

Title: Tottenham Tweedsmuir History Book: Volume I. Page 1/250

Creator: The Tottenham Women's Institute

Subject: Tottenham, Tweedsmuir History, Tottenham Women's Institute.

Description: A complete and thorough guide to the history of Tottenham compiled by the Tottenham Women's Institute. The book covers a wide variety of Tottenham and area history including, schools, churches, cemeteries, clubs, organizations, special events and much more.

Publisher: Tottenham Women's Institute

Contributor: Corinne Mallion, Hilda McKenna, Ruth Abernethy, Mary Shechner, Alma Petit, Diane Haynes.

Date: c1978

Type: Artifact

Format: JPEG / PDF

Identifier: 0166

Source: Simcoe County Archives: Accession #987-35

Language: En

Relation:

Coverage:

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TWEEDSMUIR HISTORY



**TOTTENHAM
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**



Lord and Lady Tweedsmuir

"FOREWORD"

I am so glad to hear that the Women's Institutes of Ontario are going to compile village history books. Events move very fast nowadays; houses are pulled down, new roads are made, and the aspect of the countryside changes completely sometimes in a short time.

It is a most useful and satisfying task for Women's Institute members to see that nothing valuable is lost or forgotten, and women should be on the alert always to guard the traditions of their homes, and to see that water colour sketches and prints, poems and prose legends should find their way into these books. The oldest people in the village will tell us fascinating stories of what they remember, which the younger members can write down, thus making a bridge between them and events which happened before they were born. After all, it is the history of humanity which is continually interesting to us, and your village histories will be the basis of accurate facts much valued by historians of the future. I am proud to think that you have called them "The Tweedsmuir Village Histories".

—Written by Lady Tweedsmuir.



Mrs. Adelaide Hunter Hoodless
Founder of the first Women's Institute in the world
at Stoney Creek, February 19, 1897

MR. ERLAND LEE

Nov., 1968

The name of Adelaide Hoodless is forever synonymous with the Women's Institute movement. Not so well known throughout the world is the name of the man who made it all possible - Erland Lee, who in 1897 invited Mrs. Hoodless to speak at the annual ladies' night of the South Westworth Farmers' Institute, of which he was secretary.

After the formation of the Women's Institute at Stoney Creek, on the solid walnut dining table which had come from Scotland with her forbears, Janet and Erland Lee helped to draw up the constitution for the new movement. The 95-year old house complete with the famous table is still owned by their descendants.

For several years, a citizens' committee headed by Mrs. W. J. McEvoy have been working to persuade the province of Ontario to purchase the property as a future museum. Last year a plaque was erected by the Ontario Provincial Department of Public Records and Archives and this reads:

"FIRST WOMEN'S INSTITUTE, 1897

The World's first Women's Institute was organized at Squire's Hall, Stoney Creek in 1897. Erland Lee, a founder of the Farmer's Institute, assisted by his wife, arranged the meeting. About 100 women from the Saltfleet district attended and were persuaded by Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless to form an organization of their own to improve their skills in the arts of home-making and child care.

Here in the Lee Home, Mr. Lee subsequently helped to draft the constitution of the new society. Mrs. E. D. Smith of Winona, became the first president of the "Mother Institute."

The Women's Institute has since become a world wide organization."

Women's Institute members from all round the globe have visited the Lee Homestead over the years, and members everywhere will no doubt be more than interested in the efforts of Mrs. McEvoy and her committee in raising the funds necessary for the purchase of the building.

- from 'The Countrywoman', October-November 1968

THE ERLAND LEE HOMESTEAD

On May 28, 1961 a Memorial Plaque on a rugged granite boulder in front of the Lee Homestead, Stoney Creek, was unveiled - -

In Memory of

Erland Lee and his wife Janet
who pioneered the first Women's Institute
- now world wide -
at Stoney Creek, February 19, 1897
and to commemorate their home with table
on which the Constitution was drawn up.

Erected by the District of
South Wentworth Women's Institute

On October 1, 1967, through the efforts of the Federated Woman's Institutes of Ontario, an Historic Plaque was unveiled and dedicated at the Erland Lee Homestead by the Historic Sites Board.

THE HISTORIC BACKGROUND

This property is situated on Lot 17, Concession 4, Township of Saltfleet, south side of Ridge Road, Westworth County. The property is known as 'Edgemont', crown grant 1801 to John and Mary Lee on their marriage. The first dwelling was a log cabin built by John Lee for his bride. The young couple surrounded it with cuttings of Sweet Mary, Myrtle, Yellow Roses and a Snow Ball Bush. The cabin has long since vanished, but the plants still flourish.

A frame house was later built and in time the back part of it was removed by Abram Lee, son of John Lee. In 1860 the present house was planned. It was built in front of the older part. The wood used was virgin pine. A fourteen-year-old boy spent the whole summer hand-cutting all the ornamentation on the outside of the house. All hardware is original and the old iron latches and hinges are still there in the older part of the house.

Much of the furniture has been handed down through the generations. Of interest is the dining-room table, which Janet Chisholm brought with her as a bride of Erland Lee. The table was her Grandfather's. On it she penned the final draft of the Constitution of the first Women's Institute in the world.

An option on the property was taken out by the Provincial Board in June, 1969. It included this dining-room table, with leather upholstered dining chairs, a large side-board, desk built in the dining-room bay window and the floor-to-ceiling pine cupboard.

The option to purchase the Erland Lee Homestead will be taken up in June, 1972. The purchase of the Homestead is made possible by the generous contributions of all the Branches in Ontario and by gifts from interested people. The Provincial Board of Directors will make the decision of how best to use the building. A Foundation Fund is being set up to maintain the Homestead and equip it for whatever use will be made of it.

The Homestead is of great historic value, particularly to Women's Institutes of Ontario. It will be our very own possession (remember the Adelaide Hoodless Homestead belongs to all the W. I. members in Canada) and we are very proud to own it.

- Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, 18/4/72

LADY SUSAN TWEEDSMUIR

Susan, Lady Tweedsmuir, widow of the author and ex-Governor-General of Canada, was an outstanding author in her own right. She has written plays, children's books and reminiscences.

Lady Tweedsmuir accepted the office of Honorary President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario in 1935, and later became an Honorary Life Member.

Lady Tweedsmuir was an ardent Women's Institute member in England, being President of the Sheffield Women's Institute, Oxfordshire, England, for 15 years, and was County President of the Oxfordshire Federation until coming to Canada.

While in Canada, she collected approximately 25,000 books which have been made into rural libraries, known as 'The Lady Tweedsmuir Libraries' circulated mainly in remote districts of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta.

In her farewell address to Canadians, she left this inspirational message: "To my friends and fellow members of the Women's Institutes, I would like to say how much I hope they will press on with their work in education and in all other lines. I have so much enjoyed my association with them here, and, although I have not been able to answer their many kind letters sent me in the last month -- (following the death of her husband) -- I would like to say how grateful I am to receive them. I hope that the Canadian and British Women's Institutes will always be linked together in the warmest friendship and closest association, and that we shall continue to work as ardently in the future for the welfare of the countryside as we have done in the past".

It was Lady Tweedsmuir who suggested that the women's Institutes, and associate organizations throughout Canada, should compile local history of their villages and communities, as we are a young country and the pioneers are fast slipping away. She suggested the name for these histories to be "Tweedsmuir Village Histories", which name was later changed to "Tweedsmuir Histories", and she wrote the 'Foreword' which is placed in the front of all of these History Books in our Women's Institute Branches.

Lady Tweedsmuir lived in England since she returned to the Old Country in 1940. Lady Tweedsmuir died in March, 1977, at the age of 94.

- April, 1978.

THE TOTTENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

On December 1st, 1920, a meeting was held in the Methodist Church basement at 2:30 p.m., for the purpose of organizing a Women's Institute in Tottenham. Mrs. Greer of Toronto gave a very interesting address on Institute work, after which the following officers were appointed:

President:	Mrs. Lewin A. Brown
Vice President:	Mrs. R. J. Walkem
2nd Vice President:	Mrs. W. J. Boddy
Secretary Treasurer:	Mrs. G. A. Weaver
Auditors:	Mrs. J. McGlone
	Mrs. J. McKenna
Directors:	Mrs. G. Williamson
	Miss. W. Kavanagh
Programme Committee:	Mrs. John Potter
	Mrs. G. Butt
	Mrs. A. Coleman

At the close of the meeting Mrs. J. McGlone proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Greer; seconded by Mrs. J. McKnight.

Thus the Tottenham Women's Institute was organized in December 1920. Their aim was for relief in the towns of Tecumseth and Adjala. Later on, provincial relief was organized. The Branch paid the Officer's salary.

Through the years, donations were made periodically to hockey, baseball, tennis, skating rink and Boy Scouts. Payments have been made also for Night Nurses' fees, laundry for sick, funeral bills and a patient admission to an Institution, thereby relieving the town council of some responsibility.

In the park we planted flowers, provided park benches and tables, bought a beacon light for the Cenotaph and made a financial donation to Town Council for the same. Records show that at one time a band stand was erected and paid for by the Women's Institute.

When the Town Hall was renovated in 1922 the Institute paid for the chairs, dishes, kitchen utensils and stove, a cost of \$504.00. Later the water was put in the kitchen, as well as flatware. A piano was also purchased for the hall.

The Institute has provided groceries, meat, flannellette and clothing for needy families, fruit, and cards for sick, shut-in and the bereaved.

During the war years boxes were sent overseas, including candies, smokes, etc. Donations were made to the S.O.S. fund and Red Cross. The Soldiers' Reception Committee contained two members from the Women's Institute who worked with members of the Red Cross and Town Council.

In 1945 the Institute replaced the stage curtain in the Town Hall. They have in recent years sponsored two Hobby Shows, and two Variety Nights having two showings each. The first Variety Night was to help to replace the Dam after it was destroyed by Hurricane Hazel. The second was for the purpose of furnishing the Electrocardiograph Room in a wing of Alliston Hospital.

The sponsoring of 4-H Clubs is a highlight of the Women's Institute. They have also made good use of the Home Economics Extension Course, and were the first to introduce the 'Night Course', which now has gone far afield as of 1964.

PRESIDENTS
TOTTENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
Since organized on December 1, 1920

<u>NAME</u>	<u>YEARS</u>
Mrs. Lewin A. Brown	1920 - 23
Mrs. Charles Weaver	1923 - 25
Mrs. W. J. Boddy	1925 - 27
Mrs. James McCurdy	1927 - 30
Mrs. Charles Weaver	1930 - 34
Mrs. Dalton Evans	1934 - 35
Mrs. James Stephenson	1935 - 36
Mrs. Garnett Breedon	1936 - 37
Mrs. T. Watson	1937 - 38
Mrs. Charles Weaver	1938 - 40
Mrs. Thos. McCawley	1940 - 44
Mrs. Geo. S. Wice	1944 - 46
Miss Victoria Milligan	1946 - 51
Mrs. Wm. Prest	1951 - 52
Mrs. Charles Morrow	1952 - 54
Mrs. Geo. S. Wice	1954 - 60
Mrs. Gordon B. Mallion	1960 - 62
Mrs. Leonard Abernathy	1962 - 63
Mrs. Robt. Thomson	1963 - 66
Mrs. Richard Davis	1966 - 68
Mrs. Paul D. Tipping	1968 - 70
Mrs. Rhoda Thomson	1970 - 72
Mrs. M. Wynnyk	1972 - 73
Mrs. F. Middleton	1973 - 76
Mrs. Gordon B. Mallion	1976 - 77
Mrs. B. Shechner	1977 - 78
Mrs. E. Chirrey	1978 -

TOTTENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

1979-1980



HISTORY COMMITTEE

Seated, 1 to r: Corinne Mallion, Hilda McKenna (Curator),
Ruth Abernethy.

Standing, 1 to r: Mary Shechner, Alma Pettit, Diane Haynes.

MEMBERSHIP 1979-1980

Life Members: Mrs. Alice McCormick
Mrs. O. Pettit (Alma)
Mrs. G. Wice (Ethel)
Mrs. W. Stitson (Mary)
Mrs. H. Potter
Mrs. W. Hurlbert (Irene)
Mrs. Gordon Mallion (Corinne)

Members: Mrs. Frances McKenna (Hilda)
Mrs. Leonard Abernethy (Ruth)
Mrs. Douglas Montgomery (Rhoda)
Mrs. Edward Chirrey (Dorothy) - President
Mrs. B. Shechner (Mary)
Mrs. Paul Tipping (Marguerite)
Mrs. George Stamper (Suzanne)
Mrs. Robert Thomson (Peggy)
Miss Martina McGoey
Mrs. Frances Middleton (Peggy)
Mrs. Sidney Haynes (Diane)
Mrs. Robert Manning (Anne)
Mrs. John Dickinson (Vivien)
Mrs. A. Young (Bertha)
Mrs. F. Prim (Irene)
Mrs. F. Heimbuch (Trudy)
Mrs. F. Whitson (Mary)
Mrs. William Clark (Donna)

An Institute Members Day to Remember.



Mrs. Wm. Stitson, Mrs. Oliver Pettit,
Mrs. George Wice



Mrs. Stitson, Mrs. Wice, Mrs. Pettit
display their Life Memberships which
were presented to them by Mrs. Gordon
Mallion

Thursday, July 4, 1968, Tottenham Women's Institute honored three of their members of long standing with a picnic at which they were presented with Life Membership Certificates and Pins.

The picnic was held at the village park with a lunch provided by the members. A cake beautifully decorated with the ladies names, was a highlight of the afternoon.

Mrs. Gordon Mallion of our Tottenham branch and also the district president made the presentations to Mrs. Wm Stitson, Mrs. Oliver Pettit and Mrs. George Wice. Mrs. Mallion was assisted by the branch president, Mrs. Paul Tipping.

It was a beautiful day and to add to the pleasure of the presentations, it was arranged to have the ladies daughters present. A good number of the branch members attended, bringing their children and friends. One of the guests was the mother of Mrs. John Robbins, Mrs. E. P. Potets of Auckland, New Zealand.



On the right Mrs.
Harold Ellison,
(Lorraine Stitson)
Mrs. Wm. Stitson.
Mrs. Mervin Dale,
(Beth Wice) Mrs.
George Wice. Mrs.
Oliver Pettit, Mrs.
Jack Culpin, (Aileen
Pettit.



THE INSTITUTE STORY

By Mrs. Stella Muir, R.R.I, Minising (formerly Miss Stella Robb, Tottenham)

At a Wentworth farmers' meeting,
Held in Guelph, - at O. A. C.,
Erland Lee was there, - and listened
To a woman make a plea.

To reform our education,
"For this system just won't do;
Teach our girls domestic science,
And the art of sewing too".

So impressed with Mrs. Hoodless,
Was the public-spirited Lee,
He invited her to Saltfleet,
What an opportunity:

On the nineteenth of February,
With the mercury dipping low,
One hundred faithful women
Faced the bitter cold and snow.

With a cloak around their bonnets,
For the winter wind was bleak,-
They hitched Dobbin to the cutter
And set out for Stoney Creek.

What a memorable occasion,
As an acorn seed took root, -
For those pioneer women
Were the Mother Institute.

They promoted other branches,
(So my story does unfold),
And for Guelph and Queen Victoria
They chose the Blue and Gold.

Home and Country - was their motto,
Adelaide Hoodless did advise,
And a little oak kept growing,
'Till it grew to quite a size:

Branches spread across the province,
Then they reached from sea to sea, -
And they formed two federations,
F. W. I. O. - - - F. W. I. C.

To the States the torch was carried, -
Then to countries overseas, -
England, Scotland, Wales and Holland,
Belgium, France and Germany.

On and on, - thru' ether nations,
Rural ~~men~~ joined the throng
Of the A. C. W. W.
To which you and I belong:

We have reached another milestone,
We are seventy-five years old:
Let us wear the colours proudly,
The royal Blue and Gold:

Mrs. Hoodless came to Saltfleet,
And her message roused them all:
So they all agreed among them
To return to Squires' Hall.

PRESENTATION TO WOMEN'S INSTITUTE MEETING OF JANUARY 1973

by Mrs. Nadine Perkins

The Institute Branch is like a wheelbarrow, - not much good unless we go behind and push. First of all a little thought to keep in mind:

"In the field of social service, our role may be compared to a lamplighter who works in the forlorn roads of villages in the eastern hemisphere. His duty is to light the lamp so that others can walk in safety, saved from darkness and pitfalls. Those who walk may never see the lamplighter, but that does not minimize the greatness of the service. We have to give our service for what it is worth and not in expectation of any reward."
- Aroti Dutt

The wheelbarrow is not only our branch, it is the whole world of W.I. members and it is very full and heavy so it needs good strong wheels and spokes and handles, and each little branch helps to keep it rolling along, and each member is one tiny part of its construction; if one little nail comes loose through our lack of support it will weaken the handle, and if the paint starts to peel because we lose interest in our fellow man fail to come up with new ideas and solutions it will start to fall apart. The main reason that we all joined the W.I. was, I hope, for what we could give and put into the W.I. for the benefit of our sisters all over the world, however small our contribution was going to be - just a smile as we pass by, a friendly word to those in need, and over all a sense of humor which is needed to push any wheelbarrow over its many rough paths of life. Now a little poem to make us think:

"If we were busy being kind
Before we know it we would find
We'd soon forget to think 'twas true
That someone was unkind to you.

If we were busy being glad
A cheering of people who are sad
Although our hearts might ache a bit
We'd soon forget to notice it.

If we were busy being good
And doing just the best we could
We'd not have time to blame some man
Who's doing just the best he can.

If we were busy being true
To what we know we ought to do
We'd be so busy, we'd forget
The blunders of the folks we've met." - Author Unknown

And, finally, a little prayer for 1973:

A HEALTHY PRAYER
(Prayer on a wall in Chester Cathedral)

Give me a good digestion Lord
And something to digest.
Give me a healthy body, Lord
And sense to keep it at its best;
Give me a healthy mind, O Lord,
To keep the pure and good in sight,
Which seeing sin is not appalled,
But finds a way to set it right.
Give me a mind that is not bored,
That does not whimper, whine, or sigh;
Don't let me worry overmuch
About that fussy thing call, "I."
Give me a sense of humor, Lord,
Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some happiness from life
And pass it on to other folk. - from "Home and Country"

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE MEETING
HIGHLIGHTS

- December, 1972 -- Mrs. J. Emigh was hostess at her home for the December meeting with an attendance of 25 members and friends. The President, Mrs. Wynnyk, presided. Mrs. H. Walton gave the motto, "One can value a house to the last penny, but none can value a home." Mr. Clifford Rogers, the guest speaker, was introduced by Mrs. Middleton who told of his life as a boy here, his travels and experiences through the years and has now returned to enjoy his retirement on the farm of his birth. The meeting closed; Mrs. Emigh and assistants, Mrs. Middleton, Mrs. Stitson and Mrs. Walton served lunch with trimmings.
- January, 1973 -- Mrs. J. Wynnyk presiding - the theme: 'Resolutions' - the Motto: 'The Institute branch is like a wheelbarrow, not much good unless we get behind and push', was ably compiled and read by Mrs. E. Perkins. A resolution was prepared and presented by Mrs. E. Wice re traffic lights at the corner of Mill and Queen Streets. This was voted on and carried and has gone to the Village Council for their consideration. We are hopeful that other groups and organizations as well as citizens will get behind this move. It is costly - true - so are accidents and death. Reports were read by various convenors. Councillor W. Rowbotham then joined us and answered many questions on the minds of members. He was tendered a vote of thanks. The meeting closed. Mrs. Abernathy served lunch assisted by the Committee in Charge.
- February, 1973 -- The February meeting of the Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. G. Mallion. The President, Mrs. M. Wynnyk was in charge. The theme: 'Public Relations'. Mrs. G. Forbes read an interesting article on the Motto. Mrs. D. Montgomery then introduced the speaker, Mr. George Coulson of the Simcoe County Recreational Association, Public Relations Department, Barrie. He commented on the splendid work of the Women's Institute in Tottenham Community Day Camps, etc. He then spoke on Senior Citizens and their progress in Simcoe County of which he takes a vital part. The meeting closed. Mrs. Montgomery, Mrs. Forbes and Mrs. V. Trainer assisted the hostess serving lunch.
- March, 1973 -- A good number of interested ladies attended the Women's Institute meeting held at the home of Mrs. E. Perkins on March 7th. The president, Mrs. Wynnyk was in charge. Highlights were: plans for writing a history of Tottenham and district in book form. Mrs. F. McKenna, who is now in charge of the Tweedsmuir History, assisted by Mrs. E. Peters will be the convenor; 'Luncheon is Served' June 12; Bus trip June 20th; and sponsoring an Arts and Crafts club. The 4-H girls had a display of their work in charge of Miss Ruth Wilson (member) and Mrs. Paul Tipping, leader. Fifteen members answered the roll call by showing of their hobbies. The motto - the higher up the ladder of learning the wider the horizon - was read by Mrs. G. Mallion. The singing of the National Anthem brought the meeting to a close. Mrs. P. Forestell and Miss M. McGee assisted the hostess in serving lunch.
- April, 1973 -- The annual elections meeting of the Tottenham Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Paul Tipping, commencing at 6:30 with a pot-luck supper. Mrs. Wynnyk then took the chair for the regular meeting. Mrs. G. B. Mallion then conducted the election and installation of officers. The slate presented by Mrs. N. Perkins and accepted was as follows: Past President: Mrs. M. Wynnyk; President: Mrs. F. Middleton; 1st Vice-president: Mrs. M. Parker; 2nd Vice-president: Mrs. K. Perkins; Treasurer and Corresponding Secretary: Mrs. R. Service; Recording Secretary: Mrs. Paul Tipping; District Director: Mrs. W. Hurlbert; Alternate Director: Mrs. G. Forbes; P.R.O. Mrs. G. S. Wice; Tweedsmuir History: Mrs. F. McKenna; Sick and Visiting: Mrs. V. Trainer. Mrs. F. Middleton presented the retiring president, Mrs. Wynnyk with an Institute pin.

W.I. MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (continued)

May, 1973 --

The May meeting was held at the home of Mrs. D. Montgomery on May 2nd, with the president, Mrs. F. Middleton in the chair. Guest speaker was Mrs. Jean Tibbard, P.R.O. for Consumers' Protection. She gave an interesting talk on the ways and means of consumers protecting themselves against fraud. The aprons which had been on display at Schonberg Fair were shown. It was decided to raise the rent on the Municipal Hall kitchen from \$3.00 to \$5.00, and to purchase 6 Institute badges and 4 teaspoons.

June, 1973 --

The June meeting was held at the home of Mrs. L. Abernathy with 25 ladies in attendance, Mrs. F. Middleton, President, in charge. Roll Call: 'A kindness some friend has recently done for you'. Motto: 'Being a housewife is a full-time job. Why should anyone apologise for being one', was read by Mrs. G. Parker. Mrs. V. Trainor reported on the Sick-visiting Committee. It was announced that the aprons on display at Schonberg Fair had taken second prize. The autograph quilt done in royal blue and gold on white background was drawn for and won by Mrs. A. Leagh. The guest speakers were the South Sincere District President, Mrs. Trotter of Cookstown who brought with her a display of creative stitching which was a conversation piece within itself, and Tottenham Chiropractor, Dr. Susan King, who explained the origin, treatment and benefits of Chiropractic. Mrs. Wynnyk presented her with a small favor of appreciation. Following lunch the meeting adjourned until September.

HISTORY OF TOTTENHAM METHODIST CHURCH
(TOTTENHAM UNITED)

Prepared and read on October 21st, 1945 (the 50th Anniversary) by Miss S. Olive Totten,
Tottenham, Ontario

I have been asked to bring you a history of our church (Tottenham United) and congregation on this the 50th Anniversary.

Records are few; thus we depend, to an extent, on memory, tradition - or hearsay. If errors or omissions occur, I beg your indulgence and pardon.

When in June, 1895, the great fire swept over Tottenham, destroying approximately eighty buildings, one of the largest and most valuable of these was the Methodist church. Its loss was the greater since it was built only ten years before.

We are told that from an architectural point of view, it was quite similar to the church in which we worship this morning. We know it was the same size, since this church was built on the same foundation. It, too, had a tower, and the bell that now calls us to worship was one of the few things salvaged from the fire. (By the way, Mr. Purchase told us on Sunday evening that our pulpit Bible is dated 1857 - thus it has been in use for eighty-eight years. It, too, must have been saved from that fire.)

We have recently read of the loss, by fire, of several churches, and have admired the courage of that people, who set about at once to rebuild the House of God. But the loyalty of their members in this case was the more commendable since many of them had lost their homes and a few, their places of business. Yet the Board met at once. A congregational meeting was called. I have talked to two friends who attended that meeting, where, one by one, the people arose and stated the amount of their contributions toward the rebuilding of the church. Some of these were in two figures, some in three, and one I know in four.

Accordingly on September 9th, just three months after the fire, the cornerstone of our new church was "well and truly laid." The honour of laying it was conferred upon my grandfather, Mr. Alex. Totten. For this service he was presented with a silver trowel, which I hold in my hand. The inscription reads: "Presented to Mr. Alexander Totten on the occasion of the laying of the cornerstone of the Tottenham Methodist Church, September 9th, 1895."

The formal opening of the church took place on the 2nd Sunday of January, 1896. Rev. F. C. Keen was pastor.

In order to get a complete history of our congregation, we must look back beyond these dates, 1895 or 1885.

According to church history, the Methodist Church founded by John Wesley, was split, after his death, into several divisions. In England there was the Wesleyan Church, in the United States the Methodist Episcopal, and there was also the Primitive Methodist Church, the New Connection Methodist, and the Bible Christian Methodist.

The first Methodist Church erected at Tottenham was New Connection Methodist and was situated close to the site of our Mount Tegeret Cemetery. But some families, among them the Williams and Tottens, preferred to worship with the Wesleyans. Therefore they drove each Sabbath to the Monkman's church on the 3rd line, east of this, a distance of 5 miles - a round trip of ten miles, and this in "the horse and buggy days." I am told that in the seasons when the roads were impassable, men and women walked that distance rather than miss the Sabbath services. For communion service, or "Quarterly Meeting service," they drove to Lloydstown, then head of the circuit.

HISTORY OF TOTTENHAM METHODIST-UNITED CHURCH

Prepared and read on October 21st, 1945 (the 50th Anniversary)
By Miss S. Olive Totten, Tottenham, Ontario (Continued)

On the 2nd page: "A special meeting was held for the purpose of organizing a Quarterly Board for the Tottenham-Beeton circuit, the following officers being appointed.

Leaders: Alexander Totten and John Hay
Recording Steward: Henry Stone
Trustees: James Degart, Thos. Greenaway, W.S. Hambly and James Gregory.

On 3rd page: A motion that the Trustee Board purchase the Brown Bros. dwelling on west side of Queen St. if it could be bought for \$2,000.

There are many items I should wish to read if time permitted. But I know we all appreciate the personal touch. Personalities appeal to me more than facts or statistics.

Therefore I shall read a list of names of the pastors and their assistants, or colleagues as they were commonly called. I know that names will call up a flood of memories, for there are here today, some who have returned to the church of their childhood. In the list they will find names of ministers who officiated at the marriage or burial of their parents, or at their own baptism or marriage, or of men who visited in their homes when they were children.

The first circuit superintendent that I have listed is my father, Rev. J. W. Totten, who lived at Bond Head, that being the head of the circuit. Other appointments were Newton Robinson, Tottenham, Rich Hill, Beeton, Reaney's and Tecumseth.

In 1887 an adjustment was made. Tottenham became head of the Tottenham-Beeton circuit with Rich Hill, Reaney's and Tecumseth.

The following is the list of its superintendents and assistants. The superintendents remained for three years; the assistants for one year.

- 1887 - Rev. Wm. Rodwell - Supt.; Assistants: 1. Rev. Jas. Lavery
2. Rev. T.M. Talbot
3. Rev. Thos. Scott
- 1889 - Rev. Thos. Dunlop - Supt.; Assistants: 1. Rev. A.P. Lister
2. Rev. N. Gardiner
- 1891 - Rev. Alex. Richards - Supt.; Assistants: 1. Rev. J. Y. Valentine
2. Rev. W. E. Baker
- 1892 - Rev. Herman Moore - Supt.; Assistants: 1. Rev. W. E. Baker
2. Rev. Dan Norman
3. Rev. D. Sanderson

(Rev. Dan Norman's name is familiar since he was a Missionary in Japan for many years. Disc. of Alliston Epworth Leagues adopted him as their missionary and presented him with a Ford car, the first car owned by one of our missionaries.)

- 1895 - Rev. F. C. Keam - Supt.; Assistant: 1. Rev. H.P. Ferguson
2. Rev. C.E. Belfrey
3. Rev. J.W. Moore

(It was during Mr. Keam's pastorate that the first wedding in the church was performed, in February, 1889, the bride and groom being Mr. and Mrs. S. Hastings.)

- 1898 - Rev. Richard Large - Supt.; Assist. 1. Rev. X.C. Chapman
2. Rev. W.W. Wallace

A readjustment was made in 1901. Henceforth Tottenham and Rich Hill constituted a circuit, pastors since that date being:

- 1901 - Rev. Isaac Couch
1904 - Rev. F.L. Brown (continued)

HISTORY OF FORTENHAM-METHODIST-UNITED CHURCH - continued

1907 - Rev. S.L. Harton
1909 - Rev. A. F. McKenzie
1910 - Rev. John J. Ferguson
1914 - Rev. C.A. Belfry
1917 - Rev. Jas. H. Dudgeon
1921 - Rev. A.P. Stanley
1923 - Rev. J. W. Fox
1926 - Rev. W. S. Beveridge
1932 - Rev. Levi Halfyard
1937 - Rev. W.S. Butt
1941 - Rev. C. H. Purchase

I have listed names of Recording Stewards as follows:

1881-1901 (20 years) - Mr. Henry Scoue
1901-1921 (20 years) - Mr. Wm. Brown
1921-1938 (17 years) - Mr. J. J. McKnight
1938-1944 - Mr. Wilnot Hayes
1944-1945 - Mr. S. Abernethy

Of all organizations the Sunday School is conceded the place of highest importance. It is the nucleus of all church life. In it lies the hope of future progress of Christianity. Therefore, we pause to give the names of Sunday School workers. In 1887 Mr. L. P. Fencar was Superintendent.

Later superintendents were Messrs. Thos. Greenaway, W.J. Verney and H.A. Feren.

In 1911 Mr. Jas. Henderson became superintendent holding the office for 27 years. In 1936 we celebrated his 25th anniversary, with Dr. Peter Bryce as preacher for the occasion.

I have names of members of the Church Board who earlier were chairman of the S. S. Committee, as follows:

Messrs. Jas. Mercer, J. M. Lowery, M. Hardwick, C.A. Weaver and T. S. Clarke.

I have access to a list of officers for 1911 as follows:

Superintendent: Mr. Jas. Henderson; Teachers: Mr. B. L. Maybee, Mrs. J. J. Ferguson, Mrs. Maybee, Mrs. Verney, Minnie Verney, Ida Mills, Addie Lowery, Mrs. McKnight and Mrs. Henderson. The latter two, Mrs. Henderson and Mrs. McKnight were Sunday School teachers for approximately forty years. While teacher of the Primary Class, Mrs. McKnight donated the small chairs for the tiny children in memory of her little daughter.

Other officers of that period were: Mr. L. Fencar, treasurer; Aubrey Ellison, secretary, and Miss Ismay Preston, librarian, for our school had an excellent library, and later a credible orchestra.

By chance, I have the names of officers for 1936 as follows:

Superintendent, Mr. J. Henderson; Assistant Superintendents, Mr. Jas. Simpson and Mr. E. Roy; Treasurer, Mr. M. Hardwick; Secretary, Harvey Simpson, Missionary Treasurer, Marie Wray; Teachers: Mrs. Wood, Mrs. S. Hastings, Mrs. Jas. Henderson, Mrs. J. McKnight, Mrs. H. Magloughlin, Mr. W. Hayes, Mrs. Pace; Bible Class: Mr. Jas. Simpson and Mr. S. Abernethy; Pianist, Mrs. Halfyard.

In 1922 a projecting lantern was purchased which greatly enhanced the interest in the sessions of the Sunday School. In order to purchase it, a canvass of the church members was made by two teachers, Mrs. Freeman and Miss Alberta Hamilton.

During this half century our boys have served their King and Country in ^{TWO} ~~three~~ wars. During World War I, three boys of the Sunday School gave their lives: Aubrey Ellison, Lorne McCurdy and Norman Wilson. During World War II Pilot Officer Wallace Roy made the supreme sacrifice. Wallace was a secretary and later a teacher.

May we devote our energies in the pursuit of peace that the boys and girls now in our S.S. may not be called to lay down their lives.

The Monkman's church is gone, but I have been informed by Miss Lillie Palmer that the graves of the Williams family are still visited in the graveyard.

During the 19th century, several Methodist Unions were consummated, the final one in 1883. Henceforth all our Methodist churches were known by the name of "Methodist Church of Canada."

But prior to this the Wesleyans had built a long, narrow, white frame church on this lot which had been donated by Mr. John Greenaway. Several people have told me of attending service in that church. The pulpit was at the front of the church between the two doors, but this was found to be embarrassing to late-comers and was altered. In 1885 the much larger church was erected, that is, the one that was destroyed by fire in 1895.

Many people have recalled the near tragedy in connection with the construction. Young men were in the habit, on Sunday afternoon, of exploring the building and climbing the ladders to the belfry. One of them, James Moffatt, fell from that great height to the basement, striking beams and rubble. He was picked up "for dead" and carried across to my grandfather's home where he rallied and lay for months, cared for by my grandmother and kind neighbours. He made a complete recovery and when his death was announced a few years later, oldtimers recalled the event.

I am in possession of an interesting book, the Minutes of the Quarterly Board from 1887 to 1922. On the 1st page I read: "The Beeton and Tottenham circuit was formed by the Toronto Conference of 1887, being composed of the following appointments: Tottenham, Beeton, Rich Hill, Reaney's and Tecumseth."



HISTORY OF TOTTENHAM-METHODIST-UNITED CHURCH - continued

Among the many projects of the church during these 50 years, the acquisition of the pipe-organ is outstanding. A group of members caught a vision of the dignity and strength that would be added to our services by means of an organ. The names of that group are unknown to me, except that of Miss Phoebe Williams who led the group. A fund was started, and many were the concerts, lectures, teas and other projects carried through to finance the purchase. Finally, their efforts were crowned with success and the Carnegie Organ was installed. Among the organists and assistants were Mrs. Doull, Miss Landerkin, Miss Coon, Miss Stephenson, Miss Williamson, Miss Weaver, Mrs. Delaney, Miss Hastings, Miss Pettit and Mrs. Sawdon. *also mentioned in 1947*

Had we time we should like to pay a tribute to the members of choirs, to the faithful workers of the Ladies' Aid and W.A., to the officers of the W.M.S., Young People's Societies and the Happy Hour leaders.

In reviewing the tasks and achievements of the pioneers and faithful workers and officers of our church, it is our hope that we may all be encouraged and inspired to consecrate our time, our talents, our lives to the promotion of the work of the church, and to the Crusade for Christ and His Kingdom.

(Signed) (MISS) S. OLIVE TOTTEN

Tottenham, Ont., October 21st, 1945.

THE REVEREND GEORGE H. PURCHASE



Rev. & Mrs. Purchase

The Reverend George H. Purchase was a son of James and Sarah Purchase of Newfoundland.

His first wife and son passed away and he was married again before he came to Tottenham United Church in 1940. He had two sisters, Alice (Mrs. Charles Miles of Milliken) and Carrie (Mrs. Wilfred Moore of 4th line of Albion); and one brother, James in Toronto. There may have been more in his family.

His second wife was Mrs. Torrence, nee Miss Dora May Rich, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John Rich of Scarborough. When she was here her son passed away.

In 1947, they moved to Aurora, and on November 30th, 1948, Mrs. Purchase passed away. She is buried in Bartonville Cemetery.

Later he married Miss Emma Foster of Elmvale; she was the organist when he was the minister there.

He died February 28th, 1954, and is buried in Park Lawn Cemetery in Toronto.

HISTORY OF THE TOTTENHAM UNITED CHURCH WOMEN



METHODIST CHURCH, TOTTENHAM, ONT.

This history was taken from a booklet compiled by the Local Women's Associations of Simcoe Presbytery of the United Church of Canada in the year 1957. There were some forty-five organizations in Simcoe Presbytery. This book is called "Women in the Church" and this History of the Tottenham United Church Women was written by Mrs. Jas. (Vida) Henderson.

The clear ringing of our sweet tongued United Church bell, as it calls us each Sabbath morning to worship recalls to our minds the history of our church of over seventy years and all this time, this bell has summoned us to the House of God. Now the story.

The first church we had was "New Connection Methodist" and was built close to the site of our Mt. Tegart Cemetary. In 1883 all the Methodist Churches were joined under the name of "The Methodist Church of Canada".

Some of our people were attending divine service at Dunkerron, some eight miles away, and so in 1885 a Methodist Church was built in the village but it was destroyed by fire in June 1895. The disastrous fire swept away some 80 buildings and one of the largest and most valuable of these was our Church and the only thing salvaged were the bell and pulpit Bible. The mortgage had been paid off the Church the month before the fire and with the small insurance as a nucleus the congregation at the call of the board met, and one by one the people rose and stated the amount of their contributions in two, three and a couple of four figures.

In September of this same year the corner stone of our present Church was laid on the foundation of the former church by Mr. Alexander Totten who was presented with a silver trowel suitably engraved and this trowel is now in the possession of his descendents, the family of the late Rev. John Totten. The formal opening of the new Church took place in January of the following year by Rev. F.C. Kearn.

Our first organ was a small melodian, which the organist Miss Lizzie Anderson and her sister carried to and from the Church each Sunday. Her pay was a hearty clapping of hands and a vote of thanks at each annual meeting. Later a small reed organ was purchased. The grand project was the building and installing of our Carnegie Pipe Organ.

HISTORY OF THE TOTTENHAM UNITED CHURCH WOMEN - continued

Miss Phebe Williams wrote the American oil magnate and multi-millionaire Mr. Andrew Carnegie who was establishing libraries, organs, etc. throughout the North American continent and asked him for help for a pipe organ. A favourable reply was received. After investigation and Mr. Carnegie stated he would forward half of the cost when the church raised the other half. What a challenge! So the members of the Church and Choir, and Ladies Aid got busy. They compiled a Cook Book, which entailed hours of work and sold hundreds of copies everywhere at 25c a copy. Numerous teas were held in homes and in the basement of the Church and finally the dream became a reality.

The Church and Sunday School by donations and subscriptions raised money for our Sunday School piano. The piano had to be carried upstairs to the auditorium of the Church when needed for concerts, etc. This proved to be too heavy a task for the menfolk and a second piano was bought for the body of the Church.

Throughout the years many names stand out prominently but we can only mention a few. Mrs. J.J. McKnight in memory of her little daughter donated the small primary chairs. During the pastorate of the Rev. Geo. Purchase and through his influence a beautiful Communion Table was purchased and dedicated in 1944. May 12th, 1935 our Sunday School and Church celebrated the Silver Anniversary of our Sunday School Superintendent Mr. Jas. Henderson. Rev. Peter Bryce delivered two eloquent addresses at this unique service.

The Women's Association of our church has always been a real source of strength and have by catering to weddings and a Provincial ploughing match, holding teas and bazaars, raised much money. Through their work, we have a well equipped modern kitchen and lavatories and they also look after the upkeep and furnishings of our parsonage and the decorating of our lovely church.

We have had an active Women's Missionary Society, both afternoon and evening for many years.

Mrs. Jas. Henderson



United Church - after a bad ice storm,
Mill Street looking west

TOTTENHAM UNITED CLUB

Commemorating 50 Years of Church Union - June 15th, 1925, to 1975

On June 15th in the year 1925, a vote was taken by the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches for the purpose of forming a United Church. The vote passed, but some Presbyterians who were not in favor of Union still carried on, so we have the continuing Presbyterians.

The United Church Cross which hangs in our Church stands for Union working together for people. It is the official signature of the Church, placed on all loyal documents. The Clergy use it in their pastoral duties. For Church members, the Insignia is a spiritual and historic reminder. We are a United Church. Previously to Union, Rev. Jan. Judgson was the Methodist minister and Rev. W. Foshall, Presbyterian minister. They were not very union-minded, so they both retired. Rev. J.W. Fox was pastor then and assisted in forming the Union. After Rev. Fox, there followed in:

1926 - Rev. W. Bevington	1932 - Rev. Levi Halfyard	1937 - Rev. W.S. Butt
1941 - Rev. Geo. Varnham	1948 - Rev. Jas. Lorrian	1950 - Rev. G.W. Gardner
1959 - Fred Laird	1963 - Rev. O.W. Holmes	1965 - Rev. Geo. Saunders
1978 - Rev. Paul Lee	1979 - Rev. Alfred Dumont	

Rev. Mr. Gardner passed away while on this charge, and Fred Laird was ordained while here.

Records show only as far back as May 8th, 1942, when Rev. Geo. Surchase was pastor. He called a special Board meeting on June 25th, 1945, to bring to the attention the 50th Anniversary of the laying of the corner stone of the present church. A motion made by Oliver Pettit, seconded by Geo. Sion and carried, that plans be made for special services on that date, and many of us remember. Miss Olive Tolson prepared and read a very fine history of our church, which is now placed in the Tweedmar History Book. In Jan. 1952 at a regular board meeting with Rev. W. Jordan in charge, was brought up an interesting item. It was pointed out that the church steps were very unsafe. As a result, a discussion took place and it was decided to rebuild the steps. Oliver Pettit was appointed to do the job, which he did. These steps remained there until 1976, when the main entrance to the church was changed and the steps were enclosed (report of this later in this history). On Jan. 13th, 1934, Mr. Jordan commented on the fine co-operation of the business and family life of the Church. He voiced a million thanks for the loyal support of his people, both spiritually and financially and working together in unity.

In 1967, Canada's Centennial Year, a committee was formed from the congregation to decide on a project to celebrate this special year. The committee were, namely: Jean Voals, Neil and Flopping, Mrs. Herb Walsh, Mrs. Geo. Abernethy, Mrs. Fred East, Terry Crowe, David Wilson and Roger McCain as Chairman. A project was decided on. Banners of plates and spoons were sold, as well as a lot of other items, at a profit. With the money raised from this project a fence was placed and painted at the west side of the church and many other endeavors were accomplished. The baptismal font was donated by the Kary Group of the U.S.W. The flag and pole were donated by the hon. Earl Howe for the Centennial Year.

In 1972, Rev. Paul Lee was pastor when a decision was made to remodel the front of the church, to enclose the steps and build in a minister's study. With Harvey Birnson, chairman of the Property Improvement Committee, and many assisting members, Mr. Don. Bacon drew up the architectural drawing and Mr. Art Dunn of Volga was chosen as contractor. This is a very fine and well done job. Thanks to men and women who made it possible to undertake the work just completed.

Memorials placed in the sanctuary were:- The cross, by the Greenaway family; the pulpit drapes, by the Jas. Henderson family; the pulpit Bible and collection plates, by John and Lily Palmer; the cabinet to take care of the Communion accostition, made by Oliver Pettit and donated by the Pettit family in memory of Elmer Pace; the hymn books, in memory of Wallace Roy, by the Roy family (Wallace made the supreme sacrifice in World War II); the lectern and Bible, by the Wiles family; the Baptismal font, by the W.O. ^{Wright} family; the speakers, by Mr. Herb Kadiwin; the Communion table was placed there in honor of the Rev. Geo. Purchase on his retirement; the plaque and honour roll of the First and Second World Wars have been dedicated.

Today we have three generations of the Ol' war Pettit family, the Art Thompson family, and four generations of the Sam Abernathy family worshipping here.

Cont'd. . .

WATERLOO UNITED CHURCH

Commemorating 50 years of Sarah Brian - June 1914, 1925 to 1975 - Cont'd.

During these 50 years of union we saw two World Wars in which some of our young men made the supreme sacrifice: World War I - Aubrey Ellison, Lerne McCurdy and Norman Wilson; World War II - Wallace Roy. Wallace was secretary and a teacher in Sunday School.

Our choirs through the years were a great asset to the church services. The junior choir during the pastorate of Rev. Levi Halfyard, whose leaders were Henry Roy and Mrs. Jas. McCurdy, sang the last Sunday of each month.

Our church always had a very fine Sunday School. Our Sunday School room was a place for all social gatherings and any social activities. Catering to weddings, showers, church meetings and annual Christmas concerts were held there, and also our ladies worked and toiled to help support our church. They made and quilted quilts, had bake sales, teas, bazaars etc. As far back as memory takes us, the last fifty years of our Sunday School, Mr. Jas. Henderson served for 25 years as superintendent. He was a very capable and devoted man - scarcely missed a Sunday in all those years. From came Mr. Henry Roy. Like Mr. Henderson, he too scarcely missed a Sunday and was very devoted to the Lord's work. Both men and families were a great support to the Sunday School. We also had a number of very capable teachers. After Mr. Roy was Mr. Wallace Tipping, who carried on for a number of years. Mrs. Henderson, Mrs. Roy and Mrs. Tipping were also teachers in the Sunday School. Hamilton Watson came after Mr. Tipping. We now have a committee formed and supervised by Rev. Alfred Duport. They are Rev. and Brenda Langham and Robt. Pepper.

During these 50 years, a number of our former ministers have passed away. The only one who was able to attend this service was Rev. Jas. Lorrian and Mrs. Lorrian. Rev. Paul Lee retired from here on account of ill health (he Lee now reside in Toronto). Rev. Geo. Saunders is in Hamilton. Rev. & Mrs. Lorrian are retired in Hagersville.

Today we have men and women still carrying on the work of their predecessors. "For the Lord is gracious, His mercy is everlasting and His truth endureth from generation to generation" - Psalm 137, verse 4.

Our labours have been unceasing, but not in vain, and bring to mind the words of that old hymn:-

Go labour on, spend and be spent,
The joy to do the Father's will,
It is the way the Master went,
Should not the servant tread it still?

Go labour on while it is day,
The world's dark night is hastening on,
Speed! speed the work; cast cloth away,
It is not thus that souls are won.

Men die in darkness at thy side,
Without a hope to cheer the tomb;
Take up the torch and wave it wide,
The torch that lights this world's gloom.

Toil on, faint not, keep watch, and pray;
Be wise the evil soul to win;
Go forth into the world's highway,
Compel the wanderer to come in.

Toil on, and in thy toil rejoice;
For toil comes rest, for exile home;
Soon shalt thou hear the bridegroom's voice,
The midnight call. Behold, I come!

- submitted by Alma Pettit, 1977

RICH HILL CHURCH AND CEMETERY

The first Rich Hill Church was built on the cemetery property. This plot of land was obtained from Mr. Richard Allen, who owned the north half of Lot 11, Con. 1, Tecumseh Twp., at that time. It was registered July 1859 to a 'board' consisting of names of Samuel Hastings, Richard Palmer, James Pinkerton and Robert Thompson.

A plank church was erected on the property and sheds were built to shelter the horses. Plots were taken up around the church for a burial ground for members of the congregation, but no plan made of them. This church served until December 1, 1888, when the present brick building was opened. The lot on which it stands was given by Mr. Robert Fleming and his mother who owned the east half of Lot 10, Con. 2 Tecumseh at that time.



Rich Hill Church On Lot 11, Concession 2.
Sunday School is in foreground.

All gathering of the material for the new church was done by the men of the congregation with horses and wagons, and when the opening services were over, enough money was either on hand or promised to clear off all debt.

Rich Hill was a Methodist church - a strong congregation in those times. Every family had its own pew and they were nearly always there on Sunday to occupy it.

The Beeton-Tottenham circuit was formed by the Toronto conference in 1867 (we have no records prior to 1867) and consisted of the following appointments: Beeton, Tottenham, Rich Hill, Rainey's and Tecumseh. We think the Tecumseh Church must have been near Beeton as a Mr. Bay-

croft was a member of the board. Rev. A. Rodwell was the minister at this time (1867) at a salary of \$750. He had an assistant, Rev. Mr. Lavery, who received a salary of \$400. The Tecumseh church seemed to have a difficult time to keep going and closed permanently in 1890.

In the Methodist Church, a minister stayed for a four-year term, if everyone was agreeable. So this accounts for the number of ministers on the charge. Also, some being assistants, might have accounted for the number of changes as I surmise they might have only been here for a year or two at a time. Rev. S. Dunlop (1889-91), later Rev. R. Richards, Rev. H. Moore, Rev. T. Keam, Rev. Richard Large (1898-1901). Tottenham and Rich Hill became a two-point charge in August 1900, with Tottenham paying \$410. for the minister's salary and Rich Hill paying \$235. The present United Church Manse was purchased about 1902 by the two congregations (of course, the name for it at that time was the "Parsonage").

Following are the names of ministers on the charge up to 1975 (from 1901):- Rev. J. Couch, Rev. P.L. Brown, Rev. Mr. Horton, Rev. Mr. McKenzie, Rev. John Ferguson, Rev. Mr. Belfry, Rev. Mr. Dudgeon, Rev. A. Stanley, Rev. Mr. Fox, Rev. W.S. Beveridge (1926-33), Rev. Levi Halfyard, Rev. R.S. Butt, Rev. George Purchase, Rev. James Corrian, Rev. Mr. Gardner, Rev. Mr. Burton, Rev. Mr. Fred Laird, Rev. G.W. Holmes, Rev. George Saunders, Rev. Paul Lee.

Rev. Mr. Beveridge arrived just after church union (1925) and he, having been a Presbyterian and full of enthusiasm, really brought things to life, especially at Rich Hill. He organized a women's group known as the Ladies' Aid (later W.A. and now United Church Women). The silver anniversary of the group was held in 1951 and Mr. Beveridge was able to be there and preach the sermons.

The young people, with the leadership of Mr. Beveridge and the direction of Mrs. Russell Williamson, provided entertainment in their own and many other communities by putting on plays. They had a good time, and as an added bonus, even made a little money at 25¢ admission. (The church could use it, too, as a high wind had toppled the steeple about this time and the front steps had also been demolished. So repairs had to be made and new steps built).

RICH HILL CHURCH AND CEMETERY - cont'd.

A Sunday School has been in existence from the beginning at Rich Hill and it was usual for five or six classes to be held in the basement for one hour before "church service at 2:30 p.m.". Mr. William Porter was Superintendent of the Sunday School for a great number of years and Ira Hastings was another who held that post for quite a number of years. Clarence Rogers was secretary for some time and in later years Sam Hastings took over that job.

A Sunday School Christmas concert was a main event at Rich Hill and provided good entertainment. A church picnic, garden party and food supper were other highlights of the year and of course, choir practice and prayer meeting through the week brought the people to the church when it was the social center of the community.

MOUNT TEGART CEMETERY CO. - TOTTENHAM

In about 1825, a young man - the son of one of the first settlers in Adjala township - named Joseph Hall, became lost in the bush near the 8th Line at Tecumseth and Adjala townline corner. Many settlers turned out to help search for Joseph. Mr. James M. Tegart of Tecumseth came upon the lifeless body; it was believed that he died through fear or exhaustion. They took his remains to the home of Mr. White and then buried him in the front of Mr. Tegart's farm. Mr. Tegart gave this first piece of land and named it the Tegart Methodist Cemetery (it was located one mile east of Tottenham). Other graves were added and a regular graveyard began. Joseph Hall was the first white man to die in Tecumseth Township; there is no stone to mark his resting place.

The first meeting to form a cemetery board was held September 1st, 1905. The minutes are as follows:-

"Tottenham, September 1st, 1905. Meeting of committee of interested parties to consider what can be done to put the cemetery in better shape was held at the residence of W.J. Verney. Parties present: James Tegart, Jr., S.J. Walker, W. Greenaway, W. Wolfe, Joe Dillane, Albert Lyons, Rev. F.L. Brown, Miss Mary Tegart and W.J. Verney.

On consulting the deed of the cemetery, it was found that Mr. James Tegart, Sr., was the only surviving trustee and that before anything could be legally done, the board would need to be filled up. Rev. F.L. Brown promised that this would be done. It was thought that the "Board" should have an acting trustee who should preside in the absence of the pastor and look after the interests of the board in the interim between its meetings, sell graves, plots, etc.

It was also suggested that there be a secretary and also a treasurer and that a book of records of all meetings and all monetary transactions be carefully and strictly kept, that two auditors be appointed to audit the books once a year and present an audited statement, duly signed, at the annual meeting.

It was also agreed that this annual meeting should be held on the evening of the first Wednesday of April of every year, that at it the election of officers should be held and the transaction of whatever business might be necessary in connection with the cemetery. It was also thought advisable that there be a committee of three to co-operate with the acting trustee in the matter of work being done in or about the cemetery.

The meeting adjourned with the understanding that the pastor meet Mr. Tegart, Sr., and make the appointments to complete the board."

At this time the board was in need of money to have the necessary work done. People who already had plots came and helped level the ground. In 1907 they held a garden party at the Tegart residence; the receipts were \$56.50. In the same year they had canvassed interested parties for donations. With this they bought three more acres of land from Mr. Tegart, Sr., for \$390.00 and he was given a deed for a lot 9' x 12' for cemetery purposes. This land made the cemetery the size it is today.

It was now decided to put a fence across the front of the cemetery. It was decided to put a picket fence from the gate west and wire from the gate east, two cement posts with balls on top, double gate of fancy iron and wire, also a hand gate to complete the front. There was also a motion for a committee to canvass the town for money to paint the picket fence.

In 1908, the trustee board decided to hold a fowl supper in the town hall, with prices to be: adults 40¢, children 30¢. An entertainment was provided and a motion that anyone taking part and members and wives would receive a complimentary ticket. Proceeds were over \$119.00. Fifty geese were cooked, and ten were left over. These were sold for 7 at \$1.00 each and 3 at 75¢ each.

In 1908 it was decided to transfer the name "Methodist Cemetery" to "Mount Tegart". Resolution:-

"That the request of the Trustees of the Methodist Cemetery for permission to sell at a nominal sum to the Trustees of the Mount Tegart Cemetery, Tottenham be granted." The preceding resolution passed at Toronto Methodist Conference, June 1908.

J.J. Sparling".

MOUNT PLEASANT CEMETERY CO. - cont'd.

As time went on, the company grew financially able to look after its own expenses. Soon it was in a position to invest in a savings that has steadily grown. The interest of this investment is used for all expenses and to maintain the grounds today. In 1971 a new chain link fence was placed across the front to replace the picket fence, also new gates.

As years have gone by there have always been enough interested people, who are members of the board, to look after the business and grounds; many of them gave many hours of free work.

HISTORY OF THE TOTTENHAM ANGLICAN CHURCH

The first Church of England congregation in this community was gathered together by a son of Sir William Osler, the pioneer of Canadian surgery. It met in a schoolhouse, but nevertheless "the praises which rose from that little building were most acceptable to the Almighty". The time soon came when the people felt that they were able to build a frame church and for many years the little white church north of the village (which stood on the farm owned by Charles O'Leary) was the scene of the services of worship. In August of 1848 a bad electrical storm blew the large chimney off the church, to everyone's dismay.

The Church Chronicle, February 1867, speaks of services held in Tecumseth and surrounding townships by the Reverend Edward Morgan and Provost Whitaker of Trinity College during a church society deputation. "We walked to Christ's Church, where we had the pleasure of seeing the church well-filled, with a most orderly and attentive audience".

One parson was in charge of four churches: St. John's, Tecumseth 6th Line; Bond Head, on the 7th Line near Chas. Gerswell's farm; Seeton; and Tottenham. They had four services on Sunday as well as weekdays filled with weddings, funerals and the visitation of homes, especially those of the sick. Salaries were meager but were augmented by personal gifts of butter, eggs, etc.

Exact dates for the establishment of the original church are difficult to determine, but in a Church Extension Report of 1954, there is reference to Christ's Church, Tottenham, in 1845.

The present building was constructed in 1886 to 1887 of brick, by Sam Kavanagh, at a cost of \$3,060, who obtained the contract on August 11, 1886.

The building seated 300 people. Bricks for the church were made in a brickyard just north of Tottenham on the site of Charles O'Leary's farm. Mr. Ames Train, uncle of Miss Henrietta Pierson, made the bricks and donated them to the church.



English Church

Christ's Church - 1886

The new church was opened on September 11, 1887, by Bishop Arthur Sweetman, with Reverend Thomas Ball as the minister. On November 13, 1886, the cornerstone was laid by the Rev. Ball. When the cornerstone was laid, one of the bank managers (Simpson or Thompson) put some coins, a "Tottenham Sentinel" newspaper, and a cement trowel in it. In November 1886, someone tried to steal the cornerstone, presumably to obtain these treasures. On March 26, 1890, Rev. Godden, who was preceded by Rev.

White and Rev. Davidson, performed the first marriage in the church between Miss Eliza Davis and Mr. Thomas Mitchell.

In August of 1888, an unconfirmed report has it that the cross was blown off the church. Also, at that time, the congregation put a small bell in the tower of the church until a larger one could be obtained.

Christ's Church, Tottenham, was consecrated on December 14, 1906. Early in the 1890's the number of the churches covered by the minister decreased to two: Tottenham and Seeton. Rev. Bryan, Rev. W.J. Dryer, Rev. Watt (1895-1912), Rev. O.J. Nurse (1912), Rev. Battersby (1916-1918) and Rev. A.P. Kennedy (1918-1932) served the two parishes.

HISTORY OF THE TORONTO AMERICAN CHURCH - cont'd.

Rev. Thomas Ball baptized the Pierson family, namely- Fred, Bill, Henrietta and Josephine. Mr. Joseph Pierson, Miss Susan Dillane and Mr. T.E. Bowes were confirmed together. Rev. O.J. Nurse was the parson at the time Gratin Hamrell Kercher and her sister Elvira Hamrell were confirmed in 1912.

In 1932 St. Alban's, Palgrave, began to be serviced by the pastors of Christ's Church, namely:- Rev. K.K. Barkley (1932-), Rev. A. Clarke (1935-), Rev. P. Ellis (1936), Rev. H.D. Cleverdon (1937-1941), Rev. A.C. Blake (1941-1942), Rev. H.E. Webb (1942-1946), Rev. F.B. Cooke (1946-1956), Rev. R.C. Matthews (1956-1960), Rev. R.L. Cathcart (1960-1962), Rev. Tom Gracie (1963-1969), Rev. Wm. Davis (1969-1974) and Rev. Tom Martin (1974-). It is worthy of note that Rev. Clarke left his parish to accept a post as chaplain to the British Army in India, under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of Lucknow.

Prominent among those names in connection with this church were: Dillane, Davis, Pierson, Hamrell, Martin, Maglaughler, and others.

The first organist, Miss Merilla Davis, later married James Lowery and had a daughter, Pearl, and after his death, married James Johnston and had Ruby, Walter and Beattie Johnston. Miss Ethel Davis, a sister, was also organist before she married Alex. Gray in 1918. Miss Henrietta Pierson was the organist for many years and retired in 1956 due to ill health. She was followed by Mrs. Jasper Boyd, Miss Laverne Palmer, Miss Doris Drury, Miss Joan Belford and others.

The present organ was moved, rebuilt and installed by the men of the parish, from St. Mark's in Orangeville, in 1972. The men worked under the guidance of Mr. Lawrence Lindsay of Alliston, while the ladies of the parish put up the money to make the purchase. Altogether, 12 men used two trucks and several cars to move the dismantled organ, which was occupying two large Sunday School rooms in the Orangeville church parish hall. The first week in December, 1972, saw the first of approximately 25 devoted men begin their labour of love in assembling the pieces. The pipe organ now occupies the front left corner of the nave with no loss of sound transmission to the listener. The organ consists of three sections. Four stops are contained in the Great Organ, five in the Swell Organ (enclosed) and two on the Pedal Organ - totalling approximately 600 pipes on 11 stops, with super and sub couplers and the ability to couple between the three basic sections of the organ. This provides for a wide spectrum and multiplicity of combinations, from the simplest to the very complex, giving a great host of tonal mixtures and mutations, sounds and noise levels.

Organist Don Rowat and the Rector, the Rev. Wm. Davis, were most gratified by the magnificent new instrument, which was dedicated on March 26, 1973, by the Rev. A.A. Read, B.A., D.D., Bishop of Toronto.

FRASER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH - TOTTENHAM

The One hundredth anniversary of the Fraser Presbyterian Church of Tottenham was celebrated on Sunday, June 3 and 10, 1934. To commemorate this important occasion, a Centenary Souvenir Booklet outlining the history of the Fraser Church was published, utilising material prepared and collected by Rev. D. I. Ellison with the assistance of Miss Bertha Atkinson. The following are excerpts from this booklet.

The Women's Institute is deeply grateful to Miss Christine Semple for so generously placing her treasured copy of this booklet at our disposal.

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" CENTENARY SOUVENIR "
FRASER CHURCH - TOTTENHAM
1834-1934

DEDICATED to the memory of those who laboured to establish this Church.

"I was glad when they said unto me, let us
go into the house of the Lord."

Psa. 122-1.

ORIGIN OF THE CHURCH

PRESBYTERIANISM was early established in Tecumseth. For is not this new township in the western world a counterpart, not in the name of the district, but in the names of the sons and daughters, in the physique of it's men, and the comeliness of it's women, in social habits, in politics, and not the least in religion -- in all these things is it not the counterpart, in miniature, of the land of the shamrock and also of the land of the brown heath and shaggy wood?

Presbyterianism is deeply rooted in Tecumseth and among the many different denominational churches none is more worthy of having its history recorded than that which worships in the edifice known as Fraser Church, situated in the thriving village of Tottenham, surrounded by the rolling hills and plains of Tecumseth, covered by lovely farms from which energetic and intelligent people drew their sustenance in no stinted measure.

With the overcrowding of the cities and rural parts of Northern Ireland and with a strong and ambitious people eager for greater opportunity, and with the breaking up of the Scottish clan system, the lands of the clan being recognized as the personal property of the chief, there came about a great migration from Ireland and Scotland of men who have done a great deal in the building up of the Dominion.

Many other groups formed of families who, feeling that in the old land they were only tenants or labourers, decided to come to a country where they could have a home and some land of their own.

These classes of independent souls are the type of people who settled in South Simcoe as early as 1822 to carve out homes for themselves in the unbroken forests of the New World.

Typical of the virile races from which they came, the spiritual life of the community found early expression, for the pioneers were the type that Robert Burns must have had in mind when he wrote the "Cotter's Saturday Night" and here in this new land they set up the family altar and kept up the religious fervor and traditions of the old.

Churches were few and far between and they had to travel many miles to a place of worship. Religious services were held mostly by ministers travelling either on horseback or on foot through the forest by blazed trail from one settlement to another.

These pioneer missionaries often slept beneath the trees and kept fires burning to keep bears and wolves away, or else found a welcome in some settler's home. Word was passed around when one of these missionaries was coming and the settlers gathered in houses and barns but more often under the trees to hear the word of life.

Searching the records it has been found that perhaps the very first service of any kind held in South Tecumseth was conducted in the log cabin of the late James Ellison as early as the year 1822. It is conceded that the Rev. Wm. Jenkins of Richmond Hill was the first to conduct divine worship there. Following him a catechist by the name of John Carruthers carried on work in the township for a number of years, preaching fortnightly and monthly here and there. On Oct. 9, 1833, Rev. James Harvey, an Irishman, was ordained and inducted in Tecumseth but never was able to preach, dying two years later of consumption.

The congregation seemed to be disorganized for a time until Rev. Wm. Fraser, D.D. (whose wife was a sister of the famous missionary John Geddies of the New Hebrides) took up the work in 1834. He became a fixture in the congregation and unified it into a permanent reality.



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THE SESSION

All through the years the congregation has been guided in its spiritual interests by strong energetic godly men; men who have shown themselves to be statesmen. No church can look back with more pride than this church upon the elders who have directed its work.

The first session was composed of men whose names would adorn any page of history; such as Mr. John Austin, who was the first clerk and who lived for many years to wisely take care of the minutes and the roll, and Mr. Alex Austin, Sampson Steel, James Ellison. Subsequent elders were James Austin, James Percy, John Agnew, George Agnew, John Semple, William Ellison, James Austin, Jonathan Atkinson, John Potter, Wm. Hamilton, David Smith, Walter Potter, George Fleming, Robert A. Sample, W.M. "opper, Alvin Austin. "These all by faith obtained a good report."

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CHURCHES

It was during the ministry of the late Dr. Wm. Fraser that the first church was built. About 1841 or 1842 the congregation grew to such proportions that the cabin of James Ellison became too small and there was demand for a church building. Just across the road and where the present cemetery is located, a spot was chosen and on it the first log building was erected.

For these people the sun had indeed arisen when they had their own church. The week might have been one of toil and hardship but every Sabbath found them in the church where they harkened three hours at a time to the preaching of the word - strong meat for strong men. The people, especially the older ones lived from one sermon to another, the sermon heard on Sunday being the theme of conversation until a new one was delivered.

The second church was built about 1864. The congregation had grown to such proportions that the old log church was too small, then a larger edifice was erected which was more suitable for the needs of the people. At present the whole or part of this building may be seen in the Public School of Tottenham for, when the congregation moved to Tottenham, the old building was sold to the Public School board of the village.

The Present church was built in 1881 and has been down through the years the centre of great religious activity.

A matter of note is that all three churches were opened by Dr. Fraser.



Owing to the fact that the church had its origin in the home of James Ellison, for sixty years it was known as Ellison's Church. In the year 1892, in honour of the first minister who laboured so vigorously in the interests of the congregation, the name was changed to Fraser Church, Tottenham.

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THE MINISTERS

DURING the past one hundred years several ministers have served the church faithfully and well, they were all strong and able expounders of the word of God. Their intellectual grasp, clear insight, and their powerful eloquence made them a great force among the people. As we all know, the pulpit is a large factor in shaping the destinies of a community, so these warm-hearted and energetic servants of God have left the deep mark of their Godly lives and work on the succeeding generations. The high standards of morality in the community are largely the result of the lofty thinking and teaching of these men.

Rev. Wm. Jenkins, 1822

Near the beginning of the last century in the year 1822, the Rev. Wm. Jenkins of Richmond Hill was the first to break the stillness of the wilderness by preaching in south Tecumseth. He was welcomed to the log cabin of the late James Ellison, Sr., and there he began a work that has continued to this day.

John Carruthers, 1822-1832

Following the Rev. Mr. Jenkins was a catechist by the name of John Carruthers who carried on until the year 1832.

