

## The History of Talbotville School

S. S. No. 6, Southwold

This one room school house was built in 1874, by a Mr. Barr who lived where Mr. H. French now lives. It was built in the same yard as the old school, a frame building, but on the south side. It might be interesting to note that school was held before this in a log cabin that stood on the corner, where the Greyhound Post House now stands. While the present school, was being built the boys were playing one day, and a stone went through one of the windows before it was even opened. At that time, the trustees collected the schoold taxes themselves from the ratepayers. There were two chimneys on the school when it was first built. A large box stove at the back was used for heating, with long pipes to both chimneys. At the bottom of the chimneys there were doors, and quite a few holidays were given because of smoke in the school house, when an east wind was blowing, as the boys would open these doors. When the school was built, there was a belfry and bell, but the bell did not last long, and in later years the belfry was torn down. On the day that the school was first opened, Mr. Barr came with two boxes of candy and passed them around to the children.

At one time, there was a high board fence running east from the school to divide the grounds, one part for the girls and one for the boys, but this fence was torn down later and the shcool yard enlarged considerably.

As we come down through the years, several changes have been made to the building itself. The ceiling was lowered, as it was shaped like that of a church when first built.

*Teacher - Mrs. Wm. H. H. Prince (Lunning)*  
In 1921, there were too many pupils for one teacher, so the junior classes were held in the old Hall that stood next to the creek. That summer, a partition was built down the centre of the school, making it a two room school for one year, but as this did not work out, it was torn down.

*Teachers - Mrs. Alice Thomas (Alice French) & Harriet Handley (Mrs. V. Fife)*  
The next change was the installation of electric lights in January, 1931. In April, 1932, chemical toilets were installed and these were replaced by new ones in August, 1943.

In June, 1943, new electric lights were added, being installed over the blackboards. In August, 1943, the school house was redecorated both inside and outside.

At the present time, the school is heated by a furnace at the back and a gas heater at the front.

The present teacher, is Miss G. Goff, and there are about thirty-five pupils attending.

*New Room built and opened Sept. 1951 - used for Sr. classes  
Sr. room (new) teacher - Miss G. Goff, Strathroy  
Jr. room (old) teacher - Miss Betty Friedrich, Highgate  
(Mrs. Fife)  
Irene Auckland  
1947*



C E M E T E R Y

## THE CEMETERY

The Talbotville cemetery consists of about half an acre, the north-west corner of Lot 40, on the West branch of the Talbot road, now Number 3 Highway, about a quarter of a mile, west of the village. The land was donated by one, Jefferson, who obtained Lot 40, from the Crown. He died without heirs, according to record and was the first man buried there. The stone with the earliest inscribed date, is that of Samuel Fassett, who died in 1837. Among other pioneers buried there in the 40's, 50's, and 60's, are the names of Andrews, Fick, Wride, Risdon, Bowlby, Boughner, Gilbert, Down, Hannon, Smith, Abbott, Hurdle, Hemstreet, Lemon, Knight, Drake and Wade. Two stones, bearing inscriptions differing from the ordinary, were erected recently; one by Robert Thom, to mark the grave of his grandfather, S. Cuthbertson, the first postmaster of Talbotville, who was accidentally killed in 1854, and the other by James Travers, in memory of his son, P. O. Franklin L. Travers, missing in action off the coast of Ireland, March 11, 1944.

For a number of years, the only attention given the grass cutting was by means of a "bee", when relatives and friends of those buried there, would meet in the early evening for the work. In 1927, Dr. E. Axford, called a meeting of the community to consider plans for regular care.

A board of three members was named; J. W. Coulter, E. P. Boughner, and George Powles with William Auckland to act as secretary-treasurer, to solicit funds for perpetual upkeep. In the passage of years, the deed had been lost, and as the Board could not solicit funds without first having a deed, they appealed to the Women's Institute, who financed the obtaining of a quit claim deed from Mrs. E. H. Bowlby, then owner of Lot 40. They also appointed a committee who assisted the Board in soliciting funds and later planted a perennial bed of flowers and shrubs and donated \$15.00 a year towards the upkeep. As their donation toward the improvement, Stanley Gilbert and Dr. Roy Gilbert of St. Thomas, erected and painted a steel fence across the front. *4 have since from time to time been generous with donations*

At the death of J. W. Coulter, James M. Lindsay was appointed a member of the Board, and after William Auckland's death, Edward Haines was named secretary-treasurer.

*Mrs. Jas. M. Lindsay*

*1953 - Ed. Haines - Sec.  
Geo. Powles  
Albert Auckland*

HAND DRAFTS



Hand craft.  
Mrs Boughner  
Quilts & Rugs.

Harvey French  
Wood work

Mrs. J. Mc. Cormick  
Weaving

Mrs Bartonbruner

Shell work.

