



**BEATNIK PERFORMER** Nancy Oakley amazed downs Frances Gorjup, Robin Marshall and Susan Marshall when she appeared at the playground program circus Wednesday of last week in the arena. The 350 children taking part in the summer program entertained with dances, songs, accordion solos and clown acts.

## Close playground program with one-ring circus in arena

A one-ring circus complete with elephants, horses, clowns, dancers, Indians and a magician moved into Acton arena Wednesday night of last week as children taking part in the summer playground program entertained parents and friends.

The tiny trapeze started out with a parade from the C.N.R. station to the park. Although they had no band to march by, the youngsters made their own music, beating drums and singing along the route. Constable Peter Campbell of the Acton O.P.P. detachment headed the parade in the police cruiser with the red dome light flashing.

Parents and friends of the young entertainers almost filled one side of the seating area. As lights were dimmed in all but the centre ring, recreation director Howard Pearce announced the different numbers.

Under the snapping whips of ringmaster Riny Schuts and Henry Toebes, five performing horses were put through their paces as they sprang through hoops and clambered over rolling barrels. Undercover men acting out the parts of the trained animals were Maureen Gerth and Cathy Hunter, Robin Insoce and Ronnie Turkosz. Trudy Toebes and Chris Schuts, Emily Hodgson and John Thompson, Jimmy Matthews and Eddie Cripps.

Susan Mills entertained the audience with a modern jazz dance, followed by 10 bellowing elephants swinging their trunks as they acted out "Ten Little Elephants." Dressed as elephants were David Mills, Frances Gorjup, Jane Pargeter, Cathy Turkosz, Debbie Turkosz, Diane Buckman, Robin Insoce, Carol Jordan, Ronnie Turkosz and Maria Pataky.

Wearing Hawaiian costumes complete with leis, Linda Deforest and Muriel Holmes danced under the spotlight. Smiling Joe Marshall drew a large round of applause as he played several accordion solos as the spotlight beamed on him.

No circus is complete without clowns and this one had 10 entertaining at the same time in the one-ring circus. Taking part were Jamie Elliott, Frances Gorjup, Maureen Gerth, Theresa McGillockay, Colleen McGillockay, Jamie Widawski, David

Mills, Terry Holmes, Susan Matthews and Robin Marshall.

Dressed in green elf outfits, a brother and sister team, Ingrid and Colin MacColl pleased the audience with a tap dancing number, followed by songster Teddy Hagan with two crowd pleasing songs.

Usually when Indians went on the warpath in the old western days, there was always trouble. During the circus, this was reversed as seven youngsters in Indian costume went through tribal dances without a shot or arrow being fired. Taking part were Joe Schuts, David McGillockay, Sherry Phillips, Connie Taylor, Cathy Roach, Danny La Marsh and Cindy McGillockay.

To conclude the program, Mike Drohan of Guelph entertained the parents and kiddies with feats of magic. Disappearing cards, golf balls, rope tricks and a sword trick using Howard Pearce as his assistant, were among the many magic acts performed.

As the lights dimmed in the ring, everyone flocked to the end of the arena floor to spend their pennies on games of chance — throwing balls, tossing rings, breaking balloons, and many others.

The circus wound up the summer playground program for another year and already the youngsters are looking forward to next season.

Mr. Pearce commended his staff of capable playground leaders for the excellent job they have done this summer.

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## First Ballinafad church services date back to 1842, history recalls

The history of the Presbyterian Church in Ballinafad Hill 1925, when it became the United Church of Canada, has been written by Beatrice Hillis.

Services began in the Methodist Church here as far back as 1842. Some years after this, the Presbyterians desired a place to worship, so were granted the use of the Methodist Church.

As the Methodists had been holding Sunday School and services in the afternoon, the Presbyterians held theirs in the forenoon. While the congregation was getting a start, the Toronto Presbytery looked after pulpit supplies.

When more Presbyterians settled in this vicinity, they decided to organize and build a church of their own. A site was procured from a Mr. David Hill and the work began in 1878.

A Mr. White, an M.P., had the honor of laying the cornerstone. Neighboring ministers, Rev. Fowlie of Erin being one, had charge of the impressive service.

In the autumn of that year, 1878, Dr. E. D. McLaren of Cheltenham, being moderator, conducted the opening service. With grateful hearts, the people rejoiced to think they now had a church of their own in which to worship God.

As Ballinafad would then be linked with Melville congregation, their pastor and session officiated at the first communion service in the new church.

The first elders appointed were Messrs. John Russell, 5th Line; George Yemem, 7th Line and James Marshall, 9th Line. For the first few years, there was neither musical instrument nor choir. Mr. Robert Aikett led the singing.

Later an organ was purchased and a choir organized which continued all through the years. Today there is a good choir which adds much to the service, also a few good musicians.

