

MARGARET ROBERTSON BALL

Margaret Jean Robertson taught at S.S. 18, Bayham  
1936-1941 and 1942-1943

Born April 6, 1916 in Woodstock, Ontario, to  
William and Clara Robertson - Moved with  
parents to St. Thomas, October, 1916, where  
father started work as a locomotive fireman on  
what became later the Wabash Railroad, and  
has changed hands a few times since.  
Attended Manitoba Public School 1921-1928  
Attended St. Thomas Collegiate Institute  
1928-1933 - graduated with Senior Matriculation.

Mother died in April 1933 - stayed home for two  
years to take care of house, sisters, Irene  
and Maxine, brother, Bill and father

1935-1936 attended London Normal School, graduated  
with First Class Certificate.

September, 1936 - June 1941 taught Senior room  
at Eden Public School S.S. 18, Bayham - grades 5 - 8  
which were at that time Jr. and Sr. III and  
Jr. & Sr. IV plus first and second year of high  
school (Grade 9, Grade 10) as requested by a few  
pupils who were unable to get into Tillsonburg  
to attend High School. Beatrice Turnbull,  
Eileen Wing and Isabelle Hale were Junior teachers  
during these years. J. C. Smith and Alex McColl  
were inspectors.

Five Summer courses

2 at Ontario Agricultural College in Guelph  
in agriculture

2 at University of Western Ontario, London  
in school music.

1 summer course in special education at U.W.O.  
(postponed a few years until after World War II)  
plus English 20 and English 21 through extension  
courses from U.W.O. - necessary to complete require-  
ments for permanent First Class Certificate.

June 28, 1941 - married Cecil Max Ball at the  
Baptist Parsonage in Tillsonburg - ceremony conducted  
by Rev. Albert Carr assisted by Frank Humphreys, pastor  
of Eden Baptist Church who was not yet ordained and  
therefore not qualified to hear the actual vows.  
Grace Humphreys and Max Alton were attendants.

Sept. 1942-June 1943 - taught again at Eden Public  
School. Junior teacher was Bonnie Gagen.

On Nov. 14, 1944, daughter, Sharon was born  
Dec. 10, 1947 daughter, Shelley  
Feb. 20, 1954 son, Gordon

In December, 1962 moved to Tillsonburg.





BESSIE DANCEY

" A Bride-Elect of early September" - Miss Bessie Irene Dancey, daughter of Mrs. Dancey and the late Mr. Leon Dancey, Aylmer, whose marriage to William E. Walters, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Walters, South Yarmouth, will take place early next month. The bride-elect has been a successful teacher for a number of years and taught the junior room at Eden, Ontario, for the past two years.

The marriage of Miss Bessie Irene Dancey, eldest daughter of Mrs. Dancey and the Late Mr. Leon Dancey, Talbot East, Aylmer, to William E. Walters, of South Yarmouth, was solemnized at a pretty ceremony at the home of the bride's mother at four o'clock, Saturday afternoon, Sept. 1. Rev. J. L. Blair officiated at the ceremony and Miss Mary Travis played the wedding music. The bride, who was given in marriage by her uncle, Mr. Cameron H. Dancey, of Mineral Point, Wisconsin, wore a lovely gown of white chiffon organdy of floor length, flaring at the knees and fashioned with shoulder cape. Her only ornament was a white gold necklace, the gift of the groom, and she carried a bouquet of sweetheart roses and statice. She was attended by Miss June Bradwood, of Leonard, Michigan, as bridesmaid, who wore a floor length gown of white organdy, and little Pauline Elizabeth Ross, niece of the bride, as flower girl, wearing yellow organdy and carrying a nosegay of yellow and blue flowers. John Dancy, brother of the bride, attended the groom. During the signing of the register, Miss Doris Duggan sang "I love you truly". The house was prettily decorated with many lovely flowers in pink and white for the ceremony, which was attended by about twenty guests and which was followed by a wedding lunch served at small tables arranged in the living room.

Later, the bride and groom left on a wedding trip to Toronto and Niagara Falls, the bride wearing a travelling costume of beige crepe with brown accessories and a shoulder bouquet of pink roses. On their return, they will reside in South Yarmouth.

S.S. # 18 Bayham

Sr. V - Audrey Brown, Arithmetic, Grammar, Physiography, Zoology  
Jr. V - Nina Moore, Art, Geography, History, Botany. These pupils have credits for the above departmental subjects.

