

Chatting...

with M. H. B.

● **EVER SINCE IT WAS** completed a year ago, I've been intrigued by the original design of the house on No. 7 Highway, just this side of Norval. When you drive by and observe the unusual shape of the roof—it reminds me of a butterfly's wings—and the large and plentiful picture windows—the whole effect is one of airiness, as tho' the house were designed to exclude as little as possible of the lovely rolling scenery it commands from its hillside setting. I must admit, too, that I had always wondered who was building the house.

● **SO IT WAS A DOUBLE** pleasure one evening last week to meet the owner and also see the house, when Miss Gladys Fraser invited us to dinner at her "Spot on 7." Miss Fraser's house has combined the dining facilities of a restaurant with the comfort of home, thru the skill of architect E. C. S. Cox of Islington. As well as serving chicken or steak dinners (reservations are advisable), Miss Fraser also displays and sells her craft-work.

The establishment of her "Spot on 7" is the culmination of a long-cherished ambition for Miss Fraser. When she taught arts and crafts at the Montreal High School, Miss Fraser spent her vacations at hotels and restaurants where she became much interested in the preparation and serving of food. Thru this she formulated the idea of building a home for herself where she could serve dinners, also work at and sell her many crafts. She is adept at leathercraft, metalcraft, silk-screening, ceramics, painting and furniture refinishing, and her knowledge and skill along these lines has helped to make her home unique inside as well as out.

● **THE DINING ROOM** is the largest room in the house, overlooking the valley, with full-length picture windows on three sides giving the fullest benefit of the view. The kitchen is large, and visible from the dining room, with only a partial partition separating the two rooms. A bed-sitting room for Miss Fraser, two bathrooms and entrance foyer, complete the floor-plan of the upper part of the house. It is a split-level design because of its hillside location, and downstairs there is a large room still to be finished. Easily accessible from both floors are the patios at the side and back of the house. They are most attractive in their curving design. Miss Fraser's brother, whose home is in Port Credit, is building the patios as a spare-time hobby. Incidentally, Miss Fraser chose this part of Ontario for her venture in order to be near her brother's home. I had asked her out of curiosity, because after all, it is a long way from Montreal. The house was started almost two years ago, and Miss Fraser moved here last spring.

● **I THINK YOU'LL** be interested in hearing of the unique appointments Miss Fraser has incorporated into her home. As you enter the dining area, the first thing you notice are the attractive drapes at the large expanse of picture window—they are made of burlap, printed with a silk-screened design of the "Spot on Seven" and Miss Fraser's initials, G.F., which in her case can also stand for Good Food. Miss Fraser made the drapes and silk-screened the design. The dining room chairs were also another project of Miss Fraser's—it took nearly all winter, but she refinished and re-upholstered them all. The material on the chair seats matches the paint used on the ceiling. Incidentally, the ceiling is quite lovely with huge solid fir beams supporting the angled roof. These have been finished in their natural colour.

● **THE BIG FIREPLACE** in the dining room holds more than passing interest too, when you learn that some 130 tile forming the hearth were made from the clay taken from the foundation excavation. Miss Fraser had the clay shipped to Montreal where she rolled it with a rolling pin to form "free-form" tiles. She fired it twice in her kiln at the school, then shipped it back up here where she and her nephew laid it to form the hearth. It made about 130 tiles. Although she added nothing to the clay for making the tile, Miss Fraser doubts that the clay could be successfully used in making pottery. An original idea too, were the door knobs on two of her doors. They looked at first glance like two substantial chunks of wood. That's exactly what they were, but with a special significance for Miss Fraser. They were hewn from her great-grandfather's log cabin in Chance Harbour, Nova Scotia.

Not in a class to match that for antiquity, but still it shows what ingenuity can do with old things. Miss Fraser has fashioned a table in the entrance hallway of her home from the body part of an old-fashioned treadle sewing machine. The wheel of the same machine made the whirling pedestal of a "lazy-susan", and the drawers from it make an attractive and useful corner of a headboard unit in her bedroom.

● **WE WERE A LITTLE** pressed for time the evening we dined with Miss Fraser, but I was glad I missed what the hour was, otherwise

CGIT Honor Mothers At Annual Banquet

Last Wednesday evening the C.G. I.T. girls of St. John's United Church held their annual mothers and daughters banquet in St. John's Hall. The girl's guests were their mothers and representatives of the various church organizations. The banquet was catered to by the Friendship Circle and the women of the Evening Auxillary. Hazel James proposed the toast to the Church and it was responded to by Rev. Morgan McFarlane. Mrs. Jack Runham proposed the toast to

I might not have noticed the interesting dining-room clock. Miss Fraser has fashioned it from oxidized copper. Having twelve letters in her two names, the Gladys Fraser have been hammered and shaped from copper to take the place of the numerals for the hours. The face and hour-hands are also of the hammered copper.

● **AND THEY SLID** around the face of the clock all too quickly that evening. Needless to say we enjoyed the good food too. Miss Fraser, in addition to her main course specialties of chicken and steak, has freshly baked gingerbread and molasses "snap" cookies as one of her dessert specialties. All in all, a very pleasant evening indeed.

the daughters and Barbara Lusty replied. The ladies who provided the banquet were thanked by Beverley Warren. Mrs. Tracey Barrager accompanied by Mrs. Jim Evans led a sing-song.

Mrs. Teague, assisted by Marie Laird made a presentation of hymnaries. Mrs. Wesley Fiebig gave a report on the girl's work and gave them a personal talk. There was a short musical program Marilyn McFarlane and Joan Craig gave a duet as did Karen Babey and Barbara Whitmee, Roberta Hawes a solo.

Mrs. Skuce was the guest speaker for the evening, introduced by Alice Robinson and after her enjoyable talk she was thanked by Mildred Boughen. The evening closed with Taps.

ADDY FAMILY ATTEND GRADUATION OF NURSE

When Miss Shirley Wallace, fiancée of Bob Addy, Toronto graduated from the nursing school of the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto last week, members of the Addy family attended the graduation in Convocation Hall and the reception which followed at the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Addy and Roger went from Glen Williams.

