

by Pearl MacLennan

The pines and evergreens have lost their burden of snow this week. The March weather appears to be kind to the animals.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Limmer have been vacationing for the past couple of weeks in B.C.

Wedding bells were ringing on Sat. March 2nd for Mr. Dennis Moore, of Dunchurch and Miss Silvia Homewood of Ardbeg, who were married by Rev. N. Jackson of the United Church. A wedding dance was held in honour of their marriage in the Community Hall during the same evening.

We can't tell you much of what is taking place in Dunchurch over the past week for I have been in this hospital, in Parry Sound having medication. There are so many sick people these days, one wonders what is causing all the illnesses. There are six people off the same hall with diabetes like myself.

We are trying our best to bring the price of sugar down, by being non-users. The only way we can get into a sugar bag is to make a shroud or nightie out of its material.

As an interested Auxiliary member, I was pleased to see that the administration have had "no smoking" signs erected since I was here before. This is to stop the public from fouling up the sick room air during visiting hours.

Some of our readers will remember Mr. Edd Brear who was raised at Maple Island in the early days of that settlement. He married Frances Wager of the same place. He took up residence in Dunchurch for a number of years after their marriage fifty four years ago. He has unfortunately been ill lately and scheduled for surgery soon in this hospital.

We wish and pray for his

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speedy recovery. Also for Mrs. William Crisp who is 94 yrs old and once a resident of Dunchurch too for many years. She will have an operation this week here. She is quite cheerful and a brave old lady.



M. W. 'Morry Barr'

A few words from the publisher

Winter carnivals still seem to predominate the district scene, although those in West Parry Sound have now drawn to a close with the holding of the Pointe au Baril Winter Whirl last Saturday.

Still to come on the East side of the District are the Emsdale Carnival on March 7-8-9-10 and the Powassan Carnival on March 14-15-16-17. While these two are the last, they are by no means the least, although they do gamble a bit with the weather.

This past weekend saw lots of carnival activity in the area and, while I scooted around and attended most of them, I have no intention of doing a feature story on them in this column, but will just mention some of the highlights as they appeared to me.

First, let me start with the Pointe au Baril Winter Whirl, which in my mind was a real success. Of course, it cannot be compared in size to the Parry Sound Winter Carnival, but what is the yardstick of success? Real success all boils down to involvement, community spirit, and darned good fun, and on these standards Pointe au Baril scored 100 percent. I was only sorry that I couldn't stay longer and bask in the warmth of this community spirit, but I had to move on to the next event.

Heading south on Highway 69 and east on 124. I encountered

some fog and rain which unfortunately turned into freezing rain before I reached Dunchurch where the Dunchurch Lions were holding their first snowmobile races. The road and weather conditions made my arrival at Dunchurch a little later than anticipated, and I nearly missed the races, although I was on hand to talk to the jubilant drivers as they received their trophies.

The Dunchurch snowmobile races, like the Pointe au Baril Winter Whirl, was held for the enjoyment of the local people from the surrounding communities; therefore most of the trophies and awards went to the local enthusiasts. Being local didn't lower the standard of the events, as some of these boys and ladies were pretty expert at handling their machines. I think the Dunchurch Lions Snowmobile Races will become an annual event and one in which other contenders will want to enter.

Leaving Dunchurch and once again heading east on 124 to the Sundridge Carnival, the road conditions were still icy but not too difficult. However, when I swung onto Highway 520, heading into Burks Falls, the road became very treacherous, reducing speed to 15 m.p.h. in places, and I'm not sure that even this wasn't too fast. I'll leave the up and down condition of the road for a future article.



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RACING FAMILY: The Macfie family of Dunchurch proved to be a racing family when the Dunchurch Lions Club held their first snowmobile races on Saturday, March 2nd, 1974. Shown here, they hold their trophies and are, left to right, Ritchie Macfie, 1st, 340 Stock, 2nd 440 Stock, 2nd 400 Free Air, 3rd 340 Free Air; Jill Macfie, 3rd in ladies races; and Terry Macfie, 1st in 300 Free Air, and 2nd in 250 Stock. Staff Photo