

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

20 YEARS AGO 50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, March 23, 1944.
With returns from several quarters not yet completed, Acton and district have gone over its objective of \$1,000 in the present Red Cross campaign. W. K. Graham treasurer reported yesterday \$4,500 has been subscribed to the Red Cross branch here. Part of the rural sections are yet to be heard from.

The chocolate bars and cigarettes are appreciated occasions. Here are extracts from some of the letters. Cpl. Jim McGeachie: "Every one of the bars was particularly enjoyed as they arrived at a very crucial time and we weren't eating very regularly."
"Chuck Burgess from Italy: "Yesterday, I met up with Dave Hodge. Archie Martin is about 12 miles from here. It is quite wet and cold. We are in our tents lighted by lanterns."
"E. Hdr. T. K. Nicol: "I received the 100 cigarettes. Many thanks. They took about nine weeks to get here." Sgt. E. A. Clifford: "This week (Feb. 20) I received my first Christmas parcel." Tpr. J. McHugh: "I am still alone, except for Joe Jackson, as far as Acton boys are concerned, but I run into them often in towns and cities in Italy."

Cards and letters were also received from Pte. F. Tournoir, Gnr. A. Ford, Gnr. W. J. Gibbons, Bill Withers, Bus Nicol, Gnr. W. W. Sinclair, Cpl. D. Mc Donald, Sigmund W. H. Barber, Cpl. R. S. O'Hara, Roger Mahon, Pte. L. Matzo, Sgt. B. Rutledge, Cpl. Purdy, Cpl. E. E. Waller, Pte. W. Sturritt, Gnr. Frank Toth, Pte. A. E. Perryman, Cpl. O. Brown, Cpl. H. Guthrie, Cpl. H. W. Godfrey, Pte. T. G. Reidt, Pte. Arnold Weaver, Pte. H. C. Price, Sgt. J. Wallace.

The old gasoline ration books have only another week to go and most of them haven't much left but the covers.
Friends and neighbors gathered at the home of Miss Clara Bauer to honor Miss Clara Bauer prior to her marriage.
Acton Junior Farmers had a picnic in Long School. Winners were Mrs. R. L. Davidson, Mrs. George Jackson, Howard Switzer and George Jackson.
At the United Y.P.U. party, Mrs. Caldwell entertained, assisted by Miss Brown and Mrs. Bennett. Mrs. Fosbury and Mrs. Vealhaus in costume sang a Scottish duet. A song of old favorites was led by Eldon Lambert.

And now like good little loyal subjects let's all sharpen our pencils and complete that application form "completely and accurately, sign it and return it to the employer" so he can look after the postage and Big Brother government can keep track of us right down to the last digit.
Now some smart merchandiser can come up with a lottery based on the combination of Social Insurance numbers, perhaps like Bingo.

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thursday, March 26, 1914.
The annual meeting of Acton Lawn Bowling Club was well attended. Enoch Hynds said he found it impossible to accept the secretaryship for the present year. His numerous public duties include Wardenship of the County. Mr. E. J. Hassard was consequently elected to the office. His well known enthusiasm as a bowler will qualify him for the position. Officers elected were: honorary president, W. A. Storey; president, Dr. Lake; vice-president, John Cole; secretary-treasurer, E. J. Hassard; greens committee, John Williams, A. J. MacKinnon, W. J. Gould and the secretary.

There will be an ample supply of eggs for Easter. Price is now 24c a dozen.
Harold Wides is having a 70 foot addition built at his store for an ice cream parlor.
Timehouse will be given the status of a Postal Money Order office on the first of April. This will be a great convenience.
Average attendance at Acton school is 224. The principal's salary is \$1,200.

The remains of the late Mrs. Wilds, who had been a resident of Acton for over 50 years, were laid to rest in Fairview cemetery, Thursday. The services were conducted by the Rev. C. D. Draper and Rev. G. W. Barker. Pallbearers were Messrs. Robert Wallace, William Brown, A. T. Brown, John R. Kennedy, N. P. McLain and J. H. Deans.
Nassagaweya township is gaining a reputation for prolific cows. Last week, two cows on the farm of Mr. W. Cairns gave birth to twin calves one rather a curiosity with three legs. On the farm of Mr. Alex McPhail, another cow gave birth to twin calves.

Morris Saxe, Mill St. Special sale of men's suits, \$7 to \$35, will be sold at half price. Men's shirts, worth 50c, for 25c. (Mr. Saxe recently celebrated his 85th birthday in Toronto.)
Misses Hawthorne and Morton invite the ladies of Acton to their military opening Friday and Saturday. All the latest novelties in spring millinery.
Talk up the permanent improvement proposal for voting for Fairview, later.

