



Bill Langridge, RR 2 Milford, displays the plaque he received for being the most valuable player on the Napanee Legionnaire Midget fastball team, which won the Canadian Championship August 8. Bill is wearing the medallion that team members received for winning the championship.

County youth helped Napanee to championship

By L.A. MESSERSCHMIDT
Gazette Reporter

A 17-year-old county boy helped pitch the Napanee Legionnaire Midget fastball team to the Canadian Championship Aug. 8 with an impressive five win and one save record.

Bill Langridge, RR 2 Milford, played in six of Napanee's nine games in the championship and ended the tournament by winning the Most Valuable Player Award for the Napanee team.

Over the five-day tournament, Bill pitched two shutouts, including a one-hitter against Alberta, and pitched a perfect four innings against the Northwest Territories as a relief pitcher.

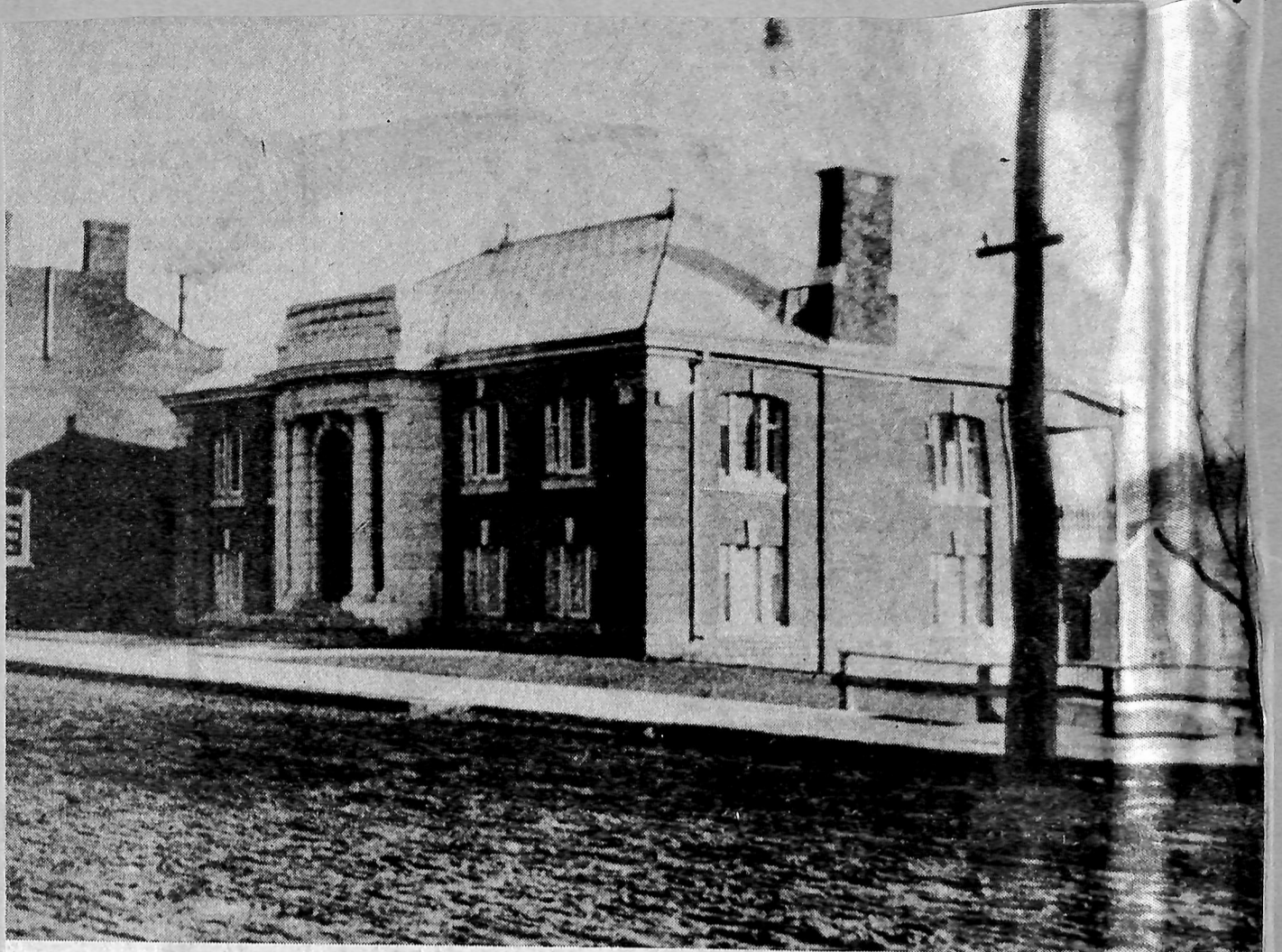
Last year Bill went to the Midget Canadian Championship in Saskatchewan with the Napanee team. The team finished in a respectable fourth place, and Bill won the top pitcher for the tournament.

