



Waltraut Richter tends her herbs and flowers at her greenhouse located a half mile east of Goodwood. Formerly of Locust Hill, she and her husband have become well known for their wide variety of potted herbs.

Richter's greenhouse

Journey of new scents - insights

GOODWOOD — Care for a spot of lemon balm tea?

Or perhaps a little lemon verbena for your salad?

A sprig of rosemary to freshen your room?

Each of those requests could be filled at an establishment located a half mile east of Goodwood: a greenhouse operation owned and run by Otto and Waltraut Richter.

Prior to June, the business had become well-known for its organically-grown shrubs and flowers. But it was primarily known for its herbs.

The Richters had been located at a farm near Locust Hill but were forced to move due to expropriation for the North Pickering Project. They had 10 greenhouses there and are now starting over again in Goodwood.

Resident expert on the over-200 varieties of herbs grown there is Mrs. Richter.

"It's really an interesting business," she enthuses. "I love my plants."

Mrs. Richter has been interviewed on the CBC television show "take 30" as well as in

numerous newspaper and magazine articles.

She began growing herbs when first coming to Canada from Austria. "In Europe," she said, "we use so many herbs. But here we couldn't find what we wanted... We never found people with herbs to sell. There was never a big selection in the nurseries."

After starting to grow herbs, the Richters found the interest to be great. In fact, over 1500 letters were received from across Canada after Mrs. Richter's "Take 30" appearance.

One visitor to the greenhouse from the east coast wrote back saying the visit was "one of the highlights" of his Ontario trip.

Mrs. Richter emphasizes that she's not in the business just for the money, but "just because I like it myself, and I want other people to like it too."

A tour through the greenhouse with Mrs. Richter is a journey of new scents and new insights.

Sage, you will learn, can be made into a tea and gargled for sore throat.

For cuts or burns, rub

on the leaves of aloe vera.

A fine relaxing tea can be made from St. John's herb: it's specifically for "the nerves," says Mrs. Richter.

If you cook Mexican or Chinese dishes, you'll want a conander; valerian's good for heart ailments; for infections, there's sea onion.

The list goes on: curry, thyme, oregano, spearmint, catnip, water cross, clives, parsley, penny royal, spearmint, peppermint, lemon mint and pineapple sage. Each

has a story and a use.

Mrs. Richter gives advice for drying and freezing the herbs and even sells books on how to care for them as house plants.

A major part of their business has been the mail order sale of seeds, but locally they are probably best known for their potted plants.

Another side to their business is the sale of supplies for organic gardening, including seeds, plant food, fertilizers and pesticides.

Greenwood news

County honors in 4H for two girls

Congratulations to Ruth Honingh and Wendy Woolf who received their County Honors at the 4H Homemaking Club Achievement Day at Whitby on Saturday. Eight girls from the Greenwood Club successfully completed the course on 'A Touch of Stitchery', Donna Wilson prepared the poster, and Rosalie Brooks gave the commentary.

The Greenwood Choir who meet every week for practice at the church were given a special treat last Friday night when we were invited across the road to the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. Trimble where a sumptuous meal was provided. Then at invitation of our gracious hosts we gathered around the piano and again the Christmas carols rang out.

The Annual Meeting of the U.C.W. was held at

the church on Thursday evening, Dec. 11. The following officers were appointed for the coming year: Pres. — Pat Beach; Vice-Pres. — Joan Pittman; Rec. Sec. — Janet Crawford; Corresp. Sec. — Lorraine Nicholson; Treas. — Susie Pascoe; Co-op. in Chris. and Miss. Ed. — Olive Trimble; Community Friendship — Mrs. M.N. Pegg; Supply — Kay Webb; Lit. — Betty Goodwin; Membership — Gladys Brown; Program — L. Nicholson; Beatrice McLean; Press and Publicity — Elva Henning; Soc. Functions — Betty Goodwin; Mildred McTaggart; Sheila Brooks; Manse — Doreen Middleton; Pearl Brooks; Stewardship and Voc. — Marjorie Morden; Flowers — Olive Trimble and Marjorie Morden; Nom. Com. — Lorraine Nicholson; Betty Goodwin, Mildred McTaggart, Curator — Mrs. E. Pegg.

