



JANET CUNNINGHAM presented Margaret Rees with a gift at the close of the reception honoring Rev. Rees for his 50 years of service in the ministry.

50 years as minister celebrated on weekend

By B. Wynneck
The Rev. H. Garfield Rees celebrated his 50th anniversary as an active United Church Minister, Sunday, June 11, with a packed congregation at Rockwood United Church. Friends from his former parishes, his wife, his daughter Lynne and son Bernard and their families were on hand to join in the service, luncheon and reception.

Rev. Rees is one of a family of four ministers. His father and two brothers were also ordained into the United Church.

Rev. Rees started his preaching career early, at age 19, as a student assistant to Rev. Burley, Grace United and Hillcrest United Churches, Moose Jaw Sask. After high school graduation, he was requested by the Board of Home Missions, to serve as a student minister at Bracken, Orkney and Masefield Sask. It was in this mission field that he and the

congregation built a church, dedicated in 1929, the result of a year's hard work.

As a 19-year-old student, the only representative of a church in the area, he conducted his first funeral service. Since then he has taken 337 into membership and has conducted 1517 baptisms, 812 funerals and 916 marriages.

In 1929, he entered the University of Saskatchewan. Seven years later, with his B.A. and theology degrees, he was ordained at Zion United Church, Moose Jaw, his late father the Rev. William Rees assisting at the service. Rev. Rees recalls that he wrote his final examinations at 5:30 a.m. in order to accommodate his part-time job at Eaton's. At that time, the clergy's education involved six months at school and six months working in the churches. Rev. Rees served in the Home Mission fields, visiting his parishes in Northern Saskatchewan on horseback, hymn books in his

saddlebags. Aided by home-steaders and lumberjacks, his congregation built a log-cabin manse in the Wanamaker Mission Field.

Rev. Rees married his wife Margaret in Saskatoon in 1937. Of Mrs. Rees her husband says, "Whatever success I may have had in the Christian Ministry, I owe a great deal to my wonderful wife, Margaret. She worked very hard in all of the congregations we were privileged to serve. She has been the ideal wife, mother and now grandmother.

During the depression years, serving as Pastor of Delisle United Church, as well as Laura and Donovan Congregations in the Saskatoon Presbytery, Rev. Rees began an evening adult education program. To fill churches along the dusty presbytery route, he conducted lectures and discussions of world events. The evenings were completed by a lunch and sing-song—a diversion greatly enjoyed by those enduring the depression's hard times.

In his next three postings Rev. Rees answered the calls of three large down-town churches. His curiosity to see Canada and to accept a challenge took him across the country tending busy, thriving congregations.

He served as pastor of Rosedale United Church Calgary, from 1941 to 1947. From 1947 to 1955 he ministered to the large congregation at First United Church, Brandon Manitoba. In 1956 he took over duties at Norfolk St. United Church, Guelph. He spent ten years as a Reserve Chaplain, Royal Canadian Air Force and is a member of the Masonic Lodge—Lodge of Perfection and Guelph Chapter Rose Croix 18th degree. Rev. Rees moved on to Trinity United Church, Beamsville Ont., in 1964. Retired Ministers and their wives from Albright Manor were among the parishiners of his full church there.

Four years ago, he retired and became the supply minister to Rockwood and Stone United Churches. However with his vital interest and energy this has not proved to be a part-time posting. His sincere friendly approach, and ready smile have welcomed new church members here, as he has done for 50 years across the country.

Public encourages Rockwood growth

By Barb Wynneck
A steady stream of interested residents attended the open house to discuss the Village of Rockwood Secondary Plan, held June 7 at the Rockwood Town Hall.

The May survey were available. Citizens were given the opportunity to discuss or write down their opinions with the planning staff.

A significant portion of the Background Paper was dedicated to the analysis of the survey, undertaken in the Village last month. The survey is considered to be representative of village members due to the number of responses received (20 per cent of all households and businesses in the village).

Results of the survey show that most of the respondents

want to see a total future population of 1700 (Official Plan population target) and most of them see growth occurring over a five year period. This implies an annual growth rate of approximately 14 per cent, a figure three times as high as the present village growth rate. Growth through severance of existing lots was the most acceptable method of growth (first choice for 71 per cent of the respondents). Over half of the respondents favoured the current standard for lot sizes (68' x 132'). Seventy-seven per cent would like to see industry as part of the develop-

ment of the village. Two of the most frequently mentioned problems to consider in the Secondary Plan were preservation of historic buildings (79 per cent) and the need for senior citizen housing (73 per cent).