Rev. James Harvey, 1833

On Oct. 9, 1833, the Rev. James Harvey, a young Irish preacher, was inducted but never preached owing to illness which ended in his death.

Rev. Wm. Fraser, 1834-1860

In 1834 Rev. Dr. Wm. Fraser, who possessed a fine legal mind, became minister and in that year formed the congregation in a real organization. He continued to labour for a number of years and built the congregation to a goodly size.

Rev. Jean La Fayette, 1860-1864

For a year or more the Rev. Jean La Fayette, a Frenchman of remarkable power, had charge of the church. By his warm-hearted eloquence, he won the affection of the people and many of the younger members of the families united with the church.

Rev. William Burns, D.D., 1865-1868

Following this Rev. Wm. Burns, D.D., was minister for three and one-half years. He was greatly beloved for his kindness and sympathy as well as his great ability in the pulpit.

Rev. J. Musgrove, 1868-1869

Rev. Mark Danby, 1871-1872

Succeeding Rev. Wm. Burns was Rev. J. Musgrove and he again by Rev. Mark Danby. Both were students who rallied the forces of the congregation to great strength.

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Rev. Robert Moodie, 1873-1875

Again, the Rev. Robert Moodie took charge of the Congregation. He was a man of very great charm and winsomeness and, by his sincerity and simplicity, left his mark deep on the minds of the people.

Rev. J. A. McConnell, 1875-1880

Rev. J. A. McConnell followed Rev. Mr. Moodie and for several years toiled vigorously with the people.

Rev. D. H. McLennan, 1882-1885

Next to carry on the work was the Rev. D. H. McLennan, B.A., B.D., a man of very clear and comprehensive mind, a fine student who always delivered a very thoughtful sermon. He was very kindly and sympathetic, and his services will be long remembered.

Rev. Thos. Wilson, 1886-1888

In July, 1886, Rev. Thos. Wilson was called as minister of the congregation and for two years gave fine service. He was a very strong preacher and attracted great gatherings at the church. Many of those living to-day speak of his great power in the community.

Rev. J. M. Duncan, 1889-1895

In December 10, 1889, the Rev. J. McD. Duncan, D.D., became pastor of the church. He was a man of high scholastic attainments, and by the force of his logical thinking, won for himself a large place in the hearts of the people.

Rev. Peter Nicol, 1896-1907

The next to be chosen as minister was the Rev. Peter Nicol. He occupied the pulpit for about eleven years. He was an able expounder of the Word, and his sermons were always of great value to his hearers. He was very kindly and thoughtful for the sick and sorrowing, and won for himself the esteem and love of his whole church.

Rev. H. D. McCuaig, 1908-1919

The next to follow was the Rev. H. D. McCuaig, B.A. who gave valiant service to the people both in the pulpit and in the home. His name is a household name in the community.

Rev. J. N. McFaul, 1920-1925

Again in succession the Rev. J. N. McFaul, B.A., was ordained and inducted as the leader of the congregation. His amiable disposition, combined with his scholarship and eloquence, made him very popular with his flock.

Rev. W. T. Cranston, 1926-

Last of all is the well-known and genial minister, Rev. W. T. Cranston who, for several years, has been in charge of the work. He rejoices with his people in celebration of this centenary and is now opening the door to a larger and greater work. May he be long spared to give his best to a cause so dear to the heart of our Lord.

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How well these men did their work eternity only will reveal. They ministered to the sick and dying, gave advice to those in hard places, and illuminated the heart and mind, in the pulpit on the Lord's Day. Oliver Goldsmith described them so well in the following words:

"Beside the bed where parting life was laid,
And sorrow, guilt, and pain, by turn dismay'd,
The reverend champion stood. At his control,
Despair and anguish fled the struggling soul;
Comfort came down the trembling wretch to raise,
And his last faltering accents whisper'd praise.

At church, with meek and unaffected grace,
His looks adorned the venerable place;
Truth from his lips prevail'd with double sway,
And fools, who came to scoff, remain'd to pray."

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THE SACRAMENT

THE Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated with great dignity and decorum every six months. In the early days people came on foot, on horseback, in wagon, or other conveyances for four or five days service. Thursday was observed as a fast day, Friday prayer meeting, Saturday preparation, Sunday communion and Monday Thanksgiving. At the present time the preparatory service on the Friday evening preceding the communion is all that is observed. However these services were a great inspiration and help to the people during the past one hundred years.

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THE MANAGING BOARD

LIKE all other institutions where there is life, energy and a great deal of activity there is always to be found a strong body of men to look after the financial interest. This church in like manner has been fortunate for has it not been from the beginning that very wise and capable men have taken care of the temporal affairs of the congregation? As far back as we can trace, the best of men have been chosen.

Without going into details of all that has been done, it is right and proper that we record the names of the men who have served so faithfully and well --

James Ellison, Sr., James Vaughan, John Percy, William Atkinson, John Agnew, John Hamilton, Hugh Ledgerwood, George Gordon, John R. Austin, Miller Hamilton, Frank Brawley, John Semple, Robert Semple, James Potter, George Agnew, Angus Gunn, E. Abbot, M. Crawford, James Henderson, Alex Semple, James Milligan, James Ellison, Jr., J.C. Galbraith, James Fraser, William Potter, Robert Potter, John Potter, R.J. Walkam, James Austin, A.P. Potter, Sam Ellison, Jonathan Atkinson, Fred Abbott, Sam Percy, Thomas Shephard, Ed. McKay, William Hamilton, Dr. Campbell, William Coulter, John Brown, Fred Walls, Chester Livingston, James Sloan, H.A. Semple, W.Walls, Alvin Austin, Robert Semple, Jr.

Present board: Bart Carroll, Joseph Donnan, Ray Collins, Harry Potter, William Smart, Duncan Semple.

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WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

A VITAL force in the life of the congregation is the Women's Missionary Society. It has had a large share in stimulating spiritual life and interest in the work of the church. It has brought home to the hearts of the people and especially the women the responsibility of obeying the command of the Master. It has awakened and kept awake the interest of the church in the Kingdom of our Lord. Many devoted and Christ-like women have laboured and prayed for the work at home and abroad and, by so doing, have strengthened the life of the congregation itself.

This society was first organized in 1891 by the wife of the minister, Mrs. J. M. Duncan, with Mrs. William Ellison as first Vice-President, Mrs. G. Walls, Secretary, and Miss Janet Semple as Treasurer. Miss Semple held the position for thirty-two years. Without taking time to name all the officers, we merely mention the presidents.

Succeeding presidents were Mrs. E. R. Abbott, Mrs. Nicol, Mrs. Daisy L. Williams, Mrs. McCusig, Mrs. Dr. Campbell, and Mrs. W. T. Cranston.

In accordance with the work of the General Society, this Society raised a set amount of money each year by voluntary giving; also prepared bales to be sent where needed, at home or abroad. God's richest blessing has fallen, not only upon the Society at home, but the work has been greatly encouraged in the regions beyond.

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THE CEMETERY

NO finer or lovelier location can be found in all Ontario than the place known as the Presbyterian Cemetery on the third line. It was the first place in this district chosen and set apart for such a sacred purpose. The precious dust of families of all denominations rest there. Many of the graves are unnamed and with many others, the tooth of time has wrought havoc and the tombstones have disappeared. Recently the place has been renovated and made most beautiful. Owing to its elevated position and lofty elm trees it can be seen for many miles from several directions. Frequent travellers by rail, auto, and otherwise have mentioned the quaintness and beauty of the spot. Gray puts in his own lovely form the best description we have of the place in his "Elegy Written In a Country Churchyard":

"Beneath those rugged elms, that yew trees shade,
Where heaves the turf in many a mould'ring heap,
Each in his narrow cell forever laid,
The rude forefathers of the hamlet sleep.

The breezy call of incense-breathing Morn,
The swallow twitt'ring from the straw-built shed,
The cock's shrill clarion, or the echoing horn,
No more shall rouse them from their lowly bed.

For them no more the blazing hearth shall burn,
Or busy housewife ply her evening care;
No children run to lisp their sire's return,
Or climb his knees the envied kiss to share.

Perhaps in this neglected spot is laid
Some heart once pregnant with celestial fire,
Hands, that the rod of empire might have sway'd,
Or wak'd to ecstasy the living lyre."

No doubt all who have the precious dust of their dearly beloved dead laid there have a very deep interest in, and a warm spot in their heart for it. It is to them "God's Acre."

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THE SERVICE OF PRAISE

FOR fifty years the service of praise was congregational lead by a Precentor. How good and well that was done can only be realized by the older folk who can remember the fine spirit and inspiration gathered from such a method. The first precentor was Mr. John Austin, the Clerk of Session. He was followed by his son William Austin. William Ellison, being the last of the leaders of that form of praise, succeeded him.

With the building of the new church in Tottenham, a choir with an organ was introduced. The leader of the choir was James Austin, with Miss Josephine Sydie, now Mrs. Alex Sample, as organist. Next was Mr. G. M. Robertson with Cassie Gunn as organist, W. T. Ellison also had charge for a brief period. Delia Potter then led for a time. Also Thos. Shepherd was director for a few years. Others were Mrs. Dr. Campbell, Miss Loretta Landerkin (Mrs. A. Foucar), Prof. Harrow, Miss Velvin Potter (Mrs. Richardson), Miss Blanche Windsor (Mrs. T. Evan Williams), and Mrs. Dr. Claridge. The congregation has always been noted for its fine singing.

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THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

THOUGH the Church did not start as a Sunday-School, the Sunday-School has not been neglected. At first it was held at the home of James Ellison on the Second line, with John Austin as superintendent. He was followed by Mr. Ignatius Lennox and later by Mr. Wm. Ellison. John Sample served faithfully for over forty years and had the honour of being the first superintendent in the present church. When he moved to Owen Sound, his place was taken by Mr. David Smith who, with the help of his wife, worked loyally for the good of the boys and girls. Mrs. J. Smart who had been a much revered S. S. teacher, then became superintendent, Mr. Smart also taking an active interest in the Sunday-School. At the present time, this office is ably filled by Mrs. Cranston.

These superintendents were assisted by devoted and capable teachers who did their part in an endeavour to win the little ones to Him. One who gave many years of her time and talent was the late Miss Janet Sample.

Many also served by setting a fine example to the boys and girls by their regular attendance and thoughtful preparation of the lessons from Sunday to Sunday.

For many years the Sunday-School held a concert annually on the night of the twenty-fifth of December. Mr. Alfred Potter, as secretary of the Sunday-School, gave valuable assistance in securing high-class talent for many of these concerts. Mr. Robert Walken also helped in this way.

In 1926 the Church building was raised and the basement finished for a Sunday-School as well as for social purposes. This has been of great benefit to those who are striving to turn the hearts of the little ones to Jesus. "Suffer the little ones to come unto me and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

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SIX YOUNG MEN WHO ENTERED THE MINISTRY

WHEN the appeal was made for recruits to the ministry, the call did not fall on deaf ears. As in the case of Isaiah, when the voice cried saying, "Who will go for Me?" then a goodly number, out of pure hearts, said like him, "Here am I, Lord, send me." These men have not been ineffective in their work. All have distinguished themselves in some form or other.

The first to answer the call was the Rev. Thos. Atkinson who held several charges in Ontario but his final one was in the city of Boston, U.S.A.

Rev. James Gilchrist was another who won a high place in the ranks of the ministry occupying outstanding charges in our own church.

Rev. John Gilchrist, brother of the above, was also very successful.

Rev. W. T. Ellison, grandson of the James Ellison in whose log cabin the church was founded, occupied important charges in this province. He also had a very remarkable career.

Rev. D. I. Ellison, brother of the above, also laboured abundantly in different charges, his present church being Runnymede, Toronto.

Rev. John Austin, son of the first clerk of the session, gave himself to the ministry but unfortunately died shortly after his graduation.

The church may well feel proud of the record as few congregations have had so many hearken to the call of the Master.



1 Rev. D. I. Ellison. 2 Rev. J. R. Gilchrist. 3 Rev. John Austin.
4 Rev. James Gilchrist. 5 Rev. W. J. Ellison.



1 Rev. J. M. Duncan. 2 Rev. H. D. McCaughey.
3 Rev. Dr. Wm. Fraser. 4 Rev. Thos. Wilson.
5 Rev. J. A. McCannell. 6 Rev. J. N. McFadyen.
7 Rev. W. T. Graham. 8 Rev. D. H. McLennan.

INCIDENTS

MANY very interesting things have taken place during the past hundred years, two or three of which we record.

In the early days ministers were few and when needed most were hard to get especially for funerals and at times for weddings. It is related of Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Atkinson, Sr., that when they decided to marry no minister was at hand so the happy young couple walked all the way to Toronto and back, being married there by the late Bishop Strachan. We wonder how many brides and grooms would do that to-day.

Shortly after Mr. William Ellison was born Dr. Fraser was preaching in the log cabin where the services were usually conducted when he called for parents who desired to have their children baptized to present them. Mr. James Ellison and his wife brought forward their baby boy whilst another couple brought a little girl. Dr. Fraser who usually took considerable time in instructing the parents regarding their duties and responsibilities forgot for a moment and baptized the boy by the girl's name and the girl by the boy's name. A mistake which in after years the Doctor refused to admit.

John Semple, for many years superintendent of the Sunday-School, was also fond of a joke. An evening of entertainment was arranged in the old church. Mr. Semple took Dan Williams with him. In the course of the programme Dan was asked to give a reading. Mr. Semple handed him a book with old-fashioned print in it and Dan began to read. Some of the old-fashioned letters with "g" made like an "r" puzzled Dan and he began to stumble over the words, and Mr. Semple would say, "Go on Dan, it is only a mistake in the print."

On one occasion a witty young minister was preaching at the church when a young man drove him over from Bond Road. On arriving at the church the young man let the minister out of the buggy near the church sheds. Just as he lit on his feet another young man drove up in a fine democrat having let the members of his family out at the church door. He had a rather spirited team and one of them began to plunge and jump, and being rather excited the young man not noticing the young minister began to scold his horse saying, "You _ _ _ _ _ behave." The young minister was introduced to a number of men standing around and presently the driver of the spirited team walked up and he also was introduced. Whereupon the young minister said, "I heard what you called the horse on the far side, now what do you call the other?"

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TRIBUTE TO THE ORIGINAL SETTLERS

OVER one hundred years have passed since the pioneers first gathered for the worship of God -- a span in which many changes have taken place. It would not therefore be fitting that this history be written without a tribute to the early settlers of this community, who by their faith, zeal and fervor, transmitted to succeeding generations, laid the foundations that made the present church a possibility. In the twenties and early thirties of the last century they came to this new land and hewed out for themselves rude homes in the unbroken wilderness and endured privations and hardships that people in these days of plenty and modern appliances can scarcely comprehend. They were strong men and women, physically and morally, ever industrious, virtuous to a degree, and loving honour and honesty. Although inured to the heat and burden of their day, they built Bethels in their homes and fulfilled in a very striking way the words of Burns when he said that after a day of toil and weariness they worshipped God.

"Then kneeling down to Heaven's Eternal King,
The saint, the father and the husband prays,
Hope springs exultant on triumphant wing,
That thus they all shall meet in future days;
There ever bask in uncreated rays,
No more to sigh or shed the bitter tear,
Together hymning their creator's praise,
In such society, yet still more dear:
While circling time moves round in an eternal sphere."

Their love for knowledge was also a factor in their lives and, believing that the church and school should go hand in hand, the log school was founded nearby the pioneer church where their children were trained for the battle of life.

Such were some of the characteristics of the founders of the Township of Tecumseh who left the impress of their consecrated lives on the community that is more enduring than marble. The young people of the church are the fourth generation and are the hope of the future. May they prove themselves worthy successors to their noble forefathers.

Among the pioneers the names of the following families are remembered: -- William Potter, John Austin, John Hamilton, Alexander Austin, Jonathan Atkinson, James Ellison, James Wilson, William Agnew, Hugh Semple, William Wright, James Vaughan, John Percy, George Logan, John Fleming, Nathaniel Robertson, James Milligan, Sampson Steel, Thomas McCleod, Andrew Martin.

"O God of Bethel, by whose hand
Thy people still are fed;
Who through this weary pilgrimage
Hast all our fathers led.

Our vows, our prayers, we now present
Before Thy throne of grace;
God of our fathers, be the God
Of their succeeding race.

Through each perplexing path of life
Our wandering footsteps guide;
Give us each day our daily bread,
And raiment fit provide.

O spread Thy covering wings around,
Till all our wanderings cease,
And at our Father's loved abode
Our souls arrive in peace.

Such blessings from Thy gracious hand
Our humble prayers implore;
And Thou shalt be our chosen God,
And portion evermore."

(P. Dodridge.) "

CONTINUATION OF FRASER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HISTORY

Reverend William T. Cranston remained minister of the Congregation until his death in the year 1945. The last recorded Communicant Roll during the latter years of Reverend Cranston's incumbency stood at 100. After Reverend Cranston's death, through the usual channels of Presbytery and the Interim Moderator appointed by the Presbytery of Barrie, a call was issued to and accepted by the Reverend Robert Jenkins in October of 1945. During 1946 a choir was organized by Mr. G.B. Mallion, comprising 16 members of the congregation. From the outset the choir was a success and for several years formed an important and integral part of the Church. Besides leading in the singing of hymns at the service of worship, the choir provided special music for special occasions. The choir also provided music for several years for special services in the sister Presbyterian Churches in Becton and Schomberg, as well as assisting in the church music on occasions in the other churches in Tottenham.

In the Fall of 1947 Reverend Jenkins resigned and Reverend J. Reay Duke accepted a call to the three-point charge, and came to Tottenham with his wife and small son, James. The Dukes remained in Tottenham until 1955, and during that time the church progressed. A Sunday Church School was organized and flourished. The church was improved by the removal of the old wood burning furnace (which had required annual wood cutting bees to provide wood for the winter) and a new oil furnace was installed. Also the old pump organ was replaced by a Minshall electric organ which was purchased after due deliberation by the congregation. These two undertakings were of considerable moment to a small congregation and caused a strain on the budget and special fundraising campaigns.

In addition to the Sunday Church School there were organized a Young People's Society, a Canadian Girls in Training group, an Explorer's Group, and a Mission Band, and all were active and contributed considerably to the church and the community.

In 1954 one of the members of the congregation, Mr. G.B. Mallion, was appointed to the Board of Knox College by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Mr. Mallion has served continuously in the Board of Knox College ever since. In 1958 he was made Secretary of the Board and continued in that office till June 1974 when the General Assembly appointed Mr. Mallion Chairman of the Board of Knox College.

In 1955 Reverend Duke left our congregation to become the minister of a larger congregation in Sault Ste. Marie, and in 1956 Reverend Joseph Taylor became our minister. For several years Reverend Taylor conducted a very successful summer Bible School. The church sanctuary was remodelled and redecorated. Members of the congregation did the work. Mr. Murray Graham did the design and his wife, Jean Graham, planned the decorating. Both also participated in the actual work, assisted by Mr. Cliff Abrams and Mr. George Forbes. Mrs. Cliff Abrams was Treasurer of the Barrie Presbyterian W.M.S.

A new communion table was presented to the church by the Thornton family in memory of their deceased parents, Mr. Herman Thornton, a former elder of the church, and his wife Myrtle Thornton, who was active in the women's organizations of the church for many years.

In 1966 Reverend Taylor left the charge and the pulpit was supplied by student ministers. After a time Mr. George Bell was appointed as student supply and moved into the house with his wife and small daughter. During Mr. Bell's tenure a new roof was put on the church. Mr. Bell remained with the charge a comparatively short time and left the charge in 1968 after his ordination upon graduation. Owing to the policy of the Presbyterian in Canada, Mr. Bell was not able to remain with us after he became an ordained minister of the Church. However, we were pleased to have the ceremony and service of his ordination take place in our charge in the sister Presbyterian Church in Becton. Reverend Bell was called to a Presbyterian Church in Sudbury.

Mr. Harry Wilson was then appointed as student minister supply and occupied the Manse with his family. Mr. Wilson is remembered for his spiritual enthusiasm. Tragically Mr. Wilson died suddenly of cancer, and a promising career was cut short.

Cont'd. . .

In 1969 Reverend Basil P. Dass was appointed to our charge as pulpit supply. Reverend Dass came to us from Washington, D.C.A. In 1970 his wife and three children came from Pakistan to join him. The congregation obtained permission through Presbytery to sell the old Manse and purchase a new Manse, and the Dass family moved from the house which had served as the Manse for many years to a new Alcan home in one of the new subdivisions in the Village.

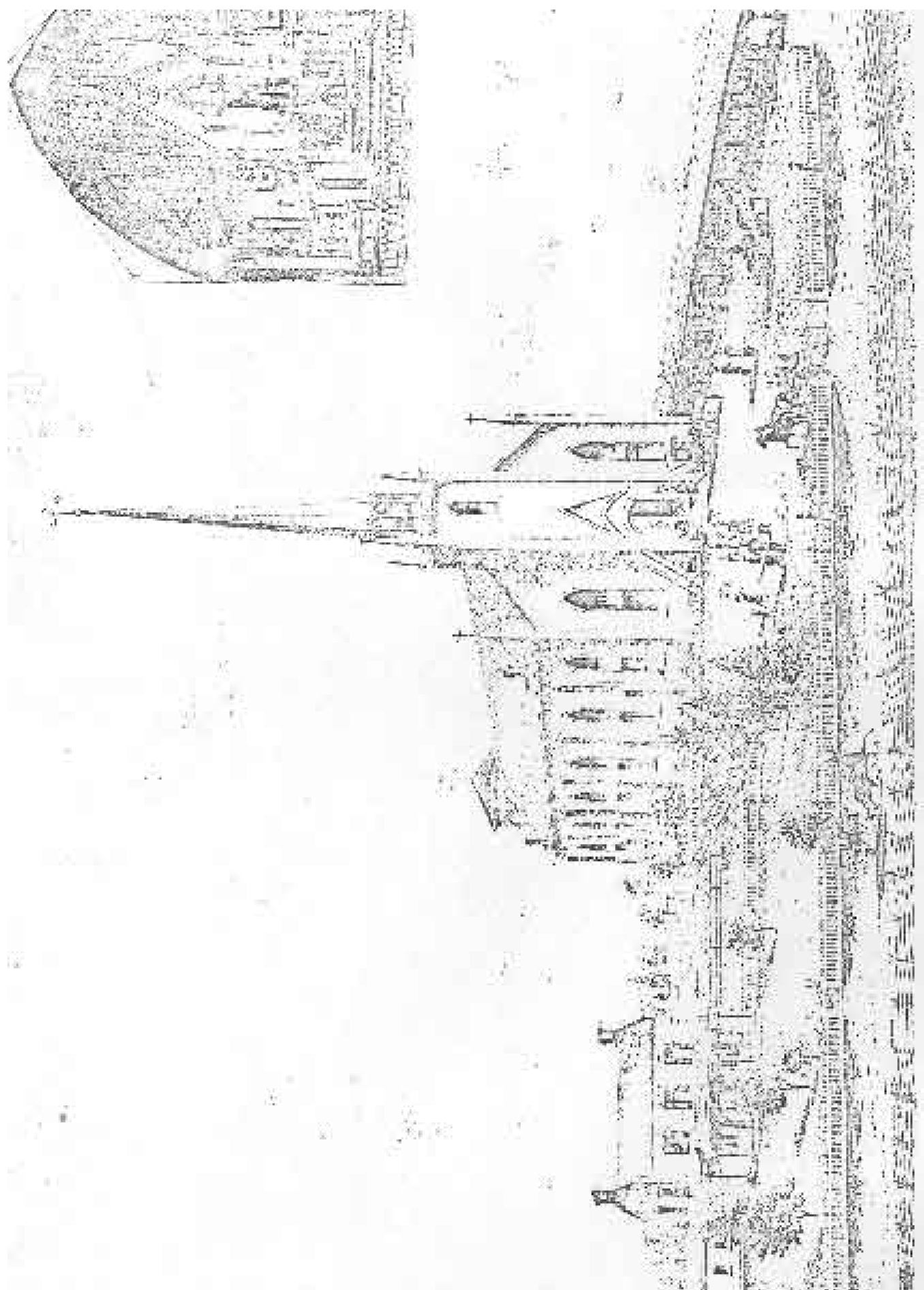
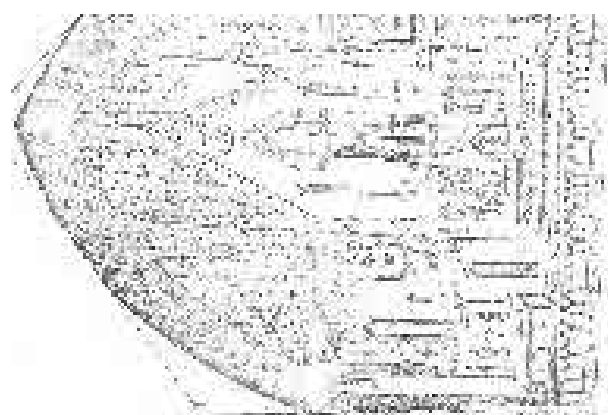
The Church Hall in the basement of the Church was renovated by Mr. Murray Graham, assisted by Mr. Clifford Abrams and Mr. George Forbes. Carpet was laid, the walls panelled, the furnace enclosed, a new kitchen installed, washroom facilities improved, and an office made for the minister with a telephone installed. Mrs. George Forbes was Sectional Vice-President of the Barrie Presbyterian N.W.S. from 1974-1977.

In the Sanctuary of the Church the Centennial Banner made by the Sunday Church School was hung. A pulpit Fall was presented in memory of the late John D. Hamilton, by his family. Mr. Hamilton was a member of the congregation for many years. The Church also received a new Communion Set presented in memory of the late Alberta Werrin Drummond by Miss Rachel Sloan. Both gifts were dedicated in special ceremonies at worship services in the Church.

The Board of Managers had the exterior of the Church cleaned by sandblasting the brick, and also painted the trim. New doors were installed on the front entrance of the Church, and new flowers and shrubs were planted in the flower beds at the front of the Church.

Reverend Dass was appointed Clerk of the Presbytery of Barrie and at the time of writing is still the incumbent of this office.

The communicant roll of the congregation has varied greatly over the years from a low of 29 in 1969 to 75 in 1976. The balance owing on the mortgage on the Manse was paid in full and discharge in the year 1977.



ST. FRANCIS
Tottenham

ST. JAMES
Colgan

ST. MARY'S
Achill

1825 — 1965

The following was taken from the South Adjala booklet put out in the Centennial Year, 1967. It is an outline of the growth of Catholicism in Adjala and Tecumseth townships since 1825. The History was published utilizing material prepared and collected by a historical committee appointed to do the research. The following are excerpts from the booklet.

The Women's Institute are grateful to Mrs. Francis McKenna for so generously placing her copy of this booklet at our disposal.

ST. JAMES CHURCH, COLGAN



"For one's native place
Is the shell of one's soul;
And one's parish church
Is the kernel of that nut"

Hillaire Belloc

AN EXPLANATION

One hundred years is not long in the history of the church, but in the story of our Parish it is the sum total of its existence — or so we thought when this booklet was begun. Research and study have uncovered the fact that St. James Parish, Colgan, is perhaps, a little more than 100 years old. A search of all available documents establishes the following facts.

Firstly, a Crown Grant was given in 1830 and repeated in 1834 of some 150 acres of land on the broken front of Adjala Township (Now known as Colgan) for the use of the church.

Secondly, Father Edward Gordon, a curate at St. Paul's Parish, Toronto, went through the area on missionary journeys in 1830, 31, 32 & 33. It was under his guidance that a log church was built at Colgan. The dedication of this church is not clear, but it seems to have been dedicated under the title of St. Catherine of Alexandria.

Thirdly, it was soon afterwards that the Bishop appointed a resident priest for the area. It seems that he lived at St. Margaret's, Tecumseth, and attended Colgan and Achill as missions. He most probably had other missions to attend as well.

Sometime between 1855 and 1865 the Bishop of Toronto changed the name of the church at Colgan to St. James the Greater and established it as a parish with a resident pastor. The church at Achill was attached to St. James as a mission and sometime later a church was built in Tottenham and also made a mission of St. James. The Presbytery, which is still being used was built in 1860.

These facts are gleaned from a close study of records at the Chancery Office and elsewhere. There seems to be no document extant which gives the exact date of St. James, Colgan, being erected as a parish with a resident pastor.

Before this study was begun it was taken for granted that St. James Parish, Colgan, was erected in 1865. Hence we are now observing our Centennial of which this modest booklet is to be a record for posterity.

THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

The Chairman - GEORGE KEOGH & Co-chairman - RITA RYAN
are grateful to the contributions of -

Mr. Alan Anderson
Mr. Vincent Bergin
Mrs. Paul Clausen
Mr. Vincent Colgan
Miss Lealie Clark
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Mr. John Pickett
Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Ronan, Sr.
Fr. Edward Ronan
Mr. James Sheehan
Mr. Denis Skelly

ARCHDIOCESE

OF

TORONTO

Via Eminence
JAMES C. CARDINAL McGUIGAN
Archbishop of Toronto

Father Paul Attallah



A Message from the Pastor

"My eyes also shall be open and my ears attentive to the prayers of him that shall pray in this place. For I have chosen, and have sanctified this place that My Name may be there forever."
(Chronicles 7, 15-16)

The legend of how Ireland got its name is applicable to the Parish which is now celebrating its Centenary. For South Adjala is truly "a little bit of heaven" sprinkled with stardust of God's grace. No doubt the first settlers thought that this corner of Canada was a "little bit of Ireland" placed there by heaven for them to make their new home.

Shortly after the arrival of the first immigrants, King William IV of England set aside 150 acres for the use of the people on which they were to build a church and a school. Early in the 1830's a church was built on the spot and since then "the eyes and ears" of God have been attentive to the prayers offered to Him in this place. Down through the years three churches have been built here, each larger and more beautiful than the one before. First a long church, then a frame one and finally the fine brick church which is still serving the parish.

God's grace has flowed abundantly as is shown by the deep faith of the people and the large number of vocations to priesthood and religious life. The sons and daughters of this parish have spread throughout the whole province and beyond.

The observance of a Centennial is not only to pay honour to the deeds of our forebearers but also to rededicate ourselves to carry out their great tradition.

BEFORE 1865

A letter written about 1860 by John Colgan and kept on file at the Chancery office in Toronto.

To the love of reminiscence provoked by the late reunion in Adjala we owe a knowledge of the following tales which we give to our readers in the firm belief that they will prove both interesting and edifying.

About thirty years ago, when nearly the whole diocese of Toronto was but a single parish under the care of the now venerable Vicar General of Hamilton, it was impossible for that zealous clergyman to foresee the exact time of his arrival in any part of his extensive mission. He was in the habit of intimating his intention of being in the Township sometime during the month, leaving the precise day to be determined by circumstances. On account of this uncertainty one would imagine when he visited a place like Adjala, many miles in circuit, it would be impossible to advise all of so agreeable a fact. For horses were very scarce in that part and worse still, there were fewer roads on which they could be driven with safety. In fact the whole northern end of the Township, now a respectable parish by itself, was entirely inaccessible to all who were not daring enough to venture a tour of some miles over fallen trees, and creep carefully from log to log, then the only bridge through a dense swamp. The two small rivers had to be jumped or waded through, according to the agility or taste of the traveller. Yet in spite of these obstacles everybody knew of Father Gordon's presence, the very evening he arrived. For about the hour when the labours of the day were over, and the hardy woodsmen were returning from the fields, whoever had the distinguished honour of being for the time the priest's host, taking his horn, blew a blast, which if not very musical, was none the less a sound of great joy to hundreds. For it reminded them that even here in the wild wood they were not forgotten by God Who had thus sent among them His own chosen minister to speak words of comfort and fatherly encouragement, to crown their contrition with the gift of absolution and to offer in their behalf, to the God of their fathers the adorable victim of the sacrifice of the New Law. It was like the sound of the Angel's voice to the shepherds of Bethlehem and its meaning was well understood and promptly acted upon. Long before the sun had risen the following morning converging streams of pedestrians might be seen flowing in the direction of the priest's house from all parts of the Township. Before ten o'clock nearly the whole Catholic population was congregated in one spot where, while some prepared themselves for the reception of the sacraments, others seated on the grass, contrasted the wildness of the present appearances with the beauty of their native land and sighed that the bigotry from which they were here comparatively free, had driven them so far from home.

Things continued in this state for some time until the increasing numbers made Father Gordon long for the erection of a church or as it was always called, a chapel. A suitable and by the way - a splendid site having been attained - a day was agreed upon for the building. All were invited to assist. The style of the architecture was the simplest imaginable and the material plain unhewn logs. At an early hour a vast crowd was assembled, the ground was made ready and everything being prepared the sign of the cross was made and the name of God invoked to ward off accidents. As the foundation logs were rolling to their places such a cheer was given as indicated the joy all felt in the work they were performing. But this joy was soon to receive an admixture of pain, for the indefatigable priest, worn out by the hardships of the mission, was soon assailed from the ground in a violent fit of ague. The morning was dark and hazy and a drizzling rain descended from the clouds, not sufficient to inconvenience the workmen but both disagreeable and dangerous to the reverend sufferer. There was not a house in the vicinity and Father Gordon positively refused to leave the ground so early. What was to be done? The men, disregarding the rain, immediately pulled off their coats and with them constructed a rude bed on which the good priest might rest while the fever lasted. The Biographer of the grandson of Louis 14th says that when he reposed after the fatigues of battle on the captured colours of the enemy, he slept on the noblest bed a soldier can find. Was not the resting place of Father Gordon, in the wilds of Adjala, on the clothes of his children stripped off their own backs, a much more glorious couch? I think so.

After some time the violence of the fever abated and he felt himself able to come again and inspect the work which had been continued in his absence. All was eagerness and bustle and hurry, for everyone knew he was working for God.

In the confusion of the moment a piece of timber was put up, which some considered unfitting - though the majority were of the opinion it was eminently desirable, being of the species known as black ash. Father Gordon, caring little for the correctness of either opinion, thought - as timber was so plentiful - it was better to do without it entirely. He accordingly ordered it to be thrown down. Some were about to remonstrate respectfully, as they thought it was a pity to lose so fine a "stick". When a gentleman, long since dead, (Mr. Hugh Kelly) springing on the wall with a mighty jerk of his hand-spike, sent it rolling far from the building. "It is not Catholic" said he, "to commence the chapel in opposition to the priest's wishes." The same feature if we may judge from our short intercourse with them seems still to characterize the people of this great parish. May their children never forget the faith of their fathers, nor fail to imitate them in their prompt obedience to the church.

The earliest efforts of the Catholic settlers in South Simcoe to build churches and secure the presence of a priest among them were inspired by Bishop MacDonnell who had been instrumental in sending many of them here. He had made a brief missionary journey to these parts in 1825 and had found the land good. In his later travels farther south he encouraged Catholic immigrants whom he met to settle here.

On September 4th, 1834 he obtained a grant of land from the Crown for broken lots 10, 11 and 13 in the 8th concession of Adjala in trust for the building of a church and school.

It was during the decade before the signing of the Grant settlers had flocked in and missionary priests had journeyed among them on horseback and had established "stations". Father O'Grady from York and Father Murtagh Lawlor from Toronto and Albion townships were early visitors to the settlements but much credit for missionary zeal is given to Father Edward Gordon for his work in the area.



FATHER GORDON

Born in Dublin in 1791, Father Gordon came to York as a priest and was given charge of the "Parish of Niagara" a vast territory with Adjala and Tecumseth as its northern reaches.

THE FIRST Mass in the district was said in 1829 at the home which Mr. Hugh Kelly had hewn for his family some three years previously. Father Gordon's letters speak highly of the staunch support Mr. Kelly gave to him. In a letter in 1832 he tells of attending him in his final illness - a singular blessing in those times.

It was Father Gordon who directed the building of St. Margaret's Church in Tecumseth as well as the first log church in Colgan.

Father Gordon, before mentioned, has left memoranda preserved in the Cathedral archives, Toronto. Among these we find the following:

"June 24th - was buried in the Catholic cemetery of Adjala, Hugh Kelly, who lost his life in consequence of the mortification of his leg which was broken by the fall of a tree about a week previous to his death. May he rest in peace. Amen.

By me,
Edward Gordon"

(the above, in Father Gordon's writing, is entered in his "Book of Baptisms, Marriages and Interments" performed in the Townships above York, now Toronto, during his (Father Gordon's) mission of three years and five months."

"The above man I found to be most active and zealous in his endeavours to promote the interest of his holy religion in the wildwoods in his respective neighbourhood."

The next quarter century reveals a long list of dedicated and clever young men who were encouraged to come to Canada from France and Ireland by the bishops who so sorely needed workers for their widespread vineyard. Many were educated here and were assisted by the bishops to complete their studies in Montreal, Boston or Baltimore.

1837 ... Father Fitzpatrick	1841
1841 ... Father O'Dwyer	1843
1843 ... Father Bennett	1844
1844 ... Father Flynn	1848
(Father O'Reilly was also here at this period)	
1848 ... Father Mills	1850
1850 ... Father Rattigan	1858
1858 ... Father Fournet	1859
1859 ... Father O'Shea	1860
1860 ... Father Synnott	1866
1866 ... Father Michel	1868
1868 ... Father O'Connor	1870

The above list was submitted by Father McSperritt during his pastorate at St. James.

THE CEMETERY

From the Catholic Register 1945

MEN OF ADJALA BEAUTIFY VENERABLE CEMETERY

Many families throughout Canada come from the historic pioneer parish of Adjala, now represented by the combined parishes of Colgan and Tottenham.

Those who are associated with the old parish in memories were gratified with work achieved in beautifying the cemetery adjacent to St. James Church. There are tombstones with dates over a hundred years back. The men of the parish did the work of beautifying and renovating themselves. They formed 5 working bees averaging 70 men each. The committee in charge consisted of Rev. L. P. Woods, pastor, Thomas Ronan, John Kelly, J. D. McKenna and Peter Delamerl.

THE CEMETERY

They came from Ireland and they would that the fact be remembered. Carved on their gravestones, in letters as large as those which spell out their own names are the names of the Counties from which they came. Longford, Cavan, Armagh and Kildare; Tipperary, Tyrone, Kilkenny; Meath, Fermanagh, Limerick and Clare. They are all there and they read like a litany of loving memories.

In the old part to the west of the church are found the names of those who figured largely in the story of the early days. Some families have four generations of their dead to remember here but others are seldom or no longer heard;

Colgan	Hughes	Downs	Delamara	Burke	Gronin
McGarritty	Tighe	Gavin	Wocman	Scanlon	Gamble
Cahoon	Gunning	Ellard	Haffey	Curran	Connolly
Hialen	Grimes	Nevins	Dousey	Holland	

Mr. James Durness, who lived to the advanced age of 113 years and a Mrs. Tracey who was 102 when she died, are among the ones who were living here from the first.

The old claim that priests are forgotten in death is not true in the case of those buried in St. James'. Their graves are well tended and the faithful often stop to breathe a prayer for their souls:

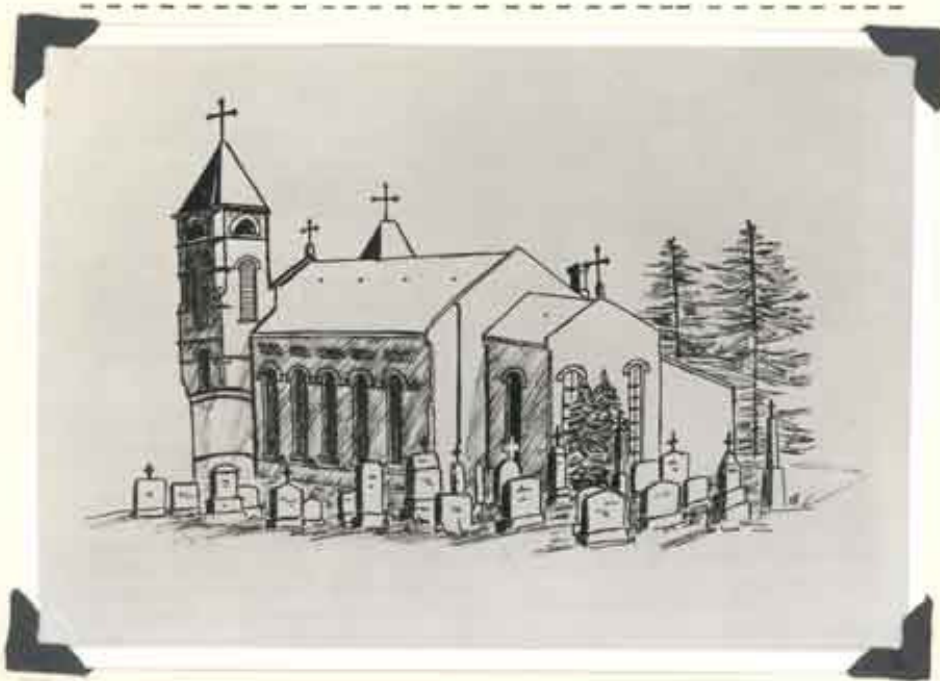
Father Kilcullen	Magr. Treacy
Father Synnott	Father Wilson
Father Shelly	Father Faustus McKenna

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

Many times in recent years the question arises of the date of the first burial in St. James' cemetery. The following editorial written by George F. Hughes and published in the edition of his paper, The Cardwell Sentinel dated October 12, 1898, confirms the early records and the opinion of many that the first interments were in 1829.

A pleasant stroll in the soft subdued light of an early autumn eve among the graves and tombs and monuments of St. James' cemetery is apt to fill the mind with sad and solemn thoughts as it mournfully contemplates the men and times and scenes that have passed away forever, or vainly endeavours to pierce the veil that securely hides from mortal view the great secrets of the days that are to be. The shapeless dust of youth and age, of rich and poor, of the priests and the peasant, the humble and the proud, the grave, the gay, the weak, the strong, here mingle with the common mould, heedless of the rise and set of sun; unmindful of the change of seasons, undisturbed by the voices or footfalls of the curious throngs that occasionally come and go. Almost seventy years have passed away since the first grave was opened, and occasionally heaps of freshly dug earth reminds us that but yesterday the last was closed. Some are adorned with flowers and are carefully tended, while others are sadly neglected, reminding us that the dead are soon forgotten, and bearing mute evidence of the frailty and immortality of human love. Modest slabs are raised to the memory of some,

engraved with a simple inscription in prose or verse while towering shafts of polished granite, emblazoned in letters of gold, that set forth the virtues of the dead, stand like grim sentinels to guard their slumbers. The marks of the sculptor's chisel is still fresh on the surface of some, while others are overgrown with moss, and the rains and winds of more than half a century have scarred their sides with many a furrowed ridge, obscuring the names and dates that once were there. There is a sadness in this strange mixture of attention and neglect, poverty and wealth, of magnificent marble standing close to mouldering stone that shows the dust and oblivion in which all must terminate. Nearby stands the stately church with its massive towers that would seem to bid defiance to the ravages of time. How foolish and ridiculous in the presence of these myriad dead appear the petty hates and jealousies, and strifes of warring sects of creed and class into which mankind is now unhappily divided!



CHURCH YARD SONNET

Rest on! but memory brings you here
With us in this one hundredth year.

Fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers,
Childhood friends and many others
Buried in this hallowed spot.
Memories linger round each plot.

On mornings when the sun climbs high
The shadow of the Church doth lie
With reverence on your silent tombs,
And when the evening sun is low
The shadows of your tomb stones grow
On the west wall of dear St. James;
As if in thanks for morning shade
For prayers and daily Masses said.

F.M.R.

LETTERS FROM THE PAST

December 3rd, 1855 - a letter to Bishop de Charbonnel from Rev. P. X. Pourret :

".....You are aware we

1. Painted the church
2. Had the tower and roof properly repaired
3. The foundations and front steep built
4. Some inside alterations
5. We built a decent priest's house in which I live
6. We insured the church
7. The old church has been fitted up for a school master to live and teach in.
8. The fencing of the burying ground is in operation, but I do not know whether we shall be able to get through with it this winter.

Add to it, I had to buy some furniture; I had to superintend the building of a chapel at M. Ferguson - Eight Sunday schools are in operation.

All that, dear Bishop has been done at great expense and trouble of body and mind. Thank God and His Holy Mother, there is not one man in the whole mission who did not encourage me, either with his dollar or the labour of his hands - above all we must thank Mr. R. Keenan, J. Kidd, Malone, Keogh, P. Kelly, King, etc....."

August 19, 1859 - Letter to Bishop de Charbonnel from Rev. M. M. O'Shea :

"My Dear Lord

I am in receipt of the Circular and shall give it my best attention.

Although I was informed we could get from "Montreal" a statue for 5 or 6 dollars (the statues being very inferior) I would prefer paying 8 dollars for a respectably executed one in Toronto.

If they succeed in pleasing our reasonable expectations in this statue, I will when I go to the retreat, give them an additional order, as I require a figure of Christ crucified without the cross about 5 feet high, and some smaller ones for the vestry ... and house. Besides I shall introduce them to the notice of the people who stand much in need of good images. I hope they will cast the statue pretty thick and not be too spare with the plaster.

.....I also got from New York per Mr. Cotterel a box of wax at 50 cents per lb. To every two pounds of wax I added one pound of mutton suet, or beef tallow, and had candles made of them by Browne when at the Cathedral and before I left the Palace I borrowed from the Mother Superior of Lorette for the use of the Cathedral, some large moulds which I hope Mr. Tixier will have the goodness to see returned."

August 18, 1859 - Letter to Bishop de Charbonnel from Rev. M. M. O'Shea :

"My Dear Lord

I have sent this day per Mr. Shields three lambs to be left at St. Michael's Palace; two for Your Lordship and one for Father Rooney.

The difficulty of catching them in the field, and the day being wet, we were satisfied to take the first that came to hand, and hence it is that all the black ones have gone off for Toronto. Mr. Shields is a Catholic and deals in sheep. He lives, I understand, somewhere near the asylum. You will understand, My Lord, there is no charge for the conveyance of them, as they go along with another flock, and I am sure Mr. Shields will convey them with safety.

Your Lordship need not answer this note, but when the lambs arrive perhaps an acknowledgment that they came safe to hand would not be too much trouble.."

P.S. Permit me to suggest to Your Lordship to eat the lambs, and for pets I might be able to select a better breed and colour next year....."

Early in the nineteenth century the trickle of immigration to this part of the country began to widen into a steadily-flowing stream. It was still called Canada West when they came, - a wilderness - beautiful but cruel.

Free land was the magnet and famine the spur when our forefathers left their beloved Ireland to settle in these sections with the strangely haunting Indian names, - Adjala, Mono and Tecumseth. The waters of the Nottawasaga and Humber rivers were the life-line of the settlers and, dotted here and there along their many branches, weathered timbers and rusting millwheels bear testimony to the early industry of our forebears.

Now, almost a century and a half later, there has developed a wide-spread recurrence of interest in pioneer life. Perhaps it was sparked by the efforts to preserve towns and farms along the St. Lawrence when the Seaway opened or possibly the approach of Canada's own Centennial is at the root. Whatever the reasons, prosperous Ontario is taking a backward glance to its beginnings. Auction sales throughout the province are carefully scanned by dealers who find a ready market for bits and pieces that were scattered in the wake of progress. Oxen yokes, iron kettles, hand-hewn furniture, spinning-wheels and countless items produced of their necessity and carved by their ingenuity are now collectors' prizes.

An Illustrated Atlas of Canada published in Toronto in 1880 and sold by subscription at \$12.50 a copy, contains an interesting historical sketch of Simcoe County. At first the lands north of Toronto were designated as the Home District but after the Act of Union in 1841 Simcoe itself was formally proclaimed a District. A Court House was built in Barrie and representatives met in Council there from sections where the population warranted a say in Municipal affairs. Adjala, Mono and Mulmer were linked as the Cardwell District for representation until Dufferin County was formed in 1881. Mono and Mulmer were included in this newly-formed County leaving only Adjala within the confines of Simcoe.

It is interesting to note that recently, after the passing of some 84 years the Ontario Government has established new electoral districts and once again Adjala, Mono and Mulmer are linked as part of the Peel-Dufferin area.

Very soon after its formation familiar names begin to appear as members of this Council. Robert Keenan, the first settler in Keenansville, which perpetuates his name, was the representative for the Cardwell District from 1846 to 1857. From 1858 we find the names of Patrick Tracey, J. T. Connor, Thomas Langley, Thomas Kidd, P. D. Kelly, Peter Small, G. P. Hughes and Matt Renan. In 1880, the year of publication of the Atlas, John Kelly and Joseph Wright were Reeves and Deputy Reeves.

And what of Adjala, which these civic-minded gentlemen represented, no doubt at great inconvenience to themselves, when one considers the transportation facilities of the times?

Early maps show settlements at Loretto, Athlona, Romilly, Hockley, Ballycrooy, Alliston, Arlington and Colgan. In Mono, to the west, Mono Mills and Mono Centre are shown and in Tecumseth on the east are Tottenham and Beeton.

It was a lovely land of rolling wooded hills and fertile soil - twelve miles by five. A strip of swamp through the centre from east to west caused the only note of complaint. Its settlement dates back to the early 1820's and the pioneer names listed in the Atlas are Keenan, Kelly, Wilson, Ronan, Doyle, Deadman, Eagen, Ford, Irwin, Kidd, Hamilton, Langley, O'Leary, Ryan, Small and Walker.

KEENANSVILLE.....

Though originally we were just a few straggling settlers in the midst of a wilderness, having communications with the rest of the world through travelling from Toronto to Newmarket on horseback or even on foot, we have come a long way since then. First the mail was brought from Bolton by stage coach to Keenansville, but when the railroad reached Tottenham in 1877 more distributing offices were opened and included Loretto, Athlone, Keenansville, Romilly, Achil, Enis, Ballycroy and Colgan. But with the coming of the rural mail delivery only a few of these were necessary. None attained a position in the commercial world except Athlone, Loretto and Keenansville, while the proximity of the church made Colgan an important centre. Athlone was one establishment in the Kidd empire which spread from Seaforth to Warton and even had a boat, the Josephine Kidd, which plied the Great Lakes. Loretto was always a centre quite similar to that of today, but Keenansville was a real metropolis.

Located on the Bailley River, the little hamlet had a ready solution for the acquisition of power. The semi-circular dam, studded with willow trees, enclosed a miniature lake which, besides being a source of waterpower, also provided a skating rink and the ice harvest so necessary in the days before Frigidaires. In summer the two flat bottomed boats were well patronized and many romantic tales are told of the era. A special craft, the Colleen Brown, built by our much beloved curate, Father Maurice Wilson, was the gem of the flotilla.

The water power was utilized in operating a saw mill and a three-storey woollen mill, both enterprises of Mr. Thomas Brown. Almost every farmer kept a flock of sheep to provide wool for his own needs, and spinning wheels were not rare, but the superfine products of Brown's mill were very popular, finding extensive markets. Only when substitutes were introduced by more recent manufacturers did the old mill withdraw from competition. At peak operation in the latter part of the century the advertisement in the local newspaper called for 200,000 lbs. of wool.

Keenansville had two streets - Victoria running east and west to end at Marie Street, running directly north and south. At the southern extremity, curving westward down a very steep hill to become Keenan's lane, so called because it was on the border of the Keenan farm, a good part of the town was built. The remainder of the village was part of the Morrow farm. At the foot of the hill on the south side was the saw mill, long since gone, and the boat house where the boats were stored. On the north side towered the woollen mill and on the crown of the hill stood Mr. Brown's stately residence with its lovely lawns.

Along the west side of Marie Street was a succession of business establishments, among them the residence of Mr. George P. Hughes, who, with the help of his clever family operated a general store, post office, private bank, telegraph office, conveyancing business and a printing press. Here the Simcoe Observer was born, later the Cardwell Sentinel (Cardwell being the name of this municipal riding.) There are extant copies printed in Keenansville in 1868. The editorial page of this paper has never been surpassed locally and world and local news filled its pages. The advertisements were striking. Our Adjala Agricultural Fair was given complete coverage. Small wonder that Keenansville had the telegraph brought from Bradford along the seventh line of Tecumseh. This service was later operated by Miss Elsie Morrow after the Morrow family took over the store and post office when Mr. Hughes removed his interests to Tottenham on the arrival of the railway there. The weekly Cardwell gradually became the Tottenham Sentinel. Some still recall the integrity and benevolence of Mr. George C. Morrow who was also an executive of the Simcoe Mutual Fire Insurance Company of those days.

Further south on Marie Street was the school of thirty pupils and in the winter many more, as the elder boys and girls took advantage of their spare time to further their education. Just east of the school, on the Morrow farms, was the fair grounds, and on the southern borders of the school property stood the huge fair buildings, a frame structure where at Fair time were displayed fancy work, crocheted

goods and all manner of needle work and crafts as well as wool products, wooden ware and farm vegetables and fruits. It was the only fair within miles.

As far back as 1896 this annual event had become only a memory. In the 1890's the building was moved intact around the corner and east on Victoria Street by John Gobean, to be converted into a dwelling, cabinet factory and wagon shop. After his demise it served for a time as a Community Hall. Finally torn down, the timbers serve as frames for our present convent in Colgan.

A score of houses, two hotels, a blacksmith shop and a cobbler's shop were among the essential make-up of this thriving hamlet. But, lacking railroad facilities and without industries, the young folk drifted city-ward and the population dwindled until at one time there was only one resident. Now a number of summer houses are occupied and a few people have established permanent residence.

This augurs well for the future and we look forward to the day when some enterprising individual will develop a summer resort on the banks of the same old Bailey River.

ATHLONE

The prime requisite in establishing a business centre in the early days was a river to provide power for the mills to convert the forest into building material and grind wheat for food. Two of these mills flourished in Athlone, the saw mill being operated by the Hamilton family for many years. The grist mill was nearby. The hub of the hamlet was the general store of Kidd & Co. which included the post office, millinery showroom, dressmaking and men's tailoring enterprises as well as all manner of farm supplies. An extensive trade in produce flourished. A story is told of a woman walking across the fields for tea for breakfast, taking six straw hats braided the day before to trade for her purchases. There was also a blacksmith, a shoemaker and a hotel to accommodate the many agents and travellers. Two medical practitioners, Dr. C. McKenna and Dr. Hamilton, looked after the health of the wide area. A fine portrait of Dr. McKenna, painted by Joseph M. Kidd in 1892 is now in Alliston Museum.

BALLYCROY --

On the Fumber River, had a general store, shingle and grist mills, blacksmith and machine shops. A serious fire on April 29, 1875, destroyed the village and took the lives of three young ladies who worked as milliners in the store of Mr. Peter Small. A monument to their is in Colgan cemetery, bearing the names:

Margaret Daley, age 24 years; Mary Fanning, age 22 years; Bridget Burke, age 28 years.

LORETTO

Loretto got its name from the house of Our Lady of Loretto in France at the suggestion of its store owner, P. K. Kelly, but then, as now, all was not piety in Ajala and things of the world took precedence. A blacksmith's shop and two hotels were well patronized. At that time horses provided the only means of transportation and accommodation for both man and beast was very necessary at intervals on the long and arduous trips mostly by wagon. The old school is there but utilized as a garage near the old Gamble residence. The name Gamble brings to mind one of the noble women of those pioneer days, whose charity reached out to the whole country-side.

The present general store is a real live concern on the site of the Gamble Hotel and across the street a hotel serves on that busy highway today. Loretto is still noted for its hospitality and its mercantile activities.

BUILDING AND DEDICATION OF ST. JAMES 1888-9

From a copy of the Cardwell Sentinel published Feb. 28, 1889 (loaned by Mrs. Theresa Feehaley)

In the Simcoe of 1832 before the Indian trail had given place to the modern turnpike, when the only guide through the forest was the "blaze" on the tree's trunk, the only music that of the birds in the lofty branches, and Adjala's Selkirk so little accustomed to the voice of man as to start at the sound of his own, a little band of a dozen Irishmen, fresh from the old sod and brimming with simple faith, met together in the wilds of nature to erect a temple to nature's God.

A beautiful height in the dark forest was chosen, and light hearts and arms soon tossed aside the sylvan kings. In a few days arose the log structure within which sacrifice ascended to the living God.

No towering bell rang out the hour of Mass or marked the flight of the passing soul, no tapering spire pierced the sapphire heavens, no grand organ burst forth in trembling tones to the sacred walls; no cushioned pew afforded rest to the tired. The worshippers stood or knelt on the bare floor to adore Him who sees the heart through cumbersome surroundings.

Who will say that modern style and fashion have improved modern faith and morals?

As years rolled on the old log church had to keep abreast of the times and soon a solitary pew in the north-west corner bore the name of Dennis Skelly. The church was lined inside and weather-boarded outside. When old Daddy Burke cut the Catharine wheel hole in the board ceiling it was thought that architectural ingenuity was exhausted.

With the increase in population came the demand for more space and in 1851 was erected the "Big Church", 40' x 100', Bernard Hart, as contractor, saw to this building which for 39 years witnessed the baptisms, marriages and requiems of 3200 worshippers.

The first white child born in the township was Mary Anne Headen, now Mrs. Cahoon of Keenansville, and the first man laid to rest in the city of the dead was George Cahoon.

The old frame beginning to yield to the ravages of time, Fr. Cassidy resolved last summer to erect a new church. To resolve was but to execute and the fine building which the Sentinel illustrates to-day is the result.

106' x 60'; Chancel: 28' x 24'; Tower: 100'; Nave: 68' x 54';
Chapel: 12' x 24'; Seating: 700

The contractors are Mr. Sam Kavanagh, Tottenham, and Mr. James Jerritt, Alliston. The architect was Mr. Kennedy, Barrie. All deserve credit for the manner in which they performed their work. The contract price was \$8,100, but the whole expenditure will not fall far short of \$15,000.

Fr. Cassidy is entitled to the highest praise for his indefatigable exertions in prosecuting this great work, though part of the time suffering from severe illness. Fr. Duffy, St. James' popular curate, was a host in himself as a faithful lieutenant.

The dedication took place on Sunday. The ceremony of blessing the church and celebration of High Mass were performed by Vicar-General Rooney. Fathers Jeffcott, Taafy and Duffy were deacon, sub-deacon and master of ceremonies respectively. Dean Harris, Fr. Gallagher and Fr. Gibney were also present.

Dean Harris preached in the morning, giving his separated brethren some hard knocks, but he does these things in such a way as to give the least possible offence.

Father Taafy preached an effective sermon at vespers. A portion of the choir of St. Basil's and St. John's under the direction of Fr. Chalandard, with Miss McIlkerry as organist. The soloists were Mrs. C. Smith, Miss Bolster, Mr. H. T. Kelly.



DEAN CASSIDY
WHO DIRECTED THE
CONSTRUCTION OF
THE PRESENT
CHURCH

A letter from Mr. James Hart to Rev. J. Carroll, Diocesan Administrator, dated Jan 14, 1850, states that he was Secretary of the Building Committee chosen by the congregation to superintend the building of the church acting on the Bishop's instructions to Rev. W. R. Mills.

The members of the Committee on whose behalf he was speaking were:

John Colgan	John McFarlane
John Malone	Patrick Hershin
Duncan Carmichael	

The dimensions were to be:
60' x 40'
Tower and spire: 80'

ELEGY ON THE DEATH OF A FARMER'S WIFE

Death took her in the prime of life,
And left poor John behind
To mourn a faithful, prudent wife,
So loving, mild and kind.

'Twas she who cheered his daily toil
And lightened all his care;
Her soothing word and gentle smile
Were music to his ear.

Alas! that modest tongue is mute
And silent in the tomb;
He never heard it in dispute
Around his happy home.

She had a gentle word for all,
And nothing harsh or hard
Was fostered in that Christian soul
Who loved and feared the Lord.

The neighbours all delight to tell,
I often heard them say
How she had raised the orphans well,
And taught them how to pray.

Right well she took the mother's part
And kept them neat and clean,
Or by example taught their hearts
To dread the sinful stain.

Poor John may kneel beside the sod
And breathe the fervent prayer.
We trust her soul has gone to God,
All blooming, fresh and fair.

A few short years will bring us all
To mingle with the dust;
May he prepare us for the call;
All else is but a jest.

THE COLGAN FAMILY



John Colgan

John Colgan came to Canada from County Tyrone, Ireland, with his wife, Rose Starr, and their family of six children, three boys and three girls, in the year 1820. They stayed in Quebec for about two years before settling in Adjala.

Father James Colgan, a brother of John's, came out with them and took up his work in Montreal where he died taking care of the Irish immigrants at the time of the plague in the 1840's.

This little village on the borderline between Adjala and Tecumseth townships has always rejoiced in the fact that the government saw fit to give the name of this worthy pioneer family to the little settlement when the post-office was established here.

Their son, John, married Ellen, daughter of Hugh Kelly, in the first log church which both families had helped to build. He farmed the land on which his parents had settled and his family grew up with the village. For at the first the village did grow. A tannery, cooperage shop, blacksmith shop, butcher shop, store and undertaking establishment were among the enterprises of its early times.

John's favourite pastime was writing. From a youth he had the ability to put his thoughts and feelings into words. Some of his prose which has come down to us shows that he had a deep knowledge of human nature and an equally deep concern for the welfare of his fellow-man. It was his flair for writing verse that gained him a wide popularity as a writer. From the time George P. Hughes started to publish "The Simcoe Observer" in Keenansville in 1865 its readers demanded a poem from "Fagan" and the hapless publisher had to bear with their complaints for the week when one failed to appear.

In 1873 at the request of his friends he published a collection of his poems. Choosing one for inclusion here will put us in the same position as that in which Mr. Hughes found himself nearly a century ago. For each family had its favourite. From "The Iron Horse" to "Threshing Fagan's Barley" he left all a record of the times of their ancestors and as he himself said: "Strange events occur from year to year".

The one finally chosen was suggested by one of his descendants and we think it would please Fagan himself for he wrote it in memory of his beloved young wife, Ellen, who died in 1859 at the age of 39.

EARLY PASTORS

FR. SYNNOTT.....1860 - 1866	FR. SULLIVAN.... 1870 - 1871
FR. MICHELL.....1866 - 1868	FR. HARRIS..... 1871 - 1875
FR. O'CONNOR.....1868 - 1870	FR. McSPIRITT.. 1875 - 1877

FATHER SYNNOTT

Father Synnott was pastor of St. James' from 1860 until his untimely death by accident in 1866. During his time the church was enlarged and repaired and the presbytery built. His people were proud of his accomplishments and deeply saddened by his death. A letter from his successor, Fr. Michell, tells of their anxiety to have his monument installed in time for the first anniversary of his death.

The following excerpt from a letter addressed to Bishop Lynch and signed by John Kennedy on behalf of the Catholics of Adjala is an expression of their reverence for him:

"We sincerely thank you for the interest you have taken in our welfare in placing us under the guidance of the truly pious and exemplary pastor who at present ministers to our spiritual wants in this extensive mission.

"The material improvements which have been made in and around St. James' Church under the supervision and through the indefatigable exertions of the Rev. Fr. Synnott since his advent amongst us will, we certainly hope and confidently trust, meet with your approbation and fully convince you that in your absence your zealous and faithful servant was not remiss in the faithful discharge of his laborious duties."

FATHER HARRIS

In the annals of the Diocese of Toronto for the nineteenth century the basic ingredients for many biographical sketches might read:

Clever young Irish had emigrated to Canada. Educated in Toronto. Went for further study to Quebec, Boston, Baltimore or Rome. After ordination these would follow a list of parishes where he brought the life and solace of faith to the early settlers and shared their hardships.

"Keep them, O Lord, for they are Thine, Thy priests whose lives burn out before Thy consecrated shrine."

Always the same yet always different. Always the stamp of the individual who followed the pattern in his priestly career.

Nowhere is this more evident than in the case of William R. Harris. He was born in the city of Cork in 1847 and emigrated to Canada at a very early age with his parents. He was educated at St. Michael's College in Toronto and went to Quebec and later to Rome to complete his studies.

After his ordination in 1870 he remained with Bishop Lynch at St. Michael's Cathedral for a short time before coming to Colgan which was his first parish. His five years as pastor here marked the beginning of a most distinguished career. His remarkable gifts of mind and heart were employed in the service of his church and his fellow man for 53 years. He was pastor at Newmarket and St. Catharine's for several years and was for a time rector of St. Michael's Cathedral.

In 1892 the priests of the time collaborated on a history to mark the Golden Jubilee of the Toronto Diocese (1842 - 1892) and at the same time to honour their venerated Archbishop Walsh on the occasion of his Silver Jubilee of his episcopate.

His work on this "Jubilee Volume" brought to public attention Dean Harris' ability as a writer and he later wrote several historical books on the history of the Church in different parts of Canada.

At the time of his death in 1923 at the age of 76, Mr. R. E. Knowles, a noted journalist on the staff of the Toronto Daily Star, wrote a very moving editorial about his friend of many years.

He referred to this priest, scholar, writer and orator as one who had kindled love in the hearts of all Protestants and Catholics alike and spoke feelingly of Dean Harris' often expressed wish for closer ties between the members of all Christian faiths.



Father Harris



Father McSpirritt

FATHER MCSPIRITT

Father "Mac" was born at Templeport, County Cavan. At the age of 24 he, his sister Ann and brother John immigrated to America. He entered St. Michael's as a Philosophy student and later the Grand Seminary in Montreal as a student of Theology. He was ordained by Bishop Lynch and stationed in Wildfield.

He was next assigned to Niagara Falls where he established a reputation as a healer of human ills. His reputation soon spread on both sides of the border. He came to Colgan from Niagara and here too, was besieged by supplicants.

Father Mac. was erect and broad shouldered, having strong resonant voice and a rather abrupt manner. His attitude toward evil-doers was harsh and uncompromising.

The good priest held it his duty to relieve misery wherever he found it. He ministered indefatigably to his flock but took little care of himself. His buggy rattled; his living quarters were bare and comfortless.

At fifty, evidence of failing health worried his parishioners. When he came, Adjala was a struggling parish but with great prosperity the people wanted a larger and more adequate church. Feeling unequal to the task Father Mac. asked to be transferred back to Wildfield where he died in 1895.

Sincerity was the touchstone he applied to all and the memory of his strong faith and constant charity has been recorded in the hearts of his people down through the generations.

TOTTENHAM

Your streets have grown to emulate
A city's thoroughfare,
The maple leaf which all adore
Is blooming everywhere.

The lines quoted above were written by Henry Duggan on a visit to Tottenham after an absence of many years. They were part of a long poem which was published in the Sentinel in Nov. 1919.

