OAKLAND

Burford Gore

TOWNSHIP

Townsend Gore

Two Hundred Years

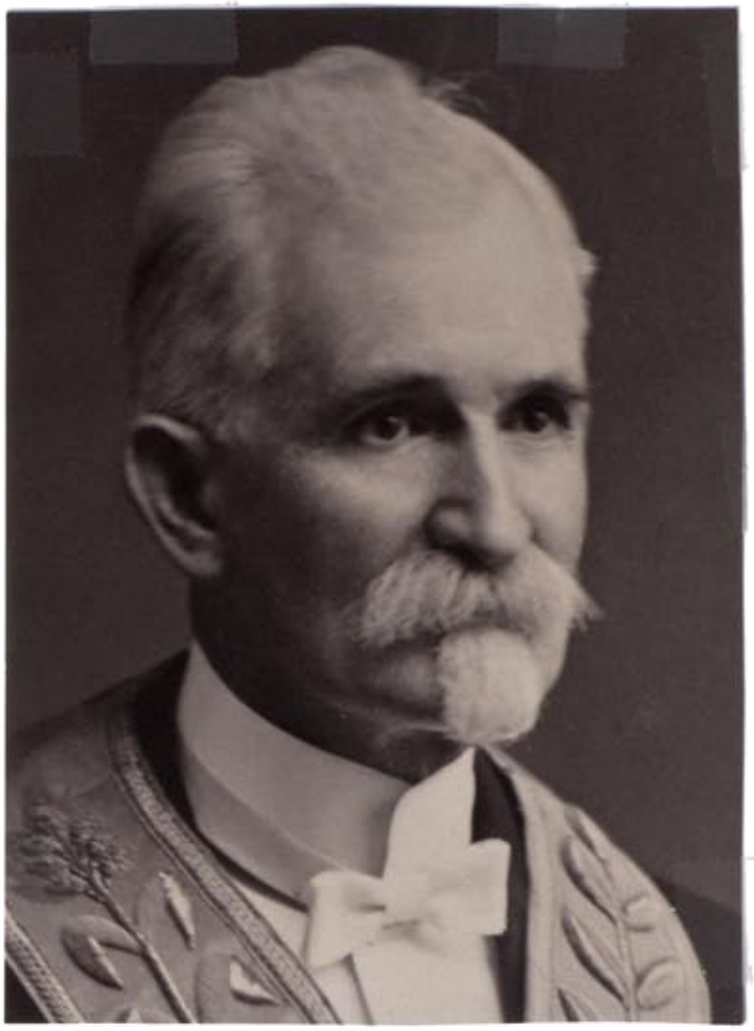
VOLUME 4 (PART I)

It was the stuff wild west thrillers are made of – banking ground to an abrupt halt. With the words "stick 'em up", the peace and quietude of Scotland village was wildly ruffled on a pleasant fall day over fifty years ago – bullets flying hither and thither.

Royal Bank manager J.C. Moore rushed out of his office to confront the would-be hold-up artist. With a menacing gesture he shouted again "this is a stick up". Moore, not easily swayed by this amateur criminal, retorted "nothing doing" and he ducked back into his office.

Grasping his revolver, Moore ran to the tellers cage and shot it out. A fusillade of shots filled the air, the bandit retreating in haste. The get-away car sped east on Oakland Street as bewildered sidewalk spectators gawked in awe at what they had just witnessed.

Yes, there was excitement in Scotland on the morning of October 3rd, 1936. Law enforcement officials swarmed about, taking up the chase. For Township folk who joined in the hunt, it was a day long remembered.



Circa 1920

Dr. John E. W. Anderson

A graduate of Trinity University, followed by post-graduate studies at Edinburgh University, Dr. Anderson practised medicine for over half a century, forty-three years at Scotland. Ironically, on Thanksgiving Day 1938, an accident left him severely scalded. He died fiteen days later, the victim of an injury he had treated on many occasions.

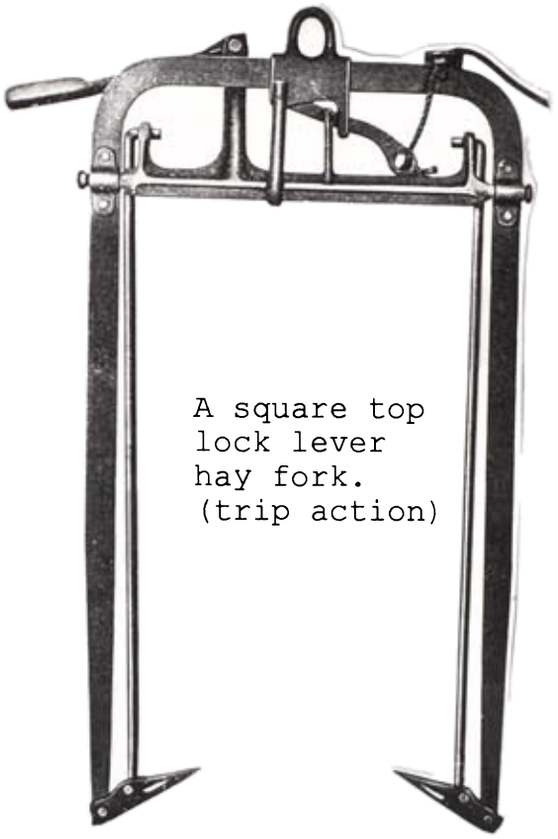
1935

Evelyn M. Dunningham R.N.

A paralytic disease, poliomyelitis, was rampant when Evelyn entered training in 1932. Medical staff were taxed to the limit as hospital beds filled to the limit.

Wearing her **IMMACULATELY** *pressed uniform, this young lady from Oakland was about to experience the adjustment of her life. Strict discipline, ungrudging acceptance of authority, attentive study habits, exemplary conduct and poor pay were all a part of the training program.*

Haying Time



A square top lock lever hay fork. (trip action)

A knot-passing wooden pulley. (eight inch sheave)

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CHAPTER 15

The Postal Service

In earlier times, the mail was carried from a central distribution point to rural areas by Indians and white men of great activity and endurance. Prior to 1820, the nearest outlets for Burford Gore people were located at Ancaster and Dundas. When an office was opened at Burford, about 1830, a lithe Frenchman went from Little York (Toronto) west to Brantford, then across the Grand River by scow, once a month, to deliver the mail to Postmaster Colonel Bowen, at Burford. Oakland and Scotland dwellers found the latter service more convenient, it being much closer than going to Ancaster.

The first known mail carrier to pass through Oakland along the Old Indian Trail was Alexander Westbrook (1764-1852). He came to Brantford from Alberton and got a grant of land near the present Lorne Bridge. His mail route was between Dundas and Waterford, travelling on horseback. In late life, Mr. Westbrook lived at the Red Tavern, north of Oakland village, at the Maple Grove corner. A brother of Alexander, Haggai Westbrook (1772-1821) settled at Oakland. Reportedly, Matthew Messecar, born on March 7, 1792 who settled east of Scotland, was another early dispatch rider. Some of his descendants still live in the area, including Edwin Messecar, a farmer on lot 3 (west half) Concession I.

For early settlers, high postage rates and remoteness from the service was a barrier to using the mail. Postage of four and a half pence to three shillings was charged within Canada, according to distance; to Britain six to seven shillings was the rate charged. As the majority of immigrants came from Britain at that time, the cost factor was a definite barrier to the use of this form of communication.

Letters were not enveloped, rather the sheet was folded, secured by a disc of sealing wax, then addressed on the blank side. Stamps were not used. On each letter was written the date of mailing and the amount of postage; red ink was used for prepaid postage and black ink was placed on collect letters which was paid by the recipient at its destination. Money was often enclosed in the mail. If it went missing, the integrity of the postmaster could be called into question and this was often the case.

The following personal letter, with no envelope used to dispatch it, was dated at Buffalo 17 July 1843. It was written by A. J. Segwick and addressed to Mr. Daniel Barber of Waterford, Townsend, Upper Canada, postmarked at Queenston, Upper Canada on July 18, 1843 and marked PAID. The letter was folded inward at the top, then inward at the bottom followed by two folds on each side of the page so that the latter folds joined and could be sealed with a red sealing wax. The address had been centered on the outside of the page in such a way that it was conspicuous and visible after the four inward folds were made and the seal affixed. The recipient of the letter, Daniel Barber (1825-1900), farmed lot 5 Concession IX Townsend. The area is referred to as Cherry Valley. Daniel Barber was the son of John and Mary Barber, homesteaders at Cherry Valley. Daniel married Elizabeth Snider (1824-1918) daughter of Abraham Snider and Mary Rammage (1806-1860).

In 1849, the Government of Canada gained control of the mails from Great Britain and reduced rates by a third. Two years later, Canada issued its first stamps, valued at 3 pence, 6 pence and one shilling. The rate was set at three pence per half ounce. Letter registration and the issuance of money-orders followed in 1855, parcel post in 1859 with a maximum weight of two pounds, later increased to three pounds at a rate of twenty-five cents per pound. As a service to its readers, weekly newspapers often published a list of people in the district who had failed to call at the post office to pick up their mail.

By the mid nineteenth century, there was hardly a household in Oakland Township which was more than three miles distant from a post office. All the main roads, the concession roads and town lines were open for daily travel by horse and carriage. The sense of being in touch was much more real to the rural people as they were receiving mail delivery at their post offices at least twice a week by stage coach or horseback, depending on the weather and road conditions. Once the two main coach lines were running daily, one from Brantford via Oakland to Simcoe and the other from Simcoe via Scotland to Paris, the Township dwellers were guaranteed the best possible service.

Another stage line ran from Oakland to Windham Centre, acting as a feeder line for residents of this area of Norfolk. Thirteen miles long, this run was established on April 1st, 1882, with daily trips six days a week. Timothy W. Shavelear had a per annum contract of $374.00 which terminated on March 31st, 1885. His route took him through Vanessa and Teeterville. Aside from his mail route, Tim, with the help of his wife operated the hotel at the four corners. Joseph Aspden contracted for the route from 1 April 1885 to 31 March 1889 at $420.00 per annum and George Taylor (1832-1895) took the contract from 1 April 1889 to 1893 at $372.00 per annum which was renewed from 1893 to 31 March 1897 at $400.00 per annum. When rail service to Scotland opened on the Brantford and Waterloo Railway, the daily runs to Windham were discontinued. George Taylor held the postmaster position from 1882 until his death in 1895 in addition to his contract commitment to deliver mail to Windham Centre.

In the areas not well serviced, requests for local outlets began reaching the Postmaster General. On March 31, 1882, the Regional Inspector, R.W. Barnes, reported on a petition from Wilsonville citizens to establish an office at the residence of Peter L. Hayes, living on lot 6 concession II Townsend, two and a half miles south of Oakland. He advised that there would be no added delivery costs to the post office department, Wilsonville being on a regular stage route from Brantford to Simcoe. The projected revenue per annum was $15.00. The petition received a favourable response. An office was opened at Wilsonville the same year. As well, the citizens of Bealton petitioned for the re-opening of their office. J.W. Osborne M.D. wrote to Ottawa on May 31, 1882, on behalf of Bealton dwellers, pointing out that they were on a regular stage route with either Boston or Hartford being

their nearest existing outlets. The people of Teeterville also petitioned Ottawa to establish a money order office at their post office. The Regional Inspector commented that Teeterville was on the Oakland-Windham Centre mail delivery route, with Scotland being the nearest money order office, which was eight miles distant for the people of Teeterville. He observed that the present postmaster, Mr. W. Robinson, was a competent person and that the registered letter system of dispatching money could be replaced by the upgrading of the Teeterville outlet to a money order branch.

The following notice, which appeared in a local paper in the year 1888, signifies the sensitivity of the Post Office Department of that era to local opinion. Inconvenience to the public was something to be avoided:

NO BRITISH MAIL ON FRIDAY

The Canadian S.S. Sarmatian having been unable to reach Quebec, the mail for the United Kingdom announced to close on Friday next has been cancelled and instead mail for dispatch per the Cunard S.S. Etruria via New York will close on Thursday May 7th at 5:00 p.m.

H.N. Case, Postmaster
5 May 1888

Early twentieth century residents trusted the reliability of their postal service, and they had good reason. Prompt service was a way of life, often same day service, at a token cost of one to two cents for unsealed cards, possible because the post office operations at that time were heavily subsidized.

On the left is proof of same day service. A card post-dated at Brantford 2 a.m. August 17, 1912 was receipt hammered by Postmaster, W.E. Hooker, at Scotland on August 17, 1912.

The post card shown hereafter is another example of expeditious service. The card was mailed at Paris on December 22, 1911 with a one cent stamp, addressed to Miss Beryl Dunnett, daughter of Ellsworth Dunnett (1869-1960) farmer east of Scotland. The card was subsequently receipt hammered by Mr. Hooker on the same day, extremely prompt delivery considering the Christmas rush. No wonder His Majesty's Postal Service was held in such high regard. Other similar vintage cards sent to Oakland residents confirm consistency of prompt service. A postcard mailed on March 23, 1910 at Bealton, forward

stamped at Waterford on the same date, then stamped on to the Oakland post office where the hammer date is March 24, 1910. Another card, mailed at Oakland on October 3, 1912, was forward stamped at Waterford the same date and receipt stamped at its destination in Bloomsburg one day later. Another card, mailed at Hamilton on December 30, 1910, was receipt stamped by Postmaster John W. Moore at Oakland the same day. On Saturday, December 24, 1910, the postal service failed, this being the day before the Christmas holiday. The postcard in question, dated December 24, 1910, with Christmas greetings and a Happy New Year message to Mrs. Sylvester Stratford of East Oakland, was placed for delivery but did not get handled until December 28th. Then fast service took over. It was stamped on to Oakland post office, forward stamped at Oakland the same day and receipt stamped at the East Oakland post office on December 28, 1910. Mrs. Stratford received her Christmas greetings three days late.

The card below, date stamped at Paris, Ontario December 22, 1911 was receipt stamped at Scotland post office the same date. It had been dispatched to the Scotland T. H. and B. station, then was picked up by the carrier and taken to the post office, a half mile distant. In 1911, the stage coach delivery system had been discontinued in favour of the faster rail service.

Rural postmasters were very busy people. Their schedule meant long hours for six successive days every week, without relief. Seldom did they take a respite or holiday. The rural post office became a family operation with the postmaster's wife being officially designated the assistant. In smaller communities, such as Oakland and Scotland, the postal outlet became an appendage of

an overall general store business, the store open from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. It was also a place for socializing. Several chairs were provided for the convenience of customers and other local cronies who came nearly every night to linger and while away the time, often referred to as "sitters". They were a nuisance to the proprietor but, for the sake of business, not a word was said about their presence. The store-keeper even provided a checker-board for entertainment. At the turn of the century, Mr. Diamond and Mr. George Ford (1854-1930), who lived directly across from the Oakland post office in a house later occupied by garage operator Harry Bowen (1911-1983), were two locals who could truly be categorized as "sitters". Mr. Ford was a well known villager. He married Nancy A. Rock (1853-1928) and they had several children including Fred (1880-1940) who married Lily Grummett (1886-1967), daughter of Isaiah Grummett (1855-1895) of Brantford, an uncle of Sylvester Stratford (1856-1943) Oakland farmer.

A typical winter day for the Oakland postmaster and store-keeper at the turn of the century may take the following routine; open up at 8:00 a.m.; go to the wood pile for fuel to start the two pot-bellied stoves and a kitchen stove; go to the stable and do the chores; pump a pail of drinking water; clear the front porch and entrance-way of blowing snow; tally the books; call his wife from their private quarters to tend the store and post office; hitch his horse to the cutter and travel one and a half miles to the T.H. & B. station for mail pick-up and delivery; on his return, stable the horse; take the canvas bag to the post office area; unlock it, dumping out all the mail on the counter; sort the mail; receipt stamp it with his hammer; place it in the individual boxes for ready access; clean the spittoon; take over the store business and post office duties allowing his wife to get dinner; sort the mail for East Oakland and dispatch it on to that office with the carrier, by horse and cutter. Among many other duties, this took care of the morning chores and it was time off for dinner. An alarm bell on the door was the alert for noon hour customers and there were many interruptions over dinner.

During the afternoon and evening it was a continuation of tending the store and post office; handling mail and passing it personally through the wicket to Oakland village residents; selling money orders, postal notes and stamps; facilitating Savings Bank deposits and withdrawals; writing up registered letter receipts; sorting and stamping the outgoing mail to be taken to the T. H. & B. station the following morning; placing it in the locked canvas bag; feeding and watering the horse; eating supper; back to the store for evening customers; counting the day's proceeds; bidding farewell to the evening sitters and lock up at 10:00 p.m.; stoke the fires; wind the store clock; blow out the lamps and retire.

Saturday was a special day. Eggs and other produce, taken on barter at the store, had to be sold at the Brantford market. While there, business was transacted at the wholesale warehouse. This was the day that the postmaster's wife took over and, co-incidentally, was an exceptionally busy day at the store.

The cancellers in use were much like a hammer. They had a removable head to change the date. Before the turn of the century, some postmasters innovated to process the mail by using a variety of homemade cork or rubber cancellers.

On the right is the address part of a postcard mailed at Lynnville on the morning of August 11th, 1911, forwarded to Waterford the same day, received at Oakland on August 12th. Clearly, the Lynnville postmaster used an eight bar canceller to deface the one cent stamp.

On the left is a smudge (cork) canceller of the homemade variety.

In former years, split ring and full outer circle hammers were conscientiously used to place the receiving date on all letters and postcards. Thus, with both the forwarding and receipt dates conspicuously displayed, the delivery time was clear to the recipient. The Post Office was proud of its service, it had few critics and same day service between Brantford and Scotland was almost assured. There was a personal touch to each piece of mail. The Department had an air of piety about it, revered and held on a pedestal, her Majesty's service at its best. A far cry from the public's perception of the postal service of today.

In his book "Cancelled with Pride", published in 1993, Cecil C. Coutts states "a town is not a town unless it has a post office". Village folk felt much the same way and they lobbied intensely to be recognized by postal authorities for their very own postal depot. For the early residents of Oakland Township, delivery of their mail directly to the Oakland and Scotland stage depot, followed by the faster T.H. & B. and L.E. & N. express delivery to the two respective stations, placed their postmaster and rural carrier as persons providing one of their most reliable and valued public services.

The postmasters of the mid-nineteenth century escaped one of the tasks mentioned earlier, that of a daily trip to the railway station. In earlier times, the stage delivered mail, daily, right to the depot door. By 1930, the system of pick-ups and deliveries at the T.H.&B. and L.E.&N. station had changed. Walter Burrage was contracted to meet the trains at the L.E.&N. station for Oakland mail and a similar service was provided to meet the trains at the T.H.&B. station for the Scotland mail. During WW2, because of overload, Mr. Burrage (1891-1977) received a compensating grant of $100.00 per annum.

An unfortunate accidental fire occurred at the post office just outside the Township when the Burtch outlet burned to the ground on October 6, 1900 because of a lamp accidentally upsetting. At the time, the postmaster was D. Burtch, his assistant being S.A. Wheeler. Twelve dollars worth of stamps were destroyed and compensation was requested from Ottawa for the loss. Initially, the Postmaster General alleged carelessness but relented when a local figure, H.W. McIntyre, wrote to the Department in support of compensation for the Burtch postmaster.

The transfer of the domestic post office to the Province of Canada received Royal assent in Great Britain on April 12th, 1851, a move intended to speed up service. Under British control, the system was perceived as another form of taxation. Rates dropped considerably from nine pence to three pence per ounce after the transfer. A general feeling that the postal service was a vital public utility which should be made available to all at low cost to better communications and increase trade prevailed, causing politicians to invoke heavy subsidies.

Canada Postage stamp - 1853

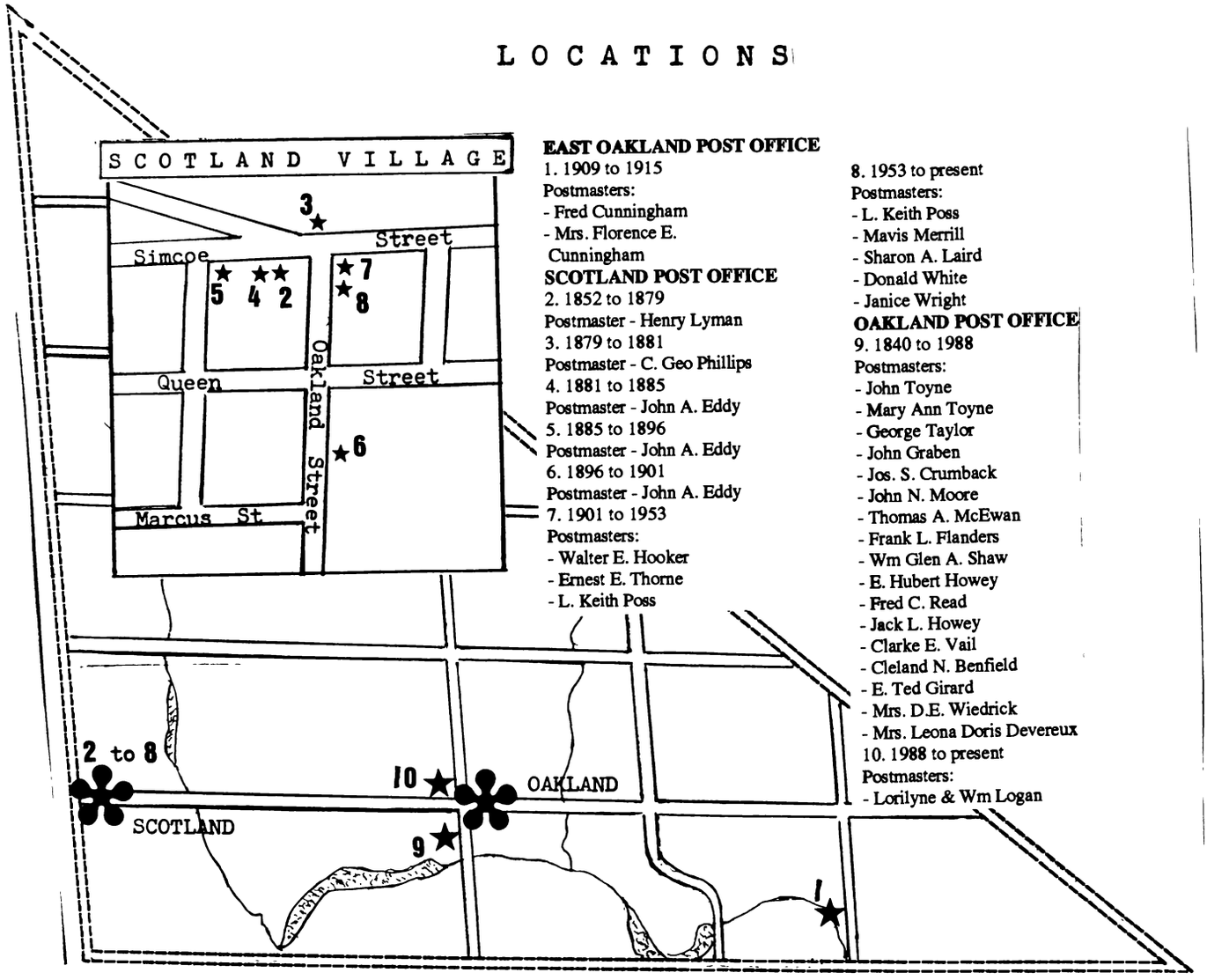
In 1868, new stamps went on sale following the passage of the Post Office Act which established uniform postal rates at three cents for domestic letters, six cents to the U.S. and twelve cents to Britain. Canadian decimal currency had replaced sterling ten years earlier.

To the average citizen, postmarks are unimportant and have little meaning. To the philatelist, the study of early imprints is serious business. Post Office regulations in 1851 required that letters must be distinctly marked with the name of the office, the day, the month and year posted and stamps affixed must be cancelled forthwith using some form of cancelling mark or lines.

Stamps of former years invariably displayed the profile of the current monarch. The greatest ruler in English history, Queen Victoria, was prominent on stamps until 1901; followed by Edward VII to 1910; then George V to 1936; followed by Edward VIII in 1936; to George VI until 1952; to Elizabeth II 1952.

The Postal Code System, introduced in March 1972, allocated code NOE 1LO to Oakland and NOE 1RO to Scotland. It was made necessary because of sheer volume, thus expediting the sorting and delivery process.

POST OFFICE LOCATIONS



EAST OAKLAND POST OFFICE
1. 1909 to 1915
Postmasters:
- Fred Cunningham
- Mrs. Florence E. Cunningham

SCOTLAND POST OFFICE
2. 1852 to 1879
Postmaster - Henry Lyman
3. 1879 to 1881
Postmaster - C. Geo Phillips
4. 1881 to 1885
Postmaster - John A. Eddy
5. 1885 to 1896
Postmaster - John A. Eddy
6. 1896 to 1901
Postmaster - John A. Eddy
7. 1901 to 1953
Postmasters:
- Walter E. Hooker
- Ernest E. Thorne
- L. Keith Poss

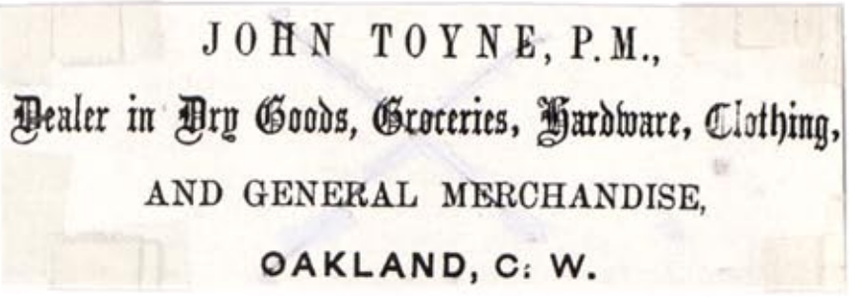
8. 1953 to present
Postmasters:
- L. Keith Poss
- Mavis Merrill
- Sharon A. Laird
- Donald White
- Janice Wright

OAKLAND POST OFFICE
9. 1840 to 1988
Postmasters:
- John Toyne
- Mary Ann Toyne
- George Taylor
- John Graben
- Jos. S. Crumback
- John N. Moore
- Thomas A. McEwan
- Frank L. Flanders
- Wm Glen A. Shaw
- E. Hubert Howey
- Fred C. Read
- Jack L. Howey
- Clarke E. Vail
- Cleland N. Benfield
- E. Ted Girard
- Mrs. D.E. Wiedrick
- Mrs. Leona Doris Devereux

10. 1988 to present
Postmasters:
- Lorilyne & Wm Logan

Oakland

Oakland was chosen as the site of the first post office, even though its population was less than Scotland. John Toyne (1812-1874) received the appointment as first postmaster on August 6th, 1840 with the office being located in his general store, in the hollow. The store had been erected and opened for business four years earlier. The choice of Oakland over Scotland was made because it was serviced with regular stage coach runs between Brantford and Simcoe, with a routine stop at Malcolm's Hotel, at the four corners. At that time, Scotland was off the regular established stage route from the Grand to Lake Erie.



A receiving stamp hammered on a letter by John Toyne on Sept. 16, 1844.

Aside from his general store business and postmaster responsibilities, John Toyne was appointed the first Clerk of Oakland Township at their inaugural meeting on Monday, January 21, 1850. In the year 1852, Mr. Toyne served both as Clerk and Treasurer. He was paid 13.10 (sterling) which also covered rent of a council meeting room for the year. He continued to serve the municipality until 1864.

During Mr. Toyne's tenure, Enoch Kelly (1810-18), who later became a farmer on lot 7 concession 3, was a stage coach driver and delivered mail to Oakland. Both Enoch and his son Isaac (1835-1912) drove stage coaches while living in the village. Isaac married Caroline Roberts (1837-1913) and farmed east of Oakland on lot 10 concession II. He was active in municipal affairs and well known throughout the Township. His son, Wesley (1870-1957) took over the farm. Wes Kelly's granddaughter, Margery Smith Gatward served as Township Clerk from 1965 to 1981.

Another stage driver, Daniel Hazen, delivered mail to Mr. Toyne at the Oakland post office in its early years of operation. His route was Ancaster to Brantford to Simcoe. Joe Starr delivered mail on an established run from Oakland to Windham Centre.

After serving thirty-four years, Mr. Toyne died on August 31, 1874 at 62 years of age. His wife, Mary Ann Toyne, carried on the store business and the post office for another seven years, from the 1st of October 1874 until the 21st of September 1881. The office was then receiving daily delivery by the Simcoe and Brantford Stage Line. Mary died on Mar. 21, 1889 at 57 years of age and is buried at Scotland beside her husband.

BRANTFORD WEEKLY EXPOSITOR
Sept. 4, 1874 p.3:

DIED - TOYNE - In Oakland village, on Monday morning, of Diarrhea - John Toyne, Esq., aged 62 years.

George Taylor (1831-1895) followed Mary Toyne as postmaster and merchant. His appointment was effective January 1, 1882. He served thirteen years until his death on the 20th of August 1895 in his 64th year. Mrs. Augusta P. (Starr) Taylor carried on as storekeeper and postmaster until March 9, 1901. Born to the Taylors in 1868 was George Jr. He married Florence Hartley (1877-1957). George Jr. became postmaster in Brantford and served the Postal Department for forty-five years, retiring in 1933. The Taylor family are buried at Oakland cemetery. George Jr. died in 1964.

George was born at Grimsby on Nov. 5th 1831, son of Richard and Eliza Taylor. Richard, born in 1798 served in the Militia in the War of 1812. At fifteen years of age, Richard saw action at Stoney Creek. George married Augusta Starr in May 1867, a granddaughter of Major Westbrook. Besides George Jr., George and Augusta were the parents of Nelle Estelle, born in 1881. Before his appointment as postmaster at Oakland, George Jr. had held a similar position at Burtch.

Mrs. Augusta Taylor took the contract for mail pick-up at the T.H. & B. station from July 1st, 1895 through to June 30th, 1903 - twelve trips per week - one and a half miles at twenty-five cents per trip, increased to twenty-five and a half cents in 1899. She was assisted by John Graham. They also delivered to the Scotland post office, three quarters of a mile, at ten cents per trip - twelve trips a week. David H. Couke bid for the latter contract but lost the bid which was from 1895 to 1899. Mr. Couke (1872-1946) was an Oakland resident. He married Fanny Roberts (1876-1928), daughter of Joseph Roberts.

A petition dated March 13, 1890 from the Brantford Board of Trade to the Hon. Sir A.P. Caron, Postmaster General, prevailed upon him to improve the delivery between Brantford and Waterford by switching to rail service, as opposed to the use of the stage coach to carry the mail to and from these points and to places in between. With Brantford then a town of 2,500 people and the post office doing $23,000.00 worth of business, the Board of Trade pointed out that the T.H. & B. had passenger trains running between Brantford and Waterford three times a day while the stage lines serviced the area only once a day. The latter petition was signed by Frank Cockshutt, President Brantford Board of Trade.

The Regional Inspector was asked for his recommendation and provided the following factual information to his superior;

(a) The distance between Brantford and Waterford is 18 miles
(b) Trains leave Brantford at 7:50 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
(c) Trains leave Waterford at 8:40 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

(d) 76 families and 11 businesses use the Oakland post office, with stage coach delivery daily, six days a week from Brantford to Simcoe and from Oakland to Windham Centre - revenue at Oakland post office $125.35 per annum.
(e) 250 families and 15 businesses use the Scotland post office with stage coach delivery daily, six days a week - revenue at Scotland post office $268.44 per annum.
(f) The cost to the post office to switch from stage delivery to rail delivery - Brantford to Simcoe $840.00 per annum - Oakland to Windham Centre $400.00.
(g) Total cost of present stage coach service $1270.00
(h) Total cost of projected new service $1312.33
(i) Cost of delivery from Brantford to Oakland by rail $156.20 12 times a week
(j) Cost of delivery from Brantford to Scotland station $62.60 - 12 times a week

While the overall costs to convert from stage coach to rail delivery were slightly more, it was ruled by Sir A.P. Caron on June 6, 1895, five years after the petition was sent to him, that it was in the public interest to use rail delivery. Consequently, in 1895, the stage lines travelling through Oakland and Scotland lost their mail contracts.

BRANTFORD COURIER
August 22, 1895

Death of the Postmaster of Oakland

The death occurred yesterday at Oakland of an old and respected resident in the person of Mr. George Taylor, who had been merchant and postmaster of the village for the past thirty years. He was born at Grimsby on Nov. 5, 1831, and his father was one of the participants of the ..[not legible].. Deceased first located at Burtch, but afterwards removed to Oakland, where he had since continuously resided. He was married in 1867 to Augusta Starr, a granddaughter of Major Westbrook, who was born in Brantford in 1850. There were two children of the union, one of them George J. an employee of the Brantford post office who thus within a few days has been called upon to mourn the loss of wife and father.

Mr. Taylor was a man highly respected by all who knew him and he possessed excellent business qualities. The sincere sympathy of many friends will be extended to the bereaved.

The funeral takes place on Friday at 2 o'clock p.m. to Oakland cemetery.

Next to serve as Oakland postmaster was John Graben, his tenure being from April 1, 1901 to February 27, 1902 when he resigned.

Joseph S. Crumback (1847-1925) became the next postmaster on April 1, 1902. The Crumbacks were well known in the area and active in Oakland Methodist Church affairs. Joe married Adeline Misner (1851-1928) in 1869. Joe and Adeline moved from Burford Township to lot 12 Concession I, the Cunningham farm at East Oakland, on January 7th, 1887. When Joe became postmaster his son, George, took over the farm.

Joe Crumback - born July 19th, 1847 in Blenheim Township

Adeline Crumback born March 9th, 1851 - married Oct. 26th, 1869.

Born to Joe and Adeline were Sheldon (1870-1939) married Ollie Shean; J. Merrit (1872-1953) married Mary McEwan; George (1873-1953) married Elizabeth Yerex; Nellie (1877-1971) married Chas McIntyre.

Joe resigned the postmaster position on August 18, 1908 and moved to Mount Pleasant. Later, he and Adeline moved back to East Oakland living with their son Merrit and daughter, Nellie Crumback McIntyre, until their deaths.

Circa 1902

On the front porch and barely visible are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Crumback - the girl on the right is Violet Robinson. One historical publication states the first building, built in 1836, was destroyed by fire about 1870. If so, the erection of the above building occurred shortly thereafter.

Joe Crumback took the contract for pick-up at the T.H. & B. station from 1 April 1902 through to 30 June 1911, however, he resigned his postmaster duties in 1908 and his successor took over the contract. His trips were twelve per week - 2 7/8 miles at $250.00 per annum.

John N. Moore, the next postmaster, continued with the railway pick-up from September 1908 through to 1913 - 12 trips a week at $250.00 per annum. He was succeeded by Tom McEwan who carried on at $375.00 per annum until the route was altered because of rural mail delivery, on November 24th, 1914. Succeeding postmasters did, however, take mail to the T.H. & B. station at a per annum contract of $125.00 , increased to $265.00. On April 4th, 1933 Oakland mail was routed via the L.E.&N. line directly to the Oakland station.

Next to serve was John Moore (1837-1923), his appointment being effective 1st October 1908. John was the son of Ashman Moore (1796-1872) and Elizabeth Swackhammer (1803-1876). He married Alice Barton (1854-1920). Both John and Alice are buried in the Oakland cemetery. The Oakland school teacher, Miss Gignac, boarded at the Moores. Mr. Moore resigned his position on September 22, 1913. His sister, Deborah (1829-1885), married Jonathan Malcolm a farmer on the Townline, south east of Scotland. Jonathan was the son of Eliakim Malcolm, the Township's first reeve.

The following are receipt stamps hammered on incoming letters by Postmaster John Moore. Between 1908 and 1910, the postmaster changed his hammer from a full outer circle to a split ring mark.

Oakland
Dec. 24
1908

Oakland
May 12
1910

Oakland
July 18
1910

Oakland
Aug. 11
1911

Tom McEwan

Thomas Allen McEwan (1863-1941), son of Thomas McEwan Sr. (1810-1888), was appointed postmaster on November 3, 1913 and served until October 31, 1919. He sold his farm at East Oakland, lot 13 concession I, to Del Whiting and moved to the village with his wife Julia Vivian (1864-1929) and teenage daughter, Florence, 14 years of age. Their two sons, Roy (1889-1971) and Fred, had left home by then and did not live at the store in the hollow. All the farm implements and livestock were sold prior to the move to the village, except a buggy and horse named "Cap" which were needed for the pick-up and delivery of mail to and from the T.H. & B. station. Both Julia and Florence helped in the store and post office. Florence was married in 1916 to Con Eddy which left only Tom and Julia to manage on their own. Saturday was a particularly busy day as the eggs and other farm produce accepted as barter must be sold, hopefully at a profit, at the market in Brantford. As well, a weekly visit to the wholesale warehouse in Brantford was necessary.

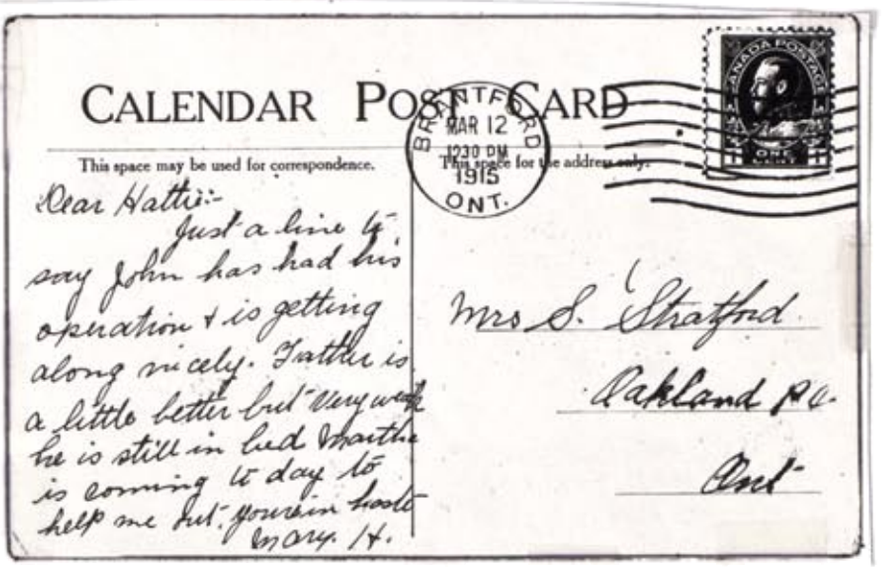
After six years, the rigors of serving the public long hours, six days a week, became too demanding and Tom was forced to sell. The McEwans returned to the farm, trading the store for land south east of Oakland owned by Frank L. Flanders, who was to become the next postmaster.

Tom held the office of Sunday School Superintendent for many years. All his family were committed to their church. The contribution of the McEwans to the life of the Oakland Methodist (United) Church has extended over a century and a half.

This letter was receipt stamped by Tom McEwan on June 2, 1919, just four months before he sold the business.

The following postcard, stamped at Brantford 12:30 p.m. Friday March 12, 1915, and received at Oakland the next day where it was receipt stamped by Mr. McEwan, provides you with a typical message exchanged between siblings of that period. As a ready form of communication, postcards were then in common use, not necessarily to convey important messages, but just to keep in touch. At the turn of the century, rural families found the mail convenient and economical, a one cent stamp was sufficient. The face of the postcard generally offered a message of joy and happiness. In this case it was love, but very subtle and reserved in its portrayal, as was the custom then. The day of candor and open permissive expressions while in the public eye had not yet arrived.

LET'S PADDLE FOREVER



CALENDAR POST CARD

This space may be used for correspondence.

This space for the address only.

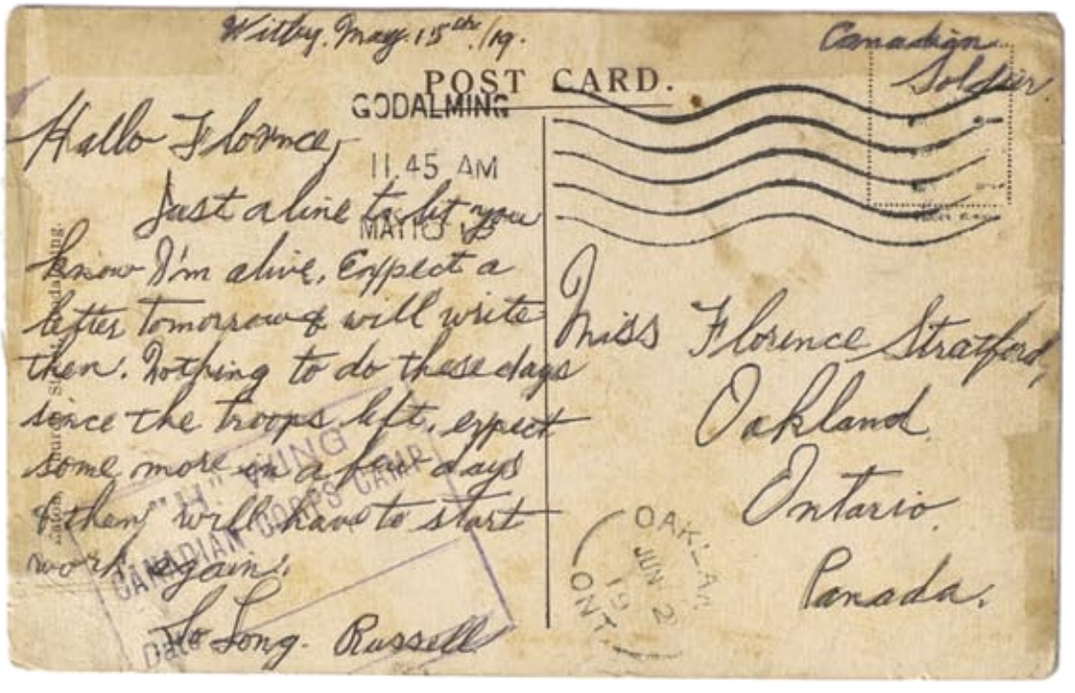
BRANTFORD MAR 12 1230 PM 1915 ONT.

CANADA POSTAGE ONE CENT

Dear Hattie:- Just a line to say John has had his operation & is getting along nicely. Hattie is a little better but very weak he is still in bed Martha is coming to day to help me but you're in touch by May 1st.

Mrs S. Stratford
Oakland P.O.
Ont.

Mr. McEwan's service with the post office encompassed the war years. The following postcard dated at Whitley Camp, England May 15, 1919, six months following the termination of hostilities, was mailed by a Canadian soldier to his betrothed at Oakland. The card was receipt stamped by Postmaster Tom McEwan two weeks later, on June 2nd. Note that the postage fee was waived for the military.



Whitley. May. 15th. 19.

POST CARD.

GODALMING 11.45 AM MAY 19

Canadian Soldier

Hallo Florence,
Just a line to let you know I'm alive. Expect a letter tomorrow & will write then. Nothing to do these days since the troops left. Expect some more in a few days & then will have to start work again.
So long. Russell

CANADIAN CORPS CAMPS

Miss Florence Stratford,
Oakland,
Ontario.
Canada.

OAKLAND JUN 2 ONT.

Frank L. Flanders (1882-1960) born on New Years day, became postmaster on December 22, 1919 and served until the 5th of December 1922. His wife was Stella Jean Wilcox (1883-1959). After leaving the post office, the Flanders moved to Campbellford, Ontario. Frank and Stella had two sons, Ivan and Keith, the latter son migrated to Western Canada.

William Glen A. Shaw (1891-1952) held the position from December 29th, 1922 until June 4th, 1925. His wife was Nellie Wood, born in 1895 and died at Burford in 1983. While at Oakland, Glen's mother, Jean Glen Shaw wife of Dr. Shaw of Glasgow, lived with them and is shown in post office records as being an assistant postmaster. The inspection of the post office on February 26th, 1925 shows both Mrs. Jean Shaw and Mrs. Nellie "Nell" Shaw as assistants. The office was then open from 7:45 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. and its operation was rated by the Inspector as "good".

The postmaster's mother Mrs. Jean Shaw, who came from aristocracy in Scotland, was a misfit at the rural, pastoral setting of Oakland village. She was seen as a martinet and a "grand dame". On one occasion, she attended a casual party at the home of Payson Vivian dressed in a long velvet gown with a lorgnette, very much over-dressed for the occasion much to the chagrin of the other ladies present. Mrs. Shaw died of cancer in 1935.

The Shaws moved to Burford in 1925 where they bought a property called "The Band Box". Considerable biographical detail of the family has been made available through Mel Robertson, a Burford historian, and friend of the family;

> *"Glen Shaw's mother was Jean Glen, daughter of Wm Glen of Owen Sound, Ontario. She was the niece of "Lady" Glen and spent considerable time at her Carlibar mansion and at the Moffett Hydropathic. She was well known at Carlibar, and when she married Dr. Shaw of Glasgow, the servants at Carlibar gave her a large engraved silver tray.*
>
> *After their marriage, Dr. & Mrs. Shaw lived at 3 Ballahouston Terrace in Glasgow. They had one son Glen-Airston. Dr. Shaw died of TB. His wife returned to Canada with her son. Dr. Shaw left his wife a trust involving a block of buildings in Glasgow from which she obtained rents until 1931. Mrs. Shaw and her son lived at a number of places in Canada until she died of cancer in 1935 and is buried at Oakland. From all reports she was a very strong-minded woman.*
>
> *<u>Wm Glen</u> - born in Ayrshire and came to Canada with Sir Wm Allen of the Allen Steamship line. He was a young blade who was known in Montreal as "Young Glen and his four blacks" due to the fact he drove a pair of black horses, had a black man servant and had a black*

Newfoundland dog. He became wealthy through grain selling and built a large mansion at Owen Sound which he named "The Glen". He also kept a large steam yacht "Merlin". He married Jeannet Wilson and had five children; the youngest was Jean. In mid-life he inherited the "Broom-Rig" estate in Dumfrieshire Scotland, which consisted of four farms, a mansion house and fishing rights on the river. He never lived there but visited once a year to collect rents. On his death he left "Broom-Rig" to Jean. Broom-Rig was an entailed estate and a long law-suit consumed, most of the money realized from its subsequent sale. It would seem that after he inherited Broom-Rig, Wm Shaw began to use the name "Glen-Airston". Wm Glen's mansion at Owen Sound is now a golf clubhouse.

<u>Dr. Wm Shaw</u> (1835-1893) was son of Wm Shaw a chief engineer in some of the early Bibby Line packets. I have his log book and an oil painting of one of the ships. Dr. Shaw graduated from Glasgow and became ship's surgeon with the Allen Line. He met Jean Glen on one of her trips to Scotland. Dr. Shaw was also physician to the Marquis of Lorne and Princess Louise when the Marquis was Governor General of Canada. He was active in militia medical work and was honoured with the presentation of a sword. He was a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons. He married twice, Jean Glen was his second wife.

<u>Glen-Airston Shaw</u> of Burford was born shortly before, or shortly after, his father's death. He spent considerable time with his mother at the Carlibar mansion at Barrhead Scotland. On his return to Canada he was educated at Upper Canada College and brought up as an upper-class, Victorian gentleman. He was about 6' 6" in height and very thin. He was well read well-spoken, kindly, considerate and without guile. He was a delightful friend and companion. Unfortunately, he was raised without any appreciation of the realities of life. He was dominated by his mother and as a result moved from one occupation to another. He was a farmer twice, a storekeeper, a postmaster, a newspaper columnist, a theatre major-domo (Doorman), an artist, a house painter, a poet and an unsuccessful writer of movie scripts. He was a successful storekeeper in Oakland, however his mother felt that storekeeping was not a job for a gentleman so he left it to be a gentleman farmer, a job in which he was not successful.

After coming to Burford, Glen Shaw spent most of his time painting and composing poetry. He published a little book of poems. He also had a contract of painting gasoline pumps at Shell gas stations as well as houses. For a time, he was doorman at the Esquire Theatre in

Brantford and had to dress in a flashy uniform. Although he was in straightened circumstances for most of his life, Glen always drove a big eight cylinder or twelve cylinder car. He died of a heart attack in 1952 after trying to lift his twelve cylinder Lincoln off a stump onto which he had backed it. At one time, Glen took painting lessons from Homer Watson one of Canada's best artists and he painted many pictures. People used to say that Glen had "Champagne tastes and a beer income". This did not mean that he drank.

He was dominated by his mother who apparently felt that she was much better than anyone else. Glen's wife Nell always spoke of her with awe. Nell Wood, Glen's wife, came from a Canadian pioneer family from Bronte. She was an extremely kind and thoughtful woman who was always doing good deeds for others or spending money she needed, for charitable causes. Both Glen and Nell were the finest people I ever knew. Nell died on January 21st, 1983, from carbon-monoxide poisoning, from a faulty oil burner. My wife and I found her.

Glen Shaw's nephew is Dr. Donald Wood of Queen's University Kingston. Dr. Wood is one of Canada's leading economists. He was Chairman of the Canadian Economic Council at one time.

In 1972, Mrs. Glen Shaw loaned Jean Glen's diary to Thomas Appleton who was writing a history of the Allen Steamship line. This came out in 1974. It is titled "Ravenscrag" and contains a picture of Dr. Wm Shaw as well as extracts from Jean Glen's diary describing her meeting with him and their courtship on board the liner. Wm Glen, her father, was a friend of the Governor General and frequently entertained many prominent Canadians at his Owen Sound mansion or on his big steam yacht.

The Glen family of Broom-Rig, Barrhead Scotland made their money from cotton mills in Leningrad, Russia. The Barrhead mansion has been torn down but the extensive grounds are used as a public park. The Shaws of Barrhead gave the City Hall to the community."

E. Hubert Howey, son of George Alfred Howey of Windham, got the appointment as acting postmaster on June 23, 1925. His position was confirmed on the 10th of July 1925. The revenue for the year ending 31 March 1925 amounted to $246.04.

On the right is an Oakland receiving stamp, hammered on a 1925 letter by Mr. Howey.

During the 18 March 1926 inspection, the office received a rating as "fair". It was open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. The assistant was Jack Howey, Huberts' son.

On the 20 April 1927, an inspection rated the office as "good". It was open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. - assistants were Jack Howey and Mrs. Blanche Howey.

During the inspection on the 12th of April 1928, the office received a rating of "good". It was open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. - assistants were Blanche Howey, Miss Nellie Howey and Jack Howey.

Circa 1928 - note the Dodge car parked at the right.

Hubert Howey resigned his position on May 17th, 1930. The family moved to Brantford then to St. George. Hubert died on 5 Oct 1943 at St. George.

The post office and store in the hollow, built in 1836 by John Toyne (1812-1874), had seen several owners by the time Hubert Howey took over in 1925. With adjoining living quarters on the south side, bedrooms over the store itself and storage at the back, the building was spacious but not well insulated. A labour intensive place to keep warm during the coldest part of the winter, Hubert was forced to tend a wood stove in the store and Mrs. Howey did likewise in the living quarters. Two separate chimneys spewing smoke were plainly visible to the pedestrian walking down the highway from the four corners. For the storekeeper and his wife living in and tending store in this old frame building, their daily chores offered little time for relaxation.

On Sunday, January 14th, 1945, an explosion demolished the brick cottage of Mrs. Blanche Howey at 234 Brock Street in Brantford. She was then a widow. Mrs. Howey died of injuries and her son, Harley, his wife Mary, and their 16 year old son, Lyle, were injured. A fireman, Elmer Kelly of the Brantford Fire Department, also died at the scene of a heart attack. Mrs. Howey is buried at Vanessa. Harley died at Barrie on October 31st, 1979.

Circa 1915
Hubert Howey | Nellie Jack | Harley | Mrs.(Blanche) Howey | Fern

Frederick Charles Read purchased the store in the hollow and applied for the postmaster's position. He was appointed on June 17th, 1930, his assistants Mrs. Margaret Read and Gertrude Read. The Reads ran a bake shop in conjunction with the general store - their speciality was home-made raisin buns.

An inspection on March 12th 1931 shows the performance as "good". It was open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. - assistant was Mrs. Margaret Read. The same staff, rating and hours were noted during the inspection on April 13th, 1932.

During the 15 February 1933 inspection, the office received a rating of "good". It was open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. - assistants were Mrs. Laura Read and Blanche Read.

During the 6 March 1934 inspection, the office was rated as "good", Mrs. Margaret Read was the assistant. Mr. Read announced his resignation in June 1934 and explained that his neighbour M. Fred Howell would assist him as he prepared to move. Mr. Howell applied for the postmaster's job and then withdrew. Mr. Read left the position on June 8, 1934.

During Fred Read's tenure, the Oakland office attained the status of a Savings Bank outlet which could then accept deposits and withdrawals of cash, minimum amount $1.00. The authorization by the Postmaster General to operate a Savings Bank was effective September 1, 1933.

Jack Leon Howey bought out Fred Read in 1934 and was the only applicant for the position of postmaster. His appointment was effective on July 18, 1934 and he served until June 12, 1935.

During the 12 February 1935 inspection, the office was rated as "good". It was open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. - the assistant was Fern Howey. Fern was the postmaster's younger sister. Both Jack and Fern knew the business well, having worked in the store and post office when their father, Hubert, ran the business. It was during this period that Walter Burrage of Oakland was contracted to haul the mail to and from the L.E. & N. station.

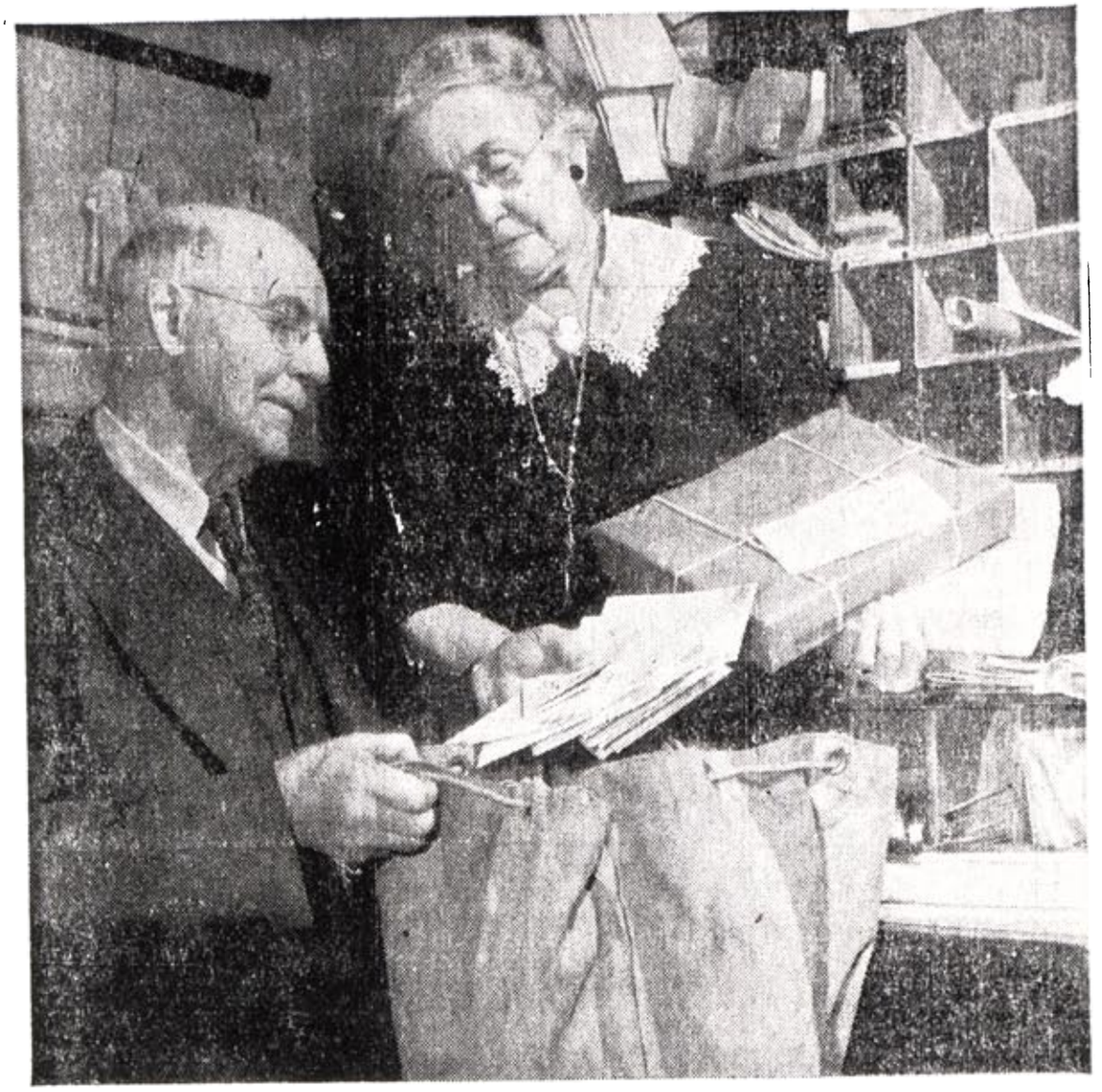
After leaving the store and post office, Jack Howey took employment with one of the chartered banks. He died at Millford Bay, near Bracebridge, on Dec 23rd 1972. Nellie Howey Gravelle lives at Scotland. Fern, born in 1911, married Wallace Young of Oakland. They lived just to the north of the post office. Wallace died on May 8th, 1965 then Fern remarried to Mr. Gatten and moved to Sooke, B.C. where she still lives.

Clarke Edward Vail followed the Howeys. His appointment as postmaster was effective on July 25, 1935. "Pop" Vail was born at Renton, Ontario on January 13, 1867, the son of John Vail and Elizabeth Matthews. He farmed near Vittoria and at Walsh in Norfolk also near Paris in Brant before buying the store at Oakland. Clarke married Adelaide Hoffman, daughter of D.H. Hoffman of Northfield Centre.

During the 1936/37 fiscal year, the Oakland post office generated $510.64 in business. Mrs. Vail acted as the assistant. Other assistants were Mrs. Arthur Alton, from 1939 to 1943 and Fern Howey Young in 1947.

At eighty-one years of age, Mr. Vail sold the store and resigned. Officially, his last date of service was September 16, 1948. Mr. & Mrs. Vail moved from the store, into retirment, living just north of the four corners at Oakland, across from the Stratford farm house on property formerly owned by Harold Ramsay, a garageman.

Affectionately called "Pop", Mr. Clarke Edward Vail was a kindly man, always accommodating to those who came to his store to pick up their mail. He was not lost for words and in the eyes of some, very inquisitive - too much so they said. A remarkable man of longevity, good health and endurance, for at eighty years of age he was still actively filling the dual position of postmaster and storekeeper, which meant long hours of work, six days a week. He died at Oakland on Monday, January 15th 1951 in his 85th year. He is buried at Oakwood Cemetery, Simcoe.



January 13, 1948
Clarke Vail and his wife sorting the mail on
Clarke's 81st birthday (Brantford Expositor photo)

Cleland Newton Benfield (1909-1970) of Toronto was next to be appointed postmaster, his acting appointment effective October 7, 1948. Mr. Benfield was not a resident of Oakland until 1 October 1948, but W. Ross Macdonald, MP urged his appointment since Benfield had bought out Vail, and the post office had been in this convenient location for 100 years. The post office agreed to Benfield's appointment since the regulation requiring the postmaster to be a resident was only in effect to satisfy local opinion. Local opinion was satisfied in this case and Mr. Benfield was made acting postmaster for a year until he met the residency requirement. His appointment was made permanent on October 26th, 1949.

"Clee" Benfield held the position for twenty-two years, until his death suddenly on September 6, 1970, in his 61st year. His wife, Mrs. Edna W. Benfield took over temporarily until the 2nd of December.

The Benfields were married on October 1, 1938 and had a son, John, born in 1940. He joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in 1960 serving in Ottawa until 1982. John is now retired and lives at Gloucester, Ontario. Edna Benfield moved to Gloucester and lives at 85 Eastpark Drive. She was 81 years of age on October 1rst, 1991.

Circa 1965
"Clee" Benfield Edna Benfield
(standing in front of the post office, in the hollow, at Oakland)

The following people have been appointed postmasters at Oakland since the Benfields:

E. "Ted" M. Girard	appointed December 3, 1970 until June 24, 1973. Ted and Mona Girard altered the inside to "self serve" and the postal section was moved to the front of the store.
Mrs. D.E. Wiedrick	appointed October 25, 1973 (temporary) Mrs. Wiedrick was the mother of Doris Devereaux who succeeded her in the position.
Mrs. Lena Doris Devereux	appointed January 5, 1982 until February 1988. Doris married Doug Bowen, son of Harry and Rosena Bowen. Doris and Doug Bowen lived

in residence at the post office until the premises were sold and the post office moved up the hill at the four corners.

Lorilyne and Wm Logan — appointed March 1, 1988. Bill Logan is the son of Grant Logan and Lorilyne the daughter of Morley Bradshaw who is a grandson of Seth Bradshaw and Mercy Van Every of Bealton.

The re-location of the post office up the hill to the four corners, located in the Oakland Confectionary and Snack Bar operated by the Logans, was not without resistance. A petition signed by sixty local residents was sent to Canada Post officials and to Brant MP, Derek Blackburn. Councillor, Joan Gatward, pointed out that the office had been in the same location for over 100 years, was quite satisfactorily located now, and the new location would pose problems close to a busy intersection. Said Councillor Gatward "citizens feel they won't be secure at the corner as it is a hang-out for youths". Mr. Logan sent a ninety name petition supporting the move and his bid was successful.

1915 - On the left is a one cent stamp and on the far left a WW1 stamp which was essentially a surtax imposed under the provisions of the Special War Tax Revenue Act.

1909

1911

1940

1943

1945

1945

1949

1949

Scotland

The Scotland outlet opened on the 6th of December 1852, some twelve years after the Oakland office. Henry Lyman, who operated a general store, was appointed first postmaster. Mr. Lyman served as postmaster twenty-seven years, until his death in 1879.

Second to serve was C. George Phillips (1829-1911). During his tenure, the office was moved from Lyman's store. The Inspector's letter to his superior confirms the move:

London, Ontario
10 Sept. 1879

The Postmaster General
Ottawa, Ontario

I hereby report that Mr. Phillips, the newly appointed P.M. at Scotland, was recently compelled to remove the post office from Lymans Store, where it had been for many years, about eight rods distant, across the road, in the Township of Burford. The new site is equally as good.

George Cox
Inspector

Mr. Phillips' held the position only a short time, serving from the 1st of July 1879 to the 2nd of April 1881. Mr. Phillips was also involved in local industry, being the proprietor of a Wagon and Carriage works. He married Mary Ann Gage (1831-1892) in 1854.

Born in New York on April 10th 1829, George Phillips was the son of Thomas and Bridget (O'Dea) Phillips who came to America in 1826 from Ireland. Thomas, a tailor, and his family settled in Burford Township.

George and Mary Ann were blessed with nine children:

Phoebe Z., born Sept. 23, 1858; Russel M., Nov. 4, 1860; Mary Ann, April 29, 1863; George W., Oct. 21, 1858; Charles E., June 30, 1869; and Fred. A., Aug. 17, 1875. Charles G., born April 1, 1856, died June 28, 1877; Ida M. was born Nov. 29, 1867, and died Jan. 18, 1868; Margaret E. A., born July 31, 1873, died June 3, 1874. Mr. Phillips acquired a common school education. He owned ten acres and three houses and four lots in Scotland. (Charles G. Phillips died in Louisiana, in 1877.)

John Adbeel Eddy (1855-1943) succeeded Mr. Phillips. His appointment to the position came on the 1st of June 1881. John was a local boy, one of eleven children, born on July 18, 1855. He was the son of Constant Eddy (1817-1892) and Ann Emmonds, farmers on lot 1 concession III, north of Scotland village.

John Eddy's siblings were Tremanda born 1 Aug 1838; Charles born 11 Mar 1840; Constant born 24 July 1842 died in 1862 (Civil War); Louisa born 21 June 1844 married Joseph Roberts (1847-1941); Malcolm born 28 Aug 1846; Wilber born 11 Sept 1848 married Amelia McDonald and had thirteen children; Judson born 29 Dec 1850 died 1877; Mary Ann born 29 Mar 1853 married Thomas Oliver inventor of the typewriter; Jane Elizabeth born 2 May 1857 married Geo Messecar and Francis Eliza born 25 Feb 1859 married James Campbell.

John, a farmer and businessman as well as postmaster, married Alma Messecar (1859-1940).

John A. Eddy
(died at Brantford
Nov 5, 1943)

Born to John and Alma Messecar Eddy were nine children:

Wilber (1883-1961) - a daughter, Marjory, married Art Axford, a school principal in Brantford

Alma Maud - went West

Annie (1886-1973) - married Alex Robertson of Brantford - two daughters

Judson C. (1888-1945) - went West

Effie May (1890-1973) - of Brantford married Ed Stern

Constant (1892-1987) - married Florence May Vivian McEwan (1900-1984) on June 30, 1916. At the time, Florence was living with her parents Thomas and Julia McEwan at Oakland where Thomas served as the postmaster. Her brothers, Roy McEwan and Fred McEwan were well known Oakland dwellers. Con Eddy operated three grocery stores in Brantford and a farm at East Oakland. Con and Florence had four sons; Edward Constant (1917-1974) a veterinarian in Calgary, Thomas John (1918-19) a teacher and a veteran of WWII who lives in Victoria, Donald (1919-1920) and Robert Gordon born in 1929, an M.D. at Brantford.

