

Once Upon A Time... In Our Town

(By An Old Timer)

Come the fateful days of the Reunion, if each visitor and town dweller could display a badge with his name on it or something to intimate at a glance just who he was, it would be nice to pop in and out the business places and see what's cookin' and who's cookin' it. Don't you think so? No introductions would be necessary; you could just glance at the badge and say, "Howya, Bob," or Bill or what have you.

After you left the Stephen Drug store, under the present ownership of Bill Marshall (a good egg too), next door you would encounter Dick Lucas. I saw Dick scurrying down town one day last week, apparently in a big hurry. When I asked the why for he said he was after his jeep to go out to the farm where his fishing reserve is. It seems he is building a couple of fattening pens so that he can have a nice lot of plump fish ready for the latter part of July. Any one who has ever called Markdale home can get a Permit to fish on Dick's property just by asking for it at his office.

Which reminds me of a fish story which has become a classic in our town. You probably have heard it before, but I'll tell it again just in case.

You all know Dewey Buschlen and Sam Arrowsmith, of course. Ardent fishermen, both of them, they could be seen most any summer evening setting out for a try at the dusky beauties.

Well, it seems that one evening they were down at the Town pond sitting on the Dam fishing when Dewey spied a brown trout. It's mostly all speckled trout in these parts, as you know, and this brown chap was something new, quite out of the ordinary.

It seemed a super specimen, darting in and out 'round about in the pool so lithe and graceful, yet so pleasingly plump you could almost see the scales sinking down and down to a weight where it would be a feather in anyone's cap to land that fellow.

All four eyes were glued on it sporting around, and, without any spoken word, there and then the issue was joined, and the fight was on. But going-home time came and they hadn't caught him. He was very coy, playing hard to get.

The next evening Dewey was down at the pond again—he lived quite a bit closer than Sam. Soon both lines were being expertly played and hopes ran high. As they stood on the Dam they got arguing about which would be worse; to catch the fish the very first time they cast the line in, or to fish all summer and never catch it at all.

They argued and argued. Feelings ran high and at one time they actually considered settling the argument with their fists. Second consideration showed that they would be losing valuable time, and the fish still wasn't caught. So they settled down to the real business.

The weeks came and they went. Day in and day out they fished and they fished. The brown trout was a good sport. If he wasn't there to greet them, he soon showed up, darting here, there and yon in the translucent pool. So they always knew they still had a chance.

They tried him with flies. They tried him with worms and with grasshoppers and with chub. No dice. They fished in the early dawn and in the late evening; on wet mornings and dark afternoons. And as the long Summer days gradually began closing in and the fishing season neared its end, they grew desperate.

Could they, or couldn't they? That was the question. Then another question grew between them too, unvoiced but just as plain as if it had been shouted abroad. If the fishing season closed and the brown trout was still uncaught, would they, or wouldn't they?

Then, one never-to-be forgotten evening, as the shadows deepened into dusk, tired and discouraged, Sam, or maybe it was Dewey, I don't just remember, reeled in his line and dragged his weary way home.

Dewey, or maybe it was Sam, waited for one more cast. The brown trout was getting tired too and decided to be off to his lair for the night, and that very moment he saw a luscious fly and grabbed and the next moment he was out on the bank. Just like that he was home in triumph and jubilantly weighed, he was carefully refrigerated, after which, exhausted, the victor 'dropped into bed to sleep the sleep of the just.

In the morning Sam, or was it Dewey, not knowing the trout had been caught, hopped out of bed and was down at the Pond before it was quite daylight. His line was dropped in and what do you know? He landed the brown trout. Yes, Sir! Time had been two of them all that time and just like foxes they played those fellows the whole summer long and never once did the two fish appear at one time.

I never did hear how much either one weighed but no doubt by the time the Public was let in on the story they would be weighty trout all right, all right.

