

Jim's Jottings

by jim dills

Revisions in the Bank Act have certainly introduced a general round of increases. First of all the service charges on chequing accounts was hiked 20 per cent, from 10 cents to 15 cents for an entry. That was followed by a jump in interest from the previous ceiling of six per cent to seven per cent on operating and business loans, and now there is a proposal that the service charge for cheques on savings accounts will go from 15 cents to 20 cents. Safety deposit boxes too, I understand, have been hiked. Most of the word we've had on banks is increases on interest rates to depositors, but there's quite obviously more drastic side to all that. Perhaps cash may even become popular again.

There are some pretty steamed up north Burlington residents, after the Burlington Council gave three readings to a by-law imposing a set of required frontages for the 10 acre parcels of land that can be sold without approval of the Committee of Adjustment. While the council's action was perhaps necessary to control, for the future, the development patterns of the country, most of the very vehement opposition I heard was because council refused to listen to suggestions from the individual property owners. There was also the complaint that after being told they would be informed of planned discussions, they were never notified. This they regarded as sneaky. And that's the way Councillor Bill Green felt about it when he got mad enough to throw his glass of water at the mayor.

I was glad to see the Public School Board grant its approval for the

use of its ball diamonds at the Martin St. School by the Minor Baseball League. It was a practical decision and I hope the youngsters who play in the league will respect the Board's property. It would have been completely foolish to build a third diamond in Rotary Park when two perfectly good diamonds were going unused at the school. It underlines the importance of a broader use by the community of school facilities at both the public school and high school level when there is adequate supervision and responsibility.

I noticed the Senior Citizens making use of the shuffleboard court that was installed at their request last year in Victoria Park. It was a pleasant sight for two reasons. One was simply that they seemed to be having fun. The other was that it portrayed the renewal of Victoria Park where the Parks Board has been valiantly striving, on a limited budget, to make it a pleasant place for a lunch or a few quiet minutes. Some day more extensive flower gardens and shrubbery may exclude some of the road noises. Perhaps too, a band stand might be built for the occasional concert.

If you're holding your breath waiting for a big centennial birthday party here to highlight Canada's Centennial, don't. A number of groups have been quietly organizing single events which are loosely arranged around the centennial celebration dates, but there is no indication of any single, big, all-inclusive birthday party. Mind you, with the line-up of events expanding almost weekly, perhaps you won't think anything of it because there may be all the activity you want.



LAURA SECORD on her way to warn the British, 1813. By the spring of 1813 the Americans had finally won a campaign in the War of 1812-14. They took Fort George at the junction of Lake Ontario and the Niagara River. Severing Upper Canada from the east now seemed within easy reach. But a 700-man force of Canadian and British regulars followed the Americans to Stoney Creek near Hamilton. There they routed the American camp and pressed on to Beaver Dam near Queenston. The Americans decided to finish the Canadian force at Beaver Dam and 600 men were assigned to do the job. However, before the plan-

ned attack, two American officers commandeered a meal at the home of Loyalist James Secord. While the unwitting guests ate, they talked of the Beaver Dam plan. At sunrise the next morning 38-year-old Laura Secord slipped out of the house and casually drove a cow past an American outpost. Then she hurried 12 miles through the backwoods to Beaver Dam where she was taken, tattered and exhausted, to Colonel James Fitzgibbon. Laura blurted out the story of the planned attack, but as it happened Fitzgibbon already knew of it. The Americans were ambushed by Canadian Indians before they reached Beaver Dam.

Champion

Some consolations

There are two conclusions which remain with us after General De Gaulle took his early leave of this country without any demonstrable regret on our part or, apparently on his.

First and foremost, our admiration for Jean Drapeau and Prime Minister Lester Pearson reached a new height. Drapeau's statement of faith in Canada's future and his eloquent rebuke to the visiting French leader gave many of us the encouragement to get on with the job of trying to understand the "fact" of French Canada that leaders in the province of Quebec keep talking about.