Whatever the reasons, and they must be solid ones, the "Old Boys" return with astonishing regularity from all parts of the world to which they have scattered. They love to recall the exploits of their youth and the friends who shared them.

The first settlers came in 1825 but it was not until 1858 that the village got its name. The recent death of Miss Olive Totten brings to mind the meeting when the name was decided upon. Several names were suggested by this group of early fathers but when Nicholas Egan said that he thought it should be named after Alex Totten because of his help to everyone, there was immediate agreement. The "Pond" that has always been the delight and pride of the town and the location of the grist mills was dammed for the first of these by George Nolan. He operated the mill for 75 years and his son, the popular "Sink", - Seneca, on grand occasions - carried on the mill for another 20 years.

About a mile upstream was Egan's mill and from that site, Nicholas supplied the town with the first electric power, one of the first in the province.

No such brief account as this could do more than stir up a few memories.

Settlers listed before 1837, to name a few, were:

Louis Foucar; John Childs; Tom McGoay; James Feehale; John Greenaway; N. Egan; Messrs. Wilson & Potter.

GEORGE POWELL HUGHES

George P. Hughes was the younger son of Patrick and Anastasia Hughes. Patrick was born in Ireland in 1785 and fought with the forces under Wellington in the Peninsular campaign. He was severely wounded at the battle of Vittoria. At the end of the war he married Anastasia Paul in Lisbon. A few years after their return to Ireland, they emigrated to Canada and settled in Tecumseh Township.

From the time of their arrival in 1832 until their deaths, that of Mrs. Hughes in 1870 and Mr. Hughes in 1872 at the age of 87, they took an active part in the lives of their fellow-pioneers and in the progress of their chosen community.

Their son, George, followed their example and succeeded to a marked degree. He moved to Keenansville as a young man and was in business there until starting the first newspaper in the township. At first it was called the Simcoe Observer but later the name was changed to the Cardwell Sentinel and the printing office was moved to Tottenham after the coming of the railway. His son, L. C. Hughes, took over the business and the paper which meant so much to the community later became the Tottenham Sentinel.

George was for many years in the Municipal Council of Adjala during which time he served three years as Deputy Reeve. For more than 20 years he was postmaster in Keenansville and was instrumental in bringing the telegraph to that town. Clerk, Commissioner, Magistrate, whatever the job he undertook, he accomplished with ability and integrity but it was his newspaper that meant most to him and to the community it served. He was a voice for his people.

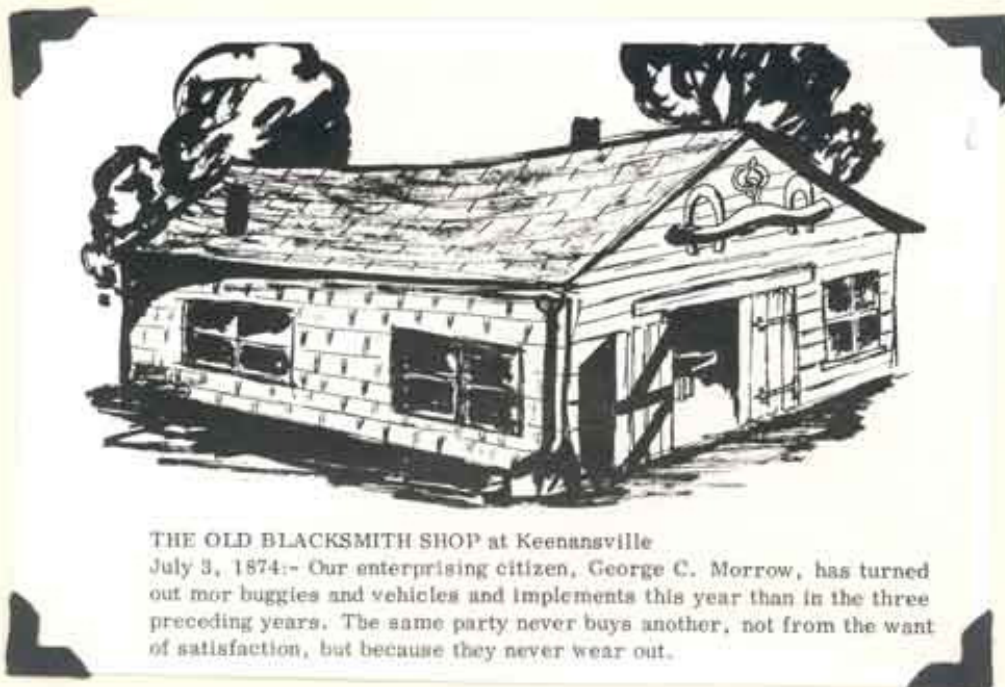
Throughout the many years of his long life he earned wide and well-deserved popularity. In 1880, when five of his family died of diphtheria within the space of a few days, the whole countryside grieved with him.

On Nov. 17, Margaret Theresa, aged 9, and Emmanuel Joseph, aged 18.

On Nov. 20, Sarah Ellen, aged 12.

On Nov. 25, Francis Edwin, aged 20.

On Nov. 28, Eliza Matilda, aged 21.



THE OLD BLACKSMITH SHOP at Keenansville

July 3, 1874:- Our enterprising citizen, George C. Morrow, has turned out mor buggies and vehicles and implements this year than in the three preceding years. The same party never buys another, not from the want of satisfaction, but because they never wear out.

IN THOSE DAYS ----

Apparently the early males in Adjala were quite proud of their brawn and muscle, and there was competition every so often to prove their skill and strength.

JOHN ROSSITER (Grandfather of John Pickett) walked four miles, bought a sugar kettle weighing 150 lbs, and carried it home the four miles through the swamp.

MICHAEL McDERMOTT of Tottenham was about 5 ft. 10 in. tall and wishing to demonstrate his strength, carried fifty bricks in a hod up ten feet to a scaffold and dumped his heavy load of about 260 lbs. successfully.

Farmers in those days bought their salt in 300 lb. barrels and it was a test of strength to see who could successfully lift his barrel into the wagon.

FRIESTS..... 1888 - 1965

The building of the present church in Colgan was the most important event in the long history of the place and merits a story in itself. Dean Cassidy was pastor at the time and under his leadership, priest and people as well as many of their good non-Catholic friends and neighbours worked and watched as the building grew. United in mind and heart and hand, they saw it rise in noble strength, rejoicing in gratitude and understandable pride.

1890 - 1904	Fr. James Kilcullen	1936 - 1945	Fr. Louis P. Woods
1904 - 1916	Fr. M. J. Jeffcott	1945 - 1960	Fr. F. X. O'Reilly
1916 - 1936	Fr. R. P. Walsh	1960 - 1962	Fr. W. Harding

On June 29, 1962 Rev. Paul Attallah, the present pastor, came to the parishes of Colgan and Tottenham.

A letter dated Jan. 1, 1896 and signed James Kilcullen states in part:

Mass every Sunday.
650 Easter Communions.
School average attendance 28.
25 Baptisms.
4 Marriages.

After listing his receipts and expenditures for the year he added a list in complete detail of his farm and household equipment. The list ended with "a few old knives and forks, a few pots and pans, some pie plates and teaspoons."

The people of Adjala, Tottenham and Achill have been blessed throughout the years by the most devoted pastors. The story of these parishes would have been very different had they not had the dedicated direction of these noble men. Their accomplishments in material ways are here for all to see but they constitute a very minor part of the story of their administration. They have shaped the lives of their spiritual children and the good that they have done is incalculable. Those still living and carrying on with their work in other parts of the diocese would be embarrassed by mere words of praise but it might gratify them to know how often their names are on the lips and in the hearts of those they guided and guarded. May God keep them in His care.

FATHER JAMES KILCULLEN was born in County Sligo, Ireland in 1846 and came to Canada in 1864. He was ordained in Toronto in 1869 by Archbishop Lynch and came to Adjala in 1890 as pastor. It was his task to rebuild St. Mary's Church in Achill. In 1894 the celebration of his Silver Jubilee was a time of great joy for him and for the parishes. His death in 1904 was a source of genuine grief to his people but was somewhat mitigated by the fact that he was buried in the cemetery here.

FATHER M. J. JEFFCOTT was born in Tralee and educated in Namur, Belgium and Killarney, where he was ordained in 1882. Before coming to Adjala he had already served in many parts of the diocese. He came here from Stayner in 1899 and many are the tales still told of this wise and witty man. He brought with him a curate, the much loved and revered FATHER MAURICE J. WILSON. Of him it was truly said: "He was a man of few words — well-spoken."

REV. R. P. WALSH was born in Pickering and came to Adjala from Toronto Gore. In December of this year Father will celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of his Ordination. Twenty of those sixty years truly spent in God's work were passed in Colgan and we count it a happy and blessed privilege to have had the benefit of the guidance and care he so generously gave. Juvenile delinquency was not a term used in those days but had it been, Father Walsh would have counter-acted its influence by the parish hall, the rink and the hand-ball alley which were the delight of young and old. We remember Father, and we are grateful.

REV. LOUIS P. WOODS was pastor of the parishes of Colgan and Tottenham from 1936 to 1945. His was truly an administration of enlightenment for he overcame all obstacles to bring the Hydro to the village. The late Mr. John Gavin is especially remembered for his help in this project. Those who take pride in the present state of the cemetery have Father Woods to thank for his direction of the work of restoration

FATHER F. X. O'REILLY. The years from 1945 to 1960 mark a time of progress for these parishes and our gratitude and appreciation goes out in full measure to Father O'Reilly. He will protest that the progress which marked the years was due to the groundwork laid by his predecessors and the willing co-operation of the parishioners. But we who are now enjoying the benefits of his far-sighted and indefatigable efforts know that we owe him more than we can say. Every First Friday; every time the light goes on in the Credit Union office; every time a tap is turned; every time a yellow bus climbs the hill; every time the school-bell rings, we remember, and we say a grateful thank you, Father.



REV. WILLIAM HARDING 1960 - 1962
Father Harding made many friends during his short pastorate. He was a tireless worker and the young people especially benefited by his interest in their welfare. He introduced them to many activities which they had not previously enjoyed. The new tennis courts were a major attraction.

REV. PAUL ATTALLAH.
Our present Pastor is Father Paul Attallah. In the two years since his coming, his energy and acumen have been applied to wonderful effect. He is the type of whom it has been said, "It couldn't be done, but he did it." He has met the challenge of so many matters that needed attention and the improvements that he has accomplished in so short a time are remarkable. Above all his leadership in guiding the people through the changes in the Liturgy, has helped to avoid the diffidence and confusion which are present in some measure in places which lack such alert guidance and interest.

LITTLE ANECDOTES FROM THE PAST.....

- * March 6 (1858) We have nothing of an exciting nature to relate owing to the ridiculously high state of morals prevailing in the neighbourhood just now.
- * Feb. 27 (1873) The town line between Adjala & Tecumseth was opened out and at last Alliston was let out into the front.
- * October 29 (1891) Twenty seven years ago this morning the SENTINEL saw the light of day. Frank Keogh arrived from Dakota To-day.

* * * * *

MSGR. J. P. TREACY



This is a familiar name. The boy who came to Adjala to live with "Aunt Kitty Kearns" never forget him he chose to be buried here. The copy of the "Jubilee Volume" which has revealed so much of the information about our beginnings was presented by him to his friend Margaret Skelly in 1907 and has been a treasured possession of her family since that time.

This man of keen intellect, loving heart and ready wit was a leading figure in the diocese for many years. The people of Dixie and St. Cecilia's in the "Junction" revere his memory as fondly as do we.

He was born in Cappawhite Co., Tipperary in 1869 and small wonder he held the name Colgan in his affections because his education was begun in the little village of that name in his beloved homeland. As an orator and a writer he won great distinction but it is likely that his proudest memory was as speaker at the Eucharistic Congress in Dublin.

Anyone who as a child attended St.

Cecilia's School will tell you that his happiest times were the frequent occasions when he doled out treats with a lavish hand. As he himself so often in his long life had occasion to say of departed friends, - God rest his generous soul.

MSGR. J. E. RONAN



Msgr. J. E. Ronan was born in Colgan on October 28, 1894, son of Patrick Ronan and Annie Heydon. He died on October 15, 1962.

John Edward Ronan was the first child baptized by Rev. Fr. Kilcullen in the brick St. James church. He began his school days at the little red school house at Laretto. He loved sports and was an expert at baseball and hockey. He was interested in farming and spent his vacations helping on the farm, and also knew the work of bee-keeping. He taught school for a while and studied law in the office of Mr. James Fraser in Tottenham.

He entered St. Augustine's Seminary in 1916. A short time after his ordination in 1922 he went to Pius I School in New York. Later he went to Rome to study at the Pontifical School of Music. He graduated holding degrees in Sacred Music and

Gregorian Chant and was the first Canadian to hold a Doctorate in the field of Sacred Music from the Pontifical Institute.

MSGR. ROMAN (cont'd.)

In 1937 he founded St. Michael's Cathedral School of Music and it was granted affiliation with the Pontifical Institute of Music in Rome.

Before his death he was named a Protonotary Apostolic by Pope John XXIII.

Some time before his death he said: "May we one day be led to Him in His heavenly home, where sounds the everlasting song of joy and praise".

FATHER PAUL SWITALSKI

The year 1978 is a special one in the life of Father Switalski. June of this year marks the fortieth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

Father Paul, as he is known to his many friends, was born in Tuchola, Poland, on Oct. 13th, 1912. He went to grade school and high school in Torun and later to Pelplin, where he studied philosophy and theology for six years. After his ordination in Pelplin, June 1938, he was chosen as chaplain and personal secretary to the bishop of the diocese. In Oct. 1939 at the start of the Second World War, Bishop Okoniewski and his chaplain, Father Paul, were evacuated from Poland for their personal safety. Following two months in Rumania they travelled through Yugoslavia to Rome, where they remained till June 1940. When Mussolini joined forces with Hitler, the Holy Father advised the bishop to leave Italy with his chaplain. They journeyed through France to Spain, where they spent two years in Madrid. In 1942 Bishop Okoniewski and Father Paul were forced to leave Madrid at the insistence of the Spanish government, under pressure from the German government. This time they moved to Lisbon, Portugal. After the bishop's death in 1944, Father Paul went to France.

As head of the American-Polish war relief organization for France, Father Paul helped many Polish refugees in France, Spain and Portugal. During this period Father Paul spent some time in Switzerland and Germany in the same capacity. He also took post-graduate courses in the French language and received his M.A. in social studies and political economy.

In June 1955, Cardinal McGuigan brought Father Paul to Toronto Archdiocese to help with the Polish speaking people. Through his efforts these people became incorporated as members of St. Theresa's Parish in New Toronto, where he worked with the pastor, Father Carroll. The Bishop asked Father Paul to take his own parish and in November 1966 he was appointed pastor of St. James. This included St. James Church, Colgan, St. Francis Church, Tottenham, the villages of Beeton and Lorette and also large portions of Adjala and Tecumseh townships.

Father Paul has adapted well to country life and has been a busy man for the last twelve years. There have been times when he travelled by skidoo to say Mass when the roads were blocked with snow. He not only looks after the spiritual needs of his parishioners but also is head of the bus company and the cemetery committee. He makes regular visits to St. James School and is chaplain of the Knights of Columbus. In his spare moments, Father Paul takes a keen interest in sports and is an ardent fan of the Maple Leafs. He also enjoys a lively discussion, whenever possible, with the neighbouring pastor, Father Majka.

Although he was raised in Poland, with different customs, Father Paul has learned to play sukra and celebrate with the Irish on March 17th.

His friendly smile, his humility and his strong faith have made him a friend to all who know him. No one exemplifies better than he the warm and friendly parish priest who is ever mindful of the needs of his flock. Father Paul has had three opportunities to move to other parishes since coming here. To the delight of the original inhabitants and our many new parishioners, he has chosen to remain here as long as he is able.

Cont'd. . .

FATHER PAUL SWITALSKI (cont'd.)

Although he is now a senior citizen, Father Paul is a young 65 who keeps a busy schedule. He continues to serve his parishioners as their pastor and their friend.

The following picture was taken in St. James School auditorium at a presentation made to Father Paul on the 35th anniversary of his ordination.



Left to Right:- Gerry Egan, Ray Culliton, Joan Bailey, George Partland, Alice Forestell, Father Paul and Rosemary O'Leary.

(NB: The two gentlemen on the left received a little extra head covering at the whim of the photographer when the above copy was made.)



REV. TERRANCE MCKENNA

Rev. Terrance McKenna is the son of Robert and Frances McKenna of Beeton. He attended St. James Separate School, Colgan and Hunting Memorial High School, Alliston.

In 1965 he began his studies in Philosophy and Theology at St. Augustine's Seminary, Scarborough. In 1971 he was ordained a deacon and served his diaconate at Blessed Trinity Parish, Willowdale, where he worked closely with the Youth Corps of that Parish. In May 1973 he was ordained to the priesthood. He was assigned to St. Paul's, an inner city parish in Toronto, where he serves as assistant pastor.

ST. FRANCIS CHURCH, TOTTENHAM



Tottenham is situated about midway between St. James Church, Colgan and St. Margaret's Church, Tecumseth. This location, while fortunate for commerce, was unfortunate for the Catholics of the Village, because it meant they went without a church of their own until 1885. In that year, the pastor of St. James Parish Colgan, directed the construction of a fine brick church which was dedicated under the title of St. Francis Xavier. Early in the 1920's when Father R. P. Walsh was the Pastor, Pere Castex (now Monsignor Castex of Penetang) used to assist Father Walsh in the summer months. Pere Castex took up a collection and purchased a bell for the church which was baptized under the title of St. Francis Xavier. The church was supplied with electricity for lighting as early as 1910.

THE KAVANAGHS OF TOTTENHAM

The Kavanagh men of Tottenham - Sam, Bill and "Lil", were expert building contractors. Most of the brick structures in Tottenham and Adjala, including St. James Church and St. Francis Church, are the work of their skilful hands. Have you ever noticed the fine work on the large tower of St. James and the arches over the windows? It was quite an achievement to accomplish the round corners for the bricks had to be rasped into (a round) shape on the corners of the large tower. This shows the work of a master artisan and he was Bill Kavanagh, (Helen's father).

The two sisters of the Kavanagh family also left their mark on the parish. Nell and Anne Kavanagh lived to make life comfortable and more homelike for the pastor of St. Francis Church down through the years. There was always an invitation to the pastor to have breakfast in the warmth of the home of these gentle ladies.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, ACHILL



The south-central portion of Adjala Township became known as Achill — after an Island of the same name near the west coast of Ireland. No doubt some of the early immigrants came from this island. So concentrated was the population around Achill that a frame church dedicated to the Virgin Mother of God was built on a corner of Mr. Cox's farm which he donated for that purpose.

Early in the 1890's the church burned down one night during a mission. When the priest arrived in the morning to offer the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass he found a smoldering heap of ashes. The cause of the fire was never determined. Father Kilcullen, the pastor, proceeded to build a new church for the

people of Achill. In the meantime Sunday Mass was offered in the home of the Jellards or the McGovernns. Some of the more hardy walked the five miles to the Parish Church at Colgan.

In 1920 St. Mary's, Achill, was separated from the parent church and attached to a church at Arlington in the northern part of Adjala Township to form the new parish of North Adjala. The old-time residents of Achill, however, still look longingly towards Colgan and many of them have a plot in the Cemetery where they will find their final rest.



The bell for St. Francis Xavier Church, Tottenham, was purchased with money collected by Pere Castex who assisted Father Walsh in the summer months. The blessing took place Oct. 1917. Bishop McNeil was in attendance, with the pastor, Father Walsh. Ladies pictured: Mrs. Thomas Eagan Sr., Mrs. Feehelay, Mrs. Ryan

THE SCHOOL
COLGAN



Despite loud protests to the contrary all little children love school and know that all good stories begin with, "Once upon a time." In this case, time was when the early settlers found an itinerant teacher for their growing children and Fr. Pourret set up a place for him in the gallery of the old church. The time was 1865 and the Teacher, Alexander La Coste.

In 1883, two men of the parish staked out an acre of land for a yard and centered between the stakes placed by Patrick Tonan and William Rice, the little red school-house was built. For the better part of a century both it and the scene in front of it remained remarkably unchanged.

The little row of houses paraded down the hill from the church and the confines of the village were marked by its pillars and the stately elm at the end of the road. The 'broken front' and 'the corner' were outside the pale. The lovely

old elm and the pillars are as sturdy today as they were when our grandfathers passed by in their democrats on their way to Mass.

From the time the last spike was driven in the last pioneer home until 1947, the sound of hammer and saw had seldom broken the silence native to the place. The building of the new school made a stir and the little red one looked dwarfed and pathetic.

Sunlight still shone in through the south windows on ---"The warping floor, THE BATTERED SEATS and the jackknife carved initials."

Those same little desks were claimed in turn by many generations of South Adjala's children as they sought the light of learning, some avidly, others apathetically as is the way of childhood. The light, clear tones of its bell are a happy memory sounding down the years and across the miles to many who once clutched lunch-pail and school-bag and scurried at its call.

Many who rose reluctantly from the comparative security of their desks to answer a summons to platform or blackboard have since climbed the rungs of the ladder of success and have given a better account of themselves than those emerging with their diplomas from more formidable halls of learning.

The story of the new school and the coming of the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1947 and its progress since under their guidance has been told in other places. Dwarfed it might have been, but not abandoned. The little red school gained new heights. The Sisters raised it to the status of College School and from it they have sent out many a student equipped to earn a living and encouraged to rightly live.

To Fr. O'Reilly and the Sisters these students of 1947 to 1965 owe a deep debt of gratitude that can only be repaid by living up to the standards of excellence instilled in them. Earlier generations of students are grateful to the long line of devoted lay teachers. Many will recall some of the following:

Mr. Hartford; Mr. T. J. Ryan; Mr. Frank Morrow; Misses Mary Keogh; Claire Smith; Miss O'Neill; Florence Malone; Mary Harrington; Miss McAuley; Patricia Morrow; Miss Murtha; Josephine Sparham; Margaret McDonald; Miss Moore, Madeline Glavin.



The long apostolic career of the late Bishop of London merits a sturdy volume or two rather than this brief sketch. Though not a colourful personage in the ordinary sense of the term, few are the members of the Canadian hierarchy who have made so sizable a contribution to the spiritual progress of this country. In him, profound piety and keen administrative ability were happily blended.

The Bishop was born at Athlone, August 28, 1868, his parents being John Kidd and Brigid Murphy. His father operated the local store, several farms and a flourishing timber business which supplied most of the ties for the Grand Trunk. He attended the local elementary school, De La Salle and St. Michael's College, but his studies had to be repeatedly interrupted because of poor health.

In 1902 he was ordained in Rome where he had been studying. He returned to Canada the following year after receiving his doctorate in Theology at the Gregorian University. His first appointment was to Penetanguishene as curate and subsequently as administrator.

He was recalled to Toronto as Secretary to Archbishop O'Connor. In 1908 he was appointed Chancellor of the Archdiocese. His new superior in 1912, Archbishop Neil McNeil, gave him the difficult mandate to build St. Augustine's Seminary. The following year it was opened with the future bishop as Rector. Meanwhile he was made a Domestic Prelate and later a Protanostary Apostolic.

On February 6, 1925, he was named Bishop of Calgary. His memory is held in benediction there for the numerous churches he founded in small communities which till then had no churches of their own and for the large part he had in founding the Catholic Church Extension Society.

During the depths of the depression he was transferred to London, July 3, 1931. He weathered this storm by floating a diocesan bond issue, which manifested his financial ability. He went on from here in the following years to ordain 105 priests for his diocese; to found 21 new parishes and seven missions; 25 new schools, 2 new hospitals and 4 other institutions.

In the decade of the 1940's, although advanced in years, his zeal never slackened. In 1948 he invited Father Peyton to conduct a family rosary crusade in his diocese. In the same year he opened a retreat house at Oxley and established the Junior Seminary (Sacred Heart Fathers) at Delaware.

In the spring of 1950 he received a personal letter from his former classmate Pius XII, in which he was named Assistant to the Pontifical Throne. The letter also included congratulations on his having reached the twenty-fifth year of his episcopal career for which his diocese was preparing a huge celebration. Before the day of gratitude arrived the Master sent the angel of death suddenly to call him to his eternal reward on June 2nd of Holy Year.

The Bishop was buried in the crypt of St. Peter's Seminary. In his funeral oration Bishop Cody said: "He was a true Roman, not only in his unswerving loyalty to the Holy See, but in that all-embracing charity so fittingly enshrined in his episcopal device 'Deus caritas est'."

PRIESTS LIST
BROTHERS & SISTERS

Happy in the memory of the many missionaries who came among our forefathers and shared their hardships a century and a half ago, we are grateful to the many young men and women of this generation who are the missionaries of our times. Fr. Frank Keogh, O.S.B., is in Japan, Fr. Colgan Keogh, C.P., is working in home missions for the Passionists, Fr. Edward Egan, O.M.I., is in the Indian missions in British Columbia, Frs. John Keogh, Robert McKenna and George McKenna, all have spent their years of missionary labour as Redemptorists throughout the provinces from east to west.

Fr. Charles Keenan and the late Fr. James Morrow are names of two who have been tireless workers in the West. Fr. Edward Ronan and the late Fr. Charles Kelly both joined the congregation of St. Basil. Fr. Kelly worked in the parishes of his Order and his death was a great loss to them as well as to his family and friends at home. Fr. Ronan's work is teaching and he has been blessed with a great measure of success with the training of boys.

Sr. St. Thomas Aquinas (Eileen Skelly) is stationed at present in troubled Santo Domingo.

PRIESTS

Most Rev. John Thomas Kidd, D.D.		Rt. Rev. James P. Treacy, D.P.
Rt. Rev. Edward J. Ronan, P.A.		Rev. Francis Morrissey, D.D.
Rev. Kenneth Morrow	Rev. Ambrose Small	Rev. John Skelly
Rev. John Morrow, C.S.B.	Rev. M. V. Kelly, C.S.B.	Rev. Charles Kelly, C.S.B.
Rev. M. J. Ferguson, C.S.B.	Rev. Edward Ronan, C.S.B.	Rt. Rev. Wm. Egan, D.P.
Rev. John Egan	Rev. John Keogh, C.Ss.R.	Rev. Robert McKenna, C.Ss.R.
Rev. George McKenna, C.Ss.R.	Rev. Francis Keogh, C.Ss.R.	Rev. Faustus McKenna
Rev. Gregory Kelly	Rev. Charles Keenan	Rev. James Morrow, D.D.
Rev. Edward Egan, O.M.I.	Rev. Colgan Keogh, C.P.	Rev. William P. Hayden
Rev. Thomas Hayden, C.S.B.	Rev. John O'Leary	Rev. Vincent Egan

BROTHERS

Br. Norbert, C.Ss.R. (John Cookson); Br. Wilfred Wallace, C.Ss.R.; Br. Walter Egan, Augustinian

SISTERS

Mother Julianna (Morrow), 1894	Sister Berchmans (Morrow), 1898
Sister Martha (Morrow), 1908	Sister Edna (Wallace), 1910
Sister Francis Xavier (Kelly), 1907	Sister Bernadette (Shields), 1930
Sister Mary Anthony (Morrow), (Sister of Mercy)	Sister Rosario (Morrow), (Sister of Mercy)
Sister Justina (McGabe), 1918	Sister St. Bede (McGinnis), 1953
Sister Julietta (Treacy), 1945	Sister Francis Xavier (Kelly)
Sister Mary of the Angels (Harrahan) 1920	Sister St. Fergus (Ronan)
Sister Verona (Ronan)	Sister St. Cyprian (McKenna)
Sister Verda (McKenna) (Precious Blood)	Sister Mary of the Angels (Colgan)
Sister Thomas of Jesus (McKenna) (Precious Blood)	Sister St. Dunstan (McKenna)
Sister St. Joseph (Kelly)	Sister Visitation (Kelly)
Sister Thomas Aquinas (Skelly)	Sister Mary Vida (Egan)
Sister Leona (Deacon)	Sister Austin (Keogh)
Sister Francis Regis (Keogh)	Sister Marius (Keogh)
Sister Elizabeth Ann (Keenan)	Sister Leo Patrick (Keenan)
Mother Charlotte (Bergin)	Sister Michaela (Sinclair) (St. Joseph's, Hamilton)
Sister Cecelia Marie (Perry)	Sister of Perpetual Help - Annie Wallace O'Leary
Mother St. John (Frances Walsh) (Ursulins)	(Good Shepherd)
Sister Gertrude (Justina Walsh) (St. Joseph)	Sister Mary Dolores (Sheila McDermott)
	(St. Joseph's London)

1861.....Bishop Lynch confirmed 400 in Adjela on May 19th.

JOSEPH MARIA KIDD

Joseph Maria Kidd died in Colgan on Monday, January 6, 1958, at the age of 87. Deceased was endowed with many talents. His musical training and ability were outstanding and he often recalled his first music lesson with his teacher, Mrs. John Colgan. For many years he was organist and choir master at St. James' and was always generous in complying with requests of friends to play pieces from his large library of musical scores, both religious and secular.

It was in giving expression to his love of painting that he found his greatest satisfaction. Four years of study in Paris followed by several years work in a studio in Chicago gave polish and sureness of stroke to his brush.

Family members and friends still possess some of his most treasured works in various public institutions. A portrait of Dr. McKenna painted in 1892 hangs in the museum at Alliston. St. Michael's College displays "Youth and Old Age" and a portrait of Bishop McEvoy in London is said to be one of his best efforts. When St. Joseph's Convent was sold in Toronto his portrait of his brother, "Bishop John T." was graciously returned to his family. St. James' parishioners have for many years revered "Garden of Gethsemane" and "Temptation of Christ".

Friends remember "The Coming Storm"	"Hauling Logs"
"The Acolyte"	"The Goose Girl"
"The Harvest"	"The Piper's Hill"

because these depicted local scenes and people and showed his ability to transfer life to canvas with great depth and perception. He had a wonderful eye for colour and an unerring instinct for catching the mood of his subject.

Perhaps his greatest talent was for courtesy. A noble scion of an illustrious family, he never deviated from his accustomed way of speaking - whether to simple child or dignified prelate.



ST. JAMES' R.C. CHURCH IN TOTTENHAM, ONT.

THE PEOPLE

Many who worship but few who work is a common complaint of the life of many parishes but it does not apply to these. So many all through the years have expressed their devotion by giving generously of their varied talents, their time and their energy for the good of all that there is no accounting.

The happiest events have been the First Masses offered by the young priests. The whole parish has rejoiced with the parents and family members of these young men. Who could sum up the sacrifices that made these joyful occasions possible?

The League of the Sacred Heart, the Choir, the Altar Society, the Credit Union, the C.I.O., have all flourished because of the combined efforts of volunteer workers. Even the little altar boys who tumbled sleepily out for early morning Masses shared in the welfare of the church. The men and women who worked so hard to make a success of euebras and bazaars have been the mainstay of the parishes and the support of the pastors.

The care of the church, the cemetery and the school have occupied so many devoted workers that here again the list would be endless but, in this connection, the names of the late Peter Delamere and Jim Casserly are worthy of special mention for the love and pride they took in their duties around the church.

One outstanding event in parish life in recent years was that for the first time an Ordination Ceremony of one of our young priests took place at St. James'. Tottenham parish had the greater claim but Colgan provided more space on the occasion of the Ordination of Fr. Edward Egan in 1958.

TOTTENHAM.

John C. Colgan

Of all the happy hamlets here below,
Where peace and plenty in abundance flow,
None can compare with famous Tottenham,
So free from canting bigotry and sham.
No raving bigot sows hellish seed,
To foster strife or mock his neighbour's creed;
But Christian feeling fills each manly breast
Who pays the preacher or obeys the priest,
No drunken loafers sponge around the street
With bloated visage, gaping for a treat;
But decent neighbours take a social dram
When business calls them down to Tottenham.
Some stop at Martin's, others at O'Brien's;
Both houses keep the best imported wines,
And bottled brandy labelled double X;
Take care, my boys, take care of broken necks.
'Tis here the farmers' daughters love to deal;
For Wilson's boots can boast the highest heel,
And silken hose to fit their well-shaped legs
He keeps in pairs to trade for fresh laid eggs,
And J. D. Walker keeps the cheapest oil
And hats and bonnets of the latest style.
Bring on your butter if you wish to shine
At church or chapel while the weathers fine.
You'll find an honest miller down the hill,
Who owns the famed Avoca mill;
And, like its master, all its weights are just,
To weigh your grain like California dust.
A man of judgment, fit to represent
Some loyal riding in the parliament.
His worthy Irish father lives in sight,
And horticulture is his chief delight.
Long may his beets and mangel wurzels grow
And take first prize at every county show.
Our saddler keeps the best of curly hair
To face your collars when they need repair;
And English silver-plated mountings shine
Like kittens' eyes on every strap and line.
His saddles, harness, stirrups, bits and snips
Are equalled only by his matchless whips.
Let's take a walk to Johnny Greenaway's hall
And see the vehicles, both great and small,
From double waggons down to trotting gigs,
Just call on Johnny if you want such rigs.
And when you're sick we have a doctor, too,
Who'll do his best to bring you through;
But if your hours come no doctor can
Avert the sentence passed on fallen man;
For "dust thou art and unto dust again
Thou shalt return!" Hear that, ye sons of men.
And here you'll find St. Crispin's worthy son,
With boots and shoes to fit you, every one.
He'll make you cowhide for the spring or fall,
And dancing slippers for the new year's bell.
You'll find our town clerk ready, day or night,
The moment young Canadians see the light,
With pen and ink to mark the subject down
And earn a sixpence while he serves the crown.
If tonics you require don't fail to try
One sample bottle of our pure "Red Eye";

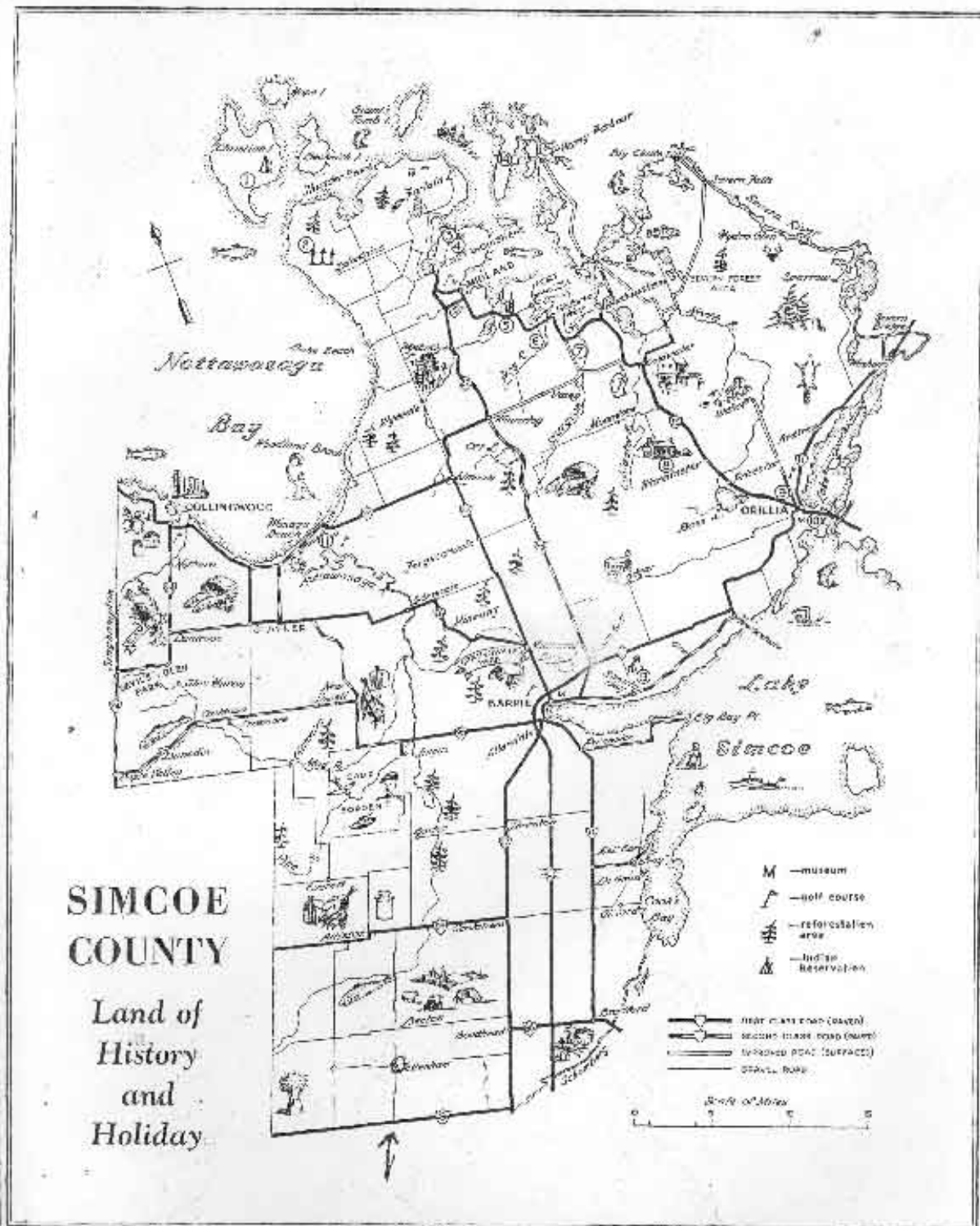


TOTTENHAM.

continued
Page two

For Sanford's bitters will correct the bile
And string your nerves to meet the harvest toil.
Our merchant tailor keeps us all in trim;
Coat, vest or pants are all alike to him.
Long may he live to wield his bar of steel
And clothe his customers from neck to heel.
O, happy Tottenham! a child might trace
The marks of progress in your youthful face;
And ere another twelve month rolls its course
You'll have the Narrow Gauge and Iron Horse.
Then Tottenham will grow on every side,
The home of merchants and the poets pride.

(The poem above was written by John C. Colgan, the father of Colgan, Ontario. Beneath the introduction in the book "The Poems of John C. Colgan", is the date October 11th, 1873. Above the poem is the following notation: "The following rhapsody is given to the public, to illustrate the social equality and good feeling which exist among neighbours in country places. The writer claims for it no further merit.")



- ① Fort St. Marie II abandoned 1659
- ② Carahgonho, first Christian Miss. 1616
- ③ Officers' Quarters Museum, Penelag

- ④ Penelag Garrison Church-on-the-Line
- ⑤ Marlers' Shrine, Fort St. Marie I, 1623-1649
- ⑥ Huron Indian village of St. Louis

- ⑦ St. Ignace—Brabant and Lalumet martyrs
- ⑧ Kenneth and Lucille Waller "Deli Pen"
- ⑨ Champlain Monument Couchiching Beach Park

- ⑩ "The Narrows," Huron Indian fishing grounds
- ⑪ H.M.S. Nancy, Museum and River Park
- ⑫ Century-old Negro Church of Edges

- ⑬ St. Thomas's Church, built in 1812, at Shanty Bay
- ⑭ Beauvois Island, headquarters, Georgian Bay National Park

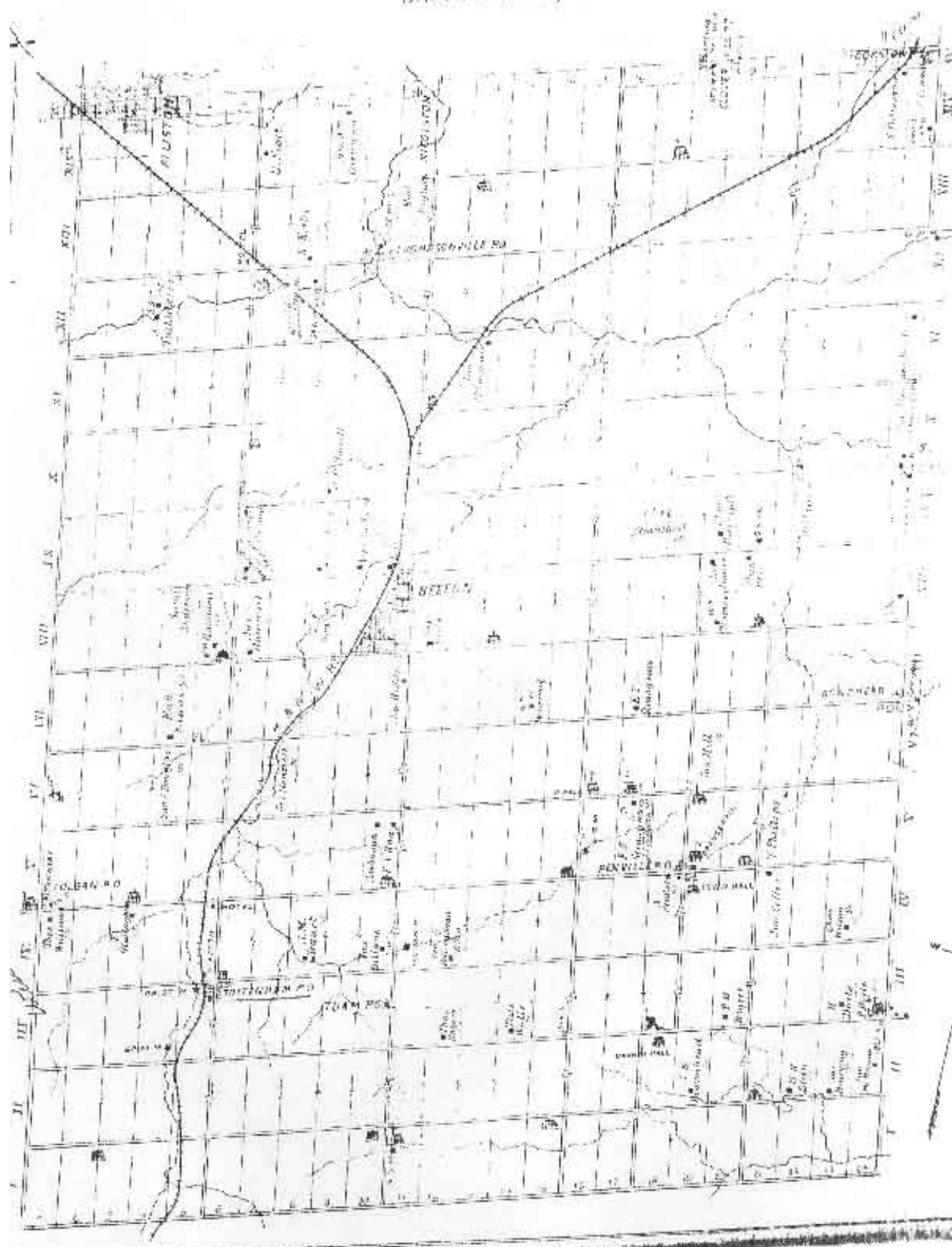


33

TECUMSETH

TOWNSHIP

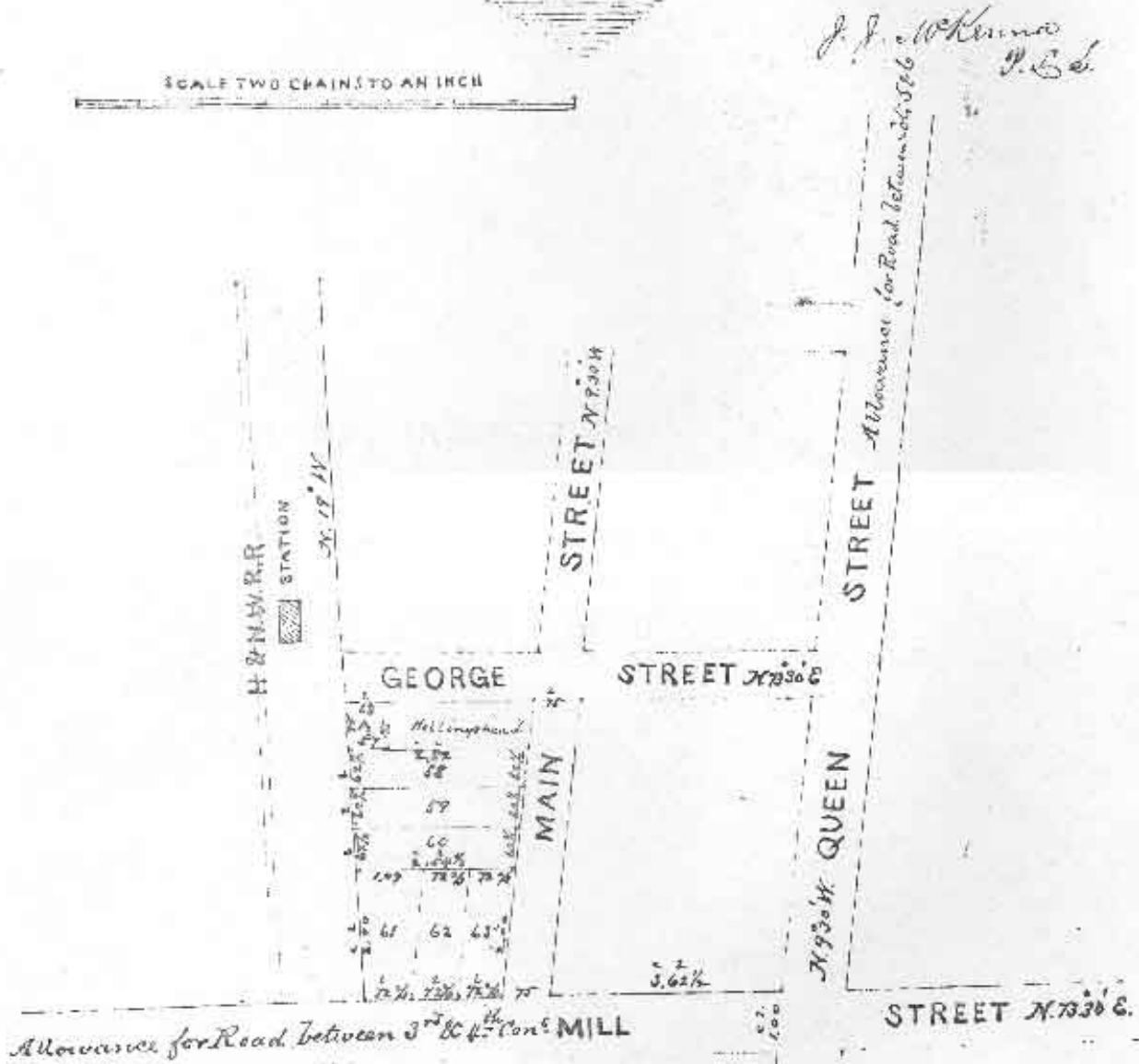
\$4000.00 minimum per load



040

OF PART OF THE VILLAGE OF
TOTTENHAM
 LAID OUT ON LOT NO 6 IN THE 4TH CON^{TS}
 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF TECUMSETH
Surveyed 1882

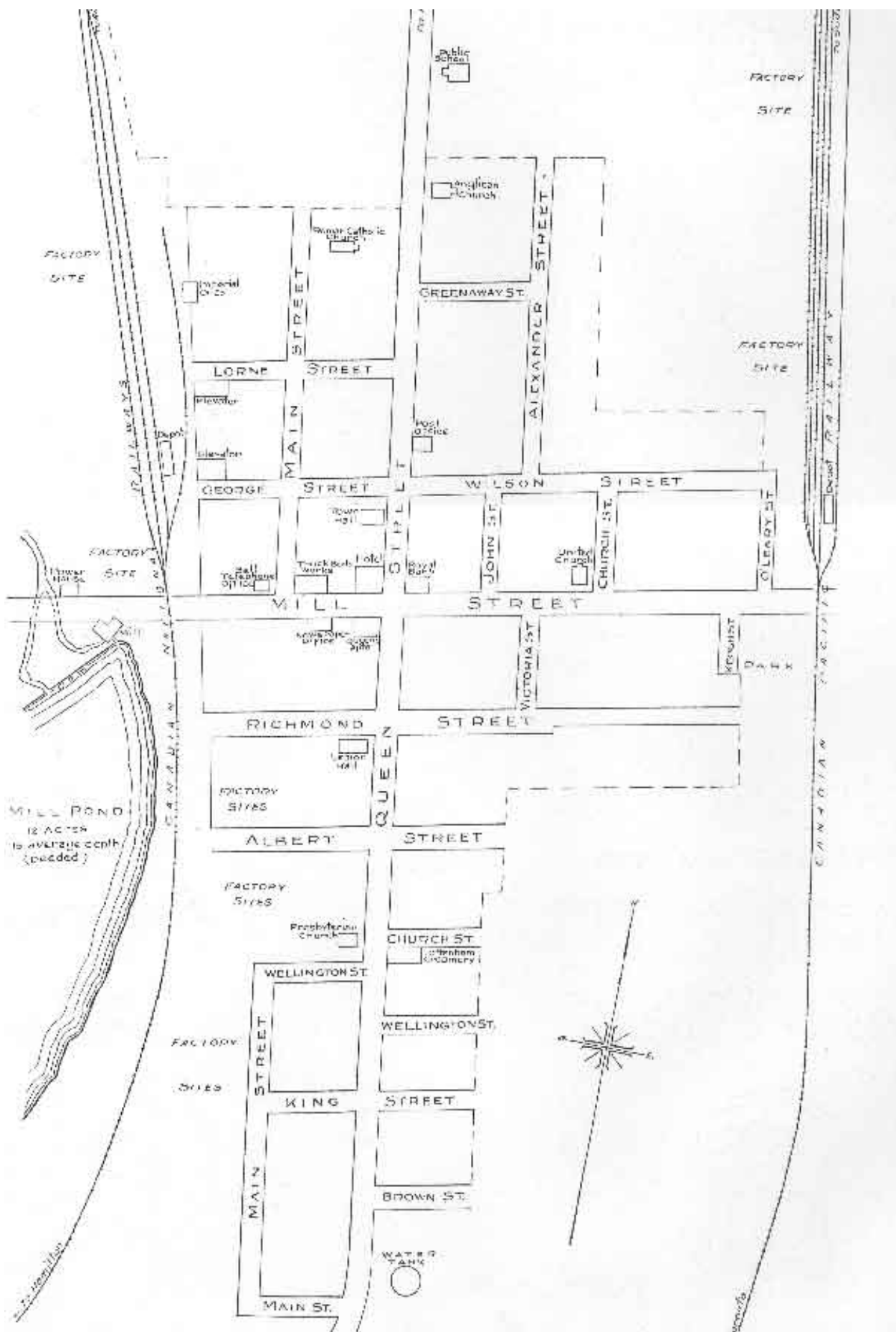
SCALE TWO CHAINS TO AN INCH



This Plan is correct and is prepared under our directions
 and under the provisions of the Registration of
 Titles (Ontario) Act.

J. J. McKenna
C. McKenna
J. J. McKenna
P.E.S.

*I signed and filed in the
 the Registrar for the
 the Registrar for the*





BUY
SCRANTON
COAL
AND BE HAPPY

R. J. BRETT AGENT TOTTENHAM

Tottenham Cheap Store TO THE FRONT

With Stylish Dress Goods, Prints, Muslins, Linens, Art Satteens and
Lace Curtains. Ask to see our Attractive Stock of White Under-
wear, Corset Covers, Night Robes, Frilled Underkirts and
Fancy Handkerchiefs. A Dainty line of Low Shoes in
White Kid, White Canvas and Tan. We lead in
Fancy China, Fine Gift Glassware.

Finest and Freshest
Stock of Groceries in Town

J. D. ELLIOTT

When in Tottenham
Call at
J. M. COURTNEY'S
The up-to-date General Store

CHRISTMAS PRIZE MARKET

The Annual Christmas Prize Market will be held in the Market Hall

TOTTENHAM

FROM 10.00 A. M. TO 4.30 P. M. ON

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1935

PRIZE LIST

Spring Turkey Gobbler

- 1st-\$5.00-Tottenham Creamery
- 2nd-\$4.50-Pegg Bros. Bakery
- 3rd-\$4.00-W. N. Hopper
- 4th-\$3.75-William Hammond
- 5th-\$3.50-Harry Pearcy
- 6th-\$3.50-George Buft
- 7th-\$3.25-Al. Hammer

Geese

- 1st-\$2.50-Charles Magloughlin
- 2nd-\$2.40-Charles Kavanagh
- 3rd-\$2.30-Jas. Simpson & Son
- 4th-\$2.20-Laggett's Store
- 5th-\$2.10-W. J. McLean
- 6th-\$2.00-Mrs. T. Watson
- 7th-\$2.00-Milt Legge
- 8th-\$2.00-Dr. R. C. Wood
- 9th-\$2.00-Charles O'Leary
- 10th-\$1.90-Miss Murdock
- 11th-\$1.90-P. A. McGee
- 12th-\$1.80-Henry Ray
- 13th-\$1.90-Charles Bryan

Pair of Ducks

- 1st-\$2.50-Miss M. Stephenson
- 2nd-\$2.40-Hugh M. Riddell
- 3rd-\$2.30-Mrs. McCormick

Eggs--1 dozen

- 1st-90c-A. P. Worrod
- 2nd-80c-W. J. McLean
- 3rd-70c-Chester Taylor

Northern Spy Apples (Trade marked)

- 1st, \$1.00, R. Delaney
- 2nd, 85c, Miss V. Milligan
- 3rd, 75c, Mrs. T. Watson

SPECIALS

1 PAIR OF FLANNELLETTES BLANKETS, for best Spring Turkey Gobbler, donated by Harry Kiva

1 PAIR OF WOMEN'S MOTOR BOOTS, for 1st prize Turkey Hen, donated by Miner Barber Co., (Harry Rice)

SIX CASH, for best Goose, donated by John Simpson, C.E.M. Bicycle Dealer.

21c. BAG WHITE FEATHER PASTRY FLOUR, for best Pair Ducks, donated by T. J. Milling Co., (Jas. Simpson & Son).

21c. BAG MAGN PASTRY FLOUR, for best Chickens, donated by T. J. Milling Co., (A. P. Worrod).

RULES

Entries to be made to J. J. McKeigh by 12 noon, sharp.

All prizes winning exhibits to become the property of donors.

No prize won up until 10.15 taken off table until 3 p.m.

Food not wanted may be taken from table by the owners after judging.

This Christmas Prize Market is sponsored by business men of Tottenham for the mutual advantage of the whole community.

Spring Turkey Hen

- Grand Champion-\$5.00-Reeve
- 1st-\$4.00-Dr. V. J. Claridge
- 2nd-\$3.50-R. A. Sample
- 3rd-\$3.25-R. J. Walkem
- 4th-\$3.00-R. Delaney
- 5th-\$3.00-F. J. Barran
- 6th-\$2.00-C. Jenkins
- 7th-\$2.80-William Campbell
- 8th-\$2.75-Dr. Male
- 9th-\$2.75-William Smart

Chickens

- 1st-\$2.50-Harry Blum
- 2nd-\$2.00-Dr. R. C. Wood
- 3rd-\$1.95-Joseph Walsh
- 4th-\$1.90-A. P. Worrod
- 5th-\$1.85-Mrs. G. A. Weaver
- 6th-\$1.80-Donald C. Rose
- 7th-\$1.75-H. C. Kent
- 8th-\$1.70-Tim Wilson
- 9th-\$1.65-Mrs. William Taylor
- 10th-\$1.60-Bill Pellegrino
- 11th-\$1.55-Bart Carroll
- 12th-\$1.50-Thomas Macauley
- 13th-\$1.50-H. A. Strangways
- 14th ..
- 15th-\$1.50-Wesley Hammond

Butter--two pounds

- 1st-90c-Miss V. NUNgan
- 2nd-80c-Mrs. Charlebois
- 3rd-75c-Joseph Patton

A number of Buyers will be present to buy any quantity of TURKEYS, GEELSE, DUCKS, CHICKENS and other produce, assuring HIGHEST PRICES for quality produce. Tottenham merchants can supply you with all your Christmas necessities and Christmas Gifts. • THE BOARD OF TRADE

TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY

Tottenham, a village in Tecumseh township, is approximately 50 miles from the city of Toronto. It is a 30-45 minute drive, via three routes - highways 27, 50 and 400. Highway No. 9 links Tottenham to these North-South routes. Tottenham was at one time served by both the U.S.R. and C.P.R. railroads, as well as truck transport facilities. Tottenham has a rural setting surrounded by rolling countryside.

The Conservation Area is directly west of the village and offers opportunity for recreational activities such as swimming (lessons are taught in July and August). On this site is a camping area which many children enjoy. There is also fishing and some beautiful trout have been caught in the spring. Winter activities include tobogganing on the high hills and skating on the frozen pond. On the east side of the village is a good tennis court and a lawn bowling green, and scattered throughout the village are three parks which offer ball parks and playground facilities. On the north of the village is the newly built Community Centre which offers an arena, gymnasium and various meeting rooms. Tottenham has a good water supply and distribution system, sanitary sewage system to the west of the town and, as most towns now, has natural gas, hydro and telephones.

There are excellent schools in the vicinity: the new Tottenham public school, St. James Separate School in Colgan a few miles west, Tecumseh South Central School at the corner of the 5th Concession and Co. 10 Sideland for rural students, and Harting Memorial High School in Alliston - with excellent bus service. Tottenham can boast an excellent volunteer fire protection and rescue squad unit, public library, new post office, medical centre, a good selection of shops and four churches. Two factories are located to the west.

Tecumseh is in Simcoe County, which was named for the first Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, the Honorable John Graves Simcoe, whose term of office from 1791 to 1797 marked the earliest explorations into this territory. The naming of the township close to Tottenham is interesting. Tecumseh was named for the Indian chief of the war of 1812-14. Adjala was named after his wife, and Tiny, Jay and Pica were supposedly named after Lady Simcoe's pet dogs. West Gwillimbury township is east of Tecumseh; Adjala is to the west; Egan is to the north and King and Albion are to the south. Tecumseh appears to have expelled all lesser townships as far as rapid progress is concerned. In 1822, with scarcely a single white man within its borders, its population reached 546 in 1828 (according to Zelenko's Colonial Advocate, Apr. 9th, 1828). In 1836, the population was 1,210; in 1842 it was 2,431; and by 1850 it had reached 3,652.

According to the Historical Sketch in 1861 Atlas, the first settlers located in 1822 and were Robert Martin and G. Williams. In 1824, Fegart located east of Tottenham on Lot 8, Conc. 4. According to the History of Simcoe County, as early as 1828 Mr. Brock, a missionary, held services in Mr. Fegart's house, and about the same time a cemetery was started. In 1825 Hugh Temple, native of Scotland, settled on Lot 7, Conc. 4, and his descendants are still in Tottenham. John Cotton secured a patent for Southwest 1/4 of Lot 8, Conc. 4 in 1825. A member of this man's family started a store on Lot 6, Conc. 2 about 1835 or 1836 (where the Becker's store now stands). Many of these names and families have died out.

Thomas McCoy settled in 1825 on Lot 7, Conc. 1, and his descendants still live in Tottenham. Some of the other early settlers were Egans, Hughes (Lot 6, Conc. 6 & 7), John C. Colgan (Lot 1, Conc. 5) in 1826, Henry Nelson and his wife, of Quaker stock, in 1829 (Lot 23, Conc. 2). Their son, George A. Nelson, was Reeve of Tecumseh for four years, 1870-1873.

Peter Doyle settled on Lot 24, Conc. 3 in 1829. The name Doyle still exists in the Tottenham area. Peter was also a Quaker and rode some of the first wagons in the area. There are other early settlers and their names will appear in family histories.

We have used many sources to acquire the past history of Tottenham. Since there are very few descendants of the pioneers of the village, much history was lost.

In the Excelsior Review, a booklet published in 1907 by the Literary Society, Tottenham school, we found some valuable information. The Society had its beginning in

Cont'd. . .

TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY - Page 2

1889, and owed its origin to the principal of the school at that time, Mr. J. L. Longford. From 1901 to 1902 they held meetings, until the principal at that time, Mr. Elliot, discontinued them. In Sept., 1906, the principal, Mr. White, advised the organization of the Society again. We do not know how long it continues. In this booklet the writer wrote the "Ancient History of Tottenham" - as follows - going back some sixty years to about 1847.

In about 1847 the site of Tottenham occupied the south half of lots 3 and 6 of the fourth concession and the north half of lots 5 and 6 of the third concession of the township of Tecumseh and except for the government road and a few trails, it was covered with dense forest growth.

Business at that time was centered in a log house or a store and a grist mill. The mill - known as Hagon's Mill - was of cedar wood, a half mile downstream, north of the mill now operated by Thompson. It was known in early days as 'Holon's Mill'. A store was opened by Mr. Totten and his brother-in-law, Mr. Hunt. They eventually sold out to a Mr. Ross before 1857, who later sold to Mr. Halliday, and he became first postmaster in 1858.

Tottenham was then given its name. There are different versions of how and why it was called 'Tottenham'. We have been told by a relative that it was called after her great-grandfather, Alexander Totten, who came from county Antrim, Ireland. An elderly citizen says it was named in honour of two patients, one pioneer, William Hagon, who came from Tottenham Court Road, London, England; and Mrs. Tottens.

A few citizens were favoured with a weekly mail service carried from Bradford by a Mr. William Frost. At this time, two pioneers, John & Thomas Sykes, erected a sawmill west of where the present white gate of the pond is now. There was also a woolen and carding mill in this vicinity. The Tison Brothers sold the property that is lot 5 to Mr. Hughes and in 1855, Mr. George Dolan built what was then called the Avoca Mill. Mr. Thompson's house at the end of Mill Street was called the Avoca Villa.

In 1865 other stores were built - one by Mr. J. D. Walker on the south west corner of Queen & Mill Streets where the Royal Bank is now located; another store was built west of that and was operated by Mr. John Wilson. The increasing population in the Community induced a man named Mr. John Collins to build a wagon shop, which in later years was remodelled and converted into the Avoca Hotel. This was a great concern in 1870, when the C.N.R. railroad was being built through Tottenham. J. Sullivan was proprietor around that time and later, it was Mr. M. J. Casserly.

Harness was manufactured about 1872 by a Mr. John Oglio in a frame building, which stood at 15 Mill St. West. In this location in about 1882 the present building was built by Mr. Hughes, and here the Gardwell Centinel was printed until taken over by Mr. Bob Garple in 1910. Across the street on the northwest corner of Mill & Queen, where the Tottenham Inn now stands (it was also known as the Maple Leaf Hotel) was a small log house, property of Mr. Peter Delamare. Mr. E. F. Casserly built the Maple Leaf Hotel in 1886, and later sold it to Mr. Ed Daniels, who was proprietor for many years.

On the north east corner, where the Royal Bank had its quarters for many years before moving to the present new building, was a blacksmith shop owned by Mr. John Greenaway. When the present building was erected it served for many years as drug store, operated by a Mr. Brown, and also in the 1920's by Mr. Chas. Weaver, before he moved over to the Morrow Hotel (on the south west corner, Queen & Mill). The Morrow Hotel, located where the new Royal Bank is now, was also called the Queen's Hotel and was built by Mr. Kild and came from Kildone about 1888. He later sold to the Morrises. Next to Mr. Greenaway's shop was a wagon shop built by Mr. John Austin about 1873, who later sold to Mr. Michael Gillane.

In 1878, when the Hamilton and North Western Railway was surveyed through Adams, difficulties were encountered. The plan was abandoned and the surveyors, acting on the advice of Mr. Nelson, made the route passing through Tottenham. The population increased greatly and people came from Richmondville, Lloydstown and other areas, bringing their business with them.

Cont'd. 11.

TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY - Page 3

A Mr. Banc brought out Mr. Greenway and built the corner houses which in about 1900 were occupied by Brown, Elliot and Garra. Mr. J.D. Taylor sold his property to Mr. Kidd.

The town was incorporated in 1884, with Mr. Nolan as Mayor and Messrs. Potter, Bydie, Sandford and Mr. McKenna as Councillors. Mr. Sommers received a bonus from the town and Fred Reid from Mr. Nolan and started up a foundry on the site now occupied by Walter Brabner's garage. It was in this foundry, in 1895, that a fire started and some 80 buildings were destroyed.

About the same time, Mr. Coleman, the inventor of the Coleman farm box, built his factory. From here the Coleman farm boxes were exported to almost everywhere in all parts of the country. This building in later years served as the Tottenham Greengery. It was demolished at the start of the 1890's and the Tottenham Hall was erected on this site.

After the fire in 1895, which wiped out the south section of the town, new and more up-to-date buildings were erected. In 1891 the population of Tottenham was 530; in 1970, the population was 1,123.

Officers of the Village over the years have been as follows:

Clarks:- G.E. Hughes (1885-1902), John McCabe (1910-1931), F.B. Kough (1872-1977),
D.G. Pease (1932-1943), J.J. Peale (to Aug. 1941), E.H. Newman (Aug. 1941-1946)
S. Palmer (1947-1961), C.W. Black (1962-present time)

Treasurers:- Alexander Totten (1884-1889), E.H. Verney (1896-1902), Sec. Jordan (1911-1921)
James Simpson (1924-1936), W.E. Rogers (1937-1952), J.A. French (1962-1972)
Ian Mallett (1973-present time).

Wards:- Geo. A. Nolan (1885), F.S. Greenway (1885), W.P. Lawton (1887-1891),
W.B. Bydie (1892-1893), W.B. Greenway (1894-1895), James Singer (1896-1896),
Wm. Bramhall (1897-1898), H. Kitchin (1901-1902), A.P. Potter (1911),
F.C. McKnight (1921), E.G. Brandon (1922-1924), F.C. McKnight (1925-1931),
K.B. Brandon (1932-1934), J.D. Livingstone (1935-1939), Wm. J. Wray (1940-1943),
G. Hall (1944), J.H. Pearcy (1945-1948), J.E. McCurdy (1949-1954),
J.P. Balford (1955-1961), F.C. Maclean (1962-1969), R. Hutton (1970-retirement
in Aug. 1973), J.B. Balford (Aug. 1973-present time).

THE VILLAGE OF TOTTERHAM

Before Incorporation of the Village of Tottenham, the following appeared in the Gardwell Sentinel:-

"Aug. 1884 - There are two classes of villagers bent upon to be in a hurry to get incorporated - the thriving village and the one whose population is so fast thinning out that incorporation will soon be desirable. Tottenham claims no standing room in the latter. In the amount of business done and the accommodation afforded the surrounding public, she stands today unrivalled among sister towns far away. The amount of business done at this railway station is unequalled by any place between Hamilton and Barrie. Ask any of 1,500 commercial travellers that perambulate the province from one extremity to the other and they will tell you that no place of even four times its size presents as lively an appearance as Tottenham. There isn't an hour of the day that the stores aren't busy and crowded with customers from surrounding villages delivering their trade at good prices and purchasing goods at reasonable prices. It has become a fact that Tottenham is sure to go ahead; the sooner it is incorporated the better."

