

# Editorial Page

## Thousands of WORDS Later

After a week of reading daily newspapers intensively (while on a holiday) some observations develop on a multitude of unrelated subjects.

● For instance it has become increasingly evident that more policemen are the only answer to cutting the highway toll. We just haven't enough sense individually to drive carefully and at any rate there's always the other driver that is completely unpredictable.

● There won't be a nuclear war over Berlin. President Kennedy is still a good politician and all his warnings and increasing preparedness carried a price tag that he wanted to get past his congress. We're not unmindful of course that Berlin is a potential tinder box but then it isn't the only one.

● Why the French have chosen to embarrass the free world with their attitude towards the United Nations on Tunisia is bewildering unless their position cannot be justified. Perhaps a better student of Tunisia than we could ever hope to be has the answer but it looks to us like De Gaulle is paddling down the wrong stream and we wouldn't mind having Canadian representatives telling him so.

● Better regulations around municipal pools to avoid drownings should be instituted. The old "buddy" system where swimmers group in twos is hard to beat. When a signal is given each swimmer has to find his "buddy". That way problems are uncovered while there might still be time to do something about it.

● From the half dozen different papers we've managed to scan it appears that Finance Minister Fleming lost face rather badly in the Coyne incident. It might not be enough to change the results of a fall election if one was called but it was severe enough to leave a mark on Mr. Fleming's record.

● Haven't formed any clear indications on the results of the Coyne affair as far as

the Senate is concerned but we wouldn't be surprised if it has gained some new strength. Many taxpayers have looked on the Senate as a home for retired politicians who served their party well. But in the Session recently closed the Senate proved it was no mere rubber stamp in spite of a threatened election by the Prime Minister based on Senate reform.

● There's an increasing value in recreational facilities and with housing past the "boom" stage it wouldn't be surprising to see more and more speculation in recreation. It could be a good investment but we doubt if the return will be as spectacular as it may have been on land at the height of the housing "boom".

● While this is being written the New Party delegates are just assembling for their founding convention in Ottawa. It looks like a shoo in for Douglas as their leader though despite Argue's opposition. All the controversy leading up to the convention will undoubtedly be resolved amid a great hullabaloo. And incidentally don't underrate the future of the New Party. It's provoking a lot of political interest.

● Violence in the Hamilton dock strike is disturbing. It actually harms the course of strikes in the public eye and the cause of unions generally. When tempers, often hot enough, are ignited by new sparks from intoxicants there is bound to be distaste of one kind or another. And while we all talk about freedom of the individual, incidents like this make us wonder if such a state is not really only idealistic.

● The headlines being given the Mimico inquiry into alleged building by-law infractions underline the need for civic officials to tread their road of public service with scrupulous honesty. And if irregularities are proven the taxpayer will in the end be the loser with inquiry costs estimated at \$1,000 a day.

## Business Tempo Quickens

As Canada's business tempo quickens there are grounds for a "reasonable measure of optimism" for future economic prospects, according to the Bank of Montreal's Business Review for July, just issued.

The review says present business prospects are brighter than for some time past, even if nothing "dynamic" is expected in the immediate future.

The bank recalls that a year ago there were signs that business was slowing down and questions were being asked about the future. As the year progressed, "a downturn in over-all activity was confirmed and, while there was some improvement last autumn, this did not continue into 1961."

By contrast, recent months have brought a number of indications that the situation is

improving again, so that "in general an air of optimism prevails".

With a "gradual but definite shift from the experience of the early months of the year, and with a number of monthly indicators pointing upward, it is becoming increasingly evident that business is once again improving and probably has already passed the turning point," the review says.

This is encouraging news to those of us who find it difficult to follow the reasons for ups and downs in business. The bank in its report cautions that there is little to point to dynamic recovery but most of us will be happy just to know our economy is recovering. Perhaps the unemployment figure of 1961-62's winter will tell a better story too.

## Enough For Now

The Canadian Press quotes an unnamed Ottawa source to the effect that the government "has decided to defer joining the Organization of American States (OAS) but intends to play a bigger role in Latin American affairs." The story may be calculated kitemongering, or good newspaper reporting, or a soft answer to President Kennedy's urging that we join the hemispheric association. In any event it is a course that seems best for Canada at this time.