Prime Minister Pearson diplomatically and yet sternly rebuked the French visitor without hedging. It was a responsibility without precedent and yet it was done effectively with a correctness that could only enhance Canada's image. The only improvement on it could have been if the other Canadian leaders had directed letters of commendation to the Prime Minister, rather than trying to make political hay out of the situation.

The other conclusion that remains with us is that however unwittingly, General De Gaulle prepared a launch pad from which to send Canada into its second century with a new resolve to make Confederation work. In his overdone statements, in his unforgivable intrusion into the internal prob-

A community concern

Probably it's quite natural for police chiefs and editors to share some common concerns. But the other day as two of us considered one of the current concerns it seemed essential that it be shared, because it is really a community concern.

We don't like to see children getting into trouble. They have for years, of course, but that doesn't ease the situation nor is it sufficient rationalization to permit one to ignore it.

The last week of June a signal light was damaged to the extent of \$300 on local railway property. Considerable damage has also been done recently to the signal shack, to lens on signals and to parts that operate the signals. At one point parts were actually placed on the tracks at the diamond that could derail a train. Naturally railway officials are concerned and the police chief and an editor are equally concerned.

But more important, we hope parents are concerned. Chief Andress tells us that almost invariably when they find a child in trouble he's quite a distance from home and his parents don't really know where he is. They may think they do, but actually they rarely do.

lems of the country he became the villain. We suspect that those who have been passively observing the fringe element of separatists in Quebec may develop a new will to resist more actively the line they preach.

We have talked with French Canadians who recognize their slower development and more important, the reasons for it. They are far more anxious to get on with the remedy than to chart a new and impossible course through separatism. It is from these people we may now begin to hear more.

Mayor Drapeau in his speech, detailed his pride in the cultures and language which France had given to many Quebecers but he also recalled that when the French army in North America surrendered in 1760 the educated people—all returned to France, leaving 60,000 French-speaking settlers "tied to the barn". With no outside help, the Mayor said, French Canadians had painfully and slowly built up their own school system and developed their own culture.

Perhaps unwittingly General De Gaulle has given us a new strength to make Canada work. Perhaps Separatists will receive the backlash of public sentiment that has been most effectively unleashed through the provocations of the French leader.

The leisure of summer holidays permits a great deal of free time. Young minds are active and frequently time hangs heavy as excitement eludes youngsters. But the Chief urged that parents be asked to keep track of their children. Out of sight should not be out of mind, if trouble is to be avoided and children kept from the vicinity of serious trouble.

The Chief shared another concern, Sudden wealth. "If you've ever wondered about your child's sudden wealth, wouldn't it be wise to check the source?"

These are community concerns. No editor or police chief should be expected to consider them his alone. They are every parent's and they are every citizen's. If you see the signs of trouble brewing, a call to the police could keep some youngster out of trouble. If you see vandalism, a call to the police could save you taxpaying dollars, but more important it could help intercept more serious trouble. Do your bit by reporting problems to the police and by assisting in apprehending those who choose to destroy.

Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley



Well, the inevitable has happened! Smiley couldn't make up his mind about his own content as so many of the contributing columns fell into the "excellent" category. So, Smiley declared a draw, allowing two winners. Each winner will receive \$25. Here is the first winner next week.

By ELLEN ARMSTRONG

Siouxville, Ontario
Maybe the comments of a middle-aged Canadian female don't constitute a column but there is only one way to find out, so here goes —

I AM SICK AND TIRED OF

The assumption that Canadians are inhibited and inarticulate. The celebrations in Ottawa and in every little and big town and city in this our year of jubilee shout a resounding "NO" to this idea. Oh, sure, we have to have a good reason for letting our hair down. A good reason may only present itself once in 100 years, but when it does, brother, we can holler with the best, and better.

