

The Village.



" There are villages off the beaten track
Small villages whose history reaches back
To the first coming of the pioneers,
Who braved the hardships of the early years,
And built a nation beautiful and strong,
To which their children's children now belong. "

At the very early date of 1830 John R. Brown, one of twelve brothers and sisters who were born in Pennsylvania, emigrated to Canada, and by chance, settled in King Township on Lot 26, Concession 8. Three other brothers accompanied John, but all were not farmers. Garrett was a keen business man, Thomas a natural organizer and greatly interested in local affairs and Robert, of whom little is really known. In 1836 Thomas built the first and only mill in what was then Brownsville, named after the energetic brothers. It proved to be the nucleus around which the village gradually grew. The old mill still stands, grey and monumental, and over one hundred years old. Garrett subsequently bought the mill from Thomas and started the first Bank in part of the house now occupied by Mr. Henry Wood. Beside the mill, the town at that time, about 1850, boasted of two general stores, one liquor store, one tavern, one blacksmith shop, one wagon shop, two shoe shops, one tannery and about twenty-five houses, and a population of a little over one hundred people. It had no Post Office at first, getting it's mail from Lloydtown, but in 1862 a Post Office was opened in a general store owned by Mr. Asa Moore with Mr. Moore as Post Master.

About two years later, 1864, Brownsville changed it's name to Schomberg on the suggestion of Mr. Thos. R. Ferguson, M.P.P. for South Simcoe. It was named after the Duke of Schomberg who died in the Battle of the Boyne in 1690.

The Schomberg of this period was a real trading centre. The farmers brought in their butter and eggs and poultry and received merchandise in exchange. During the winter the merchants would store tons of butter in their cellars to market in the spring when the roads would open. Lard was brought in in huge cakes, fresh from the countryside pans. Molasses barrels and cracker barrels stood at the back of the store - Raw Demerara Sugar came in fifteen hundred pound hogsheads - tea in hundred pound lead caddies. Only the real essentials were on the shelves, and the hanging lamps, once the pride of the worthy storekeeper, were trimmed, cleaned and filled every day as a sort of religious ritual. Transportation was by horseback or wagon and rows of hitching posts, well nibbled by impatient steeds, lined the street, (see paper given by Mrs. Amey on "Pioneer Life" in the envelope in back cover).

The town grew and prospered and an interesting record held by the writer gives this description of the town's business in 1895. It advertised with pride the fashionable tailor shop of A.L. Peaker; the Excelsior Bakery and Confectionery Store of F.T. Sparling; the furniture house of H.J. Attridge, where a first class bedroom suite was listed at ten dollars; a nice side-board at five dollars, a good washstand for one dollar and fifty cents and a four dollar mattress on sale for three dollars; the Queens Hotel, where choice liquors and wines were always on hand, had J.B. Sutton as Proprietor, and the St. George Hotel offered the same services by H.J. Gibson. Both these places provided ample shed room for horses. The general butcher was G.T. Skinner and Jas. A. Kitchen the general blacksmith. R.J. Creighton stressed Furs, Suiting and Millinery and the "Golden Lion" was the peoples grocery owned by Mills and Brown. Jos. Butler ran the leading jewelry store established in 1881 and J.J. Hulse the leading tailor shop with "fit and finish" guaranteed. G. and J. Kitchen owned the hardware shop and also had good rigs and horses to hire and Wm. Taylor was the proprietor of the leading carriage works. Dr. Brereton cared for the peoples ills, Dr. Banting their farm live stock and Mr. Sam Leatherland their last rites.



- 1903 -

Mr. Wm. Bond of Lloydtown with his horse and wagon with coal-oil barrel in front of the Trader's Bank across from the Presbyterian Church.

In 1902 the railroad came to Schomberg and marked another period of prosperity and change. No more hauling of produce to Toronto by sleigh and wagon; no more waiting for days for merchandise to reach the stores. Elevators did a thriving business in grain and live stock was shipped to the stock yards where better prices were paid; Farm equipment was brought in - car loads of coal to replace the burning of wood; the farmer received cash for his produce and in turn was able to purchase his needs and pay cash. Methods of store keeping changed to meet the needs of the times. Many old industries closed their doors forever - the demand being dead for their products like home made shoes and implements, barrels and many other things.

