

Letters From a "Trouble Spot"

Letters from a Georgetown soldier in Viet Nam

When he received a posting to the Far East a member of the Canadian Military U.N. delegation, Albert Carter began putting his observations on paper and sending them home to the officers and members of Loyal Orange Lodge 243 of which he is a member. The lodge found the accounts so absorbing that they submitted them to the Herald and part of the first letter, appears below as article No. 5 of a few series:

Hanoi, North Viet Nam, November 10th, 1962

To the Officers and members of Royal Oak Loyal Orange Lodge No. 243: Once again you are going to have to listen to another letter on life in the ancient and mysterious east. For the Labour day weekend I took my one weekend a month pass in Vientiane the capital of Laos. The best way of describing Vientiane would be to tell you to imagine a city made up of a western ghost town, Dogpatch and Tobacco Road, dotted with Buddhist temples and covered with a thousand smells and stenches—mostly stenches.

The temples came in two types. One type of temple resembles a large, sideless barn with a fancy roof and much painting and decoration. The other type is an ancient stone pile covered with moss and with the stone discoloured by age. In the latter class is the temple with the golden spire, which resembles a World War I German helmet sitting on a stone box. The spire is painted gold, and the very top there is what is reported to be a rod of solid gold several feet high. Around the edge of the box are large carved stone scallops. The whole of this ancient pile is surrounded by a yellow plaster wall with fancy "loopholes" in it, and one gate in each side. The gateways are decorated by carved dragons or serpents. The gates themselves are of bright red wood with gilt metal work on them. Out in front there is a statue of an ancient king or general seated on a chair and with a knife over his knees.

Not all the monuments are ancient, however, for the Laotian government is building, out of concrete donated by the Americans for repairing streets and the airport runway, a full-sized replica of France's famous 'Arc de Triomphe'. No one knows why, for the last time that Laos won any sort of triumph was about 1200 years ago, or roughly about the time that Alfred was King of England.

I do not know who designed this monument, but he forgot to put in any foundations, with the result that the more it gets to look like the Arc de Triomphe the more it acts like

Underpass is Possibility to Replace Railway Bridge

A hint that consideration is being given to an underpass under the CNR tracks, to replace present Mountainview bridge given by Mayor Hyde at the April 1st council meeting. Council was discussing a request from Georgetown Industrial Association that a council spokesman come to their next meeting to report on developments since closing of the station roadway.

Improve Curves, Hills Recommendation of Jury

Bad curves and hills on Halton County Road No. 3 in the village of Stewarttown should be improved, to eliminate traffic hazards, a coroner's jury recommended. The inquest was into the death of Elsie Cash, of Stewarttown, who was killed as she knelt in the middle of the road, to comfort a dog which had been struck by a car. The jury also recommended that large signs, warning motorists of the bad curves, should be posted at both entrances to the village. No blame was attached to Joseph Howson Ruddle of Georgetown, driver of the car which struck Miss Cash. Mr. Ruddle told the jury he saw an object in the road which he at first took to be some thing dropped from a truck. As he got closer he realized it was a woman. He said she jumped into the path of his car while attempting to get off the road.

Easter is Theme For Ashgrove Thankoffering

The Thankoffering meeting of the U.C.W. was held in the church on Tuesday evening April 2nd with a fair attendance of ladies, also some visitors from Hornby. President Mrs. C. B. Dick opened with a hymn and prayer, after quiet music had been played by Mrs. A. J. Ruddle. Mrs. John Ruddle gave a lovely devotional on Easter, which she said "only occurs in Springtime when there is such renewed hope and glory." Easter means that Christ is not dead but lives for evermore. It is a message of life triumphant and victory over death. Scripture from the 28th chapter of Matthew telling of Mary Magdalene, finding the stone rolled away, was read by Mrs. Cecil Wilson. Mrs. Francis Thompson sang beautifully "It was for me that Jesus came to suffer" which added so much to the meeting. The minutes of last meeting were read and it was voted that a letter of thanks be sent to the gentleman who had sent two baskets of apples for the Co-Op banquet. The special speaker for the evening didn't arrive so Mrs. Dick conducted a questionnaire and many interesting views on our study book and our meetings were brought forth. Mrs. J. M. Wickson had with her an interesting pamphlet on Easter which was read by Mrs. J. Bellbird who told us "Easter is associated with a Garden, a Cross, a Tomb and a Life." Christ's life was dedicated to the high task of bringing abundant life to all. If you are really so anxious to contribute something to civilization, go and contribute a man, that is what God did on Easter long ago. It was of himself he gave. After singing a hymn, the meeting closed and all went downstairs for a social hour over the tea tray.