The claim that Canadians have an inferiority complex. Down here in the grass roots where I and 99.9 per cent of my fellow Canadians crawl around, we are proud of Canada and of being Canadians. We are ashamed only of the would-be intellectuals who claim they are inferior because they are Canadian. They are inferior, all right, but for other reasons. Unfortunately, they seem to have the ear of "ve editors" and so get their views aired in the papers with nauseating frequency.

The bland statement that "The Church has failed." Failed to do what, may I ask? I may answer to, in fact I will. Failed to do whatever the speaker of the moment thinks she should have done. I suggest we find out what is the true mission of the Church, then try to assess success or failure. "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel," said Christ. This is the Church's

mission; in this she has succeeded and is succeeding. And even critics must admit she has not failed in another sense. She has endured and survived! Name one other nineteen hundred and sixty-seven year old institution!

Transistor radios in poetry — Here I feel like busting into public which I have entitled

Lines on Trying to Have a Picnic at a Roadside Table on the Shores of a Once-Peaceful Lake

Where once the song of birds was heard, And wind in trees above, A crass transistor radio Emits a crooner wailing low His cheap synthetic love.

The gentle murmur of the waves Is drowned in noisy chatter.

"Buy whiskey, soap and cigarettes, Buy pills and soup without regrets — Sublimities don't matter! Some day ere long we'll conquer space, Ah, mournful thought and bitter, 'Mid stars that sang creation's birth The crude cacophony of Earth, Man's pestilential twitter."

The use and abuse of the in words as in all else; this is the "faddy" word "image." There seem to be fad words of the moment. Every man, woman, organization is concerned about his, her or its "image." May I suggest (in fact try to stop me) that, if we are concerned with integrity, decency and honor in personal, social and political life, our public image will take care of itself. It will be a favorable one, too.

The availability of filthy literature, particularly for the youth of our country. Some excuse this, by insisting young people must learn the facts of life. Manure is a fact of life too, but if we see our children eating it, we restrain them, forcibly if necessary.

Trying to write a column — admiration for you, Mr. Smiley, has leaped into the stratosphere. How do you do it, week after week after week?



Pages of the Past

from champion files

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, July 24, 1947.

According to Pete McMullen, manager of the Owls Club Softball team, which is representing Milton in the O.A. S.A. playdowns, they have been successful in arranging an exhibition contest with the National Hockey League All Stars from the Toronto Maple Leaf Hockey Team. The game is scheduled for August 5 beginning at 7 p.m. It will be played in front of the grandstand at Agricultural Park where every person will have an opportunity to see the game in comfort. Several years ago, a team from the Maple Leafs visited the county town and played the Owls Club in honor of the B.W.V.F. A large crowd was in attendance to see their favorite stars in action on the ball field.

The July meeting of the Mountain Union W.I. was held at the home of Mrs. William Hume. There were twenty members and fourteen visitors present. After the business part of the meeting, Mrs. McArthur and Mrs. Galloway played darts and Mr. Wheelband gave vocal selections. Mrs. Lorne Dixon read an interesting account of a trip her brother, Mr. George Prudham and his wife had taken to Whitehorse. Mrs. Ernest Readhead told of their trip through the eastern provinces. At the close of the meeting a social half hour was enjoyed.

The Halton Hunting and Angling Club has assisted the Game and Fisheries department in placing shelters for pheasants in the Nassagaweya district. Several local farmers have offered to care for the young birds.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, August 2, 1917.

Last Sunday was hot. The temperature recorded at Toronto University was 98 degrees. The same temperature was registered on Monday, and though the figures were a little lower on Tuesday and yesterday, humidity made the heat oppressive. Today's change to cooler weather is most welcome.

