



ATTENDING THE ROCKWOOD school reunion Saturday, July 1 were over 600 old boys and girls who started the day with a picnic in the conservation park and wound up at a dance in the town hall in the evening. Among those present, from left to right, Harry Tate, principal of Rockwood school S.S. No. 9 in 1922, now living in Parry Sound, Fred Meadows, Oswald Meadows, Bill Collier, Lloyd Marsden, Jack Laverty, George Collier.

(Photo by Don Hilts)

## Over 600 "old boys and girls" attend Rockwood school reunion

Neither downpour nor power failure was able to dampen the enthusiasm of over 600 old boys and girls who attended the Rockwood school reunion on the 1st of July.

An afternoon of hand-shaking, back-slapping and "do you remember?" started off in Rockwood Conservation Park at 2 p.m. with a half-hour lull during a baby cloud burst. Former teachers and schoolmates from all parts of Canada and many from the United States met and reminisced.

The most frequently heard remark: "I haven't seen you in 20 years — or 30 — or even 40". One of the points of interest was a large collection of old school pictures, loaned by the owners and reprinted and exhibited by Don Hilts, who headed a committee for this purpose.

A steady stream of guests with nostalgic yearnings visited the old school which is soon to be demolished. Children were shown the very spot where mummy or daddy sat in school when they were young. Thanks to the principal, Grant MacRae and his teachers, the visitors were guided through the various rooms by

volunteers from the present pupils, while welcome signs greeted everyone from the blackboards. Copies of a timely poem entitled "The Rockwood school", written by Rita McPhedran and her pupils were distributed at the door.

A picnic lunch in the park kept all occupied in the late afternoon while many used the early evening hours to good advantage to explore the beautiful surroundings.

A well attended dance in Rockwood town hall got off to an unusual but hilarious start because of a power failure which kept the hall in darkness until 10.30 p.m. Don McArthur was a busy and enterprising M.C. handing out prizes for the oldest student present, for the one travelling the farthest distance and many others.

The committee responsible for organizing the reunion were loudly applauded and instructed to hold a repeat performance soon.

Many thanks go to Mrs. Cathy (Linfoot) Meredith for months of work gathering and filing addresses and sending out over 1,000 invitations. Thanks to the capable direction and ingenuity of Mrs.

Ruth (McLaren) Musselle. We all had a marvellous time at the dance.

An able and hard working committee headed by Herb Saunders made for a well-organized picnic with the emphasis on informality. Even the weather relaxed and turned sunny under Herb's friendly persuasion.

Many people returned home with a memento in the form of a reprint of an old school photograph — thanks to the industry and talent of Don Hilts, local photographer. Thanks are also due to a great many people who helped the committee in their work.

Posters and signs, including the large welcoming banner at the picnic were done by Linda Langdon. Beautiful work, Linda, we appreciate the hours of toil you put in.

Many people were helpful with acquiring addresses, particularly Mrs. Nellie (Gibbons) Saunders and Mr. S. S. Royce who spent considerable time working with the invitation committee.

All out co-operation from the teaching staff of Rockwood public school helped us over many of the rough spots. Sincere thanks to these and to many, many others for their help and interest.

And so — our public and continuation school reunion is now a pleasant memory. Here's hoping all those promises about "keeping in touch" will be kept.

Let's do it all over again in a few years. Don't wait too long or some of us old ones may not make it.

### EDEN MILLS

## Newlyweds, bride-to-be honored at presentation, trousseau tea

By Mrs. Robt. Wright  
Friends of Mr. and Mrs. Allan Mockrie of Port Credit, recent newlyweds, were honored last Friday evening when friends and neighbors gathered at S.S. No. 11 school for a few games of euchre.

Before refreshments were served Allan and his wife were called forward by Mr. John

Turner who made a few fitting remarks and the young couple was presented with a beautiful floor lamp and piece of china.

Both the bride and groom suitably replied. Mrs. Mockrie is the former Miss Lambert of Acton.

Mrs. Kaye Stevenson, Mrs. J. Gilbertson, Mrs. W. Gilbertson, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Anderson

were in Toronto Sunday visiting Mr. Elmer Anderson who is ill in hospital.

Mrs. Craig of Gait is spending the weekend with her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Drysdale.

Mrs. Orr of Saskatchewan is spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. William MacDonald. Mr. and Mrs. J. Carr and family and Jim Gilbertson are away to a cottage at Lake Simcoe for the next two weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Chamberlain and family are spending a week at Eggo.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Hamer have gone north on a week's fishing trip.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith of Hanover were honored Saturday evening at their daughter's home, Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Abram, Eden Mills, to a farewell party before leaving on a trip to England.

Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. McLean Sr. were Mr. and Mrs. Bob Francis and family, London and Mr. Ogg McLean, Brantford. Other visitors during the week were Mrs. E. Miller and daughter Susan of Brantford.