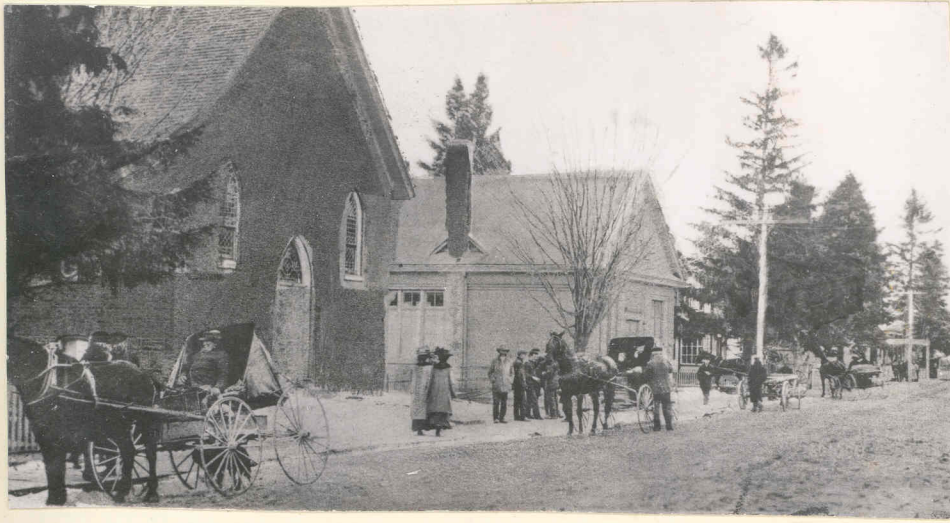
In 1927 the railroad ceased to operate because it too had outlived it's usefulness. Trucks picked up farm products at their source and whisked them off to market without the trouble of re-loading and at cheaper rates and faster service. Cars were becoming more common and passenger service was not needed. In short, another change was being gradually introduced.

The town had been made a Police Village on March 25th, 1899 with a Committee of three Commissioners elected to conduct it's affairs, and remains in that category to this date. However, the appearance of the old village has changed almost beyond recognition. Few of the buildings and practically none of the the old places of business remain on the east side of the street, where old wooden buildings have been razed by fire (and we have had many serious fires), brick structures have taken their places. The site of the once prosperous Queens Hotel is now a parking lot - the St. George Hotel, a used car lot, Gone are the others such as the blacksmith shops, one replaced by a residence - the other the office of the Burnel Graham Company. The streets are paved and lighted with electricity; modern fire equipment is maintained to protect the village property. A fine new Bank replaces the two old ones, and the stores are modern and up to date. With Toronto overflowing it's boundary and spreading rapidly northward, the effect is being felt in the small towns.

- 1900 -

Queens Hotel - Jos. Sutton, Proprietor. Now the site of the Imperial Bank parking lot.





- 1902 -

Main Street looking north, showing the Baptist Church (now Presbyterian), and the Market Hall.

With modern cars, commuting is a simple and new process and new homes are being built to accommodate a larger population. Several new streets have been opened up and many homes have been built between Schomberg and Lloydtown until one might visualize the two old hamlets united in the future.

Industry has been slow to come to our town because of lack of water facilities, but we like it as it is and Schomberg remains in 1958 a peaceful residential village.

(I have purposely omitted the history of business places, both past and present, for it is our intention to make a short story of each one, as far as possible, to be found elsewhere in this book.)



THE ONCE LOVELY AND USEFUL MILL POND

Main Street looking north from the bridge- Showing the location of the Post Office in 1910. Note Hitching Posts along the street.



