



THEY HAD BRIGHT IDEAS



The Georgetown Elks Lodge, sponsors of the Halton Hills Elkettes, a majorette group, presented a cheque to Diana Tripp Monday for new uniforms and crests for the girls' jackets, the money for which the girls raised themselves. Making the presentation was Elk Brother John Sharpe.

Elks Lodge 540 presented prizes Monday to the winners of its "best-in-house" competition held during the holiday season. Brother John Sharpe (left to right) Bud Jardine, who accepted the third place prize on behalf of Charlie Peebles, Jim Clarke, who won second prize, and Wilson Latcher, who won first prize. The contest will be an annual event for the Elks.

(Herald photo)

CLERGY COMMENT

An old fish tale

By REV. R. WALTER RIDLEY
Huttonville-Norval Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada

"Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime" is an old Chinese proverb which is basic to our thinking in World Development. If a man learns to "fish", he not only has food but a feeling of dignity, self-fulfillment and self worth. If he has the capital to buy a boat and nets;

there are enough fish to catch; the price is adequate so he can sell some to buy other necessities; the big companies with their trawlers are legislated into restricting their catch. It is a big "if", but nevertheless, the answer to problems facing the people in the underdeveloped parts of the world is not in hand-outs, but in teaching them to make their own living. But in most cases, governments, big companies and people who "have" are not willing to relinquish some of their privilege, their power, their resources in order to allow the struggling poor person to make an adequate living.

Our tendency is to resort to inadequate wages, hand-outs or welfare. Then we complain that they are "lazy", "stupid", or "welfare bums". Work, food, social justice and human rights are serious concerns for a large part of Canadian society and a much more serious problem for the vast majority of the people in the Third World. As fellow members of the human family, all of us should be aware and willing to help. As Christians, as followers of Jesus, "the friend of the poor", it is our calling to be involved, to be outraged at the world situation, to rise out of our "comfortable pews" (comfortable lives) and show that we really care.

Jesus, "gave up all that he had and took the nature of a servant... and walked the path of obedience all the way to death" (Phil. 2:7,8). He began his ministry by declaring that he came to "bring good news to the poor... liberty to the captives... set free the oppressed" (Luke 4:18). But he tosses the ball into our court. He said to his disciples (and to us), "You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world" (Matt. 5:13,14). Our eternal life depends on our acceptance of, and our sharing with others. "Come and possess the kingdom which had been prepared for you... for I was hungry and you fed me... inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it to me" (Matt. 25).

I know we get frustrated because the problems of the world are immense and we are so small, so powerless. We are not called to solve everything, but we are called to take our candle out from under the bushel - give to the outreach fund of your church - sponsor a child - write of your concern to MP - love your neighbor who may be near or far away. "Inasmuch... Ten Days for World Development (Jan. 30 to Feb. 8) emphasized the topic of food for three years, but last year and this year the theme is "Making a Living". If you want literature or more information, please contact me.

Winter survival program

Terra Cotta Conservation Area consists of almost 500 acres of forested, rolling Niagara Escarpment. It has 3 km. of novice cross-country ski trail and 8 km. of intermediate trail to provide a challenge for the more experienced skier. Equipment rentals, including skis, boots and poles in all sizes, are available for a full-day (\$7) or half-day (\$5). A warm-up area is provided and a concession provides hot, home-made food and drinks. Parking fee at Terra Cotta Conservation Area is \$3 per car or a yearly pass, available at the gate, for \$25. Anyone intending to visit the conservation areas in the watershed more than eight times during 1981 will find the yearly pass more economical.

