

More recollections

First log school at the Fad soon after settlers of 1820

Another instalment of history in the Ballinafad area has been written by spy Miss Beatrice Hills. It's thought perhaps she is the only one in the district now who has this fund of information of the community's history.

With interest in our origins increasing as centennial year approaches, we are expecting to publish her facts and recollections — and those of others — whenever the space is available.

Her accounts are read with pleasure. A problem in the keeping of these articles. One suggestion is to clip them out and glue them in a scrapbook; an attractive scrapbook with a special centennial cover has just come into stock at the stationery store and costs 59 cents.

Early records of the pioneers coming into this district, Erin Township and northern Esquesing, was in 1820-21. A few men came to claim their land. They each cleared one acre and built a cabin.

They returned in the spring of 1821 with their wives and what children they had at that time and settled in these log cabins. From the place where the railroad now crosses the 7th Line near Georgetown, they came through the bush following a blazed trail to their homesteads. A great many were United Empire Loyalists.

Here is a description of one of these log cabins — a one room log cabin, cracks caulked with mud to keep out the wind, a bark roof, a floor of hewed logs, a fireplace and chimney of stones, a door of split cedar with one pane of glass for a window.

A few years after the founding of the settlement the people decided to put up a building that would serve as a school and a meeting house.

Mr. Nathaniel Roszell gave land off of his farm, east corner, Lot one, 7th Line, Erin Township, for this school. They got material ready and in a short time a very comfortable log building was ready for use, just opposite to where the store now stands.

As soon as the school was finished weekly worship services were held there and it was surprising how the people turned out. A Methodist minister, a Mr. Heyland, who had been visiting the scattered people in the bush, was their first minister.

Names of some others were Belton Shaler, Rose, Williams and Demorest. Services continued there until the Methodist church services began in 1842.

Names of some of the pupils who attended that school were Alice and Sarah Roszell, Mary Roszell (Mrs. Comfort Thompson), Mary Jane McCallum, Emma Johnson, Martha Beswick (Mrs. Ira Hills), George and Ebenezer Beswick, Sarah Kentner, Bert and Alvie Kentner, Frank Czerninski.

Miss-Bella Young was teacher when that log school closed in 1869. At least ten direct descendants of some of those pupils are still living not far from the Fad.

I could name at least three dozen people who are still living and were members of that Methodist Sunday School and Church for some years before union in 1925. Some continued to carry on in the United church here.

When that log school closed in 1869 some pupils went to the new brick school at Peacock corners, Lot 5, Erin Township and those in Esquesing to Blue Mountain school south of Ballinafad.

In 1905 another brick school was built at Peacock corner with a basement. The former school and wood shed were sold. That school has gone the way of all one room schools now, about two years ago it was closed and children are picked up by bus and taken to a more up-to-date school at Brisbane.

In earlier years children got fresh air and exercise by doing some chores on the farm and walking to school and back, except in the severe winter weather, our Dad would hitch a team to a sleigh and take all children down to Blue Mountain school and go for us at 4 p.m. and it never cost the country a cent!

When I started to school there was no well there. Some time later a well was drilled by the Gartleys. Two boys would be sent up the hill to Mr. Coles to get a pail of water. We drank out of one tin cup.

When forty or more had a drink there wasn't much left to wash hands before lunch. It's a wonder anyone lived to be 75 or 80 years, yet some of these are still living and able to be around. One is even 90.

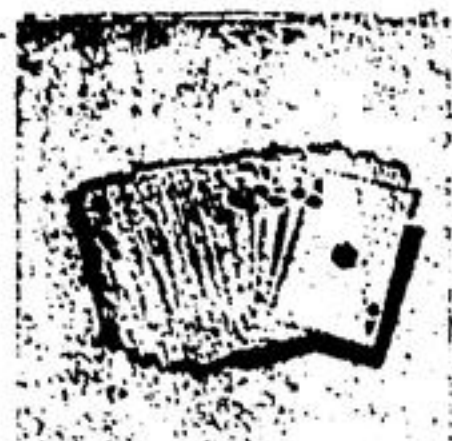
I guess the plain substantial meals and farm work made us healthy! And those one room schools sent forth many wonderful citizens.

