

# fresh tracks

by Barbara McIntosh

## TRAVELLING-TIPS FOR THE UNDERPRIVILEGED

Slugging it out on a summer job can make the prospect of getting back to the books look great. However, it's generally easy to convince parents that at least two weeks of care-free holidays are a must if any level of scholastic achievement is to be expected in the fall term.

With student ingenuity on your side, there is no reason why insufficient funds should hold anyone back. The possibilities are endless for cutting expenses to a minimum with a maximum of adventure and intrigue.

It is essential to keep up the student image. The adult world is fed-up to its tired age lines of types in army-rejects and barefeet. They're so relieved and encouraged to see an example of supposedly clean-cut ambitious North American youth, that they'll go out of their way to see that you are taken care of.

Most hitch-hikers find that if they wear a school sweatshirt or jacket they have no trouble getting rides to anywhere in Canada.

A few weeks ago, I was talking to two boys who were thumbing their way to Montreal from Newmarket. They were sporting a giant sign that read "Port Alberni, B.C. to Halifax."

"It works wonders," explained the one. "We were telling the last guy who picked us up all about the salmon fishing on the west coast, and he believed us." I kind of wondered about that since they were both carrying overnight bags from Newmarket High, but then students can get away with anything.

This week, two girls from Acton struck out for the west coast in a used car from one of those "drive-it-there-for-us" places in the area. They're not sure if they'll make it -- they don't know what they'll do when they get there -- they're not sure how they'll get back.

"That's the fun in it," they say. No adult would have the nerve.

In the last few months, thousands of students have flocked from all over Canada to Man and His World on the Expo site in Montreal. They hitch-hike with sleeping bags and flake out on park benches, under bushes or in alleyways. They live on a diet that would give anyone over 25 a case of mono in a week. But they have a marvelous time.

Sleeping accommodations are really no problem. Through experience, I've found that policemen can be extremely helpful if you approach them with the right attitude. In Ottawa this spring, the first thing they asked us when we inquired about a cheap place to stay was, "Are you Hippies?" Apparently last summer they were so over run with long-hairs dropping in to spend the night that they were pulling in the welcome mat.

When we assured them we were only poor struggling students out for a short holiday after exams, they put away their iron knuckles and were only too willing to phone around town for student facilities.

In Quebec City, an RCMP officer was prepared to let us camp beside his little station on the Plains of Abraham. We would have, only it rained, so we bartered with a hotel owner downtown, pleading the poor student routine and got the room for half price.

Unfortunately, the government has not established a system of youth hostels such as the ones found in cities all across Europe. However, most university residences offer accommodation at low rates to students in the summer.

Trains and bus stations are always good for a quick nap. The important things there, is to attempt to look like a legitimate traveller.

With your student-card waving merrily in the breeze, you don't need a big bank account. All you need is the shining countenance of youth, intelligence, ambition and curiosity. In addition you need to be smart enough to always remain within the law, and humble enough to be willing to sleep on floors, go without hot coffee in the morning, and wear the same clothes for two days in a row (longer than that and you cease to be humble and become something else).

Why wait? You're only young enough to get away with such things for a few years.

## Glimpses of a dream come true

"Everybody loved it and we're all tired." That was the cry as Acton's touring students charged down the landing ramp at Malton at 6 a.m. Friday morning after their one-month visit to Europe.

Most of the parents had been waiting since four that morning. The plane was nearly two hours late leaving London.

Some of the girls were sporting new dresses with the Carnaby Street label, with sweaters from England and Austria stuffed in their bags. Sharon White came back with more sweaters than anything else, according to her mother.

Bob Bonnette arrived back with orange bell-bottoms and a blue fleeced jacket, and Gary Dobbie will be gay this fall in complete English suit of green with the wide lapels and a gold turtle-neck to match.

"Everyone should go, especially to Austria," beamed Ann Watson. Elaine Johnson agreed that the mountains at Innsbruck were a highlight of the trip.

The group was fortunate enough to hit Paris for Bastille Day and catch a glimpse of old Charles himself as he drove past in the parade.

Someone in Paris is wearing Bob Bonnette's camera. It was stolen during the excitement of the parade and the "friendly" gendarmes never found it.

The students say they didn't encounter much of a language

# Free Press YOUTH PAGE

## Belated words - Innsbruck

Nancy Morris wrote the following letter to The Free Press from Innsbruck, Austria. However, because of the mail strike it could not get through so she brought it back with her on the plane last Friday.

Guten Tag!

This is the latest news report from the Acton Globetrotters, written by yours truly, Nancy Morris. Snow-capped mountains, flower decked chalets and stone topped roofs distinguish Austria as being one of the most beautiful countries in the world. Guten Tag, a customary Austrian greeting, is frequently heard each day in the friendly town of Innsbruck where we are residing.