Rev. A. Dobson was the first ordained minister, the Rev. William Kay 1888 and 1889.

A few years after the church was built, the congregation decided to procure a home for their minister and therefore bought the property in Ballinafad which ever since has been known as the manse.

Whether the two mentioned above lived at the manse or not, I do not know, but I do know all others did: Rev. L. Emes 1891-94, Rev. D. L. Campbell 1895-97, Rev. George Milne 1898-1909, Rev. P. Currie 1910-12, Rev. N. Waddell 1912-25.

The last of June, 1925, the union of the three denominations took place. The Presbyterians here united with Rev. N. Waddell and Rev. A. Evans of the Methodist Church officiating at the first communion service. Rev. Waddell remained till 1927. After this, ministers usually came July 1.

Up to the end of Rev. Waddell's pastorate, the ministers drove to Melville, nine or ten miles, no matter what kind of roads or weather and thought it no hardship, so long as they could get the gospel to the people.

Other ministers were: Rev. M.

Gardner 1927-29, Rev. George Aiken 1929-35, Rev. A. Foreman 1935-45 and Rev. O. Flindall 1945-48, who was the last ordained minister.

Students were: William Gibbs, four years; N. Russ, two to six; G. Townsend, one year; A. Neelon, two years; M. McBride, two years; C. Beaton, two years; D. Fleming, two years; G. Bates, two years, 1966.

When Rev. Foreman was here a few years, he was asked if he would take on another congregation. He was willing, so on the first Sunday in July, 1940, Church Hill came in as the third church on the Ballinafad charge.

Lincholme was going to be closed. Other arrangements were made for the Glen church. Those had been three churches on one charge.

In 1954, the Ballinafad congregation decided to put a basement under the church. In Sept., the work began in earnest. Sunday School and services were conducted in the old hall. By Christmas, we were back in the church, though much remained to be done, volunteers doing their bit.

By April, the work was finished. The sanctuary had been freshly decorated. An oil burner furnace with many conveniences was placed in the basement.

Many former members and friends gathered with the congregation for the reopening and rededication on Sunday, May 5, 1955.

Rev. Foreman conducted the opening service and Rev. Stewart, chairman of the Hallon Presbytery, gave an impressive sermon. Whoever built that church did a wonderful job, as it is still in good condition, opened 88 years ago this October.

In 1907, a shed was built to protect the numerous horses and vehicles. This was taken

down some years after union, as cars had become the mode of travel.

All these years, the manse and small barn have been kept in good repair. Years ago, imitation stone veneer was put on outside of the frame house to make it warmer. A new chimney was built and a new oil furnace installed and all other conveniences including water put in the manse, also considerable furniture.

This spring, 1966, the old well was discarded and a new well drilled.

We are indebted to Melville and Church Hill for helping in the upkeep. Melville Church closed two years ago. Many of the loyal members moved away or passed away, till only a few remained. It served for 120 years or more.

Much the same has occurred here. We are grateful to the ones who have come to our community and do take an active part and help in many ways.

But most important of all has been and is the Sunday School, followed by splendid services at 11 a.m. every Sunday.

There was a Women's Missionary Society before union in 1925 and it has continued ever since, afternoon and evening groups. A Mission Band and Baby Band were organized and continued for 20 years or more. Women's Association began organized soon after union and continued till the United Church Women's Association began about five years ago.

No one can estimate the good that has been done by the little country churches. Many have gone forth to other places and have been an influence for good wherever they went. Many continue to do the Lord's work.

## Harley goes west, Kerr east as members enjoy holidays

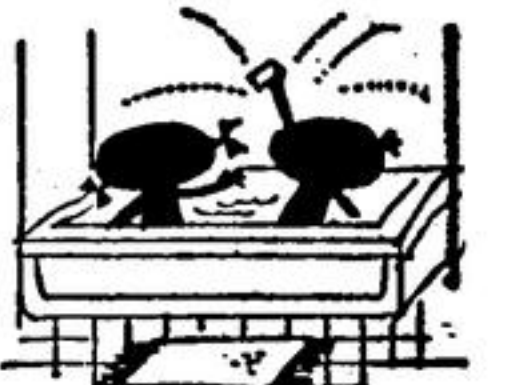
Both Hallon's Federal members of parliament, Dr. Harry Harley, Liberal, and Conservative George Kerr, Hallon member of the provincial Parliament, are away on vacations — Dr. Harley, his wife Marguerite and their children Bruce, Douglas and Janet, left for Vancouver in a house trailer. The parliamentarian's in-laws will be living in the Harley Oakville home during their absence.

Mr. Kerr left for the opposite end of the nation on his vacation, and was fishing at Spencer's Island, Nova Scotia, for one week. He travelled by airplane to Moncton, New Brunswick, then by car to the island.



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