

History, Cooking Combine To Make Fascinating Book

While most Canadian housewives consider it a virtue to clean out their attics periodically, Una Abrahamson of Toronto wishes they wouldn't.

It is from less tidy households that she collected much of the information for her recent book, *God Bless Our Home*, an entertaining collection of information on domestic life in 19th century Canada.

Last year she was awarded a \$2,800 Centennial publications assistance grant to help prepare the book for the Centennial year.

A mother of two, Mrs. Abrahamson began the book — her first — two years ago, because she enjoyed history but found most of the history books she read "deadly dull".

She based much of her information — which ranges from recipes for beaver to hints on courting — on her own multilingual collection of about 600 old cookbooks, domestic books and private family records.

But in collecting records from Canadian attics, "I was always trying to be one step

ahead of the garbage man," she said in a recent interview.

The tendency to throw away such records as pioneer diaries rather than give them to historical societies hindered her task.

Besides combing libraries and newspaper files in Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto and the Maritimes, she followed hints from friends about families who had preserved their records.

Until recently a magazine writer, she used her spare time to write the book, on which she first began making notes about five years ago.

When she got home from work she would cook dinner for her husband, a bank advertising manager, son John, 11, and daughter, Hilary, 14. At about 9 p.m. she was free to start to write. "I wrote till I fell asleep," she recalls. "It sounds absolutely mad, but when you want to do something badly you can find the time."

Her husband was a great help, she said. "He was absolutely marvellous. He read my manuscript and he's a wonderful editor because he's not a frustrated writer. And of course he put up with all the odd socks and things like that."

Their big Toronto house is filled with her books, which she is constantly cataloguing and repairing, and with the collects.

She lists gardening, print making and painting among her hobbies, but says she has had to put them aside while writing.

In her spare time she also tries out some of the recipes she finds in her antique cookbooks, which date back to 1870.

Every summer she helps the Niagara Historical Society give an 18th century ball, advising the members on 18th century manners and ways of preparing beaver and venison for the banquet.

A former history teacher in private school in her native England, Mrs. Abrahamson dates her interest in history back to her teens. "With my first paycheck when I was about 18 I went out and bought a book and ever since I've been collecting cookbooks."

She says she bought the first one because "I've always been absolutely a us about history and food and it seemed a marvellous way to combine the two."

HAPPENINGS

Audrey Jenkins, Women's Editor. Phone 4-8300

Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Lanigan, Halifax, N. S., are spending the holidays with Mrs. Lanigan's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Artie McDonald, Alliston.

Catherine B. Watson, Dalhousie University Halifax, will

be with her parents, Supt. and Mrs. Louis Watson, Brudenell, for the holiday season.

Robert Bieren, Mt. Allison University, is vacationing with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bieren, Kilmer.

Jessie Clary, will be a guest of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Clary, Wilm Road, during the holiday season.

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Music and son David of Lower Montague left this week to spend the holidays with Mrs. Music's sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Laurie MacLeod and family of Toronto, Ont.

Wesley Coulson, Lower Montague, left recently to spend the winter months with friends in New Glasgow, N. S.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Adams and children, Jo-Anne Cathy, Vince and Stewart, left last week to spend Christmas with Mr. Adams' parents, Mr. and Mrs. Montague Harvey, Hamilton, Ont. They will also visit with relatives and friends in Toronto, before returning home.

Mr. and Mrs. H. P. George are spending Christmas in Saint John, N. B., with members of their family.

Roy MacNeill of the Canadian army, stationed in Ontario, is the guest for the holiday at the home of his grandfather, John Batchelder.

Joseph Murphy, teacher at Notre Dame Academy in Charlottetown is spending his holidays as the guest of his sister, Mrs. Harold Publicover and Mr. Publicover.

Karen Lavandier left recently on a visit to Boston, Mass., where she will spend New Year with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. B. McConnell of Bellefleur, Gaspé County, Quebec, where Mr. McConnell is Principal at an Indian School, arrived in Georgetown on Friday to spend Christmas and New Years at their home.

Paulette Burke of Montreal, Que., spent Christmas at her home in Georgetown. Following her return to Montreal, Miss Burke will visit in New York.

Stanley Parker left recently to spend the holidays with relatives in Halifax, N. S.

