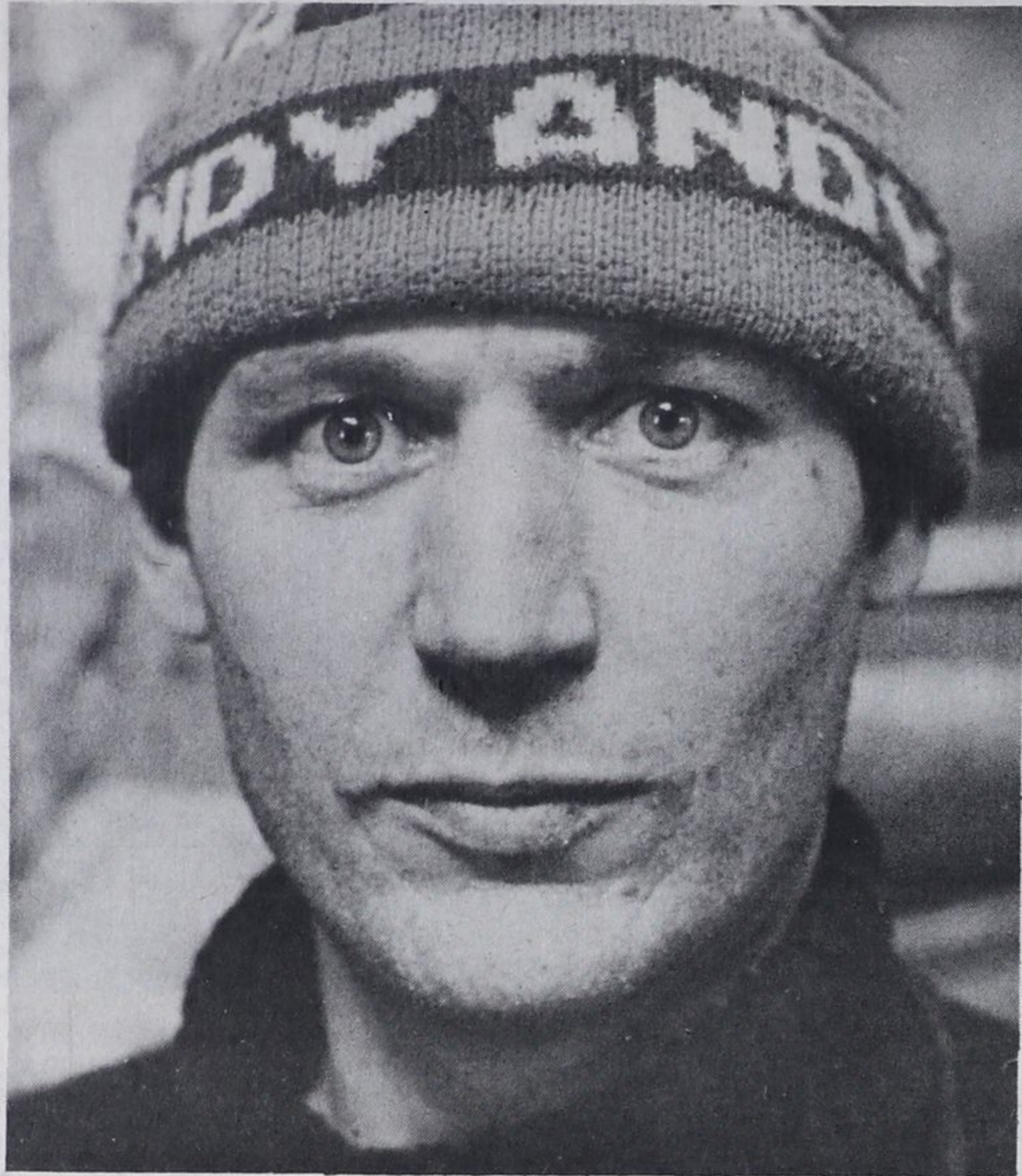


That's My Line



Rod Prouse Artist

by Murray Moore

Rod Prouse lives in a winterized log cabin on the end of Concession 17 in Tiny Township. He has a view of Collingwood on a clear day.

Prouse is a person who has become what he wanted to be when he was a child. He is one of a growing number, he says, of Canadian painters who paint landscapes, who live in rural Ontario, and who can spend all their time being artists.

Prouse has lived in this area for five years. He is familiar with Georgian Bay from his childhood when his parents had a cottage here.

He lives here now because he can't afford to live in Toronto and do what he wants to do, paint, and because he loves the scenery.

This area is ideal for him because it is "on the edge of civilization" (Toronto), within easy driving distance of the galleries where he sells his work. The other way is the north country, the raw material for his paintings.

His choice of location of home is not a matter of a basic dislike of the big city. "If I was rich I'd live in the city in a huge mansion," he says. Not being rich, he lives where he can afford to live. "If I lived in the city I couldn't afford to be an artist."

He can afford to be a full time artist by living a simple life, by living in a cottage built in the 1940s, which he was able to buy for a comparatively low price because it is "out of the way," by eating food grown in a garden, by fishing, and cutting wood. "Entertainment is free because it is limited."

He is also able to paint for a living, he says, because other Canadians, not all painters or lovers of art necessarily, have discovered Canadian art. Canadian art has been "discovered by people who make money off it," dealers, investors. People have been seeing more Canadian art, he says. The existence of the McMichael Gallery in Kleinburg

has given Canadian art a "huge boost." People go to the McMichael Gallery as they go to the Metro Zoo, or to the Science Centre in Toronto. The small world of Canadian art is expanding, and that fact is a good thing, he thinks.

