

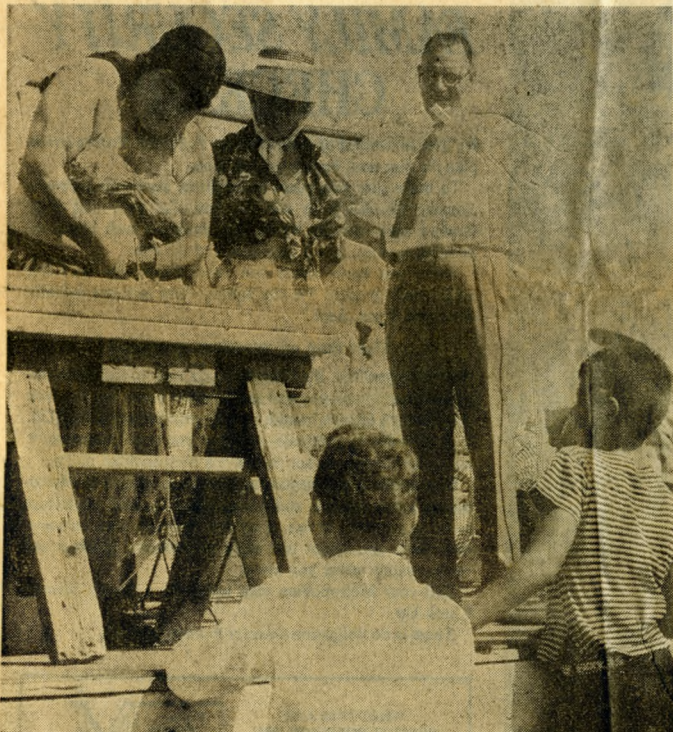
BELLEVILLE, ONTARIO, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 1961



**HEIGH HO, THEY CAME TO THE FAIR** — Although the morning and early afternoon attendance was scant, the Shannonville Fair wound up with a large number of people present. With most of the men having a look at the horse and cattle exhibits or watching the races there was a large number of the fair sex on the midway.



**CHRISTMAS IN SEPTEMBER** — This was one of the novel exhibits in the ladies' section of the Shannonville Fair. Looking at the attractive display are Mrs. Sid Fitzgerald, director and ladies' representative on the Central Ontario Fair Boards' Association, and fair president Lorne Weese.



**A MIGHTY GIRL** — Matilda Armbruster (left) is a picture of intense concentration as she participates in the ladies' nail driving contest. Looking on are Ima Drummer (centre), Matilda's coach, and Tommy Mason, master of ceremonies for the Shannonville Fair grandstand show.

## Varied Grandstand Program, Splendid Exhibits, Good Racing at Shannonville Fair

The Shannonville "World's" Fair was held this past Friday and Saturday with the blessing of fair weather, some very fine displays and entries but initially lacking, unfortunately, in spectators attendance.

By the middle of Saturday afternoon this latter situation was considerably remedied however, and a large number of people were on hand to view the activity on the Midway, the grandstand and the race track.

As usual with the Shannonville Fair the grandstand show stressed the idea of offering something for everyone. There were nail driving and buck-sawing contests for the ladies. Log sawing, fiddling and jiggling contests were for the men. There were also searches for the largest family present, the oldest patron of the fair, the boy and girl with the most freckles and so on. The audience appreciation of these events was quite evident in the laughter they provoked and the enthusiasm of the participants.

The grandstand musical entertainment was provided by the Clown Band from Belleville.

On the race course everything from trotters, through bicycles, to greased pigs were being raced, much to the delight of those viewing this side of the fair's activities.

### JUNIORS QUITE ACTIVE

The 4-H Club members and Junior Farmers were quite active amongst the cattle exhibitors. A number of fine calves of various breeds were shown by them. It was evident that amongst this group a great deal of enthusiasm can come in a small package. There was one exhibitor showing who was hardly a third the size of the calves he paraded in the show ring.

In the "Palace" the usual fine display of the women's sections was once again evident and for those who wished they could get a finger into some of the very tasty looking home baking and cooking there was a stand just outside where meals and snacks could be obtained.

New amongst the women's exhibits this year was the "Christmas in September" display of Christmas decorations by a number of the women's associations. In the heat of the day it seemed strange to think that there were less than 100 shopping days remaining until the annual winter Holiday Season.

A number of manufacturers were displaying their wares.

Everything from sewing machines to tractors and farming equipment were to be seen. All in all the 1961 Shannonville Fair proved once again that good things can come in small packages.

Activity at the Shannonville Fair was at a general standstill last Saturday around midday but by mid-afternoon, things started to roll.

The crowd was small as were the exhibits this year, as temperatures remained in the high 80's throughout the afternoon. Some of the fair officials remarked that it was such a beautiful day, farmers were remaining home to bring in late season crops before the fall rains began.