The following was taken from the Gardwell Sentinel (published at the corner of Queen & George Streets):-

"May 3, 1884

Incorporation

A meeting of the citizens of Tottenham took place the last of May 1884, in the Casserly's Hotel to take into consideration the advisability of incorporation. Many attended, prominent businessmen and ratepayers. Mr. Potter was called to the chair and G. J. Huron appointed secretary. The financial portion of the report was thoroughly gone into, reports from other incorporated villages examined and a view of the situation taken from every standpoint. After a rigid assay of the pros and cons was made, it was decided that unless incorporation the village could be much better improved with less taxes than are now paid.

Messrs. Potter, Durham, Buchholz, Brown, McKenna, Stone, Kavanagh, Wood, Huron, Abbott, Wells, Huron etc., expressed themselves strongly in favour of incorporation. Indeed the meeting was a unit for that object.

A resolution declaring that the time for incorporating Tottenham had arrived and asking for steps to be taken to secure that object was passed without a dissenting voice and the following gentlemen appointed to call upon ratepayers with petitions: Messrs. Potter, McKenna, Buchholz, Abbott, Lyons, Durham, Wood and Stone with power to add more. The committee reassembled on Tuesday night and reported the village as almost unanimous for incorporation. Out of 400 petitions called upon, only three refused to sign the petition, three of four asking a day or two to consider."

TOTTERHAM - A HISTORY

One following historical moments were taken from old papers, among them the Gardwell Sentinel of Reynoldsville:-

Jan. 19, 1877 - Mr. Austin completed his new store and is carrying on a good business (10 lbs. of sugar @ \$1.00). Mr. Sandford is about to erect his new store. It will be ready for occupation in early spring.

June 26, 1877 - Gardwell Sentinel circulated 866 copies.

March 9, 1877 - The first annual meeting of the Tottenham Trotting Association came off at Nelson's last Saturday. The Society has only been organized a few weeks. President was Bartholomew Childs, a gentleman well known in the sporting field. Secretary is Mr. Austin.

March 23, 1877 - The big discussion now is whether the station will be at Tottenham or Georgian Church (corner 5).

April 6, 1877 - Mr. Ledgerwood advertised for horse and dog races. Mr. Isaac McCarty, teacher at S. S. Sch. 2 held spelling contest. Four attendances due to road conditions. John Greensway opened new carriage factory. Geo. Nelson is about to erect a spacious elevator by the Avoca Mill. John Irwin of Athens is the contractor. Percy Baker - business agent and planing mill north of Roman Catholic church.

Cont'd. . .

- April 12, 1877 - John Kidd purchased a lot and shop in Tottenham.
- May 9, 1877 - Fall wheat sells at \$2.00 a bushel; barley at 78c.
- May 25, 1877 - Knap's broc. opens a new store in Tottenham.
- June 12, 1877 - The Tottenham Railway Station is fixed a little distance south of Shield's. Work (where it was from 1878-1880's).
- Dec. 12, 1877 - The last rail of the N.W. Railway was laid on Saturday.
- Aug. 1, 1877 - (Tottenham News) Noble Greenaway opened a new bakery.
- Aug. 8, 1877 - New store opened by J.H. Austin (General store).
- Sept. 19, 1877 - William Egan has the railway siding nearly completed and will soon be able to ship away his flour as fast as it accumulates. He is purchasing wheat extensively. Mr. Burgess Steele passed away. He spent half a century of years in this neighbourhood.
- Nov. 9, 1877 - The C.N.S. rails were laid as far as Alliston. Howard Kelly of Monmouth died at the age of 80. He was born in Ireland in 1798 and came to Canada 1822. Noble Greenaway's house was broken into and \$40. taken.
- December 1877 - Wheat's price was \$3.50. Wheat was \$1.26 a bushel. Broad was 12c per bushel.
- Dec. 20, 1877 - Mr. McLaughlin was buying wheat in Tottenham. E. Lodge-wood sold stoves, straw cutters, and was agent for Apple harvesting machines.
- Dec. 29, 1877 - Mr. Laverock was here. D. Kern was harness maker on Queen St. W.J. Varsity, undertaker, sold there and as well. He had monuments in granite or marble. F. Agnew manufactured harnesses and saddles. S.B. Eakley had a General Store in the Bond Block. E. Sydie had a harness Emporium. S.J. Lyons sold dry goods and groceries. Some of his prices: currants, 15 lbs. for \$1; raisins, 25 lbs. for \$1; 5 lbs. tea for \$1; 10 bars soap for \$1. He also sold boots and shoes. J.H. Chapman's jewelry store featured a \$10. special on watches. J.H. Bond kept the Palace Drug Store.
- Jan. 1, 1878 - First public meeting of the Library and Music Association was held in Mr. O'Brien's Hall (now Becker's store) and was a great success. Mr. Casserly's house, Mr. Morrison's store and Mr. Nolan's elevator are about completed. Noble Greenaway opened an eye for saloon; business is brisk. Mr. Gordon of the Post Office is away on a trip.
- Feb. 5, 1878 - Fares from Toronto to Tottenham, \$1.40. Vice-versa, \$1.60.
- Apr. 12, 1878 - John Greenaway died suddenly. Progress is the order of the day. Our wooden sidewalks will be completed in a few days. The Woodwards are about to erect a large Concert Hall, 60'x84'. (This stood in approx. the same location as the apartment Bldg. at 20 Green South, just south of the Holy Cross Church.) The same and their factory is burning away full time. Bart Childs has opened a flat market in connection with the meat market and ice house.
- Apr. 22, 1878 - W.H. Sanford hosted a grand opening of a new Military Storehouse - hats, guns, uniforms and features are for sale.
- May 15, 1878 - An auction sale was held for the estate of the late John Greenaway, comprising of extensive stock of blacksmith and wagonmakers tools, new wagons and buggies, and the lease and sale of several lots and houses.
- May 16, 1878 - The Avoca Hotel (111 St. West, a frame building), with Mr. K.J. Casserly as proprietor, boasted a good supply of liquors, wines and cigars.
- July 31, 1878 - Pavers. Rumors forestry will be in full operation. Prices in shape: 2 pairs of overalls for \$1.
- Aug. 14, 1878 - Tottenham Laundry has proved to be a great boon to the community, saving many long trips for machine repairs.
- Sept. 25, 1878 - Meeting of the Agriculture Society at Mr. O'Brien's Hall. J.H. Morris and F.J. Carmichael are anxious to buy grain. Tottenham Dramatic Club held its first entertainment on Oct. 14, 1878.
- Nov. 7, 1878 - Newmarket population is 2,081. St. Yonvieve is in state of excitement. A great amount of damage was done by floods in Southern France.

THE VILLAGES OF TOTTENHAM - Page 7

- Nov. 24, 1879 - H.C. O'Brien was offered \$9,500 for his hotel by T. Curline of Bolton.
- Nov. 26, 1879 - Thos. Curline of Bolton purchased a lot from Mr. Shide de, adjoining the C.N.R. Station, for the purpose of building a hotel.
- Nov. 27, 1879 - The thermometer read 13° below 0 on Monday morning. Tottenham is getting together a brass band.
- Jan. 15, 1879 - Allington votes down fire protection.
- Jan. 22, 1879 - Goulton ring is a big success.
- Feb. 12, 1879 - An ad read as follows: "Proprietor of Tottenham House, W.J. O'Brien, hotel accommodation, a ride to every train." Thos. Egan has purchased the grist mill from his brother William.
- Apr. 24, 1879 - A tornado passed over Waterloo, blowing down 43 buildings and killing 18 people.
- June 5, 1879 - Colgan opened a post office, with Mr. Theo. Colgan as postmaster.
- Feb. 1879 - Dr. Sturgeswaye has taken up residence in Tottenham.
- 1882 - Jas. Riddell ran a shoe store on Mill St. East. Proprietor of the Arcade Hotel was Mr. James E. Morrow. P. Fay-coughlin was a tailor in a shop 1 door west of the Post Office on Mill St. West.
- W.B. Fuller & Co., Bankers, with H. Drew as manager, sold out to Mr. Washin. Their headquarters were in a small building near C.N.R. tracks. The Bank of Hamilton opened a branch and failed; Mr. Atkins remained and opened a private bank, but eventually moved out. A private bank by G.B. had no failed also. Then the Federal Bank started up, with a location elsewhere before moving into the building on Mill St. East.
- Martin Bakery featured 10¢ loaf 15¢ lb., sausage 2 lbs 10¢ andysters that were always fresh. G.B. Quinn, Queen North, offered steak at 10¢ lb. and venison at 8-10¢ lb.
- Nov. 23, 1883 - There were no students in the school; the old mill house in front does not present an artistic appearance.
- Sept. 2, 1883 - There was one teacher in the school and 90 pupils.
- Sept. 6, 1883 - Work on the new bank building has commenced. It is to be built along the plan of a bank in Windsor, and is located on Mill St. East. The northwest angle of the village is monopolizing all the better class of structures.
- Aug. 11, 1886 - Sam Kavanagh obtained the contract to build the English chapel at the union of \$3,060.
- Sept. 15, 1886 - The brick work of Cassels and Rich buildings was finished last week. Two teachers in Tottenham 1885-87 were Mr. G.M. Robinson and Miss M.A. Brown.
- May 15, 1884 - Many burglaries were taking place. The Methodist Church was broken into, not nothing was taken. Mr. Alex Potter's house was also broken into, and most, better etc. was stolen. J.M. Dapredo, barber, is getting a nice place around his premises at George Street. In 1884, Tottenham is going ahead. Mr. F.B. Bond was offered \$2,300 for a building lot of less than a quarter of an acre. Porters opened a millinery store Apr. 27, 1884.
- In 1885 there was a meeting of the Ladies Aid of the Methodist Church. The speakers were the following reverend gentlemen: Savage, Sir, Hozell, Walter MacLennan, Millican and Garsbell. There was grand music by the choir.
- They believed in large families in the 30's. A report of a woman in Tottenham at the residence of Mr. J.A. Brown stated that there were present seven daughters, the youngest being thirty-four and the oldest, sixty-one; also three sons, the youngest being forty and the oldest, fifty-one. Mrs. Brown, wife and family at ninety-one is grandmother and great-grandmother to ninety-one descendants!
- Good butter sold for ten cents and 12½ cents per lb. in 1885.
- In May 1886, the Annual Spring Show of the Tottenham Independent Agriculture Society was held, with 27 horses and a few bulls shown.

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On Thursday, Feb. 11, 1886, fire destroyed the Trency House and ten store occupied by Brown Bros. and 3000, general dry goods. The building was owned by John Kidd of Ash-tons and was insured for \$3,500. Mr. Richards Trency, who occupied the hotel, was not covered and loses about 11500. Brown Bros.' loss is about 16,000, and is covered. Mr. Kidd is replacing the building with a structure three stories high and extending around the corner. (Southwest corner of Queen & Mill Sts.). Brown Bros. leased the hotel block. Mr. Kidd has 130,000 bricks at the site for the new building. There was a lengthy incursion into this and other fires as usual was expected. *H. W. corner of Mill and Queen.*

In 1886 Tottenham had eight general stores, four druggists, several grocery stores and butcher shops, and a book store. Mr. Atkinson purchased the Colman property for \$5,275, and is offering it for sale after dividing it into ten lots.

On Nov. 13, 1886, the corner stone was laid for the new English Church by Rev. T. Hall. In 1886 taxes were 22¢ on the dollar. In 1886, monthly fairs were held in Tottenham, with stock and feed etc. offered for sale.

Shares were offered at \$10. each for the purchase of a park. About 11500. has already been subscribed. Officials in charge of the project are: President - Geo. Segart, Vice-President - W.R. Carmichael, Treasurer - Dr. McEwen, Secretary - W.J. Gannaway.

There was a band in Tottenham. New involvements arrived in March of 1887. In April 1887, the I.O.O.F. held its 58th anniversary by having open lodge and a lunch.

Jan. 1888 - Decision to leave old St. James Church standing - to be used for a convalescent hall. W. C. A. Panjoy purchased the photo gallery in Tottenham.

Jan. 14, 1888 - Richard Palmer died, age 82.

Feb. 13, 1888 - A. Gallagher & Son opened a business in the place lately occupied as a billiard room, one door east of the Burs of Hamilton, opposite Morrow Hotel.

Mar. 23, 1888 - Two new stores are opening on Queen St. North - Messrs. Russell & Farmer, and J. C. Dutton. Tottenham has now general stores Messrs. Allison, Seaton and Song, each put together.

May 3, 1888 - Latest spring in 26 years - the 'ice' is still on the pond.

June 7, 1888 - Tottenham will have telephone communication in a couple of weeks. Greenings were built opposite Roman Catholic and Wesleyan churches, opposite the Post Office and across Mill Street.

1888 - The south end of Tottenham was in the shade for many years, but 1898 sees it now picking up. Half a dozen magnificent houses are being built.

July 1888 - Dr. Campbell's new house and office is almost ready to be bricked. The brick work on Dr. John Lowery's and Mr. John Wilson's houses has been completed. Mr. McCab's four story dwelling is ready for cricking (now owned by Hamilton).

July 1888 - Return fare by train to Winnipeg \$25.00. Agent is J. C. Colbreth. A large number of buildings were erected in town this season.

Aug. 26, 1888 - The Coleman fare-box company is running at full blast. Mr. John Lowery moved into his new house Aug. 1888. Mr. Monte Graham finished painting the house. South end people expect to have new sidewalks, the lumber buying just arrived.

Sept. 1888 - Mr. J. Coleman left for Quebec in interest of the Coleman Farebox Company. Sept. 15 saw a number of citizens from Tottenham leaving by bicycle for the Toronto exhibition.

Aug. 1888 - In the latter part of August 1888 a tornado storm of wind and rain passed, accompanied by hail - part of a section doing a great deal of damage. It travelled in a south-easterly direction, taking in the villages of Ashland, Avonmoreville, Tottenham and Colgan. Distances were the size of plans. Nearly all the windows in Kidd's store on Ashland were demolished, also nearly all the windows of W. B. Brown's in Avonmoreville, together with many private dwellings. Many windows were damaged in the Methodist Church. The village of Oshawa was hard hit. Five large stained glass windows were completely destroyed, as were the windows of nearly every house in the village.

Oct. 25, 1888 - Mr. Reed was paid for street and hall lighting.

Oct. 1888 - The Coleman Farebox Company are forming a company in New York with a capital of \$20,000. to further the business on the American side. The druggist from Maple Leaf Hotel to Queen's Hotel shows poor workmanship.

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THE VILLAGE OF TOTTENHAM - Page 5

Jan. 5, 1905 - A new safe of large capacity was installed in the local branch of the Industrial Bank.

Jan. 6, 1905 - The following businesses were in existence in Tottenham:- Jordan's General Store; Tottenham Poultry run by G.L. Harper, Queen St. South; W.J. Vernon's furniture shop; Brown & Co., Druggists; Golding & Co., Druggists, Union Block; Chas. Worrod; Wm. Reptitor on the corner of Green and Richmond Sts; Tailor, A.D. Peran; John Anderson, Contractor; Wm. H.A. Hookin, J. Campbell, Wright; Veterinary Surgeon, Dr. Annes; E.L. Gasser & Stationery; E.W. Abbott, Insurance Agent; Syd Walker, Contractor & Carpenter; Mr. Steen; Kabong Harris agent; Manager of Eastern Bank, Geo. Widdy. A new shoe store was opened in Colgan in Feb. 1905, by W. Elliot. On Feb. 2, Mr. J. McGuire purchased the Agar Farm Lot 2, Cons. 12.

Nov. 1904 - Butter was selling for 37s 12., eggs for 55s, chickens at 21-38s, turkeys at 25-30s.

1905 - Mr. F.C. White was school principal.

March 5, 1905 - At approx. 9:20 a slight earthquake was felt. Glasses broke, dishes rattled. Some reported that the food came down off their plates.

1907 - Monday Jan. 5, 1907, a hockey game between Tottenham and Beeton was played, with Tottenham winning 7 to 1.

J.J. McViglit was elected Reeve. Miss Victoria Milligan held a seat as Councillor along with W.J. McLean, P.M. Leach, Peter Dodgny and Harold Strangways. A few years ago the village elected Mrs. J.H. Williams as the first women councilor of the county. The school trustees are A.E. Worrod, George Hall and G.A. Weaver.

March 1907 - Mr. Alex. Hagison advertised that he had completed the alterations to his mill and was open for business.

A "Worship" evening was held in the United Church. Rev. W.A. Beveridge spoke on Tongues, Miss Jean Arnold of Cookstown and Miss Mary Henderson gave readings. At the Sunday service the quartette sang, made up of the following gentlemen: S.J. Napier, G.A. Weaver, Dr. Glanridge and Dr. Wood.

1918 - Monday, Jan. 16, the women's Institute held a large meeting, with Mrs. Pace in charge of girls' work. Mrs. E. McJury gave an illustrated talk on "Citizenship".

Meeting of the women's Institute was held in the Council Chamber with Mrs. Watson in the chair. Mrs. Wallace McGarity gave a demonstration of glove making. A request for any old picture scraps of old landmarks in Tottenham to be used in compiling a history of Tottenham. Dr. Stewart Rogers is taking post-graduate work in Middlesex Hospital, London, England. One hundred people are taking this course. (Dr. Rogers was later appointed chief medical officer at Air Force Station in Halton.)

The Public School Choir won the silver cup at the festival. Cup was donated by the Honorable J.B. Simpson, Minister of Education. The cup was presented to the school by Mrs. Stewart of Thornton, the District President of South Simcoe, with Mrs. E. Wood and Miss V. Williams.

1932 - Sewers were installed in the Village.

1934 - The main street of the Village - Queen Street - was paved.

1934 - The dam was destroyed by "Hurricane Hazel".

1951-5 - Farm land in the Village was purchased for future development.

1965 - The Abrams farm was purchased for the Conservation Area.

1965 - The property on the southwest corner of the main intersection - Green & 71st Sts - was purchased by Clifford Rogers, and later sold to Patterson Development Ltd. Situated on the property was the old Queen's Hotel, which was demolished, and in 1973 the "Rogers Building" was completed. At the opening "The Tottenham News" was moved behind the corner store.

1966 - The farm on the 3rd lot 4, Cons. 4 Tecumseh, adjoining Tottenham was purchased by the developer for a sewage disposal plant. Forty acres of this was later deeded to the Village at cost and two lagoons were put in at that time. In 1971 two additional lagoons were built and paid for by the Developer, at no cost to the Municipality.

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THE VILLAGE OF TOTTERHAM - Page 6

1968 - The first subdivision was completed. Up until that time there was a population of approx. 750 residents.

1969 - New industry started to come to the Village:-

- 1969 - Sawware Industries
- 1970 - Texton Industries Ltd.
- 1971 - Petroleum

1971 - The store on the southeast corner of the main intersection - Queen & Mill Sts. - was purchased by Clifford Rogers. (This store had been boarded up for about 15 years). In 1971 it was renovated and leased to "Bickers". The building was later sold.

1970 - Totterham had its own newspaper once more - "The Totterham News". In 1969 Mr. Mann, the editor, rented the Pipping's point shop on Mill St. West, but due to mechanical problems the paper was not published until April 1970. In March 1972 they moved to their new building on Queen Street South. In 1972 the paper was purchased by John Hamilton.

1961 - A firebomb was tossed by Lloyd Lowell.

1971 - A drug store was opened by Pat McHale. The village had been without a drug store since the death of the previous druggist William Campbell in 1965.

1972 - A new school was built and the old public school was renovated to house the medical centre for a couple of years, until the centre moved to Queen St. South.

1973 ²³ A new Post Office was built. In 1974 it was demolished to erect a larger one, also on the same property.

1973 - A new Fire Hall was erected on Mill Street N. This is a Volunteer Fire Dept., and has an exceptionally high rating; the store has been Fire Chief for 17 years.

1974 - The old Municipal building was renovated (this building had previously housed the Fire Dept.). The new quarters also include a Public Library.

1974 - The Shopping Mall was opened on the site of the former Totterham Creamery.

1977 - The Totterham and District Community Centre was built and officially opened.

TOTTENHAM BECOMES A VILLAGE - 1884

BY-LAW No. 378

By-Law separating the Village of Tottenham, in the Township of Tecumseth, in the County of Simcoe, from the Corporation of the Township of Tecumseth, and forming it into a separate corporation under the style and title of "The Corporation of the Village of Tottenham".

WHEREAS, over one hundred resident Freeholders and Household-ers of whom more than one half are Freeholders of the unincorporated village of Tottenham, in the Township of Tecumseth, in the County of Simcoe have petitioned the Council of the County of Simcoe to separate the said village from the Township of Tecumseth and erect it into an incorporated village.

AND WHEREAS, under the direction of the County Council a census has been taken by John Thomas Smyth, Esq., of the number of inhabitants contained within the limits which are described and provided to be erected into an incorporated village, and by such census it is shown that the said limits contain seven hundred and ninety two inhabitants.

BE IT THEREFORE ENACTED by the Council of the Corporation of the County of Simcoe, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,

1. That the following limits shall comprise the Village of Tottenham that is to say, north halves of five and six in the third concession of the Township of Tecumseth, containing 200 acres; south halves of lots five and six in the fourth concession Township of Tecumseth, containing 200 acres and containing in all not more than four hundred acres; and that the same shall be and is hereby erected into an incorporated village under the name of the Village of Tottenham.
2. IT IS FURTHER ENACTED, by the authority aforesaid, that the first municipal election for the said village shall be held in the Granger's Hall in the said Village, and that George P. Hughes, Esq. shall be and is hereby appointed returning officer for holding the same.

THAT this By-Law take effect immediately after the passing thereof.

Council Hall, Barrie,)
18th June, 1884.)

R. T. Harting,)
Co. Clerk) (Signed).

DAVID DUNN,
Warden, (LS

TOTTENHAM'S FIRE
1895

Rough Estimate of the Losses and Insurance -- Many Places Uninsured.

Tottenham, Ont., June 19, 1895.-- The following is a rough estimate of the loss at yesterday's fire here: -

John Anderson, contents, \$700, insurance \$500; Frank Wright, house \$500; William Anderson, contents \$200, no insurance; Eliza Austin, three dwellings and contents, \$1,500, insurance \$1,200; J. C. Anderson, blacksmith shop and contents, \$500, no insurance; Eliza O'Brien, woodshed, \$50, no insurance; Frank Trawley, house, blacksmith shop and contents, \$2000, insurance \$1000; J. M. Lyons' barns, two shops, bakery, \$2000, insurance \$1,500; M. J. Cassarty, barber and shoe shops, \$400, insurance \$280; Peter Doyle, house and contents \$600, no insurance; B. Fanning, house \$600, insurance \$550; Angus Gunn, contents \$500, no insurance; D. H. Vincent, house \$600; fully insured; P. Garrity, house \$1,000, besides \$600 in promissory notes, no insurance; T. M. Greenaway, barn and contents, \$1,000, insurance \$750; Walter Potter, house \$800, insured; John Hay, contents \$200, no insurance; W. Henry, house \$800, insured; G. P. Hughes, livery stable \$400, insurance \$300; Mrs. Scott, house \$1,000, insurance \$1,000; George Gordon, loss on wagon shop and incidentals \$2,000; William Long, house \$700, insurance \$500; H. Ledgerwood, house, \$700, insurance \$500; Margaret Logan, house \$700, insurance \$500; Mrs. Lowery, house \$700, no insurance; D. McKinney, contents \$1,000, no insurance; J. A. Mercer, house, shop and contents \$2,000, insurance \$1,000; W. J. McDermott, house and contents \$700, insured; Sarah McDermott, house and contents, \$900, insurance \$500; Thomas Moffatt, house \$400, no insurance; Methodist Church \$6,000, insurance \$4,000; Newbury estate, house and outbuildings, \$1,200, insured; Eliza Mitchell, house \$250; James Preston, house \$800, insurance \$600; William Ratter, two stores and two dwellings, contents insured for \$5,000; Ira Phillips, house \$500; H. Stone, house \$900, insurance \$700; W. H. Sanford, shop and house \$2,000, insurance \$1,000; Ellen Austin, house \$700; J. A. Gregory, house \$500; T. J. Turner, new house, no insurance, loss on store about \$200, insured; W. J. Turner, loss on stock \$500, no insurance; Alex. Totten, house and contents \$2,500, insurance \$2,000; Mrs. Wilson, house \$300, no insurance; Margaret Woods, house \$800, no insurance; L. G. Wolfe, loss unknown, but very heavy; Thomas Dale, house \$600; L. E. Williams, house and contents, insurance \$1,500; G. M. Robinson, contents insured for \$500; Legart and Lyons, horse-power and clover mill \$600, no insurance; Robert Sanderson, steamer \$1,000, no insurance.



TALES OF TOTTENHAM

The following is an excerpt from "The Canadian Farmer", printed several years ago and carefully preserved by Miss O. Totten:

TALES OF TOTTENHAM

Some little time ago one of the busy brains in South Simcoe district thought it would be a capital idea if each institute were to gather up not only its own early history but the history of the countryside in which it had been formed. Tottenham was one of the first to respond and the members of the institute had no more enthusiastic helper in the search for the historical than the Rev. W. J. Totten, a retired Methodist minister, who is past his eightieth year.

Naming the Village

Probably about the year 1825 a Mrs. Totten and her six fatherless children - three boys and three girls - came from Ireland and settled for a time in the township of Toronto, a few miles north of Cookville, and being industrious and careful, they prospered from the first.

After a time, hearing that land was to be had at very reasonable rates in the township of Tecumseh, the eldest son, John made his way there buying 100 acres - the north part of Lot VI in the third concession - of which two and a half acres were cleared.

On April 15th, 1832, John and his wife, formerly Mary Wright, a sister of George Wright of Brampton, (afterwards a member of Parliament) and John's young brother, Alexander, arrived at his new home in Tecumseh.

When Alexander came of age he got possession of the farm (John Totten and his wife going back to their farm in Toronto township) and remained there till his death in 1898. In 1840 Alexander took as his bride, Isabella Willoughby of Newton Robinson, a daughter of John Willoughby, who died at a ripe age in Lefroy, at the home of a son-in-law, Mr. William Goodfellow.

Early Postal Facilities

Mr. Totten recalled one of the first post-offices in the district - Lloydtown - part of which was bought recently by Mr. William Bouke, of Tottenham, and made over into a garage. Later, Mr. Totten says, a post office called Hart's was opened on the town line, probably only a mile south of Colgan, on the Adjala side, in Mr. Hart's house.

At that time, what is now Tottenham was a house occupied by Peter DeLamare, and a log shop, standing just about where Mrs. Sanford is now living. A log blacksmith shop was the next move towards urban life and it was set up where Mr. Weaver is now located. John Greenaway, who in 1850 married a daughter of Alexander Totten, was owner and smithy and the ringing of the hammer on his anvil was music to the ears of those who were breaking into the wilderness of the new world.

As the settlement now had a general store, a blacksmith shop and a log house, and could boast that high and eminent respectability, a retired resident, it began to feel that it had some claim on Parliament and set upon an agitation for a post office, approaching Mr. T. K. Ferguson of Cookstown, then the member of South Simcoe, on the subject. Happily for the petitioners the Fergusons and the Willoughbys claimed some kind of cousinship, whether it was because both families came from the same part of Ireland or not was never quite clear, but whatever was the basis "Mr. and Mrs. Totten worked the cousinship idea for all it was worth," to quote their ministerial descendant, and the order for a post office was secured.

A meeting of the community was held at the log store, discussing among other matters, the name of the new post office, matter left by the government to the taste of the inhabitants.

"Make it Tyrone," said Alexander Totten, loyal to the county of his birth "the Black North," but one office had already bore the name of the famous Irish county and it had to be abandoned.

At this juncture up rose Nicholas Egan of the third line, just west of the place where the G.T.R. now crosses it, the owner of a mill as well as a farm.

"There's a place in Ireland named Tottenham", said he, "and besides with all that Alex Totten has done for all that have sought his aid and for the help he has been to the community, I think it but right we should give the place that much of his name."

"Right you are, Nicholas Egan," said the meeting and the name was sent on to the postal department, "and still continues," says an Institute worker, "and will stand, as far as we can see, through the last courses of the sun."



STILL A LAWN BOWLER'S PARADISE -- SOON TROUT FISHERMAN'S HEAVEN

KIDS ARE HAPPY TO HAVE THEIR POND BACK

By Peter Ward

(An excerpt from The Toronto Telegram, dated Saturday, April 19, 1958)

Nobody's caught a good-sized trout here since the fall of 1954, when a windy old gal called Hazel swept in, blew out the dam, and whistled off with well over her legal limit in one night - hundreds of king-sized speckles. But this year the trout fishing will be back.

It cost the villagers more than \$10,000 to rebuild the dam the hurricane demolished, and it took them four years to do it.

Every day the water level in the pond rises a little. Soon there'll be 24 acres of bottom land covered and the Department of Lands and Forests will stock the pond with fingerlings.

Next year they'll be rip-roarin' game fish and Tottenham's trout fishermen will be happy again.

The youngsters will be happy, too, because they'll have the biggest swimming hole any community could ever want.

SAFER SWIMMING

The dam reconstruction included a project to make swimming safer and more fun than ever before. Simcoe County's Red Cross will be running swimming and water safety classes at the pond this summer.

Egan's Creek, which feeds the pond, is just a trickle of water. You could jump across it dry shod easily in the summer. But the dam that Hurricane Hazel destroyed was 100 years old and Tottenham folk loved their pond. The four years without it were awful for the kids. They fished it and swam in it during summer, then skated on it in winter. Now that it's back, they're a happy bunch.

Plans for the pond include a park, changing houses, and a landscaped picnic area. Reeve Joe Belford said the village still needs more than \$1,000 dollars to finish the project. The money they've already spent was raised through donations, raffles, and sales conducted through the town's churches and service clubs.

Looking across the Dam from the Waist Gate
The Mill, Electric Light plant, Abbots
Elevator, School, and part of Town.
Tottenham Old Pond.



FOUR CUPS LAST YEAR

Tottenham has been known for years as a trout fisherman's heaven, but it's also a lawn bowler's paradise.

There are only 746 people living here, but there are two bowling greens, and never a year goes by without a local bowling team winning at least one cup. Their claim is that they've won more trophies per capita than any other Ontario community. One of the local ladies, Mrs Alton Anderson, carried away four cups last year and was elected president of the Ontario Ladies' Lawn Bowling Association. Already the bowlers are getting their greens in shape for another busy season.

3



Mill St. Tottenham looking East.
Foucar, Laverock Stores, And
Laverock House & Post Office.

Tottenham's first settler was Alexander Totten who came here in 1832 with his brother John. They were two of six fatherless Irish children who immigrated with their mother from Tyrone.

Local farmers decided to name their community after Alexander Totten when the government located a post office there. Tottenham was incorporated shortly after the first railroad went through in 1885. There are two railroad lines into the village now, both CPR and CNR.

In the past five years quite a friendship has grown up between Tottenham, England, and Tottenham, Ontario. Mrs. Anderson struck up a friendship with members of the famous Tottenham Hotspurs football team on a visit overseas. In England, in Tottenham's Lord Mayor's office, hangs a silver tray presented to him by his municipality's Canadian namesake. When the Hotspurs visited Canada recently the village turned out almost en masse to go to Toronto and form a cheering squad.

"If we'd had a football field here, I'm sure they would have come here to play," said Mrs. Anderson.

Reeve Belford was treated like visiting royalty by Tottenham, England, officials when he and his wife holidayed overseas last year. He said he hoped Tottenham, the Ontario one, was on the brink of terrific growth. A village plan is now on file with the Provincial Government and as soon as it's been approved industrial expansion can get started.

A Toronto realtor owns 100 acres of the village, and he's planning to promote industrial and housing development.

"If it goes through, we should really boom," said Reeve Belford.

But no matter how big Tottenham's boom becomes, chances are there'll still be "gone fishin'" and "gone bowlin'" signs on the main street stores every summer afternoon on Wednesdays.



HANDS ACROSS THE SEA AGAIN - Apr. 23, 1964

A great honour was bestowed on our Reeve, Fred McLean of Tottenham, Ont. The Dovercourt Citadel Band held their Tri-Festival at Massey Hall in Toronto. The Tottenham Citadel Band from Tottenham, England conducted by James Williams were Present. The Reeve, Fred McLean presented Mr. Williams with a scroll of greetings and welcome. Then Mr. Williams presented Mr. McLean with a special letter from the Mayor of Tottenham, England. They compared notes on the number of residents in their towns. This caused quite a hilarious moment; Tottenham, Ont. quoted its population at 800, while Mr. Williams stated that their population was over 3,000; quite a difference, I must say.

TOTTENHAM - Past and Present

Submitted by Tim Wilson

"O happy Tottenham! A child might trace
The marks of progress in your youthful face;
And e'er another twelve month rolls its course
You'll have the narrow gauge and iron horse.
Then Tottenham will grow on every side
The home of merchants and the poet's pride."

(excerpt from "Tottenham" by John G. Colgan)

In the 20's and 30's Tottenham presented a far different face than it did to John Colgan in 1873, but even more so, now in 1973. You may have to search a long way into your memories to recall the appearances and names of businesses that flourished 40 to 50 years ago.

Tim Wilson recalls the days when Tottenham boomed. In the early days of this century the C.P.R. main line from Toronto to Vancouver went through Tottenham with passenger, freight and express service twice daily as well as the C.N.R. from Hamilton to Meaford, with agents J. Galbrith, George Williamson, Carl Harvey, W. J. Coulter and W. H. Roy.

Where the Tottenham Creamery formerly stood there was originally the Coleman Fare Box Factory which manufactured fare boxes for the street cars of Canada. Joe Coleman who operated the business for a lifetime, sold out to an American firm which made 'pay-as-you-enter' boxes, and the business, like so many other small town factories, moved to Tottenham.

Perhaps some will remember the Queen St. business section. The drug store operated by Al Brown and Charles Weaver is now the Royal Bank; what is now C. Rogers or Tottenham Developments was, at one time, the original Royal Bank. Rene's Hairdressing and Boutique was formerly the Barber and Hairdressing shop of Tim Wilson, and before that Golding's Fancy Goods and Millinery.

TOTTENHAM - PAST AND PRESENT

- from The Tottenham News, March 7, 1973

"Of all the happy hamlets here below,
Where peace and plenty in abundance flow,
None can compare with famous Tottenham,
So free from canting bigotry and sham.
No raving bigot sows his hellish seed
To foster strife or mock his neighbour's creed;
But Christian feeling fills each manly breast
Who pays the preacher or obeys the priest;
No drunken loafers sponge around the street
With bloated visage, gaping for a treat.
But decent neighbours take a social dram
When business calls them down to Tottenham.
Some stop at Martin's, others at O'Briens;
Both houses keep the best imported wines,
And bottled brandy labelled double X."

- John Colgan, from "Tottenham", 1873

When Tottenham was incorporated as a village in 1884, there were four churches: Anglican, Catholic, Methodist and Presbyterian, and as Tim Wilson recalls, "We have always had four churches in our village: St. Francis', Fraser Presbyterian, United and Anglican. I cannot forget some of the clergy: Rev. R. P. Woods, Rev. F. O'Reilly, Rev. W. D. McQuaig, Rev. Cranston, Rev. McFall, Rev. Beveridge, Rev. George Purchase, Rev. Cook, Rev. Gracia and several others."

The town also had two hotels with good room and dining service. The Queens, operated a lifetime by Sarah Morrow, saw several changes — apartments, a drug store, a bank, a doctor's office, a car sales room and a dancing hall. The Maple Leaf, now known as the Tottenham Inn, remembers these names from the past: Ed Donald, Jim Burke, Mike McDermott, M. J. Casserly, William Elliott, and W. J. Enigh.

In recreation too, the village had much to offer. There were several good skating rinks, the Mill Pond and two on Richmond Street. A Community Park on the old school grounds saw many people take a keen interest in skating and hockey. The horsemen even held race meets on the Pond: Harold Anderson, Jack Walsh, Mercer Hamilton, Pete Walsh, Frank Sheppard, Frank Noble, Mike Kearns, Dr. R. C. Wood, Frank Higgs, Dr. Caulfield, Thomas Marsden, Alex Campbell, Jim Oliver, R. J. Walken, — all made it interesting for their opposition. 1938-9 produced a team that won the Provincial Championship. Players were: J. J. Feehaly, Bill Cranston, W. J. Stephenson, Bill Mason, John McKinney, Joe Joyce, B. Hutchison, Oscar Ellison, Vern Fry, Bob Mason and Art D'Angio.

We also had a good field Lacrosse team, a good tennis court down near the C. P. R. (a very fast, clay court), and a bowling green, managed by Alton Anderson; many will also remember the good old orchestra days and the community spirit of the dances when Walter Ball and Tim Wilson played drums with piano players Jack Doyle, Dorothy Williamson, Marjorie Hamilton and Hazel Johnston. On the trumpet was Oliver English; on the saxophone, Nichol Wilson; violin, Bernard Barry, Charlie Morrow, Walter Beatty, Jerry and Bill Sheehan, Jim and Wilbert Wilson and Joe Feehaly. Now Vesty Barry, P. D. McGee, Barrie McKenna and Phil Leogh loved to dance!



Several grocery and butcher shops populated the streets of Tottenham. Joe Patton's butcher shop is now Simpson-Sears, and Ah Drury's Groceteria was once operated by George Hamilton and Harold Strangways. J. J. McKnight operated the grocery store later owned by H. Simpson. J. D. Elliott and Art Worrod ran a grocery store which is now the Star Grill. The Hobby Shop was once a Grocery and Butcher shop operated by Joe McKenna.

There were two hardware stores at this time, one run by R. Walken where the present drug store is located and the other where Dermott's hardware now stands.

I wonder if the citizens of the 75 Alcan homes ever hear in their sleep the measured hoofbeats of the phantom horses which used to pace around a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile track there. There was always keen competition between Billy C., Elsie B., Connor Roy, Bertha Patch, Money Roy Gratton, Marion Harvester, and Good Old Batchelor ran a keen $\frac{1}{2}$ mile for you. Owners were James Burke, Jack Lowrey, Cliff Chapman, Harvey Hastings, Neil McQuarrie and William Boddy.

How many recall the Weekly Farmers' Market where buyers were Baxter of Eatons and D. Scanlon. Good butter, eggs and poultry were for sale, and at Christmas, merchants offered prizes for the best load of fowl. It was nothing then to see 8 to 10 tons of fowl shipped and bought at this market.

From this catalogue, a glimpse of Tottenham's past can be seen, although only a fraction of the town's businesses have been mentioned. Future articles will reveal more of Tottenham's history.



1. Art Worrod's store.
2. Bakery - Dave Martin, Joe Wilson. General store taken over by Bart Carroll, about 1912 or 1914. Presently Drury's driveway.
3. Art Drury's store now.

Mr. C. Coon of Tottenham, upon studying this picture, says the building showing the 'Bakery' sign was Mr. Dave Martin's bakeshop. Mr. Martin had a building at the back with brick ovens. It was then taken over by Joe Wilson. Mr. Wilson lived in the house now owned by Jack McCullough. He had a building and ovens at the back of the house. After Mr. Wilson, Bart Carroll had his grocery store here. In later years it was taken down and the space now serves as Albert Drury's driveway.

- Picture courtesy Laura Jones

TOTTENHAM - PAST AND PRESENT

- from The Tottenham News, June 13, 1973

by Mrs. M. K. K. K.

THE AVOCA MILL

In John Colgan's poem "Tottenham" he wrote of the Avoca Mill:

"You'll find an honest miller down the hill;
Who owns the famed Avoca Mill;
And like its master, all its weights are just,
To weigh your grain like California dust."

Today, the mill still stands on Mill St. West, just east of the pond, and is owned by Art Thompson & Sons. It is now the only mill left in the Tottenham area specializing in the manufacture of animal food.

Even in 1920, the mill was considered to be of historical importance to the Tottenham area. In that year, Miss V. Milligan addressed the Women's Institute with a short talk in which she termed the mill "an ancient landmark." The first flour mill in Tottenham, she explained, was then known as Hagan's Mill. It was built in the 1840's and was situated about $\frac{1}{2}$ of a mile further downstream (north) than the Avoca Mill.

The property now containing the Avoca Mill was bought originally by the Tyson Brothers about 1858 for the erection of a sawmill and a woolen and carding mill. The Tyson Bros. later sold to Amos Hughes, who in turn sold to George Nolan. In 1865, Mr. Nolan erected the present buildings, naming them "The Avoca Mill".

The mill saw many changes over the years. The old practice of using grinding stones was soon replaced by rollers and more up-to-date grinding machinery, and when the business was purchased in 1921 by William Courtney & Sons of Schomberg, electrical lighting was first added. Chopping one ton per hour and producing a total of 300 barrels of ground grain per week, the mill operated at this time to full capacity. Water power from Nolan's Pond was utilized to operate the mill and up to the 1920's the old water wheel still stood. "The large water wheel said Miss Milligan, with its slimy green surface and large crossbars is something not to be seen in many of the mills of today."

In the early 1840's the roads leading from the surrounding farms to the various mills were only blazed trails through the woods and mostly travelled on foot or with oxcart or stone boat. Once given by a government grant as a mill site "as long as grass grows and water runs", the Avoca mill was one of many which made Tottenham one of the most important Ontario milling centres. Mr. Elmer Thompson explained that the mill is still the hub today, of the farming community. All poultry, cattle, pig and horse feed, he said, must be ground from the locally grown crops of corn, oats, barley, etc., although today most grain loads are picked up and returned to the farmer by the mill's modern machinery. With modern intensive farming, where large numbers of animals are concerned, grain loads are much larger than they were 30 years ago and the mill is still a vital part of the community.

As well as the Avoca Mill and the Avoca Villa, traditionally owned by the operator of the mill, there existed at one time a third "Avoca" building — a hotel. According to Mr. C. Coon, long-time resident of Tottenham, relatives of the Nolans owned a hotel in Ireland by the same name and thus the Avoca name was brought to Canada. The building was erected shortly after 1865, as a wagon shop and later remodelled into the Avoca Hotel. Situated just east of the Tottenham Sentinel Building, it was a thriving business when the C. N. R. was being constructed through Tottenham in the 1870's, and was later owned by George Gordon, Charles Magloughlin, Laura Jones, and was finally sold to Clifford Rogers in 1964. For several years previous to this it had served as apartments and offices and was finally torn down shortly after the final purchase.

THE VILLAGE OF TOTTENHAM IN 1889

The following account was taken from an 1889 newspaper:- ("The Toronto World", July 30)

"VILLAGE OF TOTTENHAM

The Most Progressive Place in Simcoe County

Its Handsome Public and Private Buildings - Chief Manufacturing Industries - Tottenham's
Offhand Rifle Club - Its Principal Business Houses.

The history of Tottenham, the most westerly and perhaps the most progressive village in Simcoe county, dates back to 1832, when Mr. Alexander Miller settled here from Toronto Township. Eight years later this village received its present name. It was not incorporated, however, till 4 years ago. The first Council was composed of Mr. George A. Baker, Reeve; William Paton, Dr. McKenna, W.E. Sanford and John Sydie, Councillors. Mr. Baker is one of the oldest and most prominent settlers in this vicinity. He has resided in Tottenham for 50 years, during which time he has held office continuously as reeve of the township. He erected a woolen mill and a grist mill and also the building at present occupied by the Bank of Hamilton, and has always taken a prominent part in all public affairs, having been instrumental in bringing the railway up to the village in the early days.

As a farming country Tottenham has always ranked high. Today there is no better agricultural district in the country. The village enjoys a central situation, being on the Hamilton and Northwestern Division of the G.N.R., 28 miles north of Georgetown, on the main line.

Not only as an agricultural centre does it stand high, but it is also the great market for horses and cattle fairs. These latter are held monthly, the former in response to circulars issued by the dealers. The horse market is unexcelled outside of Toronto and Hamilton. Tottenham is also an important distributing point for grain and dairy products, which are invariably of good quality. The village is not without water facilities. A large dam is situated in the town, in which trout and others of the finny tribe disport themselves.

A striking feature of the place is the large and handsome public and private buildings. The citizens have evidently an eye to stability as well as attractive appearances in the matter of their stores and residences. The hotels especially merit more than a passing word. They are really much more complete and comfortable than those met with in towns many times the size of Tottenham. The buildings are generally of red brick and display much architectural beauty.

The principal manufacturing industries are Nolan's Flour mill, Verney & Co.'s furniture factory, McNeil & McKinney's foundry, Ashbury's Carriage Manufactory, a saw factory and various saw mills. In this respect the growth of the village has been very satisfactory. It is recognized as a manufacturing centre and Mr. Clarence McKenley last year surveyed the line of the Ontario Central Railroad through Tottenham. With this additional facility for shipments the village cannot but go ahead at an even greater rate than it has in the past. The village can point to a record sheet as their financial record, as there is not a cent of debt on the municipality. Very few more enterprising towns in Ontario can be named. There is a great future in store for Tottenham. With such agricultural and manufacturing industries, excellent natural facilities and such an energetic, enterprising populace it will not be long before this village will rise to the dignity of a town of importance. The population at present numbers 300 and the assessment is placed at \$127,000.

The present Council is composed of Reeve, W.P. Laverock; Councillors, J.O. Wolfe, Simon Zavanagh, F.A. Greenaway and C. Brown; Clerk, G.P. Hughes. Tottenham is the smallest town in Ontario possessing a chartered bank, the Bank of Hamilton. There are also four brick churches, representing the Episcopalians, Presbyterians, Methodists and Roman Catholics. Rev. Mr. Dodson, M.A. is pastor of the former; the Presbyterians have no regular minister; Rev. Messrs. Danlop and Latta conduct services at the Methodist church; and Rev. Father Cassidy and Duffy at the Roman Catholic. A Public School is conducted by G.M. Robinson, with Miss Down as assistant.

Tottenham boasts what few other villages in Canada can boast of and none can excel, viz., a Rifle Association, composed of about 40 members, called the Offhand Rifle Club, &c.

Cont'd. . .

the Ontario Association, formed for the purpose, as the name implies, of prosecuting the most legitimate manner of rifle shooting. In this they have succeeded and have demonstrated beyond a doubt that as good shooting can be made by practice without a rest as with one. J.W. Crossley of King is President. Amongst the many crack shots that this club includes none can surpass Mr. Levi Vershall, whose name is known far and wide as the best offhand shot in Canada. He takes an average of 32, the highest average of the association. This is the second season since the formation of the club, and most marvelous results have been achieved in this style of shooting. The club at present rank fifth or sixth in the Association with the highest average.

The Sentinel represents the journalistic interests. L.W. Hughes is editor and proprietor. The paper has been established 24 years, and is the able and vigorous exponent of the Conservative party. Most of the Grange and Benefit Societies are well represented, the Wren Thrush, Gleaners, Work men and Foresters having lodges in a prosperous state.

Business Houses

Cassery's Apple Leaf Hotel, located on the corner of Queen and Mill streets, has a reputation unsurpassed in any town north of Toronto. The building is a handsome substantial brick structure 3 stories in height, fitted in the most complete and modern style possible. It is elaborately furnished, lighted with gas manufactured on the premises, heated by hot air, and water is carried to each room by a most complete system of waterworks designed by the proprietor, Mr. M.J. Cassery. A fire escape and billiard room are also of the premises. The table accommodation is second to none in the country. The cuisine is of the best, the dining arrangements large and commodious, and take it all round there is no better \$1 a day hotel in Canada. It is erected on stone foundation, well ventilated, and in connection with the hotel is a well appointed livery and stage office. The hotel was erected at a cost of \$15,000 and is a credit to the villager. There is no more popular hotel keeper on the road than Mr. Cassery, who is to be congratulated on the success he has achieved in his line. He is also an auctioneer. Commercial men and the public generally can rely on first class attendance and every convenience while at the "Apple Leaf". The superior finishings of this house are very tastefully executed, the artistic manner in which ceilings and walls are adorned being especially pleasing.

L.H. Sanford, the oldest business man in town, has been established 22 years. He is situated in Queen Street and carries a general line of drugs, paints, oils, glass, putty, varnishes, patent medicines and jewelry. Mr. Sanford is a large dealer in honey, keeping the only apiary in town. He is agent for the Alliston Woolen Mills, buying wool for them and selling their goods. Specialties are Sanford's Mandrake and Burdock Bitters, Cathartic Pills, Antibilious Pills, Catarrh Cure, Carbolic Salve, Liver Pills etc. The dimensions of the shop are 18 x 50. Mr. Sanford has been very successful since establishing in Bottenhaw and has always been able to pay 100 cents on the dollar. In the cellar are stored a fine and superior wool. The proprietor has an excellent reputation.

William Hummel has been established 12 years as general store keeper. He was formerly in the business with W.P. Laverock. He carries lines of tweeds, boots and shoes, hats, caps and everything to be found in a general store. "Straight prices" is the motto of the house. His store is situated next the corner of Queen and Mill streets, one of the best stands in town. The ever increasing trade has been built up by fair and square dealing.

David Martin, of the Dominion Bakery, is located on the main street, and deals largely in foreign and domestic fruit, groceries, confectionery, meat, lard, salt meats etc. He has been established 5 months. Succat beverages kept in season.

W.P. Laverock, Reeve of Tottenham, and one of the oldest inhabitants, has been established about 12 years. He is proprietor of a large and commodious general store 22x30 in the Turner block. Mr. Laverock owns the block below, a handsome building of substantial appearance. Two hands are employed in the store. A successful business has always been carried on. Mr. Laverock is also postmaster of the village, which position he has held continuously for the last 12 years. He owns the building, a fine red brick structure of attractive appearance. A private bank and money order office is situated in the back. During the three years that Mr. Laverock has held his present official position he has always been foremost in everything tending to the progress of the village.

M.J. Varney & Co., furniture manufacturers, Mill Street, have been established 11 years. The factory is all operated by steam power. Four hands are employed. Undertaking is attended to in addition to the manufacture of furniture in all its branches. The firm do all their own upholstering. The success of this firm is largely due to well-directed enterprise combined with straight dealing.

Royal Hotel, James P. Ryan, proprietor, corner of Queen and Mill Streets, is conducted in superior style. It has been three years under its present management and has won an excellent reputation. Fourteen bedrooms offer ample accommodation to guests and in every particular this hotel is most complete. Choice cigars, wines and liquors are constantly kept in stock. A barber shop, livery stable and coach are in connection.

J.H. Eochren, watchmaker and jeweler, carries a very neat looking stock of watches, clocks, jewelry and silver plate and appears to be a mechanic of more than ordinary ability. He is a watchmaker and engraver and does gold and silver plating; he turns out a class of work equal to any done in the city. Mr. Eochren is the inventor of a famous wind gauge rifle sight, patented in the United States and Canada, of which we give a cut. He has entered into partnership with Mr. J.B. Bond for the manufacture of this sight on an extensive scale.

A. Gallagher & Son, furniture manufacturers, make a specialty of undertaking and ordered work. They have been established a year and a half and have been very successful. A local trade principally is done. Estimating in all its detail is attended to. This firm has a branch in Keenansville.

J. Sydie, one of the oldest settlers in this section, has been established about 50 years. He keeps a harness factory, employing 4 hands. The building is a large, handsome, two-story structure, 22x57 in area, with plate-glass front. Mr. Sydie deals extensively in robes, trunks, valises and boxes of all kinds and carries about the biggest stock in the county. He has always taken a deep interest in all public affairs and was a member of the first council.

G. Gordon, proprietor of 'The People's Store' is located at 19 Queen Street north. A specialty is made of the millinery department. Mr. Gordon has been in business for 5 years for himself, having been previously engaged for 5 years with Mr. Laverock. He has lately purchased a foundry and adds considerably to his source of revenue by this means. Mr. Gordon is possessed of great business ability and enterprise and has been very successful in business since starting. He came from Dundas County, about 5 miles from Morrisburg.

Henry Turner, hardware merchant, Mill street, started in business in Tottenham in 1866. Previous to that time there was no general hardware store in the vicinity and the public had to buy from the city stores of from so-called general stores. His establishment has therefore been quite a boon to the vicinity. Everything usually found in a first-class hardware store is kept in stock. About \$5,000 worth of stock is carried and \$20,000 a year turned over. Mr. Turner handles repairs for a great deal of the agricultural machinery in this section. He has extensive warehouses and the stock is well selected and well kept. A wholesale trade is carried on in coal oils, harvest implements, etc.

J.C. Galbraith has been 2 years station agent last June. He is also agent for the Canadian Express Co. He is an efficient official and very popular.

P. Brawley, general blacksmith and horse-shoer, is agent for the Wilkinson plow and also wholesale and retail dealer in coal. He has been established 3 years. The shop is located in Mill Street. Horse nails and shoes are kept for sale.

S.C. Walker has carried on business as a tinmith for 14 years in Mill street. Besides tinware Mr. Walker carries a full line of stoves, sawcutting and furnace work a specialty. For thorough work, Mr. Walker cannot be beaten.

J.W. Bastard, private banker, has been established since 1862. His office is on Mill street. A general banking business is conducted and money loaned. The establishment has an excellent reputation wherever known.

J.B. Bond, dealer in drugs, stationery, fancy goods, etc, was formerly in business in Schomberg for 20 years. He has resided in Tottenham for 6 years. Full lines of jewelry and sporting goods, wall papers, paints and oils are carried. The name of Bond is known from ocean to ocean as the proprietor of many famous remedies for diseases that the flesh is heir to. He has built up an extensive business on the reputation of these exact and remedies. Mr. Bond erected the block in which he is located, comprising three handsome stores. He has full interest in the manufacture of the Cushman rifle sight above referred to, and is also engaged with Mr. Nolan in the manufacture of the patent 'Fly, Sheep and Poultry Feeder', an invaluable invention.

J.V. Childs, carriage manufacturer and blacksmith, carries on this business in all its branches including painting. He has been established for 12 years in Queen street north. He is agent for the 'Oliver Plow works' of the Waterloo Manufacturing Co.

L.P. Fenech, tinsmith and hardware dealer, is one of the oldest residents, having been established for 19 years. Galvanized iron and tin sawstrapping is a specialty. A full line of stoves is carried and furnace work attended to in all its details. All kinds of trade taken in exchange for goods. Cash is paid for hides and skins. The business has assumed extensive proportions.

Alexander Porter, from whom the village derives its name, was the founder of this place, he having located here in 1838 and was consequently resident continuously in the village for 37 years. He is at present retired from active life and has settled down on his farm to enjoy a well-earned rest. No person took a greater interest in public affairs in the village in the early days than Mr. Porter and a great deal of its rapid development is due to his energetic and public-spirited measures on its behalf.

Tutton, Ross and Scott, dealers in drygoods, millinery, groceries, books and shoes, make a specialty of dress goods and millinery. Two milliners, two dressmakers and three shoe hands are employed. The establishment is located in Queen street south. The dimensions are 45x110, and the store is well lit and presents an attractive display. A delivery is in connection to all parts of the country.

Nelson & MacInnes have just opened up a foundry in Queen street. Both gentlemen have had long experience and been in business in the village for a number of years. Pumps, engine parts, castings etc., will be manufactured, a specialty being made of harvesting engines. Repairs of all kinds for engines and machinery will be given special attention. The firm are determined to make a success of this undertaking, and being both possessed of much energy and enterprise, as well as being thorough workmen, there is no doubt the business will prosper.

James A. Varney, flour and feed merchant, Queen street south, carries everything in this line. A specialty in made of seeds. Mrs. Varney keeps a fancy goods store adjoining. All kinds of seed are of the best and constantly on hand. Seeds delivered free to all parts of the village.

M. Ashbury has been engaged in the manufacture of carriages in the village for five years. Employment is given to four hands. The factory is situated in Queen street. Many but skilled workmen are employed and work turned out in all its branches. A local trade is particularly carried out.

F.J. Rogers, meat and grocer, carries full lines of crockery and glassware. He has been established for 21-2 years. Fruits and oysters are kept in season. An ice cream parlor adjoins. The store is located in Queen street north.

Levi Ketealf, proprietor of a large planing mill in Mill street, has been established 4 years. Specially for general house furnishings are manufactured. Six hands are employed. A local trade is done. Mr. Ketealf has gained an excellent reputation in his line and his goods will stand comparison with any. His reputation as a rifle shot has already been referred to.

George A. Folger, grist mill proprietor, has resided in Tottenham 30 years, during 25 of which he has been engaged in the above business. Gristing only is done. The capacity of the mill is 60 barrels a day and the dimensions 46x36. The capacity of the store house is 12,000 bushels. The machinery was all built by Goldie & McCulloch of N.Y. and remodelled last year and converted into a roller mill. Mr. Folger's prominent position in early village legislation has already been commented upon, and notwithstanding that age is advancing upon him he still takes a great interest in all matters conducive to the welfare of the municipality.

Wood & Jacko, barristers, solicitors etc., have been established in Tottenham for a little over a year, Mr. J. Fraser as manager. The head office is situated in Barrie, with a branch at Stayner. The office is situated in Queen street north. The firm are solicitors for Bantide's bank and attend the neighboring division court when in session. Mr. Fraser has been very successful since taking charge of the practice at Tottenham.

A. Bonham, proprietor of a well-known first-class hotel about a mile out of town, has conducted the establishment for 30 years. The house is just a nice stroll from the village and will repay a visit. It is managed in a superior manner and is highly respectable. Courtesy is extended to all patrons. Mr. Bonham now ranks amongst the wealthiest gentlemen in the community, owning property in the village as well as farm property in the neighborhood. He is the oldest hotelkeeper in the vicinity and his house is a popular resort of travelers and the public generally.

T.G. Wolfe, implement agent, was auctioneering for 3 years. He has been engaged in his present business for 5 years and represents the Patterson Co. He was formerly agent for the Massey Co. He carries on a general agency.

J. Campbell, M.D. has recently come to Tottenham from Solmont and established his quarters in Ouseley's Maple Leaf Hotel. He is a young man of great ability and energy and must succeed.

Gunn & Abbott, grain buyers, formerly of Bradford, are noted for fair dealing. They deal in grain, wheat, barley, salt and farm supplies. The firm have bought as high as 100,000 bushels of barley in the season. They are on deck as usual to handle grain at bargain."

- Reproduced October 1977.

The following poem appeared in the Tottenham Sentinel on Thursday, November 6th, 1919, and was written by H. Duggan (October 8, 1919):-

TOTTENHAM

Keir Tottenham, it is many years
Since last your soil I trod,
And many of my old time friends
Since then have joined their God.
There's just a few, a very few
Of these I used to know
Are left to greet my late return
To home of long ago.

The other day I took a little walk
Across that little hill
At foot of which still standing is
Geo. A's old flouring mill,
And Sisk, who was then but a kid.,
You'll find quite busy there;
That flour like dust that's circling 'round
Is far from idle air.

M.J. is there, an old time friend,
With whom I went to school;
Together we our lessons learnt
'Heath Logan's grinding rule.
And J.D. kept the corner store,
A man of many parts,
The many jokes and tricks he played
Were well-known and fair.

I remember once friend Sanford yanked
Aaching tooth from me;
Well, yes, it hurt, you bet it hurt,
But I from pain was free.
Whatever Sanford went to do
Was quickly done and well;
Your pains soon fled, more suddenly
Than tongue or pen can tell.

Cont'd. . .

THE VILLAGE OF TOTTENHAM - cont'd.

TOTTENHAM (cont'd.)

Your streets have grown to emulate
A city's thoroughfare -
The maple leaf, which all adore,
Is blooming everywhere.
Two railroads now accomodate
The traveller to and fro,
And take him to the ocean's side
Or elsewhere he may go.

Good-bye, old town, and old time friends
That are and were of yore -
For I may ne'er return again
To your kind hearted shore.
May Fortune with a bounteous hand
Deal kindly with you all,
Until we meet in Heaven's land,
At Gabriel's final call.

Yours as ever,

October 8th, 1919.

H. DUGGAN

THE GREAT FIRE OF TOTTENHAM - JUNE 18, 1895

On June 18, 1895, fire swept through Tottenham, leaving much destruction. The following is an excerpt from the Cardwell Sentinel, which was printed at the corner of Queen and George Sts., on July 24, 1884.

"Fire Protection Warning - July 24, 1884

In view of last week's serious fire in Alliston, we have been requested to announce a meeting at Granger's Hall, 1 Queen St. North, to consider the advisability of securing a fire engine for Tottenham. What was Alliston's fate last week might be ours next, and a small expenditure in time might save large losses in the future.

The village is rapidly growing and good, substantial houses going up, yet in older portions frameworks are standing. Let us do our part in guarding against such a calamity.

There are dozens of places in the village littered with dry chips and rubbish that a spark or match might result in a burnt hamlet."

How ironic that, several years before the great fire, the above warning was made! The following account of the fire is taken from a newspaper article dated June 19, 1895. Eighty buildings were lost altogether.

"The village of Tottenham was swept by a terrible fire. About three o'clock flames broke out in McKinney's foundry, in the south-western part of the village (at the corner of Queen and Albert Streets, where Urbanski's Garage now stands). As a strong south-westerly wind was blowing at this time, the flames spread rapidly towards the east and north.



Ruins of the Foundry, corner of Queen and Albert Sts., June 1895 - where the fire began.

Everything being so dry fires started simultaneously in several places, so that while the fire engine was doing good work in one direction, scores of places elsewhere were in flames, which spread so rapidly that the people could do little more than helplessly look on.

Albert, Richmond, Victoria and Mill Streets were swept on both sides, together with a considerable portion of Queen Street South.

About eighty buildings were burned, including the foundry, Mercier's store, Potter's block, Lyons shop, Verney and Co's furniture rooms (Mill St. East), Sandford's drug store and the Methodist Church. The loss is estimated at \$125,000.00. Allandale sent down a fire engine, which did good work. A large number of Beeton and Alliston citizens came over with a quantity of hose, which was badly needed. Some three hundred volunteers from the camp at Beeton also came on a special train, and all the citizens and soldiers worked like Trojans, and to their unsparing efforts may be attributed the fact that even so much of the town was saved.

The business places burned were those of D. McKinly, foundry; D.C. Fraser, shoemaker; W. & C. Brown, woollen store; T.G. Wolfe, two implement shops; H. Garrity, campmaker; J.A. Mercer, flour and feed; J.V. Childs, woodworker; J.C. Ander-

THE GREAT FIRE OF TOTTENHAM - 1895 - cont'd.

son, blacksmith; D. Martin, baker shop; J. Henderson, shoemaker; W. Dillane, barber; J. Riddell, shoemaker; Verney & CO., furniture; P. Brawley, blacksmith; W.H. Sanford, druggist; H. Stone, insurance agent; J. Anderson, butcher; S. Windsor, shoemaker; T.J. Turner, tailor; T.Moffatt, factory.

List of dwellings:- Potter block, J.A. Mercer, Mrs. Phillips, two houses; John Hay, Mrs. Lorey, T.G. Wolfe, P. Garrity, J. McDermott, Mrs. Logan, Mrs. McDermott, T. Moffatt, P. Doyle, J. Austin, Walter Potter, B. Fanning, H. Williams, J. Preston, Miss Mitchell, W. Henry, W. Line, J. Gregory; Lyons block, T. Bruce, D.C. Fraser, A. Gunn, John Long, A. Tooten, H. Stone, W.H. Sanford, P. Brawley, Methodist Church, W.J. Verney, John Anderson, Mrs. Austin, John C. Anderson, Mrs. Woods, Misses Heenan, H. Ledgerwood, T.E. Williams, G.M. Robinson, H. Hutt, Newbury property, Mrs. A. Wilson, F. Wright, J. Aikens, J.M. Lyons, barns; Y.T.M. Greenway, barns and 1000 bushels grain; T.J. Turner, G.F. Hughes' livery stable and other vacant stores and buildings."



BIRD'S EYE VIEW, TOTTENHAM ONT.

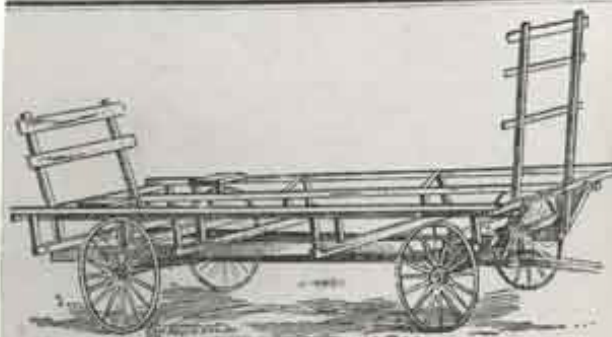
TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY IN PICTURES



A summer view of the
Maple Leaf Hotel
(now the Tottenham Inn)



COUNTY OF SIMCOE, ONT. OCTOBER 15, 1891



The Verney & Co. Patent Wagon Rack.

The above is a view of the now popular Patent Wagon Rack, of which our enterprising business men, Messrs. W. J. Verney & Co. are the patentees and manufacturers. It has been thoroughly tested during the past harvest by numerous farmers in these counties, and the possession of their equine teams out the patentees' claim, that the rack is the lightest, most durable, strongest, most easy to move, raised on a wagon, and, best of all, you can turn in as short a space as you could if there was no rack on the wagon at all. It is made suitable for loading grain, barrels, and other heavy goods.

TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY IN PICTURES



Queen St. looking south from corner of George St.



TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY IN PICTURES



Sewer installation
on Mill Street E.
- 1952 -

Paving of the roads.
Mill Street East.



No. 9 highway - before paving.

TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY IN PICTURES



A jaunt around the
race track at the
north end of Queen
Street.

A gathering.