Innsbruck is the only place where St. on a sign means strasse instead of street and everyone carries canes whether they have trouble walking or not. Translated from German, the language that Austrians speak, Innsbruck means Inn Bridge. Supposedly Innsbruck had its foundations from its bridge, which is the main one over the Inn River. So much for history.

Innsbruck is a charming village but it only serves as our accommodation station. The rest of our time is spent taking various side trips in and out of the country.

On one such occasion we travelled north into Germany. Here we had a tour through a fairy-like castle, which was built by an insane king. As you can imagine, it was quite a unique structure. Later we came back to reality long enough to visit the theater where the famous passion plays take place every ten years. The time and effort put into these religious plays was quite an inspiration to everyone.

No one can visit Austria and not visit Salzburg, the home town of Mozart. The students who studied music in school had quite a thrill from this. In the same way the students who had seen "The Sound of Music" were entranced as they saw the famous "glass house" from the movie in reality.

Mountain climbing anyone? At every stop so far on our trip we have had at least one free day to do what we wish. Some of the more adventurous students decided to have a goat mountain climbing. Many who made it to the snow line went partly by cable car while others just walked from the residence to make it up into the forest. At any length everyone got beautiful snapshots that day. One person reported having been caught in a blizzard. In the middle of July?

The highlight of our stay in Austria was by far the Tyrolean evening. Male and female dancers dressed in their native costumes danced to the quickening beat of the tyrolean band. Other specialties of the group included a harp solo, a saw dust and a cow bell trio. To top the evening off, the whole Canadian group felt they would show their appreciation and sing a song themselves. To show just how patriotic we are, we all sang the centennial song of "Canada." I'm afraid to say some students went back a bit homesick that night.

I bet most of the parents are wondering just what their sons and daughters do with their other evenings. Many students visited the Playboy club while they were there. But relax, Mother, your children aren't growing up that fast. The Playboy club is just the local discotheque. Fast beat music and colored lights flashing on and off made quite an impression on the Canadians. To be sure, I have never seen anything quite like it in Canada.

Well, that about finishes off our stay in Austria. I can only say that from what I hear from my fellow travellers, they believe Austria to be the most enjoyable stay on the trip so far. From here we push on to Exeter which we expect to be totally different from London, Paris or Innsbruck.

There it is. I tried my best. I would appreciate it if you would excuse the writing and spelling as I am writing this late at night. There isn't much more to say except you can be expecting another letter from Exeter.

Yours truly,

Nancy Morris.

problem. Most of the German people could speak English. Yet they did have some trouble with French.

The only real disappointment was the weather. It rained almost every day they were on the continent. However, the last few days spent at Exeter in southern England had balmy weather that almost made up for it.

The dream has now become a reality. For the rest of the summer it's off to work in many cases and in all cases, it's back to the books come fall.

Robin Hood robbed only the rich because the poor had nothing.

The patient stopped his doctor in the hall and asked, "Doc, tell me the truth. Am I going to get well?"

"Of course you are," his physician reassured him. "We'll cure you if it takes every cent you have!"

First woman: "What excuse does he give for not looking for a job?"

Second woman: "All of them."

No matter what happens, there is always someone who knew it would.



ADDING SOMETHING SPECIAL to the annual Halton County All Star baseball game is pretty Dorothy Rich, Miss Halton County Baseball for 1968. Dorothy is 18 years old and a grade 13 student at Aldershot High School. It is the third year in a row Miss Burlington has won the Halton County contest. (Staff Photo)

## Fatal among 15 accidents investigated by police

During the week of July 28 to August 3, officers of Milton Detachment, Ontario Provincial Police, investigated three theft complaints, two break-ins, four disturbances, one fraud, two assaults resulting in one person being charged, two trespasses, two malicious damage complaints, one liquor investigation resulting in one charge, one person charged under the Motor Vehicle Accident Claim Act, and one stolen auto reported but proven unfounded.

A total of 15 accidents were investigated including one fatal accident in which the driver was fatally injured when his car lost traction, went out of control and was struck broadside by a truck. There were three injury accidents resulting in eight persons being injured and 11 property damage accidents. The total property damage for the week was \$9,010. Causes of the accidents were careless driving, fail to share half the road, car ran away, blow out of a tire, speed too fast for road condition. There were eight charges laid as a result of these accidents; two of them for failing to remain at the scene of the accident.

Here's a thought from the Ontario Safety League. "Don't try to outdistance, out-manoeuvre, out-bluff or out-brag other drivers. Try to outlive them."

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## MANY THANKS!

On behalf of my wife and myself, I should like to thank the People of Acton and District for the wonderful Testimonial Dinner which they gave to us recently.

We are both touched and proud indeed to have found such affection amongst you.

I'm happy to have been of service.

ROBERT D. BUCKNER

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