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# Sugar and Spice

Dispatched by BILL SHELLEY of the Western Star

Readers in other parts of the country will pardon it if I turn the spotlight into my own backyard for once. I can't help it. As a loyal Bruce Peninsular, I'm in such a state of flaming indignation that my blood is boiling.

Did you read that piece of asinine advice offered by the Toronto Civil Defence organization? When asked what the people of Toronto should do in case the city was hit by a hydrogen bomb, do you know what this assortment of boobies replied? It stated that the survivors were to head for the Bruce peninsula.

Well, all I can say is: "Hold it, boys! You're off the rails, around the bend, your lid is flipped, and your marbles are rolling all over the place. In addition, over my dead body." Things are bad enough around here now, what with the commercial fishing gone dud and the sewage system needing an overhaul. Don't let's pile horror on top of calamity.

What a colossal neural just like that, they're going to walk in on us, without so much as a by-your-leave. Just move in, bag and baggage, when the going gets tough, just like so many shiftless relatives.

I don't notice Toronto saying: "Here, we've got too much industry. The town's getting too big and rich. Let's send some of our new industries up to the Bruce Peninsula."

We belabour them with tourist literature, extolling the beauties of our Peninsula. So where do they go on holidays? They go to Muskoka, or Lake Simcoe, or Bala, and muddle around happily with thousands of other Hogtowners.

No, it just won't do, and I'm afraid the Toronto Civil Defence is going to have to come up with another snappy idea. Because if they try to force it, of course, we will secede. All we get now from Toronto is a few noisy newspapers and some lousy TV programmes. Toronto, on the other hand, would be in dire straits if we stopped sending them our choice beef and dairy products, along with 98 per cent of our brightest young people, as soon as they're old enough to work.

And if they tried to get tough about it, we'd stop them cold. We have enough stones on the Bruce Peninsula to build a barricade that would make the Great Wall of China look like a curbing. And we have what is probably the most concentrated collection of rifle and shotgun experts that ever slipped up a trail, one jump ahead of a game warden.

If it came to a siege, we'd live handsomely on beef, pork, lamb, venison and trout. We've plenty of milk and we're almost surrounded by fresh water. We have enough timber to keep our home fires burning for forty years. It would be tougher to crack than Troy.

Now, all this may seem a little far-fetched, but I've sounded the opinion of the natives pretty thoroughly, and they're ready to fight to the death against an invasion that would make those of Genghis Khan look like a Sunday afternoon visit from the relatives.

Don't think we're completely cold blooded about this whole thing. We realize that Torontonians are people too, or near enough, and as Christian souls, we'd be duty bound to give them a hand, if worst came to worst.

However, let's not make this a one-way deal. After all, the U.S. and Britain are expected to subsidize countries they plan to invade in case of necessity. We're willing to take in the Hogtowners, on certain conditions. I've been authorized by the Shadow Cabinet of the tentative Bruce Peninsula Republic to offer Toronto the following terms.

First From now until the bomb all Torontonians will pledge to spend all their vacations on the Bruce Peninsula, and their money freely while here. Second, an annual tribute of oil and coal, sufficient to heat every home on the Bruce Peninsula, shall be paid by the City of Toronto. The bomb might come in winter, and they'd expect to be warm when we took them in.

Third: The City of Toronto shall each year, until the bomb drops, pay each family on the Bruce Peninsula the sum of \$1,000 for the convenience, expense and plain subsistence it will incur when the refugees arrive. That's cheap, when you think of some of the people who'll be coming along.

Fourth: The City of Toronto shall maintain at all times, in the cellars, cupboards and root-houses of the Bruce Peninsula, an ample supply of foodstuffs to feed for two years the entire population of Toronto. Nothing fancy. Just a few thousand tons of canned hams, ten or twelve freight cars of smoked oysters, and about \$20 million worth of liquor. Just the essentials.

Well, there it is — the 4-Point Plan for the evacuation of Toronto. Simple and sensible. We've got room for them all up here on the Bruce Peninsula, plus clean air, courteous drivers and a lot of other things they couldn't even buy in the city. If they're serious about coming here when the bomb arrives, we'll talk turkey on those very reasonable and humane terms. Otherwise, we'll secede and man the barricades.