Florence (McEwan) Eddy (1899-1984)

Con Eddy (1892-1987)

Joseph (1897-1981) - Joe, a bachelor all his life, joined the Royal North West Mounted Police in 1919. He served in WWI. Joe moved to Pickering, Ontario where he worked in a plastic factory after retiring from the R.C.M. Police in 1944.

John Morton (1898-1973) an OAC graduate who farmed near Paris, Ontario

Earl Bronson (1902-1985), a Doctor of Divinity degree. He served the United Church in the West and later at Scotland, Ontario. Earl married Ethel Helen Huffman (1903-1987).

John Eddy's twenty year stint as postmaster was not without controversy. The May 1885 edition of the Scotland Journal was critical of his decision not to distribute their paper.

Mrs Eddy

Rev. Earl Eddy

In July 1885, Mr. Eddy was the subject of an investigation by the Regional Postal Inspector. His report to the Postmaster General reads as follows:

London, Ontario
July 17, 1885

The Postmaster General
Ottawa, Ontario

I return Mr. W.H. Finch's letter and beg to report that Mr. J.A. Eddy was appointed postmaster at Scotland in 1881 and assumed his duties the 1st of June of that year.

He was then a general storekeeper but subsequently sold out to Mr. Finch and appointed him assistant postmaster. The emoluments were to go to Mr. Finch and Mr. Eddy received an equivalent in rent. Mr. Eddy still remained in charge as postmaster, living next door and going in and out of the office at will.

In June Mr. Eddy came to see me saying he was dissatisfied with Mr. Finch and wished permission to remove the post office from the store to his (Eddy's) own residence which took place on the 5th of June and I was notified he had dismissed his assistant, Mr. Finch.

On a visit I found the office to be in the postmasters' private quarters two doors south of the store. The office was found to be in good order. Mr. Eddy stated he parted with Mr. Finch and further stated that persons not allowed had access to the mail, also the use of bad language by a crowd of people was prevalent and on one occasion Mr. Finch had taken the crowd of people through the post office into the back yard to witness a dog fight.

Mrs. Eddy has now been sworn as assistant p.m.
I am Sir
Your Obedient Servant
G. Cox
Post Office Inspector

The arrangement of having the post office located in Mr. Eddy's private quarters did not prove to be satisfactory. In 1890 Mr. Eddy was back in business as a general merchant. The local paper, in September 1891, reported "the postmaster had a handsome store on Simcoe Street which was doing a lively business".

The latter report to the Postmaster General was prompted by a request from Harry Finch who sought to be re-appointed to his status as manager of the Scotland postal service after being dismissed as assistant postmaster by Mr. Eddy. He advised the Postmaster General, in his letter to him, that he had leased the store from John Eddy for a five year term, along with the post office, and all salaries and benefits arising from same of $160.00 per year. He further stated that it was a well known fact that Mr. Eddy had bought the post office for the sum of $500.00 and had offered it to him, and others, for the same amount and then went into bonds with E.G. Malcolm and Company to sell it to him at the expiration of the lease. Mr. Finch's letter was dated June 25, 1885. He had also sent a letter to John White M.P. Ottawa complaining about his dismissal as Assistant Postmaster.

In 1890, the Village of Scotland had 250 families and 15 businesses using the post office, with delivery by stage coach to the office six days a week and a per annum revenue of $268.44. Five years later, when the delivery of mail coming to Scotland was changed from stage coach to rail service, the frequency of delivery was increased to twice a day because of more incoming trains. The stage coach passed through Scotland only once a day.

In 1892, the Postmaster General received a petition through his Regional Inspector:

May 31, 1892

To: The Postmaster General
Ottawa, Ontario

I attach herewith the petition of Augustus Malcolm, John P. Eddy and others to have the Scotland office upgraded to the status of a Post Office Savings Bank. Scotland presently has thirty places of business and a population of 400. The per annum revenue of the post office is $233.89. The present postmaster is qualified to assume the added responsibility. The nearest Savings offices for Scotland residents is either Waterford or Brantford.

Signed: Post Office Inspector
London, Ontario

The foregoing petition bore the date of May 11, 1892 and had twenty-two signatures:

Augustus Malcolm
John Paul Eddy
C.L. Messecar
F.H. Malcolm
John A. Eddy
Chas. F. Eddy
A.E.A. Eddy
Ben Smith
Frank Taylor
Wm Phillips
Wm Foster
John Hammond
Geo Phillips
Arthur Woodley
W.E. Hooker
J.M. Hyde
Dr. Wm J. Glassford M.D.
E. Epps
D.E. Bloomfield
Jacob A. Malcolm
U.S. Hornby
P.H. Beemer

Of those signing the petition, Chas Eddy was a brother of the Postmaster, John Paul Eddy and A.E.A. Eddy were cousins. Augustus Malcolm (1820-1896) son of Peter Malcolm (1796-1864) was one of the leading and respected citizens of Scotland village, Geo. Phillips was a former postmaster.

Once approved, the Post Office Savings Office offered citizens of the region a limited banking service, allowing deposits and withdrawals. Deposits during any year were restricted to $1500.00. A maximum account could not exceed $5000.00. All monies deposited locally were remitted to the Central Savings Bank at Post Office Headquarters in Ottawa. The minimum deposit or withdrawal permitted was one dollar. Interest was calculated annually at three percent. Federal legislation governed the operations of the Postal Savings Bank.

On the 23rd of July 1896, John Eddy wrote to his immediate superior at London requesting permission to relocate the office from its location on Simcoe Street to a site on Oakland Street, some 234 yards distant, at Mr. Eddy's residence. The Inspector recommended the request be approved in his forwarding letter to the Postmaster General and attached the names of those who had signed a petition of approval. They were:

F.E. Campbell (1859-1937) merchant and assistant postmaster (Frances E. (Eddy) Campbell was the widow of Jas Campbell (1853-1894)

W.E. Hooker, general merchant and court clerk Walter E. Hooker (1854-1931) became the postmaster following John Eddy.

C.L. Messecar, agricultural implement agent - he was probably Chas Messecar, son of Truman (1836-1915) farmer on concession II. Charles became an Executive with Brantford Cordage.

H.S. Duckworth, butcher

Wm Foster, cabinet maker - Will Foster (1852-1912) married Eliza M. Hay (1852-1926), daughter of Rev Wm Hay (1822-1897)

J.M. Slaght, baker

Chas Stewart, blacksmith

Wm Davis, tinsmith

Charles F. Eddy, printer - Charles died June 6, 1931 at 63 years

Augustus Malcolm, farmer - one of the leading citizens of Scotland - his land was on lot 1 concession XIII Burford Township

J.K. Unsworth, pastor. Congregational Church - he served at Scotland from 1894 to 1900.

Jos H.M. Vaughan, (1869-1918) cabinet maker - married Mary E. Townsend (1873-1955). Joseph Vanghan was also a funeral director.

George Malcolm (1832-1904) carpenter-joiner - built many of the homes in Scotland - his wife was Aneliza Robinson (1836-1902) and they had nine children. Aneliza's father, Robert F.W. Robinson, was a school master at Scotland.

D.B. Cohoe, pastor Baptist Church - he served at Scotland from 1893 to 1896.
C.L. Merritt, agricultural implement dealer
Dr. Wm Glassford, physician - he came to Scotland about 1887.
K.M. Smith, principal, Scotland Public School
J.W. Beemer, farmer
A.M. Malcolm, merchant and bailiff
Alonzo Foster (1819-1905) issuer of marriage licenses

The site of the post office before the re-location was on the east side of Simcoe Street, at the top of Oakland Street. The proposed new location was east on Oakland Street, on the north side, just east of Queen Street.

John Eddy's postal responsibilities came to an abrupt end on April 23, 1901. According to records, he was removed from the position, involuntarily. Mr. Eddy left Scotland and took employment in Brantford as a revenue collector.

This small one storey building located on Oakland Street, next to The Garden Wall, was the Scotland post office, later the library.

A general merchant, Walter E. Hooker (1854-1931), was next to assume the position of postmaster. His tenure was lengthy, serving nearly thirty years from the 8th of May 1901 until his death on the 31st of January 1931. Mrs. Elizabeth Hooker (1854-19) was named

acting postmaster after her husband's death, until a successor could be found. Walter and Elizabeth were the parents of Flossie (1884-1928), Walter B. (1886-1953) and Sara Boyle (1885-19).

On the left is the Scotland post office stamp dated August 27, 1914, applied to an incoming letter by W. E. Hooker. Mr. Hooker used the split ring hammer (outer circle is broken) which was in common use until the 1930's.

Post Office Department records reveal the following about Mr. Hooker's tenure:

During the 26 February 1925 inspection, the office was rated as good, it was open 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., assistants were W.E. Beemer and Mrs. F.J. Beemer.

During the 17 March 1926 inspection, the office was rated as "good", it was open 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., assistants as previously.

During the 20 April 1927 inspection, the office was rated as "good", it was open 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., assistants as before.

During the 12 April 1928 inspection, the office was rated as "good", it was open 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., assistant was Merritt Stuart. Total revenue this year was $1,543.21.

During the 22 February 1929 inspection, the office was rated as "good", it was open 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., the assistant was Herbert W. Foster (1857-1942), who had previously been the local bank manager.

On 21 January 1929, Wilfred Malcolm of Scotland asked for papers to apply for the job of postmaster since Mr. Hooker would soon be forced to retire because of age.

On the 22 April 1929, Mr. Hooker asked to be permitted to close for lunch, from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. and for supper 5:30 to 6:00 p.m., since his health was bad and he was unable to relieve his assistant at those times. The District Superintendent agreed to this interruption of service in a letter dated May 7th, 1929, provided there was no public objection.

During the 21 May 1930 inspection, the office was rated as "good", it was open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., the assistant was Annie O'Donohue.

During the 4 February 1931 inspection, the office was open 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., the PM was Mrs. Louise Hooker, her assistant was Miss Jennie McIssac.

C. McCombs took a contract on November 25th 1914, until 31 March 1920, to haul mail from the Scotland office to the T.H. & B. station - three quarters of a mile, 18 trips per week at $234.75 per annum. George Peelmg continued the contract until March 31st 1924.

In a letter dated 2 February 1931, F. Smoke, MP for Brant recommended Claude E. Mitchell of Scotland as the new postmaster. The MP for Brantford wanted one of his constituents since, while the post office served both ridings, it was actually in Brantford riding. Mr. Ryerson MP recommended Frank Gundy. S.H. Campbell and Ernest Wm. Thorne, a returned soldier, both applied for the position as did the assistant, Miss Jennie McIssac, whose application was late.

While Mr. Thorne placed behind several of the candidates, he did meet the minimum qualification and, as a returned soldier, the post office was obliged by law to give him the position. This is confirmed in a letter from Assistant Deputy Postmaster General P.T. Coolican to R. Ryerson, Member of Parliament. Thorne accepted the post on 20 July 1931 and assumed duties on September 1st of that year. The salary was $994.00 per annum. He was off duty from 23 March until 1 June 1932 due to pneumonia.

Ernest W. Thorne was born on August 17, 1886. His post office career extended twenty years, until September 1, 1951. He was superannuated from the position but continued as a merchant, his general store being located at the top of Oakland Street, on the north-east corner of Simcoe and Oakland Streets. During Mr. Thorne's tenure, the revenue increased ten fold and the outlet was serving 600 residents.

On 5 July 1948, George Avery, a post office official, challenged the location of the Scotland post office. He stated "when premises are provided by the government for postal purposes, they should be entirely separate and self-contained so that full control may be maintained over them". Post office officials and the District Resident Architect of Public Works commenced a search for suitable self-contained quarters to re-locate the post office from its current location in the general store to a separate building. In the meantime, Mr. Thorne suggested an alternative by separating his store from the post office area. In his report dated 18 August 1948, J.W. Stewart, District Inspector states the postmaster is willing to extend the partitions between the store and the post office to make the latter self-contained. The post office accepted the offer. A memo by W.E. Pearson, Acting District Inspector, notes that the alterations had been carried out, as of 28 November 1949.

Mr. Thorne married Minnie Godfrey Trute (1897-1948). She had a son, Ronald Trute, who served with the R.C.A.F. in WWII. By Ernie and Minnie were Florence(Ott) born about 1927 and living in Kitchener, Bill who lives in Brantford and another son, Jack of Hagersville. Ernie re-married a widow from Kelvin, Florence Norwood McLeod, who continued to operate the general store after her husband died on Sunday, April 22nd 1956 in his 70th year.

Postmaster Thorne
applied the receiving
hammer twice to the
above letter, dated
September 18, 1946.

George Peelmg, Jesse W. Fulsom and Wm Baker contracted at various times in the 30's to haul mail to and from the T.H. & B. station, 18 trips per week. Their contracts ranged from $234.00 to $469.50 per annum.

Bill Baker, who was also the Township constable, had a contract to haul the mail from the Scotland office to the L.E. & N. station, four miles, from April 17, 1933 to 31 March 1936 - 12 trips per week at $565.00 per annum. Walter Burrage of Oakland continued with this route from 1936 to March 31st 1944 at $420.00 per annum plus war-time bonus of $100.00 in 1943/44. Frank Dickinson succeeded Walter Burrage to be followed by Edward R. "Ted" Porteous, who had the contract from 1949 to 1953 at $650.00 per annum when the route was discontinued.

September 1, 1951
For the last time, Ernie Thorne
hammers the date stamp to an incoming letter.
(Brantford Expositor photo)

At thirty years of age Lyman Keith Poss (1921-1978) succeeded Ernest Thorne, firstly, as an acting postmaster. His tentative appointment was effective September 17, 1951 and was confirmed a year later. Born at Burtch, on the 8th of April 1921, he was the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Willard Poss. The Poss family moved to a farm near Boston where Keith attended public school, followed by High School at Waterford, to be followed by business training at O.U. Robinson Business College in Waterford. During World War II, Keith served with the Royal Canadian Ordinance Corps, postal services, in British Columbia. He married Eleanor Hiles, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hiles, a well known Scotland barber. Eleanor pre-deceased Keith and he remarried Mary Horning, daughter of Alex and Gertrude Horning.

Mary & Keith Poss & Family

He commenced his postmaster duties on September 17th, 1951 having previously been employed with the Cockshutt Plow Company in their Brantford office. His mother's forefathers, Haviland, were pioneers in Townsend. Keith was an ardent stamp collector.

Keith and Eleanor Hiles Poss - she was Keith's assistant until her premature death on May 4th, 1962.

The former Scotland post office
- destroyed by fire in 1983
(an Expositor photo)

In a letter dated 23 February 1953, D.A. Freeze, District Architect, Public Works, wrote to E.A. Gardner, Chief Architect, Ottawa, that the post office in Scotland is adjacent to Mr. Thorne's store and is "congested, dilapidated and unsatisfactory for post office use". Freeze recommended acceptance of L.K. Poss' offer to build a new post office, with living quarters on the second floor, and to rent the ground floor to the P.O. for $125 a month. An exchange of letters followed over the layout of the new office and approval was given to the proposal. The new facility officially opened on September 8, 1953, two years after Mr. Poss became postmaster.

A letter dated 5 November 1963 outlined a proposal to erect federal buildings in "areas of designated development or high unemployment", including a post office at Scotland. The project was to be undertaken over the coming winter. Scotland, a designated development area, was dropped from the proposal as were three other localities due to local opposition to new Crown construction at these locations. At Scotland village, Keith Poss had, ten years earlier, built a red brick structure to the specifications required and there were strong objections to the plan that would effectively jeopardize his investment. Keith died in 1978.

Scotland post office
- opened September 8th, 1953

Scotland postmasters to follow Mr. Poss were:

Mrs. Mavis Merrill - appointed 14 Feb 1978 to 13 Jan 1985, formerly the assistant postmaster.
Mrs. Janice Wright - appointed 14 Jan 1985 to 5 Nov 1985
Mrs. Sharon A. Laird - appointed 6 Nov 1985 to 26 May 1988
Janice Wright - 27 May 1988 (acting) - appointed April 1990
Donald White - appointed Sept. 1988 to Mar 1989 but was ultimately removed because of a Union challenge to the appointment.

(Mavis Merrill remarried to Mr. McLaughlin and is now a postal supervisor for the area)

Mavis Merrill

East Oakland

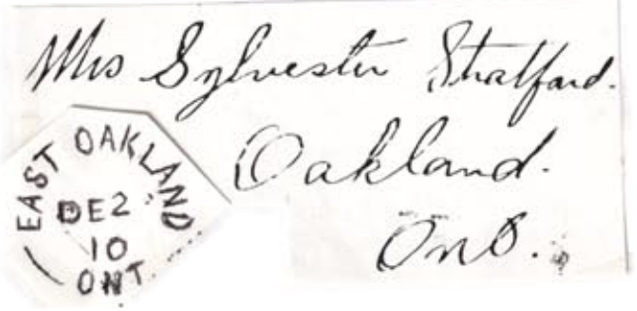
On the 15th of April 1885, Wellington McAlister wrote to his local M.P., William Paterson at the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa, asking on behalf of the people in the southern part of the Township that "they not be further excluded from the benefits of a local office". Mr. McAlister stated that their nearest post office was four miles distant and informed Mr. Paterson that the proprietor of the grist mill in Lower Oakland, Cook Wright, had consented to take charge of the office. He confirmed that a horse and carriage conveyance could be secured, as a feeder service, to make daily trips between Oakland village and Millford Mills.

The petitioner, Mr. McAlister, was a farmer on lot 11 Concession II. Active in municipal politics, Mr. McAlister served as Reeve during Confederation year and the year that followed.

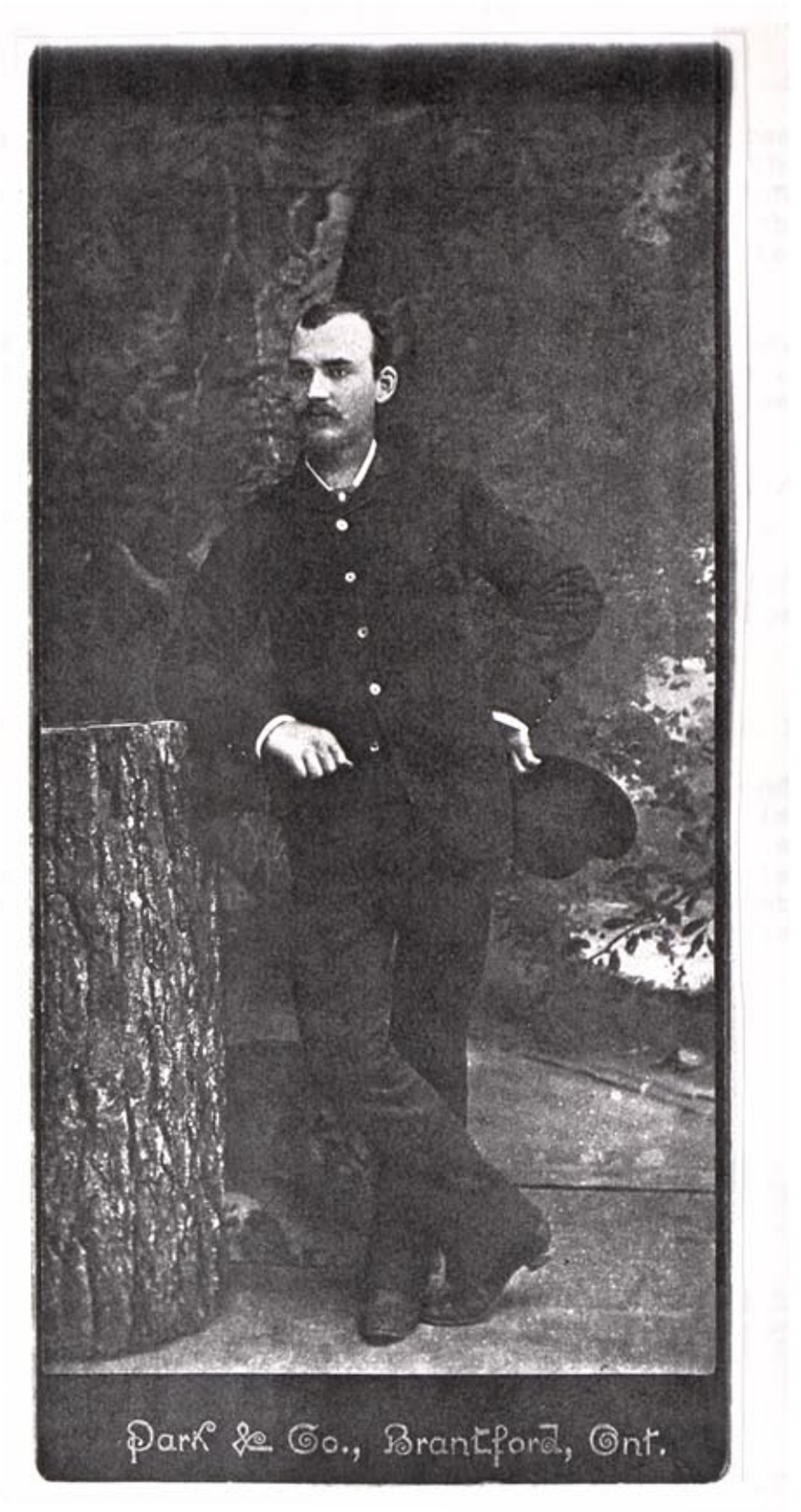
On the 22 April 1885, I.C. Secord of Mohawk (now Mount Pleasant) followed up on Mr. McAlister's proposal by sending a hand written letter to the Postmaster General with a similar request. These two requests were subsequently investigated by the Post Office Inspector at London. In his report of March 12, 1886, he advised the Postmaster General that Millford Mills was then a small settlement of thirty families, with the nearest postal service being at Oakland, three miles distant which had semi-weekly delivery. He estimated gross revenue per annum would be $25.00. The Inspector informed his superior that the proposed new service would cost the Department $52.00 per annum and the extra delivery costs from Oakland to Lower Oakland would amount to 50 cents per trip. While the local people wanted daily mail delivery, the Post Office Inspector suggested daily delivery was not feasible for such a small office.

It has not been confirmed that Millford Mills became the site of an office, however, records do reveal that a small office opened on July 1, 1909 at the farm house of Fred Cunningham, a farmer on lot 12 Concession I, near the East Oakland school. Fred is identified in post office records as being the postmaster until May 29, 1911 when he died. Mrs. Florence E. Cunningham took over on July 1, 1911 and held the position until July 31, 1915. The outlet closed permanently in lieu of rural mail delivery at that time.

The Cunninghams had a tennis court in their farm yard which their customers passed as they went to the house for the mail. Fred and Florence Cunningham had three children; Kilborne "Kib" a farmer at East Oakland who died in 1966; Charlie who migrated to B.C. and became a big game guide and outfitter. He died in 1970; Mabel, who became a nurse, worked at Toronto General Hospital. She died in 1969. During the time the Cunninghams ran the post office, Norman Dunningham of Oakland worked as a hired man on their farm. Norman died at the Battle of the Somme in WWI.



On the left is an East Oakland receiving stamp dated Dec 2, 1910 taken from a letter addressed to Mrs. S. Stratford, living then on a farm at lot 11 Concession I Townsend, not far from the post office at Cunninghams place.

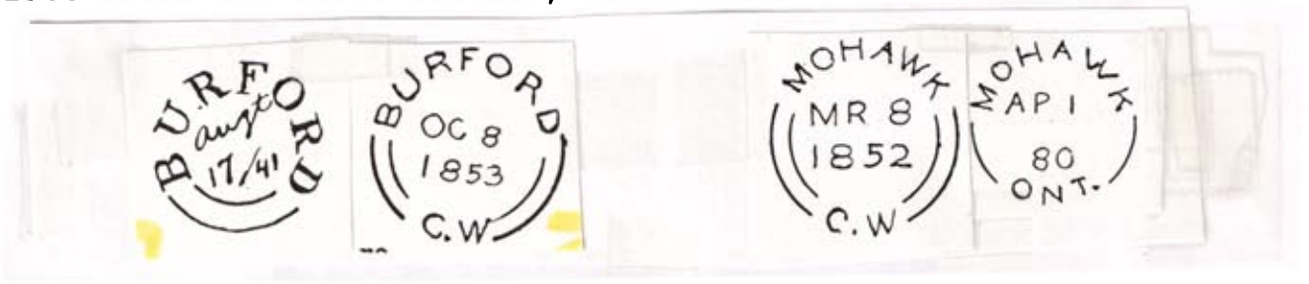


Circa 1885
Fred Cunningham — East Oakland postmaster from 1909 until his death on May 29th, 1911.

Other Outlets

Before rural mail delivery, dwellers living in close proximity to outlets outside the Township used the nearest to them. As an example, the residents in the eastern part of Concessions IV and V picked up their mail at Mohawk (Mount Pleasant) while those in the western half of these two concessions used the Fairfield Plains' office.

Others used the offices at Boston, Mount Vernon, Burtch, Burford and Wilsonville. The latter office opened in 1882, first postmaster P.L. Hays. The hamlet of Wilsonville had been named in 1844 after the first settler, James Wilson.

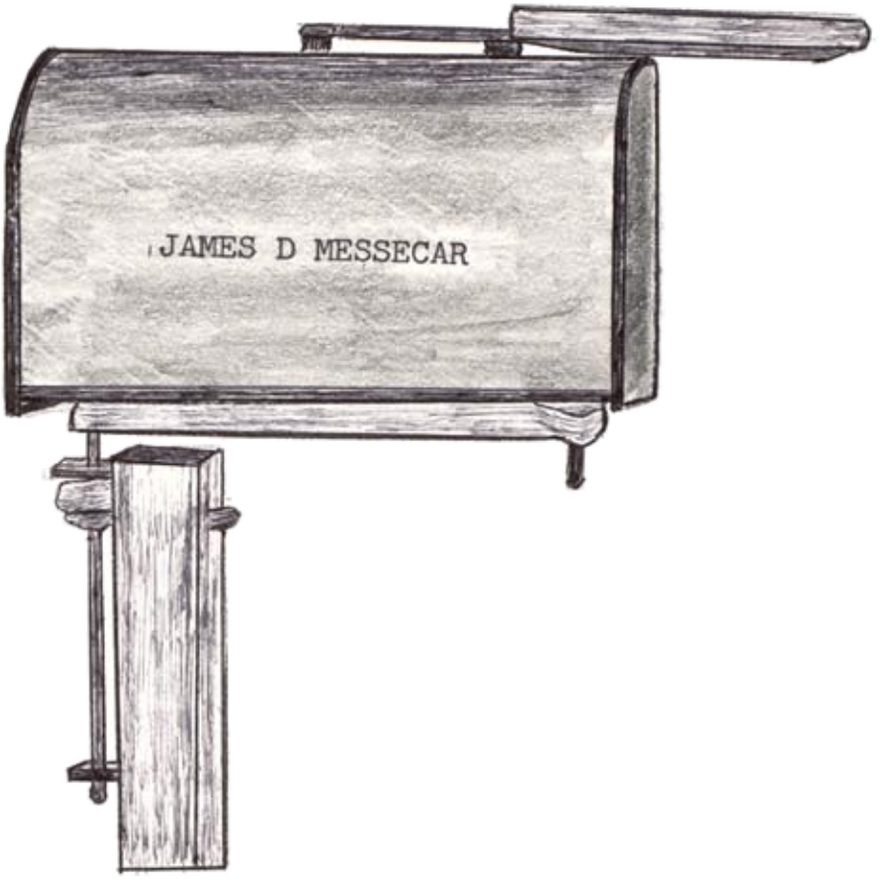


Over the years, Brant County sub-offices have been located at:

Grand View	Cainsville	Harrisburg	Onondaga
Tutela	Cathcart	Hatchley Station	Paris
Burford	Echo Place	Middleport	Paris Station
Glen Morris	Ohsweken	St. George, Brant	Harley
Eagle's Nest	East Oakland	Farringdon Hill	Mount Pleasant
Mount Vernon	Newport	Scotland	Oakland

Boston's general store and post office.

Rural Mail Delivery



The instigator of rural delivery in Canada was George Wilcox of Springford, Ontario, a small community west of Scotland, in Oxford Country. With tongue, pen and media attention Mr. Wilcox, almost single-handedly, waged an agressive campaign which convinced the Postmaster General, the Honourable Rudolphe Lemieux and his government to agree to the service. Approval was announced in the Commons in September of 1908. At the time, Canada had a mere population of eight million.

Rural dwellers immediately began installing mail boxes at their front gates. The first delivery followed on October 10th, along existing stage routes, between Hamilton and Ancaster.

The following item appeared in the Brantford Courier:

> *Mr. George Wilcox, of Springford, Ont., was a caller at the Courier Office on Saturday. He is called the father of Canadian Rural Mail delivery. He has a farm in Michigan, and some years ago had occasion to spend two or three summers there. When he came back to Ontario he at once started an agitation to have the system adopted here.*

In due course, Oakland Township got its rural delivery service. A card addressed to Miss Iva Dunnett, receipt stamped SCOTLAND Nov 10, 1911, shows her address as RR#5. This was the Oakland Road, south of Scotland village which is now RR#1. The residents north of Scotland were on Route #2 (now route 4) and RR#1 was the East Oakland area. It appears, over the years, that the route numbers have been altered.

The card on the left was postmarked at 11 p.m. Nov. 9th 1911 and received at Scotland the next day for R.M.D. The circular date stamp used ~~Ham~~ -ilton P.O. is a full outer circle while the receipt stamp applied at Scotland is the split ring or broken circle type. Applied to the card also was a seven bar (curved) killer or stamp canceller.

In 1914 R.M.D. (rural mail delivery means both delivery and collection) had a number of regulations attached. Importantly, the regulations stipulated that the service would be extended only to routes where the roads were properly maintained; the service would not be given to persons living in villages such as Oakland or Scotland or to persons living within one quarter of a mile of the Post Office; a box approved by the Post Office must be erected on the roadside and easily accessible to the courier without dismounting from his vehicle or horse; the box is to be kept in a state of good repair; mail matter deposited in the box by the sender must be prepaid with proper postage affixed (leaving money in the box for the courier was discouraged); the courier was not bound to engage in a transaction by selling less than twenty-five cents worth of stamps at a time along his route; illegal or unauthorized boxes would not be serviced; once the courier took possession of mail he may not return it.

Ben Norcliffe of Scotland and other couriers provided to the dwellers of their respective routes a veritable general store service from their buggies, which supplemented their incomes. Only a snow-blocked road would prevent six day a week delivery. Ben, in particular, was most accommodating to his customers. Mrs. Norcliffe never knew when to expect her husband home as he made special trips around Scotland to collect goods for next day delivery. Supper was often very late. He carried an endless variety of merchandise such as bread, medicine, binder twine, molasses, coal oil, ploughshares, animal feed, lamp shades and footwear to name a few - but drew the line when asked to supply a case of beer! Barter was not ruled out. Oats for his horse, eggs for the breakfast table, a roast of beef or a chicken may be found in his carriage as he made the trip home.

Not only did the local courier service his patrons with merchandise, he was the purveyor of news along the route. He brought news and local gossip of happenings in and around Scotland plus delivering a variety of periodicals such as the Family Herald, the Farmers Advocate and newspapers. It was also the hey-day for Eatons and Simpsons mail order service and the rural mailman found himself at the bottom end of the delivery trail for such parcels.

Ben Norcliffe knew his customers well. Those who took advantage of his special services without a gratuity, those who didn't maintain their box, those who didn't shovel around the box after a storm, those who left loose change in the box which would most certainly be scattered as he opened the box; and those who failed to turn the box after taking their mail out suffered the consequences. His way of getting even - in inclement weather leave a large parcel, too big for the box, at the base of the post rather than delivering it to the door. The recipient got a soggy mess!

CARRIERS

Rural Route #1 - Scotland
6 trips per week - 17 miles

Frank Olmstead 1914/18
Mary A. Olmstead 1916/18
Geo Steedman 1 Dec 18 - do
and 1920/22
Ben Norcliffe 28 June 1922 to 31 Mar 1926.
(contract $780.00 per annum)
Ben lived two miles north-west of Scotland. Not only did he deliver mail but almost anything that he could carry in his buggy - groceries, medicine, implement parts, coal oil and stamps. After taking an order, he guaranteed next day delivery and even bartered, taking eggs or meat as payment for his goods.
D. Alva Scott 1928/32
($850.00 per annum contract)
Albert E. Laird 1 Apr 1932 - 31 Mar 36 ($695.00 per annum contract and after 1936, $2.50 per day)
Later, Bert Laird contracted for Route # 3

Circa 1936

Fleet-footed rural mail delivery — with rubber tires no less. Above is "Bert" Laird (1890-1978) with his horse Bud hitched to the gig, poised for the day's run along Rural Route #1. The Lairds lived in the white frame house just east of the school at Scotland village.

Mr. Laird was a farmer at Harley before he and his family moved to Scotland in 1934. He returned to the Harley area about 1950. Elaine (Mrs. Keith) Dornan of Victoria B.C., a daughter, states:

> *"one of his horses gave us a lot of trouble, acting somewhat like a mule, would refuse to go unless led by the bridle, then he'd decide to take off on a dead run with me hanging on for dear life! I would catch onto the back of the buggy as he passed by and Dad would grab me by my coat tail and haul me aboard. This happened at every mail-box so it got to be an old story before the end of the eighteen mile route."*
>
> *"Another incident I remember was, one time I wanted to visit a friend and Dad was going to drive me, but before we got the distance of two city blocks, the shafts were broken and the horse had kicked the dashboard right into my face, what a kicking horse that was! Dad dragged the buggy home and I led the horse and that was the end of my visit."*

	Robert "Bob" Victor Swears	1936/45
	($550.00 per annum contract)	
	(contract from $650.00 in 1941 $1408.00 in 1955)	1941/55
	Wm Jacobson	
	Basil Earl Ferris	
	Frank Dickinson	
	Chas E. Bush (1894-1969 - he drew a Brantford route for some years - Charlie Bush and postmaster, Ernie Thorne had a dispute which resulted in Charlie having limited access to the post office property.	
	Gladys Bonnet	
	Walt and Anne Botuik	1975/85
	Ed and Thelma Pite	1985 -

Rural Route #2 - Scotland
6 trips per week - 16 miles

	John Byers	1913/23
(contracts ranged from $450.00 tp $750.00 per annum)	A.W. Robinson	
	Annie E. Robinson	
	Jess "Jessie" Fulsom (1872-1947)	
(W.T. Maguire's contract from $750.00 to $800.00 per annum)	W.T. Maguire (1892-1972)	1921/1945
(contract from $800.00 to $970.00 per annum for Wm Maguire)	W.T. Maguire (1892-1972)	1941/1955

	Frank Lubrick	
	E.W. Thorne (1886-1956)	
(contracts ranged from $970.00 to 1845.00 per annum)	C.Ken McNe11es 1947/61 and 1961/69	
(20.1 miles - per annum contract $1936.79)	Fred P. Nunn 1969 to	
	Mary Ann (Nunn) Wedgerfie1d - to present	

Bi11 Maguire (1892-1972) married Vina Mi11er (1893-19). The fami1y lived beside the T.H. & B. tracks. Bi11 was a veteran of WWI and suffered a hip injury in battle, causing his 1eg to remain stiff. He rode in his buggy with one 1eg protruding out the side. After Bi11 abandoned the horse and buggy mode of trave1, he drove a 1926 Dodge which had its brake and c1utch peda1s modified to accommodate his physica1 disability. Bi11's sons, Bi11 Jr. and Lloyd of Scot1and, reca11ed their experiences on the mai1 route, whi1e assisting their father. On Saturdays or after a heavy snowfa11, they took the mai1 on their hand s1ed up to the 1st concession north of Scot1and, through to Northfie1d, then south on the Harley road and out to the Norwich road. Here they met their father for the return trip to Scot1and.

Rura1 Route #3 - Scot1and
6 trips per week - 18 1/2 mi1es
increased to 19.8 mi1es

(contracts per annum ranged from $700.00 to 800.00)	Dan McIsaac	1913/23
	James Warry	
	H. Sowers	
(800.00 per annum contract)	Dan McIsaac	1923/27
(960.00 per annum contract)	D. McIsaac (1866-1940)	1927/37
(595.00 per annum contract)	A1bert E. Laird	1937/45
(595.00 per annum contract)	Chas Ernest Doughty	
(Or1ie had a contract of $595.00 up to $1200.00 per annum - from 1963/69 his contract was $2105.00)	Or1and "Or1ie" L McNe11es	1941/69

Or1ie, from Ke1vin, was a carrier for over 30 years. He was a1so a qua1ified mechanic. He retired in 1985.

Cami1 and Beatrice Mas son 1985-

Rura1 Route #4 - Scot1and
6 trips per week - 14 1/2
mi1es

(contract at $460.00 per annum)	Thomas Dunn	1915/19
(contract at 503.00 per annum)	Jess "Jessie" Fu1son (1872-1947)	1919/22
(contract at 600.00 per annum)	Wm Jacobson	1923/27

(contract at 600.00 per annum)	Alva Scott	1924/27
(contract at 625.00 per annum)	John Smith	1927/39
	Mrs. Alice Smith John Smith Jr.	
(contract at 581.90 up to 1200.00 per annum - 6 trips per week - 17.3 miles)	Chas E. Bush (1894-1969)	1941/70
(contract from 890.00 in 1954 to $1900.00 by 1969)	Lloyd Wilson	1954/69
	Jim Huggins (Jim managed Huggins store on Simcoe Street before taking the mail route)	1971 to

James Robert Perks had a contract from 1962/64, 21 miles, at $1500.00 per annum.

Harold Bennett had a contract for the same route from 1964/70, 22.4 miles, at $1500.00, increased up to $2806.63.

Edward R. "Ted" Porteous, a farmer on lot 3 Concession II (the former Eddy farm), had a contract in 1957/59, 20.2 miles, at $1262.50 per annum.

Rural Route #4 serviced the residents north and east of Scotland, including Maple Grove.

1944
Helen (Eddy) Porteous

1944
Ted Porteous

CHAPTER 16

Call a Doctor

The practice of medicine when Townsend Gore opened up for settlement was much different than today. Early dwellers learned much about home remedies from the Indians. In the autumn, they organized expeditions into the woods to gather roots and herbs for medicinal use. The cedar tree found along Malcolm's Creek was referred to as "the tree of life". From it was made an aromatic brew, steeped from the branches, then consumed by the pioneers to prevent scurvy. The tribal doctors on the Six Nations Reserve were proficient in sewing up lacerations with strips of tendons and they passed their skills on to the white population. Pioneers found home treatment remedies effective and sufficient. The first doctors to arrive found limited use of their profession, except for surgery which was performed in crude surroundings, without the benefit of clinical techniques acquired years later. Most practitioners in the rural areas were homesteaders first, medical healers second and they had competition from the barber surgeons and the apothecaries who had established practices in medicine.

Doctor's black bag

Mary (Sitts) Johnson, who settled near Boston in Townsend Township, and had been captured by the Indians and remained in their custody for a considerable time, became known as "Granny Johnson the healer". Mary learned the secrets of herbal medicine from her Indian captors. Mr. Charles Courtnage writes "The Legend of Granny Johnson, the angel of mercy, lasted for a hundred years.

It is easy to picture her, skirting the swamps as she searched for the roots of the pussy willow or the bark of the witch-hazel or searching the higher ground for wild strawberry or blackberry. She must have walked miles along the snow covered trails to keep late vigils with sick or injured neighbours. It has been told that even those who talked about her until she was nearly driven from her church sought her help when disaster struck, often arriving on horses that were white with lather". Her highly effective plant remedies such as oil of wintergreen, bloodroot and high bush cranberry potions cured many but when the Europeans spread their epidemic diseases like diphtheria, smallpox, typhoid and measles, the herbal medicines failed to be effective.

Mary died in 1859, in her eighty-eighth year, just eight years before Confederation. She left a legacy of three surviving children and forty grandchildren. She is buried in the Boston cemetery on some of the first land George Cunningham cleared, and rests, surrounded by both her husbands and all her children. With the death of Mary Sitts ended the pioneering era of the Nelles family and the secrets she had learned from her captors about herbal healing.

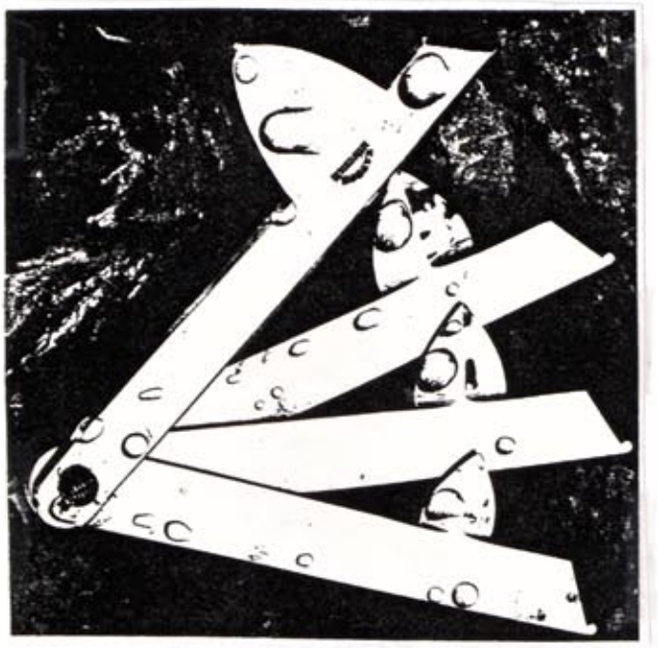
Hospitals and clinics were not available to early township residents and midwives assisted at childbirth — mortality rates were high. House calls were the accepted method of attending to the sick and injured. Every country doctor had his horse and buggy at the ready for emergency trips. Physicians often served as an anaesthetist, a surgeon and nurse all at one time when performing surgery. His saw, for limb removal, was always available. Bullet wounds, accidents involving large animals such as being attacked by a bull, or broken bones in a runaway, or boiler explosions because of the prevalent use of steam power and even burns involving open fires were all common calls responded to by rural doctors in the 1800's. In his black bag he carried a stethoscope, midwifery forceps, catheters, bougies, probangs, tooth forceps, a lithoscope, a cupping case and other basic instruments and drugs.

Other calls taken by the rural practitioner included teeth extractions; difficult deliveries with many deaths to the mother or infant or both; diseases such as scarlet fever, measles or diphtheria and more seriously the outbreak of an epidemic. A rural doctor's life was a busy one and often hazardous. Late calls on a pitch black night could cause a horse to stray off the road. An upset buggy was the consequence. The ordeal of travelling in bad weather or on muddy spring roads was all part of the profession.

An added inconvenience was the inability of the patient to pay. Doctors accepted barter, or credit, or simply wrote off the bill. Years ago, office calls were in the order of fifty cents a visit (higher for medication); house calls in town one dollar day time, one dollar and fifty cents night time; obstetrical case ten dollars to fifteen dollars; mileage for country calls ten cents a mile (one way).

Bloodletting was a common treatment for some diseases, applied in conjunction with the prescribing of massive doses of mercury.

Other 19th century therapies used by practitioners were general regimens of diet, exercise, rest, baths, massage, cupping, blistering, sweating, enemas, fumigations and plant drugs.



a bleeding knife

In 1890, a home-remedy healer advertised the following to rid the body of tapeworms:

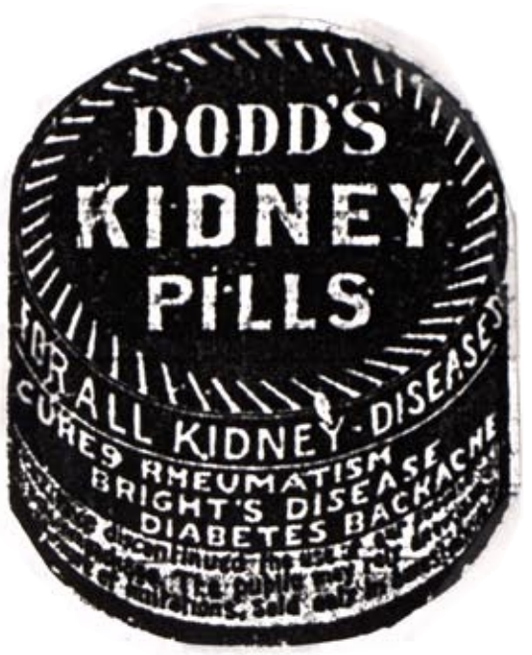
1. Fast up to 60 hours
2. Use a vermifuge made up of ground pumpkin seed - a tablespoon full
3. Six hours later follow with an enema
4. Repeat if necessary.

Healing ointments and salves became popular in the mid nineteenth century. The following ad appeared in the Scotland Journal, May 1885 edition;

> "For the best strengthening or healing salve made, go to Hugh Stevenson's, who manufacturers it in this village. Hundreds of reliable testimonials can be furnished as to their respective merits."

A device used in the nineteenth century to stimulate deep breathing.

Home remedies took many forms and it was not uncommon for local people, with no professional credentials, to publish books of their own tried and proven concoctions and potions.



Caleb E. Rammage (1844-1932) the son of a local Methodist circuit rider, was one such distributor of health tips. His book "Health - How to Attain and How to Retain It" which sold for $2.00 contained a myriad of apparent cures for humans and animals alike. His cure for a toothache, was to take two drams of alum and reduce it to a fine powder, add seven drams of nitrous spirits of ether, mix and apply to the tooth.

For hog cholera take a handful of wood ashes and place in a pail of warm swill and feed the hog - pour it down the throat if the animal cannot eat.

A cure for hiccof (hiccup) - frighten the patient suddenly, so the palm of the diaphragm is reversed, or tickle the ear with a hair or feather while the patient drinks large draughts of cool water, or press hard behind both ears while the patient drinks a glass of cool water without stopping.

("Ed" Rammage was born near Waterford on November 30, 1844. At eighteen, he ran away from home and joined Company M of the Michigan Volunteers and saw action in the Civil War. He married Sarah Barber (1850-1921) of Cherry Valley. Ed died in Pomona, California.)

An 1852 promotional flyer issued by Comstock and Brother:

FOR THE MARRIED
"be ye fruitful and multiply"

A command that should be cheerfully obeyed by the children of men. Dr. Larzette's Juno Procreatise Elixir,

prescribed as a restorative in cases of Debility, Impotence, Barrenness and all irregularities of nature. A remedy for General debility, Gleet, weakness of the Genital Organs, Nervous affection, Leucorrhoea or Whites. As an invigorating medicine it is unequalled. Also, a certain remedy for Incipient Consumption, Indigestion, loss of Muscular Energy, Physical Lassitude, Female weakness Debility. It is warranted to please the user in any of the above complaints, and is a priceless value to those without offspring. CAUTION EXTRA - Find the name of Comstock Brother on the Wrapper, and never buy it until you find the above name; as it has been extensively counterfeited of late. Avoid the counterfeit as you would poison.

An 1893 ad to give hope to the frail:

To get bright looking: "If any sallow faced, bilious looking, skinny woman will drink a pint of sweet milk with one-fourth the quantity of lime water every day and sleep eight hours at night, she will be bright looking, if not pretty in 90 days."

Mrs. Lewis's Cough Syrup:

"I could not sleep at nights, and after taking three doses of Mrs. Lewis's syrup it entirely cured my cough."

George Hall
Townsend, Sept. 28th, 1852

Diabetes, a dreaded disorder before the discovery of insulin in 1920, took many lives. Victims were kept thin on a strict, near starvation, diet until they wa sted away and succumbed. Abishai Rand Jr. (1831-1860), a farmer north of Scotland, was a victim. He died a diabetic at twenty-nine years of age.

Around 1860, medical men called "root doctors" or botanics circulated freely throughout the countryside selling their vegetable cures of roots and herbs. One Dr. Thomson advocated steaming his patients, then prescribing several vegetable-based medicines. He sold his patent to others. The trade in this product became very competitive with intense advertising in home journals.

In 1848, the problem of how best to accommodate and care for the mentally ill came to the fore in a dramatic way and shocked Oakland Township dwellers when they learned two of their own were being kept in filthy, inhumane conditions. The Provincial Asylum was, in fact, a deserted jail house and lacked proper facilities for housing the unfortunate "lunatics" as they were called at that time. Some patients were, reportedly, short on clothing and others had been naked for weeks. The patients were locked up in the old jail cells.

Following a news release, public interest and sentiment caused authorities to call for tenders to upgrade the Provincial Lunatic Asylum but it would be many more years before these distressed souls could expect to receive the care, treatment and dignity they rightfully deserved.

Hospitals

In the nineteenth century the hospital staff often displayed signs of being insensitive and uncaring to the needs of their patients, especially the poor. Out-patient departments did offer some care to the sick indigents as they arrived and lined up in the dimly lit hallways of the teaching hospitals. The sick poor sought help at the free hospital clinics, the rich went to specialists, and the great mass of middle class people struggled to pay their bills should they find it necessary to be admitted for treatment. Medicare was a century away from being implemented.

In Brantford, a frame building located on the south-west corner of Market and Darling Streets, across from the site of the Bank of Montreal, was the first building to be used for hospital

purposes but only for members of the 73rd Regiment who were there in 1837-38. In 1866 and following years, when British Regiments were quartered in the Town of Brantford, the former Wilkes dwelling house was also converted into a hospital for the troops. When first erected, it was the finest house in the village and was approached by a sweeping driveway. It's common name then was "Baronial Hall". In times of smallpox and other epidemics temporary frame buildings were constructed as supplementary space to house the sick.

It was not until 1884 that a meeting was called in the old Y.M.C.A. to launch a public subscription campaign for a facility to serve the County of Brant. A letter from the late Mr. John H. Stratford, was read in which he stated that he might have something of importance to communicate within a few days. Later, Mr. Stratford offered to present a hospital and some seven acres of ground to the City upon certain conditions, which included the stipulation of a Board of five Governors, of whom Mr. Stratford and his nominee should form two, and the Mayor and two members of the City Council, the other three. Mr. Stratford also offered to grant $400 per annum towards maintenance. It was situated upon the brow of Terrace Hill, with a wide and uninterrupted view of the plateau beneath. The original structure consisted of a building three stories high with frontage of one hundred feet and forty-two feet deep, exclusive of a rear wing thirty by forty. The capacity was forty-five beds. Furnishings were supplied by Mrs. Stratford, Ignatius Cockshutt and Mrs. A. S. Hardy. It was officially opened on February 10, 1885.

Later, the County of Brant was represented on the Board of Governors by Warden Jacob A. Messecar (1858-1938), thus Oakland Township dwellers gained access to this treatment centre as Dr. John Anderson commenced sending the seriously ill to B.G.H.

In June of 1900, the ratepayers voted the sum of $12,000 for an addition to the original building and in 1910 Mr. Joseph Stratford consented to have the name, "John H. Stratford Hospital" changed to "General Hospital".

In 1910, the Board consisted of: - Joseph Stratford, (President), C. H. Waterous, A. K. Bunnell, George Watt, Dr. Bell, F. D. Reville, H. Cockshutt, T. H. Preston, R. Sanderson, W. W. Woods, J. A. Messecar (Warden), D. B. Wood (Mayor). Joseph Stratford (1847-1913) was a younger brother of the donor, John Stratford. He was also a leading businessman in Brantford and active in civic affairs.

Three years later, in 1913, Joseph E. H. Stratford died and his son Graham K. Stratford (1884-1948) succeeded him on the Board

of Governors which consisted of Dr. E. R. Secord, Miss E. McKee, F. D. Reville, Miss V. Pearson, Graham K. Stratford, A. K. Bunnell, J. A. D. Slemin, Allan Franklin, H. J. Symons, J. E. Quinlan, George Watt, G. H. Muirhead and John McEwan Warden of Brant County. John McEwan (1866-1927) was the son of Thomas and Charity Smith McEwan, pioneer farmers in the Township. John married a local girl Rhoda Westbrook, daughter of Mordecai Westbrook. They farmed and ran a general store north west of Scotland, at Fairfield.

The Stratford lineage is carried on at Brantford through Graham's son, John, born in 1920. He lives on the Oxbow Road south of the city.

John McEwan
Warden of Brant County
and a member of the Board
of Governors in 1913.

The County of Brant contributed $15,000 towards improvements in 1912 and a new wing was added at a cost of $100,000.

In January of 1920, another vote of $185,000 was requested for the purpose of erecting a new Isolation Building and making extensions to permit the establishment of Maternity and Children's Wards. The measure was carried by a majority of eleven and the improvements, when completed, enabled the institution to upgrade its bed capacity to two hundred.

The original donor, John H. Stratford, came to Brantford with his parents when only a child, in 1844. When a young man, he became a partner of his father in the wholesale drug business and then branched into other pursuits, finally forming a partnership with Mr. Henry Yates. He was interested in railway and other contracts and amassed a large estate. He died on Sunday, February 12, 1888 in his forty-seventh year.

The Nurse

A generic term, the word *nurse* means "to nourish" or "one who nourishes". From biblical times the word was used to refer to those who gave personal care to the sick or helpless. These

humanitarians, always females, were readily recognized in their respective communities because of their special gift when called upon to act as "good neighbours". Often they served as midwives.

Once private and public hospitals emerged, the registered nurse became critical to its operation. But, for many, these early hospitals were seen as death traps and not healing places. Methods of antisepsis were not in use, gang rene and septicemia prevailed, ventilation was poor, bad smells abounded, toilet and sanitary arrangements were lacking, furnishings were unsuitable and even vermin and huge rats stalked the hallways. The death rates were appalling. The nurse of that era performed as best she could but it was not until the Crimean War period and the progressive work of Florence Nightingale that the awful conditions in tending to the sick steadily improved. Florence Nightingale established a training school where most of her trainees were oriented and committed themselves to the profession. Some came to Canada to become pioneers in their field. The Mack Training School at St. Catharines was the first in Southern Ontario to organize a school for nursing. It followed the Nightingale teachings. Initially, Florence Nightingale's methods brought her in conflict with medical men because she vehemently insisted that the training and discipline should be in the hands of women instructors who had undergone the training.

The nursing profession, as it is known today, stems from a prolonged struggle for better standards of care for the ill and a quality of character and perseverance in those who entered the calling. And so it was when Clara Patterson (1873-1966) entered a hospital training school in 1896. This young lady sought out the profession believing there was a need to help relieve the suffering of humanity and harbouring a fervent sense of commitment to this cause.

Circa 1899 - Clara Patterson

Wearing her stiff, blue-strip ed uniform, and round nurses cap with a black band, she embarked on a training program only to find her rural background had not prepared her for the huge adjustment as the sheer drama of life and death within the walls of the

Nurses of a previous era — wearing their starched stiff caps, aprons, bibs, black stockings and equipped with watches, scissors, note book and pen.

institution unfolded. This white-capped young lady suddenly became a central figure in satisfying the most vital of human needs, good health.

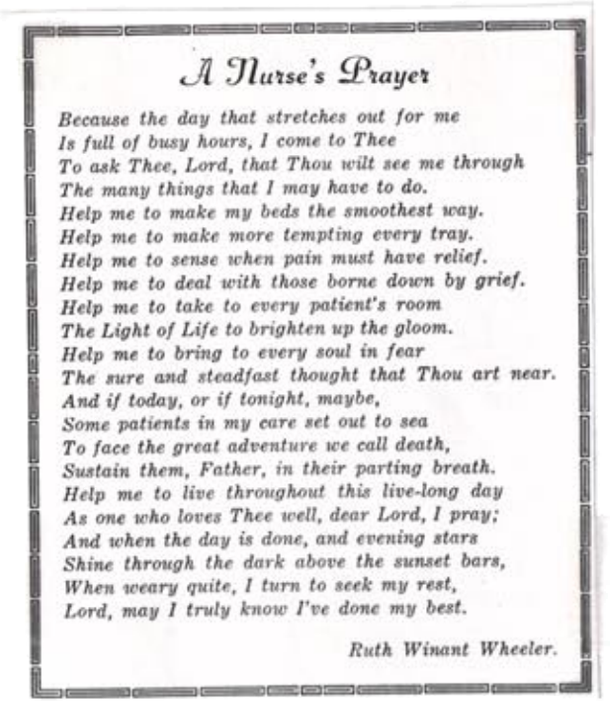
In Clara's day, women had the same status as imbeciles or children. Schools of nursing were run by male doctors. The training schools turned out a disciplined work force whose prime function was to make hospitals attractive for patients. The money charged the patients did not go towards paying a good wage, rather for other operational and administrative needs. The hospitals were indeed guilty of encouraging the use of "cheap labour".

Under a strict disciplinary code she was taught; to accept as right and necessary much that she did not understand; to accept authority with grace; to be attentive and observant; to understand that the patient was the most important person inside the walls of the hospital; to shoulder her personal responsibilities without flinching; to be loyal to the institution; to exhibit exemplary conduct both on and off duty; to study hard and sacrifice for the good of the profession; to suppress prejudices and to keep an open mind while tackling a myriad of utilitarian tasks.

Clara Patterson also had a uniform to keep clean and pressed. This nineteenth century apparel had to be worn with an air of dignity and properness. Her dress, apron, cap, collars, and cuffs were heavily starched but must be worn to be noiseless, with no sharp cuffs to cut the patient. No rings, bracelets or hair adornments were allowed. In the dress and wearing of the uniform there must be good taste, correctness, refinement and propriety.

Such was Clara's world for three years as she fulfilled her pledge to serve the cause of mankind. It was most certainly a humanitarian work, for her twelve hour shifts held little monetary reward. Pay was a mere pittance - during probation there was no remuneration. A monthly stipend of $4.00 followed, if the probationary report proved to be satisfactory.

She left her nursing career to marry James Hepburn. James died a young man and Clara Patterson Hepburn took up market gardening north of Oakland village, lot 7 concession II. Accustomed to hard work, she quickly adapted to the back-breaking muscle power, and long hours, necessary to harvest a bountiful crop. Her road-side vegetable stand attracted customers from as far away as Brantford.



A Nurse's Prayer

Because the day that stretches out for me
Is full of busy hours, I come to Thee
To ask Thee, Lord, that Thou wilt see me through
The many things that I may have to do.
Help me to make my beds the smoothest way.
Help me to make more tempting every tray.
Help me to sense when pain must have relief.
Help me to deal with those borne down by grief.
Help me to take to every patient's room
The Light of Life to brighten up the gloom.
Help me to bring to every soul in fear
The sure and steadfast thought that Thou art near.
And if today, or if tonight, maybe,
Some patients in my care set out to sea
To face the great adventure we call death,
Sustain them, Father, in their parting breath.
Help me to live throughout this live-long day
As one who loves Thee well, dear Lord, I pray;
And when the day is done, and evening stars
Shine through the dark above the sunset bars,
When weary quite, I turn to seek my rest,
Lord, may I truly know I've done my best.

Ruth Winant Wheeler.

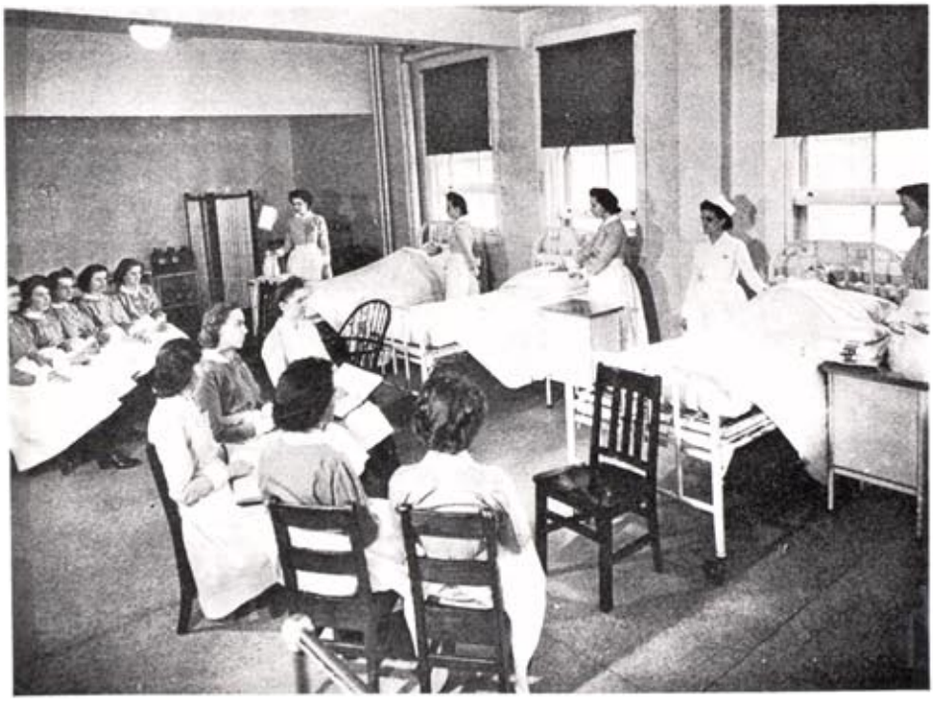
Several Oakland residents were early graduates of B.G.H., including:

Evelyn Dunningham, a 1935 graduate.
Jean McEwan, a 1940 graduate.
Jean A. McCutcheon, daughter of Chester and Laura McCutcheon, graduated on June 6th 1945. Her nursing career took her to Michigan. She died on August 9th 1993.

1945
Jean McCutcheon

1935
Evelyn Dunningham, RN

Evelyn entered training in 1932. Her remuneration for the first year was $5.00 a month, increased to $8.00 the second year and, in her final year of training she was rewarded with a salary of $10.00 a month.



Marjorie A. Tottle daughter of Frank and Mary Tottle

Laurel Sutherland RN (Barnes)

Lia (Barbosa) Kutzscher - graduate Fanshawe College.

Catherine I. Arthur - graduate Mohawk College.

Jean I. Cochran graduate BGH - 1951

Yvonne E. Van Luttikhuizen - graduate Mohawk College - 1986.

Sheila Van Exan H.G.H. 1964 B.Sc.N. University Western Ontario 1969

Wilma Van Exan - graduate 1952 B.G.H.

Marilyn C. Van Exan - graduate 1953 B.G.H.

Judy Van Exan - graduate HGH 1959

Van Exan sisters – daughters of Mr. and Mrs. James Van Exan

Betty Lou Burtch R.N. (Renn) 1966 B.G.H. graduate — daughter of Lewis and Bobby (Tott1e) Burtch of East Oak1and.

Vera Smith R.N. (Abbott) daughter of Eric and Edna Smith of Oak1and (paving contractor).

O. Jean McEwan R.N. 1940 grad B.G.H.

After graduation, Jean McEwan worked at Lady Wi11ingdon Hospita1 in Ohsweken, nursing typhoid patients; then to B.G.H. (assistant night supervisor); then to Pub1ic Hea1th, 1945 to 1981, at Kitchener and Brant County.

Dorothy Murie1 Smith R.N., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C.E.Smith of Scot1and, was a B.G.H. graduate in the 30's. She married Dr. Les1ie G1enn Bannister of Vanessa in August 1938.

Isabelle A. Orchard

Isabelle (Orchard) Vandervlist, daughter of Harry and Christie Orchard, graduated from the Nurse Practitioner class at McMaster University in 1959 – also a graduate from H.G.H. and Waterford High School. Her parents operated a general store at Oakland.

Nurses who took the McMaster Medical School training honed their skills to examine, treat and advise patients as "doctor's assistants".

The Burlington Gazette reported on February 9th, 1972 that this Oakland graduate "worked in the office of Dr. W.I. Hay and has her own office, where she interviews and examines 30 per cent of Dr. Hay's patients. In addition to three years training as a registered nurse, she has gone to McMaster one day a week since last February to develop her skills so she can fill an expanded role in primary care.

The purpose of the 10-month work-study program was to assist registered nurses already employed in family physicians' offices in developing the skills necessary for interviewing, history-taking, physical assessment, management of simple health and illness problems, uncomplicated pre- and post-natal care, and continuing health maintenance.

The course designed and developed by Dr. Dorothy Kergin, director of the McMaster School of Nursing, and Dr. Walter Spitzer of the Department of Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatics, was a pilot program financed by a $102,586 government grant. The grant will cover costs of a similar program to be offered several times during the next three years. It is the first such course in Canada.

The first 22 graduates work in family physicians' offices in several communities within a 50-mile radius of Hamilton. All continued their regular jobs while taking the course.

LETTER EXPLAINED

Last summer Dr. Hay and his associate Dr. G.P. Sweeny sent a letter to all their patients explaining the new role to be taken by Mrs. Vandervlist and another new nurse practitioner, Mrs. Georgie Lefroy.

"Patients have been very good and very responsive," Mrs. Vandervlist reports. "The patients are given a choice of seeing me or the doctor, but very few have asked to deal only with the doctor."

