

Acton LAUNDRY
32 Church St.
Good Workmanship
At your own convenience
Give us a try

Chronicles
Ginger Farm
Written Specially for the Acton Free Press by
Gwendolyn F. Clarke

NORTH EAST WEST SOUTH
NEWS FROM ALL DIRECTIONS

Don't Just Laugh Muscle Millions

As the bells ring in the new year we extend our best wishes to all our friends.

EISEN'S CLOTHING STORE
11 MILL ST. ACTON

E. P. HEAD
Optometrist
Eyes Examined Scientifically
GLASSES FITTED
GUELPH
85 St. George's St.
PHONE 1559
Established 50 Years

And after Christmas comes the New Year—with a lull in between when we have a chance to sit back and really appreciate all the good wishes that came our way; the family presents and friendly gifts; the greeting cards with their lovely, artistic designs and appropriate words the surcease from the constant hurrying that we knew before the festive season.

Yes, this lull after Christmas is like the lull that sometimes follows a storm—in this case it was a storm that began gathering moments for at least two weeks before Christmas—a storm of activity which for many farm people included picking poultry, making the Christmas cakes and puddings; taking in school concerts, trimming the Christmas tree, filling stockings, finding out who would be home and tending our memories in an endeavor to make sure no one was forgotten and nothing left on the missing list.

It was a hectic time but in the lull that follows we have reason to marvel at the love and kindly thoughts that were showered upon us. And in this respect your humble columnist is no exception. I certainly did appreciate the friendly wishes that came my way during the Christmas season — so many kindly readers, many of whom write year after year and by their encouragement and interest help me to start yet another year, telling you as best I can, of the homely happenings at Ginger Farm, that probably tie in with the happenings on hundreds of other farms.

In response to several inquiries perhaps I had better admit that I did write "The Brown Coat" story that appeared in the Family Herald last September. Thank you, everybody for liking it, and for telling me so. Perhaps, if you watch for it, you may see another story before too long at least another one has been accepted. When it will be published is anyone's guess — a month, six weeks, three months. I never know. Nor does it really matter, getting a story accepted is the main thing.

I am always glad when my fan mail friends tell me something about their own families. Mrs. B. L. of Fort William for instance her son John is in College now but the first time she wrote all three children were little more than toddlers. Sometimes I forget that for other folk time passes just as quickly as it does for us children grow up, leave school and get married.

Queer, when I think of it, some people who are now married and in homes of their own, were not even born when I started writing this column. Perhaps Ginger Farm would have been better named "The Brook Farm" and maybe it should have been dammed occasionally to stop its steady flow. Come to think of it, it may have been dammed a good many times. Just change one letter and you will get the idea. However, I have a long way to go yet to catch up with the record set by the late Dorothy Dix.

We were a party of six on Christmas Day — our own family and two young friends just right for the small turkey that was easily disposed of. Holiday time off was a little complicated. Daughter worked Monday and had Boxing Day off. Bob had Monday off and went back to work on Wednesday. Which reminds me, I don't think I have mentioned that Bob is now boarding at home — but working in Oakville. That means leaving home at 6:30 a.m., taking lunch with him, and back home again for 6:30 dinner at night.

It is nice to have someone coming in and out again — and during the stormy weather Bob's heavy car helped to keep the lane open. I don't know whether it is the car or the driver but Bob certainly seems to come through anything. As for my poor little Junebug, it has gone into hibernation — at least until the weather clears. And I have almost gone into hibernation with it — one trip to town in eight days.

And now dear friends, I must close this column, without wishing you a very Happy New Year. As we look back over the twelve months now passed we remember many difficulties, many heartaches and fears, but for most of us the sunshine was still greater than the cloud. And so it will be in 1952. An unsettled year lies ahead of us — that much is certain.

But if happiness is in our hearts we shall have courage to face and overcome our problems as they arise. Don't let us cause a shadow by standing in our own sunshine.

Trafalgar: No Quick Buck
An editorial in the Christmas issue of the Oakville-Trafalgar Journal reads: "The day of the 'quick buck' in land deals is over in Trafalgar Township, thanks to a wise move made by council. Anyone who wants to subdivide must now instal, at his expense, the services that will be required in the subdivision. In addition to providing the services, the real estate promoter will be required to pay \$400 per lot into a fund for township use, which rams the cork in thoroughly against 'wildcat' real estate promoters.

"Chief advantage is that as the township is broken up for home use by degrees, each new subdivision will not raise the debenture debt of the township.

"In the case of a working farmer, who must secure from his land the necessary money to pay increased taxes, a wholesale subdivision of land all over the southern end of the township could bring ruin. The northern residents have been protected with this courageous move on the part of council, possibly a little more than have the southern residents. But not very much more.

"If township council had not applied this restraining check to the possible subdivision of land, there would have been some of the finest 'wild-cattin' that has been seen — even allowing for the Alberta oil fields.

"The big operators would move in, make their quick dollars and move on. Now they will still come in, make a fair profit, and move on. But the residents left behind will not be faced with staggering debenture debts and terrific increases in taxes.

