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PLATTSVILLE

ECHOES

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"THE FLOWING WELL" — 2,500,000 Gallons Per Day

Compiled in 1967 as a

Canada Centennial Year Project

by the Plattsville Board of Trade

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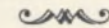


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Plattsville Centennial Book

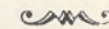
1967

Compiled By The Plattsville Board of Trade



BOOK COMMITTEE

Mrs. Lloyd Hamilton	Mr. E. L. Schneider
Mrs. J. H. English	Mr. C. Shantz
Mr. and Mrs. Clair Harmer	Mr. O. Showell



Special thanks for the kind assistance of:

Miss Ruby Milne, Mrs. Clayton Gofton
Mr. Charles Hoffman, Mrs. Jessie Pratt
for information taken from the Tweeds-
muir Book.



PLATTSVILLE PERSPECTIVE

Early Land History

The first acquisition of land by the British Crown from the Indians in what was to eventually become Ontario, appears to have taken place on April 3, 1764. This was less than five years after the Battle of the Plains of Abraham and about ten years before the beginning of the American Revolution of 1775-1783. The land ceded by the Seneca and Missassauga Indians at this time was a relatively small amount in the Niagara Peninsula. This peaceful procurement of land by the British, through payment of annuities to the Indians, was deemed necessary at this early date in order to provide land for the inevitable influx of settlers that was then being anticipated. It was not until after the American Revolution, which caused some Indian tribes to relocate in order to continue their allegiance to the Crown, that the bulk of the land in southwestern Ontario was eventually ceded peacefully to the Crown. On May 22, 1784, a great part of this area (2,842,480 acres) which included the future site of Plattsville, was ceded jointly by the Missassaugas under Chief Pokquan, the Six Nations and the Delawares. The Crown, as represented by Sir John Johnson, paid £1180 7s 4d for this tract. The township of Blenheim formed part of the West riding of the County of York in the first territorial division in 1792 and in 1798 became part of Oxford County when it was first formed. Surveying in the township took place in three stages and was carried out by three different men in 1793, 1795 and 1798 respectively.

Early Settlement — Plattsville Location

According to the Dept. of Public Records and Archives, Toronto, in regards to Blenheim Township;— "Henry Putnam from the County of Lincoln, Niagara District, a U.E.L., late of Butler's Rangers, had been granted 200 acres—Lot 17, Conc. 13, in 1796." The south half of this lot is now the north east part of the village and contains much of the public land in Plattsville. This includes the school, park, arena and horse show grounds as well as the Glen Hofstetter farm and some new housing.

The 200 acres of Lot 19, Conc. 13 (which includes the mill site) was granted by the Crown to Jacob Zavitz in 1808. The south half of Lot 18, Conc. 13, (the main part of Plattsville lying north of Albert St.) was also granted by the Crown to Jacob Zavitz on March 1, 1808.

Parts of Lots 18 and 19, Conc. 13 passed into different hands, after the original grants, and by 1843 Samuel Street had purchased most of the acreage. There are indications that some early settlement took place, in what was to eventually become Plattsville, before Samuel Platt (the founder of Plattsville) purchased any land. In an agreement

with Robert and William Sails dated November 15, 1845, Samuel Platt received part of the west half of Lot 18 and the south east part of Lot 19, Conc. 13. The condition of this agreement was that Samuel Platt build a grist mill on the land. Between 1851 and 1855 Samuel Platt purchased additional acreage in Lots 18 and 19 from Samuel Street. In the Oxford Gazetteer dated 1852, a map of the county shows a mill on Lot 19, Conc. 13. The Oxford Directory of 1867 states that the town or village of Plattsville was laid out by Samuel Platt and that he erected the first mill about 1851. According to information from the Public Archives of Canada:— “the town of Plattsville was named for Samuel Platt who came to Canada in 1844, working for a few years in New Dundee, then moving to the site of present Plattsville where he constructed Blenheim Mills.”

Continuity of Settlers, Industry and Education

The Public Archives of Canada lists some of the early settlers on an 1857 map of the Plattsville area, as:— James Harmer and James Hewitt, (Lot 20, Conc. 12); Robert Fraffey (Lot 19, Conc. 12); David Shantz and Robert Pogson (Lot 17, Conc. 12); Daniel Purthey and Roger Gofton (Lot 17, Conc. 13); Samuel Platt and Henry Muma (Lot 18, Conc. 13); Samuel Platt and Moses Clemens (Lot 19, Conc. 13); Thomas Mitchell and J. Gofton (Lot 20, Conc. 13). The names of some of these early settlers will no doubt be recognized among present day families in and around Plattsville.

This map also had an inset of Plattsville showing streets and businesses. Accordingly, Samuel Platt owned a flour mill, a woollen mill and a sawmill, all located along with his residence on Victoria Street. The Platt mill has been in operation as a grain processing mill ever since and is presently owned and operated by the Woodstock Feed Co. Ltd. At the same time a steam factory and cabinet shop was owned and operated by T. Workman on Albert Street. This manufacturing concern eventually evolved into Plattsville's main industry — The Canada Sand Paper Co., which at the present time makes Plattsville famous as being the true “Sand Paper Capital of Canada”. The woollen mill, which in 1862 employed 40 operators and turned out 1,200 yards per week, is now Plattsville's second largest industry owned by P. J. Wallbank. This firm is nationally important for the manufacture of various spring and wire products.

It is interesting to note that in 1862, “a very good common school (Sec. No. 24), numbering 126 pupils, with an average attendance of 75, was under the charge of Mr. Levi Masters”. (School attendance was not then on a compulsory basis and winter attendance by young farmers brought total enrolment much above the yearly average). Our present Plattsville and District Public School, consisting of eight rooms and serving the whole north of the township, well maintains the importance of education as established by the early settlers.

Municipal Status

Plattsville, at about 100 years ago, enjoyed a booming population of approximately 1,000 persons and was a very important centre in the area. In those days, having a Post Office, it was officially termed a “post village”. Attempts at having this status of post village upgraded to that of an incorporated village, were made a short time after Confederation. A local decision by the residents, to incorporate Plattsville as a village, was actually agreed upon at one stage and appropriate celebrations were duly planned. It seems however, that when the unforeseen additional financial responsibilities in regards to bridges, etc. were brought to light, it was conceded that this move to incorporate should not be completed as planned. Plattsville's first reeve was to be Mr. Arthur Tew, who in partnership with Ed Platt (Sam's brother) had purchased the milling property down river from Plattsville in 1874. This property was eventually destroyed by fire in 1894. In the obituary of Mr. Tew, as recorded in the Plattsville Echo of May 4, 1917, it states that:— “when the village of Plattsville sought incorporation, Mr. Tew was to be the first reeve. The villagers never realized their ambitions as incorporation was famed to be an ideal beyond their means.” Plattsville, however, attained its present status of “Police Village” under an Oxford County bylaw passed on December 5, 1907.

Plattsville Potential

Over 116 years ago, in 1851, when Sam Platt planned his Blenheim Mills at the site which was soon to bear his name, he dreamed of the surrounding area being cleared and developed into a great farming district. According to his village planning, personal diversified interests and enterprises, Sam Platt must also have dreamed and envisioned that an important industrial centre was possible at this location. After 116 years, Plattsville is at the hub of the great farming area of which Sam Platt dreamed. After 116 years with diversified industry, Plattsville, being the Sand Paper Capital of Canada and enjoying world-wide export trade, is about the most highly industrialized of any Canadian police village. Industrial assessment is more than double that of the commercial and residential assessment combined. Industrial workers, many who come from the surrounding area and cities, number more than 50 per cent of the resident population. Plattsville is presently in the process of attaining complete public water and sewage systems. With artificial ice plants in the hockey and skating arena as well as in the curling club; with a fine modern school, new park and renovated town hall, Plattsville is the social envy of many surrounding centres up to and beyond equal size. Southwestern Ontario has truly been described as the most highly concentrated area of industrialization on the North American continent. After 116 years, Plattsville finds itself at the hub of and equidistant to more than a half dozen of the cities that are largely responsible for making this industrial concentration a

fact. After 116 years, Plattsville is within eight miles of the province-wide super highway that cuts centrally through this great industrial basin. Because of the aforementioned realities, it is not difficult to foresee, after 116 years, a Sam Platt's Ville that will soon burst at its residential seams, grow much farther industrially and come closer to attaining its full potential as envisioned by the founding pioneers.

Plattsville In 1967

Plattsville is a thriving little village of approximately 550 people. It has a picturesque setting in the meandering valley of the Nith River. Highway No. 97 provides easy access to many nearby cities.

Recent improvements include the opening of several streets. New homes have been built, some renovated and several large buildings have been modernized to make more available apartments.

Artificial ice and a roller skating floor have been added to the Arena attractions.

Plattsville Centennial project, a fine new pavilion was opened with celebrations on July 1, 1967.

The village has had a complete survey for water and sewage installations. A drilled well, suitable for the town water supply has been completed.

Fluorescent street lighting for Albert and Douro Streets has been installed and the complete modernization of the village electrical system also has been accomplished this year.

With these established and anticipated improvements, together with expanding industries, Plattsville should prove an ideal location for future development.

Plattsville Board of Trade's Centennial project is this book. We hope all readers will enjoy and treasure it through years to come.

Business Establishments In Plattsville Taken From Canada Directory — 1857-1858

Bexel, L.	Cabinet & Chair Factory
Bower, L. S.	M.D.
Booers, Levi & Co.	Woollen Factory, Planing Mill & Store
Cowan, Robert F.	General Store
Fries, Noah & Co.	Cabinet & Chair Factory
Holtz, John	Tailor
Jones, Henry	Butcher
Kilborn, Jared	J.P. Factor
Kilborn, David & Co.	General Store
Leslie & Co.	Extensive Iron Foundry
Masters, John & Co.	Planing Mill
McArthur & Co.	Foundry
Morison, John	M.D.
Motherall, Francis	Shoemaker
Moore, Alexander	Harness & Saddlemaker
Platt, Samuel	Postmaster, Flour Mill
Robinson, W. & H.	Tanner & Woollen Factor, Tinsmith
Smart, John	Storekeeper
Stinson, J.	M.D.
Street, Jacob	Builder
Swan, John	Plasterer
Taylor, John	Blacksmith
Thompson, Smithson	Hotelkeeper
Wardlaw, John	General Store
Weaver, Levi	Prop. Plattsville Hotel

List Of Professions, Trades, Etc. in Plattsville 1862

Armstrong, Daniel	At factory
Armstrong, Robert	At woollen factory
Avison, James	At woollen factory
Baker, Hy	Land proprietor
Baker, Nelson	Land proprietor
Battye, David	Land proprietor
Bird, John	Wagon maker
Blenheim Mills	Flouring and grist and tannery, Samuel Platt, prop.
British Arms Hotel	James Donald, prop.
Brundle, J. W. & Bro.	Tin shop
Bullock, Samuel	Labourer
Burton, William	Tailor shop
Cadzaw, William	At woollen factory
Callaghan, John	At woollen factory
Cann, John	Labourer

Clapperton, Robert	Carpenter
Clark, Douglas	Cabinet maker
Clemens, Moses	Farmer
Clemens & Veitch (Aaron Clemens and George Veitch)	General Merchants
Cramp, William	Butcher shop
Dany, John	Labourer
Dukes, Mrs.	
Fairgreeve, John	At woollen factory
Farrand, Walter J.	(Warnock, Farrand & Co.)
Ford, John	Shoemaker
Ford, Michael	Boot & shoe manufacturer
Ford, Thomas	Shoemaker
Fralick, George S.	At woollen factory
Fried & Co. (Noah Fried and Allan Kauffman)	Cabinet and chair factory
Gardner, Peter	Fish dealer
Gaunt, John	At woollen factory
Gatzka, Andrew	Boot & shoe maker
Gofton, Roger	Farmer
Grosse, Andrew	Shoemaker
Hayward, James	Painter
Hopkins, Richard	Groceries, etc.
Holtz, John	Tailor shop
Jones, Henry	General trader
Kilborn, David & Co.	General merchants
Kauffman, Joseph	Turner
Laraway, Edward	At woollen factory
Larimer, John	Moulder
Levan, Cyrus	Apprentice saddler
Levan, Samuel	Pump shop & jobber
Levan, John	Blacksmith shop & general jobbing
McAlpine, Hugh Fulton	Horse shoe nail maker
McArthur & Co.	Founders and manufacturers of reapers, mowers and agricultural implements
McLean, John	Mason
McLeod, Alexander	Fireman
McLeod, Hugh	Turner
Maple Grove Mills, Stauffer & Co.	
Mason, W. F.	Chairmaker
Morecum, John	Labourer
Morison, John	M.D., graduate of Dublin College
Motheral, William	Boot & shoe store
Murray, William	
Neil, Daniel	Labourer
Norfolk, Joseph	Currier

O'Neil, John F.	Shoemaker
Platt, Samuel	Flouring mills
Plattsville House, Mrs. Phoebe Dodge	
Poppleton, Wm. H.	Bookkeeper at woollen mills
Quandt, John	Engineer
Revel, John	Mason
Reynolds, Alfred	Tailor shop
Riddle, George	At woollen factory
Seigler, Isaac	Cabinet maker
Seip, William	Shoemaker
Shupe, John	Carpenter and joiner
Smart, John	General merchant and assistant postmaster
Stauffer & Co.	Flouring mills
Taylor, John	Blacksmith and wagon shop
Taylor, Thomas	Carriage and wagon shop
Thynne, Robert	Drug store
Turnbull, Ralph	At woollen factory
Turnbull, William	At woollen factory
Warnock, Farrand & Co.	Manufacturers of woollen goods, carding and mill
Wesley, Joseph	At woollen factory
Workman, Thomas	Farmer

Alphabetical List of Professions, Trades, Etc., taken from Oxford and Norfolk Directory — 1867 - 1868

Armstrong, James	Chairmaker, Douro St.
Baker, Joseph	Fireman, chair factory
Baker, Nelson	Farmer, Douro St.
Baker, —	Watchmaker
Bedford, Jacob	Plattsville bakery
Benedict, C.	Tanner and currier, McGraw St.
Berst, George	Cooper, Douro St.
Biles, George	Blacksmith
Brash, David	Prop. Commercial Hotel
Brown, Walter	Potash manufacturer
Brundle, J. W.	Tin & sheet iron manufacturer
Bullock, S.	Teamster
Burton, Wm.	Tailor
Callaghan, Jno.	Woollen manufacturer
Campbell, Wm.	Works woollen factory
Cann, John	Labourer
Caspary, Henry	Cooper
Chambers, Walter	Carpenter & joiner
Chant, John	Miller
Clapperton, Robert	Carpenter

Clemens & Veitch

Coffman, Allan
Commercial Hotel
Cramp, Wm.
Crombie & Co.
Davy, John
Delisle, Albert
Dodges Hotel
Dukes, Mrs. J.
Dunn, John E.
Enticknabe, Alfred
Fawthrop, James
Fenn, Conrad
Ford, Michael

Forman, Rev. R. S.
Fralick, George
Fried, N. & Co.

Gatzka, Andrew
Greenfield, James
Hayward, James
Hipkins, Richard
Hobson, Benjamin
Holzhant, John
Hoosher, Henry
Huffman, Henry
Jones, Henry
Jury, Wm.
Kauffman, Joseph
Kraph, John
Lake, Thomas
Lapp, Henry
Levan, Samuel
Lobbs, George
Lorimer, Mrs. Mary
Mason, Wm.
Masten, Mrs.
Masten, George
Masten, John
Mellish, Rev.
Melvin, David
Menzies, Wm.
Motherall, Wm.

Chemists & druggists and dealers in
dry goods, groceries, hardware and
crockery.

Cabinet maker, King St.
Corner Wilmot & Albert
Butcher
Props. woollen factory
Dyer
Weaver, woollen factory
Albert St., P. Cornell prop.
King St.
Labourer
Wagon maker
Dyer
Manufacturer saddles, harness, etc.
Manufacturer boots & shoes, Wilmot
St.
Wesleyan Methodist
Cloth dresser, woollen factory
Prop. steam cabinet & chair factory
and sash, door and blind factory,
Albert St.
Boot & shoe manufacturer
Carpenter, Ann St.
Painter
Saloon keeper & grocer
Bookkeeper woollen factory (Crombies)
Cooper
Cabinet maker
Cooper
Drover
Gentleman
Turner
Carpenter
Dealer in groceries, provisions, etc.
Cooper
Pump maker
Tanner & furrier
Res. Mill St.
Cabinet maker
Res. Mill St.
Carpenter
Gentleman
Church of England
Miller
Weaver
Boot & shoe manufacturer, near
Albert St.

Murray, Charles
Myer, S.
McAlpin, Hugh F.
McGinnes, D.
McGlaw, Thomas
McGraw, Mrs. E.
McLean, John
Neale, Daniel
Nichol, John

Park, Richard
Pegg, James
Philip, D. L.
Phillip, Geo. Bryon
Platt, Henry

Quandt, John
Ravell, John
Reynolds, A.

Robertson, Peter
Robinson, Mrs.
Robinson, John
Sanders, James
Seaman, Thomas
Shearer, Mrs. S.
Sheldon, Martin
Shupe, Jacob
Smart, John

Smiley, Rev.
Spearl, Henry
Speare, Wm.
Stauffer, A. R.

Taylor, Thomas

Took, John
Treffey, Robert
Treffry, Robert
VanEvery, David
VanEvery, Wm.
Veitch, George
Walden, R. S.
Wardlaw, John

Labourer
Works woollen factory
Horse-nail manufacturer
Carpenter
Spinner in woollen factory
Young St.
Mason
Labourer
Manufacturer of agricultural imple-
ments and dealer in stoves etc.
Tanner
Cooper
M.D., physician, surgeon, etc.
Student at law
Prop. Plattsville mills, flouring &
gristing and saw mill, 3 run of stones
—water power
Labourer
Mason
Merchant tailor and dealer in
groceries, etc.
Miller

Teacher
Wool sorter
Wagon & carriage manufacturer

Cooper
Carpenter
Assistant postmaster and dealer in
dry goods, groceries, ready-made
clothing
Wesleyan Methodist
Labourer
Shoemaker
Prop. grist and flouring mill (water
power) near Douro St., south side
of village.
Wagon & carriage manufacturer,
Albert St.

Carpenter
Carpenter
Farmer
Engineer
Bookkeeper
(Clemens & Veitch) druggist
Works woollen factory
Manager, Crombie woollen factory

Warner, Benjamin
Workman, Thos.
Ziglar, E.
Ziglar, Isaac

Teamster
Farmer
Painter
Cabinet maker

Business Places In Plattsville In 1900

On SOUTH side of ALBERT ST.

Albert Smart's small bicycle shop
Cider Mill at rear of bicycle shop
Dr. Brown's office and residence
Mrs. Foster's residence
Post Office, John Currey
Western Bank, George Sterling
Neal & Ramsay, fur coats
John Sangwin blacksmith shop
Ed. Gatzka, 15 horse livery stable
Andrew Gatzka, shoe shop
Printing Office, Plattsville
Echo, stationery and school supplies
Canadian Order of Foresters, above printing office
Siebert's General Store
Baird's Furniture Factory
Barber Shop (Thos. Ware) and Library
Baptist Church

On DOURO ST.

Cooper Shop and Slave Factory, H. Hoffman owner
Skating and Curling Rink

On JOHN ST.

Methodist Church

On YOUNG ST.

Brick Yard

On NORTH side of ALBERT ST.

Motherall's Jewellery Store and Barber shop
Hotel, Joe Beemer
General Store, Neal & Ramsay groceries, dry goods, millinery and furs
Drug Store, Veitch's
Bake Shop, Ross's
Confectionery Store, Mrs. McGraw
Hardware Store, Jas. Hunter
Jewellery Store (later bake shop)
Harness Shop, John Fenn
Shoe Repairs, James Grieve
Groceries & Ice Cream, Ruth-erford's
Carswell's Store
Meat Market, 1873, C. Fenn; 1898, Wm. Fenn; 1900, Gillis Fenn
Men's Clothing, Adam Berst
Harness Shop, Robert Deeton
Blacksmith Shop, Chas. Scott
At rear, John Berst, wagon maker

Paint Shop, Geo. H. Milne

Acetylene Plant

McKie's Buggy Factory

Dr. Willson, office and residence

Evangelical parsonage

Evangelical Church

On VICTORIA ST.

A. Eckel's Mill

History Of Early Businesses

Plattsville, as we learn from old records in Canada Directories and from copies of Sutherland's Gazetteer and Directory of Oxford County, has had many and varied industries and places of business.

The first mill was built in 1851. In 1873 it won first prize for flour at the Paris, France World's Fair. In 1870 we find that Mr. Edward Platt and his partner Mr. Arthur Tew owned the two mills until Mr. Platt's death in 1875, when Mr. Tew took the mill south of the village. In 1867 the mill south of the village was owned by A. R. Stauffer and at that time the village contained three general stores, two groceries, a woollen factory on Albert St. established by James Crombie, one steam cabinet factory, three carriage and wagon factories, one saddle and harness shop, one potash manufacturing plant operated by Walter Brown, one stave factory and cooper shop, four churches, two mills, a Masonic Lodge and an Agricultural Association and had a population of 700.

In 1887 the mill was owned by Snider & Steckle and had an output of 300 barrels a week. Later Mr. Isaac Masters bought the mill and then it was sold to Mr. Abraham Eckel. It was burned in 1921 but was rebuilt. The next owner was Mr. Oliver Ellis and later Mr. Lorne Currah bought it. It is now owned by V. J. Kaufman and known as Woodstock Feed Co. Ltd.

According to the first records available the Noah Fries & Co. operated the Chair & Cabinet Factory in 1856 and in 1874 it was operated by A. Kaufman (grandfather of Clayton and Jacob Gofton). This was a three storey building and employed 20 hands. The next owners were Baird & Sauer, then the Baird Bros., Charles, James, Archibald and George. The factory was burned about 1900 but was rebuilt by Mr. James Baird and he carried on until the plant was sold to Mr. P. R. Hilborn of Preston. For a short time he carried on the furniture business until the Canada Sand Papers Ltd. was formed for the manufacture of abrasives.

In 1865 the Plattsville Carriage Factory was owned by Thos. Seaman, making buggies, carriages, wagons, cutters and sleighs.

In 1862 there was a very extensive woollen factory established by Jas. Crombie before this date, but owned in 1862 by Warnock, Farrand & Co. They employed forty operatives, had an engine of 40 horse power, three spinners, three sets of carding machines, twelve looms, six fulling mills, two raising gigs, one shearing machine, one napper and had a capacity of finishing and turning out twelve hundred yards per week.

This year, Mr. Charles Farrand of New Westminster, B.C. came to the village in search of information regarding his grandfather as he

has a pewter teapot about eleven inches high with the following inscription on it;— "Presented to J. W. Farrand Esq. by the inhabitants of Plattsville as a mark of respect and esteem. June 1864". We were pleased to be able to give him the above information.

McKie's Buggy Factory took over the woollen factory and for a number of years turned out carriages, sleighs etc. When the market for these became smaller Stewart McKie opened a garage and Ford Sales in the building until he and his family moved to Sutton, Ontario.

There were no barbers in 1862 as mentioned in some records but of course there have been several since, including Thomas Ware, W. Motherall, William Berst and Chas. Hoffman, who, until this year has done some business in his home, F. Ayres, Tony Pavao, and Art. Kendrick. Mr. Ware was also a taxidermist, member of the band, and the first library was in his shop.

In 1887, Mr. James Hunter was the local hardware merchant, followed by H. Brown and O. Prangle. It was sold to P. A. McKie, then to Jas. E. Fergusson. The building on the corner of York and Albert Streets was burned in 1935 and was not rebuilt. Mr. Fergusson moved the hardware store into what was known as the "Bank" building and it was sold to Hugh Baird in 1966 who moved the business across the street when he purchased and remodelled the old hotel building.

In the early days there were always one or two boarding houses for the people who came from out of town, to be the local school teachers, milliners, dressmakers etc. Mrs. Bristow ran one of the early ones in a house (now owned by Mrs. C. Unruh) near the mill. Later Miss Patton and Miss A. Ramsay boarded the teachers in the house on Mill St. owned now by Mrs. G. Fenn. Only women were taken and it took a brave young chap to call for his best girl and wait in the parlour until she was ready for their date. The Misses Gatzka also kept boarders in the house now owned by W. Love and Mrs. Stemler in the house on the corner of Mill and Wilmot made a home principally for the men and boys—bank clerks etc.

There have been several hotels in the village — the Jones House; the Dodge House (where H. Baird's Hardware is now); Everett's Hotel; Westminster House (now Dobson's Antiques); the Commercial Hotel (on corner of Wilmot and Albert) operated by David Brash in 1867. When Local Option came into effect in Blenheim Township, one of these became known as the Temperance House and was owned by A. Shantz, followed by Alex Pratt and E. Rhodenizer. Then it was made into apartments and a restaurant until a fire in 1963 nearly destroyed this old landmark. But it was bought by Hugh Baird and restored. Mr. Baird runs a hardware store in the west end; a barber shop and hair-dressing shop run by Mr. and Mrs. Art. Kendrick are in the next section and the rest is apartments.

Before cars came on the scene, Mr. E. Gatzka owned a livery stable with 15 horses. He drove the "stage" to Bright to take passengers to the train and to carry the mail. There were six trains a day in 1891 at Bright and the stage went twice a day unless passengers wished to be met when the night train came in. (Incidentally, before that time Bright was known as "Plattsville Station".)

