

Bornish Area News

Field Notes of Williams Twp. - 1831

John McDonald, Deputy Surveyor, made the following notes in the summer of 1831 for the Surveyor General's Office, York, Upper Canada. Commencing on line in Centre Road allowance for the Centre Road, thence N 78° 15' W magnetically along what would become Concessions 12-13 of West Williams Twp. (Bornish Drive).

Road allowance

Lot 1

Slightly descending; ascending

Very good land surface undulating to a dry brook,

Elm and Black ash swale

very good land surface undulating

Timber Beech, Maple, etc.

Lot 3

Black ash swale

Good dry land

swale

very good dry land

Timber Beech, Elm, Maple, Bass and White Ash

Lot 4

Swale

very good dry land surface undulating

Timber Beech, Maple, Elm, Hickory, Oak and Bass

road allowance

Lot 5

dry brook

another dry brook

Land Light Timber

Thick underbrush, not much herbage

Lot 6

ditto to a dry brook

Land and Timber as before

Lot 7

Very good land surface undulating

Timber as above

swale

Good land surface undulating

Timber as above

Lot 8

Land and Timber as before to a dry brook

Across a ravine

Good level land

Down a bank

Timber large Maple and Beech

Flat, Timber Beech, Maple, Bass, Elm Oak

Up a bank obliquely

road allowance

Lot 9

As before to a dry brook

Good land surface undulating

Timber as before

Lot 10

Land and timber as before

across a ravine

Good land but rather Broken

Timber as before

Lot 11

Ditto to a dry brook

Ditto to a brook nearly dry

Good land surface undulating

Timber as before

Lot 12

Ditto to a dry brook

Ditto to a brook nearly dry

Ditto to a dry brook

Ditto across the Lot

road allowance

Lot 13

Land and timber as before

swale to a brook nearly dry

Good land slightly uneven

Timber Maple, Beech, Elm and Bass

Lot 14

Ditto

Lot 15

Ditto to a brook nearly dry

Ditto to a brook nearly dry

Ditto across the Lot

Lot 16

Good land surface undulating

Timber Beech, Maple, Elm and Bass to a dry brook

Ditto across the Lot

road allowance

Lot 17

A dry brook trend to the right

Another dry brook trend to the right across the Lot

Land and timber as before

Lot 18

Land and Timber as before to line on the East side of Road allowance on the East side of 21 Concession intersecting 5 chains - 20 links South of post of the South side of Road allowance between 8 and 9. By calculation the line on the South side of Road allowance is 10 links shorter than the Centre line noted and the line on the North side is 10 links longer. $25 + 4.82 - .10 = 29.72$

(Each Lot being 25 chains wide and 40 chains long constituted 100 acres.) (from John McDonald's Notebook, Dept. of Lands and Forests, Toronto)

The patent date to the Canada Company for all that part of Williams Township west of the Centre Road, comprising 38, 598 acres, was November 2, 1832.

(source: Description Book No. 10 for the Canada Co., Patents Office, Queen's Park, Toronto)

A Visitor to Williams Twp. - 1856

In two letters to the editor of *The Ingersoll Chronicle* a traveler describes a tour "of the tract of country formerly known as the Huron District."

He started off on his journey from London and commented that you "cannot avoid noticing the fine roads (in dry weather), the comfortable and in many cases tasteful farm residences and farms, apparently under thorough cultivation, stocked with well-fed cattle and horses." His first stop of importance was at Carlisle, a village of about 200 inhabitants, "and although in the woods and only boasting an existence of about four years, it will no doubt sometime be a smart village." Next, he travelled four miles west to the Village of Nairn, "though not much of a place, nor likely to be soon, it sports a business in rhyme, which, you will admit of course, is ahead of our time."

He found this Township of Williams though not newly settled, backward in development. Such was explained by the poverty of its inhabitants, "mostly Highlanders from the Islands of Uist on the coast of Scotland."

In the next township, McGillivray, an improvement was noticeable, although "this township has nothing in the shape of a village except Ireland, formerly "Flannigan's Corners" [Clandeboyne], situated on the town line between Biddulph and McGillivray." The name of the township was Scotch, but most of the people were of Irish origin. East of McGillivray was Biddulph, "presenting no object of interest, excepting its fine soil, and the smoking and drinking of its people." Usborne, to the north, he found to be quite a new settlement, for there were "no roads comfortably passable after going eastward of the Goderich road three miles." The road on which he was travelling was probably very rough, for he commented, "The land in this township must be good, for it makes excellent mud."

His journey continued to Exeter, Goderich and Kincardine. (from *The Ingersoll Chronicle*, Oct., 1856)

Burned to Death

Ronald McDonald was burned to death near Parkhill on October 26, 1869. The house from which he was about to be evicted was also burned.

Victoria Day Celebration in Parkhill, 1870

The 24th of May, Her Majesty's 51st birthday was well celebrated in London and at other points. The celebration at Parkhill was described as follows: "Her most gracious Majesty's fifty-first birthday was ushered in, in this most important part of her dominions, by the firing of a feu de joie from blacksmiths' anvils. Messrs. Raymond and Fletcher deserve great credit for their untiring energy in making a sufficient amount of noise on the occasion."

"At an early hour crowds of people --- man, women and children --- were soon seen wending their way to Parkhill, the great centre of attraction for an area of many miles. All sorts of vehicles were improvised for the occasion, and pressed into service, but there were many pedestrians who found their way here without the aid of any such convenience.

The calithumpian procession was one of the great features of the day and attracted universal attention, drawn by three horses. The conveyance was a lumber wagon with a hay rack, and the company presented the most unique, grotesque, absurd, ridiculous, fantastic, nondescript, tatterdermalion appearance that was ever presented to the public gaze. There did not seem to be any particular characters represented, neither for instance "the girl of the period" or the exquisite dandy, but notwithstanding this apparent oversight, the company were greeted with the greatest applause, not only by little street arabs but by the crowd in general.

"Horse racing took place on Broadway Street and it was surprising to observe the vast throng of spectators who lined each side of the street to see a horse race. No accidents occurred during this dangerous sport. Running, jumping, egg race, climbing the greased pole, wrestling back-hold and side-hold, were all duly attended to, and there were [was] no lack of competitors to enter the lists in all these sports.

"Playing bagpipes, dancing the Highland Fling, eating buns and molasses, grinning through a horse collar, etc., were all duly attended to." (from *The Weekly Herald and Prototype*, London, Thurs., May 26, 1870)

East Williams News 1871

Cheese Factory --- Mr. Malcolm McIntyre, 2nd Con. of this township is now putting up a two-storey cheese factory, 16 x 24. Part of the machinery, etc., is already on the premises, and the milk vat capable of holding 200 gallons is nearly completed. It is expected the factory will be in operation about the middle of April next.

Fire --- A house belonging to Mr. Alex McDonald, on the 2nd Con., was destroyed by fire on Thursday last. A considerable quantity of Carpenters tools and also a quantity of books and papers were destroyed. The loss will probably be pretty heavy.

Lost --- By this subscriber, between the Rob Roy Hotel and East half, Lot 3, Con. 12, West Williams, a purse containing forty-one dollars in bills, and some other papers and silver. The finder will be suitably rewarded by leaving the money either with the subscriber or at the Gazette office, Parkhill. Donald O'Henley, Jr., West Williams, March 1st, 1871 (from *The Parkhill Gazette*,

North-Middlesex and Lambton Advocate, vol. 1, no. 12, Thurs., March 2, 1871)

Home Hand Looms 1871

“Respecting those flannels, almost every second house in the Scotch Irish old Country Settlements homes has a Loom in it to weave a web of Cloth for their neighboring woman or sometime the neighboring woman will be allowed the use of the Loom to weave her piece of flannel. In this respect It is Supposed to be their own produce, but any weaver or seamstress who makes a Business of it, for even a Month or two are recorded in the Industrial Column, Schedule No. 6 and those who get weaving done by them are not credited with it in this Schedule”, L.C. McIntyre, Commissioner (from the *1871 Census of West Williams Twp.*, Div. 3, Sch. 5, p.1)

A Gold Watch for Capt. Allan McIntyre

For his successful, gallant efforts to save the Steamship *St. Paul* during a severe storm near the city of Duluth, Minnesota, Capt. Allan McIntyre (1833-1920), a native of South Uist and former resident of West Williams Twp., was presented with a gold watch by the grateful residents of that city. It was engraved with the following inscription: Presented / to / Captain Allan C. McIntyre / of the Steamer / St. Paul / By the Citizens of Duluth / For Gallant Conduct / on the Night of November 13, 1872 [Full details of his heroic efforts may be found in *The Duluth Minnesotian*, Nov., 16 and 23, 1872]

As a reward of this display of skill, Capt. McIntyre was placed in charge of the newly-built steamer *Peerless*. This vessel served as flagship of the fleet for the Lake Superior People's Line until twenty years later, when the steel steamer *Manitou* was built. Capt. McIntyre was master of the *Peerless*, which was a real favorite in the Lake Superior trades until almost the turn of the Century.

When the Captain died in 1920, his gold watch was inherited by Allan McLean (1861-1933), a nephew who bore the name Allan.

Allan McLean sold 50 acres of land to his cousin, Lachlan P. McDonald (1874-1952). During The Depression, when Lachlan failed to maintain payments, Allan repossessed the land together with a crop of wheat planted by Lachlan. This action resulted in a rift between the cousins. The quarrel persisted for several years until the local priest persuaded Allan to leave, in his will, the prized pocket-watch for his cousin to show that the resentment was over.

In fact, on Allan McLean's death, the watch went to another cousin of Lachlan, Hughie McPhee (1864-1948), who in turn passed it to Lachlan's son, John Allan McDonald (1915-1969). Another cousin of Allan McLean, Christine (McIntyre) Daly (1897-1977), felt that the watch should have gone to her son, John Allan Daly (1919-), since he also bore the name Allan.

Today, the watch is in the possession of John Allan McDonald's son, John Edward 'Ted' McDonald (1949-) whose eldest son bears the name of John Allan (1976-). Thus, the name Allan is perpetuated from Captain Allan McIntyre through four generations, and the tale of the watch continues.

Parkhill News 1892

Mr. J. McEachan has rented the shop used as a bookstore in the Gazette building where he will carry on his boot and shoe business after this week.

Parties who have registered births, marriages, and deaths since the first of July are requested to have them re-registered as the registration records were destroyed in the recent fire [of the Parkhill Town Hall].

Born --- At Parkhill on the 4th inst., the wife of Mr. A.J. Garden, Merchant, of a daughter [Margaret]. (from *The Parkhill Gazette-Review*, Sept. 8, 1892)

Bornish News Jan. 1898

Mr. Dan McDonald is teaching at the Bornish school this year at a salary of \$250.

Miss E.M. Doyle, of St. Mary's Hospital, Detroit, is visiting her father and mother.

Mr. L.C. McIntyre is in Toronto where he is engaged as sessional writer in the Ontario Legislature.

Mr. Rory McKinnon put in an appearance on the Centre Road a few days ago. He was on the lakes during the past summer.

Mr. Neil McIntyre, of the 12th Con., East Williams, has come home for the winter. He was wheelsman on a steamer plying between Buffalo and Duluth.

Mr. Chas. Currie visited Mt. Carmel last Tuesday and brought home with him his niece Annie, daughter of the late Ronald Currie.

Miss Sarah McMillan, who has been teaching school in the North West, has come home and received a warm welcome on Sunday at the church door from her ex-pupils and acquaintances.

A number of Miss E.M. Doyle's friends called on her at the residence of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Doyle, one evening last week and were hospitably entertained by the family. Those who were present had a sleigh ride on the following evening and drove to the residence of Mr. J.P. McCormick, where all were made welcome. The evening was pleasantly spent. The same persons and a few more drove on a subsequent evening to the residence of Mr. John G. McMillan and had a most enjoyable time. On Thursday evening a couple of sleigh loads drove to Mr. Neil McPhee's, 10th Con., West Williams and were heartily entertained. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 13, 1898)

A.A. McIntyre --- Worthy Representative of the Southern Express Co. for Gadsden, Alabama

There are many of the native sons of other climes who have cast their lot in life with the good people of Alabama, and in this connection a brief sketch of the subject of this biography would not make an altogether uninteresting bit of reading matter.

A.A. McIntyre was born as a subject of Great Britain, at Ailsa Craig, Ontario, on the 17th of March --- St. Patrick's Day --- 1864, [son of Finlay MacIntyre (1827-1895) and Catherine MacIntyre (1830-1901) of East Williams Twp.

and later, of Sheridan Twp., Huron Co., Mich.]. Ailsa Craig is a most historic and charming Canadian town and located not more than forty miles from the border line of the United States. "Mack", as he is familiarly known to hosts of friends and acquaintances not only here in Gadsden but in Alabama herself, received a good education in the schools about his native town; received an education it might be said that has fitted him for the many responsibilities and lucrative positions he has since filled and enjoyed. In 1883 he began the battle of life as a telegraph operator in the employ of the world-famed Grand Trunk Railway, remaining with it until 1890, when he turned southward and subsequently located in Alpine, Ala., where he acted as station agent for the old East Tennessee Railway. He, however, severed connections with that road in 1891 and entered the service of the Southern Express Co., with which he has ever since remained. His first appointment was at Selma, where he made money clerk and cashier. This position apparently brought out the ability that was within him for the company thoroughly and positively satisfied as regards his peculiar fitness, have always esteemed him as one of their most competent, trustworthy and competent representatives.

Mr. McIntyre came to Gadsden in February, 1895, as the agent of the company at this point, and the square manner of his dealing with the business men and merchants of this vicinage has made him an indispensable quantity in this commercial municipality. He is a most unostentatious, unpretentious man whose close application to the work and interests of both the company and the people have made him and the interests he represents any number of friends and solid substantial acquaintances. In brief, it is a matter of open congratulations that the allied interests of all concerned are in the hands of so worthy, accommodating and trustworthy a gentleman. The responsibilities attached to his position are far from diminutive, when the fact is taken into consideration that the company does the entire express business for the five lines of railway entering Gadsden and that of Gadsden and Attalla dummy line also. To care for it properly and without friction to either company or the patron requires a pains and skill rarely found in officials of similar positions elsewhere.

Mr. McIntyre is one of our best citizens, live and progressive and charitable far beyond his means. He is a member and an ardent worker in the Catholic Church; in fact one of its mainstays here in this section.

Gadsden is proud of his citizenship, and the well known company he represents is to be congratulated upon having in charge of its interests here so valuable and experienced a representative. (from the *Gadsden Daily News* and *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 6, 1898)

Bornish News June 1898

Bicycle riding is all the rage now.

Mr. John O'Henly had a bee gravelling his lane on Saturday last. There were eight teams drawing and they finished about 6 o'clock.

Mr. and Mrs. Neil McIsaac who were visiting at J.C. McMillan's [her parents], left for their home in Ludington, Mich. Mr. McIsaac is a captain of a large car ferry plying between Ludington, Mich., and Manitowac, Wisc. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 30, 1898)

Fatal Accident 1898

While at a threshing last Friday [Aug. 19, 1898], on the premises of Mrs. McRae, Mr. Malcolm Morrison, postmaster, fell from a ladder leaning against a straw stack and received injuries from which he died next morning. Dr. Gray was sent for and found that his injuries would prove fatal. The funeral took place on Sunday afternoon. The deceased leaves a widow [Margaret McMillan] and several children. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Aug. 25, 1898)

Bornish

"The mason work on the church here is getting on rapidly and that shows that A.J. Garden and James Turk are hustlers." (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, June 26, 1902)

Church Opening

The opening of the new St. Columba Roman Catholic Church, West Williams, Ont., will take place on the 1st of January, 1903. The opening ceremony and dedication of the new church will begin at the hour of 10:30 a.m., by the Right Rev. F.P. McEvoy, Bishop of London. A musical vespers at 4:30 p.m. The eloquent and well-known preacher, Rev. Father McBrady, President of Assumption College, Sandwich, Ont. Will be the speaker on the occasion at both morning and evening services. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, December 25, 1902)

New Church at Bornish 1903

On New Year's day the St. Columba Roman Catholic Church, Bornish, was opened and dedicated for divine worship by the Right Rev. F.P. McEvoy Bishop of London, assisted by the Very Rev. Father McBrady, O.S.B., Rev. Father Corcoran, Rev. Father Dunn, and Rev. Father McRae, P.P. One particular blessing on the occasion was the toleration and good feeling manifested by members of the different churches in the community, a large number of whom were present on the occasion and contributed liberally to the voluntary collection at the doors, and many of them gave willing help in bringing the material for the church. After mass the Right rev. Bishop congratulated both priest and people on the erection of such a fine church, also on the mode of heating which is by steam, the only country church in the diocese so heated. He also praised

the stained glass windows which are voluntary contributions from some of the parishioners, and from former members who wished to show their appreciation of Rev. Father McRae's good work.

The Right Rev. Bishop made a special mention of the fine altar (the gift of Capt. Allan McIntyre of the Steamship Manitou,) which he said was good enough for any church in any country, and was truly a costly New Year's gift which the congregation also appreciated and which saved them many a dollar were they to be taxed for such a costly piece of church furniture. It is the wish of his co-religionists in East and West Williams that he may be long spared and able to continue his munificent gifts in this and other countries. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., Thurs., Jan. 15, 1903)

Farewell Presentation to Father McRae 1904

At his church services at Parkhill and Bornish last Sunday, Rev. D.A. McRae announced that it had been arranged that he should leave here and be placed at Goderich. We understand that the reason for the change is the condition of Father McRae's health. The work at Goderich will not be so heavy as in his present charge. The announcement was heard with the deepest regret by his parishioners, by whom he is much beloved for his devotion to duty and his long and faithful pastorate. In fact all classes of the community regret his departure. He was a good citizen, ever intent on promoting the best interests of the people morally and materially. All hope that with lighter work he will regain his waned strength and vigor and live long to perform the duties of his sacred calling. On Tuesday evening a large number of his St. Columba Parishioners called on him and presented him with a purse, containing a handsome sum of money, and with the following address: -

It is with profound regret that we the parishioners of St. Columba Church, Bornish, heard of your removal from our midst. We hailed with joy your coming among us, and now we deeply deplore your departure for many reasons. You were a painstaking priest, always and at all times ready to sacrifice your energy for our spiritual and temporal welfare. For a period extending over twenty years, regardless of inclement weather, you were always ready to administer to the sick and the dying the rites of our holy mother church. Nay more, you have raised the standard of our morality to a higher elevation than it heretofore attained. You have demonstrated to be an economist of the first magnitude by the many improvements you have made since coming among us, principally the church which you have erected for us at a small cost and which shall stand as an everlasting memorial to your zeal and generosity, also the school adjoining the church which is a gem of architecture. You have by your good example taught us to be temperate, particularly from intoxicating drinks. You have overlooked our imperfections and shortcomings. You worked hard among us to save our expenses --- something we appreciated. Your honesty and integrity were a model of perfection; kindness has been one of your chief characteristics. We pray that God may bless, protect and govern you throughout this life's pilgrimage and that your

new field of labor may be an easy one. We ask you to accept this purse of money as a small token of our appreciation and esteem. Signed on behalf of the parishioners: John Morrison, Arch. Morrison, J.C. McDonald.

In reply Father McRae thanked his people for their kind and generous appreciation of his twenty years' pastorage. This presentation and address was an agreeable surprise to him and was a most striking evidence of their good-will. It was, he said, most painful for him to depart from their midst, and he hoped that God would shower down His blessings on them and their families. He thanked the people of St. Columba and others for their support towards the construction of the new church which he was pleased was nearly paid for. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., Thurs., Jan. 14, 1904)

Another Presentation to Father McRae

Last week we recorded the presentation of an address and purse of money to Rev. D.A. McRae by his parishioners of St. Columba Church. The sum presented amounted to \$157 which attests to the liberality of the people of Williams and their regard for Father McRae. On Wednesday evening of last week a large number of his Parkhill congregation waited on him and presented him on behalf of the parishioners with \$103, \$100 of which was in gold, accompanied by an address. We would have been pleased to publish the address but are unable to do so as we could not procure a copy of it though there was a general desire amongst those most interested to have it appear in the *Gazette-Review*. The address expressed deep regret at the departure of Rev. Fr. McRae. It referred to his Christian citizenship, the respect in which he was held by all classes in the town, his untiring zeal for the good of his people, his administrations in baptism and at the hour of death, and concluded with the hope that his life would be long spared for the performance of duty in God's vineyard. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., Thurs., Jan. 21, 1904)

Farm For Rent

The Alex C. Morrison farm Centre Road, West Williams, 200 acres, 100 acres grass land. For particulars apply to A.A. Morrison, adjoining farm, or Alex C. Morrison, Pere Marquette R.R., Cort St. Depot, Port Huron, Mich. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., Thurs. Jan. 14, 1904)

West Williams News

Allan McLean, West Williams, left last Friday for Chicago. He will sail this season on the *S.S. Manitou*.

Archie Morrison, of Bornish, left Monday for Detroit to attend the wedding of his niece, Miss Christena Morrison.

A, McIntosh and D. McCormick, of West Williams, have purchased a new Challenge Thresher with blower attachment from George White & Son, London. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., June 23, 1904)

Lost Sheep

On Monday, June 4th, one white ewe, newly washed, top of right ear cut off, left ear split with a notch under the split; and two lambs, top of right ears cut off. Last seen on the 10th Con. West Williams. Suitable reward for information. Arch. McIntyre, Con. 14, West Williams. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., June 14, 1906)

Mrs. L.C. McIntyre Improving

Mrs. L.C. McIntyre who had a 15 lb. tumor removed successfully at St. Joseph's Hospital, London, is improving nicely. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., Thurs., Dec. 13, 1906)

Fire Destroys Barn and Stables 1907

Allan Morrison of 12th Con. [West Williams] suffered a severe loss by fire on Monday [January 14]. He was cutting his straw stack and blowing it into a mow in the barn, when a spark of fire from the cutting box was blown into the mow setting it on fire. The flames were fanned by the blowers to such an extent that it was impossible to put it out. The fire is supposed to have originated from straw and twine winding about one of the shafts of the cutting box until it became heated and on fire and was blown into the mow. The cutting box was burnt as well as a crusher. All his live stock was saved, a valuable mare and colt were some what badly scorched, she balked on leaving the stable and it required the combined efforts of two to push her out. The barn and two stables were a complete loss, as well as all his contents of hay, straw and grain. Mr. Morrison had only marketed one load of oats and he had all the crop of 150 acres in the barn at the time. His loss is \$1600 on the buildings and \$800 on contents. Owing to the loss of his feed Mr. Morrison has been compelled to sell his stock for which purpose he is holding an auction sale on Monday Jan. 21st. We extend our sincere sympathy to Mr. Morrison in his loss. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., Jan. 17, 1907)

West Williams News

Rory McEachen, of Charlestown, has hired for the winter with Mr. James Guy 9th Con.

Mrs. Finlay McIsaac, of Charlestown, is residing with relatives in Michigan for the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Angus McIntosh and son, Lachlan, of the 18th Con., attended the wedding of their cousin Miss Effie McDonald, Tuesday, 12th Con., West Williams.

Neil McPhee returned on Monday from London, where he had been visiting his father, Arch. McPhee, who has been seriously ill for some time. We are sorry to say that but little hope is entertained for his recovery. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., Jan. 17, 1907)

Bornish News Feb. - March 1907

The old neighbors of Mrs. Malcolm Morrison deeply regret the great loss she sustained in the burning of her house and its contents.

A reception was held at the home of the newly married

couple Mr. and Mrs. Angus McIntosh on Thursday evening. Dancing was indulged in.

John McCormick and his daughter, Tillie, left on Tuesday for their home at Hemlock, Michigan, after spending nearly three weeks renewing acquaintances. (from *The Parkhill Post*, Feb. 7, 1907)

Allan Morrison has purchased a barn from Murdock McLellan, 12th Con., and is moving it this week to his farm. George Winegarden has the contract. Mr. Morrison is also getting his cribbing on the ground to put the barn on a cement wall. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., March 21, 1907)

Ploughing Bee

Angus Morrison of the 12th Con., West Williams, had a very successful ploughing bee on Tuesday of last week and in the evening the boys and girls tripped the light fantastic. Donald McPhee, of Detroit, executed the Highland fling in professional style. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., April 25, 1907)

Stray Steer

There came to the premises of the undersigned on Sunday, May 26th, 1907, Lot 8 Con. 14, West Williams, a two-year-old steer, dehorned, color red, white under belly, white star in forehead. Owner is requested to prove property, pay expenses and to take it away. Angus Johnson, Parkhill, P.O. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., June 20, 1907)

West Williams News June 1907

Angus Morrison, who happened with an accident on a steamer on May 24th last, is now in hospital at Erie and we are pleased to say is improving as well as can be expected.

Mrs. John McPhee, of the 13th Con., received a telegram on Saturday that her sister, Mrs. Lachlan McDonald [née Catherine McAulay], of Point Edward, had died. Her son, Donald, attended the funeral on Monday. The deceased was 75 years old.