Messrs. W. H. Storey and Son have completed the installation of electric motors in the Glove Works. A considerable saving over steam and gasoline power.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

MILTON — Mike Ledwith — businessman, Rotarian, former Mayor, ex-serviceman, chairman of the swimming pool committee and a willing worker in education, Masonic Lodge, Chamber of Commerce, United Church, Sunday School, Parking Authority, Hospital; in short, an all-round good citizen — was named Milton's Citizen of the Year.

BRAMPTON — Fire Chief Matt Gowland's proposal to remove 38 fire alarm boxes was endorsed recently by Council. The chief said all boxes would come out except those attached to sprinkler systems in factories, one at Peel Manor and one at Queen and Main St. There have been 44 false alarms this year, all from boxes and during the past five years only two fires were turned in by boxes and these were verified by telephone.

WATERDOWN — None of us can avoid old age, and, in one of the most worthwhile ventures in the history of Waterdown, the Canadian Legion Branch in Waterdown is going ahead with plans for a home for senior citizens. The Legion plans a unit composed of six double and single units for which senior citizens will pay rent and have the same privacy as they would have in their own home.

GEORGETOWN — Council revoked a building permit for a 20-suite apartment building, planned for Raylaw Crescent and instructed the zoning administrator and town solicitor to thoroughly check the legality of the permit, when they meet recently. Council's action followed appearance of a delegation of ratepayers who presented a petition which had been signed by 50 or 52 property owners approached in the area.

COOKSVILLE — An effort by Toronto Township's clerk to find out the names of residents in attendance at a recent Township Council meeting, caused quite a stir and considerable controversy. The clerk was instructed to take no further action. Councillor Cameron Pickering had just returned from an attack on the Oneida Developments Ltd. subdivision plan for Erindale Woodlands. Mr. Pickering also charged Reeve Speck with "just returning from a Florida vacation with an Oneida principal." It is believed that Reeve Speck wished the names of those present so that they might be called as potential witnesses in a possible slander action.

Dessert Samples Go on Display During Institute Summary Day

Mr. Harold Hardstone, of Eaton's, hardware department, will be guest speaker at a Summary Day to be held in St. Paul's Church, Milton, on Wednesday afternoon, April 8 at 1:30 p.m. She will speak on "Table Settings" for family gatherings and social occasions, showing a variety of place settings.

PHILOSOPHY
A conference is a gathering of important people who singly can do nothing, but together can decide that nothing can be done.
The reasonable man adapts himself to the world; the unreasonable one persists in trying to adapt the world to himself. Therefore all progress depends on the unreasonable man.

The bidding:
North 1 H Pass 1 S Pass 2 S All Pass
I was sitting West and my wife was in the East position. Although I have a very nice hand I am in no position to start the bidding.

I led the six of clubs and declared, not suspecting a singleton finessed. East won and returned the nine of clubs. I ruffed with three of spades and led a high heart. The nine of clubs from East calls for a heart lead.

Declarer won in dummy and led the trump jack. East played the ace and noted West's four of spades. Since a high low signal in trump shows three trump, my wife knew that I had no more spades. She led a diamond.

I won the diamond with the Queen and took two heart tricks, on which East discarded two diamonds. Now I took the ace of diamonds and led a third diamond. Dummy ruffed with jack but East overruffed with the queen of spades.

When the smoke had cleared declarer had made only five tricks and we had a good board.

Neil Leroy, of CBC's Let's Play Bridge will present a film taken during one of Goren's Bridge Crusades on the channel six show The Observer at 6 p.m. on April 9th.

This week's winners: first, Gloria Coats, Duke Wilcox; second, Bill Coats, Tom Warner; third, Earl Emond, Jack Hooper.

Ton of Gold

Elston Jester Dutchess Pride — 292268 — a Jersey cow in the herd of W. E. Johnston, Acton, has just been issued a Ton of Gold certificate. In 1438 days she produced 2,028 lbs. of fat. Dutchess Pride is also a winner of one Silver Seal.
To qualify for this award a cow must produce at least 2,000 lbs. of fat in four consecutive years.

Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL BRADY
I was warned by my family not to write a column about this; however, no fearless columnist has ever been deterred by threats. I can always get a room at the YMCA for a few days, if worst comes to worst.

My son Hugh is going to present a piano recital in a couple of days at the Conservatory in the city. The announcement has created a flurry of excitement, alarm and despondency that will likely be unequalled until the day my daughter declares that she is going to be married.

Needless to say, the one who is excited, alarmed and despondent is not I. Nor is it my daughter. Nor is it the star of the evening, himself.

In fact, he is quite cool about it. So cool, indeed, that he isn't quite sure of the date, the place, the time, or how much it will cost his old man.

