

Sugar and Spice ...

BY BILL SAREY

My wife had just given Kim a five minute blast because the wasn't working hard enough. This is almost a daily occurrence at our house. The results are usually the same: rebellion, bad words, rising voices, tears, sulks and me wishing I was out in the boondocks.

This time, for some inexplicable reason, the Old Girl softened, after the daughter stalked off in a cold fury. "Poor kid. She does have a lot to do. Then she began to remember her own high school days and to compare. The results were sobering, almost frightening.

When mother was in school there were about 150 students. Classes began at 9. Teachers moved to the classrooms at end of each period. There was a 15 minute recess morning and afternoon, in which the kids wandered the corridors at will, or fooled around outside in good weather. There was an hour and a half for lunch. School ended at 4 p.m. That's five hours of class time.

In daughter's school, there are about 1,200 students. Classes begin at 9. She moves between periods, harassed and hurried and heckled by teachers telling her to move faster. There is a 10 minute lunch break. Half of this, the kids spend in a lineup, trying to buy milk or eats. In the other

half, they gulp what they get. Rush back to classes. School ends at 3:15. That's five and three-quarter hours of class time.

After school, according to her own evidence, mother went down to the town library, picked up a nickel's worth of licence all sorts on the way. The early winter dusk crept to the window and looked in. And it saw a dark-haired youngster in the snug reading room, rapt in a world of Anne of Green Gables, munching licorice.

About 5:30 her dad would tap on the window. She'd go out and snuggle down in the cutter, under the buffalo robe. And they'd jingle the taxi on es home, through the frosts night, in that most delightful of vehicles. Home was warm, and the smell of supper, and a mother who spent all her time being a mother.

Compare the kid. After school there's orchestra practice or volleyball practice or French Club or Drama Club or year book staff meeting. She staggers home, eight blocks, in the dark, with enough books to fill a wheelbarrow.

Not a whiff of dinner. She's Mom has music pupils today. Tiptoe upstairs. Dump books. Hop on bed. Revive slightly by chapter of James Bond.

Strum ukulele and sing sad folk songs. Father appears at door.

"Liftin' kid, better get at your homework! You can't loaf your life away."

"But, Dad, I just got ..."
"Don't bug me, kid. I hafta write a column (or mark papers, or set an exam). Get to work. Never mind. It's too late. Better get down and get the ham-burgs ready. And when are you going to get your practising done?"

Go downstairs. Mom sets make hamburgs. Mom emerges from piano lessons. "Kim, how much practising have you done, you lazy little bum?"

"Mom, how could I practise? You were using the piano and anyway, I just got ..."

"Never mind the excuses. I don't see why you couldn't help me with the ironing, when you know I'm busy. And stop staving me that bun with the butcher knife!"

Evening Three hours' homework and two hours' practising ahead. Father off cutting. Much of mothering over the dishes, all out kids, no matter how much you do for them, they don't appreciate it, and you'll never get anywhere with that attitude and when I was your age, I didn't have any of the opportunities you have.

It's a wonder more of them don't creep down to the basement in the night, get the axe, and do their parents in. They probably would, if they weren't so utterly wretched.

In Greenock School

Door Production Specialty Of New Jim Ledger Business

A progressive businessman since arriving in Acton in 1954, James B. Ledger will expand into a new venture January 1966 when he begins production of architectural entrance doors in a new location at the former Greenock school, north of Acton.

Mr. Ledger purchased the old one-room school about a month ago and with very little renovation has converted the building into a shop to produce the new solid wood entrance doors on a mass production basis. He will close the doors at the present location the end of December and will go out of the retail business.

The new type doors, strictly of his own design, have been well accepted and praised by several architects. They will be distributed through a Toronto distributor firm. Already he has planned to include a "more exotic" door using teakwood. Also an mahogany and walnut.

Present equipment in the Main St. plant will be moved to the former school and several new pieces will be added. All will be set up on a production line basis.

With the present staff which includes Doug Guberler, Lloyd Burt, and Mr. Ledger, production is geared to produce about 50 doors per week. Mrs. Fred Sampson remains as office manager.

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Since coming to Acton in 1954, Mr. Ledger began a grocery business in the location where McLeod's Used Furniture store is located. Two years later he expanded where the present LGA store is located and in 1962, Mr. Ledger sold out to Dave Manes. He enjoyed retirement for a year and then purchased the present lumber business he is operating.

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Daughters of Knox Auction Raises \$415 for Kitchennette

The Daughters of Knox raised about \$415 in their auction sale Wednesday evening of last week in the Free Press plant. Rummage sale began at 6:30 and the last few items went under the auctioneer's hammer after 11 p.m. at night. There were still about 50 bidding.

Items for sale ranged from wide, wide men's ties (just a penny each) to Border Collie pups, beds, china, coats, books, furniture, skates, hats, toys, jewelry, and even a few antiques.

Acting as clerks were Charlie Landborough of Acton and Bill Kozak of Georgetown.

Convener Mrs. C. Ashley and fellow club members were well satisfied with the financial return and the good attendance. They had worked for many weeks, gathering the rummage and donations. One of their projects is

the equipping of a new kitchennette in the upstairs room adjacent to the Mary Ellen Anderson room at the church.