MOVING CHANGES

Several business changes are reported during the past week. Ed. Hogg who has rented the former Sullivan property at the south entrance to town, has bought this property from The Markdale High School Board who are using the Armoury for class rooms this year. Mr. and Mrs. Hogg will be joined by the latter's mother as soon as she is able to leave hospital where she underwent an operation recently.

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hughes have bought the house from Mrs. Scott of Owen Sound, which until recently was occupied by Frank George, who in turn has bought the house recently vacated by Tom McKenzie, from Mrs. Tom Hill.

Centennial News and Views

Spring! When spring comes summer won't be long in following or some such thing and of course the Centennial Celebration. Of course you want your home and its surroundings to be as attractive as possible for the special week and the village expects you will co-operate in doing your best to see that it is so.

A few packages of seeds, annuals that have plenty of colour, a can of paint (the hardware stores are just waiting for you to come in), and your home and home surroundings can take on "the new look". Who knows but what our visitors may be so taken with the old town that they'll be homesick and buy us out if you have the least idea of selling your property you should get double the packages of flower seeds and two cans of paint.

Wanted—People with ideas. It is not unusual for the public to leave all the work of a civic nature in the hands of a few people; sometimes it is peculiarly enough it is usually well done. However, in the case of a Centennial Year celebration, everyone should be willing to give some thought and effort to the progress of the undertaking. Unquestionably there will be those armchair critics who, after the event is over, will be able to tell you what should have been done—it will be obvious to everyone by that time; but what is needed now is people to come forward who have ideas that will promote the undertaking. Don't wait until the week is over to tell the Executive what you think should be done—do it now.

School days will be a feature of the Centenary Week when the wandering Markdale Boys and Girls return home for the celebration. The problem that confronts the Committee is to dig up some old school teachers; seemingly once they cease to teach they pass on quickly. Perhaps the Committee looking after the collecting up of museum pieces may run across one or two. It seems to be a case of no teacher, no school. Surely before the day school opens there will be someone on hand to ring the bell.

While I was writing this someone leaned over my shoulder and whispered Mrs. Marjorie Mann. Well, that might be a suggestion, but what we want is an old teacher, and Miss Mann is perpetually young. Miss Mann rang the old school bell for over forty years and when she left we wondered why school teachers stopped teaching while still young. Being retired for six or seven years, she will perhaps enjoy visiting with some of her old pupils. Yes it will be a fitting thing for Marjorie to ring the bell once again and we are sure she will have some job recognizing all her pupils. Time has done something to them.

Former ministers in the various churches of the town will find a warm welcome awaiting them. This week we learn Rev. C. O. Pherrill of Dutton, Rev. W. G. Bugler of Detroit and Rev. Hosford of Woodstock will be here and will have charge of the services in Christ Anglican Church on July 31st.

New England W. I. New England W.I. met at the home of Mrs. Russell Graham for their March meeting. There was a good attendance of members and several visitors.

Business discussion included: Co-operative programmes; the convention at Guelph, May 5-6; the Rocky Recreation centre; and having a play from Priceville the next future.

Mrs. A. Bowen, convenor for Citizenship, presided for a splendid programme. Mrs. Bowen conducted a contest "Who's Who in our Government?" This brought the realization that good citizens should be more familiar with civic officials.

Mrs. Swanton gave two humorous readings, "The Educated Farmer" and "Monkey Business". Miss Della Wiley read an article "If You Were Left Alone". This paper stressed the need for women to be more familiar with their husband's financial affairs, also to know laws regarding women and to make their own will. Mrs. Bowen concluded her program with a paper on "Citizenship". What is Citizenship? Citizenship is the ability to live in harmony, not just with one's friends, or one's neighbors, but with all our fellow-beings—free from hatred and intolerance, to think and act according to the principles of justice and truth.

While lunch was being prepared greeting cards were on sale. These may still be secured by any who were not present. Gifts were also handed in for a shower for the local hospital. Lunch was prepared and served by the hostess and Mrs. Ivan Morrison.

