

THE HALTON HILLS WEEKEND

KEN NUGENT
Publisher

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Greetings from Cousin Glen

Dear Cousin George,

I must tell you that plans for our yearly shindig for Canada's birthday are well underway. In fact, because it is 125 years since Confederation this year, the Royal Canadian Legion are coming down here to help out. I always felt the Legion should be here in the Glen anyways seeing as how the Glen boys and girls practically won the War themselves! But that's water under the bridge now. That's our favorite expression down here in the Glen.

Getting back to Dominion Day, opps I mean Canada Day, well the Town Hall are once again sponsoring the day. It'll be on Wednesday this year, since that is July 1. They'll be down in the ball park once again since that's been so successful the last couple of years. The committee has already met a couple of times and are semi-organized. Come to think of it, they're always semi-organized!

The committee is headed by Mrs. Angie Fowler up there on Confederation and by Mrs. Pauline Robinson who lives down the bottom part there of Tweedle Street.

Letters

to the Editor

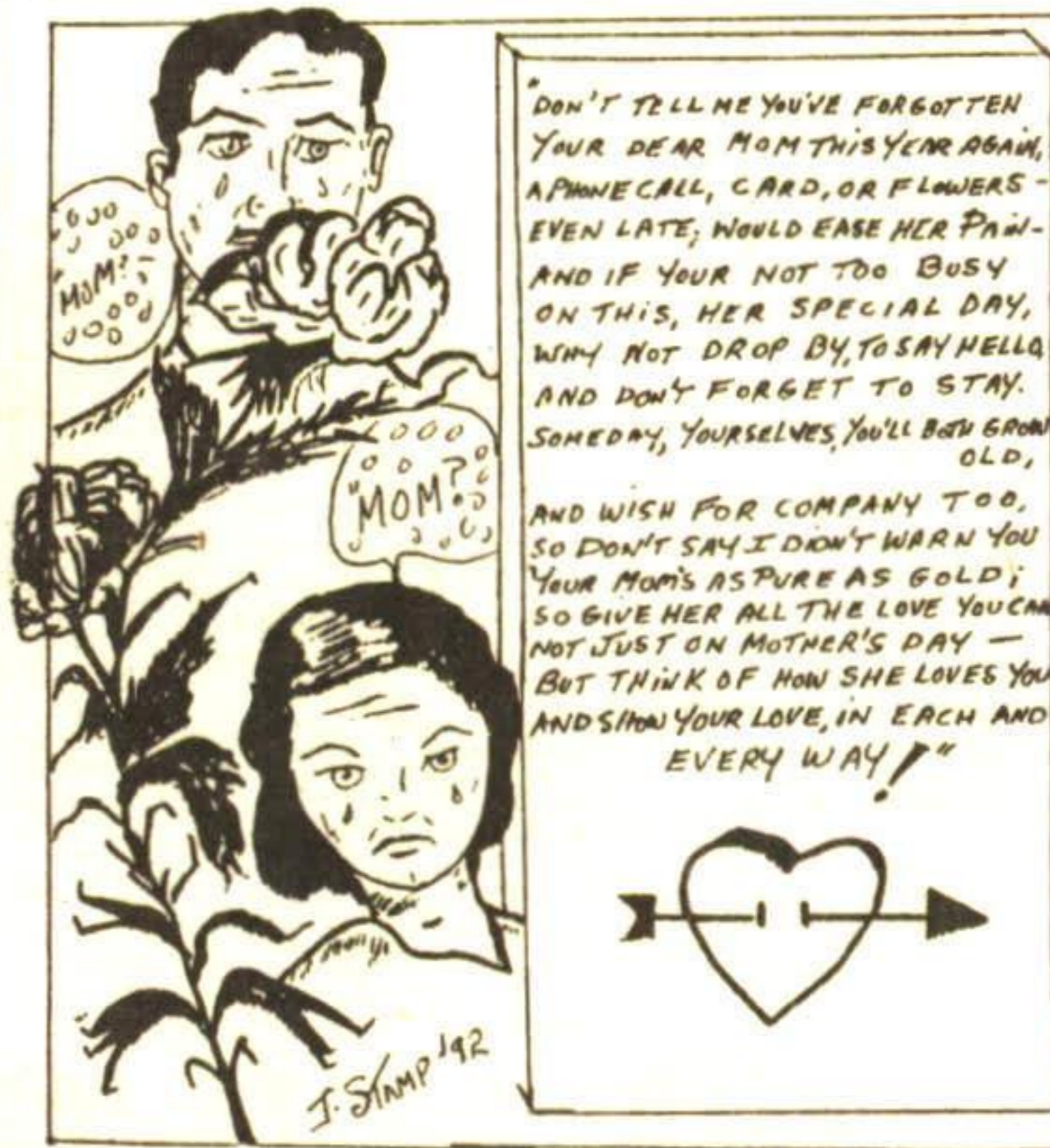
Those ladies are co-chairs, so if you lot up there in town want to help at all, just give them a ring and offer your services. I know everyone needs help with their different activities.

