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BRUCE COUNTY HISTORICAL NOTES

Vol. 7, No. 1

April, 1965

Published by Bruce County Historical Society

President: James McClure, Chesley
Sec.-Treas: Mrs. George Downey, Tiverton

Editor: Bruce Krug, Chesley

Spring Meetings:

The Spring meeting of the Bruce County Historical Society is to be held in Hepworth, Tuesday, May 18, in the United Church Hall on Main St. Several persons will be speaking on local history. Dress of yesteryear will appear with the local singing group. We also hope to have a guest speaker not yet chosen.

The Ontario Historical Society is holding its meeting this year in Picton, June 17 to June 19.

Will You Help?

In order for an organization to operate successfully, funds are required. The Bruce County Historical Society attempts to operate by collecting an annual fee of \$1 per year per member. This hardly helps to cover expenses, especially when we have a bulletin printed, so our Sec.-Treas., Mrs. George Downey of Tiverton would like to remind those who have neglected to contribute to our treasury for 1964-65 that we are very much in need of all the financial assistance that is available.

Bruce County, 1967.

The executive of the Bruce County Historical Society have invited the Ontario Historical Society to hold their annual meeting in June of 1967, Canada's Centennial Year, in Bruce County. This would be the first time that the O.H.S. has met in Bruce County, the nearest having been in Owen Sound in 1920. Your executive feels that our organization is quite capable of locating accommodation, local transportation, etc. for the large representation which would meet in Bruce County at that time. We also feel that there are many places of historic interest which might be shown to the guests. Success in this venture depends on early preparation so we would suggest that you begin now to think how we could entertain members of the Ontario Historical Society when they meet in Bruce County in 1967, so that the four day convention may stand out in years to come as an example of the good planning and hospitality and friendship that is to be found in Bruce County. Though our membership may be few in numbers, yet with the spirit and determination of Bruce County men and women, we can't help but succeed.

Bruce County Museum in the News.

In the April 1, 1965 edition of the Family Herald, Canada's National Farm Magazine, appears an article on our Bruce County Historical Museum under the title of "Museum With A Heart". A full page article is given to the story of the organization and development of the Museum with

Dr. J. F. Morton of Southampton initiating the thought of a Museum and with the backing of the local Women's Institutes throughout Bruce County was able to establish a Museum which has on display over 12,000 articles and which was visited by 12,000 people in 1964. There are several photographs in the article, one showing a portion of the display of models of 40 different kinds of fences used by pioneers in Bruce County. These models were made by Fritz Knechtel of Hanover. Another photograph shows the Museum's Curator, Gordon Hepburn and his wife, Olive, grooming a year-round cradle buggy-sleigh that was once used by an Irish family in Bruce County. The article mentions that one museum display, prepared by Dr. Anderson with Mr. Knechtel's assistance, is called "Dead Men Tell Tales" and features burial techniques, grave offerings, interesting cross-sections of human bone structure, etc. Also included is the skeleton of a six year old child found wrapped in well preserved birchbark in a cave on an island near Tobermory.

The article says, "After 10 years there is no waning of interest on the part of residents or visitors. Items continue to be donated at the yearly rate of about 300. Truly this is a museum with a heart, thanks to the spirit of the County's residents in turning over their loved possessions to posterity."

Two New Papers Appear in Bruce County.

We have just received first issues of two new papers printed in Bruce County, namely the Bruce Peninsula Star of Wiarton, edited by George Maher and Town and Country Crier of Mildmay edited by John Hafermehl.

Mr. Maher says that he felt that a weekly newspaper to fully cover happenings on the Bruce Peninsula, and not just pertaining to the town of Wiarton, was needed. Therefore, he decided to name the paper, The Bruce Peninsula Star.

Mr. Hafermehl will publish his paper every two weeks. Mr. Hafermehl did not incorporate the name of the town in his masthead as he wants the paper to be as much as a hometown paper to the residents in Clifford, Formosa, Ayton, etc. as it would be to the residents of Mildmay. Since his paper is covering the rural area as well as the urban, he came up with the "Town and Country" line, and since he wants to shout the news and notices, etc. to those people, he thought of the bygone days when the town crier walked the streets telling of important happenings and proclamations, hence the name "Crier".

The Crier is printed in the "offset" method, the second such paper to do so in the County (the other is Port Elgin Times). This meant that most of the equipment used in the production had to be changed from that used by the old Mildmay Gazette. On Dec. 24, 1964 the first shipment arrived and so on till the end of the year. To make room for the new items, some of the old had to be sold . . . the biggest item being the old paper press which printed sheets the size of 24' x 36'. This finally was dismantled and transported to Wiarton for Mr. George Maher's new weekly, the Bruce Peninsula Star.

After a new darkroom was built and tests made with the new equipment, the first issue of the Crier hit the streets on Friday Feb. 26.

Confirm O. C. Vail Has Found the "Griffin".

In Sept. 1964, Mr. O. C. Vail of Tobermory, veteran fisherman and guide and member of the Bruce County Historical Society received the following letter of confirmation in regard to the remains of the shipwreck which he recovered from Russell Island off Tobermory in 1955, and which was thought at that time to be the remains of the long sought LaSalle's "Griffin".

"To O. C. Vail, Tobermory, Ont.

After years of careful consideration, both of the material you recovered in 1955, which corresponds in every respect to the known dimensions of the 'Griffin' and also of your later recoveries from the bottom in which the wreckage lay for so many years, we continue united in our original conclusion that what you then recovered with Mr. John McLean's assistance can not be other than the original vessel built at Niagara in 1679. We are both proud to have been associated in our small way with you in a discovery of such great importance, 'The Griffin'.

Signed,
C. H. J. Snider, Author.
Rowley Murphy, Illustrator."

September 20, 1964

We as members of the Bruce County Historical Society are proud that the wreck of the historic ship "The Griffin" was found in Bruce County by a Bruce County man, namely Orrie Vail, "the Griffin Finder". We are also proud of the fact that Orrie took the necessary steps to watch over this wreck for many years and when the suitable occasion arose, that he carefully dismantled and numbered each piece of the ship, removed them to safe keeping on shore and re-assembled the ship as he had found it. We as Bruce County citizens are also proud that Orrie kept this historic ship in Bruce County where it serves as a major tourist attraction, rather than yielding to the offers of distant cities and organizations to purchase some or all of the ship. We are glad that Orrie has kept his find intact and that he has made it available for the public to view. Besides "The Griffin" Orrie has on display, parts from other ships which were wrecked in the Tobermory area in the era of sailing, and also many tools related to pioneer days. Orrie has spoken to our society on two occasions, at Lion's Head and at Tobermory, and we look forward to a future address from him.

Arran-Vale.

by Alex Duff, Tara.

In the past, when a discussion took place concerning matters relating to the early development of the area, the name "Gardiner" immediately assumed a place of prominence. Luke Gardiner, arriving in Arran Township in 1852, soon acquired considerable property. The records show that he received the Crown Deeds to some 700 acres of land. He established residence on Lot 31, Con. 6, adjoining Invermay,

where close by Lot. 30 he donated $\frac{1}{4}$ acre of land to S. S. No. 7, where a log school house was erected in 1856.

Prior to this he built a dam on the Sauble and installed a saw-mill on Lot 29. In 1857 a grist mill was also in operation and dwellings erected to house those employed at the mills. This hamlet was named Arran-Vale, a name it still retains. It was, until a few years ago (1930) situated on the highway leading from Tara to Chesley, Walkerton and points south.

A son of Luke Gardiner, John N. along with his wife, who was formerly a Miss Dobbin of Dobbinton, resided close by the mill, he having assumed management of the milling operations. He was very active in the affairs of the community, he served as a Councillor and for a time as Deputy-Reeve of Arran Township. He was one of the founders of the Arran Agricultural Society and its first secretary, a position he held during the years. The site of the annual Fall Fair alternated between Invermay and Arkwright. He was a devout Methodist and for several years choir leader at the Invermay Methodist Church.

The Gardiner family, giving as their reason, poor health on the part of certain members, disposed of their holdings here (believed to have been in the 1880's) and moved to California.

The mill property was sold to Mr. Syrian Cummer, who actively carried on the business for some forty years. Sawlogs (sinkers) have been retrieved from the bottom of the Sauble recently, still in perfect condition bearing the stamp of Syrian Cummer. In 1891 fire completely destroyed the mill property. Mr. Cummer rebuilt immediately and continued to operate until he sold the business in 1903 to Mr. J. J. McMullen of Marmion near Desboro. A disastrous fire in 1915 again wiped out the business. The concrete structure erected by Mr. McMullen to replace the former mill is still in use today (1965).

Arran-Vale had its share of fires, a fire around 1900 destroyed a barn, the property of Mr. Matthew Ambler and a dwelling occupied by a Mrs. Sutton, who not only lost her home but almost all of her personal belongings.

Mr. McMullen sold the mill property in 1919 to Mr. W. J. Beattie of Hepworth, who seven years later sold to Mr. Harry Logan, Owen Sound. Mr. Logan was perhaps the last person to operate the sawmill.

This sketch would not be complete without mention being made of the service rendered over the years by an employee of many years standing, namely Thos. Manley. Tom, a Veteran of World War I (Imperial) along with his wife, emigrated to Canada shortly after the war, working for a time on farms. He was offered employment in the Arran-Vale mill a position he accepted and continued to hold until the state of his health forced a change in his occupation.

Others who have owned and operated the mill are - Wm. Irwin, Gordon Grant, W. Irwin, Arnold Howe, Grant Hemstock, M. Snell, and the present owner Carl Crawford, who with his son, Murray, operate what appears to be a thriving business. The crawfords have enlarged the plant by adding considerable space and installing modern equipment. Diesel is now the main source of power. With the gradual lowering of water levels, no great dependence is placed on water as a source of power today.

The Making of a Prime Minister.

Contributed by Dr. J. F. Morton, Southampton.

The Port Elgin Times in its Old Home Week issue of July 23, 1924 contains several special articles or recollections on events of the last fifty years. One of these is by a boy who was pulling proof on the Times in 1893 and now, as a trained newspaper man, who has achieved all the chairs save one on a great daily, describes a visit of Sir Wilfrid Laurier to North Bruce as follows:

(No doubt this refers to the late Ross Munro Sr. whose father was editor of the Times from 1888 until the early part of the 1900's)

The Pillar of Cloud by Day

It must be thirty-one years since the visit of Sir Wilfrid Laurier to Port Elgin, an occasion long remembered by the staunch Grits of the time. The Liberal Chieftain was then in opposition, in the prime of his inspiring Canadian manhood. It was arranged that he should speak at the cricket grounds from a stand erected in front of the old pavilion with a favoured few on the platform itself, while the ordinary electors and those to be converted sat on pine planks placed on blocks out under the blazing sun. However, the silvery eloquence of the great French Canadian was not the thing that remained in one boy's memory of that day. The Liberals had arranged to give their leader an unique and tumultuous reception. Six hundred horsemen were to escort the great man to the cricket grounds. For weeks prior to the event the youths all over Saugeen, Bruce and Arran were teaching their best farm horses the ways and manners of dashing cavalry mounts. The whole countryside was searched for anything that would serve for a saddle. If my memory is correct the parade was in charge of Dougald Smith of Saugeen, and never was a grander procession in the old town. Unfortunately the weather had been dry and hot. A modern water cart was not numbered among the municipality's assets, and so four times six hundred hooves pounded into and stumbled through the summer's dust. Many of horses, too, were of the Clydesdale or Percheron breed with hooves spread out like snowshoes. And the dust they raised! One could hardly distinguish the political leaders. It was referred to as the "pillar of cloud by day" beckoning the Liberals out of the political wilderness into the promised land. But many a Bruce County gallant rode that day in the conscious pride that he had helped to smite the wicked Tories. Years afterward, Laurier, then Sir Wilfrid, laden with honours and ripe in political craft, remarked, "Port Elgin, yes, that is where we had such beautiful horses and such smothering dust."

Visit to Bruce County in April, 1852.

In an April , 1852 edition of "The Huron Loyalist", one of the early newspapers of Huron County, published in Goderich, appeared a report of a visit to the County of Bruce. We quote.

"Having just returned from a tour through the northern townships in the County of Bruce and fully agreeing with observations made by some of the settlers that they are too little known, I take the opportunity offered by your valuable paper (that is, The Huron Loyalist) of acquainting those who may be anxious to settle on farms with a slight sketch of the improvements, population, land, soil, etc. Until this my last trip, I had no idea that it was such an important place, although I had frequently travelled through it while it was a wilderness and since, as well as along the whole coast, for the last two years.

"The improvements and increase of population which have taken place for the last three years are far beyond anything anticipated and are still increasing rapidly. I am assured by the settlers that there is not a better country in Canada for wheat and all kinds of English grain than this; and I can fully confirm this statement from the samples of wheat and oats that I have seen and examined. The soil is very fertile.

"Small lakes and large beaver meadows are profusely scattered through the townships; they are covered with good timber and well watered. In Greenock is the finest pinery that I have met with in any of the northern townships. Messrs. Valentine and Jardine are erecting a sawmill on this river near its junction with the Saugeen. It is rather swampy in the rear but abounds with the most valuable timber such as pine, cherry, curled and bird's eye maple of enormous size. There is also a pinery in Kinloss and Saugeen. The exports will be lumber, timber, wheat, potash, flour, pork and furs. Wild animals such as marten, beaver, mink, otter, fisher, bear, fox, raccoon, muskrat and deer are found in all the townships.

"The settlers complain very much of the high price of the lands, the want of mills, schools and places of worship. They have to go from Kincardine through to the Garafraxa road, a distance of about 40 miles, to get their grist ground. However, Mr. Sutton has just completed a grist mill in Brant, and Messrs. Fraser, Rastall, Keyworth, Withers and Sutton are erecting saw mills in Kincardine which will be completed in the spring.

"The Government has cut out the main of Durham road with the exception of the Township of Greenock.

"On Christmas Day, 1849, Mr. William Johnston, styled the King of Brant, left Mr. Buck's tavern in Bentinck (Grey County) on a raft to settle in that township where there was one man before him, a Mr. Bacon. It now numbers 691 and is expected to be nearly doubled next summer.

"Kincardine numbers 1149 white inhabitants, Greenock, 189; Kinloss and Elderslie 60; Huron, 266; Bruce, 185; Saugeen, 240; making in all 2,580."

The Story of Kinloss Mills.

We are most grateful to Mr. Alex Smith of Owen Sound for the Story of Kinloss Mills which has been sent as an extra with the Historical Notes this month. Mr. Smith is inspector of Public Schools for Bruce No. 2 and Grey No. 5. He is also a member of the Bruce Trail Committee and is an active member of the Bruce County Historical Society. Through much research and interviews, Mr. Smith has been able to collect and preserve in writing the history of one of the pioneer industries of the township and is supplying each member of the Society with a free copy of this interesting story.