Allan Morrison started to move his barn on Monday and on Tuesday had it about half way to its site. Owing to the heavy fall of rain he will not be able to touch it again for a few days as the ground is very soft. George Winegarden has the job of moving and is a hustler. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 27, 1907)

A Visit to Michigan 1907

Mr. John O'Hanley, Sr., [of East Williams] returned on Thursday from Michigan, where he spent two of the pleasantest and most memorable weeks of his life. The latch-string hung out at every house and when Mr. O'Hanley pulled it and walked in, it was to meet old friends who had once lived in East and West Williams and Stephen. And not only was the latch-string out, but there was plenty within and Mr. O'Hanley was almost overwhelmed with that delightful hospitality for which Scotchmen everywhere are noted. Be he ever so parsimonious, be he ever so mean, in other ways, the Scotchman's table is ever well provided and the bite and sup is a part of the welcome extended to every one who sets foot across the threshold. Mr. O'Hanley's friends vied with each other in entertaining him and

in taking him to places of interest. The two weeks were a round of merry-making and flew by as on wings. One trip of special interest was to the coal mines. They descended a shaft over 200 ft. deep and then travelled three or four miles underground to the scene of operations. This journey in the gloomy interior of mother earth was an experience to be remembered by anyone who has spent a long life in the fields surrounded by God's sunshine.

But the climax was reached on the evening before he brought this first visit to Michigan friends to a close. Everyone assembled at the home of Mr. Neil McPhee to spend that last evening together. And what an evening it was! Angus McPhee, son of the host, brought out his bagpipes and it was not given to Scotchmen to sit still under the spell of those old Scotch reels and strathspeys. No indeed! And then when John and Alex McPhee bought their violins and proved themselves capable of playing the old tunes in the good old rousing way, old men and old women too, forgot that they were no longer young and footed it gaily with the best and youngest there. The old times, the old friends, and the old, old welcome. The memory of it all will remain as a precious recollection with him, who was the guest, through all the years to come. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., July 11, 1907)

West Williams News July 1907

Hugh McPhee arrived home on Saturday evening from Regina. He intends to stay for some weeks before returning.

Allan Morrison has his barn moved to its site and raised ready for the cement wall. George Winegarden is to be congratulated on his success in moving so large a building about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile without a brace loosening or any other damage being done. James Arrand of McGillivray has the contract for the cement work which he commenced this week. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., July 11, 1907)

Word has been received from Angus Morrison, at Erie, Penn., who has been laid up from injuries by a fall of 25 feet into the hold of the steamer on which he was employed. He has made such progress that it is expected that he will be home in a few weeks. His father paid him a visit two weeks ago and found him badly shaken up, but the doctors expressed the belief that he would completely recover but it would be a long time.

Arthur Pedlar had one of his fat steers struck by lightning on Thursday night. It was standing with others under an elm tree in the pasture when the tree was struck. The bolt only struck the one steer. It was found the next morning braced on its feet against the tree with a mouthful of grass that it had just cropped off. After being struck it never moved and looked at a distance as though it was rubbing itself. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., Aug. 1, 1907)

East Williams News 1907

Miss Sarah McCormick is visiting friends at Niagara Falls and Buffalo for a couple of weeks. While at Buffalo

she intends to take a trip up the lakes.

Mr. A.C. Stewart suffered a severe loss from lightning during Thursday night's storm. In the morning it was found that he had one steer killed on one farm and eleven steers all in a bunch [killed] on one of his other farms. The cattle were all exporters and worth \$80 each so that his loss will be nearly \$1000. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., Aug. 1, 1907)

Farm to Rent

That valuable farm property Lot 3 in the 14th Con. Of East Williams will be rented for a term of years. This property is one of the best farms in the township, frame house, frame bank barn, with good stabling. In first class state of cultivation, 45 acres of grass. Possession given at once. For further particulars enquire on the premises, of Wm. Dawson at this office. Angus Currie, proprietor, Parkhill, P.O. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., Oct. 3, 1907)

Return Home to West Williams

Dan McCormick, of the steamer, Chicago, returned home on Tuesday.

Ronald McKinnon returned home on Tuesday from Buffalo, where his steamer A.P. Waight, laid up for the winter. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., Dec. 19, 1907)

West Williams News 1908

Mr. Angus McIntosh is busy teaming wood from the swamp to Parkhill.

Mrs. Mary Steele, 18th Con., is residing with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John McDonald, 12th Con.

Rory McEachan, of Parkhill, is spending the winter months with Fred Barrett, cattle buyer, 16th Con.

Dougald J. McIntosh returned last Wednesday to Proctor, Minn., after spending several weeks with his father, Angus McIntosh of the 14th.

Mr. and Mrs. John McLeod [of West Williams] gave a dancing party last Friday evening to his friends who had helped him in the erection of his new barn. About 70 guests assembled to enjoy tripping the light fantastic toe. Messrs. Angus Currie and C.P. Barrett supplied the music on the violin which all agreed was seldom equaled and never surpassed. They were accompanied on Mrs. McLeod's beautiful Nordheimer piano during the evening by Mrs. C.P. Barrett, Misses Alta Dignan, Sarah McCormick and Flossie McKinnon and Mr. George Dignan. Three sets of dancers were accommodated in Mr. McLeod's house, while those who desired other amusement enjoyed themselves playing cards, etc., in the parlor. Those from a distance were John McIntyre, of Ailsa Craig, Misses Dunn and McCourt and Mr. N. Hassett, of Parkhill, and Mr. Boyle. The party didn't break up until the small hours of the morning. All expressed their

pleasure and delight at the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. John McLeod and the fine music of the orchestra. (from *The Gazette-Review*, Parkhill, Ont., Jan. 30, 1908)

Telephones Coming 1910

The Parkhill Rural Telephone Co. is distributing their telephone poles on the Centre Road this week and will erect the line next week. Those wanting phones should make their arrangements while the line is being erected. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., April 7, 1910)

Allan McEachan Killed By Train

Stepping out of the way of the nine o'clock express, Allan McEachan, boss of a section gang at the Swansea yards, jumped directly in front of a work train, and both legs were cut off at the hips. He was brought to the city in a caboose, but died at 10:30 in Grace Hospital.

McEachan was a man of thirty years, coming from London, Ont. He was in charge of a gang of men working at the tracks, when the nine o'clock express came flying towards them. He was examining some of the work and had to step quickly when the train got close, so that he did not look around first. He jumped across the track and a work train, which was just getting up steam struck him, throwing him under the wheels. All of the engine wheels passed over the middle of his body before the train could be stopped. His legs were cut off, and his life was nearly gone. Several of the section men hoisted him carefully into the caboose of an east bound freight and telephoned to the police department.

Art Scott, driver of a city ambulance, was at the foot of Bathurst Street when the man arrived. No time was lost taking him to Grace Hospital, but life was so nearly extinct that nothing could be done. He died within an hour. Relatives near London were notified. (from *The Toronto Daily Star*, Wed., Dec. 21, 1910)

The body of Allan McEachan, the London foreman of the Grand Trunk bridge crew, whose instant death occurred in the Swansea yards of the Grand Trunk this week when struck by a work train, arrived in this city last evening.

The body was shipped back to Toronto this morning. Coroner Tompkins, of West Toronto, ordered an inquest on the death.

Last night the remains were taken to his late residence, 7 Pearl Street, and it had been the intention, had not the coroner's order intervened, to have forwarded them to his mother's residence in Stephen Township this morning, from whence the funeral would have been to the Mount Carmel Catholic Church tomorrow. (from *The London Free Press*, Fri. Dec. 23, 1910)

[footnote: At 124 Dreaney Avenue, on Thursday, February 12, Mary, relict of the late Allan McEachan, in her 37th year. Funeral from the above address, Friday afternoon to Grand Trunk depot, for shipment to Mount Carmel, at 4:45 p.m. Requiem high mass and burial at Mount Carmel, Saturday morning. (from *The London Free Press*, Fri., Feb. 12, 1920)]

West Williams News 1911

Mr. Neil McIntosh, who has spent several weeks with his brother, Angus of the 14th Con., returned to Virginia, Minn., on Wednesday.

On Monday, Allan McLean took it into his head that he would cut feed, so he saw Lachie's Sandy and arranged to move the engine that afternoon from the 14th Con. As the roads were so icy they put the engine on a big bunk sleigh and all hands gathered around the engine to steady it on its trip. The one thing lacking was that the Mayor wasn't on the seat, this time. Since the thaw last week the roads were very icy and sidling and it took them all their time to keep it on the road. Misfortunes will happen to the best of us and while going up the sideroad the engine took a slew and partly upset breaking one of the pipes of the pump which Allan had to take to town on Tuesday to get repaired. Alex got a little excited as he saw her moving for the ditch and for a few seconds he moved quicker than when he dances John Splendid. When they got the engine righted they proceeded on their way a little more cautiously and landed it at Allan's place. On Tuesday the cutting-box was moved and the cutting proceeded on Wednesday. The job is one of the best, so Allan thinks. Frank had to make a couple of trips to town for repairs and to get his fur-lined coat. As the sleighs slipped along so easily there was no chance to test the strength of their good drawing teams, of which we hope to give an account sometime this winter.

Lachie P. was too busy to attend Allan's straw cutting.

The bans have been called at St. Columba Church of the marriage of Mr. Lachlan P. McDonald and Miss Hannah Dalton of Ashfield, near Goderich. The wedding will take place at Ashfield on Tuesday, January 24th. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 26, 1911)

Allan McLean has completed the contract of plumbing on Alex McIntosh's engine and Sandy says it is a first-class job.

Mr. and Mrs. L.C. McIntyre left on Wednesday to visit their son, Columba, at San Rita, New Mexico. Mr. and Mrs. McIntyre intend to spend the winter and spring there.

Side Road Angus had a bee on Monday, drawing the old log house at Cavanaugh's Corners to his place. He intends to use the logs for cribbing while raising his barn to put a foundation under it. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 26, 1911)

Mr. L.C. McIntyre in New Mexico

We are in receipt of a letter from Mr. L.C. McIntyre, from Santa Rita, New Mexico. Mr. McIntyre says that Mrs. McIntyre and he are enjoying good health, that the climate is delightful, that their trip was a pleasant one. When they left Ontario the last of January, we were in the midst of a blizzard, but after leaving Chicago the days were all sunshine with cool nights.

During their two-days ride through Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas the land was level prairie as far as the eye could reach, with dry, burnt grass, and

small frame houses, miles apart, as if they had fallen from the sky, without a shade tree or orchard. The country is so large that one cannot take in its vastness. It is large enough to populate millions. Their son, Columba, met them at the nearest station, as Santa Rita is a mining town, and drove them to his residence, which had not been occupied until their arrival.

The population is over 3000 composed of Mexicans and Americans. Trains with engines are constantly day and night at work drawing the ore to the dump. The mine is a copper mine. The cars are loaded by great steam shovels tearing down the mountains. The cars are emptied by tipping like a wheelbarrow. Mr. McIntyre says the work is very noisy and at first it is hard to get rest, but they are now getting used to it. The climate is fine, warm in the day and cool at nights. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 26, 1911)

More West Williams News 1911

George McLellan had a narrow escape from death by lightning during Wednesday's storm, of last week. He was coming to town and when the storm was coming up, he drove into the property on the 14th Con., the O'Hanley farm, and tied the horse in the old house on the farm, the barn having been torn down. He was in the house standing beside the horse when the storm was at its height, but a presentiment came to him that he might be safer outside, on which he acted. He had only got outside when a bolt of lightning struck the house, killing the horse, a fine four-year-old, and knocked Mr. McLellan down, rendering him insensible for some time, in fact he doesn't know how long he lay on the ground, unconscious. When he came to he had considerable difficulty in making his way to Angus Johnson's, as he was so weakened from the effects of the electricity. His escape was marvellous.

During the storm on Monday the barn of Arthur Gray on the 15th Con. was struck by lightning, doing some damage by splintering some of the timbers. Mr. Gray and six other men were in the barn at the time as well as his team. They were all stunned for a short time.

James F. Gillies [in East Williams] had five cattle killed and two badly injured by a G.T.R. freight on Thursday of last week. The storm on Wednesday blew down the fence on the sideroad and the cattle getting out strayed onto the track. The cattle guards that the railroads are now putting down are no protection to live stock straying onto the track. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 13, 1911)

Birth --- McCormick 1911

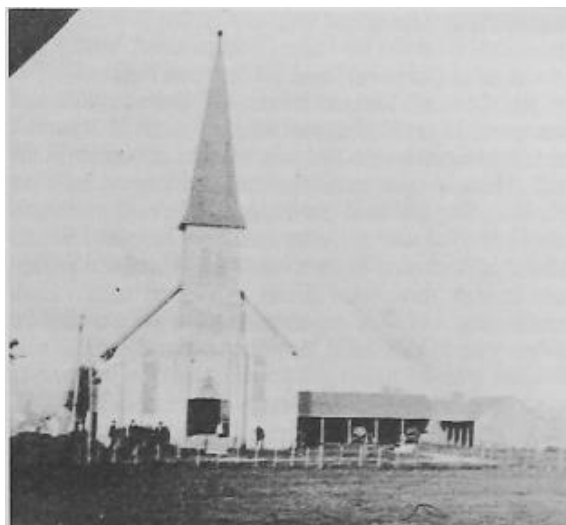
12th Con., West Williams, Monday, July 31st to Mr. and Mrs. Dougald McCormick, a daughter [Theresa Eileen] (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Aug. 3, 1911)

Birth --- McDonald 1911

13th Con., West Williams, Thursday, November 2nd to Mr. and Mrs. Lachlan P. McDonald, a son. [John James] (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Nov. 9, 1911)

Appointed G.T.R. Foreman

Neil McEachen of the Parkhill section gang of the Grand Trunk Railroad has been appointed foreman of the Forest section. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 14, 1915)



St. Columba Church, 1915

Newly Ordained Rev. Angus McDonald Celebrates Mass at Bornish --- 1915

On Sunday, July 4th, Rev. Fr. Angus McDonald, of Notre Dame, Indiana, said mass at St. Columba Church. The parishioners of this parish and many old friends filled the church to the doors. After mass, he preached a very eloquent and instructive sermon. A large number of separated brethren, who have known the Reverend Father from his infancy, as well as those of the same faith, were delighted with the service and the thoughtful discourse. After church some fifty guests attended a reception at the residence of Mr. Angus O'Hanley. After luncheon, addresses were given by Rev. Fr. O'Neil, of Parkhill, Mr. J.C. McDonald, of East Williams, and Mr. L.C. McIntyre expressing the high esteem in which Fr. McDonald, a son of the parish, is held and the honor he has conferred on his native place in his assiduous studies for the priesthood. Rev. Fr. McDonald replied in feeling terms of gratitude to the kind words expressed. At 3 o'clock a large number attended vespers at the church, after which an address was read by Mr. J.D. McPhee and a presentation of a purse of \$125 and a gold watch and chain, by Mr. Peter McKinnon. All joined in wishing Fr. McDonald a success and prominence in his life's work. Fr. McDonald was accompanied by his sister, Miss Minnie McDonald, of Detroit. His many friends will be pleased to learn that Fr. McDonald has been stationed for one year at a church in Notre Dame. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, July, 1915)

West Williams News 1916

Mr. Hugh H. McPhee shipped a carload of pedigreed mares to Moose Jaw, Sask.

Ptes. Hugh Morrison, Patrick Morrison and Arthur Dinsdale were presented with gold pocket watches by their friends at Salem in West Williams. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., March 23, 1916)

Lance-Corporal Dannie Morrison Returns

Pte. Dannie Morrison, of the 18th Battalion returned from overseas on Saturday on the six p.m. train. Dan is a Second contingent man and saw months of service in the field. He was wounded in the knee and limps a little but doctors in England held out hopes that he will eventually recover the full use of his leg. A large crowd of friends gathered at the station to greet the returned hero and as Dan came in sight there were cheers as well as tears. Each homecoming has its joy and its pang. There is gladness for the one who has returned, there is sadness for those who will never return.

A procession of twenty autos was formed and with fluttering flags and tooting horns, the boy was restored to his home. (Capt.) Dr. Racey's auto headed the procession through the streets and Mrs. Morrison and Dan rode in Mr. Jos. Skinner's car which came next. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Aug. 23, 1917)

Presentation at Sacred Heart Church

A very spontaneous effusion of true patriotism was witnessed at Sacred Heart Church on Sunday, August 19. Private Dannie Morrison, invalided, who arrived from overseas on the late train Saturday evening, was the honored guest of the occasion. The congregation of the Sacred Heart Church of Parkhill and St. Columba, West Williams, immediately raised a well-filled purse and presented it to him after High mass celebrated by Rev. Wm. A. Shannon, of Nashville, Tennessee. The presentation was made by Masters Gerald Dignan, of Parkhill, and Malcolm Hall, of Detroit, nephew of the recipient.

The pastor, Rev. M.D. O'Neill, spoke in behalf of the congregation, of their unbounded welcome and joy at seeing their first wounded soldier back from the firing line and the great honor that was conferred upon the town and parish by the scar-worn veteran of many battles returning with the glory of having done his part well. A young unassuming lad was now transformed into a living hero by three long years of duty and valor for King and country. He had risked his life and his all for the cause of democracy and religion and God had spared him his life in answer, no doubt, to his mother's prayers although He had taken away the use of one of his limbs.

The speaker requested the congregation to remember in their prayers the other boys from the parish now at the front and concluded with the hope that as Dannie Morrison fought the battle of his country so bravely he would still continue to fight the battle of life to serve God and country better after learning the discipline

of the army and when life's great conflict is o'er he might receive, not a reward of mere gold and silver, but an unfading crown of glory forever in Heaven.

Pte. Dannie Morrison enlisted in the 18th Battalion, London, and went overseas in April 1915. He was seriously wounded from shrapnel just after returning to his trench after accompanying a successful bombing party at Vimy Ridge about five o'clock on the morning of February 22nd, 1917. He took part in the battles of Ypres, St. Eloi, Hooges, Courcellette, Sugar Refinery and Vimy Ridge. He was gassed twice and was wounded in three places, the most serious being a shrapnel wound to his left knee which rendered him unable for active service. Only sixteen were left of his battalion when he was wounded. Through it all Pte Morrison looks well, is cheerful and enthusiastic about winning the war. He leaves in a few days for the Invalided Soldiers' Hospital, in London. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Aug. 23, 1917)

A War Casualty

Alex J. McDonald wounded and gassed. Mr. John B. McDonald, of East Williams received the following telegram on Monday regarding a casualty to his son, Alexander J. McDonald. Ottawa, September 18th, 1917.

John B. McDonald, Parkhill,

Sincerely regret inform you 802760 Pte Alexander Joseph McDonald, infantry, officially admitted 22nd Casualty Clearing Station, September 22nd. Gassed and shell wounds. Will send further particulars when received.

Director of Records

(from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Oct. 4, 1917)

Bornish News 1918

Mr. L.P. McDonald, councillor, has purchased Mr. Fred Barrett's hundred-acre farm, from the estate of the late Duncan McVicar, 12th Con. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 31, 1918)

A very enjoyable dance was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John S. McDonald on Friday evening and all report a splendid time.

Mrs. W. Pankow returned to Detroit on Saturday after spending a few weeks at the home of her father, Mr. John B. McDonald.

Mr. Ronald McKinnon, of Detroit, is renewing old acquaintances in this vicinity.

Messrs. P. McCormick and D. McKinnon have been busily engaged doing their bit to relieve the fuel shortage. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 7, 1918)

Mr. and Mrs. Dougald McCormick's little four-year-old daughter had her leg broken close to the thigh on Friday evening [Feb. 22]. She was playing after retiring and fell, causing the accident. The fracture is rather a bad one but it is expected she will have a good recovery. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 28, 1918)

The central of the West Williams Telephone Co. is to be moved to Springbank. Mr. Angus Morrison of the Centre Road [E. Wms.], who had been in charge of the

central since it started, is retiring. Mr. Alex McKenzie will have the management of the line for the future. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 28, 1918)

A House Fire 1918

Mr. Angus McIntosh's brick residence on the east sideroad 14th Con., [West Williams] was burned to the ground on Wednesday afternoon last week. Mr. McIntosh was in town and when near home noticed the woodshed of his dwelling on fire. Mr. Dougald McCormick arrived just before he did. It appears that the fire started among some sawdust and other rubbish, where he had buzzed some wood the week before. From there it gradually crept to a pile of 12 cords of cut rails, then to the woodshed which contained some 18 cords of sawed rails. An alarm was sent forth by the telephone and within a short time over 100 people gathered, but despite all efforts it was found impossible to put out the fire for the want of proper fire fighting appliances. The most of the furniture was saved. Mr. McIntosh is mystified as to how the fire started. He walked past the woodpile when going to the stable to get his horse to come to town and there were no signs of a fire smouldering. Several people noticed the smoke but thought he was burning some rubbish and to them it did not appear near enough to the house to cause alarm. His loss is a heavy one. The dwelling was worth over \$3000 with only a small insurance. Much sympathy is felt for him in his loss. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., April 25, 1918)

Birth --- McDonald 1918

Con. 13, West Williams, Wednesday, July 6, 1918, to Mr. and Mrs. L.P. McDonald, a daughter. [Mary Ursula] (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 11, 1918)

West Williams News 1920

Miss Margaret Steele, accompanied by her sister, Mary, has returned to Detroit, after spending her vacation with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Steele.

Mr. Morrison, Townline, had the misfortune to have a valuable cow killed at the G.T.R. crossing [at the Centre Road]. She was buried by the section men of the G.T.R.

Duncan McIntyre, overseer of good roads, has received word from the county engineers that Con. 18 will be a provincial high way road and will be a credit to our township. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Sept. 9, 1920)

A Fatal Accident in Parkhill 1921

A fatal accident which shocked the citizens of Parkhill occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Archie McCormick, Queen St., early Tuesday morning [Jan. 11]. Mrs. McCormick went out to light the fire throwing a shawl over her night clothes. In some way the sleeve of her gown got on fire and in a few minutes she was all in flames. She ran out of the house and her cries woke her husband and neighbors. When Mr. McCormick reached her he pumped water on her clothing and extinguished the flames but her face, head and other parts of her body were badly burned. Mrs. McCormick succumbed to her injuries a few hour later.

Prior to coming to Parkhill Mr. and Mrs. McCormick were well and honorably known in their old neighborhood. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 13, 1921)

A Debate at Bornish 1921

The Farmer's Club held an interesting meeting in the [Bornish] Separate School on Friday night. A debate on "resolved that public speaking has more influence on a man's mind than the Press" was well taken on both sides. The affirmative was supported by M. Larkin, L. Morrison, Mr. Wilson, Peter McCormick, and the negative by Katherine McPhee, Sara McCormick, Mary Morrison and W. Walker who took the place of one of the Ladies who could not be present. The negative won by 40 points. The judges were Archie Morrison, J. O'Hanley and G. Cruickshank. The closing meeting will be held Friday April 1st. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., March 24, 1921)

A Welcome Presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Lustig 1921

The friends and neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. Lustig, who have moved here from Detroit to settle on the farm [in West Williams] they have recently purchased from Allan McLean, gathered at their home on the evening of St. Patrick's day to wish them a thousand welcomes to the neighborhood. And to present them with a gift which would show the good will of the neighborhood. Rev. Father O'Neill took the Chair and made an ideal chairman. Mrs. J.D. McRae read the address printed below. Mrs. Lustig replied in a few happy words and Weden Walker expressed the kindly feelings of all present in a neat speech.

Music and dancing and card playing made up the entertainment for the evening and all enjoyed meeting these new neighbors in their home.

Mr. and Mrs. Lustig

Dear Friends:

We, the people of this neighborhood, have gathered here tonight to show our appreciation of you as new neighbors. We are glad to have you here, making a home, and starting out in life together in our midst. We realize that you will both do your work under new and trying conditions and we admire the pluck and bravery with which you are meeting your difficulties, and we rejoiced when we learned that you have decided to stick.

We would like to convey to you in some way, this idea, that although skies may be grey at present, and that the earth seems dead, and the trees look bare and lifeless, The Easter time is coming and all nature will quicken with life and put on a new dress of green. Then skies will be bright and blue and birds will sing and make nests and the greyness and all that we have now will be forgotten. So, we trust, it will be with your lives in this place, and we know that the time will come, when you will rejoice and be glad that you are here. And we would also like to assure you that kind hearts and kind thoughts are found everywhere, and that the neighborhood wishes you all that is good.

We would ask you to accept this dining room table and six chairs as a remembrance of what we have tried to say in feeble

words, and we trust that you may live long to enjoy the gift.

On behalf of the neighborhood the address was signed by John McCormick, Ronald Morrison, Angus O'Hanley and Jas. D. McRae. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., March 24, 1921)

A Farewell Presentation to Allan McLean 1921

On Monday evening April 11, neighbors and friends numbering about 85 gathered at the home of Allan McLean 12th Con. [West Williams] to bid him Good-bye before our departure from our midst. Father O'Neill acted as chairman and in a few well-chosen words explained the object of the gathering and afterwards called upon L.P. McDonald who read the following address. Angus P. Morrison and Archie McPhee presented him with a club-bag and a gold-headed cane.

The Address

Dear Friend,

A few weeks ago we were called together to welcome into our neighborhood your successors who are starting out in life among strangers in a strange land. And now, we your neighbors and friends have assembled here to spend one more evening with you, ere you depart from our midst to seek a new home perhaps, too among strangers. But such is the game of life.

We, therefore feel that words cannot adequately express our feelings on parting with one who, tried and true, has ever been ready to share in our pleasures and trials.

Many here this evening, were perhaps your school-mates and it seems but yesterday, as memories waft backward that we behold you as a boy, a leader in all your sports and undertakings. Then as the armour of manhood was assumed you were still our leader.

