

Tin Dishes

This runway is located along the river down by the old dinnering place. The story is that Father Louis (Casartelli), accidentally shot at some tin dishes that were set out to dry on a bench. The dishes were kind of canted over in the sunlight, and whether Louis thought it was a deer, or whatever, is hard to tell... maybe it was an accident because he was awfully careless with a gun - if he hadn't been the priest the guys would have probably kicked him out of the gang – but he fired a shot right through the set of tin dishes.

Father Casartelli served several stints as the parish priest of St Francis de Sales in Latchford Bridge. His first appointment there was to replace Fr. H. Maloney in September of 1943. For years, Fr. Louis and later, Fr. Michael Hass hunted with the gang.

Between 1869 and the late 1930s, over 100,000 juvenile migrants were sent to Canada from Great Britain during the child emigration movement. Motivated by social and economic forces, churches and philanthropic organizations sent orphaned, abandoned and pauper children to Canada. Many believed that these children would have a better chance for a healthy, moral life in rural Canada, where families welcomed them as a source of cheap farm labour and domestic help. As a child, Father Louis was sponsored by a bishop in England and was raised by the Coyne family in Brudenell. He was ordained a priest at Our Lady of the Angels Church in Brudenell on June 24, 1936. Later, he served as pastor for a least two periods of time in Latchford Bridge, the first beginning in September of 1943, and later, was posted for a time at the parish in Combermere. During a good part of his pastoral career he served at the parish in Maynooth and was a trustee on the board of the Hastings & Prince Edward Catholic School Board. He fought for Catholic education in Bancroft, Maynooth, and Whitney, insisting that the schools in his area have equal access to the goods and services that schools had in the bigger centres of the southern part of the board.