville.

Including the first 10 and two-third innings of the original game and the inning and a third that was replayed showed winning pitcher Jim Miles with 25 strikeouts while starter Bob Smith added two. Miles, in nine and two third innings, game up two hits and did not walk a batter. Smith was tagged for five hits with one free pass.

Mike Wells worked almost the entire original game and was on the rubber for the replayed portion Monday. He pitched to all but the leadoff batter, in the first game, taking over from starter Brent Stewart. Stewart gave up a leadoff hit and was replaced by Wells who finished with 14 strikeouts and two free passes while allowing seven hits.

Doug Furlong's hit was the only one by Otterville Monday night, while picking up hits in the first game was Furlong with a double, Miles adding a triple and double, doubles by Ron Wells, and Walther and a single by Joe Webb.

Brent Stewart had a pair of hits, one Monday night for the lone Straffordville hit, and another single in the original game along with two by Randy DeClercq, one each by Darrell DeBlair and Mike Wells and a double by Reiser.

OTTERVILLE 5 STRAFF. 4

R H E  
Straffordville 103 000 000 000-4 7 4  
Otterville 000 220 000 001-5 7 4  
Stewart, Wells (1) and K. DeClercq;  
Smith, Miles (3) and Pat Pinnoy. W -  
Miles. L - Wells.

NOTE: Linescore includes first 10 and two-third innings of original game, played Tuesday, Sept. 23, and the replayed portion, from point of protest, played Monday night.

## AUCTION SALE!

SAT., SEPT. 20th

AT 12:30 P.M.

5 BOND ST., OTTERVILLE

(Across from the B.P. Service Station)

Selling for the ESTATE OF THE LATE MRS. BLANCHE BARNIM at the residence -- The complete contents of a nicely furnished home, partial listing only -- two piece traditional living room suite; three piece drum style coffee and lamp table set; Electrohome colour console television; two wicker plant stands; electric sewing machine; Niagara Cyclo massage reclining chair and matching massage unit; antique china cabinet with round glass door and leaded glass side panels; modern tea trolley; nearly new recliner chair; air conditioner; wicker rocker; two nearly new three piece bedroom suites; Beautyrest mattress and box spring; bridge table and chair set; cedar chest; antique oil lamps; fans; vacuum cleaner; press back nursing rocker; cup and saucer shelf; glass butter churn; three piece set of luggage; dehumidifier; copper boiler; crocks; eight gallon butter churn; pedestal desk; small tables and stands; lamps; picture; boxes and boxes of good dishes; antique one drawer lamp table; eight piece colonial dinette set; electric dryer; Hoover spin washer; modern wringer washer; two apartment size deep freezers; aluminum step ladder; Westinghouse front free fridge; Admiral clean-a-matic gas range (both avocado green); roto-tiller; lawn mower; lawn roller; fertilizer spreader; hand and garden tools, etc., etc.

AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: This is a large clean offering of household goods with lots of good glass and china and well kept furnishings.

All goods are SOLD AS IS, WHERE IS -- TERMS CASH OR PROPER CHEQUE.

BOB CARNEY - AUCTIONEER 879-6420





### Of Other Times

Norwich Archivist Johan Hopkins displays the inside of a recently published book, *Of Other Times*. The book, published by the Norwich and District Historical Society,

focuses on the agricultural community in Norwich Township. The pictorial record was compiled by John Eacott.

## *Rural life highlighted in historical book*

The agricultural and business community of the Township of Norwich is highlighted in a recently published book *Of Other Times*.

Published by the Norwich and District Historical Society, the book presents a collection of historic photographs of people, places and events which focus on the rural life of the township.

*Of Other Times* was compiled by John Eacott of RR 4, Woodstock for the historical society. Pictures and information were provided by the Norwich Archives. The book covers the 100-year period from 1840 to 1940 depicting the era from the end of the sub-

sistence farming of the pioneers to the specialized agriculture of today's farmer.

The book started out to be product was received from the publisher last week.

"This pictorial album is a repository of historic material," said Norwich Archivist Johan Hopkins. There is so much material at the archives that no one sees a strictly agricultural record of the township but grew to include a lot of the past industries and businesses, said historical society representative Don MacPherson at the last Norwich Township Chamber of Commerce dinner.

Work on the book started one year ago and the finished

that the historical society decided to compile the book to make that material more available to the general public, said Mrs. Hopkins.

The book priced at \$6, is available now at the archives and will be for sale at the upcoming Plowing Match.



S P R I N G F O R D

F A L L F A I R

"1980"

September 20, 1980

Admission:

Adults \$1.50  
Children (under 12) .75¢  
Pre Schoolers "Free"

PARADE: 11 o'clock FEATURING THE MOCCA TEMPLE BAND  
Entries Welcome Prizes for best decorated bike  
and most unusual wheeled object.  
(Contact Bob Turnbull = 842-2698)

OPENING CEREMONIES:  
12 noon at the park

PET SHOW: 1 o'clock  
Open to children up to age 14  
(Contact Mrs. Eleanor Turnbull = 842-2698)

MISS SPRINGFORD CONTEST: Presentations 2 o'clock  
M.C. John Heleniak  
Open to girls 16 to 21 as of Sept. 20  
(Contact Sherril Babbey = 842-9296)

NAIL DRIVING 3 o'clock  
LOG SAWING 4 o'clock  
TUG OF WAR 5 o'clock  
(Contact Bob Hussey = 842-6636)

AMATEUR SHOW During the evening hours  
(Contact Doug Rice = 842-2918)



# Guild plans bazaar

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the St. John's Ladies Guild was held at the home of Mrs. Harold Durkee on Thursday afternoon with 10 ladies present.

The president Mrs. Fred Howse presided and the meeting opened with prayer followed by The Lord's Prayer.

Mrs. Durkee read the minutes of the previous meeting and also gave the correspondence. Winnie McMullen gave the treasurer's report.

Fancy work and knitted goods were turned in for the bazaar which will be held in the Parish Hall, Otterville in November. Other up-coming events to remember include the next meeting which will be held at the home of Mrs.

Jack Riste; the Christmas congregational supper on Dec. 14 (potluck) in the Parish Hall and the Guild Christmas dinner to be held at the home of Mrs. Fred

Howse on December 18. The meeting closed with prayer. The hostess was assisted by the ladies in serving dainty refreshments.

## WI members attend 66th convention

OTTERVILLE (C) — On Monday, October 27, Mrs. Anna Treffry, Mrs. Olive Pickersgill, Mrs. Alice Arthur, Miss Vera Welsh and Mrs. Doug Babbey of Springford attended the 66th annual area convention of the London Area Women's Institute in St. Marys.

Theme was "In Friendship Circle Bright". This was the year of the W.I. in Ontario.

On Tuesday Mrs. Treffry, Mrs. Pickersgill, and Mrs. Arthur attended the second and final day when a wonderful display of crewel embroidery, needlepoint, indoor gardening, quilts, and articles for Children's Hospital in London was shown. The craft table was filled and it is believed all articles were sold.

Business was concluded by 3 o'clock on Tuesday.

# Research workshop in Norwich

The South Norwich Historical Society met at Woodlawn on Oct. 20, with President Rick Singer presiding.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Juanita DeRoo. Marjorie Pearce gave the treasurer's report.

Joyce Pettigrew outlined the Workshop on Research and Writing to be held Nov. 15 at Norwich Archives. This is to be the first of two sessions with the second session to be held in January 1981. Fees are \$5 per person including luncheon. The

workshop session is open to anyone with a limit to the number admitted. Fees are to be sent to the Norwich Archives. Rick Singer spoke briefly on the Canada Community Development program.

It was announced the quilt is complete and tickets will soon be available for sale with the draw to be held at the March 9, 1981 meeting.

A discussion was held concerning the date of the monthly meetings which had been tentatively changed to the third Monday. All members present were in

favor of having the meeting in 1981 returned to the second Monday of the month.

Rick Singer reported on the Mill property. It was requested that hasti-note money be turned in to Marjorie Pearce or Lorraine Downing before the November meeting. The Nov. 17 dinner meeting will have Ed Phelps speaking on the Donnelly Family. Tickets for the dinner are available from Rick Singer and Bill McMullen Sr.

Refreshments and a social time followed the close of the meeting.

# Education on cancer

OTTERVILLE (C) — The October meeting of the Otterville Women's Institute was held at Woodlawn Community Centre on Thursday evening, October 9 at 8 p.m.

The roll call was answered

with the members naming their first family doctor.

The County Conference will be held on Tuesday, November 4 at College Ave., Woodstock, and the London Area Convention at St. Mary's Community Centre October 27 and 28.

Family studies convener Mrs. Ivan Leitch had arranged the program.

Mrs. Jack Walther introduced Mrs. John Snoddy, education chairman of the Norwich Branch of the

Canadian Cancer Society and Mrs. Ernest Garner former chairman of education, Canadian Cancer Society for the Province of Ontario.

Mrs. Garner displayed and explained the Education Kits for schools.

Mrs. Snoddy showed a film "It's Your Decision" regarding breast self-examination and the pap test and answered questions.

Mrs. Garner and Mrs. Snoddy were thanked and presented with a gift by Mrs. Murray Downing.

# 500 attend turkey supper

OTTERVILLE (C) — Autumn Thankoffering meeting of the United Church Women was held in the schoolroom of the church with a good attendance. President Mrs. Isabel Harris presided and gave a reading "A Yearning for Love in a world of False Value", with a prayer of Harvest.

Reports were heard from the drape convener and the financial report was given.

Mrs. Batson, convener of the meeting, presided for worship, which opened with a hymn "Unto the Hills". Scripture was read by Mrs. Marion Moore and Mrs. Batson offered prayer.

Mrs. Muriel Buchanan of Oxford Centre was guest speaker for the special meeting and gave a message on "Thanksgiving."

The speaker was introduced by Mrs. Moore and was presented with a gift in appreciation by Mrs. Joyce Hanson.

Meeting closed with a

hymn and benediction after which a social time was enjoyed when pumpkin pie was served with coffee and tea.

On Monday evening, October 27, the annual turkey supper was held in the hall and proved an outstanding success. Visitors came from far and near to attend the supper and enjoy the goodies with upwards of 500, present.

Norwich - Otterville Lions Club members attended the supper, holding their meeting later in the community hall.

## Leisure club

OTTERVILLE (C) — Members of the Leisure Club met at Woodlawn on Wednesday afternoon for their regular meeting.

Several tables of cards were enjoyed followed with a brief business session. President Mrs. Annie Pritchard reminded members of the zone area meeting which will be held in Norwich on October 22nd, at the Community Centre.

Lunch was served and the meeting closed in the usual way.

# Lions get attendance pins

OTTERVILLE (C) — The members of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club attended the annual United Church turkey supper on Monday evening.

Following supper, members met at the Community Hall, Otterville, for the business meeting. Lion president Gordon Shearer presided.

Lion George Klosler introduced the guest speaker Harry Barrett of Port Dover, director of the conservation authority. Mr. Barrett presented slides and spoke upon the history and outstanding features of Long Point, emphasizing the role the Long Point Company had played in preserving the area and maintaining its wildlife, fish and primitive flora.

He was presented with a gift of appreciation.

One hundred per cent attendance pins were presented to Lions Albert Cornwell, Murray Downing, Nelson Gleason, George Klosler, Ed McFarland and Andy Vandenberghe.

Lion Colin Cope reported that the annual September Carnival returns were still

incomplete but would show a good profit.

Lion Les Dickson reported the annual Oktoberfest held on Oct. 25 was also well attended and should show a good return. Lion Albert Cornwell reported that this club's participation in the Lions booth at the International Plowing Match would assist the club in raising funds for upcoming community projects.

There will be an annual Hallowe'en party Friday evening in the Otterville Community Hall at 9:30 p.m. Prizes will be awarded for the best dressed and funniest boys and girls concluding with hot dogs and apples.

The club is providing Legion wreaths for Oxford Centre, Norwich and Otterville Cenotaphs on Sunday Nov. 9. The annual veterans dinner will be held in the Norwich Legion Hall Monday, Nov. 10 at 7 p.m. A speaker has been arranged for Veteran's night and all area Veterans are encouraged to attend.

The Lions fire truck will be entered in the annual Santa Claus parade in Otterville on Dec. 13.

The next executive meeting date has been changed to Thursday, October 30 in the Otterville Community Hall.

A new Lion member, Dick Harrison, was sponsored by Lion Fred Thompson. Induction ceremonies were conducted by Lions Gord Shearer, Colin Cope and Norm Fidlin.

The prize was won by Nelson Gleason.

## ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO OCTOBER 1880

While Charles Jones was out shooting near Otterville on Tuesday of last week, the gun burst, the fragments striking him on the side of the forehead and injuring him severely.

## TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO OCTOBER 1955

Delhi - The handsome new cenotaph was dedicated on Sunday, October 16.

Otterville - Mrs. Harry Lem has arrived from China to be with her husband and sons, who have operated a restaurant here for the past several years.



# Officers installed by Eastern Star

Josephine and Carl Howse were installed as Worthy Matron and Patron at the October meeting and installation of officers for Norwich Chapter 175 Order of the Eastern Star on Wednesday evening, October 8, at the OES Hall with a good attendance.

Other officers installed for 1980-81 were: Associate Matron Delores Evoy; Associate Patron Norman

McIntyre; Secretary Mary Storey; Treasurer Annie Pritchard; Conductress Lillian Oatman; Associate Conductress Katie Lowe; Chaplain Lloyd Peat; Marshall Dorothy Durkee. They were installed by the Worthy Grand Matron Ila Dickson.

Also installed were Star Points Ada-Florence Saunders; Ruth-Florence Church; Esther-Marjorie

Pearce; Martha-Edith Petch; Electa-Shirley McPherson; Warder-Vivian Pet; Sentinel-Vera McInre.

Installing officer was Eileen Rusling, PDDGM of Waterford assisted by Avery Day, PGP of Brantford and Chaplain Margaret Pleli, DDGM of Vittoria. Also assisting were Marshall Dorothy Suddaby, PDDGM of Brantford, Organist

Hester Walker PDDGM of Paris, Warder Eleanor Shepherds, DDGM of Lynden and Sentinel Keith Post, Grand Marshall of Port Dover.

Assisting in the East was Ila Dickson, recently elected Worthy Grand Matron and Edith Bonham, Grand Chaplain both of Halo Chapter, Scotland; Past District Deputy Matrons Helen Hewitt, Innerkip; Margaret Knight, Simcoe; Camille Lambert, Port Rowan; Marion Fyfe, Brantford; Carl Howse, Worthy Patron of Norwich and Soloist PDDGM Betty

Knechtel, Halo Chapter, Scotland.

The retiring Worthy Matron Lillian Oatman presented the incoming Worthy Matron Josephine Howse with the presiding matron's pin and Katie Lowe on behalf of the officers and members presented Mrs. Oatman with a gift.

Worthy Grand Matron Ila Dickson spoke briefly on Thanksgiving Blessings composed by Edith Bonham who had also written the Star's installation ceremony.

The motto of the incoming Worthy Matron Norwich Chapter is "Goodwill" and

"In Love Abide", her emblem "The Church" and her hymns "The Church in the Wildwood" and "Evening Prayer". Her scripture I John, Chapter 4 verse 7; her flower the rose and her honored stations chaplain and Ada.

Following the close of chapter, lunch was served by the ladies of Otterville Anglican Church. Guests were present from Woodstock, Delhi, Simcoe, Lynden, Vittoria, Port Rowan, Waterford, Scotland, Brantford, Paris, Innerkip, Port Dover, Ingersoll, Tillsonburg and London.

## Officers installed at Rebekah lodge

*Oct 1980*

OTTERVILLE (C) — Violet Rebekah Lodge No. 330 held their Installation.

Visitors were welcomed and D.D.P. Sister Lorraine Rath of East St. Thomas District No. 17 was introduced by J.P.N.G. Sister Eva Deveney.

The following officers were installed in a lovely and dignified manner: N.G. Sister Ilah Nant, V.G., Sister Norma Wilson; Warden, Sister Esther Smith; conductor, Sister Ruth Collver; color bearer, Sister Jean McClintock; recording secretary, Sister Jean McClintock; financial secretary, Sister Anna Treffry; treasurer, Sister Wilma Butler; Chaplain, Sister Emma Strudwick; J.P.N.G., Sister Violet Howse; inside guardian, Bro. Carl Howse; outside guardian, Sister Eva Deveney; R.S.N.G., Sister Margaret Kitchen; L.S.N.G., Sister Ruth Ann Ryerse; R.S.V.G., Oliver Pickersgill; L.S.V.G., Sister Eva Hill.

Guests were present from Harrietsville, Aylmer, St.

Thomas, Tillsonburg, Brantford, Delhi and Norwich.

D.D.P. Lorraine Rath spoke bringing a message from the president.

A Sister from Harrietsville won the beautiful silk floral arrangement.

Page 12 Section 2 THE TILLSONBURG NEWS Friday, October 24, 1980

## Welcome service held for pastor and family

OTTERVILLE (C) — A special Sunday evening service of praise, thanksgiving and fellowship was held in the Otterville Baptist Church as a welcome to Pastor Earl Cooper, Mrs. Cooper and Michelle to the fellowship of the church.

Special guests at the service were Mrs. Harold Cooper of Courtland and Mr. and Mrs. Keith McCrory of Westmount Road, Kitchener, friends of the Cooper family.

The call to worship, Psalm 95: 1-2 was given by Bret Butler and the official welcome was given by Charter Davis. Dwight Davis was pianist for the service of thanksgiving, hymn and visual songs. A Psalm of thanksgiving, Psalm 96 was read by David Pathy. A hymn of praise "I have a song I love to sing, since I

have been redeemed" was rendered by a girl's chorus, Sherry Walters, Nancy Marshall, Rhonda Treffry, Donna Butler, Lisa Oenema and Janet Butler. Mrs. Ted Oenema brought thanksgiving thoughts to the boys and girls on "What Does Thanksgiving mean to you".

Thanksgiving Gems was the title of a presentation given by six ladies portraying gems for which we as Christians are thankful: Salvation - Mrs. Brian Davis, Peace - Mrs. Kenneth Lee; the Bible - Mrs. Charter Davis; Witnessing - Mrs. Aubrey Babcock; Prayer - Mrs. Jack Walters and Hope - Mrs. David Hill. These were summarized by Mrs. Robert Butler who made spelling THANKS from the gems presented.

Mrs. Murray Treffry sang

a solo "The Mercies of God". Mrs. Dwight Davis led in the singing of a favorite visual, presenting the way many a imals render their thanks, titled "If I were".

The welcome address was given by Bruce Stover, chairman of the Deacon Board, expressing to Mr. and Mrs. Cooper and Michelle an official welcome to the church and to the homes and hearts of the congregation. Mr. Stover was joined by the other members of the Deacons Board, Charter Davis and Fred Hill as well as Robert Marshall, superintendent of the Sunday School, senior department, Mrs. Oenema superintendent of the junior

department of the Sunday School.

Mrs. Fred Hill, president of the Women's Missionary Fellowship and Mr. Paul Babcock, President of the Youth Fellowship joined in extending the right hand of fellowship to the Cooper family. Everyone joined in making a circle of fellowship and sang the hymn "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" and Mr. Hill closed with prayer.

A social time followed, convened by Mrs. Hilda Stockmans and Mrs. John Hansford.

Brian Davis presided at the piano preceding the service. Mrs. Wilma Butler was the chairperson and convener of the evening.

## Get missionary letters

*Oct 29/80*

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Missionary Fellowship of the Otterville Baptist Church was held in the Sunday School room of the Church.

The president Mrs. Fred Hill opened the meeting by reading Psalm 100 - A Song

of Thanksgiving. A letter was read from the Springfield ladies inviting the Otterville group to hear John Bellsmith on Nov. 3 at 8 p.m. Letters were read from missionaries - Mr. and Mrs. Hirons in Africa, and Dr. Hazel Wrigglesworth in the

Philippines. Mrs. Bruce Stover, Mrs. Fred Hill and Mrs. Charter Davis led in missionary prayers.

Mrs. Charter Davis was in charge of the devotional program opening with the hymn "Come, Ye Thankful People Come". A reading was given stating that we should thank our Heavenly Father for his love and fellowship as well as the more practical blessings. Mrs. David Hill read the scripture from Exodus 16:1-15.

Mrs. Bruce Stover brought a message about Moses leading God's people through the wilderness. She concluded that God punished Moses by not letting him see the Promised Land because he smote the rock instead of speaking to it as God had commanded.

The hymn "Face to Face" was sung and Mrs. Ted Oenema closed with prayer.

A social time followed and Mrs. Fred Hill assisted Mrs. Delmer Clinton and Mrs. David Hill in serving lunch.

## Otterville UCW meets

OTTERVILLE (C) — The October meeting of the United Church Women was held in the school room of the Otterville United Church on Thursday evening, Oct. 30, with the president Mrs. Isabel Harris presiding.

The president welcomed the members and visitor and the meeting opened with the hymn "Sing To the Lord of Harvest" for the Autumn Thankoffering meeting. This was followed with the members reading in unison the "United Church Purpose". Mrs. Harris gave a reading "A Year of Love in a World of False Value" which followed with "A Prayer of Harvest". Reports were given on finance and decorating.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mrs. Murray Downing.

Mrs. Nancy Batson, convener of the program, presided for the worship service and opened with a hymn "Unto the Hills". The Scripture lesson was read by Mrs. Marion Moore and Mrs. Batson offered prayer.

The meeting closed with a

hymn and the Benediction. A social hour was enjoyed when pumpkin pie, tea and coffee were served by the committee in charge.

On Monday evening, Oct. 27 the annual turkey supper was held in the Otterville United Church Hall, attended by about 500 persons. It was a decided success. Among this number were the members of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club who held their regular meeting the same evening. Following the dinner they met in the Otterville Community Hall.

Many fine comments were heard of the dinner which was served to visitors who came from far and near and who took time for a brief visit among neighbors and friends.

Members of the United Church Women, of which Mrs. Isabel Harris is the president and Mrs. Anna Treffry the social convener, were pleased with generous donations from the congregation and the valuable help from the young ladies who helped serve during the dinner hour.

## WI members

### attend 66th

### convention 1980

OTTERVILLE (C) — On Monday, October 27, Mrs. Anna Treffry, Mrs. Olive Pickersgill, Mrs. Alice Arthur, Miss Vera Welsh and Mrs. Doug Babbey of Springford attended the 66th annual area convention of the London Area Women's Institute in St. Marys.

Theme was "In Friendship Circle Bright". This was the year of the W.I. in Ontario.

On Tuesday Mrs. Treffry, Mrs. Pickersgill, and Mrs. Arthur attended the second and final day when a wonderful display of crewel embroidery, needlepoint, indoor gardening, quilts, and articles for Children's Hospital in London was shown. The craft table was filled and it is believed all articles were sold.

Business was concluded by 3 o'clock on Tuesday.



OTTERVILLE (C) — Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ash and family entertained on Sunday in honor of their mother Mrs. Daisy Ash of Norwich who was a birthday celebrant on Oct. 9. A delicious dinner was served which was accompanied by three birthday cakes.

Members of the Ash family are happy to learn that Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ash and daughters, Lisa and Becky, are now residents of Brantford having recently moved from Newmarket, Ont.

Mr. and Mrs. James Grantham returned to their home at Penticton, B.C. after spending a holiday with Mrs. Adam Oliver.

Mrs. Wilbur Morley of Burgessville and Mrs. John Rennie of Ilderton were Monday evening guests with Mrs. Harold Waring.

A very successful Rummage Sale was held in the Otterville Community Hall on Saturday morning from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, sponsored by the Otterville Women's Institute. Customers took advantage of the fine selection of clothing ranging from infant's clothing to adult's in winter or summer. Other numerous articles of household effects were also offered as well as many books. Mrs. Harry Pickersgill, president was well pleased with the results

#### PAULINE McDOWELL

Pauline McDowell, Reg. N., of Mississauga, passed away at Toronto Western Hospital on Thursday, October 23, 1980, as the result of an accident.

Born in Otterville, she was the former Pauline Fish, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. Wesley Fish.

Her husband, William Gordon (Bill) McDowell, predeceased her in October 1978.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Clare (Joan) Arthur of Cambridge and Anne Turner of Calgary, Alta.; grandchildren Susan, Linda and Nancy Arthur, Karen, Joanne and Steven Turner; two sisters, Mrs. Norman (Marjorie) Swift of Florida and Mrs. Leonard (Marion) Lee of Oakville; and two brothers, Allan Fish of Oakville and Frederick Fish of Bracebridge.

She was predeceased by two brothers, Carman Fish and Paul Fish.

Rested at the Leo Archdekin Funeral Home, Brampton, until Monday, October 27, thence to Grace United Church for service at 11 a.m.

Interment took place in Otter Cemetery and following the service at the cemetery friends of the family gathered at Woodlawn Community Centre where they were served a cup of tea by Mrs. Donald Pettigrew and Mrs. Jack Freeland, members of the Otterville Historical Society.

of the day and appreciated the response from the members who helped along the way.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Avey observed the 58th anniversary of their marriage at their home at Main St. Otterville West, on Sunday. Their family Mr. and Mrs. Howard Avey and daughter Lana of Tillsonburg and Mr. and Mrs. Ross Avey and daughter Rhonda of Paris spent the day with them which was marked with a turkey dinner served at noon. A host of good wishes go out to Max and Edith for good health and happiness.

In honor of their 25th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Webb of Church St. Otterville, over 40 relatives and friends met at the Innisfree Farm, RR 1, Otterville on Saturday evening. The actual date of the wedding was Oct. 5. During the evening the guests enjoyed dancing to tunes of recordings. The musical numbers were of the difference countries of which the guests claimed to be native residents. A special guest of the evening was the bridesmaid Mrs. Blaine Kingston of Whitby. Both Claude and Inez thanked the members of their family as well as friends and neighbors for the pleasant evening spent which included an enjoyable lunch served by

the ladies. Guests were present from Toronto, Whitby, Mississauga, Hamilton, Norwich, Otterville.



#### Special recipe

Gordon Shearer of Otterville has become famous for his sauerkraut made every year for the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club's annual Oktoberfest celebration. Above Gord and his wife Marg work on the chopped cabbage for this year's event to be held on October 25.

## Lions sponsor kids' Halloween party

The ghosts, goblins, witches and other creatures of every variety were out in force in Otterville Friday evening.

About 120 youngsters were in attendance at the annual Norwich - Otterville Lions Hallowe'en party held at the Otterville community hall after the youngsters had made the rounds for tricks or treats.

The party included costume judging for best dressed and most comical, followed by hotdogs for the hungry ghouls.

The judges for the event, Marion Dowds and Helen Gilmore, had a tough time picking out winning costumes from the excellent array displayed. The following are the winners,

declared after much deliberation:

Most comical girl under six years of age - Tammy Hewitt; most comical boy under six - Brian Gilmore; best dressed girl under six - Tricia Howse and best dressed boy under six - Chad Howse.

In the six and over category the most comical girl was Annette Mudge; most comical boy - Reagan Wells; best dressed girl - Timmi Brady and best dressed boy - Jeff Harrison.

Special awards were presented to Sean Smith and Oshi Irie for their outstanding costumes and to David Carney for the best face make-up.

The Hallowe'en party has been held annually for the children for the past 20

## ESTATE AUCTION

Furniture, Antiques Household Items & Etc.

Shackelton Auctioneers are privileged to sell for the estate of the late Myrtle and Wilfred Addison of Otterville and Lond apartment and etc. at our Auction Centre, five miles north of Aylmer and three miles east or eight miles south of 401 Hwy. on Putnam Rd.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 7:00 P.M.

Nine piece Hepworth dining room suite (like new); walnut tea wagon; sliding glass door book case; cedar chest; small wardrobe; walnut sewing stand; lovely three piece mahogany bedroom suite with four poster bed; upholstered button back chair; Gunstock chair; pine blanket chest; pine harvest table; old oak ice box; two double pedestal desks; round wicker fernery; walnut end tables; walnut magazine rack; stands; chesterfield suites; old wall telephone; several small radios; colour TV (two years old); two bedroom suites complete with mattresses; recliner and swivel chairs; stereo; two refrigerators; Hoover spin dry washer; humidifier; toaster oven; glass and china including set of Limoge dishes; set of English dishes, goblets, cut and pattern glass; Bristol, Carnival, Nippon, Depression and etc.; lamps; pictures; bedding; old trunks; hall tree; odd chairs; wicker baskets; chrome sets; Singer portable sewing machine; Underwood typewriter; quantity of hand and garden tools and other items.

Terms - Cash night of sale.

Les & John Shackelton Auctioneers  
Phone 773-5141 or 773-8718



# Pinnoy-Bertling vows

OTTERVILLE (C) — St. John Brebeuf and Companions R.C. Church, Delhi, was the setting on Saturday, October 4, 1980, at 3:30 p.m. for the wedding of Tammy Ann Bertling, daughter of Mrs. Joan Bertling of 222 Harris St., Delhi, and the late Edward Bertling, and Patrick Louis Pinnoy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pinnoy of Main Street, Otterville.

Rev. Fr. X Paul officiated and organist was Mr. Boon. Mrs. C. VanLondersele of Delhi sang Sunrise Sunset and Did You Stop to Pray this Morning, during the service.

Escorted by her brother, Edward Bertling, the bride chose a floor-length gown of sheer chiffon, featuring a high neckline. Delicate silk floral lace enhanced the

sheer bodice and was repeated on the straight chiffon sleeves. The gown was highlighted by a soft flowing chapel length train and the bride carried a bouquet of red roses, red mums and white carnations.

Cathy Holden of Simcoe, sister of the bride, was matron of honor and wore a long wine colored gown with matching jacket, worn with red carnations in her hair and carried red and pink carnations. Gowned identically were the bridesmaids, Sherry Bertling of Delhi, Joan Singh of Hamilton, both sisters of the bride, and Debbie Pinnoy of Tillsonburg, sister-in-law of the groom. Flower girl was Christine Singh of Hamilton, niece of the bride, who wore a long, white, sheer chiffon dress and carried a basket of red and pink carnations.

Best man was Joe Webb of Otterville, friend of the groom and ushers were Rob Pinnoy of Tillsonburg, brother of the groom, Doug Holden of Simcoe, brother-in-law of the bride, and Lynn Gehring of Otterville, friend of the groom. Shawn Pinnoy of Otterville, nephew of the groom, was ring bearer.

Reception for 150 guests was held at the Delhi Canadian Legion hall, decorated for the occasion with red carnations.

Bride's mother received guests wearing a long blue chiffon dress with matching jacket and a corsage of blue roses. Groom's mother chose a long pink chiffon gown with matching jacket and a corsage of pink roses.

For a wedding trip to the Pocono Mountains in Pennsylvania, the bride wore a white blouse with grey checked skirt and black blazer, worn with a corsage of red and white roses.

Guests attended the wedding from Hamilton, St. Catharines, Simcoe, Otterville, Michigan and London.

Mr. and Mrs. Pinnoy are residing at RR 1, Otterville.



MR. AND MRS. PATRICK LOUIS PINNOY  
(Wilson's Studio, Delhi)



Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Rachar and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Parry are pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of their children, Cathy Dianne and Robert Edward. The wedding will take place on Friday, October 3, 1980, at 2 p.m. at the Otterville United Church. (Photo by Country Lane Studio, Aylmer).



Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Searles of Woodstock and Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Gehring of Otterville wish to announce the forthcoming marriage of their children Deborah Anne to Gordon (Lynn) Stanley on October 11 at 2:30 p.m. at New St. Paul's Anglican Church, Woodstock.

Page 6 THE NORWICH GAZETTE October 8, 1980



## Woodcrafter

The fruits of Colin Robinson's (of Otterville) labor were on display for all to see at the International Plowing Match held near Woodstock last week. Mr. Robinson, who has been woodcrafting since he was a teenager, has taken it up as a full-time occupation since his retirement. Above he and his wife Alice are shown with a few of the things he has crafted. (NG Photo).



Mr. and Mrs. Fred Zaharchuk  
request the honour of your presence  
at the marriage of their daughter

Brenda Lee

to

Mr. Kenneth Howard Hawely

on Saturday, October the twenty-fifth

nineteen hundred and eighty

at seven o'clock

United Church

Ottaville, Ontario

Reception 8:00 p.m.  
Hungarian Home  
Potter's Road  
Tillsonburg, Ontario



*Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Gehring*

*invite you to share in the joy*

*of the marriage uniting their children*

*Deborah Ann*

*to*

*Gordon Lynn Stanley*

*on Saturday, the eleventh day of October*

*nineteen hundred and eighty*

*at two-thirty o'clock*

*New St. Pauls Anglican Church*

*Woodstock, Ontario*

*Dance: 9:00 p.m.*

*Polish Hall, 878 Dufferin*

*Woodstock, Ontario*





Oct  
1980



### Shield dedicated

The Suffragan Bishop of Huron, Geoffrey Parke-Taylor, formally dedicated the shield now hanging in St. Charles Anglican Church near Springford at a service in the church on Sunday. Shown with him below the crest is the church's rector Rev. Herb Herring (right). The shield bears the combined crests of the Diocese of Quebec and the personal family crest of Charles Stewart to whom the St. Charles Church is dedicated. The shield was placed in memory of the founding families of St. Charles.

## Dedicates church shield

A shield commemorating the founding families of St. Charles Anglican Church near Springford was dedicated in the church on Sunday afternoon following the confirmation service of six Norwich young people.

The shield, bearing the combined crests of the Diocese of Quebec and the personal family crest of Charles Stewart, was painted in colors, using a model of a black and white miniature sent from the Quebec Diocesan office. by

the church's present rector Rev. Herb Herring.

St. Charles Church was established as a result of Bishop Charles James Stewart's travelling mission in Upper Canada. Rev. Thomas Green who appeared in 1837, worked from Simcoe through Norfolk, Oxford and Elgin counties.

Plans for construction of St. Charles were sent to John Burn who settled in the area by Bishop Stewart (of the Quebec Diocese) in 1837. In 1845 Bishop Strachan of

Toronto visited the parish and consecrated the building which was dedicated to Bishop Charles James Stewart and called St. Charles.

Following the confirmation of the young people on Sunday, Bishop Geoffrey Parke-Taylor, suffragan Bishop of Huron, dedicated the shield. After the service the families and friends of the candidates returned to Trinity Parish Hall, Norwich, for a congregational potluck supper.



# Residents withdraw objections

BY KATHY MAY

A committee of Otterville residents are hoping they can persuade the opponents to Powell Agri-Systems expansion plans to withdraw their objections.

Two Otterville residents withdrew their objections to the bylaw that would apportion a 70 acre land bloc to Powell and two area farmers following discussions with a local committee last week.

The committee, comprising municipal, local and

Powell representatives, started out Monday to discuss the bylaw with each of the dissenters to try and persuade them to withdraw their objections. Mel Smith, one of the committee members, said the committee will continue its discussions with the hope of eliminating all the objections.

Eight residents originally protested to the bylaw and severance that would allow Powell to rezone a 13-acre

parcel of land for the construction of an assembly plant, service shop and showroom.

The protest stirred an emotional outburst that threatened to divide the village. Powell has been trying to expand for more than a year and a half, and the majority of residents fear the protest will delay Powell's expansion plans even longer and force them out of town.

Powell officials confirmed that without the property the

company may have to relocate. The company has expanded to the limit on its existing site and has no room to grow.

The objections fear the expansion would devalue their property and machinery would ruin the appearance of the area. Norwich Township Clerk Bob Watkins said most of the objections are based on misconceptions about the bylaw and should be resolved with further

discussions.

Powell is one of the largest industries in Norwich Township. The company, which manufactures tobacco equipment and supplies, employs about 110 workers, most from the immediate Otterville area.

If the objections are not withdrawn, the matter will be turned over to the Ontario Municipal Board potentially delaying the project another eight to 10 months. Municipal officials however hope to speed up the hearing date, preventing any further delays for Powell.

# Reassessment

N.G. Oct 15

BY SUZANNE HANSON

A decision by Norwich Township council on whether to adopt new assessment figures based on 1975 market values will be delayed until an accurate report on the impact of reassessment is obtained.

Council was prepared to vote on the tax assessment scheme, proposed by the ministry of revenue under Section 86 of the Assessment Act, at its meeting Thursday. The matter was tabled, however, when word was received that an error had been made in the mill rate in Ward 2, the former village of Norwich. Because of the error a new report will have to be prepared.

While the error does not change the number of properties that are over-assessed or under-assessed in the township, it will change the tax dollars that are produced from each area, said Township Treasurer Fred Lowes. As a result a redistribution of assessment will occur across the township.

The impact study was first presented to council for discussion in a closed-door session Wednesday evening by Mike Quinn, area assessment commissioner and John Garrett, area valuation manager.

If the township decides to implement the new assessment figures that are proposed by the ministry of revenue, they will come into effect for the 1981 tax year.

Council was told by ministry representatives at a meeting earlier in the year that the revised assessments calculated on 1975 market value figures will not increase or diminish the municipality's assessment, but will simply redistribute it more fairly.

According to the figures in the report provided for council Wednesday night there are 1,016 residential properties that are over-assessed and 1,374 that are under-assessed. The

# decision delayed

township's commercial properties show 121 over-assessed and 97 under-assessed.

Forty-nine of the township's industrial properties are over-assessed while 86 are under-assessed. A total of 592 farm properties in the township are over-assessed while 972 are under-assessed.

There are glaring disparities in certain areas, said Ward 1 councillor Bill Sanders.

"If some aren't paying their way, they should be, and if some are over-paying they shouldn't be.

Councillors Roger Orth and Jack Walther were opposed to the increased taxes that will be imposed on farm properties with the revised assessment.

"Farm land is subsidizing the people today," said Mr. Walther.

Mayor Jack Burn suggested to council that, if it does choose to approve the reassessment scheme, that it be implemented over a period of three years. The present assessment scheme has existed for 40 years, he said. What difference will a few more years make, he asked council.

"It would help people by spreading out the load so it wouldn't be such a big burden all at once," said Mayor Burn.

However, Mr. Sanders pointed out that, "a lot of people have been hurt by the

system for 40 years. The impact of this isn't that great. What's wrong with them carrying their load?"

Mr. Lowes pointed out that council can implement the program over a period of five years, but he suggested to them the system is a fair one.

With the revised system, assessment on property is related to market values which the individual ratepayer can relate to. He can calculate himself what his assessment should be with one factor. If he feels it is not a fair assessment, then he can appeal it, said Mr. Lowes.

"On the old system I defy any ratepayer to argue the factors....It's a complicated matter. It's important that a person can understand assessment in order to decide if it is a fair assessment," he said.

Ward 2 councillor Helen Smith said no one wants to see people abused with respect to taxes.

"The more I listen, if fair is fair that's the way it's got to be called. This is fair and I don't see how we can argue with this," she said.

## Editorial Opinion

Oct. 8 / 80

# Industry wanted

In an age of protests against just about everything—especially if it has to do with business and industry—it was refreshing to see 170 persons turn out at Otterville to support the expansion of Powell Agri-Systems.

Powell has been stalled in its efforts to expand its facilities, and the fear is that unless objections can be cleared away and room found for this expansion, the industry may have to move out of the village, taking with it about 110 jobs.

As well as the number attending the meeting, a petition supporting the company's bid for rezoning was signed by more than 300 persons in a 48-hour period. From those at the meeting came a list of ways in which the community benefits from the plant.

If nothing else, that kind of support has to make the company know how much the villagers want them—and its nice to know you're wanted.

## Norwich Tp. updates tax assessments

L.F.P. Oct 22/80

OTTERVILLE (Bureau) — Norwich Township is the latest municipality in Oxford County to update its system to calculate property taxes by adopting revised assessment. It will go into effect next year.

Township clerk Bob Watkins said Tuesday that generally taxes will decrease 16.5 per cent in Ward 1, decrease 0.75 per cent in Ward 2, increase 4.81 per cent in Ward 3 and increase 19.54 per cent in Ward 4.

However, he stressed these figures can be misleading because they are averages of all property types and taxes will decrease or increase for individual properties. The change for each property owner will be explained when assessment notices are sent out and two public meetings will be held following the notices to explain the individual changes.

Council voted 9-1 to adopt the updated system, which is based on 1975 market values.

Ward 1 covers the former township of South Norwich, Ward 2 the former village of Norwich, Ward 3 the former township of North Norwich and Ward 4 the former township of East Oxford.

Norwich joins Blandford-Blenheim and South-West Oxford townships and Ingersoll as municipalities which have adopted the new assessment system in the past two weeks. Zorra Township and Woodstock also use the system.



# Refuse request for severance in well area

A request that Norwich Township council waive a requirement for a 700-foot ring of protection around Well 2 in Otterville was refused by council at its meeting Tuesday night. **00728**

David Leeming of Otterville was in attendance to ask council to reconsider the requirement for the protection ring to permit the severance of a lot from the property of the Mary E. Kilpatrick estate and a house to be built on it.

The proposed 133 by 171 foot lot comes within the 700-foot cone of influence established by the ministry of the environment in 1979. On the basis of the ministry study, which established that cone of influence, council turned down a request in August to sever the lot to prohibit further development in the area of the well.

Jim Janse of the ministry of the environment advised council then that pollution of the well resulting from development within the cone of influence would be the responsibility of council.

Mr. Leeming pointed out that council had earlier approved the severance of a lot from the Cliff Rachar property, also within the 700-foot cone of influence and on which a house can now be built.

The Rachar property should not have been severed, said Councillor Carman Sweazey, but it was approved before the ministry study had been received.

"The problem is that the number one well is not in good shape," said Councillor Roger Orth. "What will happen if we have problems with Well 2?" Well 1, located about one-quarter of a mile from Well 2, already has nitrate levels close to the maximum allowed by the ministry of the environment.

Councillor Bob Pettigrew argued that it is not right for the property owners in the area of Well 2 to be penalized because the well is located near them. He suggested the Public Utilities Commission should move the well and establish a 700-foot radius around the entire well. Another alternative would be for the PUC to purchase the vacant lots around the well and move it south to protect the water supply.

However, Mr. Orth said the cost of obtaining enough land to relocate the well would be excessive. "The PUC cannot afford this. It's just not feasible."

Mayor Jack Burn also questioned why the expense of finding more water should be undertaken for one lot.

"The PUC doesn't need to be on the move because they are already safe where they are ... It would cost many thousands of dollars to buy more property and put in a new well."

Mr. Leeming pointed out to council that there are already several septic systems in the area, one of which is only 40 to 50 feet away from the well. "If anything pollutes the well that will."

Mayor Burn replied that "the ground will only hold so much and if you keep piling them in someday you will have a problem."

"It's always just one more, one more and then we have a polluted well," he said. "I certainly don't want the burden on my hands for the pollution of the water of Otterville."

Mr. Sweazey echoed the mayor's thoughts. "We've had strong letters from the ministry saying stay away from it (the well). If we allowed development and the water was polluted we'd get an awful backlash."

# Councillors declare candidacy

By SUZANNE HANSON

Norwich Township Mayor Jack Burn and six of the councillors have announced their decision to seek re-election in the upcoming Nov. 10 municipal elections.

Mayor Burn announced his decision to let his name stand as a candidate for the mayoralty on Monday. Councillor-at-large Roger Orth has also declared his intention to seek the position of mayor.

"I think we've got a lot of fellas moving up and Jack's had two years," said Mr. Orth. Mr. Orth, who has been councillor-at-large during the past two-year term, with a total of 10 years on local council, said it is time people moved up and the township had some other representatives go to county council.

Mayor Burn's decision to seek a second term as mayor was based on several reasons.

"First I believe my term of mayor was short-changed because it was a 23-month term," he said. The term of office now runs from Dec. 1. The second reason he gave was the unusual circumstances of the tornado which took a great deal of time of council, the township staff and his own time.

"Consequently there were some areas that did not receive my attention possibly.

"Equally important is the fact that I enjoy the job tremendously and I found it a real challenge. It was frustrating at times but it was also a real pleasure."

The major issues he sees facing council in the months and years ahead is the very serious problem of waste disposal in Oxford County.

"There is also the industry problem here as well," he said. "There are other issues but these are the major areas I am concerned with."

Mayor Burn, who is completing his eighth year in municipal politics, served for two years prior to restructuring as a councillor on the former East Oxford Township council. Following restructuring he served a two-year term as councillor on the Norwich Township council and another two-year term as councillor-at-large on that council before being elected as its mayor.

As of Tuesday Ward Three councillor Cecil Mingle had made no decision on whether he would seek re-election. He is now finishing a combined 12 years on the old North Norwich and Township of

Norwich councils. He was deputy reeve during the last year of the North Norwich council and prior to serving on council was a school board member for eight years.

Ward Four councillor Hardee Richardson will be seeking re-election from that ward for his second term.

"I think I've got a little more experience this time. You learn a lot the first year," he said.

Both of Ward Two's councillors, Helen Smith and Carman Sweazey, will be in the running. "I did not have very many doubts that I would run again," said Mrs. Smith. She said she really enjoyed her first term on council and has learned a lot from the experience.

Mr. Sweazey will be seeking re-election as the council's councillor-at-large. "It's time for me to make my move," he said. "I wasn't sure whether the time was right businesswise but I guess maybe if I wait longer it might be too long." Prior to restructuring Mr. Sweazey served two terms on the former Norwich council and since restructuring he has served for two.

John Heleniak, who is completing his first term,

will also be letting his name stand.

Bill Sanders will be trying for his second term as Ward One councillor. "It was questionable (whether he would run again)," he said. "I cannot say what made up my mind."

He did say that he feels he has done a fair job in his first term and he has learned a lot. He would now like to put that knowledge to work again for the people of his Ward.

In Ward One six-year council veteran Bob Pettigrew has not yet decided whether he will seek re-election in that ward. "It's possible I will not run again," he said Tuesday. He will probably be making the decision within the next week.

Ward One's other councillor, Jack Walther, is also undecided as to whether he will permit his name to stand in the Nov. 10 election.

"Probably if I do stay I'll be going for councillor-at-large," he said. "I really haven't decided yet."

Candidates must have their nomination sheets in by Oct. 20. There will no doubt be some new faces in the running.

# Norwich candidates air views

The fate of the Powell Agri-Systems expansion in Otterville, the consolidated school and the Treffry mill pond were foremost among topics discussed at an all candidates meeting at the Otterville community hall Sunday afternoon.

Six candidates for Ward 1 for Norwich township council, three of four candidates running for the Oxford board of education, and the two candidates for the mayor's chair each had a chance to speak at a well-attended meeting sponsored by the Otterville Businessman's Club.

Mayor Jack Burn, running for re-election, said the next township council is faced with some serious unfinished business, listing the Powell expansion, the purchase of the Treffry mill pond, the closing of the Holbrook landfill site and the introduction of a new fire alert system.

He said he lobbied to have the date for the Ontario Municipal Board hearing on Powell Agri-Systems moved up to December 10 from a date in January or February and added "both the township and the county have backed Powell's 100 per cent." He said the company has not made a move at this time, but he told those in attendance there would be some news on the expansion early this week.

Mr. Burn also expressed his views on the purchase of the Treffry mill pond, saying he totally supports buying, not only the pond, but the mill itself.

Mr. Burn said he would like the opportunity to resume his duties as mayor and to see the unfinished business through.

His opponent, Roger Orth, said his "immediate concern" is to keep Powell's in Otterville. However, he touched on several topics, suggesting the old canning factory in Otterville be purchased and the land held for future industry.

He said the new council would have to look

at industries which will not disturb residents with pollution or noise.

On the mill pond purchase, Mr. Orth said it was "the focal point" of Otterville. He explained an engineering study done by the ministry of natural resources was sent back with questions about repairs to the dam. Mr. Orth said he believed the repairs were not necessary and the township could purchase the pond in its present condition.

All six candidates for council spoke in favor of keeping Powell's in Otterville.

Carl Beal said the fact a manufacturing company in Otterville cannot expand is "a catastrophe". Mr. Beal said if Powell's moved out, any future company would look hard at establishing themselves in Norwich Township. He said he is not in favor of assembling land for future development because it ties up the taxpayer's money, but he said he would change his mind in a situation where one or two people can hold land which can be developed.

Lyle Davis said he is concerned about the growth of Otterville.

"If Powell's move out," he said, "we might as well close up the streets."

August DeWachter said he believes the township should acquire a parcel of land to let industry grow. He said this will help keep businesses open.

"We need to keep things open or everyone will move away," said Mr. DeWachter.

Bob Pettigrew pointed out 11 places in Otterville have closed down in the last 50 years, and it is council's responsibility to set land up in the township for manufacturing.

Mel Smith said council has been working on keeping Powell's in Otterville, and the date has been moved up. Mr. Smith said he would also like to see roads and drainage in the township improved.

Dan Wagner expressed concern about the Powell's expansion predicament and told

the citizens present he "would bend over backwards to get what we need."

The pros and cons of the consolidated school were discussed among three of the candidates present running for board of education.

Lavern Irving, another candidate, could not attend the meeting due to a business commitment.

Newcomer Harv Cowan expressed concern over the approval of the school when many residents were against the idea. He wondered "who makes the decisions" and said there is a need for "independent minded trustees."

Mr. Cowan said he would do his best to meet the wishes of the people, even if he did not agree with their views, remarking, "A trustee is elected by the people, for the people."

Helen Dickson, a present trustee, attempted to dispel rumors that Otterville public school will be closing down.

"Otterville Public School will not be closed," she stated.

