

Enterprising
Admiral
Souvenir

A decorative calligraphic banner with three sections of text: 'Enterprising', 'Admiral', and 'Souvenir'. The banner is dark with light-colored text and is held by two vertical rods with pointed ends.

Fare 200⁰⁰

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Enterprising Elmira

An historical, descriptive, and illustrated Book
of the Village of Elmira, Waterloo County,
Ontario, Canada.

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The Object of This Book.

MAN'S LIFE consists of his past and his future—that which is behind him and that which is still before him. The present is only a short link between these two stages of life. Although the present is the only time in which man can act, the moments are so fleeting that he constantly finds himself face to face with the future while his actions rapidly become deeds of the past. Since the future is the time in which man hopes to make his influence felt in this world, it is expedient that he review the past in order that he may profit by the light of its experiences.

Therefor, if this little book serve to refresh the memories of those who have lived in the period and realm which it covers, if it be instrumental in bringing the past and its events more vividly before them, if it so presents the present—that which will have been added to the archives of the past even before this volume reaches the hands of its readers—that those to whom, in the future, the moral and material welfare of our native place may be entrusted, may realize and recognize their standpoint, and if the fortunes of the past, as shown and indicated in this book, serve as a ray of light to illuminate their path of duty for the future, the object and hopes of its author will have been realized.

Whether we are secure or lost in the wilderness, we have an objective point in view. In order to reach this we must first ascertain our present position. We must mentally retrace our steps, scrutinize the paths we have trodden, recall the motives and reasons that have led or misled us, and then, by the light of our experiences, successes and failures, form an opinion of our whereabouts. Our position properly established and our objective point clearly defined, we are in a position to advance. Then may we follow the plans of the great Architect of the universe and, in a measure, do that which is required of us, to help build up this great world of which we are so infinitesimal a part.

Respectfully,

GEORGE KLINCK.

Elmira, August 1st, 1903.

Enterprising Elmira.

The Village of Elmira.

ELMIRA as known to-day and as depicted in this book, leaves few traces of the fine hardwood forests and verdant cedar swamps, which, less than three quarters of a century ago, together with the hills and valleys, the brooks, streams and ponds, served to make up the natural landscape. The axe of the pioneer woodman and its seething ally, the kindled fire, have long overthrown and devoured the giants of the forest which stood on the spot where this fine village now stands. Odd specimens of these fine trees, are still to be found amongst the wooded reserves, which prudent farmers have spared, although the bulk of what we now are pleased to designate woods, is made up of smaller trees which in the young days of Elmira were but striplings.

To-day these few woods or groves, which are still to be found within the bounds of the village corporation, although comparatively naked and tame, are beauty spots which should be reverently held from destruction.

True, there are, within easy distance, more pretentious woods which have yielded less to the influence of civilization, and these lend a beauty to the landscape, which is admired by all. These woods are the one thing, above all others, that stamps the district surrounding Elmira, as the domicile of a thrifty, careful, thoughtful people, who, although they have fine houses, large barns, excellent stables, good fences, herds of cattle, stalls of horses and flocks of sheep and swine to testify to their standing within the front ranks of the best agriculturists in the world, have not allowed their greed to totally rob the future of its natural beauty and their progeny of building and burning material.

Amongst these plots of forest and their denuded counter plots, there settled early in the past century, a number of those hardy, sinewy, rough and ready pioneers who, as it were, knocked off the the rough corners of savagery and opened the paths of the wilderness to civilization.

Amongst these were the Mackies, the Halfpennys, Mr. Gas, the Seatons, the Bristows, the Isenhouers, Mr. Streeter, the Kemings, the Thompsons, the Thomases, the Johnsons, the Gurlings, Mr. Peterson, Mr. Ed. Bayne, the Walkers, Mr. Sauder, Jonas Winger, and others. Most of these were either English or Irish. Amongst the first Germans, who came to this neighborhood were the Oswalds, the Esches, the Stofflers, the Treisingers, the Brauns and Shedewitzes. This was late in the former half and early in the latter half of the nineteenth century.

The "blazed" pathways had already given way to a cleared highway, which had been extended from Preston and Hespeler (New Hope) through Berlin and Waterloo, to the northern part of the Township of Woolwich, up towards Arthur. Crossing this, running east and west, was another road. This, afterwards, became the Guelph-Elmira gravel road - subsidized by the Government, graded and gravelled so thoroughly that it still holds its reputation as one of the best gravel roads in the country.

In these early times, certainly, it was different. By aid of corduroy logging, brush wood heaps, improvised bridges and a wonderful amount of patience and endurance, it was possible to transport the products of the soil, sent as they were, southward to Preston and Hespeler, even to Dundas and Hamilton, there to be transported further by rail or boat, and to bring back the stern necessities and the scanty luxuries of a primitive existence.

It was then Bristow, who farm now of Joseph Ernst, first limit of Elmira open a store, tavern, and also became his office - Bristow's or wich.

A year or post-office ferred to

Hotel, which had been built in the meantime, and which stood under the name of "The Anglo-American Hotel" on the site at present occupied by the Zilliox House, until five years ago, when it, together with the old Union Hotel, was destroyed by fire.

Mr. Christmann who had emigrated from Germany, was a blacksmith by trade and had previously erected a small shop on the spot where now stands the brick smithy of Mr. David Hollinger. He was energetic and enterprising and did a good business. In a long, low frame building, which stood on the site at present occupied by Klinek's Jewelry Store - a portion of this building is still standing on the adjacent lot - Mr. Bristow continued to keep store and Mr. Adam Zilliox kept an Hotel. The embryo Village, which then consisted of this building and one or two others, received a new name. It was named



The Anglo-American Hotel.

that a Mr. lived on the occupied by Mr. on the south- the corpora- undertook to a shoe shop, a potashery, He postmaster, ing known as West Wool-

two later the was trans- Christmann's

Elmira on the 22nd of February 1853. On this day there was born a child to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Martin. The child was named Clara and is now wife of Mr. Sebastian Schwalm, of Guelph. Mr. and Mrs. Martin are at present living at Glenallan, Ont.

The first white child born in Elmira was Mr. Walter Bristow, whose birth occurred in a small log house, which stood where now stands the exhibition building of the Woolwich Agricultural Society. Mr. Bristow now lives near Spruce Grove, Alberta. Mrs. John Stork, of Elmira, is the oldest person yet living at Elmira, who was born here.

The first house built in Elmira was a small frame building which still stands in the rear of Dunke's block, serving as a ware-house,



The Oldest Dwelling House in Elmira.

while the oldest house, yet serving for a dwelling, stands opposite the O'Donnell House and is occupied by Mrs. D. C. Lueckhardt.

The oldest brick house was erected in 1856. It now belongs to Mr. John R. Ruppel, whose father, Mr. Casper Ruppel, built it.



Residence of John R. Ruppel.

It is still well preserved and attractive in appearance.

At the beginning of the last half of the 19th century Elmira began to experience a decided improvement. The number of inhabitants increased. There came the Ruppels, John, Casper and Charles, Geo. Baetz, Adam and Charles Klinek, Chr. Welmes, John D. Reising, A. Jennings, Nicolas Weitzel and many others.

The opening country surrounding, demand-

ed a business centre and this Elmira soon commenced to be. The influx of residents was greater than the dwelling accommodation and a series of brick buildings were rapidly erected. Amongst these were St. Paul's Lutheran parsonage, Mrs. Koerber's, Mr. Conrad Hahn's residences and the Ontario House. The brick used in the erection of these were manufactured by Mr. John Ruppel. Mechanics and tradesmen made their appearance and soon the young town grew and earned the name which we thus late give it—"Enterprising Elmira." It easily outdistanced its competitors in becoming the centre of attraction for the settlers of a large tract of country, whose success at farming had created a demand for a market for their produce as well as an opening for mercantile enterprise. Elmira became an important centre for the traffic which the increasing settlers' trade demanded. Tired horses with mud laden wagons brought in the supplies from Dundas, Hamilton, Preston and later Berlin. Messrs. Winger & Weaver—Peter Winger and Samuel Weaver—commenced business as merchants and later as woollen manufacturers. Mr. Isaac Wenger, a tailor, formed a partnership with Mr. John Ruppel. They erected the Elmira House, now remodelled and known as Dunke's Block and did a large business there. Later they dissolved partnership and each carried on business for himself. Mr. Wenger in the old stand and Mr. Ruppel in a frame building that stood where now the post office is situated. The Woollen factory did a large trade, and added a "mulley" saw to its machinery. The Elmira Flouring Mills were erected and the village enjoyed a steady growth. A sash and door factory was started by Mr. Hiram Martin and two asheries were in operation. Mr. Wm. Wachsmuth, Mr. Jas. Nicol, Mr. Joshua Bowman and others came and start-



Postmaster J. Ruppel, a resident for 50 years.



Charles Klinek, Forty-nine years a resident of Elmira.

ed by Mr. Hiram Martin and two asheries were in operation. Mr. Wm. Wachsmuth, Mr. Jas. Nicol, Mr. Joshua Bowman and others came and started in business. Wm. Ellis, Mathias Kieffer, Conrad Rau, Henry Voelker, Brook Markle and Geo. Vogt were amongst the landlords of the various hotels.

The Elmira monthly Fair day was instituted and has kept its prestige ever since.

The usual ups and downs of business-life were encountered, nevertheless, the village gained in beauty and solidity and reached the per-

stood in need of improvements, which it was impossible to obtain as part of the municipality of Woolwich Township, an effort was made to incorporate the village. This was successful accomplished. The limits were defined, the charter obtained in December, 1886, and the first municipal officers were elected. These were: John Ratz, Reeve; August Blatz, John Ruppel, Henry Winger and Henry Dunke, Councillors. Mr. John H. Ruppel was appointed Clerk and Mr. Jacob Dunke, Treasurer. Both have held their offices to this day. The first Assessor was Mr. D. Levan. The Board of Health consisted of Messrs. Chas. Klueck,



Elmira House erected in 1861.



Fire Hall.



Fair-Day Scene.

iod which is closely identified with some of the business-men and enterprises of which the following pages are in a measure descriptive.

Elmira still was part of Woolwich and as such received only its percentage of the levied taxes. Improvements such as a growing village demands, could not be made with the funds available. Many necessary outlays such as the building of sidewalks, etc., were paid by private subscription. A fire hall and engine—the only fire-protection Elmira has to-day—were secured with funds raised in this manner.

In the year 1886, after it had become painfully evident that Elmira

J. B. Winger, R. Jackson and the Reeve and Clerk, while Dr. Walmsley was Medical Health Officer and Mr. Reuben Winger, Constable.

The population consisted of 760 souls and the total assessment amounted to \$87,000. At the time of writing (1903) the assessment amounts to \$343,000 and the population to 1350. The tax rate was then all told, 8 mills in the dollar. Now it is 13½ mills. This is a very low rate considering the number and extent of the improvements made and the aid given to manufacturing industries.

Three years after incorporation (1889) a bonus of \$10,000 was grant-

ed to the Waterloo Junction branch of the Grand Trunk Railway. Twenty year debentures were issued to meet this obligation.

Elmira continued to be the business centre of the community, grew in population, business enterprises and wealth. Citizens came and went. Things prospered slowly but surely, until the effects of the great commercial depression that swept all Canada, some six or eight years ago, became apparent here also, although the general thrift and caution of the citizens, greatly modified the severity of the consequences. A dozen or more houses became vacant and it became evident that there was a lack of industries, wherein employment could be secured by the laboring class. As a result of agitation by the press, a Board of Trade was organized and it needed only organized efforts to devise means to improve the condition of things. But it must be said,



The Late Reeve John Ratze.

The late Reeve JOHN RATZE, who was one of the leading spirits in the railroad agitation as well as in the movement to incorporate the Village of Elmira, was born in the town of Waterloo 70 years ago. He purchased a farm near Elmira in 1855, which he disposed of 26 years ago and removed to Elmira. He was elected the first Reeve of Elmira in the year 1887 and died while in office the next year.

that the immediate relief was due to the organization of a number of citizens who subscribed capital to the amount of \$16,000 to convert the Winger Woollen Mills, which had practically discontinued work, into a felt factory. This gave employment to a number of persons and although financially a failure it was the means of awakening the lethargy of the citizens and to bring them to realize what it meant to be without manufacturing industries. To institute this factory for the purpose of upholding the village, was a laudable enterprise, but it was less great an action than that which followed. In the face of the jeers of the "overwise" and the doleful forebodings of the "over-conservative," agitation for manufacturing industries continued. When a proposal to organize a new Company for the manufacture of felt footwear was made, practically the same people who had suffered loss in the other factory, subscribed stock to the new. A bonus of \$5,000 was vot-

ed to this factory. This was in the year 1900. The success of the factory has been phenomenal. The Elmira Agricultural Works Co. was granted exemption from taxation in 1901 and in the present year a loan of \$10,000 was granted to the Elmira Furniture Co. which is erecting a three storey brick factory of large dimensions. The result of these enterprises is that many new houses are being built this year and that many more will be wanted.

It was here that Elmira earned a right to adopt the by-word "Enterprising" which has entered into the title of this book. Last year a by-law was adopted setting aside \$2500 for granolithic sidewalks, which are now built and add much to the appearance of the village. The streets are lighted by electricity and the much neglected question of fire protection is receiving proper attention.

"GRANDMA" TAYLOR — for by that term she is known in Elmira — was born at Tower Nook, Arbroath, Scotland, September the 26th, 1810, and is therefore in her 93rd year. She remembers the Third George and the coronations of the four succeeding English sovereigns. She came to Canada in 1836 and remembers the Mackenzie and Papineau rebellion. She has 8 children, 36 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.



Grandma Taylor and her great-grandson.

With a view of establishing waterworks, the Council has drillers at work prospecting for a flow of fresh water. A waterworks committee consisting of the Village Council and Messrs. A. H. Erb, A. Werner, J. S. Weichel and J. P. Luckhardt are attending to the matter.

Income and disbursements have increased. The requisition for school purposes amounts alone to \$2200. Nevertheless, the rate of taxation is low and as some of the obligations will shortly expire, prospects are that it will so remain for some time to come.

The provision of proper dwelling room for the mechanics and laborers, which will be wanted for the newly organized and present growing manufacturing establishments, will tax the capitalists and builders to their utmost for some time to come. The taxes that will be levied on the property that has sprung into existence as a direct result of the bonuses, will more than repay the outlay made to gain the

manufacturing industries on whose account the grants were made. The commercial enterprises of Elmira, while fully equal to the requirements, are well founded, while the moral and educational interests are being properly fostered and guarded.

THE ELMIRA BOARD OF TRADE.

THE ELMIRA BOARD OF TRADE was organized on the 11th of Feb., 1895, with the object of promoting such measures as might tend to develop the general trade and commerce, and the manufacturing and agricultural interests of the village. Thirty-seven members were enrolled.

The officers for the first year were Dr. Ulyot, President; Geo. Klinck, Vice-President; L. P. Snyder, Secretary; P. Mattusch, S. Laschinger, Dr. Hay, M. H. Hemmerich, S. A. Brubacher and M. L. Weber, Councillors. The Board of Trade has exerted a decided influence. It has been the means of setting into motion most of the measures that have subsequently proven to be beneficial to the Village, and is a strong ally to the Municipal Council, representing, as it does, the business element of the village to a much greater degree than does the latter.

