"Dear Elizabeth": Events at the church

Mrs. Elizabeth Brinkman, Oberahmede,

Germany. Dear Elizabeth:

During this centennial year, the women in the churches across the nation are studying the growth of the Church in effect the church has had on preciative of the benefits we have derived through the life of our respective churches.

We have also become aware of the tremendous sacrifices that many men and women made as the country opened up from east to west and by their faith and fortitude, laid the groundwork for whatever progress Canada has made toward a higher standard of Christian living.

From early times, the wo- items. men in the community have done what they could through their Missionary Societies and Ladies' Aid groups to alleviate suffering and to spread the gospel overseas. The former raised money by free-will offerings and the latter looked after the local expenses in church and parsonage by raising money in other ways.

Much fun has been poked at the women's groups over the years because their methods of holding meetings was another social event in the eyes of many and they were accused of gossiping, but records prove that their hearts were in the

right places when it came to supporting missionaries and doing the hard work around the church.

Entertaining the Ladies' Aid was a big occasion in the early 1900's and was one way that a woman would feel she was do-Canada from 1615 to the pres- ing her bit and gave a hearty, ent time. This sludy, along hospitable welcome to the ladwith related programs on the ies of the group. Many of the ladies drove a horse hitched to culture, politics, education and a light buggy and would pick laws, has made us more ap- up a neighbor along the way and take her to the meeting.

My husband tells of one day when he and a chum were working in a bushlot close to the road, they heard the sound of voices before they heard the horse's feet on the stone road. Peeking through the trees, they saw a rubbertired buggy come into view and the occupants were two ladies making the most of their time by exchanging news

In the quiet country air, their voices carried further than they realized. One of the boys hollered "whoa" and the obedient horse stopped in his tracks, almost spilling the occupants of the buggy over the dashboard. Neither of the lad ies had heard the command and they could not see anyone because of the concealing branches along the roadside, so they were very puzzled as to why the horse had stopped so suddenly. But they continued on their way to the meeting and told the story, to the amusement of the other ladies.

Elaborate social hours

Worship periods and studies of the various problems in the mission field were the content of the meetings, supplemented by a sacred solo or reading by one of the members. Then a social hour was held during refreshment time, which at one time was quite elaborate. Once a year, a special missionary service would be held at the church and a returned missionary would be invited to speak. His message inspired all to continue in their good works and the duty of entertaining the speaker became a privilege that was passed aruond from home to home.

The same applied to entertaining a visiting minister at anniversary time. Members of the church were pleased to remember how many years their church had stood in the community and commemorated the date with a special service. Persons who had moved away from the area were invited to return and houses were filled with company for the

chairs were fillled up and brought from the Sunday School hall and placed in the aisles, so great was the crowd. Some churches called these services "Harvest Home Services" and as well as floral offerings from the homemakers' gardens, there were fruits and vegetables as decorations and as a thankoffering to God for his bountiful harvest.

As a continuation of anniversary and harvest services, often during the following week, a fowl supper was served in the basement of the church, the food provided by the fam-

ilies of the congregation. One family might be asked to provide as many as four roast chickens, as many pies of various sorts, hot vegetables, cakes with whipped cream, pickles and relishes.

Looking back, it seems that it must have been a miracle that hundreds of people, and I mean that literally, could be fed by about 50 women in an inadequate kitchen with one small wood - burning range, no water on tap, and oil lamps for lighting. But they did it and paid for their own supper as well, after donating, preparing

and serving it. But this was the way a lot of the money was raised to operate the church. Having a large family was no excuse not to participate. Older sisters and brothers helped to look after the younger ones and small babies were put to sleep and laid on the church seat,s with the mothers taking turns keeping an eye on them. It was a busy, bustling time and everyone looked forward to it. Our turn for relaxing came when we could visit a neighboring church when they put on their

Pranks were played by the younger set, too, when pies and cakes stored on the window sill of open windows mysteriously disappeared. This didn't seem to affect their appetites any as they vied with one another to see who could eat the most pie at the table later. Bowls and plates of food were put on the table and each one helped himself, and as the food disappeared, it was replaced from a seemingly neverending source.

Those early garden parties

the church, returns from revenue for the upkeep of the social event which everyone attended. Farm chores were done up early and the first event of the evening was a ball game between the local and a visiting team.

