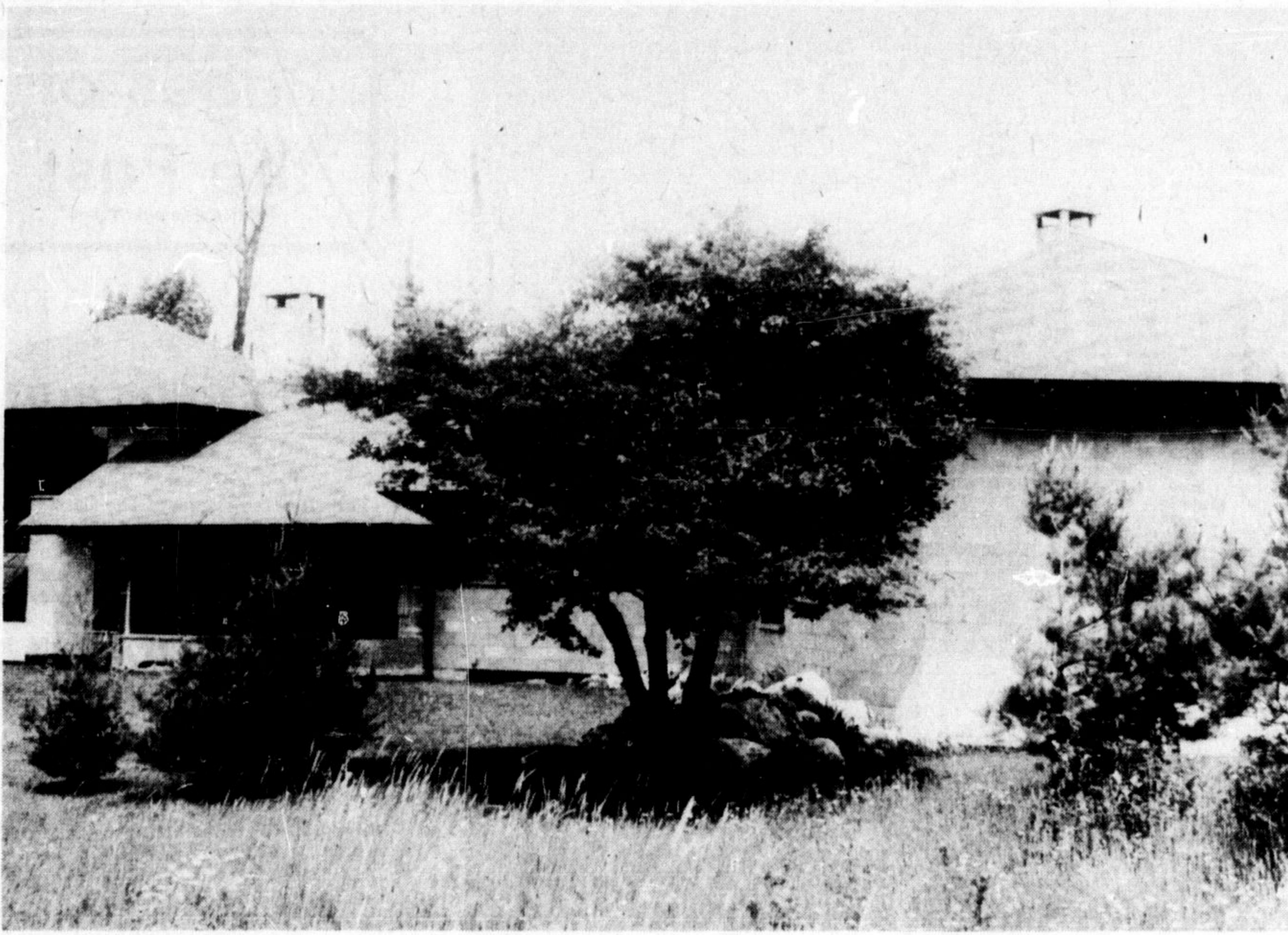


Grant and Kath Whatmough

Contemporary farmhouse with universal qualities



CONTEMPORARY FARMHOUSE of Grant and Kath Whatmough has one wing, far left, for adult activities and the other, far right, for the children. In between are the kitchen, dining room and

family room. Although Grant, an architect, has done 250 conversions of old houses he prefers the modern house.

