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Chatting . . . By **M.H.B.**

THE EDITOR SEEMS to have sparked a good deal of interest in Georgetown's past history, with his hobby of collecting old postcards and so on, depleting our town as it was years ago. As far as we know, no one has undertaken to keep a "history" of the changes in town, and unfortunately the old newspaper files, which would have yielded invaluable information, have long since been destroyed by fire.

The history of one's home town can make a fascinating hobby. The editor of the Fergus News-Record, Dr. Hugh Templin has made quite a study of the history of Fergus and district. Digging into the past history of the Fergus-Elara district has unearthed many unusual and interesting stories, not the least of which is the one which Dr. Templin discussed on his editorial page a few weeks ago. It concerned the continuous hunt for further evidence to corroborate the famous love story between Florence Nightingale and her cousin, John Smithurst, whom we assume, at one time lived in Elora and preached at what is now known as the Church of St. John the Evangelist there.

According to the story, Florence Nightingale and John Smithurst fell in love, but were prevented by her parents from marrying because they were first cousins. He became, at her request it is said, a missionary to the North American Indians. It is an intriguing story, because, although it has become a tradition in this part of Ontario, where the Elora church is known as "the Nurse's Shrine", where a great service for nurses is held every year and where visitors can see the set of communion silver probably presented to the Rev. John Smithurst by Florence Nightingale herself, yet the search for positive proof of the authenticity still continues.

Dr. Templin says further "Was Florence Nightingale in love with her cousin John Smithurst? Did the renunciation of that love cause her to turn to nursing and become one of the great heroines of the 19th century, and did it cause him to become a missionary to the Indian tribes living along the Red River a century ago? . . . It must be admitted that the story rests on a rather flimsy foundation — a few words from a tired and sick old man — but the old man was John Smithurst. The story would have been forgotten, but for John Connon, who was Elora's historian, and wrote a history of Elora, and who died nearly twenty years ago. When his niece decided to train as a nurse, he recalled the old story and wrote it to her in a letter."

TIME — TIME — TIME — how it flies . . . and everyone so busy with all the thousand and one details of daily living, that no record is kept of all the little history-making events that go into making a community what it is today. Surprising, too, how soon our lives assume the aspect of "history" to the rising generation. What a jolt a friend of ours received recently, when she happened to overhear the conversation of a couple of seven-year-old friends of her daughter's while they were playing at "dressing-up" in an adjacent sunroom. One little girl was struggling into a red velvet dinner dress, vintage 1939, which had a zipper up the back. Finding it a hopeless task unaided, she had to call on her playmate for help, and while they both puffed and struggled with the zipper, our friend was a bit piqued to hear their small, gnat remark, with a sigh of exasperation, "Gee, Linda, aren't you glad you didn't live in the Olden Times?"

ONE THING THAT does improve with age, however, as we're told, is wine. And the

wine in question was pretty fine even when first made, by Mr. W. O. Brownridge's grandmother, Mrs. Abraham Neilson, sometime before 1843. Mr. Brownridge told about the history of his ancient bottle of wine a couple of weeks ago at the annual convention of the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies, to which he was a delegate from Streetsville Post Board. The story was also reported in the Evening Telegram.

Mr. Brownridge, being a non-drinker, keeps the ancient bottle for old-times sake. It is corked with resin, just as his grandmother sealed it more than a century ago for the sacraments in Boston Church near Milton. In 1843 the vintage was entered in the Stewartrtown County Fair and topped first prize. Just 100 years later, Mr. Brownridge entered the prize bottle in the Erin Fair, where it won first place in the relics division.

The quart of wine came into Mr. Brownridge's possession more than 20 years ago following a fire which destroyed his uncle's home in Equestrian near Georgetown. The wine was thrown out of my uncle's cellar, under some trees during the fire. A lot of men picked bottles up and put them in their pockets — it was quite a fire. Later I went back and asked my uncle, William Neilson, if I could keep the bottle I had saved. That's how I got it," explained Mr. Brownridge.

BY NOW, Mrs. Stuart Young and son Neil will have arrived safely at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Scott of Leeds, England. Mrs. Young and young son left Malton Airport Sunday morning, for the overseas flight. "Stu", as most everyone knows, is manager of Robb's Drug Store.

Also on the same flight to England from Malton last Sunday morning was another passenger from Georgetown, Mr. James Emmerson, Victoria St., will be visiting in Durham, Northern England, with his brother and Mrs. Emmerson's sisters, for a two month vacation. This is Mr. Emmerson's first trip back to the Old Country in the twenty-one years he has been living in Canada. . . . Before he left on his trip, friends in the Glazing Department of Smith and Stone Ltd., presented Mr. Emmerson with a Waterman's pen and a wallet.

