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Honoured Residents

James Ferrier

James Gilbert Ferrier reached his 100th birthday on Aug. 24th, 1962. His most dramatic recollection is that of Dark Day in 1881.

Dr. John Knox Blair M.P.

His motto—"A friend to man". He was born in Caledon Twp. but moved to East Luther when he was 2 yrs. old to Lot 27, Con. 6 and went to school on 7th line (Martin's Corners).

He, Milton Chatters and Hector MacPherson were the first students from the area to go to Orangeville for continuation school. John Blair and Hector McPherson both graduated at senior matriculation level and both went to teacher's college.

John first taught in Waldemar, then S.S. No. 4, followed by Hector McPherson. John went to Toronto University to Medical College and graduated in 1906, interning at Groves Hospital in Fergus and in Burnside Maternity Hospital in Toronto.

In 1908, he married Bertha McDowell and they settled in Arthur. In 1930, he was elected to Federal Parliament and represented the constituency of North Wellington until 1945.

He died in 1950 and was survived by his wife and 3 sons—Angus, John Kenneth and Norman.

F.C. Colbeck (Frank)

Mr. Colbeck spent his boyhood in East Luther attending Public School at Colbeck. He taught school for a few years in Luther township. He became the founding Principal of Humberstone Collegiate in Toronto. Continuing to expand his activities in the educational field, he was examiner in methods of teaching Classics and English for the Ontario Normal School, Principal of Ont. Classical Association and of High School Principal's Association. He was also a Senator of both Victoria and Toronto Universities. In 1935 he was residing in Toronto.

Oliver Colbeck

Oliver was a Doctor in World War I.

Kirk Colbeck

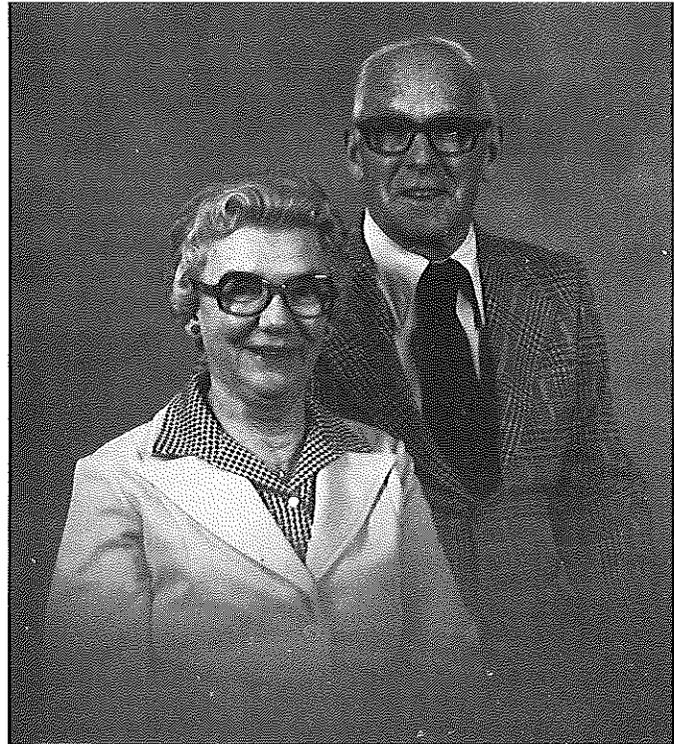
Kirk was a Doctor in World War I after which he practised in the Niagara District for many years. His brother James, sisters Margaret (Mrs. Wilbert Townsend) and Lena (Mrs. Wilfred McDougall) remained in the township the longest, proud of their brother's skill.

Joseph Ritchie

Doubtless you have read some of the Horatio Alger books of bygone years! Joe Ritchie's life reminds me of the Alger heroes—from a humble beginning to a crowning success.

Joe lived across the river in Grand Valley with his parents. As his father was crippled, Joe began work in Watson's bakeshop at the age of fourteen. Rising very early to have the bread baked, by nine or ten o'clock he could be seen toiling up Main Street to the general stores hauling a wagon laden with savoury loaves of warm bread.

Even then his day's work was not done! He became the mailman for R.R. No. 1, Grand Valley, so the next job after delivering bread was sorting the mail, then off on the long trek by bicycle, horse and buggy or cutter, as the roads permitted,



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Ritchie, Nov. 1979.

until late afternoon. As the roads improved, a Model A Ford was purchased. This served Joe well for many years after which he drove a half ton truck. Occasionally he was accompanied by an oldster who enjoyed the sights and sounds of the rural scene.

Joe discontinued the work at the bakery after a time and in 1941 bought the farm adjoining the village on the west, formerly owned by Robert Lougheed who had supplied many customers in the village with milk in the 1920's. The barn on this property provided Joe with a place to keep a large number of laying hens, and horses for his route. He also owned a farm on Con. 4 where he pastured sheep and cattle. Even though these provided Joe and his family with work and revenue, his greatest ambition was to serve the people on his mail route.

Not only for delivering their mail faithfully, come rain or shine, he will be remembered because he was never too busy to lend a helping hand. An elderly lady and her son live on the outskirts of the route far from a shopping centre. Joe often brought their grocery list to a local store where the order was filled ready for Joe to deliver to the grateful people the following day. Doubtless stories of other acts of kindness and generosity can be related by a host of friends and neighbours.

For faithfulness to duty and long time service he was rewarded several times. In 1953 he was presented with the Queen's Coronation Medal. In October, 1969 a medal for 50 years' service was given to him after a dinner at the Latter Day Saints' Church in Grand Valley, when a man came from Ottawa to present it. It read "Awarded by the Government of Canada for long and efficient service", and was made of solid silver. In July, 1975 Joe and two other mail carriers and their wives were flown to Ottawa to be honoured as Canada's longest serving mailmen. Bryce Mackassey, Postmaster

General took them out to lunch with 16 others connected with the Post Office. They then attended the afternoon session of parliament, where the men were introduced and given a long standing ovation.

In June, 1979 Joe celebrated 60 years with the Post Office. At this time a man from Niagara Falls came to Grand Valley to present a stamp and plaque from Southwestern District and from past and present employees of the Post Office. His family consisting of wife Mae, 2 daughters Shirley (Mrs. Murray Taylor) and Lorraine (Mrs. Gordon Newman) and 4 sons Wayne, Rae, Wallace and Murray also presented him with a plaque to show their love and appreciation for his example of devotion to them, to his friends, to his church and to the mail route. Joe continued to work until March 1980 when failing health overcame him. He passed away in June.

Joe's interest in the Post Office was shared by his wife who was employed in the Grand Valley office for 19 years, retiring to care for her ailing husband. Both were active in the work of the L.D.S. church where Joe had served as S.S. Superintendent, elder and pastor.

Their youngest son, Murray, is carrying on the family tradition. He delivers mail on R.R. No. 3 and R.R. No. 1, the longest route out of Grand Valley.

Indeed, Joe's life story demonstrates a vision of success accomplished with much effort.

Dr. G.I. Campbell

Dr. G.I. Campbell who graduated in 1897 and practised in Grand Valley all his life, died on April 22, 1923. He was exceedingly clever as a doctor and people had more confidence in him when he was intoxicated than in any other who was sober.

Many are the stories told about this unusual man. On one occasion a man went to the Doctor with appendicitis. The Doctor had everything set up in his home ready to operate on the kitchen table. After a snort or two, he came in and said to the patient, "Are you ready?"

"I am if you are Doc." said the patient.

When he woke up, he asked the Doctor if he were fine. The Doctor said "Yes" and added "I hope you don't mind. I took the liberty while you were out—you know that crooked nose you had?—Well, I straightened that up too!"

On another occasion a young lady from the city was visiting up near the marsh with a carbuncle on her neck. The Doc was called, George Martin drove him up. On arriving, the doctor pulled the young lady off the couch and said, "you're the nurse, you get off the couch." Later, when the Doctor left the house, he crawled into the backseat of the car, where he was discovered stark naked on arrival in Grand Valley.

Even at home he had his days! His wife had newly decorated a room. In he walked, grabbed a pound of butter and smashed it against the wall!

Many are the stories told about his pet bear. A travelling salesman was staying at one of the hotels in Grand Valley one evening. Doctor Campbell put the bear in the room with him. Imagine the reaction of the salesman!

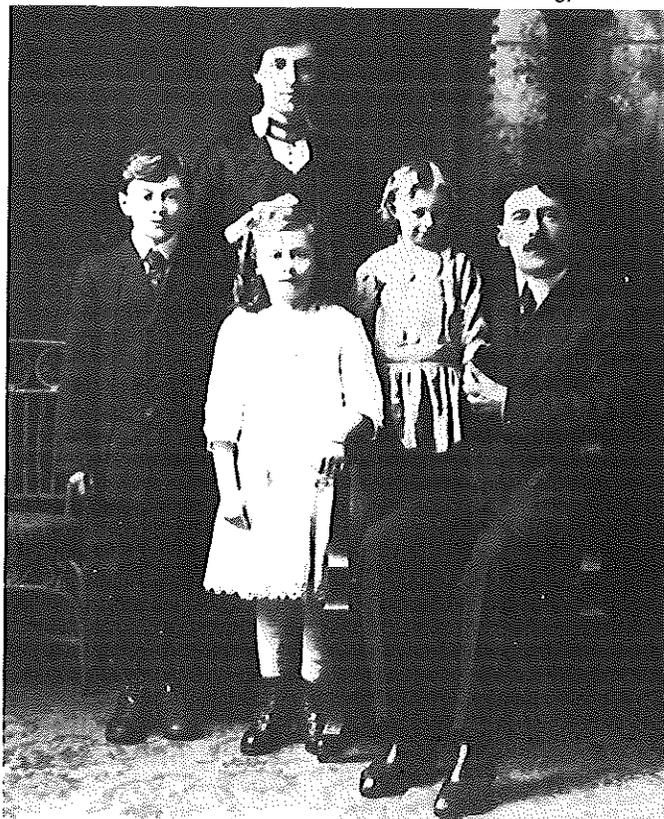
Many and varied are the stories of his escapades but everyone agrees that he was a wonderful doctor and surgeon. It is said that he would never operate unless his hands were steady enough to put the points of two sewing needles together. What a mixture of wisdom and folly he was!

H.H. Hilborn

Prior to the dealer's showing of the 1966 General Motors of Canada, the company honoured Mr. Howard H. Hilborn for 50 years as a General Motors dealer in Canada. Mr. Hilborn was presented with a ring with the G.M. crest and ten



Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hilborn's Diamond Wedding, 1965.



Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hilborn and Family—
Harold, Alma and Elvin.



The Hilborn farm home, Con. 6.

We have had the very special privilege to pay a very special honor to three gentlemen prior to today. These ceremonies were to publicly express our esteem for the three men who had achieved the splendid record of fifty golden years as General Motors Dealers.

This year, we are particularly privileged at this meeting to salute another such gentleman, namely Henry Hilborn of Grand Valley, Ontario. Mr. Hilborn has enjoyed a career which spans just about the complete history of the automobile. He is still active in the business. He is proud to call himself a Chevrolet Oldsmobile-Emory Dealer. And we are certainly proud of his record with our General Motors family.

We would be honored if Mr. Hilborn could join us here, please.

Henry Hilborn was born in a farm in the Township of East Fisher, Ontario, on October 22nd, 1881. As a young man, he worked on the farm with his family. In 1902, at the age of 21, he had the misfortune to lose his right arm in a threshing accident. But courage and determination have been his strong right arm ever since and he has had a successful and exemplary career both in civic and municipal life and as a business man.

His selling career started in 1908 in the bicycle business. In 1911 to 1914 he sold Fords and Buicks. In 1915 he wrote to the Chevrolet Company in New York, requesting an agency. New York advised him that no appointments would be made until the opening of the Toronto Exhibition. He visited the Exhibition, and on August 29th, the opening day of the Exhibition, he signed what was the first Canadian Chevrolet franchise.

Mr. Hilborn drives his own car and is keenly interested in product development. The most rewarding aspects of the business, in his opinion, are the many warm and lasting personal associations it brings.

A few moments ago, we made mention of his career in public life. This includes holding, at various times, the offices of Township Clerk, Township Reeve and County Warden with great distinction and over many years.

Incidentally, Mr. and Mrs. Hilborn celebrated their Diamond Wedding Anniversary on June 21st of this year.

In a very real sense, Ladies and gentlemen, we all owe a great debt of gratitude to Mr. Hilborn. His pioneering spirit and vision and hard work helped to plant the seeds of this great business with which we all are associated.

It is a real pleasure, Sir, to tell you how much your example inspires us. This gift reflects only in small measure our regard and affection for you, and our appreciation for your long and faithful service in the General Motors organization.

And may this ring, encrusted with ten diamonds and emblematic of Honorary Membership in the Chevrolet Oldsmobile Sales Leaders' Club, remind you of fifty golden years of remarkable accomplishment.

Most sincerely, we wish that your life may continue to be happy and rewarding in all ways.



Mr. and Mrs. George Hilborn.

diamonds (in ring). For his home, he was presented with a stereo. The presentations were made at a noon hour banquet at the "Terrace" in Toronto on Sept. 7, 1965. As well as the presentations, an attractive gold folder with a written tribute to Mr. Hilborn was read by Mr. Larry Hastings, V.P., and Mr. Ted Walker, Pres. presented the ring.

Mr. Hilborn was born on Oct. 22, 1881 on the Hilborn Homestead, son of George Hilborn and Isabella McPherson. Married in 1905 to Miss Adeline Sime they farmed successfully on S1/2 Lot 24, con. 6, later moving to Lot 25 where they remained until they moved to Grand Valley in 1935 when their son took over the farm.

In 1902, at 21 years, he lost his right arm in a threshing accident. He did not allow this handicap to interfere with his activities. He began a selling career in 1908 selling bicycles. In 1911-14 he sold Fords and Buicks. In 1915, he wrote to Chevrolet Company in New York requesting an agency. They replied that no appointments would be made until the C.N.E. in Toronto. On Aug. 29, he signed the first Canadian Chevrolet franchise.

Mr. and Mrs. Hilborn were active members of the Presbyterian and United Churches at Tarbert. In politics Mr. Hilborn was a staunch Liberal. He served the township on council as councillor and reeve in the war years, and became county Warden in 1919, and later held office as township clerk for 22 years. He assisted many struggling farmers in the depression through the Farm Creditors' Act. Through this act farm mortgages and interest rates were reduced and other debts dealt with so that the farmers could continue to live on their farms. Mr. Hilborn, as clerk, reviewed the situations and dealt with all the parties concerned.

Mr. and Mrs. H.H. Hilborn celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on June 21, 1965. They had one son, Harold, who remained on the homestead until the late 70's; two daughters, Alma (Mrs. Lloyd Henderson) and Elvin (Mrs. Alex Black) who now lives in the house built by her parents on Mill Street, Grand Valley.

Norman Newson

Thurs. April 2, 1931

One of East Luther's Young Men Publicly Recognized

A gathering was held at Tarbert hall to honour Norman Newson—Tarbert, Mar. 27, 1931

To Norman Newson:

We the citizens of Tarbert vicinity, take great pleasure in assembling here this evening to honor you on your prompt action and presence of mind in the rescue of Dorrance Bates and Elgin West from drowning in the waters of the Grand River last June 15.

It is a great tribute to you and to your parents and home training that you were willing to risk your life in the rescue of two companions. You have given your parents and this whole community reason to be proud of your conduct on that occasion; may it be an inspiration to others to do the heroic thing always. In all your future undertakings we trust that you may exhibit the same courage and willingness to serve others, and by so living win for yourself the esteem and admiration of all your friends and acquaintances.

On behalf of the young people's society: Mary R. Newson, President; Norman Smith, Secretary; Harold H. Hilborn, Vice Pres.; Rev. J.F.G. Morris.

Signed on behalf of the Township Council: W.E. Tovell, Reeve; John A. Allan, Councillor; H.H. Hilborn, Ex Warden.

Royce Reilly Named Farmer of the Year

Oct. 24, 1980

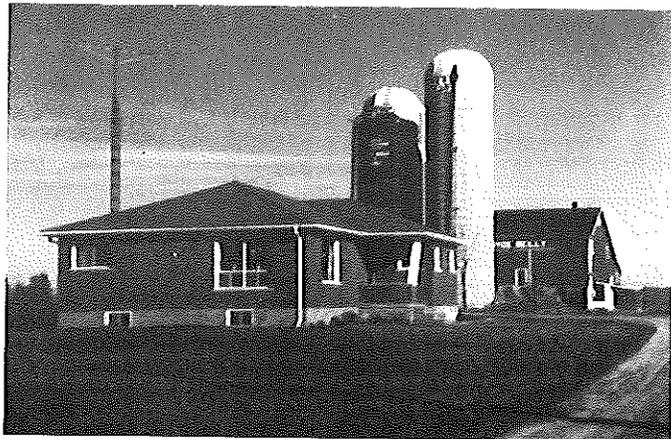
Royce Reilly, a successful beef feedlot and cash crop farmer near Grand Valley was recently named Dufferin County's first-ever Farmer of the Year.

The award was presented to Mr. Reilly at the annual banquet of the Dufferin County Federation of Agriculture on October 24, 1980.

Dave McDougall, president of the Orangeville and District Chamber of Commerce presented Mr. Reilly with the award that includes a plaque, tickets to the Royal Winter Fair Horse Show and an overnight stay at the Harbour Castle Hotel in Toronto.

Mr. Reilly was born and raised in East Luther township and now operates a 350-acre farm with 200 head of beef cattle, with the assistance of one man, Gerald Hattle, who has been with him for ten years.

Royce and his wife, Lois, have two daughters; Gail



The home of Mr. and Mrs. Royce Reilly.



Royce Reilly—Farmer of the Year, 1980.

Montgomery of R.R. No. 3, Grand Valley and Sally Baril of Kitchener and two grandchildren, Derek and Dianna Montgomery.

An active member of the community, Mr. Reilly is involved in the Beef Improvement Association, Grand Valley Agricultural Society, The Federation of Agriculture, East Luther Planning Board, East Luther Library Board and the area Recreation Committee.

For many years, he has served as an elected member on the East Luther Council and is presently reeve of the township and Warden of Dufferin County.

Prior to the award presentation, Mr. Reilly was described as "A man who gave leadership in proving to his fellow farmers that tile drainage and fence bottom removal are the first steps in improving crop yields."

His impressive feedlot operation shows his innovative ideas and the general appearance of the farm property and buildings are an asset to the community.

Yvonne Robertson

—from the *Star and Vidette* October 24, 1979

"Just Love"—just released by Grand Valley woman
By Rob Vanderzwaag

For a number of years Yvonne Robertson was unmistakably losing her memory. It was a slow process but one that eventually began to numb her left arm and hand.

Two and a half years ago Yvonne travelled to Toronto to visit a doctor and a discovery was made. It was to be a discovery of such magnitude that it effected her life drastically and made her realize just how important life really is.

Yvonne was born in Scotland in 1932. She was only one of five girls that her parents raised, guided and cared for. As a child, she had a feeling for music and an urge to excel

Lyrics for "Just Love" Album

—by Yvonne Robertson—composer and song writer and recording artist

*When loves dream comes to you—my friend
Stretch out your arms and hold it near you
Don't let it go but hang on tight
And give your love in return
Life needs love to flourish
To have a meaning with a depth
If you give yourself completely
You'll find an inner sweet content to take you through
When you come face to face with love
Don't turn your head away my friend
Take it and cherish it with care
You'll find that things will work out right
We all need love to see us through
To take us along life's pathways with happiness beside us
When loves dream comes to take your hand
You'll know and want to have it hold you
Then you and love will be as one
Moving together with nothing to stop you
From being in love your whole life through
From being in love your life through*

beyond normal capabilities.

At the age of seven, when many were focusing their attention on the eruption of the Second World War, Yvonne embarked upon music and ambitiously worked her way through musical theory and grades.

Grasping music as though she were a part of its every note, Yvonne began, at the age of 16, teaching the art of playing the piano to six students, and surprisingly enough composed three of her own songs.

In 1952 she emigrated to Canada and married the apple-of-her-eye, Gordon Robertson. Together they, as Yvonne's parents had, raised five girls.

After spending several years living in Toronto and then Bramalea, the Robertson family moved to a farm just west of Grand Valley. With a few goats, sheep, chickens, one horse, one pony and five Samoyed dogs, they turned their farm into the answer of all their dreams.

But hidden within those dreams are vivid nightmares of an event that brought a 20 year stop to Yvonne's musical career.

In 1977 she underwent a major brain operation. Toronto doctors had discovered that her memory was being affected by a blockage to her brain. The blockage was, according to the doctors, preventing fluids to flow freely from her brain to the rest of her body.

Deemed as a very involved operation, doctors were able to implant a shunt (diversion device) in Yvonne's head, along with a pump.

Following the operation, Yvonne's memory miraculously began to sharpen, but, it was a long hard road back to recovery.

Since the operation, Yvonne's musical ability recovered.

So much so that she released an album last week entitled "Just Love".

Consisting of eight pieces composed by her, the album was released by a production company founded by her husband, Gordon. Recorded in the Mercey Brother's Recording Studio in Elmira, it has already been compared to work done by some of the world's greatest pianists—Chopin and Liberace.

Although not included on the album, Yvonne has lyrics to accompany the songs.



Yvonne Robertson

Right from the theme song—"Just Love" to a piece composed with the Grand Valley area in mind—"High County Theme" it can well be considered a highly professional album.

Since its release, "Just Love" has gone on sale in Brampton, Waterloo, Kitchener, Guelph and many other locations across Ontario, including Grand Valley.

"It's a kind of music that draws a different picture for each person," says Mr. Robertson.

Yvonne's attitude towards her first album is one of combined joy, satisfaction, pride and nervousness all in one. She says that she has a "philosophical feeling about the whole thing".

On a broader outlook though, she "believes that this is my purpose in life, . . . to get music out to the people."

"When your life has been threatened you understand. . . ." added Yvonne.

Yvonne has just started where she left off more than 20 years ago. For her, the future will be her staff and her music will be her guide.

For her future, Gordon plans to make a definite go of his wife's musical talent.

"We're gambling like crazy. . . but I don't think that is a gamble" says Gordon.

The success of the operation, the backing of her husband, the help from her daughters and the release of the "Just Love" album may have given Yvonne more than anyone can realize.

But one thing for sure, it will and has given her life!

One year later—Yvonne appeared on T.V. on the Barbara McLeod Show. That single appearance has prompted much interest in her career. At this time there are 7 television shows in the works featuring Yvonne, as well as two record albums.

Joe Firth

East Luther's country music boy was raised on Concession 12 Lot 27, son of Elmer and Hazel Firth. Joe became interested in music at a very young age and by 10 he was singing and playing a guitar and piano. At 15, he and his two cousins formed a country and rock band and toured the local dance halls in Dufferin county.

In 1960 Joe married Bonnie Montgomery, daughter of Albert and Irene Montgomery of South Luther. For awhile Joe put aside the guitar to work on construction in Toronto to support his young wife and family, Jeff and Shelly. Five years later they returned to Grand Valley where he began his singing career again.

Playing in clubs across Canada from coast to coast and doing live radio shows Joe came to the attention of Canada's top recording company, "Boot Records." Within a few years after recording 4 albums he became one of Boots' top recording artists but it wasn't until his fifth album "Too Many Memories" recorded in Nashville, Tennessee that his name became known on national charts.



Joe Firth

Joe has appeared on the WWVA Wheeling, W.V., Jamboree, Rock Hill and Nashville Clubs with such artists as George Hamilton IV, Johnny Rodriguez, Skeita Davis, the Kendalls, Johnny Paycheck and many others.

Some of his hit singles are—Plant the Seeds, Till the Mailman Brings Me News, Tomorrow Never Comes and You're the One I Sing My Love Songs To.

Over the last ten years Joe has worked hard to become a top entertainer and has become well-known across Canada with his band "The Promised Land."

In the spring of 1981 he will make a tour of England and Scotland.

You must agree that this young man has come a long way from the days on the farm and East Luther is proud to call him their country boy.

Tait Twins

Saundra and Susan Tait, 16 months old daughters of Mr. and Mrs. James E. Tait won the baby contest at the C.N.E. in September, 1954. Susan died in a car accident on their eighteenth birthday. Saundra lives in Orangeville and works in the Royal Bank there. Her husband Wm. Crawford works for St. John Ambulance.

Contest Winners

The township of East Luther conducted a contest in September, 1980 for a design for an official township crest to be used during Centennial celebrations in 1981.

The winners of this contest were:

First Prize—to Ellen Montgomery whose crest and legend outlining the significance of the design in township history and tradition, is at the front of the book.

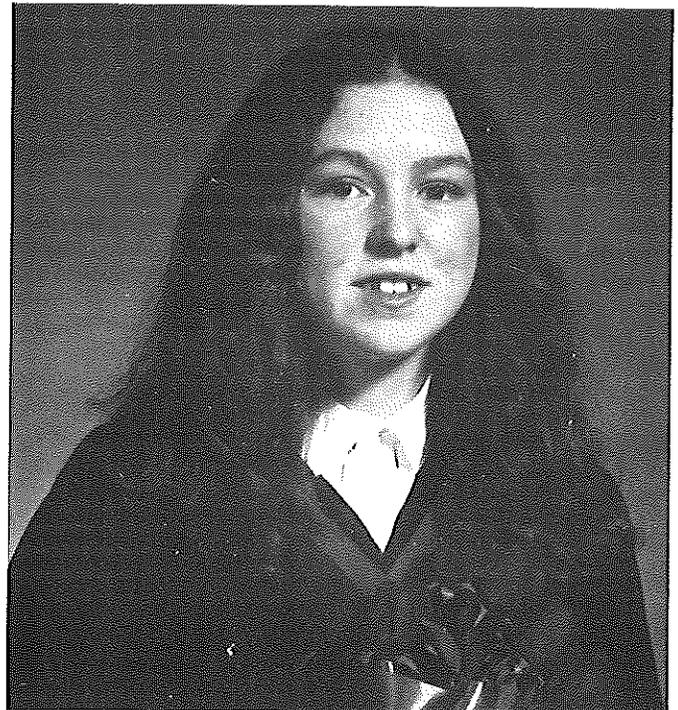
Second Prize—to Carmen Bignell—housewife and hair-dresser of South Luther district, who ran unsuccessfully for township councillor in December, 1980.

Third Prize—to Jeffrey Bruce, son of David and Shirley Bruce, Keldon district, who attends Shelburne District Secondary School.

Congratulations to these successful artists!

Ellen Montgomery

Born in Peel County 1962, I moved with my parents, Bryan and Isabelle along with my two sisters, Jennie and Barbara to our present dairy farm Lot 31, Con. 5, East Luther in June 1968.



Crest Contest Winner—1980

I attended Grand Valley and District Public School and graduated from Orangeville District Secondary School and I am presently attending Sault Ste. Marie College taking a 3 year course in Visual Arts.

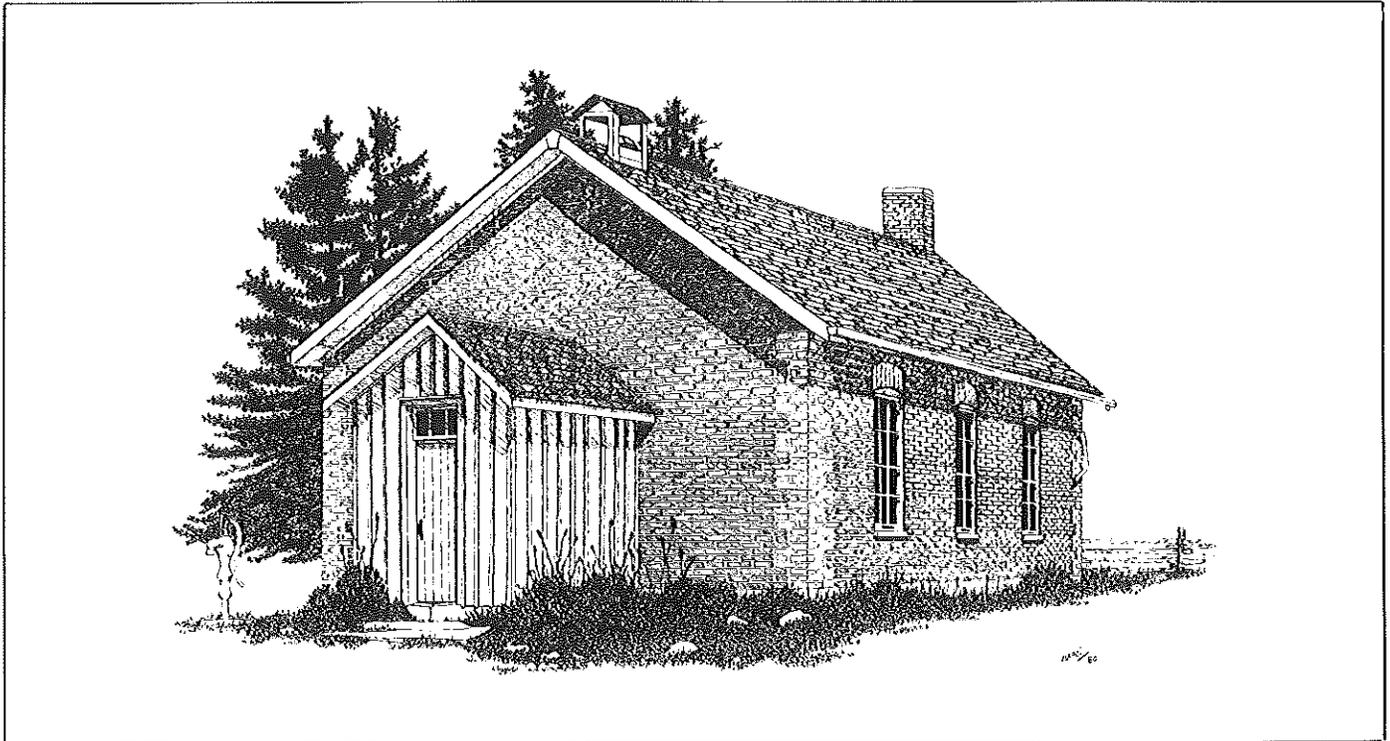
I was pleased to be awarded the honour of designer of the East Luther Centennial Crest.

Peter Turrell

Peter Turrell, resident at Lot 21, Con. 3 since 1974, has recently graduated from Orangeville District Secondary School and has developed a hobby into a business. Having lived in a city environment for some years, Peter and his parents enjoy the scenery and wild life they view from their home near the marsh.

This gave Peter a desire to reproduce for posterity what he had seen at first hand. He has produced many wild life paintings in acrylics and many pencil sketches as well. He is adept at carving models of animals in a natural setting.

His skill has been appreciated at many shows where he and his Orangeville friend, Martin Shipston also an artist, have exhibited and sold their crafts. We wish them success in a venture which, we hope, will bring honour to themselves and to East Luther which inspired Peter to begin.



Marci Phillips

Marci Phillips, Lot 27, Con. 11, Colbeck is an artist of some repute specializing in pen and ink sketches. The accompanying picture of Colbeck School before renovations took place is a specimen of her work, which shows excellent ability.

Although a relatively new resident of East Luther, Marci is well-known to the young people as she has been a school bus driver for Coles' Coach lines for several years.

Kathleen Wilson

Kathleen is the youngest daughter of Jim and Ann Wilson, Lot 25, Con. 12 East Luther. From their early childhood this family of three girls and two boys have learned various types of dancing.



Kathleen Wilson—1980

Kathleen had been part of a square dancing group directed by Doug Lawson of Orangeville when she broke her ankle playing soccer at school. Seeing Kathleen watching enviously from the sidelines Doug suggested that she might try her hand at 'calling'. She tried!

On Friday night, Dec. 19, 1980, Kathleen appeared on the C.B.C. Tommy Hunter Christmas Special Show 'calling' for a group of square dancers from Stratford called the Rainbow Squares. All who knew her were happy with the success of this nine-year-olds venture.

Kevin Shortt

Monticello Little Theatre was organized by Kevin, a Grade 13 student of Orangeville District Secondary School, in the fall of 1980. Previously he had written and directed a



Kevin Shortt—1980

short play for a farewell party for Jeff Davison, the Monticello United Church Minister. It seemed like a good idea to use the talent evident on that occasion to form a permanent acting group.

Early in January, 1981, the newly formed group staged three plays—a long, thriller—mystery entitled “Spider Island” and two comedies “Baby for Brenda” and “Nobody Sleeps”. Kevin directed two of these plays and played a major role in one of them. His three sisters Kathy Hale, Karen and Kelly Shortt played important parts as well.

The following poem expresses the thoughts of many well-wishers.

Monticello Little Theatre meets with success

A group of local folk banded together last fall to form the “Monticello Little Theatre.” Their efforts over the past months were not in vain as large crowds filled Colbeck Hall for both the Friday and Saturday night performances. These few lines summed up our feelings:

*It seemed a strange endeavor
A theatre you say?
Right here in Monticello
There just isn't any way!*

*But everyone agreed to help
They were a willing crew
If Shelburne can have a theatre
Then surely we can too!*

*And so they practised faithfully
And tried to learn their lines
For the young ones this was easy
For the others quite a grind.*

*And even those who didn't want
To take an actor's role
There were so many other jobs
Like Jeff, up in that hole!*

*And so we'd like to pause to say
When the weekend now is past
That those were three great plays performed
With such a super cast!*

*And maybe great things are in store
In the days that lie ahead
For if that much talent can be found
There's surely plenty more!*

—Ioan Shortt

Doubtless there are many other young people in this area who are showing promise in the field of art and science and we wish them well that they also may bring honour to themselves and to the township they represent.

Entertainment

Although the focus of entertainment has changed from the home and church environment to a much wider territory, many of the activities are similar.

The pioneer farmer working long hours each day diligently under difficult conditions did not crave much entertainment but was satisfied with a friendly chat with a neighbour, or a small group gathering in a home occasionally for an evening of music with a pitch pipe or melodeon for assistance for singing. Sometimes a fiddle encouraged the spry ones to try some of the dances of their native land. But most of all, these devoted people sought the encouragement and comfort of gathering in their homes for Bible study and prayer.

As churches appeared in the township, social activities were centred there. Many young men attended evening church services to choose and court their choice of a wife. At Keldon a Scotch supper was held on St. Andrew's Day when a hot meal, complete with haggis, was served in the church basement, followed by a concert of Scottish songs and recitations. For many years a "Twenty-fourth of May" Play was a tradition at Keldon. In the 30's Mrs. George Hill directed a play put on by the Young People at Monticello annually.



Monticello Garden Party.

The annual Garden Party at all of the churches in June or early July consisted of a softball game, a delicious supper and a concert put on by a professional entertainer. Jimmy Fax was a popular comedian at this time. Vince Mountford's first appearance at Tarbert was a memorable occasion with his humorous stories and merry songs. Incidentally, Vince continues to entertain at fairs etc. and acts as master of ceremonies at Shelburne's Old-Time Fiddlers' Contest annually. The Garden Party which concluded the 50th Anniversary celebrations of Monticello Church sponsored a play from Caledon—a comedy entitled "Aaron Slick from Punkin Crick"—a hilarious performance!

Those who lived in the community in the first two decades of the century will remember the Union picnic held each year on July 1st in William Turner's bush (Lot 24, Con. 10, now owned by Oosterhoffs). The Sunday Schools from the five neighbouring churches entered a friendly competition featuring a May Pole drill and the usual races. The May-pole drill consisted of children marching around a May-pole to the music of a violin, braiding a ribbon around the pole as they encircled it. The picnic was opened with a Callithumpian parade led by a piper, complete with kilt and sporran. The bountiful picnic supper, with freshly-made ice cream was the

Tarbert

Tarbert Union Garden Party—July 4th, 1924

*The garden party is over once more,
Better than any they had before;
People came from every line,
By all reports they had a dandy time.*

*The young men had their sweethearts true,
The married men had their darlings too;
All came with a smile two by four,
Wore it 'till they closed the door.*

*The ladies' ball team from Keldon came—
But as the Dundalk ladies failed,
The Tarbert married men turned out
And took their place without a doubt.*

*Ladies and gents in the candy booth,
Had everything your hearts would choose;
Oranges and chocolate bars were five,
Pop was ten or three for twenty-five.*

*In the other booth was the Ladies Aid,
With tea and coffee and cakes they made,
Salmon sandwich and water to drink,
And the ladies were as quick as a wink.*

*The entertainers from Toronto came,
The Haberman family was their name;
Father, mother and kiddies four,
Had musical instruments galore.*

*The Tarbert orchestra wasn't behind,
Hard to beat for one of its kind,
Ladies, two; gentlemen, three;
All as happy as could be.*

*The only accident of the night
Was T.H.H. upset a light;
The lamp turned over four times or more,
As T.H.H. drove through the door.*

*So the people all drove home,
All so pleased that they had come,
Hoping that another year
Would find them all at Tarbert here.*

closing event of the day. Ebenezer Church, South Luther held its annual Sunday School picnic at the homes of Wm. Willmott or Andrew Richardson with races and a game of softball.

When harvest was over and fowl were ready for the oven, the churches each had a fowl supper, replete with bountiful supplies of savoury meat and bowls heaped high with vegetables fresh from the farmers' gardens, topped off by the delicious array of homemade cakes and pies of many varieties. Truly a supper to celebrate "Thanksgiving".

After the snow began to arrive it was time to prepare for



Union S.S. Picnic at William Turners, 1913.
Maypole Drill Contest



Orchestra—Harvey Archibald, Gwendolne Crewson,
Muriel Crewson, Ross Lawrence, 1950.

the Christmas concert. The grown-ups enjoyed the recitations, colourful drills, songs and dialogues of the children. The children's excitement homeward bound with their gifts and candies as well as parent's praise for an excellent performance was scarcely highlighted by the sleigh-bells as they pealed on the still frosty air.

Music was enjoyed by all generations. In the 1880's an exceptionally good brass band was started in Grand Valley by A.D. Smith and Wm. Finley (a blacksmith) which was enjoyed by all who heard it. Small orchestras sprang up in different areas of the township which played for dances in the homes. In the 1920's and 30's James Kyle, an itinerant music teacher gave lessons at Alpha Dales' home and an orchestra consisting of Clifford Dales, Lloyd and Floss Mournahan (later Dales) was formed. At Monticello, Willis Doyle, Wallace Bruce, George Hill with violins were accompanied by Mrs. Scott Doyle on the piano. Later Mrs. Orval Townsend was

accompanist for Willis Doyle, his brother Irvine and George Ellis on violins. Previous to this time James Cunningham and James and Alex Rainey had rendered their services. Occasionally public dances were held in Colbeck Hall above the church shed where 30 to 40 horses could be tied.

Radios created a new interest. In the 40's Farm forums were started. Once a week a half hour program relating to agriculture and its problems was broadcast. Groups in various homes listened and discussed questions previously distributed to the group secretaries. Wm. Newson was Secretary of a group on Con. 7. Each secretary reported on the conclusions to the sponsors of the program. The evening was concluded by a game of cards and lunch. After a few years interest in Farm forums petered out but euchre parties continued for many years. Another radio program much enjoyed at 1:00 p.m. daily was "The Happy Gang" which ended in 1959 after 22 years broadcasting.

Box socials were often held about Valentine's Day in 1920's and 30's. The ladies would make a lunch, box it and then decorate it with pretty paper, bows and ribbons. The men would then bid on the boxes. When they got one they then ate the lunch with the owner of the box. Can you remember how shy and embarrassed you were in your early teens when you had to eat lunch with a middle-aged bachelor? I can!

A Junior Farmers' Organization was organized in 1930, instigated by the Department of Agriculture under the Agricultural Representative, Campbell Lamont with instruc-



Dory Orchestra—lady violinist Recilla McDermott, 1930.



Second Short Course in 30's
Bayne Stewart—Agricultural Representative (left)

tors George Hart, Woodstock for the men and Nurse Isabel Wright and Home Economist, Elsie Cameron for cooking and sewing for the women held in Carnegie Hall. Regular monthly Junior Farmer meetings were held until 1941 when it was discontinued. The first officers of the Junior Institute were Freda Wolfe, deceased, Pres., May Dickson (Mrs. Senick, Toronto) and Susie Black (Mrs. Wm. Tovell) as Secretaries. The first President of the Junior Farmers was Weir Willmott and Harvey Richardson was Sec. Treas.

In the late 60's Junior Farmers was reorganized but did not continue for long as many of the young people of the area secured employment elsewhere.

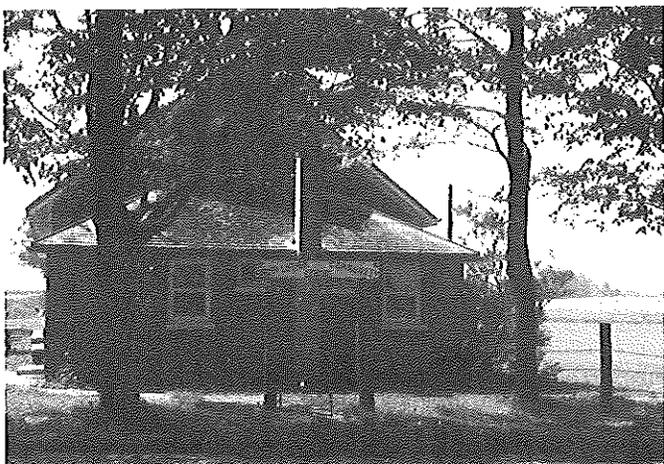
4-H clubs (both agricultural and homemaking) have been popular activities for young people 12-25 years of age for the last twenty years. They have a choice of horse, beef, dairy, sheep, swine, grain, apiary, snowmobile and safety clubs. The homemaking clubs centre around cooking and sewing with many of the teenagers receiving Provincial honours for completing twelve projects. Ladies of the two Women's Institutes provide leadership under the Home Economist's instructions. The agricultural clubs are sponsored by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food with fathers of the club members as leaders usually. "The Queen's Guineas" is a prize East Luther beef club members are still trying to win at the Royal Winter Fair.

A special activity in 1932 was the Chautauqua which came to Chatfield Hall, Grand Valley for four consecutive days in April. Chatfield Hall was the upstairs of the present tavern. The advertisement in the Star and Vidette promised "pure, sparkling, elevated drama, gems of music and notable lectures of great practical value." "A Hawaiian Company will appear and Marionettes will entertain the children." Admission \$2. Excitement ran high, as many planned to go, not to be disappointed!

A "Harmony Club" was organized in Grand Valley by a man from Guelph who was the caller for square dancing. McLean's orchestra from Belwood provided the music, sometimes joined by Willis Doyle. From 30 to 40 couples from East Luther and surrounding areas enjoyed this twice monthly outing. Other callers who assisted were Roy Hunter, Ross Brown and Royce Reilly.

In the 60's Harry Montgomery (father of Clayburn, Carl and Paul) was instrumental in starting square dancing lessons at South Luther. James Leybourne from Fergus was the instructor and provided the record music each month for 15 to 20 couples' enjoyment and instruction.

A community Club at South Luther has been active for many years. When the school was closed, the group with three trustees bought the building for its community centre. Four groups of neighbouring families continue to each sponsor three programs a year with varied creative entertainment,



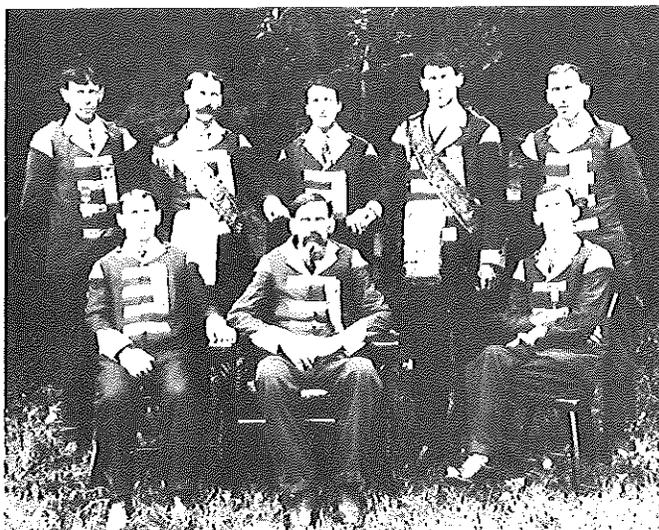
South Luther Community Centre, 1966-80.

a strawberry supper, corn roast, fireworks, demonstrations, skating parties—something for young and old and an opportunity for an old fashioned friendly visit.

Some other organizations provide entertainment and educational advantages for our benefit which I will deal with separately.

The Orange Lodge

The Orange Lodge organized in Grand Valley in 1887 continues to serve members in the township as well as the village of Grand Valley. The Lodge pushed the Temperance Society to abolish open bars "as some members were kept in hardship trying to aid other members' families who were down and out because of liquor." (a quote) Annual dues at that time were \$1. Nearly all lodges met on or before the day of the full moon because the nights being brighter then, made travel by horse and buggy safer and easier. When John Berry first joined there were 4 degrees in the Lodge—the Orange, the Little Purple, the Blue and the Royal Arch, the top degree. They stood for—freedom of religion, equal rights to all, independent of political affiliation, the public school system and others.



Monticello Orange Lodge—back row—Alfred, Jack, Cecil, Truman and Joe Hills. Front Row—Wm. Hills, Harry Hills (the father), Lewis Hills.



Monticello True Blue Lodge—Mrs. Truman Hills and Mrs. Ivan Hills

Monticello had an Orange Lodge with a Ladies' True Blue Lodge as well. Both lodges served as a place for social get-togethers. Celebrations on July 12 with their colourful parade with fife and drum band attracted crowds of people.

Women's Institutes

Colbeck and Monticello Women's Institute

On January 25, 1909 women in the community of Colbeck and Monticello gathered to organize their branch with 26 members, increasing to 50 members the first year. Its aims are to teach the application of scientific principles to the management of the home regarding economy, proper food, care of children, sanitation and prevention of diseases—a direct education for homemakers.

Over the years Colbeck and Monticello W.I. has helped the needy in the community, fire victims, the sick and poor. During World War I, the members sent parcels overseas to local soldiers. During the 1920's talks were given on nutrition and curing meat for summer use. To raise money picnics and socials were held in members' homes—admission 15¢. Donations of goods were sent to Orangeville and Shelburne hospitals, as well as to the Children's Aid Society their assistance of homemade quilts, blankets and even eggs. Knitted socks, mitts, helmets and treats were sent to the local boys overseas in World War II.



Colbeck and Monticello Women's Institute.

In 1953 they purchased the Colbeck Anglican church, which they converted to Colbeck and Monticello W.I. Community Hall, available to the public and other organizations for the past sixteen years. The revenue from renting this centre of activity is used for upkeep and assistance with the new Arena in Grand Valley. They sponsor 4-H Homemaking Clubs, send donations toward scholarships and are compiling a Tweedsmuir History Book.

Since Social Security has taken over, the community is more capable of self-help. Thus the W.I. is more oriented to the "Role of Women" regarding Women's Law, nutrition, rural development and conserving energy. More than ever their motto is "For Home and Country."

Hereward Women's Institute

"For Home and Country"

In January, 1930, Mrs. Alex Platt and Mrs. Fred Clayton canvassed the women in the n-w part of E. Garafraxa and in the south part of East Luther about organizing a branch of the Women's Institute. Twenty-five



Hereward Women's Institute Life Members—1980—back row, left to right, Mrs. Cecil Irvine, Mrs. Harvey Graham, Mrs. Wm. Hunt, Mrs. Archie Taylor, Mrs. Ansley Nairn, Mrs. James Burke, Mrs. O. Foreman, Mrs. Thos. Tindall, Mrs. George Young, Mrs. Willis Campbell. Front row—Mrs. Alfred Platt, Mrs. James Tate, Mrs. Gordon Richardson, Mrs. Elgin West, Mrs. Gordon Winters, Mrs. Alvin Taylor.

ladies attended the inaugural meeting at the home of Mrs. Platt when Mrs. James Semple became President, Mrs. Walter Richardson and Mrs. Thos. Small, vice-presidents and Mrs. Fred Clayton Secretary. By June there were 38 members. The fee was 25¢ per year.

Each year since then H.W.I. has had a fine bank balance and has shown a keen interest in social, welfare and national projects.

Some of the activities of this group of women in the 30's included—Talks on poultry care, the perennial border—Demonstrations on buttonholes, welt pockets, cheese making, reed work—A contest for the best article made from feed bags.

It was during these years that a donation was first given to the East Luther Agricultural Society designated at this time for the best home-made house dress by girls under 21 with prizes of \$1.50 and \$1.

Membership increased to 50 during World War II as interest in assisting our soldiers encouraged everyone to contribute her skill at quilting, knitting and packing food parcels.

Many interesting and educational speakers such as the Agricultural Representative, the High School Principal, Mrs. Berwick talking about her trip to Germany, Rev. Cerwyn Davies about his native Wales, and an exchange student from Australia were enjoyed.

In 1953 a Coronation tea was held at Mrs. Jas. Tate's home when the charter members poured tea and new members Mrs. J.R. Robinson, Mrs. Wm. Hunt and Mrs. Carman Brown served. Mrs. Philip Bedenham, bank manager's wife, entertained on the piano.

Many anniversaries have been celebrated with a supper, speaker and musical program. At a pot luck supper in 1963, Mr. and Mrs. Standish Hunt were presented with a patio lamp and stand in appreciation of the work they had done on the Tweedsmuir History Book for the preceding twelve years.

