

Just Like Time Tunnel: Teens Travel Back to Pioneers of 1800's

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As we clambered off the bus that chilly September 16 morning, a feeling of strangeness surged through us. Here we were, modern teenage girls of the 1960's brought back in time in a matter of minutes, to the pioneer life of our ancestors in the 1800's.

Mrs. Hess, Mrs. Hall and we girls taking the home economics course were greeted by two cheerful guides, who introduced themselves and proceeded to split us up into two separate groups. Then the tour was on. The tramp — tramp tramp of our marching feet rang in the brisk, nippy air, as we began our inspection of Black Creek's "Pioneer Village."

Settler's Grandson
First on the list was a barn built by Daniel Stone, the first settler. Our commentator, a rather jovial old man, made the discussion here very interesting and authoritative, as he was the grandson of one of the first settlers. All I can really say is that you farmers should thank your lucky stars for modern-day farming. To most of us it was amazing and shocking to discover that farming then, was done in such primitive ways. Even more amusing to us was the fact that this huge manorship of a barn, was built without the aid of one single nail.

We gazed about us in awe as we stumbled into Elizabeth's and Daniel's first home. Well, most of us anyway! There were a few human icicles who were more interested in getting near the fireplace than anything else at the moment. Crude log walls, chinked with blue clay, made a futile attempt of keeping out drafts. The room was mainly by the blazing fireplace, the main item of the home, while sunbeams fought desperately to enter the tiny window. Smoke which hung in the air, stung our eyes as we surveyed the simple furnishings; the spinning wheel, where a pioneer woman sat busily spinning her wool, dyed beautiful colours with golden rod and other weeds; a wooden bench which could be converted into a bed at night; a single bed in the tiny bedroom; and a chipped wooden table with two wooden chairs at each end. Above us hung, "Betty lamps", the only means of lighting at night besides the fireplace. Herbs and apple rings were hung from the ceiling in an effort to dry them for preservation. After seeing the piggy and smoke house, both constructed much the same as the home, we were directed to the second house.

Straw Mattresses
Now we were beginning to be more up-to-date! It was not a crude log cabin which greeted our eyes, but rather a two-storey, clap-board building, with a verandah at the front and numerous windows. Inside we found it to have painted walls and spacious kitchen. But we also discovered that they now had a parlor, the pride room of the family; more elaborate furniture; and even a small imported stove. The shivering and chattering of teeth started again however, as we tripped up the steep stairs to the bedrooms on the second floor, and found it to be colder there than outside. Tugging at

the rope bedsprings and straw mattresses, we concluded we were very fortunate girls.

We visited the most indispensable man in the village next, the blacksmith. Not only did he shoe horses and oxen, but he made pots and pans for the women, repaired household appliances, and performed several other tasks which the villagers would not be able to tackle themselves. We watched him hammer a red hot iron into place, (what he was making we don't know) and viewed the old oxen and horse shoes on the rickety walls.

Small Luxuries

This tour was taking just too much out of us, and reaching the general store, we gaped hungrily at the fudge, barley-sacks, turkish delight, and other delectables on display to tempt us. When we finally did tear our eyes away regretfully, we saw that everything, imaginable was on sale; material food, candy, dishes, newspapers, jewellery — anything a housewife could use. A post office was in the back of the store. This was because the storekeeper and his wife were usually the only educated people in the village and they would have to read and write the mail before sending it on its way. With one last longing look at the candy, we pulled ourselves reluctantly out of the store.

Reaching a still more modern home, we discovered that there was now no fireplace at all in the house. The ceilings were lower to preserve more heat, making living conditions more favourable. Walls which were not painted, had decorative willow-panels, and candles were scattered abundantly throughout the rooms. Instead of everything being homemade, curtains, bedspreads, tablecloths and furniture were now made by skilled tradesmen. Luxuries, such as pianos and small sewing machines were now common. "Well, at least it was getting to be liveable!" a few girls sighed and we hurried on.

Wagon Ride

We stopped for a moment, surprised at the sudden transition. Here before us, stood the home which would belong to one of the wealthiest men in the community. It was yellow clapboard with a beautiful lawn and anyone could live in it today. There was a huge kitchen and serving room where the maid worked, and now even a pump in the house. Gold brocade upholstered the living room and beautiful furniture completed the decor of the parlor. Upstairs we surveyed the bedrooms. "Ohs and Ahs" of delight emerged from the girls' bedroom. A beautiful canopied bed with an old-fashioned wedding gown laid on it had captured the attention of all. Disappointed because we had to move on we stole one final glance at that beautiful room. Because time was running out, we now only had time for a wagon ride. Not that it bothered us all that much! Angry stomachs were growling that lunch was overdue and besides, all thoughts were on that candy. When the wagon left us off shortly thereafter, there was a mad dash to have first pick of the sweets.

Munching contentedly on our lunch and candies, it was a

group of pensive girls who sank wearily into their seats on the bus. We were thinking, "Ugh! Yes, we were thinking, "Ugh!

