

TOWN OFFICIALS for the year 1935::: elected Dec. 1934

MAYOR::: HARRY HALL. REEVE: GEORGE BROADLEY: DEPT.REEVE: R.A. LAND.

COUNCILLORS:::

WARD 1. CHARLES DUNSMORE ROY R. RUTHERFORD.

WARD 2. J.S. CHALMERS: WILLIAM DRANGER.

WARD 3. WILLIAM DUNCAN. GEORGE BOWEN.

WARD 4. Ernest Tipler. A.T. GUESS.

WARD 5. THOMAS C. DALEY. JOHN HULL.

BOARD OF EDUCATION:::

THOMAS LYON : A.E. SEATON.

DR. M. PHILLIPS: A.A. COULTHURST.

LOUIS DOUGLAS::: REEVE OF FORT ERIE: 1912-1916: 1919-21:
1926- 1929.

Louis Douglas was born in York Ont. Jan. 23rd., 1878 and died at 79 yrs., June 19, 1958.

After his schooling he entered farming for a time, then took a horse-dhoeing trade in Toronto. He then worked at the trade for four years. He moved to Dunville where he went back into farming. In 1897 he married Miss Edith Mary Mc. Lean of ST. Thomas. They had two children: a girl Ora May, and a son Vaughn Mc. Lean Douglas;

The Douglas family moved to Fort Erie village and Louis again went back to the Blacksmith trade, working for R.F. Ferguson, who had a General Store in the heart of the village and a large barn at the foot of Bertie st., on the north side where he kept several horses. It wasn't long before Louis left his employ and went into business on his own. His shop was a small frame building on Waterloo St. behind the Queens Hotel. When the automobile came in Louis ran a garage for three years

On June 1st., 1927 Mr. Douglas was appointed to the Board of the Peace Bridge, and shortly after became Assistant Superintendent. He served three terms, as Fort Erie Councilman and was first elected Reeve of the village in 1912. In all he served 17 yrs. as Reeve. When the Peace Bridge opened in 1927 Louis Douglas was Reeve at the time and a big man behind the Celebrations and the visit of the Prince of Wales.

After retirement he worked in various supervisory capacities. He was a member of St. Paul's Church, Fort Erie; and one of the first to join the Fort Erie Fire Company, having joined Comp. 1 in 1901. He was also an honorary member of the Niagara District Fireman's Association.

He died in Fort Erie June 19th., 1958 and was interred in St. Paul's Cemetery.

WILLIAM HOGG::: REEVE OF TOWN OF BRIDGEBURG: 1916: 1917.

MAYOR OF TOWN OF BRIDGEBURG ::: 1918.

Reeve of Town of Bridgeburg ::: 1920, 21: 22:23;

" " " 1927 ½ term

" " " 1928 & 1929.

William hogg was born in Haldimond County near Mt. Healey on Aug., 30th., 1861. He finished his schooling in the Collegiate Institute in London Ontario. Following graduation he became Superintendent of the Grand Trunk Railway, coming to Bridgeburg in 1881. Between the years 1892- 1914 hr held the position of trunk line inspector for the railroad. In 1895 he was member of the first Bridgeburg Council. He left the railroad, and was appointed to postmaster at Bridgeburg in 1905. From 1914 to 1922 Mr. Hogg ran his own Grocery business in the store of J. T. James on the S.W. cr. of Jarvis and Central.

In 1923 he was appointed Warden of Welland County, and in 1925 to the Bridgeburg School Board.

On May 19th., 1885 he was married to Eleanor Amelia Phillip, and they had four children::: Ella May: Richy Maud: James William Norwood: & John Bruce.

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JOHN ATWOOD... MAYOR 1917. Bridgeburg Ont.

b. 1866
marr.

d. 1972

Mr. John Atwood was Reeve of Bridgeburg from 1909- 1913.

"Bridgeburg Review 1909" Mr. Atwood re- elected to the reeveship of the town with a majority of 44 over his opponent.

John H. Atwood has again been elected Reeve of Bridgeburg, defeating C.W. Vahey, last year's Reeve at the polls mond. by 44 votes. This will be the fifth year for Mr. Atwood to serve as reeve of bridgeburg, and he is always a popular candidate when municipal honors are being bestowed. His election was no surprise though Mr. Vahey's friends had hoped that his record during the past year , had earned him another term of office.

All of last years councillors that were up for re-election will sit again at the council board, and in addition there will be one new member Ward R. Kraft."

