

"What is So Rare?"

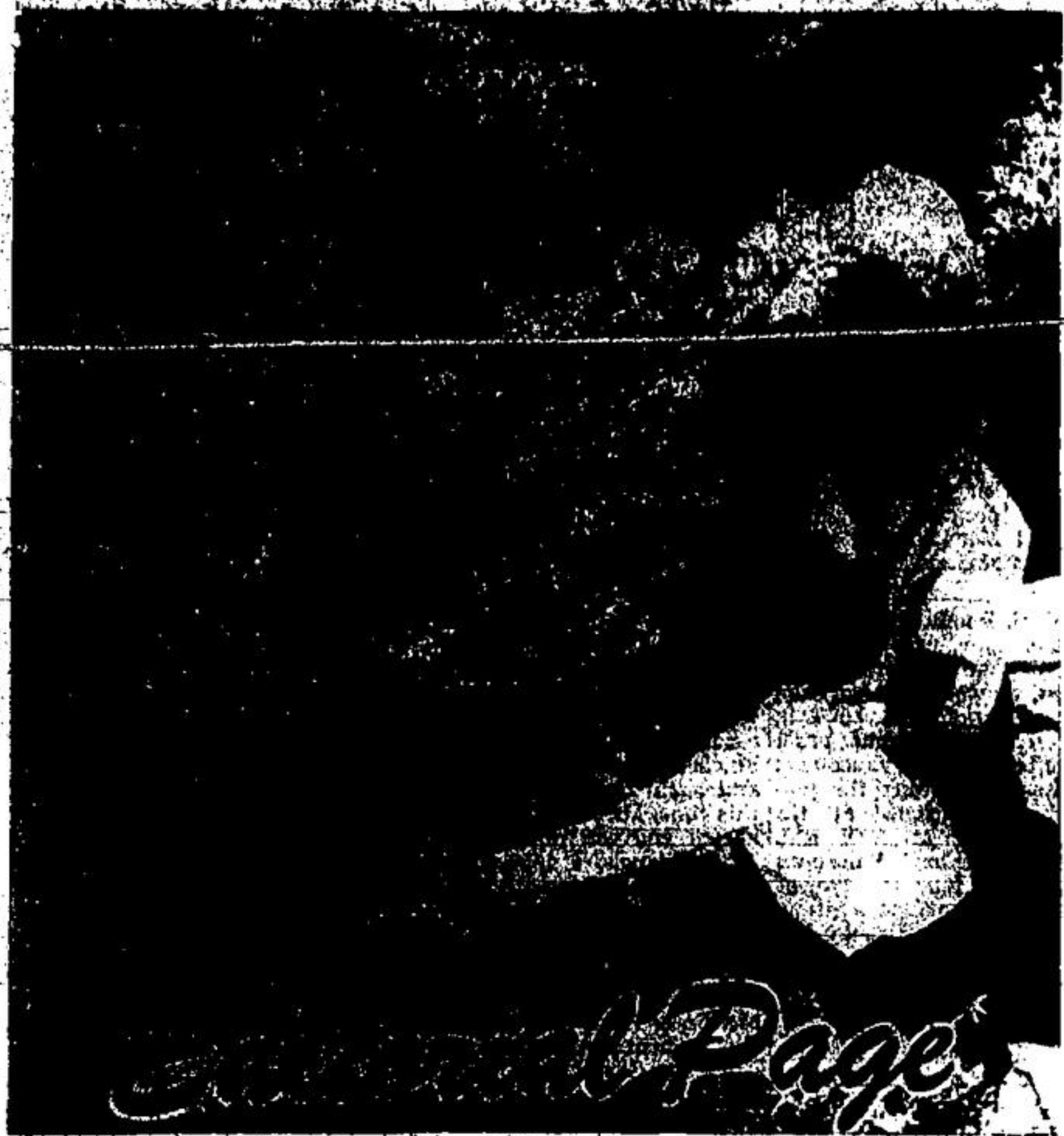


Photo by Esther Taylor

D-Day Plus Eighteen Years . . .

