

HAGERSVILLE Highlights

Two Fire Calls

Hagersville Volunteer Firemen were called to the farm of Leo VanderBussche, of the 13th Concession of Walpole, R. R. 4 Hagersville, on Tuesday, September 11 at 1:30 p.m. There, a grass fire was burning rapidly, aided by extremely high winds. The firemen required nearly two hours to extinguish the flames, which had burnt an area of 30 acres of grass. Fire Chief William McClarty, stated "there is a possibility this fire was caused by a carelessly thrown cigarette butt since it started directly beside the road."

The second grass fire was on Wednesday, September 12, at 4:45, also due to the extreme dry conditions. This was at the residence of Kenneth McGregor, No. 6 Highway, R.-R. 3 Hagersville, when the grass fire erupted from a burning incinerator. The volunteer firemen promptly extinguished this fire upon their arrival at the scene, with no damage resulting.

The Fire Chief was pleased with the attendance at the meeting on Thursday evening, September 13 held in the Community Centre, regarding a proposal to convert the building into a much-needed hall. He felt however, those who had definite plans and ideas, on how this would serve as a most beneficial Fire Hall, failed to appear, or if present, neglected to state their ideas. Fire Chief McClarty believes the majority of those who did speak up regarding the destiny of the C.C., were speaking for sentimental reasons only.

More than 30 hungry eager-beaver members of the Hagersville Triple F Club met at the United Church at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday evening, September 15.

Malcolm, Hewitt Drive; Gladys and Alvin Hewitt, Elm St.; and finally at the home of Marie and Howard Hewitt, King St. E. for the meeting, with dessert and coffee. Many varied and interesting appetizers of cheeses, relishes, biscuits, etc., with fruit juice was the first course of the evening, while the second consisted of assorted and attractive cabbage rolls etc. which proved to be a beautiful main course. President, Margaret Lougheed welcomed all in attendance at the spacious recreation room of the Howard Hewitt's, this being her first meeting of Triple F to serve in this office. She extended a special thanks to all the hosts, who graciously opened their homes to the group for this travelling supper. Likewise, Marg warmly welcomed all those newcomers present, trusting they will each month on the third Saturday, join with us for a time of faith, fun and fellowship.

Secretary, Ted Heinrichs read the minutes, which proved to be "most interesting," followed by Treasurer Howard Hewitt presenting his report. Some discussion took place regarding a "Luncheon Is Served," and other means of raising money, with a motion made to have our second Arts and Crafts Show in the spring. It was decided unanimously to have the Adult Opportunity Centre at Canfield once again as our project, and to perhaps invite them to our Christmas Family meeting.

A reminder was announced regarding the trip to the studio of Marion Emery for the November meeting, while the A. Esselments, together with the A.C. Smiths, will arrange for the October meeting - the tentative plans are a bus trip and tour, with more information on this later. Volunteering for the December meeting were, Marg L., Ted H. and the John VanLoons. Following sumptuous desserts, served with plenty of famous Hewitt's ice-cream and hot coffee, the Mizpah benediction was repeated by all.

Branch 164 Meet

All officers were present for the first meeting, following the summer recess, when Branch 164 held their monthly meeting at the hall on Tuesday evening, September 4 with a good attendance.

President, Clarence Jackson presided, and new members accepted were Harry Tillinghast, Ronald George Wilton and Alan Grant Scott. Secretary, Comrade Omar Phillips read the minutes of the June general meeting, also the minutes of the latest executive meeting. Comrade Dave Ince read a letter to verify the bonds purchased from Canada Trust, also presenting his treasurer's report to date. A letter of thanks was read from the Haldimand Board of Education regarding the donation of \$25.00 to assist with the bicycle rodeo recently held in Cayuga. Other letters of appreciation and thanks were read from those receiving comforts of T.V.'s etc.

Speaking on behalf of the Ways and Means Committee, Comrade Ted Brooks stated he urgently requires more assistance in helping with the Monday night bingos held in the Hall. Following six years of operation, very few members of the Branch have assisted Ted in this venture. Public Relations Officer, Comrade A. Esselment reported on his being asked to assist at the Bicycle Rodeo in Cayuga, which had several Hagersville students competing in various events. Other reports were presented by Service Officer Peter Stoddard,

Sick Committee Chairman, Dave Ince, stating presently one in hospital - Comrade Ted Brown. The House Committee Chairman, Ted Brooks, elaborated on the painting and re-decorating recently completed of the back hall, a much-needed improvement.

Comrade Nat Salvatore stated the baseball team sponsored by Branch 164, had won the Southern Counties Championship, and now will progress to the finals.

President Jackson presented the membership as follows - 11 Life; 206 Ordinary; 31 Associate; 22 Honorary;

and 60 Fraternal. New business discussion included a request from Bob Bain to have the Legion Hall for one night to arrange a Junior Hockey meeting; this request was granted.

On Sunday October 21 there will be a Zone Seminar commencing at 9:30 a.m. The District Convention will be held at Branch 60 in Burlington on October 27 and 28, with Branch 164 delegates being Comrades Stinson, Best and Krauskopf. The meeting adjourned with the singing of God Save the Queen and lunch was served, as prepared by Comrade Orville Elsie.

Bell To Pay \$2,811 In Taxes To Jarvis

The Village of Jarvis will receive a boost in the amount of gross receipts taxes paid by Bell Canada.

