

# They Came on Horseback To Help Fight Store Fire

Some years ago Mr. and Mrs. Frank Betts decided to sell the business. His brother Ed and his wife bought it and moved in. Their family were Roy, Edith and Meta.

During Ed Betts term at the store, a younger brother Everett and wife Mabel Cook and family lived in the brick cottage and he often helped at the store.

An ordinary cookstove was used in those days. Wood and coal had to be carried up two flights of steps and ashes down one. I think there was a cistern from which soft water could be pumped, but hard water had to be carried.

In those early years, most people shopped in their own little village or town.

A few years later, in 1905, on an early summer afternoon, a fire started in the storeroom on the north side of the store. A strong west wind was blowing, and as water was scarce, nothing could be done to save the buildings. They began carrying things out. Mr. Ira Roszell and Jennie



Binnie were employed there and both rushed in to help. Jennie lived with her mother, Mrs. Maggie Binnie in a house just north of the Presbyterian Church. Rev. George Milner also rushed over from the manse to

help, as did others in the 'Fad. The smoke drew people from a distance some on horseback.

**SAVED**

The barn also went up in flames, but horses and vehicles were saved. Fortunately, there was a vacant lot to the north. The fire also destroyed a medium sized frame house and barn on the lot, just east of the store. They got very little out because of the intense heat.

A frame hotel was just across the Town Line from the store. And Mr. Harry Shortill's home was just across the road from the burning house. On the hill, just east of the village and below the Town Line, was his parents' home, the Richard Shortills. All had to be carefully watched, lest a spark catch and cause another fire.

What was removed from the store was placed in the lower half of the brick cottage to the north, and by purchasing more material, Mr. Betts carried on from there and attended to the mail. It was a great loss to the Betts, also to Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hills, Fronie and Pearl, who lived in the burned house.

Mr. Frank Betts was notified and returned from the west and decided to rebuild. Farmers took their teams and wagons to help clean up the rubble and drew stone from the surrounding countryside. Everyone in the neighbourhood was happy to know that a store was going to continue in Ballinafad.

The new building was planned for two stories, the same as the old. The Swindhurst brothers, William, James (or Jim) and Alfred agreed to do the mason work. Some blasting had to be done to make a better basement. Mr. Dave Moran, who lives in the farmhouse north of the brick cottage, did that part of the work, then the masons began. Each stone had to be levelled off, especially the part facing out. The masons used scaffolds as the building grew.

The masons also put up a small stone building near the back fence in which to store coal oil and other inflammable material.

Mr. John Millar took the contract for the framework. He had an assistant, Harry Shortill, helping with some of the work. He also did the framewerk on the barn.

When the building was finished, a furnace was installed in the centre of the main floor, with water pipes for heating. Then material from the cottage was transferred to the new store, new supplies were purchased, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Betts moved

in, and mail and business gradually got back to normal. They remained for five years, then sold to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hewins.

## THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS COUNCIL



C. F. GAVILLER, FCA

The Public Accountants Council for the Province of Ontario announces the election of the following officers and members: President, C. F. Gaviller, FCA, Owen Sound, Vice-President, H. M. Strom, FCA, Toronto, Secretary, W. P. Fazackerley, APA, Windsor, Treasurer, E. N. H. Wright, FCA, Toronto, Past President, S. R. Brunton, FCA, Sudbury, Member of the Executive, W. J. Blakely, CA, Kingston.

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All persons who practise as public accountants in Ontario must be licensed under the Public Accountancy Act and must observe the Code of Professional Ethics laid down by Council. Any information regarding these matters and the penalties for non observance of the Act and regulations may be obtained from Mr. C. Doughty, Registrar, The Public Accountants Council for the Province of Ontario, 45 Charles Street East, Toronto 5.

## Ballinafad News

The couples club belonging to a church organization in Weston made their annual visit to Ballinafad Saturday evening. The U.C.W. catered for the roast beef dinner in the basement of the United Church.

When all had partaken of the delicious food, the crowd went to the community centre for entertainment. They finished the evening with a dance.