WEEKLY WIT Pat and Mike had just arrived from South Ireland, and they were not acquainted with our traffic signals. They were waiting at an intersection when the light turned from red to orange. Everybody but these two rushed across the street. The orange light, of course, quickly turned green, and as the Irishmen started across Pat observed to his partner: "Shure an' they don't give the Protestants much time to get across, do they?"

S. Grey Conservatives Name Convention Delegates

Harry Kress of Durham was chosen president of the South Grey Progressive Conservative Association at its annual meeting held at Dundalk on Monday night, succeeding Howard McCauley of Flesherston who has served as president of the association for the past four years, when a new executive was elected, delegates were named to the provincial convention to be held in Toronto on April 27th, and a new constitution was adopted. Other officers named were: honorary presidents, Thomas Reburn of Markdale, Austin Ball of Hanover; past president Howard McCauley of Flesherston; vice-president, W. J. Wellwood of Dundalk; Mrs. Robert Mortley of Durham; secretary, Frank D. Sawyer of Markdale; treasurer, Robert Ball of Hanover.

Delegates to the provincial convention from Markdale include W. W. Graham, Ran Bradey and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sawyer; Wilbert Sutcliffe of Holland Township, H. W. Kernahan of Flesherston; Robert Ball, Albert Seim, and Elmer Reburn of Hanover; W. J. Wellwood, Milton Irwin, George Watson, and Ed. Seeley, Dundalk; James Duffield, Harry Kress and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mortley of Durham; Chester Long, Feversham; William L. Taylor, Singhampton, Frank Hopkins of Egremont, Ted Gerhardt of Normanby Township; Willis Snell of Chatsworth, William Service of Singhampton and James Winters of Maxwell.

Rev. A. W. Downer, Provincial P.C. member for Dufferin-Simcoe, who had been expected to address the meeting, was unable to attend owing to the C.C.F. filibuster over the Charitable Gifts Act. Secretary Frank Sawyer read a draft of the new constitution, which was adopted with slight alterations. The new president of the association, Harry Kress, said in a short but challenging speech: "Between us, we can put this riding back where it was 25 years ago." He urged strong support not only from the men, but from the women and young people. He said that he had already been in touch with an organizer of young conservatives and that he was coming to the riding.

Several others addressed the gathering, including Mr. H. A. McCauley, who was chairman for the evening, James B. Duffield of Durham, John Grierson of Bentinck Township and others.

Mr. Robert Mortley, second vice-president of the Federal Progressive Conservative Association, was introduced by James Duffield and delivered a challenging speech to the ladies. Although women had been given the franchise 30 years ago, Mrs. Mortley said that at many meetings they are still conspicuous by their absence. "We are a power—let it be felt in the land," she declared. It was pointed out that of 477 parliamentary and legislative seats in Canada in 1947 only four were held by women. In the various countries of the world, she said, women are winning only one out of every ten seats and that there is no poll where victory is impossible.

Junior Homemaking Clubs The local Department of Agriculture office is the scene of much activity this week in preparation for Grey County Junior Homemaking Club Achievement and Program Planning Day which will be held in Knox Church on Saturday under the direction of Miss Flora Durnin, Home Economist. Members from sixteen different Clubs throughout the County, will display garments they have made for the Unit "Sleeping Garments" which will be judged. In the afternoon there will be demonstrations and skits, program planning, and presentation of awards.

That is why the Department of Agriculture looks much like a ready-to-wear department this week as these Homemaking members brought their record books, pyjamas, nightgowns, and housecoats in to the Department. At Owen Sound they will be given a chance to judge material as well as the finished product, and to demonstrate "Bedroom Ensemble". Each member present will receive a silver teaspoon in gardenia pattern. Success of their venture will be an incentive for them to aim at representing their Club at Provincial competitions, to represent their county at the C.N.E. this year, or to qualify for a trip to National 4-H Club in Chicago.

