



MR. AND MRS. W. T. EARLY of R.R. 1 Campbellville were honored by family and friends last week on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Close to 200 well-wishers joined them for an anniversary celebration and variety concert at Brookville School Friday evening. They have farmed all their married life on 25 Sideroad in Nassagaweya.—(Staff Photo)

Ballinafad

W.I. present trays to 4-H girls many from district on tours

By Mrs. R. Shortill
Mr. and Mrs. J. Mathews made a recent business trip to Hanover. While in the vicinity they called on Mr. and Mrs. John Bek, who have bought a farm about two miles from Hanover. They are very busy, remodelling their house and also their barn, where they have a project going which involves about 50 mother pigs. Mr. and Mrs. Bek formerly lived on the old James Lindsay place on the Seventh Line.

Parents in the community were very interested in their visit to Brisbane and Erin District High School on the parents' night a week ago. Much work and foresight had gone into the preparations for these annual events. We take pleasure, at this time, in extending our best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. W. Early of Ebenezer on the occasion of their fiftieth wedding anniversary. Several from here attended their celebration, among whom were their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Ernie McEnery. The seven young 4-H ladies who won provincial honors at the completion of 12 projects deserve much credit for their consistency. Each Saturday we see them early in the morning, trekking over to the hall for a work meeting. Their trays, which were presented by the local W.I., were well earned as was Mrs. Gary

Brown's award for "Advanced Honors". She has completed eighteen projects. Mr. and Mrs. Reg French recently spent a Sunday with her sister at Damascus. Snow banks up there are even higher than here. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Metcalfe are in England on the student tour. Donna, a G.H.S. teacher is one of the chaperones for the Georgetown students. Arlene Shortill and Debra Greatrex of Ballinafad joined E.D.H.S. group on the student tour of England. The local Brownies are canvassing for their cookie drive. Dance Saturday The Community Centre board held a dance on Saturday night. A good crowd attended and report a pleasant time. Congratulations are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Cebe De Witt on the safe arrival of their baby son. Little Lynne Sinclair was able to have the cast removed and is mobile again. She has had a long siege since breaking her hip.

Mr. Delbert Linstead played the organ for church Sunday. His prelude of old favorite hymns added much to the morning service, as did the selection from the Junior choir under Mrs. Kerr's direction. The Sunday School pupils as usual retired to the Sunday School room after the children's hymn. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Smith are visiting in St. Catharines this weekend.

To England Barry McArthur joined fellow students of John Ross Collegiate on the trip to England for the winter break. Mrs. Snider has resumed her position at the Brisbane restaurant, which is under new management. Miss Maggie Given, who is a student at Sheridan in Oakville left, with her friend on Friday night, for a holiday in Florida. Larry Snow, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Snow, had a bad accident on Saturday. While running the chopper at the barn, his arm got caught in the belt. He is in Guelph Hospital with a badly injured arm we are sorry to say.

Ebenezer

500 guests honor couple celebrating anniversary

By Mrs. Ron McLean
About 500 people, including the couple's five daughters, two sons, and most of their 18 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren gathered at Brookville school to honor Laura and Bill Early, of R.R. 1, Campbellville, on the occasion of their golden wedding. Lifelong residents of Nassagaweya township, Mr. and Mrs. Early are well-known and much beloved for their kindly ways, neighborly acts and kind hospitality. "Ma" has brightened many a social occasion with her musical gifts, used unstintingly. Their kindly humor and friendly interest in others have brightened many lives.

Andy Frank of Milton was master of ceremonies for an interesting program. The choir of Ebenezer Church sang "The Voice in the Old Village Choir", followed by an accordion solo by Brian Small, Paula Kitching, Laurie Early and Sandra Early each sang solos. Tammy Thring and Jenny Coulter delighted with a dance. Henry Leachman and Don Aubin presented a medley of Irish mouth organ selections. Mrs. Max Milne gave an amusing reading, "Bill and Laura." Earl Burt favored with guitar selections. Shirley Moore, in Irish costume, sang "The Same Old Shillelah", accompanied by her brother Norman. Mrs. Norman Sinclair and Ernie McEnery sang, "Little Strands of Silver

Shining through the Gold". Andy Frank and Laura Early played an instrumental, and Rev. Russell Finley paid tribute to the couple. Arthur Diamond presented Mr. and Mrs. Early with a mirror and a handsome pole lamp, among many other lovely gifts. Dancing followed to Ken Warmington's orchestra, and the Ebenezer ladies served lunch to conclude a memorable evening. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Early many more happy years together. Their family comprises Myrtle Gullis, Milton; Ernie McEnery, Ballinafad, Mary Maynard, St. Thomas; William J. Early, Owen Sound; Jean Ortlieb, Newmarket; Donald Early, Campbellville; and Margaret Blacklock, Guelph.