Competitions for Canada's Centenary.

A brief sketch of the history competitions sponsored by our Society in honour of Canada's 100th birthday is enclosed this month. Further particulars with regards to rules, prizes, etc. may be obtained from any of the Committee members. Keen interest is being shown in all competitions and a large entry is anticipated in all groups. Non-residents of Bruce County may participate in most of the competitions but the subject matter must be related to Bruce County. Over \$600 in prize money will be offered. Entries must be handed in for judging about September, 1966.

1. The Family History Competition -
 Mr. William Walsh, Kincardine.
 Mrs. W. J. Arnold, R. R. 3, Ripley.
2. Painting Competition -
 Miss Eleanor Lochead, Chesley.
 Mrs. Blair Robertson, Port Elgin.
3. Doll Competition -
 Mrs. Donald Blue, Ripley.
 Mrs. Leonard Outerbridge, Ripley.
4. Essay Competition -
 Mr. J. Alex Duff, Tara.
 Mrs. C. B. Grant, Tara.
5. Snapshot Competition -
 Mrs. Victor Dudgeon, Dobbinton.
 Mrs. Frank Stinson, R. R. 3, Chesley.
 Miss Beulah Ruthven, Chesley.

BRUCE COUNTY HISTORICAL NOTES

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Sept. 1965

Published by Bruce County Historical Society.

President: James McClure, Chesley -- Editor: Bruce Krug, Chesley

Sec. Treas: Mrs. George Downey, Tiverton.

THE ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

Place - Formosa Community Hall, Formosa

Date - Thursday, October 14th

Time - 6:30 P.M.

Guest Speakers - Miss Melinda Commons of the staff of Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate.

Topic - Early Days in Formosa.

Mr. Dickison, retired principal of Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate and a long-time member of Waterloo Historical Society.

Topic - Styles of Houses -- illustrated.

Since the early settlers of Formosa and district were mostly people of German descent, this meeting will take the form of a German night with pork and sauerkraut, dutch apple pie and German music.

Tickets are available from your local representative. (\$2.00).

All tickets must be purchased before October 9th. Definitely no tickets will be sold the night of the dinner.

First Man Slain in North West Rebellion of 1885

Was a Bruce County Volunteer

In March, 1885, the rebellion in the North West broke out. In the first action, that at Duck Lake, which took place in this unfortunate rebellion, the first man slain was an erstwhile Bruce Volunteer, John Morton, at one time major in the 32nd Battalion. He was shot while leading a party of Prince Albert Volunteers. Another 32nd Battalion man, Alex McNabb, was severely wounded in the same action. Morton's body lay for two days on the field where he fell, when his old friend, Lieut-Col. Sproat (32nd Batt) found the body and took it to his own home to be prepared for burial.

The Winnipeg Sun had the following to say:

"Captain John Morton, who was killed in the fight at Duck Lake on the 26th March, 1885, was a native of Roscommon, Ireland. Much of his early youth was devoted to outdoor sports in following the hounds, fishing and shooting, and he was never more happier than when engaged in some such active and manly exercise. The hum-drum life of study at college did not suit him, and leaving Trinity College, Dublin, at an early age, he came to Canada in the year 1861 when hardly more than twenty. After some time he settled in Arran, in the County of Bruce, having bought the homestead of Mr. George Gould, now clerk of the county, and in 1862 was joined by his wife, a lady from Ireland who had come out from Ireland and whom he met for that purpose in Quebec.

About the time of the Fenion raid in 1866 Mr. Morton's martial instinct led him to organize a volunteer company in the neighbourhood in which he had settled. The company was accepted and became No. 6 Tara Company of the 32nd Battalion, under the command of Lieut-Colonel Sproat, now registrar of Prince Albert. Captain Morton remained in command until 1879 when he was appointed adjutant, and in 1881 he became Major. He retired from the force when leaving Ontario, retaining the former rank of Captain.

Although Captain Morton's early training had not fitted him for the laborious work of an agriculturalist, yet whatever he put his hands to, he did with all his might. His energy in this line was perhaps greater than his success, but his sterling uprightness and unswerving rectitude made him respected by all, and his amiability of disposition secured him the love of all who knew him. Had he been ambitious, he could have attained any office he might have desired from those amongst whom he lived, but though he did accept the position of Deputy Reeve of his township, he cared not for public life, and soon retired. As his family increased he felt an anxiety to improve their prospects, and accordingly in 1882, selling his farm in Bruce, he resolved to proceed to the

Northwest. His old friend, Col. Sproat, having settled in Prince Albert, Capt. Morton's attention was attracted hither, and after a severe trip over prairie with his wife and family, and stock, he reached Prince Albert in July 1882."

This Summer -

In August a meeting of our historical society was held in the Legion Hall at Southampton. Mrs Don Shute of Guelph and summer resident of the town of Southampton, gave a most interesting talk on the early development of the beach at Southampton as a summer resort around the turn of the century. Prof. Don Shute described some of the archeological sites which had been discovered in the Southampton area, with particular reference to the Donaldson site near the mouth of the Saugeen River. Dr. Morton spoke on the Indians who inhabited the area before white man arrived. Dr. Morton also had on display early photographs of Southampton

Schools in the Townships of Bruce and Elderslie are sold by auction. The Bruce County Historical Society is presented by Bruce Township Council with the bell from S.S. No. ____.

Two severe wind and electrical storms struck the County and caused heavy damage in the Walkerton area, overturning barns and uprooting trees.

Greenoch Landmark -- a two-story frame structure, used as a wagon shop for nearly a century was destroyed by fire.

Death of Dr. Earle Shouldice, 74, Toronto, Surgeon and one of the world's foremost authorities on Hernias. For more than twenty years he was in demand by medical associations around the world as lecturer and demonstrator of his technique in hernia operations. Dr. Shouldice was a native of Bruce County, being born on a farm near Chesley and received his early education at Chesley schools.

Museum Receives Speakers Chair

This summer the chair used by Donald Sinclair when he was Speaker of the Ontario House of Parliament for several years prior to 1883, was presented to the Bruce County Museum at Southampton. Donald Sinclair was born in the Island of Islay, Scotland, in July 1829. He immigrated to Canada with his parents in 1851, who settled the following year in Arran Twp. Sinclair came to Bruce in 1853 and followed the profession of a schoolteacher here, and also later in the vicinity of Toronto. From 1858 he was permanently a resident of Bruce. In 1863 he was elected deputy reeve of Arran. In 1869 Mr. Sinclair moved to Paisley and carried on a general store. In the general election of 1867 he was elected as member

of the house of Assembly, by acclamation, for the riding of North Bruce. This seat he held until 1883, when he was appointed Registrar of Deeds for the County of Bruce. In April, 1874, he married Isabelle, daughter of Thomas Adair, and had a family of two sons and three daughters. In politics he was a Liberal. In religious behalf he was a Baptist. Mr. Sinclair possessed a character for uprightness and integrity, ever having the courage to uphold his convictions. His death occurred November 19th, 1900, at Toronto, where he had gone to obtain medical advice. He was buried at Southampton.

THE WRECK OF THE "ERIE BELLE"

One day, while pulling hard to take
The vessel off the rock,
When steam was high and pressure great
There was an awful shock

The boiler burst, the tug was strewn
In fragments o'er the sea
And four brave souls that day were hurled
Into eternity.

These are a few lines taken from a poem which was written to describe in verse the story of the Wreck of the "Erie Belle" on the shore of Lake Huron, south of Kincardine on November 21, 1883.

The "Erie Belle" was a wrecking tug owned by a Windsor firm. Prior to this the "Erie Belle" had been a passenger vessel, first on the Atlantic coast and later on Lake Erie. It was 125 feet in length and 25 feet wide. The tug had been sent from Windsor to Kincardine to pull the sailing vessel, "Carter", which was loaded with square timber off a sandy point south of Kincardine where the vessel was stuck fast. It was a typical November day that 21st eighty two years ago, with a cold wind and snow blowing about to make more miserable the work of the sailors. The "Erie Belle" was in charge of Captain John E. Tobin, who was directing operations, while below Bill Osgoode, chief engineer, was watching the steam. Government inspectors would permit no more than 65 pounds of steam for the "Erie Belle" and under proper circumstances the surplus would have blown off. But Bill was conservative with his steam and had rearranged the boiler so that it would take 100 pounds of steam without blowing off. At least he thought it would. But on November 21, 1883 the boiler wouldn't take it and with an explosion which was heard around for miles, blew the tug to pieces and sent the members of the crew hurtling through space, to leave some dead, some maimed on the waters of the lake. The engineer, his second, John Smith and William Sayles, the coloured fireman were killed by the blast, for they were working in the engine room.

As debris fell about him, the captain of the ship floated helpless, his arms paralysed, and only quick and gallant action by the wheelsman, Frank Conroy saved the captain's life. Swimming away from the piece of timber to which he had been clinging, the wheelsman placed his chief on it and started swimming to shore. In the meantime, the volunteer boat crew rushed from Kincardine to the scene of the disaster, where their life saving boat was already in use by the "Carter" and brought to safety the crew of the ship which was now a floating mass of shattered timbers.

How did James Gardiner, a local man, come to be aboard the tug? That is simple. Henry Pocock, a young man of 18 years age and a member of the tug's crew had permission from the captain to allow Gardiner on board the tug. When the explosion took place Pocock clambered out a porthole, dragging and pulling Gardiner behind him. Gardiner was injured from the explosion, becoming a recluse and living alone for many years in a shack in the bush north of Inverhuron.

George Brown, coloured deckhand, escaped death in the disaster only to be drowned in 1910 when he fell from a pier at Windsor. The body of the chief engineer was claimed by his brother and taken to Lorain, Ohio, but the fireman, Sayles, was buried in Kincardine cemetery, while the body of the cook was taken to Windsor. William Johnston, another fireman, lived two years after the disaster but was mentally unbalanced and died in an institution in London.

John E. Tobin, captain of the "Erie Belle" lived till 1917 and for many years was well known on the lakes as an able sailor. His brother, Billy Tobin, who was a mate on the ship died in 1893 and Conroy, who saved the captain's life passed away in 1897 at Prescott.

Don Finlayson, another member of the crew was blinded as a result of the mishap. He passed away at Windsor.

In 1933, Henry Pocock, sole survivor of the crew visited Kincardine and suggested that the boiler of the tug be erected as a monument to the bravery of the sailors who lived and died in a life of service on the great lakes. Nothing was done at this time and the old boiler lay on the lake bottom until 1930 when Frank McPherson Sr. dragged it up on the beach with the idea of making a memorial. It was intended to bring the old boiler to Kincardine and set it up in the town park. Mr. McPherson could get no support for his idea so it remained on the beach.

In 1965, Ted Rowcliffe, a keen enthusiast in ship lore and skin diving and a member of our Historical Society renewed the interest in preserving the remains of the boiler from souvenir hunters and scrap dealers and action was taken this summer to establish a park known as "Boiler Beach Park" with the old boiler of the "Erie Belle" being preserved as a monument for those who wish to reminisce of the early schooner days along the shore line of Bruce County.

A LOOK INTO THE MEDICAL PAST

(Walkerton Herald-Times
April 22, 1965)

At the March meeting of Teeswater Women's Institute, Mrs. M. Gillies read a very interesting letter received by her late husband in 1924, from Dr. J.A. Rollins of London. The late Dr. Gillies was an enthusiastic historian and wrote to Dr. Rollins for certain information. The letter received in reply gives a very informative look into the pioneer medical days in Bruce County, and is reproduced herewith in part:

Dear Dr. Gillies:

I am in receipt of yours of the 4th inst. (Aug.1924), re practitioners in Bruce County.

Yes. I went to Bervie to practice on June 1st, 1869 and left there in May 1872, for Huron Co. I was very young and very inexperienced, but made a living there for nearly three years. In the winter of 1871 - 72, we had a fearful lot of snow and for the months of January, Feb. and March I could not get out of the village. People travelled by snowshoes mostly. The snow was my reason for leaving.

It appears to me that we used to have a lot of Cholera Morbus cases during the summer at that time, and I can recall the trouble in managing such cases. In fact we were almost helpless. We had no hypodermic syringes in those days and no clinical thermometers. After the hypodermic and morphia tablets came in Cholera Morbus lost its terrors.

Giving Engot in labor was a common practice then, but after a few cases of retained placenta, due to the contracted uterus, I gave such practice up.

We spent a great part of our lives in unlearning what was taught us as sacred truths in college.... We had no microbes and consequently no sterilization -- all before the days of Lister. The change is certainly abysmal. Just to think of it is paralyzing.

On the second day of my Bervie service I was called to the north line of Kincardine Township to see a case of erysipelas of the head in a married lady. Dr. Bradley was in attendance and had given an unfavorable prognosis. Hence my call. The lady recovered and Dr. Bradley, so far as I can recollect, never spoke to me after. Such was the jealousies of the profession in that day and generation.

Dr. Garner of Lucknow was, I believe, an Irish graduate. A remarkable character, a great fisher and huntsman. He took periodical sprees, as we then called a drunken debauch. The farmers from Greenock and out Walkerton way used to team their grain to Kincardine to market, and a great bunch of them would stay at Jonas Kaker's at the Black Horse over night, and go to Kincardine in very early morning. One such night Dr. Garner was there and got into a row with the bunch and broke most of the whiskey bottles in the bar over their heads. I was called to dress the numerous wounds.

I recall a case of a man named Riddell, in which I diagnosed aneurism of the descending aorta. He saw Dr. Garner, who proposed to operate the next Sunday (Sunday was Dr. Garner's field day). I cannot recall the why, but the operation did not occur. A few

months after the patient died suddenly of a rupture of the aneurism.

I can recall a couple of farmers returning from Goderich in the early hours of morning, getting into Dr. Garner's office after a drink of whiskey, and got the wrong bottle and drank wine of Colchicum and both died. Dr. Garner was well up in the practice of medicine in his day.

Dr. Secord of Kincardine I never got to know intimately, but he was a great worker, a conscientious practitioner and successful doctor.

There was also a Dr. Johnston in Kincardine, in my time; a young, big, turbulent kind of a man, given to drink. Also Dr. Martyn who was, I think, also a druggist.

There were few consultations in those days. If dissatisfied, another man was called in and the previous doctor told not to call again, but not always, as frequently he did not know of his dismissal until his next call.

I recall a Sunday afternoon a man came for me on foot, to go to his wife in labor out in Kinloss. He had left her alone in the house, but for the presence of a two-year-old girl. I went on horseback, turned north west to Black Horse and struck miles of corduroy road. The child was born when I got there, and after fixing the woman up, I went two miles further to get a woman to come and look after the mother and babe.

Those were the pioneering days we read about. We seldom got paid for such jobs as this. People could not pay. Had no money.

