

# THE DURHAM CHRONICLE

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## LATONA CHURCH DATES BACK TO YEAR 1857

Early Settlers of District Began to Arrive As Early As 1840; Public Worship Was Begun When the Community Was Still in Comparative Infancy.

Just off the Garafraxa road, 10 miles north of Durham, is one of the finest buildings in the way of a purely country church to be seen in a day's journey. Latona Presbyterian congregation dates back to 1857, so that it has passed by one year its three-score and ten years. From a record compiled some years ago, the following paragraphs are quoted:

"The history of the congregation dates back almost as far as that of the community itself. It was only in its infancy when public worship was begun. The first settlers began to come in about 1840. Among the earliest of these was John Jessiman, in 1841; John McIntosh, John Smith, and Joseph Byers, in 1842; George and John Skene, in 1843. After these came the following families: Corlett, Campbell, Morrison, Ledingham, Duncan, McClung, Riddell, Robertson, McDonald, Murray, Blue, Boyle, Henderson. All of these took part in the organization of the congregation and the building of the first church, in 1857.

### A Wilderness

"The country between Fergus, on the south, and Owen Sound on the north, was at that time an almost unbroken wilderness, and prior to the opening of the Garafraxa road, in 1846, the pioneers found themselves almost isolated from the older settlements in the province. They consequently endured the many privations and hardships incidental to early pioneer life. Not the least of these was the want of religious ordinances. Family worship was observed in most of the homes. Services were held in private houses whenever a missionary chanced to come to the district. In 1848 meetings began to be held on Sabbath, under the leadership of James Ledingham, who, with his family, had come into the settlement the year before. In this he was ably assisted by James Smith, at whose home for a time the meetings were held. Sabbath school classes were organized and Alexander Smith and George Ledingham were appointed teachers. Mr. Ledingham frequently read a sermon and Mr. Smith was accustomed to lead in Gaelic prayer."

In 1850, the story of the early church relates, a missionary conducted services in homes and others followed, till the first church was built, in 1857, on the present site, donated by John McIntosh. Of building material there was an abundance, of funds working appliances there was much less, but there was energy and determination, and the church was completed within the year. In 1859, James Cameron, a graduate of Knox college, was ordained and inducted as pastor of a united charge of Johnstown (Chatsworth) and South Sullivan (Dornoch) churches.

### Beloved Pastor

Of Rev. Mr. Cameron it is recorded that as a preacher he had few peers in the Canadian church, as a pastor was greatly beloved, and was held in the highest esteem by those outside his own communion. For five years he was editor of The Christian Monthly and the Presbyterian Year Book, and was a frequent contributor to the religious press. At the time of his death, in 1883, he was moderator of the Synod of Toronto and Kingston. In 1872 the union with Chatsworth church was dissolved and at this time the church at Dornoch was named Latona instead of Sullivan. A pastoral charge was then formed of Latona, Williamsford and Rocky Saugeen churches, a union which existed till about three years ago, when Chatsworth was again linked with Latona, and Rocky Saugeen, with Durham Presbyterian church.

In 1847 Rev. Archibald McDiarmid was inducted and became a resident pastor, the present manse being built in that year. Rev. John Little succeeded Mr. McDiarmid in 1893, and Rev. William Graham followed in 1899. During his ministry the corner stone of the new brick church was laid, in 1901, and was completed and dedicated on January 5, 1902, when services were conducted by Rev. R. P. MacKay of Toronto. In 1907 the church held a jubilee celebration of its 50th anniversary.

### Memorial Tower

After the war the memorial tower was built and suitably dedicated. The local Women's Institute contributed the bell in the tower. Below in the entry a white marble tablet bears in letters of gold the inscription of honor to the



LATONA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, which is said to be one of the finest country churches in Ontario. Though the history of the congregation dates back to the year 1857, the building pictured above was not erected until 1907. The photo of this fine church building, situated at Dornoch, and the story appearing in another column, are published by courtesy of The London Free Press.

### KNOX W. M. S.

The monthly meeting of the W. M. S. of Knox United church was held at the home of Mrs. John Bell on Thursday, August 16th. The weather being so beautiful, the meeting was held on the lawn with Mrs. Mather presiding.

