

PAQUETTE STATION AND COMMUNITY

PAQUETTE CORNERS which is located at the crossroads of Walker Road and Colchester North, Anderdon, Sandwich South Townline. Paquette is a French name and was named after an early French settler by that name in the vicinity and whose ancestors still live in the surrounding community. Dan Paquette owned the first gasoline station which was operated by a Mr. Pistik in 1953 for some time and then purchased by the Henry Thrasher family who still operated it until March, 1980. It was known as "Hank's Place" and they were in business 22 years. After March 22, Don and Louise Masse will have taken over the business and it will be known as Don's Variety and Garage. Charlie Patrick would be staying on as the mechanic in the garage. It is the only actual business endeavour at Paquette Corners.

The community surrounding the Church of the Redeemer, Colchester North; S. S. No. 10 Public Union School, Sandwich South side of the Townline; the Orange Hall on Conc. six near the Anderdon Townline and S. S. No. 4 Public School located on the Sandwich South side of the Anderdon-Sandwich South Townline is known as "PAQUETTE COMMUNITY". In 1980 when this is being written up for the Tweedsmuir History, there has been a vast change in this surrounding community - in the first place, the two schools have been phased out in 1970 and sold, and the old Orange Hall was torn down and the lumber was taken up north and made into a summer cottage. S. S. No. 10 Public Union School was sold and made into a residence by the owner, Mrs. Joyce Gold; S. S. No. 4 Public School is still there all boarded up, the Essex County School Board owns it and uses it for storage of supplies. There is no post office there at present and the residents receive their mail through rural delivery out of R. R. 1, Oldcastle or R. R. 1, McGregor. The Post Office had been located here when Frank Lounsbrough became Postmaster in April, 1911, after purchasing a 51-acre farm from Ed. Jessop. George Gerard was appointed rural mail courier at \$30.00 per mile to carry a mail route to Paquette from Maidstone Cross as early as October, 1913. Several routes began to operate at this time.

Hydro electric power was first turned on in this community in Dec., 1925, when many of the residents had their farm buildings wired for electricity.

The first telephone line was a private line owned by Dr. Jenner of Essex, so that people in the community might be able to call a doctor. It was built about 1896 or 1897 and ran from Essex to Paquette Corners. There were two phones on the line, one at Dan Kennedy's farm house, which in 1953 was occupied by Bill Takacs, the other one being at Cyril Paquette's residence at the end of the line at Paquette. Anyone wishing a doctor would go to either of those houses to call. This private line was in existence about six years, as in 1910 the Municipal Telephone Lines were put in and covered all of Sandwich South Township with the Central at Maidstone Cross.

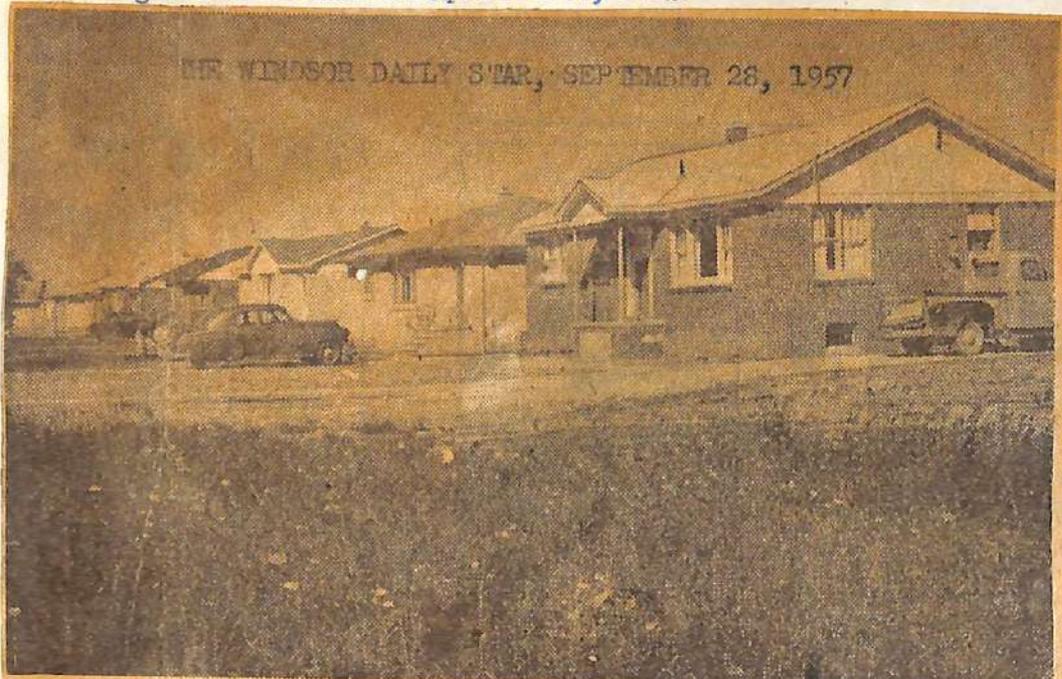
The last steam threshing machine in the district was owned and operated by the Paquette Threshing Company. It was replaced by the gasoline tractor and the combine about 1927.

Pioneers depended on surface wells entirely until about 1885 when drilled wells came into being for their water supplies. In dry seasons some farmers had to haul water from River Canard. One, James D. O'Neil made a trip to the Canard River for a tank of water, the tank was a hollow buttonwood log called a Gum, and was mounted on a wagon. While he was at the river it started to rain. He started the homeward journey with a tank full of water, and as it was raining quite heavy, he decided it was of no use to haul the load of water home, so he pulled the plug and let all the water out. When he arrived at his home on Snake Lane there had been no rain there. Windmills, old wooden ones were used for a time on wells to draw up the water, then the huge steel windmills began to dot the countryside, followed by the small gasoline engine was put to use pumping water for the farmer's use, and today most farm wells are equipped with electrically operated pumps which supply both hot and cold water automatically in the homes and farm buildings. Tanks for hot water being installed right along with the water system and is heated either by electricity or by natural gas. Most homes today have modern bathroom and plumbing facilities. In 1971 they became even more modern in most communities with water becoming available right from your tap through water lines, either from Windsor or from Lake Erie Systems.

The first threshing machines in the district were run by horse-power; as many as eight horses going around in a circle were used. This method took two or three days to do a farmer's threshing with twenty five to thirty men to help with the work and be fed. This project oftentimes became a family reunion as all the women folk kin would gather on threshing days to help provide the meals required to feed such a hungry crew. They did about as much work at that time as a modern combine with two or three men now do in a few hours. On the old machines a straw carrier took the straw away from the machine and carried it to build a stack. Ten or twelve men could often be seen on the straw stack, nowadays most farmers combine, bale their straw and haul their grain away to the grain elevators, all in one operation, the same day. There is not much storing of threshed grain except for seed in bins in the farm barn. One of these early threshing machines was owned by Alwyn Shuel and operated by the Shuel brothers.

Football and baseball were the main sports. The old Shuel team first started sometime in the 1870's and gave a good account of themselves. They were followed by the Shamrocks and the I.O.F. team, between whom there was a great deal of rivalry. These teams were followed later by Oldcastle Titan's. The ball teams are listed under "Sports" in the township for the Tweedsmuir History Book. At the present time in 1980 when this is being written there are no teams in the immediate area, but the Maidstone Shamrocks are still in playing business. July 8, 1960: Miss Audrey Drouillard, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Arsene Drouillard (nee Mary Deehan) of McGregor, won the Grade 8 Scholarship award of St. Ursula's School,

Apr. 2, 1943, E.F.P. - Jack Prior had been appointed mail courier for R. R. 1, Paquette and began his duties on April 1st., 1943



PAQUETTE DEVELOPMENT—A \$100,000 building boom over the last two years has changed the face of Paquette. The new Sunnybrook development has seen 10 new homes

erected to more than double the population of the village. Most of the home owners are employed in Windsor and commute daily. (Star Essex Bureau Photo)

Small Town Mushrooms

10 New Homes Built in Paquette

PAQUETTE—This small village, between McGregor and Highway 3, might be termed "The fastest growing community in Essex County."

In less than two years, 10 new homes have been built to more than double the population of the village. In all, there are less than 20 homes in Paquette.

Behind the construction boom is Lawrence Shepley, a building contractor in Paquette. He started the 31-lot Sunnybrook housing development two years ago.

Each owner who purchases a lot plans his own home, and Mr. Shepley sets about to build it. The homes, all of brick construction, range in price between \$9,500 to \$13,000.

Most of the home owners are from Windsor.