REMINISCENT OF THE EARLY NINETEEN HUNDREDS

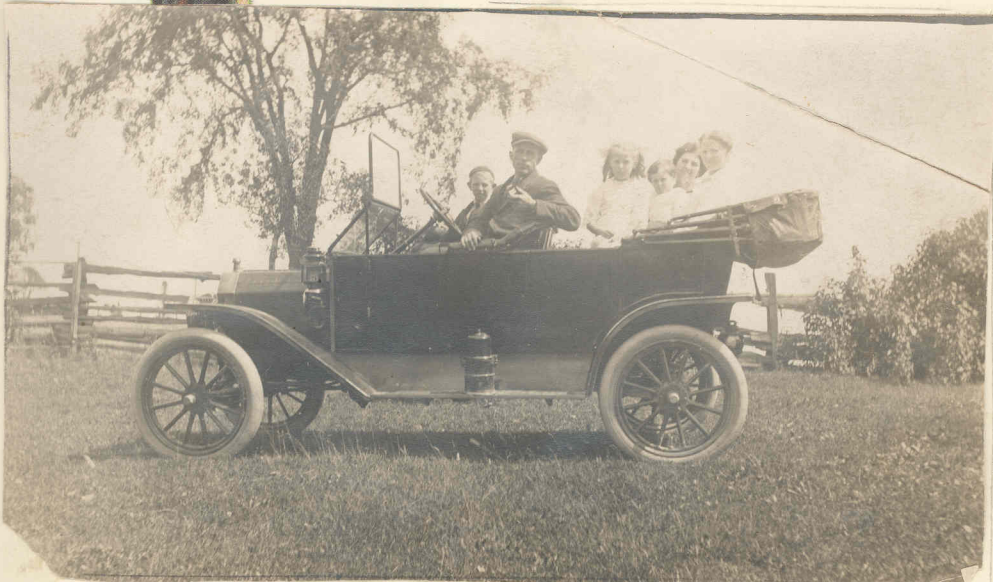
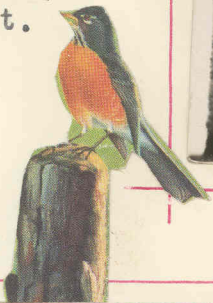
The following pages of old pictures must stir memories for many of the older residents. The complete stories may never be known, but they are history and worthy of a place in the story of the village.



Looking east on Main Street from the hill behind the Masonic Hall. The Hollingshead house, now owned by Mr. R. Hiscock is the only one on the street.



The Methodist Church, before it became a United Church. Miss Skinner's house in the background is one of the first built on the street and was occupied by a Doctor before Miss Skinner's Grandfather bought it.



Mr. Ralph Davis and family in his first car. One of the first to be owned in the community.

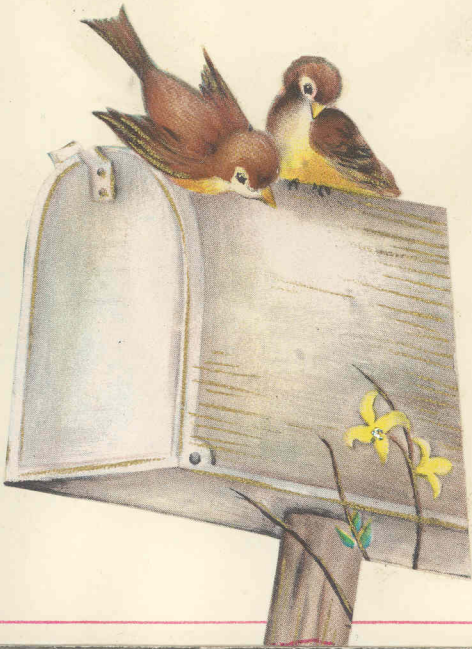




Mr. Ralph Davis, The "Village Blacksmith" whose business was one of the busiest and most important in those days.



The M. Simpson carriage shop, on the site of the Cecil Maynard offices and cold storage plant. They must have painted more than carriages- Notice Mr. W. E. Freele's new sign for his general store, where Dr. Jones' home now stands.



Mr. Davis and his helper dressed in their leather aprons, ready for a good hard day's work. His shop stood on the site of the Burnel Graham Companies storehouses.



No charge for negotiating at any Branch of The Dominion Bank or at the Bank of Hamilton, Hamilton.

N^o _____

Garrett Brown's Banking House
SCHOMBERG, ONT.

\$ _____

N^o _____

189

Pay to the order of _____

_____ Dollars.

*To The Dominion Bank,
Toronto.*

Garrett Brown's Banking House
SCHOMBERG.
1891-1892-1893-1894-1895-1896-1897-1898-1899-1900-1901-1902-1903-1904-1905-1906-1907-1908-1909-1910-1911-1912-1913-1914-1915-1916-1917-1918-1919-1920-1921-1922-1923-1924-1925-1926-1927-1928-1929-1930-1931-1932-1933-1934-1935-1936-1937-1938-1939-1940-1941-1942-1943-1944-1945-1946-1947-1948-1949-1950-1951-1952-1953-1954-1955-1956-1957-1958-1959-1960-1961-1962-1963-1964-1965-1966-1967-1968-1969-1970-1971-1972-1973-1974-1975-1976-1977-1978-1979-1980-1981-1982-1983-1984-1985-1986-1987-1988-1989-1990-1991-1992-1993-1994-1995-1996-1997-1998-1999-2000-2001-2002-2003-2004-2005-2006-2007-2008-2009-2010-2011-2012-2013-2014-2015-2016-2017-2018-2019-2020-2021-2022-2023-2024-2025

THE SCHOMBERG "STANDARD."