Billy Lavers, recently left for Montreal, Quebec, where he spent Christmas as the guest of his uncle Mr. Harry Parker and Mrs. Parker.

Kenneth Leard returned to his home in Fortune Cove before Christmas after spending 10 days in Saint John, N. B.

Mrs. Ruth Sommers, Charlottetown, was a Christmas weekend guest of Mrs. Vernon England.

Frances Vessey York, spent Christmas with her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Reber Proffitt, Rosebank.

James McNeill of Toronto,

is spending the holiday with Mrs. Robert's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sexton, Borden.

Elaine Palmer of Beverly Hills, California, is spending the festive season with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Palmer, Borden.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas LeBlanc of Borden are holidaying in Moncton, N. B.

Joan Snyder of Montreal is spending holidays at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Collis Macdonald, Borden.

Elaine Arsenault of Toronto is spending Christmas holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Camille Arsenault, Borden.

Berrie Macdonald of the Canadian Army, Ont., is spending the holiday season with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Kelly, Borden.

Carol Coyle of Charlottetown, is spending the holidays with her father, Reginald Coyle, Borden.

Sincere sympathy is extended to Wesley Miller in the death of his mother at Boston, Mass. Mr. and Mrs. Miller motored to Boston to attend the funeral.

Charles MacInnis of Borden, spent the holidays in Hamilton, Ont.

Mr. and Mrs. William Trowdale of Borden, left for Toronto to spend the winter months.

His many friends in Borden extend sincere sympathy to Mr. Martin MacInnis in the sudden passing of his wife at the Prince County Hospital, Summerside.

Terry Arsenault of Canadian Army Forces, Ont., is spending Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Camille Arsenault, Borden.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Macdonald, former resident here has moved to Charlottetown.

GEORGETOWN

Const. Mark Murphy of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police stationed at Cornerbrook, Newfoundland, spent Christmas as the guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Murphy.

Carmelita Solomon, student at St. Dunstan's University, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Solomon.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Arsenault and their three daughters, of Edmonton, Alberta, are the guests of Mr. Arsenault's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alec Arsenault.

Isabel Curley, student at St. Francis Xavier University, is spending the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Curley.

Linda Lavandier, student at St. Dunstan's University, is holidaying with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Lavandier.

Ruth LeLachur, medical student at Dalhousie University, Halifax, N. S., is visiting with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cecil LeLachur.

Capt. and Mrs. H. Larsen have as their guests their daughters, Marie of Amherst and Linda of Sherwood.

Eldon Batchelder of the Royal Air Force, stationed at St. Jean Quebec, is visiting his mother, Mrs. Lawrence Batchelder.

John Delron of the Canadian Army is the holiday guest of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Delron, Sr.

Harbie Murphy, student at St. Dunstan's University, is spending his Christmas and New Years holidays as the guest of his sister, and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Publicover.

Mrs. Aeneas Macdonald and Mrs. William Prosper, recently returned home from a visit in Sudbury, Ontario, where they were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Macdonald. They were accompanied by Sudbury by their grandson, James Macdonald, who had been visiting in Georgetown.

Jean Elardieta of Montreal, Quebec, arrived in Georgetown recently to spend Christmas as the guest of her aunt, Genevieve Solomon.

Mrs. Mary MacLean of Sydney are spending the holiday with Mrs. Robert's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sexton, Borden.

Elaine Palmer of Beverly Hills, California, is spending the festive season with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Palmer, Borden.

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MR. AND MRS. IVAN BROWN MARRIED RECENTLY

The marriage of Helen Sophia MacInnis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph MacAulay, Souris West, P. E. I., to Ivan Joseph Brown, son of Alexander Brown and the late Mrs. Brown, Charlottetown, P. E. I., took place recently at St. Alexis Church, Rollo Bay, P. E. I. Rev. Wilfred Keefe performed the double ring ceremony and celebrated nuptial mass. The wedding reception was held at St. Mary's Hall, Souris, P. E. I. Following a honeymoon trip through the New England states, the couple are residing at Tea Hill.

Delegates Gave Report On Conference

The December meeting of the Tignish CWL was held in the Dalton School with 27 members present. Mrs. Alcide Boudreau acknowledged letters and cards from the TB League, the groups foster child, Hackett family, the Brederick family and the Chaisson family. The treasurer's report was read by Mrs. W. Hogan.