She said renovations will be made to the school when the money is available. The school was not on the capital forecast in last year's budget, she said, but it will be a priority in 1984.

On the consolidated school, she said the province must have felt it was the proper thing to do because permission to go ahead with plans was received the first time the board asked.

She added, "It must be easier to get money for new schools than it is to update them."

Mary Jull, also an incumbent trustee, said it is "irresponsible" to heat the same number of classrooms in the schools if there is a declining enrolment. She said the consolidated school will allow quality education at a moderate cost and the decision of the board, though not popular, was in the best interests of the students.



## Councillor-at-large acclaimed

By SUZANNE HANSON  
Withdrawals Tuesday from the race for councillor-at-large by two individuals who submitted nominations Monday, mean that Carman Sweazey of Norwich is acclaimed to the position of councillor-at-large and county councillor for Norwich Township.

By the 5 p.m. deadline Monday for nominations, there were 21 individuals seeking election to the 11 positions on council. At that time, all of the present members of Norwich Township council, with the exception of Ward One councillor Jack Walther, had announced their intention to seek re-election on November 10.

However, Ward One councillor Bill Sanders, who had submitted his nomination for councillor-at-large on Monday withdrew it on Tuesday after much serious consideration.

"We have a good man

(Carman Sweazey) running," said Mr. Sanders. While he had initially intended to seek re-election as a Ward One councillor, he changed his mind and handed in the nomination for councillor-at-large.

"I made my mind up in the one direction and after further consideration I decided not to go for it, (councillor-at-large)", he said.

He said he did enjoy his one term on council and does have some regrets that he did not also submit a nomination for councillor. But he said he just did not feel up to the campaign this time around. Serving on council does take up a lot of one's time, he said. He may consider another term sometime in the future.

Mr. Sanders did say he was pleased to see the competition for seats in Norwich Township. "I think it's sad when you see a situation like Ingersoll with

all those acclamations." He said that shows a great lack of interest at the local level.

Norwich should be able to look forward to an interesting election campaign as all seats other than councillor-at-large are being contested.

Ward One incumbent Bob Pettigrew, who made a last minute decision to seek re-election, faces competition from five non-incumbents for the three seats: Lyle (Butch) Davis, RR 1, Ot-

terville; August (Augie) DeWachter, RR 1, Otterville; Mel Smith, Otterville; Carl Beal, LaSalette and Dan Wagner, RR 1, LaSalette.

In Ward Two, incumbent Helen Smith, will be facing Norman Lusk, Norwich and Darrell Force, Norwich.

In Ward Three incumbents John Heleniak and Cecil Mingle will be in the running against Paul Wood, Norwich; Fred Thompson, RR 1, Norwich and Jack Lester,

RR 1, Burgessville.

Mr. Heleniak originally filed nominations for both councillor and councillor-at-large with the stipulation that he withdraw one of them by the deadline of 5 p.m. on Tuesday. He decided to decline the nomination for councillor-at-large and run instead for a seat on township council only representing Ward Three.

In Ward Four incumbent Hardee Richardson will be in the race with Shirley Wood,

RR 4, Woodstock and John Eacott, RR 4, Woodstock.

In the race for the mayoralty, incumbent Jack Burn will be running against Roger Orth, currently councillor-at-large.

Running for positions on the Oxford County board of education are the current Norwich Township trustees Helen Dickson, RR 2, Burgessville and Mary Jull, RR 3, Norwich. They are facing competition from

(Continued on Page 2)

SEE REVERSE OF REASSESSMENT

## Township reassessed

(Continued from Page 1)

properties.

"I think your values are not true values because inflation has hit farm properties more than it has residential."

Mr. Garrett said there is a shift under the reassessment in taxes from buildings to put more emphasis on the land. This is because the land values in recent years have gone up much faster than construction costs.

However, he said they used \$640 per acre as the number one land value for farm land. "In relation to today's farm prices that is very low," he said.

Mayor Jack Burn said he supports the implementation of the new system but said he hoped the new council would consider implementing it over time.

He pointed out that some Ward Four people could be looking at a 60 to 70 per cent increase and "it could put someone out of business...I don't want to create an undue burden for someone

over night."

The revised assessment can be implemented over a period of five years, said Mr. Quinn. He said the assessments will be returned to show what the impact would have been for this year under market value assessment and it is up to council to decide how to phase it in.

Now that the implementation of the system has been approved by council, the ministry of revenue will be drawing up assessment notices showing the mill rates applicable this year, as well as the 1975 market value and the factors used. Along with the notices

will be a flyer with a schedule of the open houses to be held by the assessment office to discuss the changes with the township's residents.

There will be two open houses scheduled on weekdays between 1 p.m. and 9 p.m. as well as a Saturday open house. At that time taxpayers in the township can have a one-to-one discussion with assessment office personnel on their assessment if they desire it.

If after the open houses a ratepayer is still not satisfied with his assessment, he can appeal it and a review will be conducted to determine whether an adjustment is required.

## Election race on

(Continued from Page 1)  
Harvey Cowan of Springford and Lavern Irving of Norwich.

Lawrence Trepanier, incumbent, RR 3, Norwich and John A. Wolters, Mount

Elgin, are seeking election to the Roman Catholic separate school board with John Newman of Ingersoll seeking the county separate school seat on the public school board.



# SANDERS - MART

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BRIGHT'S  
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TISSUE  
67¢  
25

CREST  
TOOTH PASTE  
\$1.29  
REGULAR  
+ MINT  
150 ML

KLEENEX  
TOWELS  
\$1.29  
WHITE  
+ YELLOW  
2 ROLL SIZE

KRAFT  
DINNER  
3/\$1.00  
225 G

ROBIN HOOD  
ALL PURPOSE  
FLOUR  
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SEVEN UP  
BUY 2 GET 1 FREE  
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BUY 3 GET 1 FREE  
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## ***Bountiful harvest***

The harvest is bountiful, nature paints a riot of colors and the spirit of the original Thanksgiving is rekindled at the Garfield Wardle farm at Spring-

ford. Wardle, a third-generation farmer on the 50-acre property, grows an assortment of fruits, vegetables, flowers and nuts.

By Ed Heal of The Free Press





### Postcard power

Allan Anderson and Betty Tomlinson, co-authors of Greetings from Canada, an album of Edwardian

postcards, admire the postcards in their book. The two authors were at the museum Monday night giving a lecture on Edwardian postcards. (TN Photo).

## More postcards than people around early in century

By MARGARET BOYD

Edwardians (1900-1916) were fond of travel, inventions, boating, trains and especially fond of picture postcards. In the year 1912, 55 million postcards were sent in Canada and there were only seven million people.

These fascinating facts were gleaned from a lecture and slide presentation by Allan Anderson and Betty Tomlinson, authors of Greetings From Canada, an album of Edwardian postcards.

The lecture was a joint project of the Tillsonburg and District Historical Association and the Tillsonburg Public Library.

"The postcard was the rural gabline of the day," Mr. Anderson said. "It functioned well. One sent in the morning could arrive in the afternoon depending on its destination."

Mr. Anderson and Ms. Tomlinson both from Tottenham, Ontario, have been collecting postcards from the Edwardian era for six years. They went to universities, antique stores and sent post-dated cheques all over Canada gathering the cards.

"People thought I was crazy but I kept at it," Mr. Anderson said. "It has now escalated into an important business."

The postcard was invented in Austria in 1869 but post offices kept monopoly on the cards. The monopoly was lifted in 1899 by the British government and postcards were turned out almost instantly by manufacturers.

The first postcards were not only turned out in quantity but in quality as well. Many of them were hand-colored in German and the photography was of high calibre, Mr. Anderson said.

The difference between today's postcard and the Edwardian postcard was "you always saw life as it was, you always saw human life going on," he said.

"Cards were the photo-journalism of the day," he said. "They freeze a little moment of history."

The slide presentation featured local scenes: the old water works tower, the old high school, town hall and churches of Tillsonburg, as well as a cross section of cards showing the uniqueness of the age.

Postcards offer valuable historical comment on subjects, Mr. Anderson said.

About 1902-1903 it became a fad to collect postcards in albums. They were referred to as "postals" and were the major means of communications of the time - cars and telephones were rare.

"The Edwardians were the beginning of the modern times," Mr. Anderson said. "They were lively and full of beans. It was the beginning of the technological age and they were fascinated with automobiles, aerial balloons and phonographs."

Mr. Anderson and Ms. Tomlinson were amused by some of the cards' messages, some very contradictory of the picture depicted.

"They had a corny sense of humor," Mr. Anderson noted. One of the most well-known postcards is a picture of a woman pulling a small bear on a leash. The caption reads, "Maud and her little bear behind."

Both Mr. Anderson and Ms. Tomlinson have been broadcasters with the CBC for more than 30 years. Ms. Tomlinson was the hostess of CBC radio's Trans-Canada Matinee for several years and has prepared, with Mr. Anderson, a series of radio scripts and documentaries.

Mr. Anderson is best known for his bestseller Remembering the Farm, reminiscences of farming and ranching in Canada. He has also written a book of reminiscences of fishing, called Salt Water, Fresh Water and is working on a book of the oil man and the search for oil, which will be published next fall.



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Otterville

## WI tours newspaper

OTTERVILLE (C) — A timely and up-to-date program was that of an interesting tour through the Tillsonburg News taken by the members of the Otterville Women's Institute for their November meeting of which Jean Gehring was the convener.

Bill Pratt, Editor of the News, gave his personal time to direct the tour and answer questions from the interested group.

The modern facilities growth from the older letter press, is an important part of the press and many changes were observed with computer equipment.

Illustrations were given right from the planning of the paper to its printing on newsprint for distribution.

Following the tour, the members went to McDonald's Restaurant where

they were treated to coffee and treats. During this time a card of appreciation was read from Mr. and Mrs. Max Avey who had celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Cards were also signed for Orris and Mel Beecroft.

Members expressed their appreciation to Mrs. Gehring and Mrs. Walther for the social time.

## St. Johns Ladies Guild

OTTERVILLE ( ) — The St. Johns Ladies Guild held their annual Christmas Bazaar on Thursday afternoon, Nov. 6 in the Parish Hall. Christmas decorations were used effectively throughout the hall done by Dorothy Durkee and assistants.

Mrs. Fred Howse, president of the Guild, welcomed the guests and Winnie Leach, who was at the door invited the guests to sign the names on the book, which would enable them to win the draw. The draw was made and Mr. Jack Freeland held the lucky ticket. The gift was a ceramic tea set which was donated by the rector's wife, Kay Darling.

The large assortment of needlework proved the point the members had all been very busy throughout the summer in preparing for this day which was a decided success. On the tables were pillowcases, aprons, table

cloths for tea tables, also cards and a table of touch and take.

There was a table of novelties and last but not least the bake table filled with goodies which were soon purchased.

Fruit bread and tea was served and those working in all departments were: Mrs. Harold Durkee, Mrs. Stanley Leach, Edna Furlong, Mrs. Nate McMullen, Mrs. Fred Church, Mrs. Richard Saunders, Mrs. Ben Strudwick, Margaret Davies and Mrs. Harry Pickersgill.

# Missionary Fellowship

## meets at Otterville

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mrs. Brian Davis was the hostess for the November meeting of the Missionary Fellowship of the Baptist Church.

The president Mrs. Fred Hill gave the call to worship with the reading of John 10:28-29. She also read a poem "The Double Clasp" followed by the singing of Hymn "The Nail-Scarred Hand".

Announcements were given regarding the December meeting which will be held in the Sunday School room preceded by a Christmas dinner with the social committee in charge. It was decided to send Helen Bello, a needy child in Nigeria, some financial support. Mrs. Charter Davis, Mrs. Bruce Stover, Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Ted Oenema led in Missionary Prayers.

Mrs. Davis was in charge of the devotional program the theme being "The Family". Mrs. Davis opened with a poem on prayer. The Scripture "Christ and Children" was read in unison followed by a poem "Children Obey" read by Mrs. Oenema.

Mrs. Delmer Clinton led the Bible Study on "God, and What He's Like". In Isaiah 55 verse nine the Lord says

your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts concluding that we can't expect to understand just what God is like. Mrs. Clinton finished her message with Psalms 145 verse three, "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised and his greatness is unsearchable."

Everyone joined in singing "Blest Be The Tie". Mrs.

Bruce Stover closed with prayer. A social time followed and the hostess was assisted by Mrs. Dwight Davis in serving lunch. Mrs. Robert Butler gave the courtesy remarks.

## Noted scientist speaking at diabetes group meet

The Otterville and Area Branch of the Canadian Diabetes Association will feature a noted Canadian scientist as guest speaker at its regular monthly meeting on Monday, 17th November 1980.

The meeting will be held in the Otterville Community Hall.

Dr. Johnson is Connaught's Medical Director.

In addition to Dr. Johnson's feature address, the evening program, called an 'Evening with Connaught', will also include the showing of a film on 'Insulin'.

Dr. Johnson will be accompanied by Rudy Nusink of Connaught's Sales and Marketing Division.

Connaught Laboratories Limited is Canada's oldest and most respected, and one of the world's largest manufacturers of biological

products for healthcare. From its facilities in Toronto it distributes world-wide a broad range of immunizing agents (vaccines) for both human and veterinary use. Connaught is also Canada's only producer of Insulin for the control of diabetes, indeed, Insulin itself was discovered at the laboratories when, in 1921, they were still a division of the University of Toronto. Dr. Charles Best, co-discoverer with Dr. Frederick Banting, was Connaught's first Director of Insulin production. The Company is also Canada's only fractionator of whole human blood for the preparation of therapeutic blood products.

Connaught also operates wholly-owned subsidiaries in the United States — Connaught Laboratories Incorporated in Swiftwater, Pennsylvania, and Connaught Animal Health Incorporated in Lenexa, Kansas — and in Nova Scotia — Bioresources Incorporated

in Halifax — and holds significant ownership in Dominion Biologicals Limited in Truro, Nova Scotia. The company itself is wholly-owned by the Canadian Development Corporation.

### 20 YEARS AGO

NOVEMBER 24, 1960

The Ingersoll Concentrated Milk Producers (Ingersoll, Norwich, Red Star and Verschoyle) met in Dicksons Community hall with over 100 present. Grocery stores and restaurants were asked to display advertisements, promoting sale of butter in conspicuous places.

The Norwich District Hockey League is presenting a fast early season clip and is showing the fans some surprisingly fine hockey, as the players are finding their skating legs.

As the schedule moves along in the Norwich District Hockey League, Bev. Avey and Bob Furlong are tied for top position in the scoring race, each with five points. The Comets, still unbeaten, have taken lone possession of league leadership with two straight victories.

### FIFTY YEARS AGO

NOVEMBER 1930

Milldale - The Williams family (colored), who have been highly respected life-long residents of this place, have sold their farm and are moving into Norwich.

### ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

NOVEMBER 1880

Solomon B. Lossing has purchased the Bullock mill property at Otterville for \$8,000 cash.

### A NOT SO PHONY IDEA

Thomas Edison announced his invention of the phonograph in November, 1877. His talking machine was so unique that the government granted him a patent in a mere three months. Between that time and 1926 Edison received a total of 186 patents on the phonograph, one of his important inventions.



# Happy Bluebirds meet

OTTERVILLE (C) — The members of the Happy Bluebird Club held their regular meeting at the home of Mrs. Harold Waring on Tuesday evening with a good attendance.

The president Daisy Ash presided and welcomed the members and visitor Dorothy Daniels of Norwich who later paid her membership to the club. The meeting opened with the

Housewives Creed followed with The Lord's Prayer. All sang The Bluebird Song and the Housewives Chorus.

The roll call was answered with the members telling the things they were thankful for. Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mrs. Stanley Mitchell who also reported for the treasury.

Plans were completed for the Christmas party (for members only) which will be held at the home of Mrs.

Clarence Morris, Norwich, on Tuesday, Nov. 25 at 6 p.m. The evening will be preceded with a potluck supper and members are asked to bring food, dishes and cutlery for themselves. Members are responsible for a number for the program.

Mrs. Waring was assisted by Mrs. Stanley Davis and Mrs. Josepha Rosehart for the social hour. Mrs. Morris thanked the hostess.

# Happy Bluebirds hold yule party

OTTERVILLE (C) — Lillian Morris, Norwich, opened her home last Tuesday evening to the members of the Happy Bluebird Club for their annual Christmas party.

The so-called potluck dinner was more in the form of a banquet with the table loaded with goodies in keeping with the festive season. Following the supper the members, all in jovial mood, joined in singing Carols with Nellie Taylor at the piano.

The members had all contributed numbers to the program and taking part were Dorothy Daniels singing a solo "Amazing Grace." Readings were given with "The Joy of Giving" by Mrs. Morris; "My Dream" by Josepha Rosehart; "A Christmas Prayer" and "It's Christmas" by Jenny Mitchell;

"Christmas Is Giving" by Mrs. Stanley Davis; "A Christmas Wish" by Gladys Lumsden; "The Joyful Song" by Mrs. V. VanKerbroeck; and "Blessings of the Season" by Mrs. Douglas Carol. Katie Lowe read several selections from The Friendship Book. Daisy Ash gave "Christmas Dinner" and "A Christmas Prayer".

Mrs. Daniels favored again with a solo "A Christmas Prayer" and also gave a reading "The Friendly Neighbor" in respect to Ida Rachar, a former neighbor of Mrs. Daniels who was unable to be present for the party.

This closed a very happy evening. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Dorothy Daniels, Norwich on the fourth Tuesday in January with all officers remaining for



Jill Beverly Stewart daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don Stewart of Otterville, recently graduated from Fanshawe College of Applied Arts and Technology, receiving her diploma in Graphic Design. Nov 1980

# Visitors to Violet lodge

OTTERVILLE (C) — Violet Rebekah Lodge 330 Otterville on Monday evening assisted Fidelity Lodge, Delhi and Myrtle Lodge, Tillsonburg, to en-

tertain and meet Sister Martha Patterson, president of the Rebekah Assembly of Ontario.

Myrtle Lodge opened the Lodge in a dignified manner.

Fidelity Lodge took over the business part and the recording secretary from Otterville and Myrtle Lodge, Tillsonburg, read their minutes.

A recess was called and the Noble Grand of Fidelity Lodge took the president on Friendship Road with the officers each giving a little poem and at the end of the road the president was presented with a gift, which was a "Book of Remembrance" by Helen Steiner Rice.

Vocal solos were sung by Sister Ruth Collver with Sister Jean McClintock at the piano. Duets were also sung by Sister Janet Cox's two daughters with Sister Janet at the piano. They were introduced by their grandmother Sister Betty Garnham.

# Sunshine club

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the Sunshine Club was held at the home of Jean Dow on Thursday evening with a good attendance.

were Mrs. John McSkimming, Mrs. Grant Mountain and Mrs. David Hussey.

Plans were made for a visit and tour of the Gladway Gardens in Norwich for the next meeting night, after which the members will return to the home of Mrs. John McSkimming.

The hostess was assisted by Mrs. Hussey and appreciation was given by Doreen Mountain. There were 16 present at the meeting.

The president Audrey Harrison presided. The roll call was answered with the members telling of a day of special importance.

During the business, a nominating committee was named to select the new officers for 1981. Those named for the committee

# Christmas decorating demonstrated to UCW

OTTERVILLE (C) — The November meeting of the United Church Women was held in the Sunday school room of the church on Thursday evening with a good attendance.

Reports included one from the nominating committee presented by Joyce Hanson. Those who were elected for 1981-82 are: past president - Mrs. Melville Beecroft; president - Mrs. H. Harris; 1st vice - Mrs. Jean Gehring; 2nd (to be elected); recording secretary - Mrs. Murray Downing; corresponding secretary - Mrs. Earl Moore; treasurer - Mrs. Don Neale; social committee - Mrs. Jean Davis and Debby Arthur; program and literature - Mrs. Bertha Gehring; friendship and visitation - Mrs. Rod Taylor and Mrs. Harold Waring; finance - Mrs. Don Neale; manse representative - Mrs. Don Neale; news and views - Kathy Davis; auditors - Shirley White and Mrs. Bert Hill; nominating committee - Joyce Hanson and Mrs. Melville Beecroft; archives - Edith Petch.

The members were reminded of the congregational supper and were asked to bring and share. Meat is to be supplied. Another reminder was in regard to the Saving of the used postage stamps of which Mrs. Petch is in charge.

Gratifying reports were heard from the treasurer. A substantial sum was given to the Church Fund and Sunday School. The collection of the evening was forwarded to the Refugee Family for Christmas. The annual allocation was increased. The report of the Turkey supper was a huge success.

Isabel Harris, president,

presided for the meeting and opened with a reading.

Mrs. Jack Walther was the convener the theme being I A L A C - I am loving and capable.

The singing of "Love Is the Greatest Gift" introduced the program. The demonstrated talk was on giving and taking. She told in a lively way how love sees a busy wife and mother through a frustrating, happy, hectic, typical, day. These letters could apply to everyone in the group.

Ethel Arthur read the lesson from Corinthians about the gifts of the spirit of wisdom. All gifts are divided and yet essential just as all parts are essential to the whole body.

Jean Gehring gave a reading. The offering was taken by Mrs. Gehring.

Mrs. Shirley White gave an interesting time in demonstrating Christmas decorating and had several numbers of her work on display.

Many questions were asked and there was a time for discussion on the subject, and helpful suggestions presented.

Meeting closed with The Circle of Love goes round and round. A social repast completed the evening.

# Armistice dinner held Rebekah lodge installs officers

OTTERVILLE (C) — The annual Armistice dinner sponsored by the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club for local Veterans was held on Monday, Nov. 10th at the Legion Hall, Norwich. The meeting was opened by Branch 190 President Comrade Robert Harris. Two minutes of silence was observed followed by the singing of "O Canada".

Legion Padre Herbert Herring offered grace. A total of 86 Veterans and Lions enjoyed a bountiful dinner served by the members of the Eastern Star.

Lion Chief Gordon Herring presided and asked for Lions and Veterans to introduce themselves and identify their branch of service in the case of Veterans.

Lion Chief Gordon presented Past Presidents dinner badges to Past presidents Dr. Murray Downing, Darwen Scott and Russ Hall.

A guest from Pittsburgh Randy Scott was introduced and spoke briefly. Legion Padre Herbert Herring was called on for brief remarks. After entertaining with a few "well chosen" stories he spoke briefly on Armistice

and the need for cooperation at all levels both internationally and even at a local level.

Visiting Lions were present from Delhi, Woodstock, and Tillsonburg and representatives from each club spoke briefly.

Zone Advisory meeting will be held at Port Dover on Nov. 19th. Members were requested to attend.

Convention draw was won by Lion John E. Davis, Comrade President Robert Harris, Lion John Sandham.

## Otterville personals

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mr. and Mrs. Harold Durkee, Jim and Kathy were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. John Williams at Simcoe. The evening honoured Mr. and Mrs. Durkee who celebrated their 37th wedding anniversary.

Mr. David Avey of Halifax, Nova Scotia was a recent visitor with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Max Avey.

Mrs. Lillie Hill returned to her home on Friday after spending several days with Rev. and Mrs. Donald Gorrie at Woodstock.

OTTERVILLE (C) — Violet Rebekah Lodge No. 330 held their Installation on Monday evening. Lodge opened in regular form with N.G. Violet Howse and V.G. Ilah Nant presiding.

Visitors were welcomed and D.D.P. Sister Lorraine Rath of East St. Thomas District No. 17 was introduced by J.P.N.G. Sister Eva Deveney.

The following officers were installed in a lovely and dignified manner: N.G. Sister Ilah Nant, V.G., Sister Norma Wilson; Warden, Sister Esther Smith; conductor, Sister Ruth Collver; color bearer, Sister Jean

McClintock; recording secretary, Sister Jean McClintock; financial secretary, Sister Anna Treffry; treasurer, Sister Wilma Butler; Chaplain, Sister Emma Strudwick; J.P.N.G., Sister Violet Howse; inside guardian, Bro. Carl Howse; outside guardian, Sister Eva Deveney; R.S.N.G., Sister Margaret Kitchen; L.S.N.G., Sister Ruth Ann Ryerse; R.S.V.G., Oliver Pickersgill; L.S.V.G., Sister Eva Hill.

Guests were present from Harrietsville, Aylmer, St. Thomas, Tillsonburg, Brantford, Delhi and Norwich.

D.D.P. Lorraine Rath spoke bringing a message from the president.

Lodge closed in regular form and a delicious lunch was served by the committee in charge.

A Sister from Harrietsville won the beautiful silk floral arrangement.



# Christmas bazaar a success

OTTERVILLE (C) — The St. Johns Ladies Guild held their annual Christmas Bazaar on Thursday af-

ternoon, Nov. 6 in the Parish Hall. Christmas decorations were used effectively throughout the hall done by

Dorothy Durkee and Mrs. Fred Howse, president of the Guild,

welcomed the guests and Winnie Leach, who was at the door invited the guests to sign the names on the book, which would enable them to win the draw. The draw was made and Mr. Jack Freeland held the lucky ticket. The gift was a ceramic tea set which was donated by the rector's wife, Kay Darling.

The large assortment of needlework proved the point the members had all been very busy throughout the summer in preparing for this day which was a decided success. On the tables were pillowcases, aprons, table cloths for tea tables, also cards and a table of touch and take.

There was a table of novelties and last but not least the bake table filled with goodies which were soon purchased.

Fruit bread and tea was served and those working in all departments were: Mrs. Harold Durkee, Mrs. Stanley Leach, Edna Furlong, Mrs. Nate McMullen, Mrs. Fred Church, Mrs. Richard Saunders, Mrs. Ben Strudwick, Margaret Davies and Mrs. Harry Pickersgill.

## Cable TV available to 90% of homes

Cable service is now available to 90 per cent of the homes in Norwich and workers are busy hooking subscribers up to the system, said Nor-Del Cablevision's president Glenn Baxter.

About 70 homes have been hooked up to the service and are receiving the cable signal, he said. About 115 are on a waiting list for hook-up. The first hook-up was made in Norwich about mid-September, said Mr. Baxter. It will probably be two to three weeks before hook-ups are available in Otterville. The cable has been brought down Highway 59 from Otterville to Delhi but it will be some time yet before actual feeds into homes are available there as the strands are just being put on the poles now.

In Norwich, the last area to be serviced, the Schut subdivision, has the cable in place now and should have the electronics installed this week, said Mr. Baxter.

Those receiving the cable television service can receive 12 channels on the basic service and two channels with the cable converter. There are also FM signals available to those with the FM hook-up. A community channel with local programming provided by the communities served will eventually be available once a studio, to be located in

the Norwich office, is set up. Mr. Baxter said he and his family, who operate the business together, hope to

have an open house to display the service available to the public in the near future.

## Missionary letters read

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Missionary Fellowship of the Otterville Baptist Church was held in the Sunday School room of the Church.

The president Mrs. Fred Hill opened the meeting by reading Psalm 100 - A Song of Thanksgiving. A letter was read from the Springfield ladies inviting the Otterville group to hear John Bellsmith on Nov. 3 at 8 p.m. Letters were read from missionaries - Mr. and Mrs. Hiron in Africa, and Dr. Hazel Wrigglesworth in the Philippines. Mrs. Bruce Stover, Mrs. Fred Hill and Mrs. Charter Davis led in missionary prayers.

Mrs. Charter Davis was in charge of the devotional program opening with the hymn "Come, Ye Thankful People Come". A reading was given stating that we should thank our Heavenly Father for his love and fellowship as well as the more practical blessings. Mrs. David Hill read the scripture from Exodus 16:1-15.

Mrs. Bruce Stover brought a message about Moses leading God's people through the wilderness. She concluded that God punished Moses by not letting him see the Promised Land because he smote the rock instead of speaking to it as God had commanded.

The hymn "Face to Face" was sung and Mrs. Ted Oenema closed with prayer.

A social time followed and Mrs. Fred Hill assisted Mrs. Delmer Clinton and Mrs. David Hill in serving lunch.

OTTERVILLE (C) — Ken Moore who is now a resident of the Elginview Nursing Home in Norwich, recently celebrated his 90th birthday. In honor of this fine gentleman, Nelson Gleason, Max Avey and Fred Moore paid him a call to wish him a Happy Birthday and presented him with a birthday gift. The hostess of the Home served cake and ice cream and Happy Birthday was sung after which Ken thanked his friends for their remembrance.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cooper and family of St. Catharines, now with Bell Canada in Figadh, Saudi Arabia have returned to Arabia from a holiday spent in Athens and other cities in Greece and Turkey. They vacationed on a luxury liner for a five-day cruise around the Mediterranean Sea. Bob is the son of Evelyn Cooper of Tillsonburg, formerly of Otterville.

Recent guests at a family dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rod Taylor were Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Karr, Petrolia; Mrs. Grenville Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Murray Johnson and family Lesley, Heather and Ken and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Burley all of Toronto; Mrs. Charles Kelly, Burgessville; Pauline Johnson, Simcoe; Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Taylor, Matthew and Jennie, Cannington; Dr. and Mrs. Julius Narancsik, London; Miss Lynn Taylor, Toronto and Mr. Scott Taylor, Port Hope.

## Large attendance at Lions meeting

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the Burgessville United Church on Monday evening, Nov. 24th. Lion President, Gordon Shearer presided. 1980

There was a large attendance with 40 members and 11 visitors present, including Lions from the Langton and Straffordville Clubs.

Lion Tony Drescher reported that a curling team with Lions Russ Stangel, Nelson Gleason, and Murray Downing had won the Inter-Service Club bonspiel on Nov. 19.

Lion Stangell introduced Lion Art DeWaele, Zone Chairman Four West. Lion Art spoke upon the importance of promoting young peoples' activities in our community.

The Zone chairman was

thanked by Lion John Heliak who presented Lion Art with a gift of appreciation.

Dates for the annual fall Carnival will be September 11 and 12.

The club's annual Christmas party will be held on Saturday night, Dec. 13 in the Otterville Community Hall. Each Lion and each lady is requested to bring a \$3 gift for a man and a lady respectively.

The annual blood donor clinic will be held in Norwich Community Centre, Thursday, Nov. 27, between 5 and 8:30 p.m.

The next club executive meeting will be held in the Otterville Hall, Monday, Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m.

The Convention draws were won by Lions Jack Walther and Murray Wardell.

## FRED PINNOY, Meat Manager Of REX BROS. IGA In Straffordville



### WINS 3rd PRIZE IN.... IGA Beef Round-Up Sale

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mr. and Mrs. Rod Taylor had a family gathering at their home on Sunday, Nov. 9, following the christening of their granddaughter Jennie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Taylor of Cannington, Ont.

An honored guest was Jennie's great-great aunt Jennie - Mrs. Charlie Kelly of Burgessville.

Mrs. Mary Hawlin and Mrs. Kay Chambers of Woodstock called at the home of Mrs. Nate McMullen on Saturday. Nov 15/80

Mary Butch H.



# Judgment reserved on mischief charge

James Arthur broke three windows at the Otterville residence of Hedwig Stockmans, July 18, because he feared for the lives of his wife and daughter, he said in provincial court, Nov. 21.

James Arthur, 69, of Otterville, pleaded not guilty to mischief in connection with the breaking of three windows at the Stockmans' residence July 18. Judge R.G. Groom reserved judgement until Dec. 17.

Mr. Arthur told the court he arrived at the Stockmans' residence and ran to the house when he heard his wife scream "Ed, Ed don't do that."

Fearing for the safety of his family, Arthur said he smashed the windows to distract Stockmans and bring him out of the house.

"I picked this piece of pipe up and hit three windows right by the door. My intention was to bring Eddie (Stockmans) out in case he

was killing them because he has said it so many times," Arthur said in a statement to police.

Arthur said Stockmans telephoned the Arthur home earlier that morning to tell his wife, Sandra Stockmans "something drastic has happened" involving the couple's four children. Sandra and her mother, Betty Arthur, left for Stockman's immediately while Arthur stayed behind to call the police. When Arthur arrived, he said he could hear the three arguing inside the house.

Hedwig Stockmans, testified under the protection of the Canada Evidence Act so that none of his evidence could be used against him in the future. The Crown has appealed the county court decision of Dec. 20 which found Stockmans not guilty of second-degree murder in connection with the September 7 shooting death of his wife Sandra.

Stockmans said his wife, Sandra, and Mrs. Arthur arrived shortly after he telephoned them. He said the three of them were arguing in the living room when "all of a sudden glass from the windows started breaking into the house." Stockmans said he ran outside and saw Arthur standing with a piece of lead pipe in his hand. Stockmans said Arthur struck him on the head before he managed to wrestle the pipe away from him.

Stockmans' 15-year old son, Ted, told the court, he saw Arthur break the windows. He said his parents and grandmother were arguing when he heard "a big noise from outside. I looked out the window and saw James Arthur smashing the window with a lead pipe."

"Everyone ran outside. He

(Arthur) hit my dad over the head. My dad took the pipe away from him...and told him to get off the property," Ted said.

Responding to a question by defense lawyer Bernie Toth, Ted said his grandfather could probably hear the argument from outside the house.

Investigating officer Constable Al Cassidy of Tillsonburg detachment, Ontario Provincial Police, said he arrived at the Stockmans' residence shortly after he received Arthur's call. He said he saw Arthur's pickup truck parked on the road in front of the house. He said he examined the house and found the bathroom, front door and living room windows had been smashed.

In his summary statement, Mr. Toth said Arthur was justified in breaking the windows

because he believed that unless he distracted Stockmans, his wife and daughter would be harmed.

Pointing to the extent of

damage, Crown Attorney Katie McGowan of London said it was not necessary to do so much damage just to distract Stockmans.

## New Optimist club formed at Otterville

The newly formed Otterville Optimist Club has about 25 members at present, but club president Lyle Davis said 35 men are needed to receive a charter from Optimists International.

"As far as I know it's going to go," said Mr. Davis. "We've been trying to get enough (members) together since last spring."

The club's executive was chosen at the first meeting November 12. As well as president Davis, Bruce Ward

and Jack Weeks were elected vice presidents, Dan Cheney, Bill Redman and Paul Scott were elected two year directors, and Harold Walker, Wayne Murray and Gord Kicksee were elected one year directors.

The Otterville club was sponsored by the Brownsville Optimist Club. President Fred Franklin of Brownsville said Otterville was chosen because the club felt the village "had the potential" to form a new club.

## Mark 40th anniversary

OTTERVILLE (C) — On Sunday, November 30, Mr. and Mrs. Blaine Oatman, Springford, celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary with relatives and a few intimate friends.

At 2 p.m. dinner was served at St. John's Anglican Church Parish Hall Otterville by the ladies of the church.

Don Oatman was Master of Ceremonies and extended best wishes on behalf of all present to Blaine and Margaret upon reaching another milestone on their journey through life together.

Prior to the dinner, Ruth Haley, Springford, sang a lovely solo "Bless This Couple" accompanied by

Lila Freeland at the piano.

Jack Freeland then asked the blessing and everyone enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner.

Following the dinner a few tales of the couple's wedding day were recalled by Earl Haley, Garfield Wardle, Fred Pettman and John Readhead.

A toast was then made to the bride (the former Margaret Pettman) and groom of 40 years. The couple were married on a very snowy November 30th, 1940, at the bride's home in Ostrander.

Then they left on a Honeymoon trip to Toronto, returning to their present home in Springford where they have spent their 40

years of married life market gardening and growing bedding plants.

Blaine replied suitably thanking everyone for their kindness to him and his wife, not only then but all through their married life.

Guests were then invited to the home of their daughter and son-in-law, Jean and August DeWachter, and grandchildren, Julie and Michael. A sing-song of old familiar tunes followed with Lila at the organ and Don leading. Ralph Corless entertained playing selections on the bones and organ. Julie DeWachter played a few pieces on the organ.

A delicious smorgasbord lunch was served to the guests by the hostess after

which Blaine and Margaret opened their many lovely gifts and cards and expressed their sincere appreciation to everyone for making their day so special.

## Championship teams

Two Norwich Township baseball teams were honored for their outstanding achievements this past season with a banquet held in Oxford Centre on Saturday evening.

The dinner is put on annually by the township for any team that wins a provincial championship. This year there were two such teams - the Oxford Centre Juvenile "C's" and the Otterville Otters Intermediate "A" team.

Following the dinner, a presentation of awards to the team members and their coaches and captains was held, after which guest speaker Laing Kennedy addressed the audience.

Mr. Kennedy, an Oxford Centre native, is now regional director for Cornell University. He began his hockey career on a rink in Oxford Centre, starting out as goalie with an Eatons catalogue and a Holstein Journal as knee pads, said

Hardee Richardson in his introduction of Mr. Kennedy.

He went into the minor hockey league in Woodstock, where he played Junior "B" hockey with Bobby Hull before going to play with the Guelph Junior "A's". It was then his hockey career really started, said Mr. Richardson.

In 1963, Mr. Kennedy was named Athlete of the Year after Cornell University defeated Harvard's hockey team.

From 1972-1975 he was assistant dean of the agricultural college at Cornell before becoming regional director. In 1973 he was listed as the Outstanding Young Man of America.

He returned to Oxford Centre Saturday night with his wife Sandra (formerly Lazenby), also an Oxford Centre native, and their two daughters.

Following Mr. Kennedy's talk, a sports comedy film was shown.



Good shot

Keith Howse looks pleased with his shot thrown during the Tripp-Vogt-Trottier men's bonspiel held in Tillsonburg on Saturday. Mr. Howse and his team from Norwich placed third in his draw with 33½ points. The other team members were Ross Dow, John Davis and Lee Richardson, (TN Photo)



# Registrar shows pioneer documents

A crown patent written on sheepskin with an attached papercovered beeswax seal of the King of England was one of the many examples of pioneer-period documents displayed at a recent meeting of the Oxford Branch, Ontario Genealogical Society.

The scene was the filled-to-capacity Oxford County Registry Office on Graham Street in Woodstock where Registrar R. Keith Thomson gave an enjoyable and instructive talk on how genealogists may utilize the great deal of information housed in the local office.

Mr. Thomson, an obviously enthusiastic and knowledgeable registrar, began by reviewing the history of the registration system in what is now Oxford County.

In December of 1800, to meet the growing need to register land transactions in the large area covering the present day Brant, Middlesex, and Oxford Counties and as far north as Owen Sound, Thomas Horner was appointed the first registrar. The records were housed in his home in Princeton until 1834 when they were moved to Ingersoll and put under the care of the second registrar, Mr. James Ingersoll. Two years later the office was moved to the location of what is now Dr. Rae's office on King Street in Ingersoll.

The year 1847 saw the registry office moved to a building on the corner of Hunter and Light Streets in Woodstock; 1876 saw a move to another building at the corner of Hunter and Graham Streets. Mr.

Ingersoll continued to preside over the records until 1886. Three other registrars then looked after the records until Mr. Thomson took over, including Mr. Ross Tuck who was in office from the mid 1930's to the mid 1950's. In 1952 the present office was built. At present, roughly 12,000 registrations per year take place at this office which has a staff of about 10 persons.

Of great interest to genealogists was Mr. Thomson's review of what information is available at his office and exactly how a researcher may obtain this. Photocopies of the "memorials" (a memorial being a copy of the original document) of any transaction involving land in Oxford County (as it was and is) such as mortgages, discharges, agreements of bargain and sale, transfers of ownership, wills, etc., which were registered at his office, are available to the general public for a nominal fee.

Red file folders have been prepared, one for each lot and concession in the county. The numbers, names, descriptions on documents, etc. of all the transactions on the particular land at this lot and concession are listed therein. The researcher who knows the lot and concession of interest to him may fill out a requisition form, obtain the red file folder, note the number of the transaction (the number being called the instrument), and then ask for a photocopy of the memorial by this number.

Often these memorials yield a great deal of

genealogical information such as occupation and family structure as well as locations and proof of land ownership and a signature of the applicant.

All records in the Registrar's office are open to the public and Mr. Thomson assured those present of he

and his staff's willingness to assist researchers as time permits in the busy office.

The many questions which were asked of Mr. Thomson reflected the great deal of interest present in this area. Several documents of Mr. Thomson's private collection were displayed to the

members. One happily turned out to be a document concerning a property previously owned by an ancestor of one of the society's members! A lucky chance finding!

Many documents, maps, old pictures and family treasures belonging to the

members will be displayed at the December Branch meeting as the annual Christmas "Show and Tell" takes place. Anyone interested is certainly invited to Room 133, Huron Park Secondary School, Woodstock, at 8 p.m. on Thursday, December 11.

## Rick Singer re-elected historical society head

The South Norwich Historical Society held their final meeting for 1980 on November 17 in the form of a dinner meeting with 50 members and guests in attendance at Woodlawn.

The dinner was prepared and served by Juanita DeRoo, Marjorie Pearce, Mary Murray and Lila Freeland.

Following the dinner, President Rick Sanger called the meeting to order. Catherine Mann read the minutes of the previous meeting. Marjorie Pearce presented the treasurers report. A motion was made to donate \$150 to the Woodlawn Adult Community Centre. Rick Sanger announced there would be an executive meeting at Woodlawn on Thursday, November 20 and a meeting on Thursday, November 27 for those connected with the publication and research of the history of South Norwich Township.

Joyce Pettigrew read a thank you note from Marion (Fish) Lee. Lorraine Downing volunteered to be in charge of the quilt tickets. She also has hasti-notes for sale.

Chairman of the nominating committee, Ed Moore presented the slate of officers for 1981: President - Rick Singer; Vice-President - Lorne Treffry; Secretary - Catherine Mann; Assistant - Mary Murray; Corresponding Secretary - Joyce Pettigrew; Treasurer - Marjorie Pearce; Directors for one year - Muriel Gehring, and Ron Brayley; two years - Doreen Mountain and Delmer Clinton; three year - Bill McMullen Sr. and Ed Moore; Newsletter Editor - Boyd Little; Assistants - Bill McMullen Sr. and Ed Moore; Program - Lila Freeland, Bill McMullen Sr. and Carl House; Food Booth - Lorne Treffry.

Mr. Singer stated there were no further developments on the Treffry mill property.

It was decided to enter a float in the Otterville Santa Claus Parade on Saturday, December 13.

The next regular meeting will be held at Woodlawn on Monday, January 12, 1981 at 8 p.m.

Following the meeting Joyce Pettigrew introduced the guest speaker Ed Phelps of the University of Western Ontario, Weldon Library, co-author and publisher of "The Donnelly Tragedy 1880 - 1980." Mr. Phelps gave a very interesting and informative talk on his views and findings on the Donnellys. Mr. Singer thanked

Mr. Phelps and presented him with a gift of appreciation. A social time followed.

All members and interested persons are reminded of the second session of the Research - Writing Workshop to be held at Norwich Archives on Saturday, January 17, 1981 at 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. This session deals with organizing and interpreting the resource materials as well

as tips and techniques for writing.

These topics will be handled expertly by Doctors Killan, Jarvis and Goutor all of Kings College U.W.O. This workshop is sponsored by the Ontario Historical Society, Kings College, Norwich Historical Society and South Norwich Historical Society. Advance registration of \$5 is to be remitted to Johan Hopkins at the Norwich Archives.

### SOUTH NORWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL DINNER

November 17th, 1980 6:30 p.m.  
at Woodlawn Centre, Otterville

\$4.00 per person

## Research subject of workshop

A research - writing - history workshop held at the Norwich Archives on November 15, was attended by 25 participants, interested in learning more about researching and writing either family or community history.

The workshop was sponsored by the Norwich and District Historical Society and South Norwich Historical Society. It extends over two sessions.

The first session covered methods and sources for research and was chaired by Joyce Pettigrew.

Johan Hopkins, of the Norwich Archives, described the resources available at the local level. Ed Phelps, from the Regional History Department of Weldon Library, University of Western Ontario, spoke on the use of reference libraries. Bill Yeager, from

the Norfolk Archives, described the Settlement Patterns, American Historical Resources and Church Records. Bessie Diebel, president of Oxford County Genealogical Society, spoke on the Mormon Library, describing the family group records archives, the International

Genealogical Index and the Temple Records Index Bureau.

The final session will be held on January 17, and will feature the writing of the histories. The speakers will be Dr. Jacques Goutor, Dr. Gerald Killan, and Dr. Eric Jarvis from Kings College.

Anyone interested in receiving tips and techniques for historical writing, contact the Norwich Archives (863-3638) for early registration.

The fee is \$5, which includes a luncheon.

Apply early as there is limited registration.



# May move plant to S-W Oxford

NG Nov 5  
Powell Agri-Systems may be relocating in South-West Oxford Township and moving from Otterville in 1981 if the company's application for a minor variance on an 11-acre parcel of land is approved without objection.

Bob Rankin, assistant sales manager at Powell, approached South-West Oxford Township council Tuesday with real estate broker Don Evans about utilizing the former McConnell Nurseries property in the township as a new location for the company.

Powell has been attempting to expand its Otterville operation for about a year and a half. The company, which manufactures tobacco kilns, bins and racks, first applied in November 1979 to Norwich Township council for a minor variance to allow an expansion.

Objections to the application led to an Ontario Municipal Board hearing

which turned down the minor variance.

Last spring Powell tried once again to expand their operation with a different plan, but again the proposal met with objections and once more an OMB hearing overturned it.

The most recent plan Powell sought, to purchase a 13 acre tract across the street from its existing operation, was met with eight objections. An OMB hearing has been scheduled for December 10.

The McConnell site in South-West Oxford, located north of Ostrander on Highway 19, has been in receivership since early 1979. Powell is considering purchasing the property and moving the entire operation to that site.

Mr. Evans told council the property has been listed in London, St. Thomas and Tillsonburg. He said the firm's president had a deal "almost negotiated" between the receiver and

Powell's.

However, Mr. Evans said, a problem arose concerning the storage of the kilns the company manufactures.

In the township's zoning bylaw, storage of goods or materials in a restricted industrial (M1) zone is

permitted outside but it must be to the rear of the main building. The buildings at McConnell's are situated directly in front of a railway line with no rear yard in between.

Powell's representative, Mr. Rankin, explained to

council the company's proposal to build a front office complex off the highway, and asked whether this building could be interpreted as the main building, thus allowing the storage of equipment, lumber and materials in the space

behind it. He said from 100 to 200 kilns would be stored at a time, as well as bins and racks, and the equipment would be moved out as it is sold.

Mr. Rankin said there is no way the company can use the

(Continued on Page 3)

(Continued from Page 1)

facilities in Otterville the way they are now, and the extra storage space is badly needed.

"We're negotiating, but the M-1 zoning has stymied us," he said.

Township clerk Helen Prouse explained to Mr. Rankin it would not be possible to regard the office building as the main building because the bylaw interprets it as "accessory to a permitted use."

However, treasurer Allen Forrester suggested the company apply for a minor variance and a rezoning to allow for storage in front of the existing buildings.

Mr. Rankin then told council the company is faced with a time element and the one thing Powell is attempting to avoid is the delay.

"We would like to proceed as soon as possible," he said.

Mrs. Prouse told Mr. Rankin a minor variance application would have to be brought in Tuesday afternoon so the notices could be sent to area residents in the mail Wednesday morning. This would allow for a 14-day period for the residents to receive the notices and the application could be voted on by council at their next meeting on November 18.

She said if it is approved by council, there would then be a 21-day waiting period to allow for objections.

If there were no objections, the earliest possible date for the granting of the minor variance would be December 9.

Councillor Allen Bond said the existing buildings on the McConnell property do not give the appearance of "any kind of business."

"I can't imagine anyone objecting (to the minor variance) because what is there is a real eyesore," he said.

Mr. Rankin said relocating on the property would allow for a streamlining of the operation.

"These buildings would be

ideal ... the capabilities are there," he said.

He said the Otterville operation has "unavoidable interruptions," such as the maintenance of combines, which is "smack in the middle of the assembly line in Otterville."

He added the railway located directly beside the McConnell's buildings would also be "very handy."

Mayor Lou Barrett remarked, "Everything's fairly ideal except our bylaw" then added later, "All we can say is we'll take action as fast as we can."

Mrs. Prouse said a detailed map of Powell's plans should be included in the application, to show whether the company is intending on screening the eight or nine houses in the immediate area with trees.

"If they see where you're going to plant a row of trees, it may mean the difference of objecting and not objecting," she said.

Mr. Rankin said if there were no objections, the company would move in immediately.

"Right now, speed is of the essence," he said.

## Dereham Centre site eyed by equipment plant

By Al Chater  
Woodstock Bureau

DEREHAM CENTRE — Powell Agri-Systems Ltd., Otterville's major industry, is negotiating to open a plant near here, with only a minor variance to allow outside storage holding up completion of the deal.

Robert Rankin, assistant sales manager, said a decision on whether the company, which employs 100 persons, will move out of Otterville will be made after a Dec. 10 Ontario Municipal Board hearing on whether the present plant can be expanded on a 13-acre property across the street.

If rezoning of the land from agricultural to industrial is not approved and a severance granted, since it is part of a 77-acre parcel, the firm may have to move because of severe space restrictions at the six-acre Otterville site, he said.

Norwich Township Mayor Jack Burn said in an interview if Powell moves out "it would be just another catastrophe to the Township of Norwich."

Rankin asked South-West Oxford Township council Tuesday if the zoning regulations at the new location Powell wants to buy — at Highway 19 and Oxford Road 27, 10 kilometres north of Tillsonburg — would permit outside storage.

He was told a minor variance would be needed, but council agreed to begin work to grant the severance as soon as possible. The application for the severance was to be filed Tuesday. Land owners next to the site would have to be given 14 days' notice, followed by a 21-day waiting period after the severance is granted.

