

'The people in those days really cared'

I have come up with some items that bring back memories and voices from the past.

A few months ago, a young colleague of mine was heading off to Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) with his wife and children to teach school there.

They didn't know a soul in that part of Africa. I had a thought, which occurs every so often. "Mark," I told him, "I have an old war-time friend who lived in Rhodesia. I'll dig up his address, and maybe he can at least give you some tips on life there."

So I went to my old prisoner-of-war log book, and there it was. Unfortunately, Don McGibbon lived in Bulawayo, not Salisbury, to which Mark was posted. However, I gave him the address and a note to my old friend.

There was every likelihood that he was dead, or had moved, or had got out of the country, as so many white Rhodesians did when a black takeover seemed inevitable.

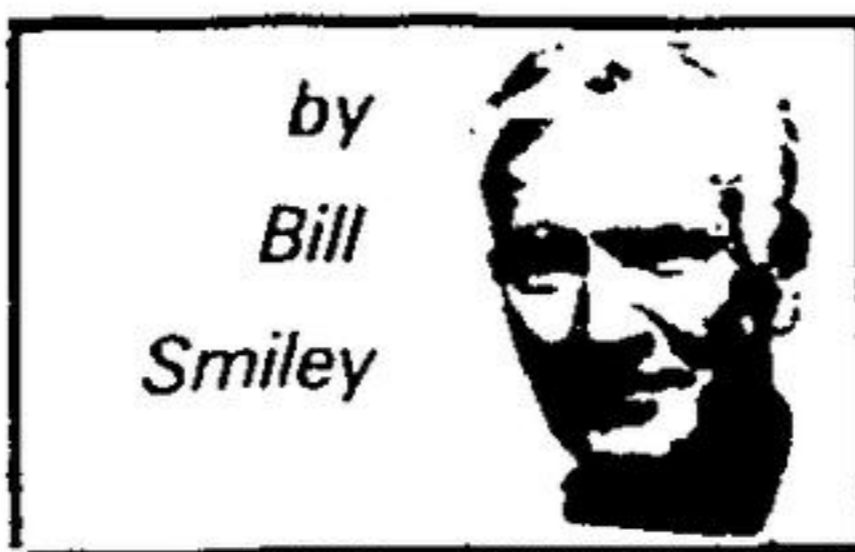
And the other day, while I was having lunch, a member of our staff was reading a letter from Mark's wife. It turned out that they'd been sent to Bulawayo, not Salisbury. She described conditions, pretty

grim—curfews, house searches for insurgents, and so on—and the letter said: "And we're going for a picnic on Sunday with Bill Smiley's old air force friend."

You could have knocked me down with a Spitfire. I hadn't heard from Mac since 1945, when we were both incarcerated in prison camp. We'd been on the same Typhoon wing in Normandy, where I knew him slightly. He'd been shot down shortly after I was, and, joined by a wounded Australian, Frank Land, we wound up as a trio doing a train journey all over Germany: first to a camp occupied by British and New Zealand veterans of Cyprus, then to an interrogation centre at Frankfurt, then off on a long haul across the war-torn country to a prison camp, where we wound up in the same room in barracks.

One forms pretty close associations under trying circumstances. We did. I had a lot of respect for the Rhodesians I'd met: their courage, their cheerfulness, their lack of swank. And, of course, they were only colonialists, so we Canadians could needle them about that. Mac was one of the best of the best.

As if that weren't enough to start the juices of memory flowing, my wife, while cleaning out drawers and boxes, came



by Bill Smiley

across a cache of ancient letters and pictures that I'd forgotten existed.

There I am, Leading Aircraftman Smiley, at 21, black hair, white teeth (the opposite of the present), wedge cap tilted to one side, dashing moustache, cocky as only a young fellow can be when he knows he's going to be a fighter pilot.

And there I am again, on a prison camp identification card, complete with numbers and fingerprint, soon after I'd been shot down, looking bewildered and anything but cocky. And another photo, at another camp, front and side view, looking 10 years older, stubble of beard, mean. And finally, a photo taken soon after release, sporting the magnificent handlebar moustache I'd grown in camp.

There's a picture of Freddy Wakeham, Canadian, Eric Necken, New Zealander, and self, in front of our tent in Normandy. I am the only survivor. And another one, both leaning against a Spitfire's fuselage, of two of our gang, a motley crowd, when we trained in Shropshire to take off and land Spits without killing ourselves. Jacques Van der Perren, Belgian, and Singh Thandi, Indian Air Force.