Elmira is one of the smallest communities in Ontario that has a regularly organized Board of Trade. Following are the present officers:



C. W. Schierholtz, Director.



Geo. Klinck, Director.



J. S. Weichel, Pres.



W. H. Otto, Vice-Pres.



A. Werner, Secretary.



S. Laschinger, Director.



L. A. Jannet, Director.



N. McPhail, Director.

The Elmira

Board of Trade.



W. J. Reynolds, Director.



A. H. Erb, Director.



E. H. McMicking, Director.



A. J. Kimbol, Director.



R. J. Hall, Director.



THE ELMIRA PUBLIC SCHOOL HOUSE.

THE ELMIRA PUBLIC SCHOOL building was erected in the year 1883, at a cost of \$88,000, by School Section No. 4, Woolwich, which consisted, as it now does, of the Village of Elmira, (then unincorporated) and part of Woolwich Township. The trustees at that time were Messrs. P. Jansen, H. Groff and J. Bingeman. In 1880, after Elmira had been incorporated, the boundaries of the Section remained unaltered. It received the name of "The Elmira Union School Section" and has since been maintained, on the joint account of its two

fractions, the relative percentage being based on the assessment of property. At the beginning the percentage stood—Elmira 55, Woolwich 45. The latest distribution places the relative percentage at 58 and 42.

Encircling the School House is a plot of land of 3 acres, part of which has been planted with hedges and trees which add much to the appearance of the grounds. The remaining portion has been reserved for a playground. The school house is equipped with all necessary convenience and contains seven rooms, six of which are, at present, in use.

Educational.

BEVER since the old log school house which, early in the forties, stood, in utter disregard of the compass or the plans and designs of the surveyor, on the principal thoroughfare of Elmira, directly on the spot where Arthur Street and Church Street cross, between the Zilliox House and Dunke's Block, educational matters have received considerable attention at the hands of leading citizens, and this not without reward. The splendid eight-roomed, brick school house, of the present day, with its spacious grounds and well kept lawn, its fine modern desks and furniture, its complete display of illustrative charts and maps and its energetic staff of six teachers, is a standing tribute to the deep and earnest interest with which educational matters have been regarded by the people of Elmira and vicinity.

The first teacher in Elmira was a Mr. Metzger who, in the primitive manner then in vogue, did his part towards "preventing ignorance." Many of his pupils came long distances, along the roads and paths leading to the primitive homes of the early settlers, attended school only a short portion of the year and "graduated" at a stage of intellectual development, which at the present time is encountered only in the lower forms of the curriculum. Nevertheless the foundation of many practically efficient careers were laid there.

Keeping pace with the onward march of civilization, school matters soon assumed more modern methods, the log school house was superseded by a brick cottage, which stood on the grounds at present occupied by the Elmira Agricultural Works, and which was the alma mater of many of the business men and farmers of Elmira and vicinity. Later this school house was used only as the first division of a more

elaborate system in which the building now in use as a machine shop by the Elmira Agricultural Works Co., served for the highest and medium classes. Later still, the old Methodist Church, built in 1855, having been discarded by the growing congregation who then erected the present edifice on Arthur Street, was acquired and used as a fourth division.

From the advent of Mr. Geo. W. Woodward, an energetic, high-minded and well qualified young man, who had enjoyed the advantages of a thorough education at the Toronto Normal School, under the able principalship of Dr. Sangster, dates the prestige of the Elmira School.

Under Mr. Woodward's guidance the pupils of the school rose to a prominent place amongst those in the County of Waterloo. In the days of competitive examinations, there seldom appeared a list of successful candidates in which the names of Elmira pupils could not be found at or very near the top. Mr. Woodward was a man of stern discipline, beloved by the diligent and conscientious and feared by the miscreant. His influence was decidedly elevating, his enthusiasm was inspiring and carried with it the best elements of the young characters, which to mould had been destined his work. He was passionately fond of music and the whole community reaped the benefit of his decided talent in this respect. Of an

exceedingly volatile and nervous temperament, his interest in the school and his pupils became so intense that he found the work preying on his nervous system to an extent which, in the year 1876, after a term of nearly fifteen years during which period he transformed the standing of the school from one of the lowest in the County to one of the highest, induced him to resign his position and to seek other employment. This he found, as excise officer at Waterloo, a position which he has filled very efficiently and which he is to-day occupying. His pupils, who, as a rule, have done well in their various chosen spheres, many



Mr. Geo. W. Woodward



Mr. David Bean

having distinguished themselves far beyond ordinary, look back upon their school days with a sense of gratitude towards the noble efforts of their teacher. Mr. Woodward still enjoys fairly good health. His love of and talent for music is at present finding expression in the leadership of a very efficient amateur orchestra, which does much to enliven the declining days of an honorable and useful career.

Following Mr. Woodward, in August 1876, came Mr. David Bean, now editor of the Waterloo Chronicle-Telegraph, a worthy successor to a successful master, with similar intellectual tastes and aspirations, and with a record of efficiency and usefulness of which any teacher might be proud. Increasing intelligence and facilities opened for him a path wide and long, and he proved himself equal to the occasion. He maintained the enviable record of the school, regulated the now increased sub-divisions, with marked success, and found time and opportunity for the employment of his talents in the general welfare of the village. An appeal to him at times when Elmira stood in need of social or educational institutions, never came back empty handed. He was a leader in musical and literary circles and did much towards maintaining an interest in elevating and ennobling pastimes. His intentions were good, his ideas broad-minded and his influence refining. In the year 1888, he saw fit to resign his position to take charge of the Waterloo Chronicle newspaper office. He has since acquired the Berlin Telegraph also, and is making a success of both. The citizens of Waterloo have recognized his worth and have elected him Mayor of the town several years in succession.

Mr. Bean's successor was Mr. Moses Dippel, who held the position only a short time. He was followed by Mr. J. A. Harper, now teacher at Guelph, a young gentleman of marked ability, who carried on the work of the school on much the same lines, leaving a very creditable record behind. On the resignation of Mr. Harper, Mr. T. G. Baker, now engaged in the office of a Toronto commercial institution, took charge of the school and kept it up to the standard. He resigned his position in 1901 and was followed by Mr. J. Corrigan, whose faithful efforts have resulted in a very fair record for the Elmira school. The annual reports of the County High School Entrance examinations have shown that during his principalship, Elmira pupils have stood very high in the lists of successful candidates. At the term just closed, sixteen out of the

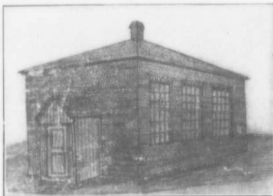
twenty Elmira pupils who wrote at the entrance examinations, passed.

Mr. Corrigan is a native of the city of Hamilton. He enjoyed the advantages of a thorough education at the Model and Normal Schools and taught a number of years in various schools of Oxford and Brant Counties. He was three years examiner at Hamilton, on the County Model School Board. Later he taught at Alma, in Wellington County. The good work done by him there attracted the attention of the trustees of the Elmira School, when the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Baker, occurred.

Prior to incorporation, the Elmira Union School Section was known as S. S. No. 4, Woolwich, and comprised, as it now does, the lands composing the Village of Elmira, as well as a portion of the surrounding country. This circumstance is very advantageous to the rate-payers of the latter, since it affords them all the facilities of a properly graded course of training which they could not have if left to maintain an independent section. The number of pupils whose names are now on the school roll is about four hundred.

German Schools.

The desirability of maintaining a proper knowledge of the mother tongue of the descendants of Teutonic parents, so that they might be thoroughly conversant with the German language which is still exclusively used in the services of the Lutheran churches, is apparent. Recognizing the work as part of their pastoral duties, the ministers of both St. James and St. Pauls congregations have maintained a course of instruction which is largely taken advantage of and which has proven to be very useful. St. Pauls church utilizes Monday for this purpose, while St. James takes advantage of the Saturday vacation. Both schools are largely attended and are productive of much good. Instead of being a hindrance to their progress, experience has shown that these German lessons are really a help to pupils attending the public schools. A comparison of the respective attainments of pupils who have and who have not attended these lessons, will bear us out in this assertion. Besides the help thus gained by these pupils, they have the advantage of a thorough grounding in the faith of their fathers, the lack of which opportunity for the youth of our country has been the subject of much discussion and regret, at recent meetings of many church bodies, who recognize their failings in this respect.



The Old Brick School House.
(Drawn from Memory.)

In the year 1874, St. Pauls Lutheran Congregation decided to institute a separate school. After the summer vacation of that year the school was opened with Mr. Gotthilf Ernst, son of Rev. A. Ernst who was at that time pastor of the church, as teacher. After an existence of several years the school was discontinued.

Amongst those who taught in Elmira in the earlier days were Mr. W. Thomas, Miss Corintha Johnson, (now Mrs. J. M. Muir) Waterloo, Mr. J. M. Muir, Mr. P. Sims, Mr. Jesse Bowman, Mr. Albert Woodward, M. D., Miss Woodward, Miss Hambly, Miss Stinson, Miss Hannah Thompson, (now Mrs. Hostetter, Wellesley), Miss Jameison, (now at Galt), Miss Letson, (now Mrs. Frank Snider, West Montrose), Mr. Sylvester Moyer, (now Dentist, Galt), Mr. Harvey Welliver, (deceased), Miss Woodward, Mr. Henderson, Miss Crozier, Miss E. Watson, Miss McKercher, Miss Niebel, Miss Coote, Miss Renshaw, Miss Frazer, (now Mrs. Dr. Rutherford), and others.



J. Corrigan.
Principal of the Elmira Public School.



The School House which was sold to Messrs Jansen & Merner to be used as a foundry, when the School House now in use was completed.

THE PRESENT STAFF of teachers of the Elmira Public School consists of: J. Corrigan, Principal, and the Misses M. E. Hill, E. S. Reynolds, B. J. Hamilton, M. J. Jamieson and M. A. Gordon.

Officers of the Elmira Public Library.



Geo. Klink, Director.



W. H. Otto, Director.



C. W. Schierholtz, Director.



Wm. Behrens, Director



S. H. Ratz, Director.



A. H. Erb, President



F. A. Kerr, Secretary.



D. D. Ratz, Treasurer.

Trustees of Elmira Union School Section.



John S. Miller,
Trustee.



Christian Eech,
Trustee.



George Holzwarth,
Trustee.



S. Lauchinger, Secretary.



J. P. Luckhardt, Chairman.

Mr. Sydney Weber of Woolwich, whose portrait we could not procure, is also a Trustee of Elmira Union School Section.

The Elmira Public Library.

THE nucleus of the Elmira Public Library, which now has 103 members, contains over 3000 volumes valued at \$2063, and which enjoyed a circulation of 2558 books during the last year, was laid as early as the year 1885. In the winter evenings of that year a number of the young men of Elmira met and discussed the advisability of organizing a Society, the objects of which were to be, principally, the study of German and English literature, debating and entertaining and the dissemination of reading matter amongst its members. The organization was duly effected and a membership of 18 or 20 enrolled. Mr. Geo. Klinek was elected President, Mr. William Weidenhammer Vice-President, and Mr. Hy. Delion, Secretary. The rooms now occupied by The Signet printing office, were secured for the meetings. There being no funds at hand, it was decided that a Library be commenced with the books in possession of the individual members, each placing his stock at the disposal of the Society, for circulation. The first call for these books brought eight volumes. These were labelled and put into circulation.

The Society prospered and did good work, gradually installed a little furniture, and added a few books to its library. With the funds derived from the proceeds of a series of well patronized public entertainments, given by the Society, suitable books were purchased and book cases procured. An organ was purchased and used to enliven the weekly programs of the Society. After an existence of about three years, the value of the Society's library amounted to about \$60.00.

Liberal aid to Libraries, from the Government, being then available, a proposal was made to further augment the usefulness of this Library, by presenting it towards the establishment of a "Mechanics' Institute," a name by which these institutions were then known and under which

they received very liberal aid and encouragement out of a special fund, provided by the Ontario Government, for that purpose.

A meeting of citizens was called, a subscription list circulated and finally, in the year 1888, a Mechanics' Institute was formally organized, with 102 members. The first officers were Geo. Klinek, President, D. Bean, Vice-President, and A. Werner, Secretary. The Germania Society's rooms, furniture and outfit were secured, and the library of the Germania Society, together with a number of new volumes, were placed on the shelves of the book room. A Reading Room was established and the Elmira Mechanics' Institute began

to flourish. A live interest was maintained by the citizens. Advantage was taken of the Government grants to evening classes. The evening art classes taught by Messrs. D. Bean, Geo. Klinek and J. A. Harper, respectively, were well attended and unusually successful. The Bronze Medal given for the highest stage of proficiency in these subjects, throughout Ontario, was taken by Elmira pupils three years in succession. Later, less attention was paid to evening classes and the Institute gradually relapsed to its function of distributor of reading matter. The Reading Room, in connection, is well provided with the leading newspapers and periodicals and enjoys a good patronage. Thus far, private subscription fees have supplied the funds required to uphold the con-

ditions upon which the Government grant depends. The time, however, when the maintenance of this useful institution will be made one of the duties of the municipality, seems not far distant.

The Government grant this year amounts to \$233.10, less any necessary pro rata reduction. The officers for the present year are:

- President—A. H. Erb.
- Secretary—Frank A. Kerr.
- Treasurer—D. D. Ratz.
- Directors—S. H. Ratz, W. H. Otto, W. M. Behrens, C. W. Schierholtz and Geo. Klinek.



Interior of Elmira Public Library.

Elmira's Municipal Officers.



Henry Dunke, Councillor



M. L. Weber,
Councillor.



John H. Ruppel, Clerk.



Chas. L. Klineck
Councillor.



Jacob Dunke, Treasurer.



T. Sherrington,
Councillor.



Dan. Hatz, Reeve.

Woolwich Municipal Officers.



James Howlet,
Reeve.



J. J. Wilkinson,
Councillor.



Sol. Koch,
Councillor



John L. Wileman, Clerk.



Adam Mattusch,
Councillor.



John S. Kuhl,
Councillor.



Addison B. Snyder,
Treasurer.

Directors of the Elmira Musical Society.



W. H. Otto, Director.



W. Pfaff, Director.



Dr. Ratz, Director.



Geo. Hehn, President.



W. J. Reynolds, Vice President.



C. N. Klinek, Sec'y.



Wm. Behrens, Treas.



M. Schumaker, Director



F. A. Kerr, Director.



J. S. Weichel, Director

County Officers and Court Clerk.



Leander Bowman,
County Councillor for
Woolwich and Elmira



Alex. Peterson,
Warden of Waterloo Co.
Representative for
Woolwich and Elmira.