During the sale, a presentation of a plaque was made to Milton auctioneer Jack Elliott, who is confined to Milton hospital. It was accepted by auctioneer Roy Hindley. A second plaque was presented to Mr. Hindley. The plaques were in honor of their lengthy and faithful service in the auctioneering business.

The plaque to Mr. Elliott was from auctioneers Frank Petch, Roy Hindley and Jack Holmes. The plaque to Mr. Hindley was from Mr. Petch, Mr. Elliott and Mr. Holmes.

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Quint Calves May Set Record

A five-year-old registered Holstein cow set a possible Canadian record Sunday when the animal, owned by Norman Harris, R.R. 4, Rockwood, gave birth to quintuplet calves.

Dr. B. Wingrove, R.R. 1, Guelph, was in attendance to deliver the animals and one was dead on arrival. The remaining four are en-

joying good health and being closely watched by the veterinarian. They are being bottled-fed by Mr. Harris.

It was reported some time ago in the Farmers' Advocate that a cow in Nebraska gave birth to six calves. Dr. Wingrove said the birth of quintuplet calves is quite an exception.

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Advent Sunday at St. Alban's Recalls Old Customs of Church

Last Sunday, the congregation of St. Alban the Martyr, Acton, was treated to a delightful program of music sung by the choir under the able direction of Mrs. F. Oakes, the organist. The program consisted of a Procession of Carols and Hymns, interspersed with readings from Holy Scripture.

At the climax of the service, the Advent Wreath was lit. There is an interesting history behind the tradition of the wreath.

This charming symbol connected with the season of Advent has not only found its way into America but has of late been spreading so rapidly that it is already a cherished custom in many homes. People seem to welcome it with eager delight wherever they are introduced to this "new" custom. Actually, it is centuries old, although not as old as most other Christmas traditions.

Lutheran Origin
The Advent wreath originated a few hundred years ago among the Lutheran population in Eastern Germany. It seems to have been suggested by one of the many light symbols which were used in folklore at the end of November and beginning of December. At that season of the year, our pre-Christian forefathers began to celebrate the month of Yule (December) with the burning of lights and fires. The Christians in medieval times kept many of these light and fire symbols alive as popular traditions of ancient folklore.

In the 16th century, somebody conceived the fortunate inspiration of using such lights as a religious symbol of Advent in the houses of the faithful. The practice quickly spread among the Protestants of Eastern Germany and was soon accepted by Protestants and Catholics in other parts of the country.

Light Candles
The Advent wreath is exactly what the word implies, a wreath of evergreens (yew or fir or laurel), made in various sizes. It is either suspended from the ceiling or placed on a table.

Pastened to the wreath are four standing upright, at intervals. These candles, the four weeks of Advent.

On Sunday of Advent one candle is lit until all four candles shed their cheerful light announce the approaching...

The traditional symbolism of the Advent wreath reminds the faithful of the Old Testament when Samson was "sitting in darkness and in the shadow of death" (Luke 2: 29); when the prophets, illumined by God announced the Redeemer; and

Pack Enjoys Films Of Spring Cubaree

It was Parents' Night Tuesday at the First Acton Cub Pack. Mrs. Jean Layman, Akela of the First Georgetown Pack, brought three Cub Scouts and showed a film of the Cubaree Canadarama held there in the spring. The Acton boys were thrilled to see pictures of their display of the North West Territories. Films of a weekend hike were also shown.

Several new games were taught to the Acton boys.

Two new Cub Scouts were welcomed. Tom Fisher of Rossvain, Manitoba and John New of Ottawa, whose families are now Acton residents.

Centennial on Drawing Board Representatives First Meeting

Celebration of Canada's centennial in 1967 in Acton started on the drawing board Wednesday evening of last week when the centennial committee met with representatives of Acton organizations to plan for the event. The committee was appointed by council to coordinate and assist local organizations in their plans for the year-long birthday party.

Progress to date has been meetings of the committee at which various possible events were discussed and attendance at provincially-sponsored workshops.

Invitations had been sent to over 60 local organizations and representatives from 28 were able to attend the Wednesday evening meeting. Chairman of the committee R. R. Parker reviewed the suggestions for a centennial program and briefly outlined the projects that could be sponsored by the various organizations.

Usher in with Bells
The committee suggested the festivities commence on New Year's Eve with a special New Year's Eve ball, the year ushered in with the ringing of church bells, and blowing of sirens and whistles.

Fallen Sinner

A clergyman and one of his elderly parishioners were walking home from church one frosty day when the old gentleman slipped and fell flat on his back. The minister looked at him a moment, and being assured that he was not much hurt said to him "Friend, sinners stand on slippery places."

The old gentleman looked up at it to assure himself of the fact and said "I see they do, but I can't."

Several new games were taught to the Acton boys.

Bogus Bills

Acton police have had no reports of bogus \$20 bills detected here. One was discovered in a Milton bank Tuesday and reported to Milton Police. Others have been located at the Mohawk Raceway.

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