In 1913 Mr. Atwood was elected Warden for the County of Welland. In 1917 he was elected Bridgeburg's second Mayor.

John Atwood businessman:::

Mr. Atwood came to Victoria in 1890, and on Oct. 1st he opened a grocery store on the N.S. of Jarvis St. in the Wector Block. In 1891, Feb. 1st he bought the undertaking bus. In 1892 he bought a store and dwelling on the N.S. of lower Dufferin St., where he cont. for forty years. In 1895 he took over the furniture business, and in 1928 he built his large store on the s.s. of Jarvis St. And in 1931 he built his home on Wintemute St , and in the fall of 1940 he opened a modern funeral parlor and undertaking business on the same st.

ALFRED B. HURREL::: REEVE OF BRIDGEBURG : 1906(½ term) & 1907.

Alfred B. Hurrel was born in Devenshire England, Oct. 11, 1850, and came to Canada in 1854, with his parents John and Mary(Daws) Hurrel. They settled in the County of Wentworth near the Sulphur Springs in the Township of Ancaster. Mr. Hurrel learned the carpenter trade and worked on the construction of the International Bridge at Fort Erie from 1870 to 1873; after which he was employed on the old ferry, conveying the cars across the river to Buffalo. At the completion of the Bridge he moved to Amigari, and was employed in the Grand Trunk Shops until June 1883 when he entered the mercantile business. His store was on the Gilmore Rd. the north side by the corner of Dunlop St. close to the railroad station, the Grand Trunk Hotel and later the race track. He was appointed deputy postmaster and his office was in part of the store. He joined the Masonic Lodge and became Master of the Palmer Lodge. He has also been a member of the I.O.O.F. since the formation of the Bertie Lodge in 1874, and was a charter member of the International Lodge , No. 228 situated on the foot of Courtwright St.

In Dec. of 1869 he married Ellen Fields of Dundas by whom he had two children: Mary Louisa M.D. and Alfred: both later moving to the U.S.A. In May, 1875 the wife of A. Hurrel died; and in Sept. 1877 he married Agnus Stygall of Buffalo N.Y.

In 1906 Mr. Hurrel was elected Reeve of Bridgeburg and re-elected in 1907.

In 1912 he retired from his grocery business and moved to a large home on the Niagara River Rd. a few homes from the corner of Wintemute. He died Oct. 9th., 1916 and was buried in St. Paul's Cemetery.

Menno House died Nov. 26, 1922.

Menno House held the office of Reeve of Bridgeburg for the years 1903, 1904, 1905. He operated a shoe store on upper Jarvis opposite the Land Drug Store by the corner of Central Ave., during the early 190's. He gained prominence for his fight for the Temperance Act, and for his decisions in many cases of smuggling liquor, and its sale. He held the office of Magistrate in Bridgeburg from 1911, till the time of his death in 1922.

Menno House b. March 25, 1863 d. Nov. 26, 1922.
marr. Cora E. Forsyth the dght. of William Forsyth Jr
and Rebecca Moffat.

Children of Menno House and Cora E. (Forsyth) House:::

Mabel Regina b. d.
marr; Wallace Charlton, of St. Thomas
bur; Greenwood

Maria Marr b. d.
marr: Peter Babcock of Bridgeburg.
bur: Ridgeway Memorial new.

Edwin Evans b. d.
marr: 4 times.
bur: near London Ont.

Francis Maxwell b. 1901. d.
marr: 1. Rita Bastido. 2. _____
bur: Three Rivers Quebec.

Raymond Blake b. d.
marr: Gladys Page.
bur: new Ridgeway Memorial

Carl Clarence b.
marr. Maud
bur. Greenwood Cemetery Fort Erie.

ED HAWKINS::: REEVE OF FORT ERIE: 1901: 02: 05.

Ed Hawkins was born in England 1846, coming to Canada in 1870, landing at Niagara Falls. He moved to Brantford where his brother was living. He married Issabelle Warden July 3rd. 1871, and moved to Victoria; where he opened the Victoria boarding house on the north side of upper Jarvis by the N.Y.C. Round House.

In 1888 Ed Hawkins moved with his family to the village of Fort Erie, where he took over the Bakery business of his brother, on the east side of Niagara St., later taken over by Camm's Drug Store. The family then moved into a large frame home of fourteen rooms on the south east corner of Waterloo & Princess Sts.

