

Sugar and Spice

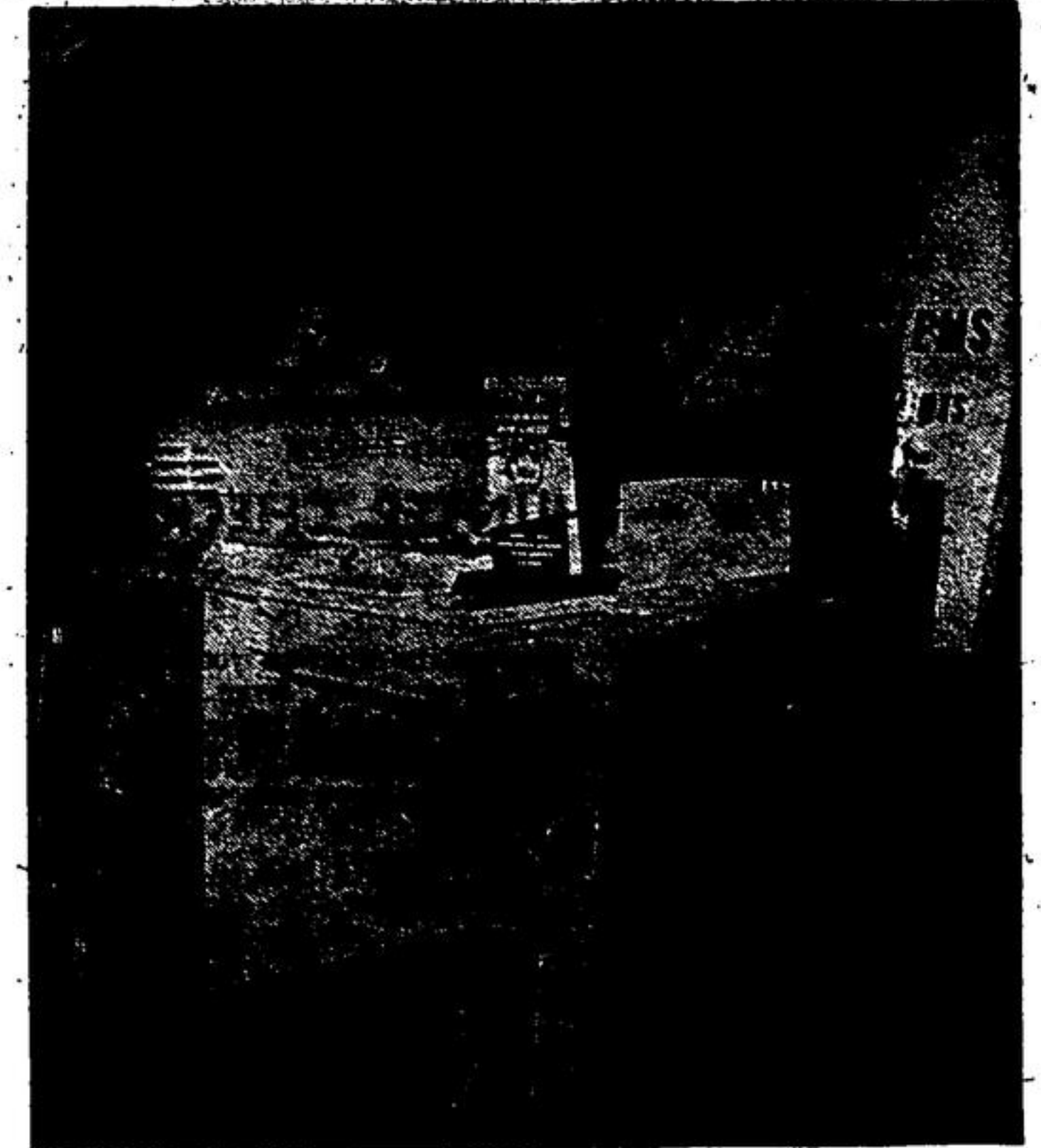
Dispensed by BILL SMILEY of the Wharton Echo

COUNTY FIRE POSTER PRIZES GO TO GEORGETOWN, GLEN

In a countywide contest for pupils will have their names and Grade 5 pupils, sponsored by Halton Fire Prevention Bureau, Georgetown and Glen Williams copped the top prize in both boys' and girls' division.

Ricky Parry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Parry, 177 Main St. N. and Carol Marchment, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Marchment, Glen Williams, submitted the prize-winning entries. A handsome trophy is given for annual competition in each class and the

prevention bureau was established only this year. The trophies have been donated by Halton Farmers Mutual Insurance Co. Trophies and winning posters are on display this week in the Herald office window.