In order to increase the circulation of the STANDARD, we have decided to offer the following liberal inducements to parties acting as Agents. ~~It~~ Any one sending us—

5 Subscribers for 1 year, will receive a copy of the paper free, or the *Canada Farmer* for 1 year.

10 Subscribers for 1 year, a Copy of either of the following Periodicals:—Bow Bells; London Journal; Godey's Ladies' Book; Ladies' Friend; Popular Educator, or New Dominion Monthly.

15 Subscribers for 1 year, any two of the above Periodicals.

TERMS:—\$1.00 per year if paid in advance, or within 3 months; otherwise, \$1.50. No effort will be spared to make the STANDARD a First-Class Family Journal.

JOSEPH T. CARSON, *Editor.*

SUBSCRIBER'S NAMES.

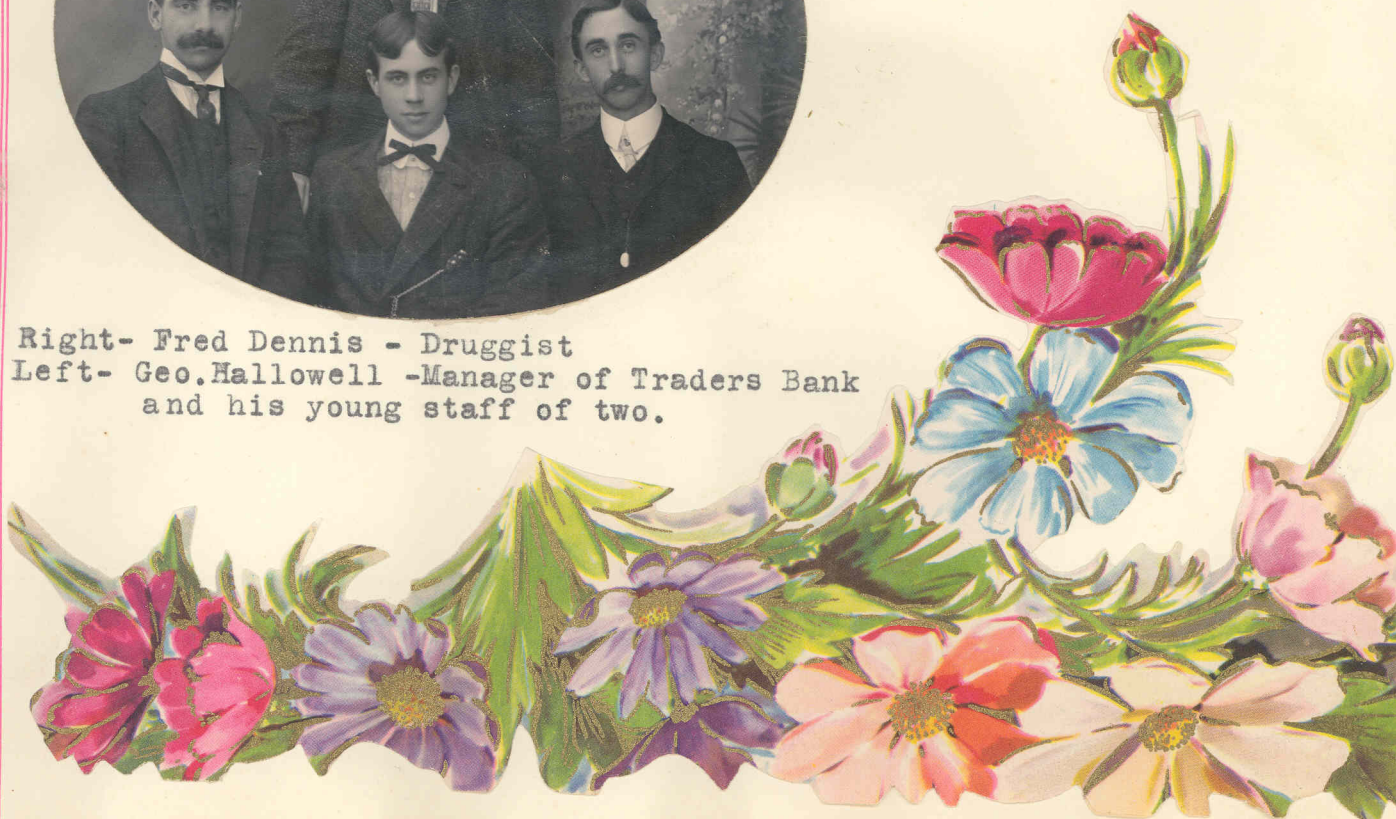
POST OFFICE.