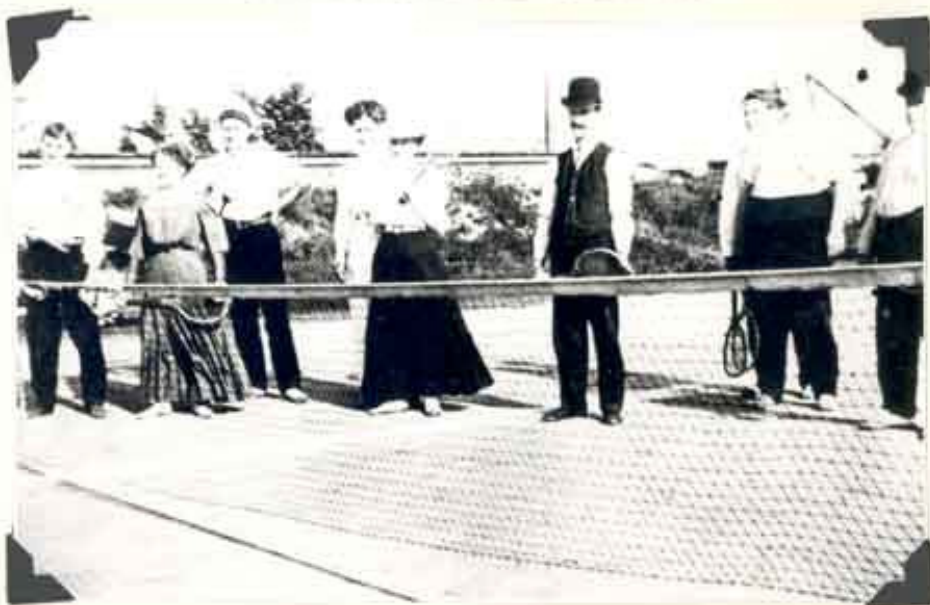


Part of the Tottenham Band.

Back row, L to R:- Mr. Coburn,
Al Lowery, Fred Knight, Ralph
McGabe, Monty Graham

Front Row:- Alex McDonald,
Loren Fleming, ____, Jack Stone,
Al Fouscar.

TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY IN PICTURES



Playing tennis
at the local
court - west
end of Mill St.

Tottenham Lacrosse Team
- about 1915.



Y. Longford at R.C. picnic Colgan

TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY IN PICTURES

(H3)

House at the south end of the Village - this house was the lowery home, built in the 1880's.

Avoca Villa - house built on Mill St. West, east of the Avoca Mill.

(2V)



Mill Street East.

The white house was demolished to make way for the new Fire Hall.

TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY IN PICTURES



New subdivision at
north end of town -
Oct. 1971.



South end of Tottenham,
showing the water tower.

TOTTENHAM - A HISTORIC PICTURE

Gordon's store - located
on east side of Queen St.,
opposite Municipal bldg.
just north of Mill St.

21

A view of Mill Street,
looking east - the
United Church is in
the background.



BIRD'S EYE VIEW, TOTTENHAM, ONT. CANADA

TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY IN PICTURES



Looking north on
Queen Street from
corner of Richmond.

MARKET BAY, TOTTENHAM, ONT.

Looking north on
Queen Street



1925 Market Street, Tottenham, Ont.

Queen Street looking
north from Fill St.

30.

TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY IN PICTURES



Circa 1910



S.E. Corner Hill & Queen - mid-1970's.



Window display of Walken Hardware



✓

TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY IN PICTURES

Community Park, Tottenham, Ontario, Canada.



Keough St. Park

View looking south-east over
the Tottenham Pond.



TOTTENHAM - A HISTORY IN PICTURES



Top:- Mercer's Store,
S.W. Corner Queen &
Richmond Sts.



Right:- Hughes Printing Office -
Queen St. W. at George St.



Mill Street looking west,
toward Queen Street.

TOTTENHAM - SPORTS



An early Tottenham Hockey team.

Back row, 1 to r: Bert Berry, Mervin Walker, Horner Hamilton,
Fred Mabey, R.B. Mabey, Garnet Bredan.
Front row, 1 to r: James Oliver, Harold Anderson, Dr. Caulfield,
Cecil Hastings, Alex Campbell.



TOTTENHAM - FARMING



Wood Cutting.

Threshing days:

Tractor and thresher
with steel wheels.



Horse and cutter days.

TOTTENHAM - FARMING



Four team of horses used on the Abernethy farm.



Steam engine used for threshing.

IN AND AROUND TOTTENHAM



Bob Valken's Hardware Store - early 1900's



~~Somerset~~ on Mill St. West - one of the first gas purges in Tottenham.
near the Queen's Hotel

IN AND AROUND TOTTENHAM



F.W. Abbott and Walt Delane - August 2, 1897.
Led by horse Benadick.



Mr. L.P. Fowear (far right) operated the
above store prior to 1881. In 1881 he
moved his hardware business to 2 Mill Street
East from Queen Street North. The Mill
Street store is presently operated by Harold
Dermott.

THE VILLAGE OF TOTTENHAM - 'AROUND TOWN'



Two enthusiastic workers at the Cardwell Sentinel who seem to be all wrapped up in their work!



Women's Institute Crafts display at 'Let's Get Acquainted Night' at Tottenham Public School, 1974.

THE VILLAGE OF TOTTENHAM - 'AROUND TOWN'



Ball Team in Tottenham - 1909.



use

Hughes Block - corner Queen and
George Sts. - around 1900.



L.P. Foucar's Store before 1880.

THE VILLAGE OF TOTTENHAM - FRIENDLY FACES



Thos. Atkinson



"Pop" and Mrs. Dickerson on their 50th
Wedding Anniversary - Nov. 12, 1958.



Pat Kavanaugh - Postmaster
1930-1941



Mr. & Mrs. Bill Elliot



Harry Austin, Alvin, Garry Thomson (boy),
Maude Martin, Wilfred Austin, Muriel Peoples

THE VILLAGE OF TOTTENHAM - FRIENDLY FACES



Melville Martin



Mrs. Maude Martin



Egerton Hyerson Abbott.
Born in Ontario 1842-43;
had grain elevator in
Tottenham on George St. in
late 1870's. He lived in
old Avoca Hotel.



Mr. & Mrs. Herb McClain and family.
l to r: Jean, Mr. McClain, Ross,
Mrs. McClain, Edgar (in front).

TUAM POST OFFICE

This was a small post office where people came to pick up their mail before the 'Rural Route' came in. The first location that we have record of was in the stone house at Rich Hill corner and was run by a Mr. Casserly. At a later date it was kept



Tuam Post Office - Tecumseh Twp.

in the house on the South $\frac{1}{2}$ of North $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 10, Con. 1, Tecumseh, on #10 sideroad, and the last location of the Tuam Post Office was on the North $\frac{1}{2}$ of Lot 13, Con. 1, Tecumseh, on the 2nd Line east of Rich Hill. It was closed on 30th April, 1914, and thereafter the community was served by a rural mail carrier from Tottenham or Schomberg.

The postmasters were:-

Patrick H. Derham (Feb. 1, 1865 - Sept. 24, 1875); Hugh Ledgerwood (Jan. 1, 1876 - Jan. 13, 1883); Michael Casserly (Apr. 1, 1883 - June 12, 1886); Philip Sykes (Oct. 1, 1886 - Dec. 17, 1888); Simeon Cook (Apr. 1, 1889 - July 10, 1889); James Ross (Nov. 1, 1889 - Jan. 20, 1900); Milner Bateman (June 1, 1900 - Nov. 3, 1900); H.J. Dougherty (May 1, 1901 - Dec. 10, 1901); Robert McDermott

(Apr. 7, 1905 - Aug. 2, 1910); W.J. Clow (Sept. 7, 1910 - Oct. 18, 1913). We note that all of the above vacated their posts by resignation.

TOTTENHAM POST OFFICE

The opening date of the Tottenham Post Office was May 1, 1858. As far as we can find out the first post office was located on Mill St. West in a building owned by William Steele, then later owned and occupied by Wm. Hammond and G. Breeden. (The building was destroyed by fire in 1938.) It was moved from there to Mill St. East to the building now occupied by an insurance office run by Tom and Bernard McGee. This building was erected by Mr. W.F. Leverock, who was postmaster from 1875 to 1903; it was also his place of residence.

M.J. Casserly was the next postmaster and the post office was then moved to Queen Street North in 1905. (It was located in the old public library; later this was Don Fleck's cold storage and store, and in 1975 it was Kerry Worrod's electrical appliance shop). From there it was moved across the street to the property owned by Art Worrod and son Jack. Mr. Wilner Palmer became postmaster on Feb. 12, 1941, in this building, Mr. Kavanagh having resigned. On Jan. 11, 1951, the post office moved to a more commodious quarters in the Royal Bank Block, it being more central (this is now a restaurant); it had been remodelled and new fixtures put in. The staff and mail couriers had a great deal more space. The boxes were all new with combination locks - no more lost keys - it was a great improvement. Mr. Palmer resigned Nov. 19, 1961.

Mr. G. Kellie informs us he started as postmaster Dec. 8, 1961. In the summer of 1962 plans were made to build a federal building in Tottenham as the government was creating winter works through these projects. The land was purchased from Reg. Butler who had formerly used the property to assemble and sell farm implements. The old frame buildings were torn down and the new post office was erected during the winter of 1962 and 1963.

As the contract was let to different trades the only local person involved in the building was Wallace Jop. On the first of April 1963, we moved from the Royal Bank building (corner of Queen & Mill sts. - NE) to our new quarters on Queen St. South. As the new lock boxes required keys to operate, it was necessary for patrons to call and pay a key deposit so there was a sort of grand opening with two post office officials present and while my assistant, Mrs. Galbraith, issued keys, Mrs. Orna Simpson served tea. At the time of moving, Tottenham Post Office served 210 town boxholders and 200 rural patrons.

Cont'd. ...

on three rural routes - a total of 410 boxholders. Ten years later we served almost 800 boxholders in town and 428 patrons on the routes at a total of over 1200 boxholders. During this period what originally needed to be a spacious building had shrunk through the addition of eight sorting cases and 360 additional lock boxes. Under these cramped conditions we could only serve perhaps an additional 100 patrons.

Originally there were just two positions - postmaster and assistant. At that time lockets were not opened until the mail was sorted. The office was closed at lunch hour and Wednesday afternoon. Later, hours were extended so it was necessary first to have an extra part-time assistant - later two. Then Mrs. Galbraith retired and was followed by Mrs. Elva Marklinger, Mrs. Peggy Thomson, Miss Mary Ann Bailey and then present assistant Mrs. John Rogers. Part time assistants were Mrs. Hazel Walker, Mrs. Jessie McFarlane, Mrs. Betty Miller and presently Mrs. Jeannie Howat and Mrs. Edith Rowley.

Rural mail carriers in the old building were Mr. Robert Watson and Mr. Andy Archibald, both now deceased, and Mr. Wes Rowbottom. Also Mr. John Horan carried mail from Tottenham to Colgan and Loretto. Present mail carriers are Mrs. J. Letts, Mrs. A. Estann and Mrs. P. Brown. Mrs. Watson now transports mail to Colgan but Loretto mail is transferred through Burton.

Post Office - Queen St. E. - 1873

As Tottenham was growing, this post office building soon became too small and a larger one had to be built, so the headquarters was moved again to the Royal Bank building (NE corner of Queen & Mill Sts.). On April 7, 1875, the new building was completed and the post office staff moved back again into a new and larger building.

Now in 1977, there are a total of 390 box holders in town and three rural route deliveries for a total of 1,615 patrons.

While we have touched on a few of the postmasters over the years, the following is a complete list, with dates of service in brackets:-

D. Halliday (May 1, 1858 - 1861), J. Walker (1861 - 1863), J. Wilson (1863 - 1874), W.S. Turner (1875), W.P. Laverock (1875 - 1903), W.J. Cassorly (Oct. 1, 1893 - May 6, 1930), Mrs. E.A. Charlebois (Acting) (May 9, 1930 - Sept. 8, 1930), G.S. Lavanagh (Sept. 9, 1930 - Feb. 11, 1941), W. Palmer (Feb. 12, 1941 - Nov. 15, 1961), E.E. Cantall (Acting) (Nov. 16, 1961 - Dec. 7, 1961), G.C. Mellett (Dec. 8, 1961 to present).

The following article was taken from an old newspaper clipping (no date evident):- "Tottenham was the seat of the central distribution office for eight surrounding post offices. There was a mail service five times daily". (Hard to believe!!)



- submitted 1977.

PHOTO AT LEFT:-

Taken around 1905 - in Hughes Block, northwest corner Queen & George Sts.

L to R: Mr. Edwards (who had a shop in the building on the corner), his son, and W.J. Cassorly, postmaster.

THAM - ONE OF OUR BYGONE TOWNSHIPS

It was Patrick Derham who named the Post Office 'Tham', after the place of his birth in County Galway, Ireland.

The crossroads of County Road #10 and the 2nd Concession in Tecumseh was called Rich Hill. The Quakers gave it this name under a similar crossroads in County Armagh, Ireland. This crossroads is in what was known as Tham.

Since the closing of the Post Office - and later still the Catholic Church - the name 'Tham' became obsolete, but the name 'Rich Hill' lived on, as the church on that corner was - and still is - called Rich Hill Church.

In the beginning was the Catholic Church. (The following information on the Catholic Church was taken from "St. Patrick's Church Centennial 1876-1976" with kind permission of Father McKeown.):

In 1834 the first and only Roman Catholic Church that was built at Tham, Tecumseh Township, began. For this purpose 10 acres of land was purchased from James Boyls on April 11, 1834, on the northwest corner of Lot 15, Conc. 1, facing the second line of Tecumseh Township. The barn type frame church was dedicated to St. Margaret, Queen of Scotland, and its construction was begun in 1834 by Father Hurlingham, and finished around 1838 by his successor, Father Hugh Fitzpatrick. The choice of southeast Tecumseh Township as the original area of settlement was quite deliberate. The area which today forms a triangle bound by Dunkerton to the east, Rich Hill (Tham) to the west and Lloydstown to the south, was already settled by the Quakers as can still be seen by their graveyards in the area. The Quakers were unique for this time, in that they were truly tolerant of all other faiths, were peace-loving and well-known for their charity to others in distress. Hence they acted almost like a magnet in attracting Catholics to our parish area in its early years. So attractive was Tecumseh Township for Catholic settlement that it had more baptisms than any other of the approximately twenty townships in Helton, Peel, York and Simcoe Counties listed in Father Edward Gordon's personal register for the 1830-1833 period. In fact, during this period, Tecumseh averaged exactly one baptism per month, a rate that compares favourably with the number of baptisms performed over the same area today.

By the 1840's Tecumseh had a Roman Catholic population of about 500 - the same number as its neighbour, Adjala Township to the west, which was in a way supposed to be the 'official' Catholic Township of the area. Originally St. Margaret's was simply known as the Catholic Church in Tecumseh, since it was the only one within its boundaries. But with the building of St. Paul's in Alliston in 1876 and St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Tottenham in 1885 - also within Tecumseh Township - it became necessary to make a distinction in the place names to avoid confusion. Hence our choice of "Tham", a name largely forgotten even by ourselves for the area of St. Margaret's Church, and more generally for the area lying halfway between Schomberg and Tottenham. Tham was the official name of the local Post Office nearest St. Margaret's Church. It functioned from 1863 to 1914.

Tham is certainly a worthy name for the location of our first settlers and one well worth reviving alongside the present name of Rich Hill, a Quaker stronghold in County Armagh, Ireland, used to describe exactly the same crossroads in Tecumseh Township. Tham, County Galway, is the name of the Archbishopric See for Connacht, the western province in Ireland, and the most Irish and fertile province. Some of our earliest settlers came from that area because such dire conditions forced them to emigrate. The name Tham thus proudly takes its place alongside other west Irish place names such as Achill and Athlone in neighbouring Adjala Township.

Over the years there has been some question as to whether Colgan in Adjala or Tham in Tecumseh Townships had the first church and which was the main church of their combined mission. Colgan obtained its land in 1830, compared to 1834 for Tham, and appears to have completed its church in the early 1830's compared to the late 1830's for Tham, and hence Colgan must have formal priority of origin. However, in the earliest years of settlement, Tecumseh Township had the larger Catholic population, and it appears that another earlier than Tham's St. Margaret's in Tecumseh, and not St. James in Adjala, was the original Catholic worship centre for the two townships. Exactly where its location was or the nature of its structure is not known, but official records and local tradition give a certain primacy to Tecumseh over Adjala as the township from which the earliest missionaries departed to visit the neighbouring townships in South Simcoe County.

Cont'd. . .

THAM - cont'd.

Perhaps the problem arose from the fact that it may have been the intention to build just one large church to serve the two townships, since Catholics were grouped close together along both sides of the Adjala-Tecumseh boundary. The church at Colgan was built just inside Adjala Township right next to its boundary with Tecumseh Township. Despite its popular name as the church of south Adjala, many of its parishioners, including John Colgan himself, lived on the Tecumseh side of the boundary. Through the years, St. Margaret's was the only Catholic Church in Tecumseh Township. At no time did it serve all its Catholic inhabitants.

Tham's desire for separate status can also be explained by the fact that the relatively heavy concentration of Catholics in the two townships had its approximate centre at what would now be Tottenham and not Colgan, which was just too far - eight miles - for the people of Tham. Thus they built their own church to serve the needs of Catholics in the south part of Tecumseh Township. They also continued to use the name of St. Margaret of Scotland, which they thought to be theirs and which the church at Colgan used to call itself frequently in its early years. What we now know as St. James Church in Colgan must also have considered itself as the legitimate successor of the earliest worship centre in that area which had gone by the name of St. Margaret of Tecumseh.

The Tham Catholic community built a frame church in contrast to the log one built a few years previously at Colgan, and fully expected a priest of their own. This was not to be, and indeed the new church community was somewhat embarrassed financially from its extravagances at that time. Still, it remained a handsome church until its last days. Today Colgan is still thriving, while Tham is now an abandoned graveyard. All the same, the memories of Tham's and Tecumseh's one-time greatness linger on amidst its quiet fields. What we know for certain is that by 1833 there was a rectory at Colgan, and that a priest resided there frequently. By 1837 it was detached from Silefield (to which it had been linked as a kind of dual charge) to become the headquarters of all missionary activity in the south Simcoe area. At Tham, one can only suppose that there may have been a rectory and some crops for the priest on the ten acres set aside as the church property there. Both of these were necessary for the support of a priest in those days and clearly such had been the intention of such a large purchase of land. Regardless of the purpose for which they had been used, Father Sheehan, in the late 1870's, sold the eight surplus acres south of what is the graveyard today, and if they ever contained any buildings set aside for church purposes, they have long since disappeared. Only the two acre property as we know it today remained in our possession with the church and the surrounding cemetery. We also know that for most of this period up to the founding of the Schomberg parish in 1876, Colgan and Tham were part of the same charge, and that with Colgan having about three-quarters of the combined Catholic population of the two churches it was only natural that it should become the main centre of the parish. Over the years Colgan had three churches: log, frame and brick, while Tham has always retained its original classical frame church. To settle this controversy fairly and evenly, we may say that Colgan had the earliest Church, appearances to the contrary, while Tecumseh Township had the earliest centre of Catholic worship of the two townships.

Though today St. Margaret's of Tham looks desolate, religious services were held there for some one hundred and twenty years, and it is still regarded as the historic heart of the parish where so many of our ancestors have been buried. In 1903-1904, Father Carberry renovated it extensively, putting in many aids to devotion such as stained glass windows and statues, and making the necessary repairs to the square timbered frame and board sided structure. About 1952 the last masses were said in the church. The automobile had finally put an end to the horse and buggy age. A more important reason for its closing was the fact that there were now two new churches built within five miles of it on either side - St. Francis Xavier at Tottenham to the northwest in 1885, and St. Patrick's at Schomberg to the southeast in 1915. St. Margaret's was no longer the main centre of the Catholic attention for the area as it had once been. Unfortunately, the ravages of age and more particularly of vandalism, necessitated its razing in 1977, but a few of the remains of this former handsome two-storey structure can still be seen on the ground at Tham, surrounded by the many tombstones. In its time, it had become one of the oldest still existing Roman Catholic Churches in Ontario (ie- from about 1835 to 1977) and it is still regarded by many as something of a parish shrine to be visited from time to time. Looking to the eye, it grows stronger in the heart.

Cont'd. . .

TUAM - cont'd.

(Most of the following information on the Rich Hill Church and school can be attributed to Isabel Hastings.):

In 1859, a Methodist Church was built of planks, on the south half of Lot 16, Conc. 1, in Tecumseh Township. Plots were taken around the church for a burial ground and this became known as the Rich Hill Church. This too was a very active church, and it wasn't long before the congregation became too large for the church. A new brick church was built in 1868 on the east half of Lot 16, Conc. 2, and this church is still in operation today.

In 1887 one minister had five charges: Boston, Tottenham, Rich Hill, Rainey's and Tecumseh, but he did have an assistant, Rich Hill being on the second Concession and Tecumseh on the third Concession meant a lot of travelling. The minister's salary was \$750.00 per year, and his assistant's, \$400.00, and were made up as follows: Tottenham \$400.00, Boston \$275.00, Rich Hill \$225.00, Rainey's \$150.00 and Tecumseh \$100.00 (Rainey's and Tecumseh I believe were houses where services were held) Tecumseh also brought making up expenses and grossed in 1890. Church union came about in 1925, and in 1926 Tottenham and Rich Hill acquired a former Presbyterian Minister.

In 1928 the spire was blown off the church; the damage was repaired, but the spire was never rebuilt, as in 1929 came the Depression and money was too short for "follies". This is still a very active church. The Minister of Tottenham called Church also serves Rich Hill Church. A few years ago the Rich Hill Church was asked if they would consider closing and amalgamate with the Tottenham Church, and the answer was a definite "NO". It is a good building and well maintained by dedicated people. The recently retired Mrs. Isabel Hastings was organist for approximately 50 years; this was not done for any financial gain, as when times were bad this was non-existent. There are many dedicated families who are very active in church organizations, the reason this church lives on.

(Most of the following information was obtained from Alan Anderson):

The Post Office was in operation from 1863 to 1914. This was a small space in a person's home. I have three different locations in all, the first four being nearer to the Rich Hill Church and the last being near the Catholic Church. These were all within a mile or thereabouts, with the exception of one I find written on an old atlas, about two miles distant.

Between 1860 and 1870 the proceeds taken at the Post Office was less than \$50.00 per year; between 1870 and 1880 it rose to between \$50.00 and \$100.00. Penville was about the same, while Tottenham between 1870 and 1880 got up to between \$100.00 and \$200.00 per year. These were the days of the penny postcard - not the picture postcard; they came later - but the Government printed ones. A letter was then 2c.

In 1863 the mail was delivered to Tuam from Tottenham, three times a week, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. This was two and three-quarter miles. At that time James Austin had the contract; this was probably done on horseback as was general in that era. The Postmaster at Tuam was paid a commission of \$12.60 and allowance for stationery was \$1.33 for the year.

SCHOOLS:

There were two schools within the Tuam boundary. The schools went by numbers, and the two that I speak of were S.S. #2 and S.S. #3 (S.S. standing for school section). They were about two miles apart. The #2 school was at the "Rich Hill" corner (being the #10 sideroad and Conc. 2) and the #3 school was at the #15 sideroad and Conc. 2. The S.S. #2 school was in operation until 1909 or 1913, when the Tecumseh South Central School was opened. The S.S. #3 school closed in the 1890's and was demolished in the early 1960's. There was no water at this school; it was carried each day by one of the pupils from the nearest farm which was almost a quarter of a mile away.

COMMUNITY:

At the turn of the century Tuam was a thriving community. There was a hotel on the southeast corner of sideroad #10 and Conc. 3, I have been told, but I cannot find any records (possibly none were kept). There was a blacksmith's shop on the corner of Sideroad #15 and Conc. 3; although overgrown, the foundations are still there. This was a very busy place in its day - a delight of all the boys in the community.

As early as 1822 William Rogers purchased 200 acres, being Lot 11, Conc. 2, in what was later known as Tuam. Some of his descendants are still living in the community.

- By Adeline Rogers, 1979.

TOTTENHAM RAILWAYS - CANADIAN NATIONAL

The Canadian National Railway line through Tottenham was built by the Hamilton and North Western Railway Company. The first train through the village was operated on January 1, 1878. On June 6, 1879, the Hamilton and North Western Railway amalgamated with the Northern and North Western Junction Railway Co., which, in turn, was taken over by the Grand Trunk Railway on February 24, 1888. The Grand Trunk Railway became part of the Canadian National Railway System in late 1922.



The Canadian National Railway Station

The railway station was located just north of Mill Street. In the early years of train service there were daily two trains north from Hamilton to Barrie which stopped at Tottenham at 9:37 am and 6:33 pm. They returned south at 6:20 am and 7:14 pm. Many young people used the train service daily in order to attend Tottenham Continuation School. They came from such places as Englewood, Caledon East, Cheltenham and Palgrave.



Although information on the station agents is scarce, we do know that two of them were Messrs. Williamson and Roy.

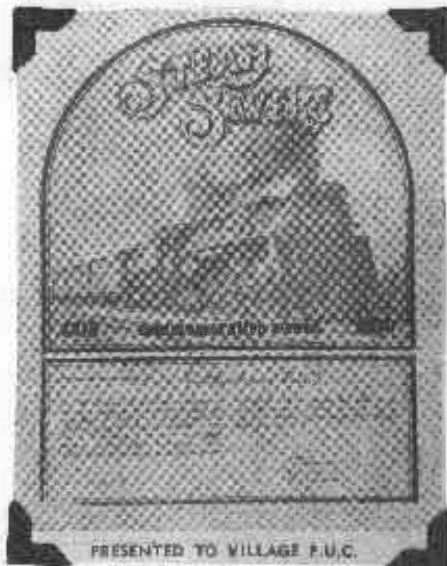
Public timetables for passenger service ended October 1960. Freight train service was eventually discontinued also, since it is now faster to attend to our area via truck for a central point called a "Servocenter". The station building as seen in the above photos is no longer standing.

TOTTENHAM RAILWAYS - CANADIAN NATIONAL - cont'd.

In 1972, Tottenham P.C. received an award from the 'Steam Savers'. The following article appeared in the Tottenham News:-

"P.C. Receive Award"

When the C.N.R. railway decided in 1970-71 to abandon the past operating steam engine in Canada, interested citizens all over the nation formed "The Steam Savers" - a group dedicated to the preservation of this major link with Canada's railway history. They launched a campaign in Mar. 1971 in favour of retaining the steam engine called No. 6218. The protest received much publicity. In December 1971, for example, Britain's famed "Railway Magazine" ran their cover story on "The Steam Savers" efforts to save the 6218. Participants wrote letters, donated money, displayed bumper stickers and badges in support of the campaign and when the engine retired in Belleville in July 1971, the campaign featured the rock group "Stone Hand" in a public meeting before hundreds of fans.



This award which was presented to the P.C.

Finally, in Apr. 1972, there was victory for "The Steam Savers". In response to public opinion, C.N. announced that Mountain Type Locomotive would be completely restored and placed in service in 1973. C.N. stated that, with the possible exception of the Southern Railroad in the U.S., no railway in North America had done as much to keep steam alive. They admitted, however, that "Public popularity for 6218 was surprisingly strong, as demonstrated by the 'bags of letters asking for her return' received by Prime Minister Trudeau, Jack Pickersgill, recently retired Canadian Transport Commission chairman, and railway officials." As a result of the triumphant campaign, C.N.'s passenger sales department will organize and promote weekend excursions for \$6, \$6.50 all over the country.

In gratitude to their supporters, "The Steam Savers" sent awards to all communities which assisted in the campaign, with outstanding contributors receiving framed certificates. The Tottenham P.C. was honoured with a framed certificate for their promise to fill the steam engine with water, free of charge, whenever it passed through Tottenham. On three occasions Tottenham has supplied the engine with free water (about 10,000 gals. each time) on its excursions from Toronto to Barrie. On one occasion, water was supplied for a week while a movie was being made.

On the plaque, which will hang in the town hall, are these words:
"Presented in gratitude to Tottenham P.C. for dedication and assistance rendered in saving a campaign to ensure the continued operation of Canada's last Mainline Steam Locomotive, Mountain Type No. 6218. This campaign resulted in a complete reversal of Canadian National Railway's decision to abandon steam excursion operations, and stimulate the Railway to recondition and maintain in service a replacement locomotive Mountain Type 8060."

Long May She Chuff!

Paul J. Barnes"

TOTTENHAM RAILWAYS - CANADIAN PACIFIC

What is now comprised in the MacTier and Farry Sound Sub. Divs. between Bolton and Romford was opened up progressively in three sections. The section extending from Bolton, through Tottenham to Craighurst was opened to traffic on January 1, 1907. The section from Craighurst to Baln was opened on May 24, 1907, while the remaining section extending from Baln to Romford was opened on June 15, 1908. That part of the MacTier Subdivision south of Bolton had been built originally in the 1870's as part of the narrow-gauge Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway, whose route extended westward from Bolton over the Coloden Mills to Orangeville; it was integrated into what is now known as the Canadian Pacific Railway, in 1884.

Mr. Hans Delaney, a former station agent, informed us that no individual record was kept of the names of persons who have held the post of agent from the beginning, because staff record files were maintained in name of employee number order, rather than grouped according to the location of employment by the Railroad. In fact, staff cards seldom showed the location of employment, but there might have been reference to the Division where employed. However, from various sources, including Mr. Delaney's own personal knowledge, there is a list of names of the agents posted at Tottenham C.P. station, which is believed to be correct.

The Canadian Pacific Railway station - with tennis courts in foreground (near Will St. E.)

The list is as follows:- Ed Downey, Bill Brawley, Al Presman, Hans Delaney (March 1933 to 1940), Rhene Delaney (1940 to 1963), Jack and Nora Wodwell (Aug. 1963 until closure of station).

By the time Mr. Delaney took over, things were showing signs of picking up after the Depression and operators who held places like Tottenham were asked to teach their wives the work which consisted of handling money orders, tickets, express. No freight accounting or telegraph was handled at these places. Alliston and Bolton stations did the freight accounting for Tottenham. Thus, in 1940, Rhene Delaney took over the job at Tottenham, thereby releasing Hans for relieving purposes at points elsewhere. Rhene was in charge of the Tottenham station until 1963, when the Delaneys retired. Jack and Nora Wodwell took over in August 1963, after the Delaneys moved to Toronto.

A view from the track. C.P. Station.

Although there is no longer a C.P.R. station in Tottenham, the trains still pass through our village, whistles resounding, reminding us of a era gone by in which the train played an important part.

In June, 1938, there was a train derailment about two miles north of Tottenham. At 11:45 pm on June 27th, train No. 95 had the following cars leave the track: tender, first class, tourist, diner and two sleepers - apparently from an unknown cause.

TOTTENHAM RAILWAYS - CANADIAN PACIFIC - cont'd.

The following story is an eyewitness account of the train derailment, which was submitted by Mr. Leonard Abernethy of Tottenham:-

"On June 27th, 1905, the passenger train on the C.P.R. was derailed at the sixth line crossing, 2 miles north of Tottenham, within a year from the time the line was built. The cause was thought to have been, driving a little fast down the grade and the tracks spread. The accident happened at 11:45 pm, but with not many phones at that time, people didn't hear about it until the next morning which was Sunday.

I remember going down with my parents. The engine and first two coaches did not leave the track, but the rest of the coaches went down the embankment, turning right over. Many people were hurt. There were no ambulances in those days so the people were taken to the nearest farm home - that of Mr. & Mrs. Watson. While we were there, a lady was going from one coach to another looking for something and when the train man asked her if she had lost someone she said, "Yes, my dog". He told her to get away from the train and be thankful she hadn't lost some of her family.

About two years after this, Mr. Watson had a prize team of horses which in some way got on the track and the same passenger train coming along hit both horses and killed them. Mr. Watson had them valued and sent the C.P.R. a bill for \$500.00. They immediately wrote back to say they would not take the blame and would not pay the bill. He felt very bad and brought the letter and showed it to my father, Mr. S.J. Abernethy, who said, "Just wait a few days until I think about it". The next day my father wrote a letter to the C.P.R. and told them it didn't matter how the horses got on the track; it was their train that hit them. He told them that when their train was derailed two years before that, Mr. Watson had turned his home into a hospital - with no loss of life - and no charge to the C.P.R., and if they had lost a life it would have cost them more than the price of the horses. In two weeks, Mr. Watson came to my father and said "Here is the cheque for \$500.00 I received from the C.P.R.": "



C.P.R. Station - looking north.

TOTTENHAM RAILWAYS - CANADIAN PACIFIC - cont'd.

All the cars behind the second class car were upside down at the bottom of a fifteen-foot embankment, except for the Balm sleeper. The track was badly torn up for about three hundred feet behind the train. A work engine and crew from Bolton, fortified by men and materials from Woodbridge, and extra medical aid arrived at the scene. Twenty people were injured, including two C.P.R. employees, but luckily none were seriously hurt. Three doctors from Tottenham attended to the injured and the nearby home of Mr. & Mrs. William Watson was opened to the injured and served as a temporary hospital for several days.



Photos of the train wreck on the C.P. line between Tottenham and Beeton - June 27, 1908.

As mentioned previously, the injured on the train were taken to the home of Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Watson, which was located on the north half of Lot 7, Con. 5. The Watsons farmed here from about 1898 to 1924, and they performed many acts of kindness, including opening up their home to the injured from the train wreck and looking after some for as long as a week or more.



The Watsons had one child, a little boy, whom they lost in 1919 at the tender age of six.

When Mrs. Watson's health failed, they moved to Aurora in 1924. She died in 1930 and Mr. Watson passed away in 1965.

Photo at left:- Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Watson

THE HISTORY OF THE TELEPHONE IN TOTTENHAM

In 1888 the telephone line from Tottenham to Beeton was erected. Tottenham's first telephone exchange was opened in 1889 in the premises of George F. Hughes at the corner of George and Queen Streets. Mr. Hughes was appointed local manager

for Bell Canada and there were three subscribers. Office hours were from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. weekdays; 2 to 4 p.m. Sundays and holidays.



Telephone men camped along the route of the long distance line. They took blacksmiths and cooks along.

The number of subscribers gradually increased over the next few years, but not rapidly enough for the "Saturday Morning" Tottenham newspaper. In their issue of May 21st, 1904, "Saturday Morning" states "Although 35 subscribers for a town of this size is unusually large, we think it would be doubled if the advantages were thoroughly figured out". With a rather lengthy sentence, the newspaper goes on to explain, "A subscriber wants to speak to someone in the town, to get something from the store, to get some word from the railway station, to call up the doctor, the tinsmith, the baker, or, in

fact, communicate with any individual in the village, in place of leaving his work, and trudging out, perhaps in the wet and cold, he simply takes down the phone and does the work in a minute or perhaps it saves hitching up a horse and driving to Colgan, Keenansville, Loretto, Athlone, Ballyeroy, Palgrave, or any of the enterprising farmers on the route who have phones, and all absolutely free of cost". "Saturday Morning" concludes, "We don't wonder at so many having phones, but that any one is without one in a town having so many free accommodations as Tottenham".

Whether or not the newspaper had any effect, the number of telephone subscribers gradually increased until there were 100 telephones in 1921. In December of 1906, the District Supervisor requested that an instrument be placed in the newly-

opened O.P.R. station at Tottenham on the new Sudbury Branch for the convenience of subscribers, and this probably increased the demand for telephones.



Evelyn Simmons and Evelyn Hammond - operators in Tottenham Office - 1937.

In 1910, Mr. F.W. Abbott became manager of the exchange and stayed on until 1928. Growth slowed substantially from 1922 until just after World War II. During that time the number of telephones in service hovered around 100. Mrs. M. Childs became Branch Manager in 1929; Miss M. Cappelin took on her duties from 1931 to 1935. Other operators in the Tottenham office were Myrtle Anderson, Mary Frest, Violet Bryan (Dunn), Agnes Walsh, Helen Kavanagh, Kay Lyons.

In 1935 Tottenham was placed under A.A. Smith, District Manager at Barrie. Miss M. Cappelin became local representative. Miss E.H. Simmons was local representative from 1940-42, Mrs. M.K. Smith from 1943-45, Miss E.E. Worrod from 1947-49, Mrs. N.E. Johnson from 1949-51, and Mrs. A.M. Mollett from 1952-61.

THE HISTORY OF THE TELEPHONE IN TOTTENHAM - cont'd.

On May 7th, 1957, the Beeton Telephone Company Limited was purchased by the Bell Telephone Company of Canada. The Beeton Company, which also served some Tottenham subscribers over the years, was started by Dr. H.S. Brewster in 1911, so his farm patients could get in touch with him quickly. Some 1105 telephone customers were brought into the Bell's system as a result of the sale. The Beeton Company's subscribers, who had been served by Bell Telephone switchboards at Beeton, Cookstown, Alliston, Tottenham and Bradford, became customers of the exchange serving them. Most of the Beeton Company's "magneto, crank-operated telephones" were retained by the Bell.

Telephone rates in 1957 were under the supervision of the Board of Transport Commissioners for Canada. They were \$2.75 for a multi-party line and \$1.00 for an extension for residence service, and \$3.85 for a multi-party line and \$1.85 for an extension for business service.

Local representatives ceased to exist in 1961 at the same time that dial telephone service spun into reality in Tottenham. The manager for the area worked out of the Newmarket Bell office. This was G.R. Calder from 1962-64, and H.B. Allen from 1965-on.

The dial telephone service officially began early on Sunday, November 5th, 1961, and Tottenham was given "all number calling", which consisted of the present seven-figure numbers beginning with "936".

Direct Distance Dialing was introduced on June 18, 1968. This allowed the caller to dial station-to-station long distance calls without contacting the operator. The entire area including Aurora, Beeton, Bradford, King City, Mount Albert, Newmarket, Queensville and Schomberg began Direct Distance Dialing at the same time as Tottenham.

The number of telephones in service increased markedly with the expansion of the village. The 300th telephone was installed in 1963, and the 1,000th in 1970. As of December 31, 1973, there were 1,924 subscribers in Tottenham.

J. D. ELLIOTT

TOTTENHAM

Dealer in Skeels and Fancy Dry Goods, Hosiery
and Caps, Boots and Shoes, Groceries,
Ladies' Jackets and Ready-
made Clothing.

ORDERED CLOTHING A SPECIALTY.

41-43	AUSTIN, JAMES	Tottenham
41-43	DAVIS, HILTON	Tottenham
41-43	DAVIS, HILTON	Tottenham
41-43	DAVIS, HILTON	Tottenham
41-43	DAVIS, HILTON	Tottenham
41-43	DAVIS, HILTON	Tottenham
41-43	DAVIS, HILTON	Tottenham
41-43	DAVIS, HILTON	Tottenham
41-43	DAVIS, HILTON	Tottenham
41-43	DAVIS, HILTON	Tottenham

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When shipping Live Stock protect yourself
from loss in railway accidents by insuring on a
fourth party policy. No inspection fees up to \$500 of
liability. Moderate premium. Prompt settlement.

THIS CARD DOCUMENTS FILE

CORRECTED TO MARCH 1st, 1911

Official Directory



Beeton

Telephone
Company

HEAD OFFICE:

Beeton, : : Ontario

Connecting with the Bell Telephone Company
of Canada at Alliston, Beeton, Bradford,
Cockshorn and Tottenham.

Copyright, Beeton, 1911, by W. J. Anderson.

23962

TOTTENHAM, ONTARIO

1911 - line from Tottenham to Beeton erected.

First appeared in Directory in 1889.

Eastern Ontario Directory
George P. Hushes - Local Manager from 1889 - 1908.

- 1889 - Corner of George & Queen Street.
- Three Subscribers
- 1890 - George & Queen Street
- Four Subscribers
- Hours 7 A.M. till 10 P.M. Week Days
1 P.M. to 10 P.M. Sundays and Holidays
- 1891 - George & Queen Street
- Four Subscribers
- Hours 7 A.M. till 10 P.M. Week Days
2 P.M. to 4 P.M. Sundays and Holidays
- 1892 - George & Queen Street
- Three Subscribers
- Hours 7 A.M. to 9 P.M. Week Days
2 P.M. to 4 P.M. Sundays
10 A.M. to 12 A.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. Holidays
- 1893 - George & Queen Street
- Three Subscribers
- Hours 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. Week Days
2 P.M. to 4 P.M. Sundays
10 A.M. to 12 A.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. Holidays
- 1894 - George & Queen Street
- Three Subscribers
- 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. Week Days
2 P.M. to 4 P.M. Sundays
10 A.M. to 12 A.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. Holidays
- 1895 - 10 Queen Street
- Seven Subscribers
- Hours 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. Week Days
2 P.M. to 4 P.M. Sundays
10 A.M. to 12 A.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. Holidays
- 1896 - 10 Queen Street
- Seven Subscribers
- Hours 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. Week Days
2 P.M. to 4 P.M. Sundays
10 A.M. to 12 A.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. Holidays

MISSING YEARS 1897 - 1898

The above were shown in the Eastern Ontario Directory

The following are shown in the Western Ontario Directory.

- 1899 - Seven Subscribers
- 1900 - Ten Subscribers
- 1901 - Fourteen Subscribers
- 1902 - Twenty Subscribers
- 1903 - Thirty-Two Subscribers
- 1904 - Thirty-Four Subscribers
- 1905 - Thirty-Eight Subscribers
- 1906 - Forty-One Subscribers

The following are shown in the Central Ontario Directory

- 1907 - Forty-Six Subscribers
- 1908 - Fifty-Two Subscribers (March Directory)
- 1908 - Fifty-Two Subscribers (September Directory)
- 1909 - Miss G.K. Hughes - Local Manager
- Fifty-Five Subscribers

F.W. Abbott - Local Manager from 1910 - 1917

F.W. Abbott - Branch Manager from 1918 - 1928

Starting in 1920 Tottenham Subscribers are listed in the Barrie Directory

1929 - Mrs. M. Child - Branch Manager

1930 - No Book for this year

Miss M. Cappelin - Branch Manager from 1931 - 1934

A.A. Smith - District Manager - Barrie from 1935 - 1937
Miss M. Cappelin - Local Representative 1935 - 1939

A.A. Smith - Manager - Barrie from 1938 - 1945

Local Representatives:

Miss E.H. Simmons from 1940 - 1942

Mrs. M.K. Smith from 1943 - 1945

1946 - No Book for this year

1947 - C.E. Blodale - Manager - Newmarket
- Miss N.E. Worrod - Local Representative

1948 - S.R. Van Dusen - Manager - Newmarket
- Miss N.E. Worrod - Local Representative

1949 - H.A. Blachford - Manager - Newmarket
- Mrs. N.E. Johnson - Local Representative

C.E. Blodale - Manager - Newmarket from 1950 - 1961

Local Representatives:

Mrs. N.E. Johnson from 1950 - 1951

Mrs. A.M. Mollett from 1952 - 1961

G.M. Calder - Manager - Newmarket from 1962 - 1964

H.B. Allan - Manager - Newmarket from 1965 - 19

1969 - Business Office located at 444 Millard, Newmarket, Ontario

TOTALS
EXCHANGED

LOCAL USE CODE

3

TELEPHONES IN SERVICE - DECEMBER 31

YEAR	TOTAL	YEAR	PARUAL	ETAL	TOTAL	YEAR	PARUAL	DIAL	TOTAL
1936	54	1936	107	-	107	1946	144	-	144
1937	54	1937	103	-	103	1947	178	-	178
1938	55	1938	116	-	116	1948	198	-	198
1939	58	1939	116	-	116	1949	207	-	207
1940	60	1940	122	-	122	1950	238	-	238
1941	63	1941	119	-	119	1951	291	-	291
1942	62	1942	100	-	100	1952	291	-	291
1943	56	1943	88	-	88	1953	307	-	307
1944	63	1944	101	-	101	1954	322	-	322
1945	62	1945	104	-	104	1955	343	-	343
1946	62	1946	105	-	105	1956	368	-	368
1947	67	1947	102	-	102	1957	384	-	384
1948	67	1948	104	-	104	1958	414	-	414
1949	68	1949	103	-	103	1959	428	-	428
1950	67	1950	94	-	94	1960	467	-	467
1951	101	1951	92	-	92	1961	509	-	509
1952	99	1952	97	-	97	1962	536	-	536
1953	103	1953	103	-	103	1963	552	-	552
1954	106	1954	105	-	105	1964	545	-	545
1955	113	1955	118	-	118	1965	567	-	567

B.T. FORM 445 (E-52)

1966 545
1967 567
1968 566
1969 918
1970 1,121
1971 1,332
1972 1,780
1973 1,924
1974 2,727

TOTTENHAM POND AND DAM

The Tottenham Pond, part of the Nottawasage Valley Conservation Authority, is located on the western edge of the village, off Mill Street (Concession 4). It is a popular place for villagers and tourists alike, who come to enjoy the sandy beach and rolling hills in the summer. Swimming classes are held there throughout the summer months and two day camps offer summertime fun for the young set. A gala fireworks display each May 24th is presented by the Tottenham Fire Department and is well attended. Wintertime brings the inevitable skaters and the hills provide a good run for the toboggans and sleighs. Providing the weather is agreeable, winter games are usually slated for one weekend of fun activities.



The dam which provides the pond is located at the north end of the pond, beside Thompson's Mill. Throughout the years, the pond has had its share of trouble with the untimely destruction of the dam at different times.

In June 1890, two mill dams broke, sweeping John Beard's dwelling away. The Beards lost their house contents and were left with only the clothes on their backs. Also swept away was a building fifty feet long, used as a printing office and store by Frank Morrison.

It was lifted off its foundation and swept down the angry flood, taking the type presses, groceries etc.

When Hurricane Hazel roared through the village on the night of Oct. 15, 1954, it tore out the 40-foot dam across the pond and sent the whole volume of a 24-acre pond surging down the valley. Villagers, who had remained on guard, were helpless when the crisis came and were forced to flee. Away went the Tottenham pond, the largest body of water in the area for more than 100 years that had been a favorite fishing and bathing spot in summer and a mecca for skaters in the winter. In place of a beauty spot that drew visitors by the hundreds, all that was left was a muddy, stump-filled valley and a silvery trickle of a stream.



This is the scene in the flats north of the Conservation Area, after Hurricane Hazel.

Taken from the west side, after the hurricane in 1954.

The loss of the pond was a blow to residents of the entire area including Alliston, Beeton, Schomberg, Colgan, Palgrave, Mono Mills, Bond Head, Penville and Black Horse, who had enjoyed its pleasures as far back as they could remember.

Cont'd. . .

TOTTENHAM POND AND DAM - cont'd.

Engineers said it would take \$10,000 to restore the dam that would refill the pond. Tottenham launched a drive to reach this goal, with the hope that it could be realized by public subscription, with some provincial assistance, since the loss was suffered in a wide-spread provincial catastrophe. Reeve Joe Belford with committeemen Walt Rogers, Alton Anderson, Jim Hurst and Tom McGoey got things rolling and before long the villagers had raised \$1,500. Among the first contributors was the Women's Institute, which turned over \$360, proceeds from a gala variety night in the town hall.

The following are eye witness accounts of Hurricane Hazel's devastating effects on the village:

Account by the Abrams family who lived in the white house just west of the pond (now belonging to the Conservation Authority):-

It had rained for days, and it was still raining when I drove home from the Creamery office that Friday evening at 6 o'clock, on October 15th, 1954. There were lights in the old barn building below the dam, indicating that the Woodwards were at work inside converting it into a house which they hoped to occupy soon. As I turned the sharp right angle after passing over the bridge at the foot of our lane, I saw, but didn't really believe, that the creek had risen to where the water was lapping over the road. Running from the garage to the house I could hear the roar of the water as it filled the overflow of the dam, and felt uneasy about the folks still in the building, but more concerned with the thought that it was a horrible night to go out again to attend a Sunday School meeting at the Manas scheduled for after supper. In the den were Rod and Janet, with Rod's friend Jim Greystone, totally involved in watching television, and quite forgetting that friends from town were to leave for home before dark. I was annoyed at the prospect of another wet trip to the car to take Jim home, when we realized that the drapes were hanging limp and wet on the north window, and water was creeping along the floor where the wind was driving it in through the wall. So Jim was sent off on his own, while we began to mop up, knowing we would be uneasy until we heard that he had arrived safely in town. Cliff came in from the barn, shores done, dripping wet, and glad to be inside, and we decided it would be wise to persuade the Rev. Deay Duke to cancel the church meeting, and phone Mrs. Hamilton to suggest that she not try to drive down the 5th line from Colgan.

Rod and Janet had been in bed as usual since 8 o'clock and Grandpa Simmonds had decided to go to his room also about 8:45, and with no interest in radio or T.V., Cliff was reading and I was ironing. Suddenly there was a dull thud - felt, more than heard, and the lights went out. I went for a lamp, and Cliff to see if the lights were out at the power-house, when he called to say that the flats below, across the road, were under water. Truly they were indeed under water - it was like a lake, where the field had been, and we stood at the window, staring. A banging at the back door startled us - we couldn't imagine anyone at the door on a night like this, but we opened it to find Earl Woodward, soaking wet and shaking with cold, and gasping that he needed help - 'his brother and father were drowned' when the dam had given way above them, and washed away the building where they were working. While I called the switchboard to ask the operator to sound the fire alarm and report the emergency, Cliff ran down to the garage to back out the car and drive it down the lane to use its headlights to look for the victims.

The building had been washed off its foundation, set afloat by the force of the water as the dam gave way, crashed into the bridge, which also broke free, and everything went swirling down over the flats. The pond waters evidently had risen higher than the overflow at our end of the dam, and when it could no longer be contained it washed over the bank and down our lane, and was still rushing down in a torrent when Cliff backed the car out and drove down through it. Miraculously our phone had not gone out. The roar of the water between us and the town folk made it impossible to be heard, so the operator carried the word that two people had been washed away. While Campbell O'Leary and Cliff waded along the high land between our flats and the Heenan farm, the others searched the west side. We found dry clothes for Earl, tucked him in blankets, made a cup of tea with water hot from the tap, and heard his story. They had worked until water began seeping in on the floor under the door, and by this time it was too late to leave without getting soaked. When the water got higher they went up to the loft, and from there out on to the roof. When the building gave way after the dam broke, his father persuaded Earl to jump immediately, and this he did, after which he made his way to the road, and up to our door. As the building broke up Mr. Woodward was washed with it to the line fence, and this guided him to high ground and thence to Heenan's house. There he phoned to us the good news that he was safe. This left only Bruce, whom the father had last seen still clinging to some lumber and being swept toward the fifth line. There Bruce was able to grasp a limb of a tree overhanging the

Cont'd. . .

TOTTENHAM POND AND DAM - cont'd.

water, and climb up out of the rushing current. This is where he was found by the searchers from the village, and carried to safety by Harry Wilson who waded out into the water to lift him down.

As always came the calm after the storm! In the morning what a sight! Where the pond had been were the jagged stumps of the trees which must have been standing when the waters had been dammed years ago. The flats across the road, which had been green with fall wheat were now a stony desolate waste covered by the stones and gravel washed over it. The bridge was gone, and the creek already back to a normal stream, was flowing between us and the village. Mr. Wm. Smart, the town engineer, was on hand when daylight came, with a temporary hook-up to provide hydro, and the radio brought the word of the disaster and loss of life around us, and we realized that Tottenham had much to be thankful for with only property damage to be repaired.

- submitted by Stella Abrams.

Account by the McKenna family, who also lived west of the dam:-

It is believed that Francis McKenna was the last car over the bridge just before the dam gave way. He had gone to meet the Toronto bus which had arrived in town about 7 p.m. On the way to town the water was gushing over the road on the flat part west of what was then Campbell O'Leary's farm. He pondered with the idea of staying in town, but with the bad weather report he thought the ones at home would really be scared because they talked of high winds. When they were coming back, just in the deepest part which was like a river, the car stopped. There was nothing to do but get out of the car and start walking through the fast flowing waters - and expect the car to be washed away. With two city visitors, not really dressed for such an ordeal, they waded their way through, up to their knees. They reached home scared, drenched and thankful they were indoors. It wasn't very long until the phone rang, with someone telling of the disaster and the three Woodwards. Everyone got dry clothes, warm food and realized how really lucky they were.

- submitted by Hilda McKenna.

The dam was eventually rebuilt; one of the interesting fund raising events was that of the 'Old Boys' reunion - old timers who had left Tottenham many years before (many of whom lived in the U.S.A.) returned to raise funds for the rebuilding of the dam August 9, 1956. One of these 'Old Boys' was Harry Greenaway from Los Angeles, a prominent lacrosse player half a century before, who had introduced the game to Spokane, Wash. in 1912.

As well as providing a beauty spot and recreational facilities, the pond was also utilitarian back in the days before refrigerators. In winter the ice on the pond was cut into blocks for the local ice houses. The picture below shows the ice-cutting crew at work:



In 1966 the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority acquired approximately 120 acres in the Village of Tottenham. A twenty acre parcel consisting of a large

Cont'd. . .

TOTTENHAM POND AND DAM - cont'd.

earth fill dam and 'pond' and dry land located on the perimeter of the pond was acquired from the Village of Tottenham for the nominal sum of \$5.00. The hundred acre farm belonging to C. Abrams located along and adjacent to, the west edge of the Tottenham pond was also acquired. The properties provided an excellent combination of facilities, enabling the Authority to implement a most comprehensive program of conservation in the area, with virtually unlimited benefits to the people of the surrounding watershed, as well as to the adjoining city populace to the south, and the general touring public.

In 1967, a budget of \$5.00 was set aside by the Authority for the undertaking of the initial development work, including construction of service roads and parking facilities, clearing, brushing, seeding, tree planting and fencing. Since 1967, development work has taken place regularly.

In the spring of 1975, and again in the spring of 1976, during the spring thaw, leaks developed in the dam around the sluiceway into the mill. Men from the PUC and the Fire Department, along with volunteers from the village, sandbagged the weak point, thus preventing a disaster. Apparently the water level had been lowered during the winter by the Authority, causing frost to penetrate the sluiceway and thus causing the water to seep out when the earth dam started to thaw in springtime. The pond was left drained during the summer of 1976, because of government red tape in approving the expenditure by the MVCA, and it was a long hot summer indeed for those of us who took advantage of the refreshing water for cooling off! Finally in the spring of 1977, the dam was repaired and gone was the stump-filled gully of the previous summer.

TOTTENHAM HYDRO-ELECTRIC



Electric lights were first installed in Tottenham in the late 1800's by Nicholas Egan. The current was generated at Egan's mill on the 3rd line, and not only the street lights, but all the lights, were doused at 11 o'clock. On the expiration of Mr. Egan's franchise, the village built and operated its own steam plant, which shut down at midnight. With the advent of Hydro, continuous service was inaugurated, and interruptions in the service have been comparatively rare.

In May 1891 negotiations were in progress for lighting the Village of Tottenham by electricity. In Feb. 1894, the Kay Electric Works installed a 400 light incandescent lamp for Thomas Egan of Tottenham (grandfather of Vince & Gerry Egan). In April 1902 a bylaw to raise \$6,000 to establish an electric light plant at Tottenham was carried by the ratepayers. On August 8, 1908 improvements were being considered for the municipal electric light plant which included the installation of a storage battery and placing new poles and erecting heavy air wire for transmission.

Previous to the connection of Hydro, the Village was supplied from a small D.C. plant of approx. 47 kw capacity, and the load was approx. 35 horsepower. The lines, station and the rebuilding of the local

Cont'd. . .

TOTTENHAM HYDRO-ELECTRIC

distribution system were all carried out under wartime conditions and the resulting comparatively high costs, together with the small load supplied, made it difficult in the early years for this municipality to make ends meet financially.

New consumers have been added from time to time, however, and other load increases in neighbouring municipalities have all combined to greatly improve the financial situation.

Hydro power was made available for the Village of Tottenham when lines were extended south of Barrie to serve the municipalities of Alliston, Beeton, Bradford, Thornton and Cuckstown. Lines and stations were completed, and power was first supplied September 9, 1915.

TOTTENHAM'S VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

.... One of few in all of Ontario

If you have ever taken the trouble to clock the speed of Tottenham's fire Department, you will discover that the main truck is inevitably on the road less than one minute after the siren sounds. According to reports from a man in town who actually recorded the various times taken by the firemen to respond to the siren, 55 seconds was the average interval.

If you are shopping in a store run by a volunteer fireman when that siren goes, do not be surprised at his reactions. He will not wait to finish serving his present customer, but will likely dash from the store without a word of explanation. If you are curious enough to follow him to the main street, you will see there a strange parade -- first the main fire truck and rescue van, followed by a stream of trucks and cars.

Most of the men are within hearing distance of the siren, but those who are not are phoned. When a fire alarm comes in to one of the seven phones in the fire hall, a device on the phone which activates the siren is immediately set off. A message is then left on the blackboard for other firemen, specifying the location of the fire. When a fireman hears that siren, he rushes to the fire hall, receives the message and then drives off at high speed in the direction of the fire. Naturally, the entire procedure could result in chaos and near slap-stick comedy, if it were not for a great deal of practice carried out to ensure the smooth operation of fire call procedure.

Even the firemen's wives have a part to play in the process. They often are left in charge of taking future calls and messages concerning the fire and relaying these messages by special radio to the main fire truck. The value of this service is obvious when you realize that usually several calls come in concerning the same fire, and that it has happened that wrong directions were given to the firemen and could only be corrected quickly by radio message.

For those of us who have always lived in a large city, the problems of fire fighting in the country are unrealized. In cities, where houses are often closely crowded together, the main aim of a fire department must often be to prevent the spread of the fire to adjacent buildings. Thus, water is often poured on to the fire only from the outside of the building. In a small community, however, where many fire calls are for farms, the major technique stressed by the fire department is to fight the fire on the inside. This has a number of advantages. If hoses flood the building from the outside, a great deal of water damage will result. Furthermore, inside fire fighting better enables the men to do rescue work if individuals are trapped inside a burning building. Although this technique is more dangerous for the firemen, with proper training it is by far the most efficient method of fighting fire.

A second problem which makes it impossible to pour thousands of gallons of water on the fire is the fact that there is usually very little water available, especially in the country. The Tottenham fire department has no tanker with which to carry a large amount of water to the scene of the fire and is badly in need of one. Thus, as soon as the fire chief, Jim Stone, arrives at the scene he must spend valuable time searching the property for a pond or stream from which to pump water.

Fire fighting techniques are learned by the men through long hours of study and practice. When confronted with a burning building, they must be able to detect, by the sounds inside, whether the room they are about to enter is on fire. Before he opens a door, a fireman must be able to judge what he will meet on the other side of that door. Failure to judge this properly could easily result in serious injury. He must learn also how to make use of the little air contained in a burning building, how to ventilate a building by means of a fan or by chopping holes to get rid of hot gas and smoke, how to survive in a smoke-filled building by crawling on the floor where pockets of cold air allow breathing and movement, and how to properly protect fellow firemen. The first objective of the firefighters is to locate the source of the fire, and in many cases, when this was done successfully, house fires have been extinguished with only 600 gal pumper. In cases where the fire is already well established, another technique can be used. Hose streams are shot across the ceiling area of the building in order to produce steam from the fire. This procedure excludes the oxygen, and the resulting steam drives out the smoke and fire. One of the major signs that a fire is being brought under control, explains Jim Stone, is that steam, instead of smoke, begins to pour from the building.

Along with these major methods of combating fire, the men must also learn how to properly place heavy ladders, how to properly balance themselves while working on the ladder and on the roof, how to relay water by portable pumps, and how to carry on salvage operations that will protect a building and its furniture from smoke and water damage. If it is possible the men will take mattresses, clothes, furniture and other valuables from the building before fire can destroy them. A 100% salvage job can be done.

The role of the fire chief, as that of any co-ordinator, is a key to the fire department's success. He must oversee the entire fire, continually walking around the building to determine where men ought to be placed and how successfully the fire is being extinguished. With close to 15 years' experience, Tottenham's fire chief sets a high standard of discipline and excellence for the department. Approximately 30 men constitute the Tottenham fire department which is one of the few Ontario volunteer departments to receive absolutely no pay. As well as fighting about 60 annual fires, the men devote several hours weekly to fire fighting practice and the maintenance of trucks and equipment. Jim Stone estimates that a minimum of 50 man-hours per week go into the work of the department and this does not include time spent fighting fires.

A fire, he said, can also cost a man a great deal of money, not only in lost business working hours, but also in ruined clothing, boots, gloves, etc. And since the men travel at high speed to the fires their cars often suffer damage. Once, he said, one man tore off his entire exhaust system after hitting a large hole in the road. Despite the obvious hardships of the men, they receive tremendous satisfaction from doing a good job and from serving the community.

Tottenham's Fire Truck
answering call from
Becker's Store, corner
Queen and Wilson Streets,
Spring of 1973.



RESCUE SQUAD
RARE SERVICE FOR TOTTENHAM

by J. Bralsford in The Tottenham News, Nov. 1, 1972.

A rescue squad is a rarity in small towns. Except in larger cities, rescue work is usually performed by the local fire department. Two years ago, however, Tottenham saw the initial development of its own rescue squad — a team of fifteen men specially trained in first-aid techniques -- and the first for any small town north of Toronto. A new van and thousands of dollars of equipment are gradually being paid for by the sale of a monthly \$100 bond.

For traffic accident victims, a rescue squad can be a life saver. In an area where the nearest hospital is fifteen miles away victims trapped in cars and those suffering severe blood loss may die before ambulances arrive. The rescue squad can be on the road in one minute after being notified. With the special equipment stored in their van — cutting torches, gasoline-driven saw for cutting through glass and metal, a ten-ton hydraulic jack, and several varieties of fire extinguishers, the men can quickly dismantle the entire car. While cases are often reported of victims being trapped in cars for two and three hours, the rescue squad can remove the car's roof in only eight minutes. In less than fifteen minutes, the victim can be taken from an entirely dismantled car.

In emergency cases in the home, such as heart and asthmatic attacks, in drownings and accidents requiring oxygen, the squad is invaluable. With the resuscitator, the specially trained men can quickly administer first-aid long before a doctor or ambulance could arrive. In this way, it is an essential aid to hospitals and police, as well as to the public. "The Rescue Squad" explains Jim Stone, head of the squad, "is one of the few organizations that provides a quick response."

Many emergency calls have come in during the past two years; all have been successfully handled.

An average of ten to twenty "no breathing" calls are answered yearly as well as three to four traffic accident calls. Especially in "no breathing" cases, Mr. Stone urges all people to utilize this service. In emergency, call 936-4234. Only if this service is publicized and used by the people can it truly benefit the community it is designed to help.

P. Stone

TOTTENHAM PUBLIC SCHOOL (AND CONTINUATION SCHOOL)

In the early history of Tottenham knowledge was imparted to the children by a Mr. Kennedy, in an old log store, previously owned by a Mr. Totten. We are unable to find out the date, but one pioneer remembered when there was no school in the village. It is presumed children attended S.D. No. 5 school on the south half of Lot 4, Conc. 5. The first building was consumed by fire, and children were taught in an unused foundry by Mr. J.A. Austin. He was told they used three or four inches of sand on the floor to help keep the children's feet warm - that would not be as plush as the carpeted floors in some classrooms today!

When the frame Presbyterian Manse was being moved from Lot 7, Conc. 3, it and another frame building were combined to form the next school (situated presumably at the north end of Queen Street). This frame building was also burnt. In the course of building a new school, children were taught in J.V. Childs' building, south of the Anglican Church. The Cardwell Sentinel of April 27, 1882, mentioned that the school was being held in the top of an old machinery shop and that the school trustees were being asked by residents to pick a site for the new school. It seems the children were without a proper schoolhouse for quite some time, to the detriment of the parents. In another Cardwell Sentinel, the following was printed: "School Section 21 was created in 1883 to provide a school for Tottenham. Thomas Greenaway sold to the trustees one acre on the South 1/2 of Lot 6, Concession 4." A four-room building was erected and finished in December 1885. The builders were Messrs. Kavanaugh and Walker, but this building was also destroyed by fire. The present brick building on this location faces west to the road and carries the tablet, 'Public School 1893'. This is the same date as that on the bell in the new school in Tottenham - a memento from the old school. This brick building was remodelled in the early 1970's - after the school had moved to its present-day site on Rogers Rd. - and used for a few years as a medical centre, but now lies vacant.



Tottenham School built 1893 - Queen St.N.

In 1908, Tottenham Continuation School had two teachers and 53 pupils. A man's salary was \$700 and a lady teacher, \$525 per year. In 1909, they had fire drill twice a year; they also erected a school flag. In 1911 salaries went up to \$1000 and \$600 respectively. Forty-six pupils attended. Due possibly to a new regulation of the Provincial Department of Education, there was a considerable influx of students in the year 1921 into the Continuation and High Schools. There was a C.S.R. train from the Smith Hamilton-Newford line which arrived at the Tottenham station about 9:15 a.m. and a schedule of classes had to be organized as these students missed the first half hour by the time they walked from the station below the hill on Mill Street. This train picked up students from Ingelwood and Chatterham and on up the line past Galeson East, Cedar Mills and Fairgrave. Also students came from surrounding Tottenham area, Colgan, Rich Hill and Connor etc. English, French and Latin were all compulsory in the first grades. One could get his Junior Matriculation in four years at Tottenham and any who wished fifth form had to go to Alliston. Two of the Continuation School teachers during the 1920's were a Mr. Campbell and a Miss Tompkins.

In September 1970, Tottenham Public School began the Fall term in the old four-room school building at the north end of Tottenham under the principalship of Lloyd Tesluckingh, and with a staff of ten and a pupil enrolment of 120. Because of the increase in

children due to the growth of the town, a "shift" system went into operation, with primary grades attending in the morning and senior grades in the afternoon; plans for a new school were under way.

Cont'd. . .

TOTTENHAM PUBLIC SCHOOL - Page 2

The new "open-plan" school was built in the area east of the old Creamery site - now the Tottenham Mall - and was ready for occupancy in January 1971. As with all new buildings, there were many "bugs" to be ironed out, but by June '71, everyone was getting used to the open idea of 'pods', rather than closed, four-wall classrooms. Most problems had been straightened out and pupil enrollment had climbed again.



1971

The bell from the old Tottenham Public School was donated to the new school's foyer by Tottenham Developments Ltd. Retired principal of the old school, Mrs. Jean Beigh, and Mr. Lloyd Teelucksingh, principal of the new school, gave the bell one good clang, then vowed to tape it up.

School Resource Teacher - Special
Education: Mr. R. Clarke
French: Mrs. P. Carew
Health Nurse: Mrs. R. Skarda
Custodians: Mr. W. Bolton, Mrs. H. Collins

School Hours: Grades 1-8 - 8:50 a.m. to 12:00 noon; 1:10 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Kindergarten - 8:50 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (Morning Session)
1:10 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. (Afternoon Session)

NOTE: Much of the material for school histories was obtained from the Archives - mainly Superintendents' reports. Also, the Tottenham School history was taken from the Excelsior Review, 1907. The following persons contributed to individual histories:

S.S. No. 6 - Mrs. Green S.S. No. 2 - Mrs. Isabelle Hastings
S.S. No. 1 - Mrs. Den Feehery Tottenham Public School (new) - Mrs. Janet Tipping
Continuation School - Miss Elizabeth Porter

With each succeeding year, there were increases and changes in staff and pupil numbers, but with Mr. Teelucksingh still at the head.