Promotions

Jr.IV to Sr. IV Wilford Burwell, Jennie Kennedy, Honours;  
Frances Craven

Sr.III to Jr.IV Iva Baker, Douglas Tanner Honours

Jr. III to Sr. III Robert Farquhar, Bruce Smith, Lillian McDowell Honours  
Lee Martin, Kathleen Balderston

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- Catharine McDowell,  
Teacher

Eden Public School Junior Room

Sr.II to Jr. III Ellen Ketchabaw Honours Jean Mabee Honours Freda Sinden  
Eugene Carson, Roy Sinden (R.) Douglas Farquhar (R.) Irene Walker (F)  
Donald Farquhar (F).

Sr.I to Jr.II Hattie Kennedy (H.) Lucille Small (H) Helen Walker, Lee  
Baker, Jennie Kennedy, Ray Craven

Jr I to Sr.I Earl Ketchabaw, Lillian Tanner, Leone Tanner, Alex Farquhar  
Anna Howard, Winnie Kennedy

Sr. Pr. to Jr. I Muriel Martin, Marie Ketchabaw, Lorna Howard, Jack  
Sparrow

Jr.Pr. to Sr.Pr. Grace Backus, June Scanlan, Ruth Kennedy, Margaret  
Craven, Ralph Baker, Minnie Kennedy, Dorothea Tanner.

Jr. Pr. Freda Smith, Clare Brown, Pat Kennedy, Bobbie Boughner, Dorothy  
Howard, Malcolm Farquhar, Noel Verschaure

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- Mrs. D. French,  
Teacher

5th Class Results for East Elgin S.S. # 18, Bayham  
Miss Mina Wilson , teacher

Gladys Smith, Grammar, Physiography, Arithmetic, Zoology  
Isabella Capling, Grammar, Physiography, Arithmetic, Zoology  
Irene Burwell, Grammar, Physiography, Arithmetic, Zoology  
Audrey Brown, British History, Geography, Art, Botany.

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MARIAN FRENCH

Mrs. Dalton French

Rev. Norman H. MacKenzie, minister of Burgessville United Church and the Rev. H. Elmer Green, former minister of Burgessville Baptist Church, conducted the funeral services for the late Mrs. Dalton French, at the Arn & Son Funeral residence in Norwich on Tuesday afternoon, March 3, and each paid tribute to the sterling qualities of the deceased and bespoke the sympathy of friends and neighbours for the husband and family in this time of bereavement.

The service was very largely attended by relatives, neighbours and friends and as a distinct mark of respect, J. C. St. John, principal, and the members of the Student's Council of Norwich District High School attended the service in a body.

Among the profusion of lovely floral tributes were those from the Norwich District High School Board, the students of Grades 11A and 11B of the N.D.H.S., the students, of N.D.H.S., the Norwich-Otterville Lion's Club, and Port Dover Yacht Club, and Power Boat Club of Port Dover.

During the service Allan H. Gilmour sang, accompanied by Mrs. Harold Bickle, Casket bearers were nephews: Lloyd Johnson, Keith Johnson, Max Scott, Donald Watts, Roy Morrison and Bruce Scott. Flower bearers were Robert Belore, Arthur Ronson, Ben Abbott, Jack Scott, Glen Johnson and Keith Pilkey. Interment was made in Burgessville Cemetery.

The late Mrs. French, formerly Marion Nellie Scott, daughter of Mrs. Scott and the late Fred Scott of Tillsonburg, was born at Tillsonburg nearly 46 years ago (born in 1906). For several years she had suffered with a heart condition and when this condition grew worse she was removed to the General Hospital in Toronto and placed under the care of Dr. Gordon Murray, one of the world's most skilled heart specialists. Her condition was believed to be improving, but a day or so before her death she began to lose ground and failed rapidly to the end.

Mrs. French was educated in the Tillsonburg schools and before her marriage 21 years ago taught successfully at Eden and Miller's Corners. The family moved to Burgessville 16 years ago and as long as health permitted deceased was prominent in the work of the United Church and the Women's Institute. Surviving are her husband, her mother, Mrs. Scott, Tillsonburg; three daughters, (Betty) Mrs. James Bickle, Holbrook; Muriel and Patsy at home. A sister, Mrs. Lloyd Johnson, Mount Elgin and three brothers Charles Scott, Mount Elgin; Arthur and Frank Scott, Tillsonburg, and one grandson also survives.

