

The Acton Free Press

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Get behind Leathertown Market and Ciderfest

Today (Wednesday) about 200,000 homes in North Halton, Oakville, Burlington, Brampton, Guelph, Kitchener-Waterloo and other centres in the Golden Horseshoe area, learned of a big celebration, Leathertown Market and Ciderfest, planned for Acton on August 26, 27 and 28.

The North Halton Tourism Association has published its fall '83 Travel Guide featuring articles and photographs about the Heritage Days series of festivals August 26 to September 25.

Featured in the brochure is an excellent article by Tracey Tyler about Leathertown Market and Ciderfest weekend, as well as promotion of the Acton fall fair, fall fairs in Georgetown and Milton, and Milton's Steam Era and Festival of Countries celebrations.

If there was ever a time for Acton to put its best foot forward, it will be August 26, 27 and 28.

It's reasonable to assume that with 200,000 homes learning about Leathertown Market and Ciderfest weekend, then at least a couple thousand people from outside Acton will decide it's worth the drive here for a weekend of good old fashioned small town hospitality and fun.

If your group wants to promote their cause or get information into the hands of the public, ie, the cause of nuclear disarmament or fire safety) then the market will be a perfect spot for a display or booth.

If your group has participated in Back to Acton Days, other years and found it worthwhile, then you won't want to miss the market either. It'll be as worthwhile as Back to Acton Days, except bigger and better.

It will be a good time to promote the fall fair and what your group will be doing at that big weekend too. If your group is planning to have a display, sell draw tickets, peddle food, etc. at the fair, why not have a test run, and get a jump at making the much needed money, by previewing your fair attraction at the market.

Every sports team, cultural group, church or community organization, service club, etc. should be meeting now and planning some means of participation in Leathertown Market and Ciderfest.

This weekend will be a major fund raiser for the town hall project, but there's no reason why every other group in town shouldn't grab a piece of the big pie too.

The last market a couple summers back was much smaller than the event this year, but it still drew a huge crowd from Acton and area.

With wider publicity, a bigger and better event, and hopefully good weather, there's no reason why every organization in town can't cash in and make some money to enrich life here with funds from out of town.

-G.M.

Letter

No right to dictate use of private property

Dear Sir:

I read with amusement Mr. Bray's rather confused response to my brief comments concerning the issue of whether or not motocross contributes to the fitness of an individual. Since we are clearly not going to agree, I suggest we drop this unproductive line of argument. Rather I would invite Mr. Bray to respond to what I regard as the real substance of my letter which he totally ignored.

That is—by what right does he issue blanket invitations to all your readers to trespass on Mr. Nelles' private property?

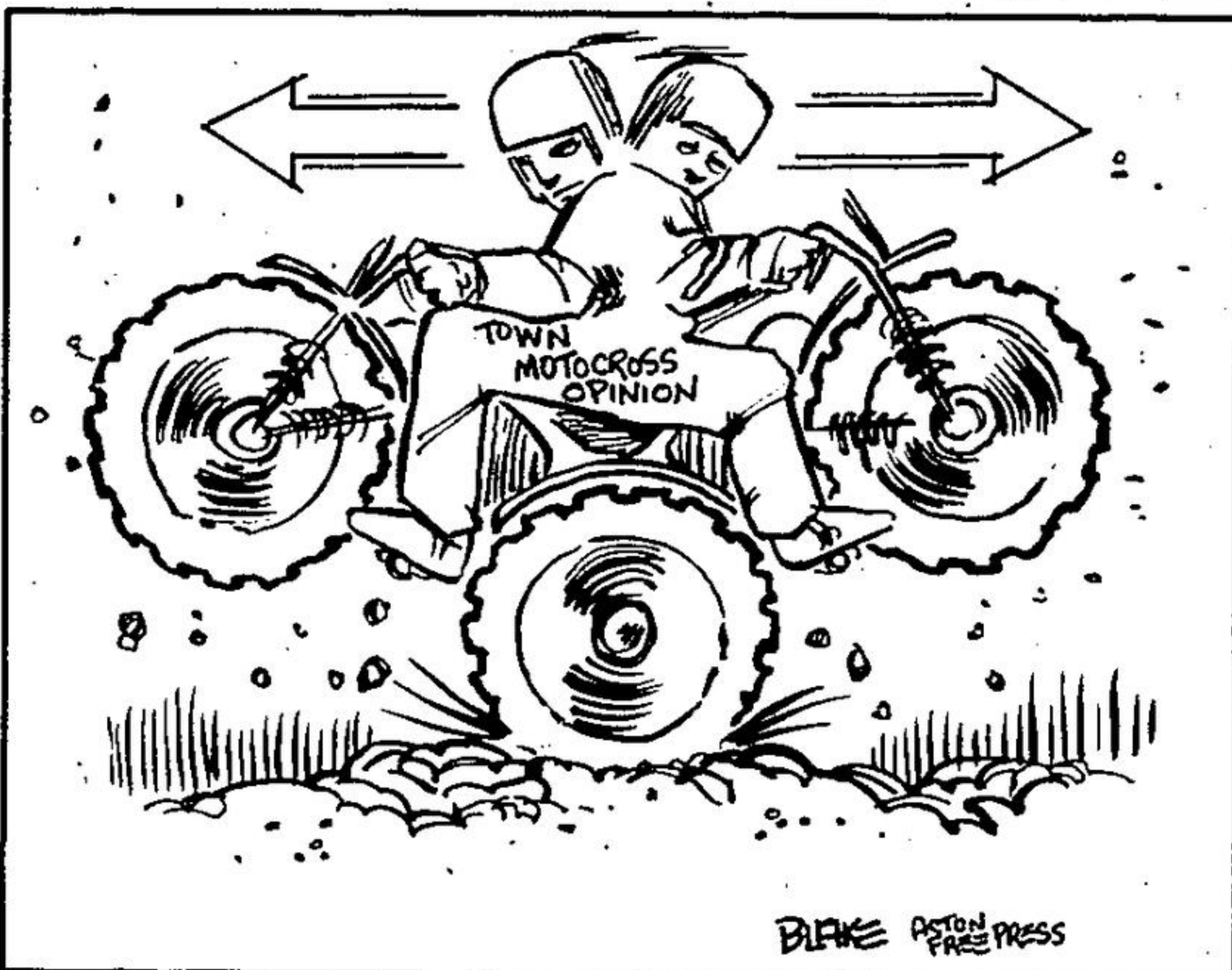
Moreover, what right has he to dictate the uses to which the legal owner of property may put that property?

