The Acton Free Press.

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The Warden's Dinner at Milton an Outstanding Event of Year

Warden Mason Presented with Cane from County Councillors—Splendid Speeches and a Sumptuous Repast Mark Historic Event of the Closing of County Year—Warden Mason Highly Complimented on His Year of Achievement.

The Warden's Dinner at Milton last Thursday evening was an outstanding celebration of this historic event. Warden Mason, with his usual attention to duties, had left no detail unattended and the affair was characterized by many as one of the finest and a very fitting climax to Mr. Mason's eminent fulfilment of the office.

The menu provided by the Milton Inn, under the careful supervision of the host, Johnny Mitchell, was one that a much larger institution might well be proud. In corroboration of this statement, here is the menu, and every item was served to perfection.

Tomato Cocktail
Celery Olives Pickles
Oyster Soup
Cabbage and Pimento Salad
Hot Roast Chicken with Dressing
Cranberry Sauce Mashed Potatoes
Ice Cream Sundae
Cake Doughnuts Salted Nuts
Rolls Coffee

During the serving of the dinner the Capitol Orchestra, of Brampton, under Mr. Jas. Algie, gave splendid musical selections and enlivened the proceedings with their leadership in singing of the old songs.

The Toastmaster for the evening was Mr. R. M. McDonald, of Acton, and like most everything else that Murray undertakes, it was done right. He congratulated the musicians and the host on their excellence and conveyed to the County gathering the esteem in which Warden Mason is held in Acton and outlined the success that has culminated his efforts in the home town. Acton rejoices with him in his success and all honored him as a true gentleman.

The toast to The King was responded to with the National Anthem. None other than W. J. L. Hampshire proposed the toast to "Canada," and it was in able hands. With a wealth of Biblical reference and a fund of wit, and fact and a flow of eloquence, Billy made what some termed the speech of the evening, but in a gathering such as was represented at the County Town that evening such a statement we know was pretty broad. Judge Munro gave an equally able reply to this toast to the Dominion and his efforts were ably seconded by Mr. Geo. Hillmer, ex-M. P. P., in a jovial speech.

Crown Attorney Dick, in his toast to "Ontario," was reminiscent and jovial, and admitted that this was the twenty-seventh Warden's Dinner he had attended. Mr. Thos. Blakelock, M. P. P., and Mayor J. B. Mackenzie, of Georgetown, in their replies to this toast to the banner province, pointed out the many advantages this section of Canada contains and the premier position it occupies in the Dominion.

At this juncture Mr. George Cleave, Reeve of Esquesing, was called upon. With a flow of oratory that ranked second to none, Mr. Cleave told of the respect and admiration the County Councillors had for Warden Mason. Without reflection on his predecessors, Mr. Cleave felt that Mr. Mason had excelled in his fulfilment of the Warden's duties. The co-operation he had brought to the County body had made the duties a pleasure and his guidance had been productive of much good in the County. To mark the esteem in which he was regarded by his colleagues the honor of presenting Mr. Mason with an engraved gold-headed cane from his colleagues was his pleasure.

Warden Mason, in his reply, expressed his appreciation of the token and the inestimable value he placed on the kind remarks which had been showered upon him by all the speakers. His work had been made congenial by the co-operation of the Councillors and, while he was retiring from public life, he still held his citizenship duties that he would perform. It would always be a pleasure for him to meet with any of the host of friends that he had learned to know during his service on County Council.

Ex-Warden Donald McIntyre, of Georgetown, in his toast to the "County of Halton," extolled the beauty and grandeur of the County, and dwelt with some emphasis on the northern section, of which he was so justly proud. His descriptive powers were so eloquent that they were doubted by former Warden Morden, from Trafalgar, who replied to the toast. Mr. Morden gave much information regarding County Council expenditure and the reasons justifying the ever-increasing levies. Reeve Geo. R. Harris, of Burlington, in his reply dwelt on the financial side of the County Council work. Although he explained that his figures were just approximate, he gave the gathering much information in his brief address concerning the County finances.

This was the concluding speech of the evening and the gathering dispersed with the singing of the National Anthem.

Two very appreciated musical numbers were given during the programme: Mr. James Algie, C. N. E. gold medallist, rendered a very fine cornet solo, and Mr. E. Campbell, of Toronto, gave a violin selection that was most meritorious. Neat menu cards, which adorned the tables, provided souvenirs of the occasion for the guests.

