

**Title:** Tottenham Tweedsmuir History Book: Volume II. Page 1/57

**Creator:** The Tottenham Women's Institute

**Subject:** Tottenham, Tweedsmuir History, Tottenham Women's Institute, Abernethy, Bishop, Abrams, Angus and Stitson, Austin, Wesley-Bolton, Botham, Brandon, Bradley, Pierson, Breedon, Brown and Sproule, Butt, Carney-Keogh, Cenerini, Casserly, Chapman, Pettit, Childs, Coburn, Coleman, Dillane, Dickerson, Archibald, Belford, Doyle, Gordon, Hopper, Drury-Coley, Eagan, Emigh, Davis.

**Description:** A complete and thorough guide to the history of Tottenham compiled by the Tottenham Women's Institute. This volume covers the family histories of the following families: Abernethy, Bishop, Abrams, Angus and Stitson, Austin, Wesley-Bolton, Botham, Brandon, Bradley, Pierson, Breedon, Brown and Sproule, Butt, Carney-Keogh, Cenerini, Casserly, Chapman, Pettit, Childs, Coburn, Coleman, Dillane, Dickerson, Archibald, Belford, Doyle, Gordon, Hopper, Drury-Coley, Eagan, Emigh, and Davis.

**Publisher:** The Tottenham Women's Institute

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

**Date:** c1979

**Type:** Artifact

**Format:** JPEG

**Identifier:** 0168

**Source:** Simcoe County Archives: Accession #987-35

**Language:** En

**Relation:**

**Coverage:**

**Rights:** All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of the Tottenham Women's Institute. Further reproduction is prohibited.

# TWEEDSMUIR HISTORY



TOTTENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

# THE ABERNETHY HISTORY.

At the end of the battle of Waterloo in France, Mr. John Abernethy a Scots man from Glasgow, and who was in the army had a choice that the government would send him to Canada, or he could go back to Scotland, he chose Canada. It is not known whether he was married at this time or not. Their first stop in Canada was Kingston. After about two years there they did not like it so they came to Toronto, then on up to the north half of lot 17 on the third concession of Tecumseeth some time before 1837.

They raised a family of five boys and five girls.

|                            |         |            |         |             |                     |
|----------------------------|---------|------------|---------|-------------|---------------------|
| John                       | married |            | and had | one         | boy and three girls |
| Sarah                      | "       | Peacock    | " "     | one         | " " five "          |
| Thomas                     | "       | Miss Coon  | " "     | four        | " " three "         |
| Jane                       | "       | Dunham     | " "     | two         | " " three "         |
| Elizabeth                  | "       | Williams   | " "     | one         | " " two "           |
| Joseph                     | "       | Jane Robb  | " "     | two         | " " one "           |
| Margaret                   | "       | Stephenson | " "     | no children |                     |
| George                     | "       |            | " "     | two         | boy and one girls   |
| Mary                       | "       |            | " "     | one         | " " one "           |
| James died as a young man. |         |            |         |             |                     |

This couple continued to live in the same place until their deaths. They are buried in Monkman's Cemetry on the third concession of Tecumseeth.



Mr. Joseph Abernethy, father of S. J. Abernethy of Tottenham was a veteran of the Fenian Raid. The regalia he is wearing is the cloak and sword worn by the Marshall of the Orange Lodge an office he held for 55 years. The two medals seen on his cloak was won at the Fenian Raid.

Joseph Abernethy as a young man joined the Fenian Raid. When he returned home he married a girl from the Bradford area. One little boy was born to them, but his short life was only about a year, not too long after his wife also died. Later he married Jane Robb and they settled next lot to his father. To them two sons and one daughter were born. Samuel James who continued to live in Tecumseeth, George Elgar of Orillia and Effie (Mrs. John Miller) Avonlea, Saskatchewan. Mr. Abernethy was a stone mason by trade. Many places around here still stand some of his works were; The Tottenham United Church and the Maple Leaf Hotel Tottenham. He later moved to the south half of lot four on the sixth line. It was here his wife died at the age of fifty-two years. He continued to work and live here until his daughter was married, when he moved to the home of his son Samuel. He passed away in 1921 and was buried in the family plot in Mount Tegar Cemetery.

Samuel James became a school teacher and taught at S. S. # 6 for four years and # 10 for three years. It was while he was teaching at # 10 school that his mother was sick in the Toronto General Hospital. On Friday nights after school he would ride his bicycle to Toronto, sleep in a livery barn over night, go and spend Saturday with his mother, and ride back to Tottenham ready to teach school on Monday morning. At that time the roads were either clay or gravel. At the end of seven years teaching he married Rachael Ann Holmes of Mona township and started farming on the south half of lot five, sixth concession, Tecumseeth.



THE ABERNETHY HISTORY continued



Samuel James Abernethy Homestead  
Lot Five, Concession Six, 1903.

With in the next year or so he became an auditor for the township a position he held until he was asked to be Tax Collector. This involved a great deal of work as the tax bills had to be delivered personally and not through the mail. He held this job for many years as well as secretary for Hammels # 9 school.

In 1921, he bought the farm at the south half of lot 4, concession six, from Mr. Joseph Heenan, who had the misfortune of losing the house through fire. They had five children, Leonard, Sadie, Weldon, George and Olive.



Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Abernethy

Mr. and Mrs. Abernethy retired from farm life in 1941, when they moved to Alexander St. in Tottenham. Here they continued to play an active part in church and community affairs, until Mrs. Abernethy's death in 1948. The home was sold and Mr. Abernethy returned to the farm to live with George and family until his death in 1950. They are both buried in the family plot in Mount Tegar Cemetery.

Leonard married Ruth Orr of Bond Head. They built a new home on the west farm and moved their in 1938. In 1946 they bought a second hundred acres, north half of lot four on the fifth concession. They have three children, Eunice who works and commutes home each day, Orion, a registered nurse married Cornelius Rouleau of Barrie. They have a florist business in Durham. They have two sons, Peter Leonard, born June 16, 1972 and Paul Cornelius born May 14, 1975. Wilson, a set decorator with C. B. C. in Toronto. Leonard was in Tecumseh Council eleven years before they retired from farming in 1962 and moved to 94 Queen Street, South, Tottenham, where they still reside.

Sadie died at the age of seventeen years.

Weldon who taught school in Sault Ste. Marie married Alvira Beckett of the same place. They were married only fifteen years, when she died. Later he married Margaret Carruthers of Sault Ste. Marie. Weldon was with an exchange of teachers for a few years and taught in Germany, France and Singapore. They were no children. He is now retired and continues to make his home at Sault Ste. Marie.



### THE ABERNETHY HISTORY continued

George married Mae London of Toronto Gore. He still farms on Lot five, Concession six, Tecumseth, same place he was born June 23rd, 1909. They have four children. James married Patricia Bailey. They farm on Lot six Concession eight, Tecumseth. They have two children Steven, born May 16th, 1968 and Wendy October 29, 1971. Gwenaelyn Parrillia married Wesley Shaw. They are farming on the Ninth Line of Cro. Gwen is a supply teacher for Simcoe County School Board. They have a son Jason, born November 25th, 1971 and a daughter Melanie born May 17th, 1975. Eldon George is farming on Lot Five, Concession Six, Tecumseth. Gladys Evelyn Mae graduated from Ryerson Institute in 1974 from the Dietary Department. Olive married Ross McClain. They have one daughter and one son. Leonard Wilson Abernethy passed away Oct. 21, 1976. J. Nelson Abernethy passed away at his home in Sault St. Marie on Jan. 7, 1978.

Submitted by Leonard & George Abernethy.  
June, 1975.

### THE BISHOP HISTORY

Albert Harris Bishop was born in Sussex, England, on August 2, 1878. He was the son of Frederick Bishop and Elizabeth Harris. He came to Canada in 1895 when he was seventeen years old, with some friends by the name of Clappisons and they lived in the district of Kettleby, Ontario.

He returned to England for a visit in 1903. He took with him a Bible to give to his sister, Edith, which was passed on to his brother, William Nelson Bishop, who kept it until he was killed a short time later. It was given to their mother, who later brought the Bible back to Canada and it still remains with her granddaughter, Mrs. Winnifred Gilham, who lives in Bolton. This Bible has the words inscribed, "To William Nelson Bishop from brother Albert".

Albert Bishop came back to Canada to work for Mr. Rustin, who lived on the 10th line of Albion. In 1909, he married the former Delia Fuller and they farmed for three years on the 8th line of Albion; then to Lot 19, Con. 10, and farmed here until they moved to Tottenham - Mill Street East - until his death in 1952.

Albert and Delia Bishop had three children born to them. Edna later became Mrs. Stewart Cairns and resides on the 3rd line of Tecumseth. Gordon, of Tottenham, married the former Reta Hilliard and they have one son, Gordon Wayne Albert and one daughter, Shirley, of Tottenham.

Gordon Wayne Albert married the former Glennis Devall and they have three daughters - Sherry, Shelly and Tracy Bishop - and reside in Alliston.

Ida married Frederick Kant, who passed away September, 1967. She later married Leith Nicol and resides in Alliston.

Delia Bishop celebrated her 91st birthday, September 6, 1974, and is still able to enjoy her family and friends and to take care of her own home.

Submitted by Reta & Gordon Bishop.  
August, 1974

## THE ABRAMS FAMILY HISTORY



MR. JOHN ABRAMS

John William Abrams was born in 1874, in Yorkshire England. He was married in 1900 to Harriet Barlowe, and came to Canada in 1912. He left his family in Chesterfield, England awaiting the time when he would find a place to settle here. In 1914 when war was declared, he immediately joined the Canadian Army, and returned to England as a Canadian Soldier, serving with the Victoria Rifles, Twenty-Fourth Battalion, in France. There he was wounded, returned to England, and in 1918 with his wife and family of three boys and three girls came to Canada on a troop ship, The Land Stephan Castle.

He worked at Gunn's Abbatoir, now Canada Packers, as a refrigerator engineer until he decided to learn farming, and so moved to Elder's Mills, near Woodbridge, where he spent a year of training under the direction of George Fry and George Rowntree. While in Toronto two daughters were born, but their mother died shortly after the move to the country, leaving the oldest of the family, Ida, to look after the home.

His apprenticeship served, Mr. Abrams bought a farm under the Veterans' Land Act, on the Seventh (7th) Concession of Adjala, and moved his family there in April 1922. In 1928 he married Victoria Campbell whom he had met while a patient in the Military Hospital on Christie Street in Toronto, and she took over the job of rearing the family still at home.

Mr. Abrams was a fine musician, and when a boy had played as one of his family's band, along with his father and brothers and after recalled playing at Irish wakes and weddings while a small child in England. In Toronto he was a cornet player with the Weston Band and after moving to Adjala he played with the bands of Beeton, Alliston and Bolton as a regular member. He also helped provide music with the Tottenham group for skating at the outdoor rink. As a Legion member he played the Last Post and Reveille many times, and sounded it for the last time at the Cenotaph on November 11th, 1957, as he died a few weeks later.

His son Clifford, the only member of the family to remain in the area, in 1944, with his wife, the former Stella Simmonds, purchased the "Pond Farm", which they worked until selling it to the Kottawasaga Valley Conservation in 1965. On that farm their two children, Roderick and Janet were born. They retained the portion of the farm on the east side of the pond and this became known as Rodcliff Acres. This was the first subdivision in the village, with the first lot being sold to J. F. Belford, and the street being named Rodcliff Road. Clifford and his wife Stella occupy the last house on that street, and still own the property which remains vacant to the south of that.

Their children both are married and live on Mill Street. Roderick and his wife, the former Susan Graydon operate the Rod Abrams Funeral Home, purchased from A. J. Anderson in 1973. Janet with her husband Lowell Tipping occupy the former Presbyterian Manse further east on Mill Street. Rod and Susan have one son, Todd, while Janet and Lowell have a daughter, Andrea, the third generation to be born in Tottenham.

#### JOHN'S AND BETTIE'S FAMILY HISTORY

William Angus, son of Mary and Nicholas Angus, was born at High Embley Farm, Hamsterley, Durham County, England, in 1863. He's mother died at the age of 58 in 1898 and his father died at the age of 70 in 1895. They both died at this farm and were buried in Woolringham. William was the eldest and he and his wife, Elizabeth, carried on the farm. Her father, Thomas Coxon, died at this farm in 1898 at the age of 93.

William and Elizabeth had three children: Mary, born in 1893; William, who died at the age of five in 1902; and John, who died at the age of six in 1909. Their mother, Elizabeth, died a few days after John on January 18, 1909 at the age of 51. All three died of diphtheria.

Mary was confirmed at St. John's Anglican Church, Stockton Parish, in 1911 and received her final schooling at the Welsh Girls School, Ashford, Walsingham.

Mr. Angus emigrated to King Township in 1910. Mary followed on the ill-fated Kennan of Ireland in January 1911. On November 4, 1914, Mary Jane Esther Pomeroy (as she was christened) was married to William Frank Bittman by Rev. J.H. Golebough in St. Mary Baptelane Anglican Church, Lloydstown, Ont.

Mr. Bittman (Bill) was born in Dover, Kent, England, in 1869. He was the youngest of eleven children born to Georgiana (Glad) and John Bittman and he outlived all of the family. John family lived near the Dover Pier and their lives were closely linked to the sea. One of Bill's brothers was Harbour Master at Dover for many years. Around 1900, when Bill was nearly eleven years old and fatherless, his mother was persuaded to let him come to a home in Canada. He was one of 60,000 children placed on farms and in towns from the time of Confederation to World War I. Due to industrialization there was an unemployment crisis in Britain during this period.

Bill was sent to the farm of Samuel and Caroline Hastings south of Rich Hill, Ont. He went to school and worked about the house and farm until he was old enough to start out on his own. For a while he was known as "Gertie's houseboy" and this domestic training stayed with him all his life.

Bill's father died in England but his mother (born in 1859) accompanied two of her daughters, Ada and Mervina and their husbands to Portage La Prairie, Manitoba, in 1915. They lived out their lives in that area. Bill's mother died in 1940 at the age of 81 and her descendants are scattered from coast to coast in Canada and England.

Shortly after Bill and Mary were married they moved with Mr. Angus to Tottenham and six children were born in this area. Bonnie Jane was born in 1916 on the north half of



L to R: Mr. Angus with Audrey, Mary Bittman with Laurene, and Bill Bittman with Dorothy.

Lot 10, Gore. 3 and Andrew Ray was born in 1918 at 19 Richmond St. E. (This building was removed in 1977). In 1919 the home at 114 Queen St. E. was purchased from Thomas George Hall and the other four children were born in this house - Mary Laurene in 1920, Donald Ada in 1921, Elizabeth William in 1927 and Shelley Barbara Vivian Eric in 1930.

Dorothy married John Miller of Steinburg, Ont. and they lived in Toronto until they moved to Guelph, where their two children, Marlene and Frederick, grew up and were married. Marlene died suddenly in 1977 in her 33rd year. Andrew married Reginald Hiney of Lloydminster and after the death of Jack Hiney they took over the family's century farm. Reg was a descendant of Thomas Hall, the former owner of the Bittman's house. They raised three children - Margaret, James and Susan. He died suddenly in 1970 and James became owner of the farm in 1977. Laurene married



LEWIS AND CLARK FAMILY HISTORY - Page 2

Harold Wilson and families in Beeton where their three children, Margie, Rodney and Philip were raised. When first three daughters of Bill and Mary were married by Rev. A. Carpenter of Fraser Presbyterian Church, Tottenham. Gwen went to Toronto in 1948 and was employed in the offices of the Board of Education at the time of her death in 1970. Barbara went to the Canadian National Railway office in Horne Bayne around 1945. Later he became a truckman and then conductor. He liked driving a bus and returned to that work. He married Patricia MacLiffe and they had one child, Anne Margaret. On Feb. 13, 1960, Ken had his back broken in a train collision near Oba, Northwark Ontario. After many months of hospitalization and much therapy he learned to walk again. Eventually he was retrained as an accountant and was employed at the C.N. office in Capreol, Ont. He died there in July 1973. Phyllis remained at home where she spent many hours baby-sitting about the village.

In July 1947, a nephew of Wm. Angus - John Edy, Pansner, born in 1902 - came to the family home at Tottenham. He was one of seven children born to Sarah (Angus) and Charles Pansner in Durham Co., Kentucky. Sarah was born at the High Shipley Farm but Charles was born when his parents were in Philadelphia, U.S.A. The Pansners were stonemasons and John followed this occupation for a few years, then later he went farming. When he came to Canada, he worked in the farming community around Tottenham for many years. He married the farm of Miss Susan Billings for nearly ten years prior to World War II. He then joined the army and returned to England for the duration of the war. When he returned to Canada he worked at Gasparian for 12 years. In 1958 he married Jane Morris and they resided at 1 Plummer St., E.

Wm. Angus was a tall, gentle, good-natured man. He was never known to raise his voice to her or beast. He did not smoke and he abhorred the use of tobacco. He didn't like to be called Bill and he never shaved his beard. He did custom work in the livery community of South Simcoe and used as his name of operations the Weaver Livery Stable. This name of buildings was located just north of the Weaver Drug Store. The Charles Weaver name was eventually dismantled and the Post Office and Rogers Bldg. were erected on John + St. Wm. was the first worker in this area to operate washbasins, stoves, stoves and big potatoes and he was the first to operate this livery stable. The area to stable your horse in the open sheds at Wm. time was 10¢ and a coat stall was 15¢. Wm. operated on the honour system (you looked him up before you left home). He never forgot the ones who slipped out. As the north and west ends of the town where there were many buildings which housed all sorts of domestic birds and animals as well as rabbits and pigeons and it was not uncommon for a pig to be slaughtered on these premises in the center of the village. In the late twenties and the thirties, the country suffered from a severe depression. Wm. Angus lost his two lots at 94 and 96 Queen St. E., where he had hoped to build a new home. He spent his last remaining years visiting friends around the country. Until he died at the family home in 1948, in his 86th year, he was still taking long daily walks.

Bill Smith worked for the C.N.R. when he first came to Tottenham, but later switched to the G.F.W. when it looked more promising. It was a hard life; their transportation was a hand-powered car and their main tools were the sledge hammer and pickaxe. On week-ends, one man had to walk over their section of the track and for this he received an extra dollar. Occasionally, he was called out at night to work up a south-east or West might have to patrol the track because a V.I.P. such as the president of the United States was going fishing or the Royal train was passing through. Every fall, the old men from the railroad were divided up among the men who would bring in a portable saw and set fire places to place until all the wood was sawed up, ready for splitting. When these days were burning, they issued a dreadful blink once the wives were pleased when they didn't get any more. The ties were eventually treated with a good preservative and didn't have to be changed so often.

