



BILL SMILEY

Here's Relief For Tedious News

It is quite an ordeal reading the headlines these days. President Nixon's surcharge has thrown the financial world into a panic of sorts. Telephone rates are up and rail fares are going up. Everybody and his brother is either on strike or threatening to strike. More than one out of every ten members of the work force 24 and under is jobless.

The government has proved totally incapable of both halting inflation and increasing employment. Welfare costs are soaring. Plants are shutting down. In a boom or bust economic cycle, we certainly don't seem to be headed for a boom.

A friend of mine who came to Canada from Germany told me frankly, "In the 18 years I have been in Canada, for the first time I am scared."

John Bassett, financier, wheel-dealer, and imperious owner of the Toronto Telegram gave that city a rude shock when he announced brusquely that the 96-year-old paper would cease publication because it was losing large sums of money. And there went 1200 jobs.

That leaves Toronto, with a population creeping up on the two-million mark, with only two papers. Ottawa, an infant comparatively, has two dailies. Is there something rotten in Denmark?

Now don't feel sorry for Mr. Bassett. You won't find him on the welfare rolls for a bit yet, even though the Tely was losing over half a million a year. He owns Toronto Argonauts and has extensive holdings in an audiovisual empire, plus only he and God know what else.

But I feel a little guilty when I think of the Telegram going on the rocks. Until just over a year ago, the Telegram Syndicate distributed my column. Then I switched to another syndicate. Is it possible that merely one rat leaving can sink a ship? I lie awake and worry about this at nights. For about 28 seconds.

I find that the only way to escape from this pall of gloom and doom is to concentrate on something just as silly as the bickering, whining, recalcitrant, salty, exuberant human race.

One of the silliest things in the world is the English language. But it's also fascinating. Especially the slang, which changes almost from day to day. I'm not much interested in the thousands of new words added to the language every year by science, but I have a morbid interest in the abortions that creep into daily usage.

Younger readers may stop here. Their elders, those who have a stomach for it, may continue. For example, you take a verb such as "to put", generally meaning to place. Then you toss in a preposition and you have a whole new vocabulary.

"You're putting me on." That really means, "You're pulling my leg." Try to explain that to somebody learning English. Why would anybody, except perhaps a chiropractor, want to pull anyone's leg?

"You're putting me down" means you are scolding the speaker. "You put me off" means that the person addressed is displeasing to you. "Will you put me up?" means you want a free place to sleep.

"You're always cutting me up" means that you are criticising the speaker, and is a favourite among teenagers. "Cut me off" refers to anything from a conversation to an allowance. "I really cut him down" means that you reduced somebody, either verbally or physically, to your own pigmy proportions, and is usually a prevarication. Or even a lie.

The Yanks got in there first with "wise". You take a noun, add "wise" to it, and you have a hermaphrodite. Can you see the tortured visage of a foreigner, who has learned to speak impeccable English, having to cope with something like, "Sales-wise, he's on the ball, but experience-wise, he's just not with it."

And I wonder how the Department of Transport words its advertisements when it is seeking the services of keepers of lighthouses. Who responds if the ad simply says, "WANTED — LIGHTHOUSEKEEPERS"?

Is the Department swamped with applications from lazy women who want to do only light housekeeping, no scrubbing? Or does it get buckets of mail, from little, skinny guys who don't mind a bit of housekeeping on the side?

Fair boggles the mind. Next time you're troubled by the headlines, find something silly, and save your sanity.

In the Mail Bag

Says Many Favour Public Supported Separate Schools

19 Glen Crescent Dr.
Glen Williams, Ont.

Dear Sir,

There are some comments I would like to make on your editorial of September 23rd.

First of all I am with you when you say that you wish the political parties would quit pussyfooting around and make the question of public support to separate schools an issue. But I can tell you why it's not an issue - there are a great many people who think we should have

publicly supported separate schools. A stand either way could decide the "fate" of a party. Are you afraid of a higher tax bill if such support should become a fact? Have you thought what would happen to your tax bill if the separate school system and the christian school system would say: as of next year all our students will attend public schools? If it would come to that the government would be eager enough to give support to these schools because the public school system doesn't have the facilities

to absorb the flocks of children who are being educated in these schools.