Therefore we ask you to accept this club-bag and cane, not for their intrinsic value but as a slight token of the esteem in which we hold you and in future days you look upon this remembrance let it serve to remind you of old associates who will ever be glad to hear of your enjoying health and happiness. Signed on behalf of the community, A.P. Morrison, Archie McPhee, Steve McCormick, Dan J. McPhee, Dougal McCormick. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., April 28, 1921)

Bornish News 1921

Miss Madeline McEachen Con. 10 who has been attending Stratford Business College has passed her examination successfully and [who] was home on a two weeks visit, has gone back to Stratford and has accepted a position as Stenographer. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 16, 1921)

A Presentation to Father O'Neill 1921

On the last Sunday of June the congregation of Bornish R.C. Church held a joint meeting on the church lawn. The weather was ideal and all enjoyed the open air meeting and also the ice cream and cigars to which their pastor so generously treated them. The church steps provided an excellent stage.

The Bornish sub-division of the Catholic Women's League held their meeting and listened with pleasure to the very interesting address of their president, Mrs. Dan McCormick who attended the first Convention of the National League in Toronto.

In closing her report she read a copy of a Cablegram from the Pope to the Catholic women in Convention in Toronto.

The men had gathered for the purpose of presenting Rev. Father O'Neill with an address and purse, on the eve of his departure for Europe. Rev. Father O'Neill although different in race and origin from the majority of his Bornish congregation, yet with the true spirit of the Catholic Church which recognizes no distinction of either nationality or language but fondly clasps all to her loving bosom has won the respect of his people by the deep interest he has taken in their spiritual and temporal welfare. Lachie Steele read the address and Jas. O'Donnell presented the purse. Rev. Father O'Neill replied in his usual happy manner and thanked them for their gifts. He dilated on the good feeling that always existed between the congregation and himself. A couple of suitable hymns were sung and all dispersed to their homes well-pleased with their happy afternoon.

The Address

To our beloved pastor Rev. Fr. O'Neill:

We are gathered here this afternoon to bid you a temporary farewell. Most farewells are tinged with regrets but the anticipation and hope of your speedy return to us, remove any regret at your departure and we feel only joy and pleasure that you have the opportunity of visiting other places and people. Nothing enlightens like travel and he is fortunate indeed who can betake himself from within the small confines of the daily life into a wider scope and a clearer perspective.

We sincerely hope that your trip will be a pleasant one. Interesting it must be as Europe stands to-day with its sights and struggles, its triumphs and its sorrows. Without doubt the personal visit to our Holy Father the pope will be the outstanding event of the journey.

Although absent from us you will be with us in spirit and in our daily prayers and our constant pleasure will be that you will consider our small circle as your home to which you will return with an assurance of a hearty welcome. We shall miss you socially and spiritually but our gain will be the treasures of experience in sight and feeling which you will bring back to us. We hope that this purse will in some small way add to your enjoyment of the journey as by it we have tried to testify our love and esteem for you. Wishing you "bon voyage" and praying that God be with you till we meet again.

From your Bornish Parishioners. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 7, 1921)

Barns and Crops Destroyed by Fire 1921

Mr. Dan Morrison corner of Centre Rd. and Con. 14 [West Williams] had his barns and entire season's crop destroyed by fire which broke out on Saturday evening [July 23]. Much sympathy is expressed for Mr. Morrison. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 28, 1921)

Farewell Presentation to Father Faulkes 1921

On the afternoon of Sunday Sept. 4 the parishioners of Bornish assembled to bid farewell to Father Faulkes who has been taking the place of the regular pastor during the summer.

Father Faulkes is a brilliant man whose attainments are destined to fit him for a worthy place in the sphere of life which he has chosen. He leaves this week to take a further course in theology and other studies in Rome after which he expects to return and assume a position as instructor in St. Peter's seminary in London.

Before his departure, the people of Bornish arranged to spend a social hour with him on their church lawn after which Mr. Dan McKinnon presented him with a substantial purse the gift of the congregation while Mr. J.D. McPhee read the following address to which Father Faulkes very touchingly replied.

Dear Father Faulkes:

Our short acquaintance with you has so endeared you to us that we cannot allow you to depart without some expression of the kindly feelings we bear towards you.

We are accustomed to look for such pious devotion and such wide learning as yours in men of older years and these qualities, coupled with your youth, arouse our keenest admiration.

As our human feelings are thus aroused so also are our spiritual feelings enkindled in the fact that our Catholic faith has attracted a mind and heart like yours.

God has called to the priesthood one of England's sons reared in another faith. Conversions to the faith are frequent and sometimes half hearted but a conversion to the holy priesthood in one so young is ample proof of sincerity. Our boys and young men just on the threshold of life cannot fail to be impressed with the fact that the spiritual life of the individual should claim the larger share of human endeavor.

Your visit to your parents and to your native land cannot fail to be a source of inspiration to those whose good fortune it is to claim kinship with you.

As you leave to pursue your studies in Rome, you take with you our kindest wishes for your future success and your personal happiness.

We shall always remember you and as we welcome back our beloved pastor and rejoice in his pleasure of a visit abroad we shall be reminded that the occasion of his sojourn was also the occasion of our acquaintance with you.

Our great pleasure is that you have found happiness in our faith and our greater hope is that we shall meet you here again.

As human love has always expressed itself in the bestowal of some tangible gift upon the object of its affection so we desire to express ourselves in offering to you this purse which we hope you will consider as an expression of the regard of your parishioners of Bornish. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Sept. 8, 1921)

Scotch Settlers Flocking to Canada 1924

Farm Workers and Domestic Servants
from Ports of North Country

A despatch from London says:- There is evidence in the estimated figures of the number of emigrants who embarked in Scotland for Canada between March 1 and May 31 of an increase in the flow of emigration. In March approximately 2,900 emigrants sailed for Canada from Scottish ports, in April over 4,000, and in May over 5,000, the estimated total for the three months being 12,000 and the average per month being 4,000.

The average in the first three months in 1923 was about 1,000 per month, and for the second three months about 3,400. In the whole year 29,070 Scottish emigrants landed in Canada. This year the emigrant season began earlier in the spring and, as will be seen from the figures given, it has already reached a higher rate per month. If this increase is maintained throughout the season the total for the year will exceed that of 1923.

Although men and women of a wide variety of trades and callings have been among the emigrants, the main classes in point of numbers have been farm workers and domestic servants. These have been drawn largely from the rural districts in the Northeast and North of Scotland, while between 800 and 900 persons have gone from the Outer Hebrides to Alberta and Ontario. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 26, 1924)

Bornish Old Home Day September First 1924

"Some day I'll wander back again
To where the old home stands,
Beneath the old trees down the lane,
Afar, in other lands;
Its humble cot will shelter me
from every care and pain,
and life be sweet, as sweet can be
When I am there again."

Once again we invite you to hit the old familiar trail to the well-loved township and to join with all the other Bornish Old Boys and Girls in a day of unadulterated joy.

We are waiting to welcome you in right royal style. The fatted calf is ready, and the old friends are on tip-toe. Don't disappoint them; they are actually aching to gather up the silver threads in the precious friendships of the years that have gone. The spirit of Hospitality yearns for self-expression.

"Will ye no come back again?" The hills may look smaller to you, the roadside may seem strange, the church may seem to be of smaller proportion, the familiar faces may be fewer and older and yet you come back to the place where mother and father loved you, sacrificed for you and shielded you from life's hard blows, to the place where your character was formed, to the place where you dreamed life's young dreams and built castles in the air, to the place where you were a part and parcel of all that transpired, to the place where you knew the meaning of the word neighbor, to the place whose very dust is sacred because of those who lived, loved and sorrowed and who now sleep.

Some of you will have grown fatter; some of you will be thinner; some of you will have grown older, but for one long, glad, mad, joyous day you can say in spirit: "My foot is on my Native Heath; My name it is McGregor."

Although it was not till 1860 that East and West Williams became separate municipalities, it is more convenient in giving the record of the Highland pioneers to take each township with its present boundaries. The pioneer period was nearing a close before West Williams was settled. The first wave of emigration in 1831-32-33, the subsequent gradual accessions for fifteen years, and even a part of the second wave 1848-49-50, found room in East Williams, so that it was not until this latter period that there was an overflow into West Williams. Besides, a portion of the land in the latter township was low and flat and so considered undesirable, though it has since become some of the very best farming land in the county. The pioneers of this township, coming in so late, could hardly be supposed to have as many hardships as those who came in fifteen or twenty years earlier, and yet they had their share, as they found it an almost unbroken forest and they had peculiar local difficulties. A large portion of the pioneers of West Williams were what may be called Island Highlanders, from North and South Uist and Benbecula, but there were many from other parts of the Highlands. Those from North Uist were presbyterians; those from South Uist Roman Catholics and from Benbecula they were divided.

John McDonald, in some valuable articles published in the *Parkhill Post*, more especially referring to the Island Highlanders, says the Centre Road was first settled by them from the River Sable to Mud Creek in 1848, but those who came in 1849 had to take the advice of Horace Greely to young men, "Go West". With great reluctance the first to settle west of the Centre Road was Donald O'Hanley Sr., on Lot 8, Con. 12, now occupied by Murdock McLellan. The 10th Concession was settled by a few of the immigrants of 1849, and next in order of settlement were the 14th and 15th Concessions but not until the 12th and 13th Concessions were all occupied from the Centre Road to the 21st Concession. "People looked upon these concessions as worthless, and to a certain extent this was true, for the most of it was so low and wet that it was almost impossible to clear it. But the tide has changed, and now it is the best line in West Williams with the fine, level, rich soil and flowing wells on nearly every farm." Mr. McDonald tells of the hardships of the pioneers, who in many cases had not even oxen and had to carry on hand spikes the logs used to build their houses. Oxen were largely fed on brouse. A most kind and friendly feeling prevailed. They generously helped each other and especially the more needy. They had to carry their household effects on their backs and shoulders from McIntosh's mill, six miles through mud up to their knees, and another five miles through dense woods and swales with only a blaze on odd trees, very appropriately named "a choile mhor" (the big

woods).

Mr. McDonald has also kindly furnished the following full and valuable record of the Island Highlanders of West Williams. It has come per H.D. Johnson of Strathroy who has for this and other townships rendered continuous and much appreciated assistance. The age of the pioneers at death is given, a very remarkable feature, showing their remarkable longevity.

12th Concession --- The following came from South Uist in 1849: Neil McEachin (killed by a tree) 50, Donald McEachin 80, Donald McPhee 70, Alexander McMillan 90, sons: Alex 90, Neil 84; John McPhee 90, Neil McEachin 80 (family in Michigan), Neil McIsaac 100, son Finlay 101, Jas. McIntyre children, L.C., Ronald, Donald, Mary (Mrs. Hector McLean), Effie (Mrs. Neil McLellan) (family records further on); Archie McMillan (blacksmith) 80, John Morrison 80, Angus McLellan 90, Donald O'Hanley 90, (went to Michigan), sons, Neil, Finlay and Donald in McGillivray, Donald McDonald 75, Angus McPhee 75, Hugh McPhee 70, Donald Steele 75, Peter Steele (first death among those that came out in 1849, buried near Separate School) 65, Lachlin McDonald 79, children, John, Donald, Angus, Mrs. Steele, Mrs. Angus McDonald, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. McPhee (family record further on); Donald McCormick 80, Neil McCormick 75, Archie McCormick 82; Donald Morrison 90, son, Big Angus 84, Angus McLellan 75, Donald McLean 60.

14th Concession --- Donald McCormick 75, Angus Walker 75, Peter Walker 90, Donald Steele 75, Alex McDonald (King) 100, Donald McDonald 70, John McPhee 80, Malcolm McIntosh 85, Neil McIntyre 75, Duncan McLeod 85, Lachlin McInnes 75, Archie McLellan about 90, Colin Campbell 74, Angus McIntosh 78, Angus McIntosh (living) 75, Angus McIntosh (Big) 93, Alex Smith 78, Angus McIntosh 75, Angus McLellan 80, Donald Morrison 85, Neil McIntyre 79, Roderick McIntyre 75, Angus (Mor) McIntosh 87, Angus McIntosh 90, Angus McDonald 72, Archie McLellan (lived first in Yarmouth, died in Michigan) 75, Donald McIntyre 84, Angus Morrison 69, Angus McDonald (lived on the 10th).

Centre Road --- Angus Ross (died in Michigan) 90, Angus McIsaac 85, Neil McIntyre 90, Neil Johnson 90, Alex Morrison 85, John Cameron 78.

From Benbecula --- John McInnes 60, Malcolm Gillies 80, Murdock Johnson 85, Ronald Monk 90, Niel McKinnon, Angus McDonald 75.

From North Uist, 1848 --- Roderick Ferguson, teacher (superannuated), Neil McLean 75, children, Angus, principal for many years of one of the St. Thomas public schools, Roderick, teacher for many years, Neil, principal of the Wyoming public school, Mrs. Cruickshank and four others.

10th Concession --- Donald McDonald (killed by a bull) 70, children, Murdock, on the old homestead; Rev. Alexander, Chicago; Maggie, teacher, Chicago, and others; Angus McKichan, first township clerk, auditor; Malcolm

Cameron 80, Donald Boyd, sailor.
Civil engineer --- John McIntyre.

21st Concession --- Big Angus McDonald, Councillor, Assessor, Collector, children, Archie, on the old homestead, Mrs. P. Knight, Mrs. Boyd, Mary (Mrs. McLeod), and Flora (Mrs. McCuish); John McLeod 67, came from Skye in 1841, lived in Yarmouth for three years, settled in West Williams on the 16th Concession in 1844, children, James, Archie, Neil, Mary, Sarah, Annie and Mrs. Clark.

Family histories etc. --- John McDonald, son of Lachlin McDonald, married Mary McIntyre, daughter of James McIntyre, children, Lachlin, Catherine Catherine Ann, Effie and Mary; Councillor for 19 years, Deputy Reeve, Auditor, Census enumerator for West Williams in '71, '81, '91.

Ronald McIntyre, son of James McIntyre, children James, John, Patrick, Nora, Katie, Agnes and Lizzie, Township Treasurer, Councillor, Auditor, Township Clerk and teacher.

L.C. McIntyre, son of James McIntyre, children, Columba, took a very prominent profile in public affairs, at one time Bursar of the Hamilton Asylum.

Allan McIntyre, son of James McIntyre, captain, president of the People's Line of Steamers, president of a large ranch in Sonora, Mexico, home in Chicago.

The following were teachers in Ontario and the United States, chiefly in Chicago.

Ronald McIntyre, Mary McIntyre (Mrs. McDonald), Malcolm Morrison from Eigg, Donald McLeod, John McLeod, James McDonald, Charles McKinnon, Donald McDonald, Dan Cameron, Columba, James, Nora, Katie, Lizzie and Agnes McIntyre, Catherine, Catherine Ann, Effie and Mary McDonald. The names of other teacher have been given in connection with the families to which they belonged.

Captains --- McIntyre, McCormick, McPhee and McDonald.

Doctors --- Alex McDonald, James McDonald, served several years in the British army in the East Indies, practised in Stornoway, Lewis, where he died.

“Oh the auld house, the auld house,
What tho' the rooms were wee!
Oh! Kind hearts were dwelling there,
And Bairnies full of glee;
The wild rose and the jasmine
Still hang upon the wa',
How many cherished memories
Do they, sweet flowers, reca'?”

It will be a day of memories and renewed friendships.
Come Home!

The following is an account of the settling of West Williams as gathered from pioneers who now have passed on leaving a wonderful heritage to their descendants.

Everybody Welcome To The Bornish Old Boys' Reunion

on Ronald McKinnon's grounds

Monday, September 1st, 1924

The Munro Pipe Band will furnish music and entertainment.

People having old curios or antiques are requested to bring them to the exhibit and compete for prizes.

Supper commences at 4:00 p.m.

Forest Orchestra in attendance.

Outdoor dancing and refreshment booth on grounds.

ENTRANCE and SUPPER

50 Cents for Adults and 25 Cents for Children



Catherine (Morrison) McCormick

The Roman Catholic Church at Bornish

Going back to 1853, the first Roman Catholic log church was built in that year, and it was the first Catholic church west of London, except a church in Adelaide Township, now Adelaide Village, in 1852. Mass was celebrated in this log church when it was neither chinked nor plastered. The altar was a table made by the donor of the present beautiful altar in that church, Capt. Allan McIntyre, of Chicago. The officiating priest was Rev. Father Kerwin, the only priest west of London, in the counties of Huron, Middlesex and most of Lambton and Kent. He was succeeded by Rev. Father Kelleher when Fr. Kerwin was appointed parish priest of Sarnia. The Bornish Parish was afterwards served by Rev. Fathers

Strain, Lynch, O'Donovan, Lamont, Corcoran, McRae, Dunn, and the present pastor, Rev. Father O'Neill.

The log church served for 11 years when it was replaced by a frame one in 1864 and that replaced by the present fine brick structure in 1903. Fathers O'Donovan, Lamont and McRae were Highlanders and could speak the Gaelic.

The first person buried in St. Columba's Cemetery was Malcolm, son of John McLeod, who lived in Parkhill.

To show the primitive ways of those days, the remains were usually carried on litters on the shoulders of four men, something similar to the stretchers used by the Red Cross ambulances on modern battlefields. This mode of carrying the dead to the grave was in vogue among the Island Highlander till as late as 1871, when the hearse was for the first time used in conveying the remains of the dead to the grave. Another practice that used to take place at funerals among certain clans was in having a piper playing the mournful strains of the dead march, immediately after the coffin, a practice brought from the Highlands of Scotland where it is still continued although forgotten here.

The pallbearers on the occasion numbered about twenty and as the death occurred on the 18th Concession, the remains had to be conveyed for four miles through an Indian trail, the roadway being but only partly cut out to the Bornish Cemetery. The bearers [proceeded] in relays of four carrying the same, John McKinnon being master of ceremonies. Some of the bearers of the dead recollected are: A. Elliot, R. Jackson, Thos. Elliot, Archie McVicar, and Neil Bell. Arriving at the cemetery, the late Chas. McKinnon conducted the services. Mr. McKinnon was drowned later in the Spring Creek when in flood on the 18th Concession, West Williams, by mistaking the roadway, the water being entirely across the road, he drove into the creek and lost his life.

A most singular coincidence in connection with this cemetery is that the first funeral was in 1854, and the last in 1909, a period of 55 years, both were McLeods and relatives.

From North Uist, 1848: John Johnson, Archie McKeigan 80, Ronald Ferguson (teacher), Archie McLean 85; 1849: John Roy McDonald 50, Big Tailor McDonald about 65, Tailor Morrison 70, James Buchanan 80, James Roy Buchanan 75, Donald Dan McLeod 90, Roderick McQuarrie 85, Donald Matheson.

From Benbecula, 1848: Alex McDonald 80, Roderick McDonald, Blacksmith McLean, Donald McPherson, Alex McKenzie 85, John Roy Cameron 68, Malcolm Cameron 75, Finlay McKeigan 55, Donald McLeod 83, Angus McDonald 78, Peter McCormick 80, Alex McCormick 78, Norman McMillan 85, John B. McMillan, Donald Beag McCormick 80; 1849: Neil McCuish 75.

The second wave of which Mr. Ross of East Williams speaks, consisted largely of Island Highlanders from North and South Uist and Benbecula. A considerable number of these settled in East Williams, along or near the Centre

Road. I am indebted for the following list of these to John McDonald of West Williams who kindly furnished the information per H.D. Johnson. The age of each at death (except a few) is also given, a feature of no little value and interest.

From South Uist, 1848: John McDonald 75, John O'Hanley 85; 1849: Arch. McPhee 78, Finlay McIntyre 73, Alex B. McDonald 84, Ronald McDonald (tailor) 79, Hugh Walker 80, Arch. Currie 84, Donald McInnes (died in Michigan) 86, Hugh Morrison, Neil McEachin 75, Donald McIntyre 80, John McIntyre 90, Duncan Cameron (moved to Michigan). (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Aug. 28, 1924)

Bornish News 1925

Miss Katherine Morrison has been engaged to teach in the Parkhill Separate School.

Mr. Angus J. Morrison, Centre Road, has purchased a pumping outfit to replace the windmill between the house and barn.

Mr. Angus Morrison Jr., Con. 12, West Williams, left for Detroit, where he has taken a job in the Brassworks.

The roads in this section of the country are in excellent condition for sleighing, the best they have been in many years.

Mr. John D. McIntyre, 16th Con., East Williams, spent a few days in Detroit last week. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 22, 1925)

The eclipse of the sun was seen by many of the people around Bornish, who experienced the thrill of being in almost total darkness for about a minute.

Mrs. Colin McIntyre, formerly Miss Flora McLean of Bornish, is seriously ill at her home in Sarnia. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 29, 1925)

We are about to observe another eclipse. This time a partial eclipse of the moon on Sunday next. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 5, 1925)

May people around Bornish were surprised to hear the thunder on Sunday night.

The thaw and rain during the forepart of this week was welcomed by many of the people on the Centre Road, especially those who had to haul water.

The summer-like weather during the first part of the week melted most of the snow off the roads with the result that cars are running again and the cutter and bob-sleighs discarded. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 12, 1925)

A Pie Social at Bornish School

A very successful pie social was held in the schoolhouse here on Friday of last week. The weather was fine and as a result the school was crowded to the door with people from all sections of the neighborhood. The evening was spent in

dancing and card playing and at midnight a dainty lunch was given by the ladies of the parish, consisting of sandwiches, pie and coffee. Much credit is due the musicians who furnished the music. The dancing continued until the wee sma' hours of the morning. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 26, 1925)

PIE SOCIAL

on ST. PATRICK'S DAY
TOWN HALL, PARKHILL

The Ladies of Sacred Heart Church will hold
a Pie Social on Tuesday evening next,
in the Town Hall, Parkhill,
dancing from 8 to 12 p.m.

Admission 50¢ Good Music and lots of PIE!!!!
(from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., March 12, 1925)

Bornish News May 1925

A very sociable evening was spent in the schoolhouse on Friday of last week when a box social was given by the ladies of the Altar Society. Everyone enjoyed themselves at dancing and telling stories till near midnight, when the boxes were auctioned off by John Morrison in his usual manner. After the lunches were eaten the dancing commenced again with Mr. D.W. McKinnon at the bagpipes and proved himself master of the pipes. The dancing continued until the wee sma' hours of the morning. The proceeds amounted to a little over \$72.

John, Mary, Margaret and Miss Sarah McIntosh motored to Adelaide on Sunday.

Vincent McIntosh is working for Peter McCormick.

Miss Thompson of East Williams is working at Lachlan McDonald's. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., May 21, 1925)

Presentations to Rev. D.M. O'Neill

Leaves Parkhill for Woodstock

Rev. M.D. O'Neill severed his connection with his people in Parkhill and Bornish and left for his new parish in Woodstock on Wednesday. He had been in Parkhill for 15 years and many expressions of regret at his removal have been voiced publicly and privately. He has been a good citizen and leaves a host of warm friends both in his congregations and in the town. The following addresses which were presented to Father O'Neill are proof of the esteem in which he was held by all citizens of the town and country and all congratulate Father O'Neill on the promotion which comes to him with this move. Father O'Neill replied to these addresses in words which showed his sorrow in leaving here and his appreciation of the spirit which prompted the people in making farewell gifts and in expressing their regard for him and for his work.

The address at Bornish was read by Mr. Lachlan P. McDonald and in Parkhill by Mr. Ed Breen, the presentation being made by Mr. M. Hassett.

Dear and Rev. Fr. O'Neill:

We are now confronted by a very sorrowful duty, we must say "Good-bye" to our beloved pastor. It is with feelings of deep regret that we learned of your decision to leave us and today we have assembled to voice our sentiments of appreciation for your many kindnesses and to commend you for the tolerant spirit you have always extended to us. Reviewing briefly, relations existing between us, we would utter words appropriate to this occasion but admit our inability to do so. We beg of you to look on this as a humble effort intended to convey many sentiments which remain unrepressed.

In the course of your lengthy supervision of this Parish you have endeared yourself to the hearts of your congregation generally and individually. We have known you firstly as Christ's Minister and have, as such, revered and honored you. Your strict adherence to the narrow path which is the way of him who follows his Redeemer, your earnest and appealing efforts for our welfare, your perseverance, docility and kindness toward us, have, in the words of the Latin author, Horace, "Erected a monument more lasting than bronze", a monument of living virtues which shall ever serve as a model whereby we may pattern our lives.

You were to us both friend and father, our interests, however trivial, were awarded your generous interest, you were as a brother to us, a companion of untold worth, your life is that of a true priest of God, laboring to do His work here on earth and looking for no reward other than that which He has promised to those who love and serve Him. Your chief work here has been exclusively spiritual, your motto has been "never sacrifice the spiritual for the material".

We have listened with profitable pleasure to your instructive sermons and marked your earnest zeal in preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ and inculcating its true meaning which is love of God above all and our neighbors as ourselves. You always desired to promote and cultivate good will among all classes of the community. The spirit of fraternal charity and brotherly love has already produced abundant fruit. You were exceedingly kind to our sick and many a deathbed has been brightened by your presence as you imparted the church's blessing to the departing soul.

During your fifteen years sojourn you have always been the supported and exponent of every forward movement having for its object the higher elevation of mankind intellectually and morally, demonstrating the belief that those are essential qualities and virtues which make better citizens and subjects of our common empire. Through your efforts we had two successful events last year, the Eucharistic Congress and the Re-union, which were a happy prelude to our parting now.

These are the things it has been our happy lot to realize but to which we must now bid adieu retaining only the memory thereof. Sorrowfully indeed to we accept this trial acknowledging never-the-less the will of Him who knows best.

