

### Chronicles of Ginger Farm

Written Specially for the Acton Free Press by Gwendoline P. Clarke

Sometimes—when I think of it—I make a few notes during the week about things I might like to mention in this column. Just now I looked over last week's notes—and I laughed. They made sense to me but I wondered what anyone else would make out of them. Here they are: "Home and Country" . . . Frances Shelley Wees . . . tractor-radio . . . hydro-wind."

Well, let us take them one by one and see if they make sense.

"Home and Country" . . . I jotted that down after attending our last Women's Institute meeting at which I received my copy of the current issue of Home and Country. And why wouldn't I mention it? It is wonderful for W.I. members to have such a nice little magazine for their very own.

With Ethel Chapman as editor it has improved tremendously—and such improvement was long overdue. But I am not saying that in a critical sense—the old H. and C. was as good as it could be under the circumstances. Time and experience are necessary for the publication of even a small magazine and, until last year, I have an idea that Home and Country was anybody's baby. But now it has an editor—all its own.

Actually, there is no reason why this magazine should not be interesting and informative. Certainly there can be no lack of material from which to fill its pages. W.I. branches are now found in almost every district in Ontario and from each one of them stories of worthwhile achievement are bound to emerge from time to time. It is an incentive to every branch to know what other branches are doing and in Home and Country we are given that information . . . to say nothing of district rallies and conventions.

Funny, how things work out. I am quite sure many readers of the Farmer's Magazine were quite upset when Miss Chapman resigned from the staff of that publication. And then came news of her appointment to Home and Country. "Wonderful . . . we haven't lost her after all!" I heard that said so often. In fact, as W.I. members we now feel that Miss Chapman definitely belongs to us. A better choice could not have been made.

Born and raised on a farm Miss Chapman has an awareness of, and an interest in, the problems of

country folk. And of course, she has always been keenly interested in the work of the W.I. So I am sure we are all very glad to have her as editor of Home and Country. Frances Shelley Wees . . . a remarkable woman. Have you read any of her books or serials? She is a most prolific writer. I was privileged to hear her speak at a meeting of the Canadian Authors last week. She lives on a farm; is a mother and grandmother; does most of her own work; entertains and baby-sits and yet finds time to turn out thousands of words each year, although she says three or four weeks during the year is all the time she spends in actual writing. The rest of the time is thinking and planning what her next book shall be.

One time she started writing a book on Tuesday and finished it the following Friday. Oh, for a gift like that! Her record for a single day's work is 18,000 words—and that's a lot of writing. "But," said Mrs. Wees, "when I write, I do nothing else but write." How she manages to do this she did not explain.

Tractor-radio . . . the next note on my list. I jotted down that note while listening to the radio. An advertisement stated that farmers can now have radios installed on their tractors . . . good reception and powerful enough to be heard above the hum of the tractor. Said the announcer—"Order one now and insure delivery before spring ploughing begins." Well . . . how crazy can people get? It was hard enough in the past to attract the attention of a tractor-driver, and if one had a message to deliver, to make oneself heard. Now, if one has to compete with a radio as well as words fail me!

Wind . . . hydro—well, if you shared the wind that came our way last week you will understand why I made a note of that. But it didn't bring any snow. In fact the ground around here has been covered only once this winter and then the snow was gone again in two days.

Saturday morning, just as we were getting up, a blue flash lit up the sky. Thirty seconds later the power was off. It stayed off until 8 a.m.—by that time most of the cows had been hand-milked. One more sample of the inconvenience of conveniences. But oh, the joy when lights flash on again; milking machine begins to hum and the radio to play. It almost equals the thrill of having hydro newly installed. Perhaps without these interruptions we would fail to realize how lucky we are.

End of notes . . . and of space.

### TWO-THIRD DONATIONS FOR LOCAL CAUSES — I.O.D.E. CHAPTER REPORT

The following is the annual report of the Lakeside Chapter, Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, for the year 1952.

"The members of the Lakeside Chapter Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire may well be proud of the many successful endeavors which they have undertaken during the past year.

"We wish to express our appreciation for the leadership of our retiring Regent, Mrs. Verna Bean, and for the co-operation of each member.

"Donations from Chapter funds during the year included the following: Commonwealth and Empire Fund, Wilhelmina Gordon Scholarship, British and European Relief Fund, Seamen's Amenities Fund, National Shipping Fund, Provincial Workroom Maintenance Fund, Provincial Representative Fund, Provincial British Food Parcel Fund, Film Fund, Second War Memorial Fund, Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Canadian Legion Poppy Fund, Welfare Fund, Acton Branch Canadian Legion, Centennial Manor, Millon, Ont.

"Educational Grants included: The Lucy Morrison Memorial School, Never Late Never Absent awards, Rings Acton Continuation School, musical albums for kindergarten class, Library Board, Halton County Musical Festival, Boy Scouts Fund.

"Two-thirds of the money raised during the year was donated to local education and welfare causes.

"The chapter held ten regular meetings during the year with a membership of 83. The roll call average was 45. Ten new members were welcomed into the Chapter and one member moved from Acton.

