



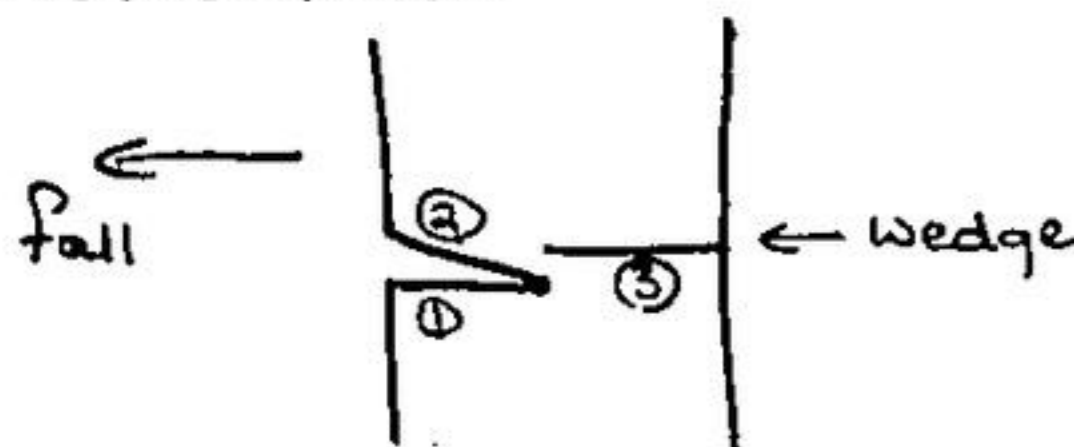
If you read last week's column you are now expert at identifying dead trees in your woodlot. So now what do you do?

When planning to harvest some of that wood for your fireplace, you need the proper equipment: a cross cut saw, a good chopping axe and an aluminum wedge. A chain saw makes the job much shorter than a cross cut saw but isn't as good for you in the exercise department.

Gather your equipment plus a long (150') rope and quite a bit of nerve, and advance on the chosen tree. Check to see which way you want it to fall, preferably where it will do the least damage and land cleanly.

Cut a notch with two cuts one third to halfway into the side of the tree facing the direction in which you want it to fall. Make third cut on opposite side about one inch above the first cut. Don't cut quite through the tree—you want to leave a hinge. If the tree is large you may need to stuff the aluminum wedge in cut three to produce the right fall.

Aluminum is necessary, says Mack, in case you hit the wedge with the chain saw. Apparently a steel wedge chews up a \$20 chain saw blade pretty badly but the aluminum wedge just goes quietly pift.



At this point Mack usually has a cup of coffee to prevent the onset of a terrible weakness which embarrasses him—he faints at the sight of sap.

Small stumps, please
Even if circumstances force you to cut the tree quite high, don't leave any more than a one foot high stump. I guess it's easier to trip over next winter.

When the tree seems top heavy or has a list, attach your rope to the top before it's cut by throwing the rope over a branch (pause for chuckle). Mack says a 150' rope will be long enough to keep you away from any tree around here. Needless to say, if I ever entered into these activities, no rope would be long enough to stop me from getting zonked on the head.

The rope helps you guide the tree down. Use a tractor if necessary. Actually most trees fall much slower than you'd think. It isn't just 'Timbah' and crash—it's more like 'Push, push, pull, creak' and a gradual slither.

Leave brush for animals
Once the tree is down cut it into 16 inch lengths for the fireplace being careful not to bind the saw or cut into the ground.

Pile the unuseable twigs and branches, these make excellent ground cover for little animals. Don't burn the waste, it is bio-degradable, which is a polite way of saying it will rot and do more good to the ground.

Split the logs into quarters; the more inside edges that are exposed, the quicker the log will dry. Green or live, wood needs to be stacked and dried for six months but dead wood can be used immediately.

To split large logs you'll need a sledge hammer and a steel wedge. Mack says "you tap the wedge into the piece carefully, then swing like hell". He adds it's better to avoid over-swinging or you find you cut the handle off your trusty sledge.