We recognize with you the will of our Ecclesiastical superior and bow submissively to it, while regretting for our own sake that we must part with you. We are pleased that your worth has been

rewarded by this promotion. We earnestly hope and pray that in your new parish which in obedience to the sacred call of duty, you are about to leave for, you will enjoy health, happiness and abundant success in the administration of the religious duties appertaining to your high office and holy calling.

We will miss your bright disposition but we have arrived at the "parting of the ways" and as with sorrow we bid you farewell, dear Father O'Neill, we humbly request your acceptance of this purse as a token wherein are contained warmest gratitude, sincere affection and reverent devotion.

Our concluding wish is that your remaining years, many as we hope they shall be, provide you the happiness and comfort which by your toilsome yet faithful labors you have so well merited and that when time shall have prevailed, you may enter into a blissful eternity, the heaven of which you have sown so well.

Signed, Your Bornish Parishioners,
Bornish. May 29th, 1925.

Rev. M.D. O'Neill
Rev. and Dear Father:

We, the Catholics of Parkhill, having heard with regret that our Pastor, Rev. Fr. O'Neill, is about to leave us and take charge of another Parish in this Diocese --- it is a cause of sincere sorrow for us that we are about to part with a priest, whom we ever loved and esteemed most highly, not only for your priestly character but for your goodness of heart and consideration for all.

As a priest you have never failed in your duties towards your parishioners. Your clear and eloquent explanation of the doctrines of the Church and forceful exhortations to your spiritual children to perform their religious duties and advance in every virtue, your untiring care of the little ones of the flock, your zeal and anxiety in preparing them for their first Communion will not soon be forgotten.

The Catholics who are now in the Parish and those who will come after them will look on this beautiful church as the monument to your zeal for God's Great Glory.

In appreciation of your labors amongst us and the esteem in which the people of Parkhill have for you, we hereby present this purse (which small though it is) is a token of love and respect, and pray that it will be accepted as such. Our prayers will follow you to your new Parish --- that God may bless your work, to accomplish great things for them and His Church.

We beg of you, Dear Father O'Neill, not to entirely forget us, and we pray that you will sometimes remember your former children when offering up the holy sacrifice of the mass.

Signed in behalf of the congregation.

Charles Lindenfield, Michael J. Hassett, John Leonard

On Friday afternoon last, the pupils of Parkhill Separate School presented Rev. Father O'Neill, their departing pastor, with a handsome fountain pen and box of stationery. The gifts, which were presented by Anthony Gooding, were accompanied by the following address read by Miss Frances Lindenfield.

Dear Reverend Father:

At all time we have been pleased to have you visit us and today we are pleased to have you with us, but this time our

happiness is marred by the fact that it is your last visit as our pastor. We feel sincere sorrow in hearing that you are about to leave us and we are to be left without your guiding hand, as we have always looked to you as one ever ready to direct us in things temporal as well as spiritual. You have been a good, kind Father, and true friend to us, zealous in instilling in us the highest ideals, and always mindful of our eternal destiny.

To show in a very small way our high esteem and love for you, we ask you to accept this little remembrance.

We trust, dear Father, that your future may be a happy one, and that in prayer you may often remember the pupils of Sacred Heart School. The Pupils of Sacred Heart School.

Rev. M.D. O'Neill, Parkhill, Ontario
Dear Father O'Neill:

With grateful and loving hearts we, the little children, have gathered here tonight to extend to you, our esteemed and loved pastor, our heartfelt regret at your departure and our sincere and deeply felt thanks for all your fatherly care and kindness.

Many times, dear Father, we, as children, must have been trying to you in your earnest efforts to instruct us in our holy religion and we have received numberless graces and blessings through the ministry of your consecrated hands. Well we realize that we can never repay you for all your affectionate care and watchfulness in our behalf.

We wish you, dear Reverend Father, good health, happiness and peace, and may God crown with success your labors with the little ones to whom you are going.

As a slight token of our hearty appreciation of you, we ask you to accept this little gift. May it constantly remind you of the children who were happy and proud to call you their spiritual Father and friend.

Your devoted Catechism Class and teachers., May 29, 1925.

The Ministers of Parkhill also presented Father O'Neill with an address and spent Tuesday evening with him as his guests.

Rev. M.D. O'Neill,
Dear Sir:

We, fellow-workers in the vineyard of our common Lord, having heard of your early departure to Woodstock, your new and most inviting parish, desire to present you a cordial expression of our personal respect and esteem. We rejoice that cordiality has been fostered among the pastors of this town. Our relations have been mutually gratifying and our growing friendship has not been discordant from "Our High calling of God in Christ Jesus".

We honor you on your commendable attitude on Moral Reform, seeking to further the higher interests of this community in particular and the Province in general.

We are happy to assure you that in all high and holy efforts to strengthen and perfect the kingdom of God, we, regardless of minor differences, join whole-heartedly with all, who, standing under the cross, determine to obey the marching orders of Christ to "Follow thou Me".

We cherish the holy vision and divine dream that the future will witness such harmony of faith and fraternity of purpose

wherein the prayer of Christ may be realized --- "That they all may be one, as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us; that the world may believe that Thou has sent me."

We join in wishing you health and happiness in your next field of toil and that prosperity may attend your zealous efforts to lead your parishioners, young and old, into the Kingdom of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

Signed. L.W. Hill, Methodist Minister; A.W. Shepherd, Presbyterian Minister; Thomas Bingham, Baptist Minister; G.W. Rivers, Methodist Minister; Williams G. Davis, Anglican Minister. Parkhill, June 1st, 1925. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 4, 1925)

Bornish News Jan. 1926

Mr. Ronald Morrison, of Detroit, is visiting at home.

We are glad to report that Mrs. Neil McCormick is recovering after an attack of Pneumonia.

Arthur Kearns has installed a new Radio.

Mr. Omer Anderson and Mr. McIntosh took a big contract cutting wood for Mr. Archie McLeish, 10th Concession. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 28, 1926)

HOW EFFIE HELPED

One day, when she came home from school, Effie found the sitting-room and kitchen occupied by cousins and friends, all very busy and very lively --- for they were making preparations for a wedding. One of Effie's sister's was soon to be married, and, of course, there was a great deal to be done.

Effie thought how nice it would be if she could help make the cakes and spread on the icing; for it was a country wedding and much of the "refreshment" part would have to be done at home. It seemed very easy work mixing things together, beating eggs, etc.

So Effie went first to one then to another, begging that she might be allowed to help.

"No, child, no; what do you know about such things?" a rather impatient old lady said to her.

Another said:

"Oh, my! Now school's out, we shall have no more peace. Children are always in the way!"

After Effie had been rebuffed in all her attempts at being useful in the pleasant way she wanted to be, she happened to cast her eyes upon a large work basket in a corner of the sitting-room, and she saw that it was filled with stockings and socks, waiting to be looked over and repaired.

"Now, if I really want to be useful," thought the little girl, "I might get these stockings out of the way for this busy week. They have been forgotten I suppose --- but I would rather make cakes."

Effie was but eleven years old, but she knew how to darn very nicely, for her mother had taught her, and she had been willing to learn.

Down she sat, therefore, close to the table in the corner, so as to be out of the way, and began her self-denying work.

The merry laughter among the young cousins, as they went

in and out to the oven with their delicate cakes and other things, sounded pleasantly to Effie, and she longed to be among them; but she reflected.

"Mother will be so tired by this evening that she will not want to do her darning, and it will be a nice surprise to her when she finds all these socks and stockings have been put in their proper drawers, all ready for use."

So she persevered with her quiet task, glancing once in awhile towards the busy group and admiring their skillful performances.

One of the cousins who had been "cross" to Effie, noticed how industriously and steady she seemed at her work in the corner, and after awhile brought over a beautiful iced queen cake and gave it to her.

But that, nice thought it was, gave her not half the pleasure she felt when, towards the close of the afternoon, her mother, tired with her baking and other work, sat down by her work table, saying:

"I would like to lie down and rest a little, but I must get the week's mending out of the way. But who has been here before me, I wonder? She added with surprise.

"Your little daughter," said one of the young girls. "I could not but notice her, after she had been refused when she wanted to help with the cakes and sweet things. Not many little girls would have been so thoughtful about doing work that was not attractive."

And when Effie was kissed and thanked by her mother, and had seen her comfortably resting after her labors, she certainly felt much happier than if she had been allowed to help with the icing and other ornamental matters which seemed so tempting to her among her young cousins. She felt sure now that she would only have "made a mess," as they said, for she knew nothing about such doings.

Little girls are sometimes troublesome when they undertake to do things of which they have no knowledge, and are called "officious."

This day's experience was useful to Effie. She had borne patiently the disappointment of not being allowed to help in the way she would have preferred, but in the performance of a nearer duty she had proved herself really a valuable assistant; and in after years she learned to know and value, under all circumstances, the wise and practical suggestion, "Perform the duty that is nearest thee." (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., March 4, 1926)

Bornish News Aug. 1926

Mr. and Mrs. J.J. Johnson are spending a week in Detroit, as guests of Mr. and Mrs. S.L. Furrick. Misses Anna and Rita MacRae, of Bornish, are spending two weeks holiday with their aunt, Mrs. S.L. Furrick, of Detroit. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Aug. 26, 1926)

West Williams Farmer Leaves \$15,000 Estate

Angus A. Morrison, West Williams farmer, who died on October 24, [1926] left an estate valued at \$15,046 according to the will filed for probate in the surrogate court. Under the terms of the will two daughters are left cash legacies of \$1,100 each,

with one of them getting two houses in Parkhill in addition. The remainder is left to his widow, Sarah Morrison. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Nov. 4, 1926)

Birth --- Johnson 1927

In West Williams, Saturday, August 13, 1927, to Mr. and Mrs. J.J. Johnson (née Catherine Morrison) a son [John Ronald]. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Aug. 18, 1927)



John D. McCormick, "Johnny Boots", 1927

Mrs. Rory McPhee Moves to Chicago

Mrs. R. McPhee [née Hannah O'Hanley], a former resident of Parkhill, who intends to move to Chicago in a few weeks, visited with friends in Bornish recently. Her relatives took this occasion to present her with gifts of silverware.

The Address

Mrs. R. McPhee,

We meet tonight in a very informal manner, to convey to you our regret at your departure. Although you moved from our vicinity some time ago, we felt that you were still close to us and we could reach you in a very short time. Now the distance will be increased considerably, yet in these days of swift travel distance does not count as of yore.

Once the old song ran, "From Widdleton to Waddleton is 18 miles, and from Waddleton to Widdleton is 18 miles." With our modern modes of travel, the refrain might be changed to 1 or 2 miles instead of 18.

We shall miss your visits, which cannot be so frequent, and we'll miss the many pleasant visits we had in your Stratford home.

Your bright disposition forbids anyone being sad in your presence. We could not fail to admire the way you carried yourself through many difficult places in life. You came out the victor, under many trying circumstances, because you faced

everything with a brave, cheerful heart ever hoping, fearing and expecting the glory still above with its rest and joy forever.

In the natural course of events, changes take place, no matter how valued are our friends, be sure our term of sweet concourse, at length will have no end.

As a trifling remembrance of your Bornish relatives and also a slight token of our respect, esteem and affection we ask you to accept this gift of silverware.

Signed on behalf of your Bornish relatives. Parkhill, Oct. 10, 1927. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Oct. 13, 1927)

Bornish News 1927

Thomas McEachen motored to Clandeboyne on Friday.

A very enjoyable time was spent at the house of Archie McPhee prior to his departure for other parts. The event took the form of a presentation of a well-filled purse. This was followed by dancing till the wee small hours of the morning.

John McEachen has hired with Donald Cameron for the coming month. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Dec. 8, 1927)

AUCTION SALE 1928

IN THE ESTATE OF ALLAN MORRISON, deceased. Administrator's Sale of Chattels and Valuable Farm Lands by Public Auction.

D.R. Demaray, Auctioneer, has received instructions to offer for sale by Public Auction on Lot Number 5, in the 13th Concession, Township of West Williams, 4 miles south of Parkhill, on Tuesday, October 23rd, 1928, at One O'clock p.m., the following:

One Binder; One Cultivator; One Mower; (all nearly new). One Drill; One team Scuffler; Three hay racks; 1 10-20 tractor; 1 3 h.p. Gas engine; 1 ton scales; 1 Cream Separator; 1 Disc; 1 Roller; 2 sleighs; 1 light wagon with stock rack; 1 robe; 1 hay rake; 1 hay loader; 2 sets Heavy Harness; 2 sets Light Harness; 2 wagons; 2 wagon boxes; 30 tons hay; 1 cutting box; 1 fanning mill; 2 walking plows; 1 riding plow; 1 Cutter; 2 top Buggies; 1 Grindstone; 1 Iron kettle.

LIVE STOCK --- 2 mares, 8 years old; 1 horse, 6 years old; 2 drivers, 6 years old; 2 yearling colts; 5 six-month old pigs; 5 grade cows supposed to freshen in the Spring; 5 yearlings; 4 Spring calves; 25 hens.

FURNITURE --- 1 Pandora Range; 1 Climax Range; 1 Heater; 1 Churn; Dining, Parlor and Bedroom Furniture and other articles too numerous to mention.

At the same time and place will be offered for sale the valuable farm property of the late Allan Morrison, viz., Lot 5, in the 13th Concession and the West-half of Lot 5 in the 12th Con., Township of West Williams, 150 acres.

This is a first class farm in every particular; Good 10 room brick house; Bank Barn; Drive Shed; water; well fenced and drained; 18 acres sowed to fall wheat; 10 acres sowed to timothy and clover; 20 acres of alfalfa; small hardwood bush.

TERMS for Chattels --- \$25.00 and under Cash. Over \$25.00 thirty days credit on furnishing approved joint notes.

TERMS of sale of land, Ten per cent of the purchase price on the

day of the sale as a deposit, balance without interest in thirty days. Land sold subject to a Reserve Bid. Other terms and Conditions made known on the day of the sale, or on application to undersigned.

D.R. Demaray, Auctioneer

N.F. Newton, Solicitor for Administrator

(from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Oct. 4, 1928)

AUCTION SALE 1928

IN THE ESTATE OF ARCHIBALD MORRISON, deceased. Administrator's Sale of Chattels and Valuable Farm Lands by Public Auction.

D.A. McIntyre, Auctioneer, has received instructions to offer for sale by Public Auction on the premises opposite Bornish Church in the Township of East Williams, on Tuesday, October 9th, 1928, at One O'clock p.m., the following:

1 Steel Oil Drum; 1 Buggy; 1 Cutter; 1 Cultivator; 1 Wagon; 1 Sawyer-Massey Grain Separation 24-40; 1 Fanning Mill; 1 Threshing Tank; 1 Gravel Box; 1 Mower; 1 Disc; 1 Bay mare heavy; Quantity of household furniture; 1 Kitchen Range; Quantity of Firewood; Chains; Forks; etc.

At the same time and place will be offered for sale the following lands:

The West half of the North half of Lot 10 abutting Centre Rd., Township of East Williams, 25 acres. This is the property on which the old Bornish Hotel is erected.

Also the East half of Lot 9 in the 13th Concession of West Williams, 50 acres. This is a first class farm for either cultivation or pasture.

TERMS of sale of Chattels --- CASH

TERMS of sale of Land --- Ten per cent of the purchase money on the day of the sale, balance without interest in thirty days. For further terms and particulars apply to undersigned.

D.A. McIntyre, Auctioneer

Norman F. Newton, Solicitor for Administratrix

(from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Oct. 4, 1928)

RABIES

To Owners of Dogs in the Township of West Williams

Owing to the prevalence of Rabies among dogs, sheep and cattle in adjoining Townships, the Board of Health of the Township of West Williams, by authority of the Provincial Dept. of Health in conjunction with the Veterinary Inspector of the Department of Agriculture, hereby proclaim a period of Quarantine from this date, January 9, 1930, until further notice.

Dogs must not run at large but are to be kept tied up in a building. The dog may be led out for exercise daily but not untethered. Any dog found running at large after this proclamation will be shot.

Persons violating or disregarding this proclamation shall for every offense incur a penalty not exceeding \$500 nor less than \$50.

Geo. W. Racey, M.O.H., West Williams (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 16, 1930)

Bornish News April 1930

Archie McCormick, son of Neil McCormick, Centre Road, has rented the 100 acres on the Centre Road formerly owned by the late John Morrison.

Leo McIntosh, who has gone under two operations for appendicitis and removal of his tonsils, is progressing favourably in St. Joseph's Hospital. We hope to see Leo around again soon.

Mr. J.D. McPhee, 12th Concession, West Williams, has bought Peter MacKinnon's farm on the 14th Concession.

Mr. Peter MacKinnon has purchased a residence in Strathroy. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., April 3, 1930)

Mr. and Mrs. Lemma visited the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Steele over Sunday.

Mrs. Devereaux has been visiting her daughter, Mrs. Alex Morrison, 14th Concession, West Williams.

Archie McCormick had a successful ploughing bee last Monday when several of the neighbors turned up to help with the spring ploughing. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., April 17, 1930)

Farm For Sale

150 acres on 12th Concession, West Williams; good buildings and fencing; 25 acres sown to Fall Wheat; 20 acres of Alfalfa; 60 acres fall ploughed; half in pasture. Immediate possession. Apply to Mrs. N. Morrison, on the premises, R.R. No. 5, Parkhill (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., May 1, 1930)

Bornish News May 1930

Miss Theresa Steele, of Detroit, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Steele.

Miss Sarah Catherine McCormick is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Neil McCormick, Centre Road.

Mr. Michael McDonald, of Detroit, is visiting his father, John B. McDonald. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., May 22, 1930)

Mr. Angus Morrison, of Detroit, spent Sunday with his mother, Mrs. Allan Morrison.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Furick spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. J.D. McRae.

The Misses Reta and Marie Langan visited Mr. and Mrs. John McCormick, 12th Concession, the forepart of this week.

Miss Margaret McEachen, who has been working for the last two months near Clandeboye, has returned home.

The work of painting and repairing the Bornish Church is progressing favorably.

Mrs. Wells Burton spent a few days with her mother, Mrs. Angus Morrison, Centre Road. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., May 29, 1930)

Bornish News June 1930

Mr. and Mrs. Dan McCormick attended the school picnic at Springbank Park one day last week.

Mrs. D.J. McPhee is home from St. Joseph's Hospital much improved.

Mr. Leo Morrison is visiting his mother, Mrs. J.H. Morrison,

of Parkhill. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 19, 1930)

Mrs. Neil J. O'Hanley, of Chicago [née Ann Prendergast of Seaforth], formerly of Parkhill, and Mrs. W. Prendergast, London, are leaving for a three-month visit in Europe. They will sail from Montreal on the *Montcalm*. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 3, 1930)

Garden Party at Bornish

The Bornish Church Garden Party drew an immense crowd last Tuesday evening [July 1st] regardless of the chilly weather everybody enjoying themselves whether trying their luck on the different wheels of chance or dancing on the splendid floor erected for the purpose. Music was supplied by the Shamrock Orchestra and both young and old crowded the floor. Great credit is due to those who worked to make a success of this popular Garden Party. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 3, 1930)

Sylvan Resident Passes Beyond

The death occurred on August 19 of Mrs. A.E. McLachlan in her 49th year. She was formerly Miss Maude E. Poore, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Charles Poore, of McGillivray. She is survived by her husband, four sons, Clarke, of Sherbrooke, Quebec; John, Kenneth and Harry, at home and five daughters, Hazel, of London; Alice, Clover, Opal and Betty, at home. She is also survived by four brothers, Tom, of Leamington; Will and George, of West Williams and Minard, of McGillivray. Also by three sisters, Mrs. Harry Down, of London; Mrs. George Elliott, of Toronto and Mrs. T.N. Elliott, of Parkhill.

The funeral was held on Thursday, August 14th, from her late residence, on the 21st Concession of West Williams to Sylvan Cemetery.

The pallbearers were Ray, Charles and Lloyd Poore, Charles Elliott, Gordon McLachlan and Norman Hunniford, nephews of the deceased.

The relatives who attended the funeral from a distance were from Detroit, Leamington, Toronto, London, Ingersoll, Windsor, Watford, Stratford, Forest, Thedford and Parkhill. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Aug. 21, 1930)

Blue Water Highway Most Scenic

The Blue Water Highway is one of the province's most scenic routes, skirting as it does the shores of Lake Huron from Sarnia through to Collingwood. The road on the whole, is in excellent state of repair, considering the heavy traffic which it carries and the fact that it is practically a gravel road throughout.

The sections which are at present mostly in need of repair are to be found in the southern portion of this highway. The strip extending through the celery gardens up to Grand Bend is, without a doubt, the worst bit of road to be found anywhere throughout this or any other highway. Once is enough for anyone to travel over this road and tourists frequently stop to enquire on the way back if there is some other road so they can avoid those ten miles of waves, billows, and washboards. This Highway provides the shortest cut to the summer resorts of Lake

Huron and Georgian Bay, besides going through one of the choicest agricultural locations in Western Ontario. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Sept. 4, 1930)

Gaelic Services Recalled

How many people around this vicinity can remember the old Gaelic church that stood on the 14th Concession of East Williams on the north side of the road on the shore of the river Aux Sable. Seventy years ago Rev. Lachlin McPherson held services in the old building, opening his service each morning in Gaelic to be followed in English, and in those days pioneers would drive many miles by horse and carriage to worship, filling the house of God at every service. The building has been demolished many years, the bricks being used, we are told, in one of the churches in Grand Bend.

Among the worshipers at that church was Mrs. Murdock McDonald, who now lives in Parkhill, and although up in years enjoys remarkably good health for a lady of her years. She has in her possession a Gaelic Bible and Book of Psalms, which were printed in Scotland in 1869, which were authorized by the General Assembly in Scotland in 1781. As Mrs. McDonald has no further use for these books, anyone who would like to purchase them can do so by calling at The Gazette Office where they can be seen. They are in good condition and are valuable to any one who is a collector of old scriptorial books. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Sept. 11, 1930)

The Ladies of Bornish Altar Society
will hold a

DANCE

in the

Bornish School House

on

Friday Eve'g, Dec. 12

Lunch Served Romph's Orchestra

Admission: Gents 50¢ ; Ladies 25¢

(from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Dec. 11, 1930)

Ordination and First Solemn Mass

The Reverend John L. Steele, formerly of this town, was ordained to the holy priesthood by His Excellency Bishop J.T. Kidd at St. Peter's Cathedral, London, on Saturday morning. This impressive ceremony was witnessed by many of his friends from this district.

Father Steele sang his first solemn high mass at 10:30 Sunday, March 13, at Sacred Heart Church, Parkhill. He was assisted by Rev. D. Dillon, Superior of Assumption College, Sandwich, as assistant priest. The Deacon and Subdeacon were Father Cyril Doyle of St. Peter's Cathedral and Rev. Joseph Feeney. Rev. J. Cheevers was Master of Ceremonies, Joseph Ziler acted as Thurifer; the acolytes were Joseph McDonald and Leo Ziler.

Father Frank Brennan, Professor at St. Peter's Seminary and Spiritual Director of John Steele while a student there, preached an excellent sermon on the Catholic priesthood. He took occasion to pay a glowing tribute to the piety and the ability of

this newly ordained priest and to wish him success in his work as a priest for Archbishop Duke who is head of the Archdiocese of Vancouver. Other priests present were Fathers Corcoran, Mount Carmel, Ont.; Foulkes, Forest, Ont.; Lucier, Lucan, Ont.; Forester, Detroit, Mich. and Father Quigley [Parkhill]. The church was well filled with relatives and friends from Parkhill and Bornish, Detroit and Chicago, in which latter city Father Steele's mother has made her home for several years past.

Immediately following the mass an address was read by John McPhee while Rory McIntosh and John Gallagher presented Father Steele with a well filled purse to cheer him on his trip to the West and as a token of the esteem from his friends and relatives in Parkhill and Bornish. Father Steele also received many gifts from individual well wishers, included among which was a magnificent chalice, the gift of his own mother.

In replying to this address the young priest was very earnest in his expression of thanks to Almighty God for His many blessings; to Mary, the Mother of Jesus for her intercession before the throne of her Divine Son; to his own mother and to all his kind friends. When Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament had been given, the congregation came to the front of the church where each received a special blessing from the newly ordained priest.

An excellent banquet was served to seventy guests at the Arlington at one o'clock after which Fathers Dillon and Brennan entertained with an appreciation of events of interest in the life of John Steele as a College boy and a seminarian. Both these men joined Father Forester in praising Mrs. Mary MacDonald Steele, the mother of John Steele, for her sturdy faith and for her equally earnest successful work in educating her son in preparation for his Ordination.

John Steele was well known as a boy here in Parkhill where he was born and attended preparatory school and High School. He has many sterling qualities, a sparkling wit and much courage which will be of immense help in his future days among the Rockies. We congratulate his mother with his sister and brother and join his relatives in our appreciation of the privilege of his first mass at Parkhill. May he be happy and successful in his life work! (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., March 17, 1932)

**Garden Party
and Turkey Dinner
at**

**Bornish School House
on**

Monday, July 4th, 1932

(from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 16, 1932)

Girl Struck by Bicycle Suffers Fractured Leg

While crossing the road near her home on Mill Street last Friday, Eleanor Ziler, 13-year old daughter of John Ziler, suffered a broken leg when Fred Hicks and a visitor in town, riding double on a bicycle, ran her down.