After singing and prayer, the visitors' report and other business was attended to. It was decided to hold a quilting in the school-room of the church on Friday, August 24. After singing another hymn, the Scripture lesson was read by Mrs. McQueen. The topic for study was "Medical Missions in Canada." Mrs. Mather, Mrs. J. J. Smith and Miss McGirr taking the subject. Mrs. John Bell, as secretary for Stewardship, followed with a splendid address on the subject of our stewardship to the Lord. The roll call was answered with a verse on "Service" and the meeting closed with singing and the Lord's Prayer in unison. Mrs. Bell and her daughter served tea and a pleasant hour was spent.

### DURHAM HIGH SCHOOL PROMOTIONS

The following pupils have been promoted from Form I to Form II: Arthur Adlam, Violet Armstrong, N. Blair, Orma Burnett, Jean Clark, May Collinson, Marguerite Corlett, Harold Glenholme, Frank Goodchild, Jasper Greenwood, Josephine Falconer, B. Falkingham, G. Harrison, R. Hargrave, J. Henderson, V. Hind, G. Hopkins, L. Jacques, M. Leith, N. Kelsey, M. MacEachern, J. McDonald, E. Mervyn, T. Milligan, F. Murdoch, O. Noble, V. Noble, R. Renwick, P. Roseborough, J. Schutz, M. Storer, J. Styles, M. Tobin, E. Tucker, I. Twamley, M. Watson. Winner of 1st form medal—O. Burnett.

The following pupils have been promoted from Form II to Form III:

I. Allan, M. Armstrong, H. Carpenter, E. Baird, A. Bell, T. Bell, E. Burnett, B. Clark, D. Firth, G. Glass, E. Harding, G. Hay, G. Hopkins, N. Lowe, F. MacArthur, G. McCrae, M. McFadden, E. MacGillivray, C. McLean, V. McLean, N. McIntyre, C. Mitchell, M. Moffat, M. Noble, G. Noble, D. Pickering, L. Reay, J. Renwick, D. Ritchie, C. Rowe, A. Ritchie, D. Robinson, D. Smith, W. Smith, A. Taylor, C. Traynor, F. Vollett, R. Wiggins, H. Wilson, K. Wilson. Winner of 2nd Form medal—G. Hay.

With all its faults, Chicago has a great distinction. It is the only place in the known world which has been bootlegging water.—Toronto Telegram.

memory of John Ledingham, who was killed overseas, and in recognition of the services of the returned boys of the vicinity.

Several ministers and missionaries of distinction have gone out from this congregation, namely: Rev. William D. Grant, Ph.D.; Rev. Dr. William H. W. Boyle, Rev. James Fraser Smith, M. D. (first medical missionary to Honan, China, and later in India), Rev. A. P. Ledingham, M. A., Rev. James Skene, B.A., and Rev. R. B. Ledingham, B. A.

The present congregation carries on steadfastly, under the earnest pastorate of Rev. A. W. McWilliam, resident now in Chatsworth manse.

## HIGH WATER STOPPED WORK ON MILL DAM

J. W. Ewen & Son Could Not Complete Work Contemplated, But Dam Is Now in Good Shape.

When the work was commenced a few weeks ago by Messrs. J. W. Ewen & Son on their dam on the Saugeen just west of The Chronicle office, it was intended that an entirely new dam would take the place of the old one erected many years ago. The wet spring and summer had so raised the water, however, that only a part has been completed and the remainder will have to wait over until some future date.

With the heavy rains, the old Saugeen was nearly as full the first of August as in the spring, and as the season is getting on, and there is work to do, the firm felt that they could no longer continue to have their mill shut down. Not only were they losing money by being closed, but it was a real inconvenience to their patrons as well.

Instead of the new dam anticipated, only the wings and a portion of the spillways was erected, and the centre portion, constructed of logs and weighed down with stone, reinforced with concrete.

Notwithstanding the curtailment of anticipated improvements, the dam is now in much better condition than ever before and may last for a good many years before it will be found necessary to replace, though it is altogether likely the firm will not be satisfied until they have a thoroughly modern dam.

The water was turned in for the first time on Saturday, but after running all day it was found that there was a leak at the west side of the structure and the mill was again closed down for a couple of days the first of the week while repairs were made.

### Ideal Management

Artillery Rookie (about to take his first lesson in horsemanship)—Sergeant, please pick me out a nice gentle, peace-loving horse.

Stable Sergeant—Did you ever ride a horse before?

Rookie—No.

Sergeant—Ah! Here's just the animal for you. Never been ridden before. You can start together.



Chief Constable G. M. Donald of Saskatoon, who heads the Chief Constables' Association of Canada, is a former member of the Toronto police force.

