

VANDORF

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Irwin and John were Sunday visitors with Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Johnson of Claremont.

The Institute will meet at the home of Mrs. Herbert Oliver on Dec. 11th at 2 p.m. The roll call will be answered by a Christmas verse. There will be a report on the Convention and a discussion, and a sing song of Christmas carols. Current events will be given by Mrs. L. Nidery. Exchange of Christmas gifts.

Glad to see Miss Annie Dike out to church again.

Mrs. H. E. Oliver is spending this week with Mr. and Mrs. Russell Pipher in Detroit.

Miss Jean Switzer and Miss Ruth Oliver of Toronto spent the weekend with their parents here.

Mrs. Arnold Gardhouse and little daughter of Thistletown spent Tuesday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Kingdon.

Whoever said that "men are useless" would have to deny that saying had they been at the home of Mr. Rollia Scott when 20 of his friends gave him a surprise party. Following an evening of games, men donned aprons and served a dainty lunch which they had prepared themselves. Each lunch was neatly wrapped in wax paper and placed in a paper bag along with a serviette and paper plates were passed, and coffee and cream served. The ladies really enjoyed themselves as they had no responsibility, not even the washing of dishes.

LINDSAY DIVINER NEVER MISSES

Lindsay, Dec. 2.—John Deyell, 33 who has been finding water with a divining rod for many years on a water-or-money-back basis says he has never had to refund money once in his career. He is finding the current dry period in this district good for business. "I have been busier this fall than ever before in my experience," said Deyell Thursday, "and I have never made a miss in my life."

Reforestation and Soil Conservation

(By L. P. Evans)

It is becoming more evident as each year passes that something must be done about the closely related problems of reforestation and the conservation of wood lots and soil. Perhaps we might add to these proper soil uses. Unfortunately, we have not as yet fully realized the extent to which these natural resources—soils and wood clad slopes, are being allowed to waste away, jeopardizing our whole agricultural future and with that our standard of living.

Recently I found a map of our County of York in Ontario, dated 1860, showing miles of streams no longer to be found except during the spring freshets. On these were marked mill dams to provide power for the operation of approximately 150 mills of various kinds such as sawmills, flour mills, chopping mills, woollen mills, etc. Today there are only five of these dams and mills to be found. The same map, showing the names of the owners of each farm also provides the explanation in part. Large blocks of land were owned by individuals, partnerships or firms who removed the timber, leaving no fountain head to maintain the streams.

With the hills denuded, it was only a few years, as time goes, until the leaf mould and virgin top soil was digested by successive farm crops which burned up the fibre in the soil. Fibre is as important to good soil as hair is to good mortar or plaster. The next generation found small breaks in the sod on the hill tops and in a very few years the fine soil particles began to shift with the wind. About this time it is realized that blow sand is almost as difficult to combat as fire or flood.

Water, too, takes a heavy toll by the erosion of hillsides and slopes during heavy rain storms or the winter and springs thaws, particularly where the land is devoid of trees or growing crops. We must all be able to recall cases where a small "wash out" in a field eventually became a ditch which could not be worked over, and finally a gully develops, down which miniature streams of muddy water carry away the cream of the soil.

For years we read of these problems in other countries but thought it could not happen here. Today we are being urged by our soil specialists and agricultural laymen to act before it is too late. What can be done by the farmer, by the municipality, by the government? Of these let us begin at home.

The individual farmer can keep cover crops on his hills and slopes such as fall rye or even oats, the former making pasture fall and spring as well as holding the soil in winter. The oats except when protected from frost all winter by snow can be cultivated up in the spring. Perhaps this rolling or hilly land would be better fertilized and seeded heavily to a long term pasture mixture. Some of the worst hills might have the turf thickened by seeding and harrowing the old sod rather than breaking it up. Contour farming might have its limitations but the plowing and cultivation should be across the slopes as much as possible rather than up and down. Bad knolls or hills can be reforested by the farmer with very little cost.