Money raising has been done by having booths at sales, catering for weddings and organizations and an auction. With this revenue, donations have been made to Grand Valley Community Centre (the drapes upstairs), to the library, hospital and Medical Centre. Every year a trophy is given to the best English student in the graduating classes of Grand Valley and Marsville schools.

In recent years a group of ladies and their husbands enjoy short bus trips to such places as the Tommy Hunter Show, Beatty Plant, Fergus, North Bay area, Peterborough, Erland Lee Home and the Ontario Agricultural Museum,

Milton. Members have taken advantage of short courses in quilting, needlepoint and macrame.

The 4-H homemaking clubs have a top priority with us. Many of the members have been leaders and now, at this point, some of the older girls are taking over the responsibilities as leaders and are doing an excellent job.

The highlight for us was celebrating our 50th anniversary in January, 1980. Former members, friends and dignitaries from F.W.I.O. attended; also three well-known charter members: Mrs. Gordon Richardson, Mrs. Robert Sime and Mrs. Alfred Platt. Our 44 members are pleased to represent an organization that gives "Home and Country" so much importance.

Some of the officers directing the activities of this energetic group of women have been—Mrs. Albert Campbell, Mrs. Ernest Nairn, Mrs. Alex Platt, Mrs. Gordon Richardson, Mrs. Richard Winters, Mrs. Dorwin Howes, Mrs. Wm. Crane, Mrs. Alvin Taylor, Mrs. Albert Looby, Mrs. Cecil Irvine, Mrs. Don Taylor, Mrs. Elgin West, Mrs. James Burke, Mrs. O. Foreman, Mrs. G. Winters, Mrs. William Taylor, Mrs. Willis Ferrier, Mrs. James Tate, Mrs. Thos. Tindall, Mrs. George Young, Mrs. John Palmer and Mrs. Archie Taylor.

Grand Valley Agricultural Society

The first fair in Grand Valley took place in October, 1870 on "The Commons", an area north of the river now fully occupied by streets and houses. In the next year the East Luther Agricultural Society was formed. For two or three years it was held on "The Commons". In 1886 a new park at the north end of the town was acquired. An excellent 1/2 mile race track was made and a building erected. A board fence was constructed around the park when a drive of logs got stuck in a bend of the river near the village. A portable saw mill cut up the logs and the owner donated them for the fence.

In 1904 the Exhibit hall (and skating rink) was built and in 1914 the grandstand was erected at the west side of the park. The earliest records show many classes now extinct, notably a class in "Manufactures" with sections for double harness, single harness, coarse and fine boots, horseshoes, lumber wagons, covered wagons, bob sleighs, general purpose plough and iron harrows.

In "Dairy and Domestic" in 1912 there were 5 classes for different amounts of butter, from a 'firkin' to 5lb. of butter in 1lb. prints, and a class for 2lb. of unsalted butter. There were only 12 classes for "Baking" (now we have about 30). There was only one class for canned fruit that being 'A Collection'. One class called for a 4lb. loaf of bread.

In "Needlecraft" there were classes for Irish crochet, Roman eyelet, Honiton and Battenburg lace with no definite article required. There were also tea cosies, aprons, 5 o'clock tea cloths and wool hug-me-tights!

Fairs changed with the development of the area. Apparently grain, seeds and plants were similar to present classes with more classes added for cut flowers, baking and school work. Horse races, horse and cattle exhibits, also sheep, swine and poultry seemed to be main attractions as well as the hall exhibits.

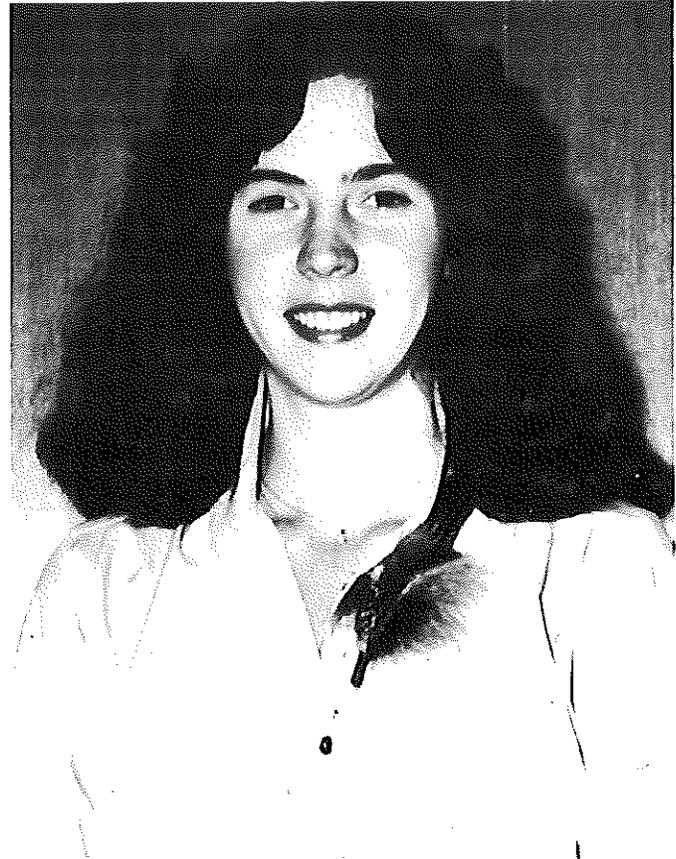
In 1961 our Hall was examined and condemned by an engineer as unsafe. Only through the great efforts of a Community Board was enough money raised to repair it and carry on the Fair. In 1965 the name was changed to Grand Valley Agricultural Society as requested by the Department.

In 1956 seven acres were sold on the north for a site for the new District High School. This made changing the race track necessary and a smaller track was formed. In 1961 reshaping of the racetrack made the grandstand obsolete and it was later torn down. More changes came! In 1967 the

Agricultural Society donated a three-acre site north of the old hall for a Community Centre, this property to be available for fair activities for a few days each year.

Since 1968 a number of Presidents, both for the Society and the Ladies' Division have kept the fair growing and progressive. These are Tom Tindall, Willis Campbell, George Curtis, Royce Reilly, Ewald Lammerding, Roy Taylor and Bryan Montgomery; for the Ladies' Division, Mrs. David Black, Mrs. Harold Hilborn, Mrs. George Landman, Mrs. Willis Campbell, Mrs. Muriel Whaley and Mrs. Johnson Woods.

In 1971 the Fair Queen Competition was introduced. Fair Queens since then have been: Mary Landman, Janet McGinnis, Barbara Taylor, Anna Vanderwerf, Cheryl McKenna, Billy Armstrong, Ruth Woods, Jeannie Windus, Rene Windus and Heather Foreman.

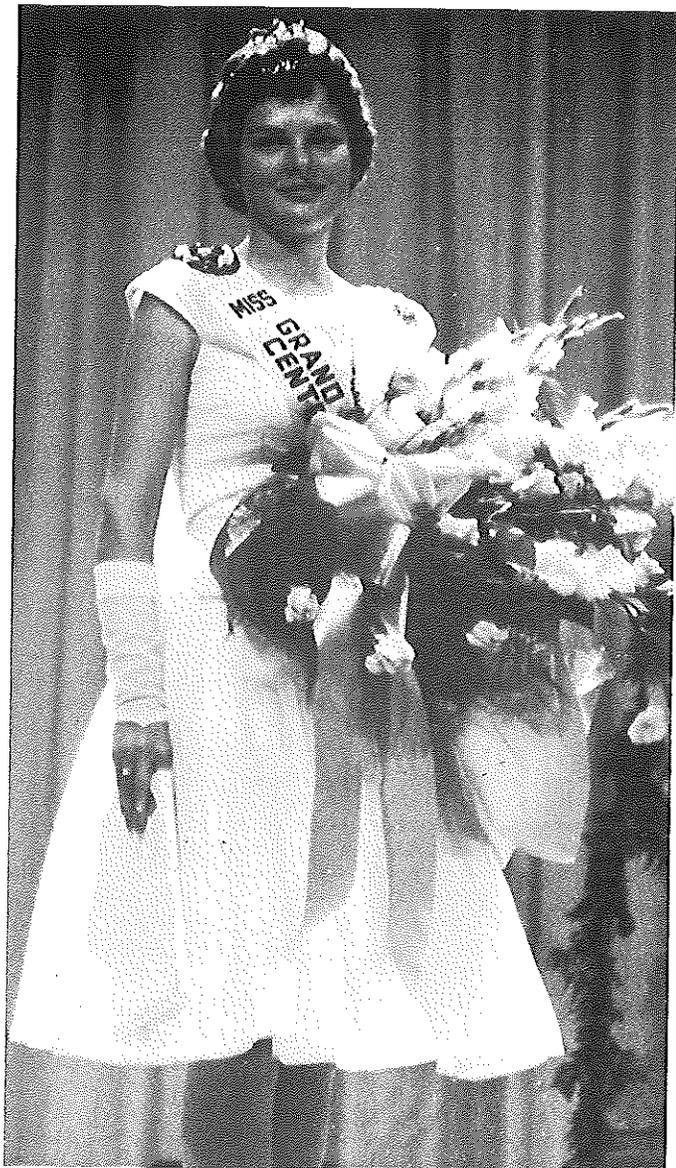


1980 Grand Valley Fair Queen
Heather Foreman

In 1972 Mrs. Arnold (Nina) Townsend succeeded Mrs. George McPherson as Secretary-Treasurer and remained until the end of 1978 when Velma Montgomery, daughter of Willis Rounding, Sec. from '32 to '42 and sister of Leone Looby, Sec. for 10 years in the 60's became Secretary-Treasurer.

In 1975 the old arena plus 15 feet of land adjacent was sold to the village of Grand Valley for \$14,000. With this money the Society built an addition to the rear of the arena. In 1978 a new building was erected to house cattle or goats. It is a steel building 26 feet by 48 feet with a loading chute costing \$6,150. A sound system was procured jointly by the Agricultural Society and the Recreation Association (cost \$2,800).

In 1976 a special occasion marked the annual meeting at which time all past presidents were honoured and the 4-H awards night was held. Past Presidents attending were: Bert Gier, Fred Taylor, Gordon Winters, William Tovell, Ansley



Dufferin County Dairy Princess, 1961
Joanne Taylor



1967 and 1968 Dairy Princesses
Lynda Burke and Nadine Campbell



1970 Ontario Dairy Princess—Nancy Brown.

Nairn, Tom Tindall, Willis Campbell, and George Curtis; ladies: Mrs. Clarence Menary, Mrs. Willis Ferrier, Mrs. Alex Black, Mrs. Tom Tindall and Mrs. David Black. A plaque was unveiled listing these Presidents.

One hundred tables and one thousand chairs were purchased, these to be rented out to appropriate groups requesting them.

Field crop competitions in barley and ensilage and grain corn continued and a number of new features have been introduced: bacon carcasses, hay, a goat show, Western games and an English horse class. Specials for the children are a bicycle draw, bicycle races, and a pet show. All hall exhibits have maintained a high standard. Two highlights of the fair are the excellent parade at 1 p.m. and the Saturday evening dance.

A pancake breakfast was first held in 1976 and has been enjoyed since. In 1968 prize money paid was \$1,433, in 1979, \$3,343. Donations have been given to the following: 1973—the G.V. Medical and Dental Centre \$500.00, 1977—Boy Scout Jamboree \$100.00, in 1979—Oxford, Haldimand Disaster Fund, (re Tornado) \$500.00.

A feature of much interest approximately every third year at Grand Valley Fair is the Dufferin County Dairy Princess Competition sponsored by the Ontario Milk Marketing Board. Four East Luther girls have been winners on different occasions.

Joanne Taylor (Mrs. Barry Everson) in 1961 was the first one to receive this honour from our area. She was chosen to be Grand Valley Centennial Queen in 1967 also.

Lynda Burke (Mrs. Greg Moore) became Dufferin County Dairy Princess in 1967 followed by *Nadine Campbell* (Mrs. Gary Boles) in 1968.

Nancy Brown (Mrs. Robert Vernon, B.C.) was the 1970 Dufferin County Dairy Princess and went on to win the Ontario Dairy Princess Competition at the Canadian National Exhibition in 1971.

The Grand Valley Community Centre

For many years the Agricultural building had been the centre of winter sports. One of its disadvantages was the short season of cold weather for natural ice. This hall had been built in 1912 and had served the community well over the years but the annual engineer's report in 1964 stated that this aging building might not be passed for public activities in the near future.

Early in the winter of 1964-65 the subject of a new community centre was discussed. The Grand Valley Lions' Club gave their full support and pledged \$7,000 for the project. In March, 1965 one hundred people attended a meeting with Reeve Bruce Fife as chairman. The meeting voted for the erection of a New Community Centre.

Committees were set up; canvassers made house to house calls; contributions began pouring in and the campaign was on its way. Organizations began fund raising activities. One event was a softball game at which Bobby and Dennis Hull played against the Dixon Lumber Kings from Fergus. Eddie Shack was a special guest two weeks later. Two auction sales of donated articles realized \$2,242 in the fall of 1966. January, 1967, saw the subscriptions pass the \$50,000 mark and work proceeded.

The location was a three-acre site north of the old agricultural hall donated by the East Luther Agricultural Society. Volunteer help and equipment of interested persons were responsible for excavation, footings, drains and sub-surface for artificial ice. A company from Burlington erected a building 100' x 240' by the end of 1966. East Luther and the village of Grand Valley each donated \$20,000 for the project which was completed by Sept. 1967 with proper pipes for artificial ice and a concrete floor put in by Greenwood Construction Co.

This building is now being used by young and old for about one hundred minor hockey players and teams of older men, broomball, many teams of curlers—men's, women's and mixed, figure skating, and public skating. From early October until early April, Grand Valley Community Centre is used for a meeting place for many East Luther sport enthusiasts as well as sportsmen from surrounding areas.

Sports

Sports in the township of East Luther throughout the years have varied from the simple game of "Fox and Geese" to the present highly patronized "Sport of Kings".

Can you remember the games we played outdoors at school—Pom Pom Pullaway, Prisoner's Base, hide and seek, softball, snowfights behind the carefully constructed forts and the occasional skate on a pond in the yard, the field nearby or river? Those were the days when children enjoyed the great outdoors with very little expense involved.

Sports for the grown-ups were varied but inexpensive for many years. About 1900 curling was begun in the Keldon area by William Anderson. Some boulders were picked from an adjacent stone pile and pushed the length of a short rink. Those who enjoyed it went to the bush and cut a number of beech blocks and inserted crude handles into the beech "stone". In 1929 Mr. Anderson constructed a dam in the Grand River causing a body of still water which was covered with smooth ice in winter. Some Saturdays as many as 140 people were seen on the ice, some with brooms and rocks. In 1933, a curling club was organized at Ray Luxton's home with Gilbert McWhirter as chairman. A fee was set at 25¢ per season. This club dissolved about 1939.

About the same time lacrosse was a favourite summer sport followed closely by football and softball in the township. In the 30's softball teams were organized by groups representing the four churches. Wilfred Willmott and Hilliard



South Luther Softball Team—back row—Ron Richardson, Don Richardson, Murray Perluisi, Ken Mullen, Harry Park, Lawrence Densmore, Hilliard Taylor (coach). Front row—Murray Taylor, Blake Taylor, Mervyn Wheeler, Adam Densmore, Rae Ritchie (bat boy).

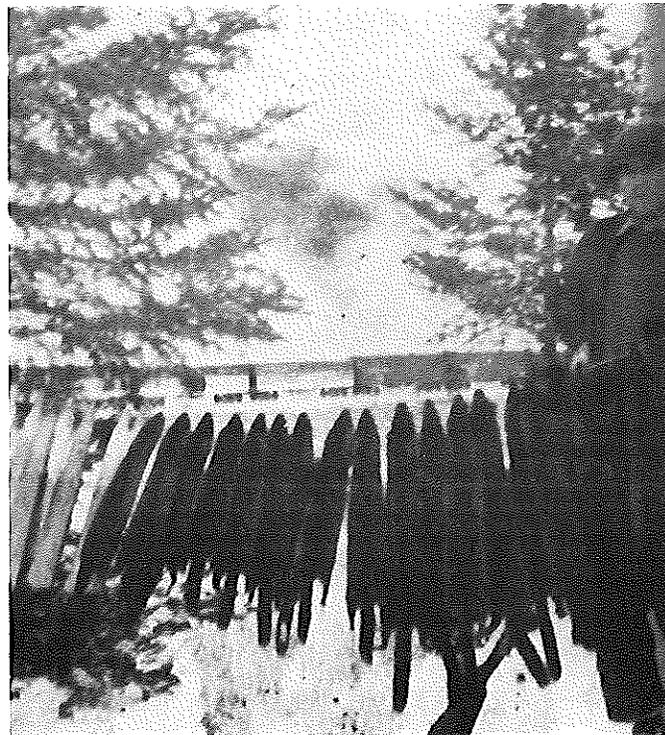
Taylor coached a South Luther team which played at picnics and garden parties in the area.

Skating was enjoyed by young and old on the river in various areas while the South Luther skaters used a pond on the Densmore farm Lot 20, Con. 2. Two local speed skaters who participated in races in neighbouring towns were Gilbert (Gib) McArthur and Hill Taylor, East Luther farmers.

Stewart Corbett was coach for a Ladies' Softball team in the 50's and others encouraged men's teams at Grand Valley Lions' Park.

Hunting and Trapping

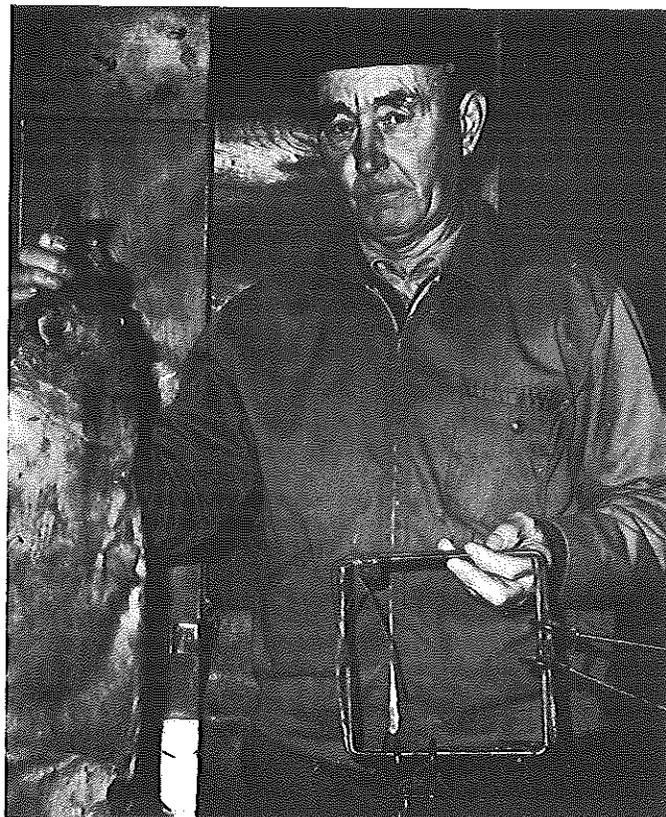
Hunting and trapping is and has been a sport enjoyed by many East Luther people. Pioneers hunted and trapped for food and furs. Not so now! These are considered "sports" but serve a useful purpose to the township. Some animals such as foxes, skunks, and raccoons are carriers of rabies; deer in large numbers destroy young stands of fall wheat; and



Hilliard Taylor and mink pelts.



A day's catch—Larry Campbell.



Earl Pearce with muskrat pelt.

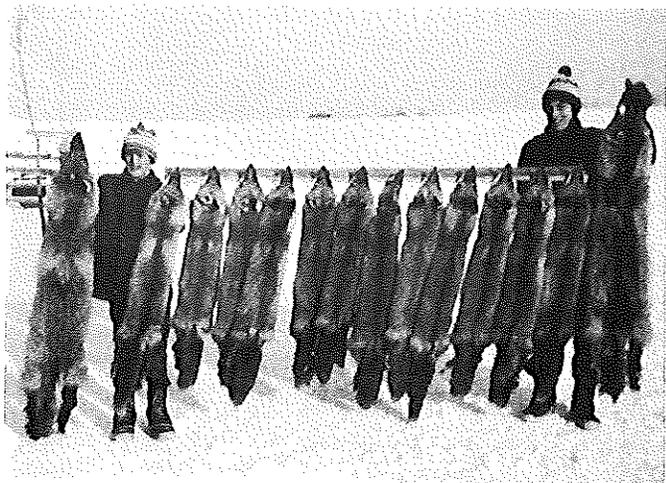
Nowadays it is necessary to get an Ontario Resident's trapper license. To get this a new trapper must take a ten week course under the supervision of the Ministry of Natural Resources. A trapper must get written permission to trap on the farmer's property. All furs must be stamped. This may be done in Arthur or Alliston. Three local trappers in 1980, Earl Pearce, a trapper for over 50 years, Russell Jelly and Larry Campbell market their furs in North Bay.

Below is a schedule of prices paid for furs—

	In 1965	In 1980
Raccoon	\$3.00	\$30.00
Muskrat	\$1.00	\$8.00
Beaver (almost unknown in East Luther)		\$150.00 (all time high)
Fox		\$95.00
Mink	\$25.00	\$30.00

The township also pays a bounty on foxes and wolves.
Hunting of wild ducks and Canada Geese in late Sep-

beavers build dams along streams causing surrounding farm land to be flooded. Controlled hunting helps to keep the number of these animals low enough so that a minimum of damage is done. H.B. Taylor trapped mink and hunted foxes in the 30's and 40's. Stephen Palmer was interested in this activity as well.



Furs harvested in East Luther, Winter 1980-81. Note—2 wolves.



Snowmobile Rally in 70's sponsored by Grand Valley Lions' Club.

tember and early October in the township is popular by local sportsmen and hunters from the cities. Here again controlled hunting takes place.

Deer hunting follows. Only occasionally is there an open season for deer hunting with guns but skilful archers are allowed to hunt deer with bows and arrows. Restrictions such as these help to keep the supply adequate for a controlled number of hunters.

Snowmobiling is a popular winter sport. Trails through the Conservation area have been carefully chosen, groomed and marked to assure pleasant rides through the wooded areas with a minimum of danger.

The Sport of Kings—Horse Racing

Horse racing in Grand Valley began in the 1870's. W.R. Scott donated the grounds for the race track and agricultural grounds. A charter was issued under the Charitable and Morton Main Act which said all proceeds were to go to charity. Duncan Hymen, a hotelkeeper is given credit for building the track, considered to be the best one-half mile track in Ontario at one time.

A club was organized called the "Grand Valley Turf Club". Some members were Esbin Bennett, (local cattle buyer), Frank Sargent (undertaker) and George Maxwell (blacksmith). In 1927-28 Dr. A. Hughes (veterinarian) was President of this club.

Clarence Lockhart, of Collingwood owned a number of horses which raced at the Grand Valley Trotting Derby. Richard Forgrave, Grand Valley, raced several days a week in adjacent villages. One of his horses, Nancy McKay, who was world champion over ice in winter, was sold to a man in Fergus. Earl Rowe owned a horse called Gratna Green which paced one-half mile in a minute and sold for \$10,000, a fantastic price at that time and the subject of a headline story. George Maxwell had 2 racers, Mike Abdale and Mitter Bell.

It is said that the Derby brought the largest crowds that Grand Valley has ever seen. The last race was held around 1955.

About 1965, horse racing began to revive in this area. Rex Hughes had two stables on Emma Street, Grand Valley and trained his horses on the track nearby. This track is now only one quarter mile long since the construction of the new high school used part of the track area. Herbert Young, Wayne Maycock, Reg Carter, Paul Callaway and others who live in the village are owners of race horses. James Hillis and family have their horses at their East Luther barn at the Black Bridge. Many race tracks for training horses have been constructed throughout the township and East Luther horses are



Clarence Lockhart at Trotting Derby.

making a good showing at races in Orangeville and other tracks throughout Ontario.

The most famous of these racers was Demon Tad owned by Stan Henderson of South Luther and Lorne Brett of Fergus which won the Ohio Trotting Classic, the richest event for two-year old trotters in North America. In 1977 he earned over \$97,000 as a 3 year old and was back racing at Orangeville Raceway after a three month lay off. Sad to say, his career was cut short in 1979 when he, Demon Tad, died suddenly.

Some others which have received prizes were—"Teddy Be Ready" owned by Mike Bosnjak, Con. 5, which was entered in the richest race in Canada at Montreal in 1980, one of 9 horses in the race.

Another prize winner of note is "True Heritage" owned by Robert Daniel, Con. 4, which in 1979 in 23 starts won 19 races at Orangeville and Elmira Raceways.

"Doc Spencer" owned by Douglas Brayford won over \$10,000 in prize money in one year.

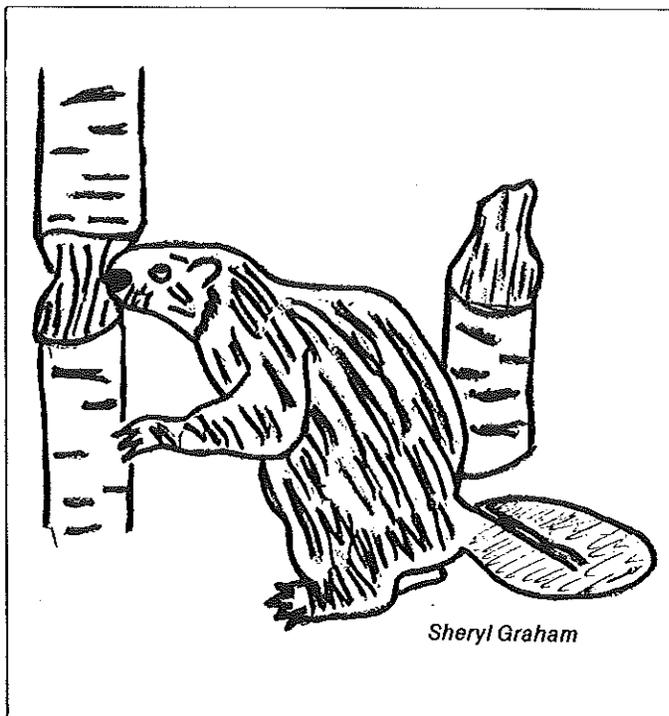
"Lucifer Blue Chip" has been in the 'chips' too for Greenwood, Ritchie and Corbett of Grand Valley.

Harold Livingston of Con. 2, has had two winners claimed in 1980. "Mentor Dominion" in 1980, won \$8,600 in prize money while "Cruising Esther" had 10 wins in her last ten races bringing in \$8,200 in prizes, racing at Orangeville and Greenwood.

Jim Wilson, Con. 11 has had several good horses at Orangeville raceway as well as others.

A driver from Grand Valley, Mel Corbett, has received many honours for his driving successes throughout the last few years at many of the tracks in Southern Ontario.

Racing enthusiasts from the township and village continue to flock to the racetracks where, even in winter, they watch behind glass, the exciting races and anticipate their gleanings from the betting privileges they are now allowed.



Grand Valley

On the banks of the Grand River, on the corner of Concession 2 and Sideroad 30 of East Luther township is nestled the village of Grand Valley, originally a part of four farms. Shanties built on these farms by Dr. McPherson (1851), the Joyce's (1854), the Erskine's (1856) and Richard King (1856) were the first buildings. The first school was built in 1860 on the south-east corner of Main and Amaranth Streets. It was of frame construction, the first building not constructed of logs.



Main Street West about 1900

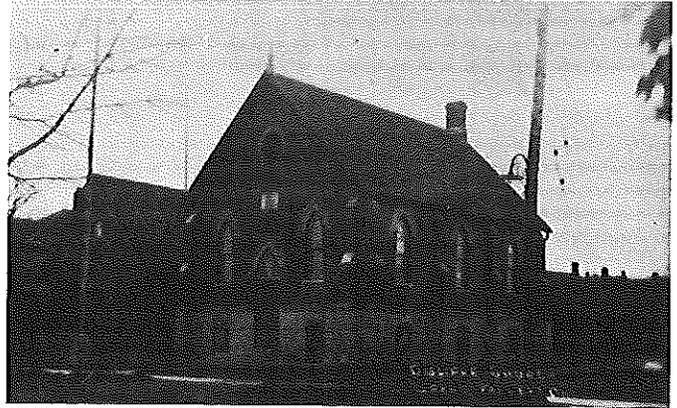


McIntyre's Feed Store and Traders' Bank.

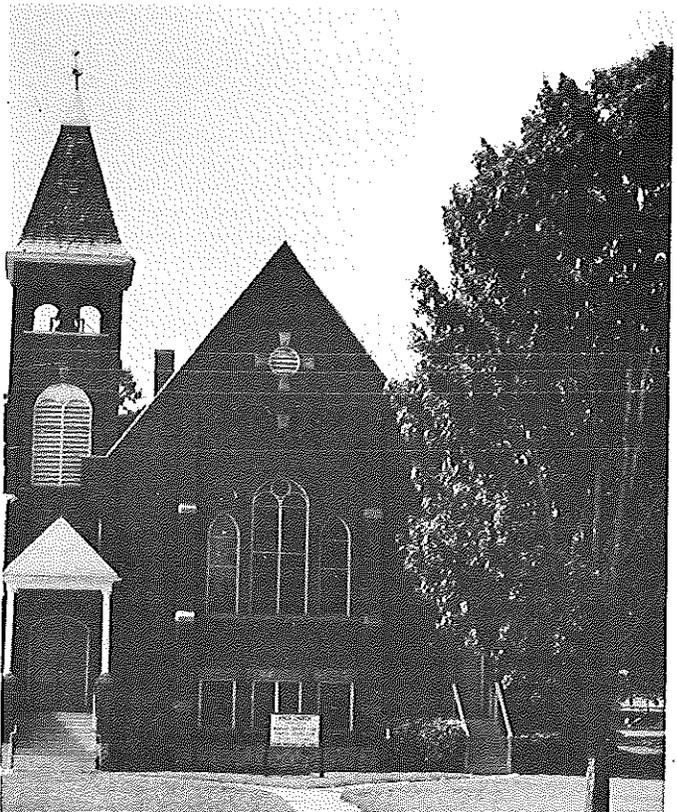
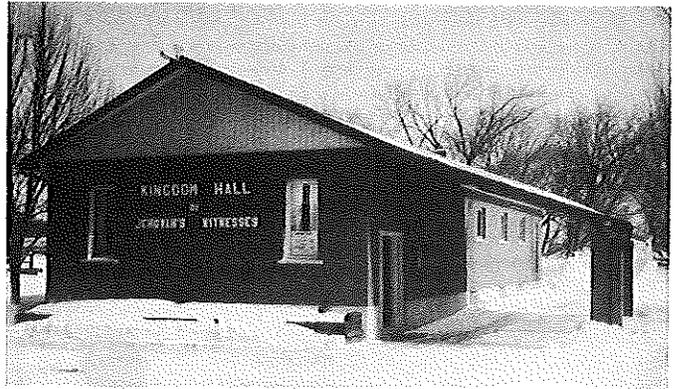
Mills began to spring up—saw mills, planing mills, grist mills! By 1900, 158 homes had been constructed to house a population of 751. Services were needed. Samuel Stuckey opened the first post office. W.R. Scott and William Dawson eliminated one of the greatest hardships of the pioneers by supplying many of their needs in the first general store on Main St. W.

Churches

The first church was erected on Main Street by the Disciples, followed closely by the Presbyterians, the Methodists, 1875 and the Anglicans. In 1924 the Latter Day Saint's built their house of worship on Mill Street and more recently the Jehovah's Witnesses on Cooper Street in 1962. Five of these churches had church sheds where horses were



First church organized in Grand Valley.



Knox Presbyterian Church



Trinity United Church

tied during worship services and often on week-days when the church members were shopping. These have been removed and replaced by parking lots for cars. The first brick house in the village was the original Presbyterian manse on Amaranth Street just east of the library where Mrs. Mildred Tilley now lives. A new manse stands beside the Presbyterian church. Morning worship continues but no regular evening services are held. Anniversary services provide a time for worship and fellowship with old friends from a distance.



Reorganized Church of Latter Day Saints



St. Alban's Church

Hotels

Three hotels were erected early in the century with livery stables adjacent to provide food and shelter for man and beast. The Dominion Hotel where the cenotaph now stands has been demolished but the stable remains, being used by a mechanic for a repair shop. The Commercial Hotel now has apartments upstairs and an upholstery shop below. The Grand Central has been divided into apartments. The alleyway leading to the open shed behind the hotel has been closed in.

Some of the early businesses included— Harry Rounding's carriage shop, R.E. Hamilton's Real Estate, George Tough's tailor shop, Dr. Gaviller's medical practice, Reaburn's harness shop, John McIntyre's farm feed store, Traders' Bank, F.C. Marshall—furniture, Robert Miller—flour, seed and groceries, Dr. Andrew Reilly, veterinarian and 2 elevators at the railway station for storing grain.

After a great fire demolished several businesses in 1900 a Fire department was organized with Wm. Baker, Ernest Mottart and Clifford Gillespie as fire chiefs in succession. In 1952 A.E. (Scotty) McIntyre became fire chief and more and better equipment was secured. This department has been used by East Luther residents for fire protection for many years, presently under the supervision of Fire Chief, Irvine Moore.

During the first decade of the new century, the village's expansion seemed to pause as the West was calling for settlers and a trend to the city was noted. Another fire demolished the McIntyre Feed Store. McIntyre's built a new block to later house the Royal Bank, the feed store and Lawson's Shoes. In 1913 Dr. G.I. Campbell's house on Amaranth Street was gutted. A new modern brick house was built with running water, bathroom, and a hot water heating system. James J. Reith then had the general store on Main St. W. and Dr. M.W. Berwick, a Shelburne boy, began his medical practice in the village.

In 1914 a memorable fire removed an eye-sore, the old school-house which was then being used by Sammy 'Duck' (Duckworth) for a produce depot. He was the first person to pay cash to the farmers for eggs and butter. The Weather Insurance Company later bought this property and landscaped the corner area. W.T. Edmanson, druggist, and librarian, Wm. McKinley were familiar figures in the late 1910's.

Grand Valley Over Fifty Years Ago

James Hamilton of Arthur, an old East Luther boy who left the township in 1927, in reminiscent mood, penned the following which was published in the Star and Vidette on April 23, 1969.

Grand Valley is surrounded on all sides by the Township of East Luther and on occasion has been called the capital of the township. With that thought in mind, the poem surely deserves a place in the history of East Luther Township.

*Recently, we visited Grand Valley by car—
Old Hometown, how wonderful you are!
You're set in a valley, an ideal site;
The trees enhance your streets just right.
The "hill" to the north looks just as steep;
The river still runs fast and deep.*

*As we strolled around the business places
Back to our mind came the faces
Of those once on main street, so plain and clear,
It seemed as if 'twere but yesteryear.
So let's that former time review,
For things are different . . . yes, quite a few.*

*On the east of the street, 'tween the bank and the hall,
Stood Reith's Mutrie's and Edmansons' stores, well stocked
all;
A confectionery, where we broke health's rules;
A neat little store filled with watches and jewels;
Donaghy's hardware in which were sold bolts and nuts;
Gamble's Barber Shop ('member the 25¢ hair cuts?).*

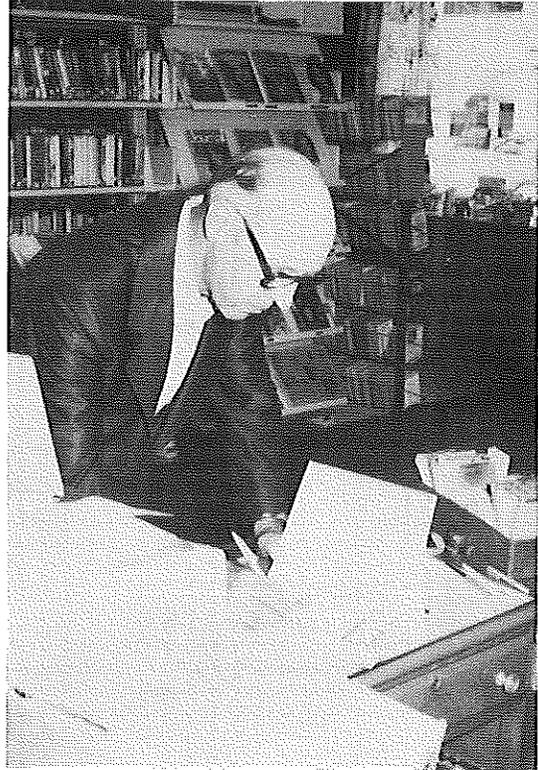
*Lawson's and Hastilow's sold and repaired the shoes;
The Star and Vidette (then as now) reported the news;
T.H. Hamilton's Garage supplied the touring car's needs;
McIntyre's handled cattle, hog, sheep and poultry feeds.
In the post office, Mr. Maxwell (remember him?),
Sent money orders to Toronto to "Bob" and "Tim".*

*On the west, Miller's Creamery and Egg Station were,
Also Lang's Butcher Shop, Stevenson Bros. hardware;
A bakery, a funeral home, the office of Dr. Berwick,
(Where we were sent when we became sick).
Plus two hotels, a garage, Watson's Grocery Shop;
With Richardson's office, C. Hodgson's Grocery and
Memorial park at the top.*

*On a side street "Baker's" mill ground grain into chop,
Behind it spring water flowed from a pipe without stop.
On another street, Joe Greenwood 'tended a feed store,
Beacock's, Smithy and Martin's Livery, once there, are no
more.*

*These spots were second only to the church sheds
For discussions ranging from taxes to thoroughbreds.
The winding station road a quaint touch lends:
The Grand still ripples round its bends,
A lovely 30 foot high pine grove holds back the snow—
Wooden windbreaks did that job long ago.
The hardtop on Highways 9 and 25 since then are new,
The high school, the arena, the post office are too.*

*Depending on memory, we could ramble on,
But we see our space in this issue is gone.
Since we moved away, forty (now fifty) years back and more,
There have been changes by the score . . .
But still in its location and in its name
Dear old Grand Valley remains the same.*



James Hamilton

Grand Valley in the Thirties and Forties

The Depression of the 30's brought difficult times for the farmers of the district, resulting in adverse business conditions in the village. Drastic changes were to follow when war broke out in 1939.

In 1942 gasoline rationing for motor cars began, followed closely by rationing of sugar, butter, tea and coffee.

For a time four medical doctors served the area. Besides Dr. Berwick, there were Dr. Williamson, Dr. McCullough, and Dr. Ross Nodwell, a Grand Valley boy who returned to his native village for two years.

After the death of Robert Lang in 1943 his grocery and meat business was sold to John Talbot. The Creamery and Egg-grading station was sold to a Toronto Company who had installed a cold-storage plant in the Dillon Block where lockers could be rented before freezers were in use.

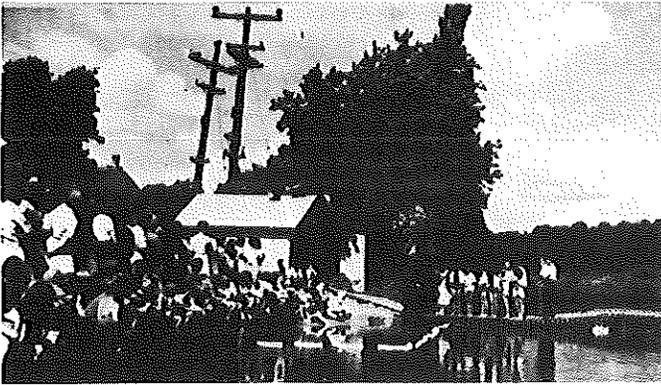
Miss Zella Miller, daughter of Robert Miller, started a small wares store on the site of W.H. Mutrie's drug store. Mr. and Mrs. Oran Grundy continued this business for many years.

In 1940 Thomas Sime purchased the furniture and undertaking business from Frank Sargent. George Cunningham who had been in the undertaking business since 1909 continued to assist the Sime's. Bill and Jack, son and grandson of Thomas Sime, now operate the business.

Most of the young men of the village were in the Armed Services, while those at home were making contributions to the Red Cross and Victory Loan campaigns.

Grand Valley in the 50's and 60's

After World War II farmers had prosperous times and business in the village improved. Hydro power came to the farmers and a host of inter-related products were in urgent demand. This gave the village the greatest boost since the coming of the railroad. New appliance shops were opened by Verne Hodgson and Orville Hardy. John I. Reith purchased the Richardson Block for a hardware, men's wear and also egg-grading station. This was where his uncle, James J.



The old swimming hole on Mill Street East.

Reith, had begun business in 1890. James H. Hillis erected a fine new garage and implement shed next to the river (now Young's apartments and laundromat). The Lions' Club was organized and undertook the development of the park across the river. Grand Valley Co-op purchased the feed store of Joe Ferrier on Amaranth St. W. (he had bought it from Gib McArthur). Five years later (1954) the Co-op bought the grist mill and coal business on Mill St. from Wm. Baker. The old Thomas Sime blacksmith shop was closed, thus marking the end of blacksmithing in Grand Valley.

In 1955 Garnet Potter closed his electrical shop to become a United Church minister. The new post office was built in 1958. John White sold the dairy to Irvine McCrone who converted it to an up-to-date restaurant, now operated by John Brown. The shopping area had new owners—Ed Windus in John Reith's grocery store, Mrs. Shannon beside Gamble's barber shop, Clayburn Montgomery in Wm. Hall's grocery (where Wm. Graham's creamery had been) and Joe McGowan in Donaghy's hardware. Dr. Bonar Bracken who had married an East Luther girl, Viola Bates, died suddenly and until recently no dentist has taken his place. Now Dr. Robert Mitchell serves the Community from the Dental-Medical Centre. In 1957 the new High School was built and later extended to include a gymnasium and additional classrooms. The public school was renovated to use all six rooms for public school pupils (the three upstairs rooms had been used for high school pupils.)

Tom Tindall started a mill and feed supply business on Emma Street continuing under his name to this time, but now

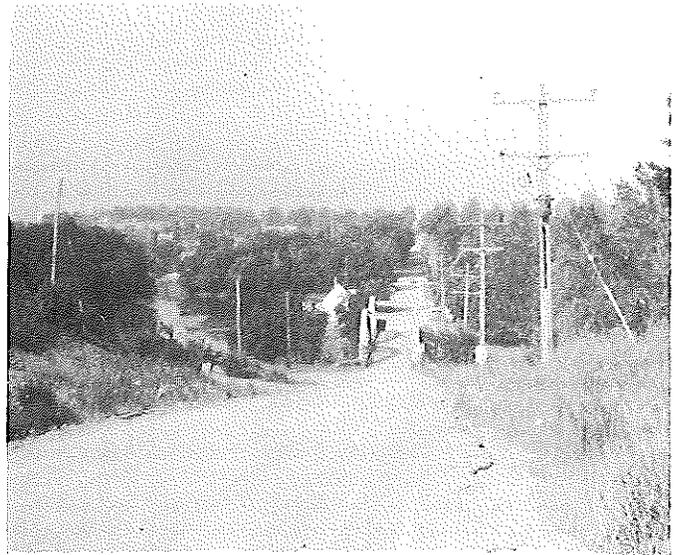
managed by his daughter Elsie and her husband, Leslie Soloman.

The streets of Grand Valley were very dusty at first. A sprinkler was used on Main Street for a few years before the streets were treated with oil. In 1928 Main Street was paved with concrete and shortly after the other streets were given a coat of asphalt.

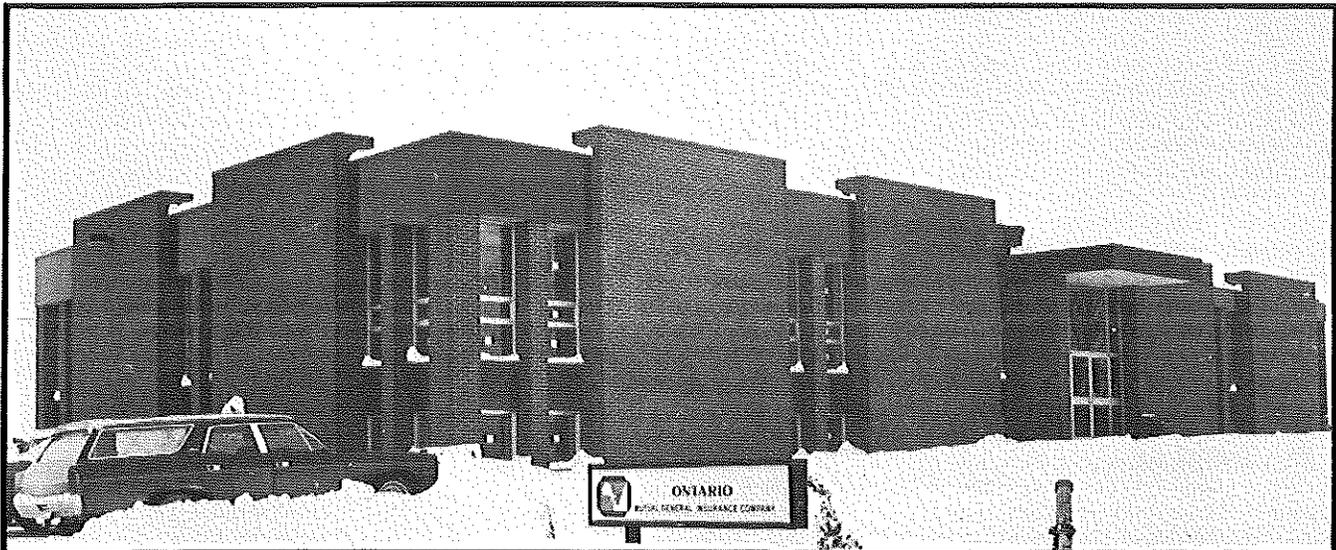
Some of the municipal officials in the village have been—James J. Reith, T.H. Hamilton (auctioneer and Ford dealer), J.E. McIntyre, Lewis Menary (later M.P.) Alfred Menary, Thos. Watson (baker), Wm. McLelland, John G. Reith, Robert Lang, Wm. Baker, W.T. Edmanson, James White, A.E. McIntyre, Harry Crane, James H. Hillis, Joe Greenwood, E. Eastham, Dr. Bruce Fife, Wilfred West, John Thompson, and present reeve and County Warden, William Young, 1981.

Medical

One of the most familiar figures to visit East Luther farms was Dr. A. Hughes, local veterinarian who was fond of horses and interested in horse racing. Dr. Garnet Zealand, M.D. practiced for 10 years in Grand Valley from his home, the former John G. Reith house on Water Street selling to Dr. Robert Lee. Dr. Berwick continued to practice as long as his



Amaranth Street from the east, 1980.



Ontario Mutual General Insurance Company

health allowed. Grand Valley then had no doctor so the sick drove to Orangeville or other towns for medical care. It was with great relief that the Medical-Dental Centre was built and Dr. D.L. Mulder was persuaded to serve this area.

Mrs. John McCulloch of Gier St. had a nursing home from 1932-1947 where she cared for 170 maternity patients in that period with excellent results. Since that time all maternity patients have gone to a hospital.

In 1959 a nursing home was started in the former James J. Reith's large brick house on Gier St. by Mr. and Mrs. Werner Bellinger. Although Bellingers stayed only 5 months, the Hurlburt family renovated the house so that it is suitable for the purpose and is a home for older citizens. Presently it is operated by Mrs. Jean Fray, R.N. with eleven patients.

Insurance

Willis E. Montgomery operates an insurance business on Main Street dealing with car and fire insurance chiefly. Roy Stuckey from his home on Mill Street, E. operates a similar business.

The Ontario Mutual General Insurance Company (An All-Canadian Company)

Shortly after the turn of the century a group of farmers who had fire insurance coverage on their property felt that they should have a company to cover them for wind, cyclone and tornado damage. A group of interested men collected a reserve of \$200,000 and the Government granted a charter in 1904 to the Ontario Farmers' Weather Insurance Mutual Company with headquarters at Grand Valley. The first President was Wm. Park with Sec.-Treas. J.W. Rounding and J.A. Richardson, the first auditor.

The first office was on the east side of Main Street in the vicinity of the present bakery. Agents were appointed in all the townships to get business increasing. By 1919 the directors felt that they needed a building of their own and bought the Morrison Block (s.e. corner of Amaranth and Main) for \$1,000 and proceeded to have the brick building erected. W.H. Stewart did the carpenter work for \$3.50 a day, while James Mellor did the brickwork for \$25.

Many of the first claims were for damaged windmills and wooden silos. The company increased in policy holders. W.A. Wansborough followed J.W. Rounding as Sec. Treas. until 1935 when Nell Foster was appointed as Sec. Treas. and Manager. During the last number of years the board felt that they must move into all lines of Insurance. David Tombs was engaged to assist Nell Foster to learn the business prior to Nell's retirement in 1970 after 35 years with the company. A decision was made to erect a new building. A lot was purchased beside the Bell Telephone building on North Main St. and construction began. Sufficient staff was hired; inspectors were placed in Peterborough and London and another in the Head office. By 1978 more room was required and an addition was built. In 1979, seventy-five years of service to policy holders was celebrated.