Schomberg Band around 1890. Hector Shelson 5th from right standing



Right- Fred Dennis - Druggist
Left- Geo. Hallowell - Manager of Traders Bank
and his young staff of two.



SCHOMBERG TENNIS CLUB (About 1900)



Back Row, from left
 Clara Brereton; Miss Ball; Evelyn Sproule; Orma Brydon; Ruby Norman;
 Ruby Creighton; George Hallowell; Dr. Millane
 Second Row - Standing- Hazel Sproule; Florence Pinkerton.
 Seated- Mrs. Dillane; Muriel Sproule; Marshall Chantler;
 Annie Edwards; Mrs. Emma Brydon.
 Front Row- Dr. Hillary Wilkinson; Percy Bradley; John Taylor;
 Two young Bank Staff Members.



"MEN ONLY" CLUB

From Top-
 Fred Dennis; J. McDonald;
 Dr. Dillane;
 Ed. McDowell; Ed. Ferguson.

BY-GONE INDUSTRIES

As Brownsville grew in population, so industries developed to meet the needs of the people. Of course, the Mill to grind the wheat and flour was the first necessity. After it's establishment the hamlet grew quickly and with it the need for other commodities to sustain even the humblest way of life.

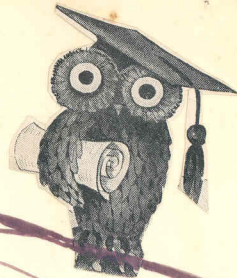
There was a tannery where hides were prepared for shoe making and harness. A woollen mill that took the place of the tedious home spinning and weaving. A Wheelwright, Wagon maker and blacksmith, who each contributed to the manufacture of the crude implements necessary to till the soil. Later a foundry was started; a tinsmith to make pails, pans and other such necessities and a cooper who made barrels for storage of vegetables, meats, etc. But, progress brought it's changes; then as well as now; and as you drive through the little town not one trace may be seen of any of these busy locations, and little is known of them.

However, we have tried to record the names of as many as possible of these ingenious men who contributed no less, to the development of our community, than has the larger industry of today - Sufficient unto the day was the product of their labor.

Implement Shop -	John Baird John Botham
Mill Owners -	Thomas Brown; Garrett Brown; Levi Dennis; Wm. Dennis; Alex Ferguson; Rolph Davis; Geo. Edwards.
Storekeepers -	Asa Moore; Wm. Moore; John W. Hughes; Jas. McGinnis; J.F. Grey; Chas. Hughes; Ross and Ramsay; Edmund Walker; Wm. and Martin Lockhart; Mr. and Mrs. E. Sparling; J. Brydon; Sidney Leonard; Fred Chantler; Robt. Creighton; Ed. Sibree; Wes Brown; W.E. Freele; W.L. McGowan; Roy Dixon; W. Muxlow; Cecil Henry; Harry Kitchen; T.E. Stonehouse.
Blacksmiths -	Wm. Wright; Wm. Kitchen; Jas. Kitchen; John Sharp; John Edwards; Nesbitt Riddell; Rolph Davis; John Hart.
Wheelwright and Wagon Maker -	Thos. Robinson; Wm. Taylor; Wm. Spring; John Ussher.
Cooper -	Robt. Shelson
Shoe Maker -	B. Fanning; Alexander Graham; Dan Horrigan.
Tannery -	Wm. Hales; Chas. Davis
Woollen Mills -	Isaac Brown
Tinsmith-	J. P. Foucar
Foundry -	Michael and T. Kraney
Printing Press -	Jas. Hawkins; Geo. Morrison; Simon Stahl.
Harness Shop -	Anderson Tegart
Hôtel Keepers -	Harry Hulse; Harry Isaacs; Geo. Hill; Harry Gibson; Wm. Harris; Wm. Sliney; F. Leonard; John Tracey; John Sutton; Jos. Sutton.
Livery Keepers -	Jas. Ellison; Wm. Pinkerton; Frank Jennings; Wm. Doyle, Luke Lyons; Fred Ellison.



