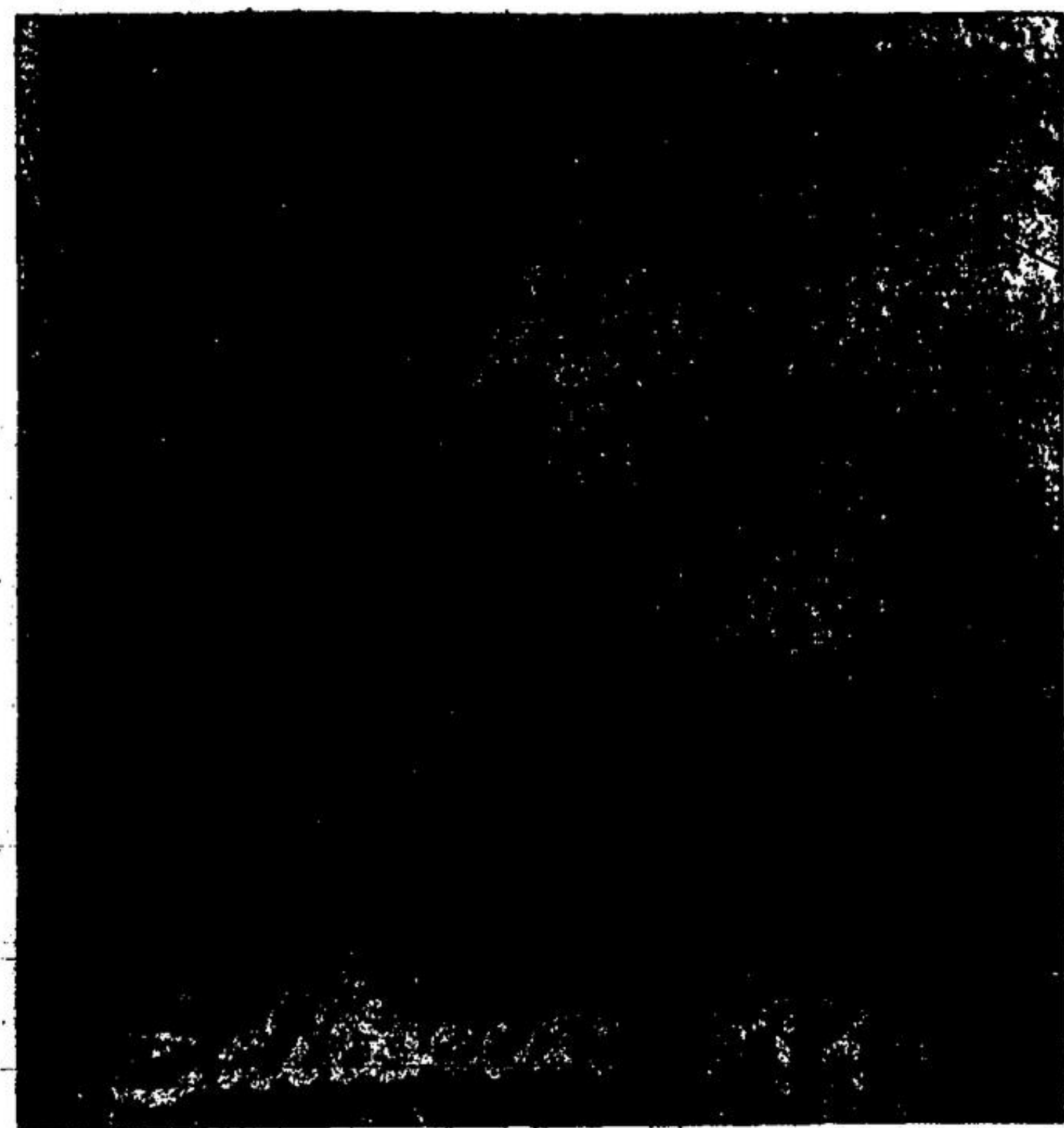


"Where the Tree Tops Glisten"



—Photo by Eribor Taylor

Covering the Gamut . . .

In the course of covering the week's news in the 52 weeks of the year we attend countless meetings. The degree of efficiency with which a meeting is conducted ranges from the gem of efficient to inefficient.

Few people have ever studied the rules of procedure when they are suddenly thrust into a presidency or chairmanship. At this season, just prior to the new year when officers are being elected, it would seem there should be a Short Course for Presidents-to-be. It could do much for the conduct of club and organizational business meetings and be a very welcome help to those entrusted with the responsibility of office.

We don't propose to offer any such course but we've often noticed how amendments to motions will often bowl over the most calm and collected chairman. A recent bank news letter suggests how to handle the amendments without a fumble.