"We are encouraged to problem-solve." says Mrs. Vandervlst, "although we require the doctor's OK for prescriptions. We're very fortunate that our doctors were all for the program."

unquote

The following article is courtesy of the Oakland Women's Institute — Tweedsmuir History project:

Wilbur M. Edy was born June 9th, 1906 to Ella and Maitland Edy. He attended East Oakland Public School, and later Robinson Business College and Waterford High School. While a young man, he was stricken with arthritis and bed-ridden. To help pass the lonely days and nights, Wilbur wrote many articles in prose and poetry. He passed away in his 33rd year, March 18th, 1939.

In this article by Wilbur, entitled "Hospital Humour", it gives a good description of the Brantford General, as it was in 1928;

"It was summer, the summer of 1928, to be exact. My health had been failing steadily and at last I was forced to resort to the use of crutches to support the weight of my body which my weakened legs refused to carry any longer. Various methods of treatment had failed and it was at last decided that I should go to the hospital for treatment and examination. This idea did not meet with my approval in the least but realizing just what my condition was then and where it might lead if allowed to go on, I was forced to give in. The doctor planned to celebrate my debut into the hospital by removing a couple of spare tonsils which happened to be in my throat. He said that they were doing no good there anyway, and it would not hurt in the least to have them out. And he was right, it did not hurt - that is - it did not hurt him. I was always under the impression before that a hospital was a place where they took people to die but I was soon to learn that a hospital was a place where they took people to help them to live. I also discovered that there is something humorous abut every situation and that humour is just where you look for it. The following narratives will show that this is true even from a hospital patients standpoint.

MY ARRIVAL

The Doctor had arranged that there would be a bed ready for me on Monday afternoon after visiting hours so four thirty found us at the office for admittance. Here we

were met by a nurse who conducted us to the compensation ward where my bed was located. This was a small ward containing five beds. Four of them were filled and one was shut off by screens. This one turned out to be for me. The nurse removed a couple of pigs (earthen hot water bottles) from the bed, handed me two garments, which she called a pneumonia jacket and gown, told me to put them on and to ring the bell when I was in bed. This sounded simple enough but the pneumonia jacket proved a puzzler. I have yet to see the person who could get into one of those without being shown. After working for awhile I gave up in despair, rang the bell and asked for help. And what a surprise that gown turned out to be. The person who invented that style, started out with good intentions but he either ran out of material or ambition before the job was half finished. It is a very much abbreviated but has the abbreviation in the wrong end to suit my taste. Compared with this outfit, Mahatma Gandhi wears a full dress suit. My grandmother's nightie would have made a half dozen each. After these two garments had been adjusted properly and I was safely in bed the nurse came and cheered me up with the news that the next morning at ten thirty was the time set to relieve my of my tonsils. Then she removed the screen and left me to get acquainted with the other patients. A few minutes later the supper trays were brought in. That is, they were brought in to the rest, for my supper that night consisted of custard and a glass of milk. The rest of the night was spent in trying to persuade myself that the doctor might be right and that this simple operation might be as enjoyable to me as he said. At nine the lights were put out and as an occasional moan or groan reached my ears from the ward above, I did not look forward with much anticipation to my first night's sleep.

MINUS TWO TONSILS

What a night that was, and what a relief when morning came and the nurse came in to take temperatures and wash us for breakfast. I had about as much sleep as a night watchman in an ammunition factory. My nerves were jumpy at best and noises coming from different parts of the hospital failed to croon me to sleep. Whether someone had a lapse of memory or whether it was orders, anyway I did not get any breakfast at all. Treating me like that

must have bothered their conscience and to show me that there were no hard feelings, a nurse came in soon after and gave me a shot in the arm from a hypodermic syringe with a very sharp point. Or as I had had a very restless night, perhaps this was given to keep awake so that I would get the full enjoyment of what was to follow. As the time neared ten-thirty the nurse brought me a couple of bags which she called operating room stockings, and told me to put them on. Knowing that everyone gets cold feet at a time like that, these stockings are put on to warm them. A few minutes later a bump against the door announced the arrival of the orderly with a high four-wheeled carriage. It was covered with a red blanket which was not cheering to look at. I decided right then that red was not my favourite colour. I was loaded on this carriage and covered with a sheet. The orderly said the elevator was broken and that I would have to walk when we reached the stairs. When the nurse told him that I could not walk he said that he would carry me then. When we reached the foot of the stairs, he lifted me from the carriage and we began the struggle up the two flights of stairs. He told me to take hold of his neck so that I would not fall. I replied that if I fell there would be two of us to pick up at the bottom. You can imagine the sight we presented as we began to climb. Me with that short gown with the southern exposure, the long white stockings, the sheet draped around me with ends nearly touching the floor and clinging frantically to the orderly's neck. All that was needed to have made that a perfect picture would have been a band at the foot of the stairs playing that old spiritual "Climbing Up The Golden Stairs". When he reached the top we entered a door marked Operating Room and he laid me on the table. The boys in the ward, to steady my nerves, I guess, had told me that I would see knives, hatchets, saws and cleavers hanging on the walls just like a butchers shop. But what a sight met my eyes. The room was spotless white. There was a glass cabinet full of delicate shining instruments and a couple of small tables. The doctors and nurses were dressed in white with masks over their faces."

Commencing with Dr. John Anderson, followed by Doctors Lorne Stuart and Hugh R. Serles, and in more recent times Dr. Jack Shaver, these Scotland practitioners regularly referred patients to B.G.H. and St. Joseph's. During Dr. Anderson's early practice,

CIRCA 1945 - Before Medicare

a Solution

TO YOUR PROBLEM

Because we know the financial burden imposed by an unexpected hospital bill we recommend that you consider the advantages of subscribing to Plan for Hospital Care.

Accident or sudden illness—when immediate hospitalization is ordered by your doctor there is not time to think of the cost . . . to get well again is the only objective. But the road to recovery may be blocked if the patient has disquieting thoughts . . . worries over the hospital bill . . . anxieties in regard to the cost of service.

To remove this obstacle in the way of good health your hospital is participating in Plan for Hospital Care, a non-profit service for meeting hospital expenses.

To enrol application is made as one of a group at your place of employment provided there are five or more on the staff. Consideration is also given to enrolling special groups such as professional associations, farmers' organizations, etc., where members do not serve under a common employer.

Safeguard yourself and family with these benefits

31 days of Hospital Care first year
36 days—2nd year 41 days—3rd year
46 days—4th year 51 days—5th year

General Nursing Care Meals and Dietary Service
Anaesthetic Materials Operating Room Service
Routine Biochemistry and Pathological Services
Electrocardiographic Films Basal Metabolism Tests
Ordinary Drugs and Medications
Dressings and Plaster Cast Materials
Emergency Hospital Service following an accident
One-half Hospital Charges for Maternity Care after 12 months' participation of husband and wife

Admission to any participating hospital with no credit formality and with no cash payment in advance.

To become a subscriber you need only pay

Standard Ward	Monthly Subscriptions.	Semi-Private
$ .50	Single subscriber	**$ .75**
$1.00	Subscriber, spouse and all children under sixteen years.	**$1.50**

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Sponsored by
ONTARIO HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION, INC.
The Only Approved Non-Profit Blue Cross Plan in Ontario
36 Toronto Street Toronto 1, Ontario

The clauses for Deed of Gift drawn up by John H. Stratford in 1885 mandated that the Brantford hospital would be; strictly non-sectarian; that five Governors, John Stratford being one, shall supervise all affairs of the institution; that the County of Brant (including Oakland Twp) was to have the privileges of the Hospital. With two major renovations, the institution was able to accommodate 200 beds by 1920. Jacob A. Messecar, Reeve of Oakland Twp and Warden of the County, served on the Hospital Board in 1910.

before the turn of the century, necessary trips by horse and carriage to the hospital took him down Oakland Street to the four corners at Oakland, then north and east to Brantford along the old #24 highway, an unpaved road. A round trip, even at the trot, took over two hours. Doctors Stuart, Serles and Shaver had no such open air rides to see their patients, in fact, a fast driver could make it in twenty-five minutes, door to door - in obstetrical circumstances even less.

But not all of Dr. Shaver's deliveries made it to the hospital. He reports as follows:

QUOTE:

> *My office in Scotland was about fourteen miles from the General and St. Joseph's Hospitals. This necessitated numerous trips back and forth to the Brantford Hospitals, many of them quite hurried trips, a good number of these being for obstetrical cases. I recall early one morning an expectant father pounding on the office door (my office and house were together in those days) and hurriedly informed me that his wife was in the car about to deliver the baby, no time to reach Brantford, and that he was bringing her into the office to deliver. He had a new Car, but nevertheless had experienced a flat tire and had to take time to change this which put him a little behind. I countered with the proposal that he proceed with all haste to Brantford and I would follow behind. He would have none of this, brought his wife quickly into the office and a few minutes later, with the help of my wife, we delivered a fine baby boy.*
>
> *On another occasion, I delivered a fine baby girl in the car just outside the front door of St. Joseph's Hospital."*

Not too many years ago, universal hospital and medical care under a government sponsored program was unavailable. In 1940, Township dwellers admitted to B.G.H. would have paid out of their own pockets - $1.50 a day for wards, $2.00 for semi-private and $2.50 for a private room.

Epidemics

Oakland Township dwellers did not escape the fury of the full blown death-dealing diseases that were a scourge on the lives of its pioneers. As it was elsewhere, the year of 1849 was devastating to the area because of an outbreak of cholera. Sporadic outbreaks had occurred earlier, particularly in 1832, again in 1842, and continued until the 1880's. Families were stricken in great numbers and, in some cases, several children in a family were taken. Filthy conditions aboard the sailing ships carrying immigrants was a contributing factor.

One such family in the neighbouring Township of Townsend known to have experienced the ravages of the scourge was the Grieves who lived near Waterford. William Grieve (1815-1897), a merchant tailor, and his wife Jane Rammage Grieve (1810-1863) lost five children within a matter of days; Sarah died on October 1, 1849 at four years; Lydia died on October 4th at six years; Elizabeth died on October 6th at seven years; John died on October 9th at two years and Mary died on October 12th, 1849 at ten years of age. All are buried in the Old Windham cemetery along with their mother who was fatally injured in a "run-away" several years later. Their oldest child, Hannah, survived the epidemic and later married Dr. Thomas Nichol, an early practising doctor in Townsend and later in Montreal.

Oakland Township families who suffered multiple losses included:

(a) William and Penelope Abbott who lost Wm Jr. on September 16, 1853 at eighteen years and Milford on November 13, 1853 at fourteen years and a daughter, Ugenia, died also. They are buried in the Pioneer Cemetery.

(b) Moses Baldwin (1790-1881) and his wife Phebe (1790-1851) lost Amanda on October 23, 1836 at nineteen and Mary on the same day at three years of age. They were farmers north of Oakland village on lot five Concession III.

(c) John and Charlotte Herbert lost Phebe on August 27, 1850 at sixteen months and Barbara on September 1st of the same year. They were twins.

(d) Samuel and Lavinia Jay lost William on April 27, 1827, James on May 29th and Amelia on August 2nd of the same year. Their son John died several years earlier.

(e) Shubael D. Malcolm (1814-1878) and his wife Elvira Foster (1820-1894) farmers at Oakland, on the homestead overlooking the millpond, lost Alletta, William and Fanny within a short period of time. Four sons survived and all became active in the business and industrial activity of Oakland and Scotland. Their son, John Rolph, referred to previously, became a local practising physician.

(f) Hiram Westbrook (1797-1881) and his wife Polly (1811-1883) lost Alphreda in 1851 at four years and Hiram.

Cholera, a disease caused by an infection of the intestines, is transmitted in food and water. Flies help in the spread of its germs and strict sanitary measures are necessary as a control measure. Unfortunately many families in the mid 1800's simply did not understand its origin, and in many cases, their crude living conditions could not be upgraded because of poverty.

The "good neighbour" policy was much in evidence during the first Cholera outbreak, brought to the area by Irish immigrants. In nearby Brantford, health department officials were not spared. Dr. Keist and an associate Mr. Gardiner, who was the Health Inspector, were both stricken and died. Unfortunately at this time, doctors disagreed as to whether the malaise was contagious. There was a tendency then to see cholera as a disease of the blood and ineffective treatments such as bleeding and cauterizing were advocated.

Later came the terrible scourge of ship fever which spread from Quebec and Montreal to every town along the route to London and westward. Thousands of Irish immigrants fell victims to this epidemic of 1847-48, and were buried in Toronto, Hamilton, Brantford and beyond towards the Detroit River.

Temporary hospitals were set up in Brantford, one in the East Ward and one on West Mill Street, **now Grand River Avenue.**

John Hawkins and Joseph Dalton were appointed to supervise the hospital in the North Ward and their sons, one of whom was J.J. Hawkins, as small boys, in the evenings carried pails of milk for the sick.

The boys wit es ly app ll g scenes, whole families being prostrated in the l le boa d shanties. Many wagonloads arrived from day to day, with all sick except the driver.

One such family of sick immigrants was placed in a barn attached to the Lemmon premises, corner of Nelson and Bridge Streets. The school children, among them young J.J. Hawkins, would stand in front of the open door, gazing awe-struck upon the fever-stricken patients, as they lay in the straw in the clothes in which they arrived.

Along the fence to the rear of Greenwood Cemetery for years afterwards the mounds of the long lines of graves could be plainly traced, but these have long since disappeared.

Years ago, news reporting was very local, even to the point of providing an update on the community's state of health.

The February 12th edition of the Scotland Sun reports:

> *"We have heard more than one of our oldest inhabitants remark that no time in their memory were there ever so many ill in this community at one time as at present. The prevailing disease is* ***la grippe****. However, there are some who are indisposed, from other causes. Mr. Milton Glover has inflammation on the lungs. Mr. Malcolm is dangerously ill with asthma, and Mr. Robert Glover lies at the point of death from an old ailment. In Mr. Hamilton Smith's family there are four down with la grippe, viz: Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Ed and Fred. Their friends hope for their early recovery. William Malcolm, who has had several bad attacks this winter, is again very bad, and grave fears are entertained for his recovery."*

On April 22nd, 1892, The Sun states:

> *"there has been an outbreak of German measles at Scotland - many young people in the village are affected"*

The Spanish influenza virus of 1918/19, world-wide, killed twenty million people. It spread just at the close of World War I. For Oakland Township dwellers, the fall of 1918 was the worst. The disease left victims vulnerable to either staphylococcal or streptococcal infections which brought on pneumonia. It was

difficult to treat because sulfa drugs and penicillin were not yet being prescribed. For some unexplained reason, young adults between the ages of twenty and forty suffered the highest mortality. The traditional young and the very old, who were normally susceptible to epidemics of this kind, did not suffer greatly. Over ten percent of those who contacted the disease died.

One such victim was Frederick V. Vivian (1879-1918) son of Charles Vivian (1844-1914) and Clara Ellen Nelles (1850-1922). They operated the grist mill at Oakland. Fred was of that vulnerable age, 39 years, which was the pattern of those stricken. He married Maud Irene Kelly (1883-1975) of Rutland, Illinois. Fred had returned from the USA for a visit when he was struck down and succumbed. His two older brothers John (1874-1966) and Payson (1876-1958) survived.

Fred Vivian

The disease struck swiftly, without warning. The victim suddenly began to shiver, suffered severe headaches and back pains, then collapsed. A very high fever and a hacking cough appeared next. Depending on the severity of the attack, the patient either recovered after two or three days, or developed a skin discoloration indicating reduced haemoglobin in the blood and almost imminent death.

Another victim of the great flu epidemic was Joseph Vaughan (1869-1918) a Scotland funeral director. His place was subsequently acquired by Neal Glaves. The epidemic also caused the death of Mrs. Malessa Shavelear. Her husband Tim (1841-1909) pre-deceased her nine years earlier and a daughter Annie, who married Earl Secord, died young giving birth.

Oakland Township responded to the flu epidemic by closing its schools, entertainment centres, library and the churches. By eliminating all public gatherings, including ploughing matches, large weddings and public funerals, officials tried to contain the spread of the flu. Ultimately, business activity was restricted and volunteers were recruited to help tend the sick which saw a strong community effort launched in Oakland and Scotland. It was not uncommon to see a resident entering one of the local stores wearing a gauze mask.

George Ridd[illegible] (1874-1960) and his wife Edith Dunnett (1878-1956) were farmers south of Scotland in the early part of the century. They moved to Burford Township in 1916 with their family of five children. The flu epidemic of 1918 struck their household with unforgiving fury. A daughter, Alice an R.N. now living in Burford, described their experience: "In the great epidemic of the First World War, the whole family was sick in bed. A neighbour did the barn work. Another neighbour, who was a practical nurse, took care of us. Her remedy was to put hot moist poultices (fried onions) on our feet. As soon as I was well enough, I remember eating the onions and everyone talked about it so I guess they weren't as hungry as I was!"

Some enterprising companies found the epidemic a commercial boon. The Dominion of Canada Guarantee and Accident Insurance Company of Toronto advertised special sickness policies which paid a weekly indemnity and provided for hospital expenses. The C. C. M. Company advertised its bicycles as a cheap healthy means of transportation to get away from crowded public conveyances. Patent medicine companies advertised the salutary effects of Dr. Chases' Menthol Bag, Syrup of Linseed and turpentine. Also, magazines such as MacLeans carried ads for "Riga Purgative Water". Even Vaseline was promoted as an anti flu measure.

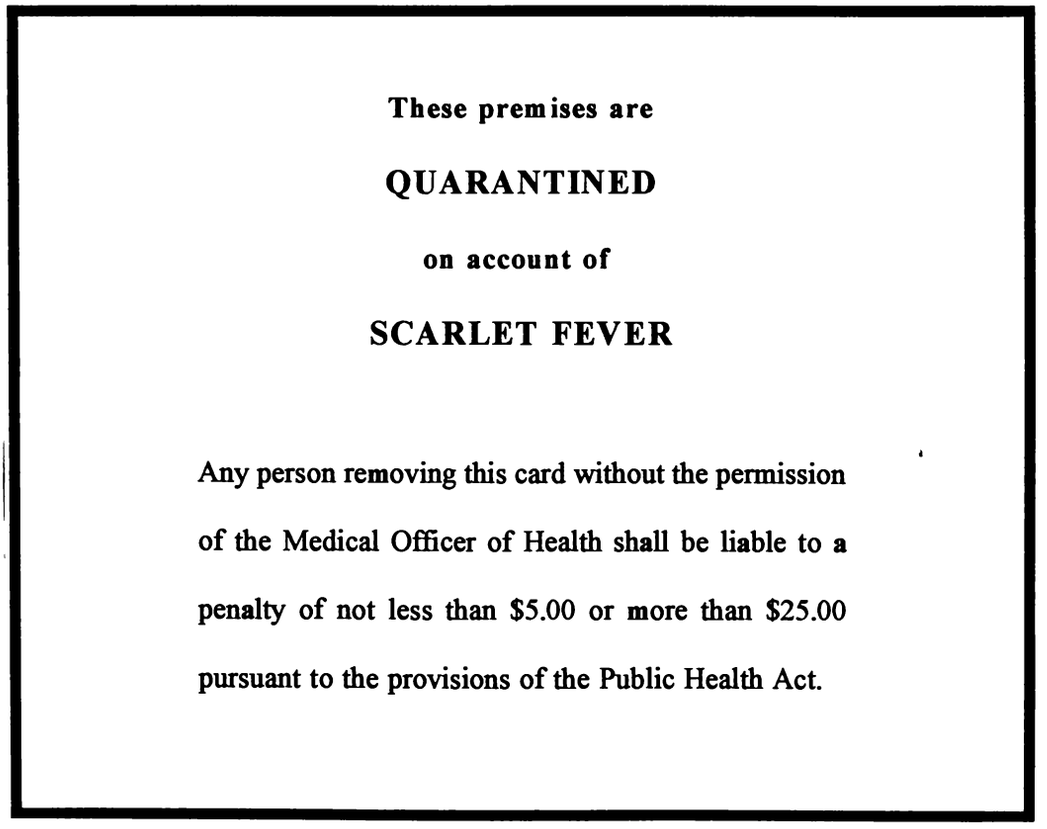
An outbreak of poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis), a disease which attacks the brain and spinal cord, caused concern in the early 1930's and again in 1952. A school vaccination program was introduced in the first outbreak and the students as East Oakland, Maple Grove, Oakland and Scotland schools all received a visit by county medical authorities. The students were lined up at the schools for vaccinations,administered by the assembly line process. Many a tear was shed by those students who exhibited a fear of that onerous looking syringe and needle which was about to tingle the upper arm, causing a huge gaping sore.

In 1942, a township By-law was enacted to comply with the instructions of the County Health Unit. No milk could be sold in the Township unless pasteurized. Before that time, unpasteurized milk, in bottles, was delivered to homes by Walter Burrage and Keith Bannister of Wilsonville, **also Mr. Varey of Scotland.**

During the cholera outbreaks medical men kept the public informed through the issuance of periodic bulletins. The President of the Hamilton (Gore) District Medical Board, Slade Robinson, had a bulletin printed at the Wesleyan office on June 27th, 1832 stating that Doctor Gilpin of Brantford recently had reason to diagnose three cases of Spasmodic Cholera in his area — one proved

fatal. During this same critical period, local Boards of Health posted notices directing that cellars "be thoroughly cleansed of vegetable matter and water, that the walls thereof be whitewashed with a good strcng lime, that vegetable and animal putrid matter, dirt and filth, shall be removed". Health wardens were employed to carry out inspections and ensure compliance.

Many a Township famil received a visit from the Medical Health Officer, Dr. John Anderson of Scotland, during outbreaks of the infectious rash diseases. Scarlet fever and the measles were the two common ones. He carried with him a supply of QUARANTINE NOTICES to post on the front door which imposed, by law, a restriction on intermingling with others in the community. In the case of a child down with scarlet fever, the ban on the family was severe. Siblings not exposed must go to another house to live temporarily, where they could continue to attend school. Those siblings who had been exposed were barred from leaving the premises for up to three weeks.

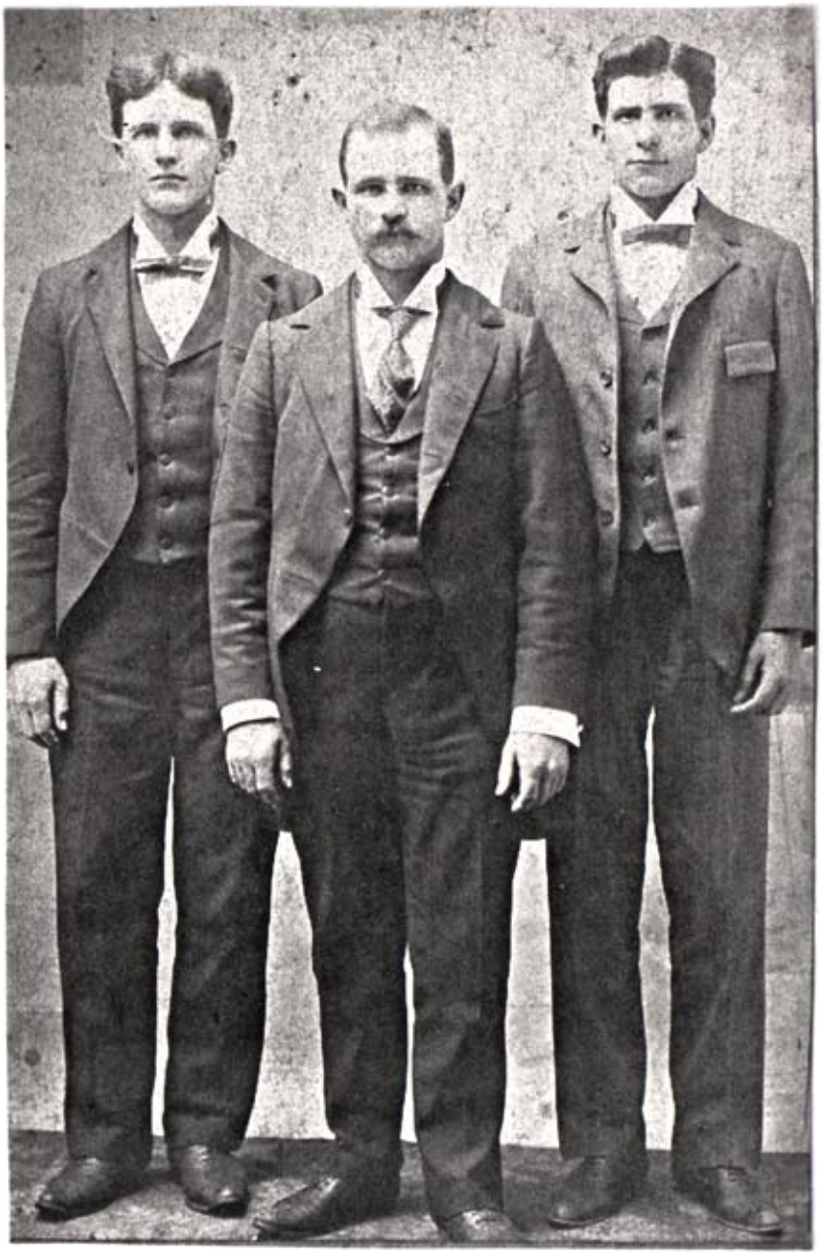


In biblical times the Priests were the Health Officers. Their version of the modern day quarantine was to be "shut up" or be placed "without the camp" to combat the spread of a contagious disease within their settlements.

Much more so than today, diseases were once exacerbated by infection and malnutrition. Ignorance, poverty, poor sanitation or polluted water and contaminated food all played a part. Infectious diseases caused the death of 30% of Ontario's population in the 1860's and life expectancy, in general, was much shorter than today.

Typhoid ran rampant before the turn of the century. By eating contaminated food or drinking bad water, the fever develops and can be spread by "carriers". A major cause was seepage from outhouses to the family's well. Typhoid took the life of James Hepburn on May 14th, 1903. His wife, Clara (Patterson) R.N. carried on and became one of the Township's best known market gardeners. She raised her son, Walter, alone.

Martha (Dunnett) Culbertson (1847-1922) grew up at Oakland and attended SS#2 school, both in the log school house and at the new brick building which opened in 1859. She did not know as a pupil that life's journey would be made up of sunshine and shadow, the latter through the death angel visiting her door on three separate occasions. She surrendered three sons to the dreaded typhoid.



On the right — Angie D. Culbertson (1880-1902), Sherman L. Culbertson (1872-1898) and Charles S. Culbertson (1882-1902) all succumbed to typhoid while still young men along with two of their uncles.

An extract from Charles' obituary reads:

"Every sanitary precaution seemed to have been taken and the house thoroughly disinfected after each illness. The dispensation seems inexplicable and mysterious. Skilled nursing and capable physicians availed nothing. The night before Charles died, the doors of the new Jerusalem seemed to open before him and who shall doubt that he reached an abundant entrance".

For more information about Martha Dunnett Culbertson refer to Volume II of this series (Chapter 9).

The scarlet fever epidemic, indirectly, took the life of James T. Mordue, farmer l.10 c.II. Members of his family came down with the dreaded fever and, through exhaustion, Jim caught pneumonia and died on Feb. 7th, 1923 at 48 years. His son Stan, then thirteen, took over the farm.

The scourge, typhoid, touched the hearts of Oakland dwellers again in 1926 when their local merchant, Carman L. Baldwin, suddenly took sick and died within days.

Carm Baldwin (1887-1926)

OBITUARY:

"Brantford, Aug. 12 — The death of one of the best known and most highly respected citizens of Oakland, Carman Leslie Baldwin, prominent general merchant, took place on Wednesday in the family residence. The late Mr. Baldwin was in his fortieth year, and had been ill for only a short time, death coming with unexpected suddenness. He had been a member of Oakland United Church and a Past Master of Scotland Lodge. A.F. and A.M. He was always active in the interests of his native village and district; was an earnest supporter of the Community Club and all its undertakings, and was particularly identified with the athletic program of that organization. A large circle of friends remain to mourn his early passing. He is survived by his widow, two young children, William and Margaret, and by his father, L.H. Baldwin, with whom he was associated in business."

At his funeral on August 13th 1926, the service was conducted by the Reverend George W. Downs, who had served at Oakland Methodist Church from 1921 to 1925 assisted by the Reverend Charles Perkins, the local pastor at the time of union – graveside services by members of Scotland Lodge A.F. and A.M. Pallbearers were James and Will Miller, Jack Patterson, George Knox, Floyd Andrews and Lavell Edy.

A half century later, on October 13th 1976, Carman's son, C. William "Bill" Baldwin died in a cataclysmic crash, piloting a Boeing 707 jet over Bolivia.

Tuberculosis, an infectious disease caused by tiny rod-shaped organisms that lodge in the lungs and destroy tissue, is first noticed when a dry cough develops followed by a constant fever, then weight loss, followed by a growing pain in the chest. Years ago, TB patients were offered bed rest in a sanitorium as the only way of treatment.

In pre-drug days, Township residents with TB found a temporary home at the San in West Brantford, located on the San Hill. Dr. Alexander was chief medical officer in its early years of operation.

The former San — now Brantwood Centre

Because of the spread of TB at the turn of the century, city and country folk alike were provided with educational material about the nature of the disease, how it spread, and what precautionary measures could be taken. Published in a booklet issued by the Ministry of Health titled "Tuberculosis, the 14 commandments", it placed heavy emphasis on regular x-rays and milk pasteurization.

Local groups helped in the dissemination of information and made regular visitations to the San. The following appeared in a summary of the minutes of the Maple Grove W.I.:

1929 — For our 8th Anniversary we arranged a Social Evening in the School with program and refreshments. Dr. Alexander of the San gave us a talk on T.B.

1932 — "In October a letter was read from Mrs. Found asking our members to visit the Sanitorium in the near future. On October 18th, four of our ladies availed themselves of that opportunity, Mrs. Hepburn, Mrs. Clayton Smith, Mrs. George Grantham and Miss Norrie. They took 16 quarts of fruit, basket of carrots, 2 cabbages and 3 1/2 dozen cookies.

The following February, a shower of candy was sent to the children in the sanitorium for which Miss Bowen sent a letter of thanks and appreciation."

In the late 40's, the treatment changed drastically. Chemotherapy replaced bed rest. The large sanitoriums, filled to capacity in the 20's, had fewer and fewer patients. Ultimately, they all closed their doors, including the Brant san.

On the right, resting at the Brant sanitorium, is Alice E. Jull (1882-1961), confined for nearly two years. Alice was a school teacher. She taught in Brant and Oxford counties.

BRANT SANITARIUM

1931

BRANT SANITORIUM

Inception occurred at a meeting of the Brant Anti TB Association, held in Judge Hardy's Chambers at the Court House, in January, 1909.

Reeve Charles McIntyre (1875-1955), a Brant San Board Member, representing Oakland Township.

E.L. Cockshutt donated six acres of land adjoining the Home for the Aged on which to build. The main building and two wings for the patients were built, opening on August 3rd 1913 for ten patients.

The original officers and executives elected were:

Honourary president	- E.L. Cockshutt	President	- Dr. R.H. Frank
First vice	- John Sanderson	Secretary	- J.T. Hewitt
Treasurer	- Arthur Olive		

In 1914, two shacks were added followed in 1916 by a pavilion for men and in 1921 a nurses residence was built. The Shriners provided funding for a preventorium and a separate building for children. By 1927, the complex could accommodate 60 patients. Over 900 patients were treated between the period 1913 to 1927.

The Superintendent at inception was Miss A. Cringle followed by Miss K. Summers then Miss K. M. Bowen.

1927 – front entrance

Nurses' residence

Druggists

A merry heart doeth good like a *medicine* but a broken spirit drieth the bones.

Proverbs 17:22

The early apothecaries (drug dispensers) were the forerunners of today's general practitioner. The great majority of poor people who could not afford to see a doctor tended to take their ailments directly to the apothecary practitioner for advice and medication. Only the rich could afford specialist diagnosis and treatment.

By 1806, the dispensing of drugs fell exclusively on the practice of pharmacy, learned through the apprenticeship system. By then, druggists could take their training at pharmaceutical schools or at Departments of Pharmacy at the universities. Here they learned to expertly mix the ingredients for a prescription and to make their own tinctures, ointments and creams. Today, the druggist's task is basically counting, measuring and recording of prescriptions, using pre-packaged manufacturers productions in the finished form.

When settlers started to arrive in the Township, there were few regulations governing drug distribution. It was only following Confederation that pharmacy organizations were able to get proper legislation regulating drug dispensing. In 1871, Ontario passed a

statute which granted self-policing to the profession for the issuing of licenses and the overall supervision of its membership's ethical practices.

The following people and firms dispensed drugs at Scotland in the mid to late 1800's— the pharmacist's role then was that of a compounder who mixed his own ingredients as the customer waited:

E. G. Malcolm & Company

The proprietor of this firm was Egbert "Ed" Malcolm (1851-1918), son of Shubael D. Malcolm (1814-1878) and Elvira Foster.

Ed married his cousin, Elvira Foster, daughter of Alonzo and Jane Foster.

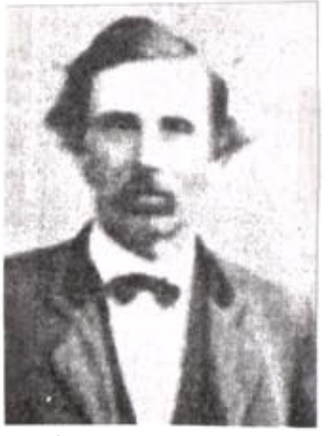
On April 13th 1886, E.G. Malcolm's brick store, along with two other businesses, burned to the ground. Ed moved to Westmeath where he entered into a partnership to form the firm of Fraser & Malcolm General Merchants.

Edwin W. Tegart M. D. — drug dispenser — a practising physician at Scotland who is referred to elsewhere in this chapter.

James Van Dusen (1836-1918) — drug dispenser.

A general merchant in groceries, hardware and patent medicines. He married Kate, daughter of Eliakim and Samantha Malcolm. Their son, Charles Van Dusen carried on the business.

Kate Malcolm Van Dusen



Circa 1873 James Van Dusen

Medical Practitioners

I SWEAR BY APOLLO, THE PHYSICIAN, AND AESCULAPIUS AND HEALTH AND ALL-HEAL AND ALL THE GODS AND GODDESSES THAT, ACCORDING TO MY ABILITY AND JUDGMENT, I WILL KEEP THIS OATH AND STIPULATION:

TO RECKON him who taught me this art equally dear to me as my parents to share my substance with him and relieve his necessities if required: to regard his offspring as on the same footing with my own brothers, and to teach them this art if they should wish to learn it, without fee or stipulation and that by precept, lecture and every other mode of instruction, I will impart a knowledge of the art to my own sons and to those of my teachers and to disciples bound by a stipulation and oath, according to the Law of medicine, but to none others.

I WILL FOLLOW that method of treatment which, according to my ability and judgment, I consider for the benefit of my patients, and abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous, I will give no deadly medicine to anyone if asked, nor suggest any such counsel, furthermore, I will not give to a woman an instrument to produce abortion.

WITH PURITY AND WITH HOLINESS I will pass my life and practice my art. I will not cut a person who is suffering with a stone, but will leave this to be done by practitioners of this work. Into whatever houses I enter I will go into them for the benefit of the sick and will abstain from every voluntary art of mischief and corruption and further from the seduction of females or males, bond or free.

WHATEVER, in connection with my professional practice, or not in connection with it, I may see or hear in the lives of men which ought not to be spoken abroad I will not divulge as reckoning that all such should be kept secret.

WHILE I CONTINUE to keep this oath unviolated may it be granted to me to enjoy life and the practice of the art respected by all men at all times but should I trespass and violate this oath, may the reverse be my lot.

OATH OF HIPPOCRATES

Surprisingly, the first inhabitants of Townsend Gore had ready access to, not one, but two physicians. Ebenezer Lee and his son Wm Hooker Lee settled in the late 1700's and **practised** medicine in tandem with their homesteading responsibilities.

In the nineteenth century, rural doctors found their medical profession to be largely administering to patients away from the office. House calls took up much of their time. Then, in the twentieth century, they continued their visitations in a limited way but encouraged the able to visit their office – no appointment required. Ultimately, the so called "walk-in-clinics" lost favour and patients came by appointment.

These rural wandering merchants of healing and hope were doctors, clinics, and hospitals all wrapped up in one. An accommodating lot, they made every effort to see patients when the need was apparent. Dr. Jack Shaver fell in this category. By screening his calls and doing his best to see the sick, according to the imperatives, the rural folk in Oakland Township were well serviced. On one occasion, however, he misjudged not only the urgency of the occasion but the legitimacy of his professional calling.

He tells it this way:

QUOTE:

One morning while I was making housecalls about the country in the early years of my practice, my wife who was my only answering service in those days and looked after the phone whenever I was not in the office caught up with me by telephone to let me know that an elderly lady patient of mine, in Oakland, had just called requesting that I drop around to see her. My wife detected some urgency in the request. It was a busy morning and I had a fair amount on my agenda, but I felt that perhaps I should attend to this call as soon as possible.

Jeanette – Dr. Jack Shaver

On my arrival at the house, I was met quite promptly at the door by this elderly lady who immediately ushered me in and explained the nature of the problem. She had a pet bird which was, seemingly, reaching the golden years. Its beak had grown over to the point where it was having difficulty eating and in fact was fearing to be starving. The proposal was, that my patient would hold the bird if I would be so obliging as to trim the bird's beak, for which appropriate instrumentation would be provided.

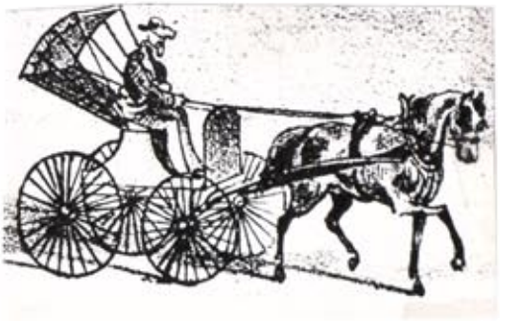
This was certainly not the type of emergency that I had anticipated, and I did wonder whether this was as important as some other calls that I might be making, but I did not foresee the proposed procedure as unduly time consuming; so without further ado, we proceeded with the task at hand, with my patient holding the bird firmly while I busied myself trimming the beak. The key word here is firmly. While busying myself at the procedure, I suddenly came to realize that the bird had become limp. When I expressed my concern for the bird's well-being to my patient and the appropriate relaxation of the grip ensued, it became apparent that the bird had gone on to the next world. Appropriate burial was immediately arranged.

When I related the story to the neighbour across the street that evening, he confided that for some time he had been concerned for the well-being of his old dog who had come to have quite unwieldy long toenails and requested that I drop around one day to trim them.

UNQUOTE

As Dr. Shaver meekly and apologetically removed himself, he was heard muttering to himself as he walked out to his car "who said a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush".

In the nineteenth century, early Township practitioners such as Ebenezer Lee (1727-1811), Dr. Wm J. Glassford, and Dr. John R. Malcolm (1839-1895) responded to emergency calls by harnessing their horse and racing off at a trot down the dirt roads to their destination.



In the hours of darkness, the hazards of horse and buggy were very real. A wheel caught in a rut could lurch the carriage causing an upset. Travellers of that era were often injured or killed in run-away mishaps.

Dr. Shaver Scott and Alton from 1957 to 1970, found the risks of travel to be more subtle but nevertheless disruptive. With some trepidation, he recalls two minor brushes with the law:

QUOTE:

> *Making housecalls about the country, often quite hurriedly, naturally begot the odd encounter with the police. I recall one evening on my way to make a housecall, at speed which was admittedly excessive, when I suddenly realized that I was being followed by a police cruiser. This troubled me because the call was not truly an urgent one and should the officer follow me to the house, I would have trouble justifying my speed of travel. You can imagine my relief when upon pulling into the driveway, there stood my patient's husband holding the door open enabling me to run rapidly into the house, carrying my bag, given every appearance of an acute emergency. The officer seemed satisfied and proceeded on his way.*
>
> *I recall another time when I was on my way home in the early hours of the morning after having been called into the hospital to deliver a baby. It was very late and I was tired and anxious to get home and I guess, not very alert. I was driving somewhat over the speed limit and when passing a car on a straight stretch of the highway, suddenly when I was abreast of him, realized that it was a police cruiser. I knew it would be futile to slow down at that point, so kept going at my same speed, passed the cruiser, and after his flashing red lights came on, pulled over to the shoulder of the road. I quickly realized that I had no good excuse for this behaviour so decided that honesty was perhaps the best policy. I jumped out of the car, went back to his cruiser, and greeted him with the confession that had I realized who he was I sure wouldn't have been passing him. I went on to explain that I had been called into deliver a baby, was tired, and anxious to get back to bed with my wife. All this did not seem to amuse the officer, but did bring some evidence of compassion, and after the usual examination of credentials was allowed to proceed on my way with an admonishment to drive more sensibly.*

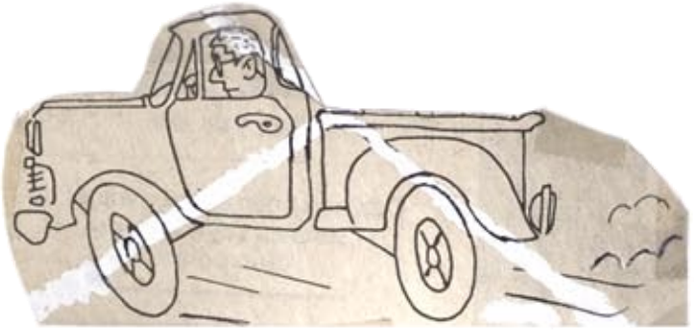
UNQUOTE

On one visitation to the Reserve, Dr. Shaver sensed a challenge and the temptation was too great. Perceiving himself in a dune buggy, off across the open fields and marsh he drove, throwing caution to the wind. He vainly recalls his driving prowess:

QUOTE:

I have had the pleasure of caring for many fine people on the Six Nations Reservation, making many housecalls to that area. I recall being asked one afternoon to visit an elderly lady who I had not seen previously. Directions on how to reach the home were provided. The house, located a considerable distance from the road was down a long laneway. Winter conditions prevailed with a fair amount of snow. In fact, the laneway was drifted full. It was suggested that I leave the car at the road and walk to the house. I reached the laneway and from there could see the house off in the distance. I looked across the field and although there was considerable snow, it seemed to me that if I could keep up momentum I could perhaps drive across the field. This would be possible I thought as there were no fences. Determined, I got back in the car and proceeded across the field, full blast. The land was fairly flat, but rolling enough to hide a creek which must be crossed. The sudden visualization of this creek gave me more than a little concern, but the weather had been fairly cold I thought and most likely the ice would be thick enough to cross with the car if I could find an appropriate place. Luckily with the help of my guardian angel, I found such a place without having to slow down and was able to reach the house without mishap. Luckily also, I was able to get back to the road after having completed the call.

UNQUOTE



Dr. Shaver's bag — worn and tattered
after nearly 40 years and hundreds of visitations.

Brief biographies taken from "The March of Medicine in Western Canada" read as follows:

Lee, Ebenezer (1727 - 1811)

Ebenezer Lee, son of John Lee and Elizabeth (Hubbard) Lee, was born at Farmington, Connecticut, in 1727. In 1750 he married Abigail Bull, the niece and adopted daughter of Dr. Jonathan Bull, of Hartford, Connecticut. He studied medicine with him and practised in his native state for many years. During the Revolutionary War, the Sons of Liberty made it very unpleasant for Dr. Ebenezer Lee, who sought a new home in Canada. In 1797 he settled on a farm with William Hooker Lee, his son, in Burford Gore. He was "satisfied with hanging a blanket at the entrance for a door". The meal was ground with the doctor's mortar and pestle. For many years he was the only physician in that vicinity. He died in 1811, and Abigail died the following year. Their graves at Oakland were marked by "twin oaks".

Lee, Wm Hooker (1761-1828)

William Hooker Lee, son of Ebenezer and Abigail (Bull) Lee, was born in Connecticut in 1761. In 1787 he married Phoebe Davis, daughter of Mr. Davis "who at the Anglo-American Revolution, took up arms in favor of England, was captured and imprisoned three years, then escaped to Canada". William Hooker Lee studied medicine with his father and practised near him in Connecticut. He

too, a patriot, found increasing difficulties in New England. Persecuted by the Sons of Liberty, he attempted to evade them by moving from place to place. In 1788 he was at Shaftesbury, Vermont, in 1790 at Chokenut, N.Y., in 1795 in De Warn's Bush, Pa., in 1796 in Standing Stone, Pa., and finally in 1797 he accompanied his father to Canada. He practised at Chippewa, Thorold and later at Burford Gore, where he joined his father, purchasing, in 1809, the adjoining farm. Later again he moved to Southwold, near St. Thomas, where he added to his income by keeping a tavern. He had a law-suit with a Mr. H. Westbrook of Hall's Mills (now Byron) over a note for four pounds.

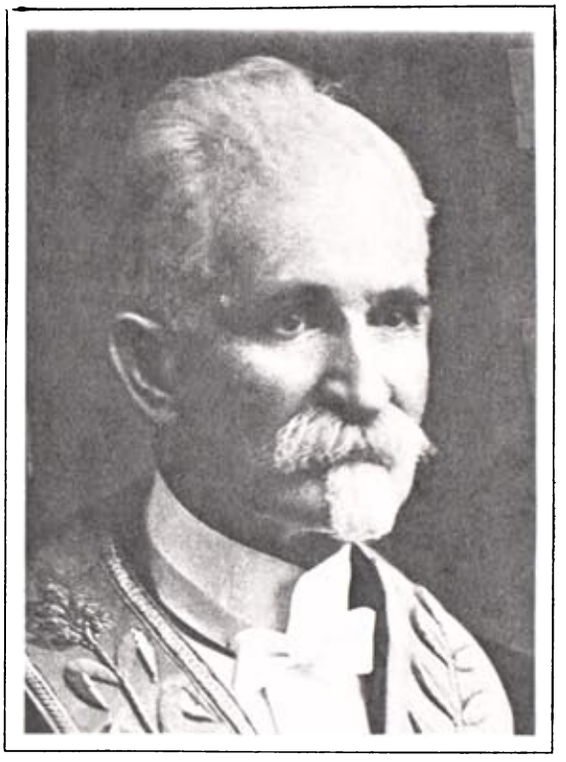
Dr. Lee visited his old home in Connecticut in 1828. "On his return ... when only four miles from home, his horse slipped and fell upon him, causing such injuries that he lived eight days." Phoebe, his wife, moved to London, where she died on December 15, 1853.

Besides Dr. Ebenezer Lee and his wife, buried at Oakland Pioneer Cemetery is, Martha, daughter of John and Catherine Lee. She died May 6th, 1860 at nine years.

Other practitioners who administered to the sick and injured in Oakland Township were:

Anderson, Dr. John Edward Wesley (1862-1938)

Dr. John Anderson served the area for forty-three years, commencing in 1895. His credentials show MDCM from Trinity College, Toronto 1884 and LRCP from Edinburgh, Scotland. His license was issued on April 24, 1884. John was the son of James Anderson of Wilsonville and grew up in Townsend. His family were pioneers near Bealton.



Circa 1900
John E.W. Anderson

Dr. Anderson married Emma Jane Hunt (1866-1945). Their daughter, Mildred, married Dr. Lorne Stuart, also a Scotland physician. Dr. and Mrs. Anderson lived in an ornate frame house on Talbot Street overlooking the three corners in Scotland. He died on October 25th, 1938.

His obituary, as taken from the Canadian Medical Association Journal December 1938, reads as follows:

"Dr. John Edward Wesley Anderson, of Scotland, Ont., died on October 25, 1938. Dr. Anderson was 76 years of age. He graduated in 1884 from Trinity University, Toronto, took post-graduate work at Edinburgh University, and in that city began his practice. Returning to Canada he was for some eight years practising in Millgrove, Ont., and for the last forty-three years he had been at Scotland. At the time of his death he was Medical Officer of Health for Oakland Township."

1991

JOHN E. W. ANDERSON M.D.

M.D.C.M. Trinity College
and
L.R.C.P. Edinburgh, Scotland

OFFICE & RESIDENCE, Simcoe Street
Scotland, Ontario

The former office and residence of Dr. Anderson on Simcoe Street - his office could be reached by ringing 2-03, Scotland exchange.

Dr. Anderson suffered an accident on Thanksgiving Day, October 10th 1938, which brought about his death. He accidentally spilled boiling water over his body and was severely scalded. Active in Masonic circles, in which he was long prominent, Dr. Anderson was a District Deputy Grand Master of Brant District and a member of

the Canadian Order of Foresters. The Rev. Earl B. Eddy took the service at Dr. Anderson's funeral. Hono rary pallbearers were D.P. McDonald, R.K. Robinson, Ewart Dixon, Dr. Pearson, Dr. Knight, Dr. Hicks, Dr. Hanna, Dr. Serles and U.W. Smith. The active pallbearers were Geo. Knox, Gordon Bonham, Ed. Lawrence, W.H. Taylor, M. McMullen, W. Shellington. Mrs. Anderson died on October 1st 1945.

Bailey, Dr. Herbert R. (1858-1935)

Dr. Bailey was born on November 20, 1858 and taught school at Scotland. He furthered his education at the Detroit College of Medicine (Wayne University) and practised only briefly at Scotland then moved to Corunna, Michigan. Dr. Bailey married Bertha Malcolm (1866-1931), daughter of Dr. John R. Malcolm (1839-1895) and Sophrona Malcolm (1842-1912). Born to Dr. Bailey and Bertha was a son Herbert R. Bailey Jr. (1895-19) of Leslie, Michigan. Dr. Bailey died June 14th, 1935 at Corunna MI. Bertha died on March 4, 1931 at 64 years of age.

Dr. Bailey's death was widely reported in Michigan. One news article, June 14th, 1935, reads as follows:

> *Dr. Bailey dies, had practiced over fifty years - Veteran Corunna physician expires at home - Dr. E. Herbert Bailey, 76 years of age, one of Shiawassee County's oldest physicians in point of years of practice, died at 5:30 o'clock this morning at his home, 118 West Mack street.*
>
> *Dr. Bailey had been ill six weeks. His condition became serious three weeks ago. Death was caused by a complication of ailments.*
>
> *The aged physician had practiced in Shiawassee County since 1884. He was honored by the Shiawassee County Medical Society in May, 1934, when a banquet was given at Memorial Hospital, observing his 50th anniversary as a physician.*
>
> *Funeral services will be held Monday in the Bailey home at 1:30 o'clock. The Rev. William Dean Davis, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, will officiate. Interment will take place at the Mausoleum of Hill Crest Cemetery, Owosso.*

The remains will lie at Cummings-Lyons Chapel until 4 o'clock, Saturday afternoon, when they will be removed to the residence.

Born in Ontario

Born in Georgtown, Ont., on November 20, 1858, Dr. Bailey was a son of Samuel R. and Mary Bailey. The first four years of his life were spent in Georgetown and Toronto. About 1862 the Bailey family moved to Guelph, Ont., where Dr. Bailey spent his youth and received his elementary education.

Following graduation from the Guelph high school, Dr. Bailey was appointed superintendent of the school at Mount Forest, Ont., at the age of 19 years. In the few subsequent years he was employed at that school or as an instructor in the school at Scotland, Ont.

It was while in Scotland that Dr. Bailey met Miss Bertha Malcolm, who was later to become his wife.

Leaving his employment Dr. Bailey matriculated at a college in Toronto to study medicine. He studied there for a short time and then transferred his credits to the Detroit College of Medicine. He graduated from the latter college on February 20, 1884.

After graduation Dr. Bailey came to Bennington. He practiced there for a short time before coming to Corunna and buying the practice of Dr. John Babington. In his early years in Corunna Dr. Bailey was at one time associated with Dr. Charles Hume, a brother of Dr. A.M. Hume, of Owosso, and later with Dr. F.F. Hoyer, Owosso dentist.

Dr. Bailey was married on January 5, 1888, in Scotland, Ont., to Miss Malcolm, at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Rolph Malcolm. Dr. and Mrs. Bailey immediately returned to Corunna.

For nearly 50 years Dr. Bailey had an office alone in Corunna, either in the downtown area or at his home on West Mack street, where his office has been for many years.

Always interested in civic affairs of the community, he was one of Corunna's leading citizens. Although enthusiastic and eager to aid in any way to promote the welfare of the city, he did not choose to hold public office. His only activity of that nature occurred when he was elected a member of the Corunna School Board about 45 years ago. He served on the board for a quarter of a century and for many years was its president.

Mrs. Bailey died in March, 1931.

Surviving is a son, Herbert R. Bailey, at home. There are three sisters and a brother. They are Mrs. G.J. Powell, of Valentine, Mont.; Mrs. Ethel B. Gausby, of Cleveland, O.; Miss Gertrude Bailey, of Guelph, Ont., and Ernest S. Bailey, of Detroit.

In addition to being a member of the Medical Association for more than half a century, Dr. Bailey was a veteran member of several organizations. They were the Corunna lodges of Masons and Odd Fellows. In Masonry he attained the rank of Knights Templar.

He was also a member of the Owosso lodge of Elks.

UNQUOTE

Clark, Dr. John

He had a practice at Scotland around 1846. He was a brother of the Rev. W. E. Clarke who accepted a call to the Scotland Congregational Church in 1844 and remained two years.

Dr. Clarke served as the Secretary of the Congregational Church and was very active. Later, he went to the USA, and upon his return to Simcoe, he became an MLA for his constituency.

Cook, Ephriam - active in the Rebellion of 1837 — tried — convicted — banished for life from Canada.

Duncombe, Dr. David (1802-1687)

Born in N.Y. state, he immigrated to Canada in 1819 to join his brother in St. Thomas. David returned to New York where he obtained his M.D. from Fairfield College.

He settled in Townsend about 1827 where he farmed and became a practitioner for 65 years. He was an MP for Norfolk 1834/41. His farm, lot 7 concession V, was the site of one of the most impressive stone houses in the Township.

Dr. Duncombe first married Mary Chapin (1911-1853), secondly he married Nancy C. Nelles of Boston. Thirteen children were born from the two marriages. Dr. Duncombe's practice extended to Oakland Township.

Freeman, Dr. Wm Clarkson MC P & S

Listed as being a medical doctor at Scotland in 1880. Dr. Freeman was born in 1854. He graduated from Faculty of Medicine of Trinity College, Toronto in 1876; licensed in Ontario 1877. He practised at Morpeth, Ontario and in 1923 is reported to have moved to Dallas, Texas and died at Waco, Texas on March 3, 1945, according to information published in the Waco Texas Tribune Herald of March 4, 1945.

Glassford, Dr. Wm J. practised at Scotland in the 1890's. He registered with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario on May 11, 1887. He was active in the Congregational Church.

The following appeared in the Scotland Sun on February 23rd 1893:

QUOTE

Mr. Editor: -

> *It seems there are a great many in this neighborhood that neither take the SUN or EXPOSITOR, if they did they would have learned by this time that Dr. Glassford had moved. We are called up all hours of the day and night for the Dr. Now I do not mind that in warm weather, but these cold nights when the mercury is below zero, it is*

not so pleasant being woke up, wondering who is tryingto tear the house down. I cautiously slip down stairs and in as bold a voice as I can command, ask Who's there? My heart gives a great bound of relief when asked if the Dr. is at home? After giving all necessary directions of his abode, I feel thankful that I am not Dr. these cold nights.

Now Mr. Editor I propose you get up some fancy bills, not too long, or perhaps they would not be read, and get the dr. to send them around for ten miles or so, then they would know the M.D. had moved.

Mrs. E.A.H.
HAWTHORNE PLACE
UNQUOTE

Hughes, Dr. H. listed as living at Oakland in 1867.

Hughes, W.C. a practitioner at Scotland in 1867.

Malcolm, Dr. John Rolph (1839-1895)

He was the son of Shubael Downs Malcolm (1814-1878) and Elvira Foster (1820-1894) farmers on the old homestead at Oakland overlooking Oakland pond, lot 5 Concession I. Shubael was also a warden of the Township and eventually settled in Scotland village. His son John Rolph graduated from McGill University and received his license to practice on June 9, 1866. Besides his profession, Dr. Malcolm was active in local business and industry, operating a mill near the T. H. and B. tracks along with a foundry. He married a cousin, Sophrona Malcolm (1842-1912), daughter of Eliakim Malcolm (1801-1874), a well known local politician, and Samantha Sexton (1806-1883). Born to Dr. Malcolm and "Frony" was a daughter, Bertha (1866-1931). She married Dr. Herbert R. Bailey (1858-1935), mentioned previously. Their son, Herbert R. Bailey Jr. (1895-19) married Doris Olds in 1946 and lived at 1809 Ives Road, Leslie, Michigan. The Malcolm homestead, lot 5 Concession I was transferred to Dr. Malcolm on the death of his father, then to his daughter Bertha Malcolm Bailey, then to her son Herbert Bailey Jr. It was rented and farmed for many years by Russell Rammage (1895-1988) who bought it from Herbert Jr. in 1941 and, in turn, sold the

farm to Stanley Bannister (1890-1964) and his wife Flossie Vivian (1893-1969).

The following appeared in a local paper on January 14th, 1895:

A telegram has just been received from Corunna, Mich., stating that Dr. Malcolm, formerly of Scotland, Brant county, died there suddenly yesterday. The doctor, who was about 50 years of age, has suffered from paralysis for some years back, since when he has relinquished active practice For many years he kept a store in Scotland at the corner on the Oakland and Burford town line. He also acted as agent for the G.N.W. Telegraph Co., for many years and was highly thought of among his friends and neighbors.

Circa 1873
Dr. John R. Malcolm

On January 19th, his funeral was reported on as follows:

The funeral of the late Dr. J.R. Malcolm took place on Thursday afternoon, and was largely attended. The body arrived from Corunna, Mich., on the 7 o'clock train on Wednesday evening, and was conveyed to the residence of Mrs. Horace Malcolm. On Thursday afternoon, after a short service at the house, the funeral procession was formed and proceeded to the Congregational church. The funeral services were conducted by Rev. William Hay and Rev. J. K. Unsworth. The funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. J.K. Unsworth and at its conclusion Mr. Hay spoke in a very feeling manner of his long acquaintance with the deceased, of his uniting with the church and of his afterwards becoming an officer in the church. The services at the church being concluded, the remains were then taken to the cemetery and interred in the family vault. The body was enclosed in a handsome casket of polished oak and on the casket was the design of the sickle and sheaf and a large pillow of lilies and roses with the word "Husband" in purple flowers. At the cemetery the casket was enclosed in a heavy metallic case. The deceased was a charter member of Scotland No. 61, A.U.W. The pallbearers were selected from the

membership of the lodge, there names being Abram Horning, Thomas Waugh, Truman Messecar, J.C. Nunick, J.A. Messecar and Welby Smith.

Historical records show Dr. J. K. Malcolm, living in Scotland in 1869. He specialized in diseases of the throat and lungs and moved to Toronto in April, 1869.

Malcolm, Dr. Isaac Brock (1837-1917)

Dr. Malcolm was a graduate of McGill University, the son of James Malcolm (1800-1854) and Elvira Fairchild, farmers north east of the village. Dr. Malcolm practised medicine only a short time at Scotland and then migrated to Lowell, Michigan.

He married Abbey La Rue and they had two children Bella (1863-19) and Fred (1865-19).

McLinn, Dr. John

Listed as a physician at Scotland in 1867. He had set up practice several years earlier. Historical records show him to be the captain and president of a very active ball team at Scotland. There were three doctors at Scotland in the year 1867. Dr. McLinn was active in the Masonic order being a Charter Member of Scotland Lodge No. 193 which organized at the time of Confederation. Dr. McLinn had an inventive mind. In 1864, he was issued patent 1649 for a screw-concave churn dash and, on January 13th, 1869, patent 2959 protected his unique style of a buggy seat.

Phillips, Dr. Jessie

Listed as owning property at East Oakland on lot 15 Concession I.

An obituary taken from a Medical Journal in 1941 reads as follows:

Dr. J. A. Phillips, one of Brantford's oldest and most widely known physicians, died September 4th, at his residence. Dr. Phillips, who had practised there more than three decades, was 76 years old.

Born in Guelph, Dr. Phillips attended school there and the medical school of old Trinity University, from which he graduated in 1887. After practising in Guelph and Pontypool, Ontario, he went to Europe for a post-graduate course in Vienna before starting practice in Brantford.

(there is no confirmation that the latter person is one and the same as the doctor who owned land in East Oakland)

Pomeroy, Dr.

Shown in historical records as practicing about 1880.

Renwick, Dr. James Weir (1847-1915) MC P & S

Listed as living in Scotland in 1880. Dr. Renwick received his license on April 26, 1875. He was a graduate of Trinity College in Toronto. He moved from Scotland to Courtland in May, 1890.

His obituary, taken from the Canadian Medical Journal 1915 reads as follows:

Dr. James Weir Renwick, of Courtland, Ontario, died July 3rd, in the sixty-eighth year of his age. Dr. Renwick was born at Moffatt, Scotland, in 1847. He graduated from Trinity College, Toronto, in 1875. A widow and two sons survive him.

Serles, Dr. Hugh Roy (1897-1958)
physician and surgeon - M.B.
University of Toronto - 1923.

Dr. Serles served the Scotland area in the mid 20th century for twenty-four years. His office was located on Oakland Street, east of Queen Street and could be contacted by ringing Scotland exhange - 28 - office hours 2 to 4 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. - Sundays 1 to 3 p.m. He married Greta Garner (1898-1973).

Circa 1918
Hugh Roy Serles

He was born in Waterford, son of the late George W. Serles and Agnes Lee, and was educated in Niagara Falls. He entered university in 1914. He enlisted in the Army Medical Corps in the First World War, served three years in France and was wounded. He was awarded the Military Medal.

After the war, he received his medical degree and practised in Niagara Falls for ten years and came to Scotland in 1934. Dr. Serles was a member of Scotland Lodge AF and AM 193 and the Halo Chapter OES 168 and a member of the South Brant Lions Club, the Brantford Curling Club, Brant Medical Association and Scotland United Church. A lover of music, he sang in the church choir for a number of years and was a member of the male quartet.

Born to Dr. and Mrs. Serles were two sons, Gordon, (deceased) and Douglas of Aurora, Ontario. Dr. Serles died on May 31st, 1958 and is buried locally.

1951
Gordon H. Serles B.A.
- U. of T. graduate.

Shaver, Dr. Jack

A graduate of the University of Western Ontario in 1955, Dr. Shaver interned at Hamilton General Hospital. He set up practice at Scotland in September 1957. Both Dr. Lorne Stuart and Dr. H.R. Serles still had patients at that time but both were in a phase out mode. All three were kept busy in the Fall of 1957 treating those struck down with an acute flu outbreak.

Jack Shaver MD

So called walk-in-clinics were one way the country doctor saw his patients when Jack Shaver opened his practice. He recalls that:

> *"People gathered in the waiting room at the beginning of office hours, evenings being the favourite time, an opportunity to visit and even make new acquaintances and to catch up on the local news. To see a doctor and not to have to wait and visit in the waiting room was a disappointment. Sunday afternoon office hours was a favourite visiting time, I understand, but the Sunday hours had been discontinued by the time I started practice."*

Rural practitioners regularly served a dual role - doctor and apothecary. This was so when Jack Shaver came to Scotland:

"At the time I started practice, doctors were still mixing and dispensing some of their own medicines and tablets in appropriately labelled bottles and boxes. This was a part of practice that I found particularly interesting and challenging, although I cannot say that the effectiveness of the medicines corresponded very closely with the quality or potency of the ingredients. Palatable taste was not necessarily high on the priority list when mixing medications.

Drug dispensing scales — found in doctor's offices and drug stores in years past — made by Henry Troemner of Philadelphia.

I remember in particular one patient reporting to me that when she had returned home and began taking the medication which I had given her on the last visit, the realization came to her that Dr. Anderson was not really dead, as he had a reputation for mixing horrible tasting medicines and that what I had given her tasted just as bad as his medications, if not worse."

By mid century, the Ontario education system had produced nearly one hundred percent literacy in Oakland township but the bureaucratic mumble-jumble was too much for one local when contemplating the completion of a health insurance application. Again, it was that accommodating rural physician, Dr. Shaver, who came to the rescue. His practice was no work-to-rule operation.

