

Traverston. (Our Own Correspondent) Municipal matters are extremely quiet.

There isn't much farm work being done at present except the ever-lasting chores.

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Harrison of Swinton Park spent the first of the week at the Nelson homestead.

Mr. and Mrs. John Whitaker of Flint, New Ontario, are celebrating their golden wedding this 8th day of December.

Mrs. Whitaker's maiden name was Henrietta Edwards and they were wedded in the old home by the Rev. William Hodgeson.

Quite a number of those present on that occasion have had a few hairs turn a shade lighter since then, but we are glad to wish them many happy returns of the day.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles McClocklin visited with Mr. and Mrs. Frank Twamley on Sunday.

Mrs. John O. Greenwood and son, Archie, and Mrs. W. J. Greenwood and daughter, Clara, motored up to Owen Sound on Saturday and spent the day there.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Hastie of town visited Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Greenwood.

The Davis family visited Mr. and Mrs. Harold Lawrence of Egremont on Saturday.

Things happen unexpectedly, sometimes. The mill at the Falls was started agoing on Wednesday afternoon of last week after undergoing repairs.

A few bags had been ground, when suddenly the big wooden pulley burst in two, one-half coming hurtling through the floor beside Mr. Loucks.

Mr. Charles Halliday and Miss Margaret Blair of Blyth's Corners visited the manse on Tuesday, and the Rev. W. Johnston conducted the marriage ceremony which made them man and wife.

They went to Toronto on their honeymoon trip. Miss Deanie Thorne is spending a couple of weeks in Toronto.

Mrs. R. Irvin is the guest of her parents in Fergus.

Charles McDougall returned from the West last week.

Miss M. Preet is spending a few days with her brother and family here.

Holstein is contemplating incorporation full-fledged. A meeting to that end was held in Robert's Hall Tuesday evening, but nothing definite was decided.

Meetings are being held throughout the township regarding the formation of Township School Boards for the township.

The new plan is not being considered favorably.

Messrs. B. Gibson, J. Leith, R. Sim and J. Bunston left Tuesday for Owen Sound to act as jurors.

The Women's Institute held a very successful party in Robert's Hall recently. An excellent time is reported.

Dornoch (Our Own Correspondent) An enthusiastic meeting was held in the Presbyterian church on Monday afternoon when the W. M. S. met for their annual Thankoffering.

Mrs. MacWilliams presided and introduced Mrs. (Rev.) Armstrong of Durham Presbyterian church who was the speaker for the day.

Mrs. Armstrong, who so recently returned from China, was heard with interest and appreciation while she told of conditions in general in China and also of incidents in missionary hospital work.

The Chinese, it would appear, are still worried by the danger of dirt and flies and sanitation is a science to which they are still indifferent.

Native nurses in training are intelligent and anxious to learn, but require close supervision because the work is so strange to them.

Girls are still unwelcome in China, and baby girls are still thrown out to perish without compunction.

At the address, Mrs. Armstrong showed some Chinese relics: a Chinese idol which was nothing more than a Chinese figure painted on a bit of board, a contrivance like the cover of a sofa cushion with strap attached by which babies are strapped to their mothers' backs, a pair of women's shoes, pitiful objects to fit the deformities resulting from the binding of women's feet.

A vote of thanks was tendered Mrs. Armstrong, and the Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. H. R. Riddell, reported a very generous collection.

All officers of the society were re-elected for the ensuing year. The afternoon was closed by the serving of dainty refreshment by some of the young girls of the church.

A number from here attended the concert held at Williamsford hall on Friday, December 4, presented by the Arnett's school section, and all pronounced it a complete success.

Miss Marie Moore of our burg spent an evening last week with Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Corlett.

Mr. Heath and daughter, Miss Olive, motored up from Fergus last week to visit the former's daughter, Mrs. C. Henderson.

Mrs. W. Kenny, who has been visiting with her daughter, Mrs. John Vasey, for the past two weeks, returned to her home in Glenelg last Thursday.

Mr. Eddie McQueen of Walkerville, visited Dornoch friends this week.

Allan Park (Our Own Correspondent) Miss Marietta Park was at home the most of last week suffering from an attack of tonsillitis.

We are glad to report that she was able to go back to her school Monday morning.

Mr. Harold Eccles, who has been nursing a broken leg for so many weeks, is gradually improving and hopes to be able to put some weight upon it before long.

Glenmont (Our Own Correspondent) Most of the farmers are getting up wood for the winter.

Mr. Alfred Tucker is having a bee this Tuesday, Mr. Charles Smail of Dromore doing the sawing.

Messrs. Andrew Hay and Campbell Watson out supplies for some neighbors.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Harrison, Sr., visited recently with Mr. and Mrs. William Jacques.

Mr. John Lawrence, who has spent some months at the home of his grandson, Mr. Crawford Harrison, is now visiting his son, Mr. Arthur Lawrence.

We hear that Mr. John Eckhardt has sold part of his fine bush to the Durham Furniture Company at a handsome figure.

We are sorry that Mrs. Hornsby is still in poor health.

Mr. and Mrs. Angus Hooper and Miss Alma intend moving into Durham for the winter.

Mr. Hooper sold his stock by auction sale last week.

Mr. Reg. Ramage had a wood bee one week last week and treated his neighbors to a dance at night.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Harrison and family visited on Sunday at Mr. Wesley Heard's, Proton.

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We are sorry to report Mrs. Andrew Park being under the doctor's care with an attack of la grippe and cold.

Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Willis and family, who have spent a couple of weeks' holidays at his father's place left for their home at Lauphin, Manitoba, last Saturday afternoon.

They were all looking fine, and a number from here spent a few pleasant hours with them.

Messrs. Archie Park and James Lawrence are continuing fencing the embankments along the good roads system.

Mr. Norman Monk finished threshing around this burg last week.

Mr. Robert Herd and Mr. Michael Bailey were the ones who waited for him, and they certainly received a splendid job—good, steady threshing, clean grain and well cut straw.

Darkies' Corners (Our Own Correspondent) The school was closed last week, owing to the illness of the teacher, Miss Park.

Miss Nellie Nichol is spending a few weeks with her sisters in Toronto.

Mr. George Craig, who has been visiting with Mr. D. Hamilton, left for his home in Manitoba last Thursday.

Mr. Harold Grasby is engaged with Mr. W. R. Watson for a while.

Mr. William Weir, Sr., attended Council meeting in Owen Sound last week.

Mr. T. Nichol and his helpers have completed the work on Lambton street, and it certainly is a good road.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Patterson and daughter, Miss Eliza, spent a day recently with Chesley friends.

The annual U. F. O. meeting was held last Wednesday night in No. 9 school. The officers for the past year were re-elected, and Mr. William Andrews was appointed delegate to attend the convention in Toronto.

Sorry to know the young son of Mr. and Mrs. Herb. Atkinson was being ill with scarlet fever.

We sincerely hope he will soon be well again.

Mr. McCannell spent a day recently in Owen Sound.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Geddes visited recently with Egremont friends.

Last Friday evening, the friends of Mr. and Mrs. George Newell, Jr., gathered at their home to extend to them good wishes.

Mr. and Mrs. Newell were called forward and presented with a china cabinet and fernery. Mr. Newell made a brief reply, thanking the friends for their kindness.

Several were called on for speeches, after which cards and dancing passed away the time.

Mr. Ed. Lindsay is in Owen Sound this week on the jury.

Edge Hill (Our Own Correspondent) Messrs. H. H. McDonald and Herb. Edge are in Toronto this week attending the annual U. F. O. Provincial convention.

Two deer were seen on Mr. A. Anderson's front field on Wednesday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Ritchie and Mrs. W. G. Firth were in Owen Sound on Tuesday.

The roads have been in splendid condition and farmers are making good use of them.

THE PREFERENCES OF QUEEN ALEXANDRA

Soon after her marriage, Queen Alexandra wrote in a scrapbook at Belvoir Castle, the following list of her preferences:

Her favorite King and Queen: Queen Dagmar and Richard Coeur de Lion.

Her favorite hero: Wellington.

Her favorite poet: Byron.

Her favorite artist: Sir Joshua Reynolds.

Her favorite author: Charles Dickens.

Her favorite virtue: Charity.

Her favorite color: Blue.

Her favorite dish: A French tart.

Her favorite flower: The rose.

Her favorite name: Mary.

BACTERIAL LIFE IN WINTER SOILS From many standpoints, the soils of Canada present special problems which differ from those of soils of many other lands, especially where milder climatic conditions prevail.

says A. G. Lochead, Dominion Agricultural Bacteriologist. One point of difference lies in the fact that throughout the greater part of Canada, the soil to a depth depending on soil type, temperature and amount of snowfall is in a frozen state for a considerable part of the winter, often three months, or more.

This condition naturally affects the activities of the bacteria, and other small organisms which play an indispensable part in the preparation of plant food, and consequently bears upon the general question of soil fertility.

Soil bacteria are of interest to the farmer because they prepare soluble plant food out of materials which exist in a form unavailable to the plant. Another important part they play is that of adding to the soil's supply of nitrogen by taking this element from the air.

It is estimated that nitrogen-fixing bacteria associated with a leguminous crop are able to fix 50 pounds to 100 pounds of nitrogen per acre every year, while other groups which thrive in most soils of good texture and well limed are able to add 10 pounds to 40 pounds of nitrogen per acre per annum to the soil's supply.

It is therefore, important to know the fate of these bacteria in frozen soil during the long Canadian winter. Experiments at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, have shown that bacteria are not killed off to any measurable extent during the course of the winter, but remain in a dormant state.

Their various activities are suspended during the period of frost, but fortunately their numbers do not become depleted, and with the advent of mild conditions, are able to resume their work in the early spring.

The freezing of soil under Canadian winter conditions should be regarded as beneficial rather than otherwise, for though complex food materials would be little altered, yet during the winter, there would be no over-production of soluble nitrates to be washed away and lost with the spring thawing.

Yet, these numbers of bacteria are not lessened, so that in spring there is no necessity of general soil inoculation or other procedure than good cultivation.

OWL SLAYS GOOSE A twenty-pound goose, with its neck partially severed lying dead at the edge of a pond on Louis C. Dahms' farm on the 6th concession the other morning, told the tale of a savage duel which had taken place during the previous night.

Suspecting that an owl had been the perpetrator of the crime, Mr. Dahms set a trap, and was rewarded the next night by the capture of a large owl, which stood 20 inches high with wings measuring over five feet from tip to tip.

The owl had evidently attacked the goose in the water, seizing it by the neck and dragging it to land, and completing its murderous work there. Owls usually confine their work to chickens, but in this instance, where the owl was able to make a stealthy attack, the goose was no match for its assailant.—Mildmay Gazette.

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