Van escaped when the Germans invaded Belgium, made his way through occupied France, got over the mountains into Spain and was thrown in jail for six months. He was eventually released, got to England, joined the R.A.F., and was shot down and killed on a mission not far from his home town in Belgium.

Singh Thandi went back to India. I heard he was killed flying Hurricanes in Burma. We were closer than most brothers. The only one of that crowd left is Jack Ryan of Toronto. The others were from half the countries in Europe, and from all over the then British Empire.

Here's a letter, written to my mother, from Casajus Pascal, postmarked M. Stammlager XI, Deutschland. It's in French. Part of it: "Ici mon ami Bill, votre fils qui actuellement dans mon stalag..." and so on. He told her I was en parfaite

santee (in perfect health) and tried to reassure her. How good of him. I don't even remember him, although I knew a number of French POWs. He ends by saying, in French: "I hope that he himself will be able to write you soon." Why couldn't I write them? Who was Casajus? Must dig into the memory cells.

And on they go. A letter from my squadron leader describing my last mission, and holding out hope. A letter from a chap in Florida to my parents. He listened every night, on his short wave radio, to lists of Allied prisoners announced by the Germans, and had caught my name and home address.

And a happy, happy telegram, marked Sans Origine, and important, from 64 Squadron: "Happy to inform you that your son F. O Smiley W B T is safe and well as prisoner of war. Letter follows."

A letter of commiseration from my college president, when the first "missing" report went out. Finally, a letter from a chaplain in England: "So happy to be able to welcome and chat with your son, on his safe arrival in England." Dated May 25, 1945.

People in those days really cared. And I've only skimmed the surface.

WE DRIVE YOU HAPPY™

holiday

Rent A Car System
877-2281
1-800-288-2887

Classified

GEORGETOWN 877-5266 ACTON 853-2219

You may now charge your classified advertisement to your Chargex Account. Ask for details.

Georgetown/Acton, Wednesday, Dec. 5, 1984

PARK LINCOLN MERCURY

HWY. 7 WEST GEORGETOWN

SALES - SERVICE - LEASING

877-2261

Check Your Ads For Accuracy On The First Insertion

The Georgetown Independent and the Acton Free Press cannot be responsible for the cost of more than one incorrect insertion. Any errors in the Classified Sections should be called to the attention of the Classified Department after the first insertion. Adjustments are made to the degree the error reduced the value of the ad.

Call: 877-5266 or 853-2219
9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday to Friday

1 Births

BRILL—Mark and Cathie (nee Green) are pleased to announce the arrival of their first child, a boy, Christopher Thomas, born November 25, 1984, weighing 6 lbs., 12 ozs. First grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. T. Walker of Acton and fourth great grandchild for Mrs. J. Felstead of Hamilton and first great grandchild for Dr. Ford and the OB staff at Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital.

MUNDAY—Greg and Sandy (nee Preston) of Freeton are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter Stephanie Mae, 7 lbs. 7 ozs., at Milton District Hospital on November 20, 1984. Proud grandparents are Jim and Mae Preston, Hornby and Jim and Ruby Munday, Freeton.

3 Engagements

MR. and Mrs. Harold Harris are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Melissa Marie to Victor, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kurpiewski, all of Acton.

6 Deaths

BRANDFORD, Reginald (Reg) suddenly on Tuesday, November 27, 1984 at his residence in Ashgrove. Reg Brandford beloved husband of Joyce Lane and dear father of Terry of England, Carol (Mrs. D. Brown) of Cambridge, Graham and David, both of England and Marie of Mississauga. Loving grandfather of eight grandchildren. Also survived by his mother Mrs. A. Stannard in England and dear brother of Elsie (Mrs. D. Harding) and John Stannard also in England. Rested at the J.S. Jones and Son Funeral Home, 34 Edith Street, Georgetown; where funeral and committal service was held Saturday December 1, cremation followed.

LEMON, Albert V.—Of London, England, on November, 1984 in his 73rd year, father of Gary Lemon of London, England, brother of Tom, London, England and Fred Lemon, Acton. Also remembered by nieces and nephews in England and Ontario.

