



Sideroad 5
with JENNIFER BARR

Ho, ho, ho, and all that jazz. Santa Claus is coming to town—again.

The annual Santa Claus Parade will be held on December 11 and this little lady will once more be dragging her donkey down Mill Street. I sure don't want to be alone.

Last year, there was quite an uproar when it looked as if Acton wouldn't have a parade at all. Everybody and his brother came out of hiding to help organize the event and it turned out to be the best darned Santa Claus parade the old town has seen.

Let's do the same this year.

Organizers are trying to contact previous entrants but hope for many more. Horses and riders, ponies, buggies, small floats, clowns, bikes, you-name-it, all are needed.

Please phone Dana Coates, 853-2952, if you're interested.

The Royal—the largest agricultural fair on the continent—is coming up. In fact, it will be half over by the time this goes to press. The dates are November 12 through November 21.

It's always such an exciting time although this is the first year we've exhibited for ages. However, instead of horses, it's chickens! Erica has entered some of her prize birds and dreams of international acclaim. If it wasn't for a couple of very kind gentlemen who took an interest in a little girl with a fancy, she wouldn't have the basement full of freshly washed chickens now.

These two gentlemen have been feathery godfathers to Erica making sure she had really good birds and knew how to care for them. The result of their patient teaching is a happy girl who spends hours talking to, caring for and grooming her birds. And this is one grateful mum.

Birds in the basement

Mind you, I wasn't so sure about gratitude when we spent several hours soaked to the gills shampooing chickens. The Silkies are small and used to it, so all the soaping, rinsing, conditioning, bleaching and drying weren't too bad. But the Buffs were something else.

They're a huge fluffy bird with exquisite golden feathers. It's quite a disappointment when they lay ordinary eggs—you'd think they'd lay golden ones at least.

These birds are so large they wouldn't fit into the rinsing buckets and had to be dipped in bits. This isn't easy with a cooperative chicken but when you're fighting a belligerent rooster the size of a small pony, you don't take to this washing at all, the name of the game is FUN.

Within minutes our bathroom looked as if the Titanic had resurfaced and I was in no shape to receive visitors. I said words like "darn it" and "Oh golly" while Erica cooed, "Dear little Reuben, is she holding you too tight?"

Dear little Reuben and his pals are now ensconced in temporary pens in the basement so they won't freeze their little feathers before the show and we're startled by cheerful crows floating up the furnace pipes. Sure wakes you up in a hurry.

The things we do for our children.

Silverwood

October rain 2.40 in. honor bridal pair

By Alicia Scott

October rainfall was 2.40 inches. There were also plenty of snow flurries which were not measured.

Mr. and Mrs. D. Lindsay opened their home to a party to honor Sheila Henderson recently. The couple was presented with a card table and chairs. Euchre was enjoyed by a large crowd and winners were: Muriel Miller first for ladies, Don Maveal first for men.

Sheila and Klaus Klooster were married November 6.

Silverwood W.I. held the November meeting at the home of Mrs. Giffen on Thursday evening, November 11 at 8 p.m. Fifteen members answered roll call: "My favourite kitchen gadget."

The president read a poem of Rudyard Kiplings, "Lest We Forget."

Ballinafad W.I. invited members to attend a short course on dairy food, Wed. November 17, at 2 p.m.

Several W.I. members attended district day at Ashgrove and a member gave an account of the activities to those who were unable to attend.

