

Vern Wilson consummated an important sale of farm property a few days ago and thereby brings to light an interesting piece of local history. Ted Bell, widely known farmer of the Dunsford area disposed of his farm of 500 acres to a Toronto gentleman who is one of the head butchers for the Steinberg super food market firm.

Well over a century ago, Ted Bell's grandfather from Ireland took up homesteading in Verulam township and three generations of the Bell clan have worked the farm ever

since. Originally a considerable portion of the farm was known as Crown land, the acreage including considerable bush, several acres running to the edge of Sturgeon Lake.

The task of hewing out a log cabin and a log barn was completed and the work of clearing the land for farm purposes began. Ted Bell vividly remembers pioneer days and going to the schoolhouse at Dunsford as a boy, as well as the howling of the wolves in the bush. Deer would appear in the clearing and sheep in different farms around were slaughtered by the wolves.

He then recalls comparatively recent history when the late "Greenie" Williams of railway and hockey knowledge asked permission to shoot on the farm and when he shot at a band of wolves killing a large wolf which had been molesting flocks of sheep, after as many as twenty-eight sheep were found dead by farmers.

When Williams shot the leader the rest of the wolves turned tail and fled and no longer harried sheep in that district.

Years ago Ted Bell, always a hardworking industrious farmer settled in the present fine farm house and filled the present large barn with harvests from the field. He has been a good farmer and a good neighbour.

When the Curling Club was organized at Dunsford he took a liking to the game and rose to the rank of Skip. Ten yrs. he curled with the Lindsay Club and is quite proud of the fact that his name as a skip appears on the McCarty Leads and Seconds trophy, which is still in yearly competition.

"Curling is a great game," he said, "where friends meet in friendly competition, where in my day players played more for the fun of winning the game than for the prizes, although the prizes were nice to win."

During recent years all the shore lots on the Bell farm have been sold and Sturgeon Lake is lined with fine cottages. "The late James Mackey gave me idea of selling lots and he was one of the first to buy a lot on which he erected a lovely stone cottage."

One of the largest buyers of lakefront property was the

late Gilbert Watson. "This gentleman was for years the leader of one of Toronto's old time Dance Bands. This band played for a long time at the Old Mill near Sunnyside in Toronto and it was the band engaged by Martin Thurston proprietor of Greenhurst pavilion. Watson picked out a location there and erected that fine summer resort known as Gilmar Lodge."

The late George Stephenson who ran a ladies wear store in Lindsay built a large cottage on the Bell farm. It was copied from the style of cottages along the Barbary coast of California.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Bell have one daughter Miss Laura Bell who has been with General Motors Acceptance Corporation as Manageress of one of the departments for a number of years and also one son John Bell a lawyer engaged in parliamentary legal work in Toronto.

Mrs. John Bell is a daughter of the late Perly Miles and Mrs. Violet Miles of Queen Street, Lindsay.