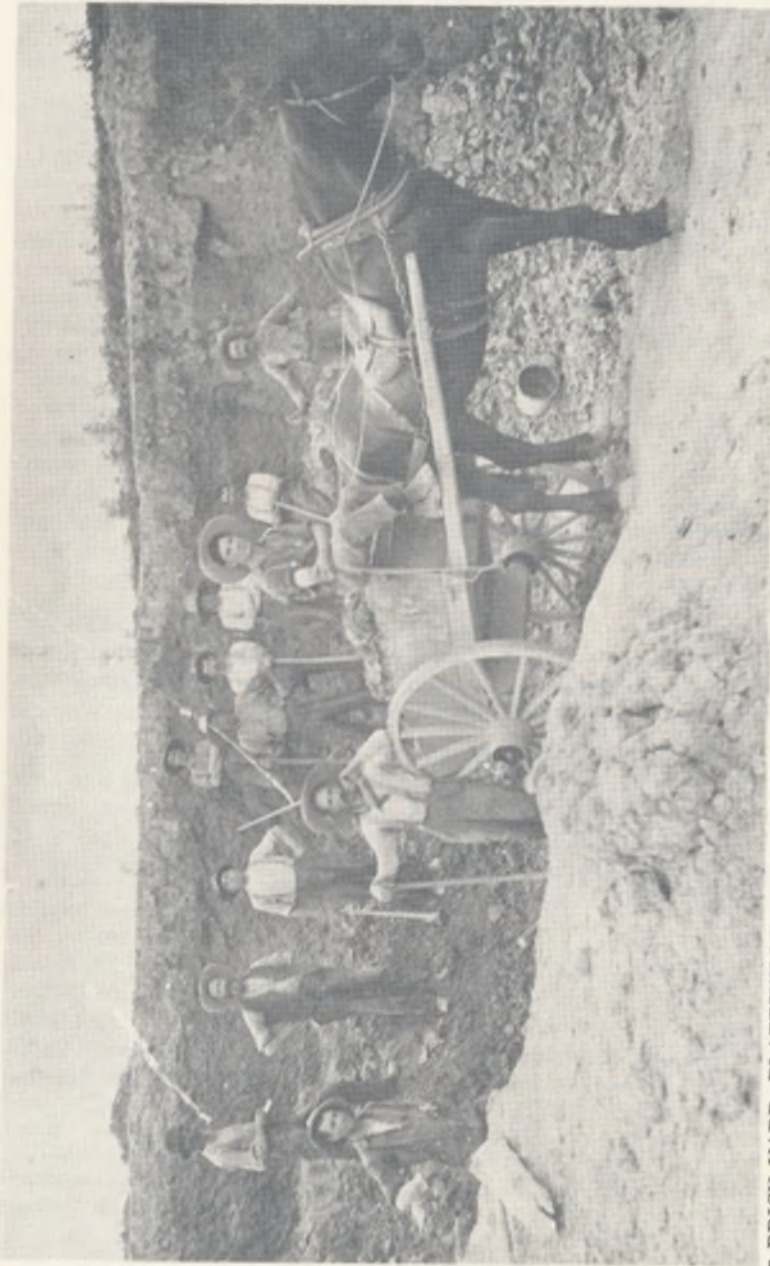
The Brickyard was an active place in the early days and deserves mention also as the popular place for the young folk of the village to learn to skate in the "pit" and sleighriding and tobogganing was the order of the day down those steep slopes in the winter. In the summer they gathered around the machine which turned out the bricks and tiles in hopes of getting a piece of nice, smooth clay to make into various objects. Mr. Freeborn managed the brickyard for Marshall & Bennett of Woodstock in 1892. In 1899 a cyclone hit the village and wrecked the brickyard as well as causing a great deal of destruction in the village, so it was closed down and the Freeborn family moved to London, then to Brantford where some of the family still live. In the early 1900's Mr. Charles Pratt came to town with his family of five boys and six girls and he restored the kiln etc., and made brick until his death. Two of his sons, Tom and Alex carried on for a while until the clay became in short supply and the business was closed and is now part of Stuart A. Scott's farm. Several houses in Plattsville were made of the local brick and at one time eleven men were employed there.

Mr. John Holtz was a tailor here in 1867, Mr. Fred Quandt and Mr. Adam Berst were first class tailors at the turn of the century and no doubt made most of the wedding suits for the young men who wished to be well-dressed on that important day.

At one time milk was supplied by families in town who kept a cow or two, which roamed the streets or roads through the day. Mr. Jas. Fergusson first supplied milk daily then Mr. Fred Quandt started a dairy business and for 41 years he delivered milk to the people of Plattsville. Since then it has been brought from Woodstock and delivered by milk truck, most of the time driven by Ed. Moyer.

Mr. Melvin Lachman, in 1917, opened the first garage on the south side of Albert Street, later erecting the building on the corner of York and Albert. Mr. Russell Hall bought the business but in 1924 moved to Kitchener and Mr. Lachman again ran the local garage, until it was sold to Ellis Bros. Farther east on Albert Street William Quandt opened a garage which he sold to Mr. Allan Schmidt who operated the business until it was purchased by Mr. Lloyd Hamilton in 1961.

Plattsville had a chemist and druggist in 1874, Mr. Charles Livingstone. Mr. William Veitch was the pharmacist in 1891. The drug store was owned by a number of people later, Mr. Westbrook, Jenner Bouchier, William Leonard, Miss M. E. Lindsay, and Robert Otto who was the last druggist in about 1932.



PRATT BRICK YARD, PLATTSVILLE — 1st row: Charlie Pratt, Thomas Pratt, Ed Harmer. 2nd row: Mr. Pratt (Sr.), Jo Farrow, Carl Harmer, Jack Cain, Mr. Murdy. 3rd row: Otis Harmer, Walter Smith, Geo. Hawkins and Mr. Murdy.

One of the first general stores was owned by John Smart, who was also Postmaster in 1857-77. Veitch and Neal owned the store where H. Moss is now and was later the R. J. Neal Co., then Neal and Ramsay, the R. D. Ramsay Co. Mr. J. B. English bought it from Mr. Ramsay. This store served a wide area in the country and carried a line of groceries, dry goods, fine china, furs, dressmaking and millinery, also seeds for the farmers.

The Seibert store was on the south side of the street and Babe Seibert of National Hockey League fame was born here, a son of the owner. Both of these stores, in the spring and fall, staged quite elaborate millinery shows and all the ladies went to these before deciding on their new hats. The Seibert store was closed for a few years, then was successively owned by Farmer's Co-Op, Lindemand, Wettlaufer, Austins, Bocks, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Schneider, Anderson, and lastly Mr. Ludlow, then the building was sold to Canada Sand Papers Ltd.

Mr. Crump was the local butcher in 1867. In the 1890's Mr. Wm. Fenn ran the butcher business. He was followed by his brother Gillis Fenn who was in the business for many years. When he retired his son Graham Fenn took over. He sold it to Cecil Love and later Graham Fenn returned until he sold it to Mr. Hubert Restemeyer who closed the business in 1967 and for the first time, Plattsville has no butcher shop.

Mr. Wm. McMeekin graduated as a gold medallist from the Toronto Veterinary College in 1888 after attending the college for only five months. He practised in Bright and Plattsville for a number of years until about 1919. Mr. Shain was here for a short time. Dr. H. Nurse came to the community in 1934 and practised until his death in 1958. Dr. Luyken is the local "Vet" at present.

At one time there was a jewellery store here owned by Mr. Wegenast. Mr. Harry Waring was a watchmaker here about 1900. (His daughter Ethel Waring taught in the Continuation School here in 1939-42.) Mr. Kribs also had a jewellery store here and Mr. Frank Motherall in the early 1900's.

Before the days of ready-made dresses, dressmaking was a popular business. Neal's store always had a dressmaker as well as a milliner. Miss Mary McLellan had a dressmaking school and from a diary of hers we note that she, at first, rented rooms from Mr. Bohmer for \$1.50 a month, in 1899; later she moved to the house now owned by Mr. William Wallbank. In the diary was noted such items as dress for Mrs. Hunter \$2.50, a waist for Miss Mitchell \$1.00, Mrs. Neal a dress \$1.25, Miss Edna Seaman cut waist 30¢, and there was a great deal more work went into these articles than in the dresses of our day. Miss Ida Motherall made dresses etc. in her customer's home. Miss Helen Ramsay also helped to keep the ladies of Plattsville dressed in the latest styles. Miss Mary Pickwell was another dressmaker who lived to the age of 99. Miss Hollicker and Mrs. Pope also did sewing.



COOPER SHOP — Built by Henry Hoffman in 1858



GILLIS FENN'S BUTCHER WAGON

In 1859 Henry Hoffman built and operated a Cooper shop and stave factory on Douro Street south of the bridges. The business was carried on by his son John until 1914 and by his grandson Charles until 1916. Charles and Mrs. Hoffman still live in the house built at the same time as the shop.

Mr. Ed. Sipes advertised in the 1891 Plattsville Echo as the "Old Reliable Harness Shop" and offered harness, shoes, horse clothing and every article in saddlery harness. Mr. Michael Fenn had a harness shop on Albert Street and later his brother John Fenn took over the business and ran it for several years until it was sold to Cecil Allen. This old building was destroyed in the fire of 1935. Cecil Allen moved to what is now the Harmer Bros. building but he closed the business in 1938. Mr. Robert Deeton also had a harness shop in the building on John and Albert Streets, now the home of Mrs. D. Wright.

Plattsville had an Ashery (Potash) operated by Walter Brown in 1867 and by the Baker family in 1870. It was located south of the present Finlay property and southwest of Jake Gofton's pasture. Remains of foundations and apple trees are still showing there.

Before Hydro was introduced into the village it was lit by acetylene lights. This was manufactured in the building which is now the Shell Garage. Mr. William Quandt and Mr. Chas. Grieve lit the lights each night on Albert Street only, and they were put out again before midnight.

Mr. George H. Milne and William Harvie both advertised in the "Echo" of January 1891 their businesses of Painting and Decorating. Mr. Ben Witmer was also in this business. Mr. John Harvie was a builder and built his own large house on Douro Street and three houses all alike on Isabella Street.

Most of the older people of the village can remember the cider mill owned by Mr. Ben Witmer. This was situated west of the present Bowling Green. In 'cider season' many children could be seen after four, with a small pail or jar, going to get some of the fresh, sweet apple cider. Mr. William Duncan operated the cider mill for a time after Mr. Witmer.

Another building which has disappeared is the Pump and Planing Mill which Mr. William Rouse operated on John Street, south of the United Church. This was later owned by James and Sidney Green until it was sold and torn down.

The "Plattsville Echo", for many years, kept the residents up to date with news of the day and the advertisements of local business people. It was first published April 7, 1887 with Mr. Chester as owner and publisher. Mr. I. W. D. Rouse next took it over and he was followed by Mr. Buggins. Perhaps the owners best remembered would be the Robinson Bros. who published the paper for several years. The last



STREET SCENES — PLATTSVILLE, ONTARIO



STREET SCENES — PLATTSVILLE, ONTARIO

owners were Mr. Graham and Mr. Lloyd.

In early years the coal dealers were busy people. Mr. Henry Leader and Mr. John Sangwin were dealers and Mr. William Bell still supplies coal along with his trucking business.

There were several grocery stores at different times and we can name some of them. Mr. Lautenslager operated a store in 1874. Mrs. McGraw had her shop near the band stand. Mr. and Mrs. G. Rutherford's store was well-known. They also carried a large line of candies which were popular with the children who had one or two cents to spend. The Rutherfords made and sold the first ice cream in Plattsville and the ice cream parlour was a very busy place on Saturday night while the patrons listened to the band concerts.

Carswell's grocery and candy store was east of the Rutherfords. This was sold to Mr. Moyer and later to John Holm, then to William Cann who also made his own ice cream and had an ice cream parlour. Mr. Holm bought it again and it was next owned by Mr. and Mrs. Hockton who sold it to Peter Gordon. Next came Cameron and Mrs. Hume, followed by the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Angus Muers.

Plattsville has been fortunate in always having excellent doctors. Names mentioned in early records are Dr. Bowers, Dr. Morrison, Dr. Dukes, and Dr. Patton, but perhaps the earliest in most of our memories were Dr. J. L. Brown, who practised here from 1878 to 1916, and Dr. A. I. Wilson, here from 1889 to 1930. Dr. Brown was followed by Dr. D. McLennan from 1917 to 1939. Dr. Wilson's practice was continued by Dr. S. V. Railton, now in Welland, Dr. K. B. McKenzie, now in Woodstock and presently Dr. E. Stevens who came to Plattsville in 1940.

In the horse and buggy days, blacksmiths were needed and the first mentioned in the "Echo" was Mr. Robert McKie Sr. who had his shop where G. D. Harmer's garage stands. He later moved to the rear of the McKie Buggy Factory and sold the other place to Mr. John Sangwin. Mr. Charles Scott operated a blacksmith shop where the Scout Hall is now and after Mr. Scott's death, Mr. Sangwin moved to that location.

In 1874 records show that there was a Plattsville Excelsior Cheese Factory operated by McDowell & Brundle making 400 pounds a day and employing ten men.

About 1874 or before, Mr. Jared Kilborn was a Justice of the Peace, notary public, land and money agent, conveyancer, commissioner in superior courts and issuer of marriage licences—a busy man. Mr. William Rouse was a J.P. as was Mr. H. T. Leader.

In 1891 and until the early 1900's Mr. John Berst had a wagon shop at the back of the Scout Hall and advertised first class cutters and sleighs.

OUR AGENTS.

The following gentlemen have kindly consented to act as our Agents and will order for printing, etc., left with them will receive prompt attention.

General	Wm. W. Wilson
Books	W. B. Wilson
Stationery	W. B. Wilson
Prints	W. B. Wilson

"The Yearning"—A map of my life, its fluctuations and its sweet vicissitudes.

The Plattsville Echo.

"Nisi Dominus frustra."

THURSDAY, APRIL 14 1887.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—As we have to go to press early Wednesday evening correspondents will confer a great favor by sending in their news on Tuesday if convenient.

District Flashes.

From our own Correspondents.

Ratho.

We are pleased to state that our village is getting to be such a material place and hope it may continue so. On Tuesday, the 6th inst., at the residence of Mr. Theo. Allright, of Ratho, Mr. Theo. Allright of Ratho, was united in the bonds of matrimony to Miss Fanny Bell of Ratho. The same day occurred the marriage of the sister, Miss Jane Bell. We wish them success and happiness and may they live long and happy in their matrimonial home. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Mr. Currie. We wish also state that on the same day and at the same place Mr. Robt. Broughton, of Ratho, was married to Mrs. Bristow of Ratho. Mr. McKinley performed the ceremony. Now we would like to see the village that can down us on matrimony for the year. We wish them all success and happiness.

The Rev. Mr. Currie delivered a fine sermon in the Presbyterian church on Sunday to a full congregation.

Our football boys held their meeting in the Temperance Hall on Wednesday evening last. They had a very good attendance and many new names were added to the list. The old officers were re-elected and they expect to have a good club this year and we wish them success. After their meeting they had a very fine time of music and song of all kinds and were all well renewed. They expect a number of names more at their steady long.

On Monday evening, the 4th inst., our village was again visited by some band of young men. They were asking themselves very happy and their music was wonderful. It attracted some this time, but the wrong way, as they only took after the band and made them deaf.

We noticed in the *Sentinel-Review* in the sporting news that Chesterfield had held their annual meeting in the club rooms. Where on earth are the Chesterfield club rooms we would like to know as we might have called down to see them before this, and that the sitting captain had given them a good speech on the glories of football. He had better make a trip around the country and deliver some of his speeches so that we may all have the pleasure of hearing him. I wonder what they did last year, they only won two games all season. Do they call that good playing as we would like to see them trying their hand at it this year but

they keep quiet, such a noise, such blowing. "Ah sba" falling our quiet falls they were heavy hitters and hard hitters, like the boys the old one "man" back as high as any man we ever saw. After spending a few hours with us and getting their carriage repaired, (for fell it out in Galt) they broke down before they reached our village, we will then a happy good-night, but alas they had only reached a place called New-man's Hill when smash went the rig again and they had to wend their weary way to Ellettsville as best they could. One poor fellow was met with a wolf robe over his shoulders, being a long he kept leaning to himself a tone very much like "Jolly old Uncle Sam." Welcome, back again boys, but do keep quiet.

Rev. Mr. GARDNER AND HIS FLOCK.—Last Thursday evening a party numbering fifty-seven marched up to that Rev. gentleman's residence and in the fine moonlight night serenaded him by singing a beautiful hymn. The voices aroused him from a peaceful nap he was indulging in. Being invited they explained their mission in such terms, viz, to remind him to his tangible form that it was the fifty-seventh anniversary of his birth and presented him with a very useful and acceptable present.

The Rev. gentleman replied in very feeling terms referring to the Christus-like spirit that exists between pastor and flock, each year seeming, if possible, to cement them closer and closer to each other. The ladies of the party then displayed a fine array of articles which they had prudently brought along. A happy scene followed, "Behold how they love one another." A few pleasant hours were spent in speech and song and the company separated with the prayer on their lips that God will give their pastor many, many birthdays yet to minister to their spiritual wants. Amen, we all say.

FRANKFORD.—J. U. Clement has returned from a business visit to Toronto. A crowd of good fellows will be in Ratho after a long absence. Mrs. A. Bryant, the promise to visit us soon again and from the attractions here we expect she will fulfil her promise. Mr. Fritz Kriesel paid a dying visit to his parents here. Fritz looks good and we see quite an improvement since he went to his big city.

DR. I. G. HUNZBERGER, our respected V.S. has been confined to his home for the past week on account of an affliction of the face. His numerous customers have been compelled to bring their animals to his home for treatment. We hope soon to see him around again for he is a true friend to the dumb animal.

MR. JAMES COPLEY, who has been seriously ill for the past few weeks, is, we are pleased to say, recovering.

DEATH.—At New Dundas, on the 6th of April, the wife of Elder McRae, of a long life.

AT NEW DUNDAS, on the 8th inst., the wife of Noah Ragan, of a son.

DEATH.—On Wednesday, the 6th inst., by the Rev. R. E. Grestner, Mr. Simon Hantz, to Miss Cecelia Christie, both of Wilmot.

DEATH.—On Wednesday, the 6th inst., by the Rev. Jacob Bowman, the esteemed pastor of this church took an affectionate good-bye of his flock last Sunday. The church was well filled and after an able discourse in very feeling and affectionate terms, referred to his ministry in this place, especially in the last four years. The feeling that existed between pastor and people was one of love, harmony and peace, not one shadow of discord. His soul's desire had been to "rest on the peaceful and quiet for the day," in this we believe he has been an instrument in the hands of God in bringing many nearer to the cross of Christ. His heart was too full to say farewell to his flock, so he permitted it to appear to visit them again. If God sees fit to call him away his wish is that he may spend eternity with the flock he now leaves. He has the earnest prayers and best wishes of, not only his flock but also who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.

Bright.—The funeral of one of our old settlers in the person of Mr. J. Stewart took place on Wednesday last at the residence of Mr. Stewart.

The spring show held here on the 6th inst. was a great success, though the day was cold and stormy. The attendance was large and the show of horses not only very large but of good quality. The following is the prize list:—Heavy draught, aged, Vance & Eby, lot and hand heavy draught, 8 years old, J. C. McMillan, Joe, Vance. N. Forester, Squire & Egan, Walker & Shantz, Canadian draught, Geo. Vance, John Bell, general purpose, Simpson, Mercer, John Rock, carriage horse, Kiddell, Brock, M. Dunge, race-horse, M. Kiddell, Christmas & Koch.—*Sentinel-Review.*

Chesterfield.

The Rev. Mr. Robertson, pastor of the Presbyterian Church in to occupy the pulpit on Sabbath next. We will be pleased to see him in his old place again.

We have beautiful spring weather and the farmers are getting started at their spring work.

Mrs. N. Nichol of this place has removed to Inverkip.

The total amount collected for Missions in connection with the Presbyterian Church here, in the handsome sum of \$257.77.

Frankford.

Judge Jones will hold a court on April 16th to consider errors and appeals in the voters' list for the city.

An unknown tramp was brought to the jail on Wednesday in a deplorable condition through drink and exposure. On Saturday morning he died without being able to tell his name, and a inquest was held by Coroner Kerr. The verdict of the jury was that he died through hemorrhage caused by intoxication and exposure.

The pastor of the Baptist church in the East ward of this city and at Birch has been accepted by Mr. H. E. H. Malder, of McMaster hall. He will be installed about May 1st.

Rev. Dr. V. R. Beattie, of the First Presbyterian Church, had his degree of Doctor of Divinity conferred at Montreal.

John McCarthy, of Montreal, has been employed for the third season as overseer instructor by the Scotch Dairy Association.

John McCarthy, of Montreal, employed on the new railway here, has been sent to jail for two months for smashing windows.

The residence of Jas. King, a cattle drover in East Oxford, was totally destroyed by fire on Friday morning. The fire is supposed to have been caused by the drover's carelessness.

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and will get his share of expected to take possession.

Steps should be taken to condition of the north.

Mr. John Hutchinson large number of cattle he shipped a carload. A practical man and the yard here but did not say to suit him. A suitable soil on his lot the interests of himself by making it known.

Westhill.

On Sunday Easter as meeting and evening, E. Burns and local services of our Lord.

The Rev. Charles O. Educational sermons: The Sabbath Schools assembly on Men's responsibilities, Mr. E. chain. The juvenile report and the sum of the smallest class Mrs. the list, having contributed \$5. In addition to \$10 raised by subscription Paddy Perry, \$6.45 by making a total of \$21. a very interesting one in the juvenile work by the small attend, though the children recitations were given: Beasis, Richmond, I. Alton Russell, reading one, Wm. Leonard, N. D. Astin, Wm. Sherratt, Messrs. Clements, Taw Mrs. John Thompson and grave fears are recovery through at personal best.

Miss Rose T. has been purchased in who is now in hand life again, it is a

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Dentists from out of town used to visit our village weekly. To mention a few there were Dr. Revell, Dr. Winn, and Dr. Robertson. About 1926 Dr. Sinclair opened a dentist office here. He sold it and moved to Welland and Dr. M. A. Marling took his place above the hardware store. It was sold again in 1935 to Dr. Griffin shortly before the building was burned. He carried on in rooms in the Temperance House for a short time and then went to Waterloo. We have had no resident dentist since that time.

Shoemakers—yes, they were needed too, for people walked a great deal more than nowadays. In 1857 Francis Motherall was listed as a shoemaker and no doubt did make them as well as repair them. Mr. E. Gatzka and Mr. G. Goetz, Mr. Jas. Grieve and Mr. Cecil Allen helped to keep us well shod and we believe the last one in the town was Mr. Brawn who moved to Woodstock.

PLATTSVILLE BAKERY SHOPS

The Ross family had a bake shop about 1890 which was situated near the present Fire Hall. Later Haists had a shop in the "Echo" building. In the early 1900's the local stores sold bread which was shipped into town by express in large wicker crates (bread was unwrapped and unsliced of course). Later Mr. A. Eckel built a bake shop in connection with his Flour Mill. Mr. Thomas Calder took this over for a few years. About 1925 the Scott brothers, Dave, Ed, George and Stuart built a bake shop on Wilmot St. and kept the community supplied with excellent bread, buns etc. Mr. Lorne Currah took this bakery over when he owned the mill. There were several changes in ownership after this and the business was closed about 1947



Administration Of The Village Of Plattsville

Historical dates of 1855, 1862 and 1873 proclaim the Village of Plattsville as a Post Village. On December 5, 1907, Plattsville was proclaimed a Police Village.

The Village has three Trustees who are appointed at an annual meeting in December of each year. They attain the office of Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary-Treasurer. Meetings are held once a month with extra meetings when necessary.

The Trustees are the controlling party for Village Municipal Buildings, the Village Shed, Town Hall, Fire Hall. They are responsible heads of the Cemetery, Fire Department and Hydro System. They are municipal members of the Park Board, Arena Committee and other village groups and committees.

Each year a budget is drawn up for the Village expenditures and this is compensated by a mill rate set each year.

General expenditures consist of a Park Grant and grass cutting, village street grass cutting, cemetery maintenance, sidewalk repair and rebuilding, street drains, street lighting costs, fire truck and building, grants to many village organizations and clubs and many more year to year items.

The Town Hall operates on revenue received from rentals and Board of Trade assistance. The Community Arena is self-supporting, being operated by an Arena Committee, and the Plattsville Curling Club operates the same with its Committees.

The Park Board controls the operation and maintenance of Plattsville Memorial Park.

Plattsville and District Public School, along with the Drumbo and Princeton schools, are controlled by Blenheim School Area with one local representative on the Board.

The Blenheim Township Council is the senior administration board. It maintains our roads and gives grants to the cemetery, park community arena and several local organizations.

Village maintenance and control equipment consists of the fire truck, tractor with trailer and power equipped grass cutter, riding rotary power mower, hand rotary mower, hydro ladder truck and many small control items.

Some past names of village trustees are: William Rendall, William Baldwin, Robert McKie, Abraham Eckel, George Milne, Fred

Quandt, James Grieve, Walter Smith, J. B. English and Elmer Doan.

1967 VILLAGE TRUSTEES

CHAIRMAN Rex Harmer
VICE-CHAIRMAN Roy Habel
SECRETARY-TREASURER Clair Harmer

PLATTSVILLE LIGHTING and HYDRO

Plattsville's first street lighting was carbide in 1900. The street lights were large standards on the corners of Albert (main) Street with hugh glass globes shaped like a bell to shield the flame from the wind and rain. These lights were ignited by a long lighting stick early in the evening and snuffed out before midnight. James Grieve and William Quandt were the early lamp lighters.

The carbide gas was manufactured in a small room on the back of William Quandt's Tinsmithing Shop, now the office part of Hamilton's Garage. It was also claimed that a number of homes in the village also had lighting of the same type of gas.

Hydro first came to the village about 1910. Street lighting extended to all the street corners, giving the pedestrian a lighted path. About 12 homes installed hydro in the following year with many more following later.

To-day the whole village is electrified. Homes have many forms of convenience with appliances, lights, heat and other luxuries.

Business and public buildings are all electrically equipped to meet the present day demands. Our industries boast of electrical equipment, automatic and most modern to the touch of a button with utmost control and precision.

Plattsville Hydro System has 196 home customers, 26 commercial and 2 industrial accounts. In the past years street lighting has been steadily increasing with extra lights. To-day, Douro and Albert Streets are brilliantly bathed in light from fluorescent luminaire units. Industry and some public and business buildings are glowing at night under the rays of modern flood lighting.

At Christmas time the village comes forth with strings of coloured street lights and most homes on every street have spot, flood and coloured lights hanging from the rooftops to front porches.

Plattsville owns and has operated its Hydro System for many years with low customer rates. The electrical age is here and we fit right into its midst with our use of many types and forms of its power.

1967 Board: Chairman and Secretary, Clair Harmer; Board Members, Roy Habel and Rex Harmer; Meter Billing, Mrs. William House; Treasurer, Jack H. English.

CHURCHES



PLATTSVILLE UNITED CHURCH

Early in the 1800's settlers moved along the Grand River and into the area of Blenheim. With these new people came Methodist saddle-bag preachers. As early as 1808, there is a record of a log meeting house in Washington which served the Blenheim circuit. Meetings were also held in the homes.

In the 1840's and 1850's meeting places sprang up in other centres. Washington, Bright, Plattsville and New Hamburg were part of an eleven church circuit served by two ministers and lay preachers.

In 1852 the Wesleyan Methodists built the first church in Plattsville on the northwest corner of Wilmot and Young Streets. This church served the congregation until 1876, when the present United Church building was erected. Rev. Tucher was pastor at this time.