Retain Pipe Band For \$350 Performance Fee

The town will continue to employ the Girls Pipe Band to play at civic functions at a yearly fee of \$350. Mrs. Bob Hillier interviewed council April 1st, explaining the need for finances and suggesting that the \$1500 grant to the Citizens Band might be shared by the pipers. It was explained that the \$1500 had been set by plebiscite some years ago and is earmarked for that band. However, Mayor Hyde appointed the pipe band to play at the Citizens Band for a discussion. "I realize the good publicity the town gets from the pipe band and I have favoured a higher fee, but our budget is set," said Reeve Elliott. "Perhaps in future we can consider more money for the girls."

Scottish Farmerette to Be Summer Visitor

Halton County Junior Farmers will be hosts to a delegate from Scotland this year, from May 22nd to 30th.

The Junior Farmers' Association of Ontario and the Ontario Department of Agriculture are this year acting as joint hosts to delegations of Young Farmers from Northern Ireland, England and Scotland. The delegates spend two months in Ontario visiting the points of interest and meeting with Junior Farmer Clubs in the Province. Each delegate spends a week at a time in a county or district, living with one or two families while in each County.

The local Junior Farmer Clubs and the host families are responsible for arranging an interesting and educational program for the delegate during his or her stay in the County.

Halton is very pleased to see that Miss Mary Steel, of Staffar Farms, Kilmarnock, Argyshire, Scotland, will be our delegate from May 22nd to 30th. Miss Steel lives and assists her parents on a 150 acre mixed farming enterprise in Scotland. Livestock raised on their farm includes 70 dairy

cows, as well as secondary beef and sheep enterprises. Miss Steel has been very active in Young Farmer work in Scotland (equivalent of Ontario's Junior Farmers) and Halton Juniors will be able to get many good ideas from her, pertaining to Junior Farmer projects for the future.

