

Chronicles of Ginger Farm

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

Where is the ideal location for a farm home? Don't you sometimes wonder? I certainly do. If you could move your farm to a different district, where would you go? Here are two, just a nice distance back from a good paved highway. Care pass our place at fifty (50) miles an hour but you there is no dust to annoy you. And if we go out as long as we stay on the highway, the travelling is good.

However, that isn't always possible. Yesterday, for instance, I drove about five miles along one of our gravel roads where road work has been in progress for several weeks. I was literally sitting dust and I could help wondering how farm people along that road could put up with it. Not only is the dust a nuisance, it is also a menace. Children walking along the road to and from school cannot be seen immediately after a car has passed by and drivers have to be particularly cautious climbing the hills lest a careless driver might emerge from the dust on the wrong side of the road.

After my little trip across country, the leather upholstery in my car wasn't fit to sit on. I came to the conclusion that living on a highway is a one for travelling on other roads.

And yet, in other respects, it is so much nicer living farther out in the country, away from the highway. Farm houses surrounded with aging trees, old apple orchards, cows drinking down at the creek, bullrushes in the swamp, red-winged blackbirds, starting in and out among the willows, on our farm we never see a red-winged blackbird at all. Weigh the advantages against the disadvantages and what have you? I still don't know.

I suppose a lot depends upon what one wants and one's ability to cope with disadvantages. I have in mind one farm, the home of an elderly couple. They have cattle, but there is no milking-shed, so their calves are left with the cows. A never-failing stream provides water in the tree-shaded pastures. A few hens, on free range, supply the house with eggs. Occasionally a hen lays away and comes out with a clutch of fluffy chicks. It seems like an ideal set-up—a type of farming, if you can call it that, that is just a way of living.

But then you come to the house... no hydro, no labor-saving devices, a lovely garden and all kinds of house-plants but at night just a coal-oil lamp to lighten the darkness—to say nothing of outdoor plumbing.

No, I just couldn't take it. In this day and age that is pastoral living carried to extremes. It seems to me people past middle life need the amenities of modern living even though they bury themselves in the woods.

However, the foregoing are just imaginary problems. The difficulties we have to deal with today are real... but very!

Last week Partner sold all the milking cows to one buyer. The trucker was to pick them up first thing this morning. It is now mid-morning and he still hasn't arrived—and we have two men waiting to help load. However, we just got a phone call to say he would be here right after dinner. So here we are, just on edge, waiting around until the truck comes—while the cows wait patiently down in their stalls, little knowing this is the last day they will spend in surroundings that have been familiar to them since calfhood.

It is a very hot day, which doesn't make things any easier. However, we understand the truck is air-conditioned, padded and separated into several compartments with two men in charge who know how to deal with cattle. So maybe the cows will be cooler on the road than they would be in the pasture in the meantime, they are cool and comfortable in the stable.

At a time like this, I can't help thinking of the difference between dealing with animate and inanimate things. If we were selling a car or a piece of equipment, it wouldn't matter much when the buyers came for their purchase. But cows are creatures of flesh and blood, so we naturally have some concern for their welfare. How anyone could feel otherwise, I don't know.

And after the cattle are gone... no cows for Partner to milk! It sounds too good to be true. We shall still have young heifers and a few calves and there will be a dry cow to go to later, but nothing to milk at all. We have been looking forward to this day for a long time but until the cows are safely loaded, we shall put in a few anxious hours. Just now is a particularly good time for the cows to go as I expect to be away for a little while and I shall certainly go with an easier mind knowing that Partner has a lot less work to do.

But oh dear, sell a few cows and what rumors you hear! I was told down town that we had sold the farm. That definitely isn't true. We haven't even got it listed now, have we given the matter any consideration whatsoever. But of course, if anyone came along and offered us a fantastic price... well, there is no telling what might happen!