The board and building committee were: Messrs. J. Kilborn, J. Leader, J. Workman, E. Motheral. The contractor was Mr. Kaufman, who was manager of the furniture factory. Many of the factory employees worked on the church building.

On March 23, 1874, Thomas Workman deeded to the trustees of the Primitive Methodist congregation 32 perches of land for a church building. It was erected where the Koffee Kup is now situated.

The Methodist Church was dedicated in January, 1877. Rev.

Ives of New York was guest speaker.

There were two resident ministers in the village at this time. The parsonage was on Fennell Street in the house now occupied by Jim Beemer.

In 1883 there was a union between the Wesleyan and Primitive Methodist Churches. The Primitive Church building was moved and attached to the west end of the Wesleyan Church. There it served as a Sunday School room for about sixty-five years.

Rev. Tom Clark, pastor of the Wesleyan Church, became pastor of the combined churches. Mrs. Jacob Gofton, organist of the Primitive Church, became organist of the New Methodist Church.

In 1925, with the coming of church union, the Methodist Church became Plattsville United Church with Rev. Davies as pastor, followed in 1930 by Rev. Sawyer.

At the time of church union the Presbyterian Congregation had been holding services in the Town Hall and later on in the German Evangelical Church. Rev. Johnson of Chesterfield served as minister. This group joined with the new United Church a short time after church union.

From 1938 until 1956, there was only one church operating in Plattsville. Rev. A. E. Hopper, Rev. A. Pyley, Rev. M. Cook and Rev. Gordon Kaiser were ministers during this period.

In 1946 Rev. Gordon Kaiser was called and served until 1956. During his fruitful ministry the church was renovated to its present form. As a result of Rev. Kaiser's tireless efforts, renovations began in July, 1950. The old Sunday School room was torn down and the floor of the church was raised 6 feet to provide a basement, Sunday School and kitchen.

The church auditorium was completely rebuilt and a gallery added. New lighting and heating systems were installed. The new church opened on September 2, 1951.

Total cost of this renovation was \$30,000. Sources of financing this were:

Legacy	\$ 5,300.00
Canada Sand Papers	3,000.00
Women's Association	1,500.00
General Canvass	12,200.00
Mortgage	8,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$30,000.00

The above mortgage was completely paid by December 1954, and the mortgage burning ceremony was held following the annual

meeting in 1955.

Memorial windows and a Baldwin organ were added later.

The building committee chairman was Ira Battler and building committee secretary-treasurer was R. O. Henderson.

From 1957-1960 Rev. A. Waters was minister, followed by Rev. D. Blackmore who served until 1963.

Rev. Craig Railton served from 1963-1967. His service in Plattsville was preceded by three of his ancestors. In 1860 David Kennedy was minister. In 1893 Albert Kennedy was Bishop of the area. From 1920-1923 Rev. Richard Railton was minister. Four generations of the Railton family have served in this area.

On July 1, 1967, Rev. H. Pillen of Pine River was called to the Plattsville charge to take over the ministry in this Centennial year.

The following ministers served in Plattsville from 1881 until 1967: Reverends Sanderson, Pearson, Clark, More, Collins, Wright, Smith, Tonge, Nugent, Teeple, Kay, Poole, Crighton, Allen, Edwards, Railton, Davies, Sawyer, Hopper, Plyley, Cook, Kaiser, Waters, Blackmore, Railton, Pillen.



PLATTSVILLE UNITED MISSIONARY CHURCH

Plattsville United Missionary Church was dedicated on June 10, 1956. Dr. Kenneth Geiger of Indiana, General Superintendent of the United Missionary Church, gave the dedicatory address and Rev. W.

M. Shantz, District Superintendent of the Ontario District, dedicated the church. The church was crowded to capacity for the service.

The following events led to the establishment of the church in Plattsville: The New Dundee U.M. congregation was finding it necessary to expand their church facilities. The fact that several families from Plattsville and the district between New Dundee and Plattsville were attending New Dundee church and that there was only one church operating in Plattsville influenced the decision.

The project was received favourably by the members and a committee was set up to choose a site. Mr. Warren Grimes, manager of Canada Sand Papers Ltd., approached the committee concerning the purchase of the church which had been bought by the factory to be used as a warehouse. The church had been built by the Baptist congregation in 1884.

When the Sand Paper Co. offered the building free of charge it was gratefully accepted.

The rebuilding of the church was a New Dundee church project. Mr. Clarence Martin, a contractor from Floradale, was engaged for the renovation. The original floor was removed and a basement with Sunday School rooms was put in. An entrance was built on the west side. The plans were drawn by Rev. Joe Kimbal of Indiana.

Two lots were purchased from Mr. C. Gofton west of the church for a parking area, and a few years later the lot east of the church was purchased and landscaped. The cost of the complete renovation and lots was approximately \$35,000. The New Dundee congregation assumed about \$15,000 of the cost. The same year the present parsonage was purchased from Mr. P. Grimes for \$15,500.

The new class was organized by Rev. P. G. Lehman, pastor of New Dundee congregation. The original membership was thirty-two. This was soon increased by some area families not formerly members of the U.M. Church.

Rev. H. S. Hallman, pastor of Kitchener Bethany U.M. Church, was appointed pastor and assumed the charge in July, 1956. He served until July, 1961, when he moved to Listowel. Rev. Donald T. Pugh assumed the pastorate in 1961 and is still pastor in 1967.

The first officers of the church were the pastor as chairman of the board; Mrs. Nile Shantz, secretary; Mr. Owen Showell, treasurer. The trustee board consisted of Eldon Sherk, Burley Bretz, Harold Shantz, Mrs. C. Rosenberger and Mrs. C. Jantzi. Deacons were Eldon Sherk and Harold Shantz. S.S. Superintendent was Harold Shantz.

The membership in 1967 is 75 with a Sunday School attendance of about 150. The congregation is also almost entirely free of debt, and is starting to assume considerable responsibility for missions both foreign and in our homeland.

LUTHERAN CHURCH

One of the earliest churches serving this vicinity was the Lutheran Church. It was a small frame building situated west of their cemetery. It was erected in 1860 at the cost of \$500.00. There was a seating capacity of 250. It was affiliated at different times with New Dundee and New Hamburg churches. The congregation dwindled as the number of people who spoke and understood German in the community grew less.

The church was closed about 1920 and eventually was torn down.

THE SALVATION ARMY

Little is known about the Salvation Army in Plattsville but this item in the Weekly Sentinel Review on April 22, 1887 shows that it was quite active.

"The Salvation Army is making rapid progress in our village. On Wednesday evening last, a number of visiting brethren were present, and judging by the attendance at the hall every night great interest is taken in these meetings. We are glad to see such a friendly spirit existing between it and the various denominations as there is room for all."

The Salvation Army closed when the cyclone of 1899 destroyed the roof of their building.

EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Little information is available on the very early history of this church. The brick church was erected in 1869. Shortly after a Sunday School was organized by S. Moyer. The first church president was John Holzauer. For a few years the church carried on successfully. Some of the good supporters were Cornelius Goebel, H. Hoffman, H. Stemler, M. Schelbe, A. Gatzka, H. Lepp, H. Schneider, Ranks and Bersts.

By 1929 the congregation had dwindled forcing the sale of both church and parsonage. The property came back to the church for a few years and in 1938 Mr. Harold Stewart purchased the property for a "bee" business.

In 1941 Mr. Owen Showell bought the property for his honey business.

PARKS

PARK 1

The first Park and playing field in Plattsville was located in what is now Jake Gofton's pasture; in the field south of the West Road between the Nith River and Mill Race. This park was used for soccer, lacrosse, baseball, picnics and bathing in the Nith River.

In the 1870's the big holiday celebration was May 24th. Early in the morning an ox was prepared and placed on a spit. When roasted this was served at the picnic which all the villagers enjoyed. To show their allegiance to the Queen an old cannon was loaded with gun powder and sods and a twenty-one gun salute fired. This was a highlight of the day until one year the cannon exploded due to too much packed sod and Mr. Pogson was killed when hit with a fragment of cannon casting.

This park was abandoned in the late 1800's for a new site farther west on the same road.

PARK 2

Plattsville's second park was situated on the north side of the West Road next to the large bridge between road and ring of high hills, now owned by Mr. Robert McFarlane. It was first known as Diller's Park and then Smart's Park.

It was used for baseball, soccer, lacrosse, quoiting tournaments and picnics and bathing in adjoining Nith River.

This park boasted an aerial type car. It consisted of a box on pulley for two passengers, running on a cable strung between a tree on top of hill to a tree at the bottom of the hill. Passengers rode down and then hauled the car back up by hand rope.

Lacrosse and soccer championships were won by Plattsville teams in this park. Quoiting tournaments were annual all day events also. This park gave way to a new location in the central part of the village in the early 1900's.

PARK 3

Plattsville's third park was purchased from Mr. Henry Leader on December 15, 1915. Consisting of two and three-quarter acres south of Main (Albert) Street in the Central part of the village. This land is now the new large addition to the Canada Sand Papers Ltd.

This park was dedicated as Memorial Park after the Great War in August 1921. Heavy brick and stone top pillars were erected; bridged with an iron arched band with two large double iron gates under band



and a small hand iron gate on each side between adjoining pillars.

A heavy iron picket fence enclosed the front boundary on both sides of main gate.

Trees were planted around border fence lines. A large sulphur flowing well fountain graced the west side of park which was later utilized as a water supply to a large round wading pool.

Swings, slides, bars, large booth, ball backstop, and many features made this a very pretty and picturesque park.

It was used for lacrosse and soccer, baseball, softball, field days, garden parties, Victoria Day Celebrations, picnics and camp revivals.

This park was purchased by the Canada Sand Papers Limited for plant expansion in 1958.

PARK 4

Plattsville's fourth and present park of eight and one-half acres was purchased in 1958 from the Walter Hofstetter farm. It is strategically located between the Community Arena and Curling Rink and Plattsville and District Public School with the Horse Show grounds adjoining the back portion. A road allowance skirts three sides and also runs through the central part fronting main entry and gates.

It is very picturesque with a one plank bumper fence skirting the main playing area. An Alpine Currant hedge spreads out both directions from the Memorial Gates relocated from the old park. Shrubs,

flowering trees and shade trees of all types are well placed about the perimeter and playing area. Swings, slides, bars, ball diamond and seating make it a haven for youth and sports. A large lighted gravelled parking area on south side of main entrance accommodates parking for park and community Arena activities.

This park is graced with a kitchen booth and washrooms situated next to the new Centennial covered Pavilion with its modern design and facilities. It is suitable for band concerts, sheltered picnics, dancing, church services, garden parties, concerts and picture shows.

The beauty and planning of this community section must be seen to be appreciated.

1967 PARK BOARD

- CHAIRMAN Cameron Shantz
- VICE-CHAIRMAN Clair Harmer
- SECRETARY-TREASURER Mrs. Gordon Knox
- MEMBERS Jack English, Harry Davidson,
John Hofstetter, Merle Coleman





PLATTSVILLE CURLING CLUB, WINNERS OF CUP, DISTRICT No. 5
1906

Back row (left to right) Wm. Easton, G. D. Gilchrist, A. E. Kaufman,
H. Rush. Front row (left to right) James Grieves, A. Harmer, Skip,
G. H. Milne, Skip, S. Hall.



WINNERS WESTERN COLTS LEAGUE 1910

Back row (left to right) A. Pratt, Geo. Hawkins, W. Zinken, E. Stepler.
Front row (left to right) A. Smith, L. Milne, Tom Pratt, Gill Fenn.

Plattsville Curling Club

The first Plattsville Curling Club started with curling on outdoor ice in 1867. They moved indoors with the building of the village's first rink in 1888. Also, in that year, they joined the Ontario Curling Association.

(Taken from the 1890-91 annual of the Ontario Branch of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, Volume 16.)

NO. 66 PLATTSVILLE CLUB

PATRON Stephen Hall

PATRONESS Mrs. Stephen Hall

PRESIDENT Samuel McLaughlin

VICE-PRESIDENT Edward Sawyer

REPRESENTATIVE MEMBERS

George Milne and R. Ball

SECRETARY-TREASURER - D. S. Aldridge

COMMITTEE ON COUNCIL MANAGEMENT

D. S. Aldridge, Edward Sawyer

Robert Ball.

The Curling Club shared the ice surface with skating, hockey, carnivals and skating parties. By 1908-1912 curling was at a great height. Plattsville boasted of holding seven trophies, some being challenge cups. They had a membership of 50. Some of the hand-made trophies were still in the Arena until 1947 when they perished with the fire.

Curling followed the building of the second Arena with their own private section of two curling sheets with club room, kitchen and washrooms.

They installed artificial ice in 1959 and the membership rose to over 60. Mixed curling for ladies and gentlemen was organized in 1959, with 20 couples registering, also 6 single ladies. President, Mrs. Clair Harmer; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Stewart Green.

The Plattsville Ladies Curling Club was organized in October, 1964 with 40 members. President, Betty Wallbank; Secretary-Treasurer, Mary Bell.

The Ladies' and Men's Clubs have been very active in the past years. They have programmed Ladies', Men's and Mixed Bonspiels throughout the winter season, drawing visiting rinks from clubs from miles around. They also attend many outside spiels, bringing home trophies and many honours.

1967 LADIES' EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT Mrs. Glen Reisberry

VICE-PRESIDENT Mrs. William Simpson

SECRETARY-TREASURER . . . Mrs. Kenneth Bell



PLATTSVILLE RINK AT GALT CLUB'S CENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION 1838-1936

Left to right — William Rutherford, Morton Hall, Earl Brown and
Thomas J. Pratt.



PLATTSVILLE RINK WINNER OF JUNIOR TANKARD 1933

Left to right — Kenneth Smith, George Thomson, Thomas Rennie,
Mayor Stewart, Cecil Allen, Wilfred Lachman.

1967 MEN'S EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT Merton Cuthbertson
VICE-PRESIDENT Daniel G. Stauffer
SECRETARY Jack English
TREASURER Dr. Hans Luyken

PLATTSVILLE CURLING CLUB HONOURS

The Governor General's Prize & District Cup No. 5, 1906
The Western Colts League, 1910
The Hamburg & Elgin Trophy, 1915
The Thomas Rennie Ontario Junior Tankard, 1933
The Galt Centennial Trophy, 1836-1936, 1936
The Paquette Trophy, First Woodstock Annual Bonspiel, 1950

ANNUAL PLATTSVILLE TROPHIES

- The Pratt Memorial Trophy, Men's
- Plattsville Curling Club Challenge Trophy, Men's
- Canada Sand Papers Ltd. Trophy, Men's champion
- Canada Sand Papers Ltd. Trophy, Ladies' champion, first schedule
- Woodstock Feed Co. Ltd. Trophy, Ladies' champion, second schedule
- The Labatt's Brewery Limited Trophy, Men's, team champions
- Woodstock Feed Co. Ltd. and Ralston Purina Trophy, farmers' spiel

Plattsville Arenas

ARENA No. 1 — 1888-1947

Plattsville's first Arena was built in 1888 by George Young for \$1,709.00.

It was situated on Douro Street, south of the Bowling Green. It was 165 ft. x 80 ft. and had four sheets of curling ice with two dressing rooms at front with curlers' room above. There were two rows of posts down the sides which, when boarded in, made two curling sheets or hockey ice enclosure in centre, leaving two curling sheets on sides.

This arena was used for curling, hockey, carnivals, skating, and races and skating parties.

The first lighting was Wanzer Oil Lamps which hung down from ceiling. They had large wind-up spring motors with a blower fan which produced a steady non-flickering light. In later years they gave way to electric lighting.

Ice flooding was done by a large tank on sleigh with extended pipes full of holes to give a uniform flooding.

This arena was completely destroyed by fire in the winter of 1947. An open air rink was maintained in the park for the balance of the winter until new arena was completed the following year.



ARENA No. 1



ARENA No. 2

ARENA No. 2 — 1948

In 1948 the present skating and curling arena was built on North-east corner of Mill and Platt Streets. This arena is constructed of B.C. fir frame and covered with galvanized iron. It has an ice surface of 75 ft. x 175 ft. There is seating on two sides with standing room at the back end.

Hockey dressing rooms are in basement and skaters' change rooms on both sides of main entrance with a large club room on the second floor with a glass enclosed spectators' room facing ice surface. The curling section forms the east part of Arena with two artificial ice curling sheets fronted by a large club room and adjoining kitchen with upstairs washrooms.

Artificial ice was installed in 1966 on skating surface followed by a concrete trap rock floor in 1967. This bold venture gives our community and district skating and hockey ice from November to April and roller skating for balance of year.

Dancing, concerts, lacrosse, indoor displays and many forms of entertainment and future demand will find a place in this completed community centre.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Elmer Doan, J. B. English, Cecil Allen, I. T. Battler, Warren Grimes, George Thomson, Alex Glendinning, Kenneth Smith.

1967 ARENA COMMITTEE

Hugh Hall, Chairman; George Woolcott, Secretary; Beverley Shewman, Treasurer; Committee: John Hofstetter, Merle Coleman, Edwin Rush, Alex Fair, Layton Hofstetter, Angus Muers, Clair Harmer, Douglas Lamont, Elmer Baer, Frank Stott.

Hockey

Plattsville has been a hockey town since the turn of the century, back when hockey had seven players on the ice at one time. The seventh player was called a rover.

In 1904 and 1907 Plattsville won the OWSA championship. Two hockey players born in Plattsville played in the Stanley Cup finals—Babe Seibert with Montreal Maroons and Harold Deeton, son of Robert Deeton, with Edmonton against Ottawa.

Plattsville boasted also of two girls' hockey teams in the early 1900's as well as several men's teams.

Some of the local boys have since played for outside hockey clubs, entering into championships.

Minor hockey and the rural club have been strong contenders in finals and championships in the past years. These clubs have over



**PLATTSVILLE RED WINGS—1934 ONTARIO RURAL HOCKEY
SEMI-FINALISTS**

Back Row (left to right) J. Harmer, L.W.; J. Lederman, Def.; O. Brown, Def.; G. Thomson, Def.; G. Weber, R.W.
Front row (left to right) E. Hewitt, Centre; G. Horne, R.W. (Coach); J. English, R.W.; C. Allen, Manager; W. Hoffman, Sub. Goal; E. Fergusson, Goal (Capt.); D. McLennan, Centre.



ORHA INTERMEDIATE A CHAMPIONS, 1939-1940 — Back Row (Left to right); Harvey Blackmore, Edwin Fergusson, James McLaren, Norman Laurie, Clair Harmer, Jack English, Gerald Harmer, Ernest Hewitt, George Thomson, Mac Kennedy, Elmer Doan, Cecil Allen.

Sitting (Left to right); Ted Taylor, Bert Barrett, Rueben Layman, Jack Harmer, Philip Grimes.



PLATTSVILLE HOCKEY CLUB O.W.H.A. CHAMPIONS 1907

Standing (left to right) E. Sipes, Doug. Brown, H. Shosenberg (Shosie).
Sitting — Andy Grieves, Percy McKie, "Ab" Grieves, Frank Foster.
Jack Robson and Ed Siebert were also star playing members of the club.

one hundred players in seven different age groups, upholding Canada's national sport.

PLATTSVILLE RURAL HOCKEY

- 1933-1934 Plattsville Intermediate A
ORHA Semi Finalists
- 1939-1940 Plattsville Intermediate A
ORHA Champions
- 1941-1942 Plattsville North Stars
ORHA Intermediate B Finalists
- 1951-1952 Plattsville Intermediate C
ORHA Champions
- 1953-1954 Plattsville Intermediate B
ORHA Finalists
- 1964-1965 Plattsville, Bright, New Dundee Combines
ORHA Intermediate B Champions
- 1965-1966 Plattsville, Bright, New Dundee Combines
ORHA Intermediate B Finalists

PLATTSVILLE MINOR HOCKEY

- 1950-1951 Plattsville Bantam D
OMHA Semi Finalists
- 1951-1952 Plattsville Midget D
OMHA Finalists
- 1953-1954 Washington (Plattsville) Juvenile D
OMHA Finalists
- 1959-1960 Plattsville Juvenile D
OMHA Finalists
- 1960-1961 Plattsville Juvenile D
OMHA Champions
- 1961-1962 Plattsville Bantam D
OMHA Finalists
- 1964-1965 Plattsville Juvenile D
OMHA Finalists



PLATTSVILLE ORHA JUVENILE D CHAMPIONS 1960-1961 — Back Row (Left to right); Weston Sararus, Manager; George Woolcott, Trainer; George Bell, Gary Graham, Terry Harmer, Leonard Habermehl, Melburn Hagey, Ken Cybulski, Bruce Bierman, Reg Cressman.

Sitting (Left to right); Billy Jacobs, Lyn Sararus, Keith Fried, Gordie Bourne, Jim Thomson, Ronald Becker, Hugh Hall. Absent: Gordon Becker.



PLATTSVILLE BANTAMS—1961-62 O.M.H.A. FINALISTS

Bottom (left to right) Russel Becker, Jim Bell, Don Moss, Rick Fenn, Bill Fleming, Tommy McCormick.

Top (left to right) Bob Glendinning, Rod Lambert, Jim Graham, Bruce Beemer, Ken Brown, Charles Harmer, Ben Moss, Rick Thomson, Neil Harmer, Teddy Woolcott, Clair Harmer.

Soccer, Lacrosse, Baseball

In 1902 Plattsville had two soccer teams, one baseball team, and one lacrosse team. In 1897-98 Plattsville and Hespeler played lacrosse for top honours. Mr. William Rutherford of Victoria, B.C., is the only living player of that team.

The crowning year for soccer was 1902 when Plattsville won all the Western Ontario titles and played Toronto for All Ontario. They went by train to Toronto and played two teams the same afternoon with thirty minutes' rest between games. They won both games, bringing home the big cup.

Events like this happen but once in a century. Players honoured were: Harry Tew, Archie Cowan, Percy McKie, Albert Grievc, Walter Ramsay, Ken Cummings, Roy Hunter, William (Billy) Hall, John Pipe, Dave McDonald, John Motherall, William Diller with Fred Quandt as coach.

In 1914-15-17 the North Oxford Baseball cup was won by the Plattsville club. Charles Hoffman and Harry Shosenberg are the only living players.

Plattsville's baseball representatives continued to win championships up until 1940, when it gave way to softball.

Girls' and men's softball teams were at their best form in the 1940's. Championships and many playoff games drew large crowds of spectators.

Boys' minor softball followed in later years, reviving the art of ball twirling and bat bunting and swinging.



PLATTSVILLE ROYALS — CHAMPIONS N.O.B. LEAGUE 1915

Back row (left to right) William Leonard, Rube Wadell, Ezra Leitz, O. Prangley, P. A. McKie.

Centre row (left to right) Andy Grieve, E. Coxson, Ab. Grieve, H. Frazer, H. Shosenberg.

Front row (left to right) Jack Sangwin, L. Thomas. Omitted, Chas. Hoffman.

Plattsville Bowling Club



The bowling green property was purchased from Mr. John Sangwin for \$125.00 on June 1st, 1912. The first trustees were: Robert Ramsay, merchant; George Milne, decorator, and John Hall, farmer.

The present clubhouse was built from lumber salvaged from a collapsed bridge on the Townline. The threshing machine of Mr. Isaac Battler had gone through the bridge floor. Mr. Battler was killed in this accident.

The Ladies' Bowling Club was organized in 1923. The officers were: Mrs. Harry Shosenberg, President; Mrs. Percy McKie, Vice-President; Miss Anne Rendall, Secretary-Treasurer. There were forty members.

In 1930 the men's and ladies' clubs joined to form a mixed club with Mr. J. B. English as president.

In 1937 the green closed for 8 years but re-opened in 1945 with Mr. Wm. House as president; Mrs. Wilfred Lachman, vice-president, and Mrs. R. Harmer as treasurer.

The club at present has 25 members.

The Centennial Year Executive: President, J. H. English; Vice-President, J. E. House; Secretary, Mrs. J. Lachman; Treasurer, Mrs. L. Milne.

Calathumpian, Santa Claus Parades

By 1905, or in earlier years, the Civic Holiday highlight of Plattsville was a Calathumpian parade. Clubs, businesses, groups and organizations of the village formed a huge parade with fancy floats, decorated rigs, wagons and fancy dressed people led by the Village Band. The parade ended in the park and the balance of the day was celebrated by soccer games, baseball games, lacrosse, tug-of-wars, with entertainment and sweets for the children.

This form of parade was brought back to the village in 1946 at Christmas time as a Santa Claus Parade. This started with the help of Canada Sand Papers (Warren and Kenneth Grimes) with Gerald Harmer as chairman; Sidney Green, parade marshal, with Kenneth Smith and Earl Waldie assisting. Elmer Doan represented Santa Claus many times. Most villagers and workers participated.

Many floats representing bedtime stories, animals, countries, clubs and sports were created, pulled by decorated tractors. Mixed among the floats were fancy dressed people, clowns, horses, etc. Led by the fire truck and band, the parade stretched out the length of main street. Santa Claus and his float followed the parade and distributed his bags of candies to the children.

This annual parade also started and financed the first street light decorations. It stopped in 1959 and in 1966 turned the balance of the money over to the Artificial Ice Fund of the Community Arena.

Plattsville Agricultural Association

The Oxford and Norfolk Directory of 1867-68 records, among other statistics, show that Plattsville operated an Agricultural Association at this time. This information, linked with that handed down to present residents, indicates that what we now term a Fall Fair was in operation at that time. This Plattsville Agricultural Fair was held north of Young Street, between Platt Street on the east and Fennel Street on the west, in what is now a pasture field owned by Stuart Scott and which comprised approximately fifteen acres for the Fair location. The property now contains what was formerly the Brick Yard and which did not come into operation until after cessation of the Agricultural Fair. All of the various farm animals and produce of the day were exhibited at this event which was discontinued some time before the turn of the century. Although the events leading to the cessation of this fair are somewhat clouded, it is reported that a more central location for the Township Fair was favoured at Drumbo where the Fair has been operated until the present time.

Flowing Wells

It was the search for oil that led to the discovery of Plattsville's flowing wells.

In 1905 a group of businessmen collected \$500.00 and hired an oil driller. After sinking a casing 150 feet, a strong flow of water gushed out which had a high mineral content and distinct sulphur odour.

Still convinced that oil lay beneath the village, they sank a second shaft behind the mill now owned by A. J. Kaufman. This attempt was also unsuccessful as water gushed out at the 125 foot level. This well produced an estimated 2,500,000 gallons per day.

