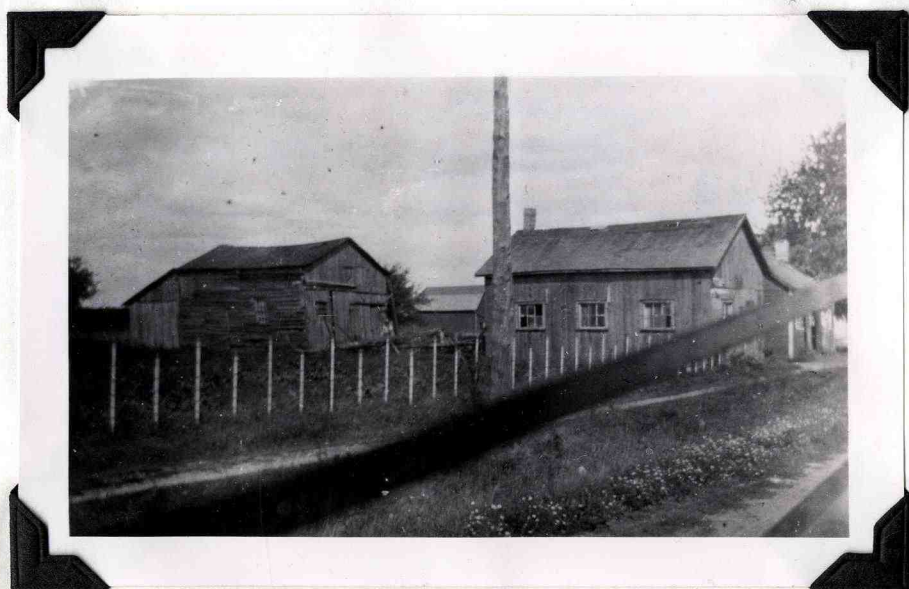




THE TAVERN IN YARMOUTH CENTRE IN 1900, WHICH WAS REPLACED BY THE METHODIST NOW UNITED CHURCH IN 1923.



NATE SMALL'S BLACKSMITH SHOP *Yar. Centre*



THE TAVERN IN YARMOUTH CENTRE IN 1900, WHICH WAS REPLACED BY THE METHODIST NOW UNITED CHURCH IN 1923.



WEST VIEW UP TALBOT STREET 1900



NORTH VIEW TOWARDS CANADA SOUTHERN RAILWAY



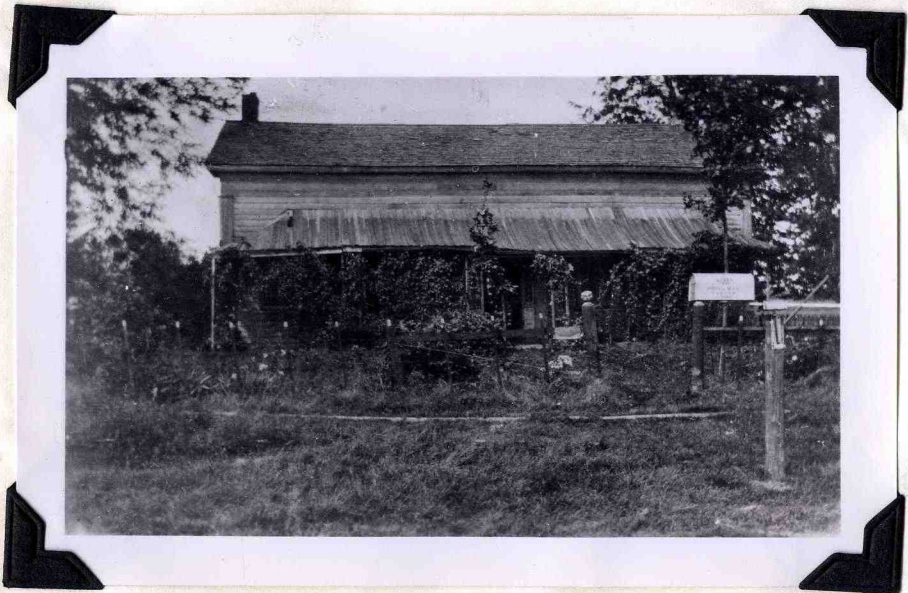
WEST VIEW UP TALBOT STREET 1900



NORTH VIEW TOWARDS CANADA SOUTHERN RAILWAY



THE PETER GILBERT HOME



AN EARLY FRAME HOUSE, WEST OF BRICK SCHOOL ON TALBOT STREET



MR. MCVEY'S SAW MILL SOUTH OF YARMOUTH CENTRE 1900



ON THE WAY FROM THE CHEESE FACTORY AND THE OLD RAIL FENCE.



