

MAY 8th, 1946

### Things Have Changed But Not Too Much

No houses vacant in Beamsville 53 years ago, Board of Education was meeting Friday night, Water works were under construction, and the editor was lousing up headlines.

Fifty-three years ago tomorrow Vol. 1, No. 1 of The Beamsville Express made its appearance and when Jack Knowles brought a faded copy into the office we were interested to see what was happening in Beamsville in May, 1895.

Printed on a page smaller than the present paper and five columns wide, the first page of the old Express contains advertisements for the old Couse House, International Hotel and Commercial Hotel, Ivy Lodge, A.F. & A.M., has its card there, along with three other lodges, now defunct.

**"Discipline Was Excellent"**  
The Board of Education was even in those days meeting on Friday night, as it did last Friday. The High School had an enrollment of 39 and the Public School 218. The Board passed an account rendered by John Fisher for the repair of a pump, \$1. Inspector Hodgson reported that discipline in the High School was excellent and said "It affords me pleasure to report of this school that it is in a very satisfactory condition. It is, I think, quite abreast of any other school of its grade (i.e. employing two teachers) with which I am acquainted."

The editor devotes a column on some of the highlights of Beamsville as he found them on arrival. He mentions the fruit growing, quarries, water works (at that time under construction), brick works, and churches. Pastors of those days are given as: Disciples of Christ, H. F. Stevens, Anglican, Rev. James C. Munson, Methodist, Rev. A. L. Gee, Presbyterian, Rev. Dr. MacIntyre.

#### Basket Factory Needed

The proprietors of The Express, Evans Brothers, set up shop in the Phoenix Block, over Jeffries' Boot and Shoe Store. It is interesting to note that the new editor lists as one of Beamsville's needs a basket factory to serve the fruit growers. He also wants to see a bank, canning, evaporating and cheese factories, and asks that anyone desiring to locate those enterprises in town communicate with F. W. Barry, secretary of the Board of Trade.

He also notes that there is not a vacant house in town, showing that times haven't changed so much after all.

C. E. Riggins was president of the Board of Trade and other members were J. H. Beatty, J. D. Bennett, William Hearle, Sr., W. F. Tallman, A. H. Dodsworth, T. A. Simpson and W. J. White.

#### Prosperity Coming Around Corner

"We learn that the agricultural implement business has been better this spring than it has for years. This is probably due to the fact that wheat has risen from 50 cts. to 80 cts. a bushel. Hard times are apparently drawing to a close." (!)

Some of the advertisers were sporty, at least, in their customer-pulling copy. For instance, George J. Ryckman, merchant tailor, headed his advertisement "PANTS DOWN AGAIN! Where? At Ryckman's! Second to none for a Nobby and Neat Suit of Clothes." John Marrs, "the fashionable merchant tailor," states that he has "pantings" at "slaughtering" prices.

#### The Clear McCoy

H. M. Evans, one of the proprietors of The Express, had a sideline, called "VITAE ORE." Not a patent medicine, he says, in an ad on the back page, but an ore, dug right from the bowels of the earth. And only \$1 per package. "I want 1,000 men and women to act as agents for this wonderful discovery," he ends.

#### Pub's Poet's Paradise

On the back page was the poet's corner, and an epic of more than column length is printed under the title "Ben Deene", by C. H. Blanchard. The first verse will be all that is necessary for a clue, you can guess the rest:

"The Pacific Express,  
"Dashing into the West,  
"Should have left Mountain Junction  
at half past eight,  
"But with pushing and switching a  
crippled night freight  
"She was an hour late."  
And so on, for a couple of hundred lines.

#### We're Still Doing It

"Increase of Divorce," shouted the headline. "Astonishing figures on the Rupture of the Sacred Tie," explained the sub head, thus proving that when The Express of 1946 makes a typographical error, it is following closely in the footsteps of Mr. Evans and his brother, 53 years ago. — W.F.R.

## 20 Years Ago

From The Express Files of 1926

May 8 — 1946

Pure Silk hosiery was on sale at R. A. Saunders' store, with no mention of rationing.

"Kennedy Inn," Beamsville, opened for business.

The bass limit for Ontario fishermen was reduced from eight to five.

White rabbits "with long hair and pink eyes," were offered for sale by S. Brownhill, Mountain St., from 25c up.

Plenty of houses and flats to rent.

"Miss Vineland," the new bus de luxe of Hamilton Bus Lines, made her appearance. "It's a Peach!" commented the editor.

G. A. Tinlin was Clerk of Clinton Township.

"For Sale — 1921 Ford touring body top and windshield complete, in fair condition, \$10."

### ISAAC WALTONS 1946 PLAN CASTING MEET AT FAIR GROUNDS

Renewed interest in fly and bait casting was displayed at a meeting of the Lower Lakes Casting League, held last Thursday evening at the home of Harry Banks, Beamsville.

During the war the League has been inactive, but now that the boys are home, all are eager to get busy with the rods.

In the election of officers, Harry Banks was named president, Phil Wismer, Jordan Station, first vice-president, Frank Barclay, Welland, second vice-president, and Reg White, Hamilton, secretary-treasurer.

The following clubs were represented: Hamilton Angling and Hunting Association, St. Catharines and Lincoln County Angling and Hunting Association, Union Rod and Gun Club, Welland Angling and Hunting Association and the Haldimand County Hunters and Angling Association.

