



M A I N S T R E E T   N O R W I C H

*T*HIS BOOK has been compiled  
for people who come home, for  
children and young people who grow  
up and go away, and for older  
citizens who like to recall their early  
days.

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*. . . this is the story of the community  
of Norwich 'til 1946 . . .*

73-05591

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○ *Editor's Note*: I wish to thank the following people for the help they gave towards the gathering of the material for this book:

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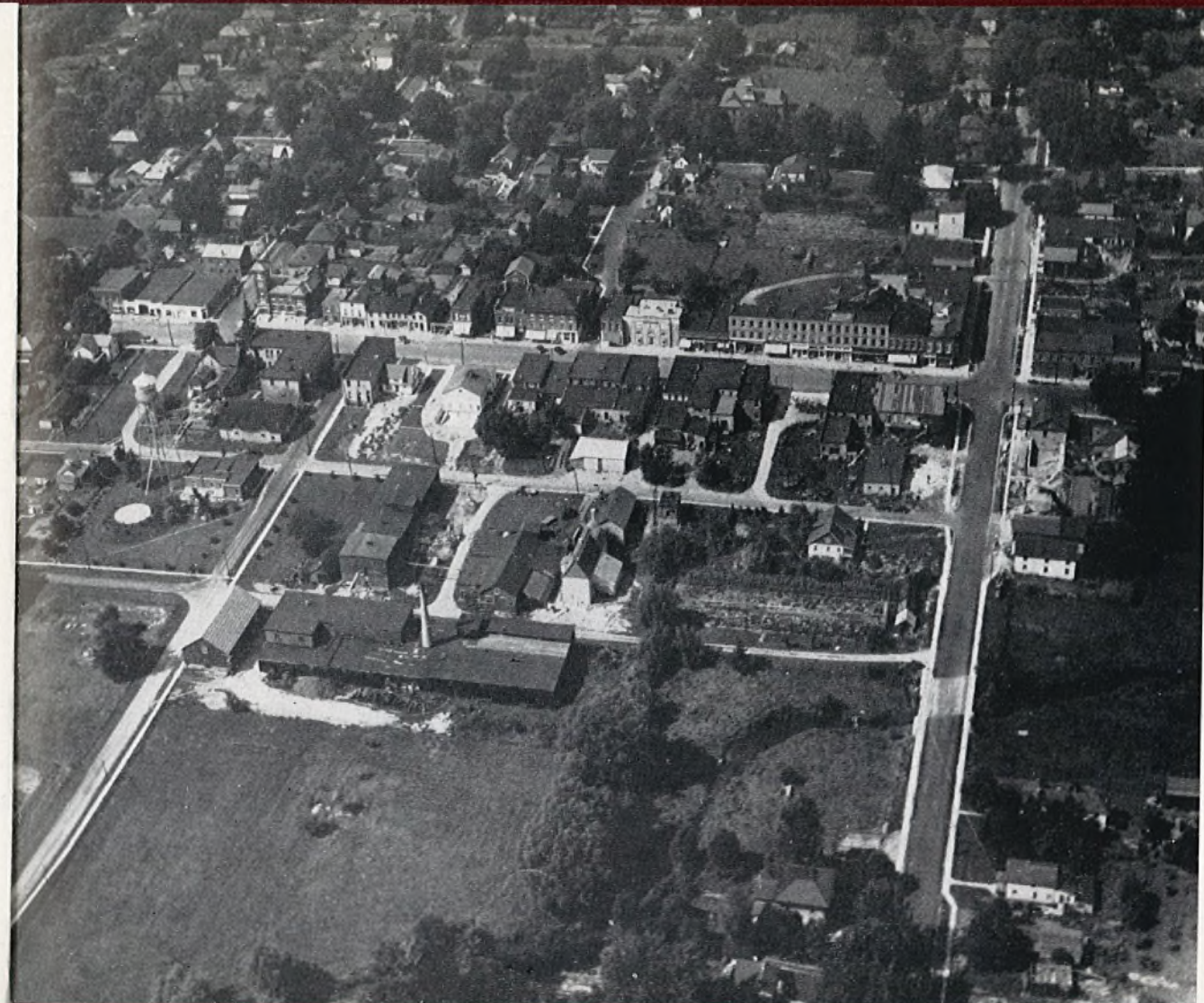
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*The Sentinel-Review*

The Operators of the Norwich and Burgessville Telephone Exchanges

—K. S. MOTT, *Editor*



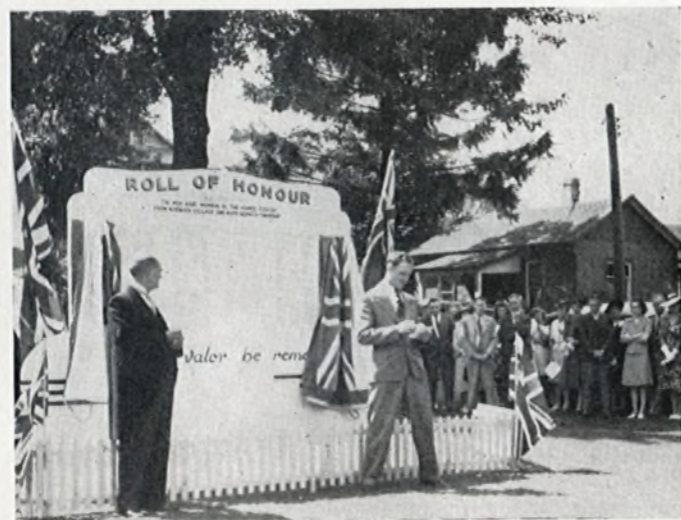
... published  
as a souvenir of  
the  
*Old Home Week*  
July 1-4  
1946

*Air Photo by Dan Dwyer  
and Glen Farrell*



CENOTAPH, WORLD WAR I

HONOUR ROLL, WORLD WAR II



... from our farms, schools, churches, factories and places of business our young people went to war.

• SERVICE PERSONNEL

- |                         |                    |                       |                  |                     |
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| Gordon Bishop           | H. N. Clifford     | Maurice Farrell       | Anson Hughes     | Kieth Lees          |
| Madeline Bishop         | L. O. Clifford     | Arthur Ferris         | Gordon Hughes    | Norman Lees         |
| William Bothwell        | Allen Cohoe        | Roger Fidlin          | Glen Hughes      | Alice Lournitus     |
| Junior Bowen            | Ernest Cole        | Jack Fish             | Eade Hughes      | Norman Lawrence     |
| Loyle Bowen             | Winfred Cooper     | Leslie Force          | Johnson Hughes   | Charles Lemon       |
| Bert Bowman             | L. Conkrite        | Jack Foster           | Rose Hughes      | Gordon Lemon        |
| Thomas Boyce            | John Cowan         | Harry Frain           | Rose Hughes      | John Lemon          |
| Nelles Brearley         | Lyle Crawford      | George Freel          | Stanley Hughes   | John Lester         |
| Jean Buckborough        | Gailer Croker      | Albert Freeman        | Rosalind Hulet   | Lewis Lolcama       |
| Robert Buckborough      | Leonard Croker     | Tom Girling           | William Hulet    | Jack Longworth      |
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| Gordon Bucholz          | Jack Cummings      | G. L. Goodale         | Garth Johnson    | Edward Lossing      |
| Omar Bucholz            | E. B. Cunningham   | John E. Green         | Jack Johnson     | P. C. MacArthur     |
| Warren Bucholz          | Dayton Curry       | Marion Green          | Albert Jull      | Mary Macwhirter     |
|                         | Hilton Curry       | Ed Griffith           |                  |                     |

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 Bottom row: P/O Roger Burrill, P/O Howard Lossing, S/L Robert Alexander, A/S Jack Bowman, F/Lt. Brock Robertson.



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 Bottom row: Pte. John Yule, F/Lt. Geoffrey Coward, Pte. Bev. Newton, Flt. Sgt. Robt Reid, F/O Arthur Stienstra. Pte. L. Boyce (no photo)

• SERVICE PERSONNEL

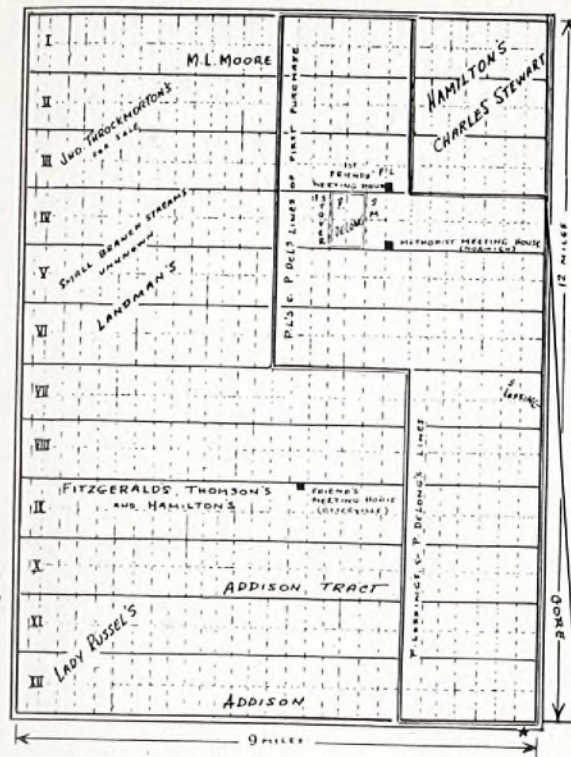
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 Rettie Palmer  
 R. Parker  
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 Glen Penny  
 Jack Penny  
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 Leslie Pellow  
 Roy Perry  
 Howard Petch  
 Jack Pickard  
 William Pickard  
 Paul Pick  
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 R. Piper  
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 Norman Pipher  
 Derek Pite  
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 Melvin Pollard  
 Philip Pollard

Allen Pollock  
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 James Powell  
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 Jack Priddle  
 Hugh Priddle  
 Frank Purdy  
 Percy Purdy  
 George Ralph (Mentioned in Despatches)  
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 Jack Rice, D.F.C.  
 Vincent Richardson  
 Glen Rishea  
 Russell Robinson  
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 Ernest Scott  
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 Ross Spencer  
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 Eric Steeves  
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 Orville Stone  
 John Stubbs  
 Alfred Stubbs  
 Allen Tanner  
 Kenneth Tanner  
 Ian Tardi  
 Tom Taylor  
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 John Thompson  
 E. W. Thompson  
 Stanley Thompson  
 W. C. Thorne  
 George Tolman  
 S. R. Tribe

C. J. Treffry  
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 Jack Vigar  
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 Clifford Walpole  
 Donald Williams  
 Harold Williams  
 Bruce Walker  
 Herbert Walker  
 John Walker  
 J. Whitten  
 Godfrey Waud  
 Ralph Waud  
 J. Whitten  
 Alex Wilcox  
 James Wilcox  
 Vernon Wilcox  
 William Wilcox  
 Art Wilson  
 Lyle Wilson  
 Charles Woods  
 Jack Woods  
 Tom Woods  
 Horace Woodhouse  
 Charlie Worrall  
 Jack Worrall  
 Jack Worrall  
 S. Worrall  
 Bruce Young



COPY OF PETER LOSSING'S MAP OF 1820

NORWICH TOWNSHIP

... through 300 years we trace our growth.

In the National Museum at Ottawa are toy pipes and stone whistles that Neutral Indian children played with on the banks of the Otter before 1655. There are also their mothers' hand-decorated combs made from antlers of the deer and the dice that enlivened the leisure hours of their fathers.

## THE 1820 MAP OF NORWICH TOWNSHIP

Norwich Township consisted of 12 concessions with 28 two-hundred-acre lots in each, divided into groups of seven by the township lines. They are numbered from the east. Only those families are listed here whose descendants are still within that township or well known there today.

In concession 1, Joseph Woodrow, lot 7; Peter McLees, lots 8 and 9; Edmund Woodrow, lot 10; I. Ross and Joshua Corbin, 11; Aaron Corbin, 14; Jonathan Emigh, 20.

In concession 2, James Haight and Amos Hunter, 2; Samuel Ismond, 6; Joshua Gillam and John Gillam, 7; Andrew Cohoe and James Barker, 9; Cornelius Losee and Joseph Lancaster on 10 and 11, with Wm. Curtis having a small section of 11; Shubal Nichols, 12; Peter Lossing, 13; Johnathan Emigh, 17; George Emigh, 18 and 19. Robert Dennis had 20 and 21 the same year after this map was made. John Throckmorton had a large tract west of this.

In concession 3 Samuel Moore, 1 and 2; Andrew Searls, 5; Caleb Tompkins, part of 6 and 7; John G. Losee, Edmund Lossing and Peter Lossing, 8 and 9; Justus Wilson and Samuel Throckmorton, 10; John Palmer, 11; David Nichols and Adam Stover, 13 and 14.

In concession 4, John Hunt, 2; William Young, 3; Samuel Cornwell and Michael Stover, 6, 7 and 8; Sears Mott and David Barton, 9; Peter DeLong, 10 and 11; Frederick Stover, 12; George Wright, 13; Daniel and Gilbert Stover, 14.

In concession 5, William Hilliker, 2; John Syles, 6; Solomon and Peter Sackrider, 7; Adam Stover, 8; Henry Hiliker, 9; Savid DeLong, 11; Andrew Lossing and George Lossing, 12; C. Vanderburg, 13; William Stover, 14.

In concession 6, Giles Hiliker, 1; John Hiliker, 2; Jacob Mott, 5; John Smith and Christian Sackrider, 7; John Holmes, 9; Henry Austin, 13; William Hulet, 14.

In concession 7, Solomon Lossing, 1 and 2 (with saw-mill); Charles Cornwell, 3; Joel Barnes, 8; Asa Smith, 15; Christian Otis, 19; John Earl, 20.

In concession 8, Wesley Stover, 5; Cromwell and Haight, 10, 11 and 12; David Dunkin, 15; Amos Palmer, 17; Amos Scott, 18; John Phillips, 21; Josiah Gilbert, 22; John Birdsall, 23; Willet Post, 24.

In concession 9, Friends' Meeting House, lot 13.

In concession 10, William Sherwood, lot 7.

In concession 11, Benson Lossing, lots 5 and 6.

In concession 12, George Southwick, lots 4 and 5.

Some families in the southwest of the township at that time are not marked on this map.

## NORWICH TOWNSHIP HISTORY

The Neutral Indians had been wiped out by the Iroquois before 1655.

Then there is the document recording the purchase by Sir John Johnson from the Mississauga Indians of all the land west of the Niagara River, east of Catfish Creek (near St. Thomas), south of La Tranche River (the Thames) and north of Lake Erie for £1180 7s. This, of course, includes Norwich Township.

In 1799, William Hambly, a 52-year-old deputy surveyor living in Woodhouse Township, began where one, Perrin Law, had left off about nine years before, to survey Norwich and Dereham. His notes describe his Indian assistants

refusing to work because the flies were bad, or going home to the Grand River to look after the harvest; they tell of week-ends of washing and baking at Thomas Ingersoll's or Joseph Canfield's in the Oxford Townships; of building a canoe to cross the swollen Reynolds Creek in Dereham. Finally, when the bushes were full of snow, he had laid out Norwich Township into lines and concessions and 200-acre lots by blazing trees and placing stakes.

The next year the government divided the township among ten of its friends, leaving 19,000 acres of Reserves and ten or twelve small holdings. Rev. Robert Addison of Niagara received 6,000 acres, 160 acres of which were given by his widow to his Westmoreland cousin, Robert Addison, grandfather of Wilfred Addison of Otterville. Thus the Addison name has persisted in Norwich for 146 years.

William Wilcocks, an Irish gentleman, cousin of the Hon. Peter Russell, once acting governor of the province, and what is more important, grandfather of Robert Baldwin, was given 15,000 acres of Norwich land which he promptly mortgaged to a Thomas Grey, paying off the mortgage ten years later when he received \$7,500 from Peter Lossing and Peter De Long for his whole tract. The Pitchers have the original deed for this land.

Although the Lossings had been 140 years in Dutchess County, it had been an uneasy time because of a long feud between small farmers and large landowners, Dutch Patroons at first, and land-hungry British later and the working farmers who objected to feudal dues which were long exacted by the wealthy. Nicholas Emigh had persistently opposed paying these dues. Besides much of the land there is stony and hard to work. Consequently, when the American Revolution was over and the great families were again adding to their possessions from some confiscated

estates, it was easy for Peter Lossing to persuade fifty families to come to a new fertile country where land could be bought outright.

The long procession of settlers coming from Dutchess County to Norwich began when Sears Mott, his wife, their five boys and their daughter, sold their farm and set out with a wagon and team up the Hudson to Albany, then due west through the village of Rochester to Black Rock where they had an adventurous crossing on a raft that was swept along the Niagara River for a mile before it reached the other side. They arrived at John Yeigh's in Burford in May and waited for Peter Lossing and his wife, his sons, Solomon, Edmund and Benson, and two of his daughters, Mary and Ethelinda, who was crossing into Canada over the St. Lawrence, calling at York on his way, probably to pay for his land.

When the Lossings arrived the men and boys of the two families went up to Norwich by way of Cooly Pond to avoid the Burford swamp. As they neared the boundaries of their new home, the two smallest boys, Benson Lossing and Reuben Mott, ran a race to be the first white child to enter the township. As long as they lived they each claimed to have won that race.

They all camped near where Harry Jull's house stands and began to plan the two log cabins, Lossing's a little west of where Stanley Harris's house stands and Mott's two fields back east of the creek. Sears Mott had bought land two miles west, but to be near a neighbor decided to settle on lot 9, a reserve lot. It made an ideal dairy farm later.

Next spring both families moved in, Peter Lossing first. The Stovers came next; Adam Stover had bought 3,000 acres for his sons, Adam, Frederick and Michael, and 500 acres for his daughter, Mary McLees. Some of his sons remained in the United States and a descendant of one of

## NORWICH TOWNSHIP HISTORY (Continued)

these is General Eisenhauer's mother. The rest of the families who came soon are listed in the description of the map of 1820. The War of 1812 stopped people from moving in for a few years, then they began again to come.

Peter Lossing was a Friends' minister and soon had a meeting started. His stepson, William Hulet, had come with him and he was set to work as a teacher in the little school, which was the first in the township. The Emighs and Dennises and Spragues seem to have been Baptists, for they were instrumental a little later in organizing the Burgessville Baptist Church. Adam and Frederick Stover were Friends but Michael appears to have been Methodist. He gave the land for the first Methodist Church and the village grew up near this church.

Each group attracted others of the same persuasion. Many Friends came from different parts of the United States, though it is likely that not long before most of them had been neighbors on the Atlantic seaboard. One family of Moores, for instance, came from Welland, and one from Nova Scotia, both being United Empire Loyalists.

In the middle twenties the McNallys came and that began a settlement of Irish on the sixth. Thomas Carolan, however, settled on Quaker Street where the highway turns and built his blacksmith shop across the road. His boys were all expert horseshoers. There is a story that two farmers at Harley wanted their teams shod, and one wagered that he could drive the twelve miles to Carolans to get his work done and get back before the other could get his team shod in Burford three miles away and return. Carolan's were told of the scheme and Pete and Nick and Pat and their father all set to work together and this team was back at Harley before the other.

A number of English and New Brunswick families began to arrive in the thirties. John Tidey had come a little earlier as a surveyor but he had been some time near Thorold. The Treffreys came in 1834 and joined the Friends. The Clares and the Brearleys arrived about the same time and were among the early Anglicans, as were the Heywoods and the Agars. John Jaques was also English but his family had been in New Brunswick for sixty years. He was Anglican but his mother was Baptist. These Anglicans were all staunch King's men when the rebellion broke out. The Quakers were opposed to trying to get reform by force of arms, though a few members of Quaker families were found among the rebels.