The race track was kept watered via truck to keep the dust to a minimum as the trotters warmed up for the race events.

There was a good showing of fine horses and cattle, but the swine couldn't have cared less. They were more interested in finding a cool spot, if they could, in the pens provided for them.

Children were having a gay time with candy apples and taffy, but were not too interested in the midway provided for them.

### EXHIBITS

Exhibits and exhibitors at the Shannonville World Fair were:

Horses and Ponies — Judy Day, Belleville; C. Top, Belleville; Morris Park, Belleville; H. Cook and sons, Newburg; Cerman Downey, Crookston; Bruce McPherson, Napanee; Fred Cook, Enterprise; Don McNiven, Belleville; Sandy Day, Kingston; Robert Dandford, Holkweg; Bert McCutcheon, Napanee; Benn's Bros., Napanee; A. W. Maynes, Brighton; Beverley Lucas, Belleville; David T. McDonald, Belleville; William Craig, Belleville; Clifford Yeomans, Napanee; and Jack Bush, Belleville.

Cattle — Mrs. Acton Hayes, Odessa; Elmer Wood, Crookston; Edward Reavie, Clinton; T. Duncan Creighton, Bath.

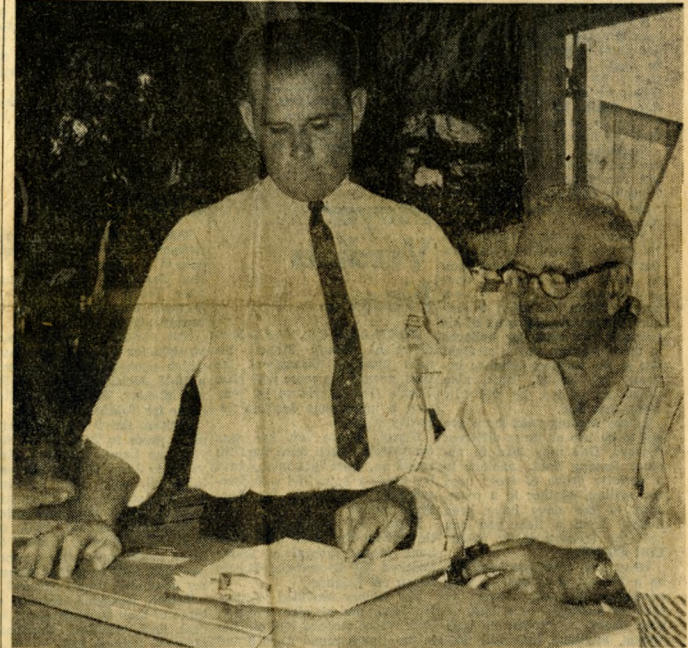
Poultry and Eggs — Mrs. Acton Hayes, Odessa; Mrs. H. Sheppard, Codrington; Hubert Thompson, Roblin; Violet Elliott, Plainfield; Ervine McGuire, Crookston.

Sheep and Swine — Hubert Thompson, Roblin; and Ervine McGuire, Crookston.

Pastry and Preserves — Mrs. A. A. Cooke, Shannonville and Mrs. L. A. Bryant, Wooler; Mrs. G. R. Putnam, Wooler.

Flowers and Vegetables — Mrs. Acton Hayes, Odessa; Mrs. Pearl Clazic, Belleville; Ruby Juby, Shannonville; Mrs. S. H. Sheppard, Codrington, and Mrs. G. R. Putnam, Wooler.

There was a beautiful display of various women's work such as hand-sewn garments, needlecraft and table decorations. One eye-catching display was a Christmas scene labelled "Let's Have Christmas in September".



**NEW AND OLD** — Shannonville Fair executives, Tom Hinchey, secretary (left), and Sid Fitzgerald, treasurer (right), check the lists of entrants. This year's entries were up in the cattle classes over those of past years whilst other class entries remained about the same as previous years.

As usual at Shannonville Fair the favorite attraction is the horse races and Saturday was no exception. The largest crowd on the grounds was watching the races, which were spirited and keen. A matched race between Don McKay owned by Art MacDonald of Kingston and driven by Cecil Carleton was defeated by Judge Moore, owned by Albert Defosse of Trenton and driven by Harry Ingles of Brighton.

Queenie McDuff owned by Art MacDonald of Kingston was much the best in the "B" classified race winning in straight heats and accomplishing the feat in an easy manner. In the "A" classified the heats were split with the good trotter owned by Bill Faulkner winning the first heat and Judge Moore, who did not finish coming back to take the second heat.

Harold Bunnett was the announcer for the meet with Lorne Urch in charge of the starting gate. The judges were Cameron Bunnett, George Montgomery and Clarence Hannah, the timers, Harold Osborne, Douglas Lazier and Don Thompson while Lorne Lazier was clerk of the course. The results.