Men with low seniority were laid off the railway in the winter. Every morning Bill would go to the village office looking for work; if none was available he went hunting or checking his trap line. If he was lucky enough to shoot a rabbit, it was skinned, cut up and soaked in brine for 24 hours and then made into rabbit stew. As for trapping, Mary considered it because the money was needed so badly but all the family declared the use of the live-bait trap and Bill gave it up when he got steady work. He could have a few muskrat and the old men and vessel pellets to sell to Benny when he called. Everyone recognized Benny as he drove slowly along from place to place in his little truck, peering out from behind thick-lensed glasses. He bought hides, bones, even chicken and ducks, feathers and anything else from furs to metal. He was almost blind as he was eventually forced to hire a driver.

Cont'd. . .

LONG AND DURSLEY FAMILY HISTORY - PAGE 2

During the Depression, all expenses were cut to the bone. The hydro was turned off and coal oil lamps and heaters were brought out again. Coal, which kept the fire alive overnight, had to be given up and the wood fire lit fresh every morning. Later frost on the coldest nights and pipes had to be thawed out before they burst. In spite of the extreme cold, house plants were kept alive over winter. Yeast was set for bread dough at night and the pan was wrapped in wool waste to keep out the chill. Flat irons were kept hot in the oven, slipped into old socks at night and taken to bed for warmth.

Bill was given a job of town constable for a time, which made him \$5. a month. One of his duties was handing out tickets to the unemployed men who alighted from the freight trains at night some on. They exchanged these tickets for a hot meal at the hotel and Bill locked them in the jail for the night. The jail was a room at the back of the town hall which contained a few benches and a stove. They were let out in the morning and were asked to move on. They never caused any trouble and Bill wept inside for these homeless men who were often dirty and lousy through no fault of their own. A few years later, they were asked to go home for their country.

One winter Bill decided to do a little tinkering. He would buy a pig and slaughter it at the back of the livery stable, cut it up and sell the parts and organs to anyone interested. All he got out of it after all his work was the head, which Mary made into pork sandwiches, but after this was repeated a few times, Bill nearly got sick when he faced that head again.

Bill did all his own household repairs. He mended and oiled the family's shoes, made the children a goose cage and teeter-totter, baseball bats, slings and the family always remembered with pride the Christmas that Bill carved an authentic black steam engine from wood for his only son. As the family grew, he got a little help around 1929 and built an upper floor to the house.

One summer Bill took on the mowing of the lawns green along with his job as section man. The green had to be cut, watered and rolled with a huge water-filled roller. It was also marked off with chalk for tournaments. The family lamented Bill's pushing himself so hard that summer. Never once in all those hard winters did Bill ask the town for relief but one December the town council decided to give all the unemployed men a goose for Christmas. Councillor Billy Sadler delivered one of them to the door when Bill and Mary were out. When Mary came home and saw that goose, she cried, and even though Bill persuaded her to cook it, she never ate a morsel herself. Christmas wasn't as much fun that year.

Bill wasn't a drinking man but a few times he tried his hand at making home brew. Mary, a temperance fan, always found it hard to give a straight answer when someone asked what she was making in the big crock on the warming tank at the end of the stove. Bill used for a licensed hotel in the forties but when he saw what she was making, he regretted it very much. Over-drinking was very alien to him.

Bill had a good sense of humour and was always reading when he could get material. After he got his first radio, he would sit with his feet resting on the end of his stove and with eyes fixed on a sports magazine or newspaper and puffing on his pipe, he would chuckle away at Jones & Andy, Father Moses & Kelly and Charlie Reddick. Children had to remain very quiet when the radio was on, especially during Jim Hunter and Wes McNight. Bill was a conservative all his life and felt very sorry for himself when he didn't have two or three cells for an evening paper.

Bill did not shave every day but when he did it was a serious operation. A mirror was propped up on the kitchen table and with his right hand under his head on a leather strap, shaving mug of hot water, soap, and brush, he would proceed. Children learned at an early age that this was a bad time to chase your sister around the table.

As the railroad business slowed down the sections were lengthened and more done away with. Bill had to work farther and farther away from home but gradually work became easier. All during these years he worked in a trailer or railroad boarding car. When he retired on formal time in West Toronto yards in 1954 he was getting quite deaf and was very old. He often hurt and immediately went to work on his neglected house.

In spite of the adversities that plagued him during his lifetime, Bill had a great love that lasted the whole of his life. That love was trout fishing. Bill knew every

Cont'd. . .

AGES AND BUILDING FACTS IN HISTORY - Page 1

trout stream and their water sheds within a radius of fifty miles. He and his friends fished them all and he dropped a line in the Tottenham pond every year until he was 82. Bill didn't only fish - he saw all of nature unfolding around him, from the arrival of the first blustery to the maturation of the woodland babies. Bill gained a note for himself as a fisherman shortly after he came to Tottenham when he caught a large spotted trout under the old blue bridge just south of the pond. He took it downtown to show the fellow as fishermen are wont to do and Art Worrell was so taken with it he fish that Bill gave it to him for mounting. It was sent all the way to the east coast and even now is mounted separately on an oval convex hawthorn plaque. This cost Art about \$40., which was a lot of money around 1920. Every spring Mr. Walker would hang one plaque in the hardware store window to help sell his fishing tackle. When Art died, his son Jack gave the fish back to Bill. Bill's only son, Ken, was a serious fisherman also. As a child he fished for cash fish being in the spring with a little liver on his hook and later on he fished many of the lakes and streams of Northwest Ontario. He also hunted as far as the frontier.

One very nice thing about the parents of this generation is that they never discussed other grown-ups in front of their children. However, in the early years, Bill let out a few stories about his wicked youth. Chivaroos were inflicted on every newly married couple and on the whole the bride and groom accepted the custom like good sports, but one night on Wilson St. B., a man who married a little late in life would not smile when the fellows went 'bang, bang!'. Before long the bride and groom heard their mother and none of his brethren in the kitchen. The next day the local lawyer persuaded the angry groom not to prosecute.

Then there was the time they sniped the well dressed geese from the buggy in the church stable. The farmer's wife didn't intend to use her geese unless she saw them running out of food in the church. The boys held their own foul supper.

One story the children found quite shocking in those days of prohibition and strict teachers was about the school principal who made good whiskey in his own home. The caretaker of the school became his associate and sold it for him from his home where he had it stored under the floor boards. The caretaker wanted to buy the recipe when the principal moved on but the teacher knew it was time to quit and it wasn't until years later that Bill found out who made the whiskey.

Another time a couple of fellows asked Bill to prepare a duck for a Saturday night late dinner in his shack. The boys went in to town and left Bill cooking the meal. When they returned they gave Bill a big turn. Accompanying them was the duck's real owner. After the dinner was over the guests thanked them heartily and asked where he could get a duck like that. Then they told him the location he walked out without saying good-night!

Mary Stinson dreaded the long, cold, Canadian winters and often wished she was back out in England but when spring finally came, a whole new world opened up. Mary had an eye for beautiful things, especially flowers. Flower beds surrounded the house and lawn, they criss-crossed the vegetable garden and climbed the porch and verandah. Where possible, seeds were saved from year to year. The tomato seeds were planted in the house in March and the other seeds in the garden as early as possible - usually late May. There was a friendly rivalry among gardeners to see who had the first ripe tomato, the largest potato, etc.

Besides her love for plant life at home and in the wild, Mary was also interested in birds and animal life. A robin nested on the verandah every spring and a deep ladder was placed there so the children could follow the growth of the bird family. Bill said houses for the women and their language was a delight to all. The children were taught to care for the environment. Toads, snakes and all creatures of huge were protected and many a fine specimen was carried a distance to be deposited in the garden. Being fond of animal life, Mary allowed the children many pets, the best of all being a baby red squirrel that was adopted in early summer. You could take him anywhere and he would not leave your clothing. He slept in your pocket if you wouldn't let him down your neck.

Continued...



All during the summer while the coming winter would be on everyone's minds, Ed's squirrels, Edie, was a great urgency to store everything that would keep. This started with maple syrup trees. The four maple trees were tapped and the sap, when boiled down, was a welcome treat. The woods and byways were scoured for edible food. Berries, mushrooms, wild leeks, many kinds of berries as well as apples and wild plums were brought home and eaten or processed for winter. In the fall, hickory nuts and walnuts were gathered from the ground but the little beechnuts were harvested from the trees. A sheet was held under a tree while the family dinner jumped up and down on a high stool, lussuring the nuts from their briefly husks. Mixed cabbage was layered with salt and pressed into a large wooden tub until the juice covered the contents; it was then weighted down and eventually became sauerkraut. Many quarts of fruit and tomatoes were canned or preserved, pickles and jams were put in jars or crocks. Bags of potatoes and turnips were stored as well as a few carrots and onions. When money was available, a large pail of honey was purchased.

A most delightful maiden lady lived across from Edie and very red surrounding her house and across the street at 124 Queen St. There grew an apple tree, plum and apple trees as well as grapevines which climbed the full height of a two-story dilapidated barn. Annie Robinson lived a very quiet life and when the kids came to steal her fruit she would try to shoo them away but the notion of those boys was so amusing she would end up covering her face so they wouldn't see her laughing. For several years Edie and Mary bought this apple crop on the barn and then the family picked them. Annie had one very high tree and she had quite a fancy for the few apples it bore. In a good year, it'll put several barrels of apples and greenings in the cellar and they lasted until spring. A few snows (or fall) eating and half a bag of tinned wax for baking were bought elsewhere. Almost every piece of private property had a small tree of some kind on the premises. The advent of the railroad work put an end to that.

Eggs were kept safe on the cellar floor as if not covered, was placed on a string which attached to the ceiling where the kids couldn't reach it. Eggs went from 12¢ for summer to 31¢ a dozen in winter. In order to have the egg for baking in the winter, several dozen were stored in a mixture of one pound waterpills to one gallon water, well stirred in a wooden tub. Children were taught to retrieve an egg from that cold sea. Sugar and flour were bought in 100-lb. bags and were placed in covered wood or tin containers to keep unwanted visitors out. The bags were made of good factory cotton and they were always recycled. Salt also came in a cotton bag.

Mary had a difficult time finding a porridge that everyone would eat until Edie started making his own mix. Some wheat was bought from a farmer for a few cents, cleaned by many little hands and then ground in his neighbour's hand-operated coffee grinder. Other things like flax seeds that Edie and he bought cereal was added. Though flax seeds to last the winter was bought at the mill for 10 cents. This cereal was cooked fresh every morning on a fast boil and Mary added the precious milk and brown sugar. The mill was delivered fresh to the door every morning by Don Temple and if you didn't bring it in right away you would find a big head on the bottle. The children never had milk to add from a glass once they were able to chew solid food.

Mary had learned all forms of needlework in her school days and she was especially good at knitting. Without instructions she outfitted every child from head to toe in woolens. The one thing that wasn't good was the firm cotton waist that your parents were attached to and perhaps fleece lined bloomers. Every good piece of cloth was recycled in those days into children's clothing, quilts or rugs.

The family had to make do in many ways. Soda and salt were used to clean teeth and now and then charcoal was powdered to whiten the teeth. Wood shavings were used to scour aluminium pots, goose wings were used to take up dust, etc., and oil was used to clean the old kitchen sink. Fat was cured and used as soap again. Coal ashes were sprinkled on toy walks and wood ashes were used on the garden. In the spring, rubbers were called in to collect to remove stink and dirt. Around 1942 men wrote into Kate Wilson and said "Edie's shoes don't do the bottle what will it do to by stench?" and Edie's reply on the radio was, "You don't boil it in the stench?" A lot of burning upends were granite or -something and a large cup of one of those materials was usually found on the back of the stove warming up things like bread and milk for a little one. After the first few depressive years things began to pour out in and around the house. All metal elements ended up with vermin (tiny mice, minkies and nut) in them. If it hadn't been for the old machine only, Mary couldn't have replaced some items.

ANNALS AND BELIEF FAMILY HISTORY - Page 6

The worst deprivation of the children was not being able to properly care for the medical and dental needs of the family. Mary was a good nurse and got the family through some serious illnesses. When you were sick she would make a bed for you in the big rocking chair by the kitchen stove. A piece of firewood was dropped under one end under to tilt the chair back and you were packed in with pillows and quilts. Mary used salves o' or opium salts for internal disorders. Baking soda was given for colic, sour stomach and gases in the mouth. Sweet cream from the top of the milk bottle or vasoline was applied to sore or chapped skin. Drops of iodine were put on wounds resulting from contact with a rusty nail. A weak boracic acid salt flow was used for anything sore and salt water for gangling hernias. Saturated oil was rubbed on chest and lungs and covered with a flannel for chest colds; if this didn't work, mustard plasters were used. Positions were made to draw out foreign matter from wounds (breast, ear, nose, pump on breast and open salts). Very warm hot oil drops relieved earaches and grooves cleaned out in an earring booth. Snow and salt on frostbite and chilblains. Aspirin was used for arthritis but Mary never used aspirin as her army men were not coming home at that time. The children were taught at an early age to do these things for themselves. Many of these remedies are "no-ops" today.

During the tension, if you came down with a communicable disease the doctor was called and you were put in quarantine. A notice was tacked on the front door announcing the disease and no-one would be allowed out except the care of the house, for provisions. Not long after this routine was done away with as doctors finally realized that the germs were spread around at school before you knew you had the disease. They also thought it was wise for the children to have these harmless diseases before they grew up. In this, they were found to be wrong.

Mary enjoyed doing a little practical nursing and was always ready to help a neighbour. This started during the flu epidemic of 1918. She felt quite immune to disease because up until that time she had not contracted a childhood disease and escaped diphtheria when her two brothers and mother died. When the first children were old enough to manage at home, she started caring for elderly advice. The family never forget one of her first cases. She was asked to go in once or twice a day to dress an elderly lady's legs. At this time Mary had a cold sore forming on her lip. Before long she came down with eye-aches, rash and swelling swelling spread over the whole face and she couldn't see for some time. Bill was furious, the eldest girl was called home from her job and even though Dr. Campbell was getting around eighty, he took on the case. One corner edge of the rash was rubbed with a potent salicylation in an effort to stem it from spreading into the hair. The rash was badly burned but the disease was halted. Our wonderful old Dr. Campbell was so worried that he couldn't sleep one night and came to spend on his patient's home. Dr. Campbell died shortly after, Mary recovered, the old lady with the rash was left paralyzed and died with broken glass and Mary was never paid.

Of all the elderly or ill ladies that she cared for during her lifetime, her pet was a long-time friend, Mrs. W. Pinkerton who lived on the corner of Queen St. and Breckinridge, and her last case was Miss Olive Latham who was blind. In the early sixties, Doris Freeman of Norway sent her friend who was visiting in Canada to call on Mary and personally thank her mother, Mrs. Freeman, Hill St. E., until she died.

Bill was very so much that for four summers Mary did cooking in summer league. During World War II Mary was very troubled about her homeland and spent all her waking hours working for the Red Cross. In 1950, she was presented with a medal in honour of her services. After the war she did quite a bit of travelling. She crossed Canada from coast to coast and went across to England. She enjoys many shorter trips, like Expo '67. She was a life member of the Queen's Institute, an organization she dearly loved.

In 1976, when she was 63 and in excellent health, she joined Bill at Simon Fraser in British.

### HISTORY OF THE AUSTIN FAMILY & BELLE DRIVE FARM

Many, many years ago my great-great grandfather, Alexander Austin and his brother John, with their wives, left their home in Newtonards, County Down, Ireland, to seek a home in the Western World. After sailing on the ocean for several weeks they landed in the United States of America.

Alex and his wife Ursula stayed in the States for about a year before coming to Canada. In Toronto - then called Maddy York - they got a Crown deed for one hundred acres. They started out walking to find their land which was about fifty miles to the north. They carried their belongings with them - including a gun and an axe. They reached their land - namely, the West  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot 9, Con. 5 in the township of Temagami (some two miles north and east of Tottenham) and it was here, in the spring of 1874, that they took up farming in the new land. At the same time, brother John and his wife settled on the East  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the same lot.

The first house was built of hemlock branches (even the bed was made of hemlock boughs). It was here that they lived while the men cleared the land of the huge maple, oak, beech, hemlock and pine trees, and that same summer they built themselves log houses and barns. It was in the log house that Ursula raised their family of six girls and two boys. My great grandfather, James, was the youngest of the family.

In the early years the area was a vast forest. Wild game was plentiful and this game made up a big part of their living. These people were industrious and worked long hard hours to clear the land in order to grow vegetables and grain. As soon as they had enough grain put by, they bought a yoke of oxen, and with the help of the oxen, they were able to clear the land faster. The next year, Alex bought two cows, three hens and a rooster; the following year, he bought a sow. The farm was getting well stocked by now but as these people were weavers by trade, they bought two sheep. The wolves got one of the sheep the first winter, but before long they were able to weave and make some warm winter clothes.

By now the oxen were getting older and Alex thought it better to get horses. They bought a mare and not long after that, one of the oxen died; that summer they made a team of one ox and the mare. This mare's name was "Belle" and about one hundred years later the farm was known as "Belle Drive Farm" and was registered as such. A herd of Hereford cattle was registered in Ottawa as "Belle Drive Herefords". The Austins bought more horses and Belle started to raise colts. This strain of horses was kept on the farm down through the generations and their careful breeding made them eligible for registration; my grandfather, Alvin Austin, got registration papers for some of them in 1934. Some of these horses were show horses and Alvin showed them at many of the leading horse shows, including the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto.

Alexander Austin died in 1878 at the age of 76; his wife, Ursula, died six years later. Great-grandfather, James, inherited the farm and he in turn built more barns and a new home.

James Austin married Sarah Segars in 1880 and they raised a family of two girls and five boys:

- Wilfred E. (1881-1968) - married Ferge Furger
- Maudie (1883-1969) - married Mel Martin
- Randolph (1885-1937) - married Ethelyn Latimer
- Harry (1887) - married Maide McBride
- Lorne (1888-1937)
- Muriel (1893-1973) - married Henry Peoples
- Alvin (1897-1969) - married Mary Potter in 1920 and they had one daughter, Evelyn (my mother)

On December 18, 1902, the barns burned to the ground; some of the stock, some equipment and the winter's feed were destroyed. The next-year neighbour's barn was idle that winter so the remaining stock was kept there until Spring. That spring - 1903 - a big, new barn was built with modern stables and this barn still stands today.