If there are no objections, Powell could move to the 11.3-acre site in December.

Rankin said the company wants to

move in as soon as possible. "Right now, we've got a dog's breakfast over there (in Otterville). We have unavoidable interruptions in our lines and sub-lines because of the space limitations."

He said the proposed location, the former McConnell Nurseries property, is "fairly ideal" with a 78,000-square-foot building available and a spur railway line at the rear to bring in supplies.

The present plant covers 45,000 square feet and materials coming in by train must be picked up in Norwich, about 12 kilometres from Otterville.

Rankin said if the proposed site is purchased and the Otterville location closed, which would be some time next year, 135 employees would be needed for the new plant, which would manufacture tobacco transplanters, sprayers, combines and bulk-carrying systems.

He said the company's decision to seek an alternative site was based on frustrations over expansion in Otterville. An attempt to expand closer to the road last year was blocked by the OMB after neighbors complained of possible noise. "Our main objective is to produce economically and we can't do this with our present location. We've been dragging for two years."

Rankin told South-West Oxford council: "If we wait another month we've had it. We don't want to get involved in another long, drawn-out application."

Burn said Powell's growth problem is equally frustrating for council which, with the county, supports the Otterville expansion bid. "Everyone has bent over backwards to help them."

He said the Otterville project is being held up by four neighboring residents, down from seven following a recent public meeting. "Other than the four people, everyone is behind Powell."



# Powell to seek variance

T-News Nov 7

BY LINDA HULME

Powell Agri-Systems has not yet submitted a minor variance application to South-West Oxford Township council for the former McConnell Nursery property in the township, but Bob Rankin, the firm's assistant sales manager, said Thursday there is no question the firm will be applying as soon as possible.

Mr. Rankin approached council Tuesday explaining Powell's intention of using the property as a new location because plans to expand the Otterville operation have been stymied for the past two years.

Council advised Mr. Rankin the firm should apply for a minor variance on the property because the zoning bylaw allows open storage at the rear of buildings only.

The existing buildings at the McConnell's site are situated directly in front of railway tracks with no rear yard in between.

If the application was submitted Tuesday, council would have been able to vote on it at the next meeting November 18.

Mr. Rankin said it was impossible to apply for the minor variance Wednesday because the present owners have a lot of the information needed for the application.

He said there is not the same urgency involved at the McConnell site as there is at Otterville because there are already existing buildings the firm can move into.

"We're going to get it in, that's for sure," said Mr. Rankin.

He said the application is partially filled

out, and he expects it will be submitted within the week.

Powell has negotiated with the receivers about buying the property, but Mr. Rankin said nothing "concrete" has been signed as yet.

He said the purchase and the possible relocation of Powell hinges on whether the minor variance is granted.

"The property will be no value to us unless we're allowed to store in front of the buildings," he said.

If the application is approved with no objections, he said it will be a head office

decision whether to remain in Otterville or move to South-West Oxford.

If there are objections, he said, "We'll tip our hat and bow out."

Mr. Rankin said if the firm is moving, it will be done gradually over a year to a year and a half. Eventually, he said, the entire Powell operation would relocate.

As for expansion in Otterville, he said, "All we can see here is roadblocks."

Powell has been attempting to expand its operation in Otterville for about a year and a half. The company first applied in 1979 to Norwich township council for a minor variance but the application met with ob-

jections and an Ontario Municipal Board hearing turned down the application.

Powell tried a second time to expand last spring but that was also turned down by the OMB. The firm then attempted a third time to expand with a proposal to purchase a 13-acre tract across the street from their existing operation, but met with eight objections. An OMB hearing is scheduled for December 10.

Five of the eight have withdrawn their objections and Norwich township officials will meet the remaining three hoping they will withdraw also.

## Three withdraw objections to Powell expansion plan

Nov 14/80

Three more individuals have withdrawn their objections to the expansion plans of Powell Agri-Systems in Otterville leaving the number of objectors now at one.

Township representatives visited the remaining three objectors last week and their objections were withdrawn by Friday. That puts the number remaining down to one and Norwich Township Mayor Jack Burn is confident that one can also be resolved.

There were initially eight objections to the severance and rezoning of 13 acres for Powell's expansion. Four objections were withdrawn after a committee of council representatives and concerned Otterville residents held a public meeting and made visits to the objectors to discuss the problem.

"I'm very happy that the other three have withdrawn," said Mayor Burn.

He said Powell is serious in its consideration of relocating its facilities in South-West Oxford Township on the McConnell nursery property.

"They're just protecting themselves," he said. If the Ontario Municipal Board hearing on December 10 on the rezoning and severance applications goes against them then they have to have an alternate site, said Mayor Burn.

The firm has not yet submitted a minor variance application to South-West Oxford Township council for the McConnell property but Bob Rankin, the firm's assistant sales manager, said last week there is no question it will be applying as soon as possible.

Mr. Rankin approached

the South-West Oxford council last Tuesday explaining Powell's intention to use the property as a new location because plans to expand the Otterville location have been stymied for the past two years.

A minor variance is the only roadblock to establishing the business there. A minor variance is required to permit open storage in front of the existing buildings. Those buildings are situated directly in front of railway tracks with no rear yard in between for storage as required in the zoning bylaw.

Mr. Rankin said the application for the minor variance will be submitted within a week. Powell has been negotiating with the receivers about buying the McConnell property but nothing concrete has been signed as yet, said Mr. Rankin.

He said the purchase and possible relocation of Powells hinges on whether the minor variance is granted. If the application is approved with no objections, it will be a head office decision whether to remain in Otterville or move to South-West Oxford, said Mr. Rankin.

If the move is made it will be done gradually over a year to a year and a half. Eventually the entire Powell operation would relocate, he said.

Mayor Burn said that if all the barriers to the expansion in Otterville were removed and the firm can be accommodated there, he would see no need for Powell to move out of the township.

TILLSONBURG, ONTARIO, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1980

Likes Otterville but...

may move to neighbor

## SWOx to hear Powell Dec. 2

By LINDA HULME

A minor variance application, along with plans drawn up by Powell Agri-Systems outlining its expansion, were delivered to South-West Oxford Township Thursday afternoon by real estate broker Don Evans, on behalf of the receivers for the former McConnell's nursery site north of Ostrander.

"What we intend doing with the property is a part of that application," said Bob Rankin, assistant sales manager at Powell.

Mr. Rankin and Mr. Evans approached South-West Oxford Township council recently outlining Powell's intention of using the property as a new location because expansion of the Otterville operation has been held up for about two years.

Council explained to Mr. Rankin a minor variance application must be made on the property because the zoning bylaw allows

open storage at the rear of buildings only in restricted industrial zones.

The existing buildings at McConnell's are situated directly in front of railway tracks with no rear yard in between.

The minor variance, if approved, would allow Powell's to store tobacco kilns, bins, and racks in the yard in front of the main building at the site.

The minor variance application will be heard by township council December 2. If council approves and there are no objections from area residents, Powell's could begin moving to the new site early in the new year.

Mr. Rankin said negotiations have been

made with the receivers of the property for the industry to purchase the site, but nothing definite has been signed.

It will be a management decision, he said, whether Powell's remains at the Otterville site or whether it relocates.

Powell's latest attempt to expand in Otterville was met with eight objections. Seven have been withdrawn, but an Ontario Municipal Board hearing is still scheduled for December 10.

"We've made our point to the Otterville area and we've made our point to the council at Dereham Centre," said Mr. Rankin.

Robert Wilson, president of Powell Agri-

Systems, said nothing is firm at present. In a telephone interview from the head office in South Carolina, Mr. Wilson said a joint decision will be made between the head office and the Canadian management at Powell's.

Mr. Wilson said the McConnell's property is "a nice site," but he said the Otterville site also has its advantages.

"We like Otterville," he said. "We'd like to stay there."

The decision will be made, said Mr. Wilson, keeping in mind what is best from a business standpoint.

"We have to wait to see what's going to happen," he said.



## Norwich Township Council Briefs

### Hearing moved up

The Ontario Municipal Board hearing on the severance and rezoning of a 13-acre parcel of land sought by Powell Agri-Systems in Otterville for expansion has been moved up to Wednesday, Dec. 10. Residents in the area have filed objections to the expansion plans which would include the construction of an assembly plant, service shop and showroom.

Powell has been waiting for more than a year to expand as it is greatly in need of additional space.

### Constable promoted

Norwich Township council voted to pass a bylaw promoting Norwich Township police constable Mike Ellul to the position of third class constable effective October 10.

### Weight restriction

A bylaw to restrict the weight limit on the plank bridge in Lots 14 and 15, Concessions 10 and 11, of the former South Norwich Township, was passed by council at its last meeting. The limit now in place is two tonnes or approximately 4,400 pounds.

### Sports banquet

The annual sports recognition banquet, sponsored by the township, will be held at the Oxford Centre Hall on Saturday, Nov. 22. A comedy sports film and a special speaker will be featured. The price of tickets for the banquet is \$6.

### Support Santa parade

Norwich Township council voted at its last meeting to make a donation of \$50 to help support the Otterville Santa Claus parade. The third annual parade is to be held on Saturday, Dec. 13 at 1 p.m. About 25 floats took part in the parade last year.

### Poppy days

Council granted permission to the Norwich branch of the Royal Canadian Legion to hold its annual poppy days on Friday and Saturday Nov. 7 and 8.

### Hall caretaker

Norwich Township council voted to accept the application of Mrs. Ron Leis for caretaker of the Oxford Centre Hall. Mrs. Leis, who lives near the hall, will be paid \$5 an hour. Six applicants were interviewed for the job.

### Grant to minor hockey

Council voted to donate a grant of \$2,500 to assist the Norwich Minor Hockey Association.

## Norwich Township Council Briefs

### Water rates up

Norwich Township council approved a bylaw giving the Norwich Public Utilities Commission permission to increase the water rates by 17 per cent in Norwich and 20 per cent in Otterville. The rates must first be submitted to the county for approval before they are implemented. Mayor Jack Burn suggested to council the rates in the township are as cheap as any in Oxford County.

### Constable promoted

The promotion of Constable Doug Smith of the Norwich Township Police Force to the position of 1st Class Constable from 2nd Class Constable was approved by township council Tuesday evening. The promotion is the normal procedure after the passing of the one-year probationary period and satisfactory service. The promotion is effective Nov. 26. Chief Robert Knight reported to council that he is satisfied with Constable Smith's work and that he is well-liked in the community.

### Stinky situation

There has been a mysterious disappearance of skunk traps in Otterville, set to help curb the problem with the skunk population in that village. It was decided by council that the traps, belonging to Bruce Mitchell, should be replaced after they disappeared from Otterville where they had been set. Some residents had complained about the problems with the little mammals and the traps were set to capture them live. But the traps disappeared without a trace. When the price of traps has been determined they will be replaced.

### Name change

A recommendation by Councillor John Heleniak that the Norwich Public Utilities Commission consider changing its name whenever it is feasible of the Township of Norwich PUC was approved by council Tuesday night at its meeting. The PUC serves the former village of Norwich (Ward Two), Otterville (Ward One) and parts of Ward Three.

### Legal counsel

Township council was advised that Richard Treleaven has been retained as legal counsel to represent the township in the Dec. 8 Ontario Municipal Board hearing on the Norwich Business Improvement Area. The hearing will be held at 1 p.m. in the Otterville Community Hall. Township Clerk Bob Watkins stated that 38 per cent of the people, representing 24 per cent of the assessment are objecting to the proposal.

# Asks improved library facilities at Otterville

By SUZANNE HANSON

A request for improved library facilities in Ward One came before Norwich Township council at its meeting Tuesday night.

The present library in Otterville, located in the basement of the Otterville Community Hall, hasn't had much done to it since 1890 when the Oxford County library took it over and increased it from a 12 by 12 foot room to its present size of 13 feet by 24 feet, said Jean Stewart, head of the library board.

As a result of Mrs. Stewart's request, after considerable discussion, council voted to pass a recommendation to include an estimate of the cost of building a new library in Otterville in council's 1981 budget.

The present library is the smallest facility anywhere in the county, said Mrs. Stewart, yet the assessment is equal to or more than any of the other wards.

Because of the small area of the Otterville library, the residents of Ward One are not getting their fair share of books from the Oxford County library, said Mrs. Stewart. As many as four to five times the number now circulated could be made available if there was more space.

The basement library at present is only 13 feet by 24 feet. Access to it is also difficult, particularly for the elderly, as the steps down are narrow and steep.

"The entire area is a fire trap," said Mrs. Stewart. She suggested to council that with the hall under renovation now, it might be a good time to do work on the library to expand and improve it. It could be expanded northward to increase the length to 54 feet

creating a long, narrow room. However, she said an area that size might be difficult to supervise. An alternative might be to expand across the entire front section of the basement.

An improved access to the library in the form of a graded entrance is also sought. Since next year has been designated the year of the handicapped, money may be available to improve the entrances to public buildings to permit access by the handicapped, said Mrs. Stewart.

While she offered renovations as one solution to the library problem, the ideal solution would be a new building, altogether separate from the existing hall, she said.

"I rather like the idea (of a separate building)," said Councillor Bill Sanders. In the long run a new building may be the cheaper facility, he said. "Even with the renovations to the existing building, it would still be a rather hazardous situation because the fire exits are not very convenient."

Mrs. Stewart said the facilities, now used seven and a half hours a week, would be better used if they were improved.

"I don't think there is any question that if we had a decent facility the use would increase by about 1,000 per cent anyway," said Mr. Sanders. He also pointed out that the township spent \$22,000 on a confectionary booth for a township park "and I think this is equally important."

The estimate for the construction of a new library building will be included for consideration with other township capital expenditures in the 1981 budget.





# The Norwich *Community* News

Vol. 55 - No. 45

Norwich, Ontario, Wed

Ken Mann,  
x 14,  
Otterville, Ont., Feb. 5432

Large copy 20 cents

## Powell, mill major concerns

The fate of the Powell Agri-Systems expansion in Otterville, the consolidated school and the Treffry mill pond were foremost among topics discussed at an all candidates meeting at the Otterville community hall Sunday afternoon.

Six candidates for Ward 1 for Norwich township council, three of four candidates running for the Oxford board of education, and the two candidates for the mayor's chair each had a chance to speak at a well-attended meeting sponsored

by the Otterville Businessman's Club.

Mayor Jack Burn, running for re-election, said the next township council is faced with some serious unfinished business, listing the Powell expansion, the purchase of the Treffry mill pond, the

closing of the Holbrook landfill site and the introduction of a new fire alert system.

He said he lobbied to have the date for the Ontario Municipal Board hearing on Powell Agri-Systems moved up to December 10 from a

date in January or February and added "both the township and the county have backed Powell's 100 per cent." He said the company has not made a move at this time, but he told those in attendance there would be some news on the expansion early this week.

Mr. Burn also expressed his views on the purchase of the Treffry mill pond, saying he totally supports buying, not only the pond, but the mill itself.

Mr. Burn said he would like the opportunity to resume his duties as mayor and to see the unfinished business through.

His opponent, Roger Orth, said his "immediate concern" is to keep Powell's in Otterville. However, he touched on several topics, suggesting the old canning factory in Otterville be purchased and the land held for future industry.

He said the new council would have to look at industries which will not disturb residents with pollution or noise.

On the mill pond purchase, Mr. Orth said it was "the focal point" of Otterville. He explained an engineering study done by the ministry of natural resources was sent

(Continued on Page 2)

## Voting increased at advance poll

If the turn-out at the advance poll is any indication, interest in the upcoming municipal elections in Norwich Township is higher than it was at election time two years ago.

The turn-out at the advance poll, held in Norwich at the archives between the hours of 9 a.m. and 8 p.m., numbered 137. The number who cast their ballot in advance of the regular polling day two years ago was only about 77, said Norwich Township returning officer Robert Watkins.

The results from Saturday's advance poll for each of the four wards were: Ward One 25; Ward Two 30; Ward Three 68 and Ward Four 14.

The advance poll is held for those individuals who cannot make it out on the regular polling day, this year on Monday, Nov. 10, in order that they may still cast their ballot.

Regular polls open at 11 a.m. on Monday at various locations in each Ward and they close at 8 p.m.



### It's a parade

Girls in the six and over category paraded their costumes for the judges at the costume contest held as part of the

Lions annual Hallowe'en party for children in Otterville Friday night. The event has been held annually for the past 20 years. This year roughly 120 children took part.



# Ward 1 candidates

By CARL BEAL

Prior to restructuring in 1974, I served as councillor in the Township of South Norwich. After restructuring I served two terms as councillor for Ward One in the new Township of Norwich.

I was a member of the roads committee and the protection committee and chairman of the agricultural committee for four years.

For the past four years I have been an active member of the community centre club and for two years an appointed member of the recreational advisory committee.

Two events stand out during my term in office as councillor. The first was the restructuring of the county and the second was the closing of the arena. Both of these events are history now so let's look to the future.

We must keep the industry we now have plus we must attract new industry. This means that the present rezoning and severance procedures must be streamlined. At the present time it appears that it is necessary to have land "pre-zoned."

When I first sought election it was at the urging of my neighbors and as time passed I became very interested in the problems and workings of the township and its residents.

I feel that with my experience in the past, I can serve the residents in the future and that is why I am seeking re-election at this time.



Carl Beal

Carl Beal of RR 2, LaSalette is again running for election in Ward One, (the former South Norwich Township).

Mr. Beal was a member of the Township of Norwich council for the term ending in 1976. Prior to restructuring he was a councillor on the old South Norwich council for four years.

A tobacco farmer, Mr. Beal lives on his farm with his wife Lucille. They have five children.

BY LYLE (BUTCH) DAVIS

"Action - the need for it, concern for the people of this region and a strong desire to serve." These are the basic things that have drawn me into this municipal campaign.

I have been an area tobacco farmer for over 20 years and father of six children and very interested in the management of this area. I feel people should act if they have complaints or concerns over the politics of the area, rather than be a rocking chair critic.

I am willing to devote all necessary time to fulfill the office of councillor. I am able to offer my time as I am self-employed and manage my own affairs.

Some of the things of grave concern to me are the problems posed to an important local industry over zoning by-laws in the region. I am troubled over what will happen to the folks whose very livelihood depends on this firm, should its services be diminished or even relocated due to unfavorable legislation.

Another concern of mine is the diminishing availability of lots in the area suitable for residential use. I would like to be secure in the knowledge my children could build homes in this locale and remain and prosper here. I hope there will always be the potential for growth in this area for the young as well as the retired folk.

Otterville area tobacco farmer Lyle (Butch) Davis is seeking his first term as councillor for Ward One in the upcoming elections for Norwich Township council.

Active in community organizations and minor sports, the father of six is interested in representing the people of Ward One on council.

His involvements over the years have included membership in such organizations as the Lions club, Otterville Minor Ball, Norwich District Curling Club, and service for a time as a volunteer fireman.

His interests include restoring antique automobiles, and coin collecting. He is also an avid spectator at his children's various athletic functions.

One of his concerns is the future growth of the industrial and residential areas in Otterville.



Lyle Davis

By AUGIE DEWACHTER

To the present and future taxpayers of Ward 1, Township of Norwich:

Because the Township of Norwich has always been my home, I feel that I have a special interest in the community I serve.

During the past 23 years I have had the opportunity of doing business with many of the people. I have talked with you and listened to your comment on certain council matters. I would like a chance to represent all of you and do the very best I can to help you, the taxpayers of Ward 1.

I believe that our local schools need more council support to try and stop unnecessary school closings.

We need to encourage more industrial growth in Ward 1, not block it. Industries, such as Powell, help decrease the tax burden on us all. I am in the electrical business, and at present employ four people. I know it is hard to purchase industrial land in Ward 1 and it's about time we had a small industrial area.

If I am elected as councillor I will endeavor to do my utmost to control spending and keep our taxes as low as possible.

Now is the time for a change, let's put new faces on our local council - your support will be appreciated.

Elect - Dewachter, August (Augie)

Councillor, (Ward 1) Township of Norwich



Augie DeWachter

Ward One candidate Augie DeWachter, of RR 1, Otterville, is seeking election to Norwich Township council for the first time.

He has operated his electrical business in the area for the past 23 years and would like to see more business and industry encouraged in the area. He has lived his entire life in the township, and believes he can represent the interests of the people in his ward and in the township.

BY BOB PETTIGREW

I would like to say a few words regarding the projects that council has completed in the last few years.

East Oxford now has a fire department; Norwich and Burgessville firehalls have been renovated, and a new grid system established for an accurate location of a fire.

Norwich now has a Police station that has been updated. This project was handled by Police Chief Robert Knight and I would like to thank him for the personal effort he has made.

The recreational projects within the township, with the exception of Otterville Hall, have been completed so there should be no major expenditures in the near future.

Public Works is operating efficiently and our road employees, firemen and office staff are doing an excellent job.

Powell Agri-Systems must expand. At the present time they are importing products from their plant in the U.S.A. This is far too costly. The economy of Otterville needs more industry immediately for its survival and we must make a special effort to obtain this most important goal.

At the present time there are two other objectives for the Village of Otterville. First the ownership of the mill, second, the pond to be in the hands of the township or the Conservation Authority.



Bob Pettigrew

Robert Pettigrew, of RR 2, Otterville, is running for re-election to his seat as a Ward Two representative on township council.

He has served two terms on that council and a term on the former South Norwich council prior to restructuring. He is the former manufacturer of tobacco curing systems, a business now owned by Powell Agri-Systems in Otterville.

He and his wife Marion have three children. They have been life-long residents of the Otterville area.

BY MEL SMITH

I am running for Ward 1 councillor because of my experience of 24 years in the construction business building roads and draining agricultural lands and roads.

I am fully familiar with materials and proper maintenance and I understand soil conditions. I am also very interested in industrial development to employ all people. If you don't have industry you don't have jobs and you don't have development.

We have a lot of black-top roads that have never had any proper maintenance. If they are not looked after right away, we'll be back to gravel roads.

When it comes to municipal drains, it seems there is a lot of confusion and time wasted being undecided in how they should do it and the methods to be used. This costs a lot of time and tax dollars needlessly.

Mel Smith was born in 1936 in North Norwich Township (Ward 3), the son of Martin Smith and Annie Jull.

His father was an experienced contractor. Mr. Smith resided in North Norwich until he married Violet Knox, from Burgessville, in 1957. They lived in Woodstock for a little over a year before moving to Otterville in 1959 where they now reside.

He is the father of four daughters: Deb (Lee) 22, Cheryl 20, Darlene 18, Marty

Jo 16.

He has been in the construction business all his life and now employs five to eight men. He has a small farm in Burford Township and also owns a car wash in Otterville.

He has served as director for three years of the Otterville Park through the Norwich - Otterville Lions club to which he belongs. He also belongs to the Independent Order of Odd-fellows and is a past president and member of the Otterville Businessmen's Association.

Mr. Smith is seeking election to council as Ward One councillor.



Mel Smith

BY DAN WAGNER

I am 26 years old, married, a farmer and laborer. I have lived in Hawtry all my life.

I have always been interested in municipal government and feel I can contribute to it. I am concerned with Powell's in Otterville and will work towards keeping it in the community.

Also, I feel council and our school board must work together to save our schools.

I would appreciate your support at the polls on November 10.



Dan Wagner

Dan Wagner, of Hawtry is seeking election to council as a Ward One representative. He first ran for election to that seat in 1978 but was defeated.

He is married and works with his brother on a farm at Hawtry. This is his first entry into municipal politics. He believes councils should be responsive to the needs of the people. He is also concerned with keeping industry in the township.







# Burn easy winner in mayoralty race

By SUZANNE HANSON

Incumbent Jack Burn swept to a stunning victory over his challenger for the mayor's chair Roger Orth, coming in with a 1,455 vote margin in the election Monday.

Mayor Burn won all the polls across the four wards except for two in Ward Three. With the polls closed at 8 p.m., the results of the mayor's race trickling in after 9 p.m. set the pace for the evening as Mayor Burn swept the polls in his home riding of Ward Four.

Come December he will begin working with a council that is a mixture of old and new as five new faces join the four incumbents for the next two years of office.

The voter turn-out was not unusually heavy, said the township's deputy clerk John Gilbert, with about 50 per cent of the eligible voters casting their ballots.

In Ward One, incumbent Robert Pettigrew was re-elected with 619 votes.

Newcomer Lyle (Butch) Davis led the polls with 671 votes in the race for the three Ward One council seats. They will be joined by another newcomer Mel Smith who captured 501 of the votes cast.

Carl Beal took 389 of the votes in Ward One followed by Dan Wagner with 310 and Augie DeWachter with 256.

In Ward Two, incumbent Helen Smith enjoyed a wide margin of victory over challenger Norman Lusk capturing 559 votes while Mr. Lusk took 334. Mrs. Smith will be joined on the new council by newcomer Darrell Force who came away with 447 votes.

Incumbent John Heleniak swept back into office as Ward Three's representative with 517 votes, followed by John Lester with 426 votes. Incumbent Cecil Mingle was defeated, coming fourth on the list of Ward Three candidates. First time runner Fred Thompson was not far behind the winner Mr. Lester with 409 votes. He was followed by Mr. Mingle with 290 votes and Paul Wood with 88.

In Ward Four incumbent Hardee Richardson, who captured 474 of the votes, will be joined on council by newcomer John Eacott with 422 votes. Shirley Wood was defeated with 267 votes.

In the race for the two township school board seats incumbent Helen Dickson enjoyed a comfortable margin of victory as she was

re-elected with 1,751 votes. Joining her on the Oxford County school board will be newcomer Harv Cowan who came in with 1,426 votes. Lavern Irving was close on his heels with 1,412, followed by incumbent Mary Jull who came in last in the race with 1,177.

Commenting on his victory following the counting of the ballots Monday night, Mayor Burn said he was delighted with the results.

Acclaimed into his seat as mayor in the last election, he said of his overwhelming victory this time, "Everyone likes to know what their public really thinks of them. It's unfortunate someone has to be left behind in the contest but that's what democracy is all about."

Mayor Burn also said he was happy the campaign was a clean one without personality conflicts or major conflicts over issues.

"There are no hard feelings... Roger (Orth) wanted to move up and he didn't want to wait any longer to do that."

Mayor Burn said there are several pressing issues facing the new council such as the uncertainty of the Powell Agri-Systems situation in Otterville, the purchase of the Treffry mill property, the proper closing of the Holbrook landfill site and the development and maintenance of industry in the township.

He said he did not carry out a door-to-door campaign in this election relying on his past record and an extensive advertising campaign.

"I seemed to be busy running the township of Norwich and I didn't knock on doors... Either you knock on doors and use up three weeks salary or you use it on advertising."

Mayor Burn said throughout the campaign he stood on his record of eight consecutive years of service to the residents. "I am proud of my record."

He said he had been optimistic about his chances of returning as mayor on Monday as he had had a lot of good reports before the results came in to the township office Monday night.

He said he hopes when the new council is installed in December there will be the same team effort there was with the last council.

"The last council was excellent," he said. "They worked well together."



## Victory hug

Newly re-elected Mayor Jack Burn of Norwich Township receives a victory hug from wife Shirley following the announcement of his landslide victory at the polls in the township's municipal elections Monday. The new council, with five new faces, will take over operations in December.

## Council inaugural scheduled Dec. 8

TUES NOV 25

Norwich Township council held its farewell session last night, carrying out its last bit of business before the new council is installed on Monday, December 8.

The new council, elected in the November 10 municipal elections, will see a few new faces. In Ward One current council member Bob Pettigrew will be returning, joined by newcomers Mel Smith and Lyle (Butch) Davis. In Ward Two Helen Smith returns to her seat with newcomer Darrell Force taking up a seat on council for the first time.

Ward Three sees John Lester stepping in to replace council veteran Cecil Mingle who was the only incumbent

seeking re-election as councillor to be defeated in the November 10 elections. John Heleniak will be returning to his seat for a second term as the other Ward Three representative.

In Ward Four Hardee Richardson will be taking up his seat on council for his second term, joined by newcomer John Eacott. Carman Sweazey is also returning to council but will be representing the township as its councillor-at-large and member of county council.

Heading up the team once again is Mayor Jack Burn who was returned to office for a second term. He complimented the out-going council and the ad-

ministrative staff on their work during the past two-year term.

"I'm sure the next council will rise to the occasion and carry on the good work done by this council," he said.

Councillor Carman Sweazey, councillor-at-large on the new council, said the old council worked well together thinking of the overall good of the township.

"Council must think as one. It's the only way we can progress."

Following the inauguration of the new council on December 8, normal business of council will resume.





Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Gould of Otterville are pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter Lorrie Louise to Daniel Wane Groeneveld, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Groeneveld also of Otterville. Wedding is to be held at 5 p.m. on November 1, 1980 at Otterville.

## Christmas season busy for woodcrafter

Nov/80

By SUZANNE HANSON

He's in his workshop from eight in the morning until four in the afternoon but Colin Robinson doesn't mind the hours because he loves his work.

Mr. Robinson has been woodcrafting since he was a teenager, but what began as a casual hobby has become a full-time occupation for the 74-year-old retired pattern maker. With the Christmas season fast approaching, his days are filled completing the many orders for Christmas gifts.

Mr. Robinson began doing woodcrafting as a teenager when his parents gave him a kit of Hobbies fret-work tools made in England. All the

basic tools were in the kit such as a drill and plane, but on a smaller scale than the normal tools. Mr. Robinson still has some of the original tools from that kit.

When he began the woodcrafting, he basically made small picture frames and did fretwork on small shelves and tables. He has now branched out to doing these things on a much larger scale. He also makes plate-holders, mirror frames, bookcases, spoon racks, knick-knack shelves and a variety of other wood products.

Mr. Robinson has been working with wood for most of his life, even in his job from which he retired about

nine years ago. For 28 years he was a pattern maker for a steel company in Hamilton where he made the wooden patterns for various moulds.

After retiring, Mr. Robinson and his wife Alice moved to Otterville and he set up a workshop behind his garage. He spends many of his evenings drawing and planning the projects to be created. Many of his ideas come from people who ask him to make certain articles for them. Other ideas come from books and magazines.

Many people who request certain articles bring in their own wood to Mr. Robinson. Often in such cases he charges no fee for his work merely requesting that he be

allowed to keep the excess wood for his labors. For him, the task of working the wood is "a labor of love."

The prices he does charge for his work in no way represent the amount of work put into the items crafted by him.

"I feel I'm very lucky if I

get \$3 an hour for my work," said Mr. Robinson. He spends many hours on each article because he's fussy about the quality of his work, said his wife. All of his articles are well-made, she said. That's why she has never really become involved in the hobby. "He's

too fussy," laughs Mrs. Robinson. Instead she helps somewhat with the varnishing and the pricing of items and spends her spare time crocheting and knitting.

The two, although retired, are never idle. They keep busy with bowling, camping

(Continued on Page 4)

(Continued from Page 1)  
with the Canadian Federation of Family Campers and working with the Canadian Diabetic Association.

Camping has often provided Mr. Robinson with the raw materials for some of his work. There have been many times when he has found a piece of wood he could create from.

"I'm always on the lookout for a good piece of wood to work with. I often come home from camping laden with wood."

For the amount of wood he uses, there is no difficulty in

finding an adequate supply, said Mr. Robinson. There is also a good assortment of wood available in this area. Although he works with all types, his favorite wood to work with is walnut because of the look of the finished product. Cherry is more difficult to work with "because of the squirreliness of the grain."

"The tools must be exceptionally sharp to handle cherry," he said, "but it comes up beautifully."

Mr. Robinson never shies away from a challenge. "I'm willing to tackle any project," he said. "I thrive

on a challenge." All he needs is an idea in his head, a pencil and paper to work out the design and he gets to work creating.

So far there has been only one project he has turned down. That was a request from a friend for a three foot by five foot cribbage board. "It's a bit too large. Every hole has to be done individually," he said. He has made smaller cribbage boards in earlier years, however, that he is quite proud of.

Although he has not made it a practice to attend fairs

and craft shows, he did attend the Woodstock Fair this summer and was invited to take part in the displays at the International Plowing Match last month. Getting ready for those two events filled much of his time. The past few weeks have been filled with preparations for his open house to be held this weekend.

People are now aware of the quality of his work, he said and as more and more people take an interest in such quality handcrafted goods, his days no doubt will continue to be filled with work.



*Mr. and Mrs. Frank R. Gould*

*and*

*Mr. and Mrs. Paul E. Groenewald*

*request the honour of your presence*

*at the Wedding Dinner and Reception of*

*Lorrie Louise*

*and*

*Daniel Wane*

*on Saturday, the first of November*

*nineteen hundred and eighty*

*at seven o'clock*

*Langton Community Centre*

*Langton, Ontario*





### Handyman

Otterville resident Colin Robinson displays some of the beautifully crafted wooden products he has fashioned in his

home workshop. Many will be on display at his open house this weekend.



# Turkey dinner held by Leisure Club *Free*

OTTERVILLE (C) - The annual Christmas dinner for the members of the Otterville Leisure Club and friends, numbering 50 enjoyed a delicious turkey dinner served by the members of the United

Church Women in the United Church Hall on Wednesday, Dec. 10 at 12:30 p.m.

After the singing of grace, the members were given the best of attention by those catering and the members deeply appreciated the

1980  
noonday dinner. On behalf of the members, Colin Robinson, past-president of the club, thanked the ladies to which the president, Isobel Harris, responded. The members then went to the Woodlawn Centre where

they enjoyed a program. Harry Lee, a former president of the club, was the capable chairman and Mrs. Clarence Stover was the pianist for the singing of the Christmas carols which opened the program.

Readings were given by Mrs. Fred Moore, Mrs. John Pritchard and Mr. Lee. A piano solo "Star of the East" was played by Nellie Taylor. Out-of-town guests who assisted with the program were Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Stover of Springford, the former entertaining with Scottish songs accompanied by Mrs. Stover.

The Thorne brothers of Norwich were other guests who with guitar and violin played many fine selections and responded to many requests from the members. Several of the menfolk presented a short skit entitled "Fishing." This brought the day of dining and pleasure to a close.

Mr. Lee thanked everyone for their help in planning the entire day. Christmas Greetings were exchanged throughout the room and all had the opinion of a well-spent day.

## Swedish exchange student speaker at Lions meeting

OTTERVILLE (C) - Regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the Legion Hall, Norwich, on Monday, December 8 with president Gordon Shearer presiding. There were seventy-three present, including seventeen visitors from the Windham Township, Long Point, Vittoria, Ingersoll, Belmont and Delhi Lions Clubs.

There were also four non-Lions guests present.

Lion Bob Scott introduced the guest speaker Ake Lefquist, Rotary Club exchange student from Sweden

now attending Norwich District High School. He spoke about his homeland and showed several interesting slides. He was thanked by Lion Dr. Russell Hall and presented with a gift.

Past District Governor (A-I) Howard Scott of the Belmont Lions Club presented past-president Lion Bob Spek with his 100 per cent president's pin.

Minutes from the last executive meeting showed approval of the Club's donations to CARE, the

Norwich Boy Scouts, the N.D.H.S. Exchange student committee and to the Otterville Santa Claus parade.

Lion Tony Drescher was elected as a two-year club director.

Letters of appreciation were read from the Oxford County Branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society for the Lions Club sponsoring the recent successful blood donor clinic and from Ingrid Poredos, a winner of a Lions prize at the recent N.D.H.S. commencement.

The Lions Club will be inquiring regarding Christmas boxes for needy families within the community.

Convention draw was won by Lions Robert Demeyere (Long Point) and Ron McFarland (Ingersoll).

OTTERVILLE (C) - Violet Rebekah Lodge 330 held their first December meeting in the I.O.O.F. Hall beginning with a potluck supper at 7 p.m.

Husbands and friends were invited to the supper. Noble Grand Ilah Nant invited the members and guests to a well-laden table decorated with Christmas decorations. Grace was sung and everyone enjoyed the sumptuous supper.

A brief lodge meeting was conducted with N.G. Ilah Nant and P.N.G. Greta Smith acting as Vice Grand.

Later the visitors were invited upstairs where progressive euchre was played. A delightful evening was spent. Winners were: ladies' high, Esther Smith; ladies' low, Carrie Moore; gent's high, Bryce Smith; gent's low, Lorne Treffry; lone hands, lady, Olive Pickersgill; lone hands, man, Jim Squance.

There are still tickets left

to be sold on Mr. and Mrs. Snowman donated by our Noble Grand. Don't forget our next meeting December 15. Bring a Christmas cake and gift for the tree. Come and have a good time Sisters.

Past Noble Grands of Violet Rebekah Lodge held their annual Christmas dinner at the Runway Restaurant in Norwich.

Eleven members were present and all enjoyed the dinner. The remainder of the evening was spent at the home of the president Ethel Arthur in Otterville. Mrs. Arthur conducted a contest which was enjoyed by the ladies.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Olive Pickersgill the fourth Monday in January. Eva Deveney will assist the hostess.

Santa Claus appeared and distributed the gifts. Members thanked Mrs. Arthur for the enjoyable evening.

## Otterville has Optimists

A new service club to be known as the Optimist Club of Otterville, was officially organized December 2, 1980 with 38 men as charter members.

Lyle Davis of RR 1, Otterville, was elected president of the club, which will meet at Otterville Community Centre, first and third Tuesday of each month.

The club is affiliated with Optimist International, an association of more than 3,500 service clubs in the United States, Canada and Mexico with a total membership of more than 135,000 men. Operating under the slogan of 'Friend of Youth', Optimist clubs conduct a wide variety of youth activities and service projects in their communities. Optimist International Field Representative, Paul Gorman presided over the organization meeting and will be conducting indoctrination sessions with the new club's officers and committee chairmen during the next few days. The club was

sponsored by the Optimist club of Brownsville, Ontario and representatives of the sponsoring group were present at the official organization.

Jim Countryman of Otterville, was appointed secretary-treasurer of the new club. Jack Weeks, Springford and Bruce Ward, Otterville, were elected vice-presidents.

Elected to the board of directors were Dale Cheney, Springford; Harold Walker, Otterville; Bill Redman, Otterville; Wayne Murray, Otterville; Paul Scott, Springford; and Gord Kicksee, Otterville.

The Optimist club of Otterville becomes a part of the Ontario District of Optimist International.

Plans are being made for a charter presentation banquet at which Governor McLeod will officially install the officers of the new club. The program will also include the formal induction of all charter members.

## Sunshine Club meets

OTTERVILLE (C) - The Sunshine Club held their Christmas meeting at the home of Mrs. Fred Pearce with a good attendance. The roll call was suggested by Mrs. David Hussey.

The new slate of officers was presented as follows: Past President - Audrey Harrison; President - Mrs. David Hussey; 1st Vice President - Inga Irie; 2nd Vice President - Lily Chisholm; Secretary-Treasurer - Wanda Gould; Press Reporter - Etta McSkimming; Special Activities - Dorothy Wardell and Doreen Mountain; Good Cheer - Dorothy Neale.

Secret pals of the past year were revealed and gifts were exchanged.

The next meeting will be held Jan. 8, 1981 at the home of Evelyn Picknell. The lunch was served by Wanda Gould, Dorothy Wardell, Dorothy Neale, Inga Irie, Pat Clifford and Marjorie Pearce.

## Yule demonstrations at Otterville WI

OTTERVILLE (C) - The December Christmas meeting of the Otterville Women's Institute was held at the home of the president Vera Welsh.

The meeting opened with the motto followed with "The Lord's Prayer". In the absence of Mrs. Jack Walther, secretary-treasurer, the minutes were read by the president. The roll call was answered with the members telling their favorite preparation for Christmas.

A thank-you note was read from "The Beecrofts". Edith Petch gave a very interesting report from the Consumers magazine. Minor business was dealt with.

Mrs. Petch demonstrated suggestions for Christmas in which she had crocheted bells which were centred with a small silver bell. These were most attractive and each member was presented with a bell. Along with this Mrs. Petch showed the ladies how used Christmas cards can be cut into a bell-shape, sewn together with bright coloured cord to take the shape of a basket for greeting cards. The members also received a pattern of her work.

Another interesting demonstration was given by Isobel Harris who gave demonstrations on tying up that Christmas package and making bows. She also told of how one can save pennies by using old greeting cards for tags and by saving ribbon and paper from other packages which when finished gives the package a "new look". Mrs. Harris gave each member a pretty red ribbon bow.

Appreciation was expressed to the ladies who had made the evening both interesting and educational.

Due to other events on the same evening the attendance was low in number.

Miss Welsh was assisted by the social committee in

serving a dainty Christmas lunch.

### TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO DECEMBER 1955

Tillsonburg's stock car racing centre, Ascot Park Speedway, has been purchased from C.S. Williams by Arnold B. Swayze.

Vienna - Alex Procenko has bought out Archie Coyle.

Otterville - William Butler and Joseph Ash have purchased the building and equipment from the Slight Bros. and will take possession the first of March.



# UCW share dinner

OTTERVILLE (C) — The December Christmas meeting of the United Church Women was held in the schoolroom of the church on Thursday evening, December 18.

The meeting was preceded with a Bring and Share dinner at which there were 48 in attendance including our refugee family.

Mrs. H. Harris, president of the group, presided and welcomed all in attendance. Mrs. Harris read a poem "The Seasons". Mrs. Bert Hill was the convener of the meeting and Mrs. Jack Walther was the pianist.

Helen Davis, Vera Welsh and Gail Lewis gave readings on "The Spirit of Christmas" along with a meditation.

During the service Kathy Davis sang two solos "The Little Shepherd Boy" and "Let There Be Peace On Earth".

Bible readings and the singing of Christmas Carols telling the Christmas Story were told and sung.

Jean Hill gave the message, the theme being "The Gift of Peace." Rev. and Mrs. Moore were presented with a Christmas poinsettia to which each thanked the members.

Mrs. Moore presented gifts to our refugee family which they were happy to receive.

The evening was enjoyed by all present.

# Mrs. Fred Hill heads missionary fellowship

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Christmas meeting of the Women's Missionary Fellowship of the Otterville Baptist Church was held in the Sunday School room of the church.

The meeting was preceded by a Christmas dinner at 7 p.m. convened by Mrs. Brian Davis, Mrs. Jack Walters and Wilma Butler.

The president Mrs. Fred Hill opened the service by reading about the Babe of Bethlehem and that he was born to die. The roll call was answered by a Christmas verse followed by a reading of a letter from the Christian Service Centres. The Christmas offering was taken for Dr. Hazel Wigglesworth in the Philippines and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Pollard, in Africa.

The president announced that a baby shower will be held at the home of Mrs. Murray Treffry on December 9 at 7 p.m. for baby Teresa, daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Earl Cooper. We were asked to present our stamps to Mrs. Dwight Davis at our January meeting. The slate of officers

was read by Mrs. Bruce Stover.

They are as follows: past president, Mrs. Bruce Stover; president, Mrs. Fred Hill; first vice, Wilma Butler; second vice-president, Mrs. Brian Davis; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Charter Davis; pianist, Mrs. Delmer Clinton; good cheer convener, Mrs. Ken Lee; telephone convener, Mrs. Paul Hill; social committee, Mrs. Robert Butler, Mrs. Brian Davis, Mrs. Jack Walters, Mrs. Ken Lee.

Mrs. Butler read a letter received from our missionaries in Africa, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Pollard. Several ladies offered missionary prayers. In the absence of Mrs. Dwight Davis who prepared the devotional, Mrs. Fred Hill presented the program which opened with a poem "Ready For Christmas".

The Scripture reading Luke 2:1-20 was read in unison followed by a reading "If Christ Had Not Come" and a poem "Spirit of Christmas". Mrs. Wilma Butler played a medley of hymns at the piano.

Roses of Remembrance were placed on a wreath as

several ladies read about the different roses of a Christian's life: Mrs. Bruce Stover, Rose of Rejoicing; Mrs. Charter Davis, Rose of Redemption; Mrs. Davis Hill, Rose of Revelation; Mrs. Delmer Clinton, Rose of Repentance; Mrs. Jack Walters, Rose of Reconciliation; Mrs. Murray Treffry, Rose of Righteousness; Mrs. Wilma Butler, Rose of Resurrection; concluding with the reading of Philippians 1:3-6.

A play "The Strange Visitor" was acted out by Mrs. Brian Davis, Mrs. John Hansford, Mrs. Ted Oenema and Mrs. Bert Hill, explaining why Christ came as a human. The evening concluded with a gift exchange. Mrs. Murray Treffry gave the courtesy remarks.

# Supper ends contest at Sunday school

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Otterville Baptist Sunday school held a Family Supper to conclude a nine-week contest on Saturday evening.

Dwight Davis was the captain of the winning team and Mrs. Robert Marshall captain of the losers, who served the supper and were in charge of the clean-up following the supper.

Glen Kitchen of Courtland was the guest of honor and entertained everyone as Shorty the Clown.

Prizes were awarded in three departments and were presented by Pastor Earl Cooper. Winners in the adult department were Mrs. Bruce Stover, Mrs. John Hansford, and Mrs. Robert Marshall.

Senior department winners were Lisa Oenema, Terry Treffry, David Pathy, and in the junior department Michele Cooper, Bret Butler, and Crystal Davis were winners.

# Ornaments snatched

The Grinch tried to steal Christmas from Otterville.

Several Otterville residents awoke Tuesday to find the Christmas ornaments decorating their lawns had been snatched. Missing in the spree were several floodlights, two lawn candles, and a Santa Claus which had been sitting on the balcony of one of the homes. A deer sitting on the lawn of another residence was also smashed.

Investigating Officers Constables George Van Damme and Al Cassidy, of Tillsonburg OPP, said four youths were later charged with theft and mischief. Two of the youths were charged with four counts of theft, while the other two were charged with three counts. All property has been recovered. They are scheduled to appear in Tillsonburg court Jan. 21.

# Dismiss mischief charge

A charge of mischief against James Arthur, 69, of Otterville was dismissed in provincial court by Judge R.G. Groom on December 17.

Mr. Arthur was charged July 18, 1979 after breaking three windows of a house owned by Hedwig Stockmans. He pleaded not guilty in provincial court on November 21, telling the court the action had been done to avert any danger to his children.

"He did break the window to distract Stockmans from doing what Mr. Arthur thought he might do," Judge Groom said. "He didn't intend to smash any windows. People indiscriminately smash things but he thought it was a way of distracting Stockmans."

The question of whether Mr. Arthur was guilty of intent was raised and Judge Groom said he was satisfied the act was committed because children were under some danger.

Mr. Stockmans was found not guilty of second degree murder of his wife Sandra on December 20, 1980. The crown is now appealing the sentence.

# UCW conduct worship at Otterville church

OTTERVILLE (C) — In the United Church on Sunday, December 23, the members of the United Church Women were in charge of the worship.

The president Mrs. H. Harris presided and the service opened with the U.C.W. Purpose to unite all women of the congregation for the total mission of the Church, and to provide a medium through which they may express their loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian witness, fellowship and service.

Following the organ prelude, the call to worship was given in unison followed with Holy-Holy-Holy.

Mrs. Sam McSpadden led in prayer. Rev. Earl Moore presided for the Induction of Officers which are - past-president - Orris Beecroft; president - Isobel Harris; first vice-president - Jean Gehring; second vice-president - Betty Walther;

secretary - Lorraine Downing; corresponding secretary - Marion Moore; treasurer - Dorothy Neale; committee heads - program - Bertha Gehring; social committee - Jean Little and Betty Arthur; visitation and friend - Marion Taylor, Evelyn Waring; finance - Dorothy Neale; manse - Dorothy Neale; news letter editor - Cathy Davis; auditors - Shirley White and Jean Hill; nominations - Joyce Hanson and Orris Beecroft; archives - Edith Petch.

The Scripture lesson, from Ecclesiastes 3: 1-15, was read by Jean Carney. The responsive psalm was read by Mrs. Harris.

The choir sang for their anthem "May The Christmas Star Keep Shining" followed with the Pastor's Prayer by Mrs. Moore. The announcements were given by Mrs. Harris and Jean Gehring. Mrs. Rod Taylor,

Jean Little and Dorothy Neale received the offering.

Lorraine Downing gave the message "Purpose" which was much appreciated. The benediction and choral amens closed the impressive service.



# Curling executive

The ladies of the Norwich and District Curling Club have elected their executive for the coming season. They are above: (seated, left to right) Connie Cornwell, past president; Ruth Lenaers, president and Mary Orth, vice-president. The committee chairmen are: (standing, left to right) Marion Fiddin, benevolent committee; Deb Boyce, Bonspiel catering committee; Janet Daniel, second vice-president; Frances Richardson, draw committee and Edith Lees, secretary.



# Dertinger-Oliver vows at Langton

OTTERVILLE (C) — Purple candles in two white candelabra with swags of lilac and purple vanda orchids, pink roses and stephanotis at the front of the church, decorated Sacred Heart R.C. Church, Langton, on Friday, December 12, 1980, at 2 p.m. for the wedding of Shelley Marie Oliver, daughter of Mrs. Adam Oliver of Otterville, and the late Adam Oliver, and Michael Joseph Dertinger of RR 1, Walsingham, son of Mr. and Mrs. John E. Dertinger of Delhi. Two shades of purple vanda orchids and stephanotis, tied with lace ribbon, marked the guest pews. Rev. Fr. A.P. Spencer officiated. Organist, Mrs. Lloyd O'Grady of Langton, played Praise My Soul The King of Heaven as the Processional and Mendelsohn's Wedding March as the Recessional. Mrs. Jack Walther of Otterville, friend of the bride, sang Wedding Song before the bride entered the Church. The Wedding Prayer while the couple knelt for the blessing and Hawaiian Wedding Song during the signing of the register.