Georgetown: Management
Christmas rush was noticeable in the Georgetown Herald. An engagement had parents announcing the "management" of their daughter. It is likely some of the older generation will agree that such a thing nowadays is worth announcing. The Herald sorrowfully notes that 302 people phoned about the mistake Christmas rush, we hope, has Edna Behn exaggerating somewhat.

Milton: Wounded
A Milton soldier Jack Smilie, has been reported "severely wounded" in action in Korea. In recent letters, the Canadian soldier had written that he was looking forward to a leave in Japan when he planned to phone his mother. No details of the action were available.

Burlington: Look an Elder
"Hey! Look up in that tree — it may be King Elder ducking behind a snowy branch. And, let us tell you, King Elder Duck is a pretty rare critter in this district. The Burlington Gazette, "Each December, approximately 3000 bird watchers scattered throughout Canada and the United States select me day during Christmas week for the Annual Christmas Bird Count; from Nova Scotia to British Columbia and from Florida to California, groups of ardent, but hardy bird watchers start out with binoculars in hand, each covering his own given territory.

"These hikers are not confined to one small area but rather are spread out in proportion to the number of participants. December the twenty-sixth last year was

chosen by the Hamilton Nature Club with fifty-two members taking part. With all reports in, here are just a few figures of the more common birds observed in Hamilton and adjoining districts: Starlings 3075, English Sparrow 1429, American Goldfinch 83, Common Pheasant 18, Red-tail Hawk 12, Black Duck 172, and also two rare King Elder Ducks from the Atlantic Ocean. The number of species observed was 72 and the total number of individuals was 11,834.

"These bird counts have become an education and wholesome practice, giving enjoyment to the most experienced ornithologists as well as those learning their first birds. At the same time, it helps assemble records of considerable scientific value. The Christmas Bird Count for several seasons, produces records of greater accuracy and, therefore of greater scientific value than similar records made at other times of the year.

"The observer jots down the exact number of everything he sees unless the flocks are so large he can only estimate; figures must be definite if researchers wish to learn which are the commonest birds and whether they increase or decline through the years. About eighty per cent (830) of the approximately 650 species of North American birds have been recorded on these Christmas counts.

1500 Canuck Deer Go Across Border

American hunters have had a most successful deer hunting year according to unofficial counts at the ferry dock leading to the American Soo. More than 1,500 deer have been taken across the border, despite the fact that northern Michigan also supplies residents of that State with thousands of the animals. According to officials of the Fish and Wildlife Division, Ontario Department of Lands and Forests conducting road checks east of here in the vicinity of Naini Canadian hunters took around 1,700 deer out of this area — a total of 3,200 unofficially reported.

Eastern Ontario also reported excellent hunting. Road blocks operated by conservation officers of the Department on Highways 17, 20, 41 and 62 checked 4,315 hunters, most of them residents. The total kill north of No. 7 highway checked at the road blocks was 2,243, indicating that approximately 52 per cent of the hunters questioned had got their deer. Fawns represented about 20 per cent of the kill, and bucks and does together roughly 80 per cent. Officials estimated that about 20 per cent more hunters than last year hunted in eastern Ontario.

Veteran hunters said that deer were more plentiful and a good crop of fawns came through the winter in fine shape.

Ethelne Brule, first white man to explore Ontario and the discoverer of Georgian Bay and all but one of the Great Lakes, was only 18 when he first came to Huronia.

GUELPH TRAVEL BUREAU
WORLD-WIDE TRAVEL SYSTEM
Land - Sea - Air
LET US ARRANGE YOUR NEXT TRIP
Satisfaction Guaranteed
J. CHAMBERS
118 MOUNTFORD
118 MOUNTFORD ST.
PHONE 631
CALL OR WRITE



the trip down was fun too..

