

S.S. NO. 6 (BERRY MCKEE)

SITUATED on No. 3 Highway at Hardman Sideroad, or more commonly known as School Lane, a long frame school was built in the early 1880's and many of the pupils attending then, who have been pioneers of this district, have descendants still living here with children attending this particular school section, up until June, 1970 when the school section of No. 6 was phased out and classes discontinued there. This was when the Essex County Board took charge (Jan. 1st., 1969) and a new elementary school was built in Sandwich West where pupils from this school section were transferred following its completion in Sept. 1970. It was officially opened Dec. 6th, 1970. School section No. 4 and Section No. 10 were also phased out and closed at this time; pupils from No. 4 went to this new school and a portion of them to the Prince Andrew School, also in Sandwich West. The Opportunity Class pupils who had been attending No. 40 with Mrs. Robert Currie as teacher were transferred to No. 5 (Charles Collins) and Mrs. Joe Dicker who had been principal of No. 4 was transferred to No. 5 to teach the Opportunity Class and be Principal there. They were also teaching grade 5 at that school.

The records kept at the school go back to 1909 when a Mr. Wm. Weir was teacher, at a salary of \$455.00 per year and the total expenses of running the school were \$611.32. At that time G. B. Collins, Charles Hardman and Frank Burke were trustees, with George O'Neil as secretary-treasurer. \$38,000 was allotted for educating the children in the Sandwich South School Area comprised of six public schools in 1953, of which 60% went towards salaries. By this time the Area Board which came into effect in the summer of 1945 was the elected body in charge of schools. A new brick one-room school built on a foundation with a partial basement underneath was built in 1916, the original half acre of land on which these schools were built was donated off the Ed. Burke (Grandfather of the present William Burke) whose family still reside on No. 3 Highway next to the school. Mr. Ed. Burke had been secretary-treasurer of the school almost 100 years ago. One acre more land was purchased from the Burke Farm in 1940 to enlarge the school grounds for a play area and also to have more room for a needed bungalow school.

Mr. David Croft was the contractor for the new school, which cost approximately \$4000.00 and he bought the debentures which drew 6% interest. Walter Jessop became secretary-treasurer at the time the new school opened and held this office until the end of 1944 when the School Area System came into being and he resigned. This school with the addition of a frame bungalow one room structure served the Section up until 1960 when another new modern two-room structure was built by Callavino Brothers Construction Co., Ltd., Windsor, and officially opened Feb. 10th, 1961.

The bungalow School was built in 1929 at a cost of \$1500.00. This was to take care of the over-flow of pupils as families were beginning to move into the area from the city and take holdings of small acreage thus avoiding the high taxes. Most of these were industrial workers who built small homes and became permanent taxpayers. There were 80 pupils trying to be accommodated in the one school room. Up to grade 4 then was accommodated in the new bungalow. Mrs. Fred Hardman was the first teacher for the bungalow and taught her classes in the basement of the Senior Room for a month until the bungalow was ready. She had taught since about 1918 in the Sr. Room prior to her marriage. Following her in 1936, the Jr. Room teacher became Miss Muriel Wilson, (Mrs. John Beldean) who taught until 1942 and then was transferred to the Senior Room for two years. Miss E. Dixon then taught the Junior Room, followed by Dorothy Miller for two years and Miss Clugston for one. Afterwards Mrs. Wm. Coutts taught and the Junior Room was closed for a period following 1945 when the attendance dropped back to less than fifty for the school section following the Second World War. Mrs. Coutts then was transferred to the Senior Room where she taught one year (1945-1946). Mrs. Stanley Holden followed her in 1946 and taught there until 1966 when she retired.

Early in the 1940's there was a shifting of Roman Catholic pupils from No. 6 to No. 7 Separate School (St. Mary's) which was also located on No. 3 Highway about two miles further East below Oldcastle, and this helped to bring the over-all attendance down. The Junior Room was re-opened again in 1950 with Miss Eileen Munk as teacher, she was followed in 1951 by Mr. Harry Knapper and in 1952 by Mrs. Margaret Snelling. Mrs. Marion G. Tiers was appointed for the fall term in 1953.

The Township Area System had its first Board in January, 1946 as follows:
 Chairman - Marshall Jessop of No. 6
 Trustees - Russell Pettypiece of No. 10; Orville Farough of No. 5; Kenneth MacKenzie of No. 2 and Hubert Shuel of No. 4; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Harry Pettypiece of No. 10. In the formation of the Area Board there were to be five trustees and there being six Sections in Sandwich South, No. 1 School was not represented the first year. This Board was part of the municipal governing Board with the election of officers taking place at the same time as the township Municipal Elections each year in the township hall.

In 1944, the Home & School Association purchased a piano from Miss Muriel Wilson teacher and was moved all the way from the Ottawa Valley to the school.

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\$25.00 was paid for it, and later when music became a compulsory subject in the schools, the School Board reimbursed the Home & School Association. Agnes Hartley was the first music instructor.

In 1939, the school was wired for electricity and the first electric lights were installed.

In 1951 a delegation from S. S. No. 6 Home & School Association attended a Sandwich South Council meeting and inquired about a health program for the schools, explaining that not even a nurse visited the schools and that a doctor only visited about once a year. The Council promised to look into the matter and they then engaged a nurse to visit the schools regularly. Miss Arnia Boyle was engaged in 1952 and set up a health program, charts on inoculating and vaccinating the children. The Home & Schools then undertook to do some of the clerical work in connection with the system set up. Miss Boyle was still in charge of Sandwich South Schools in the year 1971. When Council was first approached they related to the delegation that somewhere on their books was the name of a health commissioner but they couldn't find who he was and didn't know.

