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

Last week over 800 women baked extra pies, cakes and cookies for their families to feed on, and then the 800 loosened their pinaucis, pressed their prettiest dresses, and, by train, bus or car, headed for the O.A.C. in Guelph. It was the occasion of the Fifth Women's Institute Officers' Conference for Ontario. Delegates came from points as far distant as the borders of Manitoba, Quebec and the United States, and from northerly district of Cochrane. It was a two-day affair so there were many from distant points who stayed in residence at the College from Wednesday night to Saturday morning. Now for some of the highlights.

Dr. J. D. MacLachlan, president of the O.A.C. welcomed the delegates and outlined the work and opportunities of the students coming from farms. Two interesting—and interested—visitors throughout the session were the Reverend Mother Mary Alicia and Sister Marie Adele, social welfare workers from the Dominican Republic, B.W.I., touring Canada for the purpose of studying rural, social and educational work in this country.

Mother Mary Alicia told the Conference that two years ago a Women's League had been organized in Dominica patterned after the W.I.—Canada. The need for social work in that country, was shown to be very great, and so, as a practical gesture of goodwill, a collection was taken up at the Conference, amounting to \$211, which was given to, and gratefully received by the two Dominican Welfare Workers.

The official delegates from the various W.I. branches were the conveners of Home Economics and Health and the conveners of Resolutions, so the addresses throughout the Conference were slanted towards those subjects. There were many excellent addresses. Dr. MacKinnon Phillips, Minister of Health, spoke on the "Health of Ontario", outlining the progress that had already been made for the care of psychiatric cases and the subject already underway to provide hospital care and treatment for mentally retarded children.

Another speaker, Mr. McVittie, Inspector for Auxiliary Classes for the Guelph district, outlined a plan to help pupils in rural schools who need special training, the same as the special course already available in urban centres. Anyone interested and no doubt there will be many, can obtain full information from their own local Inspector of Schools.

A panel discussion on Health was most interesting. Those participating were Dr. Elizabeth Chant Robertson, Dr. Gordon Bates, Director Health League of Canada, and Dr. W. E. Blatz, psychiatrist. The main purpose of the discussion was to promote better understanding of the importance of good eating habits, particularly in regard to children.

Resolutions, as a topic for discussion, could be uninteresting. At the Guelph Conference it was far from being that. Byrne Hope Sanders, well-known to the public as one-time editor of "Chatelaine" gave an inspiring address, emphasizing the strength and effectiveness of resolutions, if properly used. These two points were proved beyond question by the next speaker—Mrs. W. O. Walton—"Never vote for a resolution unless you are prepared to back it up... always send supporting data with the resolution... make it sound and convincing... and send the resolution not only to the Government but to the Opposition."

Mrs. Walton reported that the CCA had been working on a resolution which came from the W.I. to have sizes for children's clothes standardized, a plan on which the manufacturers are now working. Progress was also reported on a request for screw-tops for jam jars and for the discontinuance of red and white wrappers for bacon. The Hon. Dana Porter assured the delegates that sending resolutions to the Government was not a waste of time, that most legislation was the direct result of resolutions from various groups. Referring to the brief on edible oils, this resolution, said Mr. Porter, was so reasonable and constructive that it could be accepted practically in its entirety. It showed members of other industries that the dairy industry is basic to agriculture and if it fails other industries will suffer.

There you have the highlights of the Conference. If your Branch of the W.I. sent delegates they will bring you a full report. But I suppose not all branches were represented. Even at that it was a full house. Every seat in the hall and gallery was taken and a loud speaker system installed in the basement to take care of the overflow. It was an enthusiastic audience, the weather was perfect and so was the Conference, and I haven't heard of any ill effects to the families left at home.

NO SPORTS MODEL

Mathilda, a spinster lady, rushed into the house and exclaimed excitedly to her old maid sister: "Oh, Agatha, I'm going out tonight with a used car salesman."
"What's the difference?" Agatha assured her. "So long as he's healthy."