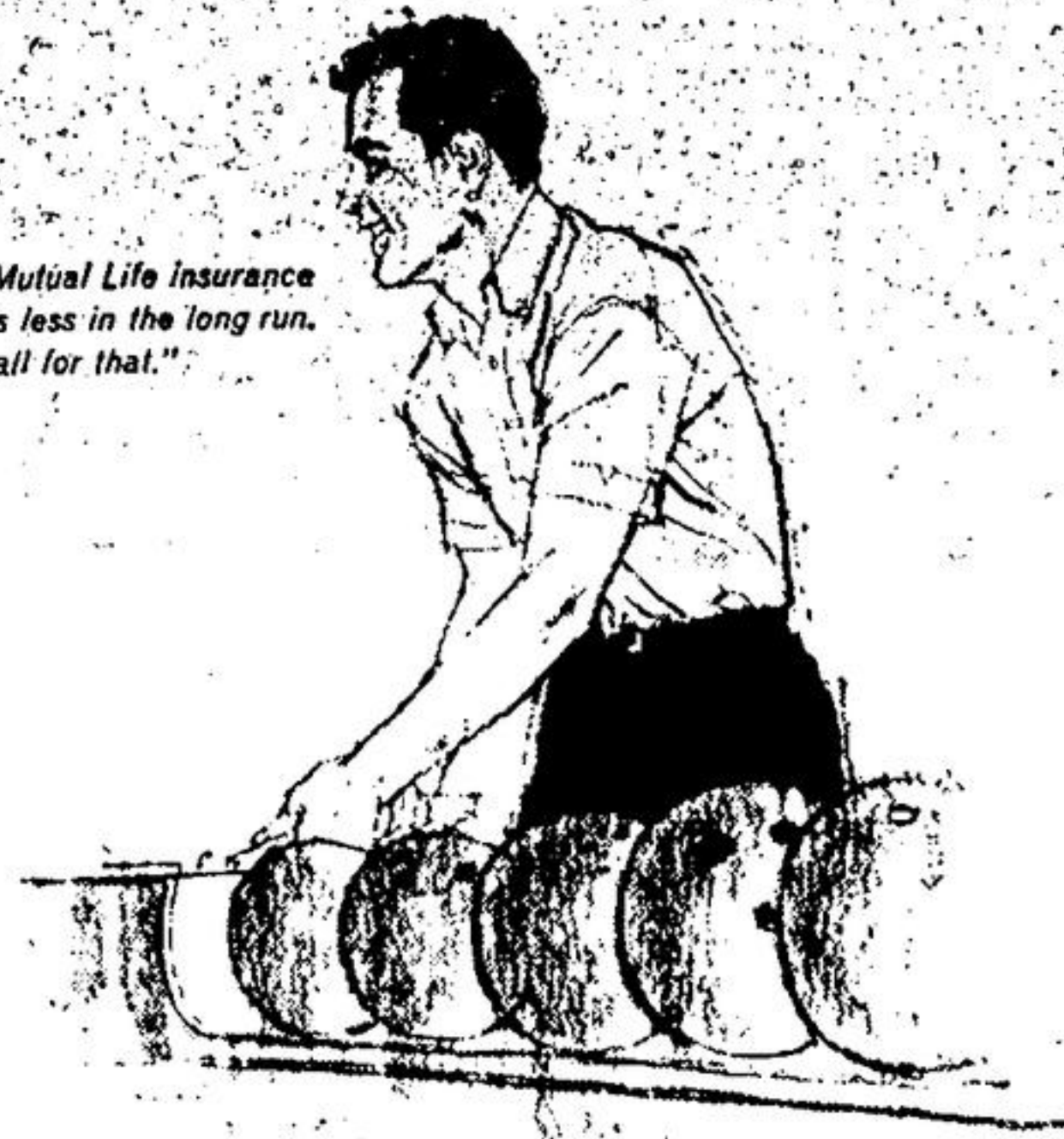
Train Apple Trees For Proper Growth

Halton County has almost 20,000 apple trees under five years of age. This represents 29 per cent of all commercial apple trees in the county. The

training that is given at this time will determine many of the problems that may confront the grower over the next 50 years.

"As the twig is bent, so grows the tree" is an old saying with real meaning to the orchardist. Proper training must start when the tree is planted in the new orchard. A central leader branch should be selected now, which will become the main trunk, and four or five lateral branches should be chosen in the first year or two that will form the main bearing of the tree. These lateral branches should be spaced six to twelve inches apart, leaving the main trunk at a 45 to 60 degree angle. Sharper angles tend to be weak and will one day break from a heavy load of fruit, and branches at right angles to the trunk will be depressed to rest on the ground. Branches on one side of the trunk should be 18 to 24 inches apart, so a spiral arrangement is best for these lateral branches. Most of the problems of breakage, winter injury and quality fruit production found in the older orchards now, is a direct result of not training those trees when they were young.

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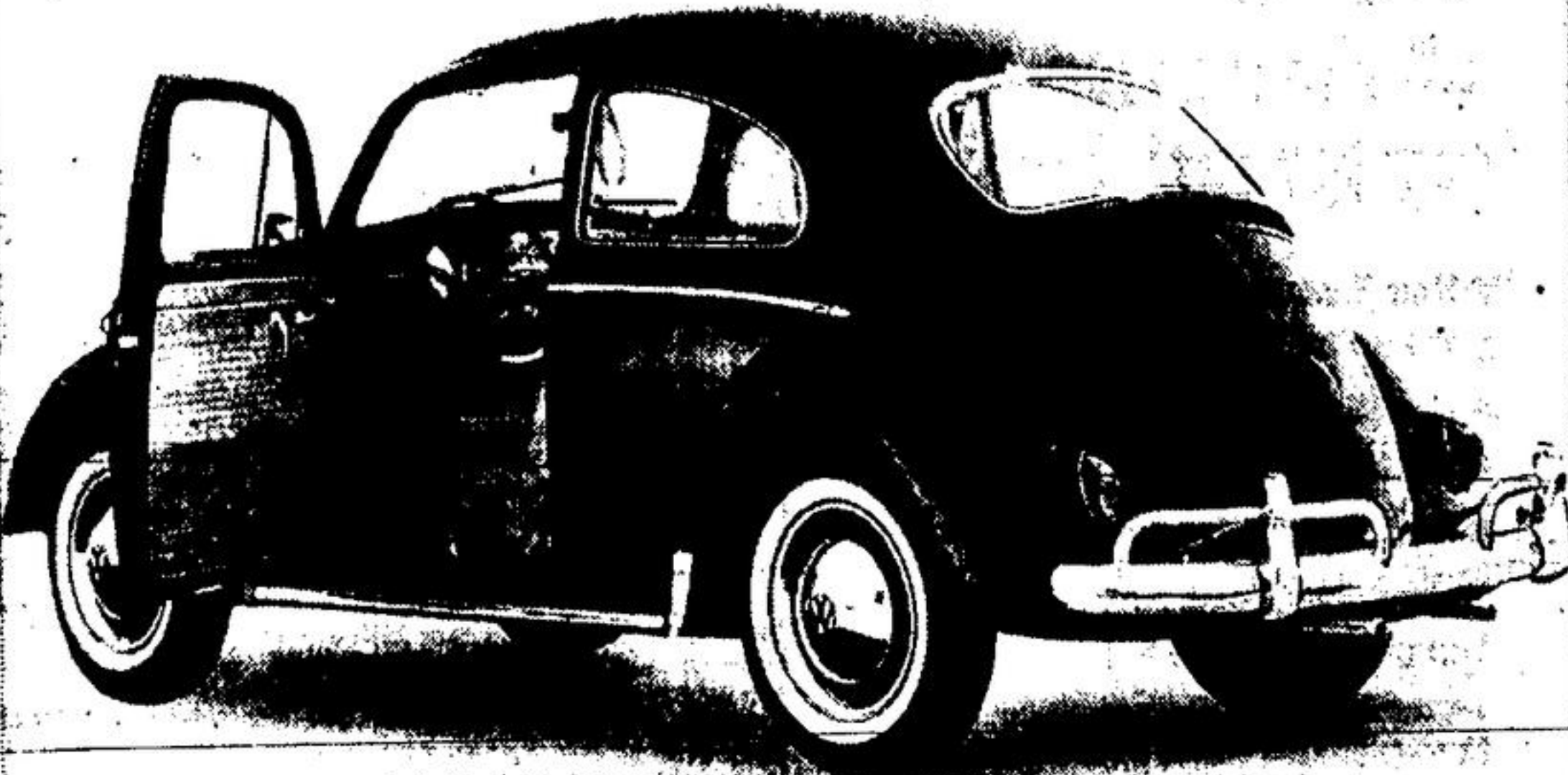
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Weed Control is Stressed By Soil, Crop Association