Next comes the municipality—township or county. Best authorities tell us there should be from 10% on flat land to 15% on rolling land covered with ungrazed wood land to protect our water supply in streams and wells, the latter having to depend on the reservoir of water in the soil. This then becomes a community problem and as such demands municipal attention, planning and action. In many counties excellent reforestation programmes are being carried on but in some cases the wood is being cut off at a higher rate than is the tree planting so that unless there is some control exercised over the cutting of wood and logs we will be faced with vast areas of slash land, dry creeks through our pastures and inadequate wells.

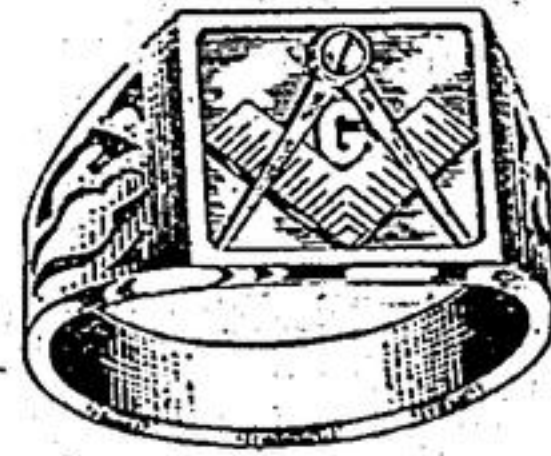
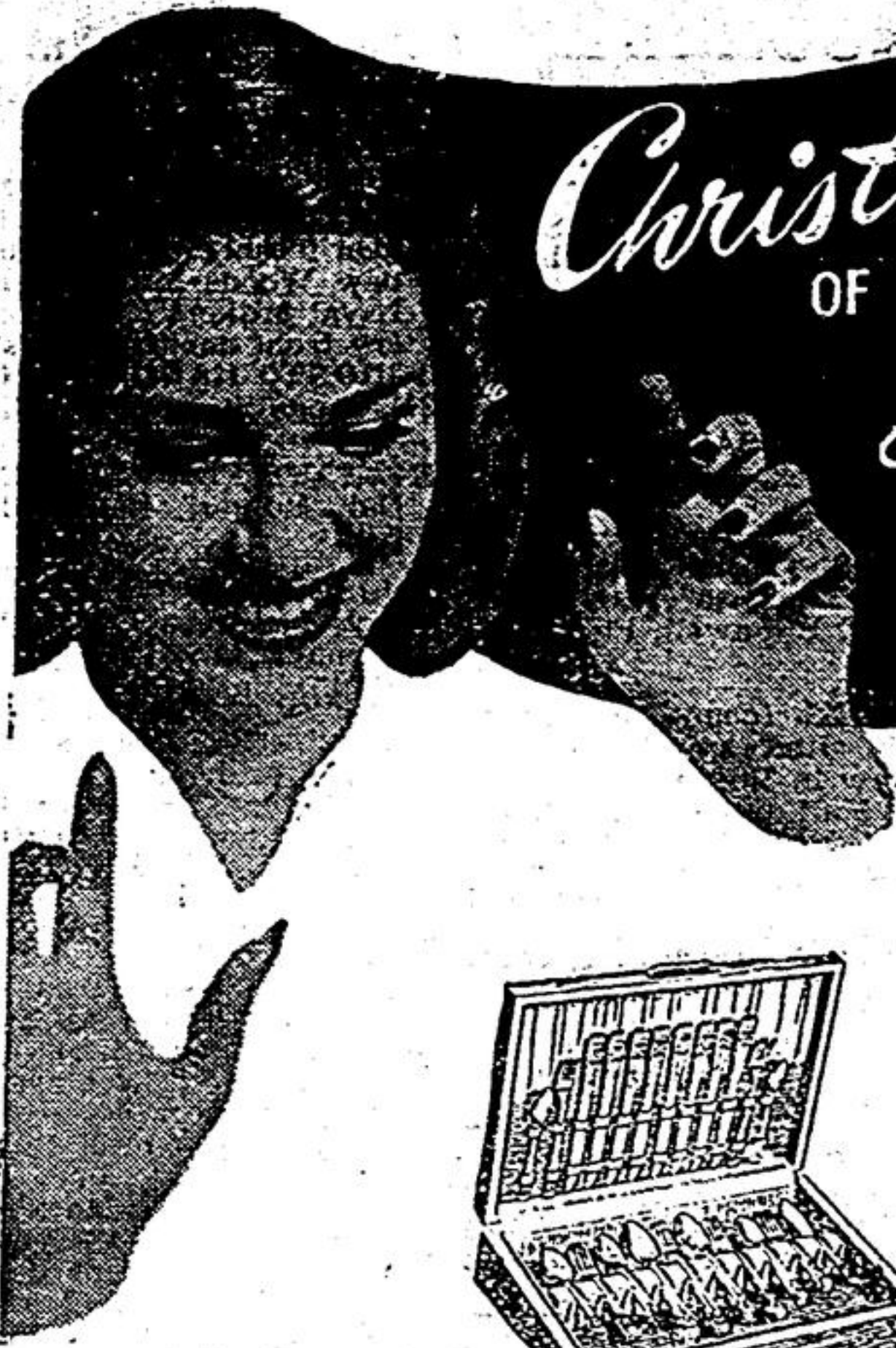
Since most of the streams traverse more than one township or county, it appears that we are our brother's keeper and joint action by the various municipalities is essential. In provinces where this problem exists, I would suggest that the Provincial Governments pass legislation controlling only the harvesting of the mature crop, leaving the younger growth to maintain a stand of wood. This would prevent the "patch work pattern" of a few counties attempting controlled cutting while others make no effort to co-operate.