THE ESSEX FREE PRESS — Friday, December 14, 1979



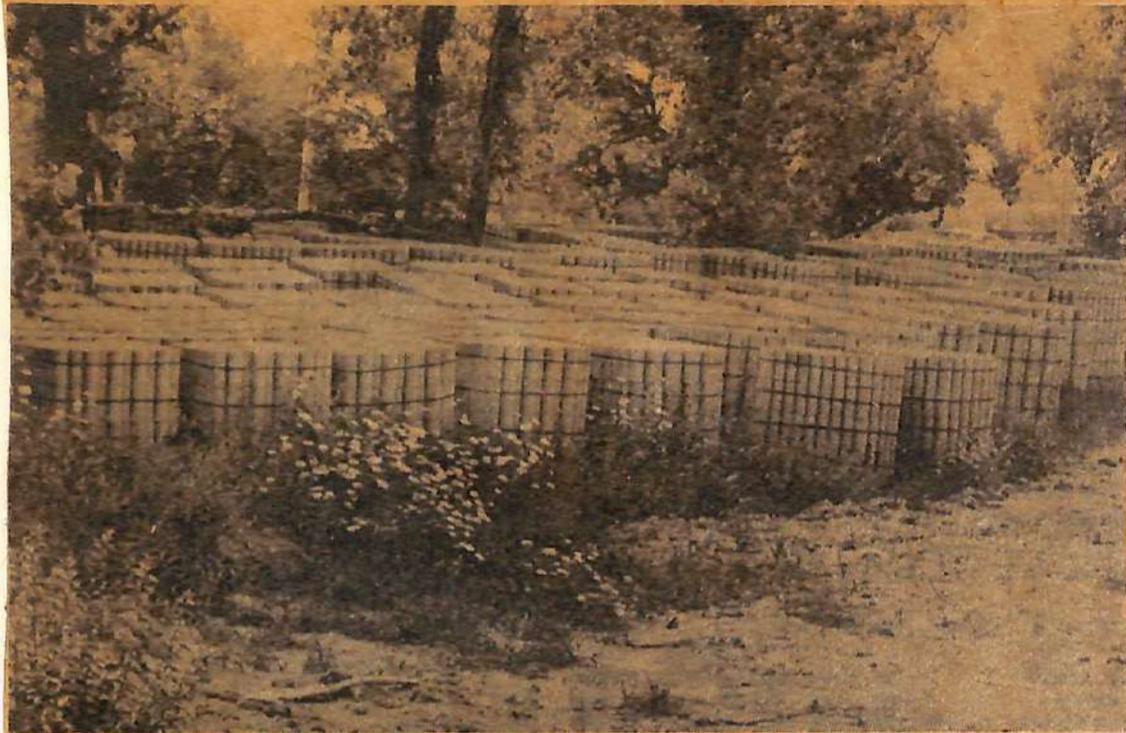
THE OLD TIME CORNER

PAQUETTE STATION — 1916

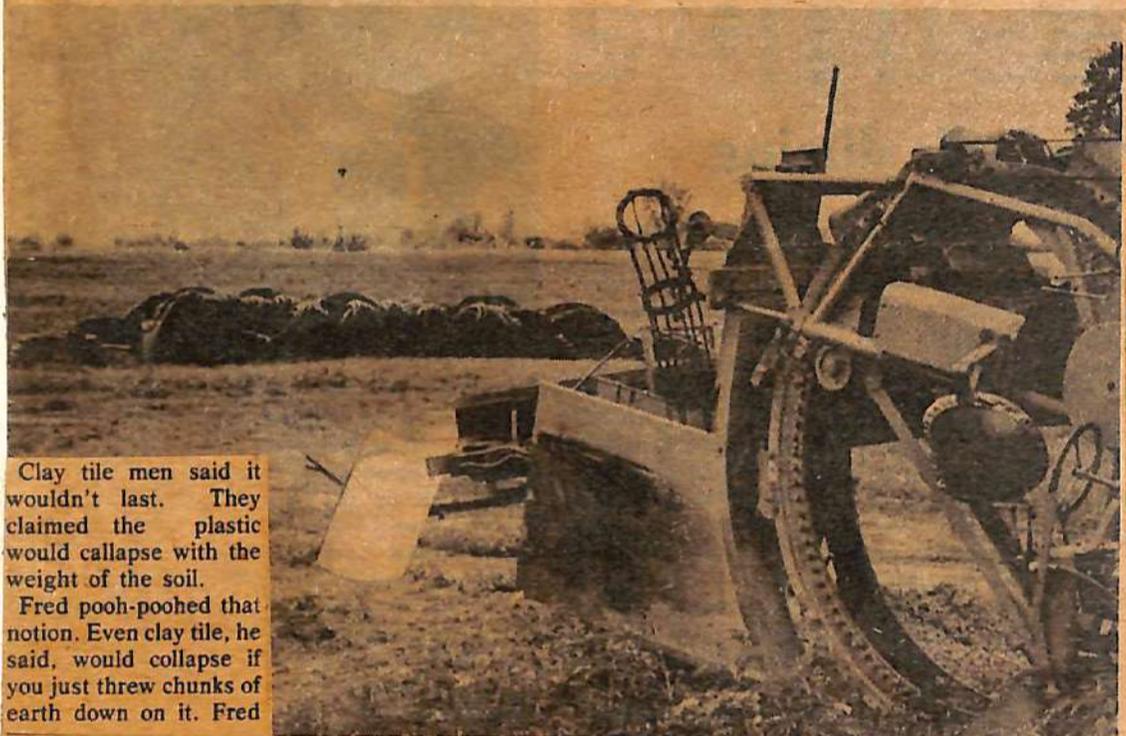


Pictured above is the Paquette Station, which is now long gone, and one of four daily passenger trains of 1916. The

original photos were sent overseas during the 1914-18 war and were brought back after the war.



THE OLD — the bulky sections of the older clay tile are pretty much out of style. A large shipment here awaits an uncertain destiny.



Clay tile men said it wouldn't last. They claimed the plastic would collapse with the weight of the soil. Fred pooh-poohed that notion. Even clay tile, he said, would collapse if you just threw chunks of earth down on it. Fred

THE NEW — plastic tiling ready to be installed. After millions of feet of this product, Fred Gagnon highly recommends it.

The Essex Times, Thursday July 24, 1975, Page 5

Plastic tiling is now proving its worth

Back in 1969, Fred relates that the government gave him 500 feet of the new plastic tile and every year they came back and dug it up. The results were compared with 500 feet of clay tile. They claimed that the new material resisted blockage and drained a little faster. Old clay tile were tight at the top of the joint but often there would be a 1/2-inch space at the bottom. The new material is like the ringed furnace or dryer pipes but constructed of black plastic. In the hollows of the rings are one sixteenth wide by one inch long slits for water seepage.

Fred, who has been tiling since 1948, laughed when he told of the government tests. They put water measuring instruments in the soil but that year, whenever it rained, it poured. There was too much water for the instruments to measure.

PAQUETTE CORNERS. The new, which is really not so new, plastic tiling is working out just fine, say the tiling contractors. It is rapidly replacing the older clay tiles because of weight and the amount of work that must be done for installation.

Richard Gagnon who has been working on tiling for fourteen years says that there is really "no work to it." It "almost goes in by itself". In a typical field, if there are no problems with stones or other obstructions, 1000 feet can be done in an hour's time.

Fred Gagnon and his sons are in the business of field tiling and farm draining is their specialty.

has established his own company, Canadian Drainage in Ruscomb to supply his own needs. In the millions of feet since he started, Fred can tell a million stories of the farms he's visited.

The plastic tile is put usually the standard 50 feet apart. But there is a lot being put now 33 feet apart, he added.

The price of the tile has gone down just lately. A year ago, it was \$200 per 1000 feet and now it has

dropped to \$165 per 1000 feet.

Another facet is the ground height. Low ground is more porous and will usually drain faster. High ground can be as hard as a rock and hold water like a sponge. A lot of farmers don't realize this and want to tile all their low ground. It's the other way around. Ask Fred. He's an expert on farm drainage after 17 years of tiling.

Thieves evidently think the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Holden of Colchester North is a haven for good food and have pilfered the Holden home twice within the past few months. Eggs are one of the target goods that the thieves have a liking for as well as other goodies at the Hold-

Oct. 28, 1966 - EFP

CARD OF THANKS

We would like to thank our friends, relatives and neighbours for their expressions of sympathy and kindness and for all the Masses, floral tributes and sympathy cards.

Our thanks to Fr. Benteau, St. Clements Church, McGregor. All our friends who prepared the food and the ladies who served it.

Special thanks to the nurses of Richmond Nursing Home, Dr. Greenway, nurses at Grace, James Sutton Funeral Home, Amherstburg, and grandsons who were pallbearers. The Honorary pallbearers and the Knights of Columbus for their kindness through the loss of our dear and wonderful father, grandfather and father-in-law Herman.

The Paquette Family
EFP. MAR. 18/80

Sincere sympathy to the family of Herman Paquette, 84 years old, who passed away at Grace Hospital,

March 3rd. Late of Walker Road RR 1 McGregor. Funeral Mass at St. Clement's Church, McGregor Thursday, March 6th at 10 is at the Church cemetery.

OCT., 1950-30 yrs.
Oct. 17, 1980 EFP

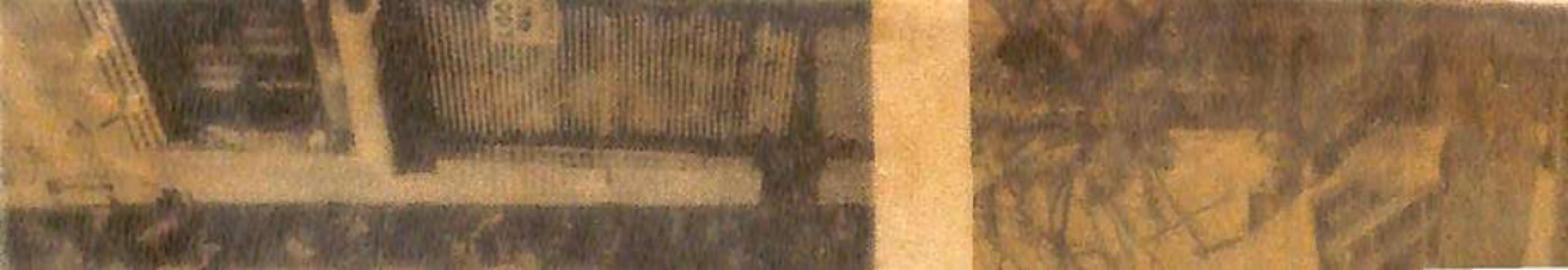
Reginal W. Shuel of Paquette graduated from Ohio State University with the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

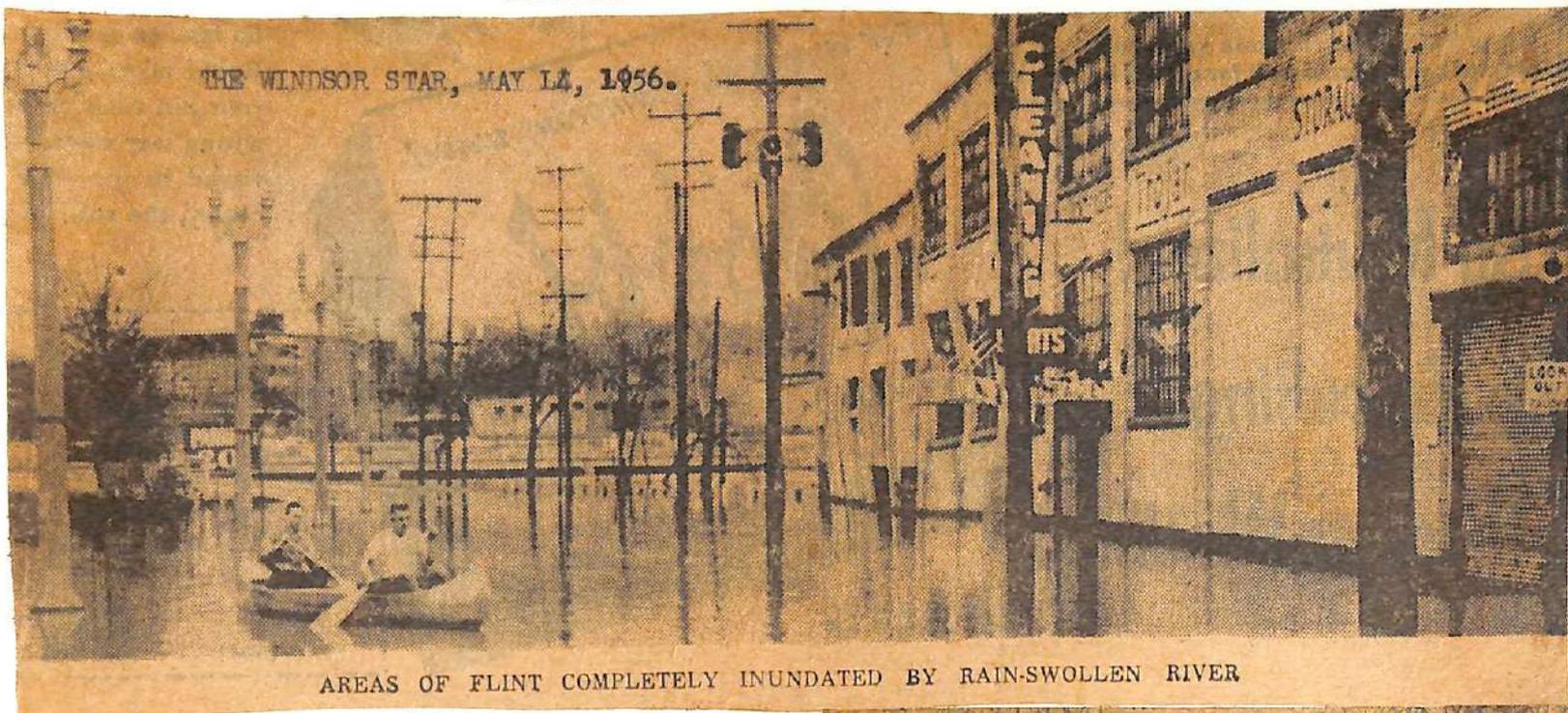
May 16, 1958 - We regret to report that McKinley Price is a patient in Grace Hosp. While plowing a ditch band, the tractor went out of control, throwing McKinley and dragging him several feet. He was removed to Grace Hospital by ambulance. X-rays showed serious leg injuries. His many friends are wishing for him a speedy recovery.