EDUCATION.



'Tis Education forms the common mind
Just as the twig is bent, the tree's inclined.

Education is the birthright of every child. It is the duty of those in authority to protect the child in the enjoyment of this right. The kind and extent of education are primarily to be decided by the parent but the youth may choose additional training for a particular trade or profession.

The test of education is not outward prosperity, the enlargement of man's dominion over nature, or the increase of material things. These are laudable if they add to the store-house of man's purpose, or extend the scope of nations; but the true test of education is in the influence it has upon the minds and hearts of people.

Education, aside from the subjects taught, exercises an influence upon the character. The scholar himself is the greatest type of perfection in education. He becomes enlarged, strengthened and improved by the mental training and struggle through a decade or more years.

This age, science presents wide horizons, glorious opportunities and grave responsibilities to the youth of today. The needs of man are varied and numerous - simplest in the early period, they increase in number and complexity as we progress upward in the scale of civilization. The problem of interdependence was not recognized until long after intelligence had been placed above physical strength. Every discovery and invention has added to the requirement of man in home, society and public life. It is now considered that, "he lives most who acts the noblest and thinks the best".

Life is indeed a challenge and we must accept it as we face the future.

THE BUILDERS

All are architects of Fate,
Working in these walls of time;
Some with massive deeds and great,
Some with ornaments of rhyme.

Nothing useless is, or low,
Each thing in it's place is best,
And what seems but idle show,
Strengthens and supports the rest.

For the structures that we raise,
Time is with materials filled;
Our to-days and yesterdays,
Are the blocks with which we build.

- Longfellow -



The School.



Records of the first school to serve this Section are sketchy, but it is presumed it was erected about the year 1820 near the south east corner of the Ninth Concession and the Lloydtown road, on the knoll a little to the east on the Lloydtown road and very near the centre of the Section. It was not a log building, but was constructed of plank and served the community for twenty-five years; when, as the population increased and became more prosperous, the need for a new and better school was evident. As Schomberg was now developing into a busy little centre with a population of about 125 it was thought advisable to move the site nearer the village and so the second school was built in 1845 on the site now occupied by the present school but almost where the monument now stands. It was also a frame building but considerably larger. It is most probable that Mr. Wm. Moore, who later became one of the early Postmasters, taught in this building and his is the first name

available of early school masters. The third school was built in 1867 on the exact site of the former one, by Mr. Levi Dennis, one of the town's leading citizens at that time. It's walls were of solid brick plastered on the inside. The timbers used to support the roof were of clear pine mortised together and fastened with wooden pegs. It was a much larger building and was later divided into two rooms and two teachers were employed.

In 1897 higher education became a must and a room was erected on the west side of this building in the form of a T. This room was used for Continuation school work carrying the pupils to the end of a second year high school. This addition cost eight hundred dollars to erect. The first Principal of the Continuation School was Mr. A. Wilkinson. (A complete list may be found on page 9 - "Schomberg and it's School", a copy of which may be found in the Library.)

The present school is the fourth building for this Section and stands just a little south of the previous building on a plot approximately two and a half acres which allows for ample landscaping and adequate play grounds. This building is a two storey model, made of solid red brick and tile with brick and tile partitions. There are four class rooms each with an adjoining teacher's room, four roomy cloak-rooms, spacious halls, a science room and two playrooms in the basement. It was designed by Mr. Clare P. Thompson of Toronto and Mr. Bernard Sutton of Schomberg, a local boy who is now a prosperous architect in Sudbury. The building is heated by steam and lighted by Hydro and in every respect is quite modern. The cost of this building was \$35,000. and was opened by Canon H.J. Cody, Vice Chancellor to the University of Toronto, on November 2nd, 1927. The Principal of the High School was Miss Nora Armstrong and Miss Ella E. Henderson, Assistant, and of the Public School, Mr. Herb H. Sawdon, Principal and Miss Jean C. Love, Assistant.

This school was the first of it's kind in Ontario, "Strictly Rural, and yet equipped to carry pupils through to Matriculation Degree" - but with the march of time - even this was not adequate and in 1947 the upper rooms were closed and we became a part of the Aurora and District High School Area and since then the pupils attending High School are taken by bus daily to attend the very up-to-date new High School opened in Aurora in 1946. In 1954 it was found necessary to recondition one of the upper rooms for the accommodation of Public School students and a third room was pressed into use and a third teacher employed. In 1957 the fourth room was opened and we now have all the space occupied for Public School work with a staff of four teachers - Mr. Murray Edgar, Principal; Miss Carol Proctor, Miss Alice Smith and Mrs. Geo. Edwards, Assistants.