Finally, let us as individuals fence our wood lots against livestock plant our steep slopes and hills to good pasture or trees, plough level rather than straight furrows on the slopes, increase the organic matter content of our soils, press our councils to intensify their reforestation that we want a practical policy of controlled woodlot cutting to preserve for posterity our heritage of forest and fertile fields.

L. P. EVANS
A native of York County in Ontario. Born, 1887. Second of a family of 4 sons. Married in 1910 to Margaret Monkman. Family, one daughter.

Started farming on his own in 1908. Farmed for three years in Ontario and then went to Courtwright, Man., where he farmed for another three years, after which he bought a farm at Limerick, Sask., which he farmed for ten years. At the end of the last period he moved back to Ontario, on account of ill health, and purchased what is now Maplehaven

Christmas Gifts
OF
Lasting
VALUE



K. N. WAGG

Jeweller and Watch Repair.

A. DIANA 17 jewels . . . \$29.75
B. ARNOLD 15 jewels . . . \$29.75

Farm, address Gormley, Ont. Also at the same time started to establish, in a small way, the Maplehaven Ayrshire around 40 head.

Mr. Evans is a director of the Federation of Agriculture; Secretary of his local milk producers' association; director of Aurora Agricultural Society. He has been Deputy Reeve and is now Reeve of the Township of Whitchurch, and, as such, is therefore a member of the York County Council, the largest County Council in Canada.

He is a director, a past president and past secretary of the Toronto District Ayrshire Breeders' Club.

He was first elected a director of Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association for Ontario in 1940, was re-elected in 1942, 1944 and 1946. He was appointed a member of the Executive Committee in 1945 and reappointed in 1946.

Township of Pickering

Your Vote and Influence
Respectfully Solicited

D. BLAKE ANNIS

FOR THE OFFICE OF REEVE

Election Date, December 9th, 1946

Township of Markham

Your vote and influence are solicited for the re-election of

Leslie Couperthwaite

AS COUNCILLOR

Voting Day, Monday, Dec. 9, 1946

Re-Elect

R. L. STIVER

as councillor

for 1947. He is a tried and trusted servant.

Township of Markham

Voting December 9th from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Township of Markham

Having been accorded another nomination I shall again be a candidate for a seat on the council. My experience in this capacity during the last year, should fit me to give your still better service On Monday, Dec. 9, vote

WIN TIMBERS

AS COUNCILLOR

Guard your franchise by using it. Polling hours 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

TOWNSHIP of MARKHAM



Your vote and influence are respectfully solicited for the

Re-election of
ALBERT REESOR
as Deputy-Reeve

POLLING DAY, MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1946

Voting Hours 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Township of MARKHAM

