

Vol 17 Pg 2

Wiarton woman 103 years old

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Family Living Editor

Longevity and hard work have gone hand in hand for Mrs. Mary Blue, a resident of Gateway Haven, Wiarton, who celebrated her 103rd birthday on Saturday.

Mrs. Blue was the oldest of 10 children born to Jane and George Webber of Tavistock. Her birth date is Dec. 29, 1876. Looking back on her life Mrs. Blue maintains, "No girl worked harder, but I don't think hard work ever hurt you." She can remember cutting cords of wood, logs and cedar posts.

Mary Webber was about 18 years old when she left home to work for a doctor in Woodstock. She married Duncan Blue on June 18, 1901. Their wedding trip took them to visit a cousin in Lucknow.

Mr. and Mrs. Blue farmed in the Sauble area before moving to Gould Lake. Mrs. Blue gave birth to six children, all without a doctor in attendance. In fact, she was 65 years old when she first visited a doctor. It wasn't until she was 95 years old that she was hospitalized for eye surgery.

The family includes Euphemia, Mrs. Harold Wheelock of Florida; Neil, Archie and Alvin, all of Allenford; Verna, Mrs. Vere Wood of Leamington and Webber of British Columbia. There are 13 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

For about 11 years Mrs. Blue has been a resident of Gateway Haven. Although her sight and hearing aren't the keenest, her mind is still very clear. She is up and dressed daily and still goes to the dining room for meals.

In her younger years, Mrs. Blue would drive the horse and buggy to Owen Sound to shop. She made and sold her own butter and also sold eggs.

She'll be the first to tell you that children aren't any better than when she was young. "But they aren't any worse either."

A come-and-go tea was held at Gateway Haven in honor of Mrs. Blue's birthday with family members in attendance.



Sun Times photo

Mrs. Mary Blue