



Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley

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ding will be baked and frozen, probably in November, ready to be popped in the oven.

Records will be sorted and all set to go on hi-fi. There'll be carol singing, a fire in the fireplace, peace and goodwill in all our hearts, and joy to the world.

House will be full of lovable children, and gentle Grandad, who will play with each other, while the old lady and I sit around benignly and smile and smile, with our hearts overflowing. And we'll all go to church on Christmas Day to get away from the commercialism, and revel in the True Meaning of Christmas.

Somewhere between the planning and the execution, something goes awry. Maybe it's because life is too complicated to spend six months getting ready for a three-day orgy.

Somehow, we're too busy with Thanksgiving and Remembrance day and the Grey Cup and sewing Kim's pants, and marking essays and bickering and making up, to make any preparations at all.

Cards are last year's leftovers, plus a few cheap extras, sent out on Dec. 23rd.

I go out on the 24th and beat the snow and ice off the third-last skeleton in the Christmas tree lot, and it is erected to the accompaniment of oaths when I try to nail my finger to the floor, and screams of rage and disgust when the dam' thing falls over for the fourth time.

Gifts are purchased with all the careful selection of passengers on the Titanic grabbing for lifebelts.

Only one string of the Christmas tree lights works, and the stores are sold out of replacements.

Somebody forgot to order the fresh-killed turkey, and we wind up with a beast that was frozen during the last Ice Age. We have to chop the insides out with a chisel. Plum pudding? Forget it. We're all on a diet.

Nobody got around to sorting out the records, and on Christmas Eve, instead of We Three Kings of Orient, we get There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight, with pornographic verses by Jakaloo Shuffler and His Shiffers. Somebody has lost the book of carols.

There is no kindling and the firewood is wet. It smokes. The only peace in the house is when you lock yourself in the bathroom, and the loek doesn't work, and the infants wander in and say, "What are you doing, Grandad?"

Grandchildren are incorrigible, pulling over firescreens, floor lamp and Great-Grandad in a muddle of breaking and bawling, filling their diapers during dinner, and demanding to stay up until midnight to see S. Claus.

We never make it to church because we're too busy celebrating the birth of Christ.

Maybe next year.

Endorses Human Rights Bill

To the Editors, Halton Newspapers.

As a country fully committed to equal rights and opportunities, I believe Canada must have a code of law to which people can turn if they have suffered discrimination at the hands of others.

The new Canadian Human Rights Bill, tabled recently in Parliament by Justice Minister Bastford, embodies the first comprehensive guarantee of the basic rights of Canadians to equality of opportunity and the protection of their privacy.

All the present laws of Canada that denounce certain aspects of discrimination and invasion of privacy are strengthened and extended through the provisions in the new bill which would:

- prohibit discrimination, particularly on grounds of race, color, national or ethnic origin, religion, age, sex, marital status or physical handicap;
- establish the statutory rights of Canadians to gain greater access to personal records in federal information banks and correct that information when it is error;
- set limits on the government's gathering of personal information.

As the largest owner of information banks in Canada, it is incumbent upon the government to demonstrate its respect for privacy. A citizen's rights of access to personal information contained in government records, the rights of correction and control over the government's use of personal information and the government's undertaking to prevent its own departments and agencies from gathering unnecessary personal information from individuals and businesses all signal our government's determination to ensure the privacy and accuracy of personal information.

The provisions in the bill would mean, for example, that a woman in government denied promotion because of her sex, or a middle-aged executive who wasn't hired by an airline or railway because he was "too old", would have a single, comprehensive means of recourse - the Canadian Human Rights Act.

Further, the bill before Parliament would ban the transmission of hate messages over any federally-regulated telephone system. This would be done without threatening freedom of speech by concentrating on the repeated, calculated hate campaign by

telephone and using enforceable orders to bring such campaigns to an end.

The bill would also provide - in a measure which I am proud to say is unique to Canadian law - that equal pay be given, not for equal work, as such bills usually provide, but for work of equal value. This provision would allow pay comparisons not only within jobs, but also across jobs. The new concept is of particular significance as it would allow women trapped in female job ghettos to get more money by claiming their jobs were equal in value to jobs that might be performed mainly by men. Women's groups advocated this policy and the government agrees with their recommendation.

Enforcement of the anti-discrimination provisions would be carried out by a Human Rights Commission responsible not to the government, but directly to Parliament. The Commission would be able to initiate and investigate complaints and appoint tribunals to settle anti-discrimination cases.

Furthermore, under the provisions of the proposed legislation, a member of the Commission would be appointed Privacy Commissioner, with the power to review any complaint by any individual that he or she was being denied rights under the Act. The Privacy Commissioner would be independent of the government and would report individual cases where an error or injustice has not been rectified.

This approach, consistent with our Parliamentary system, rests ultimate responsibility for decisions concerning access to personal information with the Minister responsible to Parliament. Establishing the office of Privacy Commissioner, I believe, makes the government more accountable to Parliament and, through Parliament, to all Canadians.

It is the government's hope - and mine - that the new Canadian Human Rights Bill, to which so many groups, individuals, provincial ministers and officials contributed, will become a charter of anti-discrimination recognized by all as Canada's commitment to building a nation of equal rights and opportunities.

Yours sincerely,
Dr. Frank A. Philbrook,
Member of Parliament,
Halton.

Commissioner's message

Commissioner Arnold Brown in his Christmas message as The Salvation Army's national leader suggests that he would rather Canadians understand the meaning of the carols that will be played and sung by The Army's musicians throughout the festive season, than that they put \$5 in the Christmas kettle or in the collector's box.