By Wendy Thomson
Much as I try to ignore it, there's no getting away from the fact that cats are soon going to have kittens,—three cats and about 15 kittens, as a matter of fact. Cock-eyed Cat, Tansy, and Tansy-too are all barrel-shaped and looking quite ready to pop. When they do, Cock-eyed cat will be presiding over a brood that includes daughters all the way through to great-great grandchildren.

Neurotic cat
But with all these cats and cat-pending around, I'm still worrying about another. Little-cat, along with two of her kits was given to Mary Hatch, to look after an abundance of barn mice, and I often wonder if being displaced after eight years here, has affected her any, for if there is such a thing as a neurotic cat, she was it.

We kept her, to begin with, because she was such an ugly little thing that I thought nobody would want her. Her face had the look of an inebriated owl with a touch of probooscus monkey; her hind legs were longer than her front ones, giving her the look of running downhill all the time. Also, she was slightly knock-kneed and ran everywhere with quick, short steps, in a worried sort of way that reminded me of the White Rabbit in Alice in Wonderland,—you know, I'm late, I'm late, for a very important date! And she's the only cat I know who, when indulging in the cat thing about sitting in a bag, would sit with her head inside and her bottom hanging out. Little cat, and her mother Cock-eyed Cat had a marvelous nursery system, as they usually managed to have their kittens within a week of one another and lump them together in one big purry pile.

mother. They'd touch noses and make a few cat-type noises, and you could just about hear the question "How did things go?" and the answer "Well, I fed the three orange, the two grey and the black. They're all washed except for the striped and he wouldn't let me do his ears. Oh—and the black ate too fast and hasn't burped."

For the six p.m. feeding, both mothers lay down, check to check with their front paws entwined and their bodies stretched out in a long 16 faucet line. The kittens all had a good feed, a good wash, and then a good sleep while the mothers both went out for the night. Three years ago, Tansy joined the pair, and the next batch of kittens were even fatter and cleaner. Tansy-too had her first litter last year, but insisted on crawling in behind the bathtub where one wall wasn't finished, and made a nest in the insulation. For well over a month, every somebody had a bath, I found

Reeve wins her fight

Fox bounties dropped

Halton County foxes can breathe a little easier. County Council removed fox bounties at their county council meeting Wednesday, by a 7-6 vote. The campaign to have bounties lifted was spearheaded by Nassagaweya Reeve Mrs. A. MacArthur. While she made it very clear that what she was proposing wouldn't interfere with anyone wanting to hunt foxes, it would mean they are no longer paid to do it. Strong opposition Mrs. MacArthur's resolution met strong opposition from her Deputy Reeve Don McMillan and Acton Reeve Dr. F. G. Oakes. McMillan recalled the bounty being lifted about nine years ago and said the fox population multiplied rapidly. He said he knew of cases in his own township where people have been laid up with rabies from fox bites, for as long as three years.

Dr. Oakes, a veterinarian, argued against lifting the bounty because he feared foxes would breed and rabies would run through the county. A letter from the Oakville Rod and Gun Club suggested rabies were not prevented by the presence of a bounty. They suggested predators are necessary to keep the balance of nature. "Man has always upset the balance of nature simply because of his presence. Predators such as the fox and brush wolf or coyote are needed to effectively control the populations of rabbits, rats, mice, and groundhogs which can become overpopulated so easily. When this happens those animals become a pest. Predator population fluctuates. As the feed animal population increases, so does the predator population. As the feed animal population decreases due to over-

predation and food and habitat shortages, so does the predator population. This is cyclical," the club said.

NAVIGATING town streets is tricky for pedestrians with ice and water the big hazards. Heedless drivers don't help.

Shift system
They worked out a shift system where one will take care of the kittens for four hours while the other mother went out hunting or whatever. (Gord always claims that, judging by their profligacy, it's always the "whatever.") Four hours almost to the minute later, the hunter would return to take her place as

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