

Local industrialist George Bogdon dies

WALKERTON--George Bogdon, a leading Walkerton industrialist and respected citizen, died unexpectedly on Monday, Dec. 31, 1990. He was 79.

Bogdon was president and chief executive officer of Bogdon and Gross, a furniture factory he brought to Walkerton over 50 years ago. The factory, which celebrated a half century in town in 1988, began operations over 60 years ago in Kitchener. The company was started by his father, Peter, and partner, Karl Gross.

The factory, which will continue to operate under present management headed by Don Elliott and John Al, employed 65 workers at the time of Bogdon's death. It is the only wood-working factory still in operation in Walkerton.

Bogdon was on the job until the latter part of November when he was admitted to the K-W Hospital. He had been recuperating at home, but was admitted to the County of Bruce General Hospital, Walkerton, where he died.

In an interview with the Herald-Times on the company's 50th anniversary in Walkerton,

Bogdon said his company flourished while other factories had gone out of business because



George Bogdon

he followed three principles as spelled out by his father.

"Treat others as you want to be treated; know more than the people you manage; and, a good sales force can't sell a poorly made product at a low price, or sell a good product at a good price."

Bogdon's strength, said George Sinclair, was production. He said the late industrialist could find ways of making furniture most efficiently with the equipment on hand. He said Bogdon also had the ability to take an unrelated

1990 November

Bud Fritz named horseman of year

by Cindy Davidson

WALKERTON--Walkerton horseman William 'Bud' Fritz has been named Horseman of the Year by the Ontario Jockey Club (OJC).

Fritz was presented with the honor at the annual OJC banquet last Wednesday night, Dec. 5 in Campbellville. Also honored were two horses trained by Fritz.

Million dollar winner Apaches Fame was named horse of the year and was the unanimous choice as three-year-old colt pacer of the year. A Worthy Lad was named three-year-old trotter of the year.

The honor came after a year Fritz has described as being "the biggest roll of his life."

He had great success with both Apaches Fame and A Worthy Lad, as well as several other horses from his stable in regular Ontario Sire Stake action.

The year reached its climax last June when he won several races, worth over \$1 million. At the start of the month he drove Apaches Fame to a first place finish at Greenwood Raceway in the Burlington Stakes. He equaled the track record and picked up over \$200,000 in purse money.

Also in June, he drove A Worth Lad to victory in the Canadian Trotting Classic at Greenwood.

The highlight of the month, and one of many through the year, came at the end of the month when Fritz and Apaches Fame joined up again to win the million dollar North America Cup at the Meadowlands in New Jersey.

His winning streak didn't end in June however, and Fritz embarked on a summer not to be forgotten in any racing circles. Clearly, one of his biggest achievements, was the undefeated driving record he had with A Worthy Lad before the horse was sold this past September.

In 30 career races, the horse never finished anything but first, and always with his trainer at the



BUD FRITZ

helm. (Since being sold to a European group, A Worthy Lad lost his first race)

Always a believer in hard work, Fritz has put years of dedication into harness racing before this incredible year--and his good fortune is not limited to 1990.

In past years he has made a name for himself as a superb developer of pacing filly talent, most notably with Misty Silver and Silver Reign.

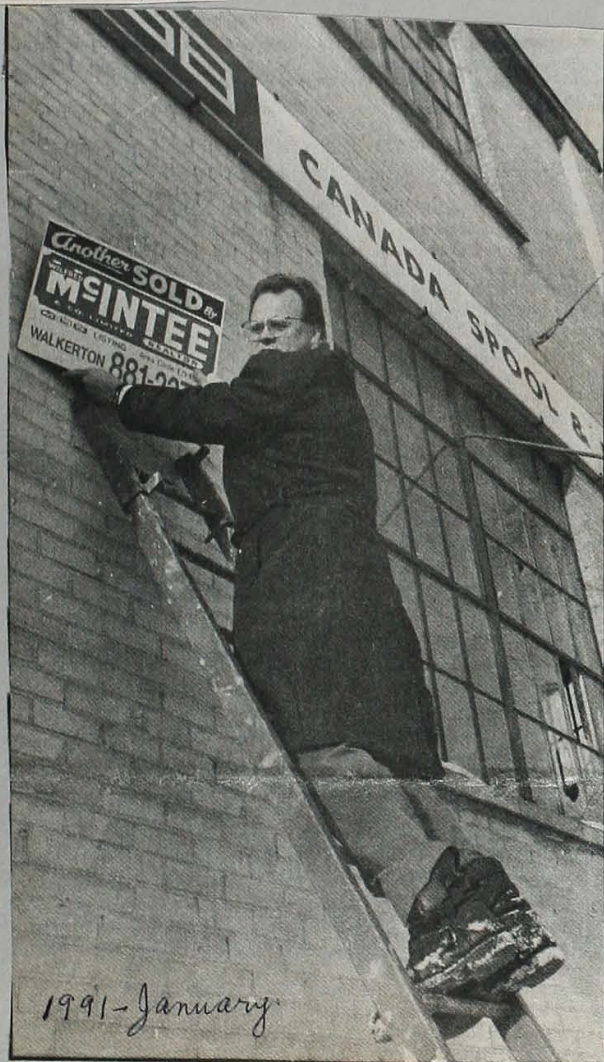
For several years he had a close affiliation with Eugene Forbes of Walkerton. The combination of Fritz as trainer-driver and Forbes as breeder-owner was a successful one.

In the last two years, Fritz has branched out and is a trainer and driver well sought after. His praises have been sung over the past year by Dr. Joe Johnston, former owner of A Worthy Lad, and Bob Chapple, one of the four owners of Apaches Fame.

Celebrating his successes along the way has been Fritz' wife, Ethel, and their eight children, who share a love of harness racing and a dedication to the industry.

For the past five years, Fritz has consistently been named at the top of lists like Universal Driving Rating, Lampman Cup and leading trainer and driver in the Labati's Blue Ontario Sire Stakes.

He has been honored time and again at the Hanover Raceway, his hometrack. In 1986 he shared the title of Horseman of the Year with Larry Walker of Owen Sound.



1991-January

FACTORY SOLD--Paul Kueneman of McIntee Real Estate puts up the sold sign at Spool and Bobbin. (Wassink photo)