I have no quarrel with Mr.

Bray's desire to preserve green space, wildlife and his chosen lifestyle. The real challenge in my letter was that he should go about it in the proper manner—not by firing from the hip with emotive, unfounded and largely irrelevant comments.

Yours truly
Mrs. B.R. Cornwell

P.S. I sincerely apologize for my "silly" challenge—it was merely an attempt to inject a little humor into the situation. However Mr. Bray's response makes it clear he feels his manhood has been impugned, whereas my intent was to suggest that he was severely underestimating the calibre of the athletic endeavor he so blithely maligned.



From the editor's desk

Mulroney prospers saying nothing

Well, here I go again. I'm climbing up on my soap box to complain about Ottawa politics and by the time I've finished I'll likely have succeeded again in annoying both Tories and Grits in the audience.

I read with interest the first poll since Brian Mulroney assumed the Tory leadership in Ottawa in June and wasn't surprised to find the P.C.s were up in popularity again.

Obviously the majority of Canadians weren't filled with trepidation by Mulroney's performance at the convention. Not only did people state a Tory preference previously stick with the formerly leaderless party, but some people switched over to the Conservatives after it became fact that Joe Who is gone.

You might recall that Mulroney was far from my choice for leader going into the Ottawa gathering, and slipped nearly to dead last after his performance at the convention.

My concern was based on the fact the man seemed to be a cardboard cutout; all image—no substance. He never seemed to say anything which left you thinking, aha, that's what he thinks about this or that. He talked beautifully, but didn't say much. Mulroney also proved expert at dodging questions and not giving answers.

During his campaign for the Central Nova Commons seat Mulroney has maintained his image and failed to let anyone know where he stands.

As pronouncements from the government have flowed out of Ottawa this summer, the national media has dutifully asked the soon-to-be-Official Leader of the Opposition for his views.

If he gave anyone a definitive answer, I missed that dispatch.

He's been quick to blast the government, which I suppose is part of a government opponent's job, but mighty slow in suggesting alternatives, which is part of a future Prime Minister's job.

Mulroney has even had the nerve to suggest we ask him for his views different periods of time after he becomes P.M. and the Tories form

the government. I clearly recall him saying it was all the Liberal's fault that there is extra billing and opting out of Medicare. He dutifully blasted the government for the mess, but when asked what he'd do instead, Mulroney only suggested we wait and see after he takes over the reigns of power.

Not a very encouraging attitude. But, I guess I can hardly blame him.

When you recall that the man who holds the P.M.'s job now had announced his retirement plans and then came back to win his old job back by simply keeping his mouth shut and telling us precious little of his future plans for us during the last federal election, one can hardly blame Mulroney for sitting back and trying to remain mum on everything under the sun.

