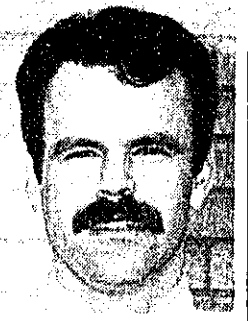


PEDALING AROUND

Looking back

By Mike Eliasohn



I noticed when I was in Cass City Intermediate School last week that only some of the hallway lockers had padlocks on them.

I assume it's up to the student. Those who trust their fellow students or are too lazy to open a lock don't have them. Those who don't trust their fellow students do.

By Cass City standards, I come from the big city, where the motto, at least as far as school lockers was concerned, was, "Trust no one." Padlocks for school lockers were standard equipment, back even in the 1950s and 60s, when I attended junior and senior high school.

Junior high, by the way, was grades 7-9; high school, 10-12.

The terms intermediate school and middle school still sound funny to me, as does the idea of ninth graders attending high school. They belong in junior high.

I don't remember it occurring in high school, but in junior high, we had locker inspections either once or twice a year. I forget that also.

Now days, I'm sure, if school authorities attempted to have locker inspections, the American Civil Liberties Union would be up in arms. Looking in one's locker would be an invasion of privacy.

But back when I attended Walter French Junior High (1957-60), locker inspections were a pleasant means of getting out of class for a while.

All the students had to

stand in the center of the hallway in front of their locker and then, one at a time, a teacher would inspect each locker. The students had to be there, of course, to unlock the lockers.

Since that was back in the "Happy Days" days, I doubt if many knives were found and I'm sure, no guns.

Probably the primary reason for the inspections was for sanitary reasons. Rumor had it, at least one time, that there was a student who brought his lunch to school each day in a bag, threw it in his locker, and never ate it. The stench by the time of locker inspection must have been overpowering, as were the bugs.

I don't recall whether we had advance warning of the inspections in order to allow students to clean their lockers in advance or whether it was a surprise.

When I got to high school, I discovered padlocks couldn't keep all intruders out of lockers, in particular, mice.

Apparently not all lockers were so blessed, but mine was. The mice had their passageway under the lockers and got in through the gaps between the floor and walls.

It was in my first year there, I discovered I had unwelcome intruders. I always brought my lunch and would put it on the floor of my locker.

I started noticing confetti on the floor, but couldn't figure out where it was coming from.

I found out the day I sat down to eat and discovered not only was the corner of my sack eaten away but also a corner of my sandwich.

After that, I started putting my lunch on the shelf in my locker instead of the floor, and had no further problems.

Fortunately, the mice in our school weren't climbers.

Not too late to change tax returns

If a taxpayer decides to change something on a federal income tax return after it has been filed, a corrected return can be filed on a Form 1040X, the Internal Revenue Service says.

A return can be amended using the 1040X any time during the three years following the due date (including extensions) of the original return, or two years from the time the tax was paid, whichever is later.

The 1040X and other filing information are available by calling the IRS toll-free number found in the white pages of the telephone directory.

Fire destroys \$45,000 10-year-old pine tree plantation Saturday

After at least 10 years of watching his pine trees grow, Wallace Brown sadly watched them all burn Saturday afternoon.

About 220 acres burned in an area north of Robinson Road, east of Germania, in Greenleaf township, owned by various property owners, including Brown, who had about a third of it. It was one of three fire calls made by Elkland township firemen that afternoon.

Brown lost between 1,800 and 2,000 pine trees of various types, which he estimated as worth \$25-30, though he had no plans to sell the trees. That would have put the total loss at a minimum of \$45,000. All were planted the same year,

at least 10 years ago. What finally stopped the blaze, according to Assistant Fire Chief Jerome Root Jr., was a creek to the east and a private road on the southwest, plus some assistance from the firemen.

The fire had started on some property near Brown's some hours earlier, possibly by men burning grass or something else, but that isn't known for sure. Brown didn't discover the fire was coming toward his property until it was too late.

Firemen received the call about 5 p.m. and were there about 1 1/2 hours. Their annual banquet for their wives, scheduled at 6:30 at the Charmont, had to be delayed one hour.