TEACHERS OF THE SCHOOL - PAST AND PRESENT

Early teachers were: Sister Benedict, (formerly Alice Spring), step-daughter of the late Mike McCarthy, Oldeastle's first Postmaster; Miss Dalton; Mary Frances Cole; John Moynahan, (first clerk of Sandwich South) and brother of Nellie Moynahan, who also taught here; Miss Addie Devlin; Miss M. O'Leary; Miss Galligher; Miss Nora Keating; Miss Anna Moran; Miss Norma Maloney; Wm. Weir; Miss Evelyn Banks, 1916 when the new school opened; Margaret Howe; (Who later became Mrs. Ernest O'Neil and still later Mrs. Jos. Tully, wife of the Rev. Tully who for 18 years had been rector of St. Stephen's Anglican Church, 1929-1947. Miss Howe boarded at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Lepain, parents of Miss Clarice Lepain who had been secretary and bookkeeper at the Oldeastle Co-Operative in the area for many years and died in Dec. of 1969. Their farm home was across the school lane from the school on No. 3 Highway. In those days board ran from \$1.65 to \$1.75 per week for teachers; Miss Nellie Moynahan. She was the aunt of Mrs. Ned Lyons (Mary Broderick) who still resides in the area. Miss Moynahan taught the writer's father at S. S. No. 8 Maidstone about 100 years ago; Miss Margaret Ross; Mrs. Josephine Dunn; Miss Christina Passingham; Miss Jean McDonald; Miss Agnes McLaughlin, who also taught at No. 7 Separate School; Miss Nellie Fleming, (Mrs. Fred Herdman) whose family farmed in the area for many years, she came back to the school as teacher in the Junior Room in 1929 when it opened. They resided at this time at the corner of North Talbot Road and School Lane; she now resides on Ducharme Ave., in Roseland; Miss Ruby Emerson (now Mrs. Hugh J. O'Neil) who taught for 9 years here, married into one of our pioneer families and remained here to become a part of our community as did Mrs. Herdman. In 1953 they built a lovely new ranch type home on South Talbot Road near Walker Road on the pioneer farm property of his parents the Frank O'Neil's who were instrumental for initiating the first telephone municipal system in the township. Mr. O'Neil was co-owner of the Oldeastle Cold Storage and built the building but have sold out the enterprise. Then came Miss Phyllis Raymond, now Mrs. Raymann of Michigan; Miss Muriel Wilson, now Mrs. John Beldean also of Michigan; Miss Marian Smith, now Mrs. Edw. Knause, of Harrisburg, Pa., she married a Philadelphia lawyer; Mrs. Wm. Coutts; In 1946, Mrs. Stanley Holden came as principal of the Senior Room and is another of the teachers to marry into pioneer farming families and remain here. She remained until 1966 when she retired. Mrs. Eleanor Kimball then became Principal and Wm. Brookshire had charge of Intermediates. The Section was phased out and the school held no more classes at the term end, June, 1970. Mr. Frank Foote was the last janitor.

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Early in the year 1940, Mrs. Frank Mills consulted teachers, Miss Muriel Wilson and Miss Dorothy Miller if they would be in accord with forming a Home & School Assoc. for the school. The trustees at the time were also consulted, they being Mr. Elmar St. O'Neil, Mr. Chas. Washbrook and Mr. Chas. Dickson. All these bodies gave their approval, notes were written by the teachers to the parents and on Feb. 5th, 1940 a meeting was called to be held in the school at 8.00 p.m. for the purpose of forming the Association. Mrs. Mill who had belonged to John Campbell Home & School Assoc. in Windsor, arranged for the Organizer of the Windsor Home & School Council, Mrs. Lorne Rogers and the President of the Council, Mrs. E. W. Lancaster to come out to explain the necessary steps to be taken to form an Association of our own. The aims and objects of the movement was explained and the group of parents assembled voted to have them come out again one week later to organize the group. So, it was on the evening of Feb. 12th, 1940, S. S. No. 6 Home & School Association became into being. There were eleven charter members. Miss Wilson and Mrs. Chas. Washbrook were appointed to retire to the teacher's room to pick out a slate of officers. Mrs. W.A. Crowder was appointed from the floor to take the minutes of the organizational meeting. The first regular meeting was held in the school on March 18th, and the new group had their first money-making project in the form of a community card party at the home of the newly elected president, Mrs. George Martin, Walker Road, on March 1st. with a large attendance, 16 tables of cards being played.

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The new officers who took office were: President - Mrs. George Martin (a very new resident in the community) so as not to show partiality, we said. Vice-presidents - Mrs. Charles Washbrook, Miss Murial Wilson; recording secretary - Mrs. W. A. Crowder; corresponding secretary - Mrs. R. D. Fawcett; treasurer - Mrs. Glenn Walper; Executive members - Mrs. Frank Mills, Miss Dorothy Miller, Mrs. A. A. Walsh, Mrs. Gordon Williams and Mr. John Jessop (the only father to attend at the organizational meeting). They voted to meet at the school every third Monday night.

The following presidents followed Mrs. George Martin: Mrs. Frank Mills, Mrs. Percy Jessop, Mrs. David Donnelly, Mrs. H. L. Fraser, Mrs. George Mann, Mrs. Arthur Mann, Mrs. Wm. Bowsher, Mrs. Sam MacKenzie, Mrs. Carl Esping and the last president Mrs. B. E. Staath. The organization disbanded when the school was closed at the end of 1970. S. S. No. 6 Home & School Association was the very first rural Association formed in Essex County.

Mrs. Mills, Mrs. Jessop and Mrs. Donnelly and Mrs. Fraser who all completed their three years as president were presented with gold inscribed President's pins. All these members retired from the Association as their children graduated and they had no more attending the school. Mrs. W. A. Crowder retired at the Annual Meeting, March 22nd, 1954, after 14 years of active service with the group, only missing three meetings in all that time. For her untiring efforts she was presented with a beautiful cup and saucer by Mrs. Hugh O'Neil on behalf of the Association. Mrs. H. L. Fraser, before the group disbanded presented her with a Life Membership.