The Yarmouth Centre General store, for more than 80 years a landmark of Yarmouth Township, is being torn down by the Department of Highways to provide a clear view of the intersection of Highway No 3, and the sideroad. Oct. 1963.



## Citizenship

Nowdays every one is talking of citizenship. We are at last taking John Fisher at his word, becoming interested in citizenship and conscious of it's value; giving more attention and study to Canada and our new status as Canadian citizens. We are taking notice too of our wonderful historical and romantic background. In January 1947, the Canadian Citizenship Act came in force. For the first time we became legally Canadian citizens with a Canadian nationality. In fact a new nation was born. For a long time, perhaps too long we have been classified by our racial origin- Dutch, English, French, be it ever so remote; but now we are all Canadians. Yet no act can create over night a deep and real sense of being Canadians. It will take time with much living.

Mere figures give no indications of the immensity, beauty, and variety of this great country. Fifteen million people scattered over one half a vast continent, stretching from Atlantic to Pacific; exceeded in size by only two other countries, one of which is it's sprawling neighbor on the other side of N.P. Russia. Canada, slightly larger than United States and Alaska combined, is some what smaller than the whole of Europe and includes lands and life of widely varying character. St. John's in 10'th Province Newfoundland is closer to Antwerp than Vancouver. The northern limits extend to the North Pole, while the Southern tip of Ontario is further south than northern border of California. Again only two of our ten provinces have no outlet to the sea and she shares with her southern neighbor, United States the magnificence of inland fresh water.

We have two official languages, English and French, as well as people from nearly fifty old countries. The fact that Canada can demonstrate that two races can live together in peace has opened the way for great confidence in Europe. In spite of all our influences politically and socially from Britain and the old countries, as well as those of the United States, it is up to the Canadian people to seek national unity for there is strength and loyalty, realizing 3000 miles separate the East and Western provinces, hence there is very little personal contact. But Canada is worth it- says J.B. Priestly, British writer and broadcaster who urges us to develop into a truly distinctive Canada, expressive of our Canadian character and spirit.

Our forefathers and pioneers our people have brought with them much that is rich and refreshing - a glorious and priceless heritage. Adopted to the new conditions in Canada it has added variety and beauty to our way of life. For instance we would be the poorer without the St. Andrews society and the Robbie Burns celebration. So our task and it is both a challenge and an opportunity, is in blending as an artist does with many colored stones that color and culture from other countries whose people are flocking in to make their new homes, and help build up this relatively new land; the immigrants with their ideas, conceptions isms and ways of life have much we can blend into Canadianism to find expression in our way of life have much we can blend into patterns of cultures, distinctive and truly Canadian.

But it is vital and necessary we guard and enrich our heritage and work hard to preserve our Canadian way of life and develop it's potentialities. This land is ours and we must treasure it.

Last fall, our then Princess Elizabeth and Duke of Edinburgh toured Canada and endeared themselves to us. It was a historic event for wherever she goes she represents the future of the British Commonwealth, and how much of that future may belong to Canada is difficult to overestimate. She came to a rich land exploding with oil, bursting with precious minerals, sighing with heavy harvests, towering with giant timber. To a land whose destiny is, even greater riches and mighty power. Special planes, automobiles, and a luxurious train were provided for this royal tour made with speed and comfort.

Canada has had other royal guests - let us turn back and meet her first royal guest. In the summer of 1792, Edward Augustus, Father of Queen Victoria, came to Upper Canada, now Ontario. Toronto was a dense forest with an occasional Indian teepee pitched under the trees in small clearings, the bay and marshlands filled with wild fowl.