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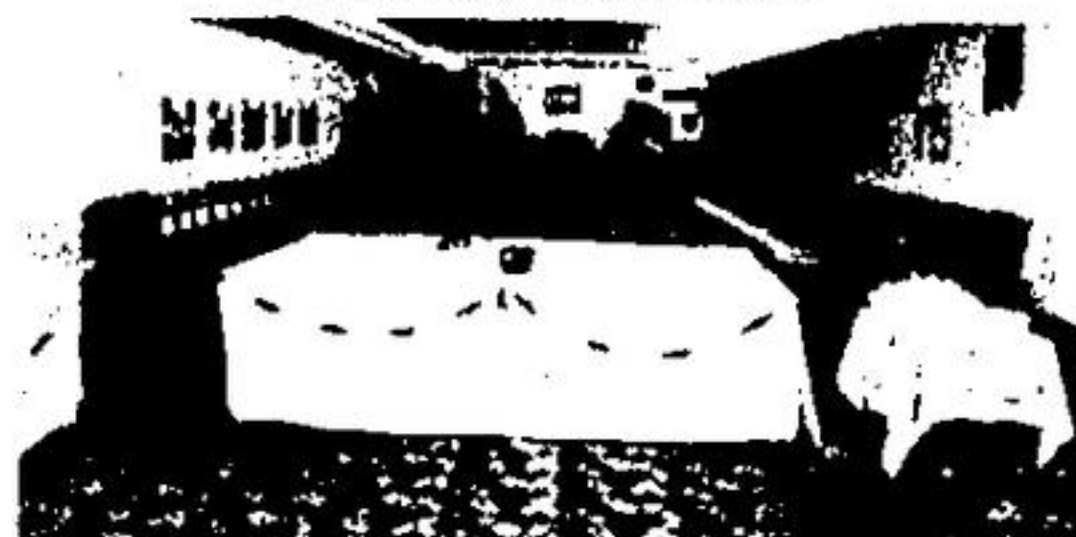
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IN THE CHURCHES

Invasion...

By BOB OLLIVIER
Herald Columnist

Recently, I was asked what I thought about the huge number of people in China and the military threat they might pose for us. The following figures are part of a talk I gave on this same subject and they are still fairly accurate today.

There are over 800 million persons in Communist China and, of these, 25 per cent are in military service. The resulting number corresponds with the size of the army that,

according to the Bible, will invade Israel in the "latter days".

Chinese army officials stated that if the forces of the West were to destroy 50 per cent of the population of China, there would still be enough people to rebuild the army to 200 million. The Red Chinese have food and war supplies buried under the Manchurian Mountains, out of reach of any atomic fall-out.

The ability of Israel to defend itself was evident in the Six Day War of 1967. Her forces numbered 60,000 regulars and 204,000 reserves, with 800 tanks, 250 big guns and 350 planes.

The combined forces of Egypt, Syria and Jordan amounted to 285,000 regulars and 205,000 reserves, 662 planes and 1,932 tanks. At that time, Iraq drove them back and advanced to secure new territory.

In the "latter days" mentioned in the Bible, God will

fight for his "children" in Israel.

I realize that this is a lengthy way to answer the question about the population of China, but it serves to illustrate my contention that the figures don't worry me.

The Lutheran Church in Georgetown seems to be growing and is enjoying good family participation. It may be a hard church to find, since it is tucked away in the serenity of the Carole Street and Windsor Road area of Georgetown. Actually, it may easily be found by turning up Windsor from Delrex or south from Guelph Street at Barrager's Cleaners.

The Lutheran Church is part of a national group of churches which sponsor some excellent television programs that still make a mark on the family. The Lutheran World Federation joined with the United Bible Societies to send Bibles to Russia, where authorities gave an import licence for 5,000 German Bibles.

The recent Skit and Talent night at the Alliance Church in Georgetown was a success. In order to provide enough room, the program was held at the Georgetown Christian School, and featured skits, music, recitations and comic dialogue.

The skit "Midnight Cafe", by Pat and Bill Bennett, Debbie Markle and Gail Stone was of particular note, as was the song "Testimony" by Steve and Linda Tilley. It seems that you may have to wait a whole year to see another, but it may just be worth waiting for.

Francis Schaefer's book "Whatever Happened to the Human Race" is one of the more understandable ones he has written. I would suggest that you get in the mood and find peace and quiet to read Schaefer. He has teamed in with Dr. C. Everett Koop and explores the human rights of abortion, infanticide and euthanasia, a very timely topic with the recent meeting in town on death and dying. Well worth reading.

