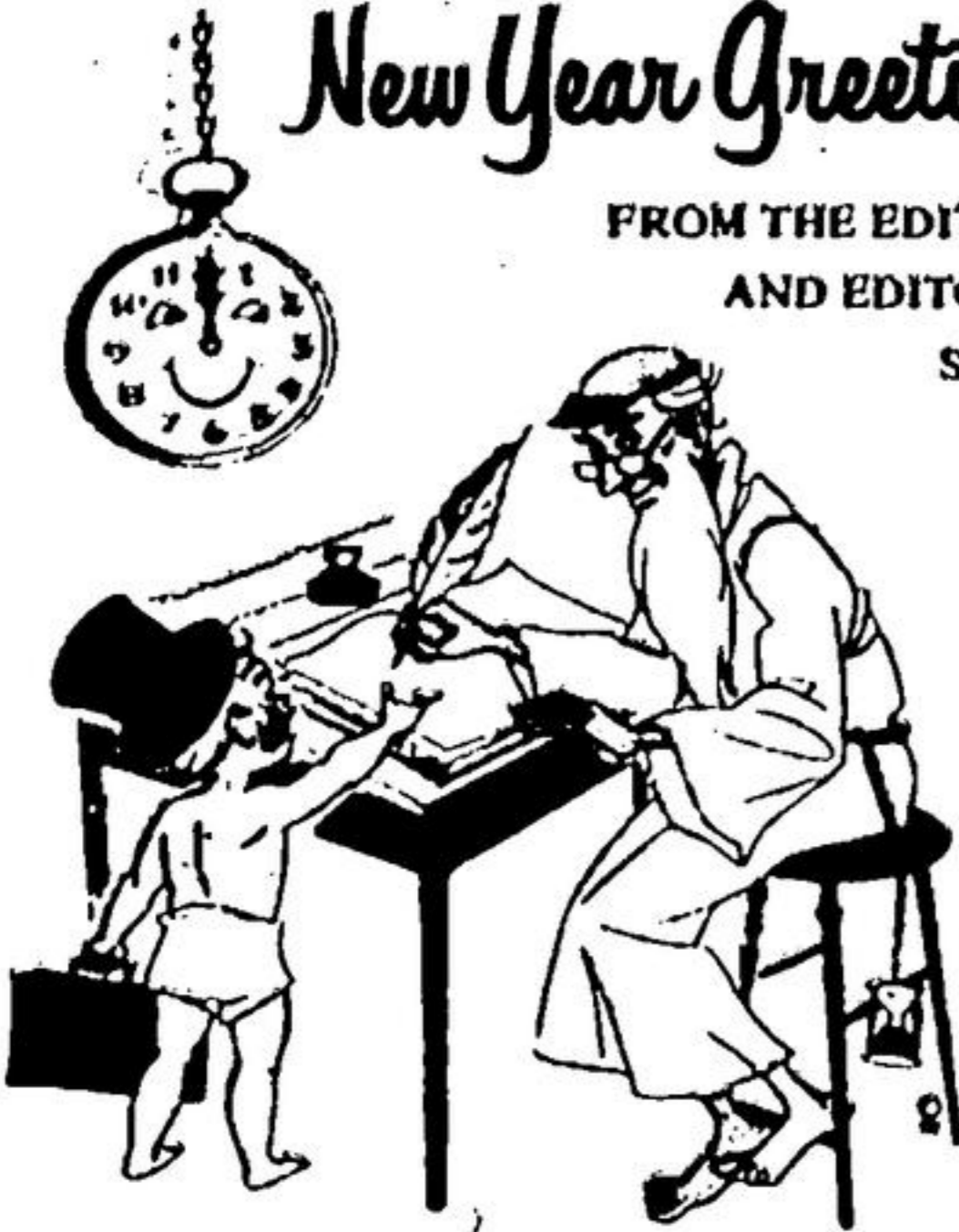


New Year Greetings

FROM THE EDITOR AND EDITORIAL STAFF



Never on Sunday . . .

Unlike their counterparts in the U.S., Canadian retailers are solidly lined up, against Sunday opening. They will stay open late any day, but according to Style magazine, "never on Sunday."

This is the unanimous opinion of officials of Canada's leading department stores on the issue of Sunday openings. Store officials feel there is plenty of time to shop during six days of the week, without having to stay open on the seventh. Even the National Retailers Institute, whose members vehemently favor late night shopping, is against Sunday shopping in Canada.

Sunday opening in the United States, however, is becoming widespread and the trend is snowballing to the point of no return.

Enough pressure has been put on the Ontario government by those in favor of Sunday shopping here to have the Lord's Day Act reviewed by

the Law Society. It is quite possible there could be changes in the laws regarding Sunday shopping.

We would line up solidly behind the large chain stores in their bid to keep stores shut on Sundays. Let there be sports, amusements and other activities to keep people happy but let us be spared the jingle of cash registers.