It is thought her limb became wedged between the front fork and wheel as the wheel was torn from the frame. The impact threw the child to the ground causing a complete fracture above the knee. Doctors Racey, Wilson and Bateson were called and

removed the injured child to her home and the bones set. It was later found out the injury was more severe than at first thought and the injured child was removed to St. Joseph's Hospital, London, returning home during the day. Although painfully injured, Eleanor stood the pain bravely never complaining and although still suffering from the painful injury, is getting along nicely.

Little Eleanor seems to be following misfortune as several weeks ago her right arm was broken and only on that day were the splints removed. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 28, 1932)

Presentation to Miss Christina Boyle

A small group, representative of the Browning Club, met in Mrs. Bartram's parlors last Saturday afternoon and presented a quasi-illuminated address to Miss Boyle with an accompanying gift. The text of the address is as follows:

To Miss Christina Boyle,

Dear Friend:

This humble testimonial sets forth quite inadequately the high esteem in which you are held by the officers and members of the Browning Club in Parkhill, Ontario.

Your literary contributions, admirable recitations and delightful companionship together with your efficient services as president, in turn, of our society, have endeared you to us.

We regret your early removal from our midst. We congratulate you on your call to service in Toronto. We anticipate, on your behalf, a very happy and successful career.

In memory of our pleasant and profitable studies in Browning's poems and other poets, as well, together with memorable lectures by Western University Professors, kindly accept this copy of Browning's choice poems on behalf of your many Parkhill friends.

G. Rawlings, President

L.W. Hill, Sec.-treasurer

jean B. Sutherland, ex-Pres.

Mrs. Bartram, Mrs. F. Moore, Mrs. Rawlings

Parkhill, December 17th, 1932.

[Miss Boyle was a teacher in the Parkhill Separate School for several years.] (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Dec. 22, 1932)

The Browning Club

Organization of the club took place on February 23rd, 1926; its official demise took place in December, 1932. During the six years of activity, many varied and valuable programs were enjoyed.

Seven lectures were delivered by outside talent, viz: Prof. McLeod, on "Rubbi Ben Ezra"; Rev. Morley Colling, on "The Tempest"; Prof. Kingston, on "The Wonderful Heavens"; Rev. Neil Leckie, on "Personal Poems"; Prof. Tambllyn, on "Robert Louis Stevenson"; Mrs. E.R. Albright, on "A trip Through Britain" and Prof. Landan, on "Canada's Romantic History".

Rev. A.W. Shepherd was the moving spirit. He and Miss A.L. Hotson drafted the resolution which led to the organization of the club. A complete Constitution was drafted and officers

chosen. The presidents were Mr. A.B. Cooper, B.A., two terms and 26 meetings; Miss A.A. Gibbs, nine meetings; Miss Christina Boyle, six meetings; Mrs Jean B. Sutherland, nine meetings; Mr. G.Rawlings, six meetings.

A meeting of those interested in the future of the Browning Club was called through the Gazette by the secretary-treasurer on the third Tuesday of October in harmony with the constitution. It dawned on the officers that a large number of the workers had moved away. It was agreed that efforts at resuscitation at present would be ill advised.

The bank account showed a credit to the club of \$12.42. By agreement \$10.00 was passed over to Mr. Young, chairman of the Board of School Trustees to be used to help defray the expenses incurred by giving musical instruction to the pupils. The remnant of cash was spent in harmony with the committee plans.

Rev. L.W. Hill has been secretary-treasurer since organization.

Tender memories were stirred in the committee and deep regrets uttered concerning the passing of the Club but hope longed for a revival some sweet day. --- L.W. Hill (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Dec. 22, 1932)

Bachelor Farmer Burns to Death

Believed Clothing of Donald McPhee, Parkhill,
Ignited While Lighting Fire

The burned body of Donald McPhee, bachelor, farmer, aged 68, was found smouldering on the kitchen floor of his home, six miles west of here, about 10 o'clock this morning by Dalton McDonald, a neighbor. It is believed Mr. McPhee, known as "Red Dan", set afire to himself while trying to light a fire in the stove. A can of coal-oil was found nearby.

While drops of blood were found on a pile of wood near the stove, they carried no particular significance, Coroner Dr. J.W. Racey decided. There will be no inquest.

The fire had burned a hole in the floor under the body of the aged farmer, some 8 feet from the stove. The remains were found face downwards by McDonald who stated that he had been helping Mr. McPhee with his chores night and morning for some time, owing to the latter's ill-health.

On discovering the body, McDonald threw water on it and then phoned Dr. Racey. The watch of Mr. McPhee found in the cellar, had stopped at 3:10.

Surviving are two brothers, John and John A., both of Detroit, and three sisters, Margaret McPhee and Mrs. Woodham, both of Detroit, and a married sister, Flora, in California.

Funeral arrangements have not been completed but it is expected that the funeral will be held on Thursday.
(from: *The Advertiser*, Parkhill, Ont., Feb. 12, 1934)

BORNISH DANCE

on

Wednesday, August 15, 1934

Lucan Orchestra

Under the Auspices of C. W. L.

Admission --- 25 cents

(from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Aug. 9, 1934)

Visitors from Michigan, 1936

Mr. and Mrs. Bow of St. Charles, Mich. and Mr. and Mrs. [Godfrey] Fritz of Hemlock, Mich. Visited their [widowed] aunt Mrs. Neil McCormick last week. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Sept. 10, 1936)

A Farewell Presentation

About seventy-five neighbors and friends gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Gagan, Concession 12, West Williams, Wednesday, October 14, to bid farewell to them before their departure to make their home on the eighteenth Concession.

Mr. John J. McPhee acted as chairman. Angus Morrison read the following address and Peter McCormick presented the purse. Mr. and Mrs. Gagan both replied thanking their friends for their kindness. The rest of the evening was spent in dancing.

The address follows:

To Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Gagan and Jean:

We, your friends and neighbors, have gathered here this evening to express our regret at your leaving our community. During your stay amongst us you have made very many warm friends and we are sorry that circumstances have made it necessary for you to leave us. You have been a good neighbor and your kindness and ever-willingness to assist on very occasion have endeared you to us.

As you are not going far away we hope that in the future there will be many occasions when we may meet again and that those friendships made while in our midst need not be severed.

We trust that good fortune may follow you to your new home and ask you to accept this purse as a token of our esteem for you.

Signed on behalf of your friends and neighbors. Rory McIntosh, Lachie McIntosh, Peter McCormick, Angus Morrison
(from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Oct. 22, 1936)

More Visitors to Bornish, May 1937

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Lemma and Miss Catherine Steele of Detroit were visitors with their mother, Mrs. Peter Steele.

Miss Mary McCormick of Detroit spent the weekend with their mother, Mrs. Stephen McCormick.

Miss Nora Morrison of Rodney spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. J.J. Johnson of Sylvan.

Miss Anne MacRae of St. Mary's College, Detroit, spent the weekend at her home.

Miss Anne McCormick of Strathroy and Miss Mary McCormick of Shelbourne spent the weekend with their parents on Banks' sideroad.

Mr. and Mrs. Mike McDonald, Eileen and Mary of Berkley, Mich., spent last week visiting John B. McDonald and other relatives in the vicinity. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., May 27, 1937)

Infantile Paralysis Hits Parkhill

One known case of infantile paralysis developed in Parkhill during the weekend when Miss Nadine McKinnon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Don McKinnon, was removed to Victoria Hospital, London where treatment is being given with every prospect of an immediate recovery.

Schools in Parkhill and vicinity have been closed for a period in an effort to prevent the spread of this disease.

Little two-year-old Claudette Yelle was also removed to London Hospital on Tuesday for treatment. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Sept. 2, 1937)

Paralysis Abates School Re-Open

With only one case developing in this district in the last week, the epidemic of infantile paralysis seems to be abating. The Public School opened Monday with the staff unchanged from last year. The High and Separate Schools are scheduled to reopen next Monday, September 20, with the same staffs as last year also. Parents are cautioned, however, to maintain their vigilance, in order to prevent another serious outbreak of the disease. Some citizens of the district who have suffered from the disease in the past have offered their blood for preparation of the serum used in treatment. They will be called on shortly to make this donation. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Sept. 16, 1937)

Fire Destroys Fine Home of Dan McCormick

The large two-storey frame house of Mr. and Mrs. Dan McCormick on Banks' sideroad, at the corner of the 14th Concession, West Williams, was burned to the ground early Monday evening. About 7:30 Mr. McCormick was splitting wood in the woodshed and throwing the split wood through the open kitchen door. One of the sticks bounced and hit a bottle of naphtha gasoline, smashing it and sending the liquid across the floor where the lighted lantern ignited it. In a matter of seconds the shed was a mass of flames, trapping Mr. McCormick. He had to break open a nailed-up door with a stick of cordwood to make his escape. Later, while throwing water into the flames in the shed through an inside window, he collapsed and it was thought that he had been lost in the fire until he was found lying on the floor and carried to safety.

Mrs. McCormick and their daughter, Mary, whose marriage to Mr. John Hall of Mount Carmel takes place on Saturday, were in the house preparing for a shower for the bride-elect which was to have been held at their home that night. They and a foster son, Charles Burleigh, were able to escape without difficulty.

The neighbors quickly gathered and assisted in removing the bridal gifts and furniture from the ground floor rooms and storing them in the barn.

The Parkhill fire brigade was called and after obtaining the consent of the town authorities responded to the alarm. Had the supply of water held out they might have saved the front part of the house. However, just as the flames had been brought under control, the water supply failed and in the time it took to move the truck to a new source of water the flames made rapid headway. Four times the truck had to be moved and the fire got out of

control. Two hours later only a few charred boards remained of the fine home.

The loss, which will be great, was partly covered by insurance.

Mr. and Mrs. McCormick and family have lived for thirty years in the home that was burned. The other two daughters, Misses Annie and Tillie, are school teachers and were not at home at the time. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Oct. 28, 1937)

Presentation Made To Bride-Elect

Thursday evening, October 28, a very pleasant evening was spent at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dougald McCormick by the people of that community, the occasion being the pre-nuptial reception given in honor of their niece, Miss Mary McCormick of the 14th Concession on the occasion of her marriage to Mr. John Hall of Mt. Carmel. Mr. John A. Morrison acted as chairman and, after a few complimentary remarks to the bride-elect and her estimable partner, called on Mr. John McDonald to read the address while Mr. Peter McCormick made the presentation of a very pretty book case in antique walnut style. Miss McCormick and Mr. Hall made suitable replies, thanking all present for their kindness after which all joined in singing "For They Are Jolly Good Fellows" and in wishing the young couple long life and happiness and they again responded by inviting those present, one and all, to visit them in their home at Mt. Carmel.

The following is the address:

Dear Mary and Jack:

We are glad to have you and your estimable partner here with us tonight. We would rather have you settled in our own parish but you will not be so far away that you cannot be with us often.

We congratulate Mr. Hall on his good judgement in choosing a life partner and we know you will both be an acquisition to the community where you are going to live and now we ask you to accept this gift as a token of our esteem for you both.

Wishing you a long life and happiness, we are Peter McCormick, Nora Morrison, Mary McCormick, John McDonald. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Nov. 18, 1937)

A Social Evening at Bornish

A social evening sponsored by the Catholic Women's League was held at the school, Wednesday, April 20. The program was varied and interesting --- a chorus by the school children, solos by Miss Mary Stewart of Ailsa Craig, piano duet by Misses Ursula and Anna McDonald. The highlight was a play "Mistaken Identity" presented by the young people in which they displayed possibilities of clever histrionic talent and responded nicely to the excellent training they received from Rev. Fr. McCardle. Those taking part were Messrs. Louis and Dominic

McIntosh and Misses Rita McRae, Jennie Hill and Claire O'Hanley. In the draw, prize winners were Miss Rita McRae, John A. McRae of Glencoe and Miss Geraldine McPhee. Mr. J.A. Morrison acted as chairman. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., April 28, 1938)

Confirmation Service

A class of twenty-six candidates, 15 from St. Columba Church, Bornish, and 11 from the local church received the rite of confirmation at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church Thursday morning. The rite was conferred by Rt. Rev. J.T. Kidd, D.D., Bishop of London. The candidates were presented by Father F.A. McCardle of Parkhill who was assisted by Rev. Fathers J.M. Fogarty, Mt. Carmel; T.J. Ford, of Strathroy; W.A. Mackesy, of Lucan and Very Rev. J.C. Kelly of London, secretary to the bishop. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Nov. 24, 1938)

The Elm Tree 1939

"The Elm Tree" which stands in the centre of Banks' sideroad [and Concession 10] has been subject of a controversy between the County Council and the residents of West Williams. The County, in the interests of traffic safety, has been advocating that the tree be cut down and West Williams residents have held that this tree which has been a landmark since the earliest settlers came to the township should remain. This week it was decided to leave the tree and the roads as they are with traffic going on either side of the tree. Reflectors have been placed on each side of the tree. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Dec. 14, 1939)

[It was felled in 1959, after being a landmark for over 100 years.]



The Old Elm Tree

(drawn by Tennille Read from a 1942 photograph)

The Old Elm Tree by John A. McIntyre

It has stood through many a tempest,
It has stood through many a gale
As a monument to the memories
Of them who blazed that trail.
Their hearts are now as ashes,
Their bones are now as dust
But this monument to memories
They left to us in trust.

Those pioneers sung its praises
In the days that long are gone
And in its noble branches
Planted Freedom's flag with song.
They told of joys and sorrows
'Neath its shadow and its shade.
They saw their children's children
Make merry where they had played.

As the North Star in the heavens
Guides the mariners on the sea,
This monument to memories --
This good old Elm Tree --
Stands in its original beauty
Towering towards the sky
Guiding some lost traveller,
Guiding you and I.

It has caused harm to no one.
It has stood the trek of time
As a monument to memories
It holds a place sublime.
And in this land of plenty
Where everyone is free,
Raise your voice and do your part
To spare the Elm Tree!
(from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 4, 1940)

West Williams Garden Party

A very successful garden party was staged at Bornish by the West Williams branch of the Canadian Red Cross Society on Friday evening. The bingo tables were well patronized as was the lunch counter, where delicious cake, pie, sandwiches and coffee, as well as ice cream and soft drinks, were served.

A splendid programme was presented which included musical selections by the Watson's orchestra and the McDonald sisters. The McLelland and McCormick sisters danced the Scottish Reel and Mary Ann Pennington gave two songs and dance selections featuring "God Bless America" and "There'll Always be an England", and toe and tap dance routines were the high-lights of the programme. Readings were given by Miss Ruth Vernon, Miss Mary Dawson Mrs. J.L. Freeborn, which also pleased the large audience. Speeches stressing the importance of the Red Cross work in these troublous days were given by Robert

Clark, reeve of East Williams, John A. Morrison, J.J. Johnson, Simon McLeod, president of the sponsoring society, and Mr. J. Freeborn, M.L.A. James Hill, reeve of West Williams, acted as chairman.

At the conclusion of the programme dancing was enjoyed to the music of MacRae's orchestra of Glencoe. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 11, 1940)

John A. McIntyre

Division Court Clerk and Notary Public
Agreements, Deeds, Mortgages, Wills, etc.
at reasonable prices.

Ian MacRae, Barrister and Solicitor,
will be in my office every Thursday afternoon.

Office at Old Bank of Commerce Building
Main St., Parkhill

(from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Aug. 1, 1940)

Parkhill News 1940

Mr. Leo Ziler has secured a job firing on the Steamer Canadoc.

A miscellaneous shower was held at the home of Mrs. J.D. McIntosh in honor of Miss Theresa Ziler who entered St. Joseph's Hospital as a nurse-in-training. Games were played in the afternoon then Theresa was asked to come forward and was presented with many valuable and useful gifts after which the hostess served a very dainty lunch. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Sept. 12, 1940)

C.W.L. Meeting

The monthly meeting of the C.W.L. was held at the schoolhouse. The afternoon was spent in sewing and a quilt was finished. This was donated by Mrs. Taylor of Strathroy, a former parishioner, and the proceeds are to go towards Red Cross uses. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Oct. 17, 1940)

Storm Causes Much Damage

A rain storm accompanied by a high gusty wind which started early Monday morning and lasted to mid-afternoon brought near flood conditions in the district. In many places water was reported to be running across the roads and, in town, Parkhill Creek overflowed its banks early in the afternoon doing a most efficient job of flooding the community rink in which the water rose to almost 18 inches in depth.

The high wind on Monday evening caused much damage in town and countryside. **The steeple of St. Columba Roman Catholic Church, Bornish, was sheared off level with the brickwork and crashed in ruins to the ground.** A dormer on the home of Wellwood Gill, near Grand Bend, was blown off, and shingles were stripped from the roofs of barns and homes throughout the district.

The storm seemed to have its centre in Michigan where the most damage was reported from and several

lives lost. Detroit radio station WJR was forced off the air for a day owing to its 750-foot radio tower being wrecked. Several lake boats were also wrecked with a heavy toll of life it is expected. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Nov. 14, 1940)

Writes to Bornish Friends

R.C.A.F. Station
Yarmouth, Nova Scotia
May 13, 1941

Dear Friends:

Last week I had a very pleasant surprise when I received the gift which you thoughtfully sent to me. I wish to express my sincere thanks for your kindness.

I am still at Security Guard here, waiting to be sent to Initial Training School. The weather is very cold and damp and at night everyone has to wear a greatcoat. It rains practically every day.

Wireless classes in the morning and gunnery drills in the afternoon take up most of my off duty time.

In conclusion, I wish to thank again all the thoughtful friends in Bornish who have so kindly and tangibly remembered me.

Your sincerely,

D.D. "Nick" McIntosh

R99280 AC2

(from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 5, 1941)

MacRae Silver Wedding Anniversary

On Saturday, September 27, at 8 o'clock, Rev. Fr. McCardle celebrated solemn High mass at Sacred Heart Church, Parkhill, in honour of Mr. and Mrs. J.D. MacRae on their 25th wedding anniversary. The couple were married at this church twenty-five years ago by Rev. D.A. MacRae.

Those attending the mass were the family and the bridal attendants of twenty-five years ago, Mrs. Stephen Furick of Detroit, sister of Mrs. MacRae, and Mr. Archie Morrison.

An anniversary dinner was held for the immediate family at 5:30 in the afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Macrae led their guests to the dining room to the strains of Lohengrin's Bridal Chorus, played by Anne MacRae. At the close of the dinner Rev. Fr. McCardle proposed a toast to Mr. and Mrs. MacRae. The guests for dinner included the four children, Anne and Rita of London, Donald and Kenneth at home, Rev. McCardle, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Furick and Irene Cockecline of Detroit, Elmer Hatton of London, Janet Hill, Archie and Dan Morrison, Mrs. Angus McIntosh and Dominic and Christina McIntyre of Toronto.

In the evening relatives and neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. MacRae gathered at their home to express their best wishes and to show their esteem to the couple twenty-five years wed. A very enjoyable evening was spent playing cards, singing and talking over old times. After a delightful luncheon the party broke up with the singing of "Jolly Good Fellows" and "Auld Lang Syne". (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Oct. 2, 1941)

Roads Blocked

A blinding snow storm accompanied by high wind all day Saturday and a wind which continued most of Sunday effectively blocked almost all of the east and west roads in this vicinity. Some roads were passable for sleighs, but one or two were blocked for this mode of travel too. The highway were fairly free of drifts, but even they were quite heavy. One large drift on No. 7 highway west of Banks' sideroad caused considerable trouble on Sunday. Car after car became stuck and had to be pulled through. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 12, 1942)

Train Snowbound

The Sarnia-Stratford C.N.R. freight train which left here [Parkhill] about 2:45 Saturday afternoon, became stuck in a snowdrift east of Ailsa Craig. The 3:01 passenger train was held at Ailsa Craig station until 5 o'clock, when a snow plow from Stratford cleared the line. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 26, 1942)

L.A.C. Given Is Hurt In Plane Crash

Leading Aircraftman Currie Haig Given, 23, of Ailsa Craig, a student pilot in training at No. 14 S.F.T.S., Aylmer, is recovering from serious injuries, which he received about 3:45 o'clock Thursday afternoon when the Yale training plane he was flying crashed about a mile east and a mile south of Aylmer after striking the top of a tree. The young airman was removed to the base hospital at R.C.A.F., T.T.S., south of St. Thomas. He suffered severe head and face injuries.

The young airman was married at Aylmer Air School only two weeks ago. Flight Lieutenant White, Roman Catholic padre performing the ceremony. The bride, formerly Miss Eleanor Ziler of Parkhill, is living in Aylmer.

The accident was witnessed by four employees of the Union Gas Co., all members of the Aylmer detachment of the Ontario Volunteer Constabulary. They had completed a first aid course only two weeks previously. They rescued the pilot from the plane wreckage, wrapping his body in their overcoats, starting a fire on the ground to keep him warm until Flight Lieutenant J.W. Hiltz, chief surgeon, school ambulance and orderlies arrived.

The four O.V.C. men were complimented on their first aid work.

The men at work at Union Gas Co. reported that the plane was circling low over the wooded area, looking apparently for a place to make a forced landing. The young airman was making an excellent landing when the plane struck the top of a pine tree, tore off one wing and smashed down, crashing through a fence. Fortunately the wrecked plane did not catch fire. A plugged oil line was given as the cause of the pilot having to attempt the forced landing.

L.A.C. Given is a member of the class that is to graduate at Aylmer School on March 13. He was in C Flight. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., March 5, 1942)

Five Brothers On Active Service

Five brothers from Parkhill and district are now on Active Service with the Canadian Forces. They are the sons of John P. Gooding. Sgt. Basil J. Gooding is on Active Service with the R.C.A.F. at Mossbank, Sask. and Tprs. Gerald and Wilfred Gooding are with the 6th Armored Regiment, 5th Armored Division, England. Norbert and Reginald enlisted recently in the Army, making five of the six boys in this family who have answered the call to Arms, and a record for which you would have to search far to find a duplicate. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., April 2, 1942)

Bornish News May 1942

Mr. and Mrs. Mike McDonald and family of Detroit spent the weekend at their home here.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. McGovern, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Hubbard and Marianne spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Neil McCormick.

Miss Janet Morrison, London, spent Sunday at her home.

Misses Anne and Rita MacRae of London visited with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. D. MacRae.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Furick, Mr. and Mrs. C. Delaney of Detroit spent Sunday with Mrs. Furick's sister, Mrs. Jas. D. MacRae.

Mr. Elmer Hatton of London spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Jas. D. MacRae.

Miss Genevieve McPhee of London spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J.D. McPhee, Con. 14 [West Williams]. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., May 14, 1942)

Presentation to Dr. and Mrs. Read

On Friday evening over 100 friends and neighbors gathered at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L.P. McDonald, 12 Concession, West Williams. The occasion was a presentation and reception in honor of their daughter, Ursula, upon her recent marriage to Dr. Frank Read. Father McCardle acted as chairman and after a few complimentary remarks to the bride and groom called on Miss Rita McCormick to read the address while Mr. Donald MacRae made the presentation of a beautiful walnut tea wagon and silver water pitcher. Mr. Read on behalf of his wife made a suitable reply thanking all present and inviting all to visit them in their new home in Windsor, after which all joined in singing, "For they are jolly good fellows".

Charlotte McDonald favoured with songs with guitar accompaniment.

Speeches were also made by Jas. McLean, Roy Mathers and Geo. McLellan.

Following the programme, dancing was indulged in till the wee small hours. Refreshments were served.

Following is the address:

Dear Ursula and Frank:

Your friends and neighbors of Bornish and vicinity have assembled here to congratulate and extend our sincere wishes to you both on your recent marriage.

Because of your amiable and pleasing manner, Ursula, we can assure you that our affection toward you will never be

forgotten in the years to come.

We feel that we are not so well acquainted with you yet, Frank, but we hope in the immediate future that pleasure may be ours. We also wish to congratulate you on your good judgement in the choice of your life partner.

You will not be settled so far away that these friendships made while in our midst need to be severed. We know that you both will be an acquisition to the community where you are going to live and we hope to meet you at our many social gatherings in the future.

Now we ask you to accept these gifts as a remembrance of your friends and neighbors of this community.

Wishing you a long and happy wedded life, we are: Mary McCormick, Donald McRae, Jack McPhee, Rita McCormick. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 25, 1942)

Firemen Called To Pump Cellars

Cellars in several home in south section of town were flooded and furnace fires were out following the heavy rains on Wednesday and the fire department were called on to pump the water out. Members of the fire department worked all day Thursday, Thursday night and most of Friday pumping water from the cellar of Rev. F.A. McCardle's home and from the cellar of Sacred Heart Church. When they were first called the water was twenty-two inches deep and the furnace fire was out. It is a hot water heating system and if the furnace had remained out a great deal of damage would have been caused by burst pipes. It was some hours before the cellar was pumped dry with water rushing in from the cellar drain almost as fast as it could be removed. The drain was plugged but in three hours time the water had again risen and the cement cellar floor had buckled and heaved under the tremendous pressure of the backed-up water. The source of the water has not yet been learned, but it has been established that the cellar and town drains were not plugged and that no water mains were broken. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 18, 1943)

No. 2 Ration Book Issued This Week

Distribution of Number Two ration Books will begin this Thursday. The distribution centre will be located in the town hall and will be open February 25 and 26 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1 to 6 p.m.; February 27, 10 a.m. to 12, 1 to 10 p.m. A distribution centre in the town of Ailsa Craig, will be open the same hours and dates.