The baseball diamond's been getting warmed up for spring lately, but the days still aren't warm enough yet. No doubt I'll see you down there when the sun comes out. Oh, you might want to tell the Missus about that shop on Main Street that opened up. Nice assortment of things to look at, a lot of them painted by Wendy Robbins herself. She lives in Barb Stephens' old place. If you see Barb around town snapping photos, do say hello from the Glen!

Well I've got to get going now. The lawn needs raking and I think Gordie has some bananas going real cheap. Make sure you mark July 1, Glen Williams on your calendar.

Your Cousin Glen

For mom



Letters welcome

Letters to the editor are welcome, however they must comply with our policy in order to be published. All letters must be signed and accompanied by an address and telephone. Names can be withheld on request, but only if they are signed with the proper address and telephone number.

Sorry, if the letter isn't signed we can't publish it.

Keep mom safe

Today is Mother's Day - a day we've traditionally remember Mom and all the unselfish and unrewarding tasks she performs for all her "children" each and every day.

Many will thank their Mom with generous gifts and tokens of their love. We too celebrate this day, but we also like to add a dark reminder as well.

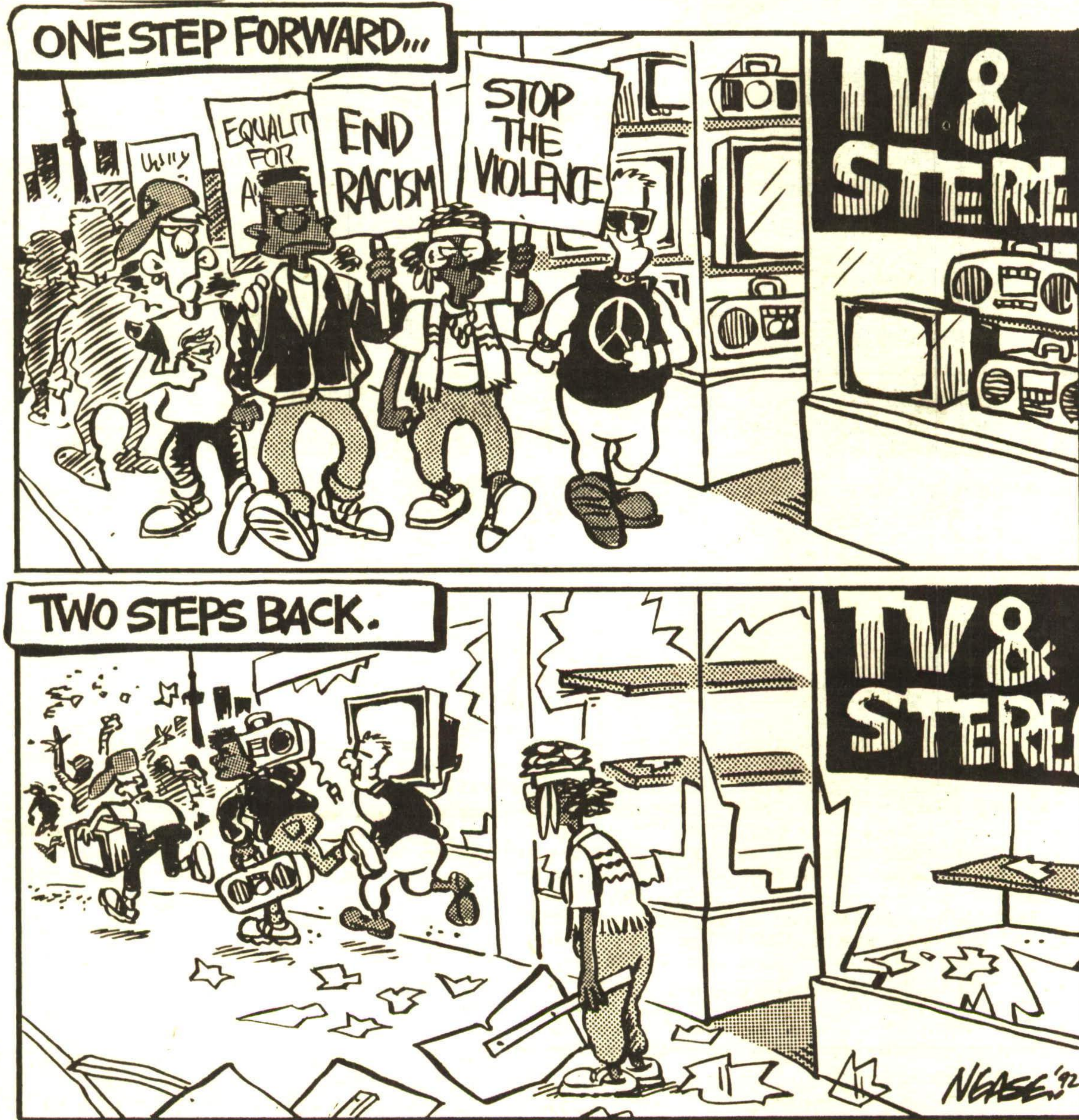
There will be one mother, at least, who will be crying today. Her daughter was brutally murdered. This mom will not be getting a hug and kiss from her daughter Kristin - ever again.