WARDEN A. MASON, Acton

Those from Acton in attendance were Reeve Mason and Councillors C. M. Hansen, C. H. Harrison and Dr. E. J. Nelson, Messrs. J. M. McDonald, R. M. McDonald, H. N. Farmer, J. Bell, C. W. Wilson, Geo. L. King, R. J. Kerr, Geo. Mason, R. J. Macpherson, P. E. McIntosh, C. W. Mason, G. A. Dills.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT IN ACTON

William Bird, of Guelph, Struck by a Toronto Driver and Carried 65 Feet —In Critical Condition in Guelph Hospital

A number of minor mishaps have occurred at the highway and Young Street corner in Acton by drivers who had attained too much speed to make the turn, but the first serious accident occurred on Monday morning before eight o'clock, when William Bird, of Guelph, was struck by a car and carried a distance of 65 feet, and suffered six broken ribs, a broken arm, head injuries and was hurt internally.

William Bird, of 228 Oxford Street, Guelph, and R. T. Farquharson, of 28 Brock Avenue, Toronto, had a slight collision at the corner, and had clicked fenders, without doing much damage. After stopping their cars, both drivers got out to investigate the accident. Farquharson had in his car also J. D. Pleune, of the Commerical Hotel, Fergus. The motorists had just got to the corner when H. Williamson, of Toronto, came along the highway from Toronto. It is said Pleune waved to him to slacken speed or stop, and got out of the way. The other two men on the corner were, however, unable to get out of the road and Williamson failed to make the turn going on down Queen Street, and striking Bird.

The unfortunate man was carried a distance of 65 feet before the car could be brought to a stop and a pool of blood marked the place on the road where he was finally dropped. He was taken into Councillor Hansen's home, where he was given medical attention and removed by ambulance to St. Joseph's Hospital, in Guelph, where his condition is regarded as very critical.

Chief McPherson, of Acton, and Highway Traffic Officer Howell investigated the accident and Williamson was taken to Milton to be held for trial. Bail was set for $5,000, and a charge of criminal negligence has been preferred against him.

Acton and District

Social and Dance

The U. F. Y. P. O. are holding a New Year's frolic in the Parish Hall on Thursday evening, December 31. The U. F. O. and U. F. W. O. are cordially invited. Progressive crokinole and dancing at 8.30 sharp.

"Merely Mary Ann"

Whatever the reason, Janet Gaynor has the happy faculty of becoming more charming and more effective in every picture she makes. Her latest vehicle, "Merely Mary Ann," which will be shown at the Gregory Theatre here tomorrow evening is no exception to this rule. As the little drudge who blossoms out into an heiress she gives a genuinely remarkable performance and one that counteracts vividly with that of her famous co-star, Charles Farrell, as the sarcastic and bitter composer who learns, almost too late, what love is. "Merely Mary Ann" is a perfect vehicle for the two stars, and is perfectly played. Director Henry King daringly went beyond the usual field to choose the supporting players, which include the ever-delightful Beryl Mercer, J. M. Kerrigan and Arnold Lucy, among others. The authentic London settings and the sympathetic treatment given "Merely Mary Ann," which is based on Israel Zangwill's play of that name, make the resulting film a sheer delight.

Council of 1931 Holds Final Meeting

Pass Resolutions of Thanks for Those Who Served Well—and Wish New Reeve and Councillors Every Success

At the final session of the 1931 Council there were present Councillors Hansen, Harrison, Thetford, and Reeve Mason presided.

The twenty-fifth report of the Finance Committee recommended payment of the following accounts:

G. H. Ritchie, streets and walks	$ .90
Beardmore Leathers Ltd., supplies	6.67
Toronto Stamp & Stencil Works, seal	4.51
Acton Free Press, advertising	1.66
Perkins Electric, rink tickets	2.00
O. W. Swackhamer, repairs at Town Hall	3.15
Geo. Cowle, supplies	1.50
County of Halton, Hospital accounts for year	82.25
Bell Telephone Co., services	10.45
Clark & Till, Firemen's insurance premium	90.60
	$203.59

The report was adopted.

No tenders complying with Arena booth concessions regulations were received, so were therefore not considered and the matter was left for the new Council to deal with.

The tax arrear list was gone over but it was decided no action should be taken by this Council.

In the final meeting the Reeve and Councillors informally expressed their appreciation of the fellowship and co-operation that had characterized the Council meetings.