The value of such training can not be overestimated and after seeing such a grand display of home made articles, we believe every effort should be made to encourage the sponsoring of these clubs. It provides some wonderful training that will be a help to these young homemakers, more than half of whom are under sixteen years of age, as long as they live. In this district we have South Glenora, led by Mrs. H. McCaslin, and New England group, led by Mrs. R. Graham. We would like to see more of these groups and more of our local girls taking part in them.

Local Man Injured Bob Caswell met with an unfortunate accident while choring on Saturday night. When he slipped beside one of the cows, it kicked him on the leg, breaking the bone at the knee joint. Besides being painful he will be obliged to take an enforced holiday for several weeks while he has his leg in a cast.

Spring Is Time for Clean-up

Fire is a good friend of the gardener in cleaning-up and getting ready for the new season but, like all drastic remedies, it can also be abused.

As soon as the snow goes, or possibly even before, it is a good thing to get all old weeds, brush and dry grass cleared away. While some of this may rot down into humus, it handled properly, the dryer stuff takes a lot of time to disintegrate and usually it contains a lot of weed seeds that are best destroyed.

Where at all possible burning should be done where the ashes can be worked into the soil. These ashes contain a little potash which is one of the essential fertilizer materials. A good supply of the same can be obtained when the ashes from the fireplace, especially where hardwood is burned, are spread over the soil. Coal ashes, on the other hand, have not much value as a fertilizer but they will help open up heavy soil.

Later on when growth starts, green weeds, leaves and other trash, should all be piled up in a corner of the garden covered with a few layers of soil and if obtainable, some manure. If watered occasionally and perhaps treated with some of the special humus-making chemicals this material will break down rapidly and make the finest sort of garden soil. Most experts regard the compost pile as an essential part of their gardens. Almost anything that will rot can be incorporated. Where the pile is larger it can be screened with some quick-growing annuals or some permanent shrubbery.

In recent years there has appeared on the market little waxed paper caps. In shape and size these resemble the old-fashioned straw hat or "cow breakfast". By using them the gardener can get a fortnight to a month start with such things as melons, tomatoes, cabbage and other tender plants that normally cannot be set aside until all danger of frost is over.

Little beds about a foot across are made, the seeds sown or the plants set out and then the whole is covered with the paper cap, anchored fast with a bit of soil or a stone or two. These beds too can be planted very early a bit of lettuce or a few radishes. The paper cap acts as a greenhouse, protecting from late and even severe frosts, and pushing growth a long weeks ahead of normal.

No matter how unfavourable the location there is some flower, vegetable or shrub that will thrive in it. Some flowers, vegetables and certain varieties of grass actually prefer shade, some like heavy soil rather than sweet, some like heavy clay, some like loam. The thing in planning is to consider these special likes and dislikes, then to select those plants that suit one's special location.

Most vegetables, however, are pretty keen on a generous amount of sun, but they have distinct likes and dislikes in the matter of soil. For example, carrots, potatoes, etc., are deep-rooted and the soils be fairly loose at least a foot down. Certain types prefer sandy soil to clay. But no matter what the soil is to start with by a little planning and care one can change it fairly easily.

FAVORS 'BACK TO SCHOOL' DAYS SIMCOE, Ontario, April 4, 1949. Dear Sir— Am very pleased to learn you are having an Old Boys' and Girls' Reunion. I sure would look forward to attending it. I would like to see the country schools have a class called at nine o'clock and dismissed at 12. I don't think this would interfere with the town program and would certainly give us a chance to all meet in one group. The people sure turn to school reunions. We had two schools, one on each side of us, had the various unions last year over consecutive days. They had wonderful crowds all the way from Vancouver to Florida, no expensive programme, just good fellowship and plenty to eat.