Governor Simcoe prepared to meet his guest in his tiny capital at the mouth of the Niagara River. Through the winding course of the St. Lawrence River, past the 1000 Islands, Edward glided in state on a decorated barge. At Kingston he changed to an armed schooner and arrived at Niagara after 9 days travelling. There he saw the Falls. What a sight it must have been in all it's primitive grandeur- no bridges, no buses, no souvenir stalls, no bustle to detract from the thunderous majesty of the Falls. One of the few buildings on the Canadian side was a small inn, midst the dense forest where Edward dined. All the tang of a pioneer venture was in that visit of 1792. Even Mohawk Indians entertained him with their war dances performed in all the regalia of paint and feathers, complete with drums and war whoops. In fact they gave him a belt of wampum and made him Chief of all chiefs. As the schooner headed back to Kingston, there was no call at York (Toronto) for the great city to be was not yet on the map.

As we lift the cutrain of the years and look at Canada's history many more stirring scenes are viewed-great drama unfolds with courage and daring. Few nations have had more bravery poured in the mould of their making than Canada. The great explorers-Cabot-Cartier-Champlain Wolfe-Montcalm-to name a few, sailed the undiscovered seas and uncharted waters for unlimited weeks, suffering thirst, starvation, hostile savages, scurvy, and the raging of the elements. Were these not enough to keep sensible men home from such adventurings. But through the pages of our early history we find frontiers established only to be pushed back, explore and expand, for men of vision with courage of their convictions saw a long way in the future-a nation-our great Dominion of Canada-although at that time little to justify that belief and side by side with the man who built the country politically were those who built it economically. Confederation rested on the railway builders-hence the narrow bands of shining steel they engineered across the Canadian wilderness can hardly be overstressed. This, however, can hardly be called but one enterprise-on they went to open and develop others, mining, lumbering, and the great wheat fields of the West.

Do we Canadians realize what our country has achieved ?

The indomitable courage of Sir John A. McDonald and Sir Wilfred Laurier who contributed so much, and on so grand a scale that we are only today reaping the fruits of their magnificent efforts. Canadians should catch a little of the reflected glory of these two great figures. Nor should we forget the courage of the immigrants- those adventurous, high hearted peoples, many of them our forbears and forefathers. We have heard the adventurous stories of their hardships in this new land. Hard and vigorous though it was they cleared the land, built their pioneer homes, and churches to live in and worship in a free land as they wanted to.

Indeed, we are indebted to Lady Tweedsmuir, today for the Tweedsmuir History Book, and the ever searching historical convenors in the various Women's Institutes for the preservation of many links of our glorious past which otherwise would be lost forever. The pioneering spirit is still strong on the Canadian scene. During our own century men and women have set off to make their homes in the wilderness-the bush pilots and prospectors have opened great new industries where nothing was before. We have only to look to the North-Northern Quebec and Ontario, to the Northlands of the Canadian West where we see the qualities of courage and initiative ever present. In fact Dr. Stephenson, Arctic explorer and writer, says the North is an almost untapped reservoir of the earth's riches. We may see the the Map of Canada rolled northward as the frozen North yields new resources, and the population pushes ever towards the Arctic Circle. The new Peace River country promises to be one of the prosperous and thickly settled parts of Canada. In 1900 Canada had only settled areas along the American boundary. Now we are securing breadth as well as length.

Today we are citizens of a country which in the past few years has taken such tremendous strides toward greatness that we have aroused the interest of a large part of the world. The story of Canada, of her march to full nationhood is one of the thrilling stories of modern times. We who are alive today should know that story and those who follow us should keep it alive. As Sir Wilfred Laurier once said, "the twentieth century belongs to Canada".

This year here in Elgin we celebrate our Centennial-100 years of great achievement. It is indeed fitting we reflect on and refresh our memories of the historic memories of the past. As we turn down memory lane we see Elgin folk many living in log cabins, money scarce, wages low, dirt roads or trails through the virgin forest-no radios, motor cars, not even railways. Life was simple with simpler tastes. Today we have our stream-lined kitchens, modern appliances and luxurious tastes, but somewhere along the path through the years we have lost the simple things of life-the quiet of the country roads; the love and respect for the old church bell and the Sabbath quiet and peace. We may well borrow from the pioneers their traditional habits of friendly helpfulness and put first things foremost. Simplicity can be a key to constructive living. Living more simply may be a partial solution to our national and international confusion, because simplicity tends to build health and happiness and decency for nations are only millions of individuals living together, and so each one can lift the whole nation to higher standards. So let us live more orderly but busy lives with less confusion so we may have more time with our families, more time for being better citizens, neighbors, and friends.