

ELLEN'S DIARY

Wind Tossed Hayfields Are Like Watered Silk

Fog of damp enclosed us this morning at Alderlea. It separated us from the house on the hill and those up the valley as surely as did odd times, a freshet in the stream bringing disaster to the lane-bridge, leave us, after a manner, isolated on this farm.

"It won't be too comfortable driving in to class. In fact, that is a time, I don't like being on the road!" James offered to the one girl at breakfast. "Better watch out!"

No sight of cows against the opposite slope then. No new sunshine building a lattice on the kitchen wall. However, a robin fussed on the lawn. Hummingbirds counted blossoms on the Bleeding Heart in the border.

"You forget, grandfather, mine" she chuckled to him. "The countless times I've driven the same route through fogs and rains, and in fact, every kind of island weather!"

"The fog's lifting. It will be clearer by the time she reaches the end of this road" we said.

"Our road" - we recalled one of the family remark back in the years, when returning from an outing we entered "the home stretch". "It's strange but whenever we leave the highway and enter our road, I get the feeling that now we are safely home again."

"I reckon, Ellen, after I get my chores straightened away, we'll get those overhanging branches lopped off that willow. There's no-time-like-the-present, is there, to get something that's on one's mind, done?" James smiled. Nor is there anything better than an interesting piece of work to make the hands of the clock, snap off like scissors.

Later I learned that everyone except me knew that Sue had a son born out of wedlock, who was adopted by the man she married (the father of her twins). It seems this bit of personal history was so taken for granted by the group that Sue's sister felt no hesitancy in speaking of Mike.

But why had I been left in the dark? Had I known, I never would have said what I did. I am afraid it sounded like malice and I were always scholastic rivals, but quite friendly. She was one class ahead of me in school.

Although our paths parted in post-college years, I was always interested in her comings and goings. I am reputed to be a good correspondent; but now I wonder, is it meant as a compliment? Was the group afraid I would broadcast Sue's story? Yet if everyone knew it already wouldn't the obvious come be? "So what?"

I am bewildered and angry. I feel I was made to look fact-



MR. AND MRS. ALBERT PETERS  
Alberton Couple Celebrate 55th Wedding Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Peters of Alberton South celebrated their fifty-fifth anniversary of their marriage last Saturday. The marriage was solemnized by Rev. F. X. Gallant. The bride was attended by Rose Peters, sister of the groom, and Joseph Gallant was best man.

Mr. and Mrs. Peters lived on their farm at Fortune Cove until about six years ago when they came to Alberton. Because of illness resulting in physical handicaps, Mr. Peters has been unable to work for the past fifteen years.

Their family includes a son Gerald (Jerry) of Summerside, three daughters, Mrs. Henry Myers (Phoebe) of Alberton, Mrs. Claude Barnett (Lucy) of Alberton, and Mrs. Joseph MacPhee (Helen) of Tignish, and a foster son, Keith Peters of Alberton. There are ten great grandchildren.

When silence fell in the room as you remarked to Sue's sister, "But I didn't know that Sue had a son," you suddenly sensed that you'd blundered, though you couldn't define it. And you felt that all present were siding against you, watchfully.

In that moment you experienced a sense of rejection by the group, a jolt that you haven't got over yet.

It was as if, in that fleeting instant, you caught sight of a snapshot of yourself as the group "images" you, namely, as an old girl with an axe still out for Sally, the scholastic rival of long ago. Also, as an insensitive person, ready to rip the covers off anyone's reserve, heedless of her fears, when in pursuit of the full details of another's private life.

It may indeed be true that you weren't consciously asking a loaded question. Yet the fact that you are still angrily asserting your innocence, when nobody is pursuing you with re-

DISTRICT CONVENTION STRESSES SAFETY

The highlight of the recent convention held by the South West Queens District Women's Institute in Hampshire hall, was a panel discussion on safety chaired by Mrs. Robert Godfrey of Marshfield. Pictured above are L. J. R. Mrs. Jack MacLean, Cornwall, president of Cornwall WI.

Mrs. Horace Willis, Kingston district president, and panel members, Mrs. Harold Donahue, Mrs. Clifford Chappell, and Mrs. Hazen Howard.

