



PUPILS REUNITED

Former students and teachers gathered for the second Lorne School reunion Saturday afternoon in Ospringe Public School. Mrs. Andy Murray 91, of Acton, and Ivy Watson, 94, of Elora were the oldest students to return and Bert Davidson was both a former student and one of the former trustees of the one-room, red brick school on the Second Line north of Acton. The school opened in 1883 and closed in 1960 when its students were transferred to the new Speyside Public School.

(Herald photo)

Pupils and teachers gather for Lorne School reunion

By **MAGGIE HANNAH**
Herald staff writer

The spirit of the place is one of the good things people always mention when they talk about their student days in one room country schools.

Just how deep that spirit of friendship ran was demonstrated Saturday when more than 170 former students and teachers of Lorne Public School gathered for a reunion in the Ospringe Public School on the Second Line north of Highway 24.

Lorne School, named after Canada's governor general of the day the Marquis of Lorne, opened in January 1883 with approximately 50 pupils. The first teacher was Miss Annie Easterbrook. Her salary was listed as \$300 per annum.

ONE ROOM

Lorne School section No. 12, Esquesing operated the one room red brick school on the southeast corner of Lot 31, Concession 2 as a separate school with its own three-member board until 1949 when the section joined the Esquesing Township School Area Board. In 1959 the proposal was made to build a central school to accommodate pupils from several one-room schools including Lorne, and Speyside Public School opened its doors

in September 1960. Lorne closed up in June and was sold to the Acton Jehovah's Witnesses to become their meeting hall in October. Since the school had windows with arched tops similar to those commonly found in churches the use seemed appropriate.

The vacant property adjacent to the school was severed and a new Kingdom Hall was built. Mr. and Mrs. A. McDowall bought the old school and turned it into a private home 10 years ago.

Master of ceremonies for the reunion, Ralph McKeown, introduced former teachers who returned to see what changes the years had brought in their old pupils. Teachers attending were John Pell of Stoney Creek who taught at the school from 1939 to 1942; Meryl Kirkness of Acton who was there in 1942-43; Vera (Hurst) Frowe of Bobcaigon who was there in 1927-1931; Margaret Young of Toronto who was there from 1931-1933; Donald (McPhail) Switzer of Acton who was there in 1943-45; Anna Aitken who was there in 1948-50; and Muriel (Burns) Simpson of Burlington who was there from 1950 to 1955.

Laura (Johnston) Graham who came 250 miles, from

Pictou was the person who travelled the farthest to attend the reunion while the oldest former pupil to attend was Ivy (Cleave) Watson, a resident of Wellington Terrace in Elora. She was 94 yesterday.

H.L. Davidson, a former pupil as well as trustee on both the three-man and the Esquesing Area boards, related a few tales of his school days and Clarence Cules, the school's representative on the area board at the time the school closed expressed his appreciation for his invitation to the reunion.

This was the school's second reunion. The first was held in 1940 and 33 of those present Saturday had attended the original event.

The committee who organized the reunion worked on it for 18 months collecting information to compile a booklet of the school's history as well as making up a list of former pupils and their addresses so that invitations could be sent out. The committee received

lettered from former students in western Canada and England expressing their regret at being unable to attend. These were displayed along with old pictures, books and registers from the school. About 250 invitations were sent out the committee said. It was decided to hold another reunion in five years and the same committee was nominated to make the preparations again.

The reunion ended with a dinner in the school auditorium.

Triplet boys born to Acton family

The McIntyre family of Main Street South, Acton are going to have their hands full as they tackle three sets of diapers, three sets of formulas and three sets of 2 a.m. feedings following the birth of their triplet sons Saturday afternoon.

David and Elly McIntyre's sons were born at the McMaster University Medical Centre in Hamilton with assistance from head obstetrician Dr. Effer.

The three boys, Brian Calvin weighing 4 lbs. 11 oz., Phillip David weighing 4 lb. 5 oz., and

Derreck John weighing 3 lb. 9 oz. are all doing well.

Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre have known for about four months that she was carrying triplets and she has been at the hospital for about 10 weeks.

Mr. McIntyre was with his wife up to the time of the delivery when one of the youngsters turned and the delivery had to be scrapped in favour of a Caesarean section.

Mr. McIntyre works at Beardmore Tannery and Mrs. McIntyre worked at Disstan Saw.

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