Kincardine, I think, had more population in 1870 than it has today. In 1870 the doctors had no thermometers, no hypodermic syringes, no microbes, no sterilization, no appendicitis, it was always peritonitis or inflammation of the bowels, no telephones, no automobiles, no cleanliness, no tablet form of drugs, no antiseptics, no specialisms, no osteopaths, no chiropractors, no Christian Science, no hydrotherapeutics, no opticians, few operations of any kind -- yet he filled his day and destiny.

Modern practitioners have all these and a thousand other things tending to perfection, and therefore should be a thousand times more useful to the world at large and I suppose they are. Millions of lives have been saved by modern surgery, and no man can predict what the future may hold. An absolutely open mind is the only logical attitude for the doctor of today, as of all days....

Wishing you all success in your venture, I remain.

Yours faithfully,

J. A. Rollins.

Vol 8 No 1

BRUCE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

APRIL BULLETIN 1966

Fees for the Historical Society are \$2.00 per person or \$3.00 per family. If your fees are due kindly send to Mrs. George Downey, Tiverton.

Since our last bulletin two of our members have passed away. Mr. Joe Jagelowski, Walkerton, and Mr. Ralph Gibson of Amerstburg, a brother-in-law of Bruce Krug. If there are some we have omitted, kindly let us know for a future bulletin.

Tramp, tramp, the boys are marching, comes back to my memory as I think about June 3rd, 1916. I was then a little girl of eight years living on a farm in Sullivan township. June the third was always a big day in Chesley but particularly the year 1916. That June morning under the leadership of Col. Weir, the 160th battalion marched from Walkerton to Chesley. That morning along with my Mother and Father, we drove to the Alex Rae farm on the 8th Concession of Brant. Noon hour arrived and what a sight to see and hear, twelve hundred men marching down the road and up the lane to my great uncle's farm home. Here the battalion were fed their noon meal on the spacious lawn of the Rae farm home. After the meal they proceeded on their way to Chesley to celebrate the King's birthday, along with several thousand already gathered in the Victoria Park. That night the battalion were billeted out and a few hundred slept on the floor of the arena. The battalion returned to Walkerton the next day and were then moved to London, and in October the same year left for overseas.

Articles that have passed in the last 100 years:-

Leach for making Lye; Potash kettle; cradle; sugar kettle; wooden spiles; flail; millstones; wooden pump; log houses; milk basins; milk cans; dash churns; butter bowl; prints; crimping irons; hair curlers; muzzel loader; and powder horn.

Some people have been asking about judges for the Competitions; For your information:

Family History -- Judged by Genealogical Society, Dr. Reaman and Dr. ~~Winn~~ *Winn* of the University of Waterloo.
Essay Competition -- University of ~~Western Ontario~~ *McMaster-Hamilton*
Doll Competition -- McDonald College, University of Guelph.
Painting " -- College of Art, University of Toronto.
Snapshot " -- *Univ. of Western Ontario - London*
Donations toward prize money is now \$250.00.

The spring meeting will be held on May 19th in Lucknow at the town hall.

- 2 -

DO YOU REMEMBER

When there was a Post Office at Arran, West Arran, Burgoyne, Invermay, Arkwright, Gunston, Mount Hope, Elsinore and Dunblane.

If you have any information regarding these Post Offices kindly contact John Sim, R.R. #2, Tara.

- - - - -

Thos. Kenzie Foster, a former Warden of Bruce County, passed away in the Owen Sound General and Marine Hospital, Feb. 26, 1966.

The late Mr. Foster had a lengthy record of service to his community. He served on Bruce Township council from 1933 - 35, was Deputy Reeve in 1936 and Reeve in 1937, holding this office until 1947. In 1946 he was Warden of Bruce County.

In 1948 Mr. Foster entered Provincial politics, serving the riding until 1952.

He was born on the 6th Concession of Bruce, but lived almost all his life on the 12th Concession, Bruce. He was a son of an early pioneer family, the late Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Foster. Surviving is his wife, the former Anne Munro of Paisley.

- - - - -

The Gerda Munsinger Case

Mr. Justice Wishart Fleet Spence of the Supreme Court of Canada, the 62-year-old junior member of the highest court, was asked by the government Monday morning to conduct a judicial inquiry into the sensational Gerda Munsinger affair and his appointment was announced by Prime Minister Pearson when the Commons met at 2:30 p.m.

Mr. Justice Spence's grandparents came to Canada from the Orkney Islands, Scotland, shortly before Confederation and settled in Bruce County, Ontario. His father, James Houston Spence, was named to the Senate in 1928 by Prime Minister Mackenzie King and died during the Second World War.

THE LAST OF THE WAGON TRAINS

Wagon trains! bring visions of the "Go West" era of Canadian history, but for Mrs. Bertha Gibson of Wiarton, Ontario, the words have a much more recent meaning. In the spring of 1940 this high-spirited grandmother climbed aboard the wagon seat beside her husband for a legendary journey of her own. They had homesteaded in Saskatchewan and had three sons in their teens, when doctors told her husband, John Gibson, that he must have a change of climate for health reasons. They decided to come to Sault Ste. Marie, where a daughter lived, so with little money for train tickets, they set out by team and covered wagons on their adventuresome journey.

Accompanied by their three sons, they spent all of May and most of June and covered many hundreds of miles as they made their way from their Saskatchewan homestead across the Manitoba wheat fields to the lake and forest country of north western Ontario, and south again to the Rainy River boundary of Minnesota. Preparation had been made long before the spring starting date with wagons and teams being readied and Mrs. Gibson making baked pork and beans and stowing them in jars. She disposed of her hens the same way, and filled two cream cans with cookies, and set aside plenty of pickles and jam.

Along the way they travelled by day and camped at night in farmers' yards where they could buy hay and get water. One night they spent in an empty livery stable, and other nights in old logging camps. Coming across Manitoba they ran into a severe dust storm that clogged lungs and burned their eyes, and reduced visibility to next-to-nothing. Mrs. Gibson remembers fondly the beautiful scenery but most of all she remembers the hospitality and friendliness of the people they met along the way such as the Ukrainian family who offered their yard and water, and brought them milk and hot biscuits for supper, and a French speaking couple who welcomed them and presented them with a wedge of their cheese. Then there was the night in the Lake of the Woods area when a bear spooked their horses and the men had to keep a blazing fire going all night to frighten him away from their camp.

By the time they reached the Minnesota border the war was looking bad and their sons were anxious to get there and join up, also because of the trouble of entering the States, they reluctantly decided to finish their journey by train, so the long trek was done.

But sometimes Mrs. Gibson, a widow now, relives the adventure for a great-grandchild. And when she is asked what she remembers best about the trip, she replies -- "The people we met. I'll never forget how friendly everybody was -- and what marvellous folks there are in this country".

Competitions for Canada's Centenary

sponsored by

The Historical Society of Bruce County

The Bruce County Historical Society is holding five competitions as their contribution to the celebration of Canada's 100th birthday. The Society hopes that it has compiled a variety of subjects which will interest many people and will inspire them to enter at least one competition.

Over \$600.00 in prize money will be offered. Well-known persons from several Ontario Universities, such as, Dr. Margaret McCready from the University of Guelph, and Dr. Reamon of Waterloo University, will be the judges.

Entries must be handed in for judging about September, 1966. Further information concerning the individual competition can be obtained from the committees listed below.

1. The Family History Competition.

Committee - Mr. William Walsh, Kincardine.
Mrs. W. J. Arnold, R. R. 3, Ripley.

Class 1 - Pioneer Bruce County Family Histories.
2 - Histories of Bruce County Families who have resided in the County for 25 continuous years.

2. Painting Competition.

Committee - Miss Eleanor Lohead, Chesley
Mrs. Blair Robertson, Port Elgin.

Best original oil painting, not smaller than 16" x 20", nor larger than 20" x 24", framed, depicting an event or location of historic interest in Bruce County.

3. Doll Competition.

Committee - Mrs. Donald Blue, Ripley.
Mrs. Leonard Outerbridge, Ripley

A Doll dressed to portray a woman.

4. Essay Competition.

Committee - Mr. J. Alex Duff, Tara.
Mrs. C. B. Grant, Tara.

Class 1 - Written by a student residing in Bruce County, or enrolled at a school situated in Bruce County.

Class 2 - Written by an adult residing in Bruce County or one who regards the County as his or her ancestral home.

A list of topics may be obtained from the committee.

5. Snapshot Competition.

Committee - Mrs. Victor Dudgeon, Dobbinton.
Mrs. Frank Stinson, R. R. 3 Chesley.
Miss Beulah Ruthven,

1018 No 2

BRUCE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

JULY 1966 BULLETIN

Next Historical Society meeting will be held in Chesley, July 20 Wednesday at 2.30 P.M. Mr. Howard Krug generously offered to guide us through Krug's furniture showroom.

Bring a picnic lunch and your cutlery. Plates, cups, tea & coffee will be supplied.

Mr. Stuart Robertson, Past President of our Society, passed away in a Kitchener Hospital June 19, 1966. Mr. Robertson resided in Lucknow. He was always interested in history of the county. He was instrumental in having the second edition of Robertson's History of Bruce printed. We extend our sympathy to his kin. We hope to have a more complete obituary in the year book.

MEMOIRS OF MY MOTHER BY ELLEN ANDERSON

I wonder how many people remember that 1965 was the 80th anniversary of the North West Rebellion.

Louis Riel was brought to trial on the last day of July, 1885.

My mother recalls as a small child, standing in the doorway of their farmhouse on the fourth concession of Elderslie and seeing a horse drawn wagon, loaded with about eight or ten volunteers. These men were going to the station at Paisley to embark for Toronto to join General Middleton's Army.

It would be interesting to know the names of these volunteers. My mother thinks one of them was Jos. Stoddart.

Can anyone remember Gypsy Lane in Chesley? My mother tells me that there was a short tree lined grassy road on the west side of the cemetery in Chesley, known as Gypsy Lane.

Gypsy Lane was the favourite camping place of that nomadic tribe of people known as Gypsies. The Gypsies, whose ancestry is lost in antiquity, have travelled the wide world over. They are forever restless, forever travelling with their horses and wagons.

Each year a band of Gypsies camped in Gypsy Lane. The men were selling and trading horses, sometimes a good deal, sometimes a "Gyp". The women peddled baskets of Gypsy lace, selling at seven or eight cents a yard, cheap cotton goods, fancy pictures, pots and pans and trinkets of all sorts.

Following is part of a Gypsy song,

Too much rest is rust,
There is ever cheer in changing,
We lose by too much trust.
Let's be up and ranging.

Passing of H.S. Sanderson,

It will be of special interest to the the people of Pinkerton and Glamis area to note the passing of H.S. Sanderson.

He taught first in Narva, then in Pinkerton, where he had sixty-five pupils, all grades in one class room. A favorite saying of the late Mr. Sanderson was, "I liked my pupils so much I married one of them". Mrs. Sanderson was the former Nellie Campbell of Pinkerton.

Mr. Sanderson was the principal of Chesley Public School for forty-two years. He served as Chesley town clerk, and he also worked in M.A. Halliday Insurance office.

Mr. Sanderson was very fond of music. He was choir leader at St. John's United church for twenty-five years.

Although Mr. Sanderson did not spare the strap, he is greatly beloved by his former pupils, who will always remember him by his songs, wit and humour.

Prof. George Toner's Meanderings.

Canada is to issue a commemorative stamp in July. This stamp commemorates the use of atomic power in peaceful pursuits. Bruce County will be honoured for the first time on a stamp by a design of Douglas Point.

After the first Great War a farmer's government was at Queens Park. Their Minister of Highways, Mr. Biggs of the U.F.O. Drury Government built the first modern road north out of Wiarton, (the Centre Road). This road was a beautiful two lane gravel highway, quite a road for those days. Mr. Biggs was certainly to be congratulated.

My interest in this road started in 1925 when I was collecting reptiles for the London Zoo. The bogs, marshes and ditches on the side of the road around Mar swarmed with snakes. I collected 25 rattlesnakes for which I received \$1.00 each, this was a considerable sum in those days. There were very few settlers along the road at that time. The Biggs road only went as far as Ferndale, then turned right to Lions Head. The road from Ferndale north to Tobermory was like a roller coaster. Although the condition of the road was not the best, there was considerable traffic over it. There were 4 carloads of fish shipped out of Wiarton each day.

In the year 26&27 I worked for the Ontario Department of Game & Fisheries, working on a fish tug out of Presquille. This fish tug was the first diesel on the lake.

My job was to find the depth of the water also particulars about the catch, and other statistics. I found the captain very co-operative, I cant recall his name.

On one of my trips when I left Owen Sound I had a boil on my rump, with the shaking of the tug, it grew into an immense carbuncle. When I returned 24 hours later I was a very sick man. I was taken to a hotel where the doctor lanced it and I had no more trouble.

The time is running out, get your entries in for the Centennial Project, DOLL, ESSAY, FAMILY HISTORY, PAINTING and SNAPSHOT competitions

3.
"REMINISCENCES"

An ample supply of pure water was a problem of the early settlers of Bruce County. They did not have today's pollution problem, but neither did they have the machinery to drill to depths at which water is now normally maintained. They had to depend on finding water within approximately fifty feet of the surface, as that was about the limit they could safely dig by hand.

At these upper levels water is often only available from veins in which it flows under the surface. So, the big problem often was to know where to dig. A great deal of effort was often wasted digging dry holes; but an ancient art commonly called "Water Witching" was often used in the locating of wells.

Modern Science today laughs at these early efforts, but still with all their scientific knowledge they still can't explain why this system of water location obtains results, and why it can operate for a very few people and will not work for the big majority of us.

Water witching is done with a small forked branch of an apple tree. The two branches of the forked twig are crossed over each other and held firmly in the two fists at waist height. The base, or single section of the twig, is laid against the chest. The operator then proceeds to walk around the area, and when a vein of water lies underneath, the base or single section of the twig will suddenly begin to turn forward and downwards, often with such force that it will leave the bark of the twig in the operator's clenched fists.

A water supply was a problem on what was then known as the "Big Bill Gilchrist" farm, Lot 20 Con. 2 Bruce Twp. So a water witching expert was engaged to locate a well. He finally drove his location stake fair in the middle of the walk from the house to the barn. Now Mr. Gilchrist didn't want his well in the path, so he dug his well about three feet to the east of the stake.

After digging a well about four feet in diameter to a depth of forty feet in solid blue clay, still no water was encountered. So he again sent for the water witching expert. When he arrived, a heated argument ensued about the location, the expert claiming he didn't dig where he drove his stick. They finally conceded that the stake had been in the path. So the expert said "Well, make up your mind whether you want a straight path to the barn, or a well with water in it, for you can't have both." However, the expert suggested that they get a large auger and bore a hole in the west side of the well, and they might hit the water vein.

This was done and soon the two men in the well were hollaring to windlass them out as fast as possible, as water was roaring through the auger hole in the blue clay.