Reminiscences of the members brought out several interesting facts. Councillor Hansen, in his four years of office, had never missed a Council meeting. Dr. E. J. Nelson has served in that capacity for three years. Councillor Thetford has the record for long-continued service, having been on the Council for ten years. He is run a close second in this regard by Councillor Harrison, who started his municipal service as Councillor ten years ago, but took a couple of years from Council activity to serve on the School Board. Reeve Mason has been Reeve for six years and prior to that had served a year on the School Board and a year on the Council. While retiring from office, every member of the Council and the Reeve gave the assurance that their interest in Acton and its advancement would be just as much in their private life as ordinary citizens.

Moved by C. M. Hansen and E. T. Thetford, and seconded by C. H. Harrison and E. J. Nelson, that the thanks and appreciation of this outgoing Council be extended to The Acton Free Press, through the Editor, Mr. Dills, for their faithful and fairminded reporting of Council procedure during the past year and also that a hearty vote of thanks be extended to all officials of the municipality for their co-operation in so efficiently carrying out their respective duties under the Council. That a hearty vote of thanks be extended to Reeve Mason upon his efficient and courteous conducting of the affairs of the municipality and the leadership provided by him. And that the good will of the outgoing Council be extended to the new incoming Council for 1932, wishing them every success in their endeavors to serve Acton during the coming year.—Carried.

FIRE DAMAGED RECTORY

Blaze in Attic at Residence of Father McBride Caused Considerable Damage on Friday Evening

Just before six o'clock the fire alarm called the Acton Brigade to a fire that had gotten under way in the attic at the Rectory of St. Joseph's Church, on John Street. The blaze had made considerable headway before it was discovered by Miss Mulholland, who is housekeeper at the Rectory, and Father McBride was summoned from the church.

The fire seemed to have got into the space between the plastered ceiling and the roof and kept breaking through on the outside of the roof. The chemical tanks were insufficient to extinguish the blaze and a line of hose from the outside did not have the necessary effect. It was found necessary to take a line of hose into the attic before the blaze could be brought under control.

The water damage was, therefore, considerable and much more serious than the actual fire damage. It is estimated the entire damage to house and contents will run in the neighborhood of $800, which is covered by insurance.

THE EVENING MEAL DIGESTER

"Now remember, liver for vitamines; spinach for the stomach, celery for the nerves!"

"Doc!"

"Yeh?"

"Kin I eat just for the sake of eating once in a while?"

Teacher—"What is the difference between a flea and an elephant?"

Tommy—"Well, an elephant can have fleas, but a flea can't have elephants."

Various Interesting Items of News

New Year's Eve Dance

A dance has been arranged for New Year's Eve by the young men of the Hewetson factory here. The entire proceeds are to be turned over to the Acton Relief Committee for their work. Jack Armstrong and His Melody Serenaders will supply the music and the dance will go from 9 until 2 a. m.

New Year's Eve Dance and Frolic

Ryan Auditorium, Guelph. The season's smartest party, featuring the ever popular's Jean's Night Hawk Orchestra. Novelties, Balloons, Hats, Streamers, 9 till 2. Couple, $2.00. Hear Fred Elliott and His Mac Men, New Year's Day, January 1, 9 to 1. Couple 95c. 26-2

Won a Candy Cane

The most accurate man in town at guessing weights would appear to be Charles Holmes, for he guessed the exact weight of the big candy cane in Wilcox' window, to the fraction of an ounce. The cane weighed 14 lbs. 9½ ounces, and that was Charlie's guess. He will have some real candy for the Christmas holiday. The highest guess was 500 lbs., and the lowest 4½ lbs.

Sunday School Scholars Banquetted

Last Thursday evening the Sunday School scholars of the United Church were given their annual Christmas treat in the form of a banquet. The tables were laden with good things and every child had what in child parlance would be termed "a real feed." During the evening Mrs. Poole led in community singing and at the close Santa Claus paid a visit and presented each child with a bag of candy and Christmas sweets.

The Christmas Story in Pictures

The Christmas message was splendidly portrayed in picture and story form at the United Church last Sunday. At the Sunday School service Mr. E. J. Moore was in charge and with the aid of lantern slides gave a very fine Christmas service. At the evening service the choir gave splendid Christmas anthems and Mr. Moore gave the story of "The Other Wise Man," which was illustrated with lantern slides.

