

Let's stop whining, we're well off

Aren't you sick to death of the gloom and doom the media is imposing on us? I am. Let's have a little light and cheer in the country for a change.

Sure, our economic situation is a mess. Of course, we have high unemployment. Naturally, inflation is not wrestled to the ground, but has us pinned two rounds out of three.

But this is happening all over the world, and we're about 500 per cent better off than most of the rest of the people in said world.

Do you live on a sampan in Singapore or Hong Kong, existing on a handful of rice a day? Those people don't have high mortgage rates, high interest rates. They have nothing, except what *native cunning and hard work* feed their bellies.

Does a nice lady in Somaliland or Eritrea bring you into the office and chat about which welfare program you should apply for? Your children are eating mud, because there's nothing else.

Are you stuck in Ulster, as a Catholic, without a hope of getting a job from the Protestants, your children dirty, hungry, growing as vicious as small animals who are starving?

Are you black, with a good chance of getting your head pulverized by a white policeman if you say anything but, "Yes, sir?"

Are you suffering from "nerves" and taking all kinds of pills from your very well fed doctor, while millions of people in the world have rickets and ringworm and elephantiasis and

by
Bill
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bleeding bowels because they don't even know what a vitamin pill looks like?

Are your little boys running around barefoot in the rain, selling their sisters for a cigarette or a chocolate bar? Nope, they are probably riding around on bicycles, and whining because their allowance doesn't run to more than a carton of french fries and a Dairy Queen every day.

Are you worried about whether you should spend \$50 or a little more on a wedding present when in most countries most mothers are wondering whether a cow or a bushel of maize is a suitable dowry? And they haven't a cow or any maize.

Tut and tut and tut. We are in an economic depression, many people are unemployed, our government seems to be living in Alice in Wonderland, with its ridiculous six and five desperate attempt to appear credible.

But when have you last missed a meal? When have you been cold, cold, cold?

When is the last time some cop stopped you on the street and asked for identity papers?

When is the last time somebody

pounded on your door at 4 a.m. and you shivered with fear, knowing what was coming? When have you last been hit on the head with a club for saying "Trudeau is a fink?"

There's lots wrong with this country, but there is a hell of a lot more right with it, when we take a look around.

We read about farmers and small businessmen and big companies going broke. Well, that's the capitalist system, and that's the system we embrace.

We don't hear much when the farmers have a bumper crop and spend the winter driving south in their Buicks. We seldom hear about the small businessman who's making a quiet fortune, unless he's suddenly become an entrepreneur and is a BIG businessman. We scarcely hear a word when a huge company makes a huge profit.

But now the tears are flowing, we need a Wailing Wall, located about Winnipeg, and thousands of paper towels to wipe up the tears. Help from the government means help from you and me.

Come on, Canadians, let's stop whining. My father and mother didn't whine during the Big Depression. They did the best they could, and desperately tried to avoid going on Relief, now euphemistically called Welfare.

Get rid of your boat. Sell your second car. There is such a thing as walking. Cut your kid's allowance to zilch, and let them earn it by working. So you like steak? Eat hamburger. Stop buying that crap from California and Florida in the

winter: lettuce for \$1.50, mostly water; grapes, oranges, celery, those little hard bitter tomatoes.

Eat spuds and porridge. They're good for you. Dig a root cellar under your patio deck and fill it with carrots and turnips. Get a couple of chickens, and if they don't lay, eat them. Cut out those long-distance calls about nothing, and write a letter. Wear a sweater and keep your thermostat down.

We can lick inflation, but not by living the way we do. We can lick unemployment, with some guts. But not government guts. There aren't any.

And if you're out of work, take your U.I., but get looking for something else. This country still has limitless opportunities, if you want to work. Ask the immigrants. If you don't, you'll become like those millions in Britain, during the first depression, who just gave up and sat around on the dole, steadily eroding their very souls.

End of sermon. But cheer up and forget the headlines. There's a place for you, if you have any guts.

Creative fun for little ones

If you are interested in new ideas in arts and crafts activities for your preschooler, come to the Acton Library on Tuesday, October 12 at 7:30 p.m. for a slide program on Creative Fun for Little Ones. Art materials will be on display as well. There will be no admission charge. Everyone is welcome. The program is sponsored by La Leche League of Acton.



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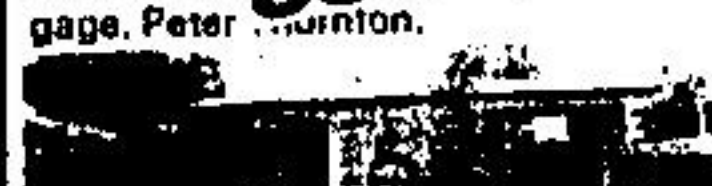


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BRICK BUNGALOW **SOLD**

70 x 149 lot. Great mortgage. Peter Thornton.



WINTER'S COMING... SO

Snuggle up beside the fireplace in the spacious rec room in this 5-bedroom (3-up) Georgetown bungalow. Lovely 63 x 140 ravine lot. Call me regarding mortgage and other benefits of this fine home. \$79,900. Peter Thornton.



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