Blocks of wood and planks made rows of seats for the spectators and there was enthusiastic, friendly rivalry, cheering for the team of our choice. The visiting ball team was treated to a supper plate consisting of salads, sandwiches and sometimes strawberries and ice cream. The rest of the patrons paid for their supper at that time about 25 cents. Young fry hooked trinkets out of a make-believe fish - pond with a pin on a string, and a temporary booth was set up where chocolate bars, gum and soft drinks could be bought. The variety was limited to orange crush and root beer in those days, but they were a

real treat to us. Entertainment consisted of local talent at the start and all the girls who had taken elo- gap. cution lessons and the musicians in the community were called upon for their services.

In the summer time, a gar- As time went on, entertainden party was usually held in ment groups from the city She wore a corsage of pink a field across the corner from were hired, complete with magicians, singers, comedians and which were another source of after a few years, the guitarplaying minstrels with their church and parsonage and a cowboy songs. No one would dream of going home until "God Save the King" was sung and the mess cleaned up.

> Next morning, a group of men and women would come back and see that everything was left ship-shape. The owners of this farm were the good-natured hosts to this garden party for years and when the farm changed hands, the new owners continued to be gracious hosts to many such a gathering as though they had bought that privilege along with the farm.

There was something about the sociability of the communbeing linked with the church that, I am sorry to say, has been lost over the years; but the need for something to replace it in this modern age is a challenge for the younger generation. Meanwhile, the women's groups in the church are doing what they can to fill the

> With best regards, Eleanor Coulter.

Unique boutique one feature of Saturday's W.A. lawn party

tique"? You'll find it this Sat- rons, Mrs. Beryl Pettigrew; urday at the annual lawn party being held at the home of raffle table, Mrs. Shelagh Con-Dr. C. A. Martin and Mrs. Mar- way; penny table, Mrs. Anne tin on Martin St. from 1.30 to 5 Ptolemy; soft drinks and popp.m., under the auspices of the Hospital Auxiliary of Milton District Hospital.

Mrs. E. B. Clements will conbe many other booths with descriptions as well. Mrs. John Beverley is convening the party and will have the following Auxiliary members convening the booths:

rube; books for young and have a happy afternoon". not-so-young, Mrs. Myrtle Hall and Mrs. W. Rowney; white elephant, Mrs. K. Young; jams and pickles, Mrs. Helen Van Sickle and Miss Edith Dick; used toys, Mrs. Joyce Beeton; candy, Mrs. Carol Jubb; baby

50th anniversary

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Dredge of R. R. 3, Milton, who will celebrate their golden wedding anniversary on Sunday, September 10.

To mark their 50th anniversary, they will hold an open house at their home on Highway 25, north of Milton, that day from 2 to 5 p.m. and from 7 to 10 p.m.

ter of Mr. and Mrs. George

Black of Campbellville, be-

came the wife of George Alex-

ander Bickers of Milton in a

double-ring ceremony at St.

Campbellville, July 22.

David's Presbyterian Church in

The groom is the son of Mr.

and Mrs. Fred Bickers of Mil-

The church was decorated

with standards of white mums

and pink carnations. Rev. D.

Nicholson officiated while Mrs.

Tom Manes of Acton played

the organ and Miss Karen An-

derson of Brussels sang O Per-

fect Love and The Lord's Pray-

sleeved floor length gown of

white organza with an empire

styled A-line skirt. The bodice

and sleeves were of Chantilly

lace. She wore a two - tiered

headdress was a crown of

with seed pearls, and she car-

ried a crescent of pink delight

matron of honor. Other at-

tendants were Mrs. Ralph Aw-

rey and Mrs. Terence Moore,

both sisters of the bride. Jun-

ior bridesmaid was Miss Nan-

cy Bickers, sister of the groom.

All the attendants wore pow-

der blue, sleeveless, floor

length gowns of silk linen and

empire styling with an overlay

of white lace on the bodice.

They carried cascades of pink

miniature carnations and wore

headdresses of matching tulle,

held in place by a single rose.

riage by her father, George

Black. Bryan Hilson was the

groomsman and the ushers

were Wayne Howden, Jim Finn

dinner following the ceremony,

held at St. David's church

One hundred attended the

A PERFECT

WEDDING

Starts with quality

wedding ring and

from

184 Main St. - Milton

jewellery from

of gifts.

and Brian McDuffe.

schoolroom.

The bride was given in mar-

Mrs. Wendell Phillips was

veil

The bride's

interspersed

with

French illusion

matching lace.

matching lace

roses and fern.

The bride wore a short-

Where is the "unique bou- clothes, Mrs. Betty Stark; apfish pond, Mrs. Evelyn Callan; corn, Mrs. Marion Elsley; tea tables on the terrace, Mrs. Jovce Semple.

