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**Howick School Re-union**

**PRESENT AND FORMER RESIDENTS OF P.S.S. NO. 1, HOWICK, HAVE AN ENJOYABLE RE-UNION**

Last Thursday afternoon was a memorable occasion for the people of No. 1, Howick, where many acquaintanceships, long since forgotten, were renewed. The occasion was the re-union of the old boys and girls of the section, and, judging by the amount of handshakings and exchange of greetings, there must have been almost a full representation. The idea was originated a few months ago by a quartette of former residents of the section, W. H. Stewart, a former teacher, Dr. Wilson of Guelph, Miss Priscilla Gowdy, and Mrs. C. E. Bell, (nee Dennis), of Wingham, and immediate action was taken to secure the names of all the former pupils and residents of the section. Hundreds of invitations were sent out, and the response was so spontaneous and enthusiastic, that soon the entire community became interested, and co-operated to make the event enjoyable and successful.

There were upwards of eight hundred people at the re-union, and it is doubtful if a happier gathering ever assembled in Howick. Friends and schoolmates who had not met for a generation were brought together again, and many interesting and lively reminiscences were recounted.

A fine platform had been erected, and the following program was given, with Mr. Thos. Inglis, Reeve of Howick, acting as Chairman. After the program, the ladies of the section served a fine lunch of sandwiches, cake, pie and tea.

**Programme**  
An old chorus, (Anniversary Day.)  
Address of Welcome by W. W. Lowish.  
Chairman's Address by Thos. Inglis.  
Selection by Orchestra.  
Speech by W. H. Stewart.  
Recitations by Laura Wright.  
Reading letters by Mrs. Inkster.  
Solo by Mrs. E. A. Renwick.  
Speech by Mr. Fred Taylor.  
Solo by Margaret Edwards.  
Speech by John Darroch.  
Reading letters by Mrs. Bell.  
Quartette by Belmore Ladies.  
Speech by Mr. Hugh Halliday.  
Solo by Miss Pearl Stinson.  
Orchestra—(Irish Lilt).  
Reading letters by Walter Renwick.  
Speech by Dr. Wilson.  
Speech and song by Jos. Howlett.  
Recitation by Mrs. P. Gowdy.  
Speech by Thos. G. Shearer.  
Closing—God Save the King.

Public School Section No. 1, Howick, was organized in 1863, when one-quarter of an acre was deeded by the Crown to the Trustee Board. In 1877 an additional half acre was purchased from James Lowish by the Trustees, who at that time were Jas. Ritchie, Geo. Howlett, and Jas. Armstrong. Extracts from a letter written by Mr. Jacob Halliday of Devil's Lake, North Dakota, who at one time resided on Lot 2, con. 16, Howick, contains much interesting information concerning the section and the teachers who had charge of the school from 1863 to 1886.

of No. 1, Howick:—  
When I received the invitation to your great Re-union on July 3rd, I assure you it afforded me a great deal of pleasure, and I regret very much that I cannot accept your invitation, but let me assure you that wherever I am that day, your gathering will have a warm spot in my memory. Could I meet with many faces and persons that were so dear to me when I left the old familiar playground forty-three years ago, distance would be no barrier. It is fourteen years since I last paid a visit to the old homestead, and I only met some half dozen of the old school friends, among them being John Gowdy, Levi Galbraith, Mrs. McGavin (nee Elizabeth Wallace), a lady who before her marriage was Annie Burns (cannot remember her married name), my own brothers and sisters, and I must not forget Bill Scott. He is one of the oldest pupils of the school. If I could only meet the many old familiar faces, the Gowdy's, Ritchie's, Braden's, Wallace's, Lowish's, Harkness's, Penneroy's, Nay's, Scott's, Wilson's, Galbraith's, and scores of others it would give me the crowning joy of my life to once more greet you. I sent a list of some 175 names, once pupils of No. 1, some time ago, and where are they all now?

In beginning my letter, I shall give you a list of all the teachers who have been in the school since its beginning in 1864:  
1. Robt. Forbes, for two years.  
2. Mr. Besanson, for a little over a year and a half, when he lost his reason.  
3. George Wright, who finished Mr. Besanson's year and taught the following six months.  
4. Miss Martin for six months.  
5. James Ferguson, (one of the original pupils,) for one year.  
6. Miss McNaughton, for one year.  
7. Johnson B. Ferguson, for three years.  
8. John Ross, for two years.  
9. Miss Hill, for one year.  
10. Mr. Jamieson, for six months.  
11. Mr. Chisholm, for one and one-half years.  
12. Robert Harkness, for one year (now Rev. Dr. Harkness of Ripley.)  
13. Thos. Leslie, for one year.  
14. W. H. Stewart, for five years, with the exception of three months while at the Normal. Miss Agnes Harkness substituted for him.  
15. W. H. Fletcher. This brings you in 1886.