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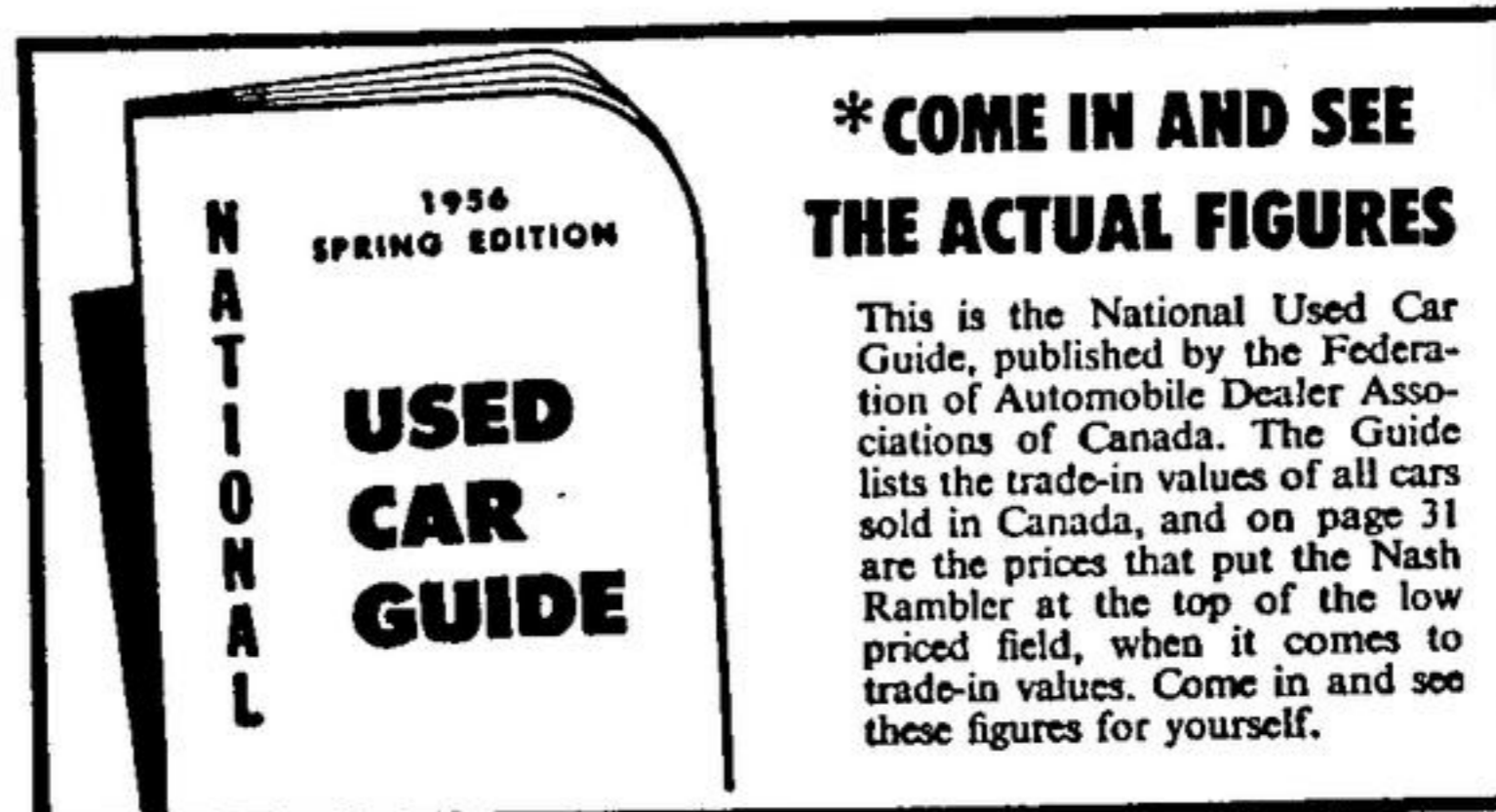
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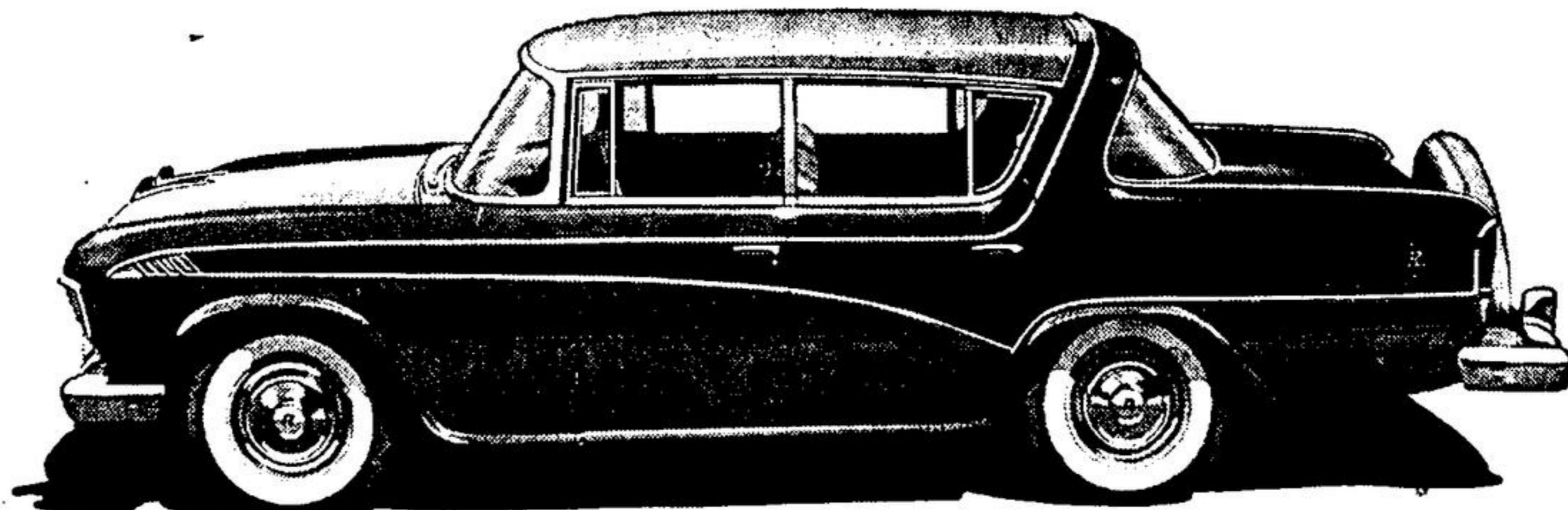
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