Landscape painting is enjoying a revival of interest, Prouse says, suggesting the movement of city dwellers to the country as a cause. Canada is one of the strongest countries in the world for landscape painting.

Art has only recently become a possible career, he says. Well-known landscape painters like Tom Thomson and Lawren Harris "are rich and famous only in retrospect."

"No one gets rich at art," he says. Someone like Picasso is the exception, a man who came along at the right time, and who was unique. "99.9 per cent of artists barely get by. Most have teaching or other jobs."

Prouse wants to spend the rest of his life here, as long as civilization and its attendant backyards, pools, and cars, keep their distance.

Here's way to beat gloomy days

Nothing makes a winter week gloomier than having everyone home with flus and colds and general mumbling miseries.

The family nurse, who's probably down with it herself, begins to perceive life as an unending succession of trays, loads of laundry, and complaints.

Well, says Anne Graham of St. John Ambulance, there are some things you can do to help, beginning with keeping the worry to a minimum. Chances are you don't need a doctor, but if you think you do, call one.

You should probably check in with the doctor if your flu victim is very young, or aging or has some chronic problem that could make a flu serious.

Mrs. Graham says you should also call the doctor if your patient has a temperature of 38.5 or higher for longer than 48 hours, or if a high temperature is combined with vomiting or diarrhoea.

"Use a strip thermometer to take temperatures if you

have trouble reading a standard thermometer. You don't have to sterilize them."

Mrs. Graham is an Area Nursing Officer with the St. John Ambulance Brigade, and instructor in their home health care course.

First, look after the people who are still up and around, especially the nurse. Rest when you can, properly, and avoid the family germs as much as possible.

"Supply all the ill with lots of tissues, and paper bags for the used ones.

"Wash your hands every time you think about it, especially after cleaning up the paper bags."

Washing hands means thoroughly, between the fingers and over the wrists, and remember, rings and bracelets can carry germs.

"Give your patients lots of fluids, and don't just stick to orange juice, or they'll get tired of it. There's a lot to be said for grandmother's chicken soup. Warm soup is very comforting.

Egg Nog is nourishing and appetizing.

"If your little kids won't drink enough, try making popsicles out of fruit juice."

Whatever you do about food and drinks, keep them simple, not only because that will appeal to the patients, but because it should keep down the work for the nurse. Provide small quantities of comfortable food as attractively as possible. This is no time for heavy meals or onerous cooking chores.

Keep the house as steamy as you can, Mrs. Graham suggests. Use your humidifier and steamers, and pans of water on the radiator. Everybody will breathe a little easier. Be sure they're in safe places, though, especially if you have small children.

If your patients are in bed, freshen things up for them once or twice a day. Give them an extra pillow and an extra blanket or two so they can prop up or lie on top of the bed. While you're tidying the bed, bundle up your patient in a chair or in another room for a few minutes while you air the bedroom, or get them to use the time washing and freshening up.

Keep them supplied with reading material or puzzles or knitting and a radio, once they start to feel better. Normally healthy people, particularly the kids, will enjoy being up and around, as long as they aren't overdoing, or out spreading germs.

The St. John Ambulance course Mrs. Graham teaches is available from St. John anywhere. It teaches home nursing skills that can be useful to any family. It covers specific skills, general knowledge, safety, good health care practices.

Mrs. Graham, who is

a registered nurse, says her classes are "Most interested in aspects of illness and ages and stages. The thing I've thought for years about home health care is that the care is given by non-professionals who are alone. They need support. It's anxiety producing. People worry about doing the wrong thing."

For information about home health care courses, contact St. John Ambulance listed in your local telephone directory, or write to the Provincial Nursing Consultant, St. John Ambulance, 46 Wellesley St. East, Toronto, M4Y 1G5.

Wayne's a winner

and for very good reason

A Midland real estate salesman recently proved himself to be the best in Ontario.

At a Realty World "RealScope" playoff in Toronto on Jan. 8, Wayne Cowdery of Realty World, Bryson McQuirter Ltd., beat out competitors from Realty World branch offices across Ontario.

Cowdery's knowledge of RealScope, an exclusive Realty World method of demonstrating to homeowners the advantages of marketing their homes with Realty World sales techniques, won him a trip to Saskatoon and the Canadian finals.

If Cowdery is successful in Saskatoon on Jan. 29, he will represent Canada against top Realty World sales associates from across the United States. This international competition will be held in Hawaii in March.

Bryson McQuirter Jr., who accompanied the winner to the provincial contest said, he was

particularly proud of the achievement as his firm only joined the Realty World network of 2,500 offices in November.

McQuirter added, Realty World officials in Toronto felt Cowdery has an excellent chance of representing Canada in Hawaii.

Last year's international champion won an all-expense trip to Europe for two weeks and this year's winner is assured of an equally rewarding prize.

Prompt action praised

Serious farm house fire averted by Tay firefighters

Old Fort Road (Tay Twp.) firefighters are credited with saving an Ebenezer Sideroad farm house from being totally destroyed by fire late Monday night.

Firefighters connected with the township's No. 2 fire hall were summoned to the scene at 10:40 p.m. after a chimney fire started to spread.

Between the resident of the home and responding firefighters, they were able to quell the blaze before it could seriously damage the dwelling although holes had to be chopped in the home's roof so as to reach flames and extinguish them.

Firefighters battled the stubborn fire in -40C degree temperatures which made their work both bone-chilling and exhausting.

It wasn't until 1:30 a.m. they were able to mop up and return to the fire hall.

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IF GOD DIDN'T make little green apples who did?

HOLY CROSS
Evangelical Lutheran Church

ATHENIAN HALL

10:30 a.m.
Rev. Paul A. Schult
Pastor