Given in marriage by her brother, Michael Oliver, the bride chose a floor-length, white gown, with chantilly lace bodice and sleeves with seed pearls embroidered around the sweetheart neckline, and a skirt of chiffon overlay with flounces on the bottom edged with chantilly lace. The skirt fell into a sweeping train at the back. She wore a matching headdress of chantilly lace embroidered with seed pearls, which held her fingertip veil edged with chantilly lace. The bride carried a crescent bouquet of three white cattleya orchids, two tone lilac and purple vanda orchids, pink roses and white stephanotis.

Matron of honor was Debbie Lee of Otterville, friend of the bride, and bridesmaids were Brenda Wissenz of St. Catharines, sister of the bride, Jacquie Dertinger of Delhi, sister-in-law of the groom, Linda DePoorter of Delhi and Debbie Shearer of Otterville, both friends of the bride. They wore identical, floor-length, sleeveless gowns in lilac quiana polyester, styled with cowl neckline and worn with a jacket. The dress was

gathered at the waist with a tie belt and featured a straight skirt. For a head-dress they wore a feather of white maribou with one lilac and a purple vanda orchid attached pinned in their hair and carried a white maribou muff with corsage of lilac and purple vanda orchids and pink roses on it.

Best man was Rene DePoorter of Delhi, friend of the groom, and ushers were Ted Dertinger, Patrick Dertinger, Jim Dertinger, all of Delhi, brothers of the groom, and Michael Barnucz of Edmonton, Alta., friend of the groom. The groom wore a white tuxedo and the best man and ushers wore grey tuxedos with lilac and purple vanda orchid boutonnières.

Dinner for 130 guests and reception for 300 was held at the Hungarian Hall in Delhi, decorated with purple candles and candelabra with swags of lilac and purple vanda orchids, pink roses and white stephanotis. Bride's table featured a three-tiered white wedding cake, decorated by Mrs. Hilton Davidson of Harley, aunt of the bride, and two large hurricane lamps with purple candles encircled with matching flowers. Guests' tables were decorated with small hurricane lamps decorated the same as the large ones.

For receiving guests, the bride's mother chose a floor-length gown of aubergine polyester satin, styled with a v-neck and full skirt and worn with a lace jacket and a corsage of dusky purple roses and pink vanda orchids. Groom's mother chose a floor-length gown of pink polyester crepe with long sleeves, a cowl neckline and flowing skirt, worn with a corsage of pink roses and lilac vanda orchids.

Master of ceremonies was Jack Dertinger, Jr., of Delhi, brother of the groom, and Henry Wissenz of St. Catharines, brother-in-law of the bride, gave the toast to the bride.

For a wedding trip to Florida and boat cruise to Nassau, Bahamas, the bride chose a purple velour pantsuit, worn with matching shoulder bag, white fur jacket and a corsage of lilac vanda orchids and pink rosebuds.

Guests were present from Toronto, St. Catharines, Hamilton, Burlington, Edmonton, Alta., and the surrounding area.

Mr. and Mrs. Dertinger are residing at RR 1, Walsingham.



MR. AND MRS. MICHAEL JOSEPH DERTINGER

Prior to the wedding, the couple was honored with showers given by Mrs. Donald McMullen of Otterville, for neighbors of the bride; a family shower by Mr. and Mrs. Jack Spicer of Brantford, aunt and uncle of the bride; one by Mrs. John E. Dertinger, Mrs. Keith Mawhiney and Mrs. Joe Hahn of Delhi, relatives of the groom; one by the bridesmaids at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Mel Smith of Otterville, for friends of the bride; and a stag given the groom by the best man and ushers.



## Casual dress

This casual look, from Threads 'N' Fashion, modelled by Paul Babcock is an example of the many new fashions for men this fall, shown at a fashion show sponsored by Tillsonburg's Parent Without Partners. Proceeds from the show go to children's Christmas gifts. (TN Photo)



Mrs. Evelyn Cooper of Tillsonburg and Mr. and Mrs. Donald Barnim of Otterville wish to announce the engagement of their children Deborah Ann and David Nelson. The wedding will take place on Saturday, December 6, 1980 at 7:00 p.m. at Otterville United Church.

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mr. and Mrs. Fred Pinnoy were Christmas Day guests with their son, Mr. Pierre Pinnoy, Mrs. Pinnoy and Shawn.

Dr. and Mrs. H.H. Batson, Miss Dorothy Wardell and Mr. Murray Wardell, Mrs. R.E. Pettigrew and Miss Gladys Nobbs were Christmas guests with Mr. and Mrs. Donald Pettigrew of Springford.

Misses Kim, Shelly and brother Marty Fallowfield were guests with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fallowfield in Woodstock.

Mr. and Mrs. Ross McMullen spent Christmas Day with Mr. and Mrs. Ross Kilgour at Ingersoll.

Mr. and Mrs. Colin Robinson were Christmas visitors with their sons Mr. and Mrs. Rodney Robinson at Hamilton and Mr. and Mrs. William Robinson at Stoney Creek.

Mr. and Mrs. Pierre Pinnoy and Shawn and Kim Fallowfield were Boxing Day guests with Mrs. Pinnoy's mother, Mrs. Morris at Woodstock.

Mrs. G.W. Hillier and Floyd of San Jose, Cal., spent Christmas week with relatives in Otterville and area. Miss Margaret Ann Hillier of London spent Christmas Day with them at the house of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Mann.

Mr. and Mrs. James Squance were holiday guests with Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Rice at Springford.



# Santa coming to Otterville

Dec 13/80

Santa Claus will be taking time off from his work at the North Pole preparing for Christmas to come to Otterville on Saturday to take part in the annual Santa Claus parade.

The parade gets underway at 1 p.m. with floats and participants requested to form up at the township shed around noon.

The parade will move down Main Street and end up

at the Otterville Public School where participants will be treated to hot chocolate and donuts and the prizes for the best floats presented.

The parade last year was the best ever in Otterville with 25 floats taking part. It is hoped this year's will be even bigger and better so come and enjoy the parade and say hello to old Saint Nick.

# Successful parade in Otterville

Otterville residents proved once again that a little community effort goes a long way as they successfully organized the community's biggest and best Santa Claus parade ever.

The parade, held in downtown Otterville Saturday afternoon, saw about 30 entries. Even the weatherman co-operated to provide pleasant, sunny weather for the event organized by MaryLou Pickering and Bernice DeGroot of Otterville.

Close to 275 youngsters descended on the Otterville Public School following the parade to sit on Santa's knee and enjoy hot chocolate and donuts provided free.

The winners in the parade for the best floats were: the First Otterville Guides, first, the Otterville Brownies, second and the Otterville and Springford Public Schools' float, third.

Every year the parade gets better, said Mrs. Pickering. It just keeps on growing.



## By the old mill

The South Norwich Historical Society showed the Otterville community its historic mill has not been forgotten. This

float depicts the historic Treffry mill, located in Otterville. (NG Photo).



## Optimists

These three lads greeted the many bystanders at the Santa Claus parade on Saturday from the Otterville Optimists club float. The club is newly formed in the community and supports sports and recreational activities. (NG Photo).

# Says careful planning needed for industrial park

By SUZANNE HANSON

The establishment of industrial parks can be "a costly and dangerous enterprise for a municipality" because of the necessary zoning, the services required for industry and the competition for those industries, said an industrial development consultant from the ministry of industry, trade and tourism, John Jacobson, in speaking to Norwich Township council Monday.

While he said he did not want to sound too negative, he warned council that very careful planning is involved in the proper establishment of an industrial park. The first hurdle is to obtain the proper zoning on the property, said Mr. Jacobson. Then a detailed marketing plan on how the municipality

proposes to sell and promote the property must be established.

"With the big competition today it is increasingly difficult to sell unserviced lots," said Mr. Jacobson. "The industries want everything there."

With today's increasingly competitive market for industry, he stressed the importance of finding out if there are industries interested in going into the industrial park before any money is spent on it.

How the municipal officials present themselves, and how aggressive they are in seeking out industry has a lot to do with whether an industry will locate in that municipality.

"There has been no new industry in Woodstock for eight years while Tillson-

burg has had two, but it has a very aggressive industrial commissioner," said Mr. Jacobson.

The township has to "go out and promote," he said.

Mayor Jack Burn agreed with Mr. Jacobson. "Tillsonburg is not sitting around like we have been for years," he said. "We've got to get off our butts and get going. We've got to get out there and promote this thing."

Mr. Jacobson said the municipality "must come up with a darn good excuse why they (industries) should go to Norwich rather than to other areas."

But while marketing plans, promotions, zoning and services for industry are all important, the most important thing is that council is 100 per cent for the industrial park, said Mr.

Jacobson. It is also important that the people in the municipality are for it. He advised council to take their proposals to the people and clear away any objections to it first.

Mr. Jacobson said there is ministry assistance in the way of loans available to municipalities to set up industrial parks. But he said that assistance is only available to those municipalities who are keenly interested and willing to get out and promote the idea to industries.

"The ministry will not support a park just for the sake of supporting it. There must be some basis for success," he said.

The Township of Norwich has purchased roughly 7.5 acres of land in Norwich for industrial development. A proposed plan for the in-

dustrial park should be near future, said Mayor presented to council in the Burn.

Water rate increases of 17 per cent for Norwich and 20 per cent for Otterville were approved by the committee.

If county council approves the by-laws, Norwich residents will pay \$7 monthly or \$84 annually while Otterville residents will pay \$6 monthly or \$72 annually for water beginning Jan. 1.

Metered customers in Norwich will pay a minimum \$10 monthly charge while customers outside Norwich will pay \$10.50 a month or \$126 a year.

London Dec 12/80



# Urges council work together

Norwich Township Mayor Jack Burn in his inaugural address warned members of the new township council not to think only of their own wards but to work together for the common good of the whole township.

"It is important that we do not sacrifice the Township of Norwich by being over-protective of our own wards."

Mayor Burn also pointed out several major issues that will be before council in the days ahead. Among them are the purchase of the Treffry mill property; the closing of the Holbrook landfill site; the implementation of the county fire communications and alert system; the establishment of an industrial park in Norwich; the implementation of Section 86 of the Assessment Act and to oversee the planned and orderly growth of the township.

He also reflected on the concerns outlined by him in his inaugural address given at the commencement of the new council two years ago. At that time, the major concern to be addressed by council was the threat of annexation of land in Norwich Township by other municipalities.

"That did not become as big an issue as I thought it would," said Mayor Burn. Other issues of concern to him and the council two years ago included dealing with the report on the Otterville well and working with the Norwich Public Utilities Commission to increase the water supply in

Norwich. A well was purchased in the west end of Norwich this year effectively increasing the water supply to a satisfactory level.

Another issue of major concern two years ago was the installation of stoplights at the main intersection in Norwich. That has since been approved and work begun. It is hoped the lights will be in place before Christmas, said Mayor Burn.

With proposed development in the village of Norwich, council two years ago was also faced with a review of the sewage system in the village but that review was shelved when the development failed to materialize.

The last council also saw the passing of another major change in the county's official plan the amendment of Bill 95 to permit the municipalities to purchase industrial land, which Norwich Township has done in the village of Norwich.

Mayor Burn asked for the continued support of the councillors, the township



MAYOR JACK BURN

staff and the constituents in carrying out the future business of the township.

## Norwich council names committees

Members were appointed to the various committees, authorities and boards for Norwich Township council at its inaugural meeting on Monday.

The councillors and other individuals serving on those committees for 1980-81 are as follows:

### RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Chairman Darrell Force; Members Carman Sweazey, Jack Lester, John Eacott, Lyle Davis and Jack Burn.

### PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY

Chairman Helen Smith; Members Carman Sweazey, John Eacott, Robert Pettigrew, John Heleniak and Jack Burn.

### AGRICULTURE

Chairman Hardee Richardson; Members Mel Smith, Jack Lester, Darrell Force, Lyle Davis and Jack

Burn.

### PUBLIC WORKS

Chairman Robert Pettigrew; Members Hardee Richardson, Mel Smith, John Heleniak, Helen Smith and Jack Burn.

Appointments were also made to the various conservation authorities. Councillor Jack Lester and former member of council Roger Orth were appointed to the Long Point Region Conservation Authority for 1980-81. Mr. Orth was a member of the authority's executive.

Ken Peers was appointed by the township to the Grand River Conservation Authority for the 1981-82 term; George Thornton was appointed to the Upper Thames Conservation Authority and Councillor Robert Pettigrew was appointed to the tri-county local agricultural manpower board.

## Norwich council goes on telly

By SUZANNE HANSON  
Norwich Township councillors will soon become television personalities when Nor-Del Cablevision begins the taping of council proceedings.

After some discussion at its meeting last week, council voted to permit the local cable company to tape the twice-monthly meetings in the council chambers to be shown over the community channel.

Although council approved the move, it was not without reservations on the part of some councillors.

"It might make a few of us clean up our act, but I don't think we want to be seen on TV," said councillor Mel Smith. "It might hold a few people back on saying what they mean if they're looking at a TV camera."

But Councillor John Heleniak who made the motion to permit the televising of the meetings, said it would be a good way to stimulate more interest in the community in council.

"It's a perfect opportunity for people who are interested in council proceedings but don't want to come down and watch."

However, Councillor Jack Lester suggested that most people who are really interested are able to find a way to council one way or another.

Mr. Smith suggested that council place advertisements in the newspaper to make people aware of the meetings and to let them know they are welcome to attend.

"It's surprising how many

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

people don't know they can come to a council meeting."

While Mayor Jack Burn admitted he is probably one of the most bashful people on council, he pointed out the proceedings in the council chambers are public information. He said televising them could provide a useful community service for the older members of the community who cannot attend council meetings but are interested in its proceedings.

The service, which will be available to Norwich and Otterville cable television subscribers, will be taped initially and later shown live. Mr. Smith suggested that council try it as an experiment for a few months to see how it works and take

another vote then to see if council would like to continue with it.

At present municipal council meetings in Ingersoll and Woodstock are televised on community cable channels.

"I know people I talk to in Woodstock like watching the monkeys in the ring," said Mayor Burn.

It was jokingly suggested by township clerk Bob Watkins that a note be put across the bottom of the television screen to warn that some scenes and language may be offensive to viewers.

Mayor Burn said he hopes televising the meetings will not hamper any discussion and councillors will still voice their opinions if they feel strongly about something.

# Norwich Township Council Briefs

## Building inspector appointed

A chief building official and building inspector was pointed by Norwich Township council at its meeting week to serve the Township of Norwich.

## Motion defeated

A recommendation that the Township of Norwich tenders for a new 1981 police cruiser was defeated at a meeting of the protection to persons and property committee. The matter has been deferred to the budget discussions.

## Ice rink flooding

Council has no objections to the use of fire equipment once or twice a year for the purpose of flooding an rink on public property. The time of the firemen doing the work is to be donated unless flooding takes place on a regular training night.

## Parking problem

A letter is to be sent from Norwich Township council to the Post Office in Norwich advising them of the fire department's concern over the parking of vehicles close to the garage doors thus preventing the fire truck from leaving the building in the case of a fire.

## Purchase of dishes

The East Oxford Advisory committee is to investigate the purchase of dishes, cutlery and a floor polisher required for the Oxford Centre Hall. A report is to be submitted to the recreation committee before budgets are considered.

## Rental facilities

The South Norwich library board is to investigate the possibility of renting accommodations for the Otterville library as one alternative to the prospect of a new library building to solve the problem of inadequate facilities in the Otterville Hall.

## Request deferred

Requests last week to Norwich Township council from the Salvation Army, the Tillsonburg fair board and the local Red Cross Society for funds were deferred for consideration in the 1981 budget.

## Grant received

The Norwich Curling Club is the recipient of a Wario grant in the amount of \$22,738 to help pay for renovations to the curling club building done two years ago after the building was condemned.

## Seek Otterville seniors' apartment

Norwich Township council agreed to ask the ministry of housing to investigate the possibility of establishing a senior citizens apartment building in Otterville.

The ministry will be requested to gather information and report to council on the feasibility of establishing such a complex in Otterville. The building, similar to the Winston Manor complex in Norwich, would not cost the municipality anything but would be sponsored by the federal and provincial governments, said councillor John Heleniak.

There would have to be at least 20 people in the township interested in such a residence for it to gain ministry support. "I don't think there would be any problem getting 20 eligible people," said Councillor Mel Smith.

Township Clerk Robert Watkins informed council that once the ministry receives a request for such a residence from the township a questionnaire is circulated in the township to determine the interest in it.

"There would probably have to be more interest shown in it than 20 people he said.

The occupants of such a building must be 65 years of age and the rent is based on their individual incomes. It is not low rental housing.

Mr. Watkins said the ministry will probably take into consideration the fact that there is already one such unit in the township of Norwich.

Councillor Helen Smith said there were problems a few months ago in obtaining residents to occupy the



# Township council moves to close two unopened Hawtreys streets

Steps will be taken by Norwich Township council to close two streets in Hawtreys at the request of some of the residents on those streets.

Hawtreys resident Robert Heath made the request to council last week for the closing of portions of Superior and Gore Streets.

He asked that Superior Street be closed from Railway Street to Neilson

and Gore Street from Main Street to Superior. They are now classed as unopened road allowances but have not been maintained by council for a number of years. Mr. Heath said the streets are maintained as part of the lawns of the residents fronting on them and there is no indication that any streets are there.

Mr. Heath told council he

would like to put up a utility shed on his property, but there is not enough room on his lot without using the Railway Street road allowance.

Township clerk Bob Watkins said council would have to advertise the proposed closures for three consecutive weeks to allow for objections from residents

in the area. He said a survey would also be required to close the streets. If the streets are closed, the landowners on each side would be entitled to one half of the road allowance.

Council voted to close the streets with the condition that the legal costs involved be paid or assumed by the ratepayers involved.

## No more objections to Powell expansion

By SUZANNE HANSON

The last remaining objection to plans for the expansion of Powell Agri-Systems in Otterville was withdrawn on Monday, removing the final barrier to the plant's much-needed expansion.

Norwich Township council was advised of the withdrawal only minutes after an inaugural address by Mayor Jack Burn outlined the Powell expansion as one of the major concerns facing council in the days ahead.

Although the Ontario Municipal Board hearing was still scheduled for today, the reason for the hearing — the objections to the severance and rezoning of the property to permit Powell's expansion — have all been eliminated.

There wasn't time to cancel the hearing, said Mayor Burn, but he said Monday he could see no problems in gaining the

board's approval for the severances and industrial rezoning of the 13-acre parcel of property.

Notice that the final objector Hugh Zimmer had withdrawn was received at the township office by mail Monday morning.

"It sure is a Christmas present for Otterville and the Township of Norwich," said Mayor Jack Burn. There were originally eight objections to the plant's expansion but through the joint efforts of council and the community, those objections were eliminated.

"The people (objecting) exercised their democratic right," said Mayor Burn. "They had fears and by the people calling on them those fears were eliminated."

He said the entire situation taught council a valuable lesson — that they should go to the people first to explain a situation.

Powell had been con-

sidering relocating the plant in South-West Oxford Township should the Ontario Municipal Board hearing go against the company's expansion plans in Otterville.

Powell has been attempting to expand its cramped facilities for two years but has been delayed by objections from neighboring landowners.

The outcome of the hearing today was unavailable at press time, but Powell's secretary-treasurer Gerry Lynch said Tuesday the hearing was merely a formality. He said the company is extremely pleased the objection has been withdrawn but said an official statement will be made following the hearing.

Powell is one of the largest industries in the township, employing about 110 people, mostly from the Otterville area. It manufactures tobacco equipment and supplies.

## Otterville to keep Powell

Powell Agri-Systems will remain at its Otterville location, company officials announced this morning after an Ontario Municipal Board hearing in Otterville.

The last remaining objection to Powell's expansion plans in Otterville was withdrawn Monday, too late to cancel the OMB hearing.

The OMB approved the severances and rezoning for the Powell expansion plans in Otterville in light of the lack of opposition.

The only testimony at the hearing came from Donald Kaufman, of the county planning department who said the plans conformed with the official plan and zoning bylaws.

Gerry Lynch, secretary-treasurer of Powell's in Otterville was delighted with the OMB decision.

"It's good news this morning," he said after the hearing. "This is what we wanted. This gives us room to expand in Otterville."

Expansion plans are ready but they have been put on the shelf for the winter. Mr. Lynch said the company would probably begin its expansion in the spring.

Powell has been attempting to expand its Otterville operation for about two years. The company, which manufactures tobacco kilns, bins, and racks, first applied for a minor variance to Norwich Township council in late 1979 to allow for expansion. This was turned down at an OMB hearing, as was another expansion proposal in the spring of 1980.

Powell's most recent plan, to purchase a 13 acre tract across the street from its existing operation, originally met with eight objections necessitating the OMB hearing.

Because Powell officials anticipated delays due to the hearing, the old McConnell nursery site north of Ostrander in South-West Oxford Township was considered as a possible new location for the plant.

South-West Oxford Township council was approached and a minor variance was granted to allow Powell to move in, though the company was still negotiating a deal to purchase the land from the receivers.

South-West Oxford Mayor Cecil Wilson said he was "not surprised" the last objection to the Otterville expansion plan was withdrawn, but expressed no regret about Powell's decision not to move.

"We're not out anything," said Mr. Wilson. "We didn't lose something we didn't have."

He said the McConnell property is still up for sale, and if it was being considered for purchase, changes could be made in the zoning without a minor variance. Mr. Wilson said outside storage is now allowed on the property, and all that is needed is for the purchaser to approach council to draw up an agreement about the type and placement of materials to be stored.

## Expansion approved

# Plant not moving from Otterville

OTTERVILLE (Bureau) — Powell Agri-Systems Ltd. is expanding and will definitely not move from its location here, treasurer Gerry Lynch said Wednesday.

The confirmation follows approval by the Ontario Municipal Board at a hearing Wednesday for a severance and rezoning of 77 acres across the street from the plant.

Lynch said the company will expand on the 18-acre severed parcel, rezoned from agricultural to commercial. He said construction may begin in the spring.

The extent of expansion is undetermined, Lynch said. Details will be released when the project goes through the planning approval stage. "We're very pleased to stay in Otterville. This is good news for us."

In addition to the severance and rezoning, OMB chairman William Dyer also approved severing another 47 acres from the site to an adjoining farm. The remaining 12 acres will be retained by the site owner.

The Powell severance was origin-

ally opposed by seven neighboring residents, but none attended the hearing after being persuaded to withdraw by committees of village residents and township officials.

"I'm gratified to everyone involved who made it possible," said Norwich Mayor Jack Burn.

The objectors had prompted Powell, which employs 105 persons in the manufacture of tobacco harvesting equipment, to consider relocating 10 kilometres north of Tillsonburg.

Lynch said a decision has not been made regarding use of this site. It

has not been purchased by the company, but if economic conditions permit, the site may be bought for a second location, he said.

However, Lynch added the possibility of buying this site is less likely following confirmation of the Otterville expansion.

The company has been trying to expand for more than a year, saying its plant is "hemmed in on all sides." An OMB hearing last year to expand the current plant closer to the street was blocked by neighbors who complained of possible noise.

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L.F. PRESS



N G DEC. 3

# Appeal OMB decision on severances

By SUZANNE HANSON

An Ontario Municipal Board decision to grant three severances of residences from farm properties in Norwich Township is being appealed by Oxford County.

The decision of the board, received Nov. 21, gives permission to three area tobacco farmers to sever a parcel of land containing a house from their farm property. In each of three severance applications by Michel and Mary Jacques, RR 1, Norwich; John and Caroline Prohammer, RR 1, Norwich and Don and Arabella Hutchison, RR 2, Tillsonburg, the homes to be severed are secondary residences and were all in existence before the county's official plan prohibiting such severances came into effect.

The county is appealing the decision because it could set a dangerous precedent for future severances, said Norwich Township Clerk Bob Watkins.

"It has implications," he

said. "Any farm that has more than one dwelling in existence prior to the passing of the official plan would have a fair chance of getting one (a severance) based on this decision."

Since the official plan cannot be made retroactive to include those residences in existence before the official plan, the county has no choice but to appeal the decision, said Mr. Watkins.

The county appeals the decision to an internal board of the OMB which reviews the decision of the board chairman who conducted the hearing. That internal board either overrules the decision of the chairman Cornell Ebers, or upholds it, said Mr. Watkins.

The township had instructed its solicitor to seek clarification of the ruling prior to the county's appeal. In his ruling, Mr. Ebers suggested the severances be granted and the zoning bylaws be changed from the rural-residential designation

to an A-2, general

agriculture designation.

That designation would be in violation of the township's bylaws which require a minimum lot size of 50 acres in an A-2 zone, said Mr. Watkins. It would be creating an illegal parcel of land.

He said he could understand the imposition of an A-2 special designation as that would allow the lot size to be specified.

A rural-residential zone can create problems in an agricultural area as there are restrictions on agricultural activities within a certain proximity to a residence.

Mr. Watkins said the township solicitor will probably wait for word on the appeal before proceeding with the request for clarification.

When the matter first came before the OMB Sept. 30, it was to hear the appeals of decisions of the Oxford County land division com-

mittee not to allow the severances or the rezoning of the properties from agricultural to rural residential. Both were approved earlier by Norwich Township council.

At the time of the hearing, board chairman Mr. Ebers, questioned the wisdom of not having a provision for preferential treatment for farmers included in the official plan. He also pointed

out that in all three cases the homes were in existence before the approval of the official plan; all three owners are farmers and all three intend to retire in one of the houses on the farm.

## Editorial Opinion

### *Otterville keeps its industry*

Good news for Otterville. The Powell Agri-Systems operation will remain in the village.

Powell, frustrated in its earlier efforts to expand operations, and faced again with a possibility that it would be denied growing room, had laid it on the line: Either we are allowed to grow, or we will be forced to go.

The community rallied behind the company, realizing the impact loss of the company would have on the local economy. Mass meetings were held and petitions were signed, supporting company efforts to have a 13-acre site rezoned to accommodate an assembly plant, service shop and showroom.

The support was not surprising. Powell is one of the largest industries in Norwich township, employing 110 persons, mostly from Otterville area, and pumping about \$1 million in payroll back into the community.

While efforts to accommodate the company continued, Powell sought a safety valve for itself, dickering for the former McConnell Nursery plant north of Ostrander and necessary minor variances. Gradually, the few Otterville property owners objecting to rezoning of the land for Powell withdrew, convinced that the greater good of the community outweighed personal doubts about possible negative effects the plant expansion might have on their own properties. Finally, the Ontario Municipal Board, in a hearing reduced to a mere technicality, gave the final approval.

The most heartening thing about the whole episode was the attitude of the people of Otterville. Industry these days seems to be getting more than its share of criticism from all quarters. But in Otterville there was a full realization of what this industry meant to the community, and the positive attitude of the people made sure Powell remained there.

This same attitude could also be the deciding factor in attempts to preserve the Treffry mill property as an historic and scenic attraction for the village and for the whole area.

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# Outstanding women of Oxford county

In the late 1800's and early 1900's it was unusual for women to be involved in any profession outside the home. In spite of that fact, there were many who did take on outside professions and many who were leaders in their community.

A few of these women grew up in this area and went on to accomplish recognition in their field. Articles on these women have been written in a book called "Outstanding Women of Oxford County" compiled by the Oxford County board of education under the government's Experience '79 program. The project was continued this year to document the accomplishments of more Oxford County women.

The 1979 book was written and illustrated by Brenda Dyer, Sarah Kolasiewicz and Donna Stevenson.

Included in the book is Alma Clutton, the first woman photographer in Norwich.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.L. Clutton, Alma was a well-known photographer in Norwich for 50 years. Born in Norwich in 1873, she nourished an interest in a profession rarely associated with women at that time.

In the late 1800's she travelled to Detroit where she studied photography under the direction of F.W. Schaldenbrad. Returning to Norwich, she set up her studio on Main Street, above what is now Irving's

Department Store. At that time it was called the Clutton Block and from her studio there she taught several young people the art of photography.

One of the young people to apprentice under Miss Clutton for three years was Jean Gainfort Merrill. She then moved to Toronto to open her own studio, later becoming the first female member of the Canadian Press Photographer's Union.

Much of the work Miss Clutton did in her studio was individual portraits and family photos. Cameras then were cumbersome and expensive and the developing process complicated so they were seldom owned by the average person. Studios such as Miss Clutton's were usually the only places for individuals or families to obtain photographs of themselves.

These studios were often prepared with backdrops, props and special lighting and the photographs taken were usually posed and unnatural looking. The subjects had to sit rigid and motionless while the picture was being taken as the camera's shutter was open for as long as 10 minutes at a time.

Sometimes a brace was attached at the back of the head to ensure there was no movement while the camera shutter was open. At that time glass negatives and tintype photos were the norm. Many of these negatives

and photos make up part of the collection housed at the Norwich and District Archives. The collection includes 1,500 plates and 2,400 glass negatives. Many of Miss Clutton's photos have provided valuable insights into the early history of the Norwich community.

Miss Clutton died on October 10, 1955 at the age of 82. She had lived a quiet life, reading extensively but taking part in few other outside activities other than the Norwich Pioneers Society. She contributed many of her antiques to the museum.

## Commemorative stamp

By SUZANNE HANSON

A commemorative stamp honoring a former Norwich resident and Canada's first female doctor, Emily Jennings Stowe, will be launched in Norwich in March.

Norwich Township council decided at its meeting Monday to investigate the possibility of having a historic plaque erected at the residence in Norwich where Dr. Stowe was born, to coincide with the stamp launching.

The Stowe stamp is one of several in a series being issued by Canada Post to commemorate the women's movement in Canada. Dr. Stowe, who was born in Norwich in 1851, was also a leader in the suffragette movement in Canada.

The stamp will be launched officially with a ceremony and reception to be held either at the post office or the Stowe birthplace in March, said Norwich Township councillor John Heleniak. He said the township clerk Robert Watkins is to investigate the possibility of having the Ontario Heritage Foundation erect the historic plaque but suggested the short amount of time to arrange it (three months) may present a problem.

The plaque would be erected at the site of Dr. Stowe's birthplace on Albert Street, now the home of Cornelius VanVliet.

The exact date for the launching of the stamp has yet to be determined.

for Emily Stowe



### Resident honored

Former Norwich resident Emily Stowe will be honored with the launching of a commemorative stamp in March. Dr. Stowe was the first female doctor in Canada and was born in Norwich in 1851.





# Emily Stowe was Canada's first woman doctor

Licensed doctors were few and far between in the rural communities of Canada in the 1800's making it necessary for women to offer their own services as midwives and lay doctors when needed.

This was especially true in Oxford County, where the Quaker population supported the equality of men and women and encouraged generosity and helpfulness as the qualities of a good neighbor. Thus, many women took on the tasks of tending the sick when professional doctors were not available.

The Norwich community, being a well-established Quaker community, saw many of these "unlicensed practitioners". But women eventually felt the need for better medical standards and as a result some began to seek admission to medical schools to become professionals in that field.

Canada's first female doctor, Emily Jennings Stowe, the great-granddaughter of Peter Lossing, was born to a Quaker couple, in Norwich on May 1, 1831. At age 15 she began to teach grade school in the Norwich area and eventually, by saving her salary, was able to enter Normal School where she was awarded her First Class Teacher's Certificate in 1854. The same year Miss Jennings was appointed as principal of the Brantford Public School becoming the first woman principal in Canada.

In 1856 Emily married a carriage-maker, John Stowe, and moved with him to Mount Pleasant. There she had their three children, Augusta, John and Frank. She was forced to return to teaching when her husband developed tuberculosis and was confined to a sanatorium to regain his health.

Although paid only one-third of the salary that male teachers were paid, Emily still supported that family and did so again when her husband John recovered and returned to school to fulfill

his lifelong dream of becoming a dentist.

The illness of her husband and the desire for a more comfortable income helped Emily decide to go into medicine. She applied to the faculty of medicine at Victoria College in Toronto but found that no female students were accepted.

Throughout her life her Quaker values had encouraged girls to become educated and pursue interests outside the home with women being taught on an equal basis with men. Quakers strongly believed that women were to have equal partnership in the affairs of church and state as well as in the home.

It was these Quaker values that encouraged Emily to pursue her medical career. Heading south of the border, she enrolled at the New York Medical College for women, established by Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, a pioneer woman doctor of the United States.

The college had just been established prior to Emily's acceptance there.

Emily Jennings Stowe became the first woman doctor in Canada in 1867 when she returned home to Ontario to set up practice in Toronto.

But her problems did not end there. Because she was not a member of the Ontario college of Physicians and Surgeons, she was accused of practising medicine illegally as male doctors feared the loss of female and infant patients to her.

Any graduate of an American medical school was required to attend one session of lectures at a recognized Ontario medical school before being allowed to practice.

At first Dr. Stowe ignored the law, continuing to offer her medical services as



## Stowe residence

Norwich Township council is attempting to have a historic plaque erected in front of the house, now owned by Cornelius VanVliet, on Albert Street, in Norwich, to coincide

with the launching of a stamp honoring Canada's first female doctor, Emily Jennings Stowe. Dr. Stowe was born in this house in 1851.

discreetly as possible and collecting produce and homemade goods as payment. But she was fined, threatened with jail sentences and attacked by the press for her actions.

Finally, after attending one session of lectures at a Toronto medical school in the 1870's she was recognized as a licensed physician and was able to practice legally in Ontario.

Life was made so difficult for the first medical women that most of them became rampant suffragettes by the time they succeeded in graduating. Dr. Stowe was one of those who worked to further the cause of women in the medical profession.

Dr. Stowe's daughter Augusta was the first woman to obtain a medical degree from a Canadian university when she graduated in 1883 from the Toronto School of Medicine, affiliated with Victoria College.

## Report premature on Stowe stamp

A report in last week's paper regarding the issuance of an Emily Jennings Stowe commemorative stamp was at the least premature.

A spokesman for the Public Affairs branch of Canada Post in London, Mike Roy, said Friday the program of stamps for 1981 has yet to be decided upon by the Post Master General.

Although Emily Stowe is one of four outstanding Canadian women being considered for the 1981 stamps as part of a series on the women's movement in Canada, no final decision on them has been made. It is possible that a stamp on Emily Stowe may not even be issued, said Mr. Roy.

Information had been obtained from the Norwich Archives last week that the stamp was to be issued and launched in Norwich sometime in March, but Mr. Roy said that while it is

possible the stamp may be issued and launched in Norwich, it is just as likely it could be launched elsewhere.

Mr. Roy said it is not known when the final program of 1981 stamps will be announced, but said it will be sometime in the new year.

A request came before Norwich Township council at its last meeting requesting aid in erecting a historic plaque at what was then believed to be the site of Dr. Stowe's birthplace on Albert Street in Norwich, to coincide with the stamp launching.

But some question has since been raised as to whether Dr. Stowe was actually born in Norwich or whether she was born in South Norwich.

Dr. Stowe, born in 1831, was the first female doctor in Canada. She was also a champion for women's rights in Canada.



# Optimistic Stowe stamp will be issued

By SUZANNE HANSON

While plans are still tentative at this time, a Canada Post employee in London, Colin Cross, said he is 95 per cent certain an Emily Stowe commemorative stamp will be issued in 1981.

Mr. Cross, retail sales specialist for the south-western district, said in an interview last week, he did not want to build up anyone's hopes, but he is hopeful the stamp issuance "will become an eventuality".

He sought to clear up the earlier confusion caused when another employee from the public affairs branch, Mike Roy, stated the

program of stamps had not yet been decided and in fact the Emily Stowe stamp might not be issued. Mr. Cross said he was away from work due to illness at the time Mr. Roy contacted the newspaper. Mr. Cross said Mr. Roy was not as familiar with the preparation for the stamp's issue.

"If as is planned, a stamp commemorating Dr. Emily

Stowe is to be launched in March, I plan to have a local launch in Norwich," said Mr. Cross. "The ideal backdrop to a formal launch ceremony would be to have the stamp launched at Dr. Stowe's birthplace."

But at this point, the possibility of a public launch at the site is only just that—a possibility, said Mr. Cross. The issue of the stamp is,

however, "a strong probability", although the date of issue is subject to change. It is tentatively scheduled for early March.

He said the Post Master General's approval of the 1981 program may have already reached him but until he sorts through the backlog of material waiting for him on his return to work, he will not know.

Once the program is finalized, "Early in January I shall start formulating definite plans for the launch," he said. "The idea was mine so I very much want to see the launch take place."

When a stamp is launched there is an official ceremony with some noteworthy individuals on hand to cut the ribbon, ideally at the site of her birthplace, to declare the

stamp formally launched, said Mr. Cross. Suitable memorabilia of the occasion is also provided with a reception following the ceremony.

The Township of Norwich council is also investigating the possibility of having a historic plaque erected at Dr. Stowe's birthplace to coincide with the stamp launching.

## Barnim - Cooper vows said

OTTERVILLE (C) — Small candelabra decorated each window and two large candelabra with sprays of cranberry red roses and white lace decorated the front of Otterville United Church on Saturday, December 6, 1980, at 7 p.m.

for the wedding of Deborah Ann Cooper of Tillsonburg and David Nelson Barnim of Toronto, formerly of Otterville. Rev. Earl Moore of Otterville United Church, assisted by Pastor Dennis Anderson of Lindsay, conducted the service. Mrs.

Betty Walther played a prelude of several Hymns and Christmas Carols. During the service Doug and Sherill Babbey of Springford, friends of the bride and groom, sang There is Love (Wedding Song) and Time in a Bottle, accompanied by Doug on the guitar.

The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Evelyn Cooper of Tillsonburg, formerly of Otterville, and the late Lorne Cooper, and the groom is the son of Donald and Margaret Barnim of RR 2, Otterville.

Escorted down the aisle by the groom, the bride chose a white satin gown, styled with empire waist and featuring ruffles around the bodice and a floor-length train. She wore a white hat with white chiffon brim and veil down the back and carried an open Bible with a spray of red roses with white lace.

Maid of honor was Jean Verzyl of Norwich, friend of the bride, bridesmaid was Christine Lewis of Norwich, friend of the bride, and junior bridesmaid was Cathy Demarest of Lynedoch, cousin of the groom. They wore similar, sleeveless, floor-length gowns of cranberry red velour with matching jacket trimmed with white maribou. The maid of honor and bridesmaid wore white muffs with a corsage of cranberry red roses and white lace on the muff, and

the junior bridesmaid carried a small bouquet of cranberry red roses and white lace.

Best man was Jim Oleynik of Dubreuville, friend of the groom, and usher was Wayne Murray of Otterville, friend of the groom. Junior usher was Timmy Walter of Hagersville, cousin of the groom. They all wore black tuxedos and white shirts with a red rose in the lapel.

Reception for 450 guests was held at the Norwich Community Centre, decorated for the occasion with pink and white streamers and bells hanging from the ceiling. Bride's table featured a three-tiered wedding cake with white candles up the right side, topped with four white bells, and flanked with a spray of cranberry red roses. Roses decorated the guests' tables.

For receiving guests, the bride's mother chose a pale grey ensemble with lilac and burgundy flowers, and wore

a corsage of burgundy orchids. Groom's mother chose a blue polyester knit gown worn with a multi colored blue chiffon cape and a corsage of white orchids.

Bride's gifts to her attendants were a pearl necklace to the maid of honor and bridesmaid and a silver locket to the junior bridesmaid. Groom's gifts were engraved silver pen sets to the best man and usher and an ID bracelet to the junior usher.

For a wedding trip to Deerhurst Inn, Huntsville, the bride wore a royal blue velour suit with multi-colored blouse, worn with black accessories and a corsage of white roses and pale orange water lilies.

Guests were present from Calgary, Alta., Dowling, London, Toronto, Peterborough, Durham, Windsor, Lindsay and the Norwich-Otterville area.

Mr. and Mrs. Barnim are residing in Toronto.



MR. AND MRS. DAVID NELSON BARNIM  
(Country Lane Studio, Aylmer)



# Flue sale proceedings on a day at the market

Jan. 24 is a significant date in the life of tobacco farmer T. Leaf.

Mr. Leaf, a fictitious name, is among the 35 farmers that will market tobacco today at the Tillsonburg auction exchange.

This year an estimated 230 million pounds of flue-cured tobacco will pass through the auction exchanges in Tillsonburg, Delhi and Aylmer. With daily sales hovering the two million mark, the exchanges have sold more than 120,000,000 pounds in a span of 64 selling days. To accommodate such vast daily quantities, the tobacco industry has evolved a marketing system, rivalled by none in efficiency.

Mr. Leaf's crop is stripped and packed in his barn waiting to be shipped and marketed. He has already shipped twice and now has been called for a third time. He received a mailed order notifying him of the date, weight and position of his shipment. On the day of his shipment he's off to the warehouse. A truck loaded with part of his year's toil backs into its designated shipping position and is ready to roll.

Mr. Leaf's tobacco is brought into the warehouse on rollers. As it comes in, the bales are slit allowing the tobacco to be examined and classified. The bales, which are each identified with a blue ticket, are placed on flats according to their classification and wheeled to the scales to be weighed.

The weight of the entire shipment must come within a 5 per cent range of the total poundage ordered. Mr. Leaf waits in anticipation as the

needle wavers and dips just below the maximum amount he is allowed. A sigh of relief - he doesn't have to haul any home.

From here the shipment is whisked to one of the 16 lines to be graded and sold.

Three independent graders, appointed representatives of the board and the companies, go up and down the lines grading the tobacco according to color, texture, body and moisture. With about 75 grades, each with fine line distinctions, the graders must carefully examine the tobacco before fixing a grade.

The graders' decisions are recorded on a weigh bill and used to compile a catalogue, which shows the weight, grade, position and number of bales of each crop in the line. Both the farmers and the buyers receive copies of this catalogue. To ensure anonymous buying, the buyers catalogue does not identify the owner of the crops.

Once the tobacco has been graded, the buyers from the various companies inspect the line that is up for sale and indicate on the catalogue what they want to buy. This catalogue is given to a company representative in the clock room, who bids for the purchases.

Meanwhile, Mr. Leaf is waiting for his crop to come up for sale. He joins the other growers in the farmers room where he is able to hear the auctioning and sales proceedings.

The tobacco is auctioned by a Dutch Clock, which begins bidding at a high price and revolves downward. The operator of the clock follows the catalogue and auctions the flats according to their positions in the line. For each position, he starts the clock at a price above the going market price. The price continues to

drop until a buyer stops the clock at the price his company is willing to pay.

If there are no bids and the pallet reaches the minimum price guaranteed for that grade, it is immediately allocated to one of the companies. Allocations are based on the percentage the company purchases.

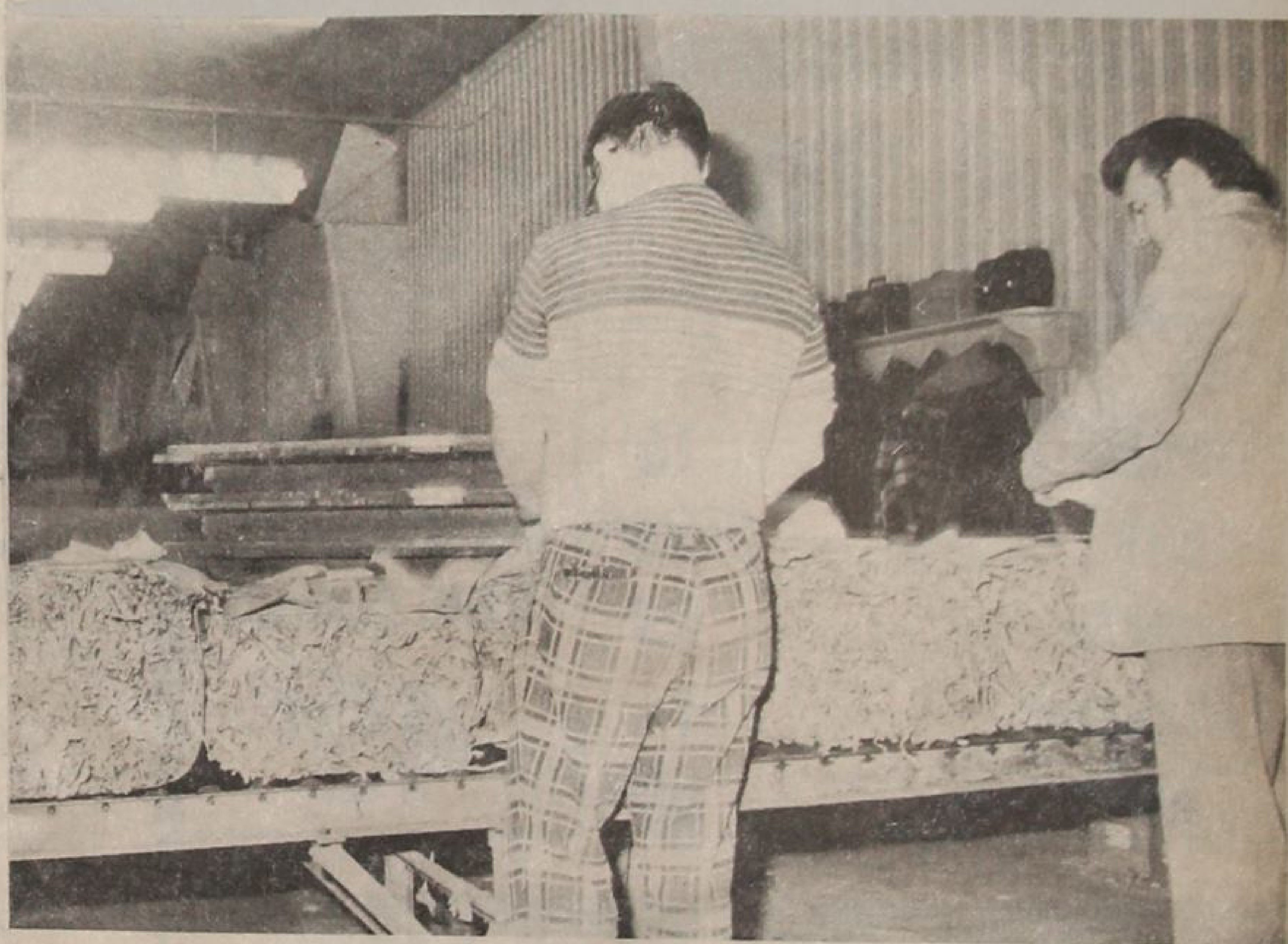
All grades of tobacco are guaranteed to receive a minimum price. Only fac-

tored tobacco, tobacco that has been damaged by hail, scorching, or excess moisture, is not protected by minimum guarantees.

Once the line has been sold, tickets are placed on the flats indicating the grade and price they sold for. Mr. Leaf has a 30-minute deadline to reject the grade - and consequently the price - he has been given. If he is in doubt as to whether he

should reject a grade he can consult a farmer's advisor known as "the white coat man."

Mr. Leaf is satisfied with the prices he has been given, with the exception of one flat which he rejected. He makes arrangements to transport that flat home and the respective companies ship the rest to their plants to be processed... and that is another story.



When the tobacco is received it must be classified according to type. These classifiers examine the tobacco, keeping the same type together on a flat. The

Tillsonburg exchange receives about 35 shipments a day, totalling about 750,000 pounds.





After the tobacco has been classified it is wheeled to the scales to be weighed. The farmer's shipment must come within 5 per cent of the total weight ordered.



These men are responsible for the all-important task of fixing a grade to the tobacco up for sale. These three independent graders, who are appointed by the board and the companies, examine the tobacco for such traits as colour, texture, body.



Money talks but do clocks? This Dutch clock does. Starting at the highest price, it auctions the tobacco off to the various buyers, seated above. The price continues to drop until a buyer stops it at the price his company is willing to pay.





The growers congregate in the farmers room where they can hear the sales proceedings over an intercom. With full concentration these farmers are following the sales catalogue.

## Growing and production

# Flue-cured tobacco highlights

BY TED RAYTROWSKY,  
Chairman, Ontario Flue-  
Cured Tobacco Growers'  
Marketing Board

The year 1978 will go down in the history of the flue-cured tobacco growing industry as one when several significant accomplishments were made. I consider the four major items to be:

- 1) Negotiations
- 2) Redistribution of voting districts
- 3) Establishment of a research group
- 4) A commitment to export the largest amount of tobacco in the history of Canada's tobacco production.

### NEGOTIATIONS

Negotiations were completed with the Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers Council in the record time of three and one-half days which permits the producer to better plan the financing and growing of his crop. The agreement for a crop target of 230 million pounds, which is Ontario's third largest crop, earmarked 103 million pounds for export with minimum grade prices of which 28 were lowered with the amount of the reduction being added to the prices of the other grades to equate to an overall guaranteed average of \$1.06½. The adjustment of minimum grade prices were made in an effort to reduce the percentage of tobacco allocated in the 1978 crop to below the percentage that was allocated in the 1977 crop. At the time of this

article, this has not happened and as a matter of fact the percentage of tobacco being allocated has increased on the market to date. The wide fluctuations in the prices paid for some grades are causing concern to many of the growers especially when their date for delivery has been assigned to them. The growers would consider it to have been a successful growing season and it would appear that the target should be met with good quality leaf being offered on the market.