Plenty of Christmas Cheer

If anyone has an idea that the Christmas spirit of providing for others was lacking in Acton, it was because they were unaware of the activities on Wednesday. The Food Branch of the Relief Committee had a real array at the Council Chamber when all the citizens brought their contributions and the forty-odd baskets that were to provide Christmas dinners were no small parcels, but real hampers that were fit to grace the table of anyone. The Girl Guides had Santa Claus make a distribution of toys about town also. The Loyal True Blue Lodge are to-day distributing boxes of candies, nuts and oranges at homes that are feeling the pinch of strenuous times. If anyone in need was left unprovided for it was because their need could not be found out. Then, too, the Community Tree, with its bright lights took its place at the corner of Mill and Main Streets yesterday afternoon. Mr. John Williamson supplied the tree and a number of the men about town volunteered in its erection and Superintendent Wilson strung the lights, and there you are! Acton is saying its merry Christmas to all in its own way—which, under present conditions seems very sensible indeed.

The "At Home" of Acton High School

Teachers, Pupils and Friends Entertained—Prizes and Presentations a Feature of Evening

Acton High School's annual "At Home" on Monday evening was an event that provided much pleasure for those who were privileged to attend and that was quite a goodly number this year, since the school has a large enrollment.

The programme, which provided the first part, was in charge of Jack Skilling, who fulfilled ably the chairmanship duties. It included the school song and two other splendidly rendered chorus numbers, under the direction of Mrs. M. R. Moore; a reading by Esther Taylor; piano solo by Isabel Switzer; dumbell exercise by four Lower School girls; and a Dutch dance by eight Second Form girls. These latter two numbers were given in costume and were very picturesque. For the concluding number the trial scene from Shakespeare's "Merchant of Venice," was chosen. It was well presented with every part being well taken. The girls took all the parts in this presentation, in fact a review of the programme would seem to suggest that the boys of this year at the school are of rather a retiring disposition. The accompanists were Lorraine Wilson, Miss Jean Orr and Teddy Hansen.

A pleasing feature followed when the diplomas and medals were awarded to the pupils. The diplomas were presented by Rev. P. A. Sawyer, to Misses Isabel Bruce, Lillian Perry, Lorna McComb and Barbara Guthrie.

The Dr. Farmer prize of $25 for the student excelling in all departments of the school work of the year was won by Miss Isabel Bruce, and, in the absence of Dr. Farmer in California, this award was presented by Mrs. George Havill, Chairman of the School Board.

The Latin special prize was won by Miss Lillian Perry, and presented by Rev. H. L. Bennie.

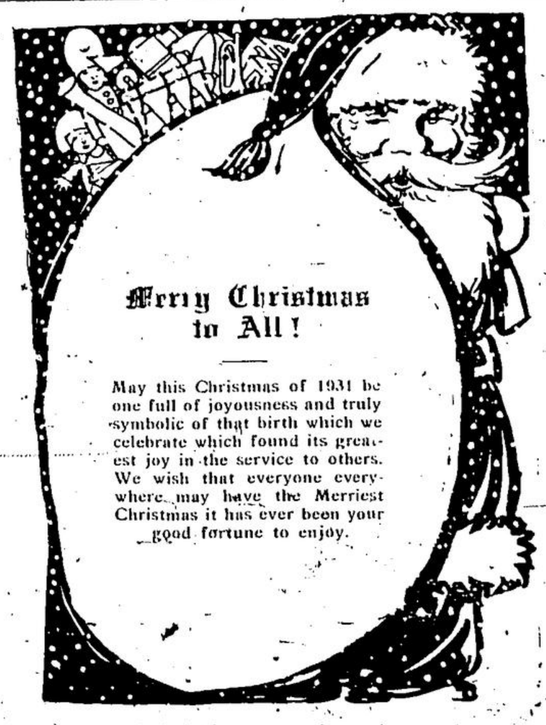
The awards for excelling in the annual field day games were presented by Mrs. H. S. Wilson to Aileen Clarridge, for the Senior girls; and Dorothy Coxe, for the Junior girls; while Rev. Mr. Sawyer presented Jack Smith with the Junior boys' award, and Jack Skilling with the Senior prize. The special prize, presented by Mr. J. H. McComb for the pupil displaying the best sportsmanship was won by Stuart Lantz, and presented by Rev. Mr. Bennie.

In the Valedictory, which was given by Miss Isabel Bruce, this bright scholar displayed the qualities that had brought her success in the winning of the Dr. Farmer prize. Her remarks were well constructed and her speech portrayed vividly the activities which had marked the years of the school life of the class of which she was a member. Her delivery was most pleasing.