Ho, ho

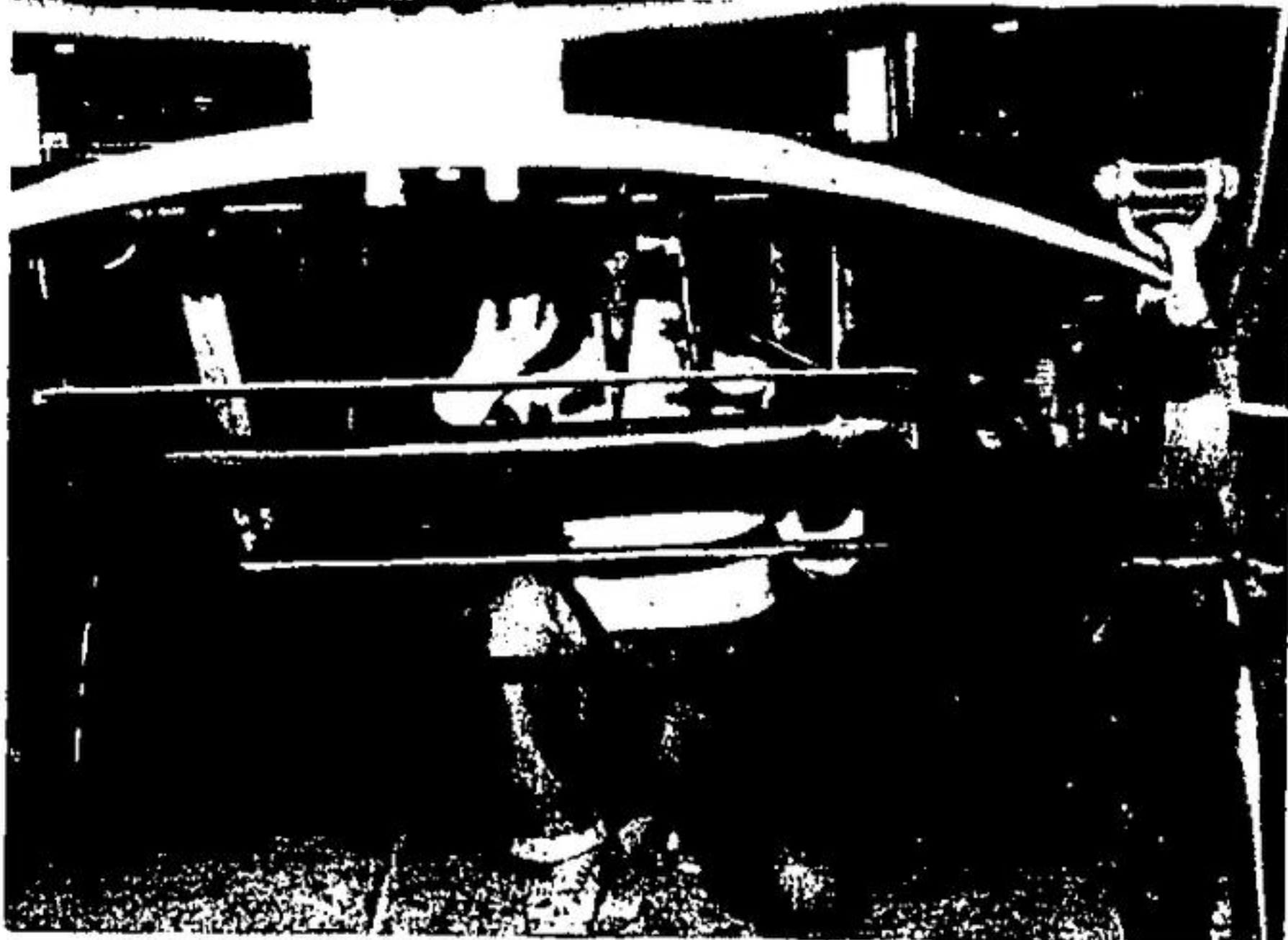
Erin's Santa Claus parade will be Saturday, Nov. 27, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. It begins at 2 p.m.

Hi Neighbour

WELCOME SERVICE

If you are new in town or know someone who is

PHONE **853-3902**



ANNE HOLMES of Georgetown gives a roof seat brake, a turn-of-the-century coach belonging to J. D. Pemberton of R.R. 1, Acton, a final polishing before the Royal. Mr. Pemberton entered most of the coaching classes with his fine Gelderland horses pulling several antique vehicles.

NDP candidate meets her voters

Marion Chambers, NDP candidate for the provincial riding of Wellington-Dufferin-Peel, has been out-and-about in widely scattered parts of the riding during recent months meeting voters and learning of their problems. She has found rapidly growing support for the NDP, and says that she finds "a wide agreement, in all areas of the riding, on the necessity for new political solutions. And people are coming more and more to feel the NDP should be given a chance."

Marion is becoming increasingly involved in assisting people who have trouble getting through the bureaucracy of modern government. Recent cases she has taken up on behalf of those visited had included ones dealing with Workmen's Compensation, Citizenship and Highway Improvements.

Mrs. Chambers has frequently been requested to hold public meetings, for example in Mount Forest and Mono Mills, and these she hopes to organize soon, as well as continuing with her visiting program throughout the riding.

Install traffic signal

Halton Region's Public Works Committee recommended acceptance of a tender from Guild Electric for the installation of traffic signal lights at the intersection of Steeles Ave. and Trafalgar Rd. at Hornby.

Currently that intersection is protected by a four way stop. The low tender came in at \$31,235. Including engineering the job is expected to cost \$35,675.