The 1979 executive consisted of David Tombs and Barry Mulvey, Mrs. Jan Cooke Sec., Wm. Hasenpflug Pres., Ernest Hewitson and Ross Brown Vice-Pres. with two local men on the board, Dr. Bruce Fife and Norman Smith.

This company employs more local people than any other business in the village at this time. (1980)

Other Businesses in 1970-80

The grocery stores are now operated by Young's Red and White and Jim Rowe's IGA. Only one shoe store operated by Mrs. Ormond Benham graces the Main Street. A bakery, operated for twenty-six years by Mr. and Mrs. Laverne Crane is now owned by Richard Czapelka, who opens three days a week. Two hardware stores, the Pro Hard-

ware is operated by Irvine Moore and Home Hardware until recently owned by Alex Brown who died suddenly in the fall of 1980. The garage built by H.H. Hilborn at the corner of Mill and Main St. is used by Paul Callaway for repairing and painting cars. Two restaurants and a tavern now serve the residents and tourists who pass through on Highway 25. Several business places are unoccupied. Although the population has increased to 1200, people are travelling to large shopping centres for many of their supplies.

The population explosion was due to a need for cheaper housing than city folks could get. To help to satisfy this need Dr. Bruce Fife and Dick Spruyt had "Riverhill Developments" built. New people flocked in, commuting long distances to work. In 1980, when gasoline has become expensive and interest rates are excessive, we see an exodus of many from these beautiful new homes.

What lies ahead? Grand Valley has seen periods of rapid progress succeeded by recession again and again. At present it would appear that a large business firm is needed to employ more Grand Valley people.

Printing

In 1886 the first printing office was started in Grand Valley by John McPherson, great-uncle of George and Robert McPherson. He called it "The Dufferin Star."

The first issue was dated Dec. 23, 1886 and consisted of 8 pages 9" x 12" in size. It was soon enlarged to the standard size, a four-page sheet each 18" x 24". The printing was done in the Dillon Block where the Home Hardware is now situated. Mr. McPherson, besides editing the paper was very ingenious, having invented a very serviceable typewriter. He died of consumption at the early age of thirty-nine years in 1893.

The paper was then taken over by D.H. Morrison who sold it the next year to R.F. Taylor (grandfather of Lewis Menary) who kept it until 1897 when he sold it to Logan Craig. Mr. Craig proved himself a very efficient editor., and used the paper's influence for any project to better the community.

In 1899 a rival paper "The Vidette" started but a bad fire destroyed its office in 1900. Logan Craig purchased what was left and combined it with his own to form "The Star and Vidette".

In 1925 James L. Landsborough bought the Star and Vidette and now fifty-five years later his family continues to operate the business. J.G. (Bud), his son is an efficient editor advancing with the times by the use of new and modern equipment. He has been a good citizen, active in community life, school board and library activities and is one of the leading fishermen of the area.

In 1981, Bud's wife, Doreen, and son Glyndon are a very active and real part of the present family business.

East Luther's Big Tree

—by James Hamilton

Almost every week since May 1954, over 26 years ago—we have written a column "By The Way" in the Arthur Enterprise-News. We think the following which appeared in that column this spring on March 12, 1980, to be exact, might be of interest to East Lutherites.

"We believe that it was in the Grand Valley Star and Vidette recently that we noticed an item from Dundas, Ont., which stated that an elm tree in that community is believed to be the largest in Canada, with a growth of 16 feet (192 inches). A "Save The Tree" fund to protect it has now reached \$1600.

"That seemed like an enormous tree but here is a clipping from "By The Way" of Aug. 22, 1963:

"Was it just boyish fancy that the stately old elm under which we played beside the Grand River on the farm ad-

joining the Village of Grand Valley (now owned by Mr. Young) in our school days was the biggest tree of its kind in the district? That question has bothered us for some time. The other evening we drove over and visited the familiar spot (the first time we had set foot on the place in over 36 years). Memory had not deceived us. There stood the giant with a trunk measuring approximately 200 inches in circumference about 4 feet from the ground; towering and stately as in olden days, despite the loss of a limb which once hung over the river. . . .”

One day last summer we thought of those newspaper items after reading the hydro meters in the sub-division at the north end of Grand Valley (part of the farm owned by Robert Miller over half a century ago, then a part of East Luther Township where at that time we lived and attended Grand Valley Public and Continuation School). Our meter reading job for the day was done. (We would point out here for the benefit of our Grand Valley critics that we were paid for the entire reading job and not by the hour.) Why not visit the site of the old tree and verify those measurements taken back in 1963—seventeen years ago?

After trudging in rank, wild vegetation and underbrush for some time, we found the object of our search. Yes, the Dutch Elm disease had killed the tree and the trunk was broken off at a height of ten or twelve feet from the ground. . . but the huge single trunk was still intact and appeared bigger than ever. . . It wasn't boyish fancy after all! We had a roll of cord in our pocket which we placed around the trunk's circumference about a foot above its base, tied a knot in it and rolled it up again.

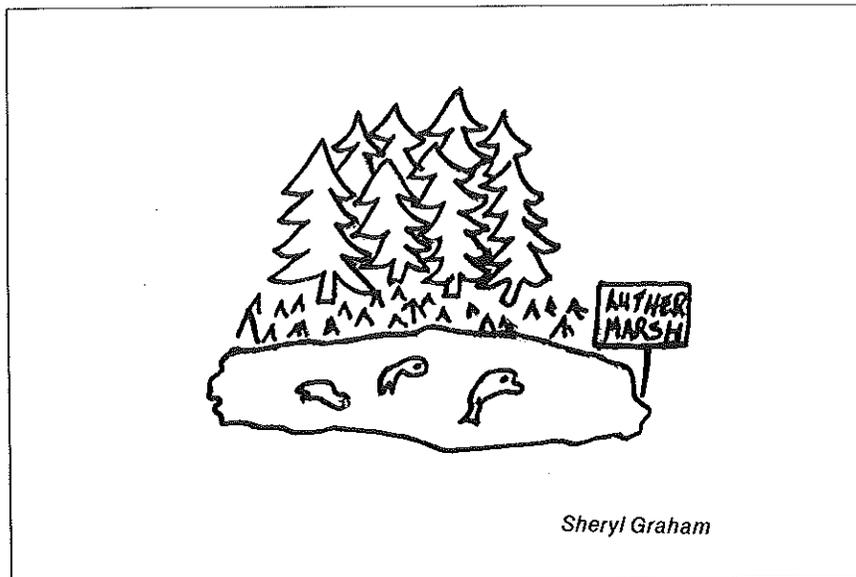
That cord was later unrolled on a sidewalk and measured exactly 6 yards, 26 inches, four feet more than “the biggest elm in Canada!”

We're suggesting that your Centennial Committee investigate these measurements—and soon. This elm base may even hold the record for size. It could be a worthwhile Centennial project for East Luther Township to perpetuate the memory of this once mighty monarch before the trunk deteriorates and its measurement is forever lost. Perhaps it could even yet be preserved and/or marked!

Let It Pass

*Be not swift to take offense
Let it pass
Anger is a foe to sense
Let it pass.
Brood not sorely o'er the wrong
Rather sing this cheery song
Better be wronged than wrong
Let it pass.*

—Written by Rev. Gordon Wanless



Sheryl Graham

Disasters and Accidents

A disaster may be defined as a sudden or unexpected misfortune. Many such occurrences have been reported in the last one hundred years in East Luther.

The first could be classed as a scare only! Sept. 5, 1881 was known as "Dark Day." Due to bush fires, supposedly in Michigan, smoke darkened the countryside about 4 p.m. Many thought it was the end of time and forgot to do their evening chores!

Very real disasters have happened since then, though! Fires have taken their toll of wooded areas, houses, barns and sawmills due to lightning, friction, hot grease and many other causes. The most serious occurred in 1973 when the Dooley children, Frances, Kerry and Brian were burned to death in their home on Con. 3 from hot grease igniting.

An excerpt from The Star and Vidette in Jan. 1933 tells of a fire at the home of R.T. Forgrave on Lot 32, Con. 2, which totally destroyed the house and most of its contents, the cause—overheated stovepipes.

A few years later the home of Harry Cannon on Lot 27, Con. 2, was destroyed by fire leaving Mr. and Mrs. Cannon and five children homeless.

Hilda Potter was involved in an accident by burning followed by shock causing her death in 1917 at the age of thirteen years.

Mrs. Albert Campbell, the former Elizabeth Small, was struck by lightning in her home Lot 19, Con.1, in 1919, when her baby, Irwin, was very small.

More recently, at milking time on July 19, 1944 Jack Eastwood, son of Norman Eastwood, was struck by lightning and killed when he was bringing the cows in from the pasture.

Farm accidents with animals, guns and machinery were numerous.

Albert Hills, in 1913, at three years of age, died from an accident causing compression of the brain.

Douglas McWhirter, aged 13, received a fractured skull in a runaway accident in 1918.

James Owens, Con. 3, at the age of 73 was run over by a binder when his horses ran away in harvest time.

William John Carroll, Lot 22, Con. 8, dislocated his neck in an accidental fall from a wagon in 1928. He was 67 years of age.

In the same year David Veitch, Con. 11, was trailed behind a horse, causing death from an internal hemorrhage—his age, 61 years.

William Atkinson, Con. 4, was involved in a farm accident. His team ran away and he was crushed to death leaving his wife with a young family of 4.

Ray Lehman, aged 18, was shot by his brother Warren, aged 15, while out hunting rabbits together near their home at



Black Bridge Disaster, 1928.

Lot 19, Con. 3 in 1932.

Wilton Walker, husband of Dorothy Legate, Con. 4, was killed in an accident with a buzz saw.

Another death occurred in the same family in 1940 when George Legate, aged 12, was accidentally shot by his brother Charles.

In 1937 Weir Willmott fell from a barn roof while removing straw from it and fractured his lumbar spine resulting in his death at the age of 35. The following year on a nearby farm, David Mitchell, trampled and gored by an enraged cow, died at the age of 58.

As the result of a kick on the head by a horse, Roy Hustler, son of Bruce Hustler, developed septicemia from which he died in 1942 at the age of 16. A first time for many of them, neighbours volunteered blood for transfusions for Roy but all efforts to save him failed.

While walking on Highway nine one night in August, 1938, Harry Platt, aged 43, was struck and killed by an automobile.

The Grand River has been the scene of a few disasters. Flooding in the spring is not uncommon, causing damage to some of the adjacent homes. One flood in 1918 appears to have been the most serious as both wooden bridges in Grand Valley were washed away that year. During Hurricane Hazel the water flooded streets and basements as far north as the Royal Bank.

The disaster of 1928 when the Black Bridge (Con. 4) collapsed could have been more serious. After midnight a bus returning home to Camp Borden from Niagara military training camp was crossing the bridge. A passenger got out to walk across the wooden bridge with the bus, when down it went! He was the most seriously injured but all recovered.



Men picking ice in Grand Valley after the flood.



1947 Storm—road going out of Grand Valley.

Cyclones, although infrequent, have ripped off parts of buildings and carried off rail fences in narrow swaths in the township.

Winter storms have been exciting and dangerous. Ozzie Foreman tells of some of them in another chapter. In 1947 the village had no train for 21 days and roads and highways were impassable. Yeast for the bakeries was flown in and dropped in Ed. Irvine's field (now Arthur Taylor's).

Audrey Bruce tells us of one sudden winter storm when she was teaching the first kindergarten class at Marsville school in 1970. She ended up sleeping on the classroom floor with 37 children. At Grand Valley school, the East Luther children did not get home from school either. They were billeted with children who lived in the village.

Motor accidents are becoming more frequent. Leone (Mrs. Albert Looby) was killed in a tragic automobile accident involving a gravel track on Highway 10 near Caledon.

At the C.P.R. crossing on Sideroad 27 a crash took the life of William James Gray of London in 1976 when his Cadillac was carried several hundred yards down the track on impact with the train.

On Con. 2, Rick Winters narrowly escaped death when a drunken driver missed the tractor Rick was riding and hit the wagon behind. The driver of the car was killed.

Many drownings have taken place within the area. Many years ago Boyles had 14 children. At dinner one day one child was missing. He was found in the cistern. More recently a tiny girl, Judith Zumach, Colbeck, fell into a neighbor's swimming pool and was drowned.

After Luther Lake was in existence, duck hunters flocked to the marsh. Precautionary measures were not always taken for their safety and six hunters drowned between 1954 and 1965. None of these were local people.

The most recent casualty in the marsh area was Harvey Wilson, a West Luther farmer, who was decapitated on a

snowmobile when he hit a cable across the road at the entrance to East Luther Landfill site in 1977.

The community of Grand Valley and East Luther was shocked and saddened by the accidental death of thirteen year old Michael Taylor in December, 1980. He was the son of Wayne and Elizabeth Taylor and grandson of Alvin and Nelda Taylor and Rev. and Mrs. Gordon Wanless. Michael was doing the evening chores at the Taylor farm when he slipped into a running machine and was killed.

Unexpected misfortunes there were and, unfortunately we cannot expect any cessation of these circumstances as we face the future.

Crimes

'An offence against morality or the public welfare' is Webster's definition of a crime. How do East Luther residents, now and back then, stack up in this regard?

Many of the interviews revealed that most of the crimes in their memory revolved around liquor offences.

In the early days there were many bootleggers as the Luther Swamp was an ideal spot to hide their 'stills'. Another more daring fellow had his enterprise set up in the granary in his barn. The story is told of a Shelburne doctor who paid a visit to this home and by the time he left he was so inebriated that he became involved in a "horse and buggy" accident on the way home. The buggy tipped over, leaving the doctor lying on the side of the road!

Another bootlegger hid his homemade brew in a neighbouring sugar camp so he would have it for his threshing. At another time this same fellow hid a collection of it and couldn't find it when he wanted it. Although he had misplaced it himself, he blamed someone for stealing it.

A "scoundrel of the first degree" knew the swamp like the back of his hand and operated a very successful still in the heart of the swamp. He had paths with boards over the wet places leading to the still. When he didn't want to be followed he lifted the boards!

Several from the township served time in jail for selling liquor, homemade or store bought, to minors as well as older people. In modern times many are arrested and fined for infractions of present liquor laws.

The Duckworth's Lot 28, Con. 4, were a family of ill repute many years ago. Although Sammy was the first person in the area to pay cash for butter and eggs he was often accused of dishonesty. About 1912 Tommy "Duck" received a life sentence for the murder of his brother-in-law, Harry Strutt, at the only murder trial ever held in Grand Valley. The cause of the trouble was a family feud. Tommy got out of custody for good behaviour after 17 years but found things had changed on the "outside" too much and asked if he might return to jail.

His brother, William, became a successful alderman in Toronto and later a Member of Parliament.

An unusual incident with a more modern aspect has been told. One Saturday morning when Mae Ritchie and Isabelle Taylor were on duty at Grand Valley Post Office the mounties came in inquiring about a person who had rented a box at the post office. There was a parcel waiting for that person. The mountie wanted to know if anyone had asked for the parcel. A few days previously a man had asked but the parcel hadn't arrived then. The parcel evidently contained marijuana. The offender from Kitchener was arrested. A similar circumstance had happened in Elora the ladies learned.

Nowadays incidents involving morality (or lack of it), drug and alcohol abuses have increased with frightening proportions, undermining the health and welfare of many of the residents of this and other townships in our country.

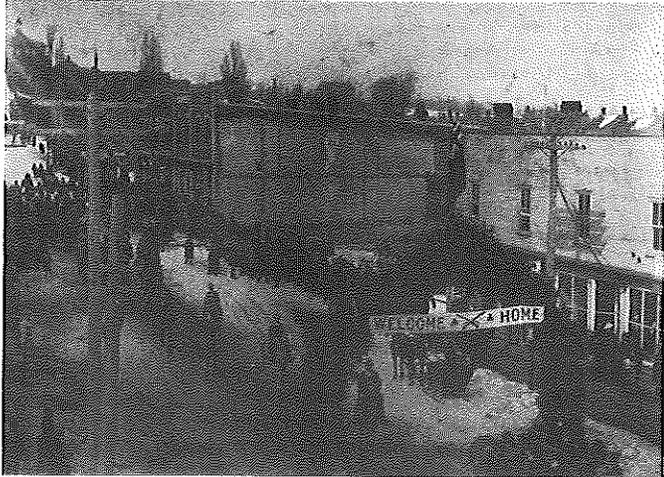


Michael Taylor

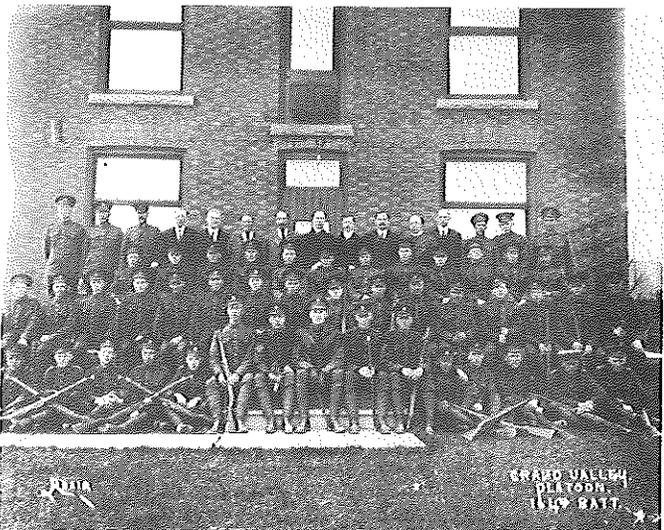
Lest We Forget

East Luther people have been involved in three wars—the Boer War, 1899, World War I, 1914-1918 and World War II, 1939-1945. Records seem very incomplete.

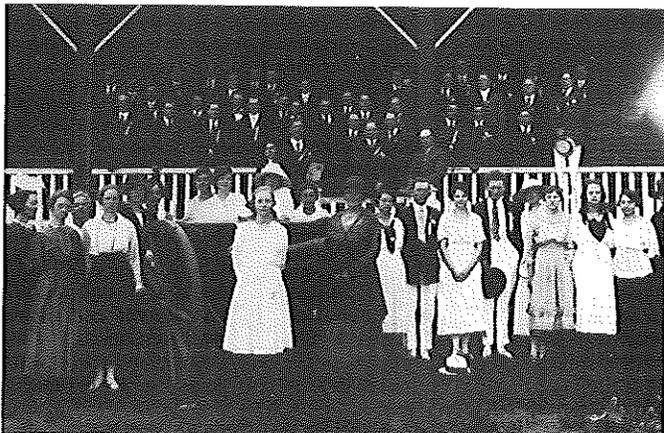
Stan Hunt remembers welcoming the soldiers back from the Boer War. He said, "We thought they were great fellows—"heroes in the minds of the local population."



Returning from the Boer War.



World War I, 164th Battalion



Reception at Fairgrounds for Returned Soldiers, 1918.

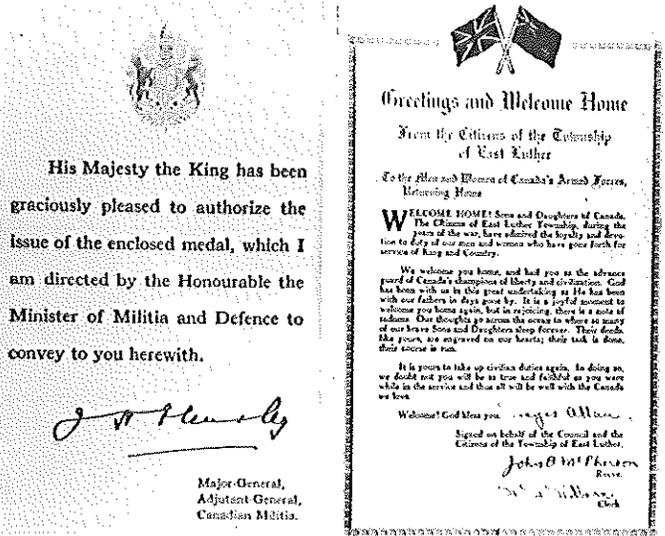
Honour Rolls from the Grand Valley Branch of the Canadian Legion include names of some of the East Luther and Grand Valley boys we honour.

The picture of the 164th Battalion members from the two World Wars may include—

- Herbert Atkinson, killed in France 1917
- Harry Linklater, killed at Passchendaele 1917
- Fred Rainey, killed at Arras 1918
- Herbert Eastwood, killed in action 1918
- William A. McKee, killed in action 1918
- Wilbert Reilly, killed in action 1916
- Austin Reilly, killed in action 1916
- Clifford Hills, killed in action 1917

and others who returned home namely—

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| John McCulloch | Albert Densmore |
| Herbert McDougall | Wesley Reilly |
| John Keast | Leslie Cunningham |
| Allan Tyner | William Platt |
| John Eastwood | Harry Platt |
| Samuel Keast | George Bruce |
| Harvey Reilly | William Hall |
| Austin Jordan | Stanley Hustler |
| Alex Tyner | Standish Hunt |
| Oscar Legate | Alex Sime |
| Robert Cunningham | Ernest Crane |
| William Colbeck | John Colley |
| George Dickson | Weir McCulloch |
| Jim Eastwood | Thomas Sime |
| John Berry | Fred Larter |
| Ernest Reilly | Hilliard Densmore |
| John Small | Albert Greenwood |
| Gordon Sime | |

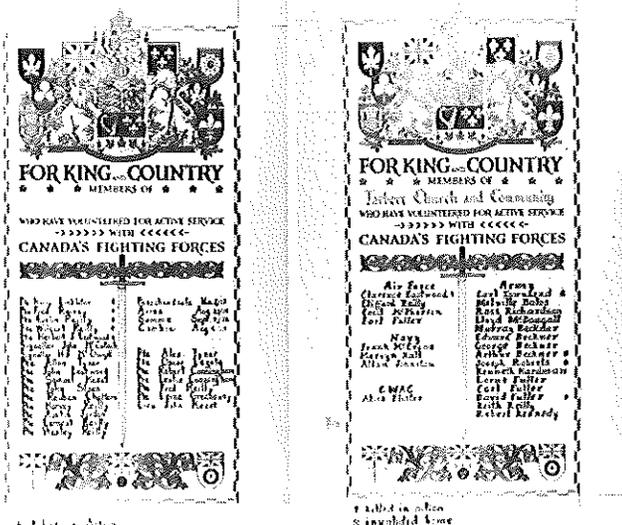


The accompanying letter expresses the feelings of community—

COPY OF A LETTER SENT TO MR. JOHN McCULLOCH

To Mr. John McCulloch,
Dear Friend:

We your neighbors and friends desire to express our appreciation of your action in joining the 164th Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Forces in defense of home and



motherland, and furthermore desire that, that appreciation should be in practical form.

We therefore present you with this Military Wrist Watch and while not of intrinsic value, yet it represents our admiration of your stand, and our regard for you in the past as comrade and neighbor.

We also desire to convey to you our wish and assure you of our prayers on your behalf, and pray God that He may bless you and bring you safely home again. As you look at this gift you will perhaps (sic) think of your old friends in East Luther, and remember that whilst you sojourn in foreign lands, striving to maintain our Empire's integrity and honor, that there are those far across the sea in the loved place called home, who are following you in all your wanderings and hope to greet you once again amid the snows of our beloved Dominion.

Signed on behalf of your friends and neighbors.

Effects of the War on East Luther Township

Women on the home front played an important part in war activities and support. They volunteered to work individually and in organizations to contribute to the war effort. More details are incorporated in the section about "Women's Institutes."

On the whole farmers did well out of the war. They made so much money that they recovered from the



Alex Sime

On enlistment for World War II signet rings were presented by East Luther Council to the following—

- | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Arthur Atkinson | George Beckner |
| Arthur Beckner | Edward Beckner |
| Murray Beckner | Lawrence Crane |
| Barton Doyle | Earl Robson |
| Melville Dales | Joe Roberts |
| Milton Duffy | Thos. Soloman |
| Robert Dickson | Robert Soloman |
| Lorne Fuller | Earl Townsend |
| Earle Fuller | Dorrance Bates |
| Lloyd Irvine | Alex Dickson |
| Alvin Hayes | Austin Gibson |
| Morris Montgomery | George Hunt |
| Gordon Montgomery | Paul Lavelle |
| Cecil McPherson | John Lyons |
| Leslie McPherson | Frank McCrone |
| Frank Nairn | Robert McGill |
| Cecil Foster | Irwin Potter |
| Clifford Reilly | Douglas Wilson |
| Andrew Richardson | Alice Plester |
| Gordon Richardson | Weir Winters |
| Ross Richardson | Howard Winters |
| Russell Martin | Clarence Eastwood |

Others representing East Luther were—

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| Coyne Dickson | Nelson Wilson |
| Lewis Dickson | Ernest Cannon |
| Harry Dickson | Raymond Loughheed |
| Carl Fuller | Morris Crewson |
| David Fuller | Douglas Brayford |
| Mervin Hall | Keith Reilly |
| Ray Townsend | Luther Boyle |
| Robert Annis | Robert Whitton |
| Russell Keast | Robert Kennedy |

Depression and some even reached income levels that were taxable. Farm workers, scarce because of the war's drain on man power, who had earned \$40 per month in 1939 were earning \$70 per month in 1945. The farms produced 140% of their pre-war volume with only 80% of their pre-war labour supply.

In January, 1942, the government imposed restrictions on sugar, followed in March of 1943 by rationing of butter, meat, tea and coffee. Farmers were allowed to churn butter for their own requirements. Rubber, gasoline and ammunition were also rationed. Farmers were allowed coloured gasoline for use in tractors but not for cars.

Victory Loan campaigns were organized. Russell Loughheed, H.H. Hilborn, George Deaken and Standish Hunt volunteered to assist. A goal of \$29,000 was set for the Third Loan but East Luther managed to raise only \$21,300.

Returning soldiers were often given receptions or parties and presented with watches, inscribed Bibles and other gifts. Very soon they located in different areas where they found employment suited to their different abilities. Some of course were not as fortunate as others. William Hall, in World War I, lost his right arm and a knee cap at Arras, in France. In June, 1919 he was sufficiently recovered to be released from hospital. He lived at Keldon for many years afterwards.

Alex Sime, son of John Sime Lot 24, Con. 1, was one of the local boys most seriously hurt in World War I so badly that his case received considerable mention. Alex did not get off the train at Toronto. He was lifted off! Two legs missing, one arm gone! He was fitted with artificial legs and a metal hook for a hand. He could then walk without a stick and drive a car. (Previous to enlisting he had been an apprentice-printer with The Star and Vidette). Although incapacitated, he

was off to Ottawa to be a proof-reader in the department of His Majesty's Printer. Alex married, raised a family and continued in his job until he retired in 1952 due to impaired health.

Medals

The George V medal was an overall medal for service in France and Germany; the Defense medal for defence in Britain; Canada medal—1939-45; 1939-45 Star of another service medal.



Medals from W.W. II

Our Honoured Dead

From Grand Valley two young men lost their lives in World War II.

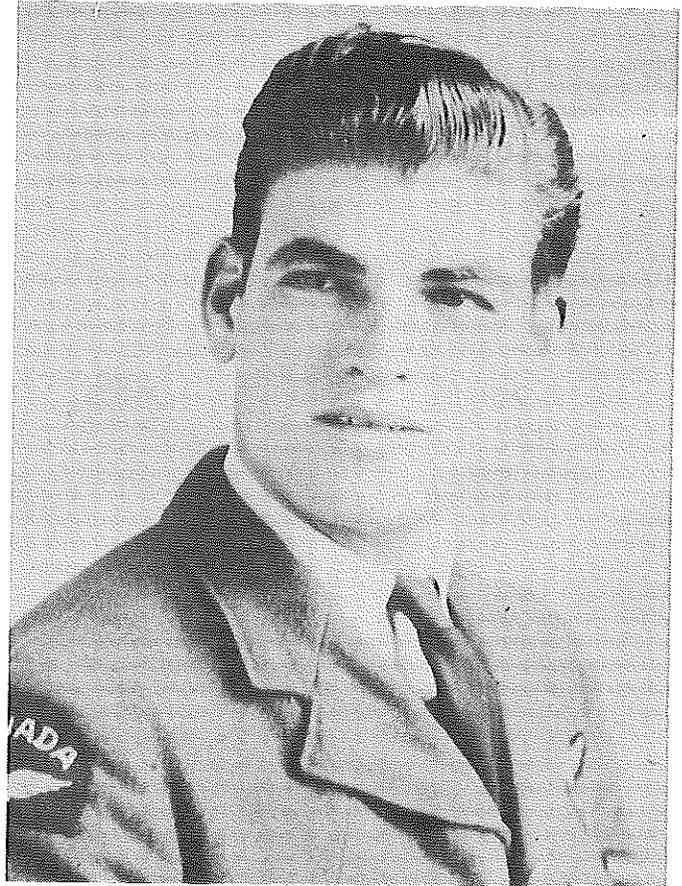
Gordon Harris, son of W.H. Harris, a C.P.R. employee, was a member of Knox Presbyterian Church and an employee at Lang's Creamery before enlistment. Serving with the R.C.A.F. he was killed along with his whole crew in a crash near Sees, in France.

William Watson, son of William Watson, baker and the former Selma McDonald was born in Grand Valley in 1921. Bill received his education at Grand Valley schools and had served his apprenticeship in Pharmacy when he enlisted in the R.C.A.F. and went overseas in 1944. He was reported missing in August of the same year. After his body was recovered from the sea into which his plane had crashed he was buried in Chester in Cheshire, England. He was awarded three medals.

Two East Luther boys also paid the supreme sacrifice.

Clarence Eastwood born March, 1920 at Lot 21, Con. 7 to Norman Eastwood and the former Sarah Greenwood was educated at S.S. No. 4 and Grand Valley Continuation School. He was a member of St. Clement's Church, Colbeck. Previous to his enlistment he was employed by Greenwood Construction Co. as a truck driver. He enlisted with the R.C.A.F. in 1940 and went overseas in 1941. Promoted to Flight-Sergeant in England, he sustained injuries in an operational flight from which he died the following day. He was buried in England.

Russell Martin born 1924 at Lot 23, Con. 11 to Edwin Martin and the former Gertrude Reilly, received his education at S.S. No. 5, after which he helped on the home farm. In 1942 he enlisted with the Dufferin-Haldimand Rifles and proceeded overseas in December, 1943 to the battle front in Italy. One year later he was killed by a sniper's bullet while helping to clean the enemy out of the houses in a town captured by the Canadians. He was buried at Ravenna, Italy.



Clarence Eastwood



Russell Martin

The War Memorial

Following the signing of the Armistice on Nov. 11, 1918 and the return of the soldiers, the people of the community wished to erect a suitable monument to the memory of the local boys who had given their lives in defence of freedom.

The site was chosen. The old Dominion Hotel was sold to Stanley Potter who had it removed. The park was completed and the monument was erected in 1921 under the direc-

tion of the War Memorial Committee.

Every year since that time a Memorial service is held at the Cenotaph. The local branch of the Canadian Legion has taken over the care of the Memorial Park as well as the erection of additional stones for inscription of the names of the four local boys who died in World War II.

Life—a Checkerboard

*Now, take this checkerboard—let's call it Life,
With all its joy and sorrow, love and strife,—
But notice that each section is a square,
And all life's perfect answer lies right there.*

*The first side is the physical,—son, I see
That you have grown to manhood, and how I—
Have gloried in your strength—a great oak tree
That stands in sturdy splendor 'gainst the sky.
Your heart is stout, your eyes are clear and bright—
Keep this side clean, my boy: you'll be all right.*

*And now the mental side,—son, I believe
That we were meant to study all our days:
Something to learn each hour that we may leave
The world a little better, when the haze
Of Doubt is lifted, and the beaming sun
Of Truth comes up to tell us night is done.*

*And then the social side—to be with men
And love them for their faults, their great desires,
The manly urge that drives them upward, when
All but their will has died in earthly fires,—
To take the hand of one who walks with you
And say, "Don't worry, friend! I'll see you through!"*

*And now, at last, the fourth side of our square. . .
To have a real Religion, and to live
Each day—each hour—free from all earthly care,
No greater gift than this can Heaven give,
That when your day is past and night has come,—
His hand may grasp your hand and lead you Home.*

*The four sides of the square, —I hope that you
Will plumb your life by them, and make it true;
Live four-square all the days of life's brief span,
And then the world will say,—“There is a man!”*

—given to us by Evelyn Beam



THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR
EVER MORE

1914
1919

OUR ROLL

W. A. KELLY - ALVIN E. KELLY
 W. A. HARRIS - HARRIS A. HARRIS
 WILBERT S. KELLY - FREDERICK KELLY
 BERT MOSS - REUBEN O. GILLESPIE
 W. J. GILLESPIE - CLIFFORD MOSS
 JAS. BROWN - WILFRED O'REILLY
 STANLEY BROWN - FREDERICK BANEY
 GARFIELD ST. CROIX - FRANK EADES
 W. A. BRICE - ANSTEAD E. GORDON
 W. H. LINKLATER - JOSEPH M. GORDON
 SAMUEL MCGOWN - JAS. W. McDONALD
 JAS. H. EASTWOOD - NOBLE C. POTTER
 HENRY A. MOTTART - FREDERICK BERRY
 LEWIS A. ROUNDING - ROBERT ERING
 CLIFFORD N. BILLS - HARRY S. CONNOR
 ROBERT J. McDOWAN

IN HONOURED MEMORY
 OF THE MEN OF THE PARISH OF
 ST. MARY'S AND EAST LITHAM
 AND EAST GARAFFEL TOWNSHIP
 WHO DIED IN THE GREAT WAR

IV

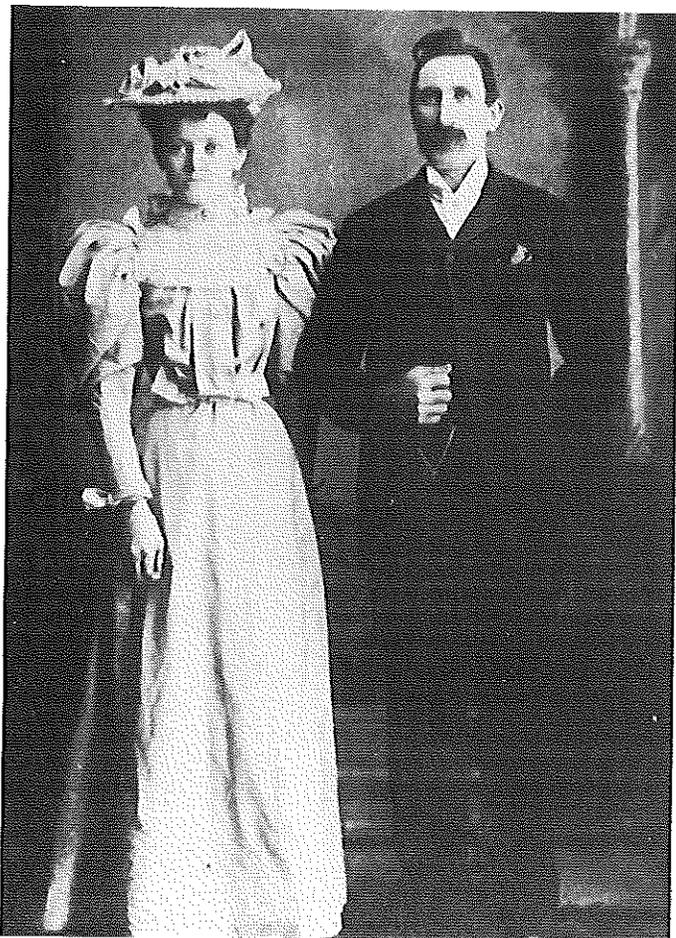
● Family Histories

Family Histories

Henry Berry

Henry Berry Sr. came to East Luther about 1880 and settled on the N1/2, Lot 24, Con. 2 where his grandson, William Berry, farmed until 1979.

Henry Berry Sr. had a son, Henry, who was 19 years of age when they came to Luther. In 1903 they added to their acreage by buying 150 acres at the back of Lot 23. In 1908 they had already cleared much of their land but a strong south wind came up and they decided to burn sixty acres of bush and swamp. Some of the trees which were burned were over 100 feet tall.



Mr. and Mrs. Henry Berry

Henry Jr. was an exceptional barn builder, climbing and running over the timbers like a cat. Although sometimes hurt from falls, sheer determination caused him never to give up. He erected the barn still standing on Lot 24 and the barn and frame house on Lot 23. Hay and grain grew in abundance on the new land and in 1910 he had a threshing that lasted 5 days with 27 men assisting.

Henry was a staunch Orangeman, becoming a member of L.O.L. 256 shortly after it was organized. This lodge, which had 256 members, took prizes for the best dressed and best marching band in Toronto in 1908.

Henry married Margaret Gamble from Belwood. They raised four boys and two girls—John, Joseph, Florence, Agnes, William and Thomas.

John, the oldest, stayed at home until 1918 when he

became a first class Private in the R.A.F. where he acted as military policeman. After returning home from World War I he was employed in the Acme Handle Factory in Grand Valley before he decided to try farming near Waldemar. A barn fire soon changed his plans and he went West where he became a farm labourer.

In 1927 he married Marjorie Graham in Manitoba and came east to work at Beatty Bros., Fergus only to go west again to try farming during the depression to face unbelievable hardships. In 1946 he acquired the farm in East Luther (Lot 21, Con. 3) and remained there until retirement to Grand Valley in 1965.)

John was an Orangeman at eighteen, following in his father's footsteps. Now he has completed 60 years of continuous membership in the Order.

Their family of six daughters received most of their education at S.S. No. 3 and Grand Valley High School. John and Marjorie now have 21 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Joseph, Henry's second son farmed with his father on Lot 23, later marrying Ann Darker and moving to Toronto. He is now retired in Acton.

Florence married Norman Phillips and farmed near Hereward (now deceased).

Agnes worked in Greig's store in Arthur before her marriage to Orville Scarrow and farmed in West Garafraxa. Now retired in Arthur.

William farmed at Lot 24, Con. 2 until retirement in 1979, when he sold the farm to James Bridgeman. Bill married the former Isabel Cannon, an East Luther girl. They have two children, Phyllis (Mrs. Ed. Allen, Arthur) and Ernest, Toronto. Bill has always been an excellent neighbour using his varied skills to repair and set up implements and appliances. His ability to assist the East Luther Telephone Co. is discussed elsewhere.

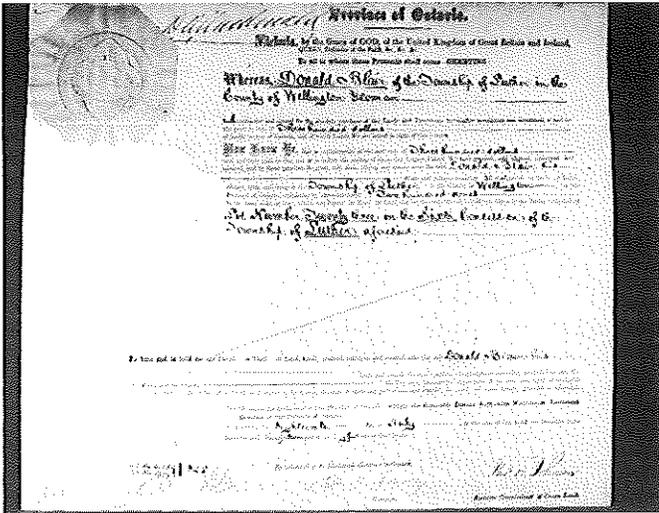
Isabel has used her musical talent to play church organs on occasions, to teach piano lessons to neighbours' children and to assist with school concerts.

Thomas (T.J.) stayed on the home farm involved in mixed farming until, with his wife and 5 children, he moved to Streetsville in 1948. There he worked for a company which made window sashes. They are presently retired in Acton.

While on the farm Tom and his wife, the former Lillian Elshaw, were active in community activities and used their talents unstintingly for the welfare of South Luther Church. The children, Beverly, Garry, Sharon and Merrily received part of their education at S.S. No. 3, while David, the youngest, did not attend school here.

History of the Blair Family

The Blairs came to Luther from their farm in Caledon Township, in 1876. Donald Blair and his two brothers had purchased 3 farms many years before—Blairs, Meldrums and Grahams all on Con. 6. They walked from Belfountain, and found a small log dwelling where Grand Valley now is. The owner kindly invited them in and permitted them to sleep on the floor, which they gratefully accepted. The next day they cut down trees and built a log house just high enough to sleep in. Next morning they saw tracks of the wolves which had prowled around it all night. Donald Blair moved his family to Lot 27 in the spring of 1876 before the frost was out of the swamp. Peter, the oldest was 14 and Jessie (Cowie) was a small baby. Other sisters and brothers were Sarah (McDougall), John, Mary, Alexander, Maggie, Donald and Lily. Their neighbors to the east were the Chatters. Henry



Blair's Deed

Chatters, the eldest son, became a prosperous merchant in Flint, Michigan and Milton became mayor of the same town.

John Blair and Milton Chatters were the first students sent to Orangeville to write Entrance exams. John went to Orangeville High School, attended Model School, and graduated with a First class teaching certificate. Later, continuing his education, he became a medical doctor, practising in Arthur, Ont. for many years. He became a Member of Parliament representing North Wellington as a Liberal.

The Blair family home was the musical centre of the community where Peter played the dulcimer and John played the mouth organ. Peter led in singing hymns which he had learned in the Caledon church by the doh-ray-me system.

The Blair barn was about 100 feet long and the timber for it was all prepared on the ground to be put up by pike poles. This required skill in using a broad axe. Later the art of putting up a barn by block and tackle was learned. This was a much safer way. The whole countryside attended a barn raising, most of the women contributing something to help feed the hungry men. They enjoyed the evening by dancing to the music of violins played by local musicians.

No community can advance without a law given and Mr. Hugh McDougall was best fitted to do the explaining as he had studied the law books. He was not only versed in law but had a natural psychological gift of solving entanglements and sending everyone away happy.

*And still they gazed,
And still the wonder grew,
How one small head
Could carry all he knew.*

In the early spring when the snow began to melt the whole family hiked to the sugar bush laden with wooden pails, barrels and sap buckets made by Alex McPherson. They drilled holes in the maple trees, inserted home-made spiles and collected the sap for boiling in a big sugar kettle swung on 2 piked rods over a fire kept burning day and night. It was made into delectable syrup or turned into large cakes of maple sugar which were wrapped in cheesecloth, and stored on shelves for a year's supply, above the children's reach.

Mr. Wilfred McDougall and son Edward are the only descendants of the Blair family living in East Luther at the present time. Although most of the Blair family left East Luther for different fields of service, they gave a great deal to the development of East Luther's early years and left a living

memorial for us to enjoy—the row of stately old maples along the east side of their farm on 27 sideroad.

Miss Jean Blair, an Ottawa teacher and Donald Blair of Guelph were the last Blairs to be raised on this farm, children of Alexander (Sandy) Blair.

A much-loved teacher, Lily Blair contributed this article from the Tweedsmuir History book.

*O what a debt we owe our pioneers,
Then treat them, friends, with due respect in their reclining years,
But most of them have gone to rest, as many of you know,
Who ventured out to Canada, so many years ago.*

W.B. Bourn Farm, Lot 24 Concession 8

This tract of land, 200 acres, now in 1980 owned by Libero Franco, was purchased by Mr. Bourn in 1893. It was mostly hardwood bush at this time. William B. Bourn, of English ancestry, married Edna Crawford of United Empire Loyalist stock. Their family consisted of Edna (Mrs. Thos. Tyner B.C.), Margaret (Mrs. John Campbell G.V.), Jessie (Mrs. Leslie Walker, Walkerton), Florence (Mrs. Fred Clarke B.C.) Mabel (Mrs. Walker, Teeswater), Charles, Georgina (Mrs. Frank Crewson, Monticello) and Wm., Dromore, Ont.

The first house 24' x 24' was built of logs, as well as a log barn 24' x 28' (later enlarged to 70' x 50'). In 1895 they had only a team of horses and 2 cows. Water was pumped by hand from a dug well but later piped to the buildings. An orchard was started of apple, plum, quince, pear and cherry trees. Mixed farming was done—crops of wheat, barley, oats and turnips were grown. Their treasures included a family Bible dated 1752, Melodeon, Anglican Prayer books 1751, Methodist prayer book 1812 and wooden pinchers 120 years old.

Mr. and Mrs. W.B. Bourn continued to live on this farm until their deaths when their son William took over the farming operation. Margaret lived on the farm across the road where she and John farmed until their family Marjorie, Beatrice, Dougald, Kenneth and Jessie were raised. Margaret died here.

Mrs. Frank Crewson, (Georgina) is the only one of this family living in East Luther now. She resides at Monticello. After marriage to Frank, they lived in West Luther for a time where 4 daughters were born to them—Pauline, Elsie, Muriel and Gwendoline. Of these, Gwendoline (Mrs. Robert Ferguson, Conn) survives. Moving to East Luther in the 30's they farmed on Lot 24, Con. 11. Frank raised beautiful horses—registered Clydesdales—one prize winner at local fairs was named Polly Mag Frank. Frank became mail carrier on R.R. No. 2 serving in this capacity for 24 years. In 1947 when he came home from delivering mail, bone weary, he set his mail bag on the telephone wire and sat down to rest himself—that's how deep the snow was, Mrs. Crewson relates. Those were the years when the only roads in the snow were the ones the horses and sleighs packed down.

As a child Mrs. Crewson had worshipped at St. Clement's, Colbeck with her parents and served there as Sunday School teacher of the little ones. One day she asked "Who made the world?" and Michael Tyner said the preacher did. Ministers were respected by old and very young in those days!

Music was her hobby, a love of which she shared with her daughters. Since living at Monticello she has been organist for 40 years for the U.C.W. of Monticello.

Lorenzo Crewson, a brother of Frank's lived on Lot 25, Con. 12 where he and his son, Murray raised choice Herefords. Murray married Edith Greason and remained on the farm until Murray's death in the early 70's. Edith was a well-known teacher in the township and later in G.V.D.P.S., now

living in Guelph where she continues to teach. Their daughter Darlene teaches in Brampton while her twin brother Darryl continues his education.

The Piet Bouwhuis Family Lot 24, Con. 8

The Bouwhuis family came to Canada in 1948, first living in Alberta because they had no sponsors in Ontario. At first they had some problems as they spoke no English. In 1951 they came to East Luther and conditions began to improve for them as they were able to begin the farm operation with a deposit of only \$200. Although they were the first Dutch family in East Luther they felt that they were very well accepted. At first they felt a little opposition due to the fact that they are Roman Catholics but this feeling has subsided.

Their oldest daughter, Sybil, went to S.S. No. 1 and then to G.V. High School. Dora started at S.S. No. 1, going to S.S. No. 12 and then to High School in Orangeville. Peter went on from S.S. No. 1 to a number of special education courses in Orangeville and is now farming with his father.

Their farm operation is of a different kind from most. They keep a few cows for milk. Their livelihood, however, comes from buying calves, fattening them and selling them when matured. The cattle are slaughtered at a local slaughter house and the beef is sold to local people. The remainder is taken to Toronto and marketed there.

Piet is the second Vice-President of Dufferin County Federation of Agriculture. He served on the school board as a trustee and Secretary-Treasurer and later was on the High School Board. He was a member of East Luther council for 5 years as councillor and is now Reeve of the township.

Because of the Conservation area, the assessment of the township decreased. He would like to see higher assessment in the township because the cost of operating a small municipality is increasing annually.

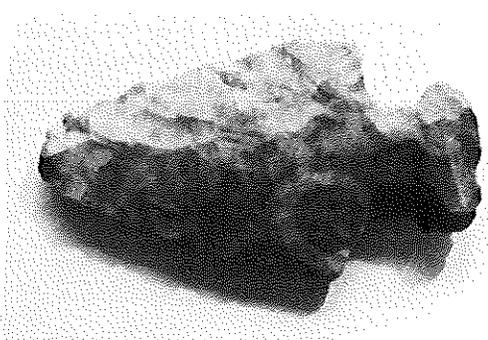
Birchwood Ayrshire Farm

Birchwood Ayrshire Farm is presently located on Lot 19, Concession 1 in East Luther Township and has been, since November of 1960, owned by Herbert and Ilse Birkholz.

When we packed all our belongings into three boxes in 1954 and left Germany with our baby on the "Seven Seas" to emigrate to "Land of the Future"—Canada, it was beyond our wildest expectations that we would ever be farmers or owners of a farm, since we both achieved credits for different trades.

Like most immigrants we had no money and no knowledge of the English language. But there was only one thing to do, look ahead and that was the real reason we came to this country. Here are many opportunities one may encounter if one is willing to learn, endure hardship and not be afraid of work, but most important staying healthy. It all requires a little luck!

At different farms we learned the way of farming in this



Arrowhead found on Birkholz farm, 1980.

country. We still believe if one wants to be successful with farming, one must get the knowledge and the experience first hand.

We began with some savings and the great determination with a so-called mixed farm of pigs, hens and a few calves. Also with the assistance of a good friend and a well known Ayrshire Breeder, Wm. Reid, we slowly started our Ayrshire herd registered under the family name 'Birchwood' (English translation of Birkholz).

We now milk 30 cows, raise all our replacements with the cooperation of the "United Breeders". Although we are not on any official milk testing program, we do record our milk production once a month in order to rate every cows' performance. Over the years we have improved the overall appearance of our property, modernized the barn, put up new buildings and made some other additions—including three more children.