July 8th, 1966 - June, 1966 was exodus month at S. S. No. 6 (Percy McKee School). It marked the retirement of the Sr. Room teacher, Mrs. Stanley Holden and the farewell of Mrs. Wallace Tiers (who next year would be principal of Frith Public School (S. S. No. 11); the graduation of 15 grade 8 pupils and the dissolving of the Home & School Association due to the new school set-up. This Association served continuously for 26 years with active parent participation, splendid co-operation between parents, teachers and pupils. It was not only an informative group, having many timely speakers but also filled a need for community social togetherness, especially among young school-age parents. Thurs., June 23rd., at 8 p.m. sparked a bit of nostalgia mixed with some sad emotions to the writer who was the Charter Recording Secretary and strove diligently with other charter officers, including Mrs. George Martin, first president to get the Association off the ground and actively functioning.

Mrs. Holden presented the graduates with school pins purchased by the retiring Association. Graduates: Bruce Bishop, Harvey Bishop, Patsy Cooper, Leeland Hartley, Joan Holinworth, Peggy Libby, Robert Martin, Paula McKee, Bill Pettyplace, Cheryl Raymont, Elaine Shepley, Cathy Shields, Elizabeth Taylor, and Kathy Thrasher. Guest speaker was Foster Hutton, Vice-principal of Essex District High School, who spoke on "Jumping In" and which proved somewhat of a reunion for him. It was at S. S. No. 6, he had his practice teaching with Mrs. Holden. He reminisced with Mrs. A. J. Mann and Mrs. B. E. Staath, his grade 2 and grade 6 teachers, respectively at King Edward Public School in Windsor.

Mrs. Staath presented Mrs. Tiers with a gift, then Mrs. Carl Esping, past president of Percy McKee Home & School Association (so named when the new school which became the Percy McKee School) from the old No. 6, presented Mrs. Staath, chairman for the evening with a Past President's pin. Mrs. Staath was the last president of the Association.

Open house at the school on June 25th (Saturday) 1966, saw the return of many of Mrs. Holden's pupils to reminisce with her and former class-mates. The last Field Day was held June 28th, this event being held each year since 1940 when the Home & School was organized.

At an executive meeting held at the home of Mrs. B. E. Staath, on July 4th, 1966, formal motion was made and carried to surrender the charter of hts Percy McKee Home & School Association formed as S. S. No. 6 Sandwich South on Feb. 12th, 1940. The writer pens these last remarks with sadness of heart but also one filled with wonderful memories of serving this group as an officer for 14 years. (Mrs. W.A.Crowder)

TROPHIES AND AWARDS WON AT S.S. NO. 6 SCHOOL

The highest marks in the Entrance Examinations for Essex County in the year 1937, was won by one of our pupils, Margaret Fawcett, now Mrs. Railton Wade, who resides on Cabana Road in Roseland. She was the daughter of the R. D. Fawcett's of Walker Road. The same award was made to Mae Banwell in 1939. She became a Medical Doctor in her own right, graduating from John Hopkin's University and is the wife of Dr. Andersen Nettleship, of Little Rock, Ark. She was the daughter of the Edward Banwell's of Cons. 6, Sandwich South and lately of Roseland where they retired from their farm to reside.

Entrance Examinations were eliminated in 1951.

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Awards received in the Annual Music Festivals since they were started in 1950, were by Jimmy Channey in 1950 and 1951 for solo; Jimmy Channey and Frank O'Neil for Duet in 1952; girl's solo cup was presented to Karen Mann with 86 points and boy's solo cup to Harry Fraser with 84 points in 1953; the Junior room in No. 6 was runner-up in choral singing.

DEDICATIONS AND MEMORIALS

In 1942, two framed pictures, "Blue Boy" and "Little Girl" were donated, one to each room, by Mrs. Harry Jenner, dedicated to her daughter Phyllis, a graduate of this school. In September, 1948 a textbook for grade eight pupils "England in Europe", written and autographed by the author, Prof. E. L. Daniher of the College of Education and the University of Toronto was donated to the school by Mrs. W. A. Crowder, niece of the author for the school library. This book being dedicated to the three Crowder children who were graduates of this school; Helen with Honours in 1939, Robert with honours in 1942, and Edwin with honours in 1953. In Feb., 1954 at the Home & School 14th Birthday party, a beautiful framed portrait of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth Second was presented to the Senior Room from Mr. & Mrs. H. L. Fraser, in memory of their son Danny, a graduate, who was tragically killed in an automobile accident, June, 1952. Mrs. Fraser was president at this time of our Home & School Association. A similar but smaller one was presented to the Junior Room at this time from Mr. & Mrs. Manson Jessop, dedicated to their son Gary, a 1953 graduate. Gary's grandfather was Secretary-Treasurer of the old Sandwich South School Board for over 30 years.

SOME WHO GAINED DISTINCTION OUT OF THIS SCHOOL

Out of our school came Dr. Raymond Morand, M. P.; Walker Whiteside, Lawyer; Charles Cole, passed Civil Service Examinations while attending school when Miss Nellie Moynahan was teacher; Miss Ida Collins, Missionary; Mr. Garnet McKee, who invented the Windshield Wiper for automobiles; Dr. Mae Banwell (Mrs. Anderson Nettleship), daughter of the Edward Banwell's, pioneer farmers of the area; Grace Robinson became the first teacher to graduate in many years and started teaching near London in 1953. Since that time there have been several teachers, nurses, and graduates of Ontario Agriculture College, Guelph and Western Agricultural Institute of Technology, St. Thomas. Bonnie Copland, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. John A. Copland, who studied both voice and piano had earned many awards and scholarships, graduate of

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Windsor Teacher's
College.