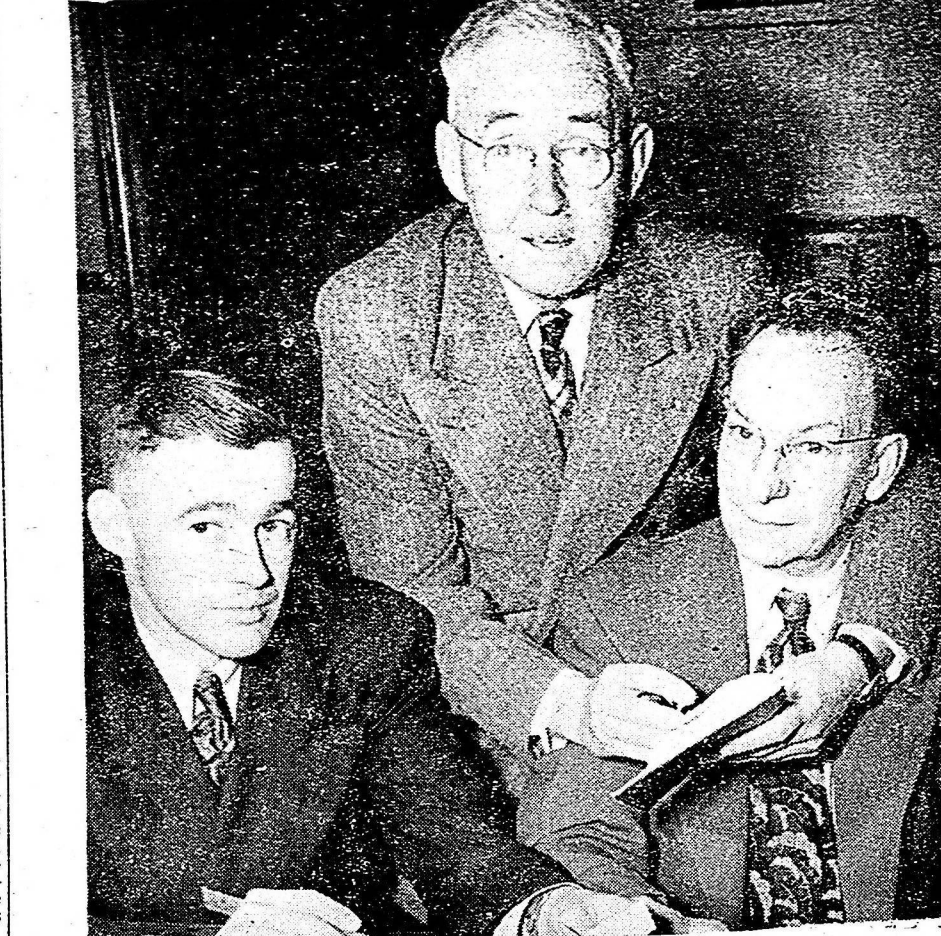
I would be most interested in No. 6 Lauriston. There are still a few of the old timers like myself living out there, who, I know, would work this out. Maybe I am too late in suggesting it. I know Robert Torrie would give a lot of help. He has been secretary-treasurer ever since I started to school and before. I am sure Mrs. John Wilson (nee Martha Love) would get this going. I would sure help her if I lived there. I would certainly like to see some of our old school teachers like Miss Whalen and Miss Ella Cook and others there.

I am sure you don't have to put on an expensive entertainment to draw a crowd. All I ask for is a glad hand, plenty to eat, and I am sure some of my old school mates will let me stay in their fresh hay mow. The weather will be warm then, I hope. Please excuse my scribbling and hope you are not bored with my letter.

Wishing you all kinds of success, I remain, yours truly, Everard F. Walker.

HERB. ALLISON DIES News was received on Tuesday, March 29, of the sudden passing that morning of Herb. Allison at his home in Collingwood. Mr. Allison has suffered from a heart ailment for over a year. Deceased was the second son of the late Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Allison and was 64 years of age. Thirty-eight years ago he married Margaret Dennett, who survives with one son and two daughters. Two brothers and two sisters also survive. The funeral was held at Collingwood on Thursday.