However, in September 1976, Mr. John Denny was transferred to Tottenham as principal with Mr. Teelucksingh being transferred to Baxter. The school had grown from a small four-room building to a new, modern "open area" school, complete with a large gym and change rooms, health room, library, staff room, teacher work rooms and Pods (ie- open areas replacing closed classrooms) and there were three portable classrooms outside. The staff had increased to 20 and pupil enrollment was up to 466.

September 1977 welcomed the following staff:

Kindergarten: Mrs. J. Shaw, Mrs. P. Carew
Grade One: Mrs. P. Upton, Mrs. E. McGuire
Grade One & Two: Mrs. S. Cook
Grade Two: Mr. D. Anderson, Mrs. L. Fallis
Grade Three: Mr. D. Pautka
Grade Three & Four: Mrs. E. Teelucksingh
(wife of former principal)
Grade Four: Mrs. S. Brewer, Mrs. J. Millage
Grade Five: Mrs. J. Aspenlieder
Grades Five & Six: Mr. B. Hunter
Grade Six: Mr. W. Clarke
Grade Seven: Mrs. B. Lawson (Vice-principal)
Mrs. J. Falls
Grades Seven & Eight: Mr. H. Platt
Grade Eight: Mr. W. MacEachern
Librarian/Teacher: Mrs. L. Armstrong
School Secretary: Mrs. M. Wagner
Principal: Mr. J. Denny

- submitted 1978.

SCHOOL DAYS - by LAURENCE WILSON

In 1884 the Minister of education authorized the publication of a First Reader. The cover and thirty-two leaves made it 1/8 inch thick. It was raw sienna in colour and the cost was ten cents. As well as being a reader, it contained two pages of fifty-six designs for drawing. It had the alphabet in large and small letters as well as in print. It was also a teachers handbook. This reader was a good little book but it became outdated. Penmanship had changed. Many of the words had become uncommon. The "gig" was a horse-drawn, two-wheeled cart; the "hook-man" rented out horse-drawn vehicles. The words "wig" and "fan" were illustrated by a partly man lounging in a chair, a wig on his head and a fan in his hands. There weren't too many of these around. The word "sup" became distasteful. The "rill" was a rivulet or small stream. They dried up when the forests were stripped from the land. A dog's name was "Jup" and the men were "Bath" and "Mr. Meth". "Chide" was old-fashioned and "child" was worse. The word "pith" must have been a challenge for little children. Spelling underwent a change; "hurry" and "purrr" just had one "r" at that time. Many words were hyphenated: up-on, a-go, a-way, with-out, Mr. Chap-man.

In 1923 the Department of Education had a new reader published by the T. Eaton Co. It was called "The Ontario Readers First Book". It was a bright red, hardback book and was strictly a reader. This book was subsidized by the government so the cost was just six cents. There was a Union Jack with the caption "Our Flag" on the first page. It opened with "A Morning Hymn" and closed with "An Evening Hymn". Many of the stories and poems had a moral to them and some had overtones frowned on today. Memorization was important at this time. One of the favourite poems was "October Party" by Gen. Cooper. All through the book spaces were filled up with little memory games such as this one:-

"A wise old owl sat on a oak,
The more he saw, the less he spoke;
The less he spoke, the more he heard,
Why can't we all be like that bird?"

Eventually, this book, too, became outdated.

SCHOOL DAYS 1925-1935

On my first day of school I started out with my sister who was $3\frac{1}{2}$ years older than I, a big girl for her age, who was used to looking after three sisters, so I felt quite safe. The teacher was Miss Bessie Hurley who boarded with the Cavanaugh ladies who lived west of St. Francis Church. Unbeknown to me, Miss Hurley had announced at school that she didn't want any children starting school after Easter. However, this did not deter my mother who had decided, because I could write and count that I was ready for school. They were both right, but Miss Hurley did have too many pupils. It was the custom at this time that when you became five years old you could start after Christmas, Easter or summer holidays. My sister took me to her seat, which was a double at the back of the room. Beneath the writing surface there was a shelf with a divider to hold your supplies (which you brought yourself). On the top there was an inkwell and a groove to hold pencils, pen etc. When Miss Hurley had everyone working and was making her rounds she spotted me and standing behind my sister (teachers liked this threatening position), Miss Hurley said in a cross voice, "I thought I said I didn't want anyone starting after Easter". There was no reply from my long-suffering sister. In those days everyone was good at just hanging your head. However, she was very kind to me, put an "a" on my book and said to try and write that letter. Miss Hurley and I became good friends and in the next four terms we only had one confrontation - by then my two older sisters were in the next room and I was the older sister with one two years younger than I. This girl could be very stubborn and one day she wouldn't stand up when told and Miss Hurley came charging down the aisle, ruler in hand. Caring for my sister was so imbedded in me that I immediately stood up beside her desk and stared at Miss Hurley. She knew how disturbed I was and settled for giving my sister a lecture. I was relieved and given time to think it over and knowing my sister was wrong, I never got involved like that again.

Miss Hurley had thirty-nine pupils in 1926. Teaching and marking work for so many children was quite a feat. When things got unruly and a warning wasn't heeded, she would say, "Allen, you better go in and get the strap". Allen Bradley, a good-natured boy, would jump up, all smiles, at the thought of some excitement. He would stride across the front of the room in great haste, lest Miss Hurley change her mind. When he placed his hand on the door knob it was generally so quiet you could hear yourself breathing. Miss Hurley would then say "Well, Allen, it looks as if they are going to be quiet and do their work." Allen would then put on his disappointed look and slowly go back to his seat. But, if Miss Hurley did not get good results from this first tactic the strap would be brought back from the principal's room and it would be placed on her desk. This was enough to paralyze the girls and the boys would pretend they were working. I don't believe Miss Hurley ever strapped anyone herself, but I think she sent the odd older one to the principal to be strapped after school.

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The principal in 1926 was Bruce Barclay and in 1927 Harold Coventry came. They strapped boys in the back porch during school hours. The sound of this was torture for me and I suppose that was intended. Some of the kids sat there nonchalantly counting the whacks on their fingers and sometimes they would have to go around the second time.

Miss Hurley's room was on the south side of the school. It had blackboards right across the north wall which was the front of the room and one board on each of the other three walls. The board on the south wall was fairly high so a bench was placed beneath it and we were allowed to use this board to play "X's and O's" on cold winter days. The rest of the wall space was taken up with large windows that were on pulleys and had a window blind on them and a drop ventilator above. The two doors were on the side walls at the front of the room, one leading into the front hall on the west side and the other led to a wooden, windowless back porch. Only in the coldest weather were public school kids allowed in the front hall. You were told to arrive just in time to line up at the back door when the bell rang and then you wouldn't have to stand out in the cold. There was quite a bit of controversy over this rule. After my time in this room, better lighting was installed and right or wrong, in the early forties Inspector Harry Carleton had one wall of windows boarded over - the west side, I believe. He believed it would be better for the children's eyesight. Many disagreed with this and it did spoil the look of the school. In the centre at the back of the room there was a large stove with a galvanized shield around three sides of it. Stove pipes strung across the room were held in place with wire attached to the ceiling. The caretaker would stoke the fire of wood or coal during recess and sometimes Miss Hurley put in a stick. The floors were wood tongue and groove boards that were oiled. One time a child threw up on the floor and Miss Hurley just took out a shovel of ashes and covered the offensive spot up until school was out. I believe the furnaces were installed around 1927 or 28. Just inside the front door in the corner was the sink with one cold water tap. Children generally kept a telescopic drinking cup with lid in their desk. Sometimes in the late '20's a fountain-type tap was installed. Under the sink was a waste basket with solid metal bottom and mesh sides. This is where you put your gum. Every day you would hear the teacher say to someone "Put your gum in the basket". Gum was all the rage at this time and parents and teachers hated the habit. After lunch the basket also contained lunch papers with crumbs here and there. Every time the room became quiet the mice came up along the water pipes to perform their circus acts. It was hard to keep your eyes off them as they scampered around the basket in search of food.

During these four terms in Miss Hurley's room we learned the three R's very well. We learned to write, sound and print the alphabet, in that order. A few years later educators realized this was a mistake and beginners learned to print before writing. You could read sooner but penmanship did suffer. In the forties they decided that pupils should learn to spell more from sight than sound and spelling slipped as a result. It was in Miss Hurley's room that we learned the map of Simcoe County which unrolled from a hanger over the east wall. We rhymed off the townships so often we could still do it fifty years later. Learning by memorization was a big thing in those days. All sorts of mathematical tables had to be memorized. Reading out loud to the teacher and saying your memory work took up a lot of time. Much of this had to be learned at home. We had some experiments in this room also: Sprouting beans in a glass on the window sill, bringing coccinea to school to see if we could get butterflies, etc. Softening glass tubing over a bunsen burner to see how glass objects were made created a lot of interest and there were many others. It was in this room that we began our long battle with the straight nib that was inserted in a wooden holder. The teacher had a large bottle of ink that she poured sparingly into the inkwells on the desks. There were nibs on the market with ball points on them and also fountain pens but these were forbidden and you had to cope with the straight nib. No matter how you caressed that pen, it scratched, scraped, spit and splattered all over your paper and sometimes your clothes as well. If and when you ever mastered penmanship, it was beautiful to see. Your writing book had an especially smooth paper with a wide and narrow line to show you where your letters should go. You practised continuous O's and straight lines until you could strike those lines without going over. In the thirties the inspector relented and we were allowed to take our notes and do our work with other smooth nibs, but not in writing class. In high school, fountain pens were used exclusively. My father saved, with some help from friends, cards that were enclosed in MacDonald's tobacco. This is how we four girls got our first fountain pens and we loved them. They weren't perfect as they leaked ink if you didn't carry them with the nib up but they saved a lot of dipping and blotting. By the fifties the fountain pens were on the way out and the throw-away ball point took over.

During our public school years we did a lot of marching. You lined up to march into the school when the bell rang. When it rang for fire drill you marched out. You marched in preparation for school fairs. I remember marching through the Walker house when their daughter died in her early twenties. It was a great way to control a large group. The first year I was in school Miss Hurley was preparing to march her room out to

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Mt. Tegart Cemetery. It was decoration day and you took flowers. When you got past the G.P.R. you were allowed to fall out. Miss Hurley had thirty-nine pupils in 1926 and marching four abreast left an odd trio, so she asked Eric (Barney) Wilson, Wayne Courtney and myself if we would like to go home early. Beginners generally went home at recess anyway and we didn't mind a bit. In the late twenties we marched up to the town hall one day where the doctors had set up a diphtheria immunization clinic in the council chambers. It was just before lunch and some of us nearly fainted. A vaccination clinic for small-pox had been set up before this but mother took us to Dr. Campbell's office at the back of his drugstore. I'll never forget sitting there watching him make three scratches with a needle in my little leg just deep enough to show blood. Tuberculosis, a bad disease of the lungs, sent some persons to the sanitarium at Gravenhurst during these times. Many never recovered. In 1924 the Ontario Government financed the sending of a mobile X-ray machine from town to town. Eventually this arrived at Tottenham and we had three X-rays taken.

When four o'clock arrived all papers, etc., had to be picked up off the floor, seats turned back, boards and brushes cleaned ready for washing etc. It was a must to have "F.N.O." on all notes to be left on the board.

Children were taught in those days not to throw anything on the ground but every once in a while someone in the village complained that paper had been torn in little pieces and scattered along the ditches. The whole room would be sent out to pick up every piece of paper on the main street. We chafed all the time we were doing it but it was a good lesson. There were very few throw-aways in those days so there wasn't any need for garbage pick-up. You buried broken glass and dishes. Paper was used for lighting fires, the few tin cans often served as plant pots. Cooking utensils and other metal objects were covered with mendicots before they were given up. Kitchen waste was used for compost. There were two dumps - one on Albert St. W. just east of the C.N. tracks and the other on the west side of the road between the south jog and Monty Graham's farm.

Children learned very young not to tell tales at home or at school. I never knew a pupil to tell the teacher anything about their classmates and teachers did not expect them to. Miss Hurley had ways of making guilty parties own up to their misdeeds. She made the whole class stay in after school. She would sit down at her desk and work away while the pupils looked daggers at the one who was to blame for keeping them inside. Every once in a while the teacher would ask again who the guilty party was. Finally the child would own up and we would all go home. Knowing the pupil had suffered enough the teacher would settle for a quiet talk and a light sentence. The contempt of your peers was a tough thing to stand up under.

Every event throughout the year was noted in some way at school. On Feb. 14th we always had a valentine box and you worked for a couple of weeks making valentines of cupids shooting arrows through hearts etc. If you could afford it you bought a few comic valentines at Campbell's drug store, with painted remarks on them, to send to the boys, signed "Guess who?". Children took all this very seriously and could be very hurt if they didn't get many valentines. On St. Patrick's Day we drew and coloured pictures in art class. They were always the same top hat and cane, and the shamrock. Sometimes you sang Irish songs. At Easter we had religious drawings, also the spring chicken and coloured eggs. At home our mother coloured water and hard-boiled eggs so we could have a hunt. She boiled onion skins to make gold and bits of coloured woollens were boiled to make the red, blue and green. Dyes were not very permanent at this time. One year someone gave me a decorated chocolate egg. It was so pretty - I didn't eat it for weeks. We celebrated the 24th of May by taking a holiday from school. The day before, we went home shouting "The twenty-fourth of May is the Queen's birthday and if we don't get a holiday we'll all run away". We each had a few cents for fire crackers and let them off after dark at the side of the road. Once or twice in the evening you might see a rocket go up from somewhere in town; we loved them but couldn't spend so much for a few moments of delight. The only fire I remember that was caused from fire crackers was right across the road from our place. Joe and Doc King were letting some crackers off in the afternoon and unbeknown to them, one landed on the verandah roof. When they were having supper they smelled the smoke. The fire broke out by the time the fire brigade got there mulling the reels. Mr. King had the fire out. It taught us all a good lesson, as the fire was licking the upper roof. Every time there was a holiday that had anything to do with Britain, mother would bring out her six or eight Union Jacks and we would decorate our verandah. A lot of first generation English Canadians did this but their children never carried it on and it died a natural death. Mother was a monarchist and I will always remember the silence in our kitchen

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when Edward VIII made his abdication speech in 1937 on our radio. My mother's eyes were on the large picture of the Prince of Wales on the wall. Arthur Day at the school was the day you were asked to bring lawn tools and cloths to school to service up the school and grounds. We didn't mind; we thought it was better than school work.

At the end of June we had our exams and got our report card. This report was a heartache for pupils with learning disabilities. Everyone was graded right down to the bottom. If you were continually at the bottom you were the class dunce. If you failed one year you repeated that class. If you failed the second year you were recommended to the next class. This went on until you got to the entrance class or until you were sixteen, whichever came first. The word 'retarded' was never heard of - you were just plain stupid. Teachers paid little attention to pupils like this unless they caused a little trouble then they were given pages to write out. Some became good writers and picked up some knowledge this way.

There was a long spell between Christmas holidays and Easter when the weather was bitterly cold and children often arrived at school with frost-bitten noses and numb fingers and toes. During the hard blizzards it was almost impossible to heat the school. There were some indoor game like Bear bag tossing etc., but if possible teachers chased you out for a breath of fresh air. We played Fox and the Goose and all the touch grass we could think up to keep moving. My favourite was, when from under the snow you discovered a strip of ice. We kept running and sliding on that until we made a strip around 25 ft. long. The idea was to run hard and make it to the other end. We did this on the way to school also and the hill in front of Miss Pinkerton's house and the one above it (Childs I believe) would contain one slide after another where the thawing snow ran down and froze overnight. We were very put out when someone sprinkled ashes on our slides.

The privies at the school were quite a way from the main building. The outer door opened into a vestibule and a swinging door took you into a section which contained quite a number of seats. The architect of this monstrosity didn't understand little girls very well, who even at this tender age did not like being on display. On a cold day pupils would not hike down there before going home and consequently some who had a distance to go did not make it.

Aeroplanes were quite a novelty in those days and we rarely saw one close up. One day a plane had landed on the Henderson farm on the 3rd line and they were taking up passengers for one dollar. I had saved a dollar for a year or so for just such an occasion. I ran home from school and had to have a change when I got there. I washed my mother no end and finally fresh clothing of long underwear with trap door, sturdy waist with garters attached to long stockings, fleece-lined bloomers and then the outer clothing of dress, sweater etc. were donned. I made my way across snow covered fields over the C.P.R. and arrived at a field where snow had been cleared for a runway. I stood back and watched for some time, lost all my courage and headed back across the fields and home, put my dollar back in my bank for another special occasion. The only other time I saw a plane close up around the turn of the decade was when one made a forced landing on the race track across from the school. We all paid a visit on our way home from school and were quite excited to be able to talk to a real live, nattily dressed, young pilot.

In public school two things I enjoyed were debates and spelling matches. The teacher would have you call up sides and give you words to spell. If you missed one you sat down and the side that had the most left won the spelling match. In debates, one of the popular topics was "The horse is more valuable than the tractor". The horse often won in debates but not so in real life. It was on the way out.

Miss Hurley had class. Besides being a good teacher she was a good-looking, well groomed lady. On my way home from school I carried notes from Miss Hurley to a house on Richmond East. They always said, "I will be in about four thirty for a Marcel". The Marcel wave was named after a French hairdresser in the 19th century. It was done by heating a waving iron of two even bars and crimping the hair in even rows around the head. The curling iron was heated at my home over hot coals or a single roller type could be heated down the chimney of the coal oil lamp. The curling iron went out around 1930 and didn't come in again until the seventies. The new ones were all electric. You can see by the school picture of 1926 that Miss Hurley's suit and middie blouse with navy tie was very smart. She wore sensible shoes but up around the knees she wore gorgeous lace garters. They were made of velvet or taffeta, were edged with lace and all gathered up with an elastic insert. The colours were spectacular - bright red, green or gold and sometimes edged with black lace. Finding out what colours these garters were got to be a game. When teachers got a break they would sit on the top of the front desk with their feet on the seat, and with a little scrunching down, tilting this way and that as you pretended to pick up things off the floor, you would eventually find out what colour the garters were. Then on your way home from school you could tell the bigger kids, "I saw Beesie's garters". Calling teachers by their first names, when out of earshot, was real grown-up.

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Miss Hurley left Tottenham the summer of 1930 and I passed into the next room. Angela Keogh replaced Miss Hurley for one year. My memories of both of these teachers are very good. At this time classes were called Jr. I, Jr. II, Sr. I, Sr. II and so on up to Sr. IV which was commonly called the Entrance Class. In Sept. 1929 I entered Jr. III. The teacher, Mr. McLean, replaced Harold Coventry who had been there at least three years. This was an unhappy year for me. I disliked and feared this teacher who never once showed any semblance of a smile. This atmosphere was not very conducive to learning, but lucky for us he was only there one year. Mr. McLean liked to strap boys in front of the class instead of in the back porch. I recall one boy heading toward the front of the room at the same time as McLean was taking out the strap. There was no exchange of words and it wasn't until going home from school did I find out that McLean had looked up quick and caught the lad thrusting his nose in his direction.

One of the events I enjoyed all through school was the meeting on Friday afternoon of the Literary Society. There was a president, secretary, etc. and they took charge. Anyone who was good in elocution, music, dancing etc. was pressured into performing before the class. One girl that stands out in my mind was Jessie Ruston who had taught herself to play the mouth organ. She was very bashful but we all did love to hear her play.

Mr. McLean got provoked one time because so many children were leaving the room during school hours so he decided to curb some of those strollers. The next time someone put his hand up in the familiar two finger signal, Mr. McLean nodded 'yes' and said, "Put your name on the side board". He didn't say what was going to happen later, so this little nine or ten-year-old decided to wait it out. Eventually he wet himself, the woolen breeches didn't take up all the moisture and a puddle formed under his seat. I don't remember many things from that year but I've never forgotten the look on McLean's face when he saw that puddle. The strollers were out and the list on the side board never got started.

When Mr. McLean left, Miss Angela Keogh, who had taken over after Miss Hurley, advanced to become principal. Ange was very competent. She was my teacher for two years and I liked and respected her. There were two disciplinary incidents that I recall during that first year. Ange had a real thing about gum chewing and some of the boys decided if she tried a good piece she would get to like it. One of them put a stick of gum on her desk. She didn't see the joke and he got the strap. The other time was more serious: someone committed some offence and wouldn't own up to it. Ange said if they didn't come forward she would strap the whole class. Later on after school that is just what she had to do; she strapped thirteen, I believe.

During these years if you got honours in Sr. III you skipped Jr. IV and went on to Sr. IV. In retrospect I know this was a mistake and educators later realized it also. Every year the inspector made the rounds of all the schools. They came unannounced but teachers always knew when to expect them because they phoned up each other along the route. Inspectors would walk into the room, everyone would stand; after 'good mornings' were said and we were seated, he would ask the teacher to continue. Rev. Thos. McKee was an inspector who I was told walked from school to school. No doubt he was picked up along the way. When he arrived he would sit at the front of the room, close his eyes, twiddle his thumbs and seem to be sleeping, but every once in a while he would pop up with a question scaring the kids into uttering. Mr. E. Longman was another inspector, but the one I remember best was Mr. Harry Carleton, who came in '30 or '31. He was a tall red-headed man with a pock-marked face and a crossed eye but he had a great personality and we liked him. He was extremely interested in the education system and Ange was just as serious about teaching. I recall at the school fair in 1932 Mr. Carleton was addressing the adults after the public speaking event. He said, "It doesn't surprise me to hear that the winner is one of Ange Keogh's pupils - she's an excellent teacher". A recommendation like that could get you any school you wanted.

Every September when we went back to school you followed a standard procedure. The first day the teacher kept you busy by having you write a composition on "How I spent the summer holidays". This gave her time to get organized. The first big event was the school fair, which was held in Beeton Park. The best three pieces of work was chosen from each class in writing and art. The best three students at spelling were chosen to compete in the spelling match and one person was chosen to compete in the public speaking contest. During the previous spring the Dept. of Agriculture had given out good seeds to those who had requested them. You were expected to plant, cultivate, reap and show at the school fair the best of these vegetables. Some children who had the facilities and the chance of getting a clucking hen could get a setting of eggs in the spring and they were expected to show their best chicken and rooster at the fair. Farmers' wives were glad to loan you a clucking hen if they didn't need it and you returned it when the chicks were raised and it started laying again. Mothers helped little girls make muffins, cookies or

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candy to show. There was also classes for serving. Fathers or teachers helped boys make bird houses etc. Each teacher drilled their room in marching and during the final week we would all practice together. On fair day you were judged for your banner and your marching. Teachers saw that exhibits were taken to the Agriculture Hall at Beeton Park in time for judging. On the Big Day those who didn't have a way to Beeton in a car were loaded into a big truck with high racks. If you could manage it, the girls were to wear white middie with navy ties and skirts and the boys, white shirts and dark pants. We always arrived at Beeton Park nicely but sometime in the early thirties this means of transporting children was banned. During these years there weren't any glassed-in cases in the Agricultural Hall and by the end of the afternoon all of the prize goodies were stolen and most of the vegetables. The prize money, if you got any, hardly covered the cost of the exhibit, but everyone enjoyed the outing anyway. When the afternoon was over, the children were counted and loaded back into the truck. As the truck started to pull out of the park, the Beeton boys emerged from behind all the stationary objects nearby and seized the Tottenham kids with the vegetables they had stolen, along with the tin cans they had hoarded for this special occasion. No one ever got hurt and some very spectacular catches were made. In 1939 this fair that had been initiated in 1915 came to an end. The government had withdrawn their grant and from then on children's exhibits were included in the Beeton Fall Fair. The public speaking was not carried on but spelling matches and the marching with harmonies were.

Field Day came next. All those who were interested had been practicing ever since school opened in September. At this time of year I started calling for my neighbour Elsie Jones, who lived across the road and we began our practice for the three-legged race. Neither one of us was a great athlete but we won that race every time we entered. By the time field day rolled around we had settled on the best band for our legs and how loose it should be. With arms around each other's waists, perfectly relaxed, we could speed up if need be with a slight pressure of the body. While the other kids were rolling on the ground, trying to untangle their limbs, we went loping along at our steady pace. On field day there was the two legged race, the sack race, the hundred yard dash, the relay and the half mile race. There was the standing and running broad jump, the standing and running high as well as the pole vault. Pits were dug for the jumping events and filled with sand. In public school students competed against their own age group and ribbons were given out to the top three athletes in each class. These ribbons were prized very highly. At the end of the day the athletes with the highest number of points received an award. In high school the three best athletes in each event competed against Beeton and Schomberg. There was a cup and if you won it three years in a row it was yours to keep and a new cup was put up for competition. Tottenham had an excellent record during these years. The weather was generally good in October but one year, about 1931, it was very cold. We went to Schomberg with our gold, red and black colours flying and we nearly froze. It started to snow before the day was over and following every event the athletes had to be wrapped in blankets. Just as today, athletic students were more popular than the scholastic ones, (some managed to be both), and we would gladly do anything to protect them. All events were taken seriously and every once in a while an argument would arise over someone jiggling the pole or not measuring properly. My earliest memories of Schomberg were that they had windmills in town and a street car line to Toronto.

Once school fair and field day were over everyone had to buckle down and prepare for Christmas exams. On the last day of school we took home our report card and did not return until after the New Year. Even though money was scarce in the winter we had a happy Christmas. Mother and dad always planned for it well in advance. Early in December mother would take us to Toronto on a Saturday to see the store windows and Toyland. We would look over all the dolls and she would gather which one we liked best and that is what we got from Santa. Mother had a playroom in those days and mother would leave us there free of charge while she did her Christmas shopping. They had sand boxes, slides, swings etc. and we had a good time. We bought each other gifts in town at Campbell's Store for five cents and I never grew tired of those colouring books. Mother used to get a gift catalogue from the Gold Medal people, I believe. Coupons came in all their products - such as tea - and mother would save these all year long. At Christmas we counted up the coupons and studied the catalogue and sent for our mother, something like straw plaited mats for hot bowls. For several years we got from Santa Claus a new doll and a pair of overshoes. Occasionally we got a new family sleigh. We had goose and carrot pudding for dinner and later, hard candy and a few nuts. This was the only time of the year we had oranges in the house. During the years we hung up our stockings; it amazed our father to play a trick on us and we might find anything from a lump of coal to a pigs tail in the toe of our sock. We always left Santa a little snack and a note about how good we were.

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Sometimes we went sleighing on the hills and skating on the pond during the holidays but the most nostalgic memories of my childhood were of the fun we had sleigh hopping. Every Saturday morning we jumped out of bed when the bells called out to us as the sleighs passed by the house. This was the farmers' big day in town. They would drop their cream can off at the creamery to be tested and their bags of grain at the mill to be ground, stable and blanket their horses, do the shopping and have a visit. These sleighs went in and out of town until mid-afternoon and we went back and forth with them. There might be eight or so kids frolicking in the snow, jumping on and off each sleigh, enjoying the fresh air and friendship. The farmers were very kind and patient and I never remember one telling us to get off his sleigh. They probably knew then as we do now that there is a way to get along with the kids and you better find that way. Some farmers - especially those Irishmen up Colgan way - kept beautiful, fast, standard bred horses for driving. It was quite a challenge to catch one of their cutters when their horse was heading for home on a cold day. You had to have good co-ordination to get your hands on the back of the cutter at the same time your feet touched the narrow runner. It was like playing on a race track. I've talked to friends from this era and they just shake their heads with wonder, unable to describe the romances we had with the horses and sleigh bells. One day I saw a team of Clydesdales run away. The farmer slipped into Simpsons Grocery Store to pick up his groceries. Something startled the horses and without the guidance of the driver's hands on the reins, they took off down the street, careening from side to side, the sleigh slamming into water hydrants, tree trunks and poles. When they were finally caught at King and Queen streets they were like wild frustrated animals, their bodies steaming; they were frothing, snorting and pawing the ground. I watched from the protection of our verandah to see what the farmer would do to his horses. All my life I suffered dreadfully when an animal was beaten. This farmer was understanding and after a quieting down period and when his sleigh was checked over, they got underway again. Another time, in front of this same store, my little brother saw our father across the road and proceeded across in front of a standing team and sleigh. One old horse reached down and took a bite at his head; luckily it just got the top and a little hair. My brother dropped to the ground and our father got a few gray hairs.

One Saturday morning I got an awful shock: my mother had decided it was time I helped my two older sisters with the household chores. There were many things I liked to do around the house but house cleaning was not one of them. I rebelled like a cat going into harness for the first time but all my arguing and conniving was of no avail; when my mother made a decision nothing short of an earthquake would change her mind. It took a long time but eventually I found out about the pride you feel in a job well done.

It was hard to go to school when you had spring fever. All the games such as skipping, playing jacks, rolling marbles, roller skating, playing hopscotch, all the games you played with a ball (and they were legion), were exhausted, the sun was hot, then you suddenly hated going indoors. When that time of year came you knew the banks of the streams, filled with water, were alive with the marsh marigolds and the west bank of your favourite bush would be white with trilliums. On a day such as this my sister and I were dawdling on our way back to school. I suddenly said to her "Let's cut across Brandon's field and go out to the bush." She agreed immediately. The next day we expected to be punished for playing hockey but we found out we hadn't been missed!

When my brother started to school at the Orange Hall around 1934 he played hockey the second day. Mother had taken him down the first morning to meet the teacher, Lottie Leggett. Sitting in a seat for ten minutes was quite an undertaking for this little boy who had had so much freedom. Another little fellow made a funny face and he laughed out loud. (You know, the old pull-down on the eyes and up on the mouth). Lottie marched him up to the front of the room and told him to stand there. Well, he didn't think much of that, so he turned around and walked out the door. For two or three days my mother sent him off to school and he came home at the same time as everyone else. Then Lottie Leggett met my oldest sister on the street and said, "If your brother doesn't soon get back to school I'll have to speak to the truant officer". Mother started him back again and had a little talk with Miss Leggett and that time he stayed. Another one of Lottie's punishments for beginners was making them stand on one foot for a few minutes at the front of the room. For some reason humans don't find this as easy as Blue Herons. (My brother was a great escape artist. In 1930 when he was twenty-two months old, my mother put him out in our well-fenced in back yard. He walked to the front gate, sized up the situation, took off all his clothes, slithered under the gate and went across the road to have a visit with Mrs. Jones.)

At the end of the school term in June, the teacher gave out a ticket that would admit a child to the Canadian National Exhibition grounds and to the afternoon performance on the grandstand. These could only be used on Children's day and on that day it was so

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crowded that many parents wouldn't take their children. Transportation was a problem for others. We were fortunate as mother had her pass on the railway and took a few of us every year. We were so excited we couldn't sleep the night before, and had to be up in time to catch the train that left around 5:30 a.m. We carried a lunch and were given fifteen cents to spend, which we carried most of the day before deciding what three things we liked best. Every ride in the midway, the side shows and the treats had been lowered to five cents on children's day. The afternoon performance on the grandstand kept us glued to our seats for hours. The best circus acts in the world were being performed before our eyes, and not just on one stage - you had to be able to look around a complete semi-circle on the ground and to the height of an airplane to see it all. The race track circled this and it was utilized also. When I was very young I was aghast when the big steam roller finally ran over the clown and left him as flat as a sheet of tin. The trained animals were a favourite: penguins, seals and many others. We arrived so early at the Ex that the buildings weren't open so my mother took this hour to see the outdoor flower beds that she loved. Then we went through the buildings, saw all the exhibits (especially the needlework), saw all the animals, the performances at the waterfront and pecked in the dance hall and wandered at people dancing in the afternoon to the big name dance bands from the United States. Mother had taken us to Toronto so much that we were well trained that if we should get lost we would stand in that spot until she came back to get us. It was hard to do but it always worked. As we wound our way back to Parkdale Station, the lights were all on, which alone was a scene to remember. There was a touch of frost in the air but nevertheless we walked slowly so as not to miss anything. When we got off the grounds the fireworks that marked the end of the night performance on the grandstand lit up the sky and we walked backwards most of the way so we could watch. The train arrived at Tottenham about 11:30 or 12:00 P.M. and it was a long way to King and Queen that night. We did this every year - later without our mother - until 1937 when there was a serious outbreak of polio and we decided to stay out of the crowds. One year when my brother had just turned two my mother decided to take him and two of us down to the Ex on the 9 a.m., returning 6 p.m. She had him in a little go-cart (stroller) and we started our tour at the Horticultural Building. While we stood captivated at new ducklings swimming in a stream our little brother made his get-away. While we scoured the building he had gone directly out the first door and had a good start. Mother took us straight to the Lost Children building and reported her child missing. Leaving us there she went out to hunt. We were fed ice cream cones and after what seemed like hours, mother returned with her boy who had been picked up by a policeman very close to the Dufferin Gates. We didn't get to see much at the Ex that day but our brother got his name in the evening papers as the first child lost on children's day. I never went to the Ex again with my brother but my sisters were not so lucky. When he was eight they took him again. They went by bus and in a few hours they lost him again. They hunted for him the rest of the day. When they didn't show up, my brother decided not to waste his grandstand ticket so he went to the afternoon performance alone. Somehow they got together again at bus time. Mother girls loved their brother more than we did ours but from then on we stayed clear of him at Exhibition time. The O.K.E. was a wonderful fair in those days, as every new marketable product was on display on these grounds. Shortly after World War II, like hundreds of other women, finished up my day at the Ex looking in on Kate Atkens' program. It was about the new immigrants coming into our midst and it was the worst performance I have ever seen. Our public school teacher would have been ashamed to put it on stage. Kate was very popular on radio but she never made it on stage or television. This year 1978 the board of directors of the O.K.E. are planning their centennial. The Little Seadding Cabin, built by John Seadding, what my mother visited every year is the only one of the original buildings remaining. It was moved to that site in 1878 by wagon and a team of oxen. Dr. Henry Seadding was a famous historian).

In 1932-33 in I Form (Grade II), Miss Louise Rose was the teacher and Ella Henderson was the principal. I found Miss Rose a very kind, hardworking, high-strung lady. She was always willing to help you but found it hard to handle those who didn't take school seriously. The principal had already been there one year and she didn't have any trouble handling anyone. She announced one day that there would not be a commencement that year, and everyone was dreadfully disappointed as this type of entertainment was very scarce in the winter. She said it was her policy not to stay longer than two years at one school and she wanted to concentrate her efforts on teaching and leave with a good report.

One serious incident happened at school that year. During a recreation period we were playing a game where two of you wrote on a sheet of paper one sentence telling what you would do if you had a million dollars. You then folded down the line and passed it on down the row until all had written something. At the end of the row the sheet was unfolded and read aloud. Two boys who were sitting together discussed the idea of putting down, "I would send Miss Rose to an insane asylum." One of them wrote it down. Miss Rose, who had had trouble with her nerves, was very insulted and hurt. She took the paper to the

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principal and Miss gave the writer quite a strapping; the other boy was told he would have to apologize to Miss Rose and the class the next day. When he was called upon to speak the next day he said, "My father said it wasn't necessary to apologize for that". Miss Rose called the principal who hauled the lad to the front of the room where he was pressured into apologizing, then she pushed him into her room where he had to apologize there also. This was a humiliating way she had of putting down a child that I could not countenance. Strapping was expedient and did something for teachers tempers and egos but was not necessary as we found out with our next two teachers.

During this time the teaching of French began in I Form and Latin was added in II Form. If you were having trouble with them and could get your parents' consent you could drop them from your curriculum and concentrate on other subjects. In a couple of years educators decided that you must have French to pass into Normal School (teacher's college) and the students in III Form who had notions of going on came tramping back to try and pick it up again. It never worked.

For the term '34-'35 we had Miss Rose and a new principal, Morrow Hugh Riddell, whom we called simply Riddell. After all, what could one do with 'Morrow'? On his first day this tall, lanky teacher ticked off a few boys for not standing at attention and saying 'Sir' etc. This was standard procedure to let the students know you were in charge. In spite of that first jittery day, I never ever heard anyone remark that they didn't like Mr. Riddell. He was able to find that happy medium that kept students trying without too much pressure. When Mr. Riddell came to Tottenham he was married with two little boys, and later a girl. He and his wife, Laura, were very well received in the community.

Most teachers had either a Christmas concert before holidays or a commencement later in the New Year. As I look back I'm amazed at the talent of these teachers who organized these occasions. We did not have a music teacher at this time so you were lucky if your regular teacher had music. That year Miss Rose started us swinging clubs shortly after school started. We would raise the windows, stand on top of our desks and learn all sorts of club manoeuvres. By the time commencement came around we were ready to perform to music a precision drill that was well received. While the girls were learning this the boys were learning tumbling, acrobats and pyramids from Mr. Riddell. Miss Rose also taught two dances: the Highland Fling and a Russian dance and appropriate costumes were made at home. Mr. Riddell took charge of readings, recitations and also directed a short play. A two-hour show had been planned for the concert hall. When the Big Night arrived it began with all of the high school on stage singing together two or three numbers. Dorothy Williamson, a very popular musician, was at the piano. There were little change rooms behind the stage but there wasn't enough space to accommodate this large group so you went down the long, narrow stairway to the council chambers to await your next number. If you were through participating you could join the audience until the closing number. We loved these programs that were put on two nights in a row and parents enjoyed them immensely but the teachers were exhausted. That year, or the next, a girl who was in the play had a death in the family and could not go on Saturday night. On Saturday morning Mr. Riddell arrived and asked me to fill in. I spent most of the day going over the part with him and with a good prompter we got through the play.

One of the girls we had living in Tottenham at this time was Roberts (Bobby) Wharton. She was a cute little girl with a nice voice and always sang a couple of numbers for us. She was also gifted in drawing. One time in I Form Bobby became quite drowsy while Mr. Riddell was teaching so he tossed a small piece of chalk that landed on her desk a few inches from her bobbing head. He was pretty good at this little trick and it was enough to give you whiplash. Another outstanding person in the field of school entertainment was Billie Sloan who lived in Tottenham for a short time when in public school. At our Christmas concert in public school this charming, graceful girl danced for us in tap and ballet. This was a great treat for we who barely knew what dancing lessons were all about. Her father, Dr. O. Sloan, was commuting at the time and I recall him speaking at a meeting in the concert hall one night. In the question period following, one lady asked "Do children have to eat spinach?". This was a big struggle with most mothers at that time, and he explained about other sources of iron.

Mr. Riddell had a good sense of humour and one time in II Form instead of the usual elastics for spit balls we brought to school rubber bands cut from the inner tube of a tire. At one time inner tubes were quite narrow and some women used them for garters. We used to pull them taut and let them fly at the kids further up the aisle. This could give you quite a smack on the back of the neck so you had to go easy lest your victim yell

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out. One day someone overshot their target and the rubber band landed at the front of the room. The person in the front seat would have retrieved this as we were all well-trained in cover-up but Mr. Riddell happened along first. When he spotted that band, he too thought 'garter' and twirling it around his first finger called out, "Anyone lose anything?". Of course, no one had.

When Mr. Riddell bent to the floor he would come up quite flushed because it was a long way down. One time in III Form he left his room for a moment and a pupil fired an air gun rubber at a friend across the room. The cracker missed and rolled to a stop at Mr. Riddell's feet as he came through the door. When he held it up for the owner to claim it, it was hard to tell whose face was the redder, the teacher's or the guilty party's. All through school teachers collected things like this and at the end of the term they would have quite a drawer full and would then invite you to come and get your belongings. Some of us could never get enough nerve to pick out our things.

Louise Rose was also well received in Tottenham, and her personal friends called her 'Rosie'. We called her 'Kosie' too, behind her back, but one night I made a slip in a square dance and said, "Come on, Rosie". On Monday morning she called me to her desk and very nicely explained why I couldn't call her 'Rosie'. I knew my wrist had been slapped and was more respectful afterwards. Miss Rose liked to fish for trout at the head of the pond and one night she caught quite a good one. Word soon got around and next day at noon hour she got what was akin to a roasting. Rance Delaney up from the C.F.R. station, Harry Kim and other businessmen along the way stepped out as she went by and hollered the usual fisherman's belly-hoo and she loved it. I liked Miss Rose, who left after two years. Mary Henderson replaced her - she was an intelligent lady without any prejudices. She had an inner glow and charm about her that made her very popular among the boys as well as the girls. Up until they got in high school, town boys especially, never aimed for the top of the class; they would have been called names. I was quite amazed in my last two years at high school to find that several of these boys were quite clever. They had finally reached the age when it was alright to try.

We had good field days and baseball games when Mr. Riddell was in Tottenham. A few of the good athletes that come to mind were Marjorie Marsden, Ethel Card, Bill Crane-ton, Jim Peebely, but the one we especially enjoyed was the one we got away from Boston. When Ed Ellison moved his family from the sixth line to the fifth line in 1934, the Boston teacher was heard to say, "I've lost my best scholar and athlete". Oscar made this move with mixed emotions but handled it very well and we knew enough to keep quiet about it on Field Day.

In private life Mr. Riddell was a good carpenter and when he retired he built a home on his father's farm at Durham, Ont. But I don't know about him as a chauffeur. One night a group from high school went out of town to some affair and when they came to go home it was very icy. Every time our teacher came to a rise he would slide back down and sometimes off the road. Luckily, Chas. Waghoughlen had also taken a load that time and being in the garage business he always kept a heavy car and all the accoutrements. I don't know how many times we piled out of those cars that night to get Mr. Riddell back on the road but finally Charlie took out a heavy chain, hooked him on behind and towed him home. When we got back Mr. Riddell invited everyone in for lunch. Charlie talked about that for years - he couldn't believe you could invite fifteen or so people in for sandwiches, chocolate cake and coffee unexpectedly around midnight. Mrs. Riddell was one of those special experts: wife, teacher, mother, house manager.

When you finished IV Form at T.C.S. and wanted to go on to school you had to go to Alliston for V Form (Grade XIII). I had known for years that this was not possible for me and from then on I got my education from the school of hard knocks and later discovered the world of books.

- submitted by Mrs. Laurene Ellison,
1978

HERBERT H. SAWDON AND TOTTENHAM PUBLIC SCHOOL

Herbert H. Sawdon was principal of Tottenham Public School from January 1941 until June 1946. At this time, school was held in the two-storey brick building at the north end of the village, with the Public School occupying the first floor, and the Continuation School, the second floor.

In 1941 and for the next few years, the Public School consisted of three rooms, with the junior room holding classes in the Orange Hall. During this time, the other two teachers were Miss Ethel O'Leary and Miss Gladwyn Maw. These classes were no longer held in the Orange Hall, and the three rooms were combined into the two rooms at the main school. At this time, the principal, Mr. Sawdon, taught the senior grades, and Miss Ethel O'Leary the junior grades. During these years, Miss Georgina Barton was the Music Supervisor in the school. A yearly event was the Spring Music Festival, with the pupils of all the schools under Miss Barton's supervision taking part, and this of course included Tottenham Public School. Probably the most well-remembered of these concerts were the ones held in the Bradford Arena, and Mr. Sawdon was always pleased to co-operate in these undertakings, and arrange transportation for the children.

Around 1944 or 1945, the wheels started turning to establish an Area High School for this southern part of Simcoe County, where the high school students from all the small villages could travel by bus to attend, rather than receiving their education at the small continuation schools. This would include teenagers of Tottenham. Although Mr. Sawdon was teaching in the Public School, he felt very strongly that the high school students could receive a better and more varied education in a larger school, and upon graduation from such a high school would be better prepared for the future. With this in mind, he attended many meetings with other interested persons, with the purpose of establishing an Area High School. By the time Banting Memorial High School, in Alliston, was officially opened as such a school, Mr. Sawdon had left Tottenham, but still felt pleased to have played a small part in what he felt was improved education for the young people of this area.

Being sports-minded, Mr. Sawdon quite naturally organized the boys of the village into hockey teams. Since the frozen mill pond provided the only location for skating or hockey, he persuaded the men in the village to construct an outdoor hockey rink, on the lot across from the town park, beside the Canadian Pacific Railway tracks, where many hockey games were played against the neighbouring villages. As a result of this small effort at organized hockey, a team was entered in a King Olney minor hockey tournament in Toronto. Although the team did not return home victorious, this was a new and enjoyable experience for these young boys on the team.

During these World War II years, there were many activities taking place in the community in an effort to encourage everyone to do their part at home, to help the boys who were actively involved. Mr. Sawdon carried this community spirit into the school. The girls were encouraged to pick up wool from the Red Cross Center to be knit into scarves, socks, etc. for the soldiers. Then there were the scrap salvage drives held at intervals, to collect papers, glass and scrap metal. The school children would be divided into teams, and every child would work hard collecting as much scrap as possible, so that after the drive when each person's scrap was weighed in, no one would be letting their team down. This is just one small illustration as to how Mr. Sawdon tried to keep the school an active part of the community as a whole, regardless of what the project might be at that particular time.

Always interested in all phases of the community in which he lived, Mr. Sawdon took on the position of Clerk of the Village during his stay here. This kept him in touch with all happenings in the area, and when the Council under the leadership of Reeve Wm. Gray, organized an evening of bingo, euchre, dance and draw, in aid of the Evening Telegram British War Victims' Fund, naturally as Clerk, Mr. Sawdon was involved in this event. As clerk, he helped in a promotional campaign to attract industry to this area. A flyer was printed with a picture of the village and a descriptive list of its many assets, which were necessary for industry. A big asset at that time was that both railways went through the village. Although a lot of work went into this promotion by many people, it did not have the desired results, and no industry moved in.

The Sawdon family were active members of the United Church, with Mrs. Sawdon being church organist for many years. At this time, three of their daughters were living at home: Doris working in the Royal Bank and then the Creamery office, and Kathleen and Eleanor attending school. A fourth daughter, Joan, married Walter Thompson of Schomberg while the Sawdons lived in Tottenham and she went to live in the Schomberg area. Mrs. Sawdon was the former Mary Margaret Ellison, daughter of John Joseph and Sarah, and sister of Thomas Edward and Charles, who lived in the Tottenham area.

TOTTENHAM'S FIRST KINDERGARTEN

The first kindergarten in Tottenham was held by Muriel Marsh (Mrs. Leslie Marsh) around 1958-59. The class was held in the Legion Hall, free of charge, although Mrs. Marsh gave them a small amount, and the parents paid 8 or 10 dollars a month per child. There were classes three mornings a week. Children came from Boston as well as the Tottenham area and some of those attending were: Paul Heit, Ronald Grumbie, Ralph Bider, Paul Carleton, Karen McGague, Marie Catania, Lynn Samwell, Ronald Maw, William Brooks, Cathy McCallum, Wayne LeBlanc, David Bullen, Billy Reid, Brian Deveau, Robin Thomson, Susan Urbanski, Jimmy Courtney, Janet Thomson, Heather Marsh (teacher's daughter), Tommy Walsh, Teddy Colgan, Timmy Walsh, Richard Fry, Howard Penn, Ann Cranston, Debby Bulpit, Paulette Jones, Bonnie Sayers.

Mrs. Marsh had to give up the kindergarten class after Christmas of the second year in order to look after her father-in-law who had become ill. The Marshes lived on the 5th of Adjala, near the Clover Valley school, and farmed there until 1963, when they moved to a farm near Damascus in West Luther Township. Mr. Marsh kept many bees and sold honey around Tottenham; Mrs. Marsh had taught in the Clover Valley School in 1942-43.



Kindergarten Class at the Legion Hall 1958-59

Back Row, l to r:- Heather Marsh, Tommy Walsh, Teddy Colgan,
Timmy Walsh, Richard Fry, Howard Penn
Front row, seated:- Ann Cranston, Debby Bulpit, _____, Paulette
Jones, Bonnie Sayers, _____.

1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030 2031 2032 2033 2034 2035 2036 2037 2038 2039 2040 2041 2042 2043 2044 2045 2046 2047 2048 2049 2050 2051 2052 2053 2054 2055 2056 2057 2058 2059 2060 2061 2062 2063 2064 2065 2066 2067 2068 2069 2070 2071 2072 2073 2074 2075 2076 2077 2078 2079 2080 2081 2082 2083 2084 2085 2086 2087 2088 2089 2090 2091 2092 2093 2094 2095 2096 2097 2098 2099 2100 2101 2102 2103 2104 2105 2106 2107 2108 2109 2110 2111 2112 2113 2114 2115 2116 2117 2118 2119 2120 2121 2122 2123 2124 2125 2126 2127 2128 2129 2130 2131 2132 2133 2134 2135 2136 2137 2138 2139 2140 2141 2142 2143 2144 2145 2146 2147 2148 2149 2150 2151 2152 2153 2154 2155 2156 2157 2158 2159 2160 2161 2162 2163 2164 2165 2166 2167 2168 2169 2170 2171 2172 2173 2174 2175 2176 2177 2178 2179 2180 2181 2182 2183 2184 2185 2186 2187 2188 2189 2190 2191 2192 2193 2194 2195 2196 2197 2198 2199 2200 2201 2202 2203 2204 2205 2206 2207 2208 2209 2210 2211 2212 2213 2214 2215 2216 2217 2218 2219 2220 2221 2222 2223 2224 2225 2226 2227 2228 2229 2230 2231 2232 2233 2234 2235 2236 2237 2238 2239 2240 2241 2242 2243 2244 2245 2246 2247 2248 2249 2250 2251 2252 2253 2254 2255 2256 2257 2258 2259 2260 2261 2262 2263 2264 2265 2266 2267 2268 2269 2270 2271 2272 2273 2274 2275 2276 2277 2278 2279 2280 2281 2282 2283 2284 2285 2286 2287 2288 2289 2290 2291 2292 2293 2294 2295 2296 2297 2298 2299 2300 2301 2302 2303 2304 2305 2306 2307 2308 2309 2310 2311 2312 2313 2314 2315 2316 2317 2318 2319 2320 2321 2322 2323 2324 2325 2326 2327 2328 2329 2330 2331 2332 2333 2334 2335 2336 2337 2338 2339 2340 2341 2342 2343 2344 2345 2346 2347 2348 2349 2350 2351 2352 2353 2354 2355 2356 2357 2358 2359 2360 2361 2362 2363 2364 2365 2366 2367 2368 2369 2370 2371 2372 2373 2374 2375 2376 2377 2378 2379 2380 2381 2382 2383 2384 2385 2386 2387 2388 2389 2390 2391 2392 2393 2394 2395 2396 2397 2398 2399 2400 2401 2402 2403 2404 2405 2406 2407 2408 2409 2410 2411 2412 2413 2414 2415 2416 2417 2418 2419 2420 2421 2422 2423 2424 2425 2426 2427 2428 2429 2430 2431 2432 2433 2434 2435 2436 2437 2438 2439 2440 2441 2442 2443 2444 2445 2446 2447 2448 2449 2450 2451 2452 2453 2454 2455 2456 2457 2458 2459 2460 2461 2462 2463 2464 2465 2466 2467 2468 2469 2470 2471 2472 2473 2474 2475 2476 2477 2478 2479 2480 2481 2482 2483 2484 2485 2486 2487 2488 2489 2490 2491 2492 2493 2494 2495 2496 2497 2498 2499 2500 2501 2502 2503 2504 2505 2506 2507 2508 2509 2510 2511 2512 2513 2514 2515 2516 2517 2518 2519 2520 2521 2522 2523 2524 2525 2526 2527 2528 2529 2530 2531 2532 2533 2534 2535 2536 2537 2538 2539 2540 2541 2542 2543 2544 2545 2546 2547 2548 2549 2550 2551 2552 2553 2554 2555 2556 2557 2558 2559 2560 2561 2562 2563 2564 2565 2566 2567 2568 2569 2570 2571 2572 2573 2574 2575 2576 2577 2578 2579 2580 2581 2582 2583 2584 2585 2586 2587 2588 2589 2590 2591 2592 2593 2594 2595 2596 2597 2598 2599 2600 2601 2602 2603 2604 2605 2606 2607 2608 2609 2610 2611 2612 2613 2614 2615 2616 2617 2618 2619 2620 2621 2622 2623 2624 2625 2626 2627 2628 2629 2630 2631 2632 2633 2634 2635 2636 2637 2638 2639 2640 2641 2642 2643 2644 2645 2646 2647 2648 2649 2650 2651 2652 2653 2654 2655 2656 2657 2658 2659 2660 2661 2662 2663 2664 2665 2666 2667 2668 2669 2670 2671 2672 2673 2674 2675 2676 2677 2678 2679 2680 2681 2682 2683 2684 2685 2686 2687 2688 2689 2690 2691 2692 2693 2694 2695 2696 2697 2698 2699 2700 2701 2702 2703 2704 2705 2706 2707 2708 2709 2710 2711 2712 2713 2714 2715 2716 2717 2718 2719 2720 2721 2722 2723 2724 2725 2726 2727 2728 2729 2730 2731 2732 2733 2734 2735 2736 2737 2738 2739 2740 2741 2742 2743 2744 2745 2746 2747 2748 2749 2750 2751 2752 2753 2754 2755 2756 2757 2758 2759 2760 2761 2762 2763 2764 2765 2766 2767 2768 2769 2770 2771 2772 2773 2774 2775 2776 2777 2778 2779 2780 2781 2782 2783 2784 2785 2786 2787 2788 2789 2790 2791 2792 2793 2794 2795 2796 2797 2798 2799 2800 2801 2802 2803 2804 2805 2806 2807 2808

A black and white studio portrait of a group of eleven people, likely a family, posed in two rows. The back row consists of seven individuals standing, and the front row consists of four individuals seated. The group is dressed in late 19th-century attire, with women in long dresses and high collars, and men in suits. The photograph is mounted on a dark album page with black photo corners.

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TOTTENHAM SCHOOL



Excelsior Literary
Society - 1901

Back row, 1 to 5:-
Miss Patterson, Lanny
Preston, Chas. Geeson,
Henrietta Pearson,
Annie Semple.

Front row, 1 to 5:-
Duncan Morrow, Miss
McCallum, Principal
Tom Elliott, Arvilla
Williams, J.E. Wilson

A girls' school baseball
team:

Back row:- Doris Freeman, Mary
Butt, Beatrice Courtney

Middle:- Mabel Weaver, Kathleen
Lyons

Front row:- Ethel O'Leary, Hazel
Williamson, Jenn
Praser, Helen McCabe



Winners of trophy in Tottenham
school Field Day - in 1930's.

Bill Granston, Marjory Karaden
Ethel Ward and Jim Pechely.

- EXCELSIOR LITERARY SOCIETY -
Autumn, 1900



Wm. Brown, Poet.; H.T. Brown, Con.Pro.Com; W.J.D. Sproule, Secretary;
Miss Elsie Anderson, Propbet; Miss Alma Armstrong, Historian; Miss Ismay Preston, Treasurer;
Frank Morrissey, President; Miss Lila Sloan, Vice-Pres.; Miss M.O. Eastwood, B.A, Hon. Pres.
Miss M.O. Eastwood, B.A., started in 1900.



Spring - Excelsior Literary Society - 1901

Top row:- 1-r: W.J. Casserly, Miss Vida Eagan, H.T. Brown, Miss
Arvilla Williams, W.A. McCubbin
Front row, 1-r: C.L. Davis, Miss Ismay Preston, J.J. Lamont, J.J.
Narrow



Excelsior Literary Society
-1902-

Back Row: M. Gordon, Miss
Martin, Miss E. Worrod,
T. Elliott (teacher),
L. Sloan, A. Anderson,
Leo O'Leary

Front Row: W. Wolfe,
L.C. Hughes, I. Preston,
W. Hammell

Tottenham High School - 1906

Top Row: Bert Brown, Maude Ellison,
Lorne Martin, Helen Wright, Campbell
Galbraith, Orrie Sloan, Jim Sagan

2nd Row: Aubrey Ellison, Jean Gordon,
Art Worrod, Hae Sloan, Bert Bowery,
_____, Maude Ewart, _____

3rd Row: _____, Pauline Ryan, Maude
Wagner, Teacher Mrs. Marlin, _____,
Mary Semple, Dolph Austin

Front Row: Bessie Wolfe, Edith McCurdy,
Pearl Aitken, Esther Gieson, Chester
Livingstone



Tottenham Public School -
after winning first prize
for parade at Beaton
School Fair:

Cecil Williamson holding
flag

Mary Henderson at pony's
head

Ruth Butt in little buggy.

TOTTENHAM SCHOOL



1926

First row, 1 to r:- Muriel Hastings, Isla Watson, _____, Mary Page, _____,
Mary Doyle, Doris Drummond, _____, Helen McCabe, Beatrice
Courtney, Patricia Roman, Marcella Keogh, Anna Roman, Miss
Barnaby, Vera Barnaby.

Second row, 1 to r:- Norma Graham, Isabelle Fraser, Margaret Evans, _____, Anna
Morrow, Mary Henderson, Della Roe, _____, _____, Habel
Weaver, Kathleen Lyons, _____.

Third row, 1 to r:- Alex Campbell, Murray Pettinger, Velma McCurdy, _____,
_____, Doris Frierson, _____, Edith Robb, Margaret
Roman, Gertrude Pendergast, _____, Hazel Cairns, Jean
Fraser, Isabelle Drummond.

Fourth row, 1 to r:- John Simpson, Murray Pettit, Leo McKnight, Jay Patton, _____,
Mervyn Watson, Bill Stephenson, Albert Keogh, Dan Small.

Fifth row, 1 to r:- Ken Lyons, Bob Cranston, Marilyn Lyons, Geo. Morrow, Sam Hastings,
John Taylor, Jack Pettinger.

TOTTENHAM SCHOOL



1919

Back row, 1 to r:- _____ Wilson, _____, _____, _____ Dale.

Second row, 1 to r:- _____, Vida Deacon, _____, Eulalia Potter, Iva
Tray, Carmel Lynch.

Third row, 1 to r:- Mr. F. Clark, teacher; Roy Lavery, _____, Dick Coffey,
Alice Lee, Merrill McKinley, Emily Coleman, Florence Goddard,
Hilda Counter, _____, Gladys Dudgeon, Mary Fraser,
Regina O'Leary, Anna Small, Rosalie Moran, teacher Miss
Cummings, _____, Cecilia McDevitt, Christina McDevitt,
Helen Weaver, Jean Henderson.

Fourth row, 1 to r:- Raymond Morrissey, Chuck Kaufman, Gordon Graham, John McGlone,
(boys) Ted Kaufman, Ivan Lavery, _____, Jimmie Wilkinson, John
Henderson, Walter Lyons, Francis McLenna.

Front row, 1 to r:- _____, Doug Hamilton, _____, _____, Elmer Irwin,
Harold Wright.



Senior Room - 1923 (teacher was Miss Lulu Davey)

Back Row: Hazel Williamson, Martha Robb, Violet Brooks, Mary Henderson, Myrtle Hastings, Annie Connor, Maggie Simmonds, Nettie Campbell, Anna Doyle, Jay Patton, Edison Hastings, Bill Woods, Doris Freeman, Helen Boake, Evelyn Coburn
2nd Row: Gerrard McGlone, _____, Howard Phillips, Stella Robb, Evelyn Graham, Lenore Phillips, Mary Thompson, Mary Butt, Beatrice Courtney, Bertha Hillock, Olive Robb, Gertrude Casserly, Lillian Knight
Front Row: Lesford Bowes, Millar Sloan, Elmer McKinney, Merrill Lyons, Roderick Campbell, Alex Campbell, Cecil Hastings, Harold Phillips, William Stephenson, Kenneth Lyons, Tommy Deacon, T.J. Walsh, Joseph Connor



Junior Room - 1930

Back Row: Stewart Magloughlen, Lorne Magloughlen, Tom McGoey, Allan Bradley, Doris Duffy, Eileen Magloughlen, Gladys Sloan, Bernadette McGoey, Myrtle Latour, Maura Keough, Doris Breedon, Marion Collins
2nd Row: _____, Fred Bolton, _____, Laura Magloughlen, Elva Magloughlen, _____, Jack Keough, Jack Hamilton, Maurice Latour, _____
3rd Row: Elsie Jones, Eleanor Hopper, Evelyn Bolton, Elizabeth Hopper, Laura O'Leary, Marjory Semple, Genevieve O'Leary, Gwen Stitsen, Louise Magloughlen, Celia Heenan, Agnes Walsh, Marguerite Heenan, Viola McLean
Front Row: John Pagan, _____, Lloyd Young, Elmer Pace, George O'Leary, Herman Latour, Joe Burke, Bill Keough, Pat Heenan, Ted Little

TOTTENHAM SCHOOL



1923

Front row, 1 to r:- Fred Courtney, Stewart Rogers, _____, David Horan, _____, Esler Albion, Charles Goddard (holding slate), Teddy Morrow, Weldon Abernathy, Wes McKnight, _____, Gus Lenny.

Second row, 1 to r:- Mable Weaver, Helena McCabe, Muriel Graham, Ella Henderson, Hazel Bradley, Josephine Rogers, Dorothy Casserly, Velma Frost, Hazel Atkinson, Christine McDevitt, Audrey Campbell, Muriel Walken, Ida Cairns

Third row, 1 to r:- Kathleen Lyons, Rita Ryan, Marie Burns, Emily Coleman, Ethel O'Leary, Norma Graham, Velma McCurdy, Irene Hastings, Margaret Evans, Florence Goddard, Dorothy Williamson, Jean Fraser, Frances Small, Isabel Fraser, _____, Nina Campbell.

Back row, 1 to r:- Marie King, Laureen Hague, Margaret Marchant, Carmel Lawlor, Missie Porter, Rita Bower, Helen McKenna, Clarence Beard, Walter Lyons, John Henderson, Harold Wright, Evan Lavery.



Front Row: Ernie Maraden, Jerome McDermott, Cecil Williamson, Fred Knight, Gordon Graham, Wes McKnight, _____, _____, Mervin Walken

2nd Row: Elva Bradley, Marguerite McDermott, _____, Jean Fraser, Muriel Graham, Dorothy Williamson, Isabel Fraser, Kathleen Lyons, Norma Graham, Marguerite Stephenson, Marie King, Ida Zalken

Back Row: Muriel Walken, Mildred Tegart, Miss Maids McBride (teacher), _____, Myrtle Anderson, Ella Henderson, _____, Hazel Kearns



Back Row: Teacher Miss Hurley, Olive Abernethy, Hilda Heenan, Doris Butt, Anna Walsh, Dorothy Stitson, Myrlda McCabe, Jean Rapier, Anna Bradley, Mary McGee, Mary Verner, Enid Wenver, Marjory Dunlop

3rd Row: Laurene Stitson, M. Barclay, Ruth Semple, Mary Simpson, Audrey Stitson, Gertrude O'Leary, Marjorie Maraden, Gladys Sloan, Bernadette McGee, Wayne Courtney, Eric Wilson

2nd Row: Allen Bradley, Murray Graham, Albert Dunlop, Francis Walsh, Frank Doyle, _____, Seneca Wilson, Bill Cranston

Front Row: George O'Leary, George Easter, Vince Graham, Harold Sloan, Bruce Berry, Jim Feehaly, Jack Worrod, Edgar McKinney



Tottenham Continuation School - 1936

Top Row: Mina Rowe, Doris Judge, Alice Walsh, Cecelia Heenan, E. Bergin, C. McGoe, M. Halfyard, M. Collins, E. Hopper, V. McCurdy, L. Poy, A. Petit, D. Carter, P. Smart, M. Simpson, D. Breeden

2nd Row: Mr. Piddell, W. Keogh, J. Clausen, M. Watson, Ruth Semple, G. O'Leary, C. Bergin, E. Ronan, B. McGoe, M. Baxter, M. Ronan, S. Murdoch, V. Rogus, M. Hayes, M. Semple, Miss Henderson

3rd Row: Betty Martin, M. Dunstan, R. Ronan, G. Stinson, L. Magloughlen, B. Fry, D. McLean, O. Reynar, J. Diango, M. Horsley, V. McLean, R. Zalkem, L. O'Leary, A. Walsh, V. Zimmerman, Fran Keogh, I. Jones

Bottom Row: Hughie Ronan, J. Fleming, B. Dolson, G. Doyle, J. Keogh, C. Egan, J. Burke, P. Heenan, A. Drury, E. Ronan, R. McCurdy, G. Egan, G. McGoe, J. Dobbs, Jack Dunstan



Literary Society - 1936

Back Row: Jack Barton, Bill Cranston, Jay Duffy, Norma Worrod, Anna Wilson, Marjory Weaver, Stella Simmons, Art Katz

Bottom Row: Edith Casserly, Murray Graham, Florence Reid, Kathleen Wilson, Jean Mapier, Lloyd Beveridge, Jean Beveridge

TOTTENHAM SCHOOL



1939

Back row:- Frances Hunt, Claire Keogh, Margaret Emsden, Mary McKinney, Martina McGee, Coletta Walsh, Jamie Smart, Beulah Thomson, Marie Evans, Norinne O'Leary,

Second row: Allan Cranston, Cecil McLean, Gordon McKnight, Horace Cheeseman, Ken Stitt, Jim Pellegrino, Charles Walken, Frank McNally, David Hopper, Ken O'Leary, Bill Walsh, Theresa Walsh, Jean Collins.

Third row: Doug Fry (teacher), Jack Delaney, Johnny O'Leary, Ken Palmer, Bill Magloughlin, John Claridge, Willard Hunt, Barbara Calridge, Mary Walsh, Christina Walsh, Pats Tipping, Joe Keogh, Mary Pace.

Fourth row: Jackie Gray, Ken Martin, Bobby Fairfax, Vera Henderson, Lillian Cheeseman, Marie Butler, Dora Bolton, Gladys Walsh, Florence O'Leary, Freda Ellison, Ruth Tipping, Helen Delaney.

Fifth row: Russell Thompson, Tony Pellegrino, Thomas Aquinas Walsh, John Cheeseman, Jack Thompson, Gerrard McNally, Bert Keogh, Bob Walken.



1922 -
Junior Prom.
Miss Dintys Saw at rear.

- Back row _____, Myrtle Gittson, _____, Bill Smith, Billy McHally,
 _____, O'Reilly, Bernard McLoey, Leonard McLaughlin, _____, Allison.
 Middle row _____, _____, O'Leary, _____, Margaret Brown, Florence Bolton, _____,
 _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____,
 Frank Connors Clafford, Teddy Bairden, _____, _____, _____, _____,
 Eric O'Leary, Jimmy Bolton, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____.

TOTTENHAM PUBLIC SCHOOL - cont'd.