As far as I know, the picks and shovels are still down there, for the well filled completely and overflowed.

signed Roy Kennedy

P.S. The expert who did the water witching was my grandfather.

Would you like to join the Bruce County Historical Society, the fees are \$2. per. person, \$3. per family.

Published by Bruce County Historical Society

Next Meeting -- Thursday, 18th May
Time -- 8 P.M.
Place -- Tiverton
(Centennial Project Prizes will be presented.)

Come out and celebrate 1967 at Port Elgin where the Bruce County Historical Society will be Host to the Ontario Historical Society -- June 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th. Everyone is welcome to attend any Sessions, dinners or Tours.

Dinner June 15th -- Thursday \$1.75
Luncheon June 16th -- Noon 1.75
Banquet June 16th - 7 P.M. 2.75

Speaker at the Banquet -- Hon. William Davis, Minister of Education.

A Tour will be held June 16th to Oliphant, Wiarton, Colpoys Bay with afternoon tea at Tara.

Tour to the Museum June 17th, price \$ 1.00 with tea being served at the Museum.

OH COME AND LET US WORSHIP HIM

Sabbath June 18th a Church Service will be held at the Community Church at Sauble Beach . Come out and Worship as our Forefathers did one hundred years ago. The Rev. R. Q. Caldwell of Chesley will preach, and praise service will be the Psalms. Sing to the old familiar tunes such as Martyrdom, Dunfermline and French.

June 15th is Bruce County Day with displays of handicrafts, pictures etc. This will be held at the Legion Hall. A program will be held at 8 o'clock on Thursday in Port Elgin Community Centre and will be in charge of Bruce County Historical Society. This program will consist of Indian Dances, skits, slides etc.

Banquet tickets should be purchased by June 4th from Mrs. George Downey, Tiverton. Definitely no Banquet tickets will be sold at the Banquet.

Mrs. George Downey of Tiverton was appointed a Director of the Geneological Society of Ontario when they met in Dundas April 22nd. She will represent Bruce County Historical Society.

100 YEARS AGO AT RIPLEY

Ripley only consisted of a few scattered houses in 1867. The Railway began to operate in 1872, and then there was a Post Office, stores and a small village established.

BALLOON FLIGHT IN LUCKNOW

Vice-President Pharis Mathers of Lucknow relates a story told by his father and hired man of a balloon flight in Lucknow. The balloon was inflated by hot air from an open fire on the ground. A number of men were required to hold the balloon till it was sufficiently inflated for its ascension. When they were ready the balloonist got into his harness and the anchor men released the balloon.

The flight took place from Victoria Park, North of the Presbyterian Church and it drifted to the East across Treleavend Pond, coming down on Gallan's farm about one mile distant. The operation required a very calm evening.

Mr. Mathers would like to know if there were other early balloon flights in Bruce.

100 YEARS AGO AT PURPLE GROVE IN THE NORTH-EAST PART OF HURON TOWNSHIP

In the late spring, Andrew Torrance would be hurrying to complete his orders for woven blankets, before farm work would demand all his time. Andrew Torrance had left Ireland with his bride and baby about 1845. The baby died at sea. He farmed near York until 1856, when he came to Lot 8, Con. 9, Huron Twp. He was a weaver by trade, but had to concentrate on clearing his land at first. In the early 1860's he borrowed a loom from Mrs. Henry Morgan. She would never sell it but it remained at Torrances until Mr. Torrance died. It was a hand loom but Andrew made it into a fly-shuttle loom. He built a box at the side so that when the shuttle hit the box, it would fly back again. People brought the yarn in hanks as they bought it. Mrs. Torrance washed this warp and starched it with flour starch and dried it. It took a day to set up the warp. The warp threads were usually long enough to weave 3 blankets or more before the warp had to be set up again. The surplus warp was wound on a drum. Cloth was always 3 feet wide.

People kept their own sheep. Usually they had the wool carded at Walkerton and made into rolls and then they spun it at home. Mr. Torrance wound this yarn onto spools. By working from breakfast until 10 at night, he could weave 10 - 12 yards a day. He charged .10¢ a yard for plain weaving and .02¢ extra for twilled weaving.

Told to Mrs. Wm. Arnold in
1954 by Robert Torrance, son
of Andrew Torrance.

TIVERTON -- 1867

From: "County of Bruce Directory"

A post village on the Goderich and Saugeen Road on the boundary line of the Townships of Bruce and Kincardine; distance from Kincardine 9 miles, Inverhuron 2½ miles, Walkerton about 26 miles. Post Office established in 1860, N. McInnis, Postmaster. It contains 1 store, 1 tin shop, 2 wagon shops, 2 tailors, 2 blacksmiths, 1 tavern, 1 pearl ashery, 1 steam carding and fulling mill, 2 churches, 1 Presbyterian, 1 Baptist; a good school-average attendance 60. Temperance and Orange Lodges.

David Thomas, carder; Rev. Wm. Fraser, Baptist; Norman McInnis, merchant; Donald McInnis, merchant, Alex McIntyre, waggonmaker; Allen McDougall, carpenter; Allen McAuley, carpenter; Angus McAuley, blacksmith; John McAuley, tinsmith; Alex. McBain, carding mill; John McFadden, gentleman; Paul McKay, contractor; Hugh McLean, waggonmaker; John B. McDonald, blacksmith; Daniel McEwen, teacher; Rev. Alex McKay, Presbyterian; John Sidden, shoemaker; M. Scott, carpenter; D. Scott, carpenter; Robert Stroner, tailor; John R. Patterson, M.D.; Mrs. Turner, hotelkeeper; Joseph Robertson, tailor.

THE BRIDGE -- 1900

Three miles east of the village of Cargill stands and is in use to-day the first and only bridge built over the main stream of the Saugeen River on the eighth of Brant Township.

The bridge was begun in the Spring of 1900 by Samuel Christie on the east side and Henry H. Young on the west side each collecting Five Hundred Dollars. The two amounts were increased by a donation of Seven Hundred Dollars from Henry Cargill.

Since the bridge was not on the road allowance as surveyed, the roadway leading to and from the bridge was donated by Archie Young.

The approaches to the bridge were built by James Napper and his sons, Herbert and Wesley, using the most modern method of the time, horses, wagon and shovel.

The bridge was completed on October 21st of the same year. The first member of the public to use the bridge was the local Doctor with his horse and buggy on his way to attend a maternity case at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Young. The baby born was Christened Gertrude Young and is Mrs. Oscar Johnson now of Guelph.

This bridge was a great convenience to the people who

used the eighth of Brant because hitherto the only way of crossing the river was by fording it. A number of people were known to receive a ducking in the waters of the Saugeen by not knowing the ford.

At the present time it is being suggested that the bridge crossing the Saugeen River on the eighth concession of Brant Township be replaced by a new one at a different situation.

Marjorie Young Cullen
(Mrs. Jas. Cullen)

By: Beulah Ruthven

I have in my possession a tax receipt for Lot 4, Concession 13, Elderslie Township for the year 1857, which was issued to my maternal great grandfather, Hugh McNeil. The tax paid was two pounds, three shillings and two pence. The Tax Collector was Henry Brown.

From reading "The History of Bruce County" page 370, it seems as if 1856 or 1857 was the first year Elderslie was separated from Arran for Municipal purposes and I wondered if 1857 may have been the first year Elderslie issued Tax Receipts. In any case my receipt is 110 years old

The passing of the late Robert J. McTavish of Chesley on April 21st, 1967 brings back memories of the early days in Chesley. Mr. McTavish would have been eighty-nine on April 25th. Well known to the farming community where he threshed with a steam engine for forty years, retiring in 1946. He bought an office building for Thirty-five Dollars from Krug Bros. in 1911 at the factory situated on the Saugeen River. This was moved to his lot on Main Street and used as a Machine Shop where he repaired pumps etc.

News travelled slowly in the days before radio, telephone and T.V. Mrs. James McClure recalls hearing her Grandmother, Mrs. Wm. Young of Sullivan telling of looking out the window the June morning after the fire in Chesley and wondering why she saw her daughters Jane and Elizabeth walking down the road. The girls were employed in the dressmaking shop in Chesley and were out of work following the fire in 1888. The farm home was situated some 4 miles east of the Town and up to the time the girls arrived home they were unaware of the tragedy that had struck the Town.

BY: James McClure

The people of Chesley were always proud of Canada and proud of being Canadians.

Although there were very few people in the Chesley District that supported the MacDonald Government, they were always

proud of Canada's Birthday, the 1st of July.

I can remember my Grandfather Wm. Elliot telling us of the 1st of July Celebration in Chesley. There were boat races, rolling logs. He also told of riding on a log down the log chute past the dam.

In 1856, Jane the one year old daughter of Wm. Elliot was the only child in Chesley. It is related that the first time she saw her cousin, Tom Dobie she asked, "What sort of a wee beastie is that?"

By: Dr. J. F. Morton.

Norman McLeod of Toronto, a retired high school principal and native of Arran township, has been engaged by the Bruce County Historical Society to write an up to date history of the county.

The decision to hire Mr. McLeod for the project was made at a special meeting held in the County library at Port Elgin Friday night.

Mr. McLeod will up date the history from 1906 written up to that period by Norman Robertson.

Author of several textbooks, Mr. McLeod retired as principal of Leaside Collegiate last year. He attended Fang's school when young and resided in Southampton, where he later taught school. He is a graduate of Queen's University and is on the executive of the Clan McLeod Society.

Copied out of Mr. A. G. Gordingley's scrap book.

On this date July 1, 1859, Canada very nearly lost the services of John A. Macdonald by shipwreck.

The Premier was one of a party which left Toronto on July 1 (then not of course, a holiday since the Dominion was not born until eight years later) an excursion to Sault Ste. Marie. Among the party were Hon. John and Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Baldwin, and, in addition to John A., Messrs. Rose, VanKoughnet and Sidney Smith of the Government.

At Collingwood they took the steamer Plough Boy. All went well for a few hours, but just as the vessel sighted Lonely Island in Georgian Bay an accident happened to the machinery, which made it necessary to shut off steam. A gale sprang up; the boat, unprovided with sails, was at the mercy of the wind and waves.

Some of the crew went off in a small boat to seek aid from Owen Sound, 75 miles away. Meanwhile the vessel drifted helplessly towards the coast until she was within fifty yards of a leeshore, with a heavy swell and a gale driving her directly on the breakers.

All on board gave themselves up for lost, and, taking leave of each other, prepared to meet death with such fortitude as they could command. Suddenly only 45 yards from the rocks the anchors caught and held the vessel fast.

ANNUAL MEETING -- Tuesday, October 10th
Time -- 7:00 P.M.
Place -- Reid's Corner Community Centre on Highway 21 South
of Kincardine. Dinner \$2.00. Program will consist
of a skit on the Lewis Settlement of Bruce County
by a Ripley group.

INVERHURON

One of the distinctive features of the Inverhuron Beach summer Community has been for many years the open air Church Service which has been held in the small Park at the foot of the Bruce Kincardine Township Boundary every Sunday evening during July and August.

The custom was started by a group of Baptist Ministers who had summer homes on the north side of the Bay, on property which is now the Provincial Park. The Beach Association formed a Church committee of volunteer workers who looked after the programs and finances. Wooden benches were purchased and a small building erected to house them and an organ which was donated.

The Services have been conducted by Ministers from the local Churches and by many who spend their vacation on the Beach.

For the continuing enthusiasm for these Services great credit is due to the late Stanley Sanderson of Chesley who headed the Church committee for many years. His out-going personality attracted people to the Meetings and his booming bass voice led the singing. At the final Service last summer a Bible was presented to the Congregation Dedicated to his Memory.

DEDICATION OF THE CAIRN AT LURGAN

On Sunday, September 3rd, 1967, at Lurgan, south of Kincardine, a Cairn was Dedicated and Unveiled in Memory of the pioneers of that section of Huron Township. The idea of erecting a Cairn originated at the reunion of School Section No. 1, Huron Township in 1965, when at the largely attended gathering, a Committee consisting of Thos. Blair, Perrin Lowry and Wm. Walsh was appointed to arrange for the erection of a Cairn and Plaque to commemorate the pioneers of Huron Township.

Mr. Perrin Lowry was Chairman for the Dedication Service. The Rev. Mr. Lupton and Rev. Mr. Hill dedicated the Cairn, and Messrs. Geo. MacDonald and Wm. Emmerton unveiled it. Mr. Wm. Walsh gave the main address and Messrs. Wm. R. Lowry, Thos. Blair, Donald Blue and Andrew McDonald, the last named of Detroit, added further remarks.

In his address, Mr. Walsh commented on his very real interest in the erection of the Cairn, as his great grandfather is buried in the
(cont'd)

Cemetery where the Cairn is, and his wife's great grandfather helped to frame the Lurgan Church. He also named a number of "Firsts" in the Lurgan area:

The First Settler in the area was Louis Bellemore in 1848
" " survey " " " " in 1849
" " Cemetery " " " " " 1851
" " Post Office in the area was established in 1853
" " School was built in 1855
" " sawmill was established in 1855
" " Church was erected in 1862,

Many of the early settlers landed in Huron Township by boat, at the mouth of Pine River, and took up land along the lakeshore and east throughout the Township.

Lot No. 20, on which the Cairn is situated, Mr. Walsh stated, and which is now part of the Village of Lurgan (originally called Alma,) was the one claimed by the first settler, Louis Bellemore.

Mr. Walsh told an amusing story about Mr. Bellemore, who had lived in Michigan State until his arrival in Canada. Prior to leaving the States he had pleaded with his lady love to marry him and accompany him up the east shore of Lake Huron in search of land that he had heard was open for settlers. Her reply was, "You find the land and build a home and then come for me." When Louis returned to Michigan, she had already married his brother. He immediately proposed to her sister, who was present, and asked her to accompany him to Canada. There was no hesitation on her part and they came to his log house on Lot 20.

Mr. Walsh concluded his speech by thanking the Huron Township Council for its co-operation and assistance in the erection of the Cairn and Plaque and by expressing the hope that the present and future generations would cherish and honour them.

KINGARF

When you hear of Kingarf, what do you think of? I think to most people the name is associated with the Anglican Church named St. Matthews as it is the only building which remains of this one time Hamlet in our Bruce County.

Kingarf is in a unique geographical location. It is situated in Bruce County at the point where the three Townships of Kincardine, Greenock and Kinloss meet. Kingarf today is only a name of a village that used to be, but is no more. This little Hamlet in earlier days, had two stores, a Post Office, two blacksmith shops, and was a busy spot serving the surrounding Community. Today St. Matthew's Church is all that remains, save for a few near by farm buildings.

A familiar landmark situated on this point of land, the old Orange Hall which was bought in 1942 or 1943 and removed to George Herd's farm on Highway 9 east of Blackhorse and was used as an addition in renovating their farm home. This building had been the first Anglican Church built

(cont'd)

in 1869, which served the congregation till the present Church was opened July 1st, 1894. The old Church was sold to J. G. Stringer who converted it for use as a store, which he operated for a number of years later it was bought for the use of the Loyal Orange Lodge.