Half Century with CNR Georgetown Man Retires

Amid a host of friends and surrounded with the glamorous splendour and Viennese cuisine of the Franz Josef Room in Toronto, Herb J. Herder was honoured at a farewell party on October 6th. The occasion was to mark his retirement from the Canadian National Railways in his fiftieth (50) year of service with the railway — effective Sept. 30th — in keeping with Company policy.

Mr. Herder commenced his employment with the former Grand Trunk Railway in Toronto on September 3rd, 1917, starting as a junior office boy in the office of the General Superintendent of the Southwestern Ontario District. He has worked in that city during his entire railway career, retiring as Industrial Development Representative in the Toronto Area.

Over the years he was employed in various Departments and served the railway in numerous capacities. He joined the Industrial Department in the early 1940's and in the course of his duties travelled extensively throughout Southwestern and Eastern Ontario. His main duties involved the locating and placement of industries on land adjacent to CN rails with follow-up service applicable thereto. This work required constant contact with high ranking officials in industry, Ontario government, business development, branches of major banks, Trust companies, industrial commissions, as well as major real estate firms in the province.

Among those present at his retirement party were officials from senior and middle management of the railway, along with a large number of fellow employees with whom he had been associated for many years. Guests were present from Montreal, Belleville, Toronto, St. Thomas, London, as well as other points along the line.

Many gifts were presented to Mr. and Mrs. Herder on the oc-

we'll be back in school in an hour! But foremost in our thoughts was this, "Thank goodness for our modern way of life."

DEER AND TRAFFIC DON'T MIX

It could be that Halton County's deer don't want to be protected by the current hunting ban. One of them committed suicide Saturday by leaping in front of a car on No. 7 Hwy. just north of the Limehouse sideroad.

The North Halton OPP constable investigating the collision estimated the damage to the car operated by Gordon Albert Harley, 33 John St. W., at \$175.

Two motor vehicle accidents were investigated by North Halton officers this week. On Sunday, a car driven by James William Cruickshank, Clarkson, and Grant Maxwell Miller, of Georgetown, collided on the 8th line at Wildwood resulting in \$750 property damage.

151,327 PEOPLE IN COUNTY

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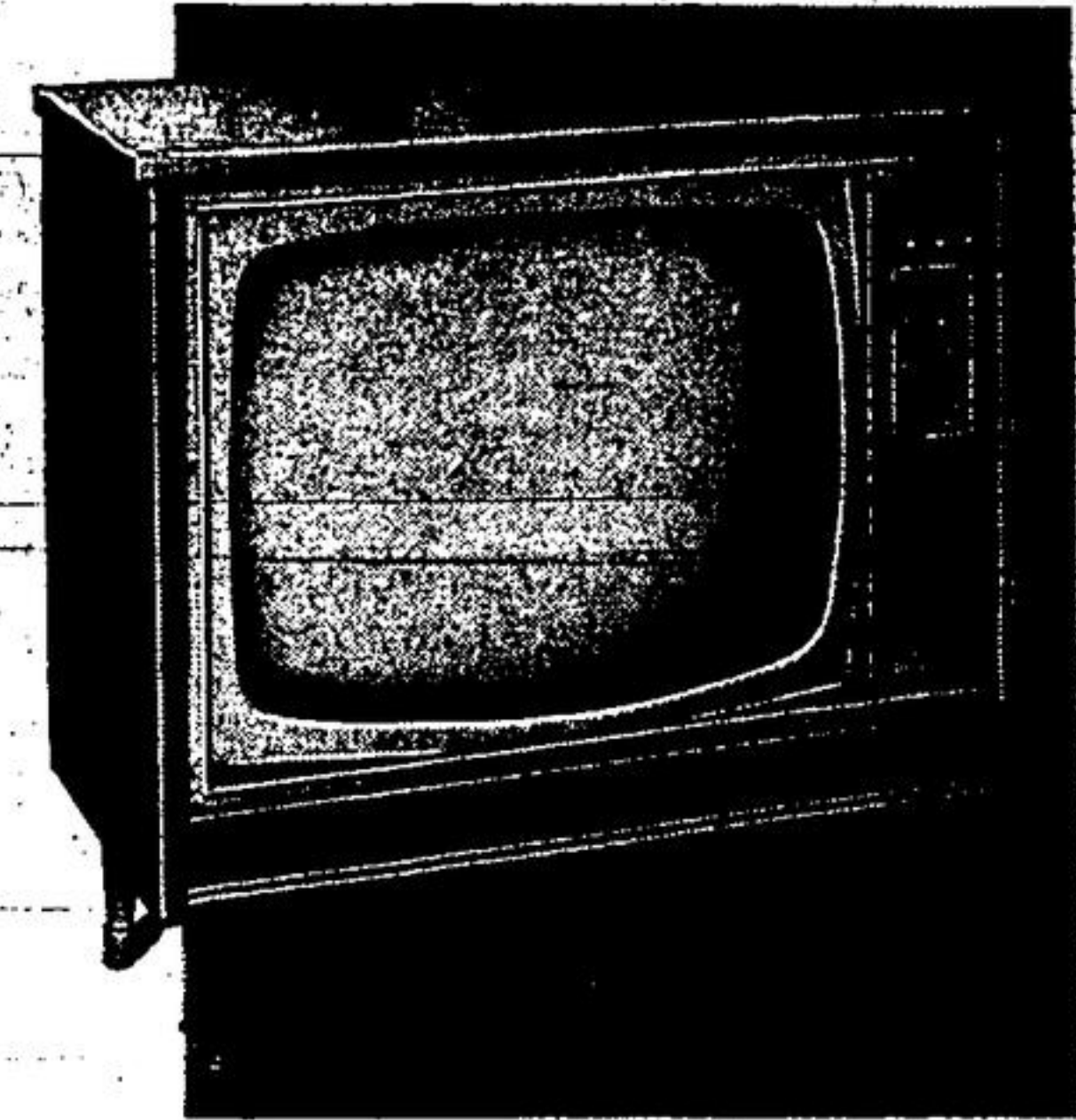


