— Peter Jones Photo

KICKS OFF LIBERAL CAMPAIGN

"DID THEY KNOW THE DATE?" While no announcement had been made last week when Liberal leader John Wintermeyer visited town, it was actually the start of Owen Mullins bid for office in the Sept 25th election. Mr Wintermeyer spoke at a noon luncheon, then toured the business area soliciting support for his party. Here he chats with past county president Maurice Manderson, left, Georgetown president Garfield McGilvray and candidate Mullins (right).

PRIDE OF THREE COUNTIES . . .

Town Militia Guarded Niagara, 1866 Tension

This is the third of a series of articles dealing with the history of the Lorne Scots. In October the Peel Dufferin Halton militia unit will be presented with its colors by a representative of Her Majesty, during the World Plowing Match at Major Conn Smythe's Caledon Farms.

THE VOLUNTEERS

As the British Government was withdrawing the regular troops from Canada partly as a result of the Crimean War and the Indian Mutiny Canada was urged to take more interest in its own defence. In 1858 a new militia act was passed. This act authorized the establishment of 5000 class A Volunteers who were issued with uniforms accoutrements and weapons. The Volunteers were to train for 14 days each year and were formed into Rifle and Infantry companies. 5000 class B Volunteers were authorized but were not issued with uniforms. Infantry companies were formed at Georgetown, Milton, Stewarttown Norval, Campbellville and a Rifle Company at Oakville in Halton County. A Rifle Company and an Infantry Company were located at Brampton. Infantry Companies were formed at Orangeville, Alton, Grahamsville, Derry West and Streetsville in Peel County.

Relations between the United States and Great Britain were very tense during the War between the Northern and Southern States and with the cessation of hostilities large numbers of discharged soldiers, many of these of Irish origin, were at loose ends. The Fenian organization which hated Great Britain for the so-called conquest of Ireland planned to "free Canada from the British Crown as a means of annoying Great Britain. This movement was supported by the manifest Destiny party in the midwestern United States. Government Officials in the United States were at the least indifferent to the motives of these agitators and permitted large numbers to mobilize along the border. The Canadian Government had been keeping close watch on their activities and on Jan 14 1866 a general order called out on active service the infantry and rifle companies located at Brampton Alton Derry West Oangeville and Grahamsville in Peel County. In Halton County the Oakville Stewarttown Georgetown and Norval Companies were called out. On June 2nd the Oakville Stewarttown and Norval companies entrained for the Niagara Frontier and the Georgetown Company was detached for guard duty at the Suspension Bridge at Niagara Falls. The Brampton Rifle Company was detached for guard duty at the Suspension Bridge at Niagara Falls. The Brampton Rifle Company and the Alton Company were placed on guard duty at vulnerable points. The Derry West Company was at Mount Clifton in the Niagara Peninsula. The Fenians repulsed at Ridgeway by a mixed force of regular troops and volunteers quickly sought sanctuary across the border. For several months longer the militia were on guard at various points from Detroit to Montreal until the authorities in the United States awakened to the seriousness of the situation and the Fenians were in many cases forcibly disbanded.

The Canadian Government having become aware of the lack of organization training and equipment of the Volunteers determined to undertake a complete reorganization of the militia. Some companies usually in the cities, had been previously organized into battalions and regiments. Under General Order dated 18 Sept the 20th Halton Battalion of Infantry was formed. This was the beginning of the Lorne Scots whose seventy years later were to become The Lorne Scots (The Peel Dufferin and Halton Regiment). The Peel Battalion and the Halton Battalion carried out annual training at the Company Headquarters. Equipment improved and the men were provided with uniforms. By General Order of 8th Nov 1867 the Peel Battalion was permitted to adopt as its motto the words "Pro Aris et Focis" translated "For altars and Hearths". In 1869 The Peel Battalion was mobilized in Brampton for a period of eight days training. The men were billeted in the town the community having paid the sum of $1,175.00 the cost of billeting. The ladies of Brampton presented a stand of Colours to the Regiment at this time and in October 1924 the restored Regimental Colour was deposited in Christ Church in Brampton.