The recent opinion poll would hardly encourage him to be up front with us either. Obviously Canadians prefer not to know in advance what our political leaders have in mind, if anything, since by being vague he's strengthened the party's position. The only way people will likely get any straight answers from this guy is if we lie to the pollsters and tell them we're all voting Liberal again. There's a danger there though, a jump in the polls might persuade PET to stay on.

Now wouldn't that be an interesting campaign, Mulroney vs Trudeau. The pair could rip back and forth across the nation telling us absolutely nothing, but stringing a lot of sentences together that sound good.

Canadians, especially in Ontario, would love it. Then we'd be guaranteed that no matter who won, the next four years would be filled with earth shattering surprises since we had no glimpse of things to come beforehand.

Well, Pierre shuffled his cabinet and according to the pundits former Environment Minister John Roberts was the big winner as he took political control of Metro as well as assuming a high profile portfolio, Employment and Immigration.



by Gord Murray
Free Press editor

Some even suggested this move was designed by Trudeau to make Roberts his successor.

Hmmm. Well, he doesn't make me want to throw up, as many of his Liberal cabinet colleagues would if their name was mentioned as next Grit leader. Guess that's a point in his favor.

Actually I've heard Roberts' name as leadership material before and always shelved the notion since I thought of him as a lightweight. Maybe a candidate, but never a contender.

Who knows: if Roberts keeps his nose clean during his tenure in his new post then he might win the top job.

That might be an interesting battle, a come-out-of-nowhere Grit leader vs. the never-been-anywhere-but-the-backrooms Tory champion.

One last thought for the week. One could never accuse Mulroney of being a stupid politician. That was a pretty bright idea he or one of his handlers came up with in taking Polaroids of the candidate with constituents. It was a stroke of genius.

It should boost camera sales right across the country when elections are on.

Maybe by the time the next municipal election rolls around we'll be seeing all the candidates going to the doors armed with a camera ready to press the shutter instead of just the flesh.

Back issues

10 years ago

August 15, 1973

OPP nabbed four men at a Spey-side home and recovered about \$11,000 in household furnishings on Sunday evening. One of the men was the subject of five warrants for fraud, police report.

Miss Acton Fair, 17-year-old Val Mitchell, is among 80 contestants vying for the CNE Queen of the Fairs title.

Acton Free Press has received a special award for Community Service at the annual convention of the Canadian Community Newspapers Association. The award is being given for the series on nursing services in the county health unit.

Five new businesses open on Acton's main thoroughfare this month. Newest is Gal's Pal, a women's clothing store. Others are Fruit and Pantry, Palace for Pizzas, Bramalea Realty and First Line Television.

20 years ago

August 15, 1953

Bob Duby has completed his apprenticeship and will be associated with Bruce Shoemaker at the Rumley-Shoemaker Funeral Home in Acton.

Dr. W.G.C. Kenny, who has practised medicine in Acton since 1941, has retired from practice due to ill health. Dr. Kenney is a former Citizen of the Year.

New dentist for Acton is Cedric Dey, who will begin practising here in September.

Fire of unknown origin destroyed a 35-foot trailer at the W.R. Greenley construction camp north of Limehouse. Four workers who lived in the trailer were away at the time of the fire, which started early Wednesday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Leather are the new owners of the Grocery Store on Young St., formerly owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. P.C. Walton.

50 years ago

August 10, 1933

The local post of the British Empire Service League (the Legion) held its annual picnic in the park on Civic Holiday. Races and contests were held before the grandstand with President Bud McDonald the starter. Vice-president Gould and E. Harrop were judges. The prizes were distributed and then there was supper and a ball game.

Among the winners were H. Coles, A. Braida, H. Robson, K. Chapman, A. Locker, J. Early, B. Turner, Mae Roney, I. Fields, S. Fields, J.L. Locker, N. Harrop, G. Scarrow, W. Gould, B. Bayliss, Mr. and Mrs. F. Salt, P. Watson, Mrs. Snow.

In the opening fixture of the newly formed softball Town League the Town Team beat the Tannery 18-12. Outstanding players were C. Waterhouse, Morton, Cam Leishman, J. Waterhouse and T. Clifford.

The picnic of the Sprowl families was held at the home of Mr. James Sprowl, Town Line, Esqueving.

75 years ago

August 13, 1908

Of the eight students who wrote their normal entrance four were successful, Mabel Chapman, Winnie Grindell, Annie Harvey and Annie Henderson. Warren G. Brown passed his matriculation. Mr. Ray Watson, who is at Brown's drug store, was successful in the matriculations examinations at Georgetown.

The erection of Mr. John Cameron's fine new brick house on Main St. has necessitated the removing of part of his planing mill. This building was erected by Mr. Thos. Ebbage for a pump factory 47 years ago. It was afterwards used as a planing mill, trunk and valise factory and then chopping mill.