Business in "Easy Going Jog Trot"
(Continued from Page Two)

Two weeks later the editor had an article that was very all-inclusive—no elections—no legislation—no bribery trials—no political squabbles—no news. Hot weather—business flat—money tight—farmers busy—hayting good—spring crops splendid—cherries ripe—bugs numerous—grasshoppers lively—rain welcome—items scarce.

Industrial expansion has apparently always been the boon for which municipalities craved. An advertisement in the early Free Press was headlined "Bonus to Manufacturers" reading further we find that "The village of Acton is prepared to grant a bonus to parties establishing any kind of manufacturing business employing skilled hands and upwards and where said business does not conflict with any business already established within the corporation. Acton possesses good railway facilities being on the Grand Trunk Railways thirty-five miles west of Toronto, is in a beautiful and healthy location, is free from municipal debt and property can be obtained on reasonable terms."

In the first issue Joseph Hackling analyzed Acton. "For a number of years this village exhibited but comparatively slow progress in growth and its business was done in an easy-going, jog-trot sort of style. Of late however, a decided improvement in every way has been perceptible. Two years ago it was incorporated with barely sufficient number of inhabitants. Since then it has continued to grow and prosper in a ratio more in keeping with modernized ideas of younger mushroom villages. Indeed Acton is no longer an infant; she has thrown off her swaddling clothes, commenced to walk alone. Very little coaxing and but few sugar-plums are now required to assist her onward march", concluded the editor.

There doesn't seem to be any particular moral or individual thought in this week's column but that 1875 comment does have a vaguely familiar ring and perhaps a present day application.

Pollock and Campbell

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ROOT HARDWARE
ROCKWOOD 16

Speaker Stresses Farm Forum Value

The value of farm forums in rural communities was the topic of W. M. Gemmill, manager of the Royal Bank of Canada, when he spoke at the Luncheon session of the Ontario Farm Forum in the Royal York Hotel last month.

He told the group that this is the time for ideas, and ideas, like seeds, cannot grow and develop unless in fertile ground. Dead ideas must not fester the living.

He stated that the primary purpose of life is to grow, and that in farm forum discussion groups there is an opportunity of receiving and considering ideas.

Although education is costly today, schooling is merely the beginning, he told the session. In forums, with 22 weeks of one hour periods, there is an opportunity for self-education. He urged groups to leave behind some tangible evidence of work.

Grace was said by Rev. J. A. Dunlop of Frontenac county. Jim Powers, honorary chairman, presided and introduced head table guests. C. D. Graffam, deputy minister of agriculture and president Clarence Milligan brought greetings from the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

Those present watched the Craig family radio broadcast. Bob Graham of the CBC spoke briefly.

George Martin was re-elected the zone chairman for zone three.