### CHANGES TO THE PLAN FOR VOTING

The elections for members to the Board (Directors) and Committeemen have been conducted since 1957 when the Board was formed as outlined in the Plan at that time. The past 20 years has seen changes from acreage control to poundage control as well as the separation of quotas from the land, and a definite movement in the areas in which the tobacco is being produced. In order to meet these changes, the Board discussed and recommended that the following changes be made in the Plan for the conducting of Board elections. The amendments to the Plan were put to the growers in a plebiscite with the following results:

Ballot 1: Are you in favour of the redefinition of a producer to mean an owner of a basic production quota of not less than 10,000 pounds who markets through the local board on his own account an allotted marketing quota derived from not less than 10,000 pounds of basic production quota?

577 producers voted favourably which represented 82 per cent of the producers voting.

Ballot 2: Are you in favour of limiting multiple farm owners who produce tobacco in more than one district to vote and be eligible to hold office in one district only?

542 producers voted favourably which represented 77 per cent of the producers voting.

Ballot 3: Are you in favour of redefining the boundaries of the 14 districts to provide more equal representation?

476 producers voted favourably which represented 68 per cent of the producers voting.

Ballot 4: Are you in favour of reducing the number of district Committeemen from four to two in each district?

462 producers voted favourably which represented 66 per cent of the producers voting.

The Farm Products Marketing Board, following this plebiscite, made the first three changes as recommended with no action being taken on the fourth matter, that of reducing the number of Committeemen.

As an example of what was accomplished by this redistribution of the voting districts prior to this taking place, one district had only 60 producers comprising an entire voting district whereas some of the districts in the concentrated areas had over 200 producers. Following the change the number of producers range from a low of 156 to a maximum of 195 which provides for more equal representation to the 14 districts.

### ESTABLISHING OF A TOBACCO RESEARCH GROUP

This is a joint endeavour by Agriculture Canada, Members of the Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers Council and the Board. The Group's objective is to establish a co-operative research program to conduct engineering research to improve energy utilization in curing and tobacco harvesting and handling systems. The work of the research group will be financed by funds contributed annually of \$75,000 by the Council and \$40,000 by the Board with Agriculture Canada supplying facilities at the Experimental Station to conduct this work. Additional funds from the sale of experimental tobacco will increase the total annual operating budget to in excess of \$150,000. The Group set up a program for the first year as follows:

A (1) to evaluate the effectiveness of various kiln insulating materials

(2) to develop and analyze kiln heat exchangers for commercial application

(3) to improve environmental control for curing and conditioning through instrumentation and through kiln modifications (standard and low type kilns)

(4) to define optimum environmental conditions for curing

B (1) to investigate leaf orientation techniques that are adaptable to existing tobacco combines

(2) to develop and analyze containerized curing systems.

With the erection of a high wall steel greenhouse on the Delhi Research Station the experimental work will span from seed to the cured leaf.

The group regrets that Ron Minshall who was employed as the Project Engineer for the Group has left for other employment, but is pleased to report that Mr. Jack Dertinger has been employed for this position and will commence his duties for this year beginning in February. It is planned to have a progress report made available through newsletters, press releases and the annual winter meetings that are held in the tobacco areas.

### EXPORT

The amount of tobacco, 103 million pounds, included in the target for the 1978 crop

represents a 50 per cent increase in exports from the amount in the 1977 crop target. This commitment is the result of co-operative efforts of the Council and the Board whereby the Council is providing a rebate of 7c a pound on the amount being exported plus the present position of the Canadian dollar makes the price of our Canadian tobacco more attractive on world markets. Before Christmas a delegation from Iraq visited our country and following visits to the tobacco markets and discussions with representatives of the trade here, an agreement was signed for them to purchase 3.4 million pounds of flue-cured tobacco representing their first purchase of Canadian flue-cured tobacco. We are pleased to report that a sale made to Taiwan as shown on the table comparing Canadian flue-cured tobacco exports for the past three years indicates this to be their first purchase from Canada. The sale of almost three million pounds to Kenya this year represents a return to the Canadian market following a too long absence since 1974.



EXPORTS OF CANADIAN  
FLUE-CURED TOBACCO  
(Year ending September  
30th - 12 month period)

(Redried Weight)

Country	1978	1977	1976
Australia	384,129	46,156	24,188
Austria	53,460		
Bahamas	19,612	7,461	2,742
Bahrain	1,393	2,650	
Barbados	1,272	537	26,976
Belgium-			
Luxembourg	1,874,032	5,418,891	1,955,357
Bermuda	764	3,622	1,442
Cameroon		7,056	78,240
Cyprus	17,640	26,039	17,640
Denmark	19,783		40,819
El Salvador	213	332	
Emirates U.A.	38,191	3,085	5,147
Finland	804,288	1,822,196	907,604
France	559,330	116,865	150,361
Germany West	4,016,470	2,861,673	6,002,833
Ghana	416,040		
Guyana			41,857
Honduras	292	430	
Hong Kong	299,868	221,878	314,025
Indonesia		45,000	
Ireland	390,408	753,268	739,547
Israel	660	708	19,460
Italy	476,328	198,634	108,182
Japan	226,118	229,226	1,377,331
Jordan	3,302	3,405	2,595
Kenya	2,939,483		
Kuwait	16,439	6,745	12,372
Lebanon	5,890	2,756	
Leeward-Windward Is.	303	320	
Libya	5,668	2,332	3,588
Malaysia	234,143	158,124	109,333
Netherland-Antilles	376	316	
Netherlands	1,081,739	2,803,742	817,637
New Zealand	7,511	3,491	9,364
Nigeria	52,920		
Norway	72,107	154,160	124,905
Qatar	1,171		
Saudi Arabia	13,146	21,135	7,137
Sierra Leone	50,274	46,193	
South Africa	3,688	2,046	1,431
Switzerland	95	15,315	
Taiwan	1,100,272		
Trinidad-Tobago	31,424	1,157	
United Kingdom	51,397,883	30,643,220	33,764,518
United States	7,280,438	5,850,373	6,368,771
Zaire		119,983	254,376
Other	2,049	2,245	4,168
	73,900,612	51,602,765	52,293,946

Compiled from Statistics  
Canada

## Only Tillsonburg-based processor

Macdonald Tobacco Inc., Leaf Division, the only Tillsonburg-based tobacco company, ranks as the most modernized leaf processing plant in Canada, Ed Story, general manager, said.

But behind the technology and extensive mechanization Macdonald's performs five basic functions. It purchases, processes, packs, stores and ships raw leaf tobacco for both domestic and export use.

Full-scale operation commences with the opening of the flue market in mid-October. The plant's daily operation runs according to the purchases at the auction. Depending on the sale and size of the crop full-scale operation usually ends in April.

During these peak months, the plant is manned by 80 to 90 seasonal and 40 full-time employees.

All the tobacco purchased for use in Macdonald products is processed at this plant.

The plant has the capacity to receive up to 18-20 trucks a day, each containing about 35,000 - 40,000 pounds of raw leaf tobacco.

As it is received the tobacco is regraded and placed on pallets to be temporarily stored. The pallets are stored according

to their grades, in a temperature and humidity controlled conditioning room. Here they remain until sufficient supplies of the type of grade has been accumulated to do a run. Up to three million pounds are

kept in backlog to ensure the plant is continually moving.

The first step in leaf processing is blending. The tobacco travels by conveyor to a delaminator, a big revolving drum, that blends the various grades of

tobacco. After it is blended the unprocessed leaf goes across a weigh belt and a vibrating conveyor which shakes out the sand.

The weigh belt controls the flow throughout the entire plant. Through predetermined settings, the weigh belt can control the poundage that goes through the plant in a given amount of time.

By conveyor, the tobacco is transported to the plant's second floor, where it passes through two conditioning cylinders and a metal detector. The tobacco is treated with heat and steam in the conditioning cylinder. This softens the tobacco, making it more pliable, so the lamina can easily be removed from the stem.

Once sufficiently conditioned, the tobacco is fed to the thrashing line where it is shredded. The shredded leaf enters a separator which separates the light from heavy tobacco by air. Because the stem is heavier than the lamina, the stem falls out and air sucks the lamina from the stem. From here the lamina and stems follow different paths. All the lamina is channelled through de-sanding equipment which filters out the sand through a fine screen.

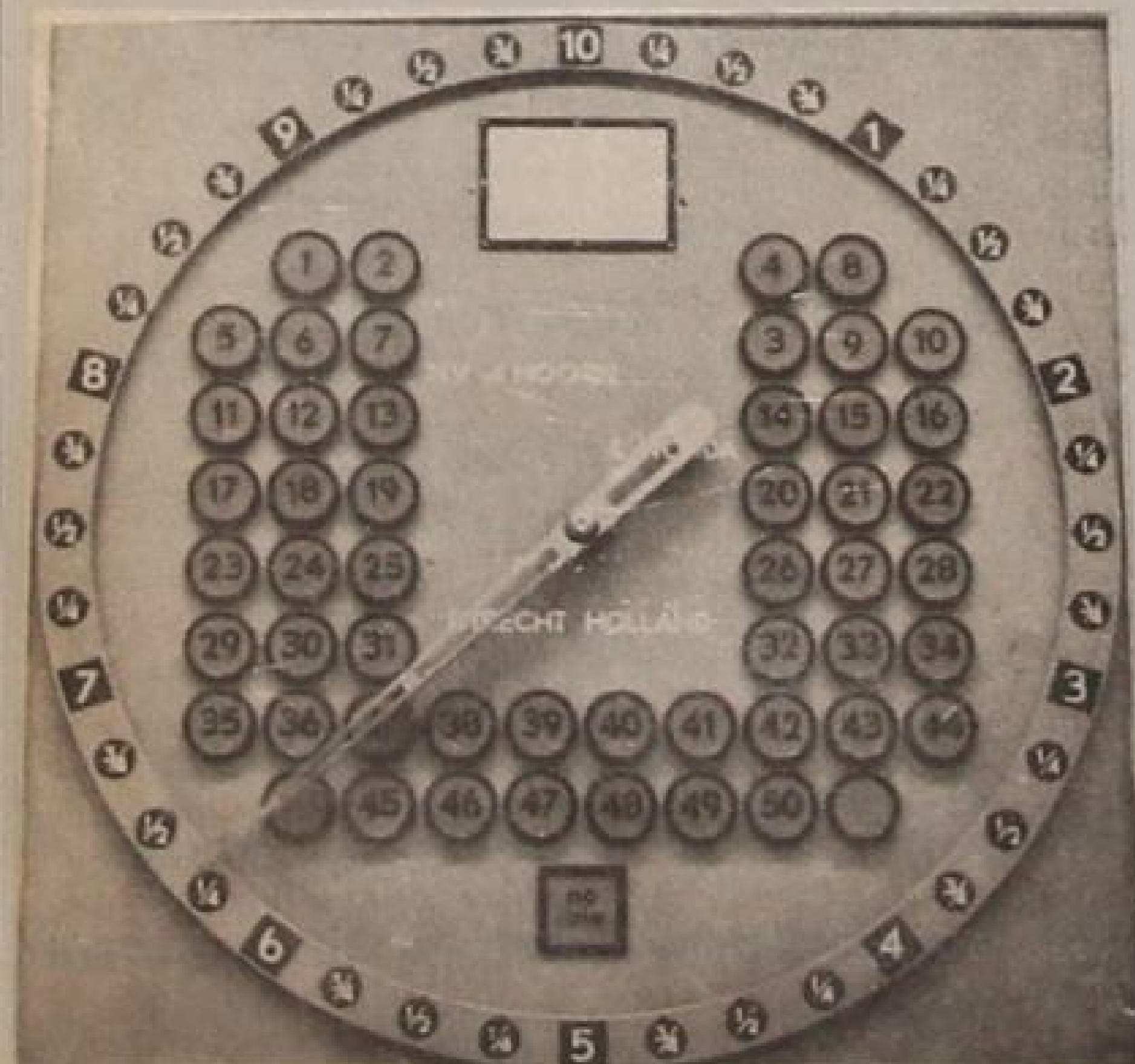
The lamina goes through a series of separators and is routed back downstairs by conveyor.

The lamina must be redried to the desired moisture levels for packing and storage. When packing the tobacco is compressed into 48-inch hogsheads by a down pressure of 32 tons per square inch.

The tobacco is stored at one of the plant's three storage facilities on Wabash Road on Tillson Avenue and

at the plant itself. The tobacco is stored 10 to 12 months and undergoes the all-important mellowing process before it is shipped. The processed leaf is shipped by truck to Montreal where it is manufactured into cigarettes, fine cut tobacco, pipe tobaccos and cigars.

Macdonald first came to Tillsonburg from Kingsville in 1974 with the construction of five warehouses on Wabash Road, southeast of town. In 1975 Macdonald expanded and bought the storage facility on Tillson Avenue and built the factory on Highway 3.



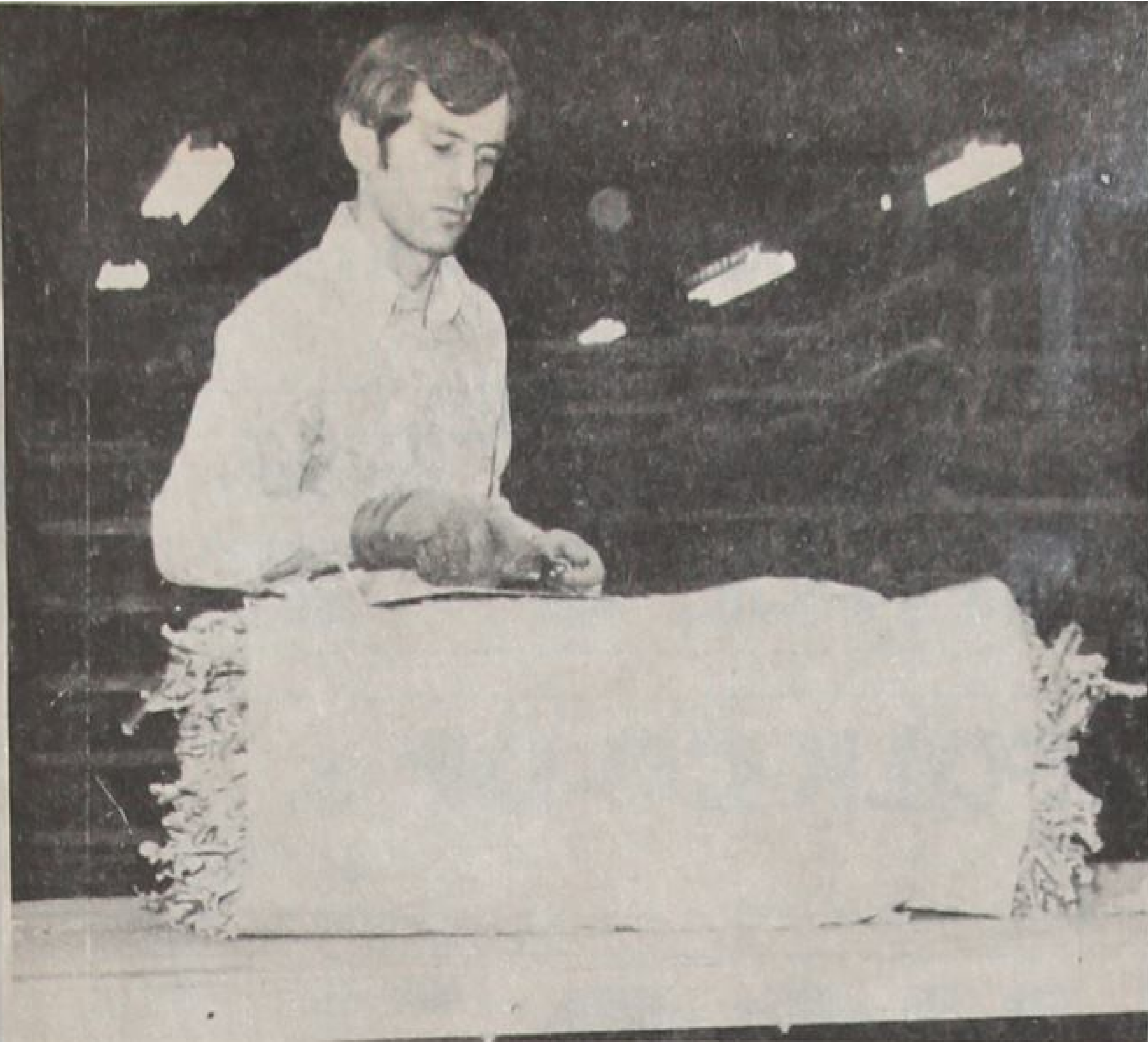
A close-up of the Dutch clock used to market Ontario flue-cured tobacco. The clock starts at a high price for the grade being offered and decreases the price. As the clock reaches the highest price a buyer in the room is ready to pay for a particular flat, the buyer presses a button that stops its progress. The system works so if a buyer wants a particular load of tobacco and gambles that he can get it cheaper, any other buyer could end up with it.



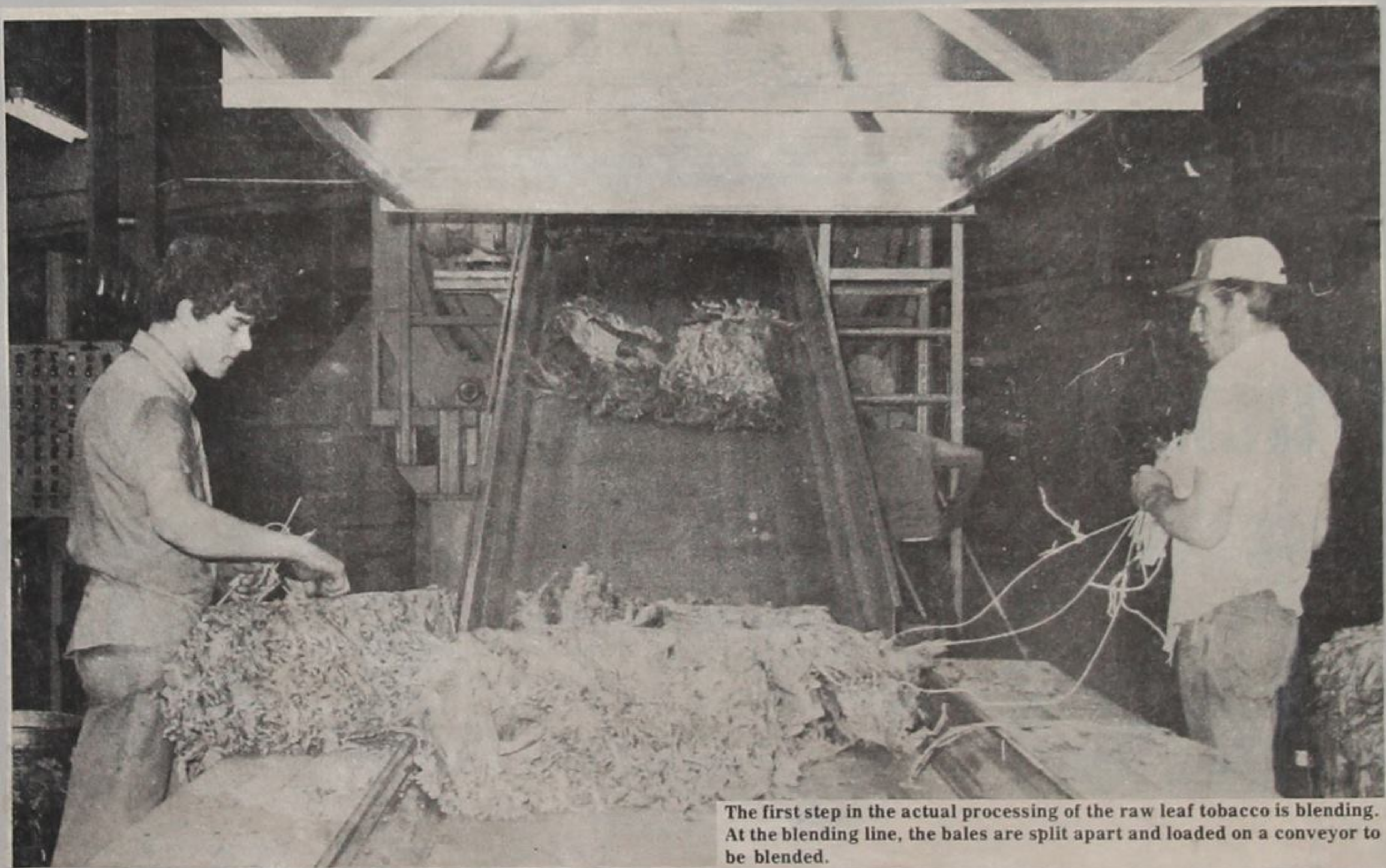
During full-scale operation the plant receives up to 20 trucks a day, each containing about 35,000 to 40,000 pounds of tobacco. Shown above in the foreground,

receiving supervisor, Ron Hallows inspects the bales and affixes a grade.



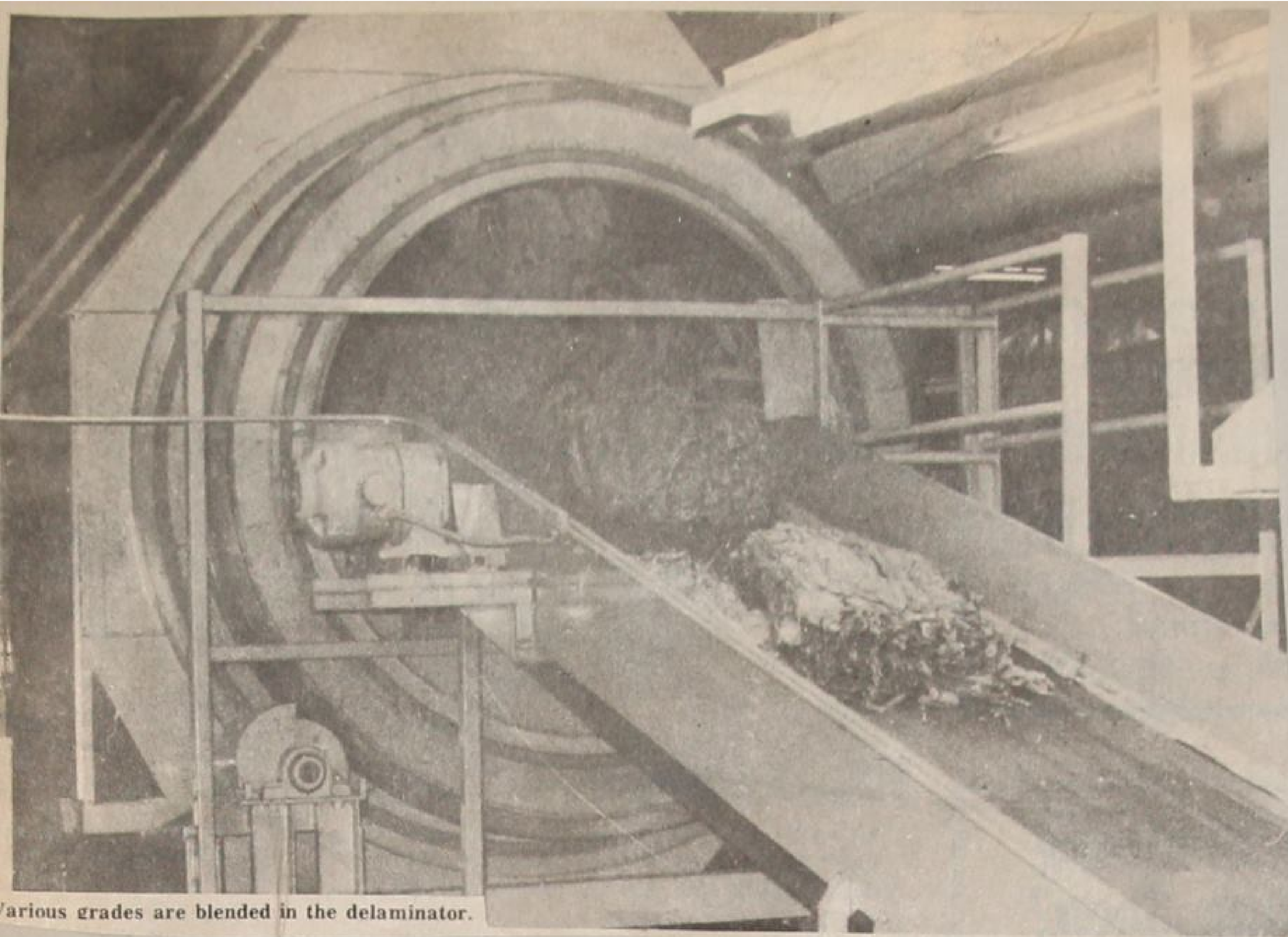


As the bales are received the paper and string is removed. The bales are then loaded on pallets according to grade and placed in controlled storage until sufficient supplies have accumulated for a run. Up to 3,000,000 pounds are stored in the temperature and humidity controlled conditioning room.



The first step in the actual processing of the raw leaf tobacco is blending. At the blending line, the bales are split apart and loaded on a conveyor to be blended.





Various grades are blended in the delaminator.



Once the lamina is redried to the desired moisture levels for packing, it is compressed into 48-inch hogsheads by a down press of 32 tons per square inch.



Once the leaf has been blended and conditioned it is transported by conveyor to the thrashing line. In the thrashing process the tobacco is shredded and put through a series of separators to remove the lamina from the stem. Above at the thrasher is Bill Abbott.

## No mould reported yet in main tobacco belts

By Dave MacLaren  
Associate Editor

*April*  
*2/80*

The Blue Mould Central report dated March 24 from Raleigh, North Carolina, makes no mention of this disease being spotted yet in South and North Carolina or Virginia. So for the time at least seedbeds in the three major US flue-cured tobacco belts are free of mould.

Furney Todd, a plant pathologist at North Carolina State University, tracks the disease and reports to other North American researchers. He says the worst outbreak in Florida seedbeds is south of the state's tobacco belt, in a district where many seedlings are custom grown for tobacco farmers. Only three seedbeds in

Florida's tobacco belt have been reported infected.

In Georgia the disease has been observed in 10 seedbeds.

Last week there was a rumour that Ridomil had been registered for use in seedbeds in South Carolina against mould. However, Tobacco Extension Specialist Milt Watson at the Delhi Research Station said Mr. Todd's last report is still recommending dithiocarbamates such as Ferbam for seedbed protection. Ridomil is registered in the US as a soil treatment to prevent mould in fields of tobacco.

Mr. Watson said some Ontario growers have mistakenly thought the first application of Ridomil to a greenhouse is to be made seven to 10 days after seeding.

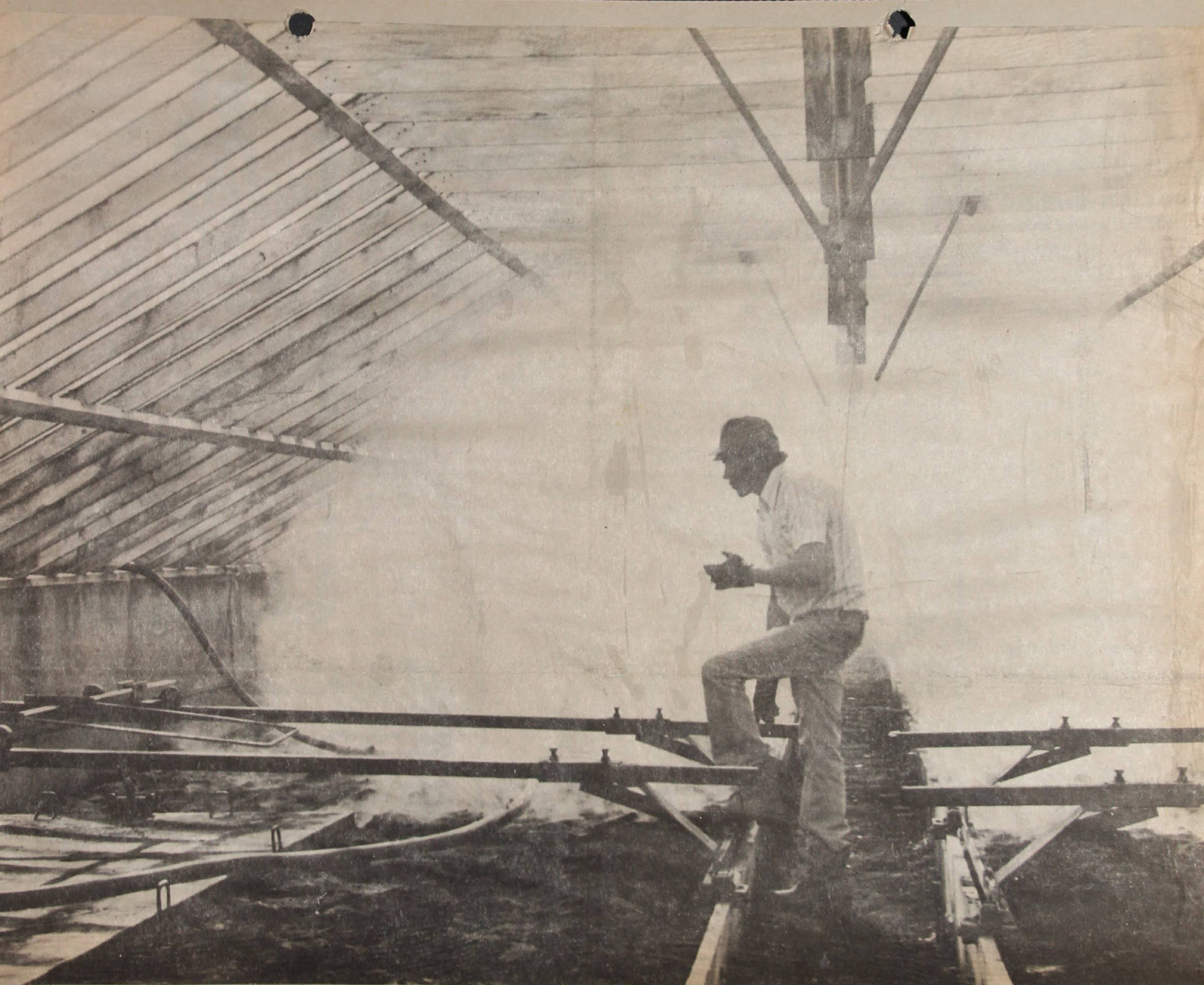
"I can only reiterate label recommendations to start treatments of Ridomil seven to 10 days after the seedlings have merged. I'd take this to be seven to 10 days after the time you have no trouble seeing the plants — not when they have all emerged," he said.

The March 24 Blue Mould Central reports says the disease has done extensive damage to tobacco crops in Cuba, Jamaica, Haiti, Honduras and Nicaragua.

A Wall Street Journal report of March 26 says all of Cuba's 100 cigar factories are temporarily closed and some 26,000 workers jobless. Blue mould is reported to have wiped out over 90% of the island's tobacco crop.

According to the article, President Fidel Castro has said the loss in tobacco earnings could amount to \$100 million. Next to sugar, tobacco is Cuba's second largest export.



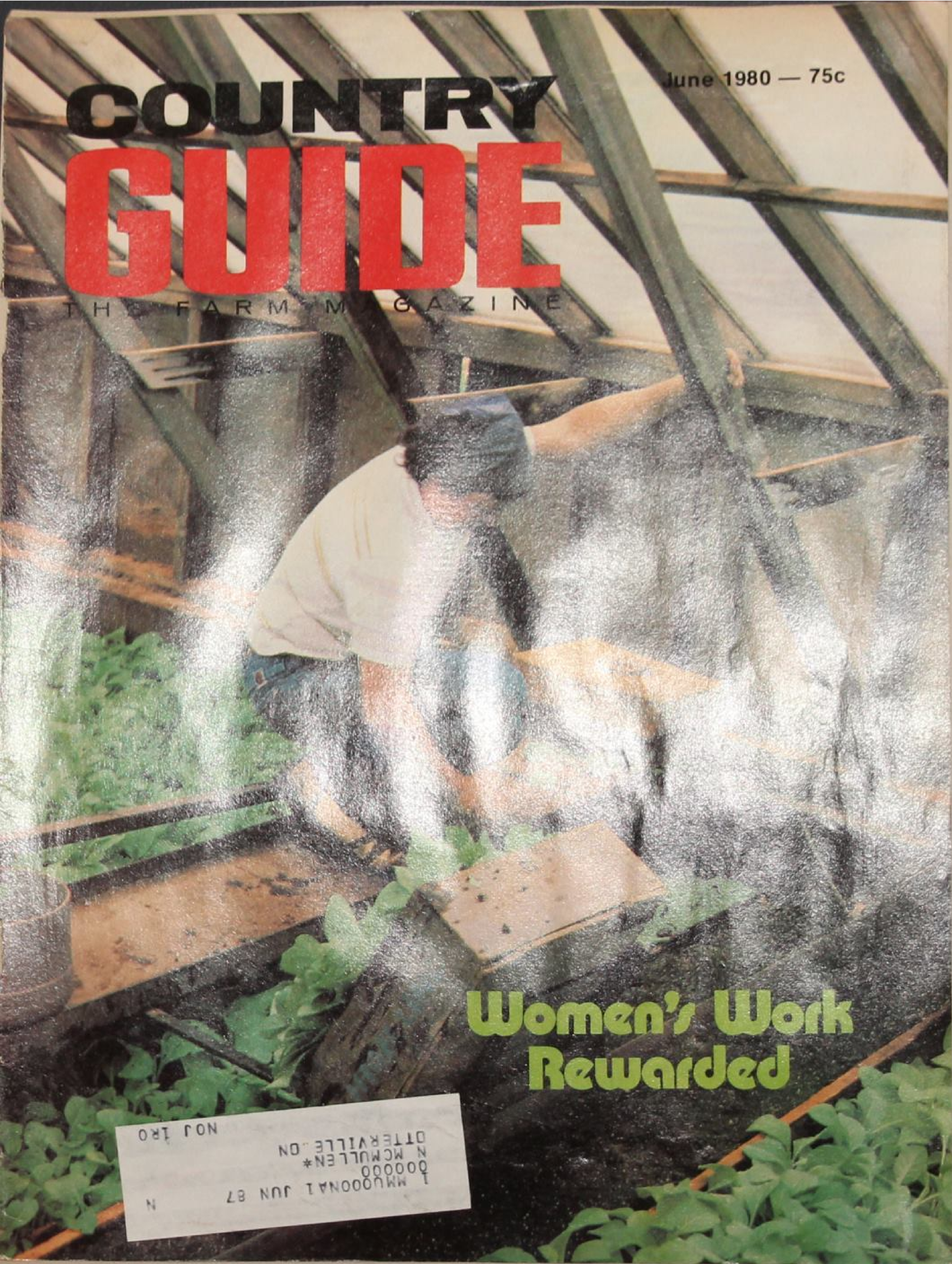




# COUNTRY GUIDE

THE FARM MAGAZINE

June 1980 — 75c



## Women's Work Rewarded

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# How to avoid blue

By Dr. S.K. Gayed  
Research Scientist  
Delhi Research Station

After the 1979 blue mould epidemic, caused by the fungus *Peronospora tabacina*, tobacco growers are wondering whether blue mould will show again in the 1980 season and if so what to do to avoid the disease.

This article discusses the possibility of disease reoccurrence and how to avoid the blue mould in seedbeds and in the field in 1980.

Intensive studies proved the presence of the overwintering spores of the fungus, called the oospores, in decomposing infected tobacco residues, but whether these oospores are capable of germination and infecting tobacco plants is under investigation at the present time.

Tobacco growers will remember the blue-grey fungal growth on the lower surface of the tobacco leaf which contained millions of conidia that were disseminated by wind and spread infection in the main tobacco area last season. Conidia were found to be more resistant to adverse conditions than expected.

Viable conidia were collected at the Station during October, November and December and laboratory studies have indicated that successive freezings and thawings did not kill all the conidia tested as some were capable of germination.

Recent reports also show that heavy blue mould

infection has been recorded in Cuba and Jamaica and probably in Southern Florida in December 1979 and January 1980.

The above facts namely, the presence of oospores, the possible presence of viable conidia from the 1979 season as well as the chance of fresh spore showers from the South suggest a possible blue mould incidence in Ontario in 1980.

Fortunately, this year we have the knowledge and the tools not only to control but even avoid the disease.

This can only be achieved by the total cooperation of all tobacco growers, and remember that our goal is to prevent and not to control the disease.

When the disease is present under favourable weather conditions, disease pressure will build-up and might cause infections even to the chemically-treated plants. To ensure protection against blue mould these steps have to be followed:

1. Thorough sterilization of the greenhouse.
2. Accurate application of the fungicides in the greenhouse and in the field.
3. Avoid as much as possible double cropping.
4. Fast response when early warning of blue mould is in effect.

#### 1. Thorough sterilization of the greenhouse:

Proper steam-sterilization of the seedbeds in the spring is necessary. Treat the walks and the walls with formaldehyde solution and keep doors and vents closed

for at least 24 hours. This is essential to kill any contamination with blue mould in the greenhouse.

#### 2. Fungicide application:

Ridomil is the most effective fungicide available for blue mould control. It has been successfully used against the disease in Australia, Belgium, Greece, Romania, Spain and Cyprus. Ridomil is registered in Canada and will be available to tobacco growers in the 1980 season.

Ridomil is a systemic fungicide and is capable of inhibiting the growth of the fungus, its sporulation, and acts in conjunction with the tobacco resistance to blue mould.

Ridomil is compatible with other fungicides such as Benlate used to control damping-off in the seedbeds. Follow the recommendations and apply Ridomil at the right rate and at the right time.

Ridomil applications in the greenhouse or in the field should be for protection against the disease, since applications after the appearance and the establishment of the disease may not stop its spread.

#### 3. Double cropping:

For a healthy 1980 tobacco crop, double cropping should be avoided or at least minimized. This is essential particularly if oospores prove to be viable. Moreover soil treatment with a fungicide might be necessary. Growers will be notified on these recommendations at a later stage.

#### 4. Response to Early Blue Mould Warning:

An early warning system involving the tobacco growing areas in U.S. and Ontario will be in effect for the 1980 crop.

The centre of the system is in Raleigh, North Carolina where details on the incidence of blue mould and

during the warning period weather conditions are fed to a computer. Reports will be issued by the computer including warnings of possible blue mould infections in certain tobacco areas within a few days. These warnings will be brought to the attention of the area representatives who

will broadcast the information to growers.

In case of a blue mould warning in Ontario, tobacco growers are expected to make sure that their seedbed and/or field plants are adequately protected by the fungicide, and to avoid excess of humidity in the

greenhouse particularly under cool cloudy conditions by proper ventilation and avoiding watering seedbeds in the afternoon. Similarly, to avoid field irrigation when blue mould warning is in effect. In case of disease incidence contact at once the tobacco specialists at

Delhi Research Station for advice.

Remember that blue mould is a catastrophic disease and is capable of spreading very fast under favourable weather conditions. By protecting your crop you are protecting the tobacco industry in Ontario.





About one-third of the Ontario flue-cured tobacco crop was lost to blue mould last summer. This photo shows Stan Baswick of RR 1 Delhi cutting down his 85 acre crop. (Staff



#### **Yellow blotches, blue mildew**

The underside of tobacco leaves infected with blue mold is shown in the top photo. The disease is readily identified by yellow blotches and a grayish blue downy mildew on the underside of the leaf. Bottom photo shows one of the blotches on the top of the leaf, the size of a quarter. (TN Photo)



TN  
July 21

## Increase pay for directors

The Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board agreed to boost the per diem rate for board members effective this fall.

The increase gave the chairman a \$25 hike to \$100 per day, with the directors receiving an additional \$15 for \$75 per day and committeemen an extra \$10 for \$50 per day.

Mr. Raytrowsky announced the increase at the board's 23rd annual meeting Wednesday. He said it was necessary "to keep abreast with the increased cost of covering their absence from the farms on board business."

The increase becomes effective when the new board officially takes office October 23. The present rate has been in effect since October 1978.

There are 15 directors representing the various districts and four committeemen from each district.

In wake of last year's blue mold outbreak the board and its various committees met more often than usual. By the end of May, the board met 35 times, and board committees 110 times, compared to the 34 board meetings and 104 committee meetings the previous year.



### Mother nature's cold shoulder

Frost caused spotty damage throughout the tobacco-growing area early Tuesday. Despite frigid temperatures damage was not as severe as originally suspected. Above, a young tobacco plant that was nipped by Tuesday's low temperatures. Frost warnings are in effect for Thursday night. (TN photo).  
JUNE 17, 1980

## Price up, quota down in '80

TN  
July 25  
1980

Crop negotiations for the 1980 flue-cured tobacco crop wound up with an agreement guaranteeing growers an overall average price of \$1.28 per pound.

The agreement was reached following two weeks of negotiations between the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board and the Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers Council.

The guaranteed minimum price represents a 10.3 per cent hike over the minimum price set for the 1979 crop. The agreement will provide

the growers with payments totalling about \$288 million.

Under the agreement, the board will allot 53.83 per cent of basic quota to permit the marketing of 226 million pounds. The crop target, four million pounds less than last year's, reflects the unsettled crop conditions in the Middle East.

Despite the increase, the minimum price will not meet the growers' skyrocketing production costs, which are estimated at \$1.47 per pound. However, board Chairman Ted

Raytrowsky said following negotiations the board is hoping the 1980 market will bring high enough prices to cover growers' increased costs.

Individual grades were also examined and related back to actual market selling. Grades that consistently netted higher prices were adjusted while other grade prices remained the same. Twelve grades were frozen at last year's prices.

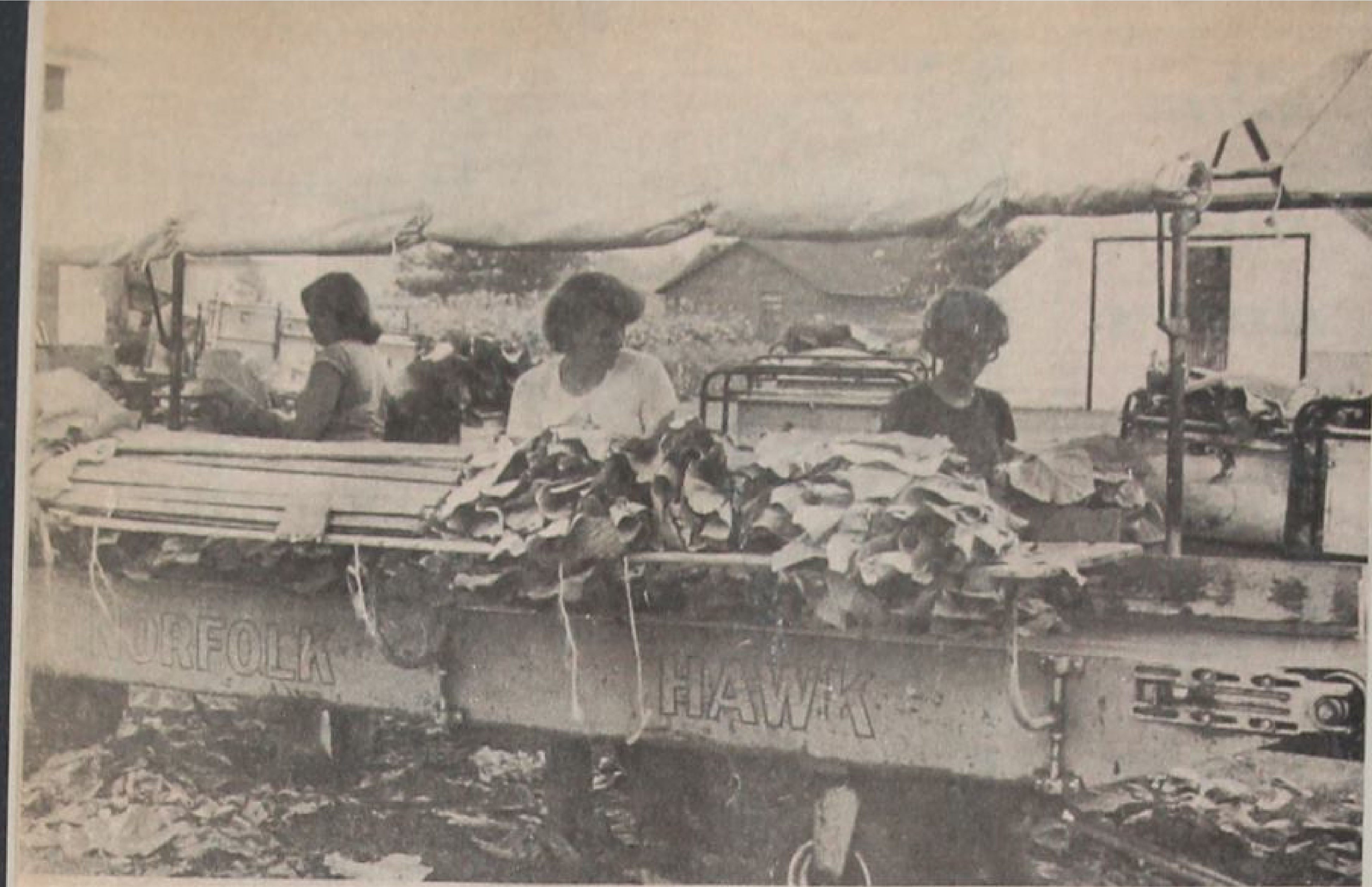
Manufacturers also agreed to set aside \$6.5 million for the establishment

of an Export Assistance Program. This doubles the amount that was paid into last year's fund.

Last year's agreement targeted for a 230 million pound crop with an overall average price of \$1.16 per pound. However, last summer's blue mold out-

break destroyed more than 30 per cent of the crop, leaving only 149 million pounds for marketing. The short crop, pushed the market price up, giving growers an overall average of \$1.32, outstripping the guaranteed minimum by 16 cents.





### Field and table gangs at work

Tobacco harvest started up in early August. These photos were taken on the farm of Harold Mauthe. Shown changing baskets at the end of a row are Jeff Robinson, Bill Burkas

and Rick Mauthe. Others in the field gang are Paul Mauthe, Tim Boon and Rob Clark. Working at the table are Kim Mauthe, Sandy Hignett and Charlene Mauthe.





# Ross Andrews

Ah, tobacco harvest, the nuttiest time of the year! I'm an old horse and boat man, myself.

My career began about 1936. I was six years old. We had one of the neighbour boys hired to drive the horses from the field to the kilns and back. The boat driver, he was called.

I liked to ride on the broad backs of the faithful old horses and they soon learned the routine so well they could turn the boat into the row by themselves without knocking down half a dozen stalks. The boat driver quit and I got the job.

I was a rotten boat driver. Being too small to support the boat filled with leaves, if it got out of the usual ruts it would tip over and sprawl leaves all over the place. Then I'd have to go fetch the primers to lift the boat. It got to be downright terrifying to hear the things they were planning for my edification the next time I upset a boat. It's lucky that I was the "boss's calf" or I might have been skinned alive.

Those old boats were a burlap-lined box on a pair of two-by-four runners. They had a rhythm that dug hollows and piled up hills in the laneways that probably are still visible on some farms. It was a real advance when Cyril Bowes invented a bobsleigh boat that could be swung neatly into the rows and slid along easily on replaceable steel shoes. We used those for many years before switching to the angle-iron and plywood boats built by Ray Alward and Sons.

The Alward boats were not bobsleighs, but they had a slight rocker shape to the runners that let them glide along without digging holes half way to the Moho. They were strong, too. I saw the remains of one that a runaway horse tried to take between a tree and a kiln. It looked like a steel pretzel but there wasn't a broken joint in it.

I was just getting to the size where I could pick up an overturned boat by myself (Oh, what bliss not to have to solicit help from those primers) when Dad decided it was time for me to learn to hand leaves to the tyer. That was when leaves were strung on the sticks by hand in bundles of three. After a year of that, Dad took pity on the tyer and let me unload boats.

The most glorious job, of course, was priming. I could hardly wait for the day when I would be considered man enough to prime tobacco. Finally, when I was thirteen years old and fairly big for my age, Dad decided to let me and my cousin of the same age try it. We were assigned a row between us while we learned the art of standing on our heads and our feet at the same time, picking only ripe leaves (in those days it made a difference) and carrying them neatly under one arm.

Carrying leaves was tricky, especially in the morning when they were slick with dew. I felt the next thing to hero worship for our share grower who could prime half way across a forty-rod row without going to the boat and without crushing a leaf.

One day, early in our priming career, we

had to wait in the middle of the field for a new boat. My cousin and I took the opportunity to prime our row ahead so that we might have a chance of getting to the end of the row by the time the experienced men did. We were blissfully unaware that we were priming right back the same row we had just come across on.

When we brought our leaves to the boat, Dad was there. He spotted the unripened leaves and took the bundle that my cousin had so proudly brought to the boat. By chance there was a large hickory tree in the middle of the field and we were standing right near it. Dad said, "Greener than shit!" and hurled the armful of leaves against the tree.

Well, I was as guilty as my friend, but I suppose not to lose the dramatic impact of his action, Dad chose to ignore my crime. Neither of us got on the wrong row ever again, but in later years the two of us laugh until the tears roll when we remember that lesson.

We had some fine tobacco harvests. Many a story was told and retold over the boat as we met to dump our leaves, but times change. It became necessary to prime with more speed because gangs wanted to finish earlier in the day. I never was a fast tobacco plucker. I found that by watching the others I could prime two or three plants after they went to the boat and hurry back to my spot to get two or three plants picked before they got back. It wasn't much, but it gave me enough edge to hold my own with the lightning-fingered.

