

Earth Means Life

By WES FOUNTAIN

WEAPONS IN NATURE

The beaver is the engineering specialist of the animal world. Sitting on its haunches and using its flattened tail as a prop, a beaver trips a tree trunk or limb between its forefeet and proceeds to gnaw through the wood. This animal cuts the wood into lengths, tows them to a dam site, chinks holes with twigs or mud, and even uses stones to reinforce the structure. One might think that the beaver's home is close to impregnable since the underwater entrance protects the animal from enemies. Others pursue the beaver right into their homes. Thus each species, by nature, is utilized by another.

Burrow Through Ground

If an animal cannot swim or run quickly, perhaps it is able to dig like the mole. Using its powerful forelimbs, to burrow through the ground, moles are primarily insect eaters. Their shovel-shaped feet are short and muscular, the palms normally directed outwards.

The inroads moles make on the population of earthworms and grubs is enormous. Deprived of its food, a mole will die in about a day. Necessarily voracious feeders, moles are about six inches in length with a round body and pointed head with tiny eyes and sharp teeth used for

Fighting or Devouring Prey

Feet Weapon

Moles are not the only animals having amazing dexterity with their feet. The shaggy-haired grizzly bear has large, strong teeth that would seem to be the bear's prime weapon yet it creates more destruction with its great front paws. Using the five large paws in the manner of cats, the grizzly uses its claws to dig out squirrels for food. On occasion, a grizzly has been known to knock down a buffalo when aroused or hungry.

All bears use their paws to spear fish out of streams. It could be easily said that long before Stone Age man ever thought of catching fish with a spear, the bears were raking them in by use of their claws.

Rattlesnakes

Rattlesnakes are shy and unobtrusive. The snake may draw its body into an S-shape before striking, since this position allows it to strike a great distance. When the fangs of a rattlesnake make contact, poison hypodermic spring erect to inject a fluid out of two glands located behind the eyes. A duct provides the pathway between the glands and fangs, and certain muscular actions of the head forces the fluid through these hollow sheaths.

ROCKWOOD

Church Organizations Stage World Day of Prayer Service

The Women's World Day of Prayer was well attended, last Friday in the Presbyterian church. Mr. John Birch addressed the gathering briefly and used the theme "Forward Through the Ages, in Unbroken Line." Mrs. Roy Young, president of the Presbyterian Church W.M.S., led in devotionals. Mrs. G. Gray and Mrs. W. Swanston answered the roll call of nations. Mrs. K. B. Waller of St. John's Church led in prayers of confession and penitence.

Mrs. R. Young led in prayers of assurance and dedications which were responsive. Others who led in prayers during the service were Mrs. Lauren Guild of the United Church, Mrs. Wm. Swanston and Mrs. Robert Johnston of the Presbyterian Church, Mrs. Frank Taylor, Mrs. Ross Gordon, Mrs. R. O. Jolliffe and Mrs. Wilbert Guild of the United Church.

During the service Mrs. Harry Bonner contributed two vocal numbers with Mrs. John Freeman at the organ.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Holman on the occasion of their recent wedding which took place in Sacred Heart Church, Guelph, with Rev. P. J. Bodenstedt officiating. On their return from a wedding trip to the United States, they will reside in Guelph.

Following an illness of some duration George Thomas Lavery passed away last Friday in a nursing home in Guelph in his 74th year. Funeral took place on Monday with service at the Ruthie Shoemaker Funeral Home, Acton. Rev. Mr. Brook of Acton conducting the service.

Surviving are his wife, the former Nina Beamish, John, Toronto; Rev. Samina, Harvey and Georgia (Mrs. Frank Kelso), Rockwood; Tyla (Mrs. Everett Coates) Brampton, Lois (Mrs. Arnold May) Queenston, N.S.; Interment took place in Rockwood Cemetery in the family plot. Pallbearers were Tom Guild, Gordon Moore, Acton, Jim McLean, Teppis, Clarence Horst, Stewart S. Royce and Peter Sim.

Sunday was Boy Scout Day.

C.N.R. Route Changes To Affect Farmers

The directors of Esquimes Federation of Agriculture met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Brown recently to plan their activities for 1961.

There was considerable discussion and favorable comment on the general benefits to agriculture resulting from the work of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture. Special benefit was noted to some farmers in the township whose property will be affected by the change in the route of the C.N.R.

Another progressive euchre party is planned for April 15 in Stewartstown hall. A bus trip to some places of special interest will be taken during the summer. Details will be announced later.

**Robt. R. Hamilton
Fred. A. Hoffman**

OPTOMETRISTS

(Formerly E. P. Head)

PHONE GUELPH TA 4-2071

58 St. George's Square

Farm Accidents Report Available Following Research by Council

The seriousness of Ontario's farm accident situation and the suffering and economic loss suffered by strikingly illustrated in the report of the Ontario Farm Accident Survey which has just been published by the Ontario Department of Agriculture.

The report follows a province-wide survey conducted by the Department of Agriculture in co-operation with various farm organizations and individuals with the purpose of providing a basis for a safety education program designed to reduce the accident toll. The Halton section of the survey was conducted by 79 accident reporters who represented the Halton District, who reported 7,835 accidents were reported, of which number 293 were fatal; some 336 left permanent injury in their wake and some 5,868 temporarily disabled. Med-

sulted in \$191,338 in property damage.

