



### HAVE WE GOT A SUMMER FOR YOU

Let'er roll. Summer's here and the recreation department's summer activities started this week. Getting in gear a week before the eight programs roll were 29 leaders and seven supervisors. Advice for them came from resource people in the community. Besides learning coaching techniques, craft skills and safety skills, the 29 leaders in training had a bit of fun at the Jack Smythe Field Centre near Terra Cotta Conserva-

tion Area. Enjoying the camp site were (left to right seated) Brenda Archer, Cathy McGowan, Scott Kline, Steve Doucette, Val Keslick, Anne Ramsay, Kathy Coe (standing) Kristi Champ, Kim Newcombe, Jen Pepper and Linda Phillips. Children can still register for the summer programs at 25 James St. in Georgetown or by calling 877-5185 extension 63.

(Herald photo)

### Any new ideas?

The Halton Hills recreation department is in the process of planning programs for the fall. Should you have any program ideas for NEW recreational activities please contact us immediately at 877-5185, Ext. 19 or 61. We welcome your suggestions!

## Thanks to helpful motorists

To the editor of The Herald:

This letter is to extend a note of appreciation to the people who assisted or offered assistance at a recent motorcycle accident on the Eighth Line Saturday.

Being involved in the accident, it is reassuring to have the immediate witnesses stop unselfishly and have a passerby inform the police and ambulance of the situation in such a direct fashion. Needless to say, both the Halton police force and the Georgetown volunteer ambulance service displayed their high standard of professionalism once again.

Thankyou all.

Gratefully yours,  
Harald Bransch  
Stacey Wheeler

Another letter, page A6

### Reader's nightmare warns potential shoplifters

## Letters to the Editor

To the editor of The Herald:

With the kind collaboration and approval of the editor of The Herald, I hereby make known what the shoplifter faces when caught red-handed in a theft. To my everlasting shame, I did this deed recently, and here step-by-step is the ghastly procedure.

The article in question had a value of about \$7 and I concealed it inside my jacket. This action was very rapid, but suddenly some latent instinct in me hit me that I had been observed. What to do? To put it back might make matters worse. My thoughts ran helter-skelter; it was like a manikin assuming a human form. Fiddlesicks, I thought, and casually sauntered out of the store.

It was not until I reached the outside steps that I was tapped on the shoulder. This accoster said, "You took something in the store and you didn't pay for it." "Oh, by gosh, yes," I said. "I didn't mean to. I'll pay for it," I implored. "That's great, then. Just come up to the office and we'll discuss the matter."

There was no way out, although I tried a few other tactics. I must mention here that I was somewhat at a disadvantage as I could not figure out the sex of this individual. What is it? Man? Woman? Manikin? Robot?

Be that as it may, both of us walked the long walk toward the office, and from that point in time I was subjected to a barrage of questions by this person, and which answers were dutifully written down, possibly in triplicate. My mind, by this time, was in a turmoil, as uppermost in my thoughts was the family name and my good friends in Georgetown. I felt like crawling into a hole.

But the worst humiliation was yet to come. My "host" informed me that a policeman was on his way to interview me. "Just a formality", he added. And ultimately, the LAWMAN came, and I have to acknowledge right now that he was a just man and a very conscientious one. The first question he put to me, after reading over the above charge, was: "Why, in heaven's name did you do this thing?"

I stammered something again like, "I didn't mean to." An utter ridiculous answer, for if you punch a guy in the face, that's assault. It would be absolutely stupid to say, "I didn't mean to."

However, the prongs went on with the constable taking charge, and were much more thorough. If you're with me so far, read on.

Here then, in a nutshell, is how the agony progresses. Many of the officer's quizzes were a repetition of what went before but were very much of a personal nature and involvement.

May my memory not fail me now! Name in full. BIRTHDATE. PLACE OF BIRTH. OCCUPATION. ANY INDICTABLE OFFENSES IN YOUR PAST LIFE. MONEY IN YOUR WALLET. COLOR OF EYES. COLOR OF HAIR. ANY IDENTIFICATION SCARS. SOCIAL

SECURITY NUMBER. HOME ADDRESS. PHONE. TYPE OF CAR. MAKE. YEAR. COLOR. DRIVER'S LICENCE. INSURANCE. STATE OF HEALTH. AND OTHER PERTINENT DIALOGUE INTERVENED ALSO. THEN THE SUMMONS WAS ISSUED TO APPEAR IN COURT ON THE DUE DATE. After all this information was faithfully tabulated and documents signed by me, I was allowed to go.

The long wait for the court appearance was, to say the least, nerve shattering. Nevertheless, that day dawned and I drove to Milton. It was a traumatic experience. There were several courtrooms and I became confused until some passerby directed me to one. Emblazoned over the oak doors was inscribed "CRIMINAL COURT".

Now, dear readers fill in the pieces. My fine exceeded by over ten times the cost of my impulsive indiscretion, and besides I was fortunate in having an excellent lawyer.

I am writing this factual essay in the kitchen of my home here, and how glad I am to be here. "Home," as some poet wrote, "is a place that when you go back to they have to take you in." I don't know about that. I wouldn't advise anyone in similar position to push his luck too far.

If the foregoing revelation of my wrong-doing should act as a deterrent to somebody who may fall prone to the temptation of shoplifting, then I have done some good. Please remember in not too ancient times the hand of a thief was lopped off. Even crucifixion was common. Drastic laws? Think it over.

Also, it is vitally important to remember that the store owners and managers of businesses are dedicated people and bear the responsibility to protect their property. Wouldn't you?

In conclusion, I would like to advise those who have gone so far in their criminal activities that

they have a "fence" to dispose of their illegal loot to get out while life is still young. Do believe me, it will destroy you in the end and possibly in the prime of life.

An old Chinese proverb

It has been estimated that before the beginnings of agriculture—some 8,000 years ago—the world probably supported no more than five to 10 million people. By A.D. 1, this probably ranged from 200 to 400 million people. In 1750, the human population neared 800 million. By 1850, it was 1.3 billion people, which nearly doubled by 1950. In 1975, there were about 3.9 billion people on our planet and some 7 billion people will live on earth by 2,000 A.D.

has this to say: He who rides a tiger, dare not jump off. Name withheld on request

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