—There are just 18 more days before E-Day in Halton (Election Day '76).

Retiring

Andy Frank, the unofficial "Mayor of Milton Market" for the past three years, announced he is planning to retire from Chamber of Commerce work.

It's no bull—he was rented

"The bull's got the best deal on this farm," commented Credit Valley Conservation Authority member Ken Whillans of Brampton referring to the dispersal of Authority-owned cattle on the Vaughn farm in the Silvercreek Conservation Area.

Although the remaining Hereford cows, heifers and steers are to be sold, the bull is rented from Reg Cooper for an annual summer fee of \$150. He is transported the five miles home each fall.

Authority Chairman Grant Clarkson was upset when he learned the cattle were still on the farm even though the decision to sell had been made a month ago.

CVCA executive are currently discussing plans for the maintenance of the farm and its possible future use as an educational centre.

Toronto restaurateur John Arena, previously leased the farm and had applied for a long term lease in order to raise pheasants. The Department of Natural Resources turned down a lease of longer duration than a year, and Mr. Arena backed out.

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Tax reform

'Don't want handouts' Halton farmers say

According to the President and two members of the Halton Federation of Agriculture, Halton Farmers don't want government handouts.

"We want to pay our own way. We don't want handouts," Harold Middlebrook told Halton Region's Planning Committee.

He was commenting on the proposed Reform of Property Tax in Ontario. The proposal would see farmers taxed on

their home and building but the tax on the farm lands would be based on market value assessment and paid by the province to the municipality.

Mr. Middlebrook said the farmers are concerned that they may have to pay back large sums of money if and when they choose to sell their land.

"After 10 years of farming we could find ourselves \$60,000 in debt," North Burlington farmer Tom Foster told the committee.

He said the farmer doesn't want any further encumbrances on his land. He pointed to capital gains, succession taxes, land transfer taxes and a host of other taxes the farmer has to face when he sells land.

Productive value The delegation told the committee farm lands should be taxed on productive value of the land not market value. Market value assessment would be 71 to 142 times greater than the current assessment. A staff report indicates that there are 2,898 properties in Halton assessed as farms. In all there are 156,397 farm acres in the region.

Mr. Middlebrook told the committee he was concerned that the public would look on farm land as public land if the taxes were paid by the province.

"Snowmobile clubs have already gone to the province asking the use of farmland for snowmobiling if the taxes are paid from the province," he explained.

In spite of staff opposition the committee agreed to support taxation based on productive value of farmland, as opposed to market value assessment.

Planner Bob White cautioned the committee. He noted that property taxes on rural lands set at next to nothing served as an incentive for urban people to live in rural areas.

More speculation He submitted that exempting farmlands from the market value assessment would lead to more speculation on land. By imposing market assessment the region could enforce its declared aim of preserving prime farmland. He claimed more land would be put into production under the new tax system.

Farm representative Norman Bird said farmers were concerned about the uncertainty of the effect the reforms will have.

The government gives the impression that this will help the farmer at government expense. Farmers feel their problems are being multiplied.

The planning committee is seeking a meeting with Provincial Treasurer Darcy McKeough and Minister of Agriculture Bill Newman in order to present a brief and discuss the proposed reforms.

Town orders clean up

Halton Hills council wants S. Durarte to stop dumping junk on his land on the west half of Lot 10, Concession Five, Esquesing following numerous complaints from neighbors.

Councillor Russ Miller said the owner who lives in Toronto is turning his land into a wrecking yard and residents want action.

He will be sent a registered letter and if the junk isn't removed within 10 days the works staff will be ordered to go on the property to clean it up.

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<p>Crest TOOTHPASTE</p> <p>89¢</p> <p>100 ML TUBE</p>	<p>FROM THE TROPICS...</p> <p>BANANAS</p> <p>10¢ LB</p>	<p>WILSON'S</p> <p>SOFT DRINKS</p> <p>\$2.59 CASE</p> <p>• CREAM GODA • LEMON LIME • GRAPE</p> <p>24 x 10 OZ TINS</p>
<p>Monarch</p> <p>CAKE & PASTRY</p> <p>FLOUR</p> <p>99¢</p> <p>7 LB BAG</p>	<p>• NEW CROP</p> <p>FLORIDA WHITE</p> <p>GRAPEFRUIT</p> <p>Size 48 9¢ EACH</p>	<p>Purity</p> <p>ALL PURPOSE</p> <p>FLOUR</p> <p>99¢</p> <p>7 LB BAG</p>
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