Motor Trip Follows Wedding Saturday

In a quiet ceremony at the Church of St. Alban the Martyr, Acton, on Saturday afternoon, June 4, Miss Dolores Marie Sheehy of Guelph became the bride of Edward George Tyler Jr. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Margaret Sheehy and the late Mr. Sheehy of Guelph, and the groom is the son of Major and Mrs. Edward George Tyler of Acton.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. Evan H. Jones with Mrs. Frank Oakes at the organ.

Given in marriage by the groom's godfather, Mr. Herbert S. Bennett of Hamilton, the bride wore a floor length, strapless gown of Chantilly lace and tulle with sequin trim over white allover satin and a matching Chantilly lace jacket with lily point sleeves. A coronet of seed pearls held her fingertip veil of embroidered nylon tulle and her flowers were a cascade of red Sweetheart roses with stephanotis and fern.

Miss Erma Brenkott of Kitchener was bridesmaid wearing a floor length gown of blue nylon net over tulle, tulle, with matching jacket, elbow length, sitting and headless. She carried a cascade of tallisman roses.

Julian Zajac of Acton was best man.

A reception for 95 guests was held at Hilltop Lodge, Erin.

The couple left on a motor trip, the bride wearing an ensemble of tan and beige with matching accessories and a corsage of baby orchids.

On their return the happy couple will reside in Acton.

Reid-Weihert Wedding Saturday

A pretty wedding took place on Saturday, June 4, at 3 p.m. at the bride's home, Carlisle, when the Rev. Currie united in marriage Doris, daughter of Mrs. Catherine Weihert, Carlisle, to Craig, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Reid, Georgetown.

The bride chose a street length dress of print nylon net over tulle with white headpiece and accessories and a corsage of white carnations.

Mrs. Murray Calloway, a friend of the bride, was attendant in navy blue dress with white headpiece and accessories and a corsage of pink carnations.

Herb Reid, brother of the groom, was best man.

A reception was held, after which the couple left mid showers of good wishes of points west, the bride travelling in a dress of navy and white linen with white accessories and carnation corsage.

Guests were present from Toronto, Georgetown, Campbellville and Carlisle.

Manitoulin Home Setting For Wedding

A spring setting of tulips, daffodils and fern made an attractive setting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Mervyn, Barrie Island, Manitoulin, when their younger daughter, Joyce Ada, became the bride of Mr. John Garnet Norrish, BSA, and son of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Norrish of Moffat.

The Rev. R. C. Kail officiated at the three o'clock ceremony.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore an informal length dress of aqua blue tissue tulle with a fitted bodice, high mandarin collar and elbow length sleeves. The full skirt fell from a pointed waistline. A bandeau of orange blossoms in her hair and a corsage of pink carnations and lily-of-the-valley completed her costume.

Mrs. H. Long played the wedding music.

A buffet reception followed. Mrs. Mervyn received, wearing a cocoa brown shot tulle dress with natural straw hat, white accessories and a corsage of white carnations and lily-of-the-valley.

The groom's mother assisted. She chose a Dior blue dress with white trim, white accessories and a corsage of pink carnations.

For a motor trip to the United States, the bride topped an oyster white suit and navy accessories with a pastel blue full length coat.

On their return, Mr. and Mrs. Norrish will reside in Guelph.

Guests attended from Moffat, Guelph, Lambeth, Weston, Rockwood, Gore Bay and Manitoba.

PLOW CONTENTENDERS SAINT JOHN, N.B. CP

The New Brunswick Plowmen's Association has decided to send its two top plowmen to the Canadian meet at Leamington, Ontario, October 11 and 12. The time and place of New Brunswick's plowing competition remained to be decided.

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Apprenticed In Acton, Opened Own Drug Store 50 Years Ago

It was 50 years ago that J. Kerr Brown opened his drug store in Elmwood, Manitoba. Marking the occasion, a complete story was published in one of the western newspapers, and it is reprinted here for the interest of Mr. Brown's Acton friends. He is presently here in Acton with his brother, the late A. T. Brown.