At the present time there are 106 students enrolled and an interested Home and School Association co-operate with the teachers toward better efficiency and understanding. At the graduation exercises of the 1958 class a beautiful soft toned copper bell was presented to the school by Miss H. Clare Sproule. It was an heirloom of the Sproule family and on one side the inscription reads: "Presented to Schomberg Public School in memory of Newton Hay Sproule, former teacher of Schomberg School". Three of Mr. Sproule's daughters became school teachers also and each in turn taught at the older school only a short distance from their historical home on Hwy. #27, where Miss Sproule still resides and takes pleasure in her beautiful antiques, rich in pioneer tradition.

EARLY PUBLIC SCHOOL PICTURES



This old picture was taken before the turn of the century.



Public and Continuation Classes attending school in 1908.

Notice the horse and buggy in the background
The same old willow tree shaded many generations.

SCHOMBERG
SCHOOL



PUBLIC AND
CONTINUATION CLASSES

1909

CONTINUATION SCHOOL
IN
WEST WING

Sitting from left as numbered:-

Gertrude Hanlon; Olla Lynn; Olive Doyle; Myrtle Kitchen; Rowena Harris;
Myrtle Brown; Gertrude Kitchen; Gladys Clarke; Gertrude Calhoun; Peal Lynn;
Greta Fletcher; Norma Sloan; Fern Clarke; Mable Skinner; Marjorie Burling.

CONTINUATION SCHOOL CLASS 1914

BACK ROW

Bertha Coulter
Fanny Rosner
Gladys Brown
Freda Deacon



CENTRE ROW - Elma Dodds; Jean Harris; Fern Clarke; Gertrude Atkinson;
Orma Edwards; Florence Botham; Eva Baird; Irene Deacon; Gladys Clarke;
Regina Deacon; Velma Stonehouse; Stella Deacon;

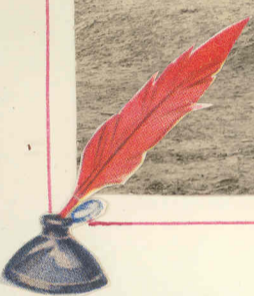
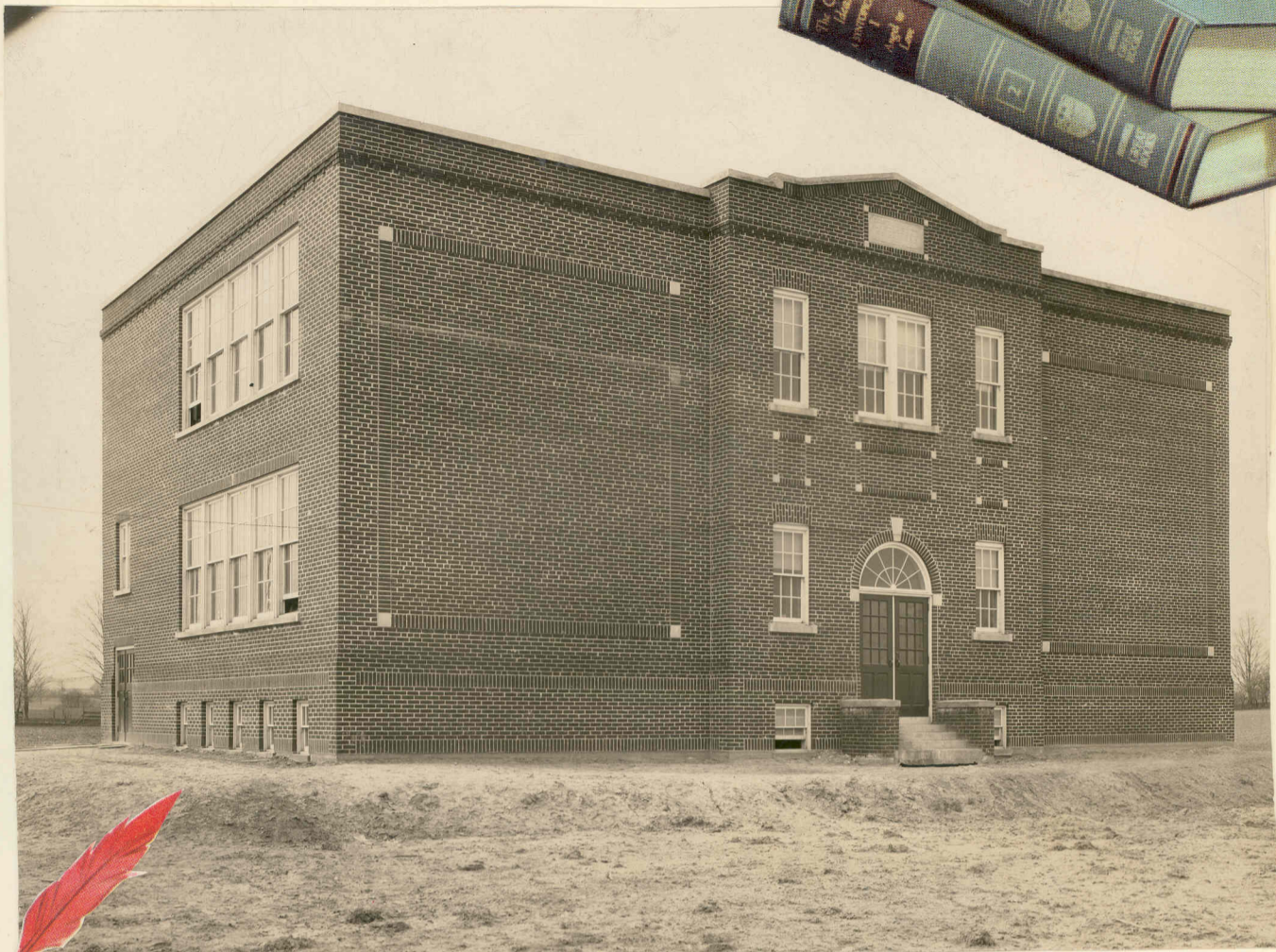
FRONT ROW - Graydon Atkinson; Ivan Monkman; John McKenna; Clifford Marchant;
Donald Adair; Joe McGinnis; Ormie Gallagher; Harold Russell.