The sad fact is that Mrs. French will not be alone to mourn this day. The increase in violence against women and children has risen dramatically: every 17 minutes a sexual assault occurs in Canada (90 per cent of the victims are female); since the late '80s the leading cause of injury to women has been battering; more than half of Canadian women don't feel safe walking at night and one in two girls and one in three boys have been sexually assaulted before they reach age 18.

This past week Halton Hills played host to the provincial walking tour Men Walking Against Male Violence. They are a group of men challenging men to speak and act out against violence committed against women and children.

This newspaper is very proud of the 25 Halton Hills residents, many teenage boys, who despite the cold and wet, joined the walk between Acton and Georgetown. Some would ask "what's the point in walking?" To that we say, "It was a step in the right direction."

These men who participated were making a public stand, to ask other men to end their violence against women and to state their own personal abhorrence of it. As one organizer stated, for many young boys (and men too) it will be the first time they hear from a man that harming a woman is not acceptable. Real men don't abuse and hit women and children. Real men speak out against it. Real men keep moms and their children safe.



A 'loo' or a 'left'? It's all the same rank to me

Remember as a kid watching the television series "Combat" with Vic Morrow starring as Sgt. Saunders?

It was a war series about an American army platoon in France during WW2 and featured some pretty good action for its time. It was a forerunner to "Tour of Duty" which ran more recently on TV.

Anyway, I recall hearing the soldiers call one of their officers "Lieutenant," pronounced "loo-tenant."

Being young and impressionable, I immediately called every "lieutenant" I encountered "loo-tenant."

That is, however, until I said it in front of Paul Barber.

Now Paul Barber is a member of the old Barber family of Georgetown, a family who takes great pride in their military history. Paul served with the Canadian military in WW2 and was always happy to discuss his war years.

But he had to straighten me out on one thing.

It's not "loo-tenant." Rather "left-tenant"