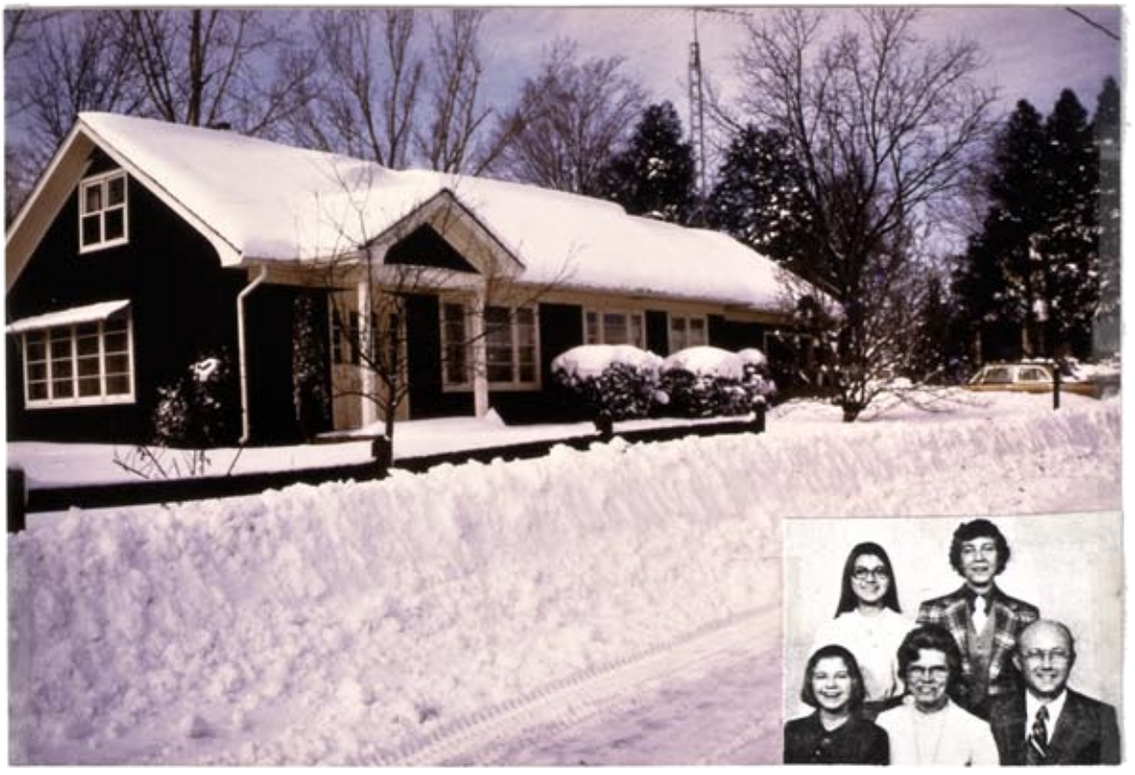
Experienced and seasoned in dealing with the imperatives of country doctoring and having acquired the skills and commitment that distinguished a rural practitioner from his "appointment oriented" urban counterparts, Dr. Shaver tackled any peripheral job as if it was routine. Thus, his favourite anecdotal tale had special import:

QUOTE

> *I have met many interesting people in my years of practice. I recall a relaxing afternoon helping an elderly gentleman complete his insurance form. Being the penman, I pondered tentatively over the simple question of his wife's name. Not having the answer, I looked to my patient for help but received a puzzling blank stare. Then I pointedly asked him "what's your wife's Christian name"? His astounding reply followed in quick succession - "Heck I don't remember, we just call her mother"!*

UNQUOTE

Dr. Shaver closed his Scotland office in 1970 to continue his practice in Brantford. Jack and Jeanette are the parents of one son and two daughters - Jane, Janet and Jim. Dr. Jim Shaver is now in partnership with his father. The Shavers moved from Scotland to their scenic heritage place along the Grand River, the original Shaver homestead. Jim's wife, Dr. Laurie Shaver, is also a practising member of the partnership.



January 1974 - the former Shaver residence on Talbot Street in Scotland, a house built by Charlie Hunter.

Stuart, Dr. Lorne James (1888-1960) physician and surgeon, Phone 23, Scotland - office hours 12:30 - 2 p.m., 6 - 8 p.m., Sundays 12:30 p.m.

Dr. Stuart had an office on Queen Street, south, in the mid twentieth century. His wife, Mildred Anderson, was the daughter of Dr. John and Emma Anderson. His obituary taken from the Canadian Medical Journal of February 25, 1961 reads as follows:

> "Dr. Lorne J. Stuart, aged 72, died December 13 in Scotland, Ontario. After graduating from McGill University in 1917, he served with the Canadian Army and practised in Morriston and Scotland, Ontario".

Mrs. Mildred Stuart died Thursday November 1rst 1956. She was born at Millgrove, Ont., was active in church, fraternal and music circles. She resided at Scotland most of her life and was a member of the Scotland United Church and active in the work of the Sunday School. A graduate of the Toronto Conservatory of Music, she received her ATCM.

July 1958
Laura Dr. Lorne Stuart

Mrs. Stuart was a past worthy matron of Brant Chapter, 188, Order of the Eastern Star; a past worthy priestess, Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem, Unity Shrine. No. 14, Brantford; past royal mason of Queen Isabel Court No. 10, Order of Amaranth, Brantford; a princess royal of Omar Temple No. 111, Daughters of the Nile, London, and a member of the Omar Temple Club, Brantford.

Dr. Stuart re-married in 1957.

Tegart, Dr. Edwin W. - physician, surgeon and dispenser of drugs.

Dr. Tegart - graduate of Victoria University in 1859. He received his Ontario license on June 14, 1866.

Dr. Tegart, born December 21st 1835, in the Huron tract, was a son of Edward Tegart, who was born in Ireland in 1780. His grandfather, John Tegart, was born in England, and held the position of Captain in the English army. Edward, the father, came to this country in 1820, and settled north of Toronto, in Tecumseh. Here he remained about twenty years, when he removed to Goderich. At this time there was not a post office between Toronto and Goderich, nor a store between London and Goderich. Mr. Tegart's mode of obtaining provisions was by taking his grist, with an oxen team, and going thirty miles to the nearest mill, where he also received his mail. At that time a horse was not to be found in all the Huron tract of land. Edward, the father of Dr. Tegart claimed as ancestor the Duke of Argyle. He married Martha Colton in 1818, by whom he had seven children, viz., James, Robert, Mary, Jane, Edwin W., John and Rachel. Dr. Tegart came to Brant County in 1860. He married in 1858, Augusta A. Clement, daughter of Robert A. Clement, and granddaughter of Major Clement, of the British army of 1812. He owned 200 acres of land in Burford township, lot 1 concession XIV, south-west of the village. At the age of ten years he did not know how to read, there being no schools in the locality where he was born. At the age of 14 his mother died, after which he left home without a dollar. He acquired all his property and a medical education, having graduated from the Medical Departments at Toronto and Cobourg University.

Dr. and Mrs. Tegart had a son Robert Clement (1862-1911) who married Clara A. Merritt (1862-1933) and a daughter Laura A. (1886-1968) who married George C. White (1876-1965) organist at Park Baptist and Colborne Street United Church in Brantford.

Vanduzen, Dr. Abraham (unlicensed) — involved in the Rebellion of 1837 as Surgeon of the Insurrection Forces — arrested and released; described by authorities as a "medical quack".

Young men from the Township who entered the profession were:

Andrew Eadie, son of Robert Eadie Jr., became a physician in Toronto. He was Chief Medical Officer with the Toronto Police Department.

Isaac B. Merritt (1830-1911) and his wife Louisa Kelly (1835-1900) had a son, A.K. Merritt who became a physician. He died on September 12, 1895 at 26 years of age.

Veterinary Surgeons

Many of the early veterinarians, who came to settle in the developing farming areas of Canada West, had trained in England or at Edinburgh College which dates back to 1823. Their curriculum focused on equines with lectures confined mainly to anatomy, physiology, chemistry, materia medica and hippopathology. A large percentage of these first graduates were destined for the military as the professional care of cavalry horses offered the best chance to apply their profession.

When the first practitioners arrived in Brant County, around 1840, horsemen and farmers alike shunned their services. Their credibility had not been proven to the satisfaction of wary horsemen. Established ways such as home treatment, the use of lay practitioners or farriers and the availability of animal husbandry books and periodicals to farmers and stockmen, explaining treatment procedures, thwarted the veterinarians' practice. Even aggressive advertising failed to gain the first vets much business in the farming communities. The Farmers Advocate, published out of London, Ontario in the mid nineteenth century, offered regular columns about animal diseases. Their Veterinary Department stated quite openly that a consultant would furnish information on any related subject and, to the applicants, they would provide private instruction as to the appropriate treatment for their animals together with medication, all for the modest fee of $2.00.

Several developments changed the lot of veterinarians for the better in the 1870's, and thereafter. Firstly, the Ontario Government passed legislation in 1871 which made it illegal for anyone but a graduate of a recognized college to claim for himself a title of "Veterinary Surgeon"; secondly, the Ontario Veterinary College at Guelph was soon to turn out graduates; thirdly, an outbreak of equine influenza (also called pink eye or catarrhal fever) in 1872 caused Township farmers and horsemen alike to seek professional help. The disease swept throughout the whole area and was a threat to both draft and light driving horses.

By 1874, trained veterinarians were still being lured away from rural practices into the military and quasi military, where incomes were assured. A practising vet from a neighbouring township, John L. Poett (1840-1895), enlisted in the North West Mounted Police at an annual salary of $700.00. Army veterinarians were being paid a parallel salary. The Force had been created the previous year and Mr. Poett, a graduate of Edinburgh College in 1860, became its first veterinary surgeon to serve in the North West. His exploits and adventures are well documented in a book titled "Vet in the Saddle".

A typical book which could be found in many farm homes in the late nineteenth century was "The successful Stockman and Manuals of Husbandry". Part I of the book is dedicated solely to horse management in sickness and health, plus diseases and how to cure them. The prefix of the book clearly implies that a professional veterinary surgeon is not needed to treat most maladies of the horse. It states that "most diseases can be easily detected and cured by the intelligent farmer and stockman who shared in providing feature articles for this publication". Part I gave instruction on sound animal husbandry such as management and care, removing shoes, food, the use of bran, bread and linseed mash, bathing legs in cold water, steaming, poultices, blisters, antiseptics, slings, bandages, throwing and casting, injections, giving a ball, drugs, disease of the teeth, worms, sunstroke, influenza and shoeing plus many other treatments. The book also provided the farmer with ideas on treating cattle, sheep, swine and poultry.

Conditioners for large animals were commonly advertised in local papers:

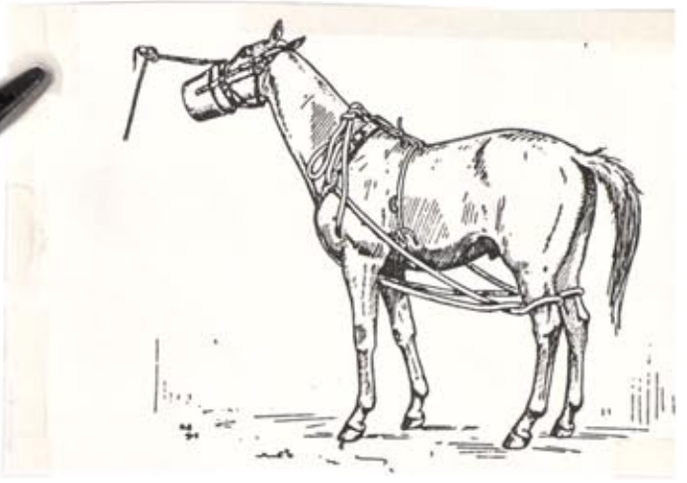
CONDITION POWDERS
The Maud S. Condition Powder
is a most valuable remedy for the
diseases of Horses & Cattle.
Nothing but the purest material
used in their manufacture.
SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
Manufactured by the Davis &
Lawrence Co., Montreal, proprietors
of PERRY DAVIS' Pain Killer.
ALLENS' Lung Balsam.
CAMPBELLS' Tonic Elixir
Agents for the Lotus of the Nile.

(The Scotland Journal - 1880)

For these harbinger professionals, the adversities were many. The impediments to establishing a successful practice were well known to Drs. A. Roswell and Dr. Durham who had an office on Simcoe Street in Scotland about 1885. Their profession was still struggling to gain momentum, their training was limited, their work day was indeterminate, with call-outs at all hours, and their mode of transportation by horse and buggy was slow. The hazards could involve a kick by an unruly horse or broken bones by a charging bull or an injury from a flying twitch. As well, their ability to apply effective treatment had limitations because of a lack of drugs on the market.

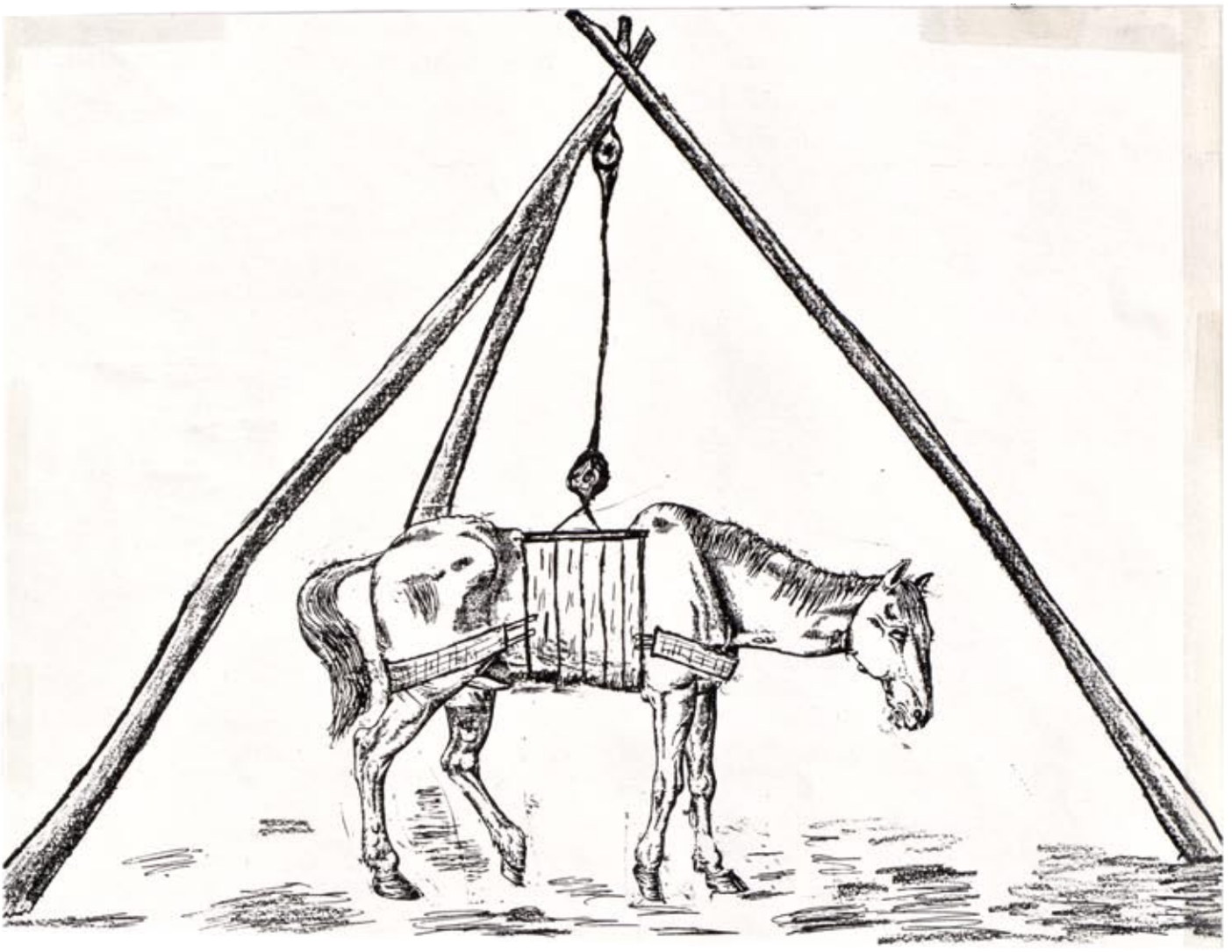
The frequent application of jugular phlebotomy (bloodletting) was long espoused as one method of treatment, especially for horses suffering from a serious case of founder (laminitis). It was also applied when the oxen acquired a similar ailment called "big foot". The risk of such a technique, by opening a vein, was infection with phlebitis. In the case of a suffering horse, from one to two gallons of blood was let, as it was felt that this would relieve pressure caused by blood collected in the hooves. Every veterinarian carried a fleam or surgical bleeding knife in his bag, the knife similar in shape to that used on humans. The practice has been discontinued now in favour of other advanced measures.

One of the early bloodletting knives, crudely fashioned by hand forging, used on equines and bovines.



Chloroforming a standing horse.

It was well understood by veterinary practitioners that a sick horse should stay on its feet - once down the chances of recovery were reduced. To accomplish this, crude tripods were erected to support the horse in a sling by the use of a block and tackle.



Forcing a sick animal to remain on its feet.

A crude, but effective, instrument used in the 1800's was the tail docker and veterinarians were often asked to perform the procedure— some refused. It was common to remove a horses tail, close up on the tail bone, for cosmetic reasons. The horse was confined and restrained, then the blade was placed around the tail bone, and with a quick closure of the handles, the tail snapped off and the stub was cauterized. This form of mutilation was justified as necessary and desirable in that era, not only for appearance, but also as a practical way to quickly place the brichen over the horses rump when harnessing it. Fire departments found the horse with a docked tail more desirable.

In February 1910 veterinarian Dr. A.R. Crooks (1880-1942) of Scotland became very busy. A rabies scare, with dogs as the carriers, hit much of Southern Ontario. Regulations invoked by the Veterinary Director General required all dog owners to lock their pets in an outbuilding or to be muzzled. Dr. Crooks was engaged to monitor the risk in Oakland Township.

1852

TO OWNERS OF AND DEALERS IN HORSES.
CARLTON'S FOUNDER OINTMENT

For the cure of Founder, Split Hoof, Hoof-bound horses and contracted and Feverish Feet, Wounds, bruises in the Flesh, Galled Backs, Scratches, Cuts, Kicks & c., on Horses.

CARLTON'S RING-BONE CURE

For the cure of Ring-Bone, Blood Spavin, and Splint - a certain remedy.

Tail docker

CARLTON'S CONDITION POWERS FOR HORSES AND CATTLE.

The changes of weather and season have a very great effect on the blood and sinuous fluids of horses. It is these changes, they require an assistant to throw off any disorder of the fluids of the body that may have been imbibed, and which, if not attended to, results in the Yellow Water, Worms, Botts, & c. All of which can be treated by giving one of these powders, and will cure when any symptoms of disease appear, if used in time. They purify the blood, retard all inflammation and fever and loosen the skin.

Historical records reveal that the horse was held in high regard by most, especially in the eyes of the law. Henry Sovereen of nearby Windham was convicted before the London District Assize Court in August of 1819 for knowingly, wilfully and maliciously shooting a horse. For this criminal act he was sentenced to be hanged but the Governor commuted the sentence!

Among others, the following instruments would have been found within the surgical kit of Dr. Roswell at Scotland over a century ago:

thermometer
stethoscope
chloroform inhaler and muzzle
probang (for entering the rumen)
speculum
forceps (various
castration knife
scalpels
syringe
restraint devices
(such as a twitch or hobbles)
drenching bit
milk fever air kit
calf puller
float
boss pig extractor
horse catheter
clamps
sutures
needles
ecraseur
probe
dissector
trocar (to relieve bloat in a ruminant)
percussor
firing irons
emasculator
rubber burr (to correct roaring)
wire coil balling gun
fleam (flem)
spring lancet

Mallet and disk for percussion.

Veterinarians known to have serviced the Township of Oakland were:

Dr. Andrew Roswell — practised around the period 1885. His office was located on Simcoe Street in Scotland.

Dr. Durham — practised in partnership with Dr. Roswell.

The following local news item appeared in the weekly paper, May 1885.

> "Mr. Wm Malcolm has a very sick mare, Doctors Durham and Roswell were in attendance".

(Wm Case Malcolm (1826-1892) was the son of Duncan Malcolm (1798-1866) and Jane Heron (1802-1888) farmers, south of Scotland. Their son, William, took over the farm and married Amanda Harkinson. It was his sick mare that is referred to in the aforementioned news item).

Dr. Adam Roy Crooks (1880-1942) — son of Jasper Crooks (1850-1934) and Elizabeth Annie (1858-19). They were Scotland residents. Reportedly Dr. Crooks and Dr. Frew had an office beside the library in Scotland. Dr. Crooks lived on Oakland Street across from Graves Garage. He was a bachelor. Local farmers could reach Dr. Crooks by cranking their phone and asking the operator to ring - 29.

Alex C. Frew D.V.S. (18 -1968)

He practised at Scotland, then moved to Waterford, but continued to service the Oakland Township area. Dr. Frew had a farm south of Scotland and raised pure bred Holsteins. He died on April 13, 1968 and is buried at Scotland. Dr. Frew's telephone number was 1-21.

Chas Wymer — veterinary surgeon practised out of Wilsonville in 1889.

F. Taggart veterinary surgeon — practised out of Wilsonville in 1898 and serviced the Oakland area.

The profession attracted the following young men:

Norman Scollard (1912-1972), born in Wimbleton, came to Canada as a young man in 1931. In England, Norman had been a chicken farmer. He worked for Kenneth Barnes (1901-1974), farmer south of Oakland village on lot 7 Concession I. Norman enrolled at the Ontario Veterinary College, Guelph in 1935 and graduated in 1939. He entered the Colonial Service and served in the West Indies and Singapore where he was taken P.O.W. by the Japanese in 1942 and remained a prisoner until October 1945.

Following the war, Norman returned to Toronto and went into private practice, taking over Dr. Campbell's business on Young Street - the Young Street Animal Hospital. Later, he became curator of the Riverdale Zoo, from 1952 - 73, then was appointed Zoological Director of Metro Toronto Zoo. Very much a humanitarian, Norman became a Director of the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies.

Norman Scollard

Chas S. Rammage, born at Oakland in 1922, was a B.V.Sc. graduate from OVC in 1945.

Charlie studied for a year at OAC in preparation for the four year course at OVC. His graduation documents were two fold - a B.V.Sc and D.V.M., explained by the fact the College awarded the Doctor of Veterinary Medicine document, beginning in 1946 graduation year.

After graduation, Dr. Rammage took a position with the Federal Government at Prince Albert and Moose Jaw. In 1946, he moved to New Brunswick and took a position as District Veterinarian, working at Fredericton, Sussex and Chatham. In 1976, he was promoted to Director of Veterinary Services for the province and continues to live, in retirement, at Fredericton.

May 11th, 1945 Dr. Chas S. Rammage, a graduate of the Ontario Veterinary College - B.V.Sc. and D.V.M.

Ontario Veterinary College

Under the Department of Agriculture — Affiliated with the University of Toronto

ONTARIO

This is to Certify that

Charles S. Rammage

having successfully completed the prescribed studies and examinations of the Ontario Veterinary College and having fulfilled the requirements of the University of Toronto for the degree of Bachelor of Veterinary Science B.V.Sc.

Therefore in that behalf the College doth recognize him as a

Graduate

with all the rights and privileges appertaining thereto as a Veterinary Surgeon.

In witness whereof the Seal of the College and the respective signatures of the Honourable the Minister of Agriculture and of the Principal of the College are hereunto affixed this Eleventh day of May one thousand nine hundred and forty five.

Thomas L. Kennedy
Minister of Agriculture

C. D. McGilvray
Principal

Testamur Senatum Universitatis Torontonensis

die quinto decimo mensis Junii A.D.MDCCCXLVI

admisisse in gradum

Doctoris in Medicina Veterinaria

Carolum Sylvestrum Rammage

quum omnia ad illum gradum pertinentia quae per Statuta requiruntur praestitisset et complevisset; in quorum fidem Litteris hisce communi Universitatis sigillo munitis nomina nostra subscripsimus.

Andreas McNabb
Principal O.V.C.

Ex Ad Acad.

die XV mensis Junii

A.D.MDCCCXLVI

Ridnerius Smith
Praeses Universitatis Torontonensis

Arthur B. Fennell
Registrarius Universitatis Torontonensis

VETERINARY INSTRUMENTS
Circa 1890

In veterinary [illegible] illustrate only a few instruments that are commonly used by the [illegible] ing a horse, but we are in a position to supply any thing made in this line, and will quote prices upon application.

D 870 Universal Wolf Tooth Forceps for extracting any tooth. Length [illegible] inches. Price $3.00

D 872 Wolf Tooth Forceps, bayonet pattern; length 14 inches; nickel plated. Price $4.00

D 874 Wolf Tooth Forceps, [illegible] length 9 inches. Price, each $2.50

D 876 Small Molar Splinter Forceps, nickel plated, 13 inches. Each $3.00

D 878 Straight Incisor Cutters. Each $3.00

D 880 Molar Extracting Forceps. Each $7.50

D 882 Closed Molar Cutters. Handles extra. Each $7.50

D 884 Open Molar Cutters. Handles extra. Each $7.50

D 886 Handles for Cutters and Extractors. Per pair $3.

D 888 Reversible Float, nickel plated, plain; length [illegible] inches. Price $1.00

D 890 Reversible Float, nickel plated, jointed. Price $1.50

D 842 House's Reversible Float, nickel plated, jointed. Each $2.00

D 844 House's Reversible Float, nickel plated, plain. Each $1.50
Extra blades for House's Float 25c

D 846 Palmer's Dental File. Each $1.00

D 848 Plain Double File, 10 inch. Each 50c

D 850 Separating Saw. Each $1.00

D 852 Simmons's Pincers. Each $1.75

D 854 Rasping Iron; weight [illegible] lbs; plain [illegible] 75c; nickel plated $1.50

Green's Extension Mouth Speculum. Each $4.50

D 856 Castrating Knife, spring [illegible] each $1.25

D 860 Ecraseur Castrating Knife. Each $2.00
Postage, 4c

Horse Fleams.

D 862 Set Fleams, brass handle:
Each two-blade 65c
Each three-blade 75c
Postage, 50c.

Spring Lancet.

D 864 Spring Lancet, guarded. Each $2.25

D 866 Seton Needles, plain. Each 6 inch. ...50c
12 inch 90c
18 inch $1.00
Postage, 10c.

D 868 Seton Needles, jointed. Price, 12 inch, 1 joint $1.75
18 inch, 2 joints $2.25
Postage, 15c.

D 870 Fetlock Shears. Price $1.00

D 872 Roweling Shears, best quality. Price $2.25

D 874 Braided Silk, 4 sizes, on card, white. Price per card....50c

D 876 Twisted Silk, one size, on card, white. Per card 10c

D 877 Half Curve Needles in sizes from 2 to 4 inches. Price each, 15c; per doz $1.00

D 878 Full Curve Needles, in sizes 2 to 4 inches. Price, each, 15c., per doz $1.00

D 880 Straight Needles, sizes 2 to 4 inches. Price, each, 15c., per dozen $1.00

D 882 Hoof Knife, double edge. Price, each. $1.25
Postage, 5c.

D 884 Hook Knife, single edge, right or left. Price, each $1.00
Postage, 5c.

D 886 Sand Crack Forceps and Cautery Iron. Price $6.00

D 888 Farmer Miles' Castrating Ecraseur; weight 1 lb. Price $10

D 890 The S. and S. patent improved Ecraseur. Price, each $15

D 892 Halstead's patent Ecraseur. Price each. $9.75

D 894 Miles' Spaying Shears. Price, each. $6.00

D 896 Horse Trocar, reversible. Price each $1.50

D 898 Cattle Trocar and Canula, for opening and draining abscesses, etc. Price, each. $1.50
Postage, 4c

D 899 Veterinary Thermometer, 6 inch sensitive, self-registering, in pocket case. Price $1.50

D 900 Moss Pig Extractor and Tooth Forceps, with [illegible] on the raising of the pig. This instrument was given first premium at Iowa State Fair 1886, and is the newest invention of the kind. The outfit is put up neatly in box and complete weighs only 18 ounces. Once tried always used, is the general prediction. Price of outfit complete $1.50

Improved Pig Forceps.

D 902 The Improved Pig Forceps has points of excellence which make it a most practical instrument, and may be used upon either small or large sows with equal satisfaction. The jaws are made of malleable iron, tinned to prevent rusting; will not tear the sow or otherwise injure the animal in operation. Price, each 75c

D 904 Drenching Horn, for administering medicine to horses; japanned; weight 12 lbs. Each 85c

Drenching Bit.

D 906 Burton's Drenching Bit. No longer any excuse to give your horse medicine that you can do it yourself. Horsemen throughout the country. Weight, 1¼ lbs. Price $2.75

Mouth Speculum.

D 908 Mouth Speculum, S. & S. patent. [illegible] of operation. It holds the mouth open so that an examination of the teeth can be made with the greatest ease. Nickel plated; weight 1 lbs. Price $9.50

Horse Catheter.

D 912 Horse Catheter, best quality. Price $2.00

D 913 Horse Catheter, same as above, second quality. Price $1.75

D 914 Metal Mare Catheter. Price $1.50

D 916 Metal Mare Catheter, [illegible] Price $2.00

D 918 Injection Syringes, [illegible] ounces, weight [illegible] lbs., price, $1.25; ounces, weight, 2½ lbs. $2.50

D 920 Veterinary Balling Gun, nickel plated, 15 inch length. Price $2.25

D 922 Veterinary Scalpel, ebony handle, right or left; specify which is wanted. Price 1.25

D 924 Veterinary Scalpel, ebony handle, double edge. Price 1.50

D 926 Veterinary Hypodermic Syringe, complete with three needles, needle trocar, etc. Price 3.50

D 928 Veterinary Surgeons' Gum Lancet, folding [illegible] handle. Price 1.50

D 930 Veterinary Surgeons' Pocket Case, made of best morocco, and containing an assortment of twelve instruments. Price 20.00

D 932 Syringes, for administering medicine to horses and other animals; quilted hard rubber, two pipes. Price $1.50

D 934 Syringes, same as preceding, but of metal, nickel plated; quilted, two pipes. Price each $2.50

D 936 Veterinary Hard Rubber Horse Syringes, capacity 24 ounces. Each $3.75

D 938 Dehorning Saw, best quality, nickel plated. Each $1.50

D 940 Gouging Forceps, nickel plated. Each $3.50

Dehorning Shears.

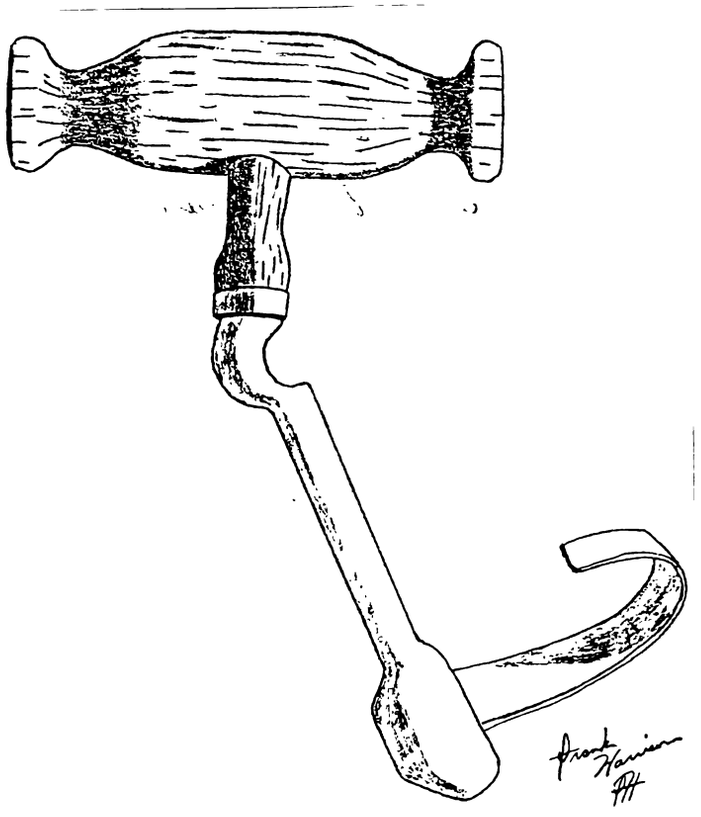
D 942 The Ad[illegible] Dehorning Shears, sure, simple and strong, [illegible] drawing cut complete, encircling the horn, which removes almost instantly by the use of these shears you save time, expense and unnecessary excitement to the animal. Price in regular finish $9; in nickel plated and polished handles $13.50

Dental Services

The people of Oakland Township gained access to dental services in Brantford by the mid nineteenth century. The following ad appeared in the local Scotland paper:

E. HART, L. D. S.
----DENTIST----
GOLD AND SILVER MEDALLIST.
Over McGeary's Grocery, Corner
of Colborne and Queen Streets.
BRANTFORD, Feb. 21st, 1884

Anaesthesia and analgesia were introduced about 1890, using cocaine or nitrous acid. False teeth could be obtained but were poorly crafted because a plaster mould was used and it was necessary that it be chipped off and pieced together again. The denture in the early development of false teeth was made of wood or ivory and the teeth were constructed of ivory or porcelain, attached by wires to the gum.



An old fashioned tooth puller

Barber-surgeons and specialist tooth pullers were practising their skills until a statute was put in place to protect the professional practitioner and the public from quackery.

The first and foremost priority for a patient was to remove the pain, thus tooth removal was the first option.

Early drills were hand operated, later a treadle arrangement appeared. By 1880, the electric drill was available to the licensed dentist.

CHAPTER 17

Banking

The first financial depository available, locally, to service the basic needs of Oakland Township residents was the Post Office Savings Bank office managed by the postmaster. A leading Scotland native, Augustus Malcolm (1820-1898), along with twenty-three others, petitioned the Postmaster General for the establishment of such an office at Scotland, their petition being dated May 31, 1892. John Adbeel Eddy, the postmaster at that time, was one of those signing the document sent to Ottawa. The Postmaster General was advised that the revenue generated per annum from local post office business amounted to $233.00, the population of Scotland was then 400, and the nearest banking centres were at either Burford or Waterford.

Post office regulations permitted only limited banking activity, such as deposits and withdrawals. Some residents of that era kept small metal banks at their homes which they used to store up their savings. Periodically, they would take their full container of bills and change to the post office for deposit. Once the first deposit was made, the postmaster retained possession of the key to the box.

While the Post Office Savings depository was handy for the Township dwellers, it was no substitute for a multi purpose financial institution such as a chartered bank. Banks were not easily lured to small villages in the country, however with a population of 500, Scotland ultimately got its very own bank. The Crown Bank of Canada established there on February 12th, 1906 with a staff of two. The Crown had emerged as a chartered bank three years earlier, with headquarters in Toronto.

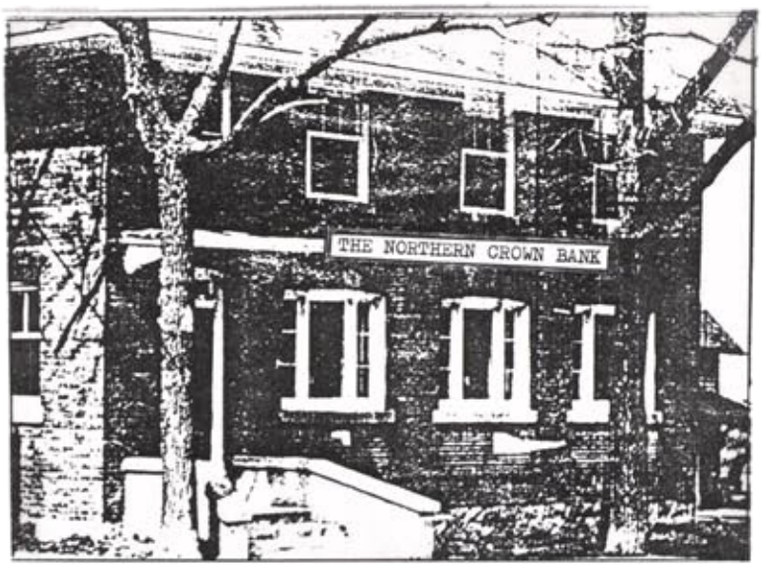
On July 2nd 1908, the Crown merged to become The Northern Crown Bank. The latter bank had been founded in 1903, with headquarters in Winnipeg.

The Royal Bank of Canada, founded at Halifax in 1864 as the Merchants Bank of Halifax with a Dominion Charter in 1869, embarked on an expansion program nine years after it took its present name

in 1901. The assets of the Union Bank of Halifax, the Traders Bank, the Quebec Bank were all bought between 1910 and 1917. Then, the Northern Crown Bank was bought out on July 2nd 1918 to ultimately place The Royal as Canada's largest bank. Scotland branch became one of its smallest branches. This organizational structure continued until April 10th, 1941 then Scotland became a sub branch to Burford. On December 31st 1942, it was identified as a sub of Brantford. Scotland returned to an independent on March 1st 1956 and continues as such.

Herbert W. Foster, a local boy, managed the Northern Crown and continued as manager, for a year, when it was taken over by The Royal in 1918. His banking career ended abruptly in 1918. He was the son of Horace Foster (1832-1908). Herb married Ada E. Horning (1862-1938), daughter of Abram Isaac Horning (1838-1915) and Jane Binkley, farmers south of Scotland. Their daughter, Miriam L. Foster taught school in the area. Their son Horace H. Foster (1904-1975) married Edna Schunk. Reginald "Reg" Vaughan, another local boy, was the assistant. Reg's father, Joseph H. M. Vaughan, ran a furniture store and funeral parlour in Scotland.

Herbert W. Foster
(1857-1942)



Cecil H. Epps, son of Elliott Epps (1864-1923) and Lavinnia Epps (1864-1936), worked at the Bank as a clerk before enlisting in WWI. He died at Havre, France, in his 22nd year, on November 5th, 1915.

The Changing Economy

For Oakland residents, The Royal and its predecessors have provided a convenient banking service since the turn of the century. Its special role of receiving, protecting and lending money has been offered to the young and old alike, but especially to the agricultural community which has always been the main industry. Savings accounts for the young, chequeing accounts for the adults and loans, short-term, intermediate and long-term allowed the people much more flexibility in their financial management than was possible in the days of the Post Office Savings accounts.

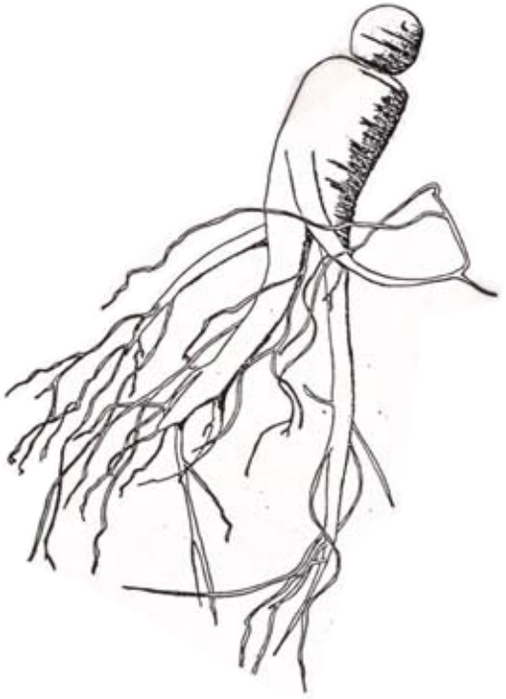
Since 1900, the Township Council of the day had lobbied, with tenacity, to have a chartered bank established in Scotland. Oakland Township Council, since its inception in 1850, has been made up largely of general purpose farmers. These people have always been susceptible to the swings of climate and possible crop failures, thus they sought to have a local bank nearby where they could get personalized attention in good times and bad. The need for a lending institution to take care of temporary short-falls in production was only too obvious to municipal officials. They were finally successful, in 1906, sixty-five years after branch banking had been authorized and eighty-nine years after the opening of Canada's first chartered bank.

For many years, the bank had dealt with a rather dormant rural clientele of Anglo-Saxon stock. The farmers and villagers alike were well known, long time residents of the Township, their fathers and forefathers having been born in the area. Many were related by marriage. The bank managers knew their customers and their background. This, however, was about to change. In the 1930's, Europeans of many nationalities commenced to arrive and take up residence. The flue-cured tobacco industry was the attraction - yes it was green gold. Where the soil was light and sandy enough to make the conversion, tobacco commenced to make an appearance. Tobacco was not new in the area. It had been grown by the Neutral Indians two hundred years earlier. Settlers, attracted to the nicotine plant after seeing the Indians grow it, placed patches of tobacco in their gardens for home use.

Commercial tobacco growing commenced slowly, firstly in Norfolk County in the 1902's, then spread to Oakland. Land was still cheap and the European immigrants soon had enough money to buy their own farms. For those taking out a mortgage, new arrangements were being devised such as the payment annually of one-quarter of the crop harvested. J. C. Moore, the longest serving manager of The Royal at Scotland, was soon to be approached for financing to buy new implements and irrigation equipment and money to build the necessary curing buildings, the kilns and the

greenhouses. Initially, the growing of tobacco was highly labour intensive, especially at harvest time, thus the local bank became a convenient banking place for temporary helpers and transient workers wishing to cash their weekly wage cheques - and wages were good. Tobacco brought greater prosperity to Oakland Township and the financial activity it generated at The Royal in Scotland saw an increase in the staff. Accounts at the bank held by old time farmers of English stock, such as the Barnes, the Eddy family, the Malcolms, the Stratfords and the Smiths, were being supplemented by names like Engeniski, Keevi, Kaczmarczyk, Mahiachuk, Keresturi and Klaus. New faces appeared at the bank counter and new accounts opened.

To a lesser extent, the introduction of ginseng as a commercial crop also impacted on the local economy. It first made an appearance in the 1960's and has been gaining popularity as the tobacco industry wanes and alternative cash crops planted. Ginseng needs a long growing period before harvest which requires the growers to seek interim financing arrangements. The Royal has been one of the local financial institutions to play a part in the overall development of this second farm based industry.



It was the Virginia tobacco leaf that pumped large sums into the Township's economy after W.H. Garner grew his first experimental crop of twenty acres in 1935. The ginseng root has now become a significant cash crop and the local banker has seen numerous growers at his door.

Managers

Scotland managers known to have served, firstly, with The Crown, then the Northern Crown and, after July 2nd 1918 with the Royal Bank, are listed in date sequence:

H. W. Foster	1918 - 1919 (with The Royal) his total service with the Crown and the Northern Crown is not known.
H. B. Sutherland	1919 - 1921
E. H. Wood	1921 - 1927
J.C. Moore	1927 - 1941
J. J. Boyle	20 Feb 1956 - 24 Sept 1959
Wm W. Warren	22 Sept 1959 - 17 Sept 1964
C. L. Harrison	17 Sept 1964 - 8 Aug 1967
R. A. Johnston	31 July 1967 - 25 May 1970
H. Lemaich	25 May 1970 - 14 June 1972
P. C. Kraemer	8 June 1972 - 4 Nov 1974
E. W. Frizell	28 Oct 1974 - 24 Jan 1977
Phillip B. Snyder	17 Jan 1977 - 31 Aug 1981
E. E. Elliott	24 Aug 1981 - 13 Sept 1987
H. K. Kolanko	3 Sept 1987 - 9 Apr 1990 (Personal Banking)
Darryl W. Smith	9 Apr 1990 - 10 May 1991
A. Craig	6 May 1991 -

1971

South Brant Legion building - a partner over the years in upgrading the Legion's clubhouse has been the Scotland branch of The Royal.

Manager R.A. Johnson authorized the first loan to the Legion in 1968.

Robberies

Over the years at least three armed robberies, one an attempt, have stirred the peace and quiet of Scotland. The first, in 1936, was the work of a young man who had worked for the railway in the area and knew the bank layout. Quick and decisive action by J. C. Moore, the manager, and teller A.M. Reid thwarted his efforts. With guns blazing, the following sequence of events unfolded:

October 3, 1936 - on entering the bank and going direct to the teller's cage, the lone bandit pushed forward a gun with the command:

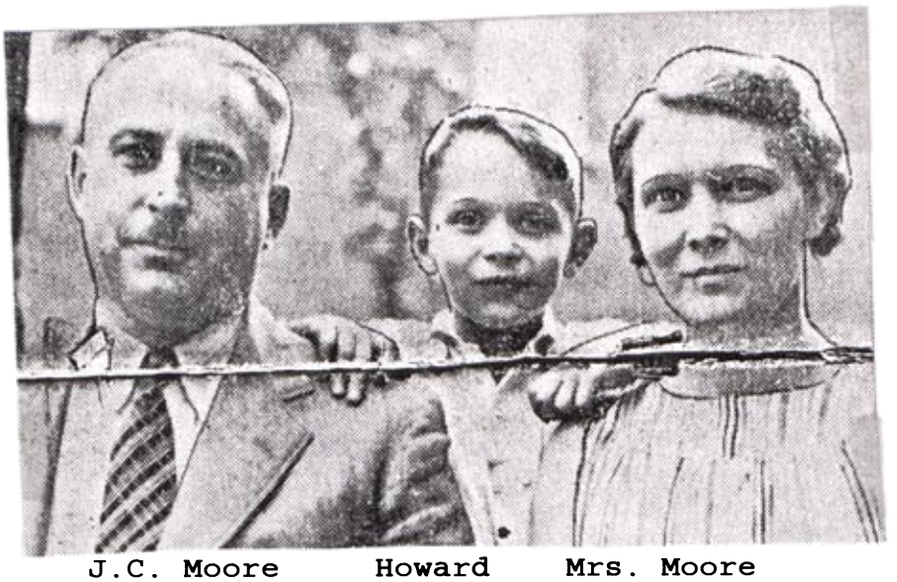
"Stick 'em up", the teller obeyed.

Manager Moore came on the scene, and the amateur turned his gun on him with the remark: "This is a stick-up". Manager Moore shouted: "Nothing doing", and he ducked into his office. Grasping a revolver from his desk, Manager Moore came out and shot it out with the bandit, who had just previously ordered the teller, A.M. Reid to "push the money out and push it quickly".

Bullets flew around the bank office, as the robber made a retreat towards the door, with Teller Reid also taking up the battle. Manager Moore fired three shots inside the office and the teller one, with the bandit letting loose a fusillade, then he fled out the door. As he was getting into his car, both Teller Reid and Manager Moore fired shots at the get away car.

The police were summoned and started a search. The first word came from McGraw's Service Station, which reported that a man of about thirty-two years of age and wearing a brown suit and a fedora had driven in and secured ten gallons of gasoline, leaving without paying for it. The car was described as a Pontiac bearing the license number 0-7421. This was later traced as No. 0-7241 and was declared to belong to the lone bandit's car.

On the left is a 1935 Pontiac Silver Streak. This sleek get-away car, featuring an all steel top, roared east on Oakland Street after its driver attempted to rob the Royal Bank. The car swooped over the T.H.& B. tracks then plunged into the ditch west of Oakland after the culprit lost control in his haste to escape.



J.C. Moore (manager) Howard Moore Mrs. Moore

A.M. Reid - teller

Brantford Expositor
Bullet holes in the bank's front window.

Brantford Expositor
The suspect, Wm Thomas, was located — in a pine reforestation plot on the farm of Percy M. Button.

Yeggs made an unsuccessful attempt to break into the vault on Christmas eve, 1925. Breaking into the building through a cellar window, the would-be robbers got upstairs and ransacked every drawer in the place. They next turned their attention to the vault and started their assault with a pick on the two-foot thick wall. This tough job evidently disheartened the amateurs for they stopped when they had removed eight inches of the bricks and mortar.

The interior of the bank with the managers' office in the background - time 3:25 p.m. - it was here that shots flew during the 1936 robbery attempt.

Shortly before noon word came that Provincial Constable Carl Farrow, Detective George Kerr and Chief of Police Stanley were on the trail of the man. He was cornered in an evergreen bush on the farm of Percy Button (Township Clerk), about half a mile west of Oakland village on the Oakland Road. A man hunt of several hours followed before the culprit, William Thomas of Hamilton, was pulled from under a tree.

The Ontario Provincial Police had mounted a large force of men to search the area, which included local farmers armed with pitch forks, who had been silo filling nearby on that particular day. The 1935 Pontiac was spotted by several residents living along the Oakland Road as it sped eastward. One local lad, son of Russell Rammage, saw the robber look back over his shoulder as he was speeding along the road and lo se control of the vehicle, entering the ditch in a puff of dust. Thomas was seen leaving the vehicle, then he attempted to stop a woman driver, but she refused, and he shot at the car as it sped away. He ran north across the gravel road, cleared a fence on the run, sprinted across the open field and into a pine reforestation bush where he disappeared. Several hours later, Mrs. William Spencer of Scotland spotted him. She told police and the arrest was made. The wanted man was crouched under a very low, thick pine tree at the north side of the woods, almost obscured from view, except for his feet. Many of the searchers had passed by the spot over several hours of the search without noticing him.

Mrs. Wm Spencer located the suspect hiding, ostrich fashion, in the pinery.

Charges of attempted robbery, unlawfully shooting at Manager J.C. Moore as well as theft of gasoline followed. Thomas went to the penitentiary for five years.

Circa 1965
The Royal - Scotland, Ontario

Manager William Warren had only been on the job three months when the second robbery occurred. It was on Thursday December 10, 1959 that two gunmen, who classed themselves as professionals, robbed the bank of $10,000, then eluded a police roadblock set up in a forty-mile radius. The two men walked into the bank a few minutes before the 3 o'clock closing time, and, after telling the staff of four that they had "done this before", methodically stuffed the cash into a small bag which manager Warren said looked like a pillow case.

One of the gunmen was described as "a tall, tough guy" who carried a long-barrelled revolver. His partner was a small man, and described as "an obvious stooge". The smaller man carried what appeared to be a starter's pistol, but he took the bank's .32 calibre pistol from a drawer before he left.

The manager said the taller man had been in the bank a few minutes earlier, to change a United States $10 bill. He then left, and soon returned with his partner. Mr. Warren was sitting at his desk when the two men came in, and he heard someone say "hold-up". "But I didn't believe it", "then the tall man ordered me to get up, or he'd shoot me", the manager said.

Teller Joseph Kekes was ordered into the vault with the shorter man, while the tall man lined the manager up against a wall, along with accountant John Moore and ledger-keeper Sharon Beckham. When the two men left the bank, Mr. Warren ran to a window and watched them get into a car across the street. He said they did not hurry. Kekes triggered the alarm, which sounded in Frank Hillier's department store a few doors away. They sped away in a light coloured 1959 Pontiac.

A police roadblock was set up immediately. Word that the escape car might have been taken on board an automobile transport prompted a police check of several carriers in the area, without results. Inspector E.A. Moss of the C.I.B., Ontario Provincial Police took over the investigation. The robbers were arrested several days later and sentenced to seven and twelve years respectively in Kingston Penitentiary. Parts of the previous description of the robbery have been extracted from the Brantford Expositor. The full staff at the time of the robbery included; Manager William Warren, ledger-keeper Sharon Beckham, accountant John Moore and teller Joseph Kekes.

The most recent robbery occurred in February of 1972. Two men wielding sawed-off shotguns burst into the bank, forcing the employees and customers to lie flat on the floor. They meant business and an estimated $25,000.00 was taken. They may have been able to escape had it not been for a blunder on the part of one of the escapees. He apparently fled to Simcoe and hired a taxi to take him to Toronto, inferring his trip was urgent. This seemed suspicious, so after the cab left, the police were notified and roadblocks were set up. The man was arrested on Highway 403 near Hamilton.

A bizarre extortion attempt, involving the Scotland Branch of The Royal, took place about 1969 when a man, posing as a telephone repairman, demanded over the phone of the manager, Robert Johnston, $5000.00 for the safe return of his wife, Shirley. Mr. Johnston was instructed to take $5000.00 in an envelope and put it in a phone booth near the bank. The extortion attempt failed when Johnston involved the police at the first possible opportunity.

The phoney repairman had come to the Johnston residence about noon asking Mrs. Shirley Johnston if he could check her phone. He lifted the receiver from the phone in the kitchen, dialled a couple of numbers and hung up. The man then went to the basement but came back up a few minutes later saying the trouble wasn't there.

The man left and a short time later Johnston received a telephone call at the bank.

The caller queried, "you go home for lunch at 12:30?"

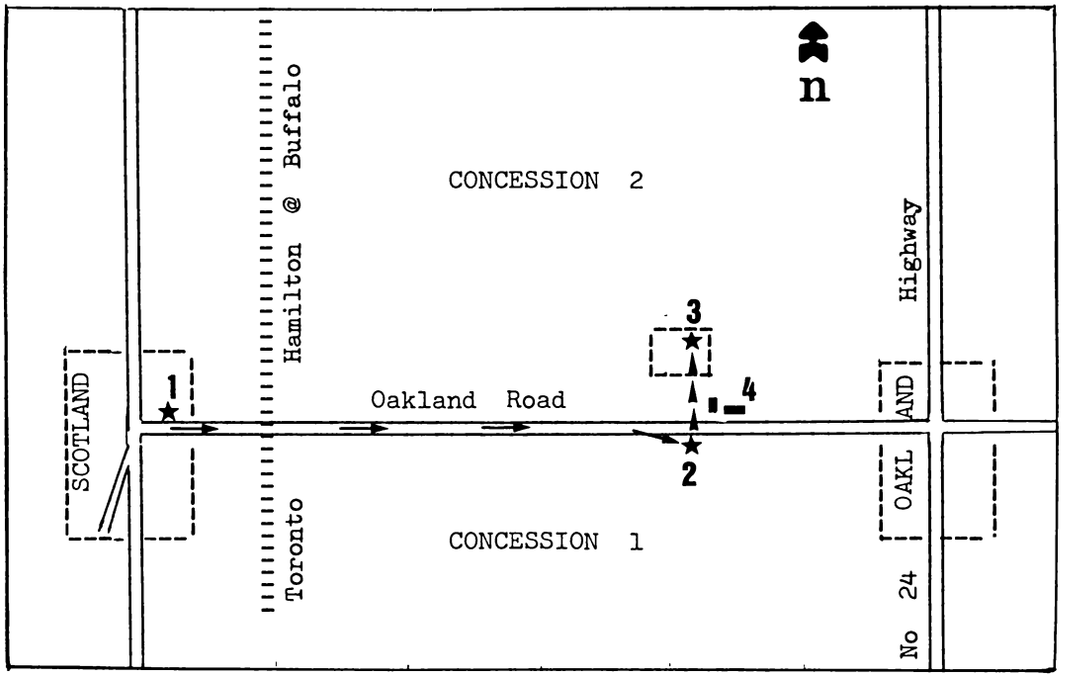
Johnston replied that he could not go until after 1 p.m.

The caller demanded: "Now listen carefully, you're going at 12:30 today".

"We've got your wife and have told her you have had a heart attack", the man said.

He ordered Johnston to take $5,000 in an envelope and put it in a phone booth about 150 feet along the street from the bank, and was instructed not to call the police "or his wife would never be seen again". After putting the money in the booth, Johnston was instructed to sit in his car across the street for ten minutes. Johnston phoned the police, contrary to instructions, then he went home and found his wife to be safe as well as their two children who were at school. (Parts have been extracted from the Brantford Expositor.)

Robert A. Johnston - manager of The Royal from 1967 to 1970



Attempted bank robbery - Oct. 3rd, 1936

1. Royal Bank
2. Ditched get-away vehicle
3. Culprit apprehended here
4. Percy Button's house and barn

Brantford Expositor
Tuesday, February 15th 1972 — an O.P.P. officer enters the bank after the robbery which netted the robbers $25,000.00. The manager then was Milan Lemaich, accountant Ronald Woodisse.

Scotland postmaster Keith Poss said he was sitting in the rear of the post office, eating his lunch, when the robbery occurred. "I didn't hear or see anything," he said. "My daughter, Carol, a proof teller at the bank, was home for lunch at the time, and she didn't know anything was wrong, either." Mrs. Don Eddy, sitting in a car across from the bank, witnessed the Robbery. She was waiting for Mrs. Whiting of Oakland who was in the bank at the time. Mrs. Eddy said "I saw a man come out of the bank carrying a bag or something. It appeared to be just a brown paper shopping bag and I should have been more suspicious, because he was carrying it with both hands over it. The man looked up and down the street then got into a car."

New Quarters

The following historical facts were supplied by The Royal's Public Relations Department:

1981 - Due to expansion, the Scotland Branch sought re-location to a new premises, with more parking, and the flexibility for further growth. The Masonic Temple and the Van Dusen block were demolished in 1980 to make way for the new complex located just to the west of the former two buildings. At the time, Phil Snyder was the manager with a staff of seven.

1986 - The original building was sold to Mr. & Mrs. Gary Pite and a shop called the "Greenery Gift Shop" opened there as well as a beauty shop owned by Mrs. Symons.

1986 - The Pite's took over the whole building and opened a Video outlet and Pizza place.

The official opening of the attractive new building was not without ceremony. On March 4, 1981, bank officials travelled to Scotland for the ribbon cutting. Alvin Marr, Township Reeve, officiated.

Phil Snyder Manager | A.E. Colling of Hamilton | Alvin Marr Reeve Oakland Twp | W.R. Miller of St. Catherines

APPENDIX

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANKS

Regulations for the conduct of Post Office Savings Banks, prescribed in conformity with chapter 15 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1927

1. Every Post Office, being a Money Order Office, at which the Postmaster General shall permit deposits to be received for remittance to the Central Savings Bank in the Post Office Department at Ottawa, will be open for that purpose and for the payment of moneys withdrawn (delivery of Withdrawal Cheques), during the hours appointed for the transaction of Money Order business at the said Post Office, and at such other hours as may, from time to time, be appointed in any case by the Postmaster General.

2. Deposits of One Dollar, or any number of Dollars, will be received from any Depositor at the Post Office Savings Banks, provided the deposits made by such Depositor in any year ending the 31st of March do not exceed $1,500, and provided the total amount standing in such Depositor's name in his ordinary deposit account in the Books of the Postmaster General does not exceed $5,000, exclusive of interest.

3. (a) Every Depositor, on making a first deposit, shall be required to specify his Christian name and surname, occupation and residence, to the Postmaster, or other officer of the Postmaster General receiving such deposit, and make and sign the following Declaration to be witnessed by the said Postmaster or other officer receiving the deposit, or by some person known to him, or by a Justice of the Peace; and if such Declaration or any part thereof, shall not be true, the Depositor making the same shall forfeit and lose all right and title to his deposits.

(Scotland was authorized as a Savings Bank in 1892 - Oakland Post Office received its authorization on September 1rst, 1933.)

Depositor's Book.

Office .....

No.....

DECLARATION BY DEPOSITOR ON MAKING FIRST DEPOSIT

I.....of.....do hereby declare to the Postmaster General that I am desirous on my own behalf, to become a Depositor in the Post Office Savings Bank. I do further hereby declare that I am not directly or indirectly entitled to any sum or sums standing in my own name or in the name or names of any other person or persons in the books of the said Post Office Savings Bank; *and I do hereby also testify my consent that my deposits in the said Post Office Savings Bank, shall be managed according to the Regulations thereof.

Witness my hand, this.....day of:.....,19....

Signed by the said Depositor, in the presence of me

.....}

.....}.....

*Save and except such sum or sums as may be standing in my name as Trustee jointly with the name or names and on behalf of any other Depositor or Depositors.

NOTE.—When this Declaration is made on behalf of a minor under 10 years of age, the age of such minor must be here stated after his name; and the minor's name at the foot must be followed by the signature of a parent or friend on his behalf.

Parents cannot obtain repayment of deposits made by them on behalf of minors under ten, and repayment will not be made to such minors until they reach the age of ten years.

(b) The following Declaration must also be made and signed by the Depositor:—

I, the Depositor named in the foregoing Declaration declare that I clearly understand that for every deposit I shall place in the hands of a Postmaster for transmission to the Post Office Savings Bank, I must see that I receive a direct receipt from the Postmaster General, and that the Postmaster's entry in the Pass Book is not sufficient without the further receipt from Ottawa.

Signed by the said Depositor in the presence of me}

.....}

.....}

If the Depositor cannot write, the following certificate must be signed by two persons both over the age of twenty-one years:—

We, the undersigned, testify that the above Declaration was read to the Depositor named therein, in our presence and in our hearing, and that the Depositor stated that he understood the same.

..... } Signature.
..... } Occupation.
..... } Signature.
..... } Occupation.

(c) A copy of the above Declaration is printed within the cover of every Depositor's Book.

(d) On making the Declaration aforesaid, and in all cases in which the signature of a Depositor is required, if the Depositor cannot write, his mark must be affixed in the presence of a witness, and attested by the signature of that witness.

4. A Depositor in any of the Savings Bank Post Offices may continue his deposits at any other of such offices without notice or change of Pass Book, and can withdraw money at the Savings Bank Office which is most convenient to him. For instance, if he makes his first deposit at the Savings Bank at Cobourg, he may make further deposits, at, or withdraw his money through the Post Office Savings Bank at Collingwood or Quebec, Sarnia, Brockville or any place which may be convenient to him, whether he continues to reside at Cobourg or removes to some other place.

5. (a) Every deposit received by a Postmaster, or other Officer of the Postmaster General appointed for that purpose, shall be entered by him at the time in a numbered book, and the entry shall be attested by him and by the dated stamp of his office, and the said Book, with the entry so attested, shall be given to the Depositor, and retained by him as primary evidence of the receipt of the deposit.

(b) The Depositor shall sign his name in a place to be provided for his signature in the Depositor's Book.

(c) The amount of each deposit so received, and the name, occupation and residence of the Depositor, shall, upon the day of the receipt thereof, be reported to the Postmaster General, and the Acknowledgment of the Postmaster General for the said deposit, signified by the Officer whom he appoints for the purpose, shall be forthwith transmitted by post to the Depositor as the conclusive evidence of his claim to the repayment of the deposit, with the interest thereon, upon demand made by him on the Postmaster General.

(d) If the Depositor does not receive the said Acknowledgment within TEN DAYS (OR EIGHTEEN DAYS if resident in British Columbia or the North West Territories) from the day on which he makes a deposit, he must apply for the same to the Postmaster General by letter, and, if necessary, renew his application to the Postmaster General until he receives the said acknowledgment.

6. (a) Interest calculated yearly, at a rate not exceeding four dollars per cent per annum (the present rate is 3 per cent), is allowed on deposits, and shall be computed from the first day of the calendar month next following the day on which the deposit is made, up to the first day of the calendar month in which moneys are withdrawn.

(*b*) The interest will be calculated to the thirty-first day of March in every year, and will then be added to and become part of the principal money.

7. (*a*) Deposits may be made by a Trustee on behalf of another person, in the joint names of such Trustee and the person on whose account such money shall be so deposited; but repayment of the same, or any part thereof, shall not be made without the receipt and receipts of both the said parties, or the survivor or survivors, or the Executors or Administrators of such survivor, whose receipt and receipts, either personally or by agent appointed by power of attorney, which power of attorney, in the case of minors, may be executed by such minor if of, or exceeding, the age of fourteen years, shall alone be a valid discharge, except in the case of insanity or imbecility of the party on whose behalf the deposits were made, when the Postmaster General may, on proof of the fact to his satisfaction, allow repayment to be made to the Trustee alone.

(*b*) The following Declaration must be made in such cases:—

Depositor's Book.	DECLARATION BY THE TRUSTEE
Office.....	OF A DEPOSITOR
No.....	—

I,.....(occupation)
of.....(residence)
do hereby declare to the Postmaster General that I am desirous of becoming a Depositor in the Post Office Savings Bank as the Trustee of.....(occupation)
of.....and I do further declare on behalf of myself, and also on behalf of the said.....that we are not either jointly or severally, directly or indirectly, entitled to any deposit or benefit from the funds of the Post Office Savings Bank, nor to any sum or sums standing in the name or names of any other person or persons in the Books of the said Savings Bank.*

Witness my hand this.....day of.....19....

Signed by the said Trustee in the presence of me. .....

.....
.....

*Save and except such sum or sums as may be standing in my name as a Depositor, in my own account, or as Trustee jointly with the name or names, and on behalf of any other Depositor or Depositors.

NOTE.—This Declaration is to be signed by the Trustee alone—but the names of BOTH PERSONS must be written on the cover of the Pass Book, and the signatures of BOTH PERSONS *will be required to a Notice of Withdrawal.*

(*c*) The following Declaration must also be made and signed by the trustee:—

I, the Trustee above named, declare that I clearly understand that for every deposit I shall place in the hands of a Postmaster for transmission to the Post Office Savings Bank I must see that I receive a direct receipt from the Postmaster General, and that the Postmaster's entry in the Pass Book is not sufficient without the further receipt from Ottawa.

.....

Signed by the said Trustee in the presence of me

.....

.....

(*d*) If the Trustee cannot write, the following certificate must be signed by *two persons, both over the age of twenty-one years:*—

We, the undersigned, testify that the above Declaration was read to the Trustee referred to therein, in our presence and in our hearing, and that the said Trustee stated that he understood the same.

..... Signature.

..... Occupation.

..... Signature.

..... Occupation.

(*e*) In case any such Declaration shall not be true, the person making the same shall lose all right and title to his deposits.

8. (*a*) Deposits may be made by or for the benefit of any person under twenty-one years of age.

(*b*) In case of minors under the age of ten years, the declaration must be made by one of the parents, or by a friend on behalf of the minor.

(*c*) Repayment to a minor over ten years of age shall be made in the same manner as if he were of full age.

9. Deposits may be made by married women, and deposits so made, or made by women who shall afterwards marry, will be repaid to any such women.

10. Every Depositor shall, once in each year, on the anniversary of the day on which it issued (or was renewed), forward his Book to the Postmaster General, in a cover to be obtained at any Post Office Savings Bank, in order that the entries in the said Book may be compared with the entries in the Books of the Postmaster General, and that the interest due to the Depositor on the preceding 31st March may be inserted in his book.