W. H. Winkler,
District Court Clerk,
St. Jacobs

Elmira, being situated in Woolwich Township, which is one of the original divisions of Waterloo County, is represented in the County Council, jointly with the Township. The district composed of these two municipalities is known as District No. 7. The two representatives for this district are Mr. Alex. Peterson, this year Warden of the County, and Mr. Leander Bowman. In Dominion Parliament, and Legislative Assembly elections, Elmira and Woolwich have hitherto belonged to North Waterloo which is now represented by Mr. J. E. Seagram and Dr. H. G. Lackner, respectively. A short time ago the Redistribution Bill grouped these municipalities with the southern portion of the County, and the most northern part of Waterloo County will henceforth be known as part of South Waterloo.

The District Court still remains at St. Jacobs, where it was located before Elmira was incorporated. Mr. W. H. Winkler is District Court Clerk.

Musical and Social.

The Elmira Musical Society.

AS MAY be surmised, when it is known that the great majority of Elmira's citizens are of German descent, music is a predominant feature in their social intercourse. Their inborn

love of music finds expression in play and song of a high order in their homes and churches and in their entertainments. Since the year 1873, when the first brass band was organized, there have been few years, indeed, when Elmira has not counted amongst its institutions a good band or orchestra, or both.

With the object of furthering the interests of music and regulating the movements of an organized band, the Elmira Musical Society was organized in the year 1892. This Society now has over 100 members who pay a fee annually. It controls the largest hall in the village, and receives a grant from the village Council.

The movements of the band are controlled by the Society. Engagements entered into, in the neighboring towns and villages, by them, are invariably satis-

factory, since wherever the Elmira Musical Society's Band goes, there will be good music, good song and good cheer.

The Society has been fortunate in the choice of their leader, Mr. Henry Restorff, of New York, a director of international reputation, under whose leadership the band has made excellent progress. Of Mr. Restorff's career as a musician, a New York Musical sheet says:—

"Mr. Henry Restorff, the Conductor of the Metropolitan Concert Band, is one of the best known musicians in Greater New York. He was born at Reudsburg, Germany, in 1858, at which place he commenced his musical studies at the age of 7 years under the best masters in Europe. In 1873 he accepted his first professional engagement at the 'Stadt-Theatre' in Kiel. His talents were quickly recognized and other important engagements soon followed. He filled an engagement at the principal Theatre in Munich, after which he transferred his services to Hamburg, Colonia and many other large European cities. In 1880 Mr. Restorff came to the United States to add to the



THE ELMIRA MUSICAL SOCIETY'S BAND.

HENRY RESTORFF, Director.

E. Vollick, Geo. Pfaff, Henry Pfaff, W. Schierholtz, M. Schumaker,
 Paul Ruppel, P. Stumpf, Dr. Kallehelsch, S. Vosl, Amasa Winger, Dr. Ratz,
 Fred Jackson, B. Trussler, D. Vollick, C. Treisinger, A. Pfaff, H. Dichter, Oscar Huppel
 W. Heckendorf, Gordon Witt, John Hoderich, Henry Weichel, Henry Strone.



Henry Restorf.

laurels already won abroad. Since coming to this country he has been associated with its Greatest Concert Bands, such as "Theodore Thomas Orchestra," "Innis' Band," "Liberati's & Brooke's Chicago Marine Band." During the entire Chicago Exposition he was connected with the famous "Liesegang's World Exposition Band." Not yet satisfied that he had mastered his profession, he returned to Germany in 1887 and took a course in Harmony Conservatory, under Professor Angelo Reissland. Since returning to this country he has held the position of Bandmaster with prominent bands in Iowa, Nebraska and Chicago. Mr. Restorf then returned to New York to accept the Assistant Conductorship of the English Grand Opera Co. He is a soloist on different instruments, an excellent Con-

ductor, and has composed many stirring marches and other characteristic pieces. Since coming to Elmira he has composed several pieces. Prominent amongst these is "The Elmira Old Boys' Reunion March" which will be played by the Elmira and Waterloo Bands, on Aug. 12th and 13th. Mr. Restorf has also arranged the March for the piano. Connoisseurs say these are very creditable productions.

A GENTLEMAN to whom much credit is due as an instructor in music and as a furtherer of its interests, in Elmira, is Mr. John H. Ruppel, who was the director of the Elmira Band and leader of the "Maennerchor" and St. Paul's Choir for many years. His many other duties as Village Clerk and Conveyancer forced him to resign some of these charges. However, he still holds the position of organist at St. Paul's Church.

Mr. Ruppel has been clerk of Elmira ever since incorporation. He has discharged his duties with great ability and a good deal of tact, and has been a very decided help to the council, throughout his term of office. He is the oldest son of Post Master Ruppel, was born and educated in Elmira and has lived here all his life.

AMATEUR ORCHESTRAS, Glee Clubs, Manner-chorus and Singing Societies have come and gone, and although these may not be regularly maintained, Elmira is never at a loss to procure local musical talent, for special occasions.



John H. Ruppel



The Elmira Picnic Grounds in the Winter.

The Societies.

Independent Order of Oddfellows, Elmira Lodge No. 216,

Was instituted Feb. 12th, 1879 with the following officers:— Noble Grand, A. E. Minkler; Vice Grand, D. L. Walmsley; Rec. Secretary, Jac. Dunke; Per. Secretary, Ph. Christmann; Treasurer, Peter Levan. The Lodge meets at their Hall in Dunke's Block every Wednesday. There are now 43 members. The present officers are:— Past Grand, Dr. J. H. Ratz; Noble Grand, Dr. H. M. Kallfoisch; Vice Grand, David D. Ratz; Rec. Secretary, C. T. Laschinger; Per. Secretary, Geo. Ratz; Treasurer, Wm. Behrens.

"Banner" Rebekah Lodge, No. 72, I. O. O. F.

Was instituted March 19th, 1903, meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month. The officers for the first year are:— I. P. N. G., Miss E. Luckhardt; Noble Grand, Mrs. J. A. Schroder; Vice Grand, Mrs. A. Moses; Rec. Secretary, Mrs. H. Ulyott; Per. Secretary, Miss E. A. Dunke; Treasurer, Mrs. M. L. Welby.

Royal Arcanum, No. 1409, Woolwich Council,

Organized April 23rd, 1895, meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month with the following officers:— Regent, Wm. Pfaff; Vice Regent, Wm. Schlitt; Secretary, C. T. Laschinger; Collector, L. A. Jeannerette; Treasurer, Sol. Laschinger.

Chosen Friends.

Past Chief Councillor, L. A. Jeannerette; Chief Councillor, S. Laschinger; Secretary, I. Hilborn; Treasurer, A. B. Snider.

The Elmira Horticultural Society.

THE ELMIRA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY, was established in the year 1900. It has 52 members and has done much to promote interest in horticulture and in the beautifying of homes. The Society meets monthly, holds annually, public meetings where lectures are given by competent speakers, encourages interest in fruit and flower culture by granting prizes at flower shows and distributes plants, trees and literature amongst its members. The Officers for the current year are: S. Lasehinger, President; Mrs. A. Ziegler, 1st Vice-Pres.; R. B. Martin, 2nd Vice-Pres.; C. W. Schierholtz, Secretary; O. M. Umisach, Mrs. A. H. Erb, Mrs. A. K. Dumke, Mrs. M. L. Weber, Mrs. H. G. Ruppel and Geo. Klinek, Directors.



The Church Street Iron Bridge, as seen from the south, with a glimpse of Klinek's Picnic Bush below the Bridge.



View at the "Bend" on the Canagagigue River.



Hay-making as it is done with Machinery manufactured by "The Elmira Agricultural Works Company." This scene was photographed on Mr. Peter Miller's farm, (The Jas. Kenning Place,) Elmira.

Elmira's Residences.

THE solid, well built, beautiful houses of Elmira, with their flower laden windows, their neat and well kept lawns, their smooth shorn evergreen hedges, the accompanying symmetrical fruit and shade trees and the fertile, well cultivated gardens are objects that provoke favorable comment from all who favor our town with a visit.

One cannot but admire the sentiment underlying these outward signs, the sentiment that prompts this desire for possessing attractive, well regulated and beautiful homes. If this trait is due to the predominating German element of our population, it must be said in justice to those of our citizens of other nationalities, that the Germans have by no means a monopoly of this desirable quality.

Over seventy-five per cent. of the houses in Elmira are owned by those who live in them. Amongst owners and tenants there appears to be a goodnatured rivalry in the appointment of their houses and the care of their lawns and premises. The result is an exceedingly pleasing aspect, which at once appeals to strangers who naturally associate with these outward appearances, an industrious, peaceable, intelligent and loyal people in whose company one may expect to be well treated and in whose hands the care of the present and the guidance of the future generation may well be trusted.

The newer portions of the village—in the vicinity of the G. T. R. Station and in the outskirts—particularly, boast of solidity and beauty, not a single frame structure being noticeable there.

A wise and timely move was made by the Village Council several years ago, when they enacted a By-Law prohibiting, within a certain limit, known as the fire limit, the erection of any buildings excepting such as are of brick or iron clad exterior, roofed with iron or other fire-proof material or with shingles laid in mortar or on asbestos sheeting. This measure practically ensures the continued employment of such material as is required for the construction of first-class houses, so that the existing symmetry and solidity of appearance will in future be maintained.

At the time of writing, there is a decided shortage of dwelling room in Elmira, and although a large number of fine residences are in course of construction, it will be some time before the trouble will be removed. However, our citizens are enterprising. A reasonable time will no doubt find them prepared to meet this emergency also.

With commendable enterprise, a number of citizens have already formed themselves into an association, under the name of "The Elmira Real Estate Co.," whose object it is to build houses, to offer these houses for sale at cost price to laboring men, or to let them on easy terms. A number of houses are at present being built under the auspices of this Society and

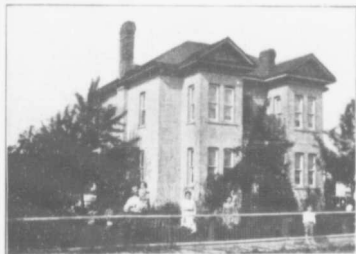
will soon be ready for occupation.

The beautiful white brick, of which most of the houses are built, were made at the Elmira Brick Yards, while those used in the erection of red brick residences were produced within a distance of a few miles.

Few places of its size excel Elmira in the beauty and utility of its residences. In closing this chapter, we point with pride to the following pages which bear illustrations of some of these happy homes.



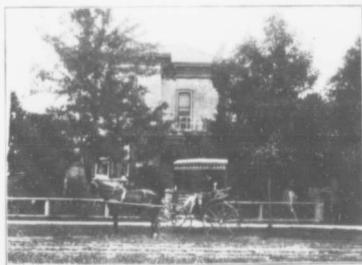
Residence of John S. Weichel.



Residence of M. H. Hemmerich.



Residence of I. Musser.



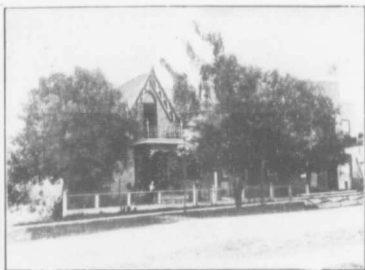
Residence of W. M. Behrens.



Residence of Mrs. Ratz.



Residence of H. G. Ruppel.



Residence of Ph. Christmann.



Residence of J. B. Lein.



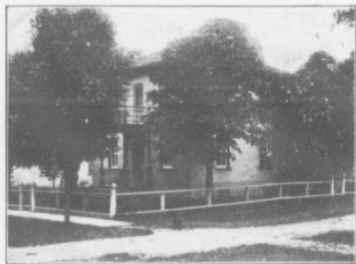
Residence of Thos. Sherrington.



Residence of O. M. Umbach.



Residence of G. W. Schierholtz.



Residence of A. Blatz.



Residence of J. S. Ruppel.



Residence of Mrs. Ziegler.



Residence of George Ratz.



Residence of J. Foerster.

Elmira, as a Home.

ELMIRA, as a home for those who have arrived at that stage of life or fortune when they wish to retire from activity such as youth, energy and ambition demand, has many attractions. The village is situated on an elevation which

affords natural drainage. The surrounding country, although watered by a stream with a number of tributaries, is clear of swamps and bogs which might induce miasmatic or malarial conditions of the atmosphere. The fields are well cultivated, and the aspect is cheerful and prosperous. A drive through the country suggest peace and plenty, goodwill and prosperity.

The village, itself, is clean and attractive. The facilities for travelling are good, two trains, daily, connecting with the main line of the Grand Trunk System at Berlin, and the C. P. R. at Galt and Guelph.

Further, there is the advantage of choice of churches, Protestant and Catholic, English and German. The Elmira public school enjoys an enviable reputation and offers good facilities for the education of the youth of the community. The Public Library and Reading Room afford opportunity for the choice of literature. There is no lack of spirit for musical and social entertainment. The citizens are law abiding and social, showing little of the class distinction so frequently met in larger places. Last, but not least, there is opportunity to obtain employment

in the manufacturing and other industries of the town, by such members of families as wish to obtain it.

The material wants of the citizens are being catered to by a reliable and competent class of merchants and mechanics, a circumstance that is equally advantageous to the retired and the active, working citizens. To the latter class, Elmira has many inducements to offer. The prospects for employment and business are very fair, since these are

neither dependent upon the village alone nor alone upon the surrounding country. The healthy steady and substantial growth of Elmira's manufacturing establishments is a source of hope to the merchant who is anxious to increase his trade. It is also the circumstance upon which the mechanic, artisan and builder bases his future plans.

Encircling Elmira, is one of the best sections of country to be met with. Depending upon the local merchants and mechanics for their supplies, upon the local shippers for distribution, and upon the railway for their shipping facilities, it is but natural that the farmers of a large district should direct their attention hither and form their connections here.

The advantages of rearing a family under the influence of

a healthy climate and situation, in an atmosphere of comparative freedom from the social evils of larger places, while still, necessary and desirable facilities for their proper education exist, are obvious.

It may be said, that the present congestion of the population—which is steadily being relieved by the building of new houses—is in a large measure due to the splendid inducements which Elmira offers, as a home,



Residence of Chas. Klinck, Sr.



Residence of M. Weichel.



Residence of J. W. Ford.



Residence of Wm. Pfaff.



Residence of C. Treisinger.



Residence of Mrs. Jackson.



Residence of Dan. Ratz.



Residence of Chas. Wilken.



Residence of Mrs. Vogt.



Residence of Wm. Brox.



Residence of S. Luschinger.



Residence of A. Werner.



Residence of S. H. Ratz.



Residence of C. Ziegler.



Residence of A. H. Erb.



Residence of H. J. Gibson.



Residence of George Jung.



Residence of L. A. Jeanneret.



Residence of J. P. Luckhardt.



Residence of J. Foerster.



Residence of H. Winger.



Residence of Ph. Struck.



Residence of A. J. Kimmel.



Residence of George Klinek.



Residence of Osear Ruppel.



Residence of I. Hilborn.



Residence of Chas. N. Klinck.



Residence of A. K. Dunke.



Residence of J. Dunke.



Residence of John H. Ruppel.



Residence of George Auman.



Residence of M. L. Weber.



Birds-eye view of Elmin.

(seen from Mrs. Batz's residence.)