Most of the respondents pointed out the attractiveness of the river valley setting and the scenic vistas as the most appealing factors of Rockwood.

The respondents would like to see the village become a residential village for people who work elsewhere; a small industrial centre; or a centre

for retired people, in this order of preference.

Residents' reactions to the survey results varied. Comments made during the evening pointed out the wide differences of opinion.

"If Rockwood doesn't grow quickly and attract industry, within ten years it will be a ghost town," was one comment heard.

Another was "I don't want to see any change in Rockwood—I live here because it is a quiet hamlet, different from other centres. I can use nearby facilities such as arenas and swimming pools, and don't have to pay for

them on my tax bill."

Shop keepers presented a paper to the planners encouraging growth. A copy of the Background Paper is available at the village office and may be consulted there. Comment sheets are also available. Sheets summarizing the Background Paper including the results of the survey, may also be found at the village office.

The planning firm's next public meeting date will take place in September, when alternate secondary plans for Rockwood will be presented. Again public participation will be encouraged.

Free Press

Rockwood & District

The Acton Free Press, Wednesday, June 14, 1978 13

Pioneer Day fun planned for July 1

The whole community is gearing up for Pioneer Day, to take place in Rockwood on Saturday, July 1.

The Sunshine Club is having the Town Hall Tea Room 1:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. rain or shine. There will be a bake table, penny table, refreshments and games table for those wishing to play cards and rest for awhile.

The C.B. Club will be directing the 2 p.m. bed race. The course is the driveway at Rockwood Park. Those with their beds in order can get out and practise on the route. All it takes is one in the bed, and four pushing. No motor power please!

The parade with the Acton Citizen's Band out in front will march from Centennial School at 1 p.m. sharp. Now is the time for school children and local groups to get their floats decorated to win a unique medallion.

The Leo Club is assisting the Recreation Committee in directing the games for adults and kids. July 1 is the date to find your partner to play catch with an egg, to run the three legged race, to run

the wheelbarrow race and to play catch with a water filled balloon. There will be a race for those carrying an egg on a spoon, a tire rolling contest and many more fun events. A sponge-throw board is now being designed—time to choose your victim and persuade him or her to stand behind the target!

The United Church Women will have a pie and coffee booth and the Lions Club is serving a chicken barbecue dinner.

Tony Reid, 856-9819, is organizing the Tug of War, adult and kids' teams accepted. Mary Coulter, 856-4624, is in charge of the costume contest. Now is the time to invade the attic for clothing treasures of yesteryear.

The Fire Dept. is engaging in a hose fight and the Junior Farmers will have tractor rides from the town hall to Rockwood Centre to the ball park and back again.

The Tennis Club dance starts at 9 p.m.

It looks like a great way for the residents of Eramosa Township and their friends to celebrate Canada's birthday.

Creative playground discussed for Eramosa

By Barb Wynneck
Rockwood and Eramosa Home and School Association held a productive meeting June 6. The Creative Playground at Eramosa Public School was the topic of discussion. Jim Simpson of June Ave. Public School, Guelph, the quest speaker, presented his school's design for such a playground. He explained how materials, money and board approval could be pursued.

going ahead with its plan for a playground at Eramosa School. A student landscape architect from the University of Guelph will be hired to coordinate the design. Students at Eramosa School will be given class room time to prepare drawings or models of units that they would like to see included.

The project will be financed by a "Laps around the School Yard" fund raising event, during the noon hour on June

21 a dance will also be held at Rockwood Community Centre on June 29, with proceeds donated to this project.

Parent work parties will be organized for week-ends during July. Call Betty Jones at 856-4013 if you are interested in participating.

The next Home and School Meeting to finalize the Creative Playground Design is June 20, 8 p.m. Eramosa Public School.

Rail museum sees activity

Rockwood Radial Hall Museum had a lot of activity Monday when two cars were transferred at the site, one to stay, another to head out.

When the snow plow arrived in Rockwood, it was unloaded from the transporting truck and replaced by Street car number 1329, which is the last wooden car at the museum from the TTC. The car was taken to a repair shop at Hillcrest where it will undergo exterior painting and relettering and be placed in an exhibit at the Canadian National Exhibition.



It rained all day yesterday and I knew it was going to rain! It didn't matter that I'd heard the CFRB weather man calling for rain for some time before. No, sir. My peacock told me it was going to rain.

And when it started to rain, I knew it was going to last all day because the chickens were out in it.

Animals predict weather, you know. They are much more attuned to low and high pressure systems than we introverted humans.