11. No charge shall be made upon Depositors for the Books at first supplied to them, or for Books issued in continuation thereof; if any Depositor shall lose his Book, and shall desire a new Book, application must be made by him to the Postmaster General, by letter, stating the circumstances and the Postmaster General shall then issue a new Book, as he thinks fit.

12. No charge for postage shall be made upon the Depositors for the transmission of their Books to the Postmaster General, or for the return thereof to them, or for any application they may have to make for acknowledgments of deposits, or for any application or necessary letter of inquiry respecting the sums deposited by them, or for the replies thereto.

13. (*a*) Any Depositor wishing to withdraw the whole or part of the sum deposited by him must make application for the same to the Postmaster General with passbook, in the following form, a printed copy of which may be obtained at any Post Office Savings Bank. (Withdrawals, in even dollars up to $50.00 may be made in cash on demand. See Clauses 206 to 216 of Book of Instructions)

Depositor's Book.	The.....day of.....19....
Office.....	To THE POSTMASTER GENERAL,
No.....	OTTAWA.

I enclose my passbook and hereby give Notice that I wish to withdraw the sum of.....Dollars, from my Deposit Account, bearing the above Number in the Books of the Post Office Savings Bank, and I request that a Cheque may be issued for the above named sum, and be delivered to me at the Post Office Savings Bank at .....

.....Signature }
.....Occupation } of Depositor.
.....Address }

NOTE.—If the Depositor cannot write, his mark must be affixed in the presence of a witness, and attested by the signature of that witness.

(*b*) No less amount than One Dollar, or some number of Dollars, shall be withdrawn, except when a Depositor withdraws all the money, both principal and interest, due to him.

(*c*) In the Form of Application for withdrawal, the Depositor must specify the number of his Pass Book and the name of the Savings Bank Post Office at which the book was originally obtained, the sum required, his occupation and residence, and the name of the Savings Bank Post Office at which he desires to receive the Postmaster General's Cheque in repayment of his deposits. On receipt by the Postmaster General of such Application, duly filled up and signed, a cheque will be sent, by return of mail, for delivery to the Depositor.

(*d*) When the withdrawal Cheque has been forwarded by the Postmaster General, the Depositor will be notified, and he should then, with the least possible delay, apply to the Postmaster for it, producing at the same time his Pass Book for entry of the repayment.

(*e*) The Postmaster General will endeavour to prevent fraud, and to identify every Depositor transacting business with the Post Office Savings Bank; but if any person shall fraudulently represent himself to be a Depositor, and by forwarding the proper Notice of withdrawal, and by presentation of the Depositor's Book, and compliance with the Rules of the Department, shall obtain any sum of money belonging to that Depositor, the Postmaster General will not be responsible for the loss thereof.

14. (*a*) Delivery of the Postmaster General's Cheque for a withdrawal shall be made only to the Depositor in person, or to the bearer of an Order under his hand, signed in the presence of a Justice of the Peace for the place in which the Depositor resides,—or, in case of sickness, of the medical attendant. If the Depositor be resident abroad, his signature must be verified by some constituted authority of the place in which he resides.

(*b*) The following is the form of order to be signed by the Depositor on such occasions, a copy of which may be obtained at the Post Office at which the Cheque is made receivable.

ORDER BY A DEPOSITOR WHO CANNOT PERSONALLY RECEIVE A CHEQUE ISSUED TO HIM.

To the Postmaster of.....

I, the undersigned, holder of Pass Book No.....issued to me at the.....Post Office do hereby authorize and direct.....the Bearer of this Order, to receive for me Post Office Savings Bank Cheque No..... dated the.....day of.....19.... for the sum of.....Dollars, for which Cheque the receipt of the above named person shall be a good and sufficient discharge.

As witness my hand, this.....day of.....19....

WITNESS:

.....Signature	Of Witness	.....Signature	Of Depositor
*.....Occupation		.....Occupation	
.....Address		.....Address	

*State whether Justice of the Peace, Medical Attendant, etc.

15. In case any Depositor shall die, leaving a sum of money not exceeding $300, exclusive of interest, deposited in the Post Office Savings Bank, and Probate of his Will, or letters of Administration, or *Acte de Curatelle* or *de Tutelle*, be not produced to the Postmaster General, or if notice in writing of the existence of a Will, and intention to prove the same or to take out letters of Administration, or to be appointed Tutor or Curator, be not given to the Postmaster General at the Post Office Department within the period of one month from the death of the Depositor; or, if such notice be given, but such will be not proved, or Letters of Administration, or *Acte de Tutelle* or *de Curatelle* be not taken out, and the Probate or Letters of Administration, *Acte de Tutelle* or *de Curatelle* (as the case may be) produced to the Postmaster General within the period of two months from the death of the Depositor; it shall be lawful for the Postmaster General, after such period of one or two months, as the case may be, to pay and divide such funds at his discretion to or amongst the widow or relatives of the deceased Depositor, or any one or more of them; or, if he shall think proper, according to the provisions of law governing the distribution of property in all such cases.

16. In case any Depositor shall die leaving any sum of money in the Post Office Savings Bank, which (exclusive of interest) shall exceed the sum of $300 the same shall only be paid to the Executor or Administrator, Tutor or Curator, on the production of the Probate of the Will, *Acte de Tutelle* or *de Curatelle*, or Letters of Administration of the estate or effects of the deceased Depositor, to the Postmaster General.

17. If any Depositor, being illegitimate, shall die intestate, leaving any person or persons who, but for the illegitimacy of such Depositor, and of such person or persons, would be entitled to the money due to such deceased Depositor, it shall be lawful for the Postmaster General, with authority, in writing, of the Attorney General of Canada, to pay the money of such deceased Depositor to any one or more of the persons who, in his opinion, would have been entitled to the same, according to law, if the said Depositor and such person or persons had been legitimate.

18. If any Depositor shall become insane or otherwise incapacitated to act, and the same shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Postmaster General, and he shall be satisfied of the urgency of the case, he may authorize payment, from time to time, out of the funds of such Depositor, to any person whom he shall judge proper, and the receipt of such person shall be a good discharge for the same.

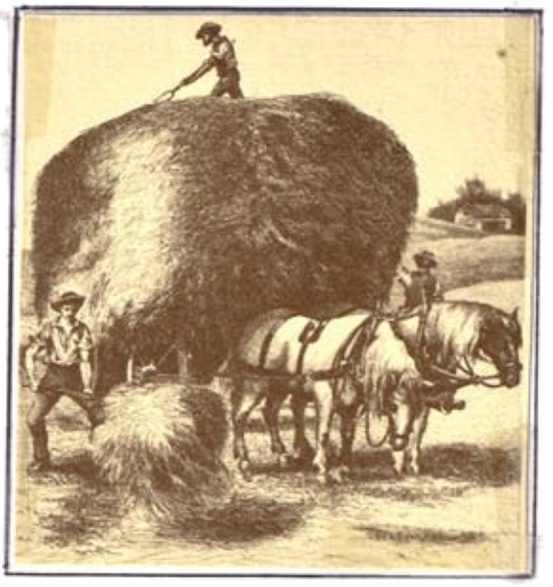
19. If any dispute shall arise between the Postmaster General and any individual Depositor, or any Executor, Administrator, Tutor or Curator, next of kin, or creditor or assignee of a Depositor who may become bankrupt or insolvent, or any person claiming to be such Executor, Administrator, Tutor or Curator, next of kin, creditor or assignee, or to be entitled to any money deposited in the Post Office Savings Bank, then, and in every such case, the matter in dispute shall be referred, in writing, to the Attorney General of Canada; and whatever award, order or determination shall be made by him shall be binding and conclusive on all parties, and shall be final, to all intents and purposes without any appeal.

20. The postmasters, and other Officers of the Post Office, engaged in the receipt or payment of deposits, are forbidden to disclose the name of any Depositor, or the amount deposited or withdrawn by him, except to the Postmaster General or to such of his Officers as may be appointed to assist in carrying out the provisions of the Post Office Act in relation to Post Office Savings Banks.

21. In the construction of these Regulations, unless there is something in the subject or context repugnant thereto, every word importing the singular number only shall mean and include several persons or things, as well as one person or thing, and the converse; and every word importing the masculine gender only shall mean and include a female as well as a male; and the word "month" shall refer to a calendar and not a lunar month.

CHAPTER 18

Agriculture Diversified



In the twentieth century, the technology of agriculture changed from small farming operations, with a labour intense methodology, to more mechanized procedures. With the introduction of modern farming techniques, necessary to remain competitive, the pace of farming moved into high gear. For the farmer and his wife, the way of doing things shifted from muscle and horse power to the combustion engine.

The change was gradual, but inevitable. Within a matter of years, farmers moved away from back-breaking work, where lifting by hand was common place and the horse a constant confederate, to machines and power lifts. The shortage of labour during WWI, and again in WWII, had a decided impact in hastening the mechanical age.

The first settlers in the Township cared little about crop rotation, the half and half system of grain and summerfallow or about irrigated cropping or chem-till summerfallowing. They simply broke up the land as best they could with crude tools and implements available to them and planted their seeds. Extensive cultivating, harrowing, discing and rolling was not possible. Today, some farmers practice what their forefathers did two hundred years ago – zero tillage. They seed, with minimum soil disturbance, directly into the stubble. Farming has come full circle.

Circa 1905

Rural living on the farm of Abe Westbrook, south of Oakland, lot 7 Concession I. Later, it was the Alam Barnes place.

The hired man made "labour intensive" farming possible. With a hundred acre farm, hired help outside and in was almost a necessity. Skilled, and in many cases unskilled, farm labourers and house workers could readily be hired and the price was right. During the summer months, a single man could be put to work, twelve to fourteen hours a day, for $25.00 a month plus room and board. Invariably, his salary was reduced to $15.00 a month during the off season. In the 20's, many "home-boys" arrived from the overseas orphanages and found farm work. Some liked what they saw and integrated quickly into the community life. One such boy, a sixteen year old lad, George Chandler (1908-1989) who was a towering figure at 6'4" settled at Oakland. He married a local girl, Evelyn Chandler RN, raised a family and became one of the community's respected citizens. George arrive at Oakland in 1925. Another to arrive from England was Cyril Taylor. He found employment on the Sylvester Stratford farm, began courting his employer's daughter, married her, and joined one of the largest and best known families throughout South Brant. Because many young lads arrived as unskilled labourers and totally lacking any knowledge of farming techniques, it was not uncommon to hear the expression "you Englishman you" if the quality of work to the task at hand did not measure up. Cy Taylor fell into this category at milking time — all thumbs and no fingers.

Other young men who hired out for farm work in the 30's were:

Stan Cathie — worked for Gordon Bonham and Reg McIntyre.
Bob Denton — worked for Russell Rammage and Ern Secord.
Johnny Clelland — married (1) Bernice Stratford (2) Muriel Guest.
Jack Dangerfield — worked for Russell Rammage
Terry Flanagan — worked for Howard Edy
Bill Epton
Reg Atkins — worked for Ern Secord

Cyril Jones
Morris Anderton
George Hemstock — worked for Reg McIntyre, later at Smith's mill.
Wm "Scotty" Stewart — worked for Wilfred Crumback
Fred Slater — worked for Ern Secord
Paul Shuttleworth —

(some of these young men can be seen in Volume II at page 296)

Leslie "Taffy" Bennett — worked for several farmers. He married Ione Chamberlain from Kelvin. "Taffy" was an accomplished singer, often singing the Welsh national anthem (Land of My Fathers) at community functions.
Norman Scollard — worked for Ken Barnes (see Chapter 26 for more detailed information about Norman Scollard)
Bill Yeo — worked for Ern Secord

The pace on the farm between April and October was much more animated but during the winter months the hired help was fully occupied as well. Contemplate the physical energy expended during the ice harvest. Cutting, lifting, hauling and packing huge blocks of ice was a task of brawn and stamina. From the two millponds, ice was hauled by bobsled to the ice house, then packed in sawdust or straw for use in the hot weather. Before refrigeration, it was an annual event. Ice preserved milk while awaiting transportation via the T.H. & B. or L.E. & N., later by truck, to the dairies in Brantford. Alf Martin and Walter Burrage were two skilled and hulky men employed by the day to cut ice at the millponds. Using the down stroke of the ice saw with body force on the handle to cut a straight line, they could sever hundreds of well proportioned chunks from the mass of ice in a day and keep one hauler busy going back and forth from the pond to the ice house. From a distance, the ice cutters were figures in perpetual motion, keeping time, rhythm and momentum with every stroke of their six foot long ice saw.

Farming during the Great Depression was a matter of survival, not profit. As Lloyd Bowen (1887-1949) often remarked "money talks — it says hello and it says good-bye". Alice Riddle RN grew up on a small farm south of Scotland. About the Depression she said:

> *"We farmed through the war and the depression. We had occasional hired help but mostly parents and the family managed the farm work. I remember riding the roller and the cultivator in the field. We all helped bring in and "mow" away the hay and sheaves of grain in the mow. Of course everyone helped milk cows and pumped water for all the livestock. We had a big orchard and garden. Mother always raised chickens, at first with setting hens, later bought day old chicks and had a small brooder. We sold butter in early days but mostly whole milk went to the milk factory. Eggs went to "customers" and the local stores. From Herbert on we all walked 3/4 mile to "South" school (public) and 2 1/2 miles to Burford High. One time a bad wind storm tore out some corrugated steel roofing from our barn roof and rolled it up. As mother fought the wind to try to get to the barn to close the door the roll sent her headlong. She had very sore shins but no broken bones."*

In 1915, her father George Riddle (1874-1960) decided to expand his operations which meant a move to Burford Township. Alice described the move:

"When Herb was in the third class we moved on March 15, 1916 to Lot 7 Conc 8 Burford Township - a 100 acre farm with larger buildings. It had been a mild winter. The livestock and implements were moved ahead easily but on March 15, the roads were plugged with snow. Father and Herb broke track away out in the fields with the team and bobsleigh. Rail fences held huge drifts. Mother and Maude sat on the seat of the cutter drawn by faithful Bessie. Hazel and I sat with feet on hot bricks, our backs against the dashboard, well wrapped in scarves, mitts, and buffalo robes for the twelve mile trip. The snow lasted a month."

George Riddle sold his farm south of Scotland "for a song" compared to today's prices. A twenty-five acre farm could be bought for $1200.00. In 1941, before tobacco growing had gained inroads in the Township, the one hundred acre farm at lot 4 (west half) Concession I, owned by Marquis Vivian, sold for $5500.00 (with livestock and implements).

Edith (Dunnett) Riddle George Riddle

In the twentieth century things changed in the kitchen too. The cumbersome chores taken for granted became redundant as technology and more modern farming techniques evolved. Gone were such tasks as storing eggs in the oat granary for use when the free range hens stopped laying; home slaughter and smoking your own pork, or placing it in brine, was out; canning beef in sealers; hanging hams in the granary; churning your own butter; filling the coal oil lamp and cleaning the chimney; making your own soap with wood ashes and fat and washing by hand; baking your own bread and making your own rugs. All were welcomed as by-gone chores by the mid 40's, some much earlier. But all was not toil, sweat and hum-drum. Some elderly residents have fond memories of making butter milk pop after the churning was done while others recall the pleasure of walking to the well for a pail of fresh drinking water or going to the barn yard to scatter grain to the chickens as they came running. Some farm wives still make their own bread by

choice, but a trip with the horse and buggy to Patersons in Brantford for a barrel of cracked biscuits is no longer possible. Yes, within a matter of years a myriad of routine chores, some pleasant some not so pleasant, faded into history.

Circa 1915
A house-wife, Mrs. Ida VanEvery, at work in the farm kitchen with the weekly washing.

HOME PRESERVING

The secret of canning in jars was to boil the jars vigorously then seal them tight, completely sterilized and germ free. All farmer's wives knew the secrets of food preserving, both plants and animals, and by late fall, their pantry, cellar shelves and cupboards were stocked full - with some "left-overs" from last year. In Oakland Township, almost anything edible was put on the table. There were no inhibitions or restrictions based on religion, superstition, fad or custom.

Preservation was almost entirely by canning, drying or curing until hydro arrived in the 30's and freezers became available, even though the technique of freezing had been developed as early as 1865.

Housewives spent many late summer days, and evenings, picking, washing, peeling, sterilizing, cooking and sealing their preserves. It was indeed a satisfying but laborious task.

In the summer of 1957, a local paper carried an article titled "Cooking on the Farm", together with a picture of Mrs. Mal Duckworth and her preserves. Mrs. Duckworth, widow of Hilton Duckworth, was well known in Scotland. For many years she was an active member of the local Women's Institute. She died on February 18th, 1958.

At the turn of the century farmers were just beginning to recognize the benefits of banding together, not only to gain more political clout, but to improve their knowledge and skills of current farming techniques. The Farmers' Institute was one organization that offered local farmers an opportunity for job enrichment. The South Brant Branch had been organized in the late 1800's and was patronized well into the twentieth century, meetings being rotated throughout the area. The Scotland Sun reported on the Institute's activities in an article published in 1893:

"A meeting of the South Brant Farmers' Institute was held in Burford, on Wednesday of last week. Mr. T. Lloyd-Jones read the first paper, under the caption of "Is there sufficient farm labor?" This paper was well received, and remarks from several gentlemen present were made upon it. The second, was prepared and read by Mr. S.G.Kitchen of St. George on "Farming for profit". This subject was ably handled, full of sense, and brought a number to their feet, each of whom had something good to say on the subject. The last paper on the programme, was an able effort by Mr. Elems of Princeton, entitled "lunar and planetary influence on man, animals and plants, and weather of coming season". This subject, also, brought out many good ideas, and was responded to by gentlemen present.

The next meeting of this Institute will be held in Foster's hall, in this village, on Monday March 6th.

There are a number of farmers in this vicinity who have never attended a meeting of the Institute, and now that the officers have arranged to hold another one in Scotland, they should not miss the opportunity. Several papers will be read by competent men, on subjects that will be interesting and instructive. The meeting held here last season, was not as largely attended as was wished, but we bespeak, for the Institute, a large representation of the farming community on March the 6th."

Don Abbott of Oakland was an excellent plowman. He placed third when he entered the 1952 Brant County match, crediting Walter Schaeffer (1906-1969) a local implement dealer with the early interest he gained. In 1957, he captured top honours in the Tobacco Grower's event at the International Plowing Match, held at Simcoe, and he also won the Tobacco Grower magazine award and took first prize at the Brant County match in 1957.

Circa 1958
Award winner, Don Abbott, holding the silver tray he won at the International Plowing Match — his mother Del Abbott is on his left.

Circa 1950

In late October, a local farmer, Alvin Marr, harvested tons of pumpkins which were shipped to the local canning factory. He can be seen on the left loading his crop with a pitch fork.

Farming trends changed in the late 1800's and early 1900's. The staple crop of wheat and other grains continued to be grown but more emphasis was directed to building up high producing dairy herds.

In December of 1948, the dairy farmers in the township, fearing lost sales, were alarmed when a Supreme Court ruling lifted a ban on the use of margarine at the table. The Dairy Industry Act had protected dairy farmers from the competition of artificial products since 1886. For a time only uncoloured margarine could be sold, a measure intended to downgrade the appeal of the product as compared to butter. While the industry exerted considerable pressure and intensely lobbied their MLA's, the protectionist legislation never returned.

Down on the farm 'bout half past four
I slip on my pants and sneak out the door.

Out in the yard I run like the dickens
To milk all the cows and feed all the chickens,
Clean out the barnyard, curry Rhoda and Jiggs,
Separate the cream and slop all the pigs.

Hustle two hours, then eat like a Turk.

By heck! I am ready for a full day's work.

Then I grease the wagon and put on the rack,
Throw a jug of water in the old grain sack,
Hitch up the horses, slip down the lane,
Must get the hay in, looks like rain.

Look over yonder, sure as I am born,
Cows on the rampage, hogs in the corn;
Start across the meadow, run a mile or two,
Heaving like I am wind-broke, get wet clean through.

Back with the horses then for recompense,
Rhoda gets astraddle the barb-wire fence,
Joints all aching, muscles in a jerk.

Whoop! Fit as a fiddle for a full day's work.
Work all the summer 'till winter is nigh,

Then figure at the bank and heave a big sigh.
Work all the year, didn't make a thing,

Less cash now than I had last spring.

Some folks say there ain't no hell.

Shucks! They never farmed, how can they tell?
When spring rolls 'round I take another chance,
As fuzz grows longer on my old gray pants.

Give my galluses a hitch, belt another jerk.

By gosh! I am ready for a full year's work.

(author unknown)

Reminiscences of Jean Sumsion — Expositor correspondent:

Old-fashioned winters -

Cans of milk were taken out on sleighs and feed was brought in the same way. Some winters we were snowed-in for weeks at a time. How well I remember riding into Burford on the bobsleighs, sitting on cans of milk covered with blankets, while everyone huddled under heavy buffalo robes to stave off the cold.

Elisha Stuart used to come with the sleighs and stop and take us with him. He was clad in a big fur coat, fur mitts and fur hat with huge earflaps and had his knees covered with a blanket.

The horses plodded through the heavy snow, frost clinging to their nostrils, and their breath, like smoke, hung on the crisp, frosty air. The bells on their harness jingled as they made their way through the drifts.

Nowadays people seem to get in a panic when some snow falls. They get right out and shovel the snow from their lanes so they can get their cars out to go to work. But most people didn't seem to worry about getting their lanes cleaned out then because, in those days, most farmers farmed and had no place in particular to go anyway, and many had no car to go in.

Most farmers worked at home, so being snowed-in was nothing to worry about. If the milkman couldn't get through the roads with the truck then the cans of milk were taken to the road on a hand-sleigh, ready for Lloyd Chant to pick up. If the truck couldn't get through, the cans of milk were taken on the bobsleighs to the milk factory in Burford.

In those days, there were only two stoves in the houses - a cookstove in the kitchen and a Quebec heater in the front part. These were kept burning during the day with sticks of wood being fed to them continually, but at night, coal was usually put in to keep some heat in the house. In the morning the ashes were cleaned out and some wood was stuffed in to make a hot fire to warm up the house - the downstairs, at least.

The only heat upstairs was the little bit that was given off by the stovepipes going up through the bedroom or the bit that found its way up the stairs. In our bedroom at home, we had a grate in the floor and this let a bit of heat come through from the dining room below. The frost was so thick on the windows upstairs in the mornings we couldn't see through them. The only way to see outside was to hold a finger on the window pane until a little hole melted in the frost.

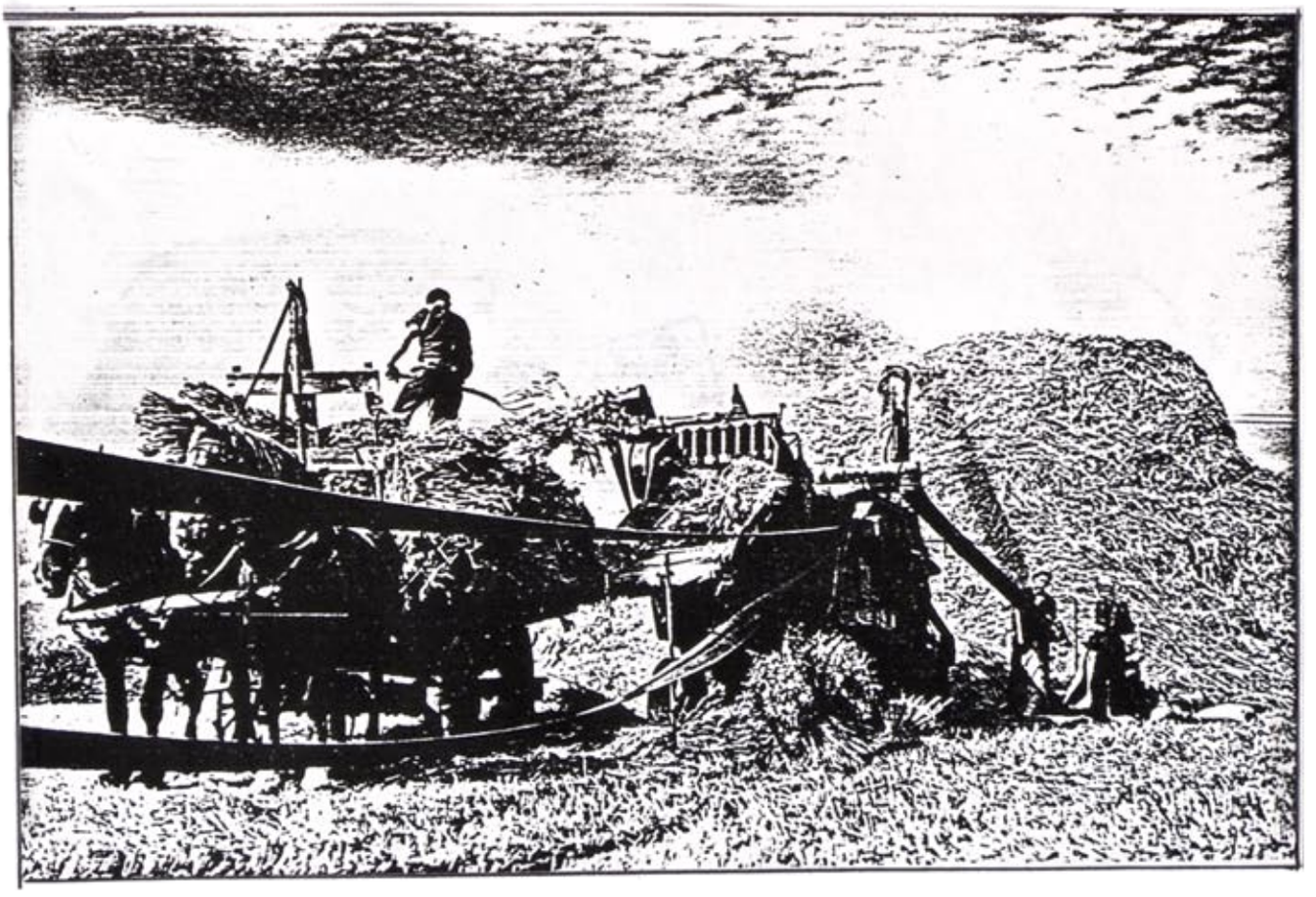
To make the fires in the first place, the wood box had to be filled every afternoon with wood from outside. If the wood was wet it was usually piled on the oven door to dry. This was a cold job to start with, although at our house we usually had a lot of wood cut in stove size. It was piled up neatly in the back shed behind the house so we didn't have to go outside in the weather to carry in armful of wood to fill the woodbox.

Even though the lane didn't have to be shovelled out there were several paths that did have to be shovelled. There had to be a path to the pump, a path to the outhouse and a path to the barn.

The water was outside and this was usually frozen up every morning. We had to prime the pump with a kettle of boiling water to get it thawed out and the fire in the kitchen stove had to be going full blast to get the water boiling for this job. Some people had soft water pumps in the house but this water was used only for washing clothes, dishes or scrubbing.

On those cold winter mornings, Mom used to boil mash in a big milk pan on the back of the stove. To this was added potatoes and then this hot mixture was carried to the chicken coop to feed to the chickens. How they loved that stuff and gobbled it up! Thinking back now to those cold days and cold barns, it is a wonder that the hens ever laid or the cows ever gave any milk. They must have been almost frozen too. Although I can't remember, I suppose there were many days we had no mail delivery since our mail came from Brantford at that time. *UNQUOTE*

THRESHING IN OAKLAND TOWNSHIP



Shirley M.Plyley (Pocock), a granddaughter of G. Wm "Will" Cox (1880-19) and Mary Ann "May" Fair (1879-1972) who settled at East Oakland lot 13 concession II around 1923, wrote the following about the Cox family and recounted country living in Oakland Township after the turn of the century;

quote

"George William Cox was born on May 9th, 1880, in Mount Pleasant, Ontario. He grew up there on a farm with his four brothers and a sister. "Will" was the eldest of the six children: Louis, Arthur, Albert, Harold, Annie, Mattie and Hanna.

Mary Ann Fair was born August 31, 1879 in the small village of Boston, to Sarah and Thomas Fair. Her Father lived to be 93 years of age, fathered four girls; Sarah, Matilda, Mary Ann, Lottie and two sons James and Albert.

Mary Ann Fair, "May" as she was called, and "Will", George William Cox, were married in Boston on Dec. 26, 1900. Their first home was in Mount Pleasant. After that they lived in three other locations, Cainsville, Balmoral and Burtch before moving to East Oakland. We believe they lived in Cainsville about the time Grace was born, around 1910 or later, and we believe they moved to the East Oakland farm, originally the McIntyre farm, about the time their son, Gordon was born.

George William Cox — m. — Mary Ann Fair
May 9, 1880 — Dec. 26, 1900 — Aug. 31, 1879 - March 27, 1972

I

I

Baby Arthur (died young)

I

Earl Frederick Cox — m. Elsie Elizabeth Macklem [Sept. 18, 1930]
June 3/1905 d.1989 — Dec. 20 1904-1978
m. Lylla Anna Ferris nee Gibson
m. July 28/1979
d. Aug. 21/1994

I

Grace Eva — m. Clifford Plyley
July 21, 1910-1990
m. 1929 - divorced

I

Shirley May Plyley, Cunningham — m. Earle Pocock
divorced — m. Reginald Cunningham

I

Michael Susan William

I

Gordon Laverne — m Lena Clara Davis
b. Feb. 10/1921 d. Jan 19/1975 — b. Oct 8/1922 (still living)
m. June 3, 1943

m. Russell Crickmore
Dec.10/1976

Will Cox farmed 100 acres of mixed crops and dairy cattle, with the help of his two sons. Earl married Elsie Macklem and moved to a farm near Waterford. Miss Macklem had been the teacher at East Oakland Public School, on the Cockshut Road, where all three of the Cox children attended school. Earl and Elsie had five children; Macklem, Wilfred, Robert, James and Mary.

Grace married Clifford Plyley of St. George in 1929 and moved to Brantford, Ontario. On their separation, a daughter Shirley May, lived with her grandparents Will and May Cox from November 1930 till December 1940.

Gordon married Lena Davis of Burtch, Ontario in 1943 and lived with his parents at East Oakland where two of their three children; Melvyn and Cheryl, were born. A third child, Joan, was born in Dundas, Ontario, to which Gordon, Lena and Mr. and Mrs. Will Cox had moved in 1948.

Circa 1915

May (Fair) Cox holding Grace

Will Cox
Earl

The Cox family attended Church and Sunday School in the United Church in Oakland. May was a member of the Women's Institute and greatly enjoyed the prayer meetings, quilting bees, and other activities of the group that brought the women together once a month (weather permitting).

Highlights of the year in the 1930's were the Christmas Concerts held in the Community Hall in Oakland when each child would receive a present in the form of a wonderful orange. Christmas trees were sometimes still decorated with tiny candles as few houses had electricity.

The 24th of May was another big day in the life of the community; the Garden Party at the Church was usually held in the "drive barn" beside the Church. Horses and buggies once had been stabled there during Sunday services. Later, cars were more likely to park on the driveway.

If the vegetable garden was all planted, you would don your best clothes, carry pies, salads, pickles, boiled eggs, fried chicken or baked ham to the long, paper-covered trestle tables set up on the lawn or in the church barn if rain threatened. After a wonderful supper, you would get to see the variety show presented on the stage at one end of the barn. Acts of magic, renditions of popular songs of the day, tap dancing, and stirring band music all received thunderous applause from the audience who seldom saw or heard such delights.

For the children, the Sunday School Picnic was a very important part of the summer vacation. Usually, "the day" was spent at Port Dover where the wide, sandy beaches and shallow water competed with races, full picnic baskets, and ice cream and lemonade for everyone's attention. The time went all too quickly for farmers had cows to be milked and stock to be fed.

Smith's mill, at the Eastern end of Oakland, was busy with farmers bringing their oats and wheat to be ground during the summer. In winter, on moonlight nights, the pond around the mill echoed to the shouts of ice skating parties of young people. There were a few horse-drawn sleighs around, but hay wagons, pulled by horses, were filled with hay and laughing, singing, groups of the Young People's groups from the Church.

In the fall, many of the young men found great sport in stealing their neighbours' watermelons - even when their own gardens held the ripe fruit. Halloween was sure to see hay rakes hoisted to the top of barns or up windmills, while "outhouses" were frequently the aim of many tricks. Halloween parties were popular and would include dunking for apples, taffy pulls, cider (some of it fermented on purpose for the occasion) and lots of food.

(e)

The Lake Erie and Northern Railway passed Oakland on the Eastern end. It was the only Public transportation in the area, servicing the area between Brantford and Simcoe.

School was a 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. affair. No kindergarten, but an hour for lunch and two 15-minute recesses and the year lasted from the beginning of September until the end of June. The teacher, who was boarded by a local farmer, (and hoped that the wife would be a good cook) was paid, during the 1930's, the magnificent sum of $250.00 per year. He or she not only taught the children, but had to "fire-up" the wood or coal burning furnace, keep the school clean and supervise children who might be in their late teens by the time they finished Grade 8. Many boys were pulled out of class early in the spring and kept out till the harvest was in the barn in the fall, thus they missed many weeks of school each year.

Of all the teachers at the East Oakland School, SS#1, one of the best was Mr. Lawrence (Larry) Kivell who gave substance to the term of a "Great" teacher. Not only was "reading, writing and arithmetic" on his schedule, but when he came to the school at 21, he easily taught history and geography through songs, set to popular tunes during the lunchtime when rain or snow prevented the children from going outdoors. Spelling games and stories kept even the rowdiest boys under control.

When Mr. Kivell saw that some children had little or no lunch, he persuaded the school trustees to provide potatoes, onions and other vegetables as well as milk, butter and anything that the farmers could spare. Scalloped potatoes were cooked on the ledge inside the furnace door, or potatoes were baked around the inside bricks. Soup was made and every child had something hot to look forward to. One day there was an explosion in the "food cupboard". The odour of the exploded sauerkraut was with us for many days.

Nature was studied on long walks through the fields, the children learning the names of trees, weeds, and finding natural gas bubbling up through a creek. When June days were very hot, Mr. Kivell would let the children go down to the creek with him to wade or swim while he supervised. In the winter, when the creek froze, the children would slide or skate. A Christmas concert was prepared with all the children taking part and parents bringing cookies and desserts. The children learned to play and work together, learning as many valuable lessons during their lunchtime as during the regular school hours."

Unquote

THE TRAVELLING DAIRY

A meeting held in June 1900 to acquaint farmers of the advantages of crop rotation and more emphasis on the use of their land for mixed farming, with less stress on grain growing, had a good attendance from the district. Those present learned that the over extended planting of grain will cause the soil to lo se its fertility content.

The report of the meeting reads as follows:

"The meeting was held in the church on Thursday last for the farmers in the area who grow a lot of grain. Dairying is practised as well, and judging from the interest taken in the travelling dairy, many private dairies will ere long be established, which will turn out the very best quality of butter.

The meeting commencing at 2 p.m., was very largely attended, notwithstanding the fact that some of the farmers were busy with their fall wheat. Great interest was shown in the milk-testing, 47 samples of milk being brought, so that it took some time to test them all. They were all carefully done however, and the results given, some of which were a good deal above the average, which is 3 1/2 percent fat, while some were under the average, showing that unless the cows gave a large quantity of milk they were unprofitable butter cows.

Professor Dean gave an address, advising the farmers to give more attention to dairying. *He said that by the continual sale of grain from the farm the soil will in time become exhausted of its fertility. Nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash are essential to plant growth and are largely present in all grains, so that, if grain is sold year after year, these elements will have to be bought in commercial fertilizers, and will cost about 15c, 6c and 5c per lb. respectively. Much better to feed the grain to stock and sell the finished products such as beef and mutton, by so doing the fertility of the farm will be retained.*

By means of a chart the value of the plant food sold in different crops was shown:-

In 30 bus. wheat we sell $6.25 worth of plant food. In 40 bus. barley we sell $6.70 worth of plant food. In 45 bus. oats we sell $6.83 worth of plant food. In 6,000 lbs milk we sell $6.42 worth of plant food. In 240 lbs. butter we sell $0.05 worth of plant food. In 1,000 lbs, fat ox we sell $4.64 worth of plant food. In 1,000 lbs. live hogs we sell $3.10 worth of plant food.

The following discussion took place at the close of the address:

Q. - Do you consider it preferable to keep manure in the open or under cover? A. - If the manure from the different animals is well mixed and kept well tramped I prefer keeping it under cover, but in the level districts where there would not be much danger of washing I would haul the manure directly to the field and spread it at once.

Q. - Supposing you let milk cool before setting it in the deep cans, how would you warm it up? A. - Set the cans in warm water so as to raise the temperature of milk up to about 95 degrees, then set in water kept at 45 degrees and leave for twelve hours, or if the water is at a higher temperature leave for 24 hours.

Q. - How would you advise covering butter when packed in tubs or crocks? A. - Cover with butter-cloth or prepared parchment paper; then on this put a salt plaster, made of salt and water, about like thin mortar; put on about one inch thick. Water will be required to be added to this about once a week for the first month of so.

Q. - How many pounds of milk does it generally take to make a pound of butter? A. - Normal milk contains about 3 1/2 per cent fat, or 100 pounds will make about 3 1/2 pounds butter or 28 pounds about 1 pound butter.

Cream was supplied by Mrs. McIntyre, which, owing to the high temperature of the room, was churned at 58 degrees. From 37 pounds of cream 81/2 pounds butter were made. Ten samples of milk tested ran from 2 per cent fat up to 5.9 per cent fat.

Mention was made of the good work being done by the travelling dairy, and saying that great credit is due to those who first instituted such a scheme to aid farmers. He also spoke of the Agricultural College and the high stand it takes in comparison with other colleges of the same kind; that President Mills and Prof. Shaw are the right men in the right place and are doing a grand work in furthering the agricultural interests of the Province. The chairman also spoke highly of the travelling dairy, referring to the milk testing as being of great practical benefit in showing which are the unprofitable butter cows. He also praised the O.A.C. and those in connection with it."

EGGS AND TRADE — 1900

Nearly a century ago, free trade was a hot issue as it still is today.

An article in a local paper makes reference to the protectionist McKinley bill which had placed restrictions on the shipment of produce south of the border, blaming the Tories for the debacle. At the time, eggs were selling for 12 cents per dozen:

QUOTE

The Tory papers have told us a good deal lately about the egg trade with England and about the good price obtained for eggs in the home market. Because the price here is about the same as that last year, it is held that the restriction of the McKinley bill has not injured the farmer. The Trade Bulletin of Montreal accounts for the stiff price this summer by saying that the farmers were induced to kill many of their hens during the winter, for feed was dear and they felt that the five-cent duty would practically close the American market.

However that may be, the price in Canada is much below that ruling in the States, even at such points as Buffalo, Detroit and Oswego, the difference amounting as a rule to very nearly the extent of the duty. In other words, if the American market were free to the Canadian farmer as it was before, he would get from 3 to 4 cents per dozen more than he obtains at the present time. A large egg-dealer says in a letter to the editor that "if it was not for the McKinley bill eggs would be worth 15 cents, buying price, instead of 12 cents, which is the price this week." The egg dealer gives some interesting particulars of the egg trade with Britain, having just received word of the sale of 30 boxes which he shipped there on June 10. Forty-two days elapsed between the shipment and the receipt of the money from the consignee.

The consignee writes:-

"Very sorry to say the goods arrived in bad condition. The cases are very much broken. The waste will be something enormous, and, as every case wants turning out, it is impossible for me to know the waste before next week. The eggs look apparently fresh and all my customers were very glad to get them. They are not quite so large as those I got from you last winter, but looking bright and fresh they were easily disposed of, but they all have come back. Customers report them musty, but friend Butcher sticks to them and will try and let you out with as little loss as possible. Your eggs have been good stock when you

packed them, but they have suffered in transit immensely. In fact all Canadian eggs arriving seem to run all in bad condition. F....'s eggs arrived here last week, also W....'s, in worse condition than yours, and doubt if we can sell them at over 3s per 120. No use, this hot weather is too much for so long a journey for Canada eggs, and I don't think it will be a success no matter what other dealers say. I give you my honest opinion."

The truth is the price of eggs in New York, Boston and other large centres in the States is about as high as the price in England, and it stands to reason that the nearer market if free would be much more remunerative than the distant one. The Tories themselves admitted this self-evident truth last spring when they pressed Mr. Blaine for reciprocity in natural products. If they deny it now it is only a mock denial, made in the interest of the party, which no one is expected to take seriously.

UNQUOTE

August 1993

A tying machine at work, operated by two women. In the foreground is Debbie De Silva and Leanna.

Green gold, tobacco introduced in the 30's, drastically altered the ethnic makeup. Dr. Jack Shaver has pleasant thoughts about this trend. From first hand knowledge, gained during his hundreds of visits to farm homes, he related the following. He had this to say:

"One of the aspects of practice in Scotland that enriched my life a great deal was the diversity of the national background of my patients. Although Scotland dates to Scottish ancestory, there are people of numerous origins in the area. These people have welcomed my wife Jeanette and I into their social lives so that we have been able to share with them in times of joy as well as in times of adversity. It has given me an opportunity to learn a few words of Hungarian, Belgian, Polish, German, Ukranian, Dutch, Portugese, as well as exemplification of perfection of the southern drawl exhibited by the tobacco curers from the Carolinas who came to assist the curing of the tobacco crop every fall."

FARMING - A character builder

It was written in a turn of the century farm magazine that "the boy on the farm has a distinct personality of his own; he makes his own money, works out his ideas by himself and this makes him king of his country. He is self-sustaining; he makes his own amusement and through his environments he becomes self-reliant in all things. He possesses that quality of simplicity that is found in every great man; he is not easily influenced, as his own principles have taken deep root".

A young farm lad developed his roots and inner strengths in a much different environment than his urban counterpart — a sort of grand simplicity, with pause for thoughtful quiet and solitude which brought out the best. While times have changed and the disparaties between country and city folk are narrowing, the farm will always offer the model way of life to build character. Those five stalwarts, Eliakim Malcolm, James Malcolm, John Eddy, Charles Chapin and Wellington McAlister, who gathered together on the morning of January 21st 1850 for their inaugural meeting to shape the future of the newly created Township, were the products of a country upbringing. These tillers of the land who possessed only a limited knowledge of their municipal and administrative responsibilities were discerning in their perception of what represented good local government and they did not waver. The farm, as a character builder, had given them the insight and the ingenuity to fully implement their cleverly contrived plan of rule by local government. Strong influences from their rural upbringing were at play.

In the book Remembering the Farm Joan Finnegan said:

" My grandmother had a cupboard off the kitchen where she kept all her spices and her flour, and you could feel it and smell it. It was a great big bin; you could put your hands in it. You weren't supposed to, but you could. And down in the basement you could put your hands down in the sand and feel the carrots and the turnips, and everything was there.

The farm was real. You know, you got your feet in the manure; you got your hands on the fresh-laid eggs — they were warm. You could feel the grain in the granary; you could go down to the creek and sink your feet in mud, and it was cold, and you know on a July day it was gorgeous, and everything about it was just real. "

Circa 1940 — East Oakland

1. Mildred MacLachlan 2. Hugh MacLachlan 3. Evelyn Cunningham 4. Vera Courtnage 5. Charlie Courtnage 6. H.O. Burtch 7. Mrs. H.O. Burtch 8. Howard Burtch 9. Clara McIntyre 10. Chas. McIntyre 11. Flossie (Courtnage) Baird 12. Bruce Bonham 13. Wallace Burtch 14. Melba Burtch 15. Edith Bonham 16. Ted Courtnage 17. Lewis Burtch 18. Norm Burtch 19. Bobby (Roberta) Tottle Burtch 20. Jane Courtnage 21. Ann Cunningham 22. Ruth Bonham 23. Eveyln—24. Florence Cunningham 25. Myrna Cunningham 26. Betty Burtch 27. Helen MacLachlan

AGRICULTURE and ORGANIZED LABOR

1923 —

"There seems to be no doubt whatever that in many occupations the 1aborer has come to 1ook upon his union as something with which to enforce his wi11 rather than a means of securing on1y his just share of the recompenses of toi1. The strong man who is actuated by this motive is a1ways a dangerous man and so is the strong association. As we sha11 present1y see, there is reason to be1ieve that some of the difficu1ties in which the farmer finds himse1f today are aggravated by the unyie1ding tactics of organized 1abor" — so reported the Canadian Countryman Magazine on Apri1 28th, 1923.

Figures provided by the Federa1 Department of Labour showed that the average worker in the bui1ding trade earned $1.00 in 1913 for a given job and $1.62 in 1922 for the same piece of work.

	1913	1922
Bui1ding Trades	$1.00	$1.62
Meta1 Trades	1.00	1.73
Printing Trades	1.00	1.92
E1ectric Rai1ways	1.00	1.84
Steam Rai1ways	1.00	1.55
Coa1 Mining	1.00	1.97
Common Labor	1.00	1.83
Lumbering	1.00	1.46

In contrast, with 1abour, the farmer presented a very different picture. The Canadian Countryman said:

> *"The farmer's way of life had not altered in essential features for centuries. While town and all those things that are associated with urban life are more accessible to him he still lives on the old farm isolated from his neighbors. In fact, if anything, he is more isolated than formerly in Ontario, since there are fewer people in the country. He has not had the same incentive to organize as the urban wage earner, and finding it difficult to meet together with his neighbors the advantages of group action has not come home to him with convincing power. Only by fits and starts such as during the palmy days of the Dominion Grange and the Patrons*

of Industry has he had glimpses of what organization might mean to him, and after brief activity he has lost the vision. Once more the vision is brightening and sustaining a prominent movement in the United Farmers and kindred association, but with all their activities relatively few farmers as yet have grasped what it all means.

One of the supreme difficulties in the way of more rapid progress is the very complicated nature of agriculture and the lack of effective means for the farmers to enforce their will as in the case of labor and capital. Labor and capital both go on strike, the farmer cannot, at least if he does he brings ruin on everyone, including himself."

Essentially, the farmer's lot in the 20's was predictable. Because farmers simply could not contemplate strike action and they had limited ability to organize a class action of any kind, their bargaining power was wanting then – and still is.

The Canadian Countryman's article of 1923 said further *"a strike seems altogether impracticable, but failing that there has not yet appeared any weapon through the use of which leaders can demonstrate to the rank and file of farmers the immediate benefits of organization to agriculture.*

Furthermore, the farmer in Canada has no effective tariff wall behind which he can hide through the action of governments. To market forty per cent, or more of his supplies he must look abroad and the price he gets there will determine the price he gets for that part marketed at home. In the foreign market he has to meet the competition of the world.

The result of all these conditions is exactly what one might expect. The price of nearly everything the farmer has to sell is either below, or at most very little above pre-war levels. Farmers as a whole are in financial difficulty, many of them in extreme difficulty. According to a careful survey of hundreds of farms conducted under the supervision of the Ontario Department of Agriculture, after allowing 5 per cent on invested capital the average farmer received anywhere from $400 to $1,500 less than nothing for his labor a year ago varying with the size of his farm".

Township farmers in the 20's were hurting, accounted for by low prices and steep overhead expenses. One Township farmer shipped several car loads of potatoes to be sold by a commission firm in an Eastern city. The price realized by the commission firm was $336. The commission firm turned over to the farmer a cheque

for $1.36 as sett1ement in fu11. Where the rest of the money went can be seen from the fo11owing statement: — "Freight charges consumed more than ha1f, or $180.60. The commission charges were $42.00, whi1e other items appearing among the deductions, more or 1ess mysterious to the uninitiated, footed up more than $110.00. For p1owing the 1and, sowing, tending, gathering, and shipping the crop, the farmer received $1.36" and the profits were not much better with 1ivestock products. The South Brant Farmers' Institute organized seasona1 short courses to assist in marketing strategy but with 1imited success. Profit margins for the farmer remained dormant for many more years, the stagnation fina11y broken in wartime — 1939/45.

Apart from the farmer's di1emma, what about the encumbrance facing the hired man (and hired gir1). In the 20's and 30's, no group of 1abourers fared worse — poor wages, 1ong hours, no benefits, no ho1iday time and a seven day a week commitment, even on Sundays to he1p with the chores. These young men, most1y sing1e had 1itt1e voice in the farming operations or their own we1fare. They did have one g1immer of recompense — reasonab1e accommodation and who1esome mea1s. Some were abused and treated shamefu11y. By chance, Fred Howe11 of Oak1and came upon an incident which he admitted 1ater wou1d test his to1erance 1eve1 of fair p1ay and humane treatment. Whi1e making a ca11 to a farm on the Town1ine, south of Oak1and, he witnessed an act of corpora1 punishment being administered — the victim, the hired man. A1though he was a sma11 man 1acking brawn, Fred cha11enged the 1oca1 master of subjugation to cease forthwith or face his wrath — a rare occurrence indeed but the 1ot of hired he1p on the farm had a1ways been recognized as being at the decree of the emp1oyer. Yes, organized 1abour movement had tota11y fai1ed the hired man and there were many emp1oyed throughout the Township in the 20's and 30's.

INSEPARABLES

As hired men working on Twp farms, Geo. Chand1er (1908-1989) and Norman Sco11ard (1912-1972) became friends which 1asted a 1ifetime. Norman continued his education at the Ontario Veterinary Co11ege, graduating in 1939, and George took emp1oyment after WWII as a stationary engineer.

Circa 1943
Sgt. Geo. Chand1er

Circa 1970
Dr. Norman Sco11ard

1945 — Dorothy Wesbrook, daughter of Howard and Ila (Crumback) Wesbrook, bonds with her Jersey calf.

Crops and Products

Oakland Township, with an agricultural base which became well established in the 19th century, continued the pattern of grain and fruit growing, market gardening and dairy production well into the 20th century. Diversification came in the late 30's when tobacco made an appearance.

Wheat, a major grain crop, found a market in Brantford and beyond. Oats and barley were also grown in abundance and rye was marketed at Smith's Mills after their conversion. In 1906, the following appeared in a local paper:

SPILLED WHEAT

Runaway causes loss to farmer

"At 1 o'clock this afternoon a farmer was driving into the city from Oakland when his team became frightened at a street car and broke way from him. In crossing the tracks at the corner of Stanley street, one wheel was torn off and the rig tipped over. Three bags of wheat fell out and the contents were scattered over the road.

The owner declares that he intends to sue the city."

Local farmers marketed their cash crops, through established outlets, to regular customers and by sales at market stands in Brantford, Hagersville, Hamilton and beyond. A post card, dated at Hamilton December 30th, 1912, addressed to Sylvester Stratford of Oakland reads as follows:

Dear brother:

Ed said to write and tell you he wants:

3 bushel of buckwheat
3 bushel of wheat
2 bags of onions

Mary

(Mary was the wife of Edwin E. Stratford (1867-1946), half brother of Sylvester Stratford.)

The onion fields at Scotland produced tons of the "tear-jerking" vegetables. A post card, distributed by the Canadian Post Card Company of Toronto, promoted the pot-bellied, pungent smelling bulb which developed to giant proportions!

Circa 1890

Market gardening and fruit growing became well established in the twentieth century. About 1900, there was talk of a canning factory at Scotland but capital was not available and the proposed industry failed. George E. Cook, a farmer on lot 9 Concession II and Reeve of the Township on three separate occasions, planted acres of fruit trees. Later, the Speechley farm south of Oakland on the town line was turned into an apple orchard and, about 1940, the McIntyre family planted a peach grove just east of the village.

Circa April 1960
Nellie, Mrs. Charles (Crumback) McIntyre standing amongst the peach trees at blossom time.

The varieties of apples grown at the turn of the century were Kings, Greenings, Spys, Spitsburgs, Sweets, Baldwins, Russets and Snowapples, among others.

One of the early twentieth century market gardeners in the area, Mrs. Clara (Patterson) Hepburn (1873-1966), farmed on lot 7 Concession II, north of Oakland. She sold her produce, including eggs, maple syrup and garden vegetables locally, at a roadside stand. Late in life, Mrs. Hepburn sold her farm and moved to retirement in Victoria, B.C. where she died on March 14th 1966, in her 94th year.

Circa 1905

The Hepburn farm — north of Oakland — holding the horse is Mr. Patterson, Clara's father. During the raspberry harvest, Mrs. Hepburn hired Indian women from the Reserve, who camped on her property, and were paid 4 cents a basket for picking.

Circa 1955 — Clara Hepburn

During peak season, Clara's day started at 3:00 a.m. to get the produce ready and set up stalls at Market Square in Brantford.

Reg and Muriel McIntyre, market gardeners on lot 9 Concession II, grew egg plants, tomatoes, strawberries and raspberries and trucked produce to Toronto. Jim and Alfreda Allan on lot 7 Concession II, David Marr at Maple Grove and Alam and Ken Barnes of lot 7 Concession I were all well known market gardeners in the Township.

Several in the Township experimented with peanuts but it was left for Jim Picard, who farmed south of Scotland, to pioneer the peanut industry in Ontario. With government loans, he developed Picard Peanuts Ltd. at RR#1, Windham. His processing plant and retail outlet may be viewed along #24 Highway, as you drive south

from Scotland to Simcoe. Picards' harvested the first commercial crop in 1980. The success of this diversification venture remains in doubt.

A turkey ranch emerged on lot 10 Concession I about 1950, L. Snider proprietor. Like all such poultry farms, it was a risky operation as disease could infect the flock, with devastating results. Stanley Buckborough also ran a turkey farm.

Dairy products from the Township were sent by rail, and later trucked, to the dairies and the creamery in Brantford. The first dairy plant to be established in Brantford was the Hygienic Dairy, opened in 1913 on Nelson Street. Later, a new plant was built on Colborne Street which offered modern mechanical handling techniques and pasteurization to eliminate the possibility of contaminated milk reaching the consumer. The Brant Creamery opened its doors, in December 1911, in West Brantford. Modern machinery allowed the plant to make butter and ice cream in large volumes. About 1935, Brant Creamery had eight trucks on the road gathering cream from the farmers of Brant, Wentworth, Halidmand and Oxford Counties. One of the trucks traversed Oakland Township to service its regular customers. The ratio of liquid milk and cream production in the Township was about 65% cream for butter and 35% for milk. Not all, however, sold directly to the Brant Creamery. Some dairy farmers made their own high quality butter and sold weekly to regular customers at Market Square in Brantford. Walter Burrage and the Bannister family south of Oakland established milk routes throughout the township, with door to door delivery.

Over the years, there have been a number of local *truckers with established milk routes. One was Philip Durham, a farmer north of Scotland. In the early 20's, he drew milk and cream to the Burford Creamery. His Ford truck had solid rubber tires on the rear wheels. Pearl (Wheeler) Messecar operated one of the trucks. Philip's son, Earl Durham, tells the following story:

> *"I remember going with Aunt Pearl on the Saturday night pick-up as there was no delivery on Sunday. At one farm with a long lane which had wheat fields on either side, Pearl stopped, got out, broke off a couple of straws and we enjoyed a refreshing drink of cool milk straight from the can."*

For the dairy industry, the Jersey, the Guernsey and the Ayrshires were all raised. The Jersey cow, with its high butterfat potential, was the favourite. The Jersey arrived in the Township about 1880, introduced at Montreal in 1868. Ellsworth Dunnett (1869-1960), farmer on lot 4 Concession I, got special recognition for his purebred herd of Jerseys.

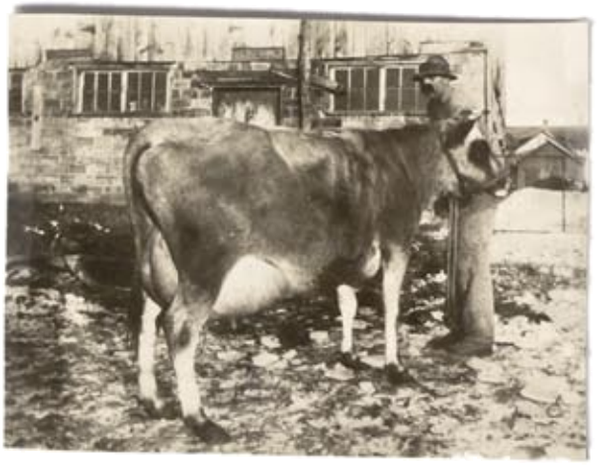
* Len Short trucked cream to the Mt Pleasant plant.
Omer Rammage trucked to the Brantford dairies.

Circa 1910
Ellsworth "Pap" Dunnett showing a prize
Jersey bull at his farm, west of
Oakland village.

What did a Jersey cow sell for at the turn of the century? A post card addressed to Mr. E. Dunnett, dated Lynnville May 18th 1910, provides the answer:

Mr. E.E. Dunnett
Oakland, Ontario

Mr. Lefler has a cow, Jersey, and you can get her for $50.00, or maybe less. She gives twelve quarts twice a day and he wants to sell as he is going to work out. He says she is a good butter cow.

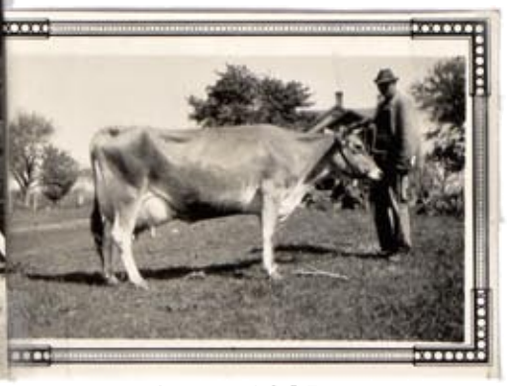


Yours, Lewis Van Every

In the Barnyard—I was standing in the barnyard not so very long ago, when the summer winds were stirring and the evening sun was low; for the chickens were a-coming, some were walking, some were running, some were singing, sort of humming; they were happy this I know. They are like us goodly farmers, scratching for their daily bread; some are on their roost 'fore sundown, work all done, at rest, all fed; some are scratching in the gloaming, slowly walking, homeward roaming; always singing, never moaning, anxious, though to go to bed. In the morning, just at daybreak, some are on their way to work; others have no thought of leaving, on the perch they want to lurk.—The Country Gentleman.

A good butter cow was in great demand at the turn of the century – before margarine. Ellsworth Dunnett had need of a hand cranked separator to extract the cream for his own brand of butter, which he sold weekly from his stall at the Brantford market. Like thousands of other satisfied users, he used a De Laval.

Circa 1929
Omer Rammage showing "Oakland Mary Ethel"



Circa 1935
E.E. Dunnett showing a high producer — note the size of the udder for a Jersey cow.

The Holsteins arrived in Canada in 1881 from Holland and gradually replaced other breeds. They now make up eight-five percent of the dairy cattle in Canada.

A stable of Holstein-Friesian cattle — high producers but low butterfat content.

Charles McIntyre (1875-1955), who farmed over 200 acres near the intersection of the Oakland Road and Cockshutt Road on lots 13 and 14 Concession II, raised Scotch Shorthorns for both dairy and beef production. An article appearing in the Farmers Advocate in 1919 outlines the scope of his farming operation. It reads in part:

> *"Mr. McIntyre now has a herd that number close to one hundred and twenty-five head, with over sixty breeding cows. These cows represent many of the popular present day strains and, while very few were in show condition many of them had calves at foot which, with a little more fitting would have stood up well in the Junior classes at Toronto or elsewhere. His line up of bull-calves are all of show-ring calibre. We are speaking particular of those sired by Nero of Cluny(imp). There were seven young sons of this sire in the stable, and we have yet to see seven stronger ones got by any sire this year. In the Mcintyre herd are some splendid females to work on. There are a score of more big, deep cows all with Scotch topped crosses; and added to these a number of good breeding matrons which came to the farm last fall with the purchase of the Frank Smith herd, and trace direct to famous old Beauty(imp). Many of these are splendid milkers. Then there are almost a dozen young breeding cows got by the 1913 grand champion bull at Toronto, Missie Marquis. These six young cows without exception are pleasing from the muzzle, all the way back, and they are mating exceptionally well with the present sire. Besides the young bulls referred to above there are several other youngsters all of which are of a serviceable age and got by the former herd sire, Superb Lavender a Miller-bred Lavender bull got by Superb Sultan. The bulls are all prices, so we were informed, at a reasonable figure, quality considered, and Mr. McIntyre is also offering a half a dozen or more mature cows. Several of which are past their prime, but all well forward in calf and well worth the price asked."*

BRAEBURN SCOTCH SHORTHORNS

150 Head **100 Breeding Females**

Herd Headed by Nero of Cluny (Imp.)

I have at present twelve young bulls that are now nearing serviceable age. The majority are sired by my present imported herd sire, and we guarantee them as good individually as the get of any other one sire in Canada. They are nearly all roans, and are priced to sell. Can also spare some breeding cows in calf to Nero of Cluny (Imp.).

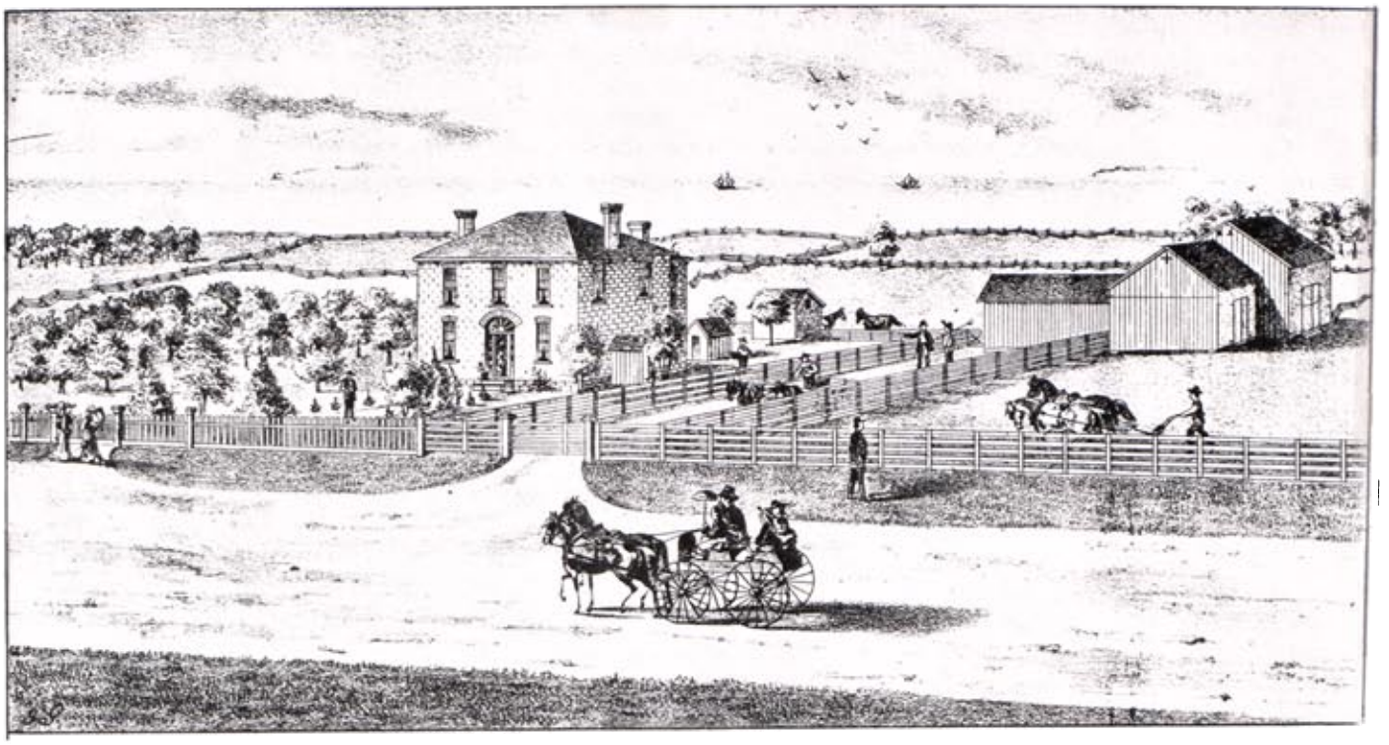
CHARLES McINTYRE, Scotland Ontario

Brantford 7 miles. Oakland 1 mile.
L.E.N. Electric R.R. Cars every hour.

While Shorthorns were recognized mainly for their beef production, they can be a dual producer of milk. In 1920, a test done on one of Charlie McIntyre's cows, Gladys, shows she gave 14,357 pounds of milk and 608 of fat in a 264 day test period. The average ran around 10,000 pounds of milk and 419 of fat.