*Note: The other two daughters later married (Patsy) Mrs. Chester Wright of Burgessville and (Muriel) Mrs. Hartle of Collingwood.*



BONNIE GAGEN (MRS. LYLE COYLE)

Eden Teacher is July Bride-Elect - Miss Bonnie Gagen, whose marriage to Lyle Coyle, of Straffordville, will be an early event of July. The bride elect has been principal of the Eden Public School for the past two years. Centre Street Baptist Church was the scene of a very pretty summer wedding at half past two o'clock this afternoon, when Bonnie Lillian Gagen, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gagen, became the bride of Lyle C. Coyle, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Coyle, of Straffordville. Rev. William Raithby officiated at the ceremony and Miss Edythe Lucas was at the organ, playing Lohengrin's Bridal Chorus as the bridal party entered the church. "I Love You Truly" and "To God on High", during the service, and Mendelssohn's wedding march as they left the edifice. During the signing of the register, Mrs. M. C. Moore, of Hamilton, sang "At Dawning". The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, wore a wedding gown of white satin and lace, fashioned on long princess line with lace picture hat, and she carried a shower bouquet of Briarcliffe roses. Miss Lila Gagen, Reg. N. of Buffalo, and Miss Hettie Coyle, sister of the groom, attended as bridesmaids, the former wearing a long pale blue Swiss organdie gown with floor-length sash in salmon shade, and Miss Coyle wearing a long frock of yellow chiffon organdie with floor length sash in green. Both carried Premier Supreme roses. Bernice Nickol and Maxine Gagen, nieces of the bride, were the pretty little flower girls, the former in yellow and the latter in green organdie. Reuben Denstead, of Stratford, attended the groom and the ushers were Norman Gagen and Gurney Couse.

Following the ceremony, a reception and wedding breakfast were held at the home of the bride's parents, 58 Flora Street, which was pretty with many summer flowers and white wedding bells. The bride's mother wore a smart figured silk ensemble with matching accessories and a shoulder bouquet of roses, and the mother of the groom was becomingly gowned in black and white figured crepe with white accessories and shoulder bouquet of roses. The bride was the recipient of many wedding gifts. The groom's gift to the bride was a white gold amber necklace; and the gifts to the bridesmaids were gold initialed compacts; to the flower girls, dainty mesh purses; to groomsman, "swagger" cigarette case; and to the ushers, sterling silver tie clips.

For the wedding trip to Muskoka and points north the bride wore an imported blue figured suit with white accessories. On their return they will make their home in Straffordville. Before leaving, the bride presented her bouquet to her eighty-four year-old grandmother at 30 Flora Street, who was unable to attend the wedding owing to ill health. Between thirty and forty guests were in attendance at the wedding, including guests from Tillsonburg, Iona, Hamilton, Stratford, Straffordville, Eden, Buffalo, London and Blenheim.

EDNA M. HARRISON



1918



1975

Edna M. Harrison was born in Dereham Township in 1896, east of Salford. She started school after Easter at Zenda, quite a little walk but her brother, Archie, was going so she had company. It was a one-roomed school. Three of the students including Edna sat on a bench up against the wall for awhile. She doesn't remember if her feet touched the floor or not.

The following spring the family moved to another farm, one mile south of Salford. She finished her Public School education at Salford, a two-roomed school, and passed her entrance exam in 1910.

She then attended Ingersoll Collegiate, drove a horse and buggy - six miles to Collegiate. In June 1914, she passed Lower School Examination for entrance into Normal. That was the first year they had to try that. She was the only one in the class that passed. She got a 10 dollar gold piece at Commencement.

She went to London Normal in 1917-1918, and got her Interim Second Class Certificate. 1918 - that was the year that she heard about her only brother Archie being killed in Action in November 10th- 12th, 1917.

In Sept, 1918, she supplied three months at No. 9, West Oxford.  
Jan. 3 - June 30, 1919 Union S.S. No. 3 & 19, South Dumfries and Brantford, Brant County.

In Sept., 1919 - June 30, 1921, she taught at No. 18, Eden, Bayham township, Elgin County. She got small pox while there and took it home to all her family. Her sister got married in June, and she stayed home for six months.

Then she went to S.S. No. 2 South Easthope, Brant County, for a period of one and a half years until 1923.

In Sept. 19, 1923, she married Ernest Scanlan and ceased teaching. At that time you didn't teach school after you married.