

Former Bruce Twp. pastor writes book



Glen and Lillian Betterly, 1953

Bruce and Saugeen Township residents of the period 1940 to 1960 may recall an episode involving Rev. Glen Betterly, pastor of the United Brethren Church and his great 'fall of '59' from an apple tree.

The incident, at the time, was one of great concern for all, because the popular preacher had crushed a vertebrae in his spine in the fall from the apple tree and was rendered immobile by a body cast for many months.

That fall had greater undertones, though, for it gave Rev. Betterly the opportunity to study and write during his convalescence and now, some twenty years later, the former area minister has published his first book entitled *Accidents, Incidents, Stories, Studies, Meditations*. Many of the chapters in the book recall his time preaching in Bruce Township and his years of teaching religious instruction in all the public schools in Bruce Township and SS No. 4 in Saugeen.

Rev. Betterly is currently living in Huntington, Indiana, U.S.A., with his daughter, but on the publication of his first book informed his brother-in-law, Port Elgin's Basil Eby Sr., of his work. Hopes are to make copies of the book available in the area, no doubt to the pleasure of many of his former friends, congregation and students.

Rev. Betterly and his wife, Lillian, moved into the white brick house, at what was then known as 'The Elbow', at North Bruce in the summer of 1940. They remained faithful servants and residents of the community for twenty years until he took up the pastorate of the Silverthorne Church in Toronto. The couple returned to 'The Elbow' in 1966, though, and remained there for many years. Rev. Betterly retired from the ministry in 1969. Mrs. Betterly died in 1971 and two

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years later, the Rev. moved to Huntingdon.

It was during his months of forced convalescence in 1959 that inspired this new book. Because of the body cast he was in, he couldn't sit comfortably on a regular chair, so a friend rigged up a bicycle seat — so his cast could drop behind the seat — with a desk welded on where the handlebars should have been. From that seat, he studied and wrote a variety of sermons, meditations and weekly bulletins that he used while pastoring in Toronto from 1961 to 1966.

It is these sermons, meditations and recollections that are reprinted in his new book.

The 149-page, soft-covered book is printed by Hill Crest Lithographing of Huntington, and contains such diverse thoughts as adultery, growing up, revenge, sobbing choir girls, reaping what we did not sow, and much, much more.

Rev. Betterly includes a number of stories on camping on the 10th of Bruce, occasions fondly remembered, no doubt, by young and old alike. An example is his brief chapter entitled *Campfire Time* — "Campfire and dreamily watching the flames as they unfolded in layers of wood, releasing all that stored-up heat that the sun had put there many years before those children were born. Though the sun that had warmed our camp that day was now gone from view, now this wood was giving us the same things that the sun long ago had carefully stored there; heat and light. As we sat there in the evening by the firelight we talked of far-away things — the moon, the stars at their places in the sky, our hopes for future years and our present problems and hopes. As the flickering flames turned to glowing coals the marshmallows were brought out and toasted to a golden brown, except the ones that fell into the fire. At the end came evening prayer and then to sleep to await another day."

Osborne: George Webb, at Southampton Nursing Home on Sunday, November 27, 1988, in his 101st year. George Osborne, formerly of Port Elgin. Husband of the late Myrtle Robinson Osborne and the late May Kelly Osborne. Dear father of Irene and Bill Harper of Thornhill. Dear grandfather of four grandchildren: Bill, Margaret, Ruth and Robert Harper. Also surviving are five great grandchildren: Janak, Nikhil and Vikram Handa and William and Amanda Harper. Predeceased by one daughter, Ella, in 1948. Funeral services were conducted in the W. Kent Milroy Chapel, Port Elgin, on November 30 at 1 p.m. Interment Sanctuary Park Cemetery, Port Elgin.



Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Berner were married at Tolmie Memorial Presbyterian Church, Port Elgin on Saturday, July 16, 1983. The bride is the former Jean Clazie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Clazie of Saugeen Township. The groom's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Ted Berner of North Bruce.

July 16th, 1983

Marriages



Mr. and Mrs. James Clazie, RR 5, Paisley, Ontario wish to announce the engagement of their daughter Jean to Mr. Dennis Berner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ted Berner, North Bruce, Ontario. The marriage will take place on July 16th, 1983 at the Tolmie Memorial Presbyterian Church, Port Elgin, Ontario at 7 pm.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE
Mr. and Mrs. George McCarrel and Mr. and Mrs. James Underwood, of Port Elgin, are happy to announce the forthcoming marriage of their children, Marilyn and Ronald. The wedding vows will be spoken on Saturday, August 20, 1983 at 3:30 p.m. at the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Port Elgin, Ont. 2b29p

Photo by "Prettie Portraits"

Mr. and Mrs. Ron James Underwood were married Saturday, August 20th in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Port Elgin. The bride is the former Marilyn Joy McCarrel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George McCarrel of North Bruce. The grooms parents are Mr. and Mrs. James Underwood of Port Elgin. The couple will reside in Port Elgin.

Aug 20, 1983

Continued
IRWIN - Steven suddenly at Saugeen Township on Thursday, August 18th, 1988 in his 39th year. Steve Irwin of Saugeen Township. Beloved husband of the former Charlanne Watts. Dear father of Vicki, Chad, Daniel and Alana all at home. Survived also by his mother Dorothy Irwin of Saugeen Township, his maternal grandmother Emma Butchart and brother of Ross of London, Tom of Bruce Township, Murray of Moose Jaw, Sask., Paul of Saugeen Township, Irene (Mrs. Joe McCarthy) of St. Thomas, Shirley Williams of Vancouver Island and Helen of Vancouver. He is predeceased by his father, Harvey Irwin and by a sister Sheila. There was a private family funeral service Monday, August 22, at the W. Kent Milroy Chapel, Port Elgin. Memorial donations to the Canadian Cancer Society or the Saugeen Memorial Hospital would be appreciated as expressions of sympathy.

Ransome, Muriel Audrea - On December 17, 1988 at Owen Sound. Mrs. Muriel Audrea Ransome of RR1 Port Elgin in her 65th year. Dear wife of Ted Ransome. Beloved mother of sons Bruce of RR1 Port Elgin and Eric of RR4 Paisley. She is also survived by a brother Orville Gingrich of Ayr. She was predeceased by an infant son, Alan. Mrs. Ransome was born on February 11, 1924 in Amabel Township, a daughter to the now deceased Oliver and Bertha Gingrich. She shared farm duties on the family farm and was a school bus driver for 14 years. She was a member of the Country Sisters Club of Port Elgin. Funeral services were held December 20 from the W. Kent Milroy Chapel, Port Elgin with the Rev. Paul Baumbach officiating. Pallbearers were George McCarrel, Jim Smith, Jim Seiffert, Craig Kealey, Arlie Virtue and Bill Reoch. Interment will be at Sanctuary Park, Port Elgin.