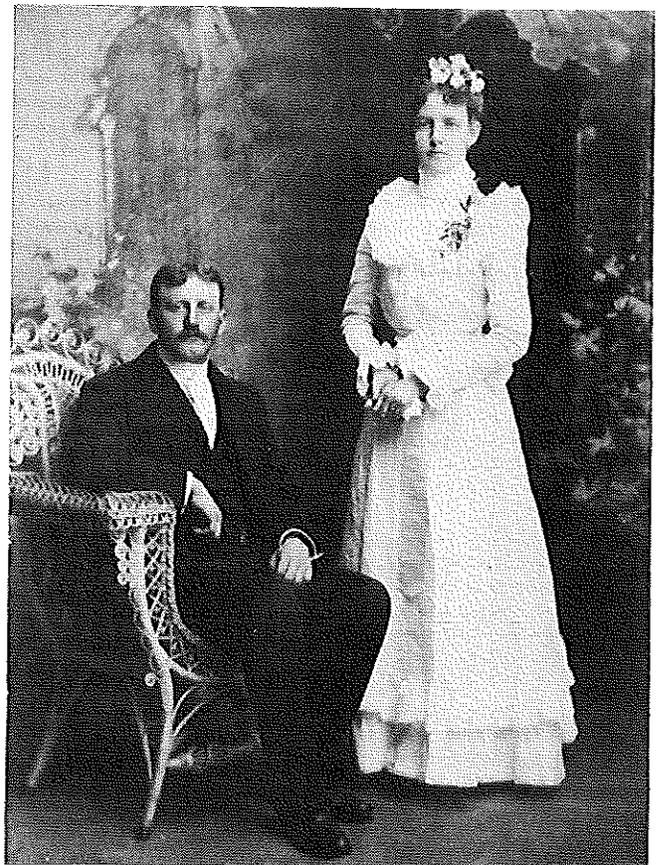
We do not regret coming to this country. Here is a great future for our children. We enjoy farming with our Ayrshire herd and we ourselves are thankful for having achieved so much which we could have never done in the old country.

Our hobby is travelling and whenever we have the opportunity, we try to visit all the places we only dreamed of years ago. But it is always nice to come back again and nothing in the world looks better than our home here in East Luther.

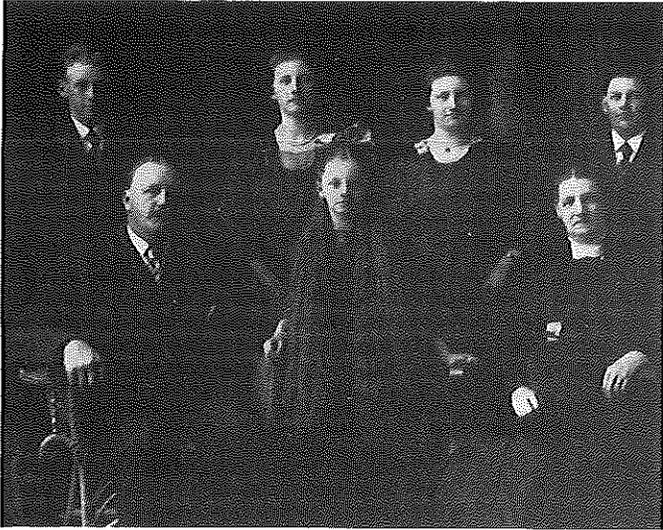
Contributed by the Birkholz family.

The Black Family

John Joseph Black, a twin, was born Sept. 22, 1875 near Metz, West Garafraxa and moved with his parents to Lot 8, tenth line, Amaranth in 1882. His wife Sarah Jane Burke, Con. 4, East Garafraxa and John settled on the west side of the Amaranth-East Luther townline on Lot 32. All of their



Mr. and Mrs. John J. Black



The Black Family—left to right, back row—David, Margaret (Mrs. Wm. Wolfe), Clarabelle (Mrs. Clifford Wolfe), Alexander. Front row—John (father), Susie (Mrs. Wm. Tovell), Jane (mother).

family were born on this farm. The house was built of logs with a stone part. When Tom Tate, across the road was ready to retire, John bought his farm and they moved across to that large brick house where their grandson, Harold Black, now lives. From there their daughters were married. Beef cattle, hogs and hens were produced on this farm.

Their son, David, was married to Ethel Waugh, Wiarton about 1939. Twin daughters were born to them in 1941 Winifred (Mrs. Robert Pearce) and Williamene (Mrs. Larry McGuire). When the twins were tiny Ethel died and some time later David married Ivadelle Thompson who had two daughters, Ellen (Mrs. Kenneth Bryan) and Margaret (Mrs. Glenn McConnell). David and Ivadelle carried on a mixed farming operation until their retirement to Grand Valley in the 70's.

John Black's youngest daughter, Susan, married William Tovell, who with her family are the only members of the Black family now living in East Luther. (More under "Tovell")

Ross Gordon Brown Family

Ross Brown was born in Halton County June 16, 1926 to Milton J. Brown of Pelham township, Welland County and Leila May Brown of Hornby.

Ross was educated at S.S. No. 4, Esquesing township and Milton High School. He was married in 1947 to Wilhelmine Treanor of Streetsville and lived and farmed on the home farm at Lot 2, Con. 10, Esquesing township, Halton County until 1955 when they moved to Lot 23, Con. 9, East Luther township with three children. Four children were born in East Luther where Wilhelmine died suddenly in 1967.

In November of 1968 he married Grace Matthews of Melancthon township and one child was born from this union. They continued to operate a dairy farm (Holsteins) on the same farm until 1974 when health problems dicated that they sell the farming operation. They retained a one-acre lot on the S.E. corner of the farm where they erected a house where they still reside.

Their children are: James—Teeswater—restaurant and trucking business; Judy—Registered nurse at Dufferin Area Hospital; Nancy—Budget and accounting at CP Air, Vancouver; David—Calgary—carpenter and builder; Ronald—Calgary—oil and exploratory driller; Leila—Toronto University student; Janice—Grade 12 student at Shelburne High

School and Mary-Ellen—Grade 5 student at G.V.D.P.S.

Ross has been an active participant in all community affairs, and has served the township on council as councillor for 3 years, reeve for 5 years and County Warden in 1971. Once again in 1980 he was elected for a two year term on council and will be assisting with the township centennial activities.

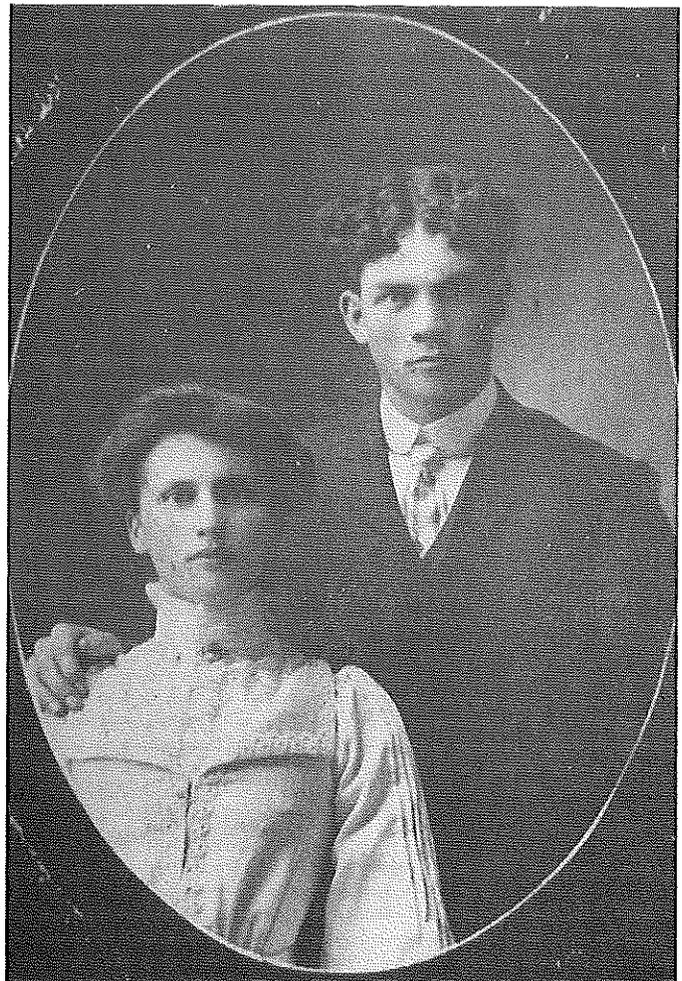
He and his wife, Grace, are employed by the Ontario Mutual General Insurance Company in Grand Valley.

History of Lot 30, Concession 11—The Bruce's

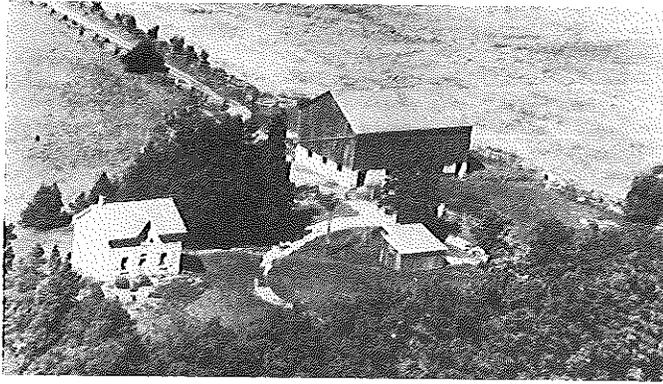
In 1865 the crown granted this lot to the Bank of Upper Canada which granted it to Robert Cassils and Thomas Galt two years later. In 1862 Thomas Galt and the Honourable William Cayley became joint-owners who sold to Thomas Gordon in 1868. The money involved in this deal was in excess of 65 thousand pounds. John Steele, who became owner in 1870 sold the South half of Lot 30 to David Bruce who was the grandfather of Victor Bruce. David was only in this country five years when he sold to his brother Robert Bruce who came out from Ireland in 1873. Robert Bruce is grandfather of Maurice Bruce who lives at Colbeck.

Robert Bruce married a Miss Brown who died in childbirth and he then married her sister. They had 6 children—David, Frank, William (born in 1886 who later took over the farm), Robert (went to Minburn, Alta. and married Nellie Platt), Mrs. James Ritchie and Mrs. Matthew Allen.

The first barn was burned in 1914 and a new barn was



Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bruce



The Bruce Home, 1916.

built in 1917 which had a windmill on the roof to provide power for grinding grain.

In 1916 Robert H. Bruce sold the farm to his son William and retired in Grand Valley. While there he delivered mail in the district. Two of his sons, David and William, were stone masons and much of the stonework in barn foundations and stone houses was done by these two men.

William Bruce married Alice Lyon and they had 4 children, Velma (Mrs. Johnson, Toronto) Ross, deceased, Alex (Fergus) and Maurice (Colbeck). Alice Lyon Bruce died while her children were quite young, but William kept his family together. In 1937 William married Irene Benson and he died in 1954. The estate sold the farm to Albert Watson, after whom Gordon Mills and the present owner, Russel Coe farmed there.

History of Harold Bruce Farm, Lot 28, Con. 11

The farm now owned by Harold Bruce at Colbeck corner was originally owned by the Colbeck family who sold it to William and Robert Beattie in 1900. The barn was built in 1901 and the brick house in 1904. Albert Greenwood was the next owner followed by Duncan Gillies, Ross West, and George Beattie. In 1941 Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Bruce began the mixed farming operation on this farm where their two sons Harold and Gary were raised. Harold bought the farm in 1964, in which year he married Audrey Graham.

Maurice and Ivadell (Cooke), built a new brick bungalow on the corner of the lot, east of the site of the last Colbeck store where they live. Maurice secured work with Westinghouse in Orangeville and Ivadell at Dufferin Oaks, Shelburne. Both retired in December, 1979.

Harold and Audrey have two sons, Kent and Guy, who are interested in their specialized farming operations with Charolais cattle, Saanen goats and seedgrain as well as 4-H calf clubs, hockey and softball. Harold has followed his predecessors' hobby of hunting while Audrey follows the profession of her mother and great-grandfather—that of teaching.

Harold's brother, Gary, after completing High School graduated from Georgian College and is currently employed by the Ministry of the Environment.

History of Victor Bruce Farm, W1/2 Lot 30, Con. 10

Robert Keast was the original owner of this land granted from the crown. Jake Keast became the next owner who sold to Samuel Brown from whom David Bruce bought it. David and his wife, Letitia Colbeck, raised 6 sons and 2 daughters—James, who married Ella Hills, Monticello; Joseph, (husband of Sarah Watson), Margaret (Mrs. George Wallace), Alfred (husband of Mabel Platt who went to Minburn, Alberta in the early 1900's), Thomas, Jack (husband of Kate Watson) died in his 40th year from the flu, Sarah (Mrs.



Mr. and Mrs. David Bruce (Letitia Colbeck) and family—back row, left to right, Joe, Jack, Alfred, James, Thomas, George. Front row—Maggie (Mrs. Geo. Wallace), Mr. Bruce, Maria Platt (Mrs. Grenville Taylor), Mrs. Bruce, Sarah (Mrs. Jas. Rodgers).



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Bruce.
Mrs. Bruce died in 1980 in her 100th year.

James Rodgers) and George, married to Bernice Holborn and Ena McKee.

David Bruce sold this farm to his second son, Joseph, who had four children—Victor, Roy, Laura and Viola. Victor married Alma Jordan and remained on the farm until 1979 when they moved to Grand Valley. They had two children, Irvine and Leona (Mrs. Allen Taylor). Roy and Viola (Mrs. George Shaw), moved to Guelph.

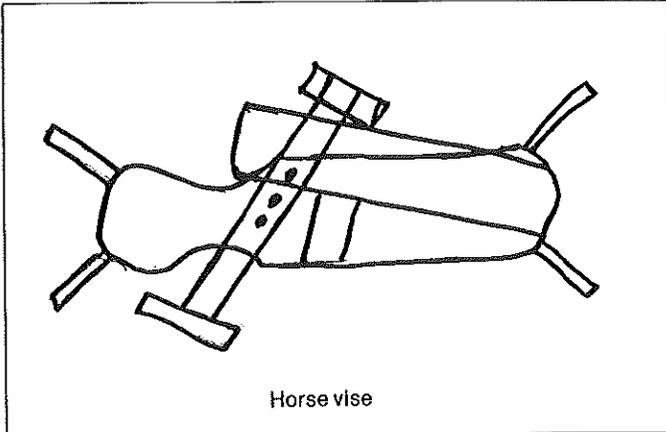
Mr. and Mrs. David Bruce spent their reclining years on S1/2 Lot 29, Con. 12 with their son, George. Besides raising their own family of eight, they raised their niece, Maria Platt (Mrs. Grenville Taylor) from six weeks of age when her mother passed away.

Three grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. David Bruce and their families live in East Luther in 1980. They are David Bruce and June (Mrs. Laverne Mournahan) son and daughter of George Bruce and Laura (Mrs. Borden Stewart) daughter of Joseph Bruce who lives on the northern outskirts of Grand Valley in a new home on the site of the old cheese factory.

In reminiscent mood Victor relates that during the depression about 50 years ago he was the neighbourhood barber, cutting the ladies' long hair for the very first time and even shingling the back as the fashion dictated then. Some of

the ladies he mentioned were the Greenwoods, Keasts, Wests, Larters Reillys, Deakens and Nunns. The men were served by "Vic" as well. Guess what he received for this service—nothing!

In 1929 Victor worked for Greenwoods shovelling gravel into trucks holding one and a half yards (cu.). As a promotion he was asked to hold the scraper drawn by a team to the crusher. He had worked by the day on the County Road, (highway 25) drawing gravel with a team and a wagon when there was still no gravel on that road and only a few vehicles used it.



"Vic" had a horse vise owned by his great-grandfather Joseph Colbeck. It was used for cutting rock elm into pieces for making axe handles. An axe handle made by this machine was sold at Victor's sale in 1979. Mr. Irvine Bruce, Fergus, is a fifth generation member of the family to own this useful antique article.

In a lighter vein, Vic remembers the occasion when he and Bert Deaken were engaged in bringing down birds' nests in the barn. As Bert stood looking up at Vic, a half-hatched sparrow's egg dropped into his mouth. How he coughed and spit!

On another occasion they went to Legate's to fish. Bert was crossing the river on a log, fell off and nearly drowned! That wasn't enough! Up at Greenwood's creek he fell in again.

Victor's memory is exceptional! He remembers Ed Rodgers having a horse which, according to Ed, had 4 jacks—2 hind legs jacked (spavined) Jack Canuck by breed and Jack by name!

Another day on his rounds with Rawleigh goods Ed found Mrs. Joe Bruce planting onions.

He said, "You're not doing that right. You should plant one row of onions, then one of potatoes etc. In that way if the year is dry the onions will bring tears to the eyes of the potatoes!"

Ed, an excellent violinist, was enjoying himself at home one evening with his trusty fiddle. His mother said, "Ned, you'd better quit. Your Dad can't sleep."

Ever ready with a witty answer Ned replied, "Tell him he's getting more sleep than I am."

Alma died in 1980 and Victor married Olive Finlay (Budd) one of the young ladies whose hair he had cut fifty years ago.

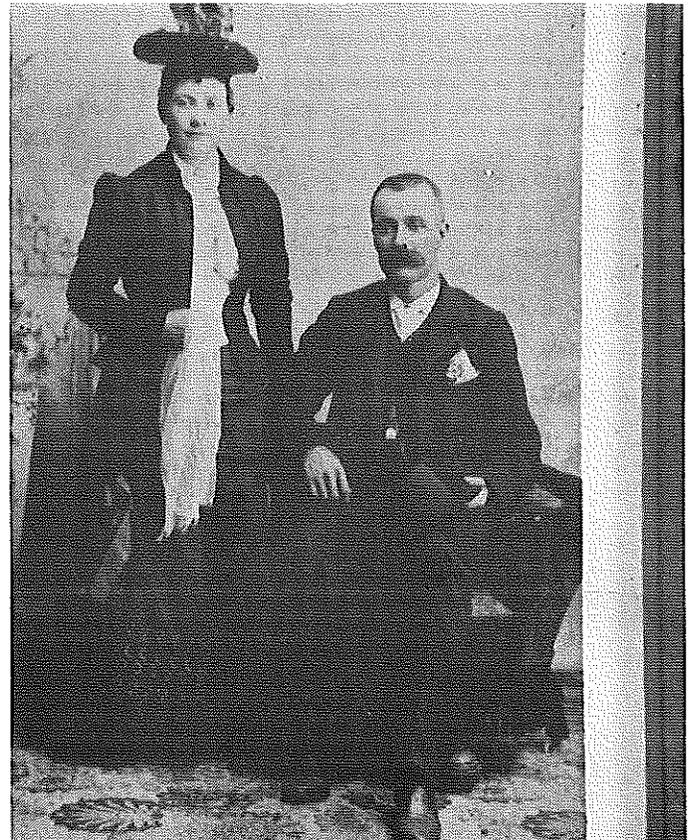
The Buchanan Family

Much of the land adjacent to the Luther Dam was owned by the McKinley family before 1884 (Thomas, John, James and William). In 1883 James McKinley sold Charles Buchanan 206 acres in West Luther (Lot 18, Con. 9) where he and his friend from Brantford began to clear land and build



Mr. Charles Buchanan and Lee Miller

two buildings—one for the men who worked in the forest and another for the ladies who cooked. In 1884 he bought W1/2 Lot 22, Con. 9 from John McKinley where he began farming. He had worked on a farm near Brantford where he bought a steam threshing machine and used it on adjoining farms as well as doing his own. In 1895 Charles married Martha Brown of Osprey township and they had 4 children—Ida (Mrs. Alex Rainey), Alexander, Albert and Robert, the latter two dying in childhood. Dr. Gaviller of Grand Valley had



Mr. and Mrs. Charles Buchanan

cared for them. In 1900 the barn was enlarged, then a driving shed and spacious brick house were built. The birch lumber was drawn from Milton. The total cost of the house was \$500. In 1914 they bought their first car—a Ford touring model.

Mrs. Buchanan made butter and sold it in Grand Valley at the creamery in rolls wrapped in a towel. One day while she was waiting in line to get her butter weighed she noticed that the lady ahead of her had a roll of butter the same size as hers. However, when Mrs. Buchanan had her butter weighed it was much lighter than the first lady's. It turned out eventually that the first woman had put a rock in the middle of her roll to get a better price!

Alexander (the son) began farming on the family farm and in Aug. 1930, married Mary Francis of Riverview and they had one son, Charles. The West Luther acreage was sold to GRCA in 1951 and in 1952 the Buchanans bought the adjoining farm to the east from William Henderson. Their operation was a mixed farm. Alex served as school trustee for S.S. No. 11 where he and his son Charles had attended.

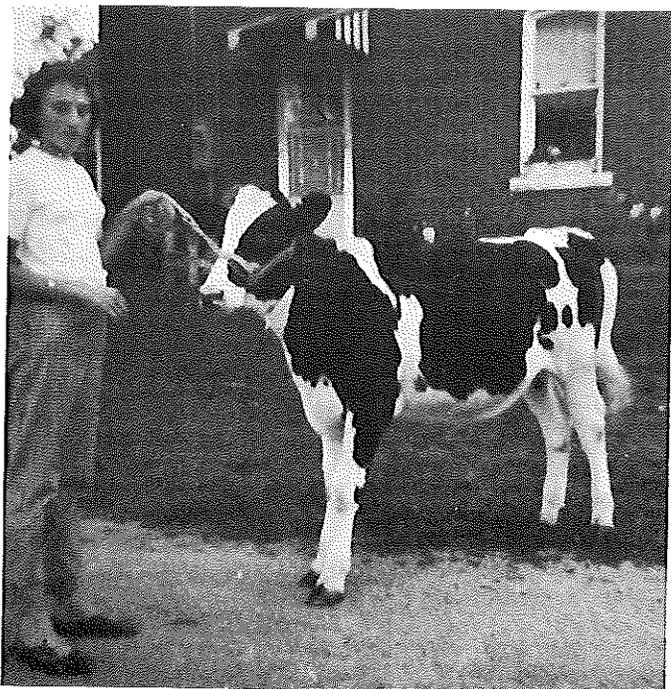
In their years on the farm they saw many changes—the sawmills, farms developing, machinery changes, arrival of hydro at the time the dam was built across the road, the drownings of the hunters, beginning of Ladies' Aid at Monticello church and a girls' missionary society led by Miss Emma James and the beginning of the U.C.W. (United Church Women), and the exodus, due to the dam, of many descendants of pioneer families who had done so much to make this part of Luther productive.

Burke Farm History

Lot 31, Concession 1

The attractive farm home of James and May Burke lies just north of Highway 9 on the east side of Highway 25. This lot of 200 acres was taken from the Crown in 1836 by Mary Mac Gillis. Various owners such as Benjamin Holmes, Malcolm Cameron, Sir Allen McNabb preceded William King who took possession in 1854.

In 1865 the 200 acres was divided into two square hundreds with the King family owning the south 100 acres until William Watson bought it in 1914. Four years later he sold it



Lynda Burke and 4-H calf.

to William Thomas Beattie who sold it to Alex Talbot in 1920. In 1937, three acres at the south-west corner were sold to William Stuckey (where Osborne Foreman now lives). James Burke bought the remaining acreage from Alex Talbot.

James Burke was born in East Garafraxa, Lot 16, Con. 14. His wife, May Ewing was born in Mono township. They operated a mixed farm for a time with cattle, pigs and poultry. In 1944 Jim bought 1,000 baby chicks, mixed Plymouth Rocks, from John Boulding of Arthur. Of these they kept 425 for laying hens. They continued to keep hens until the early 60's. They sold their last pigs in 1967. It was then they went solely into dairying, keeping good quality Holsteins. The barn was remodelled; a stable cleaner and milk cooler were installed. In 1974 a pipe line milking system was begun.

An addition was built on the main house. Some tiling was done and fence rows were removed to improve the farm.

They have 4 children—Lynda—wife of Greg Moore, who is a plant manager for the Warner Lambert Co. in Zaire, Africa; Jane—a nurse whose husband, Neil Arnold, works for Massey Ferguson in Toronto; Dwight—married in 1980 to Glenna Allen assists with the dairy operation and Alexander (Sandy) at home.

Colbeck History

by Margaret Palmer (nee Colbeck)

My grandfather, William Colbeck, Sr., or "Squire Colbeck" as he used to be called, came from South Lincolnshire, England, with his wife and eight children. They had attempted to sail the year before, but were shipwrecked off the north coast of Ireland. The second attempt was successful, and they sailed from Liverpool to Quebec on June 10, 1846, on the ship "James Moran". Grandfather was then 40 years of age.

The journey took 14 weeks, and there were 640 passengers aboard. There was only one death—a small baby. The family were in the steerage at first, then they asked the Captain for better quarters; in two days he cleared out two storerooms and gave to them. There were only 40 or 50 Protestants on board. There were two Protestant girls in the steerage, and someone tried to kill them because they were Protestants. The Captain then let them help a steward to keep them safe. Water was scarce, and they were only allowed a pint a day for some weeks. For the last few days it ran out so they were very happy to see land.

From Montreal they proceeded by batteau and sailing vessel to Toronto. After living a few months in Toronto on John Street, they moved to Thornhill, where they lived for a few years. Holden S. Colbeck, my father, and Mrs. David Bettschen (Mary), my aunt, were born there in 1848 and 1853.

The family (ten of them), then moved to Brantford from "Muddy York" as Toronto was then called. They went to a farm at Smokey Hollow, later called Pine Grove. Grandmother was distressed as there was no fireplace, and she had no stove. While there, Aunt Fanny arrived in Hamilton (she had been inservice when the family left, so stayed behind); Grandfather had no horses yet, so he walked through the rough Indian trail, 25 miles, to meet her. She wept with fatigue before they arrived home. The family had now grown to 11. During the course of the next three years, they rented a farm near Mohawk Lake. The younger brothers had a great time riding the bobbing logs that used to float nearby. This farm was known as the "Lovejoy" farm (50 acres). Grandfather bought it from the crown in 1860 at a land sale and without seeing it, as more land was needed for the boys. So, from here, they made the famous trek into the north. By this time, Grandmother was in possession of her much-prized

stove, which had created a problem in getting it to the farm. The boys had carried it in their strong arms through the trackless forest, it was a very tiring job. They had lifted the oven off to make it easier to handle.

The several Colbeck farms were on the 11th Concession of East Luther in Dufferin County—800 acres in all. 200 of them were for Joseph, later known as the Hayes and Warren farms; 200 acres for William on which the United Church and parsonage now stands; 200 acres which was the old homestead and on which the cemetery is now situated across the road from the church. It was here the first funeral service in the locality was held. 200 acres were for Edward, where the Colbeck store and Post Office was located. For this land, he paid 50¢ an acre, getting the Crown deeds. William, Edward and Joseph came up in the winters of 1860 and 1861 to build shanties and chop wood. Grandfather and the other members of the family came in 1862.

My Grandfather and Holden (my father) built a log house on Lot 23 in 1866, which is still standing. They split their own shingles (cedar) and laths, and sawed their own lumber. They burned their own lime from limestone gathered in the vicinity. They got sand from the bank of the river at the back of the farm. Grandfather was very proud of the fact that they built the first actual house in Luther township. It was a story and one-half structure with a cottage roof. When first built it had verandahs on three sides and was looked upon as a very commodious dwelling.

During the first few years, their wheat, which was almost always frozen, had to be taken to Hillsburgh to be ground. When the Hill brothers came in north of them, they and the Colbeck brothers united forces to cut a road from what is now Monticello to the Town Line, which was the old Simcoe Military Road from Alliston to Mount Forest. This was done to gain access to the latter town with its grist mill and manufacturing concerns. As soon as it was open, William Colbeck Jr. took a grist to Mount Forest. It took a day to go and another to return. It was arranged that my father would meet him with fresh oxen five miles west of the Town Line to assist him on the return trip. Father, who was then 16 years old, waited until dark, but William did not arrive. There were no settlers in the district, and darkness was coming on. The wolves began to howl and hover near. He thought discretion the better part of valor and, not wishing to spend the night in the swamp, he turned the oxen toward home. They only had a yoke and a long chain. He was not far on his way when the wolves began to follow him, so he climbed on the back of one of the oxen. The oxen, equally frightened, began to run. The end of the long chain swinging behind was, so my Father vowed, the only thing that saved him; the wolves would not come closer than the chain. He decided to stop at Jonathan Hills, but the oxen thought otherwise and ran home, where they lay down exhausted. It was then about 4 a.m. The following day, he went to meet William who had returned with the grist.

The following is an account of the death and burial of Thomas Colbeck, presumably the first death among the settlers in the new community. This account was copied from a newspaper of 1863 and posted in an old family Bible.

"Thomas Colbeck, the subject of the following sketch, was the fifth son of William and Charlotte Colbeck, late of Brantford. He was born in England on June 5, 1845. He came with his parents and others of the family to the Township of Luther in 1862, and settled in the wilderness. He was always of a serious turn of mind, and latterly had given evidence of vital piety. On the 11th of February, while with his brothers he was engaged in falling timber; a limb blown from a falling tree struck him in the front part of the head, causing instant death. This was the first death in the family, and it wrung the hearts of surviving relatives. It was also the

first in the settlement, and made a deep impression on every mind.

The family, nearly all being Methodists, resolved to have his funeral services conducted by a minister of their choice. The writer, being the nearest minister to where they lived, came a distance of twenty miles to solicit attendance at the funeral. The call was responded to, of course, for hard indeed must be the heart of a man who could willingly refuse under such circumstances. His funeral took place on Saturday, the 14th instant, when a sermon was preached in his father's house, the first sermon ever preached in his father's house, and the first sermon ever preached in the neighbourhood. The deceased was in the habit of joining with the family every evening in reading a portion of the Word of God. The last verse that he read before his death (Isaiah 2:22) "Cease ye from man, whose breath is in his nostrils; for wherein is he to be accounted of?" By request this verse was taken as his funeral text. His remains were buried on his father's farm. May the good Lord bless the bereaved parents and friends and bring them all at last to the place where death can never come.

Signed: J.H. Hilts, Garafrax! Feb. 18, 1863

His burial plot was the beginning of the present Monticello Cemetery.

Robert Frank Daniel

I was born at Kingston, Ontario on Sept. 8, 1942. Most of my school days were spent in Montreal and Quebec City. I returned to Ontario with my parents in 1956 where I completed High School in Whitby.

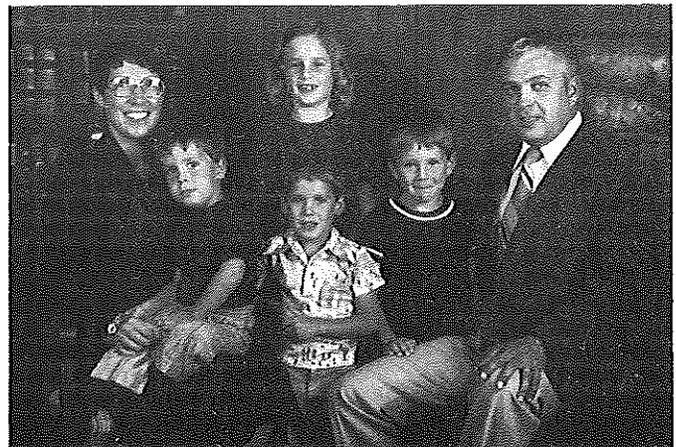
I served my Tool and Die Apprenticeship at Oshawa Engineering and Welding Co. Ltd. in Oshawa, during which time I obtained my Commercial Pilot's License.

In Sept., 1965 Catherine and I were married. I began flying for a living in 1968 at which time we moved to Brampton, Ontario, where our first three children, Jacqueline, John and James were born.

We moved to East Luther Township in 1976 where Joseph was born. I was first elected to the East Luther Township Council in Nov. 1978 and again in Nov. 1980.

I was first employed flying for a small charter company at Toronto International Airport called Aries Co. Ltd. My first jet flying was with Versa Food Co. of Toronto, then I worked for Falconbridge Nickel Mines Ltd. of Toronto, which took me to all continents and major cities of the world. I was then accepted by Air Canada in March, 1974 and am presently enjoying a fulfilling career with Air Canada.

As well as flying, my family and I enjoy farming in East Luther (Lot 30, Con. 4) where we keep Standard Bred horses as a hobby.



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Daniel and family, 1980.

George Drury

George Drury was born in Luther township, in the part that is now known as West Luther, in 1872, the son of Charles and Hannah Drury in a family of eleven. The property on Concession 2 remained in the family name for over 100 years. It is now owned by C. Kammermeier who also owns a poultry farm Highway 25, East Luther. George moved to East Luther in 1916 where he purchased the east half of Lot 27, Con. 4 where he married Minnie Crewson. They farmed until 1951 when they moved to Grand Valley. They had two children, a daughter Evelyn (Mrs. Lindsey Curtis of East Garafraxa) and a son, Oscar. George ran for council in 1939 unsuccessfully. However the next year he became a councillor and served in this capacity until 1951 except for two years when he ran unsuccessfully for reeve. He took a keen interest in local politics until his death in 1961.

His wife, Minnie Crewson, was from near Gordonville in Arthur Township, daughter of Oscar Crewson and Maria McArthur (one of the first families to settle in the centre of East Luther). When she was four years old she and her ten brothers and sisters moved to East Luther where her parents purchased land on Concession 4. In 1902 the Crewson family moved to northern East Luther Lot 27, Con. 12 where she lived with her parents until her marriage to George Drury in 1916. In 1951 she and her husband moved to Grand Valley where she still resides at age 93. She has been a faithful member of Grand Valley Church of Christ (Disciples). In 1961 her son Oscar moved to Grand Valley and shares the home at 41 Emma Street with her.

Oscar Drury

Oscar Drury was born in 1921 at the Drury home Lot 27, Con. 4, was educated at the Black Bridge school and became a member of the Church of Christ (Disciples). Following in his father's footsteps, as well as his grandfather's (Oscar Crewson 1915-1919) he was elected to East Luther council in 1955 by acclamation. During that year the barn on the farm was struck by lightning and burned. It was replaced by a more modern steel clad building. Having served the township as councillor for six years, Oscar ran for reeve successfully, holding the office for two years when he was superseded by Hilliard Taylor. During Oscar's years in council, we saw the roads streamlined and the township brought in a policy of total snow removal. One of the two bridges at Con. 6 north of Grand Valley was constructed by Dufferin County in 1963.

He sold the Drury farm home and moved to Grand Valley where he is self-employed doing carpenter work.

Thomas McDermott

Thomas McDermott (Lot 24, Con. 6, East Luther) was of Irish ancestry, whose parents William and Susan McDermott, took advantage of fine farmland grants in this area, and were buried in South Luther Cemetery about 80 years ago. Thomas specialized in the cobbler's trade as well as labouring on farms. He married Angeline Marriott and moved to West Luther Con. 2 for a short time before coming to East Luther in 1909. Their oldest child Rebecca married a West Garafraxa farmer. William apprenticed as a blacksmith and lived in Orangeville. Helen Jane (Ellie) married Fred Hamilton. These 3 attended public school in U.S.S. No. 2. Melissa, who married Percy Foster, son of Wm. and Annie Foster of Con. 4; Oliver aged 14 assisted on the farm after his father died and later went into real estate business; Edna who married Sylvester Ostrander of Guelph and Recilla, the youngest attended S.S. No. 4, East Luther.

Tom was a member of the band of L.O.L. in Grand Valley; he was bass drummer. He and his children were interested in playing various instruments. It's not surprising then that one of them, Recilla should be especially talented,

being a popular member of the Dory Orchestra of the 1930's. At an old time fiddler's contest in Mount Forest when she was only 20 years of age, she won first prize in the class for 50 years and under. Recilla later married Samuel Darnell of Guelph and moved to California. Tom and Annie died in 1920 and 1957 and were buried in Union Cemetery, Grand Valley.

Matthew Foster

Matthew Foster and his wife Ellen Spavin moved to rented quarters in Grand Valley about 1871. Two years later they bought 101 acres of land on Con. 5, East Luther for \$400 cash, where he plied his trade of carpentry building a house 23 ft. by 22 ft., one and a half stories high. His barn sheltered a few animals with feed storage above with a small area reserved for his carpentry work. Although they lost several children in early childhood, Margaret and William reached adulthood to remain in East Luther as long as they lived. Matthew and Ellen were members of St. Albans' Church in Grand Valley.

Margaret married John Colley in 1895 and farmed near Grand Valley and had two sons, William, a hard working farmer and excellent fence builder, and Edward, a cook on the railroad. Both were unmarried. All four were buried in St. Alban's cemetery.

William Foster

William Foster was 8 years old when his parents, Matthew and Ellen settled on Con. 5, East Luther. It was 1873. The railway had been laid across the south end of the township and settlers were increasing rapidly. Roads changed from a blazed trail to wagon track width. Destructive grass and bush fires were a hazard, especially if the fire reached deep into the peat of the marsh. William received his education from his mother as schools were non-existent. Bears and wolves were prevalent. The Luther Marsh had been hunting grounds and a curious tourist attraction from the early years when the Indian family named Sky from Guelph acted as guides on hunting trips for bear.

The days of all members of the family were filled with work. William was taught the carpentry trade, rough and fine. He was a careful and observant farmer regarding both his stock and land. In 1899 he married Ann Maria Reilly and settled on Lot 25, Con. 4—50 acres with house and barn where they raised their family—Nellie married Fred Short, Metz; Beatrice—married to Norman Thompson, Amaranth Township; Percy married to Melissa McDermott, a blacksmith, now retired in Elora; Clifford—a farmer retired in Grand Valley; Gladys—married Harold Hamilton, Laurel who operated an oil business in Orangeville; Ruth and Lloyd



Foster home on Con. 4—1910.

who died in childhood; Cecil—married to Bertha Berry who farms in Amaranth township and George a medical technician living in Toronto.

William and Annie rest from their labours in St. Alban's Cemetery.

Galbraith Family

The first Galbraith's to come from Ireland to Luther settled on Lot 28, Con. 9, where Albert Galbraith and his son and daughter Elwood and Ila (Mrs. Wm. Taylor) lived for many years. About 1900 Wm. Scott Galbraith bought the adjoining farm to the north where James Mournahan now lives. His sister married Harry Hill and lived north of Monticello.

Scott Galbraith's family consisted of Ernest, Eva (Mrs. John Greenwood), Stella (Mrs. Joseph Ferrier) and Laura (Mrs. Wm. Taylor), all of whom remained on farms in East Luther and attended Colbeck Church until retirement.

Ernest bought the farm Lot 26, Con. 9 in 1902 and in 1909 married May Taylor. They lived where their son, Oliver, still lives. At this time the school where Ernest was trustee for a time, was on the corner of the farm. When it was closed Wilfred McDougall bought the building and used it for a hen house. The Galbraith's bought their first car in 1919. As well as engaging in mixed farming, they specialized in hatching chicks for sale and kept a large flock of laying hens.

Ernest and May had 2 sons—Oliver and Glenn, a retired Principal with the London Public School system. Oliver married Annie Palmer, daughter of John Palmer, who passed away when her first child Joan (Mrs. Wm. Richardson) was a baby. He then married Annie's sister, Florence. They have five children—Ruth (Mrs. R. Wagstaffe), May (Mrs. Peter Thompson), Joyce, Ray and Allan. Of this family only Joan and Allen, employed elsewhere, live in East Luther now.



Oliver Galbraith

Oliver and both his wives attended school at S.S. No. 1. When asked about discipline problems, Oliver said there was good discipline. There used to be a box up at the front of the class that you had to sit on if you were bad. Imagine the ridicule of the other pupils!

A long multiplication question was another punishment for misdemeanors.

Oliver relates a story about his great-grandfather who was in the cavalry. There was a scrap between Upper and Lower Canada. He was on his way and stopped at a water trough for a drink. There he met and fell instantly in love with his bride-to-be. He said he'd come back for her and he did! Love at first sight, eh!

William Taylor Family

Mr. and Mrs. William Taylor came to East Luther about 1895 settling on Lot 32, Con. 10. Prior to this Mr. Taylor had been a jack-of-all trades. He had owned the Belwood Tinsmith Shop prior to working on the railway north of Lake Superior, where there were no schools. He brought his children to East Garafraxa to their grandparents to begin their education, finally coming south himself to settle in East Luther.

Their family consisted of May (Mrs. Ernest Galbraith of Dufferin Oaks, born 1885), William (deceased) father of Marian (Mrs. Carman Brown, Orangeville) and Selby (deceased) and Chester, a barber who went to Tottenham (now deceased). William raised his family on Lot 32, Con. 11 where Frank Abel lives now. This family received most of their education at Colbeck school and worshipped at St. Clements' Anglican Church.

Mrs. Galbraith remembers when her father burned limestone on his farm for sale, and the fowl, strawberry suppers and garden parties she enjoyed in her youth.



Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Galbraith, 1909.

Incidentally Mrs. Galbraith, in her 90's now, and living at Dufferin Oaks, Shelburne, was able to attend the opening of the Hall Bridge in July, 1980.



Mr. and Mrs. Willam Taylor, Mrs. Ernest Galbraith and son, Oliver.

John Graham

The Graham family originated in Scotland, emigrating to Canada about 1851. They lived in York County, near Uxbridge for a time and moved to Drayton about 1862 where John Graham was raised. Their neighbours were the Hilborns and Fawcett's. John married Lavina Fawcett in 1872 at Elora. (Her sister Elizabeth married W.J. McPherson). Their children who grew to manhood on Lot 23, Con. 6, East Luther (where Bernard Wicks live) were Elma, William, Melville, Frank, Roy and Oliver. This family worshipped at Tarbert Methodist Church and assisted in the erection of the brick church there.

Elma married John Baird and lived just north of this church until her death when her first child was born.

Melville married Annie Henderson, Con. 9 and they and Roy went to Caro, Michigan where they engaged in dairying and bean and sugar beet growing. William married to Viola Billings, Monticello and Frank, husband of Ethel Henderson, went to Manitoba and engaged in wheat farming. Oliver also went to Manitoba about 1910 returning to marry Minnie Sime Lot 24, Con. 1. Together they farmed in the Swan River district and at Melfort, Sask. where their children Harvey, Howard, Elma (Mrs. Arthur Kellogg) and Verna (Mrs. Chester Rennick) were born. Oliver used to relate that on Jan. 10, 1913 when Harvey was born, the temperature dipped to 60° below zero Fahrenheit, to welcome the newborn child in a tarpaper shack. He had to go to the nearest town twenty miles away for the doctor on this occasion.

In 1920 they returned to East Luther, buying the farm on



Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Graham and daughters—left to right, Elma (Mrs. A. Kellogg), Verna (Mrs. C. Rennick), Greta (Mrs. Bernard Boswell).

Con. 9 where Laverne Mournahan now lives, from Edward Townsend. Here they engaged in mixed farming using horses until a few years before they sold the farm. Minnie died in her early thirties. In 1925 Oliver married Lavina Crane to whom Kenneth and Greta (Boswell) were born. This family worshipped at Tarbert United Church, where Oliver served as steward and his wives as Sunday School teachers. Oliver was active in township affairs during the depression years when he acted as tax collector, a very difficult task at that time. Occasionally he assisted a trustworthy taxpayer by buying a cow or horse from the farmer so that he could pay the amount required.

In 1948 when the farm was sold because of Oliver's indifferent health, they moved to Orangeville where Oliver passed away in 1952. Lavina now resides at Dufferin Oaks, Shelburne.

Of this family of six, only Harvey, the oldest, resides in East Luther now, with Howard in nearby Marsville and Greta (Boswell) in Grand Valley.

Harvey Graham

Harvey, son of Oliver Graham and Minnie Sime, was born in the Swan River district of Manitoba, coming to East Luther with his parents when he was 7 years old, received his education at S.S. No. 1, and assisted his father on the farm on Con. 8 until his marriage in 1939 to Esther Tovell, daughter of Ernest Tovell and Edith Rodgers, Con. 6. In these 41 years since, they have lived within a radius of 2 miles of their present home on Lot 25, Con. 3. They were involved in mixed farming. Lois, their oldest child became a teacher, marrying James McMurray and now living in Etobicoke. The other 4 children live in East Luther. Audrey, wife of Harold Bruce lives at Colbeck and teaches in G.V. Their sons, Kent and Guy are avid hockey players and 4-H members.

John and Jim, the twins, live on Con. 2 and 3. John had a large herd of Holsteins but sold the 100 acres farm to Barry Gibson in 1977, becoming an auctioneer and working on construction. He built a new house and barn on his 50 acres on Lot 23, giving a "new look" to a small part of the township. Jim specializes in raising weaner pigs and grows cash crops of wheat, barley flax and bird seed.

Glenn lives at home with his parents from where he drives a bus to Shelburne High School for Davison Bros. His health problem is dealt with in another chapter in this book.

Esther, wife of Harvey, after graduating from G.V.C.S. in 1928, attended Toronto Normal School, and taught at Monticello and Colbeck schools before her marriage.

In 1955 she returned to teaching, this time at South Luther. Mr. Emery Nelson, I.P.S. noted that a Mother and two daughters were then teaching in his inspectorate (Wellington North). Besides caring for her family, Esther taught at South Luther for 6 years, being the last teacher there, and 8 years at Grand Valley Public School before retirement in 1976. As a tribute to her, her last class (Grade 3, 4) composed a song which they sang at the school retirement party.

Harvey has been a township employee for about 30 years, evaluating sheep and collecting the dog tax. He now has the first township pound in the County and cares for stray dogs.

Harvey and Esther are enjoying their retirement on their seven acres with their pets and hobbies and participation in the activities of the Church of Christ, the Grand Valley Fair, Horticultural Society, Hereward Women's Institute and their family members.

The Roy Graham Family

James and Samuel Graham, born in North Ireland with their mother, settled on a farm in East Garafraxa before coming north to East Luther in 1855, where they cleared land in what is now Grand Valley. John, son of Samuel, was the first male child born in Grand Valley in 1856 on Con. 2, corner of Amaranth and Emma Streets. A move was made south west bordering on the Grand Valley station with a tributary stream flowing into the Grand River nearby. The house they built there remains, now owned by Gary Knechtel.

James married Abigail Scott and settled near the Black Bridge where he hired loggers and developed a lumber factory until the 1860's when the family moved to Michigan, the older children walking to Sarnia, the youngest riding in an ox-cart with food and clothing. The lumber yard continued under the control of Samuel Graham's son, James, and his cousin John from Erin.

Samuel married Mary Jane McPherson in 1852, raising 5 children—James, Samuel and Mary Jane; Ann who married Thomas Sime (East Luther farmer) in 1876; and John who married Mary Ann Mark and raised William (father of Roy); Alfred; Ella (Mrs. John Madill) mother of Mrs. Bill Hunt (Glenna); Alma (Mrs. Fred Robson) and Allan (twins).

John and Mary Ann bought a small acreage west of Grand Valley race track and erected the spacious brick house



The Graham's—Mrs. Roy Graham, Harvey Graham (a cousin) and Roy Graham.

still standing proudly at the north end of Leeson Street. There they enjoyed their latter days producing excellent vegetables and flowers for which they secured many prizes at the local fair. Their son, William, married Zelma Hubbs and raised one son, Roy, who presently lives on Lot 27, Con. 3 and is custodian of Grand Valley Public School.

William and Zelma operated a creamery and grocery store where the present IGA store is in Grand Valley for many years. For a time William was a familiar figure to many East Luther farmers as once a week he collected eggs and cream from them. His brothers Alfred and Allan assisted occasionally.

William and son Roy followed in John's footsteps in their love for horticulture, Roy being President of Grand Valley Horticultural Society for the last five years.

Harry Hay Family

Lot 27 N1/2 of Con. 12 East Luther

Harry was born in Alma, Ontario in 1874. In 1886 he came with his mother, brothers and sisters, also a brother of his father's and settled on the farm at Lot 27, N1/2 of Con. 12 of East Luther. There were two log buildings on the property, one in which they lived, the other stored the animals.

Being the oldest of a family of nine he got very little schooling and was taught the farming industry by his Uncle Charlie Hay. He tilled the land, broadcast (scattered by hand) to sow the seed, used a scythe to cut the hay and cradled the grain.

While still a young boy he learned the stone masonry trade and in any slack time, he would gather up his tools such as Mortar-Board, trowels, chalk-line, stonehammer, measuring rule, jacks, level, square, and plumb-bob and repair the foundation wall of either houses or barns or whatever needed repair for any farmers close and far. On the farm he dug a cellar, made a stone foundation, and brought a frame house from near Jessopville, Ontario. He moved it down by skids drawn by horses, set it on the foundation and moved from the log house to the new one.

A few years later his four brothers and three sisters and his Mother decided to move on their way and settled in Duluth, Minn. U.S.A. and left him and Uncle Charlie to carry on. He worked away till 1909 when he married Sarah Ethel Elgie and to this union there were two girls born.

The Grand River flows through a portion of the farm. Also a gravel pit was discovered and opened up. Through the road superintendent of East Luther council he ordered the gravel to be put on the roads. By the sweat of the brow the men shovelled the gravel onto wagons hauled by horses to be spread on many roads in East Luther Township.

There were no fruit trees on the farm, so for a few years he would harness the team of horses, hitch them to the wagon and in the fall start out to go to Alma, Ontario. That took one day. The second day they picked enough apples to do them all winter. The third day he would return home.