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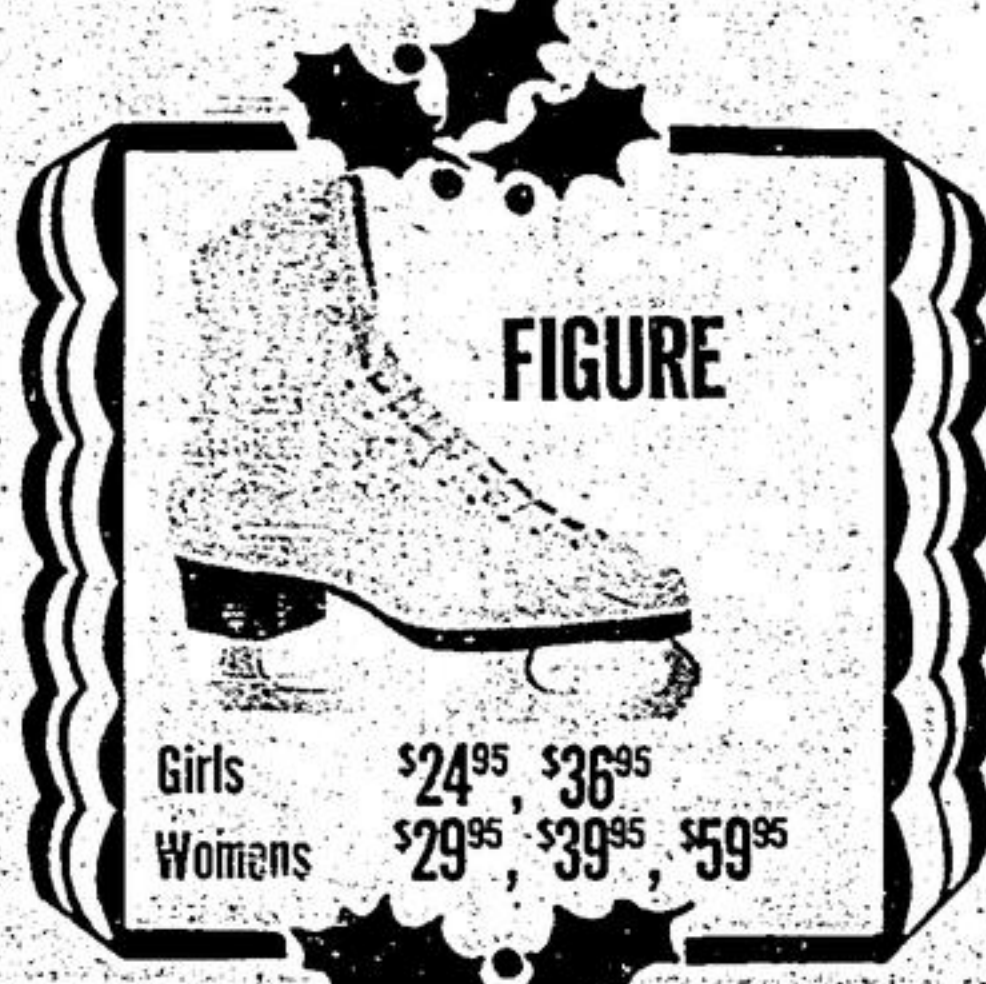


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Motorist saves service station

MARKHAM — A passing motorist, who called in the alarm, prevented the destruction of a Highway 7 service station last week.

According to Fire Chief Myrl Smith, firefighters arrived on the scene to find a jammed air compressor in

the part of the building used by Speedy Auto Glass.

Flames had spread to the walls and ceiling on the east side of the building. Firemen worked for an hour to extinguish the blaze. It took place about 1.40 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11.

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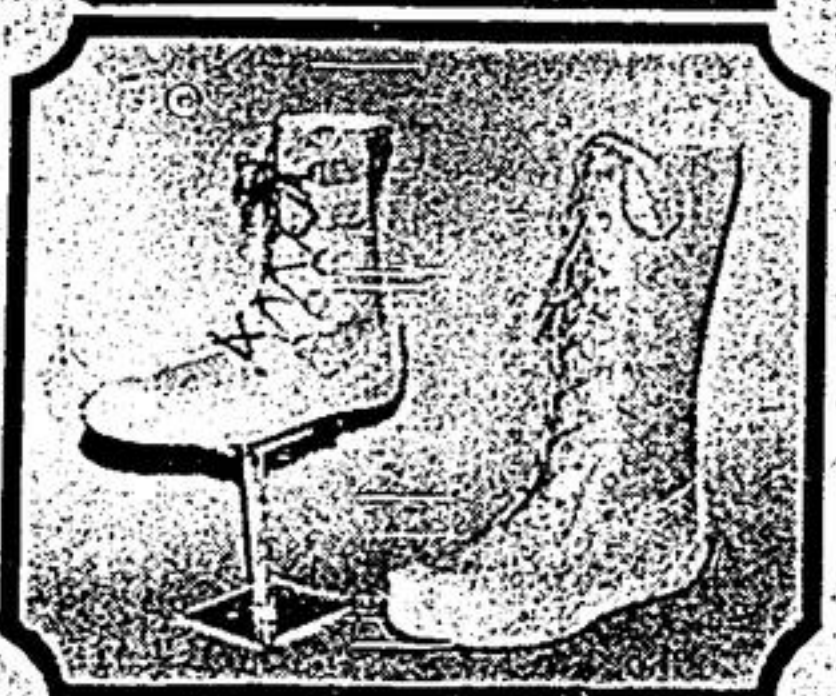
GIVE THE ORIGINAL