The other store was contained in the house directly north of the present Church the residence of Fred Moulton, son of Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Moulton who operated the store also the Post Office. This Post Office served the Community until the Rural mail delivery came into effect.

Mrs. Clarence Hedley

BERVIE METHODIST CEMETERY

In 1848-49, A.P. Borough, P.L.S., surveyed out the Durham Road and three concessions to the north and south. Settlers began coming in and in 1853, a Post Office called Bervie was opened on Lot 53, Con. 1 S.D.R. a small village grew up nearby.

Not far east of the Post Office, and on the same side of the road, a Methodist Church was opened in 1861. The people had been served by Circuit Riders and was considered a Mission of Goderich at first. A Cemetery was established on the Church grounds and was the earliest in this area.

A Wesley Methodist Church was opened about 3 miles south of the Bervie Methodist Church. It was located on the Huron-Kincardine boundary on the North end of Lot 5, Con. 12 Huron. Bervie Cemetery served the Wesley or Purple Grove people also, although at first Purple Grove members buried their dead beside the Church built in 1863. Later the bodies were moved to Bervie Cemetery and in some cases new markers erected.

A brick Church was erected in Bervie further west and on the north side of the road. As the years went by the cemetery was no longer used. From time to time, relatives cleared and kept it tidy. By 1956 the cemetery was in a very rundown condition. In 1965 the Township got behind the movement, a committee set to work with Alvin Blackwell as Chairman, Mrs. Russell McConnell as secretary, assisted by Mrs. Angus McLeod, Robert Avery and Hamlin Collins. Robert Avery had assisted at Arrow where markers were being preserved by being cemented into a Cairn. The Committee decided to follow the same idea at all Bervie Cemeteries. Willing workers gathered up the stones. The land was levelled and brush cleared away. A rectangular cement wall, open at two ends, was built and all stones placed into it. In 1967 a marble marker bears the inscription:

In Memory of The Pioneers of Kincardine Township 1867-1967.

Evergreens have been planted near the Cairn.

Names on the markers read:

Isabella, wife of Henry Congram, died June 19, 1870, aged 40

(Henry Congram had come to Lot 5, Con. 12S, Huron in early 1860's. When he lost his young wife, he had no heart to clear more land and left the area.

Alonzo Cuyler, died April 4, 1864, aged 27 years.

Alonzo Cuyler's marker has the insignia of the Orange Order on it. He was clearing Lot 7 N, Con. 12 Huron when he was struck by a falling tree and killed. He had been a strong, powerful man.

(cont'd)

James, son of John and Elizabeth Vance, died Feb. 7, 1860, aged 15 days.

Sarah Matilda, daughter of George and Margaret Cuyler, died June 13th, 1863, aged 3 years.

George C. Cuyler died March 12, 1866 aged 37 years.

George Cuyler and Margaret Gawley lived on Lot 6N, Con. 12 Huron. While working in the bush he became overheated. He took a dip in the river, injuring his health so that he died some time later, leaving his wife with 6 small children.

W. G. Cuyler died April 13, 1859 in his 74th year.

(William Cuyler lived near Millarton and was the first Cuyler to come to Bruce from the York County area.

In Memory of our Mother, Sarah Cuyler, who died Feb. 1, 1882, aged 57.

"More material held for next Bulletin"

Have you made your Will?? Don't forget the Bruce County Historical Society.

Will you help with our Hobbies? Stories and pictures for the scrapbooks of the following:

Mrs. D. Blue, Ripley -- Cemeteries

Mrs. G. Downey, Tiverton - Houses, Schools.

Mrs. G. Hepburn, R.R. 6 Warton -- Biographies

Miss M. MacKenzie, Inverhuron -- Tall Tales

Pharis Mathers, Lucknow -- Slides

Mrs. F. Farrell, R.R. 3, Tiverton -- Post Offices

Mrs. Earl Ferris, Glamis -- Bruce County Writers

Mrs. B. Robertson, Port Elgin, -- Folklore Stories

Jas. McClure -- Sawmills, Gristmills

Mrs. Jas. McClure, Church Stories and Pictures.

We have just received a letter from Mrs. Roberta Gilbank of the University of Guelph Library. She states, all in all that Ontario Historical Society meeting in Port Elgin was fun.

I've been quoting the neat and complete Tweedsmuir books that were on display that day, and am going after some of them to put on film. I now have my camera which will photograph this type of material, and Mohammed can come to the mountain, if necessary.

Jim & Donalda McClure.

BRUCE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME 10 -- No 1

EXECUTIVE FOR 1968

President -- Mr. Pharis Mathers, Lucknow
Secretary -- Mrs. Geo. Downey, Tiverton
Treasurer -- Mrs. Jamieson Hunter, Tiverton
Editors -- Mr. & Mrs. James McClure, Chesley

* * * * *

Have you bought your copy of the Society's Centennial Year Book? There were 1,000 copies printed and about 800 have been sold. You may purchase copies for \$1.00 from Daymond's Store in Kincardine, Mackenzie's Drug Store in Wiarton, Mrs. James McClure, Chesley, Mrs. Geo. Downey, Tiverton, and othe Executive Members. This fine book is a credit to the Editor, Mrs. Earl Ferris of Glamis and her Committee and makes a fine addition to anycollection of Canadiana.

* * * * *

Are you interested in becoming an active Society Member? Just notify the Executive and a way will be found to make use of your particular hobby or interest.

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Tiverton Members held a small local Meeting of their own, Wednesday January 24th in the Tiverton Womens' Institute building. Mrs. Alice Cooley spoke on the life of her late father, John Haug, a well known, respected Tiverton resident. The Meeting was open to visitors.

Mrs. Gordon Hepburn of R. R. 6, Wiarton, Biographies Chairman, will welcome any contributions, large or small, to the Societies collection of Bruce biographies.

- - - - -

Mrs. Blair Robertson -- Folklore Stories wanted.

** * * * *

ONCE UPON A TIME

Settlers arriving in Arran Township in the 1850's were for the most part of English, Irish, Scotch and German origin, also a few of U.E.L. Stock, their religion, Protestant. During the same period a small group settled in Invermay who were of Irish and French origin and of the Roman Catholic faith. The family names were: Keough, McPherson, Hyde, and Meausette; the male members of the group were mostly mill workers employed at the Arran-Vale and Stratfordville mills.

The Keough dwelling was located near by the Invermay corner and is today owned and occupied by Dave, Clark, himself an octegnarian.

(cont'd)

While the interior of this comfortable home has been remodelled and modernized, its outward appearance and structural design, typical of that in vogue 100 years ago remains unchanged. It would appear that one W. Keough had been engaged as a monitor to assist with the teaching in the days when more than 100 pupils were in attendance at S.S. No. 7. Another member of this family was an author of some repute. A book containing a collection of poems by this gifted lady is today a very rare and valued Collectors item.

One of the best remembered individuals was one Jockey McPherson. Not too long ago, the mere mention of his name would bring a smile to the face of an old-timer, who would in turn recall some incident concerning this man about whom many yarns of a humorous nature have been told. He lived in a cottage at the north end of the mill road at a point where it enters County Road No. 17. This particular location was at one time known as "Joskey McPherson's Corner" and a focal point on the thoroughfare leading from Tara south to Chesley and beyond. When the dwelling was no longer required by the family it passed into other hands, occupied from time to time until finally it took on a run down appearance. Later, a family by the name of Hyde purchased it; spending their weekends and holidays here, they restored it to something like its original state as well as giving it a modern and attractive appearance. Never taking up permanent residence, the new owners sold it and left as quietly as they came. Whether or not there was a connection between this family and the original one of the same name has never been established.

When death occurred to a member of the group, interment was made in a little Cemetery located on Lot 32, Con. 6 just east of the village. The Cemetery is now completely taken over by natural reforestation; a few posts with wire attached, half buried in earth and decaying vegetation would make it appear that it was once fenced. An examination of inscriptions on markers indicate that many of the descendants of this group never reached an age of maturity; one would almost be led to believe that at one time an epidemic of some dimension inflicted havoc on the families of these doughty pioneers.

Believed to be the last interment made here was that of Angeliqne Meausette - wife of John McPherson - died January 10th, 1913 -- aged 74 years. The Cemetery plot, situated as it is on a bluff overlooking a point where the Sauble River emerges from one of its subterranean passages, it is indeed one of Bruce County's natural beauty spots.

A history of this area would not be complete without mention being made of the unique contribution made by the Members of this small group, who while making it added a bit of colour to life in the pioneer village.

Contributed by: A Puff

Excerpt from W. S. Forrester's address at the Inaugural Meeting of Bruce County Council, January 16th, 1967:

"We here to-night, can be devoutly thankful, we have a County that, in its totality, is unsurpassed anywhere in the World, in the abundance of its natural beauty and resources, and we should all, on this night, be proud that it is ours, and that we are part of it.

On January 22nd, 1867, the new County Council met in the new County Buildings -- and its first business at that session was the election of a Warden. Mr. James Brocklebank, the Reeve of Brant Twp. bested his opponent, Mr. Wm. Rastall, of Kincardine Twp., in a very close vote that night, 11 to 10."

* * * * *

Mr. Norman McLeod reports that the second History of Bruce County is progressing very nicely, an abundance of material is coming in. He would like to have the arrangements made with the Printer as soon as possible, so that he could have his manuscripts written according to their requirements.

- - - - -

Miss Margaret MacKenzie of Inverhuron would like to urge each District Representative to hold a local Meeting in their area during the winter months. She feels that these Meetings can be very interesting and informative.

- - - - -

Have you made your Will? Don't forget the Bruce County Historical Society.

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An interesting article taken from A. E. Cordingleys Scrapbook on Miss Annie Longe of Southampton, written by: Donald B. Shutt.

A few years before her death in 1934 the writer had a long talk with Miss Annie Longe, the first white woman to be born in the Southampton area. She was 94 when she died.

Miss Longe lived in a tiny cottage situated at an angle and on the road allowance of West Lake Street, Southampton. Old fashioned roses climbed the shingled walls and numerous hens-and-chickens and other plants grew in little beds beside the house, and the lawn was always kept neatly.

The cottage is still there and is very old for it was built before the Town was surveyed in the days when the settlement was known as Saugink and later Saugeen. Miss Longe said that originally it had been the butcher shop of the settlement.

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Miss Longe was known to most of the townsfolk as Aunt Annie. She took pride in herself and rightly too and had supported herself until she was eighty years of age. A little person she was, who always sat bolt upright. The interior of her house was always as neat as a pin. Visitors often came to see her and many of them were Indian women from the nearby Reservation and always she conversed with them in their own tongue.

Miss Longe had a marvellous memory and could recount incidents dating back to the early days of her youth.

(The article is too long to relate in full here.)

However, she recounted about the Headquarters on the Saugeen in 1837, about being burned out by the Indians, legend of Indian battles, the tale of buried treasure, bringing the supplies from Goderich and the arrival of the Missionaries.

- * * * * *

We have more interesting material on hand, which we hope to print at a later date. Keep on sending your interesting articles.

* * * * *

Another disappointment.

Your Society is in great need of an archives building. There are many notable documents going to waste for want of some place to store them. At a recent executive meeting of the Society, it was pointed out, that the old Bruce County Registry building would likely be available for this purpose. With this in mind, James McClure, of the Archives committee wrote the Bruce County Council asking this favour of them. ---- Here is the reply received.

Dear Mr. McClure:

Your letter to County Council was referred to the Property Committee. I was instructed by them to write and advise you that they could not recommend at this time making part of the old Registry Office available for an Archive Building.

The reason for this being, that effective January 1st, the Province of Ontario are assuming the full operation of the Registry Office. They will be either buying or leasing the building and until these negotiations are completed, we do not know whether there will be space available.

Yours very truly,

signed, T. H. ALTON Tres.,
County of Bruce.

Miss Lange was known to most of the townfolk as Aunt Annie. She too, pride in herself and rightly too and had supported herself in all she was eighty years of age. A little person she was, who always sat bolt upright. The interior of her house was always as neat as a pin. Visitors often came to see her and many of them were Indian women from the nearby Reservation and always she conversed with them in their own tongue.

Miss Lange had a marvellous memory and could recount incidents dating back to the early days of her youth.

(The article is too long to include in full here.)



However, she recounted the Headquarters on the Saguenay in 1857, about being burned down by the Indians, legend of Indian battle, the tale of buried treasure, bringing the supplies from Goderich and the arrival of the Missionaries.

Mr. & Mrs. Earl Lewis,

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Yours very truly,

Signed, T. H. ALLEN Treas.
County of Bruce.

BRUCE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

September 23rd, 1968.

The Bruce County Historical Society is holding the Annual Dinner Meeting in Chesley Public School, Friday, October 18th at 6:45 P.M. Mr. Edwin C. Guillet will be guest speaker with particular reference to his book the "Great Migration" and "You'll never Die, John A.!".

The Chesley and District High School Glee Club will sing previous to the dinner. Tickets \$2.00.

WANTED

A camera enthusiast who will donate his time to develop negatives, at cost, for the Society's archives. We have access to old negatives but there are so many that the cost of having them developed by a professional is prohibitive. Please contact the Secretary, Mrs. George Downey, Tiverton, if you are interested in helping the Society.

BRANT PIONEERS

Most Bruce County stamp collectors know that on November 6th, 1968, Postmaster General Cote will issue a stamp commemorating the death of Col. John McCrae, author of "In Flanders' Fields."

It is interesting to note that Col. McCrae was a descendent of a pioneer Bruce County family. In 1851 Janet Simpson Eckford as a young girl came from Scotland with her widowed father, the Chisholms and Youngs. The three families were related and the latter two have members still living on centennial farms in the area. The Eckfords settled on Lot 1, Con. 7 Brant Township, and for 19 years Janet lived the life of a pioneer girl. In 1870 she married David McCrae, woollen manufacturer of Guelph and thus became the Mother of Col. John McCrae, Doctor, Soldier and Poet.

Marjorie Young Cullen
(Mrs. James Cullen)

DR. JOHN H. GARNIER

As this is our meeting for Historical Research, perhaps it would not come amiss to give a character sketch of one who was an outstanding personality in the village of Lucknow almost from it's very beginning. We refer to Dr. John H. Garnier. His father was a member of a long line of distinguished military, who, because of religious persecution fled from France to Scotland. The family was one of wealth and culture, and into it in 1823 the subject of this sketch was born. He received his medical education in Dublin, Ireland, and later Paris, followed by travel in various countries.

(cont'd)

Coming to Canada he settled in Lucknow only four years after the first settlers arrived. All around was a stretch of unbroken forest full of game and the early settlers were chiefly from the Highlands of Scotland and the Isle of Skye with a few from Ireland and England. It has always remained a mystery why a man of his training and culture should leave the homeland to dwell in the wilderness.