MASHINTER, Andy suddenly at his home in Acton on Tuesday, November 27, 1984. Andy Mashinter, formerly of Ballinafad, aged 80 years. Dear brother of Lilly (Mrs. Ken Natress) of Islington and loved uncle of Lois Donnel of Etobicoke and Marilyn MacEachern of Acton. Rested at the Shoemaker Funeral Home, Acton where funeral service was held on Thursday, November 29 at 1:30 p.m. Interment Brampton Cemetery.

WATSON, William Victor on Monday, December 3, 1984 at his home in Norval. Bill Watson of Willow Park, Norval. Beloved husband of Gwen Haines and loved father of Robert Watson of Montreal. Stepfather to William Wilkinson of Glen Williams, Clive Wilkinson of Chateaufort, Quebec, Les Wilkinson of Bramalea and Lorraine (Mrs. R. Teeler) of Georgetown. Rested at J.S. Jones and Son Funeral Home, 34 Edith St., Georgetown where funeral and committal service will be held Wednesday, December 5 at 11:00 o'clock. Interment Hillcrest Cemetery, Norval. In memory contributions to The Halton Lung Association would be appreciated.

WRUCK, Liesbeth at Guelph General Hospital on Sunday, December 2, 1984. Liesbeth in her 73rd year. Wife of the late Charles Wruck and dear mother of Karl, Henry, Kurt, Paul, and Bruno. Also survived by 14 grandchildren. Rested at the Shoemaker Funeral Home, Acton. Funeral was held on Wednesday, December 5 at 10 a.m. Interment Fairview Cemetery.

7 Cards of Thanks

MOORE—The family of the late Bill Moore (Boots) wish to thank friends, neighbours, and relatives for their acts of kindness, cards, flowers and donations. Special thanks to Milton Hospital and Toronto General Hospital for their loving care over the past several months. Thanks also to the McKersie Funeral Home, Milton and the Rev. Bob Rumball for his comforting words. Thanks to the Chuchmach family for the beautiful lunch. Your kindness will always be remembered.

The Moore Family and Melody
WE wish to express sincere thanks to friends, neighbours and relatives. Special thanks to Rev. Griffen and members of Hillcrest United Church at the time of our bereavement. Their kindness will forever be in our hearts.

Marjorie Woods and family
WE would like to thank everyone who attended and supported our Craft Sale and Cookie Walk on November 24th. Special thanks to all our exhibitors and also to everyone who donated cookies and items for our Silent Auction. Winner of Afghan was Joyce Poth; Painting - Janice Johnston; Baby Quilt - Anita Kapur and Cabbage Patch doll to be announced after Christmas. Sincerely Hillcrest United Church.

7 Cards of Thanks

EILEEN Flynn and family wish to thank the Georgetown and District Newfoundland Club, friends and relatives for the beautiful plaque and presentation. Your kindness will always be remembered.

I WISH to thank my neighbors, friends, relatives and the OODE for the lovely flowers, cards and kind inquiries while I was a patient in the hospital and since returning home.

Margaret McCullough
MATTHEW Hennessey and the family of the late Harriet Hennessey would like to express their deep feelings of appreciation and thanks to all who showed their kindness and sympathy to us during the illness and passing of our beloved mother. Special thanks to the intensive care unit nurses at the Guelph General Hospital and to Dr. O'Connor and Father Grace of Erin, all our friends who expressed their caring in so many ways, the Ladies of the Canadian Legion Funeral Committee for the luncheon, to the men of our family who were pallbearers, Jim Ramer, Tom Wylie Jr., Jim Sullivan, Tom Wylie Sr., Tom Kennedy and Joe Kennedy Jr., also to the best brother-in-law a family could have, Joe Kennedy Sr. THANK YOU.

Chuck Hennessey, Mtd Brunski, Kay Kennedy, Irene Wylie, Margerite Crichton and the family of our late brother, Jack Hennessey.

8 In Memoriams

BROWN, David—In loving memory of a dear son and brother who passed away December 8th 1979.

It broke our hearts to lose you, But you didn't go alone, For part of us went with you The day God called you home. Lovingly remembered and sadly missed by Mom, Bud, Kelly, Sean, Debbie and Oscar.

DAWSON, Albert—In loving memory of a dear husband, father, and Grandpa who passed away November 30, 1980. Tenderly we treasure the past, With memories that will always last. Sadly missed by wife Ida, Brenda, Jack and Grandson Derek.

