

OUR READERS WRITE:

Picture of early Ballinafad hotel stirs Miss Bea Hilts' keen memory

Miss Bea Hilts writes from Georgetown: I was pleased and surprised to see in your February 4th Free Press, a picture of the hotel in Ballinafad. I did not know a

picture had ever been taken. It looks exactly as I remember it in 1886 when I began going to Blue Mountain school. I passed that east corner building every school day till I passed out of

grade eight. Mr. and Mrs. Archie Thompson owned it. They had one daughter, Maggie who became a music teacher. Around 1904 they sold to Mr. and Mrs. Winship. They remained a couple of years, then sold to Mr. and Mrs. McLeod who had two children, Neil and Kate and another later.

After a few years they sold to Mr. McCarthy. They were there only a few years, when one evening in August 1912 a fire got started. As water was scarce nothing could be done so the house, shed and barn burned to the ground. It lit up the district for miles around. It had rained all day and continued to rain so everything was soaked.

The breeze was from the east which blew the flames to the west over the cemetery. Mr. Peter Ferguson's house, blacksmith shop and barn were directly across the Seventh Line so had to be watched lest a spark catch somewhere.

The land was cleaned up and left unused till Mr. James Kirkwood got the idea he would like to build a chopping mill on this property.

In August 1931 he bought the land from Mr. McCarthy and began building in September, his brother Donald helping, so in December that year had it operating. What a wonderful convenience this was for the farmers as they would not have long drives to the surrounding towns to get grain chopped for their stock.

In 1939 Jim began building a two-story house on the lower part of this land, and moved into it from Miss A. Shortill's home in November that year.

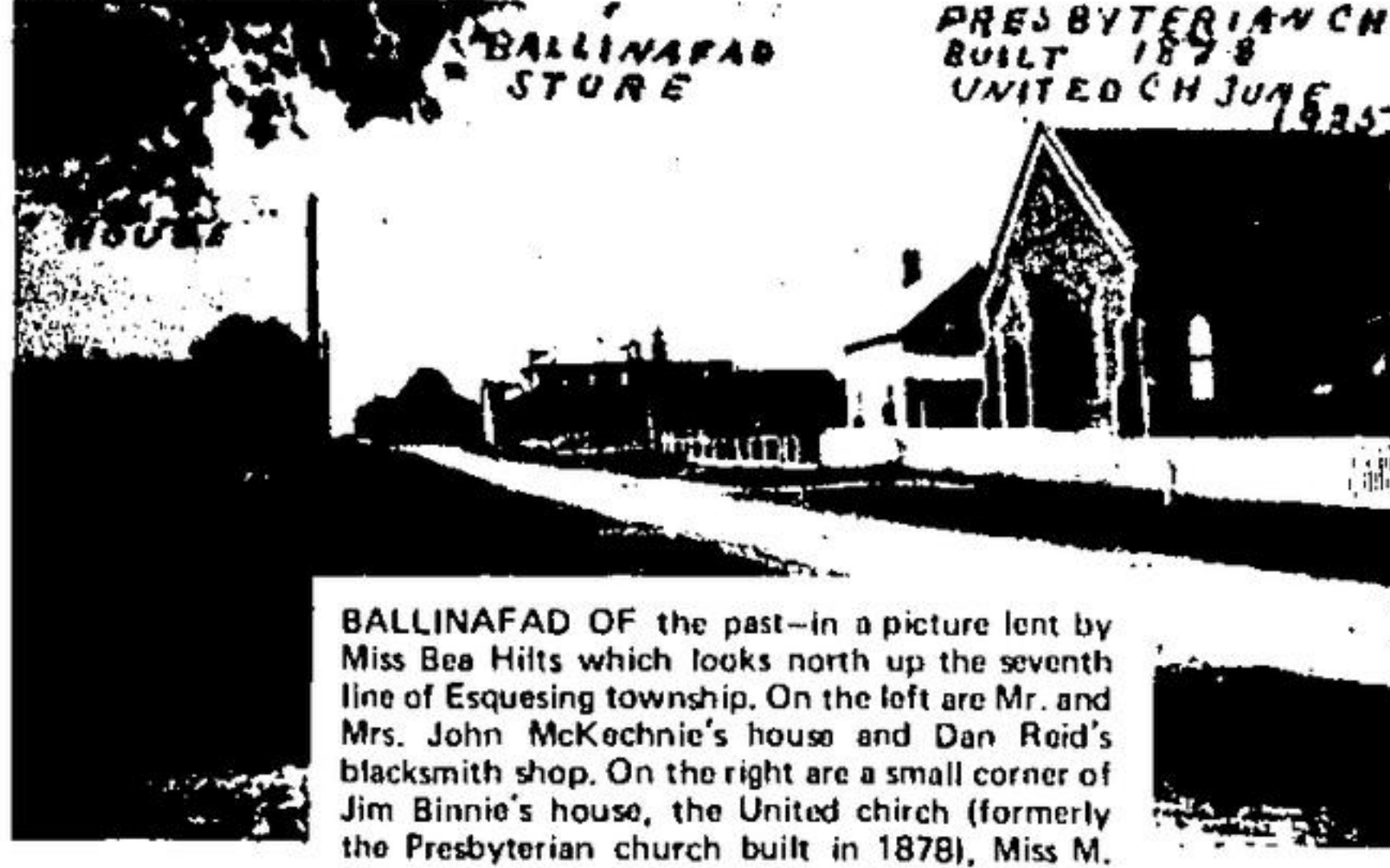
In 1941 an extension was built on the south end of the mill for cleaning and treating seed grain against the smut germ.

