



THE JUNIOR Auxiliary of St. John's Anglican Church, Rockwood, made this attractive banner which they recently paraded at their district rally in Hamilton. The girls are front row left and right Susan Stumpf, Vickie Stumpf. Centre row,

left to right, Michelle Boljkovac, Keri Death, Amanda Chesworth, Liz Hudson, Kathy Ritchie and Carol Safe. Back row, left to right, Ruth Stumpf, Renni Sue Smith, June Glendenning, Shelly Desjardins and Joan Stumpf.

Home and School

Creative playground planned for school

by Barbara Wynneck

Over 40 interested parents attended the May 4 meeting of the Rockwood and Eramosa Home and School Association held at Eramosa Public School.

The new executive for 1978 was elected. President is Jim Goring. Other executive members: Chris Bertelson, Jane Hosdill, Mark Hayward, Maureen McLeod, Ann Rowan, Evelyn MacKay, Betty Jones, Linda Duncan and Dianna Wallace.

The Association is planning

to build a Creative Playground at Eramosa Public School. This will give the children an area for imaginative play at recess and lunch time. It has been recognized that the students need more play equipment than is presently available in the school yard.

Phil Bruckler, Chairman of Play Environment Advisory Committee and Recreation Director for Woolich Township, was the guest speaker. He brought a wealth of ideas and a slide presentation of various types of playgrounds

and different equipment available to the meeting. It has been observed that where children have more opportunities to use their energy in creative play, there are fewer discipline problems, according to Mr. Bruckler.

He explained that a great deal of money was not necessary to get this type of project underway. Raw materials such as sand, tires, rope, hydro poles, industrial spools and concrete culverts are available in the community at very little cost. With some effective planning

and volunteer man power, a useful fun area for the students can be created.

He suggested that the local students could participate in designing their playground. Art classes could have them draw or create from straws, plastics and toothpicks, the kinds of equipment they wish to use.

Grants for such projects are also available through Wintario.

Mr. Bruckler explained that Elmira and other nearby centres have been very

successful in getting community residents to design and build playgrounds at their schools. These areas are regularly used and enjoyed by the students. Retiring president Chris Bertelson recently attended the Annual Meeting of Home and School Associations in London, Ontario. As a result of this meeting, the organization presented recommendations to the Government, two of them being the raising of the drinking age from 18 to 21 and the ban of alcohol advertising on T.V.

Free Press

Rockwood & District

The Acton Free Press, Wednesday, May 10, 1978 13

Ballinafad United Church celebrates century



LONGEST-STANDING member of Ballinafad United Church, Mrs. Jessie Madill, was given the honor of cutting the ceremonial 100th birthday cake for the church Sunday.

Ballinafad United Church celebrated its 100th anniversary Sunday with a special service followed by a luncheon. Many presentations were made to the church for the occasion.

Trinity United Church in Acton donated a new communion chalice as their contribution to the celebration.

Many gifts were of a commemorative or memorial nature, including, a communion chair donated by Elizabeth Heath in memory of Agnes Shortill Walters and communion linen donated by Mr. and Mrs. George S. Black.

The Yemen family donated offering plates in memory of Peter Guthrie Yemen.

Many people donated lighting fixtures for the church, including Delmar and Reg French and wives in honor of their mother, Bertha Campbell, some donated by the grandchildren of Mrs. Campbell: Kimberley

Train parts delay inquest

An inquest into the death last month near Milton of three men by a run-away switching locomotive is being delayed because of a lack of train parts.

Ministry of Labor officials needs the locomotive parts, however, they are no longer being made.

If the parts can not be had from Montreal, new ones will have to be manufactured before the inquest is able to continue.

A ministry official said getting the parts may take as long as three months.

French, Bill McCluskey, Wayne and Ruth French, Cathy-Lea and Alan Snelling, Debbie and Stephen Ried and Blake French. Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Shortill and Mr. and Mrs. C. E. (Bud) Snow also donated fixtures. Bill and Cheryl McEnery donated an organ lamp. A hymn board and two bibles were donated to the memory of Rev. and Mrs. A. O. W. Stiles by the family. St. Andrew's United Church, Georgetown, donated both a church centennial plaque and flowers. Rev. and Mrs. D. A. Stiles and Donald Glen donated ferns.

Flowers in the memory of Mrs. Margaret McEnery Russell were donated by her husband David Russell, Edith and Stewart. St. Luke's church also donated flowers.

Cash donations came from Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Margaret Lipsitt, Mrs. Sarah Halliday, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Freuler, Miss Cora Betts and Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Martin.

