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Dougald and Mrs McLellan had a family of 5 boys and 3 girls. The day after the youngest son Douglas was born in Feb 1901, the old home was destroyed by fire. The mother and baby were moved by sleigh to John McLellan's home and suffered no ill effects from exposure. Mr McLellan then built the present fine home which was owned by members of his family until 1944 when it was sold to Ralph Collier. He remained there only a short time and then sold to James Bogart the present owner, a veteran of World War 2. In 1949 James married Marie Walch, daughter of a former Club member who is now also a member of the Club.

\* Duncan Turner- W pt Lot 13, E pt Lot 14. CCon 5.

In 1855 the crown deeded to George Lamb N E  $\frac{1}{2}$  Lot 14.

In 1852 the crown deeded to Wm Decow all of Lot 13 which includes  $\frac{1}{2}$  of D. Turner's farm and all of Ken Firby's.

In 1857 SW  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Lot 13 was purchased by John Campbell. In 1865 N.E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  Lot 14 was also purchased by John Campbell from George Lamb which made the property the same as it is today.

At that time the buildings were located near the road at the south end of the farm. John Campbell may have lived here for a time but for many years the farm was rented. During this time 1891 to 96 Oliver Howe rented the farm and Thompson was born in the old house now situated in the orchard.

In 1903 John Campbell died and left the farm to his daughter Mary Duncombe who lived in St Thomas.

In 1905 she sold the farm to Mr Walter Biddle and his sons Elgin and Lewis, who had rented the farm for about a year.

About 1912 or 13 Biddles opened the gravel pit from which gravel was taken for roads in Southwold and Dunwich as well as for private use until 1943.

In 1917 Lewis Biddle built the red brick home facing the Gore Road and the following year the bank barn and sheds some of which were moved from the back of the farm. Mr Elgin Biddle moved to the Holborn farm in 1912 and Mr Walter Biddle retired to Lawrence. Mr and Mrs Lewis Biddle had two children Kenneth and Vera.

In 1920 Mr Biddle sold the farm to Morley Faulds. Three years later Mr Faulds sold 3 acres of gravel behind the barn to the government for building No 3 highway and also a right of way to the back of the farm. *Barby Tobacco*

In 1928 Thomas Robinson traded Mr Faulds the farm for property in St Thomas and the following year sold the farm to Duncan Turner.

During that winter Mr and Mrs Kenneth Firby lived on the farm.

In 1937 gravel was taken from the pit to build the road bed for the pavement between Wallacetown and Dutton.

In 1940 Duncan moved the old house to its present location and had it rebuilt for a tenant house. Also in 1940 he started the fruit orchard to replace the income from the pit.

Mr and Mrs Turner have three children Beth, David and Michael. Mrs Turner is a Club member.



Ian McLellan- Lot 14 S $\frac{1}{2}$  Con 5.

In 1840 Dugald McLellan his wife Janet and two sons John and Archibald and 2 daughters came to Canada from Scotland and settled on the Gore Road. Their first home was a log house on the south end of the farm.

In 1862 John McLellan married Isabelle McKillop. He bought a frame house from John Campbell and had it moved across to his farm and he and his family lived there, later the house was moved to the Gore Road but soon they found it was situated over large deposits of gravel so the house was moved again to approximately the present location. About 1894 the ~~fine~~ brick home was built on the hill with the remarkably fine panelling in the dining room.

Mr and Mrs McLellan raised a family of 6 sons and 2 daughters. Archie who lived most of his life across from the home place.

Dugald still living in London, John and Duncan living in Vancouver, Hugh living in Windsor and Richard who lived on the home place and married Lottie Killins. The oldest sister Jessie, Mrs McCallum died in Oct 1946 and the younger one Margaret married and Moved to Austria where she died just the year before.

Richard McLellan, or Dick as he was best known, was for a great many years director of the Local telephone company and was keenly interested in good horses, politics and family history.

Mrs McLellan was a charter member of the Club and has given many excellent papers and Club journals.