There is enough time during the week to shop. Storekeepers along with everyone else need a break from the routine of dealing with the public.

Competition from the large department stores could also force many of the small retailers to open Sundays which would not necessarily generate more business, and could keep noses to the grindstone seven days of the week.

Let us benefit from the experience in the U.S. where Sunday shopping has only created a monster which adds more weight swallowing free time in the name of progress.

Weeklies beat odds . . .

See a mistake on this page? Don't gloat. There are no fewer than 4,367,428 chances of making a typographical error on each newspaper page, according to an article in the Canadian Printer and Publisher, taken from the Midland Free Press Herald.

With those kind of odds it is a wonder there aren't more gremlins to disrupt the type each week. Certainly there are enough around to upset the staff of this journal.

There are few occupations with such formidable odds against achieving a perfect result. There are also few occupations where errors are exposed to public view with such

regularity. The wonder is there aren't more errors and a few nervous breakdowns to accompany them.

The article also points out there are over 5,000 men and women engaged in producing weekly newspapers in Canada which are read by well over half the nation's total population. During the past year these same weeklies carried some \$12,999,000 worth of advertising—presumably, most of it error-free.

These figures point out the fact of the importance of the weekly press and despite the chances of error, the growing number of advertisers who realize it.



BOTTOMS DOWN



Sugar and Spice

by Bill Smiley

Many experts, and a good few non-experts, like yours truly, are pounding out millions of words these days looking back over their shoulders with horror at The Sixties, and looking ahead with terror, at The Seventies.

I don't know what the last decade did to you, but it aged me about 20 years. Or maybe it only feels that way because I've spent it teaching school and surviving two teen-agers.

In the history books, this past decade will receive a few paragraphs as one of turbulence and social change. But if you've lived through it, you've been through the wringer, Sam, and you know it's been one of wrenching, chaotic, violent revolt.

It produced assassinations, ugly and stupid wars, a deepening of racial hatreds, and a feeling of impotence and despair among ordinary people.

It produced a new breed of music, and a new breed of young people; a breed that questioned everything, but supplied few answers; a breed that turned away from the church and turned on to drugs; a breed that suggested "work" is a dirty word and dirty feet are a sign of moral purity.

The decade produced dozens of new "democratic" countries, with dozens of new dictators to run them. It brought forth the pill and a sexual revolution. It gave birth to new highs, or lows, or pornography, printed and filmed.

We experienced vast strides backwards in inflation, pollution and population control. We saw the inevitable rise of black,

red and yellow power, with its inevitable violence.

We saw the paradox of a steadily increasing materialism battling it out with a steadily increasing spiritualism in the direction of all weird, exotic and far-out cults.

We drank more and smoked more, despite the huge hikes in prices. And narcotics swept the western world like the bubonic plague.

We saw the vast, venerable and rigid edifice of education attacked from within and without, and now have an educational system with one foot in the grave and the other being gnawed by militants who don't know anything, but know that what they don't know is right.

We have had race riots, strikes galore, "confrontations," peace marches in which a lot of people got clobbered, a steadily growing crime rate, and the sundering of innumerable families because of the so-called generation gap.

I could go on and on, painting a grim, black picture. But it's not all black. The yahoos have not quite taken over yet.

The Establishment, another dirty word, has been forced to take a good, straight look at itself, and what it saw was not always pretty.

A great deal more is being done for the socially deprived. People, as a whole, are becoming generally concerned with pollution at last.

The Christian churches have taken slow and halting, but definite, steps towards unity. The Pope is no longer infallible in some circles.

Canada is still intact, after a decade of talk about disintegration as a nation.

Individuals have taken a stand, as witness Dr. Alcorn on peace, Stanley Burke on Biafra, and Bill Smiley on snowmobiles.

The Yanks took two shots at the moon and made it both times. There's almost a certainty of a minimum family revenue. Medicare and similar schemes protect the aged and the poor from financial catastrophe. The list is long.

And you must remember that you can't make bread without yeast. The young people, the rebels, have provided the yeast. But there is all that dough that must be produced. And the rest of us make the dough and the "bread", in more ways than one.

I have faith in the human race, though goodness knows why. I'm willing to give it another decade, if you are. And if things don't improve, I will resign from said human race at midnight, December 31st, 1979.

Off the cuff

Bachelor: A man who makes mistakes without marrying them.

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, December 29, 1949.

Last Thursday afternoon the Boardman Co. played host to 180 children and some parents in the annual Christmas party held in the Rocky theatre.

Roy Lawford, as magician and master of ceremonies, entertained the large number of children. Bernie Braid entertained with his harmonica. Johnny Perkin led in carol singing and of course they all received a stocking filled with gifts from Santa. Stockings included toys, fruit, clothing and candy and were handed out by St. Nick at the close of the afternoon. Santa was seated on a throne surrounded by icebergs.

