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**BORN-1963 AND DANNY McNEIL**

DANNY McDOUGAL McNEIL believes in beginning a new year with a clean slate - and how clean can a slate get? Young Daniel was born New Year's Day to Mr. and Mrs. Dan McNeil, 2 Roselind Drive, at the Georgetown and District Memorial Hospital. Above his mother, Mrs. Margaret McNeil, caresses her celebrity in her hospital bed. The attending doctor was Dr. A. E. Macintosh.

**BRAMPTON**  
An all-time low drop-out rate for Brampton High School has convinced teachers that students are heeding the advice to stay in school. Figures released by the head of the guidance department show that the drop-out rate for the 1962 school year was only 4.8 percent of the enrolment.

On Sunday, January 6th, a Messenger Group was started at Norval United Church, held after Sunday School during the church service. Misses Gwen Gwyn and Marie Robertson are the leaders and meetings will be held the first Sunday of each month. At the first meeting a film "Time For School" about Korea, was shown.

Mr. and Mrs. Keith Webb Gwyn and Glen, visited with Keith's sister, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Vessey of Ottawa on the weekend of December 30th. Keith's mother, Mrs. Webb of Prince Edward Island, returned home with them.

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**NORVAL Students Get One Way Bus Service**

Norval delegates who have been attending meetings of the Esquering School Board recently, petitioning for bus transportation for 22 children who attend Norval Public School, were partially successful. The children are being brought to the school by bus in the morning but no transportation is provided to return them home after school.

Due to the continual rise in school taxes these tax-payers feel that their children are entitled to transportation provided by the school bus as most rural children now have bus service. The parents have been driving the children to and from school for several years. Mr. Joe Schertel and Mr. Bruce Nixon were spokesmen for the group at the School Board meetings.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Hazel of Halifax on the birth of a baby daughter, Lisa. A sister for Victor John. Another granddaughter for Mr. and Mrs. Victor Hazel. Also congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Brown of Georgetown on the birth of a baby girl. Proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Needham.

Miss Prairie Maguire is spending a few days with Mr. and Mrs. Chris Greenwood of Brampton following several days in Georgetown & District Memorial Hospital.

Second member of his family to be commissioned in the Lorne Scots, CSM George Egan has been promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant. The announcement was made by Lt. Col. E. F. Conover, commanding officer of the Peel, Dufferin, and Halton militia regiment.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Fishburn, Sharon, Donna, David, Douglas, Miss Carol Mann of Georgetown and Mr. and Mrs. Ron Fishburn spent Christmas with Nancy, Mr. and Mrs. Art Meadows of Caledonia. On Sunday, December 30, the family gathered at their home in the village for a New Year's get together.

During the Christmas holidays Norval Public School had fluorescent lights installed in the class rooms and the hall was painted, making a much appreciated improvement on the lighting in the school.

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**BUILDING OF BRICK AND BRAINS, BIG BUSINESS**

THE GEORGETOWN AND DISTRICT Composite School Board plunged into 1963 business at their inaugural meeting Wednesday. Basically it's the same board that handled a record volume of business in 1962 but with one change - Lt. Col. G. O. Brown has returned to the board replacing Clarence Anderson as an Esquering rep. In the front row are vice chairman Harold Baird, Ed Hall, chairman Douglas Latimer and retiring chairman William Breckenridge. In the back row are Keith Webb, Gordon Brown, Fred Masterman and secretary Ern Forgrave.

**SUGAR and SPICE**  
By Bill Smiley

Well, it's stock taking time in the old firm and one look around confirms my suspicions - that the shelves are pretty bare.

I don't know about you, but I'll bet you are in the same shape I am - exactly where I was, financially, physically and morally, when 1962 got under way.

I've given it my best for the last 52 weeks, but apparently the best is none too good. In fact, if it is possible, I've slipped back a notch or two in some of the categories mentioned above. Financially, I'm dead even - up to my ears in debt. Physically, I've gone from a 10 pound excess to a 15 pound deficit. Morally, I think perhaps I've gained a couple of centimetres. I haven't gone off the weed and on the wagon, but I have stopped lying to the kids about how good I was, and what a help to my parents I was, when I was their age.

Looking back over the past 12 months, I don't see anything worth flinging my new hat in the air about. I helped ram another 180-odd kids through the education grinder. Only major accomplishment in our family was produced by young Hugh, who packed off the highest mark in Canada in his first 10 piano exam, and fared his parents' momentarily with visions of front row seats at Carnegie Hall some night in the future.

He and Kim grew a foot each, doubling our grocery bill in the process. The Old Battleaxe grew a little mellow, falling for the first 12-month period in our marriage, to hit me with anything except the flat of her hand. Our cat had eight kittens. And we managed to meet our payments. That's a pretty good epitaph in these times - "He Kept Up His Payments."

Not an inspiring performance by the Smileys in 1962, but an average one if the country had done as well. We'd all have reason to be satisfied. But it did not. The past year is not one that will go down in history as the finest hour of the true north strong and freezing, I am afraid.

On the social front, booze sales boomed, a healthy sign for distillery stockholders, but not for the nation at large. But we can't blame that on the people. We must blame it on the weather. This country is a drinker's delight. He has to take a drop to keep out the cold in winter, to be delighted when spring finally arrives, to be more celebratory, needs extra beverage intake to counter summer's torrid blast, and he finds the nip in the air conducive to nipping elsewhere, in the fall.