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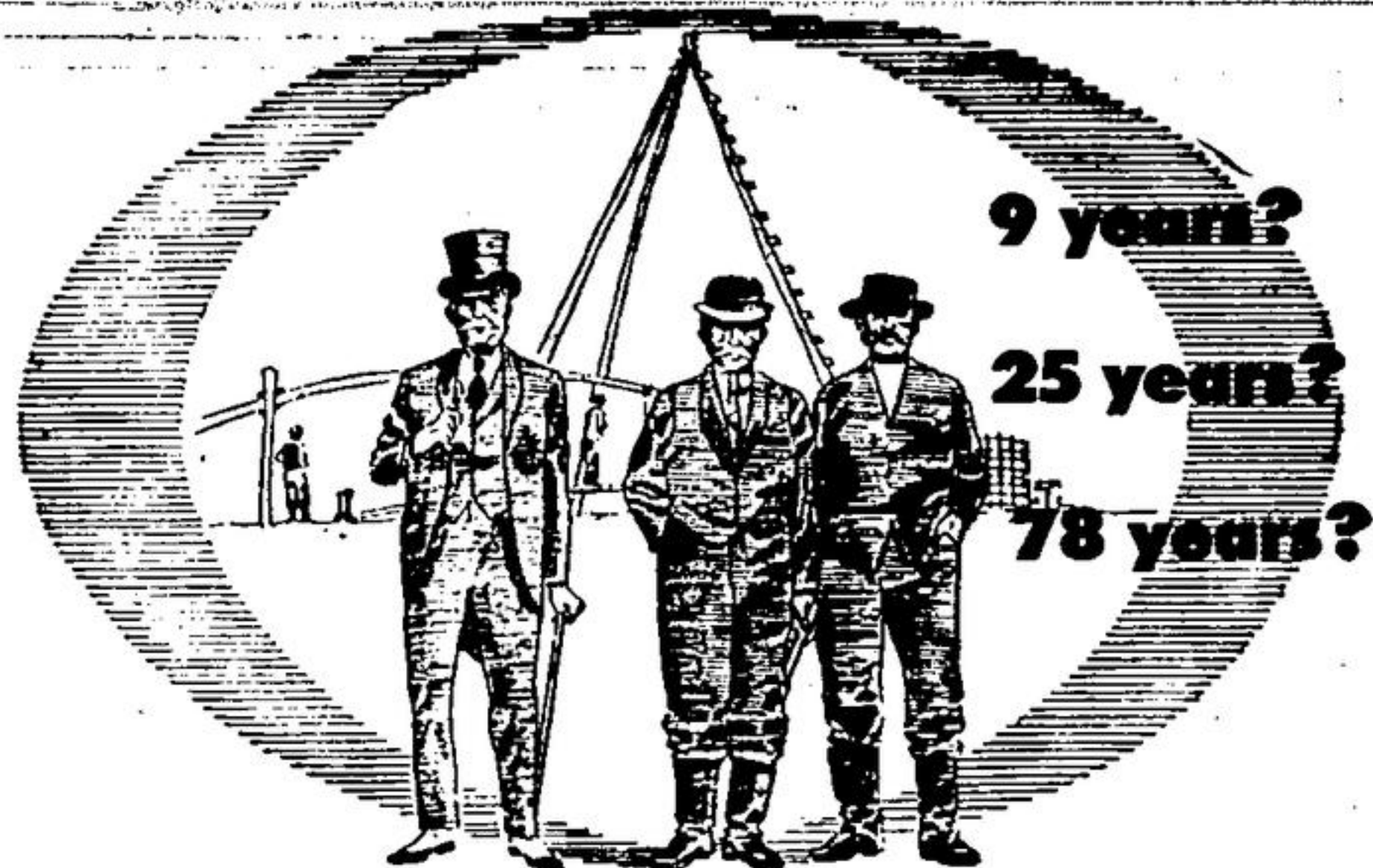
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How long does an oil well last?

The average well goes dry in 20 to 30 years. To keep your car rolling and your home warm, a new well must be found to take its place. That's why the search for oil never ends; why Imperial, for instance, spent almost \$50 millions to find and develop new oil in western Canada last year.

Oil has become one of Canada's important industries. How many of these questions about it can you answer?

Which of the following contain petroleum
lipstick? binder twine? printing ink? insect spray?

Oil is a part of all the products named and of hundreds of others which contribute to our everyday living.

In 1946 Canada produced less than 10% of the oil she used. How much of her needs does she produce now
18%? 40%? 55%?

About 40%—and we use twice as much as in 1946. Today's production would meet 80% of the demand at that time.

How many service stations would you say Imperial operates across Canada
15,500? 10,000? 0?

None. Approximately 10,000 stations carry the Imperial Esso sign, but they are operated by independent dealers, each in business for himself.

In oil field language, a "roughneck" is one of the crew of a drilling rig. What is a "roolpusher"?
tool salesman? drilling foreman? motor mechanic?

Drilling foreman. Oil field slang is colorful. A "Christmas tree," for instance, is a combination of pipes and valves to regulate the flow of oil from a well.

Opinion surveys show that most Canadians believe a business is entitled to a profit of 15¢ on a dollar of revenue. Last year Imperial earned
15¢? 11¢? 19¢?

In 1952 Imperial earned a profit of 7½¢ of each dollar received. Of this 4¢ was paid to shareholders; the remaining 3½¢ was used to replace worn-out equipment and to make sure we can supply your future oil needs.

IMPERIAL OIL LIMITED
oil makes a country strong

