

By Jack Evans

The Intelligencer

When Lawrence A. Kells came to Belleville as principal of King George Public School in 1929, the city obtained far more than a principal.

Kells retired in 1970 as superintendent of public schools with the then-new Hastings County Board of Education following a widely-respected career in many areas of education.

Along with his professional duties, there were Kells the Kiwanian, Kells the Masonic Lodge member and Kells the commu-

nity-minded individual.

Nearing 90 but still active in several activities, Kells describes his community involvements as "too many to remember."

In Kiwanis alone, he found time to serve as president for a term, and also as district lieutenant-governor. He also

served as secretary for the Kiwanis Club of Belleville for at least 15 consecutive years before retiring from that position a few years ago. He remains an honorary member of the club, and continues service with Kiwanis through the Kiwanis Club of Sagonsaka for retired men.

As a Mason,

In one sense, in his many years as inspector of city schools, Kells could claim that virtually every public school student in Belleville during those years was on his pupils.

Where are they **NOW?**

Kells recently was honored with a 60-year membership certificate, although he has been a member for well over 60 years, initiated Dec. 4, 1930. He also served as master of Belleville Lodge 123 in 1938.

He remains a regular attender at those things he is still actively involved with, and continues to carry many happy memories of his career and activities, often recollecting that many of his former pupils went on to outstanding achievements, such as Howard Bur-

ley, who served as term as Masonic district deputy grand master about two years ago. He can also rhyme off many other of his students who went on to outstanding careers, or senior political or service club offices.

In one sense, in his many years as inspector of city schools, Kells could claim that virtually every public school student in Belleville during those years was one of his pupils.

He has also been a steadfast and long-time member of St. Thomas Anglican Church.

Since retirement, Kells admits his pace has slowed. Many of his activities and even his hobbies have given way to graceful relaxation and keeping up the attractive family home on MacDonald Avenue. But he still drives himself around town to various meetings and destinations and remains a source of advice and experience to many long-time associates.