

Farmers turn on Whelan

By JIM ROMAHN
Eugene Whelan has lost his farm vote in Ontario. It is gone. Evaporated. Even I was shocked Wednesday and Thursday by the unanimous reaction of farmers to his blood-bath of senior officials at the Canadian Dairy Commission.

better judgement. But it is now clear that Mr. Whelan is himself, an enemy of the policies and the people farmers support. It is Mr. Whelan who has scuttled the policies of the Canadian Dairy Commission to funnel more quota into Quebec.

his mind. He could clearly see that his decisions were unpopular and indefensible. He knew so well that he avoided Ottawa reporters when he left the House of Commons Wednesday. GOOD WILL IS GONE And so, Mr. Whelan has lost his good will in Ontario. I am more saddened than angered by that development. He contributed much to Canadian agriculture. He gave farmers a voice. He unified them. He gave them hope. And he blew it all this week. Mr. Whelan is an admirer of former prime minister John Diefenbaker. Like Mr. Diefenbaker, he appealed to the voters with a populist charisma.



THE LAST RITES

Have a rose, Mrs. Birch, for caring about a child

by GERRY LANDSHOROUGH
This week viewpoint tosses up another thorn and roses column to be presented as follows: A big bouquet of red roses to social development secretary Margaret Birch who rose in the Ontario Legislature denouncing her own colleague and sided with the Liberals and NDP over the tragic suicide death of 14-year-old Norma Dean at the Kawartha Lakes Training School.

Here's a nice bouquet of thorns for Peel Social Services Chairman Richard Whitehead who is hot on the trial of banning pinball machines. "Youngsters are turning to petty theft and drug pushing to feed an addiction for playing pinball," said Mr. Whitehead. If Mr. Whitehead's concern for the youth of Peel is such why doesn't he suggest that they buy some pinball machines for youth clubs for the kids to use free. Kids who aren't turned on by baseball or hockey the accepted diversions.

Roses go to the editorial department of the Toronto Star for their well chosen comments on the inconsistencies in the Ontario governments first-time home owner program. A program where it is estimated that about 9,000 of the grants went to uneligible receivers. According to the editorial the government is about to write it off - yet as it is so nicely put the government is never lenient about forgiving people who cheat on welfare. Even old age pensioners who receive accidental over-payment are forced to pay back. Some justice - says the editorial dept. of the Star. How very true - enjoy your roses (ellus).

On Parliament Hill

Quebec elections:

Why call them now?

BY STEWART MACLEOD
Ottawa Bureau
Of The Herald
The more I see of this Quebec provincial election campaign, the more I wonder why Premier Robert Bourassa decided to hold the event this year. This 1973 mandate still had two years to run.

"a major tactical error," estimates that 16 seats may be lost because of it. This is not the type of news that party leaders like to get from their officials. In fact, it's doubtful whether Mr. Bourassa likes much of the advice he is receiving as the campaign takes on more bizarre twists every day. It's bad enough for the Premier to be booed by construction workers, shouted at by immigrant parents and jeered at by students, but he is not even getting total support from his own Party's candidates.

Briefly said

Film stars and all that

By Bob Rutter
Seems the high some members of The Herald staff had about the presence of Richard Burton when he appeared here last week vanished quickly when he scooted out early leaving them waiting to have pictures they were told they would have with the famous gentleman. But the three office girls: Marie Sivadobit, circulation manager, Shirley Jessop, secretary, and Liz Richardson, accountant, haven't made an issue of it; nor have they let the instant stardom go to their heads, which, incidentally is a relief to many other people on staff, especially me. Other performers catapulted to fame overnight, (while would-you-believe operating a printing press?) included snop foreman Dave Hastings, Myles Gilson and retired Herald printer Garfield McGilvary.

Settlement

Have you heard about the settlement a Toronto couple received on a court claim over the loss of a pure-bred dog on an airline flight. The settlement is about \$1,500. The airline must now pay that plus legal fees. Seems all a shame, really, since the couple tried to book the entire first-class section of the aircraft for two dogs but the airline was adamant: "The dogs must go in the cargo compartment where one died from asphyxiation from a dry ice and the other was almost dead when the aircraft reached Mexico City. Oh, by the way, cost of the first-class section was about \$2,300."

Winning hope

Highlights of the first year operation of Wintario were distributed last week showing the Ontario Lottery Corporation managed a neat \$42 million profit from sales of those \$1 chances of hope. The other trivia attached to the financial statement showed that 1.3 million Ontario residents stay glued to their

Fire plug(ged)

Halton Hills doesn't seem to be the only municipality which has problems with fire hydrants. The Globe and Mail last week reported the plight of several Peel Region residents who have had hydrants planted at the foot of their driveways. It seems, the report says, that at least one woman has in park on the street because she can't get into the driveway with her car.