Feb. 1958 - At a meeting of the Ratepayers of S.S.No. 4 held in the school, Tues. evening, it was decided to build a two-room school rather than an addition to the present one.

June 22, 1956 - Mrs. Otto Boos and Mrs. Phil Dupuis have returned home from streetsville after attending the funeral of the late Michael Ellah. Michael

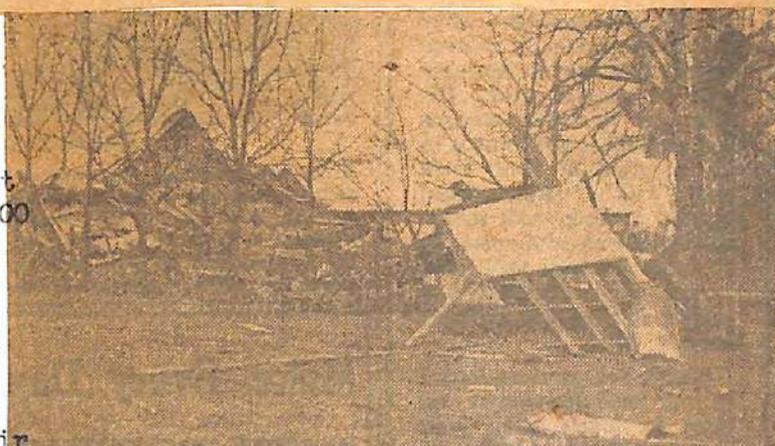
underwent a tonsilectomy in a Toronto Hospital and suffered a heart attack, from which he did not rally. The deepest sympathy from Paquette friends to Mr. & Mrs. Harold Ellah on the death of their three and a half year old son.





AREAS OF FLINT COMPLETELY INUNDATED BY RAIN-SWOLLEN RIVER

The Windsor Daily Star, May 14, 1956 - DAMAGE MILLIONS IN ESSEX COUNTY - MICHIGAN ran the headlines. Twister ravages McGregor area, Anderson Township, Paquette, and southeastern part of Sandwich South Township, mostly in the South Talbot Road area. 16 injured, farms hard hit, toll \$250,000 as wind flattens buildings, on Saturday evening, May 12th. No one was killed. The tornado's feared and dark funnel whirled across the Detroit River into Essex County about 6.45 p.m. The big swirling vortex exploded barns into matchwood and ripped houses to pieces. In one case, a home disappeared, leaving the owner still sitting in the kitchen chair he occupied when the home was struck and rattled to pieces. In case after case heavy barn timbers crumbled but cattle and other animals struggled out of the wreckage unscathed. Of the 16 injured, 14 were in the house when the big twister thundered



BARN RIPPED APART - This is the remains of a stout \$15,000 barn. The twister, which sometimes dropped two tails to earth for double the destruction, ripped this building to pieces, nail by nail, in early May. The picture was taken on the farm of William Thrasher, sixth Concession, Anderson Township, Ont. Thirty fat steers somehow escaped unharmed from the shambles. Damage in the McGregor area June 1, 1956 was estimated at \$250,000.

down on Walker Road, three miles south of McGregor and 16 miles south of Windsor. All the injured were struck in this one area, where the heavy damage took place. The injured were Charles Root, Jr. 25, owner of the house in which 14 of the 16 persons were injured. Betty Root, 31, wife of Charles, chest injuries; Catherine Jean Root, 2 months, daughter of Charles, shock; Mary Alice Root, 3, daughter of Charles, minor injuries, she has been released from hospital; Sidney, 4½, minor injuries also released from hospital; Albert Parcela, 52, a relative of Charles, minor injuries; Mrs. Chas. Root, Sr., 45, mother of Charles, Jr., minor injuries, released after treatment. A family of 7 in the Root home at the time, suffered minor injuries and were released after treatment. They are Calvin "Pete" Harvey, 25, of Sandwich West; his wife, Jean, and their children.

Oct. 7th, 1949 - Paquette column: The Orange Hall is the place
 come one, come all and show your face
 The Field's will start to play at nine
 The admission fee, 5 times a dime
 Hurry noe, don't dilly dally
 Oct. 7th is the A.Y. Rally.

The A.Y.P.A. from St. Stephen's and the Church of the Redeemer held their functions in the old Orange Hall for many years as did all the local organizations and the Field's referred to were Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Fields who most always were on hand to play music for the events

Sept. 1904 - John R. Shuel of Paquette enrolled in Essex High School. John lived in the area all his life and was active in church, community, Red Cross, Agricultural groups sports, etc. during his lifetime, and was given many plaques, trophies and Honours. One such tribute was paid him April 2, 1971 by Redeemer Church. The article appeared in the Essex Free Press under Paquette News as attached hereto:

Feb. 16, 1955 - COUNTY'S VEGETABLE GROWERS PRESENT WATCH TO CANNING CROPS LEADER, ran the headlines in the Windsor Star: The Essex County Vegetable Growers in honouring John Shuel by presenting him with a watch in recognition for the fine manner in which he represented growers during the many years he was associated with the organization, have shown other farm groups how it can be done. It would be quite fitting and proper if other farm organizations picked up the ball. Without establishing the claims of any particular individual, there are other men like Mr. Shuel to whom Essex County agriculture is indebted. True, Mr. Shuel was an outstanding example from the standpoint of length of service and sincerity of endeavour. But there are others to whom other producer groups are equally beholden, and it would be nice if from time to time, their contributions were suitably recognized. Presenting the watch at the I.O.O.F. Hall in Essex, are Mr. Rosaire Quenneville, Stoney Point, chairman of the association, and Dr. L. W. Kosh, of the Canadian Department of Agriculture's science service laboratory at Harrow. The picture is placed in the "AGRICULTURAL VOLUME" of the Oldcastle W.I. Tweedsmuir History book.

Oct. 11, 1958 - PAQUETTE - NEW BEET STATION: a fully mechanized \$30,000 sugar beet receiving station, first of its kind in Canada, has been officially opened at Paquette by the Canada and Dominion Sugar Company. From eight to ten railroad cars are loaded daily on the Chesapeake and Ohio siding. A truck is seen dumping beets into the hopper to be cleaned on the conveyor belt and dumped in a railroad car. This picture is also in the W.I. Agricultural Volume. Richard Thrasher, M.P. for Essex County (South) is shown cutting the ribbon at the opening ceremony for the station.

Sept. 12, 1972 - A MEETING OF CHAMPS: There's no teacher like experience and 81 year old John Shuel of Sandwich South has plenty of that. Listening intently in the picture in the Windsor Star is Bob Wismer, who for a six year old knows a lot about plowing himself. Mr. Shuel placed first in the walking plow class at the Essex County Plowing Match on Saturday and Bob was the winner of the plow competition for boys ten and under. Mr. Shuel explained that when he began farming one had no choice but to walk behind the plow rather than sit on a tractor in front of it. In those days a man had to walk eight miles to plow an acre and two acres plowed in a day was considered to be a good day's work. Picture in W.I. Agr. Volume.

Oct. 24, 1913 - Charles Burke of Paquette picked up a ripe tomato weighing 3 lbs., measuring 16" across and about 3" high.

August 27, 1965 - Carson Jessop in his Oldcastle Highlight Column writes about the good old church picnics which seem to be vanishing: Hundreds of fans turned out at the Village of McGregor last Sunday to the annual St. Clement's Church picnic on the K. of C. grounds. Those that love the banquet table would not find the loaded plates and the old friendship renewed like this event in the highest places of the world for such an economical cost. Here in this little village, the French, the English, the Irish and every Tom, Dick and Harry, gathered to eat, play and visit with a deepness and a sincerity in one's love of fellowship and enjoyment. We believe there are places in Canada that could take one big lesson from some of our churches, peoples and races of Essex County. From reports this year many of the county church picnics will not be held. McGregor is one of the few remaining outdoor picnics still in action and we can remember them when even beer was sold on the grounds at the Pettypiece bush. Many of us were not old enough to understand why a man could sit under a shady tree with a glass of beer and seem happy even if the depression was on and the price of farm crops was out of reason. Farm people donated most of the food, today it has to be bought because most farms are short of eggs, butter, chickens and all that go to make a picnic. Farmers buy the eggs, butter and chickens and all those good home cooked table stomachache goodies of a few years ago. When one looks around also many of those farms are not there. Today's picnic will have to end up in some air conditioned plush place, that is fairly reasonable, less work and one will wonder just how much to tip the waiter.

JOHN SHUEL HONOURED

The Church of the Redeemer held a banquet, Saturday evening in Tully Hall in honour of John Shuel, who retired as Treasurer in January. Rev. N. A. Tilford asked the Blessing Steven Tofflemire, People's Warden, was Master of Ceremonies for the program, following the delicious meal prepared by the ladies of the congregation. The theme "This is Your Life, John Shuel" compiled and narrated by Harry O'Brien was illustrated with pictures of important events and places in John's life shown on the screen by Steve Tofflemire.

On behalf of the congregation Harvey McCauley, the Rector's Warden, presented him with an engraved desk set to mark his 60 years as Treasurer. Mr. Shuel became Treasurer at the tender age of 19 and had given freely of his time and talents in the 60 years that followed. For half of these years he was also Vestry Clerk, Envelope Secretary and Sunday School Teacher. His church and community work has by no means been limited to the church treasury. He has held chairmanship of the Ontario Vegetable Growers' Association, and Essex District High School, as well as a trustee of Sandwich South School Board, and representative of his church on the board of Canterbury College. He was also a Director of the Oldcastle Co-op. Several men who had been associated with him in these different fields paid glowing tribute to him at the banquet. Mr. McCauley presented Mrs. Shuel with a lovely floral arrangement of pink and white carnations.

Thomas Huggard received the prize for the oldest man, Patrick O'Neil for the youngest son and Hugh Pettigrew of Ottawa, for coming the longest distance to the banquet.

Mr. Shuel is the father of six children, four of whom were present Saturday evening and 12 of his 13 grandchildren.

APRIL 2, 1971 e.f.p.

The Windsor Star

The '30s
WINDSOR, SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1973
in 1973



MAR-Apr. 1952

The following are the results of the final games of Essex Euchre League.

Final standings - Maidstone, 935 games; Paquette 923; firemen 882; Gesto 859.

High three players - Fred Hyatt of Paquette, 133 games; Henry Jessop, Paquette, 131; Wally Neal, Maidstone, 129.

Trophy Winners - Steve Sadler trophy, Fred Hyatt; Weller Cup, Maidstone.

Jan. 20, 1950 - Mr. & Mrs. Steve Santo were married on January 14th at St. Stephen's Church, Oldcastle, by Rev. Gordon Dickin officiating. They are now celebrating their 30 year's Anniversary.

Aug. 15, 1941, E.F.P.: The first Pettypiece family reunion was held at the home of Harry Pettypiece of Paquette.

Down at Hank Thrasher's place at Paquette, the citizens have claimed that the old joint is not just the same lately. Our Hank had to be confined to bed and mechanic Herb Dibley had to take a stay in hospital.