Mr and Mrs McLellan have in their family, Ian, now living on the farm, Glen of Victoria B.C. Lloyd of Dunwich, Donald who served in the R.C.A.F. in Burmah and other theatres of World War 2. Robert who served in the Royal Canadian Navy on the west coast, William at home and Sarah and Margaret who teach in Toronto.

After Mr McLellan's death Glen operated the farm for a few years, and during this time they suffered the loss of the barn by fire. Glen bought a barn and had it moved to the place and rebuilt. Glen went to the west for his health and Ian and William now live on the home place with their mother.

now with Est 2 E 90

Sarah of Toronto teaching staff and Margaret (Peggy)  
Home Economics Department Toronto Teacher's College.



## CLUB JOURNAL

Lawrence Station,  
July 6, 1955.

(The following journal was prepared by Mrs. D. C. Turner, Iona Sta.)

For the last Club Journal of our year, let us take a backward look over the outstanding events of the Club Year.

In August 1954, the Duke of Edinburgh visited Canada to inspect power plants, acquaint himself with the far north of the country and officiate at the closing of the British Empire and Commonwealth Games in Vancouver. He was present to see Roger Bannister win the one mile race for England in 3 minutes and 55 seconds. He visited Chalk River, North-West Territory and Kitimat in B. C.

On August 6th, 1954, Emilie Dionne died, making the first break on the famous Dionne Quintuplets. This year, on May 28th the remaining four sisters came into a million dollar fortune on their 21st birthday.

At Toronto Exhibition time, Marilyn Bell swam Lake Ontario, a distance of 42 miles and as a result of this feat was showered with gifts including a car and thousands of dollars. Since then she has been much in demand as a drawing card for various public events. She was chosen as most outstanding athlete for 1954 and also was named Woman of the Year. Her next venture is to attempt to swim the English Channel. On June 10th she left with her coach Gus Ryder, her mother and a girl friend for England, where she is to be presented to Queen Elizabeth at a garden party on July 14th. The attempt to swim the Channel will be made later in the month or early in August/

On October 15th, Hurricane Hazel dumped a lake the size of Lake Simcoe into the Humber Valley in Toronto. It was the heaviest rainfall this part of the world has experienced since the arrival of the white man. Seventy nine people lost their lives and property damage was counted in the hundreds of thousands. A trailer camp was swept away by the rising water as well as many homes and bridges. There was only one safe way to enter the city, all others were closed. The Holland Marsh was inundated with resulting loss of crops and damage to homes and property.

In our own community we had so much rain through October that harvesting was next to impossible. Nearly all the white bean crop was a total loss and corn, soybeans and sugar beets were harvested with the greatest difficulty. Often two tractors had to be employed to pull harvesting equipment, and some crops were harvested only after the ground was frozen, some not until spring. As a result of the difficult conditions there were many accidents, especially with corn pickers. Two neighbors, Mr. Fodor, and Mervin Jones, lost a hand and several fingers. Mr. McAlpine (Jack), of Iona was also seriously injured.

Some of our members went back to school last winter. Mrs. P.M. Campbell, Mary Oldham, Jane McArthur, Margaret Turner, and I attended night school at West Lorne, taking painting, leather craft, sewing, and typing. The McArthur boys also attended and took a course in Agriculture. Many other interesting courses were also available including an English course for new Canadians.

At the Women's Institute Convention in London, one of our members, Mrs. R. M. McLellan, was appointed a director on the



provincial board of the Women's Institutes of Ontario. We all extend to Mrs. McLellan our congratulations on receiving this honour.

In the public speaking contest sponsored by the Women's Institute for public school pupils, Ronald Beecroft reached the finals but in the last competition lost out to a finalist from East Elgin.

In November 13th to 17th Queen Mother Elizabeth visited Canada and United States. She bought Christmas gifts in New York for Prince Charles and Princess Anne and other members of the family.

