

THE NEW MISSISSAUGANS

This stay-at-home is going places

By ARTHUR LOWE

You can place Glenn Grice at a glance — well, say a couple of glances. He has the look of a prosperous businessman and he could be almost anything from Maitre d of a swank hotel to a bank president — although, come to think of it, he lacks the harrassed look that bank presidents wear now a days. His clothes are well cut, he is good-looking, he carries himself well and he has all the urbanity of a city-bred tycoon.

Only trouble is that Glenn is not city-bred and he is not a tycoon. He was born and brought up on a dairy farm at Craig's corners on the Dixie road just north of the base line. His youthful interests were centred on farming and he is still mighty proud of his work as a 4H club member and the fact that he represented Canada at the 4H Club Congress in Chicago in 1945.

During his farming career, which occupied practically all of his teens, he was in great demand judging livestock for the 4H clubs, and I gathered he was pretty good at it. Indeed, he must have been good at it, for his ability to judge cattle prompted him to go into business for himself as a cattle exporter when he was 19.

Getting the life story of this leading Mississaugan wasn't easy. He wanted to talk about everything but himself — everything being mostly his views on education. On this subject he waxes eloquent, which is as it should be perhaps, for Glenn Grice is chairman of the education board.

EXPERT CHAIRMAN

I have seen lots of men handling boards, committees and what-not, both in government and out, but I have never seen one with the sure touch that Glenn possesses. He is a master at the art of Government.

As chairman of the Mississauga Board of Education Glenn has an important job, but considering his style I thought he might be planning for one with even greater prestige — Prime Minister possibly, or something of the sort. With this in mind I tried to sound him out regarding his political ambitions, and to my surprise I discovered that he hadn't any.

"I am serving on the Board of Education because it seemed to me an opportunity to work in the public interest," he said.

PEEL COUNTY BIOGRAPH (GRICE)

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Glenn Grice

"As chairman of the board I give up a great deal of my time to it — which I am glad to do — but I don't see how I could go into politics without neglecting my family. Not now at any rate . . ."

Glenn and his lovely wife, Barbara, have a family of five — four daughters who take after their mother and one son, Mark, aged 8. Mary the eldest daughter is 16, Janet 14, Martha 11, and Elizabeth, baby of the family, is 5. Having met them frequently at the Hawthorne Golf and Country Club, which is owned and operated by Glenn Grice, I can understand his reluctance to embark upon a political career which would further encroach upon his time with them.

Aside from politics, however, and regardless of his work with the Board of Education, he has succeeded in piling up credits, presumably where they count, for an amazing lot of good works. He doesn't regard them as credits, but that's what they looked like to me.

KEEN ROTARIAN

Glenn is a past president of Cooksville Rotary and in 1961 he and Barbara attended a Rotary Convention in Tokyo. While there they visited Hong Kong and although Glenn doesn't say so himself I think it was this experience that gave him a deep consciousness of responsibility to the underprivileged children in other lands.

While they were in Hong Kong, Mr. and Mrs. Grice visited some of the refugees living in squalid shacks outside the city. There was one boy in particular, but let me explain . . .

In addition to being a member of Rotary, Glenn is also a member of the High C club, organized by the Cooksville United Church. The High C club 'adopts' refugees through the Save Our Children fund and contributes enough with each adoption to support and educate one child at a cost of

And what's more the boy was getting an education and passing it on to his brothers and sisters whatever he learned.

"When we got back and told of what we had seen the two of us, working among our friends, were able to get 35 other youngsters adopted. Only yesterday Barbara had two enquiries from people who wanted to help."

Not only have the Grices taken a big hand in promoting adoptions, but their home has become an open house for students from abroad taking courses in Canada. Many of the students are from undeveloped countries and most of them keep in touch after returning to their home lands.

"As a result of taking part in student exchange we have good friends all over the world," Glenn says.

Because of his activities in promoting friendship and understanding between the nationals of different states Glenn has been named the national director for the Experiment in International Living.

How many voluntary organizations aimed at world betterment Glenn belongs to is an open question. A lot certainly, for he is that type of man, and dedicated — if that isn't too corny a word — to the service of others.

Sometimes he gets bothered, he told me, because it is assumed that as Chairman of the Board of Education he gets a nice, fat salary. People reason that if a school principal gets \$18,000 a year, the Chairman of the

Board must get at least \$25,000.

CATTLE DEALER

Last year Glenn Grice got \$14 a month to pay car expenses. This year he is a lot better off; he will get \$125 a month — which should be almost enough to cover his gas bill.

He spoke about education and would have gone on speaking about it for the rest of the interview if I had not cut him off.

"How did you get started in the cattle exporting business?" I asked him.

"It stemmed from my work with the 4H clubs," he said. "I knew cattle, I knew the farmers round about and at the beginning I was more or less bird dog for American buyers. After I had gained an insight into the business I started up on my own exporting pedigree cattle, first to the United States, then to South America. The cattle, being valuable cargo at the time, were mostly sent by air.

"In the late fifties, when the cattle business was slowing up, I joined the real estate firm of Adamson and Harmer. In 1950 I married and we bought this farm on the 10th line where the Hawthorne Club is now located. I started the club soon afterwards."

Faye Cooper of Soft Shoulder fame has met the Grice family from time to time and when she heard that I was interviewing Glenn she used a phrase that has become current recently to describe their kind.

"Beautiful people," said Faye.