The newly formed 20th Halton Battalion was mobilized for the first time in June of 1868 for eight days training at Oakville. The men were billeted. There was keen interest in rifle shooting. During this period it was decided to make the regimental a rifle corps. Part of the expense was voted by the men from their pay. Interest in rifle shooting was increased by the formation of rifle clubs and attendance at the annual matches of the Ontario Rifle Association. The designation of the 20th Halton Battalion of Infantry was changed to 20th Halton Battalion of Rifles on 12th Jan 1872. The Halton Rifles was on parade with the Queens Own Rifles and Victoria Rifles from Montreal for a Vice Regal Review by His Excellency the Marquis of Lorne Governor General and HRH Princess Alice at Garrison common, Toronto in September 1879. Seven companies with a strength of 327 and tanks were on parade. Other troops from Grey and Durham counties, Guelph, Hamilton and St Catharines were present.

Lt-Col William Allen of Acton assumed command of the Regiment on the 10th of June 1881. Born in Caithness Scotland he served as a sergeant in the 93rd Sutherland Highlanders during the rebellion in Lower Canada in 1837 and 1838. Subsequently he transferred to a colonial corps as sergeant adjutant served in the Fenian Raid and was appointed to the Halton Battalion on organization. Col Allen advocated a closer connection with his Scottish homeland and eventually the designation of the Regiment was changed to the 26th Halton Battalion Lorne Rifles on 11 Nov 1881. The Regimental dress was altered to tartan trews and a sheen glengarry. The only tartan cloth available was that of the Black Watch. The report of number 2 district camp in the Canadian Military Gazette 13 Oct 1885 reported "The 20th Halton Lorne Rifles turned out well accompanied by a brass and pipe and drum band and all companies were tartan parts and Scotch bonnets. The tartan cloth was not suitable for our in trews and only lasted for our years training and was not replaced.

Annual training of camp for the 36th was held at the garrison commons in the city of Toronto commencing on 16 June 1884 but owing to lack of field officers Lt Col Tyrwhitt of the 35th battalion acted as commanding officer. Only six companies were present with 16 officers and 207 other ranks from an authorized establishment of 26 officers and 330 other ranks. The 36th did not train in 1885 and it was reported that there were no field officers and some companies were without officers. In order to save the regiment it was thought necessary to add new territory, companies were detached from the 35th Simcoe Regiment Cookstown Alliston and Bondhead and Lt Col Tyrwhitt was given command. He had served as senior Major with the York Sharpshooters Battalion on the North West during the Riel Rebellion in 1885. His vigorous command was shown by the attendance of 21 officers and 306 other ranks at Camp Niagara for 12 days commencing September 16 1886 with a fife band of 18 members. The County of Peel made a grant of $250.00 for the purchase of helmets for other ranks. Mono Mills company was transferred to Shelburne on 11 3 87. Owing to a shortage of funds not all Rural Regiments were authorized to drill this year. Selections for drill were to be those not drawn in 1886. During the 1890's the Halton Lorne Rifles were authorized to train on alternate years.

On the outbreak of war in South Africa in 1899 Canada was represented by contingents recruited from the population in general and not direct from the authorized Militia units. A number of officers and men from the 20th Lorne Rifles and the 36th Regiment served in various contingents.

The name was changed from the 36th Peel Battalion to the 36th Peel Regiment in 1900. During the last decade of the 20th century more and more officers were taken in Toronto and increasingly later members of Toronto units were selected for service at the Niagara training camps by the 12th York Rangers, 20th Halton Rifles and 36th Peel Regiment. Full strengths were reached in 1909 to 23 officers 55 non-commissioned officers and 214 privates. Both units attended annual training in 1910 and 1911 at Camp Niagara for 12 days. Temporary quarters for headquarters and 2 companies were established in Toronto by the 36th Peel Battalion. The conditions at out Toronto recruiting became a serious issue. The 20th Halton Rifles did not attend camp in 1912 and 1913. Both units attended camp in 1914. A large number of other ranks of both regiments was recruited in Toronto. The 36th Regiment wore khaki for the first time.