Gospel Temple elects officers

By PAM JOHNSTON
Halton Gospel Ladies

An air of expectancy filled the room as the ladies of Halton Gospel Temple Women's Ministries group gathered for the first time in 1981.

Newly appointed president Kay Bailey welcomed every one and noted that this will be a year of change, seeing more participation by all members.

A short devotional time was held, followed by the reading of last year's reports. Everyone was excited to see the growth that's happened over the past few years and are looking expectantly to 1981 for even greater things.

Pastor Nicholson presided over the annual election of officers. He encouraged each one to prayerfully consider the names that were offered for each position and let the Lord's will be done. Eileen Stride was elected vice-president, Pam Johnston secretary and Rose Belsmith treasurer.

Pastor Nicholson then told the ladies of their importance in the church over the years and expressed his optimism for an even greater year. The meeting was then turned back to Kay Bailey, who said the WM theme for this year is "In The Word". In keeping with this theme, the new executive will plan meetings which will help each lady to draw closer to God through His written word.

Jehovah Witnesses await 'Fine Fight of Faith'

Herald Special

"While modern militarists increasingly consider the possibility and consequences of sanguinary conflicts leading towards World War Three, over two and one half million others are preparing for and actively engaged in another

type of fight".

Zenny Pasternak, spokesman for local Jehovah's Witnesses, made these comments in announcing the Circuit Assembly to be held at the Assembly Hall on Highway 7 in Norval this Saturday and Sunday (Feb. 7 and 8.)

Based on the scriptural theme "Fight the Fine Fight of the Faith", the program will feature talks, demonstrations and experiences emphasizing the spiritual warfare Christians should be involved in today. Mr. Pasternak described a true Christian today as one who really has to fight to remain free from wrong thinking and practices common in today's society.

Some two and one half million Witnesses worldwide point to deteriorating world conditions as indications of the imminence of a change in world government by means of God's Kingdom.

According to Mr. Pasternak, the Assembly program will highlight Bible-directed counsel pertinent to Christians maintaining proper standards in an environment which to a large extent is alienated to God.

More than 1500 are expected to attend the public talk Sunday at 2 p.m. The speaker, Doug Held, a special representative of the Watch Tower Society will talk on the subject "Facing the Future with Faith and Courage". All interested are invited to attend any part of the two-day program.

Baha'i gathering

Members of the Baha'i Faith from Oakville to Owen Sound gathered in delightful surroundings at Sheridan College in Brampton Sunday.

The occasion was to elect six delegates who will represent all members of the Baha'i Faith in the area at an upcoming National Convention in Montreal, which will in turn select nine members from across the nation to serve the Canadian Baha'i Community for the upcoming year.

John Baldock, Lynda Larsen, Sylvie and Yvette Bourassa, Mary Lamon, Patsy Irving, Isabelle and Don Weaver of Halton Hills were there and spent a delightful day.

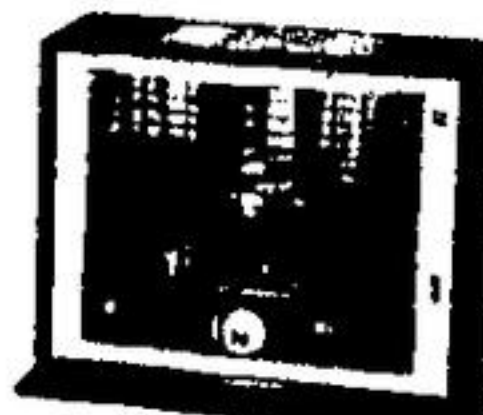
Don Weaver explained that Baha'i elections reflect the unique nature of Baha'i administration. "All the basic principles necessary for a future world civilization are present in miniature right now in Baha'i administration," he stated. "Our elections are held without electioneering, on the divisive party system, and in a spirit of prayer and sincere desire to serve humanity."