"In April the members enjoyed a Theatre Party. At the May meeting Miss Clara Grindey presented colored pictures of her trip to Britain which were very beautiful and thoroughly enjoyed by the members. In June the members enjoyed their annual picnic in the park.

"At the September meeting a Court Whist party was held. At our October meeting Rev. E. A. Curry showed colored pictures of the Arctic taken by Clayton Fryer of the R.C.M.P. In November, members attended the Remembrance Day Service. They took part in the Parade and the laying of wreaths on the Cenotaph. Services were also held at the graves of veterans and flags were placed on each grave.

"Members of the Chapter canvassed homes regarding the T.B. Clinic held in Acton in December.

"During the year the sick re-

ceived flowers, fruit and cards or a personal visit. Cards and flowers were sent to the bereaved. Silver spoons were given to each newly born baby of Chapter mothers.

"The successful money-making projects during the year included a May-day tea and baking sale, a bazaar and sale of Christmas Cards in the fall and a rummage sale. Proceeds of the May tea were used for the purchase of a film projector for the new auditorium of the Acton Public School.

"As another year closes we look back with satisfaction in the knowledge that we have achieved much and we look to a future bright with opportunity.

"Give to each member of our Order, grace to serve Thee faithfully and to labor loyally for the welfare of our country."

Doris A. Wilson, Secretary

### School Attendance Totals 848,070

Pupils enrolment in Ontario's elementary and secondary schools for the current season totals 848,070, the Ontario Department of Education reports. This figure is an increase of 53,559 over the enrolment as of September 1951.

Total number of elementary pupils is 707,215, compared with 661,430 a year ago; secondary pupils 140,855 compared with 133,081.

Total teaching staff for elementary and secondary schools is 29,384, an increase of 1,515 over 1951.

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PIANO SALES & SERVICE  
OF HAMILTON  
NEW AND USED PIANOS  
Pianos Tuned, Repaired and Rebuilt  
For Service and Estimates  
PHONE 128 ACTON

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PLUMBING HEATING  
Warm Air Furnaces  
Pease - Gurney - Beach  
RADIANT BASEBOARD HOT WATER HEATING  
I.A.C. Time Payment Plan  
PHONE 25 ACTON

**Robt. R. Hamilton**  
OPTOMETRIST  
58 ST. GEORGE'S SQUARE  
GUELPH  
(Formerly occupied by Mr. E. P. Head)  
COMPLETE EYESIGHT SERVICE



### Too long under a bushel

Here's a man who does a great deal to benefit his fellow-citizens. Yet for a long time he's been "hiding his light under a bushel."

Anyone looking up Main Street, for instance, might never guess that he had a hand in establishing some of its fine new stores, hotels, office or apartment buildings. But he has.

Nor would many people realize that they may have him to thank in part for their homes. Or for the pure water that flows from the faucets. Or the electricity that gives them so many ways at the flick of a switch.

Every week workers take home pay from industries that this man helped to develop. But they're unaware of