The results of the middle school examination for entrance into Normal School are published today. The following is the pass list for Dufferin, Peel and Halton: C. R. Brown (honors), G. M. Crawford, I. Davidson (with L.S. art), J. Garvey, E. P. Harmsworth, M. Harrop (honors), V. M. Kee, J. Lindsay, F. C. Monkman (honors), B. I. McLaughlin (honors with L.S. art), B. V. McLellan, M. E. Martin, O. I. McLennan, F. L. Merritt (honors), M. E. Neeley, F. Perkins (honors), A. Proud, E. B. Russell, J. T. Scott, H. M. Smith (honors), V. A. Taylor (with L.S. geography), M. I. S. Wilson (honors).



Down[s] in this

with roy downs

Corner

Some history writer, 100 years in the future, should have some fun writing about the present Department of Municipal Affairs. This department, a government-appointed body with more power to rule the roost than even Premier Robarts must hold, could wind up as the laughing-stock of the piece if someone in 2067 decided to do a humorous history of Ontario.

Notable and recent examples include the Oakville-Trafalgar and the Burlington-Nelson amalgamations, Milton's annexation attempts, and the Plunkett Report. Oh, there is more that would make fine reading, but let's deal only with those which affect Milton and district. The amalgamations, annexation and Plunkett will do for starters.

Dr. Lorne Cumming, special advisor to the department, the minister, and the department's all-powerful Ontario Municipal Board, would seem to be the villain. His name is "mud" around Milton, anyway.

In an interview last week Dr. Cumming made some more typical statements about the Plunkett Report, which should cause a chuckle hereabouts.

Asked when the report would be acted upon, he said "there can be no fast decision" due to the "fundamental importance" of the report. The Department, you may recall, has been sitting on the report since the start of this year and from all indications, Plunkett's hot potato may have to be sat upon for a long time yet.

The Department released the report to the municipalities concerned (Halton and Peel Counties) last fall and gave the local administrators three months to bring back a written reply to Plunkett's call for two new counties which would split the present counties laterally across the centre.

It was quite a rush, but all municipalities got a reply in on time (except Oakville, which seems to be the apple of the Department's eye, and got a two month extension of the deadline). NOW

the ball is tossed back to the Department and Mr. Cumming admits the Department is moving fairly slowly with the report.

Could it be the Department is afraid to implement the Plunkett plan, following all the severe criticism, but it hasn't got an alternative yet?

Is Plunkett's proposal to be scrapped as too large or unwieldy? Will all that money they paid Plunkett and Co. (over \$65,000) go down the drain? Will the Department hire a new expert to come up with a new plan to cure the municipal ills of Halton and Peel? Or do you suppose we'll be able to carry on governing ourselves as we have for over a century, without a "big brother" type of administration sitting over us and pulling the strings?

Who knows? Dr. Cumming? We think not.

His rush to get our reactions to the needs study, and his own reluctance to either implement it or toss it in the wastebasket, where it obviously belongs, makes us think the expert of all experts has found himself on the horns of a dilemma. The answer may never be found.

Bill Doherty, whose cottage north of Coldwater was levelled in a lightning-sparked fire last week, lost seven years of hard work and a considerable amount of money when his cottage was burned.

But Bill is thanking his lucky stars that he and his family were safe at home in Milton when it happened. They had returned home the day before the fire, to attend a family birthday party. Neighbors who witnessed the early morning cottage fire, said it was fortunate there was no one in the building, for the flames ripped through it so fast they would never have survived.

Despite the loss, Bill is optimistic. He's starting right away to rebuild the cottage, because his children get such a kick out of being there.

PEEKING INTO MILTON'S PAST



WE ARE CONFUSED: The Champion has been loaned two identical postcards of this photo of six young ladies boating on Livingstone Lake (now the mill pond) in Milton's early days. However the two owners Mrs. Harry Richardson of Lovellville and Mrs. Ada Hill of Palermo

have supplied seven names for the six people. The names supplied are Mrs. H. Richardson, Mrs. William Scott, Mrs. Waterbury, Mrs. Ada Hill, Mrs. John Wilson, Mrs. Christerson and Miss May Kelly.