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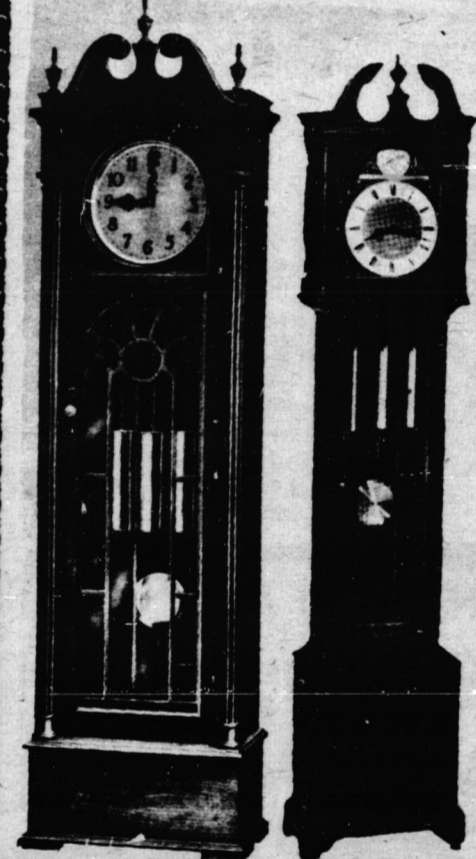
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USE CHRISTMAS SEALS



IT'S A MATTER OF LIFE AND BREATH

CHRISTMAS SEALS FIGHT EMPHYSEMA, TUBERCULOSIS AND OTHER RESPIRATORY DISEASES.



Farmer - Columnist Amuses And Enrages

PICTON, Ont. (CP) - Harry Evans, a 55-year-old Englishman who makes "a lean livin'" on his clay-gravel farm, has a new part-time career as a newspaper columnist. And he has his Prince Edward County readers either in stitches or in a rage.

Harry's first column in the weekly Picton Gazette managed to get everyone up in arms in Athol Township when he wrote about its "pretensions, class distinction, phoniness, the church, the different religions..."

Since then, the Englishman, who makes no claims to literary skill, has written about his gift to a friend of a load of manure, his night spent in the pokey for imbibing too much and the activities of his bull, "Mortimer The Third."

As to his gift, Harry reported "don't think I ever saw a guy so emotional over a birthday present before." He toasted the success of next year's garden with whisky.

Fractured English
Once his readers get around his fractured English and his dictionary-defying spelling, they are either entertained or enraged. Some of the rage came when Harry used a column to give explicit details of the activities of Mortimer and planned parenthood on the farm.

He was born at Stoke in the British Midlands "during a First World War Zeppelin raid."

He never went beyond the equivalent of Grade 7 and left school in 1929, and as he puts it: "Lobored and bummed around and finally, penniless and jobless, joined the Royal Air Force for 12 years and sat in on the decline and fall of the British Empire."

His connection with Canada came when he arrived in this country under the Commonwealth Air Training Plan to serve at the old Picton bombing and gunnery school. Here he met and married Victoria Rose of neighboring Cherry Valley.

Served 12 Years
After his 12 years in the RAF were upon he returned to Canada and became a farmer.

Harry's earliest columns, which he writes mostly at the kitchen table, were entitled "It's Sunday Night Out Here at Salmon Point" but later this was shortened to "Harry Says."

In addition to his career in agriculture and journalism, Harry serves on Athol council and is milk

committeeman for Prince Edward County.

He sums up his political career in this way:

"I ran three times for council before I was elected. I was defeated on a platform that if elected to council I would provide Athol Township hall with a flush toilet."

But Harry found he had to bow to the people's will and the hall still retains its outdoor convenience.

Slashed Shoe Historical Mystery

HAMILTON (CP) - A small child's shoe, slashed at the ankle, represents a historical mystery transplanted from southern England to the Niagara Peninsula.

The little shoe was found in the wall of a house built in St. Davids about 1800 and given to the Lundy's Lane Historical Museum.

The shoe probably belonged to a child about five years old. It is well worn and part of the heel is missing. At the front of the ankle are cuts that could not be accidental. One, pointing toward the toe, is about 1 1/2 inches long. Crossing it is a cut about half an inch long.

Mrs. J. G. Collard of Burlington, chairman of the Ontario, says shoes similarly slashed have been found built into houses in the southern half of England and Wales. The only other known example in North America was found in Williamsburg, Virginia.

Used As Charms?
Mrs. Collard has a letter from June Swann, assistant curator of the Central Museum in Northampton, describing the practice as Miss Swann has encountered it in research on the subject.

Miss Swann says the shoes often date from a time when the houses were built or remodelled. They may have been good luck charms, or meant to ward off evil spirits - "almost as though the house had to be consecrated to its owner."

She says some have turned up with the remains of chickens which apparently had been sacrificed.

The Canadian shoe was found in the 1940s. The house is one of two in the village of St. Davids that were not burned by United States troops during the War of 1812.

It is the only such shoe Miss Swann has heard of in Canada, but she says she feels there must be more examples.

DRESSING THE QUEEN
Once, it was customary for people to give their country's rulers clothing for Christmas, and Queen Elizabeth I acquired a large part of her wardrobe this way, historians say.

NEW ELM STRAIN
Scientists at the Canada Agriculture Plant Research Institute are cautious about the outcome of their efforts to provide Canada with stocks of an elm tree resistant to Dutch elm disease.

The restraint is due to difficulties encountered in their first attempt to propagate the new elm strain. Of the 300 cuttings taken from six young disease-resistant trees about a year ago, 56 rooted and survived.

CHRISTMAS GIFT GUIDE

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