HAPPENINGS

Audrey Jenkins, Women's Editor. Phone 4-8506

Marriage vows were exchanged last Saturday morning at 10 o'clock at the Church of the Most Holy Redeemer, Charlottetown, by Ellen Walsh RN, daughter of Mrs. Joseph Walsh of Nine Mile Creek and the late Mr. Walsh, and Kevin Curley, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Curley of Freetown.

formerly of Trenton, N. S. have taken up residence in Murray Harbour. Both Mr. and Mrs. Stewart are natives of this district where Mr. Stewart was engaged in the fishing industry before taking up employment in Trenton this year ago. Upon his retirement this year the couple returned to Prince Edward Island to live.

Among entertainments for the former Miss Walsh was a community shower held at the home of her mother at Nine Mile Creek, when gifts were presented from the group by Sandra MacPhee and the verses were read by Ruth MacDonald.

Gerald MacKay, Murray Harbour left recently for Ontario.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence White and family, Oromocto, N. B., are vacationing in Murray Harbour and vicinity.

On Thursday evening, following the wedding rehearsal, Mrs. Joseph Walsh, the bride-elect's mother, entertained members of the bridal party at her home in Nine Mile Creek.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick White returned to their home in Murray Harbour after spending a week visiting in Dartmouth, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Gallant entertained at an engagement dinner in honor of Mrs. Gallant's sister, Eileen Walsh, and Kevin Curley.

Garnet White and his daughter, Doris White, are visiting in Murray Harbour with Mr. White parents, Mr. and Mrs. Percy White.

Etta MacLean, a recent graduate of the Prince Edward Island Hospital School of Nursing is vacationing with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willard MacLean Peter's Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred White and son Kevin, Dartmouth, N. S., are visiting in Murray Harbour with Mr. White's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter White.

Mr. and Mrs. Eric O. Walsh (the former Rose Birtwistle of Charlottetown) and family of Ottawa, Ont., are visiting relatives in Summerside and Charlottetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Stewart Beck, Halifax, N. S. are spending their vacation visiting with Mr. Beck's parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Beck, White Sands.

Wendy Duggan, Summerside has returned from a two weeks visit to Montreal. While there she was the guest of her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Lyma Duggan.

Mr. and Mrs. George Serafin have returned to their home in Cleveland, Ohio, after visiting with Mrs. Serafin's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Brehaut and other members of her family in Murray Harbour.

Naney Reeves of Windsor, Ontario, is visiting in Summerside, the guest of her pen-pal Lyman Duggan.

Sidney Stewart, Ottawa, is visiting in High Bank with his sisters and brother.

Alcoholics' Children Suffer From Conflicts, Anxieties

Children of alcoholic parents are much more disturbed by family conflicts resulting from drinking than either the parents or social agencies suspect, a researcher told a course on Alcoholism and the Problems of Addiction yesterday.

Margaret Cork, a social worker and research associate of the Alcoholism and Drug Addiction Research Foundation, which is sponsoring the two-week course, has begun a five-year study of the children of alcoholic parents.

Miss Cork said that after a study beginning last September, of all available literature on the subject from alcoholism researchers in Canada, the United States and overseas countries she began interviewing children last January.

So far Miss Cork has interviewed 56 children, with their parents' permission, from the age of 10 to 16. In about half the cases one or both parents in the 32 families involved is still drinking.

Only two of the children are under psychiatric care as emotionally disturbed children, but many showed the scars of anxiety and hostility. Miss Cork said that although any accurate prediction is impossible, she believes that most of the children have a better than average chance of a disturbed adulthood.

The families ranged widely

tion and the breakup of the home. Miss Cork also said that many of the children were almost as angry at the non-alcoholic parent as the alcoholic. Often they complained that the non-drinking parent did not trust them any more than they trusted the drinking spouse.

Miss Cork said 23 of the parents believed their children were not upset by the alcoholism in the family, although interviews with the children showed three-quarters of them needed help. Social agencies were equally unaware of the needs and conflicts of the children. Most children had for many years carefully avoided talking about the family situation with any outsiders. They exhibited a great deal of hostility and conflict, but internalized it or showed it within the family only. None of the children had been in trouble with the law or through misbehavior.

Miss Cork said all but one of the children defined alcoholism in personal terms. One boy said it was wasteful, but all the others described it as being a person who shows various kinds of behavior such as quarrelling, or saying "bad things".

Most of the children said they did not mind the drinking if only parents would not quarrel. Many continued to be anxious for several years after the parent had stopped drinking. Many feared parental separation.