LOADER FIRE

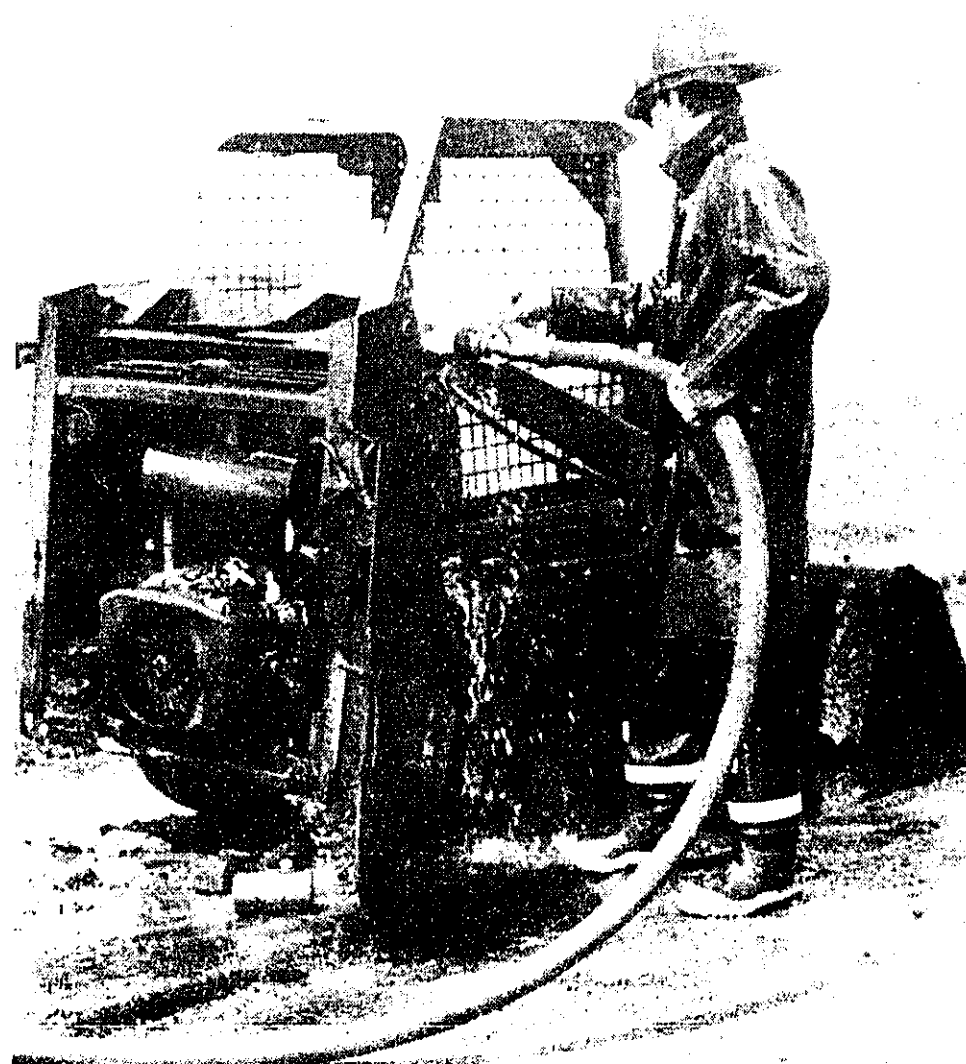
A farm front-end loader worth \$7,000-8,000, owned by Don DeLong, was destroyed by fire Saturday afternoon. (See photo.)

It was being driven by his son, Dick, on Englehart Road, just north of Kelly. He later told firemen the engine backfired and next he knew, it was on fire.

Firemen were there about a half hour. The fire was reported at 12:20 p.m.

TUESDAY FIRE

It hasn't been a good time of late on the Don DeLong farm.



UNLOADED -- Fireman Roger Hurley hoses down the remains of the loader of Don DeLong, which burned Saturday afternoon. It was valued at \$7,000-8,000.

Jamieson funeral Friday

Alex Jamieson, 81, of Gagetown, died Tuesday at Hills and Dales General Hospital after a short illness.

He was born July 26, 1894, in Detroit, the son of Alexander and Margaret (Lockhart) Jamieson.