TCA News
An "Electronic Reservations Brain" was demonstrated recently in Toronto by Trans-Canada Air Lines. The prototype "machine with a memory" was built for TCA by Ferranti Electric of Toronto after being conceived by Lyman Richardson, Communications Analyst with TCA in Montreal. It is expected to provide an up-to-the-second inventory of all available seats and complete a reservation in a matter of seconds. It will reduce by some 60 per cent the three-and-a-half million transactions that are required to board TCA's 250-thousand-passengers a month. The nerve centre which handles all available space throughout the TCA network of some 26,000 route miles, processes 30,000 communications messages a day. The automatic system, if adopted by TCA, will reduce the number of messages by at least 80 per cent.

Fellow wrote me the other day to see if I'd be interested in writing an article on hogs for Canadian Swine, a magazine produced by the Canadian Swine Breeders' Association. I could think of nothing in which I'd be less interested at the time, but the Old Girl got my dander up.

"Isn't that ridiculous?" she chorused. "Imagine you writing about hogs. You don't know a pig from a peccary." Since I am constitutionally unable to avoid arguing with her, and trying to prove I'm smarter than she thinks I am, "Oh," says I. "I don't, eh? We'll see about that. Some of my best friends are swine, and not just Canadian swine, either."

So I started thinking about hogs and doing a little research. The more I pondered on pigs, the more fascinated I became. Before I was finished, I determined to expose some of the canards about swine and present them in their true light as the "useful, fecund, adaptable and amenable" noblemen of the barnyard which have accompanied the progress of man throughout the world." The quotes are from the encyclopedia.

First thing that strikes one about a hog is his absolute utility. There is probably less waste on a hog than any other living creature. Man's puny body is just so much junk when the spirit had departed. Not so swine. A healthy hog just begins to get into the act when he's gives up the ghost.

We carve him into succulent pork roasts, tender hams, tasty pork chops, delectable spare ribs. Breakfasts would be a dead loss without that delicious back or side bacon he proffers. His bristles are used in brushes, his skin made into fine leather. And from the ears of lady hogs, we make silk purses. What other beast can boast such a variety of attractions after death?

One of the best points about hogs is that, unlike children, they will eat anything. You can raise a hog for peanuts, or on peanuts, if you have a good supply. They thrive on garbage. In fact, for centuries they were maintained as the family garbage pail. If things are really tough, they'll even eat their own children. Surely nothing could be more economical to raise than that.

For thousands of years, the hog was merely a friend of the family, holding the place now reserved for the family dog. When he died, he was buried with tears. This went on until a native of China lost his home by fire, one day when he was down at the pub. He rushed home when he got the news, tears streaming from his eyes as he realized his pet pig was locked in the bathroom. As he neared the house, he was assailed by the odour of roast pork, and the water stopped running out of his eyes and began running out of his mouth. Sad to relate, he ate his pet, and this was the discovery of pork as a food fit for the gods.

But don't think for a moment that hogs have served humanity only as food. That is perhaps the least of their accomplishments. For one thing, they have enriched our language immeasurably. Many of our most colourful expressions are direct from the pig-sty. Pigs, for example, are something nobody would consider buying in a poke, even a handsome, 1957 poke, with hydraulic.

What would authors do if they couldn't describe nasty characters in their books as having "little pig-like eyes"? What would the vicious German officers in the movies say if "Schweinhund" (pig-dog) were denied them? What would southern politicians do if they couldn't accuse their opponents of growing hog-fat at the public trough, or eating too high off the hog?

Another common misconception about hogs is that they are dirty. We are always reading in books about Spanish-speaking types calling someone "feisty pig," or Frenchmen doing the same with "sales cochons." Fact is, they don't even sweat, like humans, so can't even be accused of having B.O.

That's why they like to wallow in mud and water. It's the only way they can cool their bodies. This habit has given rise to the belief that hogs are foul in their habits. But it's the dirty man who makes the dirty hog. Given a chance, they will be as clean as any other animals in similar environment, and cleaner than lots of humans. Modern piggeries built on this principle are easily kept clean and sanitary through the co-operation of the animals themselves.

Space does not permit further outgazing on the sterling character of hogs, but I'd like to make one point. The economy of Canada was based on the beaver, in its infancy. That was fine. But for many years now, the beaver has been little more than a nuisance who builds dams in trout streams and floods farmers' property. Can-

ada produces some of the best bacon in the world. Why not have the hog as our national symbol instead of the beaver? He's twice as useful, and his habits are much more akin to those of our people than are the diligence and patience of the beaver.

Before you begin to think I have gone hog-wild on the subject, I will say my final word — to the ladies. Ponder on what you have read here, meditate on the nobility of the hog, and next time you get sore at the old man, don't say "You're nothing but a dirty pig." Hogs have feelings too, you know.

HORNBY

SEVERAL CHURCH MEETINGS KEEP LADIES OCCUPIED

The WMS of Hornby United Church met Thursday, Nov. 7th in the church basement. Mrs. G. Sinclair opened the meeting with a hymn and the scripture reading. Mrs. C. Wrigglesworth read the minutes of the last meeting. The roll call was answered by all the members present.

Ways of making money were discussed and also a special program for the Christmas meeting. The ninth line group was in charge of the program. The meeting closed with the singing of a hymn.