The change legislated by the Ontario Government means Bell will pay \$2,811.00 this year compared to \$647 in 1972, an increase of \$2,165.

Gross receipts taxes are a unique form of municipal tax levied against telephone and telegraph companies in Ontario communities. These utilities pay the tax in addition to real estate and business taxes paid by all businesses.

Under the former system, Bell paid to each community in which it operated a tax calculated by applying the local mill rate to the gross receipts taken in by the company.

The new legislation calls for the tax to be computed by calculating the number of phones Bell has in service in a community at each year's end, multiplying the total by five percent of the company's gross receipts in Ontario, and then dividing this by the total number of phones Bell has in Ontario.

The new formula will result in 52 percent increase to 31.6 million in Bell's gross receipts tax bill in Ontario this year.

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Jack - Pot Winners

The jack-pot bingo of \$125.00 was won at the weekly Canadian Legion bingo on Monday evening, September 17, in 60 numbers. Tied for the prize were Mrs. Fran Robinson, King St. W., and Mrs. Edna Lampman, Sherring St. N., who each received \$62.50 for their efforts. Coincidentally Mrs. Lampman was also the winner of the entire jack-pot the last time it was won.

Bingos are held each Monday evening at 8 p.m. in the Legion Auditorium, with anyone over 16 years of age welcome to attend. Two cash prizes are given each regular game, with two special games each night, as well as two "Share the Wealth" games, with a jack-pot totaling \$125, commencing at 55 numbers.

Hagersville Boundary

John Kincaid, reeve of Hagersville and Norm Crawford, deputy reeve presented their recommendation for the portion of Walpole Twp. to be annexed for future village growth at last Wednesday's meeting of the proposed Municipality of Central Haldimand.

They proposed Walpole lots 12 and 13 of Concession 14; lots 12, 13 and 14 of Concession 13; lots 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 of Concession 12 and 300 feet north of lots 12-20 of Concession 11 to be included in the village. Mr. Crawford explained the extra 300 feet was to bring the village wells within their area.



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History Of Hagersville

The History of Hagersville and area is being written this summer by Mary Lou Willard, Audre Graham and Janet Carr on an Opportunity for Youth grant. The following is the sixth installment of their book.

DRS. R. AND M. McDONALD

The following article was printed in the "Illustrated Trade Edition of Hagersville" published in 1903.

One of the most prominent citizens and likewise one of the oldest medical practitioners here is Mr. McDonald, who has had over thirty years of active practice and now enjoys a very lucrative business. He is considered very skillful in his profession. The doctor is Coroner of the County, as well as medical attendant for the Missisauga Indians. Dr. McDonald is ably assisted by his daughter, Dr. M. McDonald, she being very successful in the treatment of children's and women's diseases of which she makes a specialty. Those who know the doctor best say, that there is not another medical practitioner in Western Ontario who has been more successful in surgery than he. The Doctor is one of the most prominent Masons in Western Ontario, having been District Grand Master; he has filled almost every responsible position in the town, having been Hagersville's first Reeve, a position in which he gave the greatest degree of satisfaction, he was at one time a member of the High School Board. Dr. McDonald is a man universally esteemed by all classes of people, so much so that his confreres elected him President of the Haldimand Medical Association.

These few people mentioned in this section are indeed only a very small percentage of those worthy of mention. However, as is the case in all small communities in their first years of development, a large percentage of people move on to greener pastures, leaving little or no information for we, the generations to come, to learn and pass on to others.

HAGERSVILLE 1850-1860

By 1850, Hagersville consisted of a blacksmith shop, hotel and a few scattered cleared acres of land. One report of the times says that wild animals roamed through the small clearings. It was no uncommon sight to see the settlers attend church with rifles which were stood in the corner ready for use. The new Plank Road made for a lot of traffic clattering noisily through or stopping for a change of horses, or for a meal and rest for the passen-

gers travelling by stage coach. The entire population of Walpole was 2,788 and Oneida had only 1,507 people, so you can see that the whole vicinity was still very undeveloped and scarcely populated.

In 1851, with the issuing of the first Canadian postage stamp, the post office was opened in Hager's Hotel and it was here that Joseph Seymour proposed naming the town Hagersville in honour of the men who erected the first buildings.


By the latter part of the decade, the Hagersville situation had

improved considerably. According to Lovel's Canada Business Directory 1857-1858, Hagersville had a daily mail delivery, and these were the businesses in town: David Almas - stage proprietor, tavern keeper; George Anderson - carriage maker; Charles Hager - post master and store keeper; Wm. Harrison - shoe maker; Asa Huff - tavern keeper; John Jeston - wagon maker; John Kenner - blacksmith; George McCarter - blacksmith; Robert Morrison - carriage maker; Robert Turnville - blacksmith; Richard White - shoe

maker. All of these businesses were sprinkled along the Plank Road, that being not only the main street, but the only street.

It is interesting to note that William Lyon McKenzie, the controversial leader of the 1837 Rebellion in Toronto was member of Parliament for Haldimand from 1851 and for the following four terms. It seems that McKenzie had been long casting about for a seat in Parliament, and it is said that he was campaigning in Haldimand before the funeral of Thompson, the member

elected by an easy majority in 1844. He at first did not name himself as a candidate, but merely announced in his handbills that he would address the electors on the political issues of the day. Sir Frances Hincks, the government leader, wanted George Brown, the editor of his own paper, the "Globe," as a candidate, and the question of how to get him to offer himself as candidate presented itself.

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