On January 15th the plane carrying the chairman of the Ontario Hydro Commission, Robert H. Saunders, from a speaking engagement at Harrow, crashed near Crumlin as a result of ice forming on the plane. Mr. Saunders died in Victoria Hospital on Sunday morning, Jan. 16th, from injuries sustained when the plane crashed. He was 51 years of age and prior to becoming Hydro chairman had been mayor of Toronto for 7 years.

On March 5th about 2 a.m., Eddie Turner's barns burned. More than thirty young heifers, two horses, a large quantity of feed and some machinery were lost.

Later in the month on March 22nd high winds blew down trees and took off shingles. It caused millions of dollars damage to cottages and fisheries on Lakes St. Clair and Erie. Long Beach summer resort was almost wiped out. The following week end we had the worst snow storm of the winter.

On April 18th Albert Einstein, scientist and nuclear physicist, died at the age of 76. In his lifetime he discovered a method of isolating the atom. Use of his studies made possible the first atom bomb.

On April 19th, the well baby clinic at Shedden celebrated its first birthday. Birthday cake and tea were served to about 17 mothers and 35 children who attended, including several Kensington Club babies. The Kensington Club has been doing a fine job of keeping the clinic in operation. During the last year 8 new babies have arrived in the homes of our club members.

David Rex Fayter was born Oct. 16, 1954; Leroy James Oldham on Nov. 10th, Debra Lynn Chamberlain on Nov. 14th, Joanne Margaret Bogart on Dec. 12th, Michael Shawn McArthur, the first Club baby of the New Year was born on Valentine's day, Brian William Coutts on April 20th, Joseph Gerard Van Vaerenbergh on June 6th, and Cheryl Anne Firby on June 25th; 3 girls and 5 boys.

We regret the loss of two of our lifelong members during the year. Mrs. N. Oldham passed away on Oct. 1st and Mrs. Elgin Biddle on March 26th in Florida. These two faithful and respected members are greatly missed by all in our community.

On May 4th a big feed tractor-trailer truck struck the car of Dr. and Mrs. Goodrich at the highway crossing in Shedden killing both of them instantly. The truck, thrown out of control left the highway carrying the car with it, demolished the telephone booth and sheared the new addition from the front of the I.O.O.F. hall. It was finally stopped by the cement step at the front. The driver of the truck escaped with some broken bones. As a result, safety signs are to be erected on the highway and county roads. Too bad there has to be a fatality before these precautions are taken.

At the election of June 9th the Hon. F. S. Thomas was re-elected in our riding. I'm sure this pleased everyone no



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matter what his political preferences because Mr. Thomas is a fine capable man and has done a great deal for Elgin. We feel that Cabinet Ministers should be experts in their line of work. In a recent radio talk Mr. Thomas made this statement: "I am deeply interested in Agriculture. I think this work more than any other should be performed by one who knows what he is doing."

Mr. Thomas' 15 year old daughter, Shirley, has become nearly as famous as her father. She has the longest tresses in Canada,  $41\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Mr. Thomas, of course, knows how to make things grow.

Fall fairs will soon again be the order of the day. J. A. Carroll, in a panel discussion, on the radio, was asked if the women's contributions to the fall fairs were very valuable. He said the fall fairs in the country would fold up if it wasn't for the women.

At the end of our Club year, in spite of the many difficulties and disasters of the past year, prospects look very promising for this coming harvest. We had an early spring with favourable weather for seeding, the first time in 10 years, and adequate rainfall to bring up the crops. We have just had excellent weather for haying and a good crop of hay. We always are hoping for more rain but although the last few weeks have been dry the corn is making strides and other crops at least better than usual.

I'll close with a little poem that was a favorite of Jack Miner.

Man ploughs and plants and digs and weeds  
He works with hoe and spade  
God sends the sun and rain and air,  
And thus a garden's made.  
He must be proud who tills the soil  
And turns the heavy sod:  
How wonderful a thing to be  
In partnership with God.

(This journal was read at the Club meeting at the home of Mrs. Alex Turner on July 6th, 1955.)