

500 pounds of bricks, and planning!

It's still too danged hot and dry to get steamed up about anything, if you can figure out that mangled metaphor, so I'm going to give you something light, yet not without weight.

This came to me via Jack Ryan, who clipped it from someone who had reprinted it from the newsletter of the English equivalent of the Workmen's Compensation Board. Therefore, it's at least fourth hand, but I'm sure it will tickle the risibilities of any person who has ever had to deal with the civil service, whether it be Revenue Canada, the County Weed Commission, or the Sewage Committee of the Town Council.

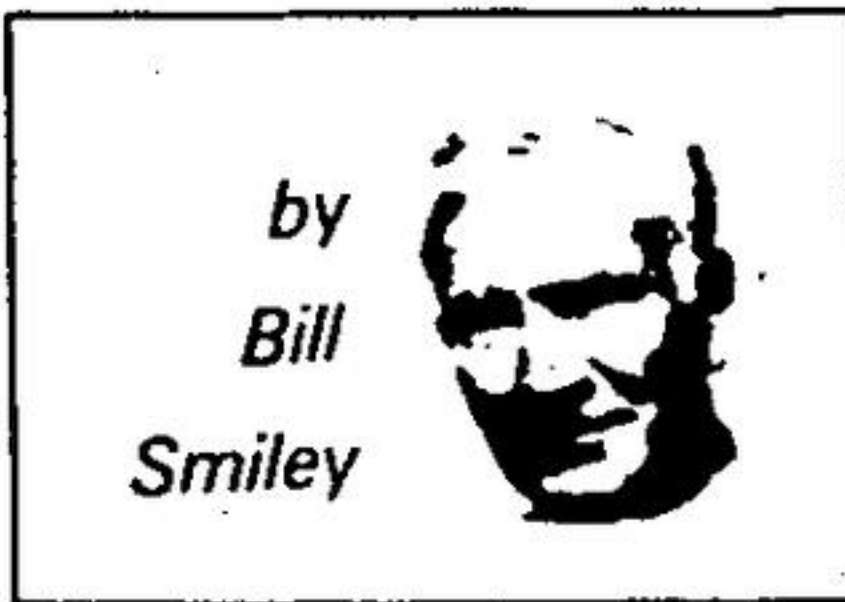
It's a bricklayer's report for compensation for an accident. It might be entitled Poor Planning. Here it goes:

"Dear Sir: I am writing in response to your request for additional information in Block 3 of the accident reporting form. I put 'Poor Planning' as the cause of my accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully and I trust that the following details will be sufficient.

"I am a bricklayer by trade. On the day of the accident, I was working alone on the roof of a new six-storey building. When I completed my work, I discovered that I had about 500 pounds of brick left over. Rather than carry them down by hand, I decided to lower them in a barrel by using a pulley, which, fortunately, was attached to the side of the building at the sixth floor.

"Securing the rope at ground level, I went up to the roof, swung the barrel out and loaded the bricks into it. Then I went back to the ground and untied it slightly to insure the slow descent of the 500 pounds of bricks. You will note in Block 11 of the accident form that my weight is 135 pounds.

"Needless to say, I was jerked off my feet so suddenly that I forgot to let go of the rope. Due to my surprise, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate up the side of the building.



by
Bill
Smiley

"In the vicinity of the third floor, I met the hazard, which was now proceeding in a downward direction at an equally impressive rate of speed. This explains the fractured shoulder.

"Slowly only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the two fingers of my right hand were knuckled deep into the pulley which I mentioned in paragraph 2 of this correspondence.

"Fortunately, by this time, I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold tightly to the rope, in spite of the excruciating pain I was now beginning to experience.

"At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of bricks hit the ground—and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Now, devoid of the weight of the bricks, the barrel weighed approximately 50 pounds.

"I refer you again to my weight in block 11. As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the building.

"In the vicinity of the third floor, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles, broken tooth and severe lacerations of my legs and lower body.

"Here my luck began to change slightly. The encounter seemed to slow me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell into the pile of bricks and, fortunately, only three vertebrae were cracked.

"I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the pile of bricks in pain, unable to move, and watching the empty barrel six stories above me, I again lost my mind and let go of the rope.

"Sincerely XYZ."