The group spent part of the day discussing the plight of their fellow Baha'is in Iran, who are undergoing severe persecution because of their Faith.

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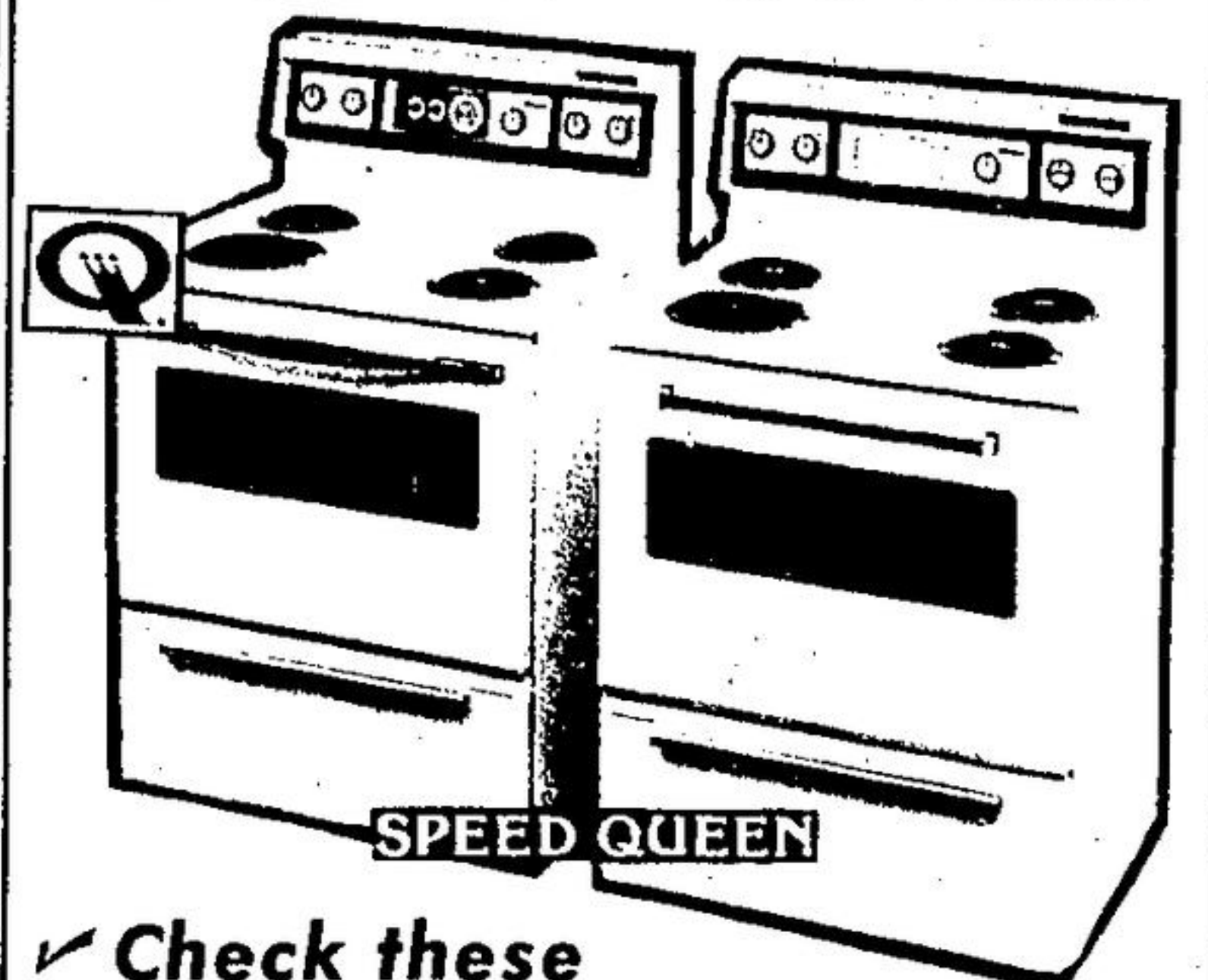
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