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BARRY BALDERSTON LOUISE COX  
ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED

Mayor Walter Y. Cox and Mrs. Cox, Charlottetown, wish to announce the engagement of their daughter, Louise Ann Balderston, to Barry Wayne Balderston, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Balderston, New Willshire. The marriage will take place August 13 at Trinity United Church, Charlottetown, at 7 p. m.

Lake Verde WI  
July Meeting

Mrs. Owen Callaghan entertained the members of the Lake Verde Women's Institute at her home on July 8th. Seven members if partner has any three test was won by Mrs. Harry Kelly.

Mrs. Joseph Shea, president and opened the meeting with reading of the Creed. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed. Correspondence was read and all bills paid. Mrs. Raymond Wood and Mrs. Owen Callaghan gave a report on the annual convention. Mrs. Harry Kelly and Mrs. Darlyle Wilson kindly agreed to attend a meeting in Millview Hall on July 13th concerning the TB Clinic. The August meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. William Shea. During a pleasant social hour the hostess served refreshments assisted by Mrs. Ira Redmond.

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Women

6 The Guardian, Charlottetown, Fri., July 15, 1966.

MARY HAWORTH

College Alumna Insists Her Intention Innocent

DEAR MARY HAWORTH: I've just come from a 25th anniversary class reunion, wondering if there aren't worse social sins than gossip.

I have lived at some distance from my college classmates, but have kept in touch, so I thought, by participating in a round-robin exchange of letters and clippings that go to several addresses before completing the circuit.

I have been careful of what I write and how I word it, realizing it might be read by others than those to whom it is addressed. Apparently others have been equally cautious.

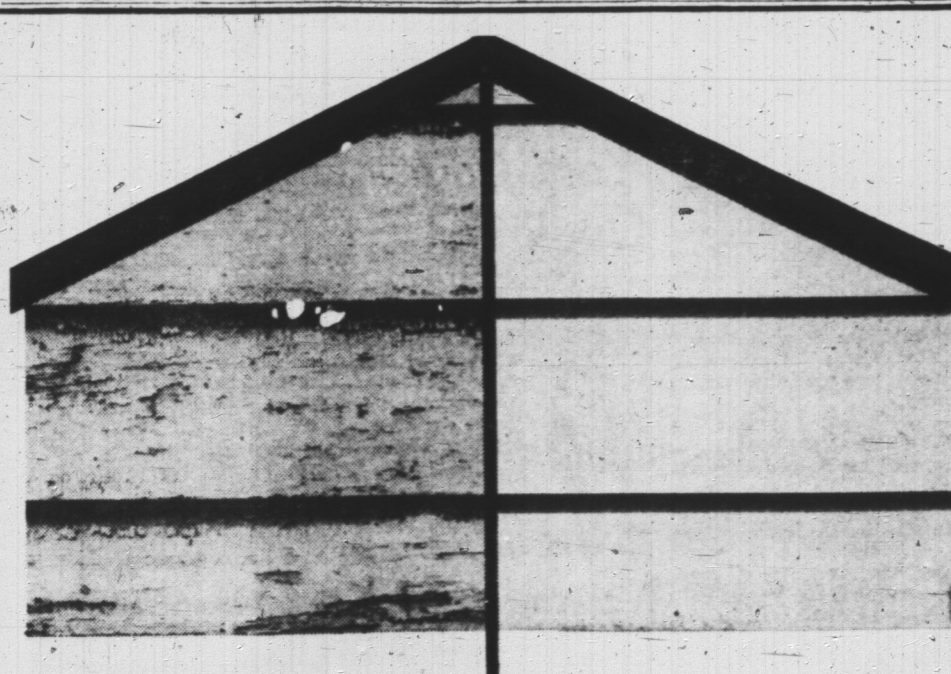
During the reunion one of my classmates spoke of her nephew Mike, now nearly 20. I deduced that Mike was the son of her sister, Sue. But in all these years I had heard only that Sue had twin girls. So I said, "I didn't know that Sue had a son." Immediately I sensed tension in the group and dropped the subject.

Later I learned that everyone except me knew that Sue had a son born out of wedlock, who was adopted by the man she married (the father of her twins). It seems this bit of personal history was so taken for granted by the group that Sue's sister felt no hesitancy in speaking of Mike.

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Although our paths parted in post-college years, I was always interested in her comings and goings. I am reputed to be a good correspondent; but now I wonder, is it meant as a compliment? Was the group afraid I would broadcast Sue's story? Yet if everyone knew it already wouldn't the obvious come be? "So what?"

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