The new Ration Book will not be mailed to anyone. It must be called for at the above named distribution centres.

An official of the ration administration gives details in brief on how to secure the new ration book.

This is what you do. Open your No. 1 ration book. In the back you will see an application card. Fill in the blanks on the card with your name and address, age if under 16, and your serial numbers, but do not detach the card from your book. Take the book to your distribution centre. The worker there will copy that information on to your new ration book.

The worker will tear out the application card from the book and return the old book to you, along with the new one. That is

all you have to do. You must get your old book back because some of the remaining coupons will still be good.

Each book contains one green sheet for tea-coffee coupons, one pink sheet for sugar coupons, two purple sheets for butter coupons, four buff sheets of Spare 'A', one blue sheet for Spare 'B', two grey sheets for Spare 'C', one sheet of instructions regarding canning sugar, one application for canning, a return post-card and a change-of-address card. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 25, 1943)

Presentation to Father McCardle

On March 30th, twenty-five years ago, Rev. F.A. McCardle, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, Parkhill, and St. Columba Church, Bornish, was ordained to the priesthood at London, Ontario. To help him mark his Silver Jubilee, the parishioners of St. Columba Church, Bornish, met at the church on Sunday, March 28, and presented him with a purse. Mr. L.P. McDonald acted as chairman and Donald MacRae read the following address:

Rev. F.A. McCardle,

Parkhill, Ont.

Dear Father:

A very pleasant duty has devolved upon us today --- that of presenting to you, dear Father, this gift from your faithful parishioners at Bornish. It is in appreciation of what you have done for us and also represents the esteem in which you are held by your many friends of this parish.

As the sight of friends here indicates we are attempting to show you, Father, our loyalty and gratitude for the many consolations of our religion which you have brought in your conscientious administering of the duties of the priesthood.

You have been an inspiring and beloved figure in this community and we feel that our parish has been made richer through your service and pastorate of the past eight years. Your amiable, warm-hearted disposition has won the good will of the peoples of this district --- of even those not embracing our faith.

In these strenuous times we are in need of a person --- a natural leader, who radiating optimism and good cheer, built upon a solid faith in God, at the same time puts the principles of his faith into practical effect; who builds not for pleasure or temporary pride alone, but chiefly for the health, morals and spiritual welfare of his flock.

The return to a Christian state of happier times cannot begin with the world, or with a nation, or even a group of nations. It must begin in the smaller communities, where men working under the leadership of their own parish priest will so conduct themselves in their relationships with their fellow-man that this happy, salutary change will be effected.

Today, the Catholic people of this community feel happy with you, Father, that God has deigned to grant you the good fortune of serving 25 years in His sacred ministry. We, too, have the joy and happiness of knowing that you have carried out your duties cheerfully and devoutly.

Our parish feels honored that you are celebrating your Jubilee in our midst. In some small measure we are interested in assisting you to fittingly mark this Silver Jubilee. Your completion of these twenty-five years in the sacred priesthood

makes this a joyous occasion for our parish. It has given us cause for rejoicing with you, Father, and would ask you to accept this gift from us. With it goes our very sincere wishes that God may grant you many more years of service in His holy priesthood.

Signed on behalf of the people of Bornish --- L.P. McDonald, J.D. McRae, Peter McCormick (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., April. 1, 1943)

Fire Destroys Store on the 10th Con.

Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed the general store of Bert Wilcox, on the tenth Concession of West Williams, at the old Elm Tree, one of the township's landmarks. The fire started Friday afternoon in a back shed while all the neighbors were attending the funeral of the late John McAdam [of East Williams who died on May 5th, in his 89th year].

Mr. Wilcox was out on the road with one of his trucks, which was the only part of the equipment saved.

Mrs. Wilcox and her four-year-old son, Ronald, escaped with just the clothes they were wearing and part of the money from the cash register.

A large stock of groceries, feed, salt, truck and car and all of their clothing and household furniture went up in smoke.

Sixty-five dollars worth of coal had just been delivered, and it was still burning next morning, and the heat was so intense no one was able to get near the ruins.

The loss is very heavy and only partially covered by insurance. The loss to the community is also great, although Mr. Wilcox intends to rebuild when possible.

The safe went down into a cistern when the floor burned through. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., May 15, 1943)

Sugar Coupons Mailed 1943

The majority of Canning Sugar Coupons have been mailed in this district. The allowance was 10 lbs. per person in town and 12 lbs. per person in the rural districts. However, the 12 lbs. could only be allotted to those whose application cards showed a rural route address. About 250 housewives have not yet received their coupons. The Local Ration Board ran out of cards and have to wait until a further supply is received. If you have not received yours as yet you are asked to be patient as the cards will be mailed to you as soon as possible. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 3, 1943)

Friends Honor Hugh H. McPhee

On Monday, October 11, neighbors and friends met at the home of Mr. H.H. McPhee, Concession 12, West Williams, to honor him before his departure from the community.

A very comfortable lounge chair was presented and the following address was read:

Mr. H.H. McPhee:

Dear Friend and Neighbor:

We are gathered here to show our respect and esteem for you before your departure from amongst

us, and to express our regrets at your leaving. You will be missed in many ways in our church and community, as you have always been a generous giver to both. You have the good record of never refusing to help anyone who appealed to you for public or private need.

You have also been a good example to our young men to follow and we hope that although at present you are making a move, your business may bring you back from time to time when we will be glad to see you.

As proof of our regard for you, we ask you to accept this gift, and hope you will get enjoyment out of knowing your friends wish you many good days to come.

Signed --- William Thompson, L.P. McDonald, Dan McCormick, J.D. McPhee, Roy Mathers, Rory McIntosh, Angus McIntosh, Archie D. McIntosh, Dougal McCormick, Neil McCormick.

Mr. McPhee made a brief reply, in well chosen words, thanking his friends and neighbors for their kindness to him in the many years of their association. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Oct. 21, 1943)

Letter Of Thanks To Bornish Parish

The following letter of thanks was received by the Bornish Parish, from S.Sgt. J.J. McDonald, of Camp Santa Anita, Arcadia, California.

Arcadia, California

December 13, 1943

To Bornish Parish.

Dear Mrs. MacRae:

Thanks for your Christmas package which arrived a couple of weeks ago and which was a pleasant surprise. The articles in the package were well chosen and just what a soldier wants and misses. It was nice of the women of the parish to make up the package and I know the boys in the service will be glad to get them and appreciate them.

It doesn't seem possible that Christmas has come around again, because time goes by fast in the army and then again the weather out here doesn't make it seem like Christmas. They can say what they like about California, it is nice here, but I would like to see some snow. The school here is closing soon, so I will probably get a chance to see some other part of the country.

Do you hear from the rest of the boys from home regularly? I would like to have their addresses and keep in touch with them. We all hoped we would be home for Christmas, but let's hope we will be home for the next one.

Thanking you again for the box,

Sincerely yours,

Jim McDonald

(from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Dec. 30, 1943)

Cattle Killed by Lightning 1945

A severe electrical storm early Thursday morning killed many cattle in this area. Miss Eleanor Leonard had three cows killed, Jack Knight lost seven and Grant Amos seventeen. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., July 5, 1945)

District Recovers from Worst Storm

Parkhill had its longest delay in train service when it was impossible to clear railways in the district before Friday. Fortunately road traffic was opened on Thursday and immediate necessities could be secured by truck. When train service was cancelled from Monday to Friday the coal oil company was beginning to run very short of oil for oil burners, etc.

When the highways were opened on Thursday, by making a special trip to Stratford, the Gazette was able to get the week's issue of the paper and print it Thursday evening, to have it in Friday morning's mail.

Mail which had been piling up at the larger terminals, was dispatched to the smaller towns by bus Friday morning. All this mail was sorted Friday evening, so that people in the district would have the week's mail by the week end.

With the continued mild weather and no further storms, both highways and railways are cleared in this area while the snow is gradually melting. So far there has been no threat of flood conditions. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., March 13, 1947)

Birth --- McDonald 1949

In Victoria Hospital, London, on Saturday, March 5, 1949, to Mr. and Mrs. John A. McDonald (née Betty McLachlan) a son, John Edward. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., March 17, 1949)

A Farewell Presentation to Roderick and Margaret McIntosh by Bornish Friends 1949

On Monday of last week the neighbors and friends of Mr. Roderick and Miss Margaret McIntosh gathered at the Bornish school to honour them on their departure to Parkhill, and to show the esteem in which they were held in the community. A short programme was given by Mrs. Bert Madill and Miss Eleanor McCormick on the piano, Bobby McLean and Donald McLellan on the bagpipes. Robert McCubbin, M.P., spoke briefly.

Mr. and Miss McIntosh were presented with an occasional chair and a tri-lite lamp.

The remainder of the evening was spent in cards and dancing. Music for the dances was played by Joe Larkin's quartet. Wilbur McLeish called off for the square dances. It might be interesting to add the first three square dances were enjoyed by John T. Graham of Parkhill.

Following is the address:

Dear Roderick and Margaret,

Your many friends have learned that you are leaving the community to take up residence in Our Town of Parkhill. You are the descendants of that gallant band of pioneers who settled in this locality, just one hundred years ago and established their home by dint of hard work and by co-operating one with another. Your home has been the keystone around which much of the

development from the virgin forests to the high present day standards of Canadian rural life has been accomplished.

In you, we have recognized the highest type of good citizenship --- always ready to lend a helping hand to your friends and neighbors, ready at all times to give freely to any just and worthy undertaking. Your efforts on behalf of your country, your church and your home community have been of such an exemplary degree as to merit the highest admiration of all your many friends.

This evening we are assembled here to present you with these gifts as a remembrance from your friends, especially for your many acts of kindness and goodwill towards all. These few lines by an unknown author are fitting on this occasion:

The truest glory ever comes unsought.

Fame scorns the slave who bows him at the shrine

And quaffs the world's applause like sparkling wine;

But dowers him, the man whose single thought

Is duty to be done, whose deeds wrought

In harmony with God's own plan divine,

Who works His will, still hewing to the line

For other's praise or censure caring naught.

- Signed on behalf of your friends. Peter McCormick, Robt. Haskett, Hanlon McDonald, Wib. McLeish, L. McIntosh. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., April 28, 1949)

Birth --- Read 1949

On Thursday, May 12, 1949, at the Ottawa Civic Hospital, to Dr. and Mrs. Frank Read, a son, Ronald Keith. Both Well. (from *The Ottawa Journal*, Fri., May 13, 1949)

Bornish Church Celebrates Centennial

St. Columba Church, Bornish, celebrated its centenary on Sunday, July 31, with appropriate services. The Most Rev. J. Cody, Coadjutor Bishop of London Diocese, celebrated mass at 10:00 a.m. and gave a very inspiring sermon to the large congregation gathered for this special occasion. The service was in charge of the rector, Rev. Father J.F. Paquette.

The settlement of Bornish was founded in 1849 by the Scots from North and South Uist in the Hebrides Islands who were driven out of their homeland because of their loyalty and support of Bonnie Prince Charlie.

St. Columba, Bornish, was named after the patron saint of Bornish in the homeland [Columba was a saint of Scotland, but not a patron saint. The church at Bornish is dedicated to St. Mary.] and many are the Scottish names in the early history of the parish and the community.

At the same time many Scots of the Presbyterian faith settled in the same area and the ties of persecution in the homeland and the struggle for survival in a strange land have the two sects fast friends and many Presbyterians were at the service Sunday morning and at the social gathering in the afternoon.

A rather sad memory of the day was as they revered the early ancestors who founded the settlement, very few of the third and fourth generations remain in the area and now new blood of many nations is entering this once totally Scots settlement.

In the afternoon a social was held in which many returning sons and daughters renewed old acquaintances. The Glencoe

Pipe Band played many familiar Scots' airs to give a Scottish setting to the occasion and they were very ably assisted by Leslie Hatt of Aberdeen, Scotland, who just arrived in this country. In Scottish garb and with a real Scottish twang he was the life of the party.

Mr. John A. Morrison acted as chairman for the day and spoke of the pride the present people had for their ancestors who founded the church and settlement.

Robert McCubbin, M.P., spoke of the close fellowship of the two sects and how proud he was, although of the Presbyterian faith, to be one of the descendants of those early pioneers and expressed his delight at being able to be at the services. He remarked, regardless of one's faith, one couldn't help but take good from the message of the Bishop.

Rev. Father Joseph DeNeef of Belgium was present and spoke of the new immigrants in their own tongue. In the translation of his speech he asked that the old settlers to see that these new immigrants from Holland and Belgium were going through a condition similar today as the ancestors that founded Bornish. These newcomers need help to adjust themselves in a new country where they too can work and worship God and become good citizens of a good land.

Mrs. Mary (MacDonald) McCormick, aged 94, was the oldest person present and she received a bouquet of flowers from Miss Ruth Romphf who is nine years old.

Members of the church compiled a pamphlet which gives the history of the church and its people from 1849 to the present. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs. Aug. 11, 1949)



500 Descendants Gather For Bornish Centenary Descendants of Original Settlers, New 'Pioneers' at Bornish

An estimated 500 residents and former residents attended the 100th anniversary celebrations commemorating the arrival of Scots driven from the Hebrides in 1849. New "pioneers" Mary Kennes from Holland and Rachel Masschelein from Belgium talked with Father Joseph De Neef of Belgium.

BORNISH, July 31 --- A spry old Scot "wi' an otter-r-r sporr-ran an' a skee-an dhu" descended on centennial celebrations here Sunday with all the zest of a wild Highland fling.

Sunday was memory time for the good people of Bornish --- a small "Scottish" settlement about seven miles south of Parkhill.

Visitor Leslie Hatt's full Highland dress and Aberdeen brogue helped transport old minds --- and young fancies --- back to the hills and glens of "Bonnie Scotland."

Big Success

The 100th anniversary of the original Scottish settlers' arrival at Bornish was a big success.

Ceremonies began at 10 a.m. Sunday with celebration of holy mass by Rev. Fr. Joseph Paquette, pastor, in the village church --- St. Columba's.

An address by His Excellency J. Cody, Coadjutor Bishop of London, stressed what the early pioneers meant to today's Canadians.

"Simply splendid." Robert McCubbin, M.P. for West Middlesex, declared "Bishop Cody's address was simply splendid."

"I'm a good Presbyterian, myself," he added --- a twinkle in his eye --- "but members of both sects in this section have always been very close. Our forefathers worked hand in hand to develop this area into what it is today."

Inspirational

"Anyone --- Presbyterian, Catholic, or otherwise --- could have only one honest opinion about the bishop's address," he concluded: "- nothing short of inspirational!"

The original settlers were driven from the Hebrides in 1849. They crossed the Atlantic in three ships --- the *Tuscar*, the *Atlantic* and the *Mount Stuart* --- building new homes --- and new lives --- in what is now Bornish.

Present-day settlers who can, and do --- proudly --- trace their ancestors back to these original pioneers are listed in a historically-important pamphlet which was distributed at the centennial.

Compiled from articles written by the late John MacDonald, of West Williams --- from his memories and observations 1835 to 1917 --- it covers the life of the 19th century refugees from their dismissal from Scotland to the present day.

New "Pioneers"

There were new "pioneers" at Sunday's centennial celebrations.

Families of Dutch and Belgian immigrants --- recently arrived here from their homelands --- heard a special address in their native tongues by Rev. Joseph De Neef, of Belgium.

In a translation following his original address, Father De Neef said: "We Flemish Dutch and Belgians are today experiencing much the same difficulties as your ancestors did 100 years ago. We ask your prayers that we might as successfully practise our professions and religion here as your forefathers did."

A bouquet of flowers was presented to Mrs. Mary (MacDonald) McCormick, 94, oldest living descendant of the original pioneers, whose father donated the 100-acre lot now occupied by St. Columba's Church.

Among the estimated 500 persons present were former residents from Detroit, Chicago; Dayton, Ohio; Berkley and Broadane, Mich; London and Simcoe, Ont. --- all returned to commemorate the arrival here of their ancestors in 1849.

While visitors milled about outside St. Columba's beautiful yellow brick church, a stiff wind whipped colorful bunting and carried strains of the Glencoe Pipe Band --- under Pipe Major William Webster --- across fields of new yellow grain.

Proud History

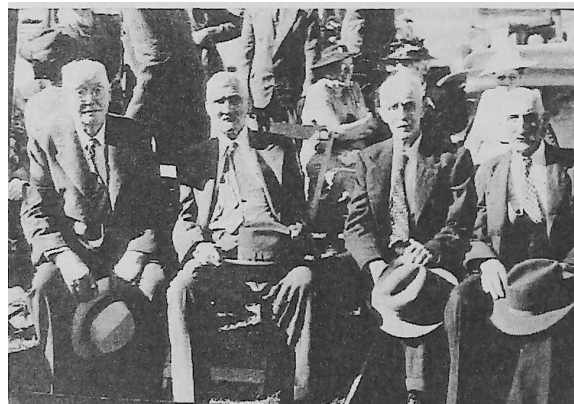
"A sight beautiful to behold," said visiting Scotsman Leslie Hatt, in a requested address. "You people of Bornish have a very proud history --- one which stands out in the annals of peoples the world over."

"It is my hope --- as it is no doubt the hope of all present --- that you might one day visit the land of your forefathers."

"I must say I feel justly proud," he concluded, "to be among those present today."

There was another different pride at the Bornish centennial Sunday, one that was unseen and perhaps unexpected by some --- but unfelt only by few.

It was a quiet, silent pride in descendants --- as real and as great as the residents' pride in their ancestors.



(L. to R.) L.P. McDonald, Neil McCormick,
Dan McCormick, Angus McIntosh

It was a pride felt most when Chairman John Morrison spoke of the headstones standing back of the church --- headstones with names --- proud Highland names --- like McDonald, McIntyre, McIsaac, McInnis, McIntosh, McLean, McLellan, McEachen, McPhee, McMullin, McKinnon, McLeod, McCormick, O'Hanley and Steele, etched in the weather-aged stone.

"Today we feel pride," John Morrison said softly, "in those in the Field of Time."

That pride came back --- on the wings of the wind --- from those in the Field of Time.

(from *The London Free Press*, Aug. 1, 1949 p.22)

New Librarian Appointed 1950

Mrs. Elinor Given has been appointed the new librarian at the public library replacing Miss Marjorie Elliot who has secured a position at the Parkhill District Co-Op. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., March 23, 1950)

A Dear Couple Leaves Bornish

The once densely populated area of West Williams comprising the homes of the descendants of Uist settlers, has been further depleted by the recent removal of L.P. McDonald and family from their homestead on the twelfth Concession to the town of Parkhill.

The move is unique in that **it is the only farmstead on the concession that has been occupied continuously by successive descendants since possession by the Crown more than a century ago.**

A farewell gathering was held last Friday evening at the Bornish school to honor Mr. and Mrs. McDonald. The expressions of regret, accompanied by sincere hopes for a happy future, came from every quarter of the township, which he has so well served in every capacity, social, religious and municipal.

For the program of the evening, the chair was ably filled by the Warden of Middlesex, Mr. Hugh McEachern, who spoke highly of the guests of honor. Others who were called upon to speak, were Rev. J.L. Paquette, pastor of Bornish parish, Mr. George McLellan, a former reeve and co-worker of Mr. McDonald in municipal affairs, as was also Mr. A.E. Sercombe. Mr. J.J. Johnson also spoke in his usual able manner.

The underlying theme of those few speeches, was regret for the present move and good wishes for the future, mingled with a touch of pathos, and enlivened by a spice of hilarity and reminiscence.

Mr. McDonald's response was in similar vein and accompanied by expressions of gratitude to his many friends for their presence and good wishes and also for the beautiful and useful articles tendered as farewell gifts to himself and Mrs. McDonald in remembrance of the occasion.

Following a few games of cards and an hour or more of social intercourse Mr. J.J. Johnson was chosen to read the address which appears below.

Before leaving for their homes, the assembled company partook of a lunch served by the ladies.

To Mr. & Mrs. L.P. McDonald,
Dear friends

Many times through the years, we have met with you here and in our homes, to observe the comings and departures of friends and neighbors who chose to set up new homes elsewhere. But we believe that none who have left us have had the roots of their lives so deeply set in Bornish soil and pioneer traditions as yourselves.

In our changing world and in the passing of the years, it is inevitable that the pattern of our lives conforms to new conditions. But your life long home in our parish must always breathe of the presence of no less than six generations whose footsteps have known its life and shelters. And we feel sure that your new home will absorb in a large degree, the spirit of your former one.

It is our pleasure, and yours also, we hope, that the move is one of only a few miles. We are pleased to offer you a tangible token of our regard, which however, it has been inconvenient to bring here and return for the matter of a short evening. But we anticipate to share the use of them with you in your new home which we hope to visit soon and often.

They are a lamp for you Hannah, to light your ways, and a table for you L.P. at which to preside as host to your many friends. May you enjoy these gifts together for many years.

We may grow accustomed to your absence, but we will always appreciate what you have done for the community and the church. May you be blessed with the best gifts of this life, health and happiness, and may each passing year verify the feeling contained in the quotation:

"Grow old along with me; the best is yet to be; the last of life for which the first was made."

Signed by: Angus McIntosh, George McLellan, John McEachern, Alex McDonald, Dan E. Morrison (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, July, 1950)

Undergoes Operation

Mrs. James McRae underwent an operation for appendicitis on Tuesday. Her many friends wish her a speedy recovery. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 27, 1950)

Visitors from Detroit

Mr. Karl Duke of Detroit spent the weekend in town. Mrs. Duke and children who have been visiting with her mother, Mrs. Ronald MacKinnon, returned with him. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Aug. 31, 1950)

To Teach at Walsingham

Mrs. Christina McCormick left this week for Walsingham Centre, south of Tillsonburg, where she will teach school. Mrs. McCormick was for many years the teacher at the local Separate School. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Sept. 4, 1952)

Presentation to Mr. and Mrs. Omer Anderson

A very enjoyable evening was spent recently at Bornish school when a large number of friends and neighbors gathered to honour a recent bride and groom, Mr. and Mrs. Omer Anderson.

The first part of the evening was spent in euchre and dancing. Then Mr. and Mrs. Anderson were called forward and presented with a radio and electric clock. The following address was read by Mrs. Donald Boyce.

Mr and Mrs. Anderson.

Dear friends,

It is always a pleasure to meet on such an occasion as this to greet newly married people and to wish them joy and happiness along the path of life.

Omer, you have lived amongst us since you came here as a boy and now we greet your bride and welcome her as a member of our neighborhood and trust that she will find congenial friendships in her new surroundings, which is our desire in meeting here this evening.

And as a testimony to this we ask you to accept these gifts to remind you that we will always be your friends. Signed --- Mrs. McRae, Donald Boyce, Lachie McIntosh, Cornel Van Massenhoven, Alex McDonald

Suitable words of thanks were expressed by the bride and groom and everyone joined in singing "For They Are Jolly Good Fellows". A bountiful lunch was served after which dancing was enjoyed for the remainder of the evening. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Nov. 20, 1952)

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Twister's Fury Slashes Swath In Middlesex

Full fury of Thursday's tornado blasted through Middlesex in three distinct areas, killing three persons in East Williams Township --- Reeve Simon Thomson, 52, and his daughter Dorothy, 5, and Miss Sarah McIntosh, 85 --- and sending 26 to London and Strathroy hospitals. Dozens of homes and barns, even churches and schools, were leveled by the wind while hail, big as golf balls, pelted.

In the Springbank area, ten miles north of Strathroy, heaviest hit of all, there was no estimate of when all communications could be restored.

The three dead in East Williams were from the Springbank district. Reeve Thomson and his daughter died in their home at R.R. 7, Parkhill. Mrs. Thomson suffered severe shock and leg lacerations and as she lay in St. Joseph's Hospital at London, today, she did not know her husband and child were dead. Another daughter, Ruth, 13, has a skull injury. Four other children were unhurt and are with an aunt, Mrs. Charles Fox, in Parkhill. It took rescuers over an hour before they found Dorothy buried beneath the rubble of the house.

Miss McIntosh who lived with her two nephews, Tom and Jack McEachern, R.R. 7, Parkhill, was found 300 feet from the leveled house. Nothing of the house was left standing. Tom McEachern suffered a left hip injury and is in London hospital. The other man escaped injury.

Twenty-two were taken to St. Joseph's Hospital and nineteen were admitted, several so badly injured they could not be x-rayed.

(from *The Evening Free Press*, London, Friday May 22, 1953)

[The storm struck Port Huron and Sarnia about 5:30 p.m. and reached West and East Williams between 6 and 7 p.m. It then proceeded eastward through Guelph and Galt areas cutting a 150-mile swath across southern Ontario before diminishing at Port Credit on the shore of Lake Ontario.]

Three Killed In East Williams As Tornado Hits This Area

Four people were killed and hundreds injured when a tornado from the States swept through Port Huron, Michigan, across the river to Sarnia and traveled on roughly a north-easterly direction. At Sarnia, the storm passed through the business section where a heavy toll of damage was done. This damage has since increased many times as rain poured through still uncovered roofs or ones that were only temporarily repaired.

As the storm continued eastward the area south of Arkona felt the full brunt of the storm. Here a school was totally destroyed, farm buildings wrecked and trees uprooted.

Fruit Farm Destroyed

Heaviest damage in this area was at the fruit farm of Ray Butler. His two-storey house, barn, two garages, large apple-packing house, large drive shed and some 750 large apple trees in full bloom were destroyed.

