

Bitesize Newsletter

Snippets from BNA & Outside Source

1950 FARM TRAVELS 550 MILES BY TRAIN



Farmer McLean Walker, his family, his 40 cattle, his horses, poultry, furniture, farming implements and his motor car will travel by train from Lochwinnoch (Renfrewshire) to Bude (Cornwall) to-day and to-morrow. This will be a record long distance farm removal for British Railway.

The "Noah's Ark" train will travel 550 miles. Special arrangements have had to be made for the train to stop at Camp Hill (Birmingham) and Okehampton (Devon) to enable Farmer Walker and his staff to detrain

and milk and feed the cows. The farm leaves Lochwinnoch at 5.50 p.m. to-day and arrives at Bude at 6.25 p.m. to-morrow.

1938 MAID'S WARNING SAVES FAMILY FROM FIRE

A servant girl's warning enabled her employers and other servants to make dash for safety when fire destroyed part of Lochside, Lochwinnoch, the home of Mr R. A. Clapperton.

Mr Clapperton and his wife carried their two children, Ruth, aged two, and Charles, aged four months, to their gardener's cottage.

They were roused by Margaret Rice, maidservant, who was awakened by smoke her room on the top story. Two other servants were almost overcome by the smoke and were guided to safety by Mr Clapperton. West Renfrewshire Fire Brigade confined the fire to the servants' quarters.



From Crookhill



From Lochhead Ave.



From Church St.



Marina

1892 Concert

Last night Howwood Amateur Minstrel Troupe gave an entertainment in the Public School in aid of the local Nursing

1880 Steeple Clock

I'm wae tae speak about mysel'.
But shame mak's me my story tell.
And mak's my inward feelings swell
Wi' fair disgrace,
And strike perhaps my dying knell
Even in this place.

1938 CASTLE SEMPLE LOCH - Steps to Secure Control for Lochwinnoch People

A public meeting of the inhabitants of Lochwinnoch, presided over by County Councillor Wm. Johnstone, was held to consider a proposal to approach the Department of Agriculture for Scotland with a request



that as the Department have recently purchased Castle Semple estate, with the object of cutting up the landward portion into small holdings, the rights of control of the loch should be secured for the inhabitants of Lochwinnoch for recreation and physical fitness purposes.

Opposition to the proposal that Lochwinnoch people should secure control of the loch was voiced by Mr Clapperton, the shooting tenant, who was supported by the Rev. Graham N. Warner.

The following resolution was submitted and, on a vote, accepted by the meeting : — "That this public meeting of the inhabitant of Lochwinnoch desire to secure the right of Castle Semple loch, so that the amenities of the loch may be preserved for the use of the public of the district."

A committee of seven, with Mr R. E. Muirhead, Meikle Cloak was elected, with instructions to communicate with the Department.

1933 STILL WORKING AT 99 - Mr Robert Ewing, of Lochwinnoch, who has just entered his 99th year, does not depend on modern mechanical devices to rouse him from his slumbers. He is up with the lark to catch the early worm and other pests which, if allowed, would play havoc with his well-kept half-acre garden.

A native of Lochwinnoch, he is of a farming stock, and was born at Fairhills Farm, which his father tenanted, and where he himself followed the plough for many years.

For close on 40 years he carried on a dairy business in the town.

Mr Ewing is the oldest living member of the Farmers' Association, of which he has been a member for over 51 years.

He is very fond of the sweet things of life, but, he observed, "these are not always obtained without painful memories," pointing to his apiary at the far end of his garden.

Mr Ewing displays remarkable strength and agility for his years.

"Hard work never killed anyone," he said, with a twinkle in his eye.



Robert Ewing

OLD JOKE OF THE MONTH

Rejected suitor [impatiently] - "Oh, well, there are just as good fish in the sea as were ever caught"
She - "Yes George, there are; but unless you change your bait they are safe"