

**Chronicles**  
of  
**Ginger Farm**  
Written Specially for the Acton Free Press by  
Gwendolyn F. Clark

Last week I had a letter from a friend that asked this way—"Why does everything happen to us?" The writer had good reason for asking that question as her family seems to have more than its share of trouble of various kinds. Long after I had read the letter the query she had raised remained in my mind and I wondered how many of us, in our own time, have asked the same thing—and generally in connection with family problems from which none of us escapes—sickness, accidents, financial difficulties, or quite often a combination of all three. For it would seem that trouble never comes singly. Often it is one thing after another and we think, even if we don't say it—"Why does everything happen to us?" Isn't that right, friends, haven't you, more than once, had occasion to ask the very same thing?

But supposing Lady Luck has smiled upon us—supposing the things we worried about never happened; the loved one who was ill made a remarkable recovery; the lack of farm help was suddenly solved by the return of a man who had worked for us years ago; or housing accommodation was relieved in a miraculous way by an offer to those who share our home. An unexpected legacy might even have come our way—or, perhaps we hit it lucky on a radio program!

Or it could be that some member of our family escaped unhurt in an automobile accident. Now I wonder, when good, instead of bad luck, comes our way, do we still say to ourselves—"Why does everything happen to us?" I venture to guess that few of us even think of asking such a question under those conditions. We take it all for granted and go merrily on our way. Such illogical creatures as most of us are!

But then, we are no more inconsistent than the weather. Here we are, after an almost snowless winter—that is, in Ontario's banana belt—ready and anxious to get on with our outdoor spring chores, and what sort of weather do we get? Snow, of all things—and strong, cold, north-west winds. Too cold and rough to work outside with any degree of pleasure—or even inside without fires or furnace. In fact we might well say with Samuel Coleridge—"The spring comes slowly up this way." Or is it that we are a little previous in our anticipation of its coming. Most of us looked for an early spring but, as so often happens, our expectations fell short.

Yesterday, for instance—such a cold, miserable day—and much chance of visitors, we thought. But, by three o'clock we had a party of four, and, while I was getting tea for them, three more arrived. To-day, Monday, we have extra jobs to do. Right now, a man is at the barn dehorning a couple of heifers. Ayrshire cattle grow such wicked horns. We would think, after years and years of domesticity, cattle would stop growing horns—like the Polled Angus. Horns are not only a menace to farmers but also a menace to the cattle themselves. A cow, nearing calving time, can receive injury by a bossy stable-mate; a little too busy with her horns. And what those same horns can do to a fence isn't funny. Sometimes we stop the growth of horns when the calves are little and sometimes we don't. If we have a run of several bull calves in succession we have lost the habit by the time a heifer calf comes along.

Another job on hand for to-day is an electrical check-up. We find that switch boxes down at the barn gradually get choked with dust and chaff, and when this becomes damp, through humidity, or by repeated freezing and thawing, a short circuit will, sometimes result—so we try to get ahead of the game if we can. It is often quite a job to find an electrician who isn't too busy for these small jobs so when we do get a man here I generally have a job or two lined up for him myself. This time it is an outlet in my little office—at present I have extension cords trailing across the floor because my room is the back half of what was one big room when the house was wired. I remember when the wiring was done the electrician said—"Don't ever be afraid of having too many outlets—and I'll guarantee that no matter how many I put in you will still find, as time goes on, you haven't enough."

He was right, there were 45 outlets to start with—and we are still adding to that number. Some people do little odd electrical jobs like that themselves, but in our family no one feels he knows enough about the work to do a safe job. For which I am very thankful. I would rather we paid to have a job done by an expert than have it bungled by an amateur. Far better to be safe than sorry.

**CUTTING**

A girl met an old flame, and decided to high hat him. "Sorry," she murmured when the hostess introduced him to her. "I did not get your name." "I know you didn't," replied the old flame, "but that is not your fault. You tried hard enough."



**MADE LIFE MEMBERS** of Acton Women's Institute at the 50th anniversary of the group, observed recently in Acton United church, were, from left to right, Mrs. George Lantz, a past president, Mrs. F. Wilds, Mrs. Fred Anderson, the secretary, and Mrs. R. L. Davidson, the president. The Women's Institute was organized in Acton on March 24, 1903, with the first meetings held in Hill's Hall. The first president was Miss Meda Nelson, now Mrs. J. R. Kennedy, of Unionville. Projects undertaken by the active group during the past half century have included a drinking fountain, drinking trough for animals, refreshment booth in the park, the cemetery entrance, and, most recently, the trophy cabinet donated to the new school addition. Many donations have also been made to worthy causes.

