

COMING OF WINTER
By Mary Ellen Varley

I leaned against a naked tree
To watch the wild geese fly.
My soul paused in the silence
And heard the wild geese cry.

They moved across the tumbled
lake
And disappeared from view.
Away, far from the hurried snow
I and the wild geese flew!

BANNOCKBURN COMMUNITY REVEALS
BEAUTY, HISTORY IN OLD CEMETERY

What was it like here in 1836? Life would be hard for a prospective farmer, comforts would be few. Likely it was very chilly at the end of October in 1836 about that we can only guess. What we do know is that a baby

died in October, 1836. His name was Hiram Worden, the son of S and E Worden, United Empire Loyalists who came here from Nova Scotia seeking a home. He was one year, two months and ten days old.

So we read on the oldest remaining gravestone in Worden's cemetery, a small square of land beside the present-day No. 7 highway, a few miles east of Acton.

In recent years the pioneer cemetery of the Worden family has become overgrown, the stones leaning wearily as weeds brushed the old, stained lettering.

But now the last resting place of little Hiram Worden and many others of his family is becoming a beauty spot, for members of the Bannockburn community, showing the determined spirit of the first pioneers in the area, have uprooted trees and bushes, hauled stones, raked, scrubbed and painted until the cemetery corner will soon be an attractive historical monument such as the Pioneer Cemetery right in Acton.

Like those who planned the restoration of the Pioneer Cemetery in town, the workers at Bannock-

burn decided to cement the stones together. An arc curves slightly around one pillar-like stone in the centre of the cemetery.

Volunteers have spent hours on the plot and now there are about 20 stones safely framed in cement. Above them a small plaque, not yet completed will read, "In Memory of our Pioneers - Erected by Bannockburn Community 1933."

The work of engraving this stone is donated as were 25 bags of cement. The highway department donated the posts for the new fence which was just put up this week. The original gate has been repainted. Mansell Nellis came free of charge with his bulldozer to help the enterprising members of the district.

As well as donations of materials and inestimable hours of time, cash donations amounting to about \$100 have been made, some by members of the Worden family from as far away as California.

Members of the old Worden family are sending money to help, but not a single one of the descendants is left in the district. Every single one of the family has moved away and it is in a wonderful spirit of community service that the men and women of the Bannockburn

area gather at the corner lot. As far as the residents of the farms nearby recall, the last burial in the cemetery was of a Miss



FENCE POST TOP falls as M. M. Coles, R. L. Davidson and Stan Morrison work during one of the bees held by the Bannockburn community to beautify the Worden cemetery. New fence was put up recently to enclose the plot, several miles east of Acton on No. 7 highway. Work was begun about a year and a half ago.

Worden of Elm in about 1947. The most recent dates on tombstones are in the 1830's. They can't tell how many were buried without stones, since they discovered weather-beaten wooden markers and crosses during their clean-up job.

The oldest known living relative of the Wordens is John Worden of Guelph. Many of those who still have interest in the old family plot are no longer able to travel.

The Wordens were of Dutch descent and came to Canada as United Empire Loyalists.

It is only in the last 20 or 30 years the cemetery has become overgrown, one of the workers explained this week. Trees, pebbles and ice were still trying to bloom among the weeds, clumps of bushes and patches of grass.

Apparently Bannockburn Women's Institute first considered the untended cemetery and then the idea spread to the farm forum from there it became the responsibility of the whole area. The work began a year ago last spring and during this past summer just

the stones gave promise of content and care. Grass has not been planted on the plot as yet.

Recently, daffodils and tulips were placed in the newly worked earth at the base of the old old tombstones now scrubbed and straightened.

R. L. Davidson, W. J. McDonald and Walter Linham were the committee in charge, but it's the whole community they say.

Mrs. R. L. Davidson hopes it eventually prove together some record of the Worden family, beginning with the small lot who passed away in October, 1836 and was buried in a plot hewn from virgin

H. and S. System
Has Grade Mothers

The fall activities of the Acton Home and School Association are now well under way and a very successful season is anticipated. Grade Mothers have been appointed by the executive and they will contact the parents of all students in their respective classes to inform them of the time and date of each meeting and where possible the program for the evening. All parents have been cordially invited to participate and to take an active part in the association.