At James' death in 1926, Alvin took over the operation of the homestead. In 1937, Alvin bought the farm on the  $\frac{3}{4}$  of Lot 9, which had originally belonged to John Austin in 1874. He built a new barn and in 1951 he remodelled the house and he lived in this house before moving into Tottenham.

Grandmother Mary Potter Austin died in 1960 and in 1961 grandfather sold the Belle Drive Farm, thus closing the chapter of the Austins on the West  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot 9, Con. 5, in the township of Temagami. Alvin Austin died in 1969.



The Austin Family



James Austin



Sarah Tegart Austin



The Austin Family 1912  
 Wilfred    Dolph    Alvin    Lorne    Harry  
              Maude                        Muriel

The power behind the throne.  
Taken at the barn raising of Mr. James Austin in 1903.



- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. James Whitney Ellison               | 21. Susan Dillane                     |
| 2. Mrs. George Ellison (Jessie Tegart) | 22. Maggie Mills (Mrs. George Tegart) |
| 3. Victoria Hill                       | 23. Annie Cowan                       |
| 4. Annie Fleming (Mrs. J. Farquhar)    | 24. Annie McKay                       |
| 5. Maud Austin (Mrs. Mel Martin)       | 25. Cecil Martin (Mrs. Rogers)        |
| 6. Ella Taylor                         | 26. Sarah Dillane (Mrs. C. Davis)     |
| 7. Ethel Davis (Mrs. A. Gray)          | 27. Josephine Pierson                 |
| 8. Muriel Austin (Mrs. H. Peeples)     | 28. Olive Kearns (Mrs. S. Evans)      |
| 9. Lolo Hayes (Mrs. J. Landon)         | 29. Bertha Cowan                      |
| 10. Susie Martin (Mrs. J. Smart)       | 30. Bertha Nelson (Mrs. Albert Cowan) |
| 11. Bertha Fenn                        | 31. Lizzie Carey (Mrs. Dillane)       |
| 12. Bertha Kearns                      | 32. Alma Hayes                        |
| 13. Annie Fenn                         | 33. Libby McLean (Mrs. Sloan)         |
| 14. Maud Fenn                          | 34.                                   |
| 15. Frances Dillane                    | 35. Emma Tegart                       |
| 16. Minnie Hammell                     | 36. Lizzie Beatty                     |
| 17. Henrietta Pierson                  | 37. Mrs. Jack Beatty                  |
| 18. Annie Semple                       | 38. Esther Dillane                    |
| 19. Jennie Collard                     | 39. Eleanor Milligan                  |
| 20. Mrs. James Austin (Sarah Tegart)   | 40. Jennie Tegart (Mrs. George Hayes) |

May 23rd, 1903.

### FRED BISHOP

BORN in Tottenham, England, Fred Bishop came to Canada in 1924, where he began working for Lyman Cave at Newton Robinson. He worked here until 1932 when he went to work around Tottenham until 1942. He worked for Richard Gully, S. W. Abernathy, R. W. Bayes, H. O. Patterson and Ross McCallin.

He was a member of the United Church choir in both Newton Robinson and Tottenham. He was a member of the Tottenham Masonic Lodge of which he was Master in 1941.

While in the hospital in Toronto in 1942-43, he met a student nurse Charlotta Troughton of Manitoba and they were married in 1943. After their marriage they lived in Toronto, Barrie and the Tottenham area until the fall of 1947 when they migrated to Cardale, Manitoba, where they engaged in farming until 1960 when they moved to Brandon. Mrs. Bishop is supervisor at the Brandon Hospital for Mental Diseases and Fred is working with the Research Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, Poultry Department, at the Brandon Experimental Farm.

There are two children, John born in 1947 and Judy in 1948. They are both attending school. Judy is taking her Grade XI and John is taking an electronics course at the Vocational School. John plays the bass guitar in an orchestra as well,

Fred is active in choir and church work. He is a member of the choir and on the session of St. Pauls United Church in Brandon.

### PAUL PRASZENKA HISTORY



Mildred & Paul Prasienka

Farming is a way of life that is healthy and interesting, even though many who farm do not have all the luxuries some people have today. My husband and I have both lived in cities and towns before marriage. My husband spent 18 years in a furniture factory and due to his poor health, we decided to go farming, starting first on a 15-acre farm growing vegetables for a canning factory. Not satisfied, we went back to the city for a short time and found the hustle and bustle very tiring. Also we found it very costly in the city. An advertisement in a Toronto paper took us to Tottenham area in 1948. Here we found lots to do: cleaning the house inside out; we tore five rooms from the house as my husband and I did not need a 13-room house. We tore down a large barn and two old sheds and built two small barns and a chicken house.

There was no hydro so we went back to oil lamps, battery radio, and iron and a wood stove which I still have and use. My husband was carpenter minded. Occasionally we went back to the city to shop but mostly we went to the village for chopping and shopping. We went with a team and wagon which we found quite a change after street cars. Quite a number of times we enjoyed a walk to the village. We kept some livestock: cattle, horses, goats, a few ducks and chickens.

We enjoyed the country where we could move more freely again and still visit and keep in touch with old neighbours who meant so much to us while living there.

- submitted by Mildred Prasienka.

#### THE WESLEY BOLTON FAMILY HISTORY

My father, Abraham Bolton, was born in Vaughan Township. He married Elizabeth Bykes from Buckwren, Ontario, and they lived on Lot 6, 3rd Line, Tecumseth. To them were born:

Gertrude (Mrs. Walter Dimmonds)  
George (who married Tina Ottewill)  
William (who died a young man of 18 years)  
Wesley (who brought Ella Wilton, a war bride, home from England)  
Harold (who married Mae Elston of Woodbridge)  
Hazel (Mrs. Jim Bateman)

When World War I started, I enlisted and started my training in Tottenham. I belonged to B Company of 197th battalion. When the weather was good, we did our marching on the township roads. I liked it when they went out to the fifth line, for we would stop at Austin's farm and Miss Maudie Austin would bring us buttermilk and short cakes (tea biscuits). In the winter and when the weather was not good, we trained in the drill shed on the north side of Mill Street. When spring came we were moved to Camp Borden. I went overseas with my battalion in 1916 on the Cameronia, an old cattle boat. After training in England, the company was split and I was drafted to the 1st Canadian Infantry. I saw action in France, Belgium and Germany. I was wounded while in France, and I was taken to a hospital in Manchester, England. When I was well again, I was sent back to join my comrades.

I returned from overseas on the S.S. Gropnia (an old war tug) with my bride in 1919 to my parents' home on Highway 9. I rented the Preston house and worked in the McCabe Bros. planing mill. My wife and I had two little girls, Edith (Mrs. Pete Hugheson of Toronto), and Doris, whom we adopted out. Mrs. Bolton died in 1920.

On February 1st, 1922, I married Elizabeth Crane of Kettleby. Our family consisted of five boys and five girls:

Evelyn (who married Wilbert Stewart, Tottenham)  
Fred (who married Doris Wilson, Toronto)  
Wilfred (Bob) (who married Kay Lewis, Alliston)  
Hazel (who married Evelyn Howard, Shelbourne)  
Bill (who married Barbara Heaver, Beeton)  
Jean (who married Jack Hurst, Beeton)  
Dora (who married Russell Prince, Kitchener)  
Donald (who married Michèle Woodcock, Bradford)  
Florence (who married Wallace Allen) - she passed away 10 or 12 years later.  
George (who married Connie Kelly, Beeton)

I worked at different jobs. I rented and worked the Keogh farm for two years, and the Austin farm for 5 years. I also worked on both the C.P.R. and U.N.R. railroads. I worked at the Tottenham Creamery for 16 years, first as an engineer and then as a buttermaker. We lived in one of the cottages north of the creamery. I bought my present home at 13 Richmond Street West in 1938, from Mr. Pagen.

Mrs. Bolton died in 1970 and I have continued to keep house myself since that time.

- submitted by Wesley Bolton, 1976-

P.R.: Wesley Bolton died June 20 1970



### THE BOTHAM FAMILY HISTORY

Thomas Botham was born at Teppiworth, Yorkshire, England about 1840, and came to Canada in 1864 as a farm labourer. He married Mary Anne Varcoe in July 1866. She died in 1875, leaving a son, John.



Thomas Botham married Martha Palmer who was a daughter of Richard Palmer of  $\frac{W}{2}$  Lot 35, Con. 12, King Twp. They farmed for a short time on the  $\frac{W}{2}$  of Lot 35, Con. 10, King. A son, Walker, was born there in 1877. The family moved to the 2nd Line of Tecumseth on  $\frac{S}{2}$  of Lot 14, where the son Norman was born in 1882.

#### Photo at left:-

Thomas Botham and wife, Martha, with children Walker and Norman.

In 1886, Thomas Botham and Martha bought the  $\frac{S}{2}$  of Lot 16, Conc. 3 Tecumseth and farmed there until Thomas died in January, 1898.



The old Botham house. -  $\frac{S}{2}$  Lot 16, Con. 3, Tecumseth.

THE BOTHAM FAMILY HISTORY - cont'd.



Walker and Lavina Botham - 1904

The two sons and Martha carried on the family farm until Walker was married in 1904 to Lavina Downey of Castlederg and they took over the farm.

Norman Botham married Sarah Ruston of Mount Wolfe in February 1905 and farmed for a time on the 10th line of Albion, south of Mount Wolfe.

Martha lived for a short time with her son, Norman and his wife, but eventually returned to the home farm on Con. 3 Tecumseth and stayed with Walker and Lavina until her death in July 1923.

Walker and Lavina had two children: Isabel, born 1911 and Albert, born 1913. Isabel married Edison Hastings in 1934. They have four of a family: Lawrence married Marilyn Honey (children - Jeffrey and Lynn); Glenn married Joan Kant (children - Carl and Kathy); Eileen married Raymond McCabe (children - Bruce, Gary, Brian and Sandra); and Herbert married Lynda Kant (children Sharlene, Annette and Cindy).

Albert (son of Walker and Lavina) married Greta Cairns in 1941. They carried on the family farm on Con. 3, Tecumseth, and have two sons, Lloyd and Norval.

Lloyd married Irene Kell and have two sons, Kevin and Brian. Norval married Patricia Weir and they have a daughter, Laurie, and son, Daniel.

The Botham farm was sold in 1967. Walker Botham died in May 1972. Lavina Botham died in December 1959.

Norman (second son of Thomas and Martha) and his wife, Sarah, had two sons, George and Orval. George married Florence Smith. They had one daughter, Marilyn, who married Peter Cowan. Orval married Margaret Bone. They had one son, Walter, who is married, and they have two daughters. Norman Botham died in January, 1955.

### M.S. BRANDON HISTORY

Mathew Sharpe Brandon, or "M.S." as he was commonly referred to, came from Mulmur Township, and was born into a family whose father was 'a seventh son of a seventh son', and therefore thought to have remarkable powers of healing. People travelled for miles to be healed, and M.S.

recalled that the house was always filled with the transients who had to be accommodated overnight.



Mathew Sharpe Brandon

At an early age he lived and worked with an older sister and her husband, where he discovered that chewing tobacco could make a boy so ill that he would never again smoke or chew or tolerate tobacco in any form.

He was adept with carpentry or cabinet-making tools and worked as a carriage-maker in Toronto, prospering and owning his own shop on Strachan Avenue. However, came the horseless carriage, and while his associate, Col. Sam McLaughlin, changed with the trend, Mr. Brandon did not, and they went their separate ways. When it was obvious that there

was no longer a future in making horse-drawn carriages he closed his shop and went to his summer home at Wasaga Beach, where he operated a jitney service for those who came by train to the cottages there.

Ready to return to the business world, he and his wife, the former Helen Menzies, purchased the grocery store in Tottenham where Simpson's Cycle Shop now flourishes. In a few years he sold the grocery business and moved next door to run the 'ice-cream parlour'. It was then that he prepared the vacant lot behind the store to be flooded, and thus was started the town skating rink. It was the scene of carnivals, Saturday night skating to live music by the town band, and fiercely fought hockey games. On snowy nights it was a real challenge to a goalie stop a puck shot through a blur of whirling snow, and a test of endurance for the fans who stood along the boards in the weather to cheer the players.

Leaving that business flourishing, Mr. Brandon next purchased the creamery - at that time a very young business in the area - and he ran it successfully until he sold it in 1943 to Mr. J.P. Belford. In order to use the buttermilk produced from the churning of the cream into butter, Mr. Brandon purchased the 'pond farm' (now owned by the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority) and built large pig pens where he raised and fattened hogs. The buttermilk tank, on a wagon pulled by his horses, made many trips across the dam to the farm, and one day caused much excitement when the horses bolted and the tank rolled down the steep embankment (not on the pond side of the dam, fortunately).

Mr. Brandon served the town in many ways, and was Reeve for several terms, and in that capacity was a very respected member of Simcoe County Council. Because he was strongly Baptist in religion, he purchased the building on the south-west corner of Richmond and Queen Street and started a Gospel Mission there, purchasing the 'Weaver House' across the street for the use of the pastor. Later he built what is now called the Churchill Baptist Church on the 10th Concession of Albion Township, just south of highway No. 9; and it is still active, and a fitting memorial to the years of M.S. Brandon in this area.

### THE BRADLEY FAMILY HISTORY

My great-grandfather, Joseph Bradley, immigrated to Canada from Ireland in the early 1800's. He received a large grant of land in Peel county, near Victoria, Ontario. He married Susan Archdeacon and they had three of a family: Joseph, Susan and John Archdeacon Bradley.

Our grandfather was John Archdeacon Bradley, who married Susannah Gray of Orangeville. They had a family of five: Margaret, Thomas, Gray, Albert and Melville. For a number of years they farmed a large tract of land until the early part of the 1900's when they sold the farm and moved to Galesburg East with their sons Albert (Bert) and Melville.

Their daughter, Margaret, married Robert Clarkson and they had two children: Mabel and Melville, who died at the age of nine. Daughter Mabel married Harry Little of Mayfield and they had two children, William and Harry, Jr. In the beginning of World War II, William and Harry, Jr., joined the armed forces. William was Canada's youngest Colonel and was in the Army Intelligence Corps. Harry served with the Air Force and belonged to the famous "Snowy Owl" squadron.

Thomas Bradley married Marion Elliott and they had three children: Thomas, Mabel and Mabel. Thomas Jr. was married to Maudie Childs, whose father, John, ran a wagon works and livery in Tottenham during the early part of the 1900's. (John Childs was a direct descendant of "Buffalo Bill" Cody. Their names can be found in the book of descendants of Buffalo Bill.) Daughter Mabel married Roy Kearns of Adjala. Roy is deceased but Mabel is still living in Achil. Their youngest son, Peter, is the well-known coach of Adjala. Mabel Bradley was the wife of Bert Gill. Bert passed away in 1973, and Mabel lives in Markham. Their two sons live in U.S.A.

Gray Bradley married Little Robertson of Brampton. They had one daughter, Ida, who married Reginald Gray. He died in the 1960's. After a number of years Ida met and married Tom Macdonald of Tottenham. Ida is now deceased and Tom is living in Tottenham.

Albert J. Bradley (Bert) married Margaret Mason of Adjala in 1909. His brother, Melville, married his younger sister Ann the following year. Bert and Margaret and his widow ran the ice cream parlor in Galesburg East until 1920, his father, John, having died in 1907. Bert and Margaret had two children: Mabel and Allan. In 1920, after the death of Melville Bradley, they moved to Tottenham, where Bert took over the work formerly done by his brother and worked as treasurer for Harry Pearcy until Harry retired from the business, which Bert continued on. His wife, Margaret, died in 1931. A few years later, and in failing health, Bert retired. He passed on in 1942. His daughter, Mabel, married Kerwin Walkam, son of R.J. and Ida Walker. They had a family of three sons: Charles, now living in Toronto, Rob of Beeton and Walter residing in Weston. In 1971 Kerwin died and in 1973 Mabel moved to Toronto to live with her son, Charles. Allan Bradley is still living in Tottenham. He served with the Argyll and Southern Highlanders during World War II from 1939 until the end of the war. For a time he lived near Sudbury and after a year came back to Tottenham where he is now. He now works as a section man for the C.P.R.

Melville Bradley, along with his wife, moved to Caldwell Junction around 1906. Here he worked in a brick yard for several years and then moved to Eglivorey. They had four children: Dawson, Murray Gordon, William and Anna. In about 1918 they moved to Tottenham where Melville was employed as a termator for Harry Pearcy, until his untimely death in 1920 when he fell victim to the "flu". His wife died in 1957. Dawson, the eldest of the family, was drowned in the Tottenham Mill pond in 1920, just four weeks after the death of his father. Their daughter, William, worked for a number of years for Cooper Smith in Beeton, later in Toronto. She retired in 1975 and is now living in Beeton. Her daughter, Mrs. James Hill (Anne) lives just outside of Beeton on a farm. Anna Bradley married Harvey Kester of Wallerton and they had one son, Jack. Anna died in 1973. Her husband and son now are living in Danover. Murray Gordon went away, called after Murray Gordon, Q.C., is better known to the Tottenham people as "Bud". He married Helen Wilson of Eglivorey. They are living in Tottenham. Bud at one time worked for Fred Hopkins, who owned the mill now operated by Thompsons. Later, Bud drove a truck for Tottenham Creamery. Upon the closing of the creamery, Bud went to work for Schenberg Creamery. He was employed there for several years and later went to Alliston Creamery where he is still employed. Bud and Helen have a family of three: Murray Dawson, Gail and Deborah. Murray Dawson Bradley married Deanna Watson of Tottenham. Less than a year after their marriage, Deanna was killed in a tragic car accident.

Cont'd. . .



THE BRADLEY FAMILY HISTORY - Cont'd.

which claimed the lives of five people. A number of years later Murray met and married the former Helen LePage of Panetanguishene. They are living in Tottenham; Murray is employed by American Motors of Brampton and has worked there for the past eleven years. Gail Bradley married Donald Kitchen of Schonberg and is now living just outside of Schonberg. Don is employed by Dept. of Highways. Deborah 'Debby' Bradley married Glen Horton of Tottenham. They have two daughters, Paula and Tanya. They also reside in Tottenham.

- submitted by Hazel Walker, 1977.

\*\*\*\*\*

JOSEPH PIERSON FAMILY HISTORY

We have little information of Joseph Pierson prior to his purchasing the south half of Lot 4, Conn. 3, Tecumseh, from William J. Russell for \$4,850, in 1896, although we are told he lived before that on Lot 7, Conn. 5. Mr. Joseph Pierson was a Reeve of Tecumseh Township at one time.