He was very vigorous in mind and body, impetuous, hot tempered and brusque in manner and fond of practical jokes. He was a keen observer of Nature and made extensive notes of the habits and characteristics of plants and flowers of the district and was happiest in his garden, where he cultivated $\frac{1}{2}$ acres of ground and spent money lavishly in procuring plants and bulbs from abroad. In 1890 he gave the Royal Ontario Museum a large collection of birds and reptiles, amounting in all to 3000 specimens. How a busy doctor could find time to build up such a museum is a mystery. Beside all this he wrote several books and plays, one of which is "Prince Pedro," the plot laid in Portugal during Moorish wars.

He carried on a Medical practise so extensive that the street in front of his home on Sunday afternoon, looked like a Village Fair. His opinion in consultation was valued very highly. He was French translator for several ~~Medical Journals~~.

He was a diligent worker, often reading and working far into the night. He had an international reputation as an expert operator in cataract. He would remove the cataract with the patient sitting in a chair in his office. However, his general practise was limited by his eccentricities which terrified some people. The children were fearful of the Doctor whom they would see in the early morning going about town with a gun on his shoulder. The farmers meeting him on the road were as likely as not to receive a cut of his black-snake whip across their shoulders.

As stated before, his past life in the Old Country was shrouded in mystery for he never spoke of it. However, on good authority it was stated that he left a wife and two sons in the Old Country and that one of his sons called at his Office and left without disclosing his true identity. On discovering next day that it was his son he was so incensed that he rode to Goderich on horse back with a gun, but the young man was gone.

He loved a practical joke at the expense of the other fellow. While driving along the road one morning, he gave a young woman a ride in his buggy. He warned her that he was subject to fits and if one came on she was not to be alarmed. Soon they came to a river and Doctor drove in to give his horse a drink. Then he pretended to have a very realistic fit. The woman in terror jumped into the water and waded ashore.

Another time, while out hunting he met a man by the name of Ross. He pointed the gun at him threatening to shoot, Ross jumped behind a tree and the Doctor proceeded to chase him from one tree to another. Such was the reputation of the Doctor that Ross really believed he was in danger of losing his life. The Doctor ended the sport by calling on Ross to

(cont'd)

stop acting like a monkey and for the rest of his days the man was known as Monkey Ross.

However, with all his brusqueness to those who knew him well, he was kind hearted and always a gentleman. His friends respected and loved him and in return his affection was sincere and enduring. Such was one of the Doctors of the strenuous pioneer days, whom we might rightly term a "Diamond in the Rough."

(From Kinloss Kairshea - W.I. Tweedsmuir History Book)

Elsie Houston

A SHORT SKETCH OF THE FERGUSON FIFTH GENERATION FARM.

(Lot 19 & 20 Concession 14, Brant Township)

Hugh J. Ferguson the present owner of the farm recalls the early history when his great grandfather, also Hugh, arrived in the United States from Tyrone County, North Ireland in about the year 1825. He then moved to Simcoe County where he married in 1830.

In 1854 he arrived in Brant Township and homesteaded 300 acres bought from the Crown. He cleared the land and moved with part of his family to take up permanent residence in 1875.

He donated the land where the North Brant Roman Catholic Church is situated. He died in 1883 and is buried in the adjoining Cemetery, as are also his son Joseph, grandson Hugh and great great grandson Michael.

Father Joseph and Father Thomas were raised on this farm and are the uncles of the present owner. There was also an Aunt Margaret who was a Sister in the St. Joseph's Order.

Hugh has many times heard the story of his great grandfather along with Mr. Connor and some of the O'Reilly boys walking from Simcoe County to take up land and make their home in the bush.

Hugh states that the Crown Deed for this farm was issued in 1862 and it is in the possession of the present owner. It is in good condition and may be seen by anyone interested.

The Ontario Government has made a grant to the school of Architecture to prepare an inventory of historic buildings in the province.

Reeve Archie MacKinnon of Teeswater is chairman for Bruce and desire help with this project. It is proposed that every habitable building, church, town hall etc be recorded from 1855 and later.

Our secretary Mrs. Downey is planning a trip to Scotland and we wish her Bon voyage.

Published by Bruce County Historical Society.

Editors - Mr. & Mrs. Jas. McClure.

President - Mr. Pharis Mathers, R.R. # 1, Lucknow.

Secretary - Mrs. Hilda Downey, R.R. # 1, Tiverton.

Your 1969 membership fees are now due. A copy of the 1969 Year Book will be sent to each paid up member.

The Township of Brant has been handicapped in its transportation problems, inasmuch that the Saugeen River winds its way through twenty miles of the township. Six bridges are needed to cross the Saugeen; two maintained by the County of Bruce and four by the township. Mr. Walter Chisholm, that great historian of Brant vouches for this story:

One spring the river went on the rampage on the sixth concession of Brant township, and cut a new course for itself, leaving a large, steel bridge useless. The washout was over four hundred feet wide and fifteen feet deep. In its wake, it washed out whole fields where crops had been grown, - in some places to a depth of forty feet. It was visited by many people who had to see to believe.

MAPLE SYRUP - One of Canada's national products has gone through many phases of manufacturing. The original process is perhaps the most interesting. Long before the White Man came, the Indians had been making sugar and syrup from the sap of the maple forests. When spring arrived, and the sap began to flow, the tribes moved their camps to the maple bushes. The sap buckets were made of birch bark, and sewn together with the sinews of a deer, or the roots of a tree. The trees were notched with stone tools; the spiles were made of pine or cedar, grooved, and inserted in the notch in the tree. A large fire was started, stones were heated red hot, and dropped into the buckets as they were filled. Eventually, the sap boiled down to make the syrup. Sugar was made by a longer boiling period, or by placing the syrup in the snow, to harden.

EARLY ENTERTAINMENT - In this modern day of nuclear bombs, television, radio communication, and newspapers that bring instant coverage of the world, it is hard to realize the earliest entertainment. Sometimes in the early days of the century, travelling Stock Companies performed in the local town halls. Among those the writer recalls were The Sara Gibney Stock Company, Francis Firth Stock Company and The Jerry from Kerry Company, also the Eckert Bell Ringers. The Minstrel Shows included J.C. Rowel and Reckwell Company. There were also Medicine Shows. Patent medicines, guaranteed to cure all known ailments: those that the writer remembers were Professor Mulvaney, Blackhawk, and Johnson the magician.

JOHN SANDY MACDONALD, PERCENTOR

His voice, alas, apart from memory, is heard no more,
Would that the Kirk that once he filled with singing,
Would that the pews could hear his voice again.
Would that the walls could set his echoes ringing,
We'd covet them for phonographic pen.

"The place where once he was shall know him no more", were words that came oft to mind during a recent visit to the old Kinloss Church. John Sandy MacDonald was no longer in the choir loft, and with him had passed the historic office of percentor. After years and years of service he had reached the full-toned age of nearly eighty. Then the Great Conductor called him to higher work in the Heavenly Choir invisible. He left an organist and a organ to take his place.

John Sandy, by which name he was familiarly known, was a great man of the Old School, or should we say the Auld Kirk? He was a lover of old kirk customs, not just because these were old but because they gave expression to communal simplicity and deep-toned reality. I had never heard him as a pronouncer, that is, one who recited the first half of a verse before leading the congregation in singing it, as was customary in ancient times, in Gaelic. Of course, he lived in times when each could afford a book in which to read the words himself. Yet for the purpose of better understanding of the thought, and for memorizing, particularly by the young, I often wished there were fewer books, so that he could have been a real percentor. To the end, his voice was as clear as a bell. In earlier times some of us used to carry tuning forks, which he regarded as a reflection on his ability to hit the right key. He occasionally challenged us to test his accuracy, but I never remember catching him "off". On special occasions the weight of responsibility for leading large crowds was known to press down on some nerve centre and thus force up the opening note. It became a test of physical endurance as well as vocal ability to rise to the heights of the leader, but rarely, if ever, was he known to falter, or waver, much less to break. "Carry it through" was his motto. A great lover of the Metrical Psalms, his choice, if ever choice fell to him, was one of these "rich, religious voices from the ages." The paraphrases came second. I believe he knew all the Psalms and Paraphrases from memory. He usually opened the book and seemed to be following the words, but oftentimes I've seen him well on in the singing, before actually focusing his eyes on the lines. Book opened or closed, he sang just the same. Tonic-sol-fa or words were attached to the notes with equal facility. Had the ancient custom of leading the congregation in informal singing for some minutes previous to the formal opening of the service been followed in Kinloss, it would have been good to see. It would have given John Sandy opportunity to express some of the thoughts about the Psalms that must have passed through his mind. The Psalms would have spoken with an even more living message. In not a few of the younger churches of the Foreign Mission Field this custom is observed and tends to bring the percentor to life, where in our older churches he has all but passed away. John Sandy MacDonald has passed on but in the Heavenly choir he surely continues in praise to the Father by his very presence.

The only church in Bruce County now using a percenter is in Chesley, where Past President, James McClure of the Bruce County Historical Society leads the singing in a Psalm singing church on main street. He also led the singing when the Ontario Historical Society held their convention in Port Elgin in 1967.

MRS. WALTER MACKENZIE, for many years an active member of Kairnshe Women's Institute, south Bruce, passed away January 2nd, 1968 in the Alexander and Marine Hospital, Goderich, in her 84th year. Donald was the eldest of the family of the late John and Mrs. Macdiarmid, who resided on Con. 4, Kinloss Township. She received her education at S.S. # 6 (Grey Ox) school. Later she trained and graduated as a nurse at Harper hospital, Detroit. She continued working in her chosen profession until 1926, when she married Walter MacKenzie and returned to Con. 3, Kinloss to reside on the MacKenzie farm. After Walter's sudden death in 1955 the farm was sold to Verdin Mowbray, and Mrs. MacKenzie moved to Lucknow. Her last few years were spent in a Goderich nursing home, where she was tenderly cared for.

Mrs. MacKenzie was a staunch Presbyterian and an avid reader. She had a keen interest and deep appreciation of pioneer life in the community. She became curator of the Kairnshe Tweedsmuir History Book, and compiled, edited and wrote in her own hand writing Volume I of the history of our area.

She sparked the idea of a Bruce County Museum, and was on the first Bruce County Museum Committee that approached County Council. Through her zeal, her untiring efforts and determination, the museum became a reality. She contributed many pioneer items to the museum from the old MacKenzie homestead.

Mrs. MacKenzie's funeral took place January 5th, in Lucknow with interment in South Kinloss Cemetery.

- - Contributed by Mrs. Allister Hughes.

THE BAILEY BLOCK

One well remembered business place in Tara was the two-storey cement block building situated on the corner of Yonge Street, and White's Avenue, better known as "Bailey's Hall". It was built during First World War years (1915-16) by John Philpot for the late Alexander Wain. In those years the main floor consisted of a drug store, tailor shop, library, two offices and a warehouse. The upper storey had a three-room apartment and public hall. Mr. Wain, having lost his only son Overseas, sold the building to Mr. T.W. Wolfe, who only kept it for a few months. It was purchased March 1st, 1919, by Mr. Fred Bailey, and continued in his ownership for 47 years. Mr. Bailey conducted a Massey-Harris Implement and Repair business for forty of those years.

The names of the occupants in the other places of business in the building in those years will be remembered by many people. Alexander MacDonald, Miller, and his daughter, Tena, who was librarian of the Tara library for many years. Frank McNail, barber; Ken Cummings, jeweller; J.V. Tobey, Musician and Insurance. Other tenants in later years were: Lyle Kennedy, carpenter; Sinclair Radio and Electric; C.R. Loucks, Lawyer; H.I. Tobey, Insurance. Apartment tenants were Ken Cummings, James Miller and John Rybroeck. The first druggist was Fred Cook followed by E.J. Madill, who sold the drug store to Glen Eby in 1925. Mr. Eby, along with the drug business, operated the Bell Telephone centre which was located in the drug store at that time and employed several operator operators. Mr. Eby continued in business until 1949, when Don Thompson bought the drugs, and continued as druggist until 1966, leaving Tara to go into other business.

The best remembered place in this block, and that that has been remembered through the years as a famed entertainment centre for young and old, and where many thousands of people throughout the district and surrounding communities, spent enjoyable and happy time, was "Bailey's Hall". The Hall was approximately 45' by 68', with large stage, and seating capacity of 450. The stage and other walls were decorated with a number of beautiful oil paintings, among which were "The Old Stirling Bridge in Scotland"; "Winter Scene"; "A Holland Village"; "A Summer Scene" and "A Village in Switzerland" which covered the whole back of the stage. All were painted by Peter MacGregor of Toronto, in 1936. In the early years, many famous travelling artists entertained in the Hall, such as "The Swiss Bell Ringers"; Tom Marks Company; Alice Dunbar; Blackhawk Concert Company; O'Vette, Magician; CKNX Ranch Boys and many others. There was also some very fine local talent both vocal and musical in Fall Fair, church and school concerts and plays. There were Women's Institute meetings, Courts, Presentations, Euchres, Dances, O.A.C. Courses, Banquets, Red Cross meetings, Patriotic and Political meetings at which some prominent people were speakers. Sir William Hearst, Hon. James Malcolm, Hon. R.B. Bennett, Agnes McPhail, M.P., Denton Massey and others. The Badminton Club held their first meetings and games in the Hall. The old witness box in the corner was always a silent reminder of the days when the Division and Police Courts were held and settled arguments, and meted out justice to law offenders. Sometimes amusing incidents happened during entertainments. Once during a concert of music, song and dances by an Indian band, one of the entertainers came on the stage, dressed in an elaborate sheepskin costume which so amused the crowd that they applauded so loud and vigorously he took stage fright and just stood there pulling handfuls of wool and dropping it on the floor, all the while the applause increased in volume and one of the Band had to take him off stage. The Hall was a home away from home for many family reunions, anniversaries and fraternal groups. The proprietor of Bailey's Hall, more familiarly known as Fred to everyone, will always be remembered for his great love of young people and his loyal support in all their activities. The pre-school tots would gather in his office, and if they could name correctly some picture he had on the wall, they would all receive pennies. These boys and girls are scattered all over the world now and with families of their own. They still have happy memories of their first school and their teacher.

Memo

To Members of The Bruce County
Historical Society

From Fritz Knechtel, Box 699
Hanover, Ontario.

Subject : Historical Plaque at Allenford, Ontario.
"Flood-Wood Crossing Pow-Wow of 1855"

Submission on the above was made in early December 1968 to the Archaeological and Historic Sites Board of Ontario. This was discussed in detail at their Dec. 11th 1968 meeting. The Members agreed that the subject was one within their jurisdiction as a Provincial historic agency ; and recommended that research be undertaken by the Department (Historical Branch, Depart. Public Records and Archives) in order to prepare a Plaque Text. However it was suggested that previous commitments and other factors would likely delay any activation of the project until 1970..