Mildred & Hazel Waite - hand <sup>work</sup>  
Leather, shell,  
painting (art), printing.

# CURRENT EVENTS



## Living at Talbotville

Aug. 1946.

MR. AND  
MRS. ALBERT  
WESLEY  
AUCKLAND,  
who have taken  
up residence at  
Talbotville fol-  
lowing their re-  
turn from their  
wedding trip to  
Ottawa and  
Northern Ont-  
ario. Their  
marriage was a  
pretty event of  
last month in  
Grace United  
Church, the  
bride being the  
former Edith  
Williams, daugh-  
ter of Mr. and  
Mrs. Cyril M.  
Williams, Edge-  
ware Road, and  
the groom the  
son of Mr. and  
Mrs. Frank  
Auckland, Tal-  
botville.

Aug. 1946



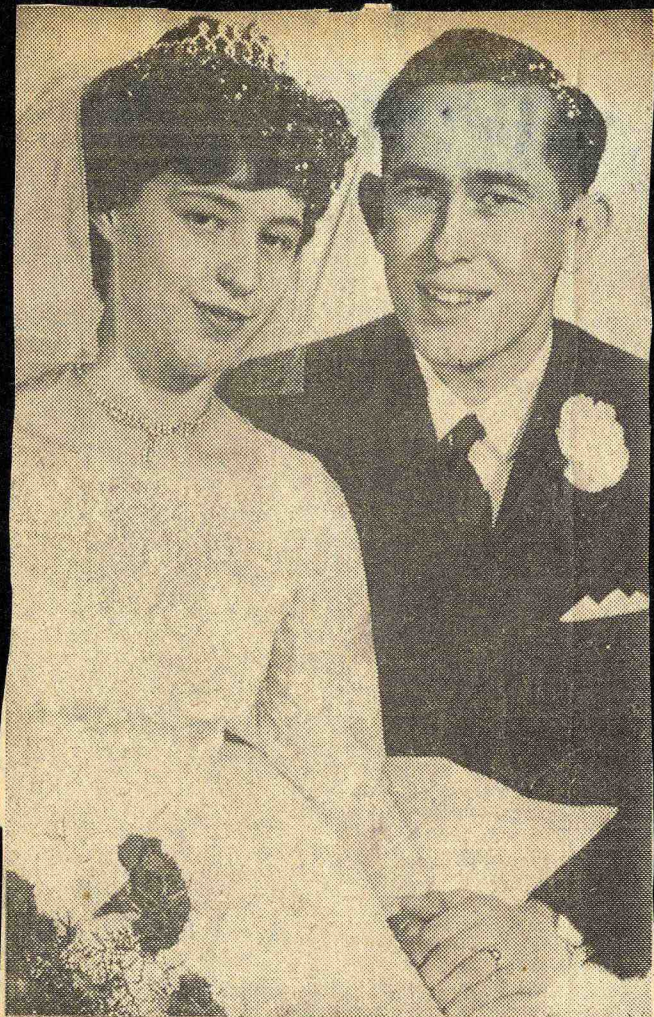
## FIRST OFFICIAL PROTEST AGAINST FOREIGN LABOR

ELGIN residents may be waking up to the fact something is happening right under their noses for which they may be sorry the rest of their lives if they do not act right now, and vigorously protest. The Southwold Township Council at its last meeting formulated a resolution to be sent to Premier King, strongly protesting the bringing into the county and stationing at the Pinal bombing school people of foreign extraction, to work throughout the district. Too many residents, it seems to me, are accepting this proposal without giving it any thought of what may be the aftermath and consequences in a few years' time. What is to be done about these imported workers in three or four years. In the first place, the suggested plan could not go on working indefinitely from the district's point of view, and on the other hand who could expect these foreign-born young men to stay-put there once they have learned our language and customs? They will want to buy and work farms of their own. They will want to marry and settle down and raise families.

Is there any single Canadian resident in West Elgin who desires to have a Polish community of that size established right in our midst. I doubt it. Many will be glad to have the added help for farm work and are not asking too many questions. It might be advisable to give the matter serious thought before the situation gets too far out of their hands. There is always a price for everything in this world. Is West Elgin willing to pay the price for importing so large a contingent of farm help?







—Photo by Elgin Studio  
**WED IN TALBOTVILLE CHURCH**—Enjoying a honeymoon in Florida are Mr. and Mrs. James Franklin Young whose marriage took place on Saturday afternoon, February 22. A reception followed at the Wayside Inn. The bride, the former Audrey June Kilmer, is the daughter of Mrs. Ray Kilmer, Iona Station, and the late Mr. Kilmer and Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Young of Talbotville are the parents of the groom. The couple will make their home on Chestnut Street.