The Pierson House

Joseph Pierson was married to William Russell's sister, Rachael. The other Russell sisters were: Mrs. Anna Train (Mary Ann), Mrs. Robert Sprouts (Eliza), and Mrs. Eipwell (Anna).

The children of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Pierson were:-

Josephine (a nurse)

Marionette (a teacher, who was organist in the Anglican Church for many years. She died in 1964.)

William (a bachelor farmer, who was also a butcher)

Fred (the only one of the four who married. His wife was Anna Guilfoyle, who taught school at Tottenham. Fred and Anna had no children.)

Joseph and Rachael both died in 1924.

Following service in World War I, Fred became postmaster at Peaton. Four of these Piersons are buried in Mount Tegeart Cemetery.

- submitted 1978

### THE BREEDON FAMILY HISTORY

Henry Breedon and Jane Woutlske had ten children - Fred, Robert, John, George, Henry, Thomas, Hannah, Sarah Jane, Elizabeth and Mary. Of these, a brother and a sister married a brother and a sister. Mary married Kelcy Godson and Annie Godson married John Breedon.

John and Annie Breedon farmed first at Woodhill in Peel county and several of their children were born there. They later moved to the 5th line of Tecumseh where their children received their primary education at the Fenville School. The children were named: Arnold, Garnett, Ray, John, Melba, Earle, Irene, Marshall, Florence and Kelcy. Four of this family, after marriage, remained in farming in Fenville. Earle became a druggist and Florence, a registered nurse.

Garnett, the second son, joined the infantry during World War I, later transferring to the cavalry, but did not get overseas. On January 1, 1919, he married Florence Adair. They made their home on a farm on the 3rd Concession of Tecumseh. Their only daughter, Doris, was born there. During this time they were quite interested in show horses and won several awards with their horses "Black Joe" at local fairs.

In 1922, Garnett and Florence moved to Hill Street West in Tottenham, where Garnett joined William (Bill) Hammond in the seed business. During their 16 years in partnership as seed merchants, Bill did the majority of the buying while Garnett did the most of the trucking. They also had an agency for farm machinery and parts for a few years. Garnett ran a dance hall in the Weaver block for 3 or 4 years. Dances were held every Saturday night and admission was from 10¢ to 25¢ per person.

Garnett and Florence were ardent lush bowlers. They also enjoyed the bridge club and card parties. Florence was a member of the Women's Institute and a faithful worker in the Ladies United Church group. Their daughter, Doris, attended Tottenham public and continuation school. Later, she attended Barrie Collegiate Institute and entered the school of nursing in Barrie, graduating in 1942. While in Tottenham, Doris was interested in sports and accomplished swimming the Tottenham pond at a young age. In her teens she was active in church activities - belonged to the church choir, O.G.I.S. and the Young People's organization. Doris married Jack Garvin in 1944 and they made their home in Barrie. They have one daughter, Janet.

On December 15, 1938, fire destroyed the double homes of Hammond and Breedon. Florence died in the fire.

In 1941 Garnett married Elsie Howard, R.N., of Barrie. They returned to the farm on the 3rd Concession of Tecumseh where they lived for 27 years. Garnett and Elsie had three daughters - Donna, Lois and Wilma. The girls received their primary education at Fish Hill school and their secondary education at Sandring Memorial High School, in Alliston.

Donna married Jake Steinbeck and lives in Schomberg. They have five children: Ricky, Brian, Cathy, Danny and Lisa. Lois married Euton Swing and they make their home at Waukeg Beach. Their children are: Deborah, Steven and David. Wilma became a hair-dresser and later married Robert Kaiser. They have a son, Derek, and a daughter and reside in Collingwood.

While on the farm, Garnett was a member of Tecumseh Council for 14 years - four of those years as reeve. In 1967 their barn was burned. The same year they built a new home in Tottenham at 39 Hill St. E. and left the farm. After moving to town, Elsie resumed her nursing career on a part time basis at Stevenson Memorial Hospital, Alliston.

On November 8, 1972, Garnett passed away after numerous illnesses. He was a 1120 member of Order 329, A.W. and I.O.O.F. Lodge and a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

### BROWN & SPROULE FAMILY HISTORIES

Robert Sproule married in the early 1800's. He and his wife Mary had five of a family - Robert, John, George, Fred and Liz.

Robert, born in 1835, married Eliza Gemmill about 30 years later. They had two children, Emma and Henriette (Etta). They lived on a farm on the S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> of Lot 3, Conc. 5, Tecumseth, where Robert threshed as well as farmed. In later years he sold the farm and bought a piece of land near the C.P.R. tracks at the west end of Albert Street. Here he built a house and also a sawmill. Later he sold the mill to John McCabe. Robert died in 1915.

John married Margaret Nicol of Queen Street, Beeton. John threshed with Robert.

Fred married Willis Fort and they had two children - Dr. Herman of Toronto and Pearl of Saskatchewan. Fred was a railroad engineer.

George of Toronto also worked on the railroad.

Liz married Charles Sheppard and moved to Oklahoma, U.S.A.

Robert's daughter, Emma, married Elgar Sloan of Saskatchewan and they had two children, Mildred and Jay. Robert's second daughter, Etta became a dressmaker and worked with a Miss Skelly and later opened a shop on Queen Street at Richmond. Some years later, Etta married James Brown.



Dressmaking shop - N.W. corner of Queen & Richmond Sts. - props. Miss Etta Sproule & Miss Skelly.



Mr. & Mrs. James Brown (Etta Sproule)

Etta and James Brown had three children: Gora, Mary and Marie. They lived on a farm in Albion. After retiring, they bought a house on Queen Street, where they resided until they passed away. Gora Brown married Harry McCabe of Albion and they had two children, Raymond and Edwin. (Raymond married Eileen Hastings and had four of a family: Bruce, Gary, Brian and Sandra. Edwin lives and farms on the 10th line of Albion) Marie Brown married Gervin Lake of Toronto and they have three children - Marlene, Faith and Hope - who are all married and live in Toronto. Mary Brown married Stewart McCabe in 1931 and they had four children, Evelyn, John, Irene and Anson McCabe. (see also McCabe history).

THE HISTORY OF GEORGE & EUGENIE BUTT & FAMILY - cont'd.

Dad's sister, Edith, the eldest in the family, married Frank Henning of Niagara Falls, N.Y. Frederick, his brother, worked at Jefferson's, Mrs. Jefferson being the sister of Fred Strangways. As a young man he went West and became an engineer on the railway but spent his remaining years as a foreman in an automobile plant in Detroit. While working in the West, he met and married his wife, Minnie. May, who lived in Regina, married A.L. Stewart, a mining man and prospector.



The Butt House - 31 Queen Street South

George and Jean took up residence for a short while at 22 Queen Street North after their marriage before moving to 31 Queen Street South, Tottenham. They lived here, where their three daughters were born, before buying it from the Hollingshead estate August 9, 1916. Their interests were centered in the life of their community and in their family circle.

Mother (Jean) attended Old Everett Public School and Tottenham Continuation School which is now the Medical Centre. The young people of her era enjoyed the pond and spent many happy times swimming, skating and fishing there. They took advantage of the fine tennis courts east of where the C.P.R. station stood across from the park.

Mother, along with others, was instrumental in helping raise money for the organ which is still in the United Church by her singing at various concerts and fund raising appeals.

After her marriage, Mother sang in the choir at the United Church for over thirty years. Prior to joining what was then the Methodist Church, before church union, she belonged to the Fraser Presbyterian Church along with her parents.



### THE HISTORY OF GEORGE & EUGENIE BUTT & FAMILY

The Hoover surname is of our Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry and was of the generation preceding the March family. Artemissa March married William Perkins and eight children were born to them: Mary Eliza, Jean, Minnie, Cary, Lottie, Mabel, John and Walter. Mary Eliza Perkins, the eldest child, was born in Uxbridge August 4th, 1860. In 1876 she, with her family, moved to Gravenhurst where her father was employed as the town clerk.

Charles Worrod was one of four children whose parents emigrated from England, and was born May 15th, 1856. He had a sister, Julia, who married John Woods of Greemore; Louise Fawcett of Dundalk and a half brother, Thomas, of Angus. From Warrera, the family moved to Markdale where his father owned and operated a hotel. At the early age of fifteen, Chas. Worrod drove a stage coach from Markdale to Owen Sound. He later moved to Gravenhurst and was a hardware merchant for a number of years.



Mr. & Mrs. Chas. Worrod

It was here he met Mary Eliza Perkins and they were married May 7th, 1878. Five children were born to them: Ella, born at Gravenhurst, married Walter Rich and moved from Toronto to Buffalo; Ida, born at Gravenhurst, married Robert Walkem and settled in Tottenham; William married Jessie Hill and served overseas in the First World War. He settled in Toronto on his return; Eugenie (Jean), born at Shelbourne, married George Butt and they established their home in Tottenham; Arthur, born at Shelbourne, married Estella McClelland of Palgrave and after living out west a short while, moved to Toronto then returned to Tottenham.

Chas. Worrod, Mary Eliza and the first of his family moved to Shelbourne where he was employed as foreman at the A.B. Noble Hardware store and played in the Shelbourne band for several years. Mary Eliza was a soprano singer of more than ordinary ability and took a great interest in all musical affairs, as the Perkins family was noted for their musical talent. Her father and brother, Walter, who played the cornet, were in the Gravenhurst band. Walter led the band in Markdale for a good many years, also in Shelbourne.

The Worrod family moved from Shelbourne to Everett where Chas. Worrod owned and operated his own hardware store. In 1898 they came to Tottenham and his hardware and tinsmithing business was located in the town hall which is now the Municipal Office. He bought his own home in 1904 at 31 Queen Street North where his grandson, John A. Worrod and his wife Jacqueline now live. He later built a store to the south of his home where he relocated his hardware business.



Photo at left:-

Chas. Worrod's hardware store in Tottenham - Art Worrod, his son, is in picture.

THE HISTORY OF GEORGE & EUGENIE BUTT & FAMILY - cont'd.

They were staunch members of the Presbyterian church and took an active interest in all community affairs. Mary Eliza, my grandmother, passed away in 1933 and her husband, Charles, predeceased her March 14, 1922.



George & Jean Butt - Jan. 1st,  
1908.

It was here in Tottenham, Eugenie (Jean) met George Spencer Butt and they were married at the home of her parents January 1st, 1908. George worked for Fred Strangways, Jr., who was a cattle buyer, later establishing his own business buying and selling cattle.

George's grandfather, John, was born at Mere Wiltshire, England, in 1806. His grandmother, Mary Combes, at Fonthill House, Tisbury, Wiltshire, in 1811. His father, John James, was born in Kensington in 1840.

George, along with a brother and two sisters, came to Canada to the home of Frederick Strangways Sr., a farmer in Fenville, until moving a short distance where he made his home and worked with Fred Strangways Jr. and his wife, the former Stella Hollingshead. He was approximately six to eight years old on arriving in Canada from England. He was the third child of John James Butt and Elizabeth Jane Siely, born at 71 Praed Street, County Middlesex, Saint John, Paddington, England, a son of a greengrocer.

George attended Fiesville Public School with Charles and Laura Coon. The young boys in the neighbourhood amused themselves in the winter playing shinny which resembled hockey. He attended the Methodist Church in Fenville and nearing the age of 21, joined the first Masonic Lodge formed in Beeton.

He went West on several occasions and bought a half section of land near Greelman, Sask. This crown land was purchased from the railway, the mineral rights of which can never be sold and are to belong to his family forever. One time, while he was West, he drove a team for railway engineers who were surveying the territory for the proper location for trunk lines.

He gave of his time and energy to various causes and never failed to help when assistance was needed to fulfil the most difficult assignments. He, along with other public spirited men, spent many days with teams of horses grading and drawing cinders as a foundation for the park and bowling greens as they were being built on a bog. He was a member of the curling club and lawn bowled for many years. One of the events at "Old Boys Reunion" which was held in August was a lacrosse match in which he played. He served as Chairman of the school board for quite a lengthy period. After selling his transport business in 1943 to Jim Bullen, he found he did not enjoy retirement and went to work for the Tottenham Creamery until 1956. His tireless energy, along with some assistance from his family, enabled him to look after Mother and keep the home going smoothly. After a brief illness, Dad passed away at Stevenson Memorial Hospital, December 12th, 1968.



THE HISTORY OF GEORGE & EUGENIE BUTT & FAMILY - cont'd.

As a lawn bowler, Mother enjoyed many happy times. She was on the rink skipped by her sister, Mrs. R.J. Walkem, along with her sister-in-law, Mrs. A.P. Worrod, and Mrs. Hammond who won the Mayor Foster trophy at St. Matthew's, Toronto.



On the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary - Jan. 1st, 1958.

George and Jean celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Jan. 1st, 1958, at their home.

Mother passed away at Stevenson Memorial Hospital, Alliston, August 30, 1972.

Mary, their eldest daughter, was born November 2, 1911; she married Arthur Pace of Tottenham, who was with the R.C.A.F. Except for a short time while Art was posted in Toronto, she lived her entire life here. She taught school for over twenty years, most of which was in Tottenham. Mary and

Art's two children, George and Lyn, are living in Toronto. George and Irene have two boys, Daryl and Timothy. Art died as a result of a car accident, May 10th, 1962.

George and Jean's second daughter, Ruth, was born July 30th, 1915. After completing her high school, she attended the branch of the Orangeville Secretarial College in Alliston. She worked in Toronto as a secretary. It was in Alliston High School she first met William James Agnew whom she married September 12th, 1942. William was the son of Edmond and Laura Agnew from the 13th Line of Tecumseth, Thomsonville. He was born and raised on this farm home which his great grandfather obtained from the Crown.

After living in Hamilton a short while, they moved to Aurora where Bill was employed with Texaco Oil Co. Three years later they moved to Toronto and bought their first home in 1949. In 1955, Bill changed his position and was employed with Petrofina Oil Company as "Operations Manager". In 1958 they bought their second new home on which Bill enjoyed working, accomplishing his various ambitions improving our home and property. He served as a steward at St. Luke's United Church. He passed away March 3rd, 1972. Ruth then returned to her home town, Tottenham, where she still resides.

Doris, the third daughter, was born May 30th, 1918. She went to Toronto and after graduating from Shaw's Business College, worked in offices there until going to New York. It was in New York she met A.A. Leifeste, Jr. (Pete), a young naval ensign who was taking a specialized course in Washington before being posted at Pearl Harbour.

After the war, he returned and they settled in Houston, the city of his kinfolk, where he is an architect. They have four children: Janey, Ann, Mark and Jean. Janey and her husband, Sam Betts, live in New York. Ann is working in Houston as a production co-ordinator for MPC Film Productions Inc., having graduated from the University of Texas. Mark is going to be a doctor and will be pursuing his studies at Baylor University this year. Jean who is 13 is still at home going to school.

### THE CARNEY-KEUGH FAMILY HISTORY

Frederick Whitney Carney married Frances Alice Keogh in St. James Church, Selkirk, Ont. on September 7, 1940. Fred has operated his photography business from his residence at 20 Alexander Street, Tottenham, since 1954. Fred and Frances have ten children who grew up in the village:

Dr. Philip Carney, clinical psychologist of Kingston, Ont., married Peggy Duffy of Toronto and they have two sons, Colin and Michael. Louise Carney married Neville Sedricks and they reside in Wilketon, Ont. with their three children, Jeffrey, Michelle and Andrew. Theresa Carney married Donald Reit and they reside on Brown Street in Tottenham with their two children, Christopher and Jacquelyn. Patrick Carney married Anne Louise Hope of London, Ont. and they reside in Edmonton, Alberta, where Patrick is studying for his Ph.D. Peter Carney married Wilma Eutton of Loretto, Ont., and they are living in Tottenham. James, Anne, Leonard and Edward live in Tottenham, and in Toronto during the school year, while James and Anne attend University; Leonard and Edward attend De la Salle College. Thomas is at home.

Frances' parents are Philip Keogh (deceased) and Alice (Walsh). They were married in Holy Martyrs of Japan Church, Bradford, Ont., Oct. 27, 1915. Their seven children are:

Lucy Keogh, an X-Ray technician at Queenway Hospital in Toronto. Frances married Fred Carney. Jeanne married Frank Morgan of Don Mills (Commissioner of Metro Toronto) and they have eight children - Frank, Paul, Greg, Michael, Patrick, Philip, Maureen and Theresa. Mary Elizabeth married Allen Stuart of Toronto and they have eight children - Anne Marie Pagman, Rosemary Sorel, Michael, Patrick, Judy, George, Timothy and Eileen. Theresa married Jack Wilson of Loretto, Ont. and they live in Alliston with their eight children - John (married to Ing Tan), Paul, Joseph, Mary, Michael and James. Michael married Collette and they reside in Chatham, Ont. with their one son Martin. Paul married Peggy Doyle (daughter of Basil and Josephine Doyle of RR#2, Tottenham) and they reside on their Century Farm Home on the Adjala-Tecumseh township with their six children - Philip, Mary, Matthew, Lucy and twins Joseph and Denise.

Frederick's parents came from Halifax, N.S. to Toronto when Fred was 6 months old. He is the son of William Carney and Maribel Whitney. They had ten children:

William (deceased) who married Lorraine and lived in Bradford with their three children - Kathleen, Irene and William. Edward married Dorothy and they now reside in Brampton with their three sons - Paul, Lorne and Wayne. Margaret married James Munro and they live in Toronto with their six children - Evelyn Sydnick, Paul, James, Susan, Frank and D'Arcy. Fred married Frances Keogh. James resides in Toronto. Michael Carney married Doreen and they have five children - Glen, Greg, David, Lynn and Caroline. Walter Carney married Evelyn and they live in Toronto with two sons, Joseph and Kenneth. Robert Carney married Denise and they have six children - Denise, Stephen, Patricia, Kevin, Paul, John and Nancy. Mary is Sister Mary Imelda of Immaculate Heart Convent, Scarborough, Ont. D'Arcy Carney married Bea, and three children - Mary Beth, D'Arcy, and Joanne - and they live in Toronto.

Frances Carney's mother was Alice Walsh, daughter of James Walsh and Alice Mcnulty of Newton Robinson, Ont. There were five children:

Mary married Bernard Hollins and formerly resided in Alliston with children Mary Connett, Bernard (deceased), John and Margaret Edworthy. Alice became wife of Philip Keogh (Frances' parents). Lucy became Sister Mary Alice (deceased) of St. Joseph's Convent, Morrowpark, Willowdale. Ellis married Thomas Beale (deceased). Jack Walsh married Dorothy May (deceased) and had two daughters - Alice and Helen Marie Branker.