However on Jan. 22nd 1969 further information indicates that changed circumstances will now allow for proceeding with this Allenford Plaque in 1969 with unveiling ceremony likely late summer.. And Mr. Carl Thorpe (Historic Branch, Depart. Public Records and Archives, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, Ont), has been placed in charge of the necessary research and preparation of the Plaque Text. Any further helpful information or material should be directed to him.

Very sincere thanks are extended on behalf of the Bruce County Historical Society, and the writer, to all the members of the Archaeological and Historic Sites Board for their understanding and favourable consideration ; To Mr. James A.C. Auld, Minister of Public Records and Archives for his encouragement ; to Mr. Richard Apted, Supervisor, Historical Branch, Public Records and Archives, for his kindly and thorough attention ; To Mr. Eric Winkler, M.P.P., who so efficiently assisted in this project. Amongst around fifty individuals involved in this matter, particular thanks to Prof. Don Shutt of Guelph ; Mr. Peter Schmalz of Walkerton ; Mr. Twaddle of the Owen Sound Sun Times ; Dr. Frank Norton of Southampton ; Mr. Gordon Hepburn, Curator Bruce County Museum ; Mr. John Landen, Curator of the County of Grey Museum ; Mrs. Geo. Downey (Tipton, Ont), Secretary Bruce County Historical Society.. Et...

This Allenford Plaque will mark the spot where a decision for Peace was made against a real threat of war ; the Place where the Proud Objib-way secured recognition of their own interpretation of a treaty. There the White Man had to come half-way and as equals. There for once the Indians won ; And there peaceful settlement of the area was assured. Surely this is a Place to be marked by a Suitable Plaque .

And again to all involved sincere appreciation for favourable consideration that made the successful conclusion of this worth project possible..

Feb. 1st 1969

Fritz Knechtel
Fritz Knechtel

BRUCE HISTORICAL NOTES

VOL.11 No.2

May,1969.

Editors - Mr.& Mrs. James McClure,Chesley,Ont.
President - Mr. Pharis Mathers,Lucknow,Ont.
Secretary - Mrs.George Downey,R.R.# 1, Tiverton,Ont.

NOTICE Have you paid your membership dues? This society depends on its fees to pay its expenses,such as over \$12.00 of stamps,to send out each issue of the bulletin. It is so easy to forget to send in the fees that we continue to send the bulletin to you for a full year after your fees are due.

1968 Year Book. Copies are still available at \$ 1.00 per copy. Please send your money to the treasurer, Miss Margaret MacKenzie, R.R.# 2, Tiverton, and she will send you your copy.

1969 Year Book. Each paid-up member will receive a copy. Non-members may purchase copies at \$ 1.00 each. They will be available early in June.

MAY 15 The Spring Meeting will be held Thursday, May 15, 8:00 P.M. in the Presbyterian Church at Tara. Come, and bring your friends..

MAY 20 Anna Meyer will interview Gordon Hepburn and Fritz Kneektel on Bruce County Historical Museum on M^l Lady's Program.

JUNE 3 Anna Meyer will interview Peter Schmalz, Walkerton, on the Memorial Plaque, to be erected by the Ontario Sites Board, at Allenford this summer.

NORMAN McLEOD'S HISTORY OF BRUCE COUNTY will be available early in the summer. Anybody wishing to take advantage of the pre-publication price of \$ 6.00 should send their money to the Society Treasurer, Miss Margaret MacKenzie, R.R.# 2, Tiverton.

PETER SHIELLS - Peter Shiells was born on April 12, 1837, at a hamlet between Dysart and Kirkealdy in Fifeshire, Scotland. His parents were George Shiells and Jane Rutherford.

When Peter was a few years old, his parents moved to Leith, the port of Edinburgh, where his father was engaged in ship-building and farming.

In 1857, along with other settlers from the district, they came to Huron township. Among those accompanying them were the Howitt family, with whom the Shiells family enjoyed a close friendship. They crossed from Liverpool to Montreal on an early steamer "Montreal". The trip, for that era, was a comparatively brief one, being made in twelve days. George Howitt and Peter Shiells, after coming to Canada, went to Thorold where they were engaged in canal work then in progress. This was the Welland Canal. The elder members of the family took up farming in Huron township.

In 1858, work was in progress on the Point Clark lighthouse, and Peter Shiells and George Howitt returned to the district, to assist in its construction.

The first trip from Montreal was made by train and cart from Montreal to London and Stratfords. By ox-cart, along a jagged trail which was hemmed in by trees, he made his way to Goderich. From there, one of the sailing vessels plying Lake Huron brought him to Kincardine. From this point he made his way by foot to Point Clark.

When the work at Point Clark was done he went to Burlington, where he helped build a lighthouse. The next few years he spent in the United States. George Howitt accompanied him to Burlington, Chicago and New Orleans. Here they were mistaken for spies during the Civil War period, and escaped on the top of a freight car.

They now returned to Canada. Lot 4, Range A, Huron township, was first registered in the name of Howitt and Shiells. In 1862 after his return from the U.S.A. Peter Shiells married Grace Lachlan, a native of Glasgow. She had come to Canada with her parents. The year of their marriage they became members of West Church, United Presbyterian, of Kincardine. They were some of the earliest members. His love of the church and all it stands for was one of his outstanding traits, during a long and useful life. He loved, too, its psalms and paraphrases, and loved to sing them. He and his wife were both good singers and were in great demand in the area.

It was on the second lot of the Lake Range that Peter Shiells made his home, overlooking Lake Huron. He said that Point Clark did not always bear that name. When there was a post office, store and mill there, along with a settlement of about 100, it was known as Amberly; but after a few years fire destroyed the mill and store, and the settlers left the point and moved inland.

In addition to farming, Peter Shiells followed his trade and helped build many houses throughout Huron township and Kincardine. He was a master carpenter.

Peter and Grace Shiells had a family of eleven children. William went to Weston; Andrew went to Toronto; Grace remained with her father until his death, then married Rob't Chaplin; Robert and James remained at Amberly; Peter operated a hardware store in Kincardine; Jane and Agnes went to Detroit; Alex, George and Porterfield all went to Washington State.

Shortly after his 99th birthday, he was taken for an aeroplane ride. Some time after, one of his friends asked him how he liked it.

He replied, "Oh, it was all right, but there was no kick in it."

Peter Shiells lived to be one hundred and one years old. His wife died in 1916. He retained all his faculties until the time of his death. He lived during the reign of six monarchs. William IV was king at the time of his birth, and a month later, Queen Victoria ascended the throne; she was followed by King Edward VII, King George V, King Edward VIII, and King George VI.

HISTORY OF THE SOUTHERN PART OF HURON TOWNSHIP - Point Clark and Concession A. In 1848, in the summer months, Louis Bellemore came and built a stopping place at the south of Pine River, a short distance from the lake shore. He was a Frenchman and had an Indian wife; they later became very popular with the settlers.

The same year David Walden, grandfather of the writer (Mrs. Wm. Steele, Ripley), came to Pine River from London Township, where a number of his family was settled. He brought his wife and family with him. He purchased the hotel, or stopping house, from Louis Bellemore; the latter moved some distance north of the river, and built another hotel.

Let me say here, the first settlers came to this part of the township from Goderich, along a trail by the lake, looking for land. My father, David Walden, Jr., was a boy of five years of age at that time.

It was a time of great hardship for those first settlers. My father did not own a pair of shoes, until he earned enough money to pay for them himself. He was one of a family of ten children. My father, when a child, ferried settlers who were looking for land, across the river in his canoe. Bear, deer, wolves, wild cat and other wild animals were very numerous at that time. Wild pigeons, partridge and other birds also were numerous. Wild pigeons came in great flocks and often obscured the sun for some minutes. There also was an abundance of fish.

The staples had to be brought from the towns, and the only way to get there was to walk, to go by canoe or by sailboat. The only towns then were Goderich and Kincardine. In the early fifties, there were about forty shanties between Pine Point (now Point Clark) and Pine River. There was a saw-mill which was run by steam. Captain Henry Gamble was instrumental in erecting this mill, and also a flour mill in the late fifties. There was also a lime kiln there at that time.

SPORTS- We feel that the Historical Society has not done justice to the athletes of the County. There is Mickey MacKay of Chesley, Cyclone Taylor of Tara, Barney Stanley of Paisley and Paul Henderson of Lucknow who all played in the Stanley Cup Series. There must be many others we have missed. If anyone has any material along this line, it would be greatly appreciated. We would also appreciate articles on Lacrosse.

BRUCE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION - The newly elected Board of Education for Bruce County is as follows: Chairman, Mr. George Loucks, Chesley; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Alan Whicher, Wiarton; Leonard Courtney, Ripley; Arthur Davey, Port Elgin; Ross D. Fowler, Southampton; John A. Kieffer, R.R. # 2, Mildmay; Lloyd Liesemer, Mildmay; John N. McLean, R.R. # 2, Paisley; Ross S. MacRae, R.R. # 2, Teeswater; Harvey McCurdy, R.R. # 1, Dobbinton; Mrs. Doris E. Milne, Kincardine; Mrs. Mary Pletsch, R.R. # 3, Walkerton; Ernest Pringle, Allenford; Maitland Warder, Lion's Head; Mr. Orville A. Kalbfleisch, Chesley, is the secretary-treasurer, pro-tem.

ARCHIVES - Recent donations to the Society Archives include an autographed photograph of the late Dr. W. Sherwood Fox, London, author of the book, The Bruce Beckons; five valuable articles on Bruce history and one booklet on genealogy.

1. Shipwrecks of Tobermory, by Patrick Folkes and Ed Edsvick, 1963.
2. Shipwrecks of Tobermory, by Patrick Folkes, 1966.
3. Western Ontario Historical Nuggets, No. 29, When Sir John A. Put His Foot Down, by W. Sherwood Fox, F.R.S.C., 1961.
4. Report of Archaeological Project 67-L, Kincardine, Lake Huron: A project of the Historical Committee of Ontario Underwater Council.

These valuable acquisitions will be of importance to students doing marine research. E.T. Rowelliffe, Kincardine, is the donor.

5. From Kincardine to Kingsley, by A.L. Shewfelt, 1968. This little book is of interest to genealogists. Donated by R.G. Buckingham, Kincardine.
6. Tiverton Junior Farmer Minute Book, 1950-1956.

LOCAL MEETING - The Society members in Tiverton and district held a local meeting in March with an attendance of twenty-four members and friends. There were three speakers, Mrs. Neil Grunder, Mr. Alec MacFarlane, and Mr. Stewart Leggett, who spoke on local subjects.

Published by Bruce County Historical Society.

Editors - Mr.& Mrs.James McClure.

President - Mr. Pharis Mathers,R.R.# 1,Lucknow.

Secretary - Mrs.George Downey,R.R.# 1, Tiverton.

Mr. Norman McLeod's book,Volume II of the History of Bruce County,1906-1969,is in the hands of the printers. Anybody still wishing to take advantage of the pre-publication sale of \$ 6.00 should note that this offer ends on July 31st. There are still a few copies available of Volume I,by Norman Robertson, published in 1906 and reprinted in 1960.

The 1969 year book will be distributed to all paid-up members within the next few weeks. Non.members may purchase copies for \$1.00 each from the secretary.

A memorial plaque will be unveiled on Sunday,July 20,at 3:00 P.M. at Allenford. It will comemorate the site where the Indians held a pow-wow with the white people in 1854,and thus averted an uprising. A number of distinguished guests will be present,and will assist in the unveiling ceremony.

The plans for the August meeting have not been completed. It has been proposed that members' picnic should be held at Goderich, and a tour made of the Huron County museum. Notice of the meeting will go out to all members,giving details.

Mrs.George Downey spent six weeks travelling in the British Isles this spring,and would like to pass on a few helpful hints to others planning such a trip. If you wish to trace long lost relatives,try hiring an experienced researcher. Mrs.Downey hired Mrs.Sheila Pitcairn,7 St.Andrews St.,Dunfermline,Scotland,who works five days a week in Register House,Edinburgh,and charges L3 a day. Mrs.Pitcairn traced living first cousins,unheard of for forty years,for Mrs.Downey,with a minimum of information,including no surnames. Mrs.Downey rented a car in Scotland and Ireland,and covered over 2200 miles. She recommends this as an excellent way to see the country.

THE LAVENDER LADY (an old clipping)

A Tribute to Miss Bella McKenzie of Ripley:

"She lives in a little white house surrounded by trees, under which lilies of the valley, with their long pointed glossy leaves that partially conceal the spikes of glossy bells, run wild.

When nature's etching of the trees and shrubs by the moonlight causes the shadows to fall long and deep, the evening breeze picks up the fragrance of the lilies, making the passer-by stop to inhale their sweetness and absorb the beauty of the garden in nature's beautiful time of rest.

We call her the Lavender Lady. Her hair is snow-white, her eyes are clear and bright blue. Her skin is fine and beautifully smooth, her expression strong, serene and restful.

She loves lavender and during the week wears her lovely dresses of this shade with their white fichus; but on the Sabbath she is always dressed in fine black, with her string of jet beads around her shapely throat.

At eighty-five she is as straight as if she were sixteen. Reading and gardening are her chief pleasures. She lives alone and has no fear, because her trust is in Him who cares for the defenceless. At times she will tell you how years ago, when first left alone, she was nervous at night, but she came to see that if God could care for her in the daytime, He could and would at night.

At other times she will reminisce in her soft voice with its Scottish burr, telling how she had the care of her only sister, who was years younger, until she died in young womanhood, and then the care of her aged parents, until at their death she was left alone. She was then too old to take a training to fit her to earn a livelihood. Her only brother who was living in the United States, then wrote her saying she would be his care from then on. He has passed on, and his son who is on the staff of one of the well known universities, gladly assumed this precious inheritance.

Recently she knit a lovely warm afghan and sent it in a missionary bale to the Indians in the West, and was proud and pleased to see a picture of the Indian woman who had received it and a little note about herself in the Missionary Monthly. She also treasures a personal letter of thanks from the missionary in charge, and feels herself more than rewarded for her effort.

There is a wonderful well on her property, which comes from a spring, and our dear lady is delighted that she can supply the neighbours who are without such good water. "It is not mine, but the Creator's, therefore ~~mine~~ for all."

At six o'clock in the morning she is often in her garden, caring for her snapdragons, pansies and delphiniums, cutting bouquets that nearly always find their way to the neighbours.

We are all so glad to have her with us. She sets an example to all in her givings to the church, living as she does on fairly limited means. The church receives her tenth, and much more.

Such lovely, strong characters that reflect the period that is now looked upon as old-fashioned, proves that life is lived best when lived near to Nature and to God.