Grant Whatmough is an architect of renown who was raised in an old house and has done 250 conversions of old houses for clients. In spite of this, his own home is what he refers to as a Contemporary Farmhouse, a modern house with the same warmth and atmosphere as the old. However, he's adamant that you can't get the quality of life in an old house you can in the new. "You can build better today without being outrageous," he says, "and you don't have to go bankrupt doing it."

Solid oak, one and a half inches thick and 10 inches wide, is used for window sills. There are no baseboards or door or window casings and as few doors as possible. The frames of stained wood are set right into the plaster.

Grant considers it a house that requires no maintenance whatsoever. All windows are casement of varying heights depending on the room and use. This avoids what Grant describes as "the terrible effect of picture windows."

"You don't need the Don Mills effect or to copy out of Eaton's catalogue, you don't need to be grotesque or queer to be new," Grant believes. In fact he advises not to fit to customary standards at all when building your own house.

Built to last "In 250 years this house will still be structurally sound," he predicts. All walls are of plaster on concrete block, the plaster comprised of sand and cement with a rough finish. The sub floor is concrete and stone used in the house came from the Limehouse quarries. There is Welsh quarry tile in the front hallway. The outside will be stucco.

The house faces south and south-east to receive maximum sunlight. All heating is forced air with two furnaces, one at each end of the 4,000 square feet. All duct work is monolithic with the cement slab flooring. There is automatic air conditioning from the furnace. The family room and living room each have large wood-burning fireplaces.

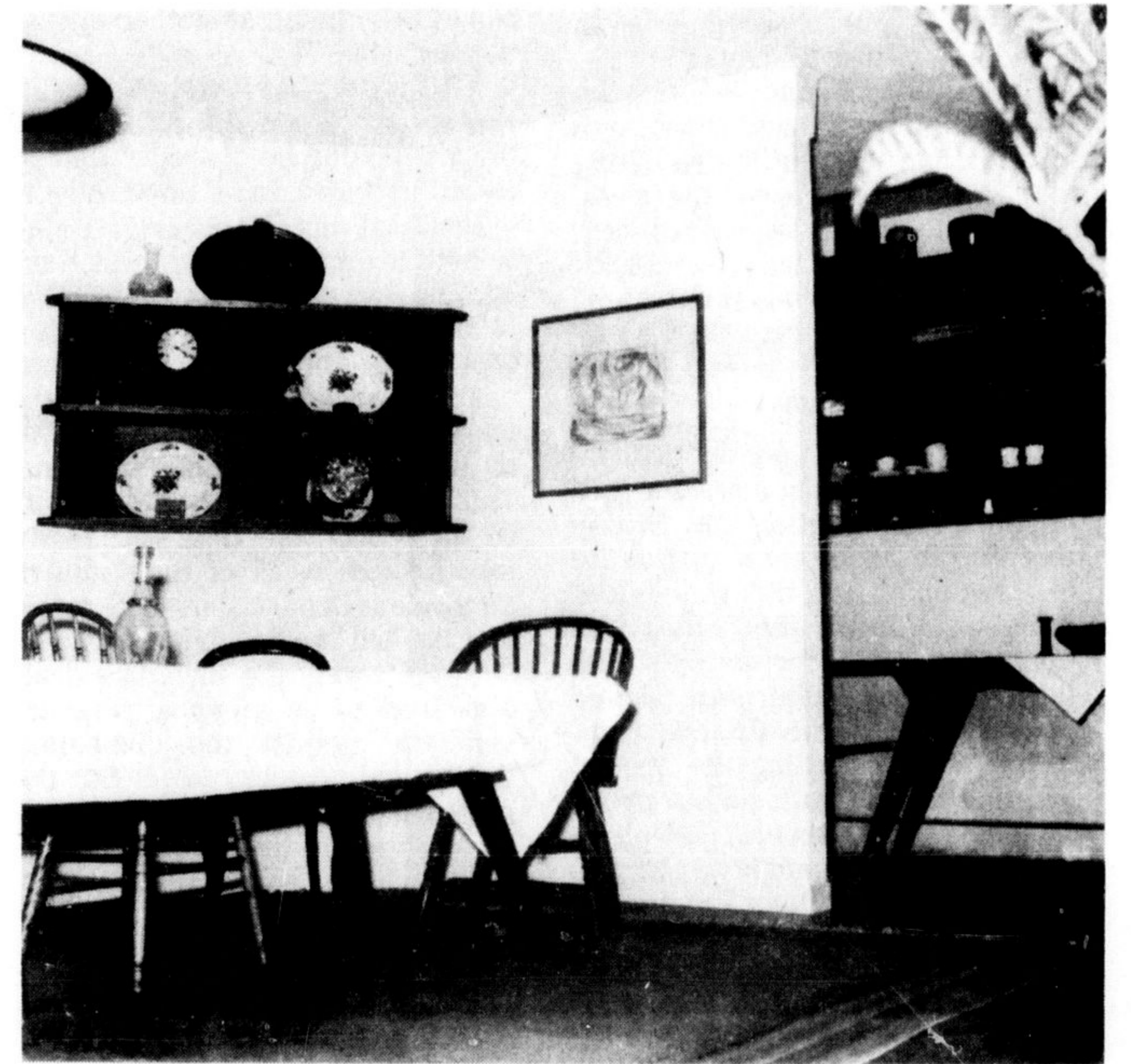
There are three main bathrooms, one in the children's wing, a guest bathroom on the ground floor, and a "his and hers" in the master suite. A washroom-mudroom is inside the back door.