One of the projects of the Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association for 1963 is the promotion of weed control. All phases of weed control was covered at a Weed Control Day sponsored by the Association, on Thursday, March 28th. The Weed Control Day was held at the Milton Fair Grounds, with displays and demonstrations by manufacturers and retailers of chemical weed control equipment and materials.

The program was under the direction of Halton County Weed Inspector Vernon McArthur, Agricultural Representative J. A. Francis, and the president of the Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association, James McKay. In lining up the program, municipal weed control was featured from 10 a.m. to noon. The afternoon program was attended largely by farm operators. In the municipal weed control section Mr. Howard Henry of the Soils & Crops branch, Ontario Dept. of Agriculture, outlined municipal weed control in Halton. Mr. Henry commented on some of the problems involved in obtaining satisfactory controls on such weeds as Wild Carrot.

Following Mr. Henry's address, a panel was moderated by Mr. Vernon McArthur. Panel members included Mr. A. Nightingale, Custom Sprayer Operator; Mr. Doug Bell, representing Works Dept. at Burlington; Mr. Ray McMurray of the Works Dept., and Stan Wilson, foreman for Halton county roads. During the afternoon farm operators had an opportunity to be brought up to date on some of the new advances in chemical weed control. Mr. Howard Henry outlined the use of such chemicals as 2, 4-D, MCP, 2,4-DB, MCPB, Atrazine, and Ammino Triazole. In his remarks he outlined the use of such chemicals and

the importance of following recommendations of rates, and time of application, to obtain satisfactory results.

Mr. Wm. Taylor of the Soils and Crops branch, outlined the importance of quality seed in the control of weed populations. J. A. Francis, Agricultural Representative, stressed the importance of calibration of sprayers for ideal results. Various reports were given from the chemical and equipment industry concerning advancements in weed control.

Extra Water Pump To Augment Summer Supply

Extra pumping equipment, estimated to cost about \$5000 was ordered by council Monday. It is part of a \$14,000 program designed to increase the amount of water which can be obtained from the town's deep well system. The move was opposed by three councillors, Reeve Elliott and C. Smith and Young who claimed the present pump cost \$1700 less and that a further check should be made before buying the pump recommended by an engineer consultant.

Mr. Don Powers, whose water committee made the recommendation, explained the urgency of ordering equipment immediately in order to have it in operation by June when it will be needed and pointed out that a comparison with a price paid some years ago is not a true cost picture. Queried by the Reeve on the effect on water rates, he said the \$14,000 project would be financed by surplus funds from a prior debenture issue of such chemicals as 2, 4-D. Future water rates will depend on plans for a pumping station which will be finalized within the next two months and be added.

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