The pupils showed their appreciation of their teachers and helpers when they presented, through Mr. Jas. Hudson, gifts to Mrs. (Dr.) Buchanan, Mrs. M. R. Moore, Miss Stephenson and Miss Smith. To the Principal, Miss Parrington, the token of appreciation was presented by Catharine Mackie.

Another token of appreciation of services well rendered was shown when Mr. J. M. McDonald spoke of the services of the retiring head of this year's School Board, Mrs. George Havill, who was presented, on behalf of the Board, with a beautiful silk umbrella.

A delightful luncheon was served by the pupils, at this juncture of the proceedings, and then followed a social time, with promenades and dancing, and the music provided by the Misses Mason.



County Council Holds Final Meeting For 1931 Last Thursday

Councillors All Express Appreciation of Warden Mason's Splendid Conduct of Work of the Year — Milton to Pay County for Transient Guests at 75 cents per Day — Heating Construed to Mean the Means Thereof as Well as the Fuel—Splendid Report of Old People's Home, with Surplus—Peddlars' Fees Increased.

The final meeting of the County Council was held in Milton, at the Court House, last Thursday, December 17. Members present were: Messrs. Duncan Campbell, Buck, Morden, H. Cleave, Hewson, Readhead, G. Cleave, Peer, Currie, Ramshaw, Robinson, Vanscriver, and Harris with Warden Mason in the chair.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed, and communications read, including one from the Dominion Stores, Toronto, re peddling license. A letter was also read from the Palermo Women's Institute, asking that measures be taken to insure snow plow service between Palermo and Bronte during the winter months, also that the County Council give serious consideration to improving the soft shoulders along the highway, either by concrete or tar paving. The letter was filed.

A very interesting and satisfactory report was read from the Commissioners of the House of Refuge for the County of Halton and Peel. The report ran as follows: "We consider that we have had a very successful year in connection with the Home, with the amounts received from Old Age Pensions, inmates who had means to pay for their board, and the supplies which have been grown on the farm. We have been able to finance the Home to date this year without having to ask either County to transfer any money to run the Home.

Following is a statement of receipts:

Old Age Pensions, Peel County	$2,142.84
Old Age Pensions, Halton County	5,025.10
Stock sold	184.50
Miscellaneous	122.81
Boarders	2,889.96
Total	$10,365.20

The amount received from boarders included $3,195 received from Miss Jessie Caverhill this year. Total receipts, including a balance at December 31, 1930, of $445.93, is $10,811.13.

Expenditures to date are as follows:

Salaries	$3,195.30
Supplies	2,630.97
Dry Goods and Boots	608.54
Interest	.50
Insurance, heat, light, telephone, etc.	1,475.99
Miscellaneous	1,410.25
Stock	607.32
	10,777.35

Leaving a balance on hands of $33.78.

The greater part of the amount under capital expenditure was expended on the furnace, on which $532.35 was spent for new flues, new grates, new fire-box built and all needed repairs made. The furnace has since been inspected and reported in first class condition. We feel particularly pleased with the management of the farm this year. Five milch cows have been bought this year. Inmates are using 10 gallons of milk daily. 50 lbs. of butter is being made weekly. Seven head of cattle have been bought and will be fattened and killed for use in the Home this winter. The acreage farmed is approximately 150 acres. The following is a list of the stock and a partial list of produce at present time: Milch cows, 9 head; calves, 5 head; beef cattle, 7 head; brood sows, 2 head; hogs, 9 head; horses, 4 head. Produce: wheat, 900 bushels; oats, 500 bushels; mixed grain, 300 bushels; red clover seed, 35 bushels; hay, 20 tons; potatoes, 1,000 bags; mangels, 1,000 bushels; turnips, 1,500 bushels. (Signed) J. J. Jamieson, Secretary-Treasurer."

The Warden and members of the Council expressed their gratification with the report and with the efficiency and successful management of the House of Refuge as a whole.

Mr. Morden felt that great credit was due to the Master and Matron of the Home for bringing about such a remarkable improvement in so short a time.

A physician's report was also read from Dr. R. E. Edwards, in which he said: "The Home is well managed and the inmates are comfortable and well fed. There have been thirteen deaths from natural causes during the year, ages of the deceased ranging from 64 to 93."

Reports of the Standing Committees were considered in Committee of the Whole, Mr. Hewson in the chair.