It's advisable to get wood out of the bush during the winter. If you stack it and leave it till spring you'll be eaten alive by mosquitoes trying to get it.

Many methods can be utilized for hauling the wood—tractor and wagon or manure spreader; sleigh, horses, skidoo, toboggan or wheelbarrow. You can even carry it.

Silverwood

W.I. meeting held

By Alicia Scott
Mrs. Williamson was hostess to the January meeting of Silverwood W.I. on Thurs. 13 at 2 p.m. Meeting opened with the collect, and roll call was answered by a resolution one could use every day. Minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted and financial report given the secretary asked members for a report on a stamp collection which has been going on for several months. These are to raise funds for ACWW work. Mrs. Marchington was convener and gave a reading and talk on resolutions on how construction begins at branch level.

A white elephant sale of articles brought by members brought in needed funds. Mrs. Beeny received a lovely plant because her birthday comes at this time. A social half hour with a delicious lunch brought the meeting to a close. Lots of snow and good neighbors to help the senior citizens dig out. Mr. and Mrs. Breen enjoyed their New Years with granddaughter Lori and Ben Van Leeu wen. The Casselman family went to Alliston to have New Years dinner with relatives.



PETER AND STEWART WEHBY display different methods of warding off Tuesday's phenomenal cold. Stewart prefers a full ski mask while Peter settles for a more traditional hat and scarf.

Knox W.M.S. meeting

Miss Isabel Anderson, the president, opened the first meeting in the New Year of Knox Women's Missionary Society with two suitable poems and a prayer. Standing at the Portal of Another Year was the first hymn sung. The program, conducted by Mrs. Wm. McIntyre and Mrs. Roy Lindsay, consisted of a number of interesting readings and poems. One story was about the migration of the Scottish pioneers to Nova Scotia in 1773 and the difficulties which they encountered. Continuing in the historical vein was an account of the centennial of the W.M.S. (Eastern division) which was organized in Halifax in 1876.

Set date

At a recent meeting it was decided that the Annual Exhibition and Sale of the Acton Arts and Crafts group would be held on Saturday, October 29, 1977, at St. Alban's Parish Hall.

Meeting

St. Alban's Church annual vestry meeting will be held on Sunday, January 23 at 8 p.m. All members of St. Alban's are urged to attend.

Sorority

Beta Sigma Phi Sorority will help the Canadian Cancer Society in their April campaign. This week, Halton Hills council gave their blessing to the Sorority to sell flowers to local industries April 2, with the proceeds going to the Cancer Society.

Eden Mills Crowd attends tree burning

by Georgina Wright
Eden Mills Friendly Seniors held their meeting Jan. 5 in their club room. Not too much business was discussed after the holidays so euchre and cribbage were enjoyed for the rest of the afternoon before refreshments were served by Mrs. Jean Reinhart and Mrs. Anna Wilson. The storm which prevailed on Monday cancelled the quilting bee which was to start that day. Once the weather breaks the members expect to be kept busy.

Delia Chesworth, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chesworth, left for a six month visit to England to attend school there. Mrs. Betty Kirby enjoyed the holiday in Chatham with her daughter and family. Miss Lorna McLean was home for Christmas from London. Mrs. Kay Stevenson had some of her family home, Mr.

and Mrs. J. Douglas, Toronto; Dr. and Mrs. Jim Henry, Guelph; Mr. and Mrs. J. Stevenson, Stoney Creek; Mr. and Mrs. John Krug, Kitchener; Mr. and Mrs. Ron Fleck, Clarkson; Dr. and Mrs. Dan Stevenson, Kempsville.

Tree burning
The Community Club tree burning took place in the park Saturday evening with over

100 taking part. Sleighing and skidoo rides were enjoyed and hot refreshments were served. The executive of the Community Club met Monday evening starting the New Years with plans for new improvements to the hall. A dance will be held in March.

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