KEIR, Alan—In loving memory of our dear brother and uncle, Alan, who passed away December 8, 1979. Though your smile has gone forever, And your hand we cannot touch, We have so many memories of you, Al, We loved so much.

Sadly missed and always remembered by brother Stephen, sister-in-law Karen, and nieces Theresa and Krista.

MATTHEWS, Albert Ernest (Bert)—In loving remembrance of our "Gindy", a wonderful father and grandfather. Time may heal the pain But the heart remembers. Always.

Chris, Bob and Allison
MATTHEWS, Albert Ernest (Bert)—In loving memory of a wonderful husband and father who died suddenly December 7, 1983. A million times I've needed you A million times I've cried If love could have saved you dear You never would have died. Things we feel most deeply Are the hardest things to say My dearest... I loved you In a very special way If I could have one lifetime wish One dream that could come true I'd pray to God with all my heart For yesterday and you. Always remembered with love, wife Elsie and family.

WALKER—In loving memory of a dear husband, Alexander (Sandy) Walker who passed away December 6, 1980. Memories grow sweeter As time travels on When we long for a face And a voice that is gone. We think of the sayings And treasure the smile And feel they're not lost Just gone for awhile. "God Bless you Sandy." Audrey

10 Coming Events

THE SALVATION ARMY, I.O.E. & ACTON ROTARY CLUB IN CO-OPERATION WILL SUPPLY CHRISTMAS HAMPERS TO FAMILIES IN NEED

Applications are available at:
The Salvation Army Thrift Store
12 Mill St. W. - 853-3321
The Acton Social Service
113 Mill St. - 853-3310

Applications are available between November 27-December 8, 1984

CHRISTMAS BALL—Georgetown Hospital Auxiliary, starting 7, Holy Cross Auditorium, December with social hour at 7 p.m. \$25 per couple. Tickets 877-2281 or 853-2219

10 Coming Events

INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE FIRST ANNUAL GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL FLEA MARKET & BAZAAR

Saturday, December 8th
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
in the GDHS CAFETERIUM
FEATURING: FLEA MARKET, CRAFTS, SNACK BAR, HOME BAKING, CHRISTMAS GIFT ORDERS
Flea Market Articles Welcome
Phone 877-6966

Halton/Peel Farm Management for Profit
December 10, 1984
10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
George Alcott Memorial Arena, Georgetown (northwest corner of Hwy. 7 & Alcott Drive.)

AGENDA
KEN KNOX - Keys to successful Farm Family and Business Relationships.
DAVID PELOW - Farm Planning - Using Investment Portfolios.
JOHN DE PUTTER - Planning strategies for To-days volatile Farm Economy.
RON URQUHART - Decision Making on Our Farm.
Tickets cost \$18.00 per person (includes lunch)

Contact:
OMAF Milton 416-878-2314
OMAF Brampton 416-451-5474
The Seminar is a family affair for the wife, husband, and adult children involved in the farm business.

Kid's TV!
CTS-TV now seeking beginners, 4-13 for special TV Studio training to act in Commercials/Movies/TV Series. Places Limited. Parents call 1-854-9810.

THE PATCHWORKS
Your Christmas store in the country. Dolls, toys, woodwork, pottery, batik, Christmas decorations and much more.
Open December 7, 8, 9
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Limehouse—Across from the General Store.
877-3017

GEORGETOWN ANGLERS AND HUNTERS TURKEY SHOOT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1984
at Anglers and Hunters Club House
1 mile north of Ballinad Town Line on 6th Line

ERAMOSA residents say "GOODBYE TO BICENTENNIAL". Families of Eramosa are invited to attend an evening of hospitality with their neighbors at Rockmosa Centre in Rockwood, Thursday, December 13, 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Special features are: Tamarack playing excerpts of their Bicentennial revue, cast and crew of "Agnès of God" will say farewell to Eramosa, also the Bicentennial Medal winners will be attending so we can congratulate them personally. All we ask of you is to bring your oldest recipe for our Heritage Eramosa Cook Book. See you there?

A GREAT Christmas gift idea! Last chance to order Ontario's beautiful and very impressive Bicentennial history book entitled "Loyal She Remains." To reserve a copy please call 877-1312 or 877-5027.