Following is a list of grade mothers for this season:

- Mr. Dills, morning kindergarten: Mrs. W. Barratt, Mrs. C. Leatherland, Mrs. Dills, afternoon kindergarten: Mrs. J. Reid, Mrs. A. Givens, Mrs. King, afternoon kindergarten: Mrs. J. H. Holmes, Mrs. D. J. Black.
- Mrs. K. Alger, grade 1; Mrs. G. Gibbins, Mrs. P. Binne, Mrs. G. Gable, grade 1; Mrs. F. Heller, Mrs. I. Masters, Mrs. McInnigall, grade 1 and 2; Mrs. C. L. Hopwood, Mrs. E. Smith, Mrs. Morrison, grade 2; Mrs. W. McEneaney, Mrs. H. Price, Mrs. Bradla, grade 2 and 3; Mrs. G. Cantler, Mrs. W. Mattocks, Miss Warner, grade 3 and 4; Mrs. D. Gibson, Mrs. W. Woodburn.
- Mrs. Anderson, grade 4; Mrs. J. H. Price, Mrs. N. J. Churchill, Mrs. King, grade 5; Mrs. J. McEneaney, Mrs. P. Keane, Mrs. Wilkinson, grade 5 and 6; Mrs. W. Wilson, Mrs. R. Parker, Mr. McKeown, grade 6 and 7; Mrs. R. Herley, Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Foster, grade 7; Mr. C. Cook, Mrs. J. Jones, Mr. E. Smith, grade 8; Mr. F. Oakes, Mrs. W. D. Mason.

ORTON
Recent Visitors
At Orton Listed

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Cook spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. James Flinnery of Ferguson.

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Nevills and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Sargent and boys of Belwood.

We are sorry to report that Miss Joan Hurd is a patient in Groves Memorial Hospital, Ferguson. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

Recent visitors with Mrs. John Huntley were Mr. and Mrs. Harold Huntley of Aurora; Mr. Ken Huntley, Marilyn and Ross of Belleville.

Mr. Earl Hooper and Marybeth spent last Wednesday at Heaton.

Messrs. Jim Nevills and Pete Watson spent a few days last week with Mr. and Mrs. Russel Watson of Galt.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Morris Cook (nee Christine Langner) who were married October 31 in Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Watson and family spent Sunday with the former's mother, Mrs. John Watson.

Wesley and Billy Woods of Belwood spent a few days recently with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hurd.

Port Worker's Bale
Shipped This Week

The annual meeting of the Daughters of Knox was held on Wednesday evening, November 4, at seven o'clock at the home of June Watkins with 11 girls attending to the roll call.

In the absence of the president, the hostess conducted the meeting. After the opening ceremony, a short business session was held by Mrs. A. J. Buchanan on the theme "God is here. In Christ there is no east or west." Miss Inez McLellan concluded the study on Africa with a quiz based on the study book, "Gleaming up with Africa." An interesting discussion on the year's work followed.

A short business period during which the annual reports of the secretary, Germa Wildt, and the treasurer, Lorraine Kinnaird, were read, revealed a most successful year.

Plans were made to raise money for the Camp Fund by using the Eric Knapp contest sponsored by a magazine company. Olive Ellerby is to conduct the project.

The official ballot of the list of officers of the 1934 executive was accepted on motion of the secretary, Beverly Smith and Shirley Mason.

Lorraine Kinnaird invited the girls to hold the Christmas meeting in her home.

Mr. H. E. Banta continued the Across Canada study with informative talk on "Vanning in the West." The remainder of the evening was spent in completing gifts for the bale to be sent to port worker Mrs. Hilda Blackwell. This generous bale will be shipped this week.

Refreshments were served by the hostess and her committee and a very pleasant social hour brought the meeting to a close.

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