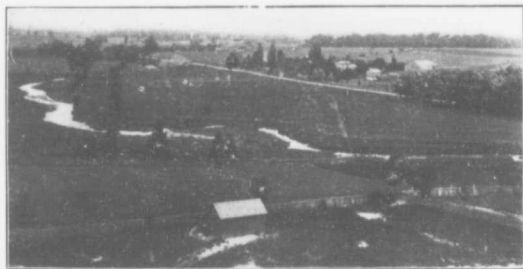
Four Views from the roof of the Elmira Public School House.



Looking South East.



Looking East.



Looking North East



Looking South West.



View of King St.,—southward.



A view of Elmira, as seen from the southern limits, northward.



A view of the eastern portion of Elmira Corporation, as seen from the roof of a house on the southern boundary.



View of Arthur St.,—southward.

Amongst the Churches, Ministers and Parsonages.

FORTUNATE is Elmira, in the matter of facilities for Christian worship, no less than seven denominations being represented here, each denomination having an edifice of its own. The citizens of Elmira are a church going people, as are the neighboring farmers who are comparatively regular in their attendance at the Sabbath gatherings.

In number the Lutherans predominate, there being two well appointed churches, with large congregations, of that faith. The largest of these churches is St. Paul's, which was erected in 1853. It is solidly built of white brick. A year ago its interior was beautifully decorated in oil painting, and it now presents a fine appearance, the colors being harmonious and pleasing in the extreme, the whole possessing a cosiness and attractiveness that is seldom encountered even in larger places. Four hundred people can be comfortably



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

seated in its pews. Services are being conducted entirely in the German language, the members being mostly descendants of Lutherans of the Fatherland, who left their country in the earlier half of the century to hew for themselves homes in the virgin lands of Canada. From a small beginning, after affiliation

with the Synod of Missouri, Ohio and other States, in the year 1862, the congregation has steadily grown until it now numbers about one hundred families. The first pastor of the small brick church, which was then erected, was Rev. Wiegman. Later Rev. A. Ernst was chosen. He attended faithfully to the spiritual wants of his flock for nearly 19 years. In 1881 finding his duties, which included the attendance of the Lutheran congregations of Floradale, Linwood and Salem, too arduous for his advanced age, he was forced to resign, making place for Rev. J. Froesch, who ministered to the affiliated charges until a few years previous to his death, when it became evident that the needs of the Elmira congregation were such that a pastor's whole time was required here. In the year 1898 Rev. Froesch died. Then followed Rev. P. Graupner, formerly of Newark, N.Y., who has held the charge up to the time of writing.



Front View of Interior



Rear View of Interior

ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH.

St. James Lutheran congregation, which has worshipped under the pastorate of Rev. A. R. Shultz, during the last quarter century, was the first to be organized in Elmira. Its organization took place about the year 1851, its first church being a log structure which stood on the same site on which now stands the spacious brick edifice where no less than one hundred families, or nearly 500 people, are being ministered to with regular services.

Affiliated with this charge, is the Lutheran congregation of the neighboring village of St. Jacobs where Rev. Shultz also holds services regularly. Conestogo also formerly belonged to this diocese, but of late years this village has become the central point of another district and has a resident minister.

In its infancy, whilst the district surrounding Elmira was undergoing evolution from its wild, uncultured state to one of the finest and most prosperous communities of our fair land, Lutheranism depended principally, for ministration, upon a class of preachers, who had left Germany with the flood of emigration, and whose work and position, as a rule, was not authentic. The results of their labors—hampered as they were by existing conditions—was, therefore, not as satisfactory as might have been wished. Later, the organiz-



St. James Lutheran Church.

ation of a Synod for Canada, with which the Elmira congregation became connected, somewhat alleviated this drawback. Amongst the regularly stationed ministers, who labored in St. James' congregation, previous to the advent of Rev. Shultz in 1878, were Revs. Kaesmann, Rau, Salinger and Warnke.

The interior of the church presents an inviting appearance. It is frescoed, lighted by electricity and contains a large and excellent pipe organ, which was built at Elmira by the late Geo. Vogt, during the period of Rev. Salinger's ministration.

As in St. Pauls Church, so in St. James, services are conducted entirely in German, the congregation adhering to their mother tongue in everything pertaining to religious instruction. Realizing that the introduction of any other language in place of that in which the great German Reformer discoursed, would tend to detract from the beauty and characteristics of the services, Lutherans, as a rule, are slow to adopt other tongues, although this is largely and freely done wherever conditions render this course necessary.



Interior of St. James Church.



St. James Church Parsonage.



Methodist Church.

THE METHODIST CHURCH.

The Methodists commenced to labor in the field as early as 1848, when the Wesleyan pioneer preacher, Chas. Fish, operated here. For a number of years the first log school house, referred to on another page, served as a meeting place. In the year 1855 the small brick church, at present used as a paint shop by the Elmira Agricultural Works Co., was built. This did duty for twenty years, when the present brick church was erected. During the past year an addition has been built to this church and the interior has been remodelled, decorated and furnished with new pews, so that it is now a very attractive place of meeting. Amongst the ministers of recent years were the Reys, Watson, Colling, Hall, Wass, Snowden, Dean and Fear. The present pastor is Rev. W. N. Vollick, who ministers to a congregation of some two hundred and fifty members and adherents.



The first Methodist Church in Elmira.

After which Church Street was named, erected in 1855, now used as a paint shop by the Elmira Agricultural Works Co.



Interior of Methodist Church.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS AND AUXILIARIES.

The Methodist, Presbyterian, Evangelical and both Lutheran congregations, of Elmira, each maintain a Sunday School, a Young Peoples' Society, a Ladies' Aid Society and an efficient choir, all of which are calculated to add to the interest and effectiveness of the services and church work in general.



Methodist Parsonage.

EVANGELICAL CHURCH.

The Elmira Branch of the Evangelical Association, also composed principally of people of German descent, was formed as early as 1854, but it was not till the year 1869 that they decided to erect a church, which was completed the following year. Prior to the erection of their church they had met in the homes of their members, or in an unoccupied store in the village. Under their system of regularly changing ministers, every three or four years, they have been served alternately by a number, amongst whom were Revs. Brandt, Finkbeiner, Dippel, Thomas, Rieder and Leipold. The present pastor, but lately arrived, is Rev. Zimmerman, who conducts services in both the German and the English languages. Extensive improvements to the interior of the church are at present in contemplation.



Evangelical Church



Presbyterian Church

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Presbyterian Church is a comparatively small but neat structure, built of white brick. Prior to its erection in the year 1868 the adherents had worshipped in other places. Owing to the predominance of the German element, which is largely Lutheran, Presbyterianism has been able to gain but slowly. The building which accommodated the earlier members, is still adequate for the present congregation. Rev. A. M. Hamilton, M.A., of Winterbourne, has many years served as pastor, holding regular services here in addition to his pastoral duties there.

R. C. CHURCH.

In the year 1888 the Roman Catholics of Elmira and vicinity, who had previously worshipped in a small frame church some distance north of Elmira, deemed it expedient to build in Elmira. The congregation which is comparative-

ly small, is being served in connection with the R. C. Church at New Germany, by Rev. Father Foerster, who conducts services here, as a rule, every fourth Sunday.

OLD MEMNONITE CHURCH.

The Old Memnonites, whose forefathers came to this section from Pennsylvania, and who have increased in numbers and fortune, have, by their industrious and frugal habits, become possessed of a large tract of land in the neighborhood of Elmira. They also have a meeting house on the western limits of the corporation. This was built over 50 years ago, is designedly plain and unostentatious, and accommodates a congregation of several hundreds. The religious ceremonies of this denomination are primitive and simple. Their ministers are chosen by lottery, from the rank and file of the members, and receive no stipend.



Roman Catholic Church

Rev. A. R. Schulz.



REV. A. R. SCHULZ, who has been pastor of St. James Lutheran Church nearly 25 years, was born at Eylau, Prussia, Germany. He prepared for the ministry at Hamburg and Berlin, Germany, and subsequently became Director of the Orphans Home at Bromberg, Prussia, which was connected with a Mission Station for the Jews, and from 1896-1898 was assistant to Dr. Koppel, in this work. From 1868-70 he was City Missionary at Berlin, Germany. From 1870-73 he acted as instructor of the Candidates to the Gospel Ministry in the Institution known as "Raubes Haus" at Horn, the suburb of Hamburg. This Institution was founded by the late Dr. J. Wichern, the celebrated pioneer of the "Innere Mission", and subsequent Minister of the Interior. Rev. Schulz was a member of the supreme church Council of the State Church of the Kingdom of

Prussia. He was sent to Canada as minister of the Gospel, to serve the Germans here. He accepted a call from the Ev. Luth. St. Peter's Church, at Logan, Perth County, where he labored as Pastor from 1873 to 1879. In January 1879 he came to Elmira, where he has labored with success and great acceptability to his congregation. For a number of years he was President of the Canadian Lutheran Synod.

REV. P. GRAUPNER, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, was born at Oelsnitz, in Saxony, in the year 1869. After enjoying a good education in the higher schools of Stollberg and Chemnitz, he emigrated to the United States when fifteen years of age, settling in Fort Wayne, Ind. In 1887 he entered upon his studies at the Theologian Seminary, at St. Louis, where he was graduated in 1890. His first charge as minister of the Gospel was in Buffalo, N. Y. On account of failing health, he was obliged to leave his congregation there and take a charge in the country. He accepted a call from Medina, a small town in New York State. Later he removed to Newark, in the

same State. After St. Paul's Congregation at Elmira had been bereft, by death of their pastor, Rev. J. Froese, who had so long served them in the most self-sacrificing manner, Rev. Graupner was called to take his place. This was in 1899. By his consistent life, his earnest endeavor and thoughtful, studious elucidation of the teachings of Christ, he has gained the love and esteem of his congregation and all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance. Under his guidance this Congregation is making steady progress. As a rule, services are held by him in the forenoon and evening of each Sunday. He conducts Sunday School in the morning, The Ladies Aid and the Young People's Association, connected with the church, convene monthly and enjoy his constant help

REV. A. M. HAMILTON, whose parents had come from Lanarkshire, Scotland, in 1836 and settled in Oneida County, New York State, was born at the latter place in the year 1842. In 1847 the family removed to Upper

Canada—as Ontario was then called—to the Township of Onondago, Brant County. On a portion of the Grand River Reservation, which the Indians had surrendered, his father bought a farm. The house was of logs and contained one room with a large fire-place and an attic which was assigned to the boys of the family as a sleeping room. Mr. Hamilton attended the district school, mostly in the winter, while he worked on the farm in the summer. In 1860 he entered the Brantford High School, and obtained a first class County Board Certificate. He taught school three years near Brantford, and attended the Normal School at Toronto in 1863. He received a first class certificate, Grade B, then became principal of the school at Fredricksburg (now Delhi) in Norfolk County, where he taught two years. Then he returned to Brantford High School and spent a year there in preparing for the University. In 1867 he entered Upper Canada College and the following year taught school

Rev. P. Graupner.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church Parsonage.



Rev. A. M. Hamilton,

B. A. M. A.

in Guelph Township. In 1870 he returned to the University and received the degrees of B. A. and M. A. in 1873 and 1874 respectively. He finished his course at Knox College in 1876 and was sent as missionary to Northend, Luther Township, then called Bell's Corners. Later he acted as missionary in Rosseau, Muskoka, and Blythewood, Essex County. After being received by the presbytery of Paris, he was sent as missionary, to Silver Islet, on Lake Superior. On the 22nd of May 1877, (26 years ago) he accepted a call from Chalmers Church, Winterbourne, and has remained there since, attending, besides, to the wants of the presbyterians at Conestogo about 12 years. Eighteen years ago, he undertook to serve the presbyterians of Elmira and has since done so with great faithfulness. Of the original 16 members, under his charge, 5 remain. In all 129 names were entered on the communion roll of whom 43 are now members, the rest having been removed by death, certificate, etc. Baptism has been administered to seventy persons.



Rev. W. J. Zimmerman.

REV. W. J. ZIMMERMAN, the recently installed minister of the Evangelical Association, of Elmira, was born at Tavistock, Ont., after having attended the public schools there, he went to Napierville, Ill., where he passed 5 years at the Evangelical College. After graduation he returned to Canada and had charge of the Hespeler Evangelical Congregation, one year. His next charge was Elmwood, where he labored 2 years prior to coming to Elmira.

REV. W. N. VOLLICK, entered the conference of the Methodist Church as a Probationer in the year 1877, and was ordained to the work of the christian ministry in the year 1881. He has travelled the following Circuits in order here given:—Maitland, St. Marys, Sweaborg, Walsingham, York, Onondaga, Kelvin, Bright, Sweaborg (second term), Dobbington and Elmira his present charge. On many of his fields of labour, as a result of his energy and aggressive spirit, new churches and parsonages have been erected and old ones re-modeled and beautified.



Rev. W. N. Vollick.



Evangelical Parsonage.

Elmira as a Shipping Centre.

SURROUNDED by one of the most fertile and best cultivated tracts of land in the Dominion, and being the distributing point for a number of neighboring villages, Elmira is one of the busiest and most important inland, rural shipping points on the Grand Trunk System. This statement will be well borne out by the facts and figures that follow.

Had the Grand Trunk authorities ransacked the entire list of their staff of Agents, it is a question whether they would have found a more suitable and popular representative for Elmira than is Mr. W. J. Reynolds, who has held the position ever since the Waterloo-Elmira branch was opened for traffic. To his genial, accommodating manner and his straightforward and reliable method of doing business is due, to a great extent, the popularity of the Elmira station. Passengers and shippers invariably receive courteous treatment. Mr. Reynolds was born at Lennox, Mich., in a railway station. He came to Canada, in 1863, with his father, who is the oldest Railway Agent on the G. T. R. He had been many years in charge of the Brampton station. Having lived in a railway station during the whole of his childhood, Mr. Reynolds, jr., was unusually well fitted for the position of Agent when he chose railway life as his profession, in the year 1877. For a considerable time he was Relieving Agent. Then he took charge of Mosborough station, near Guelph. Later he went to Petersburg, where he did duty six years. When the Elmira road was opened, in 1891, he was stationed here, where he has filled his position with great acceptability to the community and, no doubt, great profit to the G. T. R. System.

Being the terminus of the Waterloo-Elmira branch, diverging in a northerly direction from the main line at Berlin, the Elmira station attracts the railroad traffic from a large district. The intervening stations, from Berlin to Elmira, are Waterloo, Heidelberg and St. Jacobs. The nearest railroad point, to the west, is Listowel, twenty-five miles distant. Moorefield, Drayton, Goldstone, Alma and

Elora, ranging from twelve to eighteen miles in distance, are the nearest shipping points in a northerly direction, while the city of Guelph, about twenty miles to the east, constitutes the nearest railway point in this direction.