June 3, 1921, E.F.P.: Adelaine St. Julian of R. R. 2, Essex captured a '60 owl in her chicken yard.

Mar. 1958 - The Paquette Champ Euchre Players would be hosts to Weller's All Stars of Essex, on March 25th.

Marianne Shuel and Jane Simon, EDHS graduates, received official acceptance as student nurses at Hotel Dieu, Mar. 1952.

John Shuel, farmer, in Sandwich South for over 50 year.

"I had the same place then I have now—just about half way between Oldcastle and McGregor. At that time it was all general farming. I was shipping milk . . . it came to \$1.12 for a hundredweight. I had about 12 cows . . . we'd grow our own vegetables . . . everyone had a bunch of pigs, chickens . . .

"I was married in 1918 and we had seven children. Farm children have no chores now—they had plenty in those days.

"A fella hesitated to spend a nickel in those days. I had a contract for tomatoes—20 cents a bushel, \$6.60 a ton. But I guess the company felt sorry for us because they always raised the price a nickel before they took it away. Wheat was 35 cents a bushel from the farmer . . . that was the lowest since Queen Elizabeth I . . . the lowest in 300 years.

"I managed to keep our heads above water. We never paid the mortgage sometimes . . . we always paid the interest though. Some people didn't pay their interest and lost their farms. Men would work for you for just their board and maybe a little smoking tobacco.

"Sugar beets was the main thing. Sugar beets were one of the main things that helped this area. Thousands of tons of sugar went out each fall from Paquette station.

"People were friendly then. Everybody was sad but we managed to smile all the time.

PAQUETTE CORNER'S (CONT.)

Mar. 21, 1969 - Down at Hank Thrasher's Place at Paquette, the citizens have claimed that the old joint is not just the same lately. Our Hank had to be confined to bed and Mechanic Herb Dibley had to take a stay in hospital.

Dec. 11, 1970 - Timothy Ross Herdman was host Friday night to a party for his sister Marla Joh on the occasion of her 1st birthday. Helping her blow out her one candle were grandparents, Toots (Garnet) and Evelyn Herdman, and Bob McCord. (Grandm McCord was home tending to a sick aunt Pam). Godparents, Lynne and Ron Porter and Barbara Thompson, great aunt and uncle Ivy and Reg. Thompson and uncles George and Bill McCord, aunt Lynn McCord and good pals, Therisa and Brian Porter. Marla Joh was very excited about all of her gifts but especially that big lion from uncle Bill.

Feb. 26, 1971 - Mr. & Mrs. Harry Pettypiece have returned from an enjoyable vacation in Florida.

Feb. 25, 1972 - Deborah Ann Shepley, 16, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Murray Shepley is in Intensive Care in Grace Hospital with head injuries after being hit by a hit and run driver near her home on Walker Road at Paquette Corners about 8 p.m. last Thursday. Deborah was walking facing traffic on the east side of the road when she was struck.

Apr. 28, 1972 - Many happy returns of the day to Wallace Paquette who celebrated his 90th birthday, Sunday with a family celebration at the Knights of Columby's Hall in McGregor. Mr. Paquette's father starting farming at Paquette Corners in 1837 and the family still operates the farm. This area is named after the family.

May 26, 1972 - Mr. & Mrs. Fred Paquette are building a lovely new home at Paquette Corners, right at Walker Road and Colchester North Townline.

Oct. 3, 1974 - TRAGIC FIRE HITS AREA FARM ran the ESSEX TIMES NOTICE: Fire hit a farm at Paquette Corners. The fire blazed out of control through a barn, corn crib and machine shed Saturday night. Burnt in the fire was 500 bushels of oats, 250 bushels of wheat, and 700 bails of hay, The fire reportedly started in the hay loft, where about 400 bails of straw was destroyed. However the water well was saved and a gas storage tank was isolated from the fire. Although four fire departments - Colchester North, Sandwich South, Malden and Anderdon arrived at the scene of the fire, the barn and connecting buildings could not be saved. 80 year old Herman Paquette, owner of the farm stated while watching the fire "You spend your whole life building something up and you watch it destroyed in front of you in such a short time", No livestock was harmed in the blaze, but as Herman's son stated, because of high cost of materials today, reconstruction is a costly affair. The Anderdon firemen were treated for burns.

Mar. 30, 1973 - Lynn McCord, second daughter of Bob and Mary McCord, was guest of honor at a bridal shower at her sister Judi Herdman's on Sunday Mar. 18th, also hosting the event were her attendans, Pam McCord and Nancy Garrod. Maid of Honour, Vickie Trenholme, baked some delicious squares and then was fortunate enough to be in Florida for the blizzard that hit Southern Ontario that weekend. In spite of the bad weather the shower was well attended, and Lynn received many beautiful gifts. While the women were enjoying the shower, the men held a marathon euchre game during which Ross Herdman and Bob McCord were skunked by groom-elect Doug. Garrod and Toots Herdman.



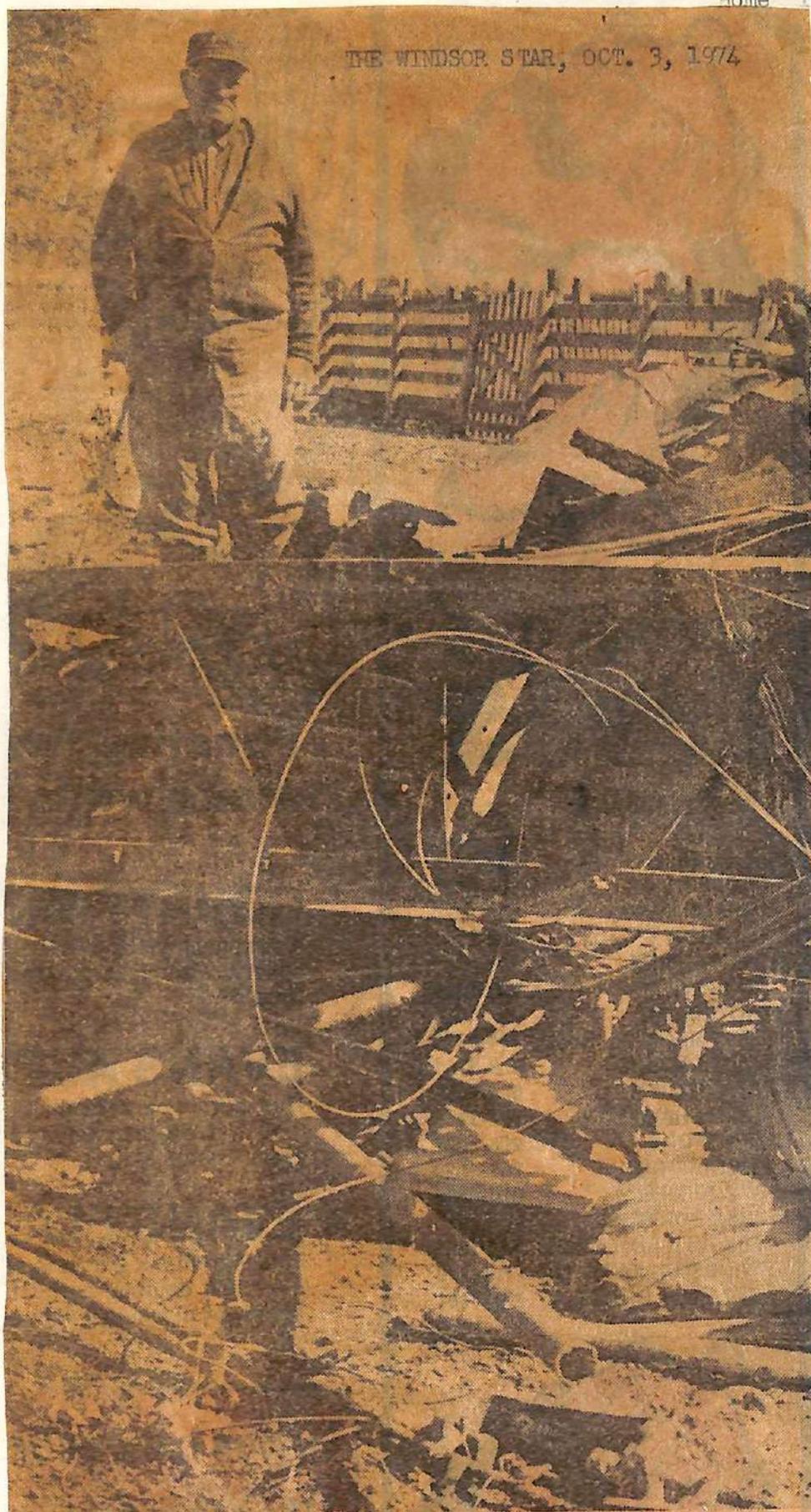
INTO THE WILD BLUE YONDER—Students from William G. Davis School, Windsor, were given a special treat Tuesday when members of the Sun Parlor Radio Control Flyers gave a model airplane demonstration at the Pettypiece farm near Paquette Corners. From left, examining one of the planes: Carol Leonard, 9, RR 2, Tecumseh; Percy Grondin, Windsor, editor, Canadian Model Aircraft, and Mark Humphreys, 9, 2703 Westminster Blvd., Windsor.

Aug. 31, 1973 - Rev. James A. Shuel of Edson, Alta. and his sister, Miss Margaret Shuel of the Scarborough Public School Staff returned recently by Jet from an enjoyable trip and tour of England and Ireland.

- Russell O'Neil, son of Mr. & Mrs. Clyde O'Neil celebrated his birthday on Aug. 25th.

The home of Mrs. Russell Pettypiece was the scene of a happy family re-union, Saturday and Sunday. Those present were Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Pettypiece and family, Miss Nancy Pettypiece, R. N., of Windsor, Mr. & Mrs. Brian Pettypiece and family of Niagara Falls, Tom Pettypiece of Agincourt, Mr. & Mrs. Rob. Lucio of Thamesville and Mr. & Mrs. Harry Pettypiece of Essex.

THE WINDSOR STAR, OCT. 3, 1974



Herman Paquette surveys fire damage

Farmer won't quit ...despite big loss

By JERRY MORROW

"I can't quit. We will have to rebuild," Herman Paquette said as he surveyed the damage fire did to his farm last weekend.

The blaze destroyed a large barn, a hay mow, corn crib and pig pen along with 1,000 bales of hay, 1,000 bales of straw and about 100 bushels of wheat. The farm, on Walker Road just south of Paquette's Corners, has been in the family for over 100 years.

Neighbors who came to look over the damage estimated the loss at more than \$75,000. Mr. Paquette had the barn insured for \$8,200.

"I tried to increase the insurance last year but the agent told me not to bother," he said. "Now look at the position I'm in."

For 65 years Mr. Paquette has operated the 75-acre farm, growing corn, hay, oats and in the last few years, soybeans. He also raises cattle and pigs.

He took over the farm when his father died and helped raise his six brothers and sisters. "I was only 15 and that is why I never had the chance to go to school," he said.

Despite his lack of education, Mr. Paquette made his mark on the community. For 18 years he served on the Colchester North Township Council, one year as acting reeve.

He was born on the farm and plans to stay there until he dies. "I am going to keep on farming. My woman is in a wheelchair and I have to look after her," he explained.

"We will have to rebuild. With prices what they are we will not be able to replace what was burned but we will put up what we can."

