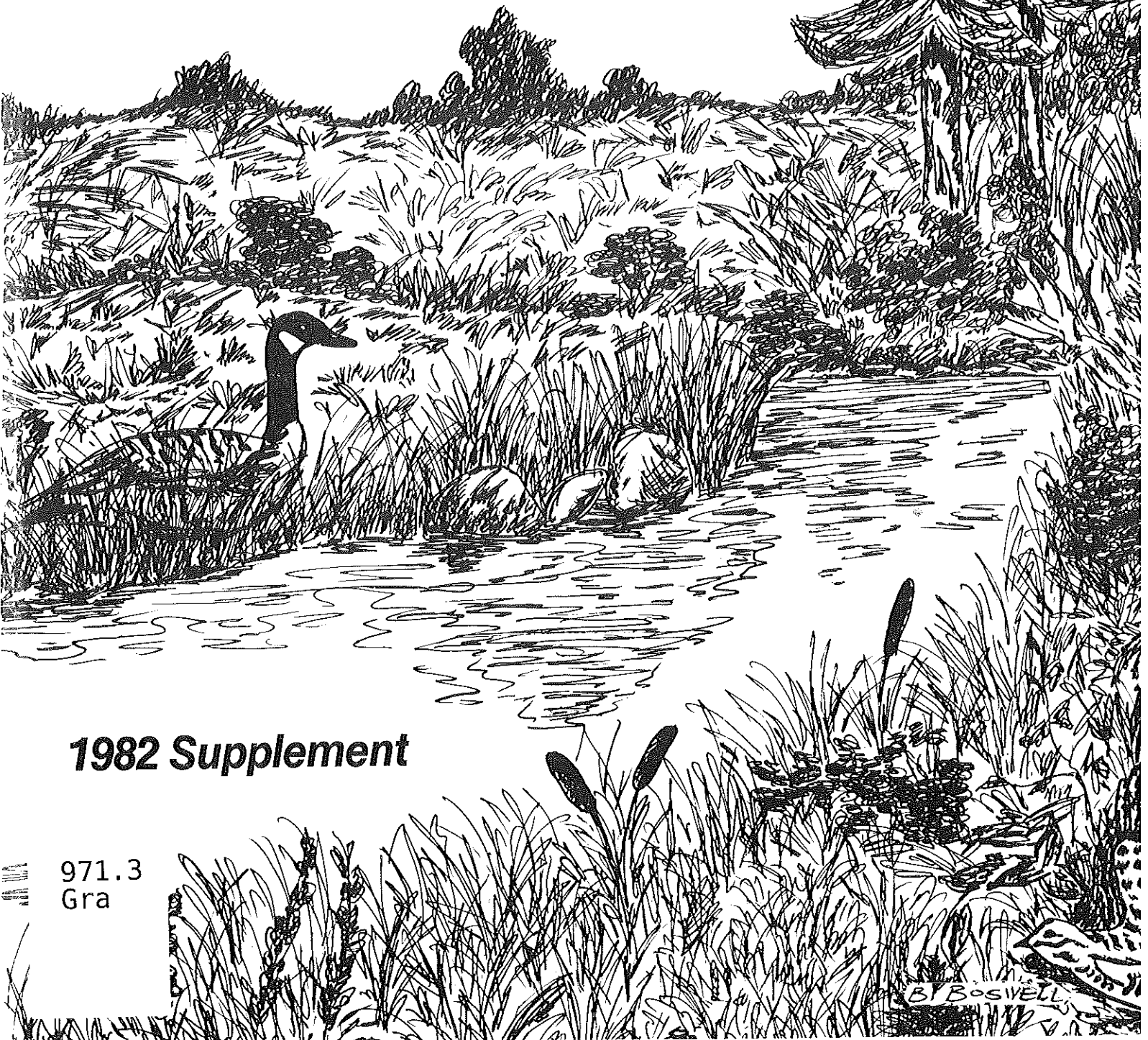


ONE HUNDRED YEARS ALONG THE UPPER GRAND 1881—1981

A History of East Luther Township
by Esther Graham



1982 Supplement

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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,

Marlan 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—Phillip 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, Nicholaus; 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 Wiltmer 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.