Completes Year

Fifty years ago the first drug store came to Elmwood. It was in 1905 that J. Kerr Brown opened his doors to the public on Main Ave. At that time business centred largely around Louise Bridge, which today still spans the Red River as the approach to the east end of Elmwood.

The shopping area then served the original farming area of Springfield. That was before there was any Transcona or the building of Redwood Bridge.

Mr. Brown opened a branch store in 1914 on Kelvin St. to serve the new district which developed with the opening of Redwood Bridge.

In 1916 the Main Ave. store was sold. The location on Kelvin St. was leased till 1929.

The business section of the district gradually moved slightly to the north and on the east side of the street, and it was at that time Mr. Brown purchased property at 239 Kelvin, erected a new store. As drug stores modernized, changes were made. Today it is a completely modern and enlarged store, with a recessed feature front.

J. K. Brown apprenticed with his brother, A. T. Brown, in Acton, Ont., in 1898, and attended the Ontario College of Pharmacy in 1902 and 1903, graduating with the degree of Pharm. B. granted by the University of Toronto.

In 1904 he came to Winnipeg to open a drug store for W. W. McKenage at Louise Bridge. An old house, on posts, was made ready and the first drug store on the east side of the Red River was opened.

The equipment included lighting with coal oil lamps, a coal stove and felt boots to keep the feet warm during the cold winter months.

Early in 1905 Mr. Brown wrote the pharmacy exams of the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association and received his Manitoba diploma.

Apprentices who have served under Mr. Brown include M. Collins, K. G. Harman, R. L. Harman, W. Lightbody, C. D. Morley, a daughter Margaret (now Mrs. Gordon Craig) and a son, Harold.

Graduates who have been employed are W. Carson, R. McMillan, W. A. Witherspoon, Jack Boyd, Harold Garnett, J. Moir and Halvey A. Park.

During the Second World War when manpower was scarce, Mrs. Craig was the mainstay of the store. Harold Brown graduated in 1948; after serving in the Navy from 1940 to 1945.

Since graduation, he took over the management of the business. Active in association affairs, he is immediate past president of the Manitoba Retail Druggists Association and is a member of the Dominion Council of the C.P.A.

The present staff includes J. K. Brown, Harold A. Brown and A. Loewen, graduates; apprentice Walter Melyk; and Anne Biggins and Gertrude McKelvey.

Mr. Brown has a family of one daughter, three sons and ten grandchildren.

Town League Ball Schedule

The town league baseball schedule has been drawn up by the Minor Sports League and includes four teams, the Jets, Muckers, Wolf Hounds and Hot Shots.

Games begin next Tuesday and are played at 8 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