The semi-finals of a series of matches between members of Acton Quilt Club was played on Gibbons' rink. Winners were J. Leishman and W.D. Anderson.

100 years ago

August 23, 1808

The teachers and pupils resume their places at the public schools Monday morning.

Mrs. J. Adams' cottage, next door to the town hall, has been completed and presents a very neat appearance.

Mr. Thomas Easton has purchased the two lots on Willow St. across from the English Church. A garden party and peach social was held under the auspices of the ladies' Aid of the Methodist Church at the residence of Mrs. John Speight on Willow St. The Cornet band played.

Rev. Principal Caven of Knox College, Toronto, canvassed the Acton congregation for the Endowment Fund and the subscriptions here amounted to over \$800.

Coles' slaw Steaking a claim in the great white north

by Hartley Coles
Managing Editor

Some modern philosopher, explaining the difference in thought between women and men has suggested that men, often radical in their youth, get collectively more conservative as they get older.

Women, on the other hand, are rather conservative in their approach to life in youth and they get increasingly radical as they age, he maintains.

I have some evidence to back this up after incidents at our house this summer. You might even say I have a steak in the matter.

It started as we prepared to spend a weekend in a northern cottage with number one son, wife and family. Discussions prior to the mini-vacation resulted in a plan to make the Saturday evening meal a summer cookout, for which we would supply steaks.

Since it is the midst of the barbecue season and the price of steaks is almost as high as the CN tower, wife spent a considerable amount of time buying them. She succeeded in bringing home five sirloin steaks a week ahead of the

event, which she deposited with suitable fanfare in the freezer with instructions to keep my hands off until the expedition to the great white north.

When the time of departure arrived, however, she was in the midst of a hectic day at the office. So she left instructions for me to get the food, including the steaks, out of the freezer, pack them and be ready to leave when she arrived home since there was a couple of hundred miles to drive before dark.

Being a dutiful husband I complied. I trekked to the freezer, spotted steaks in a plastic bag, pulled out and had them packed in the small ice cube container before you could say Jack Robinson. When she arrived home I proudly pointed to the preparations I had made for the trip, especially the fact I had packed the food. All was ready.

In her haste she neglected to convey her thanks for my thoughtfulfulness. As we headed north she plied me with questions about my

preparations, asking such inane questions as which bags I had picked up in the freezer, what they looked like, and had I forgotten to pack my bathing suit. Comforted by my assurance that all was well and we had brought enough clothes and food to sustain us for at least two weeks of our two day stay, she then settled back normally to criticize my driving which, she says, gets progressively worse as my age increases.

Needless to say the criticism did little for my driving skills. By the time we had passed Sandridge on Highway 11 the silence was frosty. It turned to ice when I drove into one of those roadside parks with outdoor conveniences, instead of one of the posh resorts with inside conveniences which dot the area. But by the time we arrived in North Bay, gateway to the north, my co-pilot figured we might make it the rest of the way and she warmed considerably. Only questioned my sense of direction when we hit the gravel road which led to the resort above Sturgeon Falls.

By luck more than good management we drove into the resort before it was dark. There we were greeted by son, wife and family and about two dozen other people from Acton on vacation.

It looked like the end of a perfect day until we started to unpack the car. As we trundled the stuff inside the cottage wife said, "Where are the steaks?"

"In that bag, I declared, pointing to the plastic grocery bag I had packed.

She looked, then poked inside, turned to me and said, "You don't mean those do you?"

From the bag she produced three minute-size wing steaks which someone had put in the bag.

"Oh, there must be some others under there," I replied, panic-stricken at the thought someone might have substituted three wing steaks for the five juicy sirloins I had picked up from the freezer.

"You stupid \$/!," she said. "You brought the wrong steaks. What are we going to do now?" I was thunderstruck. I remem-

bered pulling those sirloins out of the freezer. Could I have replaced the wrong bag in the freezer and taken the one I discarded?

"That's the last time I'll ask you to pack stuff before we go away," she said as the grandkids and daughter-in-law watched my discomfiture with obvious glee.

I figured the jig was up. The only thing to do now was to admit I might have made a mistake and packed the wrong bag. However, to put a word in for my side, I noted that the steaks were still there for future use and there was still a long summer ahead.

The explanation was not accepted in the same spirit. "How could you think these bedraggled looking specimens were the steaks I bought," she thundered.

"They're the same color aren't they?" I answered meekly, scuttling to look for my fishing pole figuring substitute for the sirloins might be a 10 pound lake trout.

"Don't bother," someone said, "the fish aren't biting." As the French say "Say la vee."