

Built in 1875

# Greenock School Ends 90 Year History

At the Greenock school reunion, Miss Elva Pearson read a history of the school, now closed. In part, this history follows:

On the east corner of No. 5 side road on the First Line of Erin Township was situated the first log schoolhouse. Being built on Leslie property, it was known as "Leslie's School". Some time later, this school was replaced by a frame building on the north corner of the First Line. The attendance became so large that it was impossible to accommodate all, the attendance reaching 120 in the winter months and 80 to 90 in the summer. In those days, the young men and women would return in the winter for further study.

Mr. Crewson was the first teacher, followed by Mr. Robert Towell, Mr. William Wallace and Mr. Hugh MacPherson. Mr. MacPherson was teacher for a number of years, residing in a cottage on the corner of lot seven, First Line. It was here that his son, Hugh Alexander was born in 1868. He became the Rev. H. A. MacPherson of Knox Church in Acton. In 1903, he moved to Chalmers Church in Toronto, where he remained until his death in 1914.

It was decided to build a new school and a committee was formed of Messrs. Robert Kennedy, Lachlan Currie, Henry Pearson, John Duff, George Martin, Hugh McLaughlin and Isaac Snyder. They appointed Robert Kennedy and Lachlan Currie a committee and paid them to visit schools to get ideas for a plan for the new school.

The new school was erected in 1875 by Mr. Thomas Ebbage of Acton at a cost of \$1,450.00. The brick was purchased from Mr. Robert Schwood from his plant on the Sixth Line of Erin and was hauled in sleighs and wagons to the present site.

The bell cost fifty dollars and the clock six dollars. The school grounds have always been the same size of one acre, which was purchased from Mr. J. W. Leslie. It was very rough with many stumps in it, so in 1876 it was stumped and levelled by Mr. Donald McLean.

The name of the school was changed to "Greenock". Mr. John Duff, being an important member of the committee, had come from Greenock, Scotland, and the school was named in his honor.

On the opening day, there was a tea meeting. Mr. J. W. Leslie drove into Acton with his team and wagon and hay rack, and brought the Acton brass band to provide music. Dishes were rented for the event and the roads being very rough, many of the dishes were broken, causing some expense to the section.

The Patrons of Industry was organized and held meetings during 1891 and 1892.

In 1898, new floors were laid in the school and in 1910, the front blackboard was replaced. Many political meetings have been held in the school and prominent politicians have spoken including Donald Guthrie, Dr. Turton, J. J. Craig, Hugh Guthrie and Kelly Evans.

In 1906, the young people of the section formed a Literary Society. Many excellent debates and programs were put on weekly during the winter months. Box socials, oyster suppers and concerts were held. Through these efforts carried on from 1906 to 1917, a well equipped library was donated to the school.

On June 26, 1913, the Literary Society held a reunion when many former teachers and pupils attended a picnic in the afternoon and a garden party at night.

A very interesting account of the coronation of King George V was given in the school one evening by Mr. Hugh Guthrie, who had attended the coronation.

The Literary Society reorganized in 1921 and carried on again until 1928 and during that time, many more good books were added to the school library.

Again the Literary Society reorganized in December, 1936, and held meetings during the winter months from 1936 to 1941. During this time, a piano was purchased by the society. At the

request of the School Inspector, the platform in front of the school was removed and the blackboard lowered. Then the Literary Society purchased a portable platform.

In 1915, July 1, the diamond anniversary of Greenock school was held with a picnic in the afternoon and a garden party in the evening. It was estimated that 1,000 people attended. With the proceeds of this effort, hydro was installed in the school.

Mr. Crewson was the first teacher in Greenock school and was followed by Miss Annie Kennedy. Mr. R. H. Wansborough, Miss Bella Gordon, Miss McFarlane, Miss Cree, Mr. T. J. Moore, Mr. Hector McLean, Mr. Jacob

Arbuckle, Mr. J. Dobbie, Mr. A. McIntyre, Miss Phemie Currie, Mr. W. Kerr, Miss May Pasmore, Miss Hattie Hindley, Miss Marcella Leitch, Miss Margaret McDonald, Miss Gertrude Gray, Miss Muriel Crossman, Miss Jean Barbour, Mr. Jim McIntyre, Miss Agnes Pasmore, Mrs. J. D. Bell, Mr. Ralph McKeown, Miss L. Rossell, Mrs. Monaghan, Mr. Mitchell Neal.

Mr. Hector McLean went to China and spent many years as a missionary. Miss McDonald taught in Greenock school from 1904 to 1926. Mr. Jim McIntyre joined the Air Force and while an instructor, was killed in a crash at Dunnville. During World

War I, Mr. Charles Currie paid the supreme sacrifice. In World War II, Robert Allen, Grant Allan, Gordon McKeown, Erwin McKeown, Lawson McCutcheon, Kenneth McDonald and Douglas McDonald served overseas. Erwin McKeown winning D.F.C. and Bar. All these boys were pupils at Greenock school.

In 1947, the school sections in the southern part of Erin Township united in two school areas. Mr. J. E. Pearson was elected to the new board. Three years ago, these combined in one — Erin Township School Area No. 1. All the one-room schools have now been replaced. Greenock area students all attend the new consolidated school at O'Springs.



