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Chatting...

with M. H. B.

● **DON'T KNOW WHEN** I've enjoyed anything more than I did skating on the pond at the golf course a week ago Sunday. The youngsters were anxious to go, so in view of the fact that I was going to have to sit around till they were through anyway, I thought I might as well dust off the old blades and wobble around for a while myself...

● **I MUST TELL YOU**, in putting them away after their last session to these many years ago, I carelessly left a pair of woollen socks in them. As I gingerly extracted them expecting to see the moths in full possession — or maybe even a mouse's nest, all that emerged from the dank samples was of our little orange striped elder bugs that I mentioned in "Chatting" last fall. There wasn't even a moth-hole. Now how do you explain that, when in spite of our best precautions, the pesky things do sometimes get into our clothes closets...

● **WELL, WE FINALLY DID** get out to the pond, and it was ideal. As a matter of fact the three ponds were frozen over and they were being put to good use by the skaters. The day was bright and comparatively warm, the ice smoother than I frankly expected it to be, with no snow to complicate matters. Gliding around was practically effortless. It was really fun. I wouldn't have traded that day even for the sun-kissed beaches of Florida...

● **Wonderful and actually necessary** as arenas are, when conditions permit, there is no exhilaration more keen than that afforded by outdoor skating. That fact is realized by lots of people who, having a convenient outlet for the hose, make outdoor rinks in their yards, much to the pleasure of their own and in most instances, the neighbourhood children. We have some good sports in our neighbourhood in the persons of the Jack Hamiltons who are living in their recently completed brick bungalow on Albert Street. Jack is frequently on shift work and floods the rink at the back of his house when he comes home around 3 a.m. Then it is all nicely frozen over for the children of the neighbourhood by morning. They had a wonderful time on it, especially during the Christmas holidays...

● **SPEAKING OF THE CREDIT** river, and I think I talked about it last week too—I had a call from Town Engineer Doug Wilson asking if I knew the official name of the creek running through town down by the Creamery. Someone had told him he thought it was "Beaver Creek" and still someone else had the idea it was "Silvercreek." Looking up the old Halton Atlas I found the creek was charted through town on the map but there was no name affixed to it. And in the write-up on the town, it was merely mentioned as a branch of the Credit. As far as I can ascertain the creek doesn't have an official title, although it actually is the Northern Tributary of the West Branch of the Credit River. When I mentioned this to Engineer Wilson he said he was afraid the map they were making was not big enough to permit the use of the official title. It was suggested in view of the changing colours of the stream it might suitably be named "Rainbow Creek"...

● **HAD ANOTHER CALL** too that might bear mentioning here. It was from an indignant lady, much interested in Georgetown's Community Swimming Pool, who noticed that some thoughtless... to put it mildly... persons had dumped a can of garbage on the landscaped property behind the swimming pool. It's hard to believe that anyone would do such a thing. But there it was. Let's hope it won't happen again...

● **NOTICED BY THE DURHAM** Chronicle that they revived an ancient custom in Durham on Twelfth Night this year — the burning of the Christmas Trees. To the accompaniment of the town band, the singing of Christmas carols and a brief devotional service, 300 discarded Christmas trees made a blazing conflagration in the wintry night. Sounds like a fitting ending to the glory of the Christmas trees. They always look so forlorn denuded of their baubles, rolling around on the lawn or bumping off to the garbage disposal in the back of the garbage truck. Editor George Cadogan credits Durham's mayor for the inauguration of this old-country custom in Durham.

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THE MAIL BAG

Tely Photographer Praised For Action of Drowning

January 16th, 1956

I would like to pay tribute to the effort put forth recently on a Sunday by Russell Cooper, Telegram reporter of Brampton, to locate the body of James Lockhart, whose life was lost at Huttonville.

He worked unrelentingly with the members of the Provincial Police detachment, Brampton firemen and members of the armed forces in their difficult task.

I realize that Mr. Cooper would not be desirous of any eulogy in respect to what he has done, but in the words of one of the deceased relatives "he worked for the recovery of the boy's body as though it were one of his own."

Nothing finer could be said of any man's effort.

—Appreciative Bystander.

TAKES INSTRUCTION AT CENTRAL TECH

Tracy Barrager, associated with his uncle Don in the local Barrager-Cleaners firm, was in Toronto last week taking a special course in synthetic fabrics and spotting. The course was given at Central Technical School.

NAME FRANK KENTNER ANGLER, HUNTER PREXY

Frank (Bud) Kentner succeeded Arthur McAllister as president of Georgetown Anglers and Hunters association, when members gathered at the clubhouse at Hickory Falls Thursday evening to choose their new executive.

Don Thompson is vice president; John Koloski, secretary; and Bob Jenson treasurer. Directors of the association are Stan Lyon, Fred Spiers and the past president, Mr. McAllister.

The club has adopted for a project this year purchase of a movie projector. The idea is to have this available for loan to farm organizations and other groups, with a supply of conservation films which would further the aims of the Anglers and Hunters. The Good Friday social will be one money raising event for the projector.

In his review of 1955 activities the retiring president mentioned addition of kitchen facilities as the outstanding achievement. During the summer and fall an addition was built for the kitchen, and while it still has to be wired and there is some finishing to be done, it has already been put to use.

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FIBERGLAS DEVELOPS ARCTIC AXE HANDLE

A virtually unbreakable axe handle, developed for the Dept. of National Defence army manoeuvres in the frozen north, is now available on the general market. Made of Fiberglas reinforced plastic, this handle is particularly suited to work in sub-zero temperatures.

Three years of experimentation were required to perfect the handle for army use in the Arctic. It will not shrink or become brittle even at temperatures down to -60 degrees Fahrenheit. It will not warp.

Five materials were tested before Fiberglas reinforced plastic was chosen as the best for axe handles. The hickory, formerly used, shrinks in cold weather like other woods. Laminated birch turned too brittle in temperatures of 50 and 60 degrees below zero. The same thing happened to a compound of rubber and plastic. Solid magnesium was too heavy hollow magnesium was too expensive.

The "perfect" handle is molded by Smith and Stone Limited of Georgetown, Ont. and has the same "whip" and feel as a hickory handle. About 28 inches long, it can be filed, sanded or cut to fit an axe head.

Bright red colouring, permanently molded into the handle eliminates painting and the vivid shade makes the axe easy to locate in the bush or

snow. Non-organic, this material offers no interest to porcupines and other such pests; it is also moisture resistant.

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THE TELEGRAM
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