Frances Carney's father, Philip, was the son of Frank Keogh and Mary Elisabeth Kelly who farmed in Adjala and Tecumseh townships, and their children were:

George Keogh, QC, married Nina and lived in Toronto with their three daughters - Anne Bonfita, Claire Marie and Joan Gatsere. Anne Keogh married Charles McKenna and lived on a farm at Loretto with their children - Joseph, Rev. George McKenna CSM, Charles of Elora (deceased), Luke of Tottenham, Rita, Mary Elliott, Theresa Fisher, Austin and Anne McPhee. Mary is now Sister Mary Austin of Sister of St. Joseph, Morrowpark, Willowdale, Ont. Philip married Alice Walsh (Frances' parents). Frances is now Sister Francis Regis of Sisters of St. Joseph, Morrowpark, Willowdale, Ont. Rev. John Keogh CSM (deceased). Cecelia is Sister Marius of Sisters of St. Joseph, Morrowpark, Willowdale, Ont. Patrick married Doreen and they lived and farmed in Adjala-Tecumseh with their children - John, Mary Hanlon, Frank, Maurice, Angela Miller, Larry, George, Louis, Dianna (deceased), Roseanne Kennedy and Colleen Daycroft. Theresa (deceased) married Bernard Barry of Niagara Falls and their children are - Dr. John of Ottawa, Bernadine Salligan, Paul, Cecelia (Sister Cecilia Marie of St. Joseph's Convent), Dr. Michael, Bernard, Theresa Duffy and Sylvester (deceased). Angela married Clayton Weber (deceased).



#### THE CARNEY-KROGH FAMILY HISTORY - cont'd.

and they had four children - Mary Anne Kaskmiraki, Rev. John, James and Angela Costigan. Katherine (deceased).

Frederick Carney's mother was Furiel Whitney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Whitney of Cape Breton Island. She had one brother, Theodore Whitney.

Frederick Carney's father was William, son of the Hon. William Frederick Carney, a former member of Parliament in the Government of Sir Wilfred Laurier, and Sarah Richardson. Their children were: William (Frederick's father), Dr. Michael Carney, and Sister St. Michael of the Good Shepherd Sisters.

-submitted 1979.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### GENERINI FAMILY HISTORY

In 1906, Aidino Generini, then four years old, and one of eleven children born to Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Generini, sailed with the family from Fiumabelli, Italy. Aidino was raised in Cardinal, Manitoba, where his parents bought a farm. In 1926, he married Marie Anna Bellerin of Montreal, and homesteaded in Vassar, Manitoba. In 1942, after many disappointments with the Depression and poor crops, Aidino decided to buy into a partnership in a sawmill. Later, he turned his hand to welding, so bag and baggage he moved to Northern Ontario with his wife and eight children (five girls and three boys), one of them being Gerald Henry Generini. Gerald at this time spoke only his mother's language (French) and was trying very hard to master the English language.

Gerald attended school in Atikokan, Ont. He quit school at the age of 18 and worked for the railroad until the Northern Telephone Company hired him. It was about this time that he met and married Lauraine Laurie (nee Aussenat, daughter of Agosteur and Jeanne Aussenat of Saskatoon, Sask. Lauraine was born in Saskatoon, raised in Thunder Bay, Ont., then worked for Chapleau Dept. store in Atikokan. Gerald at this time had a job offer in Vancouver, but due to strikes and lack of work came back to the Northern Telephone Company on Feb. 4th, 1957. Brian, their eldest son, was born Feb. 25, 1957, in Thunder Bay, Ont., while Lauraine was home visiting parents. The next three and a half years were spent in Northwestern Ontario at which time Gerald Jr. was born in Atikokan on Dec. 27, 1959. Jobs became scarce in Northwestern Ontario and due to this situation, in 1960 Gerald moved his family to southern Ontario. He took a welding course which resulted in a job with Tipping Motor Engines in Tottenham, Ont., in January of 1962. This is where a third son, Todd, was born on September 15th, 1962.

In 1964, Gerald changed positions and went to work for Frushauf Trailer Company. At this time Lauraine decided to join the working force and is still with Litton Systems in Rexdale, Ontario.

The three sons - Brian, Gerald and Todd - all attended Tottenham Public School and Hunting Ridge School in Alliston, where Todd still attends. The Generini family came to Tottenham when it had a population of 700, bought an old run-down house at 45 Wilken Dr. from Mrs. John Gunning, and with much help and advice from Richard (Dick) Courtney, renovated the house.

In 1970, the oldest son, Brian Alan, married Olimpia Villani of Cookstown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dominic Villani, formerly of Italy. Brian and Olimpia met in high school, dated, and later married in Preser Presbyterian Church in Tottenham, which his family attended since moving to town. Brian and Olimpia now reside in Bradford, while Gerald and Todd still live in Tottenham with their parents.

- submitted 1979.

#### MICHAEL CASSERLY FAMILY HISTORY

Michael Casserly, Sr., was born in Cavan, Ireland. His wife, Ann Duggan, was born in Letterbreen, Ireland. They came to Canada during the potato famine in 1845 and settled in Rich Hill. Later, they bought a farm in Athlone, bordering the Piper Hill road. Mr. Casserly served on the Adjala council for several years. The couple had eight children, one of whom was Michael who was born in 1874.

Michael, Jr., married Elizabeth E. Dougall of Warton (she was born in 1876). They were married in St. James Church, Colgan, in 1897. They resided on a farm near

Loretto and later bought a farm in Tecumseth - Lot 6, Con. 6 - one mile north of Tottenham.

While on the farm, they celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary, then retired in Tottenham on Alexander Street.

Michael passed away in 1950 and his wife in 1952. They had seven children:-

Mary Terry, Toronto (who has one daughter, Audrey)

Hazel (deceased)

Irene McTague, Toronto (who has three children, Vincent, Norman and Rita). Later she married Gerard Charters.

Dorothy Hoey, Dryden (who has one son, Jack)

Gertrude Pendergast, Colgan (who had four children, Leo (deceased), Mary, Anthony, and Elizabeth)

Duncan married Mary Doyle (now deceased) and lives in Toronto (he has three children, Bernard, Mary and Jack)

Edith Bullen, Mississauga (who has seven children: Arthur, Kenneth, Barbara, Freddie, Margaret, Joanne and Donald). Later Edith married Alf Farmer.



Michael & Elizabeth Casserly - on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary, 1947.

### M.J. CASSELY FAMILY AND THE MAPLE LEAF HOTEL

Mr. M.J. Casserly was born in Keenansville, Ontario, in 1843. His parents came from Leitrim, Ireland, at the time of the 1837 famine. They settled in Adjala on Lot 15, Conc. 5. There were four children in the family: William, Michael Joseph, Annie and Sarah. The Casserlys were ardent Catholics who supported and attended the parish church of St. Margaret's in Tecumseth. There were about forty parishioners at that time. All the Casserly children attended school and Michael Joseph became a school teacher. He taught in Loretto in 1865. In 1875 he met and married a school teacher from Detroit - Margaret Lunney (born in 1832).

Michael Joseph and Margaret Casserly moved to Tottenham, where they operated a small hotel (known as the Avoca Hotel) on the ~~west~~ east side of Mill Street, where they established a reputable business and raised a family of seven children: Elizabeth Anne (1877-1960), Rose Ella (1879-1956), Joseph M. (1881-1934), Margaret (1882; died an infant), Camilla Perpetua (1884-1965), Leo (1888-1901), Cyril (1897-1918), Irene (1895-1977).

Elizabeth Anne Casserly, a teacher, married Daniel Joseph Charlebois in November, 1905. They had three daughters: Margaret Isabel, August 1907, who became a teacher and married Hector L. Montreuil (they had two children - Elizabeth who married John Daffleur, and Lloyd Daniel who married C. Marcotte); Anna Leona, January 1909, who also became a teacher and married John Mark Murphy (they had five children - Mark Joseph, Carita who married G. Cooney, Patricia who married Parker Tanner, Louis P. who married Sheila McCaffery, and Eileen); Rita Regina, September 1919, who married William John Dinnar (they had one son, Paul, who married Karen McCaskie).

Rose Ella Casserly became a teacher and a registered nurse. She married Ralph Crane in 1918. Joseph M. Casserly became a medical doctor and an Army captain. In 1919 he married Mabel Baland. Camilla Perpetua Casserly became a teacher and secretary. Cyril Casserly became a Flight Lieutenant in the R.A.F. and died during the First World War. Irene Casserly became a teacher and secretary and married Victor Balfour.



Mr. & Mrs. M.J. Casserly & family

In 1886 Mr. & Mrs. Casserly designed and built a new hotel across the street, at the corner of Queen & Mill Streets. The South part of Lot 5, Conc. 4, on which the hotel was built, was purchased from Mr. P. Delemere.

Tottenham showed great expansion promises. The village was incorporated. Some reasons for this prospective growth were the fact that the Grand Trunk Railway was stationed in Tottenham; this was the main line to Western Canada. There was a daily mail stagecoach through the village. The advent of Penny Postage under the Postmaster General, Sir William Mulock, began the idea of a rural mail route and a new Post Office for the handling of Her Majesty's mail.

Concession and boundary roads were being continually improved and thus the carriage trade was increased. Improvements in the modes of travelling also increased the need for hotel accommodation by day and night.

Back in the colourful 1880's there were many inns, hotels and taverns on every main road. The inn was the nucleus of the community. The traveller would "Take mine ease at mine inn". No matter how large or small the hotel, it was the refuge for all members of society. Farmers and their wives and children would come to the village to shop. They would stable the horses at the hotel drive sheds. After they finished their business the men would stop at the bar for a

Cont'd. . .

M.J. CASSEELY FAMILY AND THE MAPLE LEAF HOTEL - cont'd.

drink before returning home. All topics of interest were talked about and discussed. Politics, religion and local happenings, such as weddings, births, deaths, were principal concerns. The proprietor usually was the first local person to hear the news. Mr. Casseely proved to be so firm and staunch in his convictions that he constantly aroused opposition and criticism, but he always maintained his beliefs, and lived true to himself. He was a true Canadian and staunchly supported the national policies of Sir Wilfred Laurier and later of Mackenzie King. He upheld the platform of Free Trade and Private Enterprise. He was in a position of prominence and entered into rugged debates on the issues he strongly supported and believed.

To be a hotelkeeper was no sinecure. The proprietor had to command the respect of his patrons and maintain order and decency on his premises. In turn, he was to be a courteous and courtly host to his patrons. Mr. Casseely did so and was very attentive to his guests and anticipated their wants. He was highly respected as a person; his opinions were valued in the business and social world.

24  
The Maple Leaf Hotel - 1920 - on the N.W.  
corner of Queen & Mill Sts.

Mr. & Mrs. Casseely provided a good home for their family. In addition to their own family, and their parents, there were eight or ten relatives and friends living in the hotel with them. These people helped to do the hundreds of tasks involved in running a hotel business. They did not get paid a salary but made the hotel their home in return for their services. There was a music teacher, a dressmaker, a milliner, helpers for the washing, cooking, baking, preserving, cleaning and housekeeping, and other daily jobs. Besides the bar, there was general maintenance of the building, the gardening and stables, and horses to groom and attend. Mrs. Casseely was a tireless housekeeper, mother, overseer, and beloved of all who ever knew her. Mr. Casseely was a veritable jack-of-all-trades. During his years in business in Tottenham, he showed an active interest in all aspects of community life. He never relaxed his interest in education. All of his children were given education and profession to be self-supporting. Mr. Casseely became a magistrate, an auctioneer, a fire insurance agent, and a postmaster.

Besides the horses that the Casseelys retained for their livery service, they had a few good race horses. One of these horses, "Maple Leaf", won several races and brought fame to the owners.

In 1984 the Casseelys completed the construction of their new hotel and called it the "Maple Leaf". A detailed description of this hotel was printed in the

25  
The hotel in winter.

Cont'd. . .



Toronto Globe, July 30, 1888. This account describes the hotel as one of the best in the country. It afforded the most comfortable beds and accommodation as well as the best meals to be had anywhere. It was a two storey solid brick structure. Mr. Ed Greenan did the brickwork; Mr. Joseph Ahernethy (grandfather of Leonard) did the stone foundation; Mr. Declare was carpenter. Mr. Cassely personally designed the method of providing lighting from an artificial gas source on the premises. He also designed the method of pumping to provide water for the flush toilets, and the way to heat all the rooms by radiators from a boiler attached to a coal and wood furnace in the basement. The building was carefully planned. All of the rooms were high-ceilinged and well-ventilated. The plastering was artistically completed and windows, walls and woodwork were installed by master craftsmen. There were writing rooms, sample rooms, pool rooms and bar, kitchens, dining rooms, living quarters for the family (as well as for the friends and relatives who made up the household), also guest bedrooms, washrooms and lounges. The building was completed at a cost of ten thousand dollars. An additional ten thousand dollars was spent in furnishings, linens, dishes and other up-to-date equipment. The Casselys invited friends and citizens to the Opening Ball & Supper at the Maple Leaf Hotel on Friday, January 15, 1888.

The Maple Leaf hotel was renowned throughout the country for the many celebrations and gatherings that took place in it. Any special occasion called for special festivity. Fair day, Saint Patrick's day, Dominion day, Christmas, Anniversaries, and birthdays were occasions for the many parties, balls, banquets and social gatherings. Good food, spirits, music and entertainment provided a happy atmosphere. Guests danced all night, with no sleep, till morn when youth and pleasure met. One banquet menu included:

Raw Oysters    Turtle Soup    Sweetbread larded in wine sauce  
Lamb Chops and green peas  
Suckling roast pig and applesauce  
Roast joint of beef with horseradish  
Boiled fowl with parsley sauce  
Desserts: Plum pudding with caramel sauce; Jelly blanc mange; Apple pie;  
Strawberries; Pineapple; Oranges; Almonds;  
Wine and Cherry; Liqueurs and cigars for the men au salon.

The prohibition laws following the 1914 plebiscite, restricted the sale of spirits in the hotel bar. Business at the Maple Leaf declined. The Casselys rented the hotel. Mrs. Cassely was in failing health and energy, so she went to live with her daughters. She died in 1917. Mr. Cassely remained living in the hotel and retained his position as Postmaster in Tottenham. He continued to enjoy his good reputation and respect from all until the time of his death in 1929.

In later years, the name of the hotel was changed to The Tottenham Inn. New owners took over the inn, which had lost all the splendour of its early years, in May 1976. The new owners remodelled the inside and fixed up the outside somewhat, and it is used as a dining establishment as well as a night club/hotel bar.

- submitted by Mrs. Rita Dinner,  
1978

\*\*\*\*\*

#### THE THOS. CHAPMAN FAMILY



The Chapman Family, from left to right:

Douglas, Mr. Thos. Chapman, Caroline,  
Mrs. Chapman, Priscilla, and (at rear)  
Annie (behind Caroline).

#### THE CENTURY FARM OF THE CHAPMANS

John Chapman came to Canada from county Fermanagh, Ireland. He worked for some years for a Mr. Wilson on the Fourth Line of Adjala Twp. About the year 1856, he purchased Lot 7, Con. 5, in Adjala Township and married Ann Winn of Lloydstown, formerly of Leeds, Yorkshire, England. They had a family of three girls (Margaret, Emma and Susan) and two boys (George and Thomas).

The farm continued in the family name and was deeded to Thomas. He married Margaret Anderson of Mono Township and they had three girls (Annie, Priscilla and Caroline) and one boy (Douglas). Annie and Douglas never married.

Priscilla married Wm. Wood and they farmed for a number of years on the Third Line of Tecumseth, before moving to Tottenham in 1948. They purchased the home of the late Harry Pearcy, where they now reside. Caroline married David Hammett, and they farmed in Mono and Adjala for some years, until Caroline passed away. Their family consisted of: Jim of Adjala, Jean of New Brunswick, Joan of Kingston, Janet of Toronto and John (now deceased).

Douglas inherited the Chapman farm and thus it became a 'Century Farm'. He farmed this farm until he and his sister, Annie, retired to Tottenham in 1971. They reside on Redcliffe Road.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### THE PARKER PETTIT CENTURY FARM

This one-hundred acre farm on the West  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot 6, Con. 7, Adjala Township known as the 'Pettit Farm' was purchased by John Pettit on January 24th, 1859, for the sum of eight hundred dollars. It was purchased from John Johnson, who had bought it in 1834 for the sum of thirty-eight pounds and fifteen shillings.

John Pettit, a native of Ireland, came to Canada as a young man and settled on this farm. He married a Miss Lavery and they had two sons and two daughters. Some years later his wife passed away. He then married Catherine Caldwell, who was also from Ireland. Their family comprised two sons and two daughters: Henry, Oliver, Eliza Ann and Catherine. Oliver became owner of the farm after his father's death in 1881 at age 69. (His mother died in 1898, aged 76 years).

Oliver married Margaret Crawford of Adjala and they had two daughters (Lillian and Olive) and one son (Parker). Parker became owner of the farm and farmed continuously since his father's death in 1940. Neither Parker nor the girls ever married.

George McFarland, a young boy of 12 years, came from Scotland to the Pettits. He made his home here until his death in 1954 at the age of 78. He is buried in the family plot in Morning Side Cemetery, Falgout.

Because it had been in the family for three generations, this farm was marked as a 'Century Farm' during 1967.

Because of health reasons and the fact that help was hard to get, Parker decided to sell the farm, and on May 29, 1975, the farm was sold. Then on June 26, 1975, they retired to Tottenham and reside at 88 Queen Street North.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### History of the Implements Sold at The Pettit Century Farm Sale

The sale took place on Friday, Oct. 18/74, with Brail Severn as auctioneer, for the owner, Parker and his two sisters, Lillian and Olive.

1. Patterson Cutting Box. This cutting box was manufactured by Cummings 1863. The parts were of cast iron. It sold for \$25.00, at that time.
2. Peter Hamilton Cutting Box. This box was purchased in August 1912 and bought for \$24.00.
3. National Green Separator. This separator was bought in 1902 and was used until 1923. This was about the first separator in Simcoe County. It was manufactured by the Raymond Company of Guelph, Ont., who manufactured Sewing machines, and was purchased for \$12.00.

THE PARKER PETTIT CENTURY FARM - cont'd.