Henry Archibald	Norman Martin	Bill O'Neil (Ex
Claire Atkinson	William Martin	Marion Smith- teacher)
Wilfred Atkinson	William Washbrook	Murray Washbrook
Donald Burke	Harold Washbrook	Cecil Vanderbeck
George Cunningham	Will Maxwell	Dennis Vanderbeck-(killed in
Irvin Harvey	Leon O'Brien	Action)
Garnet Jessop	Lenore O'Neil	Jim McKegney
Delbert Thoms	Gordon Golden	Ernie McKegney
Gordon Thoms	Carson Jessop	Lowry McKegney
Lawrence Holder	Jean Jessop	Stanley Walsh and Donald, White.

SOME PROMOTION REPORTS THROUGH THE YEARS OF S. S. NO. 6

May 16th, 1913 - Sr. 4 - Clarence Holden, Willie Collins, Cora Dumouchelle, Russell LePain, Percy Jessop.; Sr. 3 - Greta O'Neil, Gladys Holden, Etta Collins, Evelyn Root, Alda Morand, Leila Dumouchelle, Harold Vollan.; Jr. 3 - Zazella Sabree, Albert Dennison, Stanley Janisse, Cecil Janisse; Sr. 2 - Allan Vollans, Lorraine Dumouchelle, Gordon Robinson, Roy Dennison; - Jr. 2 - Dorothy O'Neil, Ruby Holden, Charlotte Dumouchelle, Stanley Walsh, Grace Jessop; - Sr. 1. - Earl Jessop, Laura Janisse; Jr. 1 - Martin Burke, Irma Vollans. Sr. Primer - Esther Allen, Milford Robinson, Gordon Holden, Clifford Robinson, Mildred Washbrook; Part Pr. - Lucille Janisse, Raymond Burke, Alta Jessop, Clarence Jessop, Pearl Jessop, Amber Holden, Evan Vollans, Hugh O'Neil. - C. A. Passingham, teacher.

March 5th, 1915 - Jr. 4 - Harold Vollans, Mildred Harshaw, Gordon Robinson, Allan Vollans, Stanley Janisse; 3rd. - Dorothy O'Neil, Gertrude Herdman, Ruby Holden, Cecile Janisse; 2nd. - Earl Jessop, Violet Robinson, Martin Burke, Irma Vollans, Beulah Jackson, Wesley Washbrook, Laura Janisse, Monica LePain; Part 2 - Otto Jessop, Evan Vollans, Ross Shepley, Gordon Holden, Milford Robinson, Lucille Janisse, Raymond Burke, Mildred Washbrook; - Sr. I - Kathaleen O'Neil, Hugh O'Neil, Alice Collins, Amber Holden; - Primer - Hazel Jessop, John Burke, Edgar Washbrook. J. Dunn, teacher.

July 1st., 1955 - To Grade 9 - Robert Banwell, Joan Brant, Wayne Jessop, (H) Curtis McDonald, Jack Paquette, Judy Ward.

June Promotions - 1955, (Cont.)

To grade 8 - Barbara Banwell, Joan Butcher (H), Margaret Ann Herdman (H), Cathryn Mastier, Karen Mann, Betty McBride, Hugh J. O'Neil, Gary Provencher.
 To grade 7 - Byron Brant, John Ford (H), Harry Fraser, Calvin Mastier (H), Bill Munro.
 To grade 6 - Beth Banwell, Bernard Burke (H), Robert Chicilo, Bonnie Copland, Tom Harshaw, Neal Jessop (H), Donald Mastier, Judy McCord (H), Gail Staath, Judy Taylor, all from the Senior Room with Estelle Holden, Principal and teacher.

Junior Room - Mrs. Marion Tiers, teacher.

To grade 5 - Kenneth Brindley, Lillibeth Eberts, Gerald Fraser, Richard Herdman, Barry Holden, Garry MacKenzie.

To grade 4 - Penny Boyd, David Brindley, Howard DeWitt, Leah M. Houghton, Billie McCord, Dean Neuert, Larry Stockman.

To grade 3 - Allen Banwell, Keith Campbell, Tony DeVrecker, Rosemarie Elias, David Washbrook.

To grade 2 - Madelyn Barr, Roseanne Bellaire, Judy Carlyle, Janet Cennamo, Jimmie MacKenzie, Susan Managhan, Brian Munro.

1957 - Graduates out of grade 8 - Mrs. Stanley Holden, school principal presented pins to the following graduates: Lynda White, William Munro, Beverly Hartley, Harry Fraser, Sharon Price, Claudia Parent, Patricia Paquette, Harry O'Brien, Calvin Mac Tier, John Ford, Roger Curtis and Byron Brant.

1958 - Mrs. Stanley Holden presented graduate pins to: Beth Banwell, Bernie Burke, Dana Leithhead, Judy McCord, Bonnie Copland, Danny Mastier, Neal Jessop, Gayle Neuert, Gail Staath, Robert Chicilo, and Sandra Parent. This group of beginners had been responsible for the reopening of the Junior Room in 1950, and Mrs. Carl Esping read a poem dedicated to the graduates, commenting on some of the events that had transpired during their stay at No. 6.

Sept. 18th, 1959 - Mrs. Stanley Holden presented graduate pins to Lillie Eberts, Patricia Crosby, Sid Barber, Barry Holden, Kenneth Brindley, Gary MacKenzie, Gerald Fraser, Jack Chicilo, and Danny Leithhead. Rick Broom was absent but graduated. Four members of the Home & School Association who are responsible for the pins given the graduates each year, would be leaving the school because of a shift of pupils to Iver Chandler School. They were Mrs. Henry Russell, Mrs. H. Lemmon, Mrs. Broom and Mrs. Jack McKeown.