The articles comprising the shipments from Elmira are of a varied nature. The natural products of the farms, such as grain, potatoes, turnips, apples, sugar beets, butter, cheese, timber, wood and lumber form a large portion of the outgoing shipments. The Elmira grain market, established here by the late Jonathan Uttley, who died in the fall of 1895, has always enjoyed a popularity that has kept it in the vanguard of the many markets that are open to the farmers of this district. An idea of the fertility of the lands encircling Elmira, as well as of the industry and frugality of the farmers who own them and who are, in point of intelligence and up-to-date methods, second to none on the continent, may be formed, when it appears that in addition to a very large amount of these natural products of the soil, an extraordinarily large amount of live stock is continually being shipped out. Indeed, it may be said that the feeding of cattle and hogs supplies the main source of income to the farmers of this district. Spacious barns and comfortable stabling may be found on every farm. As a rule, the heavy crops, resulting from a judicious use of fertilizers, are housed in the barns. Stacking of grain or hay is necessary only in years of extraordinary production. The houses occupied by the farmers are, as a



W. J. Reynolds, G. T. R. Agent.

rule, built of brick or stone, and are kept in a state of attractiveness that would do credit to any town or village. The fields are well cultivated and well fenced and present, in the growing time, an appearance of prosperity which augurs well for the future shipping interests of Elmira. The Agricultural Commission of Ontario is authority for the statement that seventy-five per cent. of the land in the Township of Woolwich and ninety per cent. of the buildings are first-class, while ninety per cent. of the wooden and wire fences are in first-class condition.



A Shipment of Horses purchased for the North-West market by Messrs. Auman & Peterson, Elmira.

That such a community needed a railway was self evident. The building of the Waterloo-Elmira branch of the G. T. R., undertaken in the year 1890, with the aid of a bonus of \$10,000 from the Village of Elmira, \$28,000 from the Township of Woolwich, and \$7,000 from the Township of Peel, has proven to be an exceptionally paying investment. There is no doubt that Elmira station is one of the best rural depots controlled by the G. T. R. system, and although considerable opposition from farmers was encountered by the promoters of the bonus, it would be next to impossible to find a farmer to-day, who would not admit that this little piece of enterprise was a main factor in the development of this district into its present enviable status.

Ten years ago (1883) the following shipments were made by rail from Elmira: 3500 live hogs, 200,000 lbs. dressed pork, 1840 head of horses and cattle, 560 lambs, 13,786 barrels of apples, 84,960 bushels of grain, and about 10,000 lbs. of wool. In the year 1900 to 1901, 105,000 bushels of grain were shipped from Klinek's elevators alone, while Mr.

Geo. Thorp, of Guelph, shipped some 20,000 bushels from here.

The statistics of the last year are interesting, inasmuch as they show that not only has the tonnage increased, but also, that methods have undergone a change. The dressed hog trade has almost entirely vanished. On an average, one car of live stock is shipped from here each day. Nearly all the hogs are now shipped alive. More live stock was fed and consequently less grain was marketed. The shipments for the year just closed, were: 12,000 live hogs, 5,260 head of cattle, 200 horses, 980 sheep, 76,000 bushels of grain, 8,910 tons of flour, 1,063 tons of sugar beets, 120 tons of butter, 9,000 cubic feet of ship timber, 90 tons of vegetables, and 800 tons of miscellaneous freight, including manufactured articles and sundry merchandise.

The output of the Elmira manufactories is constantly increasing. The shipments from this source are beginning to assume considerable proportions. Almost daily the way cars contain a number of articles of this nature, while whole cars of furniture, machinery and felt shoes are despatched periodically. The large mills of Messrs. Ratz Bros., which reduce to flour the bulk of wheat raised in this district, provide tonnage for many cars during each year. The lumber mills of Mr. C. W. Quickfall, of Glenallan, the flax mills of Perine & Co. and the saw mills of Mr. Abs. Eby, of Floradale, ship their products from Elmira station, while the neighboring cheese and butter factories frequently make large shipments from here.



LOADING CATTLE - A frequent scene at the Elmira Stock Yards.



Klinck's Grain Elevator.

KLINCK'S GRAIN ELEVATOR is specially designed to handle grain quickly and economically. It is run by electricity and is so arranged that very little hand-work is required. With the aid of the machinery, one man can load a car of grain in less than two hours, while farmers' wagons can be unloaded in quick succession. The prestige of the Elmira market is in a great measure due to the fact that grain is handled here cheaper than in most of the competing markets. As a consequence, the farmers realize a better price and many are therefore induced to drive past their nearest markets and bring their grain to Elmira.



THE UTTLEY ELEVATOR,
Leased by Geo. Klinck.

WEICHEL & SON'S,
Coal Sheds.



Geo. Auman.

MR. GEORGE AUMAN, who during the last five years has developed into an energetic, aggressive and successful cattle-dealer, was born at St. Jacobs. When yet a lad he removed with his father to a farm bordering on the eastern limits of the Corporation of Elmira. After the death of his father, he acquired this farm and cultivated it successfully until the beginning of the current year, when his growing cattle trade demanded all his time. He disposed of his farm and removed to Elmira. Associated with Mr. Auman, in the cattle-business, is his son William, also Mr. Henry Peterson, a man of experience in the trade. The firm does an extensive and growing business in fat cattle, both export and butchers'. They also trade in horses and sheep and supply feeders with stockers, which they bring in in car-lots. Their purchases amount annually to over \$250,000. Their business is therefore one of the most important in Elmira. The firm also occasionally ship from St. Jacobs and Alma. Mr. Auman was a member of the Woolwich Township Council for six years, the latter two of which he

held the position of Reeve. On his removal to Elmira he withdrew from the field of municipal honors.



Henry Peterson.

Cattle-buyer, member of the firm of
Aiman & Peterson.

MR. ISAAC GROFF, who is the oldest cattle dealer on the Elmira market, was born near Waterloo. From his youth he was a good



Isaac Groff.

judge of pure-bred and fat cattle and is still conceded to be one of the best informed dealers in Ontario. He has been identified with the Elmira market for a quarter of a century and has bought and shipped an immense number of fat cattle, stockers and sheep. Some of the best fat cattle produced in Ontario, pass through his hands. He covers a large field and makes frequent shipments from Waterloo, St. Jacobs and Alma, besides those he is constantly making from and to Elmira. Although Mr. Groff lives on a farm, some distance west of Elmira, he operates from



G. T. R. Station

Elmira and is regarded as one of her most useful business men.

Other shippers of live stock are Messrs Everatt Bros., W. H. O'Neill and N. Hedrich.

MR. GEORGE (DOC.) WHITLOCK, was born at St. Marys, Ont., 1855. He entered the service of the railroad, as news boy, in 1870. He passed through the various stages of railway life, and was promoted to the Conductorship in 1879.



George Whitlock.

Prior to coming to Elmira, he conducted trains from Sarnia to Toronto and from Niagara to Buffalo. He is very popular as a conductor, is a good citizen, and has a decided preference for literary work.

Old Time Travelling.

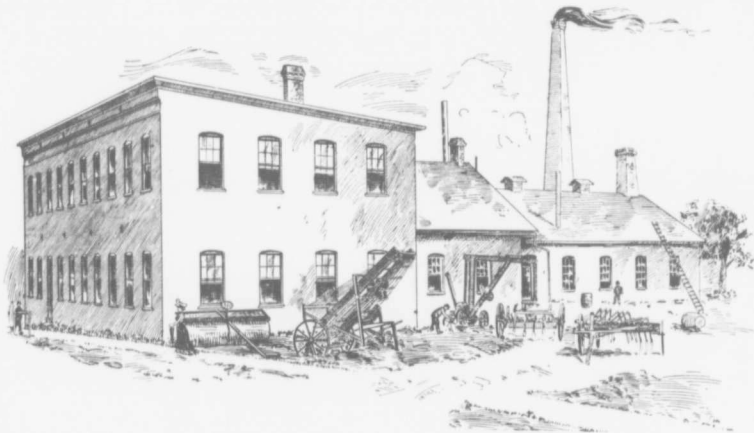
One can scarcely conceive of the modern travelling facilities, disappearing as they may, in this rapid age, sometimes be, without thinking of the days of the stage coach. To-day the fine railroad coaches,



H. Steuernagel.

proof against wind and weather and conducted by obliging officials, carry passengers and mail twice daily towards the Grand Trunk and C.P.R. main roads, while formerly—only a dozen years ago—the only regular means of reaching a railway was by stage coach travelling daily a distance of ten miles and return. Waterloo was then the nearest point of connection with the G. T. R. Rain or shine, cold or warm, the Elmira stage, after having previously gathered the mail and conveyed passengers to and from Floradale, Yattton and Glenallan, left Elmira each morning and returned each night. For many years, few days, indeed, passed, on which the familiar figure of Mr. Henry Steuernagel, the veteran stage-driver, might not be seen on the front seat, on very busy days on the dash-board, of the old stage coach. His duties were exacting and the orders he carried in his memory were many. Mr. Steuernagel is one of the oldest residents of Elmira, residing here since 1855.

The Elmira Agricultural Works Company, Limited.



THE ELMIRA FOUNDRY was started in the year 1886 by Messrs P. Jansen, of Elmira, and Abs. Merner, of Waterloo. The firm was known as Merner & Jansen. They manufactured agricultural machinery and did a general repair business, with Mr. Robert Odbert as foreman. After the lapse of the first year Mr. Jansen retired, leaving the plant in the hands of Mr. Merner who was also engaged in the foundry business in Waterloo.

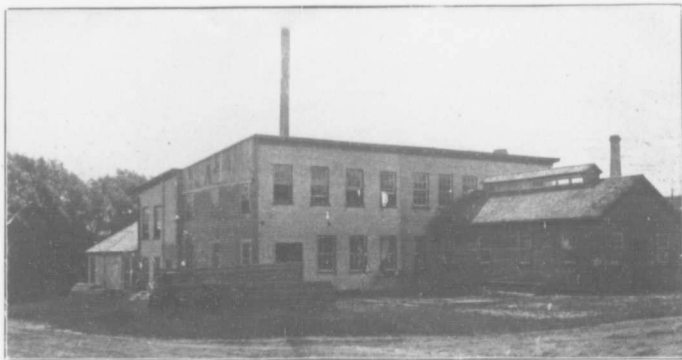
The business was then conducted under the firm name of Merner & Co., with Mr. S. Laschinger as manager. In the year 1888, the Merner and Brieker foundries, at Waterloo, were amalgamated and incorporated under the firm name of "The Waterloo Manufacturing Co." Of this enterprise the Elmira foundry then became a branch. As such it was conducted by Mr. Laschinger until the beginning of the year 1901, when it was purchased by a Joint Stock Company, known as the Elmira Ag-

ricultural Works Company, (Limited), with a capital stock of \$40,000. The President of the Company is Mr. Sydney Snider, a prominent farmer near Elmira; Mr. P. Stumpf, foreman of the wood-working department, is Vice-President; Mr. Otto Umbach, Secretary; and Mr. Solomon Laschinger, Manager.

The Company manufactures, principally, agricultural machinery and implements, such as Hayloaders, Side Delivery Hay Rakes, Corn Cultivators, Grain Crushers, Root Pulpers, Food Boilers, Ensilage Cutters, Land Rollers, etc. They also produce a line of Excelsior Machines which they sell to manufacturers of "Excelsior" packing.

This industry is a most promising one. Agencies have been established throughout the Provinces with good results. The demand for their goods being in excess of the present capacity of the Works, the Company have decided to make extensive improvements and additions.

The Furniture and Builder's Supply Factory of Messrs Eby & Klinck.



ONE of the most recent additions to the manufacturing industries of Elmira, is the furniture, sash and door and builder's supply factory of Messrs Eby & Klinck. It stands on the site of the old Winger Woollen factory but scarcely a trace of the old building remains, it having been supplanted by new brick buildings of a more modern design.

Although not fully equipped the firm find themselves crowded with orders which they are endeavoring to fill while still installing new machinery. They manufacture, furniture, doors, sash, door and window frames, cistern tubs, tanks and ornaments and dressed lumber for all kinds of buildings, and have the capacity to fill large orders. They also deal in lumber, building timbers, lath and shingles.

In connection with this business are the saw and lumber mills of Mr. Eby, one of the partners of this concern, at Floradale, where lumber is sawn out of rough and where some of the heavier work is done.

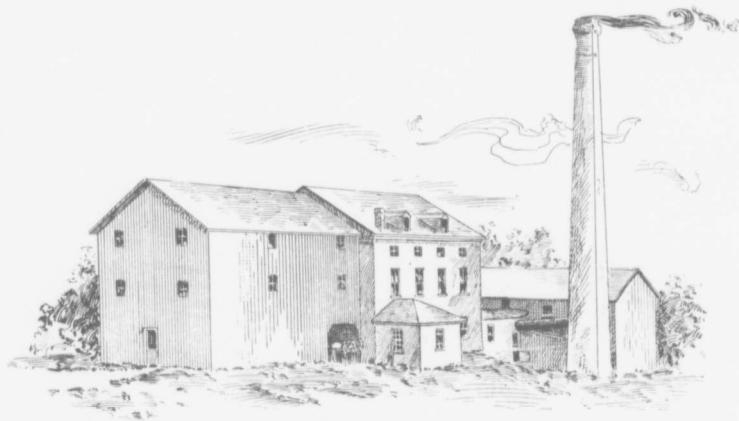
They have good connections with lumber dealers throughout the Province, and ship and receive many cars of lumber during the year. They also furnish, on short notice, odd sizes and lengths of building timber which they prepare at the Floradale mills, only a few miles distant.

Mr. Abs. Eby is well known in this section as a builder, contractor, and lumber-dealer. He has extensive connections in the surrounding country and is known as an energetic and enterprising business man.

Mr. Chas. L. Klinck, the other partner, is a carpenter and wood worker, by trade, and was formerly connected with the firm of Heimbecher & Klinck, who did a similar business. He is a practical man and has charge of the Elmira factory. He was born on a farm a short distance north of Elmira, attended the Elmira public schools and has lived here most of his life.

The prospects of this firm are good and if the present building boom continue, they will be obliged to add to their capacity in the near future.

The Elmira Flouring, Stave and Heading Mills.



THE ELMIRA FLOURING MILLS at present owned by Ratz Bros., is one of the oldest industries in Elmira. They were built by a Joint Stock Company in which many of the business men of the Village and farmers of the neighborhood held shares. In 1869 the stock was bought up by Messrs John and Jacob Ratz. In 1871 Mr. Jacob Ratz sold his interest to Mr. Isaac Wenger, then a rising merchant in Elmira.

Up to 1875, the mills were run under the firm name of Ratz & Wenger. When Mr. Wenger removed to Ayton, Mr. Ratz became the sole proprietor. In 1881 the roller process was adopted, this being the second mill in the County to inaugurate this system.

After the death of Mr. Ratz, the proprietorship of the Elmira Mills fell to his three sons, Simon, Daniel and George, who have since continued the business. Besides supplying the local trade, they ship large quantities of flour to the Lower Provinces, whence the demand for their products principally comes. Besides handling the bulk of the wheat grown in this fertile district, they occasionally import No. 1 hard wheat from Manitoba, which they use for grading their flour.

In connection with their flouring mills there is a large saw mill and a stave, heading, shingle and hoop factory. The electric lights used in business and private places throughout the Village, as well as the street lights, are supplied by this firm.



THE ELMIRA FELT CO'Y., was established in the fall of 1900, with the following officers:—A. H. Erb, President; A. J. Kimmel, manager; I. Hilborn, Secretary; J. P. Luckhardt and M. Weichel, Directors. Since that time the factory has been enlarged several times, and has a frontage along the G.T.R. of 326 feet, in addition to a 2 storey annex in the rear of the main buildings. The number of hands employed at present is between 70 and 80, and this number, it is expected, will be increased to 100, as soon as the new addition, now in course of erection, is completed.