Mr. Paquette at 79 is still an active man. "There is nothing I like better than sitting on the tractor," he said. With old age has come some infirmity and the farm is slowly being taken over by the younger generation, but he is still out there working.

The cause of the disastrous blaze has not been determined. Mr. Paquette said he cannot understand how the barn could have caught fire.

In the corner where it started, straw had been stored for two or the three years with no problem, he said. There was no hydro and no one can understand what touched the fire off.

When the fire started last Saturday night, Mr. Paquette was watching television with his wife. A passing motorist stopped to alert the family.

"When I came outside, the flames were shooting 100 feet into the air," he said. "That was a good barn. The front and the roof were all galvanized."

The building was about 70 years old but it had been kept in good condition, neighbors said as they dickered to buy the now-homeless livestock.

"We have to sell the livestock. We have no place to keep the animals now. But we will have more," he promised.

The six cattle and 23 pigs all escaped the fire. The tractor was also saved but a rake and a wagon were destroyed.

June 28, 1974 - Mrs. Russell Pettypiece and daughter, Nancy, R.N. returned recently from a delightful tour of England and southern Ireland. They spent two delightful days with Rev. and Mrs. Peter Ralph-Bowman down in Somerset and another enjoyable day with Rev. & Mrs. E. C. Grey of Bowdon. Both of these rectors were incumbents at the Church of the Redeemer and St. Stephen's parishes formerly. Mrs. Pettypiece had the pleasure of meeting for the first time an English pen pal with whom she had corresponded since she was fourteen. In Eire they visited the beautiful city of Dublin, Killarney, and other points of interest, especially enjoying the green of the countryside and the blue of the numerous lakes.

Mrs. Pettypiece celebrated her birthday, June 21st, Clarence White and grandson, Edward, on June 22nd. Miss Nancy Pettypiece R. N., moved to Kitchener on Thursday where she has accepted a position on the nursing staff of Kitchener-Waterloo Hospital. She will begin her duties July 1st.

Redeemer congregation held their annual picnic on the church grounds on Sunday following the 9.30 a.m. service. Good time reported by all.

PAQUETTE CORNERS (CONT.)

June 28, 1974 - Of local interest is the news that Mrs. Margaret Libby and family left Windsor by jet on June 20th to join her husband, Rev. T. Neil Libby, Executive Director of St. Leonard's Society of Canada, in England. He has just completed a tour of prisons in six European countries. The Libby family will tour England and Ireland before returning to Canada.

- Clarence Holden came home from I.O.D.E. Hospital on Tuesday and Clifford O'Neil from Grace Hospital on Wednesday. Both are making steady progress towards recovery.

Aug. 16, 1974 - Jim Shuel returned by air to his home in Edson, Alta., after an enjoyable visit with Mr. & Mrs. John Shuel. John who is a Server in St. Catherine's Anglican Church there, accompanied his Rector and friend, Rev. James A. Shuel, East, when he came to visit his parents. The Rector will return to Edson to resume his parish duties, August 20th. Mr. & Mrs. John Shuel and family held a happy re-union, July 28th at the home of their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Werner of Windsor. All their six children and thirteen grandchildren were present. Dr. & Mrs. Reginald Shuel and family of Guelph, Miss Margaret Shuel of Scarborough, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Shuel and family of Strathroy, Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Pettigrew and family of Oakville, Rev. James A. Shuel, of Edson, Alta., Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Werner and family of Windsor, and Mrs. Shuel's sister, Miss Alice O'Neil of Huron Lodge, Windsor.

Nov. 1, 1974 - Mrs. Herb. Holden is now a resident of the Essex Nursing Home.

- The deepest sympathy goes to Mrs. Richard Reyner in the death of her beloved father, Wallace Trimble, 71 years, who passed away at his late residence, Belle River Road, Gosfield North Township, on Oct. 23rd.

Dec. 13, 1974 - Congratulations to Meredith White and his sister Mary Lou Bailey, son and daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Clarence White of Paquette Corners. Meredith led the polls for the township of Sandwich South, Dec. 2nd and his sister, Mary Lou led the polls for Council in the town of Kingsville. This was the first attempts in Municipal Politics for both.

Jan. 17, 1975 - We regret to report that Bob McCord suffered a severe heart attack early Sunday morning and is now a patient in Grace Hospital Coronary Unit.

Apr. 11, 1975 - Ross and Judi Herdman had as their house guest over Easter weekend their cousin, Leona Plain from Glencoe. Mrs. Rose Herdman arrived Tuesday evening by train from Brockville to visit friends and relatives in the area. She had spent Easter in Brockville with her daughter and son-in-law, Janet and Garnie Gray and grandchildren, Richard Kevin and Brian.

May 16, 1975 - Mary & Bob McCord entertained at a family dinner following the christening of their youngest grandson, Christopher Robert, son of Pam and Ray Etches, R.R.1 Windsor. Among those present were Tim and Marla Joh Herdman who are thrilled to have a cousin at last. Christopher's godparents are his aunt Fran Etches, Maureen Hayes, his uncle Bill McCord and Bob Hayes. Also present to commemorate the occasion were Grandma Becky Etches, Aunt Lyn and uncle Doug. Garrod, uncle George McCord, Aunt Judi and Uncle Ross Herdman and Tots and Evelyn Herdman. Besides it being Mother's Day, it was also an early birthday salute to Evelyn Herdman.

July 11, 1975 - While on a week's holiday to Georgian Bay, Ross and Judy Herdman, Tim and Marl Joh, visited with Jack and Florence and Nellie Herdman whose guest was Robyn Pettapiece. They also spent several days with former Essex County residents, Ron and Lynne Porter and family at Wiarton, and the Don Plants at Londesboro. Bob, Mary & George McCord spent the holiday weekend touring Gettysburg, Penn.

Oct. 27, 1976 - Mr. & Mrs. Anson Tofflemire, Mr. & Mrs. Wilford Hernandez and daughters Terry June and Roberta Joy returned recently from a relaxing vacation, a motor trip through Eastern Ontario, Province of Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Maine and Vermont. They stopped at all the historical landmarks and found Prince Edward Island a most delightful place with its high cliffs and low long beaches of red sand. They visited Prince Edward Island National Park where the house was made famous in "Anne of Green Gables" is located and saw the Parliament Building where the Fathers of Confederation met in 1864 in Charlottetown.

Oct. 29, 1976 - Of local interest is the news that Wallace Paquette, who is now 95 years of age, is a resident of Country Village Nursing Home, Woodslee.

Nov. 12, 1976 - Mr. John Shuel is home from Metropolitan Hospital and Mrs. Erin Pettypiece suffered a hear attack 1st Wednesday evening and was taken to the Cardiac Unit in Grace Hospital.

Apr. 8, 1977 - Mr. & Mrs. Fred Paquette, having only returned from Florida a week Friday were in an accident on Walker Road Thursday when a horse that had wandered out on the highway was struck by Fred's car and totally demolished it putting both Fred and Letitia (Conroy) in Metropolitan Hospital where Fred is still receiving treatments. Lititia was released after her injuries were stitched.

Apr. 21, 1978 - Paquette friends learned with sincere regret of the death of Basil Malott, 71 years, on April 14th at the Richmond Nursing Home, Amherstburg. Survived by a son Edward of Windsor and daughters, Mrs. Grant Hodgson (Mae) of Wheatley and Mrs. Leo Bellemore (Barbara) of McGregor, his 16 grandchildren, and 18 great grandchildren. He was a former resident of our community and the beloved husband of the late Ina who passed away in 1967. He was predeceased by two sons, Cecil in 1976 and Bruce in 1974.

July 7, 1978 - Sincere sympathy to Mrs. Raymond Demers and family in the death of a beloved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather; Raymond, 84 years of Walker Road, Paquette Corners on June 28th.

Aug. 31, 1979 - Hazel Thrasher came home from Metropolitan Hospital and Judi Herdman from I.O.D.E. Hospital after a three weeks stay, and Mrs. W. A. Crowder from Hotel Dieu Hospital following Major Surgery.

Oct. 19, 1979 - Mrs. Fred Paquette came home from Victoria Hospital, London, on Saturday and is making daily progress towards recovery from Major Surgery of a heart by-pass.



Greetings

To our wonderful friends and neighbors — here's wishing you a Christmas chock full of lighthearted joy and family gatherings.

Circle T
Chincilla Ranch

Jacqui, Steve, Kathleen,
Kirk Tofflemire

DEC. 19, 1975

Paquette friends learned with sincere regret of the death of Roy Brady, 53 years, at Metropolitan Hospital on November 29th. Late of R. 1 McGregor. Beloved husband of Kathy and dear father of Mrs. Joe Phillips (Gloria), Amherstburg, 1 granddaughter also survives. Dear brother of James and Jack, Windsor. Frank and Norman of Detroit and Mrs. Ray Comeau (Patricia) of Windsor. Funeral from the Don Morris Funeral Home, Windsor to St. Clements Roman Catholic Church, McGregor for Funeral Mass at 10 a.m., December 3rd. Interment Heavenly Rest Cemetery. Our sincere sympathy to his bereaved loved ones.

DEC. 5, 1980

ESSEX FREE PRESS

F. PAQUETTE

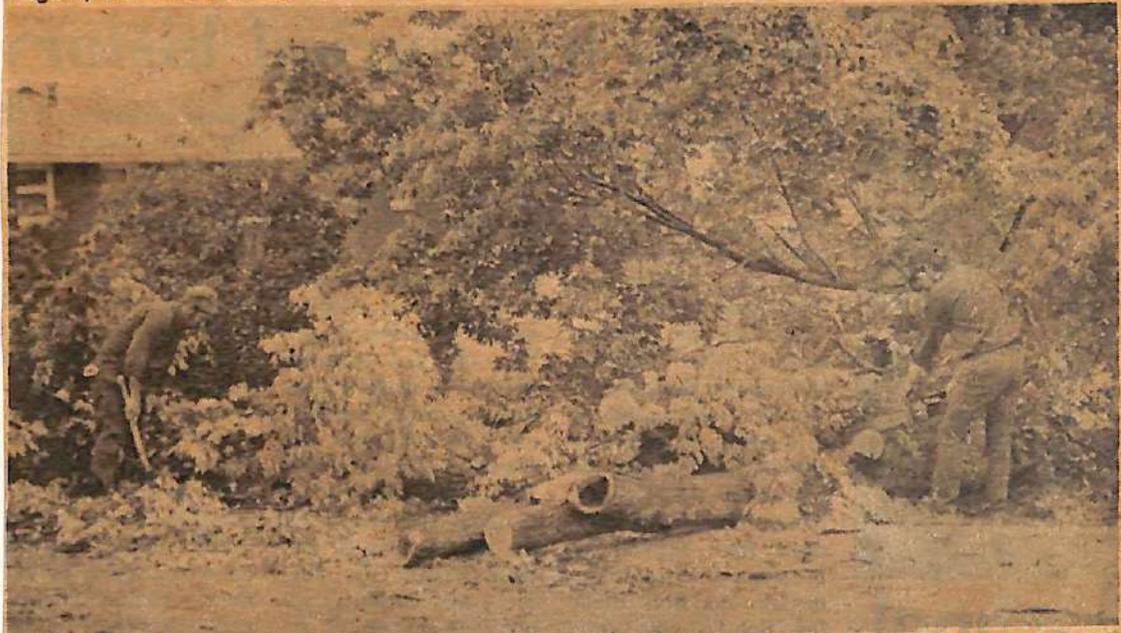
We are happy to report that Garnet Herdman is home from the hospital and is making daily progress towards recovery from his recent heart attack. We all send him our best wishes and prayers.