Sorry to hear that two of our residents are on the sick list. Mr. Matt Shortill and Mr. F. W. Shortill are both patients in the Georgetown hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Barnes recently returned from attending a conference at Virginia Beach. They spent a most enjoyable time visiting places of interest.

With banquets and weddings and now auction sales, Ballinafad is alive with activity. Mr. Elwood Snow is busy getting ready for his sale on Friday of this week and next week it will be the auction sale of Ernest McEnery. The church group of ladies will be having a booth at both of these upcoming sales.

The group of ladies in charge of looking after and packing the bale completed their work at the church last Friday. They sorted the different articles and packed them in cardboard boxes ready for shipment.

The orator of the day at the dedication of the National Soldier's Cemetery at Gettysburg was Edward Everett.

## REUNION! Georgetown District High School

In honour of the 50th Anniversary of Georgetown, the high school will hold a reunion on

**FRIDAY, JUNE 23rd**

From 4.00 till 7.00 p.m.

ALL FORMER AND PRESENT STUDENTS AND STAFF ARE INVITED TO THE SCHOOL TO VISIT OLD FRIENDS.

Refreshments will be served

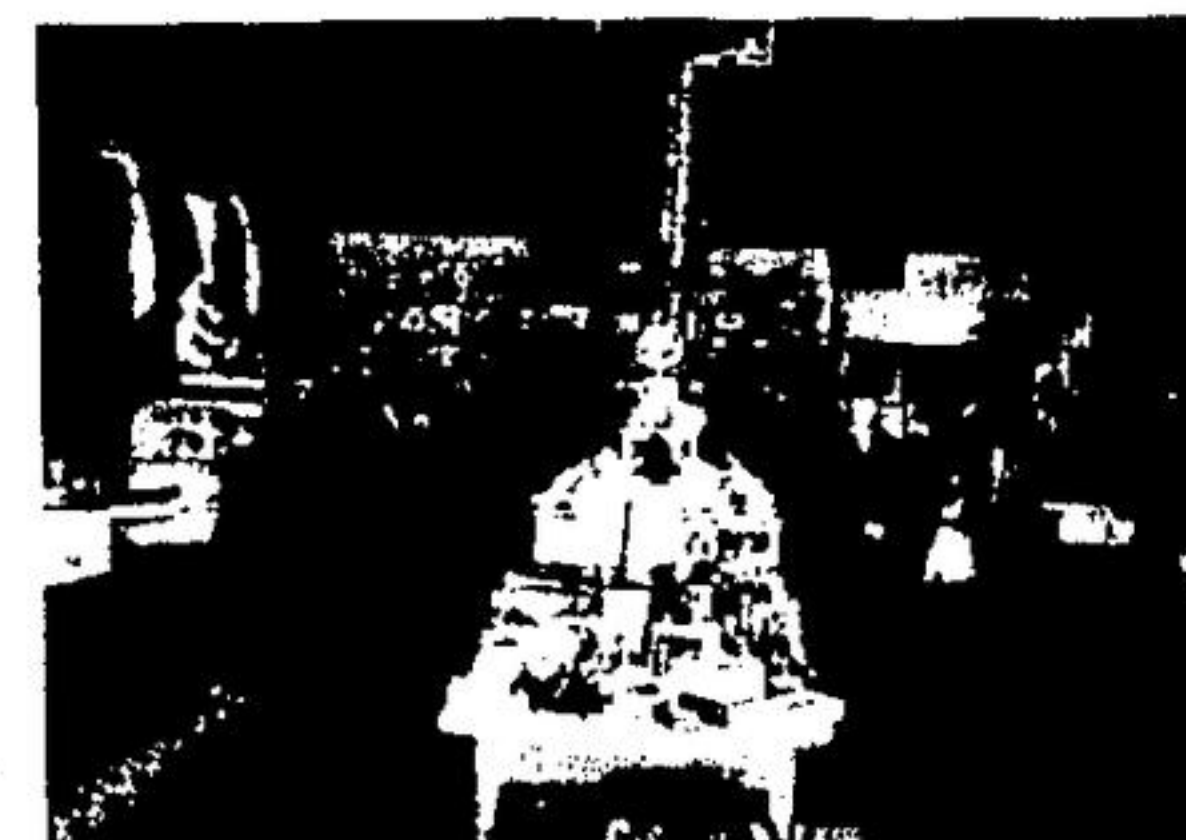


Store and barn under construction after fire in 1905.