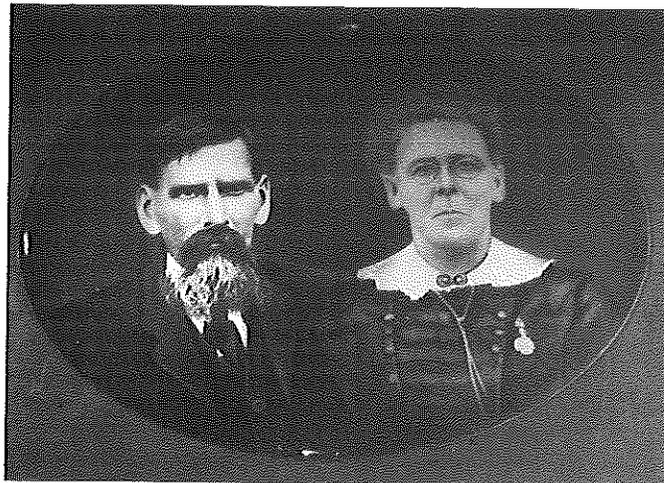
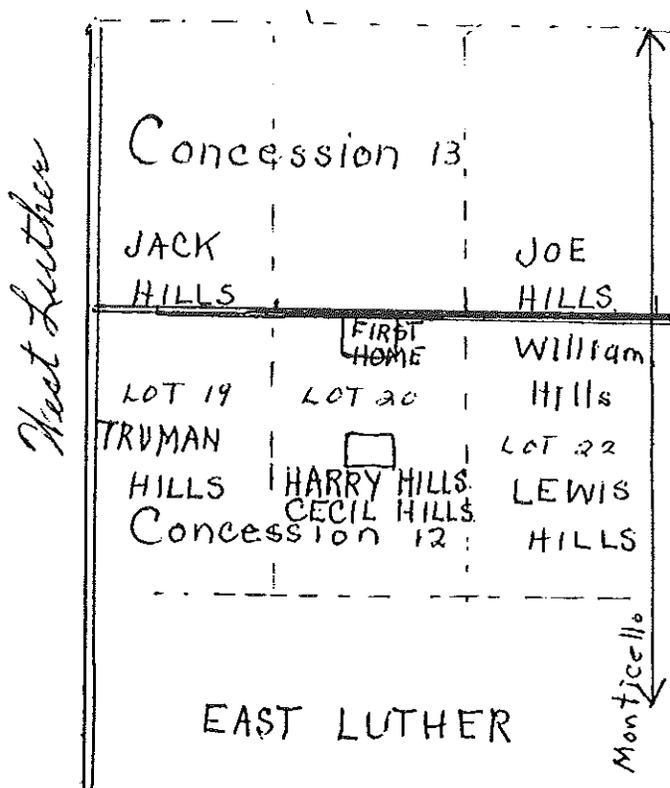
He took a keen interest in his church as well as the school which was S.S. No. 10 East Luther. He worked and struggled along on the farm for fifty-eight years when forced to quit by ailing health. The farm and the house were sold and he moved back to close to where it was near Jessopville.

In January of 1944 he and his wife moved to Grand

A debate entitled "Resolved that the individual becomes happier as his life is made easier by science." What's your opinion?

Valley, Ontario where he only lived for two years. He died in Sept. of 1946 and was laid to rest in Union Cemetery of Grand Valley.

Harry Hills and the Hill Settlement



Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hills

Herefords for baby beef, and Durhams for milk as they were considered better milkers than the Herefords.

In 1955 Cecil sold the ancestral home to Mr. Dudd who, in turn, sold to H. Den Hollander who carries on a successful dairy business with a large herd of Holsteins. Mr. and Mrs. Hills moved to Monticello where Mrs. Hills still lives. She is an ardent quilter and contributes much of her quilting earnings to the work of the U.C.W. of Monticello United Church where she and her husband worshipped since 1925.

Truman and his wife, Ada Barber, had two children, Ivan and Muriel. Ivan continued to operate a dairy business on Lot 19 after his father's retirement to Monticello, until they moved to Shelburne in the early 70's.

Jack had two sons—Harry Jr., an East Luther farmer, now retired in Grand Valley and Carson, who farmed his father's farm Lot 19, Con. 13, and was township assessor until he moved to Guelph to join the district assessment office staff there. He is now deceased.

Joe and his wife, Maisie Doyle, had no family.

William and his wife, Sarah Hay, raised two children: George, retired Toronto policeman now living in Fergus whose wife, Lillian Henderson, was organist at Monticello church before their marriage and Jessie (Mrs. David Hooker) who, with her husband farmed N 1/2 Lot 21, Con. 12. David also drove a school bus to Grand Valley Public School before their retirement to Shelburne.

Jonathan Hills Family

Jonathan Hills was born in 1843 and moved to East Luther in 1865 with his brother, Harry. Jonathan's home was on Lot 22, Con. 13. All of the land was cleared by hand and the result was "one of the choicest farms" in the township, Sunnybank Farm." He built the spacious brick house still on the farm and a large frame barn which was burned in recent years. A new steel barn replaced it. Besides carrying on a mixed farming operation, Jonathan Hills kept bees, selling the honey they did not need for their large family at 6¢ per pound.

Their family consisted of five girls and five boys namely:

Tena—Mrs. Carey;

Edith—who died young;

Alice—(Mrs. William Wallace)—a teacher and after her husband's death became a nurse;

Minnie—(Mrs. Austin Colbeck) a Sunday School teacher for 50 years at Monticello and Trinity churches;

Ella—(Mrs. James Bruce) who was organist at Monticello Church and her husband sang in the choir prior to moving to Grand Valley where they lived east of Grand Valley Station. Jim will be remembered by many as an assistant at McIntyre's feed store;

Harry Hills Sr. of English ancestry, moved to East Luther from East Garafraxa in the 1850's. He bought Lot 20, Con. 12 from the Crown for \$400. At this time the farm was all bush, so clearing it was a major undertaking. Their first log house and barn were erected at the north end of the farm on the site where Russell and Erma Jelly live now. This land was divided into two "string hundreds" so Mr. Hills decided to build new buildings nearer the centre of the property so a log house and frame barn were built there. Mr. George Woods bought the two acres where the original buildings were. This was the location of his apiary, and of Erasmus Post Office (later Wesley). Mr. Harry Hills drew the mail to Erasmus twice a week from Grand Valley until rural mail delivery began.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hills had a family of seven sons and one daughter *Eva* (Mrs. John Watson who lived on sideroad 24, Con. 11 for many years). The accompanying map shows the location of the farms where *Joe*, *Jack*, *Truman*, *William* and *Lewis* lived. Their father built the barns on these five farms, four of which remain. Lewis, who stayed for a time on the farm now owned by Arnold Townsend, eventually moved to Aurora district where he died of tuberculosis. *Alfred*, who never married, died young.

Cecil remained on the home farm Lot 20 where he built the brick house and extended the barn. Outside the house door was a stone milk house for storage of dairy products. Cecil married Reta Ward, daughter of Alex Ward, former reeve of East Luther, who lived west of Monticello. They had one daughter, Erma (Mrs. Russell Jelly). Cecil carried on a mixed farming operation with a large flock of sheep,



Home of Jonathan Hills, Lot 22, Con. 13.



Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Hills and family—back row, left to right, Frank, John, Bill, Edith. Centre row, Ella, Jonathan, Minnie, Mrs. Hills, T.H. Front row, Lena, George, Alice.

George who remained on the home farm with his wife, Lena Wallace, and their son Wallace. Mrs. Hills assisted at Monticello church in various ways. Wallace sold the farm in 1965 and retired in Mount Forest. Mr. and Mrs. Donald Jones now own this farm and cash crop most of it.

The other sons left East Luther for greener fields—William to Boston; John to Toronto; Thomas Henry and Frank to Western Canada.

Clifford Hills, son of Thomas Henry, came east and made his home with his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Austin Colbeck, prior to enlisting in World War I where he paid the supreme sacrifice for his country.

None of this family live in East Luther at present. Two daughters of Ella and Jim Bruce, Roxena Davidson and Dorothy White live in Grand Valley where they follow their parents' footsteps in their faithfulness to Trinity United Church.

Holborn Family

A family of horse lovers, the Holborns, moved from Drayton to Lot 22, Con. 11, early in the 1900's. This family consisted of John, who remained on the homestead all his life, Robert, James, George, Mary (Mrs. Harry Colbeck) Mrs. Fisher, Bella (Mrs. Robert Boyle).



Home of Robert Boyle—the Half House.

John married Essie McKinley, daughter of William McKinley and was raised near the site of the Luther Dam. Besides his mixed farming operation, John went into the trucking business for a short time in the 40's. Not far from the Union Stockyards in Toronto he was involved in an accident in which a young lad was killed. This cost Mr. Holborn heavily and he discontinued trucking. They raised a family of three—Morley, Emma (Mrs. William Townsend) and Mary who has now retired after working in Toronto for thirty years for Confederation Life. Emma and Bill have spent their lives in the Monticello area, attending church there as regularly as their health allowed. They have two sons—Orval, formerly farming on Lot 21, Con. 11, but presently employed at Dufferin Oaks, Shelburne and Arnold who resides on the family farm Lot 21, Con. 12 with his wife, Nina. They are engaged in dairy farming. Incidentally, Arnold now owns the Holborn homestead as well.

Robert's two grandchildren live in the township now—June (Mrs. Laverne Mournahan) daughter of Bernice Holborn (Mrs. George Bruce) and David Bruce, (Bernice's son) who is engaged in beef raising. Robert had 3 other children, Norris, one of East Luther's first livestock truckers and a lover of horses, (now deceased); Freda (Mrs. Russell Beattie) who owned Colbeck store for a number of years in the late 30's; Ellen (Scott) who has recently retired from teaching for many years. All were raised in East Luther.

George may be remembered for his fine herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle.

James lived on the farm on the south-east corner at Colbeck and engaged in mixed farming and light horses.

Mrs. Fisher spent her declining years at Colbeck. Three of her daughters still reside in Grand Valley and are well known for their sewing skills. They are Laura (Mrs. Allie Thompson), Thelma (Mrs. Trueman Thompson) and Ena (Mrs. George Bruce).

Mrs. Robert Boyle (Bella) raised a family of three—Waldon, Luther and Eloise (Betty) on Lot 21, Con. 14, where one of East Luther's landmarks was erected by Robert Boyle—the Half House it is called now. Waldon moved to Colbeck area and engaged in mixed farming with a large poultry operation included, until his son's marriage to Lois Hamilton in the early 60's when Waldon and his wife moved to Arthur. Robert, their son, continues to carry on a beef operation on the farm.

Mrs. Harry Colbeck (Mary) lived in the Monticello area all her life. After her marriage to Harry Colbeck they resided on Lot 25, Con. 11. They raised 3 daughters and 5 sons. The girls all became teachers—Helen and Maud teaching in distant schools—Doris began her teaching career at S.S. No. 4, East Luther later becoming a nurse in Toronto. Sidney and Cuthbert took over the farm operation until the farm was sold recently to John Oosterhoff. Sidney passed away in the

70's but Cuthbert, retired in Shelburne, can still be seen coming out to the old farm where he cares for some of the Aberdeen Angus cattle they loved so well. Edward, the youngest son of the family, remained at home after his sisters were gone and assisted his aging mother, learning many of the culinary skills she was so adept at doing. Ted, as we knew him, was an excellent pianist and played the organ at Monticello church for several years before he sought employment in Toronto, where he now serves an old lady as chef and butler.

The Holborn family like many others were good citizens of East Luther with varied skills and interests.

The Hunt Family

George Hunt

George Henry Hunt was born Aug. 18, 1866 in County Armagh, Ireland and worked at turf digging until coming to Canada in 1883. For several years he was employed at Georgetown and in 1894 married Elizabeth Standish. They started farming in East Luther (with \$1,000 George had saved from his wages for 10 years farm work in Esquesing township, at never more than \$135 a year) on S1/2, Lot 27, Con. 3 (where Kerry Winters lives now). In 1912 he bought 50 acres to the west, and in 1914, 100 acres across the road. His son, Clarke, took over the family farm in 1925, at George's death, and in 1929 it was sold to Thomas Woods.

Standish Hunt

Standish Leslie Hunt was born to George and Elizabeth Hunt in 1895. He attended Grand Valley Public and Continuation Schools from 1902-1912. In 1916, he enlisted in the Canadian Army and served overseas in France with the 164th battalion from 1917-1919.

Returning to Canada after World War I, he married Pearl Baxendale of East Luther township in 1921 and farmed on Lot 28, Con. 3, East Luther until they moved to Grand Valley in 1949. Their son, Bill, then took over the farm.

While farming he was always prepared to introduce new farming methods and made many innovations to make farm life more enjoyable. For over 50 years he kept a meticulous set of account records which are now in the Archives of the Ontario Agricultural Museum at Milton.



Mr and Mrs. Standish Hunt

When he moved to Grand Valley, he distributed films from the Dufferin Film Council to all the schools of the County and from 1950 to 1963 he operated the school bus service to take pupils to Grand Valley Continuation School.

During his lifetime he was an active member of the Methodist, and after Union, Trinity United Church.

Other community activities included member of the

school board, founding member of Dufferin Federation of Agriculture, Farm Forum and Dufferin County Medical Service (before OHIP). During World War II he promoted the sale of Victory Bonds in East Luther.

His historical interest led to him and his wife compiling the Tweedsmuir History for Hereward Woman's Institute, a history of Grand Valley for centennial, 1961; the History of Trinity United Church, and a record of those who served in both World Wars.

In January, 1980 he moved to Dufferin Oaks in Shelburne, and passed away in Dufferin Area Hospital on Dec. 28, 1980.

Roy Hunter

Roy Hunter, born in West Luther, married Elizabeth Feairs of Proton township in 1931 and farmed on the Proton side of Highway 89 until 1935 when they moved to Lot 25, Con. 10, East Luther. They rented this farm until 1944 when they bought the 200 acres for \$1,000. In July of that year the barn was burned and a new modern barn was erected.

During Hurricane Hazel they moved 1000 pullets from their shelters into the hen houses in the barn. They were engaged in mixed farming.

They had a family of two boys and two girls—

Lorna—(Mrs. George McPherson) who has a family of four—Dale, Grand Valley; Dean, Orangeville; Liana, Grand Valley and Connie (Mrs. Keith Taylor) of East Garafraxa;

Marlene—(Mrs. Lloyd Hilliard, Bolton) with a family of four—Marty, Cameron, Darcy and Nancy;

George—married Margaret Batchelor of Proton township. He is road superintendent of West Luther. Their family of four consists of—Ricky, Janice and Murray at home in Grand Valley and Bonita (Mrs. Henry Tanner) of Grand Valley;

Lloyd—married Esther Park of West Luther. They have four sons; Donald, Brian, Keith and Glenn. Lloyd bought his uncle's trucking business, (the late Harvey Hunter) and served farmers in the north part of East Luther township from his home in Conn. In later years he sold the business and became a truck salesman for Brett Motors, Fergus.

Roy served on East Luther council for a number of years as councillor, reeve and in 1957 became Warden of Dufferin County. In 1970, Dufferin County built two bridges on the 10th concession of East Luther. The one over the Grand River was named the Roy Hunter bridge and the one over the creek to the east the Ross Brown bridge.

In 1967 Roy and his son, George, trained a team of oxen for the Dominion Centennial at Damascus. These oxen were ridden by two grandsons, Ricky Hunter and Dean McPherson. The following year Ricky had the misfortune of being hurt by one of these oxen and has been confined to a wheelchair ever since as a result. These oxen were named John and Lester by Mrs. Hunter.

George Hunter bought his father's second farm Lot 22, Con. 10 and built a new house there. In 1972 they sold the farm and bought a house in Grand Valley.

Roy sold his farm in 1970 and moved to Fergus, Ontario.

William Irvine Family

There are many descendants of the William Irvine family in East Luther today. Mr. Irvine came to Canada in 1837 from Ireland at the tender age of 9 years. He came out with a lady, Mrs. Rebecca Clark, who raised him.

While still a young man he cleared the land on the farm S.W. Lot 28, Con. 12 East Garafraxa. He married Mary Ann Platt. They found the original little log house too small so proceeded to build a large stone house in 1889. They had 5

sons—William, Samuel, Robert J., Edward and Elwood and 2 daughters, Sarah Jane and Elizabeth. Their youngest son *Elwood* took over the homestead in 1914 when he married Gertrude Taylor, daughter of Elder John H. Taylor. Elwood and his wife continued to farm until 1950, when they moved into East Luther to the large brick house south of the C.P.R. station. Their two children Lois (Mrs. Royce Reilly) and Ira are still active in the farming community today.

As William died at an early age, the three remaining sons all moved into East Luther and were successful farmers.

Samuel married Mary Woods, taking up farming in 1908 on Lot 29, Con. 1. It may be interesting to know that these 5 sons of William Irvine attended the brand-new country school (S.S. No. 7 & 8) in 1897. While it was being built they all attended classes in a driving shed on the farm now occupied by Cecil Irvine. Sam and Mary's family consisted of Harvey, Sadie, Cecil, Edith and Jack. Sadie became a teacher and taught in the above school from 1935-39, where she had received her elementary education. Cecil still farms here with his son Alan and served on the East Luther council from 1966-74.

Robert J. Irvine married Edith Woods in 1910, starting out in East Luther on Lot 25, Con. 2 (Graham farm) but later moved to Lot 29, Con. 3. Besides farming, Bob was known in the surrounding community as a drover and cattle buyer. Bob and Edith had one son, Lloyd of Dawson Creek, B.C. After retiring to Grand Valley to a new house beside the Cenotaph, Bob passed away in 1957 but Edith is 93 years young and now resides at Dufferin Oaks, Shelburne.

The fourth son, *Edward*, married Eva Gear. They lived in East Garafraxa for awhile but moved to the former Forgrave farm, Lot 30, Con. 2, East Luther. Their family consisted of Muriel who taught in S.S. No. 3 in 1939 and Kenneth and Faye. Mrs. Irvine retired to Grand Valley and is still enjoying good health.

Sarah Jane—married Duncan Warden and lived on Lot 25, Con. 2, East Luther for a number of years. Their daughter, Eva, married Howard Taylor and farmed on Lot 29, Con. 3 where their son Irvine farmed until he moved to Orangeville. He served as Sec. Treas. for the township school board for a time and was active in community sports. His sister, Doris, married Len McCullough and moved out of the township.

The Martin Family

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Martin came to Canada from Ireland. Mr. Martin came from County Down. Mrs. Martin's maiden name was Catherine Atcheson and she came from County Antrim; both came in the year 1836. They were married 15 years later in 1851.

After they married they moved to Peel and it was all bush at that time. They came by Sheaf of Wheat to Fergus and Elora to where they made their home. They carried their flour and provisions on their backs. John was born in 1852 and was rocked in a sap trough. Later Archie Martin went to Elora and carried a board home to make a cradle. This cradle rocked their 13 children.

Patrick Boyle came from Ireland about the same time (County Antrim) and was Archie Martin's neighbour. His wife was a McKie of Scottish descent. Mrs. John Martin's mother was a McKie, Mrs. John Martin's name was Sarah Eaton daughter of John Eaton; John Eaton was a brother of Timothy Eaton (founder of Eaton stores).

John, Will and Jim were born in Peel. *Margaret* was born on Lot 27, Con. 2, East Luther—they were on their way to Providence. John Atcheson brought them from Peel to Providence; he had come to Peel a year before. Mrs. Archie Martin stayed with Andy Crawford's until she was able to go

further. Archie Martin built the first road from Grand Valley to Providence with the help of Wm. McPherson, called "Doc". There were no settlers between Grand Valley and Providence. (Tarbert)

Archie Martin left East Luther in 1882 and went to Tehkummah, Manitoulin Island, where he lived to be 105 years of age. Both Archie Martin and his wife are buried at Tehkummah. At the age of 90 years he rode a pony bareback from Owen Sound to his son John Martin's home at Colbeck. He sold the pony to John Graham; John then owned the 50 acres that later belonged to Edwin Martin.

John Martin was the best known of this family in East Luther. From the farm at Colbeck he moved to Grand Valley from where he delivered mail on R.R. No. 2 for many years. His son, *George*, had a livery stable in the village and frequently drove the minister to Colbeck Church. As well he operated a dray to the C.P.R. station, delivering parcels.

Angeline married John Deaken and together farmed the Century farm where their grandson, Lionel, now lives.

Birdie, Mrs. John Henderson, lived on Con. 9 before moving to Toronto.

Alvin married Lucy Reilly and farmed on Lot 31, Con. 8. He was also employed by the County of Dufferin as road superintendent of the road now Highway 25 before moving to Guelph. Their son, Kenneth, remained on the farm for a few years before moving to Orangeville. He and his three sisters, Norma (Mrs. Pat Dales), Audrey and Marjorie were educated at S.S. No. 12 where their mother had gone to school.

Edwin married Gertrude Reilly and raised one daughter, Ruth, and six sons—Russell, who died in World War II, Ronald, Vincent, Clifford, Allen and Harold. Allen remains on the home farm east of Colbeck.

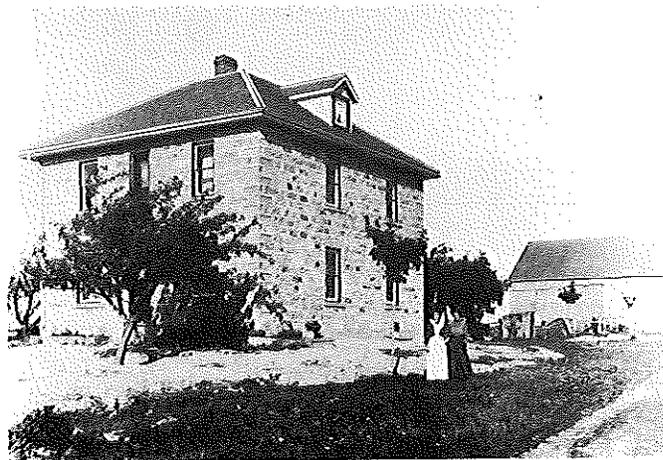
Robert McCulloch

Farm Lots 31 and 32 East Luther

Mr. and Mrs. John McCulloch (nee Ferguson) purchased Lots 31 and 32 on Con. 6 from the County of Wellington in 1873, 187 1/2 acres for \$185 for their son Robert. The 87 1/2 acres was later sold.

In 1876 Robert McCulloch married Ellen Rainey. A small house and barn had been built behind the present buildings by a "squatter". The present house was built in 1912.

The family consisted of 7 children, Thomas, James, Mary (Mrs. Donald Gear), Wm., George, John and Jean (Mrs. J. McGowan). Wm. and George carried on the farming with the help of John when he retired from the C.P.R. in 1959.



Robert McCulloch's Home

When the farm was purchased the roads were all corduroy, later gravelled and in 1960 the road into Grand Valley (now Highway 25) was rebuilt and new culverts were put in. In 1961, it was hard topped.

The farm was sold to Stanley Newson who owns the farm adjoining on the north. In 1970 Stan sold it to Dr. Tisdall, a psychiatrist from Toronto who has renovated the stone house inside and out with such astounding ingenuity that you really should drive past slowly to view it.

Trees have been planted all along the front of the farm along Highway 25. The rest of the farm has been rented by adjacent farmers who continue to grow fine crops on this land. The large sugar bush from which Wm. McCulloch made maple syrup and cut wood for his woodworking hobby still stands.

The McCulloch's retired to the house on Mill Street West, Grand Valley, where their niece, Mrs. John Messenger lives at present.

Alex McFarlane Family

In 1901 Alex McFarlane settled on the E1/2 Lot 29, Concession 14, East Luther. The following year he married May Ann Alexander from West Luther.

In 1929 their son, Earl, bought the west half of the lot and remained there with his wife, the former Rhoda Henry, until 1966, retiring in Shelburne at that time.

Both father and son, Earl, were interested in municipal affairs. A resident of East Luther remembers when Alex graded the road with horses. He became an East Luther councillor in 1919 and served for three years. He had one of the first cars in north Luther.

Earl was a member of council from 1944-1949 and served as reeve the following two years.

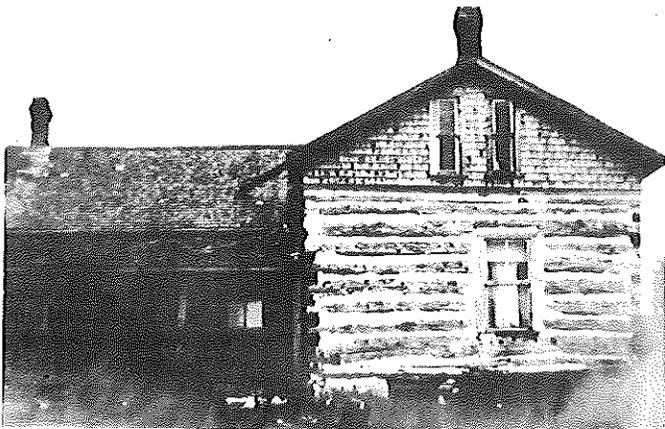
Forbes, married to Hazel Dynes, farmed on the home farm prior to retirement in Shelburne.

Edna (Mrs. Harry Francis) lived near Shelburne. Although retired now, she is active as a volunteer worker with the auxiliary at Dufferin Oaks.

"Toots" (Louise) may be remembered as the pitcher of the ladies' softball team at Keldon in the 20's which was coached by her brother Earl and Clayburn Montgomery.

Other members of this family who moved away were—Gordon (married to May Cunningham, Colbeck) to Detroit; Dorothy (Mrs. Gordon Bannerman) to Weston and Jean (Mrs. Clifford White).

This family attended school at Jessopville and worshipped at Keldon where they were faithful members. In fact, although living in Shelburne, Earl and Forbes and their wives continue to worship at their old home church in north Luther.



House of Earl McFarlane before renovations.

McMahon Family

Mr. and Mrs. William McMahon from Ballycroy, Ontario bought the Mark Kirkland farm on Sideroad 24 in 1954. William had been a mechanic for five years before beginning a mixed farming operation which he continued in East Luther. They have always raised chickens, 500 at first but now only a laying flock of about one hundred and thirty, from which she has eggs for their own use and a small private route. William specializes now by raising and selling weaner and market hogs. They grow grain for their pigs and sell some straw.

In 1965 they built a new brick bungalow and later an implement shed.

A bit of a humorist Bill wanted to know if we ever saw a cat fish. When we answered "Yes" he enquired, "How did it hold the pole?"

Their family consists of: David—a diesel mechanic (now deceased as the result of a car accident); James—a laboratory technician in Preston; Juliette—works in Kitchener; Larry—Truck coach Class A mechanic, works at McEwens Service Station, Arthur; John—employed at Goodyear Tire Co., Brampton; Danny—student at Shelburne High School; and Anne Marie—student at G.V.D.P.S.

For a hobby William has chosen curling. His wife has several. She has many beautiful specimens of Ceramics to adorn her new house. She enjoys painting with oils, excelling in family portraits and scenes showing rivers, bridges, houses and other subjects she sees in the surrounding countryside. Sewing, crocheting, making quilts, flower and vegetable gardening make a variety of other hobbies she excels in. Besides vegetables in her garden she has cherries, strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, thimbleberries, black and red currants. A busy place, indeed, is the McMahon farm.

The McMurchy Family

Malcolm McMurchy came to the community in 1854. He was one of the first settlers. His family came from Tarbert Scotland, hence the name Tarbert. Malcolm married Kate Reid of Erin Township and they settled on the 7th line, Lot 29, East Luther, later owned by Stan Potter. The first schoolhouse was built on this farm. The McClellands owned the farm adjoining to the East, 200 acres, later owned by John Woods, Thomas Bates, Joseph Ritchie, W. West, Karl Sedgwick and George Landman. Most people lived in log cabins; the frame, brick and stone houses came later. They cleared their land, making tiny fields to begin with and tilled them with oxen. Worship services meant a lot to the early pioneers and also provided a spot where they could get together socially with neighbours who sometimes lived quite a distance away.

Malcolm and Kate had nine children; Alexander, Katherine, Flora, Belle, Malcolm, George, Mary, Maggie and Sarah. Malcolm operated the first post office on his farm.

Katherine was born July 6, 1855 and was the first white child born in this community. In 1875 she married James Tyner. Belle McMurchy trained in an American hospital and became a Registered Nurse, working for many years as assistant superintendent at the hospital for Sick Children, Toronto (1891). She was born in 1861 and was the first girl in the community to become a nurse. She received her elementary education in the schoolhouse which was situated on the property where the Tarbert United Church stood.

The Jim Tyner Family

James Tyner married Katherine McMurchy in the year 1875. There was no certificate but the details were written in the Bible by Rev. McLellan, who performed the marriage in the McMurchy home.

Mr. Tyner's farm, 200 acres, was situated on the 9th line and county road, East Luther. Their family consisted of Thomas, Alexander, Roy, Mamie, Alan, Victor, Katherine and George. Mr. and Mrs. Tyner spent their entire lives on the farm, and Mrs. Tyner lived to be 89 years old. She died in 1944.

Their son Victor lived on the farm until about 1956. He sold it to Mr. and Mrs. Henning Mortensen. In 1959, Tom Tyner was 83 years and his sister Mamie is 79. None of this family live in the township now.

Meldrum Family

Mr. John Meldrum (Geo.'s father) and 2 sisters came from Scotland about 1880 and settled in the vicinity of Guelph. He worked for five years in Elora for Mr. J. Ross. Then he worked for a family at Winterbourne 2 years, and married a daughter of this family. They also came over from Scotland on an old sailing vessel which took 6 weeks to cross the ocean.

John and his wife decided to make a home for themselves and heard about land in Dufferin County. In 1887 they bought a 100 acre farm on the 7th line of East Luther. That year the land had taken quite a jump in price so they had to pay \$1600 for it, from a man named Bulmur. He had a small clearing for a garden and a house. In fact the log house was under construction and just ready for the roof.

The country was mostly bush with very few buildings. The road to Grand Valley was cut through solid bush and where there were low places a corduroy road was built (a causeway of logs laid over swamp). It was slow going over these roads, mostly oxen teams then. Mr. and Mrs. Meldrum lived on the farm as long as they lived and raised a family of six.

The early settlers had many hardships to contend with and very little money—mostly the barter system. Someone would walk to the village with a basket of butter and eggs and exchange for groceries. The Grocer would always slip in a bag of candy for the children. There was no work of any kind to earn a dollar and no stock to sell. Lots of good timber, but no sale for it, and I wonder how they got a living. I was told there were lots of deer in the bush, huckleberries in the marsh and speckled trout in the Grand River. I can remember when we just had one cow which my grandfather gave us and weren't we proud of that cow. She could live in the bush all day and at night we would get a pail full of milk. Then when winter came there was very little feed for stock so we used to use anything we had out of the stables and they would follow us to the bush, which wasn't far, and they would eat the top branches from a few Maple trees that we would cut down. We called this browsing and it was a Godsend to the early settlers. The Maple trees also supplied us with our sugar as well as syrup.

It took many years of hard work to clear one hundred acres, build good roads, houses and barns. The first settlers spent their whole life-time on these farms with so many hard things to contend with. I can remember when as a small boy, my father had four acres of wheat not far from the house and it was planted around stumps. This was his first crop; land was new and very rich. It was a wonderful crop and my father used to stand and look at it, he was so proud. Dad cut it with a "cradle". Stumps were too thick to use a "reaper". Then it had to be bound by hand and then stooked. At this time there were many bears in the bush and when my father went out to see if it was ready to stook, the bears had been in and were destroying his wheat. As dad was telling mother I could see the tears in her eyes, she felt so badly. Well, something had to be done, so he consulted our neighbour, Mr. Graham. They had one big musket of a gun, about 5' long; they loaded it with lead balls about the size of a bean,

put 8 of these in on top of a good charge of powder. Then they made a stook of wheat sheaves, round and about 8 ft. across. In the evening Dad and Mr. Graham got inside with the loaded gun and an axe. Finally about 12 o'clock they heard a big bear coming, they waited until he got into the wheat stooks, it was moonlight so they could see him quite well. They shot, he gave a terrible roar, which could have been heard a mile away, and jumped toward them but fell about 20 ft. from where they were standing, trying to re-load the gun again. As I said, I was just a little boy but I still remember seeing that big black bear lying at our door when I got up in the morning. This is just one of the many troubles and hard things our pioneer parents had to endure and contend with to make our country what it is today—good roads, fine houses, and barns and nice cars."

George Meldrum, Benito, Manitoba

The only descendant of this family living in East Luther in 1980 is Mervin Smith, grandson of Maggie Meldrum, who resides on Lot 24, Con. 7 where he raises pigs and has a cow-calf operation as well.

The Montgomerys 1881-1981

In October of 1881, James and Melissa (Shunk), his second wife, moved to Lot 22, Con. 4 in East Luther from the Blind-line in Mono township with their ten children namely: Samuel, John, Charles, Katherine, Joshua, David, Lewis, Esther, Melinda and Lester. Maud and Benjamin were born in Luther.

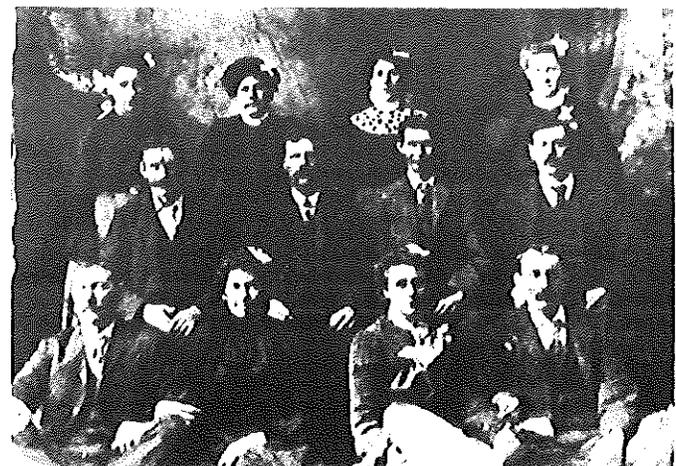
Benjamin was his parent's twelfth son, named after the 12th son of Jacob of the tribe of Israel.

James Montgomery had five children to his first wife Katherine Hewston, James, Joseph, Nelson, William and Lizzie. These children did not come to Luther with their parents.

James Sr. bought a horse-powered threshing machine at the first C.N.E. in Toronto in 1879. He threshed in the Caledon and Mono districts and later in Luther. The sons of James and Melissa proved themselves as efficient farmers, and capable carpenters building several houses and barns, as well as clearing the land they bought.

Charles farmed in the community at Monticello and raised a family of ten. Flossie married Tom McKinley and Lillie married Earl Deaken who lived most of their lives south of Monticello. Flossie moved to Saskatchewan. Aylmer, Clifford, Lorne, Evelyn, Cora, Velma, Charles and Vincent found work in other places.

Joshua farmed and threshed in the district of Peepabun



Family of James and Melissa Montgomery—back and centre row, left to right, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Corbett (Linnie), Mr. and Mrs. J. Crawford (Katy), Mr. and Mrs. Joe Smeltzer (Esther), Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Montgomery (Beatrice). Front row—Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Montgomery, Mr. and Mrs. David Montgomery (Ida).

and raised a family of nine. Lewis farmed and threshed and was an implement salesman. Harry farmed the farm known as the Edmund King farm all his life on Con. 3. Mabel and Ida married and moved from the township. Hazel along with her husband, Jim Tate, farmed for 37 years in East Luther. Gertie and Dell married Toronto husbands. Albert farmed all his life along with threshing and doing custom work and lived only on Con. 3. Mary has resided in Grand Valley all her married life where her husband Bert Davies has been a valued employee of the Greenwood Construction Co. for many years.

David farmed on the farm now owned by his nephew, Etsel Montgomery, and on Con. 7. He raised a family of nine—John, Clara (Mrs. Arthur Wheeler) who lived on the old W.D. Thompson farm at South Luther, Vera, Ross, Morris, Gordon, Gladys (Mrs. Willard Soloman who farmed on Lot 32, Con. 3 before the Witmer's came there), Willis, a Grand Valley Insurance business man and Isabell.

Lester farmed on the same farm as his parents had come to from Mono. He raised a family of ten children. His sons, Rupert, Harvey and Orlive all farmed close to where they were raised. Milford, Myrtle, Violet, Mae, Merle and Grace married and made homes in other parts of Ontario.

John was killed at the age of 29 as the result of a stone thrown at him striking him on the temple at a July 12 celebration in Orangeville, 1907.

Lewis, aged 16 died as a young man.

Esther (nicknamed Tine, because of her tiny stature) married Joseph Smeltzer and operated Monticello store for many years. Two of their family Annie (Mrs. John White) and Ruby (Mrs. Boyd McLaine) who taught at S.S. No. 9 contributed most to the development of East Luther.

Benjamin, the youngest of the family was born in East Luther. He planned his life differently from the others. He built houses as well as framing and raising barns. His three sons, Etsel, Leonard and Earl owned new barns he built to replace ones which had been destroyed by fire. He was a councillor in the 30's. His daughter, Ethel, died quite young. His three sons farmed successfully on Con. 4 where Etsel and his two sons are still engaged in mixed farming.

Ray Montgomery, son of Rupert, farms on 21 sideroad. Carl Montgomery, son of Harry farms his father's farm and his own on Con. 2. Clayburn, Harry's oldest son, has operated the township road grader for a number of years. Etsel, Ray and Carl are the only Montgomery's living in East Luther now but Clayburn is using his talents for the benefit of the township as well.

John Montgomery Family

John Montgomery was born in July, 1900, to David and Ida Montgomery in East Luther Township. In his mid-teens he went to Western Canada on a harvest excursion. He had very little formal education. He remained in the west and worked on farms, one of which was Alex and Hattie Newson's at Driver, Sask. The Newsons had daily family worship in their home and often had visiting evangelists. During one of these visits, John experienced a "dramatic conversion", and then decided he would like to study for the ministry. He attended Prairie Bible Institute at Three Hills, Alberta, and became a minister of the gospel. He married Louise Doner who taught school near Driver, Sask. Missionary work took them to Cuba, Haiti, Jamaica, and lastly Dominican Republic. In one of these locations a Mission

Another debate title—Resolved that a fat, congenial woman makes a better wife than a cranky skinny one!

to Orphans was established. They are semi-retired and living in Tampa, Florida, but John still makes periodic visits to the Dominican Republic to keep in touch with the work there.

The Bryan Montgomery Family

Lot 31, Con. 5—by Isabelle Montgomery

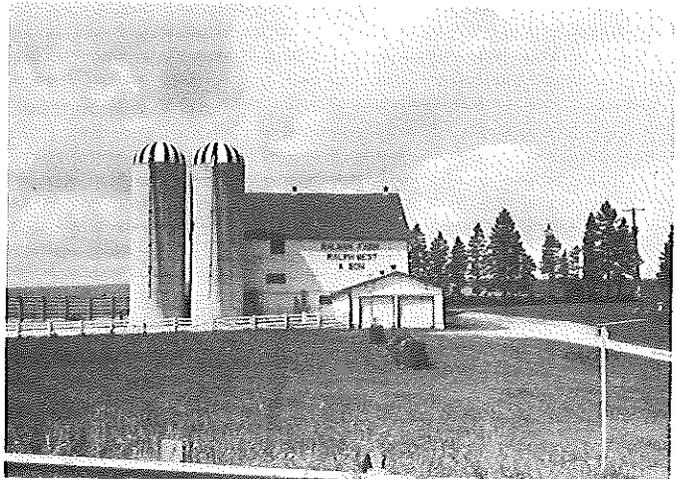
In April 1968, I moved from the County of Peel, Chinguacousy township with my husband, Bryan and three daughters, Jennie, Ellen and Barbara to the farm of Albert and Leone Looby. At that time the Looby's were in the beef business and we changed the barn around for our dairy herd.

I was nominated in 1973 to become a Councillor for East Luther and became a candidate at that time. I am in my fifth term at the present time.

We are members of Trinity United Church. I was a member of the Grand Valley Curling Club shortly after moving to the area. Some of the committees I sat on were the Medical Centre Board and am still on the East Luther Planning Board, the Dairy Princess Co-ordinator for Dufferin County and was quite pleased to have Maria Booi go to the finals in Toronto and become the Ontario Dairy Princess.

Since being on Council I have seen many changes in our community, especially the farms that have changed ownership and the number of severances that have been granted. Camping and recreation plays a major part in our area.

The home we live in was built in 1862 by Fred Hood and his wife who had a crown deed for 201 acres and was purchased by William and John Nicholl in 1870. J Linklater moved here in 1902, later selling to Austin Colbeck and he in turn sold to Albert Looby in 1943. When Leone and Albert retired to Grand Valley we purchased the farm along with Lot 30, Con. 5 and Lot 32, Con. 5. At the time of printing Bryan and I sold the 2 parcels and dairy herd to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mauzener of Switzerland and they take possession in April, 1981. We purchased another farm known as Lot 30, Con. 6 owned by Ralph and Wanda West.

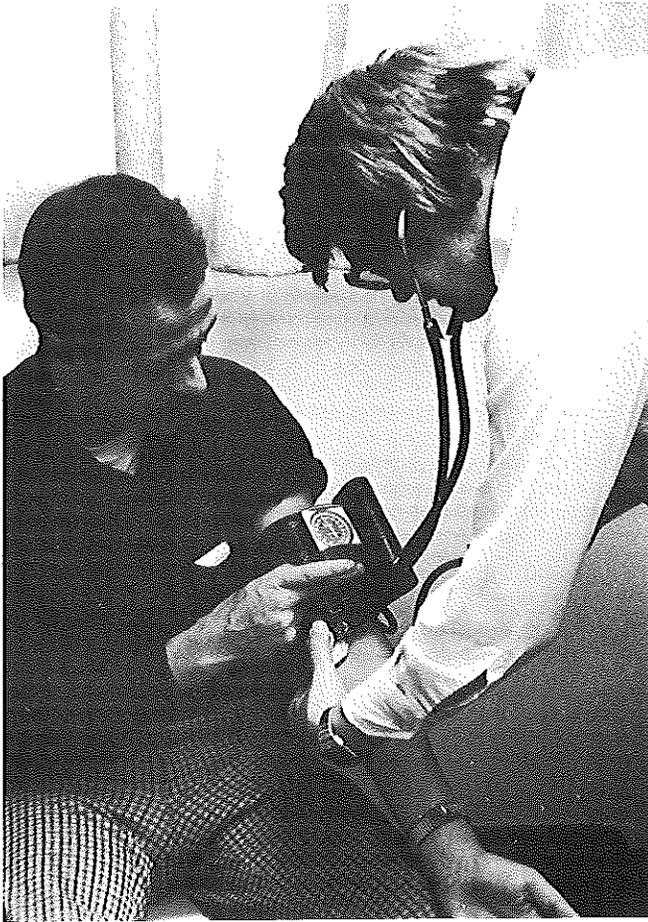


The home of Bryan and Isabelle Montgomery, 1981.

Dr. Don Mulder

—as written by Dr. D. L. Mulder

I was born in Eston, Saskatchewan, a small farming town smaller than Grand Valley. I grew up farming with my father who cultivated grain crops. I hated it. I attended school in Eston and left home early to seek my fortunes and have a lot of fun. I attended university at Royal Roads Military College, 1958-1960 in Victoria, B.C., Military Engineering (Civil Engineering); University of Saskatchewan, 1962-1963, Biology; University of British Columbia, 1963-1967, Biology,



Dr. D.L. Mulder.

Medical School; University of Toronto, 1967-1968, Internship—St. Joseph's Hospital, Toronto; University of Dalhousie in Halifax, 1971-1972, Post Graduate Medical Training, General surgery; University of Toronto, 1972-1973, Post Graduate Medical Training, Neurosurgery/Orthopaedics; and Canadian Armed Forces of Environmental Medicine, 1970, Aerospace Medicine—Diploma. After High School, I joined the Canadian Armed Forces as a private soldier then attended Officers College (Royal Roads) taking engineering. For a two year period I was a Lieutenant with the Royal Canadian Engineers, serving in Chilliwack, B.C., with 3 Field Squadron as a troop commander building bridges, roads, bomb disposal, demolitions (loved that—blowing things up). Following this I transferred to the Royal Canadian Service Corp Reserves and attended University at UBC and Saskatchewan to complete premedical studies.

In 1963, still in the armed forces, I attended Medical School, graduated in 1967 from UBC, was promoted to Captain in the Royal Canadian Medical Corp. The following year I interned in Toronto at St. Joseph's Hospital (still in the army). Following Internship, I was posted to CFB Shearwater, a naval air station, where I worked as a general duty Medical Officer there, and was promoted to Captain.

In 1970, I attended the Canadian Armed Forces School of Environmental Medicine and completed a diploma course in Aerospace medicine. I returned to CFB Shearwater, as a Flight Surgeon to the Naval anti Submarine Warfare division. The following year I was promoted to Major and took over the command of the Base Hospital at CFB Shearwater. In addition I took on the responsibilities of the Maritime Command Flight Surgeon. Included in my duties

were air search and Rescue sorties—something like our Ontario Air Ambulance only in a Maritime environment. This was very enjoyable—parachuting into the sea to aid the victims on ships and transporting them by helicopter to land Hospitals. These duties were shared by Medical Officers in the area. However I volunteered for all missions to get out of the paperwork as Commanding Officer and Command Flight surgeon—I still hate paperwork.

On completion of my contracted term of service I had the option of signing on as a Colonel in the medical corps or leaving for post-graduate training in Traumatic Medicine (Surgery, Neuro surgery/Orthopaedics). Since staying in the service meant more paper work and meaningless bureaucracy, I chose post graduate medicine and left the service after 14 years, and retired as a Major.

I then attended the University of Toronto and studied as a resident at St. Michaels Hospital and Sunnybrook Hospital. After two years of Post graduate Surgical training (one year in Halifax at HMC Stadacona), I found I was in as much bureaucracy and political infighting as I had been in the army. At this point I started looking for an area that needed a doctor—a general practitioner, that could look after people and not just disease entity. I had, with my wife, run a clinic in a depressed area in Nova Scotia (while still in the forces) and had enjoyed working with a community that needed medical care. When I left post graduate medicine, we looked for an area that again needed a doctor and with the assistance of the Ontario Ministry of Health, and the fact my wife's parents lived nearby, found Grand Valley. This was in the spring of 1973. With the help of Dick Spruyt, we found a house in Grand Valley and after a three month wait for the clinic to be finished (we worked in the Manitoulin area on the Indian Reserve during this time), we moved into the present clinic. Our first counter was a set of kitchen cupboards, complete with a sink but no water. Eight years later we are still here and have never regretted our move here and we feel we are part of our community and doing something that is needed and meaningful. We look forward to another equally long or longer period here. This is our home.

We moved to the old Rounding Farm in November 1975, after a short stay the same year at the Hustler farm—still on the fourth line. Our farm is called the Black Bridge Farm, obviously because of the White bridge at the corner.

In regards to my family life, I met my wife while at Camp Borden, (on a reluctant blind date) in 1965 and we were married in 1966. Lucas, our oldest boy was born just after we opened the clinic here in Grand Valley on Nov. 11, 1973. Danny followed on Sept. 11, 1976 and most recently, Sept. 26, 1980 we chose our daughter, Sarah, and made our family complete.

Grand Valley has been very good to us, and as I said it is our home, the children's roots are here in Grand Valley and I couldn't think of a better or more rewarding area to work and raise a family.

Just an after thought, in the past two years I have fallen in love with computers and have designed and collaborated in the writing of the system that presently does the Medical paper work of our office. This undoubtedly was fostered by my hatred of paper work; now the machine does it. My interests in the Computer technology has grown to the point that I have started my own company, Black Bridge Computer Services, for small business systems. Who knows what the future holds but it will certainly involve Grand Valley, Medicine and Computers. Farming and horses are still in the background but time is so limited they will have to wait for awhile.

General Practice never changes. In our area the greatest change has been in the population we serve. At first our work

was largely geriatrics, now the area has a much younger population and the practice is truly a rural family practice. In the next few years I would hope to find another physician who would enjoy the rural life; however, this has been an elusive task to date.

A word about the medical services in Dufferin County. In the past eight years I have observed a tremendous improvement and extension in Medical services available to our patients. In the next few years this should expand in terms of specialty medical care, at least I hope government bureaucracy will allow this to occur—it is most certainly needed. We should be able to care for our patients in our own area not tripping off to Toronto, Brampton and Guelph for this or that. It will come—soon hopefully.

Nairn Family

Mr. and Mrs. John Nairn Sr. settled in East Garafraxa Lot 24, Con. 9 and John Nairn Jr., one of a family of eight, carried on the family farm. In 1874 he married Margaret Park and in 1886 bought the present Nairn farm, Lot 22, Con. 1, East Luther from Mr. and Mrs. John Hay who had taken it out of the crown in 1870. In 1898 he also bought E 1/2 of S 1/2 of Lot 21, Con. 1, East Luther. The same year the barn on the present Nairn farm was built followed by the house in 1902 and the family consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Nairn, John, George, Annie (Mrs. Walter Richardson) Ernest and Lily Bushell (Mrs. Sam Platt) moved across the road bringing part of their old house for a back kitchen on the new house. John and George both went to Alberta about 1905 and settled near Minburn.