To be continued

GLEN WILLIAMS

Vacation Church School Crafts, Bible Stories

The annual Daily Vacation Bible School is completed for another year. It was held in the United Church with about 30 children attending. Owing to the difficulty in getting leaders the number enrolled was small, fewer than other years. They gathered in the sanctuary for worship at nine o'clock followed by bible stories, craft etc in age groups. Rev L. Fried was in charge with helpers Mrs Burke Mrs Ellis Mr Freeman Nancy Hunter, Marilyn Barth Mrs J Hunter Mr R Giles and Susan Wheeler and Rev Williams. Cookies and lemonade were given as a snack each morning. The children enjoyed the week and are looking forward to another year of study stories and craft.

Susan Preston is spending 3 weeks at the camp for Crippled Children, Woodeden Camp, near London. It is maintained by the proceeds from Easter Seals. Although the weather has been cool she is thoroughly enjoying the various inside activities.

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On Sunday morning St Alban's held an early service so that members of the congregation could attend St Georges where Rev Shalak A Farah from Beirut, Lebanon was speaker. He is here as a delegate to the Anglican Congress being held in Toronto.

Sunday evening Rev R Stubbs, Mr and Mrs Herb Preston Jr and Brian and Mrs P Wagstaffe attended a session of the congress in Maple Leaf Gardens.

Last Thursday evening Mrs George Preston held a miscellaneous shower for her niece Mrs J Rodger once Jackie Lucas. Former neighbours and friends from the vicinity gathered to shower her with lovely gifts for her new home in Toronto. A nice social time was spent reminiscing old acquaintances. We wish Jackie and John many happy years ahead.

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Sympathy is extended to Mrs Metcalfe, Sr and Mr Andy Muir in the death of their sister Mrs M Sawtell of Norval.

• • •

We may well be proud of our new motel in Georgetown. Building on the Greig farm on the 5th Line. Take a drive around that way and see it for yourself.

• • •

Our young golfers, Allan and Marty Wheeler, Wayne Davison, Bob Kemshead and the Haines brothers are making a name for themselves. Having the golf links close to the village has created a great deal of interest in the game.

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Ellen Hunter and Diane Giles are enjoying ten days at Humber Glen Camp in Bolton.

• • •

Mr and Mrs Heinz Steinlatt left by plane on Tuesday for a five week holiday with relatives in Germany. We wish them a happy holiday.

• • •

Mr and Mrs Barth Marvin and Carol were guests at the wedding of Virginia Faye Wise and Gordon Schultz in Freelton United Church last Saturday.

Terra Cotta Artist Gets Boost Valhalla Mural

JOHN AGG

Fed up with trudging from gallery to gallery, paintings under his arm, begging for a showing, John Agg decided to open his own gallery — the Country Gallery in Terra Cotta is the result.

The big white house on the banks of the Credit is an artist studio on the top floor, and a potter's workshop in the basement. In between, in addition to living quarters, is the extension housing the art gallery, which was officially opened on Saturday.

Everything on display is made right on the premises ranging from John's striking paintings to his wife Helen's pottery and jewellery. Carrying on the strictly local flavour is the fact the pottery is made from clay from Cheltenham Brick Works.

Biggest break to date for John is the commissioning of his mural in the Valhalla Inn on Hwy 27. Mr H. Peachey of Peachey Homes of Toronto, happened into the gallery, liked his work and asked him to do some sketches for a mural with a Viking theme. From the several sketches Mr Peachey selected the one later done for the Inn.

"Don't pigeon hole me," stated Mr Agg when asked about his style of painting. He feels he is not limited to one style, and the wide variety of paintings bear this out. 'Bull With Rider' has a Pieassoish touch, while 'Vikings' has a precise geometric design.

To the visitor anticipating the carefully cultivated Bohemian look, complete with beard and turtleneck sweater, common to some artists, John Agg could be a disappointment. He is a cleanshaven, conservatively dressed artist, who looks like a businessman.