Eighteen years ago a new expression entered the world's vocabulary. D-Day. Its preparation was long awaited; its execution long remembered. 140,000 men; 40,000 ships; 11,000 aircraft; the tough west wall of Fortress Europe. These were the ingredients of the greatest invasion in history.

On that day the free world began to reckon time in a new manner. This was the start of the millennium of freedom and sacrifice. D-Day plus one! D-Day plus twenty! D-Day plus 335! A new expression was coined then. It was called VE-Day, and it cost Canada almost 42,000 men.

Wednesday is D-Day plus 18 years. Many are the veterans who stormed the beaches, manned the ships or flew aerial cover on the sixth of June, 1944. Some veterans may remember the fear and the sense of insignificance which they felt as they bobbed across the channel. Others will think of the dusty road to Caen, the summer's heat. Some will remember the cold misery which lay beyond Caen during that long 335 days to victory.

Chances are they will never get around to saying what they are really thinking about: the men who didn't come back.

On recalling these things, perhaps all of us will again feel a long, thin hope; a hope that aches like an old wound. It was simply that somehow, something good and lasting would come out of the war.

That hope must be a continuing one, one that in the 18 years since the drama of D-Day seems to have grown hardly less fragile. The road to peace in our time and for the generations ahead is a forced peace based on the awe present day weaponry inspires.

In its compulsion the peace we have is hardly that those who sacrificed on D-Day would have anticipated, but it can only be hoped the end will justify in history, the means.

Eighteen years later we can only hope that world understanding will be advanced in this enlightened age to make a recurrence of D-Day and similar events unnecessary and indeed impossible.

Runless Nylons . . .

An item in a daily paper a few days ago stated that a Dutch technician has developed a method of weaving nylon stockings so that they will not run.

The inventor was impressed by the statistical information that with local manufacturing and imports Dutch women use an average of 17 pairs of nylons a year. We doubt if many women use up that many but the statement is made that all the women of the world will bless this man for his accomplishment.

To us it seems that the prevalence of the bleazing will depend on whether or not his invention is put to use. The running or laddering of nylon stockings seems to be part of the vogue for planned obsolescence or

waste making.

We cannot say definitely how many years ago but it was during World War II that an employee of the Du Pont Company, which makes nylon, told us that his company had developed seven different weaves for nylon stockings, none of which would run. The trouble was that the stocking manufacturers refused to make use of any of them for obvious reasons.

So we are not inclined to give all the credit for making possible a runless nylon to the Dutch inventor. But we do wish him luck. If he can sell the idea to Dutch manufacturers they might be able to turn their import volume into the export side, and the prophecy about world-wide blessings might come true.

—The Ridgeway Dominion

Editorial Briefs . . .

Many people could retire comfortably on what their experience has cost them.

People get the most kick out of life who do the least kicking.

Truth has only to change hands a few times to become fiction.

Nobody ever gets anything for nothing, but a lot of people keep trying.

People who fly into a rage always make a bad landing.

Success comes before work only in the dictionary.

Quality has everything in its favor including the price.

Tomorrow is the greatest labor-saving device of today.

The modern Russian personality, according to a leading British psychiatrist, presents a complicated and formidable picture, but not impossible to understand and certainly not inherently wicked or evil. It is rich in contradictions and dangers, but no less rich in hopes and potentialities.

A radio program giving advice to the ladies recently had some wisdom it would be well for all Canadians to ponder.

"Lettuce will keep better and is less likely to turn brown if you wrap your head in a towel before you put it in the refrigerator."

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

Back in 1912

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, June 4, 1942.

During the thunderstorm on the morning of Victoria Day, the 120 foot smoke stack at the Beardmore and Co. plant was struck by lightning. A few bricks were knocked off the top of the stack, but otherwise, no extensive damage was done. Several employees who were working in the tannery at the time were stunned by lightning and one worker standing at a window watching the storm was knocked right through the window.