Another farm magazine article in 1931 provides insight into modern farming practices, as it was viewed at that time. Again, the farmer being highlighted was Chas McIntyre of East Oakland:

> *To have stable accommodation for 115 head of cattle, fourteen horses and a bunch of hogs on a 225 acre farm is indicative of fertile land. This property is to be found in the southern part of Brant County, and Charles McIntyre, the owner, does produce wonderful crops on his farm, which is slightly rolling. He also buys a lot of feed; he is always in the market for good hay or grain if he considers the price is right. This feed is all turned into milk, beef or pork.*
>
> *This summer there are nineteen grade Shorthorn cows milking, whole milk being sold, though enough is retained to use along with calf meal for raising the calves. In the fall, young cattle weighing around 600 lbs are purchased, wintered over on good alfalfa and silage, and finished on grass. In the new stable these cattle run loose and Mr. McIntyre finds the loose feeding system so satisfactory that he would not again consider tying the feeders. Water is piped to different pens, and the spreader can be backed into each pen for cleaning out. This minimizes the labour. The cows are tied.*
>
> *The land is particularly suited to growing alfalfa, consequently this is the main hay crop. Mr. McIntyre plans on saving all the leaves, and finds that to do that it is necessary to coil. This general practice is to cut in the forenoon, rake the next afternoon, then coil. The tedder is used very little, and there is no hay loader on the place. It is Mr. McIntyre's opinion that you cannot get the best grade of alfalfa by drawing it from the windrow. Cutting and coiling will continue for possibly a week, and then drawing commences. He also plans on drawing before the clover is killed under the coils, and claims that six years out of seven he gets the best hay this way.*
>
> *The grain crop consists of wheat, oats and barley, quite a large acreage of the former being grown each year. He has a particularly good stand of wheat this year although one field had very little top last fall. The work on this farm is done by five pair of horses. All told there are fourteen on the place, and they are good horses. Three-horse teams are generally used.*



Apart from cattle, most farmers raised a few hogs to supplement their income. The picture below is typical of the various kinds of livestock found on a hundred acre farm at the turn of the century. Abram Westbrook (1844-1910) looks over his Berkshire sow and ten piglets, barely visible against the shed. This was still the day of "free range" rearing and large pens. Intensive farming practices had not yet been introduced.

Circa 1900
The farm of Abraham Westbrook, south of
Oakland village on lots 7 and 8 Concession I.

Several breeds of hogs were raised. It had been demonstrated that no one breed was greatly superior in its ability to produce meat, to grow swiftly, or to produce large litters. The Berkshires and Yorkshires were the predominant breeds while the Tamworths also had good market value, especially for bacon. Some bred a cross of Berks and Tams as a utility meat producer. Purina Feeds gained a large share of the market in the 30's. Over and above the home mixture of feed and swill, farmers were convinced of the Purina feeding plan which virtually guaranteed 200 pound pigs would go for slaughter at five months.

Mink ranching has been tried but with modest success. Clifford King of Scotland established a ranch at the back of Kings Lane, near Scotland.

In the 1920's the Ministry of Agriculture, through promotional literature, encouraged Ontario farmers to upgrade their lines of dairy and beef cattle by using only successive pure-bred sires — not grades. The Ministry contended that scrub bulls were inferior and should be replaced as good breeding gave size, vigor, uniformity, quality, increased production and wealth while scrub bulls produced *poverty*. In 1919, it was estimated that over a million dairy cattle were grades. Forty-three percent of the cattle sold at auction in Ontario could be classed as common.

The Township passed three Bylaws in the mid century which had to do with disease control:

1955 - Bylaw #680 - Warble Fly control
1955 - Bylaw #681 - Brucellosis control
1956 - Bylaw #696 - Rabies control

Green Gold

The first tobacco growers in Canada were the native inhabitants. Archaeologists have determined that the golden leaf was being grown in what is now Southern Ontario as long ago as 700 A.D. The natives smoked many substances together with and sometimes excluding tobacco. The tobacco plant had utilitiarian uses for the native people. It provided healing properties and was used to guarantee a successful hunt, and figured prominently in every aspect of life, both mystic and earthly. Two categories of sickness recognized by the Indians were natural illness which may be cured by poultices, emetics, or purgatives from herbs or barks and the second type, a spiritual one caused by "desires of the soul", were thought to be cured by fulfilling these desires. If the sick person, or his relatives, could not determine "the desires of his soul" by means of dreams, the medicine man took over. This mystical man (shaman), in order to diagnose the desires of the

patients soul which was causing the illness, might seek the answer in a dream or a fast. To effect a cure, he resorted to such tactics as blowing tobacco smoke on the patient while performing a dance, accompanied by his turtle rattle. Alternatively, he might order a village dance or a feast. Another absorption into the infinite was by way of a sweat bath by himself, with his friends, or even the patient to help him discover the illness. A small hut covered with hides and bark became the miracle player's habitat. Heated stones were placed inside with the bathers, and cold water poured on the hot stones creating steam. If the desire of the patient's soul was ostensibly ascertained by any of these methods everyone in the village, or even other villages, would join to produce the desired objects certain that the patient would be cured. Such was the use of tobacco in another era to satisfy "desires of the soul".

The type of tobacco grown by the Neutrals was Nicotiana rustica which grew small, rather bitter leaves. These were usually smoked in a pipe. The natives of the southern part of the hemisphere, who grew the mild, broad-leafed Nicotiana tabacum, smoked much of it in a cigar form. Present Canadian tobacco plants are a derivative of this mild Nicotiana tabacum family.

To germinate the seed, it was first sown in bark containers of "rotten wood powder", covered with bark and suspended over a smouldering fire. This gradually warmed the powder and seeds to bring about sprouting, then early growth. They were then transplanted to the partially cleared land surrounding the Indian village.

The Petuns' tobacco, when used for home consumption, went through a drying process then it was broken into small pieces and pulverized. To preserve it the residue was placed in deer skin pouches, which were often elaborately brocaded and ornamented with coloured quills. The Petuns may have used separate bark or skin huts for drying their tobacco, just as they sometimes did for smoking their meat. For trading purposes, their product was twisted into tight bundles and dried, along with their pemmican (dried meat), in the smoky surroundings at the peaks of their long-houses. From this hard twist, the final product could be bitten off and chewed, or, as alternate method of use, chopped off and ground for smoking in their clay pipes. Tobacco "cakes", a forerunner of today's chewing plugs which have now lost much of their appeal, became another method of ingestion.

A variety of pipes have been uncovered from the burial mounds and the fields of Southern Ontario, some in Oakland Township. Alf Martin had many such pipes on display, in the 40's, at his Oakland Mohawk Museum. The Indian stone pipes were made of soft limestone and were of two types. The first were long slender stemmed pipes with effigies, either human or lizards, carved on the bowl and the stem. The other type was a stemless bowl of vase shape, with lizard effigies crawling up the bowl on the opposite side of the stem hole. The long stems were wooden. The Oakland Museum featured both varieties in its display case.

Tobacco had disappeared by 1650 when the Hurons, Petuns and Neutrals were attacked and dispersed by the Iroquois who came from south of Lake Ontario. It was not grown again until the French settled along the Detroit River, during the mid 1700's.

Commercial production of burley (cigar tobacco) began in Essex and Kent counties in the early 1800's. The change to "flue-cured" commenced in the early 1900's.

Flue-curing is the practice of curing the leaves with heat, in contrast to air curing, with metal flues to conduct and radiate heat. The burley tobacco leaf used in cigars is "air cured" while the more popular Virginia or Bright Leaf plant is "flue-cured".

The flue-cured industry was well established throughout the sand plains of Southern Ontario before it had a significant impact in Oakland Township. Eventually, it became Ontario's second most valuable crop. In 1928, nearly ten thousand acres of land in the neighbouring counties of Norfolk and Elgin were under cultivation.

Planted and harvested in 1923, the first crop appeared on the Chrysler farm at Lyn dock. It became the foundation of a multi-billion dollar industry, vital to Canada's economy, as the tenth largest producer of flue-cured tobacco in the world. To the farmer, the monetary value and yield per acre was shown to be greater than any other crop grown up to that time.

Once tobacco emerged in the Township in the 1930's, it not only became a financial boom to those who tilled the sandy soil, and others who found seasonal work, but it changed the ethnic composition. It was during and immediately following World War I that the use of cigarettes became popular and trendy, especially amongst military personnel, causing a surge in production of flue-cured tobacco at the expense of the burley industry. At its peak, many farms in the Township were growing tobacco with hundreds of acres under cultivation. Modern farm homes, well kept barns and out buildings tell a tale of prosperity which changed the face of the landscape throughout the township, except in the eastern part where heavier soil was not conducive to its growth.

The long established general purpose dairy farms which had the right soil texture were gradually bought up by outsiders, as well some of the existing owners recognized prosperity in conversion. Within a matter of several years, the Township's traditional agricultural base of grain, dairy products and market gardening saw another dimension added. While some locals harboured subtle, and some not so subtle, feelings of resentment towards outsiders buying up prime farm land for an industry foreign to their way of life, their doubts were soon dispelled. These hard-working and industrious newcomers proved their skills and integrated quickly into the social fabric of the community.

Walter Haislip Garner (1892-1958) is recognized as the pioneer of the industry in the Township. Walter migrated north with his family from Charlotte Court House, Virginia, a small town near Richmond. He went, firstly, to the Chatham-Leamington area and worked several years as a "curer". In 1928, he brought his family to South Middleton, in Norfolk, and grew a crop on shares. In 1929/32, he grew tobacco on shares for the Windham plantations and lived in Teeterville. About 1935, he bought land in the Township at Maple Grove, lot 5 Concession 3, west of the Maple Grove corner. Walter acquired another farm near Wilsonville, southwest of the village, he acquired another farm near Paris, and two more near Maple Grove which he developed and later sold. His daughter, Dell, married Percy Abbott one of the progressive minded tobacco farmers at Oakland.

Walter H. Garner
1892 - 4 Nov 1958

Another bellwether grower, Clayton Smith of Maple Grove (Reeve in 1951/54), prospered from the conversion to tobacco. Clayton converted his mixed farming operation, at lot 8 Concession III, to the golden leaf in 1938. Many thought the land was too heavy, and the liberal use of fertilizer would burn up the land, but Clayton persevered and was successful in producing quality tobacco. It was Walter Garner who influenced Clayton to venture into the tobacco growing fad and he harvested Clayton's first crop of seven acres as a share grower. Over the years, Clayton followed the practice of engaging a grower and did not grow the crop himself. Later, his son-in-law, Wm Kicksee became involved and the twosome grew tobacco on two separate farms.

Germination

Tobacco seedlings, small like a petunia seed, must be started in a greenhouse. The Ontario climate does not permit seedlings to be grown in outside beds. The average green house, built to specifications of 100'by 24' with a central walkway, dotted the landscape. Some were glass-covered, others made of polyethylene, and still others of heavy plastic. Work commences in late March to prepare the beds, using black organic (muck) soil which is sterilized as a weed retarding measure. Started in April, the seeds are water soaked and germinate within a week to ten days. An average size green house will produce enough plants for twenty-five acres of planting.

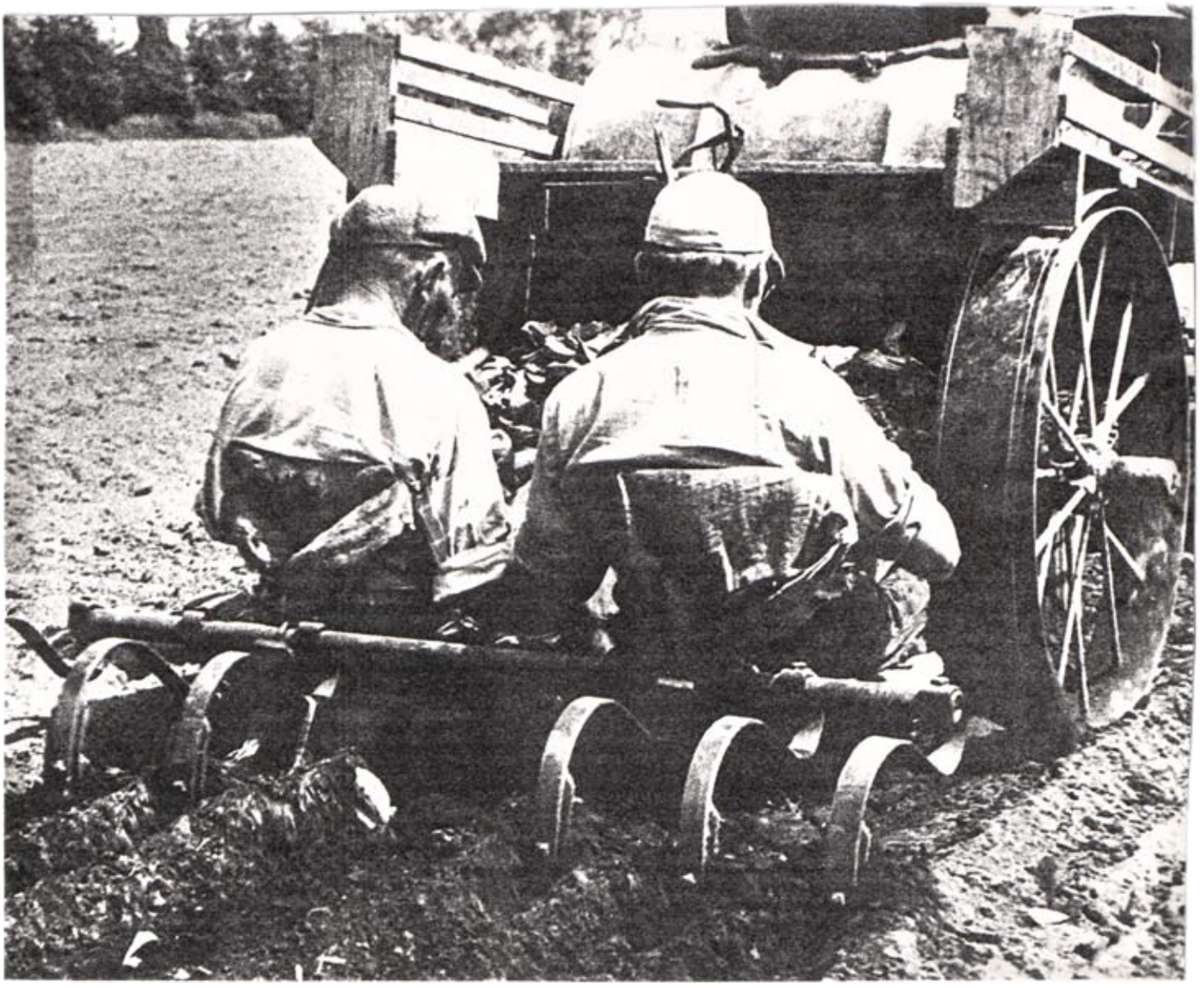
Transplanting

By mid-May, trans-planting begins. Workers, using planks or rolling carts move amongst the beds where they gently pull the plants, placing them in boxes to transport to the field. To maintain high production, tobacco is rotated with rye or wheat. The alternate crop is chemically fertilized and the residue straw plowed into the soil. Ploughing, disking and a treatment with nematicides and insecticides is an intregal part of the conditioning procedure. Without insecticides, cut worms, wire worms or corn maggots would ruin the crop. For planting, the mound rows are levelled, the rows are marked and transplanting begins. In the 30's and 40's, a team of horses pulling a single row planter, with two workers sitting at the back of the machine and close to the ground, would deposit the plant, add water, then fertilize and cultivate all in one operation. The young plants were spaced to permit 1600 transplants per hectare. Re-planting was done by hand with a jack planter, as required. The acreage planted hinged upon the growers quota, as determined by the Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board.

The blue mold spray is administered by Mrs. Joyce Kicksee of Maple Grove.

Don Abbott

Filling the water tank.



Circa 1940
A one row planter - note the water tanks above the heads of the two workers - the average crop of tobacco planted by the farmers of Oakland Township, during its peak, was thirty-four acres.
(Ontario Tobacco Museum)

Removing the Floral

By mid-July the flower bud forms. Removal of the unwanted shoots by hand, one week before the flower opens up, gives sixteen to twenty leaves which use the nutrients that would otherwise go to the floral area. During the growing stage, the plant attempts to re-produce a flower thoro gh the suckers which start in the axis of the leaves. Hand suckering has been replaced by a contact chemical which can now be used to inhibit the growth of the suckers. As required, the plant is sprayed for hornworms.

Circa 1940
Spraying for hornworms
(courtesy Ontario Tobacco Museum, Delhi)

Watering

Because sandy soils have low moisture holding ability, a drought or a minimal rainy season requires supplementary watering. Too little moisture causes low yield, poor quality and a late maturing plant with the possibility of being hit with an early frost. A dry spell during the growth of the plant is tolerable but not at maturing time. An irrigation system is the answer.

It followed that as the industry developed in Oakland Township, most growers bull-dozed "dug-outs" on their farms, allowing them to irrigate two to three times during the season. To apply one inch of water to a hectare required 52,000 gallons of water. For the farmer to work on the theory that "a little water is good, then more must be better" is a fallacy. Too much water will do more harm to the plant than not enough.

Some Township farmers living in the vicinity of MacKenzie Creek found the temptation to tap into the supply of water at Vivian's millpond too great. Others placed dug-outs on low spots close to the creek and beside the pond to allow the water to seep into their reservoirs - the consequence was litigation. Prior to 1969, when the mill closed down, Vivians felt they needed all their water to power their water turbine. Once it became apparent that water was being drained from the pond, tort action followed causing miller and farmer to press his case in a court of law. Yes, in the 50's and 60's, mother nature had a hand in testing the limits of tolerance prevailing in the community as each took whatever action was necessary to guard his own vested interest. During a year of unsustained rainfall, close to harvest time, the dreaded words, plaintiff, defendant and injunction became a part of the local vocabulary.

Harvesting

In early August priming commenced. Starting with the sand leaves, two to three leaves were picked off until the top eight or nine remained. Then, the remaining leaves are taken in two primings, usually on successive days. By mid-September, the harvest was over as the danger of frost loomed.

The primers, five or six in a team, walked between the rows picking off the leaves and swishing them under their arm left arm (presuming the primer was right handed). With his arm full, the primer stepped through the rows to the horse-drawn boat, holding the leaves with the stems all pointed in the same direction. The boat was in fact a slide, narrow enough to go between two rows and made like a sled with runners. The sides were of burlap which could be lowered for easy unloading at the kiln. As the primers walked forward in their respective rows, the horse kept pace, pulling the boat along until it was full. When well trained, the horse moved forward on its own and only while being turned at the end of the rows, or when going to and from the field to the kiln, did a boat driver take over.

Tobacco knife

Using a hooked knife, growers tried cutting the whole stalk as an easy way to harvest. However, as tobacco ripens from the bottom up, all the top leaves failed to cure well, forcing the selective priming system to prevail as the only effective method of harvesting.

Circa 1967
A mule hitched to a boat during harvest - standing beside the mule is Arthur "Tiny" Martin of Vanessa.

Primers were paid well but it was back-breaking work. Some who tried had to give up. It was simply too gruelling a task, bent over all day in the hot sun, where the temperature in the still of the rows increased to well over one hundred degrees fahrenheit. In more recent times, a mechanical priming aid took over. Primers are now seated on the implement and place the leaves in metal baskets or baggies as they move between the rows. When full, the containers are moved to a trailer and taken to the kiln. Automatic harvesting, practised by most farmers now, is geared to the use of curing in large bins. Labour is reduced to only three or four workers, with less cost to the grower for wages.

A number of teen-age youths and other young men from the Township got in on the harvesting action — priming or driving boat. Walter Graner, who bought his Wilsonville farm in 1932, kept both horses and mules for the harvesting operations. Bob Macaulay of Oakland was not a farm boy but quickly perfected his teamster skills while working for Mr. Garner and developed an affection for a team of mules — stubborn but strong and steady on the traces.

1950

The harvest — primers pause 1ong enough for a picture, taken on either the Kega1 or the Toth farm.

Memories of Sharon Lang, Curatoria1 Assistant, at the Ontario Tobacco Museum in De1hi:

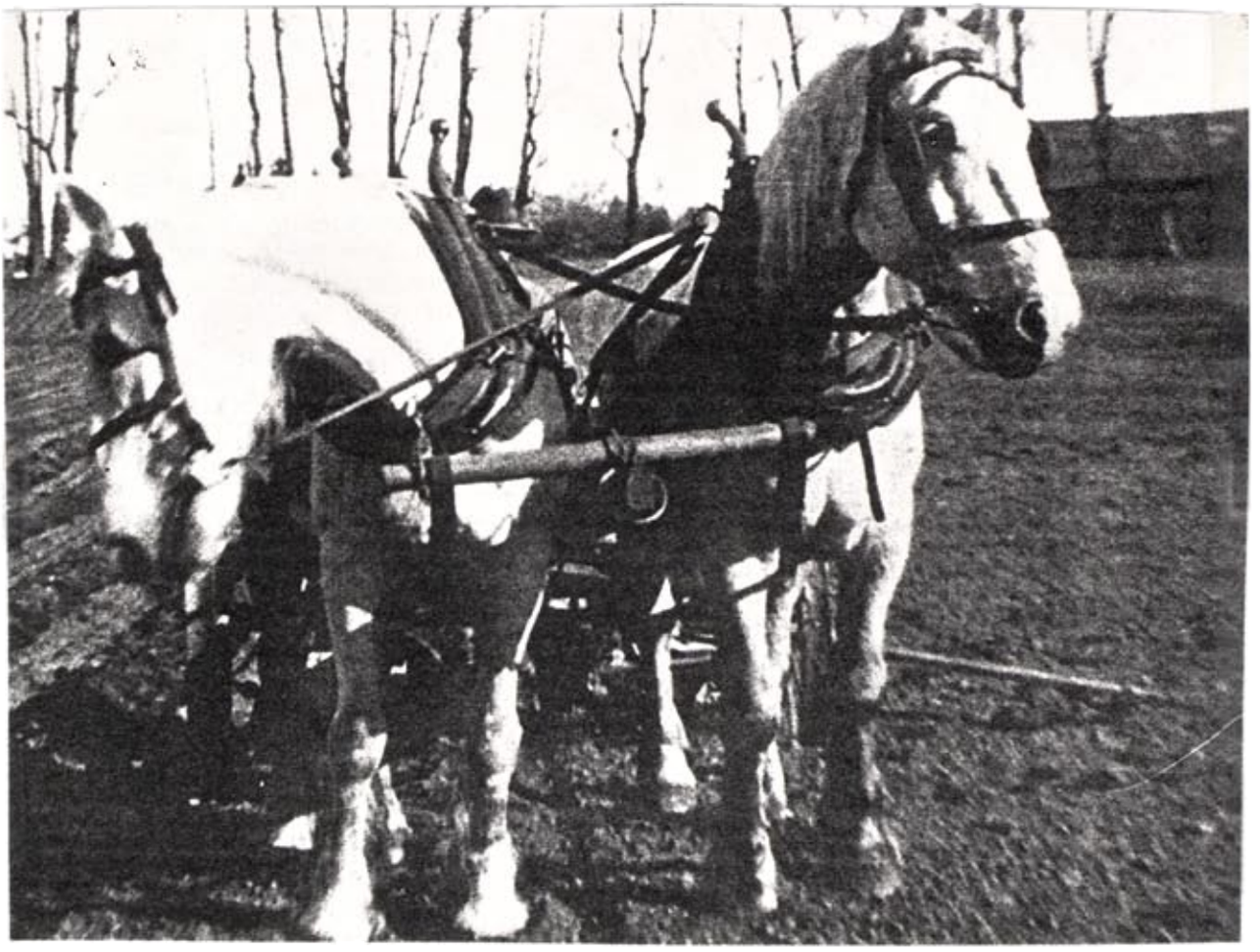
> *"As a child raised on a tobacco farm, I started work at ten years old as the boat driver. They were long, hard days for everyone, looking back on this I'm amazed at the perseverance the farm labourers had back then. There was no shortage of hard working people available. Fourteen year old boys were sent out to prime tobacco (sand leaves being a real killer) without any complaints, today it's a job just to get them to cut the grass. The primers worked in the heat or the rain - once started there was no stopping until the kiln was full. If frost appeared imminent, everyone rallied and the focus was <u>everyone</u> going to the field to prime down and save as much tobacco as possible for the farmer. I can remember priming until midnight with fingers stiff from the cold, but a feeling of accomplishment. However, as Murphy's Law goes, it would just come close to freezing and the next day meant picking up piles of tobacco in the field.*
>
> *Although this seems like a test of endurance, it was people working together when life itself was appreciated, perhaps to the fullest. Yes these were the "good ole days" which farmers still talk about."*

A 1oca1 news item in ear1y August, 1938 reported on the harvest;

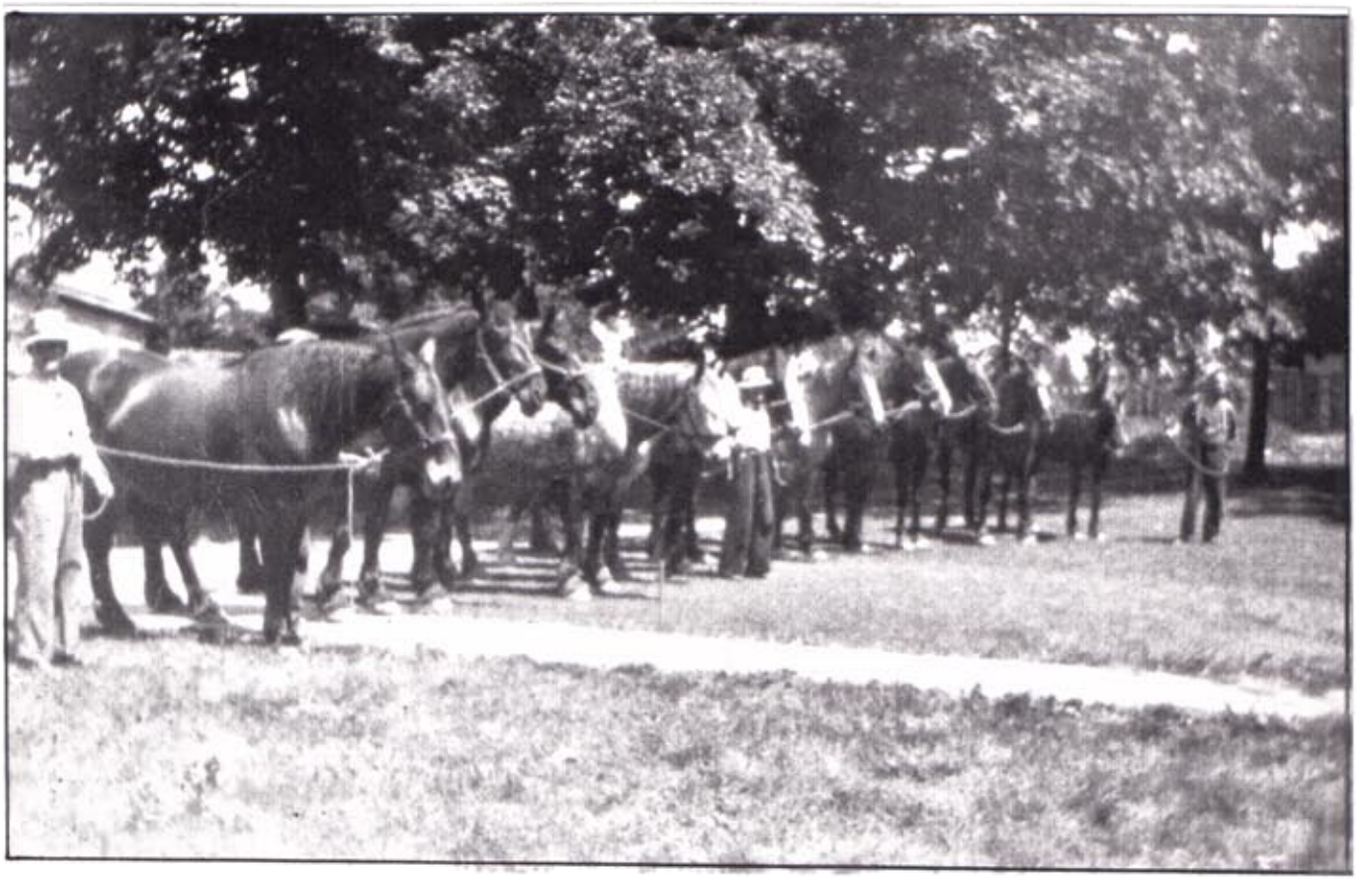
"The tobacco crop, not as heavy as 1ast year, on average, promises equa1 if not better qua1ity. There is p1enty of he1p avai1ab1e for hand1ing the crop. Recent rains have he1d up threshing operations. Most of the wheat has been threshed, with yie1ds average but qua1ity is not high, the grain shrunken from a previous dry, hot weather. One Township farmer reported an average of 60 bushe1s of A1aska oats per acre. Corn and root crops are doing exceptiona11y we11."

The Tobacco horse

The horse was king until the early 60's when mechanized equipment took over. Every tobacco farm had at least two teams. Out west, the value of horses dropped after the government distributed tractors to farmers for $800 apiece in 1918. Hundreds of horses ended their days in slaughter plants. A good horse was worth more dead than alive. But some Western horses were shipped to Ontario by rail. While never recognized as a breed, the farmers favoured a certain type of horse, the smaller ones - smaller than most purebred draft horses but larger than light horses and, ideally, small enough to harness easily. Caution was the word when buying a Western horse just off the freight car. Many were "spooked" and some were "biters" and "kickers". Most of them were no more than sixteen hands (sixty-four inches) at the withers and weighed somewhere between 1,500 and 1,800 pounds. Farmers also wanted animals that were steady enough for women or children to drive, and, preferably not as expensive as purebreds. Many farmers simply rented animals for the season.



The ideal tobacco horse - not too small and not too big, steady, gentle and smart.



Burford 1938 —

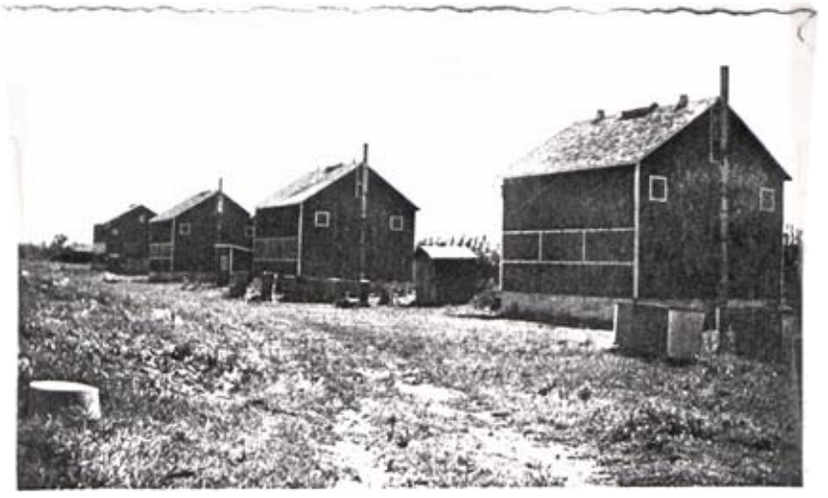
Western draft horses tied to a 1ong rope awaiting sa1e or 1ease. R.J. "Bobby" Thomas (1885-1967), a Burford auctioneer, took advantage of a ready market on the tobacco farms emerging in the thirties. He brought in hundreds of these anima1s from A1berta, shipping them direct1y to the Burford station where they were un1oaded and 1ed up Map1e Street to a barn near the o1d Burford bakery. Some were found to be mu1ish and pig-headed, others were foundered and a few were cribbers.

When harnessed sing1y to hau1 the boats, even though some were nothing but p1ugs, they became rest1ess. Many a boat 1oad of 1eaves has been scattered from the fie1d to the ki1n as these unre1iab1e, ha1f broken anima1s, took a sudden urge to head for the barn. The sight of an unattended runaway horse racing up the 1aneway caused the ki1n workers to scurry for cover.

Bobby Thomas, a shrewd businessman who knew the horse trade we11, took severa1 trips to A1berta in search of sound draft horses that cou1d readi1y be adapted for work in the tobacco harvest. Unfortunate1y, his "horse sense" abi1ities did not a1ways screen out the pi1grims, the skittish, and the misfits.

By the mid 60's, mechanization was in place and, once again, the horse was worth more dead than alive as Township farmers began disposing of their redundant horse power to the slaughter house trade. The horse ultimately disappeared on the blue smoke from the sale barn crowds as its usefulness waned and, in another fifteen years, the tobacco bonanza followed a similar fate.

The Table Gang



Circa 1960
Percy Abbott's kilns — east of Oakland village.

At the kiln to be filled, the boat full of leaves was hauled close to the table, the horse unhitched only to return to the field with an empty boat. The handling table, often made of saw-horses and planks, was placed a short distance at one side of the kiln with enough room between the kiln and the table to pile the sticks of tobacco. The burlap side of the full boat was dropped and the leaves unloaded, stems facing the handlers. Three leaves to a bundle, the two handlers alternately handed their tier the bundles. The workers at the table consisted of two tiers and four handlers. The tier looped a cord around the three stems leaving one bundle on one side of the stick fixed on a wooden rack, then flipped the next bundle over to the other side of the stick. Proper tension on the cord was a must to prevent the full stick of tobacco from falling apart as it was handled, especially when the stick was passed up into the kiln for hanging. Each stick held about eighteen bundles and a skilled tier could fill the stick in fifteen seconds. Once full, a leaf handler quickly removed the stick from the rack to a pile beside the kiln while the other handler picked up leaves under foot and the tier was ready for the next stick.

Hand tying has been replaced by a partially mechanized system using "sewing tables" or "tying machines". Workers place a loose layer of leaves on a large moving belt. A stick is placed on the moving leaves and another row of leaves is placed on top. The belt carries the leaves and stick under a stitching head where a large threaded needle stitches the leaves just above the stick. The machine automatically cuts the string.

Circa 1963
Jean (Burrage) Percy Mary
Ripley Abbott Perkins

waving in the background is
Don Abbott

Circa 1963
Percy Jean Mary
Abbott Ripley Perkins

The above pictures were taken during the peak of the harvest season at the tobacco farm of Percy Abbott, lot 8 Concession I. The tiers and handlers worked under an awning for shade to avoid the full impact of the sun. The table was always placed on the shady side of the kiln, then moved to the other side in the afternoon as the sun moved to the west.

In 1939, handlers and boatdrivers were paid about $1.25 a day, tiers slightly more and primers about $2.50 a day.

In mid August of 1944, about 500 conscripts from the Regiment de Jolliet arrived in the area by train from Quebec to help with the harvest. Local workers were hard to find. With the tobacco ripening quickly, the government responded by bringing in military assistance.

These young men from the National Resources Mobilization program had been conscripted with a proviso they would serve only in North America — not overseas. Some referred to them as "Zombees".

The table gang busy at work.

A close-up of hand tying - the hands moved almost faster than the eye could follow.

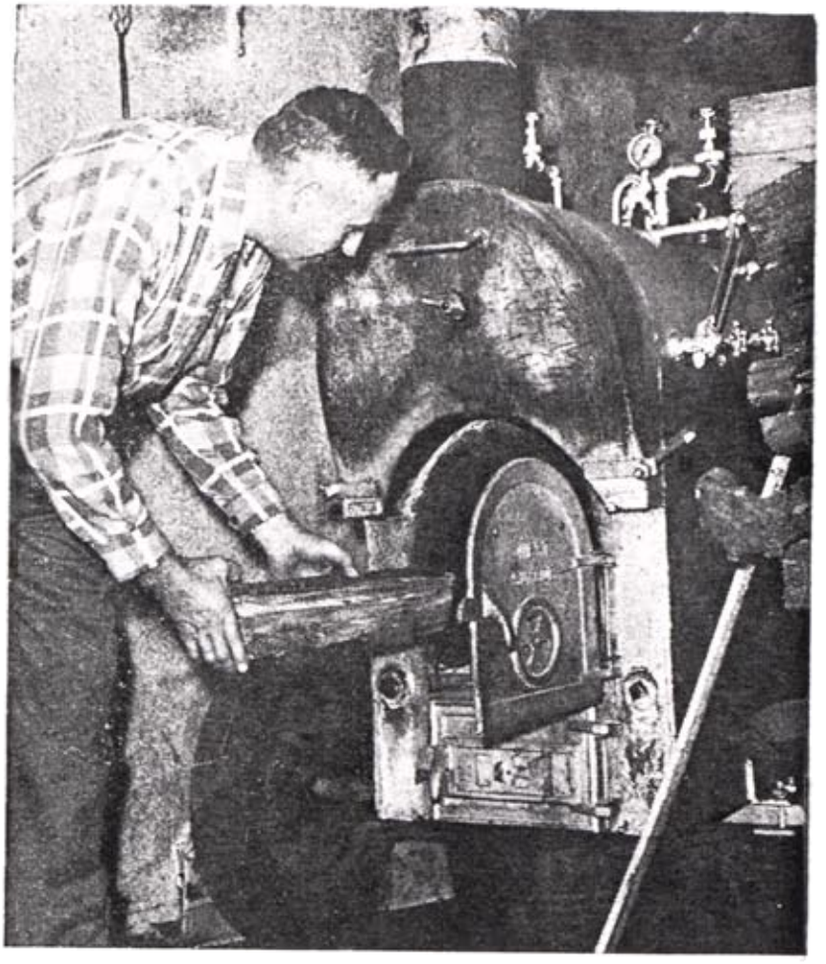
About a half hour before lunch and after leaving the field in the afternoon, the primers came from the field to fill the kiln. In earlier years, they passed the sticks up by hand where they were hung on 2 x 4's. Later, conveyors were used. About twenty-four full boats of tobacco would fill a kiln. Converted to sticks, some 1200 to 1250 sticks filled the average size kiln to capacity.

The Master Cureman Takes Over

When tobacco was first introduced into the Township, in the mid 30's, growers preferred to hire experienced curemen from Virginia and the Carolinas. An error in judgement could destroy the whole kiln, costing thousands of dollars. Wood was used to fuel the furnaces, later oil or propane.

Clayton Smith displays the dried golden leaves grown on his Maple Grove farm.

The curing process took from six to nine days, depending on the maturity and moisture content. Curing involved three phases - the yellowing period, the colour fixing phase and the drying phase. The temperature was progressively elevated during the three phases. The trend in current times is to cure in bulk racks or bulk bins within high volume updraught bulk kilns.



1960
Percy Abbott stokes the furnace as a part of the stripping operation.

After curing, the tobacco is dry and brittle and cannot be handled or stored without shattering. It is necessary to condition or case the leaves, using steam, fine water sprays, a combination of both, or opening up kilns at night to permit moisture absorption. Cased leaves preferably take up sixteen to nineteen percent moisture. Too much moisture may cause spoilage in storage.

After casing, the leaves are taken from the kilns and stored in a packbarn. In the case of stick kilns, the sticks and leaves together are windrowed in piles. With bulk curing, the leaves are removed from bulk racks or bins and bundled or placed in containers, then stored. Bulk cured tobacco is graded and baled immediately after curing and casing while stick tobacco is usually stored for a period of time before being stripped and baled.

Removing cured leaves from the kiln.

Tobacco stored for some time may require the addition of moisture, which is done in a steam room adjacent to the stripping room, using low capacity boilers or humidifiers. The leaves are separated from string and stick (stripping) and placed on grading belts or tables for sorting into leaves of like characteristics, and to remove dead or diseased tissue, suckers, or foreign material. Leaves of like characteristics comprise a grade. A grade is based upon uniformity and intensity of colour, degree of variegation and type of variegation, texture, grain, thickness, shape and size. Each grade is bundled together and baled separately.

Circa 1958
Don Abbott Percy Abbott Dell (Garner) Abbott

In the year 1957, Percy Abbott and his son Don grew thirty-eight acres of tobacco on their land east of Oakland village. In the above picture, the two with Mrs. Abbott are working in the stripping room.

(Canadian Tobacco Grower 1958)

February 1958

Don and Percy Abbott moving bales in their packbarn.

The tobacco bales were disposed of through the Marketing Board which operates auctions at Delhi and Tillsonburg and Aylmer. The auctions are silent, using the Dutch Clock system, as the buyers bid with the use of a stop button. The bales are then shipped to one of three processing plants at Simcoe, Montreal or Alymer.

In the mid 30's, prices underwent a decline and bottomed out at 16.3 cents a pound. With the creation of the Marketing Board, prices were stabilized. By 1943, tobacco sold for 30.2 cents, in 1955 the price escalated to 46 cents to 71 cents in 1966.

1964
Iris Neville — Percy Abbott — David Chandler — Jean Abbott

Percy studied the curing process a year after harvesting his first crop in 1944 and found himself the cureman at his farm for the next thirty-two years.

By the early 80's, the industry had slumped badly. Premium priced tobacco land lost its appeal, crops were down and mortgage holders went unsatisfied once the anti-smoking publicity, together with heavy taxation and negative public opinion impacted. The forty year reign, when tobacco was king, came to end and the economy in Oakland Township was dealt a blow.

The Housewife

Her participation, with long hours of hard work at the kitchen stove, was crucial to any successful tobacco farming operation. For any wife who prepared meals for tobacco harvest "gangs", a 100 pound bag of flour came in very handy. Mrs. Percy Abbott of Oakland was the winner of a prize offered by the Canadian Tobacco Grower for a tasty meat dish recipe, suitable for use in harvest meals. Her "Filler Diller Casserole" was a specialty dish which took first prize in 1960. Every member of the family pitched in at harvest time. Women and children worked right along with the men in the fields. They rose with the morning star and put up with tarry fingernails and stained clothing. They nursed cracked, bleeding knuckles as the sharp leaves, wet with cold dew, slipped through their hands. When the field work was done, they still had to prepare meals and look after chores.

Circa 1959
On the right planning tomorrow's meals is Dell (Garner) Abbott. Beside her is her fifteen year old daughter, Jean, holding Susan Taylor with their dog "Blondie" at their feet.

Mrs. Abbott had a very distinct advantage when it came to providing supplementary help around their farm. She had grown up in the tobacco milieu and knew where and when to focus her attention. It was her father, Walter H. Garner (1892-1958), who had been the precursor of the tobacco industry in the Township.

Abandoned kilns at the Yarek place, on the north hill overlooking the millpond at Oakland. This land was the original Malcolm homestead.

1983 — Royal Winter Fair

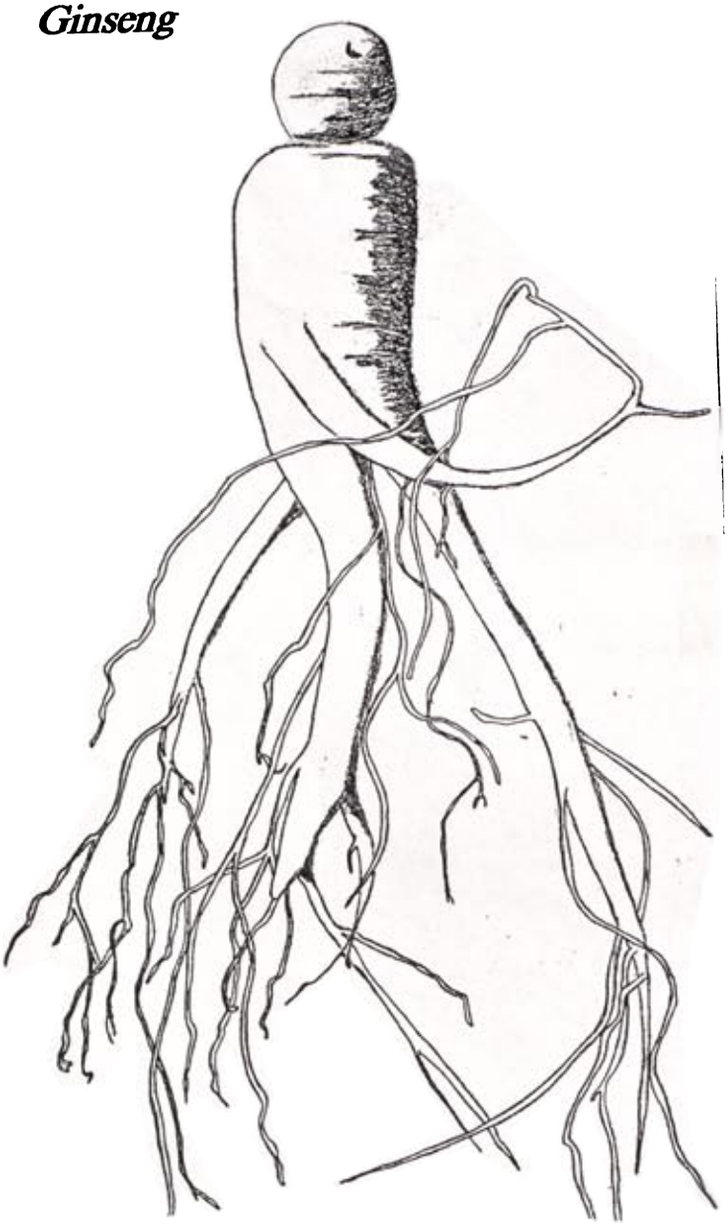
Irvan Goring tending the golden leaf exhibit booth. He had been raised on a Scotland area tobacco farm, the son of Fred and Velma Goring. The exhibit, sponsored by the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board, noted that the farmer got five cents on the dollar while the government took sixty cents on the same dollar in taxes.

(courtesy Ontario Tobacco Museum)

Tobacco brought prosperity, a change in the farming base, an escalation in land prices and new settlers. Kilns such as those shown above dotted the landscape of the Township, smoke rising from the flues. They have all but disappeared - a reality of changing attitudes towards an addicting vogue.

Like other communities, the industry triggered a population shift. The Township was to become a microcosm of the Canadian melting pot as Ukrainian, German, Polish, Belgian, Hungarian and other ethnic groups merged to get a piece of the golden leaf bonanza.

Ginseng



This root crop, highly valued as a herb and "cure-all" in traditional Chinese medicine, appeared in the 60's. To grow and culture ginseng is an exacting business which requires from three to seven years from planting to harvest. It grows about 2 1/2 feet high and yields about two ton to the acre. Sun-shading is a must to get the correct amount of light. In 1981, a crop was valued at $100,000 an acre or about $60.00 a pound, depending on its colour, age, weight and shape. Being a perennial plant, several years growth is required to produce a top grade root. Wet weather and possible fungus infection or mould cause the farmer to consider harvesting early.

Only the root, light brown in colour, is used. It has a chalky appearance when dried. The Hellyers have built special kilns for drying.

In 1993, Oakland Township had about 250 acres in production, first to fourth year, with the average crop valued at $60.00 a pound. Ginseng farmers and horticultural experts both agree that cost and risks from root rot are high, causing most to grow other crops as a back-up. To guard against the spread of moulds workers apply strict rules of cleanliness to their boots and clothing when moving about the ginseng gardens and its growth is not repeated on the same ground.

Very much a labour intensive crop, the root is covered each fall with straw or sawdust - cloth and slats are used for shade.

Ginseng appeared in the Township about 1964. The Hellyers of RR#1, Waterford rented land from Reg McIntyre (lot 7 Concession I at the east end of Oakland village) and from Corwin Barnes (lot 7/8 Concession I south of Oakland at the top of the hill). Also Lloyd W. Waugh of Scotland, son of Marquis, was an early grower just north of the cheese factory.

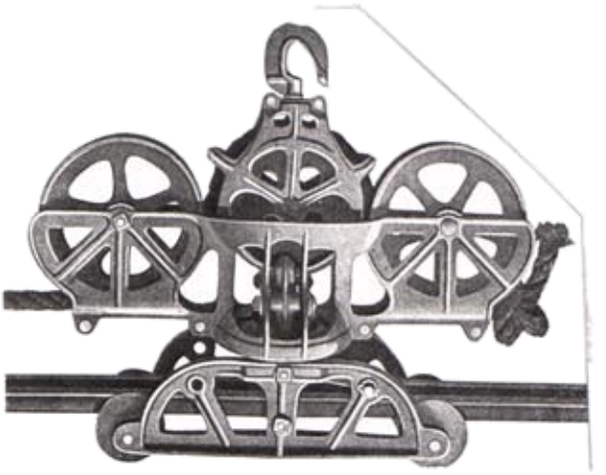
Hon. Paul Hellyer Minister of Defence and Liberal leadership candidate.

The largest Canadian grower of ginseng was Audrey Hellyer, mother of Paul, the Minister of Defence in 1966. Clarence Hellyer began experimenting with ginseng before the turn of the century. Early prices were poor, about $2.25 a pound, then it gradually increased to $10.00 a pound and upwards. The plant grows naturally in the woods around Waterford and in the wild state it is lighter and bulkier because of a longer growing period and brings over twice the price of the cultivated plant.

The cultivated plant suffers from blight, similar to potato blight, and must be sprayed regularly and the dead leaves removed by hand and burned.

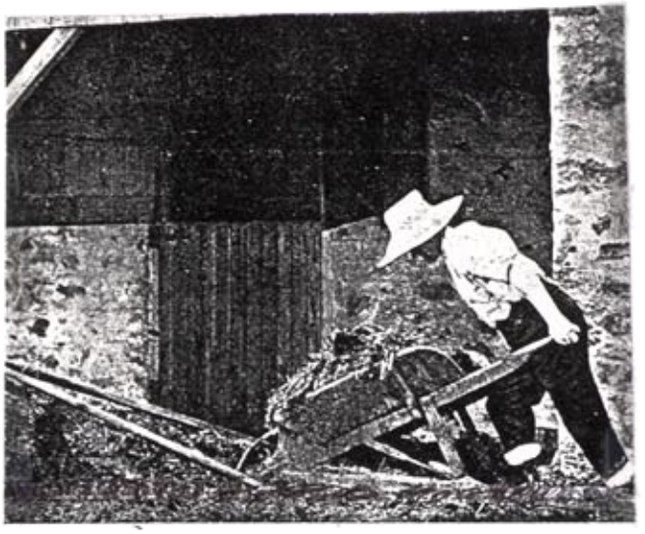
Strange stuff, ginseng. What other plant has seeds that can take twenty months to germinate? No other root crop makes the grower wait several years before the harvest. How many crops cost $50,000.00 an acre to produce? Yes, ginseng is one of the most profitable crops known to man, which can now bring $50 to $60 a pound (1992 prices). An organic grower can get $350 a pound. One acre will yield 1 1/2 tons of roots but with shade slats or cloth, posts, hardware, spraying, weeding, irrigation, hand hoeing, harvesting and drying it's not all profit and it's a one time planting. To re-plant in the same soil is bad news.

MECHANIZATION

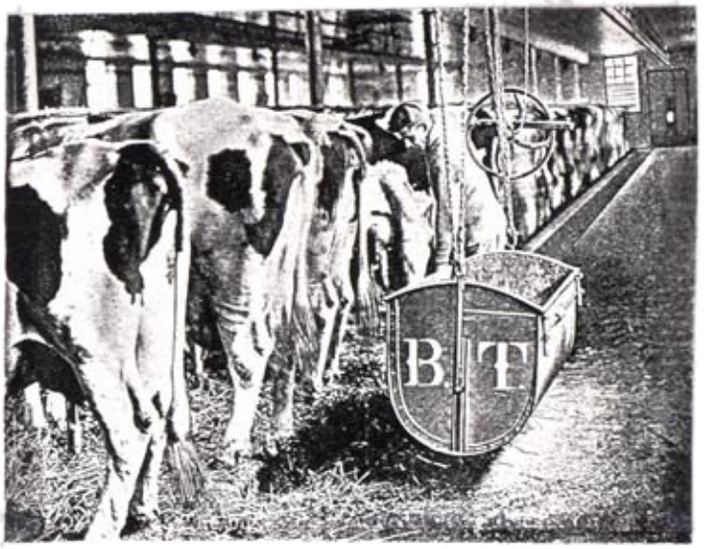


Farmers Lyman Smith and Colin Marr of Maple Grove, Charlie McIntyre and Maitland Edy of Lower Oakland, Henry Key and Charles Secord of Oakland, Jacob Messecar and John Malcolm of Scotland, Charlie Rand on the townline north of Scotland, all entered the twentieth century still shouldering many of the back-breaking chores of their forefathers, both inside and out.

Yes, technology was slow to relieve the dairy farmer of the laborious and never ending muscle power needed around the barn. The wheelbarrow, the fork and shovel and the milk stool were never far away. Then, about 1910, the Beatty people introduced their first model of the stable cleaning apparatus, the manure carrier. Primitive milking machines were not far behind. By the 30's, hydro became universally available and the farmer's way of doing things changed rapidly. He had truly entered the twentieth century.



The old reliable wheelbarrow — manually pushed up the planks and along the top of the manure pile to the dumping spot.



A Beatty bucket, on rollers, removed some of the drudgery. It could easily be lowered and hoisted with a windlass then pushed along its track to the manure pile.

IN THE BARN

Circa 1945
Barn and silo - lot 4 concession I

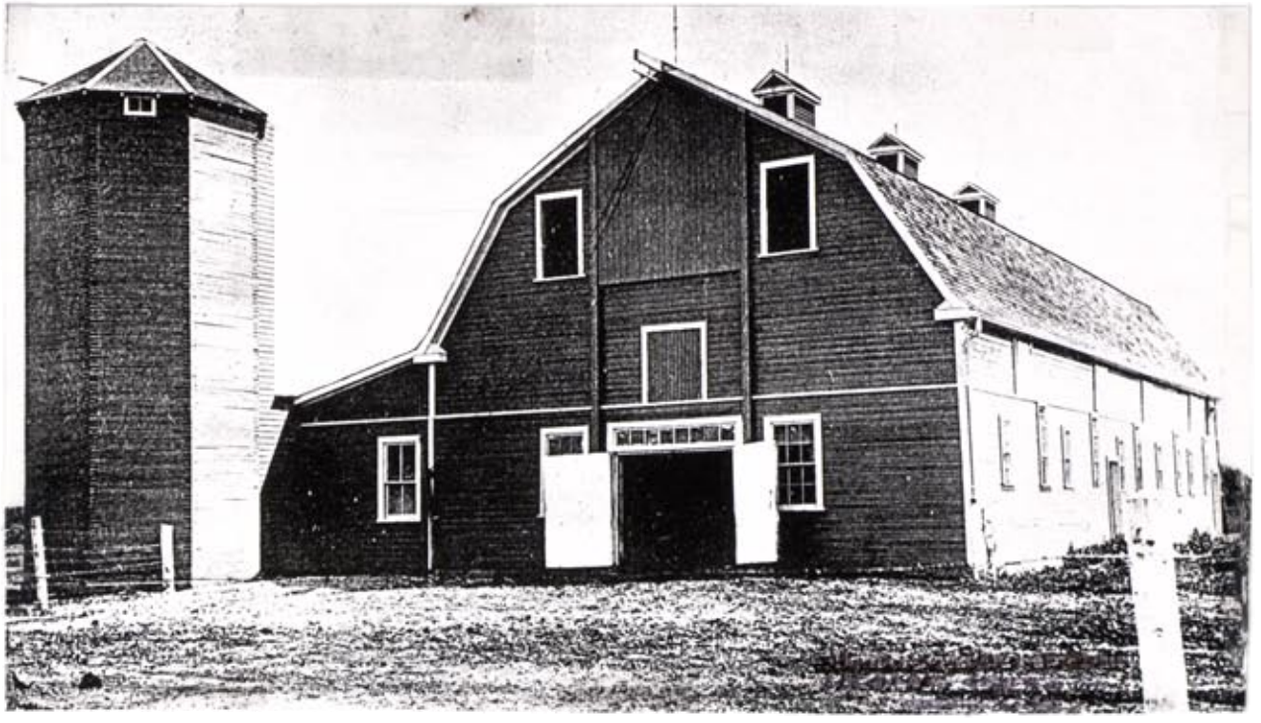
In agriculture, with our cold climate, it can be said that no country has a greater need for a good, solid barn, especially in dairy farming. Without it, profitable production cannot be sustained. Dairy herds must be stabled for over half the year. Their health and productivity depends as much on the care exercised in stabling them over the long period of close confinement as it does on skilful breeding and proper feeding. Productivity is tied to well bred cattle from high producing strains as well as a farm with good soil, well worked, and skillful use of the feed grown. All the latter can be wasted, and the profit turned into loss, if the shelter, stabling, and husbandry conditions are less than adequate.

The first barns built in the Township at the time of settlement were small, very low and built completely from logs. Some, however, were of the make-shift variety, a lean to of branches and matted straw piled on a criss-cross framework and supported by uprights. Others built a straw stack type of barn, the south side framed and held up by posts. Homesteaders had only four of five milch cows which they kept in box stalls. Their draft oxen and horses were tied separately. Windows were few, drainage nil and the ventilation poor. The job of pitching out the trodden manure, as hard as cement, was no chore for the man with a bad back.

What livestock did you find in nineteenth century barns? In 1840, most Township farmers were still using oxen. There were fifty-four in total. Benjamin Wesbrook had two for heavy hauling. But draft horses were becoming much more popular with three times as many horses as oxen, in total one hundred and sixty-six over three years of age. Mordecai Wesbrook used a combination of both, three horses and two oxen. Amasa Beebe had two horses and two oxen in his stable, John Eddy at Lower Oakland owned three horses and four oxen and Abraham Westbrook used six horses and two oxen. Two hundred and forty-seven milch cows were in the stables of Township farms.

Twenty years later, in 1860, the dairy herds had increased their numbers. In total, there were three hundred and eighty-two milch cows and three hundred and three calves and heifers. Draft oxen had been reduced to no more than twenty and work horses, over three years of age, had increased to three hundred and thirty-seven. There were one hundred and fifteen colts and fillies. In the pig pens, eight hundred and seventy-five of these ungulates of the non ruminant variety, were being fed for slaughter.

Experienced dairy men will tell you that there is no direct connection between the cost of a barn and its effectiveness. To be well built, serviceable, and sanitary a barn did not necessarily need to be expensive nor was it necessary to engage the professionals to build it. The Beatty Brothers of Fergus had been in the business of building barns and selling equipment since 1886 but only the well-to-do could afford their service and equipment. Most organized a bee and built their own.



Circa 1925
Modern barn and wooden silo

Circa 1920

Farm buildings on lot 7 concession II, built about 1860 by Robert Vanderlip (1796-1872). Perley Stratford (1886-1981) bought the place early in the century. The house was levelled by a fire in 1963 and Mrs. Stratford perished. The barn in the background has been totally renovated to become Oakland Sports (Honda Sales & Service).

It was claimed by dairymen that the essentials of a serviceable barn could be distinctly defined as follows:

a) Economy of construction — spend no more than $2000.00 on construction costs (1920 prices).

b) Warmth — a drafty, cold barn required the dairy cows to convert feed into body warmth and long hair, instead of milk. Tests showed that it took twice as much feed to produce a given amount of milk if the stable temperature fell to 32 degrees fahrenheit instead of at a steady temperature of around 60 degrees fahrenheit.

c) Dryness — damp barn invited disease, it ruined equipment and harness and caused unpleasant working conditions.

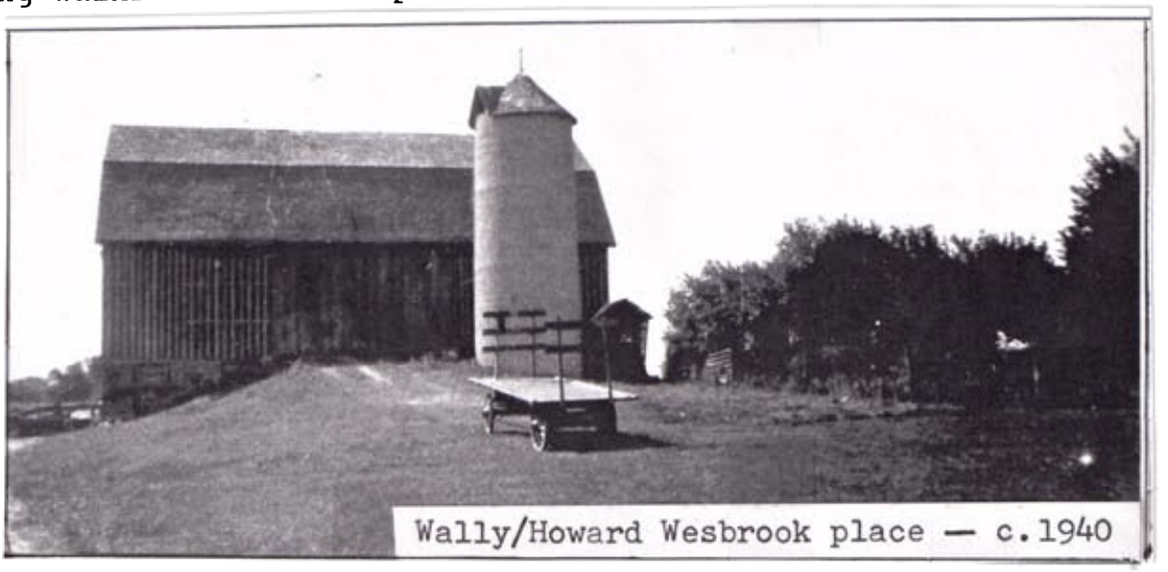
d) Sunshine — it prevented disease such as TB and stimulated animal growth. When the homesteaders learned that the cow needed warmth to become a good producer, they went to the other extreme by walling the cows up in a dark, unventilated, airless box stall, not realizing they were now subjecting their milk source to a scourge of diseases.

e) Good air — fresh air allowed the cow, which had evolved in a hardy outdoor environment to use their big nostrils and mighty lungs. Foul air tended to drain off the vitally necessary oxygen. A good ventilation system, it was later discovered, was a must.

f) Comfort — meeting the comfort sustaining needs of the cow, to maintain and sustain her as one of nature's most delicately balanced productive units, meant more milk in the pail. Cow comfort paid off.

g) Cleanliness — dirty surroundings could spread disease and bring discomfort to the animals.

Size, site and shape were all considered important. A well laid out barn meant hundreds of hours saved in labour. A proper site could take advantage of the elements, allowing for optimum sunshine on the window sides. In designing a barn, farmers knew that the rectangular shape was the best. This design prevented long walks which used up valuable time.



Wally/Howard Wesbrook place — c.1940

Cattle were herded out in the cold to drink at the watering trough. The animals got chilled, causing poor digestion or bloat, and milk production suffered. Many cows slipped on the ice, causing injury. With the invention of the water bowl, it gave the cows a continuous water supply, twenty-four hours a day, and saved labour.

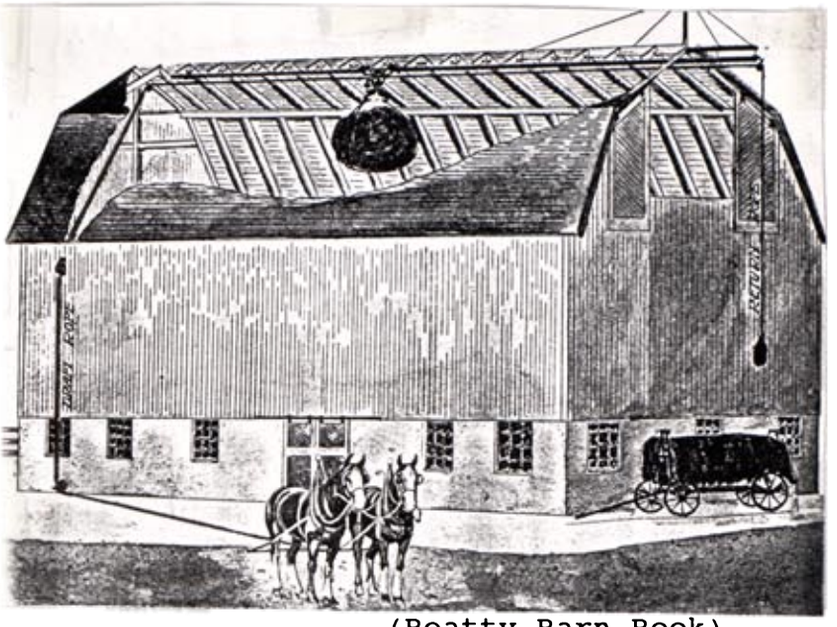
In January 1930, a disastrous barn fire caused an Oakland farmer to re-build a state of the art barn, the most modern in the township. The metal barn, 114 feet long by 42 feet wide, went up at East Oakland at the corner of the Oakland and Cockshutt roads. The owner, Chas McIntyre, had this to say:

> *"I am absolutely satisfied with my new barn with four ventilators in the roof and doors in the end keep the loft as cool as any barn I have ever been in. With nineteen air intakes to the stable and three outlets up through the barn to the roof and fitted with cowls which turn with the wind, my stable and barn are free from dampness or stuffiness even with 115 cattle housed during the winter. The barn floor is tongue and grooved. The granary is 16 feet wide by 42 feet. It is not too small for the heavy crops grown. Without cross beams or girts, the clear space from end to end permits the use of a car for slings or a hay fork which can be tripped at any height as it runs to the mow. This saves times unloading and is easier on the barn structure. There is no dropping of hay from the top of the barn with consequent heating in the centre of the mow."*

Pitching hay into the mow by hand.

Upper right - 1930 haying on lot four, concession one, the Ellsworth Dunnett Jersey farm. Pitching up to the wagon is his hired man, Chas Armstrong.