NEW Year's Eve, Acton Curling Club, \$50 per couple, all inclusive. D.J. and hot buffet. For further information call 853-1512.

ROCKWOOD & District Lions Christmas Bazaar to be held Saturday, December 8, 1984 9 a.m. till 12 noon at Rockmosa Community Centre. Tea tables, craft tables, penny table, bake table, draws.

ST. ALBAN'S Church, Glen Williams is sponsoring a Book Fair December 8, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., December 9, 12 noon to 2 p.m. New books available for all ages.

GO CLASSIFIED

WANT ADS

ON TARGET EVERY TIME

11 Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Information and Participation Meeting

To discuss remedial works required to alleviate basement flooding resulting from the sanitary sewer in the area of Baylawn Crescent and Duncan Drive; Shelley, Byron and Prince Charles Streets, Town of Halton Hills (Georgetown).

The Region of Halton Public Works Department, assisted by the consulting engineering firm of Proctor and Redfern Limited, has carried out a series of investigations to identify alternatives to alleviate flooding in the affected areas. A recommended solution to the problem has now been prepared. At this public meeting, the recommended solution will be presented to you for your review and information.

DATE: Wednesday, December 12, 1984
TIME: 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
PLACE: Town of Halton Hills Council Chambers
West Side of Trafalgar Road
North of Maple Avenue, Georgetown

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

NEW MILTON ZONING BY-LAW

Meetings will be held at the following locations on the dates shown. All meetings will commence at 7:00 p.m. sharp.

1. December 11, 1984 - Brookville Hall
2. December 12, 1984 - Milton Town Hall Council Chambers
3. December 13, 1984 - Percy Merry School

The purpose of these meetings is to discuss in detail the Proposed New Zoning By-law for the Town of Milton.

All interested persons are welcome to attend. Public input and comment is invited.

R. Main,
Town Administrator and Clerk
11mg40

ACTORS FOR TV

TV Soundstage is now interviewing new people for Special TV Studio training to act in TV Series/TV Commercials/Movies. Part time. All age. For your Studio call, dial 1-964-3393. get

"FALL BOOSTER DRAW"—1st prize, John Bowman, Toronto; 2nd prize, Nick Morris, Toronto; 3rd prize, Jeff Della, Hillsburgh; 4th prize, Herm Nicholson, Georgetown; 5th prize, Don Brander, Norval.

PENNY SALE WINNERS LADIES AUXILIARY BAZAAR NOVEMBER 17, 1984—3958, Wok, Richard Bujold; 3295, Salad Bowls, Karen Scott; 3387, Wine, Mae Tost; 3819, Necklace, A.J.; 4138, Slick Pin, Janet Poirier; 3546, Santa Claus, Mrs. F. Tost; 3247, Pictures, Bill McGuire; 4163, Toy, Marg Rayner; 4407, Necklace, Greta Stoddard; 4008, Hot Wheels, Bob Carswell; 3453, Wine, Joyce Brantford; 4252, Ginger Jar, L. Quanberry; 3368, Center Piece, Janet King; 4412, Picture, Emma Watson; 3217, Face Cloths, A. Turnbull; 3347, Wine, Mid Brunski; 4830, Gloves and scarf, L. DeJong; 4361, Ladies Gloves, J. Gilson; 3997, Toy, Sue Adair; 3509, Perfume, Mary Franks; 3422, Candle, Floss Tracy; 3076, Toy, Stu Hall; 3330, Wine, Mid Brunski; 3522, Candle Holder, Rita Rudger; 3366, Sweater, Jean Roshier; 3920, Ceramic Head, Marg Earl; 4895, Tree Ornaments, Vickie Engleby; 3918, Glasses, A. Watson; 5105, Candle, D. Banks; 4454, Pen and Pencil, Vern Toulton; 4613, Glasses, A.K. Jones; 4441, Toilet Issue Cover, Ivy Parter; 5040, Cologne, Derek Roberts; 3391, Wine, Vi Colburn; 3699, Apron, A. Roberts; 3875, Candy Dish, Fio Walker; 4243, Stationary, R. Taylor; 3248, wreath, Bill McGuire; 3287, relish tray, P. Parker; 3426, Jewel Box, E. Abel; 3063, Wine, Judy Cook; 3835, Glasses, Wendy Richardson; 3892, Wine, Shelley Ryddal; 3446, Salt and Pepper, Alice Phillips; 3155, Wine, Sandra Bujold; 3702, Pictures, Edna Rippon; 4019, Glasses, J. Roy; 4539, Wine, Marie Sproule; 5026, Cushion, Cell Reid; 5104, Wine, Helen Noble; 4696, Tissue Cover, Pat Barr.