March, 1949 - Nearly 100 guest attended the turkey dinner served by the members of S. S. No. 6 Home & School Association held in Roseland Hall. Graduation pins were presented to the graduating class of 1948 to Marion Bennett, Beverley Jessop, and Murray Graft.

July, 1957 - Promotions of S. S. No. 6. Senior Room Teacher - Mrs. Estelle Holden
 To grade 8 - Bernard Burke, Bonnie Copland, Neal Jessop, Donald Mastier, Judy McCord, Donald Rounding all Honours. Pass - Beth Banwell, Robert Chicilo, Jack Grainger, Dana Leithhead, Gayle Neuert, Judy Paquette, Sandra Parent, Gail Staath, Judy Taylor.
 To grade 7 - Honours: Jack Chicilo, Lillibeth Eberts, Barry Holden, Pass: Kenneth Brindley, Gerald Fraser, Daniel Leithhead, Garry MacKenzie, Harold Taylor.
 Junior Room, Mrs. Marion Tiers, teacher - To grade 6 - David Brindley, Howard DeWitt, Rosemarie Elias, Leah Mae Houghton, Billie McCord, Dean Neuert. To grade 5 - Allen Banwell, Tony DeVrecker, David Russell and David Washbrook. To grade 4 - Madelyn Barr, Rose-anne Bellaire, Terry Begden, Judy Carlyle, Jim MacKenzie, Susan Managhan, Brian Munro. To grade 3 - Cecil Cooke, Doreen Cooke, Malcolm Copland, Susan Stacey, Barbara Thompson, Donna Young. To grade 2 - Billie Bowsher, Larry Brindley, Gregory DeVrecker, Linda Jessop, Jimmie McKee, Megan Mitchell, Nancy Pettypiece, Deanna Provencher, Douglas Russell, Dale Washbrook, Beverley Young, Linda Young.

July 8, 1960 - Graduates to grade 9 - Stephen Barber, H., Sharon Blake, David Brindley, Dalores Crosby, Tony DeVrecker, Howard DeWitt, Rosemarie Elias H., Dorothy Lieberman, William McCord, Dean Neuert and Fred Teasier.

Grade 7 to grade 8 - Allen Banwell, Madelyn Barr (H), Roseanne Bellaire, Judy Carlyle (H), Larry Crawford, James MacKenzie (H), Susan Managhan, Brian Munro, Gary Tessier (H), David Washbrook. To grade 8 - Margaret Grey, Clayton Lieberman, Sandra Lieberman. To grade 6 - Bill Bowsher, (H), Malcolm Copland (H), Carol Crosby, Florence Crosby, Kevin Mann (H), James McKee (H), Megan Mitchell (H), Susan Stacey (H), Barbara Thompson (H). To grade 5 - Larry Brindley, Billie Crawford, Gregory DeVrecker, Colleen Lieberman, Nancy Pettypiece, Dale Washbrook. To grade 4 - Larry Chicilo, Everett Crosby, Carlene Esping (H), Maurreen Fleet (H), Jim Frith (H), Tommy Managhan, (H). To grade 3 - Billie Burke, Nancy Cabanaw, Patsy Cooper, Frank Crawford, Lester Crosby, Marion Maates, Paula McKee (H), Dwain Milks, Billie Oliver (H), Danny Snalgrove (H), Lois Washbrook (H). Grade 1 to Grade 2A - Diane Crawford, (H), Cynthia Crosby, Jeffery Esping, Cheryl Leithhead, Robert Milks, Murray Mitchell (H), Ruth Parr (H) Katherine Pettypiece, Robert Stacey. Grade 1 to grade 2B - Betty Crawford, Wayne Crawford, Larry Crosby, Wayne Durecher, and Joey Van Den Driessche.

The school won many honours in the music field and in the public speaking contest. The Music Festival started in 1950 and county schools as well as city schools competed. Under the capable instruction of Miss Larissa Senchuk and Miss Agnes Hartley each year saw S. S. No. 6 getting their share of winners in most classes as well as choirs. In 1959 successful candidates were Carlene Esping, Garry MacKenzie, Gerald Fraser, Allen Banwell, James Frith, Leah Mae Houghton and Lillibeth Eberts. Two school choruses also won that year. In 1960 the Junior Choir tied for third; the Senior Choir winning second and fourth; the Girl's Choir winning third with "Spring Thoughts". Paula McKee won piano solo "icicles" and soloists Delores Crosby singing "Loveliest of Trees" won first with 86 marks; Allen Banwell singing "Hawaiian Song", second; David Libby won third with 83 marks; Maureen Fleet singing "Rock-a-Bye" with 84 marks, James Frith, singing "Carpenter, Carpenter", with 85 marks and Billy Bowsher singing "Going to the Fair", with 82 marks, all winning first in their respective classes. Kevin Mann, singing "Going to the Fair" won third with 80 marks. Susan Managhan and Judy Carlyle doing a duet with 77 marks won third; in 1961 - S. S. No. 6 Sr. Room 2-part with 79 marks won third prize.

In 1966, The Home & School had a "Family Fun Night" with a musical program under the direction of Mr. A. Linnell, the school Music Director. These were numbers won at the annual Music Festival. The Jr. Room presented their first number introduced by David McKee called "Cum-bi-yah", then "Sing, Sing, Sing" introduced by Beth Bower, and "Tommy, the Cat" introduced by Gary Stauth. Kevin Trimmer, a grade 5 student told us the story of St. Patrick which he wrote and memorized himself.