In the thirties some good frame houses were built. Adam Stover built his on the farm now owned by Andrew Cohoe. When it was torn down it was found that it had been framed with oak. The Mott homestead had stood since 1837, apparently also framed with oak. Toward 1850 the farmers began to look around their farms for brick clay. The school and the meeting house were built, and Gillams, Suttons, Cornwells, Dunkins, Butterfields and Barkers built large brick homes with lofty ceilings and often a basement kitchen. The Carroll home east of Norwich was one of these. The brick for most of these was home-made. It was in the eighties that the modern brick houses began to appear throughout the country, very large white brick mansions which now tax the heating equipment when fuel is scarce. In the old days they heated a very small part of the house at a time. Then came the red brick homes, also large, on the farms, and a few of cement blocks. We are in a transition stage now, and there ought to be an entirely new style with the development of glass and plastics.

## THE FIRST AGRICULTURAL FAIRS

(Courtesy The London Free Press)

An entry in an old account book, owned by Mr. Carroll Wilcox of Norwich, records the founding of the first agricultural fair in the Norwich townships. His grandfather made the entry on January 3rd, 1852, as follows:

"We, whose names are subscribed hereto, form ourselves into a society, under the provisions of the Acts of the Legislature, 14 and 15, but to be called the Township of Norwich Agricultural Society of the County of Oxford, and we hereby severally agree to pay to (the) treasurer yearly while we continue members of the said society (any member being at liberty to retire therefrom upon giving notice in writing at any time before the annual meeting to the secretary of his wish to do so) the sum of five shillings currency, and we further agree to conform to the rules and by-laws of the said society."

Those paying five shillings were: Truman Wilcox, Ely Harris, Nelson Shattock, Hiram Shattock, William Haley, Silvester Harris, John Crawford, Ebenezer Haley, Benjamin Haley, Mordecai Reynolds.

For some years the society held fairs alternately at Ottersville and Norwich. Then the township was divided into North and South Norwich and fairs were held each year at each of these places. There is a record of one held at Norwich in 1861 that must have been outstanding. Norwichville is referred to as a brisk little place for business and contains many fine stores and dwellings.

No doubt the success of the society is mainly owing to the ability of their enterprising corps of officers: Gilbert Moore, president; James Barr, vice-president; Hugh McKee, secretary and treasurer, and directors and assistant directors: William S. Moore, D. Young, William Treffry, S. Harris, R. Shannon, N. Brown, A. Baird S. J. Cornell Jr., A. E. Stover, John A. Tidey Jr., E. W. Burgess, M. Silverthorne, William Ransom and John Manson.

It was estimated that nearly 4000 persons were present that year. At previous exhibitions no charge for admission had been made, and when it was decided by the directors to charge 12 cents to non-members it was feared by many that it would have the effect of seriously injuring the show—but their fears were groundless and the receipts for tickets of admission footed up to the neighborhood of \$300.

A side light on peach-growing was given in a report of the Norwich fair in 1861. It said: "The peaches exhibited by Gilbert Moore were the best we have ever seen in Canada. We sought out Mr.

Moore and made enquiries as to his mode of culture. He says the farmers have the mistaken idea that the young trees require great care and a rich soil; then the trees grow too fast and do not mature. In 1860 he raised 200 bushels of splendid peaches. He plants on gravel-soil. The trees grow slowly and become domesticated to the soil and hardened to the climate. 'Peach trees grow best if they are let alone,' he said."

An agricultural dinner was held at Stroud's Hotel which was well attended by farmers and others, presided over by the president, Gilbert Moore. Arrangements were made for an agricultural picnic to be held in the new agricultural hall on November 25, where addresses would be delivered by Hon. David Christie and Hon. George Alexander.

## ALICE TREFFRY

Alice Treffry, who lived on John Street for so many years, surrounded by her garden of herbs, rare plants and berry bushes, preserved many of the records from which Norwich history has been written. Her personal knowledge, and humorous understanding of people, helped younger historians to get a true perspective of events.

She was born May 11th, 1847, on her father's farm in South Norwich. She taught in Burgessville and Quaker Street schools and lived for a time on Quaker Street before moving to the village where she also taught for many years.

A great-granddaughter of Peter Lossing III, she belonged also to Dutchess County, New York, where her forbears, Peter Lossing I and Nicholas Emigh were the first white settlers, about 1670.

Her mother was Mary Ann Southwick, and the Southwicks, an old Quaker family at Salem, Massachusetts, were among the first glass manufacturers in America. Two of the early members of the family, Provided Southwick, and her brother, were sentenced in Boston, before 1600 A.D., to be sold into slavery, because they couldn't pay a fine of £10 (while their parents were in prison for being Quakers) for refusing to attend the established church. No ship would carry them to the Barbadoes so they were released. Alice was always very proud of them. John G. Whittier wrote a poem about Provided, giving her her mother's name, Cassandra.



MISS TREFFRY

### ALICE TREFFRY (Continued)

On the Treffry side she belonged to a very old Cornish family, members of which still own the finest place in the county. Dr. Charles Treffry, who had charge of the medical ward in the Navy Hospital at Greenoch during World War II, was entertained there for four days on one of his leaves. The Norwich branches of the family came in two groups: the first, Dr. Robert Treffry's family came to Galt and then some of them to Norwich after John Treffry had come to Norwich from England in 1834.

In 1867-69, Alice attended the Friends' boarding school at Union Springs, New York, where she took up high school work. Union Springs is on Cayuga Lake not far from Wells College, which was founded with the stipulation that the girls attending it must all belong to the better class of families. One of the stories current at Union Springs was that Ezra Cornell remarked on hearing this that it was a wise rule as nobody needed training more. He himself was a Friend, and founded Cornell University, while Alice was attending Union Springs. The Cornells of North and South Norwich are his relatives, including the Helsdons. One of the trustees of Union Springs School, Lindley Murray Moore, had quite a lot of Norwich land in the early days from his grandfather, Samuel Moore, who died here in 1820 while on a visit to look over his property. L. Murray Moore was W. S. Moore's uncle. W. S. Moore owned the Penny farm north of the Gore. His son, J. B. Moore, was well known as a pioneer Baptist minister. J. B.'s son, W. H. Moore, has lately retired from the chairmanship of the banking committee at Ottawa.

Those who saw Alice Treffry working in her garden, carrying a bit of early asparagus to a neighbor or helping to care for someone who needed aid would hardly guess that what she really wanted to do when she was young was to go to New York to study art. She had a much-prized oil painting that she had done herself.

She was cared for at the last at Gilbert Haight's home where she spent some years before her death.

### THE OLD BRICK

In tenth month, 1847, a committee was named by the Norwich monthly meeting of Friends to raise money for the purpose of building a new meeting house. In 1813 a frame meeting house had been built on the hill where the old burying ground is, and there the Friends had worshipped for thirty-four years, having previously held meetings for two years in various homes in the neighborhood, beginning with a meeting in Peter Lossing's home in the fall of 1811, and meetings later in Joseph Lancaster's home.



THE OLD BRICK

Having obtained from Frederick Stover twenty-five acres for the site and support of the new meeting house on the 14th of tenth month, 1848, the committee appointed a year before told the meeting that they had given attention to the subject but were not ready to report. On the 11th of fourth month, 1849, they reported that they had circulated a subscription generally among Friends and that they had gotten \$710 subscribed. As that was not sufficient to build the house the same committee were appointed to see what further sums might be raised either by disposing of part of the land belonging to the meeting or otherwise, and to make the necessary arrangements to find and arrange "with some person who will take the job of building the house or otherwise as the committee may think best, and report next month their progress."

Three months later on the 11th of seventh month, 1849, because of the lateness of the season the meeting decided to build the next spring. They sold nine and a half acres of the land to Isaac Peckham and Samuel Smith (grandfather of William Smith of Norwich Village) and directed the committee to use the money obtained for the land "to the building of the meeting house."

It was completed before the end of 1850, for, on the 11th of sixth month, 1851, new trustees were appointed to hold the deed of "the old meeting house lot."

Between 1888 and 1890 extensive repairs were made and the seats arranged as they have been ever since. They formerly faced the north and there was a partition between the men's side and the women's with wooden shutters, which were left open for meetings for worship, closed for business meetings. The women had a fully organized business meeting with their own clerk.

The four large wooden pillars which support the ceiling were made by John Cohoe Sr.

The pine trees in front and at the road were brought from South Norwich and planted where they now stand by William B. Stover and John Sutton.

The box stove, formerly in the anteroom, was cast in Norwich, and said to be the first box stove in the township.



NORTH NORWICH TOWNSHIP COUNCIL

Rear: Allen Gilmour, Wilfred Bishop, George Fewster. Front: John Pritchard, Ross Carroll, Frank Broad.



## NORTH NORWICH TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD

This board was formed first in January, 1944. Howard Clayton, Harold Walker, Douglas Hoover, Sam Chambers and Clare Hopkins were elected and Douglas Hoover was chosen as first chairman. John Pritchard was appointed secretary-treasurer. Discussions in the Farm Forums had paved the way for the change from ten school boards to one. The Oxford County Educational Association had also helped. For the eleven rooms in the ten schools in the township Allan Haight was recently appointed Superintendent of buildings and supplies. The board now buys the books and all materials used in the schools at a reduced cost. This public school board arranged for the school buses for high school pupils.

Harold Walker was the chairman in 1945, while Howard Clayton presides over the meetings this year.



### THE PRESENT BOARD

Rear: Stanley Chambers, Douglas Hoover  
Harold Walker, E. C. Hopkins  
Front: John Pritchard, Howard Clayton



HON. D. M.  
SUTHERLAND  
Was Minister of  
National Defence  
and later of Pensions  
in the Bennett Govern-  
ment, and a Lieut.-  
Col. in World War I.

T. M. CAYLEY  
M.P.

Liberal representa-  
tive, South Oxford,  
in the Federal House  
from 1926 until his  
death in 1933.



## MEN AND WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT

*These men and women have been recognized either provincially, nationally or internationally for achievement and belong to local families.*

Dr. Llewellys Barker—Succeeded Dr. Osler as Professor of Medicine at Johns Hopkins Medical School.

Dr. C. V. Corless—Developed the Froot Extension Mine while managing the Mond Nickel Company. He is also past president of the Mining Institute, and developed one of the first modern Continuation Schools of Ontario in Norwich.

Dr. Arthur D. Chambers—Honoured by the DuPont Company on his retirement in 1944 for the leading part he had played in development of their chemical industry, who renamed their dye works the Chamber's works.

Wallace Cohoe—Of New York City, was formerly president of the Society of the Chemical Industry, which has some 5,000 members throughout the world.

Albert Cohoe—Montclair, New Jersey, is one of the better known Baptist ministers in the eastern U. S. A.

Robert and Nesbitt Chambers—Pioneered missionary work in Turkey which is commemorated by a plaque at Princeton University.

W. H. Moore—Was chairman of Tariff Commissions Advisory Board and later of the Banking Committee at Ottawa.

David Atkins—Was loaned by Canadian Industries Limited to the Australian Government to confer with them on munitions problems.

Harvey Farrington—Grandson of Harvey Farrington, builder of the first co-operative cheese factory in Canada, was appointed head of the International Export Advisory Service of the Holstein-Friesian Association (U. S. A.) in April 1946.

David Yates—Former clerk in Henderson's store, Norwich, later became general manager of Marshall Field's in Chicago.

Wallace Siples—Civilian pilot before the war, transport pilot during the war, now has his own airline in the southern States and a factory near Montreal.

Kenneth Burgess—became technical director in the Trenton branch of the Columbia Carbon Company.

Harlow Wilcox—Son of Robert Wilcox, formerly of Springfield, is announcer for the Fibber McGee and Molly program.

T. M. Cayley, M. P.—(See cut on opposite page).

Hon. D. M. Sutherland—(See cut on opposite page).

E. W. Nesbitt—Was Conservative member for North Oxford.

Rev. L. H. Crawford—Won the Carnegie Hero Medal for rescuing a drowning man from the Goderich Ship Canal.

E. L. Casselman—Accountant in the Bank of Montreal, was awarded the Humane Society Certificate for saving a life in the St. Lawrence River.

Harry Scott—The only living ex-warden of Oxford County from North Norwich, is president of the Milk Producers' Association of Ontario, past president of the Federation of Agriculture and former director of the Dairymen's Association of Ontario.

Ex-Premier Martin of Saskatchewan—Born in Norwich where his father was minister of the Presbyterian Church.

## MEN AND WOMEN OF ACHIEVEMENT (Continued)

Wilfred Bishop—President of the Hog Producers' Association of Ontario.

Harold Bishop—Reeve of Norwich, was instrumental in organizing the Oxford County Health Unit, one of the first in Ontario.

Walter Edmonds—Secretary of the Alberta Historical Society, and author, established the first Anglican Church in Saskatoon.

Ross Butler—Artist, has won recognition throughout Canada for his paintings of pure-bred stock.

Dr. H. A. Innis—Of the University of Toronto, chosen recently as president of the Royal Society of Canada.

Ex-President Hoover's mother, Hulda Minthorne Hoover, lived in North Norwich for the first 13 years of her life.

Dr. Emily Stowe—Was Emily Jennings, granddaughter marriage to John Stowe, she obtained her medical degree in New York in 1868 and was the first woman doctor in Canada.

Dr. Augusta Stowe Gullen—Daughter of Dr. Emily Stowe, was the first woman to obtain a medical degree from a Canadian medical school. Her marriage to Dr. John B. Gullen in 1883, directly after their graduation, was the first marriage of two medical doctors in Canada. Dr. Augusta Stowe Gullen was born in Norwich.

Dr. Gertrude Hulet—Granddaughter of William Hulet, the first school teacher in Norwich, graduated from the Women's Medical School in Toronto in 1894. She went to India in 1900, the first Baptist medical missionary from Canada. When she died in India in 1933, she left a 50-bed hospital augmented by the patients' own beds to 84, where 29 years before she had found a one-room dispensary.

Miss Louisa Walker—Daughter of Thomas Walker, went as a Friends' missionary to India from England in 1901. She spent 21 years in that country and during the last few years was the only English-speaking missionary allowed to reside in the great Mohammedan city of Bhopal. When she died at her home in Norwich, Canada, her work was mentioned in the great London newspapers.

The late Dr. George Gillam was a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, England.



KING AND QUEEN  
AT WOODSTOCK  
IN 1939

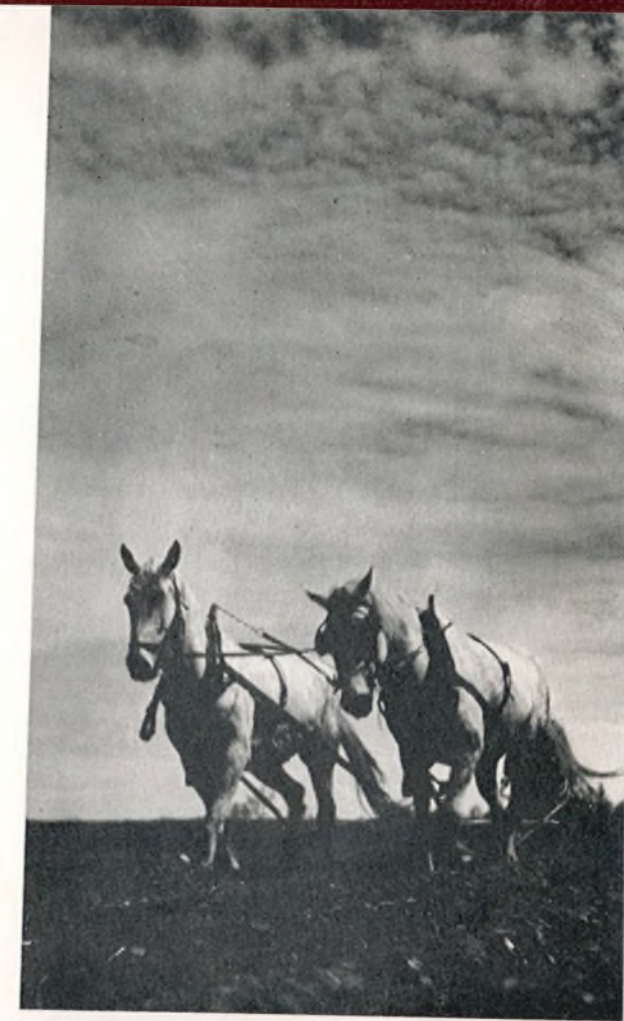
MR. AND MRS.  
N. M. MARSHALL

N. M. MARSHALL

Manager of the Norwich Co-operative, is director and vice-president of the United Farmers' Co-operative Company of Ontario for 1946 and vice-president of the Interprovincial Co-operative of Canada. Mr. and Mrs. Marshall were presented to the King and Queen in 1939 when he was warden of Oxford County.



## FARMING



... our wealth is in our farms.

SPRING PLOWING

## THE TOWNSHIP BOOK

On the map which Peter Lossing had made in 1820 showing the locations of the families of Norwich Township at that time, there are names of thirty-seven which have descendants here or had until recently.

In the township book, which was begun in 1828 and continued till 1855, are two complete lists of farmers and others who were each allotted a certain number of days' road work. In the first, dated 1838, there are 415 names in all, some families being represented by several different members, each being expected to do his share. There are, however, besides the 37 already mentioned in the 1820 map, 79 other families known in the township in 1946.

The names come, not in alphabetical order, but according to the location of their farms.

These are the 79 names: Stringham, Merrill, Peckham, Kelly, Case, Griffin, Ross, Swayze, Snyder (here before 1820), Jaques, Briggs, Dennis (here in 1820), Dickson, Hughes, Morson, Tuttle, House, Scidmore, Congdon, Branchflower, Stevens, Jacob, Simons, Cole, Lynes, Pearson, Bedford, Moses, Tidey, Jennings, Davis, Ware, Lawson, Sutton, Hagerman, Bowerman, Sherman, Waggoner, Nutt, Hadcock, Brearley, Thomas Wallace, Bradley, Swarthout, Hussy, Carder, Pritchard, Avery, Snell, Weir, McNally, Durkee,

Clare, Sharp, Fletcher, Monk, Haley (here in 1810), Inglesby, O Mason, Spencer, Reavley, Oatman, Willcox, Bell, Quarterman, Shattuck, Titus, Addison, Treffry, Pennington, Sherwood, Ghe Somers, Moore, Sprague, Gifferd, Cook.

In the 1850 list there are in all 420 names. Not counting the 11 different names already listed in the 1820 and the 1838 lists, there are 69 names new in 1850 that are known in Norwich today.

They are as follows: Hartsell, Heywood, McNamara, Dwyer, Harris, Root, Tufford, Huggins, Cunliffe, Doan, McDowell, Carrol, Bailey, Agar, Park, Collard, Hill, Underwood, Henderson, Burtin, Wasley (Wesley), Butterfield, Kingswell, Lemon, Hadcock, Mitchell, thorne, Carr, Potts, Nesbitt, Chambers, Bleakley, Purdy, Hutchinsell, Shellington, Anstice, Bushell, Frain, Gray, Pulling, Ball, Crook, wright, Nobbs, Bullock, Fleming, Casler, Foster, Squires, Dikema, Nicholson, Piper, McKee, Beard, Barr, Steel, Poldon, Stevens, Murphy, Wickham, Smiley, Horning, Weaver, Hand, Carmo, Bingham, Walker, Pollard, Hendershot, Easton, Edmonds, Enos, Palmer (not related to the John Palmer family listed before).

(Continued on page 30)



## ZENDA

The naming of Zenda by Thomas Banbury in 1895 for Anthony Hope's novel, *The Prisoner of Zenda*, brought an unexpected adventure to the Fewster and Howes families, Miss Matheson, the teacher, and Harry Hadcock, one of the executives of the Zenda garden party, when the world premiere of David Selznick's film of the novel was shown at Music Hall Theatre in New York in September 1937.

The publicity men of the play had learned of the hamlet, Zenda, the only place of that name in the world, and planned to take the inhabitants to New York by plane to see the picture. M. O. Tatham, of the *Sentinel-Review*, was to go with the Zenda people as press reporter.