A first amendment is easy to handle: It must not say 'no' to the motion, but only vary it in some detail; it must not introduce entirely new matter (which belongs in new motions); it may leave out certain words, add certain words, or delete certain words and replace them by others. These same rules apply to an amendment of the amendment.

Suppose someone makes a motion to give '\$100' to the Society of Ancient and Antique Bell Rings.

The amendment is to delete '\$100' and

substitute '\$150'. The amendment to the amendment is to delete '\$150' and substitute '\$50 at this time and \$100 spread over the next five months.'

You call for a vote on the amendment to the amendment. If it carries, then the main motion is automatically carried as amended by the double amendment. If it is defeated, you call for a vote on the amendment. If it carries, the original motion is carried as amended. If the amendment is defeated, you put the original motion.

Got it? If not, try again, because fumbling with amendments throws a lot of meetings into confusion.

You can dig deeper into the rules of parliamentary procedure, which govern all meetings, by consulting Beauchesne's "Procedure at Meetings in Canada" (1954) or Bourinot's "Rules of Order" (1924).

And incidentally to those who are appointed press reporters could we urge an interesting article including the highlights be prepared for this newspaper immediately following the event. This paper produces the only completely local news package every week and your organization's representation is largely dependent on you.

Now we're all set for another 52 weeks of efficient or inefficient meetings. Best of luck to those in positions of responsibility in the new year. You play a vital role in the affairs of a community, be it rural or urban.

Error Admitted . . .

Having spent nearly half a century damning the capitalist system's profit motivation, authorities in Russia are now arguing for their a revolutionary step — that it is in the public interest for business and industry to seek a maximum profit. From Moscow, the New York Times reports a continuing discussion in Pravda, Russia's national newspaper of a plan designed to increase the productivity of industry by stimulating the profit motive. As might be expected, in view of the communist record of claiming to have invented or developed just about anything in the world that is any good, the concept that profit is a proper and sure incentive to industrial efficiency is hailed as an entirely new principle developed at the Khar'kov Economic-Engineering Institute.

All industry in the Soviet, the Times explains, is owned by the government and almost all profit goes to the government. In each plant, a small share of profits is deposited in a special factory fund, sometimes called the director's fund that is controlled jointly by the factory director and the trade

union committee. Some of this bonus money becomes cash payments to workers, some is used to improve working conditions, some is spent to improve living and housing conditions, some pays for vacations at state resorts, some is reinvested in plant modernization.

In keeping with socialist theory, Russia's planners have paid bonuses on overfulfillment of output quotas. This procedure, notes the Times, encourages factories to aim for low goals that they are sure to overfulfill rather than high goals that are more in keeping with their capacity but risk not being fulfilled. Now the revolutionary economic theory is simply a proposal that the higher a plant's profits, the higher the plant's bonus. Since larger volume means larger profit, workers and management would be offered an incentive to obtain more efficient plant utilization and achieve greater output.

Even with this further compromise of socialist principles, life will not be easy for the Russian people. But it will be easier than it has been.

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THE GOOD OLD DAYS

20 YEARS AGO
Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Dec. 17, 1942.
Monday evening was the annual election of officers for Walker Lodge A.E. and A.M., with the following officers elected for the coming year: I.P.M., Wor. Bro. J. R. MacArthur; W.M., Bro. W. E. Middleton; S.D., Bro. W. M. Near; J.W., Bro. M. J. Steele; chaplain, Very Wor. Bro. W. M. Cooper; treasurer, Bro. W. K. Graham; secretary, Wor. Bro. F. J. Salt; S.D., Bro. H. Helwig; I.W., Bro. C. F. Leatherland; G., Bro. F. McCutcheon; S., Bro. W. J. Beatty; J.S., Bro. I. Harris; organist, Bro. J. Watkins and Tyler, Bro. W. R. E. Blair.
A very enjoyable evening was spent by the Dublin Literary Society during their meeting Friday evening and after the regular business session, Walter Linham was master of ceremonies for a varied program. Miss Mary Ritchie gave a piano solo. Mrs. George Robertson sang two vocal solos; George Burkholder gave a short reading and several members took part in a short skit. Before the program concluded, Helen Somerville gave a recitation and Mrs. George Robertson and Charlie Cutts sang a duet. After the program, everyone enjoyed a bounteous lunch and the singing of the National Anthem concluded a wonderful evening.
Donations for the Canadian Aid to Russia Fund are pouring in and this week, several organizations have sponsored events with proceeds going to this worthwhile cause. The service league is arranging to send boxes of warm clothing to the Russians in hopes the parcels arrive before Christmas.