Prominent citizens who financed the drilling were: Abraham Eckel, miller; James Baird, owner of the furniture factory; Robert McKie, owner of McKie buggy factory; John Hall, a prosperous farmer, and Dr. Brown, village physician.

It is regrettable that both these wells which were at one time a village attraction have disappeared. The first well which was situated in the old park lies beneath the new addition of Canada Sand Papers. The water drains out into the river behind the factory. The mill pond well has been plugged by stones thrown in and flows no more.



FLOWING WELL, CAPACITY 2500000 GALLS. PER DAY

Horse Racing On The Ice At Plattsville

Horse racing on the Nith River ice was a well attended and widely known sport at Plattsville from the early 1900's until 1912. Horses from all the surrounding cities and countryside competed on this local strip, which was reputed to be one of the best in Western Ontario. The track was on the upper river above the head gates, starting southward at a place known to everyone at that time as the "Three Trees". It covered over three-eighths of a mile and ended at a point across from the residence now owned by James Murray, near the small bridge. The races were held as Saturday afternoon sporting events, which attracted great crowds along the river banks. The horse entries, consisting of trotters and pacers, were harnessed similar to our present day sulky races and drivers rode in the high runnered racing cutters of the day. A picture of "The EEL", a local entry of Eli Cressman with R. J. Neal at the reins may be seen in the second edition of the Tweedsmuir History at the library. Other local participants were Dave Brash and James Mogkt (Monk). While oldtimers recall the outward steamy sweating horses after each big heat, on those bitter cold afternoons, it is not difficult to believe that many inactive spectators had themselves a little inward heat of their own so that a good time would be had by all.

St. John Ambulance Brigade PLATTSVILLE SECTION

This Brigade was organized on December 15, 1949, following a course of instruction in First Aid to the Injured sponsored by Canada Sand Papers Limited. This course was taught by Mr. George L. Nutt, Area Commissioner for Western Ontario. The class was held to provide trained "First Aiders" for the local industry, and with a new arena in the community it was felt that the Brigade was necessary in order to provide first aid coverage at sports events.

The original section was composed of fifteen members with the officers as follows:

SARGENT George Edwards
SECRETARY Earl Waldie
TREASURER Bert Barrett
STORES Harry L. Davidson

Mrs. Roy Habel, who attended the first class of instruction joined the Woodstock Nursing Division and became a certified First Aid Instructor and Divisional Superintendent of the Woodstock Division. A later member of the section, John Potter, became a certified instructor and full time employee of St. John Ambulance, and in 1964 was admitted to the Order of St. John as a Serving Brother at an Investiture held at Government House, Ottawa, by the late Governor General George Vanier.

While the section was disbanded in 1963 due to lack of public duties, with the installation of artificial ice in the arena and the introduction of roller skating, it would appear that there again may be a need of such a service in the community.

Red Cross Society

Plattsville maintained a very active Red Cross Organization during World War I and World War II.

Editions of the Plattsville Echo between 1915-1918 record many bazaars, carnivals, concerts and sock showers held in aid of the Red Cross. The following is a list printed on February 9, 1917, stating their weekly report of supplies sent to headquarters.

79 pairs of socks, 6 grey flannel shirts, 14 pyjama suits, 6 vermin suits.

In November 1917 the following summary of Red Cross Supplies sent by Plattsville to Toronto was printed: 1101 pairs of socks, 17 dressing gowns, 30 pillows, 51 pairs of pillow cases, 16 quilts, 56 house wives, 265 pyjama suits, 73 vermin suits, 24 pairs of sheets, 53 dozen T bandages, 51 stritcher caps, 89 dozen handkerchiefs, 55 grey flannel shirts, 6 pairs of operation socks, 1 surgical suit, 132 tranquilizer bandages, 24 many tailed bandages, 3 bundles of cotton, 1 bundle of old flannel, 172 overseas parcels for soldiers overseas. \$1800.00 in cash was also raised. This splendid effort was put forth throughout the entire war years 1914-1918.

On October 3, 1939 a meeting was held in Plattsville United Church to re-organize the Red Cross Society.

Mr. T. J. Pratt was chairman for a meeting which elected the following officers:

PRESIDENT Dr. K. MacKenzie
 VICE-PRESIDENT Mr. G. Fenn
 SECRETARY Miss Ruby Milne
 TREASURER Mr. J. B. English
 EXECUTIVE Mrs. J. B. English,
 Mrs. J. Thomson

Sewing and knitting committees were also appointed.

The Canada Sand Papers Ltd. and the Masonic Lodge provided workrooms. Dr. E. Stevens served as president from 1941-45.

By means of annual drives, scrap and paper collections, the society made a commendable contribution to Woodstock headquarters during the Second World War years. Village women volunteered many hours of labour in the work rooms. Christmas boxes, socks and sweaters were sent at regular intervals to all servicemen from the district.

In August, 1945, the Plattsville Welcome Home Fund was inaugurated. Over \$2800.00 was raised which was used to purchase watches for all servicemen who had served at home and abroad during the war.

The following district servicemen received boxes from the Plattsville

Red Cross Society during World War II:

M. Allen	G. Brown	F. W. Parkhouse
G. Edwards	F. M. Fergusson	L. Dunn
D. Hall	W. McDonald	R. A. Habermehl
R. C. Scott	N. G. Brown	L. R. Perry
J. H. English	R. W. Fergusson	W. O. Poll
Doug Hall	J. McFarlane	H. L. Rank
A. C. Allison	J. R. Brighty	R. Rellinger
T. R. Ellis	J. C. Fried	E. Rhodenizer
P. G. Hallman	S. S. McKie	C. Shantz
A. L. Baer	H. Chambers	G. H. Shantz
A. Everts	A. C. Fulcher	J. S. Simpson
R. Hallman	H. D. McLennan	K. W. Smith
N. C. Battler	E. Christensen	F. Stemler
D. G. Fenn	R. E. Fulcher	J. Stewart
G. D. Harmer	Mary M. McLennan	M. Steward
D. Berge	D. Coldham	E. Wollcott
E. G. Fenn	H. Gordon	G. B. Woolcott
J. R. Harmer	J. Murray	W. A. Zenuick
H. Blackmore	J. Coldham	A. S. Barrett
J. H. Fenn	J. S. Green	E. Waldie
E. Hilderly	W. H. Nurse	R. Haskall
R. T. Blackmore	D. Cummings	T. Scott
John H. Fenn	J. D. Grieve	E. Seigmiller
R. J. Hilderly	R. D. Nurse	G. Bell
R. J. Blackmore	G. Cummings	C. Murray
B. Fergusson	D. R. Grimes	G. Seigmiller
R. S. Hilderly	H. G. Nurse	R. Bell
A. W. Bourne	H. Davidson	R. Scott
E. J. Fergusson	P. M. Grimes	R. Baker
O. M. Kennedy		

HONOUR ROLL — 1914 - 1918

James L. Hastings	George C. MacKenzie
William E. Henson	Clifford Brown
John S. Crerar	Benjamin Wright
Walter Newman	Frank McKie
Gordon H. Stauffer	Harold W. Milburn
Davis G. Foreman	Fred J. Allan
William A. Brown	Douglas C. Bristow
William Roper	Roy C. Ellis
John B. Wilson	George F. Steedman
Oscar Church	Fred W. Veitch
Allan D. Hamacher	

HONOUR ROLL — 1939 - 1945

Roy E. Fulcher
John S. Rennick

Norman W. Peat
John R. Vance

Plattsville Board Of Trade

In 1914 the Plattsville Echo published the following account of an early Board of Trade meeting:

"At a meeting of the Plattsville Board of Trade on Jan. 23, 1914, hydro-electric and railway matters were discussed. A resolution was passed favouring the proposed hydro-electric radial from Berlin to Woodstock via New Dundee and Plattsville."

This early Board of Trade venture never materialized and the board itself carried on for only a few years.

On Jan. 12, 1954, an organizational meeting was held for the present Board of Trade in the old Bank of Commerce building. Mr. C. M. Bryans, Mr. C. Allen, Mr. D. Currah and Mr. P. Grimes were in attendance.

The following slate of officers was appointed: President, C. M. Bryans; Vice-President, P. Grimes; Treasurer, E. Rhodenizer. Committees were appointed for Business Promotion, Traffic and Public Safety, Sports Organization, Parks and Finance.

Since 1954 the following men have served as president: Mr. C. M. Bryans, Mr. K. Grimes, Mr. Wm. Habermehl, Mr. Stewart Green, Mr. J. H. English, Mr. H. Restemeyer, Mr. C. Shantz, Rev. C. Railton, Mr. J. H. English, Mr. L. R. Hamilton.

Plattsville Board of Trade has made many valuable and lasting contributions to our village.

One of the earliest projects was a wading pool situated in the old park and completed by voluntary labour. With the expansion of Canada Sand Papers Ltd. this pool disappeared.

Throughout the years card parties, dances and banquet catering have provided the necessary funds for various other projects. The Town Hall kitchen has been completely outfitted by the Board of Trade. Dishes, cutlery, glasses, pop cooler, etc., have been supplied. Nine large and 12 small banquet tables have also been purchased. A public address system, a piano and curtains have been donated to the Town Hall. Fifteen hundred dollars in cash was donated to the Town Hall Renovation Fund.

The Board of Trade is keenly interested in village improvement. For many years it promoted Christmas decorating and awarded prizes

for competitors. Assistance has also been given at the Arena for carnivals.

An Agricultural Night proved of great interest to area farmers and was well attended.

The Board has done much work toward road improvement both in the village and to town approaches. Road directional signs have been placed in the surrounding area and street signs have been erected on all village streets. Work has been done at the new park.

In 1959 the Board of Trade was successful in securing Dr. Hans Luyken as a veterinarian.

Two very successful Antique and Art Shows have been added to the cultural development of Plattsville.

The Centennial Book is the project for the present Board of Trade. We hope it will be an interesting record of our village history.

The officers for 1967 in the Plattsville Board of Trade are: Past President, J. H. English; President, Lloyd Hamilton; Vice-President, L. Edmonstone; Secretary, Mrs. Clair Harmer; Treasurer, A. Perry.

Plattsville Post Office

According to information received from the Public Archives in Ottawa, — "the town of Plattsville was named for Samuel Platt who came to Canada in 1844, working for a few years in New Dundee, then moving to the site of the present Plattsville where he constructed Blenheim Mills. He served as the first postmaster of the village from 1 July, 1855, when the post office was opened to 3 March, 1872." The original location of the first post office is thought to have been in the residence of Sam Platt, immediately south of the mill or in the present large duplex building on the north west corner of Albert and Victoria Streets. John Smart succeeded Mr. Platt as postmaster in 1872 and continued in this same capacity until December 15, 1887.

By this time the office had moved to the west end of the Bank Building, now the "Dobson Building", on the corner of Douro and Albert Streets. On March 1, 1888, John Kiseman Curry was officially appointed postmaster and he held this position for over fifty-four years, until April 8, 1942. During this term the telephone office and exchange was also operated by "J. K." as he was widely known. James Edward Fergusson became postmaster on April 8, 1942 and immediately moved the postal operation to his hardware store in the east end of the aforementioned building. During his tenure, which continued for almost twenty-eight years, until May 16, 1960, the postal

operation grew considerably due to industrial expansion by Canada Sand Papers Ltd.

On May 17, 1960, the postal operation was moved one door west in the same building, to the area formerly, and until 1957, used by the bank. On this same date the office was upgraded from a "Revenue Office" to a "Semi-Staff Post Office", which among other requirements meant that the office would no longer be operated in conjunction with another business and that the postmaster for the first time become a full fledged federal civil servant. Cameron Gillis Shantz, who was appointed postmaster at this time, is the present incumbent. Since this fourth location was intended to be only a temporary locale, plans were begun almost immediately for the new post office to be built on the north side of Albert Street, midway between Wilmot and Fennel Streets. This new post office, which is Plattsville's first Federal Building, was built by L. Riehl and Sons of New Hamburg early in 1962 and opened for business on May 28th.

The staff now includes the postmaster and three regular part-time assistants. Annual postage sales, apart from other revenue, has risen from \$8,000 in 1960 to \$18,000 in 1967, Centennial Year.



OPENING OF NEW POST OFFICE IN PLATTSVILLE — Post Master Cameron G. Shantz, Rev. H. Hagelstein, Gail Harmer, Michael Hamacher, Karen Harmer, Norma Gordier, Judy Allen, Nancy Waldie.

FLAG RAISING CEREMONY

One of the most impressive New Flag raising ceremonies in the area was conducted at the Plattsville Post Office, on February 15, 1965.

This ceremony involved all public school children in the area, as well as the Plattsville contingent of the Plattsville-Baden Band. Representatives from industry, business, veterans' associations, municipal and village officials attended along with uniformed Scouts and Guides. Due to the unavoidable absence of the two local church ministers on this occasion, the Proclamation quite fittingly was read by the retired Rev. Hagelstein, who had served in the nearby Bright and Chesterfield area during former years. The postmaster was assisted by Scout Michael Hamacher and Guide Gail Harmer during the lowering of the Canadian Ensign and the raising of the New Canadian Flag.

RURAL MAIL DELIVERY

It is believed that rural mail delivery on R.R. No. 1 Plattsville was begun as early as 1908 when this service was first inaugurated in Canada, during the term of J. K. Curry as postmaster. The first rural mail contractor and courier was Edward "Ef" Gatzka, who also operated the livery stable in the village.

Some of our boyhood days vividly recall hearing the familiar "Gid 'an Nell" and the slap of the lines on Nell's hip as "Ef" made his daily, except Sunday, trip around the 14th road and the Blenheim-Wilmot townline.

John S. Brash took over this daily routine in 1937, also using a horse and buggy. Later conveyances used by Jack included a jeep, car and half ton truck. In 1953 Joseph H. Lederman began the duty as courier and in 1954 accepted the contract officially. Joe has been the contractor and courier until the present time.

Little Theatre

In 1956 Mr. Fred Eyre organized a Little Theatre Group in Plattsville.

The first production was a very successful Variety Night.

During the next two years four plays were produced.

"The Girl in the Rain"

"Meet the Duchess"

"The Girl Next Door"

"Murder with Orchids"

The following officers were in charge of production: President, Mr. Fred Eyre; Secretary, Miss Marita Cross; Treasurer, Mr. Hugh Baird; Reading Committee, Mrs. Merle English, Mrs. Beth Fergusson; Stage Manager, Mr. Gordon Hallman; Lighting, Mr. Hugh Baird; Properties, Mrs. Marjorie Shantz, Mrs. Rugee Restemeyer; Make-up, Mrs. Merle English, Mrs. Mabel Bryans; Directors, Mr. Fred Eyre, Mrs. Doris Langford, Mrs. Bessie Potter; Actors, Patsy Pogson, Pat Abelson, Eileen Hallman, Orpha Harmer, Jean Green, Jackie Grimes, Donna Wismer, David Shearer, Don Willson, Hugh Baird, Marita Cross

Barbara Neilson, Beth Fergusson, Harry Swan, Harvey Blackmore, Rev. A. Waters, Norma Peterson, John Potter, Bessie Potter, Betty Cybulski, Gloria Hall, Wally Bretz, Carol Habel, Fred Eyre.

In 1958 when the Little Theatre discontinued, the proceeds on hand were used to purchase a picture of Queen Elizabeth which hangs above the Town Hall stage.

Plattsville Painting Club

Mrs. Jessie Kennedy, a school teacher by profession, chose painting for a hobby while living retired with her daughter, Mrs. J. H. English. She learned of a teacher, David Gibb of Galt, who accepted her as a pupil and she journeyed to the city once a week for a lesson. Several ladies, seeing her pictures, wondered if they might develop their artistic tastes with some lessons. Mrs. Kennedy persuaded Mr. Gibb to come to the village and start a class. Thus in 1952 the Plattsville Art class was formed with Mrs. Kennedy, Bessie Potter, Nellie Gofton, Eleanor Smith, Ruth Hall and Neva Gofton as charter members.

Plattsville Public Library

Plattsville Public Library was organized in 1892 and was housed in a small building situated between what is now Mr. J. H. English's store and the Canada Sand Papers Ltd. This building was destroyed by fire.

All records were destroyed but Rev. W. H. Johnston, Presbyterian minister of Chesterfield was believed to be the first Chairman of the Board and held this office for many years.

Some members of the first board were Dr. A. I. Willson, Rev. F. E. Davies, Mr. Fred Barrett, Mr. Wm. Fergusson, A. G. Grahame, librarian, Miss Jane Smart, treasurer.

During these years the library was in several places. The Echo Office had it in their building until 1924, Miss Mary Bell had it in her lunchroom and in October 1926 the library was moved to Mr. William Berst's place of business.

In 1928 a canvass was held for funds and \$88.00 was realized. Also, concerts were held to raise money.

In 1930 the library was moved upstairs in this same building which had been bought by Mrs. Nelson.

In 1935 fire destroyed several business establishments and the library was included. The remainder of the year plans were made for buying books and housing the library in Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Scott's store and they would act as librarians.

The Library reopened in 1936 with Mr. T. J. Pratt, President,



PLATTSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Miss Ruby Milne, Secretary, and Mrs. George Smith, Treasurer.

In October, 1936, the Library moved to Mr. Alex Glendinning's residence with Mr. Glendinning as librarian. In 1944 Mr. Glendinning resigned and in 1945 the library was moved to Mr. Gordon's store. In 1946 Mr. and Mrs. C. Hume bought the store and continued as librarians until February, 1949 when it was moved to its present location above the fire hall.

The library board of 1949 should be given credit for persuading the village trustees to put a second storey on the Fire Hall that was being built at this time.

Mrs. William Bell took over as librarian in 1949 and took a short course in librarianship offered by the Department of Education. Mrs. L. Milne took over as assistant librarian. Both ladies still hold these positions.

The opening took place on February 19, 1949, with leaflets being sent to several hundred homes throughout the community inviting them to visit our library. The library was decorated with flowers, and pictures by local artists were on display. Refreshments were served and approximately 90 members signed up that day.

Board members at the reopening were: President, Mr. J. H. Robertson; Vice-President, Mr. Orwell Henderson; Secretary, Miss Ruby Milne; Treasurer, Mrs. John Potter; Board Members, Mrs. George Smith, Rev. G. W. Kaiser, Mr. H. Bowen, Mr. K. B. Grimes, Mrs. David Hall, Mrs. Fred Woolcott, Mrs. M. Snyder and Mr. Fred Barrett.

The volumes in our library increased from 1,350 in 1949 to

4,500 in 1964 and our book circulation from 1,000 in 1949 to 7,300 in 1964, and membership from 50 to 250.

Some presidents not included above were: Mr. K. Grimes, Mr. John Potter, Mr. Douglas McLennan, Mr. R. C. McBride and Mr. Gordon Hallman, who is still acting President.

On January 1, 1965, by order of a by-law the County of Oxford, The Oxford County Co-Operative became The Oxford County Library and Plattsville will be known as one branch of the Oxford County Library.

SCHOOLS



JUNIOR ROOM PLATTSVILLE 1910

Back row (left to right) — Lawrence Zinken, Benj. Witmer, Chas. Witmer, Leila Pogson, Ed Scott, Bea. Fenn, George Shosenburg, Jean Murray, Bert Smart, Susie Pope, Etta Callanan, Arthur Nudd, Elsie Murray, Millie Stewart, Willie Dyer, Mabel Krieger.

Second row (left to right) — Eva Barnett, Georgina Schmidt, Clarence Berst, Ruby Pogson, Dave Scott, Elsie Prangley, Gilbert Baldwin, Lola McDonald, George Milne, Jennie Farrow, Chas. Witmer, Agnes Ramsay.

Third row (left to right) Glen Smart, Lily Coxson, Perry Rush, Hazel Rendall, Chas. Grieve, Mary Murray, Minnie White, Miss Laura Thomas, Irene Smart, Margaret Baird, Vera Stemler, Dorothy Wilson, Jean Grieve, Frank Stemler, Stewart McKie.

Front row (left to right) — John Hoffman, Laura Stemler, Walter Eckel, George Baird, Ernie Nudd, Dorothy Zinken, Harold Fenn, Florence Krieger, Lloyd Daniels, Myrtle Prangley, Bert Hall, Jessie Nudd, Eva McDonald, Myrle Stewart, Julia Smith, John Berst, Jessie Barnett, Albert White, Harry Rush, Josie Leitz.

As the small community grew, a new school section was added in Blenheim Township between Blinkbonnie S.S. No. 1 and Washington No. 7 and became known as School Section No. 24. Classes were held for a short time in a home but no records can be found except that a rental of \$17.50 was owing and the board promised to pay it by 1858. On January 28, 1857 a meeting was held and the trustees appointed were Robert Fairgood Cowan, John Wardlaw and Moses Clemens. Four lots were purchased from Samuel Platt for \$100.00 each to be paid in four annual installments. Samuel Platt also contracted to build the first school, a one room frame structure, for \$550.00. It was also decided that a charge of one cent per day per pupil should be made and the balance of the cost to be raised by taxation.

The school house was opened on July 25, 1857 and the first Government Grant for \$18.12 was received on November 17, 1857. The teacher was engaged for \$20.00 per month and 12½¢ was paid for candles for the board meetings. In 1862 it was made a free school and the Provincial Grant had been raised to \$58.20 which was paid to the teacher. In addition to this amount he was paid in that year \$351.80, which was probably considered a good salary at that time.

In 1869 a room was added to the west and the two teachers were John McDonald and Eliza Anderson.

On January 16, 1872 a meeting of the freeholders and householders was called to elect a fit and proper person to act as trustee. Mr. Thos. Workman was duly elected. Until 1894 the school was heated by stoves but at that time a hot air furnace was installed. At this time Mr. Peter Bonifacio was the caretaker at the salary of \$18.75 per quarter. Mr. Bonifacio was caretaker from 1885 to 1903, with very little raise in his pay.

In 1896 it was felt that there was a need for more than elementary education and a Continuation School was started with Mr. Richardson as the principal. From this time on many of the Plattsville students attended the Normal Schools and became teachers—there were very few years when there were not pupils from here attending the Stratford Normal School or the one at Hamilton. In 1933 this school became a Grade A Continuation School with Mr. A. C. Ritter, Miss Anne Milne and Miss Helen Proud as teachers and it was possible to obtain Grade XIII here. However, in 1955 the Continuation School was discontinued in Plattsville and the high school pupils were taken by bus to the Waterloo-Oxford High School which was built in Baden.

The year of 1945 saw a change in the Public Schools, whereby all eight schools in North Blenheim were put under one board composed of five trustees and was known as the Blenheim Township North School Area. The first trustees were Mr. Harold Shantz, chairman; Mr. Elwin Schneider, Mr. David Mitchell, Mr. Lillico Davidson and Mr. Ralph Howling. Under the school area a manual training and



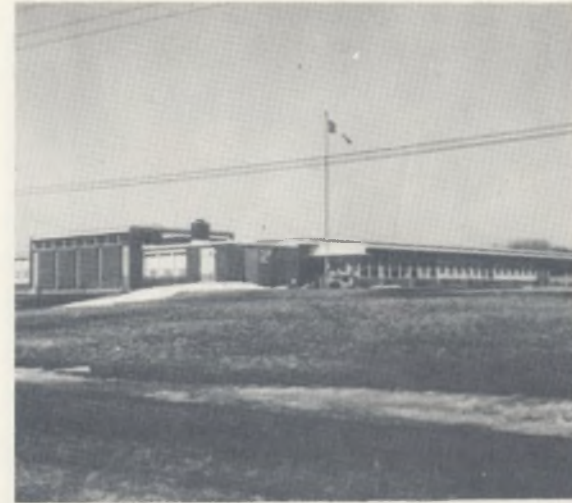
CONTINUATION CLASS PLATTSVILLE SCHOOL 1909

Back row (left to right) Jessie Fleming, Vera Rosenberger, Ruby Cann, Edith Sangwin, Jean Decker, Lillian Goetz, Ruby Milne, Ethel Clark, Hilda Berst, Clara Sipes.
 Second row (left to right) Mr. Allan Gilmour (teacher), Nellie Fenn, Grace Baird, Queenie Smart, Josie Hall, Bess Rendall, Jessie Baird, Grace Pratt, Clara Murray, Dalton McLachlin, Tom Hall.
 Front row (left to right) Stanley Rendall, Bill Brown, Bob Fleming, Stewart Baird, Art Baird, Perry Hall, Gillis Ramsay, Ray Hall, Chester Johnston.



PLATTSVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL—1946

Back row (left to right) Ron Hofstetter, Jim Doan, Betty Christensen, Helen Fulcher, Marilyn Nurse, Phyllis Brown, Jackie Grimes, Myrna Doan, Miss Alma Jones.
 Second row (left to right) Eunice Grimes, Mary Margaret McKie, Patsy Pogson, Gwenyth Habel, Phyllis Ann Smith, Barbara Grimes, Robie Stewart, Katie Habel, Mary Anne Blackmore, Marie Cockerton, Marion Kreiger.
 Third row (left to right) Dick Christensen, Tommy Battler, Jack Bourne, Carl Lederman, Arthur Ellis, Murray Schneider, Raymond Parkhouse, Jim McKie, Max Lass.
 Fourth row (left to right) Bob Brown, Bill Glendinning, Teddy Battler, Bob Nadrofsky, Ted House, Bob Hofstetter, Robert Harmer, Jim Potter, Ron Nadrofsky, Bob Bullock.



PLATTSVILLE AND DISTRICT PUBLIC SCHOOL

agricultural instructor in the person of Mr. R. Orwell Henderson was engaged for all eight schools. The Board also bought, with the assistance of Mr. P. R. Hilborn of Canada Sand Papers Ltd., a projector to be used each Friday at the schools. In 1949, owing to overcrowding, the grades I and II were moved to the Sunday School room of the former Baptist Church where Miss Lillian Goetz presided.

Consolidation of the three schools, Plattsville, Blinkbonnie and Washington took place in January, 1962. At that time the pupils of the three schools moved into the new building east of the park. The building contained six classrooms, gymnasium, teachers' room and store room and a full time custodian, Mr. Ernie Rhodenizer, was engaged. The principal of the new school was Mr. Grant Sim, who had been principal of the Plattsville School from 1952. Mr. Sim very successfully integrated the classes of the three schools in the middle of the school term.

In the summer of 1965 two more classrooms and two storerooms were added to the building and the pupils from four more schools were brought to this school. Additions were Upper and Lower Tenth, Perry's Corners and Hallman's Schools. In the spring of 1967 a considerable amount of money was spent on shrubs, etc. which were planted on the south side of the school.

The old school bell from the original Plattsville school was mounted and placed in front of the new school.