The party left by motor for Jarvis on September 1st and there boarded a giant Douglas luxury liner for New York. At the airport in New York they were met by Mayor LaGuardia's deputy, License Commissioner Paul Moss, and presented him with a gallon of syrup and ten pounds of maple sugar from Zenda. They stayed at a luxury hotel and had a place of honour at the showing of the film. A *Life* photographer took their pictures and they toured the city, finally boarding the plane again for home where they look at the pictures once in a while to assure themselves it was not all a dream.

## THE REEVES FARM



DOUGLAS REEVES' HOME

The first co-operative cheese factory in Canada was built by Harvey Farrington in 1864 on the present farm of Gordon Reeves. His house was built by Garry DeLong, the first white child born in the township.

His brother, Douglas Reeves, farms another part of the old DeLong homestead, Blue Spruce Farm.



GORDON REEVES' HOME

## ZENDA CHEESE FACTORY



## ZENDA GARDEN PARTY

The Zenda branch of the Canadian Order of Foresters sponsors yearly the most outstanding garden party in this part of Ontario. The first one took place in 1905 and they cleared \$9.35.

Since 1912 it has taken place yearly for 36 years. The attendance averages 5,000 to 6,000 and the gate receipts usually amount to \$7,000.

Bob Wilson, of Toronto, looks after it and H. Hadcock is program convenor.

## ZENDA CHEESE FACTORY

Mr. Bennington, the owner of Zenda cheese factory, lives in North Norwich, the factory is in Dereham. It serves both townships. In 1897, as Union Cheese and Butter Manufacturing Company, it won its first record. Lorne Humphries was the cheesemaker. It was privately owned for a time, then, after 1915, for 24 years belonged to the farmers. In 1932, prizes were won at Toronto, London, Belleville. Don Howes was cheesemaker then, followed by Fred Adair and now Mr. Bennington. It ranks second highest among the cheese factories of Western Ontario. In 1946, the auditor is G. Cooper; secretary, R. Fewster; Advisory Board: G. Fewster, J. J. Poole, H. E. Hadcock, M. Banbury, J. Banbury.

## DAIRY HERDS OF NORWICH

In the eighteen-eighties two Norwich farmers, Charles Hulet and Elias Mott, each had acquired some Holsteins. Before 1890 Elias Mott brought into Norwich the first pure-bred Holstein herd. The Rettie Brothers bought some of these cows and began their pure-bred herd. It was a descendant of one of these cows, Daisy Banks, purchased from W. D. Jacob, that won the championship milk test for Rettie's in 1898.

In 1896, the Rettie Bros. bought several cows from Herman Bol-lert of Cassel, one of which, Aalije Posch 4th, was really the founder of the major Holstein families in Canada. In a seven-day test in 1899 this cow produced 494.3 lbs. of milk containing 23.86 lbs. of fat.

Probably the greatest Canadian strain from a combined showing and production standpoint is that founded by the cow, Pauline Colantha Posch. She was bred by J. H. Patten at Paris, but her descendants have been developed in Oxford County. The late A. E. Hulet, son of Charles Hulet, built his great show herd on the blood of this famous cow and some of the best herds are carrying on where he left off.

One of the descendants of A. E. Hulet's herd was developed by Beryl Hanmer. She produced 1,468 lbs. of butter from 26,433 lbs. of milk as a yearling and also took the grand championship of five major shows in 1922.

Since then many cows in North Norwich have made outstanding records. The following are superior production records which rank among the top five records in Canada:

Pietje Colantha Dewdrop, four-year-old, 2 x 27,177 lbs. of milk, 912 lbs. fat.

Pietje Colantha Dewdrop, four years 305 days, 2 x 24,015 lbs. milk, 811 lbs. fat, owned by George Barnard.

Lady Roberts Colantha, three years, 4 x 26,433 lbs. milk, 1,175 lbs. fat, owned by Beryl Hanmer.

Bonnie May Pontiac, second mature, 2 x 23,206 lbs. milk, 970 lbs. fat, owned by James Rettie.

Frances Mercedes Rag Apple, four years, 2 x 18,559 lbs. milk, 850 lbs. fat.

Veeman Mercedes Lady, two years 305 days, 2 x 15,110 lbs. milk, 519 lbs. fat, owned by Albert Cornwell.

Also two North Norwich cows have made over 100,000 lbs. of milk: Pietje Colantha Dewdrop, with 120,670 lbs., owned by George Barnard, and Beulah Posch Hartog, with 106,000 lbs. of milk, owned by Albert Cornwell.

The famous Montvic herd of the late T. B. Macaulay at Hudson Heights, Que., bought several foundation cows in this district, one being the great-granddam of the famous all-Canadian bull, Rag Apple Sovereign. Also Hon. J. Walter Jones, of Prince Edward Island, bought foundation cows in this district.

In recent years the herds have not shown at the larger shows but elsewhere have given a good account of themselves. Penvale Supreme, owned by William Penny, last year was not beaten in his class and was named reserve all-Canadian two-year-old bull of 1946, the second best in Canada.

being shipped all over Canada and to Great Britain. Some time after Mr. Allen's death the factory was sold to Canada Vinegars, the present owners, who have increased the plant and the business.

## THE VINEGAR WORKS

About 1880, S. Allen began a vinegar factory in Norwich with H. Dager and Edwin Palmer, whom Mr. Allen later bought out. By 1910 Allen's white wine and cider vinegar and apple juice was

## BEES

There have always been a few colonies of bees on Norwich farms. Sixty years ago Martin Emigh and Elias Mott were producing honey commercially, the latter making his own hives, comb sections and foundations with a machine for that purpose. Later, for years, Henry Hartley was the chief honey producer in the township. When he came to Norwich, Douglas MacKay brought some colonies with him from North Oxford. For twenty-five years he has been a bee

## WILLIAM PENNY

Thirty years ago William Penny Sr. bought the farm on lot 2, con. 3, which was taken over by his son William six years later when he married Minda McLellan. Their children are Thelma, in the Otter Mutual office, Betty at high school and Wilma in the public school.

Mr. Penny has been breeder of high-class Holsteins since 1920. A number of outstanding bulls have gone out from this herd, such as Rag Apple Echo Mercedes with 37 tested daughters, Penwilt Lenox Brigadier, Sir Rag Apple Pietje Lenox, Paul Rag Apple Lenox, also breeder of the present herd sire Penvale Supreme, whose show record is, for 1945: reserve all Canadian, two-year-old, second best in Canada; first at Stratford Championship Show and at Oxford Black and White Day. In 1944 he won honorable mention as all Canadian senior yearling, the third best in Canada.

His first daughter to be shown, Penvale Sue Pabst, won first at Oxford County Black and White Day, and also was awarded the championship of the Oxford County Calf Club Show at Ingersoll.

Following is a sample of records:

Grace Abbekerk Lestrangle (dam of herd sire, 18,324 lbs. milk, 673 lbs. fat.



PENVALE SUPREME

Four sisters of the sire: Nig Posch Abbekerk as two-year-old, 17,741 lbs. of milk, 661 lbs. of fat; Polly Lestrangle as two-year-old, 17,335 lbs. milk, 661 lbs. of fat; Bess Posch Lestrangle as two-year-old, 16,568 lbs. of milk, 581 lbs. of fat; Bonnie Abbekerk Posch as two-year-old, 16,267 lbs. milk, 560 lbs. of aft.

Penvale May Lenox, 14,700 lbs. of milk, 611 lbs. of fat, a three-year-old record in 305 days.

Pauline Lenox deKol, 21,106 lbs. of milk, 657 lbs. of fat, and Penvale Lenox Bonnie, 18,584 lbs. of milk and 707 lbs. of fat.



One of Oxford's oldest herds. Accredited 21 years. (Inset) Grandson of Hays Snowden Lady, the greatest living 4 per center, in use in herd now.

## THE ALEX RETTIE FARM "Wildwood"

Mr. Alex Rettie bought this farm 35 years ago from the Gillams who came to Norwich before 1820. The house is one of the earliest brick houses in the township, the Gillam-themselves having made the bricks, and it has an old fashioned basement kitchen. In 1920, after Mr. Rettie married Miss Priscilla Croxford, they landscaped the surroundings, terracing the lawn, adding shrubs, perennials and annual flower beds. Mr. Rettie also set out several windbreaks of fir trees and a good orchard.

Mr. Rettie, one of the original Rettie brothers who made history with their Holstein herd, later built up his own herd.

Since his death, Jessie, Mrs. Harry Tribe, her husband and Murray have helped their mother manage this farm, also the one on lot 8, con. 1, the old Peter McLees place, where the Stovers and the McCleeses camped the first night they were in Norwich in 1811.



"WILDWOOD"

## THE GRIFFIN HOMESTEAD

The Griffins have been on this farm, lot 13, con. 1, since 1836. It seems to have been part of the Stover property since Adam Stover, Jacob Stover, Mary McLees, and William Jacob signed off when the Griffins bought it.

For 42 years the Griffins have had pure-bred Holsteins. Fred has gone on where his father, Frank, left off. Mrs. Frank Griffin, the former Anne Burgess, granddaughter of Mr. Ed. Burgess, is also a great-granddaughter of Peter Lossing, the pioneer. One son, Carl, has been overseas for four years in the dentistry corps. Grant is with C. I. L. in McMasterville, Quebec.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Griffin (the former Ruby Cowper) have a small son, Bobbie, the fifth generation of Griffins to grow up on this farm.

## ● ALBERT CORNWELL "Charlesholm"

Albert Cornwell is a great-great-grandson of Martin Cornwell and of Reuben Mott, both very early pioneers of Norwich. He and Mrs. Cornwell, the former Laura Burton, and their two small sons, Charles and Howard, live on their prosperous farm on lot 4, concession 4, where his father, the late Charles Cornwell, and Mrs. Cornwell (the former Stella Jull) brought up their family. A. E. Cornwell Sr. has his home with Albert.

The Cornwells have long been interested in dairy farming. In 1905, A. E. Cornwell Sr. bought his first pure-bred Holsteins. From these his son, Charles, developed their foundation cows, Countess Mercena Beulah, who gave 27,000 pounds of milk and 960 pounds of fat, and her daughter, Colantha Mercena Beulah, who won the dairy test at Guelph in 1921.

In 1925 he bought from the late E. A. E. A. Hulet, Paul Calamity Veeman, son of Paul E. Posch, an inbred son of Pauline Colantha Posch, one of the greatest cows of the breed.

The present Cornwell herd is all descended from Countess Mercena Beulah and Count Paul Calamity. It is made up of daughters and granddaughters of Hartog Mercedes Lad, a son of Belle Mercedes Echo, reserve all-American daughter of the Extra Sire, Echo Hartog Mercedes and Rag Apple Echo Mercedes, a grandson of Echo Hartog Mercedes by Montvic Rag Apple Pietje.

Charlesholme Mercedes Sovereign, sold to the Oxford



From Right to Left: Beulah Mercedes Calamity with a five-year record of 19,525 lbs. of milk, 802 lbs. of fat, test 4.11; Frances Mercedes Rag Apple, junior four-year-old, 18,559 lbs. of milk, 850 lbs. fat, test 4.58, third highest in Canada for all time; Princess Oxford Rag Apple, four-year-old, 16,540 lbs. of milk, 602 lbs. of fat, test 3.7; Beulah Posch Hartog, nine years old, 19,233 lbs. of milk, 663 lbs. of fat, production to date 106,000 lbs. of milk.

Holstein Breeders' Association, will be used artificially in our herd. He is a son of Montvic Rag Apple Sovereign, twice all-Canadian, son of Montvic Rag Apple Colantha Abbekerk, with a 29,208-pound milk and 1,263-pound fat world's record. His dam is Princess Oxford Hartog with a three-year-old honour list record of 16,236 lbs. of milk and 680 lbs. of fat testing 4.19. She is daughter of Hartog Mercedes Lad.



ALLEN GILMOUR'S PRIZE BULL



ALLEN GILMOUR'S HOME

● ALLEN GILMOUR  
"Orchard Park"

In 1922 Mr. David Gilmour bought the Ernest Jaques farm north of Burgessville and there his family grew up. When he died in 1930 his son, Allan, took over the management of the farm with his mother. In 1935 he married Miss Dora Lee and they have three children, David and Marilyn in public school and Grant still at home. In 1937 Mr. Gilmour decided to change from grades to pure-bred Holsteins, which he did that year. Since then a number of his cows have made good records. Following are some of these:

Fayne Jewel Midnight, 26,117 lbs. of milk, 761 lbs. of fat, milked three times a day at seven years of age.

Eastwood Veeman Abbekerk, milked three times a day at six years of age, gave 20,401 lbs. of milk, with 672 lbs. of fat.

Pieterje Pabst Rose gave 16,545 lbs. of milk with 576 lbs. of fat at two years of age. Mr. Gilmour sold a bull calf from this cow sired by Montvic Rag Apple Sovereign for \$1000.

Bell Posch, E.H.M., gave 21,246 lbs. of milk with 796 lbs. of fat at four years of age, and 16,794 lbs. of milk with 627 lbs. of fat at two years of age. One daughter of this cow sold at a National sale in 1949 for \$950. Another daughter in an all-Canadian sale sold for \$300.

Matchless Rag Apple Tensen gave 16,835 lbs. of milk with 676 lbs. of fat at two years of age, the second in fat in Canada in 1940.

Mr. Gilmour also had a good apple orchard and a young orchard of Italian prunes.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilmour are well known in musical circles, singing together in duets—and separately as soloists. Allan is a member of the North Norwich Township Council.

● AYRSHIRES

One of the earliest and best-known herds of pure-bred Ayrshires in this township was established by Hugh and John McKee in 1872. They began to exhibit at the larger fairs quite early and captured many prizes in Canada and the United States. The famous Jean Armour was from this herd, also Annie Laurie, who made a record in her time.

Mr. Blake Pearce, formerly of Norwich, has had pure-bred Ayrshires since 1913 and finds ready buyers for any cows he cares to sell. He was president of the Ayrshire Breeders' Club of Western Ontario for two years, of which John McKee was long the Secretary.

● ON ORKNEY FARM



● HARMON MACPHERSON

Mr. MacPherson has lived for twenty-five years on Orkney Farm. For forty-four years he has had pure-bred Ayrshires and has built up a herd of seventy-five cattle that will hold their own in competition with any cows of any breed in Canada.

One of these, Pearl Balquido, won eleven firsts in six years in her class at Ottawa and Guelph, and one year was champion at Ottawa, the first in all breeds, the only cow in Canada that has ever had such a record.

Dairy Maid of Orkney is the first cow of any breed to surpass 700 pounds of fat as a four-year-old in Canada.

The family all deserve credit in helping to build up these records.

The MacPhersons have seven silver cups, each of which was awarded for the cow who stood highest in her class for the year. There is, probably, only one other such achievement among the Ayrshire breeders of Canada.



● DAIRY MAID  
Whose type score was well over 95 per cent at the first Royal Fair.



SCENES ON  
POLLARD DAIRY FARM



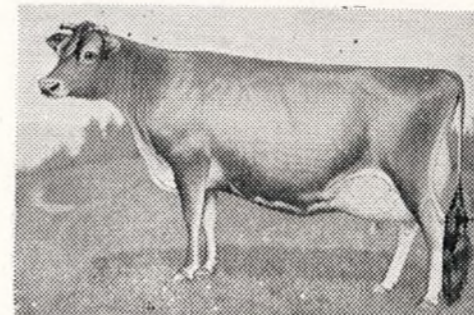
Pollard Brothers have a herd of pure-bred Ayrshires and feature Ayrshire milk in their business. The cows in the picture on this page belong to their herd.

## POLLARD BROTHERS DAIRY

James and William Pollard were born in North Norwich within one mile of their father's birthplace. In 1914 they moved with the family to the farm on which the cold storage and dairy now stand.

Here they began their business career when William took over the parcel delivery. The winter of 1928 they stored natural ice from the junction pond for sale in the village. This made the handling of bottled milk practical so that in March 1930 they decided to deliver milk and later cream. Mild winters and growing demand for ice made some change necessary and in 1937 the Pollard Brothers installed a machine for making artificial ice. With this they put in a number of cold-storage lockers which are usually filled with meat, fruit, and vegetables, by patrons from the village and surrounding community. Their milk has been pasteurized since 1939.

## JERSEYS



The two Norwich townships have had pure-bred Jerseys since as early as 1910. In this district where Holsteins have dominated, Jerseys have been regarded as misfits but have gradually increased in numbers until today there are more than 20 pure-bred Jersey herds.

In 1910, the late David Butler bought a pure-bred Jersey cow, Daisy, and there have been Jerseys bred by the family ever since. A little later, Ira Nickols, Archie Stevenson, Percy Lazenby, Mrs. Hiliker, Chas. Barnim, Clinton Hanmer, Edgerton Jull, Geo. Kelly, Wilfred Alexander, Wilbur Morley, Wray Hartley, Alvah Lampman started into Jerseys.

Clinton Hanmer has bred Jerseys since 1923 and today is an active member of the Oxford Jersey Club. His herd is on the Record of Performance Test, highly classified within the county. His herd-sire is a grandson of Valiant of Oaklands, on the paternal side, and Brampton Royal Dreamer on the dam's. Both of these are former champions over the Island of Jersey before importation to Canada, and have played no little part in the development of the breed.

Wilfred Alexander of Spruceholm Farm began some 15 years ago by purchasing his foundation stock from the late E. W. Nesbit of Glen Farm fame at Innerkip. These cattle were bred largely from Regal Mixture (\$5000 imported bull as a yearling), a grand champion at the Royal Winter Fair, whose blood is today intermingled with most of the

Jerseys in Oxford. The present herd-sire is a son of the only Excellent Jersey bull in Oxford, the grand champion, Bowlina's Designing Royalist. Mr. Alexander is a director of the Oxford Jersey Club. His son, Jim, has also purchased an excellent group of young Jerseys for the foundation of a herd of his own, and is but one of the many young men returning from the war to choose Jerseys.

Wray Hartley purchased his foundation stock from Wilfred Alexander and has made consistently high records with a small herd. He has classified and is a director of the Oxford Jersey Club.

The two herds near Burgessville, those of Wilbur Morley and Alvah Lampman are most worthy. Alvah has the largest herd in the district and his present herd-sire, Draconis Observer, imported-in-dam from Jersey Island, is classified very good and his get is attracting attention of buyers and importers.

We are delighted that this fast-growing breed has found such a hospitable home in the Norwich townships.

### THE OXFORD JERSEY CLUB

Ross Butler, *Pres.*

Murray Armstrong, *Sec.-Treas.*

## PETER LOSSING'S MAP

(Continued from page 20)

A very few of these, like Steel and Wickham, are known now because of their former homes that are still here, but nearly all the others have relatives still in the township. Till 1855, North and South Norwich were all in one township. In the two present townships there are well over 175 families who were here before 1850.

Moreover, the above lists are not quite complete. For instance, it is known from other documents that not all the families living in the township before 1850 are included in this list. The Corless family came in 1846, the Fewsters in 1848. Then there were the Furlongs, the Sheahans, the Duffys, and Roddys, and Strodes, who all came about that time. Seneca Pitcher came in 1842, and the VanValkenburgs before 1850.

A map published in 1876 shows the farmers mentioned in the last paragraph and these new arrivals after 1850: Walker, Pollard (of Burgessville), Morgan, Hammond, Manson, Cronk, Crosthwaite, Tice, Burrill, Pearce, Farrington, Abraham, Hastings, Sage, Hopkins, Coon, Wrigglesworth, Birtch, Barr, Dickenson, Weaver, Wade, Gair, Gowan, Wingrove, Johnson, Vardon, Messacar, Smart, McCurdy, Pettit, Burkholder, Fish, Dorland, Kellett, Lamb, Childs, Innes, Foreman, and VanNorman.

These are farmers only. In the village by 1870, gathered from the Tidey Almanac of 1870, and other sources were: Yates, Haken, Zufelt, Sutherland, McLeod, Catton (much earlier), Bishop, Bleakley, Clarke, Miller.