I would like to add Mr. Thomas Merry, a native of the Emerald Isle, is credited with giving Ballinafad its name.



BALLINAFAD SCHOOL, built in 1825 or 1826, as pictured above. The school was closed in 1869. One of the pupils, Martha Beswick, is in the second row, became the wife of Ira Hills and the mother of Miss B. Hills, the author of the article on the school.

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Let's Play Bridge

by Bill Coats

Did you have a nice summer — bridge-wise, that is? It was a mite hot for bridge most of the time but a terrific summer for the holiday-makers.

Now that the cooler weather is here, our thoughts and actions turn to bridge. The Georgetown Duplicate Bridge Club is underway already. Its regular night is Tuesday at 8 p.m. and they meet in the Legion auditorium in Georgetown.

The Acton Bridge Club starts its season next Monday, September 12. We meet at 31 Young St. in Acton at 8 p.m. sharp.

So far as we know, the Erin Duplicate Club is meeting on the first and third Thursdays of each month in the Anglican Parish Hall in Erin.

If you like to play bridge but have never tried duplicate bridge, come out to one of the local clubs. You will be very welcome and I am sure that you will enjoy yourself. You can bring your own partner, or you can come alone and a partner will be found for you. Your first night is "on the house" at any local club.

I spent most of my summer marking Grade XIII examinations in Toronto. This little gem of a hand occurred in a "noon hour" bridge game. It's difficult at times to adjust your game to a strange partner, so this may account for the bidding.

But the play is the thing. My partner made excellent use of his cards to control the hand.

Dealer — South

S-5 2

H-10 9 6 4
D-3
C-A K 9 8 6 2

West East
S-K 10 4 S-Q J 9 8 7
H-J 7 2 H-8 3
D-A J 9 5 2 D-Q 7 6
C-Q 7 C-J 10 3

South
S-A 6 3
H-A K O 5
D-K 10 8 4
C-5 4

The bidding:
South West North East
1NT Pass 3NT All Pass

My partner opened one — no trump with the club suit wide open. This is not a recommended practice. As North, I do not have enough points to raise the no trump, but my almost solid club suit looked good for some tricks, so I gambled with three no trump. My gamble proved to be justified by my partner's good judgment and card control.

West led his fourth best diamond, the five. East played the queen and declarer won with the king. Now at all cost, East must be kept off the lead. Declarer led a low club and when West played low, won in dummy with the king. A heart was led, to get back to South's hand.

South led another club and when West produced the queen, a low card was played from dummy. Since a club must be lost in any case, this was the best time to lose it.

West cashed the ace and jack of diamonds and led the nine. Declarer continued his line play by discarding a spade and two clubs from dummy. He

Fine response
Response has been "wonderful" to the chair repair project initiated by the workshop for retarded adults at Hornby. The group re-webs lawn chairs and officials were very happy with the amount of the work the workshop received. Waste paper baskets are also being made and there are other projects in mind.

must not discard a heart for this suit provides the entry to dummy's good clubs.

Declarer won the diamond nine and cashed two high hearts. The heart ten in dummy's clubs and declarer claimed the balance.

By playing the lead in the West hand, declarer lost only two diamonds and a club. If East had gained the lead, declarer would lose four diamonds and a club. When you must lose a trick in a suit, try to lose it to the opponent who cannot harm you.

If you would like any information on duplicate bridge or on any of the bridge clubs in the area, phone Bill Coats at 853-2225, Acton.

Gardhouse, Bennett winners at C.N.E. Shorthorn contests

Shorthorns staged a pleasing show at the C.N.E., with numbers considerably higher than at the previous year's show. Fourteen breeders brought out good animals for the scrutiny of the judge, Dr. R. H. Nelson, Michigan State University.

The strong herds of R. W. Gardhouse, Milton and S. G. Bennett, Georgetown, battled it out on even terms. The Bennett entries won for the owner, both Premier Breeder and Premier Exhibitor Banners, with Gardhouse runner-up in each instance.