On Wednesday of last week, George, the 10-year-old son of Mrs. Charles Evans, widow, Main St., found himself late for school and instead of returning home, went over to Henderson's saw mill to spend the time he would have been at school. The employee operating the slab saw was out for a few minutes and Master George undertook to try his work. In the operation of the saw, he amputated the forefinger of the left hand and had the second and third fingers painfully gashed to the bone. Dr. Holmes dressed the wound. The young lad is certainly plucky and is argued again with his companions as usual.

The earthquake shock reported from Toronto and Hamilton on Monday was felt in Acton and district quite distinctly. At the farm home of Mr. A. G. Claridge, dairyman, the windows shook and the inmates of the house felt the shock and heard the dishes on the shelf rattle. Several similar reports came in from other parts of town as well.

The members of the Lawn Bowling Club began their season on Victoria Day with a series of interesting games and decided that in order to give the grass at the ends a chance to grow, the greens would be played crosswise. Visitors were present from several out-of-town places and they combined to play the Acton sportsmen. Acton won out at the end of the play.

The new hearse of Mr. Frank Holmes, funeral director, arrived in town yesterday and is a handsome car of the latest style of pillar and panel. It was used for the first time during the funeral today.

Mr. Ronald Sinclair is taking great pleasure out of the five passenger Flanders car he purchased recently. The resident is the envy of every man in town and the large black car is eyed every time the owner drives down the street.

Back in 1942

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, June 4, 1942.

Practical Officer Ray Mason has been transferred from Oakville to Acton and on June 1, commenced patrol of No. 7 Highway from Rockwood through Acton to Newall and of No. 25 Highway from Acton to Palermo. Officer Mason was one of the first to patrol the Queen Elizabeth Way and recently has been on the Lakeshore and Dundas Highways.

At a special meeting of council last night, applications were considered for the position of assistant to Municipal Officer E. Harrop. Mr. A. Clifford was engaged for the position at \$3.00 per day.

During the meeting, a letter was read from the Acton Women's Institute requesting the moving of the drinking fountain from in front of the post office to the Y.M.C.A. property. Council agreed with the change and the public utilities commission will be asked to take the necessary action.

During the heavy thunderstorm last Friday, lightning struck the barn owned by James Moffat, Nassagaweya, and splintered the main rafter, shattering a few boards. At the same time, lightning struck and killed a team of horses at the farm of David Holmes. They were out in the field and when Mr. Holmes went to look for them Saturday morning, he found them lying side by side dead.

During a meeting of the board of directors of the Y.M.C.A. Monday evening, E. S. Force was elected president for the year. Secretary will be J. Wesley Wolfe and treasurer W. G. Mason.

Work has started on a new storehouse at the Armaco plant and installation of a new dryer for crucibles is expected to begin shortly. The clay products being made at this plant are being well received throughout Canada and the company is building up quite an export trade.

Announcement was made this week that Captain Telford V. Kenney, with the Canadian Army overseas, has been promoted to the rank of Major. He is the son of John Kenney, now residing in Guelph.

Mr. Chris Anderson, proprietor of the Acton Creamery, was guest speaker at the Lakeside Chapter I.O.D.E. meeting Tuesday evening and gave an interesting and enjoyable talk on the customs of Denmark and the Scandinavian countries.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

GEORGETOWN — Intensive care unit service has been added to Georgetown and District Hospital. Two rooms near nursing stations will be set up with four beds, each with 24 hour nursing service and no visitors.

BURLINGTON — Revision of Burlington's ward boundaries, to provide a more equitable distribution of population, has been blocked for at least a year. Boundaries would have to be changed now to be in effect by the next municipal election in December 1963.

OKVILLE — Most youngsters have had a drink of liquor by the time they are 17 or 18, high school students reported in a panel discussion at a local church last week. The students felt liquor and beer were too easily obtained, either through stores or in their own parents' liquor cabinets.

STREETSVILLE — A drive for \$50,000 to complete the Streetsville arena will be launched shortly. Approximately \$120,000 has been donated or pledged, but more money is needed to finish the building before next winter.

WATERDOWN — Council is upset over a new bank being constructed here, because the bank failed to abide by clauses of the zoning by-law covering rear yard and parking area. A motion to stop construction, however, was defeated by a 3-2 vote.