Mr. Hawkins was one of the most widely known men in the Niagara district. He was a keen follower of sports, and was active in promoting professional boxing matches in the old stadium on Waterloo St. After the building burned, he opened the Pool Hall on Niagara St. which was a legal betting establishment frequented by customers from the U.S.A. When the Race Track opened, Ed was one of its first supporters and owned several horses of his own. He was also a large property owner, and set up many of the villagers in homes and business.

Throughout his life, he took an active part in the affairs of the village of Fort Erie; serving on the Council for a number of years before being elected to Reeve in 1901.

He and his wife Issabelle had a large family Harry: Frank: Theodore: Charles: & daughters Bertie Agnus(Mrs. Arthur Fallon) Isabella (Mrs. Richard Laux): Marie(Mrs. George Trimmer) : Jessie: Mrs. Coyne.) Grace: (Mrs. Fred Cobb).

Ed. Hawkins died Sept. 14, 1928: buried in St. Paul's Cemetery.

ERNEST ALEXANDER CRUIKSHANK::: REEVE OF FORT ERIE. 1878- 1882:
from History of Welland County. 1885- 1887.
1889- 1895.

Ernest Alexander Cruikshank Warden of the County Of Welland for 1886 was born in the Township of Bertie, on June 29th, 1853. His parents were Alexander Cruikshank and Margaret Milne, natives of Aberdeenshire who emigrated to Canada in 1836, and settled near Fort Erie. He was educated at the public school in Fort Erie and Grammar school in St. Thomas; and at Uppper Canada College, at all of which he was a prize winner. He subsequently applied himself to the study of foreign languages, and became proficient in twelve different languages and dialects. He held many public offices. In 1876 and 1877 he was appointed assessor of the township of Bertie, and in the later year treasurer of the village of Fort Erie. While still holding the later office 1878 he was elected Reeve of the village, and was re-elected to that office in 1879- 1880- 1881- 1882. He was defeated in 1883, but was re-elected in 1885, and re-elected in 1886; and in the later year was lected Warden by twenty of twenty- one votes cast. His connection with the volunteer force dates from 1877, and he became Capt. of No. 4 Company of the 44 Battalion. In 1882 he was appointed Justice of the Peace, and in 1883 engineer for the Township of Bertie. He was a member of the American Association, the Buffalo Historical Society, and other societies of similar character: is a journalist by profession, and has at different times been connected with the staff of various newspapers and magazines, and is the author of several translations from modern languages.

In 1879 he was married to Julia Kennedy of Scranton Pa. and resided in the old red brick home on the north side of the Garrison Rd. , on the farm known as Maplewood.

He joined the Mechanics Institute the forerunner of the Fort Erie Library system, and for pleasure he joined the Literary Society and Glee Club. During his life time he was actively engaged in historical studies. In 1886 he wrote his first work A Descriptive Sketch of Welland County. His second publication was the Battle of Lundy's Lane. During his life time he wrote over four-hundred books and pamphlets.

In 1904 he was appointed Magistrate of Niagara Falls and he left his old home at Maplewood Farm on the Garrison Rd.

Cruikshank left the Falls in 1908 to take charge of the Military documents in the Archives in Ottawa. He held the post for one year resigning in 1909 when he was appointed to Command of Military District 13, in the regular forces, where he reached the rank of full Colonel.

In 1917 he returned to Ottawa where he entered into Historical work full time. He became first director of the Historical Section of the General Staff in 1918; and in 1919 was made Board Chairman of the newly formed Historical Sites and Monuments Board. From 1920 to 1922 he was President of the Ontario Historical Board.

After the death of his first wife he remarried to Matilda Jane Merdie, and continued in his writings with her help. He was active on the Historical Sites and Monuments Board until the age of 86 when he attended his last meeting. It was shortly after, Frid. June 23rd. 1939 that Ernest Alexander died.

Following a private funeral in Holy Trinity Church Ottawa, he was buried with full Military Honours in Beachwood Cemetery. He was one of the most illustrious citizens to have come from the Fort Erie area, and no doubt, the most well known across Canada of our Reeves.

NELSON FORSYTH:::

REEVE OF FORT ERIE 1863: 64: 65: - 1875" 76: 77;
1883: & 1884.

Nelson Forsyth son of Wm. Forsyth Sr. of Niagara Falls & Fort Erie was born in Niagara Falls 1810 and died at Fort Erie Jan. 3rd. 1892, and is buried in ST. Paul's Churchyard.

He was married to Archange Warren and had a number of children who all died while quite young.::: Wm. Henry: Mary Amelia: Alice Archange: Mary Eliza.

