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WE'RE ALWAYS only too ready to sing the praises of our own familiar countryside, and more than once we've written about the beauties of Glen Williams (landscape, that is . . . we can get into enough trouble without going into the personal side). But a couple of weeks ago we were scooped right on our doorstep, by Mona Purser, who writes the Home-maker column in the Globe & Mail.

MONA TELLS that there are a lot of "firsts" in and around the quiet little village of Glen Williams, near Georgetown.

"There are a lot of 'firsts' in and about the quiet little village of Glen Williams. We saw two of the three earliest paper-coating mills and a paper mill said to be the first one established in Canada. A lovely, tree-shaded, red brick, green shuttered house by the side of the road now occupied by a Toronto business woman, was Timothy Eaton's first home in Canada, and not far away stands the general store in which he held his first job in this country.

In the lovely garden of Glen-Nora, summer home of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Vogan, a rustic table is made from a millstone, one of three brought from France in 1790 and set up in the Niagara Peninsula in the first mill the United Empire Loyalists built in Canada.

All this and the beauty of the surrounding country served only as background, however, on this occasion, for another "first" that we had come especially to see and to enjoy — Mr. Vogan's wonderful lilacs at the very peak of their glorious flowering and fragrance. We had seen bits of this lovely garden, with its low stone walls, flagged steps, and wealth of other bloom and greenery in Mr. Vogan's superlative color photography, but to be able to touch and smell, as well as see, the masses of scented blooms was something lovelier still.

Among the 60-odd lilac bushes there are 40 varieties ranging from the common lilac with its quite lovely cluster of small flowers to the 'biggest of them all' deep in hue and having flowers whose four petals would spread across the surface of a 50-cent piece from rim to rim. White and various shades of mauve bunches were also to be seen in luxuriantly double lilacs. If you dissected a flower, daisy-fashion, you might count 20 petals. The whites gave their indispensable highlight to the whole garden scene and deep, dark purples provided the other end of the colour scale. In between were 'blues', so-called, but certainly mauvy blues and a delicate pink lilac, the budding tips of the clusters showing a deeper rose. While many of the mauve lilacs have a rosy rich tint, this one was a true pink and we had never seen one like it.

The rest of the garden was just as lovely in its own way, with weeping willow, weeping birch trees, a silvery Russian olive, and 26 varieties of evergreen; innumerable rock plants from families of hen-and-chickens filling in the cracks of spreading rosettes of scented daphne in the brighter places, still many tall and beautiful tulips flaunting bright colours and several secluded and shaded corners inviting to peaceful contemplation.

INCIDENTALLY, we have often passed this lovely spot, so well described by Mona Purser, but never realized before just how much beauty was contained in the garden partly visible from the roadside.

MRS. GRAHAM Farnell was telling us the other morning, that she had just heard Don McNeill's Breakfast Club from Chicago, when he interviewed a group of girls from Toronto, including her sister, Barbara Farnell. The girls are motoring out west to Seattle, and will take the boat from there up to Vancouver. They will be returning home either by plane or by train, since the plan to take the trip west originated with a girl-friend who wanted to deliver a new car purchased in Ontario, home to her parents in British Columbia. We can imagine the girls would have a lot of fun on a trip like that. Barbara is a statistician for the Ontario Government at the Parliament Buildings.

We were shocked to read of Mr. Ross Hamilton's death last week just after we had written our column about his School of Fine Arts at Doon. The ladies from town who had attended the special weaving classes there were especially saddened by the news, since he and Mrs. Hamilton had been at the school during their week's stay there.

WE'RE GOING to try to catch you up on all the latest moves in town that we know of this week, since we may not be chatting regularly with you for the next few weeks, what with summer holidays coming on and all. Hope we don't have any animal stories to tell you about the lake this year. Friend husband wondered why we didn't tell you about the bats last year and we replied that we didn't want anyone to get the wrong idea about his mother's cottage — it really is a nice one, and we do love the beach it's on. So with

that straightened out, perhaps we can tell you that last year, after we had been there for a couple of weeks and closed up the cottage, our parents went up for a week's stay. After we left, we had made arrangements for a man to come and put patty up some tiny holes on the outside brick-work of the fireplace where we believed some bats were nesting.

We were right about the nesting. When mother and dad went into the cottage, they met a regular barrage, they had to get right to work with a couple of tennis rackets. The final score was twenty-nine love. . . . Yes, 29 of the creatures were sealed in by the putting process, and had made their way down and out of the fireplace into the cottage. We were thankful we weren't there. There just can't be any more there this year, after that massacre.

BUT WE STARTED out to tell you about changes in residence, didn't we. . . . For some weeks now, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Vahl and children Teddy and Lynda, have been living in their new home on Ostrander Blvd. It is an attractive storey and a half house, and is of white clapboard construction. A bride and groom of last week-end, Mr. and Mrs. Elinor Fendley (Shirley Harrison) have bought the house formerly owned by Mr. and Mrs. Vahl on River-view Crescent.

There is also a new storey and a half white clapboard house, built by W. H. Kentner and Son, just opposite the Vahl's house on Ostrander Blvd., which has been purchased by the new principal of the Howard Wrigglesworth Public School, Mr. William Kinrade. Mr. and Mrs. Kinrade are at present living in Preston.

MR. AND MRS. Reg Broomhead have bought the home owned by Mr. and Mrs. Clem Dwyer on Victoria Crescent. Mr. and Mrs. Broomhead, Glenn and Donnie are living on Main Street North, just past the Ford garage. Mr. and Mrs. Dwyer are moving to St. Catharines.

Mr. and Mrs. Wes Lane have moved into the house formerly owned by Mr. Jim Emmerson on Victoria Street.

For the summer months, while they are operating their tourist resort just north of Huntville, Mr. and Mrs. Pete Hunter, Queen Street, are subletting their apartment to Mr. and Mrs. Ivor Williams and family. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are just recently out from England, and have been making their home with Mr. and Mrs. Derricks. They have two young daughters.

We are already appreciating the new sidewalk laid on Queen Street. For more years than we care to admit, that terrible crack right down the centre of it, with the walk sloping steeply on either side, has menaced life and limb — well, limb, anyway. . . . And we're sure we'll be appreciating the new walk being laid on John Street too — which in places in recent years had become just about non-existent.

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NOTES**

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Legion Notes

DECORATION DAY is Sunday, June 22nd. The parade will form at the Legion Hall at 2.15 and will proceed to the Cemetery for the service via the Cenotaph, where a wreath will be laid. The service takes place at 3.00, with the chaplain, Archdeacon W. G. O. Thompson in charge. The Lorne Scots band will be providing music and Henry Shepherd, MBE, will be in charge of the parade.

This is one parade in the year that all members should take part in. It is dedicated to the memory of those killed in two great wars, and who have since passed away. We hope that every comrade will make a special effort to be present and on parade.

THE SOFTBALL team have been playing a lot of ball these days, playing Simcoe, and Orangeville as well as their regular league games. The boys had a bit of tough luck in Simcoe, after beating them here in the previous game. They found the floodlights made quite a difference to them, and lost by four runs. Oh well, time they had a bit of competition anyway. . . . What do you think of the "fancy pants" the boys are sporting these days? Altogether, a v-e-r-y sharp looking outfit! We might add, tho', that

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It's too bad the boys couldn't affect a little quieter socks, especially the pitchers. How catcher Rene Martin could keep on the job with those dazzling diamond socks in front of him is more than we can understand.

DON'T FORGET the regular monthly meeting next Thursday evening, June 26th.

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