Postmaster Frank Terry reports a 25 per cent increase in the quantity of letters that passed through the Acton Post Office during this year's holiday rush as compared to last year.

Standing room was at a premium in St. Alban's parish hall for the annual Christmas concert. Recitations and songs were given by Carol Goodwin, Roberta Sagaski, Carolyn Cook, Beverly Price, Yvonne Poole, Fred Cook, Mary Hunter, Georgina Waller, Ruth Jones, Donald Price, Marian Luxton, Jill Haydon, Dianne Newton, Keith Mattocks, George Williamson, David Poole and Faye Sagaski. Sheila Paul gave violin selections, George Mason showed magic tricks and L. Doby played the guitar. A quartette was sung by four boys, George Oakes, Donald Luxton, Ernest Lawson, and Robert Jones.

George Currie was returned as reeve of Esqueving township by acclamation; George Leslie is deputy-reeve and councillors are H. Craig Reid, Wilfred Bird and Walter Linham.

In Nasagweys Reeve Van Sickle was returned with J. E. Ellenton, Geo. Stokes, J. S. Norrish and R. M. Storey on council.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Free Press of Thursday, January 1, 1920.

The weather on Christmas day was almost ideal. There was no sleighing but the motor cars ran on the splendidly smooth roads everywhere and the frost in the air made the drive exhilarating. There was good skating at the rink and the Wonderland theatre was crowded

MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH
81 Maple Ave., Georgetown
Pastor: Rev. Robert C. Lohnes

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4th, 1970
Here is our sincere invitation to the whole family to attend church.
9:45 a.m.—Sunday School. All ages.
11:00 a.m.—Morning Service.
7:00 p.m.—Evening Evangel.
Georgetown 877-6665

BETH-EL
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
Minister—Rev. P. Brouwer, B.A., B.D.
Acton, Ontario

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4th, 1970
10:00 a.m.—Morning Worship Service.
Nursery and pre-school Sunday School.
11:10 a.m.—Sunday School.
4:00 p.m.—Afternoon Worship Service.
7:30 p.m.—Teen Meet at the church.
Tuesday evening, 7:30-10:30—Catechism Classes.

Come, worship and study with us to be better equipped to serve God and men.
Everyone Welcome

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA
KNOX CHURCH, ACTON
Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D.
Minister
Mr. E. A. Hansen, B.A.
Organist and Choir Master

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4th, 1970
9:45 a.m.—Church School for ages 3 to 15 years.

9:45 a.m.—Minister's Church Membership Class for Teenagers.
10:45 a.m.—Session meeting.
11:00 a.m.—Divine Worship and Holy Communion. Communion Message: "Touching the Intangible."
8:00 p.m.—Adult Study Group.
Friday, Jan. 2, 8 p.m.—Pre-Communion Preparatory Service.
Everyone Most Welcome

CHURCHILL COMMUNITY CHURCH
Churchill Road North
Minister:
The Rev. A. Walter Fosbury, B.A., B.D.
124 Tildy Ave. Phone 853-2386

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4th, 1970
11:00 a.m.—Worship and Church School.
Sermon Subject: "A Welcome for the New Year."
Holy Communion.

Happy New Year to All
Visitors are welcome at all church gatherings at the Church on the Hill.

afternoon and evening.
Katie Barber has associated with himself a council which will work harmoniously. Councilors are Wm. Arnold, Dr. H. A. Cook, John Tishman, and William Ritchie. There was little interest in the nomination meeting. About 25 held a round-the-fire conference.

The official opening of St. Joseph's hall on Tuesday evening was largely attended. The church basement has been transformed into a bright, comfortable, cosy hall and Father Goodrow is determined that it shall be a popular meeting place for the members of the church and their friends.

The members of Acton G.W.V.A. paid a very fitting and attractive tribute to their fallen comrades on Christmas Day. On the lawn on Mill St. in front of the Government Building they placed a tripod bearing a wreath of laurel with a large Union Jack floating above and a soldier's metal trench hat on the greenward beneath it spoke volumes for the spirit of comradeship.

For his faithfulness during the past three years as a carrier of the Toronto Daily Star, Master Willie Stewart received from the company on Christmas a very nice watch.

THE ACTON FREE PRESS
PHONE 853-2010
Business and Editorial Office

Bill Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd.
David B. Orie, Publisher
Henry Colles, Editor
Don Ryder, Adv. Manager
George 1688

Antique Corner
FROM YOSEF DRENTERS' COLLECTION



Numerous foundries in the United States produced cast-iron toys in the 1870s and 1880s such as little horses and carts, trains, and all types of banks in the forms of different bank architecture. The ones shown in the photographs are actual replicas of such manufacturing with the exception of the tractor toy which is an authentic 1920s toy. The manufacture of these toys prolonged well into the turn of the century and they are now coveted by collectors. Some of the local Canadian manufacturers made replicas of their products, i.e., Gilson ranges.