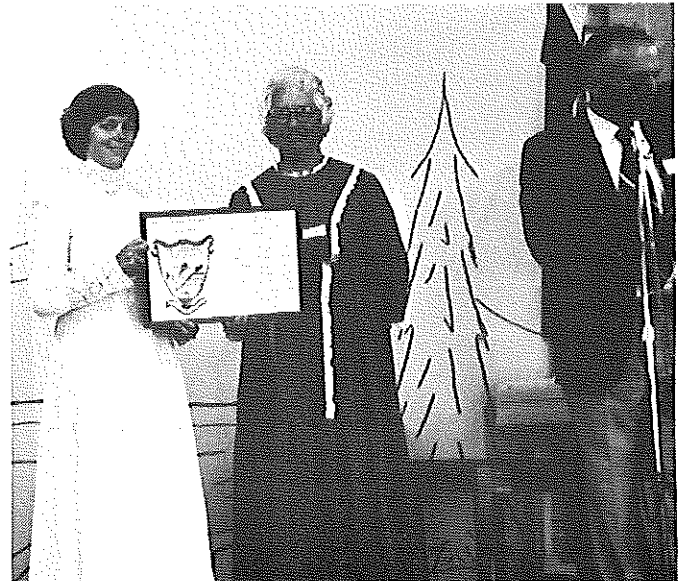
The high spot of the year, however, was the Township picnic on the 15th of August. Despite the showery weather, and because the Centennial Committee had the foresight to erect a big tent for the occasion, this was a great success. The festivities got under way at 2:00 p.m. with a welcome from the Reeve, 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 commentated 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. Plet 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, interning 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 Hiltz, 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

Lavery (Mrs. Joe Colbeck), Edna Townsend (Mrs. James Colbeck), Evelyn Colbeck (the child), Sarah Jane McKinley (Mrs. Holden Colbeck), Marjory Colbeck, Marion Hiltz (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 (Alle), 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 Woollner), 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 Woollner 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. Eward 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 neighbourhood 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.

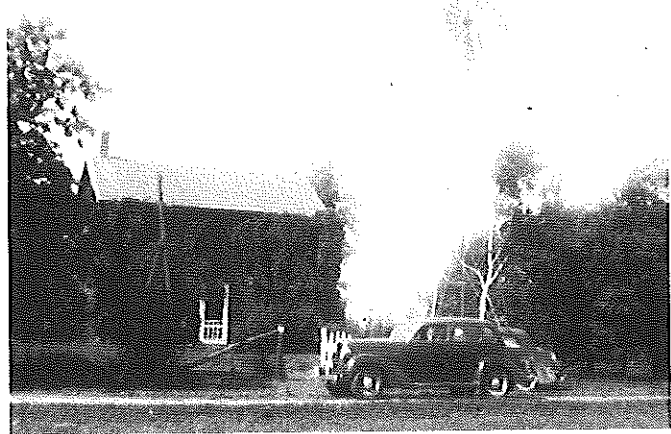
Wilbert Townsend (1892-1938)

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.

quin Forestry Authority in Algonquin Park. Ray married Leone Waugh in Fredericton, N.B. and they have five children.

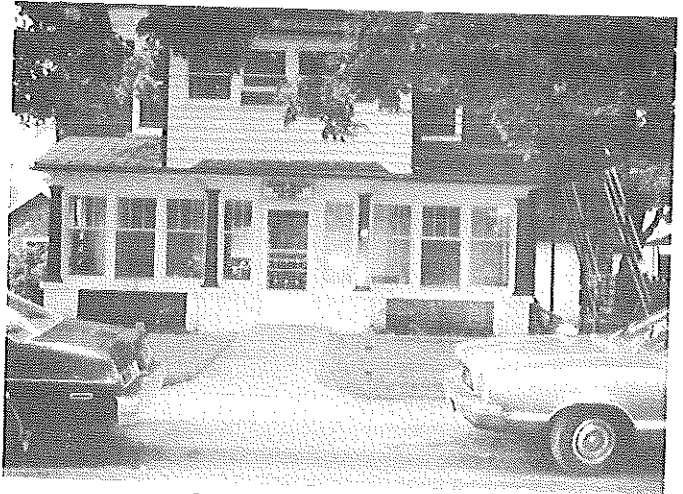
Gordon and his wife Audrey Kerr live on Highway 89 in Proton township just west of Keldon. Because of poor health Gordon is unable to do much farming but his pioneer instincts do surface as he putters around with his little sawmill. Gordon's family consists of two girls and three boys who are active 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.



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.



In William Kennedy's gravel pit, Joe Ritchie's Sawyer-Massey operating the crusher. William and George McCulloch loading stones to be crushed.