The Senior Room introduced by Connie DeVrecker, sang "The Hunter". The Public Speaking contestants, introduced by David McKee then presented their speeches. Ruth Parr, second prize winner, for the township spoke on "Old Bones" - The Wonder Horse", and Paula McKee, the first prize winner on "Are Women People?" Mrs. Stauth, the president then presented their awards. The Jr. Room then did a poem "AWindy March", followed by the Senior Room singing "Lemeric" introduced by Bill Pettypiece. Not only could the Juniors speak and sing but they could also do a cute Scottish Dance. Harvey Bishop introduced the Senior Room in "Dear Land of Home" as the completion of the student's part of the program. But leperchauns were at play and Mrs. Stauth took over the remainder of the evening with fitting and funny jokes and an Irish Sing Song, then the mummies of Percy McKee went all out and did a mellerdrammer with Mrs. A. Mitchell reading the story and the mummies in costume acting out the parts. They couldn't be alone so they included the Poppies, dressed Jim Fleet and Carl Esping in large green bow-ties, top hats, a white glove each complete with a cane and then read verse like:

"Whose the head of the family,
Does even serve as a school trustee,
Who never stops to count calories,
But screams at the price of groceries.
Trees and shrubs, he surely can grow
For the township - always on the go."

After each of these they all joined in the chorus:

"The Pop, Pop, Poppies of Percy McKee", accompanied by Mr. Stauth on the piano. Truly this brought down the roof and the end of the program.

Eight contestants competed in the "Public Speaking Contest" on Feb. 14th, 1958, held at No. 6 School sponsored by the Ontario Public School Trustees and Ratepayer's Association. Successful candidates were 1st. - Gail Stauth of No. 6 School; 2nd. - Beth Banwell of No. 6; and third - Lynn Ure of No. 1. Judges were Fred Leitch, District Inspector, Rev. B. Fox of Paulin Memorial Church and Mrs. W. A. Crowder, the writer of this history.

June 16th, 1961 - The teachers of the Sandwich South School Area met at the Percy McKee (No. 6) Public School at 3.30 in the afternoon to honour their Music Supervisor, Miss Agnes Hartley who was leaving the Area to take up her duties as a Music Supervisor in Sandwich West in September.

On behalf of the teachers, Roger Pemney, Principal of Fairplay School, presented Miss Hartley with a beautiful tea-wagon and expressed the sincere regret of the teacher at her leaving. Miss Hartley made a gracious reply. Mrs. Allen who was also leaving at the end of June was presented with a dainty cup and saucer. Mrs. S. Holden and Mrs. M. Tiers of No. 6 served a delicious lunch to the fifteen teachers.

In March, 1966, at the annual banquet of the Honours Club of Essex District High School held at the Cleary Auditorium for students and their parents under the direction of Mr. W. E. Franke, Principal, Founder of the Honours Club, presented awards. The only one winning this award out of Sandwich South was Barbara Thompson of S. S. No. 6 School. In the same year in August, Barbara was the only student from this Area to win a trip to Newfoundland for a two-week trip from Essex High School when 24 area students won this trip, sponsored under the "Centennial Youth Travel Program". It was for grade 11 students from Essex & Kent Counties. The initial contact came with a swim in the Atlantic Ocean. For many it was their first time away from their families. The purpose was to acquaint them with different parts of the country.

S. S. No. 6 School

Dec. 18th, 1953 - The children of S. S. No. 6 school received this heading in the Windsor Star "Commends Great Courtesy of School Children", in a letter to the paper: Sir: The following is a copy of a letter which I have sent to Mrs. Holden, Principal of S. S. No. 6 Sandwich South School:

Dear Mrs. Holden: On Monday, November 30th, at approximately 4.30 in the afternoon my husband, Bruce Austin was laid away in Greenlawn Cemetery. Small groups of children apparently returning home from your school stood at attention and bared their heads while the funeral procession passed them on Highway No. 3.

I and other members of my family were so impressed with the respect and reverence exhibited by these children that I was prompted to write this letter to tell you about it. It is apparent that your school and others in this fine district are blessed with staffs who not only teach the customary educational courses, but also other fundamentals that will permit them to become fine Canadians.

Please accept this as an expression of admiration of your staff and thanks to your pupils.

signed: Mrs. Bruce Austin, Windsor, Ont.

This has been a common sight going along No. 3 Highway near the school which two cemeteries are adjacent, Greenlawn Memorial Gardens and Victoria Memorial. Many people have commented on this but this lady did a bit more in writing her appreciation on paper. The two teachers presently at the school deserve a great deal of credit for the manners of their pupils. These in 1953 were Mrs. Stanley Holden in the Senior Room and Mrs. Marion Tiers in the Junior Room.

Comments in the paper following the notice: Constable John Hughes said he had been impressed so often by the way the boys and girls stand with heads bowed as funerals pass by.

Also, following the item, the Anderson Funeral Home has given the school a plaque, which says: "Donated on behalf of all who have sorrowed and passed this way in recognition of the respect shown to their dear departed ones by the students of S. S. No. 6, Sandwich South, in a manner that exemplifies the thoughtfulness and due regard of others." Little did the boys and girls realize what an impression their respect had made.

Nov. 16th, 1959 - A box of carefully hoarded pennies is helping to build a bridge of understanding between healthy and retarded children.

The pennies - transformed into a \$20.00 cheque - were presented to pupils of the Sunparlor School for Retarded Children by students from S. S. No. 6, Sandwich South.

The presentation was made by 9 year old Billy Bewsher, who was quite willing to talk to the press about it.

"Y'see these kids have a sickness we don't have and we get lots of things anyway," he said, "so, we decided to give them the money."

The money was a penny collection taken at meetings of S. S. No. 6 Home & School Association and normally it is used to give pupils a special treat once a year. This special treat took a different form this year. The pupils experienced the joy of giving instead of receiving.