GREENOCK SCHOOL, BUILT IN 1875, ENDS 90 YEAR HISTORY

## Department Approves Esqueuing School Loan

Gen. A. Kerr, M.P.P., announced this week that the Department of Municipal Affairs has approved a loan to the Township of Esqueuing for a two room addition to Limehouse Public School in the village of Limehouse, and also a two room addition to Pineview Public School in the Township.

The total estimated cost of the additions is \$86,380 and the amount of the loan is \$57,537 with interest at the rate of 5 1/2 per cent per annum over a term of 20 years.

The addition to the Limehouse Public School will consist of an area of 2,600 square feet with standard cement block construction with brick veneer. The addition to the Pineview Public School

will also consist of standard cement block construction with brick veneer.

It is expected that work on these additions will commence immediately, with completion early in 1966 to be ready for next year's school term.

**TOO FAST**  
Over-cautious driver: What was that that whizzed by? Passenger (used to sports models): It passed too quickly to see properly but I think it was a tractor.

## Baxter's Drug Store

THE STORE IS CLOSING  
6 P.M., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th  
After that date all Prescription Renewals will be available from Cooper's Drug Store.

There are still quite a number of customers who have not responded to our requests for payment of accounts owing. Please arrange to pay these before the store closes to help us in settling the Estate and avoid possible embarrassment.

# LOBLAWS TV BINGO

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### EDEN MILLS

#### Leaving for France For Year of Study

Dr. and Mrs. George Aitken of Toronto visited with his mother Mrs. George Aitken Sr. at Pitts- carry Farm, Eden Mills, before leaving for France for a year of study and research. Mrs. F. Funnell, John, Mary and Fred of Toronto were also guests at the farm. Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hainer are in the Party Sound District this weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Garnet MacDougall, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Chamberlain, Mr. and Mrs. M. Tolton, are enjoying a weekend at Dorset. The Brownies and Girl Guides of Eden Mills group are having a campout this weekend.

**Auction Sale**  
The executive of the Community Club met Monday evening and the Giant Auction Sale in Community Park has been postponed to September 25 owing to Acton Fall Fair on the 18th.

Mr. and Mrs. William McLean are in London visiting their daughter Mr. and Mrs. Bob Francis and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Gilbertson attended the Power Reunion at Ellyth on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry McIntosh are in Niagara Falls for a few days and will attend the graduation of a granddaughter.

Mr. Jim Jennings is home for the weekend from Toronto where he is attending Ryerson. Ivan Buchanan enters the University of Guelph Wednesday, for a two year Diploma in Agriculture.

Face powder can catch a man, but it takes baking powder to keep him.

### Ayrshire Breeders High in Production

A. H. Clark, Georgetown, had the top scoring herd in Canada last year in R.O.P. in Group C, Ayrshires, for those with 25 to 40 records. Mr. Clark's 28 cows average 12,702 lbs. of milk and 489 lbs. of butterfat. This is a Breed Class Average of 164 for milk and 153 for butterfat.

In Group D, for those with 41 or more records, Clark Bros., Norval, placed third. Their 71 records averaged 10,917 for milk, 435 for butterfat, for a B.C.A. of 135 and 132.

Group A, for those with six to 15 records, was won by the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. The 12 Ayrshires at the O.A.C. averaged 12,297 for milk and 535 for butterfat, for a B.C.A. of 152 and 161.

A husband really helps the most with housecleaning when he stays away from home.

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### SILVERWOOD

#### Public Health Nurse Institute's Speaker

The opening meeting after the summer recess of Silverwood W.I. was held at the home of Mrs. R. Miller.

Mrs. French, Public Health District Nurse was speaker for this special meeting and gave an interesting talk on the various aspects of public health nursing.

Mrs. H. Marchington and Mrs. G. Hendersons attended the leadership meeting in Milton Thursday afternoon for 411 Clubs. The theme this fall is "wool".

Clean head and tail lights as often as windshields.

## ACTON FAIR BABY SHOW

### SATURDAY, SEPT. 18 at 2.30 P.M.

Entries will be accepted between 1.45 and 2.30 at the platform in the arena.

#### CLASS 1 — BOYS AND GIRLS 1 TO 6 MONTHS

1st PRIZE — Merchandise donated by Cooper's Drug Store  
2nd PRIZE — Merchandise donated by Cooper's Drug Store

#### CLASS 2 — BOYS AND GIRLS 6 TO 12 MONTHS

1st PRIZE — Voucher \$500 donated by Ledger's I.G.A.  
2nd PRIZE — Voucher \$100 donated by Kay Roszell

#### CLASS 3 — BOYS 12 TO 18 MONTHS

1st PRIZE — \$500 Voucher donated by Benson Shoes  
2nd PRIZE — \$100 Voucher donated by Neilsen Clothing

#### CLASS 4 — GIRLS 12 TO 18 MONTHS

1st PRIZE — \$500 Voucher donated by A.B. Supermarket  
2nd PRIZE — \$100 Voucher donated by Newton's Department Store

#### CLASS 5 — TWINS 2 YEARS AND UNDER

1st PRIZE — \$500 Voucher donated by The Family Store  
2nd PRIZE — \$100 Voucher donated by The Holland Shop

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2 Door Hardtop V-8, 2 Tone Turquoise and White. Fully equipped automatic, radio, power steering, power brakes, White Walls.

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Lic. No. 551345

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Lic. No. 271546

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4 Door — Beige

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Station Wagon Bus — Seats 9 Forest Green — Ideal for family camper and general delivery.

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