I know that Workmen's Compensation Boards get stories like this, and even more fanciful, but they're a hardnosed lot, and I hope this bricklayer got full compensation, and was out moonlighting on a construction job two weeks later, purely for his imagination.

We have a pretty good social assistance system in Canada, one of the best in the world, even though I'm one of the "Middle-class" who get stuck for most of it.

There aren't too many people really hungry in this country. There are very few people who can't get medical attention when they need it. We talk about a "poverty level" in this country that would be riches to most of the people in the so-called Third World.

I was talking to my son the other night, swatting mosquitoes in the back yard. He's lived in a dictatorship. I've fought against one.

We talked about the best place in the world to live. We don't always, even often, agree.

But we decided, unanimously, that Canada, despite its vagaries of politics, economy, and weather, was just about the first choice in the world to be born, recreate, find a decent living, raise a family, and die. Without someone breathing down your neck every minute.

I think I'll stick around, as long as The Lord lets me. Where else can you feel morally superior to a vast nation next door to you?

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BINGO
Holy Cross Church Auditorium EVERY THURSDAY
\$600⁰⁰ - 54 numbers
\$500⁰⁰ - 55 numbers
\$400⁰⁰ - 56 numbers
\$300⁰⁰ - 57 numbers
\$200⁰⁰ - 58 numbers
\$100⁰⁰ - min.

Come to the Acton Fall Fair

SEPTEMBER 16, 17, 18

ACTON FALL FAIR BABY SHOW
SATURDAY, SEPT. 17th
1:30 P.M. - IN ARENA

- REGISTRATION - Pre-Registration at The Fabric Shoppe, Acton - from September 6 to September 15
- Registration in Arena - Saturday, Sept. 17, 12:15 to 1:15 p.m.

(Babies need not accompany parents for registration)

PRIZES and RIBBONS
Class 1 - Twins 0-2 years
Class 2A - Girls 13-18 months
Class 2B - Boys 13-18 months
Class 3A - Girls 7-12 months
Class 3B - Boys 7-12 months
Class 4A - Girls 4-6 months
Class 4B - Boys 4-6 months
Class 5A - Girls 0-3 months
Class 5B - Boys 0-3 months

Acton Fall Fair PET SHOW
TIME: 1:00 p.m.
DATE: Sunday, Sept. 18
PLACE: Fairgrounds
Limited to 15 years & under

CLASSES
(A) GENERAL (B) FOR DOGS & CATS
(1) Most unusual pet 10 Classifications (see Fair Book)
(2) The largest pet
(3) Best trained pet
(4) Best costumed pet & handler
(5) Most unusual performance by a pet
(6) The smallest pet

★ RIBBONS ★
ANIMALS MUST BE CLEAN AND MANAGEABLE BRING ON A LEASH OR IN A BOX

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL
853-1620

ACTON FALL FAIR Sept. 16, 17, 18
at Acton Park
Friday, September 16th
ALL DAY - Arabian Horse Show
4:00 p.m. - Poultry exhibits, concession exhibits, midway, food concession
6:00 p.m. - Hall exhibits
8:15 p.m. - Rooster Crowing contest
8:45 p.m. - Heavy Horse Pull
8:00 p.m. - Family Entertainment Variety Show and Crowning of Miss Acton for 1983/84
ADMISSION:
Adults & Students \$3.00
Children under 12 \$1.00
Parking \$1.50

BACK TO SCHOOL IN STYLE WITH J.V. CLOTHING

LADIES' JEANS from \$16⁹⁹

LADIES' FALL SWEATERS \$18⁹⁹

LADIES' SCRATCH COTTON & POLYESTER PANTS from \$19⁹⁹

2 NEW STYLES BY SCRATCH JEANS Should be \$34.99 \$29⁹⁹

LADIES' NEW ARRIVAL DRESS PANTS \$25⁰⁰

GIRLS' COLOURED SCRATCH JEANS \$14⁹⁹

ASSORTED MALE GIRLS' JEANS from \$15⁹⁹

MEN'S GWG DENIM JACKETS \$29⁹⁹

MEN'S GWG JEANS Our Price \$24⁹⁹

LARGE SELECTION OF MEN'S RUGGER PANTS \$24⁰⁰

BOYS' GWG JEANS \$19⁹⁹

BOYS' RUGGER PANT \$18⁹⁹

BOYS' GWG CORDS \$17⁹⁹ \$18⁹⁹

Acton Fall Fair Antique Tractor Pull
Sunday, Sept. 18th
All tractors must be 25 years or older, No steel lugs.
4 x 4 Truck Pull
Entry Fee: \$7 per class
Exhibitor Fee: \$3
MAIL ENTRY FEE WITH NAME, ADDRESS & PHONE NUMBER TO...
Acton Agricultural Society
Box 59, Acton, Ontario

