

The Chesley Enterprise was started as a weekly newspaper about July 1, 1876, by A. R. Spedding and other early editors were J. B. Stephens and Wm. Kay. Not much is known about these men or the early days of the paper.

The next publisher was A. W. Robb, who taught in a district one-room rural school. Perhaps he was disenchanted with the salaries paid to teachers in those days, which might have been \$150 or \$200 a year and when he would have 60 or 80 pupils during the winter months, and though he could do better in newspaper work.

When the opportunity presented itself for Mr. Robb to buy the Walkerton Telescope, he seems to have persuaded another rural teacher, William McDonald, to buy the Chesley paper. Mr. McDonald was a native of Elderslie township, and for some years he continued as a school teacher as well as editing the paper. It was not an 8 hour day. He would come to the office about 7 a.m., get some copy for the typesetters, leave about 8 by horse and buggy (or cutter) for school, teach until 4 o'clock, drive home to Chesley and work at the office until 6 and again after dinner.

In the early years, Mr. McDonald had a partner in the person of F. W. Adolph, who was a printer and managed "the back shop." There appears to have been a disagreement between them, and Mr. Adolph left The Enterprise and started a rival paper, The Chesley Free Press. However, there wasn't room for two papers in a small town, and Mr. Adolph closed his office and moved to Brandon, Manitoba.

The next partner of Mr. McDonald's was Albert V. Nolan, who was primarily a printer rather than an editor. Mr. McDonald was interested in public life at the time. He was a county commissioner for this area and thus a member of Bruce county council, where he was elected Warden of the county in 1905. Always a strong Liberal, he was elected as member of the Ontario Legislature and sat for one term, being defeated by the candidate of the United Farmers of Ontario, which swept the province as an aftermath of dissatisfaction with the farmers' lot during the years of the First World War, 1914-18.

Mr. Nolan quit the partnership about this time and went to Stouffville, where he bought the weekly paper. Mr. McDonald's son, John C., became sports and news editor, after having served overseas during the war, and he also carried on an insurance business. During the years, Mr. McDonald served as town clerk for a time and was Sec. Treas. of the Public School Board for quite some years. When he suffered a stroke in the 1930's, "J. C." carried on the business, and, after his father's death, he sold the business to Clayton Schaus of Hanover.

During the 50 odd years that the McDonalds operated the paper, many changes were effected. Originally, four of the pages were printed in Toronto and the other four in Chesley. With the advent of typesetting machines, The Enterprise, like most weeklies,