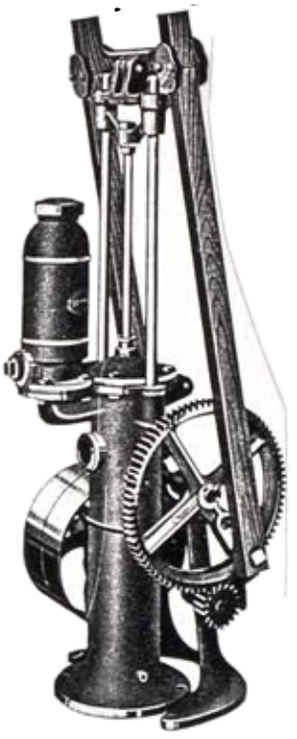
Lower right - Cockshutt hay loader.



(Beatty Barn Book)

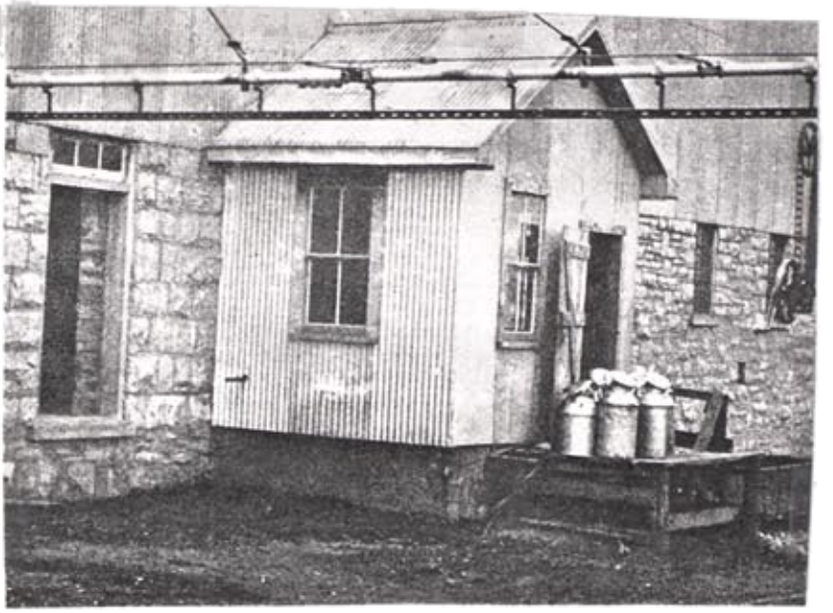
The new way — horses do the heavy work of hauling the hay fork (or slings), loaded with hay, up to the track at the barn peak and across to the mow where the device was tripped and the hay dropped to the mow below.

A cream separator. An inventive mind has replaced the hand crank with an electric motor, saving time and muscle energy. Cream separators are a popular collectors item, having appeal as a decorative flower pot.



At the barn, the hand pump was replaced by a motor driven syphon pump. To pump water, windmills were in common use until hydro took over. The Gardiner windmill, manufactured at Galt, was still harnessing the wind on many farms. The local agent for the windmill, Mr. Erb, had a thriving business.

BARN YARD SCENES OF YESTERYEAR



Circa 1925

(Beatty Barn Book)

A view of the milk house with the familiar milk cans visible on the platform. With the transition to bulk tanks, the milk can has been banished to the flea market stands.

IN THE FIELD

In 1920, Township farmers were still using the draft horse as their primary source of power. In their possession was a collection of implements such as various wagons, walking and riding ploughs, harrows, cultivators, a roller, a grain binder, a corn binder, a tedder, a rake, a mower, a manure spreader and a drill to name a few. For those who preferred to ride, light carts with large wheels and a very long tongue, and equipped with a spring seat, was hitched behind the cultivators or the harrows without overloading the team of two or three horses. Tillage implements were manufactured right at Brantford and readily available through nearby dealerships. The Cockshutt Plow Company and Massey-Harris manufactured most of the latter mentioned implements.

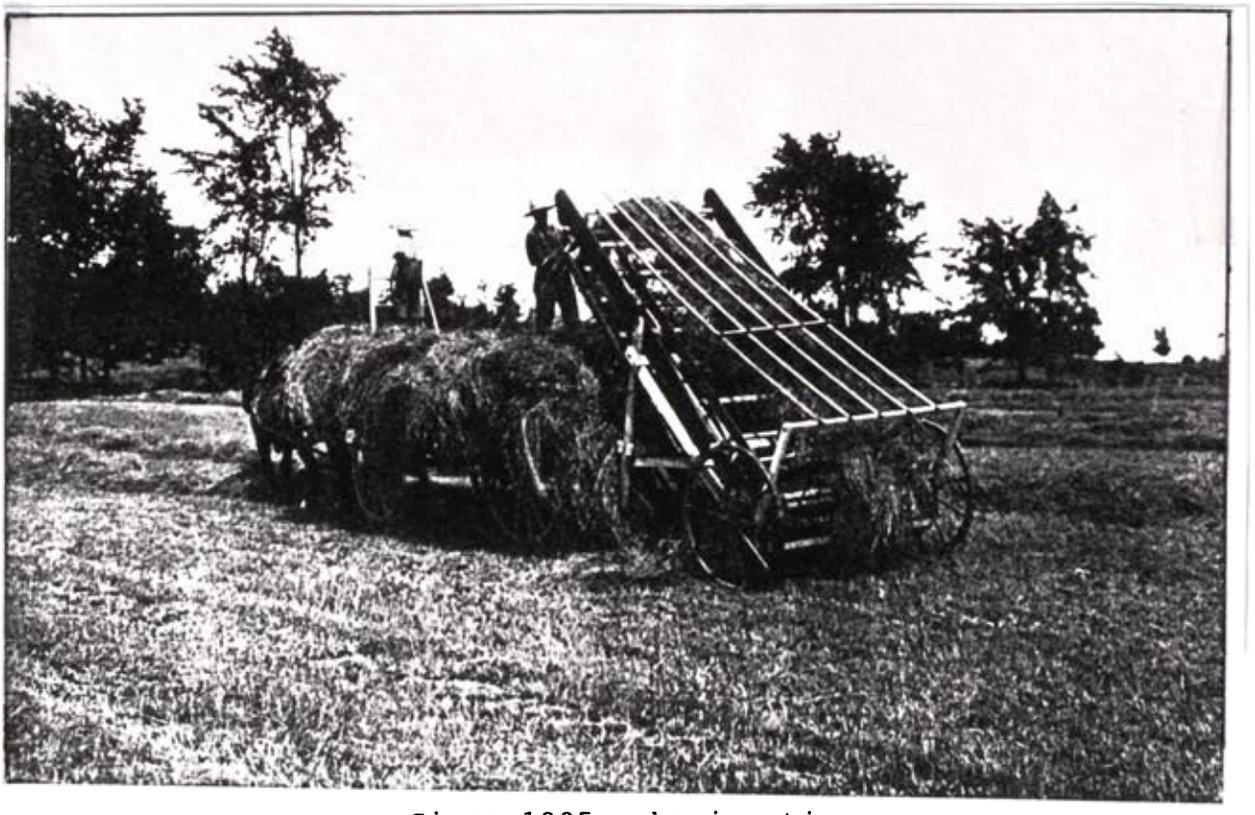
A horse-drawn Cockshutt, one furrow, riding plow.

On the right, a two horse mower capable of slashing down several acres of hay in an eight hour period. Farmers spent hours at their hand-cranked grinding wheel, sharpening the twenty or so blades before starting their morning cutting. A crank-shaft mechanism activated the mower blades, power coming directly from the steel wheels faced with lugs, to prevent slippage. The challenge was to slash down ten acres in a day when the weather forecaster's report seemed favourable. Many a farmer had three-legged dogs as their companion because of a mowing accident.

Model 15
Massey-Harris - five foot cut

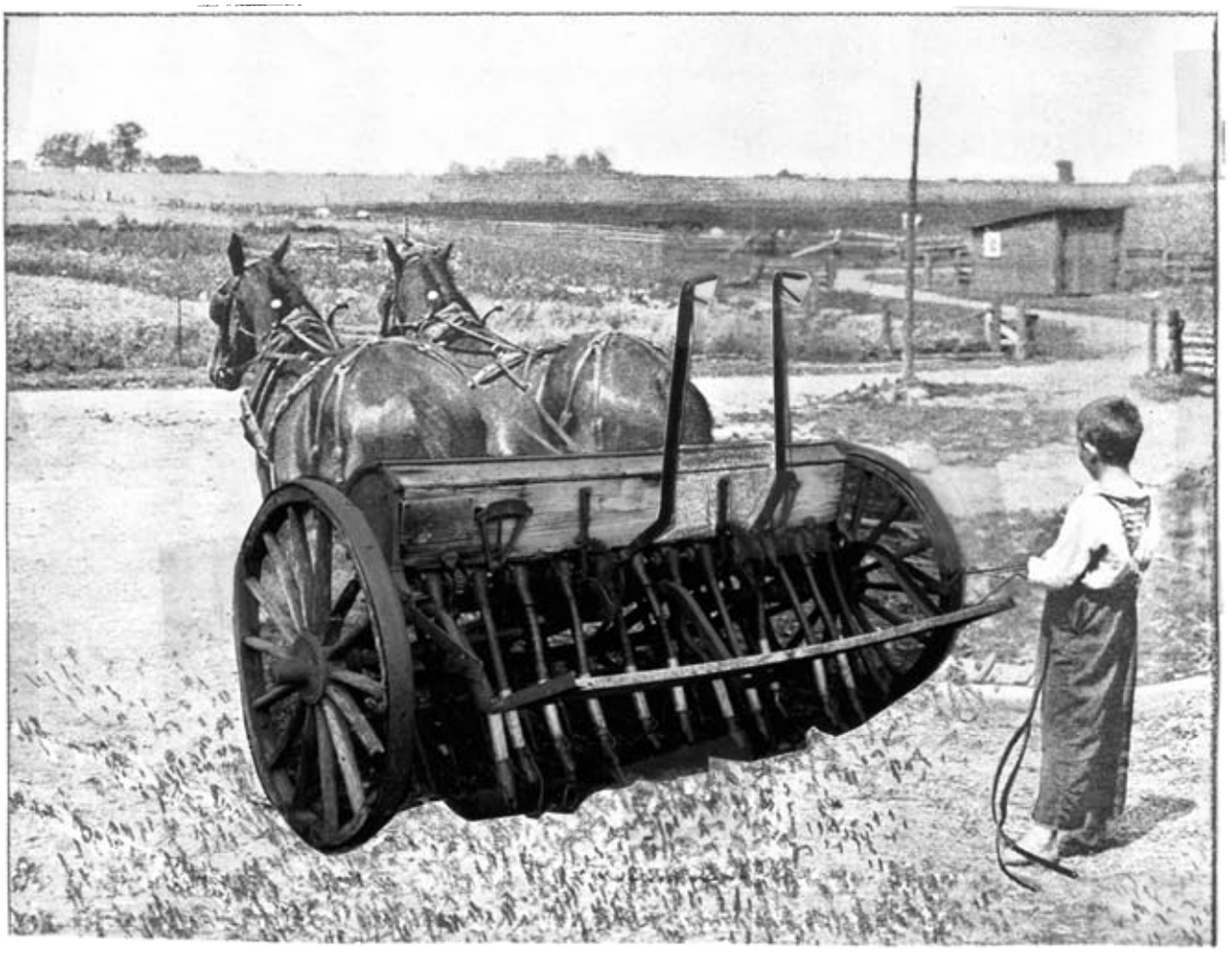
Township farmers progressed from the fork and scythe, to the mower and tedder, to the balers which literally threw the bales into the pick-up wagon. Some tried the hay harvester which picked up the rows of hay, blowing the hay into a covered wagon, then into the mow.

The E.G. Malcolm Plow Works manufactured three popular walking plows; the telephone Jointer; the American Queen; the Telephone Plow. All were made of solid chilled iron. They sold well until the turn of the century for between $12.00 to $17.00 each. Once Brantford became established as the manufacturing city of Ontario, and the assembly line production took over, the small founders were forced out of business. Firms such as C.H. Waterous, which employed over a hundred hands in 1880 and the Victoria Foundry which had 80 hands, captured the market. E.G. Malcolm's foundry could not compete and went under.



Circa 1935 - haying time

A hand-cranked fanning (winnowing) mill, built by The Chatham Mill Company.



Drill - manufactured by Cockshutt Plow Company

The winnowing mill (upper right) had done a cleaning job on the seed grain before it got to the field.

With the industrial city of Brantford close by, implement manufacturers competed for business. The largest manufacturer, Massey-Harris, freely advertised for business.

1920 – Raising sheep on the Wi11 Cox farm at East Oak1and

c. 1930 East Oak1and – G. Wi11iam "Wi11" Cox poses, on the 1eft, in front of his symmetrica1 grain stacks awaiting the arriva1 of the custom thresher, Per1ey Stratford.

HARVESTING AND THRESHING

Custom threshers were in great demand at the turn of the century and continued to provide a valuable service until the 50's when the combine took over. One such thresher was Sylvester Stratford (1856-1943), who bought his first John Goodson thresher from their Sarnia plant in 1908, at a cost of $1200.00. With the horse drawn steam engine, he travelled throughout South Brant and Townsend with a crew of three.

Another custom thresher who established a business in Oakland and Burford Townships was Hayward Malcolm (1861-1950), a life long resident of Scotland.

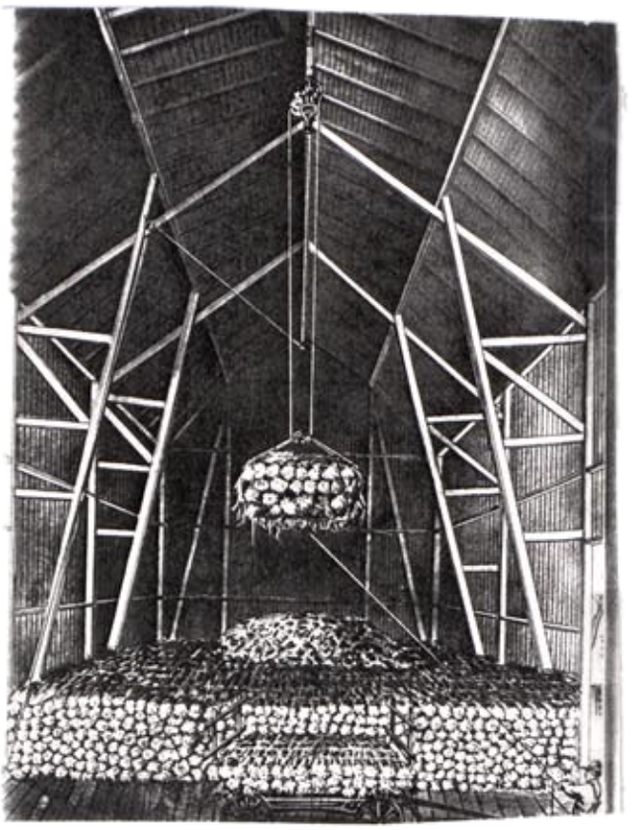
Perley W. Stratford (1886-1981), and his younger brother Harold, (1904-1983) got into the business in the 20's and 30's, replacing their father on the South Brant threshing circuit.

A shrewd game of diplomacy was played out yearly by Perley and Harold, as they tried to satisfy their customers. With shock threshers, harvest time meant getting the grain ripened, cut, shocked, dried, threshed and in the granary in the shortest possible time, and all of this while the weather held. On the hot, dry mid July days, the phones rang constantly at Scotland exchange 6-05 and 6-20, the homes of Perley and Harold. For the next two months, weather permitting, they toured constantly with their rigs.

At harvest time some stooked their wheat and oats and left the grain in the field. On threshing day, the sheaves were hauled directly to the threshing rig, using several neighbour's teams and wagons to maintain a steady supply at the separator. Others hauled their grain to the barn and threshed inside, pitching the sheaves directly on to the conveyor from the mow, thus reducing the size of the threshing crew. A few stacked their grain in the field, or near the barn, rather than threshing from the shock (stook).

Whether the grain was shocked, stacked or hauled to the barn and mowed, eventually, it all went head-first into the big mouth of the separator.

Moving slowing along the canvas conveyor, the neatly tied sheaves were suddenly met by revolving chopping knives and transformed in a swirling mass which moved down into the separator where the kernels were separated from the stalks. The straw went up and out one pipe, the kernels out another.



For those who hauled their grain to the barn, advances in the use of barn equipment saved labour. With the BT 4 foot Beatty trip slings, half a load of sheaves were hoisted to the mow at a time. A team outside did all the heavy work. Only the man in the mow needed a fork to layer the sheaves. A boy driving the team down the driveway did the work of an extra man on the wagon as the bundle went skyward to the barn's peak, then across to the mow where the slings were tripped, dropping the grain to the mow in a gust of wind.

Slings and grain sheaves.
(Beatty Barn Book)

The sheaf that twentieth century farmers stood up, the heads leaning inward to make a shock, was the product of technology on the move. From the back-breaking cutting tools, the sickle and the scythe, to the Royce reaper which heralded a mechanical revolution by displacing muscle power for machines, inventive minds kept busy and came up with a further improvement, the binder. Robinson Grantham (1821-1887), father of Mathias (1855-1938), farmer lot 7 concession II bought the first binder to be used in the Township, called "Bonny".

Pulled by three horses, the binder which could rightfully claim to be a descendent of the reaper, used a sickle bar to cut the grain. Circling arms flopped the grain on the conveyor canvas. The cut stalks then moved up to the knotting mechanism where they were bundled, tied with twine, and then dropped on the bundle carrier. The driver tripped the carrier, releasing four sheaves to the ground at a time. Here the stooker took over, thankful that mechanization had dropped the sheaves in a pile, thus taking some of the stoop out of standing up the sheaves.

Strictly a hand job, shocking (stooking) grain was an art. Inexperienced shockers could make more work if a stiff wind came along and tumbled the loosely knit stook. The trick was to grab two sheaves, one in each hand, and stand them up, heads to heads at

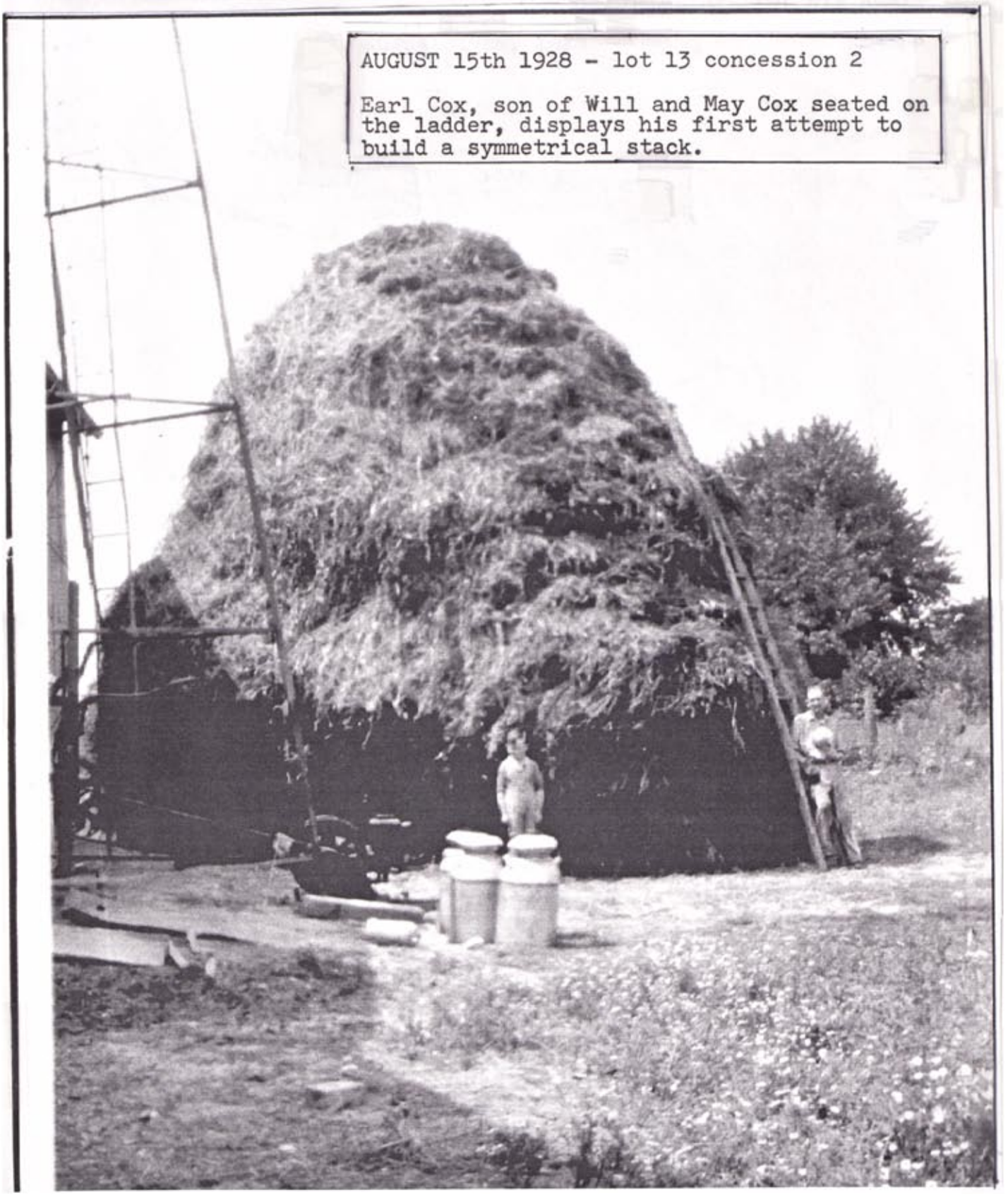
the top. They had to be woven together or they would topple. Next, grab two more sheaves and lean them into the first two, closing all four sides. Then grab several more sheaves to complete the shock and, perhaps, lay a couple of sheaves horizontally across the top to help shed water. Some preferred the long and narrow stooks, placing the upright sheaves side by side in a row. The stook did three things. It held the heads up off the ground to help the drying process, it prevented sprouting, and it meant fewer stops for the team and wagon at threshing time. To say the least, those engaged in this back-breaker hand job had a "shocking good time".

On any late August day in the 30's, if you should look down Elgin Street from the Oakland post office porch, chances are you would have seen a near perfect symmetrical stack of oats beside Herb Dunnett's barn, built very close to the edge of the roadway.

W. Herb Dunnett (1870-1945) believed in the advantages of threshing from a stack. It meant fewer hands and no teams, a decided gain when help was scarce. Herb contended that his grain kept better in a stack, coming out heavier and brighter at the spout, and he could thresh at his own convenience, not that of the custom man with the outfit. For his wife, Edith, it was a case of getting only one meal, not several, for a couple of extra men.

The trick in building a stack was to make it water-proof. With a sixteen foot diameter, and butts on the outside, the sheaves were carefully laid by the stacker, stepping only on the heads. With care, he built his stack skyward, binding the bundles to prevent slippage. Expert stackers swelled their stacks as they went upwards until they reached a "bulge", then it was tapered to a peak. A canvas on top gave extra protection from the elements.

Herb Dunnett had carefully weighed the manpower factor and the disadvantages of threshing from the shock. The weather factor, exchanging work with the neighbors (both hands and teams), and getting the threshing rig when he wanted it, convinced him to haul his grain to the barn, on his own time, then thresh at his



AUGUST 15th 1928 - lot 13 concession 2

Earl Cox, son of Will and May Cox seated on the ladder, displays his first attempt to build a symmetrical stack.

convenience. Furthermore, Herb was a small farmer and, from past experiences, he had found himself working two days away from home for the big farmers to get one day's work in return for his small job. All in all, Herb remained convinced the stack was the way to go.

In another era, threshing with sweep-power literally took the teams and their driver around in circles, for hours at a time. The sweep was a large gear type wheel with several arms reaching out from its centre. With teams hitched to each arm, and with an ingenious gearing system, power was transferred to the threshing rig along a tumbling rod. As the teams went round and round, they stepped over the rod, stretched from the sweep to the separator. The driver stood on top with a whip, which he used as required. While not nearly as efficient as steam or internal combustion power, before the turn of the century, the sweep removed some of the drudgery of separating kernels from the husk.

Some farmers bought a separator under joint ownership. Charlie McIntyre, Earl Burtch, Alfred Bonham, Maitland Edy, Merrit Crumback, George Crumback, Gordon Bonham and Herb Burtch lost their machine in a fire. It was stored in the Cunningham barn at the time of the fire.

Perley Stratford owned a steam engine but generally used a Rumely Oil Pull to power the separator. Perley had a preference for the Goodison make, which he had come to fancy, after apprenticing with his father who, in 1907, acquired one of the first threshing rigs to be used in the area. Perley travelled constantly as his father's helper, learning the trade, then venturing out on his own after he married.

Capturing the sights, the sounds, and the smells of threshing days can easily be accomplished by reading excerpts from a 1931 article in the American Thresherman magazine, the story of a farm boy's marvel of the yearly event:

QUOTE

"With surges of joy we would watch the rig approach our farm - the great, black puffing engine leading with an air of ponderous self assurance, slowly and surely with the big, dusty, creaking separator in tow".

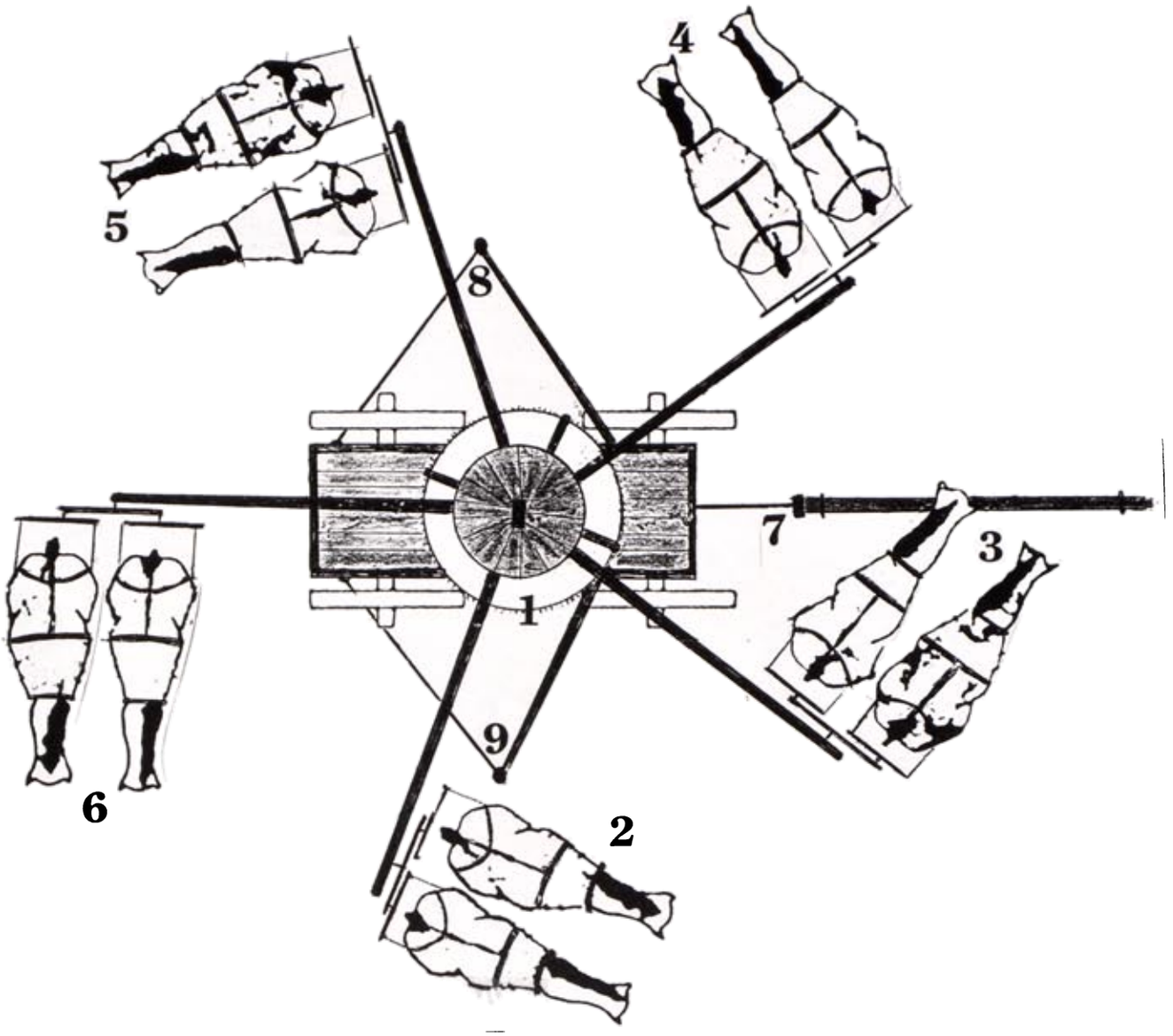
"We stood fascinated, watching the wide, towering, drive-wheel dig their lugs into the ground as the monster climbed the sharp rise into the yard at our place".

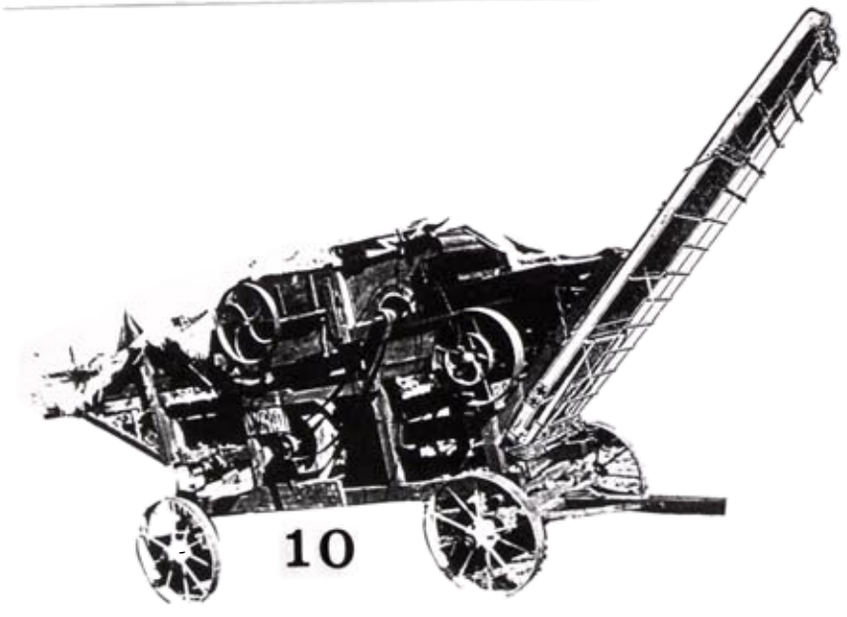
"What a different atmosphere the invasion of the threshing outfit would bring to our farm from dawn to dusk. At meal time, strange horses in the barn; and around the wash basins gathered a crowd of joking men. They would file bashfully into the kitchen and, smelling of soap, sweat, and grain dust they would seat themselves around the elongated table. The meals were business-like affairs and they wasted no time at them. As each man grew full, he hurried from the table to sit in the shade until "noonin" was up. The women folk sat at another table and not until years later did we discover that threshing time held little romance for them!"

"We watched the toiling, sweating men pitch the grain into the feeder, listening to the hum of the cylinder as it tore its swift way through the grain entering the wide mouth of the separator and never grew tired of watching the straw shoot out from the blower, in a shower, on the straw stack. The grain, as it streamed down the spout, made a hissing sound. We gazed down the long, swiftly moving and flapping drive belt which carried the power from the engine to the separator, following with our sight the rapid progress back and forth of a dark patch on the belt (lacing), which travelled with the speed of a pitched baseball. We got close to the quaking, dust-laden, roaring separator with its maze of pullies, belts and shakers, all going at a mad rate".

UNQUOTE

Ontario Agricultural Museum





1. Large gear wheel on a heavy duty wagon.
2 to 6. Teams hitched to extended arms reaching out from the gear wheel.
7. Tumbling rod which transferred power to the separator.
8. Anchor.
9. Anchor.
10. Separator - the early models had no wind stacker (blower), rather a revolving elevator to take the straw up to the stack.

A Pitts 4-wheel sweep, modified from five arms to one arm. The five arm machine, with five teams hitched, was capable of powering a threshing machine. The illustrated sweep activated a drag saw (for cutting firewood). The tumbling rod, with one end attached to the sweep and the other to the drag saw, transmitted the power to the saw which moved back and forth across the log through the rotation of a crank shaft. In the background is a grist mill powered by an overshot water-wheel.

To take a nostalgic trip back to threshing days, as seen through the eyes of a young farm lad, could easily conjure up thoughts of excitement and good times for all. But the reality was far different. A threshing day for the host farmer, for his wife, for the neighbours who helped, and for the custom thresher meant much more than a fun day. In store for them was a long day, from dawn to dusk, tackling a multitude of tasks that must be carried out in hot, humid weather. With forbearance, those working around the separator tolerated noise, dust and chaff in their eyes. There were no coffee breaks. Every hand had a special job, one dependent on the other. With good co-ordination and the right number of hands, a threshing job could go smoothly. The pitchers in the field, the teamsters hauling the grain, the sackers at the spout, the stacker at times invisible in the swirling chaff, the blower operator - a job assigned to the old - and the granary men all played their part.

The rig foreman was everywhere, mothering the machinery by oiling, greasing, testing tension and checking the grain quality pouring down the spout. Often he could be seen standing right on top of the separator with his ear tuned for trouble.

Circa 1940 - Custom thresher Harold Stratford and his family.
Les Margaret (Allan) Harold Stratford
Howard Ken Dorothy George Earl

Circa 1960
Custom thresher Perley Stratford and his wife, Clara, of fifty years.

Things could go awry in the threshing game. In 1951, Earl Secord of Lower Oakland was hurled from his wagon in a runaway at Howard Edy's place. He broke his leg. A month later, on crutches, he died in a gravel pit accident; Jimmy Poole of Oakland succumbed on the platform of his wagon in 1929, the victim of a heart seizure at a neighbour's farm; fingers were lost being poked into dangerous places while oiling the moving parts; balls of fire shooting from the blower set many a stack on fire, and the barn followed. Harold Stratford lost his barn this way in 1942; separators burned up from hot shafts, causing manufacturers to turn to steel construction; teams bolted and got tangled in their harness, frightened by whirring gears and flapping drive belts; steam engines blew up sending a barrage of metal hundreds of feet in the air; feeders clogged, shooting bursts of dust in all directions and grinding the separator to a dead stop; drive belts broke and those workers in the way beware; forks were accidentally thrown on the conveyor, then chewed up, causing break-downs; loaded wagons upset in the field as teamsters turned too sharp; heavy separators broke through bridges and barn floors; sparks from travelling rigs started grass fires and burned buildings. The Starkey House, in the hollow, went up in smoke this way; and tempers were on a short fuse when farmers were asked to wait out the morning dew. And that was threshing at its worst.

A custom man, who practised prevention and kept his eyes and ears tuned for trouble meant survival in the threshing game. His business was on the line if he failed to thresh out, clean and whole, every bushel of grain grown. Kernels blowing into the stack gave the customer profit chills. Frequent break-downs were intolerable. A minor mechanical problem, causing a tentative shutdown, could be endured but not a major one which sent the threshing gang home to return another day.

With the latter in mind, both Perley and Harold Stratford were coached well by their father to practise preventative maintenance, every day, starting with the basics of levelling and blocking. Unblocked wheels meant too much vibration (a worn out plougshare did the job well) and a separator not precisely levelled at setting-up time caused shafts to ruin the bearings on the lower side, resulting in a hot box and retarding the smooth, even flow of the stalks through the machine. In the early morning he must go through a well rehearsed routine; check the adjustment of the cylinder and concaves to prevent friction; inspect the teeth in the concaves for broken ones; adjust belt tension; replace worn out belts or their lacing; oil and grease moving parts; check the separating grates and straw racks; give careful attention to the drive belt stretching from the power source to the main pulley on the separator (a certain degree of slackness was required); and top up the fuel supply.

Separator manufacturers advertised widely in the 20's and 30's, promoting the finer qualities of their machines. Citing durability; a sturdy frame; structural superiority around the main cylinder; strong T rails and angle irons to brace the rear end;

heavy steel tires; strong channel steel axles; and equipped with roller bearings to free up the cylinder, beater, mill fan, wind stacker, beltguide, idlers and crank shaft they hoped to capture their share of sales. The all steel separator, replacing wood construction, became popular in the mid 30's. The ever present danger of fire from so many moving parts at work caused the switch to all steel construction.

Threshing days have run their course. A few bought their own outfits and continued to thresh for a time. By 1960, however, most farmers in the Township had converted to other means to get their grain harvested, primarily the combine. Custom combiners took over where the threshers had left off. Now it's only threshing nostalgia that lingers, played out on the farm museum grounds at Upper Canada Village and the Agricultural Museum near Milton. The romance with threshing lives on.

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs — Ont Agricultural Museum

Circa 1933

Looking down on a threshing operation from above the wind stacker (blower). The wagon in the foreground is loaded with grain.

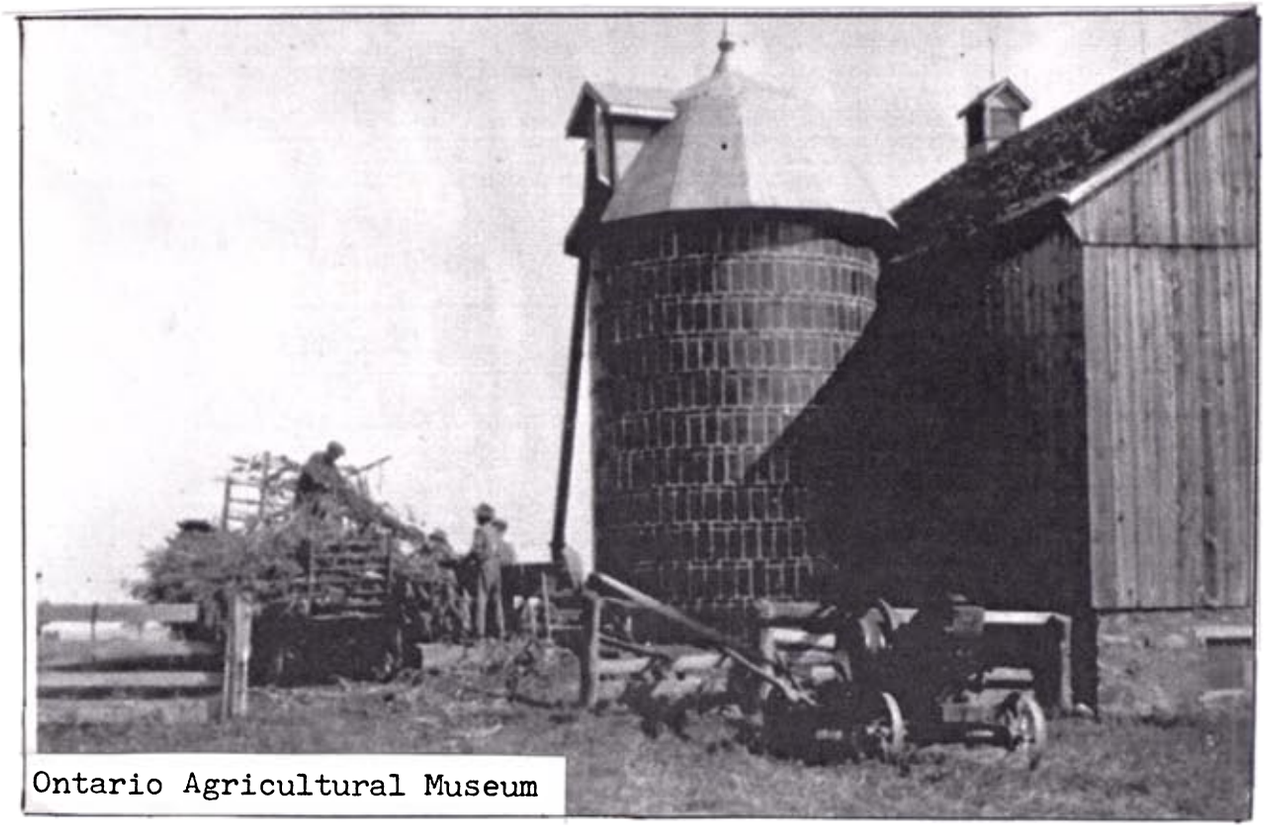
SILO FILLING

In early Fall, when the corn ripened, a mini version of a threshing day was repeated. Silo filling time came in September and, once again, the exchange system of finding hands went into action and the Stratford brothers took to the circuit with their rigs.

Ensilage Cutter and Shredder

On the right is an early model of an ensilage cutter which gobbled up corn stocks whole, shredded them in an instant with its giant rotary blades, spit out the chopped up corn, which suddenly had become ensilage, into the blower and shot it sky high through the pipes, over the top ledge, and down into the silo where two or three men trudged about stomping the sweet smelling ensilage into the pulpy mass.

While the cement and tile silos still dot the countryside, the wooden ones known to the previous generation have long ago rotted away and been torn down. The Massey-Harris people were right in naming their ensilage cutter and shredder. It literally blew up a BLIZZARD!



September 1930 - silo filling time

GATHERING RUST

George White No.6 separator

Cockshutt Plow Company drill

Massey-Harris binder

Massey-Harris spreader

Hay rake

Oliver tractor

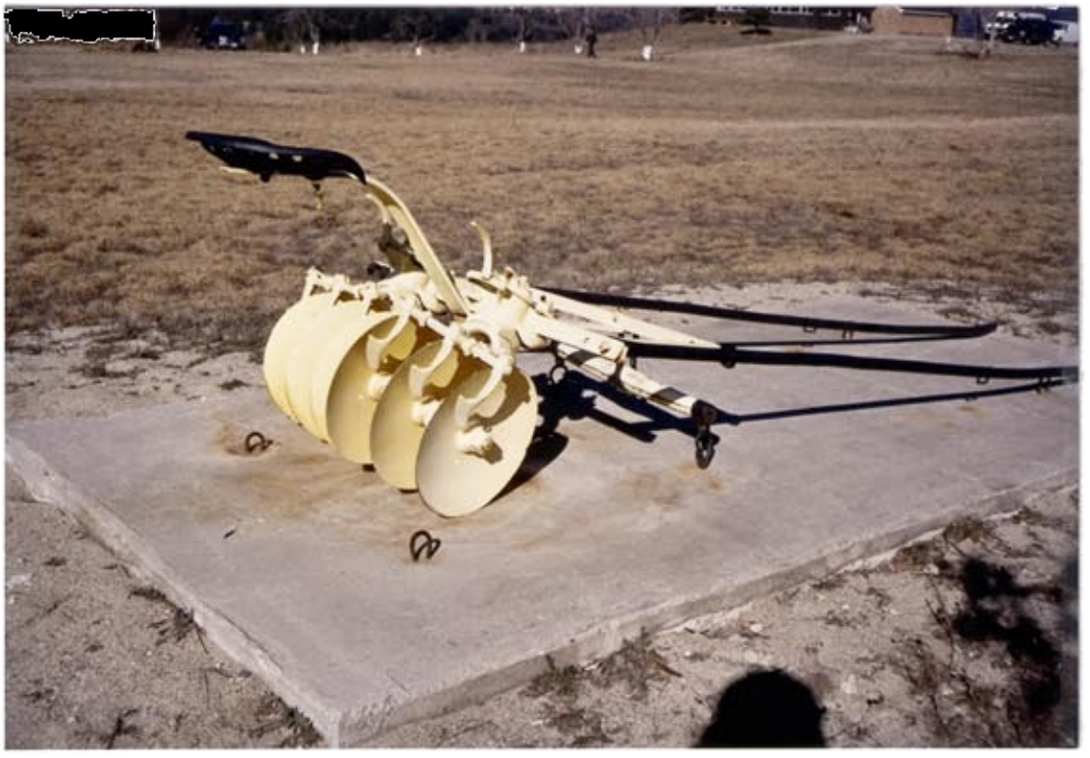
Two furrow plough

Mower - five foot cut

Cultivator

Tedder

One horse row cultivator

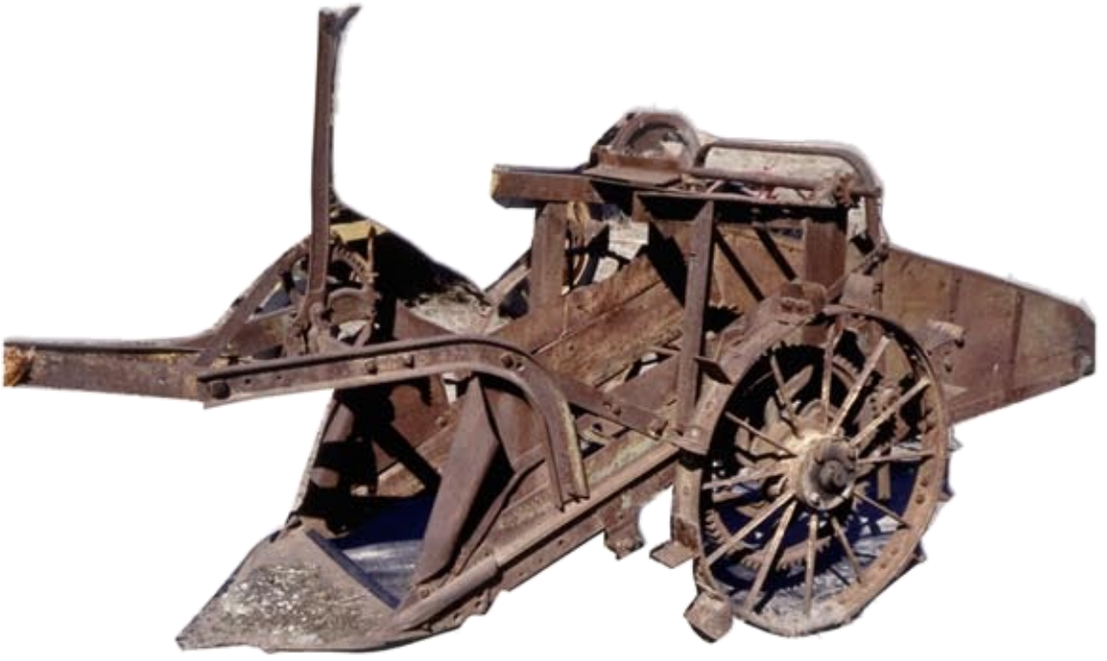


One horse disc - six plates

Walking plow

Utility wagon

Ensilage cutter - 1930 model

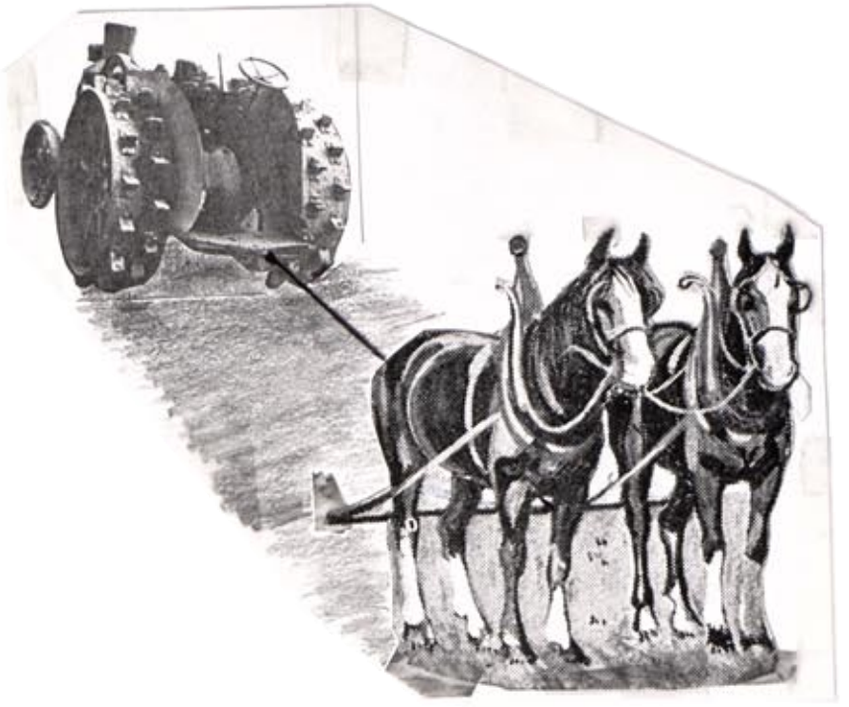


Potato digger

HORSE

versus

TRACTOR

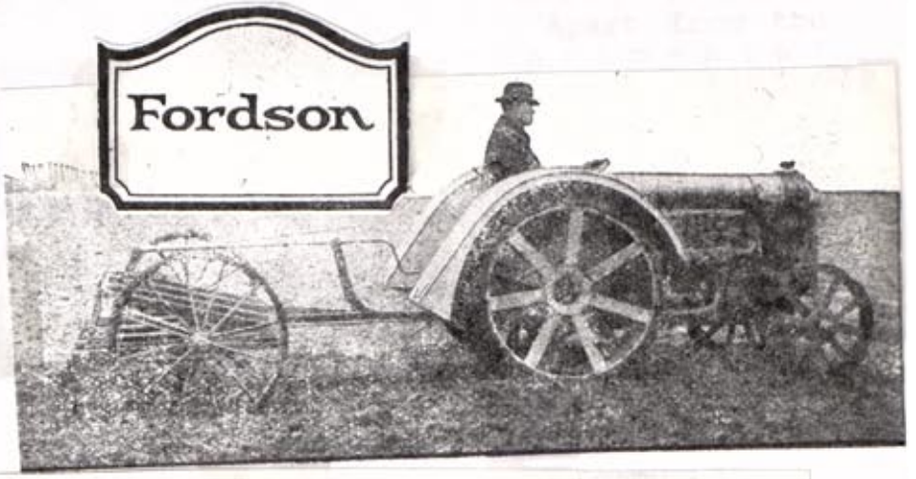


Forget about the oxen as these draft bovines had disappeared from Township farms long before the turn of the century. There were only horses to pull the implements and machines.

As for tractors, they had just appeared when Abe Westbrook ceased to be an active farmer; Charlie McIntyre was not convinced of the tractor's benefits; Ellsworth Dunnett used spirited light roadsters to pull his implements; James Messecar never considered the tractor an option; Sylvester Stratford had used steam power but returned to the horse and Earl Secord was heard to remark "I'll never buy one of those contraptions".

Yes, in the third decade, a debate brewed and gathered momentum while Township farmers, and farmers everywhere, pondered the growing *argumentum ad hominem* of whether to go modern. Was it more efficient and cost effective to replace some, or all, of their drafters with the internal-combustion engine? That was the focus of farmers round table discussions in the 20's and 30's.

Ostensibly, both horse and tractor had the capacity to make implements mobile in the field and to propel stationary machinery although, at the belt, the tractor's superiority was not questioned. Years earlier, tread mills and the use of the circular sweep, the technique of converting animal power to drive machinery had been perfected. By the turn of the century, however, that grain eating monster, the threshing machine, appeared on the scene. Its pulley driven main shaft needed the steady thrust of a steam engine or a heavy duty tractor, with a large fly wheel, to activate and maintain an even spinning of the belts. A sure guarantee of thresher reliability, without clogging, was to power the rig with a powerful 15-30 Rumely Oil Pull, a power plant both at the drawbar and at the belt.



Beat the Weeds With Fordson and Oliver Cultivator

Quick and effective eradication of all weeds and surface growth in after harvest cultivation, is best assured by the use of the Fordson and the Oliver No. 131 cultivator.

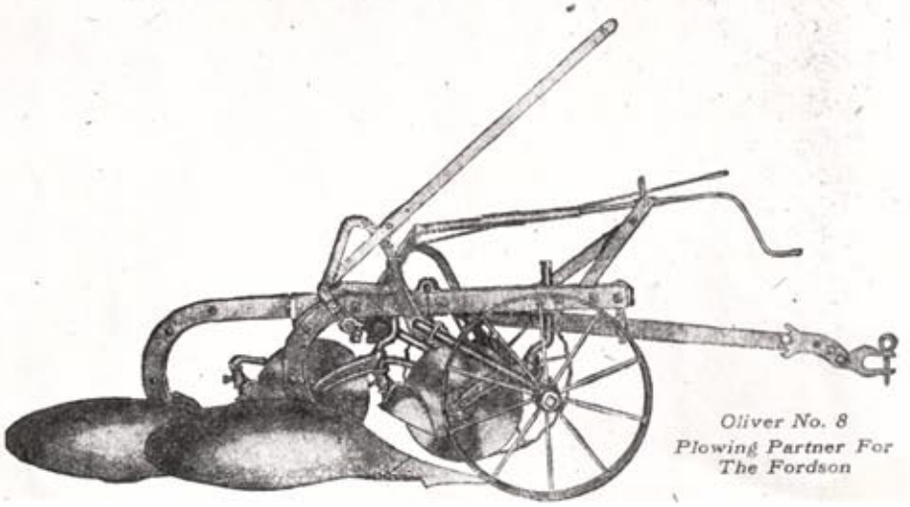
The wide sweeps overlap three inches. They are held rigidly so that they do not spring out of line and are instantly forced back into position, by the spring trips, after meeting obstructions.

Operated entirely from the tractor seat by a powerful depth adjusting screw, more convenient than levers, and a power lift trip rod rather than trip rope.

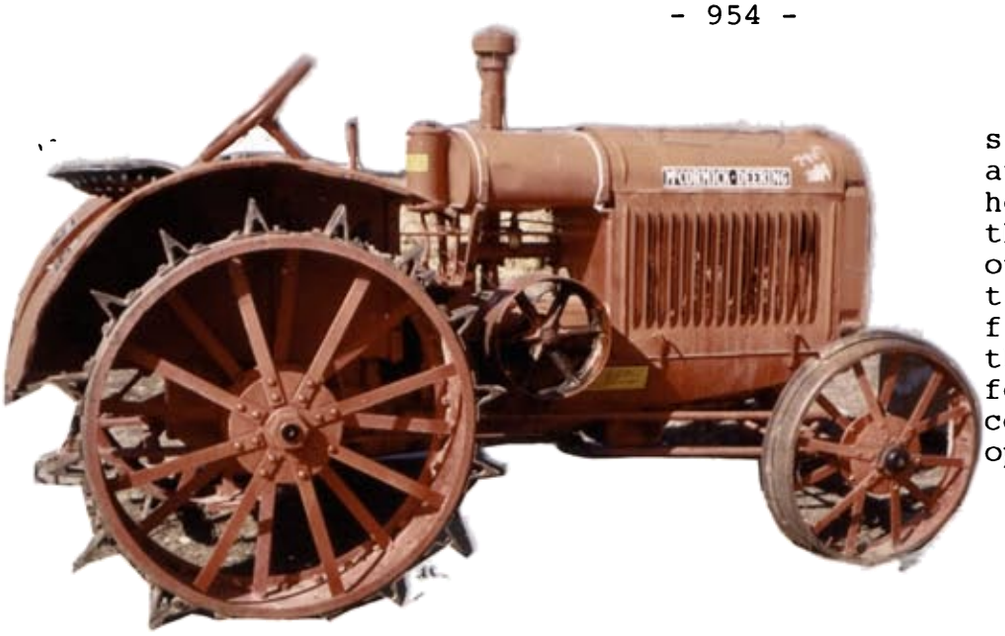
The use of the Fordson not only makes possible various farm operations at the right time but it also permits the use of the proper implement for the most effective work.

For plowing, the Fordson and Oliver No. 8 plow have proven their worth by helping toward bigger crops on many thousand Canadian farms.

Ask Any Authorized Fordson Dealer



Oliver No. 8
Plowing Partner For
The Fordson



Apart from the sentimental attachment for the horse, to the extent that one or the other performed the task at hand, farmers found themselves being forced to seriously consider the tractor option.

During World War I, and thereafter, oil and gasoline powered vehicles were made faster, more powerful, more manoeuverable and more fuel efficient as established farming methods passed down from the previous generation took the fast-track to change. The challenge for twentieth century farmers was to adapt, to upgrade, to keep an open mind and not to ease into a regressive mind set, barring change. New trends could quite easily be misinterpreted as being intrusive, disruptive and unnecessary. A positive attitude for change did not flow naturally. The old-timers in the Township, to the last man, were firmly convinced that the tractor had no place in their farming operations. To supplant the draft horse was unthinkable, even though a field survey carried out in 1925 concluded that, on a dairy farm, both horse and tractor had a role and could complement each other as a power source. The tractor, the survey concluded, was more effective at the drawbar in carrying out the gruelling jobs, plowing and tilling the soil.

On the left, a model 9N Ford 25 hp tractor, powerful enough to pull a three furrow plow attachment for field work and small enough to work up the garden. With a home-made carrier, it could also be used for short hauls to Vivian's grist mill.

The critical test of superiority of the tractor in the field had largely focused on its plowing potential. For a good plowing job, the tractor fancier took into account the amount of ground covered in a day and the quality of work, uniformity and depth of furrow, at least eight inches. In this job, the drafters were no match as even a slow moving oil-pull could plow up several acres in a day with a gang plow. A team in sound physical condition, pulling a single moldboard plow, started the day's work fresh and

strong and the furrow depth in the early hours could be set as deep as required. As the day wore on, however, the pace slowed and on a humid spring day the animals sweated and lathered, rest periods became frequent. The desired furrow depth gave way to the team's ability to lean into the harness. Both productivity and the quality of the plowing suffered. Furthermore, spring plowing found the drafters out of condition after a confined winter in their stalls and, when the need for intensive work in the fields was at a peak, the typical farm horse could not perform to its potential. On the other hand, barring break-downs, a well tuned tractor had the capacity to run with the same degree of consistency for as long as required, day or night.

A 1925 survey had concluded that fully one third of the available plowing time each season was lost to adverse weather, requiring the farmer to keep extra draft horses on hand all year round to compensate, not very cost efficient. At that time, it was estimated that a hundred acre dairy farm required the use of a tractor, on average, sixty days out of the year. When not in use, other than depreciation, the expense in money and time was minimal. On the other hand, the horse must be fed and provided with good animal husbandry three hundred and sixty-five days a year even though, on average, it worked only about ninety days a year. To evaluate and compare cost effectiveness, the farmer with horses must take into account feed, extra wages, the kinds of crops grown and the special needs for a horse as well as the number of days worked. Estimates showed the horse consumed, annually, the products of five acres. In 1920, the farmer expected to allow seventy-five dollars a year to keep a horse or in cost about $4.00 an acre per cultivated land area. When the horse was king, about twenty percent of the entire cost of a farm's operations went to keeping the drafters.

The cost for feed worked out to seven to nine cents for each hour of horse work. The average cost of fuel and oil was estimated at two cents per drawbar, horse power hour.

In plowing a field, it was found that the average cost of tractor plowing per acre was about half that of horse plowing, a plus for the tractor fanciers. In motor efficiency, the ratio of work delivered to food consumed averaged eight percent while tractor experts held that a machine converts thirteen percent, average, of the heat energy of its fuel into work at the drawbar and much more at the belt. Thus, if a tractor used half of its energy for propulsion, its superiority to the horse in thermal efficiency was considerable. A 1930 computation of expenses to plow a ten acre stubble field shows it cost seventy-two cents per acre for gas, oil, and labour using a tractor pulling a three furrow fourteen inch gang plow. The cost of a horse plowing outfit amounted to $1.70 per acre, which included feed and labour.

Whatever the model, the tractor fancier believed that, in every circumstance, it possessed more actual horse power than the team(s) it displaced, from ten to forty horse-power at the draw

bar, sufficient to plough three or more furrows at one time. This machine that could pull a battery of three to five plows required but a single operator and the ground could be covered three times as fast while the team pulling a single moldboard walking plow still required a driver and he was lucky to plow up an acre of stubble in a day, a convincing argument in favour of the tractor, counting wages saved.

Despite the mounting evidence of tractor superiority, most dairy farmers were years away from total conversion to internal-combustion machines. As the Great Depression loomed, shear economics prevented them from making a change. With cash reserves depleted, and most were not yet conditioned to financing, the tractor purchase was placed on hold. These prudent "pay as you go" economists were fearful of taking on a debt load for a piece of equipment which only tentatively had proven itself. For a time, while they rode out the depression, tractor sales were not brisk.

Instead, farmers stayed with their general purpose drafters. What did they consider to be a solid, utilitarian work horse? In an edition of the 1906 Farmers Magazine, the ideal draft horse was described as a "chunky, square-bodied animal, about twelve to thirteen hundred pounds, able to pull all the heavy loads, capable of saving time by walking faster in the fields and getting over the roads with more speed and agility than the larger drafters".

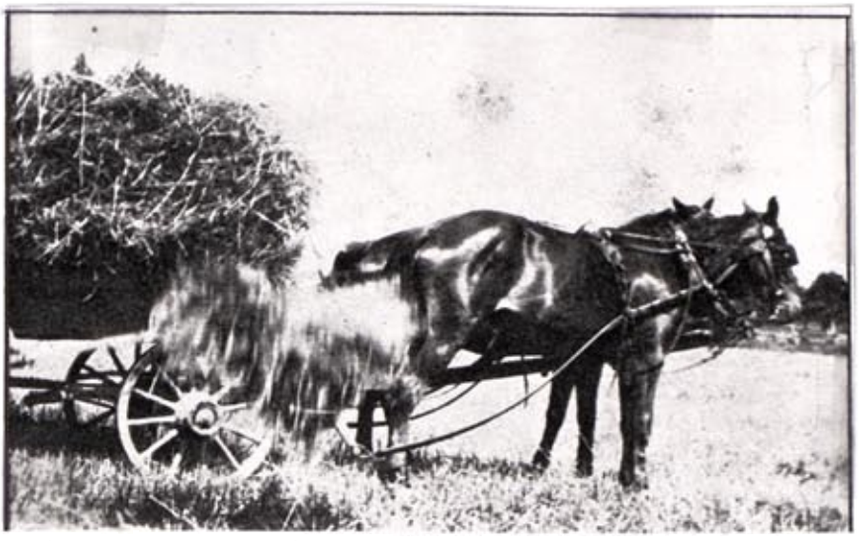
Good breeding, according to the author, was the key;

> "*Cross a pure blood draft stallion to a good type of grade mare or breed a pure blood draft stallion with a pure blood coach or roadster mare. But you can never tell what kind of a mongrel you will get by crossing a grade stallion with a grade mare*".

Typical drafters - chunky, square bodied, not too big, no more than seventeen hands and well under two thousand pounds.

Despite the advice from the experts, in 1903, if you had the occasion to scan a pasture field in Oakland Township on a typical Sunday afternoon, a non working day, you would have seen grazing, many drafters of the mongrel variety, the product of a grade stallion crossed with a grade mare — scrubs as they were called. Breeders of pure-bloods, of any strain, found it more lucrative to keep their stock pure, making it much cheaper for the dairy farmer to breed his grade mare to a less than pure stud, getting a "scrub" offspring in the process.

For over half a century, E.E. Dunnett farmed the east half of lot 4 concession I, half way between Oakland and Scotland. He was no tractor fancier and could not even bring himself to admit that the best all purpose work horse was other than a light, spirited roadster.



Light roadster/drafters owned by Ellsworth Dunnett, a Jersey breeder, on the Oakland Road, lot 4 (east half) concession I. These thousand pounders stood about sixteen hands.

Pap Dunnett never wore tired of the challenge of breaking a colt to the harness and keeping his prancy animals in check. More than one inexperienced hired man found his roadsters were more than a match. When these head-strong, sometimes unmanageable, road horses which had been turned into drafters took the bit there was no stopping them. If they were headed for the barn, pulling only an empty wagon, the hired man's shirt tail flew and loss of control was almost guaranteed. Needless to say, farmer Dunnett's turn-over of hired men had reached an all-time high when he quit farming in 1947.

Two Oakland farmers and part time custom threshers, Perley and Harold Stratford, were among the first to put their heavy duty, steel-wheeled, machines in the field during the threshing off-season. On one occasion, heavy duty Percherons were seen hitched to the front of Perley's rig, extricating him from a mud hole, a blow for mechanization and points scored for the old-timers.