This Company is the only firm in Canada manufacturing Felt Footwear exclusively. They make a speciality of the finer grades and sell to

the wholesale trade only. Considering that the Elmira Felt Co'y is the youngest of its kind at present doing business in the Dominion, and that in the comparatively short time of 21 years it has built up, without exception, the largest Felt Shoe Manufacturing business in Canada, speaks well for the quality of goods manufactured, as well as for the sound judgement of their customers.

The active members of this energetic and successful young firm, who through the superior merits of the Elmira Felt Footwear, have made the name "Elmira", famous throughout Canada, are A. J. Kimmel, Manager; I. Hilborn, Secretary and A. D. Vice, mechanical Superintendent.

The Traders Bank of Canada.



R. H. McMicking, Manager.

MR. R. H. McMICKING, manager of the Elmira branch of The Traders Bank of Canada, is a native of Elora, Ont. He has been in the banking business since 1891, and was, prior to his removal to Elmira, manager of the Traders Bank at Rodney, Ont. Although in Elmira less than a year, Mr McMicking has, by his manly bearing and cordial business methods, made many friends. In his capacity of manager, he represents one of the most important institutions of Elmira.

THE TRADERS BANK OF CANADA is one of the most successful of the younger banking institutions of the Dominion. Up to a recent date its paid up capital stock was \$1,500,000. Its assets were over \$14,750,000 while its Res fund amounted to \$150,000. Owing to general expansion of trade \$500,000 additional stock has been issued, thus making the capital \$2,000,000. Trader's Bank stock has sold on the market as high as 1.48 and is at present quoted in the neighborhood of 1.40. No doubt the recently added stock will be eagerly purchased.



The Traders Bank, Elmira.

The Trader's Bank commenced business at Elmira, in the year 1885, under the management of Mr. Jas. Nicol, a former merchant of Elmira. He was followed by Mr. L. P. Snyder, now assistant inspector of the Sovereign Bank, Toronto. Mr. Snyder was followed by Mr. A. W. Clark, now accountant of the Sovereign Bank, Toronto. Then came Mr. N. T. Hillary, now manager of the Traders Bank at Sudbury. Mr. J. H. Farmer, followed Mr. Hillary. His departure in October 1902 made room for Mr. McMicking, the present manager. The Traders Bank is doing an extensive business here and enjoys the confidence of the public.

MR. D. D. RATZ, is the youngest son of the late John Ratz, and is a native of Elmira. He received his education in the Elmira Public Schools and the Galt Collegiate Institute. He was several years engaged in the office of Messrs Perine & Co., at Doon, Ont. In the year 1899, he returned to Elmira to take a position in the Traders Bank, where recently he has been advanced to the office of teller and accountant. Mr. Ratz is also treasurer of the Elmira Public Library.



D. D. Ratz, Teller and Accountant.



W. H. Otto.

MR. W. H. OTTO, was born in New Hamburg, Ont., where he passed his youth and received his education. From New Hamburg he removed to Ellice Township, where he was engaged a number of years in farming. In 1875 he embarked in the mercantile business under apprenticeship with Mr. W. L. Schmidt, then of Sebringville, Ont. Four years later he removed to Elgin County, where he conducted a branch store for Mr. P. J. Lindenman, in whose employ he remained 3 years. In the fall of 1882 he returned to Sebringville, where, in the following year, he commenced business for himself in a small way. He made a success of his business. In 1899 he disposed of his stock there and came to Elmira where he bought out the stock in trade and the good will of Messrs H.

Dunke & Co. Here his integrity and strict attention to business has won for him a constantly growing trade. He enjoys the confidence of the public and is highly respected as a citizen. As such, he takes a lively interest in the welfare of the town and has been particularly active in the interests of the Public Library, of which he is now a Director.

Mr. Otto deals in a variety of goods such as well appointed general stores generally offer. Besides keeping the usual stock of Dry Goods, Groceries, Crockery, Boots and Shoes, he makes a specialty of Clothing and Dress Goods. His store is situated in the heart of the Village in Dunke's Block.



W. H. Otto's General Store.



A. H. Erb.

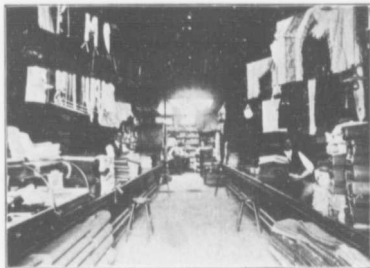
Mr. A. H. Erb, was born in the town of Waterloo, in 1857. Then he removed to Berlin where he obtained his education in the public school. He entered first on his mercantile career at Waterloo in 1875 and commenced business on his own account at St. Jacobs in 1878. In 1882 he sold his interest there and entered into partnership with Mr. Menno L. Weber, of Elmira. The year after Elmira became incorporated, Mr. Erb was elected a member of the Village Council. He served three years in this capacity. Then he was elected Reeve and held the position for six years. When the new law of municipal representation was introduced, Mr. Erb was elected County Councillor for the district of Woolwich and Elmira. He was Warden of the County of Waterloo in 1897, and held the position of County Councillor three years longer, at the end of which time he retired from public life.

Mr. MENNO L. WEBER, was born on a farm a short distance north of Elmira. He attended the public school here, after which he served his time in a general store at Seaforth. Later he returned to Elmira, clerked for Messrs Ratz & Baetz and subsequently for Mr. James Nicol, until the year 1882, when the partnership of Weber & Erb was formed. Mr. Weber has been an active member of the Elmira Board of Trade since its organization and has since January last held the position of Village Councillor. He is known as an enterprising merchant and a public spirited citizen.



M. L. Weber.

In 1882 the firm of Weber & Erb bought out the general store of Mr. Jas. Nicol, where now Weitzel's bakery is situated. Subsequently they bought out Mr. Joshua Bowman in the store now occupied by the White Grocery, whither they removed



Interior of the Dry Goods and Grocery Departments of Weber & Erb's General Store.

their stock. Later they purchased the block which they now occupy, from Mr. John Ratz. They made extensive alterations and improvements, gradually added to their stock and have now as complete and tasty a variety of general store goods as may be found in this community. Their stock is composed of dry goods, ready-made clothing, dress goods, gents' furnishings, hats and caps, boots and shoes, crockery, groceries and other lines which go to make up a complete stock for a general store. They have been in business here over 21 years and have gained the confidence of the public to a marked degree. Being both practical merchants they have by prompt attention to business, built up a large and paying trade, their connections extending far into the surrounding country.





George H. Ruppel.

The White Grocery.

MR. GEORGE H. RUPPEL, is a son of Post Master Ruppel. He was born in Elmira in 1863 and has lived in his native village since. He attended the Elmira Public School also the Lutheran Separate School, taught by Mr. Gottfried Ernst. He commenced his mercantile career behind the counter of his father's store. Later he became a member of the firm of Ruppel Bros. After dissolution of this firm he clerked in the general stores of Mr. J. Uffelman and Dunke & Co. In 1896 he embarked into the grocery business and has made it a success. THE WHITE GROCERY is a popular resort for all who are in search of fresh, up-to-date groceries, condiments and fruits. He also handles a full line of provisions, crockery, toys and fancy goods. As the village of Elmira is increasing in population and her citizens assume more elaborate tastes, so this store caters to their desires, while the more ordinary wants of the farming community are not overlooked. The White Grocery is one of the busiest places in Elmira.



J. A. Schroder.

MR. J. A. SCHRODER, came to Elmira, with his parents when quite young. He received his education here and after having worked at his trade several years in other places, he returned to Elmira and opened business on his own account. He has now an up-to-date Gents' furnishing establishment in which he keeps for sale a full line of tweeds, gents' furnishings, hats and caps, ready-made clothing, etc. He makes a specialty of custom tailoring and has a good patronage.





Fischer's Barber Shop.

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Mr. Charles Fischer, was born at Berlin and came to Elmira with his parents when two years of age. He spent his youth and school days here and in the year 1889 succeeded his father in the barber trade. He has, in connection with his barber shop, a well appointed pool and billiard room.



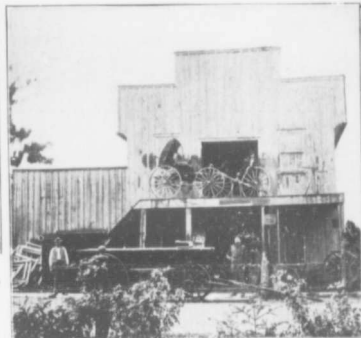
J. B. Lein.

Mr. J. B. LEIN was born on a farm near Elmira. He attended the Elmira public schools and was apprenticed to a local carriage builder in 1883. Later he worked in the wool working department of the Elmira foundry and ten years ago commenced business on his own account. He is doing an extensive business in manufacturing, painting, repairing and selling all kinds of vehicles.

He keeps on hand a well assorted stock of wagons, buggies, carriages, sleighs and cutters and is local agent for the Canada Carriage Co., the Hamburg Wagon Co., the Palmerston Carriage Co., The Tudhope Carriage Co. and the Campbell Co., London.



MR. GEORGE WEISMILLER'S Block and Residence
Arthur Street.



J. B. Lein's Carriage Shop.



J. S. Miller.

MR. J. S. MILLER, was born on a farm two miles east of Elmira. He came to Elmira 35 years ago. Here he learned the carriage building trade and later, 25 years ago, he commenced business on his own account. He does a general carriage manufacturing, repairing and painting business and has been successful.



W. Steuernagel.

MR. WM. STEUERNAGEL, is a native of Elmira. Several years ago he bought out the livery business of his father and later that of Bulgin Bros. He now has a very creditable livery, where the travelling public may always find comfortable driving outfits and good accommodation.



H. Weitzel.

MR. H. WEITZEL, was born in Tavistock, Ont., and there learned his trade. Three years ago he bought the bakery business of Mr. Geo. Weismiller, in Elmira. By diligent attention to the wants of his patrons he has maintained a good business and is furnishing a first class article.



Residence and Carriage Shop of J. S. Miller.



W. Steuernagel's Livery Barns.



Residence and Bakery of H. Weitzel.



G. W. Schierholtz.

The Elmira Shoe Store.

MR. GEO. W. SCHIERHOLTZ was born on a farm near Elmira. He attended school in School Section No. 11, Woolwich, and came to Elmira in 1872. He was apprenticed to Mr. A. Blatz and later worked at his trade in Conestogo. In 1886 he purchased the business from Mr. Blatz and has since continued it. He has now a well appointed shoe store, where he keeps a large and well assorted stock of shoes and other footwear. He also does repairing. He has the patronage of a great many customers, is a highly respected citizen and is doing well.



Interior of Elmira Shoe Store.

MESSRS. GEORGE AND AUGUST PFAFF are natives of Elmira where they attended school and served their apprenticeship to the blacksmithing trade. They commenced business on their own account three years ago, and have made good connections with the farmers and horse owners of this district.



Pfaff Bros. Blacksmith Shop.

Heimbecher & Jung.

Manufacturers of Furniture, Builders' Material and Lumber Dealers.



George Jung.

This firm has one of the busiest places in Elmira. They manufacture furniture, such as chair and sofa frames, in large quantities and provide contractors and builders with anything they require in woodwork and lumber. Both are practical men of experience. Mr. Heimbecher has been in Elmira over a quantity of a century, and has been closely connected with this business during all of this time. Mr. Jung has also been in this business since he is able to work. They are constantly employing many hands and have, in this way, done much for the village.



C. Heimbecher.



Interior of Klinck's Jewelry and Watch Repair Shop.

Klinck's Jewelry Store.

Klinck's Jewelry Store is one of the oldest established businesses in Elmira. It contains a full stock of Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Fancy Goods, Novelties, School Books and Stationery. In equipment and facilities for executing all kinds of repairs, its repair department has few equals in Canada and none in this district. The watchmakers are competent workmen with a proper technical education. Work entrusted to them is properly and promptly done.

The Optical Department is conducted by Mr. Chas. N. Klinck, graduate of the Ontario Optical Institute. Special attention is given to fitting difficult cases of defective sight.

The Elmira Signet Printing Office.

THE ELMIRA SIGNET OFFICE was established in 1893. From a small beginning it has risen to be the best equipped printing office in the neighborhood. It has been the aim of the proprietor to turn out work of a high class only. The machinery is run by electricity, the job type is well assorted and artistic and the workmen are under first-class professional supervision. Job work of all kinds is turned out neatly, promptly and at moderate prices. "Enterprising Elmira" was designed, embossed and printed in the Signet Job Office.

THE ELMIRA SIGNET.

THE ELMIRA SIGNET is the cheapest weekly newspaper published in Canada. It has a larger circulation in the district of which Elmira is the centre, than any other two papers combined. It circulates in a wealthy and progressive community and is therefore a good advertising medium.



Klinck's Block.



George Klinck.
Watchmaker, Jeweler and Publisher of
"The Elmira Signet."



F. A. Kerr.
MR. F. A. KERR, Foreman of "The
Elmira Signet" Newspaper and
Job Printing Office.



Charles N. Klinck.
Watchmaker, Jeweler and Graduate Optician
Secretary Elmira Musical Society.

MR. GEORGE KLINCK, editor of "Enterprising Elmira" was born on a farm in Elmira in 1862, attended the Elmira public schools, was apprenticed to the watchmaking trade in Waterloo and Berlin at the age of 16, returned to Elmira in 1881, established Klinck's Jewelry Store 22 years ago, attended the "Ecole de Horlogerie" (Watchmakers College)

at Geneva, Switzerland, in 1887, was first president of the Canadian Jewelers' Association and first examiner at the Canadian Horology Institute, Toronto, became publisher of "The Elmira Signet" newspaper in 1893 and entered, later, into other commercial pursuits, in Elmira, connection with above.



J. S. Weichel.

MR. JOHN S. WEICHEL is one of the most energetic and enterprising business men of Elmira. He is partner and general manager of the constantly growing hardware business of M. Weichel & Son, Elmira and Waterloo. He attends strictly and promptly to business matters and may always be depended upon to do his part towards the welfare of the town. He has been a member of the Municipal Council, and is president of the Elmira Board of Trade.



Michael Weichel.

MR. MICHAEL WEICHEL has been a resident of Elmira since 1862. He came from Germany when 12 years of age. When 20 years of age he learned blacksmithing in Elmira. In 1868 he commenced a shop on his own account which he continued 12 years. In 1881 he bought the hardware business of Mr. Wachsmuth.

He is a public spirited citizen and has done much towards the advancement of Elmira. He was the second Reeve of the Village of Elmira.



Wm. Weichel.

THE HARDWARE BUSINESS of M. Weichel & Son has assumed large proportions.