After so many years in the mill Mr. Kirkwood decided to sell it. Mr. John Black bought it and in June, 1955 took over the work. Mr. Kirkwood continued to live in the house till January, 1956 when he and his wife, Jim and Shirley moved to Georgetown. Then Mr. and Mrs. Black, Bobbie and Billie, moved into the house.

Some years later a sign appeared on the mill - "For Sale". In May, 1967 the Ford Brothers took over the mill in the "Fad" and continued the good work helping the farmers.

They did not want the house so Mr. and Mrs. Matthews and children moved in there. Now that I have a picture of the hotel in earlier years in the "Fad" I shall place it in my scrap book, along with the history which I wrote to the Free Press a couple of years ago.

Mrs. Ella Harding attended Peacock school in her younger days so knew many people around Ballinafad.



BALLINAFAD OF the past—in a picture lent by Miss Bea Hilts which looks north up the seventh line of Esqueving township. On the left are Mr. and Mrs. John McKechnie's house and Dan Reid's blacksmith shop. On the right are a small corner of Jim Binnie's house, the United church (formerly the Presbyterian church built in 1878), Miss M. Young's house, all with white picket fencing in front. The vacant space is where the hotel stood. Across the town line on the Erin side is the store built by the Swindlehurst brothers, William, Jim and Alfred, in 1905 after the other one burned down that summer.

Corrects Dead Sea scroll dates

R. R. 4, Rockwood, Ont. February 20, 1970.

Dear Sir: I would like to correct a slight error re a date in a report of an address I gave recently on the finding of the ancient scrolls discovered in the area of the Dead Sea, Palestine.

The hiding of the ancient literature is believed to have taken place during 60 to 70 A.D. when an unsuccessful revolt against the occupying Romans took place. At least 12 caves have been discovered

and parts of 600 manuscripts found. The search still continues.

My source of information has been, "The Untold Story of Qumran" by John C. Turner, B.D., Ph.D. who deciphered and photographed the first scrolls discovered.

The casual throwing of a stone into a hole in a cliff resulted in a discovery that has kept experts in ancient script busy for over 20 years and the search continues. Thanking you,

Yours truly,
Florence Trousdale,
Rockwood.

Defends labor's meeting boycott

As a rank and file member of the labor movement I endorse the position of labor leaders who have criticized the phony wage and price restraint hoax being perpetrated by big business and Mr. Trudeau. The news media have done a poor job of publicizing the reasons for labor's position, in fact were it not for labor's own publications, large portions of the public could easily conclude that labor had no good reason for boycotting meetings of the nobly named "Prices and Income Commission". Incidentally if the truth had been involved in choosing a name it should have been called, "A NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PROFIT MAINTENANCE."

If labor leaders were willing to mislead the public they could very well sign an agreement on wage restraints if it contained all the vessel words that this agreement between Trudeau and big

business contains, and it would not mean a darn thing.

Look at copper as an example. One year ago copper was 45 cents, today it's 57 cents, a 26 per cent increase that International Nickel covered in four bounds during 1969. Governments now boast that they persuaded INCO to postpone the last increase for two months, but they fail to advise us that in order to get that small concession they had to relax government controls on export copper that will allow INCO to sell on the world market at 82 cents. THIS IS RESTRAINT??