Dec, 12, 1980

We regret to report that Mrs. Stanley Holden is ill at her home. We all send her our best wishes and prayers.

12/19/80

Page 4, The Essex Times, Thursday June 12, 1975



'WE'LL MISS THEM' — Richard Gagnon (left) and Jim Paquette use axe and chain saw to cut apart the two trees which formed an integral part of their home.

Treasured trees blown down

PAQUETTE CORNERS — Things were kind of sad around Paquette Corners last Thursday morning. The cold light of dawn brought back to mind the devastation of the high winds of the evening before.

About five o'clock, the two trees on the front lawn of Jim Paquette

were given the fatal shake. Both fell right across the Town Line Road and fully blocked all traffic. Jim Paquette, brother-in-law Richard Gagnon, and all the kids in the neighbourhood used chain saws and bare hands to clear the roadway. The old trees were "treasured for

many years" according to Fred Paquette, father of Jim. "Lord only knows how old they were."

"My grandfather, Cyril Paquette probably planted those when he came here in 1865." The first house on the corner was made of logs. In those days, Paquette Corners

was the half way point between Windsor and Harrow. For over 40 years, farmers hauling wheat, oats, and other farm products used to stay overnight in the old hotel. It was all horses in the early years, no cars at all.

In 1896, the railway went through and the hotel was filled with the construction crew, foreman and sightseers. Mr. Paquette can just remember living in part of the original hotel. In 1919, the house that lasted until 1966 was built. It was moved down Town Line Road in 1966 and the present house constructed.

"It's going to seem kind of bare now without those 'trees' but 'I suppose we'll replace them with some smaller ones.' They 'should have been taken out long ago' but 'you really get used to having them there.' We waited too long", Mr. Paquette concluded. "The insides were all rotted out even though they still grew every year. We'll miss them."



"LORD, ONLY KNOWS — how old they are", comments Fred Paquette. The trees were probably planted by his grandfather, back in 1865. They were a living witness to the history of Paquette Corners.

... while 'Le drainage' worries others

THE WINDSOR STAR, JANUARY 30, 1976.

"Le drainage" is a Canadian term for the anglicization of French communities. A federal bilingual advisory committee recently reported that the Windsor-Essex area is quickly losing its French-speaking character. Figures show that the district lost almost 2,000 francophones between 1961 and 1971 even though the overall population climbed almost 45,000.

Examples of le drainage can be seen in Essex County where surnames Langlois, Dupuis and others which are often pronounced with an Anglo inflection... in the anglicization of Windsor streets, Ouellette, Pelissier and Pierre.

Peter Halford, who speaks French language at the University of Windsor, understands the problem of le drainage. Peter is by birth half English and half French, a true Essex County boy.

Some 30 years ago, Peter's mother, an Irish Catholic from Maldstone, married Peter's mother, a French Canadian girl from Paquette Corners...not an uncommon Essex County match.

The couple raised their children to speak only English... again not an uncommon situation in families where one parent is English. Peter might never have learned the French language for the fact that his mother, who was raised by bilingual parents, did not speak French herself. That puzzled him and started him thinking.

"Why didn't my mother speak French? That worried me. I was part French myself and my mother didn't even speak the language," Peter says.

Peter was determined to find out something about the French side of her heritage. He studied French in high school. He practiced French conversation with his French-speaking cousins and in summer jobs in the county. He studied French when he went to university.

"I finally understood the reason for the loss of the French in this area: you have to be at least bilingual to survive off the farm. I say 'at least bilingual' because there is sometimes prejudice shown towards a person whose mother tongue is French," Peter said.

"From the mid-1700's until the first World War, there was a self-sufficient French community in this area. As long as they could rely on their own resources as farmers they could remain independent from the English community," Peter added.

"But, in the early part of this century, families began to run short of land they could pass on to their children. Economic pressure forced young French people to leave the farm and look for work in the English community.

"My mother's situation is typical of many French people trying to make it in Ontario. Her parents brought their children up to speak English to prepare them for an English world."

The present renaissance of French culture in Ontario has been brought about by newcomers from Quebec rather than the Francophones who have lived in the province for several generations. Peter Halford says. "A revival of French culture has caught on with the younger generation in this area. Most of us in the county are just striving for the option of living as French persons — rather than being French just in the home."

The French language is being submerged among the older families, says Monseigneur Noel, pastor of St. Jerome's Parish. "And the pity is, they aren't aware of it. You can get into an English way of life so easily that you don't realize it.

"My family owes a debt of gratitude to my mother for enforcing French in the home. When the family got together in the evenings, we'd often start recounting the events of the day in a mixture of the two languages. Something like 'j'ai rencontré quelqu'un...' and this is what they said. It's so easy to get into this habit of speaking.

"My mother couldn't understand English and she would protest that she did not understand us. She would ask us to speak proper French.

"Speaking English almost seems to come automatically... with English television, radio and English-speaking people in the community. It sometimes takes a real effort to keep on speaking French."

Hector Lacasse, former mayor of Tecumseh and father of 10 children, is married to an English-speaking woman. He says that mixed marriages between English and French-speaking persons are often responsible for children losing the French language.

"That's how you get people with French names who can't pronounce their own surnames. That's also the reason we have a city like Windsor, with streets bearing French names — that are pronounced in an English manner," Mr. Lacasse said.

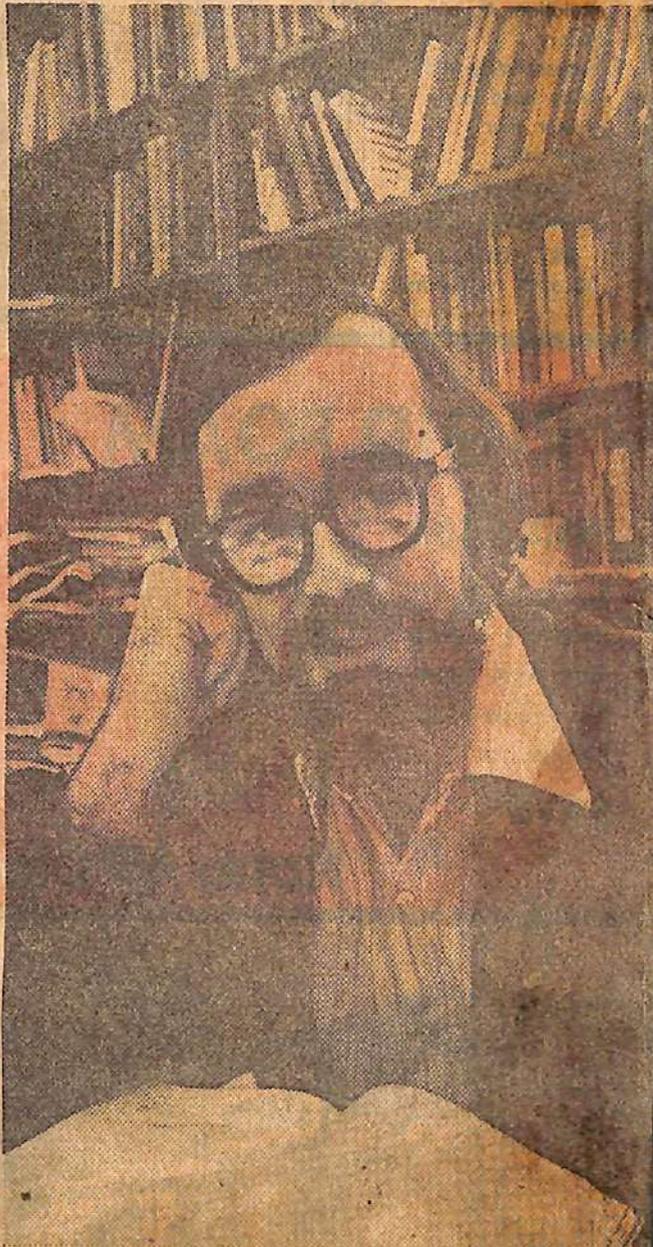
Whatever the reasons, the problem remains. Francophones can no longer survive isolated from the English community. If knowledge of English is essential to economic survival in Ontario, how can a French family ensure that their children learn French as a mother tongue and, at the same time, know enough English to participate in the English community?

It's a hard question to answer. Peter Halford and his wife both speak English, French and Spanish. They are raising their three children (aged nine, eight

and four) to speak English for purely practical reasons: where we live there's not another French-speaking person for about two miles.

Peter believes that until a child learns basic communication skills in one language, it is useless to proceed with another language. "Bombarding a child with two languages simultaneously leads to a lot of confusion and a slowing up of his communication skills," he says.

So, the Halford children are waiting to receive their introduction to the French language in school.



Instructor Peter Halford

April 4, 1980, E.F.P. - Our best wishes for good health and happiness to Mr. & Mrs. Henry Thrasher formerly of Paquette and who are now residing in Amherstburg. They operated the only business in Paquette for many years which was a garage, service station and general store of sorts. It has been sold to Don and Louise Masse, now renamed Don's Service and Variety Store, formerly HANK'S PLACE. We welcome them to drop in and say Hello, they will appreciate it. The Thrasher's have retired. Charlie Patrick will be staying on as mechanic. The business will be taken over after March 22nd, 1980.

8- THE ESSEX FREE PRESS - Friday, March 21, 1980

PAQUETTE

Henry and Hazel Thrasher give their heartfelt thanks to all our neighbors and customers who have been so

understanding in our twenty-two years of business known as Hank's Place. You have taken into consideration our time and health problems and we certainly appreciate each and everyone of you. Sincerely Henry and Hazel Thrasher.

A Glance Back

THE ESSEX TIMES, JANUARY, 1972

American Tariff felt here in 1897

As early as 1893 the economy of Essex County was affected by conditions in the United States. Later, in 1897, the Dingley tariff came into effect and again brought depression to the area which had experienced an economic upswing from 1893-95.

In the summer of 1893 many men were out of work. As a kind of "winter works" program, Hiram Walker hired men to clear 860 acres

of bush land near Paquette. In the late 1894 there were about 200 empty houses in Windsor as people moved to the United States. By 1896 Windsor banks were refusing American silver money and Detroiters began to worry about Canadians coming to Detroit to work. The Dingley tariff raised some American protective duties and made trade prohibitive for Canadians.

It was reported in 1895 that a large timber business was being carried on and that few people realized there was so much timber left in the county. Railway services to the lakeshore towns brought Americans to the county and the summer resort business began, which played a part in the economic recovery, but it was the logging industry that made the greatest contribution.

PAQUETTE: Essex Free Press, Jan. 13, 1978 - The annual McCord Christmas dinner was held this year on the Sunday before Christmas at the Walker Road home of Lyn (nee McCord) and Doug Garrod. All of the children and grandchildren of Mary (and the late Bob) McCord were able to be present. Ross and Judi Herdman, Tim and Marla-Joh; Lynn and Doug Garrod with their sons Steven and Kevin; Pam and Ray Etches and Christopher; Bill McCord, and Liz, and Mary's son George. A lovely buffet turkey dinner was followed by exchanging of gifts among the children.