However, in the championships, Gardhouse cattle took three out of four. Their 11 month bull Aberfeldy Habitant, was named grand champion. His stall-mate, a month older, Aberfeldy Heir, was named reserve grand. Both were sired by Aberfeldy Captivator.

The Guardhouse cow, Crichton Primrose 6th, was named female grand champion. Bennett's cow, Scottdale Ruth Augusta, went reserve grand. She had won top honors at last year's Royal Winter Fair.

However, it must not be assumed that this was a "two herd" show. Good cattle from other herds, from Kent County in the West to Russell County in the East, provided strong competition in all classes.



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TAX NOTICE — 1966
MUNICIPALITY OF ACTON
THIRD INSTALMENT NOW DUE
Attention is drawn to the payment of 1966 taxes, which are now payable in four instalments. Taxes are payable to the Municipal Treasurer at the
Town of Acton Municipal Office
(Y.M.C.A. Building)
Taxes for the period Jan. 1, 1966 to Dec. 31, 1966 were due on May 16th and penalties will be imposed if instalments of same are not paid as follows:
FIRST INSTALMENT MAY 16th
SECOND INSTALMENT JULY 15th
THIRD INSTALMENT SEPTEMBER 15th
FOURTH INSTALMENT NOVEMBER 15th
According to the Tax Collection By-Law a penalty of 1 per cent, per month or fraction of a month, will be added on the amount remaining unpaid after the 16th day of May. This penalty applies to each instalment in a similar manner.
The attention of Ratepayers is directed to the Penalties and other clauses as printed and explained in detail on every Tax Bill.
MAKE PAYMENT NOW AND TAKE YOUR TAX NOTICE WITH YOU WHEN MAKING PAYMENT
J. McGEACHIE, Collector

is your home off balance?

It is if you and your family are uncomfortable, and you have dry skin problems, sandpaper sinuses, or stuffy-nosed children. As your gas company knows, comfort depends on the proper balance of heat and humidity in your home.
You've heard how you always feel cooler in a dry climate than a damp one? That's because when air is heated, humidity falls. The air becomes thirsty and draws moisture from the surroundings including your body. When moisture evaporates from your body, it takes heat away and you feel cool. The family complains; you turn up the thermostat and pay a bigger heat bill.
Comfort is when humidity and heat are properly balanced. You feel neither too hot nor too cold. Modern gas heating can give you the correct comfort level automatically, because gas heating can control humidity as well as heat.
We'll help you achieve the proper indoor climate in your home... and save you money doing it.
So call your Heating Contractor, Department Store or Gas Company. Phone or write to your local Gas Company for a free "Comfort Is" brochure.
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Fair Dates

Acton	Sept. 16-17
Amherst	Sept. 22-23-24
Barrington	Sept. 22-23-24
Bowling Green	Sept. 22-23-24
Brampton	Sept. 15-16-17
Calabro	Sept. 9-10
Durham	Sept. 22-23
Erin	Oct. 7-8-19
Georgetown	Sept. 16-17
Galt	Sept. 8-9-10
Georgetown	Sept. 30 Oct. 1
Kitchener	Sept. 20 Oct. 1
London (Western)	Sept. 9-17
Mississauga	Sept. 23-24
Ottawa (West)	Oct. 24-29
Toronto (Royal Wilton)	Sept. 1-2
Waterloo	Nov. 11-19
Waterloo	Sept. 9-19

Motel rises
Bookings are in, and work is beginning this week on the walls of the new motel at the Mohawk Raceway.

REPORT DAMAGE
Milton O.P.P. report \$110 total damage in a two-car collision on the Second Line Nassagaweya Monday morning. The drivers were Mabel Anna Parker and Michael Langridge, both of R.R. 1, Campbellville.

Four more homes for Nassagaweya
Six building permits with a total value of \$24,480 were issued during August by the Township of Nassagaweya.
The permits included four for new residences with values ranging from \$8,000 to \$23,000. Other permits were for a tool shed valued at \$600 and a garage valued at \$850.
To date during 1966, permits with a total value of \$1,159,050 have been issued. This included a large addition to Mohawk Raceway and 21 new dwellings.

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