

W. I. Tribute

At the Ackland Baker Memorial Evening in Kintore, the Lakeside Women's Institute tribute written by Mr. Donald Seaton April 18, 1974 was read by Mr. Don Seaton.

Lakeside Institute Tribute

Today we honour the memory of a man for whom this school is named--The "A. J. Baker School".

Ackland James Baker was born at Lot 27, Concession 13, East Nissouri May 22, 1901.

He attended McKims School (S.S. No. 11) and Lakeside School (S.S. No. 10) after which from 1914 until 1918 he attended Woodstock Collegiate Institute, graduating with Junior Matriculation and Normal entrance certificate.

In 1919 he enrolled in Engineering Course at Queens University, Kingston, Ontario graduating in Electric Engineering with the degree Bachelor of Science.

In 1957 he received the degree of Professional Engineer from the Institute of Engineers.

Except for a short period his working life was spent in East Nissouri.

In 1926 he was appointed Secretary-Treasurer of the Uniondale Cheese and Butter Company and held this position several years.

In March 1928 he became clerk of the Township of East Nissouri which position he held until his death, or a span of thirty-three years. No one in the county had a better knowledge

of the Municipal Act than the man we honour and no doubt this knowledge was appreciated by the many councils he served.

When the Township School Area was formed he became Secretary-Treasurer of that body and held that position until his death. Here, too, his knowledge of the School Act helped solve many problems.

In March 1928 he became clerk of the Township of East Nissouri which position he held until death, or for a span of

thirty-three years.

When this school was built, the School Board realizing the services which A. J. Baker had given to the Municipality and appreciative of his many qualities named the school the "A. J. Baker School".

The ceremony was held November 7, 1959.

No doubt there were many frustrations and such was to be expected and all could not be resolved but an effort was made. However, he did his best from day to day and such was in over abundance. He was well liked and known far and wide to young and old as "Ackland".

As a man, A. J. Baker was

kind, considerate and an efficient worker, he had a warm personality and it was good to meet him. He was faithful to his church and to all organizations to which he belonged and his membership was highly valued in all. Early in life he chose a course to follow throughout life and he kept the course, the Golden Rule was deep in his philosophy of life.

This school is named for A. J. Baker an efficient Public Servant, more than that it is a memorial to a fine gentleman.

He died March 7, 1960 and is buried in Christ Church cemetery Lakeside, Ontario near the church he loved so well.