The deeds of property are usually a sure record of dates of ownership, although in some cases of pioneer families the deeds were obtained several years after settlement. Sometimes the property was leased before, and in a few cases the former owners, some of them grantees, could not give a proper deed for some years after selling.

## VILLAGE GARDENS

There are several fine gardens in Norwich which would be exceptional anywhere. Mrs. Corlett has cultivated roses for many years as well as many varieties of shrubs and perennials.

Mrs. Fred Walker's garden, with its background of large lawns and lofty trees, has many regal lilies and a profusion of delphiniums in a variety of beautiful shades. Her roses are also a feature and are blooming all summer.

Mr. George Lowe deserves credit for the arrangement and fine appearance of the high-school grounds with its lily ponds and beds of tulips, in season, and perennials, all summer through.

Mrs. Frank Lossing has specialized in peonies for many years with great success. Some years ago she developed a new peony which won several first prizes at Guelph and a certificate of merit from the American Peony Society. She named it the Louise Lossing peony, and has since sold the stock. Her oldest son, Major Ted Lossing, belongs to the Indian Medical Corps and has served in India throughout the war. Dr. Fred Lossing has his Ph.D. from McGill University and has been with the Shawinigan Chemicals Company at Shawinigan Falls, Quebec. Her daughter, Louise, is an artist and has had pictures hung in the Ontario Society of Artists' exhibitions for several years.

Mr. Oswald Wallace has developed a flower garden at his home on John Street and though it is beautiful at any time during the summer it is especially so when the chrysanthemums are in bloom. He grows almost every variety of flowers and vegetables.

Mr. H. Forsythe's garden will long be remembered by Norwich people for the choiceness of his blooms and their great variety. He took most of the very fine pictures for the Norwich Centenary Book of 1910.

Mr. Archie McCurdy has beautified his house and begun a flower garden that will measure up to the others in a year or two. He lives in his father's home. Dr. McCurdy came to Norwich to practise medicine over fifty years ago and died recently in this house.

Other good gardens are Catton's, Cramer's and Hallam's.

## OXFORD COUNTY HEALTH UNIT

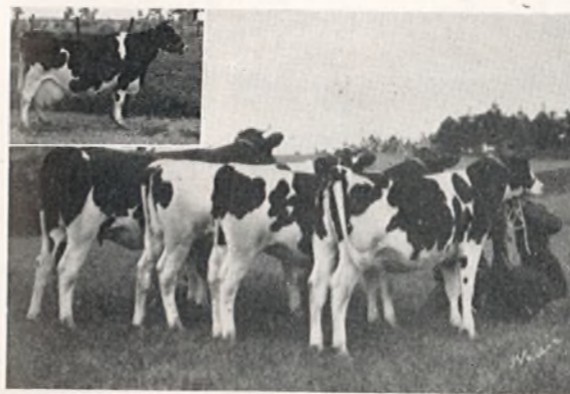
In September, 1945, a county health unit was established in Oxford County sponsored by the Health Committee of the Oxford County Council. The committee consisted of the following men: Carmen Facey (chairman), J. E. W. Nichols, Wilfred Cockburn, Ken Watts and Harold Bishop. It was a pioneer effort in Ontario and Dr. O. C. Powers, of the Ontario Health Services, formerly of Burford, and a former Norwich boy, was appointed Chief Medical Health Officer for Oxford County.

Its aims are School Health Service, T. B. Control, Venereal Diseases Control; Maternal, Infant and Pre-school Care; Sanitation; Milk and Food Control; Mental Hygiene; Dental Hygiene; Public Health Education; Cancer Control, and Adult Education.

The unit works through the schools, the School and Home Clubs and other service organizations such as the Rotary and Lions Clubs and Women's Institutes throughout the County and is receiving hearty and full co-operation from all groups.



"MAPLE LODGE FARM"



Undeclared Holstein Herd in Oxford in 1930. Inset, Pietje.

## ● W. E. JULL "Maple Lodge Farm"

Forty-one years ago Mr. W. E. Jull, of Windham Township, brought his bride, the former Miss Annie King, to this attractive home on lot 20, concession 5, North Norwich, where he has engaged in general farming and where his family have grown up: Helen, of Toronto; Evelyn, Mrs. H. A. Waring, of Otterville; Marion, Mr. Heatley, of Sarnia; Lila, of Sarnia; Fred, recently returned home after spending four Christmas days overseas; Archie, at home. Archie and Mrs. Jull (the former Ann Bouskill of Hamilton), live in part of the W. E. Jull house and have one small son, Russell Ernest.

## ● GEORGE BARNARD Shady Elms Farm

Forty-two years ago Mr. Jonah Barnard bought this place on lot 9, concession 6, the old Cross home, from William Trowhill. Mr. George Barnard took over in 1906 when he was married to Miss Lucy Luno. Their sons, Earl, of Simcoe, and Bruce, of Dereham Centre, grew up there. They lost their only daughter, Ella.

The George Barnards have been breeders of pure-bred Holsteins since 1917. Their complete herd has been R. O. P. since 1931. The average of production for 1945 was 14,720.6 lbs. of milk with 548 lbs. of fat. Their herd sire, Strathmore L. K. H. Perfection, is son of Strathmore Lady Koba Hela who made a record at two years of 20,997 lbs. of milk with 721 lbs. of fat, and at four years of 28,995 lbs. of milk with 1,004 lbs. of fat. Their most outstanding cow, Pietje Colantha Dewdrop, made a world record when four years old of 27,177 lbs. of milk with 912 lbs. of fat in 365 days. For 305 days, at the age of four, she gave 24,015 lbs. of milk with 811 lbs. of fat. She still holds the record for 305 days at four years old. Pietje Colantha Dewdrop's granddaughter, Shady Elms Bessie, will have approximately 100,000 lbs. of milk in 1946.





**B. G. PALMER**  
farm was first settled by  
Enoch Palmer in 1846.

**WM. COHOE**  
farm was given to his grand-  
father, Francis Cohoe, in  
1832.



**REUBEN MOTT**  
homestead has belonged to  
the family since 1828 and  
now owned by James Mott,  
his great-grandson.



**JAMES LAIRD**  
Bruce Adrian, Glen Ha-  
gith and Robert Laird  
spraying in J. M. Laird's  
apple orchard. Trees are  
eleven years old.

## RALPH MOORE & SONS

*"Cairnlea Farms"*

The seed-growing business of Ralph Moore & Sons was begun in 1914 by Ralph R. Moore when the supply of seeds from Europe was cut off due to the war. The following year 1½ acres of mangels were planted for seed. In the interval between the wars production was increased until in 1942, 1943 and 1944, 40 acres of mangel seed were grown in each and in addition over 60 varieties of garden seeds. On the 340 acres, which now comprise Cairnlea Farms, sufficient vegetable and field-root seeds are harvested each year to grow over 20,000 acres of these crops.

Because there was little machinery available in Canada for this highly specialized field, much of that used in the planting, harvesting, and cleaning of the seeds has been invented by Ralph Moore. Included in the equipment for handling seeds are planters, a seed washer, dryer, threshing machine, combine, several cleaners and six tractors. The three sons, Paul, John and David, are now associated with their father in the business.

For 28 years a small but authoritative catalogue has been issued. Much of the seed is purchased by market gardeners in Ontario but seeds are shipped to all parts of Canada and the United States. Through UNRRA, 14 tons of Moore's seeds were sent to Europe and Asia in 1946.



From left to right: David,  
John, Paul and Ralph  
Moore in front of  
their plant.

SCENE ON ONE OF  
THE FARMS



ROSS McRAE  
"Westcourt Farm"

Westcourt Fayne Korndyke—Three years 27 days, 12,058 lbs. milk, 427 fat in 280 days.

Westcourt Scotia Korndyke—Three years 14 days, 14,521 lbs. milk, 475 fat in 365 days.

Herd Sire Fyvie Triune Supreme—Grandson of Montvic Rag Apple Triune, whose dam gave 17,409 lbs. milk, 644 lbs. fat testing 3.69 in 305 days; the top cow in May issue of reports on two-times-a-day milking.

This is part of the homestead which Peter DeLong chose for himself in 1811 when he brought his family to Norwich, and which the DeLongs owned for over a century. Mr. Ross McRae bought it in 1932 and found possibilities in the original house and surroundings, so that in 1941, after siding it with insulation brick, improving the driveway and adding a new road fence, he was awarded prizes by the *Farmers' Magazine* in a home improvement contest. He won a first in Oxford County and a third in Ontario.

He features seed grain and is building up a herd of pure-bred Holsteins.

Mr. and Mrs. McRae are active members of the United Church. They have one daughter, Louise.



THE CARROLL HOME

## ROY CARROLL AND SON

This farm, lot 10, concession 3, was originally a Clergy Reserve lot devoted to the upkeep of King's College. The first private owner was John Throckmorton, whose son, Joseph, married Adeline DeLong, daughter of Peter DeLong. In 1870, Harvey Derbyshire bought the farm and in 1920 sold it to Roy Carroll.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Carroll (the former Miss Rozena Jull) have four sons, Douglas, who works the farm with his father, Kenneth of Detroit, Harry of Burgessville, and Captain Sheldon Carroll, who, after several years overseas, is now on the headquarters staff of the permanent Canadian Army, stationed at Ottawa.



DEAN C. MORGAN AND JOHN W. ALLEN

## CHARLES LOSSING

In 1910 Walter Lossing bought this farm just 100 years after his great-grandfather, Peter, had bought it from William Wilcocks.

These boys, Dean C. Morgan and John W. Allen Lossing, are sons of the present owners, Charles and Myrtle Lossing.



THE LOSSING HOME

THESE FARMERS LIVE ON AND OWN FARMS IN THE ORIGINAL NORWICH TOWNSHIP  
WHICH HAVE BELONGED TO THEIR FAMILIES FOR OVER A CENTURY

...in the present North Norwich Township:

- ROSS CARROLL—Reeve of North Norwich, owns the south half of lot 5, con. 5, part of the land bought by William Carroll in 1842.
- FRANK JAQUES—owns the north half of lot 15, con. 1, part of the land bought by John Jaques in 1836.
- CECIL DENNIS—owns lot 20, con. 2, part of the land settled by Robert Dennis in 1820.
- PAUL FLEMING—another great-grandson of Robert Dennis owns lot 21, also part of the original Dennis property.
- WILLIAM COHOE—(see note by picture).
- FRED GRIFFIN—(see note by picture).
- MRS. LA PHAETTE GRIFFIN—with her son, William, lives on lot 10, con. 2, bought by Joseph Lancaster in 1811.
- CHARLES McNALLY—lives on lot 25, con. 5, settled by Peter McNally in 1825.
- ABEL SIPLES—owns lot 22, con. 5, settled by Ezra Siples in 1833.
- MRS. A. E. HULET—lot 15, con. 5, worked by her sons, John and Charles, whose grandfather, Charles Hulet, was born on this farm 118 years ago. His father, William Hulet, came to Norwich in 1810, was the first school teacher in the township and settled early on this farm.
- B. G. PALMER—owns lot 6, con. 3, which was owned by Enoch Palmer in 1846.

- LUKE STOVER—lot 12, con. 4, was settled in 1811 by Frederick Stover.
- JAMES McKIE—great-great grandson of Michael Stover, owns part of the original Frederick Stover land.
- HERMAN SNELL—lot 22, con. 5, bought by his great-grandfather, Jacob Moore, in 1837.
- JAMES MOTT—(see note by picture).

...in the present South Norwich Township:

- TRUMAN WILCOX—lots 22 and 23, con. 7, bought by Amasa Wilcox in 1827.
- WILFRID MASON—lot 3, con. 9, bought by William Mason in 1832.
- WILLIAM BELL—lot 22, con. 9, bought by Michael Bell in 1835.
- GEORGE SHATTUCK—lot 25, con. 9, bought by Hartwell Shattuck in 1827. Letters in their possession show the family lived there as early as 1810.
- MESSRS. GRANT AND LEE HALEY—south half of lot 22, con. 8, settled by William Haley in 1811.
- MRS. GEORGE KENNEDY—lot 23, con. 7, part of the land bought by her great-grandfather, Amasa Wilcox, in 1827.
- MRS. HIRAM TREFFRY—lot 2, con. 10, bought by John Treffry in 1832.
- DR. HARRY FURLONG AND HIS BROTHER, CARBERRY—still own the farm on concession 6, which was settled by the Furlongs over a hundred years ago.



THE VILLAGE COUNCIL

Standing, left to right: Tom Wallace, Dr. Frain, Reeve H. Bishop, Constable Henry, Arthur Maedel, Bruce Alexander  
Seated: Jake Searls; A. L. Bushell, Clerk

## NORWICH VILLAGE

Until it was incorporated in 1876 and long afterwards, this village was regularly called Norwichville. The township of Norwich had been divided in 1855 into North and South Norwich and the name Norwich was chosen 21 years later as the official name or Norwichville.

The village began when the first store was opened in 1828 by William Barker on the south side of Main Street near the main corner. This was on property marked on the 1820 map as belonging to Adam Stover. The development for some years was largely on the north side of what is now Main Street on Michael Stover's property. Michael Stover's own house was on what is now Clyde Street near the bandshell. The last of his apple trees was cut down a few years ago on Miss Lees' lot. His son, Michael Jr., lived north of the high school building. A great many of his trees were made into sleighs and wagons by James Wickham, who began business in Norwich in 1842 on the site of Cecil Merrill's shop. The fact that the Michael Stovers had a thousand acres which they could not possibly clear and work themselves led them to encourage buyers who wished small lots to form a village. In the early thirties, a young man, John McKee, came to Norwich and started a tannery. He married Paulina Stover, Michael's daughter, the first white girl born in the township, and they were given land on which the public library, Baptist parsonage, Dr. Malcolm's house, the Legion hall and McIntyre's garage now stand. The tannery was on a little spring creek which ran through the east front of this lot; McKee's home was built just back of the Legion hall. Well over a hundred years ago they built a more pretentious home which was for years the finest in the village and is now used as the Baptist parsonage. During the Rebellion of 1837 the headquarters staff, including Col. McNabb, lodged with the McKees, and any prisoners that were brought in were held in their barn which stood where Dr. Malcolm's house now stands. Twelve years later in 1849 the Governor General, Lord Elgin, after whom Elgin Street had been named two years earlier was entertained in the same home.

John and Paulina McKee's son, Hugh, who married Annie Haken, went to live on the farm just east of the village, which his father had bought, and their son, John, of Ayrshire fame, lived there all his life. His son, Harry, now owns it and a young Hugh McKee is growing up there.

At first the members of the Society of Friends were more numerous than any other group; they had settled on Quaker Street, a mile north

of the village. The first place of worship was built there, the first school was on the banks of the Otter near there, and the first post office was in Peter Lossing's house in 1830, and for some years afterwards in Dr. Cooke's barn on Mr. Hines' property. It used to stand by the road. The pioneer burying ground was on Peter Lossing's and John Tompkins' land just west of the post office. Isaac Peckham had a wagon shop where Francis Pollard lives; the first co-operative cheese factory in Canada was built on the old DeLong place; the first brickyard was opened where Dellers are now. The Casler home on the corner of the highway and Quaker Street was built in 1840 for a hotel. The people of Quaker Street were content to farm and let the village grow up a mile south of them on the Michael Stover land, and were, no doubt, relieved when the Carolans bought the hotel and opened a blacksmithing business. The only retail store in this neighborhood was on the Cecil Mingle place with Hugh Webster as proprietor. John Pollock bought it from Webster and carried on for some years before moving into the village. The Farmers' Grange building is now Mr. Joseph Lemon's home.

The farmers of Norwich were equipped to do a lot of their own manufacturing. They probably took their hides to the McKee tannery but they could and did make shoes and mended them themselves. They also made furniture, cupboards, tables and splint-bottomed chairs. Moses Mott made the desk that he used so long as clerk and treasurer of the township and it is still in good condition. The floor of his office in his home was of two-inch oak boards to stand the inevitable wear and tear of a public place.

Until 1876 the township officials managed the affairs of the village as well and, though for many years their meetings were held in the Tompkins Hotel on Quaker Street, they were later held in the village at the Bedford House near the site of the present Presbyterian Church and, later, in the Stroud House.

In the home the women folk spun and wove flax for linen (a well-preserved flax hetchel or two are in our museum as well as some very fine home-woven linen), prepared wool, spun it and wove it and were experts at dyeing. Maple sugar, their own meat products, plenty of vegetables and fruit made them independent of the grocer and butcher, except for spices. Mills were established early for flour. They made candles for lighting, lamps being a modern innovation; different families still have the first lamps brought home from John A. Tidey's store.

The village was growing all the time. Some men who stood out in the development of Norwich were: John Tidey Sr. and his son,

John A. Tidey; Seneca Pitcher; William Poldon and his son, George; Gilbert Moore; Dr. James Carroll, who maintained an office where the Carroll block now stands, though he always lived outside of the village; Dr. Beard, who later moved to Woodstock; John Duncan, whose daughter Jessie has recently returned to live here; George Walker, Mrs. Gillam's father, William Addison and David Miller, who built the Miller block on the northeast corner of Stover and Main Streets. These were some of the earlier ones.

James Barr, James Stevenson, the Hakens, Dr. Sutherland, Dr. McCurdy, Henry Wood and the Clarkes came later. The Aveys and Bowmans had their planing mills; Henry Eggman, son of the well-known photographer, built the public school and many fine homes; Dan Donald built the present high school. Much of Clyde and North Court Streets was built on John Pollock's land.

Fred Walker, whose father, Thomas Walker, was township treasurer for many years, has recently retired from his long established grocery business.

The *Gazette*, which followed the *Standard*, first printed on January 7th, 1876, has been an institution in Norwich; Mr. Bartholomew is still remembered by the older citizens. Mr. Winterburn succeeded him in 1910 and printed the centenary souvenir booklet of that year.

Mr. C. W. Carroll moved into the village after selling his farms and built a number of houses and the Carroll block. He was reeve for many years and became warden of the county.

Mr. Marshall Bushell was a justice of the peace and did conveyancing in Norwich.

Mr. John Keough, for many years linotype operator for the *Gazette*, has recently retired. He attended Queens University convocation in May when his son, Jack, graduated as a prizewinner in the applied science course. Another son, Bill, is also at Queens.

Mr. Spence Walker came with his brothers, Charles, Thomas and Samuel, from England in the early sixties. Three of his grandsons were in World War II, LeClare, Herbert and Jack. Gren has just graduated from McMaster University.

In James Wickham's account book, 1842 to 1846, we can trace the business life of the village and community as it was a hundred years ago.

We find that much trade was carried on by bartering. Michael Stover Jr. sold ash and oak and maple logs for a wagon and a cutter. His father traded apples for repairs on his wagon. Mr. Kingsford brought a quarter of beef and a sheep for a new wagon with a spring seat. William Mason bartered pickled cucumbers and a plastering job for his wagon. John Siples traded three cheeses (34 pounds in all) with ham and hay for axle trees, a coulter, etc. David DeLong

exchanged two ash trees, a veal and some wheat for repairs on a threshing machine. George Summers brought 'mush melons,' and Mr. VanValkenburg did carpenter work for his sleigh.

George Walker, a young Irish cabinet-maker, came to Norwich in 1846. He built the first house on Main Street West, which John Keough recently sold, and later, thinking that the business section of the village was growing north and east, sold his house to Dr. Beard and moved to the furniture factory he had built on the corner of Stover and Elgin Street. Part of this he converted into a residence. His daughter, Mrs. Gillam, has recently sold this property to Mrs. Fielding. Most of the older homes in Norwich have fine furniture made by George Walker.

Colonel Thomas Wallace was postmaster in Norwich, succeeding Dr. Cooke in 1838 till his death in the 50's. He was made magistrate in 1846 and lieutenant-colonel of the First Regiment of Oxford in Dereham and Norwich in 1852. He kept a store on the north side of Main Street where the Moore block was later built. He also owned a farm south of the village which was managed by Mr. Coker. His sons, Thomas and Samuel, later farmed on lots 13 and 14 in the sixth concession. A grandson, William Wallace, attended the continuation school in Norwich in 1895-96.