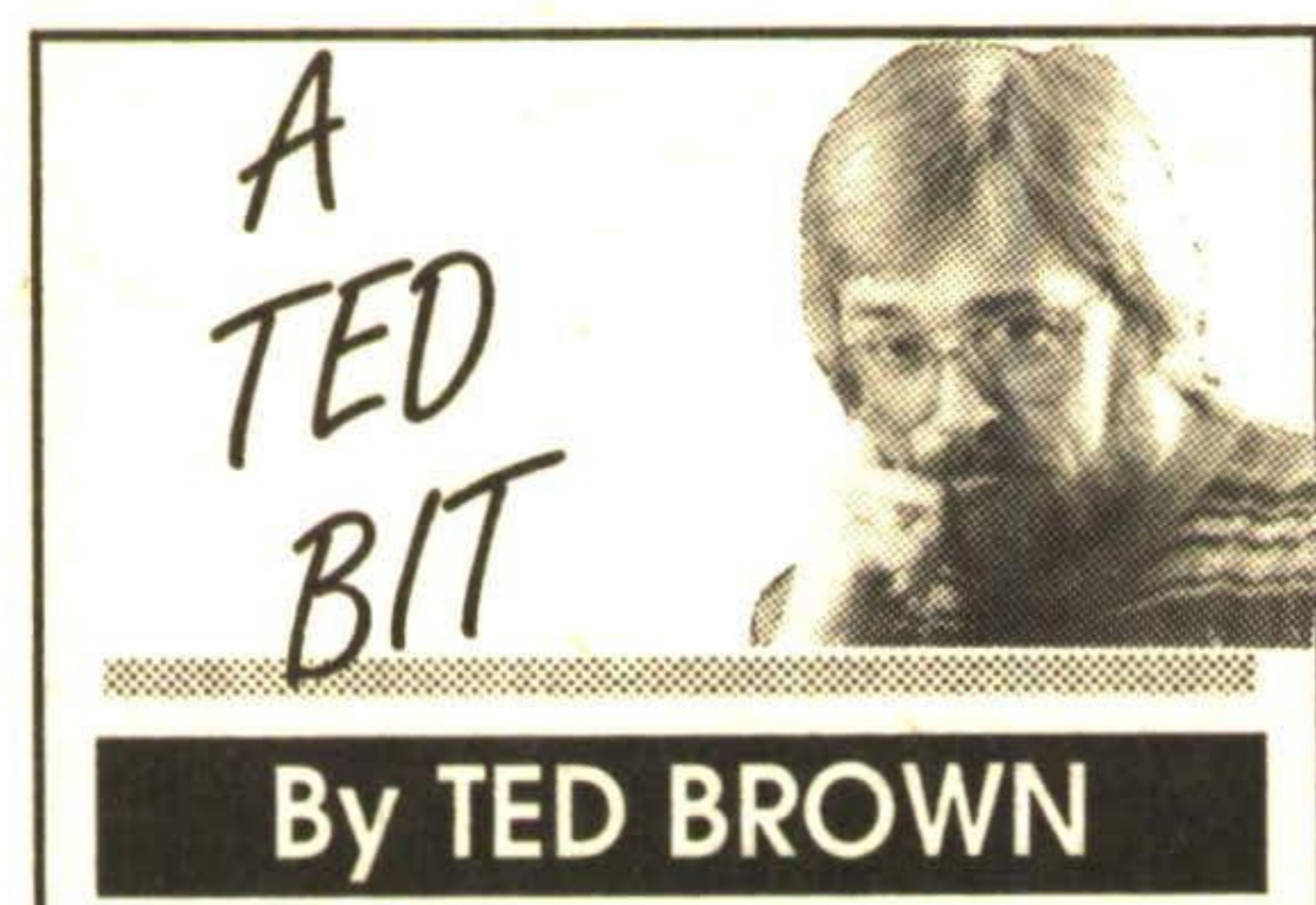
"We (Canadians) don't say 'loo-tenant,'" he lectured. "That's reserved for those damn Yankees. Canadians and British always say 'left-tenant. Now remember that!'"

It never really made sense to me. If one pronounces the word phonetically, it should be "lew-tenant." But Paul Barber knew his stuff when it came to military titles and rank, so far be it for me to question the pronunciation of lieutenant.

And after all these years, I have never forgotten it.

"Left-tenant" not "Loo-tenant." A few years ago, I attended a 50th wedding anniversary and during the conversation I learned one family member was a soldier in the Canadian armed forces. His rank was Lieutenant Colonel.

As I was introduced to this gentleman, in his dress uniform, I addressed him as "left-tenant colonel." He was very pleased.



one knows they talk funny, while Bill's background is with the police.

But I guess the firefighters just found the whole thing too confusing as well; they finally eliminated the rank "lieutenant" from the department about four or five years ago, and made all the lieutenants into captains. I guess there's no discussion how captain should be pronounced.

Now after I was educated in the correct pronunciation of lieutenant from a Canadian point of view, how did one address an officer in the American service?

Was it proper to call them a "loo" or a "left?"

The discussion carried on in the office, and co-worker Stuart Johnston said Canadian and British military should always be called "left" but it was proper to call an American lieutenant a "loo."

Now Stuart knows; he was in the army cadets as a kid. And he has a British background as well.

It baffles me how one word can be spelled the same and have two totally different pronunciations dependent upon whether one stands in Toronto or Buffalo.

What if a British guy comes to Canada and drives down to Buffalo to do a little Sunday shopping and decides to enlist in the American army?

It could easily restart the War of 1812 with an American officer in the recruiting office talking to a British fellow from Canada who keeps calling him "left-tenant" when he has gone through his strict military training with the name "loo-tenant."

I guess it is just another of those words created to confuse the issue. Like "quay" pronounced "key" or "sword" pronounced "sord."

But there is one more military title shared by the Americans, Canadians and British which I will never understand.

How on earth do they get "kernel" from a word spelled "colonel??"