**FARM NEWS**

**PLAN EXTENSIVE SOIL AND CROP PROGRAM**

An extensive program of soil and crop projects is being sponsored by the County Soil & Crop Improvement Association in the various sections of the County this year. According to president Fred Nurse, well known Ashgrove farmer, these will include the following:

1. Tests with ammonium nitrate on winter wheat on 16 farms;
2. Ammonium Nitrate vs. Ammophos on meadows on 5 farms;
3. Methods of Seeding—1 new test to be laid down in 1953 and a follow-up on five similar tests laid down in 1952 and 1953;
4. Dates of Seeding—this involves sowing red clover and alfalfa on winter wheat on January 1st, February 1st, March 1st, April 1st, and April 15th (4 farms);
5. Mulching vs. cultivation with Corn;
6. Variety tests with 8 varieties of Corn both for silage and grain purposes (2 farms);
7. Variety test with 8 varieties of soybeans (1 farm);
8. Variety test with 8 varieties of both oats and soybeans (1 farm);
9. A 4H Forage Club—this involves sowing one acre of an improved hay-pasture mixture using improved strains of Bromo Orchard, and Timothy, along with alfalfa and red clover. Fifteen Club members will check this mixture against their home mixture.

We also understand that tentative plans are under way to check the relative merits of Hyperphosphate (an African product) against Rock phosphate, Superphosphate, and a complete fertilizer, on Meadows. The Association also sponsored a 50 bushel winter wheat club last fall and there is a strong likelihood of a bus trip being organized to the state of Michigan. Further details concerning this long list of projects may be secured from the Milton office of the Ontario Department of Agriculture.

**KINGSWAY KIWANIS AGAIN OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS**

During the past week, Agricultural Representative J. E. Whitlock met with the Agricultural Committee of the Kingsway Kiwanis. This service organization has been taking an active interest in 4H Club work in Halton for the past five years. During that time they have awarded 38 scholarships, each to the value of \$12.50, which were applied on some one of the Short Courses at the Ontario Agricultural College.

It may also be recalled that a few weeks ago, some 30 members of the Kingsway Kiwanis entertained a similar number of Halton farm leaders to dinner at the Tri-falgar Memorial Hall. The event was so successful, that already, both the Kiwanians and Halton farm leaders are talking of a repeat performance next winter. At the meeting referred to above, president E. V. Leyland, and Ken McDonald chairman of the Kiwanians Agricultural Committee, authorized J. E. Whitlock on their behalf to offer ten similar Short Course Scholarships to the members of Halton's 4H Clubs for 1953.

**GARDEN CLUB MEMBERS ORGANIZE**

A Club Leader's Training Day was held recently in the Farmers' Building, Milton, with particular reference to Garden Clubs. Mrs. Ruth Clarke, Home Economist for Halton, Peel, and York counties, was in charge. A total of 44 gardeners were signed up, and six clubs are being organized at the following centres: Hornby East; Hornby West; Acton; Lowville; Ashgrove-Norval; and Omagh. It augurs well for some good gardens on at least forty-four Halton farms.

**ORGANIZATION MEETING PLANNED FOR 4H CALF AND FORAGE CLUBS**

The Court House, Milton, on Friday evening, May 1st, is to be the scene of the Organization Meeting for Halton's 4H Clubs with Holstein, Jersey, Guernsey, Beef and Dual Purpose calves.

**HALTON'S NEW 4H FORAGE CLUB WILL BE OFFICIALLY ORGANIZED AT THE SAME TIME**

Art Bennett, popular Assistant Agricultural Representative for Halton and Peel counties, intimates that prospects look bright for another outstanding Club year. Applications have been literally rolling in for some weeks, however the general Art advises there is always room for a few more.

**KEN VIVIAN PRESIDENT OF PALERMO 4H TRACTOR MAINTENANCE CLUB**

Eighteen boys joined the Palermo 4H Tractor Maintenance Club at Palermo Public School, on Monday evening, April 13th. After the Safety film "Miracle of Paradise Valley" was shown, Art Bennett, Assistant Agricultural Representative, introduced Bert Moggach, Engineering Fieldman for Halton, Peel and York counties, who explained the project and distributed manuals, record books and safety rules.

Ken Vivian, Burlington R.R. No. 1, was elected President; Edward Segsworth, Burlington R.R. No. 2, Vice-President; and Ken Scotland, Milton R.R. No. 6, Secretary. Local Club Leaders Fred Bell and Colin Alton were present, and Fred Bell spoke briefly asking for co-operation to make this 4H Club which is sponsored by the Palermo Junior Farmers, and the Ontario Department of Agriculture, a success.

**DEBATING FINALS AT JUNIOR FARMER CONFERENCE**

Halton Juniors will play a prominent part at the Annual Junior Farmer Conference scheduled for the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. At the annual Church Service on Sunday evening, Halton Juniors will provide the Choir. Then on Monday evening Halton's Eleanor McKeown and Earl Snow will meet the Lambton County Debating team, in the finals of the inter-County Debating Series. Halton is upholding the negative of "Resolved that rural depopulation threatens the prosperity and welfare of Ontario." It should be an interesting debate. Last, but not least, David Pelletier, president of the Junior Farmers of Ontario, will be the presiding officer. Halton's popular Dave has done an outstanding piece of work during his year as Provincial President. His successor will be elected during the Conference at Guelph.