Teaching runs in the family. John a native of Whitby, Ont., taught at the Ontario Ladies College at Whitby, and Helen teaches kindergarten at Wrigglesworth School.

Plane is Approved Makes Test Flight

A three-year project by district resident Pierre Descamp ended successfully Sunday when the plane he constructed himself took test flights at Guelph airport.

Recently the Dept of Transport gave the nod to the plane after an inspection and a flight permit was granted last week.

The plane was first flown by Grant Davidson on Sunday, then Mr Descamp took up the plane himself for a flight over the city. Mr Descamp built the plane in his garage.

• • •

A judge says it's dangerous to propose while driving. Yes, and it isn't none too safe while not driving.

One of a Series . . .

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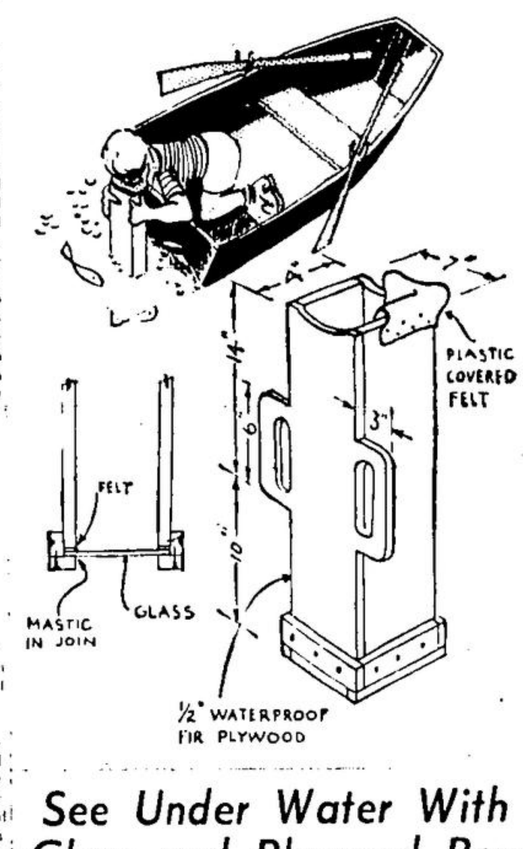

See Under Water With Glass and Plywood Box

Penetrate the water's surface reflection with the "up side down periscope" and enter a new and wonderful marine world. Children spend hours absorbed in viewing underwater activities. Use it from wharf or boat or simply by leaning over while standing in shallow water.

The viewer is a simple 4'x2' box 24" long with glass covered in one end. Make the box of waterproof glue fire plywood sealing all joints with any good caulking compound. Around the bottom edge of the box projecting just far enough to make a recess into which the glass and felt gasket will fit attach pieces of 1"x2" lumber as shown. Saturate the felt gasket with waterproof bedding compound. Fit it and glass into the recess and hold in firmly with the bottom battens. Paint the top and finish all wood with a wood sealer and varnish or paint.

BALLINAFAD

Fire Destroys Lawr Victoria Harbour Home

Archie Lawr received word on Saturday morning that his parents' house in Victoria Harbour had been destroyed by fire the day before. Mr. and Mrs. Matt Lawr are frequent visitors to Georgetown and district and their many friends will be sorry to hear of their loss.

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Congratulations to Mr and Mrs. Delbert Instead (nee Marilyn Madill) who were married in Ballinafad Church on Saturday.

• • •

Mr. Fleming is on holidays this month and there was no service last Sunday morning. The Young People's Group were in charge of one service and next week the UCW group are responsible for the service in the Ballinafad Church. They have invited Rev. Wm. Hull a former missionary in Israel to be the guest speaker. He is a very prominent person having been chosen by the Israeli government as Eichmann's spiritual counsellor before his trial.

• • •

Rev and Mrs. C Beaton home to Ontario from Uranium City on holidays talked with many of their former friends when they were in the community over the week-end, taking part in two special events.

• • •

Mr and Mrs Ernie McKim have returned home after spending two weeks at their cottage up north.

• • •

Carol and Margaret Long street from Orton are visiting this week with the Sanderson family.

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