20th ANNIVERSARY MISS ACTON FAIR COMPETITION
1983 winner will be eligible for the 1984 Miss C.N.E. Sweetheart of the Fair Contest.
JUDGED ON APPEARANCE, PERSONALITY AND POISE
1983 Winner Lisa Petty

70th ACTON FAIR PARADE ENTRY FORM
SATURDAY, SEPT. 17TH
PARADE TO START AT 12 NOON
NOVELTY, COMMERCIAL, BUSINESS & ORGANIZATIONS COMPETING FOR PRIZES OF 1st \$75 2nd \$50 3rd \$30
No Entry Fee
Mail entries to: Acton Agricultural Society Box 59, Acton or/for before Wed. Sept. 14/83
NOTE: Small children with buggies, bicycles, etc. will be on a float from McKenzie-Smith School (old high school).
ALL ENTRIES MUST BE AT MCKENZIE-SMITH SCHOOL (old high school) BY 11:15 A.M.
NAME OF ORGANIZATION
ADDRESS

AT THE FALL FAIR
Entertainment: Family Variety Presentation featuring the Leahy family.
Two Runners-Up Will Act As Queen's Attendants
PRIZES FOR ALL CONTESTANTS Donated by local Merchants and Industry
SPECIAL PRIZES FOR WINNER AND ATTENDANTS
Deadline for Entries
Wednesday, Sept. 14th at 7 p.m.
There will be an informal rehearsal on Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Sept. 15th at the Presbyterian Church
REQUIREMENTS
Single Girls 18 years of age and over
Wear street length dress & formal evening dress for judging - contestants to be at Presbyterian Church for judging at 8:00 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16th, in daytime street length dresses and to bring a long formal dress for formal dress judging.
Must live in the area serviced by Acton, Rockwood and Limahouse Post Offices and/or attend Acton District High School.
- Entries accepted by members of the Miss Acton Fair Committee -
MISS ACTON FALL FAIR COMMITTEE 1983
Chairperson Maggie Hall, John Chapman, Russell Murray, Bill Leahy, Celia Thorne, Ted Brown Jr., Lisa Petty and Marlene Tapella.

Saturday, September 17th
9:00 a.m. - Hall exhibits, poultry exhibits, midway, concession exhibits, food and refreshments, Carlsberg Championship Hitch
11:00 a.m. - Beef Cattle Show, Junior Beef Cattle, Junior Horse Show, Heavy Horse Show, Light Horse Show, Harness Ponies, Sheep Show, inside-outside concessions and exhibits, Poultry Show
12 noon - Large Parade, Tug of War & Pioneer Games registration
1:30 p.m. - Baby Show in arena - Bird Dance Competition
4:30 p.m. - Hog Carcass Auction
ADMISSION:
Adults & Students \$3.00
Children under 12 "FREE"
• Bus Service from around town to the Park each hour "FREE"
Fair Night Dance
Featuring "Mint Green"
5 piece band
Saturday, September 17th
Acton Arena
9 p.m. - 1 a.m.
Advance Ticket Sales at Village Variety Shop
41 Mill St. E., Acton 853-0411
- LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE -
Sunday, September 19th
12 noon - Carlsberg Hitch, Rabbit & Cavies, Dairy Cattle and Junior Dairy Cattle Show, English Horse Show, hall exhibits, inside and outside concessions, Swin Show, Western Horse Show
1:00 p.m. - Pet Show, Model Boat Show, Antique Tractor Pull, 4 x 4 Truck Pull
2:00 p.m. - Challenge of Acton Stars in the arena
ADMISSION:
Adult & Students \$3.00
Children under 12 \$1.00
• Bus Service from around Town to the Park each hour "FREE"
for further information call John Rowe (519) 853-1495

If your child is size 28 or 27 waist we have
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