Primitive Much of the 33 acres has never been plowed but the Whatmoughs are finding it very fertile. Kath feels a primitive-nature to the land and has found a relic believed to be 9,000 years old. Grant is interested in soil reconstruction and says the property has a soil depth of 30 inches.

To date they have done most of the landscaping themselves. They've planted 300 pine and spruce and 500 white pine and cedar trees. They've also planted an orchard of 1,000 apple trees and plan to be in production within five or six years. The old barn is now being renovated for eventual apple and equipment storage and small livestock. Kath has a large vegetable garden cordoned off with a wooden fence.

A conservatory for tropical fish and plants occupies a large area on the ground floor of the house and will have a glassed area for viewing from the hallway.

The property is part of 100 acres originally owned by Nassagaweya pioneer



DINING AREA is up a few stairs from the living room and on the same level as the kitchen. There are no doors yet the alcove effect offers privacy while eating.

Alexander Bell who came to the area from Ireland in 1826. The Whatmoughs bought the land in 1969 and moved to the area from Toronto three years ago. They lived in a mobile home until the house was livable.

It took Grant three weeks to design the house and with the exception of the block laying, shingles and plastering, he and Kath have done all the work themselves.

Township named for MPP J. Snow

The name of Halton East's MPP has been immortalized in a tiny, barren township "somewhere north of Sault Ste. Marie and Sudbury."

A previously unnamed township has been named Snow Township in honor of Jim Snow, local MPP and Minister of Government Services. Last week the Ontario Legislature's special all-party committee selected to name 358 unnamed townships revealed the names and 55 of them are named after MPP's. (The other 61 members were ruled out because their names are duplicates of existing provincial townships, or are too close in sound or spelling. Five of the MPP's refused to let their names be used.)

MPP's honored with townships bearing their names will later receive a scroll indicating their names were chosen in recognition of "a valuable contribution to the development of the region."

Changes will be incorporated on new maps to be issued later. Historic Canadians, Indian chiefs, soldiers killed in the last war and mayors and Reeves have also been immortalized by having townships named after them.

Some of the MPP's say they would like to buy some land in the townships bearing their names, but much of the land is crown territory and some is in provincial parks. Some of them are uninhabited and inaccessible except by plane.