## GREY COUNTY TO SHOW AT TORONTO FAIR

Agricultural Representative for Grey, T. S. Cooper, of Markdale, in Charge.

Mr. T. Stewart Cooper, Agricultural Representative for Grey, accompanied by Mrs. Cooper, left Markdale on Monday for Toronto, and will be busily engaged during the balance of the week in putting the Grey County exhibit in shape for the opening of the Canadian National Exhibition on Saturday next.

Mr. Cooper is taking considerable pains this year in making the Grey exhibit one of the most attractive in the many county exhibits, and he extends a very hearty and cordial invitation to all residents of Grey, which includes Owen Sound, to make this their headquarters while attending the C.N.E., as accommodation will be provided for wraps, etc. Mr. Cooper will be personally in charge, assisted by Mrs. Cooper, and Mr. Smith, the assistant representative, will be there part of the time.

The exhibit will be a very complete one this year, and will be arranged in a sort of cafeteria fashion, with exhibits of all kinds of home cooking, as well as an arrangement showing the various kinds of produce, grains, fruits, etc. from Grey County, and Mr. Cooper is spending considerable time in its preparation, and has the support of the County Council, as well as the various agricultural societies in his efforts to bring Grey County to the fore.

### MISS ANNIE McCALLUM

We regret this week to report the death of Miss Annie McCallum, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm McCallum, who passed away early Tuesday morning after an illness of over two years. Miss McCallum was in her 24th year.

Taking a severe cold in the early part of 1926, Miss McCallum later contracted the influenza, and though she had apparently recovered from both ailments, a recurrence of the trouble developed later, left her in a very weak condition, and tuberculosis of the lungs developed. She had been a sufferer from this last illness for the past eighteen months.

The late Miss McCallum was born in Bentinck, near Mulock, in April, 1905, and lived there until twelve years ago when the family moved to Durham, where they have since resided. For a time she was employed in the telephone office here, where she was a very popular employee, and was a favorite with her many girl friends in town. Her death at the early age of 23 years is to be much regretted and the surviving members of the family have the sincere sympathy of their many friends in their bereavement. Besides the parents, the deceased is survived by three sisters, Misses Sarah and Florence in Durham, and Miss Gertrude of Toronto.

The funeral is being held from the family residence on College street this Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock, the services being in charge of the family pastor, Rev. W. Spencer of the Durham Baptist church. Interment is being made in Durham cemetery.

With the community, The Chronicle joins in extending sympathy to those who mourn.

### TO PURIFY DRINKING WATER

Take a level teaspoonful of chloride-of-lime and rub it up in a tea cup of water until there are no lumps. Dilute this with three cupfuls of water, and keep this stock solution in a stoppered bottle for use. says the Imperial Life Guard. A teaspoonful of this stock solution, added to a two-gallon pail of water, and well stirred up, will destroy all typhoid or other dysentery producing bacilli in 10 minutes, and will make the water safe to drink. If this quantity makes the water taste, use a little less, otherwise no. Get chloride-of-lime in the pound packages with metallic cases (not in cardboard cases, which is usually weak in chlorine). The stock solution will easily keep for a week. This method, worked out by Drs. Nasmith and Graham, has been copied all over the world, and was designed for prospectors, campers, and for use in summer resorts where the water may not be above suspicion.

The Prince of Wales is a member of the Alberta wheat pool. Sensible boy is the Prince.—Border Cities Star.

The Washington Post remarks that Mr. Hoover has been a lifelong Republican now for almost eight years.—Hamilton Herald.



Hubert Pocock of Toronto, has been made chairman of the department of public affairs and a member of the executive council of the American Osteopathic Association. Last year he was program chairman.

## SIXTEEN PER CENT REBATE ON HYDRO

Durham Users of Hydro Again Have Bills Reduced and Are to Receive one-sixth Rebate.—Local Plant in Good Financial Condition.

Hydro users of Durham, and this means practically the whole town, will be interested and pleased in the notice of the local Hydro Commission to rebate one-sixth, or considerably over 16 per cent of the amount paid by them in 1927. This is but another instance of the benefit of Ontario Hydro, and is as well a tribute to the local Commission, for without good community management, even the Ontario Commission cannot make profits.

To the ordinary householder, whose bill runs approximately two dollars a month, or \$24 a year, the rebate will mean the passing back of \$4, quite a good dividend. Those users of hydro whose bills, like The Chronicle, run anywhere from ten to eighteen dollars a month, will receive a proportionately rebate.