Mrs. D. Leslie opened the W.A. with the singing of the theme song. Mrs. L. Sampson read the minutes of the last meeting, gave the treasurer's report and read the correspondence. Mrs. N. Cantelon gave the report on the last banquet to which they catered. Two nominating committees were elected. The last minute details for the bazaar Nov. 27th were made, also for another banquet to which they are catering. A prayer closed the meeting. A delicious lunch was served by Mrs. Wrigglesworth and Mrs. C. Brown.

A joint meeting of the W.A.'s met in the church basement last Monday evening. Mr. C. Brown acted as chairman for the evening. After the theme song, Mrs. J. Reid read the scripture. Mrs. D. Leslie led in prayer and everyone joined in the singing of a hymn.

Mrs. H. Learmont introduced the guest speaker, Mrs. Wilson. She told the members how they could have two W.A. groups in church and be successful. Mrs. L. Sampson thanked Mrs. Wilson for coming and her helpful suggestions.

Lunch was served by the evening group.

Sixteen members of the St. Stephen's Anglican Church Guild met at the home of Mrs. John Bradley on Tuesday evening, November 5th.

The president, Laura Plant opened the meeting with the Guild prayer, Mary Flippance read the minutes of the last meeting and Irene Saunders gave the treasurer's report. Marion Robertson reported that she had sent a get well card to Jean Drewbrook from the Guild.

More articles were handed in and Mrs. H. Bradley brought the Christmas cakes she had baked for the bazaar.

The Guild decided to adopt a needy family for Christmas. Irene Hunter and Irene Saunders offered to look after this project.

The next meeting will be held in the church basement Tuesday, November 19th. The meeting closed with prayers and lunch was served.

Jack Simpson and Ed Bailey left for a deer hunting trip with Calvin Bailey in the Haliburton district.

Friends of Joe Thompson had a party for him on Saturday night and presented him with a bridge table and chairs.

NORVAL

TELLS INSTITUTE GROUP ABOUT TRIP TO CEYLON

Mrs. John McCullough, a member of the ACWW, gave a very interesting description of her trip to Ceylon and around the world when she was introduced by Mrs. Oliver Hunter as guest speaker at the November meeting of Norval Women's Institute. The ladies met at the home of Mrs. Collins.

Mrs. Hunter, who is convener of historical research and current events, was in charge of the program and called on Mrs. Walter Fidler to give current events. Mrs. McCullough had two colourful movies to show the ladies. It was the first time the ACWW conference had been held in the eastern hemisphere. There were members from 28 countries, which included forty Canadians.

During a short business period, the Georgetown fall fair committee reported excellent results for the entries. Mrs. Don Murray and Mrs. Burke reported on their lamp shade project. Mrs. Graydon Chester reminded the Ladies of District Annual day in Milton on November 14th, when reports were presented on the Ceylon trip by some of the members of the Associated Countrywomen of the World.

Mrs. D. Murray and Mrs. H. McLaughlin assisted the hostess, in serving tea and sandwiches. On December 5th, the W.I. will meet in Georgetown at the home of Mrs. Oliver Hunter, and roll call will be a gift for Children's Aid.

TO THE SKIRL OF THE PIPES, Lorne Scots from Peel, Dufferin and Halton counties marched through the streets of Georgetown on Sunday, October 27th for the regiment's annual Church Parade. Upper right, Lts. J. G. Miller of Brampton and E. F. Lince of Georgetown, salute after placing a wreath on the cenotaph. Centre, companies march smartly to Georgetown Presbyterian Church where they heard an inspiring address by the minister, Rev. A. J. Calder, who was assisted at the service by Anglican padre, Capt. D. J. Woeller, of Orangeville. Service was followed by reception at the North Halton Golf and Country Club. At club house, below, are, front row, Mrs. E. F. Conover and son Peter, Stanley Hall, MPP for Halton; Mrs. E. E. Lagerquist; Sandy Best, MP for Halton; standing, Lt. E. E. Lagerquist; Honorary Lt. Col. J. R. Barber, who earlier, took the salute, and Major E. F. Conover, parade commander.

NATIONAL FARM POLICY IS FORUM DISCUSSION

Mrs. M. J. Brown
The 1957-58 National Farm Radio Forum season opened November 4th. All forum groups in Halton report a good attendance and much discussion on the very timely topic, National Farm Policy. The groups agreed the greatest

problem affecting all types of farming today is the low prices received for farm commodities, compared with prices farmers must pay for what they buy. Shortage of adequate labour and over-production of some products were other problems mentioned.

There were differences of opinion on the question "Can a national farm policy be designed to raise the general level of agricul-

ture and at the same time meet your needs?" The majority of the forums think such a policy could be arrived at and be advantageous to farmers, probably be price supports or setting a higher standard for farm products. One group feels it would be very difficult to form a policy which would be satisfactory to all as there is such a diversity of opinion as to what would constitute such a set-up.

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