The spiritual committee reported 16 hrs. of work were done and requested extra help for Christmas cleaning. A Mass for deceased veterans was voted for. The social action committee helped a needy family and money was voted to make Christmas boxes for needy families. The entertainment committee reported the weekly parish bingo and card game were held. A pantry sale is to be held until after Christmas. Membership reported 6 new members and 128 paid up members.

Mrs. Joseph Conway of the St. John's, reported she attended a training camp which was held in Charlottetown.

It was also decided that the sick and shut-ins are to be visited and treated at Christmas. Delegates who attended the

Kishara Conference gave reports. The lottery of the hand-made quilt took place. The winner was Glen Murphy of Summerside. Following the business session Santa arrived and distributed gifts. Refreshments were served and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all.

Nine members answered roll call with a seasonal thought. The minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary, Mrs. Arnel MacInnis. The president, Mrs. Louis MacLeod extended a vote of thanks to the retiring secretary, Mrs. Fred Campbell for her untiring efforts.

A box of gifts was collected to be mailed to the patients of the Canadian Mental Association. Programs were prepared for the coming year by Mrs. Earle Campbell, Mrs. Fred Campbell and Mrs. Arnel MacInnis, and presented to each member.

Correspondence was read and discussed. A motion was passed that \$25.00 be sent to the Alcoholism Treatment Foundation. The secretary was asked to send cards to the shut-ins.

It was decided to make ready for the annual concert, to buy treats for all the children in the district, to send \$5.00 to the Musical Festival Association, \$5.00 to the TB League, and to send for Federated News and Institute News.

Roll call for next meeting to be answered with an original poem or a 10c. fine. Mrs. Fred Campbell will prepare the program on health and welfare, fun and nonsense to be prepared by Mrs. Earle Campbell.

A bazaar which closed the meeting netted \$15.75.

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Women

The Guardian, Charlottetown, Fri., Dec. 30, 1966.

MARY HAWORTH

Fiance Is Unforgiving When His Girl Confesses

Dear Mary Haworth: Over five years ago I fell in love with Kent, an extremely affectionate, sensitive fellow. He had an ardent, ego-embittering time of it, which inflicted deep wounds to his self-esteem, that he's been blaming on you, more recently.

To revive your self-respect and valid sense of love-worthiness — foundation stones of social stability, in your case badly shaken by Kent's post-military sorehead performance — bear in mind that he was incipiently neurotic when you first knew him, and today he is acutely neurotic and agitated, actively at war with himself, in an inner drama of self-contempt — conditions that you didn't create and can't correct.

You are vilified and tormented by his morbid misjudgments not because of anything you've done or failed to do, but only because you are (or were) his fiancee, emotionally identified with him to that extent.

The saving answer, for yourself, began when you wrote him off as a lost cause. Be firm, forth, in closing him out of your life for good. —M.H.

Mary Haworth counsels through her columns, not by mail or personal interview. Write her in care of The Guardian.

N. Milton WI Completes Plans For Xmas

Roll call was answered by 14 members with suggestions for a centre piece for a Christmas table, at the December meeting of North Milton Women's Institute, held at the home of Mrs. Keith Coles, with Mrs. Alton Rodd presiding.

Arrangements were made to treat all children of the school district at the Christmas concert.

A special collection was taken for Unitarian service work. Gifts and cards will be given to shut-ins at Christmas. The sum of \$10.00 was voted for a donation to Halfway House. Mrs. Garth Hooper, programme convener, provided a Christmas entertainment which was followed by an exchange of gifts.

Mrs. Gordon Rodd will be in charge of entertainment for the January meeting, and the refreshment committee will be composed of Mrs. Harvey Coles and Mrs. Keith Coles. The location of the meeting has not been decided on.

Dear E.T.: As I get the picture, Kent is a mixed-up, implacably non-matrimonial-minded neurotic at present. And very likely his unweaned relationship with his mother and his father are principal primary factors contributing to his moody hateful fencing with your feelings, since he returned home from military service.

You refer to him first as an extremely sensitive affectionate fellow, when you fell in love with him five years ago. And next as a shy, stubborn, non-aggressive type nowadays. You also note that he has lost much faith in himself and life generally while in the service.

