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**HINTON'S 5c to \$1 STORE**

**109th ANNIVERSARY**  
**KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
ACTON ONTARIO

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24th**  
SERVICES 11 A.M. - 7 P.M. SPECIAL MUSIC

Guest Minister—REV. J. S. GLEN, M.A., Ph.D., Th.D.,  
Principal of Knox College, Toronto

Guest Soloist: Mr. Peteris Geistauts, Baritone

**TURKEY SUPPER AND CONCERT**  
Under the auspices of Knox Ladies' Aid  
**Monday, October 25th**  
Supper served from 5.30 to 8.00 p.m.

PROGRAM -  
Continuous organ recital featuring Messrs. E. A. Hansen, George Elliott and David Robertson (Runnymede North Church, Toronto); Crawford Douglas, Baritone; Gwen Little, Brampton, Soprano Soloist, Pianist; Mrs. C. Leishman, Soprano; Messrs. Les Duby, Garnet Rose, Guitar and Accordion; Mrs. Ballentine, Elocutionist; Mrs. R. R. Parker, Reader, "a bit of the old South."

ADULTS \$1.25 Children 12 years and under, 50c  
Rev. Robert H. Armstrong, Minister

**Halton's Pages of the Past**

**First Township Plowing Matches Held in 1871; Earliest County Competitions Staged in 1891**

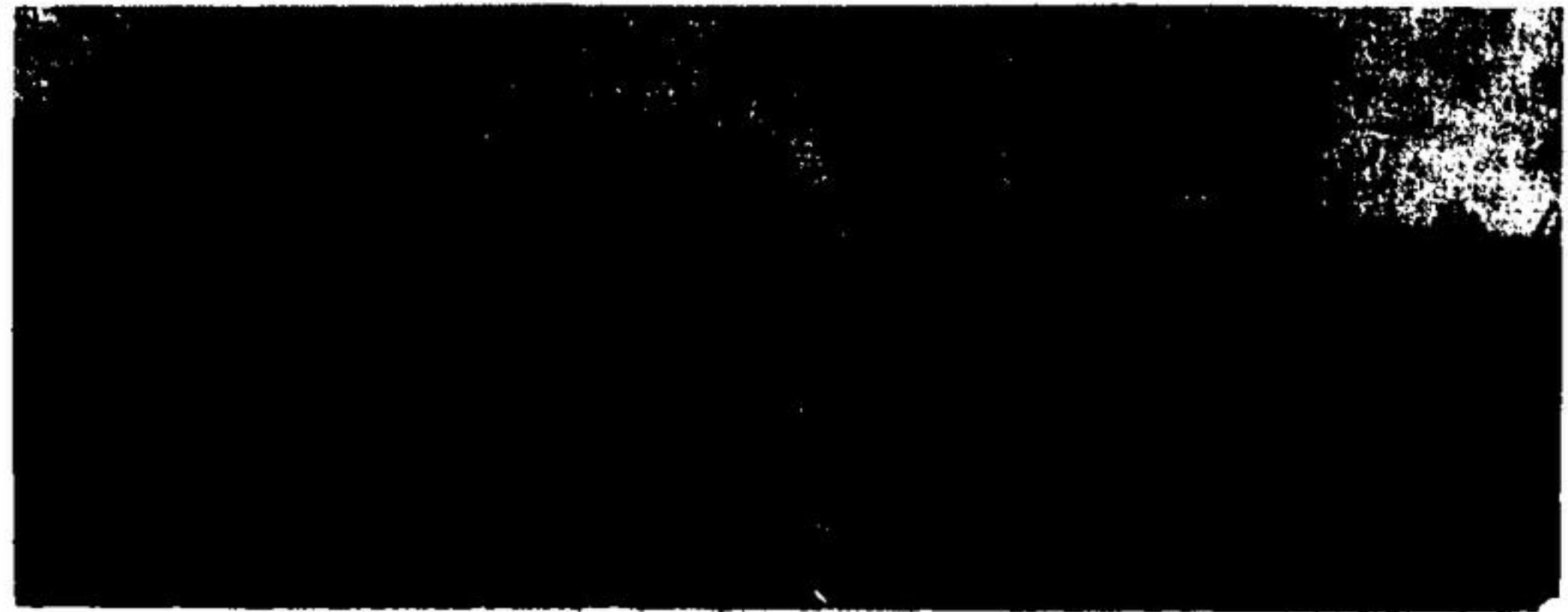
by GWEN CLARKE

The Halton County Ploughing Match is now the only ploughing match held annually in the County of Halton. It is under the auspices of the Halton Mouldboard Association. The first match was held in November, 1891, and took place on the farm of Johnson Harrison. Mention of this date as being the first causes a slight raising of the eyebrows among "old-timers" who remember, or have heard their fathers speak, of ploughing matches that took place long before 1891. They are right; ploughing matches were held much earlier but they were not county matches. This fact is borne out by the first minute book.

Ploughing matches within the county have been of three kinds—spring ploughing matches in connection with the Halton Agricultural Society, which we mentioned in a previous column; township fall ploughing matches which preceded county ploughing matches in most parts of Ontario, and finally the county ploughing match itself.

**Township Matches**  
Proof of township matches is contained in the following news item in regard to a match which took place in Trafalgar in 1871. Here are the details: "The Annual Ploughing Match for the Township of Trafalgar took place on the farm of Samuel Anderson on November 9, 1871. The weather was extremely favorable and the farmers, having generally finished their fall work, flocked from all parts of the township to see the show. Twelve competitors entered the field and in the opinion of competent judges the work was very creditable to them. James Mason, the obliging host of the Drumquin Hotel, entertained the committee, judges and ploughmen to dinner, and a large number of others were also accommodated. His style of catering reflected great credit on him and was greatly appreciated. The following competitors were successful in carrying off prizes. 1st Class: John Featherston, Thomas Brownridge, and George Featherston. 2nd class: James Harris, Sam Kenny and Ed Balk. Boys' class: Charles Parkins, Willie Sherwood and Wm. Main."