Establish Safety Council

Shortly after the completion of the survey, Hon. W. A. Goodfellow, minister of agriculture established the Farm Safety Council of Ontario which will act as a coordinating body to encourage the work of the local safety councils that have been established throughout the province.

Profusely illustrated by graphics and illustrations, the report covers all types of accidents occurring on the Ontario farm during the period from March 1, 1950 to February 29, 1960. During that time, 7,835 accidents were reported, of which number 293 were fatal; some 336 left permanent injury in their wake and some 5,868 temporarily disabled. Med-

ical bills during the same period amounted to \$700,977 with property damage exceeding \$5,000,000.

Copies of the report are available at the office of the agricultural representative, Milton.

CHURCHILL

Honor Newlyweds During Presentation

A presentation was held in Churchill Church on Friday evening for Mr. and Mrs. Donald Anderson, whose marriage took place recently. Smith Griffin Jr. was master of ceremonies for a short program.

Numbers on the program included piano accordion selections, Vern Denby; violin duet, Frank and Ted Freeman; a reading, "Grandpa Kerr Goes Missing," Miss Beth McEvily.

Marie and Don were then called to the front and Mrs. Ted Freeman read the address. Don Swackhamer and Ted Freeman presented the couple with a floor lamp and television chair. Both made fitting replies. All joined in singing "For They are Jolly Good Fellows" followed by "The Queen." Various speeches were made during the evening, after which the ladies served picturesques scenes.

They plan to call in an art critic once a month to have their paintings judged as no instructor has been engaged. Each member helps his neighbor and the majority of the group have all completed their night school class with success.

Anyone interested in welding a brush can join the club and Mrs. D. Manning is acting in the capacity of membership convener and will take the membership fee.

Employment in Canadian manufacturing has declined by about 50,000 over the past two years.

Attend Convention

A few from the community are attending the fair convention in Toronto at the King Edward Hotel Wednesday and Thursday of this week.

Friends are sorry to hear that Arthur Swackhamer is confined to bed with pneumonia. His friends wish him a speedy recovery.

"Mrs. Frank Thompson is a patient in Guelph General Hospital where she is undergoing treatment. Her friends wish her a speedy recovery.

The Action Free Press, Thursday, February 23rd, 1961

Firemen to Standardize Firefighting Procedure

Furthering their aim to standardize firefighting procedures in Halton and throughout Canada, Halton County Mutual Aid fire services organization Tuesday held discussions on brigade colors and hand signals.

The organization endorsed a plan of the Fire Prevention Bureau, a subsidiary of Mutual Aid, to include within its membership interested individuals as well as Halton firemen. From the time the fire prevention group was formed in 1957 until the present, only firemen held memberships.

George Alexander of the Fire Marshall's office spoke to the gathering on compensation and various other matters. Plans were made for the annual banquet in April in Milton.

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Hear Reports, Read Article During United W.M.S. Meet

The United Church Women's Missionary Society met at the home of Mrs. E. Lidker on Tuesday afternoon, February 14. The president, Mrs. H. R. Force, opened the meeting with prayer and read the lesson for Lent.

After the business session was over and reports from all the secretaries were heard, Miss D. Simmons read an interesting article on Christian citizenship.

Devotional Period

Mrs. G. Johnston was in charge of the devotional period, assisted by Mrs. Veldhuis and Mrs. Ralston. Hymn 145, "Come, Holy Ghost in Love" was read in unison. The scripture was taken from St. Luke's gospel 4: 16-21.

The meeting closed with prayer. A social half hour was enjoyed over a cup of tea.

Attend Presbytery

Three W.M.S. members attended the annual Halton W.M.S. Presbyteral meeting held in Milton, February 21. Five others took part in the afternoon session to hear Dr. E. E. Long, D.D., who is secretary of the General Council.

This is the last meeting of the annual Presbyteral W.M.S. to be held. Next year it will be known as the United Church Women. The first Presbyteral meeting was held in Milton in 1930 and the last one in Milton in 1961.

The study lesson topic was "The Farming Project will be on the Dublin Women's Institute monthly meeting held last Thursday evening with Mrs. C. Armstrong and Mrs. J. Winfield as hostesses at their home on Lake Avenue, Acton. Mr. Sprowl showed slides of pictures taken at the opening of the new Speyside School and also those he had taken at Brooklyn School when Dublin Women's Institute celebrated their 35th anniversary in December. Orders were given for reprints by the members.

Mrs. Horace Blyth, the president, occupied the chair for the opening exercises. Roll call this month was responded to by "Your Favorite Flower". Mrs. G. Somerville, the secretary, read the minutes and correspondence, the was instructed to forward a cheque for \$100.00 to the Halton Musical Festival. Halton was the first county in Ontario to have a musical festival 30 years ago.

New Year's Message

Mrs. Eyle Somerville read the New Year's Message of the president of the Associated Country Women of the World. The W.L. ladies are having a quilting at the home of Mrs. Robertson on February 22.

Mrs. J. C. McIntyre was convener. After the singing of the Queen and the Institute Grace, the hostesses, assisted by Mrs. Wm. McIntyre, Mrs. Alex Near, Mrs. D. Macpherson and Mrs. W. Watkins, served a dairy lunch.

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