Tottenham
Public
School
- 1942 -

Senior
Room

Front row, 1 to r:- Jack Delancy, Joe Keogh, Ken Martin, Tony Pellegrino, Lloyd Kontriel, David Schwass.
Second Row, 1 to r:- Jean Bolton, Eleanor Sawdon, Lillian Cheeseman, Mary Walsh, Laurence Palmer, Bern Bolton, Marie Butler, Betty Kontriel.
Third Row, 1 to r:- Herb H. Sawdon (principal), Barbara Claridge, Christina Walsh, Faye Tipping, Colette Walsh.
Back Row, 1 to r:- John Claridge, John Schwass, Ken Palmer, Frank McElly, Jim Pellegrino, Bill MacLaughlan, Willard Hunt.



Tottenham
Continuation
School

- 1946 -

Front Row, 1 to r:- Ken Palmer, Tom Greer, Bill Dixon, Raymond McCabe, John Cheeseman, Fred Iwata,Martin,McKeown, Bernard Bannan, Ken McCullough, Peter Ellison, Vince McKeown, Vince Egan.
Second Row, 1 to r:- Mary O'Leary, Jean Sargin, Mavis McCabe, ~~ERIK KERRIN~~ Margaret Donnan, ~~BERNARD LORAN~~ Helen Delaney, Betty Niel, Frieda Ellison, Lucille Fry, Eleanor O'Leary, Rita Egan, ~~COLLYNNA MASLEE~~
Third Row, 1 to r:- Mr. Graham (principal), Florence O'Leary, Gladys Walsh, Ruth Tipping, Betty Gaddling, Helen Keogh, Peggy Greer, ~~ERIKIN O'LEARY~~ Agnes Ronan, Leona O'Leary, Eleanor Sawdon, Agnes Doherty, Frances Peshely, Rhoda Austin, ~~ANNA POKKETT~~ Rita O'Leary, Miss Beynon (teacher).
Back Row, 1 to r:- Charlie McGarrick, Bert Keogh, Ken Martin, John Hamilton, Maurice Keogh, Bernard McGeay, John Claridge, Bill Knight, Quinas Walsh.

TOTTENHAM SCHOOL



Continuation School - 1930

Back row, 1 to r:- Murray Bradley, Leslie Jones, _____, Dorothy Bunting, Anna Bradley, Dorothy Stitson, Wilma Newman, Kathleen Wilson, Myrlda McCabe, Doris Dutt, Olive Abernethy, Minnie Eats, Jean Napier, Murray Gray.

Second row, 1 to r:- Mr. Molain, Frank Soules, _____, Jack Worrod, Jean Beveridge, Audrey Stitson, Hazel Fletcher, Ruth Sample, Laureen Stitson, Ruth Henderson.

Third row, 1 to r:- Elsie Jones, Mary Newman, Aileen Pettit, Edna Murdock, Mary Simpson, _____, Rae Smart, Marie Gray, Marjory Karaden, Mary McGosy, Gertrude O'Leary, Edna Weaver.

Front row, 1 to r:- _____, Stewart MacLoughlin, Gordon Bryan, Bruce Wilson, Bob Smith, Harold Sloan, Lloyd Beveridge, Bill Cranston, Murray Graham, Jim Peakuly, Bert MacLoughlin, Lorne Mac, Edgar McKinney.

RICE, ROSE - 41016 Williams, Yellow Bay, Mar-14 Barber, High Highway, Nov-20 1967,
 1968 May, Jim Teshely, Bill Overton, Lake Nelson, May-20 1967, 1968 May, Best Mailings
 on, August 1967.

2nd Row:- Richard Barker, Edith Keenan, Mary Keenan, Betty Scott, Fred Weaver, James Wilson, Charles Milford, Virginia Cowley, Doris Pettit, Margaret Macdonald, Jean Macdonald, Olive Macdonald, Vera Doyle, Frances Brown, Bernadette McKeay, Allan Brown, Carmel Brown, Geraldine Doyle, Eric Macdonald, Marie Doyle, Clara McGowan, Alvina Pettit, Doris Macdonald.

[illegible]

TOTTENHAM SCHOOL



Continuation School - 1934

- Back row, 1 to r:- Wallace Hoy, Lloyd Hoy, Bert Magloughlin, Murray Wray, Harold Baxter, Edgar McKinney, Harold Sier, Billie Morrow, Finbar Prier.
- Second row, 1 to r:- Olive Abernethy, Norma Worrod, Agnes Walsh, Mary McGee, Mary Simpson, Elsie Jones, Viola Rogers, Marjory Marsden, Minnie Eats, Jean Napier, Aileen Pettit, Bas Smart, Mary Doyle, Carmel Bergin, Eileen Roman, Principal Mr. H. Riddell, Miss Ross.
- Third row, 1 to r:- Vera Doyle, Jean Lavery, June Clausen, Sadie Murdock, Ruth Scarpie, Doris Judge, Jean Watson, Agnes Harper, Doris Butt, Laureen Stitson, Bobbie Wharton, Edna Weaver, Ruth Henderson, Dorothy Rogers, Winnie Ross, Marie Wray, Ambrose Keenan.
- Front row, 1 to r:- Richard Davis, Luke McKenna, Gordon Bryan, Alvin Dillane, Bruce Wilson, Frank Soules, Agnes Morrow, Gladwyn Pettit, Dorothy Stitson, Gladys McGovern, Norval Agnew, Charles Egan, Tom Morrow.

S.S. No. 1

According to early school histories written by teachers to the librarian and histographer at the Education Department, Toronto, the teachers all told of poorly equipped schools. The first schools were log, with desks nailed around the walls and long seats to suit. Jonathan Varcoe, who taught in Tecumseth as early as 1857, related in his letters that some schools had no outbuildings or well. When he taught in Wellington County, the school wasn't finished, and he boarded himself and lived in the schoolhouse. In the 1870's things started to improve. They were getting new books, and blackboards in the walls.

S.S. No. 1 was one of the first schools. It was situated on the North-east corner of Lot 3, Concession One, Tecumseth. We are unable to gather much history about this school, but we did find out (according to reports written by the superintendents) that it was one of the first schools in Tecumseth township. According to one report, the school opened about 1840 and was a log building. Some time in the 1850's a frame building was constructed, and 56 pupils attended. In 1853 the salary was £38. Another building was built in 1899, and this is now a modern home owned by a teacher, and her husband - Mr. & Mrs. Stephenson.

Some of the teachers at S.S. No. 1 were: Thomas Q McGee, Joseph Finn (later a school inspector), Catherine Egan (Mrs. James Ronan), Pearl Atkinson, Annie Smyth (Mrs. Dennis Feehaly), Bertha Morrissey (Mrs. James Quail), Verona Ronan (Mrs. John Burns) Ethel O'Leary (Mrs. Edward Morrow), Mary Skelly.



PHOTO:

Back Row - Harry Potter, Paul Turner, Margaret (Potter) Claridge, Charlotte (Wilson) Gray, Eddie Curran

Front Row - Teacher Pearl Atkinson, Bill Potter, Mary (Brown) McCabe, Hulils (Potter) Elliott, Kathleen Sheppard, Cora (Brown) McCabe, Hazel Atkinson, Rita (Prest) Hood, Velma Prest

S.S. No. 1



Copies

1
Tottenham Dec^r 17th 1896
J. L. Hodgins Esqr
Librarian and Historiographer to the Department
of Education
Dear Sir:

1
In my first school
I taught one year and three months;
from Jan '65 till April '66. in section
10 Adjala. Then I taught six in my
native section no. 1 Decumseth, from
'67 till '72 both inclusive, then '73 in no.
5 Decumseth, then back to no. 1. for
two years '74 & '75. Then again to no. 5
for 5 years, and finally back to no. 1
from 1880 till 1896 both inclusive, not
being able to finish my agreement
the last year owing to failing health.

Between sections one and five there
was considerable strife in securing
my services, no. 1. my native, getting
almost 18 years of the heart of my
life. Were I to enumerate the hours spent
in that school, from 8 A.M. until after
6 P.M. for the success of the school, the
years would be far in excess of
those herein given. Teachers of the
present day don't spend six hours

2
in school, owing I presume from appearances, to weakly constitutions. I knew not what ill health was until the first ten years were spent in school afterwards pain came apace.

My father endeavored to persuade me from teaching saying "nothing grew for a teacher but his pocket-knife" and that dull pointing at the same time the standing of the teachers of his day - not an enviable one I can assure you.

Success was marked high in my banner, and I determined to reach it by being a teacher not only in school but also out of it, that every movement of mine would be exemplary not thinking of my health.

Badly ventilated over-crowded schools cause many premature deaths. When I look around for those who started in the teaching profession with me, I find all of my class gone with the great majority twenty years being the limit of any in the calling, I alone surviving that period.

Most respectfully yours
Thos L McGee

S.S. NO. 5

Very little information could be found on this school, which was located on the 5th Concession of Tecumseth, a short distance west of the Tottenham Road.

A list of the first subscribers (1848) to pay to School Section No. 5 were: Joshua Pierson, Robert Martin, Alex. Austin, Hugh Semple, Edward Morris, Alex. Greenaway, John Stevens, Alex. Totten, Richard Davis, James Tegart, Thos. Hayes, John Reagan, George Clark, Nicholas Malady, James Brinsley, Adam Hunt, Moses King. (J. Austin, Sec.-Trans.)

A superintendant's report of 1850 showed there were 70 pupils at No. 5 school. One of the first teachers was paid a salary of \$150.00. In 1853, the salary was £36.--. According to a report in 1859, the school was opened in 1843 and John Kennedy was the teacher at that time. In 1864, the teachers salary was to be raised by each scholar paying ten cents a month more.

Some of the teachers were: Mr. Bond, Henry Carter, J.D. Bruce, W. Morgan, H.A. Shier, Charlie Pywell, Robert Ross, William Preat, Chas. Benting, David Halliday, Robert Hall, Henry Carter, Wm. Somerville, W.E. Hipwell, Miss Isabelle Totten, Edward P.H. Langrell, John H. Carson, again Miss Isabelle Totten, Miss Tilly, and later a Miss Trumer (1879). Miss Eleanor Tegart finished her term in Dec. 1900.



Class of June 22, 1893

Top Row: _____, Bob Cox, _____ Cox, Hughie Cox, teacher Miss Gross, Mrs. Jim Lyons (Florence Storey), Mrs. Brown's sister, Mrs. Wm. Dowling (Mary Storey), Mrs. Jim Brown (Zittie _____)

Middle Row: _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, Herb Dowling, Hammell boy,

Bottom Row: _____, Emma Dowling, Lottie Dowling, _____, _____, _____, _____,

School Section No. 5 was located on the Southwest corner of Lot 4, Concession 5, on the farm owned by the Pierson family. Some time before 1920 it was moved to Colgan and was used as the front part of the old dance hall. The school had been closed near the end of the century because of a decline in enrolment. As there were no children to attend school, the section was dormant until about 1916, when a school again became necessary. At this time the school for S.S.3 Adjala at Keennsville was in need of extended repair and rather than build a new school - because the pupil enrolment was small at the two sections - S.S.3 Adjala and S.S.5 Tecumseth joined into a Union Section. They now required a building for a school so they bought the Methodist Church which had been closed for some time. This building was situated on the town line between Adjala and Tecumseth, about half way between the 6th and 7th concessions of Tecumseth (where Dr. Ross Reid lived in late-1970's). The Union Section had the church building remodelled into a school room and opened for classes at Easter 1917. The Section continued open until Easter 1932 when, due to decline in enrolment, it was closed. It was torn down in the late 1950's. The teachers were: E.L. Norton, A. Dursey, I. Furlong, J.B. Duncan, R. Bernath.

SCHOOL SECTION NO. 6, TOWNSETH

The first schools in Townseth were in the southeast quarter of the township, where the earliest settlements were made. In the further parts of the township, which, about the year 1830, were still on the outskirts of the settlements, one of the first schools was on South 2 Lot 10, Conn. 5, and there is a school at the place to this day (1900). In early years it was known as Martin's school.

The Mount Pleasant School (No. 6), on the fifth line corner of the sideroad from Beeton, was first located on the south side of the road nearly opposite Andy Green's gateway, and near the creek. It was a log building, and in the year 1831 the teacher was John S. Bruce, who was paid \$50 a year. The three trustees were Alex Tatter, Alex Austin and John Austin, who was also the secretary. A new frame school was erected on the present site in 1855. Somewhere about 1860 our currency changed from pounds, shillings and pence (sterling) to dollars and cents was taking place, and during the next decade became in general use. In 1871 and 1872 the teacher was John Carson, who was paid \$300 a year. He had the boys do military drill frequently. He was the last male teacher, so far as is known. Female teachers followed with lower salaries - shamefully low for years. Miss Isabelle Tatter taught for a year.

In 1855, some of the prices for supplies were: broom one and two tins - 2 shilling 2 1/2 pence; roofing was 4 1/2 pence; chalk for blackboard - 7 1/2 pence; paper - 1 shilling. In 1856, the teacher's salary was \$320. In 1881, the teacher's salary was \$550.

Average attendance (calculated on a six month basis) varied from 18 in 1860 to 34 in 1866 to 23 in 1866. The number of days the school was kept open for the last half of the year 1867 was "94 and two visiting days makes 96" and then "number of teaching days in the half year 117".

While school costs were paid by assessment, sometimes it was moved that there be a free school "for the present year"...at other times (1860, for instance) tax cents was paid each month per child attending school and "the deficiency if any be levied on the property according to the assessment roll". So sometimes it was assessment only.

The following is the establishment of S.B. No. 6:

March 2nd 1835

"At a School Meeting held pursuant to Notice at the School House in Said Section in the Township of Townseth, on Friday the 2nd March, at the hour of four o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of selecting a suitable site for a School-House for Said School Section, it was moved by Alex Austin, and seconded by Jas. Ledgerwood that Mrs. M. Taggart be elected chairman (Carried). It was moved also by Jas. M. Taggart, and seconded by Alex Austin, that J.W. Horgan act as secretary (Carried). It was moved by Jas. Ledgerwood and seconded by Engle Sample, that the proper and Chosen Site be at the South West corner of Lot No. 11 in the fifth Concession of Townseth aforesaid. (Carried)"

On December 30, 1891, Dan Williams moved and Frank Porter seconded that a new school be built in 1892. Other names mentioned were: Joseph Abernethy, John Lowery, Francis Wright and Robert Wright. Thirty dollars (\$30) was paid to Eva Carey for the lot for the second school. In 1902 a well was dug.

Very early teachers were: Miss E. Cilley, Miss Mattie Tremmer, Miss Edith Conant, Miss Rachel McFarry, Miss Isabelle Tatten (1870's).

Other Teachers were:

1893-4 - Samuel Abernethy
1906 - Mary Wilson
1911-12 - Henrietta Fierman
1916 - G. Allen & Miss Dorsey
1918-20 - William Dudgeon
1924-25 - Daisy Williams
1935 - Pauline Burdett
1943-4 - Eunice Kirby

1894-1901 - Eleanor Taggart
1907 - Mary Sample
1913-15 - Angus Smith
1916 - Gladys Wright
1921 - Mayme Goodall
1926-30 - Ella Newton
1936-40 - Jim Darling
1945 - Helen Richardson

1895 - E. Wolfe
1908-10 - Helen Wright
1915 (2 mos.) - Fanny Watt
1917 - Kathleen Wright
1922-23 - Marion Williams
1930-34 - Freda Biscoy
1941-42 - Marjorie Sample

Cont'd. . .

SCHOOL SECTION NO. 6 - TEOUNSETH - Cont'd.

The larger schools were built in 1958-9, and students then went to Teounseth South Central School, which is located at the corner of No. 10 sideroad and the 5th line.



Photo at Left:-

Mount Pleasant School - B.S. No.6

Photo at Right:-

S.S.6 school class - 1893

H.C. Abernethy, teacher



S.S.6 school class 1941-2

Back row, 1 to r: Rhoda Austin, Earl McGee, Allan Green, Jack Elmer, Marjorie Seiple (teacher), Audrey Mitchell, Norman Elmer, Glenna Tough

Middle row, 1 to r: Billy Tough, Bill Hanson, Jim Stewart, George Westover

Front row, 1 to r: Delores Westover, Glenna Hayes, Lenore Elmer, Beth Stewart, Edith Mitchell



S.S. No. 6 (New Tecumseh South Central School)



Back Row: Wallace Hayes, Jim Austin, Bill Forbes, Ken Mitchell, Joe Dobbs, Fred Forbes

Middle Row: Grace Mitchell, Dorothy McLean, Nellie Tough, Rosie Zalkam, Jean Lowery, Margaret Hayes, Elwood Gould

Front Row: Murray Gould, Lorne Gould, Marie Lowery, _____, _____, Barbara Tough, Doris Austin, Lorne Mitchell, Bruce Tough



- 1941 -

Back Row: Elvin Williams, Jack Elmer, Earl McClean, Lorne Mitchell, Allen Green, Kathleen Hayes, Jean Mitchell

Middle Row: Bill Ransom, Glenna Tough, Audrey Mitchell, Noreen Elmer, Rhoda Austin, Mary Doyle

Front Row: Joe Williams, Bruce Tough, Jim Stewart, Lenore Elmer, Glenna Hayes, Edith Mitchell, Beth Stewart

SCHOOL SECTION No. 3, KEENANVILLE, ONTARIO.



A class at Keenansville school
 Left to right: Mary Chapman, Fergus Ellard,
 Helen O'leary, Rachel Sloan, (teacher) Paddy
 Chapman, Bessie Hamilton, Kathleen Chapman, Johnny Joe
 Chapman, Mary Rositer.

RICH HILL SCHOOL

Rich Hill School was situated on the north-east corner of the north half of Lot 10, Conc. 1, Tecumseh township, and was known as School Section No. 2.

The building was of frame construction with attention paid to detail and was a credit to the community at that time. A closed-in porch had been added in later years which took away from the original style of the school.

This building burned down on Feb. 19, 1920, and pupils and teacher were moved across the road to the church building for the remainder of the school year. The teacher at this time was Miss Brennan. By September 1920, the new brick school, complete with basement and furnace, was ready. This building was used until 1958-9 when the larger public school came into being and all the children were taken by bus to the new South Central School at the fifth line and No. 10 sideroad.

Attendance at Rich Hill school varied over the years from seven pupils to around forty. Eight grades were taught by one teacher in the one-room school.

Pictures included below were taken about 1900-03, 1913 and 1926 or thereabouts.



Rich Hill brick School



Rich Hill School about 1903.

Back row, 1 to r: Anson Courtney, Ivan Hall, Frank Courtney, C.J. Rogers, May Stewart (Rogers), Leonard Hall, McGill Finlay, George Courtney, Lewis Hall
Middle row, 1 to r: Eddie Ellison, William Brock, Clarissa Courtney, May McLean, Bertie Ellison, Effie Thompson, Arvilla Messop
Front row, 1 to r: Jack McEwan, a Courtney, Uriel Messop, Orrin Thompson, Stuart Brock, Jake Hall, Henry Courtney, Harry Courtney, a Hall, Ralph Courtney

RICH HILL SCHOOL - cont'd.



Standing, 1 to rt: Miss Adeline Huxton, teacher, Richard Brock, Jella Hall, Myrtle McCabe, Alvin Thompson, Elfreda Thompson, Marley Williams, Mary Logan, William Brock, Gertie Williams, Harry Courtney, Nellie Thompson, Clarence Rogers, Leonard Hall, Gertie Brock, Gertie Allison, Mary Thompson.

Sitting: William McKee, Ivan Hall, Jake Hall, Ariel Rossop, Beart Brock, Lewis Hall. Eddie Allison on pony and George Courtney holding the pony.

Rich Hill School 1913

Back row, 1 to rt: Leo Hossiter, Alvin Rogers, Russell Leggett, Earl Palmer.

Front row, 1 to rt: Mr. Shiek (teacher), Margaret Rogers, Raymond Woods, William Woods, Joe Hossiter, Shirley Clow, Elain Hastings, John Henderson, Jean Henderson, Edison Hastings.



Rich Hill School 1925

Back row, 1 to rt: Mary Briggs, Beavie Briggs, Jean Ferguson (teacher), Gordon Hitchman, Harold Briggs, George Hitchman, Edward Doyle, Bartley Watson, Jack Pettinger.

Centre row, 1 to rt: Dorothy Agnew, Vera Doyle, Olive McKee, Glenn Palmer, Ruth Briggs, Herman Palmer, Harold Martin, Walter Knappet.

Front row, 1 to rt: Austin Martin, Ross McClain, George Doyle, Nicholas Kishchuk, Carl Stanton, Vincent Martin.

THE WAR YEARS

Many of Tottenham's young men left their village to serve in the two World Wars - some of them never to return home. Each year on Remembrance Day these brave men are honoured by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 329, with a service at the cenotaph in Keogh Street Park.

During World War I, the 8th Platoon B Company of the 157th Battalion Simcoe County drilled on the empty lot beside the long-gone Maple Leaf Hotel, which stood where now we shop in the luxurious freedom they earned for us. Of the forty-one men, brothers in arms in the 8th Platoon, twenty-four did not return from Europe. Of the survivors of this company one still resides in the area - Comrade Wilcox Palmer, now at Beeton Manor - while two more, namely Tim Wilson and Wesley Bolton, both resided in Tottenham until their deaths in recent years (1973 and 1978 respectively).

The unveiling of the Cenotaph took place in Tottenham in August, 1920, and now bears the names of those who died in both World Wars:

1914-1918

Lorne E. McCurdy	Oscar Webb	Arthur Ellison	James Jenkins	Charles McCabe
Norman D. Wilson	Joseph L. Sharp	Richard Prother	Ambrose Canning	John Proctor
Cyril Cassarby	Robert McKay	Verne H. Trainer	James Turner	Mark H. Nelson
David C. Martin	A.J. Wells	Wilfred Etych	Robert Carter	William G. Pettit
J.D. Weaver	J. Sydie	Edward Douglas		

1939-1945

Wallace Roy	Ward Williamson	William Keogh	Grant Jackson
Joseph McGovern	John Jackson	George Schwalm	Thomas Pierce
Charles Hawke	William Watson	Nicholas Brady	

The following poem received an award in 1974 in an annually sponsored literary competition, with the theme of Remembrance Day. It was written by Colleen Thompson of Islington Public School:

DO WE CARE?

Far across the ocean
So very deep and blue
'Twas at least two score years ago
Men fought for me and you.

And no one really remembers
And no one really cares
Except those who fought for us
The victory truly theirs.

Then comes the month - November
The month the war did end
Then people buy the poppy
A symbol of freedom - a friend.

So now we have our freedom
And poppies red, do flare
We wear them on Remembrance Day
Only then, do we care.

Today most people do forget
The message of the past
That quest for peace and happiness
Is permanently lost.

Cont'd. . .



Photo at left:-

B Company 8th
Platoon of the
157th Battalion
Simcoe County



Tottenham Genosiph - Aug. 1920

1 to r: Rev. Duggan, Major Knowls,
Rev. John Totten

Cont'd. . .



Part of the Tottenham B Company 8th
Platoon 157 Regiment of Lincoln County

Back row, 1 to r:-

H.C. Williams, G.W. McCurdy, M. McGill-
christ, E. Evans, H.D. Wilson, F.L.
Small, T.H. Anderson, J.A. Bolton, Geo.
Hogben, G.P. Kavanagh, J.L. Sharp, R.W.
Hunter

Centre row, 1 to r:-

G.H. Harvey, G.V. Trainer, H. Martin,
A.W. Berry, H.A. Wilson, J.A. McCracken,
T.E. Walsh, A.M. McDonald, P.C. Tiersen,
A.D. Ellison, R.J. Magloughlin

Front row, 1 to r:-

J.R. Turner, J.J. Proctor, F. Dewar,
W. Evans, L.S. Jarvis, Geo. White, Tom
Mash, S.C. Cuff, R.L. McLean, J.D.
Fleming, J.F. Hughes, R.C. Kearns

(Seated:- Lieut. J.E. Maxwell, Capt. A.P.
Potter)

NB: The following men served in this battalion, but are
absent from the photograph:- E.B. Chantler, Roy Furlong, W.H. Anderson, J.J. Jenkins,
W. Palmer, E.J. Hookwell, Tom Bee, S.J. Salcombe, J.G. Maw, G.J. Wilson, John Walsh,
Geo. Coker, R.T. Dale, J.M. Hamilton, M. King, W.L. Shinniman, A.J. Leadbetter, G.J.
Fraser, W.J. Brennan, G.W. Bishop, Gord Neville.



The Unveiling of the Monument at Tottenham
-August 1920 -

Cont'd. . .



Memorial Park - later renamed Keogh St. Park



PIGS IS Tottenham council workers' way of saving waste. They've gone in for raising the animals on salvaged scraps. The plan will help meet the bacon shortage and the meat rationing program to be instituted by the government

During World War II



During W.W.II:

Bill Stephenson, Edith Campbell and Henry 'Pop' Dickerson mix up the draw tickets sold to raise money for the British War Victims' Fund.

There were many such events throughout the war years - bingos, cushres, and dances put on by organisations in the Tottenham area. Proceeds were sent to the Red Cross Society. The Tottenham Womens Institute members did knitting for our boys and sent boxes of goodies and cigarettes.

During W.W.II:-

Edith Campbell and Velma McInley look over one of the prizes. This one was donated by William J. Gray, reeve of Tottenham at that time.

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HISTORY OF DR. THOMAS E. BOWEN, VETERINARY SURGEON

Among the residents of the community during the first half of the century was the local veterinary surgeon, Dr. Thomas E. Bowen.



Dr. & Mrs. Bowen

Dr. Bowen was born Dec. 11, 1869, on a farm at Castlederg, near Bolton, Ont. He was the eighth child in a family of eleven. In Dec. 1904 he graduated from the Ontario Veterinary College which was situated in Toronto at that time. In 1905 he began his practice in the village of Tottenham. Of course, in those days most eligible bachelors could not remain single for too long with so many young ladies available. So on Feb. 21, 1906, Dr. Bowen married Delilah Henton, the second daughter of Wm. H. Henton, who resided on Lot 1, Conco. 6, Tecumseh Township. After the marriage Mr. Henton gave up farming and Delilah and her husband took up residence on the farm, from which Dr. Bowen continued his practice and operated the farm.

On May 31, 1907, a daughter Rita was born and on Sept. 14, 1910, a son Lenford also arrived. Rita, now Mrs. Harold Williams, resides on the 6th Concession of Tecumseh. She and her husband have five children: Elvin, Joe, Jack, Allan and Vera. Lenford married Fanny H. Hagen of Toronto and they had one daughter, Denise. He later married Mrs. Kathleen Kemp of Toronto and is now retired in Inlington, Ontario.

The veterinary surgeon's practice was quite busy at times, especially when the O.P.R. was being built as most of the work was done with horses and mules. The spring of the year came in for a share of work with herds increasing, and the country roads at times were next to impassable. To aggravate the situation, the animals did seem to more often than not take sick in the evening or at night. Dr. Bowen carried on his practice until retirement in Nov. 1936 and passed away on Feb. 13, 1953. Mrs. Bowen predeceased him on Feb. 19, 1947.

A HISTORY OF THE PHARMACY IN TOTTERHAM - P. HUFFOLO, PROP.

In 1927, Wm. Campbell established his pharmacy at the front of Dr. Campbell's building. After his death in 1968, Tottenham was without a pharmacy service until 1971.

Tottenham Pharmacy was opened Sept. 6, 1971, at 12 Queen St. E. (This building was formerly a hardware store operated by Hugh and Helen Hinkelair). The owner of the store is Patricia Huffolo, B.Sc.Pharm., who graduated from Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Toronto, 1963. Pat apprenticed in New Toronto and Etobicoke and later managed a pharmacy in Inlington. He also gained experience at two other pharmacies in Etobicoke before moving to Tottenham.

Pat first heard of the possibility of operating a pharmacy in Tottenham from Nellie and Bill Frost, longtime Tottenham residents, who were also friends of Pat's parents in Toronto. His first visit to Tottenham was in the summer of 1970. A meeting with Clifford Rogers that day convinced him of the feasibility of a pharmacy, although there were no resident doctors at that time and the population was only around 2000. It was Mr. Rogers who located the premises for what was to become Tottenham Pharmacy. Late summer of 1972

Cont'd. . .

THE PHARMACY IN TOTTENHAM - Cont'd.

was an important date for Tottenham Pharmacy, as this was the opening of a practice of medicine in Tottenham by Dr. David Penchey and Dr. Robert Wyrick, two young University of Western Ontario graduates who both had resided in London, Ontario. This practice was extremely successful and eventually grew to four doctors. The present medical building at 121 Queen St. E. now is home for Dr. Vera Reid, Dr. Michael Hanson and Dr. Alan Tard.

As Tottenham's population grew and the doctors' practice began to flourish, it soon became evident that the premises at 12 Queen St. E. were no longer adequate. As a result the pharmacy moved to its present location in the Rogers building at 2 Queen St. E. The new premises doubled the size of the pharmacy from 600 sq. ft. to almost 1200 sq. ft.

Now in its 6th year of operation, the pharmacy has employed many Tottenham residents, the first of which has just recently retired, Sandra Graham. Among the other employees over the years were Linda Johnston, Sally Johnston, Linda Mann, Lee Fourier, Diana Brown, Mita Clark and most recently, Ginny Ericson.

Tottenham Pharmacy has had only two other full time pharmacists, Stephen Pearson, B.Sc.Pharm. (U of T) who is also the nephew of the owner and David Vanderwater, B.Sc.Pharm. (U of T) who is now the co-manager and partner of P. Buffalo Drugs Ltd., which operates the pharmacy. Dave has spent his entire career as a pharmacist in Tottenham, having also served his apprenticeship here. Dave and his wife Betty presently reside in Alliston, Ont. Paul and his wife Jeanne and children, Patrick Jr., Elise and Caroline live on a farm 15 miles east of Tottenham on the 4th concession of Township township.

- submitted by Pat Buffalo, 978

DOCTORS IN TOTTENHAM

No history would be complete without the mentioning of the medical men past and present. The first doctor mentioned in the history of Tottenham was a Dr. Chas. McKenna, physician and surgeon. He was born in York Co. in 1849, and came to Simcoe County about 1860. He started his practice in Aylmer, Ont., then settled in Tottenham. He took part in all activities - council (sat on Tottenham's first council), which had school - as well as his day life as a doctor. Dr. McKenna left Tottenham in 1891, and Dr. Albert bought his practice. Meanwhile, Dr. James Campbell had come to Tottenham in 1888 and had started up a practice. While we have histories on some of the doctors, there are some whose names we have, but about whom nothing is known at this time. The following are histories of some of the doctors who have served Tottenham in the past:-

Dr. James Campbell

The late Dr. James Campbell was born in Eglon, Ontario. He came to Tottenham on August 1, 1880, and started his medical practice from an office in the Maple Leaf Hotel (now the Tottenham Inn), then owned by Mr. Cassady. In December of the same year he moved his office across the street above Brown's store (NE corner of Mill & Queen Sts.)

In the year 1890 he married Rosetta Gibner of Altonara and they built their home at 38 Queen St. South. For a number of years his offices were in their residence. The Campbells were active members of Greer Presbyterian Church, Tottenham. They had five children: William, Wilhelmina, Veda, Donald and Alex. In later years, Dr. Campbell purchased the store at 2 Queen St. South and moved his offices into the store. In 1925, William graduated from the College of Pharmacy and came home to operate a Drug Store in the front part of the building. Dr. Campbell died in 1935 and Mrs. Campbell in 1955.

In 1935, William married Iola Watson and they had one daughter, Joan (Mrs. John Smith) who lives in Mississauga. The drug store remained as Campbell's Drug Store until William's death in July 1962. Wilhelmina (Mrs. Arthur Norton) of Toronto, died in March 1974. At present, Veda resides in Toronto, Donald in Sarnia, and Alex in Kentville.

Dr. W.H. Wright

Dr. Walter Henry Wright, whose parents were Dr. & Mrs. W.C. Wright, United Empire Loyalists, graduated in Medicine from Toronto. He practised at Bing Inlet then went to New York for special training and then Bayfield, where he met and married Emma Nowatt,

Cont'd. . .

DOCTORS IN TOTTENHAM - Cont'd.

Dr. W.H. Wright - Cont.

whose ancestors were granted land in Goderich Township. In 1890 they moved to Tottenham, where he practised for 35 years.



Taken at Dr. Wright's first home in Tottenham, located on Queen St. N., just past the Hughes Block "the house with the two tall blue awnings in front".

From left:- Mrs. Wright, Dr. Wright with Helen & Kathleen, Mrs. Golding, Mrs. Poulcar. Seated at right - Mrs. Hughes with daughter at her feet.

The Wrights had five children:- Helen M. (married D.F. MacDougall, M.C. and had three children) of Toronto; J. Kathleen, now deceased (married Dr. Harold Hunter); Dr. Frederick William (married Helen Schell. He is at General Hospital in Hanover, Penna., U.S.A. Has 2 sons who are doctors, thus completing 200 years of medical service in the Wright family.); Marion Elizabeth (married Harold Bricker) of Hamilton; Harold J.C. Wright (deceased)

In 1904 a news column in the Tottenham Sentinel stated that "Dr. Wright exercised his horses daily at the track - 'the doctor without a trotter was like a ship without a sail'."

- submitted by Helen E. MacDougall

Dr. V.Q. Claridge

Mr. Potter and his young bride of seventeen came to Canada from Ireland in the 1800's. They settled on a farm of 100 acres on the 3rd line of Tecumseh, about 1 1/2 miles west of Tottenham. They had a family of 11 children; the second youngest was John Potter. After the death of his mother and father, John stayed farming on the homestead. He built a new house and married a girl from Caledon East, whose name was Margaret McCarney. Eventually he acquired another fifty acres of good land, just across the road from his farm. The Potters had two children, Harry and Margaret. John Potter died in 1936, and soon after Harry married Edith Watson, a school teacher, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. A.J. Watson of Loretto. He took over full responsibility of the farm; his mother lived in the upper apartment in the farm home. After many years of farming and the death of his mother, Harry and Edith sold the farm in 1962, and built a new home in Tottenham. On April 8, 1971, Harry died suddenly and his widow still occupies the house.

Margaret Potter married a young medical doctor - Dr. V.Q. Claridge. He started his first practice after being an intern at St. Michael's Hospital, settled in Tottenham and conducted a very successful and busy practise, until his sudden death on June 16, 1951. The Claridges had two children, Barbara and John. Barbara graduated as an R.N. at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto and after one year of nursing she married Fl. Officer David Flannery of Pergus, Ont. They have five children - three boys and two girls - and have been living in Vancouver, B.C. for some years. John Claridge married Patricia Blair of Victoria, B.C. and they have two sons, Vernon and Cameron. At present their home is in Windsor where they have lived for a number of years. John started working for the Dept. of Highways and was with them for a few years when he decided to work in the construction business. Later, after a few years of experience, he formed his own company, Claridge Contractors Ltd.

Margaret Claridge sold her home, which was on the corner of Queen & George Sts., to Dr. G. Young (dentist) and she is living now in an apartment at 61 Queen St. N., Tot.

Cont'd. . .

Dr. Robert W. Male

Dr. Robert W. Male, F.C.C.P., was member of O.N.A., Laennec Society, College of General Practice of Canada; Academy of Toronto; Canadian Tuberculosis Association and Defence Medical Association of Canada.



Dr. R.W. Male

Dr. Male was born in Toronto, Jan. 4, 1907, of English parents. He was always interested and active in sports; while attending school, he managed the Keele Street ball teams for four years. After his graduation from the University of Toronto in Medicine in 1933, he interned for one year at the Toronto Western Hospital.

In 1934, Dr. Male opened his practice in Tottenham on George St. following the death of Dr. Kaiser. In 1937, he married Nora Burns, B.N., an Ang. Dist. On Nov. 10, 1938, their son Thomas was born.

Dr. Male was interested in council, school, and general welfare of the community. All through the years he took extra courses - doing an extra year in Bacteriology at Toronto General Hospital. On Sept. 19, 1940, he joined the School of Aviation Medicine. In 1941 he joined the R.C.A.F. and opened the Medical School of Aviation Medicine at Torbay, Nfld. Squadron Leader R.W. Male returned to civic life in 1945. Following this, he spent five years on the staff at Toronto Hospital, Weston. In 1947 he wrote a thesis on Addison's Disease, which was accepted and used not only in Canada and the U.S.A. but in many countries in Europe. He was the guest speaker at the Medical Convention in Halifax, N.S. in 1947.

In 1951 Dr. Male re-opened his practice in Tottenham - still maintaining his one desire to keep abreast of all new phases of medicine. He was with the Cardiology Clinic C.P.D. at St. Joseph's Hospital, Toronto, two mornings a week until his death in 1965. In 1961, he became a Fellow of the American College of Chest Physicians, receiving his degree of F.C.C.P. and was presented with their key.

Dr. Male was a member of the Medical Association of Stevenson Memorial Hospital, Alliston, in charge of Radiology Dept. Just before his death he had accepted the Presidency of the Ontario Heart Foundation for the areas bordering Bond Head, Cookstown, Alliston, Camp Borden and Beeton.

Above all, Dr. Male was a man of integrity with sincere concern for all his fellow men, a man of unrelenting kindness and with a desire to help anyone, in any possible human way - no call went unanswered. Respected by all who knew him and deeply mourned by his wife and son, Dr. Tom, Dr. Male slipped away Jan. 4, 1965.

- submitted by Nora Male

Some of the other doctors who served Tottenham over the years were Dr. Kaiser, Dr. Marx, Dr. Keffer, Dr. Woods (dentist), Dr. Chaffield, Dr. Menzes, Dr. Hoskin (dentist). For many years after the death of Dr. Male, Tottenham was without a regular resident doctor. Many people travelled to Alliston, and availed themselves of the services of Drs. Brenda and John Derjanec, and others, until the opening of the Tottenham Medical Centre in the summer of 1972 by two young doctors, David Peachey and Robert Hryck.

Drs. Peachey and Hryck, recent graduates of the University of Western Ontario, started up a much-needed practice in the remodelled premises of the old school on Queen Street North. After a couple of years, Dr. Hryck left Tottenham to go into a specialized field of medicine and Drs. Ross Reid, Michael Robson, and Alan Ward arrived to carry on in this flourishing practice. These doctors also started up an office in Beeton which they continued for a couple of years, and they alternated their time between the two places.

Cont'd. . .

The medical centre was moved to its present location, 121 Queen St. E., in 1975. The year 1976 saw the departure of Dr. Peachey and the coming of Dr. Peter Petrosenjak, who stayed for several months and was replaced in 1977 by Dr. Robert Burns. Dr. Ross Reid left Tottenham in January 1978, with Dr. Petrosenjak returning to the practice. At present, we have Mrs. Johnson, Ward, Burns and Petrosenjak to serve in the medical profession.



Photo:- Medical Centre 1972 -
formerly the Tottenham
School.

Photo at right:-
Dr. Claridge, Barbara,
John and Mrs. Claridge.
May 23, 1950.



Photo at left:-
Dr. Howes and son Lesford,
on their farm 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ Lot 1,
Conc. 6, Tecumseth.

TOTTENHAM CREAMERY

Almost every small town or village had its own Creamery in the earlier days, and Tottenham was no exception. On Queen St., at almost the



-Front of Creamery, facing Queen St.

centre of the village, a building stood that early in the century housed the Coleman Fare Box Factory. When this business was sold to the Burroughs Company and moved to Toronto, William Ireland bought the building, brought in equipment on the C.N.R. and started up a creamery. This was soon after the end of the First World War, and thus was started a business which would serve the community for over half a century. Bill, as he was known, and Lloyd Brownlee, collected the cream, made the butter, and took care of the sales during the winter. In the summer, two or three extra men were employed. In those days, no certificate was needed by a buttermaker. At this time the Creamery was called Wellington Creamery, although no-one is sure why.

The Creamery was traded to Holborne E. Greenwood for two farms, then later to M.S. Brandon, who changed the name to Tottenham Creamery. Some of the



names familiar through these years would be: Bill Ireland, Lloyd Brownlee, Roland Potter, Iris Rose, Bill Pagan, Joe Doyle, Harry Anderson, Jerry McDermott, Wes. Bolton, George Simmons, Dalt Evans, Bill Jeaves, Hughie Dunlop, Bill Butler, Charlie Goddard.

Photo:-

Left to Right:
Henry Holmes,
Bill Butler,
George Simmonds,
M.S. Brandon (proprietor)
Cecil Whitehead,
Len Clark,
Clarence Johnson,
Murray Graham,
Bob Roe,
Wesley Bolton,
Leslie Jones

TOTTENHAM CREAMERY - cont'd.

Business grew, and cream was gathered as far north as Penetang, and over to Lake Simcoe. The butter turned out had a high reputation and the Marigold label soon

became a looked-for name in Toronto stores, and of course was sold in all villages and towns between Toronto and Tottenham.



Photo:- (Fleet of Trucks)

Left to Right:
M.S. Brandon (proprietor)
Henry Holmes,
Bill Butler,
George Simmonds,
Len Clark,
Clarence Johnson
Cecil Whitehead
Leslie Jones



Photo:- (Creamery Staff)

Left to Right:
Stella Simmonds,
Ruth Semple,
M.S. Brandon (proprietor)
Cecil Whitehead,
Len Clark,
Clarence Johnson,
Murray Graham,
Bob Roe,
Wesley Bolton,
Leslie Jones,

In 1943 (July 1st) Donlands Dairy of Toronto bought the Creamery and turned it into a limited company, so it became Tottenham Creamery Limited. At this time there were eighteen employees, and two shifts produced butter round the clock. It was war time and it kept one of the four people in the office busy keeping track of the ration coupons. The Creamery was open on Saturdays till ten p.m. and was a real beehive of activity, as farmers waited for their cream to be weighed, tested and paid for. Because the farmers were

TOTTENHAM CREAMERY - cont'd.

paid in cash and therefore large sums of money were usually on hand. Creameries were very vulnerable to hold-ups, and Tottenham was no exception, experiencing eight within three years. No large amounts of money were ever obtained, but the damage to the safe and office were always considerable, and once a thousand pounds of butter were stolen, the culprits leaving the cold storage vaults open which resulted in a further heavy loss of merchandise. Once a truckload of butter was hijacked from a downtown Toronto street while the driver, Len Clark, was making a delivery. The truck was recovered, unharmed, the next day, but the butter was never seen or heard of again, and the whole thing was a total loss. However, this resulted in the Creamery Association pressing for insurance coverage while deliveries were being made, and this was finally adopted, so, as the old saying goes, "It's an ill wind that blows nobody good".

As wartime restrictions were lifted, the plant was modernised. A new stainless steel churn, capable of churning 1400 pounds of butter at a time, was installed. A printing machine which cut and wrapped butter at the rate of 56 pounds a minute, replaced the three girls who had done this by hand. A large, first-rate refrigeration storage was built. Of course, rules were much stricter now. Scales were inspected regularly, a buttermaker had to pass examinations and hold a certificate, and the health department made regular visits.

Joe Belford, who had managed the business for Donlands Dairy, purchased the Creamery in June of 1951 and operated it 'till 1966 when he sold to Michael Myshok of Port Credit. Once more the name was changed - this time to Tottenham Creamery Company Limited - but the employees remained the same. With the city coming ever closer, having to go farther and farther to collect cream, and the Government encouraging consolidation, Mr. Myshok sold the business to Trent Valley Creameries, who closed the plant and moved the operation to Campbellford, where their business was established.

The land was then sold to Tottenham Developments, and in 1973 the buildings were razed and the ground levelled in preparation for the erection of the present Tottenham Shopping Mall.



-North side and front of Creamery.

WORTHINGTON CREAMERY - cont'd.

The following is a list of people who worked at the creamery over the years:-

Cliff Abrams, Stella Abrams, Fred Anderson, Harold "Nepot" Anderson, Marian Arnold, Jimmie Darclean, Bill Bailey, Ray Baxter, Evelyn Bolton, Sam Bolton, Wes Bolton, Irene Joyce, Freddie Bolton, Art Branks, Dave Brown, George Buttt, Bill Butler, Bud Bradley, Evelyn Coburn, Bill Coburn, Sid Clark, Les Clark, Charlie Crowley, Sean Crowley, Allan Cranston, Bill Cranston, Joy Duff, Galt Evans, Bill Elliot, Charlie Ellison, Jack Fairfax, Rhona Halbroath, Jack Gardner, Alf Goddard, Charlie Goddard, Murray Graham, Bob Green, Bert Hise, Tom Hawkins, Terry Holmes, Elsie Holmes, Bill Jeeves, Charlie Johnson, Les Jones, Elsie Jones, Clarence Johnson, Kevin Keough, Mickey Keough, Willie Longfield, Don Mursden, Helen McCabe, Allan Mackay, Chris Mitchell, Jerry McInerney, Glen Norton, Sylvia Mitchell, Henry Payne, Bill Payne, Ann Parker, Cliff Parker, Henry Find, Nellie Frest, Mr. Rockwell, Don Roe, Wes Rowbottom, Johnny Rutherford, Lorna Fowler, Ethel Rutledge, Walter Spicher, Evelyn Simmonds, Doris Simons, Bert Simons, Hillet Sloan, Edgar Sloan, Ruth Sample, George Simmonds, Laurence Stinson, Mrs. Bill Stinson, Donna Stone, Bob Watson, Betty Wadling, Ray Wilson, Anna Salas, Orell Whitbread, Doris Winter, Beth Tice

HISTORY OF TOTTENHAM BOWLING CLUB - "FROM BOG TO BOWLING"

In the year 1919, following World War I, the men of Tottenham and district decided it would be fitting to have in Tottenham a Memorial Park to honour the memory of the men who had paid the supreme sacrifice. A committee was formed and soon a very lovely park was built on six acres of land from the John Lyons Farm.

A central feature of the park is the Cenotaph overlooking rich farm land, beautiful shrubbery and flowers, a ball park, tennis court and bowling green. This account will give you some of the history of the bowling green from my own personal knowledge and from information secured from pioneer men and women justly proud of the contribution this institution has made to our village.

Since 1912 the Tottenham Lawn Bowling Green, with its lovely setting in the park in the south east part of town, has developed a keen interest among those who love clean, healthy recreation and good fellowship. These are found on the bowling green where an individual develops his personality and is able to lift himself out of the busy world and be the better off for the friendship and relaxation he finds there.

Many men and women helped to make it possible for Tottenham to have its bowling greens, greens that are among the best in Simcoe County. They were built with the donations of money and free labour by such people as Harry Warton, Mr. & Mrs. George Butt, Mr. and Mrs. R.J. Walker, Mr. and Mrs. W.J. Hammond, Dr. R. Wood, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Worrod, Mr. P.A. McGoey, the late Harry Pearcey, Mrs. John Lyons, Mrs. R. Wood, Jim McKnight, Walter Delaine, Bob Sample, Rev. James Dudgton, John Coffey, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Weaver, Mr. and Mrs. A.E. Freeman, and Mr. & Mrs. Albert Fucar and many others.

George Butt and W. J. Hammond recall how they, along with other farmers, spent many days with teams of horses grading and drawing cinders. These had been brought in on the CPR by the carload to lay as a foundation for the greens -- a necessary step, since they were being built on a bog! In two or three years' time, however, good grass for bowling had become a reality.

"FROM BOG TO BOWLING" -- CONTINUED

The Ladies Bowling Club was organized with the late Mrs. Wood as its first president. They held their meetings in what was known as I.B. Noble's Paint Shop. From this building the ladies served meals and catered to visiting rinks.

Tournaments were always popular events with sometimes as many as 46 entries running two draws. On occasions like this bowling continued well past midnight. It is little wonder that the decision to build the second green was soon made!

Money raised by the ladies' club paid for the erection of a modern club house as well as the necessary furnishings. The pride which members have in the club is evidenced by the trim appearance of their white and green club house with its well cared for furnishings.

The foundations of a strong club were laid by the pioneers. Since then many trophies have been won -- and lost-- here at home and throughout Ontario.

In our membership we have many Provincial winners. The late John Goffey was a winner in the men's singles some years ago. In 1952 Mrs. Hazel Walken, Mrs. Ethel Wice and Mrs. Mabel Hammond were winners of the triples in the ladies Provincial Lawn Bowling Association Championships and in 1955 Mrs. Margaret Claridge won the ladies singles for Ontario. In 1939 Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Claridge won the Provincial Doubles Championship.

Several years ago Mrs. Arthur Worrod and Mrs. R.J. Walken were runners-up in the consolation Even of the Inaugural Competition of the Globe and Mail Scotch Doubles. In the most recent playing of the competition Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Claridge were runner-up in the main event.

The late Harry Pearcy did much to help the club through its earliest years and was, for many seasons, the key man in the organization. His brother Mr. Sam Pearcy of Toronto has donated a very fine trophy in his memory. It is bowled for each year by mixed triples and keen interest is taken in the competition by our own as well as visiting clubs.

"FROM BOG TO BOWLING" -- CONTINUED

"I play to win -- the struggle if I can; if not the glory of an afternoon, something which I hold a greater boon: the lasting friendship of my fellowman, the joy for which the game was first begun, and some bright bid for memory when its done.

"I play to win -- not prizes to collect; not merely to assert my strength and skill, but something which I hold is better still; to win the right to walk with head erect, the glory of a day well spent-- to win the sport for which the game was meant.

"I play to win -- and if my hand should slip, and if my play should faulty prove to be, not all is lost that the game would give to me! I still shall claim the joy of comradeship. Despite defeat, the blunder made, I still shall win the fun of having played!"

(written by Ethel M. Wice -- 1959)



Top Row. W. J. Hammond, George Butt, R. J. Walkem, P. A. McLoary
Bill Bobbie Peter

Bottom Row. Mrs. W. J. Hammond, Mrs. R. J. Walkem, Arthur Worrod
Mabel Ida Art
Mrs. George Butt
Jed

"Last three named are brother and sisters."

FROM BOG TO BOWLING GREEN - cont'd.



FROM HOG TO BOWLING GREEN - cont'd.



Top:- Mabel Hammond, Hazel Walkem,
Ethel Wice (Triples - 1952)

Bottom:- Margaret Claridge, Doris
Anderson



W.J. Hammond, Rans. Delaney,
T.B. Stephenson, Doris Anderson

HISTORY OF THE BOY SCOUTS IN TOTTENHAM

In 1929 the 1st Tottenham Scout Group started. Approximately twelve boys were registered under the leadership of Mr. F.H. Courtney as Scoutmaster and Mr. Elmer Duffy as assistant Scoutmaster. The Tottenham United Church sponsored the group.

The group was not registered again until 1944. This time it ran until 1948 with Mr. Courtney as Scoutmaster and Mr. Herb Sawdon as assistant. Tottenham Town Council sponsored the group during this period.

In 1970 the group got going again, sponsored by Tottenham Lions Club with Jerry Cenerrire as Scoutmaster and Mr. Barker as assistant Scoutmaster. Shortly after this, Cub Pack "A" was started by James Hasell. About two years later a second Cub Pack, "B" too, was started by John Teator. In 1976 two Beaver Colonies were started with 20 leaders. The 1976-77 registration showed a total membership of about 160 boys.

- submitted by Betty McLaughlin, 1977.

HISTORY OF THE GIRL GUIDES IN TOTTENHAM

Guiding made its first appearance in Tottenham in December, 1969. This was the opening of the first Brownie Pack with 26 girls and 3 guides, Carol Pasackerley as Brown Owl, assisted by two Tawney Owls, Doris Doran and Pamela Strong. In 1970, 31 girls joined to make up our first Guide Company under the leadership of Marilyn Young as captain and 2 lieutenants, Mary Ann Bailey and Jacqueline Price. In March 1971 the 2nd Brownie Pack appeared with 27 girls and Brown Owl was Doris Doran, with Valma Face and Diane Williams as Tawney Owls.

Up until now, mothers worked to support each group individually, but now, due to our increasing numbers, one Ladies Auxiliary was formally registered to assist all groups. October 1972 found it necessary to open yet another Brownie Pack - the 3rd - with 16 girls, Valma Face as Brown Owl and Barbara Langate as Tawney Owl. In February 1973, 22 more guides made it necessary to form our 2nd Guide Company, with Joan Buchanan as Captain and Cheryl Ritchie and Dian Yarde as Lieutenants. In 1974 the interest in guides dropped off and several leaders found it necessary to resign, so both companies closed temporarily, but three Brownie packs kept 75 little girls busy.

1975 found us with 68 brownies but no guides. In 1976 our guide company opened again with 20 girls. The captain is Linda McCluskey and lieutenant is Ann Gertien. Brownies are up in numbers to 73.

During this time, 30 women have been leaders for the groups. Commissioners over this period of time were Dolores Bayley of Beeton 1966-1972, Carol Pasackerley of Tottenham 1972-1973, and Lynne Young from 1974 to present. Our census taken in October 1976 showed a total of 95 girls and 12 adults presently involved in guiding in Tottenham.

- submitted by Lynne Young, 1977.

THE TOTTENHAM AND DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

There is really no specific date which the Tottenham and District Horticultural Society can carve on its cornerstone. Mrs. H. Holland of Alliston made a few phone calls, an advertisement was placed in the Tottenham News, a meeting was held and an executive was elected. Mrs. Mary O'Donnell was the first president, taking her post in Sept. 1974. In Feb. 1976, she resigned her post and Mrs. Shirley Larkin assumed leadership of the group. The Society cleaned up the area around the cemetery and planted annuals there, and started five new flower beds, filling them with tulips in the spring and petunias and alliums in the summer. The following year, under the presidency of Mrs. Anne Manning, six trees were planted in Walkem Street Park, and the aforementioned beds carefully tended. The membership which had started with a wave of enthusiasm at 125, tapered off in '74 and '75 to a faithful 60. As the group heads into 1977 with a wave of new projects, planting 6 to 10 trees a year in our local parks, landscaping the Community Centre, planting shrubbery south of the town hall - as well as retaining the old projects - it has a rising membership of over 100. Mrs. Manning is the current president, with Mr. John Rankin due to take over in 1978 and Mr. Robert Young in 1980. Flowers and the Society are flourishing in Tottenham.

- submitted by Anne Manning, 1977.

ORANGE LODGE

The Loyal Orange Lodge 023, Beacometh, Tottenham, was granted a warrant to start on March 16, 1875. A Mr. George Hanna was the first master.

The first building was supposedly east of Tottenham on the fourth concession. Later a brick building was built at Gower St. in Tottenham on a small piece of land donated by Mr. Greenaway, who then owned that land.

It is now known as New Allen No. 329 Tottenham. The same building is where the Royal Black Preceptory holds their meetings.

Orange Lodge - Church St., Tottenham

TOTTENHAM SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

The Tottenham Senior Citizens Club came into being on March 3, 1970, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Pettit, 12 George St. Mr. & Mrs. Pettit invited a few ladies who were interested in Senior Citizens to their home. The ladies were Miss Christine Sample, Mrs. Agnes Leough and Mrs. Charlie Morrow of Alliston. We too invited Mr. Wilmer Palmer who had been a resident of Tottenham for some time, and Rev. Geo. Saunders of Tottenham United Church, as the United Church Ladies had volunteered to sponsor the club if we organized. As a result of this meeting we decided to advertise a meeting to be held in the basement of the United Church, on March 6th. This meeting was very well attended. Rev. Mr. Saunders conducted this meeting and the Church Ladies served lunch. We carried on our meetings without organizing, until we grew larger, and appointed Mr. Wilmer Palmer as Chairman and Mrs. Pettit, Secretary-Treasurer. We eventually organized on Sept. 28, 1970 (Mrs. Pettit's birthday), and elected our officers as follows:- President, Wilmer Palmer; Vice-President, Oliver Pettit; Sec-Treasurer, Alma Pettit.

Our club was named "Tottenham Senior Citizens". A motion made by Mrs. Lynde, seconded by Mr. Hammond, and carried, that we name our club "Tottenham Senior Citizens". (Mrs. Lynde was from the East Coast and spent a short time in Tottenham with her daughter, Mrs. Dinney, of the Star Grill Restaurant.) We had the Glory from the different churches in Tottenham come and speak to us. Rev. Geo. Saunders showed us slides from his trip to Europe and the Passion Play. Rev. Paul Lee (United Church), Rev. Father Switalski (Roman Catholic, St. Francis) and Rev. Basil Dae (Presbyterian) all gave very interesting talks. The boys and girls choir from Tottenham Public School, conducted by Mrs. McGee, sang for us. Principal Mr. Lloyd DeLustmough was present with them.

Through the years we have been a very active group. Some of the highlights of our club were:-

Garden parties at the homes of Mrs. Rita Gill and Miss Rachel Sloan.
Bus trips to Grillsia, best trip, colour tour and dinner.
Joined the Women's Institute bus trips on two occasions.
Each year Seniors picnic at Springwater Park, Midhurst. Seniors
Ice Capades, etc., trip to Pioneer Village, Lloydstown and dinner at El-Vivo Restaurant (94
Attended Lucky Luncheon at Beeton. Attended Eucharie at Alliston, Beeton, Wrenford and
other places of interest. We entertained other clubs on different occasions.
We have cards, cribbage, shuffleboard, crokinole etc.
Mrs. Moffat of Guelph Bell Singers and Song entertained us.
Leslie and Agnes Elphs entertained us on two different occasions. We had a luncheon and
presentation to Mr. & Mrs. Roy McLeod in honour of their marriage. Mr. Sam Johnson
attended one of our Christmas dinners and showed slides of different countries. He was
accompanied by Mr. Pearson, Pres. of Alliston Golden Age Club.

Cont'd. . .

TOTTENHAM DISTRICT CITIZENS CLUB - Page 2

We donated flowers to the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Mr. & Mrs. Art Thompson. We have also made donation to the Crippled Children's Fund, the United Church, the Fire Hall (where we now hold our meetings), and to other charities. Some of our ladies brought trophies home from endore tournaments. We have sent delegates to conventions each year.

From the beginning in 1970 to present time, our officers have been:-
Presidents: Wilmer Palmer, Roy MacLeod, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Wice
Vice-presidents: Oliver Pettit, Roy MacLeod, Mrs. Wice, Edgar McClain
Treasurers: Alma Pettit, Rosa Gill, Agnes Leough
Secretaries: W. Mitchell, Iva Peterson, Mary MacLeod

1976-77 Officers: Pres., Mrs. Wice; 1st Vice, Edgar McClain; 2nd Vice, Roy MacLeod,
Sec., Mary MacLeod; and Treasurer, Alma Pettit
1977-78 Officers: Pres., Mrs. Wice; 1st Vice, Edgar McClain; 2nd Vice, Roy MacLeod,
Sec., Stella Palmer; and Treasurer, Alma Pettit.

Seventeen of our members have passed away.

- submitted by Alma Pettit, 1977.

TOTTENHAM LIONS CLUB

Upon moving into the Tottenham area in 1969, Lion Phil Douglas, a former member of the Thistletown Lions Club, brought together a group of civic minded men and started meeting at his farmhouse on the 8th line of adjala. In April of 1969 the Tottenham and District Lions Club received their official Charter from Lions International and began to serve our community with 22 charter members meeting regularly at the Tottenham Inn. The Club later accepted the Legion's generous offer and moved their meeting place to the upstairs hall at the Legion.

In November of 1973 the Knights of Columbus asked us to purchase their hall and to continue to operate what was Tottenham's first Community Centre. In 1976 we were very pleased to sell the old hall, which, in turn, generated a \$70,000 donation to the new Tottenham and District Community Centre. With the new centre now fully operational, we now meet regularly in one of the centre's activity rooms.

With a present membership of 42 we are very active in Community service work. Over the past nine years we have supported many, many projects, a few of which are:

Boy Scouts	School Safety Patrol
Playground equipment in parks	Rescue Squad (Hurst Jaws)
Swimming Classes	Tottenham Fire Dept. (Radio equipment)
Camps for Deaf and Blind	C.W.I.B.
Arthritis Society	CARE
Leader Dogs for Blind	Easter Seals
Minor Hockey (sweater equipment)	Needy families (welfare)

and many, many more. We have also sponsored the formation of a Lionesa Club and a Leo's Club.

- submitted April 1978.

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION

On February 4th, 1944, twenty-one members filed applications to obtain a Dominion Charter. This was granted as E.C.C.L. Branch 329, Tecumseh. (The reason: some of these members came from the Township of Tecumseh). Later on it was changed, at a convention, to the E.C.C.L. Tottenham Branch 329. Out of these twenty-one members, the survivors are Comrades Harry Rinn, W.S. Boulton and J.C. Wilson.

"They Only Fade Away..." by Comrade E.W.S. Kolenchick in the Tottenham News, November 7th, told the story of No. 8 Platoon, which I was proud to be part of. I enlisted November 1915, discharged November 1918; trained in Tottenham, later Barrie, where I joined the bugle band, and later in Camp Borden. When I was discharged for being under age, I came out with Comrade Vern E. Trainer who was coming home on his last leave. He never did return; he gave his life for freedom. Of the forty-one members there are very few living: Comrades Wes Bolton, Wilmer Palmer and myself, and a few residing elsewhere. There are two in Sunnybrook Hospital - Comrades Pete Walsh and John Fleming.

Cemetery Plots for Members:

The Legion was presented with the land at St. James and Mount Teggart by paying the perpetual care rate and proper monuments and markers supplied by the Legion with proper inscription names on each: St. James in Plot 1 - other parts - 7; Mount Teggart in Plot 9 - other parts - 29; Rich Hill - 1; Fraser Presbyterian Church Cemetery - 2; Newton Robinson - 1; for a TOTAL IN ALL of 50. These are on file at the office.

I recall when the word came home about Comrade Wilmer Palmer being severely wounded and Peter Walsh being taken prisoner in Germany. When some of the boys came home, we formed a little veterans' club and met in a little room in the former Queens Hotel. This was more or less a get-together set-up. We played cards and served cocktails and I managed to raise \$200.00 from this. We purchased the property from W.S. Brandon on an option basis, which we had remodelled and which is now owned by Comrade Gould, and we operated there; in fact, we were presented with our charter there. We were not long paying W.S. Brandon. We did some bootlegging and held our meetings there and stayed sometimes pretty late, around the round table. Comrade J.J. Pechely, along with other members, suggested we purchase the Agnes Keough farm and build larger quarters. We sold the old building to Comrade Gould. We gave an option to purchase to Mrs. Keough for \$200.00, sold to Comrades W.I. Fry, Roy Knigh, Mr. Oliver Pettit, Russell Wright, Joe Belford, Mrs. E. Walsh, and Mrs. Keough kept the house and one acre. This part of the deal paid her off. Still holding the nine acres south of the present building, we were approached by Cliff Rogers that the Mansfield Rubber Company would like to build a factory here, near the C.E.R. track. This deal fell through. They thought they might have labour problems and I think Barrie shoved a little under the table to them, and the balance of the mortgage was carried and signed by his present wife, then Adeline Greenough. Harry Rinn drew plans and we borrowed the money from the Royal Bank. Several members guaranteed the Royal Bank by signing \$1,000. each and we built the present building. It was not long until we paid the loan off at the bank. I recall the burning of the mortgage - a big night!

During my thirty years of service for the Branch as Secretary-Treasurer, I served under 13 presidents. Their names are all recorded on the Presidents' plaques. They were all dedicated men; however, I wish to comment on three: Comrade A.H. Galbraith, first president, 1944. Comrade D.L. Galbraith, 1962 to 1964. He took a fancy to my wife's lunches after most of the meetings and we had many an argument. He always beat me out as he sure had a good memory of the branch work. He presented to the Branch plans to alter this building re games room, Ladies' cocktail lounge and enlarge the kitchen for \$50,000. He was appointed by the Liquor Control Board as manager of the Huxbridge store, and that ended that. We still have those plans and my good comrade, Cy Boissonault, is making a study of them. Communications between the Executive Committee's ideas and members were not too good for a while until Comrade J.W. Cartier was elected president and this seemed to change some. Wilf was a go-getter and a money-maker with his ideas, but due to pressure with his company, he sold his home here and resigned, moved to Don Mills and later transferred to a branch down there. I was very sorry to see this as he sure was bringing the Branch together.

Cont'd. . .

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - Page 2

Beer Licenses 1952:

Comrade T.E. Walsh acted as steward for a long time, until his health failed him and he resigned. During this time, the late Comrade Lauder McLean, and later Mr. H. Keough were caretakers. They did a good job. Comrade F.J. Walkem held this position of steward and caretaker until his sudden death. He did a good job. These were first-class men.

We were able to meet our community efforts by running jamborees and after this played out, Bingo was introduced, under the chairmanship of Comrade W.J. Stephenson and he always could produce a sound financial statement.

In February 1971, when we decided to put the liquor in the canteen we got into a lot of mix-ups with stewards and reliefs but when Comrade Earl Graham came along and took over, I thought we had it made. He was a top-notch - clean, tidy, knew how to handle men - but he had to resign as the workload was too much. I was very sorry when this happened and also felt bad when he resigned from the Executive Committee.

Memberships: (96 active, 10 Life)

We have been lucky over the period of years to keep around 100 active members, with deaths and transfers, but I feel that there are veterans who, if approached properly, would join. The guest policy at one time was only one per month, but that was changed to two per month.

The Executive Committee: (They are the governing body of the Branch and have a lot of power.)

The Chairman is the president of this committee and the secretary records all important business and the treasurer runs a sound financial ledger (he has to be prepared to answer questions when called upon). When electing this committee, we need good thinkers and debaters.

Canteen Prices:

I do not think this is out of line so far. We sold many a bottle of beer at 35¢, and now it is 50¢; liquor once at 50¢, now it is 60 and 75¢. This change was caused by the raise in gallonage tax, liquor fee, sales tax from five to ten percent and the rising cost of liquor and beer. Free mix is supplied at no extra charge.

Welfare:

How to apply it properly - the Poppy Fund will not allow us to apply it to certain things. We have sent out certain boxes to certain families at Christmas time. We put the fence and cage in the ball park, with Comrade Bailey in charge. The players themselves did a lot of this work. We sponsored the intermediate baseball, supplied milk to the day camp. The trend of the town changed and a recreation committee was formed, and they did get grants. We then paid into this fund \$500. to \$600. per year and we were relieved of this load.

Remembrance Day was always held on the 11th. Remembrance Day this year had a good turnout; poppy sales were the best in years. We have never been without a band. Comrade Kip Stewart and others talked the Downsview Military Band into coming out and they came for years - thirty strong - until the Government did away with this and this has been very bad for a long time, until this year.