Ivy and Barbara Thompson were the guest for a special Christmas Eve dinner of Ross, Judi, Tim and Marla Herdman. Following dinner at the Chicken Court the party adjourned to the Thompson's for dessert and Christmas carols.

Jesse McCord of Chatham, only brother of the late Bob McCord spent Christmas afternoon with the Ross Herdmans. Christmas supper was served and shared at the Herdmans by their family - Mary McCord and George, Toots and Evelyn Herdman. Evelyn is making great progress in her walking much to the delight of the family.

Ross and Judi Herdman were the guests of Betty and Hans Pumpf at the home of Ken and Gertha Brett during the holidays. Three year old Jon Pumpf proudly showed off his five month old twin brothers, Curtis and Rvan.

Jan. 1, 1982 - Congratulations and best wished to Mr. & Mrs. Norman Rounding of Paquette Corners who are now residing at the Richmond Nursing Home, Amherstburg, who celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary, on Tuesday, December 22nd.

ESSEX FREE PRESS
JANUARY 29, 1982

PAQUETTE

While the wind howled, and the snow swirled, the temperature dipped, the atmosphere inside the Essex K of C Hall on January 16th was warm and festive. Relatives and friends had gathered to help Betty and Tony Herdman celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary in style. They were joined by their daughter and son-in-law Margaret Ann and Norman Grondin and their children, Lise, Lori and Heather; and their son and daughter-in-law Richard and Jean Herdman and their children, Debbie and Scott. Other relatives present were Toots and Evelyn Herdman, and Rose and Judi Herdman and Abby and Bev Desjardins.

Ross and Judi Herdman and Tim and Marla were away a couple of weeks ago to attend the Maple Syrup Festival at Elmira. They also visited the antique tractor display at the Ontario Agricultural Museum at Milton. Having left home in 45F weather, they were surprised to be caught in a storm of blizzard-like proportions, gigantic white-outs and multi-car pileups on the way home on 401. The highway was shut down for several hours. 7/23/82.

Many happy returns of the day to Tim Herdman who celebrated his 16th birthday on the Easter weekend. EFP

MAY 7, 1982 EFP
PAQUETTE

Many happy returns of the day to Wallace Paquette who celebrated his 100th birthday on April 23rd. He farmed all his life on the family farm at Paquette Corners, the hamlet named after his father, Cyril Paquette, who settled there in 1867. He had six children, 16 grandchildren and 29 great grandchildren, many of whom visited him on his birthday. He received best wishes from the Queen, Prime Minister Trudeau, Premier Davis, Dr. Mark MacGuigan and Eugene Whalen, a long time card playing friend.

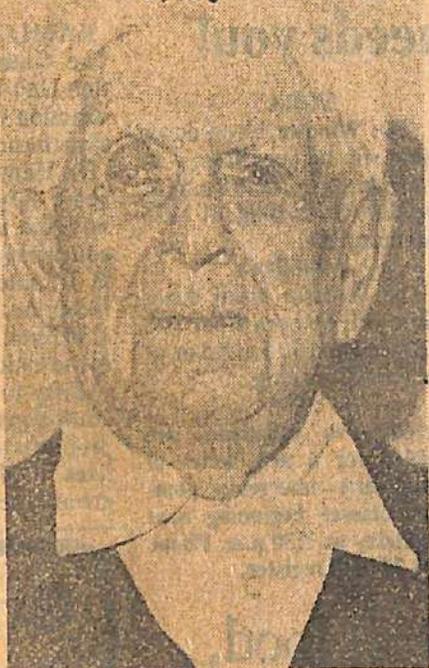
EFP Dec. 31, 1982

PAQUETTE

A healthy, happy and prosperous New Year to all. There were many happy family get-togethers in our community on Christmas day to celebrate the birthday of Christ the Saviour.

Miss Nancy R.N. of Sim Christmas week brother and Douglas and An and family.

THE WINDSOR STAR, APRIL 29, 1982.



100 years young!

A member of one of Essex County's pioneering families - Wallace Paquette - celebrated his 100th birthday recently.

Mr. Paquette, whose father Cyril moved the family from LaSalle to the present hamlet of Paquette Corners in 1867, led an active life in this area, running the family farm until age 80. He was the first registered baptism at the original St. Clements Church in McGregor, and helped haul stone from Amherstburg to build the existing church in 1902.

Mr. Paquette also helped run a hotel his father built in the hamlet in 1896, and replaced it with his own home built in 1919.

Born April 23, 1882, the youngest of 10 children, Mr. Paquette married the former Annie Dauphin in 1910, and had four daughters and two sons, one of whom still runs the original farm near Paquette Corners. He also has 16 grandchildren and 29 great grandchildren. Mr. Paquette received birthday congratulations from the Queen, Prime Minister Trudeau, Ontario Premier William Davis, Windsor-Walkerville MP Mark MacGuigan and Essex-Windsor MP Eugene Whalen, the latter a long-time card-playing friend of Mr. Paquette.

REAL ESTATE ADVERTISER
SEPT. 30, 1982.



OLD CASTLE - NORTH TOWN LINE
Gleaming 4 bedroom near Paquette Corner, well treed large lot, dining room, main floor family room, 1 1/2 baths, 1 1/2 car garage. Patio. Must be sold. THERESA DUGAL

This home was built in 1919
Owned and lived in by
Wallace Paquette family
Pioneers of this district.
Sold in October, 1982

MAY 13, 1983 EFP

PAQUETTE

At the Achievement program on April 27th at Essex United Church Sherry Vanhoorne of Oldcastle #2 club took county honours for completion of 6 4-H home-making projects, Terry June Fortin won provincial honours with 12 projects as did Leonora Costa. Advanced honours went to Kelly Kavanagh for 18 home-making projects. Heartiest congratulations to these girls on their achievements.

AUG. 5th, 1983

PAQUETTE

Mrs. Irene Webster is now a resident of Richmond Nursing Home, Amherstburg, and would appreciate a card, letter or visit from her many local friends.

PAQUETTE

Congratulations to Henry Mergl and Sons of Mergl Seeds, Maidstone for achieving Top Honours in Harcor Soybeans at the Royal Winter Fair, Toronto.

NOV. 26/82

AUG. 20, 1982 EFP

PAQUETTE

Judi Herdman would like to thank family and friends for their thoughtfulness and support during her recent hospitalization and surgery at Metropolitan Hospital. Special thanks to her mother Mary McCord, Rev. Tony and Jean Koning, Steve and Jacqui Toffelmire, Kathleen and Kirk, Nancy Holden, Mary Pringle, Marg Trimble, Carolyn Gerard, Karen Banwell, Cathy Jessop, Cathy Mitchell and Colleen and Kim Higgenbottom.

Forty Years Ago

Items culled from the files of the Essex Free Press for the week of July 14th, 1944.

Two local boys were reported missing in air operations over Europe - P/O Ed McCloskey, Maidstone and F/O Stanley Queen of Paquette. **Nov. 30, 1982**

July 26, 1956 - Congratulations and best wishes to Mr. & Mrs. Edward Demars (nee Rhoda Robinson) whose wedding was a recent event. They have returned from their wedding trip and at present are residing with the groom's parents, Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Demars, Walker Road, Paquette.

Nov. 23, 1956 - Congratulations to Mr. & Mrs. R. McCauley on the birth of a son, in Grace Hospital, Windsor, on Sunday, November 11th, a brother for Jimmy. - Nov. 14, 1958: Mrs. Fred Paquette entertained at a delightful party, Nov. 7th, in honour of her daughter Mary Beth, who was celebrating her eighth birthday. Games and contests were enjoyed and at the close a delicious lunch was served to the seven little girls present. - Nov. 28, 1958: Herm Paquette, former reeve of Colchester North, says a man must pray to get anywhere in this world. Herm is a true believer that prayer can cure many of the world's ills. Very truly spoken by a man who has raised a family of his own with his good wife and also adopted and raised other kids from less fortunate families. Too bad "Herm's" words cannot be taken to heart by many of today's unbelievers that church is old fashioned in this country.

Jan. 17, 1975 - The high winds early Saturday morning caused considerable property damage in this community. A single-engine aircraft at a private airstrip near Paquette Corners was over-turned breaking the fuselage and wings, making it a virtual wreck. Ron Havinga who lives near the strip and watches the planes, said three-foot pegs were pulled out of the ground when the gusts of wind did the damage around 1 a.m.

Oct. 25, 1985, E.F.P.: Mrs. John Kearns is a patient in Metropolitan Hospital. Our prayers and best wishes go out to Lynn and John during these trying days.

Oct. 4, 1974
ESSEX FREE PRESS

Herman Paquette is 79. He has spent his life on a farm on Walker Road, a mile south of Paquette Corners. Saturday night he watched his 70 year old barn burn to the ground. He farms his 75 acres himself and looks after his wife, who is confined to a wheelchair with the help of a young woman who lives with the couple. His livestock was saved, but gone were the corncribs and a wagon load of wheat. His pump-house and granery containing soybeans were also destroyed. He had been watching television when the fire started. It was noticed by people driving by the farm. The cause of the fire is not yet known. The Colchester North Fire Department, Sandwich South, Anderdon and Malden Fire Departments were on the scene for two hours. The sympathy of the community goes to Mr. Paquette and his great loss.

THE WINDSOR STAR, JUNE 11, 1970



May 30, 1986- The grand opening of Dan's Service, Paquette Corners on May 30, 31 and June 1st., when they opened a restaurant in connection with the Service Station. There will be special features in both garage and restaurant. It was formerly known as Hank's Place, owned and operated by Henry Thrasher, who retired after 22 years. Don and Louise Masse purchased the business in April, 1980 and re-named it Don's Service and Variety Store.

ROLLING ALONG-Mrs. Edith Zach of RR 3, Essex, received lacerations and bruises when a truck driven by Douglas Price, 40, of RR 1, McGregor, nearly crushed her car this morning. Provincial police investigating said the truck was apparently passing Mrs. Zach's car when it rammed the car in the side. The impact tore the front wheels off the truck, sending the car, truck and wheels in three different directions. Both vehicles were southbound on Walker near Highway 3. Mrs. Zach was treated and released from Hotel Dieu.

PAQUETTE CORNERS (CONT.)

Some of the early doctors to serve this community were Drs., Lambie, Samson and Casgrain from Windsor who drove over rough muddy roads with horse and buggy and cutter in the winter months, previous to 1880. Around the 1900's there were doctors coming out of Essex. Doctors, James Brien, J. W. Brian, Jenner, and McKenzie lived in Essex and took care of the surrounding territory. In the early 1950's one of the local boys, a recent graduate of Western Medical School, Murray O'Neil (Dr. Murray O'Neil) serves the community in practice with Dr. Clare at Essex and in the 1953 period lived in Essex and serves his home community where he was born. He is the son of Mr. & Mrs. Roy W. O'Neil who had farmed for many years on the Holden Road, Conc. 6, Sandwich South close to Paquette Corners. The O'Neil's retired in 1953 and took up residence in Roseland and son Ejay was on the old homestead farm. In 1971, Mr. O'Neil had passed away and his widow, Laura O'Neil (Tice) now resides in an apartment in Windsor with her sister Miss Alva Tice. Dr. O'Neil went further afield in his medical education and is now practicing in the City of Windsor in the specialized field of "Allergies" and resides in the county near Woodslee with his family. Dr. George Rogers also served in the district out of Essex.