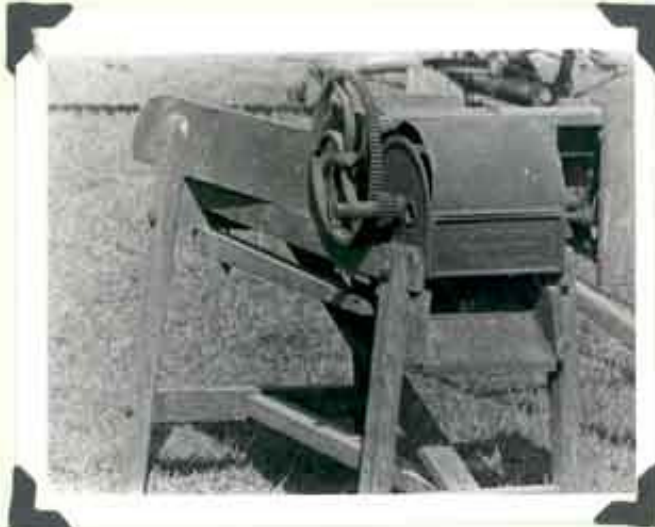


PHOTO at left:- Patterson Cutting Box.  
(see item 1)

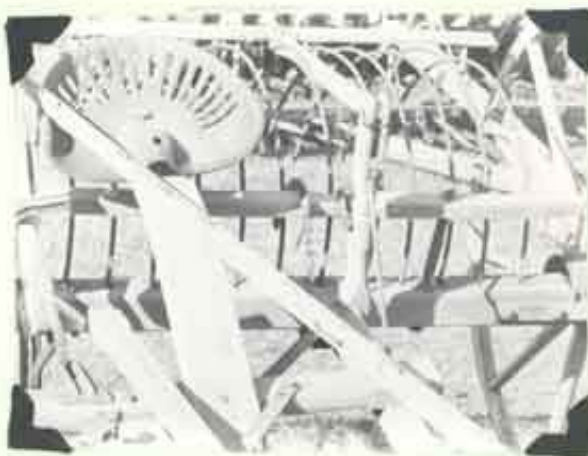
4. Empire Seed Drill. This seed drill was purchased in the year 1876 for \$65.00.
5. Dog Power to run the churn. This Dog Power was used as far back as the 1900's. It sold for \$85.00. It was a rotating platform set on a slant, which the dog treaded. This was connected to a beam which worked up and down causing the dash in the churn to work up and down, also churning the cream into butter. This Dog Power was manufactured about 1885. The auctioneer, Ernie Severn, purchased this himself for \$85.00 and donated it to the Alliston Museum. It was manufactured in Alliston.



6. Brantford Fanning Mill (shown at left) This Fanning Mill was used to clean the grain for seed or sowing, and it also cleaned the wheat which was taken to the mill to be exchanged for flour. During World War I, when flour got scarce, the wheat was also ground for porridge, muffins etc. The flour mill was on Highway 9, about a mile west of Ballyeroy, and was run by water power. This mill was built and run by "The Parkers", John MacLean, Sydney Oliver, and Dalton Young. It was known as the "Raywood Mill". There is no mill there now but the property was purchased by Alton Anderson and is now the Anderson summer home. The Fanning Mill was purchased in July, 1898, for \$25.00.
7. Miscellaneous Items. Some of the other items and their purchase prices are as follows: 1 Massey Harris Binder in 1910 for \$140; 1 single Furrow Plow in 1880 for \$13; 1 Plow in 1905 for \$11; 1 Sulky Moka (see picture) in 1880 for \$25; 1 Mower in 1905 for \$40; 1 Harrow in 1895 for \$15; 1 Cultivator in 1898 for \$28; 1 Scuffler in 1915 for \$7; 1 Grain Gradle in 1885 for \$4; 1 Wagon in 1872 for \$35; 1 Turnip Pulper in 1895 for \$7.

The Pettits also had an apiary. They had bees from the 1900's until the 1940's. Some of the beehives and equipment sold at the sale for as low as 15 hives for \$5.00. The Pettits also raised sheep, made their own soap, etc. etc.

THE PARKER PETTIT CENTURY FARM - cont'd.



Left:- Sulky Rake (1890)

Below Left:- The Parker Pettit Century Farm - on West 1/2 of Lot 6, Con. 7, Adjala Twp.

Below Right:- The Parker Pettit farmhouse.



Left:- Lillian, Olive and Parker Pettit - by the kitchen stove.



JOHN V. CHILDS FAMILY HISTORY - cont'd.

Boards of Trade for Northern Ontario.

Mr. & Mrs. Childs had four sons: Harry and Norman of Matheson, Fred of Chicago, and Hiram of Tottenham; and one daughter, Maude Bradley of Toronto. John died in 1935; his wife predeceased him in 1932. After he came to Tottenham, Mr. Childs' ad appeared in the Cardwell Sentinel each week in poem form. The following is one of his ads, as it appeared:

"Western Carriage Works, Tottenham,  
J.V. Childs, proprietor,  
-----

Wishes to inform the inhabitants of Tottenham and surrounding country that he has opened out a carriage and blacksmith shop on Queen Street North, where he is prepared to do all kinds of work. Horse Shoeing a specialty. I am prepared to turn out work cheaper than any one in the trade.

Just give me a call and be convinced, as I drive my trade just right ahead and no monopolizing.  
-----

We have wagons made of every grade  
And buggies neat and fine;  
For they're got up by as jovial boys  
As ever crossed the line.

The fellies and spokes are made of oak,  
Most excellent and good,  
For ages past they've stood the blast  
In our Canadian wood.

Our wagons are neat  
And are made complete  
Of timber thorough and dry;  
If your in need you can't better do than come  
along and buy.

The iron work to is something new;  
The best that you can find;  
Of good thorough Sweede which I have agreed  
To suit the public mind.

Cutters and sleighs, for wintry days;  
To suit the great demand,  
We do turn out without a doubt  
The best that's in the land.

So when you come away from home, to buy,  
Just bring the dust,  
Don't let it rust  
Or you this chance may lose. "

\*\*\*\*\*

During the Depression, all expenses were cut to the bone. The hydro was turned off and coal oil lamps and heaters were brought out again. Coal, which kept the fire alive overnight, had to be given up and the wood fire lit fresh very morning. Water froze on the coldest nights and pipes had to be thawed out before they burst. In spite of the extreme cold, house plants were kept alive over winter. Yeast was set for bread dough at night and the pan was wrapped in wool coats to keep out the chill. Flat irons were kept hot in the oven, slipped into old socks at night and taken to bed for warmth.

Bill was given the job of town constable for a time, which made him \$5. a month. One of his duties was handing out tickets to the unemployed men who alighted from the freight trains as night came on. They exchanged these tickets for a hot meal at the hotel and Bill locked them in the jail for the night. The jail was a room at the back of the town hall which contained a few bunks and a stove. They were let out in the morning and were asked to move on. They never caused any trouble and Bill wept inside for these homeless men who were often dirty and lousy through no fault of their own. A few years later, they were asked to do battle for their country.

One winter Bill decided to do a little butchering. He would buy a pig and slaughter it at the back of the livery stable, cut it up and sell the parts and organs to anyone interested. All he got out of it after all his work was the head, which Mary made into good headcheese, but after this was repeated a few times, Bill nearly got sick when he faced that headcheese.

Bill did all his own household repairs. He mended and soled the family's shoes, made the children a good swing and teeter-totter, baseball bats, sleighs and the family always remembered with pride the Christmas that Bill carved an authentic black steam engine from wood for his only son. As the family grew, he got a little help around 1925 and built an upper floor to the house.

One summer Bill took on the caretaking of the bowling green along with his job as section man. The green had to be cut, watered and rolled with a huge water-filled roller. It was also marked off with chalk for tournaments. The family lamented Bill's pushing himself so hard that summer. Never once in all those hard winters did Bill ask the town for relief but one December the town council decided to give all the unemployed men a goose for Christmas. Councillor Billy Boddy delivered one of these to the door when Bill and Mary were out. When Mary came home and saw that goose, she cried, and even though Bill persuaded her to cook it, she never ate a morsel herself. Christmas wasn't as much fun that year.

Bill wasn't a drinking man but a few times he tried his hand at making home brew. Mary, a teetotaler, always found it hard to give a straight answer when someone asked what she was making in the big crock on the warming tank at the end of the stove. Bill voted for a licensed hotel in the forties but when he saw what the beer parlor became, he regretted it very much. Over-drinking was very alien to him.

Bill had a good sense of humour and was always reading when he could get material. After he got his first radio, he would sit with his feet resting on the end of the stove and with eyes glued to a sports magazine or newspaper and puffing on his pipe, he would chuckle away at Amos & Andy, Phibber McGee & Molly and Charlie McCarthy. Children had to remain very quiet when the radio was on, especially during Jim Hunter and Wes McKnight. Bill was a conservative all his life and felt very sorry for himself when he didn't have two or three cents for an evening paper.

Bill did not shave every day but when he did it was a serious operation. A mirror was propped up on the kitchen table and with his straight razor well honed on a leather strap, shaving mug of hot water, soap, and brush, he would proceed. Children learned at an early age that this was a bad time to chase your sister around the table.

As the railroad business slowed down the sections were lengthened and some done away with. Bill had to work farther and farther away from home but gradually work became steady. All during these years he batched in a trailer or railroad boarding car. When he retired as foreman from the West Toronto Yards in 1954 he was getting quite deaf and was very bent. He came home and immediately went to work on his neglected house.

In spite of the adversities that plagued him during his lifetime, Bill had a great love that tipped the scales the other way. That love was trout fishing. Bill knew every

Cont'd. . .

W.J. COBURN HISTORY - cont'd.

In winter, Dad also made complete sets of harrows which were quite well-known as the Allen Harrows. He made the complete set by hand, including the chains.



Mr. Coburn, his father and two brothers, Lou and Winnie, went hunting every fall. Very often he was lucky in getting a deer; when he did, he had the hide tanned and made into a blacksmith apron.

Photo at left:-

Mr. Coburn, dressed in blacksmith apron - 1914



Mr. & Mrs. Coburn celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary May 12, 1947. Mr. Coburn died September 25, 1949.

Photo at left:-

Mr. & Mrs. W.J. Coburn on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary - May 1947.

### JOSEPH HENRY COLEMAN HISTORY

Joseph Coleman was born December 8, 1856, and died June 1913. He was born in the county of York and came to Tottenham some time after 1880. He married Mary Bennett in December 1880 at Maple, Ontario. They had five daughters: Annie, Martha, Leah (Mrs. John McQuaig), Mayme (Mrs. Charles Reid) and Emily (Mrs. Fraser Allen).



-Joseph Henry Coleman



-Mary Bennett Coleman

Mr. Coleman built the Coleman Factory, which was used in later years as the Creamery, and at times employed as many as twenty-five men. After building the factory he was engaged in the manufacture of pumps, and became known throughout the country. Mr. Coleman was of an inventive mind - he invented a car coupler, which did not prove a success.

He then turned his inventive genius in another direction; this time he was successful in producing a portable fare box for collecting fares on street cars, etc. For years they were used by the Toronto Street Railways and in fact they were used all through the States and other parts of the world. He also shipped them to Honolulu and many other distant places.

Then the 'pay as you enter' box was in demand - one which Mr. Coleman produced.

Through the manufacture of the fare boxes, he accumulated considerable wealth. The fare boxes were also called coffee pots and were used during the Second World War by the "Beaches Business Mens Association" to receive donations for the Evening Telegram British War Victims Fund and many thousands of dollars were collected in these fare boxes.





ALL FARES ARE RECEIVED AT THE  
COMPANY'S OFFICE



RELIABILITY. SECURITY. ENDURANCE. MECHANICAL PERFECTION

The Coleman Simplex Fare Box weighs three pounds. Dimensions are: 8 inches high, 3 inches wide, 2 1/2 inches thick.

Being portable, it is carried to the passenger, WHO PUTS THE FARE IN HIMSELF - THAT'S THE POINT.



A PORTABLE FARE-COLLECTING BOX FOR STREET RAILWAY PURPOSES, WHICH IS SUPERIOR TO A LOCKED STEEL DRAWER FROM A SAFE DEPOSIT VAULT - ON EVERY CAR, A BOX IN THE HANDS OF EVERY CONDUCTOR ON THE CARS. THE CONDUCTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ITS VALUE, INCLUDING CONTENTS.

COLEMAN FARE BOX COMPANY  
OTTUMWA, IOWA  
U.S.A.

NOTE - We are seeking a suitable location in the United States to establish a factory.

Page 106



The conducting room, left, used in the Fare Box.

The public and conductors will appreciate the Fare Box, even if only cash fares are used. It's the easiest way to collect money.

COLEMAN FARE BOX COMPANY, OTTUMWA, IOWA, U.S.A.

JOSEPH HENRY COLEMAN HISTORY - cont'd.

Joseph Coleman also built the building at 5A Mill Street East. At one time it was the Traders Bank and also a bike shop; it was also used as a Gospel Hall. The building presently contains the offices of the law firm Sowerman, Cochrane, Ritchie & Feehely.



The Coleman Home - it stood next to  
the factory.

- submitted by Martha Coleman, 1975

\*\*\*\*\*

THE DILLANE HOUSE NOW (1979)

The 33 acre plot containing the house constructed by John Dillane in approx. 1844, was purchased in January 1968 by Jean and Bert Platt. The house at this time required considerable work to restore it, but this did not dismay the new owners who felt that the basic structure was sound. The rooms on the east side on the first floor were renovated first and the Platts moved into the home in May, 1968. It has been a ten-year project to complete renovations of the home. Deciding on a major project a year, the Platts moved from room to room and gradually the obstacles were overcome. In 1972 the pond to the west of the house was enlarged and a dock and diving board were erected. In 1973 a log house was purchased and transported in sections from Eganville, Ontario, and reassembled on the north end of the Dillane home. Today, Bert and Jean and their two daughters, Kelly and Tanya, enjoy their restored home which has been furnished with early pine furniture from Quebec and Ontario.

- submitted by Jean Platt, 1979.

#### THE HENRY CLEMENT DICKERSON FAMILY

Matthew and Emma Jane Dickerson of Cape Town, South Africa, had five sons and two daughters born to them.

One son, "Bob" Henry Clement was born March 14, 1878, and served in the Boer War. In 1905 he emigrated to Canada via Italy, France, Germany and the British Isles, with a football team. His first employment was as a farm labourer with Chas. Jackson on the 12th line of King at Hammettown, where he met Eva Fuller, daughter of Chas. Fuller and Fantine Benson, also of the 12th line of King. They were married in 1908 and left up a homestead near what later became Neotsguard, Saskatchewan. In 1911 their daughter, and only child, Evelyn, was born in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.

In 1919 they moved back to Ontario, on the 12th line of King, returning to Saskatchewan in 1925. In 1935 they came back to Ontario once more and bought Lot 4, Conc. 7, Tecumseath. In 1941 they sold and bought the house at 36 Wilson St., Tottenham. After "Bob's" death in 1965, Eva took up residence in Simcoe Manor, until her death in 1972. They are both buried in Mount Egert Cemetery, Tottenham.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### THE ARCHIBALD FAMILY HISTORY

Andrew Chestney Archibald was one of eight brothers, of United Empire Loyalist Stock. His great-grandfather came from Edinburgh in 1740 to New England and moved to Nova Scotia at the time of the American Revolution. In 1811, Andrew's grandfather moved to Lot 25, Conc. 4, in what is now Vaughan Township. Andrew's grandfather was a very religious man, having donated the land for the Primitive Methodist Church at the Vaughan Township site now known as Tenton. He owned many parcels of land, one of which was in King Township, Lot 8, Conc. 7. Andrew's father inherited this farm and Andrew was born there in 1896.

Andrew married Annie Patton and they moved to the east half of Lot 5, Conc. 1, Tecumseath Township about 1920. Annie died suddenly in 1924, leaving four young children: Robert, Viola, Stanley and Stewart, all now deceased.

The young widower married an English lass, Florence Freeman and six children blessed that marriage: June, Joan, Elsie, Evelyn, Mervyn and Lorne. In 1934, the family suffered the loss of their beautiful nine-room solid brick house as the result of fire. It was a severe blow, with very little insurance. Almost all their personal belongings were lost. The five youngest children did not even have shoes. However, the neighbours, in the true style of the time, assisted with clothes and accommodation for the family until Andrew rented the house on the north half of Lot 6, Conc. 2, Tecumseath Township. By the end of that summer Andrew was able to purchase the 100 acres (Acce property), north half of Lot 4, Conc. 1, adjoining his farm where the fire had occurred. The children all attended SS#1, the traditional red brick schoolhouse, which still stands on the second line adjoining the old homestead.

In the late '30's Andrew started to carry the mail on rural route #4 for the late Jimmy King, who had taken ill, and eventually Andrew took the contract himself. In those days the car, a 1931 Willys Overland, was used only for a short time in the summer. In winter, the mode of travel was horse and cutter, and even then, some days, the horses could not negotiate the snow drifts and only part of the route would be travelled. In spring and fall, mud was the problem, again making the route impassable. Andrew continued to farm and carry mail, as the family grew and left home. Robert, Stanley and Stewart joined the armed forces. Stanley served in the RCAP; Robert served in the Infantry as did Stewart, who was wounded in Germany.

Robert returned to marry Dorothy Speiran, a local girl from Lot 9, Conc. 3, Tecumseath Township, and they moved to the Woodbridge area, where Robert died in 1963. Stanley married Jean Brotherton, whose family resided on the adjoining farm. They, too, moved to Woodbridge, where Stanley was Postmaster until the time of his demise in 1970. Viola also married a local man, Vern Brury, whose family farmed the south half of Lot 7, Conc. 2, Tecumseath Township, and they settled in Woodbridge where Viola died in 1973. Stewart, having recovered from his wounds, worked in the Toronto Post Office until his death in 1969.

In 1957, housework became a little easier for Florence, with the coming of hydro to the farm. The family farm remained intact until Andrew's death in 1962. His wife, Florence, at the time of writing, is a resident of Simcoe Manor. Right up to the time of his passing the mail route was Andrew's daily routine. He served on the Board of Stewards of the Tottenham United Church. The farm was sold in parcels in 1966 - the custom of the time.

Cont'd. . .

