

Township Council

The first Reeve of Normanby was Thomas Lockey. Other important names were John Robertson, W.H. Ryan and H.A. McMahon.

Pioneer Experiences

Experiences of Pioneers in early days were numerous with wild animals, etc. Also the Fenian Raid in 1866 terrorized many people. One early settler Davey Shiel shot his only cow by mistake, thinking it was a Fenian. She had been licking at a rag in the window during the night.

There was a small Negro community on Concession two. These were runaway slaves from Buffalo and Detroit. In the 1850's several families drifted to Normanby about a mile north of No.3 School. Such names were Ghand, Travis, and Williams. They built a small church and fenced in a small cemetery which still is marked by a few headstones. After the Civil War, they left and no trace remains.

Orange Lodge and Institute

The first Orange Lodge was a log building situated on the Owen Sound road four miles north of Mount Forest. It was later replaced, in 1895, by a new frame Lodge which is still in use.

The Women's Institute was started in 1919. The first President was Mrs. Robert Dickson. The Institute is still going strong.

Political History

In Politics we have a mixed group--some Conservative and some Liberal--just friendly people.

Military History

The first Military History was a grant of land (300 acres) to Sockett's on the 2nd Concession of Normanby for military service.

About 1900 the Boer War in South Africa Started. Fred W. Campbell enlisted and returned safely, gaining the rank of Captain.

In 1914 the First World War started. Captain F.W. Campbell again enlisted along with others and went overseas. On June 15, 1915, Captain Campbell was wounded and on June 19, 1915, he died at Boulogne and was buried there winning the Victoria Cross. **ADAIR**

Other names of persons in the First World War were Robin Ernest McKeown, Calvin Baker (killed in action), Walter Hermiston, Walter Adair, Bert Adair, Charlie Stevenson, Tom Sockett and Claude Witherow.