34th
in a series
on homes of
distinction
in Halton
by
Joyce Beaton

Fiddlers in August

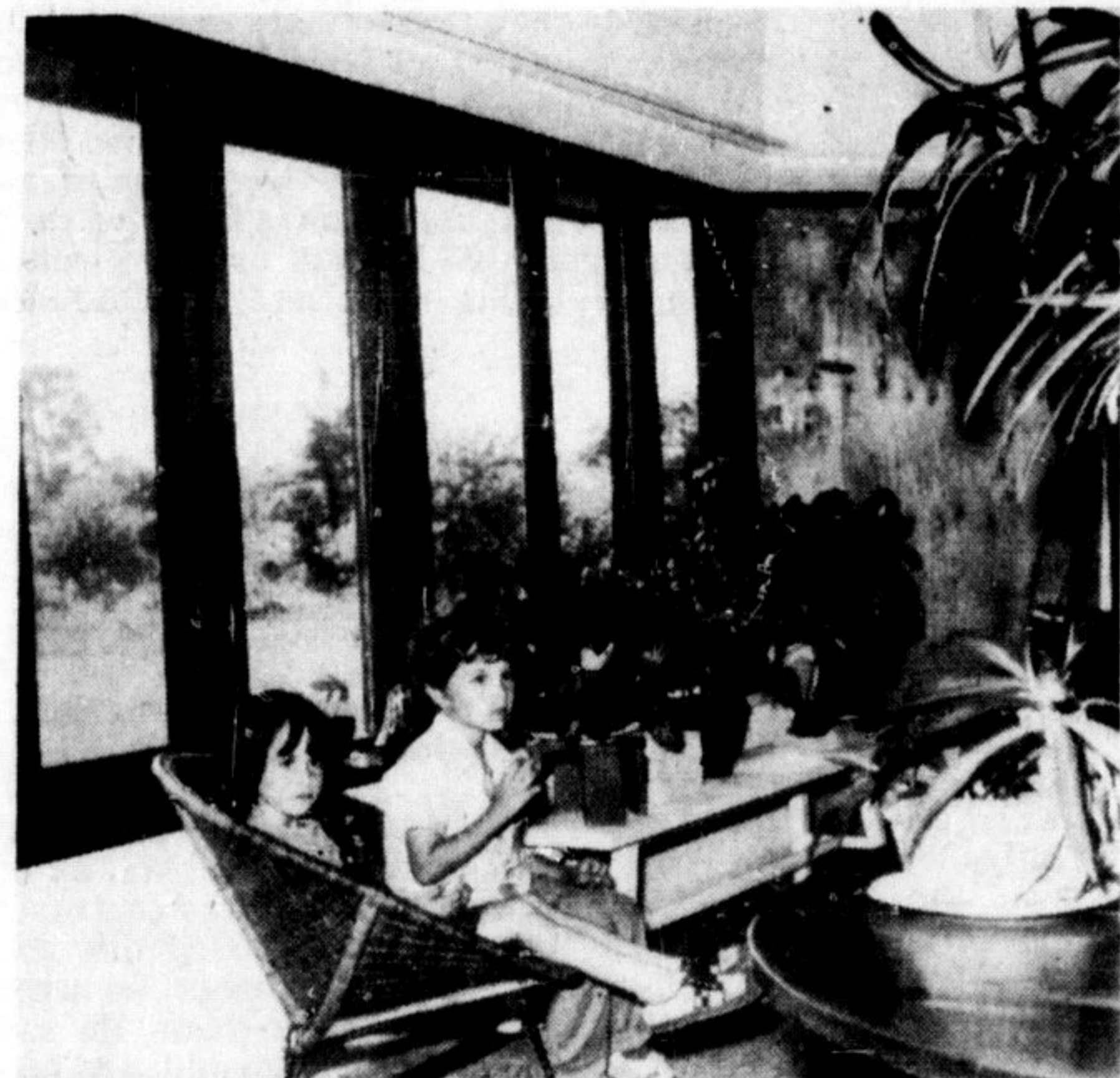
Busy market

Farmers' Market "mayor" Andy Frank isn't even counting the number of shoppers every Saturday morning any more. With the warm weather and more vendors with new produce coming each week, there's just no way to keep track of the crowds.

Most of the stalls are filled now, and the few that are still empty will be taken when

field crops are ready in the next week or two. Andy expects honey and more tomatoes soon, and corn next month.