"We like these kids and are glad to see them having such a good time at their school," said Billy. He was one of a group who had visited the Sun Parlor School during open house. Billy, son of Mr. & Mrs. William Bowsher, Howard Ave., was aided in presentation of the cheque by Carlene, eight year old daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Carl Esping, Oldcastle. He had one thing more to say. "By the way, I think the teacher does a real good job here," he observed.

A FEW THINGS OF NOTE OUT OF S.S.NO. 6 SCHOOL BEFORE WE GO INTO THE BUILDING OF THE NEW SCHOOL WHICH WAS RE-NAMED PERCY MCKEE SCHOOL

Dec. 18th -1940 - Miss Muriel K. Wilson of Windsor, daughter of Mr. D. H. Wilson, of Ottawa and the late Mrs. Wilson was married to Mr. John Belden, son of Mr. N. B. Belden and the late Mrs. Belden of Detroit on Dec. 21st. at Central United Church, Windsor with the Rev. Dr. H. A. Mick performing the ceremony. A reception was held at the Manor in Windsor. Many pupils and parents from the Oldcastle area and Roseland area either were invited guests or attended this wedding of interest in the community, as the bride had taught for several years both in the Junior Room and later became Principal and taught the Senior Room at No. 6 school. It was a very festive season in the area as the Executive of the Home & School Association held a shower at the home of the president, Mrs. George Martin on Walker Road for the bride, who was a member. It was hilarious as the officers under the direction of Mrs. W. A. Crowder planned a mock wedding, she being the groom and Mrs. R. D. Fawcett, the bride and Mrs. Martin the mock preacher. Many also attended the Trousseau Tea.

S. S. NO. 6

June 18th, 1959 - Mr. Harry Owen Knapper, son of Mr. & Mrs. Henry Knapper of South Cameron Blvd., Windsor married Miss Carol Ann Young, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Donald Young of Sarnia. They were both graduates of the University of Western Ontario and Mr. Knapper taught at S. S. No. 6 several years. Picture release in Windsor Star.

The feature of the December meeting of S. S. No. 6 Home & School Association was the presentation of a Life Membership to Mrs. H. L. Fraser, the first time in the history of the group. In her address, Mrs. Sam MacKenzie, president who presented the pin, detailed the many helpful contributions Mrs. Fraser had made through the years, from being the champion "Popcorn Pepper" for the Field days, 'hot roll baker' for Baked Goods' Sales, to the chief message carrier, prior to the installation of the telephone in the school. Several former members were present and memories of early days of the group were exchanged, and the history traced, and mention made of the fact that Mrs. Fraser had held every office in the Association, except that of secretary. Her interest in Windsor Council activities of Home & School provided the chief source of contact for the group and she was at the time Chairman of the newly established Bursary Fund, money of which would go to assist some worthy student toward future education. A framed certificate was presented and also a lovely arrangement of yellow Daisy Mums.

Mrs. S. Snelgrove, Mrs. P. Managhan and Mrs. C. Washbrook served delicious refreshments to members and former members present who were Mrs. W. A. Crewder, the charter secretary, Mrs. E. Herdman, Mrs. J. Butcher, Mrs. A. Stockman, Mrs. M. MacTier, Mrs. Frank Mills, Founder of the Association and Mrs. George Mann a former president.

Oct. 1956 - Unsanitary and antiquated conditions and traffic hazards beset School Section No. 6 in Sandwich South Township, parents claim, and have demanded steps be taken by the school board to remedy the situation.

A petition was presented to the township council asking that a number of students now attending S. S. No. 6 be permitted to attend a school in Sandwich West Township. No decision was given however, until the supporters met with the school board, and a special meeting was called.

The petition signed by residents on the east side of Howard Ave. between Highway No. 3 and the North Talbot Road asked for the rezoning of the school area because S. S. No. 6 was "unsanitary" and most children must walk one and a half to two miles along busy highways each way. Change in zoning would affect six children from 20 families. They would attend Ivor Chandler Public School in Sandwich West and would be required to travel only half the distance over a safer course.

S. S. No. 6 did not have sewage facilities or running water and parents feel their children are entitled to these services. Henry Hartley, school board chairman, pointed out that the school is situated on property which is too low for septic tanks to function properly. Members of the delegation asked for a new school but board members said a new school can only be built if the present school is either condemned or inadequate in size for the school population.

Public school supporters feel the unsanitary conditions should be enough reason to have the building condemned. They criticized the township's medical officer of health for "functioning inadequately" by not inspecting the school properly. One man in the group pointed out that he was still waiting for the M.O.H. to examine his son who was bitten by a rabid dog two years before.

The school had two rooms serving 70 pupils at the present time. Mr. Hartley told the Star that the building would be inadequate for the school population when it reached 80. The school board will give further consideration to the petition and meet again with the supporters on Nov. 20th.

Nov. 17th, 1959 - A delegation from No. 6 school made a request for some action in connection with the building of a new school. The delegation agreed to furnish information concerning the population growth and distribution over the next three years and the secretary agreed to ask the Inspector whether there would be any difficulty in securing approval of a new school at No. 6.

Dec. 2nd., 1959 - The need of another public school in Sandwich South Township was foreseen by Milton Farough, a member of the township public school board. He said that No. 6 on No. 3 Highway at #401 was overcrowded and that in September of this year steps were taken to relieve the situation temporarily. The enrollment from Sept. of 1958 to June of this year jumped from 60 to 83 pupils. It was estimated there would 47 pupils in the junior room in September so some pupils on Howard Avenue and North Talbot Road were sent to Ivor Chandler School in Sandwich West. The cost is \$25 per pupil per month with a 51% Dept. of Education grant received on the expenditure. It may not be too long before we need another school in this area, he told the township nomination meeting, "but, we have left the decision to next year's board." Early in 1960, the board decided to build the three new schools including No. 6 and sought

S. S. NO. 6

April 12th, 1960 - The Board of Public School Trustees of Sandwich South held their regular meeting at school No. 6., with Henry Hartley, chairman, Milton Farough, Howard Holden, James Fleet present. Also present were Mr. Stanley Welsh and Mr Lavender of the Essex & District Association for Retarded Children.