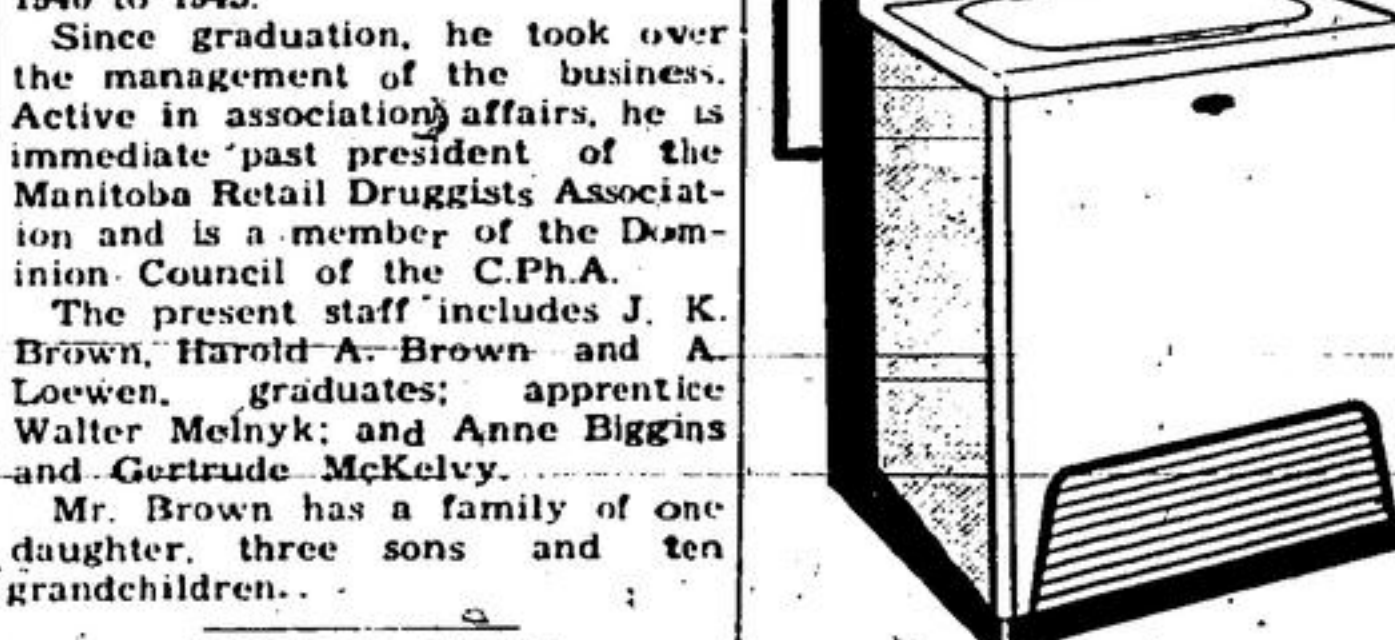
June 7 - Jets vs. Muckers, Hot Shots vs. Wolf Hounds.
June 9 - Wolf Hounds vs. Jets, Muckers vs. Hot Shots.
June 14 - Muckers vs. Wolf Hounds, Hot Shots vs. Jets.
June 16 - Jets vs. Muckers, Wolf Hounds vs. Hot Shots.
June 21 - Wolf Hound vs. Jets, Hot Shots vs. Muckers.
June 23 - Muckers vs. Wolf Hounds, Jets vs. Hot Shots.
June 28 - Jets vs. Muckers, Hot Shots vs. Wolf Hounds.
June 30 - Wolf Hounds vs. Jets, Muckers vs. Hot Shots.
July 5 - Muckers vs. Wolf Hounds, Hot Shots vs. Jets.
July 7 - Jets vs. Muckers, Wolf Hounds vs. Hot Shots.
July 12 - Wolf Hounds vs. Jets, Hot Shots vs. Muckers.
July 14 - Muckers vs. Wolf Hounds, Jets vs. Hot Shots.
July 19 - Hot Shots vs. Wolf Hounds, Muckers vs. Jets.
July 21 - Muckers vs. Hot Shots, Jets vs. Wolf Hounds.
July 26 - Hot Shot vs. Jets, Wolf Hounds vs. Muckers.

Seek Information On Civil Defense

Plans being made to include Burlington in a program of civil defence will be sought by Burlington town council. The clerk was instructed to write to Brigadier P. A. S. Ford, chairman of civil defence for Hamilton, requesting a report on the Hamilton civil defence program.

A copy of the motion is to be forwarded to W. Reid, Burlington's civil defence representative. No discussion was held on the motion, passed in regular session of council.

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NABISCO RICE FLAKES LG. PKG. 25c

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Glenwood Fruit Pies 2 for 45c
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CABBAGE Home Grown 2 heads 25c

RADISH Home Grown 3 bchs. 19c

LEMONS California Size 150 - Doz. 39c

CARROTS Texas 20 oz. cello bags 2 for 25c

ORANGES California Valencia 220's doz. 49c