Nelson Forsyth came to Fort Erie from Niagara Falls with his parents and several other members of the famliy. His father William had a Hotel business there, and shortly after removing to the are farm, he built the large brick home on the Niagara River raod by the foot of Phipp st.

Nelson had considerable money of his own, and became a large land owner in the village. He purchased most of the property on the South and north sides of the st. that was to later take his family name: Forsyth St. and owned a number of lots on the cross st. that tooks his wife's name Archange. In the middle 80's he owned the Hotle in the village, then known as Forsyth's and later : The American: still later the Anglo American. He built his own home on Forsyth St., just behind the old bank property on the S.E. cr. of F rsyth & the Niagara Blvd., however it burnt to the ground in 1880. For a time after comming to the village Nelson ran a private Bank.

In 1840 after Col. Kerby was given the lease of the Fort Erie Ferry, he hired Forsyth to operate the business. He built a dock not far from the Kerby Mill, in the centre of the villag.e Later however Kerby ran into trouble with the government over , his choice of the Upper and Lower Ferry, and do to differences of opinion, Nelson left his employ and built another dock at the foot of Dufferin St., by his father's home and went into the Ferry business on his own.

He served as Justice of the Peace for a number of years, and was appointed Reeve of the Village on several occations.

he died Jan. 3, 1892 and was buried in St. Paul's Cemetery, For Erie.

NELSON FORSYTH:: son of William Forsyth. B. 1810. d. Jan.3, 1892.
buried St. Paul's Churchyard Fort Erie.
Married Archange Warren.
from the Colonial Advocate: York. :::
" feb. 27, 1834. at St. Thomas, Nelson Forsyth
of Fort Erie, married to Archange Warren of
St. Thomas.

Nelson Forsyth was the second eldest son of William Forsyth, the builder of Bertie Hall. He came to Fort Erie from Niagara Falls with his parents and later built his own home in the south end just behind the river road on the street was to take his name Forsyth. The large frame hotel on the west side of the Niagara Blvd. was known as the Forsyth Hotel . When a fire swept through the village in 1880, it took with it the Forsyth home.

After Col. Kerby had been in office for some time, the Government gave him the Superintendancy of the Ferry business, and in 1840 he hired Nelson Forsyth to manage it. He built a dock for the boats not far from the corner of Forsyth and the river roads, only a short distance from the Kerby Mill. He had a misunderstanding with Kerby, and resigned from his employ, building his own dock by the foot of Phipp St. the site of his fathers home. From here he operated his own Ferry business with a boat called the Bee.

For a short time Nelson ran a private bank in partnership with another gentleman. He was Reeve of the Village on several occasions: 1863- 1865; 1875- 1877, and again from 1883- 1884. He was also Justice of the Peace for many years. Although Nelson and his wife had a number of Children, they all died at a young age.

NELSON FORSYTH::: inf. from Richard Radcliffe 1855.

On the S.E. cr. of Forsyth and the river road(where the Sterling bank now stands) was the residence of Nelson Forsyth; almost oposite the then railway station which stood just about where the present ferry landing is. Mr Forsyth was a very active energetic man taking a very active interest in all public affairs. He was Reeve of the village on several occassions. His wife was a most charming woman, and an admirable hostess.

CHILDREN OF NELSON FORSYTH & ARCHANG WARREN:::

WILLIAM HENRY: b. Mar. 2, 1843. d. Mar. 27, 1843.

records of St. Paul's Fort Erie:

" William Henry son of Nelson Forsyth and Archange aged nearly 1 month died on the 27, of Mar. in the year of our Lord eight hundred and forty three, and was buried on the following day".

John Anderson.

ALICE ARCHANGE : b. Jan. 30, 1845. d. July 8, 1847--- 18 months.

records of St. Paul's Fort Erie::: 1846:

" Alice Archange dght. of Nelson Forsyth and Archange was baptized by me : b. Jan. 30 1845"

Rector of St. Paul's.

MARY Amelia : b. Nov. 17, 1847. d. July 30, 1849.

records of ST. Paul's Fort Erie::: 1846

" I baptized Mary Amelia daughter of Nelson Forsyth and Archange, his wife: b. 17, Nov. 1847."

" Mary Amelia Forsyth daughter of Nelson Forsyth and Archange, one year and eight months died July 30, 1849".

MARY ELIZA: b. Oct. 17, 1849 . d. 1920: N.Y. city.

married Hugh Angier.

