

Fall, a transition almost like life

Every year around this time, I get into a comfortable mode. It's something to do with the coming of fall.

I sat by my radio Wednesday night, listening to CHFI's Don Jackson as he presented his fall program of Lovers and Other Strangers.

Apparently Jackson and I see the fall season through different eyes. He views it as a termination, a bittersweet end to summer, and all those wonderful things summertime brings us.

But I view fall as one of those many transitions we go through, almost like life itself.

We move ahead to enjoy the change of the weather, and the beauty of the season.

And that change always revitalizes me.

I'm really not an avid summer person. I admit I enjoy the lifestyle of summer, sunny days and attending summer sports.

But do I miss the heat and humidity? Nope, not at all. I'm only too glad to move on.

Jackson seemed to view the end of summer as the loss of an old friend, while I welcome fall as the return of an equally welcome old friend.

I'm simply a 'fall guy'. Always have been—always will be.

When fall comes upon us, the weather is suddenly clear and cool, with gorgeous bright sunny days and cold, clear nights with brilliant full moons. And it works for me.

I simply chill out, enjoy my job and the people around me and drop into fall mode.

I think fall seems to cap those lazy, hazy days of summer, and brings us all back to our senses, as we prepare to face the cooler weather so typical of our Canadian climate.

The furnace is humming in the morning when I get up, and I feel snug as a bug in a rug. And with fall, a daily routine returns with the kids all back in school.

I'm sure my love of fall is a throwback from my days as a kid, when we were farming.

A
TED
BIT



Ted Brown

For farmers, fall is that time of year when the end is in sight. The harvest was either finished or very nearly wrapped up, and fall field work was done.

As a teen, I was always pleased to return to school in the fall. When you're a kid at home on the farm, your social life tends to be a bit limited in the summer, so returning to those halls of learning was certainly a bonus to a rural kid from a social point of view.

And it continues for me.

In the newspaper world, the community has once again come alive. School sports have started up again, service groups are back in action at full tilt, and there's more interesting things happening around town.

And that makes my job more interesting.

So unlike Don Jackson, give me September and October any day—I won't complain at all.

Everyone is quick to point out how it's a short-lived season, with the weather quickly changing from bright, clear days to overcast, dreary ones, signaling the arrival of November, when the days suddenly turn cold and barren.

But, I'm still a fall guy—I'll savor the beauty of the season to the fullest as trees don their fall colors, and leaves rustle underfoot.

Because, as everyone knows, once it's fall, winter ain't too far behind.