The full weight of the storm in East Williams Township was felt just as the storm crossed the Centre Road from West Williams. An old frame house in West Williams suffered minor damage, the trees, fences, hydro and telephone lines were ripped down but the tower of the Knox Presbyterian Church only had a few boards ripped off, however, immediately behind it the roof was torn off.

Despite the damage, service was held on Sunday and the people prepared to immediately repair their place of worship.

The brick house to the north of the church and used by Detroit people for a summer residence, was reduced to rubble.

The path of destruction then continued easterly and northerly along the 10th, 12th and 14th Concessions of East Williams to the Ailsa Craig-Nairn Highway. Crossing this highway it moved towards the Denfield-Ilderton area where very heavy damage was done.

On the 15th Concession of London Township the storm followed along the road for a distance of more than five miles wiping out every house and barn on either side of the road. This is the most concentrated damage in rural districts. From there until the storm reached Lake Ontario various places felt the force of the storm in varying degrees.

Rushed To Aid of Neighbors

Residents in East Williams realized by the rings on the phone, something was amiss as they were at supper and were able to pick up a few of the alarm signals before the phones went out of order and rushed to the assistance of their neighbors in the stricken area.

When word finally reached Parkhill hydro was off so that the siren could not be sounded but Provincial Police Officer Richard Dawson used the siren on his car to attract attention.

He, with the two doctors, F.F. Boyes and Wm. Scrimgeour and Laurence Box with his ambulance were soon at the scene to assist Dr. A.E. Letts of Ailsa Craig and T. Stephenson and Son with their ambulance.

When Provincial Police officers reached the scene they also carried many of the injured to the hospitals.

Parkhill People In The Storm

Mr. and Mrs. Russell Mahon, formerly of Parkhill, had the roof of their house in Sarnia torn off. Mr. Mahon removed his family to Parkhill Thursday night where they remained until repairs were made to their home.

Mr. Lorne Mathers who was at Denfield when the storm hit, had the roof of his car badly damaged.

Mr. Leonard Cutler experienced considerable trouble in reaching London by motor. He had left Parkhill with his daughter to take Mrs. Cutler to catch the evening train to Montreal. He arrived in London with only a few moments to spare.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Gray were motoring to London to meet Miss Mary Dawson who was arriving from Richmond Hill. They left shortly after seven o'clock and did not reach London until after eleven.

Mrs. Gordon Thomas was returning from Strathroy and was just south of the Centre Road Presbyterian Church when the roof blew off. He was one of the first at the scene and assisted in searching for victims and seeking aid from outside the area.

Arthur Racey was on his way to work as projectionist at Strathroy and by speeding his car managed to get past the spot on the Centre Road as the storm approached from the west.

Tree and Fence Damage Heavy

The storm has destroyed many fine stands of timber, windows and isolated trees. It is difficult, unless seen, to realize how great the damage was to trees.

Another large toll is farmers' fencing. Miles and miles of fences will have to be built again.

It will be some time before the total loss of livestock and poultry can be estimated but the loss here again will be very heavy.

A phenomenon of the storm was at the Woolcock residence in East Williams. Although the house was completely destroyed and the furniture wrecked yet very few dishes were broken and sherbert glasses and fine china were scattered a distance of 50 to 100 yards and yet were unbroken or unscratched.

Four People Killed By Tornado

Three of the four people killed in Thursday's tornado were from East Williams.

Simon Thomson, aged 52, reeve of the township, and his five-year-old daughter, Dorothy Ann, were instantly killed, at their home while Mrs. Thomson was seriously injured. Miss Sarah McIntosh, aged 85, who made her home with her nephews, Tom and John McEachen, was blown from the house while it was being demolished and instantly killed. (See also Necrology Section)

Mrs. Margaret Clark, aged 70, of the Watford area, the fourth

victim, died from injuries in the hospital at Sarnia. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., May 28, 1953)

Clean-Up Progressing Well After Tornado Damage

Work parties from several places, some as far away as Exeter, St. Mary's, London, and even to Kitchener and Elmira, have from time to time showed up at the places which had to be cleaned up after the tornado in East Williams and London Townships and great progress has been made with this work. Locally, labor parties were organized by the Parkhill Lions Club to aid with the clean-up in East Williams and those in West Williams that were destroyed.

Young and old alike joined in the task and this work will continue until all the fields are cleared so that agricultural activities may be resumed and all debris cleared from the sites of buildings so that rebuilding can be started.

The damage, as cleaning up goes on, is as follows:

Knox Church, Centre Road, roof off and tower damaged but service was held on the Sunday following with the members expressing their determination to repair the damage immediately and to restore the church to good condition again.

The brick house and buildings on the place owned by Mrs. Poole and Mrs. Laura McClain of Detroit, just north of the church were totally wrecked.

At the home of John and Tom McEachen, the house and barn were completely destroyed. Miss Sarah McIntosh, their aunt, who noticed the storm coming, asked Tom McEachen to go to the cellar to close a window which was open. The fact that he was in the cellar at the time the tornado hit the house probably saved his life. He was knocked unconscious by a falling timber but is now fully recovered from the experience.

Miss McIntosh was blown out of the house at least 350 feet and was dead when found beside the road. John McEachen was away working at the time and was not in the tornado-struck area. This property is owned by Mr. Gordon McKean.

Across the road from the McEachen home, Hugh Watson, who was with the Armed forces in India and had some experiences with tornados, immediately got his family into the cellar of their brick home before the storm leveled the house and barn. They escaped serious injury.

Living next to him was his brother, Cecil Watson, and family. The family gathered together in the kitchen and formed a circle hanging on to each other. One daughter was snatched out of their grasp by the wind and she seemed more seriously hurt than the others. Cecil landed against the foundation of the barn some distance away and which also was levelled. Mrs. Watson was still hanging on to one of the children when they landed in a field some distance from the house.

Mr. Simon Thomson, reeve of East Williams, was at the barn doing chores. His two lads were rounding up the cows as the storm approached. Mr. Thomson realized that his house would not withstand the storm and rushed towards it to summon the family out. Mr. Thomson was felled by a flying timber which caused his death.

Mrs. Thomson had gathered their young daughter, Judy, 3, in her arms and had reached for Dorothy, 5, when the storm

wrecked the house. Dorothy was blown beyond Mrs. Thomson's reach and was suffocated in the wreckage of the house, while Mrs. Thomson fell through the floor into a cistern beneath the house. She was pinned into the water by a washing machine which fell in on top of her.

Ruth, 13, and Carol, 12, who had started to run out of the house were blown some distance away but escaped serious injury.

As the boys, Duncan, 15, and Carlisle, 10, were running back from rounding up the cows they also were blown across the fields.

Just how Duncan received a very severe cut above his knee which severed the muscles probably will not be known but he pluckily returned to the wrecked house and managed to lift the washing machine off his mother and rescue her and the baby. He then started to look for Dorothy. While crawling in the wreckage he got several pieces of mortar and brick in his open sore and had to undergo an operation for the removal of all this foreign matter.

While he was searching for his sister, neighbors arrived to take up the search while Duncan was taken away for treatment.

The only thing left standing at this place was the silo.

Mrs. Thomson is still in hospital suffering from fractured legs, ribs and other injuries.

At the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Woolcock, the house and barn were completely destroyed. Mr. Woolcock was slightly injured and Mrs. Woolcock suffered from shock. Their four boys were removed to hospital for treatment but were released shortly afterwards. It was at this place where the dishes remained unbroken.

At the former Munro farm, now owned by Leo Rostel, two barns and drive shed were demolished. The barns were big ones, in which a 100 cattle could be wintered. The house at this place had burned down last winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Kellestine's brick house and barn were also totally destroyed. Mr. Kellestine, who was accompanied by his young lad, managed to lie against the side of a hill sloping to the river and escape with only his shirt being ripped off. In the house another son grabbed his sister and lay on the floor as the house fell around them. Fortunately this small part of one room remained standing. The contents of the house along with tree tops were scattered along the valley and river bank.

The buildings on the former farm of Etta Ross, now owned by Ambert Hill, were destroyed.

Leadley Bros., Townline East Williams and Lobo, the barn was a total loss and the house badly damaged. Roy Stewart on Concession 2, two barns, shed, hog pen were a total loss and part of the roof was torn off his house. Gordon Hotson's two barns and drive shed were a total loss while the house was very badly damaged.

Melvin Bender on Petty Street, East Williams had his house shifted on its foundation and had a barn totally destroyed.

In West Williams, Elmer Russell, a Downham Nursery salesman suffered the loss of his house, barn and garage. John Rasmussen lost a barn, colony house, hen house and three hundred chickens which entirely disappeared. Fortunately his home was unharmed. Norman Hodgins lost a barn and Joe Herygers lost a barn and silo. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 4, 1953)

Community Bornish, Not Dalgetty; Irish Name Not for Scot Settlers

by A.S. Garrett for *The London Free Press*, 1953

Bornish is located at the intersection of the East-West Williams Township line (now part of Highway No. 81) and Concession 12, several miles southeast of Parkhill.

The first Scottish settlers came to this area in 1849, following their eviction from the Hebrides.

In 1851, a Catholic church was built in Adelaide, the first in the district west of London. A century ago [1853] a log church was built at Bornish, the land being donated by Donald MacDonald. The original altar was constructed of basswood slabs by Allan McIntyre.

First Burial

The first person buried in Bornish Cemetery is believed to have been Malcolm, son of Mr. and Mrs. John McLeod, who lost his life by drowning.

An account of the funeral reads as follows: "... The pallbearers numbered about twenty and as the death occurred on the 18th Concession, the remains had to be conveyed for four miles through an Indian trail, the roadway being only partly cut out to the Bornish Cemetery, the bearers in relays of four carrying the same..."

1861 Church

A frame church with tall spire surmounted by a cross, that could be seen for miles, was built in 1861 on a site west of the present edifice. It was dedicated to St. Columba. The first resident priest, appointed in 1871, was the Rev. Father P.J. O'Shea.

In 1902, the present brick church was built, during the pastorate of the Rev. Father D.A. McRae. A new separate school, also of brick, was built in his time north of the church.

The Rev. Father J.F. Paquette is in charge of Bornish and Parkhill parishes at the present time.

First Postmaster

John Doyle became the first postmaster in 1874. He lived on the northeast corner farm and had the office there. It was originally known as Dalgetty, an Irish name, which was changed to Bornish, the name of the community, to suit the Scottish settlers.

Archibald McLeod became postmaster in 1878 and moved the office to his log house on the southwest corner. The mail was carried by stage coach via Parkhill and Strathroy.

Joseph Kincaide built a pretentious frame tavern, two storeys high and containing several rooms, on the south east corner. "Kincaide's Hotel" was painted in large letters across the front.

Hotel Names

Later, James Anderson, an auctioneer from East Williams, kept hotel there and then Archibald McLeod became proprietor of the hostelry and is said to have had the post office there as well.

About the turn of the century Archibald Morrison had a store in this hotel building. His son-in-law and daughter --- Mr. and Mrs. Jas. D. McRae --- now occupy a frame house (moved from a nearby farm) on the same site.

Archibald McLeod, after leaving the hotel, returned to the old house on the southwest corner.

There was once a blacksmith shop just east of McRae's house. Also, around the turn of the century, Mrs. Malcolm Morrison, a widow, kept post office in a house just north of the present school.

Early Store

Concerning one of the first business places, Mrs. Daniel McCormick wrote as follows: "About half a mile west of the intersection, there was a general store run by L.C. McIntyre as early as the 1850's and on through the 1860's. It was not at the Bornish site but served all the parishioners.

Mrs. Stephen McCormick (formerly Catharine MacDonald), a former school teacher in West Williams, assisted the writer in gathering many of these items. Her father, John MacDonald, had recorded much of the community's history, while her grandfather, Lachlan MacDonald, was an early settler.

Mrs. McCormick recalls the original log school at the sideroad corner, about a mile west of Bornish. It was burned and then classes were held in the auditorium of the frame church, which was much larger than the present brick church. Seats and blackboards were arranged in part of it to accommodate the students. Catharine MacDonald (Mrs. John Gillis) taught school in the church. Charles McKinnon was a later teacher.

Later, a frame school, with board siding put on vertically, was built north of the church. The present brick school stands on the same site.

* * * * *

Injured by Lightning

Jerome McIntyre, one of the twin sons of Mrs. John McIntyre of West Williams received painful injuries from lightning last Monday evening while he was working in the barn. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 7, 1955)

Blinded By Shotgun; Now To Teach Blind

A 21-year-old Dutch girl, blinded in a gun accident six years ago, is demonstrating in London this week what courage, and a helping hand from the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, can do to rehabilitate the handicapped.

Mary Vander Vloet, whose parents live near Parkhill, came to Canada in 1951. Just 15, she was blinded that Fall when a shotgun blast hit her in the face. She was blind and she knew no English.

For the past six years she has studied and trained at the Ontario School for the Blind in Brantford, soon she is to take special training through C.N.I.B. to become a teacher to other blind persons. Meanwhile, to broaden her experience, she took two weeks on-the-spot training at the blind booth in London's Huron and Erie Building. This week she is on her own and enjoying the experience.

The training which has made her a useful citizen of her new country was in part made possible by C.N.I.B. with funds contributed by the public during the annual campaigns. For Huron, Middlesex and Perth Counties, the 1957 appeal begins September 14th. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Aug. 29, 1957)

Birth --- McDonald 1960

Bob and Rosalie McDonald of Dawson Creek, B.C., are happy to announce the birth of their daughter [Christine], on February 8, 1960, a sister for Sandy. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 11, 1960)

Local Priest Honored on 25th Anniversary

Baskets of bright peonies and iris decorated the parish hall of Sacred Heart Church, to honor the occasion of Fr. Veitenheimer's silver anniversary in the priesthood.

About seventy or eighty guests from Hesson, Logan and Windsor attended the tea sponsored by the Catholic Women's League. Parkhill and Bornish parishioners joined with the members of Father Veitenheimer's immediate family in offering their sincere wishes to the celebrant.

On Sunday, June 12th, an appropriate programme was staged in the Community Centre, by the pupils of Sacred Heart School. Margaret Soetemans read the school address to Fr. Veitenheimer, while Daniel Denys made the presentation of a purse.

Mr. Lacasse, a capable master of ceremonies, called upon Mr. J.J. Johnson to read an address from the parishioners of Parkhill and Bornish. Mr. John Hendriks presented the pastor with a purse on behalf of these people. Mr. A. Esdaile commented on the splendid attendance and thanked the audience for their interest in the school children.

After the programme, Father Veitenheimer expressed his

sincere gratitude to each and everyone who helped to make his anniversary pleasant and memorable. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 23, 1960)

Centennial Celebrations in West Williams Twp. 1960

West Williams Centennial Celebration is now history. To those who were present, June 25th, 1960, is a day never to be forgotten --- a day in which the people of West Williams looked on the past with pride for what had been accomplished, and to the future with a hope for what will be accomplished. The most gratifying feature in preparing for this event was the whole-hearted co-operation of the various groups which make up our township. To the east is Bornish, a Roman Catholic settlement; farther south is Knox Centre Road which is Presbyterian; to the west is West Williams, formerly Presbyterian, now United, and to the north is Sylvan, formerly Wesleyan Methodist, but also United. All worked together with one aim in view --- The Centennial Celebration --- an event of which to be proud.

It was in the form of a garden party, and was held at Sylvan school. The weather was ideal for the occasion, a perfect June day. A parade started off the proceedings, forming at Sylvan Corner and lining up in front of the school. The judges' decisions were as follows: Best decorated car - Wilfred Sadler, Leila Ashton, Kenneth Vernon - \$10 prize money donated by George Pedlar, Parkhill. Oldest car - Kenneth Vernon, Bryce Cadman - case of motor oil donated by Cliff Russell, Shipka. Best decorated bicycle - Ross Loft, Douglas Furtney, Donald Romph. Best decorated tricycle - Scott and Blair Furtney, Paul Loft - \$10 prize donated by Canada Culvert Co. Best clown costume - Mrs. Grace Sadler, Charles Congar, Mrs. Geo. Dixon - \$10 prize donated by Leslie Larkin, Parkhill. Best old-time costume - Mr. and Mrs. Jim Turner, Eleanor Hill, Mrs. Ralph Gray - \$10 prize donated by Waite and Hodgins, Thedford. Best beard - George McLeod, Fred Brewer, Charlie Potter - \$10 prize donated by Jim Monkhouse, Thedford.

Mr. W.H. Thomas officially opened the Centennial; he recalled boyhood days spent at sylvan school and expressed his pleasure at being present.

The races for the children were keenly contested. Each child was made happy by a prize, whether he was first or not. "Boxing in the barrel" and "pillow fighting on the pole" provided some tense moments. Reeve Norman Hodgins, master of ceremonies kept events moving and the crowd was both amused and entertained. Possibly the highlight of the sports programme was the contest staged by the Boy Scouts from Camp Sylvan, "which group could pitch a tent, build a fire and boil water in the shortest time." A good ball game between Sylvan and Lieury across the road in the ball field drew the applause of spectators - score 3-2 in favour of Sylvan. The booth with the woodshed as supply depot, was well patronized. None became too weary as work hours were arranged for the different groups and each took its turn.

Registration was looked after by Mrs. Jean Herrington, but many people did not know of this, so our registration is far from complete. However, it is believed over 1,000 people were

present during the afternoon and evening.

Good old Scottish tunes played on the bagpipes delighted the crowd. Donald McLellan, formerly of the 12th Con, West Williams, and now living in London Township, and Malcolm McLean of Centre Road, favoured with several numbers during the afternoon and supper hour.

The interior of the school had the appearance of a small museum. Wall space was at a premium for placing the pictures that were brought in. There were family pictures of McPhersons, McIntoshes, Mackeys, Campbells, McLeods, Johnsons, Fletchers, McRaes, McIntyres, Morrisons, Dawsons and many more. School pictures of different schools and taken at different periods of time provided untold interest and pleasure, especially to the older people. One picture of special interest was sent in by Mrs. J.J. Johnson. It was of her grandfather, Ronald McIntyre. He was a member of the Council of West Williams in 1860 and reeve in 1864. Another, was of John Dawson, one of the early settlers of Sylvan. He was postmaster and merchant and was one of Sylvan's most prominent citizens. Wilbert Winegarden's pictures also drew attention. Several years ago his father had engineered the moving of a house across the Aux Sable in East Williams. The pictures portrayed the various stages of the undertaking. The picture of Mrs. John McLellan brought back memories of West Williams' grand old lady, who passed away March 20, 1957, lacking the month of reaching her 102nd birthday.

The display of antiques was worthy of mention also, there were dishes belonging to Mrs. Henry James, great-grandmother to the Niblock family; a Gaelic Bible which was brought from Scotland and sent in by Donald Boyce; spinning wheels from Philip Knights; grain cradles from Wilfred Sadler; broad axe from Kenneth Randall. This was used for hewing barn timbers in the early days. A homemade grain fork made by the Dobie family; brass candle sticks and snuffers brought from England in 1855 by Thomas Nicholson family. Mrs. McRae of Bornish brought a plaque which had been presented by L.P. McDonald in 1949, as Bornish celebrated the 100th anniversary of its settlement. A piece of wood, polished to a satiny smoothness, mounted and glassed had these words above and below:

"St. Columba Church, 1849-1949. In memory of the pioneers who settled in this parish, 1849. R.I.P.

This piece of wood is part of the original cross that was on the frame church built in 1861 and was salvaged and preserved by the late John McDonald."

The gift of L.P. McDonald.

Also from Bornish was "Engraving of a Famous French Painting of the Crucifixion". It was brought by the late Capt. Allan McIntyre in 1853. He framed it himself, and placed back of the Little Altar in the old log church at Bornish.

Worthy of mention also is a bedspread and two quilts brought in by Mrs. Peter MacDonald. The spread was home-woven and had been presented to Peter's father by his mother at the time of his marriage. The two quilts were appliqued design, one "The Scotch Thistle" entwined with "The Lover's Knot" and the other, a tulip design. They were made by Peter's great-grandmother and presented one to his mother and the other to his

father at the time of their marriage. There were other antiques of interest but time does not permit a description of each. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 14, 1960)

As the evening hour drew near, a large crowd gathered at the south side of the school, where seating accommodation had been supplied and a platform erected for the performances. A large white banner with huge red letters spelling out "*West Williams Centennial*" stretched almost the length of the school. This banner was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Hodgins whose work was admirable and appreciated. Before the entertainment began, results of further contests were announced as follows: oldest man present, Peter MacDonald; oldest lady present, Mrs. Effie McCormick; youngest baby present, Rodger John Romphf, 3 months old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Romphf; largest family, Mr. and Mrs. John McDonald, Chatham; person from farthest distance, Miss Cameron, Detroit.

Mr. J.J. Johnson, who was chairman for the evening, read a telegram from Robert McCubbin, M.P., which was as follows: Lexington, Kentucky. Congratulations. You're not to be taken lightly. These one hundred years have been fruitful. Four hundred miles separate us. Best wishes from across the miles. Robert McCubbin. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 21, 1960)

Direct Distance Dialing

Starting August 21, Parkhill and vicinity will have Direct Distance Dialing service. This means that all Parkhill area residents will be able to dial station-to-station long distant calls as quickly and as easily as they now dial local calls. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 18, 1960)

Priest Returns to Dachau Camp Reunion

The following article was taken from the *Catholic Record*. Fr. Cornelius Hendrixx is a brother of John Hendrixx of Sacred Heart Parish, Parkhill.

A victim of nazi enslavement, who spent four years in the dreaded Dachau horror camp just outside Dachau, returned last week to dedicate a chapel built on the spot where he and thousands suffered during World War II.

He is Auxiliary Bishop Johannes Neuhaesler of Munich, who personally raised the funds that built the monument to the men who gave their lives for opposing the enemies of freedom and of the Christian faith.

Bishop Neuhaesler knew the horrors of Dachau at first hand.

And so did the little priest from Kingston, Ontario, who stood with him and a small circle of other priests --- friends of their days together in Dachau.

Present from Kingston was father Cornelius Hendrixx, known to his friends in the clergy and "Father Casey".

Father Hendrixx was a prisoner in Dachau for a year and a half. His return last week called up scenes of the dead and dying, cold and hunger, secret Masses and even an ordination.

All of these things still were vivid in his memory. They had been etched so deeply to be anything else.

Father Hendrixx is a native of The Netherlands. He was born in Alphen en Biel, April 10, 1914, and was ordained in May,

1940. He was arrested for his work with the Dutch underground during the German occupation and sentenced to prison. A friend taken with him was shot.

A portion of Father Hendrikx' sentence was served in Dachau. During its infamous existence, the camp was "home" to more than 2,000 priests among the estimated 200,000 who were thrown behind its barbed wire by the nazis.

Father came to the Archdiocese of Kingston in 1952. His work with Dutch immigrants earned a reputation in the archdiocese and across Ontario. Assigned to St. Mary's Cathedral, he soon was appointed director of immigration for the Archdiocese.

This spring he returned to The Netherlands to visit his mother and other close relatives and to take part in The International Eucharistic Congress in Munich. He wanted to be present when the memorial chapel was dedicated at Dachau. He was.

The memorial is a round tower of crude stone taken from the nearby Isar River to symbolize the rock of the faith which stood firm in the midst of the pagan onslaught.

It surrounds a huge crucifix which stands beneath a metal crown of thorns, on the altar which from now on is to serve as a centre of worship in memory of the approximately 30,000 men of many nationalities who died here under the nazis.

"On this spot", said Bishop Neuhaesler in his dedication address for the Chapel of the Agony of Christ, "some 200,000 men of different nationalities went through horrid ordeals. It is estimated that 30,000 of them did not leave the camp alive. Of these, 22,579 were priests. Many died of epidemics, starvation and emaciation, while many others were murdered in cold blood.

"Fifteen years ago the horrors of Dachau came to an end, but the shock, the mourning and the shame remain. At this hour, men who cannot forget are united here with men who must not forget --- Belgians, Frenchmen, Dutchmen, Jews, Italians, Poles, and members of other nations who have suffered here, or whose brothers were tortured to death.

"Here, too, are the Germans who once were prisoners in this camp and other Germans who were not confined, some knowing about the things that went on here, others who did not know. We are here today as Christians who remember the death of the Saviour on the Cross, of the Saviour who took upon Himself the sins of all mankind."

Prayers are being offered for all those who suffered in this camp and also for those who still suffer elsewhere under persecution. Three former inmates of the camp are to speak of their experiences.

The building where Bishop Neuhaesler, Pastor Martin Niemoeller of the Lutheran Church, and other "special" prisoners were kept in the nazi days now is a disciplinary barracks of the U.S. Army. The other buildings are to be torn down as soon as suitable quarters are available for the refugees now residing here, and the whole area will eventually become a memorial park with the chapel at its centre. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Sept. 8, 1960)

Capt. And Mrs. Alex McLellan Celebrate 65th Anniversary

Capt. and Alex McLellan, 286 Vidal South, celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary today surrounded by all their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, relatives and friends.

The day's activities began with a high mass at St. Joseph's Church at 8 a.m. with all the family in attendance. Later in the day, the couple held an open house for the gathering. A huge anniversary cake, decorated in pink and white, graced the buffet table.

The couple have been recipients of many cards and telegrams of congratulations, including the prime minister, the province, and the city of Sarnia.

Capt. McLellan was born in Alpena, Mich., and met Mary Longe in the village of Southampton, when his family moved there some years later. The 'young' couple were married at St. Stephen's Church, Port Huron, Mich., April 6, 1897. They have lived in Sarnia for more than 50 years, 45 of them spent in their present home. They are two of the original members of St. Joseph's parish where they still attend.