Tickets for the draws on a vene the boutique. There will Polariod Land camera, electric carving knife and set of staininteresting bargains to fit all less steel table service are still available from members.

John W. Ostler, chairman of the Hospital Board of Directors, will make the draw at 4 p.m. Members issued a sincere Home baking, Mrs. Alice Be- invitation to all to "come and

Kitchener chorus to present concert

A real treat for music lovers will be the visit of the famed Schneider Male Chorus of Kitchener on Friday, September 22 at 8.30 p.m.

This well-known chorus will sing at Martin Street Senior School auditorium under the auspices of the choir of Grace Anglican Church. The Schneider Male Chorus

has built up an excellent reputation for its fine choral singing in both Canada and the United States.

A good demand for tickets is anticipated and they can be obtained from choir members.

The bride's travelling outfit

consisted of an ensemble of a

navy blue sheath dress and a

navy and white checked coats

with white accessories and a

corsage of pink garnet sweet-

The couple honeymooned in

Vancouver and will make

Guests attended from Lon-

don, Brussels, Auburn, Toron-

to, Hamilton, Westport, Gu-

elph, Acton, Pictou N.S., Tru-

ro N.S., Aylsford N.S., Milton,

Campbellville and Burlington.

their home in Milton.

heart roses.

Bickers - Black

Margaret Ann Black, daugh- and white sweetheart roses.



September bride

By Mrs. George Pelletterio Margaret Hunter was the recipient of many lovely and use-

her honor held at her home last Saturday afternoon. She expressed her appreciation to the ladies for her gifts and invited all to attend her trousseau tea on Saturday. She is to be married on September 9.

Our sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Alexander and family in the death on Friday of Mrs. Alexander's mother, Mrs. H. A. Cody of Saint

John, New Brunswick. Mrs. Karl Cartwright returned home last Friday evening

from Utah, where she spent a week at the Tupperware Jubilee and sales training program ful gifts at a bridal shower in and convention held at the University of Utah, at Logan, Ut-Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Cotton

of Applewood Heights, Cooksville, spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. B. Oates and family.

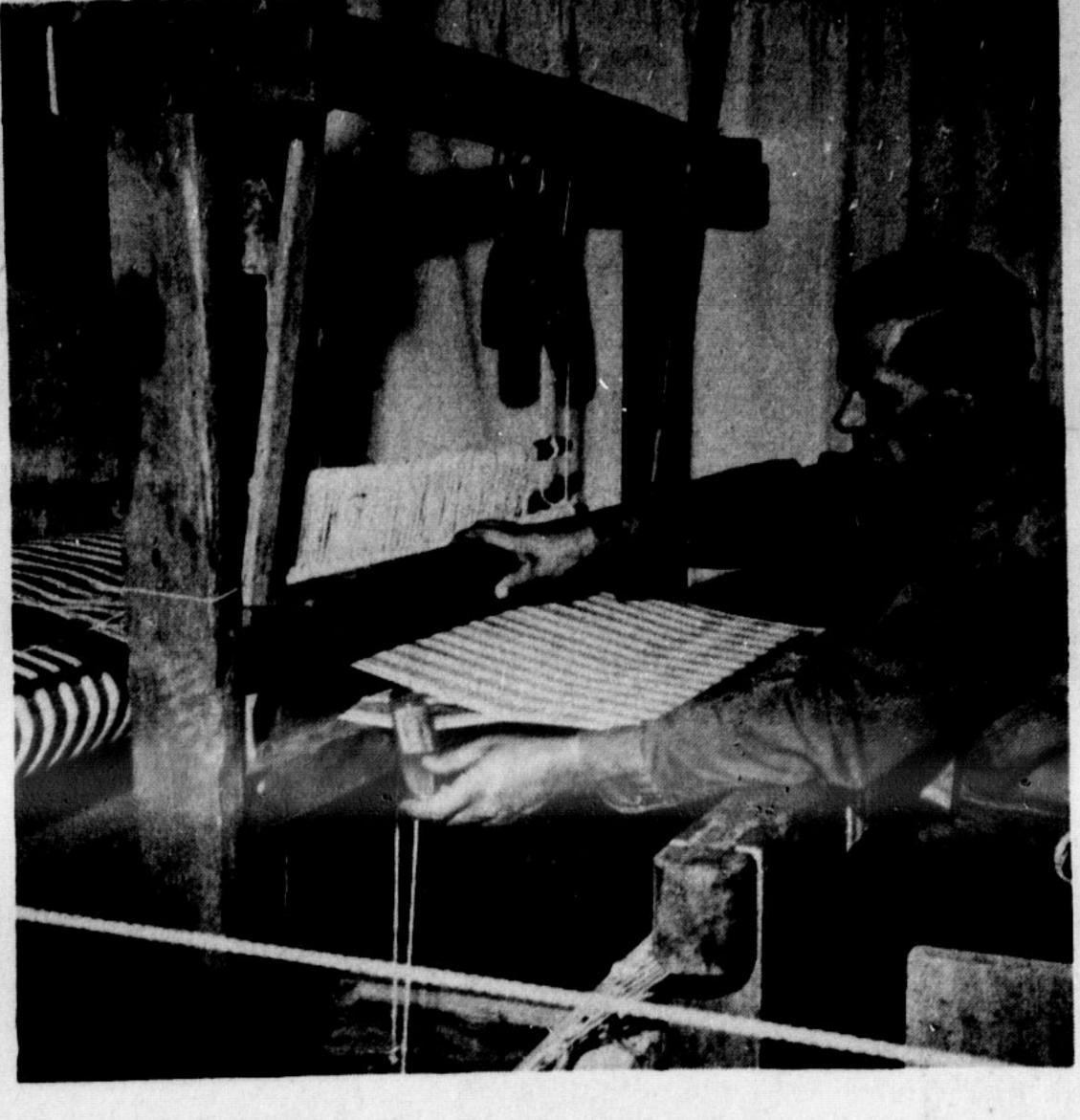
Bob Wheelband is a patient in St. Joseph's Hospital, Hamilton, following surgery on his back on Friday. He is reported to be doing very well.