Mr. Welsh and Mr. Lavender requested permission to move the annex from No. 6 to the Sun Parlor School which was on the site of No. 5, on Malden Road across from the new Charles Collin's School. They were informed that the Board was agreeable but that the annex would be in use at No. 6 until the new school was ready for occupancy, sometime early in 1961. The annex was eventually sold for \$500 to the Sun Parlr School and moved there.

Also ratified at this meeting was the purchase of 1 3/4 acres of land from Wm. Burke for the new No. 6 school, motioned by Milton Farough, seconded by James Fleet.

Jan. 17th, 1961 - At the inaugural meeting of the Public School Board of Sandwich South, on motion of Mr. Howard Holden, seconded by Mr. James Fleet it was decided to name No. 6 school, the Percy McKee Public School. On motion of Milton Farough, seconded by Grant McKee, it was decided to have Larry Oliver of Essex, make the letters and put up the names on the three new schools.

March 31st., 1961 - Old S. S. No. 6 school house at the corner of No. 3 Highway and the school lane is being torn down. Here is another era of the little red brick school house making way for the new modern structures in Sandwich South Township. Many of its former pupils stop and look with a lonesome feeling as many fond memoirs reach out to the poor old home of the three R's and their first contact with real life.

Probably none of its students became prime minister or famous other gents and ladies but here was the start of many fine community leaders and respected Canadian citizens. Some have gone far and wide and some have gone no more than the back concessions that surround the old school. With the coming of suburban students cannot be taught in such things as the old brick school. Muddy feet, old log stoves, and all that trash has to go out and if you as much as drop a chewing gum wrapper on the floor or carve your initials on the seat, "God help you."

On a Monday morning sometime in November, 1960 the new school was ready for the teachers and pupils to move into as yet S. S. No. 6 School.

At the first Home & School Association meeting in the new year, Jan. 9th, 1961, the president Mrs. Wm. Bowsher, announced that the Sandwich South School Board had set the official opening for the new school for Friday, Feb. 10th, at 8.15 p.m. The Rev. E. C. Grey, rector of St. Stephen's Anglican Church would dedicate the school; the speaker would be Gordon Mann, former inspector. The pupils would have a short musical program and the Home & School Association would serve refreshments. Mr. H. A. Klinck, president Ontario School Trustees and Ratepayers Association, would present the Bible and Mr. F. A. Leitch, Public School Inspector, would bring greetings from the Department

The Board at this time consisted of: Henry Hartley, chairman; Milton Farough, vice-chairman; Howard Holden, James Fleet and Grant McKee; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. R. J. McDonald (Eleanor); The Staff: Mrs. Estella Holden (Stanley), principal; Mrs. Marion Tiers - assistant; Agnes Hartley, Music supervisor; Charles Grainger, caretaker. Architect: J. W. Storey, Chatham; and the contractor was Collavine Brothers Construction Co., Ltd., Windsor.

MRS. ESTELLA HOLDEN'S RETIREMENT PARTY - The tables were turned on an honors graduate when she returned Saturday, June 25th, 1966 to the Percy McKee School in Sandwich South Township to salute Mrs. Estella Holden who was retiring after teaching 20 years at the school. Mrs. Allan Parr of Oldcastle, who graduated from the school in 1948 as Marion Bennett in the Windsor Star picture release was watching Mrs. Holden place the dunce cap on the former honor student, Miss Nancy Pettypiece of the class of 1964 and now of Niagara Falls. Mrs. Holden taught school in Sandwich South Township a total of 25 years and taught at S. S. No. 4 before coming to S. S. No. 6. Guests from as far as St. Catharines, St. Thomas and Monroe, Mich. were among the crowd that turned out to Percy McKee School, Saturday to honour Mrs. Stanley Holden on her retirement. Surprise guests were her grandchildren, Bonnie, Susan and Tim Holden, who motored from Sarnia where they were visiting from their home in California. The program was staged outdoors. A special verse to "School Days" written by one of Mrs. Holden's former pupils, Bonnie Copland, was sung by her and the roll call showed representatives from practically every year of Mrs. Holden's 25. All past presidents of the Home & School Association since it was formed in 1940 when the school was S. S. No. 6, were there. Mrs. George Martin, charter president, Mrs. Frank Mills, Mrs. Percy Jessop, Mrs. Geo. Mann, Mrs. David Donnelly, Mrs. H. L. Fraser, Mrs. Arthur Mann, Mrs. Sam MacKenzie, Mrs. Wm. Bowsher who came from St. Thomas for the occasion, Mrs. Carl Esping and Mrs. B. E. Staath, present president. Mrs. W. A. Crowder, charter recording secretary was also there. A set of luggage was presented to Mrs. Holden, who with her husband was Europe bound to visit a son, Ronnie who was in Germany in the Services. Pupils of the school had arranged the indoor setting for the tea afterwards. Edwin Crowder was on his honeymoon, being a graduate in 1953. He sent best wishes and contributed to the gift

(85) SCHOOLS OF SANDWICH SOUTH (Cont.)

S. S. NO. 6 (PERCY MCKEE) Cont.

S. S. No. 6 (Percy McKee School) was phased out in June, 1970. The last teachers were, Mrs. Howard Kimball (Eleanor) Principal and teacher of the Sr. Room; and Mrs. Alve McElroy, teacher of the Jr. Room.

The last graduating class, June, 1970 consisted of Joan Pettypiece, Carol DeVreker, Gail Tilden, James Martin, Dale Martin, Ronald Thrasher, Bradley O'Neil, Bill Raymont, Willard Holden and John Garlick.