THE SALVATION Army pick up of appliances in working order and good used furniture. Phone 853-3321, Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. for arrangements.

GO CLASSIFIED

12 Auction Sales

2ND ANNUAL ANTIQUE CHRISTMAS AUCTION SALE
For Ron and Sharon Pettibone
Sun. Dec. 9th at 12 NOON

Location: In Brampton, in the Peel Junior Farmers Hall on Elliott Street.
Sale Consisting Of: All antiques, refinished furniture, good glass & china, Royal Doultons, Collector plates, oil lamps, crocks, toys, primitives and collectables.
Auctioneer's Remarks: This is a Quality Antiquo Sale well worth attending.
Preview: 10:30 A.M. Day of Sale.
Terms: Cash or Cheque with proper I.D. only. Owners and Auctioneer not responsible for accidents.

Auctioneer: Don Colling
Milton, 878-3185
012mg40

AUCTION SALE
For Mrs. Margaret Terry
Dec. 12 at 8:30 P.M.

Location: In Milton, at the Fairgrounds, in the Agricultural Hall on Robert St.
Sale Consisting Of: Antique & other furniture, glass & china, crocks, collectables, lawn, hand & garden tools, power lawnmower, linens & bedding, picture & prints, toy collection, firearms incl. rifles & pistols. Appliances, etc.
Terms: Cash or Cheque with proper I.D. Lunch available.
Remarks: Ladies & Gentlemen, Mrs. Terry's home has been sold and she is going to reside at the Carlisle Senior Citizen's home.
Preview: at 4:30 P.M. on Sale Day.
Trustee, Hall board or Auctioneer not responsible for accidents, lost or stolen items.

Auctioneer: Chris A. Schouten
Phone: 878-2576
012g40

AUCTION SALE
Sat. Dec. 16th at 11 A.M.

Location: In Milton, in the Agricultural Hall, at the Fairgrounds on Robert St.
Oak double pedestal rolltop desk; oak hoosier cupboard; oak ice box; 2 china cabinets with glass doors & ends; round walnut pedestal ext. table; appliances; china, glass; primitives; power & hand tools.

Auctioneer: Ward Brownridge
Phone: 878-6730

SPECIAL ANTIQUE AUCTION SALE
From the Private Collection of Dave and Carol Haley
Mon. Dec. 10 at 6:30 P.M.

Location: In Milton, at the Fairgrounds, in the Agricultural Hall on Robert St.
Over 60 pcs. of pine, oak, ash, mahogany and walnut furniture, excellent glass & china, clocks, coins, R.D. figurines, primitives & collectables. About 250 pcs. in this sale.
Preview: From 4 P.M. till sale time.
Auctioneer's Remarks: Ladies & Gentlemen, I believe this to be one of the finest quality antique sales ever offered for Public Auction with many local pieces of furniture featured. The Haleys have collected for many years and this special Monday Night Sale will be well worth attending. Terms: Cash or Cheque with proper I.D. only. Not responsible for Accidents.

Auctioneer: Don Colling
Milton, 878-3185

15 Lost or Strayed

LOST—Gold "Cross" pen and pencil at Go Train station November 21. If found call 877-0834. Reward

20 Wanted

HARDWOOD timber, phone us for free estimate on your bush. J.W. Robinson Ltd. Days call (519) 925-2290 evenings (519) 925-3659. 8 H.P. OR 10 H.P. walk behind snow blower in good condition. 877-1135.

"OLD BRICK BUILDINGS" wanted for wrecking and salvage purposes. Contact Ross Lumley, Kitchener, 749-7095 anytime.

21 For Sale

COUNTRY LEGENDS YEAR END WAREHOUSE SALE

- Quilted reversible placemats - \$1.50
- Chair pads & rocker pads
- Baby Things, etc.

Great gifts for Christmas!
At Warehouse Sale
Sat. Dec. 15, 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
641 Main St., Milton
(Rear freight Doors) Cash only please
021mg40