Orlando Iracci of Newmarket visited Tuesday with the Pelletterios.

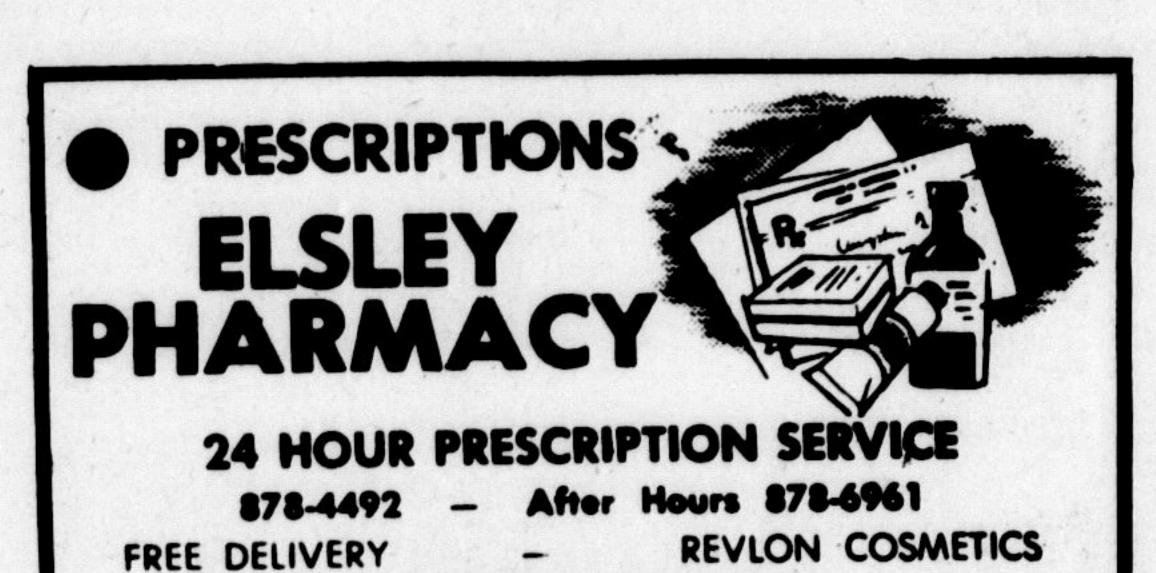
Little Shelley Gunby spent last week with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. William Me-

redith. Jo Everett returned by plane on Tuesday evening to Germany, where she will resume teaching school, following a three week visit at her home.

