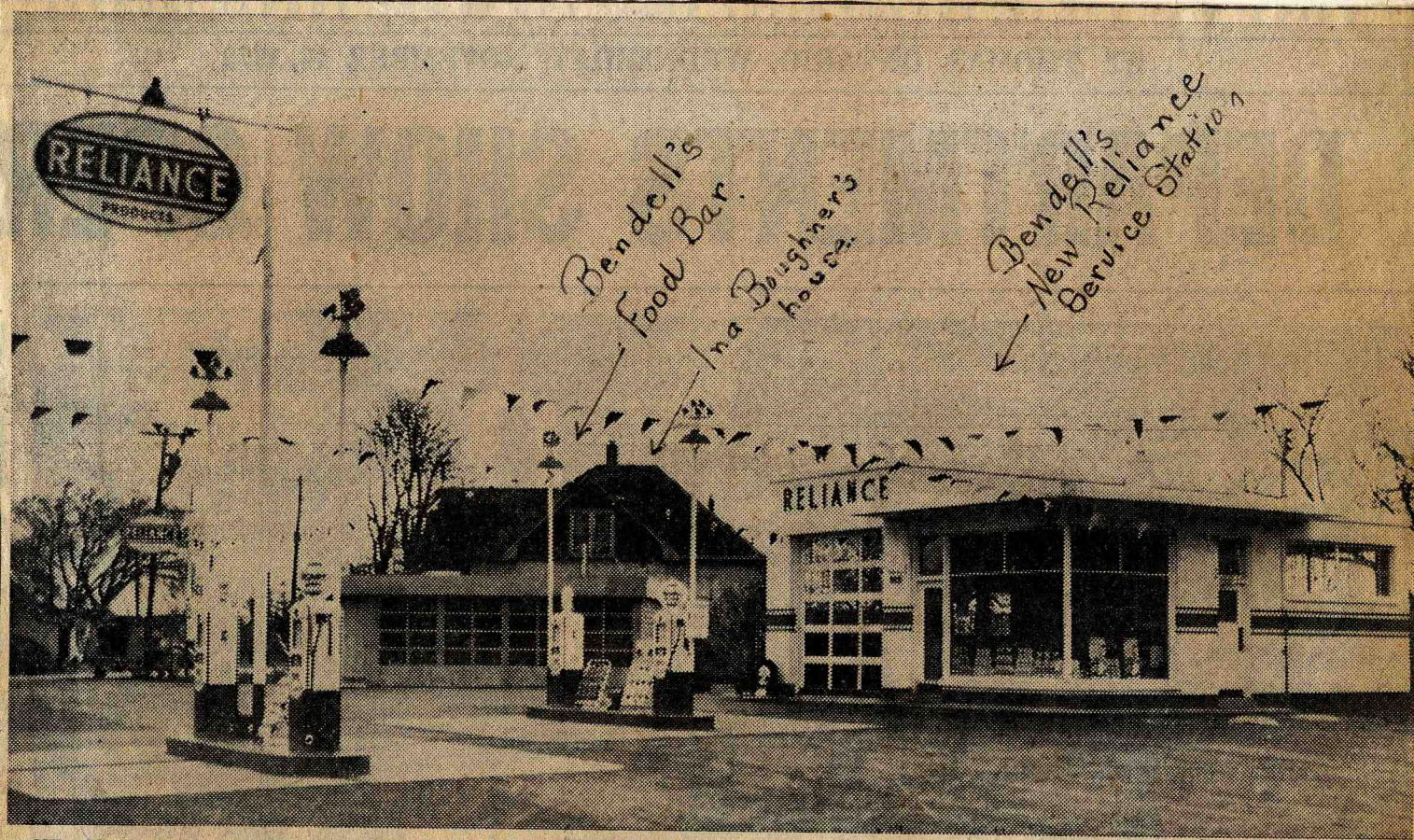


Official Opening. Talbotville. Nov. 12, 13, 14, 1953.



THE OLD gives way to the new and what was once a prominent landmark on the south-west corner at the junction of Numbers 3 and 4 Highways at Talbotville is now a big, new Reliance Service Station, operated by the Bendell Brothers. The station, which is fully equipped to service automotive vehicles, will have its official opening on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of this week. The wide, spacious approach to the station completely transforms and brightens the main intersection at Talbotville. Russell and Bruce Bendell, aggressive partners in this new enterprise, are the sons of George E. Bendell and the late Mrs. Bendell, of Talbotville. Mr. Bendell is a prominent locomotive fireman on the New York Central Railroad. Seen in the background of the above photo of the Re-

liance Service Station is the modern new lunch counter which is currently under construction and scheduled for an early opening. The dining quarters are

separate from the main service station building and will employ a special staff of chefs and waitresses to cater to the motoring public.



RUSSELL L. BENDELL



BRUCE E. BENDELL

Nov. 12, 13, 14,  
1953.

Nov. 12  
13  
14 1953



1953.



**General Contractors For the Bendell Bros.  
New Reliance Service Station at Talbotville**

**THE TOTEN CONSTRUCTION CO., LTD.**

1629 Dundas St.

BUILDING CONTRACTORS

London, Ontario

Officially Opened Nov. 12th, 13th, 14th 1953.

1953.

## District Motorists Served By New Service Station 1953

Local and district motorists gave the new Reliance Service Station at Talbotville a big welcome today and shared in the official 3-day opening ceremonies and received free gifts and opportunities to win many other worthwhile prizes.

The big station is operated by Russell and Bruce Bendell, two young men who are natives of the St. Thomas district and whose father, George E. Bendell, a New York Central locomotive fireman, resides at Talbotville.

It is reported that hundreds of motorists drove in to the Bendell Brothers' Reliance Service Station today to have their cars serviced with high quality Reliance products. Each motorist received free gifts as advertised and the children were not forgotten either. Free cokes, penny banks and draw tickets on opportunities to win complete automotive lubrication jobs, gallons of oil, gasoline and fog lamps were generously passed

out to the customers. The gifts and free tickets on draws will continue to be distributed again on Friday and Saturday with prize drawings to be made on Saturday evening.

### Dairy Bar Opens

An added feature of the opening of the new Reliance Station at Talbotville is the adjoining Dairy Bar which is also under the management of the Bendell Bros. and Mrs. Bruce Bendell. The Dairy Bar is located in a new, modern-designed building to the east of the Reliance Station. It is fully equipped and staffed to serve tastily-prepared food quickly and economically for the convenience of the motoring public.

Motorists, as they approach the main intersection at Talbotville, will find a great change in the general appearance the new station has created with its broad approaches and brightly lighted building and traffic lanes that lead to the gasoline pumps.





Post Office Department

OPERATIONS BRANCH

Revenue P.O. Division

Ministère des Postes

DIVISION DE L'EXPLOITATION

Ottawa, 26th March 1954.

N. Auckland, Esq.,  
Talbotville Royal,  
Elgin County,  
Ont.

Dear Sir:

With reference to your Post card dated the 12th March in which you request information concerning the Talbotville Royal Post Office, you will find attached a list of all the Postmasters since the establishment of the office with their period of service.

Yours truly,

*R. H. Macnabb*  
R. H. MACNABB,

Director of Operations.

TALBOTVILLE ROYAL, ONT.

Est 1853-

POSTMASTERSPERIOD OF SERVICE

J. Cuthbertson	1853	-----
John Allworth	----	16-4-1855
(Office Closed)	31-7-1855	
John Spackman	(Office Re-opened)	20-11-1855 Aug. 1858
John Stacey	1-9-1858	30-12-1876
John Tucker	5-1-1877	28-8-1893
G. Wm. Calcott	1-3-1894	18-3-1902
Mrs. Josephine A <sup>x</sup> lford	1-5-1902	24-10-1906
Edmond P. Boughner	1-1-1907	7-2-1916
Wm. J. Milton	19-4-1916	21-3-1917
Frank S. Auckland	10-5-1917	16-8-1917
John Lindsay	6-9-1917	8-9-1920
John H. Pickering	16-12-1920	29-9-1925
John D. Calcott	8-1-1926	1-10-1934
Frederick George Cott	12-2-1935	

Talbotville Royal Post Office has been moved <sup>at least</sup> twice since it was opened in 1853 by J. Cuthbertson.

G. Wm. Calcott, who was post-master from 1894 to 1902, moved it from house just south of church to the south-west corner of village into the large two-story frame building built for hotel; but no license obtained.

Fred G. Cott, who became post-master in 1935; moved it from south-west corner large frame building across the highway to east side, third house south of corner in 1953, Monday, May 11th, after building an addition to front of his cottage there. He also moved his general store merchandise to the new site, and the old building was torn down, in spring of 1953.



## Burning of Last Hotel in Talbotville, Ont as remembered and told by Mr. Wm. Hicks.

1890  
The burning of the last hotel in Talbotville (mentioned in Mrs. John W. Coulter's article in Volume I.), took place on a Sunday evening, (date 1888), while church service was going on.

Some one rushed to the church door, and called, "The hotel is burning down."

Mrs. Machiah Hunt, a great temperance worker, who was seated in the congregation, rose to her feet, and called out, - "The Lord be praised."

Church service ended abruptly, and all rushed down to the fire.

The building (on south-west corner) was completely burned down. Church people assisted in carrying out furniture, etc.

One member rescued and carried across the road to safety an article which he thought was a framed picture, but he soon discovered it to be the hotel sign! This was last of four hotels.

The liquor was rescued, and carried to a dwelling house, west of the hotel. It is said that liquor drinkers gathered there later in the night, and held a great drinking party, which lasted well on into the morning hours.

- Told by Mr. Wm Hicks of Talbotville, Ont.

Talbotville, Ont. May 16th., 1955.

Note - Mr. Warren Smith was the builder of a two-story white frame building to replace the old <sup>about 1890.</sup> hotel. It was built for hotel purposes, but a license never was obtained. It became a sort of temperance hotel for a time. It was then used as a general store and post-office (with residence for proprietor), for many years. Mr. Fred Cott was last occupant and merchant. The building, which had become a familiar land-mark, was torn down in spring of 1953 to make way for a modern <sup>Ont.</sup> service station, built in 1953 by Reliance Petroleum Co. London.