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Chronicles of ..
Ginger Farm
 Written Specially for
 The Acton Free Press
GWENDOLINE F. CLARKE

If people from the Old Country ever fell inclined to say "Oh, to be in England, now November's here," they will agree that it hasn't been the least bit necessary to wish anything like that for the last week anyway, that is insofar as weather is concerned, for we have certainly had our share of fog lately. Not a black fog such as London knows, but a real pea-souper for all that. Not that it worried me very much — I just stayed in. And it hasn't worried Bob because he gets quite a kick out of driving in the fog anyway — if you can imagine that. But for anyone who had to do a lot of driving it must have been very tiring and nerve wracking.

What did worry me was the fact that on Thursday of last week I was giving a tea to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of our local W.I. — and how could we expect a crowd if it was neither fit for man nor beast to be abroad? But do you know, Thursday was comparatively clear, the one and only day last week when everything wasn't shrouded in mist. Not only that but it was the day of the County ploughing match so the men went to see the ploughing and dropped the women off here for their little do. We had Miss Ethel Chapman here as guest speaker — and what a splendid speaker she is, and how much the ladies enjoyed listening to her. Unfortunately I cannot tell you anything of what she said because my duties as a hostess kept me pretty much in the background when she was speaking. You know how it is. Except once, when I was called into the room, and to my surprise and delight was presented with a W.I. life membership pin. The whole thing had been a deep, dark secret without my having the faintest suspicion that anything like that was on foot. To say I was pleased is putting it mildly. I was thrilled. Not that I deserved it but I am awfully glad the Institute thought I did.

Most of our guests told me the tea went off awfully well — but I wouldn't know. But I do know that fifty was the number of guests I thought might be here — and there were nearly sixty! There is something to be said in favour of big houses after all. After the affair was over some of my friends pitched in and washed dishes so the next day the only thing that looked like the morning after were the borrowed dishes and chairs and somebody's hat! Yes, actually, a dinky little hat . . . and I haven't the faintest notion to whom it belongs because no one has phoned to claim ownership. Oh, these women!

Well that's the end of the story but now I'm going back to a little incident that happened early in the week — for which I know I shall have the sympathy of my feminine readers but the men won't even understand what I was worried about. It was last Monday and I still had about a hundred things to do before Thursday — perhaps you may remember I had been very busy painting and papering the dining-room. Well, Monday dinner time Bob announced quite casually that he had been up country to find out where the threshers were so he could hurry them up a bit, with the result that they had promised to try and get here one day that week!

"Bob — not this week!" I exclaimed incredulously.
 "Sure — why not?" answered that

son of mine.
 "But I'm having a meeting here next Thursday!"
 "What meeting?" asked Bob.
 Now if that isn't a good instance of "why mothers turn grey" I'd like to know what is.
 Then Partner looked at me in pained surprise and added his two cents worth of masculine idiosyncrasy — "It would only be for one meal," he said soothingly.
 "Yes," I said impatiently, "but even one threshing meal takes all day to get ready for."
 Well, I wouldn't let them know how near-panic I felt. Instead I managed to get myself in hand by remembering that threshers were entirely unpredictable; that they might not get here anyway, so I told myself not to give them another thought. And I didn't . . . and they haven't got here yet. Just one more proof that often things we worry most about are the things that never happen.

MILTON

The regular meeting of the Mountain Union W. I. met at the home of Mrs. A. Newell with the President in the chair and 19 members and three visitors present.
 The October meeting of the Drumquin W.I. was held at the home of Mrs. Finney with a good attendance.
 The speaker at the Tuesday meeting of Milton Rotary Club was Mr. Nelson Pickett who gave a graphic and entertaining description of pharmacy, the art of making and mixing medicines.
 Mr. Elmer Wharton of Cleveland attended the funeral of his aunt, Mrs. C. Fleming on Monday — Canadian Champion.

ERIN

Mr. George Blair suffered a badly lacerated and bruised left hand on Tuesday of last week, when the member was caught in the wringer on an electric washer. Mr. Blair reached over top of the wringer to turn it and his hand was drawn into the rollers.

Samuel Nurse is again in the news with what looks to be a record turnip — this time a Greystone which weighed 14 lbs. Mr. Nurse has a large field of turnips which produced a heavy yield.
 Total expenditure for all purposes on County roads this year was 262,745, and the schedule is well advanced, Engineer William H. Keith told Wellington County Council.

Several local people met with unfortunate accidents during the week: Miss Mary McMillan fell and broke her arm. Mr. Cecil Gibson suffered a fractured skull while cleaning out his well. Mr. Fred Delaney crashed into the rear of a truck and smashed his car beyond repair. — Advocate.

With 20,000 girls being recruited into various U.S.A. military services, can one still tell if to the marines?

SPORTS CAMERA
 By H. Coles

GRIDIRON MAYHEM
 Football under a bright sun on a brick afternoon appealed to the 200 odd spectators who took in Saturday's frolic, on the gridiron chalk-out in Acton Park. Although a comparatively unknown game here it didn't take long for mild interest to flower into enthusiasm as fans absorbed the finer points. It wasn't long after kick-off when faces wreathed in smiles as Acton High School breezed over the chalk line for a touchdown. Shortlived as the lead was it inspired the local squad to more exuberant efforts against yard gains by the visiting De La Salle delegation. They possibly figured they couldn't compete with De La Salle's board of strategy so then proceeded to commit modified mayhem on the visitor's powerful drive down the field. All part of the game incidentally. This, at first seemed to have the desired effect. The visitors kept up a steady stream of replacements for those who left the field in anguish after a particularly hard tackle which usually could be attributed to one of either Bob Bruce or Ron Elliott, A.H.S.'s threat in the tackle department. But from thence, De La Salle played it close to the vest. Instead of carrying the play to the Acton end, they allowed the red and white jerseyed Acton crew to bring the play to them. Bobbies on the part of Acton gave the visitors their opportunity and they cashed in on it. Their experience at converting gave them an added margin as they romped for 23 points. Uncorking a powerhouse offensive A.H.S. smashed over for two touches but failed to convert on either. The tilt ended with De La Salle dangerously close to the Acton line. Consequently the final count 23-15.