In 1911, Ernest Nairn and Jennie Richardson were married and took over the farm. Two sons, Ansley and Frank, received their public school education in the same schoolhouse as their father had, on the corner of Con. 9, and 20 sideroad, East Garafraxa. One daughter Helen Jean died at three years of age.

After high school in Grand Valley, Ansley farmed with his parents while Frank continued his education with a business course. He was then employed at Beatty Bros., Fergus but at the time of World War II joined the R.C.A.F. and spent some time overseas. Prior to this he was married to Irene Holbrook of Fergus. Returning in 1945 he accepted a position in the bursar's office at the O.A.C., Guelph. In 1965 when the college received its charter as University of Guelph, he became their first bursar, a position he still holds in 1981. They have two daughters, Jean and Mary.

Ansley and Gladys Winters were married in 1941, and farmed on shares with Ansley's parents with the house divided into two living quarters. After the death of Ernest Nairn in 1951, they bought the farm and Mrs. Nairn continued to live there until her death in 1959. She will be remembered as a faithful organist at South Luther church for many years.

Back about 1935 the Nairns tried a new venture of hatching chickens. A large vacant bedroom was used to house six—600 egg incubators and two smaller ones. Being long before farm hydro, they were heated by coal oil burners. The temperature had to be watched very closely, with plenty of ventilation, and the eggs on the trays of 4 to each incubator had to be turned by hand twice a day. First setting would be in mid Feb. and the eggs would all be candled for fertility twice in the 21 days hatching period. Baby chicks were sold to farm people who had a brooder house with a coal burning brooder stove. Orders ranged from 150 to 500 birds and were sold at about 11¢ to 14¢ each, sometimes delivered by horse and cutter. The pullets were kept for laying hens and the roosters were fattened for Lang's fall poultry market in Grand Valley. This business was carried on for about ten years.

Ansley and Gladys had a family of four—Kenneth,

presently on the farm, Joan, (Mrs. Robert Wilson), Belwood, Douglas with his wife Debbie at Vermilion, Alta., and Kathy (Mrs. R. Nussey) who built a new house on an acre lot severed from the home farm.

Mixed farming was general over the years but later became specialized. In 1941 the barn housed 6 work horses, 9 cows and their stock, 2 or 3 sows, about 800 hens with a few sheep in another building.

Now as Ken and Sharon (Hillis) Nairn carry on the farm, the main barn is converted for feeder pigs, with 2 sow barns producing the young. Ansley Nairn, now living in Grand Valley, owns the farm in East Garafraxa where his great-grandfather brought his family before Confederation. Incidentally, this property was taken out of the crown in 1836.

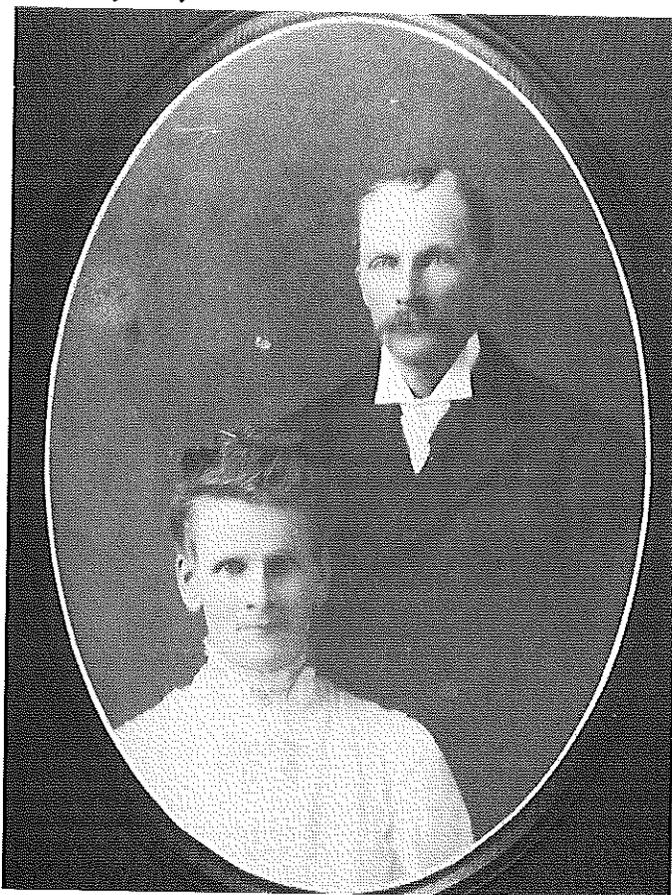
History of the Eli Newson Farm

Lot 31, Con. 6, East Luther Township

In the year 1902 this farm was purchased from James Graham who also had a saw-mill on the bank of the Grand River. This saw-mill provided lumber for many new buildings in this area.

Eli Newson and his wife Emma (Willmott) Newson were married in 1895. They were former residents of the South Luther Community, having attended school at Union S.S. No. 2 and were members of the South Luther Presbyterian Church.

When they moved to N. H. Lot 21, Con. 6 they had one son, Harry age 4. Later a daughter Annie and a son Elmer died in infancy. Other members of the family are a daughter Mary, (Mrs. Harold Hilborn), sons William, Norman and Stanley who all attended Public School at S.S. No. 12 where their father served as Secretary-Treasurer of the School Board for twenty-five years.



Mr. and Mrs. Eli Newson.



Left to right—Mary Newson (Hillborn) and Annie Willmott (Rendall).

Mr. and Mrs. Newson became members of Tarbert Presbyterian Church, later the United Church of Canada. All members of the family attended this church in which their father was an Elder for many years.

During the early years on the farm he operated a lime kiln which supplied lime for use in the construction of many local buildings. Eli Newson was devoted to his farm work. He was also a director of the East Luther Agricultural Society and competed in Standing Field Crop Competitions for many years. In this capacity he served as a Field Crop Judge in Grey and Middlesex Counties. In the year 1917 he purchased the adjoining farm of eighty-eight acres N. H. Lot 32, Con. 6.

Following a short illness Mr. Eli Newson passed away on March 2, 1940. Ten years later his wife passed away on Nov. 30, 1950. The farm was taken over by the youngest son Stanley who occupies and operates the farm at the present time.



Home of Stanley Newson, 1980.

John Park

John Park purchased Lot 31, Con. 7 in East Luther where he resided for many years. He was induced to enter public life at the early age of 28 years and was first elected to the Luther Council in 1874. Upon the division of the township, Mr. Park was elected the first Reeve of East Luther.

He became an ardent advocate of union with the newly formed County of Dufferin. He was Reeve of East Luther when the bill annexing the township to Dufferin was passed in the Legislature. It was largely through his influence that the CPR was induced to erect a station at the embryo village of Grand Valley and he persuaded Mr. McIntyre, the first grain buyer, to locate there. His municipal record covered a period of twenty-six years and reached a climax with his election to the Warden's chair. He was nominated as Liberal candidate in Dufferin against the late Dr. Barr, Conservative. Mr. Park waged a strenuous campaign, but in a strong Conservative riding he suffered defeat. He passed away in April, 1934 in his 89th year.

Stanley Potter

Stanley Potter was born on August 17, 1889 to Ellen Simpson and Willis Potter on their farm at Lot 13, 8th line of Amaranth Township.

In 1913 he purchased a farm at Lot 29, 7th line of East Luther Township and on June 24, 1914 married Ella Jane Townsend of East Luther Township. For one year they lived in Amaranth Township, across the road from his parents. In 1915 they moved to their East Luther farm and lived in a log house. They built a new home in 1932 where they resided until 1952 when they sold the farm. A few years later they moved to Grand Valley.

Mrs. Potter was born on June 17, 1893 to Jane Stuart and Tom Townsend on the 9th line of East Luther.

Mr and Mrs. Potter raised 8 daughters. They were both active in Tarbert United Church and later in Trinity United Church in Grand Valley. Mrs. Potter was the organist for several years in Tarbert Church.

Mrs. Potter passed away in her 70th year on May 30, 1963. Mr. Potter passed away in his 87th year on May 15, 1976.

Stanley Potter was active in politics, having served as Councillor and Reeve of East Luther. He was Warden of Dufferin County in 1940. He was instrumental in the building of the Grand Valley and District Medical Centre in 1973 when he was in his 80's by collecting donations from the residents in the community. He was a member of the Grand River Conservation Authority and was elected Vice Chairman in 1952. Their only descendants living in East Luther in 1881 are grandsons Stephen and Thomas Tupling and their sister, Tami, children of Leila Young.

History of the Rainey Farm Lot 30, Con. 9, East Luther

Mr. and Mrs. James Rainey (nee Susan Finlay) were born in Ontario of Irish descent. They bought their farm with 100 acres in 1893 from Mr. William Loney for 2500 dollars and have a mixed farm.

The first house was built of logs, located on the hill, size 18 x 24, and a log barn as well. The present brick house was built in 1900, and the barn, 50 x 54, was built in 1898. The timber for these buildings was all grown on the farm. The lime for the foundations was drawn from the kiln at the 7th line corner. In 1906 a straw-shed was built.

In the early years Mr. Rainey worked with Mr. Samuel Graydon, a brick-layer, mixing mortar, etc. They built many houses in and around Grand Valley.

Mr. Rainey boarded men who were working on the ad-



Mrs. James Rainey, age 18.

joining farm and charged 12 1/2¢ per meal, later raising it to 15¢, and that was considered "big money". Their family consisted of Alexander, Fred and Minnie (Mrs. Hector McDougall, now of Dufferin Oaks).

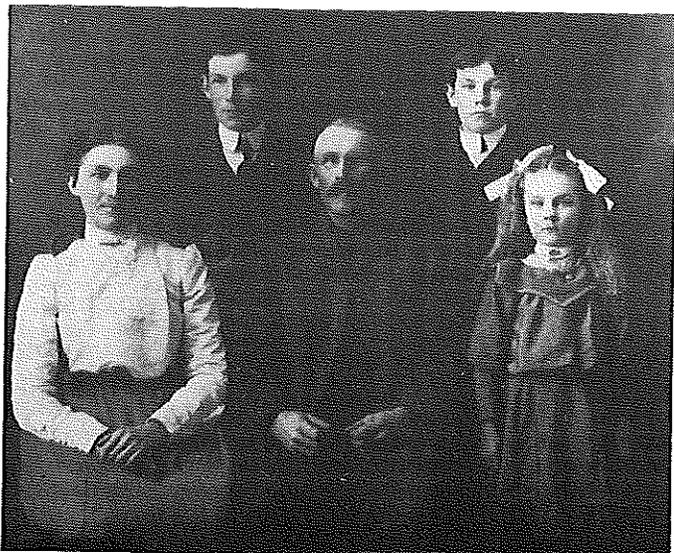
The telephone was installed in 1908, East Luther System, and electricity in 1956.

An additional 25 acres was purchased in 1919 and the East half of Lot 30, Con. 9 in 1949. Present acreage as of 1959—225 acres.

Comparative taxes on a 100 acre farm: 1900—\$17, 1925—\$100, 1950—\$185, 1959—\$238.

Local activities were confined mostly in our homes. Many parties, dancing, playing cards, and other games were plentiful during the winter months. A neighbour would take up his team and sleigh and pick everyone up along the way.

Alex Rainey lived on this farm all his life. His daughter



Mr. and Mrs. Rainey, Alex, Fred and Minnie (McDougall), 1907.

Laura and her husband continued to farm here until 1980. Alex and his wife, the former Ida Buchanan had another daughter Clara, (Mrs. Wallace Culp, Arthur).

Albert Reilly

The O'Reilly family came originally from Ireland. In Canada they settled around Erin, Ont. Patrick O'Reilly's son married Martha Parker (formerly of Scotland) in 1857. They settled in East Luther where they built a shanty and log stable. This union was blessed with 10 children—John, William, Albert, George, Andrew, James, Elizabeth, Belle, Norman and Edward. Elizabeth became a trained nurse; Andrew, a veterinarian who practised in Grand Valley for some time.

Albert settled in East Luther Lot 30, Con. 8. He and his father had a tract of land originally bought from Crown lands in 1873. The country at that time was bush and swamp—no roads—just trails—so transportation was limited. Pedlars and tramps roamed the area. Midwives were popular as there were large families.



Mr. and Mrs. Albert Reilly, 1909, and family—left to right—Fred, Stella, Hazel, Elmer, Edith.

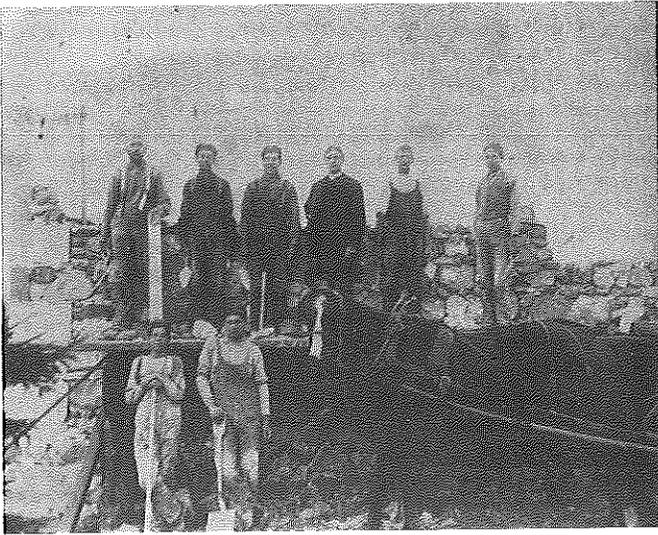
Albert lived on the south portion of the land—100 acres. He built a log house in 1890, married Mary Anne Larter—built a barn in 1893 from lumber from the farm. The telephone came to them in 1908. Albert was a stone mason and builder, so much of the stone masonry in the area was done by him and his brothers. Albert and Mary Ann were blessed with 9 children—Ross, Sault Ste. Marie; Elmer, an East Luther farmer for years; Fred also East Luther farmer; Lottie; Elva; Lucy (Mrs. Alvin Martin, Lot 31, Con. 8); Gertie (Mrs. Edward Martin, Lot 31, Con. 11); Hazel Stella, (a teacher at Colbeck School, now Mrs. Bert Deaken), and Mildred. Three of this family remains—Elva, (Mrs. Al Brocklebank) who with her husband farmed and operated a chicken business on the family home for some time before retiring in B.C.; Stella Deaken retired and living in Orangeville; Mildred Dixon, Toronto.

Albert Reilly served on East Luther council as councillor in World War I years and reeve in 1920-21.

Reilly Family History

Reilly or O'Reilly is an illustrious family of Erin, Ireland that has sent notable sons and daughters into many parts of the world.

George O'Reilly was the son of Patrick O'Reilly of Erin, Ontario. In 1857 he married Martha Parker, daughter of An-



Reilly brothers building a barn
Second from left at top—Norman.

drew Parker of Paisley, Scotland, and in 1874 George and Martha moved to Luther near Little Toronto, which is now Grand Valley. George farmed on Lot 30, Con. 8 and when they first moved there they built a log house in the bush. Today this house is still standing but is covered over. George and Martha had a family of 8 boys and 2 girls—John and William became farmers in Amaranth Township; Albert, George and Norman became farmers in East Luther Township; Andrew was a veterinary; James was a railroad engineer; Elizabeth was a nurse; Belle became a housewife; and Edward was a storekeeper. George O'Reilly died in 1913 and all of his family dropped the 'O' from their name with the exception of John.

Norman Spence Reilly was born in 1881 at Lot 30, Con. 8, East Luther Township. He attended school on Lot 26, Con. 9, East Luther. After school he worked at mason work and building barn walls. On April 8, 1912 he married Lillian Tough, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Tough of Grand Valley. She was one of the first switchboard operators for East Luther Telephone.

In 1915 they commenced farming at Lot 32, Con. 9, East Luther and in 1922 they moved to Lot 32, Con. 10. Their four sons—Earl, Royce, Clifford and Robert attended public school at Colbeck. In 1929 the family moved to Lot 28, Con. 7, East Luther. Shortly after the family split and Earl moved to South River, Clifford moved to Toronto, Robert remained on the home farm and Royce worked for various farmers and then purchased a farm at Lot 24, Con. 2, East Luther in 1942.

In 1942 Royce Reilly married Lois Irvine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Irvine of East Garafraxa Township. They had two daughters—Gail and Sally. In 1952 the farm at Lot 25, con. 2, East Luther was purchased and in 1965 the family moved to that location. In 1966 Royce was elected to East Luther Council. In 1975 he became Reeve of the Township of East Luther and in 1980 he became the Warden of the County of Dufferin.

Hamilton Reilly Family

In the family of Hamilton Reilly there were three boys and seven girls namely—George, William, Stanley, Mary Jane, Sarah, Annie, Margaret, Martha, Emma and Pearl. They moved to East Luther from Hillsburgh.

Mary Jane married Joe Nelson and went West.

Sarah married Ben Nelson and went West. They adopted a son, Norman, who with his wife and eight sons lived on Lot 25, Con. 1 about thirty-five years ago. The lads swelled the

enrolment of S.S. No. 3 and have left East Luther to fill excellent positions in southern Ontario. Mr. and Mrs. Ben Nelson spent their last days in Grand Valley.

Margaret married Wm. Finlay and raised their family of four in Amaranth township. Mrs. Finlay retired to Grand Valley where her two daughters, Lillie (Mrs. Quinton) and Olive (Mrs. Victor Bruce) now live. George, a farmer, retired to Grand Valley also (now deceased). Jim lives at Waldemar.

Martha married George Rodgers, son of Robert Rodgers, Con. 7, East Luther, who became a Sergeant on the Toronto Police Force (now deceased).

Emma married Hamilton Robson and lived south of Luther Dam where their family of six were raised—Earl, now of Fergus, Lawrence, Melville, George and Marjorie (Mrs. Ernest Gosley) all now deceased and Lillie (Mrs. Joe Rodgers, Dundalk). This family were all educated at Monticello school and assisted with the farm work.

Annie married Wm. Foster and lived most of their lives on Con. 4, East Luther on 50 acres. Their family consisted of Percy, a blacksmith, now of Elora; Clifford and Cecil, Grand Valley, George, Beatrice (Mrs. Thompson) deceased, Nell (Mrs. Fred Shortt), Metz and Gladys (Mrs. Harold Hamilton), Orangeville.

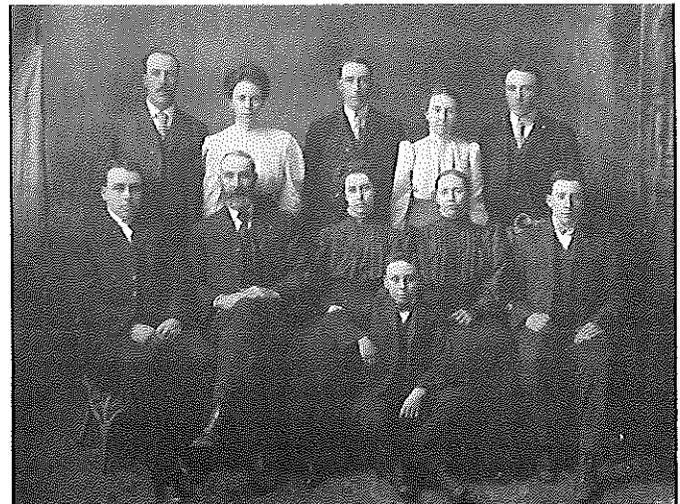
Pearl married Wellington McCune and spent part of their married life in East Luther, later moving to the McCune farm at Bowling Green. Their family Laura (Mrs. Ralph Hamilton), Shelburne and Willis, Orangeville were educated at Grand Valley Continuation School.

George, William and Stanley were East Luther farmers. George was mail carrier for R.R. No. 3 for many years after retiring from the farm.

Andrew Richardson

Contributed by Gordon J. Richardson

My grandfather, Andrew Richardson, who married a Hall, was the first of the family to arrive in East Luther. They are buried in South Luther Cemetery. The Halls came from Ballymena, North Ireland, and the Richardsons from Jedburgh in the borderland of Scotland. I think it was my great-grandfather Hall who was buried at sea, dying from the plague in a six weeks crossing by sail. My great-grandmother was befriended by the ship's captain and sent to Hamilton from Montreal to be a housekeeper for an Anglican clergyman. Subsequently, reaching the Paisley Block in Guelph, she married Andrew Richardson, who took her into



The Richardson family—back row, left to right, Albert, Maggie (Mrs. A. Dunn), Edwin, Jennie (Mrs. Ernest Nairn), Walter. Front row—Clifford, Andrew (the father), Alice (Mrs. Andrew Curtis), Mrs. Richardson, Gordon. Below—Ernest.

the bushlands of Luther prior to 1880. Luther was then part of Wellington County.

Apparently my grandfather, Andrew Richardson, was on the first council of the new East Luther Township formed in 1881. Within a few years he was reeve and became the first Warden of Dufferin County from East Luther.

Andrew had 6 sons and 3 daughters. Of these Albert, Edwin, Walter, Gordon, Jean and Alice spent most of their lives on farms of their own in the Grand Valley area. Clifford moved to Washington State, U.S.A. and Maggie (Dunn) and Ernest went to Three Hills, Alberta.

Walter Richardson followed his father's footsteps as councillor and reeve from 1924-30 approximately. For the next 20 years or so he was road superintendent for East Luther. Later his son, Willis was a councillor and mayor of Orangeville. Harvey remained on the home farm on 27 sideroad for a number of years moving to Moosomin, Sask. Andrew became a banker and the twins Gordon and Margaret (Dodge) became teachers.

Incidentally among the many grandchildren of Andrew Richardson were 4 sets of twins born to Walter (above mentioned) Maggie (Dunn) Clifford and Gordon. This may well be some sort of record in East Luther! One set of twin brothers both spent most of their lives as missionaries in China and Malaysia. One twin brother was the sole survivor of a Flying Fortress crew of the U.S. Airforce, whose plane crashed in New Guinea during the war with Japan. He survived a broken leg and several days crawling to sea level. Another twin brother was a commissioned brother with the Canadian army in England, Holland and Germany during World War II.

The only descendants of Andrew Richardson still resident in East Luther are his great-grandchildren Kenneth Nairn and his sister Cathy Nussey.

Richardson Family History

Contributed by Donald G. Richardson

Andrew Richardson was named after his father who emigrated from Scotland to the Guelph area in the early 1800's. Andrew Jr. left the farm near Fergus on which he was raised and began to farm on lot 22, con. 1 of East Luther Township. To his wife Annie Hall and himself were born 9 children—Albert, Maggie (Mrs. George Dunn), Walter, Jean (Mrs. Ernest Nairn), Edwin, Clifford, Alice (Mrs. Andrew Curtis), Gordon and Ernest. (Ernest and Clifford are still alive as of January, 1981).

In the 1920's Edwin and Gordon took over the home farm and farmed it until 1955, at which time it was purchased by Ray Montgomery, the present owner. (January 1981).

Gordon married Amelia Taylor in 1927 and to them were born three children—Ruth (Mrs. V.L. Hodgson) and twins Ronald and Donald. Edwin did not marry.

Mixed farming was the occupation of Edwin, Gordon and Amelia and their family. Always lovers of animals, they competed at the local fairs with their Clydesdales, Shorthorns, Leicesters, Yorkshires and Barred Rocks.

In their later years on the farm the competitive urge was still strong, but grain, roots and vegetables replaced the animals in the "Fall Fair" competitions.

Edwin, Gordon and Amelia were all supporters of the East Luther Agricultural Society, occupying numerous official positions over the years.

Neither Gordon nor Edwin followed their father's footsteps into local municipal politics, (Andrew Richardson was the first Dufferin County Warden to come from East Luther-1889) but always took an active interest in the municipal and higher levels of government.

During the second world war Gordon travelled many miles as one of the Victory Bond Sellers of East Luther Township. He often commented that, "The citizens of East Luther certainly did their share to help the war efforts!"

Amelia took a very active part for many years in the Hereward Women's Institute being one of its original members. One of her special institute activities was helping Hereward win on numerous occasions the group display which used to be held at the Grand Valley Fair. Still active at 88, Amelia lives in Grand Valley.

Ruth, the eldest child of Gordon and Amelia attended S.S. No. 3 East Luther and Grand Valley Continuation school. She now lives in Don Mills with her husband, Vern Hodgson and two boys.

Ron, one of the twins, lives in Agincourt with his wife, Colleen and son. They have two daughters as well, both married. Ron is a business man sending his "Granny's Tarts" right across Canada.

Don, the other twin, is an elementary school principal in the Dufferin County School System. He and his wife, Alberta and two girls live in Orangeville.

Don fulfils the old adage, "You can take the boy away from the country but you can't take the country away from the boy." He raises various kinds of poultry and won Grand Champion Large Fowl with a White Plymouth Rock pullet at the 1980 Royal Winter Fair.

At the present time the children, grandchildren great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren of Andrew Richardson are spread across Canada with very few left in Grand Valley area, but all still hold Grand Valley and East Luther very dear to their hearts.

The Robson Family

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Robson (a native of East Garafraxa born in 1845) lived on Lot 22, Con. 8, East Luther for thirty years. Their family consisted of William, Margaret Ann (Mrs. Cruikshanks), Mary (Mrs. Shewin), Robert, Nettie (Mrs. Traill), Rachel (Mrs. James Lewis), Hamilton, and Barbara (Mrs. Peacock).

William settled west of Monticello on Lot 19, Con. 11 where, for most of his years, he spent farming. They had a family of six—Bert, George, Vanetta (Mrs. Stan Colwill), Pearl (Mrs. Albert Morden, Shelburne), Myrtle (Mrs. Bill Arnold) and Harvey. Of this family only Harvey and Pearl remained in East Luther to farm near Monticello—both retired now.

Robert married to Euphemia Mark lived in the Colbeck area most of their lives. Members of their family who farmed in East Luther were Wilfred, now of Orangeville, Lena (Mrs. Harvey Robson), now of Grand Valley, Irene (Mrs. Fred Sivill) deceased, Elda (Mrs. Leslie McCune) now of Grand Valley and George, deceased. Mabel (Mrs. R.B. Mabee) has lived out of the township.

Hamilton married Emma Reilly. their family story is under "Hamilton Reilly".

Rachel and her husband, James Lewis, farmed on Lot 19, Con. 7 approximately 1910-17, raising a family of four, They moved to Marden, Ontario.

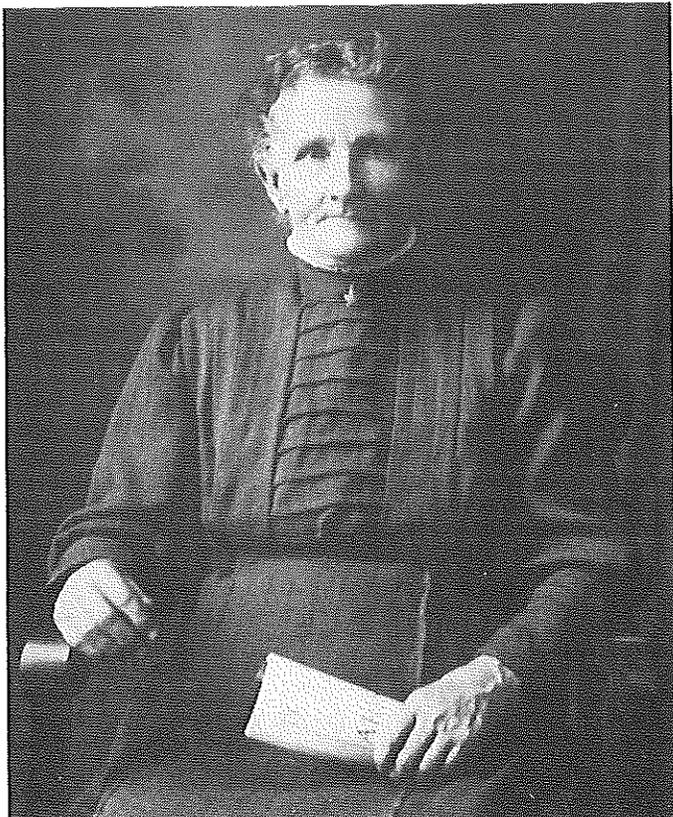
Margaret and Mary lived in Guelph, and Nettie in Toronto. Barbara remained at home with her aging father until late in life she married Robert Peacock. After assisting on East Luther farms for a few years they retired in Waldemar.

Matthew Robson died in 1922, aged 86, his wife in 1914, aged 69, and both are buried in South Luther Cemetery. The only descendants of this family living in East Luther in 1981 are Lorna Sivill (Mrs. Robert Whitton) and their family.

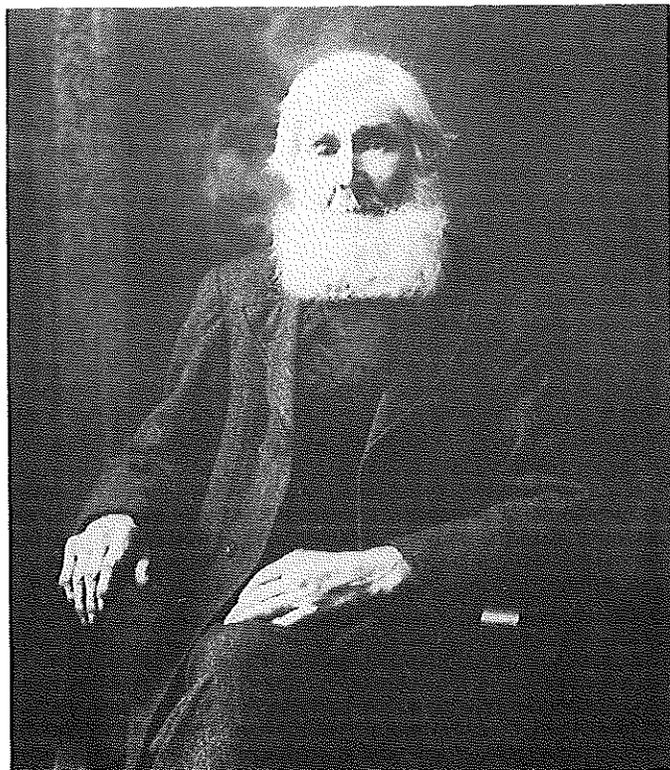
The Rodgers Family

James Rodgers Sr. 1839-1924

James Rodgers Sr. was born in Grey County. He moved with his parents to 14th line, East Garafraxa where he received only a little schooling. He married Catharine Mc-



Mrs. James Rodgers



Mr. James Rodgers



The Rodgers family—back row, left to right, Mary (Mrs. W. Pearce), Margaret (Mrs. Wm. Tait), Frances (Mrs. Chas. Miller), Phoebe (Mrs. W. Jackson), Susie, Edith (Mrs. Ernest Tovell), John. Front row—James, Robert, Edward.

Nevin (1845-1924) also of Grey County and lived near the site of the Luther Dam in East Luther where their family of 10 were born. James was engaged in clearing the land and cutting logs, building the house and barn built on Lot 19, Con. 8 which they bought, remaining there until their deaths. Pasture for their few cows was found in the marsh near the clearing. A cowbell assisted Catherine to locate the cows for milking by hand. Their family consisted of *Margaret* who, after a little education at S.S. No. 1, went to Guelph to become a dressmaker. Later she married William Tait and settled on Lot 25, Con. 9 where they resided until their deaths. This is one of East Luther's century farms as their son James and grandson Bruce continue to live there. They took a pride in their home, sugar bush, herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle and sleek Percheron horses.

John who went to Bruce peninsula. His only daughter, Winifred Schwass is the mother of Rodger Schwass who began his teaching career at S.S. No. 3, East Luther in 1954 and is now Dean of Environmental Studies at York University.

Robert after a little education, stayed in East Luther clearing land and sawing lumber. He married Nancy Owens of South Luther and lived in Monticello for many years where he operated the saw-mill behind the house now owned by Mrs. Howard Hillis. He excelled in handling machinery and every autumn he used his steam engine for barn threshing for many district farmers. A story they still tell about Robert follows—The Methodist minister carried a flower pot down to the mill one day and asked Robert to put a hole in the bottom for drainage. Exasperated at being bothered on a busy day he said "Yes" and proceeded none too gently with hammer and punch expecting to see the pot in fragments. To his amazement a clean, round hole resulted! Robert's family of 5 daughters and 1 son were all musical enjoying many hours together or with their friends with piano, violins and banjo. None of this family remain in the township.

Frances (Fanny) became a dressmaker, married Charles Miller and farmed at Singhampton.

Edward a man of many talents spent his young manhood digging deep, wide ditches by hand to drain the Luther swamp to assist the farmers to produce better crops. He married Georgena Williamson of Pike Bay and lived at Monticello for many years. Travelling by horse and buggy, he sold Rawleigh products, carrying his fiddle along to entertain his customers in the evening. A frequent visitor at Monticello store, one night a customer bet him \$5 that he couldn't carry a 100 lb. bag of sugar to Grand Valley in 3 hours. Ed took



Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rodgers



The wedding of Earl and Mary Pearce, 1936, with their mothers (left) Mrs. Wm. Hillis (Beattie) and Mrs. Wm. Pearce (Rodgers).

age 63, from a stroke due to anxiety about finding a new home. More details about this branch of the family to follow under "Tovell", as their family remains in East Luther still in 1980.

Arthur Rounding and Family

Arthur Rounding was a small child when his family came over from England in 1858. Arthur became a cattle drover when he grew older as was his brother George. Arthur's son, Willis, was a farmer but he also took time to drive cattle. The drover usually bought cattle, sheep and pigs from the farmers, and would drive them to the stock yards at Grand Valley C.P.R. station to be shipped to Toronto and sold. Arthur, Harry and George Rounding were just 3 of 9 children in the family but they were the only ones to settle here; the others went west. Harry operated a carriage-makers shop in Grand Valley. In this business he served the surrounding community by making carriages, buggies, household furnishings etc.

Willis Rounding married Emma Elgie, daughter of William Elgie who came to Canada from England in 1860 later settling on Con. 4, East Luther. Besides Emma two other members of the family remained in East Luther for many years—Thomas and Mrs. John Sime. Willis lived in Grand Valley for a short time, moving to the farm on Highway 25, owned by Ralph West now, except that their house was across the road on Stan Newson's property. They had 5 children—Nolan, Velma (Mrs. Lewis Montgomery), Leone (Mrs. Albert Looby), June (Mrs. Milford Montgomery) and Yvonne (Mrs. Max Astley).

Most of their childhood was spent on the farm west of the Black Bridge where Dr. Mulder now lives.

Willis, besides farming, was able to give of his talents to public life as well. In 1931 he became a councillor and remained in council for 5 years after which he served as Reeve of the township for 2 years. In 1949 he became tax collector for several years.

In the East Luther Agricultural Society he served as Secretary for 6 years and President for 2 years in the thirties. His interest in the Agricultural Society seems to have been inherited by his daughters—first by Leone (Mrs. Albert Looby) who was fair Secretary from 1958-1965 and presently by Velma (Mrs. Lewis Montgomery) who is completing her second year in this capacity.

Willis and Emma were staunch members of the St. Alban's church where Willis sang tenor in the choir for most of this lifetime as well as serving in other capacities in the life of the church.

him up on it and set off for the Valley. On the way a vehicle stopped beside him and he was offered a ride. He said "No thanks, I haven't time to spare! He won the bet! They retired to Grand Valley where Ed cared for the Union Cemetery as long as he was able, passing away at age 94, two weeks after his wife, also 94.

James remained on the home farm Lot 19, Con. 8 all his life, clearing land and digging ditches. He married Sarah Bruce, daughter of David and Letitia Bruce. They had one son Elwood who took over the farm when his father passed away at age 63 and remained there until it was sold to the Grand River Conservation Commission in 1951, and a daughter Elda who attended S.S. No. 11 and G.V. Continuation School going to Brantford to secure work where she still lives.

Mary learned dressmaking, went to Brantford and married William Pearce who died leaving her with four young children. The second son, Earl came to Luther to live with his grandparents where he received most of his education. He married Mary Hillis, Monticello. Earl spent his leisure hours hunting and trapping which he continues to do since retirement in Grand Valley.

Susie a favourite among the women of the locality for her assistance when their work load was heavy at threshing time or when babies were small, was also a dressmaker in Brantford. Her last days were spent caring for her ailing brother-in-law, Ernest Tovell in Grand Valley.

Phoebe started school at S.S. No. 1, later to S.S. No. 11. She joined her sisters in Brantford and there married Walter Jackson, who owned a brickyard there.

Edith (1888-1951) was educated at S.S. No. 11. Two teachers she had were Birdie McKinley and Ethel Graydon. After school she remained at home assisting her parents until her marriage in 1910 to Ernest Tovell when she moved to Lot 20, Con. 6. In 1951 the farm was sold to the Grand River Conservation Commission. She passed away in April 1951,

Elmer Shortt

Elmer Shortt, a lifetime resident of Luther, and Ioan (Betts) formerly of Flesherton were married in 1952. They farmed for seven years on Lot 19, Con. 14, East Luther. When fire destroyed their barn in 1959 they purchased from James Hooker Lot 27, Con. 13 and started a dairy operation, adding a new dairy barn in 1977. They have a family of five. Kathy (Mrs. Chris Hale), works as a dental assistant in Orangeville. She and her husband purchased the former "Beattie" farm, Lot 27, Con. 11 in 1980. Keith, a first year engineering student at the University of Waterloo enjoys all sports especially hockey. Kevin, a Grade 13 student at O.D.S.S. is interested in the theatre and public speaking. He recently formed the "Monticello Little Theatre." He was a 4-H member for five years. Karen, a Grade 9 student at C.D.D.H.S. and Kelly, a Grade 7 student at Grand Valley Public School, both enjoy music and sports.

Lot 27, Con. 13 was purchased from the Crown in 1870 by Mr. John Gordon and sold to Mr. S.C. McKee of Drayton in 1896. Mr. McKee built the barn in 1897 and a brick house the following year. The builder was Mr. Brown of Riverview.

Elmer has been a member of the East Luther planning board since its formation in 1969. All members of the family are active in the work of Monticello United Church where Kathy is the organist.

Sime Family

One of East Luther's pioneer families on the south townline were the Sime's. Their first home was on Lot 25, Con. 1 where 6 sons and 2 daughters were raised by *Thomas Sime* and his wife *Jane Moier* who came to Luther from Montreal in 1854. His children were *Robert Sr.* who married Margaret Fairgrieve of East Luther and remained on the ancestral farm as well as his son *Robert Jr.* who, with his wife, Pearl Fair of West Luther, contributed much to community and church affairs with their music before they sold the farm and moved to Fergus in the 60's.

Peter who went to Melancthon township.

John who farmed on N 1/2 Lot 24, Con. 1.

George whose son *Thomas* was a blacksmith and undertaker in Grand Valley and whose son *William* and grandson *John (Jack)* continue this work.

William who farmed in Amaranth (who had two daughters who married Wesley and Fred Reilly of East Luther and farmed on Con. 7 before retirement).

Thomas who farmed on Lot 24, Con. 1 for many years losing his only son *Thomas Jr.* at 17 years of age when a team of horses ran away pinning him under the wagon wheel. *Thomas* also had 7 daughters—*Mary Jane (Turner)* Sarah *Adeline (Hilborn)*, *Amy, Ethel (Lyons)*, *Minnie (Graham)*, and *Jessie*. Sarah and *Jessie* remained on the farm with their father later retiring to Grand Valley. The large brick house and the barn with the checkerboard barn doors south of the railroad tracks are still evidence of the work this family put into settling on the farm. The Simes and Smiths walked up the railway tracks to attend worship services at Ebenezer Presbyterian Church.

Thomas Sime was interested in township affairs and served on council from 1901-06 and became reeve in 1909-10. This pioneer family were thrifty farmers and woodsmen.

The two daughters of *Thomas Sime Sr.* were *Mary (Mrs. Small)* mother of *Thomas Small* who farmed Lot 23, Con. 1 before retiring to Fergus.

Lizzie Small married *Albert Campbell* but died quite young when struck by lightning.

Jennie (Densmore) who was the mother of *Mrs. Reuben West* whose family *Verna (Mrs. Herman Keys)* and *Elgin*

(*Tony*) live in Grand Valley. *Tony* has built several houses in the village in recent years.

A few of the descendants of this family remain in the township. *Thomas Sime's (Jr.)* grandson, *Harvey Graham*, lives on Con. 3, now not far from his grandparents' old home, the only grandson to live on the old Sime farm. *Harold Hilborn* remained on the Hilborn farm on Con. 6 until 1978 retiring to Grand Valley. One grandson of *John Sime*, *Roy Stuckey*, conducts an insurance business in Grand Valley. *Hector Irvine*, well-known local plumber is a grandson of *Robert Sime*.

John Smith

John Smith Sr. of Scottish ancestry was born on the 5th line W. of Chinguacousy township, Peel County. He bought the 100 acre farm on Lot 24, Con. 1, East Luther on Nov. 8, 1887 from *Peter Sime* for the sum of \$836. The stone house still standing was built in 1882.

The first crops of grain were harvested by hand with a grain cradle. The wheat and oats were hauled to Fergus by a team of horses. Part of the wheat was sold while the rest was ground into flour for home use. Oatmeal was made from the oats. Early in 1900 the first McCormick binder was bought.

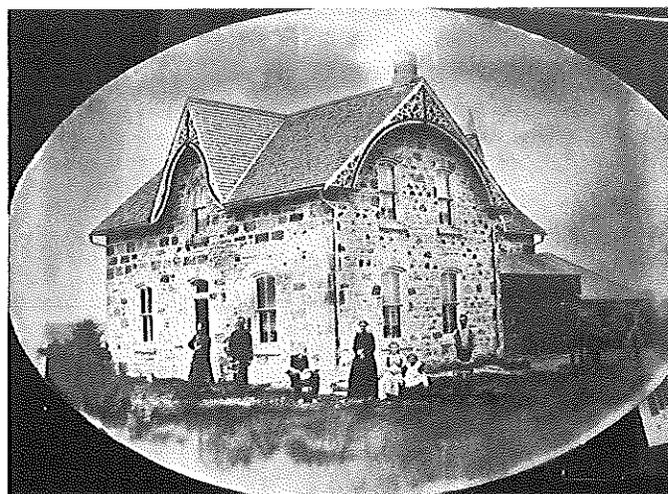
John and *Janet Smith* had a family of 3 sons—*Archibald, John, Duncan* and two daughters, *Grace* and *Annie*. *Archibald* and *Grace* remained on this farm until they retired on Amaranth St. E., Grand Valley. *Duncan* spent many years in Western Canada then lived on the farm south of No. 9 highway now owned by the Nairns. His widow in 1980 went to live at Wellington Terrace, Elora.

Annie Smith went to Grand Valley and worked as a telephone operator, first in the home of *Stewart Tate*, Gier St., and later in the residence of *John Watt*, Main St. with the East Luther Telephone System continuing for 34 years until her death in 1951.

In 1902, *John Smith Jr.* bought a farm on Lot 24, Con. 6, East Luther and in 1903 married *Nellie Meldrum*, daughter of *John Meldrum* Lot 22, Con. 6. Their family consisted of *Norman, William, Mabel* and *Margaret*. *Norman* married *Velma Densmore* of South Luther in 1936 and bought the farm from his father who retired to Lot 28, Con. 7. *Norman* and *Velma* have one son, *Mervin* who purchased the home farm in 1975 and continues to operate it in 1980. Their daughter, *Eileen*, made a career of book-keeping in Toronto.

Mabel and *Margaret* became teachers but are now retired in Arthur.

William, after graduation from G.V. Continuation



Archie Smith home on Highway 9—left to right—*Agnes Young, Archie Smith, Grandpa and Grandma Smith, Grace, Annie, John, Duncan* in the buggy.

School was an outstanding salesman for the Ford Motor Company in Port Credit until retirement.

Some changes took place in this farm over the years. The first house built in 1870 (16 x 18 ft.) and the barn 20' x 30' were constructed of logs. In 1902 a brick house was built; the barn 56' x 60' in 1904. A dug well provided the water carried to the house as needed. In 1906 a telephone was installed, a bathroom in 1945, and electricity in 1947. Records show a few variations in taxes on this property—1800's—\$10, 1900's—\$30, 1925—\$80, 1950—\$240.

John Smith was active in community work being a councillor for 3 years, Sec. Treas. of S.S. No. 4 for 23 years and Sec. Treas. of Tarbert Presbyterian Church. His son, Norman acted as councillor of East Luther for 5 years and Reeve for 3 years.

The Robert Taylor Family

Robert Taylor, was the son of Joseph Taylor from Yorkshire, England and Margaret Young of Scotland. Robert was one of a family of 13, born in East Garafraxa on Lot 16, Con. 11 (Eric Ruff's farm) on April 9, 1864. He chose to farm on Willis Crane's farm while most of his brothers and sisters went West to homestead. Thus the "Robert Taylor" family are not related to the other Taylor families of this community.

Robert married Hannah King. Their family were Orpah, Addison, Mary, Freddie, Eva, Harry, William and Frank.

Harry, at the age of 23, was the first livestock drover to truck cattle from Grand Valley to Toronto Stock Yards in 1925. He owned a Ford truck. It took a whole day to take two cattle to Toronto. At times, it was very difficult to get up Caledon mountain and he frequently had to block the wheels.

In 1932, Harry married Stella Dynes and bought the "Duffy farm" on highway 9, the west 1/2, Lot 30, Con. 1, East Luther on which the No. 7 and 8 school stood.

Having a family of 5 boys, Art, Bob, Ray, Jim and Ken, and 3 girls, Shirley Jean, Joyce and Gail, Harry purchased the Howes farm, Lots 27 and 28, Con. 1, East Luther in 1950. In 1959, Arthur married Marion Wolfe, and purchased this farm from his father, who in turn moved to the farm on Lot 29 and 30, Con. 2, East Luther, which he had purchased from Mrs. Ed Irvine in 1954. These farms were all called "Fairview Farms". In 1958, Harry moved a barn from near Hornby and rebuilt the present barn, as the previous barn had been burned by lightning in 1953. At one time, this farm extended to Main Street in Grand Valley. A lady by the name of Emma Leeson sold the land to Grand Valley and thus we have Emma Street and Leeson Street. Later owners, the Forgraves, who also owned the hotel in Grand Valley, frequently used their home for an overflow of travellers.

In 1968, Harry retired to Leeson Street in Grand Valley and Arthur bought the Irvine farm. Arthur sold the farm on No. 9 highway to an Italian Real Estate Co., who subdivided the 200 acres into 20 ribbon lots which are still vacant.

The Tovell Family

Robert Tovell, whose ancestors arrived in Canada from England in 1832, and his wife, Christina Stewart whose parents came for Dundee, Scotland in 1851, were married at Everton, Ontario and lived in Eramosa township before moving to East Luther. Robert had been teaching but found the indoor work detrimental to his health so began farming on Lot 23, Con. 2, East Luther. They had 5 children—Eliza, wife of George Dickson who was the son of Robert Dickson who kept Peepabun Post office; Henrietta (Mrs. Robert Fuller); Ernest, Margaret and Nellie (Mrs. Ernest McDougall).

Christina died in 1892 at age of 42 so the young family



Robert Tovell and family—top row left to right, Nellie (Mrs. E. McDougall), Ernest, Margaret. Bottom row, Eliza (Mrs. George Dickson), Robert, Henrietta (Mrs. Robert Fuller).

were separated for a time and cared for by aunts and grandparents. Eventually, all returned to Luther but Nellie who was raised by Mrs. Henry King in Orangeville. The four older children received their education at S.S. No. 3, East Luther (the old school on the north corner of Royce Reilly's farm.) In 1900 Robert sold this farm to Henry Berry and bought 100 acres on Lot 20, Con. 6 from Robert Hamilton. In the ensuing years Eliza and Henrietta were married. Margaret remained at home until Ernest's marriage to Edith Rodgers, (daughter of James Rodgers of Monticello) in 1910, when she went to Toronto to work as a domestic until 1946 when she retired in Grand Valley, this year, 1980, celebrating her 92nd birthday at Grand Valley Manor, Gier Street.

George and Eliza Dickson farmed in East Luther for a few years, later moving to Grand Valley.

Henrietta and Robert Fuller settled on Lot 21, Con. 6, East Luther, where they raised a family of 9—Roy, the eldest, suffered from infantile paralysis and was lame but secured a good education and presently lives in Toronto. Four younger sons Earl, Lorne, Carl and David served their country in World War II. David enlisted but did not go overseas. Alan, now retired, worked for the Bell Telephone until retirement. The 3 daughters—Christina became a teacher but on account



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fuller.

of diabetes was unable to continue teaching for long; Margaret (Mrs. Edwards), a stenographer in Toronto and Donelda (Mrs. Ellwyn Plester) farming in Amaranth Township. The only member of this family to remain in East Luther is Lorne, who resides on Highway 25, near Grand Valley with his war bride Winnifred. Only one of their 4 children, Scott, lives in East Luther at present.

Ernest Tovell

Ernest Tovell and Edith Rodgers lived on Con. 6 until 1951 when the farm was taken over by the Grand River Conservation Commission. Ernest served as trustee of S.S. No. 4, then entered municipal affairs in the 30's serving on council and being reeve through the depression years. In 1934 he became Warden of Dufferin County. It was during his term of office that the farmers had poor crops and the council



The home of Ernest Tovell, Con. 6.

loaned them money for seed grain. The reeve and tax collector, Oliver Graham, went out in the winter together to collect the grain money as well as the unpaid taxes, often with little success. To assist the people, a government road-building project was initiated, and the reeve's job was to interview applicants for work to prepare No. 9 highway for paving. Stan Newson reports that he was hired and worked a 10 hour day at 35 cents an hour. Many walked to the reeve's door to secure work during these depression years. From childhood he attended Grand Valley Church of Christ and served as Sunday School Superintendent and Elder for many years, even driving with horse and buggy the eight miles to do so.