From a small beginning, it has grown to one of the largest enterprises of its kind in the County of Waterloo, comprising at it does, two large stores with immense stocks. From the beginning the firm has made it a practice to endeavor to please their customers and to supply them with anything they might want in hardware or kindred goods. They have constantly added new lines and are now handling apart from the ordinary class of hardware, coal, wood, binder twine, cement and other bulky goods. They have also a stove and tinware department in which they carry a heavy stock of stoves and furnaces of which they make a specialty. The tinsmithing department is under the management of a first-class experienced machanic. In 1896 the firm started a store in Waterloo, on the same broad principles, which were responsible for their success in Elmira, with the result that they have now a very large and popular trade there.

Mr. Wm. G. Weichel is manager of the Waterloo store. Under his management the business, which comprises practically similar lines of goods as are kept in Elmira, is constantly increasing and gaining in favor. The large quantities of goods required by the firm, enables them to place their orders on the most advantageous terms.



Weichel's Hardware Store, Elmira.



Weichel's Hardware Store, Waterloo.



C. W. Schierholtz.

MR. C. W. SCHIERHOLTZ is a native of Woolwich Township. He attended the school in S. S. No. 11, took a supplementary course in the Elmira public school and the Berlin High School and followed the profession of public school teacher nearly twenty years, during which time he taught in several sections of the County of Waterloo. In 1898 he became interested in the publication of "The Elmira Advertiser" and is now sole proprietor.



W. D. Ludwig.

MR. W. D. LUDWIG, is a native of Peel Township, where he was born on a farm near Wallenstein. He followed farming until a year ago, when he removed to Elmira and purchased the well established retail grain, seed, and flour and feed business of Mr. Geo. Klinek, in Klinek's block, formerly Uttley's old stand. This business Mr. Ludwig is carrying on much on the same lines as it was formerly conducted. He keeps on hand a full stock of seeds and provides feeders with whole and chopped grain, and householders with flour, produce and groceries. He pays cash for butter and eggs and enjoys a good trade in this line.



"The Advertiser" Printing Office.

Lipphardt's Barber Shop.



F. W. Lipphardt.

MR. FRIED. W. LIPPHARDT, was born in Elmira, in 1872. He removed with his parents to Listowel, when still a child. He learned the trade of barber and returned to Elmira in 1897 when he opened a barber shop on Church Street. Later he removed to Arthur Street, where he conducts a very creditable tonsorial establishment. He also keeps for sale a full stock of cigars and tobacconists' goods and is continually increasing his trade.



Interior of F. W. Lipphardt's Barber Shop.

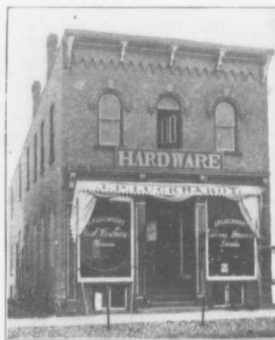


J. P. Luckhardt.

MR. J. P. LUCKHARDT, was born in Berlin, whence he removed with his parents, to Normanby Township and later to Maryboro Township. He came to Elmira in 1875, served his time at the harness-making trade with Mr. A. Steinmann and commenced business on his own account in 1878. He embarked in the hardware business in 1896. He was Councillor of the Village of Elmira several years, has been a member of the Elmira School Board during the last eight years and is now Chairman. He is also agent for the Confederate Life Assurance Company and is a prosperous and enterprising citizen, who is at all times disposed to do his share towards advancing the towns' interests. He attends personally to the supervision of the harness department of his growing business.

In addition to his harness trade Mr. Luckhardt conducts a large hardware, wood and coal business. He carries a large stock of shelf and heavy hardware, paints and oil, glass, tinware, stoves etc. and has a tinsmithing department which is conducted by good and experienced mechanics, who do all kinds of outside work, such as eavetroughing, roofing, etc., as well as bench work and repairing.

Mr. Thomas Sherrington is manager of the hardware branch of the business and has seen it grow from a very small beginning to very respectable proportions. He is also a member of the Village Council.



J. P. Luckhardt's Block.



Geo. E. Hehn.

MR. GEO. E. HEHN, is a native of Normanby Township. He served his apprenticeship to the tailoring trade at Waterloo, and came to Elmira in 1894, commencing business on his own account. Three years ago he entered into the Gents' Furnishing business. At the beginning of the present year he formed a partnership with Mr. Simon Strome. The firm is doing a large business in Hats, Caps, Tweeds, Ready-to-Wear Clothing and Gents' Furnishings generally, as well as custom tailoring. Both being practical tailors and cutters they are in a position to give the best of satisfaction in the custom department of their increasing business.



Simon Strome.

MR. SIMON STROME was born in Pilkington Township. He came to Elmira in 1896 and worked at the tailoring trade here five years. Then he commenced business at Salem, where he remained two years. He is now partner in the firm of Hehn & Strome.



Hehn & Strome, Gents' Furnishing.



A. Werner.

tutions of Ontario. He took an active part in the agitation which resulted in the erection of an addition to the school, costing \$20,000, wherein manual training and domestic science will be taught.

Mr. Werner was appointed a Notary Public in the year 1895.



The Werner and Russell Block.

Mr. A. WERNER, is intimately connected with the history of Elmira, for he has always expressed his confidence in its future by his persevering work in assisting in the promotion of everything which tended to the material and intellectual growth of the place. He frequently held the position of Secretary in public matters and is at present Secretary of the Elmira Board of Trade, also of the Elmira Real Estate Company (Limited). He has been actively engaged in the Drug business for many years. In his store the central office of the Bell Telephone Company and the C. P. R. ticket agency are located. Mr. Werner is a member of the Berlin High School Trustee Board. This school is making rapid progress amongst the educational institutions of Ontario.

Dr. R. RATZ is a native of Elmira, second youngest son of the late John Ratz, first reeve of the village. After leaving the public schools here, he attended Toronto University and received a degree of B. A. in 1892. He is a Graduate of both the Toronto and Trinity Medical Colleges. After receiving his diplomas he located in New Dundee, in the year 1895, where he enjoyed an extensive practice, which he disposed of in 1901. Then he took a post graduate course at the New York Polyclinic, where he paid special attention to studies relating to the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat. On his return from New York, he located at Elmira and is now enjoying a very successful and extensive practice.



J. H. Ratz.

B.A., M.B., (Toronto), M.D., C.M. (Trinity)
M.C.P. & S., Ont., and daughter.

Dr. H. M. KALBFLEISCH, was born in West Zorra, Oxford County in 1875. He attended the public school of Maplewood and the Collegiate Institute at Stratford. He is a Graduate of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons (1898) and received the degree of Doctor



H. M. Kalbfleisch.

of Dental Surgery in the Toronto University. He commenced practice in Ta-stock in 1899, whence he removed to Elmira, in 1901 and is now enjoying a successful practice and gaining the confidence of the public.



R. J. Hall, V.S.

Secretary Woolwich Agricultural Society.



W. W. Geikie,

M. B., M. D., C. M., Trinity Medical College,
M. C. P. & S., Ont.

DR. WALTER WODEHOUSE GIEKIE is the oldest son of Dean Giekie of Trinity Medical College, Toronto. He was born in Aurora, Ont. He attended Dr. Tassie's school at Galt in 1867, and the Newmarket Grammar School, and the U. C. College. He is a graduate of Trinity Medical College (1876). After graduation he settled at Bright, Ont., then returned to Toronto, where he practised until he came to Elmira, as successor to Dr. Walmsley in 1892. He enjoys the confidence of the people and has a good practice.

DR. H. ULLYOT, is a native of England. He came to Canada in 1850 and commenced practice 36 years ago. Of the 36 years practice he spend 32 in Waterloo County, viz: 8 at Hawkesville and 24 at Elmira, where he enjoys a good practice and the respect of the community. He is coroner for Waterloo



Dr. H. Ulyot.

County. Dr. Ulyot has taken considerable interest in public matters, having been member of the Berlin High School Board, Chairman of the Elmira Public School Board, Medical Health Officer, member of Board of Trade and the Railroad Committee.



Henry Winger.

MR. HENRY WINGER, was born at Bridgeport and came to Elmira about the year 1855. He is the oldest son of the late Peter Winger and was engaged in the business of his father for some years. Later he acquired the Woollen Mills

which he conducted many years. A number of years before being converted into a felt factory, the establishment was conducted under the firm name of Hy. & J. B. Winger. Mr. Winger has been a successful business man, and has done good service in the Village Council of which he was a member 9 years.



M. T. Bechtel.

Veterinary Surgeon, Graduate of the Ontario Veterinary College, Toronto.

MR. I. HILBORN was born at Speedsville, near Preston, Ont. In early manhood he engaged in farming in Waterloo Township and later purchased a farm a short distance south-east of Elmira. Although a successful farmer, he sold out in 1895 and came to Elmira. He became interested in the Winger Woollen and Felt Co. and was Secretary for several years. When the Elmira Felt Co. organized, he became one of the principal stockholders as well as Secretary of the



I. Hilborn.

Company, which position he has since filled successfully.



Neil McPhail.

MR. N. McPHAIL, Manager of the Elmira Creamery, came to Elmira, from the town of Milton, Halton County, in 1902. He came recommended as a first-class butter-maker and is turning out a good article, and is fast building up the reputation of the Elmira Creamery, which is enjoying an extensive patronage.



H. G. Ruppel.

MR. H. G. RUPPEL, was born in Germany. He came to Canada in 1883, worked at his trade, as tailor, one year in Berlin, Ont. Then he came to Elmira in 1884, where he commenced business on his own account. He is now a prospering merchant tailor.



Daniel Ratz.

MR. DANIEL RATZ, Reeve of Elmira, is the second eldest son of the late John Ratz, the first Reeve of Elmira. He was born on a farm 1 1/2 miles west of Elmira, in 1860. He attended the Elmira public schools and, with the family, later, removed to Elmira. In his early manhood he conducted the flouring mills at Salem. After disposing of his interests there, he returned to Elmira, and on the death of his father, in the year 1883, became partner in the milling business left by the latter. In 1892 and 1893 Mr. Ratz served as village councillor. He retired from municipal life until 1901, when he was elected Reeve of Elmira, an office he has since held.



A. K. Dunke.

MR. A. K. DUNKE, although he has disposed of his commercial interests in Elmira, is still a resident here. He travels for the Star White Wear Co., of Berlin, and is one of

the most successful salesmen on the road. He is a son of Mr. Hy. Dunke and was formerly a partner in the business of H. Dunke & Co., general merchants.



E. L. Ziegler.

MR. E. L. ZIEGLER, the popular traveller for the Canada Furniture Manufacturers (Limited), was born on a farm near Elmira. He has, however, lived many years in Elmira, where he received the greater part of his education. He represents the Winton Furniture Factory, the Winton Table Factory and two Snyder Furniture Factories of Waterloo. He is known as a hustler, is well liked by his patrons and wherever he goes orders are very apt to follow.

MR. CHAS. WILKEN, mason and contractor, is an Elmira boy. He has a large patronage and has



Chas. Wilken.

erected houses in Elmira the mason work on which would be a credit to any city.



A. J. Kimmel

Manager of the Elmira Felt Co'y.



Chas. L. Klinck.

MR. CHARLES L. KLINCK, local member of the firm of Eby & Klinck, furniture and builders supply factory.



John S. Ruppel.

MR. JOHN S. RUPPEL, is the junior partner in the firm of Ruppel & Son, undertakers and dealers in furniture. He was born in Elmira, attended the public and Lutheran separate schools during his youth, and has since been engaged in the business established by his father, Mr. Chas. Ruppel, one of the oldest citizens of Elmira.



Simon H. Ratz.

MR. S. H. RATZ, is the senior member of the firm of Ratz Bros. He was born on a farm 1½ miles west of Elmira, in 1858, attended the Elmira public schools and took a short course at the Berlin High School, after which he engaged in milling. After this he clerked in the store of Ratz & Baetz four years. He then took charge of the saw and heading mills of his firm, and has become an expert in that line.



Jacob Dunke.

MR. JACOB DUNKE came to Elmira 39 years ago, entering upon his duties as clerk in the general store of Wenger & Ruppel, for whom he worked two years. After the dissolution of partnership of his employers, he engaged with Mr. Isaac Wenger, where he remained nine years. During this term he laid the foundation of a successful business career and in the year 1875 embarked on his own account in the corner store in Wachsmuth's block. After having experienced unusual success and amassed a large fortune, he sold out to his brother in 1888 and has since lived retired. Mr. Dunke struck Elmira without a dollar to his name and his success is remarkable. He has been treasurer of the Village of Elmira ever since incorporation. It may be said, as a tribute to his ability as collector, as well as to the integrity of the ratepayers of Elmira, that there has never been a time when every

cent of the taxes was not paid up on the date required by law.

MR. A. D. VICE, machinist, was born in England in 1808. He came to Canada when two years of age settling with his parents near St. Marys. He served his apprenticeship with Messrs Moore & Son of that town, then took a situation with Messrs Wells & Richardson, where he remained fifteen years. Then he removed to Berlin, where he was machinist in the Berlin Felt Co's works. After the organization of the Elmira Felt Co., he came to Elmira and has since held charge of the machinery of this establishment. He is a thorough machinist, well informed on many branches of mechanics and makes a specialty of designing and building Felt machinery. He was, while in Berlin, a prominent member of the Engineer's Association of that town.



A. D. Vice.



Geo. Ratz.

MR. GEO. RATZ is a member of the firm of Ratz Bros. He is a native of Elmira and a son of the late John Ratz. He attends to the office work of the firm and is well known as a shrewd and careful business man.



Ph. Christman.

MR. PHILIP CHRISTMAN, WAS BORN

in Germany, when 10 years of age he came, with his parents, to Elmira, in the year 1851, and is therefore one of the earliest residents of Elmira yet living. He served his apprenticeship to the blacksmithing trade in Elmira and later started a shop of his own. Thirty years ago, he conducted the Anglo American hotel, where the Zilliox House now stands. Later he disposed of this and bought a farm in Woolwich Township. Twelve years ago he returned to Elmira and again engaged in blacksmithing. He has been councillor of Elmira two years and Reeve for three years.



Martin Schumaker.

MR. MARTIN SCHUMAKER, a native of Conestoga, came to Elmira 11 years ago as journeyman shoemaker. He engaged in business for himself, 7 years ago, as proprietor of the City Shoe Store, which is enjoying a prosperous business both in factory and custom made shoes.



J. Foerster.

MR. JACOB FOERSTER was born at Bamberg, Ont. He came to Elmira twelve years ago and later became interested in the firm of Heimbecher, Klinek & Co. After dissolution of this firm, he launched out as contractor, on his own account. He takes contracts for carpenter work of any description and has done some very good work in his line.



G. Weismiller.

MR. GEORGE WEISMILLER came to Elmira 31 years ago. He followed the carpenter trade for years. Later he embarked in the bakery business which he carried

on with success for 13 years. Of late years he has returned to his trade and is now employed by Messrs. Heimbecher & Jung. During the past year he was a member of the Village Council.