A trousseau tea was held on the MacDonald farm Sunday afternoon and evening in honor of Fran Kierstead, a bride of the near future.

Pouring tea were Mrs. W. Holmes, grandmother of the bride; Mrs. Milton Watson, Mrs. Stewart Hyde, Mrs. Richard MacDonald and Mrs. Wil-

lam Nicholson, all aunts of the groom.

Showing wedding gifts were bridesmaid Miss Janet Webb; trousseau, Mrs. Gail Walker; matron, sister of the bride; shower gifts, Miss Jean Ann Bewley, cousin and Eloise Watson, cousin of the groom.

Sympathy of the community is extended to Mrs. Ralph Thompson in the loss of her father, Mr. Flewelling of Elora.

### BALLINAFAD

## Bus trip to Niagara delights W. I. members

(Intended for last week)

By Mrs. R. McEnery  
On Thursday morning, June 29, a happy bunch of 43 boarded Ted Tyler's Bus and headed for Niagara Falls, sponsored by Ballinafad Women's Institute. The first stop was a coffee break which was at the canal and the lift bridge going up for a large boat to go through. Then on to Brock's Monument; the lovely floral clock arranged in colors to represent all the 10 provinces, through the Hydro generating plant. Then everyone was ready to eat which we did while it rained. All took a trip up to the top of Oneida observation tower and on to visit Canada miniature buildings of famous landmarks of Canada which covers 11 acres of miniature buildings, rivers, lakes, boats, bridges, trains and many other wonderful things.

It is a trip worth taking. A guide goes with you to explain everything as you go along. Some visited the wax works and some shopped, returning home after the illumination — a tired bunch.

Ballinafad Women's Institute was in the parade at Erin's centennial celebration on July 1 with a horse-drawn sally with the fringe on top, getting 1st prize for it.

The June meeting of Ballinafad Women's Institute was held in the community centre on Wednesday evening.

Following the opening with the W.I. Ode and Mary Stewart Collect, roll call was answered by "silly things I have done in the kitchen". Current events by Mrs. F. Smith were followed by the motto given by Mrs.

### CHURCHILL

## Family reunion, birthdays bring happy groups together

By Mrs. F. McArthur

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Rotz, Linda and Mike spent the holiday weekend camping at Boiler Beach, Kincardine.

Mr. and Mrs. David Williamson spent the holiday weekend at Wasaga Beach.

Visiting over the weekend with Mrs. Annie Burns and Mr. and Mrs. David Williamson were Mrs. Vera Davis and her father Mr. Hugh Mark of Toronto.

Mrs. John Knox and son Brian of Hampton visited for a day with her daughter, Pat and Bob Kerr.

The sympathy of the community is extended to Mr. and Mrs. W. Swackhamer and the Aitken family in the death of their mother Mrs. Andrew Aitken.

Mrs. J. W. Elliott, Carol, Susan, George and Karen of Port Arthur are visiting with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McDonald and Gordon.

Mrs. Beatrice Mackinder of Los Angeles spent Wednesday afternoon and evening with her girlhood chum, Mrs. Isabel McDonald.

The 14th Andrew Dalson reunion was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McDonald on Sunday, July 9. About 70 of the clan gathered at 12.30 for a picnic lunch beside Gormac Lake. After lunch a short business meeting was held with Mr. Gordon Dalson of Woodstock remaining as president for another year and Mrs. Earl Lynch of Stratford as secretary.

A splendid program of races was conducted by Mr. Raymond Dalson of Alton and his committee. Swimming and boating were enjoyed by the young while the older people enjoyed visiting.

Relations were present from Port Arthur, North Bay, Beaverton, Woodstock, Stratford, Newmarket, Toronto and surrounding area.



H. ARTHUR HARRIS, Rockwood area Dairy Farm Equipment Dealer, was given a Performance Award by James Babson, Vice President of Babson Bros. Co. at a recent sales seminar. The presentation was in special recognition of 12 years of outstanding service to the individual dairyman in his territory. Harris and his wife, Adele, attended the seminar for Dealers from North and South America in St. Charles, Illinois recently. (Staff Photo)

### Douglas Jackson loan officer Jr. Farmer Branch

Douglas Jackson, a former assistant Agricultural Representative in Halton and Peel, has been appointed Loan Administration Officer of the Ontario Junior Farmer Loan Branch, it was announced this week.

Mr. Jackson graduated from the Ontario Agricultural College in 1959 and joined the Extension Branch of the Department of Agriculture and Food. He served for two years in Halton and Peel. Later he operated a dairy farm at Bradford. His duties will include the supervision of existing loans and working with the field staff on appraisals.

### Sorry!

The Free Press inadvertently omitted the name of John Vandenberg from the list of grade eight students who attended the banquet at the Robert Little school.

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