The first permanent sawmill was started by Robert Shuel about 1890. It was brought from Gesto and operated until 1902. It stood on the Shuel farm, now occupied by Russell Pettypiece. The building still stands a short distance from where it stood when used as a sawmill and was being used as a barn in 1953 yet, but the machinery was sold and moved to Duck Island in Georgian Bay.

Snake Lane was one of the first roads in the district and was an offshoot of Talbot Road. The first settlers lived on this road about 1830. There was one log house still standing on East Half of Lot 4, Conc. 6. It had been boarded over but in 1953 was occupied by Mr. & Mrs. Henry Thrasher. It was built many years ago by Mose Dufault.

The community was served by a blacksmith, Joseph Harshaw, who purchased the first old frame No. 4 Schoolhouse around 1894 and moved it to a location near Paquette Station. It was in operation until 1906. At present it is still standing and is being used as a grainery on the farm of Frank Lounsbrough in 1953.

Folks from this area are served religiously by the Church of the Redeemer, an Anglican Church and a part of a two-fold ministry with St. Stephen's Church on Howard Ave., and St. Clement's Roman Catholic Church at McGregor. Both of these churches are located in Colchester North Township.

There was the Orange Lodge No. 552 who built an Orange Hall in 1894 on the 6th Conc., Sandwich South, commonly called the Holden Road, just off the Anderdon-Sandwich South Townline. Also the Independent Order of Foresters was started in 1893 and met in the Orange Hall after it was built until they disbanded, May 29th, 1935. George R. Weller of Essex made good his challenge to Paquette Euchre Players issued at an annual League Banquet, and up and took 20 hand-picked players from Essex to Orange Hall to meet the Paquette Invincibles and Paquette won by seven games.

Some of the pioneer and familiar names around Paquette are Pettypiece, Shuel, Hartley, Thrasher, White, Lounsbrough, O'Neil, Dufault and the pioneer Paquette family where it got its name and several other French families as well.

Sept. 28th, 1957 - The face of Paquette was changed completely when a \$100,000 building boom for a two-year period began in the district. The new Sunnybrook Development has seen 10 new homes erected to more than double the population of Paquette Corners. Most of the new home owners are employed in Windsor and commute daily. Lawrence Shepley, a building contractor was behind the development. Each owner planned his own home and Shepley's built it. They are all of brick construction and range in price from \$9,500 to \$13,000. They called it the Shepley Subdivision and it was on the Colchester North side of Walker Road. In 1971 several other new homes were built on both sides of the Townline and Walker Road in Sandwich South Township.

Happenings in and around Paquette Corners: Oct. 8, 1897 - A. H. Shuel's house at Paquette was destroyed by a fire.

April 29th, 1898 - News at this time that the Tolls on Toll Roads in Essex County were abolished; War was declared by U.S.A. against Spain; The Joseph Totten farm on the north side of Talbot Road in Sandwich South, 167 acres was sold to Ben Libby, for \$5,800. Wheat jumped from .90¢ to \$1 a bushel after the U.S.A. declared war on Spain.

Sept. 12th, 1902 - Alex Shuel sold his farm in Sandwich South on the Colchester North Townline to a Mr. Paquette, and moved to Alpena, Mich.

Mar. 1, 1907 - Frank Holden, Paquette, sold his farm to Willard Holden and purchased the Andrew Queen farm in Edgar Mills, the Queens moved into Windsor.

Oct. 18, 1907 - Alex O'Neil's barn at Paquette was destroyed by fire.

March 31, 1911 - The Strause Land Co. of Liginere, Indiana were busy purchasing and selling farms in Essex County and in Paquette Corners.

March 8th, 1918 - Henry Jessop moved to the Arch Hartley farm at Paquette.

Dec. 14, 1937 - Anson Tofflemire and his wife Lucille suffered quite severe injuries in an auto accident.

Dec. 3rd., 1980 - It is official now that the community of Paquette be designated as "PAQUETTE CORNERS". It has hitherto been known as Paquette Station and just plain "Paquette". According to the picture below and the item following it, it will henceforth appear on maps as "Paquette Corners".

Paquette Corners now official

THE TIMES, WED. DECEMBER 3, 1980

WINDSOR — Paquette Corners is finally official. For years the Ontario Geographic Names Board had listed the location as Paquette Station. Following a toponymy study conducted in the area last week the name will be changed to what it is known as locally.

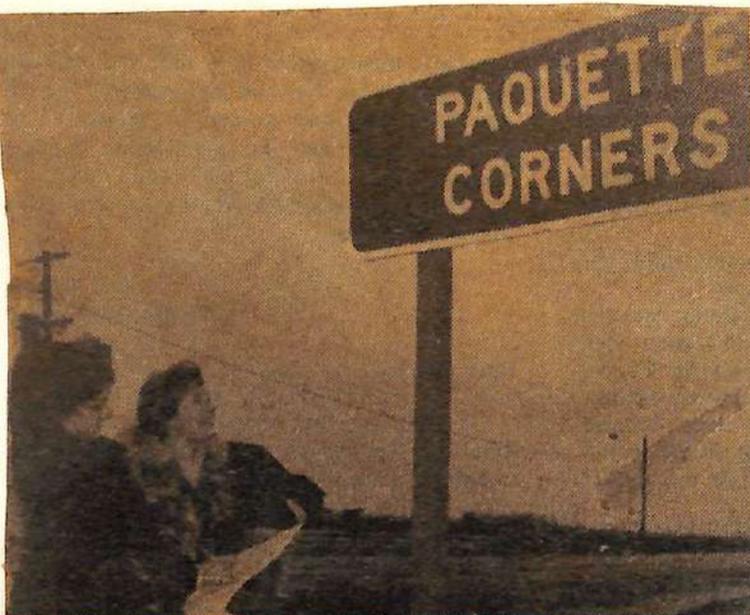
Ida Zitani and Monica Vasko two researchers with the Ontario Geographic Names Board spent last week investigating toponymy in Essex and Kent Counties. Toponymy, from the Greek 'topos' (meaning place) and 'onumg' (meaning name) is the study of place names.

The researchers talked to area residents and authorities to learn about local names and geographic applications of features and unincorporated places. They also verified official names which currently appear on government maps to ensure that they reflect local

usage. Situations where the official name and the name used locally differ will be presented to the board for consideration.

The OGNB advises the Minister of Natural Resources on all matters dealing with geographical names and naming. It was established by statute in 1971 and consists of seven members, four of whom are private citizens. Each is a specialist in his or her own field, which includes mapping, photogrammetry, geography, surveys, Ontario history, and Ojibway language and culture.

Once a name or information relating to it such as new spelling has been approved by the minister, it is sent to the appropriate government mapping or charting agencies. The information will appear on new editions of topographic and hydrographic



PAQUETTE CORNERS PUT ON THE MAP — Ida Zitani, left and Monica Vasko are Toponymists from the Ontario Geographic Names Board. In their 3 days stay in Windsor and Leamington area, local residents and authorities were approached to discuss unincorporated places such as hamlets and villages for map revision. Some names were added to the list of updates, including Paquette Corners and Ruscom while places such as Klondyke were deleted from the map. The two women will send all information to federal and provincial map agencies.

July 15, 1957 - The traditional white horse carrying the parade marshal, Richard Reyner, Marshall's Mount, led the L.O.L. #552 Unity Lodge of Paquette at the annual parade in Kingsville. Dick was the hero of the orange parade.

Coatesworth Station and Ruscom Station will now be used by just one name.

It is the first time the Ontario Geographic Name Board has done a survey in this area. Additional surveys will be scheduled in the future.

The researchers also confirmed some area names. "Riverside is well known but the name Brighton Beach isn't," Miss Zitani said. She added that French names like Belle River or Belle Riviere, Stoney Point or Point aux Roche are known by both names designated by

ing to Miss Zitani no one recognized it locally so it will be eliminated.

The name Edgewater Beach will be added to official maps. The beach, which is north of Amherstburg, was not known officially before, although the name has been in existence for almost 50 years.

maps and charts including updated editions of the official road map of Ontario and government road signs.

The board tries to keep the official and local name usage as uniform as possible throughout the government. The uniformity is essential for emergency procedures such as search and rescue operations.

Delisle's Corners/Lukerville in Anderdon and Sandwich West Townships is one of the names the board handled recently. The official name — Lukerville was given to the post office in 1912 and has appeared on official maps for over 60 years. However locally the community has been known as Delisle's Corners. It was named for John Delisle, a well known blacksmith who moved to the area in 1975. After a thorough investigation at the local level the name was officially changed to Delisle's Corners earlier this year.

Another name Klondyke, will be dropped from government maps. The name referred to a small hamlet north of Jack Miner's Bird Sanctuary accord-

ORANGE LODGE NO. 552 AT PAQUETTE

The first Orange Lodge No. 552 was started at Coatesworth in 1854. This Lodge celebrated its 100th Anniversary in 1954, the Essex County Centennial year. The first Master of this Lodge was Robert Martin. The Lodge transferred its meeting place to the Alex. Shuel residence in Anderdon Township in 1869. In 1894 L.O.L. #552 built the Orange Hall on the 6th Concession of Sandwich South Township, just off the Anderdon-Sandwich South Townline, more commonly known as the Holden Road. It was on the Richard Shuel farm and still stood there with meetings being held until 1962. It was called Unity Lodge. March 9th, 1917 - Officers of Unity Lodge, Paquette were Worshipful Master John Shuel; D.M - Thos Huggard; Chaplain, W. A. Curtis; Recording Secretary, J. G. Curtis; Treasurer, B. Curtis; D. of C., Herman Boos; Lect., Forest Clark; Committee, A. H. Hartley, Jos. Fish, Bert Vollans, Percy Lounsbrough and Wm. Huggard.

Jan. 23, 1914 - Walter Jessop of Oldcastle was elected District Master of County L.O.L. Unity Lodge #552 of Paquette.

Dec. 16th, 1932 - Officers of Unity Lodge, L.O.L. #552 Paquette, were: W.M., Allan Clark; D.M., Harold Vollans; Chaplain, Harry Pettypiece; Recording Secretary, Clyde O'Neil; Financial Secretary, Russell Pettypiece; Treasurer, Bartlet Curtis; Director of Ceremonies, William Miller; 1st. Lecturer, Henry Jessop; 2nd. Lecturer, Wallace Pettypiece; 1st Comm., Frank Lounsbrough; 2nd Comm., Robert Shuel.

In 1953 the Officers were: Worshipful Master, Wm. Hartley; Deputy Master, Harry Pettypiece; Recording Secretary, Russell Pettypiece; Chaplain Rev. G. C. Dickin; Financial Secretary, Douglas Pettypiece; and when the

Lodge disbanded in 1962 the Worshipful Master was Wm. Hartley. The building was dismantled and sold to Otto Boos who took the lumber to the Bruce Peninsula to make a summer cottage from it. The Foresters held their meetings there for over 12 years until they disbanded, and there had been services held there for the Free Methodist Church. This hall was used for many dances, receptions, and all community activities for many years. This item from Essex Free Press, October 9, 1949. - The Orange Hall is the chosen place. Come one, come all and show your face; The Fields will start to play at nine the admission fee, five times a dime. Hurry, now, don't dilly dally. October 7th is the A.Y. Rally. Jan. 28, 1978. LOL #552 are sponsoring a card party in the Orange Hall on Thurs. evening Jan. 27. Lunch and good prizes. Everyone welcome.