Plattsville Town Hall



The Plattsville Town Hall was built in 1873 by volunteer labour. It is situated on the corner of York and Mill Streets. It is constructed of plank and timber frame with wide vertical board sheeting, strip covered. It has a smooth hardwood dance and dining floor 45 feet by 50 feet with a 4 foot raised stage 16 feet deep at the east end sided by two dressing rooms.

Money for construction was raised by donations and John Robinson (School Teacher) who held penny readings with a collection at the door. It was first heated by two large wood burning box stoves; one on each side. An extra room was built on the south side of the main hall which gave storage space for wood and Plattsville's first hand pumper fire engine.

In 1963 this side building gave way for a new modern cement block addition 20 feet by 62 feet, giving a new entrance, oil heating furnace room, modern kitchen, washrooms and Board room at rear. This addition was assisted by the local Board of Trade who also stocked the kitchen with dishes and kitchen facilities.

The Town Hall is used for badminton, bingo, banquets (200 guest), dances, meetings, music classes, plays, concerts and parties. It is the home for Girl Guides and Brownies, Rangers, Cubs and Scouts. The Plattsville Board of Trade make their headquarters here assisting in all community progress and work.

Plattsville Centennial Pavilion



A striking feature of the Plattsville Community Park is the new Plattsville Centennial Pavilion which was completed early in June, 1967 and had its official opening on June 22.

The handsome wooden structure has an overall dimension of 40 by 82 feet, which includes a four-foot overhang to provide a shaded area at all times. The 30 by 72 foot interior includes a 30 by 54 foot floor for dancing or picnics and a large stage with a two foot raise. There is a capacity for seating 300 persons. The smooth finished cement floor is filled to protect it against the elements and help retain the waxed surface. The building is "bird-proofed" and a touch of the aesthetic has been added by designing cupolas for the roof. The overall cost was \$7,200 with \$3,000 received as a Centennial Project Grant from the Federal and Provincial governments. The Ontario Department of Agriculture granted \$1,500 under the Community Centres Act and \$1,500 came from the Plattsville Community Park Board. It is expected that the balance of the \$1,200 will be realized from Park Board functions and other fund raising activities.

The building was designed by Cameron Shantz, Park Board Chairman, and constructed by Kenneth W. Shantz. Materials were supplied by C. H. Moss and wiring completed by Harmer Bros.—all local businessmen. The opening ceremonies, including a school program and dance, at which Robert Nixon, M.P.P. officiated, were most successful. Canada's second century was ushered in, after midnight on June 30 with a fireworks display during the dance. Fireworks were arranged by the Plattsville Fire Department, while the booth operation was carried out by the Plattsville Women's Institute. On Sunday, July 2, the Pavilion was dedicated to church and community service by Rev. D. T. Pugh in a joint Community Church Service which enjoyed a very gratifying turnout.

The Park Board is quite satisfied that the building will serve its intended purpose as the location for band and school concerts,

dances, picnics and church services during the summer months. In order to provide protection against inclement weather, and to winterize the building, provision has been made in the design for installation of covering panels to fit all openings.

Plattsville Volunteer Fire Brigade

Little is known of Plattsville's Fire Brigade before 1900.

The first fire pump was manual and took at least four men on each side to work the single piston pump which forced the water on the fire through a leather hose. This hose was later replaced by a rubber-lined cotton hose. This pump was transported on a four-wheeled cart. There was also a two-wheeled cart which carried hand-made wooden ladder, fire pails, hats, ropes etc.

Two of the first fire chiefs were Mr. A. Baird and Mr. A. Pratt. Firemen were all local and volunteers.

In 1935 Plattsville suffered a disastrous fire which wiped out several businesses on the main street. If it had not been for prompt aid from New Hamburg and New Dundee it could not have been checked. The village decided that more modern equipment was needed.

In 1934 a 1929 Model Bickle and Seagrave fire pumper was purchased. This was capable of pumping about 450 gallons per minute at 100 pounds pressure. The truck carried about 2200 feet of fire hose, two ladders, hand extinguishers, axes, boots, hats and breathing equipment. Water was obtained from the river, wells and cisterns. Protection was given to the township of Blenheim and surrounding villages.

Later on, the Oxford County Mutual Aid Association was formed with the head office at Woodstock Fire Hall. The fire Fire Chief at this time was Mr. Lorne Currah and assistant Mr. A. Pratt. Firemen were T. Nadrofsky, S. McKie, E. Rhodenizer, J. Hockton, F. Parkhouse, W. Grimes, G. Harmer and Dr. K. McKenzie.

Mr. P. R. Hilborn, president of Canada Sand Papers Ltd., later offered to be responsible for the proper organization of the brigade.

Mr. T. Nadrofsky became fire chief with J. C. Battler as assistant. From ten to twelve volunteer fire fighters were chosen from the factory and a small remuneration was paid. This arrangement continued for some years.

In 1957 the village purchased a new fire engine from King and Seagrave of Woodstock, Ontario. This truck has most of the latest fire fighting equipment.

Mr. J. C. Battler has been fire chief for several years.



OLD PLATTSVILLE FIRE TRUCK

The first Fire Hall was a lean-to adjacent to the Town Hall where the present kitchen is located. The old hand pumper was kept here. The second Fire Hall was in a building on the Canada Sand Papers Ltd. premises and housed the second engine.

In 1949 the town built a new two storey cement block Fire Hall with the upper storey being used by the Plattsville Library. Regular weekly fire practice is held.

Firemen at present are: Fire Chief, Mr. Cleve Battler; Assistant Chief, Mr. Doug Lamont; Mr. Ted House; Mr. Larry House; Mr. Jim Rounds; Mr. Don Doan; Mr. Robert Ellis; Mr. Art Ellis; Mr. Harold Davidson; Mr. William Thomson; Mr. Hugh Baird; Mr. A. Doering; Mr. D. Cockerton; and Mr. Don Bell.

Plattsville Horse Show 1904 - 1967

The history of horse showing at Plattsville must be recorded as of three different eras; — 1904-1905; 1939-1942; and 1949 to date 1967.

FIRST EDITION

The first horse shows in Plattsville, to the best of local knowledge, were held during the years 1904-1905, and were designed mainly as Stallion Shows. The stallions and colts were shown on the halter in front of the old Temperance House on Albert Street. Horsepower was a very necessary commodity at this time and it was by means of the Spring Stallion Shows that owners of breeding horses were afforded the showcase in which to promote their various animals for the breeding season that followed. Due to a more dense horse population than exists at the present time, the exhibitors were mainly local horsemen and included such names as; — Charles Dalgleish, Jim Dale and James Baker from the Chesterfield area and Jacob Shantz, Plattsville, who showed Clydesdales. Light horses and roadsters were exhibited by James Mogki (Monk) of the 12th Concession and Eli Cressman, Platts-



ville. Descendants of these local men have also shown at the two subsequent editions of Plattsville Horse Show.

SECOND EDITION

The second edition of Plattsville Horse Show was held under the auspices of the North Blenheim Horse Breeders Association, which consisted of farmers, breeders and showmen to a great extent.

Another generation of Bakers, Cressmans and Shantzs were directors and exhibitors at this show, which operated for four years (1939-1942), until terminated during World War II. The show, listing 46 classes and offering \$500.00 in prizes, was held during these years on Victoria Street between Albert Street and the Feed Mill, then owned by Lorne C. Currah. Classes included light breeds and draft breeds shown on the halter and also harnessed to the appropriate vehicles of the day. Stabling was provided by the many local residents whose properties still retained small horse barns, as well as the Farmers' Barn, which had been remodelled inside by the Show Committee and is now maintained and used by the village for general storage. Advertising in the prize lists for these early April shows included numerous ads from farmers, again promoting their various breeds of registered horses, cattle and hogs. Up to this time, coloured cards, instead of the present day ribbons, were awarded along with the prize money as a token of the judge's placing.

THIRD EDITION

Following the end of World War II and the building of the new arena, the third edition of the Show was begun in June, 1949 by members of the same North Blenheim Horse Breeders Association, which was now enlarged by the addition of new members from within the village. The new show was held on the sawdust covered skating area of the new arena and the horses were stabled in the curling section. The first show offered \$889.00 in prizes to a total of 46 classes, which included draft and light horses as well as hunters and jumpers. Four and six horse hitches proved extremely popular with the spectators who over the years taxed the building beyond a comfortable capacity. In 1950 a parcel of land was purchased immediately north of the arena for van parking and for easier access to the arena's north door. Membership in the Canadian Horse Shows Assoc. Inc. was obtained in 1951. This standardized classes at Plattsville with those throughout this continent as well as in the European countries.

Hurdles for the jumping horses were built in 1952 and the ever popular children's pet show was begun in 1953, the same year that the show was expanded to a two day event with three performances. A touch of the "west" was introduced in 1955 when Western horsemen were invited to participate. In the live calf roping classes, many of the evasive calves drew equal applause in a vein of comedy as did

the successful experts of the lariat, who were able to rope and tie calves in less than ten seconds flat.

The 1958 prize list offered up to \$3,000.00 for a schedule of 55 classes, which approximates that of the present show.

Due to the need for expanded seating, show ring area etc., 1963 saw the show moved from the arena to the Horse Show Grounds, where new covered stands and overhead lights were erected to create the effect of a small stadium. In 1967 a new booth building and permanent ring fence were erected as Centennial year projects.

The first partial cancellation of the show was caused in Centennial year, due to the province-wide torrential rains of 1967.

Plattsville Horse Show, many times host to members of the Canadian National Jumping Team and with up to 52 draft hitch horses in one class, is considered about the best early summer show in the province. Plattsville and its horses on the third Friday and Saturday in June has now become such a tradition, that our present generation up to voting and parental age do not remember a Plattsville without a Horse Show.

Girl Guides

During the worrying years of World War II a number of ladies got together to form a committee to sponsor the Girl Guide movement in Plattsville.

Our records indicate that the first meeting of the Local Association of Girl Guides and Brownies was held at the home of Mrs. John Brighty on Oct. 13, 1944. The executive of the first committee were: President, Mrs. G. Smith; Vice-President, Mrs. S. McKie; Secretary, Mrs. S. Green; Treasurer, Mrs. Reg. Blackmore.

The first leaders were: Girl Guides — Captain, Mrs. E. L. Schneider; Lieut., Mrs. W. House. Brownies—Brown Owl, Mrs. Earle Waldie; Tawny Owl, Mrs. Clair Harmer, with Mrs. K. Grimes and Mrs. J. Brighty as helpers.

We were very fortunate to have had the support and encouragement of the Boy Scout Group Committee which enabled us to have facilities at the Scout Hall for the Guide and Brownie meetings. This accommodation was used until March, 1966, when the Scout Hall was severely damaged by fire. Since that time meetings have been held in the Town Hall.

In the days before television, the Local Association played a big part in providing entertainment while at the same time raising funds

for Guide work — concerts, bazaars and garden parties are recorded in our past activities.

While we are, of course, very proud of all of them, we would especially like to mention Guide Gywinith Habel who was awarded the Gilt Cross in 1949 for rescuing a drowning school chum. Gywinith is now Mrs. Jim Murray of New Hamburg and her friend, formerly Marion Krueger, is now Mrs. Melvin Riesberry.

In 1966 a Land Ranger Company was formed under the leadership of Captain Mrs. Gordon Hallman.

Two of our Rangers — Norma Gordier and Susan Moss — were among the 30 girls selected from the Conestoga Area to attend the Canadian Girl Guide National Heritage Camp held on Morrison and Nairn Islands in the St. Lawrence River, in July 1967.

Mrs. Earle Waldie is at present District Commissioner; Mrs. Clair Harmer was our first District Commissioner.

The leaders for the year 1966-67 are: Ranger Captain, Mrs. Gordon Hallman; Guide Captain, Miss Ruth Bell; Guide Lieut., Mrs. Harold Davidson; Brown Owl, Miss Gail Bell, who has been assisted by Mrs. R. Glendinning and Mrs. Shewman.

The 1966-67 officers of the sponsoring body — Girl Guides of Canada—Plattsville Association — usually referred to as "The Local Association" are: President, Mrs. D. Alexander; Vice-President, Mrs. Daniel Stauffer, Jr.; Secretary, Mrs. J. J. Stewart; Treasurer, Mrs. D. Bell.

The main source of funds with which the Local Association supports the Guide movement in Plattsville is from the sale of greeting cards and novelties at Christmas and throughout the year. The considerable amount of work involved in this effort is organized under the direction of Mrs. Gordon Hallman.

Each year the Local Association arranges swimming lessons for Guides and Brownies, which are held at the YMCA in Galt.

In 1964 the old Blink Bonnie Public School, about one mile west of Plattsville, was purchased by the Galt Kinsmen for the use of Girl Guides of the area. This has proved to be a great asset to the Plattsville Girl Guides who are able to enjoy the facilities of "Blink Bonnie Camp" for weekend camping and special meetings.

The Girl Guide movement in Plattsville celebrates Centennial Year with good numbers and high enthusiasm and looks forward to the support of all mothers to encourage their girls to take the Guide promise seriously and to learn the value of character training which Guiding will teach them, both for the present and the future.

Boy Scouts

In the fall of 1941 the Session of the Plattsville United Church decided to sponsor a Boy Scout Troop in the Village of Plattsville. Mr. J. Parkhouse, Mr. I. T. Battler and Rev. Kaiser were appointed to a Group Committee to supervise the formation of a Scout Troop and to choose leaders, and subsequently Mr. John Brighty was recommended as Scout Master and Mr. William House as Assistant Scout Master.

In the summer of 1942 the Plattsville Scout Troop attended its first summer camp.

In January 1944 it was decided to lease the old blacksmith shop from J. Green for a Scout Hall, and in February 1944 it was decided to attempt to purchase this property. A canvass of the village was made to assist in this project. In May 1944 the building was donated to Scouts and Guides by Mr. P. R. Hilborn. Mr. Ira Battler was named executor. A Mothers' Auxiliary was also formed with Mrs. George Smith and Mrs. Mary McKie heading the committee.

In the fall of 1953 the Scout and Cub groups were revised and reorganized with the following men acting as a Group Committee: Messrs. Stewart Green, Orwell Henderson, Jack English, Sidney Green and Alex Glendinning. The Cub Pack was under the leadership of Misses Faye Dennis ad Eunice Grimes, and the Scout Troop under the leadership of Mr. Vanderspank.

In February 1966 the Scout Hall was partially damaged by fire and it was decided by the Group Committee that the building be sold to Canada Sand Papers Ltd. and the proceeds from the sale and from the fire insurance be placed in a trust fund for a future new building. The sale is still pending. The troop and pack are continuing their meetings in the Town Hall.

At the present time Mr. Ross Ellis is Scout Master, Mrs. Shirley Bullock is Cubmaster and the late Mrs. Marjorie Poll was assistant.

There were four Queen Scouts in the troop through the years, namely: Glen Howling, Owen Rhodenizer, Len Habermehl and Hedley Brown. Much credit must go to the late Scouter Vanderspank who was their leader at that time.

Scout and Cub leaders from 1941 to 1967:—

SCOUTS—Mr. William House, Mr. John Brighty, Mr. Orwell Henderson, Mr. Lorne Platt, Mr. Fritz Vanderspank, Mr. Terry Harmer, Mr. Gordon Hallman, Mr. Harvey Blackmore, Mr. Earl Evans, Mr. Tom Battler, Mr. Ross Ellis.

CUBS—Mr. Ken Grimes, Mr. Sid Green, Mr. Stewart Green, Mrs. Cleve Battler, Mr. Gerald Harmer, Miss Betty Christensen, Miss Francis Fergusson, Miss Eunice Grimes, Mrs. Jessie McDonald, Miss Faye Dennis, Mr. William Brown, Mr. Arthur Ellis, Mrs. Eileen Hallman, Mrs. June Edmonstone, Mrs. Joyce Janscar, Mr. Walter Swain, Mrs. Shirley Bullock, Mrs. Marjorie Poll.

Plattsville Masonic Lodge No. 178

Plattsville Masonic Lodge is the oldest fraternal organization and the only one in the village of Plattsville that has been meeting continuously for over 100 years.

It was started on July 12, 1866, with nine charter members. The first officers were: Worshipful Master, Francis Motherall; Senior Warden, George Risk; Junior Warden, Dr. David Leslie Philip.

The Lodge rooms were above the store first owned by George Veitch & R. J. Neil, later by J. B. English; now owned by Harry Moss. Masons met here from 1866 to 1963. The Lodge Temple is now the former Washington Public School which was purchased in the spring of 1962 and dedicated officially as a Masonic Temple on Nov. 9, 1963:

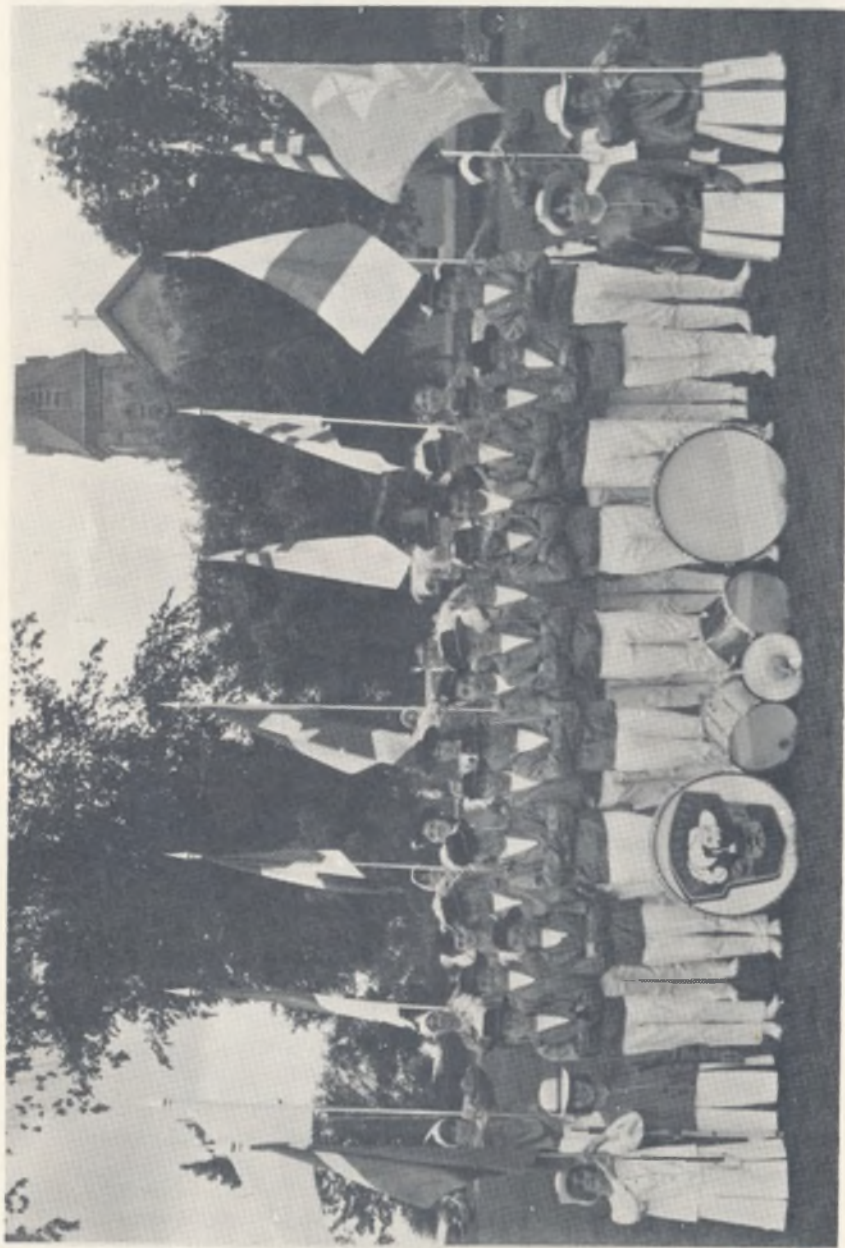
The first members came from Plattsville, Washington, Blenheim Township, Wilmot, Zorra, Ratho, Haysville, New Dundee and New Hamburg.

Present membership is 53 resident members and 23 non-resident.

Centennial celebrations and banquet were held in the Plattsville Town Hall April 15, 1967. About 200 Masons from the Province attended.

1967-68 Officers:

Wor. Bro. John Potter	- - - - -	W.M.
Wor. Bro. Blair Graham	- - - - -	I.P.M.
Bro. Willard Allensen	- - - - -	S.W.
Bro. Frank Habermehl	- - - - -	J.W.
Wor. Bro. Geo. Shearer	- - - - -	Chaplain
V.W. Bro. Jacob L. Gofton	- - - - -	Secretary
Bro. William Bell	- - - - -	Treasurer
Bro. Allen Hewitt	- - - - -	S.D.
Bro. Lloyd Hamilton	- - - - -	J.D.
Wor. Bro. J. W. Parkhouse	- - - - -	D. of C.
Bro. Malcolm Shearer	- - - - -	S.S.
Bro. David Shearer	- - - - -	J.S.
Bro. Leroy Currah	- - - - -	I.G.
Wor. Bro. William Routly	- - - - -	Tyler



Plattsville Bands

Plattsville boasted of a brass band in 1875 which favoured this area with its concerts and parade leading. This band gave way in 1890 to 1900 to the Plattsville Citizens' Band.

The first bandstand was located where Ellis Motors garage now stands.

Concerts were held every Saturday night, weather permitting. They played at fall fairs, strawberry socials and leading parades.

Members of the 1906 band were: James Grieve, Aaron Stemler, Doug Brown, George Robinson, Dave Witmer, Harry McKie, Ben Witmer, Arnold Harmer, William Cann, Andrew Coxson, Thomas Osbourne, John Garland, Gordon Garland, William Quandt, George Hayward and Percy McKie.

In 1965 the Plattsville Baden Buccaneers Band was formed with about 60 members. This band is a boys and girls marching band. It presents a parade and annual Tattoo, displays a field parade at the Plattsville Horse Show, tours the country joining in band meets and parades. This band has gained much popularity. The Plattsville Baden Buccaneers was formed by: Richard Gingerich, president, Blain Bechthold, secretary-treasurer; Wayne Roth, director; Jim Snyder and Wayne Baker, executive.

Plattsville Women's Institute

The present Plattsville Women's Institute was organized October 2, 1947. Mrs. J. H. Lederman was instrumental in having the group formed. The motto of the Women's Institute is "For Home and Country". Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month. Standing committees are named each year to present programs on topics such as Historical Research and Current Events, Home Economics and Health, Resolutions and Culture, Agriculture and Canadian Industries, Citizenship and Education.

A Tweedsmuir History is being compiled which is a history of the surrounding community and is being kept up to date.

The W.I. sponsors girls clubs in 4-H club work each year by sending leaders to a two day training school, who then instruct the girls.

Mrs. J. H. Lederman was the first president, Mrs. R. C. Hallman was the first secretary-treasurer and Mrs. W. Lachman was the first district director. Due to a serious accident, Mrs. Hallman was only able to act for a short time. Mrs. William Bell was then appointed to

this office and helped greatly in getting the group off to a good start.

The programs are varied, dealing with some phase of the different standing committees. Short courses are offered each year by the Department of Agriculture and demonstrations on Handicrafts and Food Preparation.

There have been seven different presidents to date and eight secretary - treasurers. Two of our branch presidents, Mrs. J. H. Lederman and Mrs. G. Knox have held the office of District President, the latter at the present time. The present branch officers are: President, Mrs. Elgin Bullock; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Reg. Schrane; District Director, Mrs. B. Bretz; Public Relations Officer, Mrs. J. C. Woolcott.

Records cannot be found to correctly state the date, but prior to 1911 Plattsville had a large enterprising Women's Institute.

In 1914-15 Mrs. James Fergusson was president and attended the second annual area convention in London. Large sums of money were reported as being raised for Red Cross work. In 1915-16 Mrs. A. I. Wilson was appointed second Vice-President of the district. But this branch, along with others, disbanded to do only Red Cross work. Many will recall taking part in one of their activities, a play — "Aunt Dinah's Quilting Party" which was a huge success.

Plattsville Cemetery

The Plattsville Cemetery has been in existence since as early as 1855. Many large and attractive stones have been placed in it. For many years it was in a neglected and unkempt condition. There were a few plots where the grass was cut and cared for, but the overall picture was deplorable.

About 1955 Dr. Morley Wilson of Ottawa, looking for the graves of his grandparents, was deeply shocked at the condition of the cemetery and immediately undertook to remedy the situation. At his own expense of time and money, he wrote to or otherwise contacted as many of the relatives of those buried there as possible and asked each family represented for a donation of \$75.00. Pleased with the response he received, he deposited this money, the interest of which to be used for perpetual care after the weeds and bushes were cut down by volunteer labour. This has been done and Plattsville can well be proud of their burying ground pleasantly situated on the eastern slope just south of the village.

The Lutheran Cemetery which adjoins the Plattsville Cemetery was cleaned out and is being cared for the same way.

Plattsville's Older Families

History, if it is to be interesting, must be largely about people. That is our tie with the past, and it becomes increasingly more personal and important when it concerns our own village and forbearers.

Plattsville's early history is laced with names which today are still carried by many residents of this community. In compiling this book every effort has been made to trace the lives of its original pioneers, and their descendants, which lead to the present day.

We trust that these outlines of early pioneers will bring the necessary personal touch, and in many ways involvement, in this history.

BAIRD FAMILY

James Baird and wife, Janet Fergus, came from Roxborough-shire, Scotland, and homesteaded on the townline two miles north of Chesterfield. The family included two girls, Mary and Janet, and six sons, James, John, Tom, Hugh, Alex and George.

Mary Baird married Walter Milne and their son George located in Plattsville and Ruby and George are living in the house their father built on Ann St.

Alex Baird married and had several sons, one of whom, Robert, established himself as a tailor in Plattsville. His daughter Ada married Fred Quandt and their daughter Neva (Mrs. Clayton Gofton) and family are still members of the community.

George Baird had four sons. Charles and James became the owners of the Kaufman furniture factory. Charles, who married Annie Platt, built the house now owned by James Fergusson, and Archibald the house where Mrs. John W. Smith lives. Margaret, a granddaughter of Thomas, lives in Plattsville. She married Kenneth Smith and they have one daughter Kenna.

BATTLER FAMILY

Rhodes Battler and his wife, Charlotte Gofton, purchased 50 acres of land—Lot 16, Concession 10, Blenheim Township—from John Morrison for 500 pounds in 1855. This land came from the Crown in 1801 to Mathew Bertch. The Battlers had two sons, Isaac and Alexander, and two daughters, Berginetta (Nettie) and Arthlinda (Linda).