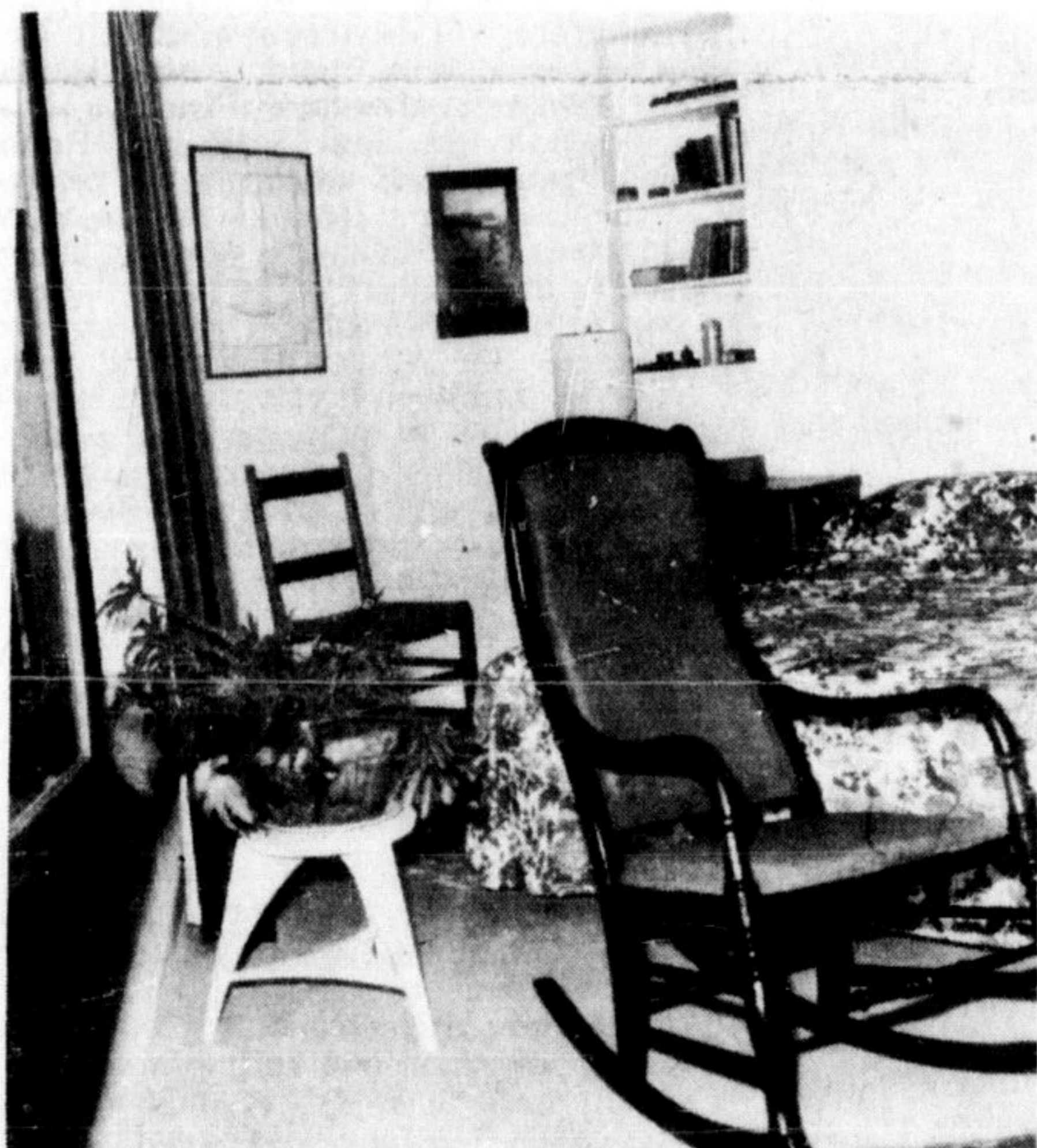
An old time fiddlers' contest will also be featured early in August. About 35 fiddlers who will be coming to the area for the annual contest in Shelburne are expected to visit the market in the morning.



LIVING ROOM WINDOW is 20 inches from the floor and occupies the entire width of the room. Peter and Sarah sit amid the plants intended for the conservatory.



ANTIQUE TABLE came from France in 1650 and was in the Whatmough family farmhouse on Charles St. in Toronto for many years.



MASTER BEDROOM is just part of the adult suite. The casement windows are 18 inches from the floor. There are his and hers bathrooms and a den on this level.



FRONT ENTRANCE is spacious with Welsh quarry tile on the floor and steps down to the living room. To the right is the adult wing and to the left, the centre of the house.



TO ADULT WING the cement stairway leads directly from the spacious entrance hall. Twins Peter and Sarah sit in the "off limits area". The decor of the house is provided by paintings, photographs, pottery and sculpture.



SPACIOUS FEELING of Whatmough house is epitomized in the entrance hall. The doorway has wide transom and sidelights and the wide stairway leads down to the living room. The sculpture is one of Grant's.



GRANT AND KATH have done all the work in the house themselves with the exception of the block laying, shingles and plastering. They are shown in the ground floor living room. Behind Grant is his den.