**Teachers From 1886 to 1924**  
Mr. John Davidson  
Mr. A. B. Cooper  
Mr. John D. Hartley  
Mr. Alex Kane  
Mr. Frank Pollock  
Mr. Wm. Hartley  
Mr. Jas. McKewan  
Mr. Frank Lowish  
Mr. W. P. Ferguson  
Miss H. Burns  
Miss Trench  
Miss Blyth  
Miss Harrow  
Miss Hagadorn  
Miss McLennan  
Miss McPherson  
Miss McKewan  
Miss Weir

Of this list of 15 teachers, I have only met Mr. Harkness, Mr. Fletcher, Johnson B. Ferguson, Geo. Wright, and the first teacher who taught in

the school, Mr. Forbes, since they left the school. I met Mr. Forbes a few years ago in our city out here in the West. He rose to be Bishop in the Methodist Church.

I will now give you a list of some, if not the whole of those who held dominion over our school as school trustees. Alex Gowdy, John Johnston, William Lowish, William Pomeroy, Jas. Halliday, (my father,) Jas. Suddan, Jas. Edwards, Chas. Wilson, Geo. Howlett, (I believe he is still living in Clifford, though about 95 years if not more,) James Ritchie, Wm. Wallace, Alexander Findlater, Some pretty level-headed men, you say?

In 1864 there was only one road past the school, and it ran east and west. The pupils from the north came through the woods about 40 rods to the west of the school. Those from the south came through Lowish's bush, and through the woods west of the school, it depended whether they were east or west of the school.

You can imagine the consternation among us youngsters when our teacher, Mr. Besanson, went out of his mind. He rushed out of the school calling, "Go, tell them to get a rope and hang me." We rushed out of the school and ran until we reached Mr. Pomeroy's farm, now owned by Mr. Lowish. Mr. Lowish, Mr. Green and Mr. Wade, seeing us coming, scented trouble. This was my first year at school, but I remember it as if it was only a year ago. I wonder that none of us scholars went insane when we consider our surroundings. The school was perhaps 18x24, built of logs, two windows on the north side, two on the south, and a door in the west end. This building held as many as 65 at one time. But, boys, those were the days. Wind blowing through the cracks in the wall, and the floor, and when we went to eat our lunch we often found it frozen.

The teachers were paid in the early days some \$200 a year and got two weeks' holidays, from July 15th to August 1st.

One of the things we learned, although we were not taught it, was fighting and politics. I tell you our leaders in parliament little knew of the intelligence that was being wasted on the swampy air. We never discussed (or cussed) politics until about election, and then it would usually end up in a free-for-all fight between the Grits and Tories and then when we got into the school the teacher, though he never heard the argument, would proceed to give his decision by giving us a good sound flogging, and the worst of it was that the one who got the best of it in the fight generally came out with the worst flogging.

I cannot remember what kind of a school you have now at No. 1, but it seems to me that when I was there 14 years ago it had been bricked on the outside. I did not call at the school as it was in the winter, and none of the pupils would have known me anyway.

In conclusion, let me say that Mr. Forbes, the first teacher, died only four or five years ago after a brief illness, having reached the pinnacle of fame in the Methodist Church, from the first teacher at No. 1, Howick. Many of those who were my first associates in No. 1, have gone the way of all flesh, and it won't be long before many more will join the vast throng, and let me say ere I close that I hope and wish you one and all the best of a time, and may it not only be a Re-union in person, but in heart and hand that we will do our utmost to usher in that glad day when, as Robert Burns says:  
And man to man to world o'er  
Shall brothers be, for a' that, and a' that.

Adieu to you all,  
J. Halliday.

Letters were also received from Dr. Jas. Armstrong of Calgary, A. B. Cooper of Parkhill, Mrs. McLaughlin of Winnipeg, James Taylor and others expressing regret at not being able to be present.