\$100 for Canada Day Ballinafad celebration

Ballinafad village is holding its own Canada Day celebration with an old fashioned day of games, food and fun.

They hope to raise money for renovations to the community hall, and promote interest in it.

Halton Hills finance committee, in reply to a request for financial help, recommended a \$100 grant be given toward the Canada Day celebration.

The letter, from Lynda Larsen, secretary of the Ballinafad Community Hall Board, pointed out Ballinafad hall is a self-sustaining organization. She said any

amount would be welcome, for the only day of its kind planned for the year.

Councillor Pat Patterson said the Ballinafad hall board runs an excellent operation, and said they would like \$100 to help them out. He termed it a minimal cost considering the efforts of the board.

Treasurer Ray King pointed out there is \$250 left in the grant budget.

The committee voted for the \$100 grant. Councillor Walter Biehn reminded the group Glen Williams has a similar celebration, and would probably ask for financial help.

Ballinafad

100th anniversary observed

Ballinafad was alive with activity over the weekend. On Saturday afternoon, guests started arriving at the church for the Snow-Stansel wedding. Clare Snow, son of Mr. and Mrs. "Bud" Snow, Ballinafad, exchanged vows with Brenda Stansel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Stansel of Georgetown. Besides many relatives and friends from nearby and surrounding country attending the wedding, guests were present from Cornwall, St. Catharines, Kirkland Lake and as far away as Vancouver, B.C. This wedding has the distinction of being the last one to be held in the history of the church's first 100 years. We extend best wishes to the young couple and hope they have many happy years together.

Sunday was the real big event of the weekend. Cars were parked all around the church and for about 1/4 of a mile up and down both sides of the road. It was the 100th anniversary of Ballinafad

United church. The event had been planned and thought about for many months. It was a glorious and beautiful day in so many ways. The weather was perfect, people started arriving at the church long before the hour of service. By 11 a.m. the church was filled to overflowing and the basement also was filled to capacity. There must have been without a doubt, the 300 worshippers which were anticipated.

Baskets of beautiful flowers graced the front of the Sanctuary, some of which were donated in memory of loved ones, others by St. Luke's Church, Islington and St. Andrew's United Church, Georgetown. Rev. and Mrs. D. A. Stiles and son Donald Glen donated the ferns placed among the flowers.

Previous to the time of the worship service the men's choir gave several inspiring selections, with Mrs. Eileen McEnery at the organ. During the service both the junior and men's choir sang anthems. Mr. and Mrs. F. J.

Shortill favored with a duet.

Time was given also during the service for the dedication of memorial and commemorative gifts. Rev. Stiles introduced the guest speaker The Very Reverend Dr. A. B. Moore, former moderator of the United Church.

Mr. Moore thanked Mr. Stiles for the kind introduction and said he wasn't a stranger to all in the congregation or the neighborhood of Ballinafad as they had a summer home in nearby Terra Cotta. His message was timely and inspiring.

At the close of the anniversary service all were invited to stay for lunch. It was served buffet style from the kitchen by members of the U.C.W. Those in the basement were served first.

During the interval of waiting, time went quickly for those upstairs as they had a grand time visiting with friends and acquaintances whom they had not met for years.

When the lunch period was over everyone gathered together again up in the Sanctuary. Mrs. Stiles called the meeting to order.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Kerr, Mr. Earl Burt and Mr. Doug Wagner gave musical selections. Dignitaries and former ministers were present and each as their names were called spoke briefly reminiscing of their days spent in Ballinafad. Mrs. Alma Sinclair read several letters and telegrams from former pastors who sent regrets at

not being able to be present. One was from Ballinafad's own native son Rev. James Kirkwood, who was on a missionary assignment in Zambia.

There were more musical selections from Mr. Burt and the others that accompanied him which everyone enjoyed immensely. After the many thank yous to all Rev. Stiles closed with the benediction. I'm sure the Centennial Committee were deeply gratified as the day came and ended so successfully. They are to be congratulated, as much thought, effort and planning went into this special occasion which gave so much pleasure to so many people.

Many families connected with the church had their family friends and relatives visit their homes for the weekend to take part in the 100th anniversary of the church. Among those noticed were several members of the Jamieson family, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse McEnery had daughter Beth with husband and sons home. Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Shortill had the enjoyment of a family-get-together. The pioneer families were well represented like the Sinclairs, the Shortills, the McEnerys and grandchildren and great-grandchildren of the Hills family and these pioneers, like many others formed the foundation and no doubt some of these names will still be prominent in the next fifty years at least, in the history of the church.