He married Inger Roberts Nov. 26, 1915, in Bad Axe. They came to the Gagetown area in 1919 from Detroit and settled on their Maxwell Road farm in 1931. Mrs. Jamieson died April 21, 1970.

Jamieson is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Irene Goyette of St. Helen and Mrs. Noble (Lois) Benson of Detroit; three sons, Dale Jamieson and Lee Jamieson, both of Owendale, and Robert Jamieson of Sebewaing; 15 grandchildren, and 14 great-grandchildren.

Other survivors are a brother, Harold Jamieson of Farmington; five sisters, Mrs. Belle Lawson, Farmington Hills, Mrs. Thomas Nash, Pittsford, Mrs. Violet

Johnson, Boulder, Colo., Mrs. Oliver Bunting, Savannah, Tenn., and Mrs. Wesley Gough, Westland, and one sister-in-law, Mrs. Ethel Jamieson, Pigeon. One daughter and one brother preceded him in death.

Funeral services will be conducted at 1 p.m. Friday from Little's Funeral Home, Cass City, with Elder John Abbe of the Owendale Reorganized Church of the Latter Day Saints officiating.

Burial will be in Grant cemetery, Gagetown.

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School Menu

- APRIL 28 - MAY 1-2 MONDAY Fishwich Tartar Sauce Chips Peach Slices White Milk Cookie TUESDAY Spaghetti & Meat Celery Sticks Bread-Butter White Milk Applesauce Cookie WEDNESDAY Cheeseburger Chips Buttered Corn White Milk Cookie THURSDAY Vegetable Soup Crackers Turkey Sandwiches Pickles White Milk Pineapple Tidbits FRIDAY Hot Dog & Bun Chips Buttered Peas White Milk Chocolate Cake

Firemen were called there at 5:30 Tuesday to extinguish a grass fire.

According to Fire Chief Jack Hartwick, grass in a ditch bank along Kelly Road was being burned and it got out of hand. The fire spread further onto the DeLong property and also onto the property to the west, owned by John Bulla. The fire was pushed along by a stiff breeze from the south.

Firemen were there until shortly after 7 p.m., extinguishing the blazing grass with a combination of water from fire trucks, brooms and water scooped from a drain with their fire helmets. The fire was stopped on the east by a bare field and on the south by Kelly Road.

They were no sooner back to the station when they were called back to the DeLong farm because sparks from a still burning tree had reignited the grass.

Firemen were there the second time until about 8:30. They were aided then by a Department of Natural Resources bulldozer, the driver of which plowed around the burning area to create a barrier which stopped the blaze. He also pushed over and then buried the burning tree.

A total of about 30 acres burned.

SHED FIRE

At 1:15 p.m. Saturday, firemen were called to Mc-

Burning permits needed

Because of the dry weather, permits are required for burning leaves, grass, etc., which is not being burned inside a barrel.

Permits are not required inside village limits.

The permits, according to Elkland Township Fire Chief Jack Hartwick, only permit burning after 6 p.m. and are good for only one day. Additional burning requires a new permit.

Within the area served by the Elkland department, permits can be obtained from Hartwick, Don Finkbeiner, Jack McDaniel and Danny Gee, all firemen, and from Elwyn Helwig at Croft-Clara Lumber.

Millan Road, north of Bay City-Forestville Road, to extinguish a shed fire.

The shed was owned by Ken Osentoski. In addition to loss of the shed, valued at \$300, the contents were also termed a loss. Inside were lumber, worth less than \$1,000, and a snowmobile worth \$400-450.

Cause was undetermined, according to Fire Chief Jack Hartwick, but may have been electrical or sparks from burning of grass in the roadside ditch earlier in the

day. Firemen were there less than one hour.

FRIDAY FIRE

Elkland firemen Friday afternoon extinguished a grass fire along Lamton Road, about 1 1/2 miles north of Deckerville Road, on property owned by Bruce Sherman. The fire alarm sounded at 1:20 p.m.

Cause wasn't determined. The grass burned for about 100 feet along one side of the road.

The weather

Table with columns: High, Low, Precip. Rows: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday

(Recorded at Cass City wastewater treatment plant.)

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