

Scrapbook tells stories of Walkerton's past

Cordwainer published

by Ron Wassink

WALKERTON--A book on short stories of Walkerton and area is at the printer's and will be published in time for Walkerton's homecoming celebrations this year.

The Cordwainer's Scrapbook is the compilation of a decade's worth of newspaper columns by the Cordwainer. The Cordwainer is really Lloyd Cartwright, a retired Walkerton businessman who grew up in the shoe business. The main street business named by his father continues to operate under management of Lloyd's son, Bruce.

It was his work in the shoe business that led to his naming a column in the Herald-Times 'The Cordwainer'. The column was started after then-newspaper publisher Harold Wesley wondered if Cartwright would put his memories of Walkerton's early days on paper.

And that he has done every week for the past 10 years. The Cordwainer is one of the most popular columns in the Herald-Times as it tells stories on a personal level of goings on in Walkerton. Most of the stories centre on the first part of this century. Earlier stories are retold by the Cordwainer as he remembers his elders telling him.

It was at the urging of Tim Mancell, co-chairman of Homecoming '91 and Herald-Times staff, says Cartwright, that he followed through with an idea to publish the best of his short stories, or columns, in book form.

The first copy is off the press and it is an impressive collection of a unique history as told in story form of Walkerton and area.

The scrapbook is just that--each page contains the Cordwainer's columns as they were printed in the pages of the Herald-Times. And there are a lot of them, about 230. Add to that an impressive collection

of about 120 old photographs of Walkerton's early days.

What makes The Cordwainer's Scrapbook real special is that it is filled with people. Though many are deceased, the Cordwainer also tells stories of people who still live in Walkerton today.

There are sad stories about the unusual circumstances surrounding the death of Walkerton's police constable; of drownings in the Saugeen River; of two boys suffocating in a grain bin at the local mill. But there are also stories of upstanding citizens, such as the milk man, coal man, bread man and ash man. And there are a couple of tales of Walkerton's renowned justice, the Honorable Campbell Grant, and of the time he became lost during a hunting expedition on Manitoulin Island.

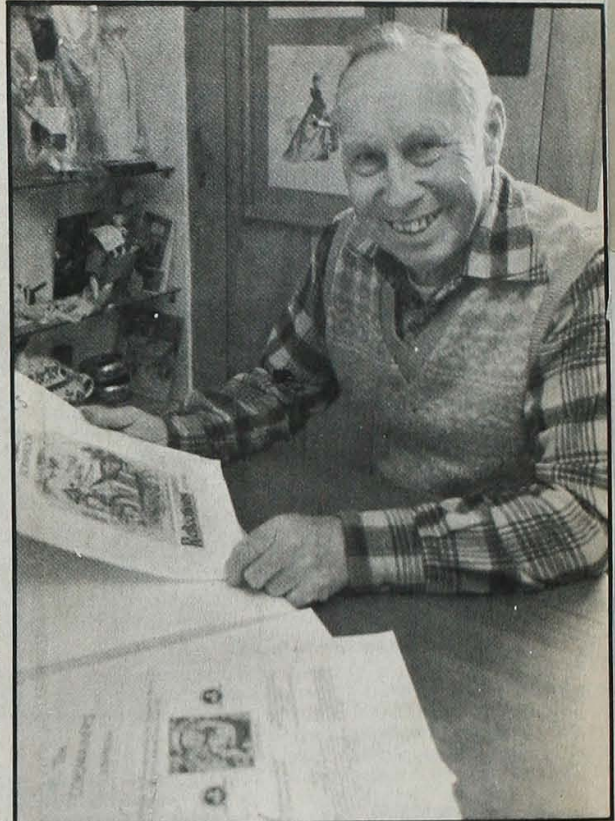
Cartwright says his favorite stories are those of Walkerton's main street and the people that made up the business community.

"I spent my whole life on main street," he says.

Ironically, Cartwright will have completed his first 10 years as a newspaper columnist in July, the same month set aside for Walkerton's homecoming celebrations.

He says he was always interested in the unique stories that add flavor to Walkerton's past. And at first his first columns were written from memory. He says he has since researched his columns in order to include dates and other pertinent facts.

His early stories too, dealt with the town's main street. One favorite in particular is of a local boy making good--it's about Irwin "Lobie" Lobsinger, who shares column space on the Herald-Times' editorial page.



LLOYD CARTWRIGHT, author of Reflections, has published his first book, The Cordwainer's Scrapbook. (Wassink photo)

Inglis is honored for outstanding service

by Ron Wassink

WALKERTON--One the Walkerton Agricultural Society's hardest working individuals and constant promoter, Morgan Inglis, has been recognized for outstanding service to the society.

The prestigious agricultural service diploma was presented to Inglis at the society's annual meeting in Walkerton last Friday evening.

The announcement by his brother, President John Inglis, was a complete surprise.

Inglis has been a member of the society for more than 25 years. He first became involved in the Walkerton Agricultural Society through his uncle, Les McConnell, who was secretary-treasurer.

He says he can remember doing odd jobs at fair time when he was 15.

Inglis is presently the chairman of the building committee and chairman of the property committee. He was also chairman of the building committee when the new banquet hall was built. Over \$80,000 was raised through public donations to rebuild the burned-out structure.

He served as president for a two-year term eight years ago, and has been involved in various committees of the agricultural society over the years, including the Tri-County Holstein Show.



MORGAN INGLIS receives the agricultural service diploma from Jim Richardson, left.