Mr. E. Betts and Jennie Binnie are standing on the platform with the stage all set to go to Georgetown. Among the children are

Muriel and Roy Betts, Ivy Mitne with Phebe Hills beside the driver, James Ismond, Mrs. F. Betts is on the upper verandah.



The interior of Frank Betts' store.

### BRONTE CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK CONCEPT PLAN

#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Bronte Creek Provincial Park Advisory Committee wishes to inform the public about the Committee's selection of a concept plan for the development of the park and to receive comments on the appropriateness of the proposed plan.

Representatives of the Advisory Committee, the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Consulting Firm will be available at the meetings to answer questions.

Accordingly, you are invited to attend a public meeting and display of the project as follows

<b>TOWN OF OAKVILLE</b> Tuesday, June 20, at 8:00 p.m. Council Chamber, Oakville Municipal Buildings, 1225 Trafalgar Road, OAKVILLE, Ontario.	<b>TOWN OF BURLINGTON</b> Wednesday, June 21, at 8:00 p.m. Auditorium, United Gas Building, 534 Brant Street, BURLINGTON, Ontario.
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**D. M. Blenkhorne,**  
Chairman,  
Advisory Committee,  
Oakville, Ontario.

**N. R. RICHARDS,**  
Secretary,  
Advisory Committee,  
Ministry of Natural Resources,  
Parks Branch,  
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# BEAMISH Believer Prices!

BEAMISH STORE — GEORGETOWN MARKET PLACE  
STORE HOURS FOR YOUR SHOPPING CONVENIENCE  
MON. TUES & SAT 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. WED THURS & FRI 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.

<b>LADIES' WHITE MORPUL SOCKS</b> They never lose their shape. Always Stay Put SIZES 8-11½ BELIEVER PRICE <b>57¢</b>	<b>LADIES' TANK TOPS</b> ASSORTED STYLES SIZES SMALL, MED. & LARGE BEAMISH PRICE <b>\$1.99</b> BELIEVER PRICE <b>67¢</b>	<b>BATH TOWELS</b> 20" x 40" BEAUTIFUL PATTERN FOR HOME USE BELIEVER PRICE <b>67¢</b>	<b>BOYS' SWIMMING TRUNKS</b> SIZES 3 - 6X ASSORTED STYLES Good Selection of Colour BEAMISH PRICE <b>\$1.19</b>
<b>HOUSEHOLD PLASTICS</b> <b>DISH RACKS</b> <b>DISHPANS</b> <b>CUTLERY TRAYS</b> <b>MIXING BOWL</b> BEAMISH PRICE <b>2/94¢</b>	<b>GARBAGE BAGS</b> 1001 HOUSEHOLD USES Package of 10 26" x 36" Plastic Bags COMPARE & SAVE <b>33¢</b>		<b>BOYS' ATHLETIC TOPS &amp; BRIEFS</b> IN WHITE ONLY Sizes Small Medium & Large BEAMISH BELIEVER PRICE <b>48¢</b>
<b>MEN'S WHITE ATHLETIC TOPS &amp; BRIEFS</b> Sizes Small Medium and Large BELIEVER PRICE <b>58¢</b>	<b>Flannelette Sheets</b> Great for Cottage or Home Use Sizes 70"x90 & 54"x80" BELIEVER PRICE <b>\$1.96</b>		<b>HOUR AFTER HOUR DEODORANT</b> Three types to choose from Regular Unscented Extra-Dry 6 oz. Aresol Can BEAMISH PRICE <b>99¢</b>
<b>NICE 'N' EASY SHAMPOO IN HAIR COLOUR</b> MAKE YOUR HAIR BEAUTIFUL FOR THE SUMMER SUN WITH BEAMISH PRICE <b>\$1.69</b>			