Bugler:

We never had any trouble. Comrade John Abrams, an old bandman, was always on the job until he passed away. Then we were able to get Lowell Clipping, then Comrade H.R. Smith. I was asked to see if I could do anything at Banting Memorial regarding a band for this year. Upon arrival, I was advised to contact Ron McLean, who has been the bugler for the Alliston Branch for thirty years, doing this as his part to the Branch, but he told me that he thought he could help me out with the Boys Marching Band from the Union School, who do this for kicks and charge a donation. In regard to the bugler, Comrade D.E. Smith agreed he would not let us down.

Cont'd. . .

THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - Page 3

I was proud to participate in the purchase of a new banner and other ceremonial flags, under the guidance of Comrade Tim Banks, District Parade Marshall. He informed me they are after him to be District Parade Marshall.

I was pleased to participate in the showing of the film to the school, "What the Legion Does for the Unfortunate and the Senior Citizens", and of the way Comrades Boissonault and D.W.D. McEnderick explained the Flower of Remembrance. We were invited to show this film to the Women's Institute. Comrade Gy could not make it so we asked Comrade Wilmer Palmer to sit in. We were unable to show the film; when poor Dave opened the projector there was no receiving reel. This was a period of questions and answers. We hope to show them this film at a later date.

In 1972, President Cartier and his Building Committee gave a face-lifting to the clubroom and bar and supplied an office. He supplied the desk and carpet and I supplied the curtains and light fixtures, at no cost to the Branch. They had the building painted on the outside.

Will took over the booth from the Lions Club at the Conservation Area, and at the end of the season, presented a statement showing a nice profit. Games for members' enjoyment (shuffleboard, billiards) at a minimum cost to the members show a little profit. Card games and darts are also in this room.

We had the misfortune to have a fire in the bar. It was covered by insurance and when the adjustor came, we came out on top. I understand this damage is just about repaired by Comrade Tim Banks.

Caretaking:

I think the time has come for commercial cleaners for all of the hall. The caretakers did the lawn mowing. Comrade John Pearson has kept the shrubs trimmed for years at very little cost.

I was pleased to see the interest taken by the Ladies Auxiliary and communications between them and the Branch. I understand the kitchen is to have a remodelling and that they have purchased two new stoves. For a long time they worked under difficulty. I always claimed the women were the backbone of any Branch so keep going and many thanks. I will never forget the dedication of the late Mrs. M.A. Bolton.

Harry, my son, is a veteran of 1939/1945, serving overseas 22 months in the infantry. He joined the Branch in 1946 and has been an active member ever since.

Why do people like to come to the Legion? The sociability is good. I have heard this said many a time. I will close these remarks with one verse of "The Flower of Remembrance", by the late Colonel MacGrag:

"In Flanders Field the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row -
That mark our place, and in the sky
The larks still bravely singing fly,
Scarce heard amidst the guns below,
We are the dead."

They shall not grow old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and, in the morning, we will remember them.

- by J.C. (Tim) Wilson, Nov. 1973.

THE VILLAGE OF TOTTENHAM

TOTTENHAM LEGION



Prominent Legion members. (Left to right, back row): Bennie Vaughan, Andy Anderson, Ida Marsden, Wesley Bolton (standing), Tom Marsden, Pete Walsh. (Front row): J.C. 'Tim' Wilson, 'Dewey' Hopper.

ADJALA CREDIT UNION



July 1976: Opening of new Credit Union office.

Left to right: Chas. Pendergast, Bertha McCullough, Jim Hanrahan.

ADJALA CREDIT UNION

The year 1976 was a special one in the life of Adjala Credit Union. It marked the thirtieth anniversary of a community organization which started in a small way but grew steadily. It now has assets over one million dollars and a membership of over 800 people. The Credit Union serves mainly the residents of Adjala and Tecumseh townships which includes the villages of Colgan, Tottenham, Beeton, Lorette and Rockley. There are also some members in the Schomberg area. Through the years many have joined and later moved to other localities, usually for business reasons. Most of these people still wanted to retain membership so we now have members as far away as Vancouver, Montreal, Sudbury and California.

When you look ahead 30 years seems a long time but looking back you wonder where the time went. They say when you are busy time passes quickly and this has been the way with the Credit Union. In this 30 year span many members of our Community have served on the various committees, attended meetings and generously donated their time. This is really the principle of a Credit Union - a group of people working together, helping themselves, their families and each other.

In this part of South Simcoe 1945 started in the usual way. First the New Year's parties followed by the ordinary hardships of winter - frosty weather and the roads piled high with snow. This was before the use of school buses for the lower grades. The little one room school houses were an accepted part of our elementary education and the pupils walked to school. Suchre parties and the occasional shower were the usual forms of entertainment with St. Patrick's Day being the occasion for some extra celebrations in this predominantly Irish community. Easter was greeted joyously as it signified school holidays and the approach of spring. By this time, the snow-blocked roads had turned to mud and the birds were singing a message of better days ahead. The men were preparing for seeding and the cattle were hawling to get out on the pasture fields now turning green. There were some good times with simple pleasures but hard times really. Prices and wages were low, credit was hard to get. Young people were moving to the city to find jobs, repairs to buildings and machinery couldn't be made and very little money was available except for those who didn't need it. Our community was at a standstill, without any sign of a brighter future ahead.

In June 1945, Father Francis Xavier O'Reilly was appointed pastor of St. James Parish serving Colgan, Tottenham and the surrounding areas. We didn't know it at the time but great changes were in store for us. Father O'Reilly was born in Ottawa in 1901. He trained for the priesthood at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia and finished his theological studies in Toronto. He had spent most of his life in the city but soon adapted to country living. After a short time here he decided our community needed help and being a man of action, he started to do something about it. He was advised by Father Francis McGee, the rural director of the Archdiocese of Toronto, that a credit union might be the answer to our problems. Father McGee was instrumental in establishing a church and school in King Township and helped many families to get a fresh start. One Sunday morning Fr. O'Reilly announced a special meeting - a chance to do something new by which we could help each other bring new life to our stalled economy. Just a small unimportant meeting it seemed at the time, but it was the beginning of a new era. In the following months more meetings were held and speakers came to explain the Credit Union philosophy. People began saving small amounts of money to be ready to open an account at a later date.

With Father O'Reilly's leadership and the help of the Credit Union League, Adjala Credit Union was formed in May 1946. The Charter had to be approved by the Ontario Government. The vision and hard work of a great man had started us on a new way of life - THE CREDIT UNION WAY. The first Board of Directors were:

President - Jim Joyce	Vice-President - Mrs. Chas. (Anne) McKenna
Secretary - Frank O'Leary	Treasurer - Charlie Morrow
Asst. Treasurer - Phil Coates	

The Credit Committee were:

Phil Keough, Joe Kelly, Charlie Pendergast and Bill Ruman.

The Supervisory Committee were:

Charlie Bargin, Mrs. Vince (Patricia) O'Leary and Bill Pendergast.

Cont'd. . .

ADJALA CREDIT UNION - cont'd.

These newly formed committees worked well together to help the credit union get going.

The first office was in Charlie Morrow's house, now owned by the O'Shell family. Charlie devoted many hours to the service of the Credit Union as office hours were very unpredictable. Some would come on their way to work at 7 a.m.; others late at night after the farm work was done, or any time at all on the week-ends. At the end of 1946 assets were \$6,694.43. There were 121 members and 41 loans had been granted. 4% was paid on shares and 6% interest charged on loans. Growth was slow at first, till we learned more about it but soon families with faith in themselves and the Credit Union began to borrow money for machinery, farms etc. and to invest savings to help each other.

Our community picked up steam and the future looked much brighter. In some cases 3 or 4 farmers joined together to buy larger and better equipment which they previously could not afford. The trend to the city slowed down as young people were able to borrow money to get started. In some cases it reversed as people who had left for city jobs were happy to come back to the land of their youth as area development created new opportunities. New homes were built in Colgan, Tottenham and surrounding areas, usually with mortgage money obtained from the Credit Union. Three of the first houses built were bought by Art and Anne Dunn, Basil and Mary Hanrahan and Joe and Mary McKenna. A school area was formed and the original one room school was not big enough. A new school was built in 1947, three more rooms were added in 1949 and the new familiar yellow buses began to travel our country roads.

Although Adjala Credit Union was started by a priest in a Catholic area, it was always open to everyone. It now has members of many faiths and people from all walks of life. As the Credit Union message spread, membership increased. The best recommendation is satisfied customers and new members were usually the result of a conversation with a friend.

Jim Joyce remained as president till his death on January 13th, 1955. Francis Kelly became president in 1955 and with the rest of the original executive, remained in office till the end of 1958. At that time the committees were reorganized and a new slate of officers were elected for 1959:

Board of Directors:

President - Al Osborne	Vice-President - Vince Trainor
Secretary - Bertha McCullough	Treasurer - Charlie Morrow
Additional Directors - Basil Doyle, Joe McKenna and Jack Wilson	

Credit Committee:

John Dougherty, Harry Moran, Art Dunn, Jim McGuinness, Bill Roman Jr.

Supervisory Committee:

Phil Coates, Jim McKenna and Vince Bagan

Charlie Morrow remained as treasurer till 1960 and during his 14 years in office, performed a great service for the community. From 1957-on he had the assistance of Mrs. Bertha McCullough who became secretary-treasurer when the Credit Union was moved to the school in 1960. Fr. O'Reilly continued to guide the operation of the Credit Union till he was moved to Port Credit in 1969. More words cannot express the great debt we owe this man for 15 years of untiring service to the whole community.

At the end of 1958 assets were \$341,000.00 and membership was 372. 4% was paid on shares and 6% interest charged on loans. For some of the preceding years a 1% rebate was paid on loan interest.

For the period 1959-1975, the following people gave their time and energy to serve on the various committees. Terms of office were usually for three years when members either retired or stood for re-election again, sometimes on another committee. The year listed is when they became a committee member for the first time:

1960 - Gerry Bagan	1961 - Rory Bagan, Larry Keough
1962 - John McCullough Sr., Gye van Niekirk	1963 - Jim O'Leary
1964 - Charlie Fendergast, Hugh Sinclair	1965 - Paul Keough, Bob McGoey
1966 - Johnny Pickett, Patrick (Paddy) O'Leary	1967 - Don Bricknell, Peter Van Lyk
1968 - Jack McCullough Jr., Paul Wilson	1969 - Don Bergin, Joan Rutton, Alex Sheridan, Joe Talley
1970 - Gerard Bergin	1971 - Ray Culliton, Edgar McCleish, Cleary Percy
1972 - Jim Sheehan	1973 - Ben Bergin, Pat Forestall, Jim Hanrahan, John Kearney
1974 - M.J. Doyle, Al Lynch	

Cont'd. . .

1975 - no change. One from each committee stood for re-election.

1976 - Mrs. Agnes Ronan and Ab. Rowntree

The presidents from 1946-1976 were: Jim Joyce, Francis Kelly, Al Osborne, Rory Egan, Vince Trainor, Art Dunn, Peter Van Dyk, Bob McGoey, Don Bergin, Vince Egan, Tom Bricknell, John Ratten, Alex Sheridan.

Fr. Harding served as assistant treasurer 1960-62; F. Attallah from 1962-1966; and Fr. Switalski from 1966-68. In the office the following have helped at various times: Mariene Bergin, Helen Folkeard, Bertie Moran, Cathy McCullough, Sr. McCullough, Mrs. Agnes Ronan and Rita Shaw.

Jim McCullough, although he never had any formal title, served as unofficial chauffeur for Bertha and her staff, especially in bad weather. Mary Osborne, as secretary for St. James School, looked after the school collection for the Credit Union till her retirement in June 1976. Judy Egan, the present secretary, is continuing with this collection which has helped many school children to start a savings account. Gordon Mallion served as Credit Union solicitor in an advisory capacity since 1946 and assisted the Credit Union in many ways.

In the 30 year period there have been three different post offices in Colgan and all gave complete co-operation to the Credit Union. These were McGoey's store (now owned by Bill and Nicki Grandjean), Ronan's house (now owned by Michael and Gail Runan, and Morrow's house (the present post office). In June 1947 the post office was moved from McGoey's store to Runan's house where it remained till the spring of 1961 when it was moved to its present location. The volume of mail has increased greatly in the past few years, but our postmaster, Rita Morrow, always gives the best service.

In 1969 Credit Assets had reached \$425,000.00. They grew to \$525,000.00 in 1971 with the most rapid growth in 1973 when assets reached \$929,000.00. These are approximate figures. In 1975 assets passed the million dollar mark and by the end of 1976 had reached \$1,218,565.15. From 1960-1975 the Credit Union was fortunate to have the use of St. James School. When this school addition was added in 1969 the office was moved to the new section.

The sisters, principals Vince Monaghan and Colin Morrow, the teaching staff and the custodians were always very co-operative. The Credit Union was never charged rent but often gave something as a token of appreciation for the use of the office, the staff room and occasionally, the auditorium. For example, they gave baseboard heaters for the old school office, the valance for the drapes in the new auditorium, the trophy case, a portable stereo, some furniture for the staff room and some gym equipment. In Nov. 1976 the Credit Union finally acquired its own office, the building straight east of St. James School. This was purchased from the sisters of St. Joseph, who had taught for many years in St. James School, for the very reasonable sum of \$30,000.00. It was only fitting that the construction of this building in 1947 was arranged by Father O'Reilly who led us in the Credit Union movement. The building was erected by Charlie Morrow who had served for so many years as treasurer.

The first customer to enter the new office was Leonard Bricknell of Tottenham. The official opening of the new office was held in July 1976 in conjunction with St. James annual garden party and was well attended. Bernie Mullings of the Credit Union League presented a plaque as a commemorative of this special occasion. MEP George McCague, MP Ross Milne, Adjala Reeve Peter Kearns, Tottenham Reeve Joe Selford and councillors Peter Keage, Kevin Mason and Ned Rowbotham attended. The office is now open two nights a week and is usually quite busy.

The Board of Directors for 1976 were:

President - Alex Sheridan

Vice-President - Jim Monaghan

Additional Directors - John Ratten, Ray Culliton and Tom Bricknell

Credit Committee - M.J. Doyle, Ab. Rowntree, Jim Sheehan, Jack McCullough and Gerry Egan

Supervisory Committee - Mrs. Agnes Ronan, Gerard Bergin, Al Lynch

Cont'd. . .

ADJALA CREDIT UNION - Page 4

Secretary Treasurer - Mrs. Bertha McCullough
Office Assistants - Mrs. Agnes Roman and Mrs. Erla McCullough
Loan Officer - Gerry Eagen
Collector school children deposits - Mrs. Judy Hogan

In 30 years of operation there have been many changes, many decisions to make which affected the future of the Credit Union. Since the new office was acquired in 1975 a building committee was set up. We also have a publicity committee and a delinquent committee. Loan requests are for much larger amounts as houses now cost 5 or 6 times what they did in the fifties. Furniture, cars and machinery have also increased greatly in price. There is much more competition from other lending firms, money is easier to get now but sometimes not so easy to pay back. The rate of interest is about double what it was in the forties but Credit Union principle remains the same - working together we help each other. It is still a non profit organization where all income after expenses goes back to the shareholders in the form of dividends on shares or as a rebate on loan interest. The members themselves own the Credit Union and every member with \$5.00 or more in their account is eligible to vote if present, at any general, annual or special meeting. Each of us in our own way has contributed something to the Credit Union and played a small part in its success. In every organization there is usually one person who has made a special contribution, someone on whom everyone else relies. In Adjala Credit Union that person has been Mrs. McCullough, whose hard work and devotion to duty has been a tremendous asset over the past 20 years. Bertha, as we all know her, has been the perfect example of the old adage - service with a smile. She not only spends many hours at the office in Colgan but is very obliging in her unofficial office at home. ~~Therofficeat~~

from "Thirty Years of Progress"

- submitted 1978

THE BANK OF TOTTENHAM

In 1882 a plan 346 was put on part of Lot 5, Concession 4 Twp. of Tecumseth and Lot 61 of Plan 345 was sold by Patrick Berham, Charles McKenna and John J. McKenna to Thomas Q. McGee. W.S. Fuller and Co. started the Traders Bank in a small building on this property. Later they sold out to Mr. Bastedo who operated a private bank. In 1883 Geo. Nolan purchased this lot from Thomas Q. McGee and built a brick building. In 1885 Geo. Nolan sold to the Bank of Hamilton. Inside the vault on the steel doors are the signatures of the bank employees, dated 1886, 1888. (This is now part of a private residence owned by Mr. & Mrs. J. Soeher). In 1889 the Bank of Hamilton failed and the building was sold to Henry C. Aitken, who started a private bank. In 1894 it went broke and he skipped town. This building eventually became a law office and served as such until 1974, when R. Mallion, Q.C. moved his office to the new Rogers Building.

There was a trader's bank elsewhere in town which later moved - in 1904 - to the building on Mill Street East (where the Ritchie & Feehly Law Office is now located), and G.E. Giddy was the manager. In 1912 the Trader's Bank became the Royal Bank. The bank moved to the corner of Queen & Mill Sts. (NE) in . In 1973 The Rogers Building was built on the southwest corner of Queen & Mill Sts. and the Royal Bank moved into the new premises, with Ebe Mogenson as manager. Mr. C.J. Knight replaced Mr. Mogenson as manager in 1977.

The following is a list of managers of the Traders and Royal Banks from 1904 to present time:

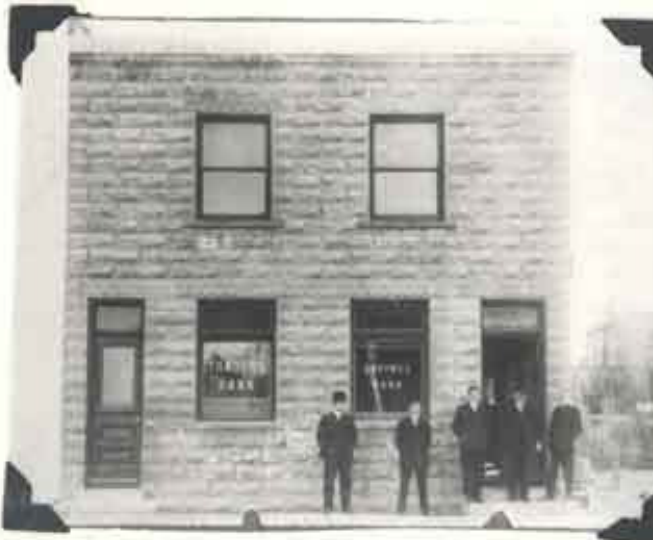
TRADERS BANK

G.M. Giddy (1904 to Dec. 1905)
W.L. Simpson (Jan. 1910 to Sept. 3, 1912)

Cont'd. . .

ROYAL BANK

W.L. Simpson (Sept. 3, 1912 to Dec. 1912)
H.M. Doull (Nov. 8, 1912 to June 5, 1919)
I.H. Tompkins (May 29, 1919 to Mar. 13, 1921)
R. Ryckman (Mar. 7, 1921 to Jan. 31, 1931)
H.C. Kent (Jan. 27, 1931 to Mar. 20, 1939)
A.D. Allen (Mar. 20, 1939 to June 28, 1943)
J.C. Stewart (June 23, 1943 to May 15, 1946)
A.D. Elliott (May 6, 1946 to May 8, 1949)
F.H. Brooks (May 2, 1949 to Mar. 23, 1952)
W.R. Rogers (Mar. 17, 1952 to May 15, 1958)
E.J. Archambault (May 12, 1958 to June 12, 1961)
J.W.B. Veale (June 22, 1961 to 1967)
C. Allison (Apr. 17, 1967 to 1971)
E.K. Mogenson (1971 to 1977)
C.J. Knight (1977 to present)



The Traders Bank - Mill St. E. - present location of law offices of Ritchie & Peeheley.



The Royal Bank - N.E. Corner of Queen & Mill Streets

In the early years, several banks came and went. One of these was a private bank opened in 1882 by Geo. Patrick Hughes in his building at the corner of Queen and George streets, but this bank, like many, was doomed to failure. The Royal Bank operated for many years without competition - until 197 , when the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce moved into the new Tottenham Mall.

History all over the world relates to us the many bank robberies, and of course Tottenham did not escape such an event. On August 27, 1953, the Royal Bank (corner of Queen & Mill Sts - northeast) became the victim of bank robbers. The following account of the robbery was taken from the Toronto Star:

"GIRL TOSSES BOTTLE OUT WINDOW, BUT 3 GET \$3,000.

Tottenham, August 28. - Three Luger-carrying men escaped with \$3,000 yesterday afternoon after holding up the Royal Bank of Canada two minutes before closing time. A girl employee threw a pop bottle through a window but it failed to draw attention to the first bank robbery in this community's history and the trio made an unmolested getaway in a late model car.

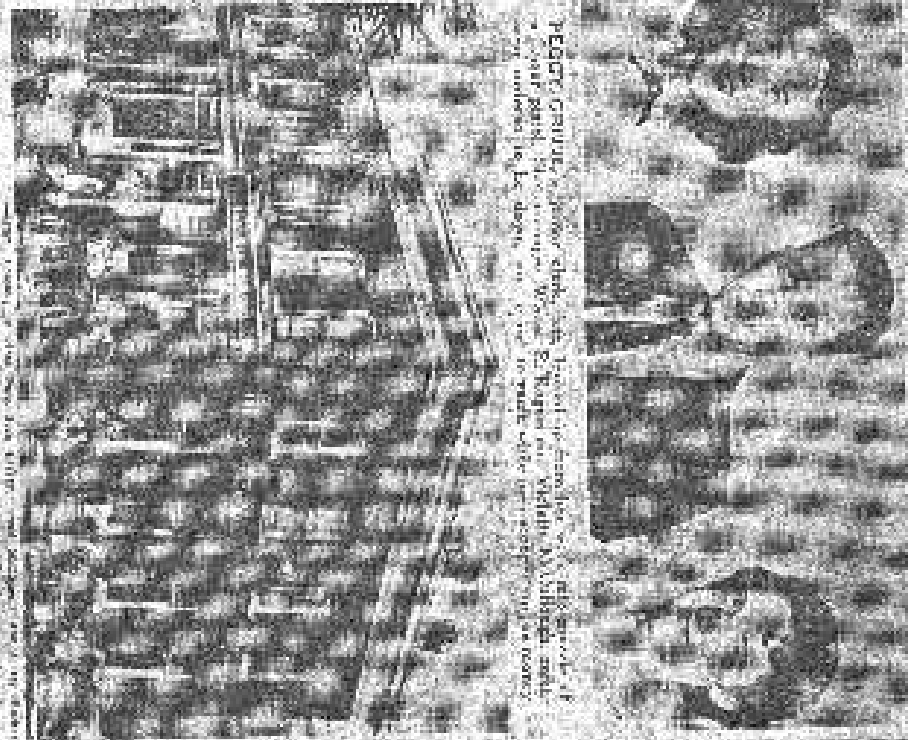
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TELLER HURLS BOTTLE THROUGH WINDOW, FALLS TO ATTRACT ATTENTION TO BANK ROBBERY
 TELLER HURLS BOTTLE THROUGH WINDOW, FALLS TO ATTRACT ATTENTION TO BANK ROBBERY

GIRL TOSSES BOTTLE OUT WINDOW, BUT GET \$3,000

Metropolitan, Suburban News
 A girl, who is believed to be a member of the "Black Legion," has been arrested by the Metropolitan Police after she was caught in the act of throwing a bottle out of a window of a building on Broadway. The girl, who is believed to be a member of the "Black Legion," has been arrested by the Metropolitan Police after she was caught in the act of throwing a bottle out of a window of a building on Broadway. The girl, who is believed to be a member of the "Black Legion," has been arrested by the Metropolitan Police after she was caught in the act of throwing a bottle out of a window of a building on Broadway.



PEOPLE GATHER AROUND BOTTLE, FALLS TO ATTRACT ATTENTION TO BANK ROBBERY
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The girl, who is believed to be a member of the "Black Legion," has been arrested by the Metropolitan Police after she was caught in the act of throwing a bottle out of a window of a building on Broadway. The girl, who is believed to be a member of the "Black Legion," has been arrested by the Metropolitan Police after she was caught in the act of throwing a bottle out of a window of a building on Broadway. The girl, who is believed to be a member of the "Black Legion," has been arrested by the Metropolitan Police after she was caught in the act of throwing a bottle out of a window of a building on Broadway.



JAMES W. WAIN, JR.
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THE BANK OF COLTERRIAN - Page 3

The men herded two girls and the manager into the vault. They did the same to Beattie McCabe, 21, after she came back into the bank with some refreshments in the middle of the robbery and tossed a bottle out the window. Then they scooped the money from the teller's cage and made a hasty exit. Because they didn't wait to force Miss McCabe or Walter R. Rogers, the manager, to open the safe in the vault they missed another estimated \$4,000.

At least half a dozen persons at the intersection of Queen and Mill Sts., where the bank is located, saw the men enter and the window break a few minutes later, but paid no attention to the broken bottle on the sidewalk. When the men hustled out minutes later, jumped into their car and sped away, the alarm was raised, but despite quick road-blocks set up by police (provincial), the trio escaped. This is the sequence of events, as related by eyewitnesses outside the bank, bank employees and provincial police:

The men parked outside the entrance to the bank in their car a few minutes before closing time. One man went across the intersection and looked around while the others waited. When the last customer had left, the blinds had been drawn and Miss McCabe had gone for the soft drinks, the trio entered. One man stayed just inside the door while the other two drew their guns and made Violetta McCollough, 19, a lodgerkeeper; Peggy Greer, 22, a junior clerk, and Mr. Rogers lie on the floor in the corner directly opposite the open vault. The two employees and the manager were made to crawl into the vault. When Miss McCabe, the teller, re-entered the bank with a pop bottle in each hand, she was pushed by the man inside the door. As she passed the windows she tossed one through the pane of glass with her right hand. The look-out man then knocked the other one out of her left hand with a pistol and ordered her into the vault. The man tried to lock the vault but the combination was thrown and they couldn't close the door. After Miss McCabe told them she couldn't open the safe inside because the combination had been changed and the numbers were on a piece of paper in her purse, they told the quartet to remain there for five minutes, took all the money out of the teller's cage and left.

When the door slammed Mr. Rogers ran out and called the telephone operator to sound the alarm and Miss McCabe ran to the window to attract attention. Tom Karaden, who was at the intersection, jumped in his half-ton truck with Bernard McGoey, and chased the auto for two miles south to No. 9 highway where he realized they were being outdistanced and he was almost out of gas.

'The trio came in the bank a minute or two before 3 p.m. and forced us to get down in the far corner', Mr. Rogers, who has been managing the bank for 18 months, said. 'I saw they had guns. They said, "get down on the floor".' He and the two girls had to crawl into the vault on their hands and knees, the manager said. Mr. Rogers said he didn't know who took the money but they said 'Stay five minutes before you move'. Miss McCabe said she had bought the soft drinks at the store of Thomas Barker, who came back with her as he usually does to open the door for her. 'I walked in and a man behind the door gave me a push', she said. 'I don't know what possessed me to throw the bottle. It happened so fast I don't know if I was afraid or not. I was in a daze'. They wanted her to open the safe, Miss McCabe said. 'I told them I didn't remember the number of the safe'. She said the numbers were in her purse, but the men didn't wait; she said 'Everything was over in five or six minutes'. Earl Woodward, 13, and Bob Rhodes, 14, both Star carrier boys, were at the intersection, heard the crash and saw the pop bottle on the sidewalk. Their curiosity was not aroused. Later they saw the men, who did not appear to be carrying anything, hustle into the car and speed away in a cloud of dust. Ronald Forrest, 14, heard the crash but didn't know if the window had been broken from the inside or outside and wasn't alerted. 'In a couple of minutes I saw two men come out. The one with the black beard got in the driver's seat'. Wilbert Stewart, 34, at the opposite corner of the intersection, saw the car park and one man come over and look around. 'He said "hello" and I said "hello" back to him', Mr. Stewart said. The robbery was investigated by Insp. J.L. Eudham and D.A. Nicol of the criminal investigation department.

ST. JOSEPH SISTERS - COLLEGE - cont'd.

Their success is known to all. The long list of graduates and successful careers is a tribute to the school and its teachers.

I would like to mention a few interesting sidelights that may have been forgotten. The children who sometimes pictured sisters on "24 hour" duty either teaching or praying were delighted to find they were quite human and enjoyed baseball, skating and hockey! Sometimes in the evening they were seen taking buggy rides on the town line "Jony Express" driven by Tony Fensbergast! Sister Berchman so inspired her pupils with lofty ideals that one day, after lunch, the boys in her class were nowhere to be found. In their search for "heavenly reward" they had climbed into the attic of the "old red school". On another occasion students took such a lively interest in chemistry that an unexpected explosion occurred in one of their "unsubstantiated experiments" with potassium! Another student conducted his own experiment on the dangers of sinful life by hiding in the furnace pipe! One cold winter there were rumours that Sister Dymna, Sister Xavier and Sister Mahonnel were very sleepy in class from keeping late hours! All was forgiven when it was discovered they were up till 2 a.m. helping George Partlans flood the creek! Many of you may have wondered why Sally and Pat LaRose, the faithful custodians of the school, left Oulgan. Now, the story can be told. They decided it might be safer in Lorette after Sister Xavier hit their front door on a runaway bicycle!

A special event in the lives of the sisters was acquiring their first car. I am sure it was only a coincidence but about that time the County decided to widen the "Pill Hill". One sister, whom I will not name, still found it a little narrow in places! Then there was the special valentine present left on the convent steps by Sally and Pat. The sisters were delighted. Their present was called "duster". Being the only male member of the St. Joseph's Order, he was awarded special privileges - he didn't have to teach. These are just a few amusing incidents in the lives of the sisters!

No doubt Rita Ryan, the trusted friend of all the sisters, Georgina Barton, the first music teacher or the many teachers, pupils and neighbours could recall many, many more.

From a humble beginning the school has grown to 16 rooms with 15 teachers and almost 400 pupils. Via Hayes service Lorette, Tottenham, Ashill, North Adjaja, Boston, Mackley and surrounding areas. The St. Joseph sisters have been an important part of that growth. There have been various times, happy times and we hope many rewarding moments during your 28 years in our midst. On behalf of your many friends, I extend to you "Best Wishes for the Future" and "Sincere Thanks for a Job Well Done".

A presentation was made to the sisters followed by lunch and a social hour. There have been many changes since the St. Joseph Sisters came in 1947. Father O'Reilly, the founder of the new school and the convent, was followed by Father Harding in 1960, Father Atallah in 1962 and Father Delulski in 1966. They all worked closely with the Sisters and other teachers to give our children a good academic and religious education. Father Hajka, pastor of Ashill, North Adjaja and Terna, also made a great contribution to the religious education of the St. James students from 1965 to the present time.

Since 1947 there have been eleven school principals: Sr. Basilissa (1947-53), Sr. Codanassa (1953-54), Sr. Dorothy (1954-55), Sr. Jeanne Marie (1955-58), Sr. Imelda (1958-61), Sr. Scholastica (1961-63), Sr. Mary Alfred (1963-65), Sr. Dymna (1965-66), Sr. Mary Rose (1966-70), Vince Conaghan (1970-76), Colin Murray (1976 to present).

The original three-man school board was enlarged to six to include representatives from different places as the school served a larger area. In 1969 the many Township boards were amalgamated to form the Simcoe County Roman Catholic Separate School Board. Vince Egan was elected as Township representative - a post he still holds. Bernard Bergin was first Adjaja representative, followed by Mary Munnoch and presently, Michael Horne.

The St. Joseph's Convent was sold to Adjaja Credit Union to use as an office. In this capacity it continues to be a place which performs a great service to the community. The St. Joseph Sisters will always be fondly remembered by all who knew them. Their leaving in 1976 brought to an end another chapter in the history of Adjaja and Township Townships.

- By Gerry Deane, 1978.

THE ST. JOSEPH SISTERS - COLGAN

In the 1930's Colgan was a small village which seemed destined to stay that way. There were a few houses, a post office, a store, a church, a rectory, and a school with about 17 pupils. Colgan is mainly in Adjala with a few houses in Tecumseh. In the 1940's changes took place which involved many students and parents from a large part of Tecumseh.

Thanks to the initiative of Father P.X. O'Reilly, the community began to grow and prosper. A new school and a convent were built in 1947 and in August of that year the St. Joseph Sisters came to Colgan. As the school grew, pupils came by bus from a large portion of both Adjala and Tecumseh. The St. Joseph Sisters became an active force in the community and for 28 years they taught in St. James School.

In 1975 they decided to close the convent in Colgan and a farewell get-together was held in St. James School. The auditorium was filled to overflowing with students, former pupils and area residents who were thankful for the opportunity to show their appreciation. George Keogh was Master of Ceremonies for the afternoon and several former students spoke with great feeling of their happy association with the Sisters at the school. The following address was read by Gerry Eagan on behalf of the whole community:

"There are many milestones, many important days, that mark the beginning or the end of a special chapter in our lives. Today is such a day. It is nice to renew old acquaintances and see again once familiar faces, but there is a tinge of sadness for us all. We must face the fact that the friendly faces of the Sisters will be seen no more in our church and school.

Since pioneer days, churches and schools have always been a central part of community activity in this area. St. Margaret's in Tecumseh was the first church, followed by St. James in Colgan, St. Mary's in Achill, St. Francis in Tottenham and Immaculate Conception in North Adjala. After the churches came the schools. For many years, the little one-room brick buildings scattered throughout the countryside were an accepted part of our early education. In 1945 Father P.X. O'Reilly was appointed pastor to St. James Parish. Due mainly to his vision, leadership and hard work, great changes in our parish were soon underway.

In May, 1946 the "Adjala Credit Union" was formed and this was the first big step in the development of our community. The next year a new school was built by Johnny McCullough and a new convent by Charlie Morrow. The convent carries within its walls remembrance of by-gone days as some of the timbers came from a hall in Esplanaville.



This picture of the Convent was taken some time in the 1960's, before the trees had blocked off part of the view. As you can see, the Sisters worked hard in their spare time to beautify the place with shrubs, trees and flowers.

The Sisters of St. Joseph moved to Colgan in August, 1947, and took up residence in the old parish hall until the convent was completed. In September that same year, the first bus service was established with Basil Harrahan as driver, aided by Father O'Reilly in his jeep. For the Sisters, '1947' was the beginning of twenty-eight years of faithful service to our school, church and community. Many a child went tearfully to school for the first time to return in a few hours, all smiles, extolling the virtues of "Sister", who, from that day on was his or her trusted friend and advisor.

Over the years many sisters came and went, each, in her own way, playing some special part in our education. Sister Domithea and Sister Adelaide were the early pioneers, paving the way for many others and finally to Sister Mary and Sister Harriet in 1975. Unfortunately there are too many to mention each one individually.

Cont'd. . .

STORY OF TOTTENHAM AND DISTRICT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

SACRED HEART COUNCIL #4120

The local branch of the Knights of Columbus has membership from Tottenham, Colgan, Weston, Grangeville, Albion, Alliston and surrounding areas. It was organized in October 1955 with the first meetings being held in homes or in the basement of St. Francis' Church. In June 1961 the Knights of Columbus purchased the former Heenan farm west of the conservation area on the north side of the 4th line of Tottenham. At one time plans were made to make this property a youth centre but this was turned down by the Water Resources. For several years the Heenan farmhouse was used as a meeting place and the land was rented out. This property was sold to Clifford Rogers in 1966, with the portion where the lagoons now stand being later sold to the village of Tottenham.



The Heenan farmhouse - used as a meeting place.

In September 1966 the Knights purchased what was then known as the Leisure Hour Hall on Brown Street. This building was built in 1959 by Harold Boyce who foresaw the eventual need for more recreational facilities in the village. Harold ran the hall until his death in 1963. His wife, Irene, kept the hall in operation till the Knights bought it. This hall was the scene of many happy occasions and the Knights performed a great service to the community by maintaining a place for many activities - bingos, dances, showers, weddings, suchre parties, meetings, benefits, car draws, etc. Leo Paxton's group was a very popular orchestra for many years. Their modern and old type music helped make many events a great success. Mae and Eileen Howbotham managed the hall till 1971 and did a good job. It was during this time that the first New Year's Eve dance was held in the hall. It was very successful and the first of many. Vince and Mae Hayes were in charge from 1971-1973. As our community grew and the hall became better known, the hall became busier each year under the guidance of Vince and Mae. Vince spent countless hours repairing the hall and looking after a great variety of social functions. At this time Vince was driving from Albion. He made us many trips that he once mentioned the old car could probably make that trip by itself. Mae - sometimes called Big Mary - was commander-in-chief in the kitchen and her well-organized crew could whip up a lunch or a dinner in short order. On occasion she was even bouncer when unwelcome guests entered the kitchen. Her main assistant was also called Mary (giggling Mary Keogh). They made a real team who could get things done and have fun as well. Giggling Mary was a little hard to keep track of. She was at the bar with hubby Bart, the bartender, in the wash-room or sneaking off for a dance if the boss didn't keep an eye on her.

Cont'd. . .



The Leisure Hour Hall on Brown St.

STORY OF TOTTENHAM AND DISTRICT KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS - cont'd.

as well as providing one of the three recreational areas in the village (the Legion also provided a hall for community events and the town hall was used occasionally) the Knights have always been involved in many activities which are usually not too well known. In years gone by they have sponsored a ladies baseball team in Tottenham and hockey teams in Repton and Schomberg. They also sponsored spelling bees, public speaking contests, organized tours for the Senior Citizens of Rimous Neve and took part in Remembrance Day activities. For years they have distributed Christmas baskets to needy families and helped out fire victims. They have also assisted in social activities and religious functions with the local Catholic Churches. The entire proceeds of some dances and draws were sent to help one of our locally born priests, Father Ed Egan, in his work with the Indian missions in British Columbia.

In 1973 the Tottenham Lions Club purchased the Knights of Columbus Hall and property which they operated till June 1977 when they moved to the new Tottenham and District Community Centre. The hall which had been the scene of so many community activities was then sold by the Tottenham P.W.C. employees and moved to a new location just north of the pump-house and P.W.C. offices. It was rebuilt as an equipment storage and repair shed and continues to serve a useful purpose in our community. The property on which the hall had been located was sold to the village of Tottenham and six houses have since been built there. When the sale was made the Knights of Columbus donated the mortgage which they held - \$39,600.00 - plus \$400.00 cash, for a total donation of \$40,000.00 to the Tottenham and District Community Centre Fund. All Centre donations were matched by Wintario so this meant a total of \$80,000.00, which was a tremendous boost for the Centre fund.

The Knights of Columbus have a room for their own use in the new centre in which meetings and social activities are held - usually on weekends or evenings. This room is approximately 1100 sq. feet, has a small kitchen and holds about 75 people. During the day it is used for the Day Nursery Program which looks after close to 90 children in half-day sessions. In the evening a week it is used by the Brownies.

At the present time the Knights of Columbus sponsor three hockey teams and one soccer team. They still continue to look after needy families with Christmas parcels. This is a joint project with the Lions Club.

In 1976 Repton arena had to undergo extensive repairs to meet safety standards. The Knights of Columbus donated \$5,000.00 to help out with this worthy cause.

In years gone by they have helped finance a sound system in St. James Church, Colgan. They are presently assisting in basement repairs to St. Francis Church, Tottenham. They also assisted with basement renovations in St. Mary's Church Achill and donated \$5,000.00 to this worthy cause.

During the 23 years since they were organized many Knights of Columbus members have given their time, energy and money for the good of their organization and the whole community. There are too many to mention everyone but the highest office in Grand Knight and listed following are the 13 Grand Knights who have held office since 1955:

Anthony P. O'Hara (1955-56), Wm. R. Paterson (1956-57), John E. Dougherty (1957-59), Ernest Thibert (1959-61), Vincent J. Hayes (1961-63), John T. Doherty (1963-66), Vincent J. Hayes (1966-67), Maurice R. Matthews (1967-69), Peter T. Kearns (1969-71), Roger D. Lawler (1971-73), Wallace Joy (1973-75), Peter D. Kedge (1975-77), Clement McShane (1977 to present).

The local priest have been chaplains: Fr. P.A. O'Reilly (1955-60), Fr. Atallah (1960-66), Fr. Harding (1966-68), Fr. S. Baladi (1968 to present).

- By Gerry Egan, 1978.

Tottenham & District Community Centre

OFFICIAL OPENING

Saturday, October 1, 1977

2:P.M. - 4:P.M. PUBLIC SKATING

7:P.M.

RIBBON CUTTING

**Joe Belford
George McCague**

SPEECHES

**George McCague
Joe Belford
Peter Kearns
Allan Glassford
Jim Stone**

7:30P.M.

BLESSING

Father Switalski

**7:35P.M. COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT
OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE**

VS.

CKBB RADIO STATION

EVERYONE WELCOME

ALL EVENTS FREE ENTRANCE

9:P.M. - 1:A.M. DANCE

Music by D.J. Jim Griffin of Rock Productions

TOTTENHAM AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE

Driving north out of Tottenham about 500 ft. past the town limits, you will see a large cement block and steel building. It bears the inscription 'Tottenham and District Community Centre'. To a new resident or a visitor it meant a low-looking building with a large parking lot which is funny, as close to town. To anyone who has been here four years or more it means something entirely different. It is a dream come true - something we needed badly and almost despaired of having.

Our Centre is a once in a lifetime accomplishment - a building and property costing over \$800,000. We planned for it; we worked for it; and paid for it without one cent going on taxes. It is sure to use and enjoy. For generations to come it will stand as an example of what can be done when people work together. This was a case where town and country residents put their shoulders to the wheel and kept pushing till the job was done.

At first the project met with opposition, suspicion and scepticism and the comment "we can't afford it". People gradually became more optimistic when they learned more about it. In 1966, when Phase I of Tottenham Development began in the Park Crescent area, the population of Tottenham was 877. Phase II (Eastern Ave., etc.) began in 1970. Building continued in 1972 with Phase III in the Adelaide, Brown St. area. Phase IV (The Boulevard), west of the C.P.R. tracks on the south side of the 6th line, followed in 1977. Finally, the Ringdirect extension took place in 1978 with the population of Tottenham at the end of 1978 reaching 2,866.

As you can see, this was a period of rapid and well-organized growth, with great changes on a year to year basis. Recreation activities increased by leaps and bounds with this rapid expansion. People were travelling in all directions for a variety of recreational outlets. There was a great influx of young people with school enrollment increasing over 10% per year in all area schools. In hockey and figure skating, needs were quite obvious as children travelled to Beeton, Schomberg, Ainslie or Bolton.

The winter of 1970-71 was the first major change when the Tottenham and District Minor Hockey Association (TMD.M.H.A.) was formed. A group of seven (the silver seven) put in \$1.00 each to give the new organization a small bank account. Ron Foerster was the first chairman. Thanks to TMD.M.H.A., each year more boys take part in organized hockey at all levels. In other sports there was a gradually increasing demand for facilities as more people became involved. In the fall of 1972, Ron Foerster and Helen Guider approached Tottenham Council to explain they would be investigating the possibility and cost of an arena and hall. An historic Parks and Recreation meeting was held in Tottenham Parish Hall in the fall of 1973, with councillor Pete Hedge as chairman. A large group of visitors attended to express their feelings that an arena and hall were need in our area.

As a result of this meeting, Ron Foerster and Bruce Crofts were chosen to approach people from Tottenham and the southern portions of Adelaide and Richmond townships, requesting their assistance in forming a citizen's committee. This group of people met in St. Francis Church basement in February 1974 and formed the Tottenham and District Community Centre Citizen's Committee. Elections were held, with the following people chosen for office:

Chairman - John Fuchachern;	Vice-chairman - Ron Foerster;
Secretary - Mrs. Shirley Duke;	Treasurer - Mrs. Donna Gwynne.

Other members were: Bruce Crofts, George Stampfer, Bill Brudley, Paul O'Leary, Bob Moon, Brian Evans, Helen Guider, Barbara Partlans, Peggy Middleton, Ray Chapman, and Gerry Jagan. Several other people attended two or three meetings but the above were the regular members.

Everyone agreed our area need not just "a rink", but a community centre with something for everyone. The role of the committee was established as a fact-finding body and objectives were discussed. Eventually, sub-committees were formed, responsible for:

- building design and cost
- information on land sites
- information on grants and loans
- fund raising
- the circulation of a petition and questionnaire.

Members of this committee met at different times with Tottenham, Adelaide and Richmond councils to explain their role as a fact-finding body. They received approval in principle for the committee and their endeavor.

Cont'd. . .

The following few months were busy with weekly or bi-weekly meetings, trips to other centres for information on design and cost, enquiries on grants, loans, available land, etc. Many social clubs were contacted to get an idea about expected needs and an effort was made through public meetings to make people aware of the project. It was the feeling of the committee that a multi-purpose centre was needed with the following:

- a community hall to handle about 400 people, equipped with bar, kitchen, washrooms - which could be used for dances, dinners, meetings and sports activities.
- an ice surface.
- four or six dressing rooms accommodating both indoor and outdoor activities.
- some community activity rooms.

The above would cost about \$600,000.00 and be subject to the approval of an official Board of Directors and the participating councils.

A petition and questionnaire was circulated in Tottenham and the northern portions of Adjala and Tecumseh townships. The questions asked were:

- 1) Do you feel a community centre and recreation complex would be of benefit to the area in question?
- 2) Would you be in favour of such a complex?
- 3) Would you support such a recreation complex?

This meant a lot of hard work, especially in the country. In areas close to town, people were aware of the project and strongly in favour. In the outlying districts, there was a lot of driving involved and petitioners were sometimes met first by curious looks and later by people who knew very little about the project. Most were in favour after an explanation. A large number of petitioners worked hard and the response was overwhelming. Of 2,400 questionnaires circulated, 914 felt there was a need for a recreation complex and were willing to help.

With this tremendous vote of confidence the Citizens Committee again contacted the councils of the three areas involved. Tottenham Council agreed to put the question to a plebiscite in conjunction with the municipal elections November 2, 1974. The townships of Adjala and Tecumseh decided not to put the question to a plebiscite at this time due to a technicality about a legal time period before a vote. In the plebiscite over 74% of Tottenham voters indicated their approval of a Community Centre. At this time the centre was supposed to be built on a proportional share cost agreement amongst Tottenham, Adjala and Tecumseh after grants, donations, etc.

The Citizen's Fact Finding Committee, after gathering information per schedule and obtaining excellent support in the petition or opinion poll and the plebiscite, had fulfilled as much as possible the duties assigned to them, as well as circulating information and holding public meetings. Two fund-raising events were organized. A barn dance was held in the Lion's Hall in October 1974 and a hockey game was arranged in Alliston in the spring of 1975 between N.H.L. Middletons and a team of local hockey players. These events were both successful and proceeds were eventually turned over to the Community Centre Fund. The last meeting of the Citizen's Committee was held on March 2, 1975.

A new committee was formed, consisting of Citizen's Committee members and two members each from Tottenham, Adjala and Tecumseh councils. It became known as the Tottenham, Adjala and Tecumseh Community Centre Committee, or, in short as the T.A.T. Committee, with the following executives:

Chairman - John MacIsaac	Vice-chairman - Bruce Goffe
Secretary - Mrs. Shirley Lake	Treasurer (non-voting) - Ian Kellest

Ian was unable to be a voting member because he was and still is a Tottenham village employee. This was an 11-man committee which was later enlarged to 21. With the sanction of the various councils and using the information gathered by the fact-finding group, the committee set out to form a definite plan of action. Six sub-committees were formed:

1) Building Design	2) Finance	3) Land
4) Legal	5) Boundaries	6) Public Relations.

Curry's . . .

THE TOTTENHAM AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE - Page 3

1975 was a year of investigation, discussion and planning as sub-committees reported their findings. By this time, the Tottenham Hall was built, the population was growing in town and country and the demand for action was increasing. At one meeting in Tottenham Town Hall, while the project was still under study, our M.P. George McGague gave the community centre idea his full approval. He suggested we get moving on it as soon as possible. This vote of confidence from someone in George's position was a real decisive factor in keeping the project moving. The T.A.D. Committee presented their findings to Tottenham council at the end of the year and recommended they invite Adolph and Teanmash to participate in a joint project - the construction of a community centre which would serve the people in the area. Tottenham council agreed to proceed with the establishment of a Board of Management for the construction of a community centre. Township councils decided not to participate.

In 1976, members of Tottenham council were: Ceeva - Joe Belford; Councillors - Joan Sutherland, Pete Ledge, John Boren and Frank O'Neill. In the Fall of 1977, Frank O'Neill resigned for personal reasons. His place was taken by Ralph Watton, who had previously served as reverend and councillor.

At this time the T.A.D. Committee was disbanded to make way for the new Committee of Management. Many people had generously given their time, ideas, energy and money to keep the Citizens' and T.A.D. committees moving successfully forward. John MacIsaac, chairman of both committees, supplied great drive and leadership to keep the Community Centre project going in spite of numerous difficulties. The MacIsaac family, relatively new in our area, showed early they were real workers in community affairs. John, who teaches as an outdoor consultant at Cedar Glenn, has many interests but his main hobby when he has the time is training and driving ponies. He put this hobby to good use as part of the publicity campaign. In the picture at left, John (in black hat) is driving his team and was publicizing the community centre project as a member of the T.A.D. committee. In 1975 John drove his T.A.D. display at Schomberg Spring Fair, at the Alliston Potato Festival and at Tottenham Community Week.



John MacIsaac driving his ponies and cart advertising the T.A.D. committee.

The Tottenham and District Community Centre and Arena Complex Committee of Management was set up May 18, 1976. It received legal sanction, by by-law June 7, 1976, to proceed as an arm of council with the construction of a community centre. Area residents, village or township, were given the opportunity to apply for a position on this committee and the following were chosen:

- Chairman - Jim Hinch
- Vice-Chairman - Jay Feehely
- Sec. Treasurer - Ian Pollett (non-voting). Also chosen were: Joan

Sutherland, Pete Ledge, Harold Dermott, John Boren, Nick Franks, John MacIsaac and George Stimpert. At a later date Jack Jordan and Gerry Egan were added to the committee. Although he was a non-voting member (being a village employee), Ian Pollett provided valuable assistance, keeping minutes of meetings, looking after finances, applying for government grants and Ontario grants, etc. George McGague gave good support and helped the committee get through some of the red tape and time-consuming delays connected with obtaining government grants.

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This Committee had council's approval to make definite plans and went into action immediately:

- Public meetings were held.
- Social clubs were contacted again.
- Definite designs were established with the assistance of Mr. L. Bishop, a community centre specialist teaching at Humber College.
- Township Councils were contacted for financial assistance.
- A fund raising plan was set up to build, without raising taxes, by obtaining funds from government and historic society donations.
- An objective of an average donation of \$100.00 per family was established.
- Information brochures were sent out.
- Questions were answered and former doubters became supporters.
- An approximated cost of \$600,000.00 was agreed upon to be paid for by:-

a) government grant	\$150,000.00
b) Ontario grant	\$150,000.00
c) Tottenham Village reserve fund.....	\$ 90,000.00
d) Donations by service clubs, churches, businesses and private citizens.....	\$210,000.00
	<u>\$600,000.00</u>

The Keogh Street ballpark (1.9 acres) was provided by the village on a location for the park as there were no other sites available at that time. An arrangement was made with Tottenham Valley Conservation Association (N.V.C.A.) for a temporary lease on property for a ball diamond on the north side of the 4th line, west of Tottenham. The Keogh Street location was short of parking space but the Fire Department offered the use of their parking lot when needed. Arrangements were also made for additional parking on vacant land next to the G.R.N. tracks. The centre had to be located close to some populated areas so that services such as hydro, water and sewage would be available.

The no-tax plan was popular. \$100.00 matched by Wintario became \$200.00. This was the equivalent of \$24.00 per year, for 20 years, if it went on taxes. People preferred the long run idea rather than long payments for a 20-year period. Janvassers were organized and an intensive fund raising campaign swung into action, first in Tottenham and later in Thornburgh and Etobicoke. The campaign was highly successful with a good number of large donations from service clubs, businesses and private citizens. Ordinary working families, often with a high mortgage from a recently bought home, came through with their \$100.00 donations. Senior citizens and young people helped. In some cases former residents of the area sent money to help out. Tottenham began showed their support early in the campaign with a \$10,000.00 donation on July 26th. That same day Thornburgh Council agreed to give \$10,000.00 to the fund and Major's council promised a \$5,000.00 donation on August 1st. The Knights of Columbus and the Lion's Club gave the fund tremendous boost when they agreed to donate proceeds from the sale of the hall and land on Green Street and the write-off of the existing mortgage. This meant a total of \$70,000 or more, according to the sale price of the building lots involved. In return, they were promised accommodations in the new centre.

By October 1976, fund raising had gone so well the committee decided on a design and sent out construction proposals. Eight proposals were received by the deadline of October 15th. After further meetings and advice from Mr. A. Wilson, Schomberg Constructors Ltd. was awarded the contract at \$611,000.00. The contractor, Willard Hunt, had previously built Potteryham Firehall and Schomberg Community Centre and was highly recommended. His proposal came closest to the specification summaries outlined by the committee.

On November 24th, one last and very important step was taken before construction started. The Committee of Management was able to acquire 4.1 acres of land north of Tottenham. This land was once owned by Mr. Greenaway, one of the original settlers in our area. In 1855 it was purchased by Daniel and Ann Brown, who cleared away the bush and started farming. The property was sold to Daniel O'Leary, the father of Charlie O'Leary, in 1904. The O'Learys eventually sold the land to my brothers and they in turn sold it to the Committee of Management for the Community Centre. The Langt Street side has been the best available but was very short of parking space. Also, it was going to cost \$80,000.00 or more to get a new hall designed on the R.V.C.I. property.

THE TOTTENHAM AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE - Page 5

Excavation began that same day. A very happy and emotional scene took place at the new site, when council and Committee of Management members gathered for the sod turning.

By January 19, 1977, the centre fund had reached \$207,000.00 and construction was under way. The gravel base had been trucked in, the building plan was staked out and footings were being poured. There were occasional setbacks. Gale force winds tore down part of a block wall one week-end but this was handled in stride by contractor William Hunt. Construction moved along well in spite of bad weather. The pictures below show the centre during construction:



By the end of March, Robertson Steel had completed the rigid frame for the building. The contract for \$611,000.00 did not include the parking lot, landscaping, the dividing door in the main hall, the ice-cleaning machine, ball equipment etc.

Cont'd. . .

The fund drive continued with good support and some people who had contributed to the building donated again to help with the equipment. Several people made three donations.

On Thursday, April 14, 1977, a public meeting was held in the Tottenham Town Hall. The Committee of Management gave a progress report on construction and financing. Plans for the inside of the building were shown and questions answered. Two days later, on Saturday April 16th, an open house was held at the centre site and tours of the building were conducted by Committee of Management members. The main reaction was surprise and approval of the size and versatility of the building.

Advertisements for a Community Centre manager were sent out towards the end of April. Several applicants were interviewed and Bill Howell was chosen for the job. He came from Lyton, Ontario, where he had started off a new denton and also acted as Recreation Director. On June 5th, Bill started working full time.

June 11, 1977 was another day to remember. This was the date of the giant auction sale organized by the Leick, Lion's Club, Lionsmen, Leck, Chamber of Commerce, Knights of Columbus, Figure Skating, Minor Hockey, Senior Citizens, Women's Institute and Day Nursery. Everyone offered in to help, bringing their used furniture, lawn equipment, stoves, tools etc. - you name it; if you looked, it was there somewhere. The weatherman co-operated with a beautiful day, people came in droves and the event was a great success financially and socially. \$7,500.00 was cleared and this was donated to the centre fund.

Scouring the cement floor in the arena section was a big job. First, the dirt floor had to be levelled off, 4,500 yds. of sand were trucked in and spread. This was covered with heavy plastic which not only held the cement but acted as a vapour barrier. All this was covered with special reinforcing steel. After the cement was poured and levelled (which was a non-stop operation for the whole surface), it was covered with a true rock surface. When this was dry enough it was polished. This type of surface was recommended for roller skating which meant the arena section would be in use both summer and winter.

By the third week in June there was feverish activity both inside and outside the Centre. Edjuts and Tecumseh townships, Tottenham P.C., T.A. Smith of Graham Construction and Russ Porter supplied men and equipment for a big drive on the parking lot. The sand fill was donated by Ted Nizer. Jim Freshly superintended the whole operation and an excellent job was done in a short time. Inside the building, painting, wiring, plumbing, carpentry work, etc. were all going on under the watchful eye of the contractor Willard Hunt. Willard made many helpful suggestions and went out of his way many times to ensure on a top-notch building.

Tottenham Community Week from July 9-17, 1977, was a real test for the new centre. Starting on Saturday afternoon, a huge crowd turned out for the ted race and followed the participants down the main street to the centre for the Racefest. Approximately 2,500 attended the festival and while this was going on in the arena section, Committee of Management members conducted guided tours for interested people to view the remainder of the building. Some work still had to be done but the arena section, the hall, showers, kitchen, booth etc. were ready for Community Week. Whether it was games, bingo, talent shows or the big dance, the turnout was beyond expectations. People came to enjoy themselves and see the community centre they had helped to build. The snack bar in the club lobby was a busy place. Runned by a group of volunteers and excellently organized by Myrna MacLachlan, it was a real plus for the new centre right from the start.

After Community Week, bookings started coming in from all sides as people became more aware of the centre's possibilities. Roller skating was started by manager Bill Howell and the response was enthusiastic. On July 28th about 300 turned out for opening night and had a great evening. For many it was their first attempt at roller skating.

During the summer and fall, the Horticultural Society did some work in landscaping and the Tottenham Fire Dept. helped and a large area in front of the building. More work was done on the parking lot and it was given a good coat of gravel, some of which was donated by James Dick.

Jim Griffin, a man with good experience in Community Centre work, was hired as assistant manager and later a third man was added.

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The boards were installed and the stands built in the arena section. There was still a real effort needed to have dressing rooms, showers etc. ready for the winter season.

The next big objective was the Official Opening, October 1, 1977. With the cutting of the ribbon a dream was realized. For all those who had helped in a way this was a never to be forgotten moment with that wonderful feeling of a job well done. The day included skating for the public, opening ceremonies with Jay Peehly as M.C., an official blessing of the centre by Father Paul Switalski, a presentation to contractor Willard Hunt, speeches by Jim Stone, Joe Delford, Peter Kearns, Allan Macdonald and P.M.P. George McCague. Also present at centre ice for the official opening were representatives from three previous unions - Jim Allan (Ligon's Club), Glen MacNamee (Knights of Columbus), Mike Briecce and Bill Bailey (the Legion). Following the ceremony there was a busy game between the Committee of Management members, reinforced by local stars, and radio station C.B.B.S. The evening ended with a dance in the new hall with over 450 attending. Commemorative plaques had been made for the occasion and these were available as souvenirs of the day.

With the ice surface now ready for use, the centre began its first winter and it was a busy one with the following main users: C & B Minor Hockey Assoc., C & B Figure Skating Club, Men's Hockey League (6 teams), Girls Hockey, The Old timers Hockey Team (the Cowboys), and Intermediate B Team (Knights). There were many other teams - some who played regularly, some who rented ice occasionally when it was available. There was public skating Tuesday evenings, Saturday and Sunday afternoons. There was also a mother/visitors hour on Tuesday mornings (later extended to Wednesday mornings also). Figure skating club activities took place Mondays and Thursdays afternoons and evenings. There was also skating by various clubs and social groups.

The hall was occupied most Friday and Saturday nights for dances, weddings etc. There was bingo every Monday night on a yearly basis, run by the Lion's Club. During the rest of the week the hall was used for volleyball, basketball, floor hockey etc. The dance rooms on the west end of the centre were also quite busy. During the school year, the lights room and the arts and crafts room were occupied by the Tottenham Day Nursery, five days a week. The Knights room was also used by Brownies one night a week and for their own meetings, usually on week-ends. The Lion's Room was used by the Boy Scouts one night a week and quite often for Lions Club meetings and activities. It was also available when needed to the Linneases and Lions Clubs. At times the Knights room, the Lions room and the arts and crafts rooms were rented out to small groups for meetings, small parties etc.

During the summer the arena section was used occasionally for amateur boxing and once for wrestling matches. The main attraction, though, was the roller skating.

At year's end, the Committee of Management were happy to report that the centre had operated in the black. They would have liked to establish a reserve fund for unexpected expenditures but this was not possible. The centre was open about 11 1/2 hours a week during the winter months. This required three men and sometimes part-time help as there were often two or more activities going on at the same time. The booth (snack bar) was efficiently run and an excellent source of income.

Chairman Jim Stone resigned at the beginning of 1978. Due to pressure of other commitments (fire chief, a hockey coach and head of the Rescue Squad) he felt unable to continue as chairman. At a later date Jim was given an inscribed gavel as a token of appreciation for his outstanding contribution to the Community Centre project. His wife, Norma, was presented with a bouquet of roses. The other members of the Committee of Management and their wives were happy to join Jim and Norma for the presentation and also the cake and coffee which followed. On June 24, 1978, Jim was presented with a citizen of the year award. Jim had the ability to look ahead, figure out a plan of action and make that plan work. An excellent chairman! He supplied the leadership and vision needed to bring about a complicated chain of events which made our centre possible. Jay Peehly became the new chairman for the Committee of Management. Rick Grange had previously dropped off so this left a nine-man committee.

TOTTENHAM AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE -- Page 3

As 1976 progressed the Committee became more involved with the operation of the complex as well as trying to complete the final stages of construction. Some paving was done - a strip 60 ft. wide along the north side of the building, a driveway around the back and a pad south of the ramped room. This helped reduce the amount of sand and dirt tracked into the building and supplied enough paved parking for smaller functions. The second-hand ramped purchased in 1977 got through the first winter but required extensive repairs. The Committee felt it imperative to buy a new machine before the old one broke down completely. With the sale of Winter's grants and some fund raising a new machine costing \$20,600.00 was bought and paid for. It has helped greatly in keeping a good ice surface.

During the summer of 1978, a creative playground was constructed in front of the centre. It was designed by Ian Taherter and is used by the Day Nursery and by adult-supervised youngsters when not in use by the Nursery. Also, over twenty young people were involved in summer works programs arranged by Bill Kewell. The steel stairs, stands and boards in the arena section were painted by these young people as well as dressing rooms, lobby, etc.

In May 1978 the "Canada Day" was held at the centre, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. This was a gala affair with the guest of honour being the Hon. Pauline McGibbon, Ontario's Lieutenant-Governor.

Two very successful fund raising events, sponsored by the Committee of Management, took place in 1978. A dinner and dance was held on July 1st with Ken Dryden as guest speaker. A rollerthon took place on June 10th, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. A great turnout of all ages skated for twelve hours to make money for the centre fund. Jay Pecholy had pledges amounting to \$62.70 per hour. He raised \$750.00 himself for the rollerthon. Jay won a pair of roller skates for being the person with the most pledges, but he gave the skates back for a lucky draw among the rest of the skaters and they were won by Dale Devar. Jay put a big effort into the Community Centre drive and has received a citizen of the year award in 1977.

On October 1, 1978, one year after the Official Opening, T & D Minor Hockey Association held a very successful Western Weekend. There was public skating, a hockey game between H.M.L. Gladders and the Polar Bears and a real western dance. The hall was filled to overflowing and this weekend, organized by fund raising chairman Loretta Stephenson, was a great boost for Minor Hockey and a real community spirit builder for the whole area.

After providing good leadership for the year, Jay Pecholy resigned as chairman at the end of 1978 but agreed to stay on as a committee member. Vice-chairman John MacEachern was elected as the new chairman. John Sutherland and John Dorian dropped off as council representatives and their places were taken by Ralph Hutton and Nelson Lambert.

Storage room has now been installed under the stands helping to provide the extra storage needed as more groups become involved. A coming events sign was erected early in 1979 on the roof of the centre, highlighting the activities at the centre for all to see. Glass panels have been installed around the ice surface entrance and also around the penalty and timekeepers boxes to prepare for the next hockey season. Two trophy cases have been donated and installed in the lobby - one by Russ Venzar, the other by John MacEachern. Each month the centre seems to be a little busier and the Committee of Management members are looking forward to another active year in 1979.

This is an incomplete summary, which gives only some of the highlights in an amazing project. The building of Tottenham and District Community Centre didn't just happen. It was a real lesson in co-operation which has been used as a model in other areas. It was not easy. There was a tremendous amount of hard work, countless meetings, many frustrating moments, many hurdles to cross. The project was successful for a variety of reasons:

- 1) There was a proven need.
- 2) A rapidly growing population demanded increased recreation facilities.
- 3) Three committees with excellent leadership - First John MacEachern with the Citizens and T.A.D. committees; later Jim Stokes and Jay Pecholy with the Committee of Management - worked hard to supply that need.
- 4) Tottenham council members were willing to accept responsibility for the project and to donate \$175,000.00 from the village reserve fund.

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- 6) Sufficient hydro, water and sewage facilities were close at hand.
- 6) Ontario and government grants were available.
- 7) Township donations, although small, did help to encourage donations in rural areas.
- 8) The support of M.P.E. George McLaughlin.
- 9) The \$100.00 per family plan.
- 10) The whole-hearted support of service clubs, businesses, sports groups, churches and private individuals.
- 11) The willingness of the Knights of Columbus and the Lions Club to give up part of their independence for the good of the community.
- 12) A good publicity campaign.
- 13) The support of local newspapers.

There were many unsung heroes: a) the people who started the idea; b) the people who circulated the petition; c) the voters on the plebiscite; d) the canvassers for the fund raising; e) the many groups and private citizens who cheerfully made their personal sacrifice for the common good.

In summary, the project was successful because: a) there was a good combination of far-seeing people in the right place at the right time; b) these people saw a need and were willing to work for it; and c) there was a magnificent community spirit which united town and country residents in a common purpose - building a recreation centre for ourselves and our future generations.

- By Gerry Egan, 1979.



Back row, 1 to 11:- Don Bailey (referee), Jack Jordan, Russ Forfar, Tom Perry, Bob Leht, Ralph Milding, Eric Callagott, John McGlavin, Bill Sewell, Don Reid, Bert Keogh, Angelo DalBello (referee).

Front row, 1 to 11:- Gerry Egan (sixth boy), Pete Lodge, Paul O'Leary, Paul Feehaly, Kerry Garrod, Jim Stone, Ian Halliatt, Harold Dermott, Jay Feehaly.

Photo at right:-

1978 roller skating club
with Jim Griffin as
instructor (far right).

Photo below:-

1978 Rollathon, with winner
of lucky draw, Dale Dever in
bottom right-hand corner.
This picture gives a good
view of the inside of the
arena.



TOTTENHAM AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE

