

# Huttonville Mink Producer Produces Fine Fur Pelts

Records of this area's products would probably not list mink as a commodity in which it leads Canada.

However, from the vicinity come some of the finest mink pelts in North America, from the farm of Dimitri Blochin, a nationalized Russian immigrant now living in Huttonville.

Capt. Blochin set up his farm in 1927 when the Fourth Line W. was barely more than a clay road. His farm had no electricity or telephone and he had just arrived in Canada after three years of hard work and saving in the United States.

After a year of poultry breeding, Capt. Blochin and his Egyptian wife Olga decided to give fox breeding a try, choosing the almost-rare silver fox.

An observation tower was set up so they could watch his animals carefully. "They were very timid little animals and we quickly gave them up, however," said Capt. Blochin.

It was 1927, mink was virtually valueless, but the Blochins decided to breed them. Pelts then were worth only \$4.50 each, nowadays their value ranges between \$10 and \$80, and each year the Blochins take 1,200 to 1,600 pelts to the two big auction sales held by the Hudson Bay Company and the Canadian Fur Company in Montreal.

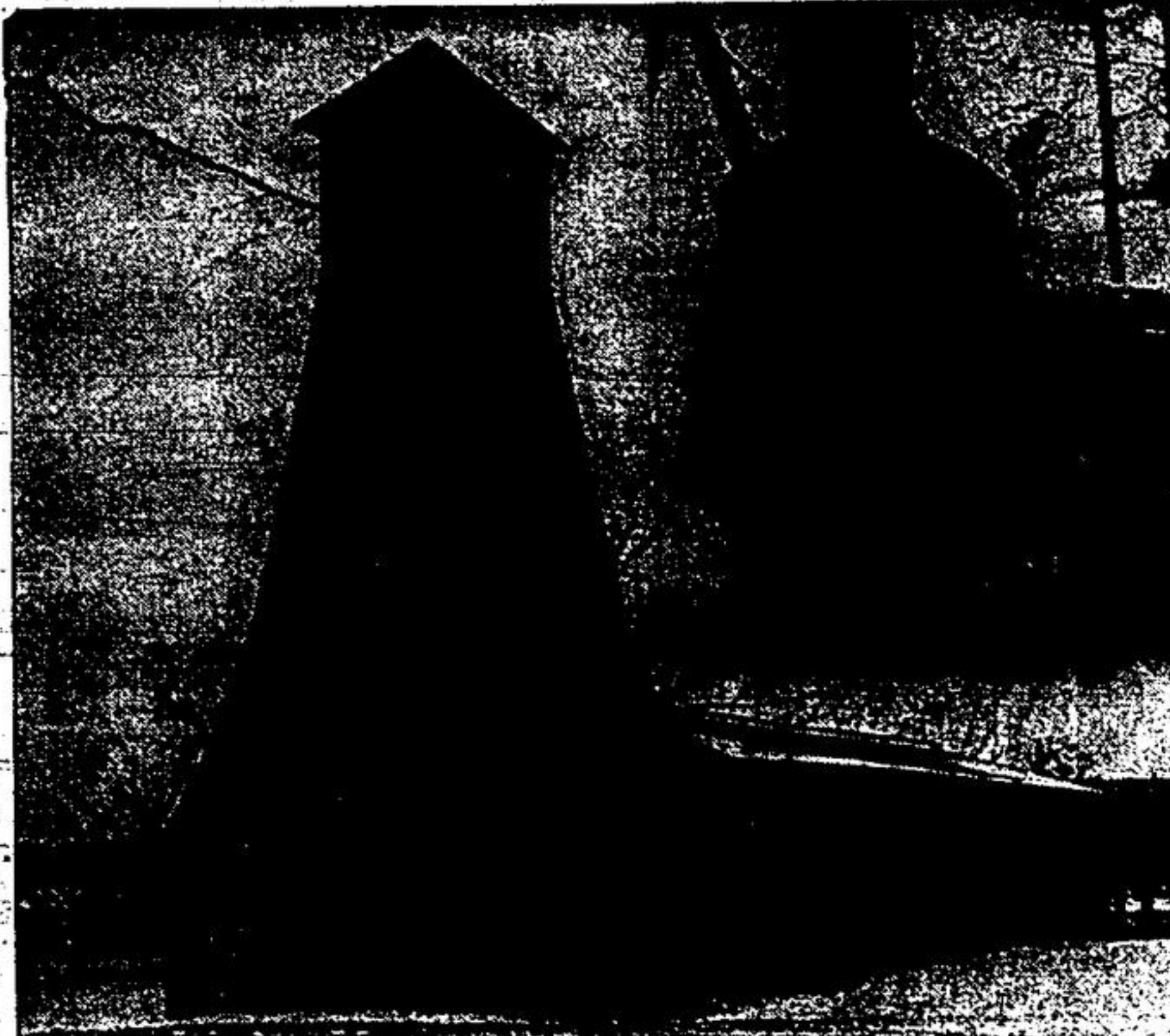
Each day Capt. Blochin and his assistant clean out cages and feed the 500 violet, sapphire and opaline minks at present on the farm.

Capt. Blochin, now 67, left Russia to join his wife in Scotland in 1920, after he was released from a Russian hospital where he had been recovering from wounds inflicted while fighting for the White Russians during the civil war.

The Blochins' only daughter, Lillian, was born in Scotland.

Previously on his Huttonville farm, Capt. Blochin had many hundreds more mink than he has today. "We are cutting down the numbers," he said, "so we can specialize in an even higher quality pelt."

The Blochins are not the only mink breeders in the area. They have rivals in Hornby, Milton and Kilbride.



LANDMARK dominating the skyline on Dimitri Blochin's Huttonville farm was built over 30 years ago as a tower for watching over silver foxes. The tower, of Russian design, now lies unused, guarding a maze of mink cages across the court. Capt. Blochin (inset), a Russian civil war veteran, owner of Huttonville mink farm, has specialized in mink breeding since 1927 and started when mink was virtually worthless.

# St. John's Women to Host Day of Prayer

The United Church Women of St. John's, Georgetown, will be host this year for the World Day of Prayer. There will be a service to which women from other churches will be invited on Friday afternoon, Feb. 25th.

The U.C.W. held their first general meeting of the year on Wednesday evening, Jan. 19.

Mrs. Douglas MacLaren opened the meeting with prayer and a devotional period, conducted with a hymn followed by scripture reading by Mrs. Douglas MacLaren. Mrs. S. Hall closed this part of the meeting with prayer.

Various annual reports were read and submitted by the committee chairmen. The year 1965 proved to be a busy one and results were encouraging. A full program is underway for the coming year as well.

The new leaders of each unit were encouraged to attend the leadership training day at First United, Port Credit, on Jan. 31.

Following the benediction a large birthday cake was served by Unit B. The four candles on the cake represented the fourth year of the U.C.W. Thanks of the ladies was expressed by Mrs. Ken Faulkner.

# Describes 2-Year Diploma Program for County Nurses

The Halton County Chapter of the Registered Nurses Association of Ontario held a meeting on January 18th, at the Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital.

Highlights of the meeting included a discussion and clarification by members from Provincial Office of proposed changes in the areas of membership, elections, field organization and committees.

These changes will be voted on at a general meeting in Toronto January 29th.

Miss Elizabeth Maus, Director of the Hamilton and District School of Nursing, spoke on their two year Diploma program. This course graduates its first class of graduate nurses in September of this year, part of their clinical experience having been received in both The Joseph Brant Hospital, Burlington and the Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, Oakville.

Miss Maus stressed the point that it is particularly important in the shortened programme to combine good experience and theory in order that the student obtain the most from the learning experience.

**HORNBY**

## Instal New Officers Hornby U.C. Women

The General Meeting of the Hornby United Church Women was held on Wednesday night, January 19, in the church basement. Mrs. James Snow, the new president, presided for the meeting. The installation service for new executive was in charge of Reverend Eldin Linstead. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary, Mrs. Orville Greston and the treasurer's report by Mrs. Harold Robson. The roll call word "New" was answered by the 15 ladies attending. The scripture and meditation period was in charge of Mrs. Johnston Neelands.

Rev. Eldin Linstead was the guest speaker and he chose as his topic "The changing church in Canada," which was compared with 1941 to 1961 conditions and proved some churches had made progress and some took a slump.

Used Christmas cards were handed in to be sent to the Missions. Lunch was served by Mrs.

Harold Robson and Mrs. Orville Greston.

