



The above picture of school, teacher and pupils of School Section No. 5, Township of Saugeen, in the year 1890, is reproduced from a prized photograph in the possession of D. Forrester, Paisley barrister, who is among the pupils in the picture. The teacher was Archibald K. Bell, and the pupils are, from left to right—Back row: Rodina McRae, Annie Cumming, Cassie Sharp, Jessie Kettles, Isabella Cairns, John Thomas Cairns, Andrew Forrester.

Second row: Margaret Kettles, Kate Clark, Annie Cairns, Bella Cairns, Teenie McKinnon, Mary Ann McKinnon.

Front row: Malcolm McGillivray, Watson McKinnon, Robert Forrester, John Cumming, David Forrester, Neil D. Bell, Duncan McGillivray, J. Sharp, John McKinnon, James Forrester, Burrow Smythe, Leonard Schell, William Cassidy, Nell Cassidy.

Typical of that era, but quite a contrast to conditions today, it will be noted, most of the boys in the first row are barefooted.

School Section 5 of Saugeen Township was organized in 1857, and the school house was erected on the southeast corner of lot 18 in the 4th concession, the lot at that time being owned by James Clark. This site is on the side-road between the 2nd and 4th concessions of the township and about a half mile north of St. Andrew's United Church. The nearest residence to the school was the home of Neil Cassidy, the owner of the lot on the south side of the school on concession 2. Mr. Cassidy was a prominent farmer and one of the early Reeves of the township. The teachers boarded at his residence and the school inspectors were his guests when they called to inspect the school. He was great-

ly interested in the success of the school and made frequent visits there during school hours to inspect the progress of the work.

The school in the early days was known as "Cassidy's School." The first structure was built of round logs with cottage roof and sliding windows at the north and south sides. The equipment consisted of a long table, the top slightly slanted on each side and having a bench on each side, a teacher's desk and a box stove. In the winter months there was an attendance of 75 pupils, owing to the fact that at that time the older members of the family also were able to attend.

In 1869 the log school, being too small for the attendance, was replaced by a frame structure at a cost of \$400. About five years later fire destroyed the building. The trustees had a wood house erected until a new school could be erected, and this was com-

pleted in 1875 by John McEwing and Dennis Izzard, the cost being \$700. This school is the one shown in the above photograph.

In 1895 this building also was destroyed by fire. A new structure of brick was completed and ready for use at the school opening in September, at the cost of \$749, the contractor being Richard Webb. It was equipped with a fair amount of furniture, maps, blackboard, clock and a bell, and 200 volumes of literature. During the First War years 1914 to 1918, box sales were frequently held to aid the Red Cross fund. In 1917 this school, like two preceding buildings, was completely destroyed by fire, but the war being on, classes were conducted in a frame structure on the school grounds until 1920, when the present building was completed, James S. Dewar of Paisley being the contractor, the cost being about \$7,400.

This section is the largest in the township, with an acreage of 5,670 acres. The assessed value of the taxable property is about \$182,000.

From 1857 to 1966—103 years—the number of teachers employed has been 48. Reeves elected from this section were Neil Cassidy, Robert Smythe, Allan McKinnon, Dougald Smith and the present Reeve Archibald McCulloch.

Early pioneers of the section were William Begg, Malcolm Bell, Neil Bell, Dougald Bell, John Bell, Adam Cairns, Neil Cairns, Thomas Cairns, William Cairns, Donald Cameron, Neil Cassidy, Peter Cavin, James Clark, Robert Cumming, Dougald Currie, Martin Eberling, William Forrester, Theophills Kelly, Charles Kettles, James McEwing, Christopher McRae, Peter Nicholson, Robert Smythe, Peter Smith, Andrew Sutherland.

Among those who acted as public school inspectors for the section are the following: Local superintendents until 1871—Rev. K. McLennan, F. H. L. Staunton, Dr. W. S. Scott, Rev. Mr. Waters, Mr. J. Eckford and Rev. Mr. Tolmie.

On the amendment of the Act in 1871 the following were appointed public school inspectors: Benjamin Freer, Alexander Campbell, W. I. Chisholm, W. F. Bald, G. C. Dobson and John Game.

Going back over the pages of time, there is still one custom that has not changed to any great extent through the years, and that is our rural mail delivery.

Rural mail couriers who are out in all kinds of weather, winter and summer, travelling on good roads and bad, bringing us the convenience of mail delivered at our gateways, deserve a great deal of credit.

One such a person is Mrs. Alex McArthur, who, in her 80th year, accompanies her son J. C. on the mail route every day, summer and winter, unless there is a special occasion to take the day off.

J.C. and Mrs. McArthur who have been on the mail route about twenty years, travel about fifty miles a day, six days a week, which totals about three hundred miles a week, making a grand total of approximately fifteen thousand three hundred miles covered during a one-year period.

To our amazement, they defied the elements of the St. Patrick's day storm, recently, and we got our mail as usual.

Mrs. McArthur also enjoys the hobby of growing plants, and often remembers a friend or shut in on the route with a plant or special card, so, to you, Mrs. McArthur, we your friends and neighbours on Route Five, Paisley, wish you continued good health and happiness and an especially happy 80th birthday.

1973

Mr. R. B. Fleming, late clerk of Saugeen Township, and his son, Mr. John B. Fleming, left here on Monday for Montreal, from whence they sail to Glasgow, Scotland, to inspect the estate of East Kilbride, to which Mr. Fleming lately fell heir. The rents on the lands alone amount to \$1300. annually, besides many thousands of money in the bank and other property.

Messrs. Robert Cummings and Cyrus Eby have been chosen as elders of North Bruce and St. Andrew's, Saugeen.