**REPORT OF S. S. No. 3, Carrick**

(Promotion Examination Results)  
The following is the report of the Promotion Examinations in June. Those marked with an asterisk were absent for one or more examinations.  
To Sr. IV—Hon. 705, Pass 564—Hilda Scott 787, Allan Timpson 581, \*Stephen Hickling 272.  
To Sr. III—Hon. 630, Pass 504—Howard McConkey 664, Violet Weber 663, Herman Tegler 625, Irene Tegler 615, \*John Hopf 568, Barbara Hopf 567, Joseph Walter 556, \*Ellen Kinzie 541.  
To Jr. III—Elmer Russwurm, Lorne Timpson.  
To Sr. II—Pass 342—Matilda Mesz 344.  
To Jr. II—Hon. 202, Pass 162—Bobble Tegler 241, Gordon Scott 238, Gordon Hopf 218, Willie Kinzie 217, Noah Mesz 202, Andrew Hutton 185.  
To I—Elmina Russwurm, Elvira Hickling, Nioma Kinzie, Henry Mesz, Verina Walter.  
Primer—Clarence Schlorff, Alberta Hutton, John Meyers.  
No. on roll—28.  
Alice E. Low (Teacher)

**A MODERN DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE**

From Judge's Weekly, July, 1909

The unanimous declaration of the Bachelor's Brotherhood of America. We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created free and single, that they are endowed with certain inalienable rights, that among these are the single life, unhampered liberty, and the pursuit of individual happiness. To secure these rights we are informally banded together, and have been from the time that whereof the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, and whenever any government, petticoat or otherwise, presumes to infringe upon these rights, it is the duty of those affected to alter or abolish it, as seems best, to assure unto themselves safety and happiness.

Such have been the encroachments of women upon their rights and privileges that we can no longer suffer in silence, but are, perforce, compelled to drag the matter into the glaring spotlight of publicity. It would ill become us to put forward these declarations were it not that we have been most grievously used, and in proof of this we submit facts to a (we fear) prejudiced world.

She has laughed to scorn the ancient faiths of our Brotherhood. She has constrained many of our fellows to take the great leap into a "Cottage built for two," furthermore, she has incited them to tempt the weaker brethren into the self-same snare.

She is vigorously waging a war of extermination against those of us who are left.

She has endeavored to have various legislatures impose a grievous tax upon us because of our condition, when, in the majority of cases, the cause of such condition can be traced directly to her door.

Not content with Leap Year and its presumed privileges, she has tried to inculcate the opinion that custom should sanction the proposal of marriage by women, thus virtually making every year an open season for bachelors.

Failing in this she is considering the advisability of taking the matter into her own hands, and, in spite of custom, herself proposing marriage when all other means fail to break man's determination, trusting to our innate chivalry for the acceptance cannot tell which way you'll flop;

of such proposal. We, therefore, The Brotherhood of Bachelors of America, in secluded conclave assembled, do solemnly publish and declare that we bachelors are absolved from all allegiance to women, and that all sentimental connections between ourselves and women is, and ought to be, totally dissolved, and that as free and single gents, maintain cozy bachelors' quarters, act as impartial judges at baby shows, give expert advice on the rearing of children, and to do such other things as free and independent bachelors may have right to.

And to signify our determination to stand by these our declarations we pledge our single lives and fortunes, and affix hereunto our hands and seals this Fourth Day of July, Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-Four. (SEAL) Signed.....

**BOB, BOBBER, BOB**

When'er the women stop to talk when restin' in the evening air, their topic turns as sure as must unto the bobbin' of the hair, and to each sister what has gone and moved the locks from off her head, a chapter and a verse beside is duly passed upon and read.

They meet a dame upon the street, they tell her that the cut looks slick, and thereupon they saunter forth to find upon the road a brick.

Ah, gentle sisters how you love to take each bobbed head in your lap, and gather in the neighborhood to they knock and rap and rap.

"There's Mrs. B. Blink, she's forty-six, how come she with a bob like that, a-runnin' round the streets likewise a-wearin' a new bob hair hat."

"She seems to think it makes her look like she was in the sixteen ring, her hair ain't of the bobbin' sort, it's straighter than a piece of string."

"Yet when they meet this Mrs. Blink they change their conversation pace, and vote as how she is a peach, and call her things like angel face."

There's Mrs. B. and Mrs. A. who went and hacked their tuft away, they swear they are a sight to see like loads of fresh cut clover hay.

But when they meet this B. and A. it's petals 'neath the morning dew, "You look so sweet I think I'll go and get my hair shaved off like you."

Ah, sisters, you're a fickle lot, we cannot tell which way you'll flop;

you're knocking at bob heads today, the next you're at the barber shop.—ARK.

