

"Gone but not forgotten"

By Mrs John E Miller

The Goshen Public School was quite popular from the early nineties and used not only for the education of local children of various ages, but also a place for the entertainment for their parents and other folks residing in and all around this community.

Their transportation was not by automobile, but by horse and buggy or horse and sleigh according to the time of year the event took place. The attraction could be a school concert at Christmas and of course a dance after for the older folks and those not so old, after lunch was served and desks etc had been removed. Dances, card parties, bingo's and other forms of entertainment held in this school were always successful. Proceeds usually were used for either school supplies or to help the needy. The good music for dances which was always donated, as several men both old and young would bring their fiddles and be quite happy to contribute their time to help play for the "squares" and occasional waltz.

The ladies also took their turns cording on the organ. Finally coming to an end during the wee sma' hours and everyone having a real good time, and hoping there would be another held soon. Sometimes children would be rolled in quilts or blankets and laid in a safe place to sleep while their parents enjoyed themselves for a while.

The following is a brief history of Goshen Public School, copied from one held by Mrs Harvey Jamieson Sr. We believe Goshen School to be erected some time prior to 1861, as records show that Goshen School Board engaged Amelia Smith to teach in 1861.

The site, sold by Thomas Hudson Sr, for one dollar, was covered with bush and stumps. James Brown came with his team of oxen and with the help of the bigger school boys, the land was cleared, and a log building erected. Five years later, Thomas Hudson, a lad of 16 years, built the woodshed.

In 1896, Mrs Frood had the school hauled across the road to be renovated into a dwelling and the present building, now the private dwelling of Mr and Mrs Riopelle, was erected. A combined woodshed and horse-stable was built in 1929.

A wire fence was built along the front of the school yard in 1934, but it was not until 1946 that the log fence on the other three sides was replaced with a wire fence. This work was done

During the same year the outside of the building was covered with brick siding, the porch was repaired and a new window and door added. This work and re-roofing in 1953 was done by Mr George Reid.

In the spring of 1947 the junior girls club donated money to buy shrubs which were planted in the flower bed beside the school and in 1948 a low wire fence was placed around the bed for protection.

A well was dug during 1946-47 which proved unsatisfactory, with the result of the present well being drilled in December, 1950.

In order to make the school warmer and more attractive for "daily living" in 1949 insulation was added to the attic and a wood circulator was purchased. Within the next two years the floor was covered with gaily patterned linoleum and walls were painted a pale green. The old time double desks were

replaced by single moveable ones and in 1960 the teacher's desk was replaced with a modern one. In 1892 Miss Hattie A Wallace was engaged as teacher, with an enrolment of 58 pupils, some of whom were: Lizzie McDermid, Andrew Cooke, and Peter J McArthur, all living today.

Records show that up until 1910, the school year began in January, ended in December, with regular breaks at Christmas and Easter, but a shorter holiday during summer, July and the first two weeks in August.

In 1901 school was closed all of March and the first week in April due to a smallpox epidemic.

In reading the names of

teachers who submitted their efforts to teaching the young, I found the name of one gentleman only, Mr Harry C Airth.

The school closed in 1965 when the pupils were transported by bus to Burnstown school, and following that and at the present time they attend McNab Public School at Glasgow and again are transported by bus.

Names of teachers of Goshen School, through the years are: 1892, Hattie Wallace; 1893, Bella Dewar; 1898, Harry C Airth; 1899, Jessie Muir; 1901, Lizzie Hazelton; 1903, Helen MacDougall; 1904, Mary Dickson; 1905, Amy Cull; 1907, Jessie Gibson; 1908, A M Campbell; 1909, M A Kiely; 1912, P Murphy; 1913, L Early, Maude Humphries; 1914, Martha

Lavallee; 1916, M McLachlan; 1917, Katie B Cole; Bessie Grant, M G Stevenson; 1918, Miss Gould; 1918, Flora Henderson, Carmel Whelan; 1920, Gertrude Dalton; 1922, Kathleen Hall; 1923, L Enright; 1924, Helen Sergeant; 1926, Sybil Carruthers; 1927, Jeanne McEwen; 1928, Iva Kirk; 1930, Margaret Styles; 1931, Edith Bulmer; 1933, Anna Cummings; 1936, Phyllis Livingstone; 1939, Eleanor Orme; 1941, Pearl Kilby; 1942, Laurian White; 1943, Jean Campbell; 1948, Doreen Ross; 1949, Jean Campbell; 1954, Pat Kasaboski; 1955, Kathleen Pierce; 1956, Mrs Wasmund; 1957, Anne Wallace; 1960, Beryl Rintoul; 1963, Emma Adams; 1965, Anita Thompson.

Goshen school