50 YEARS AGO
Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, Dec. 12, 1912.
The Hydro Electric electricians are expected to have installations far enough advanced within a few days to turn on the power from Niagara. When this takes place, all the house and commercial service will have an all night service. Present meters will be removed and new phase meters installed in order to charge for power accordingly.
The contract for the rural mail delivery route from Acton to Brisbane and return through parts of Erin and Esquevas townships has been awarded to John Gibbons, Acton. The contract price is \$648.50 and \$1 each extra is to be paid for the 115 mail boxes along the route. The work will entail a 25 mile drive every day and the route will be known as R. R. 2, Acton.
The farmers in the Ballinafad area are taking advantage of the fine weather and continuing with their fall plowing. This is the first year for some time the fall plowing could be done at such a late date.
The coal shortage which has become prominent recently appears to be over now and several coal loads are arriving daily. Beard, Moore and Co. have received quite a number of carloads already.
For the past several weeks, a number of the young men among our foreign population including Russians, Lithuanians, Poles have been attending night school. The classes have been arranged by a committee appointed from among the various church groups and Mrs. (Dr.) Auld volunteered her services as a teacher.
The annual ball and supper sponsored by the Acton Fire Brigade was a huge success last Friday evening when a large number from out-of-town attended as well as several from here.
The money order business at the Acton post office aggregated \$44,142.66. The sale of stamps reached \$3,510.66 last year. Business appears to be on the upward trend and postal authorities claim this was their busiest year to date.
The old barn at St. Alban's rectory was torn down and will be replaced by a commodious parish hall. Work on the new project is expected to begin in the early spring.
The sale held Friday afternoon by the Ladies Aid of the Baptist Church was a big success, and the varied articles offered for sale were quickly disposed of. Proceeds from the sale will be used for improvements to the church basement.

FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT
WATERDOWN — An active group in this village is the Youth Group of Branch 551, Canadian Legion. Summer baseball, teen dances, a car rodeo and cub and scout activities are included in the group's agenda, and they are presently trying to get roller skating started in the Memorial Hall.
GEORGETOWN — In view of the high expenses and the resulting loss of public relations from a judicial enquiry into the town's works staff, engineer Geoff Bligh has asked council to cancel the postponed enquiry. He also said that since the enquiry was forced on him through no fault of his own, the council should reimburse him for his legal expenses.
OAKVILLE — A recent street re-numbering plan is playing havoc with the letter carriers from the post office, who are burdened down with heavy Christmas mail addressed to the street numbers that have just been removed. Postmaster R. Houghton asked residents to put up their old house numbers to prevent what he described as "mass confusion." Mr. Houghton said that most Christmas mail coming this year would be addressed to the old house numbers, and regular and temporary mailmen wouldn't be able to deliver mail properly.

BURLINGTON — Councillor Ernest Hennessey has flatly denied any "conflict of interest" over the proposed town hall matter Mayor Owen Mullin who last week charged the councillor with im partiality in the choice of a site has accepted the denial.
BRAMPTON — Police were sent to the Peel County Building last week when someone spotted a man carrying a loaded rifle wrapped in a paper. The man offered no resistance when police went to disarm him. He was sent to a psychiatric examination, and no charges have yet been laid.
MILTON — Esquevas and Milton officials joined Milton Brick president Svl Apps last week as he turned the sod for Canada's most modern, fully automated cement block plant. The \$600,000 plant will occupy 100 acres at the present Milton Brick plant and will have an estimated annual production in excess of 10,000,000 blocks.

Milk Producers Elect Officers
The annual meeting of District No. 12 Toronto Milk Producers was held in Esquevas Community Hall President Don McKersie was in the chair and welcomed a good attendance of producers, representing all sections of the district.
Reports were presented by John Bird, secretary-treasurer of the association, and by George Peletier, district director.
Frank Todd, president and J. W. Peller, secretary-manager, were present at the meeting, along with Wm. McCorquodale, field man, all of whom spoke briefly to the meeting.
Directors elected were: Esquevas — Jim Carney, John Bird, Robert Alexander, Fred Nurse, Kyle Bingham, Jim Reid, Oakville — Hugh Beary, Sam Finniss, Murray May, Wexham — Roy Break, Roy Wilson, South Wellington — John Reid, Doug Gregson, Ernie Beaham,

Sugar and Spice . . .

BY BILL BARLEY

Jangled nerves, Jangled nerves, Through the maddening madness Preceding Christmas Day.

