Backtrack



Ah yes, the good ol' days. Here's Russell shortly after the turn of the century - peaceful, serene, seemingly waiting to be discovered. This panorama was photographed from the steeple of the Methodist church, corner of Concession Road and Church Street. The church burned to the ground several years ago. On the left is a woolen mill with its dam and behind it, to the right of the United Church, is the old Russell Continuation School. On the right is the main street with its buildings, some still standing, others long gone. All in all, a scene of less hectic times.

(Photo courtesy Alex and Mabel Little)

Driving down to St. Isidore

Ken Clark, a well-known Canadian journalist, formerly with Canadian Press, now with Agriculture Canada, a connoisseur of things old and true, recently made a foray into the Eastern Ontario countryside. This is his story of the trip.

Recently, I drove down to St. Isidore de Prescott to buy a desk and in so doing added a new layer of meaning to my relationship with this country and its people. I wasn't going to Eaton's or The Bay, or some assembly-line merchandiser to buy my desk. Instead, I loaded my wife and two daughters in the family car and embarked on an adventure to St. Isidore an hour's drive from my home in Ottawa.

The trip was triggered by a telephone call from Fleurent Villeneuve, who lives a mile out of St. Isidore (pop. 700) with his wife and three vibrant kids, ranging down from eight years, in an oldish, white-painted frame farmhouse with a weathered barn and big tin shed in the rear.

I met the Villeneuves at a flea market where they were selling old furniture which they had collected, stripped and refurbished. Some of it, according to mildly snobbish standards, was certifiably antique, some just old.

I bought a few articles from them and later went to their home which gleams with the same immaculate intensity as the snowy countryside around. The Villeneuves remembered I was looking for an oak desk to replace a piece of veneer junk I had owned and was uncomfortable with for years. On one of their collecting forays, they found a suitable specimen.

It was a blustery winter day and we were stopped by heavy drifting, 500 yards from the Villeneuve house on a concession road, a 1980s reminder that trees make the best snowfences and don't need to be put up and taken down.

We left the car and walked, enjoying the modest challenge, leaning into the wind gusting across the fields and occasionally turning our backs to the blast. Halfway there, Fleurent spotted us from - the house and came out in his pickup to drive us the rest of the way.

We warmed up in the huge kitchen, five Villeneuves and four Clarks, dulling hunger pangs with superbly made local cheese and hot chocolate. Our conversation was a mixture of French and English, with the Villeneuves, of course, providing the bridge over the language barrier; Canada functioning in the kitchen.

We went out into the wind and the grey barn: in the shadows were the old dressers, chairs, tables and sideboards that the Villeneuves had restored to their original spectacular; but it was almost luminescent as we brought it out of the shadows into the sunlight, dark oak, in very good condition. It had clean, simple lines, with a touch of rectangular puritan elegance, worth every cent of \$80.

to my 17-year-old daughter from an English text. At eight, she is perfectly bilingual. We talk about the Villeneuve's upcoming trip to Pennsylvania for antiques. They'll do the trip, all five in the family truck, making a living out of our

my car in his truck and then I drive back to the house and pick up my family. Carefully, wrapped in blankets to prevent damage, we load the desk into the truck. We feel that we have obtained something of value and at the

Back to the kitchen. Drink and society's reaching out to the past. same time made a discovery. It's beauty. The desk was nothing conversation. The little girl read Villeneuve and I drive down to all out there, waiting, just beyond the city's periphery. Think about things like quality and neighborliness, reaching out to Canada's past, the Canada that we lost somewhere along the line and that everybody would like to get back.



IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGEMENT Having engaged the services of Carson Hill and Stewart James we will hold our gigantic non-consignment machinery auction at our place Saturday, April 26th, 1980 This sale is due to our past expansion of our

business premises, consequently we are reducing our inventory of some new and used With our large inventory on hand this will be a real opportunity to purchase your equipment at Taking the opportunity now, we would like to the price that you set.

thank our friends and customers for their past patronage and we are looking forward to being of patronage and we are seried. Service to you in the years ahead.

JOHN BOUWERS, Manager

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commencing at 10 a.m. sharp

Auctioneers Carson Hill 821-2946 Stewart James 821-2784



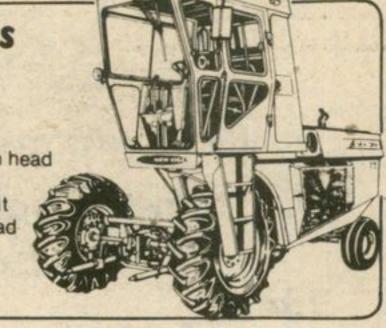
Uni Systems

New Idea Power Unit Sheller, 3 row corn head

New Idea Power Unit Husking Bed, 3 row corn head

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New Idea Power Unit Harvester, pickup



Approximately 50 Used Tractors Leyland 384, hydraulic loader

White 2-105, cab, 900 hours International 434, diesel, hydraulic loader Cockshutt 35 Allis Chalmers D17 International 240 Leyland 270 International W4

Nuffield 10-60, hydraulic loader

Oliver 66 Minneapolis Moline 670 Zetor 6745, 4 wheel drive Leyland 270 Zetor 8045, 4 wheel drive, cab Allis Chalmers 200, cab International B275, excellent Case 730 David Brown 950

Farmall C, plow, cultivator Levland 270 International WD9 Nuffield 4, hydraulic loader Cockshutt 35 Ford 600, cab Zetor 12045, 4 wheel drive, cab Nuffield 4-65 Leyland 270 Zetor 6911, hydraulic loader

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New Idea Power Unit Combine, grain head Cockshutt 428, Self-Propelled Combine, grain head

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