Alexander later farmed on the same farm and had five children—four daughters, Nellie (Nahrgang), Mary (Binkle), Beatrice (Wooden) and Floy, and one son, Earl — all deceased. A grandson, Cleveland Battler, lives in Plattsville, as well as his son Thomas and

his family of Christopher, David, Deborah, Susanne, Eric, Michael, Gregory and Jennifer. Another son, Edward, lives in Woodstock and has two daughters.

Isaac lived on Concession 11 and had a family of seven—Gert-rude; Dollie (Stauffer) of Montreal, who had a family of four girls and two sons; Vera (Duncan) of Bright had five children, Mary (Edwards) of Plattsville; William of Woodstock; Grace (Polisak) of Bright; Kathleen (Easdown) of Simcoe and Audrey (Hill) of Plattsville. A granddaughter Mrs. Donna Hamacher, and a great-grandson, Michael Hamacher, as well as a granddaughter, Susan Hill, are Plattsville residents. Cpl. Ward Edwards of Alliston a former Plattsville resident is also a grandson. His 3 daughters are Lynn, Kim and Robbie.

Grace (Holm) lived in White Rock, B.C.

Ira lived all his life in Plattsville and vicinity; he married Florence MacDonald and they had two sons, John of Kitchener who has one son Phillip, and James of Scarborough who has one daughter Susan.

William had three daughters, Ruth (Nutt) and Kathleen (Kiine) of Toronto and Dorothy, deceased.

Clifford, deceased—no family.

Berginetta (Nahrgan), Haysville—no family.

Arthlinda (Harkness) lived in Michigan and raised a large family, all of whom are in Michigan except one granddaughter, Bessie (Coxson) who lives at Haysville.

BELL FAMILY

Mr. and Mrs. David Bell came into this community from Galt in 1841 with their eldest child being one year old at that time.

They settled in the Chesterfield area on the farm now owned by their great grandson Kenneth Bell.

Of this family there were three sons and three daughters, Andrew, John, William, Jane, Elizabeth and Agnes.

The branches of the family which concern this village are John and Andrew.

John married Janet Landreth and owned a farm west of the village. They had two children Andrew and Mary. He eventually sold this farm and moved to Plattsville and resided here with his daughter until his death. His son Andrew died two years ago leaving one daughter Mrs. Quintin Markle of St. Paul's and her family. His daughter Mary who passed away in early 1968, married John Snyder who predeceased her.

Andrew had two sons and four daughters, David, John, Agnes,

Effie, Jean and Janet. Mrs. Addison Baird (Effie) and Mrs. Will Woolcott (Janet) live together now in the village. Mrs. Addison Baird's youngest son lives one mile west of the village and owns and operates a hardware store here. Mrs. D. M. Ross (Agnes) deceased; Mrs. Hugh Baird (Jean) Stratford; John (deceased); David (deceased) his wife was the former Jean Harkness. David's sons are Andrew, Douglas, William, Kenneth, Robert and George and they all live in this community except Robert who lives in the West. Andrew lives in Bright and has two sons and one daughter. His elder son, David, lives in this village and is married to the former Pat. Pogson. They have two children Angela and Rebecca.

Douglas who has three daughters and one son lives in this village with his youngest daughter Ruth. His wife is deceased.

Kenneth who lives on the Centennial Farm has two sons and two daughters. Mrs. Robert (Doris) Glendinning and son Geoffrey live here.

George Bell lives in Bright and has three sons and two daughters.

Robert lives in the West and has no children.

William Bell lives here and has one son, Donald, who married the former Margaret Bullock and they have four children, Debbie, Billie, Dean and Melanie living at home.

In the old records it is noted the given name David and Andrew has been used alternately by the eldest son for seven generations.

BULLOCK FAMILY

Samuel Bullock purchased a house north of the present residence of George Thomson on March 3, 1865. He worked at a flour mill across the road which stood near the river on the property now owned by Ernie Hewitt.

On April 23, 1881, he purchased 100 acres on Concession 11, Lot 18, Blenheim Township. This farm is now owned by his grandson Robert Bullock. The family resided in a log home until the present stone house was built in 1889.

Samuel Bullock and Mary Broughton had seven children, Eliza Jane, Allen, Charles, Alice, Ernest, Ida and Remington. Three of these children have descendants now living in the Plattsville area.

Ernie married Maggie Russell. They resided south of the village and retired in Plattsville. They had five children, Olive, Margaret, Gordon, Russell, and Elgin.

Olive (Mrs. G. Goff) lives in Bright.

Gordon married Mabel Gooding and resides at R.R. 4, Bright. They have four children, Mary, Ernie, Shirley (Mrs. Ramseyor) of Tavistock and Carol (Mrs. Robert Riness) of Plattville. Mrs. Riness has one daughter Sherry.

Russell married Belva Wilson. They live at R.R. 4, Bright. Seven of their ten children live in Plattsville now. A son Clare married Shirley Armstrong. Their children are Heather, Ronald, Roger, Dale and Delmar. Peggy (Mrs. Donald Bell) has four children, Debbie, William, Dean and Melanie. Jeanne (Mrs. Ronald Facey) has three children, Ronda, Monte and Theresa. Another daughter, Bonnie (Mrs. William Osment), has one daughter, Juanita. Kathleen, Laurene and Kevin Bullock live with their parents south of the village.

Margaret Bullock (Mrs. Norman Ellis) has three daughters, Rose, Norma, and Linda. A son, Arthur resides in Plattsville. He married Marilyn Johnston. They have four daughters and one son, Marlene, Barbara, Diane, Melinda and Michael.

Elgin Bullock married Ruth Schiedel. Their four daughters are Joyce (Mrs. Doug. Strickler), Phyllis (deceased), Bernice (Mrs. John Hamilton) and Kathryn.

Mabel Bullock (Mrs. Arthur Currah) had a family of ten children. The only Plattsville resident of this branch of the family is Mary (Mrs. Cecil Allen). She has three daughters and one son, Lorraine (Mrs. Jim Morlock) of Kitchener, Donna (Mrs. Jack McMurdo) of Owen Sound, Judeth and Bruce at home. There is one grandson.

Remington Bullock married Myra Cook. They resided on the homestead south of Plattsville. Their family consists of Marjorie (Mrs. Elton Battler), Mabel (Mrs. Elroy Zinn). A son Robert married Bette Thomson and they reside on the home farm.

BRASH FAMILY

David Brash and his wife Janet Wier immigrated from Greenoch, Scotland in the early 1800's and first settled in the vicinity of Galt, later moving to Plattsville. They raised a family of six boys and two girls, David, James, Hugh, William, Joseph, John, Jane and Katie.

Most of the Brash family settled in the Ratho area and are buried there.

The Commercial Hotel on Wilmot and Albert Streets was operated by a David Brash in 1867. Kenneth Brash who married Elaine Stevens in 1967 is a descendant. Kenneth is the son of Stewart Brash who was killed in a construction accident. Kenneth was brought up by his uncle Jack Brash.

The Brashes occupied the farm now owned by Ernie Hewitt before moving to Plattsville.

COCKERTON FAMILY

John Cockerton and his wife Elizabeth (Petitt) came to the Plattsville area from the Devonshire district of England in the 1870's. Three children came with them and seven other children were born here to make a family of five sons and five daughters; all have since passed on. They were:

Richard, who resided in Chicago; Fred, who was three when the family moved to Plattsville, is survived by his wife Florence (their son Douglas resides in Plattsville with his wife Betty and one son Eugene); John of Plattsville; Jim who lived in New Hamburg; Frank of Oshawa; Annie (Rush) of Brantford; Agnie who married William Copley, Plattsville; Elizabeth, who married James Grieve, is survived by Jean (Mrs. Willson Richmond) who has a son Bruce of Kitchener and daughters Mary-Anne (Mrs. Ralph Telfer), Kitchener, and Maggie (Mrs. Ken Grimes) of London, Ontario; also a granddaughter Jacqueline (Mrs. Don Doan) who has one son Benny and four daughters Barbara, Brenda Beverley and Bridgette; Edith (Pocre) of Preston; and Rhoda Mae who married Fred J. Barrett. They had a daughter Beatrice (Mrs. John Brighty), Niagara Falls, with whom Fred makes his home and one son Bert (Albert) of Plattsville, who has a son Kent and daughters Ruth Anne, Janice and Elaine.

FENN FAMILY

One of the older families of Oxford County-Blenheim Township was that of Conrad Fenn. He came to Canada from Bavaria in 1846 at the age of eight years with his widowed mother and his sisters—one sister being Mrs. Booth of Waterloo.

They settled in Waterloo. There they built a hotel. Mrs. Michael (Barbara) Fenn then married Casper Ziegler. There was one child by this marriage.

The late Conrad Fenn married Mary Graham, a descendant of the Earl of Montrose of Scotland. They had eleven children: Mary (Mrs. Alex Brown), Barbara (Mrs. Robert Thomas), Michael of Parkhill, Margaret (Mrs. Thomas Parker) of Preston, William (deceased at age 33) butcher in Plattsville, Elizabeth (Mrs. Adam Berst) Woodstock, Conrad (died in infancy), John Conrad, harness maker and fancy poultry breeder, Jessie, lifelong resident of Plattsville, Mabel (Mrs. Elmore Potter) and Gillis Fenn who was a Plattsville butcher for many years.

Nineteen of the grandchildren have attended the Stratford Teacher's College, some attended Queen's University, Carleton University and McGill. At one time forty-six cousins resided in Plattsville.

The late John Fenn was Sunday School superintendent of Presbyterian Church and in 1925 became superintendent in the Plattsville

United Church. He was a member of the session in Chesterfield and in the Plattsville United Church. He was a school trustee for twenty years. His wife Etta Dingwall is still residing in the family home. They have three children, Evelyn (Mrs. Charles Shaver) who has one son John; Miss Mabel, organist of Plattsville United Church; and a son John Howard Fenn of Deep River who has one daughter.

Graham Potter, M.A., son of the late Elmore and Mabel Potter is presently living in Islington. His sister Isobel (Mrs. Ted Bryant) is on the teaching staff at North York.

Some of the family have followed their grandfather in the butcher business. William G. Fenn, retired now and living in Toronto, Harold (deceased) of Toronto, and Graham who is in the meat business in Burlington. William Fenn Sr. butchered in Plattsville until his death at age 33, at which time Gillis continued the business with his widow Mrs. Minerva Fenn.

The Conrad Fenn family lived on the Morton Hall property, then moved to Chesterfield to a fifty acre farm where Mr. Fenn farmed and carried on his butcher business. He first had the harness shop which John later owned. He peddled meat at 4 a.m. because refrigeration was negligible in those days. The meat was packed in ice and work began early in an effort to preserve their product.

Conrad Fenn played the violin and accordion in the Plattsville Band.

William Brown and William Parker were killed in World War I. They were sons of Mary and Margaret. Those in the service in World War II were Graham, James and Edward Fenn and John H. Fenn.

Conrad and Mary Fenn raised William, Edward, and James Graham and Miss Janet Graham, nephews and niece of Mrs. Fenn's whose parents died in early life. Miss Janet Graham presently resides at the Eventide Home in Galt.

Gillis Fenn married Mabel Hewitt and they had five children, Margaret (Mrs. A. Everts) Baden, Graham of Burlington, James of Waterford, Edward of North Bay, Marion (Mrs. James Rennick) of Ottawa. Mrs. Gillis Fenn maintains her home in Plattsville.

The family of William and Minerva Fenn lived in Plattsville through their school years. They were Nellie (Mrs. C. Swartz), James, William, Russell, Beatrice (Mrs. Percy McFarlane) and Harold.

FERGUSSON FAMILY

John Fergusson, great-grandfather of the Fergussons in Plattsville came early in the 1800's from Scotland and settled in Beverly Township. A son, William, married Janet Roberts also one of a Scottish

pioneer family, and they moved to Blenheim Township in 1850, settling on the north half of Lot 21, Concession 13. The log house which they built was burned one Sunday morning while most of the family were attending church service at Chesterfield. A larger home was built nearer the road and in 1886 this became the home of their son John and his wife the former Elizabeth Bristow. There were four children, James, Jessie (Mrs. Thomas Pratt), Isabel (Mrs. Wilfred Lachman) and William. James farmed on the home place until 1927, moving into the village where he purchased the hardware business which he operated until retiring in 1965. He was post master from 1942 to 1960. He has one son Blair in Peterborough.

James, another son of John Fergusson, married Mary Ann Stauffer and lived on the south half of Lot 20, Concession 13. After retiring, their son William and family lived there until moving into the village. Their family, Fred, Edward, Russell and Marian have been well known throughout the surrounding district, especially for their musical talents in entertainment and instruction. Many young people of this community will remember well, their musical training in school under Edwin J. Fergusson. Their mother taught music in the village for many years as well as being organist of the United Church and is now living in Kitchener. Russell who married Beth Francis has his home in the village. Their daughter Frances also taught music in our schools. A son Oran and his wife live in the village and they have two children, Dean and Shelley.

It is interesting to note that down through the years, the names, John, James and William appear in each generation.

GOETZ FAMILY

Godfrey Goetz came to Plattsville from Germany in 1858 at the age of seventeen. His wife Josephine Krausie also from Germany came directly to Plattsville and they remained residents until their death in 1924 and 1928. They were members and faithful attendants of the German Evangelical Church.

Mr. Goetz was a shoemaker by trade, and worked for Andrew Gatzka, boot and shoemaker on Albert Street. Later he worked with Mr. Clemens contracting for bridge building etc. When not doing outside work he made and mended shoes in his home on Isabella Street.

There were four children, Edward, Matilda, Margaret and Lillian. Margaret, her husband Hugh McKenzie and three children, Joe, Josephine and Hughie, were residents of Plattsville for several years. After the death of Margaret, the twins lived with their maternal grandparents and Hughie lived with his paternal grandparents in Galt.

Edward and Matilda resided in Brantford.

Lillian, a teacher, taught in the local school for thirty-seven

years. At the end of her teaching career, she was tendered a Lillian Goetz Day. Many of her former pupils and friends attended and she was remembered with several gifts, and a room in the new school was named in her honour. In 1953 Miss Goetz received the Coronation Medal and a citation to accompany it. In 1950 she was very proud to accept the Red Cross Medal for work done in Grades 1 and 2 collecting money and promoting interest in this work.

GOFTON FAMILY

The Goftons are of English extraction, Charles coming from Yorkshire with his wife and son John in 1814. His Canadian born children were Samuel, Thomas (Tommy), Roger, Robert and daughter Charlotte.

John who married Jane Storey lived most of his 103 years in Wroxeter where he owned and operated the hotel known as the "Gofton House".

Tommy who married Elizabeth Battler lived on the "Russell Gofton" farm. They had four children, Cicero, Isaac, Smith and Maria. Cicero and his first wife Lydia Poore had four daughters and a son: Ethel (Mrs. Roy Hewitt) who with her family are still residents of the village and are named in the Hewitt family; Edna (Mrs. Arthur Paye); Della (Mrs. Milton Bretz); Jessie (Mrs. Elias Bingeman) and Andrew who married Elizabeth Witzel and with their four children Wilbert, Reta, Elgin and Hubert lived on the father's farm at Chesterfield. Reta (Mrs. Harry Hofstetter) is the only one now living in the village. They have one son Nelson.

Maria Gofton (Mrs. John Waugh) had seven children Lizzie, Hezekiah, Leslie, Thomas, Cicero, Margaret (Mrs. Smith Pogson) and Marie (Mrs. James Brown). The latter lived on the Squire Brown farm at Chesterfield and had two boys and two girls, Wallace, Newton, Zella and Amy who with her husband John Scott are now residents of Plattsville.

Roger Gofton who lived on the first farm north of Plattsville married three times. His first wife Lucy Ann Leader bore him four daughters Nancy (Mrs. Peter Stauffer), Rhoda (Mrs. Isaac Snyder), Charlotte and Lucy (Mrs. Peter Stauffer). Nancy Stauffer had one daughter Lucy Henrietta who married William Thibideau. They had ten children, two of whom are residents of the village. Gilbert married Audrey Weber and they had four children Yvonne, Larry, Dale and Patricia. Myrle (Mrs. Frank Parkhouse) had two sons Raymond (deceased) and Lloyd.

After the death of his first wife, Roger married Edith Coxson and their one daughter married Edward Sipes. They had five children, Morton, Minnie, Edna, Charles and Clara.

The third wife was Elizabeth Stauffer. They had four children

Jacob, Roger, William and Eliza (Mrs. William Daniel).

Two of Jacob's sons, Clayton and Jacob are living in the village. Clayton, who married Neva Quandt, has one son Jack. He and his wife Evelyn Vaughan have three children, Gregory, Diane and Lynn Marie. These children are sixth generation "Goftons" residing in Plattsville. Jacob and his wife Nellie Hall have one daughter Linda (Mrs. Willard Harron).

Robert Gofton descendants settled in the Kitchener area.

Charlotte's (Mrs. Rhodes Battler) family is written under the Battler family.

GREEN FAMILY

The earliest available history of the Green family dates back to the birth of John Green, born May 23, 1781 in New Jersey, U.S.A. of English parentage. They eventually moved to Canada, settling in Waterloo County. Both died of cholera in 1847 and were buried in Stauffer's Cemetery. They had five children, all of whom bought adjoining farms around what is now known as Green's school about four miles north-west of Plattsville. They raised large families, hence the name Green's school. The oldest son, Cyrus donated the land on which the first school, of log construction, was built about 1862.

Cyrus Green married Mary Ann Collis of Guelph and they had three daughters and five sons, one of whom was named John. He married a neighbour's daughter, Alice Howell and remained living on his father's farm where several of their children were born. He was the inventor and builder of the rack lifter, which though not in use now, can still be seen in many of the barns north and south of Plattsville. His health failed and he moved to a small farm south of Plattsville in 1894. That year one son, Harry, died at the age of four years and in 1896 the father passed away, leaving a family of eight.

As the family grew up they scattered and eventually four daughters married and settled in Western Canada, Florence, Theresa, Ada and Olive. The mother died in 1924. Another daughter Laura married Robert Elder of Toronto, where they lived until 1938 when they moved to Plattsville. They had three daughters and one son: Marion of Toronto; Hazel (Mrs. W. Kennedy) of B.C.; Alice, a graduate of Woodstock General Hospital, married Robert Simonds, a pilot instructor in the R.C.A.F. in Winnipeg. After the end of World War II, they moved to Plattsville where Robert has been employed in the Canada Sand Papers Ltd. They have four daughters, Joanne (Mrs. J. Nicholson) of Calgary, Alta.; Donna (Mrs. Russell Hallman) of Galt; Marilyn and Virginia at home. David who completed his high school education in Plattsville became a pharmacist and married Catherine Hunter.

They have four sons and he is currently employed in Chatham.

John Green's two sons, James and Sidney, operated a saw mill for several years, they bought a cider mill from Ben Witmer in Plattsville about 1914, later a planing mill from William Rouse. Sidney served overseas in World War I and on his return married Elizabeth Hall. They had one son, John Stewart, who served in the R.C.A.F. in World War II and on his return he married Jean Hagelstein and they have two daughters, Judy and Susan. Stewart Green has been employed by Carborundum Co., spending two years in Germany and later in Lewiston and is now manager of Commercial Filters Corp. of Carborundum Co. in Lebanon, Indiana.

John Green's youngest daughter, Mabel, a graduate nurse of Woodstock General Hospital, married Wheeler Green of Detroit, Mich., where they resided for nearly twenty years. Upon her husband's death she returned to Plattsville and lived with her brother James until his death in 1962.

Sidney and Mabel are the only children of John Green now living in Plattsville.

GRIEVE FAMILY

In his youth Charles Simpson Grieve came to Canada from Scotland and settled in Washington. He followed the tannery occupation.

There he met and married Elizabeth Harmer, daughter of Henry Harmer. Later they came to Plattsville and settled in the home now owned by Bruce Main. He operated a shop for the repair and making of handmade shoes.

They had a family of eight children, three girls, Nellie, (Mrs. Angus McDonald) of Stratford; Jessie (Mrs. Austin Smith) of Kitchener; and Julia (Mrs. Alex Pratt) of Plattsville. The Pratts only daughter Lloy married Ernest Rhodenizer, York Street, Plattsville, and their son Owen lives in Kitchener. Five boys, Charles who settled in Windsor; Thomas, Plattsville; Andrew, Albert and James, were quite active in sports, especially curling, hockey and baseball. Albert was on the team of Ontario Soccer Champions 1902 and also played with Drumbo O.W.H.A. Champions 1907-08-09. Julia and James took a number of prizes in the larger centres for their fancy skating on stilt skates. James was a member of the Plattsville Band. Andrew has a daughter Maude (Mrs. J. Robertson) Cooksville, and Albert and son Charles of Burlington. James who eventually took over the shoe repair shop had four children: Walter of Strathroy; Douglas (deceased); Jean (Mrs. Willson Richmond) of Plattsville has a son Bruce and daughter Mary Anne (Mrs. Ralph Trelford) both of Kitchener; and Maggie (Mrs. Kenneth Grimes) of London had six children. Her eldest daughter, Jacqueline (Mrs. Don Doan) resides in Plattsville. Mrs. Doan's children are Barbara, Benny, Brenda, Beverly and Bridget.

HALL FAMILY

Another name among the early settlers was Hall. Leaving their home and their sheep in the Cheviot Hills, Roxborough, Scotland. Andrew Hall and his wife and six children sailed for Canada in the year 1834. During the crossing one little daughter, Janet, contacted mumps, and to avoid quarantine, hid under her mother's hoop skirts.

The family settled on what is known as the 'William Hall farm', north of Perry's Corners. A son, Thomas, then eight years old, later married Agnes Robson of Ayr, one of the three Robson sisters to be married to three Hall brothers. They eventually settled on Concession 13, between Washington and Plattsville, and in 1885 Thomas Hall built the large 'Hall' house on the north side, where he lived until his death in 1889. His eldest son Andrew, lived across the road and then his eldest son Morton, took the north side farm, which is still the home of his two sons, Doug and his wife Muriel, and Bob. His four daughters were, Ruth and Jean of Galt, Eleanor in Woodstock and Edith in England. David, who married Jean Manson, remained in the old home on the south side until taken over by his son Donald, who married Gloria Abernethy. They had five children, Bryon, Gary (who died in 1963), Robert, Jennifer and Dianne. David built a new home next to his son Hugh, who married Agnes Cochrane and who, with their sons, David and Gordon and twin daughters Marion and Margaret, live on the Pogson farm, first farm east of Plattsville on south side.

John Hall, second son of Thomas Hall, when he quit teaching, married Elizabeth Bass in 1888 and bought the Harmer farm, first farm west of Plattsville on the south side and now occupied by Layton Hofstetter and his family. Of the four children, Elizabeth, Thomas, Harry and Nellie, one survives, Nellie (Mrs. Jake Gofton) of Plattsville. Linda Elizabeth (Gofton) Harron of Guelph, daughter of Jake and Nellie Gofton is the only grandchild. John Hall took a keen interest in the town and its people, its sports and its welfare. An interest in cattle led him to buy the pasture joining the farm and village, also the pasture adjoining the grist mill, which was later sold to the Woolcott family. The south side flats, as it was formerly called, is part of the village, and is surveyed and named as to streets, up to the west boundary, which is the lane at the top of the hill. This south pasture is now owned by Jake Gofton.

HAMACHER FAMILY

Allan Hamacher and Sarah Ellen Duncan were married in Blenheim Township in 1887. They had a family of twelve children, Margaret, Dianne, Mary, Jessie, Ann, Edward, Allan, Alvin, Arthur, John, William and Gordon. Only four remain. Mrs. Mary Roth of Plattsville, her family of Howard Rank of Hespeler, Donald Rank of Galt, and Bernice Newstead of B.C. were born in Plattsville; Mrs. Dianne Morrison, a widow in Manitoba; Alvin in B.C.; and Gordon of Plattsville. His wife the former Donna Edwards and their son, Michael live in Plattsville at the present time.

HARMER FAMILY

Of English descent, the Harmer family numbers among the pioneers of the village of Plattsville.

James Harmer was born on January 18, 1846. He resided on the farm west of the village, now owned by Layton Hofstetter.

A trader of horses, he made several trips to the British Isles bringing home horses for resale. His first trip was reported as very successful. However, a storm at sea on the second voyage homeward bound caused illness among the horses and they all died. This left him almost penniless.

He was given an old cabin which was towed across the frozen ice of the Nith River from the flats of his father's farm and erected on the property at the eastern end of the village, which is next to the Koffee Kup. James Harmer married Sarah Trowse, who bore him five sons and seven daughters. Sarah was killed when struck by a train while trying to board another train in Paris, Ontario, in August, 1907. James died in March, 1923.

The youngest son Edward was born on April 30, 1889. He resided in the village all his life. He married a widow Mrs. Evelyne (Strome) Leper who had one daughter, Audrey, now Mrs. Clarence Hanenberg of the village. Edward Harmer had four sons and a daughter.

Still residing in the village are three sons. The oldest, Rex, and his wife Orpha have three sons, Ronald, Terry, Neil and a daughter Sandra. The second, Gerald, and his wife Marjorie have a son Joel and two daughters, Karen and Gail. The third, Clair, and his wife June, have two sons, Charles, and Lyle. The fourth, Jack, lives in Galt, with his wife Margaret and their two sons Jack, Jr. and Donald.

Their daughter Doreen, now Mrs. James Weir Graham of Bright, Ontario, has four sons, Gary, Daryl, Marlon and Kevin.

Edward Harmer died on December 23, 1954 and his wife Evelyne passed away on September 4, 1966.

HEWITT FAMILY

Henry Hewitt and his family came to Canada from Norfolk, England in 1836 with four sons and one daughter. One son George brought five children. The eldest, Elizabeth, became Mrs. Bullock and is buried in the Plattsville Cemetery.

Another son, James, born in 1809, married Mary Harmer and settled on the farm now owned by Norman Ellis. He had four children Avis, Jane, Bob, and Isaac. All but Avis married Pogsons. Bob had

a large family. One daughter Mrs. Gillis Fenn is a resident of Plattsville.

In 1892 Isaac bought the adjoining farm and built the large white brick house now occupied by Roy Hewitt. Isaac had five children, Oliver, Ida, Bertie, Ernie and Roy. Roy married Ethel Gofton and remained on the home farm. Their two children are Lydia (Mrs. George Thomson) and Ernest.

Isaac later moved into Plattsville to the house now occupied by Mrs. J. B. English. In 1918 a fire destroyed the large barn on the Hewitt farm following which Roy Hewitt was engaged in the drover business until his death in 1952.