**FORMOSA SCHOOL REPORT**

(Promotion Examination Results)  
Jr. IV to Sr. IV—E. Weishar, C. Rettinger, E. MacKenzie, Herbert Kuntz, M. Weiss, A. Weber, S. Albrecht.  
Sr. III to Jr. IV—(Hon.)—A. Schurr, I. Oberle, M. Weiler, C. Meyer, H. Zettel, C. Beingsnesser, B. Weiler, A. Dittner, O. Noll, J. Schill, C. Kraemer, I. Gutscher, (Pass)—C. Kuntz, F. Beninger, H. Straus, G. Rettinger, C. Weber, J. Kraemer.  
Jr. III to Sr. III—(Hon.)—L. Dentinger, L. Schurter, A. Voison, P. Heisz, G. Schurter, V. Voison, (Pass)—A. Vogt, D. MacKenzie, O. Noll, W. Heisz, F. Beninger, M. Diemert, G. Beninger, E. Waschter.  
Sr. II to Jr. III—(Hon.)—F. Straus, W. Schill, A. Kuntz, (Pass)—N. Dittner, M. Meyer, M. Rich, I. Meyer, W. Zettel, O. Kreutzweiser, A. Weber, M. Zimmer, E. Weiss.  
Jr. II to Sr. II—W. Schill, E. Dentinger, J. F. Rettinger, O. Tiede, N. Beingsnesser, I. Grub, M. Tiede, E. Beninger.  
Sr. I to Sr. II—G. Strauss, L. Hundt, G. Beninger, A. Weiler, H. Flachs, L. Kuntz, E. Meyer.  
Jr. VI to Sr. I—L. Ernewein, A. Ernewein, M. Opperman, A. Weiler, M. Zettel, G. Flachs, G. Kreutzweiser, L. Schill, R. Meyer, N. Fedy, N. Vogt, S. Beninger, A. Diemert, Corinne Beninger, A. Kramer.

**REPORT OF S. S. No. 12, CARRICK**

(Promotion Examinations)  
Jr. IV to Sr. IV—Edward Schwartz 78%.  
Jr. III to Sr. III—Arthur Kroetsch 74, David Eichholz 66, Eugene Schaus 54, (recommended).  
Sr. II to Jr. III—Aaron Schaus 72, Alvin Baetz 70, Leo Schwartz 66, Matilda Schwartz 60.  
Jr. II to Sr. II—Ervin Schaus, Rossell Kupferschmidt, Irene Eckenswiller, Jerome Kupferschmidt.  
Sr. I to Jr. II—Frieda Wettaufer, Milton Bieman.  
Sr. Primer to Jr. I—Eldon Schaus, Sr. Primer—Amelia Schwartz, Jr. Primer—Gertrude Schaus, Vera Baetz.

J. W. Kerr, (teacher)

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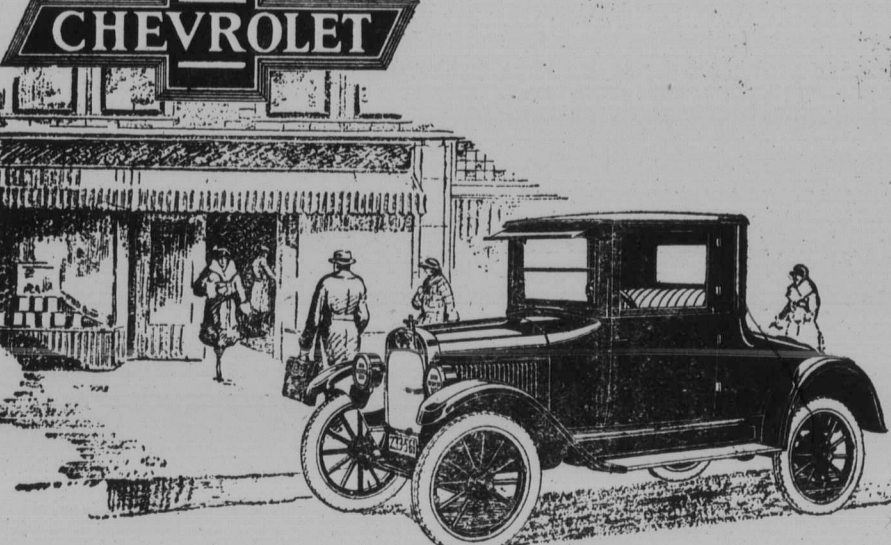
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