### Records opened

Following in the footsteps of the Federal government, Halton Region pessed its own freedom of information by law at last Wednesday's meeting.

The move ensures all documents related to the region's business shall be available for public inspection except those related to confidential legal. personnel, real-estate negotiations, police security or business matters. Such confidential information can only be released with council approval.

Local boards, commissions and agencies of the region shall also be encouraged to have similar provisions, and all receiving grants from Halton shall be required to have a free-access provision for matters relating to the grant.

### Cluster policy

Council has amended the rural cluster policy to the region's Official Plan to alter the growth limits placed on the rural areas.

The rural clusters can grow by 30 residential units or by doubling existing size, which ever is less. While this was part of the previous official plan, the amendment allows a cluster to grow by more than double, to a maximum of 30 units, if certain conditions are met including (1) that the community will retain the character intended for a rural cluster: (2) that a change to hamlet designation is considered unnecessary; (3) that the growth can be justified hecause of lack of growth potential in other local rural clusters.

T.S. Eliot said, in one of his poems that, "April is the cruelest month," I won't go into the symbolism of the whole thing, but I can imagine the fastidious, oldmaidenly banker, sitting by a blazing fire in his London lodgings, looking out at the rain, and writing lines like that, full of hidden allusions that drive teachers and students CLSTA.

It's certainly true of Canada, where he pever lived, the old hypocrite. April in this country can be the cruellest month of the year, when you get a snowstorm just after planting your begonias, or whatever you

But for Canadians, I would like to paraphrase the quotation, and suggest that October "Is the coolest month." And I don't mean in the sense of temperature. I mean, like, you know, dig, in the language of the Sixties, October, is like, well, you know, I mean, real cool.

If it behaves itself. If it does, it can be a golden benison on the fruits of our labors. the yellow sun slanting through the foliage of an artist gone mad, the hackneyed nip in the air that makes you hustle through washing under your arms.

If it doesn't behave itself, it can be a dreary, sodden introduction to November, which should be dropped from the calendar, as far as I'm concerned, except for Remembrance Day. It's a holiday.

I'm writing this in the hope that springs eternal that this October will be one of the golden ones.

Days of sun and blue sky. Nights drawing in to give a feeling of snug comfort without a blizzard howling around the eaves.

It's a month that, I think, accords more closely with the Canadian psyche than any other. A strange time of rest after labor and girding of the loins for what's to come.

In the Annapolis Valley in N.S., in the

# Happy October

## to all!

orchards of Ontario, in the prime land of B.C., the apples are either gathered or being eaten, the rich spurt of juice flying over one's . "oulder at the first crisp bite.

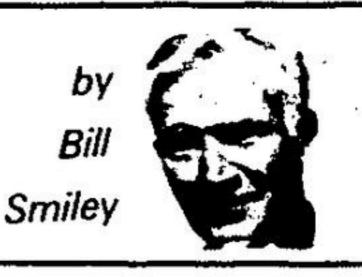
In the prairies, there's a great sigh of relief or groan of despair, as harvesting ends and the farmer tots up the endless hours of labor, and makes the decision whether to go south for the winter, or go bankrupt.

It's a time for that final attempt to break 80 on the golf course, to shoot a duck (just one this year, please, Lord), or to catch a rainbow trout (same refrain).

For old people, it's a time of mists and mellow fruitfulness, of a little walk in the last of the lingering sun, combined with a tinge of fear for the coming ordeal.

For adolescents, it's a romantic interlude between the madness of summer, and the madness of winter. It's a time for falling in love, last year's infatuation obliterated by this year's anticipation. A time of holding hands, and bunting, like calves on the street-corner before the girl heads for home and dreary parents and dreadful siblings.

For little kids, it's a great month. School



hasn't yet become boring, there's still some light to play in the leaves after supper, and winter, though farthest from their thoughts, is no grim enemy.

What about the rest of us? Well there are such diverse joys as fall fairs, auction sales, putting on the storm windows, starting again the silly social life that picks up in the fall, raking the blasted leaves, wondering if the old furnace will hold out for another year, and viewing all the horrible new "premeers" of TV shows. while we deplore the cancelling of our old favorites.

It's certainly no time for falling in love. Many marriages almost flounder in October as the wife worries and nags and the husband keeps sneaking off to fish or hunt or golf and neglecting the caulking, the wood to be split for the fireplace, the leaves to be raked, the bills to be paid.

But a pretty good month, as a rule. I wonder what it will be like this October, in Canada. Not so good, I would think, for a great many people.

We're into a depression, and call it what you like, it's a fact. A lot of men and women are out of jobs, and facing a bleak

winter. And more will be. You can count on that. The shrivelling and the panic of the moneymen are just like that of the Great Depression of the Thirties. They're tucking up their skirts and running scared.

The great difference between this depression and the Great is that inflation has not only not been wrestled to the ground, it is bright-eyed and bushy-tailed, eager for another round.

Another big difference this time is that taxes and interest and mortgage rates are cruelly punitive, so that those who lese their jobs are caught between a stone and a hard place.

Despite the Liberals desperate measure of the six-and-five in order to remain in power, there are tough times ahead.

But don't let it get you down. All the ineffectiveness of the politicians, the growing impersonality of society, where the computer is king, can't lick that odd indescribable—the human spirit. We shall not only endure, we shall prevail. And we may even have some fun, however grim, in doing so.

Happy October, all.

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### **RECIPE OF** THE WEEK

**TOMATO MINCE** PIE FILLING

1 quart sitced apples 1 quart green tomatoes 2 then, vinegar

4 thsp. molasses 1 orange — juice and rind 3 thep, mixed peel Bring above ingredients to a boil,

3 cups brown augst 1 tsp. salt 1 tsp. cinnamon ¼ tsp. nutmeg, cloves, mace

1 lb. seeded Lexis raising

1 lb. Thompson seedless raisins Add these ingredients to boiling mixture. Boil until thick and apples are soft. Preserve in sterilized bottles.

Delicioust

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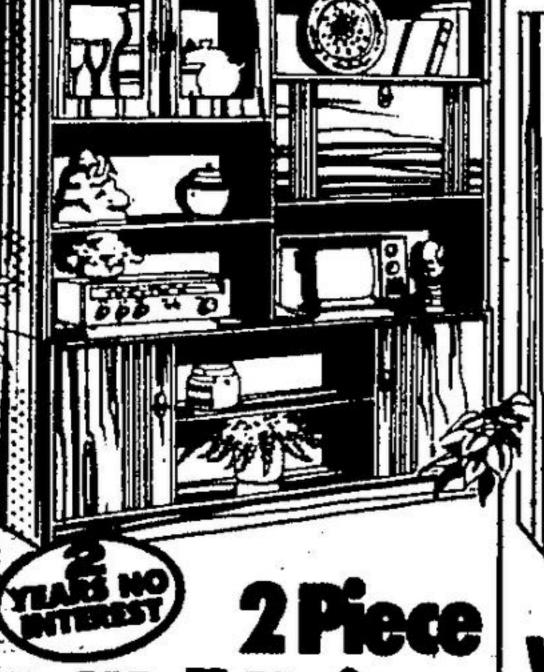
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