My Tribute: As I write of the activities of the men who gave much time, energy and expertise in the public life of the township for which we praise and honour them, I'd like to express our appreciation to my mother and the wives and mothers who kept the home fires burning so faithfully so that their men folks could serve.

Ladies, our thanks!

Alvin Tovell

Alvin, the youngest of Ernest Tovell's 3 children has remained farming in East Luther until Oct. 1980 when he retired to Grand Valley. He and his wife, Blanche Townsend, daughter of Alden Townsend, Monticello bought Lot 31, Con. 5 from Edward Linklater in 1951. This farm was taken out of the Crown by James Nicholl in 1862, who sold it to John Nicholl in 1892. James Scott paid \$6,250 for it in 1903. Other owners were Thos. McCulloch, Elwood Brown, John S. Linklater, father of Edward Linklater, and East Luther assessor for many years. Alvin received ten times what he

paid for the farm from John Irwin.

In 1913 Elwood Brown drilled a well and built a strawshed on the barn in 1917. Alvin removed the original woodshed from the rear of the house in 1975. In 1973 a new well was drilled and an oil furnace installed.

They have one daughter, Nellie married to Roy Yake, an Orangeville policeman.

William Tovell

William, as well as his brother, Alvin and sister Esther received his elementary education at S.S. No. 4. Bill and Alvin took 2 years high school work at the public school but Esther attended G.V. Continuation school, securing Junior Matriculation there.

Bill and Alvin assisted on the home farm and the 200 acres more their father acquired, furthering their education by taking agricultural short courses in winter. In 1940 Bill married Susan Black, daughter of John Black and Jane Burke. They bought 150 acres from Ralph McDonald at the north end of Grand Valley where they still reside. Two of their family Ernest and Bert live in East Luther; Ivan, a dairy farmer on the Amaranth-East Luther townline and Marie (Mrs. Jordan Davidson) lives in Brampton.

Bill has been involved with the Grand Valley Fair as director for many years and President for two years. He served on the township council for 5 years and was on the township school board serving as chairman when work was begun on the new school building. Following his father's example he became a Elder in the Church of Christ and still serves in that capacity.

Esther Graham

Esther, the only daughter of Ernest and Edith Tovell, married Harvey Graham in January, 1939. More details of this branch of the family will be found under "Graham."

Townsend Family

Elijah Townsend

Among the pioneers of the Luther Marsh area were Elijah Townsend and his wife who lived on Lot 19, Con. 9 and at first owned 400 acres later selling the east 200 acres to Reuben James. Elijah and Reuben had worked together cutting stone at Terra Cotta for some of the fine old buildings in Toronto.

In 1907 the barns and houses on their East Luther property were built with David Nelson doing the framing and Ben Montgomery, father of Leonard, Earl, Etsel and Ethel assisting. There was a saw-mill on the James' property where the materials for the buildings were made. All the land had to be cleared. Robert Rodgers operated the saw-mill which was later sold to the Dolson's.

Elijah Townsend had a family of 6—Ida (Mrs. Ernest Hayes), Norman, Edna (Mrs. James Colbeck), Wilbert, Alden and William. All of these received their education at Monticello school. At present William and his son Arnold are the only ones in this family living in East Luther although Edna, Wilbert and Alden farmed for some time in East Luther. The home farm was sold to the G.R.C.A. in 1951.

William Townsend

William married Emma Holborn and started farming north of Monticello where Arnold now lives. After 25 years on the mixed farm, he retired to Monticello. Soon after he secured work with the G.R.C.A. and assisted in planting thousands of trees, as well as cleaning river beds at Fergus, Conestoga and Monticello areas. Although deeply involved in the work of the conservation areas for 16 years, he feels that the Luther Dam and the lake behind it has been instrumental in robbing the community of people who supported the

church, store and other activities which were really worthwhile. Compared with the years preceding the construction of the dam he notes that community spirit has deteriorated; every one could be trusted; no one was finished harvest until every one had threshed; hay pressing, barn raisings, picking geese, buzzing wood were all a neighbourhood effort. All provided the neighbours an opportunity to get together and have a friendly visit. In municipal affairs, Bill was active in council during the "dirty" Thirties, trying to help solve the troubles of many people during those difficult years. This year at 81 years of age, his memory is very bright and he can relate many interesting occurrences of those days.

Bill and Emma have 2 sons, Orval and Arnold. Orval farmed north of Monticello for several years retiring to Shelburne where he and his wife assist at Dufferin Oaks. Alma has been missed since leaving Monticello as she was organist at Monticello church and played with the orchestra.

Arnold Townsend

Arnold and Nina have a dairy farm with a fine herd of Holsteins. Their chosen family consists of Glen, Paul, Marie, Dianne and Michelle. Dianne and Michelle are still at home. The others have employment outside of the township. Besides caring for their family and farm both Arnold and Nina have used their time and talents to assist in making our township and county a better place in which to live. Arnold began public life as a trustee of S.S. No. 9, then of the township School area, later representing East Luther and Grand Valley on the County Board of Education since its inception. He served as chairman of this Board for 2 years. This year 1980 he represents the County on the Ontario School Trustees' Council and O.P.S.T. Association which discuss new legislation regarding education with Bette Stephenson, minister of Education of Ontario. In spite of these demanding activities in public life, Arnold has been Sunday School Superintendent for many years, and elder of the church and a member of the choir.

Nina, meanwhile, besides holding the fort at home, has used her spare time to assist with the U.C.W. of Monticello United Church, as well as teaching a Sunday School class and leading children's groups—the Explorers and C.G.I.T. in which her family has been involved. She has also been interested in Grand Valley Agricultural Society, being Secretary of this organization for 7 years.

One cannot help but marvel at the outstanding achievements of these two pairs of hands for home and country!

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph West

Joseph West and his wife, Ann Norris, farmed at Goldstone, in Wellington County for a few years. Their first two sons, Walter and Ernest, were born there. Mr. and Mrs. West moved to East Luther in 1874 to farm one of John Cunningham's farms, Lot 29, Con. 10 (John Cunningham was married to Joe West's sister, Susan). They lived on this farm and farmed another 50 acres farther east. Six more children were born here. Joe West and his sons built the barn that is on that farm.

In 1908, Joe West bought the Colbeck farm at the corner (Lot 27, Con. 11) from Ernest Colbeck, a son of Edward Colbeck who had acquired the farm from the "Crown" and with the assistance of his sons Leslie and Edgar carried on mixed farming.

Mrs. West continued to operate the store and post office as well as a small telephone switchboard for a few years and then discontinued the business. Many of the supplies for the store were brought from Shelburne twice a week by horse and wagon or sleigh.

Joe West died in 1910. Then Edgar and his wife, the

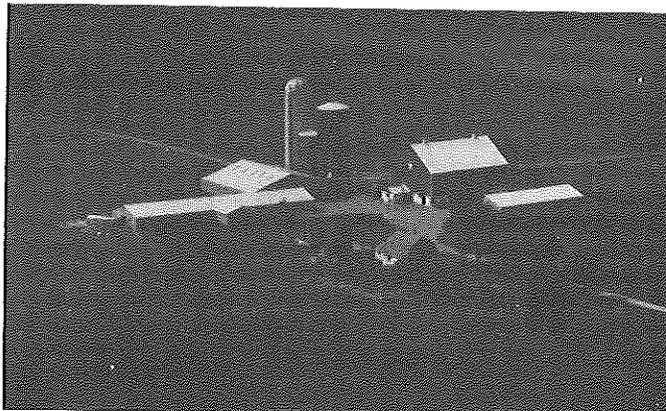
former Maryann Leonard continued on the farm. Mrs. Joe West made her home with them until her death in 1924. Mrs. West was a friend to any who might need her in times of sickness and trouble. Edgar and his wife were on the farm until 1937 when Wallace Bruce and their daughter, Forestine were married and took over the farm remaining there until Wallace's sudden death in 1962. Mrs. Bruce sold the farm to Lionel Deaken in 1965.

The family of Edgar West and Annie Leonard were—Leonard, Mildred (Mrs. Kenneth Tilley) now retired in Grand Valley, Adeline (Mrs. George Marshall), Forestine (Mrs. Wallace Bruce) Shelburne, and Almeda (Mrs. Hadwen Kyle).

The only member of this family living in East Luther now is Forestine's daughter Wanda (Mrs. Ralph West). Her brother, Grant Bruce, is a teacher in Shelburne where he and his mother live.

Bernard Wick

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Wick came to Canada from Switzerland in 1953. The following year they bought Swiss Bell Farms, Lot 23, Con. 6 where they have since resided. Previously Bernard had had experience working in a piggery, a cheese factory and on construction for short periods of time. Before 1960 he had 30 holsteins on his East Luther farm but at that time he bought Jerseys having a herd of 52 cows. By 1980, they now have a total of about 350 Jerseys. Farming has changed a great deal since they came here. Milking used to be done by hand. Now everything is done by line, as they put in a pipeline in 1960 and erected new milking barns—all painted a pretty blue. As well as producing large quantities of rich milk, the Wicks have won many prizes for



Home of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Wick.

their cows which are all registered, even winning several Canadian Championships. Bernard's four sons Roland, Marcus, Tony and Patrick take a great interest in the farm operations and assist in the different activities. They grow large crops of grain, including corn, fall wheat and flax, the last two sold as cash crops. Mr. Wick started with 400 acres but they are now operating 800, two hundred and fifty of

**A country boy having moved to the city
wrote this poem—**

**No dirt to fling
No teats to wring
All you have to do
Is punch a hole in the darn thing!**

which are rented. Mrs. Wick and daughter, Marlies are kept busy caring for the food and other housework of a busy family. "At first they didn't attend many social affairs as there was no time or money," Mr. Wick reports. This autumn (1980) however, Mr. and Mrs. Wick are enjoying a well-earned holiday in their native land, Switzerland.

Winters and Platt Families

Family Origin by G. Winters

Winters

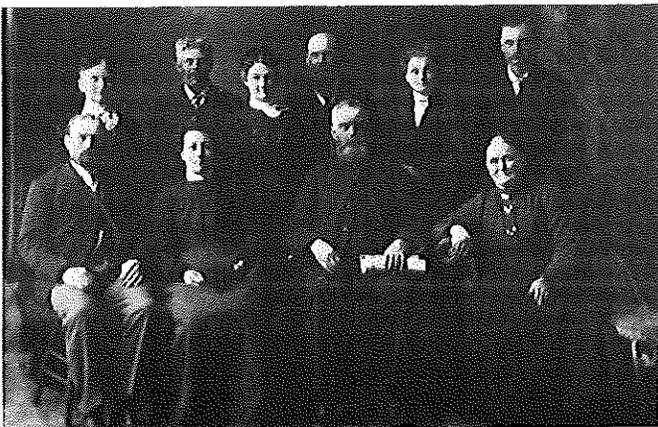
My father was one of eight children of whom six survived, born March 25, 1880 on Con. 8, East Garafraxa Township, the son of John Winters who came as a young man from a village named Lochgall, County Armagh, Northern Ireland.

In 1975 my wife and I visited the land of his birth, and saw some of the records of the Loyal Orange Lodge that was formed in the home of his Uncle Dan Winters. The Winters still have this land, now a modern dairy farm.

After working a few years, he settled on Con. 4, West Garafraxa. He was convinced by thieving land dealers that his land had not been properly registered and he must vacate, offering him the land near Gravenhurst (Crown land). My grandfather had no schooling and like many other settlers, could neither read nor write and did not know the law. He agreed to look at the land and accept the deal if the land was satisfactory. He, his wife and a small child were driven in a double buggy to inspect the land. On arrival, they saw the land was mostly rock and decided to reject the deal and come home. They went along with their driver to a hotel to spend the night, but when the driver got them safe in bed he left for home and they were stranded. As a result, my Grandparents walked from Gravenhurst and carried the child back to West Garafraxa. By this time the crown land had all been taken up. As a result they spent the rest of their life on rented land. Some of the owners were similar to our present day loan sharks, they would rent the land in fifty acre lots to a tenant who would clear a certain number of acres for a ten year period, then the tenant must move on to a similar deal. We will never know the hardships and poverty of these early settlers. My Grandfather lived till 1908, the year before I was born. His wife had died many years before.

Platt

My Mother was one of a family of six, born January 11, 1887 in East Luther Township close to where we now reside.



Family of Samuel Platt and the former Jane Greenway—back row, left to right, Rebecca Jane (Mrs. Robert Brown), Robert Brown, Mrs. George Platt (Isabella East), George Platt, Mrs. Jas. McLelland (Isabella Platt), Samuel T. Platt. Front row—Mr. and Mrs. James Platt (Elizabeth Campbell), John Platt, Mrs. William Irvine (Mary Ann Platt).



Mrs. George Platt and Mr. Samuel T. Platt.

She was the daughter of Wm. George Platt who was born on Con. 10, East Garafraxa. He was of a family of seven, who, with brothers Samuel and James took up land in East Luther namely Lots 24-25, Con. 3. Incidentally my Grandfather built the barn that was destroyed by fire in January of this year, now owned by Don Towers.

My grandmother's name was Isabel East, of a large family. If I remember correctly my mother had well over fifty first cousins. My Grandfather George Platt was a hard working restless man, moved his family twice to Manitoba, homesteaded, sold the land and returned to Ontario. In 1906, he and his family were farming the two hundred acre farm comprising our present farm and the farm immediately to the west, now owned by Barry Gibson. They had purchased this farm from the late Wm. McClelland. It was in the stone house that my parents were married on September 12, 1906. That same year, my father bought this farm from the Platt family for \$5,000.00. Checking the old mortgage, I find my father made a small down payment but always paid some money on the principal as well as interest on the mortgage.

My Mother's family then moved to Innisfree, Alberta where most of the family remained. My Grandfather's stay in Alberta was to be short due to ill health. Some of his family accompanied him to Ontario. They started to go to Chicago to seek help from a Doctor there to treat my grandfather for parkinson disease, but his health deteriorated so fast he was brought to our home where he died a few weeks later. This was in August of 1914 and he is buried in Grand Valley Union Cemetery. My Grandmother Platt was to live another thirty years or more and was finally laid to rest in Alberta, among many other people who had formerly lived in Grand Valley area.

Family

I had two sisters both younger than I. Mabel, married Thos. Woods with children Ralph and Dorothy. Gladys

married Ansley Nairn with Children Ken, Joan, Doug and Kathy. On August 21, 1943, I married Lola McGrath and our children are Kerry who married Helen Burnett with children Jason and Anne. Wendy who married Henk Hoogendoorn who have a son Matthew. My wife and I are like most grandparents—very fond of our grandchildren. Rick, our younger, lives at home, but is owner of the farm. We have worked on a family agreement of operating the farm since 1974. As I am getting older, I only help when needed in the winter season but look forward to driving the big tractor full time when the spring work starts and hope I will be able to drive the G.M.C. truck as I have in the past. This is mostly highway travel, drawing home grain corn from western Ontario and hauling cattle to the Toronto market.

Woods Family History

—submitted by Ralph T. Woods

The prelude to the Woods family research is taken from the work of the late Standish Hunt.

Thomas Woods, born 1800, farmer in Armagh Co., Ireland. Methodist. He had the following brothers: Stanley in England; John in Dublin; David, farmer in Ireland. Rachel Woods his wife was born in 1799.

Family of the Above:

Mary Jane, born Feb. 1823. Married Archibald Smith, farmer. They were the first of the Woods or Hunt Families to come to Canada. Their family follows: *Elizabeth*, (Mrs. Scarrow of Arthur, Ont.), *Rachel*, Mrs. Buckland, who had the following family: Archibald, Thomas, Mary, Annie, Ruth, Sarah and Elizabeth. *James*, farmer-thresher in West, killed in a fall off a load. *Ruth*, single, died 1928. *David*, school-teacher in Ont. died 1933. *Thomas*, fireman on R.R. killed in wreck. *Archibald*, R.R. conductor, killed in B.C. *Mary* and *Sarah*, both died in twenties.

Elizabeth, born Mar. 1827, married her cousin William Woods, farmer. Came to Canada, near Grand Valley, 1849.

Thomas, born 1847, in Ireland. Married Sarah Scaife. Died 1929. Family: Rachel (Mrs. Jackson), Rosetta, (Mrs. Eveleigh), Joseph on Old Homestead. *Mary*, (Mrs. Sam Irvine), Edith, (Mrs. Robert J. Irvine).

Rachel, Mrs. Weston of Lunknow Ont. Had one girl who died at 16 and one at 2 weeks. *James*, farmer in Peel twp., retired to Arthur. Family: William, Joseph, Alice, Thomas, Elizabeth, Ernest, Maria, Maggie, Annie and Ethel.

George, farmer in Garafraxa. Died Mar. 30, 1911. Family: Thomas, farmer in Garafraxa, William, farmer in Garafraxa, Martha (Mrs. Truman Hall) and Gertrude.

Maria, Mrs. Jas. Taylor of East Garafraxa. Died May 24, 1883. Their family: William John, and James, farmers in East Garafraxa. Sarah Jane, (Mrs. Harry Platt) and Elizabeth, (Mrs. William Simpson) of Grand Valley, Ont.

David, farmer in East Luther. Became crippled and retired to Paris, Ont. Family: Jennie, (Mrs. Forbes), died 1933, Seymour, grocer at Paris, Ont., Elizabeth, (Mrs. Dunn), died 1930—son Kenneth, Martha, (Mrs. Tinken), Ethel, (Mrs. Davidson), Olive, (Mrs. Shoulder) and Howard.

John, of East Luther and later Fergus, Ont. Family: Edward, a Med. Dr., and Leila, (Mrs. Wesley Ham).

William, farmer in East Garafraxa. Family: Leslie, Leighton, Mildred, (Mrs. Leslie), Harold and Clifford.

Elizabeth, Mrs. James Gear of Grand Valley. Family: Twins; Eva, (Mrs. Ed. Irvine), and Edith, (Mrs. Thomas Duffy), Minnie, (Mrs. Albert Smith) and Lawrence on home farm.

Joseph, died at the age of 4 years.

James, born Sept. 1829. Farmed in Ireland on Coveraugh Hill near Portadown. Married Eliza Madden.

Died of apoplexy 1879. Had the following family: Thos. John, a farmer near Portadown. Home—a two storey house. Married Emily Redmond to whom was born; Nora, Elizabeth, Josephine, Emily, Jas. Johnson Howard, Franklin Robert Madden. Visited 1917. Robert Madden born 1974; owner of a large grocery store in Portadown. A local preacher and Supt. of Sunday School in Methodist Church. Married Anna Elizabeth Carrick to whom was born one daughter, Anna Mary (May) who married a Methodist Minister, 1934. Visited at their home 106 Thomas St.

Jane Eliza, single.

William James, who died in infancy.

George, born Oct. 1831, a sodding contractor at Ann Arbor, Michigan. Married Elizabeth Roadhouse, an English girl. Died in Chicago about 1895.

Sarah, born July, 1834. Married James Nichol, farmer near Georgetown, Ontario. Family: William, store-keeper in Sarnia (deceased), *Robert*, single, a V.S. at Georgetown. Twins: *James* and *John*, farmers at Limehouse near Georgetown, Ontario. *Agnes*, (Mrs. Douglas Bell), whose husband was a blacksmith. *Minnie*, in Winnipeg, Manitoba. *Edith*, a widow in Toronto.

Abigail, born September, 1836. Married William Hunt, a farmer in County Armagh. Their home is situated on top of Hunt's Hill on Belfast, Portadown, Derry Highway. House on northwest corner of crossroad just east of Derry and lake—about 7 miles north of Portadown, Ireland. Had a family of nine besides 2 sons, each named James, who died in infancy and also a child still-born previous to her death in 1880. She and her husband are buried in Tartarahan Cemetery, about five miles north of Portadown. She was a very devout Methodist. The following is her family:

William John, soldier, born Nov. 16, 1856, married 1920, died 1928.

Thomas, a farmer, born August 10, 1859. Came to Canada in 1879. Worked for years with farmers around Grand Valley, Ontario. Married Martha Firth in 1905 and farmed on Lot 28, Con. 2, East Luther. Retired to Grand Valley in 1917.

Adam, born in 1857, a grocer in Portadown, Ireland. Died in 1915. His widow, Bella, lived for many more years.

James, born June 2, 1865, sodding contractor in Toronto. Officer in Salvation Army. Married Nellie Hamilton and had a family of 4.

George Henry, born August 18, 1867, a farmer near Grand Valley, Ontario. Married Elizabeth Standish, March 1894. Died Jan. 8, 1925. Family:

Standish, farmer, born Jan. 14, 1895. *Abigail*, Mrs. Thomas E. Shearer of Bright, Ontario. *Clarke*, store clerk in Detroit, born Jan. 17, 1899.

Rachel, born Nov., 1869. Did housework in Toronto, Ontario.

Charles, born 1871, died in Hamilton Sanitorium, Nov. 1, 1918.

David, born 1873, worked with farmers near Grand Valley, Ontario. Died in 1897.

Robert, born 1875, raised and well-educated by the Turkingtons.

Thomas, born Feb. 1839. Died at the age of 14 years.

John (Rev.), born April, 1841. Ordained a Methodist Minister and occupied important pulpits, including Reading, England. He changed to the Congregational Church and became a nationally known cleric in London, England, in charge of Bishop's Church, among others. Visited U.S. and Canada including some of the relatives in Ontario. Died about 1913. Had at least two of a family.

William and Elizabeth Woods settled on Lot 9, Con. 11, East Garafraxa, in 1849. This is the farm which was farmed until recently by Harold and Mary Woods. William and Elizabeth cleared this land and raised their family here.

Thomas Woods, their son, walked through the bush to Lot 21, Con. 11, East Garafraxa, to clear land which he had purchased from the Canada Company. This was a land company under the directorship of John Galt who owned much of the land in this area. This land is presently owned by his grandson, Mr. John Woods.

Thomas Woods married Sarah Scaife, the daughter of Joe Scaife and his wife. Sarah's parents had eloped from her parent's home in Ireland. Her parents were of nobility and Joseph was a hostler who took care of the horses and other stable chores. Their romance was therefore frowned upon by Mrs. Scaife's parents. This is the reason for their flight to Canada. They settled on the farm presently owned by Gordon Carroll while their friends, the Claytons, settled on the farm presently owned by Mr. and Mrs. Les Canivet. They cleared the land and built the first buildings on this property. Their son William Scaife erected the present barn and house which still stands on this property.

Thomas Woods was a rugged individual who after clearing some land to farm, erected a new house and barn. This work was all done by the axe. He was also handy in the use of the axe as he once drove away a marauding bear which was attacking a sow with her litter of piglets. As the family grew, they built a large new brick house and barn which was destroyed by fire in the 1950's. After raising his family and establishing his son Joseph on the family farm, he retired to the 50-acre lot (farm) which is presently owned by Mrs. Joe Ritchie and farmed by her son Murray. He built a new brick house on this property in 1904. Mary and Edith Woods had their weddings to Sam and Bob Irvine from this home. Tom Woods Sr. sold milk in tin pails to the residents of the town from this farm. My father, Tom Woods, helped deliver this milk around town as part of his chores when he visited his grandparents.

David Woods started farming on the farm presently owned by Mr. Blake Taylor. After becoming crippled with rheumatism, he moved his family to Paris, Ontario, where they found work in the mills. John Woods, the second youngest son, farmed for most of his life on the farm presently owned by Mr. George Landman. He built the brick home which presently stands on this property. He married Becky Durnin from Lucknow. They had two of a family: Leila, who married Wes Ham of Fergus, and Eddy, who was a medical doctor in Detroit. John was Sunday-School Superintendent of the Methodist church in Tarbert. He retired to Fergus where he bought a farm that was later purchased by the Beatty Company. Since these are the only members of William and Elizabeth's family who lived in East Luther, I am not going into further detail.

A number of Tom Woods' descendants settled in East Luther Township. Mary Woods married Sam Irvine and had three boys and two girls. Sadie, Edith and Cecil (twins), John; and Harvey, who died in 1928. They farmed on the property which is presently occupied by their son Cecil and his wife Marion.

Edith Woods married Bob Irvine and had one son, Lloyd. They farmed the property now occupied by David and Margaret Beam.

Joseph Woods was a farmer and cattle-drover on Lot 21, Con. 11, East Garafraxa. He married Deborah Henderson. They had two boys and one girl: Thomas, John and Nellie. John married Margaret Moote and they have twin sons, Richard and Randy Woods. John still lives on the family farm which was cleared by his grandfather, Thomas Woods. Nellie was educated as a school teacher. She taught at S.S. No. 3, East Luther before she took a school on Amherst Island, Ontario. There she met and married Harold Marshall, who worked as a sailor and captain of the United States Steel ore freighters on the Great Lakes. They have one son,

William. The other son of Deborah and Joseph, Thomas, purchased Lot 27, Con. 3, East Luther from Clarke Hunt in 1928. He batched for approximately three years before he married Mabel Isabel Winters, the daughter of Richard and Emma Winters. They had two of a family: Ralph Thomas in 1934, and Dorothy Isabel in 1937.

The family of Thomas Woods remained on this farm until Mabel passed away on April 4, 1964. Thomas sold the farm to Gordon Winters in 1965 and Gordon's son, Kerry, purchased it from his father and has farmed it until the present time. Thomas Woods is presently enjoying life in St. Catharines, Ontario.

Dorothy married Jim Skeels in 1963 and they have one son, Michael. They are presently residing in Devon, Alberta and Michael is going to high school in Edmonton.

Ralph (I) married Beula Speers in 1956 and we have four children: Ruth, born in April, 1958; Richard, born in September, 1959; Tom, born in November, 1962; and David, born in April, 1964. Ruth graduated as a registered nurse in 1979 and in the same year married Peter George. She is presently nursing in Toronto General Hospital. Richard is completing his Bachelor of Science Degree at the University of Guelph. Tom is attending Fanshawe College, London, Ontario in a metallurgy engineering course. David is still attending Centre Dufferin District High School in Shelburne.

I, (Ralph Woods), began my teaching career at U.S.S. No. 16, East Garafraxa, from 1954-56. Beula and I were married in the summer of 1956 before I began Toronto Teacher's College in 1956-57. Meanwhile, Beula worked in Bell Telephone in Toronto. We moved to Oshawa in September, 1957, where I taught at Woodcrest Public School for the school year 1957-58. Our daughter Ruth was born in Oshawa General Hospital. In June, 1958, we returned to Grand Valley and purchased the property which had been occupied by my grandparents, Deborah and Joseph Woods. I returned to teach for two years at U.S.S. No. 16, East Garafraxa. In September of 1960, I started teaching at the U.S.S. No. 8 & 7, East Luther, which was located just west of the Highway corner of No. 9 and No. 25. In September of 1963, I moved to Grand Valley where I taught under the principalship of Mr. Don Richardson. In September of 1966 Don moved to Princess Margaret School in Orangeville and I took over the principal's duties at Grand Valley Public School.

When the County Board came in January, 1969, the Grand Valley and District High School was closed the following June. The five remaining rural schools were consolidated and brought into the old Grand Valley Public School and the Grand Valley and District High School. An addition (or "west wing") had been built on the high school by the old Township's School Board. It had been their intention to have the high school in the front wing with the students brought in from the closed rural schools occupying the west wing. I remained as principal of these two buildings until June of 1974. In the spring of 1974, I was appointed principal of a new school in Orangeville, Springbrook Elementary School. In September of 1974, we had a staff hired at Springbrook to accommodate 450 students. Only 242 arrived, so the staff had to be redistributed throughout the schools in Orangeville. I remained at Springbrook until June of 1980 when there were 630 students. I was then appointed to be principal of Centennial Hylands Elementary School in Shelburne, Ontario.

Ralph and Beula Woods and family continue to reside in Grand Valley in the home which was formerly occupied by grandparents Joseph and Deborah Woods.

Conclusion

We have endeavoured to record as much as possible of the early history of the township, continuing on through until today which will, in turn, be history tomorrow. Doubtless there are many more interesting tales and funny stories tucked away in the memories of our older citizens but it is our hope that this book will give to the younger generation a glimpse of the past, and, to those not so young, many pleasant thoughts of days gone by.

Introduction 1982

As the first edition of "One Hundred Years Along the Upper Grand" is not available any longer, the East Luther council deemed it advisable to have a second edition printed. This will include the first edition and a supplement containing a resumé of the Centennial activities during 1981, a section for corrections and some family histories which have been sent to me recently.

*E. Graham
Author*

East Luther Centennial Celebrations

In 1980 a Centennial Project was launched with a competition to design a crest for the Township. Ellen Montgomery submitted two designs, one of which was the winner, and she was awarded a prize of \$75.00. Carmen Bignell submitted one design and was awarded second prize of \$35.00. Jeff Bruce submitted four designs and was awarded third prize of \$20.00. The judges were Irma Malt-

by, Secretary of the Dufferin Federation of Agriculture; Leighton McGinnis, retired schoolteacher and Royce Reilly, Warden of the County for 1980.

A meeting was held in January, 1981 to discuss the possibility of sponsoring a celebration within the Township to commemorate the Township's Centennial of Incorporation. Those invited to attend as representatives of local organizations were: Reeve Piet Bouwhuis, Councillors Robert Daniel and Ross Brown for the Municipality; Susan Simpson for Monticello United Church; Gary and Eleanor Firth for Keldon United Church; Nancy Fawcett and Shirley Bruce for the 4-H Club; Laura Edwards and June Mournahan for Colbeck and Monticello W.I.; Rolla Foreman and Marion Irvine for Hereward W.I.; Kevin Shortt for Monticello Little Theatre, and Catrina Bouwhuis. Floyd Newson acted as Secretary.

From this meeting a Centennial Committee was formed to organize celebratory events throughout the year, with Elmer Shortt acting as Chairman. Small sub-committees were formed to organize particular events and to enrol the assistance of other members of the community as and when required.

At the first Centennial Committee meeting it was



East Luther Centennial Committee, back row, left to right: Piet Bouwhuis (Reeve), Floyd Newson, Robert Daniel, George McPherson, Gordon Winters.
Centre: Kevin Shortt, Nancy Fawcett, Shirley Bruce, Eleanor Firth,

Marion Irvine, Susan Simpson, Rolla Foreman, Ross Brown.
Front: Catrina Bouwhuis, Laura Edwards, Elmer Shortt, Isabelle Montgomery, June Mournahan.

agreed that the main celebration would be a Township picnic, with invitations to be sent to as many past and present residents, and their families, as possible. It was planned to hold this in August at the Municipal Township Building; to last all day, and contain as many different events as possible.

One of the first Centennial projects for 1981 was an emergency numbering system for all the properties in the Township. This involved a letter being sent to all property owners, containing a red sticker for the telephone, on which was written the lot and concession number as a form of identification for the fire, police and ambulance services, who each received a map showing the numbered properties. Also on the sticker was the telephone numbers of all three services. This project was devised by Councillor Ross Brown, who implemented this scheme, together with the assistance of Isabelle and Barbara Montgomery and the Township clerical staff.

At the February meeting of the Centennial Committee it was decided to hold a Mixed Curling Bonspiel in the Grand Valley and District Community Centre on March 10th, 1981. As the first Centennial event, everyone agreed this was a great success, and prizes were won by: At the 9:00 a.m. draw: 1st, Johnson Woods' rink with Rolla Foreman, Jack Benham and Betty Hillis with 48 points; 2nd, John Pelen rink with Ann Young, Peter Bouwhuis and Isabelle Bospoort; 3rd, Paul Culp rink with Emma Lammerding, Bill McMahon and Arnold Townsend. Consolation prize was awarded to the Wallace Gallagher rink with Ruby Woods, Fred McEachern and Nina Townsend. 4th, Vic Lagnon rink and 5th, Bill Orr rink. At the 10:30 a.m. draw: 1st, Mark Carstensen's rink with Mrs. Wayne Orr, George Curtis and Art Taylor with 50-1/2 points; 2nd, Reg Corbett rink with Marion Irvine, Elwyn Platt and Marg. Hunter; 3rd, Murray Taylor rink with Maureen Bryan, Elmer Shortt and Joan Shaw. Consolation prize was awarded to the Jim Blyth rink with Ray Montgomery, Dalton Platt and Marlene Mainland. 4th prize, Ross Brown rink and 5th, Charlie Bryan rink.

Winners of the Centennial trophy were the Mark Carstensen rink, as top rink of the day. They were presented with the trophy to display in their Township council chamber, and each member also received an East Luther Centennial Plate and a small keeper trophy. Dinner was served to the curlers and about 50 guests from the different municipalities. Three large cakes were made and especially decorated for the occasion by Shirley Bruce, a member of the centennial committee. The Curling Committee was Catrina Bouwhuis, Isabelle Montgomery, Floyd Newson and Ross Brown. The Centennial Committee met at regular intervals throughout the year to discuss and report on all the hard work they were doing to make 1981 a year to remember.

Also in February, a Centennial Hockey match was held between East and West Luther. East Luther was the winner, and the Centennial trophy is on display in the East Luther Council Chamber.

On Wednesday, April 8th, the Reeve, Piet Bouwhuis; Centennial Committee Chairman, Elmer Shortt; President of Colbeck and Monticello W.I., Laura Edwards and Councillor Isabelle Montgomery made a presentation to Philip Rentsch, fourth child of Hugo and Madeleine Rentsch and the first baby born in the Township during Centennial Year. Philip received a plaque bearing his name and birth date, and other gifts. Other babies born this year are: to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Oosterhof, a son, Steven Shawn; to Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Tait, a son, Ryan Edward Stephen; to Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Burke, a son, Travis; to Mr. and Mrs. Jim Tait, a son, Jesse James; to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Nussey, a son, Mark; to Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Codd, a daughter, Nancy Lynn; to Mr. and Mrs.



First baby born during the township's Centennial year—Philip Rentsch with his parents Hugo and Madeleine Rentsch. Others are Elmer Shortt, Isabelle Montgomery, Laura Edwards and Piet Bouwhuis.

Eiko Oosterhof, a son, Jason Douglas; to Mr. and Mrs. Claudio Orgera, a son, Nicholas; to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Zumach, a daughter, Jacqueline; to Mr. and Mrs. Dave Montgomery, twin sons, Jeremy and James; to Mr. and



East Luther Centennial King and Queen—Blake Witmer and Laura Stewart.

Mrs. Hank Den Hollander, a son Matthew and to Mr. and Mrs. Joe Mazenauer, a son.

Also in April a Centennial King and Queen were chosen from Township residents sixty-five years old and over. The couple chosen was Blake Witmer and Laura Stewart, and it was planned that they take part in all the local Centennial parades and celebrations. In the parades, they rode on a float representing the Township, together with a group of square dancers. This group consisted of: Chris Jones, Denise Graham, Brad Bruce, Mary Ellen Brown, Guy Bruce, Jayne Firth, Chris Peterson, Claudine Bus, Chris Campbell and Tracey Bruce. The caller was Ross Brown and music was provided by Willis Doyle, Wanda West, Irvine Doyle and Bob Daniel. They took part in the Orangeville Centennial Parade on June 22nd, 1981, the Grand Valley Centennial Parade on July 4th, 1981 and the West Luther Centennial Parade on July 18th, 1981.

In June, the Township's official history, entitled "One Hundred Years Along the Upper Grand", written and compiled by Esther Graham, was released. At the July Council Meeting, the Reeve, Piet Bouwhuis, presented Mrs. Graham with a special edition of the book, and in return received one for himself from the publisher, Glyndon Landsborough.

On June 17th, 1981 a Retirement Party was held in Colbeck Hall for Pearl White, who has assisted with East Luther Township work since 1955, officially becoming Tax Collector in 1966 and Treasurer in 1974, at which time she was appointed Deputy Clerk. The Reeve, Piet Bouwhuis, chaired the proceedings and Colbeck and Monticello Women's Institute served a roast beef dinner to forty guests. A toast was proposed by Bob Daniel and other speakers and included past Reeve and Warden, Royce Reilly, Road Superintendent, George McPherson and Councillors Ross Brown and Gordon Winters. Councillor Isabelle Montgomery and Township Clerk Floyd Newson presented Pearl with a framed crest of the East Luther Legend and a silver charm bracelet.

In July, East Luther hosted the Dufferin County Council Meeting at the Township's Municipal Building. This was the first time the County Council had met outside of its Orangeville chambers, and this session took place as a mark of the County and Township's Joint Centennial.

The high spot of the year, however, was the Township picnic on the 15th of August. Despite the showery weather, and because the Centennial Committee had the foresight to erect a big tent for the occasion, this was a great success. The festivities got under way at 2:00 p.m. with a welcome from the Reeve, Piet Bouwhuis and the introduction of the Centennial Chairman, Elmer Shortt, and the Centennial King and Queen.

This was followed by a fashion show presented by the 4-H clubs in the Township depicting changing fashions over the past hundred years. It was commented by Liz Bus, and organized by Shirley Bruce and Nancy Fawcett. The models in order of appearance were: Sheryl Graham wearing a cape which belonged to Francis Gehr's great, great grandmother thought to be 115 years old; Karen Shortt wearing a nightgown worn by Ross Brown's grandmother on her wedding night in 1880; Dianne Townsend wearing a nightgown which belonged to Mrs. Oscar Crewson around 1800, who was Shirley Bruce's great Grandmother; Heather Foreman wearing the wedding dress which was worn by Bessie Louisa Simpson when she married James Henry Hall in 1891; Sandra Johnston wearing a man's outfit which included a jacket, hat and shirt worn by Charles Buchanan Sr., grandfather of Laura Edwards on his wedding day in 1884; Laura Stewart, Centennial Queen, wearing a gown designed and made by Mrs.

Gladys Platt of Shelburne; Blake Witmer, Centennial King, wearing an outfit including a waistcoat, jacket and top hat from 1867; Jodean Bignell wearing a blouse and skirt from the 1900s; Kelly Shortt wearing a blouse and petticoat from the 1900s; Dianne Townsend wearing a nightdress made of sugar bags, Sandra Johnston wearing a man's flannelette night shirt, and Carrie Fawcett wearing a flannelette nightgown, all around 1900 vintage; Pete Bouwhuis wearing a suit which belonged to Dr. Berwick, the local doctor probably on his wedding day in 1907; Catrina Bouwhuis wearing a dress she made in 1967 from a pattern dated 1867 which she obtained from the Royal Ontario Museum; Teresa Robertson wearing a skirt and blouse with matching handbag, together with a hat dating back to 1900; Sandra Johnston wearing striped knickers and a white shirt dating back to 1884; Cheryl Galbraith wearing a dress worn by Laura Edwards' mother, Mrs. Alex Rainey in 1914; Sherry Smith wearing a dress originally worn by Mary Edwards, Hugh Edwards' aunt to her first party in 1906; Heather Galbraith wearing a fur coat from 1920; around 1914; Angela Rooyakkers wearing a dress worn by her aunt, Mrs. Alex Buchanan when she was three in 1916; Heather Galbraith wearing a fur coat from 1920; Teresa Robertson wearing Mrs. Alex Rainey's wedding dress in 1929; Shirley Townsend wearing a fitted suit of the 1940s; Kelly Shortt wearing a bobby-soxer's outfit from the 1940s; Alita Campbell wearing a house dress from the 1950s; Sheryl Graham wearing a school outfit from the 1950s; Karen Shortt wearing a mini-dress from the 1960s; Cheryl Galbraith wearing a dress with a bell shaped skirt popular in 1963; Jodean Bignell wearing Shirley Bruce's wedding dress from 1962; Shirley Townsend wearing a bridesmaid dress worn by Shirley Bruce at her sister's wedding in 1965; Heather Foreman wearing a jumpsuit worn by Margo Foreman in the 1970s; Heather Galbraith wearing a peasant dress from the 1970s; Janice Tovell wearing hot pants very popular in the early 1970s and Alita Campbell wearing another hot pants outfit.

The East Luther Centennial Square Dancers performed, and Ross and Grace Brown were presented with a plaque by Chris Jones in appreciation of the work they had done with the group.

Bob Daniel introduced the Centennial Choir, which



Township clerk, Floyd Newson introducing Esther Graham, author of "One Hundred Years Along the Upper Grand" who was presented with a plaque and honorarium by Nancy Beam who is wearing her grandmother's wedding dress (Mrs. Henry Newson, Page 17).

sang several numbers. The choir, under the direction of John Wanless and Elizabeth Taylor consisted of: Barb Taylor, Beverley Taylor, Betty Anne Taylor, Lynne Taylor, Michelle Taylor, Jacqueline Daniel, Stephanie Beam, Josh Beam, Dianne Taylor, Lisa Hillis, Tracey Woodland, Tommy Rowe, Rachel Ince, Julie Maycock, Mary Lyn Stuckey, Alana Everson, Leah Everson, Bradley Park, Sheila Hunter, Paul Hunter, Bob Shaw and Kelly Robinson.

Esther Graham, author of the history book "A Hundred Years Along the Upper Grand" was introduced by the township Clerk, Floyd Newson and presented with a gift by Nancy Beam.

Jack Johnson, local M.P.P., presented a plaque of greetings from the Premier of Ontario. The Warden of Dufferin County, Mr. Wm. Young, and the Reeve of West Luther, Mr. Jack Lennox, were introduced. This was followed by the unveiling of a Centennial Cairn by Piet Bouwhuis and Jack Johnson. It was dedicated by Elder Roy Hillis.



The Centennial Cairn being unveiled by Jack Johnson, M.P.P.

The trophies were then presented to the winners of the horseshoe tournament, Scott and Barry Fuller. Runners up were Holden Clarke and Jack Benham. The oldest lady present was Mrs. Henry Hall of Dufferin Oaks aged 94, and the oldest gentlemen was Mr. Patrick Mulhall aged 84 of Mount Forest. The person travelling the farthest distance to the celebration was Mrs. Leola Clark of Kelowna, B.C. They were all presented with a gift.

While a smorgasborg picnic supper was in progress, entertainment was provided by local talent. M.C.'d by Ross Brown, the programme consisted of dancing, singing and instrumental selections. In the Council Chamber was a display of pictures old and new and newspaper clippings from the past. There was a refreshment booth on the grounds all day under the direction of Nina Townsend and Marj. Jones.

At 7:30 p.m. a play entitled "A One-Way Ticket to East Luther" written, produced and directed by Kevin Shortt was performed by the Monticello Little Theatre group. The cast in order of appearance were: Brad Bruce, Cathy Hale, Dianne Townsend, Paul Firth, Scott Simpson, Guy Bruce, Josh Beam, Susan Simpson, Kevin Shortt, Kelly Shortt, Michelle Taylor, Leanne Taylor, Stephanie Beam, Tracey Bruce, Heather Davison, Piet Bouwhuis,

Arnold Townsend, Gordon Brayford and Ken Kratky.

The day ended with an old time dance with music supplied by Mr. Fred McDougall, a native of East Luther, and during the evening, a square dance set trained by Mr. Stewart Corbett performed.

Almost 1,000 people signed the guest book and it was generally agreed it had been a day to remember. Credit goes to the centennial committee for the success of the day, and to all the other volunteers who worked so hard to make it such. A ball game between East and West Luther and children's games were also planned, but these had to be postponed until Sunday, the 13th of September, because of the weather. The ball game was won by East Luther and the Centennial trophy is on display in the council chamber.



Pictured above are the members of the East Luther Ducks baseball team, which took part in the East-West Luther Centennial Baseball Championship. They are, from left to right, back row, Dave Bruce, Clayburn Montgomery, Bob Daniel, Chris Hale, and Gary Firth; front row, Catherine Daniel, Ross Brown, Elmer Shortt and Isabelle Montgomery.

On November 6th, 1981 the Reeve held a special banquet to which everyone holding office in the Township was invited. The Clerk, Floyd Newson, was Master of Ceremonies and he welcomed everyone on behalf of their host and hostess, Piet and Catrina Bouwhuis. Councillor Gordon Winters said grace before a roast beef meal catered by the Grand Valley Firefighters Ladies Auxiliary was served. After the meal the Reeve gave a short speech outlining the year's activities. Mr. Newson then introduced each office and the people connected with it: the East Luther Planning Board made up of Lionel Deaken, Elmer Shortt, Stan Newson, Jim Burke, and council representatives Piet Bouwhuis, Isabelle Montgomery and Gordon Winters; the East Luther Centennial Committee, made up of Susan Simpson, Gary Firth, Nancy Fawcett, Shirley Bruce, Laura Edwards, June Mournahan, Rolla Foreman, Marion Irvine, Kevin Shortt, Catrina Bouwhuis, Floyd Newson (secretary), Elmer Shortt (Chairman), and council representatives Piet Bouwhuis, Bob Daniel and Gordon Winters; the Centennial King and Queen, Blake Witmer and Laura Stewart; the Fence Viewers—Etsel Montgomery, Dave Bruce, Eiko Oosterhof, Jim Mournahan and Bryan Montgomery; the Pound Keeper, Fred Thompson and Dog Control Officer Harvey Graham who is also the Livestock Evaluator; Mrs. Esther Graham as author of the Township's official history "100 Years Along the Upper Grand"; School Board Trustee, Arnold Townsend; Supervisor of the Sanitary Landfill Site, Lorne Richardson; East Luther Library Board made up of Esther Graham, Lola Winters, Marjorie Jones and Sylvia Cassidy; representa-

tives on local Hospital Boards, Cecil Irvine on the Dufferin Area Hospital Board and Gordon Brayford on the Shelburne Hospital Board; representative on the Grand Valley and District Community Centre Management Board, Charlie Codd; the Township employees made up of the Roads Department with Superintendent George McPherson, Clayburn Montgomery and John Deaken and Municipal Office employee Joan Cromack and Township Clerk, Floyd Newson.

Joan Cromack read a short outline of the Township's Centennial activities and Catrina Bouwhuis presented a framed photograph of Bill and Leila Young in the centennial parade to the Grand Valley Reeve. Entertainment was provided by the East Luther Centennial Choir and the Centennial Square Dancers. All the children were presented with Dufferin County Centennial dollars. Councillor Bob Daniel presented Elizabeth Taylor and John Wanless, the two organizers of the Choir, with books, and Councillor Ross Brown presented Willis Doyle and Wanda West with books for their help with the music for the square dancers.

On November 24th, 1981 the Governor General of Canada, Edward Schreyer, and his wife Lily, visited Grand Valley. They arrived at Grand Valley Public School at 2:20 p.m., and after having signed the guest register were presented with a Grand Valley souvenir spoon and two Grand Valley Public School T-Shirts. Piet Bouwhuis, Reeve of East Luther presented a copy of the Township's history book to the Governor General on behalf of the Township. In his address Mr. Schreyer congratulated Dufferin County



Tracey Bruce plants a Centennial tree accompanied by Warden William Young.



The Governor General of Canada, Edward Schreyers and his wife Lily, visit at Grand Valley Senior School. From left to right, Mr. and Mrs. Piet Bouwhuis, Mrs. Wm. Young and Mr. and Mrs. Schreyer, Mr. Schreyer holding the East Luther history book presented to him by the Reeve.

on its 100th anniversary and said he was looking forward to reading the history of East Luther. He congratulated Mrs. Esther Graham, the author, on her book. Catrina Bouwhuis, the Reeve's wife, presented Mrs. Schreyer with an East Luther Centennial Plate.

On Friday, May 1st, 1981 in a ceremony marking the Dufferin Centennial and the 50th anniversary of reforestation in the county, a student from each school in the county was chosen to plant a tree at the Dufferin Roads Depart-

ment garage at Primrose. Tracey Bruce of East Luther was chosen from Grand Valley Public School. Each of the students participating, who had been chosen for their mathematical ability, was presented with small personal souvenirs, together with a book on trees in Canada for their school library. Assisting in the presentations were Dufferin County Warden Bill Young and George McCague MPP for Dufferin-Simcoe.

Mention should also be made of the time and effort contributed by the Township Roads Department, who worked hard to make their garage and surrounding area ready for the County Council Meeting and the township Picnic.

Many people from the Township participated in the County Celebrations, but the Township did not in fact become a part of the County until 1883. At the end of the year it must be acknowledged that 1981 has been a good year for East Luther, and all the hard work and effort put in by all the many people involved has been really worthwhile. It is hoped that the celebrations have reminded the older people of days gone by, and the younger people more aware of their heritage. It will be interesting to see what the next 100 years are going to bring to East Luther.

The Claytons

William S. Clayton and his wife, Martha Loble, came with their family consisting of John L., George, William, and Jane from Yorkshire, England in 1850. After 8 years at Niagara they settled on Con. 11, East Garafraxa.

In 1859 John L., William and George moved to lots 21 and 22, Con. 2, East Luther. Their sister, Jane married William John Stuckey, John married Maria Jane Davey in 1867 and they had a family of ten children. William married Mary Stuckey, daughter of Samuel Stuckey, Grand Valley's first postmaster. They raised a family of five children. George Clayton married Isabel Park and raised a family of seven children.