Wedding Saturday

The wedding of Elizabeth Alexandra Waywell and Stephen John Jones was held at St. John's Anglican Church, Rockwood on Saturday May 6. The reception followed at the Cutten Club, Guelph.

Previous to the wedding the bride was feted at showers at the homes of Mrs. Elgin McMinn, Mrs. Al Lloyd and Mrs. P. Brydges.

The couple is now honeymooning in the U.S.A.

Ballinafad United Church marks 1st century

by John McDonald

Ballinafad United Church celebrated the 100th anniversary of the opening of the church on Sunday, May 7. Approximately 300 people attended the morning service which saw former ministers and church members celebrate the centennial.

About half of the congregation watched the morning service on a closed circuit television in the church basement. Guest speaker, the Very Reverend Dr. A. B. Moore, made clever references to this in his sermon regarding "Foundations."

It was in the year 1821 that Nathaniel Rozell, the first settler in Erin Township, at Lot 1, Concession 7, gave land at the corner of his farm to have a church, a school, a cemetery, Good Templar's Hall

and a home for the minister. Rozell, a native of Pennsylvania, was the first white settler in Erin township. He arrived in November, 1820.

This parcel of land later became the centre of the village of Ballinafad. The village, situated on the Seventh Line on the boundary between Erin Township and the Town of Halton Hills eventually had a hotel, blacksmith shop, feed mill, grange hall and, of course, a general store. Thomas Merry, a native of Ireland, is credited with giving the hamlet its name.

The village flourished and continued to serve the farming and new residential clusters in the district. Prior to the Grand Trunk railway being built through Georgetown, the Seventh Line (Trafalgar Road) was the main thoroughfare for shipping

and receiving goods in the vicinity. Wagon loads of lumber, grains, and produce were shipped down the Seventh Line to Oakville and shipped across the lake.

In 1855 a company was formed to build a plank road from Oakville to Ballinafad. Toll gates were installed at every crossroad. Heavy equipment, poor maintenance, and unscrupulous promoters saw the plank road company go bankrupt by 1862.

One of the first needs attended to by the earliest pioneer was that of worship. The settlers of Ballinafad were no exception. When a log school was built in 1925 Methodist Church services were held there on Sundays.

By August, 1942, the first Methodist Church building was erected in the village. Originally a frame building it was covered

by red brick in 1867.

In the early 1850s a wooden driving shed was built and above was a large meeting room known as the Good Templar's Hall. This was the forerunner of the present Ballinafad Community Hall.

During the 1850's a number of Presbyterian families moved into the community and services were shared in the building. The Presbyterians met in the morning and Methodists in the afternoon. The children of the village usually attended both Sunday schools.

By October 1878 the Presbyterians built their own church and this is the building standing today and known as Ballinafad United Church. The Honorable John White M.P. laid the corner stone.

In 1884 Ballinafad Methodist Church was

put on a circuit with Erin, Coningsby, Belbountain, Credit Forks and Caledon. The minister lived in Erin. Entertaining the minister "to tea" was a privilege for members of the congregation. Many times he would leave the area after a service loaded down with produce and grain given in appreciation.

"Tea meetings and Revival meetings" were often held in the Methodist Church for three consecutive weeks. A visiting Evangelist would create an often noisy session of singing, prayers, testimonies, and dedications.

In 1925 Union took place in Canada. This was a Union of Methodist, Congregational and some Presbyterian congregations and was a controversial issue for many years.

In Ballinafad the newer and larger Presbyterian Church building was used as the house of worship for the United Church. The old Methodist Church, however, was used for various teas, socials and the annual "fowl supper". This building was dismantled in 1954. The cornerstone of this church is incorporated in the memorial cairn unveiled at Ballinafad cemetery on September 24, 1972.

In 1967 the Ballinafad United Church became associated with St. Andrew's in Georgetown.

The lovely morning sunlight and the large gathering at the Church on Sunday morning was a worthy tribute to those who established this Church 100 years ago.



BEST BLOTTERS for BAD BLOTS.

If you have a BLOT of Ink use this BLOTTER, but if you have a STAIN of SIN on your Life apply the Cleansing Blood of Christ. "I, even I, am he that Blotteth out thy transgressions." "Blot out my iniquities." --David.

BALLINAFAD EPWORTH LEAGUE,

Methodist Church

Meets Every Wednesday Evening.