We remember seeing a similar report in connection with the Township of Esquesing but at the moment we cannot locate it, nor are we positive that township associations existed in Nelson and Nassagaweya. But from the data we have on hand



**EARLY PLOWS SHOWN** in these reproductions of old photographs lend an idea of equipment and conditions contended with by Halton's pioneer plowmen. Above is James Jarvis plowing a prize-winning ridge on the Inman farm in 1896—where Halton Manor now stands—using a "John Ray High-Cut" plow. Below George Wilson, Esquesing, with the "Gray" plow, his brother Jim behind him and his helper, Thomas Chisholm, Hornby.



it would appear that whatever township associations there were disbanded in favor of a county association.

From the first county minute book—which incidentally was discovered by accident some years ago, in an old box at the back of the Milton Hardware, when the building was

undergoing repairs—here is the information gleaned from this historical document.

**Public Meeting**  
"A public meeting of farmers and others interested in getting up a ploughing match for the County of Halton was convened at the Mitchell Hotel in Milton the 2nd day of November, 1891.

"It was moved by W. A. Lawrence and John Adams, that we hold a Ploughing Match this fall. Officers appointed: president, Abram Stark; 1st vice-president, John Adams; secretary, Wm. Clements. Directors: John Stewart, Sam Pettigrew, John Murray, Wm. Dixon, Thos. Elliott, David Featherston, John Deering, Jos. Alton, David Hutchison and J. B. and Wm. N. Scott.

"Moved by James Jarvis and James Coulson, that this society be called The Halton Mouldboard Association."

"A match was arranged for November 17 and it was agreed that anyone upon payment of \$1 be entitled to the privilege of ploughing."

Through the years we find the names of Jarvis and Featherston mentioned repeatedly as prize winners but, of course, there were many others. We cannot name them all.

**Ploughing in 1896**  
The accompanying picture features James Jarvis ploughing a prize-winning ridge on the Inman farm in 1896—this is where the Halton Centennial Manor now stands. It could be that some of the Manor residents ploughed on this farm in the early days. The team Jarvis is driving belonged to John Henderson, Trafalgar—Polly and Nellie. The plough is a "John Ray High-Cut" imported from Scotland. This type of plough was used by the Jarvis family, father and son, for years.