The Ex-Reeve of Halton County, George Cleave, and Joseph Rice have left for a trip west to Vancouver, by train.

WE HAVE BEEN TOLD that if we ever get up enough ambition to arise in time to be walking along Victoria Street, which runs behind the Public School, around seven-thirty a.m., we will see a large flock of wild canaries. It is quite an unusual sight, but apparently the birds do not put in appearance there much later than that. Perhaps somebody puts out a few scraps of some kind which they particularly fancy, at that time.

We've been throwing out our bread crusts, etc., ever since the "big snow." Just how do birds exist when the ground is so completely covered for a long period? However, it's annoying to watch what happens every time we throw out the crumbs. Never has it failed yet — half a dozen big starlings or blackbirds immediately swoop down and rudely shove aside all the little birds who discovered the food first. And their big greedy beaks make short work of the crusts, too.

MRS. THOMAS TEMPLE and daughter Nancy Lou of Sudbury is visiting in town for a time with her sister, Mrs. David Bryden, Sarah Street. Mr. Temple, who is with the Sudbury detachment of the Provost Corps, is in Ottawa at present taking a course in finger-printing. . . . Seems we have been telling you about a lot of people just embarking on long journeys, so this time for a change, we have an item about a man who has just returned home from England. He is Thomas Brockbank, who is employed on the Norman-Devereux farm, R. R. 3, Georgetown. Mr. Brockbank returned on the "Empress of Canada" after visiting three months in England with his sister, in Cumberland County.

KENNETH HARRISON RECITAL PLANNED FOR THIS MONTH
 A piano recital by Kenneth R. Harrison, organist and choirmaster of Knox Presbyterian Church will be held the latter part of this month under the sponsorship of the church choir. Assisting artists will be Ruth Davis, soprano and Henry Dyck, electrician. Mr. Dyck is the teacher at Trinity School.

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ROMAR COFFEE 1-LB. BAG 79¢
FRY'S COCOA 1/2-LB. TIN 29¢, 1-LB. TIN 49¢
DANDEE TEA 1/2-LB. PKG. 38¢, 1-LB. PKG. 75¢
SILVER STAR FLOUR 7-LB. BAG 41¢, 24-LB. BAG \$1.35
Nabob COFFEE PKG. 44¢, 85¢
ROMAR HOMOGENIZED PEANUT BUTTER 16-OZ. JAR 37¢

AYLMER CHOICE QUALITY Tomato Juice 3 20-OZ. TINS 25¢

DESSICATED COCOANUT 4-OZ. PKG. 15¢
EATWELL PILCHARDS 15-OZ. TIN 18¢
Canada First SOUP 10-OZ. TIN 5¢
FIRST GRADE CREAMERY BUTTER 1-LB. 64¢
LIBBY'S Apricot & Farina BABY FOOD 3 TINS 23¢
GOLD REEF APRICOTS 20-OZ. TIN 29¢
Shelled WALNUTS 1/2-LB. 42¢

COUNTRY KIST or SQUARE DEAL PEAS 2 15-OZ. TINS 21¢

CLARK'S PORK & BEANS 15-OZ. TIN 10¢
LYNN VALLEY KERNEL CORN 2 14-OZ. TINS 19¢
AYLMER GOLDEN CREAM CORN 16-OZ. TIN 16¢
NATURE'S BEST TOMATOES 15-OZ. TIN 15¢
MAPLE LEAF LARD 1-LB. PKG. 18¢

WAX BEANS LYNN 2 30-OZ. TINS 21¢

ORANGE and GRAPEFRUIT MARMALADE 14-OZ. TIN 27¢
BROWN BEAR HONEY 4-LB. TIN 79¢
ALBY PANCAKE FLOUR 1-LB. 19¢, 48¢
PURE MAPLE SYRUP 16-OZ. BTL. 50¢
Mother Parker's TEA 1-LB. 51¢, 54¢
MOTHER PARKER'S COFFEE 1-LB. 47¢, 89¢
2 LARGE FAB BANNED DEAL 63¢
VEL & PALMOLIVE GIANT SAVE 11% 65¢

GRANNY COOKIES McORMICK'S 1-LB. 23¢

Sunkist Navels, 288's
ORANGES doz. 39¢
 Cal. 5's
ICEBERG LETTUCE ea. 11¢
CARROTS 2 bun. 21¢ - 3 lb. 19¢
 Macs and Spys, Dom.
APPLES basket 59¢
 1 1/4 Min.
ONIONS 5 lb. bag 25¢

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