The family of John and Maria were Harriett Ann (Mrs. Robert Hamilton), George, Richard (Dick) who married Mary Alice Newson, Frank, Reginald, who married Millicent Capenhurst, Thomas, whose wife was Bessie Hills, Sam, who married Minnie Glastonbury, Dorothy married to Fred Cunningham and Ethel married to Ernest Crawford.

With the exception of Sam, who remained on the parental homestead, the others followed Dick to the West and settled in the vicinity of Harris, Sask. Dick took a threshing machine with him from Souris, Man. where he had first settled, to the Harris district. His brother-in-law, Robert Hamilton was separator man.

All members of the family raised their children under pioneer conditions and all prospered. Dick and Alice had eleven children. One of their grandsons, Orrin Clayton, has been with the Canadian Seed Growers' Association in Ottawa for over twenty years. Another grandson, Raymond Clayton, is Deputy Minister of Education for Sask.

Sam was a teacher for many years. He and Annie Newson, daughter of Alex Newson went to Normal School in Moosejaw together in 1927-28. Sam practised his teaching under Miss Minnie Hamilton who had taught John Clayton's family many years before near Grand Valley.

Dr. W. Kirk Colbeck

(mentioned briefly on Page 85)

Dr. William Kirk Colbeck, 73, founder of the Colbeck Clinic and pioneer in radiology died in Welland in November, 1951.

A native of Colbeck, Ontario, he was the son of Holden Colbeck and Margaret McKinley. Dr. Colbeck founded his clinic in 1921 and enjoyed a successful practice in Welland for many years. Suffering severe burns while carrying out pioneer work in radiology in 1908 he lost several of his fingers. He was still able, however, to carry on as a surgeon.

He was a member of the Council of the Canadian Medical Association; a life member of the Toronto Academy of Medicine; in 1938 he was President of the Ontario Medical Association; in 1935 he had received the King's Jubilee Medal.

He received his early education in Orangeville and graduated from the University of Toronto in 1903, intern-ing in Toronto Western Hospital.

During World War I, Dr. Colbeck served as captain in the 55th Canadian Field Ambulance and was wounded at Passchendaele. He was a life member of the Canadian Legion and in religion a member of the United Church of Canada.

His life was spent in service to his fellow-men of all walks of life. A veteran told of one incident which was typical of Dr. Colbeck. Called in to treat a child of a veteran, the surgeon on one critical night stayed beside the child all night until the crisis had passed. He knew at the time that he could not expect a cent from the child's father.

He was closely related with many young doctors to whom he was always ready to give guidance and counsel. In this connection, however, he stated that he gained more than he gave by getting a clean fresh approach to problems.

A tribute to Dr. Colbeck was expressed by Dr. D.C. MacNeil, president of Welland County General Hospital when he described him as "one of the truly outstanding members of the healing profession in his generation".

The late Dr. Colbeck and his wife, the former Marian Hilts, had one daughter, Mrs. R.G. Emerson who lives at Goderich, Ontario.

Men like Dr. Colbeck are the stuff of which virile and progressive communities are made. Their value does not cease with their passing for the seeds they planted are the inspiration for others to follow in their footsteps.



Picture taken at farm home of Holden Colbeck, Lot 23, Con. 10 at Monticello. Left to right, back row, Dr. Kirk Colbeck, James, Joseph, Tom, Holden, Edward, Lena (Mrs. Wilfred McDougall). Front row, Margaret (Mrs. Wilbert Townsend), Lorna Colbeck, Lilly

Laverty (Mrs. Joe Colbeck), Edna Townsend (Mrs. James Colbeck), Evelyn Colbeck (the child), Sarah Jane McKinley (Mrs. Holden Colbeck), Marjory Colbeck, Marlon Hilts (Mrs. Kirk Colbeck), child unknown.

Crane Family

John Crane came to Canada from Springfield, Illinois, U.S.A. shortly after the death of his wife, Jane Somerville. With his three young sons, Thomas, James, and John he settled first in Garafraxa and later in Luther where they lived out their lives in the vicinity of South Luther.

Thomas—the eldest, married Annie Robb and lived on the North half of lot, 19, con. 3, East Luther later moving to the North half of lot 29, con. 3 (along the blind line). Thomas died in 1905 leaving Annie with four child-



The John Crane Family 1946. Left to right, Ernest, John, Willis, Marjorie (Mrs. Willis Montgomery), Laverne, Mrs. John Crane.

ren to raise. Alexander, the first, had died in early childhood. The others were Adeline (Mrs. William Freeman, Toronto), John, Alex and Ernest. After Thomas' death they moved to the North half of lot 26, con. 1, south of the railway tracks. John married Mary Taylor, daughter of Robert Taylor and Hannah King and lived on the John Sime farm (lot 24, con. 1 at the spur). John packed hay there when Lewis Menary was shipping this commodity by rail. Later the Cranes moved to the house on the east side of Highway 25 just south of the railway tracks and Jack, as he was known, continued to work for Menary's as long as he was able. Their family consisted of Ernest, married to Jean Jackson who have two children, Kenneth and Sandra; Ernie farmed for a short time in East Luther and is presently living in Grand Valley where he is employed by Davison Bros.; Willis, who married Madeline McKay and have three children Caroline, Elaine and Ronald; Willis and son do farm custom work serving farmers in East Luther and East Garafraxa; Laverne, who married Ivadelle Quinton and together operated the Grand Valley Bakery for over twenty years and raised a family of four—Gerald, Barbara, Debbie, and Randy; and Marjorie (Mrs. Willis Montgomery) who lives in Grand Valley and assists with the Montgomery insurance business.

Alex Crane married Mildred Elgie of East Luther and farmed on lot 30, con. 1, then moved to Conn where he kept a store which was burned, after which he operated a restaurant in Elora before finally settling in Toronto. They had one daughter, Wave. After the death of Mildred, Alex married Edith Brayshaw. Their daughter, Marlene (Mrs. Ernest Tovell) lives on lot 28, con. 4, East Luther.

Ernest Crane married Margaret Byers. He was a veteran of World War I. After the war he was employed



The James Crane Family 1913. Back row, left to right, Ernest and Florence Gordon, Alberta (Allie), Mrs. W.J. Irvine and Edward. Front row, James Crane (father), William and Myrtle Crane holding baby Evelyn and Elizabeth Crane, the mother.

by the C.P.R. first at Grand Valley and later transferred to Mount Forest. Mrs. Crane still lives there.

James Crane married Elizabeth Thompson of Pelham township, Welland County, and farmed on lot 18, con. 4, West Luther at first, moving in 1903 to the farm now owned by David Beam on the western outskirts of Grand Valley. Here he built the house and barn still in use on this property. They had four children: William J. who married Myrtle Greenaway and farmed in East Garafraxa (the Gowland farm), then to lot 24, con. 3 where Jim Graham now lives before settling on lot 28, con. 2 where he operated a dairy farm and sold milk in the village. When their son Morris took over the farm, they moved to Grand Valley where Will was employed by Chester Ryan and John White at the dairy, when pasteurization of milk came into effect. He was also custodian of the Public and Continuation School for a number of years. They had six children—*Evelyn* (Mrs. Ashley Wolfe) now deceased who had two children Cecil, a prominent Fergus barrister and Anne (Mrs. Mervin McPherson) of Amaranth township;

Lawrence of Toronto;

Morris, who married Mary Gate of Amaranth and have three children—Edith (Mrs. Harold Darroch of Elmira), Bill married to Joyce Hardman of Amaranth, living in Elmira and Robert, married to Barbara Montgomery, now living in Orangeville. Morris took over the farm and continued dairying, selling in 1969 to Harold Livingston and now living in Elora.

Orma (Mrs. Jack Hutchison, Orangeville);



The William Crane Family 1961. Left to right, Earl and Wilma Sawyer, William and Myrtle Crane, Lawrence and Margaret Crane, Morris and Mary Crane, James and Helen Crane, Jack and Orma Hutchison, (Evelyn deceased 1942).

Wilma (Mrs. Earl Sawyer, Toronto);

James, of Fergus.

Florence was married to Ernest Jordan who farmed on S 1/2 lot 30, con. 4 and lot 31, con. 3 in East Luther where they raised Melvin presently of Streetsville and Lena (Mrs. Harry McConnell, Grand Valley).

Alberta (*Allie*) was married to John Irvine and farmed lot 32, con. 1 (where George Dodman now lives) until John's death in 1948 when she moved to Grand Valley. They had no children.

Edward J. Crane was married to Edna Elgie and farmed lot 29, con. 2, through which property many farmers drove their cattle to market at the C.P.R. station on a "given road". When Ed sold the farm he moved to Grand Valley and then to Woodbridge. Their children were Glenn and Roma, both educated in Grand Valley schools.

John Crane married Jane Robb and lived first on lot 18, con. 3, West Luther moving to the present J. Vink farm on the Amaranth townline in 1904, later purchasing the farm across the road on part of which their only son, Harry still resides in East Luther. Their daughters Agnes, Lavina, Mildred and Ina were born in West Luther. *Agnes* became an excellent dressmaker, sewing for many of the neighbours on the farm and later, those living in the village. *Lavina* (Mrs. Oliver Graham) was a teacher in several schools in Dufferin County and at Grahamsville, near Toronto before her marriage. Her children are Kenneth, employed by Manpower at Lindsay and Greta (Mrs. Bernard Boswell, Grand Valley). Mrs. Graham now lives at Dufferin Oaks. *Mildred* was a nurse in Brooklyn, New York where she died in 1945. *Ina* worked in Fergus as M.J. Beatty's private secretary for twenty-five years.

Harry married Ella Walker, an East Luther teacher. They had two children—Anne (Mrs. David Champ, Orangeville) now deceased and Lee (Mrs. Douglas Hunter, Grand Valley). After Ella's death in 1977 Harry married Christina McGill of Georgetown on Nov. 18, 1978.

In 1966 Harry sold the farm to Douglas Pratt retaining two acres overlooking the Grand River where he erected a spacious modern home. As well as the East Luther acreage Harry owned sixteen acres across the river within the corporation of Grand Valley which is chiefly the large gravel pit which Greenwoods bought from him in 1966. Harry had sold gravel to East Luther and Dufferin County for road maintenance, and building of bridges and paving in the village receiving ten cents a cubic yard for it (less than one tenth the current price for gravel).

Harry was interested in municipal affairs and after serving on the school board for eight years served as councillor and reeve of Grand Valley for five years as well as acting as assessor for East Luther township for four years.

He also joined the Royal Black Preceptory in 1936 and served as Registrar for over thirty years. At present he is County Marshall.

Cunningham Family

John Cunningham was born in Ireland and brought to Canada by his parents who lived near Goldstone in Wellington County. He married Susan West and moved to Minnesota. There Mrs. Cunningham feared the snakes so they moved back to Goldstone and soon afterwards to East Luther settling on lot 28, con. 8 where they raised thirteen children.

In the winter Mr. Cunningham walked on the river ice to Waldemar, stayed overnight at a half way house and trudged home next day laden with groceries and gun powder which kept the wolves at a distance as they have a very keen sense of smell. Mrs. Cunningham was lost once

picking berries and waited until almost sunset to get her direction to get home. She used to do the weaving and making of the children's clothes.

The two oldest sons of John and Susan Cunningham were Steve and P.J. (Joe) who started farming on lot 29, Con. 10. Steve and his wife Maria farmed on different farms in the Tarbert area for many years. One of their daughters, Myrtle, married John McPherson and lived on con. 7. (See page 16).

P.J. Cunningham remained on the farm on con. 10. Miss Wark was the teacher at S.S. No. 5, which was a log building on the George Johnston farm (where Joe Oosterhoff now lives). P.J. was a trustee and secretary for many years. He felt that penmanship and command of the English language were important for a teacher to teach well. This Miss Wark was able to do! She and her brother who taught at S.S. No. 1 about 1896 attended Durham Model School. P.J. Cunningham later married Miss Wark who died young leaving five young children. He later remarried.

P.J. Cunningham was interested in politics and acted as the township's first school attendance officer as well as assessor and reeve. He was once nominated for a seat in Parliament but declined because of his small family who had no mother and he wouldn't be able to do the job for his country as he would like to do. Great was the disappointment of the audience at the nomination meeting!

Two other sons of John Cunningham farmed in the Colbeck area. John Jr. lived on lot 28, con. 10 and raised one daughter Mae (Mrs. Blackwell) who lived in Detroit for many years but is now retired in Riverview, Melancthon township.

Jim married Annie Bremner and lived on Lot 27, con. 8 where Jacques Deckers now resides. Here their only child, Elgin farmed until retirement to Orangeville a few years ago. Jim and Elgin enjoyed playing the violin. Jim assisted with the Tarbert beef ring as butcher for a time. Elgin married Hazel Richardson and had two daughters, Ruth who married Gerald Clayton, presently living in Acton and Dorothy, a secretary in Toronto. Mr. and Mrs. Jim Cunningham spent their declining years in Grand Valley.

These four brothers Steve, P.J., Jim and John used their talents and skills for the benefit of this part of the township. They were among the pioneers who cut down trees in the winter and in the spring floated the logs (tied together like rafts) down the river to the mill. Stories they told of their hardships were appalling! One neighbour walking homeward with his pack on his back saw a pack of wolves surrounding him circling closer and closer and decided to have his last smoke. Seeing the flame from his match starry-eyed and scared the wolves scurried into the safety of the nearby forest!

Their sister, Essie, who married William Mutrie, druggist, lived in Grand Valley most of her married life.

The others scattered to different areas of Ontario.

William Hamilton Family

William Hamilton married Elizabeth Jane Gamble (a sister of Mrs. Henry Berry's). She had married John Montgomery in 1878 but he had died two years later.

William and Jennie lived at lot 25, con. 1, East Luther until 1919 when they moved to the Monticello area, lot 22, con. 12. Their family consisted of Bertha, Jim, Joe, Arnold, Adeline (Mrs. Chas. Lewis), Leslie and Reby (Mrs. Albert Riddolls). Leslie and his wife Eileen Plester remained on the farm until they retired to Shelburne, when their daughter Linda and her husband, David Thompson, operated the farm for a few years. The other daughter, Lois, married Robert Boyle and lived at Colbeck until 1980. Leslie passed away in July, 1982.

The Kings in East Luther

Richard King (Pop King) was born in 1796 and died in 1874. He came to Canada from Chidenstone, England in 1812 with his wife and some small children. His farm in East Garafraxa was bush when he came here to settle.

Their family included John (married to Mary Syrett), William (married to Charlotte Woolner), Robert (married to Liza Skippen), Richard (married to Anne Wooley), James, Henry (married to Hanna Stewart), Mrs. Wheeler, Mrs. Hill, Mrs. Little, Mrs. Henry Stewart, Mrs. Francis Gray, Mrs. Cooper.

John King settled on the farm owned by Jim Burke, lot 31, con. 1 where Dwight Burke now lives. They also owned the farm north of the Burke farm where Alvin Taylor used to be. This farm was rented by John King's nephew Ansley King who married Jean McDougall (sister of Mrs. George Patton's). They had one son, Carman. In the early 1900's they moved to the High River district of Alberta where Carman and his family still farm.

John and Mary had three sons and four daughters namely James, William, Edward, Hannah (Mrs. Robert Taylor), Bertha (Mrs. William Thomson), Annie (Mrs. Stewart McDonald) and Orpha (Mrs. Thomas Taylor). Hannah's family story is related on Page 44. Bertha lived on Highway 9, lot 28, con. 1 where she and her husband were engaged in a mixed farming operation. They had one daughter, Eunice, a teacher who married Earl Moore, Orton and later Guy Wilson, Norval, Ont. They were faithful workers in the Disciples' Church, Grand Valley where Mr. Thomson served as elder for many years and his wife and daughter were organists. As Mr. and Mrs. Thomson grew older they sold the farm to Dorwin Howes and retired on Amaranth Street, Grand Valley. Mr. and Mrs. John King and son William (mail man on R.R. No. 3, in the horse and buggy days) spent their reclining years on Gier Street in the home now owned by Oran Grundy.

Richard King, son of William King and Charlotte Woolner lived north of Grand Valley where the subdivision is now. His wife was Nellie East.

Robert King, a younger son of Richard King (Pop) farmed the home farm in East Garafraxa. Later he moved to Luther near Grand Valley and finally into a house on Bielby Street. He was killed April 1, 1909 while working in the bush in East Garafraxa. His wife died the following day as a result of the shock. A double funeral was held on April 4, 1909 in the Methodist Church in Grand Valley as the Disciples' church to which they belonged was not large enough for the mourning relatives and friends. W.G. Stoddart was the funeral director at that time.



Robert and Liza King and children, Richard, Noah, Edmund and Mercy.

Edmund, one of Robert King's sons farmed in East Luther just south of the Luther Marsh (lot 20, con. 3). He married Sarah McNevin, a sister of Mrs. James Rodgers (Page 141). Edmund's brother, Richard, married a Miss Waters in 1895 and lived near Edmund for two years. Both of these families moved to Saskatchewan.

Henry King married Hannah Stewart, a sister of Mrs. Robert Tovell's (Page 144) and lived on lot 32, con. 3 where they raised two daughters, Martha and Belle (Mrs. Wm. Freeman). They spent their reclining years in Orangeville where they raised their niece, Nellie Tovell. A brother of Mrs. Henry King's and Mrs. Tovell's, Henry Stewart, married Hannah King.

A younger son of Richard King (Pop), *Noah*, married Nancy Wilson and lived in Grand Valley where he worked in a store. (I am indebted to their granddaughter, Mrs. Dorothy Smith of East Garafraxa, daughter of Robert King, Guelph for the information about the King family). Mr. and Mrs. Noah King spent their reclining years in a cottage at the south end of Concession 14, East Garafraxa.

Mary Jane King married a Wheeler and lived at South Luther. Descendants of theirs were Ronald, Lorraine, Mervin and Paul. Mervin married Velda Townsend and lived on the home farm until retirement to Arthur a few years ago. Lorraine married Malcolm Brown and lives in East Garafraxa.

Other daughters of "Pop" King married a Cooper, a Little and Francis Gray. Little is known about the descendants of these ladies.

McDougall Family

John McDougall was born in Aaron, Scotland and immigrated to Ontario in the 1800's. His son, Hugh, was born in Erin township, one of six boys and one girl. She was the first white child born in Erin township. Hugh was married to Catharine McArthur and they moved to East Luther and bought lot 31, con. 6 from the crown. This farm was later known as the Eli Newson farm. They were among the first settlers along with the McMurchies and McLellands. They raised four girls and three boys but their first two children died in infancy with diphtheria and were buried close to their log house. That was the beginning of the McDougall cemetery.

In 1896 the family, with the exception of Edward moved to North Carolina and worked with surveyors for a few years. They returned and helped the surveyors here. In 1898 they moved to Hartney, Manitoba.

In 1884 Edward married Sarah Blair and they bought lot 26, con. 9, East Luther from the crown and helped clear the bush. Money was scarce so Edward with his wife and daughters, Pearl and Ethel, moved to Milton where he worked on the railroad for some time, (Hector was born in Milton). They moved back to the farm until the urge to move West set in.

The West was opening up so he rented his East Luther farm to Tom Galbraith for three years. They took a C.P.R. Colony car which carried both passengers and farm equipment and they moved in 1898 to Hartney, Man. where the grandparents had moved previously. They had two horses and their household affects along with Mr. McDougall, Ethel, Hector, Arthur and Beatrice. Mrs. McDougall was not well and not able to travel. Wilfred was a baby and Pearl was left behind to help care for Herb and Wilfred until their mother was able to travel. It was about six months later the family was reunited.

Times were hard and the weather was so bad that the children did not have much chance for an education so three years later (1901) the family returned to Grand Valley. There was still no money for all to come by train so Pearl, now 16, was sent by train with Art, Herb, Beatrice



Mr. and Mrs. Edward McDougall and family. Top, Ethel, Pearl (Mrs. Storey), Hector, Beatrice. Bottom, Arthur and Herbert. Wilfred and Hugh were born after this picture was taken.

and Wilfred. They were to be met in Grand Valley by the Blair grandparents. In Chicago the authorities would not let them travel through until they wired ahead to be sure they were not running away. This made them a day late arriving by train in Grand Valley.

Grandpa (Edward) covered a democrat to make it into a covered wagon. In it they could sleep and eat. It was pulled by the same horses he had taken out on the train. They also had a top buggy with a single horse, a saddle horse with a colt at foot. There were few roads or trails and no maps so they read their route by the stars. They stopped often along the way to rest themselves and their horses. Edward worked an odd day for farmers along the way. As they crossed the U.S.A. they were referred to as Indians in some states and Gypsies in others. They crossed Lake Michigan on a ferry on a very stormy night and one of the thrills of Hector's life was when the Captain took him down to the hold and showed him how the ferry was steered. Hector was twelve years old. They were six weeks and five days on the road and were happy to have their home to return to with the family once more reunited. Even the horses were happy to walk into the stalls, without guidance, where they had stood a few years before. At four years of age Hugh died in 1908 from the after effects of scarlet fever.

Edward McDougall was one of the first subscribers to the East Luther Telephone Co. and helped to build the line. He also had one of the first drilled wells with a windmill and water on tap in the kitchen. He and Fred Brown helped to plan a beef ring with the slaughter house at James McGills to provide fresh beef in summer for neighborhood farmers.

Hector, Arthur and Herb farmed in East Luther for a number of years, Herb becoming Postmaster in Grand Valley later. Arthur moved to West Luther where he and his wife engaged in poultry raising and hatching baby chicks for sale. (I am indebted to their oldest daughter, Ruth, (Mrs. Lawrence Densmore) for the above information. Wilfrid, the only member of the Edward McDougall family still living, continues to live on the ancestral farm with his son, Edward.

The McKinley Family

submitted by Gertrude (McKinley) Gullacher

Thomas McKinley married Jane Black on December 22, 1840 in Antrim County, Ireland. They came to Canada after their first son, James, was born in 1841, to Cobourg, Ontario but moved in 1862 to lot 22, con. 9, East Luther, where they later died. Their family was—James who married Anna Freda Honeyford of Brantford. They had one daughter, Edith, who never married; John who married Ann McArthur of Orangeville. They had one daughter, Mary Ann, married Richard Switzer of Monticello and had no children; Mary Margaret, married Holden Colbeck. She died in 1887 leaving two sons Kirk and Tommy; Sarah Jane married her brother-in-law, Holden Colbeck. Their family consisted of two sons and two daughters—Joseph, Edward, Margaret and Lena;

William was born at Cobourg, December 21, 1849. At the early age of 14 years he came with his parents to East Luther and settled on lot 22, con. 9. After studying book-keeping in Toronto, he married Martha West of Brantford. He took a crown deed to lot 21, con. 9 where they built their first house on the site of the present Luther Dam—the original apple trees can still be seen while driving into the picnic area there. While a resident of East Luther he served the municipality as councillor and reeve. His wife known as Emma died in 1900. Their family was Birdie (Mrs. Art Barber, Innisfree, Alta.), Essie (Mrs. John Holborn, Monticello), Ethel (Mrs. Sam Brown, Harris, Sask.), Gertrude (Mrs. Platt), William, Thomas and Pearl (Mrs. Victor Caveneget, U.S.A.).

William McKinley senior remarried to a spinster named Baxendale and moved to Grand Valley in 1911. They adopted a daughter called Viola. After moving to Grand Valley he conducted a fine insurance business. He took over the duties of Secretary of the East Luther Telephone Co., a position he held at the time of his death. He also held the offices of treasurer of the village and librarian at Carnegie library. He was an ardent churchman, associated with the Methodist church for years, a member of Royal Oak L.O.L. No. 256 and Royal Black Preceptory No. 712.

The farm at lot 21, con. 9, remained in the McKinley name until it was bought in 1946 by his granddaughter,



Mr. and Mrs. William McKinley.

Gertrude (William John's daughter) and her husband, Curtis Gullacher after their return from overseas following W.W. 2. They moved to the Monticello area from Melita, Manitoba. The Gullachers farmed on this farm from 1946 until 1964. In 1951 they traded the south half of lot 21 to the Grand River Conservation Commission for the construction of the Luther Dam. The Gullachers accepted the N 1/2 lot 20 and N 1/4 lot 19 in return. However, in October 1964, the G.R.C.A insisted on buying the land adjacent to the lake and they moved to Grand Valley. Their family was all born while they lived on the farm and attended S.S. No. 11—David who married Paula Bailey of Grand Valley. Their three children are Liane, Kimberly and David; Robert who married Patricia Young of Grand Valley and has two children Tamara, and Conrad; Petra who married Wm. H. McLaren (Larry) Hunter of "The Maples" and reside in Grand Valley. Their children are Aaron and Megan.

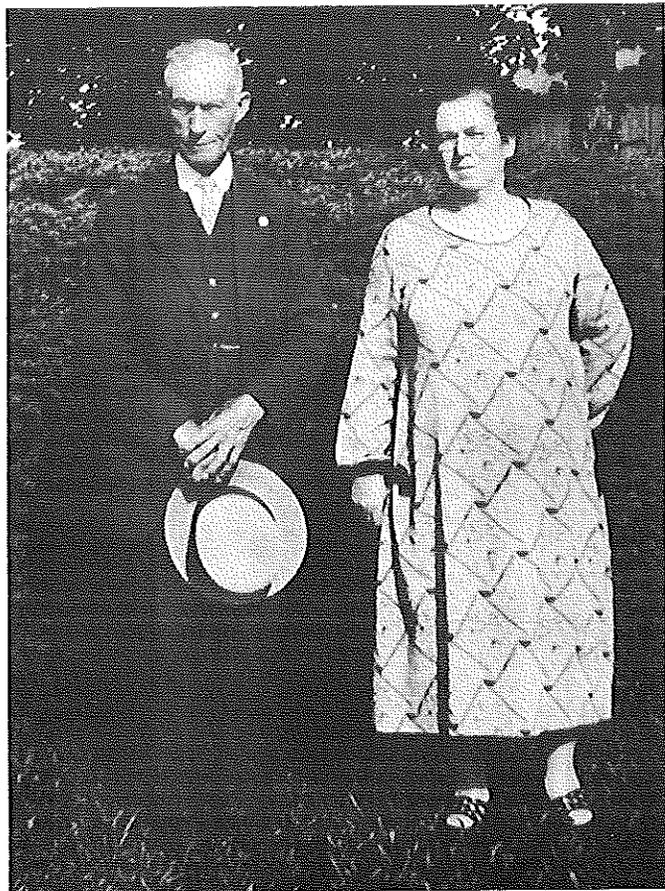
Gertrude (McKinley) Gullacher was a registered nurse at Dufferin Area Hospital retiring in 1974 while head nurse on the Surgical floor.

Curtis Gullacher served for two years 1959-1961 as township policeman and after retiring from farming raised standard bred horses as a hobby.

The McWhirter Family

In 1867 Andrew McWhirter and his wife, the former Elizabeth Rowan with their two children, Gilbert, aged 2, and Elizabeth, 6 months, left their home in Girvan, in Ayrshire, Scotland to establish a new home in Canada. During the next two decades they lived in Wellington County where four more daughters and three sons were born.

In 1900 Gilbert married Jean Hay who was born at



Mr. and Mrs. G.R. McWhirter.

Alma. At the age of two, her mother died and she was raised by her Grandmother Smith and her uncle David Smith. Gilbert bought the farm—lot 25, con. 13—which remained the family home for many years. Eventually the three brothers went to Western Canada and the sisters married and scattered through Ontario. "Bessie" married Rev. George Milne; Agnes, Royal MacDonald; Margaret, David Smith who thereby became Mrs. McWhirter's brother-in-law as well as her uncle; Sarah, Wm. T. Hills and Mary, James Hooker. The latter two remained in East Luther. Mr. and Mrs. Andrew McWhirter lived with Gilbert and his wife until their deaths in 1915 and 1928 respectively.

Gilbert McWhirter was an avid reader and despite limited formal education was very interested in teaching methods and school administration. At one time he was president of the Ontario Trustees' Association and spent many hours studying the educational systems in different areas. He was the local 'dentist'. No doubt there are adults today who can remember having an aching tooth extracted while his or her father held the head that harboured the painful tooth. A staunch Presbyterian, he was a member of the Session and Sunday School Superintendent for many years in Gandier Church, Keldon. With Church union in 1925 he reluctantly bowed to the wishes of the majority and became a member of the United Church of Canada.

The farm became known in the area for the beautiful spruce hedges which he planted and maintained around the house and in the area between the house and the road. These hedges were home to many species of birds, among them a pair of brown thrushes which nested and raised a family there for many years. The month of June each year found him sickle in hand, (no electric clippers in those days) trimming the hedges and the spruce trees which grew on each side of the lane. In 1919 he bought his first car—a Ford—and with some difficulty learned to drive it. A family joke stated that in the process of learning he hit every tree in the lane at one time or another.



The farm house of Mr. and Mrs. McWhirter taken from sideroad twenty-four.

The family consisted of two boys and two girls—Elizabeth, who taught for some years at S.S. No. 10, E.L. and later married William Lane and lived her latter years in Hamilton where she died in 1944 leaving a young family of two girls and two boys; Gordon who took over the farm in 1932 but was the "farmer" from 1918 when at the age of fifteen he was forced to assume responsibility for the greater part of the work. In that year Mr. McWhirter, who was never a robust man was injured trying to stop the runaway team which resulted in the death of the second son, Douglas, and was never again able to do heavy work. In 1932 Gordon married Jean Farnell of Ripley, who had taught at S.S. No. 10. They lived on the farm until 1944

when the barn burned with the year's crop of hay and grain as well as livestock. The family eventually moved to Gormley, where they still live. Their two sons are married—Douglas a professional engineer with I.B.M. and Barry who is in charge of the Ratcliff Construction contracts; Agnes, a teacher, taught first at Greenwood, then at S.S. No. 1, E.L. In 1932 she married Barrie Dales and later they owned the Keldon store for 31 years, retiring to Shelburne where they now live. They have two sons—Barrie, who lives at Unionville and is with I.B.M. and Jim who lives in Edmonton. The only daughter, Betty married Ivan Gilkes and lives in Brampton. The Dales have four granddaughters and two grandsons.

When Mr. and Mrs. Gordon McWhirter took over the farm in 1932, Gordon's parents moved to Keldon store and lived with Miss Elizabeth Hay, Mrs. McWhirter's sister. Mr. McWhirter died there in 1939. The Dales bought the store in 1942 and Mrs. McWhirter lived with them until her death in 1962.

James H. Platt

James H. Platt and his wife Elizabeth (Lizzie) Campbell (picture page 12) lived on lot 23, con. 3. Jim was supposed to be one of the best threshers in the country with his horse-drawn machine—a Sawyer-Massey. He had two helpers to take care of the grain and machine. As the sheaves were forked by hand from the mow a man stood beside the feeder and cut the strings on the sheaves. Another carried the boxes of grain to the granary and others forked the straw away from the back of the machine.

In late August threshing began and often lasted until New Years. Wheels turned at seven in the morning and finished at six or occasionally at seven in order to complete a job. An hour was taken off for the noon meal. Coffee breaks were unheard of!

Jim threshed for his neighbour, Henry Berry for thirty years. On one occasion young John tried blowing the whistle on the machine. The horses jumped but the machine was so heavy they didn't get far before they were stopped. John disappeared! Blower machines came in and the old machine was sacrificed. Jim charged one dollar per hour up until 1910 to pay his men and run the machine.

Mr. and Mrs. Platt had no children but lovingly cared for a niece Martha Platt (Mrs. Berry now living in Grand Valley) and a nephew, Milford Platt who presently lives in Shelburne.

Wilbert Townsend (1892-1938)

Wilbert, second son of Elijah Townsend, married Margaret Colbeck in 1917 and continued farming on his



Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Townsend and family. Standing, Ida (Mrs. Ernest Hayes) and Norman. Below, Wilbert, Edna (Mrs. James Colbeck) and Alden, (William missing).

father's farm lot 19, con. 9, until his death in 1938 with the exception of a three year period spent in Welland. Wilbert's family consisted of Edith (Mrs. Stacey Robinson), Arden, Ray, Gordon and Jean (Mrs. M. Uzumeri).



The farm home of the Townsends Lot 19, Con. 9 taken in 1948.

The farm was worked by Wilbert's family following his death mainly by Arden and then Gordon until it was sold to the Grand River Conservation Authority in 1951.

Edith and Stacey Robinson farmed on the ninth line where Ignaz Good now lives for a number of years and then moved to another farm at Elora.

Arden and his wife, Vera, now live in Huntsville where Arden keeps busy as a carpenter and builder.

Ray went to Grand Valley Continuation School, enlisted in the army and saw action in Holland and Germany with the Royal Regiment of Canada. Graduating from the University of New Brunswick in Forestry Engineering in 1949 he is now Operations Superintendent for the Algon-



The youngest sons of Elijah Townsend, Alden and William.



The home of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Potter for eight years on Con. 7, East Luther. In this picture are their three oldest daughters. Left to right, Verna (Mrs. Maurice Campbell), Elva, (Mrs. Clifford Woods and Gladys (Mrs. Clarence King). Five more daughters

were born to this union, Doris (Mrs. George Irvine), Ruth (Mrs. Jack Duncan), Lella (Mrs. Wm. Young), Mary (Mrs. Alex Brown and Shirley (Mrs. R. Lostracco).

A First for East Luther

A first for East Luther—Mrs. Clarence Edwards (Phyllis Randall) was the first woman to attend Centennial College and graduate as a Class A. mechanic

A Last for East Luther

Joel Edwards, youngest son of Clarence and Phyllis Edwards on Sept. 27, 1963 was the last baby to be born at home in the township. Mrs. Curtis Gullacher, R.N. the only attendant, delivered this child at lot 32, con. 10, her first since she moved to Ontario.

Sawmill (see page 33)

A family by the name of Haycock first owned the sawmill on the James farm on con. 9. Their son was scalded to death when the mill exploded.

Buchanan's House

Bricks (not lumber—P. 122) for the Buchanan's house were brought from Milton costing six dollars per thousand.

Dressmaking (P. 141)

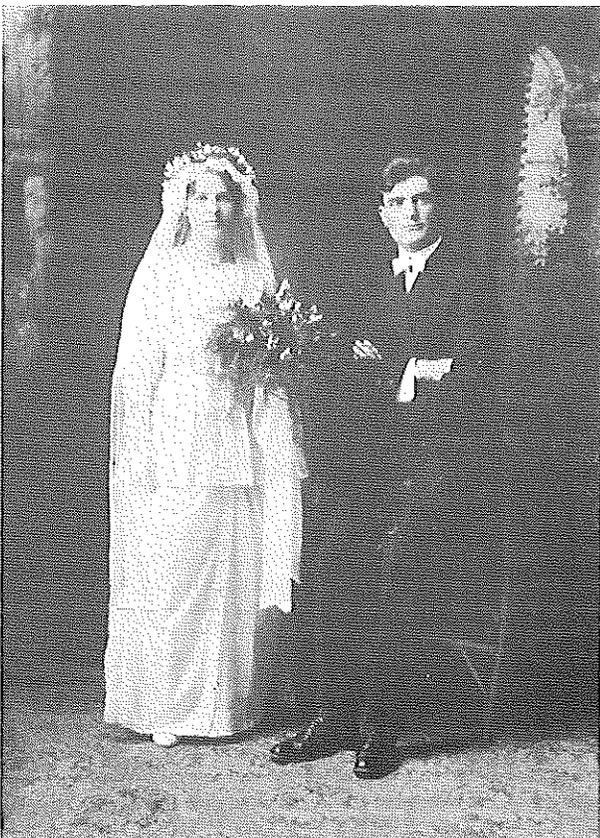
From 1900-1902 Mrs. William Tait's dressmaking shop was above the old post office on Main Street, Grand Valley with Lizzie Gulley and her sister assisting.

Wedding Date ??? (P. 31)

James Mournahan and Alice Bryan were married in 1961.

Rainey History continued from P. 138

Laura married Hugh Edwards and raised three daughters on this farm—Cathy, Yvonne and Ivy.



(Page 137) Wedding picture of Stanley Potter and Ella Townsend, June 24, 1914.

quin Forestry Authority in Algonquin Park. Ray married Leone Waugh in Fredericton, N.B. and they have five children.

Gordon and his wife Audrey Kerr live on Highway 89 in Proton township just west of Keldon. Because of poor health Gordon is unable to do much farming but his pioneer instincts do surface as he putters around with his little sawmill. Gordon's family consists of two girls and three boys who are active workers at Keldon church.

Jean helped at home during the years she attended Grand Valley Continuation School and afterwards became a Registered Nurse. Living in Toronto now she is a Public Health Nurse for the City of Toronto. Jean and Mike have two children, Yakur and Leyla.

People Helping People

Kennedy Construction Company

Robert Kennedy, son of William Kennedy and the former Mida Hamilton was raised on lot 30, con. 6, East Luther. The house was on the east side of the county road (now Highway 25) with the barn on the farm on the west side. Although the house still stands a new house was built by Wilfred West nearer the barn.



In William Kennedy's gravel pit, Joe Ritchie's Sawyer-Massey operating the crusher. William and George McCulloch loading stones to be crushed.

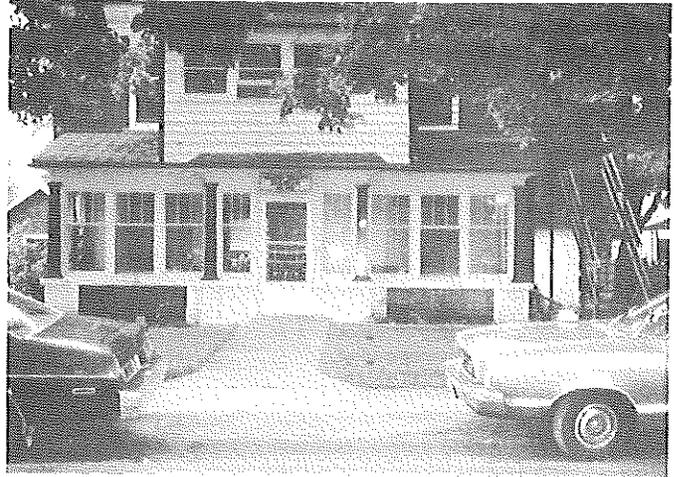
Behind the barn was a gravel pit. Here Robert at a very early age started in the gravel business as his father's helper to haul gravel with team and wagon.

In 1946 Robert bought the Grand Valley Transport from William Rushton and thus began his trucking business. This was sold about 1955 to William Gilks.

Expanding to trucks in aggregates he now operates and employs eight to ten men. Kennedy Construction Company has worked in many parts of Ontario with its home base on Amaranth Street, Grand Valley, where Robert lives. He married Patricia Annis, con. 4, East Luther, and they have two daughters—Betty Anne (Mrs. Karl Fendert) and Mary Ellen (Mrs. Larry Webber) and five grandchildren.

Grand Valley Manor

Grand Valley Nursing Home was opened on January 1, 1966 by Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Walker. It was sold to Cedar Incorporated in 1975 and was operated by Mr. Dakin as administrator until 1979 when the license was sold to a company in Guelph. In December of that year the building was sold to Mrs. Jean Anita Fray, a black



Grand Valley Manor In 1982.

Canadian Registered Nurse who opened it in February, 1980 as a private home for the aged. It was named Grand Valley Manor.

Bits and Pieces

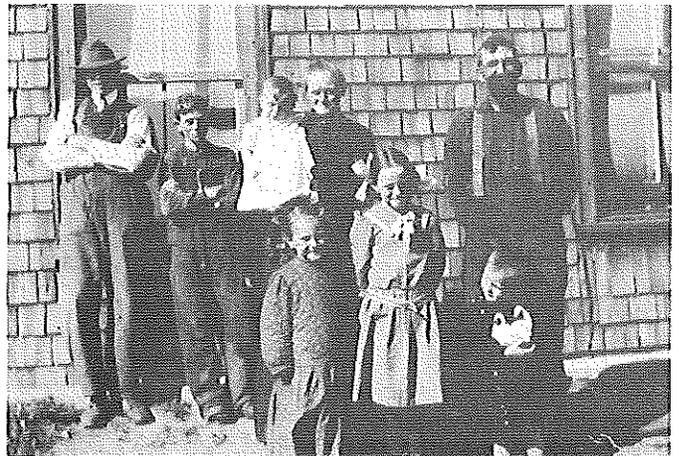
Grand Valley's Bank Robbery

Five armed bandits having stolen Toronto Mayor Robert Saunders' limousine attempted to rob the Royal Bank, Grand Valley but failed to open the vault, May 19, 1947.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kennedy living over the bank were tied and gagged by the thugs but when they proceeded downstairs to investigate the Kennedys managed to escape and give the alarm. Mrs. Ivan Bruce was the switch board operator and phoned in the alarm. Mr. Roy Kennedy was the village constable at that time.

Keldon Curling Club

The Thistle Curling Club of Hamilton generously donated eight pairs of beautiful granite rocks to the Keldon Club. Members of this club in 1935 included: Wm. Edward and Gordon Anderson, G.R. McWhirter, Ray and George Luxton, Alex and Earl McFarlane, James and Deloss Hooker, James Kelly, M. Mulhall, Harold White, Edward Archibald, L. Boyle, Walter Mournahan, Ernest Gilkes, Gordon Coutts, E. Brayford, Bert Ferrier, Thomas Davison with Gordon Brayford joining the ranks later.



Mr. and Mrs. Henry Berry and family. Left to right, top, John, Joe, Tom. Below, Agnes (Mrs. Orville Scarrow), Florence (Mrs. Phillips) and William.

Canadian Girls in Training

Monticello C.G.I.T. was organized in 1952, the program being suitable for girls 12-17 years of age under the leadership of Mrs. Howard Hillis. Lois McPherson was chosen from Tarbert United Church to assist in the Leadership. They called themselves "The Luther Lovelies" and are still proud to be referred to as such.

C.G.I.T. has many highlights, of which this poem will tell the story.

C.G.I.T. means a game to play,
Laughter shared in a happy way;
C.G.I.T. means a song to sing . . .
A glad young song, with a lilt and swing,
Pride in the proper leader's heart,
C.G.I.T. means worship too,
Kneeling down in the soul of you.
C.G.I.T. means camping fun,
Ten grand days of rain and sun.
Everything for a girl's delight
From morning watch till the last good-night.
C.G.I.T. means a task to do,
Seeing responsibilities through;
C.G.I.T. means having a friend
The kind that is yours to the very end,
Who'll walk with you and hold your hand,
And laugh, and love, and understand.
With service and laughter and love for all,
And a heart obedient to God's call.

Orange Lodge

As the Grand Valley Orange Lodge celebrated its Centennial quietly in 1981 it might be interesting to note the number of East Luther residents who have served as Past Masters.

1881-1900: John Hayes, Fred Aleven, Sam Graydon, W.E. McCulloch, Hugh Cameron, Wm. Rainey, J.A.V. Preston, L.D. Crewson, W.M. Watt, Stewart Tate.

1901-31: Wm. McLelland, Samuel Platt, J.W. Graydon, George Hunt, James Platt, G.M. Lawson, Rev. C. Poole, W.A. Simpson, Thos. Watson, Rev. J. Truax, Herbert Reburn, John O. McPherson, J. McLelland, Wm. Gamble, J.I. Buchanan, John McBride, William Crane, Robert Watt, Dr. McLelland, Guy Atkinson, E.H. Lindsay, George Maxwell, Henry Hall, Oliver Graham.

1932-1982: W.J. Watt, W.G. Kennedy, William McCulloch, John McBride, Harry Crane, Charles Benham, John White, Rev. W. McCleary, Carman E. Jelly, Wilfred West, Royce Reilly, Clifford Gillespie, C.R. Bryan, Clarence Lawson, Gordon Winters, Gib Reilly, George Davis, Mervyn West, Alex Brown, Osborne Foreman, Earl Erskine, Ralph West, John E. Berry.

A Pioneer Home Being Restored

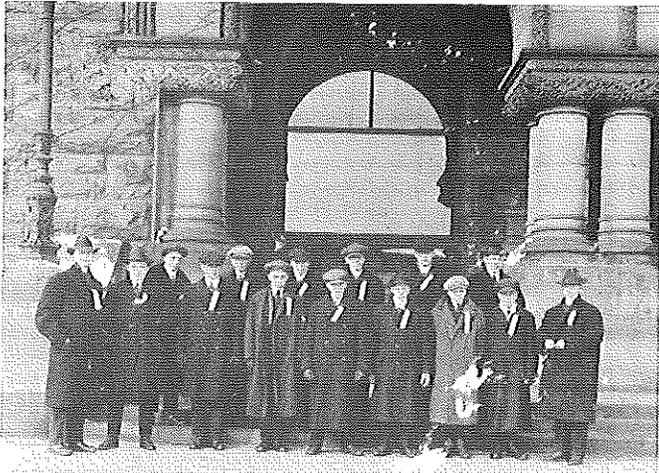
The log house built by James Mournahan shortly after 1865 on the N 1/2 lot 28, con. 11 is being restored this summer (1982) by the present owner of this farm, Maurice Bruce and his son Gary. George and Watt Mournahan were the last occupants of this house.

The River

There is a little river, a running through our land,
Folks must have thought it pretty, cause they first
called it the Grand.
'Tis in Melancthon Township, this river starts to
flow
And onward to an outlet, a hundred miles below.
This river's flowing southward, a good full speed
ahead
But what it has created, is the Grand River water-
shed.
We feel the Great Creator, had his plan a-working
too
To cut a path called Elora Gorge, for waters to
pass through.
I am a plain old farmer, as I walk o'er field and
plain,
I seldom see a piece of land, where man can't find
a drain.
The waters from the farmer's field, into the creek
they go,
And then to river, into lake, increasing as they go.
When our country was first settled, towns were
built along the stream
To harness water power, a mill pond was his
dream.
They milled lumber, they milled flour, and some-
times plain oatmeal,
The whole country was dependent, on that big old
water wheel.
When the water was all frozen, the river was a
road,
When country roads were filled with snow, the
farmers hauled their loads.

They hauled the logs they had to sell, out through
the banks of snow,
And placed them on the river's ice, to be flooded
down below.
In springtime when the ice would break, the logs
would float down stream,
To be gathered in a big mill pond, would be a
logger's dream.
Then with the break-up coming soon, spring
flooding was a fear,
But when the ice had all passed through, we knew
that Summer's near.
The countryside is turning green, the river's slow-
ing down,
And little boys go fishing from every street in
town.
We drive along the water's edge, there is boating
everywhere,
I like the smell of water, when the fields are turn-
ing bare.
There is a sense of real refreshment, when the
balmy sea winds blow,
'Tis a little bit of Heaven, to us poor folks here
below.
But the river has its own free style, of winding
through the land,
The water has its special sound, as it rattles o'er
the sand.
In Fall some of its tree lined shores, shed red
leaves o'er the land,
I think the river was well named, when they first
called it "The Grand".

Gordon Winters,
December, 1981



First Ontario Junior Farmers, January, 1918 at the Parliament Buildings, Toronto. Left to right, two unknown, Bill Bourn, Clifford Hawes, Chester Park, Ernest Richardson, Ross West, Willfred Willmott, ----- Duffy, Edward Colley, John Berry, Clifford Dales, Willfred West and two executives from the Department of Agriculture.

Another Omission

One of the Blair family was omitted from the family history on Page 116. This was Jane Elizabeth (Jennie) who married Dan Barbaree and lived on lot 27, con. 13 south of Keldon church where they worshipped faithfully. Their barn and house are the only buildings remaining between Elmer Shortt's and the church. They had two daughters—Jessie, who became a teacher using her talents for the benefit of many children in Guelph and Myrtle who remained at home to assist on the farm. Both are retired and living in Guelph now.



(Page 148) The Family of Thomas Woods. Standing, Rosetta (Mrs. Earl Eveleigh), Joseph Woods and Rachel (Mrs. Jackson). Front, Mr. Thos. Woods, Mary (Mrs. Sam Irvine), Edith (Mrs. Robert Irvine) and Mrs. Thos. Woods.

School Additions

Names of three children in lower picture of S.S. No. 6 in bottom row—Morris Looby, Barrie Fuller and Reginald Small.

Other secretary-treasurers besides Mrs. John Dickson at S.S. No. 11 were Earl Deaken and Alex Buchanan.

Sauerkraut!

In the 1880's Charles Buchanan made sauerkraut from their own cabbage.

Error and Addition re Picture on P. 8 of Threshing

The picture was taken at Albert Reilly's about 1914. Some of those in the picture are—top left—George and Ross Reilly (in white shirt). Below—Elva, holding Mildred, Ella Horsley, Mrs. Albert Reilly with Stella in front, Lucy with hands up to her face, Gertie and Hazel, William and Albert Reilly behind the dog, James Rainey at extreme right as well as other men in the neighbourhood.

A Major Change in East Luther

During 1981 and 1982 a company called Zentra Investments, Toronto, reported to be foreign controlled has bought 1,400 acres of East Luther farm land. They have cleared much of this land of fences, trees, houses and barns and have tile drained many acres. This year Murray Smeltzer of Rockwood has sown grain and corn on several farms and more soil is being prepared for fall wheat. Township residents view these changes with mixed feelings. What will the future bring?



Tom Berry's Clydesdale team 1946. Tom and John Berry fencing, Bob Lougheed on horseback.



(Page 149) Left to right, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Winters, Thomas and Mabel Woods (formerly Winters) and Mrs. Joseph Woods.