Colonel Wallace's house was occupied for a time after his death by Dr. George Zufelt, the first resident dentist in Norwich. It was bought by the late Alfred Bishop over seventy years ago and moved to the property he had purchased from the late Edwin Palmer at the northern end of the village. A few years ago the house was remodelled by Alfred Bishop's son, the present owner, Reeve Harold Bishop.

John Steele must be mentioned because of the variety of his activities in the 1840's. He had a store where Pennington's furniture and undertaking rooms now are, a foundry and moulding floor on the site of the S. J. Kinsey building, a sawmill at the foot of Mill Lane where the late M. Buckborough's blacksmith shop was, the pond and raceway of which extended to the rear of the property recently sold by John Keough with a dam in the Otter creek just before it crosses Main Street. Mr. Steele also had a carding mill east of the sawmill and an ashery for making potash, on the ground where the waterworks tank is now located. James Barr and William Poldon both came to Norwich to work for him. When he died in 1849, Mr. Barr continued with the foundry. The other business projects were discontinued and went to the receiver. William Poldon went into business with Mr. Wickham and in 1852 started his own carriage-making and blacksmithing business.

## NORWICH VILLAGE (Continued)

David Miller came from Normandale to Norwich about 1850 when it was clear that the iron furnace in Normandale would have difficulty in continuing. He joined Mr. Barr for a time in his foundry. Many of the old cauldron kettles in this district were made in this foundry and continued to be made from Mr. Miller's patterns when the foundry was taken over by Bungay and later by Holmes and Haines. After Mr. Miller opened his general store, Mr. Barr made stoves and plows.

## DR. EPHRAIM COOK

Dr. Cook was the first doctor in Norwich and practised within the township for fifty years. It was in 1830 (although in one of his medical books in the Norwich archives, he wrote: "E. Cook, Norwich, 1828"; in others the date is always 1830) that he came to Norwich, on his way to see a friend, probably Dr. Duncombe, at St. Thomas. He stopped in at the schoolhouse on Quaker Street where the farmers were having a meeting, to warm himself. They soon found out that he was a doctor and one, whose wife had been ill for two years, begged him to see what he could do for her. He had a few medical books in his saddle bag and some medicine and made his first call on a Norwich patient that day. He stayed in Norwich for the rest of his life.

His first home was within a few rods of that schoolhouse. Many years later he bought the farm now owned by Mr. Frank Fidler. At that time bad, swampy land prevented a road from running straight south from Quaker Street to the village road. The existing road at that time ran between Mott's (Howard Clayton's) and Cornwell's (Harry Jull's) as far as the fair grounds, then slanted sharply east, coming out through Fidler's farm. The doctor's first house on that farm was northeast of Elgin Lossing's house. He later built the farmhouse that was moved away when Mr. Fidler built their present



DR. COOK

home. When he moved into the village he built the house now owned by Ralph Moore. His son, George, built the present high-school building for himself.

Dr. Cook was the descendant of Major Aaron Cook, the first white man buried in Northampton, Massachusetts. His father married Sara White and moved to Hadleigh from which the Norwich high-school buildings and grounds received the name of Hadleigh Place.

Dr. Ephraim Cook attended Harvard University and, after graduating, went on a trip to the West Indies, later attending medical school where he met Dr. Duncombe, and coming to visit this friend found that he was needed in Norwich and stayed.

At the time of the Rebellion he helped Dr. Duncombe in every way he could and was sought after at once by McNabb's men. Many years later Moses Mott told one of his family how he took Dr. Cook out of the township in a load of hay, but he must have parted company with him before he went far for Dr. Cook was soon captured. Moses Mott continued on to New York State to avoid questioning. Two of his brothers, Enoch and Reuben, were rebels and Dr. Cook was an intimate friend as was Solomon Lossing.

After he was pardoned, Dr. Cook represented Oxford in the Canadian parliament and went to Quebec in 1864 to the Quebec conference. The journey took him six weeks. Sir John Macdonald was a cousin of his grandmother on his father's side.

In 1835 he had married Phebe English, a member of a Quaker family from Ireland who lived in Norwich at that time. They had four children, George, John, Ephraim and Sara. Ephraim's son, Paul, lives in New York City. He has two little daughters and they are the only living descendants of Aaron Cook.

Through the years Dr. Cook had been active in many local projects; he helped Gilbert Moore organize the Port Dover and Lake Huron Railway Company and was always keen about education. The late E. W. Nesbitt gave him grateful praise for the help he afforded the families that came up from Brampton to Norwich a hundred years ago. The first winter would have been very difficult without Dr. Cook's help. Dr. Cook died in 1881; during the fifty years a great deal of Cook's money was spent in Norwich and many a household relieved of pain.

## THE TIDEY FAMILY

(Courtesy The London Free Press)

For eighty years the Tidey family played a colorful part in the life of Norwich. John Tidey Sr., an educated Englishman, had settled first in the Township of Thorold in the Niagara district. There he married Dorothy Hellems, whose nephew, the late William Hellems, former editor and proprietor of the Kingsville *Reporter*, who had lived with the Tideys in Norwich for a time, supplied some of the following data:

In 1831 the government sent John Tidey, a surveyor, to Norwich Township to establish some disputed lines. He came, began to work on the disputed lines, brought his family, and continued surveying for many years. He also operated, at times, lumber and flour mills.

In 1837 he joined Dr. Cooke and the other rebels, was taken prisoner, and lodged finally in the Hamilton Jail. Miss Poldon gleaned from his diary the story of the sufferings of the captives: "Discomfort, filth and vermin, and bad food broke their morale and their health. They ate principally bad meat, potatoes, corn, etc., all cooked together in a large iron kettle outside in the yard. Petitions were sent in, wives interviewed members of the Legislature, taking long journeys, sometimes walking." Mrs. Tidey went to Hamilton to plead for her husband, her family being looked after by her neighbors while she was away. Finally, Mr. Tidey was released, and soon afterwards moved his family into the growing village of "Norwichville."

Miss Poldon relates that he was later superintendent of Oxford County schools, and that he introduced a small printing press into Norwichville. He also continued surveying in the surrounding country and in the village.

On September 27th, 1847, the following application was made to "John Tidey, Esquire, Surveyor of Highways, District of Brock":

"We, the undersigned, 12 of whom are freeholders, seeing the necessity of getting the lanes, streets and roads in and about the Village of Norwichville established as public thoroughfares and highways, not only for the convenience of the villagers but the public generally, do request you to examine and report on the same to the next session of the District Council, viz., Front Street, Elgin, Albert and Victoria Streets, three rods in width; Church Street, two rods; Mill Lane, 22 links; Avery Lane, 78 links in width, in order to get the same established."

The application was signed by Ephraim Cook (the doctor), Michael Stover Jr., Nehemiah Sackrider, Abraham Scott, Edward Anderson, Matthew Scott, Allen Haight, John D. MacAuley, Jacob H. Carnaby, Nicholas Halligan, James Bingham, Henry Sparrow, W. P. Wilson, John Lynes, Benson Lossing, Horace Lossing, James Wickham, Will C. Bradford, Thos. Wallace, H. I. Cornell, Garry V. DeLong, Stephen Smith, Robert Hicks, Edward Haycock, Edmund Burton, Thomas Bailey, David Wilson, Henry Stroud, James White, Noble Daniels, Wm. B. Searles, Alfred Ireland and David Hagarman.

On October 1st, 1847, Mr. Tidey handed a report to "The Warden and Councillors of the District of Brock in Council Assembled," the work all completed with the following as the closing paragraph of the preamble:

"I need not suggest to the council that all the encouragement that can be rendered to the rising villages of this district will be promotive of the great end for which District Councils were constituted, satisfaction and benefit to the people, and the increase of business, of population and of general prosperity.

"I have the pleasure therefore to report favorably upon the views of the petitioners. I have laid down the plan of the village and given unmistakable descriptions of the streets, etc., so that the council will have no difficulty in preparing a suitable by-law for the occasion." Followed a description of the streets. The last entry in Mr. Tidey's field book is dated April, 1851.

His eldest son, John A. Tidey, was one of the most enterprising business men of Norwich district. He was proprietor of Medical Hall, the first drugstore in the village, and for years issued an almanac which, through its advertising, gave a detailed account of Norwich business life of the time. It was published in Hamilton by T. and R. White, who occasionally slipped in such items as "*The Ontario Farmer*, edited by Rev. W. F. Clarke, will be published, commencing January, 1870, by T. and R. White." They printed the *Hamilton Spectator*, daily and weekly, founded in 1846.

Besides drugs, Mr. Tidey sold hardware, seven kinds of lamps, twenty kinds of chimneys (some of which are in the Norwich museum), musical instruments and English wallpaper "of much better quality and 15 per cent wider than American or Canadian paper and some leather goods.

One of his brothers, Claudius Tidey, was a conveyancer, insurance agent and job printer. Two others, Joseph and Marcaus, went to the United States; George married Ellen Agar and settled on part of the Agar land, and one sister, Martha Victoria, was Mrs. Dennis Huff. Her son lives in Montreal.

## GILBERT MOORE

Gilbert Moore, a member of the Society of Friends, and of U. E. L. stock, was the moving spirit in a number of enterprises for Norwich. While on his farm on lot 14, concession 4, North Norwich, he was active in developing the agricultural fairs and, as we mention elsewhere, had an orchard which produced prize peaches.

While there he went to Europe for a tour and sent home interesting letters about what he saw in many countries. In Austria the farming was done in such a backward manner that he was moved to try to tell some of the farmers how they might improve their methods.

Before he went away a new building had been erected on the fair grounds in Norwich, copying in a small way the arrangement of the Crystal Palace in London. He went to see the exhibition in London, and the Norwich building was always afterwards called the Crystal Palace, though the origin of the name may have been forgotten.

Upon moving to the village, Mr. Moore built an attractive residence for himself and also the large three-story white brick block for stores, etc., along the north side of Main Street.

The organization of the Port Dover and Lake Huron Railroad which he and Dr. Cook accomplished, after years of disappointing setbacks, was his greatest accomplishment.

At the same time Dr. James Carroll was actively engaged in promoting the Tillsonburg and Brantford Railway which was opened soon after the Port Dover Railway began to be operated in 1876. With these two railways Norwich had good postal and transportation systems for many years.

Gilbert Moore was the postmaster when he came to Norwich Village and was succeeded by his son, Henry Moore, whose widow, Mrs. Cordelia Moore, lives in the Moore home on Main Street.

Mrs. Clutton, Gilbert Moore's daughter, at 95, retains her cheerful outlook and keen mind.

Henry Moore built the four small stores between the bank and the Moore block and Mr. Hoy's cafe, and his uncle, Granville Sutton, built the Sutton block west of Washington Street on Main. He also built the Smith Cornell home.

William P. Barker, Mrs. Henry Moore's uncle, built the block containing the Bell Telephone office and the Otter Mutual office. He had the first store in the village on this site.



WM. STROUD  
AND HIS HOME

Owned by his family for over  
100 years.



ROBERT GRAY AT 90

In front of his home, the old  
Carmen farm house.



MRS. H. MOORE

## AMELIA POLDON, HISTORIAN

(Courtesy The Woodstock Sentinel-Review)

When Norwich held its centenary celebration in 1910, Miss Amelia Poldon had already written numerous articles for the *Sentinel-Review* on the early history of the two townships and the villages included in the original Norwich Township. For the centenary she selected extracts from these articles, added comprehensive accounts of the business life, farming activities and educational development in 1910 and produced a valuable and interesting booklet, illustrated with pictures, some loaned by pioneer families, many taken that year by the late Hezekiah Forsythe at the expense of the home owners. It has been eagerly sought after since by Norwich people everywhere.

## MISS POLDON (Cont'd)

Miss Poldon, the daughter of the late William Poldon and Rachel Warfield Poldon, was born April 3rd, 1846, in the first Poldon home in Norwich at the corner of Front and Church Streets. This house was later torn down. Her father, whose name was originally spelled Paulding, came of a family well known in Dutchess County, New York, and remembered there today. On April 14, 1945, two days after President Roosevelt's death, the Poughkeepsie *New Yorker* carried an editorial on the Hyde Park district, and, briefly sketching its history and growth from 1705 to the present, mentioned, among others, James K. Paulding as a former prominent man, owner of a large country estate, an intimate of Washington Irving and Secretary of the Navy in 1838. James K. Paulding was a cousin of William Poldon (Paulding is the spelling still used by some of his grandsons) and was a brother-in-law of Washington Irving, at whose home he often met such literary personages as Emerson, Longfellow and Oliver Wendell Holmes. Also he once collaborated with Irving on some of his writings, according to an article in an old magazine in a Norwich library.

These facts were known to Miss Poldon as she grew up among Norwich pioneers, some of whom had valuable records of early days in the township, and she recognized the opportunity of doing some writing herself, using these old documents to good advantage.

The Tidey family were neighbors and she went to Martha Tidey's private school, which was carried on in an old Congregational church bought for the purpose and located near the site of the present Anglican Church. At an early age she obtained a first-class certificate and was soon teaching the Pleasant Valley School where "school visitors," authorized to inspect schools and report on the teacher's work, recommended her for a teacher's certificate.

In 1870 she was second teacher in the Norwich Public School, where Dr. Sutherland was then principal. It was later, while teaching at Milldale, that she boarded with the James Barkers, parents of Dr. Llewellys Barker. Afterwards she moved from DeMille College, Oshawa, to Pickering College, where the young Llewellys Barker was one of her pupils. For years in her old age she regularly spent a summer holiday with the Llewellys Barkers in Muskoka, and, in his autobiography, *Time and the Physician*, Dr. Barker mentions her as one of his early teachers.

She spent her later years in Norwich. At one time she had signed to go as a missionary. When responsibilities at home prevented her from going away, she worked in the W. C. T. U., in the Sunday school, in missionary societies, supplied in the local school, was correspondent for the *Sentinel-Review*, wrote papers for historical societies and for church meetings and served as librarian from 1905 till 1912.

She died February 6th, 1926, recognized as an authority on Norwich history and remembered for her many useful activities. Mr. Harold Poldon, Norwich postmaster, and W. H. Poldon, blacksmith, are her nephews, and Miss Ethel Poldon, assistant in the post office, is her niece.

## THE NORWICH MUSEUM

(Courtesy The London Free Press)

The museum of the Norwich Pioneers' Historical Society is housed at present in a large basement room in the Village of Norwich Public Library. The Historical Society represents North and South Norwich and their hamlets and villages and the museum pieces have been collected largely from this area.

The oldest relics on display are several huge well-preserved bones of a prehistoric mammoth or mastodon (until the teeth are found it will not be known which) unearthed some years ago in a swamp on Roy Miner's farm on Quaker Street West. Some Indian relics found in Norwich Township, some South Sea shells donated by a collector, and two cases of butterflies donated by former high-school boys form the nucleus of the natural history system of the museum.

The pioneer utensils include a butternut kitchen table, a stone butter crock and a stone snuff jar, all brought from Dutchess County in 1810 and loaned to the museum; a cheese press, in use before cheese factories were established; a wooden dash churn, a large home-made butter bowl carved from a maple knot; as assortment of fireplace trimmings and a reflector oven, and candle molds in units of six, ten and twenty; a splint broom, a wooden shovel, a shoemaker's outfit with an assortment of lasts; an iron teakettle and other iron utensils, some of which are known to have been made at Normandale; all types of spinning wheels, swifts and reels.

Two side saddles, and a splint-bottomed wagon chair for two illustrate pioneer modes of travel, while a Mexican rope bridle lends variety to the exhibit.

(Continued on page 76)



BERT CORNWELL



ART CATTON



FRANK PITCHER



WILL VIGAR



DR. FRAIN

### "THE OLD GUARD"

### G. W. POLDON AND SON

William Poldon Sr. (Paulding) came to Norwich in 1846 as foreman in John Steele's blacksmith shop. In 1852 he founded his own business in a shop near the Anglican Church, later moving to the present premises. His son, George, born in 1848, grew up with the carriage and blacksmith business and was for some years before his death in 1945 the oldest and best known citizen, the only remaining Norwich veteran of the Fenian Raid of 1866, a faith-

ful Mason and long chairman of the Library Board.

William Junior, the present proprietor, has been with the firm since he left school and does auto repair work, blacksmithing, electric welding and bicycle repairing.

His son, Bruce, of the Army, is the official photographer of this book. Mrs. Wm. Poldon, the former Letitia Bradley, was corresponding secretary of the Norwich Women's War League and is a member of the Souvenir Book's editorial committee.



Poldon's Garage



Store

### PITCHER BROS.



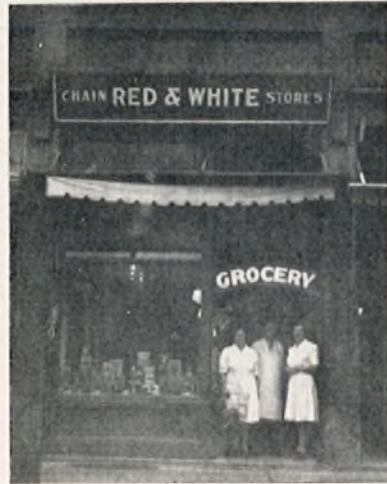
Residence

Pitcher Bros. is the oldest retail business in Norwich, having been established in 1854 by Mr. Frank Pitcher's father, Mr. Seneca Pitcher, who came from New York State to Canada in 1824. He literally watched the growth of the village from the beginning. After its incorporation in 1876 he was at one time reeve for seven years and at the same time county councillor. He was a Justice of the Peace and a director of the Port Dover and Lake Huron Railroad. His wife was Phoebe Pitcher, granddaughter of Peter Lossing, the pioneer.

For many years the Pitcher family have worked together in this store. Mr. Frank Pitcher, the former Elizabeth McCurdy, Annie, Mrs. A. L. Bushell, and Nettie, before she

married Lorne Hemingway, and Nellie; Edith is Mrs. Arthur Maedel. They were saddened four years ago by the death of one of the partners, Mr. DeWitt Pitcher, and in May 1946 by the passing of Frank Pitcher—the remaining senior partner.

They have carried the varied stock of a general store: drygoods, groceries, ready-made clothing, boots and shoes, and at present have the only millinery department in town. Mr. Frank Pitcher was for years a member of the Public Utilities of Norwich and has always helped any project for building up and improving the village and community. He was a councillor for several terms and also reeve and county councillor.



### HARRY RODDY

Has a well established business of 40 years and has handled groceries all his life.



### C. H. PENNINGTON

An undertaking and furniture business on the site of the John Steele store of 1846.

### GORDON POWELL

This business was started by C. Helsdon in the spring of 1921. At first he specialized in tire and battery work. In the spring of 1924 he purchased his first radio, which was equipped with head sets. During the fall of 1924 he began to sell radios and from then on combined the radio business with the tire and battery work. As time went on he added refrigerators and wash-in machines.

In the summer of 1938 his stepson, Gordon Powell, took over the business.



He had just turned twenty and was the youngest business man in town. The tire and battery lines were dropped and the store was redecorated to accommodate the radio and refrigerator lines. During the war most of the business was repairing and servicing electrical equipment. In the fall of 1945, Charles Helsdon, formerly overseas with the R. C. A. F., half brother of Mr. Powell, entered the business.

Gordon and Mrs. Powell (the former Betty Cornwell) have a small daughter, An Elizabeth. They are active in village organizations and Gordon has served on the village council.

### MAEDEL'S BAKERY AND GROCERY

is an old established firm with an attractive, modern store featuring quality bread, cakes, buns, and a wide range of groceries.