### CLASS A

Serenity W. Faulkner 1.4  
Miss Bobby R. Gratton R. La-Rush 1.5  
Roderick L. Zebedee 2.2  
Judge Moore A. Defosse DNF.

Favored Hanover H. Ingles 5.7  
Miss Triplewyn C. Golligly 3.6  
Buddy C. Able Dr. Welbanks 6.3  
Time 2:17, 2:16.

### CLASS B

Queenie McDuff A. McDonald



**WHO'S LEADING WHO** — This small tyke, who barely stood as high as the calf he was exhibiting, certainly had his hands full when showing in the judge's ring at the 4-H calf show at the Shannonville Fair.

Hi Ackers Mystery Guy La-Rush 3.2  
J. L. Mann F. Stewart 7.7  
Jimmy M. Gratton D. Moorehouse 5.4  
Time 2:18 2:19.





## Lantern Globes for Sale

Mrs. LaRone and daughter, Mrs. Lois Harrington, ponder what to do with some of the three dozen or more old lantern glasses still remaining in stock.



Sixty-year-old plug cutter unused for many years, is tried out by Mrs. LaRone as she cuts a plug of chewing tobacco for "customer" biscuit salesman Vernon Rump.

## Storekeeper Finally Retires After 60 Years in Business

By ROY PEACOCK  
Staff Reporter

Anybody in the market for a few brand new barn lantern glasses of pre-Hydro days, or maybe a 60-year-old plug tobacco cutter?

Then how about a bulk cookie display case of the same vintage, or a cheese slicer capable of handling a 90-pound blocks of cheddar?

If there are any takers, the items are all available in the village of Shannonville where this week a 60-year-old grocery store went out of business.

What's so unusual about a 60-year-old grocery store?

Nothing really except this one happens to have been operated by the same family for all six decades — and by the same woman, Mrs. L. E. LaRone.

This week — on May 16 — the LaRone Grocery store closed its doors for the last time. The "left-over" grocery stock has been purchased by a Belleville fruit market operator, and eventually the owner of the old store will get around to holding an auction to dispose of the store chattels — including the three dozen or so coal oil lantern glasses.

The LaRone grocery store at Shannonville has been a fixture in the village for longer than most residents remembers.

Originally it was known as the Farnsworth store, being built in 1908 by Mr. and Mrs. Abram Farnsworth.

Mr. Farnsworth, a dealer of farm machinery, didn't bother much with the grocery store and when he died in 1922 Mrs. Farnsworth carried on alone. She married John LaRone, a railroader, in 1927.

Mr. LaRone died in the 1940s and in recent years, Mrs. LaRone has been assisted by her daughter, Mrs. Lois Harrington.

Now 81 years of age, Mrs. LaRone had no thought of giving up the grocery store until last Christmas when she

suffered a heart attack.

But Mrs. Harrington feels that as far as she is concerned the day of the small grocery store is about ended.

"It's hard to compete with the big grocery chains," she says. "The small grocery store eventually becomes merely a convenience."

Both inside and out, the old LaRone store today is much the same as it was half a century ago, but the same thing doesn't apply to the store equipment.

Years ago she turned in her hand cranked coffee grinder on a new electric model and has repeatedly turned old cash registers in on new ones.

And back in the days when

rural electrification was being pushed she actually turned in an old Delco plant with Ontario Hydro.

"I guess I learned some of my trading instincts from my first husband," she says.

Mrs. LaRone vividly recalls the huge chests of green tea from which she measured customers' requirements — also the black strap casks and the rolled oats bin. She gave up handling sugar in the bulk years ago but still sells bulk rolled oats and macaroni.

But Mrs. LaRone readily admits the modern pre-packaged groceries are handier for both the store keeper and the customer.

And her daughter agrees.



# Shannonville Fire Department Will Be Formed

December 1 1960

75 Approval in principle of the formation of a volunteer fire department at Shannonville has been given by members of the Tyendinaga township council following representations by a delegation of Shannonville residents.

Details of the matter will be worked out at a meeting to be held next Tuesday evening following inquiries into the cost of possible equipment.

A four man delegation from Shannonville consisting of Kenneth Vivian, Tom Hinchey, Alvin McKenzie and Asa Cook, waited on the township council asking for assistance in the formation of the volunteer fire brigade.

The request was made following a series of fires in Shannonville.

The township at present has fire fighting agreements with both Belleville and Deseronto and while there has been no fault found with services from either department, often when a fire breaks out the blaze is out of control before equipment can be brought from Belleville.

It is thought that a volunteer brigade equipped with small pumping equipment might be able to contain a fire until the arrival of professional fire fight-



## Sixty-year Old Shannonville Store Closes

The old LaRone grocery store at Shannonville, operated by Mrs. L. LaRone for nearly six

decades, has gone out of business. The store with false facade is as it appears today.

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