In a lighter vein . . .

PRESENCE
The phone rang one Sunday morning in the vestry of Knox Presbyterian Church in Ottawa, and the Reverend Dr. Douglas Stewart answered it. "Will the Governor-General be at the service this morning?" a woman asked. "No. He attended service here last Sunday." "Oh, how dreadful," the woman exclaimed. "I had planned to come if he were there." "I'm sorry to disappoint you," the minister replied politely. "Today we can only hope for the presence of God." Gordon S. Anderson

Queen's Park

Fall session is a different ball game

BY DON O'HEARN
Queen's Park Bureau
Of The Herald
This fall's session should be a different ball game. Gallup Polls taken for the Toronto Star show that support for the government has now increased substantially to where it has reached 48 percent of voters expressing an opinion, and choice of Premier Davis as the man best able to head a government has reached 52 percent.

thinking of one. This was in that he said he wouldn't be calling an election unless defeated in the house or so frustrated that I can't govern". The "frustration" is a new angle from the premier. And it indicates that he has at least been giving some thought to calling an election on his own initiative. For when the leader of a minority government does do this, inability to govern is the traditional reason given.

THE BUDGET? Again, there are various reasons why the premier could want an election before spring. Most observers are saying that a spring vote would give a chance to bring down one more budget. But he might not want to bring down a budget. In these particular times it is hard to draft anything but an unpopular budget.

Then local tax bills go out in the spring. There certainly will be an increase in local taxes this year. And a good many members of the PC caucus, at least, don't want these as a hurdle in an election campaign.

Finally the government definitely has changed its political tone recently. It has not only been making political speeches, but as mentioned here earlier, it has been making election speeches.

Maybe we won't see an election until spring. Perhaps most of the chances are that we won't. But personally I won't go into shock if we do.

On The Home Front

Mum's the word!

BY SUSAN DE FACENDIS
In the aftermath of Jimmy Carter's Presidential Victory, several things became abundantly clear to me. While a woman never makes any impression as somebody's daughter and merely helps to fill in cosy family photographs as a wife, she finally comes into her own as the mother of a grown son.

While the new President Carter was earnestly informing us that his wife was "His Best Friend", who was he kissing on the front page of every newspaper around the world? - His Mum.

Now I do not know whether Mrs. Carter Sr. is an exceptional person or not, no doubt we will be hearing a lot more about her in the days to come, but I'm willing to bet that she is probably a very strong, individualistic woman.

Due to that often quoted, but never fully understood theory of the lies between a mother and son, it would appear that the most successful men often have their mothers to thank for their rise to prominence.

The indomitable Rose Kennedy profoundly influenced her boys and is probably a major force in her grandchildren's lives now. Winston Churchill freely admitted that everything he became he owed to his mother - and what a woman Jenny must have been. Veering precariously back and forth between luxury and the edge of bankruptcy; a free spirit who never conformed; she nonetheless guided her son carefully through every phase of his life, including the world of art, music and literature.

Although widely separated in time and geographical location, these women must have shared a similar ideology. They were women with ambition and intelligence. They defined the goals and expectations for their offspring and would probably have been horrified at today's attitude of 'let them do their own thing'.

Generally I believe there is much to learn and admire from previous generations, and their strengths did not always depend upon wealth or position. These people were tested and tempered by hardships our generation has never really known. The women saw their husbands and sons off to war, they survived depressions and, in North America, pioneered a new continent.

Unlike the isolation in today's life-style, the family unit was strong and one took care of one's own. Who needed a Dr. Spock when there was an abundance of relatives, to not only keep your young Johnny on the right track but, to surround him with love and caring; to make him feel a part of something special when listening to age-old family anecdotes.

So many adults today look back at their grandparents and even great-grandparents with awe and admit with a chuckle: "There was a character". In that era right was right and wrong was a definite no-no. The remaining members of that generation must shake their heads in disbelief at our pre-occupation with child psychology, the pampering of our over-indulged youth and sadly recall the days when juvenile court was held in the woodshed and a complaint at receiving the strap in school simply meant you were in for it again when you arrived home.

Will our generation be strong enough to produce honest, strong sons and daughters? We're in big trouble if we are incapable. "Hey Richard, my son! Drop those potato chips and turn off Charlie's angels. You and I are going to have a little talk. Have you ever considered planting a crop of peanuts in the petunia bed. . . . ?"

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