When I was a young primer I dreamed about a boat that would have a seat for the primer. It was just a pipe dream, but it came true. Then there were the bigger machines for the whole crew to ride on and elevators came into use. No longer did the primers have to stop at eleven-thirty to go to the kiln and hang the morning's work. I graduated to kiln hanging.

Before I tried it, I thought kiln hanging would be a boring and lonely job. Like all such experiences, the reality proved to be less troublesome than the anticipation. It was a challenge to be able to hang a kiln neatly without letting any sticks tip off the end of the elevator or having to hit the panic button every few minutes.

The table gang never appreciated it when the kiln hanger had to stop the elevator because it stopped the tying machine, too. I soon learned that the table gang had to stop their machine fairly often and by setting a few sticks aside when things got delicate, I could hang them correctly at leisure during the stops.

My five children have all had a go at tobacco work. They all complained about the hard work and I always said, "You think you have it tough. We had to walk, all stooped over, and carry our leaves. You just have to ride!"

They, of course, can't hear my uncle's voice from the past in my ear saying, "You think you have it tough. When I started priming, we had to pick two rows at once!"



## Converts to 'big bin'

# No gang,

Bill and Mary Farkas had no one to invite to their party last night.

The Farkas' finished harvesting their 52 acre tobacco crop yesterday but for them it was just another day. The last day of harvest traditionally calls for a party when farmers and workers get together one last time to rehash the happenings of the six week harvest. But, there was no big bash, no celebration, just a wave of relief that they beat the threat of a fall frost.

The family just had no one to invite. Mr. Farkas and his son harvested their entire crop by themselves. Like growers across the tobacco belt, Mr. Farkas mechanized

his RR 5, Langton farm, cutting his labor needs to the minimum. But he went a step further and not only dispensed with a harvest gang but he also eliminated his kilns.

Wanting to convert his farm into a family run operation he traded his bulk kilns in for the big bin system and became the first Canadian grower to use it.

With the system, the combine fills the big bins. The containers are then hooked to the furnace, one by one, capped and fired for the cure, eliminating the need for a separate curing structure.

Howard Avey, vice-president of Powell Agri-

Systems Ltd., said the system was in the development stage for years before it was finally introduced on the United States market in 1976. The system is designed to reduce handling and labor while maintaining quality.

"It eliminates the kiln because the containers become the kiln as they are locked together," he explained.

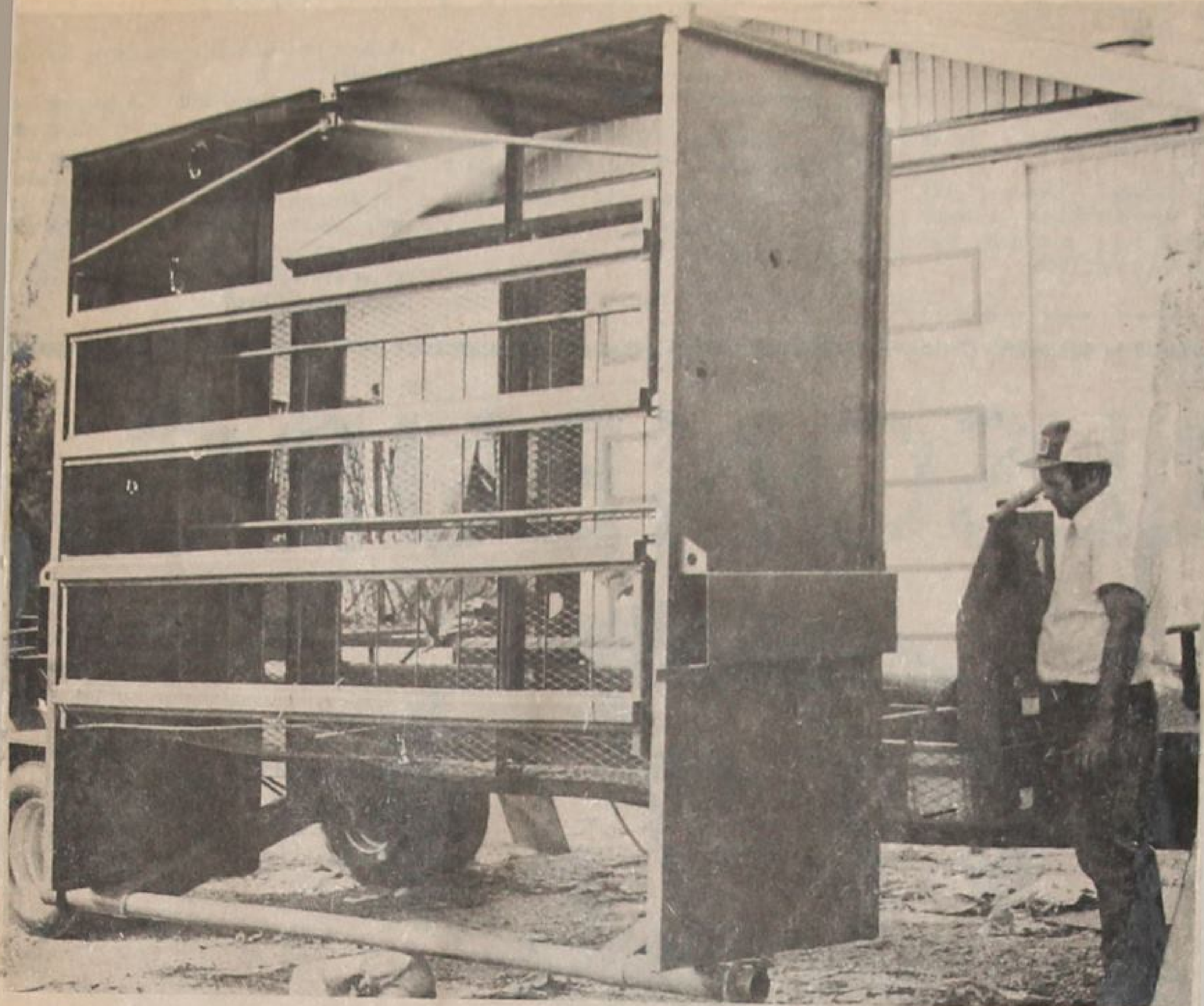
With the system, Mr. Farkas could harvest as much as he wanted in a day. He usually filled eight to 12 containers wrapping up a day's work in about five hours. Ten bins are equivalent to a conventional 1,250 stick kiln

Other than the usual machinery breakdowns it has been a "smooth" harvest, Mrs. Farkas said.

"We wanted progress," she said. "We wanted to reduce our labor and do it ourselves and that's what we got with the system."

For the Farkas' mechanization took all the apprehension and worry out of harvest. With no harvest gang, they had no worries about workers quitting, or not showing up for work and most of all it solves the end of harvest panic when many student laborers quit their harvest jobs and return to school.

"It's the only way to go," Mr. Farkas said.



### The big bin

Bill Farkas of RR 5, Langton, only needed two people to harvest his 52 acre crop this year. He converted to the big bin system, transforming his farm into a family run opera-

tion. A combine fills the bins. They are then hooked to a furnace, capped and fired for curing, eliminating the need for a kiln. Above, Mr. Farkas prepares a bin for filling. (TN Photo).



### Canada's first

Bill Farkas of RR 5, Langton builds a kiln a day. He traded in his bulk kilns and became the first Canadian grower to convert to the big bin system. The system, designed to reduce leaf handling and

labor requirements, eliminates the kiln. The bins (above) are hooked to a furnace, one by one, until they form a kiln-like structure. (TN Photo).



# Greenhouse heat helps in curing

By KATHY MAY

Open up your greenhouse and let the sun shine in.

Not exactly catchy words for a song but if the experiment at Bob Demaiter's RR 2, Port Burwell farm works, it could open up a whole dimension in tobacco curing.

David Heath and Per Drewes of Ontario Hydro in Toronto rigged up an underground solar heating unit to test the effectiveness of the sun's power in tobacco curing. The system simply pumps the warm air from the greenhouse to one of Mr. Demaiter's kilns.

"It doesn't look like much, just a big pile of rocks in the ground. But the whole set up is really quite simple and the simpler it is the easier it is to operate," Mr. Drewes said.

The one horsepower fan in the greenhouse does all the work. As the sun beats down, the heat gradually builds up until the greenhouse temperature is hotter than the rock bin and automatically trips the fan switch. The fan draws in the warm air and pushes it through an underground concrete channel into a rock bin.

The cavernous rock bin - which is about six feet deep - is stocked with 90 tons of two inch washed stone. The bin is styrene-insulated on all four sides and equipped with a grid system to let the air percolate through the bin.

"The fan is controlled by the greenhouse and the kiln so at night when the greenhouse cools it can get air from the rocks," Mr. Drewes added.

"The main thing is that we didn't want to interfere with his (Mr. Demaiter's) operation so if anything goes wrong the kiln operates just the way it would without the system."

The system, which was used for five cures, was closely monitored by both experimenters and Mr. Demaiter. Daily temperature readings of the kiln, greenhouse and various locations in the bins were taken.

The experiments compared their curing results to those of an adjacent kiln. The kilns which are identical in structure, operate on separate fuel tanks and timers, allowing the

experimenters to compare the lengths of the cures and total fuel consumption.

Mr. Drewes said the experiment was in the making for four or five years before it finally became a reality. Mr. Heath, who was originally from the tobacco area, is well-acquainted with curing and began tossing the notion of solar curing around in his mind. The two began talking about the idea and Drewes, with his familiarity of solar heating studies, came up with a fool proof plan on paper.

"There's hot air in the kiln and the greenhouse so why not connect the two," he said.

It seemed like a logical conclusion but the plan proved easier said than done. The two drew up a rough draft and built a system on the Heath's tobacco farm. Pumping all their own time and money into the venture, both spent a summer running back and forth from Toronto to make the system operational. Working on a limited budget the experimenters were beset with technical problems and wet rainy weather, finally bringing the experiment to a dismal end.

That was four years ago. But both were convinced that with the right conditions and a little more cash they could make their plan work. So they submitted their plans to the government, landing themselves a \$15,000 grant from Agriculture Canada.

As for the experiment's success, Mr. Drewes said it is too early to tell. The data and final results will be completed and submitted in a report later this fall.

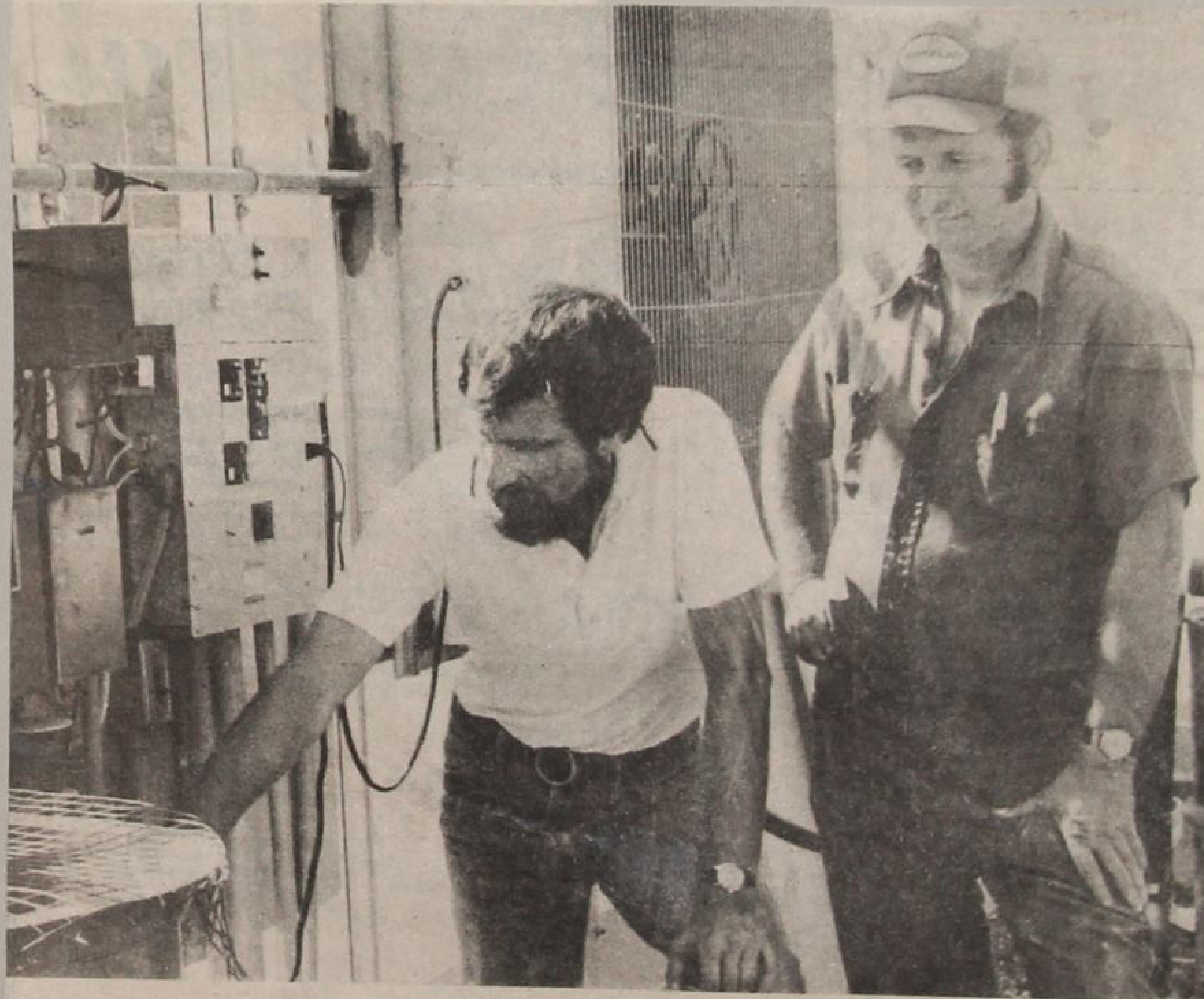
"If it proves too costly it might be simpler to connect the air intake straight from the greenhouse and use the system in the daytime and not at night," Mr. Drewes said.

However, if the system can be constructed for about \$2,000 and bring a fuel saving of \$500 per season the payback period would only be four or five years.

But whether the experiment works or not, Mr. Drewes said greenhouses offer tobacco growers a solar heating resource with endless potential.

"Most greenhouses have already been built but if a farmer is going to build one there's all kinds of things he could use that greenhouse for."

Page 6 Section 1 THE TILLSONBURG NEWS Wednesday, September 17, 1980



## Let the sun shine in

Ontario Hydro researcher, Per Drewes (left) tested the effectiveness of a solar curing unit of the Port Burwell area farm of Bob Demaiter (right) this harvest. The one horsepower fan (far left corner) in the greenhouse did all

the work, drawing the warm air through a concrete channel into the rock bin for storage. Above the two check the temperature readings in the greenhouse, kiln and bin. (TN photo)



# No promises to buy mill

SIMCOE — The Long Point Region Conservation Authority is "obligated to respond" to requests that it try to purchase the Treffry mill in Norwich Township but no promises have been, or will be made concerning the acquisition.

That was the response received by a delegation of township residents who appeared at last Wednesday's meeting of

the authority to inquire into the purchase of the mill.

At its last monthly meeting Norwich Township council agreed to allocate \$5,000 towards the purchase of the mill and requested the authority investigate funding for the purchase. It was agreed funds should be sought from heritage and philanthropical organizations as well as

April 7/80 Delh  
investigating government funding for the \$62,000 purchase price of the 145-year-old mill.

The mill is still in operation and owned by Lorne Treffry. Mr. Treffry wishes to sell the 41-acre site as he is nearing retirement. The South Norwich Historical Society is interested in running the mill, possibly as a museum, if it can be purchased from the Treffry family.

Residents of the township turned out en masse to support the purchase at two public meetings, one with township council present.

At the conservation authority meeting Rick Singer and Joyce Pettigrew of the historical society and township Councillor Jack Walther appeared to ask the opinion of the authority.

"We are obligated to respond to these (motions presented by township council)," said authority chairman Gord Pennington. "There is a presumption the ministry will kick in some money on this and we have to check it out. I'm not sure the ministry will be willing."

He added provincial government spending restraints could prohibit the mill purchase and "the emphasis has been away from putting money into this kind of thing ... it's more into land and wetland acquisition."

Mr. Pennington suggested the historical society try to raise as much money as possible through public subscription to buy the mill. This idea was, however, rejected by Mr. Singer who said the museum could not acquire the mill but would try to raise funds to maintain and operate it as a museum or historical centre.

"The society doesn't want to own anything," said Mr. Singer. "That is why we went to the township and have come to the authority. We want to see if the property can be held in trust. This is in case the society goes belly-up or something."

The authority members agreed to pursue the matter and investigate funding but said it would take time. Norwich council asked for a response within 30 days, but authority officials said the investigations could take as long as three months.

## No commitment on mill purchase

APR 9

N.G

The Long Point Region Conservation Authority has not yet committed itself to the purchase of the Treffry Mill in Otterville.

"We are responding to the motion put to us by Norwich council, asking us to investigate funding," authority Chairman Gordon Pennington said Thursday.

He said he had been in touch with the ministry of natural resources and they had asked for details. He said he wanted their opinion but stressed the final decision on acquisition was

up to the authority.

Otterville residents have banded together in support of public acquisition of the mill, considered to be the oldest continuously operating water-powered mill in Ontario.

Norwich Township asked the authority to investigate taking out an option to purchase the property at its last meeting, also attended by about 100 concerned residents.

The authority's budget for land acquisition in 1980 is \$52,500. Lorne Treffry, owner of the mill already has

a \$60,000 offer from a private buyer. Mr. Pennington said the authority wanted to find out if the ministry of natural resources would pay for the mill.

Norwich Township has promised \$5,000 towards the purchase and the South Norwich Historical Society has promised to maintain and manage the mill property.

The property consists of 2.5 acres around the mill and 39 acres including the dam and mill pond north of County Road 19.

## No money, no mill

TILLS NEWS MAY 2

# LPRCA won't buy Treffry

BY ROY SANGER

The Long Point Region Conservation Authority does not have the money to purchase the Treffry Mill in Otterville this year, according to authority chairman Gordon Pennington.

"At the present time our budget is extremely tight," he explained. And he held out little hope for the future, noting the ministry of natural resources will not fund the purchase.

"It (the purchase of the mill) doesn't fall within our mandate as per the Conservation Authorities Act," he said. "They (the ministry) have no grants for acquisitions of that type."

Myrna Rutherford, secretary-treasurer of the authority, said grants from the ministry of natural resources are not available for

the purchase of historical buildings. She said the ministry had withdrawn grants for historical purposes several years ago as other government agencies, such as the ministry of culture and recreation, became involved.

Backus Mill was purchased while natural resources grants were available. Rock's Mill was purchased after the restrictions came into effect, but, Mrs. Rutherford said, one of the conditions of provincial help was that none of the government grant go toward the operation of the mill which is now being leased to private operators.

A similar proposal was considered for the Treffry Mill, according to Mrs. Rutherford, but was turned down because, "the predominance of the value in that property is the mill."

The mill is believed to be the oldest continuously operated water powered mill in Ontario. Otterville residents had banded together to press for public acquisition of the mill and 41.5 acres of property, including the mill pond and dam, because of its importance to the community.

Norwich Township council had requested the authority look into ways of purchasing the mill and property. It offered to pay \$5,000 towards the purchase price while the South Norwich Historical Society has offered to maintain the mill.

Having been turned down by the ministry of natural resources, Mr. Pennington said the authority has done its part in trying to find financing.

"We were asked by the municipality to investigate the funding of the project and we

have done so," he said. "We have fulfilled our obligations as far as their request goes." He added another ministry like culture and recreation may be able to help, but the conservation authority had its own mandate to consider.

"As far as we're concerned our money has to go to properties we are responsible for."

He acknowledged the concern over the mill but added: "We can't operate by emotion, we have to operate by fact." In this case fact was the Conservation Authorities Act which sets out the lands which are a conservation authority's responsibility.

Rick Singer, president of the South Norwich Historical Society, was unsure what the society's response would be. He said an executive meeting would be called in the next few days to determine its reaction and its next move.



# Campaign to save grist mill to continue

OTTERVILLE (Bureau) — The South Norwich Historical Society expects to continue its campaign to save the historic Treffry grist mill here, even though the Long Point Region Conservation Authority won't be taking part.

The authority advised Norwich Township on Monday it cannot get funds from the provincial natural resources ministry to help the township and the society preserve the oldest water-power mill in

Ontario.

Although the society has not yet been formally advised of the rejection, society member Joyce Pettigrew said Tuesday she is disappointed by the authority's position.

"I'm disappointed the Long Point people aren't more enthusiastic," she said, adding that if they had shared local fervor for the project funds might still have been found.

The 135-year-old property is for sale and comprises 41.5 acres along Oxford County Road 19, including a dam and mill pond. A private buyer has offered \$62,500 for it, but local citizens and the historical society are concerned about the fate of the mill, now owned by Lorne Treffry.

Pettigrew said the society doesn't know where to turn next for assistance and the society cannot afford to pur-

chase it alone.

"We've already made the noble offer to restore and look after it," she said.

Township clerk Bob Watkins said Tuesday that while council has offered \$5,000 to assist the conservation authority, the council is split on whether the township should really become deeply involved. He was unsure what action council might take on the matter when it meets Monday.

L.F. PRESS MAY 7

## Treffry property to be appraised

By SUZANNE HANSON

After meeting Monday with a delegation of Otterville residents concerned about the fate of the Treffry Mill, Norwich Township council decided in closed session to talk to the Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) about getting an appraisal on the property.

A resolution was passed by council requesting township Clerk Bob Watkins to obtain the services of a qualified appraiser that would meet with the authority's approval. The appraiser would

be requested to supply the township with a split price, one on the 39 acres of mill property located north of Oxford County Road 19 and one for the 2.5 acres of mill property south of the road.

Although nothing was decided Monday, once the appraisal is obtained, council may ask the LPRCA to consider purchasing the north side of the property said Mayor Jack Burn. The possibility of taking an option on the property was also discussed to buy time to gather information on possible funding for the

purchase of the property, he said, although no definite decision was made.

Council received official word Monday from the LPRCA that the provincial ministry of natural resources would not provide funding for the purchase of the mill property.

"The government is short of money," said Councillor Roger Orth who is also a member of the authority's executive. "The authority is only getting into water-related projects."

For that reason Mr. Orth

(Continued on Page 2)

## Historical group hails move to preserve mill

L.F. PRESS

OTTERVILLE (Bureau) — Norwich Township council's willingness to hire an appraiser and establish a committee to look into provincial grants was hailed Tuesday as a positive step in preserving the historic Treffry Mill.

Colin Cope, a member of the six-member committee which includes two members of council, said he was pleased with the action council took Monday.

"It is very definitely a positive approach and we're delighted to have some input from council," he said.

Cope is a member of the South Norwich Historical Society which wants the 135-year-old grist mill and surrounding property preserved. A private buyer has offered \$62,500 for the 41.5-acre property but area residents are concerned the oldest water-powered mill in Ontario may be lost to the community.

The society and council learned last week their appeal to the Long Point Region Conservation Authority to acquire the property had failed. The authority said it could find no funds for acquisition of such mills.

After earlier reservations about becoming too deeply involved in the project, council decided Monday to seek an appraiser and set up a committee to look

into provincial grants to assist a purchase.

Mayor Jack Burn explained that the appraisal will be done in two parts: the upper portion north of Oxford County Road 19 which includes the mill pond, and the lower portion on which the mill sits.

He said he still hopes the conservation authority might be persuaded to take over the pond area since it is part of the Otter Creek waterway.

"We do believe they have a responsibility there," he said. He expects another overture will be made to the authority once the appraisal is completed.

Burn said the authority has closed the door on mill acquisition but hasn't addressed the question of the mill pond.

He said the committee was established to pursue the availability of grants but he doesn't care whether the village or the conservation authority gets the money "as long as the job gets done."

The committee won't meet for a few weeks until an appraiser completes his work, Burn said. He understood earlier appraisals valued the pond area at \$22,000 and the mill area at \$40,000. Council and the committee want to know the exact costs of acquisition.

Mon May 12/80

## The

## Norwich Township joins battle to save mill on Otter Creek

OTTERVILLE (Bureau) — R. E. Mann Agencies Ltd. of Simcoe has been hired by Norwich Township council to appraise the historic Treffry Mill property here as a local group begins to plan a public campaign to save it.

Township clerk Bob Watkins said Wednesday he hopes the evaluation can be completed by mid-June.

Meanwhile, Colin Cope, a member of a citizen committee trying to save the mill, said the appraisal will be used to help convince the Long Point Region Conservation Authority to acquire part of the 41.5-acre property on Otter Creek.

The group will attempt to present the

appraisal and a scheme to preserve the property in time for the authority's July 9 budget deliberations.

Cope said authority support is essential if the local group is to have any chance of getting government backing for the property acquisition.

The authority has already rejected purchasing the whole property, but the local group and township council hope it will consider buying a mill pond and surrounding property just upstream and leave local interests to look for funds to acquire the mill itself.

Once the appraisal of the two parts is

completed, Cope said, the group will "make a pitch" to the authority that the property be included in next year's acquisitions.

"They've got to be the ones we build on; there's no doubt about that," Cope said.

If the authority can be swayed and "some commitment from council and grass roots organization" obtained, Cope is optimistic the site can be saved for future generations.

A private buyer has offered \$62,500 for the property, but the Norwich Historical Society is concerned about the possible loss of Ontario's oldest water-powered mill in the heart of the village.

Cope said tentative plans are being laid for either a chicken barbecue or strawberry festival on the mill grounds on the July 1 weekend. He hopes public support for the project can be expanded by attracting people to the mill.

The Otterville merchant said there are several avenues that must be explored before the mill's future can be assured and the key to those is support from the conservation authority.

"We don't have a package yet . . . there are so many bridges to cross on this thing," he said.

L.F. PRESS MAY 22



# Await appraisal on mill property

N 3  
MAY 28

# Otterville residents seek support for mill

Norwich Township council hopes to have the appraisal on the Treffry mill property in two weeks after which the next course of action will be decided upon, said Township Clerk Bob Watkins.

A Simcoe firm, R.E. Mann Agencies Ltd., has been hired by council to appraise the property and come up with an overall price on the 41.5 acre site as well as individual prices on the 2.5 acre mill property south of County Road 19 and the remaining property consisting of the dam and mill pond north of the road.

Although nothing definite has been decided regarding the next course of action, it is expected that once the appraisal is obtained, the Long Point Region Conservation Authority will be asked to consider purchasing the northern portion of the property. It is hoped the proposal could be put to the authority in time for consideration in its 1980 budget deliberations.

The authority recently rejected the purchase of the whole property citing lack of funds as the reason. Gordon Pennington, chairman of the authority, told members at a meeting earlier this month, that even if the authority wished to purchase only the mill pond it would have to be proved to the ministry the acquisition was essential to the watershed plan of the area.

Colin Cope, an Otterville merchant and member of a citizen's committee organized to investigate

funding and the development of the property, said support from the authority is essential if the local group is to get government backing for the purchase.

If the authority can be encouraged to consider the proposed purchase, with some commitment from council and local residents, the citizen committee is optimistic the site can be saved.

The South Norwich Historical Society has of-

fered to take on the responsibility for the maintenance and operation of the mill, believed to be the oldest, continuously operating water-powered mill in the province. The mill and dam are also the focal points of the community of Otterville.

Lorne Treffry now owns the mill but wishes to sell it in order to retire. He has been operating a custom milling business at the mill for almost 30 years.

By SUZANNE HANSON  
Otterville residents are hoping to expand public support for the preservation of the Treffry mill property by holding a chicken barbecue in conjunction with the official unveiling of a historic plaque at the mill. The historic plaque, commemorating the history of the 135-year-old grist mill, will be unveiled on Sunday, June 29, at 4 p.m. at the mill site in Otterville.

Colin Cope, a member of the citizen committee trying to save the mill property, said the purpose of the unveiling ceremony and barbecue is to raise public awareness of the value of the mill to the community. He also said there will be a need to establish on-going public support for the project on a day-to-day basis if the property is preserved.

A Simcoe firm, R.E. Mann Agencies Ltd., has been retained by Norwich Township council to come up with an appraisal on the property. It has not yet been completed but township Clerk Bob Watkins said it should be completed soon.

With an accredited appraisal, the Long Point Region Conservation Authority might be encouraged to provide some funding toward the purchase of the upper portion of the Treffry property—the dam and mill pond north of Oxford County Road 19, said Mr. Cope.

It is hoped such a proposal could be put to the authority in time for its July budget deliberations.

The appraisal on the property will present an overall price for the 41.5 acres as well as individual prices on each of the 2.5 acre mill property and the 39 acres north of the road.

A private buyer had offered the owner Lorne Treffry \$62,000 for the entire property.

The LPRCA earlier rejected a suggestion that it purchase the entire property, citing lack of funds as the reason. Mr. Cope said the citizen committee is optimistic that if the authority can be convinced to buy the northern portion of the property, the committee will be able to obtain funding from the ministry of tourism to assist with the purchase of the remaining 2.5 acres around the mill. He said government bodies and private sources will be approached by the committee in the hope of obtaining funding.

The committee organizing events for the plaque unveiling are hoping that area residents will take advantage of the opportunity to visit the mill and enjoy the Otterville area.

Following the official ceremony, the South Norwich Historical Society will be putting on a chicken barbecue in the meadow behind the mill. During the dinner, musical entertainment will be provided

by oldtime fiddler Gordon Elson of Ingersoll.

Following the barbecue a free concert in the Otterville Lions Park will feature the Sultan Six Dixieland Jazz Band at 7:30 p.m. Both events will take place rain or shine.

For those who would like to make it a day-long affair, the Lions Park is available for picnics and the swimming

pool will be open in the afternoon. The Woodlawn Adult Community Centre—a unique octagonal house will also be open to the public on the Sunday afternoon from 1 to 3:30 p.m. At 2:30 p.m., Lila Freeland of Otterville will be hosting an hour of quiet reflection and music in the Anglican Church on Dover Street.

Mr. Cope said tickets for the chicken barbecue must be purchased by June 23. They are available from Mr. Cope at 879-6996 or Lorraine Downing at 879-6852.

The Tillsonburg District Chamber of Commerce voted Friday to invite a member of the citizen committee to outline its position so the chamber can decide whether to support acquisition of the mill.

## Tillsonburg chamber backing fight to save Treffry mill

The Tillsonburg Chamber of Commerce is backing the South Norwich Historical Society and Otterville area citizens are fighting to preserve the Treffry Mill.

"The mill is the last remaining link to commerce as it was," Colin Cope, representing the historical society and the advisory committee told the chamber Friday.

He said the society has been actively seeking ways to maintain the mill. The society has promised to look after it and restore anything required if a public agency will acquire the site.

It includes the mill with its 2½ acres of property and the mill pond with a further 39 acres of property north of County Road 19. The cost is estimated at about \$60,000.

They have approached the Long Point Region Conservation Authority and Norwich Township council but were turned down this year, because of a lack of funds. He said it was important to have the mill placed on the 1981 budgets.

He noted there is substantial community involvement and support for the mill.

"We have the local support and we are confident that the mill as a landmark will be preserved," he said. "It's something of our heritage we should try to remain."

At this stage Mr. Cope explained, the society was looking for verbal support from organizations, to

strengthen its case to the council and conservation authority.

The Tillsonburg chamber gave its support. It also intends to hold one of its

summer meetings in Otterville to get a first-hand look at the mill.



T.N. JUNE 25

# Plaque to mark historic mill

Otter Creek Mills, which became known as Otterville, could just as well have been named Bullockstown in the latter half of the 19th Century. The Bullock family played an important part in the growth of the community.

The Otterville Mill was built in 1845, by Edward Bullock, to replace a previous mill which stood north of the road, on the east side of the Otter River. This new grist and flour mill had three pairs of stones, an annual capacity of 20,000 bushels, and a value of 470 pounds. It provided employment for three people. For some years Mathew Maddison was the miller.

This new mill brought the number of mills owned by Edward Bullock to three. He had purchased the Cromwell Mills - grist and saw mills - in this same year. The old grist mill became a woollen mill, producing 5,000 yards of cloth a year, and employing four people. The saw mill, at this time, was valued at 500 pounds, produced 200,000 feet of lumber annually, and employed two people.

Edward Bullock and his wife Catherine Rivers were natives of England. They were married in Upper Canada in 1842, and after living a short time near London, settled in Otterville. Between 1842 and 1925 the Bullock family played an important role in the history of Otterville and area. Mr. Bullock not only promoted the economy, but was also responsible for the subdivision of much of Otterville into its present village lots.

By 1850, Edward Bullock was listed as a general merchant, who owned three mills, an inn and a blacksmith shop. He also built a spacious home, overlooking the Otter River. This home, now owned by Mrs. A. DeWatcher, was one of the first brick homes to be built in the area. It was built prior to 1848, as his son, Frederick, was born there in that year. This lovely home was the centre of much social activity. The Bullocks were known as "wonderful entertainers." Mrs. Bullock had been born into a military family and was educated in England and in France.

The inn, built by Edward, was known as the "Farmer's Arms Tavern." It is now the home of Murray Treffry and his family. The location of the tavern was rather unique, at the brow of a very steep dirt hill, leading down to the mills from the west. If

one didn't need the services of the tavern while resting the oxen after the long haul up the hill, one probably needed a bracer for the fast sudden decent! It is not known who operated the inn for Mr. Bullock, nor is the exact location of his blacksmith shop, or his general store, known.

St. George Bullock, presumably an older brother, lived with the Bullocks and looked after farming the land, until his death in 1853. Other members of Mr. Bullock's family, who may have only visited here, were involved in his ventures, financially, at least.

Edward Bullock died in 1866 at age 49, having contributed much in his short lifetime to the growth and economy of Otterville. He also donated the land and material for the building of the first Anglican Church in the village, which was built in 1854. This Church, used until 1916, was located in the northwest corner of the Otterville Cemetery.

Edward and Catherine Bullock had a family of five boys and one girl. One son Charles died in infancy. Cecilia married James H. English and lived in Strathroy. Mrs. Bullock spent her latter years with them.

James E., the eldest, was a businessman like his father, looking after the management of the mills at an early age. In 1871, he was listed as deputy reeve. Frederick, the next eldest son, worked with James and was also the Montreal Telegraph Agent. Their mills flourished, and soon the younger two, Henry and Walter, joined their brothers and added hardware merchandising to their enterprises.

James Bullock contributed much to the planning and completion of the Port Dover and Lake Huron Railroad, along with Gilbert Moore and Dr. Cook of Norwich.

In 1877 the mills were sold to E.M. Schooley and James and Henry Bullock went to Chicago to live. It is possible that Walter went also, as not much seems to be known of him.

In 1879, Henry and James, of Chicago, and Frederick Bullock, along with W.F. Kay, formed the Otter Sweeper Company, making reportedly, the first carpet sweepers in Canada. (No Patent has been found in their names.) These were made, partly at the Bullock

residence where women put the bristles in the brushes, and partly in the building which stood where Sander's Store now stands. This manufacture gave rise to the Otterville Manufacturing Company which operated at the east end of Otterville until about 1933. They made everything from baby carriages, to "King of the Field" hand corn planters, to furniture.

Frederick Bullock was the only one of the family to live his entire life in Otterville. He and his wife Elizabeth Creighton built a lovely Victorian home in 1894, in the east end of Otterville (now owned by Mrs. Jack Furlong). He died in 1925.

Henry donated the money for the building of the present Anglican Church and former Rectory, as a memorial to his parents. It was built in 1915 at a cost of \$70,000.

Henry Bullock died in 1933, at age 80, apparently, the last of the Bullocks. Unfortunately, he died a broken man having lost everything in the Depression. The Bullocks had been heavy grain market investors in Chicago. Henry spent his last days in Otterville.

Otterville owes much to the Bullock family. Although the Bullocks seem to have left no descendants to enjoy the fruits of their labours, the citizens of the area still have two memorials to help them remember the Bullock contribution to the village - the grist mill built in 1845, and the beautiful Anglican Church.

The unveiling of the historic plaque on Sunday, June 29, at 4 p.m. at the Otterville Mill, is erected by the South Norwich Historical Society and the Ministry of Culture and Recreation. It commemorates the fact that the mill has served as the centre of the area's economy for over 145 years. The plaque also serves as a tribute to the families that have owned the mills and played an important part in the growth of the community. Three generations of Lossings - Solomon, LeRoy and Reginald - ran the mill following E.M. Schooley's brief ownership. As Lorne Treffry closes the doors, two generations of Treffry ownership are ended.

One need only reminisce a few years back to recall the importance of the grist mill to the farming community. The information gained while waiting for the grain to be ground was often as

valuable as the grist itself!

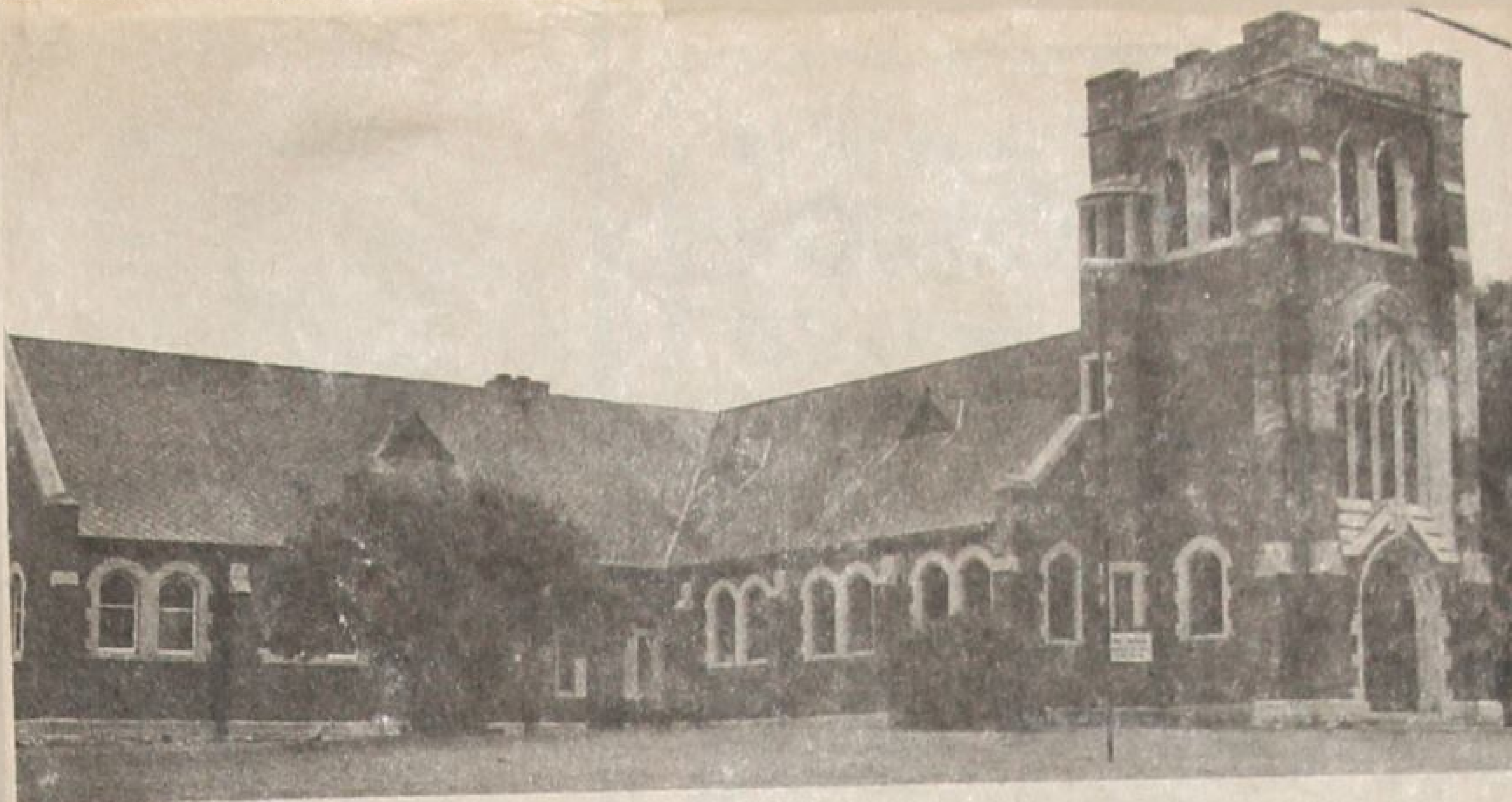
The village of Otterville exists because of the choice of the junction of Sweets Creek and the Otter River for mill sites, because of the available energy and foresight of its owners, from Earl and Avery, in 1807, through to the Treffrys. The age of the small mill is, perhaps over, but the mill site and its dam are still here as a picturesque reminder of the important part it has played in our heritage. It is hoped that it may remain so.



## Original church

The land and materials for the original Anglican church located in the northwest corner of the Otterville cemetery, were donated by Edward Bullock. The church was built in 1854. It was replaced by the present church built closer to the downtown area.





### St. John's church

Otterville still has reminders of the prominent Bullock family, responsible for much of the early growth of the small community. The money for the present Anglican

church and rectory was donated by one of Edward Bullock's sons. The Otterville mill is another Bullock landmark.

# 'Last respects' paid to historic mill

By CYNTHIA DAVID  
Sentinel-Review staff writer

Otterville residents paid their last respects to the Treffrey mill, Sunday, with the unveiling of a plaque saluting the mill's 175 years of service to the town and honoring its first owner, Edward Bullock, whose family played a major role in the village's development.

When the plaque was being cast, the South Norwich Historical Society, which initiated the project, was unaware that the mill's present owner, Lorne Treffrey, planned to close its doors.

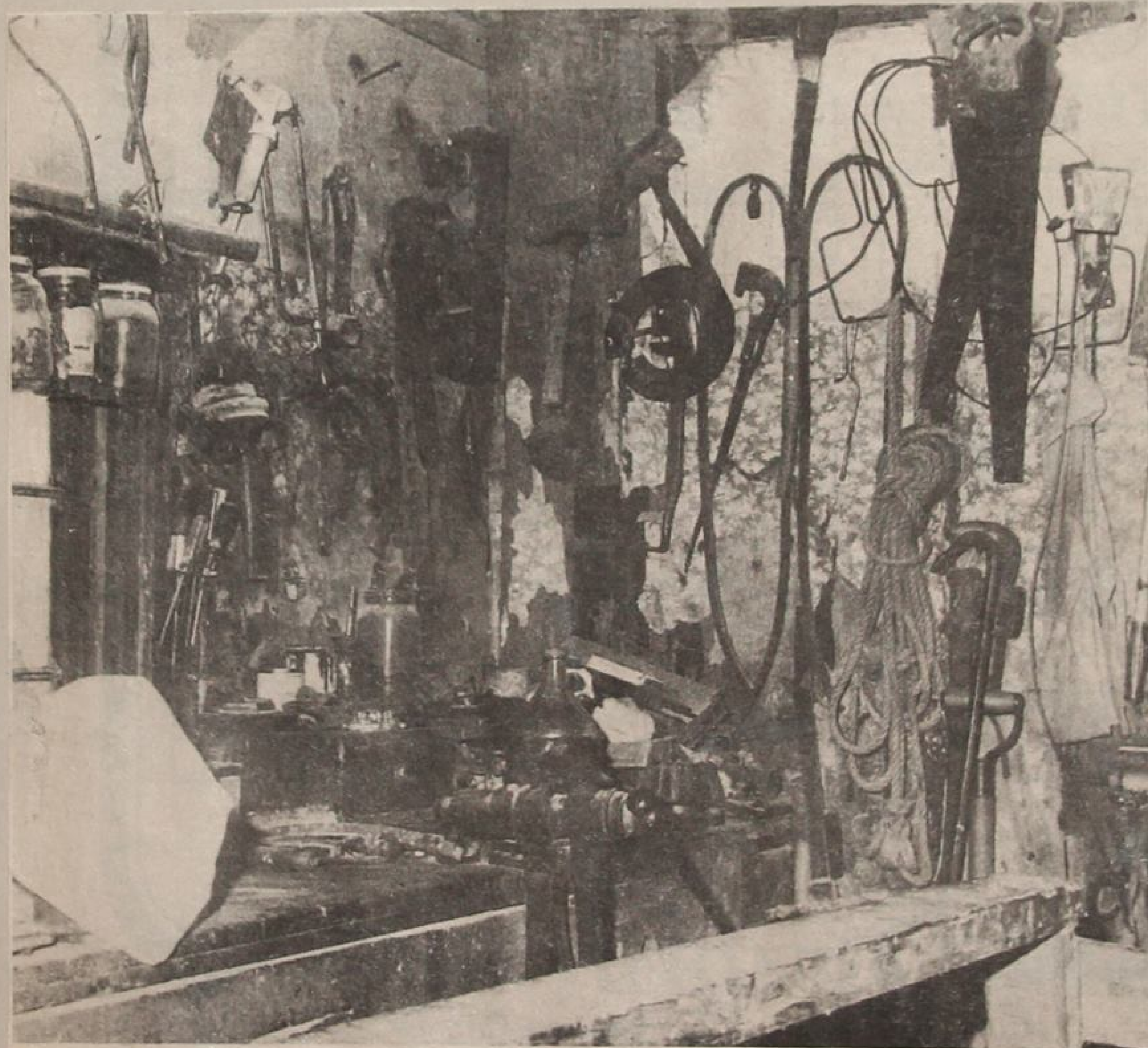
The three-storey building has been closed for a month now, but Treffrey says he still grinds grain for friends and his own family. His father bought the mill in 1942, after it passed through three generations of the Solomon Lossing family. Bert Lossing, Solomon's great great-grandson, was on hand for the plaque unveiling.

The water turbine-operated mill was once the economic core of the community, Lossing said, making flour and bran, husking corn and grinding grain for cattle feed for local farmers.

Now, it is one of the few small gristmills left in Ontario. Since the 1920s, huge commercial enterprises have taken over flour-milling, and area farmers have varied their crops and begun raising dairy cattle.

"With the vast changes in transportation and farming in general and the dramatic changes in the role of the miller, the era of the small mills is drawing to a close," said guest speaker Colin Cope, an Otterville businessman and chairman of the mill advisory committee.

The plaque was co-sponsored by the ministry of culture and recreation, and the unveiling was one of several special events held in Otterville on the weekend.



### Nothing has changed

Tools of the milling business, many now obsolete, remain as they were left after their last use at the 135-year-old Treffrey mill in Otterville. The old mill hummed with activity on

Sunday as it opened its doors and turned on its water turbine for the guests at the unveiling of a historic plaque. (TN photo).



# Plaque unveiling marks 135 years of

By HILARY LINTON  
 Years may go by, and the  
 wheel in the river  
 Wheel as it wheels for us,  
 children, today  
 Wheel and keep roaring and  
 foaming forever—  
 Long after all of the boys are  
 away.  
 Home from the Indies and

home from the ocean,  
 Heroes and soldiers we all  
 shall come home;  
 Still we shall find the old mill  
 wheel in motion  
 Turning and churning that  
 river to foam.  
 from Keepsake Mill  
 by Robert Louis  
 Stephenson

It had been 40 years since Bert Lossing had been in the Treffry mill.

He was a seven-year-old child then, and his father would throw him into the pile of ground grain in the chop bin to keep him out of trouble.

Mr. Lossing returned to

the mill on Sunday to take part in the unveiling of a plaque commemorating the 135 years of history Treffry mill represents.

"It's hardly changed at all since I was a kid," he mused.

The ceremony Sunday turned into a day of nostalgia as many memories from past days and tales handed down through the generations were shared.

The first grist and saw mills on the Big Otter Creek were built in Otterville in 1807, said Colin Cope of the South Norwich Historical Society. When Edward Bullock bought the mills in 1845, grain trade with Britain was at such a peak he promptly constructed a new three-storey mill powered by water turbines.

His son, James, operated the mill until 1877, when E. M. Schooley bought it. Mr. Schooley, however, sold the mill after three years to Solomon Lossing, Bert's great-grandfather. The next two generations of Lossings, LeRoy and Reginald, operated the mill until 1941.

Ernest Treffry was the next owner of the Otterville mill. It is his son, Lorne, who owns it today and has been doing custom work over the years. He filled his last order on Friday, is now retiring and has the mill up for sale.

The South Norwich Historical Society and the ministry of the environment co-sponsored the plaque which was unveiled Sunday by Mr. Treffry and Mr. Lossing, who now lives in Woodstock.

After the dedication ceremony, Mr. Treffry opened the doors of the mill, turned on the water turbine and set all the belts and



### Come and get it!

Murray Wardell, left, and Mel Smith, of the Norwich Lions Club, were the head chefs at the chicken barbecue following the unveiling of the historical plaque at Treffry mill on Sunday. There were 270 half-chickens roasted. (TN photo).



# Otterville's Treffry mill history

wheels in motion. Visitors climbed the narrow wooden stairs of all three storeys, examining the dust-covered tools, machines and mysterious gadgets from the past which fill the tall wooden building. Outside, a fiddler played some old-time melodies.

Such activity inspired memories among many people at the gathering who had grown up in the community around the mill.

Mr. Lossing said the dam

as well as the mill, was built in 1845. His grandfather and father rebuilt the dam in 1904.