**ACTON JUNIORS SPONSOR FARM MACHINERY CLUB**

Acton Junior Farmers organized a Farm Machinery Club, under the leadership of Bert Moggach, Engineering Fieldman for Halton, Peel and York Counties, and Art Bennett, Assistant Agricultural Representative on Tuesday, April 14th, in Murt Allison's Implement Shop, Georgetown.

Fifteen members signed up and participated in the first meeting, where Tillage and Seeding Equipment were discussed.

After an election, Fyfe Somerville was declared chairman and Calvin Sprowl, secretary of the club. Fyfe Somerville expressed thanks to Mr. Allison for the use of his shop and equipment.

"Look at the lovely ring John's given me. It fits beautifully."  
"Yes, it's very nice, dear. It was a bit tight on me."

**POET'S CORNER**

**FREE VERSE**  
by Mary Ellen Varley

We are like little brown cocoons  
Buffeted by the wind  
In our small corners.  
Some—  
Burst beneath the strain  
Others—  
In the gay spring  
Release themselves  
Like moths—  
Quivering  
With the wonderment of life.

**Slides on Mexico Shown to Juniors**

The regular meeting of the Acton Junior Farmers and Junior Institute was held at the home of Don Matthews.

The boys' meeting was in charge of the president, Calvin Sprowl. The business included the organization of a farm machinery club with the time and place left to a committee to decide. R. N. Brown was guest speaker. His topic was the future in farming, after which a general discussion followed.

The girls' meeting was handled by the president, Anne McLaughlin. The business was selecting two delegates to the Guelph Conference in April. Their guest speaker was Miss Eleanor Cook, R.N., who gave a very interesting talk on first aid. At the joint meeting a euchre and dance was decided to be sponsored by the Club in the hope of raising some money in April.

Miss Grindley of the Acton High School staff showed films on her trip to Mexico City. A dainty lunch concluded the evening.

**Ten New Protection Cases For March**

Ten new child protection cases for March were reported at the Directors' Meeting of the Children's Aid Society, held in the Society Office, Milton, on April 14, with seven directors and the Superintendent present. Mrs. M. E. Nixon, in the absence of the president, presided when the meeting was opened with prayer.

Accounts to the amount of \$2,489.84 for the month of March were passed for payment.

The statistical report for March showed ten new child protection cases with sixty-one cases open at the end of the month. There were one hundred and fifteen children in care with a total of two hundred and twenty-five visits and office interviews pertaining to these two phases of the work.

A brief report was given on the recent opening of the two part-time offices in Lusk Hall, Oakville, each Tuesday afternoon, and the Legion Hall, Burlington, on Friday afternoons.

The Board expressed its appreciation in being granted the use of this office space, and is most desirous that citizens with family problems should contact the Society representative in attendance on the days specified.

W. G. MacKenzie Robinson informed the meeting that arrangements have been completed for the Boys' Choir, St. Jude's Church, Oakville, to be in attendance at the Annual Meeting next week. After adjournment refreshments were enjoyed.

Patient: "How can I ever repay you for your kindness to me?"  
Doctor: "By check, money order or cash."

**Pause, refresh with ice-cold Coca-Cola**



7¢ at the familiar red cooler  
**THE ORANGEVILLE BOTTLING WORKS**  
Orangeville, Ont. Phone 137-W

**Acton Public School**  
**KINDERGARTEN ENROLMENT**

The public school will be able to accommodate all pupils of Kindergarten age this year. To enrol they must be five years old by December 31, 1953. To avoid confusion please complete the form below before May 1st and send or mail it to GARNET W. MCKENZIE, Principal, Box 302, Acton.

Child's Name ..... Christian Names ..... Surname .....

Date of Birth ..... Day ..... Month ..... Year .....

Parent or Guardian .....

Address ..... Number ..... Street .....

Phone .....

Signature .....

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PHONE 73

**Special in Guarantee**  
**Used Cars**  
**COME IN TODAY**

AND LOOK OVER OUR FINE SELECTION OF GUARANTEED USED CARS

SEE US FIRST FOR YOUR

**TELEVISION SETS**  
(DROP IN ANYTIME AND SEE THE SETS RUNNING)

**REFRIGERATORS - RADIOS**  
**WASHING MACHINES, ETC.**

10% DOWN ON ALL ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES

**BALLENTINE MOTORS**  
PHONE 1W ACTON  
Affiliated with Milton Electric

**DON'T MISS IT!**  
**SAVE \$90**

On a Brand New General Electric Refrigerator

This 9 1/2 cu. ft. refrigerator is crammed with special features—butter conditioner, stor-a-door, storage bin, sliding chrome shelves—all in the same area formerly occupied by the 7 1/2 cu. ft. model. Completely sealed unit and many other features.

FORMERLY \$459  
Now Only **\$369**  
SAVE \$90

AND IF YOU PREFER A SMALLER SIZE the 6 1/2 cu. ft. size is ideal for small families with many of the same features as the larger size. See this refrigerator in our store today!

FORMERLY \$359  
Now Only **\$279**  
SAVE \$80

**43 Mill St. SYMON HARDWARE Phone 49**