The last Continuation Class (Grade 10) at the Old School with their principal, Miss Nora Armstrong. This School, the 3rd to serve this Section, was erected in 1867 - Continuation Class Toom added in 1897 and served until 1927.



Following the opening of the New School on November 2nd, 1927, Grades 9 and 10 with Miss Nora Armstrong, Principal (extreme right) and Miss Ella Henderson, Assistant (extreme left).



Schomberg Public and Continuation School--- Erected in 1927.



Grade IX of the new Continuation School 1927
Miss Nora G. Armstrong--Principap - Extreme right
Miss Ella Henderson--Assistant - Extreme left

CONTINUATION SCHOOL CLASSES 1936 AND 1943



BACK ROW: Trevor Graham; Lorne Brown; Peter Sutherland; Cyril Traynor; Ted Armstrong; Bob Hart; Keith Sutherland; Wm. Pagan.
2ND ROW: Mervyn Houghton; L. Cairns; Harold Fuller; Eric Adair
3RD ROW: Cliff Wauchope; ~~Blanche Wray~~; Rachael Proctor; Rose Dusko; Jean Terry; Inez McMillan; Lorna Breedon; Stanley Hughes.
4TH ROW: Veronica Duggan; Ruth Cooper; Lorna McGuire; ----?; Audrey Ellison; Jean Sawdon; Mary Dusko; Aileen Wray; Phyllis Rutherford; Muriel Webb; Vera Williamson; Mildred Brown; Audrey Marchant; Grace Wauchope; Madeline Hanlon; Stella Kuniski; Jean Cabell; Agnes Traynor; Mr. Cantelon; Florence Hanlon; Breedon.
FRONT ROW: Ken Maynard; John Perry; Clare Rainey; Bob McCutcheon; Wilfred Charbonneau.



BACK ROW: Mc. Cantelon; Jim Connell; Keith Banting; Elmer Thompson; Bruce Graham; Jack Gourlay.
2ND ROW: Miss Noble; Kathleen Duggan; Frances Wilson; Gwen Adair; Helen Hanlon; Gwyn Marchant; Catherine Banting.
FRONT ROW: Pauline Hanlon; Thelma McGuire; Jean Grant; Irene Davis; Thelma McCutcheon; Lois Stonehouse; Joyce Terry.