For Christmas



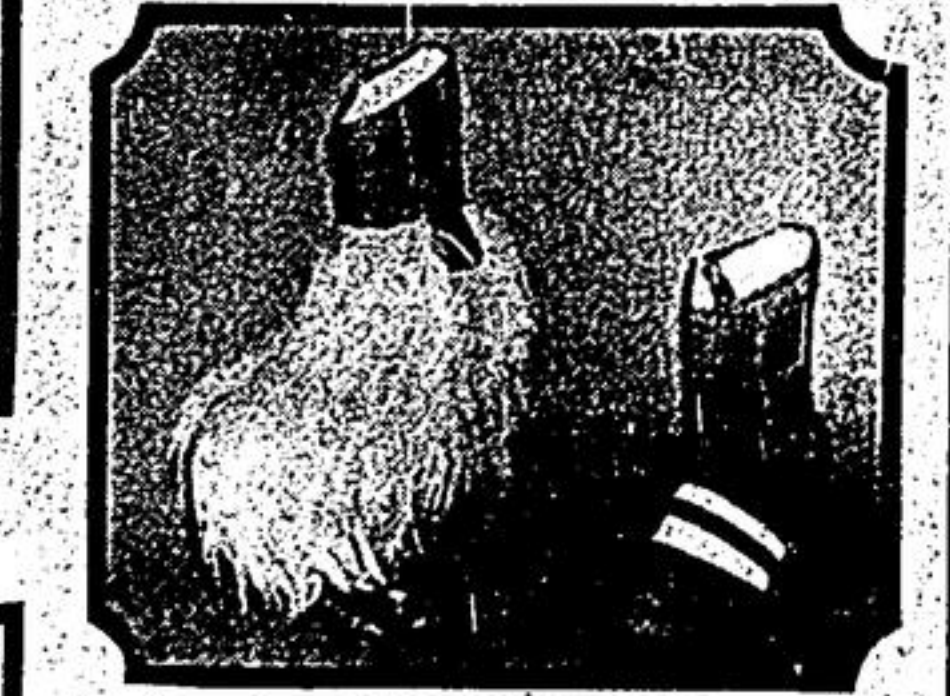
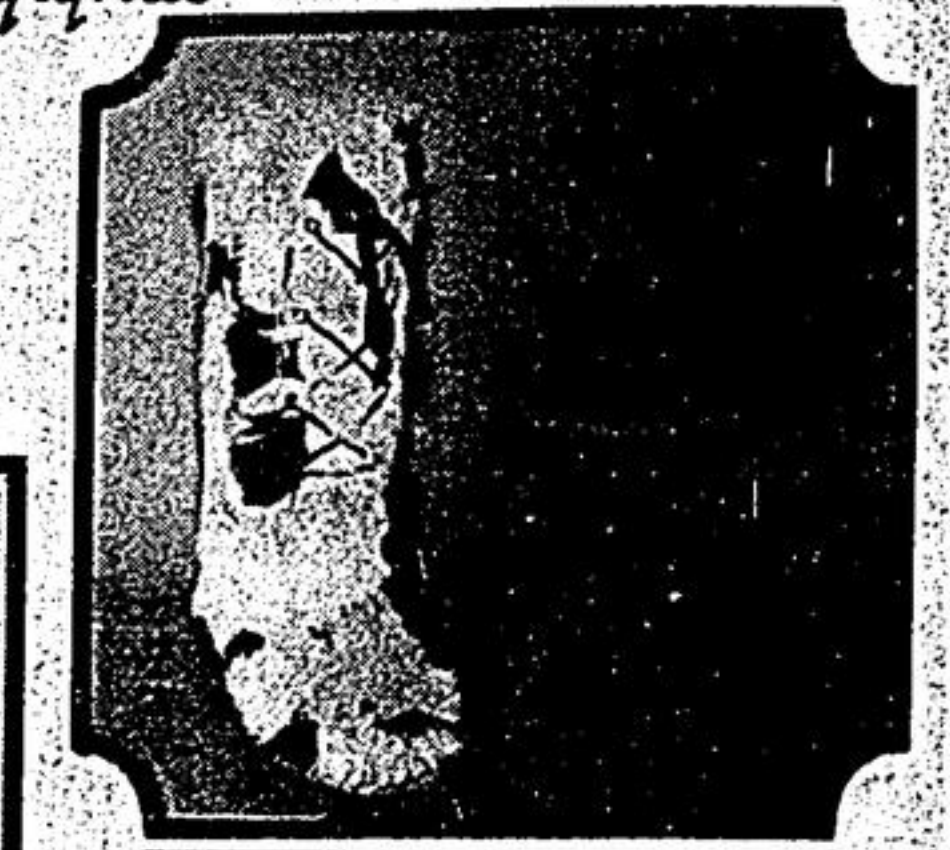