There are some towns in Ontario who still cling to private plants, but so far as Durham is concerned the installation of the hydro has been a blessing, giving us a 24-hour service at a minimum cost. Besides being able to pay the rebate, the local Commission announces that they have still sufficient surplus to meet all outstanding debentures, there being a total of some \$18,000 to their credit.

### His Mistake

Young Man—"May I have this dance, Madame?"  
Young Matron—"No, I am too danced out!"  
Young man (trifle deaf, but wanting to be polite)—"You're not, madame; you're just pleasantly plump."

### TEMPERATURES OF PAST WEEK

	8 a.m.	Max.	Min.
Thursday	60	86	57
Friday	68	86	67
Saturday	66	75	64
Sunday	62	77	55
Tuesday	68	78	66
Monday	64	81	54
Wednesday	54	76	46

### The Weather

The only rainfall registered the past week was on Friday when 21, or a little over one-fifth of an inch fell. The week generally has been cooler and more comfortable than some that came before, and the absence of rain and the cool weather has been a great assistance to the farmers in getting the crops under cover.

## TROPICAL DURHAM HAS BIG SNAKES

Reptiles Reported Numerous in Different Parts of Town, Though Not Many Have Been Seen.—Breed of Most Unknown.

During the past week or ten days The Chronicle has been informed that there are numerous large snakes in different parts of the town, but to date none has been captured. Last Wednesday about 10 o'clock, William Gray, yard foreman for the Durham Furniture Company saw a large one disappearing under one of the piles of lumber. We heard of the rumor at the time, but thinking that someone was perpetrating a practical joke we refused to take any notice of it, and it was not until we met Mr. Gray the first of this week that we were able to get the right dope on the occurrence.

Mr. Gray says that it was a big snake, all right, but the breed or actual size of the reptile is unknown to him. It was a spotted snake, and he says he saw about six feet of it as it was crawling under one of the lumber piles in the Furniture Company's yard. The reptile, he said, would be about four inches through the body. He did not see its head.

Another report has it that a large snake has been seen at different times on the town dump on the Hanover road, but as no authentic information is at hand we can give no information. We have heard nothing but the rumor.

On Sunday of last week Mrs. Hugh McLean, who lives in the southern part of town, came across a large black snake in a tool house at the rear of her house. This building is not used very much and on Sunday Mrs. McLean went into the building for something and when in a stooped position to pick it up was rather startled to see the head of a large snake rise close beside her. Needless to say Mrs. McLean lost no time in getting out of the building, and ever since a lookout has been kept for the reptile's return but so far it has refused to show up.

As the Sunday in question was Mrs. McLean's 78th birthday, it is safe to say she will never forget this one incident on her natal day, and will be on the alert from now on any time she has reason to enter the tool-house on her property.

We have no explanation to offer over the appearance of these tropical-sized reptiles in a country in which the common garter variety predominates, but it may be possible that the continued wet season may have had something to do with it. This snake story is true, and is given as we received it, and as our informants are all responsible citizens there is no chance that it can be turned aside with the statement that it is but one more evidence of the damning effects of the Ferguson Liquor Control policy which just now is blamed for everything from twins to the low price of pork on the hoof.

### PAINTING BRIDGES

One of the Department of Highway's paint spraying machines has been operating in this neighborhood for the past week or so and as a result the bridges present a much improved appearance. To keep up with the modern rush of the times the old-time bridge-painter with his paint brush and can has disappeared to make way for the mechanical sprayer which does the work just as efficiently and a whole lot faster.

Love may be blind, but a poor man is seldom sued for breach of promise.—London Calling.



This map shows the route to be taken by Bert Haskell and Parker Cramer in their Rockford-Stockholm flight. The total distance is approximately 3,000 miles. The first hop was from Rockford, Ill., to Cochrane, Ont., a distance of about 800 miles. The next stage, at 1600 miles, was from Cochrane to Mt. Evans, Greenland. Major-General J. McBrein, president of the Aviation

League of Canada, said that in this stage, the single-motored land-plane was courting disaster over the sub-Arctic wilderness. The final stage, over the ocean, is only about 600 miles. The route is seen as the one to be eventually adopted for transatlantic travel as the distance is considerably shorter. At time of publication both aviators are sought to be lost somewhere between Cochrane and Greenland.