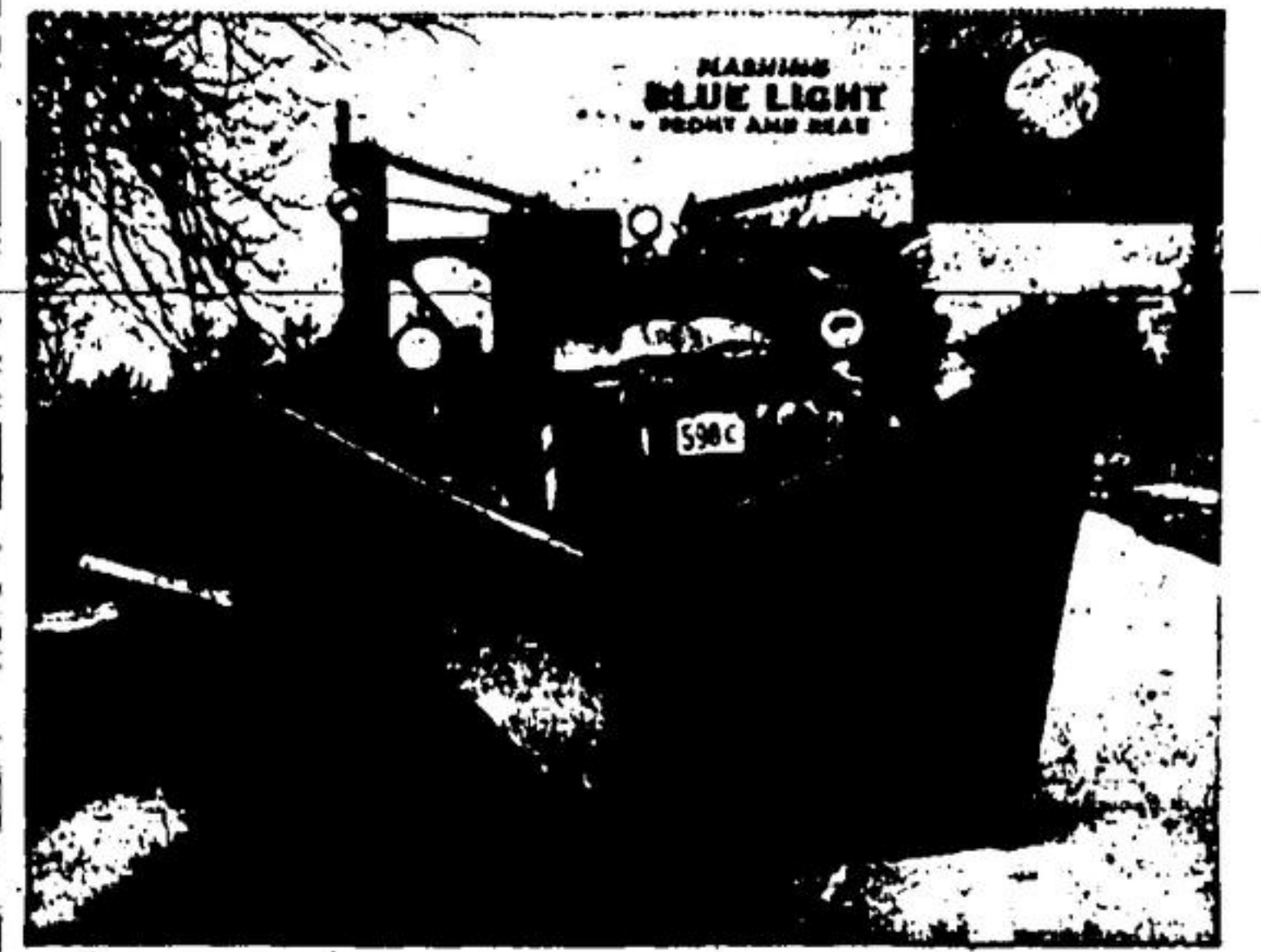
"I came down by bus again this year and had a lovely trip—a couple of stop-overs on the way to see the sights and do some shopping. The highway scenery was grand and we passed through a lot of interesting towns and cities. I'm going home by bus too."

FARES ARE LOW ROUND TRIP
(Subject to change)

JACKSONVILLE	\$48.05
MIAMI	\$9.60
LOS ANGELES	\$46.60
NEW ORLEANS	\$49.80

(Surcharge Included)

Tickets and Information at
HAROLD WILES
PHONE 58



ALL ONTARIO HIGHWAY Snowplows, as shown, and ice-control sand and salt trucks are being equipped with flashing two-way warning lights which throw piercing blue beams front and rear. As recommended by Chief Constables' Association of Canada, these flashing blue lights indicate that unit on which one is mounted is slightly wider than ordinary vehicles (note how snowplow above projects across dividing white line) and that in blizzards or when heavy snow is being removed, the dangerous extra-width may be hidden by snow smog. Drivers of cars or trucks meeting or overtaking Ontario Department of Highways vehicles displaying flashing blue lights, front and rear, are urged to use extreme caution in passing them. If you are following a blue-beam vehicle, for protection in a storm, be sure to keep 500 feet in rear. They can stop or be stopped very suddenly.

GUESTS WELCOME
Coca-Cola

GALA HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT

FRI.-SAT. DEC. 28-29

RANDOLPH SCOTT
When the guns that tore up Texas fought it out at
FORT WORTH
ADDED ENTERTAINMENT
"One Shivery Nite"
"Fixin' Fool"
"Cat Choo"
Written by John Tuley
WARNER BROS.
MON.-TUES. DEC. 31-JAN. 1

3 GODFATHERS
JOHN WAYNE - PEDRO ARMENDARIZ
HARRY CAREY, JR.
JOHN FORD

OUR GALA NEW YEAR'S SHOW
ON OUR SCREEN: **FRANCIS GOES TO THE RACES**
ROXY
Plus: Color Cartoons - Shorts
ADVANCE TICKETS NOW ON SALE AT THE BOXOFFICE!!!
Doors Open 11:45 Show at 12:05

WED.-THURS. JAN. 2-3
BURT LANCASTER

Jim Thorpe - All American

TO ALL OUR PATRONS A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!