The League plans a Casting Tournament at the Beamsville Fair Grounds on June 1, starting at 2.00 p.m., with the regular casting schedule to begin June 17.

## 20 Years Ago

From The Express Files of 1926

For \$5.50 you could spend a Restful Night on Lake Erie, as guests of the C & B Line, sailing from Buffalo.

"The Star Car — Tomorrow's Car Today," at J. Barnardo, Grimsby.

Mrs. S. T. Creet and Miss Creet had just returned from France.

Empire Day fell on Monday and "everyone was going to the Vineland Sports."

"Kennedy Inn" was the newest of Beamsville's lunchrooms.

RABBITS—for sale, white rabbits with long hair and pink eyes, from 25c up.—S. Brownhill, Mountain St.

Still another house for rent, this time "a seven-roomed house at Grobb school house."

"The average woman has a vocabulary of only 800 words. A small stock—but, oh, what a turnover!"

## Local Bowlers Have Big Week

JACK KNOWLES LEADS BEAMS-

VILLE CLUB IN O.B.A. TO IMPORTANT WIN AT HAMILTON

Taking the best in his stride, Jack Knowles won the coveted singles trophy and a gold medal in the Ontario Bowling Association's finals at Hamilton on Friday night to lead local bowlers in their most successful competition.

Not only in one or two cup competitions were the local men represented, but in five different tournaments the Beamsville bowlers got into the prize money.

Besides Jack Knowles, Harvey Tufford and Dave Aiton won prizes in the men's singles. In the men's trebles, A. N. Payne, A. G. Clark and Harvey Tufford (skip) were runners up in the Blue Top Trophy and received silver medals. Charles Good, Harry N. Reid and Jack Knowles (skip) came fourth in the Buckingham Trophy play. E. M. Juhlke, Brock Snyder and A. G. Harvey (skip) took the silver medal as runners-up for the Spectator Trophy, and in the Men's Doubles, A. G. Clark and Harvey Tufford received ninth prize.

## 30 YEARS AGO

Excerpts from "Express" Files of  
JANUARY 10, 1917

Wanted—A capable, reliable person to open a hotel in Beamsville. No opposition.

The village council refunded \$5 poll tax to H. E. Johnston, he being under age.

Rev. C. E. McLeod was appointed to the school board to fill the vacancy created by R. D. Bennett.

A. Hunsberger has purchased the grocery business of the late Thomas Wood.

Rev. F. R. Nie and family arrived in Beamsville from Palmerston last Tuesday. He is the Anglican rector.

Mrs. Sylvester Ryckman broke a small bone in her back when she fell.

DIED—In Clinton, Francis Sann, relict of the late John Parker, aged 90.

Wm. Johnson enlisted with the 176th battalion.

There are ten changes in the County Council this year.

BORN—To Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Culp, Lake Shore, on Jan. 9, a son.

## Reid Team <sup>August</sup> Captures Cup For Third Time <sup>1946</sup>

Harry Reid made a record in bowling circles when he skipped his rink to victory in the LALOR cup competition at Dunnville on Wednesday last. The team consisted of A. N. Payne, C. Good, A. Clarke and Harry Reid. The record occurred in the fact that this same team has won this magnificent cup three times in a row. It has also been won by another team from Beamsville which makes four consecutive times this cup has come to Beamsville, 1943-44-45-46. Everyone on the team had to play extra well to win out. The playoff was between Dunnville and Beamsville and was a procession for the latter. The tournament was composed of 30 rinks from all over the district.

Two teams from Beamsville went to St. Catharines on Saturday but did not fare so well, not getting in the money although one won two games and lost the third by one point to miss third money. This team was skipped by Jack Knowles.

The Bowling Club is sure placing and keeping Beamsville on the map and in news.

## 30 YEARS AGO

Excerpts from "Express" Files of  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3rd, 1917

The new reeve of Beamsville is Charles Garlett; and the council comprises Wilson, Hobden, Orth and Trevelyn. Clinton and Louth elected reeves and councils by acclamation. A. D. Middaugh was elected South Grimsby reeve by a majority of 1. Grimsby's reeve, C. T. Farrell, was re-elected.

Nursing Sister, Lena A. Davis who was seriously ill at Salonika, with malaria, has returned to duty again.

BORN—At Cayuga, Jan. 2 to Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Hudson, a son.

MARRIED—Thomas Clare Coulson to Florence Irene Gray.

Major William Andrews received the D. S. O.

Pte. Charles Wilcox died of bronchial pneumonia in France.

MARRIED—Miss Barbara May McArthur to Walter F. Russ of Detroit.

Geo. Konkle has moved his sawmill to the old stand east of Beamsville and will be prepared to do sawing this winter.

M. Frampton was installed as W.M. of Ivy Masonic lodge for 1917.

The oldest Jordan landmark, the workshop of Jacob Housser, was torn down last week.



The "Class of 1921" was completely identified for us by Mrs. Albert Hurst, R. R. 2 Beamsville. According to Mrs. Hurst, the line-up is as follows: back row, Lois Anderson, Mae Juhlke, Viola Hurst, Lena Book, May Caine and Ina Johnson; front row, Arthur Brown, Bill Wilson, John Hicks, principal, Harry Franklin and Ron Harris.

Now 1947