MILTON — A Milton and a Brampton couple were rescued from the chilly waters of Lake Ontario, when their 22 foot sloop capsized in a sudden squall. Hans Nevers, owner of the boat, credited a safe boating course with helping to save their lives, as he had been trained to hold onto the boat until help arrived.

Seal Sale Nets \$31,000

Find Only Seven T.B. Cases

"Tuberculosis is a significant cause of death and an important cause of illness and disability. We are justified in expending all possible effort to eliminate this disease," Dr. A. F. Bull, Halton County's medical officer of health told the annual meeting of the Halton Tuberculosis and Health Association recently in Oakville.

Presenting his annual case-finding report, Dr. Bull noted 20 cases of pulmonary T.B. had been found in last year's skin test and x-ray survey of 42,500 residents in Halton. Of these 20 cases, seven were active, and three of the seven resided outside the county. A total of 52 other diseases and chest abnormalities were discovered, but no active cases of T.B. were found in school children.

"The number of new cases being discovered continues to decrease and the T.B. death rate during 1961 was at the low figure of 2.3 per 100,000 in Ontario," he added.

President William Benson of Acton said 1961 was a year in which a greater awareness was created in the minds of many Canadians of the common goal — the control and ultimate eradication of tuberculosis.

The Christmas Seal sale was again successful, he said, with \$31,019 contributed by interested citizens. "Halton stands before Middlesex County with the highest per capita in the province,

27.8 cents," he explained.

Social service and rehabilitation worker Mrs. J. Rennie explained her work with patients and families, and remarked "the services of Halton TB Association have acquired a high degree of public confidence through many years of accomplishment and progress" for community health. To any patient or family who may need us, we are always available.

Mrs. C. W. McKim of Milton, chairman of the Easter Seal sale, reported 25,275 letters with seals were mailed in November, followed by 36,647 reminders. The final returns of \$31,000 showed an increase of 9.2 per cent contribution over 1960, making it the most successful sale in Halton's history.

The financial report showed grants of \$4,000 to Mountain Sanatorium, Oakville-Trafalgar Hospital \$2,500, Ontario TB Association \$3,500 and TB Association of India \$100. The case finding program cost \$757 and over \$800 was spent on the education program.

Guest speaker at the meeting was C. J. Rempel of Waterloo Trust and Savings, who stressed the importance of having a will.

Others speaking to the meeting included executive secretary Mrs. Jessie Lunau of Oakville, Dr. G. K. Phillips of the medical advisory committee, and H. A. Brearley of the health committee.

Sugar and Spice . . .

BY BILL SMALY

I am observing a birthday this week. You'll notice I didn't say celebrating. No, at my age you don't celebrate them. You merely observe them, with a dim view or a wistful look.

In an effort to prove that there's plenty of life in the old boy yet, I am taking on a pair of huge mortgages the day before my birthday. They say there's nothing like a fat mortgage to make a fellow hustle. If that's true, I qualified years ago for membership in The Hustlers.

I knew the hair was getting thinner and the teeth scarcer, but I haven't much of a pot yet and figured I was in pretty good shape for my age. A couple of experiences on the recent holiday weekend destroyed this illusion and left me convinced that I'm a pretty good age for my shape.

Home Improvements Answer to Roll Call

The regular meeting of the Burnham Women's Institute was held in the school on Thursday evening, May 17. The roll call was answered by stating an improvement each member would like to make around her own home.

A report was given by the members who attended the annual meeting of the Halton T.B. Association in Oakville on Wednesday evening, May 16. It was decided to have a bus trip again this year.

After the business period, two readings were given, one by Mrs. Elerby and one by Mrs. Morrison. Then everyone enjoyed lunch served by the committee in charge.

Sandy Appoints J. Depew Agent

Sandy Best, Halton County Conservative candidate seeking re-election to his third term in the June 18 election, announced the appointment of John H. H. Depew, O.C., as his official agent in the forthcoming election campaign.

Mr. Best said that Mr. Depew, senior partner in the Oakville law firm of Depew and Ham, is first vice-president of the Halton County Conservative Association, and was former town solicitor for the Town of Oakville prior to amalgamation.