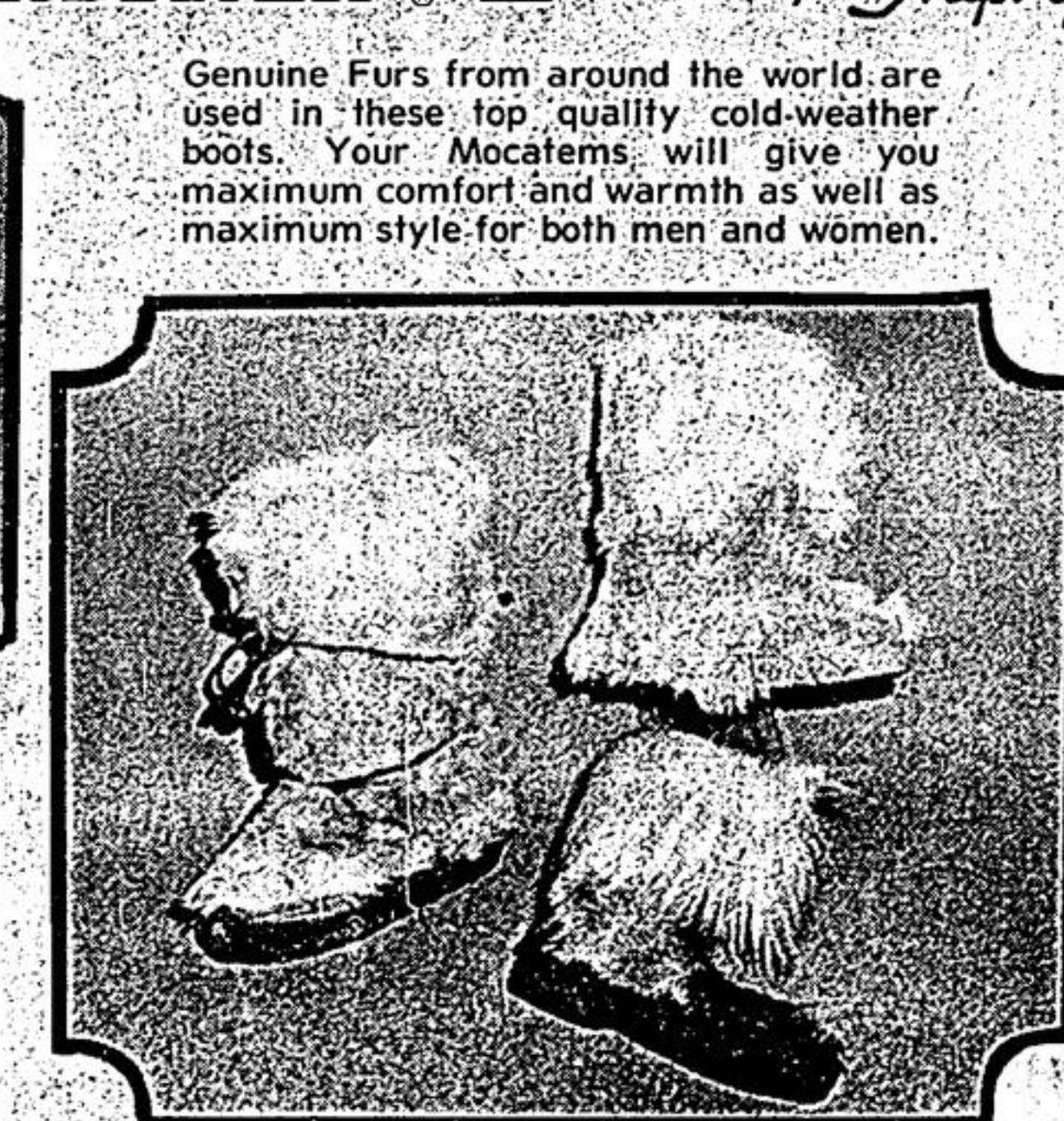
By Nap. Cigzac

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