The Cockshutt Company made a plough almost exactly like it. In this match of 1896 Charlie Jarvis was also taking part as an entrant in the boys' class and came first. James Jarvis came first for the best finish, best crown and best all-round ploughman. Judges that year were John Eustice, Jos. Featherston, Andrew Hood, Wm. Elliott, B. Graham and James Mitchell.

Prizes donated by public spirited citizens were a little different from the prizes of today. Here are a few samples: Briar pipe and case, value \$1.50 by E. Marchand, large lantern \$1. by Dewar Bros., barrel of salt, by J. T. Hannant, pair of mitts, 75c by W. B. Clements, white shirt, by T. Morton. (How many hair-cuts?)—a cabinet photo by J. Cuckbarr, and fifty cents worth of

oranges for the worst finish! This distinction was won by Alex Sidney, who was also the youngest ploughman and the first to finish. Perhaps winning the last two items accounted for the worst finish!

**Iron High-Cut Plow**  
The second picture shows three farmers who, during their lifetime, were well-known in the county of Halton. George Wilson, 6th Line Esquesing, is with the plough. Brother Jim of the Base Line is immediately behind him. His helper is Thomas Chisholm of Hornby. Unfortunately the photograph bears neither the date of the match nor its location.

Farmers will be interested in studying these two types of ploughs—the "Gray plow" and the "iron high-cut" used by George Wilson. Many instances will be recalled of days gone and not a few may add—"Ploughing really amounted to something in those days!" Comparisons are unwise but this much we may say. In the old days a ploughing match was a ploughing match and nothing more. No counter-attractions; no display of machinery—and the women stayed at home! Competition was keen and enthusiasm among non-contestants ran high. Farmers left their home to take in the ploughing match and the ploughing was all they saw. To come home without knowing every detail about the ploughing would have been unthinkable!

(Next week "Olden Days in the Village of Omagh")

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**Regulate Firearms In Use in Eramosa**

Eramosa township council, in regular session at Rockwood with Reeve D. D. Gray in the chair, passed a bylaw limiting the use of firearms in the township. The road superintendent was authorized to advertise for tenders for a truck for snowplowing, or a combination truck and snowplow, tenders to be in by November 1.

Accounts amounting to \$774 were passed. Council authorized closing of certain streets in Everton and roads in the township, to take effect November 15, pending necessary advertising for the purpose of hearing possible objection.

Existing assessment of a dwelling house on the Scout camp property at Everton stands despite a request for special consideration.

**Want Ad Page: Where Old Friends Meet**

**automatic Savings...**

Nothing to forget, or "put off until tomorrow". You can elect to have payments for your Canada Savings Bonds deducted automatically on the Monthly Savings Plan at your bank, or on the Payroll Savings Plan where you work.

**better than cash...**

Your money works for you, pays a good return as long as you hold your Canada Savings Bonds. And, whenever you wish, you can turn them into cash at full face value—plus earned interest—at any time, at any bank.

**pay good interest...**

Canada Savings Bonds pay a high rate of interest for such a safe, instantly cashable investment—a full 3 1/2 per cent per year from the moment they're yours until the month end before you cash them.

**so convenient...**

Canada Savings Bonds come in sizes to suit everyone—\$50, \$100, \$500, \$1000 and \$5000. You can also buy the \$500, \$1000 and \$5000 sizes in fully registered form and your interest will be paid by cheque.

**... these and other features make Canada Savings Bonds a prime investment!**

The Ninth Series of Canada Savings Bonds will go on sale October 18th. The bonds will be dated November 1st, 1954 and will mature 12 years later on November 1st, 1966. They will pay a full 3 1/2% interest per year to maturity and will carry 12 annual interest coupons. They will be offered for sale at 100% up to November 15, 1954 in denominations of \$50, \$100, \$500, \$1000 and \$5000.

They must be registered in an individual's name—either adult or minor. This registration gives protection against the bonds being lost, stolen or destroyed.

In addition to coupon-type registered bonds, Canada Savings Bonds are again being made available in fully registered form in denominations of \$500, \$1000 and \$5000. Coupon and fully registered bonds will be interchangeable at any time.

Any one person is limited to \$5000 of this issue but every member of your family is entitled to hold this amount in his or her own name. See your bank, investment dealer or trust or loan company and make your arrangements now to buy the Ninth Series Canada Savings Bonds for cash or on convenient instalments... or sign up on the Payroll Savings Plan where you work.