Ernie Hewitt, who lives across the road from the homestead, has two sons, Brian and Richard. Richard has one son.

Lydia Thomson has three children, Mrs. Floyd Hawes (Eleanor) of Galt who has three sons. There are two sons, Ricky and James. James married Jane Anne Glendinning of Plattsville. They have one daughter, Jennifer.

One son of the original Henry's, named William, lived for some time on the farm now owned by Lloyd Thomas. Later he moved to Windfall.

Another branch of the Hewitt family are descendants of Henry Hewitt's youngest son Richard. Mrs. Walters and Thomas Hewitt live on the Centennial Farm on the 11th Concession of Blenheim. A brother George lived across the road. He had three children. One daughter Catharine resides in Bright.

Henry II, of Henry's line married Anne Willett. They settled on the Centennial Farm now owned by Douglas Hewitt. Five children were born. The eldest married Annie Woolcott. The other children were Sarah, Jane, Samuel, Alex and Henry. Jane, Alex and Henry remained unmarried and are buried in Plattsville Cemetery with their parents.

Samuel Hewitt's son, Edward, was born on the 12th Concession of Blenheim. He married Marion Christner. They had nine children. Allen, the eldest, married Helen Robertson and bought the farm across the road from the Hewitt farm. They have two sons Donald and Ross and one daughter Ann. Clyde Hewitt who lives in Bright has three daughters. Douglas who lives on the Hewitt homestead has one daughter. Donald, his twin, married Maxine Hunter. They have two children Joan and Eddy and live on a nearby farm.

There are five daughters: Mrs. Ken Markle (Helen) of Oshawa; Mrs. Hoey (Marion) of Ottawa; Mrs. Mohr (Mildred) of New Haven, Connecticut; Mrs. Bob Smith (Mariella) of Winnipeg; and Mrs. Hans Lass (Joyce) of R.R. 1, New Hamburg.

It is interesting to note that all the Hewitts attended Plattsville

school and five Hewitt girls attended Plattsville High School for twenty consecutive years.

Edward Hewitt retired to Plattsville in 1958 when Douglas took over the farm. Edward died in 1960. Mrs. Hewitt resides in Plattsville. Donald, Ross and Eddy are the only male descendants of Henry II.

The very first water wheel in the community was in a sawmill on Douglas Hewitt's farm. It was later put into the first chopping mill in Plattsville.

HOFFMAN FAMILY

Henry Hoffman came to this country at the age of twenty from Germany, and in 1859 was married to Catharine Heimbecker also of Germany who had come to this country a few years earlier. In 1857 he built the house in which Charles Hoffman now resides. In 1857 he also started a Cooperage Plant consisting of the manufacture of staves and heading also a cooper shop for the manufacture of flour barrels. His family consisted of seven daughter and two sons, all deceased. His two sons John and Charles also worked in the business with their father.

The father ran the business until 1891 when John and Charles took it over as partners. This lasted until 1896. John then bought the farm now owned by Mrs. Podann. Charles who had taken over the cooperage business was killed in the factory in 1898, his widow then looked after the business until 1901 when John Hoffman again bought the business. Charles Hoffman, at the time of his death, had two children, Howard and Beatrice Hoffman, still residing in Toronto.

John Hoffman had the business until 1913, when he moved the factory machinery to Gobles where he built a sawmill and cheese box factory.

John Hoffman married Elizabeth Watler of Waterloo in 1887. His wife was a school teacher and in the early 1900's taught a few teachers in this vicinity the German language.

John Hoffman's family consisted of five children, Charles and Albert, still in Plattsville; daughter Florence who died in infancy; John, a retired banker in Hamilton; and Mary (Mrs. Mary Turnbull) also of Hamilton.

The cooperage plant, when running at its peak production, would manufacture into staves and heading up to 850 cords of wood in one season from April until November. The cooper shop had three coopers all the year round on flour barrels and when the apple barrel season was on, five coopers were employed. Around twenty-five to thirty thousand barrels a year were produced. In good years a few carloads of barrel heads were exported to Europe.

Albert Hoffman, a brother, worked in the furniture factory for Jas. Baird and later for Hilborn and later for Grimes when they started the sandpaper factory. Charles Hoffman ran the cooper shop until 1921 when he was stricken with typhoid fever. On January 1, 1927, Charles Hoffman started barbering in Plattsville for 25 years, when he suffered a heart attack. After recovery he continued barbering at his house, in all, 40 years at the trade.

Charles Hoffman married Vera Gammon of Ayr on June 17, 1914 and in 1964 they celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary. They had five children: Ward, who died in 1936; Marion (Mrs. John Hughes) R.R. 1, Princeton; Evelyn (Mrs. Ray Plyley) of Elora; George and Harold of London.

The house in which Charles Hoffman now lives has been in the Hoffman family since it was built in 1857.



KING FAMILY

Following their marriage on January 12, 1881, Arthur King and Mary E. Loveys, both of East Zorra Township settled on their farm, two miles south of Plattsville, purchased from Jacob Stauffer. Here for many years, with their family of four, they lived the usual strenuous life of farmers at that time. They were active members of Plattsville Methodist Church and took part in the many activities of the Upper Tenth community. In 1909 they expanded their farming operations by buying from Samuel Skillings, the farm across the road. Due to the coming marriage of their only son Frank, a lot was bought on John Street in Plattsville and a house built. Mr. King took a great interest in this new house doing much of the interior work himself. But he was never to live in it, for after many months of illness he died in November 1921.

In the summer of 1922, following the marriage of Frank to Luella Houston of Moorefield, Mrs. King and youngest daughter, Gertrude,

moved to Plattsville. Gertrude served as a supply teacher for the area, being so for about three years in the junior room in the village. After enjoying their thirteen years of retirement the daughter was married to Martin Harrison and Mrs. King moved with them to their farm on the 10th Concession, where for ten years she again took a great interest in farm life. In July, 1945, in her 96th year, death resulted from the shock of a fractured hip.

In 1912 the eldest daughter Margaret was married to Adam Knox and lived on their farm near Bright. They retired to Plattsville in 1964 but Mrs. Knox lived for only two years. Surviving besides her husband are a son Arthur, his wife Kathleen French, and four grandchildren, all of London.

The other daughter Mary, was married in 1918 to George Harrison. They farmed on the 10th Concession of Blenheim, retiring to Plattsville thirty-four years later. George died in 1959, his wife three years later. Their younger son Gordon, his wife (Donna Kaiser) and sons Robert, David and Kenneth live on the home farm. Their elder son Donald and wife Ruth Wilkins, live on the farm adjoining his brother.

Frank King and wife still reside in the old home but it is farmed by their youngest son Nelson. Their eldest son Stewart, is a policeman. his wife (Norma Monture) and two children live in London. Another son Willard, his wife (Betty Sibbick) and children Barbara, Karen and Kevin live on the farm bought by his grandfather in 1909. Their only daughter Helen is a nurse in Hamilton.

Martin and Gertrude Harrison, having sold their farm to their nephew Donald Harrison, are now living in the house on John Street.

McLAUGHLIN FAMILY

Samuel McLaughlin, a one time well known resident, will be remembered by many as a cabinet maker, and along with James Baird as funeral directors. He was an enthusiastic curler and in 1891 was president of the club. He and his wife Lydia Ann Treffry had five girls and a boy: Mrs. David Wright (Emma); Jessie; and Ann (Mrs. Grant Taylor) are at present in the village. D'Alton, now deceased, of Toronto was named after D'Alton McCarthy a prominent figure in the political life of the country. D'Alton had a distinguished career in music. His studies took him to New York and France.

Lydia Treffry's father Dr. Robert Treffry came to Canada from England and lived for a time on the Roy Hewitt farm. While there, he planted the lovely grove of trees at the front of the property. He died in 1889.

McMEEKIN FAMILY

Samuel Douglas McMeekin was born at Gate House Fleet in Kirkcudbrightshire, Scotland, in July, 1819.

He came to Canada in 1846 and after residing in Beverley Township two years he came west and settled in Blandford.

During the next twenty years he owned and resold several farms in Blandford before eventually buying the farm on the 14th line in Blenheim, which is now owned by Maurice Diamond.

In 1858 he married Elizabeth Mitchell (17 years old) who had come to this country from England with her family as a child of ten. As an interesting item it might be mentioned she had only been to school one-half day in her life and learned to read and write when her children went to school.

They had a family of ten children, seven sons and three daughters and all were given the opportunity of a good education.

James and Geoffrey became surgeons, practising their profession for many years in Saginaw, Michigan. John was a printer in New York. Samuel and Richard were storekeepers in Moose Jaw and Sault Ste. Marie. William was a veterinary surgeon and he was practising in this village at the time of his death in 1917. He had married a local girl Mary Calder and they had one daughter Helena (deceased). Thomas stayed on the farm.

Of the three daughters Elizabeth married J. E. Bristow, Bright, Jessie married Martin Henderson of Blandford and the youngest of the family Nettie married Robert Riesberry of Bright (she died in May, 1967) the last surviving child of this family.

The most direct descendant living in this village is Miss Jessie McMeekin. Her father was Thomas, who had married (Margaret Dalzell) and lived on the farm until 1924, when he sold and moved to a home south of the village. He later moved into the village. He died as the result of an accident in October, 1929, and Jessie and her mother remained here, where Jessie was employed as a Bell Telephone operator, and continued in this work until the dial system was installed in 1960.

Mrs. Thomas McMeekin died a few years ago but Jessie still lives here.

Others in this village who are descendants of the family are: Mrs. Leonard Smith and her son Gregory. She is a great-great-granddaughter of Samuel Douglas McMeekin.

The writer of this article living in this village, Mrs. William Bell, is a granddaughter of Samuel Douglas McMeekin and her son

and his children are great grandsons and great-great-grandchildren respectively.

It is of interest to know that the family claimed relationship with the "Black Douglas" of historic fame, hence his middle name.

MILNE FAMILY

George H. Milne, the youngest of a family of six, came to Plattsville in 1867, at the age of nine years with his mother and two sisters. His parents had come to Canada from Scotland in 1842 and lived at Nithburg near Wellesley.

As a young man he learned painting and decorating as a trade and was in this business continuously for fifty-six years in Plattsville. He was one of the eight men who formed the original rink company and built the curling and skating rink in 1888. He was always actively interested in all sports in the village—particularly enjoyed curling and lawn bowling. He also served as school trustee and town trustee. In 1891 in a fall from a broken scaffold in New Hamburg he suffered two broken legs and one broken arm. In those days of no cars and rough dirt roads, about twenty of his friends carried him home in relays on a stretcher a total of nine miles on a very hot day.

George Milne married Elizabeth Bristow in 1883. He died in 1937 and his wife in 1917. Of the four children in the family, Edward died in 1911; Landseer married Elizabeth Rendall and lived in the old Milne home and was also a painter and decorator and an active curler and bowler. He died in 1950, leaving one son, Dr. William G. Milne, a geophysicist in Victoria, B.C. He and his wife the former Margaret Flett have two children, Elizabeth and William.

A daughter Ruby and a son George still live in Plattsville in the home built by their father.

POGSON FAMILY

Robert Pogson came from England and settled on the north half of Lot 17, 11th Concession. His family of five boys and five girls all settled in the Plattsville community. Smith remained on the home farm, George on the Schrane farm and Charles purchased the farm on which Hugh Hall now resides. He married Clara Rutherford in 1890 and their children, Merle, Lloyd, Ruby and Leila attended Plattsville school. Lloyd married Verlie McFarlane and continued to farm the home place. They had one daughter, Patricia, now Mrs. Richard Bell who, with her husband and two children Angela and Rebecca, live in the village. Ruby resides on Ann Street.

POTTER FAMILY

Lot 17, Concession 11 of the Township of Blenheim was for years known as the Potter Farm. It had its beginning back in 1834 when young Daniel Potter came over to Canada from England accompanied by his brother George, and built a log cabin on the banks of the Nith River. He married Elizabeth Bullock, and together they raised a family of five children, two girls and three boys.

Daniel cleared the required number of acres and in September, 1856 was finally granted the crown deed to his 200 acre farm. The following year, 1857, he built the stone house still standing on the farm, and in 1859 built the present barn. Elizabeth christened the farm "Penny Hill Farm" because of the hill to the east of the house which she said was "Round as a Penny".

The stone house was built by a man named Abernethy, who also built the houses on the same road now owned by Frank Thomson and the Pogson farm house now owned by George Thomson. All the stones for the house came right off Daniel's own 200 acres, and the timbers for the barn, some which are seventy feet in length and hand hewn, came from the bush at the south end of the farm.

The two elder sons of Daniel and Elizabeth, George and William, left home to seek their fortune in the United States, and settled in Utah, where they joined the Mormons. In 1872, John, the youngest son married Mary Sellers and they lived in part of the home until in June, 1880, Daniel died and John took over the farm. John and Mary had two sons, Wallace and Ellmore and when John died in 1891 as the result of an injury sustained while taking a steer to market, his widow continued to run the farm herself, with the help of her young sons, Wallace 12 years of age and Ellmore 10.

Wallace married Jessie Barnett of Plattsville in February 1905 and when Ellmore married Mabel Fenn the latter couple purchased the farm immediately across the road from the Potter Farm, from William Rendall. Wallace and Jessie had two children, Jean (Mrs. Lloyd McKee) of Toronto, and John, who took over the farm from his father in 1937. In the same year he married Bessie Woodall of Elmira.

John and Bessie had two sons, James and John. John and his boys added to the old farmhouse by building in the living room a big field-stone fireplace from stones gathered on the farm. At the time it seemed inconceivable that anyone but Potters would ever occupy the farm, so in the cornerstone of the fireplace was placed John and Bessie's marriage certificate along with other family mementos and photos. But the boys decided they did not want to farm, so in 1957 John sold the farm to the Brethren of Early Christianity and built himself a home in the village of Plattsville. And so for the first time in 123 years

there were no Potters living at Penny Hill Farm.

The elder son James a graduate of Toronto University is now a chemical engineer living in Montreal. He has two children, Jimmy and Kathryn. The younger son, John, obtained his Bachelor and Masters Degrees from Toronto University and recently was granted his Doctor of Philosophy Degree from North Carolina State University. He is currently doing research in St. Catharines. John Sr. is a Provincial Staff Officer for St. John Ambulance Association.

QUANDT FAMILY

The name of Quandt has been known in Plattsville since 1857, when John (Johann) Quandt with his mother, wife, and daughter came here from Berlin, Ontario. Two years before this with a brother, he brought the family from Mecklenburg, Germany, to find a new life in America. The cabinet factory offered him work and he worked there as a fireman until his retirement. Two of his four sons (there were seven children) spent their lives in the village. Frederick who married Ada Baird, learned the tailoring trade and in later years was known better as the milkman. They had one daughter Neva (Mrs. Clayton Gofton), one grandson Jack and three great grandchildren, all residents of the village.

William, a tinsmith, (better known as Dobbie) married Susan Harmer and of their two children, Florence and William Jr., William and his son James keep the Quandt name alive in Plattsville. The family was interested in various sports.

RENDALL FAMILY

David Rendall, born in the Orkney Islands in 1831, came to Canada at the age of nineteen. After his marriage to Elizabeth Allison they resided on the 4th Concession of Blenheim Township.

William, the third eldest of a family of six, settled on a farm on the 12th Concession of Blenheim. He married Agnes Love of Hillsgreen. In 1908 they moved to Plattsville where he continued as a drover. He took an active part in the life of the village, curling, bowling and for many years was a police trustee.

They had four children, Annie resides in Plattsville; Bessie who married the late L. G. Milne in 1919 has one son, Dr. W. G. Milne who in 1949 married Margaret Flett of Agincourt. With their two children, Betty and Bill, they reside in Victoria, B.C. where he is a seismologist at the Observatory.

The only son, the late Dr. S. D. Rendall, married in 1922 to Gladys A. Manson of Ayr, lived at Toronto where he became Superintendent of Secondary Education for Ontario. Their only child, Jack, in 1950

married Katharine Gould of Toronto. With their three children, John, Michael and Lynn, they live in Toronto where he is a teacher on the Scarborough Secondary School staff.

Hazel, until retirement, was a teacher on Toronto Public School staff.

RICHMOND FAMILY

The Richmond family came out from Ayrshire, Scotland and settled in the Ayr district. James Richmond married Barbara Young in 1868 and bought the farm east of Washington. They lived in a home across from the cemetery. In 1885 they built "Brae-Heid" and lived there until they retired to Galt in 1915. They had a family of eight children, William, Andrew, John, Robert, Elizabeth, Annie (Mrs. Oliver Hall), Helen (Mrs. George Webster) and Mary (Mrs. Morton Hall) whose son James Tew and daughter Mrs. Reg. Schrane live in this district.

William Richmond farmed at "Brae-Heid" after his father's retirement. He had a family of three girls and two boys, Hilda (deceased), Jessie (Mrs. Oliver Hill) of Simcoe, Minota (Mrs. Perry Thomson) whose son William Thomson lives in Plattsville and has a family of four children, Kevin, Calvin, Karen and Christine. Ross Richmond is on the home farm and his family consists of four boys and two girls, Robert, James, Geoffrey, Roger, Rosemary and Carolyn (Mrs. Garry Gibbons). Willson lives in Plattsville and has two children, Bruce of Kitchener, has a daughter Deborah and Mary Anne (Mrs. Ralph Telfer) of Kitchener.

RUSH FAMILY

Henry Rush was born in 1815 and came from England as a young man. He received a parcel of land from the Crown some time between 1835 and 1845. He built a log cabin, then a stone house in 1853. A barn was built in 1857 and the original boards are still on the north side. There were nine children, Lizzie, Rachael, Annie, Fannie, Matthew, George, Henry, John and Robert.

About 1888 Matthew took over the farm and married Maria Cencroft. They had six children, John, Rebecca, Abe, Henry, Fannie and one son who died at birth. When Matthew died in 1889 Mrs. Rush managed the farm with John, Abe and Henry. Abe was an active member in the Plattsville Methodist Church but died about 1900.

Henry Rush married Elizabeth Shireman in 1898. They had six children Mamie, Perry, Harry, Nellie, Edwin and Kenneth. Henry Rush, after a year on the farm, worked in Baird's furniture factory, also for Henry Leader, and lived in the huose now owned by Harry Leonard

on Platt Street. He also lived in the house now owned by Milton Unroe, then returned to the farm and died there in 1946. His wife farmed with sons Perry and Edwin until 1952 when they built a house on the corner of John and Young Streets where Perry died in 1955. Edwin took over the farm and still runs it. He married Loreen Stoltz, who died in 1962. They had two sons, Gary and Daryll.

John Rush married Mary Deeton and lived in Plattsville where Stewart Scott now lives on Young Street. They had five children who all attended Plattsville school, Irene, John, Aaron, Jean and Albert. Jean is Mrs. Charles Claringbold and lives in Toronto but spends the summer here in the home of her grandmother Deeton on Young Street. John and Aaron live in Toronto and Albert in Ancaster.

Fannie, a daughter of Matthew, married William Barnett and they lived on Mill Street in the Edward Harmer place until they moved to Preston. They had five children. Lilian lives in Brantford, Eva, Jessie and John in Preston, and Jean in Toronto. Mrs. Barnett, now over 90, still lives in her own home in Preston.

SCOTT FAMILY

James Scott and his wife, Catharine Coxson, were pioneer settlers of Blenheim Township.

James Scott was born at Bruella Merines, Scotland in 1833 and at four years of age came, with his parents, his three brothers, Walter, Archibald, George and two sisters, Mrs. Robert Patton and Mrs. Baird. This family all were, at one time, residents of Plattsville.

Three sons became farmers, but James became a cooper, and established a small shop west of the townline bridge. He married Catharine Coxson, born one mile north of the village on the Aubrey Coxson farm, in the house which her father built. Besides Catharine, the family consisted of five brothers, William, Aaron, Robert, John, and Andrew, and one sister Edith (Mrs. Roger Gofton). Edith's daughter became Mrs. Edward Sipes of Plattsville. Robert, John and Andrew spent their lives in this district also.

James' son Charles, was born in 1866, and five years later he moved his family to the residence now owned by Clarence Hallam, and secured work in the Baird Bros. furniture factory.

Charles learned the blacksmith and carriage-making trade with James Breese and at his death took over the business which was established in what is now known as the Scout House. Charles married Clara Bricker in 1898, and set up their home in Plattsville where their family of David, Edward, Douglas, Marjorie, George, Stuart and Mary grew up.

Stuart, a drover, and his family still live on the farm on the

north side of the village. Robert, his son, carries the Scott name, the only one of his generation left in the village. Stuart has two daughters, Mrs. Ken Littlejohn of Plattsville and Mrs. David Vance of R.R. 1, Bright. Mr. Edward Scott also resides in Plattsville.

SHANTZ FAMILY

The Shantz family had its origins in Northern Italy, although the first immigrant to North America was born in Switzerland in 1691. At the age of nineteen, during the summer of 1710, Amos Y. Shantz took passage on a British ship, "The Townshead", bound for America. Upon arrival in the new land, residence was established in Pennsylvania where he and his descendants farmed in the area settled largely by what we now term "The Plain Folks". During the 1820's, a branch of this family again emigrated, this time via the Trail of the Conestoga to Upper Canada in the Berlin, now Kitchener, area.

Grandfather Jacob M. Shantz was born in 1858 at Pine Hill, where he helped clear the land of large timber and stumps with oxen. In 1890 he moved to Lot 21, Concession 14, Blenheim Township, (Peter Lass farm) through which flows the river Nith. It was here that my father Abiah, the first of four sons was raised. Grandfather and grandmother (Mary Ann Bingeman—born on Lot 14, Concession 12) moved to Plattsville on retirement in 1921, where they eventually purchased the house on John Street now owned by the Parkhouse family.

Our maternal family, Cressman, can be traced from similar origins in Europe through Pennsylvania to Strasburg, Ontario. On June 18, 1829, over 16 years before Samuel Platt bought the Plattsville site, great great grandfather Abraham Cressman purchased Lot 14 in the 14th Concession of Blenheim (eventually R.R. 1, Plattsville), through which flows Washington Creek. This date preceded by four days, the birth of great grandfather John whose second son Eli was our maternal grandfather. Mother (Della) and father were married in 1912 at the Eli Cressman (wife Miranda Krupp) farm, which then contained 213 acres with the buildings on Lot 15, Concession 13. The four children of this Shantz family, Harry, Nile, Cameron and Jewel were all born and raised at this location. Part of the original land has been owned consecutively by five generations and over a span of more than 139 years. Judith (Mrs. Robt. F. Kobe) and Jane (Mrs. Ross D. Eichler), daughters of present owner Cameron (wife Marjorie M. Brown), are the sixth generation to have enjoyed the pleasures of hiking "down at the crick."

The Shantz and Cressman families have farmed over the years with special pride being taken in the care and production of beef cattle and horses. As early as 1906, father and grandfather Shantz exhibited the first prize Clydesdale team at the Toronto Exhibition. In the early 1900's, during the winter horse races on the Nith river, an

entry to be reckoned with was usually from granddad Cressman's stable. A picture of this horse "The EEL" may be seen in the second edition of the local Tweedsmuir History. This same stable, under Nile, in more recent years successfully exhibited many fine Clydesdale horses in local and international competition.

During World War II, the writer was proud to have served overseas with the R.C.N.V.R. on the destroyer "HMCS Kootenay". More recent interests, while living in the village until early 1967, were involvement in establishing Plattsville Horse Show, the new Plattsville and District Public School area as well as the Plattsville Community Park and Centennial Pavilion. The writer and occupant of this old family farm is presently Plattsville Postmaster, who, while leasing most of the land, has retained a portion for the traditional production of cattle and horses. Our family looks forward to many happy years of association with the old ancestral farm.

AREA FOOTNOTE:

The land in the 14th Concession (Lot 14) was acquired from the Crown on June 10, 1801 by army Captain John Hill Aaron, in recognition for military services. By September 4th of the same year, he sold it, along with other lands, to Richard Beasley of Dundas. (It was common practice for British military men to "cash in" their new holdings, after completion of their tour of duty and before leaving Canada for England.) Under Beasley ownership, these lands became part of the famed "Beasley Tract" and were held as an investment until the influx of settlers, most of whom were Pennsylvania Dutch, north and eastward from the 14th Concession. While the present farmstead contains land in the two concessions, it must be pointed out that land in the 13th Concession and southward was taken up mainly by the British, who purchased directly from the Crown as early as 1802 and apparently settled at that time. The first stone part of the present Shantz dwelling is reported to have been built from farm stones by the Magdalena Richardson family, soon after receiving their crown deed on May 17, 1802. Two generations of Richardsons partially cleared and occupied this Lot 15, for more than 30 years. The British immigrants followed the Nith River and arrived from south through the Burford area. The Pennsylvania Dutch came from the east and north after their "Trail of the Conestoga", which brought them through Dundas where Beasley maintained his land agency headquarters. It is largely because of this circumstance that the 14th road became sort of a boundary and a noticeable mingling of the British and Pennsylvania Dutch elements has taken place in the Plattsville area.

SHOENBURG FAMILY

John and Mary Shosenburg were married in Mecklenberg, Germany and emigrated to Canada in 1840.

They first settled in the Roseville district but later moved to Plattsville and occupied the farm now owned by Mrs. Remington Bullock.

Six children were born of this marriage. Henry, Mary, Eunice, Sofia, John and Peter. John and Sofia moved to the U.S.A. Mary married Mr. C. White and lived on York Street in Plattsville. Eunice became Mrs. Hayward and lived on Henry Street. Henry was killed when he fell from a wagon while engaged in the construction of the house now owned by Milton Unroe.

Peter Shosenburg was the youngest and the only member of the family to have descendants now living in Plattsville. He was a cabinet maker employed by the Kaufman Furniture Factory and the Baird Furniture Company.

He married Miss Annie O'Connell of Stratford in 1878. They had lived in the house now occupied by Gordon Hamacher. Mr. and Mrs. Shosenburg celebrated their golden anniversary in this house.

The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Shosenburg are Harry of Fort Erie, George of Preston and Mrs. J. B. English of Plattsville.

Mrs. English has one son and three daughters. Mr. J. H. English, a son, operates the Red & White store in the village. He has two sons, John and Robert. One daughter, Mrs. William House also resides in Plattsville. She has two sons in Plattsville, Larry and Ted House and a daughter Mrs. Richard Wilson in Woodstock. Mrs. Fred Anderson, who lives in London and Mrs. L. Perry residing in Calgary are also daughters. Both have two sons.

Donald Shosenburg, son of Harry, of Fort Erie, is the last bearer of the name in this branch of the Shosenburg family.

