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### HAVE YOUR CHEST X-RAYED

From October 24th-28th every citizen of this community will be offered a free health service. The Acton Y's Men's Club in co-operation with the Ontario Tuberculosis Association and Ontario Department of Health has arranged to provide every man, woman and high school student in this area with a free chest examination without any cost or obligation whatsoever.

This campaign is part of a Province wide plan to cut in half the incidence of tuberculosis within the next ten years.

That prevention is better than cure, all will agree. In the prevention of tuberculosis, mass x-ray surveys have been found to be among the most effective measures. It is hoped, therefore that everyone will take advantage of this excellent opportunity to protect their own health, the health of their family and their community.

The menace of tuberculosis lies largely in the fact that a person can appear perfectly healthy and feel fit and yet have the disease. Happily, when detected in its early stage it can be cleared up fairly quickly and the person return to his employment. The surest way of finding out whether one has tuberculosis is through the x-ray examination. Each person found to have a shadow of the disease may then immediately receive the necessary attention.

The survey has yet another benefit. It will greatly arouse public awareness of this insidious disease. With this awareness fully aroused, there are good prospects that this grim enemy of the people will eventually be done away with.

### Chronicles of . . . Ginger Farm

Written Specially for  
The Acton Free Press by  
GWENDOLINE P. CLARKE

Now, let's think about Christmas, shall we? Christmas, you say? Well, why not? Fall fairs are over, Thanksgiving is past, we have had our Indian summer, we are back on standard time so why shouldn't we think of, and plan for, the last big event of the year? To tell you the truth I have had it in mind for several weeks. I have already purchased a box of Christmas cards and a couple of Christmas gifts. I have a feeling that ordinary, everyday presents are going to be hard to come by at reasonable prices later on. Daughter is also Christmas minded and her knitting needles are busy all the time. She was here for Thanksgiving as were also other friends from a distance. These from a distance came unexpectedly so that on Sunday our dining-table looked more as if it were set for a Christmas party.

On Monday, some of us took a trip up the road to take a look at our new highway that is still under construction and that is putting it mildly. We never know when we start out from this end whether we shall get through at all. This time we found a steam shovel at work chewing its way clear across the road preparatory to laying a culvert. We went as far as we could go, then turned tail, and approached the job by way of a detour to find out what was going on. We found plenty of activity. The machinery was working at a spot where they had struck quicksand. The had been laid along one side of the road and all kinds of dirt and gravel had been dumped on the road. But still the road was like a sponge to walk on. I was almost afraid to lift one foot after the other that is until I remembered that heavy machinery was continually passing over the spot, and since each piece of equipment must weigh a good many tons I thought there was just a chance the road would not give way under my weight! Anyway daughter and I took a chance as we wanted to watch the big bulldozer at work watching some other machine. The bulldozer was going up and down a huge bank, pushing dirt ahead of it on to the road for more fill. It looked as if it must surely take a nosedive but of course we knew it wouldn't caterpillar treads took care of that.

Twice last week I was more scared than interested in our new road. I had to call at another farm along the road but between us and it was another culvert under construction and the only way of getting past it was by way of a makeshift road along the fence. To get to it was like driving down a precipice. I looked at the road, then I turned to one of the men working near by. "Am I supposed to drive down on that?" I inquired. He nodded. "In that case," I continued, "would you mind driving the car over for me, because I won't?" So the man very obligingly did as I asked him, while I hung on like grim death. Incidentally some of the farmers past it every time they go to town and with eggs and vegetables in the trailer behind them!

Another day I was on my way to an Institute meeting with passengers of course, I detoured, but not far enough. At the crossroad the greater had left a great bank of dirt across where I must drive. Again I sought help of a handy male to manoeuvre the "Greening" on to safer territory. Haven't we been having the most wonderful weather and isn't the country lovely these days? I really think we should all take a little time off some time and take advantage of every chance we get to see a little of our own native scenery. Maybe it isn't necessary to go very far afield sometimes no further than our own back door. The main thing is to have "seeing" eyes.

And speaking of scenery if you get the connection what do my readers think of the Battle of the Skirts? Of course we will leave the men out of this little discussion what I want to know is what the ladies think of it. Personally I am all in favor of the longer hemline if it doesn't go to extremes. Dresses the way they were may be all right for five-footers all they have to do is shorten them to suit themselves, but take women like myself—we never find anything long enough. Now it will at least give us a little leeway whether we finally decide to have them long or short. And after all ladies you will admit that the longer hemline will cover up a few runs and such like in these days of dearer stockings. But in these days of fashion says—skirts to the ankle—well, that's another story. That is where we can show our independence and do as we like.

Rattling windows can usually be controlled by taking off the window stop, filling up nail holes, and re-nailing closer to the sash. Soaping the slides will prevent the sash sticking when it expands.

### Farm Labor Problem Is Still Drastic In Halton County

Farmers do not need to be told that they have many problems. In so far as we can determine, however, their greatest single problem is lack of satisfactory farm labor. The bright lights, shorter hours, and what appears to be bigger wages in the cities and towns have pretty well drained all available help from the farms. Actually when the cost of board, laundry and other incidental expenses are taken into consideration, we question if a big percentage of urban labor is any better or as well off financially at the end of the year as the farm worker.

When discussing the situation recently with Agric. Representative J. E. Whitelock, he admitted that the situation was drastic and further, that the agricultural office at Milton had not been able to cope with the situation. "We have endeavored," he stated, "to investigate all available resources." These included British immigrants, Polish veterans, Dutch immigrants, Western farm hands, and Toronto Commandos. During the past year, he stated, we have placed upwards of 60 Polish veterans on Halton farms. These men, according to Mr. Whitelock, are for the most part proving very satisfactory, despite the difficulty of language. Some organizations and individuals would appear, he added, to be giving some of these men bad advice which is causing some unrest. In further explanation he pointed out that Canada was the first country in the world which was prepared to open her doors to these men and had it not been for Canadian farmers, they would still be in Europe. These men were brought to Canada at the expense of the governments of Canada and Great Britain on the definite understanding that they would agree to remain in Canadian agriculture for at least two years. Now efforts are being made by certain individuals and organizations who are supposedly working in the interest of the Polish veterans, to have the two year period reduced to one year. They base their argument on the fact that Dutch settlers are brought to this country on a one year contract. They forget, however, that the Dutch immigrants are paying for cost of their own transportation and further, that they themselves agreed to the two year contract before leaving Italy or Great Britain. "Nevertheless, I am of the opinion," stated Mr. Whitelock, "that the great majority of these men will make good Canadian citizens providing they do not receive too much of the type of leadership which has been described."

The movement of Western farm hands to Ontario in 1947 was a tremendous disappointment. In contrast to 1946, when over a hundred of these men were placed from Milton, the total received during the past summer was a mere thirty, he stated.

Toronto Commandos, according to Mr. Whitelock, have helped out tremendously in some sections of the county. While the great majority of these men came out and returned the same day to Toronto, for the most part they gave good satisfaction. A total of 570 days' work was received from this source in 1947.

The Dutch immigrants appear to have real possibilities, stated Mr. Whitelock. He added however, that the great majority are married men with families and unfortunately are workers' houses. One of the solutions of the farm labor problem would appear to be the erection of satisfactory farm cottages, but that, he added is impossible under present conditions. In conclusion, Mr. Whitelock, stated that if anyone can come forward with a practical solution to the present farm labor situation, he or she would be making not only a great contribution to agriculture but to our whole Canadian economy.

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