Capt. McLellan was a sailor on the Great Lakes in the old windjammer days. In 1893, he sailed as mate on his first steamer vessel, "*Lily Smith*" which he commanded ten years later. This boat brought lumber from the French River to the Point Edward lumber yard.

In 1914, he pulled into 'Drydock', to the boiler shop of Imperial Oil Limited from where he was pensioned in 1938.

The couple enjoy good health, and still maintain their own home. Mrs. McLellan was a keen gardener until the past few years. Today they are regular attendants at the local bingo games.

The love of the sea has carried on to their children. Son Harold is a captain on an Imperial Tanker, while daughter Ada is married to Capt. Haines, with the marine division of Imperial Oil here. John and Arnold McLellan are landlubbers with Imperial Oil in the city. There are ten grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. (from *The Sarnia Observer*, April 7, 1962)

[Alex McLellan (1874-) was a son of Donald MacLellan (1834-1911) and Effie MacMullin (1839-1936) and a grandson of Angus MacLellan (1789-1851) and Catherine MacIsaac (c.1790-) who settled Lot 4, Con. 12, West Williams in 1849.]

Honor J.J. Johnson Upon Retirement - 1966

Prior to his retirement on May 21 after 37 years service with the Canada Department of Agriculture as a supervising inspector of the Fruit and Vegetable Division J.J. Johnson was honored at several events in his honor by members of his department and by those who he came in contact with in the course of his duties. "J.J.", as he is familiarly known, commenced duty as an inspector August 6, 1928, for Middlesex County and in 1936 an office headquarters was set up in London. On his retirement the area of his inspectorate had been extended to cover Middlesex, Huron, Lambton, Elgin and Oxford Counties. The years 1936 to the present, Mr. Johnson recalls have seen great development in the fruit and vegetable industry. The Thedford-Grand Bend Marsh is a notable example with its almost 3000 acres of onions, carrots, potatoes and head lettuce. Huron and Middlesex Counties now produce over a million bushels of table turnips, or rutabagas, as this vegetable is known in the States. Over 4000 acres of potatoes are grown annually in this area, and the apple production is now nudging up to the million bushel mark.

Inspection and certification services are provided to the growers, shipper, wholesaler and retailers in this trade and also in the processing plants. From being the lone inspector there is now a staff of eight federal and three provincial inspectors stationed at London, Woodstock, Grand Bend, Thedford, Exeter, Lucan and Blyth.

At their annual meeting in Clinton, "J.J." was honored by the Huron county Fruit Growers Association, and by the London, Middlesex and Elgin Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association at a banquet in St. Thomas. He was also a dinner guest of the Vegetable Growers of Thedford and Grand Bend and the turnip growers and shippers of Middlesex and Huron at Centralia. In expressing his gratitude to the growers and shippers, Mr. Johnson said he would always cherish a happy memory of his pleasant association with them over the years.

On May 19th, at Wentworth Arms Hotel, Hamilton, Mr. Johnson was guest of honor at a banquet tendered to him by friends and associates in the Provincial and Federal Inspection Service. Eric Eardley of Ottawa, Director of the Division, presented Mr. Johnson with a framed memento of appreciation signed by the Minister, The Honourable Mr. Green. On returning to the London office the next day "J.J." was greeted by friends there with a farewell address and presentation. A nostalgic note was added on this occasion by the presence of W.K. Riddell and Keith Hillier, with whom there was an association in Agriculture of nearly 38 years. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., May 26, 1966)

Former Parkhill Boy 25 Years In Priesthood

The congregation of Our Lady of Sorrows Church [Aylmer, Ont.] will pay tribute to their pastor, the Rev. Fr. Hugh Fleming, on Tuesday evening May 30, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

Father Fleming will celebrate the Lord's Supper at 7:30 p.m. with some of the priests with whom he has worked during his 25 years as a priest. An informal reception is being arranged by the Catholic Women's League of the Parish to follow the celebration

of the Mass. The people of Aylmer and district are most welcome to come and congratulate Father Fleming on this occasion.

Father Fleming was ordained at St. Peter's Basilica in London on May 30, 1940. He comes from a large family from Mt. Carmel. His mother and two brothers are still living in Mt. Carmel.

His two married sisters live in Chepstow and Detroit with their families. Two of his sisters are religious in the Congregation of St. Ursula in Calgary and one in the Congregation of St. Joseph in Chatham.

The greater part of Father Fleming's ministry has been spent in Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in Aylmer. Since his ordination he has served as assistant pastor at St. Peter's Basilica in London, Blessed Sacrament Church in Chatham and Sacred Heart Church in Port Lambton. After serving as assistant pastor in Aylmer for five years, Father Fleming was appointed pastor of St. Mary's Parish in Hesson. He returned to Our Lady of Sorrows Parish in June 1958 and has continued to serve the people of Aylmer since that time. (from *The Parkhill Gazette* Thurs., June 1, 1967)

Presentation to Fr. Ted Johnson 1968

The old Sylvan school, now the Township Hall, was recently the scene of a happy gathering when schoolmates and neighbors met for a social evening with Father Ted Johnson. After a pleasant session of progressive euchre, the genial chairman, Russ Whitelaw called for Bob Whitelaw to read the address which follows:

Father Ted:

Once again it is a pleasure to gather here in the old schoolhouse to honor a young man from the community, and indeed a rare occasion, as no doubt Ted you are the first graduate of old S.S. No. 10 to reach the high honor of Priesthood.

It was some 24 years ago when you started your schooling right here in this very building. I am sure there were many pleasant memories go through your mind when you stepped into the school tonight.

We in the community are proud of your accomplishments and want, at this time, to wish you every success in your walk of life, and knowing you as we do Ted, we are sure you will generate happiness and confidence with all you associate with.

You grew up in this community and made many true friends who would like to see you remain in the area, but as the old saying goes, "Our loss is someone else's gain."

You will always be in the heart of those who have known you and will always be welcome to come visit as often as the occasion arises.

As proof of our esteem for you, we ask you to accept this gift, and may it serve as a pleasant reminder of your friends here.

Signed on behalf of your many friends. Bob Whitelaw, Base Eberly, Arnold Dixon, Murray Mackey

Then Base Eberly and Murray Mackey made the presentation of a very lovely attache case and an enlarged picture of the pupils of Sylvan school with their teacher, Margaret Duncan, which was taken in 1951.

Father Ted expressed his sincere thanks for the gift and said how he had been very happy to meet again with so many neighbor friends. Afterwards, a delicious lunch was served by the ladies and a pleasant social time was enjoyed by all. (from *The Parkhill Gazette* Thurs., Jan. 18, 1968)

Teacher Retires 1970

Mr. Henri Yelle is retiring after 42 years of teaching at Parkhill High School and North Middlesex District High School. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 25, 1970)

Birth --- Minten 1972

Martin and Mary (née Kustermans) wish to announce the arrival of their daughter, Jacinta Anna, 7 lbs 9 oz. on January 29, 1972, at Strathroy-Middlesex General Hospital (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 24, 1972)

Graduation Mass --- June 1972

A special mass was sung by Rev. J.C. Caruana for members of the graduating class of Sacred Heart School. Members of the class were: Larry Kuracina, Tony Vandembogaard, Mary Ann Royackers, Janet Tremblay, Peter Roeland, Robert Kennes, Philip Larkin, Michael Thuss, Bernadette Vermunt, Theresa O'Hanley, Paul Kremer, Charlene McDonald, Elly Leyten, Betty Ann Adair, Ann Marie McGee and Marion Van Massenhoven. Their teacher was Mr. J. Swart. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 6, 1972)

Birth --- Vanderheyden 1975

Matthew and Margaret (née Van Massenhoven) are happy to announce the birth of their daughter, Andrea Kristyn Michelle, on Friday, February 14, 1975, at St. Joseph's Hospital, London, weight 8 lbs. 1 oz. A little sister for Jennifer and Derek. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Feb. 27, 1975)

Bishop Attends Centennial Mass

The first Catholic church in Parkhill was a white frame building erected in 1864 on Broadway Street on land now used as a garden by Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Gilbert. It served as both church and school.

In 1875 Father Corcoran built the present Sacred Heart edifice on an acreage donated by Charles McKinnon.

On November 7th of that year of Grace 1875, the church was solemnly opened and consecrated under the patronage of "The Sacred Heart of Jesus" by His Excellency, Most Reverend John Walsh, D.D., the Second Bishop of London.

On Sunday, November 16, 1975 by the Grace of God, his Excellency, Most Reverend G. Emmett Carter, Ph. D., D.D., Eighth Bishop of London offered the mass of Thanksgiving, assisted by the Pastor Rev. J. Charles Caruana and Rev. Joe Snyder, Vice-Chancellor of the Diocese. On this occasion the Bishop preached a very instructive homily on the faith of God in

the pioneer settlers, in their descendants and successors, with thanksgiving to God "for all the ways that He hath led us". He then administered the sacrament of Confirmation to forty-four children and three adults. The church was crowded beyond capacity to welcome our Beloved Bishop and to assist at mass and receive his Episcopal Blessing as we enter with Faith, Hope and Love upon our second century.

Following the Mass, the Bishop joined the congregation for a happy social gathering in the school gymnasium. Cameras flashed for scores of photographs.

Prior to 1864 and subsequent to the migration of the Hebridean pioneers of 1849 from Bornish, Scotland, to establish the new Bornish in the primeval forested wilderness of East and West Williams, the Parkhill settlement was served by priests of St. Columba, Bornish.

In those early years mass was offered in the homes of the few Catholic families. The advent of the railway in 1860 caused a shift in population with English and Irish and Scottish settling in Parkhill.

The history of our Parish 1849-1975 was published on November 16, 1975. Our beloved pastor has given his heart's blood in typing editing, collating, printing and binding of this present edition.

Our next parish milestone is the centennial of St. Columba Church, Bornish, consecrated by His Excellency Bishop McEvay on New Year's Day, 1903.

A Sacred History is a prayerful record of what God has done for His people using individuals who are willing instruments in His hands. For all God's people everywhere who have prayed with us, and for us, during the years, we give thanks to God.

We are thankful for the presence at the Bishop's mass on November 16, of those dear friends from a far distance, Mr. and Mrs. Nemes of Detroit with some of their children. Mrs. Nemes is the great-great-granddaughter of Charles McKinnon, the builder of the first Catholic church on Broadway Street and donor of the land for the present edifice in 1875. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Dec. 11, 1975)

Birth --- Facchina 1977

Lucio and Alice (née deGouw) of Parkhill thank God for the safe arrival of their son Jeffrey Francis, 7 lbs. 11 oz., at Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital on February 22, 1977. Fifth grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. Marinus deGouw, Parkhill and first grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. Luigi Facchina, Italy. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., March 3, 1977)

Birth --- Michielsen 1977

Jack and Joanne are proud to announce the arrival of their daughter Carolyn Louise on June 29, 1977 at Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital. A third grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. Joe Michielsen, Parkhill, first grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. Frank De Koning, Watford, also first great-grandchild for Mr. Cornelius De Koning, visiting from Holland. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., July 14, 1977)

Births --- Kustermans 1977

Jack and Joanne are pleased to announce the safe arrival of their second daughter, Jennine Marie, on November 1, 1977, in St. Joseph's Hospital, London.

Adrian and Cathy are happy to announce the safe arrival of Lorraine Marie, weighing 7 lbs 5 ozs. On November 8, 1977. A new little sister for Daniel and Monica.

John and Wilma are happy to announce the arrival of a son Dale Peter weighing 7 lbs. 1 oz. on November 14, 1977, at Strathroy General Hospital. Proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Kustermans and Mr. and Mrs. Peter Van Bree. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Nov. 17, 1977)

Birth --- Facchina 1980

Lucio, Alice and Jeffrey thank God for the safe arrival of their new precious daughter and sister, Maureen Lucia, on Friday, January 18, 1980 at 2:10 a.m. weighing 7 lbs. 2 ozs. Second grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. Luigi Facchina, San Martino, Italy; twelfth grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. Marinus de Gouw, Parkhill. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., Jan. 24, 1980)

Birth --- Van Hooydonk 1980

Lydia and Casey are proud to announce the safe arrival of their second son, Christopher John, on April 4, 1980 at St. Joseph's Hospital [London], weighing 7 lbs 3 oz. A little brother for Casey. A second grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. Vinz Krainz and a sixth grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. Jack Van Hooydonk. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., April 24, 1980)

Ursuline Sisters To Leave

After 28 years of service to Sacred Heart Parish and community, the Ursuline Sisters regret it necessary to withdraw at the end of June, because of a lack of Sisters to replace those who have spent some time in Parkhill.

In 1952, the late Rev. J.F. Paquette approached Rev. Mother Kathleen, Superior General of the Ursuline Order, with the request for Sisters to staff Sacred Heart School. Several new families from Holland and Belgium had immigrated to this parish. Father Paquette was anxious to have Religious to help these children make the adjustment and preserve the strong faith that these families had brought with them.

To-day, those children are the parents of most of the children in Sacred Heart School. Sister Shizmko will continue teaching here but will live in Strathroy.

Throughout the years, the Sisters have enjoyed working and living in Parkhill. They have tried to bring comfort and peace to all those who came to them for a kind word or advice. On the other hand, they feel that they are much richer spiritually for being part of a small, friendly community such as Parkhill where people have time to say "hello" to you. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Thurs., June 5, 1980)

Birth --- Hendriks 1988

Tony and Katherine are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Shawn Adrian, on October 13, 1988 at St. Joseph's Hospital [London], weighing 8 lbs 4 ozs. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Hendriks of R.R. 5, Parkhill and Mr. and Mrs. Allen Atwell of R.R. 1, Newbury. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., Nov. 23, 1988)

Birth --- McEachen 1989

Kelly and Ron are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Liam Patrick, weighing 8 lbs 10 ozs on April 14, 1989. His proud grandmother is Anne McEachen. A very special thanks to Dr. Deborah Koudys and the wonderful nursing staff at St. Joseph's Hospital. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., May 3, 1989)

Birth --- Van Riel 1989

Simon and Frances (née Van Asseldonk) are pleased to announce the birth of their third daughter, Stacey Joanne, born April 29, 1989 at 2:34 a.m., weighing 7 lbs. 7 ozs., a new little sister for Dayna and Nicole. Proud grandparents are Adrian and Hendrika Van Asseldonk, of Parkhill, and Joseph and Helen Van Riel, of Forest. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., May 17, 1989)

Birth --- Kustermans 1989

Andy and Jenny Kustermans are pleased to announce the safe arrival of their first child, Amanda Mary Anna, born on May 23, 1989 at St. Joseph's Hospital, London, weighing 7 lbs 9 ozs. This is the 37th grandchild for Andrew and Anna Kustermans of Parkhill and the 4th grandchild for Martin and Mary Peeters of Kerwood. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., June 7, 1989)

Birth --- Muller 1988

John and Cecile announce with joy the safe arrival of "David William". David was born, June 12th, 1989 at St. Joseph's Hospital, London, weighing 7 lbs 6½ ozs. A precious little brother for Justin and Nicole. Proud opas and omas are William and Mary Muller and Emile and Irene Masschelein. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., June 28, 1989)

Birth --- Vander Vloet 1989

Chris and Barb (née de Gouw) welcome lovingly their gift from God, their fourth child, a son, Marinus Franciscus, born on Sunday, July 9, 1989 at 6:41 a.m. at Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital, weighing 9 lbs and measuring 20¾ in. A new little playmate for Maria, Lucia and Frankie. Marinus is the 41st grandchild for Marinus and Lucia de Gouw and the 19th grandchild for Frank and Maria Vander Vloet and also the 51st great-grandchild for Adrianus and Maria Vander Vloet, all of Parkhill.

Thank you to all of those who came to visit, sent gifts and cards, and for the phone calls received while in the hospital. Special thanks to Dr. Fretz and Dr. Buma and all the OB staff of Strathroy Hospital for your constant care and attention. Also a special thanks to Saint Gerard (Patron Saint of Mothers) and a big

thanks to Pete and Anne Roelands, Aunt Julie and Uncle Pete de Gouw and Aunt Alice and Uncle Lucio Facchina and families for looking after Maria, Lucia and Frankie. It is greatly appreciated and will always be remembered. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., July 19, 1989)

Birth --- Royackers 1989

Gil and Josey (née Van Riel) are pleased to announce the safe arrival of their fourth child, David Gilbert, on August 7, 1989, weighing 8 lbs. 10 ozs. --- a brother for Leanne, Bradley and Eric. Proud grandparents are Albert and Joanne Royackers of Parkhill and Joseph and Helen Van Riel of Forest. Great-grandmother is Helen Van Geffen of Strathroy. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., Aug. 16, 1989)

Birth --- Baltessen 1989

John and Janet (née Hendriks) are very pleased to announce the arrival of their son, Kyle William, born on August 18th, 1989, weighing 8 lbs. 12 ozs. Kyle is a little brother for Carlene, Derek and Justine. Proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. William Baltessen of Grand Bend and Mr. and Mrs. John Hendriks of Parkhill. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., Aug. 30, 1989)

Birth --- McEachen 1994

Liam and Connor are proud to announce the arrival of their baby brother, Curtis William, weighing 9 lbs. 1 oz. He was born on February 17, 1994 at Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital. Proud mother and father are Kelly and Ron. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Feb. 1994)

Birth --- Johnson 1994

I've arrived! My name is Brendan Simon Joseph. I was born on March 22nd, 1994 and weighed 8 lbs. 14 ozs. My happy parents are Pat & Debbie Johnson, and excited first time grandparents are Simon and Anita Willemse and Jack and Mary Johnson. Proud great-grandparents are Emile and Maria Janssens. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, March 1994)

Birth --- de Gouw 1994

Our latest gift from God has arrived! Precious and perfect and ready to be spoiled. Formed in His image and entrusted to us, surely this child is a reflection of His heavenly love. Peter and Julie de Gouw, along with Frances, Therese, Ryan, Peter, Catherine, Marian, Elizabeth and Adrian, welcome with love, Laura Angela Marie. Laura was born on December 29, 1994, weighing 5 lbs., 12 ozs. Laura is the 57th grandchild for Marinus and Lucia de Gouw and is the 10th grandchild for Joseph and Frances Nash. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., Jan. 11, 1995)

Birth --- Roelands 1995

Rob and Jacinta (née Minten) are pleased to announce the birth of their son Benjamin August, born January 20, 1995, at 5:50 p.m., weighing 7 lbs., 7 ozs, 21 inches long. A cute little brother for Alisha. Proud grandparents are Martin and Mary Minten Jr. of Watford, and August and Adrie Roelands of Parkhill. Great-grandparents are Andrew and Ann Kustermans of Parkhill and

Arnolda Minten of Watford. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., Feb. 1, 1995)

Birth --- Willemse 1995

Ben and Kim are proud to announce the birth of their first child. We welcome God's precious gift, Joshua Benjamin, born on June 2, 1995, weighing 7 lbs., 7½ ozs., 22½" long. First grandchild for both Paul and Carolyn Vincent and Casey and Anna Willemse, all of Parkhill. Proud great-grandmothers are Barbara Weber and Cornelia Hendriks, also of Parkhill. Special thanks to Dr. Whynot, Dr. Ferguson and all the OB staff at Strathroy Hospital. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., June 14, 1995)

Birth --- Mathers 1995

Ron, Bonnie and big brother, Derek, are happy to announce the birth of Chad Cornelius on Thursday, July 13, 1995, at 5:15 a.m., weighing 8 lbs., 12½ozs., reaching 21" in length. Proud grandparents are Cornell and Adriana Van Massenhoven and Bill and Eleanor Mathers, of Parkhill. Great-Grandmas are Hannah O'Neill of Parkhill and Marie Herygers of Wilmont Station, Nova Scotia. Special thanks to Dr. Philip Vandewalle and all the great OB nurses in Strathroy Hospital. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., Aug. 2, 1995)

Birth --- Minten 1995

Joseph and Johanna of R.R. 3, Kerwood, Ontario, thank God for the safe arrival of their new daughter, Janessa Mary-Katherine, born on Thursday, August 3rd, 1995, at Strathroy Middlesex General Hospital, weighing 8 lbs., 6 ozs., at 4:15 p.m. A wee playmate for Lucia, Joe, Joni, Ron, Kevin, Matthew, Krista, Mary-Angela, John-Paul, Stephen and Jamie. Janessa is the 58th grandchild for Marinus and Lucia de Gouw of Parkhill and the 83rd for Mrs. Arnolda Minten of Watford. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., Aug. 16, 1995)

Birth --- Buggy 1995

Sauna is thrilled to announce the birth of her new little sister, Emma Nicole, on August 8th, 1995, weighing 8 lbs., 6 ozs. Proud parents are Tony and Marilyn (Young). Proud grandparents are Andrew and Helen Young of London and Martin and Carmel Buggy of Parkhill (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., Sept. 6, 1995)

Birth --- Willemse 1995

Kathy and Dave are proud to announce the safe but tardy arrival of Hillary Elizabeth. She entered our world on October 14th, weighing 7 lbs, 5 ozs. Proud grandparents are Casey and Anna Willemse of Parkhill and Richard and Mary Awad of London. Many thanks to Dr. Perkins and all the nursing staff at Strathroy Hospital (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., Oct. 25, 1995)

Birth --- Hendrikx 1995

Jerry, Kathy (Patterson), Emily, Erin and Scott are happy to announce the birth of Meghan Joanne on Friday, November 3rd, 1995 at SMGH, 9 lbs., 8½ ozs., 23 inches long. Spoiling privileges go to grandparents Bob and Donna Patterson, Kerwood, Joanna Hendrikx, Parkhill, and great-grandparents Helen and Harold Thynne, Kerwood, and Dorothy Wernham, Komoka. Once again our thanks and appreciation to Drs. Pexman and Perkins and Anne Marie and Beatrice. To the staff on OB, especially Evelyn and Lisa, thank you during both our visits --- you are all the best. And a special thank you to Grampa Patterson for all his help in the three weeks leading up to Meghan's birth --- we couldn't have done it without you. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., Dec. 6, 1995)

Birth --- Kustermans 1997

Amanda, Michelle and Kevin are happy to announce the safe arrival of their little sister Sarah Marie. She was born at Strathroy Hospital on September 25, 1997 at 1:20 p.m., weighing 8 lbs. 7 ozs. Proud parents are Andy and Jenny. Sarah is the 49th grandchild for Andrew and Anna Kustermans of Parkhill, and the 9th grandchild for Martin and Mary Peeters of Strathroy. Thank you

Dr. Vandewalle, Dr. Marshall and the nursing staff at Strathroy Hospital. Thanks again Jenny and Sarah. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., Oct. 1, 1997)

Middlesex 911 Emergency Number Now in Service

After years of planning, the county, the emergency dispatching services and Bell Canada officially launched 911 (Nine-One-One) last Thursday morning.

That is the new number you dial for emergency help from the fire department, ambulance service and Ontario Provincial Police.

Under the so-called enhanced service, the caller's name, complete address and telephone number are displayed on a screen in the city police station. The police staff alert the dispatcher for the emergency service that is needed in your area.

The screen will not show addresses of callers from cellular phones or four-party rural telephone service.

Bell Canada will begin billing subscribers an additional 32 cents per month to help pay for the communications technology. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., Oct. 22, 1997)

Thus, the townships of East and West Williams officially converted from using Concession Numbers to Road Names on October 16, 1997.

A De Gouw Celebration

What a joyous celebration! With our family, relatives and friends from near and far together, for our 50th wedding anniversary on April 18, 1998! A big thank you to all, for the participation, greetings, donations, and presence at the mass and at the Open House. Special mention to our nine children and their spouses, and all the grandchildren for the detailed preparations for and the smooth procedure of the day, for ensuring that mass truly was a celebration of thanksgiving along with

Deacon John Johnson, Fr. Paul and Fr. Caruana. To the Community Centre staff, Scott and Jack for their helpfulness. To the Sacred Heart Bornish-Parkhill C.W.L. for their fine Open House and superbly delicious supper. To Rika Van Asseldonk, John and Mary Aarts, the Klompendansers for their help with the Dutch dance. To the Lions Club for tending the bar. For all of you, by your very presence, help make this day a memorable one for our family and for us. Marinus and Lucia De Gouw. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., May 13, 1998)

Birth Johnson -1998

Pat and Debbie (Willemse) are thrilled to announce the arrival of a baby sister for Brendan and Justin. Shanna Andrea arrived on June 8th at 7:18 p.m. weighing 8 lbs, 3 ozs. Proud grandparents are Simon and Anita Willemse and Jack and Mary Johnson, as well as Great-grandpa Emile Janssens. (from *The Parkhill Gazette*, Wed., June 24, 1998)

Municipal Name Changes 2001

There will no longer be a West Williams Township after Jan 1, 2001. The new municipality (township) of "North Middlesex" will be a combination of: the village of Ailsa Craig; the town of Parkhill; and the townships of McGillivray, East Williams, and West Williams.

Middlesex Centre already exists, being the conglomeration of London Township, Lobo Township and Delaware Twp. Lucan and Biddulph have joined together as the Township of Lucan-Biddulph. Strathroy and Caradoc will merge as the Township of Strathroy-Caradoc on Jan 1, 2001. North Dorchester and West Nissouri Townships are talking about teaming up. (G.A. April 2, 1999)



St. Columba Church, Bornish, Ontario when Concessions 12 and 13 became Bornish Drive, 1997