Mr. Best said that Mr. Depew will handle all his business arrangements during the election campaign.

SCOOPS

Speyside School

(Intended for last week)

Room 1 — The hike was very successful. They found some wild flowers and colourful birds. They had their oral vaccine. The class is now reviewing for the coming examinations.

Room 2 — Grade three boys are putting on a play called "Simpleton" for Red Cross. Grade two is studying about long ago. It's very interesting in science we are learning about flowers and birds. We are going to make a booklet of them. We have fun learning about birds.

Room 3 — On Friday grades 4, 5 and 6 went on an educational trip to the Micro Plastics and H. K. Porter plants in Acton. They were divided into two groups. While one group was touring the Micro Plastics plant the other group was being conducted through the Porter plant. After they returned the pupils filled out forms based on their observations. A story will follow next week.

Room 4 — This week in room four everyone has been working hard getting ready for the final examinations. They are also working on art and other projects for the fall fair.

Room 5 — This week we painted our asbestos and paste creations with bright colours, and I think they're very attractive.

In the girls' softball league, team 3 has 30 points, team 2 has 29 points and team 1 has 13 points. The captains of the teams are Diane Brown, Lorna Macpherson and Charlene Gough.

Everyone is looking forward to our trip on Friday to Toronto. After the trip everyone is required to write a story about the trip. The best in each grade will receive a prize.

Peter was playing at Jimmy Brown's house. When it was time to go home, it started to rain. Mrs. Brown offered to lend him Jimmy's raincoat.

"Don't take so much trouble, Mrs. Brown," said Peter politely. "I'm sure your mother would do as much for Jimmy," she replied.

"My mother would do more," said Peter. "She'd ask Jimmy to stay to supper."

First of all, the two old side-kicks dropped in for a visit, with their families. The three of us joined the R.C.A.F. on the same day and we've kept in touch since. In those days, we could make the old welkin ring merrily all night. You should have seen us, Saturday night, trying to maintain the old traditions.

It was more like a wing-ding at the Home for the Aged than a reunion of warriors. One of the boys was in great pain. He had pulled a muscle in his back while trying to tie his shoelaces without putting his foot on a chair. The other divided his anxiety equally between his ulcer and his high blood pressure. And I fell sound asleep right in the middle of telling our wives what devils we were in the old days.

The second incident to emphasize my increasing senility was a challenge from my daughter. She's practising for a field day at school and wanted some competition. Despite the fact that I nearly burst a blood vessel over it, she beat me handsomely in both the 3-jump and the hop-step. This hurt, but after all, she's in training and 30 years younger. What really destroyed me was the Old Battleaxe tried it and beat both my marks without even breathing hard.

I don't really mind getting older. But I certainly resent the fact that they're making all the stairs steeper and the garbage cans heavier these days.

When I look back to my birthday, however, and realize what has happened since June 2, 1920, I can't help thinking that I've been fortunate enough to live in one of the most

exciting eras man has ever experienced.

Just think. The way to end wars was over. George V was on the throne of England, and the sun never set on the British Empire. In those 40-odd years, we've had a bigger war, George's granddaughter is Queen, and the Empire has almost vanished.

When I was born, there were no jet engines, television commercials, rocket missiles or nuclear weapons. In other words, things were pretty quiet. Income tax was only a cloud on the horizon. No one had climbed Mount Everest or run a four minute mile. Tuberculosis was a dread disease and lung cancer had not been invented yet.

In those four decades and a bit, Canada's population has doubled. The telephone has replaced the back fence as a gossip-monger. The automobile has gone through the stages of a curiosity, a luxury, and idol, a necessity, and a monthly millstone around our necks.

There weren't any Communists — just Bolsheviks. Socialists were "Reds". Whisky was stronger and a heck of a lot cheaper. Women were dressed much as they are today and were just as neurotic. Oil heating, deodorants and tranquillisers were unknown. Nobody was trying to get to the moon. Fifty dollars a week was big money.

By golly, that was a long time ago, wasn't it?

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