R. S. Henderson, President.

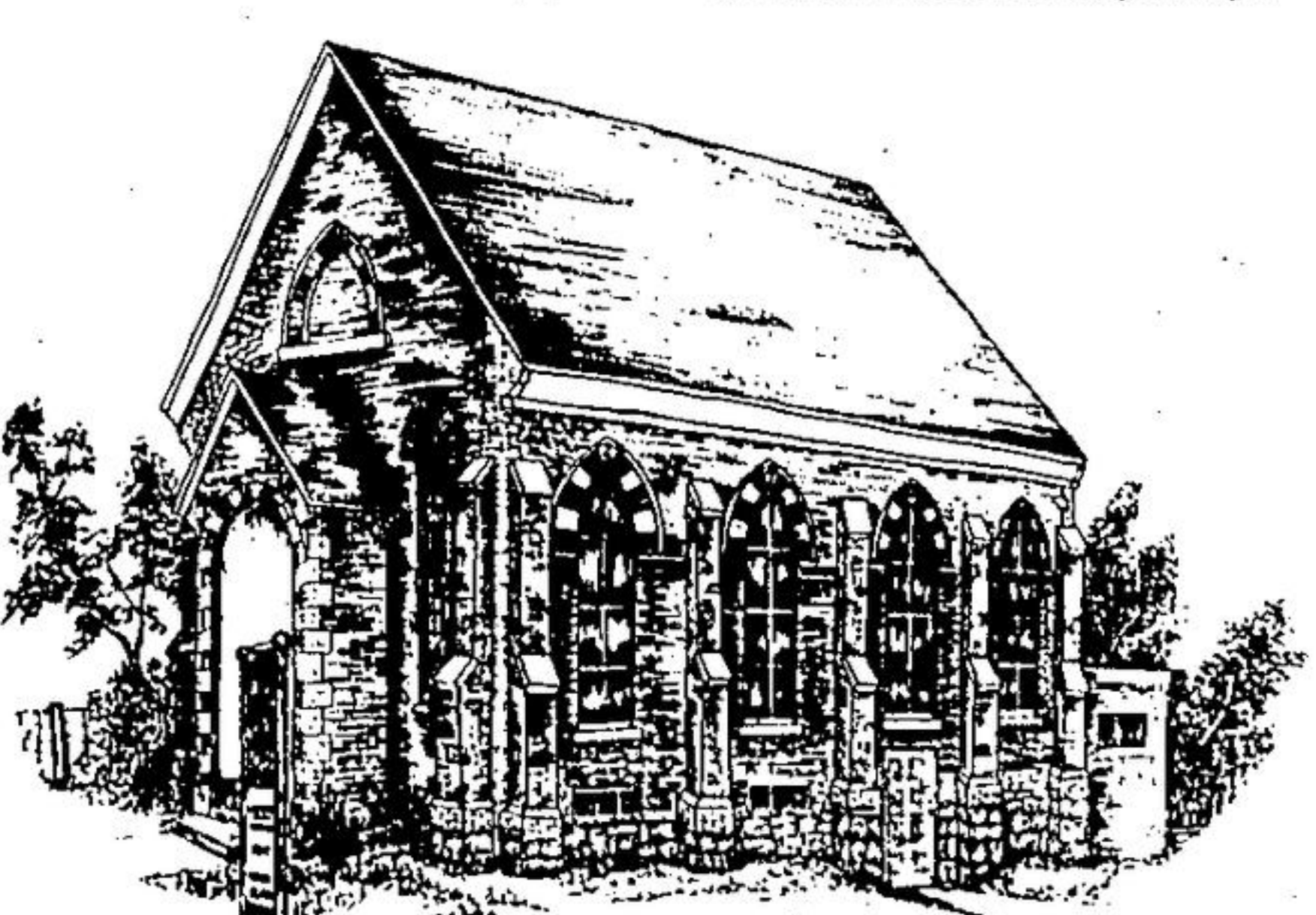
Rev. J. Melvin Smith, Pastor.



Look Up Lit Up.



THE VILLAGE OF BALLINAFAD was founded about the year 1821 when Nathaniel Rozell gave land for a school, cemetery and church. Knox Presbyterian Church, now Ballinafad United Church, is in the foreground.



BALLINAFAD UNITED CHURCH celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the opening of the church building on Sunday, May 7.

ACCORDING TO THIS INK BLOTTER (circa 1818) the Ballinafad Epworth League met every Wednesday evening. The league was a missionary-like society geared to the young. Epworth is the birth place of John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Church.