MR. S. LASCHINGER was born in New Hamburg, Ont., where he passed his youth and school days and where he entered upon the machinist trade in Senator Merner's foundry in 1864. After this he was foreman for fourteen years in the foundry of Mr. S. Merner, a son of the Senator. Then he removed to London, where he was engaged in the London Machine Tool Co.'s Works, two years. In



S. Laschinger.

1887 he came to Elmira, where he was manager of the Elmira branch of the Waterloo Mfg. Co. for nearly 15 years. When the plant was taken over by the Elmira Agricultural Works Company, Mr. Laschinger became principal stockholder and retained the position of manager. As a citizen he is broad-

mind and liberal. He has taken active part in many measures that tended to advance the material and moral welfare of Elmira. He has been member of the Council and was for years the leading spirit in the administration of the affairs of the Public School, in which capacity, he has done really good work, which is appreciated by all.



Otto M. Umbach.

MR. OTTO M. UMBACH, is a son of Rev. S. Umbach, professor of theology at the Evang. Seminary, in Napierville, Ill. He was born in New York State in 1860 and came Canada when 4 years of age. His first occupation, after having obtained a fair education, was milling. At this trade he remained 8 years. Then he took a position as book-keeper in a general store at Rodney, Ont. Later he became book-keeper for the Waterloo Manufacturing Co., where he remained 13 years. About a year ago he became interested in the Elmi-

ra Agricultural Works Company, in which he acquired stock. He now superintends the office work and the agencies and is a decided acquisition to the managing staff of this prospering manufacturing establishment.



J. B. Weber.

MR. J. B. WEBER, but recently came to Elmira, and is an aspirant to public favor, as agent for the Massey Harris machines and implements and De Laval Cream Separators. He was in a similar business for six years, at Linwood, Ont., and is meeting with good success here.



Wm. M. Behrens.

MR. WM. M. BEHRENS, was born in Hannover, Germany, 1854. He emigrated to New York in 1871, and 3 years later, to Elmira. Some years later he went to Detroit where he was in business a short time, and returned to Elmira in 1885. He is salesman in the general store of Messrs Weber & Erb. He has been many years treasurer of the Elmira Musical Society and the I.O.O.F., and has been an officer of the Elmira Public Library almost ever since its organization.



R. Willoughby.

MR. R. WILLOUGHBY, was born in Bruce County. Over five years ago he came to Elmira and purchased the photography business of Mr. N. Cress, which he has since continued. He does all kinds of work in his line and makes a specialty of enlarging portraits. He also does picture framing. The originals of some of the portraits in "Enterprising Elmira," were produced at his studio.



David Hollinger.

MR. DAVID HOLLINGER, was born on a farm two miles south of Elmira. He learned the blacksmithing trade at St. Jacobs, after which he came to Elmira, 22 years ago. He now has a shop of his own and is doing well. He does all kinds of work in his line and makes a specialty of horseshoeing. Mr. Hollinger was three years a member of the Elmira Village Council.



August Blatz.

MR. A. BLATZ, is amongst the oldest residents of Elmira. He is a native of Germany, and came to Elmira, where he worked at the trade of shoemaking, for the late

John Ott. In 1800 he commenced a shop of his own, opposite St. James Lutheran church, where he was very successful. In 1886 he retired from business, after having transferred it to his son-in-law Mr. G. W. Schierholtz. Mr. Blatz, in the earlier days of the Village Council, was one of its most useful members.

prietor of the Elmira Laundry, was born in Woolwich Township. He learned the blacksmithing trade at Conestogo, engaged as journeyman at Tavistock, and came to Elmira in 1886. There he became proprietor of the blacksmith shop, at present owned by Messrs. Pfaff Bros. He conducted this 11 years, when he entered into the laundry business. The Elmira Laundry enjoys a good reputation and an extended patronage.

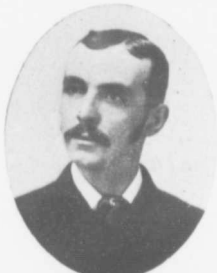
Mr. C. F. NOLL, was born at Petersburg, Ont. Before coming to Elmira, several years ago, he was engaged at his trade as tinsmith, at Berlin. He is foreman of the tinsmithing department of M. Weichel & Son, and is a competent, first-class mechanic, to whom any work in his line may be trusted.

Mr. JOHN W. FORD was born in Woolwich Township. He came to Elmira 20 years ago and has since been engaged in the implement agency, principally for the Massey Harris Co. He has been very successful and is now living retired.



M. H. Hemmerich.

Mr. M. H. HEMMERICH, the pro-



C. F. Noll.



J. W. Ford.



John E. Bowman.
Elmira's Only Policeman.



Mr. JOSIAH EBY, has been in the draying business several years and has a good outfit for doing any work that may be entrusted to him. He also deals in wood-ashes, which he sells in car load lots to American manufacturers of fertilizers.

Mr. JOSIAH MUSSELMAN, although in the draying business only a few years, has succeeded in acquiring a considerable business in this line. He has two teams and is prepared to do all kinds of draying on short notice.



The Hostleries of Elmira.



The Zilliox House



H. Zilliox,
Proprietor
Zilliox House



The O'Donnell House.



J. Christmann,
Proprietor
O'Donnell House



The Zilliox House Dining Room.



C. Mogk, Proprietor
Ontario House



The Ontario House.

Some of the Boys of Elmira, — Where They Are and What They Are Doing.



Mr. Augustus S. Vogt

Was born in Oxford County, August 14th, 1861. He moved to Elmira in 1864, attended the public schools here and took up music study under local teachers and the best available in Waterloo County. In 1873 was appointed organist of St. James Lutheran church, Elmira, Rev. Salinger being then in charge, and was known by that very musical clergyman as the "Herr Cantor." This was Mr. Vogt's first official title and at this early age was very impressive. It is still remembered by him as one of the most gratifying of his musical experiences.

In 1877 he attended school in Hamilton and took lessons in organ playing from the best masters then resident in that city. In 1878 he was appointed organist and choir-master of the First Methodist Church, St. Thomas, a position which was held by him for seven years with the exception of one year spent in Boston in study. In 1885 Mr. Vogt went to Leipzig, Saxony, in order to continue his musical studies under the greatest of German masters, studying under such men as Carl Reinecke, Saloman Jadassohn, Adolf Ruthardt and others. Upon his return to Canada in 1888, he received the important appointment of Organist and Choir-master at Jarvis St. Baptist Church, Toronto, a position which he has since held. Under his direction the Choir of Jarvis St. Church has attained a continental reputation and is regarded by competent critics as unquestionably the finest in the Dominion of Canada. In 1894, Mr. Vogt organized the Mendelssohn Choir of Toronto, an organization which has had a unique history. It is conceded to be the finest large body of singers in Canada, and, according to the testimony of leading American artists and musicians who have heard the Society, it has no equal, as to quality, in the United States. The concerts of the Society attract musicians from all parts of Ontario, and sometimes from other Provinces as well, and at the productions given last year a number of professional musicians from De-

troit, Pittsburg, Cleveland and Buffalo specially attended. Whilst Mr. Vogt's work in connection with the Mendelssohn Choir has brought him most prominently into public notice, he has done no less successful and far-reaching a work in his capacity as an instructor in piano and organ playing. Many of the most promising and most prominent of the rising musicians of Toronto and the Province generally, have received their inspiration from him.

The list of his pupils who are holding prominent positions in all parts of Canada is very large. Mr. Vogt's time is so fully in demand that he has been compelled to limit his teaching to piano pupils only. He has recently issued a work, "Modern Piano Technique" which is already in its fourth edition and is in great demand, both in Canada and the United States. Until compelled, by his many engagements, to discontinue literary work, he occupied a prominent position as a writer on musical matters in the press of the city.

Mr. Vogt is an enthusiastic Canadian, and a great admirer of the good County of Waterloo where he received his early inspirations. "The greatest tribute to his talents as a musician and his worth as a man may be summed up in the statement that no Canadian musician exerts a wider influence among the profession or enjoys the confidence of the public to a greater extent than this "Old Boy" from Elmira."

Mr. W. V. Uttley

Was born in Elmira, July 1st, 1865. He was educated in the public schools of the village and the Berlin High School. As a boy, he haunted the village printery, bound to become an editor. After leaving High School, he was public school teacher for four years. He studied Shorthand, privately, and graduated at the Toronto Business College. He began active newspaper work on the St. Louis Chronicle, in Missouri. In 1897 he, with others, was instrumental in founding the Berlin Daily Record. Later the plant of the oldest Daily in the County, the News, was acquired, amalgamated with the Record, and named "The News-Record." This paper and its editor are valued in Berlin for their loyalty to the town's interests and for their progressiveness in general. Thus far Mr. Uttley has declined public honors, but has consented to be a member of the Berlin Board of Trade.

Any success in life, attained by him, has come hard, being won in the face of difficulties on every side. But, energy, industry and perseverance will win. Of him, his fellow-citizens say: "He is a useful citizen," which is no mean tribute. For his native village, Mr. Uttley has always shown deep affection and a keen interest in its welfare. He was one of the first and most enthusiastic to take steps to bring about the Elmira Old Boys Reunion which is to take place in the near future.



Andrew Weidenhammer.

MR. AND. WEIDENHAMMER, WAS born at Heidelberg, Ont., in 1863, and shortly afterwards removed to a farm near Elmira. He attended the Elmira public school and the Berlin High School, supplementing the education received there by private study. He commenced teaching in S. S. No. 12, Woolwich. From 1886 to 1890 he taught school at Hawkesville and since 1891 at Waterloo. He has been successful as a teacher. In 1900 he was elected President of the Waterloo County Teachers Association and was twice appointed delegate to represent this Association at Toronto. In April 1903 he was elected President of the P. S. Department of The Ontario Educational Association.

Mr. Weidenhammer, has also taken active interest in other matters. He was four years president of the Waterloo Horticultural Society and since 1899 he has been Chairman of the Waterloo Free

Library. He is a staunch conservative and has done good service to his party, by speaking on their platform, during election campaigns. He speaks German as well as English.



A. K. Jansen.

MR. A. K. JANSEN WAS BORN in Elmira in 1868. He was educated in the Elmira public school and received a third class teachers' certificate under Mr. David Bean. He became apprentice to the watchmaking trade, in Klinck's Jewelry Store, in 1884, where he remained 7 years, after which time he worked at his trade in Kingston, Hamilton, Ottawa and Toronto. In 1892 he taught school and in 1893 became a partner in the Signet printing office, from which he withdrew a year later. In 1895 he entered upon his studies at the Canadian Horological Institute, where he made a watch and assisted in the teaching of the students there. In 1898 he commenced business in Berlin, in partner-

ship with his brother Carl, under the firm name of Jansen Bros. and its now becoming well established there.



James Nicol.

MR. JAMES NICOL came to Elmira many years ago. He was book-keeper and clerk in the store of Winger & Weaver, where he remained until they disposed of their business. Then he entered the employ of Mr. Isaac Wenger. Shortly afterwards he embarked in business for himself in the building now occupied by Mr. Weitzel, baker. He sold out some years later to Mr. Geo. Renfer, commenced again and finally sold out to Messrs. Weber & Erb, in 1882. He lived here years afterwards, but is now a resident of Galt, Ontario.

Mr. W. R. Wilkinson is a native of Waterloo County. He received his early education at Hawkes-



W. R. Wilkinson, D. D. S.

vill and Winterbourne and later attended the Berlin High School and Model School, the Galt Collegiate Institute, and the Toronto Normal School. He also attended an art course in Toronto and a course in a School of Elocution at Ann Arbor, Mich. After having taught school eight years in various parts of the county, he took the prescribed courses of the Toronto and Philadelphia Schools of Dentistry and secured a diploma in each. He spent some time in the offices of a Berlin and a Toronto dentist. He is now engaged in the practice of dentistry at Berlin and comes to Elmira every Monday. He has his office in Yost's block, where he has been a tenant for ten years, the first three of which he was permanently located here.

He is much attached to Elmira and her people and takes a lively interest in everything pertaining to the welfare of the village.



Carl Jansen.

MR. CARL JANSEN, was born in Elmira in 1871. He attended the Elmira Public School and the Berlin High School, and was awarded a professional teacher's certificate in 1890. He successfully taught school for a period of 3 years in S. S. No. 12 Woolwich. In 1893 he accepted a position with the R. H. Smith Saw Co. in St. Catharines. In 1896 he was promoted to the position of traveller for the firm throughout Ontario. In 1902 Mr. Jansen became a shareholder in the Maple Leaf Harvest Tool Co., at Tilsburg and is now accountant and business manager. He is also partner in Jansen Bros' Jewelry Store, Berlin.

MR. JOHN ALLEMANG is a son of the late Stephen Allemang. He attended the Elmira public school and served his apprenticeship to the blacksmithing trade at Berlin. In 1893 he commenced business in Preston. He is now doing a good business in all kinds of carriage and repair work and makes a



John Allemang.

specialty of fine horse shoeing. He is prospering and has been elected a member of the Preston town Council for the current year.



O. H. Vogt.

MR. O. H. VOGT, is the youngest son of the late Geo. Vogt, of Elmira.

ra. Like many other Elmira boys he left his native town to seek employment elsewhere and to make a reputation for himself. He left Elmira in 1885 and entered the employ of Messrs Shurley & Dietrich, Galt, with whom he has been ever since. He has been one of their travelling representatives since 1890. His territory extends from Halifax to Windsor and includes the States of Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin. Mr. Vogt also represents, on the road, the Maple Leaf Harvest Tool Co., Ltd., of Tilsburg, of which Company he is a stockholder and director. He is one of the Old Boys of Elmira, who is doing well abroad.



Chas. A. Christmann.

MR. CHAS. A. CHRISTMANN is the oldest son of Mr. Philip Christmann, of Elmira. He was born and reared in Elmira and served 4 years as apprentice and journeyman at Klinek's Jewelry Store. After leaving Elmira, he was en-

gaged for five years with Mr. B. J. Walker, as manager of the repair department of his Jewelry Store at Windsor, Ont. During the last five years he has been with Mr. Hugh Connolly, Detroit, where he is still working at his trade with excellent success.



Wm. S. Menger.

MR. S. MENGER is a native of St. Jacobs. He came to Elmira as an apprentice to the drug business and served 8 years in the stores of Dr. Walmesley and Walmesley & Werner. He attended the Ontario College of Pharmacy and after graduating he went to New York, where he spent one year in the chemical department of the Roosevelt Hospital. He went to Chicago in 1889, where he clerked several years. Then, in 1893, he entered into partnership with Mr. F. M. Schmidt in Blue Island, Ill. The firm has two stores and is doing a good business.



THE PROMPT CONCLUSION of this work, rendered expedient by the advent of the "Elmira Old Boys' Reunion" which will be upon us in a few days, has necessitated the curtailment of the treatment of a number of subjects. This circumstance has also forced us to refuse the latest applications for space and representation which have come to us from citizens with whose wishes we should have complied, had it been possible to do so. We hope, however, that our efforts will be accepted as a work resting on a basis of good will and loyalty to the Village of Elmira and its interests.

We cannot close this book without expressing our heartfelt gratitude for the willing help and the liberal patronage we have received from many of our fellow citizens. May they be rewarded by the consciousness that they have rendered valuable assistance towards the future welfare of their native place and by the assurance that honest effort exerted on behalf of others, is certain to bring its own reward.

August, 10th, 1903.

THE PUBLISHER.



A portion of Kilnck's Plente Grove.

Most of the views in this book were photographed by Mr. Noah Cress, St. Jacobs, Ont.