

# ROCKWOOD 1968

By Don Hills



HEIGHT OF ROCKWOOD'S prosperity was achieved when the Harris Mill kept occupants of these houses gainfully employed in producing woollen products.

This quiet village with its towering spruce, curious rock formations and pleasant little shops where conversation takes priority over commerce, has an atmosphere of early Canadiana coupled with scenery straight from the pages of a Muskoka travel brochure.

Prosperity was thrust upon it—only to be snatched away. Yet it maintains its dignity.

Prosperity arrived in 1867. The Harris family were early settlers in Eramosa township, for which Rockwood is the township seat. They erected a woollen mill beside a dam on the Speed River.

The woollen mill became known throughout the country as a quality producer of yarn, blankets and socks. It employed many Rockwood residents.

Only the decaying ruins of the prosperous woollen mill remains in the picturesque valley now. The Grand River Conservation Authority has taken the mill and the property around it over for a park.

No longer can you use the old valley road—except as a pedestrian. The Authority has made the only entrance to the park on Fall St., off No. 7 Highway.

## CHURCHILL

### Rally Day service is well attended

By Mrs. F. McArthur

Rally Day service at Churchill Community church was well attended. Sunday School superintendent Mrs. Emmerson Anderson assisted Mr. McBride with the service, with some of the children taking part. Sunday School will continue to be held at the same time as the church service is at 11 a.m. each Sunday.

Visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Thompson on Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Carmen Griffin, Mishawaka, Indiana; Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Griffin; Mrs. Teresa Keeler; Mrs. Howard McArthur; Mr. and Mrs. William McArthur, all of Erin; Mr. S.E. Griffin; Mr. and Mrs. Harold Griffin; Mr. S. R. Griffin; Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Davidson, R.R. 2, Acton. Mr. Morley Allan called at the same home.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Anderson entertained Mr. and Mrs. Robert Anderson of Acton and Mr. and Mrs. Archie Kerr on the occasion of Donald, their grandson's birthday, on Sunday, and on Tuesday he entertained some of his school chums.

Miss Betty Hamilton accompanied by her friend Miss Cindy Brown of Bramalea with her two aunts Miss Muriel McNicoll of Weston and Mrs. Harper McNicoll of Toronto had a pleasant trip to the Grape Festival in St. Catharines on Saturday. While there they visited with Betty's cousin Mrs. B. Reedes and family of Fenwick.

The Hamilton family enjoyed slides shown by Miss Muriel McNicoll of her recent visit to Spain and North Africa on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. William Maynard of Brampton spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Binnie.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack McBride of Bolton visited at the McEachern home on Sunday.

Mr. Allan Money of Windsor spent Friday and Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kerr. Mr. and Mrs. Russell Halliday from Chesley also visited with them Saturday evening and Sunday.

## SILVERWOOD

### Family picnic at Burt home

By Alicia Scott

Mrs. George Burt invited relatives of her side to a picnic at her home on September 22. It was a beautiful day and 31 guests arrived from Richmond Hill, Toronto, Bramalea, Acton and Georgetown.

"Get well wishes" to Mrs. Selma Hahn who is in Georgetown Memorial Hospital at present.

Mr. Richard Shortill and Mark went up north fishing over the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Shortill held a graduating party for Donna following her graduation on Friday.

## Rockwood church packed Sunday concert Monday attracts many

106th anniversary

Rockwood Presbyterian Church was packed to the doors for the 106th anniversary service Sunday morning Sept. 22 to hear Rev. Douglas Black of Greenbrier Presbyterian Church, Brantford. Rev. Black had been a student minister at the Rockwood church some years ago and he enjoyed meeting old friends.

A very appreciated anthem, "The Church of the Holy Spirit," was sung by the choir.

On Monday evening, many enjoyed a variety program in the centennial school. Master of ceremonies Frank Allsop kept the audience in laughter most of the evening with his humorous jokes.

Mrs. Max Milne opened the program with a recitation, "Centennial Year Over." Joe Petric of Acton played two accordion solos and the

Ballinafad Belles, in the latest mode of ladies' attire, gave two appreciated numbers.

Miss Sharon Hume of Milton sang a solo composed by Mrs. Ernie McEnery of Ballinafad, who accompanied her on the piano. Mrs. Arthur Leslie of Eramosa gave two humorous readings and a trio from the church Y.P.S., June Thompson, Donna Hills and Rob Sinclair with his guitar, sang two love songs.

Mrs. John Freer played a piano solo that made the auditorium ring. Joe McCann thrilled all with his Irish tenor voice as he sang two numbers.

Miss Barwell of Toronto showed slides that took the audience back many years. She also showed some modern scenes. Rev. D. Sinclair thanked the

talent for the entertainment, the committee who arranged the night, and all who had come to enjoy the program. He remarked there should be more evenings like it.

The evening concluded with O Canada.

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## Pictures from Rockwood's past . . .

from the Richard Harris collection of photographs owned by Don Hills



REFLECTING in the mill pond created to supply power to its machines, the old Harris Woollen Mill was a busy spot when this picture was taken. How busy was the valley then? The mill walls still linger but few traces remain of the smaller outbuildings.

## BALLINAFAD

### B.A. graduate, sudden death, 4-H meeting, bursary in news

By Mrs. R. Shortill

Mr. and Mrs. De Witt, Town Line, left for their native Holland last week, on a holiday to spend with relatives and friends.

Congratulations are extended to Murray Jamieson who won the Halton W.I. Bursary for his academic standing in Grade 13 Acton High School.

The sudden death of Mr. Bert McMenemy in Georgetown Memorial Hospital came as a shock to Ballinafad people. Sympathy goes out to his two young children and his sisters, Mrs. James Kirkwood and Mrs. Gear Sinclair.

Mr. Paul Metcalfe, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Shortill and family, Mrs. Richard Shortill, Mrs. Spear and Mrs. Kenneth Allan attended the graduating exercises at War Memorial Hall, U. of Guelph, on Friday afternoon.

One of the B.A. graduates was

Miss Donna Shortill. In the presence of the members of the Faculty Chancellor Hon. George Drew admitted the candidates to their degree.

The 4-H Club met in the Community Centre on Saturday, Sept. 28 to organize, welcome new members and to plan the fall program. Leaders Mrs. Buchanan and Mrs. Jamieson were present.

The ladies held a church cleaning bee on Thursday.

Sunday morning service was as usual. Rev. Kelvin Johnson's sermon was a thought-provoking one. Are we keeping our image of God up to date? Are we interested enough in our spiritual life to ask questions or to feel doubts at times—or is our mind simply a closed book, merely accepting our old fashioned childhood ideas? How often do we fail to realize that this is "still" God's World which He gave to the human race, whom He endowed with a mind

and skill to enrich and develop. The clever wit and bright personality of Claire Wallace is no more. The sudden death of Mrs. James Sturt occurred Sunday September 22. How well we recall her column "Over the Teacups", as well as her radio programs.

An old friend, The Family Herald has published its last copy. It had become an institution in most homes.

Congratulations are extended to Miss Zenith Armstrong who was chosen "Miss Acton Fair".

Our sympathy is extended to Mr. Brydon and sisters, brother and friends of Mrs. Elva Brydon whose tragic death occurred last week.

Mr. Reg French and Wayne,

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