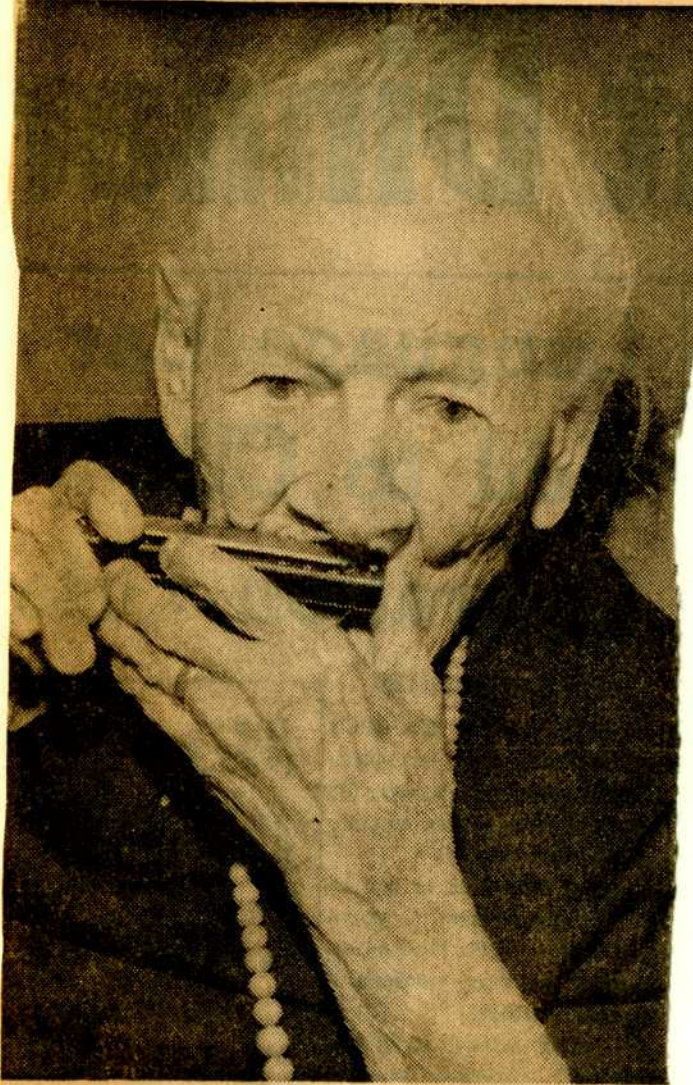


Maggie's Mrs Fred

Former Wallbridge Woman, Mrs. Fred Maggie, Plays Mouth Organ at 106 Years



Born 40 years before the turn of the century and seven years before Canada became a nation, Mrs. Fred Maggie of the Maple Haven Nursing Home west of Belleville, believes in "do it yourself" when it comes to music.

A native of the Arden district north of Kingston, Mrs. Maggie daily plays the mouth organ for amusement as she gets ready to observe her 106th birthday on May 24th.

A resident of the nursing home outside the city for the past seven years, Mrs. Maggie lived at Wallbridge for many years.

She cooked for river driver logging crews in the middle Hastings area and clearly recalls the first wood burning CPR locomotive and train to pass through Tweed.

Now, six years past her centenary, Mrs. Maggie has given up on many of the old tin reels, but still plays favorites such as "Turkey in the Straw" and "The Bear Went Over the Mountain."

One of a family of 13 children she was the daughter of an American army man Alexander L. Rabe, who "skipped" his country into Canada about the time of the American Civil War and persistently resisted attempts by relatives to get him to return.

Mrs. Maggie was a young girl of 13 years before her parents got around to registering the births of any of their children.

After the birth of her youngest brother, the attending physician suggested that it was time

Three-quarters of a century ago she and her mouth organ were in demand to play old time reels for neighborhood square dances.

that the family births were registered. So he sat down at the kitchen table and registered all 13 of the children's births. That was 92 years ago!

Mrs. Maggie's husband died many years ago. She has one daughter, Mrs. Arthur (Bessie) Clare, who lives at Wallbridge.

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