If it starts to rain and chickens scurry to shelter, it will be only a shower. However, those same chickens will scratch happily outside in an all-day rain.

Peacocks are very noisy when the barometer goes down. (Unfortunately, peacocks are also noisy in breeding season so tend to be somewhat unreliable as weather forecasters in the spring.) They also stay close to the ground. In nice weather they'll roost high.

Swallows fly high in fine weather and low when a storm approaches.

Robins chirp before a rain, so I'm told.

Animals other than birds indicate weather, too. If a squirrel stores more nuts than usual, it's going to be a hard winter. Of course, not many of us know a squirrel intimately enough to check out his larder every fall.

When horses start to lose their winter coats early, about February or March, it's supposed to be an early spring. However, I've never found this to work. Spring will come when it's good and ready no matter how bald the horse is.

Bees predict bad weather by becoming restless and staying near the hive when a storm is approaching.

Then there's friend groundhog who tells us in February how many weeks of winter there'll be. The farmer knows it's going to get really cold when the groundhog fails to appear in the field.

And my mother-in-law made me chuckle when she said the wild geese tell her the weather forecast. She says it always gets colder after they fly south.

So throw away your barometers and radios. Just invest in a peacock, some chickens, a groundhog, some swallows, a few bees, a horse, a squirrel.

I'd be interested in hearing any other bits of animal folklore you can share with me. If you have a story please call me at 853-1409.



REV. REES AND wife Margaret were honored Sunday with a special reception in the Rockwood United Church. Rev. Rees has spent 50 years in the ministry, and had friends from former parishes on hand for the reception.

Limehouse

Canada Day planned

By Mrs. Art Benton
On Sunday Mrs. Douglas Anderson of Vancouver visited cousins Mrs. J. Roughley and Miss Brigham, and Mr. and Mrs. George Dewsnap of Etobicoke, visited there on Tuesday. Mrs. Chas. Hayes is home

after an enjoyable trip to mainland China.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Norton attended the Helmut Gruen wedding in West Humber United Church, Rexdale, and the reception in the Casa Loma on Saturday. A Limehouse Women's Institute committee is

planning a Canada Day open to all at Limehouse School and Memorial Hall on July 1.

Pictures old and new, display of handicrafts, baseball games, dress up parade and other activities. All free, but bring something towards a picnic pot-luck supper.

Can you name faces?

Can anyone identify people in these Dublin school pictures?

Dublin W.I., Tweedsmuir history book curator Ann Dadds would like to have the correct names beside these old pictures in her book.

She has the class lists for

the two years to compare names with faces.

Anyone who can help is asked to phone her. Ann lives on McDonald Blvd., 853-2423.

To assist you, here's the class list for September 1929 to June 1930.

Sr. IV Annie Black, Signa Webster; Jr. IV Beatrice Kelly, Viola Robertson; Jr. III Eimer Ruddick, Willie Waidie; Sr. II Dorothy Frank, Frances Mullin, Mary Robertson, Alex Waidie; Jr. II Clifford Webster.

Sr. I Ida Fryer, Annie Kelly, Lilly Pillitteri, Willie Ritchie; Jr. I Alex Frank, Billy Robertson; Sr. Pr. Edna Fryer, Rachael Mullin, Joe Pillitteri, Verna Webster, Beginners Isobel Brims, Molly Cutts, Jimmy McIsaac, Lena Pillitteri (4 days).

Betty Burkholder started April 15, 1930, 3 days before Easter. After Easter, Elwood Cripps II, Beatrice Cripps Jr. Pr.

The class list for September 1937 to June 1938.

Sr. IV Mabel Burkholder, Paul Drake-last day February 23, 1938, Jean Frank, Rachael Mullin, Eva Ritchie, Donald Ross; Sr. III Isabel Burkholder, Jean Drake last day February 23, 1938, Douglas Frank, Elda Fryer, Gladys Mullin.

Jr. III Betty Britton, Lorna Frank; II Jessie Brims, Ken Marshall, Gladys McIsaac, Eleanor Ross; I Ross Britton, George Burkholder, Doreen Steele; Beginners September 1937 Meave Breen, Jennie McIsaac.

Rockwood Roundup

By B. Wynneck

Students at Rockwood Centennial School are currently writing final exams. No time for playing in the sun, books only. The District Track and Field Meet takes place this Thursday, June 15 at Cen-

tenial C.V.I. Guelph.

There has been a change in the location of the Rockwood Centennial School's Grade eight banquet. It will now be held at Rockwood Centre, June 27 at 6 p.m.



Dublin school September 1929 to June 1930



Dublin school September 1937 to June 1938