### UNIONS DECIDE

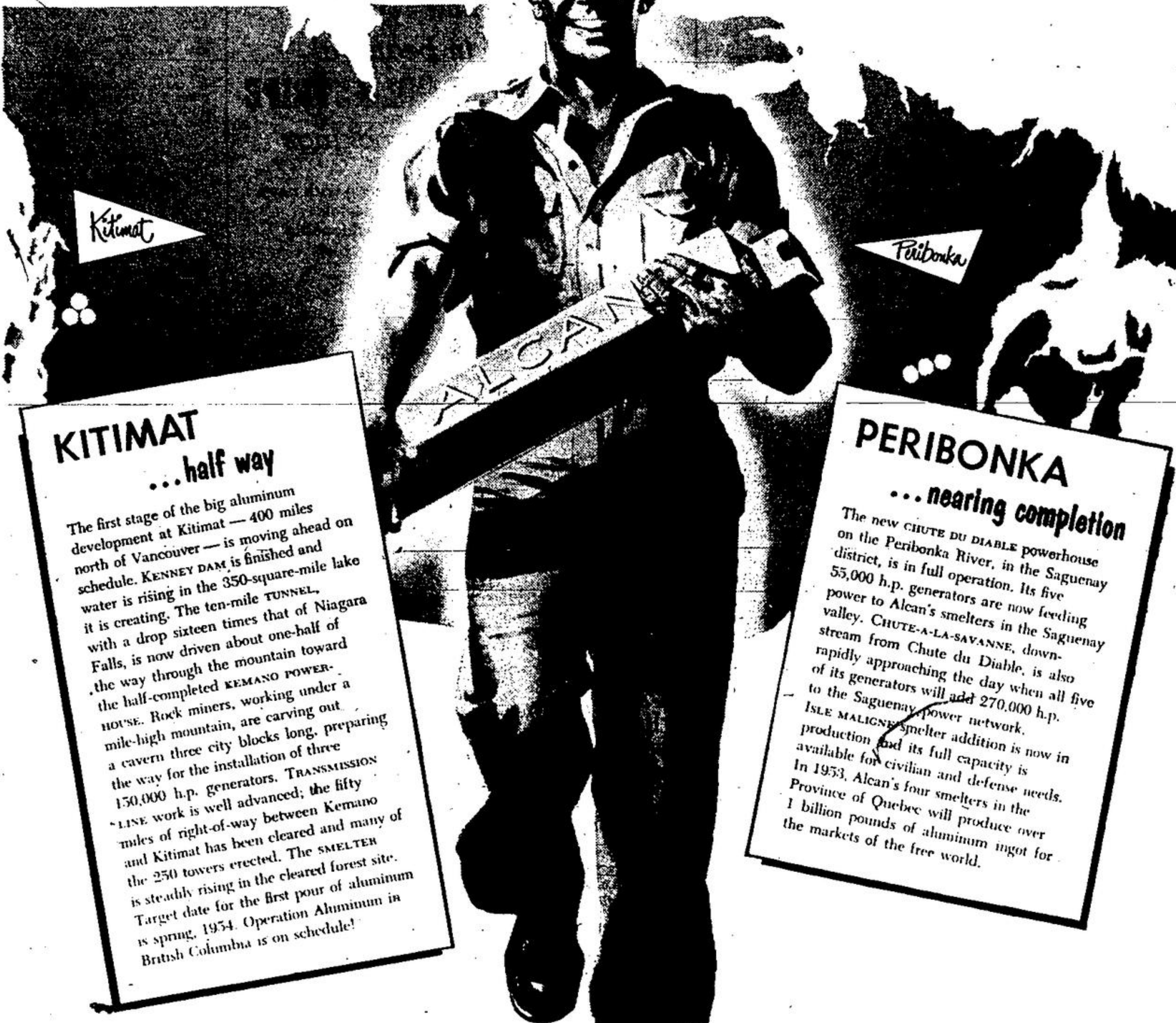
Six out of every 10 members of organized labor in Canada believe that labor unions should not back any specific political party in an election, the Canadian Gallup Poll has discovered.

The average man, whether a member of a labor union or not, dislikes being told how he should vote, comments The Financial Post. That sort of thing, he believes, is his own private business. And that's the way it should be.

Under the democracy we are supposed to send to Ottawa and the provincial legislative members who will represent all of us, not just some narrow class, group or clique.

The badger lives on small mammals and is prized for its fur, but horses' hooves are often trapped in their burrows, causing injury to both horse and rider.

# "OPERATION ALUMINUM"



**KITIMAT**  
... half way

The first stage of the big aluminum development at Kitimat — 400 miles north of Vancouver — is moving ahead on schedule. KENNEY DAM is finished and water is rising in the 350-square-mile lake it is creating. The ten-mile TUNNEL, with a drop sixteen times that of Niagara Falls, is now driven about one-half of the way through the mountain toward the half-completed KEMANO POWERHOUSE. Rock miners, working under a mile-high mountain, are carving out a cavern three city blocks long, preparing the way for the installation of three 150,000 h.p. generators. TRANSMISSION LINE work is well advanced; the fifty miles of right-of-way between Kemano and Kitimat has been cleared and many of the 250 towers erected. The SMELTER is steadily rising in the cleared forest site. Target date for the first pour of aluminum is spring, 1954. Operation Aluminum in British Columbia is on schedule!

**PERIBONKA**  
... nearing completion

The new CHUTE DU DIABLE powerhouse on the Peribonka River, in the Saguenay district, is in full operation. Its five 55,000 h.p. generators are now feeding power to Alcan's smelters in the Saguenay valley. CHUTE-A-LA-SAVANNE, downstream from Chute du Diable, is also rapidly approaching the day when all five of its generators will add 270,000 h.p. to the Saguenay power network. ISLE MALICEN smelter addition is now in production and its full capacity is available for civilian and defense needs. In 1953, Alcan's four smelters in the Province of Quebec will produce over 1 billion pounds of aluminum ingot for the markets of the free world.

In the fifty-two years since the first Canadian aluminum plant opened at Shawinigan Falls, Canada's aluminum industry has grown to be the second largest in the world; and Canada now exports more aluminum than any other country.

Still the need grows, both at home and abroad, for this light, strong, modern metal of many uses. And Aluminum Company of Canada is putting man-power, and money, and engineering brains, and imagination into the job of keeping up with that demand.

Aluminum is "packaged power". The electricity needed

to produce one ton of aluminum would light the average home for nearly a generation.

By making use of Canada's abundant, low-cost power, this Canadian enterprise has created employment and income for tens of thousands; for the men who build and operate the dams and powerhouses, the docks and smelters and power lines it needs, and for the more than one thousand independent Canadian companies who turn aluminum into countless forms important to industry and our own daily living.

**AT YOUR SERVICE!**

A trained life underwriter — representing six of the more than 50 Canadian, British and United States life insurance companies in Canada — will gladly help you plan for your family's security and your own needs in later years. Rely on him!

**THE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES IN CANADA**

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