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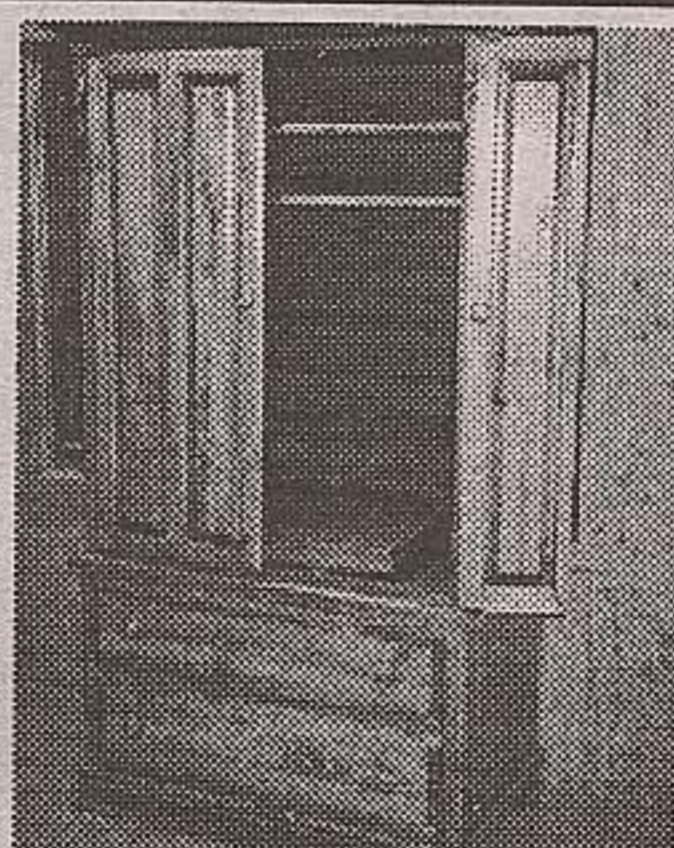
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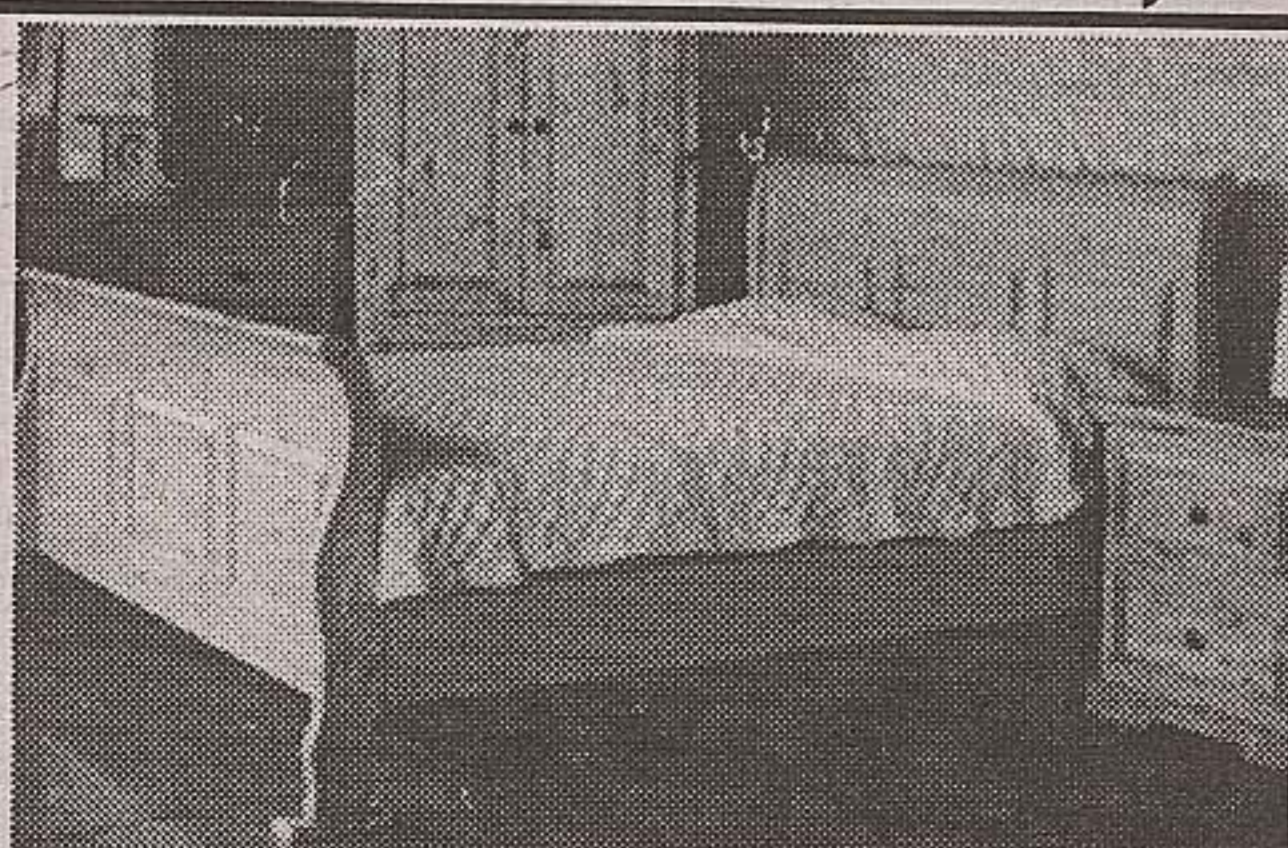
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