Not, he says, that he is anxious to lose dollars for the Christmas and winter relief of the needy, but that there is something more to the celebration of Christmas than a lot of self-pleasure and a little self-denial on behalf of the less-fortunate.

Actually, he feels, the whole meaning of Christmas needs to be restated. He wishes he had enough Salvationists to stand at every street corner in Canada to proclaim it in the simplest of terms. He is certain that Canada needs such a message. He predicts that this Christmas will likely register an increase in what he calls "the tragedies of affluence." Christmas will, he is afraid, provide one more outlet for a prodigal indulgence made possible by ever-increasing income despite increasing costs.

The stresses to which the 1976 individual is subject, according to the Commissioner, make him grasp at any occasion when he can, by one means or another, forget the pressures of life, escape from the challenges of competitive commerce and lose himself in a dangerous miasma of merrymaking, often without thought of the consequences to himself, his family, or the world around him. He needs to know Christmas not as a day - or week -

for "living it up", but as a time for remembering the "life more abundant" that Christ came to bring.

Faith in Christ, says Commissioner Brown, puts things into proper perspective. Life is seen as it really is, an existence in which demonic forces would destroy man's highest aspirations and drag him into a spiritual dungeon from which any escape is better than none.

With faith, however, comes stability, confidence, and the knowledge that one is on God's side, and that He is the final victor.

If one stops to listen, that is the message of every true Christmas carol. The word "true" is important, says the Commissioner. "We are not thinking of the 'red-nosed reindeers,' or any other kind of reindeer, celebrated in some seasonal songs.

PEACE -- We hope its warmth fills your holiday with heartfelt happiness.



For your patronage we are grateful.
BERNIE and MARG CLARKE

The Royal Trust Company

CHRISTMAS

By David Cohen

Have you forgotten the time of the year When homecoming, joy and peace are here? And all around the countryside There's gaiety abounding at Christmastide.

But have you forgotten the original tale, Passed down through the many years without fail, Of a child who was born in poverty sad In a lowly manger, in swaddling clothes clad?

Don't ever forget all the good that was done, As He spent His short life curing each ailing one, 'Til the time came to leave, and the gospel fulfill And He died for our souls, on a cross, on a hill.

Have you forgotten those childhood dreams Which never came thoroughly true, it seems Dreams which we carried for many years Like bubbles, burst with worldly fears.

A child who was born to be King of Kings To live and to love, perform wondrous things; Of peace and of joy, which he gave to all men But alas! To be scorned again and again.

So don't ever forget when in joy and in cheer, Our personal Saviour who always is near The Great Prince of Peace and serenity true This endowment of Jesus is given to you.

THE USED TREE

You can do several things with your Christmas tree after you take it down. One good idea is to use it as a bird feeder, tying suet and other treats, with a container of water placed beneath.

You can also cut off the branches and place them, curved and up, over flower beds when the ground is exposed. This will prevent heaving of soils during alternate freezing and thawing. Such heaving sometimes forces bulbs and roots of perennials from the ground. Longer branches can be "planted" as windbreaks to protect outdoor plantings

such as boxwood, azalea, yew, rhododendron and juniper.

HOLLY BELIEFS

The early Druids decorated their halls and homes with boughs of holly as a welcome to spirits threatened by frost and winter winds. Britons considered it unlucky to bring

holly into a house before Christmas Eve and a variation on this belief held that the type of weather at the time the holly was brought into the home determined who would rule the house in the months ahead - if fair, the wife would rule; if bad, the husband would hold sway.



MAY NOT BE Big Bird from Sesame Street, but Speyside school children dressed this young lady up quite authentically for a skit "The Three Fir Trees" at the annual school Christmas party last night (Tuesday). The trees were well made also.

Have a Merry Christmas

The beauty of Christmas reflects the beauty of our patrons. Thanks for letting us serve you.

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A Joyous Christmas

Wishing You Christmas Joy

A season of peace and wonder, excitement and joy is Christmas! May this spirit of happiness be with you always.

Ed and the Boys

Ed's In-N-Out Variety

CHRISTMAS STORE HOURS -
Open Christmas Eve 10.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.
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A Joyous Christmas

The spirit of Christmas is everywhere filling the world with happiness and joy. We hope your holiday is brimming with all good things.

Jack Ridley Cartage Ltd. and Staff

GREETINGS

Here's wishing you the fulfillment of all your dreams for Christmas.

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

BANK OF MONTREAL

GREETINGS

from all of us at

Barrager's Cleaners Ltd.

Queph St. Location, Downtown Georgetown Store, Acton, Erin and Hillsburgh Outlets

The Pine Tree

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Hot Mulled Cider & friends

... A nice way to shop ...

I'm brewing a huge kettle especially for Thursday and Friday and Kathy, Carolyn, Barbara and Grandma Pine Tree wish you happiness this Festive season.

Season's Greetings from Glenlea Drug Mart

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Clairel Pretty Power HAIR DRYER \$35.88	Clairel AIR BRUSH \$14.50	Vaseline INTENSIVE CARE LOTION 99c
TIMEX WATCHES 20% OFF	GOOD SELECTION OF STERLING CHARMS	Old Spice AFTER SHAVE LOTION \$2.79
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		Sylvania MAGICUBES \$2.19
		Sylvania FLASHCUBES \$1.79
		I.D.A. QUALITY COLOR PRINT FILM 88c

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