

# Unveil Duncan Marshall plaque

Miss Ida Marshall of Toronto on Saturday unveiled a plaque at Gillies Hill in memory of her uncle, the late Hon. Duncan Marshall, a Canadian Senator and native of Elderslie Township.

The plaque was placed at Gillies Hill, the site of the first Elderslie Township council meeting, by the Bruce County Historical Society. It is within sight of the Gillies Hill school where Mr. Marshall taught for five years, begin-

ning when he was 17.

About 100 people attended the unveiling at which Rev. John Fortier of Tiverton United Church gave the invocation.

The dedication prayer was given by Rev. W. L. Young of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Hamilton. He is a native of Elderslie Township.

President of the historical society, Mrs. James McClure of Chesley, was chairman for the occasion and spoke to those attending.

Harvey Davis, Elderslie Township reeve, brought greetings from the council.

Others speaking were MP Ross Whicher; MPPs Eddie Sargent and Eric Winkler; Bruce County warden George Grant of Paisley; Mac Bolton, of Walkerton, Bruce agricultural representative; Harry Hossfeld, Walkerton, president of the Grey-Bruce Shorthorn Club and Archie McKinnon, first vice-

president of the historical society and convenor of the historical sites committee.

Mr. Marshall was born Sept. 24, 1872 in Elderslie Township and educated at public school in the township, Walkerton high school and Owen Sound Collegiate Institute.

He was publisher and editor of the Thornbury Standard and Clarksburg Reflector and later the Bracebridge Gazette.

In 1899 he married Christena MacIsaac and in 1905 the family moved to Edmonton where he managed the Edmonton Daily Bulletin until 1909.

That year he was elected to the Alberta legislature as Liberal member for Olds and sworn in as minister of agriculture and provincial secretary. He held that position for 12 years.

In 1914, he moved his family to a 800-acre farm near Olds, where Mr. Marshall established an outstanding herd of pure bred Shorthorn cattle. These won awards at many exhibitions including the Chicago International Livestock show.

In 1921, they returned to Ontario, where he was appointed commissioner of agriculture for Canada. Mr. Marshall was elected Liberal member for Peel in 1934 and for the next three years was Ontario Minister of agriculture. In 1938 he was appointed to the Senate.

Mr. Marshall was the author of several textbooks and articles on agricultural subjects. He died in January, 1946, in his 74th year.



UNVEILED AT GILLIES HILL last Saturday was this plaque in memory of the Hon. Duncan Marshall, erected by the Bruce County Historical Society.

Sat. Sept. 25, 1971.

## Plaque unveiled in big beef cattle county

The Bruce County Historical Society erected a plaque in memory of Hon. Duncan Marshall. Sept. 25 it was unveiled at Gillies Hill, Elderslie, Ont., with about 100 people on hand. The township of Elderslie friends and relatives paid for the plaque which was erected where the first council of Elderslie met and on the opposite corner stands the Gillies Hill School where he taught at the age of 17.

As president of the society I chaired the program so have some interesting things to tell. First about the man honored: Duncan Marshall died in 1946 in his 74th year. Many will know him for his textbooks and articles on agricultural subjects — he wrote The His-

tory of Shorthorn Cattle In Canada. He was educated here and taught for five years at Gillies Hill. He married in 1899 Christena MacIsaac of Charlottetown, P.E.I. The family moved to Alta. in 1909; he managed the Edmonton Daily Bulletin until 1909; elected as Liberal member for Olds to Alta. Legislature in 1909 and was Minister of Agriculture and provincial secretary; 1914 moved to farm eight miles from Olds and established outstanding purebred Shorthorn herd which won awards including Chicago International; 1921 returned to Ont. and was appointed Commissioner of Agriculture for Canada; 1934 elected Liberal member for Peel in Ont. legisla-

ture and was minister of agriculture for Ont. for three years; 1938 appointed to Canadian Senate, chaired ag committee.

Now Elderslie Township — DBS said there are 250,000 head of beef

cattle in Bruce County with this township topping the list. Last year Paisley and Dobbinton were biggest stops on CNR for Ont. cattle with about 16,500 head total.

Add that to the thousands of cattle trucked to the area and you see the extent of the beef industry in the township as well as many milkherds. I feel the man honored was the beginning of the interest in good cattle in the township. Elderslie has an area of 55,380 acres

and in 1881 population was 3,273; today it is a little over 1200.

The Gillies Hill WI served coffee and squares at the close of the unveiling. The plaque was unveiled by a niece, Miss Ida Marshall of Toronto. The plaque was covered with the unique Bruce County Tartan; only county to boast a tartan at country level.

MRS. JAMES McCLURE,  
Chesley, Ontario