MAEDEL'S BAKERY AND STAFF

The late W. E. Maedel started this business forty-eight years ago. In 1926, after the tragic death of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Maedel, their son, Arthur, then a very young man, took it over and has continued to expand it ever since. He married Miss Edith Pitcher, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pitcher, who have the oldest established business in Norwich.

Arthur Maedel has always endeavored to give the

public the very latest in baking with modern and up-to-the-minute equipment. He has a staff of six employees. Mrs. Maedel, their fifteen-year-old son, Bruce, and their eleven-year-old daughter, Darlene, also help when needed.

Mr. Maedel has always maintained a delivery service in the town and can be depended to give satisfaction in bakery products and groceries.





**N. C. MACWHIRTER**  
*Rexall Drug Store*

occupies the site of  
J. A. Tidey's Medical  
Hall of pioneer days.

Forty-two years ago, Mr. Macwhirter, a graduate of the Ontario College of Pharmacy, came to Norwich to manage the Harry Haken Drug Store, which he bought in 1907. It is large, well-appointed, and up-to-date in stock and furnishings. Drugs, stationery, a news stand, cosmetics, gifts and wallpapers are featured. For fifteen years Vernon Coward has ably assisted Mr. Macwhirter as clerk.

Jean and Mary, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Macwhirter (the former Mary Sutherland) have grown up in Norwich. Jean, a graduate of the University of Toronto, recently was appointed to the staff of UNRRA in Washington. Mary, a graduate of St. Joseph's Hospital, London, served three years in England, France and Belgium with No. 10 Military Hospital.

Mr. Macwhirter has been a member of the Public and High School Boards of the village.

**W. A. ADAMS,**  
Phm. B.



Mr. Adams, the I. D. A. druggist in Norwich, bought the business from O. D. Hess in 1936. It was originally the John Tidey business, founded in 1855. Mr. Tidey's son-in-law, John Bannon, sold to E. H. Jackson & Co. (manager, D. J. Matthews). Mr. Ionson came in 1810, then Mr. Madill and later Mr. Hess.

Mr. Adams carries drugs, photo supplies, magazines, stationery and cosmetics.

He had served in the First Great War and graduated from the Ontario College of Pharmacy in 1923, taking the degree of Bachelor of Pharmacy the same year.

He and Mrs. Adams moved to Norwich from Toronto and have made a real place for themselves in the community. Mrs. Adams helps in the store when needed.

Mr. Garfield Irving came to Norwich in 1934—when he bought the Bosworth's store. He moved from the Miller block to his present store in September 1935.

He features men's everyday wear, stationery, china, cosmetics, confectionery and toys.

In the twelve years he has been in Norwich he has had three assistant managers: Mrs. Sheldon Carroll, Mrs. Hugh Parkhill and at present his daughter Maxine.

Lavern, Donnajean and Marjorie also help in the store; Ruth Ann is hoping too soon.

Mr. and Mrs. Irving are interested in all worthwhile community projects—Mr. Irving, after serving on the Public School Board two years and council three years, was reeve of the village during 1944.

**IRVING'S**  
5c TO \$1.00 STORE



L. C. Arn first came to Norwich June 7, 1907, as a funeral director. He purchased the business from Byron Addison which was located in the place now owned by Mr. Archie Stevenson. The business was operated under the name of L. C. Arn.

In 1925, Anson B. Arn, son of L. C. Arn, obtained his embalmer's license, and then became a partner of the business which was from that time carried on under the name of L. C. Arn & Son.

In 1931 the building then owned by Howard Dennis was purchased, which is the present location. The store was redecorated and made into a funeral chapel on the east side and a furniture salesroom on the west side.

In 1938 the Couzens residence, formerly owned by the Wickhams, was bought and remodelled into a modern funeral residence.

In 1945, L. C. Arn passed away. The business is now operated under the name of Arn & Son, Anson B. Arn, and son, Roy Arn, being the junior partner.

**ARN & SON**





P. LONGWORTH  
& SONS

MAURICE LONGWORTH

The business was established in 1923 by Mr. Percy Longworth who turned the management over to his son, Maurice, four years before the war. Longworths stock high quality groceries and feature a men's clothing department.

During the war, Maurice served as a captain in the R. C. A. overseas, and of the five years, three months in service was in Italy for eighteen months and nine in North-west Europe. On return from the army, he has resumed management of the business.

Mr. and Mrs. Longworth (the former Nora Ferris) are active in community life, Mrs. Longworth in church work and Maurice in sports.

Clayton Longworth is also a member of the firm and Mr. and Mrs. P. Longworth still help when needed.

KEN. BISH

AGNEW-SURPASS STORE



Mr. Ken. Bish took over the management of Agnew-Surpass Shoe Store in 1933. He carries a full line of boots and shoes, luggage, hosiery and foot comforts.

He has been helpful in the Business Men's Club and the Smokes Fund Committee.

Mrs. Bish was the first president of the Norwich Women's War League and did much to make it a success. They have two boys, Don and Bernie.



THE MORGAN HARDWARE  
COMPANY

For thirty-six years Mr. W. W. Morgan has carried on this hardware business in the spacious, well fitted store which he bought from the Batty Hardware Company in January, 1910.

He has new, modern showcases and carries an attractive stock of hardware, stoves, aluminum and enamelware, glass, silverware, dishes, roofing, woven wire fencing, garden tools, fishing tackle and Sherwin Williams paints.

His family grew up in Norwich. George, a graduate of the University of Western Ontario, is principal of the public school in Niagara Falls; William, recently returned after three years overseas, was formerly a member of his staff. Jack is still in the Royal Canadian Navy.

Mr. Norman Hern has assisted in the store since 1910, and Mr. George Baines, formerly of the R. C. A. F., is also on the staff, with Miss Muriel Hanmer as book-keeper.

Mr. Morgan is a member of the I. O. O. F. and the A. F. & A. M., and was for several years on the Public School Board.

**DAN DWYER**  
Garage

Dan Dwyer, agent for the McColl Frontenac Company in Norwich, will be servicing cars and selling gasoline and oil some time in July at their new service station being erected on Main Street West. A civilian flyer ten years before the war, Mr. Dwyer was in the R. C. A. F. for five years and was instructor four years in Canada and seven months in England. In 1938 he married Irma Farrell and they have one small son, Terrence.

**DON KINSEY**

The jewellery and watch-making business being carried on at present by Don Kinsey in the general store of J. S. Leitch & Son was started by Mr. S. G. Kinsey in 1901 and was run by him until his death in 1936. Don then took over until February, 1945, when he left for five and a half years' service as an instrument mechanic with the Royal Canadian Air Force. The stock of the store was taken over by J. S. Leitch & Son, and on Don's return in September, 1945, he again started the jewellery and repair business. Mr. and Mrs. Don Kinsey, nee Bessie Leitch, have one small daughter, Joyce Marilyn.



BURYL MCINTYRE AND FRED EVOY

**FRED EVOY**  
Plumbing, Heating, Tinsmithing

Mr. Evoy took over the former stand of Mr. P. Donnelly in June, 1944. He is an experienced pipefitter and plumber and sells and installs Hecla furnaces, Beattie pressure systems and Duro pumps.

He has one helper, Beryl McIntyre (mentioned in despatches), formerly of the Royal Canadian Navy.

Mr. and Mrs. Evoy came to Norwich in 1939. They have two children, Marylin in public school and Fred at home.

**HANMER TRANSPORT**

Mr. Beryl Hanmer bought his first commercial truck in 1929 and began to haul eggs for the co-operative. He soon added another truck and now has nine units. At present he has three drivers. His trucks carry all kinds of freight except livestock and their usual routes are to Brantford, Hamilton or Toronto. Six of his former drivers enlisted, Percy Potter, R. Clark, Don Newton, Harry Farrell, Roy Wade, Wm. McGillivary and his son Kirke. Roy Wade, who was a prisoner of war, is again with him. Kirke, recently discharged from the American Navy, is at Grand Rapids employed in airplane construction.



DRIVER CLARENCE BATES AND A HANMER TRUCK

Mr. and Mrs. Hanmer (the former Daisy Frain) moved to Norwich village in 1938. Their daughter, Mary, a graduate of Sarnia General Hospital, works at Homewood Sanitarium in Guelph. Clara has a position in Toronto and Jean is at home.



JOHN AND EMERY LYNES

John and Emery Lynes have the oldest cartage business in the village. Emery began when he took over the horse-drawn bus to the East Station in 1919. His father-in-law, Abram Searls, had the bus service to the West Station. Between trains he carried freight for the Canadian Express Company, of which he was the local manager for three years; he was assisted by his daughter, Doris (Mrs. Glen Taylor). In 1921 he purchased a light truck and has been doing a light trucking business ever since.

Eighteen years ago Jack began to drive for his father and three years later bought his own truck. Since then he has had four trucks, the present one being a five-ton Chevrolet, and has driven a third of a million miles without accident.

Mrs. John Lynes (the former Muriel Singer) is interested in the Home and School Club and worked in the War League; their son, John, is in high school.

Hazel Lynes works in the office of the Blue Bird Bus Company in Woodstock.



GORDON GILMOUR

Mr. Gilmour began his trucking business in Burgessville with a single truck in 1927. Before coming to Norwich in 1939 he had five trucks and hauled gravel and crushed stone for the roads.

He has a baling machine and last year bought and baled about 1500 tons of straw and trucked it to Trenton to the paper mill, employing about 15 men in the baling season.

With eight trucks and three or four trailers he does live-stock hauling and general trucking all the year round. In the winter of 1935-36 he operated the first two county snow truck plows that they had and continued the snow-ploughing for two or three winters afterwards. He employs six men at present, one of them, Harry Clifford, an ex-service man.

He and Mrs. Gilmour, the former Mabel Farrell, have three children, Joyce at school, and James and Eleanor still at home.

OSCAR GARE

Oscar Gare came to Norwich in 1927 and worked for six years in Vernon Smart's garage. In 1933 he went into the garage business himself and has remained in the same location ever since. He features motor overhauling and motor tuning and is agent for General Motors. He sells Exide batteries and Goodyear tires. At present he employs five men.

A few months ago he married Miss Eleanor Messacar and they live in the Pennington Apartments.



OSCAR GARE AND STAFF

LESLIE FORCE

Leslie Force has been in the garage business in Norwich for 25 years. He served for three years in the last war in the motor transport and later in the Royal Air Force; in World War II he was a pilot instructor with a flying officer's rank in the R. C. A. F., rated as a captain in the Canadian Pacific Airlines.

He sells Imperial Oil products and has new equipment of all kinds, and features maintenance for new type autos, trucks and tires. His employees are all ex-service men: Stewart and Bob Moody, Mervyn Palmer and Dayton Currie.

Mr. and Mrs. Force (the former Velma Bradley) live in the old Smiley home with their family, Shirley (Mrs. Harvey Hayes), and her son, Harvey; Leslie, Wayne and Darrell, and Mrs. Force's mother, Mrs. Archie Bradley. Two other daughters, Virginia (Mrs. Ken Wright) and Donna (Mrs. Wm. Lockey) also live in Norwich.



LESLIE FORCE AND STAFF



CLARENCE HOYT AND STAFF

### HOYT'S GARAGE

Mr. Hoyt came to Norwich nine years ago as a Cities Service man in Gare's garage. In 1938 he built his own modern garage on Stover Street, just south of Main. He employs Charlie Redmond, an ex-service man as body man and painter, and also Ian Sprague and Harvey Kyte, both of whom were in the services. He specializes in motor tuning and general repairs, and is agent for Plymouth and Chrysler cars and Fargo trucks. His father, Mr. Albert Hoyt, helps in the office. Mr. Jack Worrall is his book-keeper.

A brother, W/C Charles Hoyt, was on the headquarters staff of the R. C. A. F. at Ottawa during the war. Since being discharged he has been technical adviser for Chrysler's in India.

Two years ago Mr. and Mrs. Hoyt built a new home on Washington Street North. Their daughter, Barbara, is in high school.



### McINTYRE'S GARAGE

Mr. McIntyre came to Norwich in 1921 and opened his garage in the Carroll block where he remained till 1943 when he moved to Smart's former premises. After two years he purchased the building known as Edison Hall and has made it over into an up-to-date and convenient garage, with the help of his son, Mac, who has worked with him for twenty-two years. His son, Roy, now in Burgessville, had been with him two years when he first came to Norwich.

McIntyres have done general servicing of cars and have specialized in acetylene welding. Just before the war they sold Hudson cars for a time. Two other sons, Maurice and Orland, are connected with Norton Abrasives. Buryl, who is working with Mr. Evoy, was in the Navy during the war and was mentioned in despatches at Dieppe. Edith (Mrs. Ernest Cole, late of the R. C. A. F.), lives in Tillsonburg.

### BUTLER FEED AND COAL COMPANY



MRS. MORGAN, HOWARD BUTLER AND MURRAY, AND SAM PASCOE

This business was established in Norwich in the early 1890's by Mr. E. H. Thomas and sold to Mr. William Corlett in December, 1901. Mr. Smith Cornell, who had worked for Mr. Thomas, continued with Mr. Corlett and joined the firm in 1910. In 1935 Mr. C. Butler bought Mr. Corlett's interest and after his death in 1937 was succeeded by his son, Howard, who, since Mr. Cornell's withdrawal in December, 1945, manages the business under the firm name of Butler Feed and Coal Company.

They stock flour, feed, garden plants, seeds, cement and coal. Mr. Harvey Trowhill has succeeded Mr. Cornell at the warehouse. Mr. Sam Pascoe, late of the Army, assists in the store and Mrs. Morgan is bookkeeper. Miss Dorothy Butler, Reg. N., spent two years during the war nursing in Bermuda. Mr. and Mrs. Butler (the former Elsie Carroll) have two small children, Murray and Carroll. Mr. Howard Butler is, among other activities mentioned elsewhere, secretary of the Agricultural Society and a member of the Public School Board.

## THE NORWICH DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE

This is one of the larger co-operatives in Ontario and one of the earliest. It had its beginnings during the First World War, when ten or fifteen Norwich farmers used to meet at their various homes to discuss educational and cultural subjects, as well as farm economics. Mr. James Rettie was the first secretary of this club, which went by the name of Norwich Farmers' Club, and Mr. Hartley was one of the early presidents and later one of the buyers. Mr. B. G. Palmer succeeded Mr. Rettie as secretary when the latter became identified with the Holstein-Friesian Association. Mr. Palmer was afterwards president of the co-operative for many years.

In 1920 there were eighty members, and in 1923, 106. It finally wound up in 1926, having become part of the co-operative which was formed in 1920. Soon after the club started the ladies began to come along and they met at the same time as the men did, in a different room.

George Bishop was at one time secretary and, later, Maurice Pollard. A. T. Walker, M.L.A., was also a member.



OFFICE AND COLD STORAGE BUILDING

About 1916 or '17 the club had decided to do a little community buying of such commodities as sugar and clover seed which had seasonal prices. By this time it was growing so that business meetings were held in Edison Hall. When the grist mill burned in December, 1919, and the price of grinding rose, they decided to go into business for themselves in a community way. They organized a co-operative to do their own grinding and purchasing of supplies, bought the site of the present mill west of the village and erected a building, which has since been extended. James Carroll was the first manager and was succeeded by Percy Robinson.

## THE NORWICH DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE

(Continued)

In August, 1925, they purchased the property and business of the late F. E. Lossing. Mr. Walter Marshall, who had been with Mr. Lossing for thirteen years, remained in charge of the shop, and on January 1st, 1927, was appointed manager of the co-operative. When he became seriously ill later in the same year, his son, N. M. Marshall, who had assisted in the business for some years, beginning in Mr. Lossing's time, was appointed manager in his father's place, and has continued to hold that position ever since, during which time the business has branched out and grown considerably.

In February, 1937, an up-to-date seed-cleaning plant was added to the equipment and two years later an additional warehouse was built behind the store on the main corner of the village. In 1942 the former Dake House was purchased and renovated. A modern cold-storage plant was installed and a retail meat market and an egg-grading station were included in the building, where the large, well-lighted office is also located. A board room upstairs has been attractively furnished and other community organizations hold meetings there.

In December, 1943, the Norwich District Co-operative bought the John Corless feed business in Burgessville and opened an up-to-date mill there in 1945.

In April, 1944, the H. Grant feed business of Burford was purchased and a modern mill erected.

During 1946 a large well-equipped machine shop is to be built in Norwich for the selling and servicing of farm implements.

The co-operative employs 28 men and seven girls, nine of them returned men from the armed forces, as follows: Roy Perry, Doug. Harrison, Vincent Richardson, Lorimer Davidson, Tom Williams of World War II, with H. R. Hopkins, Hazen Hannington and Cecil Casler of World War I.

The executive are as follows: President, J. A. McClellan; first vice-president, F. E. Hilliker; second vice-president, Wray Hartley; secretary of the board, J. R. McRae. Directors: James Rettie, Howard Jull, A. Gilmour, C. A. Smith, B. G. Palmer.



THE "CO-OP" MILL

## HOSSACK'S FARM AND ELECTRIC SUPPLY



JACK WOODS  
Local Representative  
Metropolitan Life Insurance Co.

Mr. Wilbert Hossack came in September, 1945, from North Oxford and opened this business in Norwich. He sells a full line of Massey-Harris farm implements, of Beatty equipment, pressure pumps and barn equipment, also General Electric goods of all kinds. He does installations, servicing machines, overhauling, welding and pipe-fitting. He has one assistant, Mr. Harold Hewitt, an ex-service man.

## WILLARD SAVAGE

Mr. Willard Savage has been in Norwich, manager of the Norotto Gas Company, during the difficult war years.

During that time he has taken an active interest in many community activities. The first secretary of the Business Men's Association, he was president of the Norwich baseball team for several seasons, during which time it won three championships in the Otterville Floodlight League. He has also been president of and moving spirit in the Smokes Fund Committee during the war.

He has two boys, Jack, who was on duty at Kamloops and overseas, is brakeman on the Michigan Central Railway, and Bill, who, since being released from the Army, is at school.

Mrs. Savage has worked in the War League ever since it was organized.

## ED SNYDER RADIO SERVICE

Mr. Ed. Snyder came to Norwich in 1923. About 16 years ago he began to service radios as a side line to his regular auto service work. In 1938 he started into business for himself and in 1941 he built a large convenient work shop on Washington Street. He specializes in radio service.

His son, Ozro, helps him out of school hours, and Bobby used to help too. Ila and Edgar are in public school.

## J. S. LEITCH & SON

J. S. Leitch, of J. S. Leitch & Son, has been in business in Norwich for twenty years. He bought the J. C. Henderson General Store about 1926, later taking his son into partnership. About fifteen years ago he opened a second general store in Otterville which has been managed by his son, Ivan Leitch. They stock groceries and fruit as well as dry-goods, ready-made clothing, boots and shoes, and novelties, and have an up-to-date and flourishing business.



The Leitch Home



INTERIOR OF THE NORWICH STORE

They have a staff of ten in the two stores. In the Norwich branch Mrs. J. S. Leitch and their daughter Bessie, Mrs. Donald Kinsey, are on the staff.

Mr. Leitch has also about 300 acres of tobacco land which gives employment to a goodly number during the tobacco season.

## WITTS FERTILIZER WORKS LIMITED

A few years prior to 1910 Mr. Cyrus Witts had been exploring into the possibilities of manufacturing commercial fertilizers and in 1910 he acquired a license from the Government and proceeded to establish the Witts Fertilizer Works on the present site one mile south and one-half mile west of the Village of Norwich.

The chemical substances now used in the analysis of fertilizers were unprocurable at that time and the necessary materials were obtained through the processing of boiled leather, tankage, and the hoofs and horns of animals.

Mr. Albert LaForge, the present plant foreman, was engaged by Mr. Witts in June, 1911, and is the only remaining member of the original staff.

In 1927, Mr. Witts, due to ill health, sold his entire establishment to Messrs. F. C. Bishop and J. S. Winterburn. Under the new partnership, with considerable field work,



WITTS FERTILIZER WORKS LIMITED

the annual output continued to increase, due, in part, to the introduction of tobacco-growing in South Norwich Township and Norfolk County.