As if in accord with the final tonline, the heavy top of a goalpost broke off and narrowly missed decapitating a player's head. De La Salle carried it off in token of victory. Needless to say they reserve a healthy respect for the Acton brand of six man rugby. The effect of it will probably be felt for weeks. Two injuries inflicted by the tough grid were the lot of De La Salle. One a sprained wrist and the other a busted schnoz.

Acton's auspicious debut arranged by George O'Donahue's diligent tutoring proved to be such a success that other games are likely to be arranged in the near future.

Six comely cuties from A.H.S. prepped the cheering section with halabaloos for the home town but sometimes it seemed their hearts were elsewhere.

ODDS AND ENDS
 Abbie Kempstead, Georgetown's former sub goalie, who never got a break in his home town is giving Keith Woodhall of the Senior Edmonton Flyers, a run for the marbles in that Western town, the Georgetown Herald lamonts. Isn't it always the way! . . . Ello Marzo is slated to coach Acton's Junior entry this semester where his wealth of experience should prove profitable to aspirants to the club . . . Georgetown hockey fans send a missile to the Herald wanting to know why their entry into the arena is barred during hockey drills. They resent their treatment as taxpayers stating they are even prepared to pay a nominal fee to gain admittance. Must be something secretive brewing. More imports perhaps . . .


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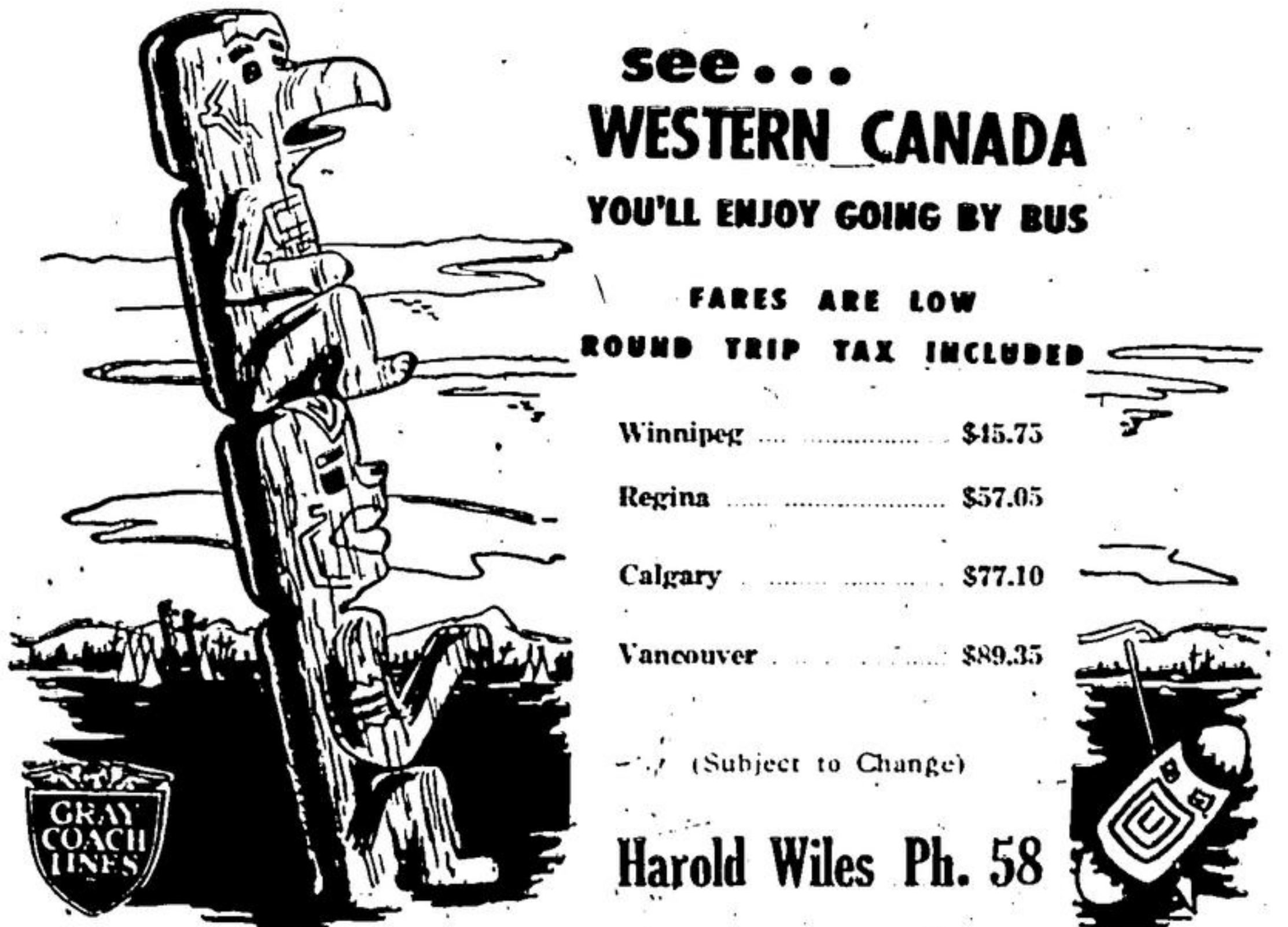
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