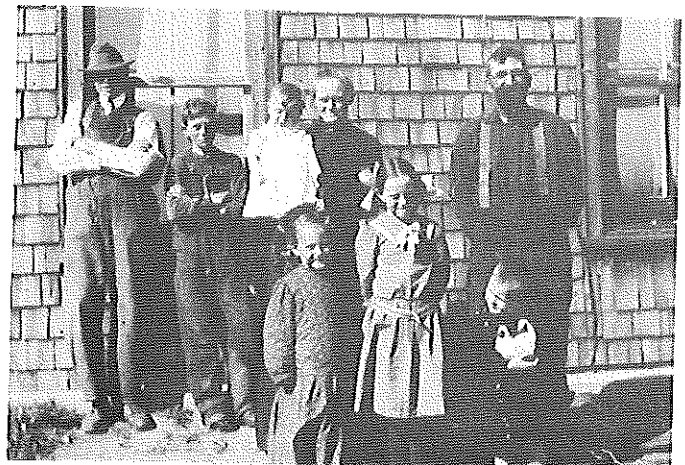
Behind the barn was a gravel pit. Here Robert at a very early age started in the gravel business as his father's helper to haul gravel with team and wagon.

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



Mr. and Mrs. Henry Berry and family. Left to right, top, John, Joe, Tom, Below, Agnes (Mrs. Orville Scarrow), Florence (Mrs. Phillips) 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)

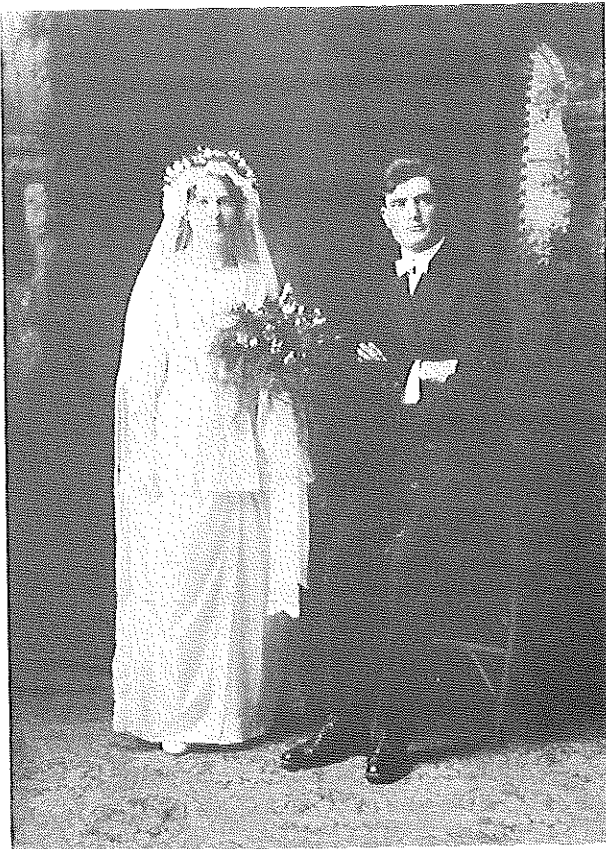
From 1900-1902 Mrs. William Tait's dressmaking shop was above the old post office on Main Street, Grand Valley with Lizzie Gulley and her sister assisting.

Wedding Date ??? (P. 31)

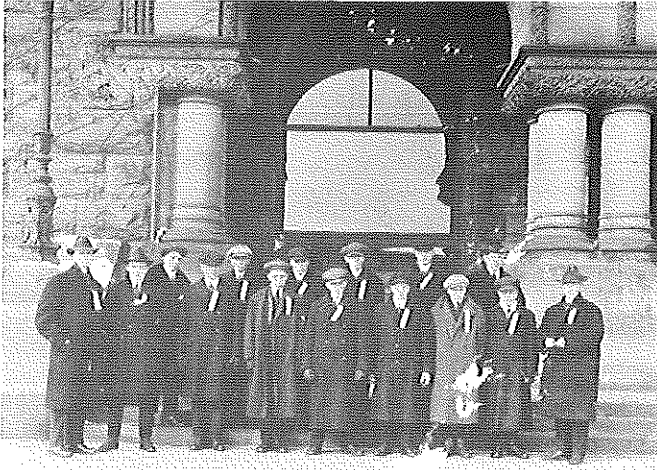
James Mournahan and Alice Bryan were married in 1961.

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.



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, Wilfred Willmott, ----- Duffy, Edward Colley, John Berry, Clifford Dales, Wilfred 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.

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