SHIELL FAMILY

John Shiell and Mary Telfer were married in 1848 in Roxburghshire, Scotland. In 1853 they bought the south half of Lot 19, Concession 10, Blenheim Township. Later they bought the 200 acre farm from Mr. Holm of Plattsville. A family of eight was raised.

One son, Thomas, lived all his life on the home farm. He married Margaret Pettigrew who died at the birth of her second daughter. Margaret Shiell, a younger sister, cared for the family. Both daughters of Thomas attended Plattsville High School.

Thomas Shiell's older daughter married a neighbour, Gordon Ronald, who had spent some years living in B.C. After their marriage the Ronalds settled on the Shiell farm. They have one daughter Mar-

garet (Mrs. Harold McCabe) who lives in Woodstock.

Thomas Shiell's younger daughter married David Taylor of Richwood and lives in Montreal.

After forty-two years the Ronalds sold their farm to Mr. George Thomson and retired to Plattsville in May, 1967.

THOMSON FAMILY

John Thomson and his wife Elizabeth Williams emigrated from Scotland. In 1853 they purchased Lot 11, 13th Concession of Blenheim Township from Squire Arthur Tew. Their son, Alexander Thomson, was born in 1841. He married Elizabeth Waugh and took over the farm in 1863. He operated a brick kiln on the farm by hand, which provided bricks for many district buildings such as the Plattsville Woollen Mill, Watson Foundry of Ayr and Chesterfield Church.

When Alexander died in 1909, his son John James took over the farm. He married Alice Perry and they had three sons and three daughters: Perry, George, Frank, Irene, Jean and Margaret.

The late Perry Thomson farmed the home farm until his death. His wife, formerly Minota Richmond, still resides on this Centennial Farm.

Perry Thomson's son William lives in Plattsville. He has two sons and two daughters, Kevin, Calvin, Karen and Christine.

George Thomson married Lydia Hewitt. They have two sons and a daughter Eleanor (Mrs. Floyd Hawes) who has three sons and resides in Galt.

James married Jane Ann Glendinning of Plattsville. They have a daughter, Jennifer.

Ricky Thomson, the younger son, attends school in London.

Frank Thomson farms south of Washington. He has a son and a daughter.

Mrs. Roy Main (Irene) lives in Plattsville. Her son Bruce married Carol Habel of Plattsville and they live in Kitchener. A daughter Jean married William Brown of Plattsville. They have three daughters and two sons, Heather, Brenda, Debbie, James and Bart.

Mrs. William Guthrie (Jean) lives in Plattsville. She has one son and one daughter.

Mrs. Jack Harmer (Margaret) has two sons and resides in Galt.

WALDIE FAMILY

"This is to certify that William Waldie and his wife, Isabel Crozier, natives of the parish of Yarrow County of Selkirk, North Britain—have resided in my neighbourhood since their birth, that they are most respectable, honest, and industrious people and being now on the point of immigration. I wish to recommend them particularly to the protection and assistance of the well disposed during their passage from here to Upper Canada.

Given under my hand and seal at Thirstane County of Selkirk this 4th day of May 1831. Mapier J.P."

This is a copy of the original letter sent with the Waldies when they came to Canada in 1831.

When William Waldie and his wife arrived in Canada, they settled on the 9th Concession, Lot 16, and Lot 17 on the 8th. His son John Waldie married Jean Allison of the 2nd Concession of Blenheim on April 16, 1864. They lived on the 13th Concession at Blink Bonnie. This farm was taken over by their only son Bertrand Waldie, who married Jessie Bond of Chesterfield on September 19, 1907. They sold the farm in 1947 and moved to York Street in Plattsville. They had five children. John in Hamilton has one daughter; Elmer died in infancy; Jean (Mrs. George Perrin) at Roseville has one son and one daughter; Anna of Plattsville and Woodstock; and Earl of Plattsville who has three daughters, Mary Jane, Nancy, and Sharon and one son, Craig who is the only boy to carry on the Waldie name.

History of Canada Sand Papers Ltd.



By P. R. HILBORN

My first association with the village of Plattsville dates back to my school boy years, when the Master boys attended the Kitchener High School. I remember they were good football players (soccer), and also at the time Plattsville had a good soccer team.

My next contacts were through the furniture business. Preston Furniture Company, manufacturing office desks and meeting the Baird brothers in Plattsville who also made a small line of inexpensive desks as well as operated a saw mill. During the boom following the first World War, Preston Furniture Company purchased the Baird brothers factory and commenced to manufacture desks. Mr. Jim Baird and his brother Archie managed the factory and George Thomson, Jim and Syd Green were working for us. Unfortunately, we then experienced a serious depression across Canada and did not have sufficient business to continue operating this small factory (the front of which was formerly an undertaking parlour) and we were

forced to close this down, but still operated the saw mill under the management of George Thomson.

During the early years of the depression when work was not available, I became greatly concerned about the welfare of the people in the village and especially those who worked for us. I did however, move several families to Preston and had as many workmen as possible employed in the factory here in spite of our short time and very small amount of work available.

We endeavoured to find some other product that we could manufacture in the factory in Plattsville and provide more employment. I had thought of a canning factory, or a cheese factory, but upon investigation found that neither were readily available for establishment and for various reasons Plattsville was not a good location at that time. Just then, an old friend of mine, Mr. Batty, a glue and sandpaper salesman from Brantford mentioned that if I wanted a business for a factory we should start a Sand Paper company. With this in mind I arranged to meet S. B. Grimes and Earl Stark, two former employees of Canadian Durex Abrasives Limited, Brantford, a subsidiary of the Durex Corporation, New York.

We then made arrangements for S. B. Grimes, our engineer and machinist Roy Gibson to lay out a plan for the factory and use the Baird building for this purpose. There were few blue prints and almost everything was in the head of S. B. Grimes, but were soon satisfactorily resolved by Roy Gibson. They built the necessary equipment in our machine shop and with local help had it installed. In November of that year (1931) the first sheet of sand paper bearing the trademark "Diamond Grit" was produced.

All of the books of original operation were managed from the offices of the Preston Furniture Company. The office management was under Irvin Merkel of Preston, our Secretary Treasurer, and Mr. Earl Stark, our Sales and Market Manager.

For the first three years our progress was slow, but I had confidence in the future possibilities and in the men working for us. Warren Grimes and later Ken Grimes joined our company and moved to Plattsville. We then carried on successfully, making additions as required. In 1948 we added a three storey brick building adjoining the old Baird factory.

As our business developed both domestically and in the export market we found it exceedingly difficult to maintain quality because we could not control our raw materials, grain, glue, resins, paper and cloth. We were dependent upon the large companies who controlled the sources. We also found it becoming steadily difficult to meet the competition of the large integrated abrasive companies which had unlimited means and facilities for research work. We decided that if



Warren M. Grimes



G. E. Best

we were going to stay in the world market we would have to incorporate with one of the larger companies. We were approached by Norton, and also by the Carborundum Company. In 1951 we decided to join the Carborundum Company, under the management of General Robinson. From then on we had at our service the engineering and research staff of the Carborundum Company as well as satisfactory supplies of raw material. Our company then expanded very rapidly. Today Canada Sand Papers manufactures more coated abrasives than any other company in Canada, and has an excellent reputation for their "Diamond Grit" products throughout the world.

In expanding the company we were fortunately able to make a very satisfactory arrangement with the village of Plattsville to purchase their park property. I personally assisted in arranging for the purchase of new park property west of the school where the arena and new pavilion now exists. In 1958 on the site of the old park a modern one storey building was opened. This housed modern cafeteria and office facilities as well as providing space for Canada's largest coated abrasive finishing operation.

The success of this company undoubtedly is due largely to the interest, integrity and ability to work, of the people of Plattsville and our association with the staff of the Carborundum Company. The village council and all the citizens have combined to make this business a real success and we believe that the future will continue to show the progress and expansion of this business and fine community.

Coincidental with my retirement in 1956, Warren Grimes was promoted to General Manager. He was succeeded by Mr. G. J. Keller who was subsequently given the title of Vice President in 1960. In 1963 Mr. Keller was appointed Managing Director of Carborundum Australia at which time Mr. G. E. Best was made Vice President and General Manager. The company continues to progress under his able direction.

This year substantial investments have been made in real estate and plant equipment which testifies to the faith and confidence in the future of Canada Sand Papers Limited and the community.

CANADA SAND PAPERS LIMITED — TODAY

Since early time when prehistoric man first shaped his crude tools to the latest model from the production lines of modern industry our world has been shaped by abrasives. Our culture and our production techniques are dependent upon abrasive technology.

Most of us take for granted this tremendous contribution to our way of life. Few of us realize that our modern appliances, automobiles and machines owe their gleaming finish to coated abrasives. Our



Canada Sandpaper Factory, Plattsville, Ont.

furniture and floors reflect the advancement of sandpaper, the shoes that tread the floors and the purses from which come the dollars to maintain our standard of living owe their finish to coated abrasive products. We travel and watch the countryside from windows ground with coated abrasive belts, the sleek skin of our giant airliners is fashioned on huge abrasive belt tapering machines. Almost every manufactured article has been sized, shaped and finished with coated abrasives sometime during its production.

To serve this need, Canada Sand Papers Limited will produce this year a ribbon of coated abrasives as wide as a road; "if unrolled would reach from the plant to Vancouver". This ribbon will be converted into some 30,000 different products, from the familiar sheet used in the home workshop to the wide belt capable of sanding a full sheet of plywood or stainless steel.

In the fall of 1961 a companion line of bonded abrasives was added; commonly referred to as grinding wheels, sticks, stones and rubs. This combined with the primary product coated abrasives had placed Canada Sand Papers in the enviable position of supplying a complete abrasive system service.

The progress of Canada Sand Papers Limited is due largely to the development of markets, both at home and abroad. In addition to supplying the large Canadian Market, continued expansion is taking place in the export market, which now stands at over 24 countries. The development of this important market has taken top company

officials during the last year to Europe, the Far East and several Latin American countries.

The expansion of plant facilities has played an important role in the success of the Company. During 1966, a new building was erected for new equipment needed for increased finishing operations. This added 14,000 square feet of floor space. Total buildings now cover approximately four and one half acres.

A successful company is more than just buildings and markets . . . it is people. A close relationship between employer and employees, combined with long coated abrasive experience, has made Canada Sand Papers a leader in the coated abrasive industry today.

We have not come to the end of our history. The future will provide new challenges and opportunities for better finishing methods and technology.

HENRY DOBSON ANTIQUES



In September 1964, Henry Dobson moved his antique business into this building, erected in 1860 as a hotel.

Mr. Dobson opened his first showroom in the centre store formerly occupied by the Post Office and this spring converted the corner store, operated for many years by James Fergusson as a hardware, into another display area. The Dobsons specialize in hand-rubbed finishing in both their antique merchandise and their custom work.

BAIRD'S HARDWARE



The building now known as the Baird Apartments was purchased by Hugh Baird from Arthur Shantz of Toronto, in March 1963 following a fire the previous January which damaged two apartments and a large portion of the roof.

Following repairing and a redecorating, three of the four apartments in the building are now rented to the families of Mr. and Mrs. Clare Bullock, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Kendrick and Mr. Maurice Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendrick operate a barber shop and poolroom and a beauty parlour in the central downstairs premises and Baird's Hardware occupies the western portion previously used for a restaurant prior to the fire.

The hardware business was purchased by Hugh Baird from James Fergusson on May 1, 1965 and was moved across the street from the building now owned by Henry Dobson.

During the summer of 1967 the back of the building was changed by the removal of an old coal shed and the part which was formerly the kitchen during hotel days and then a laundryroom during the early days of the apartment building. At the same time an 18 foot by 18 foot storeroom was built on the rear of the hardware store.

C. HARRY MOSS BUILDING SUPPLIES



C. Harry Moss moved his carpentry business to Plattsville in 1954 with one employee and opened a shop in the former J. B. English building early in 1958. He started into the building supply business in 1957. He now has four employees, his eldest son Ben Moss, Bob Fulton, Mel Riesberry and a bookkeeper, Jack Elliott.



LOVE'S RADIO AND TELEVISION

Love's Radio and Television, operated by Walter Love after eight years in the U.S.A. as a ship and shore station radio telegraph operator, began operations as Love's Radio Service in 1935 in a back room upstairs in a house. Later, as the business expanded, the building now housing Harmer's Plumbing, Heating and Electrical was purchased from Norval Brown and the business conducted from there until 1950. Then the present building was erected just in time to get into the fast growing television business which hit its peak in 1956.

Of interest is the fact that the present building, which is of Halliday prefab construction with modifications, fits directly on the old stone foundation of a previous store and barber shop which was burned out in the disastrous fire of 1935 which consumed three quarters of the entire block.

CANADIAN IMPERIAL BANK OF COMMERCE



Plattsville Branch of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce has roots going back to the early history of banking in Ontario.

It was originally a branch of the Western Bank of Canada that flourished from 1882 to 1909 when it was amalgamated with the Standard Bank. The Standard Bank was taken over by the Canadian Bank of Commerce in 1928. A final amalgamation in 1961 resulted in the bank branch becoming one of the more than 1300 branches of the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. Manager of the branch today is Mr. A. H. Perry.

The Plattsville Branch was opened for business on November 25, 1902. In 1907 a sub-agency was opened at Innerkip. Mr. G. E. Sterling was manager of the older Plattsville office and the new Innerkip branch. The bank was then situated, as was the Post Office, in the old Jones House. This building is now owned and occupied by H. Dobson, antique dealer.

Managers throughout the years have been: Messrs. Sterling, McCallum, Phillipson, Porter, Hunter, Lane, Bryans, McBride, Livingstone and Perry.

In April, 1958 a fine new Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce building was opened. The modern building with stone front, natural pine finish, is well lighted and landscaped and is a welcome addition to Plattsville's main street.

ELLIS MOTORS



Robert C. Ellis is the owner of the garage and general repair shop, having purchased the business from Mr. Melvin Lachman in 1955.

ENGLISH'S RED & WHITE STORE



The English family has operated a general store in Plattsville for over 53 years.

In 1904 Mr. J. B. English came from Markdale, Ontario, and went to work in the R. J. Neal General Store. This store was located in the building now occupied by C. H. Moss Building Supplies.

In 1914 Mr. English bought the store from Mr. R. D. Ramsay. During the 1920's Mr. English was in partnership with his brother-in-law Mr. H. Shosenburg. From 1923-1925 Mr. Shosenburg operated the store in Plattsville while Mr. English was in business in Ingersoll. After returning to Plattsville, Mr. English continued to operate the store. In 1946 on returning from army service, J. H. English went into partnership with his father. Mr. J. B. English retired due to ill health in 1954. His son purchased the business.

In 1958 the store was moved to its present site in the former Canada Sand Papers office building and joined the Red & White group stores.

HARMER BROTHERS



In 1944 Clair joined his brother Rex who had been in business four months, to form Harmer Brothers, a partnership in the plumbing, heating and electrical wiring trade, now in its 24th year.

Their first place of business was the old Scott Bakery Shop on Wilmot Street. Some of the tinsmithing equipment still in use was purchased from their uncle, Mr. William Quandt, Sr., who was the former tinsmith of the village. Several years later they moved to a downtown location on Albert Street West, the west room of the old Bank Building or former room of the Post Office and Telephone Exchange, now the Dobson Building.

In 1949, just five years after they began, they purchased their present location on Albert Street from Walter Love for the expanding business with more room for appliance display.

MUERS GROCERY



Mr. and Mrs. Angus Muers came to Plattsville in June, 1956 and bought the grocery store formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. C. Hume. This is one of the older business places in Plattsville and escaped the fire of 1937. In May 1967, the Muers renovated the inside, added new equipment and freezers and enlarged the space for the store, by using the former residence part as storage.

RESTEMEYER'S MEAT MARKET



Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Restemeyer, formerly of London, bought the meat business from Mr. Ed. Fenn in 1952. The business was operated for almost 15 years. Three daughters Brenda, Sheila, Loree and one son Randy all assisted in operating the business. New equipment was added to the store such as refrigeration centre, freezer, slicer, etc. The Abattoir was completely renovated and a large refrigerated cooler added in 1962. The business ceased to operate in 1967 when Mr. Restemeyer accepted a position with the Provincial Government as a meat inspector.

HAMILTON'S GARAGE



Lloyd Hamilton purchased the Shell Station located at the corner of Albert and Fennell Streets from Mr. Allen Schmidt in June, 1961. There is at the present time a full time mechanic, Mr. Ronald Herd, a helper, Mr. Frank Brown, and a part time bookkeeper, Miss Ruby Milne. Jack Hamilton works with his father evenings and weekends while still going to Waterloo-Oxford District High School.

BELL TELEPHONE



Oxford County's first telephone was installed in Veitch and Neal's apothecary in 1886. A second telephone was installed at Snider and Steckle Millers. The druggists were made agents for the telephone company with offices open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sundays.

The old Blake telephone installed in the two local businesses consisted of three boxes mounted on a backboard. The top most box contained the generator, the middle box held the mouth piece and the bottom box held the batteries. A bell-shaped receiver dangled on the left of the top box. A sturdy crank protruded on the right side. A uniform rate was charged for a 5 minute conversation. For 20 cents a 20 word message was sent to any subscriber within 150 miles.

In the 1890's C. A. Rutherford became local manager for the Bell Co. and the long distance switch was moved to his residence. There were only six subscribers at this time: Veitch and Neal drug store, Snider and Steckle Millers, Baird Furniture Co., McKie Buggy Factory, Dr. J. Brown and Dr. A. Willson.

By 1902 Plattsville folk were feeling the need for local telephone service. The McKie Buggy factory wrote the Bell office requesting the opening of a telephone exchange in the village and also connection with their shipping point, Bright Station. In 1903 a primitive switchboard was installed in the Bank of Commerce building and the village telephone exchange opened with Mr. J. K. Currey, postmaster also Canadian National freight agent and local telephone manager. Mr. Currey retained his position of 39 years retiring in 1942 at the age of 82.

After Mr. Currey's retirement the office was moved to Walter Love's residence. Mrs. Walter Love was the local representative until the dial system was introduced in 1960.

Twenty-four hour service was instituted in July, 1911 and Plattsville's 100th telephone was installed at that time.

At 2 a.m. on October 16, 1960 the new dial system began and

Plattsville numbers were changed to fit Bell's continent-wide numbering plan.

Miss Ann Rendall, Miss J. McMeekin, the late Mrs. Walter Love and the late Miss A. Copley are all members of the Bell Telephone Pioneer's Club signifying over 25 years of service.

Plattsville now has a new telephone building on the corner of Mill and Fennell Streets. An addition was made to this building in 1967.

P. J. WALLBANK MFG. COMPANY LIMITED



Philip Wallbank came to Canada from England in 1953. He worked for Premier Spring in Ayr for one year. He saw the need for the manufacturing of various types of springs and wire products in Canada so decided to start up on his own.

In 1954 Philip started winding springs on a home made mandrel in the back kitchen of the home he lived in on the Bretz Farm, one mile north of Washington. This expanded rapidly and he had other machines placed in private homes where they also wound springs. These springs were joined by hand by home workers in the immediate area.

This growing business convinced him to move into the old McKie Buggy Factory House in 1956. This building was owned then by the Canada Sand Papers and it had a floor space of 2,000 square feet.

In 1958 The P. J. Wallbank Mfg. Co. Ltd. was formed and the business was calling for a larger building. The Canada Sand Papers moved out of the old McKie Buggy Factory and Philip Wallbank took over this building. It is a three storey building with two storeys of workable floor space, about 10,000 square feet.

Today the Wallbank Mfg. Co. manufactures wire products, strip metal formings and stampings, precision coil springs and many other items for the automotive, hardware and toy industries. The firm boasts of automatic winding machines, presses, wire machines, electric ovens engineered and built in the modern complete machine shop with its skilled machinists and tool and die makers.

There are an average of thirty-five men and women employed with over twenty home workers also.

KOFFEE KUP RESTAURANT



This business was established by Elmer Doan in or around 1947. It was later sold to Doug Clayton. In 1960 Clare Israel of Kitchener purchased it and operated the restaurant for seven years. In April, 1967 it was sold to Mrs. James McLaren who operated the business for a year. Mr. F. Pitschner purchased it this spring. Gas pumps have been added.



OWEN SHOWELL HONEY BUSINESS

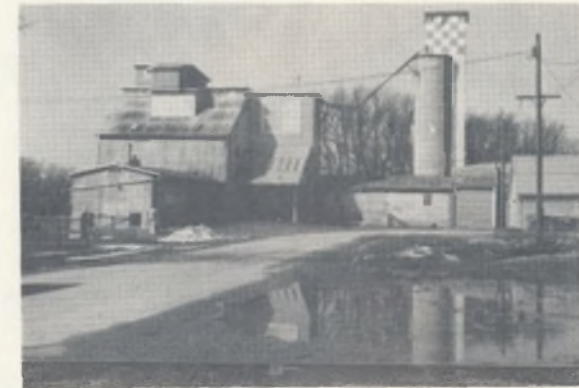
The Evangelical Church was purchased in 1938 by Mr. Harold Stewart, who used this building in his bee business. Mr. Stewart died in the winter of 1941 and Owen Showell purchased the business and building in the spring of 1941. The business has been increased until now it is one of the largest in the province. Mr. Showell had been in the bee business for 51 years.

LYLE EDMONSTONE AND SONS

Lyle Edmonstone and family came to Plattsville from Owen Sound in the spring of 1954 to work for Mr. O. Showell.

In the spring of 1965 Mr. Edmonstone bought the bees and equipment from Mr. Showell. Comb honey and extracted honey are produced. Honey bees may also be rented for pollination of orchards and legume fields.

WOODSTOCK FEED CO. LTD.



The Woodstock Feed Company was incorporated on January 1, 1954, with Mr. Don Currah of Plattsville and Mr. V. J. Kaufman of near Woodstock as partners.

Mr. V. J. Kaufman had owned the mill, having bought it from Mr. Lorne Currah on August 1, 1941, Mr. Lorne Currah having taken over on January 16, 1935.

ELIZABETH'S BEAUTY PARLOUR



This business, operated by Mrs. William Wallbank was first established in 1960 in the living room of her house. Later an old sun-room was converted into the present up to date beauty parlour which has been completely refurnished and new equipment installed.

GLENDINNING FUNERAL PARLOUR



In 1936 Plattsville had no funeral home, so in January, 1936 Alex Glendinning, licensed embalmer of Embro, rented what had been the former drugstore. A Funeral Parlour, preparation room, show room and small furniture room were downstairs and an apartment upstairs where the family resided for 26 years. An ambulance service was run until the spring of 1967. In September 1936 Alex married Dorothy Forbes of Braemar, West Zorra. Their family consists of Bill, Bob, Donald and Jane Anne.

Donald died in 1940. The others are married. Bill lives in Kitchener, Bob and Jane Anne (Mrs. James Thomson) here in Plattsville.

In the spring of 1962 the former public school property became available and Alex purchased it. The two storey front part was converted to a three floor apartment building with six apartments. The one storey part to the rear of this was converted into funeral parlours and a new home was built attached to the funeral parlours. One lot on the north end was sold and the remaining lot is in gardens and lawns.

THE PLATTSVILLE APPLE STORAGE

Mr. John Hilderley moved to Plattsville on Douro Street in 1936. Besides starting a hatchery, he also had the foresight of an apple business.

He planted several orchards on his property which he reaped in later years.

In 1955 his apple growth was large enough to warrant a cold storage building which has been in operation since.

DR. HANS LUYKEN VETERINARIAN



In March, 1959 Dr. Hans Luyken and family arrived from Mexico City to establish a veterinary practice, succeeding the late Dr. Harold Nurse.

At first the practice was operated from his home, the apartment above the J. H. English Grocery Store.

In November of the same year the office was moved to the Bullock house, corner of Albert and Henry Streets, where the family lived. Mrs. Roy Habel joined the office staff and has been with the practice since.

A new home with improved office facilities was built in 1961 on Albert Street where it is located today.

PLATTSVILLE CHICK HATCHERY



The Plattsville Hatchery was operated by John Hilderley who came to the village in January, 1936. This was a business started years before as a sideline while working on a farm near Innerkip.

John Hilderley was one of the first in hatching chicks by incubators in this part of Ontario, although in a small way. The earliest records date back to 1923. However it started some years before this time.

In 1936 hatching was done at his home place on Douro Street for three years. In 1939 he moved the hatchery to the basement of Lorne Currah's Mill, now Woodstock Feed. The chicks were brooded in a building on York Street and also at the old McKie house beside the old Buggy Factory (now McMillan Body Shop) from 1940 to 1948.

In 1940 property was purchased across from the mill on which a barn stood. This was converted into a chicken and brooding house. In 1948 the hatchery was moved from the mill to a building on York Street until closing in 1959.

In 1950 a new brooder house was built across from the mill and used until closing in 1960. In 1965 the Woodstock Feed purchased this brooder house and property and Harry Moss purchased the property on York Street.

DR. EUGENE STEVENS



The practice of medicine in the present building at the corner of Albert and William Streets, was begun in the nineteenth century by Dr. Arthur Isaac Willson, who remained here for some forty years. Dr. S. Victor Railton followed in 1930, and Dr. Kenneth B. MacKenzie in 1933. Dr. Eugene Stevens came to Plattsville on March 1, 1940. In 1950 the office section of the building was torn down and rebuilt.

Dr. Stevens, born in Toronto, Ontario, received his public and secondary schooling in Chesley, Ontario, and graduated from the University of Toronto in 1928. Dr. and Mrs. Stevens (nee Louise H. Harris, London, Ontario) served with the Presbyterian Church in Canada in the MacKay Memorial Hospital, Taipei, Taiwan, from 1930 to 1939. Their son was born in Taiwan and their daughter in London, Ontario. Ann Louise (Mrs. Karl Mielke) resides in Renfrew; Robert lives in Kitchener.



PLATTSVILLE AND DISTRICT PUBLIC SCHOOL GRADES 7 AND 8 1964-1965 — Front Row (Left to right); Nancy Waldie, Celia Alexander, Judy Allen, Fern Hofstetter, Donna Cressman, Susan Moss, Norma Gordier, Marilyn MacDonald, Mary Margaret Hastings.

Second Row (Left to right); Louise Blackmore, Gail Harmer, Don Peters, Bob Bourne, Mike Hamacher, Joe Stahlbaum, Paul Hallman, Don Stewart, Karen Harmer, Ruth Blackmore.

Third Row (Left to right); Graham Wallbank, Glen Diamond, Randy Roth, Bill Kendrick, David Hall, Richard Hofstetter, Jim Brown, Jim McCartney, Ian Thomson, Tom Bomhower; Principal, Grant Sim.

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