#### THE ARSEBARD FAMILY HISTORY - cont'd.

One daughter, June, married Frank Prothro and they purchased part of the farm and still live there. June and Frank had two sons and a daughter. The oldest son, Frank, attended SS#1 when he started school. Another daughter, Klaia, married Jack Greer and also owned part of the original farm. John and Marie, oldest of six children, attended SS#1 to start their education. Evelyn, who married the late John Watson, still resides on part of the original farm. David, oldest of their ten children, attended the old school as well. Jean lives in Albion Township. She and her husband, Ross Matsee, live on part of the Mabae homestead, which dates back to pre-Confederation times. Lloyd and Lorne, the youngest sons, both live in the Metro Toronto area.

The original farm, although it was not a good farm by today's standards, - part marshy, part sand dunes and impossible to work with modern machinery - still brings back memories of hard and sometimes destitute days, but more often than not, memories of the "good old days" to the remaining family members. Although Andrew and Florence worked through the Depression years, with the trials and tribulations of the times, they leave some 43 grandchildren and 27 great-grandchildren to wonder at the spirit and tenacity that was a trademark of those days gone by.

- submitted by June Prothro, 1979.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### THE BELFORD FAMILY HISTORY

Joe and Grace Belford came to Tottenham in July 1943. Joe had grown up in the country and the idea of moving away from the city appealed to him. When John McMenahan of Donlands Dairy asked Joe in 1943 if he'd like to manage the Donlands creamery operation in Tottenham, Joe and Grace had a look at the village and it didn't take them long to make up their minds that this was what they wanted. Nine years later, Joe Belford bought the creamery he had been managing and he ran it for another 13 years before selling it in 1965. His retirement turned out to be a busy one.

He entered public life as a member of the Public Utilities Commission in 1948 for a two-year term. He then was on council from 1950 to 1954. In 1955, Reeve James McGurdy took ill and Joe Belford stepped in as Reeve. He held that position until 1961. He then thought he was finished with politics, but when Reeve Ralph Matten found that he had to devote more time to his business, Joe again became Reeve. That was in 1973 and he carried on until November, 1978. He had been Reeve of Tottenham for a total of 13 years. He looks back on the installation of sewers as a real accomplishment. "For a small village it looked to some people like too expensive a step, but 99 percent of the voters went for the idea, and it would have cost six times as much if we waited until later." Equally important was Tottenham's official plan, the first small municipality to have an official plan. He would like to see more industry in Tottenham, but 'dry' industry which doesn't place heavy service demands on the community. Joe Belford was honoured at a special night at the Community Centre, Feb. 17, 1979, at which tribute was paid to him.

Joe belonged to the Beeton Rotary Club, serving a term as president. Then he was a member of the Tottenham Business Men's Club which became the Tottenham and District Progress Club and then the Chamber of Commerce. Joe and Grace have always been active participants in community life. You would see them dishing out pancakes, for instance, at the Pancake Break-Fast during Community Week each summer. Joe and Grace belong to the Lawn Bowling Club. Grace was the Club's secretary for many years. They are members of Christ's Church Anglican Church in Tottenham.

The Belfords have two children: Jean graduated from the University of Toronto with a Masters in Social Work and from Queen's with an M.A. in Public Administration. She is Director of Family Services for the Province of Manitoba, and lives in Winnipeg. Their son, Richard, graduated from the University of Toronto with a B.A. in Music. He is Administrator for the Faculty of Music at Mount Allison University in Sackville, New Brunswick.

- submitted 1979.



## The Dillanes of Tecumseh and Tottenham

John Dillane, one of the earlier settlers, received 200 acres from the Crown, being Lot 10, Concession 4, reaching to Concession 5. He married Fanny Kenney, and they had the following family: James, Michael, Mary, William, Esther, Charles, Hannah and Nathan.

Their families were as follows:

James Dillane and wife, Elizabeth Morris, took from his father the south half lot 10, Concession 4. To them were born John, Edward, William, Susan, Morris Kenney, who was for so many years the well-known Dr. Dillane of Schomberg.

Sara married Cyrus Davis and lived on Lot 3, Concession 5, Tecumseh, where Richard Davis lives now with his wife, the former Elizabeth Hopper, and their two sons Allan and Michael.

A son, James, died when he was just through for a dentist.

Harvey became a well-known M.D. of Powassan.

Michael and his first wife, Jesse Suyers had five of a family:

Emily, Charles, Mary, Jesse and Hannah.

His second wife was a cousin, Esther Dillane, and one child was born to this union, John Bristol.

The land was transferred to Edward Dillane and wife Elizabeth Carey, after which it was sold to Albert Cross, then Melville Stewart, Leonard Hanson and William Hanson.

Mary Dillane married James Suyers and moved to Detroit. Their family was as follows: William John, Fanny, Mary, Maggie, Charles, and George. William John Suyers was a painter, and for his grandparent John Dillane and wife Fanny Kenney he painted a portrait of them and gave it to them as a present for their 50th wedding anniversary. These are now in the home of Alvin Dillane, Tottenham.

William Dillane married Ellen Austin. Their family, William, John, Francis Ellen and Austin Joseph. Second wife was Martha Austin, to whom there was no family.

Nathan Dillane and wife Mary Austin had two of a family, Walter and Austin Kenney. Second wife was Martha Hayes, and their family was Mabel, Lorne, Minnie and Charley.

Walter Dillane married Libbie Walkon, sister of H.J. Walkon. Mr. Dillane was a well-known barber in Tottenham for many years.

Esther and Hannah never married.

Charles Dillane and wife Mary Jane Austin took the north half of Lot 10. They had one son John who took over the farm. He married Ethel May Stinson, and their only son Alvin was born there.

The farm was sold to John McCaw, and then to Paul Pretenko. Then Edward Elmer bought the west 30 acres, and King Paving bought the balance. They, in turn, sold about 31 acres with the buildings to a Mr. Hoffman. He sold to Mr. H.T. Taberner, of Canadian Precision Models.

Alvin Dillane married Ruth Fuller. Their family, Linda Mae, Charles Kenney, and James Edward reside with them in Tottenham.

This history of the Dillane family was contributed by Mr. John A. Dillane of Tottenham and Schomberg, at the age of 85. He was born Nov. 13th, 1880

Dated at Tottenham, March 1, 1966

### DOYLE FAMILY HISTORY

In 1854, there set forth from the shores of Ireland a young couple, heading for a new land and a new life. It must have been with trepidation but with great trust in God that they began that long journey because the young wife was awaiting imminent birth of her child. Whether the ship was storm-tossed or not, we do not know, but before the voyage was over she had given birth to twins. One of these survived and he was Edward Doyle. One is inclined to wonder what citizenship a person has who was born on the ocean.

Edward grew up in Adjala and in 1878 he married Catherine McGovern. They lived in Achil and raised seven children on a farm there. In 1909 they moved to Lot 9, Conc. 3 of Tecumseth. Edward died there in 1913, from appendicitis. Sixteen years later, Catherine was called to her eternal reward. Their children were: John, Minnie, Joe, Annie, Ellen, Katie and Stella. Four of these were married, but the only one who had a family was John, so his children had no first cousins. John and Joe married two sisters from Toronto - Annie and Vera Crowe.

Joe Doyle was manager and butter-maker at Tottenham Creamery for about 20 years. He later managed the creamerie at Schomberg and Cookstown where he remained until his retirement in 1959, a year before his death.

John and Annie Doyle were married in 1909 and began their life together on the "McClone" farm on Lot 3, Conc. 3 of Tecumseth where Joe King now lives. While living there, Basil, Mary, Eddie, George and Vera were born. In 1920 they bought the Piercey farm at Lot 10, Conc. 2, Tecumseth and added three more children to the family - Gerard, John and Teresa. Four of the boys chose local girls as their brides: Basil marrying Josephine McElroy in 1944, and George taking Anne Skelly as his bride in 1945. When Gerard returned from overseas, after the war, he looked the situation over and decided that Ellen McCormick was the girl for him, so he married her in 1947. Ten years later, John wed Camilla McGoev in St. James Church, Colgan. Eddie chose a girl from Manitoulin Island, Lottie Pyette. Of the three girls, Mary married Duncan Gosslerly of Tottenham in 1934, Vera was wed to Bert McGuire of Schomberg in 1939, and Teresa went slightly further afield and married Clarence Kous of Toronto in 1947. Mary died in 1953 and Gerard in 1978.

Of the Doyles remaining in Tecumseth at the present time, with their families, are Basil and Josephine, still on the farm where they began their married life on the 3rd line near the 10th sideroad; George and Anne are on the "home place", the west half of Lot 10, Conc. 2, where George has been living since he was five years old. Of their ten children, three daughters are married and are living in their new homes on lots severed from the farm. The family is taking on a United Nations flavour, having welcomed Danish, Dutch and French husbands to mingle with the original Irish strain.

Basil and Josephine Doyle had seven children: Peggy, Mary, Jim, Mike and Dan (identical twins), Frank and Cathy. Peggy married Paul Keogh and they are living on the Keogh homestead in Adjala. Mike married Karen McCullough and they are living in Tottenham.

John and Annie Doyle, who were married in 1909, and always lived in Tecumseth, had 44 grandchildren.

- submitted by Annie Doyle, 1979.

\*\*\*\*\*

### THE GORDON FAMILY HISTORY

George Gordon was born in 1850 in Williamsburg, Ontario and died in Tottenham in 1934. His wife, Sarah Gordon (nee Cockburn) was born in Berwick, Ontario and died in 1945. They had three children: Charles (born April 11, 1896 and died of infant cholera in June 1896); Murray (born April 18, 1897 and died in Bermuda); and Georgina "Jean" (born Nov. 18, 1890 and is now living in Toronto). Martha Gordon, half-sister of George Gordon, came to live with them in 1880, as she was motherless at ten years of age. She left Tottenham to be married in 1893 and lived in Beeton until she died in 1949. Sarah Cockburn, Mrs. George Gordon's mother, came to live with them in the spring of 1881. She died in 1897.

Cont'd. . .

#### THE GORDON FAMILY HISTORY - cont'd.

George Gordon had planned before he was married to emigrate to Texas. He came to visit his cousin, William Laverock, who had a General Store and was the postmaster. George Gordon was so taken with Tottenham that he decided to settle here instead. He bought a store from James Hackett in 1880. The address of that building is now 19 Queen Street North. He bought the store for \$1,400.00. He gave \$400.00 cash and took a mortgage for \$1,000.00.

George Gordon later bought the corner of Wilson and John Sts. (southwest corner) from the Greenaways. Prior to the Greenaways owning this property, it belonged to the Wilson family. He gradually added to the original building and "The Gables" became the result. Morag Tutt, Jean's daughter, lives there now with her husband, Nelson Tutt. George Gordon was a Justice of the Peace also.

- submitted 1979.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### THE HOPPER FAMILY HISTORY

Wesley Morris Hopper, a native of Cookstown, Ont., came to live in the village of Tottenham early in 1923. He rented the General Store on Queen Street North, the property of George Gordon. This general store had been operating many years, having been run previously by George Gordon. Morris, or "Dewey" (his nickname acquired when he was a pitcher for the Cookstown hard ball team) was born in 1893. He was a son of David Hopper and Charlotte Morris. His great-grandparents, on his mother's side, were Thomas Duff and Margaret Dinwoody. They came from County Monaghan, Ireland, in 1824 and settled at Clover Hill near Cookstown. His grandfather, John Wesley Morris, was a doctor in Cookstown. His father owned and operated a general store in Cookstown. Dewey Hopper went overseas with the 76th Battalion during the first World War. He later joined the Royal Flying Corps.

In 1922, he married Patricia Sinclair McKechnie of Brampton and they moved to Tottenham after living in Cookstown for a short while. Mr. Hopper ran a general store in Tottenham with groceries, dry goods, men's overalls, boots and shoes as the main items sold. He was in business there until 1952, nearly thirty years. In politics, Dewey Hopper was a very staunch Conservative indeed. Mr. and Mrs. Hopper were faithful members of Fraser Presbyterian Church. Both were members of the choir as well as teachers in the Sunday School. Mr. Hopper was an elder of the church and Mrs. Hopper played the organ part of the time in the church as well as in the Sunday School. The Hoppers were interested in the affairs of their community. Mrs. Hopper helped organize the first Red Cross Swimming Lessons given at Tottenham Pond. Dewey Hopper was a keen sportsman, having played hardball and hockey in his youth. During his years in Tottenham he lawn-bowled and curled. He always had a hound dog. Hunting foxes and rabbits out around the hills and bush areas near the village was a favourite pastime with many of the local men. Wednesday afternoons in the summer when the store was closed - and also many evenings - Dewey spent fishing speckled trout. One big one that didn't get away was mounted and hung in the store. It was a one-day sensation.

Mr. and Mrs. Hopper had three children: Elizabeth, Eleanor and David. They attended Tottenham School and Alliston High School. Elizabeth married Richard Davis and they live on a Century Farm on the 5th line of Tecumseth - "Vala Farm". They have two sons, Allen Richard and David Michael. Eleanor married Robert Mehard of Toronto. They live in Willowdale, Ont. and have one son, Peter Kenneth, and three daughters, Anne Elizabeth, Sheila, and Patricia Louise. David married Shirley Edgar of the Alliston area. They have four sons, John Morris, James Douglas, Richard and Allan. At present they are moving to a farm north of Alliston on the Camp Borden Road.

Mrs. Hopper died in August 1951 and Mr. Hopper died June 1973.

- submitted by Elizabeth Davis, 1979.

#### HISTORY OF THE DRURY-COLEY FAMILY

William David Drury, born July 17, 1882, at Biddenden, Kent, England, was the youngest of five children born to Alfred Drury and his wife Matilda Phillpott, namely Eliza, Tom, Alfred, Edward and William. Their mother died when William was around two years old.

Flora Kate Coley, born January 20, 1880, near Langley, Kent, England was the youngest of seven children born to George Coley and his wife Eliza Mary Finniss, namely Emily, Gertrude, Alice (Mrs. Albert Hollingsbee) Rose (Mrs. Charlie Letham) Fred, Bill and Flora (Mrs. Wm. Drury).

On March 2, 1907 William Drury married Flora Coley in England, and soon after their marriage they came to Canada and lived at Emery near Woodbridge for a few years, later moving to the Tottenham district where he farmed successfully for a number of years. Around 1952 he retired from farming and moved into Tottenham and his son Leonard took over the farm south of the village. In 1947 Mr. and Mrs. Drury enjoyed a three months visit with relatives and friends in England. They had seven children, Gordon, Cyril, Edna, Vernon, Ivy, Leonard and Albert.



Vernon, Ivy, Cyril, Edna, Gordon  
Albert, Leonard Drury

In 1938 Gordon married Marjorie Findlay. After farming for several years on the sixth line of Tecumseth Township moved to Beeton in 1965. They have three children, Clarence, Keith and Doris.



HISTORY OF THE DRURY-COLEY FAMILY continued

In 1947 Cyril married Bessie Johnston. After farming on the eighth line of West Gwillimbury Township they moved to Bond Head in 1968.

In 1941 Edna married Robert Young a marine engineer on the Great Lakes. He retired in 1971. After living in Toronto and Weston, they moved to Beeton in 1972. They have one son, Douglas. Mr. Young died July 7th, 1974.

In 1938 Vernon married Viola Archibald. Vernon served in the Army during the 1939-1945 war in England and France. Later he carried the mail in the Woodbridge District for several years. His wife Viola died March 4th, 1973. They had three daughters, Doreen, Dianne and Lynda.

In 1937 Ivy married Hugh McCarroll and after living in the Schomberg district for many years moved to Singhampton in 1972.

In 1958 Leonard married Violet (Hanley) Archibald and continue to farm south of Tottenham.



Mr. and Mrs. W. Drury

In 1950 Albert married Florence Sullivan and took over the Harold Strangways butcher shop in Tottenham. They had one son Jack. Florence died February 18th, 1966. In 1973 Albert married Mrs. Betty Alexander and they continue to run the butcher shop.

William Drury died May 15th, 1956 in his 74th year. Mrs. Drury died March 7th, 1957 in her 78th year. They are buried in Mount Tegart Cemetary, Tottenham.

Mrs. Drury's sister Miss Gertrude Coley came to Canada in the early 1920's. She worked in Toronto as Cook in homes for boys. She died January 26th, 1963 in her 95th year and is also buried in the family plot in Mount Tegart Cemetary, Tottenham.

## THE EGAN FAMILY HISTORY

### SETTLEMENT 1

Nicholas, the first of the Egan's in Canada, arrived in Tecumseh Township in 1830 at the age of 39 and received a patent for the 200 acres in lot 9, Concession 1. Having acquired a farm, he needed a suitable mate, and found one in Ellen Delemere, a young woman of 32 from West Meath, Ireland. According to family legend, he selected her from among a boatload of recent immigrants in Buffalo in 1831 with the comment "I think I'll take that one ! After the wedding in Toronto, they settled on the northwest corner of the farm in what became the settlement of Rich Hill. During the three years that they lived on the farm, the first two children, William and Mary, were born, but little was done in clearing the land or in making other improvements. Possibly Nicholas was devoting his time and energy to the permanent home that they had selected three miles away.

Whether they were attracted by the creek, or the belief that the land was better for farming or other reasons, the Egan's decided to move. In 1834, for 38 pounds 7 shillings Sterling (less than \$200), they bought the farm on Lot 4 Conc. 3, where Vince and Evelyn Egan and family now live. Here they settled into a log cabin which they soon outgrew with the arrival of three more children - James, Thomas and Catherine - and a larger wooden house was built. Then in 1847 a new brick house was erected with red clay brick hauled from Pottageville, and this fine structure has been the home of five generations of Egan's. The former Egan farm at Rich Hill was reportedly sold for 100 pine logs.



L to r:- Maggie, Thomas Jr., Vida, James, Joseph, Katie, Mrs.(Margaret) Egan (on verandah), Mary, Mr. Thomas Egan, "The Egan Family Homestead" Nicholas (far right)

### THE EGAN MILL

One of the most noteworthy features of the farm was a sawmill and grist mill that Nicholas built and operated. In 1847 Nicholas bought the farm across the road because it was "up creek" from the mill site and would be partly covered by the mill pond. He probably started the mill operation soon after.

The mill itself was a solid structure of thick stone, and was used as both a sawmill and a grist mill. It was powered by water from a pond of about three acres that was on both sides of the Third Line. The two hundred or so yards across the pond were spanned by a floating wooden bridge that must have been a challenge to anyone using it, especially when it was icy. The mill was a busy and successful operation until the last decade of the century. Tom and Jim Egan could remember, as young children in the early 1890's, helping feed the pigs that were kept at the mill to eat the wastage from the grist mill. Even after the milling operation stopped the water power was used to produce electricity.

Cont'd/...