The partnership dissolved in 1936 when Mr. F. C. Bishop purchased the share owned by Mr. Winterburn, and eight years later the business was incorporated and became known as Witts Fertilizer Works, Limited, under the presidency of Mr. F. C. Bishop.

## WEST, TAYLOR, BICKLE & CO., LTD.

This broom factory is the largest, not only in Canada but also in the British Empire. It was established by E. H. Thomas in 1894 with one broom-maker and a helper (Mr. Frank Lees, father of the present manager, Mr. George Lees). In a year or two the Thomas brothers moved into the old school house, added brushes and woodenware and in 1901 employed nearly a hundred hands. In 1902 they took their entire plant and buildings to St. Thomas.

The Norwich Broom Factory was then organized with Mr. James Doherty as manager. In two or three years he bought the business and in 1905 sold it to West, Taylor and Bickle.

In 1907 when the building and plant were destroyed by fire the present factory was built and re-equipped within four months. In that year Mr. George Lees began to work for West, Taylor and Bickle. In 1921 he was made manager and is now general manager of the company. For ten years he was secretary of the Broom Manufacturers of Canada and for four years he has been their national president.

Since 1919 the markets have extended, first to the West Indies, then to the British Isles, Sweden, and finally Switzerland, where curling brooms were sent. The war interrupted these sales and no apprentices were trained during the war years. The eighty-five employees were reduced in number. With the coming of peace and the return of service personnel, normal trade is being resumed, with sixty-five employees in the factory and six on the office staff, ten of these being returned men, as follows: Fred Catton, M.M.; George Ralph, Mentioned in Despatches; Glen Miles, Wray Haylock, Bob Piper, Bert Parker, W. E. Vigar, Earl Wilding, Norman Lees and T. Wallace (of World War I).



The material for brooms comes from many places: broom corn from the Central Western States (a very tall specimen grown in Mr. Lees' garden may be seen at the factory); fir wood for handles from British Columbia, hardware from Canadian steel mills, paper from Canadian mills, labels imprinted by the factory's own printing machine, tar from Trinidad, fibres made of grass, inner bark of trees or shredded vines from Brazil, India, West Africa, Italy, Hungary, and before the war from Japan.





CARROLL'S AND STAFF

## CARROLL'S LIMITED

Miss Eva Snell is the manager of the Norwich store, having come to Carroll's seventeen years ago when Miss Norma Coward, who had succeeded Miss Annie Stevenson, was manager. When Miss Coward was married in April, 1937, Miss Snell was appointed to take her place. Miss Snell, whose father is Fred Snell, the Fourth Division Court Clerk, a member of a Dutchess County pioneer Norwich family, is also a descendant of Michael Stover Sr., on whose land the village was built.

Carroll's feature groceries, fresh fruits and vegetables, bread, cakes and buns, and for a long time was the only self-serve grocereria in Norwich.

Miss Snell has four assistants in the store. The delivery of parcels is looked after by Mr. Wesley Lees' Delivery Service.

## • PINKERTON HARDWARE

Mr. Pinkerton's father, W. G. Pinkerton, has been with him during his seventeen years in Norwich. Ed Jull has been book-keeper for nine years and Don Stone joined the staff upon leaving the Air Force after the war ended.

Mr. Pinkerton carries a good stock of hardware of all kinds, and paints and varnishes, and lately has added electric refrigerators.

He belongs to the Oddfellows Lodge and has served on the Public School Board for eight years. Mr. and Mrs. Pinkerton have always been active in church affairs and Mrs. Pinkerton has worked from its beginning in the War League. Their children, Marie and Billy, are growing up here, Marie in high school and Billy in public school.



PINKERTON HARDWARE

## • C. E. MERRILL

Cecil Merrill's implement shop is on the site of the James Wickham waggon shop of a hundred years ago, which was taken over by his son-in-law, Harry Couzens. Mr. Merrill came to the village in 1920 and started an implement business next to Poldon's. Later he rebuilt the Couzens shop and moved there. For eighteen years he has sold Cockshutt farm implements, washers, etc., and has specialized in DeLaval milking machines.

He and Mrs. Merrill, the former Essie Dickenson, have two daughters, Pauline, Mrs. Greg Murray of New Liskeard, and Jean, a well-known press photographer in Toronto. Mr. Robert Wilson assists Mr. Merrill at the shop.

Murray Pinkerton bought this hardware business from William Davidson in October, 1929. It had formerly belonged to Fred Bishop, who had taken over the business when his partner, Mr. James McNight, died. Before that it had belonged to the Charles firm.



C. E. MERRILL RESIDENCE

## BANK OF MONTREAL

In the Bank of Montreal Canada possesses an institution of which it may well be proud. Founded in 1817, it is the oldest institution of its kind in the Dominion and has taken a leading part in the development of our country. Today, well over a million Canadians choose this bank as their depository.

The Norwich branch has recently celebrated sixty years of service to the community, the first branch (at that time the Molsons Bank) being opened on April 1st, 1886.

Situated as it is in the midst of one of the finest mixed farming districts in the world, the bank is a very busy centre and gives a complete, up-to-date service to its many customers. During recent years the staff were under heavy pressure due to war activities such as attending to the multifarious details of Foreign Exchange control and the handling of Victory Loans, War Savings Certificates and Ration coupons.

The branch, with a staff of nine, is under the management of William Colchester, who came here in 1937. He has had banking experience in England and many agricultural points in Western Canada. He is well known as a photographer and moving-picture enthusiast and the Red Cross



and church organizations have profited by his willingness to assist by showing them. He is assisted by the accountant, E. L. Casselman, who is the proud possessor of the Royal Humane Society's life-saving certificate. Other members of the staff are all local young people and consist of Ken Farrell (recently discharged from the R. C. A. F.), Gladys Cole, Marie McMillan, Jessie Tribe, Marion Pascoe, Shirley Wheeler and Lois Hanmer.

## WILLIAM WARING

Tobacconist

Twenty years ago William Waring joined Mr. Lew Walters' establishment as assistant. In 1939 he bought the business which he has carried on successfully during the war years. He has two barber chairs, a snack bar, a tobacco counter and a poolroom. A fluorescent lighting system has been installed lately.

Maurice Farrell, formerly of the R. C. A. F., is his assistant, together with Mr. Bill Hunter, recently discharged from the Army. During the war, Mrs. Waring (the former Gladys Hammond) helped at the sales counter for four and a half years.

Their daughter, Audrey, Mrs. Edward Vaughan, was married this spring and lives in Brantford.



MR. WARING AND THE INTERIOR OF HIS SHOP



W. H. Eddy  
Director



Harry Lockwood  
Director



Archie Moore  
Director



A. W. Smith  
Vice-President



John Storey  
President



Harry Cayley  
Secretary-Treasurer

## THE OTTER MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY



L. M. Gardner  
Director



Alex Riach  
Agent



Harry Scott  
Agent



Warren Rock  
Director



James Rettie  
Director



John Slattery  
Director

## THE OTTER MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY



The company was formed in July, 1887, the first co-operative venture in Norwich. There were 69 shareholders at first and \$110,279 risk. In the next twenty years the number of policy holders increased to 1769, and the risk to \$3,-643,535. In 1945, after fifty-eight years of co-operative effort, the number of policy holders in practically the same area it has always covered is 2,749, with insurance in force of \$11,762,969.

The losses in 1945 were \$28,233.92, in 1910 \$6,946.36 and in 1887, the first year of operation, there were no losses. Approximately \$590,000 have been paid in claims by the company to the end of 1945.

The Charter Board of Directors elected consisted of Seneca Pitcher, John Topham, James G. Pettit, Elias Mott, Charles Burrill, Stephen Coon, Samuel Wallace, Irving L. Farrington and Michael Stover.

Some of the names connected through the years with the Otter Mutual were: S. R. Wallace, James Carroll, J. R. Johnson, C. W. Carroll, F. W. Vardon, William Schell, Valentine Ficht, Walter Schell.

T. M. Cayley was secretary-treasurer from 1918 until his death in 1933 when his son, Harry, took his place.

## LORNE S. PARKER

This dairy was built in the fall of 1937 on a lot just north of the corner of Main and Stovers Streets to house the first pasteurizing plant in the Norwich district. The following year a milk bar was opened for the sale of dairy products and ice cream. The fluid market in Norwich, Otterville and Burgessville is now served and, due to increased turnover, an addition will be built this year to provide more refrigeration, and a modern soda bar.

The products handled are milk, cream, chocolate milk, buttermilk, cottage cheese and ice cream.

Mr. and Mrs. Parker have been active in the community, the former having served on the Public School Board; their two children are named Jack and Jean.



PARKER'S DAIRY BAR



**C. H. HELSDON**  
Real Estate

The Helsdon Residence

Mr. Helsdon first visited Norwich in 1910 when as youths he and a friend hired a livery and came over from Tillsonburg to the Norwich Old Boys' Reunion.

After that he was in World War I for three and a half years and was wounded twice in battle.

In 1921 he established the business in tires and batteries, now owned by his stepson, Gordon Powell. Radios were being improved and Mr. Helsdon had the first loudspeaker sold for a radio in town.

He is now a real estate broker and is in demand by those who wish to sell their property at advantage.

Besides Charlie, late of the R. C. A. F., who is with Gordon Powell in the business, Mr. and Mrs. Helsdon have Sammie at home, and May, Mrs. Jack Turner, and a grandson, Richard, in London. Jim Powell, Gordon's brother, was one of the first Canadian radar men overseas.

**ELMER SANDERSON**

Mr. Elmer Sanderson, dealer in scrap iron, used stoves and furniture, has a thriving business in the community. He has gathered scrap iron throughout Oxford County for sixteen years and has lived in the Village of Norwich for five years. During the salvage campaigns in the war years, and since, he has bought salvage material from the Norwich Women's War League and the Legion and other organizations in the county.

**W. E. POLLOCK**  
Florist

W. E. Pollock, son of the late John Pollock, who was identified with the growth of Norwich village along Clyde and North Court Street, has had a commercial greenhouse on Clyde Street for over thirty years. He raises plants for vegetable and flower gardens and also for cut flowers.

His daughter, Miriam, and Mrs. Pollock help him, and his son, Allan, recently discharged from the Royal Canadian Navy, is at present assisting with the greenhouse.

Mr. W. E. Pollock, as a working architect, planned and helped build the Norwich Public Library and also a number of houses in the village, including those now owned by Bob Wilson, Harry Howard and Gordon Bishop.



**MR. GEORGE LEES' HOME,**  
Stover Street  
South.

**RALPH MOORE'S RESIDENCE**  
Built by Dr. Cooke in the 70's and owned afterwards for many years by Jacob Moore.



**MR. A. L. STONES' RESIDENCE**  
on John Street.

**MR. SMITH CORNELL**  
One of our older residents by his home on Stover Street South.





**DR. MOLES'  
RESIDENCE**  
on John St. Graduate of  
R. C. D. S. in 1900.

**DR. MELDRUM'S  
RESIDENCE**  
on Main Street West.  
Has practised medicine  
here for nearly thirty  
years.



**DR. BAYNE'S  
RESIDENCE**  
Fourteen years ago Dr.  
Bayne came to Nor-  
wich to practice den-  
tistry. He built his house  
on Main Street in 1940.  
Betty and Bobby are  
growing up in Norwich  
schools.

**REEVE HAROLD  
BISHOP'S  
RESIDENCE**  
Built originally for the  
late Colonel Thomas  
Wallace before 1846.



**OSWALD WALLACE**  
Choice tuberous-rooted  
begonias grown by  
Oswald Wallace.



### THE NORWICH PLAYGROUND

At a special meeting of the Norwich Village Council in July, 1938, it was decided to purchase from Mr. Stanley Clark the property which is now known as the Norwich Playground.

At the time it was purchased this property was a wilderness of long grass, weeds and brush; an unsightly, barren spot in the heart of the community.

The funds for the purchase of the lot were derived from the sale of town properties, namely, the old Norwich electric building and the municipal woodlot.

In the spring of 1939 the brush was removed and the land ploughed, levelled and seeded. The bandshell was erected in the northwest corner in 1940. Toward the construction of this fine building the Norwich Boys' Band contributed considerable in time and money.

The children's slides and the large baseball screen were donated and erected by the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club in 1940 and in 1944 the municipality erected the second baseball screen and the sand boxes and teeter-totters. The Lions Club added the small swings and the playground committee the large swings and the fountains.

At the present time the municipality is in the process of erecting a modern floodlight system.

Through the tireless efforts of all concerned the village can well be proud of a very picturesque and well-equipped public playground. It is, indeed, an asset to our village.

The council for 1938 were: N. M. Marshall, reeve; Robert Barham, J. S. Winterburn, Charles Yates and Harold Bishop. For 1939: N. M. Marshall, reeve; Jacob Searls, J. S. Winterburn, Charles Yates, Harold Bishop. For 1940: Charles Yates, reeve; Jacob Searls, J. S. Winterburn, J. B. Hanmer and Harold Bishop.



**MR. GEORGE McVITTIE'S  
Residence,  
Stover Street  
South.**



**PRESENT STAFF**

Rear: Bill McCurdy, J. W. Wood. Front: Clarence Avey, Will Vigar (Supt.), Mrs. Freel, A. L. Bushell (Sec.-Treas.)



**PRESENT STAFF**

Standing: H. Fletcher, E. C. Wisson (Linemen), G. W. Thompson, T. A. Woods (Linemen Learners). Seated: G. W. Tolman (Foreman), H. Sweazy (Superintendent), Mrs. K. W. Worrall (Clerk).

**NORWICH PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

The first meeting of Norwich Public Utilities Commission was held on January 14th, 1925, the members elected being Messrs. Frank A. Pitcher, chairman; Chas. W. Carroll, reeve, and Wm. E. Maedel, commissioner. This commission administers two utilities, the Electrical Department and the Waterworks Department.

The setting up of a department for the supply of electricity under agreement with the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario was undertaken during the years 1911 and 1912. This was administered by a committee of the Municipal Council until the year 1925. The operation of the Waterworks Department commenced January 1st, 1915; considerable construction work was done the previous year, 1914.

The present 1946 commission consists of Messrs. Percy Longworth, chairman; Harold A. Bishop, reeve, and Garfield Irving, commissioner. There now are six persons on the permanent staff.

**NORWICH RURAL POWER DISTRICT  
Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario**

One of the first rural sections in Ontario to have Hydro power and light was the country surrounding the village of Norwich, when, in 1913, an agreement was made between the Norwich Public Utilities and the Hydro-electric Power Commission of Ontario. When, in 1925, the H. E. P. Commission took over the system they had 38 miles of line with about 240 consumers. In 1946 they have over 200 miles of line and nearly 1,100 consumers with a horse-power demand of some 1,340.

The rates in 1916 were \$2.50 per month service charge, 6c per kilowatt hour for first 60 kilowatt hours' use, 3c per kilowatt hour per month for consumption contracted for and 9c per kilowatt hour per month for all consumption over contracted amount.

Rates for 1946 are: Service charge nil; consumption charge, first rate, 3.54c per kilowatt hour; second rate, 1.64c per kilowatt hour; third rate, 8c per kilowatt hour.



**THE NORWICH BAND**

Top row: Hilton Hiliker, Norman Beckham, Maurice Beckham, Russell Robinson, Lloyd Beckham, Ken Tanner.

Second row: Allen Tanner, Allen Pollock, Albert Steinstra, Hugh Parkhill, Harry McKee, Bob Jull, Jack Lester.

Third row: Grant Taylor, Roy Arn, John Moore, Bandmaster Wilfred Manning, Glenwood Johnson, Ross Taylor, David Moore.

Front row: Frank Manning, Wilfred Manning Jr.

From left to right:  
 (Rear)  
 Fireman  
 W. Cordell  
 Fireman  
 W. Tracey  
 Captain  
 J. Ingle  
 Fireman  
 H. Trowhill



### THE NORWICH FIRE DEPARTMENT

(Front)  
 Chief  
 B. Baines  
 Fireman  
 F. McKay  
 Deputy Chief  
 W. Williams  
 Fireman  
 N. G. Lees  
 Fireman  
 C. Leach

A square piano, two early dining-room tables, a rope bedstead, several cradles and pioneer chairs, including a well-worn Windsor chair used by Dr. Cook, the first Norwich doctor, in his office, together with his bookcase and some of his books are part of the furniture exhibit.

Several glass counter cases, which formerly graced Norwich grocery and drug stores and two glass cupboard contain fine examples of early home weaving and handicraft work, some interesting and beautiful glassware, china cups made without handles, willowware, some early white earthenware, some pewter plates and a good collection of pioneer candle sticks, lanterns and lamps.

Old-fashioned silk dresses and cloaks are shown on dressmaker forms and more are packed in old nail-studded leather trunks to be exhibited on special occasions, together with quilts and hand-woven spreads, one of the latter recently acquired having belonged to Adam Stover Sr.

A large collection of books, photographs, prints, maps and documents are part of the archives department.

During the war the Historical Society has merely accepted donations and loans and placed them, but now that peace has come these exhibits will be opened more regularly to the public. Appointments can always be made by groups, such as school children, or by visiting former citizens and others. The Norwich Women's Institute holds one meeting each year in this museum, of which Miss Alma Clutton is the curator.

Odiel Vandenberghe's  
 Tobacco Farm



### ● THE NORTH NORWICH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

The N. N. A. S. with the year 1946 will have established a record of 95 years of annual fairs and the promotion of agricultural interest in the Norwich district. Age, however, has not caused a lack of vigour and aggressiveness in the society, for to-day, plans for expansion are under way.

Much of the success in the past years is due to men such as the late John McKee, whose many years as secretary prior to 1940 will long be remembered; Mr. James Rettie, honorary president, for many years actively associated as both an exhibitor and officer; Mr. Fred Hilliker and Mr. Fred Snell, with over 30 years of service on the board.

During World War II more interest was shown in local activities. The Oxford Holstein Show was brought to Norwich, attracting greater crowds and prosperity to the society.

In 1942 the 'Fair Palace,' which had housed the exhibits for many years, was destroyed by fire. With the building gone the idea of moving to a new site took form and this year one has been purchased immediately south of the village limits and the old 'Fair Ground' at the end of John Street sold.

Under the direction of Pres. Crawford Palmer, Vice-Pres. George Richmond, Second Vice-Pres. Ross Carroll, Sec.-Treas. Howard Butler, the Board of Directors and Committees it is proposed to develop a modern community centre on the society grounds with a race track, good buildings and facilities for all types of sports and activities.



### ← GLENWOOD RISHEA

Mr. Rishea features Sunoco products and has an agency for Hudson cars. He is equipped for automotive repairs of all kinds and sells tires and batteries.

The year before the war, Glen Rishea and his father built a modern garage on Stover Street North, which his wife and mother managed during the time he was away in the Army. His father died the year that the garage was built. Since being demobilized Glen has added two other returned men to his staff, Francis Moran and Orville Stone, both of whom are trained mechanics with long overseas records. He and Mrs. Rishea have one son, Donald.

### ● HERB ENNIS

#### Plumbing and Tinsmithing

Mr. Herb Ennis, who grew up in Norwich, has been in business since 1926, plumbing, pipe-fitting, tinsmithing and doing repair work. His shop has been a busy place with constantly increasing work. In 1931 Clare Stevenson joined him when he married Myrtle, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ennis, who was Nettie Farrell. There is one grandson, Donnie, in public school. Mr. Ennis has a host of friends who will be glad to see him about again after a long illness which has kept in the house.



## NORWICH WOMEN'S WAR LEAGUE

Every Norwich boy who went overseas is grateful to the War League for the great work they did in helping morale. They sent 1,650 boxes, wrote letters regularly and sponsored the Smokes Fund. Besides the regular boxes, 326 boxes of chocolates were mailed. In all, \$5,000 was spent in this way.