A Tobogganing Party was held at the Glen Eden Ski Slopes on Friday night, January 21, when fifteen of the Eden United Church Young People's Society enjoyed a night of outdoor activity with plenty of spills. Following the tobogganing they all went to Lido Restaurant in Milton for refreshments.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Peterson of the 8th Line have sold their farm and will be moving to Oakville in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Pfant are enjoying a month's vacation in Florida. They are accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. John Pfant of Irlington.

Get well wishes to Mrs. George Leslie who is a patient in the Milton District Hospital.

We are sorry to report that Larry Rutledge had two bones broken in his right wrist on Friday night while tobogganing at the Glen Eden Ski Slopes.

Anniversary greetings to Mr. and Mrs. John Thorne, who will celebrate their Wedding Anniversary on January 30th.

Birthday greetings to the following who are celebrating their birthdays: Glen Pfant on January 27, Joseph Shea on January 28, Mrs. Iren Saunders, James Pfant and Lew Sampson on January 29, William Stout and Oage Laursen on January 31, Nancy Patterson and Janet Hill on February 2.

A speedy recovery is wished

for Margaret Shea who has been home sick with the flu for the past week.

A heavy snow with driving winds on Saturday night and early Sunday morning caused many inconveniences to local farmers on the Ninth Line. Hydro went off at 2 a.m. in the morning and was not repaired until 1:15 p.m. in the afternoon. Children had to be taken to other homes where there was heat and the farmers couldn't milk their cows until the afternoon. Some had to be satisfied with cold meals and some made hot meals on picnic barbecues.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

There will be 225 bilingual hostesses to help visitors to Expo. Many of them will speak three or more languages.

Expo coincides with the 325th anniversary of the founding of Montreal, the second largest French-speaking city in the world.

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# Georgetown With Oakville As New Federal Ridings Discussed

A new federal electoral map which tears apart the old riding of Halton was presented to Parliament last week.

In reports from 10 independent provincial commissions assigned to revise ridings in line with the 1961 census, it is recommended to wipe out, rename and reshape all but six of the present 265 ridings across Canada, reflecting the population shifts to urban areas since the old maps were drawn in 1952.

MPs now have 30 days to protest these for reconsiderations.

**HALTON RIDING**

Halton riding which now simply takes in the seven municipalities in the county would be split into what one official calls "an impossible jig-saw puzzle."

Under the proposed revision Halton Riding would include a long narrow corridor stretching from Oakville in the south almost 40 miles north to include Erin Township in Wellington County.

Halton riding, would contain Buxton, Milton, Georgetown and Acton as well as Oakville and Erin.

The present riding of Halton listed 66,751 eligible voters in the November federal election.

**NEW RIDING**

Burlington which now is part of Halton riding becomes part of the new Halton-Wentworth riding which would be created under the proposed redistribution. Halton-Wentworth would include the town of Dundas, and East and West Flamborough in Wentworth County.

Nassagaweya, now in Halton riding would join Wellington riding which loses Erin to Halton.

Dr. Harry Harley, Halton M.P. said the redistribution seemed fair and added that Burlington and Oakville were now too large to be lumped together in one riding.

George Kerr, Halton M.P.P. said the redistribution only confuses the issue, especially after the provincial redistribution proposal.

Under the revised provincial electoral boundaries proposal, Halton riding is split on an east-west basis. "Now you have four ridings including the present provincial and federal ones," said Mr. Kerr.

The riding of Peel will disappear completely under the revised electoral boundaries, to be replaced with two newly created ridings, Peel-Dufferin and Peel South.

**Advertising Man Chairman TB Survey Public Relations**

The appointment of Mr. H. G. Scalfie, Vice President of Russell T. Kelley Co. Limited as Public Relations Chairman for the forthcoming Halton County Testing and X-ray Survey, was announced today by Rev. M. Estabrooks, General Chairman of the Survey. Mr. Scalfie has appointed the following to serve as his committee:

Mr. A. J. Fish, chairman of Schools; Mr. E. F. Carberry, chairman of Publicity; Mr. H. C. Hardwick, chairman of Newsletter; Mr. Wm. A. Tyre, chairman of speakers.

The Mass Survey is scheduled to begin on February 1st, 1966, with the Schools portion of the Survey and will completely cover all sections of Halton County.

All school children have received cards, which they have been asked to take home to receive parents authorization. Parents are urged to complete these cards and return them promptly.

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