Be loyal to your own interest and your municipality by using your franchise on

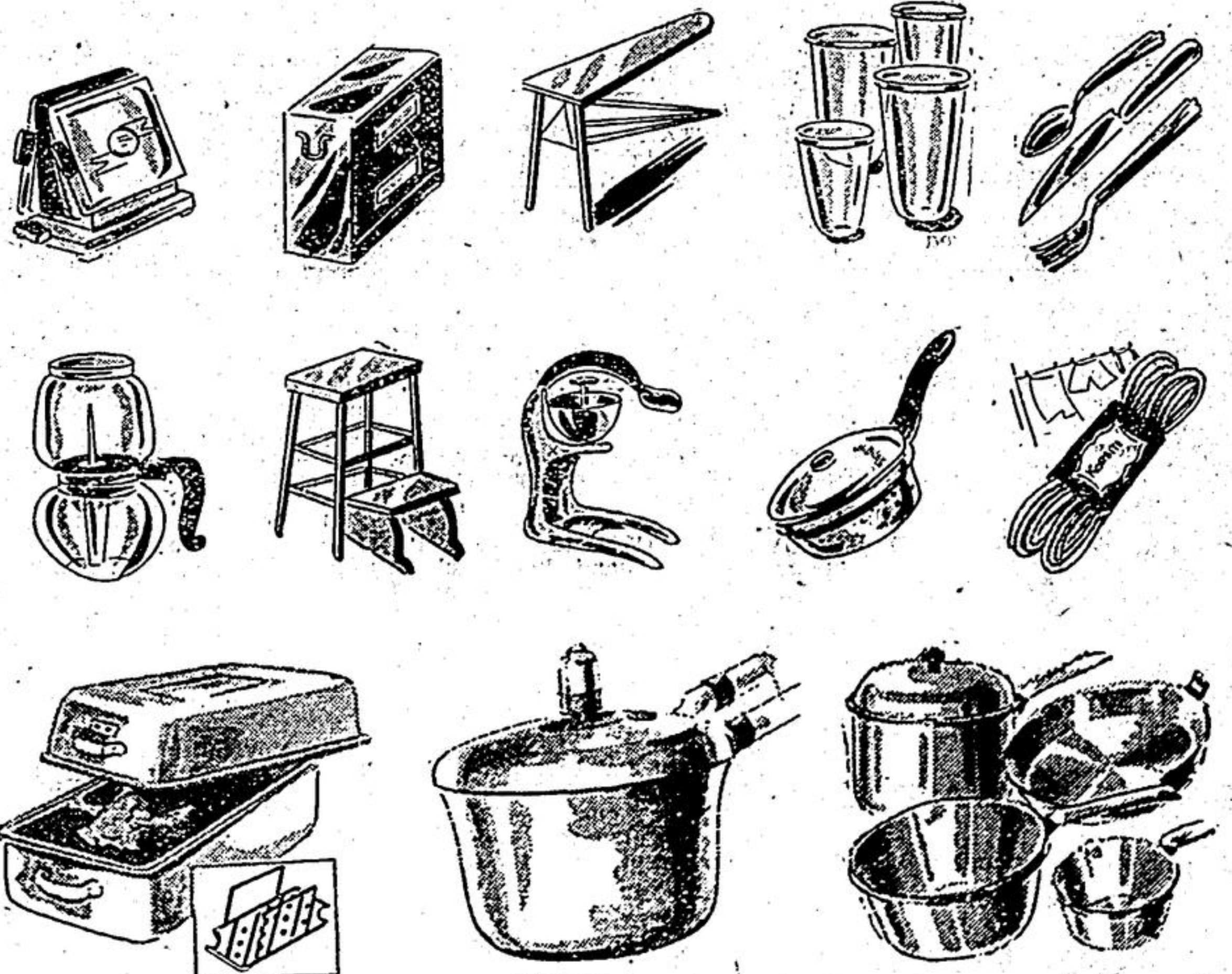
Mon., Dec. 9, 1946

In the contest for municipal honors.
FOR DEPUTY REEVE

your support will be appreciated by
DALTON RUMNEY

Voting hours 9 a.m to 7 p.m.

Give Her
Housewares



Agnew's Hardware

STOUFFVILLE, ONT.