The first executive consisted of Mrs. Bish, president, who was mainly responsible for the organization; Anna Haight, treasurer; Pearl Hemingway, secretary; finance committee, Mrs. St. John, Mrs. Fletcher, assistant.

Mrs. Fred Walker addressed all the parcels; Miss Aikins was convener of the packing committee; Mrs. W. Poldon, corresponding secretary, and Mrs. Carnaghan helped look after the lists of names.

For 1945-46 there was no president. Vice-presidents, Mrs. N. MacPherson, Mrs. Zufelt (since deceased), Mrs. C. Wilcox; recording secretary, Mrs. D. Dwyer; treasurer, Mrs. Freel.

The War League raised \$8,958.44. Besides the \$5,000 spent on comforts for the armed forces they aided the Navy League and, most of all, the Salvation Army War Service Department. To them they shipped 1,357 quilts, new knitted articles and clothing, 12,683 pieces of used clothing, 83 layettes, 75 ditty and bomb bags; six tons in all.

## THE SMOKES FUND

This committee was organized in 1941 and was managed by Willard Savage. Approximately \$4,000 was raised by entertainments and individual donations. From this amount 1,200,000 cigarettes were sent to Norwich boys overseas. On disbanding they handed their cash on hand over to the Norwich Legion, \$343.37.



MRS. JUSTUS COHOE

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

There are four Women's Institute groups in North Norwich, Norwich, Burgessville, Newark and Zenda. The Burgessville group was organized in 1902 under the guidance of Mrs. Justus Chooe; Norwich in 1906 with Mrs. Jacob Moore as president; Newark in 1930 with Mrs. Sharpe as president. The Zenda junior



MRS. JACOB MOORE

Institute, with Mrs. Cecil Burrill as president, developed into the Women's Institute in 1945 with Mrs. William Crane as the first president. The present presidents are: Mrs. Ross Carroll for Norwich (Miss Mary McKee is the only surviving member of the first executive), Mrs. Arthur Dickenson for Burgessville, Mrs. Walter Pearson for Zenda, and Mrs. Clarence Singer for Newark. All of the institutes helped both the Norwich Women's War League and the Red Cross during the war.

## THE RED CROSS

The Norwich branch of the Red Cross was founded in November, 1939. The officers were as follows: Honorary president, Mrs. MacWhirter; president, Dr. Carnaghan; vice-president, Mrs. Ralph Moore; secretary-treasurer, W. M. Colchester; later, H. C. Cayley was made secretary and Mr. Colchester, treasurer. These officers have remained through the war years.

Miss Woodard was the first convener of supplies and was succeeded by Mrs. Mary Walker in 1942. Mrs. Burtch looked after the knitting and Miss Lees the sewing. Later, Mrs. H. Eggman took over the sewing. Mrs. E. W. Vigar and Mrs. J. Thompson were very active in the organization from the first.

During the six and a half years of its activities the Red Cross sent away 4,578 pieces of sewing, 4,398 knitted articles and 1,688 donations, such as quilts, etc., a total of 10,664 pieces. Practically every women's organization in the township helped in some way. The treasurer received over \$8,400 in cash.

## VICTORY LOANS

Since 1939 the citizens of Norwich subscribed over \$2,500,000 to the War Loan and Victory Loans. Mr. Fred Walker was chairman of the loan committee for the village during that time and in the last drive Mr. Jack Woods worked with him.

## MRS. GEORGE McVITTIE

Mrs. McVittie took a very active interest in the enlisted personnel of the community. To men and eight girls in the armed forces she gave 287 good luck rings and for the Red Cross she raised \$405. She and her mother, Mrs. Ephraim Stover, knitted 100 hospital shawls, many of which they sent directly to Norwich, England. Mrs. Stover passed away in 1944, in her 93rd year.

## THE LEGION

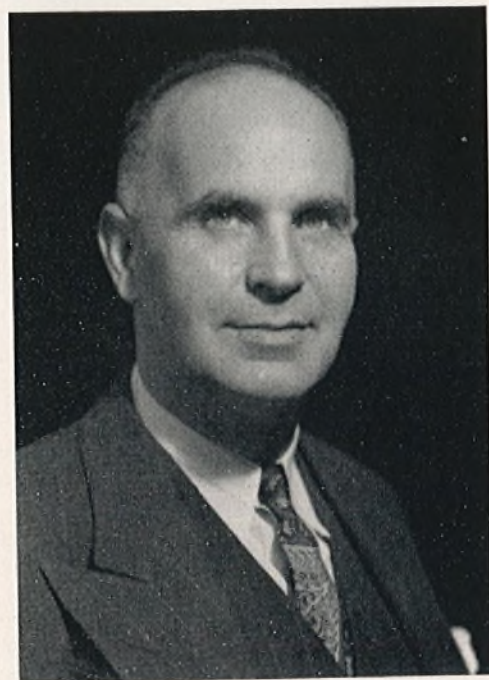
The Canadian Legion is a national organization made up of branches of war veterans formed to further the interests of veterans all through the country.

The Norwich branch was formed in 1929 with 10 members. The first president was Hibbert Harris and secretary was John Woods Sr.

During World War II there were only about a dozen members but their fees went regularly to augment the educational and other funds sponsored by the parent organization. Since the boys have been returning the membership has increased and they have a hall which was given to them by a group of local business men, funds from the War League and Smokes Fund to help furnish it and a grant of \$2,000 from each of the village and township councils.

The present executive consists of Jack Woods Jr., president; Ken Farrell, secretary, and C. H. Helsdon, adjuter.





KENNETH R. DANIELS, M.P.



TOM DENT, M.L.A.



HIGH SCHOOL



THE LIBRARY

**NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOL**

Opened January 1st, 1896, as a combined public and continuation school and continued as such until 1920 when the high school was organized. The building continued to be used as a public school. The present principal is Mr. William Hogg.

**NORWICH HIGH SCHOOL**

The school building was originally the home of George Cooke and was built about 1886. In 1920 Mr. Gordon Young, I.P.S., of West Middlesex, then principal of the continuation school, organized the high school and moved into this building which had been remodelled. The present principal is Mr. J. C. St. John, who will resume his duties in September after four years' overseas service. Mr. J. D. Thompson has supplied for him since 1943.



PUBLIC SCHOOL

The Norwich Public Library has an exceptionally wide selection of books in a fine modern building. It was endowed by the Carnegie fund and is supported by the village.

The librarians have all been well equipped for the position: Miss Poldon, Miss Mary Poole, Mrs. Crabbe and Mrs. Addison.

For a long time Mr. George Poldon was chairman of the board and was succeeded by his son, Harold Poldon, postmaster. The present chairman is Mr. George Lees.

The museum of the Norwich Pioneers' Historical Society is housed in the large basement room of the library.

Mr. Lowe keeps the building comfortable and grounds attractive.

## VILLAGE CHURCHES



● TRINITY CHURCH

ANGLICAN services were held in Norwich as early as 1820 in the log school house on Main Street West. In 1847 a frame church was begun near where Mr. Frank Pitcher's house stands, but was burned before being completed. Holy Trinity Church on Stover Street North was built in 1867 and dedicated in 1869, with Rev. Mr. Peake as rector. The present rector is Rev. Lyle Crawford

THE UNITED CHURCH stands on land given by Michael Stover to the Methodists in 1820. Their first church was built in 1824, though Methodist meetings had been held in homes from 1812 on. A new church building was erected in 1862, now Mr. William Penny's machine shop. When all the Methodist bodies united in 1884 the present church was built at a cost of \$15,000, with seating capacity of 750. Subscriptions were given for this by the whole community. This was during the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Williams. The parsonage was built a year or two later. Rev. W. Kately is the present pastor.



● THE UNITED CHURCH



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH was first established in 1849 and their church built on John Street, now Mr. S. Pascoe's residence. They became an independent congregation in 1852. In 1879 during the pastorate of Rev. William Martin, whose son, Judge Martin, of Regina, was the former premier of Saskatchewan, their present church was built on Main Street. Their pastor is now Rev. Alex Calder.

BAPTISTS organized first in Norwich Village in 1884, under the leadership of Rev. H. Woodward. They had sixteen charter members. In 1885 they bought the former Methodist Episcopal Church building for \$4,000. Their parsonage is the historic John McKee home on Elgin Street. Rev. H. W. Piercy is their minister now.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ●

THE BAPTIST CHURCH



THE FREE METHODIST CHURCH was built on Carmen Street in 1907. The Free Methodists had held meetings for years in a hall on Main Street before they had their own church building. Their present minister is Rev. W. E. McQuiggan.



STOVER STREET FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE—Was built about 1890 and belongs to the Conservative Friends' Group. Services are held each First Day morning and at intervals study groups are held on week-day evenings. For some years they have on occasions held their yearly meeting jointly with the Canada yearly meeting of Friends. They have representatives on the Canadian Friends' Service Committee which was organized at a joint meeting some years ago.

In the fifties an effort was made to establish a Congregational Church in the village. A small building on the east side of Stover Street North was fitted up in which to hold service, and Rev. Soloman Snyder became pastor. This denomination continued for a year or two and then its members united with the Presbyterians.

## RURAL CHURCHES

← ZENDA CHURCH—Built in 1900 and opened in 1901, successor to two earlier church buildings. It is part of the Salford circuit with the Rev. Cummings as pastor. The church societies consist of a well-attended Sunday School, W. M. S. and a very live Young People's. This church is the centre of community life.

## RURAL CHURCHES

**ST. PETER'S CHURCH**—Was erected in 1904 on the site of the earliest structure, a hand-hewn frame church built in 1853 on land donated by the McNally family. In 1944 the church celebrated its golden jubilee. For some 30 years before the original church was built the McNallys, Furlongs, Sheahans, Duffys and other early pioneers went to Beachville and other neighboring churches or when a visiting priest came to the community they would meet in one of the homes. One such home was that of Thomas Carolan, one mile north of Norwich. This charge is now looked after from Tillsonburg by Fr. J. H. O'Neil.



● ST. PETER'S

**NEWARK CHURCH**—First built in 1872, is part of the Burgessville circuit with Rev. C. C. Strachan as its pastor. In connection with the church is an active Sunday school whose collections go to help the missions and a Women's Organization which is affiliated with the W. M. S.

**GORE UNITED CHURCH**—Was first organized in 1861 on land bought from David McDowell. It has always had a flourishing Sunday school and serves as a community centre for the district. It belongs to the Kelvin circuit and is at present served by a student pastor, Mr. Matthew Taylor. Organizations within the church are the Woman's Missionary Society and the Monthly Bible Class which holds its meetings in the various homes.

**BEACONSFIELD FRIENDS**—Was organized in 1876 by Thomas and Charles Walker, D. B. Cohoe, Moses Corless and their families as a separate preparative meeting in the Norwich monthly meeting, the parent meeting being that in the 'Old Brick.' Under the leadership of the Walker and Hill families a large Sunday school meets the needs of the community and contributes to worthwhile causes, national and international.

**NORWICH GOSPEL MISSION**—A group which holds services each Sunday at 3 P.M. at the home of Mrs. Thomas Poole Sr., one mile east of the village. Rev. George C. McGuiggan is pastor.

## BURGESSVILLE

Burgessville was a hamlet in 1845 when Nelson Batterton started the first store. In Peter Lossing's map of 1821, the northeast corner of what is now the village was owned by Aaron Corbin, the southeast by Peter McLees, the northwest by Elias Snyder, and the southwest by Elias Moore. It was at first called Snyder's Corners but took the name of Burgessville by popular vote.

Edward West Burgess, for whom the village was named, was born in the vicinity in 1821 and began a blacksmithing and carriage-making business in 1844. He was postmaster for 30 years and station agent for 18. The farm now owned by W. S. Dennis is the original Burgess homestead. His wife was Anna Maria Lossing, daughter of Solomon Lossing.

Elias Snyder was the first settler, coming in 1811; Joshua Corbin came in 1816; the Dennis family in 1820 and the Emighs in 1819. Captain John Jaques moved into Burgessville in 1835 and in 1837 was in charge of a company of Royal Volunteers.

In 1886, the 380 acres, comprising the village, were set apart from the township for local improvement purposes, and in 1915 made a Police Village. At one time it was a thriving little village with many businesses—flax mill,



BURGESSVILLE  
UNITED  
CHURCH



EDWARD  
WEST  
BURGESS



THE BAPTIST CHURCH

carding mill, flour mill, shoe store, tailor shop and a tin-smith shop—but it is now as it started, a hamlet.

In 1875 the Grand Trunk Railway went through but was discontinued in 1941. The second cheese factory in the county was begun here by Edward Farrington.

There are now two schools, a public school and a continuation school with a large community hall in connection. These schools are built of brick, whereas the first were log and, later, frame. In 1833 the teacher was DeLos Hewitt; other pioneer teachers were Elias Snyder and his son, Elias Henry Snyder.

The Baptist Church was organized in 1837 by Mr. Howie, Mr. Lemon and Elder Haviland as preacher. The present pastor is Rev. E. E. Green.

The Methodist Church, now the United Church, was started in 1885; the present minister is Rev. C. C. Strachan.

The United Farmers No. 1 Grain Elevator was built in 1927 and is now owned by W. A. Roloson & Sons who have a chopping and feed business.

There are two general stores operated by Mrs. J. W. Wettlaufer and Mr. Buchner; two garages operated by Dalton Finch and C. Perry and a Cities Service garage is under construction.

The public library was organized by the Women's Institute under the late Mrs. Elias Snyder as president.

. . . and so ends the brief history of a small country village.

● THE GORE UNITED CHURCH



● BEACONSFIELD  
FRIENDS

● NEWARK  
UNITED  
CHURCH



## BURGESSVILLE FRUIT GROWERS' CO-OPERATIVE, LIMITED

The Burgessville Fruit Growers have completed forty years of successful operations in packing and marketing of the district's apples, and have rendered other services to its members for the securing of orchard and farm requirements for its members.

It can lay claim to being the first co-operative merchandising effort in the county and there can be no doubt that this co-operative as well as all others have been of material advantage to the farmers in securing much better prices than otherwise could be obtained and in putting their business in their own hands.

In April of 1906 a body of interested apple growers met in Burgessville and formed a company known as the Burgessville Fruit Growers and Shipping Association. Later their name was changed to Burgessville Fruit Growers' Co-operative Limited. Their business was carried on in a building owned by V. G. Mollins until 1928 when the present packing house, a two-story cement block building, 40 feet by 100 feet, was erected. The very first board of directors were S. R. Wallace, E. Mitchell, R. Siple, Wm. Nutt, A. Frain, W. C. Topham, and G. C. Emigh. F. N. Lampman, W. S. Dennis and John Jaques were also active in the organizing. Those who have acted as president in the succeeding years are R. Siple, Clarence Emigh, S. R. Wallace, W. Nutt, F. N. Lampman, Ed Rodwell, V. G. Mollins, S. Casler, James Dennis, W. J. Orth, Ralph Burton, Gordon Emigh, James Rettie, Fred Hilliker, C. M. Dennis, Vern

Dennis, Russell Orth, A. E. Lampman and Douglas Hoover.

In 1909 W. H. Kneale was made manager and secretary-treasurer, which position he filled ably until January 1932. Clarence Emigh was then appointed manager, resigning the following August. G. H. Laird was then appointed manager and James Laird secretary-treasurer, which positions they have held to date.

In 1944 the company packed and shipped over 36,000 bushels of apples. These were marketed principally in Quebec province, Northern Ontario and Manitoba, a considerable volume also being sold locally. In prewar years a large quantity was exported to England, which market it is hoped will be open again soon. Thus this co-operative has served the apple-growing industry nearly half a century and has helped to develop some of the province's finest orchards. Within a radius of ten miles there are over 200 acres of fully bearing trees with like acreage of young plantings. The company serves upwards of seventy-five shareholders and patrons.

Following are the names of some who have served through the years as directors: George Griffin, Arthur J. Walker, John Jaques, Oswald Wallace (also secretary-treasurer in 1930), G. B. Dennis, W. S. Dennis, Alex Lindsay, James Butchard, George Woodrow, E. D. Hilliker, Frank Griffin, Charles Hilliker, J. S. Sly, Wm. Manson, C. H. Longworth, W. Waring, Frank Burrill, Walter Stevens.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS BURGESSVILLE FRUIT GROWERS

*From left to right:*  
*Back row:* Wilfred Dennis, James Laird, Allen Gilmour, George Laird, Alvah Lampman.  
*Front row:* Russell Orth, John Jaques, Cecil Dennis, Frank Pettit, Verne Dennis.

## THE NORTH NORWICH MUNICIPAL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

The success of municipal ownership and management has been exemplified by the North Norwich Municipal Telephone System. It was organized in 1923 when a petition signed by many farmers in the area was submitted to the North Norwich Council requesting that the district telephone system be organized as a public utility. Thus "The North Norwich Municipal Telephone System" was formed, with a central office at Burgessville, and a management of a three-member commission elected by the 660 subscribers in annual meeting. Connection is maintained with the "Bell" system at Norwich and Woodstock.

The last financial report showed total assets of \$51,898.00, without any indebtedness, indicating that during 22 years of operation the initial purchase price of \$30,000.00 has been paid off and annual cost of maintenance and extension taken care of by annual rates no higher than those of

other systems. Present annual net rates for a party line is \$12, private line \$15 and \$2 additional for renters.

When the system was organized Mr. A. T. Walker was a member of the Ontario Legislature and contributed greatly to its success; he retired at the last annual meeting after being commissioner for several years. Mr. James Rettie, a charter member of the commission for nearly 20 years, was reeve of the township when the organization was completed and the late C. E. Burgess, township clerk.

The present commission consists of F. E. Hilliker, Russell Orth and Harold Walker, with E. Burpee Palmer as secretary-treasurer, which office he has held since the organization.

The staff, consisting of Jerrine Hillier, chief operator, and Russell Brock, lineman, serve the public efficiently and cheerfully.

## DENNIS PRODUCTS

About ten years ago Cecil McKay Dennis began a home canning and frosted fruits business on his farm, lot 21, con. 2, North Norwich, the first farmer's manufacturing effort in the township.

Mr. Dennis grows most of the tomatoes, vegetables, small fruits and pork which he processes. He also custom-cans tomatoes, and his products are found on the shelves of merchants in Norwich, Ingersoll, Woodstock, Tilisonburg, London and Toronto.

Mr. Dennis and his wife (former Maude Osmond) have worked together on this project from the beginning with the help of Eulalie (Mrs. Fred Buckrell), Jack and Ronald. During the busy season the neighbours come in and help also. Cecil Dennis is a great-grandson of Moses Mott.

DELLER'S BRICK AND TILE YARD, QUAKER STREET



## HOLBROOK

The only country store left in the township is at Holbrook. It was originally run by Asa Whitfield as a general store but kept drugs as well. His wife was an aunt of Arthur Catton of Norwich. The present proprietor is Joseph Graves.

Mrs. D. B. Cohoe, Mrs. Justus Cohoe, Mrs. William Costain and Bell Stover, who taught at the Quaker Street school for many years, daughters of Albert Stover, lived just west of the store and attended the Holbrook school.

Elias Snyder Sr. taught the first school at Holbrook where one of his pupils was ex-President Hoover's mother; S. R. Wallace, John Minthorne and Ethelinda Dennis were others. The Henderson family also attended at that time.

Later, William Costain taught Judge Wallace of Woodstock; Wallace Nesbitt, the well-known Toronto lawyer, and E. W. Nesbitt who was for years member of parliament for North Oxford.

A mile north of Holbrook, on James Chambers' farm, was the Presbyterian Church that these families attended. Dr. Thrall, the first doctor in Burgessville, married James Chambers' daughter, Margaret; their daughter, Miss Minerva Thrall, lives in Woodstock at present. Another daughter, Charlotte, was at one time acting principal of Moulton College, Toronto.

Mr. Martin Emigh, who, with J. G. Corless, was instrumental in starting the first rural telephone service in this part of the country, lived just north of Holbrook. He was a grandson of Jonathan Emigh, who came to Norwich with his mother before 1820.