Although modest and soft-spoken in person, at six feet two inches Bill is an imposing competitor when he stands on the mound.

He has played second base and catcher in the past, but is now concentrating solely on his pitching, he said.

Bill said he thought the Napanee Midgets chances at the Canadian Championship this year were good because their team had more bench strength than the year before and they had the home team advantage.

Winning the Canadian Championship was probably "one of the biggest things that ever happened in Napanee," said Bill.



Picton's Public Library is shown in 1911. It had been opened officially on Dec. 14, 1907.

Picton library 80 years old and still serving its readers

One hundred and fifty-one years ago the Town of Hallowell established one of the three earliest reading rooms in the province. Fifteen years later, on March 12, 1846, the Prince Edward Institute was established. The hand-written constitution for this Institute is framed and hangs in the Reference Room of the Picton Public Library.

Out of the Mechanics' Institute, Picton Library became a Free Public Library in 1902. On December 14, 1907 the new Library building, located at its present site 218 Main Street, was officially opened.

The new Carnegie Library, completed at a total cost of \$12,000 remained unchanged until renovations were begun in 1963 which remodelled the stackroom and included an office for the Librarian. In 1964, the Children's Room received a complete renovation and in 1965 the Library was accepted as the Town's Centennial project. The main renovation and added wing was completed in 1966. The final renovation of the Children's Room was completed in 1967.

Mrs. Eloise Harris was the first Librarian to take charge of the new Carnegie Library. One year later, on April 1, 1908, Miss Eleanor Holmes assumed the

responsibilities of Librarianship. Miss Holmes retained this position for 37 years tendering her resignation in December 1945.

Her assistant Miss Kathleen Keech succeeded her as Librarian in 1946. Miss Keech remained in that position for twenty-five years at which time Mrs. Valerie Creasy took over her responsibilities.

The Film Library was established in 1945. Projection equipment was purchased and the Picton Film Council, centered at the Library, was made responsible for the circulation of educational films to borrowing organizations.

The tradition of the Saturday morning showing of films for children which has continued to the present, was established in the latter part of 1945.

The Picton Public Library can be justifiably proud of the part it has played in the developing educational and cultural life of the community.

It can claim the distinction of being the first Town Library to engage the services of a professionally qualified Librarian in the person of Miss Holmes.

It was the first town Library to be supported by the municipality at the rate of \$1.00 per capita, and it was the first to win the McDowell award.

He plans to continue his fastball endeavors and perhaps someday play professionally. That would probably mean playing in the United States in a Senior A league, he said.

Currently, however, he plans to finish his education at Prince Edward Collegiate Institute, where he is entering Grade 12.

A Canadian Championship and Most Valuable Player Award may be a tough act to follow, but Bill is optimistic about next season.

Although he still has one more year of midget eligibility, he said he thinks he will go to a junior team next year, possibly Napanee or Belleville. Then the work begins towards another shot at a Canadian Championship victory.

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