No, it's his mother who is panicking. First of all, she demands to know, in the name of all that is ridiculous, how he hopes to have his pieces ready in such a short time. "It's impossible," she wails. "It's out of the question. You are a mull!"

The next minute, she's deftly predicting that nobody will come to the recital, and that we'll be disgraced, shamed forever in the eyes of... I don't know whom, exactly.

We fight back, of course. Hugh goes into a vagrant, involved explanation of how he can get his pieces in shape. It has to do with turning over new leaves, letting no grass grow underfoot, nose to grindstone, shoulder to wheel and stitches in time.

"Hah!" snorts his mum. "The only thing that will save your bacon is divine intervention" or something of the sort, she intimates.

I stop in to pour oil on the fiery waters, or tears of rage, or some call them. I assure her that the hall will be filled, the applause will lift the roof, the critics will proclaim a new Paderewski and we'll all be proud, rich and happy ever after.

"There'll be nobody there but the family," she says flatly. She hadn't even heard me. "Not a soul will come."

Six members of the Acton Bridge Club participated in the tournament. Although none of these placed in any of the games, it is a credit to our club that they all achieved above average scores. The best result was a team from the club that tied for fourth in the Non Masters team event.

Here is a hand from the non-masters team in which my wife and I defended for a good result.
Dealer — North.
North-South vulnerable.

West	East
S-4 3	S-A Q 6
H-K Q J 9 2	H-A
D-A Q 10 4 1	D-8 7 5
C-6	C-K 9 7 5 4 2

South	West
S-K 10 9 8 2	S-4 3
H-7 5 3	H-A
D-K 6 2	D-8 7 5
C-10 3	C-K 9 7 5 4 2

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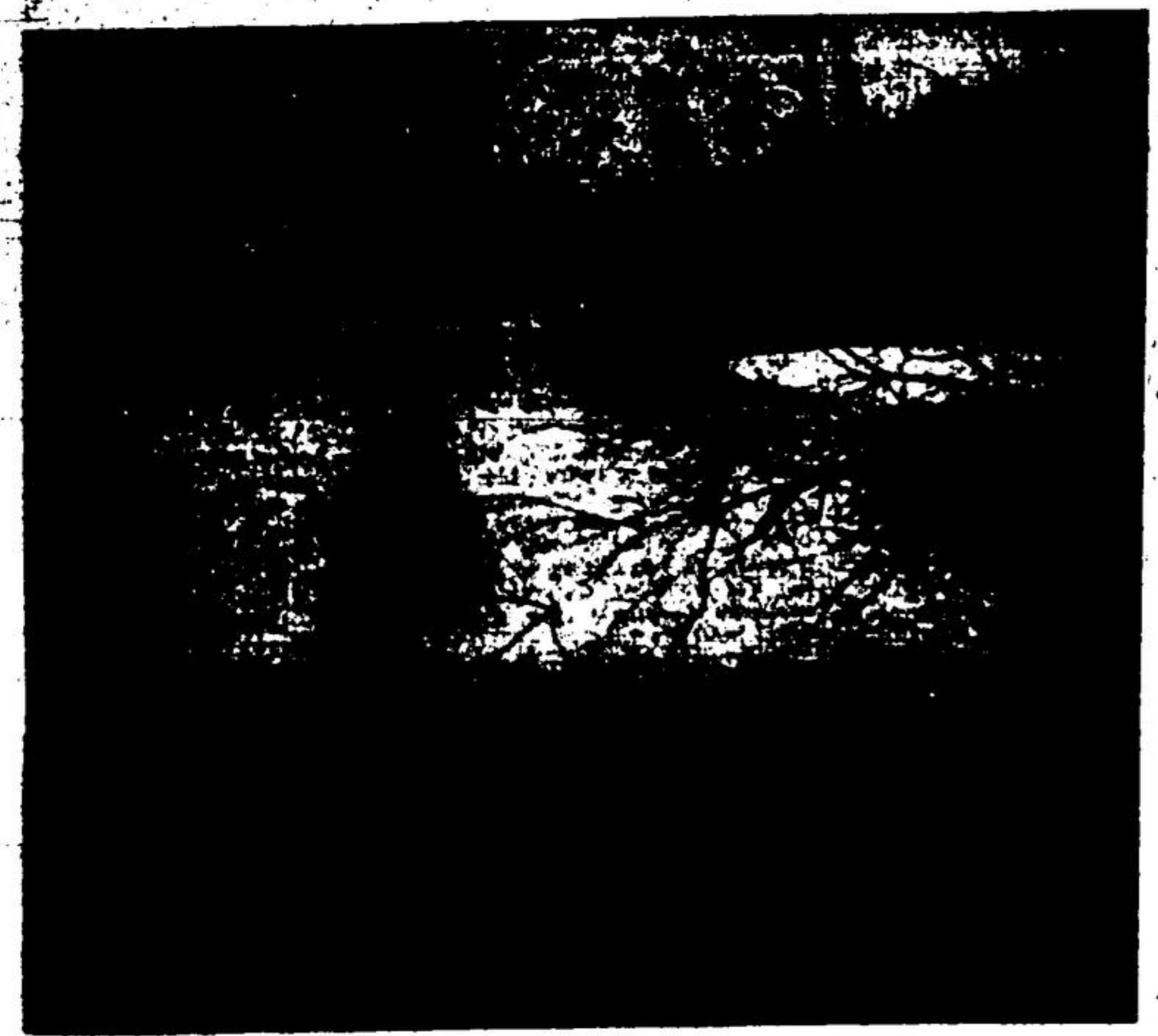
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AN URBAN COFFIN Conservation Area, the winter's ice is breaking up and outlines of naked trees reflect in the still, chilly waters of a man-made lake. It won't be long before the popular Conservation Area is overflowing with summer visitors.