Committees Have A Big Job On Their Hands



As plans for the coming Centennial progress, Committee heads are busy enlisting a good staff of helpers to carry out their plans now being drafted. Here we see Mr. J. A. Dunlop, who is in charge of advertising, Dr. J. A. McArthur, who is looking after billposting, and Albert E. Hunt who is arranging the program of sports. Each has a big job on his hands and they are looking to all citizens for some real co-operation.

Glenelg Council Minutes

The Council met on April 2nd with the members all present. The minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. A petition was presented to the Council signed by several ratepayers asking for the extension of the Glenelg Municipal Telephone system. The Clerk was instructed to prepare a By-Law for this extension. Several resolutions were received to the Council to take steps to prevent bangs disease; the Council passed a resolution to be sent to the Agricultural Representative asking him to proceed with the necessary arrangements.

The Reeve was instructed to contact the District Engineer re bridge at Lot 10, Concession 4, N.D.R. Road Voucher No. 4 amounting to \$1459.87. The Treasurer was authorized to pay all other accounts as follows: sheep claim, \$19; Warble Fly Powder, \$273; Auditor's salary, \$150; Balance County Levy, \$5603.83; Balance of Federation of Agriculture Levy 1947. Other miscellaneous accounts \$214.78. The Auditor presented his report which was accepted.

The Council adjourned to meet May 7th for general business. PERCY D. GREENWOOD, Clerk.

Hydro Poles Burned

The heavy smoke which was noticed in this district on Monday was caused by three piles of creosoted hydro poles, numbering 220 in all, which caught fire at Proton Station, about noon, and resulted in a damage of between \$1500 and \$2000. Firemen managed to save all of one pile and part of another, while the third was destroyed.

The poles were owned by the Toronto Construction Company of Shelburne, which is building rural Hydro lines for the Hydro Electric Power Commission of Ontario in the Proton Station area.

The Dundalk Fire Brigade and a number of volunteers arrived to fight the blaze at two o'clock and shortly afterward had extinguished most of the flames, saving more than half the poles. A spark from a C.P.R. locomotive at the station is believed to have started the flames, which also set fire to the roof of the stock yard sheds. This blaze also was quickly extinguished by the firemen. The poles were of cated just south of the station near the stock yards.

The logs cost \$12 each at the Head of the Lakes.

MINISTER REAPPOINTED

Word has been received from the head office of the Presbyterian Church in Canada at Toronto, of the appointment of Mr. W. F. McReynolds as student in charge of Cooke's Church, Markdale; St. Andrew's, Priceville, and St. Andrew's, Swinton Park. Last November, Mr. McReynolds was appointed to this charge. During the following months he has continued his studies at the University of Toronto and has taken the services of these churches on Sundays in a very acceptable manner. It has been anticipated calling an ordained minister to this field, but owing to the great scarcity of ordained men

Wes. Magwood of Hanover Addresses Rotarians

Mr. Wes. Magwood of Hanover accepted an invitation from the Markdale Rotary Club to address them on the subject of "Whittier Agriculture". Mr. Magwood had a splendid grasp of his subject and kept the members of the club interested in what he had to tell them. The plight of the people on the farms is a sorry one, according to the speaker, and the future does not look too promising. The farmer, because of the difficulty of getting him organized, is easily victimized by unscrupulous buyers. Markets are unjust and prices adjusted to suit the purchaser of farm products and the poor farmer has no recourse but to sell his perishable product at any price.

Mr. Magwood compared big business with the farm business. At the end one could see easily that there was no comparison of value. Big business has the control of its destiny in its hands, in its policy; farming is a business that fluctuates day by day and is made to do so by the whims of big business.