Secondly, you say that "our opposition to separate schools is not because we oppose the religious groups involved." That is impossible but it's the way many members of our democratic society would argue. Everyone's beliefs and faiths are respected as long as they are kept private and behind closed doors but this respect stops when one's beliefs are translated into concrete action in everyday life. A "religious group" gives expression to a particular view of life. This is what makes it a religious group so in a sense you could call those who support the public school system which encourages a particular view of life a religious group as well. You

cannot separate a particular view of life from expression of that view, in this case in the area of education so how can you say that your opposition to separate schools isn't because you have something against the religious groups?

Thirdly, you say you believe in freedom of association. Your editorial is in contradiction with this belief. You should let your belief in freedom of association come to concrete action or are you afraid of the consequences of translating beliefs into action? Fourthly, you make the point that artificial barriers of creed separate people. This is very true and very sad and somehow we must get rid of them but I would like to point out one barrier that is a reality. Christ said those who are not for me are against me.

This barrier manifests itself in education too.

Last of all, if it's not the financial aspect that is the crucial reason for your opposition, what is? Are you afraid that other school systems beside the public school system will be divisive and not serve the common good? If that's your fear maybe your next editorial could be on how the existence of more than one party (each very definitely based on a different philosophy) and the formation of splinter parties, in the area of politics, endanger our national unity.

—Alice Neutel.

Persiflage is another word for banter.

LEASING A CAR OR TRUCK
Any make or model
ANDREW MURRAY
GIVE US A TRY

PROGRESSIVE
CONSERVATIVE

RE-ELECT

JIM SNOW



JIM SNOW DOES THINGS FOR PEOPLE

"... No silent backbencher he has spoken when he has something to say. As a building contractor, he was instrumental in drafting a standardized building code for the province and successfully convincing the government of its merit... he finds time for the smaller things and it is rare that he does not appear at a local function, be it a fall fair board dinner, Chamber of Commerce meeting or Remembrance parade..."

Georgetown Herald,
Thursday, March 11, 1971

Halton MPP James Snow made a well deserving jump up the political ladder this week as he was appointed to the Cabinet as Minister Without Portfolio.

During his three and a half years as MPP he has proven his ability as the key mover in the transformation of legislation pertaining to the building industry and housing in general.

Hopefully, Mr. Snow will not be without portfolio very long if Premier William Davis establishes a special department on housing. If such a department were established Mr. Snow would be the logical choice.

Mr. Snow's decision to close or stop his participation in his construction firm is an indication that he will devote all his energies and attention to representing Halton, and now of course, the entire province.

While it was rumoured that Mr. Snow would be appointed as Minister in charge of Public Works we are certain that his role is more valuable as a director of Ontario Housing Corporation and hopefully as the new leader of a new housing department.

"... Snow's work in the legislature in less than four years has been officially recognized and his appointment to the "Executive" of Ontario ruling party gives Halton an even stronger voice in the shape of things to come..."

Canadian Champion,
Wednesday, March 3, 1971

"... There are two things about Snow that stand out. He's grass roots. And he's a worker. It's the grass roots part of him that makes him accessible to people. It's his hard work that has paid off in several ways..."

Daily Journal Record,
Tuesday, March 2, 1971

A VOTE FOR SNOW IS A VOTE FOR DAVIS



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HALTON EAST PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION

**YOUR NEW
BALLOT
WILL LOOK
LIKE THIS**

PLAN NOW TO HAVE
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FAIR**
WOODBIDGE, ONT.
Saturday, October 9
Sunday, October 10
**THANKSGIVING
DAY**
Monday, October 11
3 BIG DAYS
Saturday — Senior Horse Show, Beef Cattle, Western Horse Show, Rabbits, Cavies, Swine, 4-H Horse Club.
Sunday — Midway Only
Monday — Junior Horse Show, Poultry, Pony and Heavy and Light Horses, Dairy Cattle, Sheep.
Harness racing with betting Privileges Sat. & Mon.
MIDWAY — EACH DAY