Mr. Lossing recalled how they used to drain the dam every year, and the carp in it "looked like sharks". People would come all the way from Toronto to catch those carp, he said.

"They'd think they had the world by the tail," he laughed.

The Otterville mill also

took its toll of lives, Mr. Lossing said. His uncle Allan, then a young man in his late teens, was killed in the mill around 1920 when he was hit by a blade from a grinder that exploded.

The mill used to make its own flour, Mr. Lossing said, though he could not recall the brand name. After the 1920s, however, large flour mills dominated the business, and the mill stopped making flour. It continued to remain busy,

making custom grist and rolled oats, he said.

Bill McMullen Sr., 70, was among the local oldtimers at the mill on Sunday to savor his recollections of the effect of the mill on the community.

During the depression in the 1930s farmers gave the miller chickens and vegetables in exchange for the grist, he said.

"Nobody had a cent for anything in those days," he said.

Although Sunday was a day for the past, there was also some talk of the future. It is not known what will become of the Treffry mill. It is currently up for sale, but the South Norwich Historical Society and the community want the mill and mill pond preserved as a historical site.

Mr. McMullen shared that sentiment. He would like the mill to be turned into a museum.

"I'd hate to see it go," he said.

For the people of Otterville, the Treffry mill represents many years of history, progress, friends and family. For them, the final words of Robert Louis Stephenson's poem, *Keepsake Mill*, take on special significance— "Here we shall meet and remember the past."

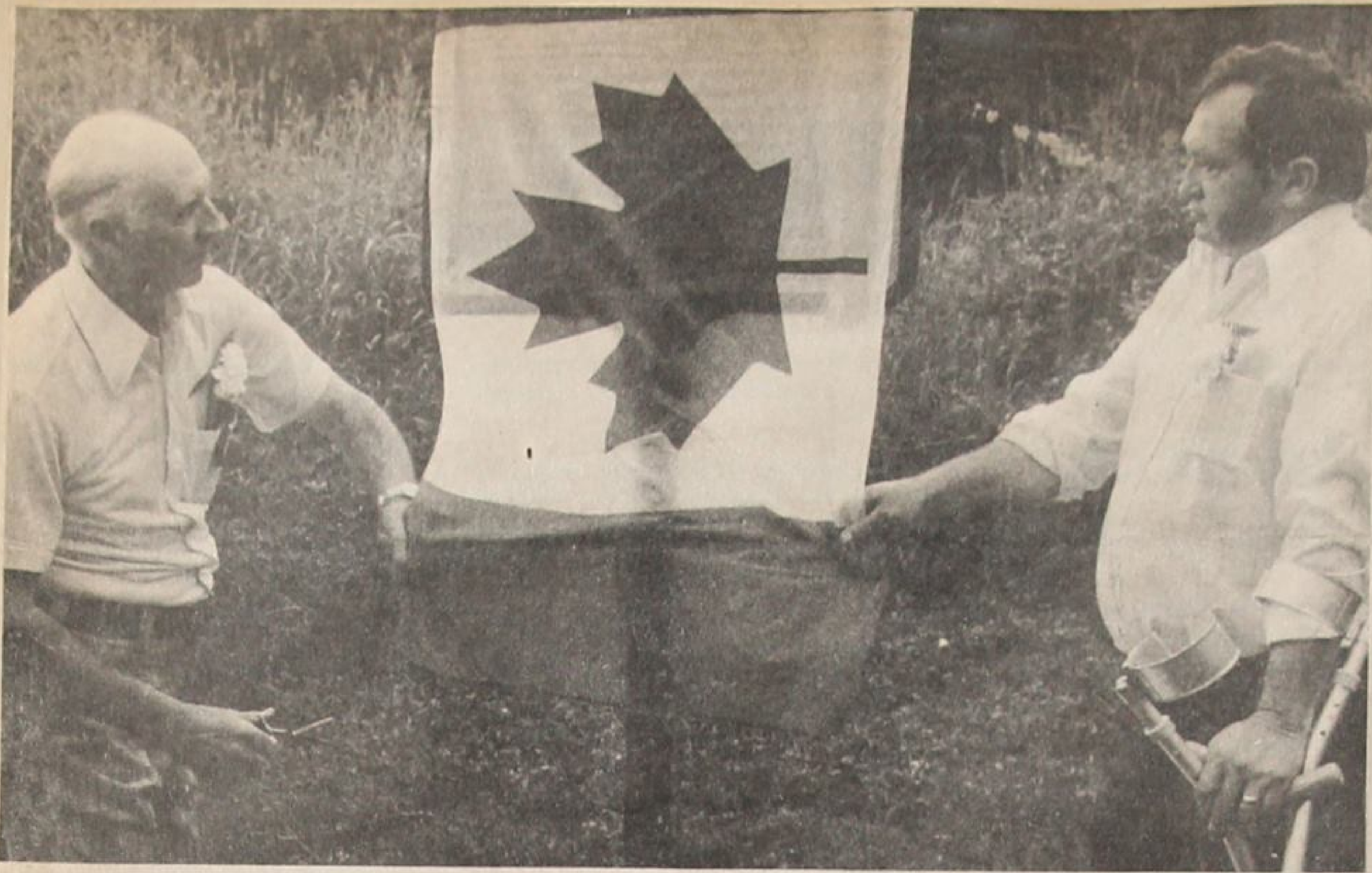


## I remember

Lorne Treffry, owner of the Treffry mill, and Bert Lossing, whose family operated it for three generations, shared many memories from past milling days at the plaque

unveiling ceremony on Sunday. Both men unveiled the plaque commemorating the history of the mill, which was co-sponsored by the ministry of the environment and the South Norwich Historical Society. (TN photo)





**Treffry mill plaque**

A plaque commemorating 135 years of activity of the Otterville mill, and the families who operated it, was unveiled Sunday. Lorne Treffry, right, owner of the mill, and Bert Lossing of

Woodstock, whose family operated the mill for three generations between 1880 and 1941, unveiled the plaque at the mill. (TN Photo).

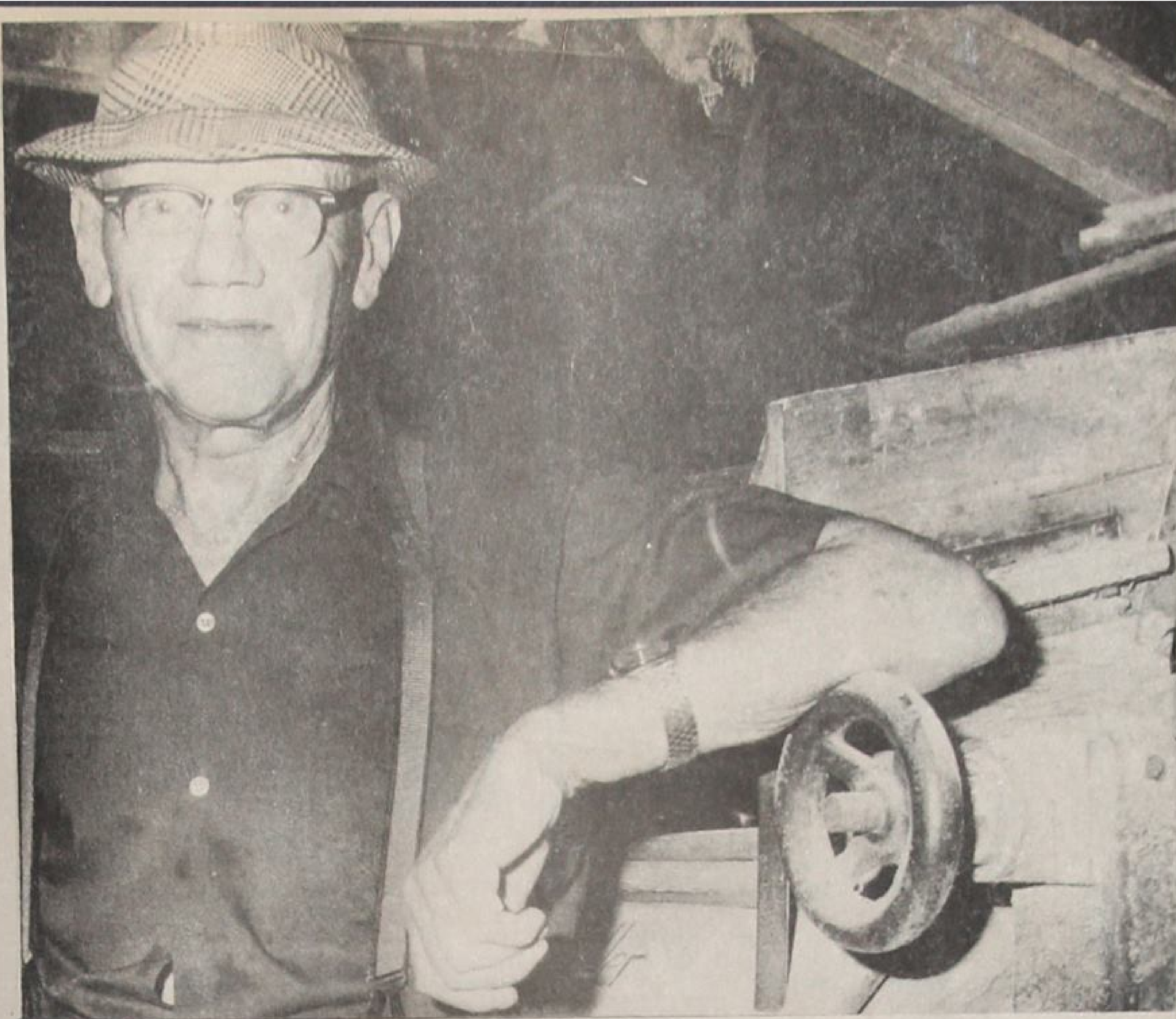


**Mill comes alive**

When the Treffry mill was built in 1845, it was the centre of activity in Otterville. It was again the focal point on Sunday

when an historic plaque commemorating the value of the mill and the families that operated it was unveiled. About 270 people were present. (TN photo)





**Right at home**

Bill McMullen senior, who has lived in Otterville for "exactly 70 years," leans up against an old oat roller inside the Treffry mill. Mr. McMullen, who knows the mill and the milling business very well, said he'd like to see the building

made into a museum. He was one of the 270 people who came to Treffry mill on Sunday for the unveiling of an historic plaque. (TN photo)



**Days gone by**

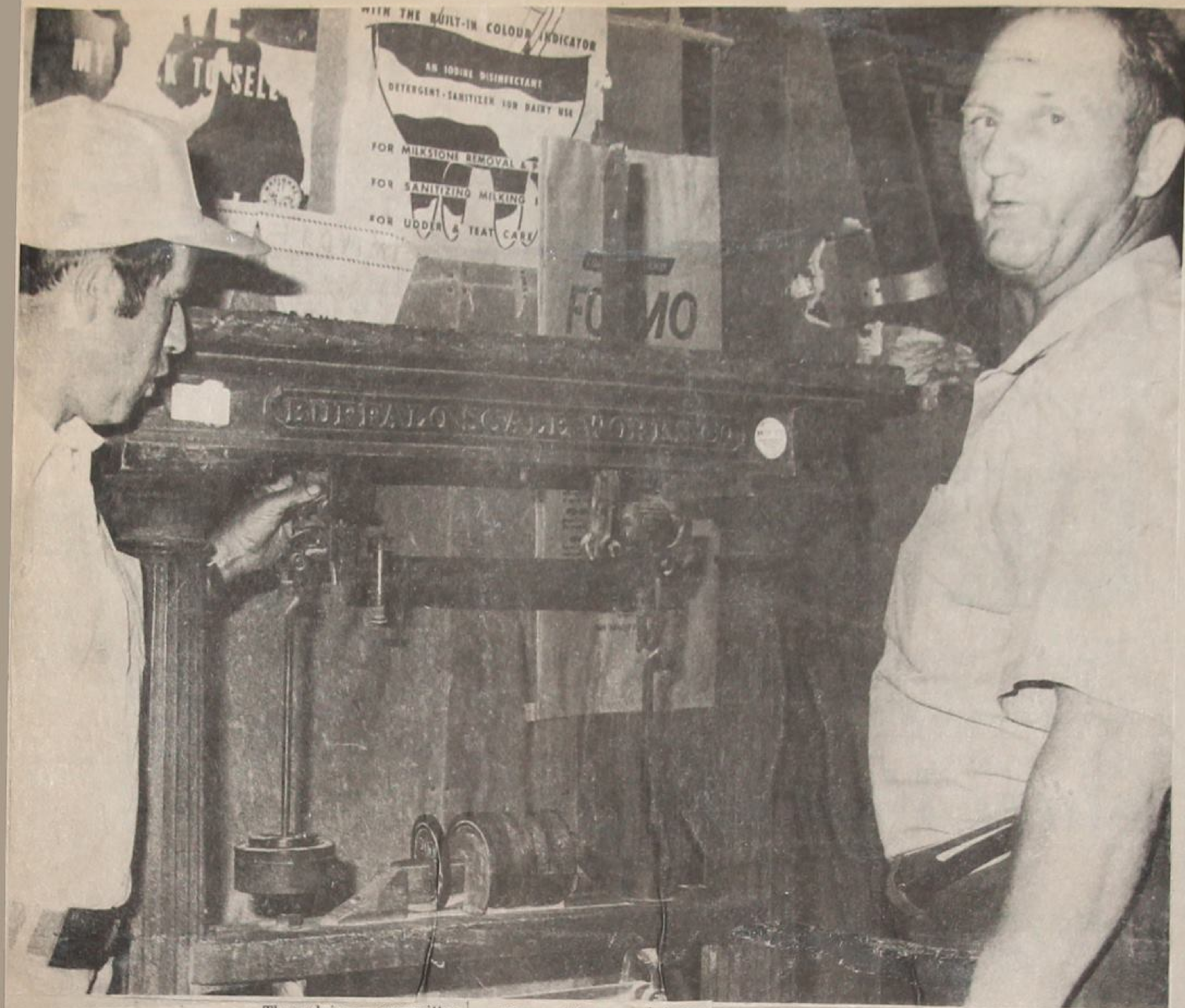
Way up on the third floor of the Treffry mill hangs this old sign, a relic of the past. The entire mill was open and operating on Sunday, during the unveiling of a historic plaque at the site and a chicken barbecue, organized by the South Norwich Historical Society. (TN



**It works like this**

Harry Parrott, minister of the environment, listens intently as Lorne Treffry, owner of the Otterville mill, explains the mechanics of the water turbine that powers the 135-year old mill. Mr. Treffry, whose family operated the mill for three generations, and Bert Lossing unveiled a historic plaque at the mill on Sunday. The plaque is co-sponsored by the ministry of the environment and the South Norwich Historical Society. (TN photo).





## Council options old mill

By SUZANNE HANSON

Norwich Township council showed its unanimous support for the preservation of the Treffry mill property in Otterville by agreeing to option the entire parcel for \$1,000 on a property value of \$60,000.

Council took the option, to be in effect for one year, following a presentation by Colin Cope, a member of the mill advisory committee. Mr. Cope said the committee would be in a much stronger position when it goes before the Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) tonight if it has the support of the township as demonstrated by council's willingness to option the property.

"An option by council shows the interest that they (LPRCA) will be looking for," said Councillor Bill Sanders.

"Someone must take the bull by the horns and option the property," said Councillor Jack Walther before council made the decision to option the property.

The advisory committee, appointed to investigate funding for the purchase of the property, will be presenting a brief to the LPRCA tonight requesting the authority purchase that part of the mill property that falls under the category of water resource management. That includes property on both the north and south sides of Oxford County Road 19, said Mr. Cope.

An appraisal on the property, recently obtained from R.E. Mann Agencies Ltd. in Simcoe, sets the estimated market value of the property at \$58,500. The 39-acre mill pond portion of the property was appraised at \$18,500 and the 2.6 acres of property around the mill was valued at \$40,000.

It is hoped the appraisal can be used to help convince the LPRCA to acquire part of the mill property.

The authority earlier rejected the purchase of the whole mill property citing lack of funds as the reasons. The authority has also said that in order to get grants from the ministry for the purchase of the mill pond section of the property, the water management aspects would need to be proven.

The citizen advisory committee has said that after the purchase of the mill is completed, there will be no more funds required from the township for the property, said Councillor Walther, another member of the advisory committee.

Mr. Cope said the committee would like to see a mill foundation established for the support of the mill. Private foundations such as the Ivy Fund and Ontario Heritage Association are being approached by members of the committee to obtain funding for the project.

He said there has been considerable community interest expressed in the project as was demonstrated by the turnout of about 300 people to a plaque unveiling and barbecue held on June 29 at the mill site. The event also raised more than \$600 for the mill fund.

"There is real concern for the mill," said Mr. Cope. "As an educational facility it is just invaluable."

If the mill is purchased, several government groups have made suggestions as to its possible uses, said Mr. Cope. One suggestion might be to lease it as a business to someone who wishes to operate it as such and keep the upper floors as a

## CA considers mill site

The land and waterway for the Treffry Mill in Otterville is being taken into consideration by a committee, appointed by the Long Point Region Conservation Authority, to investigate the purchase of the millsite, with exception to the building itself.

The authority was approached by Colin Cope, a representative of the advisory committee to the Norwich Township council, which is composed of citizens and councillors looking into the possibilities of purchasing the millsite.

Mr. Cope, in a presentation to the authority Wednesday, said the advisory committee has asked council to option

the millsite for one year in order that way and means of purchase may be determined. He said Norwich township council supports this plan, and there are two qualified appraisals that support the asking price of the owner.

He said the committee hopes the purchase can be made by the co-operative efforts of the public, the municipality and the provincial government through the conservation authority.

Mr. Cope said the authority had already been approached to purchase the entire property, but grants were not available for the purchase of historic sites,

which the Treffry Mill building itself is classified as. However, the land and millpond with its waterway and adjoining land, fall under the jurisdiction of the ministry of natural resources for water management purposes.

Mr. Cope stressed the advisory committee's view that the millsite is valuable to the South-western Ontario area as well as the region encompassed by the LPRCA.

The request received a favorable attitude on the part of the authority, but authority members felt they should move cautiously in investigating the purchase.

Chairman Gord Pennington told Mr. Cope when a public body buys a piece of land, there is a lot of public pressure for the upkeep of the land. He said there should be more discussion on the maintenance of the site and possibly a study done on it.

Authority member Roger Orth said he thinks it's a worthy piece of property and a beauty spot in Otterville which should be preserved.

museum. The other option would be to operate it as a special section of the South Norwich Historical Society.

NG July 16

NG July 23



# Fate of historic mill debated

(continued from page 1)

"If the mill is not put in public hands now it will be a great disservice to the future", said Mr. Bateman.

Mr. Treffry knows what happens to abandoned mills. A few years ago while excavators were digging up the river bed an old mill wheel was unearthed from the mud. Mr. Treffry identified as a relic of an old casket factory which was on the river and had the wheel moved to the front of his mill as a sort of monument. The naturalists and historians intend to keep after local officials to see that Treffry's millwheel doesn't suffer the same fate in the future.

DELHI NEWS MARCH 19

OTTERVILLE—Local historians and naturalists have banded together in a campaign to ensure preservation of the old Treffry mill through private ownership.

The mill was built in 1845 on the Otter river, and, as was the case in many communities, Otterville grew around it. But the Treffry mill stands out because 145 years later it is still in commercial operation.

Lorne Treffry has been doing custom grist work at the mill for almost 30 years. The current of the Otter River still powers the mill wheel which drives an aging but functional mainshaft and grindstone.

Mr. Treffry is proud to point out that the mill is quiet, pollution free and still commercially viable. In a time when almost all forms of energy are in doubtful supply the river's power is free and dependable. In fact Mr. Treffry can only recall one week in his many years of running the mill that the river was too low to drive the mill.

But soon Mr. Treffry will retire and the fate of the mill will be in question. Rick Singer, president of the South Norwich Historical Society appeared before Norwich Township Council last week and asked the council to consider buying the property. The Treffry property including the Mill pond and dam included 41 acres and carries a price tag of \$62,000.

The council decided not to make a bid. While they want to see the mill preserved mayor Jack Burns said the council could not afford the price.

It was also expected that the Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) would be interested in purchasing the property but resource manager Phil Hale told the Council last week that the authority simply does not have the money. The LPRCA already has a mill at Backus and at Rock's Mill downstream from Treffry's mill on the Otter river.

Mr. Singer said it would be to the township's advantage to purchase the property since the mill dam takes in most of the northern part of Otterville and a foot bridge on the site provides the only access to the municipal park.

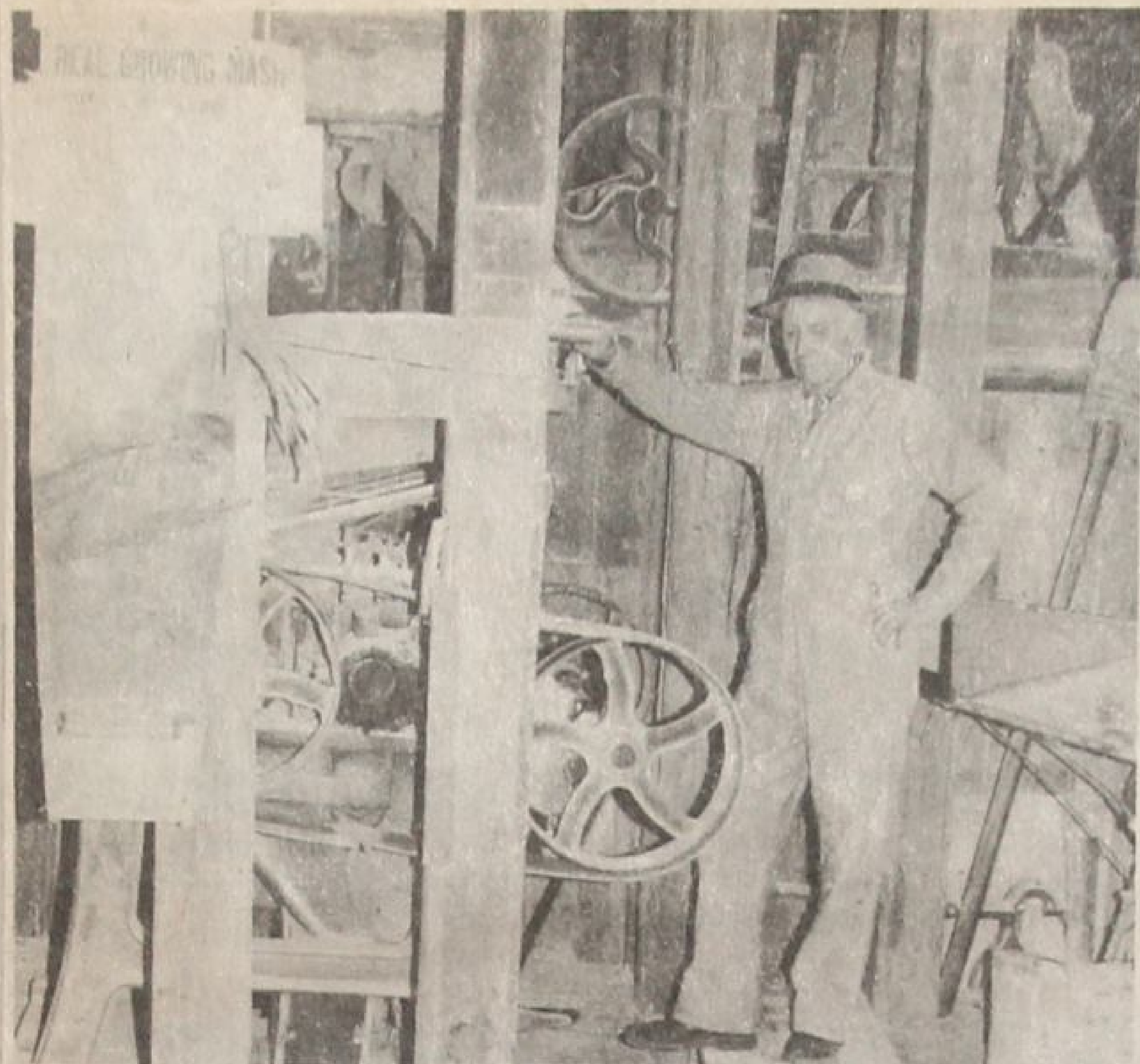
Richard Jonckiere of the Norfolk Field Naturalists Society says the mill is an irreplaceable historical treasure especially because it is in excellent condition.

Mr. Jonckiere said the mill site could be part of a chain of historical sites in the area which would attract tourists.

Ross Bateman of the Historical Society said the entire Long Point Region could be incorporated into a historical package with the assistance of the provincial government.

There is a private buyer who is interested in purchasing the property and turning it into an antique shop or possibly a private residence. "That is fine but then we have to worry about the next owner. The only way it will ever be safe if it is in private hands" said Mr. Singer. He said the purchase price was very reasonable considering the amount of property.

(continued on page 2)



Lorne Treffry stands amidst the intricate series of gears and belts he has operated to do custom grist work at his mill for the last 30 years. (Staff Photo)



The Treffry mill, on the banks of the Otter River is one of the last mills in the province still doing commercial work. (Staff Photo)



# Seek support to save mill

By SUZANNE HANSON

MARCH 23

A meeting will be held on Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Otterville community hall to outline proposals concerning the Treffry mill and to enlist the support of area residents for the mill's preservation.

The meeting was called to get the community behind the South Norwich Historical Society in its attempt to encourage the Long Point Region Conservation Authority to purchase the mill property to preserve it for historical purposes.

There is a need for haste in the matter as there is a private buyer interested in purchasing the property. Two representatives of the LPRCA will also be in attendance at the Township of Norwich council meeting on Tuesday night to discuss the mill. President of the historical society Rick Singer said the society wants to know if there is any support from the community before it proceeds in the matter.

"We must have an indication of support now," said Otterville resident Catherine Mann. Community support for the preservation of the mill must be voiced to the authority if it is to be persuaded to take on the project.

The mill property consists of 2.6 acres around the mill site and 39 acres on the north side of County Road 19 including the dam, the mill pond and the water for more than a half a mile up the river to the east where the old railroad bridge was located.

The property not only includes the water, but the land under the water, said Mr. Singer.

The old grist mill, built in 1845, was originally the reason for Otterville's existence. It is still the focal point of the village and surrounding area, said Mrs. Mann.

"Otterville is most fortunate to have this mill site in its midst. Few places in the area have been more photographed or written about. With planning and the co-operation of local people, township council and the LPRCA, this beautiful historic property can be the highlight of the district," she said.

In a 1962 report of the Otter Creek Conservation Authority (which later amalgamated with the Big Creek Conservation Authority to form LPRCA) it was recommended that the authority "consider such action as may be necessary

to prevent the destruction or radical alteration of this building and investigate the possibility of using the area around the mill and the pond for historical purposes."

It has been an assumption for a number of years, said Mrs. Mann, that the Treffry mill site would one day be the property of the LPRCA. Acquisition of the property was a top priority of the Otter Creek Conservation Authority in both the 1958 and 1962 reports.

"The property is now for sale and there appears to be a reluctance on the part of the LPRCA to purchase it," she said.

A proposal was brought before township council on March 10 by Mr. Singer suggesting that the township co-operate with the LPRCA in the purchase of the property. A private buyer has offered the list price of \$62,000 for the property including the mill site and the property on the north side of County Road 19.

LPRCA Resource Manager Phil Hale told council he did not believe the purchase of the mill would be a priority with the authority.

Mrs. Mann said there has been an indication that if there is enough local interest in preserving the mill, the LPRCA might renew its interest in the property and be persuaded to assume its responsibility for this portion of its waterways.

The South Norwich Historical Society has offered to operate and maintain the mill as a functioning museum or to lease it to a private individual, whatever is the best use for it, said Joyce Pettigrew, RR 1, Otterville.

The mill property directly affects many people throughout the town, said Mr. Singer. He said the mill dam takes in most of the northern part of Otterville and a foot bridge on the site provides the only access to the township park.

If the property gets into private hands there is no guarantee the mill or the dam would be kept up.

Mrs. Mann urged area people who are interested in having the property -- the mill site and the waterway -- maintained and developed, to indicate their support now by attending the meeting Sunday afternoon.

TILLSONBURG NEWS

FRI MARCH 21, 1980



# Norwich not buying old Otterville mill

By SUZANNE HANSON

Norwich Township council decided at its meeting Monday not to make an offer to purchase the mill property owned by Lorne Treffry in Otterville.

The approximately 41.6 acres of land containing the mill pond and dam on the north side of County Road 19 and the old grist mill on the south side have been for sale for a number of years. The matter was brought before council by Rick Singer, president of the South Norwich Historical Society, who is concerned the mill may be sold to a private individual who may not keep up the mill, or the dam and the pond, as a historic site.

"We would like to see the mill remain the way it is," said Mayor Jack Burn, but the township cannot afford the purchase price of \$62,000 the private buyer is willing to pay for the site.

Mayor Burn said council had originally been led to believe the Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) might be interested in assisting with the acquisition of the property by requesting provincial grants to help finance the purchase.

The resource manager for the LPRCA

Phil Hale advised council Monday that the authority's grant rate is fixed and if money went to finance the purchase of the Treffry mill, that money would be lost to some other project.

"Times are tough and that's working against you," said Mr. Hale. The authority already has two mills, one at Backus and the Rock's Mill further down the Otter from the Treffry Mill.

Mr. Hale said that in his mind the authority membership feels the better acquisition of the two mills was the Rock's Mill because of the benefit to the authority. That site will eventually be used for conservation demonstration purposes. Preliminary plans also include provisions for outdoor recreation, protection of the river valley from development and for flood plain control.

The pond at the Otterville mill is well on the way to becoming a swamp, said Mr. Hale. It is gradually filling in with sediment trapped by the dam and no longer serves for water control. The usability of the site "is almost nil".

He said it also questionable how long the dam at the site will continue to hold with the

build up of sediment behind it. If the dam went out the province might not come up with the money to replace it, said Councillor Roger Orth. He also pointed out as a member of executive of the LPRCA that they are not in favor of purchasing the property.

Mr. Hale said the authority is in a tough financial situation right now.

"There's not enough money now to support the existing projects. Projects must be aligned in some sort of priority," he said.

Mr. Singer said he had hoped the authority and council would undertake the purchase of the mill, with the historical society willing to take on the perpetual cost of the upkeep and operation of the property. He told council the private individual who has made the offer to purchase the mill wants to change the mill into an antique shop and possibly a residence. The grist mill, built in 1845, is the oldest building in Otterville, having formed the starting point for the village.

Councillor Hardee Richardson pointed out that should the proposed Tillsonburg dam go ahead, Rock's Mill may be underwater, leaving the Treffry mill as the only mill in Oxford County.

## Want old mill saved

About 100 Otterville and area residents turned out Sunday afternoon in support of public acquisition of the Treffry Mill.

SUN. MAR. 21

Jack Walther, who chaired the meeting, said its purpose was to get the "moral and financial support" of the community which he said the Long Point Region Conservation Authority wanted as a prerequisite to purchasing the property.

The audience heard a number of speakers representing various viewpoints, all speaking in favor of action by the authority, in order to keep the mill.

The site, according to Catherine Mann, who presented a brief from the South Norwich Historical Society, is a "vital asset to the village and township" which could be enhanced to serve as a tourist drawing card.

The mill is one of the oldest continuously operating water powered mills in Ontario, and she said if maintained "the mill site could once again be the reason for Otterville's existence."

Colin Cope, who represented the business interests in Otterville, said it was an attraction that would add to Otterville and this "may be the only chance to preserve the mill as it is."

The singular importance of the mill to Otterville was the message of the day from all the speakers.

The message from the audience was: When do we do something about it?

Mr. Walther, also the Norwich Township representative on the Long Point Region Conservation Authority, said he understood the authority was afraid of being saddled with ongoing maintenance and operating costs and wanted a signal, such as the guarantee of local money, before promising to purchase it.

"That would be a sure-fire way of getting the project off the ground," he said.

However, the audience felt it was the authority's obligation to buy the mill and waterway. The historical society has offered to maintain the mill site and keep part of it as a museum and the feeling was that that was enough of a responsibility for the community to handle.

The matter will be dealt with at Norwich Township council Tuesday. Time has been allotted from 8 to 8:45 in the evening for council to meet with representatives of the land acquisition committee of the authority and a six-member committee representing the people of Otterville.

Those in attendance at Sunday's meeting were also urged to attend to prove to Norwich council and the conservation authority the depth of feeling and support for the preservation of the mill.

There is some urgency to the appeals for public purchase of the mill as the owner has an offer from a private buyer at the appraised value of \$62,000.

Representing the people of Otterville at Tuesday's meeting with a report to council will be Jack Walther, Catherine Mann, Marion Dowd, Rick Singer, Colin Cope and Dr. Murray Downing.

### Conservation authority asked to acquire mill

OTTERVILLE — About 150 area residents concerned about the future of the oldest operating water-powered mill in Ontario heard Norwich Township council hand over responsibility for its acquisition to Long Point Regional Conservation Authority Tuesday.

Councillor Roger Orth, also a member of the conservation authority, proposed asking the authority to investigate purchasing the property here and determining whether public or foundation money was available. Council agreed to provide \$5,000 if the authority didn't have enough funds to cover its share.

Authority member Roger Smith said the group had only \$52,200 in its 1980 land acquisition budget. The 41.5-acre site, owned by Lorne Treffry, is available for \$60,000, although a private buyer has offered \$62,000.

The main town waterline passes through the property with no easement. The conservation authority meets April 9.

L.F. PRESS





### Want mill preserved

The Treffry grist mill built in 1845 is one of the few authentic mills of its kind left in the area. A meeting is being held on Sunday in Ot-

terville at the community hall to enlist community support for the preservation of the mill, the dam and the mill pond. (NG photo)



### 39 acres more

The property included with the Treffry mill located in Otterville includes the 2.6-acre mill site and 39 acres on the north side of County Road 19. Those 39 acres include the dam, mill pond and the water rights for that land as far as a half mile up the Otter

River. The South Norwich Historical Society is trying to enlist community support to preserve the mill at a meeting Sunday afternoon in Otterville at the community hall. (NG photo)

*Mar 23/80*

*L.F. PRESS*

# Public ownership urged for historic mill

OTTERVILLE (Bureau) — Norwich Township council and the Long Point Region Conservation Authority will be asked to purchase jointly the historic Treffry grist mill when it becomes available next month.

Rick Singer, president of the South Norwich Historical Society and one of a group of persons interested in preserving the 135-year-old property, said Monday the proposal will be put to township

and authority representatives at a council meeting tonight. *25th March*

The mill, built in 1845, is the oldest in the area and the oldest operating water-powered mill in Ontario, historical society member Joyce Pettigrew said.

"I don't think there are many parts around (Norwich Township) that have been more photographed or written about."

The 41.5-acre site owned by Lorne

Treffry consists of 2.5 acres around the mill and 39 acres on the north side of Oxford County Road 19, including the dam and mill pond.

A private buyer has offered to purchase the property for \$62,000, but the group would prefer to see it retained by the township or conservation authority because there is no guarantee it will be kept up if it passes into private hands, Singer said.

Reports compiled in 1957 and 1962 by the Otter Creek Conservation Authority recommended the property be retained because of its historic significance, Pettigrew said. The Otter Creek Conservation Authority later amalgamated with Big Creek Conservation Authority to form the Long Point authority.

Pettigrew said about 125 residents attended a meeting Sunday to show their support for the proposal.



MARCH 23, 1980

We have called this meeting today to see as to whether or not we should purchase the Treffry Mill. By "we" I mean the Long Point Region Conservation Authority, but they told me they would not purchase the property unless they have local input from the Township and the local residents also and so are you in favour of lending your moral support. We have several briefs to be heard and after, your questions will be answered. Would you please address the Chair when you ask your questions. I might mention that this Mill property is located South of the Main Street of Otterville and it runs to the East to the old Railroad bridge north of the Canning Factory so it is upstream a ways and does consist of the banks and the high water mark. So now, we will call on Bill McMullen (Jr.) to present a short talk for Lorne Treffry about the Mill property and maybe he will go into some detail on what it consists of.

(Bill McMullen Jr.) --

I have not much to say about the property but Lorne not being here asked if I would say a few words for him. Lorne would like it clear that himself, he is not pressuring the Community to buy the Mill as he has other prospective buyers to take it off his hands but would like the community to buy it if they wish to do so. All of you know that the property consists of, as Jack has told you. The remarks made by Mr. Hale about the Mill property were somewhat untrue. Lorne had never been to the Authority to buy the Mill but they have been up here every few years to buy the Mill property and it is now on the market. These are just a few things that the Treffry's want me to say and thank the community for their support. Whatever I say at this meeting now or hereafter is on my own as a taxpayer.

(Jack Walther)--

The next brief will be presented by the Historical Society by Mrs. Catherine Mann.

(See Brief #1)

(Jack Walther)--

I have a brief here that was presented in the late 50's for a Dr. Pleva and that was before the Otter Conservation Authority and the Big Creek Conservation Authority amalgamated and they made a study of the Mill in Otterville.

(See Brief #2)

(Jack Walther)--

Now we have a person from the Norwich Recreational Committee and Bill Sanders is going to speak on that.



A BRIEF TO THE LONG POINT REGIONAL CONSERVATION AUTHORITY  
THAT THEY PURCHASE TREFFRY'S MILL SITE, (Lot 11 , con. 8&9 South  
Norwich), FROM THE RESIDENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH.

March 25, 1980.

This millsite is the first site to be developed on the Otter River, and as such was historically significant and of prime concern to the Otter Creek Conservation Authority, and thus by the process of amalgamation, of the Long Point Region Conservation Authority. (The present mill was built in 1845.) The members may change over the years, but the responsibility to this portion of the Long Point Regional waterways doesn't change. Therefore, why are we hearing a negative response from the direction of the Conservation Authority?

One might argue that historic mills are not a requisite of conservation authorities. Then, why was the history section the first section in the Conservation Report?

Mills like Rock's do not fall into the historical category, but Rock's Mill was purchased- and with no municipal 33% mentioned. In fact the local member on the authority wasn't even consulted.

Backus is an historic mill, but a lot of expense has been entailed in adding items that have nothing to do with Backus Millsite, or conservation.

This dam is not flood control, but as a mill pond it does hold back more water than the other two mill ponds owned by the Authority.

As far as lack of property for recreation facilities at the Treffry Millsite, the community is already operating the recreational facilities and has done so since 1891, with volunteer effort, and most successfully. It is estimated that the Lions Club have generated and returned  $\frac{1}{4}$  million dollars, over the last 30 years, in operating and improving the Otterville Park facilities for the Township. This has relieved the local Council, and no doubt the Long Point Region Conservation Authority, of an extensive financial burden.

For 20 years a portion of our tax money has gone to the Conservation Authority. In 1980 the levy will be over \$18,000. It has been said by the Authority that no formal request has ever been made



by the former South Norwich Township to the Authority. It is being made now, and we expect positive response from responsible people!

WE, THE CITIZENS OF WARD 1, REQUEST THE PURCHASE OF THE TREFFRY MILLSITE PROPERTY BY THE LONG POINT REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY.

This picturesque, historic site has been more re-created, in picture and story than any other place in the area. The Long Point Region Conservation Authority can be very proud of owning and conserving this millsite for the people of the Province, now, and for generations to come.

You have grant money to cover one portion of the purchase, and our tax dollars for the rest.



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH

31ST SESSION

TUESDAY, MARCH 25TH, 1980

THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH was held on the above date in the Council Chambers, Otterville at 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Jack B. Burn presided with all members in attendance.

RESOLUTION NO. 1      ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Roger Orth, Seconded by John Heleniak  
that the minutes of the Township of Norwich Council meeting dated March 10th, 1980 be adopted as presented.

APPROVED:              Jack B. Burn, Mayor

CORRESPONDENCE:

- J.T. Manuel, P. Eng., Ministry of Environment - advising that Mr. Tienus Bentum has applied for a Certificate of Compliance.
- Township of Burford, Committee of Adjustment - granting approval of Severance Application of Mr. Juergen Beck, Part of Lot 24, Con. 4.
- Mr. Harvey Thompson, Asst. Secretary, Norwich Cemetery Board - extending their appreciation for the help in deferring expenses in transforming part of the shed for winter storage.
- Mrs. S. Sweazey, Norwich P.U.C. - re proposed bus barn - Dufferin Street for the Oxford County Board of Education.
- Mrs. S. Sweazey, Norwich P.U.C. - re Severance Applications #B-15/80 & B-16/80 - John Pollock (servicing agreement).  
-- copy of letter from Richard Code, Solicitor - to Norwich P.U.C. re above Severance Application.
- Mrs. Shirley Sweazey, Norwich P.U.C. to Land Division Committee re Amended Application B-85/79 - Oxford County Board of Education.
- Mr. A.M. Graham, Solicitor - re: Paul Gauvin by-law charge.
- J.P. Atcheson, Planning Commissioner, County of Oxford - enclosing a draft zoning by-law for Meroving Limited, Pt. Lot 537, Plan 745.
- E. Roberts, City Clerk, City of North York - requesting endorsement of a Motion passed by City of North York Council resulting from the 1977 election campaign of Premier William Davis to reduce and eventually eliminate property taxes for the majority of senior citizens.
- C.I.L. Inc. - letter of intent advising Council that C.I.L. will pay for damage to the asphalt surface on the Township Road from Hwy. 59 to C.I.L.
- Prohammer Zone Change - Letter to O.M.B.
- Resolution Town of Palmerston (tabled at previous Council Meeting)
- Mr. Wilber R. Brett, Mayor, Municipality Town of Essex - requesting a donation to their Disaster Relief Fund, resulting from an explosion and fire.
- J.T. Manuel, P. Eng., Ministry of the Environment - advising that Mr. Cor Ban Brenk has applied for a Certificate of Compliance.



# Council supports mill acquisition

BY SUZANNE HANSON

Township of Norwich council voted at its meeting Tuesday night to ask the Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) to consider taking up an option to purchase the Treffry mill property in Otterville if there are funds available.

Council also agreed to pay up to \$5,000 toward the project if everything appears in order to buy the mill and there is sufficient money available from heritage groups or foundations but still not enough money to pay the LPRCA share.

The decisions came as a result of public pressure from concerned area residents who want to ensure that the 135-year-old mill is preserved. A delegation, representing about 100 people who made a special appearance before council in the Otterville community hall Tuesday night, presented briefs to council outlining their concerns.

The residents believe it is the obligation of the authority to buy the mill and waterway. The members may change over the years, but the responsibility of the Long Point Regional waterways doesn't change, said Otterville businessman Colin Cope.

The community is already operating the village's recreational facilities (the Otterville park) and has done so since 1891 most successfully, said Mr. Cope in his brief to council.

"This has relieved council and, no doubt the Long Point Region Conservation Authority, of an extensive financial burden," he said.

Otterville resident Ed White expressed the common feeling that it is time the Otterville people started to get some benefit from the taxes paid to the LPRCA.

"For 20 years, a portion of our tax money has gone to the conservation authority," said Mr. Cope. "In 1980 the tax levy will be over \$18,000."

Roy Smith, chairman of the LPRCA and a member of the authority's land acquisition committee, said the main purpose of the meeting with the residents was to see the reaction to the purchase of the mill.

"There will be no pat answers tonight as to how far we can participate in this."

"It is not impossible for the authority to purchase the mill," said Mr. Smith, but the levy for this year has already been set including

the amounts for land acquisition.

"Personally I would like to see the co-operation of the township people and council with the authority to purchase the mill."

The land acquisition budget for the entire region covered by the authority is \$52,200.

"If we (the authority) purchased this it would take the entire budget and then some," said Mr. Smith.

It may well be that by the time the purchase was finalized it would be into 1981 and the authority then would better know its financial situation.

If there is interest in the municipality in purchasing the mill, it is easier to convince the authority members that it is a good idea.

"They would like to see an indication that the township is willing to commit itself," said Mr. Smith.

"If you ever saw support for a project, you're seeing it here tonight," said Mr. Cope.

About 100 area residents also attended a meeting on Sunday to discuss the mill situation.

Mr. Smith advised council not to rush into the matter.

"There are a lot of things to be ironed out. You could take out an option to purchase but it might not be satisfactory to your local ratepayers," he said. "There are things you would need in an option to make it satisfactory that could cost considerable money, such as surveys."

However, Councillor Jack Walther said there is a need for action on the matter as the owner Lorne Treffry has an offer of \$60,000 for the mill property from a private buyer.

"If we fool around we could be lost...before too long we've got to come up with some kind of intention to move on this. Let's stop wasting time," he said.

Councillor John Heleniak pointed out that council had

initially rejected a proposal to purchase the mill as the entire purchase price was too great a burden for the township to carry alone.

Although there are quite a few steps to go through before the mill could be purchased, Councillor Roger Orth, who is also a member of the LPRCA executive, said the \$5,000 commitment from council illustrates the township's interest and "the authority probably will go for it."

Mr. Smith said he did not think the authority could afford to operate the mill, however.

"The local people would have to be willing to help us," he said.

The South Norwich Historical Society has agreed to maintain and manage the mill property if this will facilitate the purchase of the mill site property by the LPRCA, said society president Rick Singer.

The property consists of 2.5 acres around the mill and 39 acres including the dam and mill pond on the north side of county Road 19. The mill itself is probably the oldest continuously operating water-powered mill in Ontario, said Mr.

Cope. Historically it was the reason for Otterville's ex-

istence. If maintained, it could be once again.



The Treffry mill, built in 1845, is one of the few authentic mills of its kind left in the area. Residents of Otterville appeared before the Township of Norwich council on Tuesday evening to enlist council's support in encouraging the Long Point Region Conservation Authority to purchase and preserve the property.



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Council also agreed to pay up to \$5,000 toward the project if everything appears in order to buy the mill and there is sufficient money

The community is already operating the village's recreational facilities (the Otterville park) and has done so since 1891 most successfully, said Mr. Cope in his brief to council.

"This has relieved council and, no doubt the Long Point Region Conservation Authority, of an extensive financial burden," he said.

Otterville resident Ed White expressed the common feeling that it is time

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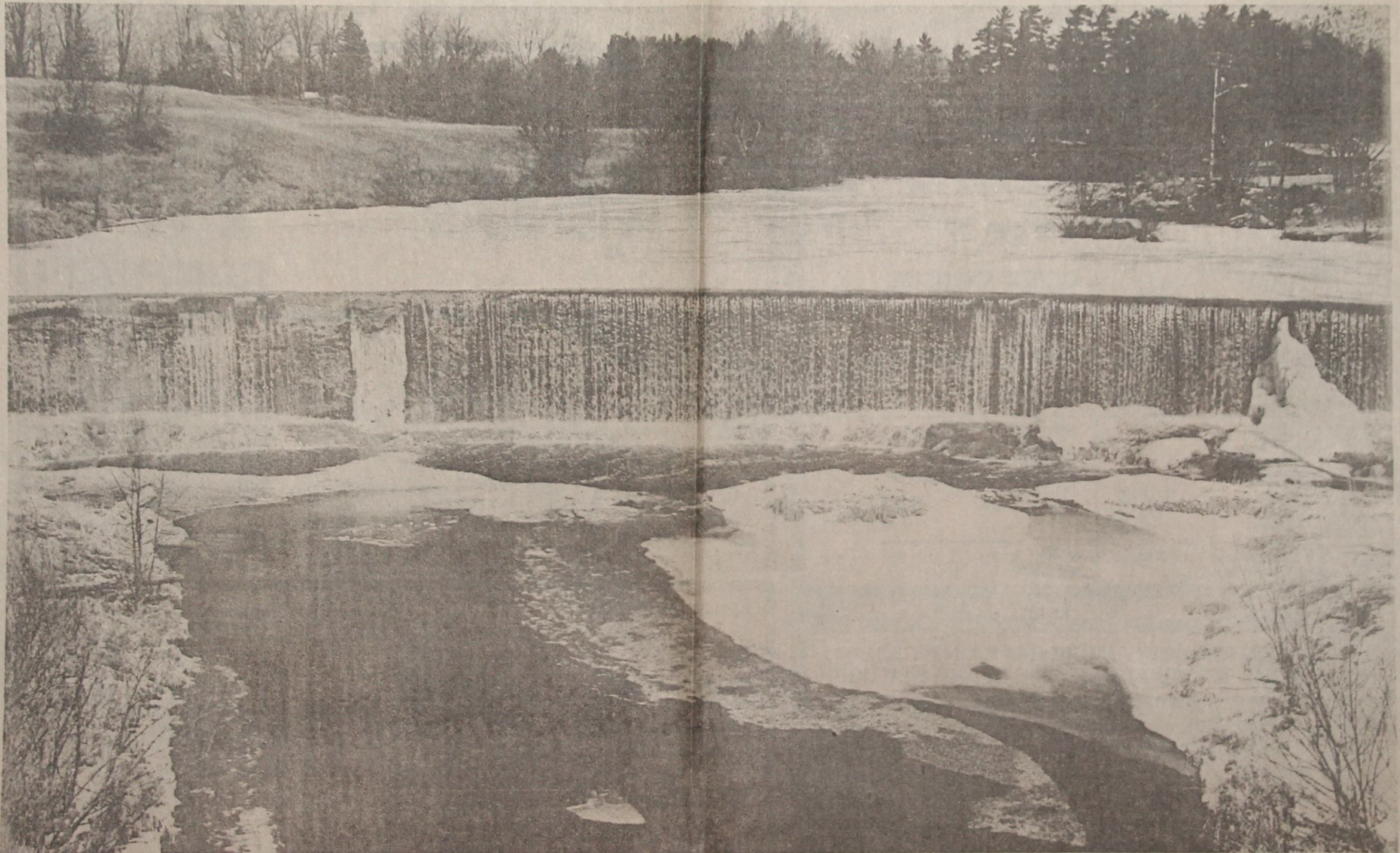
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of The Free Press



Sunlight glistens off water pouring over Big Otter Creek dam in Otterville, a prelude to the annual spring thaw. Though the ice is solid above the dam, the creek is nearly ice-free and full-flowing.