In submitting the report of the Education Committee, Mr. Robinson recommended that $50 be sent to the Teachers' Institute, and, following the advice of Inspector J. M. Denyes, it was asked that a history book of the County be compiled for use in the Public Schools. It was felt that pupils were woefully ignorant of the history of their own County, and some such means were necessary to remedy this serious defect in their education. It was left to the Reeves and Deputy Reeves to compile the necessary information for an appropriate history book for the use of scholars.

Following Mr. Ramshaw's report of the County Buildings Committee, a lively discussion ensued when the report called for payment of $17.50 for the purchase of a stove for the Magistrate's office in the Town Hall. Under previous agreement the office was rented from the

(Concluded on Page Eight)

News of Acton and the District

Sold Prize Winning Horse

Mann Bros. disposed of one of their prize winning Hackney horses this week to Mr. E. Howell, of St. George. The animal was just rising two years old and had been a consistent prize winner at a number of fairs where it had been exhibited.

A Christmas Treat

While Acton will not have a Community Christmas Treat for all the children this year those in need are being well cared for. From the surplus funds of a year ago the Loyal True Blue Lodge will purchase Christmas treat boxes of candy, oranges and nuts and not one family will be missed where circumstances are unfortunate this year. Each child will be supplied with a Christmas treat.

If Pork was Only a Price!

Mr. A. J. Murray has a Yorkshire sow on his Cloverdale Farm which won't seem to set a record as a prolific breeder. On December 20 it had its ninth litter and there were 22 little porkers. In eight litters this animal has produced 113 pigs and raised 89 of them. It is a registered sow, Cloverdale Cinderella 18—120—153502, an offspring of Brandon A. 129898. The sire was Orchard Grove Pat 37—133326, which was the Grand Champion at the Canadian National Exhibition.

Acton True Blue Officers

Officers elected at the annual meeting of the Acton True Blues for the coming year were:

W. M.—Sister Annie Anderson.
D. M.—Sister Elsie Johnson.
Recording Secretary — Sister Rose Browne.
Financial Secretary—Sister Alva Wilderspin.
Treasurer—Sister Lilly Wilds.
Chaplin—Sister Margaret Smith.
D. of C.—Sister Ada Simpson.
Conductor—Sister Alice Woods.
I. Tyler—Sister Hilton.
O. Tyler—Sister Gamble.
Auditors—Mrs. Collier and Mrs. Margaret Smith.

The newly-elected officers were installed by the D. D. G. M., Mrs. Wamsley, of Oakville Lodge; Mrs. W. Cain, W. M. of Victory Lodge, Glenwilliams; and Sister Hanfleet, D. M. of Oakville Lodge, assisted, after which a social hour was spent.

TERM REPORT

Of the Standing of Pupils at Acton Continuation School for the First Term Just Concluding

The following is the report for the first term of the Acton Continuation School.

Class I.—75%.
Class II.—66%.
Class III.—60%.
Class IV.—50%.

The names of pupils who obtained an average of less than 50% do not appear.

Form I.

Class I.—Eileen Breen.
Class II.—H. Lamb, C. Henderson, B. Bristow and F. Turner, equal, E. Johnston, H. Smith, V. Joe, J. Dennis.
Class III.—R. Ryder, J. Lambert, D. Babcock, L. Woodhall, H. McCutcheon, A. Burgess.
Class IV.—J. Beattie, S. Gibson, K. Huard, E. Hinton, V. Rawlings, and G. Lantz, equal; E. Footitt, H. Lambert, R. Sterritt, L. McKeown.

Form II.

Class I.—Pearl McInery.
Class II.—A. Sprowl, B. Taylor, B. Harrison, M. Arnold, H. Norton, E. Swackhamer.
Class III.—H. Skilling, A. Gibbens, D. Coxe, H. Campbell, D. Clarridge.
Class IV.—V. McMullin, J. Nicol and I. Flowers, equal; D. Holloway, D. MacArthur, G. Switzer.

Form III.—Junior

Class II.—H. Hassard, G. Molozzie, L. Johnston.
Class III.—C. Baker.
Class IV.—M. Near, L. Wylie, T. Haussen, Harry Norton, C. Mackie, M. Smith.

Form III.—Sr.

Class II.—A. Brown, E. Taylor, G. Agar.
Class III. — V. Blair, M. Agar, O. Rookes, A. Clarridge, I. Switzer.
Class IV.—W. Neat, A. McComb, W. Williams.

The following pupils have not been graded: L. Wilson, H. Ostrander, O. Chalmers, G. Leslie, I. Smith, M. Nichol.

M. C. Parrington,
Principal Continuation School.