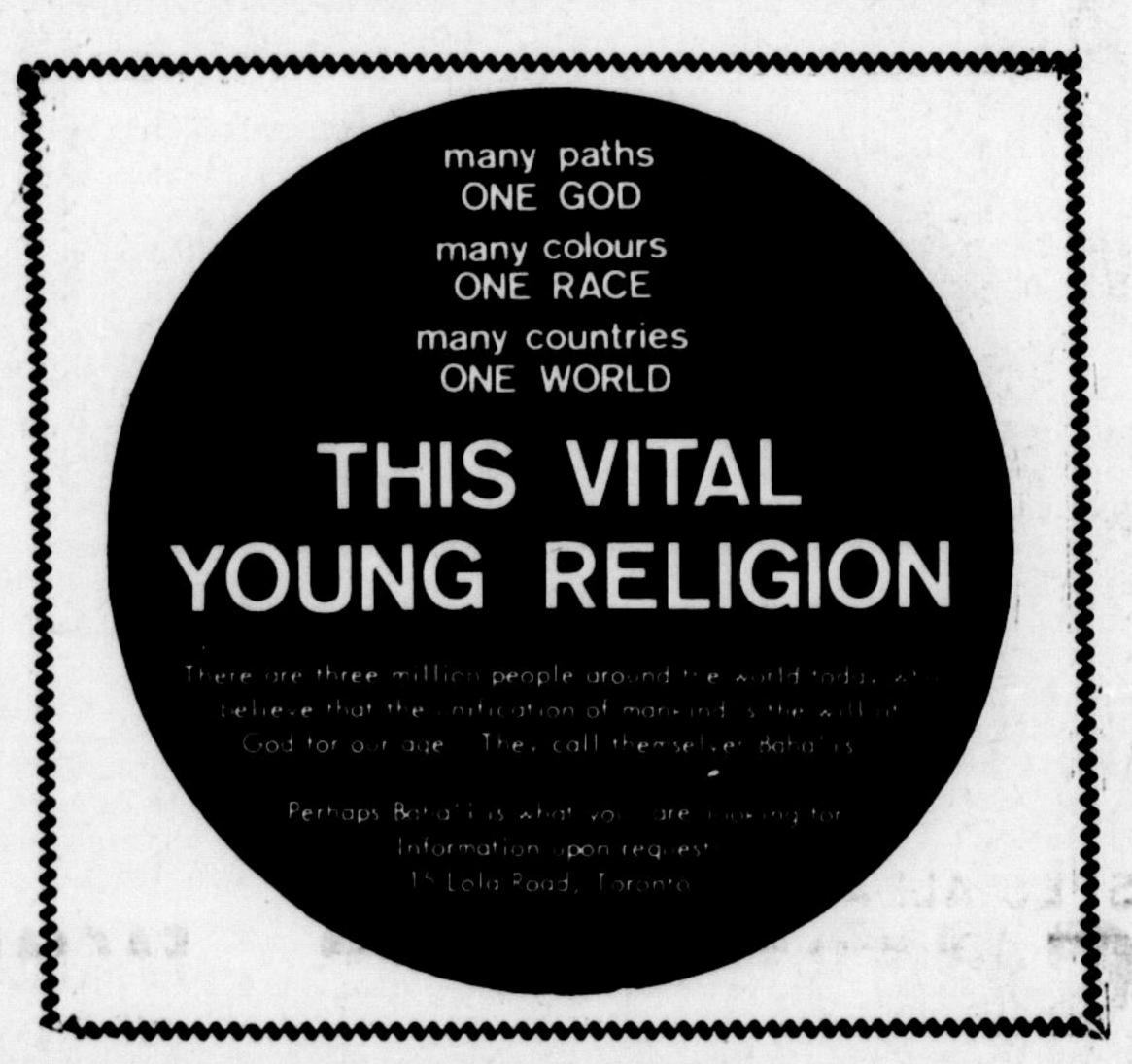
Heather and Stephen Heidman of Thornhill are visiting their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Scotland.



A SPINNING WHEEL over 150 years old, spun wool all weekend at the steam reunion, while a century-old loom weaved the wool into a pattern. Mrs. Hugh Clark of Hagersville operates the wheel while her husband demonstrates how the threads line up on the antique loom. The demonstration, a new feature of Steam-Era, created a lot of interest and their trailer exhibit was full of visitors for most of the weekend. (Staff Photo)



K. H. ELSLEY, B.Sc., PhM.





CUTTING THE CAKE are newlyweds Margaret Black and George Bickers. They were married July 22 at St. David's Church in Campbellville and honeymooned in Vancouver.



MILTON

878-2513

8 MARTIN ST.



electric heating can make an extra room extra cosy

Warming an extra room becomes a quick and easy job with electric heating. It won't over-tax your present heating system. Or your budget. But it will deliver quiet, draught-free warmth to any chilly room in your home. Like to know more? Just ask your hydro.

live better electrically

MILTON HYDRO ELECTRIC COMMISSION **TELEPHONE 878-2345** 250 MAIN ST. E.