MAR 22



## Editorial Opinion

# Authority should buy mill

Acquisition of the Treffry mill property at Otterville may have opposition from Long Point Region Conservation Authority and Norwich Township Council, but the community is obviously in favor. On Sunday, about 100 Otterville area residents turned out to a meeting to show their support.

The citizens were to take their case back to township council Tuesday night. Council and the conservation authority should listen and reconsider.

The historic mill, built in 1845, is one of the oldest water-powered mills in continuous operation in the province. Preservation of the mill, and development of the site for historical purposes, was strongly recommended in the report prepared by the province in 1957 for the then Otter Creek Conservation Authority.

At one time, it was part of the industrial heart of the community, and with a little work and imagination, it could again be a focal point for another promising industry for the village -- tourism. The dam, built in 1904, and its 40-acre pond, have long been a scenic asset to the village. On its northern side, the community has developed excellent park facilities in a beautiful setting. The multi-use park, with swimming pool, playing fields and picnic facilities, is used extensively by people from a wide area. The mill and its property can be tied into the park, giving this area another excellent tourist attrac-

tion. And, with the rising cost of energy, we need more such attractions in Southwestern Ontario, within easy driving distance for millions of people.

The conservation authority has done an excellent job with the Backus Mill area, to be sure, and they have acquired the Rock's Mill property for future development. There is apparently some reluctance to take on another similar project. However, they have a big plus at Otterville -- a community that supports the project and the South Norwich Historical Society, which has offered to assist with development and upkeep of the mill property. The mill itself could be turned into a museum by this active group.

The present Long Point Region Conservation Authority was formed through an amalgamation of the former Otter Creek and Big Creek authorities. Big argument behind the merger at the time was that the combined economic strength would enable the new authority to undertake more major projects. One wonders just how much this added muscle has benefitted the Otter watershed. This project is vitally important to Otterville, and with community support, it should not be a particularly heavy financial burden for the authority.

The property should be acquired by the authority, with support from the township. The opportunities to bring such historic properties into the public domain are all too rare. This opportunity should not be neglected.

# Norwich council supports purchase of Treffry mill

By Ken Avey  
Staff Writer

Apr 2/80

OTTERVILLE — Norwich Township council has committed itself to spending \$5,000 towards the purchase of the historic Treffry grist mill and asked the Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) to option the land if further funding can be found.

The decision reversed a position the council took in March.

The meeting followed a public gathering in the Otterville Community Hall which saw about 125 residents show up to support the purchase.

Council stated it could not afford the \$62,000 price tag on the 41-acre site. However, a delegation led by members of the South Norwich Historical Society argued funding for the purchase could be obtained from heritage grants at the federal government level and from different philanthropic foundations.

Rick Singer of the society said his group was committed to supplying manpower to manage and maintain the mill if it is purchased by the LPRCA. He added the number of people at the meeting showed widespread support in the township for the purchase and, he said, the residents would volunteer time and money if necessary to see that the mill is preserved.

Colin Cope of the historical society presented a brief to council and the LPRCA that said the 145-year-old mill was the reason for the existence of Otterville. The community grew up around it and the mill is still in partial operation.

Mr. Cope added there could be many uses for the mill ranging from an historical museum to an educational facility for students and visitors, to an economically viable commercial operation of some sort. He said the society and the community would investigate uses for the mill, surrounding land and mill pond once there was a commitment to purchase.

"Money could come from fund raising projects, donations and government grants," said Mr. Cope. "There have been few changes in the building in the past 100 years. The conservation authority has said no formal request has been made concerning the purchase and we're making one now."

Council in general seemed in support of the ratepayer request but did not know the necessary steps to take to obtain property rights.

Roy Smith, former chairman of the LPRCA and now a member of its land acquisition committee, said common practice is to investigate the site, take an option and then eventually purchase the land and buildings.

He pointed out the authority's land acquisition budget for 1980 is set at \$52,000, "and this purchase would take all of that and much more."

Mr. Smith added costs for surveying the property and other legal work required to obtain the site would also have to be considered.

"There are certain ways to raise the money," he said. "The conservation authority could agree with the township on an increase in the tax levy or a special levy could be used. But both would require the approval of the province."

"Private groups, heritage groups and different foundations could be used to raise the money. Our main purpose is to see the reaction to a purchase. We'll go along with council on this and go along with what they have to say," said Mr. Smith.

He suggested the council not rush into this and was supported by Mr. Singer who said a snap decision on the future of the mill would be a mistake.

"I think we have to investigate this fully to find the best use for the site. We'd like to see it operate on a profit somehow," said Mr. Singer.

The LPRCA came under fire from one resident, Ed White, owner of White's Garage in Otterville. He said the authority "knows we want this so damn bad, they know we'll dig into our pockets to finance it and the money wouldn't come from the authority where it should come from."

He said tax funds have gone to the authority for 20 years from Norwich residents but there has been little work

done on the watershed of Otter Creek which supports the mill and drains most of the area.

Mr. Smith denied this and said the authority bought and operates the Backus Mill and Rock's Mill downstream from Treffry's site.

Following the public meeting, council debated the issue for some time. Councillor Jack Walther said if action is not taken on the purchase, the municipality could lose its character. "Some think there is no other buyer, but don't count on it," he said. "The owners (the Treffry family has owned the mill for five generations) want to sell soon and, we don't know, there may be other buyers nibbling."

Lorne Treffry, who has been doing custom grist work for the past 30 years, plans to retire soon.

Councillor Roger Orth spearheaded the two resolutions that went to the vote. The first called for the LPRCA to investigate funding for the purchase and the taking of an option on the site. The second was for the commitment of \$5,000 towards to acquisition, if other money can be found for the purchase.

"If groups and people see there is money from heritage organizations and this \$5,000 they will know we are committed and then it is up to Toronto (provincial government officials). If they see there is a money commitment down here they'll know we think this thing is worth saving."

The LPRCA authority was instructed by council on a suggestion by Councillor Bill Sanders to make a report available in 30 days.

DELHI NEWS



## LPRCA investigates mill purchase

# Dam testing first step

The first task of the Long Point Region Conservation Authority committee studying the possibility of buying the Treffry Mill pond will be to test the soundness of the dam, Gord Pennington, committee chairman, said.

The land acquisition committee of the LPRCA was directed to investigate the purchase as well as test the dam at last Wednesday's meeting.

The regional engineer from the ministry of natural resources will soon be looking at

the dam, said Mr. Pennington, to determine how much maintenance it will require.

"I think that report is rather key...because (Norwich Township) council will have the costs of maintenance," he said. "My concern is that everyone involved should know what is involved."

After the dam is studied, and if the purchase is still desired, the next step would be an environmental study of the pond. This would determine how the pond fits into

watershed management, said Mr. Pennington.

If the pond has such environmental significance, LPRCA would qualify for certain grants, he said.

"If there is no environmental significance to the pond, there is not much justification for larger grants to acquire it," Mr. Pennington said.

Colin Cope, chairman of the South Norwich Historical Society Advisory Committee, said there has been little action recently regarding the possible purchase.

Norwich Township council is currently waiting for Lorne Treffry, owner of the mill and mill pond, to return from holidays to sign the option of the land.

The entire property, valued at \$60,000 was optioned by council for \$1,000. The option is in effect for a year in order to determine ways and means of purchase.

"I can't see a lot happening for a few weeks yet," Mr. Cope said. He added there is no point in further speculation, which can be misleading.

### Historical group raising funds

## Township backs bid to save mill

OTTERVILLE (Bureau) — A local historical group working to save the Treffry Mill is confident enough money will be raised to cover its share of the mill's cost now that Norwich Township council has taken an option to buy the site for \$60,000.

Township clerk Bob Walkins said Wednesday a bylaw has been passed which gives council a one-year, \$1,000 option to purchase the 135-year-old grist mill located on a 41.5-acre site on Otter Creek. He said it has not been determined how much the

society will have to pay.

Society spokesman Colin Cope said council's formal backing, which the society has been waiting for all summer, gives the group the credibility to acquire government grants. Grants are needed to cover maintenance and operation of Ontario's oldest water-powered mill, located in the heart of the village.

Cope said the group will meet next month to study ways of using the mill, possibly as an educational museum which could be combined with

commercial use. Plans for a public fund-raising campaign will also be considered. The group has already raised \$600.

Meanwhile, the Long Point Regional Conservation Authority will decide whether to purchase the mill pond and part of the property upstream after it receives a report, expected within two weeks, which studies the water management benefits of this area.

Authority general manager Jim Oliver said if no benefits to areas

such as flood control and improved downstream water flow are found it is unlikely the authority will get grants from the natural resources ministry. The grants cover 55 per cent of the cost, and without them it is unlikely the authority can afford the project, he said. "We cannot justify purchasing this on any other grounds other than from water management grounds."

The report, by the ministry's regional engineer after an inspection of the site Aug. 28, will also determine what repairs are needed to make the dam structurally sound. Oliver said annual maintenance costs for the dam would have to be paid by the local community because grants to the authority are not available for this purpose.

## Await report on mill pond acquisition

A ministry of the environment report on the benefits to the Long Point Region Conservation Authority of purchasing the mill pond on the Treffry property in Otterville should be ready by mid-October.

Authority general manager Jim Oliver said in an interview Friday the ministry's regional engineer carried out an inspection of the site on August 28 and is now preparing a report on the feasibility of purchasing the property as a water resource management area.

The ministry is aware this is a pressing issue for the people of the community, said Mr. Oliver. The owner of the property, Lorne Treffry, put it up for sale after deciding to retire from the operation of the 135-year-old grist mill, believed to be the oldest, continuously-operated grist mill in Ontario.

Concerned citizens and members of the South Norwich Historical Society have been working to save the mill as a historic site.

As soon as the ministry's report has been received, it will be presented to the authority executive, said Mr. Oliver. Until that is done, he is sitting back waiting.

"It's pretty hard to justify it on any other grounds than water resource management."

He said if no benefits, such as flood control and improved downstream water flow, are found, it is unlikely the authority will get grants from the natural resources ministry. The grants cover 55 per cent of the cost and without them the authority cannot afford to purchase the property.

"The province is quite tight with their money and their priorities are clearly in water management," said Mr. Oliver. It is a difficult job to justify spending tax dollars on recreational areas instead of hard resource management areas, he said.

Because much of the authority's funding comes from the province, it tends to dictate what the authority's priorities are.

Now that the community group has the support of council through the option to purchase, it can actively seek funding from various government and private sources to cover its share of the cost of the \$60,000 purchase price. The community group, which has already raised \$600, will also study ways to raise more funds to help cover the cost of purchasing the mill and restoring it for use as an educational museum, which could be combined with a commercial use.

The amount the group will have to pay for the mill property will be determined by how much property the authority agrees to purchase and the amount of funding it has available.

The mill itself will not be included in the authority's parcel as it does not fall under the heading of a water resource management project.

## Chamber of Commerce to tour Treffry Mill

The Tillsonburg and District Chamber of Commerce will hold a special tour of the Treffry Mill in Otterville for its members Tuesday.

Earlier this summer the chamber expressed its support for the public purchase and preservation of the mill as a tourist landmark for Otterville and the southern portion of Oxford County.

The chamber became deeply involved in the development of the local tourist industry this summer with their sponsorship of

tourist booths to point out local attractions to visitors in the area.

The mill is thought to be the oldest continuously operated water-powered mill in Ontario. It has been the subject of a drive this summer by Otterville residents and the South Norwich historical society to have the Long Point Region conservation authority purchase it because of its historical significance.

The tour was arranged to give chamber members a chance to see the mill first-hand. Chamber members are to meet at the mill at 7 p.m. *TUES. SEPT 23*

*L.F. PRESS SEPT 25/80*



## LPRCA has report on Treffry Mill

A draft copy of the ministry of the environment's report on the Treffry Mill was received by the Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) last Thursday.

Authority general manager Jim Liver told Norwich Township council at its meeting Thursday that the report had just come in that morning and he had not yet had time to examine it. He said the Authority should have an indication from the ministry within a couple of weeks of the cost of making the dam on the mill pond safe, the cost of its maintenance and the benefits of purchasing the area as a water resource management area.

"I hope within a few weeks the authority will have a decision on the direction they will take (regarding the purchase of the mill pond property)," said Mr. Oliver.

The matter should come before the authority at its next general meeting on November 5.

If no benefits such as flood control and improved downstream water flow are found, it is unlikely the authority would get grants from the natural resources ministry for the purchase of the property as a water management area. Without those grants the authority could not afford to purchase the property, said Mr. Oliver.

# Doubts ministry funding to buy mill

T.N. Nov 19

By SUZANNE HANSON

The general manager of the Long Point Region Conservation Authority (LPRCA) Jim Oliver is doubtful funds would be available from the ministry of natural resources to assist the authority with the purchase of the Treffry mill property.

Mr. Oliver said in an interview Monday final reports on the structural soundness of the dam and the benefits of purchasing the dam and mill pond as a water resource management area are now in the hands of the authority's land acquisition committee.

An initial draft report submitted to the authority executive prior to the November 5 meeting was sent back to the ministry with comments and a request for more information. The final report has now been received.

The engineer's report on the structural soundness of the dam states the condition of the dam is such that if the authority was to purchase the property, repairs costing in the

neighborhood of \$72,000 would be required to make it sound, said Mr. Oliver.

"The concrete is in very poor condition."

He said the authority would want the suggested repairs made if it were to purchase the property.

"I don't think we would want it sitting there with the risk of it collapsing."

While the authority would be responsible for the cost of repairs should it decide to purchase the mill pond and dam, "where the authority gets the money to do so is the question," said Mr. Oliver. He said the authority would have to look to other sources for funding such as the municipality.

While Norwich Township's representatives on the authority Roger Orth and Jack Walther have yet to see complete copies of the report, Mr. Orth did tell council at its meeting Thursday, if the repairs suggested in the engineer's report for the

dam were to be carried out, the benefiting municipality (Norwich Township) would probably bear the cost of those repairs.

"The dam must be put into that kind of shape for the conservation authority to take it over," said Councillor Bob Pettigrew. "The dam's all right as far as we're concerned."

Mr. Orth said the report is just the opinion of the engineer on what work is necessary on the dam.

In response to the authority's question of whether the purchase of the mill pond property could be justified on the basis of the water resource management benefits, the answer was no, said Mr. Oliver. That means it is doubtful the natural resources ministry would supply funds to assist with the purchase of the property.

The grants cover 55 per cent of the cost of the purchase and without them the authority cannot afford to purchase the property.

Although he is doubtful the authority's normal grant system will be available for the project, he said the authority recognizes the importance of the site to the community and "we still haven't closed all the doors on this."

"This is such an important thing to the local people, we want to examine all possible avenues for funding," Mr. Oliver said he has been instructed by the land acquisition committee to carry out that investigation. He will report his findings to it in the near future. He hopes the committee will then be able to make a recommendation to the authority executive as to the next course of action.

Mr. Walther voiced his concern last Thursday over the authority's lack of action on the matter.

"I'm not very happy with the stand-off we're getting down here. It's their (the authority's) responsibility to get at it and give us a hand. If the attitude is so negative there it's hard to convince some of the funding organizations," he said.

Norwich Township council has taken a one-year option on the property to give the authority and a community group working to save the mill property as a historic site, time to investigate funding for the project. The grist mill, located on 41.5 acres of land on the Otter Creek, is believed to be the oldest continuously operated mill in Ontario.

## Ministry rejects purchase of Treffry

DELHI By Mark MacMillan Staff Writer

OTTERVILLE — Residents here, concerned about the loss of the historic Treffry Mill to the private sector, may have to seek funding elsewhere now that a report made to the Long Point Region Conservation Authority by the ministry of natural resources has recommended against the purchase of the mill site.

Members of the South Norwich Historical Society Advisory Committee, approached the Authority last July 17, in an effort to get the LPRCA to look into the funding and/or purchase of the property on which Ontario's oldest functioning water powered mill still operates.

Jim Oliver, Authority general manager, is not optimistic about the purchase possibilities.

"The engineer's report from the MNR suggested an estimated cost of \$72,000 to bring the Otterville dam up to ministry specifications. We would have to provide work to make the dam safe if the Authority were to purchase the property because we would be responsible for the dam," he said.

The ministry report includes a number of reasons why the millsite purchase cannot be justified on a water management basis, the mandate of the Authority.

The pond above the dam is small and heavily silted and any flood reduction would be insignificant.

"It was outlined in the report that water storage in the spring to augment low flow in the summer months is not feasible unless a valve or gate could be installed to regulate the water. This could mean a reduction of the pond level and that might not be agreeable to the surrounding landowners," Mr. Oliver said.

"The dam also acts as a silt trap, if the dam were removed, downstream waters would be affected by the release of the heavy silt accumulated at the dam. If the dam were improved, the pond could not even be used for irrigation as the water level would be affected. For these reasons, the MNR recommended against the purchase of the mill site due to the lack of water management justifications," Mr.

Mr. Oliver suggested the Authority will be looking into the availability of grants on an historical or recreational basis for purchase. The possibility of grants for such a purpose should be determined by the next full Authority meeting in February.

Jack Walther, a member of Norwich township council as well as the Authority,

said the land acquisition committee of the LPRCA is putting Otterville residents off.

"We are letting the Authority pass the buck and avoid the issue by letting them allow an engineer's report that recommends bringing the dam up to MNR specifications act as the Authority's answer to our request."

"I feel it is part of the LPRCA's responsibility as part of their water management policy to aid us in the funding of this purchase of the mill site," Mr. Walther added.

"We will wait to see what grants are available for recreational and historic purposes, but, as I have said, I am not optimistic. We have a heavy maintenance load with the properties we already own," Mr. Oliver said.

"Mr. Treffry has told us the dam has washed out in the past so we would have no alternative but to either take it out or improve it. Taking the dam out would involve dredging operations and a possible loss of water in the pond above the dam. The dredging operations, alone, could cost

more than the restoration of the dam," Mr. Oliver added.

The Authority is also concerned about maintenance at the mill site if a purchase were to be arranged.

"There are no grants available for maintenance costs. Not only are purchase costs and dam improvement costs involved, but an ongoing maintenance cost would have to be included," Mr. Oliver said.

"We will, however, look into the possibility of these grants before a final decision is arrived at," he added.



MARCH 23, 1980

We have called this meeting today to see as to whether or not we should purchase the Treffry Mill. By "we" I mean the Long Point Region Conservation Authority, but they told me they would not purchase the property unless they have local input from the Township and the local residents also and so are you in favour of lending your moral support. We have several briefs to be heard and after, your questions will be answered. Would you please address the Chair when you ask your questions. I might mention that this Mill property is located South of the Main Street of Otterville and it runs to the East to the old Railroad bridge north of the Canning Factory so it is upstream a ways and does consist of the banks and the high water mark. So now, we will call on Bill McMullen (Jr.) to present a short talk for Lorne Treffry about the Mill property and maybe he will go into some detail on what it consists of.

(Bill McMullen Jr.) --

I have not much to say about the property but Lorne not being here asked if I would say a few words for him. Lorne would like it clear that himself, he is not pressuring the Community to buy the Mill as he has other prospective buyers to take it off his hands but would like the community to buy it if they wish to do so. All of you know that the property consists of, as Jack has told you. The remarks made by Mr. Hale about the Mill property were somewhat untrue. Lorne had never been to the Authority to buy the Mill but they have been up here every few years to buy the Mill property and it is now on the market. These are just a few things that the Treffry's want me to say and thank the community for their support. Whatever I say at this meeting now or hereafter is on my own as a taxpayer.

(Jack Walther)--

The next brief will be presented by the Historical Society by Mrs. Catherine Mann.

(See Brief #1)

(Jack Walther)--

I have a brief here that was presented in the late 50's for a Dr. Pleva and that was before the Otter Conservation Authority and the Big Creek Conservation Authority amalgamated and they made a study of the Mill in Otterville.

(See Brief #2)

(Jack Walther)--

Now we have a person from the Norwich Recreational Committee and Bill Sanders is going to speak on that.



(Bill Sanders)--

I don't have any prepared brief as such, I just have a few comments. I don't know that I am more here today as a citizen rather than from the Recreational Committee. All I have to say is just three things.

First, the Mill is the focal point of the Community as is the pond. It certainly adds to the beauty of Otterville. It sets our Park off beautifully. The bridge that runs across the water we may or may not have a right of way due to the length of time it has been there, I don't know how many of you are aware of it, but our water feeder to the west end of Town runs across there. We are here to find out really what we can arrive at and what the people want. The Long Point have some funds available and may be available for this project and I think it is a worthy project. What funding might be available if the properties are split - if the Mill were kept separate and the water rights on the North side went to the Conservation Authority. Would the funding be for a Mill pond and it isn't a Mill pond if it is split.

Second, Would there be ongoing costs after the acquisition of the property. If this funding were available, it may cost the Community \$25,000.00 would there be more costs thereafter as to the rest of the Mill. I have been told by certain members of the Historical Society that they feel they would carry on and it would not be a cost to the Community as a museum. Thankyou.

(Jack Walther) -- Next Colin Cope will speak on behalf of the business men.

(Colin Cope)--

I have been asked to be brief and I will. There is certainly no doubt that the reason that Otterville became established is because of that Mill and speaking from a business point of view, I was quite interested in the alternatives of the Historical Society has considered doing with the Mill. They are being most creative and imaginative. I think there is a more strong message here that everyone in the Community should be considering. In the last few years, the business section no longer has a restaurant, we have only one doctor in town now and there has been some comment some few years ago that the Township Office might be moved. We no longer have a lumberyard and if we read the signs, in the next few years, the Otterville citizens will be facing a crisis. At the moment, we have about twenty or twenty-one active businesses. This is not a direct comment about the businesses but just what is happening. There is now an opportunity to keep the Mill as a vivid reminder of our past. It continues to represent commerce as it used to be. Our



town is not eroding away and is not becoming a bedroom community. This may be the only chance to preserve the Mill as it now is. If we don't do something about it, it just won't happen. Thankyou.

(Jack Walther)---

Now we have a presentation on behalf of LAC-AC and Bill Dowd will speak - sorry - Doug Wilson.

(See Brief # 3)

(Jack Walther) --

Mr. Fred Jonckheere will present a brief on behalf of the Norfolk Field Naturalists.

(Fred Jonckheere)---

(See Brief #4)  
also - (See Brief #5)

(Jack Walther)--- now we shall have the question period. Please address the Chair.

\*\* Miscellanecus suggestions -- Suggest Bill McMullen Jr. present his argument re water pipe to the P.U.C.



41 acres including Mills, Dam and waterway.

Historically, mills like Truffly's were the economic, and to a smaller extent, the social nuclei of the region. They were the very reason of existence of the villages such as Otterville. If any were in existence, few are left. This mill is probably the oldest continuously operating water powered mill in Ontario.

The mill has had few building changes in the past hundred years. The major change, being from water wheel to water turbine, and stones to rolls at the turn of the century. Some of the flow equipment remains, but it is presently a just operation.

Therefore its main significance is the structure itself and the fact that it is the site of the first mill on the Otter. Its major thrust is location and thereby it is a vital asset to the village and Township. Its very presence on the landscape presents a most picturesque centre for the village, which if enhanced, along with the existing park facilities, create a drawing card for the village and surrounding area. By making this mill site the centre of attraction, the business section could also be made attractive to business i.e. restaurant, small shops. Property will become more attractive because the village becomes an inviting place



in which to live.

This can only be accomplished by co-operative effort of recreation, business, historical society people and all. It cannot take place without the co-operation of municipal government and most importantly the Conservation Authority.

This mill building might not be the prime requisite of the Conservation Authority, but they will have trouble explaining that to the public considering their other acquisitions and developments. The waterway is their responsibility or provincial government would not be giving 67% grants for such. For over 20 years, we the taxpayers have been paying into the Conservation authority, and as stated by the authority, this community has never before formally requested help, therefore why are they now reluctant to give us that help. Now is the time to have it returned to our

community, otherwise other communities will benefit from our money. They may have been purchase happy recently, but that doesn't provide an excuse for not purchasing this property which has been a prime aim of the Authority since 1958.

This dam holds back more water than the other two mill dams owned by the authority.

As far as lack of property for recreation facilities, the Township is already operating the recreational facilities and has done so since 1891.



The recreational facilities at the mill site would consist of a few picnic tables available to people who normally end up eating on Finch's back lawn because they can't carry their belongings over to the park. It would not be a place for reserved picnics. It would not be in opposition to existing facilities - rather augment them. It would not provide remuneration itself, but attraction for the village and its other facilities. It would be a beauty spot and would have expenses such as grass and clean-up maintained. Likewise the north side of the property.

Otterville is most fortunate in having this property in its midst. What two pictures are more re-created and written about than the dam and mill? How many other small communities have this much potential?

Otterville is close to rd. 3, 19 & 59 Highways and could advertise and travel brochures.



MARCH 20 1960

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(See Brief #1)

(Jack Walther)--

I have a brief here that was presented in the late 50"s for a Dr.Pleva and that was before the Otter Conservation Authority and the Big Creek Conservation Authority amalgamated and they made a study of the Mill in Otterville.

(See Brief #2)

(Jack Walther)--

Now we have a person from the Norwich Recreational Committee and Bill Sanders is going to speak on that.



## The Role of the Historical Society

The Historical Society has taken upon itself to volunteer to maintain and manage the mill, if this will facilitate the purchase of the property by Long Point Conservation for the benefit of the area.

This offer would mean a big undertaking for a small society and could only be accomplished with full co-operation from the whole community.

The use of the mill is open to suggestions. The ideas put forth have been - restoration of the first floor to 1845, on the first and second floor, and the other floor as a museum. Possibly the first or the first and second floor could be leased for a commercial venture. The water power is still available to power equipment of any sort.

As for a museum, it could be an educational facility depicting with models and murals, the settlement of an area by waterway, and the birth of the resulting mill centred community. This could be supplemented by local displays of neighbouring communities histories and industry. The museum would only be built as time and money permitted.

Unless leased as a commercial venture, at least in part, the remuneration from the building even with the help of grants, would not more than pay for staffing.



A+

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Exercise No. 12

GEOGRAPHY 445

A brief to the Otter River Valley Authority  
that a study be made of purchasing Treffry's  
Mill Lot (11) Con. (8 and 9) South Norwich  
and its rehabilitation as a regional  
museum.

For

Dr. E.G. Pleva

By

E.M.W. Gibson

University of Western Ontario

12 March, 1958

MANUSCRIPTS  
1000



A brief to the Otter River Valley Authority that a study be made of purchasing Treffry's Mill Lot (11) Con. (8 and 9) South Norwich and its rehabilitation as a regional museum.

While travelling extensively through the New England States this fall the author observed a large number of well-preserved, wooden pioneer buildings serving as national monuments to the American Pioneer, as centers of tourist industries and museums.

If we, as Canadians in general, and members of the Otter River Valley Community in particular are ever to preserve the history of our region it is now that we must act to purchase one of the few pioneering buildings left. In 1850 mills like Treffry's were the economic and to a smaller extent the social nuclei of this region. In point of fact mills like this one were the very raison d'être of Otterville, Tillsonburg, Norwich, ~~Vernice~~<sup>Windsor</sup>, Stratfordville and Richmond. At one time or another there were at least 61 mills within our drainage basin.

The mill site is on the Otter flood plain 300 feet below a 10 foot dam. Floods or severe freshets could damage this old dam and destroy the mill which is, at present badly in need of repairs. But reinforced, this building could withstand any flood recorded in the history of Otterville. To the planner this business property is a non-conforming land use of flood plain at present and would be used to a greater advantage as public property.

Although there are other mills of historic interest yet located in the Otter Valley, the Treffry Mill has several decided advantages as a museum over them. Firstly, it is the located on a paved road in good repair.



Secondly, it has had fewer building additions in the past 100 years and therefore remains the most authentic mill. Thirdly, it is situated in the largest urban center of all the existing mills—Otterville's population is about 1,000. Lastly, its paved road is a feeder to the main trans-Ontario highway route for American tourists. Highway #3 makes the mill accessible to thousands of American tourists visiting this region each summer. It is an ideal stopping spot half-way between Buffalo and Detroit. Suitable signs situated at the junction of Highways #59 and #3 and at Tillson Avenue and #3 are sure to interest tourists travelling that route.

As well as making our history tangible, preserving its colour and using more wisely a flood plain, it is the author's belief that the tourist industry could be profitably exploited by the citizens of Otterville. The Otterville <sup>Sesquicentennial</sup> Centennial held in the summer of 1957 was an outstanding achievement for a community the size of Otterville, proving their interest in their past and their ability to organize their community for the entertainment and recreation of visitors. The village has provided adequate and attractive recreational facilities—a park containing tennis courts, a ball diamond, band shell, dance hall, picnic tables, swimming pool, boating and a fishing pond in the secluded setting of a pine copse. This park is located about 600 feet from the mill. Money made in services rendered to tourists would raise the general living standard of the village.

Presently Canada is in a stage of development in which we are attempting to vitalize our culture. The author can see no better way to begin than to rejuvenate our past, preserving regional histories in the truly rich colours of our pioneering era.

*Dr. Pleva = That these recommendations be taken, as applying especially to the old flour mill at Otterville, and that the Authority consider such action as may be necessary to prevent the destruction or radical alteration of this build. and investigate the possibility of using the area around*



Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen

I am speaking on behalf of the Township of Norwich LACAC. A LACAC is appointed by and acting as an advisory body to the local council. Members of your local LACAC are - Joyce Clark; Jane Curry; ~~myself~~ Bill Dowds; Peter Hager; John Heleniak is council representative; Jim Hill; Mrs. A. C. Holdsworth and Doug Wilson. Our prime responsibility is to recommend to council heritage properties which should be designated under the Ontario Heritage Act. (1974) Once a LACAC has determined that a property is of heritage significance, the owner is consulted, the property's significant features outlined and a designation report prepared. This report and an accompanying recommendation is passed to council. This is the present status of the proposed designation of Treffry's Mill.

If council accepts the LACAC's recommendation it publishes its intention to designate in a local newspaper. Thirty days are then allowed for any objections to be made to the Municipal Clerk.

If there are no objections, council passes a Designating By-law. This is registered on title in the local land registry office so that future owners will be made aware of the designation. The property is also listed in a public register which allows municipal authorities to determine if proposed property changes are permitted within the spirit of the designation.

Designation of a property under the Ontario Heritage Act (1974) controls alterations so that they occur in a manner in keeping with the existing environment. Often, alteration is encouraged, particularly if it restores a heritage aspect of the property. ~~Designated properties are to be preserved~~

If a property has been designated the owner may apply for public financial assistance from council or from the Ontario Heritage Foundation. Under the Ontario Heritage Act (1974) municipal councils are empowered to pass



laws providing grants or loans to owners of designated properties. While rarely used, the Act also empowers municipal councils to provide funds for the acquisition of a designated property.

The Ontario Heritage Foundation was established in 1968 to "support, encourage and facilitate the conservation, protection and preservation of Ontario's heritage."

In closing I will read LACAC's recommended description of the Treffry Mill, submitted to council along with our recommendation for designation.

PROPERTY- TREFFRY MILL - Lot 145 Main St. Otterville

#### SIGNIFICANCE-

Frame 3 storey, early 19th century, grist mill, of simple post and beam construction, with fieldstone foundation. The ground floor posts are chamfered for decoration, some are 17" square. The purlins are 8"x11"x40". Most of the windows are early 20x24 pane construction. The eaves have a wide overhang and returning cornices. The mill is operated by water turbine.

Built in 1845 by Edward Bullock as a grist and flour mill, it originally had 3 pairs of stones, an annual capacity of 20,000 bushels and was powered by a wooden water wheel. It is built near the site of the first mill on the Otter River, built 1807 by John Earle and Paul Avery. It is believed to be the oldest continuously operated water powered mill in Ontario.

The original owners were responsible for developing the early commerce of Otterville.

The wooden augers and flour equipment are still in the mill.  
AREAS TO BE PROTECTED- The structure itself- exterior.



APPROVED:

Jack B. Burn - Mayor.

Moved by Cecil Mingle, Seconded by H. Carman Sweazey that the By-Law to amend By-Law No. 17-78 and to impose final assessments with respect to the North Branch of Otter Creek Municipal Drain be now read a THIRD time, signed, sealed, numbered 67-79 and finally passed this 27th day of November, 1979.

APPROVED:

Jack B. Burn - Mayor.

RESOLUTION NO. 6

MINOR-VARIANCE - POWELL AGRI SYSTEMS

Moved by Jack Walther, Seconded by Helen Smith that in regard to the application of Powell Agri Systems Ltd. for minor variance to locate building 35 feet closer to Wellington Street in Otterville than required by By-Law No. 41-76, the Municipal Council hereby grants same.

APPROVED:

Jack B. Burn - Mayor.

Mr. Pettigrew declared conflict of interest in regard to Resolution No. 6 and refrained from voting.

RESOLUTION NO. 7

HERITAGE DESIGNATIONS

Moved by John Heleniak, Seconded by Ross Warboys that under the authority of The Ontario Heritage Act, 1974 to protect properties of architectural and/or historical value or interest, the Municipal Council instruct the Clerk to proceed with the NOTICES OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE the following properties: -

1. Sutton House                      Ward 3
2. Moore/Hager House              Ward 2
3. Treffry Mill                      Ward 1

and that the designating by-laws be prepared.

APPROVED:

Jack B. Burn - Mayor.

RESOLUTION NO. 8

STREET LIGHT-OKFORD CENTRE

Moved by Hardee Richardson, Seconded by Roger Orth that the Municipal Council authorize the purchase and installation of a street light on the Stage Road in the Residential area opposite Lot 12 and East of the Oxford Centre Ball Park.

DEFEATED

Jack B. Burn - Mayor.

RESOLUTION NO. 9

ZONE CHANGE - KLYN

Moved by John Heleniak, Seconded by H. Carman Sweazey that in regard to the Zone Change Application of Pleum Willem Klyn to change the zone designation of Lot 700, Plan 955; Part Lot 7, Con. 5; and Lot 15 & Part Lot 16, Plan 228 from R-1 and A-1 to C-2, the Municipal Council hereby instructs the Clerk to request the Oxford County Planning Department to prepare the necessary by-law and schedule.

APPROVED:

Jack B. Burn - Mayor.



Ladies and Gentlemen:

My name is Fred Jonckheere. As Vice-President of the Norfolk-Field Naturalist Club I am pleased to respond to Rick Singer's request for our view and recommendation with regard to the Treffry Mill property.

A first impression of picture postcard setting and beauty is enhanced by the practical reality that both Mill and dam are in good condition and operational. The spreading trend in western Canada for a return to natural foods sometimes referred to as "health foods" will increase the demand for old style mill services. This may be a practical reason to preserve the Mill., complimenting its historical and aesthetic significance to the Village.

Viewed in the Abstract, the Mill property is part of a much larger entity: the pioneer settlements and areas of natural beauty along the Otter and Big Creek valleys. The Treffry Mill being historically located in part of the whole, it is therefore part of the living cultural heritage of all Canada. While private ownership may be adequate, to permanently preserve and protect the Mill property for use and enjoyment by the new and coming generations, ownership by a public body should be a prime consternation. The triangle formed by the Norwich Historical Society, Long Point Region Conservation Authority and Norwich Township express ideal in that each is a desired element being complimentary to each other, the combination best serving the whole.

We, the people and our organized groups, be they Norwich Township Councillors or Long Point Region Conservation Authority Acquisition Committee are fortunate to have this opportunity of decision to work together for retaining this relic of our cultural heritage.

For its natural beauty and testimony to pioneer ingenuity to be witnessed and experienced by future generations, We must now, recognize and appreciate these values of this living link with our first settlement. Thankyou.



COMMENT by the Field Naturalists after the Meeting.

Norwich Township Councillors are still fortunate enough to make the decision to work hand-in-hand with these other groups, to retain this relic of our cultural heritage. If you choose not to make this decision, you will not have this opportunity tomorrow. Neither will your successors. And you are deciding that this living link with our first settlement will not be seen by your children or their children yet unborn. This decision is now yours. May you always be remembered for your vision.



BRIEF #5 (Presented by the second member of the Field Naturalists)

Many experiences of this kind in the past have shown that an historic and aesthetic asset of this size and importance can only increase the attractiveness of a Village. Increase its attractiveness to those who may want to live there, and to those who may want to visit. The result is obvious - increase in property values; increase in tourist dollars; and increase in the establishment of tourist-based industry. The cost to the present day residents of South Norwich should be minimal by comparison to the income.

We recommend that the Township seriously consider this whole acquisition; the mill and the millpond. We recommend also that the Long Point Region Conservation Authority be asked to maintain the dam and waterways, provided that the South Norwich Historical Society assume the responsibility for the maintenance of the grounds and the building and the operation of the Mill.

We recommend that if this deal cannot be consummated that a private buyer be sought to work closely with the Historical Society, for the continuing perpetual operation of the Mill dam and millpond.



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH

31ST SESSION

TUESDAY, MARCH 25TH, 1980

THE THIRTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH was held on the above date in the Council Chambers, Otterville at 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Jack B. Burn presided with all members in attendance.

RESOLUTION NO. 1      ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Roger Orth, Seconded by John Heleniak

that the minutes of the Township of Norwich Council meeting dated March 10th, 1980 be adopted as presented.

APPROVED:              Jack B. Burn, Mayor

CORRESPONDENCE:

- J.T. Manuel, P. Eng., Ministry of Environment - advising that Mr. Tienus Bentum has applied for a Certificate of Compliance.
- Township of Burford, Committee of Adjustment - granting approval of Severance Application of Mr. Juergen Beck, Part of Lot 24, Con. 4.
- Mr. Harvey Thompson, Asst. Secretary, Norwich Cemetery Board - extending their appreciation for the help in deferring expenses in transforming part of the shed for winter storage.
- Mrs. S. Sweazey, Norwich P.U.C. - re proposed bus barn - Dufferin Street for the Oxford County Board of Education.
- Mrs. S. Sweazey, Norwich P.U.C. - re Severance Applications #B-15/80 & B-16/80 - John Pollock (servicing agreement).  
-- copy of letter from Richard Code, Solicitor - to Norwich P.U.C. re above Severance Application.
- Mrs. Shirley Sweazey, Norwich P.U.C. to Land Division Committee re Amended Application B-85/79 - Oxford County Board of Education.
- Mr. A.M. Graham, Solicitor - re: Paul Gauvin by-law charge.
- J.P. Atcheson, Planning Commissioner, County of Oxford - enclosing a draft zoning by-law for Meroving Limited, Pt. Lot 537, Plan 745.
- E. Roberts, City Clerk, City of North York - requesting endorsation of a Motion passed by City of North York Council resulting from the 1977 election campaign of Premier William Davis to reduce and eventually eliminate property taxes for the majority of senior citizens.
- C.I.L. Inc. - letter of intent advising Council that C.I.L. will pay for damage to the asphalt surface on the Township Road from Hwy. 59 to C.I.L.
- Prohammer Zone Change - Letter to O.M.B.
- Resolution Town of Palmerston (tabled at previous Council Meeting)
- Mr. Wilber R. Brett, Mayor, Municipality Town of Essex - requesting a donation to their Disaster Relief Fund, resulting from an explosion and fire.
- J.T. Manuel, P. Eng., Ministry of the Environment - advising that Mr. Cor Ban Brenk has applied for a Certificate of Compliance.



Mr. Mingle attended the meeting at 7:15 P.M.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION ACCOUNTS

Moved by Ross Warboys, Seconded by R.P. Pettigrew that the Municipal Council authorize the payment of accounts pertaining to Finance and Administration in the amount of \$43,487.81.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 3

AGRICULTURE ACCOUNTS

Moved by John Heleniak, Seconded by H. Carman Sweazey that the Municipal Council authorize the payment of accounts pertaining to Agriculture in the amount of \$2,581.45.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 4

RECREATION ACCOUNTS

Moved by H. Carman Sweazey, Seconded by John Heleniak that the Municipal Council authorize the payment of accounts pertaining to Recreation and Community Services in the amount of \$18,694.37.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 5

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT

Moved by Jack Walther, Seconded by R.P. Pettigrew that the report of the Public Works Committee dated March 17th, 1980 be adopted as printed and circulated.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 6

PROTECTION REPORT

Moved by R.P. Pettigrew, Seconded by Ross Warboys that the report of the Protection to Persons and Property Committee dated March 18th, 1980 be adopted as printed and circulated.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

BY-LAW NO. 21-80

AMEND BY-LAW NO. 41-76 (MEROVING)

Moved by H. Carman Sweazey, Seconded by John Heleniak that the mover have leave to introduce a by-law to amend Zoning By-Law No. 41-76, as amended, and that this constitutes the FIRST reading thereof.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

Moved by H. Carman Sweazey, Seconded by John Heleniak that the By-Law under consideration be now read a SECOND time.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

Moved by H. Carman Sweazey, Seconded by John Heleniak that the By-Law to amend By-Law No. 41-76, as amended, be now read a THIRD time, SIGNED, SEALED, NUMBERED 21-80 and finally passed this 25th day of March, 1980.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor



RESOLUTION NO. 7

HORSE BARN LEASE

Moved by Roger Orth, Seconded by Hardee Richardson that the Township of Norwich instruct Mr. Marcel DeWitte to rent the horse barn monthly on the Anderson Property at the same rate per stall as at Dillon Park.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 8

NORTH COURT CONTRACT

Moved by H. Carman Sweazey, Seconded by Helen Smith that the Municipal Council authorize the Mayor and Clerk to execute the contract agreement between Latos General Contracting Ltd., Tillsonburg and the Township of Norwich in respect to the construction of the North Court Park Washrooms, Ward 2, at the contract price of \$21,400.00.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 9

RACHAR PROPERTY

Moved by R.P. Pettigrew, Seconded by W. Sanders that Mr. Clayton D. Rachar be advised that the South Part of Lots 40 & 41, Plan 43, Village of Otterville, complies with the by-laws of the Municipality and is therefore suitable for a single family dwelling house.

RESOLUTION NO. 10

1980 NORMAL ROAD SUBSIDY

Moved by Ross Warboys, Seconded by R.P. Pettigrew that the Municipal Council approve the 1980 Road Expenditures in the amounts of \$601,500.00 for Maintenance and \$195,160.00 for Construction as set forth on Form OB-MR-28.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

7:57 P.M.

Adjourned temporarily.

8:00 P.M.

-- Reconvened at Otterville Community Hall with approximately 130 Otterville and area residents in attendance. Mayor Burn welcomed those present and briefly outlined the procedures to be used in conducting the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to present a brief to the Council in respect to the Treffry Mill and Mill Pond Property.

Also in attendance were Long Point Region Conservation Authority representatives Mr. Roy Smith and Mr. Wm. Courtnage.

Mr. Colin Cope, spokesman for the Otterville group presented two briefs entitled "A Brief to the Long Point Regional Conservation Authority that they Purchase Treffry's Mill Site" and "The Role of the Historical Society". Mayor Burn invited comments and questions following the presentation and advised the residents that a decision concerning the matter would be made later in the evening.

9:00 P.M.

Reconvened in the Council Chambers.

Further discussion was given to the grants structure available for such projects as the Treffry Mill Purchase. Several area residents were in attendance along with Mr. Smith and Mr. Courtnage.



RESOLUTION NO. 11

TREFFRY MILL

Moved by Roger Orth, Seconded by R.P. Pettigrew

that the Township of Norwich ask the Long Point Region Conservation Authority to further investigate the purchase of the Treffry Mill knowing that there is considerable local input behind this project, the Long Point Region Conservation Authority to investigate funds that may be available from Heritage groups and if there are funds available to consider taking up an option on the property.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

DELEGATION:

9:35 P.M.

Mr. Len Dickson, Architect, was present to open tenders received for the construction of the Oxford Centre Community Centre. The following bids were received: -

	<u>BASE PRICE</u>	<u>ADDITIONAL GRAVEL</u>	<u>COOLING</u>
Bratt Construction	\$ 162,578.00	\$ 8,050.00	\$ 2,850.00
Conpave Construction	167,925.00	12,000.00	3,291.00
Don West Construction	169,924.00	5,933.00	2,940.00
Gilvesy Construction	186,800.00	5,720.00	3,550.00
Graceview Enterprises	158,830.00	4,950.00	3,210.00
G.W.H. Contractor	171,995.00	16,128.00	3,675.00
Heindricks Construct.	163,666.00	4,177.00	3,135.00
Herman Bruin Const.	220,700.00	8,021.00	4,462.00
Latos Contracting	188,900.00	7,655.00	3,676.00
Ross Corporation	180,178.00	7,872.00	_____
Tonda Construction	171,700.00	8,280.00	2,900.00
Venema Construction	162,750.00	6,500.00	2,500.00
Weber Construction	169,104.00	7,149.00	2,700.00

RESOLUTION NO. 12

EAST OXFORD HALL TENDER

Moved by Ross Warboys, Seconded by R.P. Pettigrew that we accept the tender of Graceview Enterprises for the sum of \$166,990.00.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 13

SUPPLEMENTARY ROAD SUBSIDY

Moved by Ross Warboys, Seconded by R.P. Pettigrew that the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to make application for supplementary road subsidy monies in the amount of \$135,500.00.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 14

OTTER DORCHESTER AD

Moved by Roger Orth, Seconded by Hardee Richardson that the Township of Norwich pay the Ad inserted in the Norwich Gazette re debentures for Otter Dorchester Fire Insurance Co.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor



RESOLUTION NO. 15      MINOR VARIANCE - ANGLICAN CHURCH

Moved by Helen Smith, Seconded by W. Sanders  
that the Clerk be advised to notify The Anglican Church of Oxford Centre to make application for a minor variance.

APPROVED:      Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 16      NORTH YORK RESOLUTION

Moved by H. Carman Sweazey, Seconded by John Heleniak  
that the Township of Norwich note and file the City of North York's Motion.

APPROVED:      Jack B. Burn, Mayor

Discussion was given to the letter received from Canadian Industries Ltd.

RESOLUTION NO. 17      TREFFRY MILL SITE

Moved by Roger Orth, Seconded by Jack Walther  
that the Township of Norwich notify the Long Point Region Conservation Authority that if everything appears in order to buy the Treffry Mill and there is money available from Heritage groups or foundations, but still not enough to pay Long Point Region Conservation Authority's share that the Township of Norwich will pay up to \$5,000.00 towards this project.

APPROVED:      Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 18      FORMER RAILROAD PROPERTY-OTTERVILLE

Moved by John Heleniak, Seconded by H. Carman Sweazey  
that we instruct the Road Superintendent to take whatever action is required to rectify the existing dangerous situation at the Former Railroad Right-Of-Way located next to the Former Solinger Industries Property as soon as possible.

APPROVED:      Jack B. Burn, Mayor

It was suggested that further information be obtained concerning the Van Ravenswaay mobile home for the next meeting of Council.

RESOLUTION NO. 19      PROHAMMER ZONE CHANGE

Moved by Ross Warboys, Seconded by R.P. Pettigrew  
that Mr. John Harrison Jr. be appointed to represent the Township's position in regard to the zone amendment By-Law No. 72-79 -John Prohammer at the expense of Mr. Prohammer.

APPROVED:      Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 20      COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved by R.P. Pettigrew, Seconded by Ross Warboys  
that Council do now go into Committee of the Whole in Camera.

APPROVED:      Jack B. Burn, Mayor



Discussion - personnel.

RESOLUTION NO. 21

COMMITTEE RISE

Moved by Jack Walther, Seconded by Helen Smith  
that the Committee of the Whole do now rise.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 22

GRANTS PROGRAMME

Moved by Helen Smith, Seconded by W. Sanders  
that the Clerk be instructed to look into the  
conditions for grants re Community Services Contribution  
Programme.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 23

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Helen Smith, Seconded by W. Sanders  
that the Municipal Council do now adjourn to meet  
again on Monday the 14th day of April 1980 at  
9:00 A.M. in the Council Chambers, Otterville.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

The Meeting Adjourned at 11:05 P.M.

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JACK B. BURN, MAYOR.

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ROBERT C. WATKINS, CLERK.



Council Meeting

March 25th, 1980

Discussion - personnel.

RESOLUTION NO. 21

COMMITTEE RISE

Moved by Jack Walther, Seconded by Helen Smith  
that the Committee of the Whole do now rise.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 22

GRANTS PROGRAMME

Moved by Helen Smith, Seconded by W. Sanders  
that the Clerk be instructed to look into the  
conditions for grants re Community Services Contribution  
Programme.

APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 23

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Helen Smith, Seconded by W. Sanders  
that the Municipal Council do now adjourn to meet  
again on Monday the 14th day of April 1980 at  
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APPROVED: Jack B. Burn, Mayor

The Meeting Adjourned at 11:05 P.M.

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JACK B. BURN, MAYOR.

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ROBERT C. WATKINS, CLERK.