Lacrosse in Bruce County

Below is an account of a lacrosse game played on Orangeville in 1916 to decide the championship of the Ontario Amateur Juvenile Lacrosse Association.

Toronto succeeded in capturing the Ontario Amateur Championship of the Junior(Juvenile)Lacrosse Association by defeating Tara at Orangeville, on Friday afternoon last by the close score of 6 goals to 4. The game was started at 3 o'clock before a small crowd, no doubt due to the inclement weather. From the spectator standpoint Tara had much the better of the play, showing superior speed and fielding, but Toronto showed better team work, and their combination was more effective. Time and again Tara would carry the ball down the field, only to lose it near the goal. The game started off with a rush, and it was evident from the commencement that it was going to be no walk over for either team, although the Queen City Club expected an easy victory. About nine minutes after play started, Toronto notched a goal, and shortly after Tara evened up. Toronto scored another, and the quarter ended 2 to 1. In the second quarter Tara played their opponents off their feet in the field but could not score, while Toronto succeeded in getting one, making the score 3 to 1 at half time. The third quarter was hardly contested and each team got one goal. In the last quarter both teams put forth their best efforts and scored two goals, leaving the final score 6-4.

It was a strenuous game, and a hard one for the locals to lose. In conversation with the manager of the Toronto team, after the game, he stated that his club was lucky to get away with the long end of the score, and that Tara really had the better team, but fell down in team work. The teams lined in as follows:- A. Centie, goal; A. Martin Point -; B. Bird, cover point; H. Hutchinson, first defence; R. Tait, centre; R. Johnston; W. Haskins, second defence; C. Belfry, first home; Nel Stewart, outside; C. Withers, inside.

Tara: T. Taylor, goal; W. McNaughton, point; McLelland, cover point; D. Calwell, first defence; H. Hawk, second defence; I. Park, Home; W. Johnston, second home; A. Black, home; R. Wilson, outside; A. Gammel, inside;

Referee-Carson Jeffries

Judge of Play-Dr. G. H. Campbell

Timekeepers-E. Dinsmore

Colwell

Penalty-W. C. Hopkins.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM MR. W. HAROLD REA, TORONTO)

" You ^{may} or may not know that my father ran a flour mill in Kincardine for a great many years, starting at the turn of the century. It was burned down during World War I and after that he just operated a small chopping mill. One of my earliest recollections of Tiverton was around 1914, when a Mr. McKee-who had, I believe, one of the first motor cars in Kincardine-took my Father and me for a trip to Tiverton. I sat on my Father's knee. I recall so well that Mr. McKee had a pail and a funnel which he carried in his car and we stopped at every creek on the road from Kincardine to Tiverton to fill up the radiator. Taking into account all the stops, we made Tiverton in shortly over an hour! What a thrill this trip was to a seven-year-old in a new machine that didn't have to be pulled by a horse!"

PADRE OF THE BRUCE

- O.E.Hepburn, Curator,
Bruce County Museum, 1969

Canon R.W.James, Padre of the Bruce, a graduate of Huron College, was made a deacon in 1910 and ordained as a priest in 1911 by Bishop Williams.

He served the first two years of his ministry in Ripley, Pine River, and Amberly. In 1912 he went to Lion's Head, where he served until 1933 when he became rector of Port Burwell and Vienna.

It is as padre of the Bruce Peninsula that he will be recognized the most readily. From Wiarton to the Tub, almost everyone knew Rev. James and he knew almost everyone by their first name. He was made a Canon of St. Paul's Cathedral in 1933 in recognition of his long and faithful ministry on the Bruce Peninsula.

During the Flu epidemic of 1919 Mr. James visited the sick both day and night, turning his hand to doctoring, nursing, household and barn chores to assist those of his own flock and others as well, who were stricken down and unable to get help. He travelled by horse and cutter in bitter cold and drifted roads to reach those people, often going for days without sleep or rest.

Although Mr. James has passed away these many years, he is still fondly remembered as the faithful and blessed Padre of the Bruce.

SONG OF THE TARTAN

Hurrah for the tartan "The County of Bruce",
How gallant and showy to wear,
With the red of our maples aflame on the hills,
Mid the green of the pines that are there.

There's the gold of the waving grain fields
The white of the pounding surf
That rides o'er our dark blue waters,
Like a horse on a mossy turf.

A gay matching kilt for the lad and the lass,
And a suit or a stole for my dame;
A free swinging plaidie for Jamie and me;
Dress all of our family the same.

Come, people of Bruce, and others besides,
Wear it with pride and a sense of your own
For ye can there the story of Bruce County
In the colours of the tartan proudly shown.

- Olive E. Hepburn.

Published by Bruce County Historical Society

Editors - Mr. and Mrs. James McClure, Chesley

President- Mr. Pharis Mathers, R.R. 1, Lucknow

Secretary - Mrs. George Downey, R.R. 1, Tiverton

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Mr. Norman McLeod's book, The History of Bruce County, is on sale in every town and village in the County, at \$ 7.00 each. It has an attractive jacket, with the Bruce County tartan colours. There are many good pictures, the print is easy to read, the quality of the paper is good, and above all, Mr. McLeod has produced a delightful, "readable" history, worth reading from beginning to end. These books will make much - appreciated Christmas or birthday gifts.

The book was published by Richardson, Bond & Wright, publishers in Owen Sound. Mr. and Mrs. McClure brought 156 boxes of books in their truck down to Kincardine, on October 30, and a relay team of Mr. Mathers, Mr. Wm. Walsh, Miss Margaret McKenzie and Mrs. Downey helped Mr. and Mrs. McClure stack them in the basement of the Kincardine Town Hall, where they will be stored, courtesy of Kincardine Town.

We are sorry to report that Mr. McLeod has been a patient in a Toronto hospital for several weeks.

.....

Did you receive your 1969 Year Book? Beginning with this year, a copy of the Year Book will be given to each paid - up member. Non - members may purchase them for \$ 1.00 each. There are extra copies of the 1968 Year Book still available for \$ 1.00 per copy. They make interesting gifts.

.....

A memorial plaque was erected by the Archaeological and Historical Sites and Monuments Board of Ontario beside the Saugeen River at Allenford. It was unveiled on Sunday, July 20, 1969. It commemorates a meeting between the Indians and the whites, at this spot in July, 1855, thus averting an angry uprising of the Indians. The Bruce Historical Society was in charge of the program. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Akiwenzie from Cape Croker Indian Reserve were pleased to do the actual unveiling. Mr. Fritz Knoetel of Hanover deserves the credit for this very worthy plaque, as he did a great deal of the ground work for it.

.....

A picnic in a Goderich park, a drive through the "prettiest town in Canada", a tour of Huron County Museum, A tour of a Royal Ontario Museum caravan, and a visit to a few interesting sights in Goderich, took the place of the usual summer meeting in August. Two busloads and a few cars attended the outing.

The annual meeting was held Oct. 2, at Wildwood Lodge, Red Bay with 119 members and friends present. Mrs Cora Robertson of Haney, B.C. flew home to Bruce to visit relatives and attend the dinner. She is a young 83 years. The oldest gentleman present was Mr. A.E. Cordingly of Wiarton, a young person at 93!

The guest speaker was Mr. Lee Johnston of the History Department of the University of Waterloo. He gave an excellent talk about the North American Indians, showing the effect of the invasion of Europeans on the Indian religion, health, culture, and manner of earning a living. A collection of \$ 18.03 was donated towards the projector fund, which stands at 73.33 to date. Mr. Pharis Mathers was re-elected for his third term as president.

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Among the papers etc., donated to the archives recently are two family histories - The Goddard Family by Mrs Wm. J. Arnold of Ripley and The Munro Family by Mrs. Cora Robertson of Haney, B.C.

.....

An Indian village site exists at the edge of Port Elgin. Unless a way of purchasing and preserving it is found at once, it will be lost in the construction of a subdivision area this spring. Several organizations are willing and anxious to work together to develop the site if it can be purchased.

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The 1969 membership has reached 257 paid-up members. Fifty eight of these members live outside the County as far west as Vancouver, and east to Ottawa. Can we find a member in Halifax or Newfoundland? Four members live in Michigan and New York States.

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The Society's new project is a badly needed archives building to store papers, documents etc., now scattered throughout the county. There have been offers of land from

Tiverton, Port Elgin and Chesley on which a new fire proof building would be constructed. A trust fund is being set up with the first contribution coming from our Secretary, Mrs. George Downey, Would you like to help?

Chairman, James McClure.

.....

VITAMINS IN THE EIGHTIES

by

Miss Florence MacTavish, Chesley.

Over the years how have the rural roads changed! Snake fences, with their angles filled with shrubs and wild plants gave way to straight rail fences and later to wire fences to prevent snow drifts. As a further prevention, the shrubbery was sprayed with poisonous mixtures that could kill even the grass, leaving a hard paved highway between two lines of bare fences.

In the eighties, vitamins were non-existent in our vocabularies but Nature secretly provided a plentiful supply in the roadside garden that fostered "Many orders of the race of plants - herbs, grasses, shrubs and trees."

Continued, Next page.

In the earliest spring there were the hard maple sap icicles with a sparkling invitation to pick them. Soon came dandelions with competitions to find the longest stem. If gently stroked till smooth, they seemed less bitter. In the woods along the way came ground-nuts, crinkle or ginger root with a hot, spicy taste, and looks, if you didn't mind being "persona non grata." Also there was cow cabbage which was better when cooked like spinach. Originally, cabbage was the head formed by the unexpanding leaves. Now the name includes the whole species wheather hearting or not.

Sorrel was small perennial plants belonging to genus Rumex characterized by displeasing sour taste. The leaves were also used in cooking or in medicine or as a salad. Lamb's quarters and Red Root were preferred cooked. The basswood trees and berry bushes provided tender young sprouts that were delicious when pooled and eaten raw.. The elm trees showered down nuts, but tedious to gather.

Late August and autumn were most enjoyable. Think of raspberries, black berries, thimble berries, black currants, goose berries, black and pin cherries, haws, blue-black nanny berries (sometimes called black haws), elder berries, bunches of grapes on vine clad trees, and in the woods along part of our road, wild apples and plums " without money and without price. "

Later came butternuts and hazelnuts. There was always a turnip field over some ones fence. Please notice that these were all eaten raw and unwashed. Even if today they could grow along the road, vitamized children would be warned not to touch or eat them in case of poisoning. What a price to pay for modern improvements !

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Seventeen men and women met at the home of Bill and Gladys Arnold on the afternoon of November 27 th. Roll call was answered by - A doctor and something I remember about him. Many amusing things were told and many old cures and diseases discussed. The dedication of the doctors was stressed..

Mrs. Arnold told of the current projects of Bruce Historical Society. Folks were interested in the proposed restoration of the Indian village at Port Elgin. A small collection amounting to \$ 3.40 was taken to add to the Archives Trust Fund. Mrs. Roy McKenzie and Bill Arnold entertained with music. Mrs. Tona Outerbridge offered her home for another meeting in late January. The topic will be - Stories of Indians in Huron Township area.

Stories told at the above meeting.

A man and a woman drove up to the store in Tiverton. They were a Scottish family and she spoke only the Gaelic. She came in lugging two heavy baskets. She heaved one up on the counter and then the other and said in Gaelic, " Here's the butter, and here's the eggs, and Donald is coming with the English.

In winter, Dr. Solomon Secord used to drive his horses as far as they could get through the snow. Then he would get out, leave the horses and start to walk. If they were there when he got back, he would drive home. If not, he walked.

Doctors charged \$ 4.00 for a maternity case and twenty five cents to pull a tooth.

A good cure for croup was onion syrup made by placing alternate layers of onions and brown sugar in a pan and baking them and using the syrup.

SCHOOL DAYS.

As told by the late Andrew Emersin of Purple Grove.

I attended school for three months during the winter of 1871. Our school was S.S. No. 9, Kincardine. The teacher was an old man by the name of Cogswell. The school was never warm in winter. A long box stove provided heat but there were plenty of cracks in the walls. Each family took turns providing wood and it was usually green. Each boy was to take his turn providing kindling. Many a rail disappeared off my father's fence near the school. There were between fifty and sixty pupils when I went. The young men came in winter only. The school had a blackboard, maps and a work table along the walls at which they could write in their copy books. For seats, they used benches. One bottle of ink served about five and the pens were quills. They also had slates. The boys wore long boots and they would become frozen. Their clothes thawed out during school hours and often the children became so chilly they had to stand by the stove.

One day about 1885 Joe McComb was into mischief. Miss Morrison, the teacher, undertook to strap him. She hit him across the shoulders. He kicked and got caught in her hoops. Both were helpless.

Each community was pretty well self-sufficient. At Purple Grove, Andrew Terrance wove blankets. Aunt Sally Collins was midwife. John Logan was the blacksmith. John Young was the mason. Henry Collins was a farmer. Aman by the name of Bowers was a carpenter and farmer. Mrs. Joe Wall was said to have the power of charm to stop a flow of blood.

SCHOOLS IN BRUCE COUNTY IN THE EARLY DAYS.

The first school in Bruce County was established in 1851 in the town of Kincardine with an enrollment of 66. By 1852 there were schools at Kincardine, Walkerton and Southampton. In 1855 they had fifteen schools with an enrollment of 834. In 1863 there were 108 schools and an enrollment of 3588. In 1901 there were 260 schools and an enrollment of 13,867. In 1945 there were 223 schools with an enrollment of 5,725. Note the drop in population from 1901 to 1945.

High Schools (Grammar Schools)	District High Schools.	School Superintendents.
1860 ... Kincardine	1951	John Nairn 1850 North Huron County
1872 . . . Walkerton	1949	Wm. Rath 1852 All Huron & Bruce.
1889 . . . Port Elgin	1951	Wm. Gunn 1853 Bruce Schools.
1891 . . . Warton	1954	Bruce was divided into districts (3)
1904 . . . Chesley	1951	and some of the Superintendents were in
1935 . . . Lucknow	1951	office from 1855 to 1871, including
Ripley;	1951	Wm. Gunn, John Eckford, Rev Walter
		Inglis, Rev. Wm. Fraser, Dr. D.M.
		Mc Crummon, Rev K. McLennon and Rev.A.
		Tolmie. Mr. John Eckford held office
		for 16½ years.

The system of Superintendents was abolished and inspectors were appointed.

The following are inspectors for :

East Bruce	West Bruce	North Bruce
1871 R. Langdon	1871 B. Froer	1931 J.J. Wilson
1873 W.S. Clendenning	1877 A. Campbell	Once Principal of
1906 John McCool	1902 W.J. Chisholm	Chesley High School.
1932 J.M. Game	1910 W.F. Bold	
1944 J.M. Game and A.A. Gilroy	1934 Geo. Dobson	
	1944 J.M. Game and	1953 A.F. Brown
	A.A. Gilroy.	

Dec. 1969
Historical

Mrs. Howard Webster,
Port Elgin
Ontario