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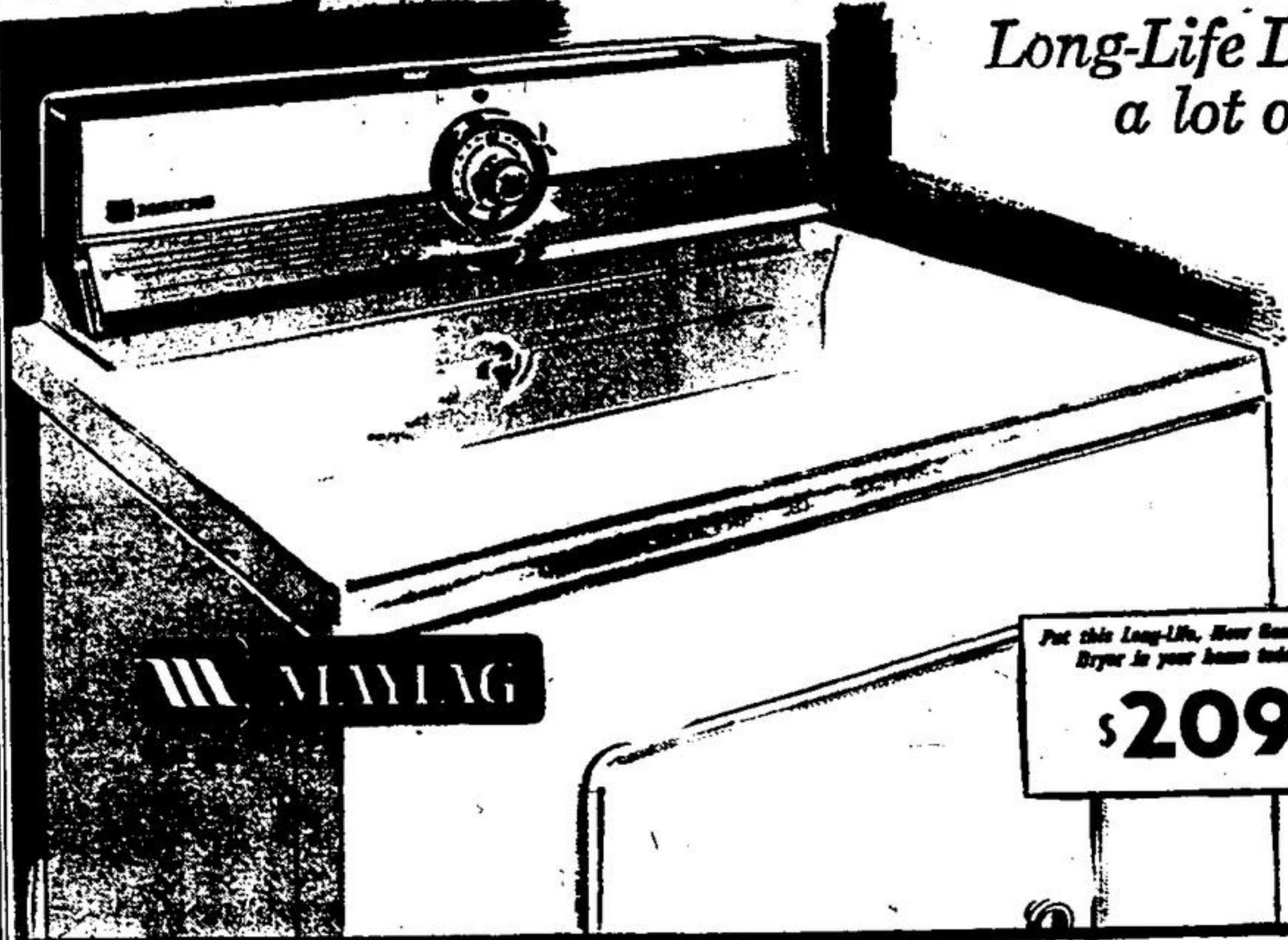
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