Like most men, I'm about 50 on Christmas. At times, I'm strongly in favor of the whole business, at others violently opposed. Knowing that it puts me in debt, every year, until about the following June, I'm pretty belligerent about it all around the first of December. I put my foot down. I state flatly that we are going to cut down on everything—cards, gifts, and especially "stuff for the kids."

For kids, the pre-Christmas winking is just dandy. There are letters to be written to Santa Claus. There are Christmas carols at which to be miraculously and temporarily transformed from small devils to small angels. There are glass balls to be shattered while we're decorating the tree. There are packages, rustling mysteriously to be ripped open in drawer and closet.

For the elderly, too, the Christmas season brings excitement. There is the sound of carols, to bring back memories of rich, good times in the past. There are lights and decorations to put a splash of color into the drab grey of the endless days. And there is a little Christmas season brings excitement. There is the sound of carols, to bring back memories of rich, good times in the past. There are lights and decorations to put a splash of color into the drab grey of the endless days. And there is a little

One aspect of Christmas that I thoroughly enjoy is the sending and receiving of cards. It's the one time of year when I pay any heed to old friends and relations. I dig up the addresses of old, bent pilots in Australia, India and South Africa and send them cards in which I triple my income, the

Let's Play Bridge
By Bill Coats
Dealer West
North South vulnerable.
North: S-Void, H-1-9-2, D-A-K-Q-J-7-5, C-K-J-3-2
West: S-4-2, H-10-6-5, D-J-10-8-3, C-10-8-5-4
East: S-A-9-8-7-6-5-3, H-K-8-4, D-9-6-4, C-Void
South: S-K-Q-J-10, H-A-10-7-3, D-2, C-Q-7-6
West: Pass, North: 1D, East: 1S, South: Pass
Pass: 4C, Pass: 5C, Pass: 6C, Pass: Pass
Board number 2 produced some spirited bidding at the Acton Bridge Club last Monday.

When South heard an opening bid from his partner, he began to dream of slam. His dreams were shattered by East's preemptive bid of 3 spades. This was a perfect place for this type of bid — non-vulnerable against vulnerable opponents.
Smith's best action is to double although a few Souths must have bid 3NT twice out of five times that it was played.
North cannot stand the double of three spades and bids four clubs. South can raise to five or even six at this point. It is very difficult to get to slam after East's spade bid.
What would you do if you had been South?
As I mentioned, the board was played five times, once at 6NT making for a top board once at 6 clubs, second top 4 spades doubled went down 700 for an average score and twice it played at 3NT making six and five.

It may seem strange to rubber bridge players that a pair can bid 3NT and make 3 and yet get zero match points. However if all the other pairs who play the same cards can get a better score than even a game bid and made can get zero match points.
Until next week remember that Bridge is a partnership game.
This week's winners were first Manny Dalen and Mike Toruski, second Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hooper, third Tom Wames and George Sargeant.

First Known Card
Designed About 1843
Who sent the first Christmas card? A question for which it seems likely a completely accurate and satisfactory answer may never be found. Probably the earliest cards were do-it-yourself projects — handwritten holiday greetings on hand-decorated newspaper.
Popular claimant for "first Christmas card" honors is the Cole Horses card designed in 1843 by John Calverley Horses, an artist for Sir Henry Cole, director of the Victoria and Albert Museum.
Since the card showed a family group, bearing the holiday with glasses of wine, the card supposedly stirred criticism by temperance adherents — even though the card also depicted "clothing the needy" and feeding the hungry. However, another story has it that Sir Henry gained his knighthood as the result of the acclaim he received for sending the first Christmas card.

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accomplishments of my kids and my state of health. They do the same, the flats.

And when the cards come in, I read every one. For one thing, it's the only way I find out that my two brothers are alive, where they are, and how many children they have. Last I heard, one was in Europe, the other in the West Indies. Their wives send cards.

Our first card this year was a puzzle. It was postmarked Belfast, Ireland and addressed Mr. and Mrs. Sinyile, 700 Bay St., Ontario, Canada. There isn't no such place, but it arrived here inside, it read, "To Greeta, Alex and family, from Kay and David." We didn't know a soul on either end of the greeting, but it was a nice card. The address was there, so my wife will probably send them one next year and will keep exchanging for years.

To balance out my pleasure in the cards is my homicidal hatred of the erection of the tree. This is one time of the year when my family sees the head of the house in his true colors. Or hears him, rather, if you can hear, blue, because I insist that the living room be cleared of women and children before I start. The axe is too handy. Then it is that there comes back to me those fine, rolling mouthfilling, satisfying, Celtic oaths my Dad used to use when he was down cellar fixing the furnace and thought my mother couldn't hear him.

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