I would suppose that Kent's coldly unsympathetic reaction to your probably half-pretend, half-confessional story over the phone about dismissing Billy (testimony to your magnificence for men as well as your fidelity to one), was mostly symptomatic of his shocked sense of alarm and insecurity at fancying himself weighed, unknowingly, against an unseen competitor.

Entering the Army as an erstwhile ardently devoted mom's boy, habitually at loggerheads with his dad, hence prey thror-

oughly prepared to take military life in stride, man-style, Kent no doubt had a miserable, confusing, ego-embittering time of it, which inflicted deep wounds to his self-esteem, that he's been blaming on you, more recently.

To revive your self-respect and valid sense of love-worthiness — foundation stones of social stability, in your case badly shaken by Kent's post-military sorehead performance — bear in mind that he was incipiently neurotic when you first knew him, and today he is acutely neurotic and agitated, actively at war with himself, in an inner drama of self-contempt — conditions that you didn't create and can't correct.

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CGIT Groups Combined For Vesper Service

The combined CGIT groups of Cherry Valley, Pownal, and Orwell Head held their CGIT Vesper service in Cherry Valley United Church. Leaders of the groups are as follows: Pownal Mrs. W. E. Grant; Cherry Valley, Mrs. George Hayden; Orwell Head, Mrs. Stan MacLeod, and Mrs. Henry Mowery. The theme of this year's vesper was "In the Beginning Was The Word".

Portraying the Christmas story in Indian costume were Gordon Tweedy, David MacLeod, Terry Robbins, Donald Robbins, Zeldia MacLeod, Lona Sanderson, Gary Tweedy and Ian Mutch. Others participating were Bonnie Wood, Anne Robbins, Charlotte Tweedy, Ruby Mossman and Peggy Grant. Helen MacLean was the leader. Beverly Hayden and Evelyn Howlett were organists.

FARMERS LOSE CROP Between 30 and 50 per cent of the crop on African farms is lost in the field or in storage.

BORDEN

Ernie Macdonald who has been with the Canadian Airforce in Germany is spending Christmas holidays with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Macdonald, Borden.

Judy Stewart of Moncton, N.B., is spending the festive season with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Stewart, Borden.

Eleanor Melrose of Boston, Mass., is spending the holiday season with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Melrose, Mr. and Mrs. David MacLeod, Borden, and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Butler, Charlottetown.

Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Arsenault, of Summerside spent Christmas with Mrs. Arsenault's father, Mr. Reginald Coyle, Borden.

Mrs. Ethel Alexander of Montreal, spent Christmas with her mother, Mrs. William Oron, Borden.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Laro and family of Borden, are visiting in Moncton, N. B.

Brian Darrach of HMS Skeena Halifax spent Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Preston Darrach, Borden.

W. A. Lunde, Bratt of HMS Stadacona, Halifax, was a Christmas guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Preston Darrach, Borden.

James Hunter of HMS Skeena, Halifax, spent Christmas with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Claude Hunter, Borden.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Sexton of Borden, motored to Souris, on Christmas Day to visit their son Ralph and family.

Raymond Arsenault of HMS Skeena, Halifax, is home for the holiday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Arsenault.

Judy Darrach, Boston, Mass., is spending the Christmas holiday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Preston Darrach, Borden.

Julia Anne Gallant of Montreal is spending Christmas holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Gallant, Borden.

Mrs. F. J. MacInnis, and son Billard, Borden, is spending Christmas holidays in Belleville, Ont.

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spent Christmas holidays with his parents, Councillor and Mrs. Frank McNeill, Alberton.

Mr. and Mrs. R. F. MacAusland, Bloomfield, spent Christmas in Halifax with their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Reginald MacAusland.

Ernest Myers has returned to his home in St. Lawrence, having been a patient in O'Leary Community Hospital.

Mrs. G. G. Bennett, Alberton, is visiting her sister-in-law, Mrs. Ovis Teed, Chipman, N. B.

Councillor and Mrs. Arthur McRae, Alberton, have as holiday guests their nephews, Claude and Edward Hancock, of Irondale, Ontario.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie H. Hardy Elmstead, had as Christmas guests their son-in-law and daughter, FL and Mrs. Robert Grandmison, of Summerside.

Mr. and Mrs. George Shelton and daughter spent Boxing Day with Mrs. Shelton's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Neil Barbour, Montrose.

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