# TIE VOTE, COUNCIL VETOES JOINING BELL RATE PROTEST

WHAT COUNCIL DID

With humorous references to a Herald editorial congratulating council for taking no action on the proposed Bell Telephone rate rise, a motion by Cr. Hyde and Harrison last Tuesday to support opposition to it by the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities, and pay up to 1 cent per capita in legal costs.

With Cr. Sykes and Gunn and Deputy Reeve Gray absent from the meeting, a recorded vote was asked and Mayor Armstrong cast the deciding vote against joining the anti-Bell forces. The movers got support from Reeve Sargent, and were opposed by Crs. McGillivray, Elliott and the mayor.

The discussion and motion followed reading of a letter from the Federation which pointed out its successful opposition last fall to a rate rise and its intention to again cooperatively share costs of fighting the request again.

"We stuck our necks out before, and if we don't oppose it this time we'll be admitting we made a mistake," said Cr. Hyde.

"Notwithstanding the press, I think we were right last time," said Reeve Sargent, pointing out that the Board of Transport Commissioners had cut down the phone company's original request before it was entirely vetoed by the fed-

eral cabinet.

"We shouldn't get mixed up in it again" was Cr. McGillivray's opinion.

"We've read the Herald's editorial, and heard the Bell's side of the story presented at council recently," said the mayor. "We should have some idea by now whether we want to oppose it or not."

Cr. Hyde said the Bell company had presented their case well, but he thinks they are "trying to get everything from one end."

"The government supported us in vetoing a rate rise. If there's any danger of the company's operations being affected by not letting them earn higher rates, I don't think the government will veto it again," he said. "I'm not saying their case is right or wrong, but I think it should be opposed so all the arguments can be heard."

"Unless we have a good reason for opposing, we'll be like the Irishman who landed in New York and asked 'if they had a government so he could oppose it' commented the mayor. "No one wants to pay any more money for anything, but are there reasons?"

Cr. Hyde pointed out that the phone company has a monopoly. Most private business is ruled by competition, and if this isn't pre-

sent, an increase must be justified before it is allowed.

Mayor Armstrong replied that other businesses seem to be monopolistic too, as far as price is concerned and mentioned salt, beer, bread and steel as some products which seem to have not much price differential between companies.

"Right or wrong, I can't per capita is cheap to have proper opposition to see if a rate rise is justified," said Cr. Hyde.

Reeve Sargent said that although opposed to a rate rise, he was also opposed to a motion to oppose it, because he feared from comment around the table that it would not pass.

"If we sit quietly, we can accomplish our end without fanfare" he continued. "A defeated motion will get wide publicity."

A \$250 grant to Esqueping Agricultural Society to assist in operating the 1958 fair at Georgetown was made, after a fair official, Perc Cleave, appeared to request the usual grant.

Action on applying for additional road subsidy on priming and chipping roads in Delrex was delayed when Cr. Fred Harrison said he would like the engineer to explain the situation before he would favour it.

A motion had been prepared for this, but was not presented. Mayor Armstrong explained that the engineer feels that priming and chipping should immediately

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follow work which Delrex is to do on grading and ditches, and that the town should be in a position to go ahead as soon as the Delrex part of the work is done.



## Look who's wearing her 'immediate cash adjustment'!

Gracious! What next? A body can hardly keep up with things these days. What with dogs spinning around in the sky and all. And now all this excitement about changing over your Victory Bonds. I was sorry to see mine go. Had it so long you know. But when

the young man at the bank explained that these new bonds paid more interest. Well! I know a good thing when I see it. And besides, he gave me a nice cash adjustment—which I straightaway spent on a new bonnet. Like it?

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**MARYLAND GIRL VISITS GEORGETOWN PEN PAL**

Marie Laird, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Del Laird, 6 Queen St., had a dream come true last Sunday and Monday when a pen pal with whom she has been corresponding for several years came to visit with her and her family.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mathews of Havre de Grace, Maryland, brought their daughter, Wanda here to Canada solely to visit with her pen pal. It was the first time the girls, who have become great friends through their letters, had met.