Number... Number...

Well, here we go. Beginning at the first of April the bureaucrats will know you better as No. 000 000 000.
Yes, a five-page-long article submitted for our editorial consideration goes to great lengths to explain and justify the Social Insurance Number we're each to acquire this month. The number, it explains, will be issued to all employed Canadians with the exception of those engaged in agriculture, those in private domestic service and where there is only one employee, and members of the armed forces.

Extending an invitation, as we apparently do with each election, to government to play a larger and larger role in our personal lives, it is understandable that the need for a number has developed. How else can the bureaucrats keep track of the 50,000 Smiths in the Unemployment Insurance Commission's master index when well over 10,000 Smiths have the initial "J". By tracing it back "purely as a matter of identification" to the mother's last name, it is expected the number given will also provide an easier means of identification for all the Smiths.

Being loyal subjects either to Canada or Quebec, we're all expected to dutifully obtain an application form from our employer. (An employer is identified as one who has at least one full or one part-time employee, which does sound reasonable. We're supposed to fill it out "completely and accurately and return it to the employer. Then the dutiful employer will send (postage free?) the application form to the nearest office of

Individual's Rights Long Gone...

In recent days we've heard a great deal about the right of an individual. Introduction in the provincial legislature, of amendments to the Police Act that would give some far-reaching and frightening powers to the police commission, ostensibly to check "organized crime", met stern opposition. An attorney-general resigned in the face of the fire.

It was frequently suggested, in defense of the amendments, that they were being introduced for the general good though the rights of a few individuals might be infringed.

How many other pieces of legislation have been introduced on the same basis? At one time it was suggested a man's home was his castle. Now that concept is frightfully outdated. A man's home now becomes of great concern to the "state" and indeed the "state" has a great deal to say about it. For instance it tells you how large you may build, how close you may come to the street line, how far away from your neighbor's property you must be. It is concerned about the location within given areas. It is concerned if you plan an addition or if you would like to take in boarders. It is concerned if you want to make a change in the plumbing or

the Unemployment Insurance Commission. The Social Insurance Number (nine digits long) will be returned to the employer, then to the employee". If you have trouble remembering your license number, favorite direct distance dialing sequence or your own telephone number, you're beat before you start.

Mind you, no one says you have to carry your Social Insurance card with you at all times and this gem of information is apparently designed to relieve all thoughts of eventual regimentation. That is, no one has yet said you have to carry it all the time.

We haven't read anywhere about penalties for not completing the form but there is the usual carrot-on-the-stick approach through the suggestion the number will be flexible enough to be used when the new pension plan is introduced. And of course everyone wants all the pensions one can get, so the number is really an essential. Then too, the unemployment benefits will also be distributed with greater ease to those who have a readily available Social Insurance Number.

And now like good little loyal subjects let's all sharpen our pencils and complete that application form "completely and accurately, sign it and return it to the employer" so he can look after the postage and Big Brother government can keep track of us right down to the last digit.

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finish off your basement for a recreation room.

It is concerned if you want to put a sign on your lot because it can't be over a certain size. It is concerned if you want to make any structural changes in the building. It is concerned if you plan to change the use of your home into something other than the present use.

The legislation covering all this multitude of concerns is very grandly called "Planning". It is also called zoning, building restrictions, land use, plumbing inspection and a multitude of other titles all designed for the "common good".

Because we have wiped out the concept of a man's home being his castle, we have found it necessary to spell out in such detail what is and what is not permitted, that we have given birth to boards and committees to interpret and change.

Under the guise of the "common good" we have eliminated common sense. No longer is an individual allowed to exercise his own common sense about building. He now has the benefit of detailed regulations defying the interpretation by the non-legal mind, outlining what is possible.

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