Once again, Canadians revealed their sturdy political independence, and little else, in a general election. About the same time, they learned with no little dismay that the country was heading for the rocks, despite all those donations made so wholeheartedly - and blasphe- mously - every April.

In international affairs, Canada moved boldly from a weak position to a weaker one, ending the year with about the same world prestige as Monaco.

At home, we worried about the same old things, the whooping crane vanishing, the way we treat our Eskimos, our jam-packed mental institutions, our lack of a flag and national anthem, free medicare and capital punishment - without doing anything about them.

In the entertainment field, we watched with pride as Canada's own Bob Goulet, became one of the continent's most sought-after performers. We watched with wry amusement as Stifford's own Tom Patterson sold an assortment of the century's biggest rubes the Yukon Festival. We watched with horror as Quebec's own (thank goodness) Real Caouette emerged from tadpole to bullfrog.

Again in 1962, Canadians spent most of their time talking about the weather, money and their cars, and almost none of their time talking about love, beauty and goodness. Again they talked of the world's hungry and stuffed their own guts. Again they talked tolerance and practised prejudice.

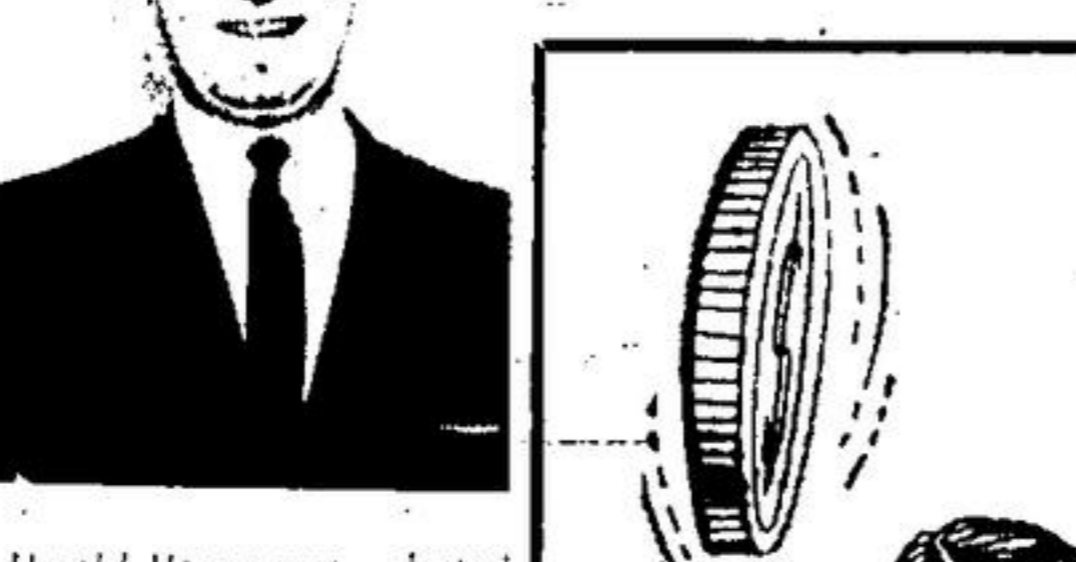
Oh well, it's the only game in town, and maybe 1963 will be better. There's only one way we can go, and it isn't down. And don't mind me, always get only at this time of winter.

Mr. Bert Bullock has been in

Georgetown and District Hospital. We hope he'll soon be better.

We send get-well wishes to Mr. Art Beaumont who has been confined to bed for a while.

**Anglican Men Elect Harold Henry President**



Harold Henry was elected president of the Brotherhood of Anglican Churchmen at St. George's Church when members met for breakfast and a business meeting following attendance at the 8 o'clock communion service Monday.

Reviewing the year's program, retiring president Ted Gorth said the BAC had continued its monthly program of attendance at the early service followed by breakfast in the parish hall and had also sponsored special coffee hours to say farewell to Rev. Kenneth Richardson and to welcome Rev. John McMullin who came to the parish from Guelph early in the year.

St. George's was host chapter for the diocesan B.A.C. fall rally; several members attended the diocesan rally in Hamilton and men of St. George's had comprised the choir at a deanery service in Burlington.

The B.A.C. organized and planned the parish picnic, conducted a church service on laymen's Sunday and assisted with services while the rector took his summer vacation. They sponsored a young man at summer camp and assisted with the St. George's Day dinner at the church.

Men of the group painted the kitchen and the clubrooms and made other miscellaneous repairs to the church property.

John Elliott, a BAC past president, presented the nominating committee report at the breakfast and it was endorsed by those attending.

Serving with Mr. Henry will be Ken Ewles, vice president, Oliver Mills, secretary, Syd Pratt, treasurer, William Chaplin, convener, and executive members Al Boustridge, Gerry Corbett, Tom Eason, Paul Thompson and Lloyd Kyner.

Mrs. J. Crawford spent New Year's with her son and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. Crawford in Orangeville.

Miss V. Haines, the district school nurse, spent the holidays at her home in Windsor and is now back on the job again.

We extend congratulations to one of our life-long residents, Mr. John Wheeler on his 88th birthday on Jan. 5th. His daughter Mary, Mrs. P. Vannatter, took him to visit his sister-in-law, Mrs. J. Davison in Guelph and there he enjoyed his birthday cake with candles. May you have good health in the year ahead, Mr. Wheeler.

Mr. Bert Bullock has been in

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