

**Tombstone For A Massacre**

On the bitter and bleak night of Feb. 4, 1880, a howling, drunken mob of 31 swooped down on the Black Donnellys — the Tipperary clan that had terrorized the area around the Ontario town of Lucan, 15 miles north of London, for more than 30 years — and killed five of them in a bloody battle.

The self-proclaimed vigilante nightriders wiped out James Donnelly, leader of the clan, his wife Johannah, their sons Thomas and John, and a niece, Bridget.

Their murder was the climax to a feud that raged among the Irish immigrants along the Roman Line of Biddulph township — a feud that still lingers in the memories of the descendants of the mob.

These memories have often been stirred by the black marble tombstone — erected by remaining



The original tombstone, above, has been replaced by new one, below.



members of the family in St. Patrick's churchyard on the Roman Line — bearing the names of the killed with the one-word epitaph, "Murdered." (Weekend Magazine ran the story of the massacre of the Donnellys, with photographs of the tombstone, in 1954.)

Over the years the tombstone became a mecca for the thrill-seeking curious, and led to vandalism of gravestones — even of the church itself — in the quest of souvenirs.

Two years ago the cemetery board ordered the stone removed on the grounds the word "Murdered" was unsuitable in a churchyard and that the stone attracted unwelcome visitors. The Roman Catholic diocese of London ordered a new stone with the same inscription as the original except for the one taboo word.

The new stone has apparently failed in its purpose. Placed last May in the fenced and padlocked churchyard, it has already been hacked at by curiosity seekers.

The old stone is in the keeping of Mrs. Nora Lord, of Levack, Ont., daughter of William Donnelly, one of the sons who survived the 1880 massacre.

Mrs. Lord has no immediate plans for the original tombstone, but she would like to put it up somewhere to keep alive this piece of Canadian history.

But she has vetoed the idea of erecting it in Lucan as a historical monument. She fears that some descendants of the nightriders may do away with it forever — just as the vigilantes did away with the Black Donnellys that bloody night in 1880.

—THAT the Science Hill Post Office will be closed March 31. Mail formerly handled through this office will then be carried on RR 1 St. Marys with Elmer Stevens as mail carrier. FEB 15 1967

FEB 15 1967  
**Fatally Injured  
In Collision  
On Friday Night**

William Henry Church, 52, of RR 1 Lakeside (No. 19 Highway north of Uniondale), died enroute to hospital in Ingersoll after being injured in a two-car collision Friday night.

His wife, Peggy, received multiple injuries in the accident. She was taken to Alexandra Hospital, Ingersoll, and transferred to Victoria Hospital, London.

Edwin Raggett, 66, Woodstock, was treated for minor injuries, and released. His wife, Velma, was admitted to the hospital with leg injuries and shock.

Woodstock provincial police Constable F. J. Venn said Mr. Church was driving east and Mr. Raggett west on Governor's Road, 1½ miles east of Thamesford.

Mr. Church is survived by his wife, the former Peggy Grant, and a son, Richard, 12; his father and a sister in England. He was an employee of the Kelvin-Thompson Co., Ltd., St. Marys.

Feb. 15 1967

**Teacher Agrees  
It's Great Training**

Editor Journal-Argus,  
St. Marys, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

I very much enjoyed reading your article on public speaking which appeared in last week's paper (Jan. 25 issue).

What you say about it being a test of courage and ability is so true. A great deal of hard work goes into the writing, memorization and rehearsal of the speeches. Then comes the big moment of "getting up in front of all those people" and delivering the finished product. This requires true courage.

I feel that I can speak rather knowledgeably on this subject because I have the good fortune to teach in one of our area schools and I know what work goes into the preparation of these speeches. I'm not writing this for my own benefit because I had no pupils in the competition.

I do not feel that this letter is well enough written to print, but I wanted you to know how much pleasure it gave me to read a word of commendation for our youth.

Sincerely,

SHEILA GREASON.  
RR 4 St. Marys.

**Lakeside Branch  
Of Bible Society  
Has Special Projects**

The executive of the Bible Society is appreciative of the fine response of the public, and to the voluntary canvassers for their good work.

Special projects in the Sunday Schools are encouraging, as young people accept the responsibility and are responding to the need of sending Bibles (paper missionaries) to people throughout the world. This makes possible the reading and understanding of God's Word printed in the native tongue.

The Lakeside United Church Bible Class contributed \$27.00 to the Bible-A-Month Club. Also one class contributed a dime card (\$2.00).

The Bible-A-Month Club enables its members to give a Bible each month to a specific area of the world. In some of these areas the scriptures are being rationed at the present time.

The East Nissouri Union Church Sunday School held a coin card project. The sum of \$67.40 was realized from (Quarter cards) \$23.50 and from (Dime cards) \$43.90. The total contribution for the Branch was \$361.55, an increase of \$87.80 from 1965.

The 1966 canvassers were:— Town Line and ½ Concession, Mrs. Ella Kittmer; Village of Lakeside, Mrs. Reg Williams; 12th line, Mrs. Roy McCorquodale, Mrs. Francis Seaton; 11th line, Mrs. Jas. Wells, Mrs. Lawrence Taylor; 10th line, Mrs. Enos Hutton, Mrs. Marion Munro, Mrs. Wm. McKay 9th line, Mrs. Wayne Smith, Mr. Harry Arthur; 8th line, Mrs. Irwin Tate, Mrs. Fred Arthur; 7th line, Miss Freeda Conn, Miss Joyce Burgess.

Mrs. Florrie Dickey is treasurer, and Miss Freeda Conn secretary.

Feb. 15 1967

**Brown's Corners**

Newlyweds Presented

On Friday, Feb. 3rd, neighbors, friends and relatives of the community gathered at Shakespeare to honor Mr. and Mrs. George Puschelberg, the former Mildred Beavers of RR 1 Lakeside. The evening was spent in dancing to records. Later, Mr. Robert McTavish, chairman of the evening, called George and Mildred to come forward. Mrs. Robert Hyde read a complimentary address and little Miss Linda McTavish made the presentation on behalf of those present, of a gift of money. The groom expressed their thanks for the gift and the lovely evening in their honor. Lunch was served at the close.

Sympathy of the community is extended to Mrs. Hubert Uren and Mr. Wilford Rumble in the loss of their brother, Wesley Rumble.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Harris and family of Woodstock were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay Harris last Sunday.

Several ladies from Brown's UCW attended the World's Day of Prayer at Wellburn last Friday. FEB 15 1967