When fair and genuine restraints are being considered both labor and consumer organizations will participate fully, but this grandstanding to the news media will do nothing to control an inflation, 90 per cent of which is imported from below the border

Jack Henry, Oakville.

Joint parking authority, Chamber committee meeting to discuss traffic, off-street parking

Thirteen citizens, including nine merchants, met Wednesday of last week with the Parking Authority Committee to again talk over off-street parking and traffic problems. The meeting was called by the council committee which deals with parking, and letters of invitations had been mailed to merchants and other interested parties.

Earl Masales presided for the meeting with Parking Authority members present. Mayor Les Doby, Jack Greer, Ted Tyler Jr. and Orval Chapman. They are the No. 1 committee of council. Agreement was general, at the shortish meeting, that Action has parking and traffic problems. Mr. Masales produced a list of tentative recommendations drawn up by the committee. "We may be premature but we've got to get going," he told his small audience.

By the end of the evening it was agreed representatives from the Chamber of Commerce would be asked to meet with the Authority to talk over the proposals. Queried by the chairman, merchant and former Chamber

of Commerce president Paul Nielsen said most merchants belong to the Chamber and would thus be represented when a further meeting is held.

Different merchants spoke of the parking problems they had encountered, but Dave Muckle of the C. of C. concluded the discussion by saying the "mess" should be cleaned up whether it brought more business to town or not.

Mr. Nielsen explained an attempt had been made not long ago by five merchants to provide off-street parking but it had failed.

Mr. Masales outlined some proposals.

Special problem spots were outlined, with some suggestions reviewed. On Willow St. by Gordon's Hardware parallel parking was suggested. No left turns at the Mill-Willow corner were proposed. One way streets on John, more corner setbacks to improve visibility and downtown corners, restricted parking, and new markings were all mentioned briefly.

"I'd say," asserted Mr. Nielsen, "that we can't afford to lose one single parking space

unless it's a repeated hazard to life and limb."

Councillor Ted Tyler remarked a study and aerial photos showed present parking facilities were seldom used to their fullest capacity. How can we justify council providing off-street parking? Would the merchants contribute?

Mr. Nielsen promptly replied he thought the merchants would contribute. He recalled hearing about the parking problem for the past ten years, and suggested the two hour parking limit is not being enforced. He foresaw parking meters eventually.

Councillor Greer wondered if the Chamber would investigate the purchase or lease of property behind stores.

Council could work on traffic

and the Chamber on parking, he thought.

Don Lindsay felt off-street parking would definitely benefit merchants, and H. H. Hinton agreed.

"We have a small town complex," mused Mayor Doby. "We want to park right in front of the store. They walk farther in Guelph after parking there... our problem is people, not parking."

As the meeting drew to adjournment, Mr. Masales pointed out anyone interested could get copies of the traffic proposals at the town office.

"We inherited the problem," concluded Mayor Doby, "and we need all the help we can get."

FLOWERS
for All Occasions

- Cut Flowers
- Potted Plants
- Funeral Arrangements
- Corsages • Etc.

JUST ARRIVED!
DOUBLE & HANGING TUBER BEGONIAS
TOP-SIZED BULBS

Open 7 Days a Week - 8 a.m. 'Til Dark - Phone 853-2980
- WE WIRE FLOWERS ANYWHERE -

Caroline Flower & Garden Shop
TWO MILES WEST OF ACTON - SOUTH SIDE OF HIGHWAY

Pre-Easter Sale

LADIES' SLIMS & SKIRTS **1/2 PRICE**

SHELLS & SWEATERS **1/2 PRICE**

CHILDREN'S SNOW SUITS **1/2 PRICE**

CHILDREN'S DRESSES **20% OFF**

BOYS' SUITS **20% OFF**

SEE OUR SPECIAL RACK OF:
LADIES' DRESSES \$5 & \$10 EA.
SIZES 7 to 20 INCLUDING 1/2 SIZES

AND MANY OTHER BARGAINS

NIELSEN'S CLOTHING

A-B SUPERMARKET
9 MILL ST. - ACTON - 853-0075

RED BRAND BEEF

Round Steak
Round Steak Roast
Sirloin Tip Roast **99¢ LB.**

SCHNEIDER'S - 16 OZ. PKG. **RED HOTS 59¢**

SCHNEIDER'S - 6-oz. Pkg. **COOKED MEATS 3 FOR 89¢**
MAC & CHEESE, BOLOGNA, MEAT, PICKLE & PIMENTO, HEAD CHEESE, MEAT & CHICKEN, PORK LOAF, LUNCHEON MEAT, DUTCH LOAF