#### THE EGAN FAMILY HISTORY - Page 2

Tom's son, Nicholas as a young man was quite interested in electricity. In 1884, at the age of 21, after completing a course in hydro electric power, Nicholas supplied the first electric lights for the town of Tottenham. Power was on until 11:00 PM during the week and until 12:00 AM Saturday night. The wires ran from the mill east to the jog on the outskirts then north to the principal of town. Nicholas continued to supply power for the village till 1899 when Tottenham built its first hydro plant and began supplying its own power.

The pond continued to be a popular fishing spot, but the floating bridge became a source of controversy between the township and the family. In 1903 the township bought the bridge and the right to release the dam, but Tom and Jim Egan "belged" the township officials by releasing the dam overnight. The bridge has long since been replaced, and little is left of the mill but the foundation and some large stone wheels which were used for grinding. Except for the cut for the creek, the dam remains in its original condition.

#### THE SECOND GENERATION

William died in 1866, aged 67, and Nicholas in 1891, aged 86. They had not only survived in the new world but had raised a family of five, and passed along to them a prosperous mill, 450 acres of land and several thousand dollars in cash.

William, the oldest, inherited the farm across the road from the homestead, where he and the former Mary Smyth raised a family of eight Egans (William preferring the spelling of 'Egan' to 'Eagar') - four boys and four girls. Among them was Jim Egan, born in 1873, who died only recently in Toronto at the age of 105. The Cruise, now 88 years old, who once worked for Jim Egan on the 3rd Line, still lives north of Oroville.

Mary, the oldest girl, married Frank Callaghan, and they had a son, James and a daughter, Ellen. Ellen married Richard Desch, father of Billy Desch who now lives at Simcoe Station, Brantford.

James, the first Egan born on the home farm, inherited 150 acres in Keenelandville and \$2,000 to build a sawmill and grist mill. There is a diary to prove that the mill was in operation, but nothing else is known about it. James and his wife, Rosa Anne King, had no children. The only other information on James is a story told by his nephew Tom, when James was living on the home farm during the last years of his life. "Late one evening he returned from the back kitchen after answering an urgent call of nature with the words, 'My, it's a bleak night. You can't see your hand in front of your face. It was later discovered he had answered nature's call on the inside of the back kitchen door'".

Little is known of Catherine, the youngest, except that her husband's name was Hyland and she died in 1869, aged 40, after 4 years of married life without child.

Thomas, the second youngest, was born in 1837, the year that rebellion broke out in both Upper and Lower Canada. In 1858, aged 21, he married Margaret Jackson, aged 20, from Toronto Centre (a sister of Margaret's Anne - married Philip Egan of Ottawa, no relation to the Tecumseh Egans). Thomas and Margaret spent their entire married life on the home farm where Margaret died in 1912 at the age of 64. Thomas, who lived for another 10 years, remained on the farm until the final two or three years of his life, when he moved to Tottenham. According to the Tottenham Sentinel on his death in 1922, he was a successful and respected pioneer and neighbour who "had seen the country transformed from dense forest to fertile fields". He is also credited, by family rumour, as suggesting the name of Tottenham for the village in honour of one of the first settlers, Alex Totten.

#### THE THIRD GENERATION

Thomas and Margaret had nine children, five girls and four boys: Margaret, Nicholas, Mary, Anne, Catherine, Vida, Thomas, James and Joseph.

Margaret (Maggie) (1871-1945), the eldest, married John Dawson in 1893. They raised a family of nine, initially on their farm in King, and later in Tottenham and in Toronto.

Nicholas (1873-1963), a life-long resident of Tecumseh, worked at home for his first adult years, when he also pioneered in producing electricity for Tottenham. In 1913, shortly after buying the mill pond farm, he married Catherine (Katie) McKenna (1883-1970). After several years here they moved to the South End of Lot 3 Quad. 4 where they farmed until their retirement to Colchester in 1940. The Alexander Street house was a favourite place for nephews to visit after school for all kinds of food, a few games of euchre and an occasional burst from Nicholas' fiddle. Nicholas and Katie had one adopted son, Joe Burke, who now lives in Ottawa.

Mary (1875-1954) spent most of her adult life on the "golf club" farm on the Third Line (Lot 5, Quad. 2). Here she teamed up with her youngest brother, Joseph (1880-1942) to work the string 200 running from the second line to the third on the west side of the Tottenham Road. A combination of hard times and Joseph's ill health with diabetes forced them to give up the farm in the late thirties. After Joe's death in Colgan in 1942, Mary worked at the House of Providence in Toronto until 1942. Then she returned to the home farm to help Tommy Egan and family, and died there in June of the following year.

Anne (1877-1882) died of diphtheria at the age of four. On the advice of their doctor, and fearing the spread of this highly contagious disease, the family filled in the large front basement, which had been a main living area, complete with a fireplace. This was dug out again in 1954 and is presently in use.

Catherine (1880-1956) taught school for several years, including a year at S.S.#1 Tecumseth where three generations of Eagans received their elementary schooling. In 1909, Katie married James Ronan of Adjala and settled down to an eventual family of five: Joseph (whose son, Michael lives in the Ronan house in Colgan), Patricia (Sister Patricia of the St. Joseph's Order), Margaret and Anne (who married brothers Vincent and Francis McGoldrick) and Kathleen (wife of Cecil Ryan).

Elizabeth Veda (1882-1969) attended Toronto Normal School and taught for several years. In 1908, she decided to give up teaching for a vocation as a Sister of St. Joseph under the name of Sister Mary Veda, only to find that her superiors wanted her to teach. This she did with great dedication and success for the rest of her working life. In 1958 she celebrated 50 years in the religious life and died in 1969 after being confined to a wheel chair for several years.

Thomas George - Young Tommy, as he was known in his youth - was born St. George's Day 1885, the year that the Riel Rebellion broke out in the west. On October 26, 1920, he and Margaret Teresa Walsh of Loretto were married in St. James Church, Colgan, and headed for a honeymoon in Ottawa. Here, according to a receipt on file, they stayed in Room 408 at the Chateau Laurier on October 27 and 28 for a total of \$7.00. Then, hardly knowing what lay ahead of them (or they would have stayed in Ottawa), they returned home to farming and raising a family. Soon they were "blessed" with Charles (1921), Gerald (1923), John (1925), El (1927), Pat (1929), Vince (1931) and Beta (1933). One of their main aims was to let the children have a solid education, so that it must have been a source of satisfaction to Teresa, when she died in 1953, to know that her youngest child Beta was in her graduating year as a nurse at St. Joseph's Hospital, Toronto. Tommy lived for another 23 years, most of them at home where he was eventually able to enjoy some leisure and the company of his family and 24 grandchildren on their frequent visits home. In spite of the difficulties of raising a family in depression days, Tommy always kept his sense of humour and a good attitude towards the problems of everyday life. He enjoyed a chat with the neighbours, a lively game of euchre or passing on a joke about days gone by. One of his sayings was - "It has to be a pretty poor bugger that you can't find something good to say about him". He seldom resorted to profanity and one expression he used for extra emphasis at some unexpected problem with the fowl was - "Those continental dam hens". Tommy was great friends with the neighbours across the road, Bill Prest. Bill was a loyal crangeman and Tommy a staunch Catholic, but this never made any difference. They often worked together fixing things and developed the habit after repairing something, to stand back and say, "Now that's more Protestant looking". Tommy spent the last years of his life in failing health at Simcoe Manor, Beeton. He died on August 24, 1976, at the age of 91.

James (1887-1973) followed in the footsteps of two of his sisters and taught school for several years, including two summers in Saskatchewan. Then, after a course in dentistry, he set up his office at 1 Boon Avenue, at the corner of St. Clair and Boon in West Toronto, where he maintained his practise throughout his working life. His wife, the former Josephine O'Connell, predeceased him in 1956 after 32 years of marriage. Jim spent his last years in Providence Villa, where he died in 1973.





THE FOURTH GENERATION

The family of Tommy and Teresa Bagan were raised on the old homestead and they were the only Bagans who remained in the Tattenham area.

Charlie, the eldest of six boys, went to high school in Alliston and joined the Air Force at the age of 19. With the experience he had gained fighting with five brothers the family expected great things from him, but Newfoundland was the closer he came to the front lines. After the war, Charlie returned home for a short time and installed a yard in the old homestead. Next, it was back to school at Western University, London, where he got his B.A. and M.A. and met his future wife, Marlene Varoy. They were married in 1953. Charlie seemed intent on showing his new bride the world and they have lived in Churchhill, Tottenham, Seattle, Fairbanks, Alaska; Fort Collins, Colorado, and now in O.awa. They have a family of seven - Maurcen, Paul, Edmund, Conrad, Kirk, Colleen and Monica. While working for the U.S. government in Alaska, Charlie became very interested in physical fitness and marathon running. Every time Charlie, Marlene and the whole family have taken part in long distance races, sometimes as far as 26 miles.

Gerald (Gerry) remained on the family farm helping his dad, after completing high school in Alliston. He was able to convince a girl from Newfoundland - Anne Johnson - that her life would be a bed of roses on the farm. They were married Oct. 26, 1954, the day after Hurricane Hazel, with the groom 40 minutes late due to flooded roads. After living on the home farm almost two years, they purchased the farm next door from Derek and Ella Doyle in 1956. This certainly cut down on moving expenses as they transported their furniture by tractor and wagon. After working 38 years at Grand's Engines in Walton, Gerry now farms and drives a school bus. As a hobby he sometimes writes poetry about some of the local celebrities; also articles in the Tottenham News. He is also a member of the Committee which organized the building of the Tottenham and District Community Centre. Gerry and Anne have two children - Theresa and Bob.

John, the third son, like the rest of the family, went to school at S.S.I on the second line of Tecumseh. This was a mile walk through the fields, taking a short cut through Bin Peahly's bush. On stormy afternoons in wintertime, Tommy would sometimes come with the team and sleigh - which was really appreciated. John never married and still lives on the home farm where he helps brother Vince. He has always been interested in music and likes to play the piano.

The fourth son, Edward, taught school in Achill for two years and then decided to become a priest. After three years at St. Augustine's Seminary, he joined the Oblates, a missionary order. His ordination in February 1958 was the first one to take place in St. James Church, Colgan. He was ordained by Archbishop McNigan and the Church was packed with relatives and friends. Most of his life has been spent as a missionary, working with the Indians on the West Coast and in the interior of British Columbia. Ed plays the guitar and sings and has led many a rousing sing song, both at home and out on the missions. He also has his pilot's license and likes nothing better than getting up for an hour's flying when time permits. He can tell some very interesting stories of missionary life and is presently helping with an A.A. program for alcoholic Indians in downtown Vancouver.

The fifth son, Pat, went to Teachers College, Toronto, after completing high school in Alliston. During holidays, Pat, Ed, and Vince spent several summers picking tobacco for extra income, with Ernie Severn, the auctioneer, being their favourite employer. Pat taught school in Mt. St. Louis for two years and then spent one year at Western University, London. Next, he taught two years in Toronto before enrolling at St. Michael's College, Toronto, where he received his B.A. He became interested in publishing and worked for Macmillan and Nelson before joining his present employer, Clarke Irwin. Pat married a Toronto girl, Irene Brady, and they have 30 children - David, Janet and Karen. One of Pat's favourite stories is about the time he helped clear the well. It was a shallow well - about 20 feet deep - and every year or two, quicksand had to be removed where it was blocking off the flow of water at the bottom. Gerry was in the well digging and Pat was pulling up the piles of quicksand as they were filled. Somehow, he accidentally (we hope) knocked a breaking bar over the edge on top of brother Gerry. Pat said, "It hit him right on the head so there was no damage".

The youngest son, Vince, after completing high school in Alliston, went to Guelph which certainly had quite an effect on his father's life. He not only received his B.A. but met his wife-to-be, Evelyn Graham. They were married in 1956 in Guelph and returned

Cont'd. . .

THE EAGAN FAMILY HISTORY - cont'd.



Fr. Edward Eagan



Taken at Eagan Homestead on day of Rita Eagan's wedding to Edward Fitzgerald. Standing, 1 to r:- Pat, Vince, Ed Fitzgerald, Rita, Tom, John, Ed. Sitting, 1 to r:- Charlie, Gerry.

Photo at Right:- (1 to r)  
Mrs. Vince Eagan (Evelyn)  
holding Vince Jr.  
Mrs. Gerry Eagan (Anne)  
holding Theresa  
Mrs. Pat Eagan (Irene)  
holding David  
Mrs. Ed Fitzgerald (Rita  
Eagan) holding Ted



Photo at Left:-  
Mrs. Charlie Eagan  
(Berlene) with  
daughters (1 to r)  
Colleen, (Terlene),  
Maureen, Monica.

#### THE EMIGH FAMILY HISTORY - cont'd.

Hannah Emigh loved to play euchre and she always bought draw tickets at the games at Colgan. When she was in her late 80's, she won a bicycle. She lived to be 99. Hannah's son James married Jean McIntyre, who came from Grove Valley and Watowal. Jean taught school and became principal of Tottenham Public School in 1951 and retired in 1968. Her main interest is gardening.

Jean's son Bill graduated from the University of Toronto and now teaches at Aurora High School. Before that, he spent 11 years in Nigeria, Uganda and Samoa as a teacher and in teacher training. Jean's daughter Donna, a registered nurse who took her training at St. Joseph's Hospital in Toronto, married Jim Stone and they have three boys: David, Robert and John.

-submitted 1979.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### THE DAVIS FAMILY HISTORY

Some time before 1837, Richard Davison came out from Ireland and obtained 150 acres of Crown Land in Tecumseh township - Lot 8, Conc. 5. He married Eliza Brawley and they had seven children: Charles, William, Sarah (who married a Sloan), Robert, John, Eliza (who married a Hill), and Mary Ann (who married a Martin). Charles moved to Wellington County. William remained on the home farm and had the family name of Davison changed to Davis.

Richard, the father, put up a log cabin, as did the other pioneers, and later a frame house. The log house was just west and slightly north of the present house. The present house could be around 1850 - maybe earlier, maybe later. No way has been found to date it exactly. The original frame house had two small bedrooms and one large living room and an upstairs reached by a stairway on the outside of the house. It was made of plank stood on end and plastered inside and out. Pine was used. There was a fireplace downstairs in one corner. The house was added to about 1875 or 1880. A north wing with three rooms made up the addition. The barns are probably second generation. The outside staircase, in its own way, was a convenience. Mrs. Gray, an aunt of the present Richard Davis, recalls that when the girls saw their beach coming to call they would slip out a downstairs bedroom window, scuttle up the outside stairs and dress to receive their gentlemen callers.

Eliza and Richard Davison are buried at St. John's Anglican Church on the 6th Concession. There are the first two graves behind the church. The graves are marked.

William Davis, son of Richard, had a large family. He married Elizabeth Potter of the Tottenham area and their children were: Richard, Margaret Ann (who married a Mitchell), Eliza (who married a Mitchell), Caroline, Merilla (who married first a Lowery and then a Johnston), Levina (who married a Cross), Metilda (who married an Evans), William, Robert, Milton, Teresa (who married a Dale), Cyrus and Ethel (who married a Gray).

Richard Davis, the oldest son of William, was killed tragically in 1912 while walking home along the GRR track. He was deaf and did not hear the train coming that hit him. Milton eventually farmed the Joe Pierson place that is now farmed by Paul O'Leary on the 5th Conc., just west of the home farm. He remained a bachelor. Robert and William had a farm just northwest of George Abernethy's off County Road #10.

Cyrus Davis married Sarah Dillane, and took over the family farm about 1908, or later, and ran it until 1941, when his only son, Richard ('Ritchie') then started running the farm. Ritchie's father planted an orchard of Tolman Sweets, Northern Spice, Grebbles and pear trees. Plums were planted but they didn't survive. One apple tree, a Greening - now gone - was always called Granddaddy's apple tree. The plums have come back and there are also cherry trees there. The old brick barn up from time to time where the old log cabin was.

Ritchie married Elizabeth Hopper, daughter of Wesley Morris (Dewey) Hopper, who ran Hopper's General Store in Tottenham. They were married in 1949. Son Allen Richard was born in 1950, and David Michael in 1953. Ritchie Davis called the Century Farm 'Pala Farm', a name he picked out of a poem he liked. Allen and Michael at the fifth generation of Davisons to live at 'Pala Farm'.

- submitted 1979.



#### JAMES A. EGAN HISTORY

Mr. James A. Egan, formerly of Tottenham, was born January 5, 1873, - south of Tottenham on North  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot 4, Con. 3. He was the son of William Egan and Mary Smyth, and had three brothers and four sisters, all of whom are deceased. Jim worked on the farm until 1907, then he went to Toronto and was a builder of houses for many years.

He married Annie Kain on June 21, 1904. They had four sons and four daughters. His wife died in 1959; his daughter Viola died in 1974. His elder son is Fr. Vincent Egan of Port McMichael.

We recently visited Mr. Egan at Providence Villa and he drew a map of Tottenham as he remembers it in his youth. He vividly remembered walking into Tottenham the day of the Fire in 1895. He was very thrilled with a souvenir he received, on the occasion of his

100th birthday, from his great-grandson, constable T.J. Kain, a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police who lives in Regina. (They also were celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the R.C.M.P.). He received many congratulation messages from the Governments of Canada, as well as many other good wishes.

Mr. Egan moved to the House of Providence in Toronto in 1960. He now resides at Providence Villa in Scarborough.



#### PHOTO at left:-

In June, 1973, Isaac W. Mitchell (left) and James A. Egan (right), both 100 years old, had a special interest in meeting Queen Elizabeth II at Toronto City Hall. Mrs Mitchell had met the Queen's great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, and Mr. Egan had met her grandfather, King George V.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### JOHN V. CHILDS FAMILY HISTORY

John V. Childs was born at Nobleton on December 23, 1851. He was the son of Mr. & Mrs. William Childs. As a young man he learned the trade of carriage building and for a number of years worked at the business before coming to Tottenham in 1878. He was an expert workman and vehicles of his construction can, no doubt, still be found in the locality.

The building which he used as a carriage shop for many years stood on the grounds on which the new apartment building is located, 81 Queen Street North. The original building was at one time called the Granger's Hall. Used as a town hall, the top part of this building served as a classroom for some time, after the Tottenham School was burnt.

Mr. Childs took an active interest in local affairs; he served for a time on the village Council. During his long residence in Tottenham, he saw many changes and made many friends.

In 1910, when Northern Ontario was opening up, he made several trips to Matheson to visit his son, Harry, who was mayor there, and president of the Associated