

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1928

The Free Press' Short Story

Molly Weston's Dress Problem

GERTRUDE L. STONE

WHAT ARE WE HERE FOR?

What are we here for you and I,
To go long and wonderful days go by
Each one stretching to me a hand
With a smile, with a kind word.
Born of a meaning our lives must be,
God has His purpose in us yet and me.

We are here to sing and hope and
choose.
Where skies are dark and the way
seems drear.
We are here to be faithful and strong
and true
To make that lies in our hands to do;
To make for all that is noble and good,
And to bring to the bounds of our brotherhood.

We are here you and I, to pass along
Blooms of gladness and kindness
and joy.
To give our joy a sacred aim,
That the hearts around us may be
brought up;
And to bring the struggling where
we stand.
The comfort and strength of a helping hand.

This we are here for, you and I,
As the long and wonderful days go by;
Waiting them gladly, for each one
brings
The duty and beauty of common
work.
And as they unfold shall unfold be
God's own purpose in you and me.—L. M. Montgomery.

Neighborhood News

ERIN

Mr. and Mrs. W. Kent, of Action, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Mungomery.

Mr. J. P. Hunter has returned home after a two weeks' visit with friends in Toronto.

Reverend James Justice, of the village, Reeve D. J. Sinclair and Deputy Reeve James McKinnon attended the first meeting of the County Council at Guelph.

Robert E. Hartman, Reeve of Minto Township, is the "Wanderer of Wellington County" for 1928, and Nelson Landry, Warden of Peel County, is the "Wanderer of Peel County."

Mr. W. Sted happened with a painful accident while skating at the rink near his home, and while in a bit of a bind, he fell into the arms of his son, home in his right instant, which will buy him up for some time.—Advocate.

GEOGETOWN

Rev. A. N. Frith is recovering nicely from his recent operation at Toronto General Hospital.

Col. Horner is able to be around again after being confined to his home for some ten days.

Mr. G. R. Graham, of the 7th line, who was quite ill during the past week is improving.

Mr. and Mrs. E. McWhirter spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Ferguson at Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. K. Hart, of Barrie, attended the Master Photo Finishers Convention at the Prince George Hotel, Toronto, last week and spent the week-end with their friends there.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Lang, of Guelph, have the sympathy of many friends in their sad bereavement by the death of their dear little daughter, Doris Isabel, on Friday of last week.—Herald.

BURLINGTON

Miss Vera Parsons has arrived home after a pleasant holiday with friends in Held City, Mich.

Mr. and Mrs. Lottridge left on Saturday night for Pa., where she will remain for a time.

Rev. Mr. Henderson has sent in his resignation as minister of the Plains United Church, to take effect on or before July 1.

Mr. T. A. LePrestre and daughter, Miss Marion, spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Ham, Kitchener. Continued at Peterborough.

On Wednesday evening last the frenzies were summoned to the home of Mr. Harold Kurtz, New Street, where a boy had broken out in the floor from an overhanging staircase. The boys soon extinguished the blaze with only slight damage.

Only a few applications were received, and it is expected the appointment will be made as soon as possible by the Government.—Gazette.

MILTON

Rev. and Mrs. J. N. McFeart have been visiting her parents in Baltimore, Md.

Councillor M. E. Nixon had his tonsils removed, and also underwent an other operation last Thursday, which will confine him to the house for a few weeks.

E. Yates continues to make his weekly visits to the home of Dr. Walter Hallan, grand old man who is slowly recovering from his recent illness.—Champion.

Miss Gemmill, teacher III with completed course, is in Webster's.

There is said to be an epidemic of scarlet fever in the Brantford district.

Mrs. S. R. Hews left last Thursday for Chicago, where she will visit her sister.

Mr. W. B. Brown, frugil, of Brantford, spent the week-end here with his son, Mr. T. J. Brown.

Mr. Fred Minns, of Dundas, visited his mother, Mrs. B. Stewart, last Sunday.

Mr. W. B. Wheeler spent the week-end with his brother, Walter, at Niagara Falls, N. Y.—Refiner.

OAKVILLE

A further sum of money has been granted for the Oakville pier, which was damaged by the winter storms.

The new portion of the west pier will now measure one hundred and eighty feet long.

When these repairs are completed, this pier will be in excellent condition.

A hunting club on the Waldens of St. John's, Forster Street, met Friday afternoon, and the whole department a run. Fortunately hunting chimes in this age of coal and coke are not so numerous as one sees now. No damage in this case.—Record.

Mrs. A. Alton, of Toronto, was an over-stuffed visitor with her friend, Mrs. C. F. Doty. Mrs. Alton called on a number of her school friends and others.

Miss Edith Patterson, of Toronto, was a weekend guest of her sister, Mrs. M. Hart, of Mississauga, who were pleased to meet her.

Nearly a hundred and fifty mothers and their friends gathered at Jane's Park Hall, Monday evening, for a social time. The entire evening was spent in social ways, and the ladies had a good time.—Star.

When Dr. Carruth gave Molly the four dollars and ten cents, he said in his kindly way, "I think the people will say that they had no cause to regret

Molly Weston sat in her Aunt Sarah's plain but comfortable sitting room on English Avenue. She was studying hard, but since she had not turned a page for fifteen minutes, her problem was evidently solved.

"I don't believe it has any solution," she said to herself reluctantly at last. "Every other girl in the Stanhope Seminary will be well-dressed on graduation. Sunday evening, I'll be pretty well over it. I should be just on the border line of achievement—I think Miss Ludlow would have had difficulty earned it." The next day she told her aunt:

"You know you said that if I had the money, I could afford to go to university. Miss Piper help me make a second dream for graduation. Well, I've decided to use the money I earned last year to buy some clothes. As we've all made our dresses in the sewing class and they're a kind of exhibit, the girls wouldn't think it fair for me to spring into society with such a simple outfit."

Molly took the money with a momentary feeling of reluctance, but she easily threw the feeling off when she remembered what Miss Ludlow would have had difficulty earned it. The next day she told her aunt:

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To Aunt Sarah it seemed a useful attitude in relative values; but she had confidence in Molly, and she told her peace.

On Monday Molly went downtown and bought some of the pink silk that was in Easton's window. Instead she planned a sample of it before her mirror and thought about it until Tuesday, when she came to the conclusion that it was indeed a white dress would be more serviceable. On Tuesday she almost bought some white dotted muslin. Instead she planned the dress in beauty, forgetting her care and won't let it up again.

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When Molly thought of what Aunt Sarah would wear on the important day, she smiled in spite of herself. Aunt Sarah's best dress, which she had never seen, was a simple muslin silk, to be sure; but it was cut in the fashion of many years ago; it was full where modern dresses are scant and wide where they are full. And her hat? It had not been changed for five years!

"She's most comfortable, but I envy her!" Aunt Sarah had said when Molly had come to her on a recent visit.

"Not exactly," reflected Molly,

"she's most comfortable, but I envy her."

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