**Everyone has something to save for**

**Buy Canada Savings Bonds**

**NEW LOW PRICE**

**\$57.50**

**"TIP TOP CLOTHES"**  
MADE-TO-MEASURE  
Bob Riddale  
1811 Street, Acton

**Tip Top tailors**

**Chronicles of Ginger Farm**

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

About the middle of last week I thought the main topic of my column today would be the International Ploughing Match. Could anything be further from the truth? "Hurricane Hazel" washed out the ploughing match—literally, and certainly as a news item. At least temporarily. But after the story of destruction north and west of Toronto has been told and retold, the loss of life and human suffering assessed—if it can ever be assessed—then the time will come when someone will remember the ploughing match and the disappointment and loss it brought to so many people.

Partner and I went to Breslau on the only good day there was last week. We were only there a few hours but enjoyed it. And we thought how well everything had been organized. The police had perfect control of the traffic and parking and the Bailey Bridge contributed immensely to the safety of the public. We drove home through autumn scenery and all seemed right with the world.

But that night it rained again. Our concern at the time was only for those organizing and attending the ploughing match. Then storm warnings by radio became more serious and insistent. It rained and it rained. At first a drizzle that looked as if it could either clear up or get worse. As you know it got worse, much worse.

At Ginger Farm the wind blew and drove the rain under the shingles and down the chimneys. The kitchen roof leaked badly, raindrops dripping monotonously into pails and pans. We thought that was all the damage in the house until I went into the living room and there under the fireplace was a deepening pool of crosswise water coming down from the chimney. The same, to a lesser extent, in the dining room. I went upstairs, watery crosswise working its way in from the chimneys in two bedrooms.

Partner came in from the barn... the ditch was full and the creek was away over the bridge in the back lane. Weather reports were getting more serious all the time. Partner decided the cows would be safer if left in the barn. At least he would know where they were. If the bridge went out during the night he would have trouble in getting them home.

We spent the rest of the time up to midnight mopping up water and crosswise and listening to the radio. To our immense relief both the hydro and telephone continued to function, although soon after midnight the hydro went off for about an hour and a half. But we went to bed, so tired we actually went to sleep.

The next morning... water in the cellar, fences either side of the back lane carried away. The top of the bridge almost intact but the approach to it on either side just a deep gully. We were certainly glad the cows were in the stable. The barnyard, of course, was flooded.

Bob and Art both phoned to inquire how we had fared and asked what they could do to help. We needed help all right but what had to be done had to be attended to right away. A temporary fence of posts and barbed wire had to be put up in a hurry as the cows were getting restive and needed a drink. That was, and is, all that can be done until the weather clears and some of the mud dries up. Fixing the bridge will be quite a job.

But what were our troubles compared with the poor souls in Etobicoke, Thistleton and Whitby? It just seems impossible that such a tragedy could occur in Ontario. And that I believe was half the trouble—no one believed it could happen despite the storm warnings. But of course storm warning could not avert the disaster.

People have reached the stage when they pay so little attention to weather. I know there were many people around here anyway who had arranged an evening out last Friday and they set out regardless. Some may not even have heard the storm warnings.

I have noticed young people in particular who have the radio going hour after hour but at any time a station finishes a variety program and announces a newscast the dial is tuned in to another station and more variety.

Well that is about all I can tell you about the effect of the storm around here. Flooded basements and mired fields are about the worst damage at Ginger Farm, except for the damages already mentioned we have fared but too badly except that Partner has an ugly barbed-wire cut on his hand and I have developed quite a nasty attack of lumbago.

This column is being written under difficulties, believe me. Lumbago is often the subject for jesting but anyone who has had it knows it is no joke. And recovery is one thing you can't hurry. Patience is the main requisite—and possess in any one thing I don't possess in any great quantity—not for things like lumbago, anyway.

**RIEL RELICS**  
St. Boniface, Man. (CP)—The pistol that killed Thomas Scott and the ropes that hanged Louis Riel are among items in the new museum of the St. Boniface historical society. Scott was condemned in 1870 for his part in an uprising against the provisional government; Riel was hanged at Regina in 1885 for his part in the outbreak.