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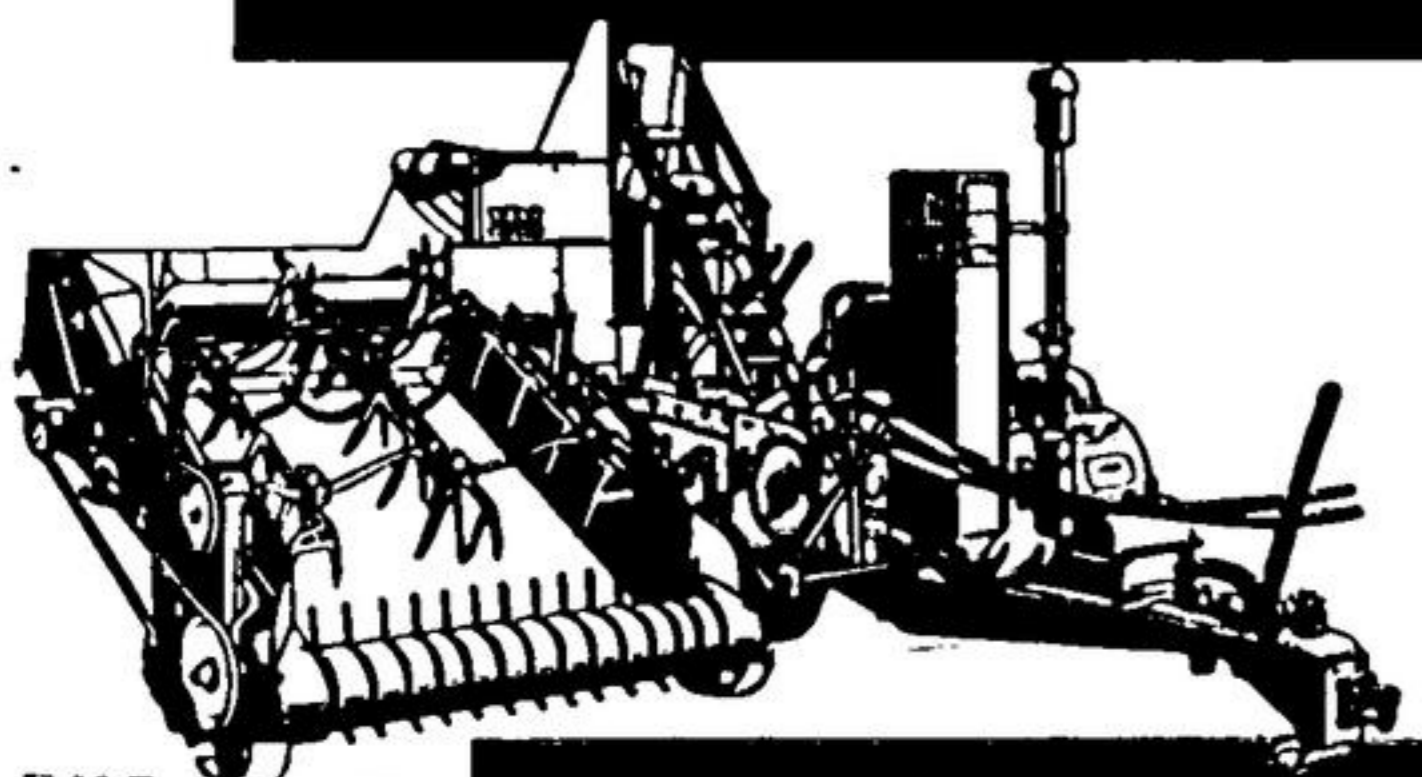
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ASHGROVE

PHONE 42 r 3



ISLAY McCLURE, daughter of Mrs. W. A. McClure, Georgetown, was one of 40 girls who graduated this year from Macdonald Institute, Guelph, in the one-year homemaker course. Miss McClure, who was a member of the Bank of Commerce staff before going back to school, was a prizewinner for clothing preparation. Pictured above, all in white dresses of their own design, are (left to right) Elizabeth Turrance, Burlington, winner of prizes for highest standing and as all-round student; Marion Ault, Weston, awarded winner for food preparation; and Miss McClure.

EIGHTH OF EIGHT ARTICLES ON

## The History of Assessment and Municipal Taxation in Ontario

Great strides in proper assessment have been made in the last ten to fifteen years. Prior to that time most assessment valuations were made on the guess method. Only a small percentage of our municipalities had proper records of property and included in the number which did not, were some of the larger municipalities.

However, with the advent of the county assessment system, the formation of the Association of Assessing Officers of Ontario and the assistance given to municipalities by the Assessment Branch of the Department of Municipal Affairs since the present Minister inaugurated the branch in 1947, the situation has materially improved.

It is hard to conceive that some municipalities are still reluctant to install a modern and scientific system of appraisals in view of the fact that a proper assessment system is the whole keystone of municipal government. The cost is small and the benefits are great.

The preliminary task is to measure the exterior of all buildings. The square foot area or the cubic foot capacity of the buildings are then calculated. It is suggested that the more equitable and easier method is to value residential, farm and ordinary height commercial buildings on the square foot method and over height commercial and industrial buildings on the cubic foot system. This area or cubage is then multiplied by the rate which it cost to reproduce these buildings to arrive at the basic cost. To this is added the value of the improvements which were mentioned in a previous article such as heating, plumbing, wiring, etc.

#### Farm Land Value

Land when sold on a frontage basis is calculated at so much a running foot and the value is esti-

imated not only from the sale price of other land in the area but also from the factors of the available municipal services which influence the location. Farm land is valued according to the type and producing value of the soil and there are many gradations in these values.

The information concerning the buildings and land is then placed on an appraisal card or sheet and any influences which reduce the value are then placed against the replacement cost so that the actual value may be ascertained. A sketch of the building is also drawn and all data concerning the buildings or land along with a description of the property and census information becomes a permanent field book. The saving by not having to prepare a field book annually is considerable when the permanent appraisal cards are prepared in lieu thereof.

Most municipalities also prepare land value maps at a very small charge which along with the appraisal cards are thrown open to inquiring taxpayers, courts of revision, etc. so that a comparison of assessments may be seen.

It is regretted that available space prevents a more detailed description of appraisal cards and land value maps which are a necessary adjunct to the assessor's work.

#### Cost of Re-Assessment

The average cost of making a re-assessment runs between \$3.00 and \$4.00 a property. The cost will naturally be higher on farm property owing to the work and the distance between farms. The cost on industrial property is also higher while residential property reduces the rest. This estimate covers the whole procedure from the measurements to the final revision by the Court of Revision. It is not a difficult task and any person with

### THE MAIL BAG

#### Condemns Person Who Destroyed Family Dog

Georgetown, Ontario  
June 20th, 1952

The Editor:  
Georgetown Herald:  
Dear Sir:

I realize that at this time of the year all dogs are supposed to be tied up, but we all know they do get away once in a while no matter how well they may be tied.

This happened to a friend's dog last Monday evening and the dog hasn't been seen by them since. They made several inquiries and found that a dog answering the description was found dead on the ninth line road. The dog's body was disposed of before it could be identified due to the fact that it had no collar or tag on it.

According to information received it is believed the dog was shot and not run over by any vehicle.

I knew this dog and he was a great pet and faithful friend to his owners and to all the children in the vicinity. It is a shame that such a fine animal should meet its end in so ruthless a manner.

It would be a much better world to live in if more people were as devoted and faithful as a dog.

I just want to say here and now that the person responsible for such a cruel act is, in my estimation, so low that it would take a special dispensation from heaven to raise them to the lowest level of total degradation.

Stephen Emmerson,  
Georgetown.

THE GEORGETOWN HERALD,  
Wednesday Evening, June 25, 1952  
PAGE 3

### BRUCE HARDING



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### Margaret Bradley

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## A SCOTCH BLOCK FARM



A farm in Esquevas's historic Scotch Block, so named because of the racial origin of the first settlers, appeared in Lucky-Farmer Photo Quiz No. 8, in the June 4th Herald.

The 180 acre property is owned by George W. Fisher. It is believed that on September 24th, 1835, An-

draw Dobbie procured the deed for the west half of Lot 9, Concession 5, from the Crown. It was later taken over by Abraham Stark and remained in that family until the death of his son, Robert Stark.

On April 1st, 1882, the property was bought by the present owner's father George A. Fisher, and farm-

ed by him and his sons until 1947, when it was purchased by George W. In June, 1950, he married Winifred Stokes, R.N., a graduate of the Hamilton General Hospital. They have a son, David George, age seven months.

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