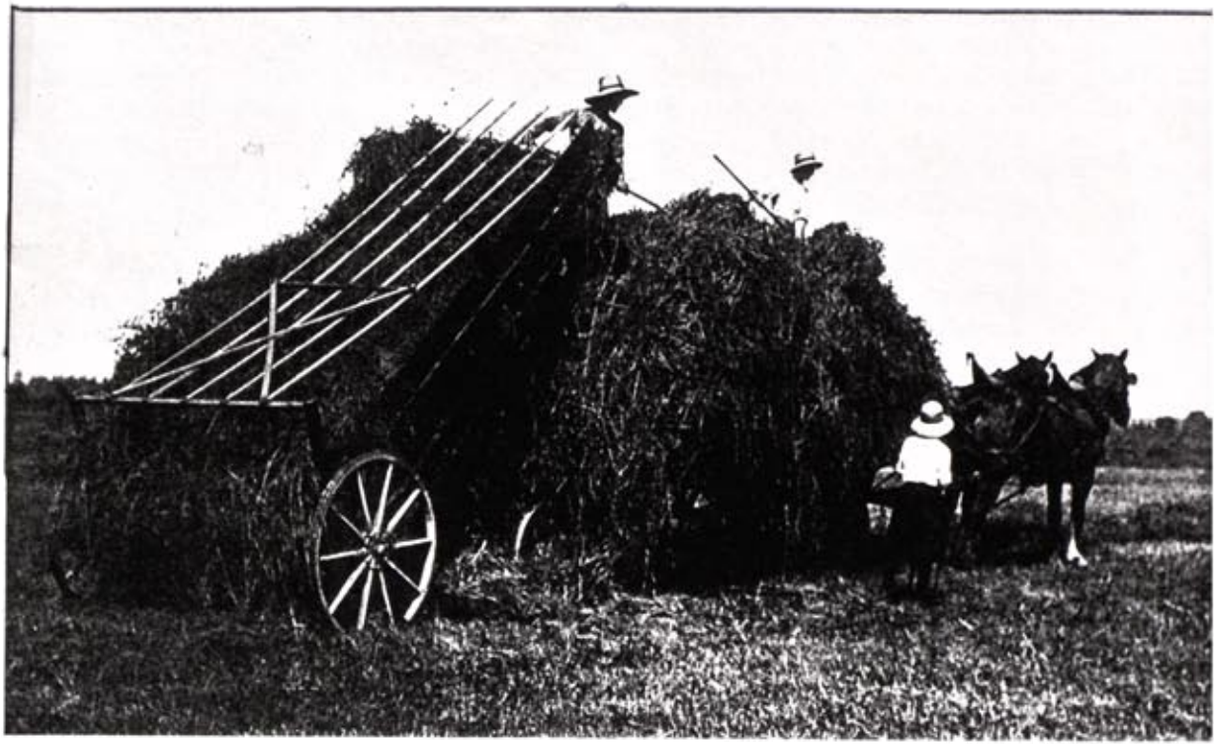
RUMELY OIL PULL TRACTORS

AN ACCIDENT WAITING TO HAPPEN

By chaining the rear wheels to a log, then with a violent lurch, attempt to dislodge the tractor from a mire has spelled disaster for many operators. One area farmer, Claude Bannister (1903-1956), died in a similar mishap.

J.I. CASE Sales and Service
(Walter Schaeffer and Sons - Oakland)

For Case tractor owners in the Township, a dealership sprung up in their back yard. Together with his sons, Ralph, Gerald and Earl, Walter Schaeffer operated Schaeffer Motor Sales next to the public school, SS#2. Walter sold and serviced Pontiac, GMC and Buick cars and kept several Case models on hand. Along with their combined general store, restaurant, and service station, the Schaeffer family business at the four corners thrived in the 50's.

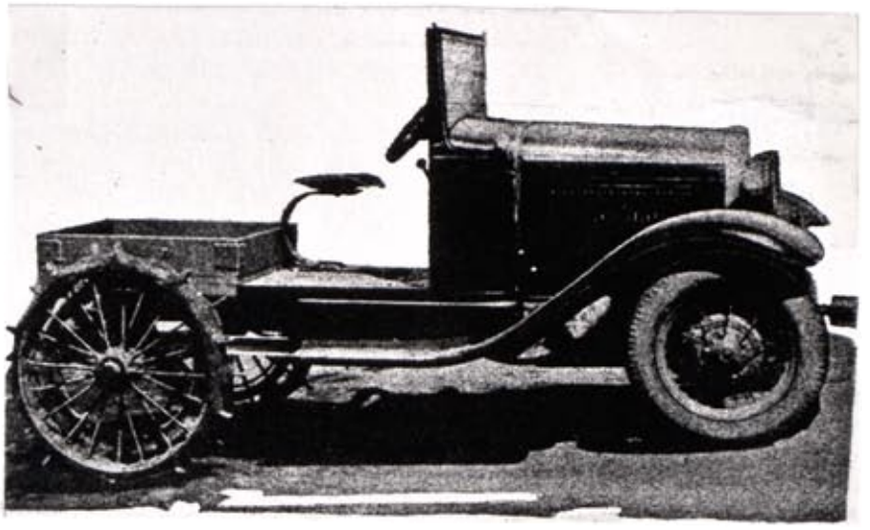


Horses pulling a loaded wagon and a hay loader — c. 1930

HALF CAR - HALF TRACTOR

Strange looking contraptions, those crudely designed rigs that were seen lumbering across the summer fallow pulling two sections of cultivators. For thousands of farmers searching for cheap internal combustion power, they were the answer.

The Model T and Model A Fords were, by far, the most popular of the conversions but other models such as the Ford V8, Chevrolet 1925/31, Star, Durant, Pontiac 1926/28, Plymouth 1928/31, Dodge, Whippet, Overland, Buick and the Studebaker were also used.



The conversion kits included in their package two large diameter steel wheels, with heavy lugs, and a mounting frame to keep the car level after the wheels were mounted. Also, the kit had a mechanism to reduce the forward speed of the machine for field work plus a modified cooling system for speeding up the circulation to prevent overheating. These conversions did, however, have limitations, as compared to a tractor, but they could easily pull any implement normally hauled by three horses.

Otaco Ltd. of Orilla, Ontario built the Autotrac line and advertised their product as being sufficiently versatile to plow, spread, seed, harrow, cultivate, disc, roll, harvest and road grade.

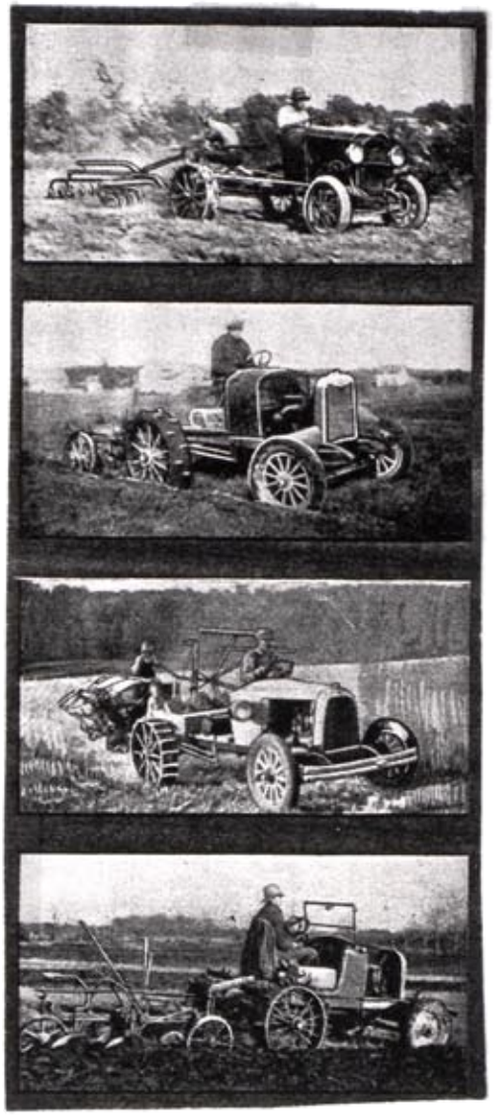
Promotional material printed in 1946 gives some hint as to the reason farmers were attracted to the conversions — they were cheap to build and used cars were readily available. A model A Ford could be purchased for less than $200.00

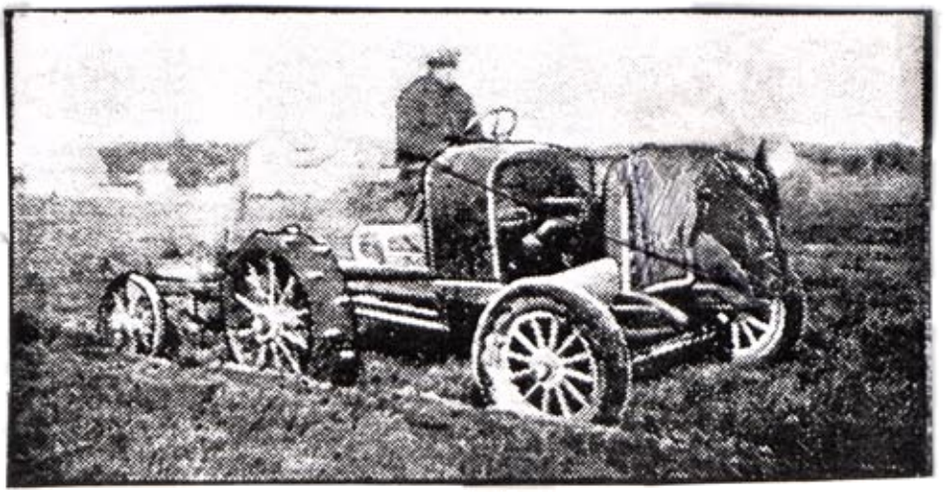
The prices (FOB Orillia) for the Autotrac Clss A, B and C kits were listed in 1946 as follows:

Weight		
Class A Approx. 865 lbs.	Autotrac attachment with steel wheels, lugs and 9-tooth pinions to fit either Model A Ford, Ford V8, Chevrolet 1925-31, Star any year, Durant any year, Pontiac 1926-28 or Plymouth 1928-31.	$141.00
	Autotrac attachment as above but with 11-tooth pinions instead of 9-tooth.	$146.50
	Autotrac attachment with two pneumatic tires, size 800 by 24 of the Firestone Heavy Duty Tractor type in place of steel wheels and lugs, with 9-tooth pinions and to fit the above cars.	$267.50
	Autotrac attachment as above but with 11-tooth pinions instead of 9-tooth.	$273.00
Class B	Autotrac attachment with steel wheels, lugs and 9-tooth pinions to fit either Dodge, Whippet, Overland, Chevrolet (earlier than 1925) and other light makes of cars with open drive shafts.	$155.00
	As above but with 11-tooth pinions in place of 9-tooth.	$160.50
	Autotrac attachment with two pneumatic tires size 800 by 24 of the Firestone Heavy Duty Tractor type in place of steel wheels and lugs, with 9-tooth pinions and to fit the above cars.	$281.50
	As above but with 11-tooth pinions.	$287.00
Class C	Autotrac attachment with steel wheels, lugs and 9-tooth pinions to fit Buick, Studebaker and heavier cars with floating axles.	$160.50
	As above but with 11-tooth pinions.	$166.00
	Autotrac attachment with two pneumatic tires size 800 by 24 of the Firestone Heavy Duty Tractor type in place of steel wheels and lugs, with 9-tooth pinions and to fit the above cars.	$287.00
	As above but with 11-tooth pinions.	$292.50
	Autotrac attachments with steel wheels, lugs and 11-tooth pinions to fit the majority of trucks.	$177.18

Otaco was quick to publish the favourable comments of their satisfied customers. W.A. Terry of Unionville is quoted as saying "This land is fairly heavy . It has not been worked for two years so the sod is very tough. In spite of this heavy going my Autotrac with a two furrow tractor plow is handling the job real well and plowing at the rate of about 5 miles per hour".

J. Johnson of Severn said "I am well satisfied with Autotrac — equal to three good horses — plows 5 acres a day".





As they did with cars, inveterate horsemen had difficulty adapting to the accelerator, clutch, brake and steering wheel of their first tractor. They found themselves muttering the old familiar figuratives — get-up; whoa; gee; haw and longed for the feel of the reins as they worked the land.

One Township farmer, whose 100 acres overlooked Oakland pond, bought a conversion kit in 1939, about the time authorities were asking for full-blown production to boost the war effort. Paying only $135.00 for the kit and another $175.00 for a well used Model A, plus added installation costs, he put the rig in the field for under $400.00.

After the first year of operation, this farmer's assessment of the Model A Ford, turned tractor, was that of reserved endorsement. While the unit could out-perform three horses doing similar work, it was not particularly manoeuvreable in tight corners; the pace of the rig was steady but it couldn't be pushed; its use was confined to the field (not road-worthy or adaptable to the pulley); mechanical problems could halt spring tilling for a day or two at a time; its value was seasonal and the conversion could not be used for heavy duty work. While the rig had no pulley attachment, some resourceful farmers jacked-up the rear end and removed the wheels, then with a locally made pulley attachment, they were able to power their buzz-saw to cut firewood.

The half and half rigs served a useful purpose during the lean years, continuing into the next decade. By 1950, the conversions had all but disappeared, the victim of a trend towards total mechanization with the modern day tractor and its power take-off capability.

Farm Families

Some families of the first half of the Twentieth Century:

	lot	concession
Abbott, Percy (tobacco farmer) married Dell Garner, daughter of Walter Garner — Percy owned several farms in the area.	8	1
Allan, James (1901-1992) married Alfreda Grantham — Jim and Alfreda moved to the Grantham farm in 1942 from the Fisher place — Jim had worked as a mechanic before taking up farming.	7/8	2
Anders, Ellwood (1892-1975)	7/8	2
Arthur, Thomas (tobacco farmer) (74 acres lot 5 - 67 acres lot 6)	5/6	1
Bannister, Stanley R. (1889-1964) married Flossie Vivian (1892-1969) (71 acres lot 5 — 30 acres lot 6) Stan sold the farm to the Yarek family who converted to tobacco production.	5/6	1

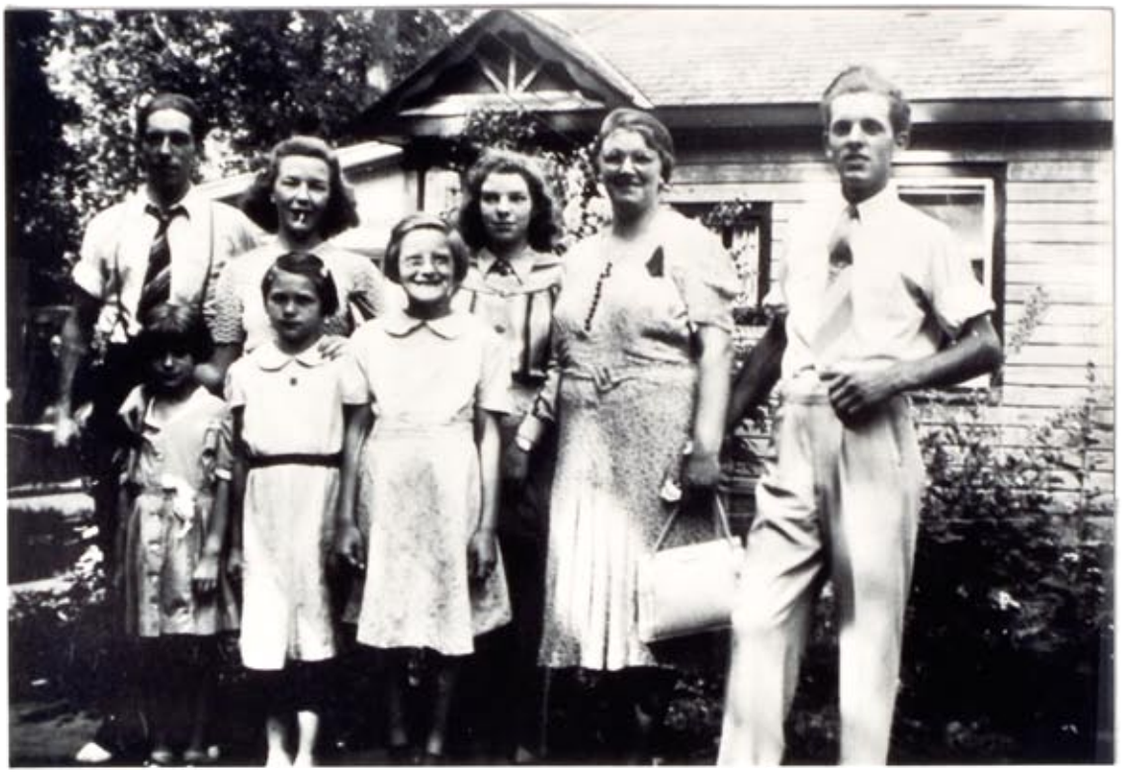
Circa 1925

Cecil Vivian | Stan Bannister | Flossie (Vivian) Bannister | Dorothy Vivian

Circa 1965

Elwood and Mrs. (Townsend) Anders — parents of North Jr., Norma (Syrett) and Thurley. Elwood and Mrs. Anders were married in 1915 by Rev A.R. Springer.

1925 – the Beal family, farmers at Maple Grove. Left to right; Alonzo Beal (died 1953 at 66 yrs), Mrs. Elizabeth Beal and Jo Beal, parents of Alonzo.



The Beal family – back row 1 to r: Chuck, Elzie, Frances, Alice (Mrs. Alonzo) Beal – mother died 1984 – 92 yrs, Kilburn (Mick). Front row 1 to r: three nieces (missing are brothers Ken and Earl).

	lot	concession
Barnes, Alam (1867-1952) married Nancy Macklem 53 acres lot 7 - 50 acres lot 8 Alam farmed with his son Kenneth M. (1901-1974) husband of Rheba Secord.	7/8	1
Barnes, Geo W.	1	3
Barnes, P.	1/2	3
Barnes, Wm T. (1879-1937) married L. Maud Wesbrook (1879-1968) daughter of Mordecai Wesbrook Jr.	11	1
Berestechi, Nick (80 acres)	10	1
Birdsell, James (50 acres)	15	1
Birdsell, Lloyd	15	1
Bonham, Alfred E. (1880-1935)	11	1
Bonham, Bruce married Edith Porteous - step-daughter of Earl Secord (100 acres)	11	1
Burtch, Herbert O. (1873-1952) married Mary E. Cunningham (also had 25 acres on lot 13 Concession II which he farmed with his son Lewis who married Roberta "Bobby" Tottle)	13	1
Button, Percy M. (1870-1957) farmed 1.5 c.2, married: 1. Lelith Maud Waugh (1877-1932) 2. Eva J. Kitchen (Percy was the Township Clerk for many years)		
Campbell, Alston — lot 1 concession 6 (100 acres)		
Campbell, Bruce (1908-1990) married Dorothy Black (moved to Burford Twp) — (200 acres) 1.4 c.2		

Circa 1930 — sons of Herbert O. Burtch
l to r Lewis; Howard; Wallace

Bruce Bonham | Dr Lorne Stuart | Edith Bonham

Dorothy and Bruce Campbell

	lot	concession
Campbell, George (1872-1943)	7	1
married Lelia Roberts (1872-1944)		
(40 acres)		

Circa 1911

	Ecclesia	Arthur	
	1894-1985	1895-1967	
George	Florence	Bruce	Lelia
Campbell	1899-	1908-	1872-1944
1872-1943			

David Barr Campbell b. Jan. 23, 1864 d. June 26, 1945.
Married Oct. 15, 1884 at Onondaga, Brant Co.
Mary Ann Wilson b. Jan. 19, 1866 d. Jan. 6, 1930.
They lived on the Campbell Homestead Lots 14 & 15, Con. 1 & 2. David Barr Campbell apparently moved to the Township following the death of his brother, James, who was accidentally killed on the farm in 1883 by a falling tree. The Campbell family acquired land in the Township around 1865. Eight children, five sons and three daughters, (all born in Oakland Twp) were born to David B. and Mary Ann Campbell. They attended school at the stone school house, S.S.#1 at East Oakland.

Circa 1909

back row
l to r Gordon David | Evabell | George Edward | Annie Candace | Joseph Wilson

front row l to r
l to r John William | Mary Ann (Wilson) Campbell (1866-1930) | James Ellis | David Barr Campbell (1864-1945) | Mary Evaline

CAMPBELL FAMILY

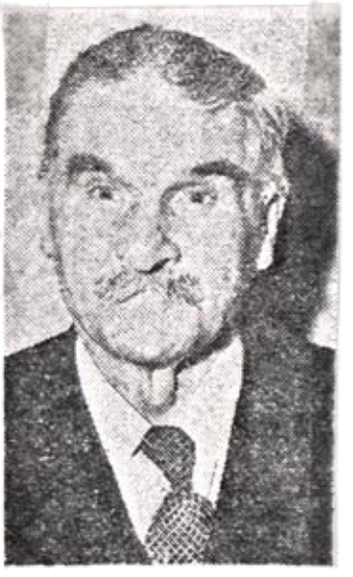
1. Annie Candace b. Aug. 31, 1885 d. 1954 m. Guy Wiedrick
5 children: Gertrude, David, Ellis, Maurice, Doris.

2. George Edward b. Feb. 2, 1887, d. Nov. 1965 m. Lula Almas 1909
   7 children: Edwin David; Evelyn Maud Mary; George Gilbert; George Almas; James Oxley; Reginald Howard; Louis Robert (now lives on the home farm and served as Reeve - 1994).
3. Joseph Wilson b. Nov. 20, 1889 m. Elsie Bryant
   2 children: Lorne Bryant; Ariel Anna m. Cecil Davis (live in Oakland Twp.)
4. Mary Evaline b. Feb.15, 1892 m. Harry Elton Emmott
   3 children: William Gordon d.16 months; twins: Warne Campbell Emmott and Eva Marion.
5. Gordon David b. Nov. 28, 1893 d. Sept. 7, 1965 m. Rosetta Mae Little.
   4 children; Dorothy Fern; Anna Marian m. Ken McNelles; William David; Gordon Malcolm.
6. Evabell b. Oct. 1895 d. Nov. 3, 1982 m. Douglas Friedrick Eldridge
   1 son: Donald Ernest
7. John William b. Sept. 24, 1897 d. Aug. 17, 1991 m. June 22, 1921 Edith Irene Pilgrim.
   1 son: Evan Maynard
8. James Ellis b. June 2, 1902 d. July 8, 1987 m. Sept. 17, 1927 Evelyn Cook
   5 children: Hazel May; Gladys Geraldine; Marion Evelyn m. Ken Stratford; James Ralph; John Kenneth.

The Brantford Expositor briefly highlighted the life of David Barr Campbell on his 80th – January 23rd 1944:

QUOTE:

Hale and hearty at 80 years of age, David Barr Campbell, father of Gordon D. Campbell, Reeve of Brantford Township and a former Warden of Brant County, well remembers when the land where now stands No. 4 Wireless School Flying Squadron, R.C.A.F., Burtch, was well-wooded country. This particular stretch of land was for many years his farm home. It was deeded to his father's wife's family more than 100 years ago. Then it passed into possession of his father, David Campbell, and then, in 1941, was taken over again by the Crown to become No. 4 W.S.F.S. He celebrated his 80th birthday at the farm home of his son, Gordon. Saturday night there was a party at the Campbell home and more than 50 guests, members of the guest of honor's family and neighbors, gathered to wish Mr. Campbell many more years of health and happiness.



January 23rd 1944

When Mr. Campbell's father, David, arrived in the County from Glasgow, Scotland, his future wife's family bought the property where no stands No. 4 W.S.F.S. There then began the task of clearing the land for cultivation and the job of building a home. While clearing the land, the wood was cut and teamed to Brantford.UNQUOTE

David Campbell married Annie Barr of Paisley, Scotland. They had nine children, one being David Barr, herein honoured on his 80th.

	lot	concession
Campbell, Geo	14/15	1/2
Campbell, Randall	2	3
Campbell, R.	14/15	1/2
Campbell, Louis	14/15	1/2
Cooke, George E. (1872-1961) Reeve for three terms, married Florence E. Taylor (99 acres)	9	2
Cox, George W illiam "Will"	13	2
Cox, Gordon	13	2
Cramer, E.C. (50 acres)	7	3
Crumback, J. Merrit (1872-1953) married Minnie (Mary Melissa) McEwan (1872-1955)	13/14	1

Circa 1900
Minnie and Merrit Crumback

1924
Sheldon Nellie Merrit Geo
Mrs. Joe Crumback Joe Crumback

Crumback, George (1873-1954) married Elizabeth "Libby" Yerex (1878-1968) (farm bought by the Tottle family)	12	1

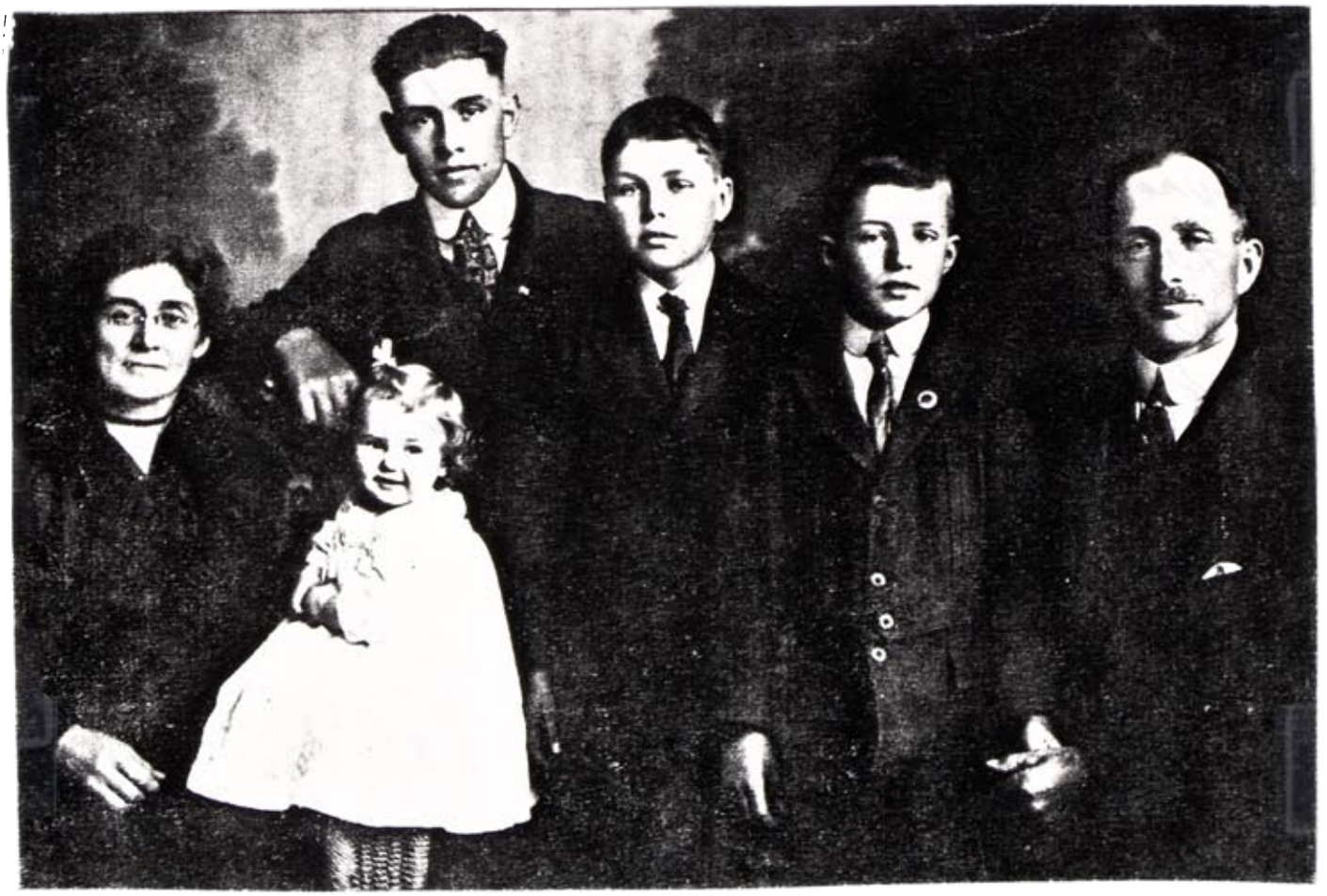
Libby

and

George Crumback

lot	concession
13/14	1

Crumback, Wilfred (1909-1992)
married Edna L. Bradshaw
(47 and 55 acres lot 13 → 80 acres lot 14)



Circa 1918

Minnie (McEwan) Crumback — Wray — Leslie — Wilfred — Merrit Crumback (1872-1953)

Vera

Circa 1955

Char1ie Cunningham | Reg McIntyre | Muriel (Mrs. Reg) McIntyre | Nellie (Mrs. Chas) McIntyre

Inset — Fred Cunningham, son of Wm Cunningham and Eliza Westbrook homesteaders lot 12 con. I. Fred married Florence E. Plummer. They were the parents of Charles (seen on the left), Mabel an R.N. (standing on the left) and Kilbourne. Florence (Mrs. Fred) Cunningham is seen on the left (seated). Fred died on May 29th, 1911. Aside from farming, he operated the East Oakland post office from his home, from 1909 until his death, then Florence took over the post office until 1915. Mabel Cunningham worked as an R.N. in Toronto. Charlie Cunningham migrated to Braiorne, B.C. and became a big game guider. He died in 1970.

	lot	concession
Cunningham, Kilbourne "Kib" (1890-1966)	12	1
Davis, Frank	1	5
Davis, C. (100 acres)	1/2	5
Dobronyi, Louis	11	2
Dunnett, E. Ellsworth (1869-1960) married Martha VanEvery Rammage (1870-1943) (100 acres)	4	1

Circa 1936

Ellsworth Dunnett | Alice Rammage McIntosh | Phoebe VanEvery Davis | Martha VanEvery Rammage Dunnett | Stuart McIntosh

Dunnett, W. Herbert (1870-1945) married Edith Burtch (1870-1963)	9	1

Circa 1925
Herb and Edith Dunnett

Circa 1925 - Elgin, Manitoba
Mary E. (Hall) Dunnett (1870-1949) Chas O. Dunnett (1866-1936)
Charles, a brother of Ellsworth and Herb, migrated to Manitoba at the turn of the century. The couple were married at Oakland and farmed for a time in the Township.

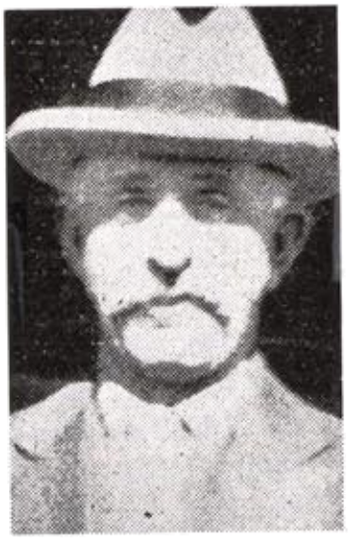
	lot	concession
Durham, Isaac (1850-1922)	1/2	4
Durham, Philip H. (1889-1958) son of Isaac (100 acres) (Philip served as Reeve in 1939/46)	1/2	4
Durham, Seth son of Isaac	1/2	3/4
Eadie, Cecil (40 acres)	14	1
Edy, Maitland E. (1880-1949) (100 acres)	11	2
Edy, James Howard (1905-1963) son of Maitland married Verna H. Westbrook (1905-1991) (Reeve 1948/51)	11	2
Eddy, Alfred Wallace (1872-1937) married Lottie-Belle Mabel Roberts (1874-1953)	3	2

Circa 1934
Alf Eddy, Mabel (Roberts) Eddy, Emery Messecar, Winnie (Eddy) Messecar

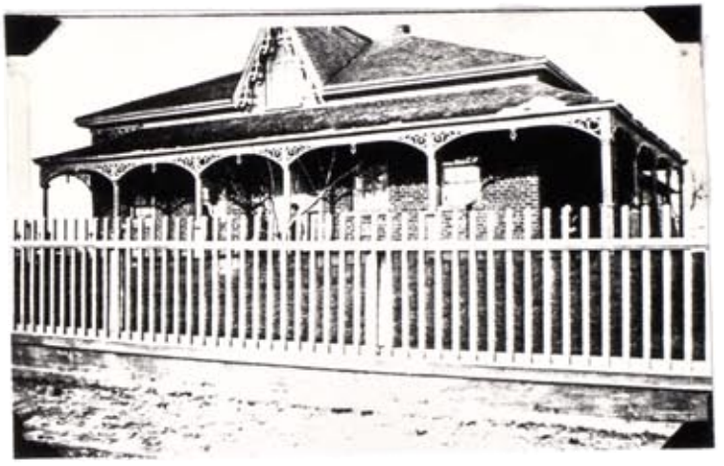
	lot	concession
Eddy, Edward B. (1850-1932), son of John Eddy. Ed married Roma Starr (1853-1944) 100 acres - Ed Eddy moved off the family farm to live in Brantford.	13	1

Circa 1873
Mrs. Eddy, Edward Eddy, J. Wesley Vivian, Cecilia (Malcolm) Vivian

	lot	concession
Engeniski, Ignace	2	2
Ferrar, Anthony	16	1
Field, John W.	16	1
Fink, Walter W. (1879-1958) married Helen Louise Matthews (1886-1975)	2	2
Fisher, Harold (1891-1965) married Sadie Cramer (1895-19) (50 acres)	7	3
Franklin, Clarence	16	1
Fulop, Stephen	6	5
Garner, Walter H. (1892-1958) (100 acres - tobacco farmer)	5	3
Grantham, Mathias (1855-1938) married Jennie Robertson (1867-1957). Mathias bought the farm from the John Proper estate in 1900 (96 acres)	7/8	2



MATHIAS GRANTHAM



Valley Cottage
(the Grantham farm house)

Grantham, Walter (1873-1957) married Jane Norrie (1875-1956)	6	4

Walter Grantham

Charles Hagan

	lot	concession
Hagan, Charles Stewart (1879-1970) (200 acres) (formerly the Chas McIntyre place — Hagan bought the farm in 1933 and sold to Neil and Sharon Anderson) Charles Hagan married Ada Jane Burrows on Mar 9, 1904. Family — Norman Charles, George Hugh and Marjorie Helen — moved to Oakland from Onondaga in 1934.	12	2
Hagerman, Ken (1893-1986) Reeve in 1959/63 married Charity Henry (1894-1984) (100 acres)	4	1
Henning, John	9	3
Hepburn, Clara (Patterson) RN, (1873-1966), widow of James Hepburn who died in the West in 1903 (market gardener on 50 acres)	7	2

Clara Patterson (Hepburn)
June 2nd, 1899

John Malcolm
(1860-1944)

	lot	concession
Hunks, P. (65 acres)	10	3
Hutton, E.H.	6	4
Iwankiw, Dymitro (50 acres)	9	2
Jenkins, Tommy (75 acres)	14/15	1
Lefler, Cecil	7/8	1
Kelly, J. Wesley (1870-1957) (Reeve 1926/29) married Annabelle Messecar (50 acres)	10	2
Kisielewski, Walter and Sophie (200 acres - tobacco farmer)	4	2
Logan, David (16 acres)	3	1
Malcolm, John (1860-1944) married Lenora Moore (1860-1940)	2	1
Malcolm, Clarence (1890-1970) married Reta M. Roberts (94 acres)	2	1
Malcolm, Edward (1830-1913) married Martha Chrysler (1834-1909) (100 acres)	4	1

Circa 1900
Edward Malcolm Martha Chrysler Malcolm

Aletha and Dave Marr - celebrated their 60th anniversary in December 1983. They were married by the Rev. John Downes - parents of Don, Alvin and Margaret (Gatward).

	lot	concession
Marinuk, Nick	5	2
Marr, Colin (the Lyman Chapin farm)	5/6	4
Marr, David (son of Colin Marr)	6/7	4
Marr, Alvin (son of David) (Reeve 1963/83)	7	4
McCutcheon, Chester E. (1891-1960) married Laura May Hemingway (1892-1991) (100 acres)	1	2
McCutcheon, Robert (1848-1920) father of Chester McCutcheon settled in 1887.	1	2
McEwan, C. Roy (1889-1971) (Reeve — 1954/56) married Alma K. Bradshaw	10	2
McDougall, John (100 acres formerly the Wm Barnes farm) now owned by Mrs. Ward Irwin)	11	1

Circa 1942
Standing in front of the McCutcheon farm home — (standing) Laura May; Chester; Robert (kneeling) left to right Amy; Jean; Marion.

Laura May McCutcheon Chester McCutcheon
(with their grandchildren Tom and Wayne Carnahan)

	lot	concession
McIntyre, Charles (1875-1955) Reeve 1922/26 married Nellie Crumback on Sept 22nd 1897, daughter of Joe Crumback, post-master and farmer (later Charles moved to lot 7 Concession 2 (19 acres)	12	2
McIntyre, Reginald B. (son of Charles) married Muriel M. Anderson (50 acres — market gardener)	9	2

Circa 1897
Nellie Chas McIntyre

McIntyre residence
lot 7 Concession II

	lot	concession
Merritt, Benjamin B. (1835-1919) married Rhoda M. Clark (1838-1911) children - Clara (1862-1933) married Robert C. Tegart; Effie Jane (1865-1876); Clark (1880-1949).	9	3
Merritt, Clark (1880-1949) son of Benjamin (Reeve 1932/39) married: 1. Ruby Westbrook 2. Laura Cowie	9	3

Circa 1918
Clark Merritt (1880-1949) Clara Merritt (Tegart) (1862-1933) Ben Merritt (1835-1919)
Gordon

The Merritt family settled in Upper Canada, coming from New Brunswick. The progenitor, Caleb Merritt was born in Queen's County, New Brunswick, March 14th, 1798, the son of Gilbert and Phoebe Merritt. His father and mother were born on the Hudson River, New York; they were married in New Brunswick, where he was a farmer, and died there; his mother attained the age of 97 years. Caleb Merritt was married Oct. 24th, 1826, to Hannah Underhill, who was born July 26th, 1809, in Queen's County, New Brunswick, and was a daughter of Thomas and Mary Underhill. He had a common school education. Both Mr. and Mrs. Merritt were members of the Baptist Church. To Mr. and Mrs. Merritt were born ten children; Robert, Isaac B., Mary, Thomas, Sarah A., Gilbert and Phoebe E. He first engaged in farming, having bought 150 acres. He died Sept. 16th, 1874. His son Ben (1835-1919) took over the farm, followed by Clark (1880-1949).

Circa 1915
Mathias Grantham Jennie Allie Robertson
(one of Scott's wooden pumps is visible in the right background)

James and Alfreda (Grantham) Allan

James D. Messecar Sarah Prudence (Epps) Messecar

Earl Messecar

	lot	concession
Messecar, Jacob A. (1858-1938) (Reeve — three terms)	3	1
Messecar, E. Earl (1880-1965) son of Jacob, married Pearl Wheeler (85 acres)	3	1
Messecar, James D. (1872-1949) married Sarah Prudence Epps (1874-1951)	3	1
Mitchell, J. (24 acres)	1	1
Mordue, Stan (100 acres)	10	2
Nelles, H.	12	1
Nemeth, J. (85 acres)	9	3
* Patterson (see next page)		
Pepper, D.	1/2	4
Persall, Earl D. (1897-1978) married Muriel Irene Scott	8	4
Polczer, Alex	7	3
Poole, James H. (1871-1929) married Fannie Barnes (Jimmy Poole died in a neighbour's field of a heart attack — while driving his team, assisting in threshing, he fell and could not be revived)	7	1

	lot	concession
Porteous, Edward "Ted" married Helen Eddy (the former Eddy farm) (83 acres)	3	2

Circa 1945
Ted Porteous

Circa 1942
Willard and Leta Poss

Poss, J. Willard (1887-1956) married Leta Haviland (Willard moved to the Township in 1947 from Wilsonville - on the former Speechley farm)	6	1
Rammage C. Russell (1895-1988) married Florence M. Stratford (1897-1989) (Russell farmed on three different properties and grew up on lot 4) - his farm west of Oakland village was called "Sunset Glen".	6 4/5/6	2 1
*Patterson, Jack m. Ruth Eadie Jack served in W.W. 1 and their son, Bill, in W. W. 11. The family moved near Burwash Penal Institution where Jack took employment as a guard.	6	3

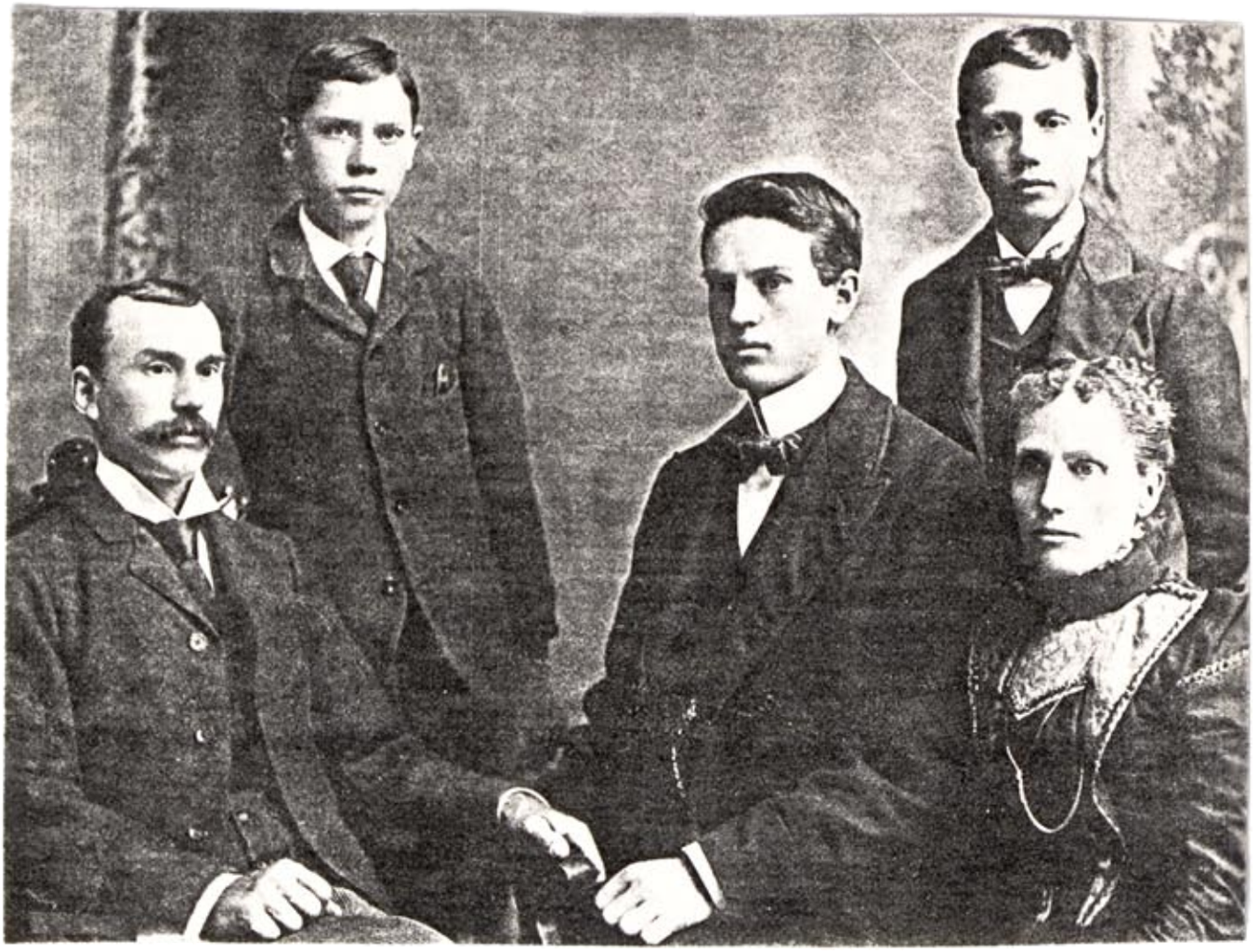
24 March 1985 — 65th anniversary
Florence (Stratford) Rammage Russell Rammage

	lot	concession
Rhinehardt, Louis (50 acres)	5	4
Secord, Charles Irwin (1886-1978) married Nellie Davis (50 acres)	9	2

Circa 1912
Charles Secord Alta Irwin Secord Nellie Davis Secord

Secord, Earnest L. (1881-1974) married Rachael Wesbrook (1877-1953) (97 acres)	9	1
Secord, Earl D. (1885-1951) married: 1. Annie Shavelear 2. Josephine Wilson Porteous (65 acres)	9 10	1 1

	lot	concession
Secord, David H. (1856-1923) married Cecilia Stratford (1858-1952)	9	1



Circa 1898

Charles Irwin
12 Mar 1886
14 Jul 1978

Earl Dewain
12 Nov 1885
4 Sept 1951

David Hiram Secord
18 Sept 1856
9 Nov 1923

Earnest L.
1881-1974

Cecilia (Stratford) Secord
25 Jan 1858-13 Jul 1952

Shearer, Otto (100 acres)	1	6
Smith, Dorothy (99 acres)	8	3
Smith, Clayton (75 acres) (tobacco farmer — Reeve 1951/54)	7	4

	lot	concession
Smith, Kenneth A. (1875-1961) married Rose W. Dinse (1884-1974) at Webster N.Y. on 5 Dec 1909	10	1

Rose Ken Smith

The Smith farm house

Snodgrass, James married Hazel Riddle (100 acres)	1/2	5
Speechley, Charlie	6	1

Effie Harley Harold Sylvester
Viola Edward Leslie "Ves"

Harriett Clarence Percy
"Hattie" Burnley Willard

Eva Elsie Mabel
Gertrude Alberta Lois

Florence Perley
Mary Winifred

Ruby Velma
Irene Mae

The Sylvester Stratford family - 15 July 1924

	lot	concession
Stratford, Clarence B. (1903-1990) married Ora L. Alway (100 acres)	5	2

23 Sept. 1974
Ora and Clarence Stratford and family

Stratford, Harold (1904-1983)	6	2
married Margaret Muir Allan (1907-1966) (300 acres)	4	2

8 April 1925
Harold and Margaret Stratford

Stratford, Percy W. (1892-1972) married Blanche Woodley (1892-1966) (50 acres — Percy served as Township road superintendent)	10	3

Feb 14, 1962 - 50th anniversary
Percy Blanche
Stratford

	lot	concession
Stratford, Perley W. (1886-1981) farmer and thresher married Clara Courtnage (1886-1963) (85 acres)	7/8	2

14 Dec 1910
Perley Clara
Stratford

	lot	concession
Stratford, Sylvester (1856-1943) farmer and thresher married Harriett H. Dunnett (1864-1941)	6	2

17 Feb 1886
Sylvester Stratford Harriett "Hattie"

1915
The Sylvester Stratford farm house north of the four corners - standing in front of the house are daughters Florence (1897-1989); Effie (1888-1962); Mable (1894-19); Velma (1911-) and seated is Eliza Roberts Dunnett (1842-1938) mother of Harriett.

Szucs, Julia	8	1
Taylor, Cyril married Velma Stratford (Cy Taylor worked the Payson Vivian farm on shares)	6	1

8 Nov 1933
Velma Cy Taylor

	lot	concession	
Tottle, Frank - farm bought 1931	12	1	(Crumback farm)
Tottle, Wm (100 acres)	12	1	
Toth, Michael	3	3	
Vivian, Marquis "Park" (1885-1959) a bachelor (90 acres)	4	1	

20 June 1906
(picture taken following the wedding of Sadie Vivian (1884-1955) to Jim Young (1869-1942))
Marquis "Park" Vivian Jim Young
Louise Young
Flossie Vivian Sadie

	lot	concession
Vivian, J. Wesley (1851-1928)	4	1

married Cecilia Malcolm (1855-1925)
(Wes migrated to Wishart,
Saskatchewan early in the century)

Circa 1910
Wishart, Saskatchewan
Wes holding "Sea Breeze"

Circa 1918
Flossie Marquis
Cecilia Malcolm Vivian

Circa 1903
Ed Vivian (1879-1940) son
of Wes and Cecilia Vivian

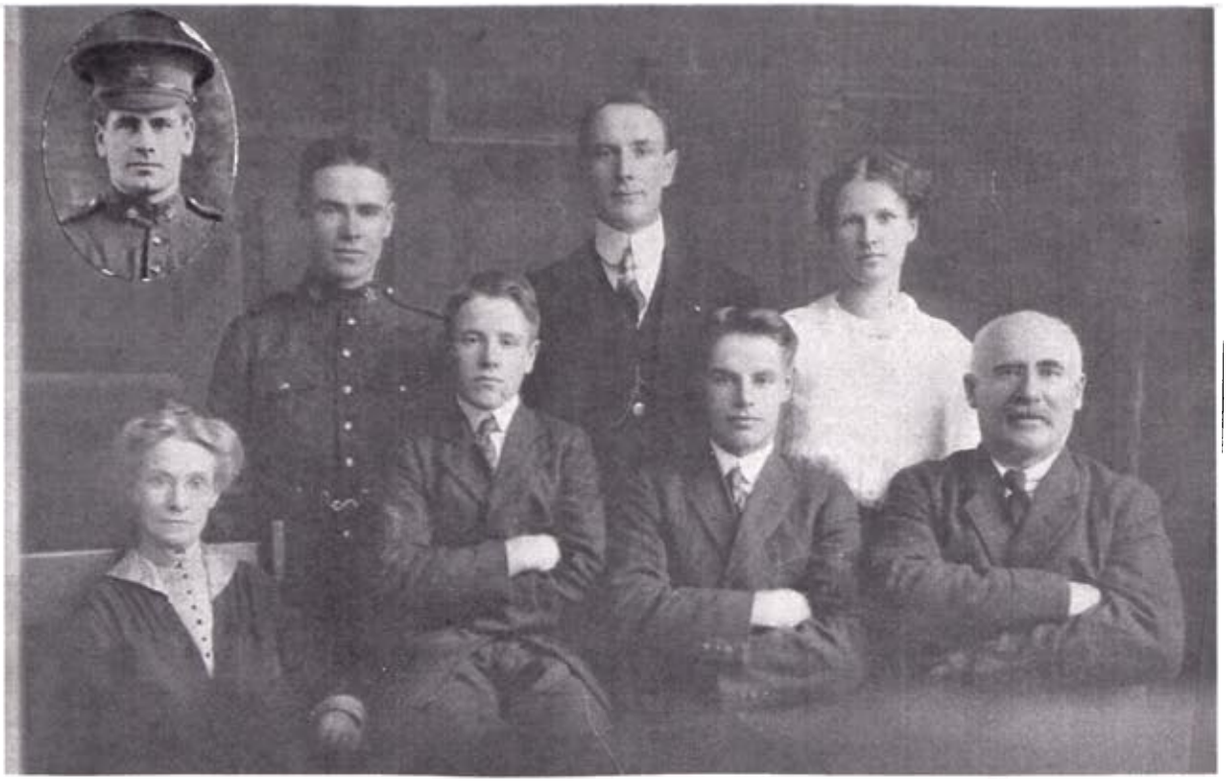
Circa 1920

The Vivian farm house west of Oak1and vi11age, 1ot 4 Concession 1 - in the picture is Ceci1ia Ma1co1m Vivian (1855-1925) on the 1eft and F1ossie Vivian (1893-1969) on the right.

	1ot	concession
U1rick, Arthur	4	3
Viszmeg, A1ex	2/3	6
Wesbrook, Harry (1881-1963) married Ada Burtch (1883-1960) (97 acres)	7/8	1
Whiting, John De1mar (1887-1961) married Constance J. E1dridge, born in Eng1and in 1896. She came to Canada in 1924. De1 Whiting bought his farm at East Oak1and in 1913. Constance died in 1980. They were the parents of; Mary b. 1926; John b. 1928. De1's first wife died young.	12/13	1
Wi1bee, Harry (30 acres)	8	2

	lot	concession
Woodley, Reginald	14	1
Wright, Claude (83 acres)	3	1
Wymer, Simon	6	1
Yarek, John (100 acres)	6	3

Maple Grove families:



Circa 1915 - Lyman Smith family

Leigh (killed WWI) Harry L. Frank G. Gertrude (Grantham)

Hannah (Baker) Smith (1865-1939) Clayton L. Leonard Lyman Leigh Smith (1860-1938)

George Gilbert Biggar (1856-1933)

George Biggar married Martha Elizabeth Binkley (1861-1919) on Jan 10th 1900. He moved to Maple Grove in 1899 and settled on "Cherry Farm", named appropriately because he planted 200 sour cherry trees, selling his fruit at the Brantford market. Since homesteading times, five houses have stood on his farm - three burned to the ground. George Biggar re-married a widow, Margaret Marr, in December 1924.

The Knox family: top;Bob, Harry, Fred, George seated: Laura (Pew) Knox (mother); front; Mabel, Nellie, Charlotte "Lottie", Luella

July 1940 — picnic at Bruce Bonham's farm, L.11 C.1

Top row, 1 to r: James Baird (husband of Flossie Cunningham), Vera Courtnage (Flossie's daughter-in-law), Roberta "Bobby" Burtch, Muriel McIntyre, Lena Young, Florence Cunningham, Edith Bonham, Hazel Cunningham (Kilbourne's wife), Charlie Cunningham.

Middle row 1 to r: Ruth Bonham, Florence Cunningham, Evelyn Cunningham (wife of Charles), Mae Burtch (wife of Herb), Nellie McIntyre, Frankie Bonham (wife of Alf), Mabel Cunningham, Flossie Cunningham Baird

Front row 1 to r: Herb Burtch, Charlie McIntyre, Reg McIntyre, Lewis Burtch, Bruce Bonham and son, Charlie Courtnage, Kib Cunningham, Bev Cunningham, Myrna Cunningham

Inset (on the right) — Melba and Howard Burtch
Hugh Norman

Circa 1925
Miss Sadie Cramer and her mother, The Cramers farmed 50 acres on lot 7 concession 3. Wm Cramer (1870-1935), Sadie's father, ran for Reeve in 1923 but was defeated by Chas. McIntyre.

Mrs. Wm Cramer

On the right, Samuel Hunter, an early 20th century farmer among other pursuits.

1 to r
Sam Hunter
1842-1917
Mrs. Chas D. Hunter(holding infant)
Chas D. Hunter
Emily A. (Dean) Hunter
(1841-1927)

James Thomas Mordue (1874-1923) and his wife Etta Belle Misner (1878-1939) settled on lot 10 (east half) concession II in 1903. The farm was originally owned by Wm Darby, later Thomas McEwan lived there where he operated the farm and a brick factory.

James and Etta were married on April 3rd, 1905. A scarlet fever epidemic in 1923 took the life of James when his son J. Stanley was only thirteen years of age.

Sept. 29th, 1929 – The Mordue family
Hilda married (Catherwood) | Etta (Misner) Mordue (widow) | Stan married Helen Myerscough | Grace married (Barnes) | Leta married (Taylor)

Stan was forced to leave school in the eighth grade to take over the farm, with assistance from his mother and older sisters. Stan specialized in market produce and butchered as well. He had a weekly stand at the Hagerville market.

He married Helen V. Myerscough on Sept. 5th, 1934 and they had four children; Marguerite (1935) m. Paul G. Epps; Leonard S.M. (1937); James Lawrence (1938) m. Lynda I. Seyfest; Madalene Ruth (1939) m. James Wm. Mitchener.

James T. Mordue (1874-1923) and Etta Belle Misner (1878-1939) were the parents of; Dora May died young; Helen Grace (1905), m. Frank Daniel Barnes; Leta Belle (1906) m. Ronald Wm Taylor; James Stanley "Stan" (1910) m. Helen Myerscough; Hilda Lorene (1917) m. Maxwell Le Roy Catherwood.

Many well known farm families related closely to the social and religious life of Oakland and Scotland but lived just outside Oakland township boundaries. In this category, among others, were:

The Bradshaw family - farmers at Bealton. J.E. Seth Bradshaw (1861-1939) married Mercy C. VanEvery (1861-1932).

Claude Bannister (1903-1956), son of Charles, was the victim of a tractor accident on May 15th 1956.

1884

Ila (Crumback) and Howard Wesbrook - farmers L.7/8 c. I Townsend c.1945

Maud (McAlister) and Wally Wesbrook and g. grand daughter — farmers L.7/8 C. 1 Townsend circa 1948

Joseph V. "Jose" Roberts (1880-1961), son of Joseph Roberts Sr. (1847-1941) and Louisa Eddy (1844-1895), grew up on the homestead, south of Oak1and, just across the border in Townsend. He married A1berta "Bertha" Vivian of Oak1and in 1902. Eight years 1ater they migrated to Batt1eford with their two sons. Bertha died in the West in 1939. Two years 1ater, Jose returned to Oak1and where he took over farming operations on the homestead for two years. He so1d the farm to Char1es Speech1ey. The descendants of Jose and Bertha continue to farm near Batt1eford, Saskatchewan.

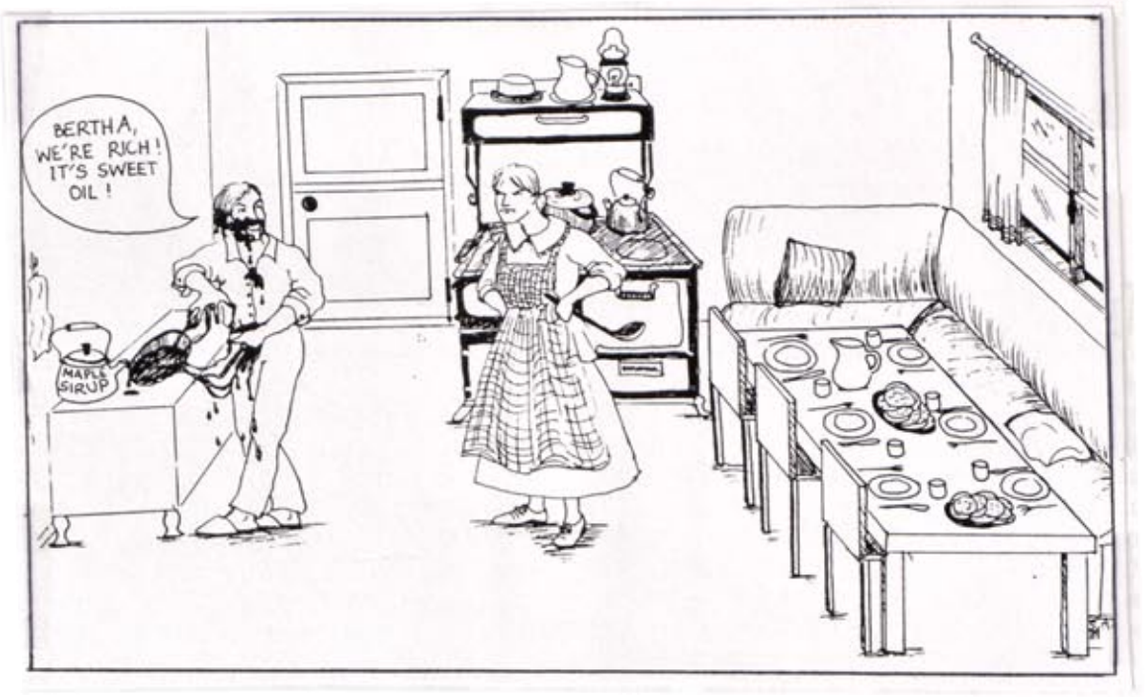
1939 — Jose and Bertha (Vivian) Roberts

Jose's daughter-in-1aw, Anna (Mrs. Irwin) Roberts of Batt1eford, we11 remembers a ta1e she heard often of an incident in the 1ife of this Oak1and native which occurred whi1e sti11 1iving at his Batt1eford farm. The ta1e goes 1ike this;

"Jose was up ear1y, as usua1, and off to the barn to do chores, then back to the house for an ear1y breakfast. Bertha, a1ready in motion, kind1ed the stove making ready for her specia1ty breakfast stap1e; hot cakes and home-made map1e syrup. Having grown up in Southern Ontario, Bertha wished the sugar map1es wou1d grow and produce on the western P1ains but this was not to be. The artificia1 f1avour was no substitute but Bertha had 1ong ago sett1ed for second best and had mixed her 1iquid topping, 1eaving it on the stove to simmer.

Whi1e Jose was washing up, perhaps he got up too ear1y, he mistaken1y grabbed the wrong kett1e. In it was Bertha's map1e concoction. Not noticing the contents, Jose was off to the kitchen sink to wash up, covering his hands and face thorough1y. He spi11ed some and went to the stove for more.

By then Bertha had discovered her missing pancake topping and her b1ood boi1ed. From her 1ips came an unforgivab1e sputtering of unrestrained oaths. Quick1y, however, the on1ookers saw the humor of the scene being p1ayed out before them and the enormity of poor Jose's p1ight. With a great roar of 1aughter the tension evaporated. Jose's descendants sti11 muse when the topic of map1e syrup 1otion is raised. Tempers f1ared that morning in the Roberts' kitchen — a "sticky" moment in time for poor Jose."



Battleford June 1969

Clifford Dorothy Kay Anne
Irwin Marjoire Anna Daryal

Children of Irwin and Anna Roberts; Kenneth Edwin 1935-1949, Dorothy M. b. 3 May 1936 m. John Douglas Cubbon, Clifford A. b. 16 Oct. 1937 m. Beverly M. Bates, Roy H. b. 6 Feb 1941 m. Arleen Lynn Perry div. m. Beverly Rice, Joyce I. b. 28 June 1942 m. Kenneth H. Smith (Oakland, Ont.), Kay Anne b. 31 Mar 49, Marjorie L. b. 14 Jul 1951 m. Wm Alexander Hackwell, Daryal Irwin b. 13 Feb 1955 m. Helen Faye Creegan and Gerald Edward b. 19 Aug 1946 d. in infancy.

May 22nd, 1921 –

On the 1eft is Herman McEwan (1885-1927) and his son John Wi11iam (Ly1e) 11 yrs of age. The McEwans farmed 1ot 6 concession I just across the border in Townsend. The farm was former1y owned by John Roberts (1858-1947) and C1ara (Lobb) Roberts (1867-19) parents of Herman's wife, Be1inda. Later, E1isha Roberts (1851-1937) bought the farm fo11owed by Herman McEwan who died accident1y in 1927 after his c1othing got tang1ed in a gaso1ine motor – another farming mishap. Ly1e took over the farm and continues to 1ive there.

August 1947 –

Be1inda (Roberts) McEwan (1887-1975) with her first grandchi1d, Lorene, born in 1945 to Ly1e and He1en McEwan. Lorene married Joseph W. O. Ga11ant. She works at the Roya1 Bank in Timmins.

The McEwan fami1y associated socia11y and in their church 1ife with the Oak1and community.

1930
Ella (VanEvery) Elton E. Hyde
Hyde — farmers near Bealton.

Charlotte "Lottie" (Knox) Alton (1892-1975)

Arthur LeRoy Alton (1891-1975)

Farmers lot 6 con I Townsend.

Centre — Don Feathers tone farmer on the Roberts farm, south of Oakland. On the left Dorothy Smith, on the right Laura Bayham.

A. Burton Wilson

Fanny C. Dunnett (1880-1974)

Farmers at Wilsonville.

Freeman H. Courtnage family - Burford Township

Earl (1892-1949) m.Mabel Stratford	Wray m. Florence Stockton	Lorne m. Dora Zimmerman	Gladys m. Lorne Shelley	Bruce m. Pearl Thomas

Freeman Courtnage (1866-1932)

Rebecca (Rand) Courtnage (1864-1953)

Two farmers who lived just outside the Township boundary at Lower Oakland and shared in the church and social life at Oakland were the family of Harry Townsend and the Gordon Bonham family. Townsends lived across the road from the East Oakland school. Bonhams farmed just south of Smith's mill.

2010CO001

1.Elisha Roberts 2.Willie Roberts 3.Joseph Roberts 4.Edith Roberts 5.Mrs. Clark 6.Rev Clark 7.Payson Vivian 8. 9.Maud (Mrs. Fred Vivian) 10.Fred Vivian

11.Jose Roberts 12.Edward Wilson 13.Minnie Wilson 14.Sam Porter 15.Roma Porter 16.Bessie Kelly 17.Joe Nelles 18.Caroline Kelly 19.Fanny (Vivian) Roberts

20.Eliza Dunnett 21.Sylvester Stratford 22. 23. 24.Bell Kelly 25.Wes Kelly 26.Minnie Persall 27.Dave Persall 28.Mrs.V. Nelles

29.Edith Dunnett 30.Mrs. P. Vivian 31. 32.Frank Riddle 33.Sarah Kelly 34.Hattie Stratford 35.Cecil Wilson . 36.Fanny Wilson 37.George Campbell

38.Leila Campbell 39.Chas Bannister 40.Mrs. Clark Nelles 41.Clarke Nelles 42. 43.Bertha (Couke) Young 44.Sarah Couke 45.Alf Eddy 46.Mabel Eddy

47.Peter Wilson 48.Mary Nelles Wilson 49.Charles Nelles 50.Jane Nelles 51.Mrs. Elisha Roberts 52.Mildred Roberts 53.Isaac Kelly 54.David R. Nelles

Possible incorrect identities:

8. is Cecilia Vivian
9. is likely Minnie Vivian (dau. of above)
61. may be Mrs. Chas Vivian (not 59)

55.John Nelles 56.Ida Nelles 57.Lila Nelles 58.Mrs. Chas Bannister 59. 60.Charles Vivian 61.Mrs.Samuel Nelles 62.David Couke 63.Heber Couke

64.Fanny Couke 65.Flo Wilson 66.Bruce Wilson 67.Winnifred Young 68.Alma Godby 69.Marie Roberts 70. 71.John Vivian 72.Belle Vivian

73.Mary Ann Nelles 74.Albert Young 75.Lilly Capling 76.Herb Dunnett 77.Vera Nelles 78.Reba Nelles 79. 80.Muriel Bannister

81.Eula Godby 82.Lottie Couke 83.Clara Wilson 84.Mansell Young 85.Earl Persall 86.Elmo Riddle 87.Percy Stratford 88. 89. 90.Nellie Eddy

91.Florence Campbell 92.Ecclesia Campbell 93. 94.Effie Stratford 95.Ruby Stratford 96. 97.Lila Bannister

Circa 1903