The farmer sells on an open market where his competition is such that his price is forced down. One farmer is played against the other; in big business, such as the automobile industry there is no such competition. Little wonder the farmer is worried about his future.

During the war period farm prices were good because of labour shortages; the farmer worked long hours to help keep up the supply of food stuffs demanded for war purposes. Along with good prices came taxation, sales tax, income tax and rising local taxes which steadily ate up any surplus the farmer might have had. The inconveniences suffered by the farmer in the country was compared to the comforts enjoyed by urban people. The economic results of the introduction of a butter substitute was discussed.

Mr. Magwood covered a lot of territory in a short time but he gave facts and figures to back up his case. Rev. Robert Jones introduced the speaker to the Club members; Dr. Wm. Breakwell thanked him for his address.

NEW STAMP WILL PLEASE COLLECTORS

Postmaster General Ernest Bertand announces that the Department is planning to issue a 4-cent postage stamp to commemorate the entry of Newfoundland into the Confederation. The stamp will be on sale at all principal post offices in Canada and Newfoundland.

available since the war, this has been found impossible at present. Mr. McReynolds is a graduate of the Toronto Bible College and preaches a forceful evangelistic sermon. He is very generous in raising his fine tenor voice in the service of praise. It was welcome news for the congregations on Sunday to learn of his re-appointment.

At the close of the present college term, about May 15th, Mr. and Mrs. McReynolds and little son intend to move into the manse at Priceville when he will then be able to devote his whole time to the work of this parish.

Bridge Clubs End Season

It's the end of the year for local bridge clubs in Markdale, and they have been holding their final get-together this week before the summer recess. The senior club had dinner at the Seldon House, Owen Sound, on Tuesday evening and afterwards enjoyed the picture "The Red Shoes" at the Centre Theatre. The table decorations and favors were in pale yellow and green with touches of lavender, and the daffodils used on the table were afterwards won in a lucky draw by Mrs. A. Acheson. High prizes for the year were presented at the dinner to Miss Margaret Neely; Mrs. Will Hill was second, and Mrs. A. E. Hunt, third. The convokers, Mrs. Inez Chamberlain, and Mrs. Clara McArthur, were thanked for their work, and each received a gift. The evening was much enjoyed.

The Junior Club, convened by Mrs. Ray Richards and Mrs. Sam Arrowsmith, are having a dinner party in the Rotary room in the Armoury on Wednesday evening, followed by cards.

Coming Events

PLAN TO ATTEND—the 3-Act Play "She's My Daisy" in Markdale Armoury next Tuesday, April 12th.

DANCING IN ROCKFORD CASINO Friday, April 8th, with Norm Hartley and his Orchestra. Also in Meaford Town Hall every Saturday night. Admission 50c.

CONCERT AND DANCE—At the Meaford Town Hall on Friday, April 8th. CKNX Rannan Boys. Auspices of I.O.O.F. C.P.T. fund. Admission to concert 50c. Dance 50c.

ANNUAL EASTER BAZAAR AND Bake Sale—and tea will be held in Cooke's Presbyterian Church basement, on Saturday, April 16th, 3 to 6 p.m. Also table of bulbs and plants. Everyone welcome!

MARKDALE ROTARY CLUB will present a variety concert by Meaford talent assisted by Meaford Citizens' band in Markdale Armoury, on Wednesday night, April 20th. Details next week.

EASTER DANCE—Freedom Chapter O.E.S. will hold their Easter Dance in Markdale Armoury, East-er Monday, April 18th. Music by "Melody Men Orchestra." Dancing from 9:30 to 1 o'clock. Refreshments served. Adm. \$1.50 couple.

COMING TUESDAY, APRIL 19th—One hundred beautifully coloured slides on the life of Christ in song, sermon and Scripture will be shown in Cooke's Church, Markdale, by Rev. A. Bell and his Young People of South End Baptist Church, Owen Sound. Auspices Sunday School. Starts at 8:15. Admission 25 and 10c.