Records of ST. Paul's Fort Erie:

" I baptized Mary Eliza daughter of Horatio Nelson Forsyth and Archange his wife; born 17, Oct. 1849"

Rector of St. Paul's.

NELSON MACKLEM

EDITH b. d.

married Stephen Snowden

DR. T. Kempson was an Englishman, and brought considerable means with him to this country. Mrs. Kempson was a very cultured lady , an excellent musician with a beautiful trained voice. The doctor not being very popular, or a successful physician, left Fort Erie shortly after 1869 going to New York where he entered the Insurance business.

In 1856 by deed of trust Peter Kempson left to Rev Elliot Grasett pt of lot 3 con 1 N.R.

On June 26, 1869 Peter Kempson sold to John Harvey the land that had been left in tursut to him by Wm. Smith. \$ 2400.00

PETER TERTIUS KEMPSON::: M.D. : Reeve of Fort Erie.
1861, 62, 63. & 1866.

PETER T. KEMPSON b. d.
marr. Clara Taylor
bur.

Known children of Peter T. & Clara Kempson:::

Peter Tertius Kempson Jr. b. Dec. 25, 1853

Lucy Clara b. Nov, 12, 1855.

Amy Esther b. Feb. 19, 1857.

George Kempson b. Apr. 23, 1858.

WILLIAM JOHN HAWLEY:::

b. 1882 d. 1951.

Mayor Hawley was the first Mayor of the new Town of Fort Erie. he was elected by the casting of a vote by the Town Clerk to break a historic tie between he and the, and Harry Hall . Prior to being elected to the mayoralty, in which he served several terms; he had held various offices in the old village of Fort Erie: treasurer, Reeve etc., and was prominate all his life in the Conservative Association, not only in Fort Erie, but in the Welland County and Niagara riding organizations. He was a past president of the Fort Erie Conservative group, and held executive posts in the larger oganizations. He was Fort Erie's first insurer of motor vehicle plates, and saw that particular department rise, from a few plates per. year, to a much larger magnitude.

Mayor Hawley spaned the period between horse and byggy, and gasoline days. He was to the forr, in the old Fort Erie Board of Trade for years, fighting for reciprocity between New York State and Ontario in automobile plates.

Born on his fathers farm on the lake by Ridgeway, Mr. Hawley kept a summer home there, living at 34 Forsyth in the old Weaver home belonging to his wifes family. He entered business in Fort Erie as a young man in 1902, working in the Ferguson General Store, and in 1905 moving into his own place of business, a general Store on the river road, opposite the Anglo American Hotel. In 1908 he moved across the street to the n.e. corner of Forsyth and the Niagara Blvd. into the store vacated by the Everinghams. Realizing there was a great nead for a Hardware Store in the village , he took down the small building to the north that had been Boag's Liquor Store, and added a large addition, for such a purpose. He remained in business till aug. 1952 when he sold to R.H. Little of Windsor.

Mr. Hawley was Chairman of the board of the Douglas Memorial Hospital, and one of it's most active supporters. he was a life member of St. Paul's Anglican Church, and held various offices in that congregation. An active Mason, he was pat master, and a former Deputy Grand Master.

Er was active in the Fort Erie Parks Board, and other local organizations, always willing to give his time to public ventures.

While he was Mayor Harry Oaks dedeed Oaks Park to Fort Erie°

Mr. Hawly married Maud C. Weaver, had a dght. Carol(Norton)

JOHN T. JAMES::: REEVE OF BRIDGEFBURG 1895- 1896.

John T. James was the first Reeve of the Town of Bridgeburg. He was born in England coming to Canada with his parents as a youth and moving to a farm in Bertie Township. He married the daughter of James Haun: Annie E. and Mr. James built a fashionable home for her on the south east cr. of Dufferin and Central in 1890. They had an adopted dght. Lucy who later married Bert Miller.

In 1895 J.T. James was appointed Majistrate and then Reeve. He financed the building of the Church of Christ on the north east cr. of Dufferin and Central Ave, and was their organist for a number of years. He was the first merchant in the town of Bridgeburg, his place of business a frame building on Jarvis St built by Eber Cutler. In 1900 he had erected a large block store on the south west cr. of Central Ave and Jarvis opposite the Town Hall. It was called the 20th. Century Store and was in operation till Mar. 4, 1927.

Mr. James was one of the pioneers of the Railroad Y.M.C.A. on Lewis St.

He died and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery.