

At the Gardens, our seats were directly in front of the stage. Words cannot describe the beauty, colour, and appearance of the pageant. The organ solos by Kathleen Stokes of the Happy Gang were beautiful. The Oxford County Youths Choir rendered 3 numbers that were much enjoyed. The retiring president, Mrs. Sayre, U.S.A., spoke a few words, and the new one - Mrs. Berry, Australia - brought greetings. Several of the delegates from foreign countries spoke a few words. An orchestra furnished music throughout. The setting for the programme was like a valley with pine trees (real ones) sloping out from each side. They had steps (like the centennial in St. Thomas) with the world peeping over the top and Canada showing on it. Coloured lights added to the glamour and beauty of the whole display. The booklet we received gives the programme.

The trip home was very pleasant. We had supper at the Beehive. Beyond Paris, we had to stop for 3/4 hour while the bus was repaired. Everyone was very quiet until Crinan Church was in sight. There we were greeted by the men folk who had been waiting patiently (?) to take us the rest of the way home.



## Bus Trip

July 15/54

The regular meeting of the Crinan W.I. took the form of a bus trip and picnic on Thursday July 15.

After a few days of very hot weather a shower on Wed. evening cooled the air and thus it was a lovely cool day. The thirty four ladies and children gathered at Crinan Church with their lunch baskets and left in McNaughtons Coach about 8 am. ~~The~~We drove west on No. 2 Highway and turned right at Kent Bridge and on to Wallaceburg.

At the Glass Factory we registered in the guest book and were taken in groups through the factory. We saw the sand, then the liquid glass, the mold and the finished products. That day they were making pop bottles. Every one received two glasses as souvenirs for their visit. Then we visited the Brass Works of Wallaceburg. There we saw fittings for both tubs and sinks being made from the beginning till their shining beauty was packed in cardboard cartons.

From there we travelled along the Blue Water Highway and saw many large boats on the St. Clair River. We stopped and had a picnic lunch at tables beside the highway. We went on to Sarnia and crossed the beautiful bridge to Port Huron. Each person paid 25¢ for crossing fee. From this amount a tip of \$1.50 was given to our driver. At Port Huron we visited the stores and did some window shopping. On our return to Canada our bus was thoroughly searched but since the Crinan ladies are a very ~~honor~~ honorable crowd we were soon on our way home. We stopped at Port Lambton for supper. Here we had to search for tea to go with our lunch. Our good friends Mrs. McEachren and Mrs. Andrews finally located some. We arrived home around 8:30 pm., tired but with the happy thoughts of a day well spent.



C R I N A N

W O M E N ' S I N S T I T U T E

1 9 4 7

C U R R E N T E V E N T S

1923.



FIRST M<sup>c</sup>EACHERN PICNIC  
AT  
SPRINGBANK PARK

Book 103.

Stewart  
McEachern father

4 Arch McEachern

Wm. McEachern, Tails  
Corners.

3 Mr. Stalher

Buffalo Neil McEachern

2 Duncan Campbell

1 Will McLean.

McEachern.

Order man  
at  
Springbank.

McEachern picnic

I think first  
year it was  
held

1923

at  
Springbank.

1850

1950

The Municipality of the  
**Township of Dunwich**

**Centennial**

and

**Memorial Service**

**Memorial Hall, Dutton**

**October 15th, 1950**

2.30 p.m.

EX-WARDENS WHO HAVE SERVED ON DUNWICH  
COUNCIL

John Leitch                      John D. Thomson  
Clarence Patterson

EX-REEVES WHO HAVE SERVED ON DUNWICH  
COUNCIL

Daniel J. McKillop              A. N. McWilliam  
John H. Sloan                      A. N. Walker  
J. D. McMillan                      R. D. Campbell  
Clarence Taylor

EX-COUNCILLORS WHO HAVE SERVED ON  
DUNWICH COUNCIL

Peter Crawford                      Duncan Stewart  
Robert Campbell                      Daniel E. Patterson  
Clarence C. Small                      Angus McArthur  
William McArthur                      George Casey

Donald Johnston

*A. J. McMillan.*

PRESENT COUNCIL

A. J. Blue, Reeve

Wm. S. McKillop, Deputy Reeve

Arch. C. McMillan              Alistair Littlejohn

J. Daniel McMillan, Councillors

On West Townline

1968

# Eight Lose Lives As Fire Destroys Home

Fire early Tuesday morning destroyed a frame farm home on the Aldborough-Dunwich Townline near the Thames River and caused the death of eight occupants.

Dead are Mr. and Mrs. David Haskell, R.R. 1, West Lorne; and their five children, Patrick, 7; Carol Ann, 6; Judy, 5; David Jr. 4 and Shirley, aged 1.

The eighth victim was Mrs. Haskell's foster-father, Josh Bebenecce, 76, who was bed-ridden with a broken hip.

First on the scene was Provincial Constable Robert Squire of Dutton detachment who saw the glow of the fire while on patrol. When he arrived on the scene about 3:40 a.m. the house was a ball of flame and nearly levelled.

Aldborough fire department received a call about 3:30 a.m. and even though firemen were quickly on the scene there was nothing that could be done.

### Fire Marshal Investigates

On Tuesday morning, Ontario Fire Marshal Robert Kaufman of London, was at the scene attempting to ascertain the cause of the fire. The house was said to have been heated by two wood stoves.

Two adult bodies were found in the charred wreckage in separate beds, the third in the rubble. Positions of the bodies indicated no one had a chance to even attempt escaping.

It was after 3 p.m. Tuesday when the last body, a child's, was found by police and a crew from Arbour's Ambulance Service, Chatham, searching the ashes. The bodies of the three adults were taken to the Centre of Forensic Sciences in Toronto to determine the cause of death.

Those of the children, burned beyond recognition, were taken

immediately to the J. L. Ford Funeral Home in Blenheim, where service will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday.

Rev. Stanley Andrews, of Crinan Presbyterian Church, will conduct the service and burial will be in Pardoville Cemetery, Raleigh Township.

Funeral arrangements for Mr. Bebenecce had not been completed Wednesday morning.

The house was owned by John Aldred, who lives on the same road. Mr. Haskell was employed by Mr. Aldred as a farm worker. He had been there for the past 4½ years, originally coming from Thamesford, Ont.

It was the second fire tragedy in West Elgin this year. The four children of Mr. and Mrs. Claire Fillmore of West Lorne, perished in a house fire in January.

Mr. Haskell is survived by his mother, Mrs. George H. Haskell, of Chatham; sisters, Mrs. Gordon (Grace) Plumb, of Raleigh Township; Mrs. Hector (Florence) Lizon, of Chatham, and Mrs. Lester (Thelma) Mifflin, of Thamesville; brothers, Harold, of Glencoe, and Clinton, of Chatham.

Mrs. Haskell had no immediate surviving relatives.

1963

## Lightning Causes Death of Crinan Youth

Tragedy struck a well-known Crinan family on Wednesday afternoon, when Frank McLarty, aged 14, was struck by lightning and killed while plowing a field on the farm of his father. He was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Archie McLarty, R.R. 1, Crinan.

One of the boy's sisters is reported to have seen the lightning strike and Frank slump over the wheel of the tractor. The machine moved for about 50 yards and stopped.

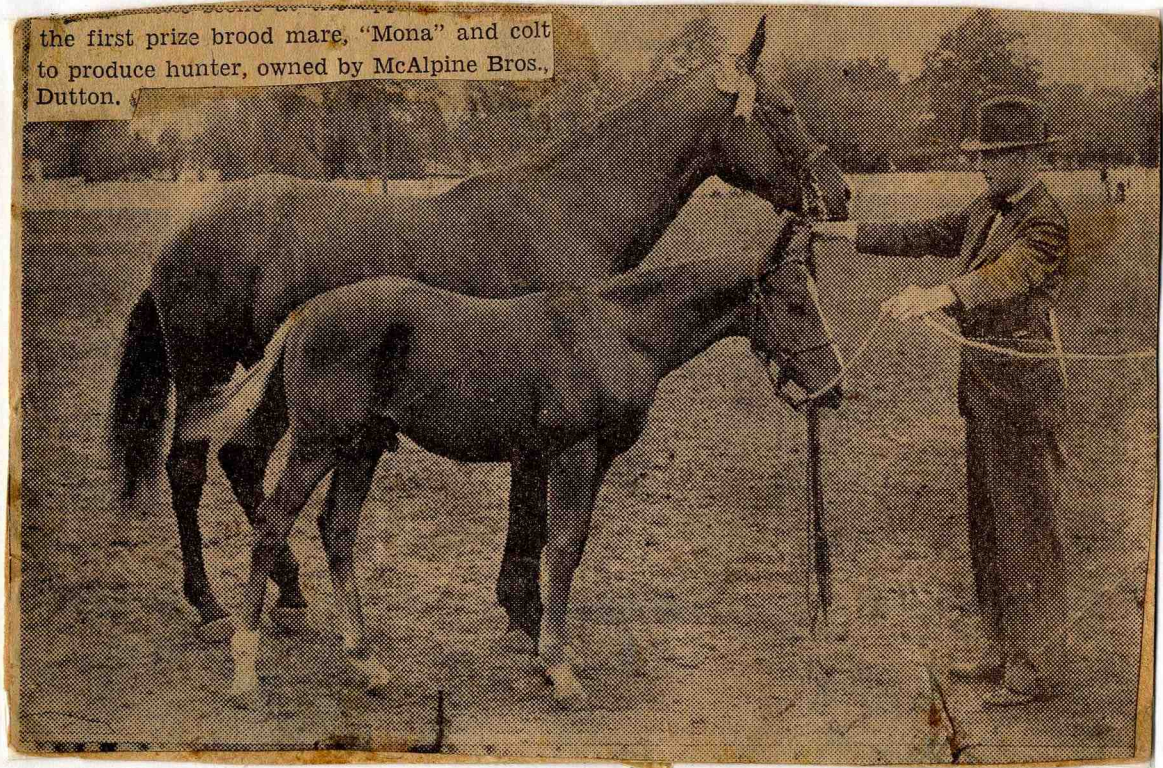
Frank was a Grade 10 student at West Elgin District High School where he was highly regarded by both teachers and fellow students.

Surviving besides his parents are a brother, John; two sisters, Marilyn and Beth, all at home; his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank McLarty, Crinan, and Mr. and Mrs. John Armstrong, Union.

The funeral will be held on Friday with service at Argyle Church, Crinan, at 2:30 p.m. The Rev. John Elder will conduct the service.



the first prize brood mare, "Mona" and colt  
to produce hunter, owned by McAlpine Bros.,  
Dutton.



M. A. McALPINE, DUTTON, ONT.