CHRISTIES - BUTTERMATE 24 OZ. LOAF (SAVE 35¢) **WHITE SLICED BREAD 5 FOR \$1**

DELMONTE - 19 OZ. TINS (SAVE 23¢) **PEACHES 3 FOR \$1**

HENLEY - 48 OZ. JARS (SAVE 24¢) **POLSKI OGORKI DILLS 49¢**

HI-C 48 OZ. TINS (SAVE 17¢) **Fruit Drinks 3 FOR \$1**

APPLEFORD - 100 FT. ROLL (SAVE 17¢) **Wax Paper 3 FOR \$1**

GREEN GIANT - 14 oz. TINS (SAVE 35¢) **BROWN SUGAR BEANS 5 FOR \$1**

GOLD SEAL - 7 1/2 OZ. TINS (SAVE 10¢) **Flaked TUNA 39¢**

AYLMER - 24 OZ. JARS (SAVE 31¢) **JELLIES & MARMALADES 2 FOR 79¢**

FRESH PRODUCE ARRIVES DAILY

U.S. No. 1 - LARGE HEADS **LETTUCE 2 FOR 39¢**

ONT. NO. 1 - 3 LB BAG **CARROTS 29¢**

FLORIDA - SEEDLESS - NO. 1 **GRAPEFRUIT WHITE OR PINK 10 FOR 79¢**

PRICES EFFECTIVE FROM FEB. 25 TO FEB. 28.

AUNT JEMIMA - 9 OZ. PKG. (SAVE 41¢) **FROZEN COUNTRY WAFFLES 3 FOR \$1**

NESTLES - 14 OZ. TINS (SAVE 18¢) **PUDDINGS 4 FOR \$1**

LYONS - 100 + 15 (SAVE 20¢) **TEA BAGS 59¢**

PANTRY SHELF - 28 OZ. TINS (SAVE 32¢) **TOMATOES 4 FOR \$1**

Let's Play Bridge
by bill coats

three club tricks if he is left to his own to take them. But he meets defeat when the defense takes the first three tricks.

Last week's winners at the Acton Bridge Club were first, Kate and Jack Coats, second Kay Campbell and Bill Wandell, third Gloria Coats and Harry Arbc.

FRED A. HOFFMAN
Optometrist
58 St. George's Sq.
Guelph, Ont.
Telephone 824-2071

It is said that half the contracts at bridge are made or defeated on the opening lead. Whether this is true or not, certainly opening leads are very important. For this reason there are many agreements with regard to opening leads—king from ace—king, top of a sequence, fourth best lead from an honour, top card with a doubleton and so on.

The defense used one of these special meanings on a lead to defeat declarer on the following hand. North dealt with both suits vulnerable.

NORTH
S-10964
H-A42
D-KO
C-AQ32

WEST
S-KO
H-KQJ873
D-6
C-K1054

EAST
S-AJ85
H-10965
D-J42
C-76

SOUTH
S-732
V-VOID
D-A1098753
C-398

The bidding:
NORTH EAST SOUTH WEST
1C Pass 1D 1H
1NT Pass 3D Pass
3NT Pass 4D Pass
5D All Pass

When West leads the queen, East will not know where the king is. However he must play low to keep from setting up any of dummy's spades. Now when West wins the trick and produces the king of spades, East knows that his partner started with exactly two spades. Therefore declarer must have three spades.

East overtakes his partner's king with the ace and leads the spade jack. Declarer meets with a one trick defeat on a hand that would normally make with ease. Declarer has seven diamonds, one heart and

(Read the fine print in your Homeowner's policy)

Are you protected against the unexpected? Like a car crashing into your living room? An explosion? Extreme storm damage?

Safeco expects the unexpected. We'll write your Safeco Homeowner's policy to cover the obvious... plus the unexpected.

DENNY'S INSURANCE AGENCY
17 Mill St. West - ACTON
Phone 853-0150

SAFECO INSURANCE

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
AFTER HOURS: Milt Bell, 853-2243; Harold Denny, 853-2965.