The OAS is an alliance of the independent countries of North and South America. It is the successor to the Pan-American Union and, according to its 1951 charter, is intended to promote peace and justice and hemispheric solidarity. Since 1910, when the Pan-American Union was formed, there has been a carved chair bearing the name Canada at the council table in the organization's Washington headquarters.

There is more reason now than there ever has been for Canada to occupy that empty chair. Last year our exports to Latin

America totalled \$186 million. Many Canadian companies operate in South America, and through the Brazilian Traction, Light and Power Company, Brazil is the site of Canada's largest single foreign investment. We are also extending financial and technical aid to the new British West Indies Federation.

However, it remains true that our main interest in this hemisphere is our relations with the United States. It is hardly possible that at this time Canada could be influential in OAS activities, be independent in foreign affairs decisions, and not publicly quarrel with the United States.

"Canada will send an observer to a ministerial meeting of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council in Uruguay later this year," concludes the Canadian Press story out of Ottawa. "While the composition of the delegation has not been announced, it is expected to be headed by a senior member of the Cabinet."

And that seems enough for now.

## Little Spooner



Jim's

## JOTTINGS

BY JIM DILLS

● SO, AFTER a week of really perfect weather at the beach, it's necessary to get behind a desk again and into the harness of deadlines all over again. It's not a bad fate, though, no matter how much one complains about it. A certain amount of regularity is a welcome change from the complete lack of regularity that a holiday should provide.

● CATCHING up on things, even after just a week away, is sometimes difficult in the role of an editor but thank goodness, it isn't impossible.

● IT HAPPENS to me once a

year but I can't help but be impressed with the beauty of a sunset over a lake. An eclipse of the moon isn't half as worth seeing but because it happens so seldom, it attracts far more attention.

● TRIED TO visit a couple of weekly newspaper plants, just to keep in touch, you know, but without success. Doors were locked and I could only assume they'd decided to close down for their annual vacation. It's not a bad idea, either, but unfortunately we had to give the idea up ourselves several years ago because of a larger staff. Now we

stagger holidays and the result is that we "stagger" through from June to September with a staff depleted to varying degrees.

● ALTHOUGH man's life expectancy grows with the years, scientists will never be able to make him live long enough to do all the things his wife wants him to.

● FLIES ARE a nuisance in the summer, but the fact they can take off in 1/20 of a second could surely give our rocket scientists advice to cut down those interminably long count downs required to launch a rocket.

## Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL SMILEY



changing the baby, and putting down all the windows in case it rained.

We'd get on the road about 9. Three miles out of town, my mother would remember something that was indispensable. My Dad would turn around with a ferocious tearing of gears, and drive back, muttering something about cancelling the whole dam' trip if we couldn't give him a little help and co-operation.

Dad used to estimate our time so that we'd hit the ferry "right on the nose," as he put it. But he always neglected to allow for the inevitable blow-outs. So we'd tear down to the ferry dock just as the boat was in midstream, heading for the other side. My mother would sit placidly enough, fanning the baby, while my dad spent the next 13 minutes in a colorful outline of the character flaws of tire manufacturers and ferry-boat captains.

When we got to the other side of the river, we began to get excited, as we inhaled the beloved scent of "pine country" once again. Even my dad simmered down and relaxed enough to take off his straw hat. By the time we got to the cottage, he'd be speaking quite decently to my mother.

I'll admit that today's father is just as bad-tempered about the original trip to the cottage. But there the similarity ends. All my dad had to do when he got there was drag the boat out from under the cottage, throw it in the lake to soak, put up the pipes and start a fire. Then he'd send one kid for a pail of milk, another for drinking water, and sit down and wait for his dinner.

Next day was the same. He didn't do a tap. He just sat there, looking at the lake, and maybe telling my mother she'd better paint the cottage this year. After lunch, he'd give her some money, kiss us all around, and head for home, serene in the knowledge that he wouldn't see any of us for two lovely, peaceful months.

Nowadays, on opening day,

father has to hook up the water system, get the hydro turned on, and start wrestling a huge boat and motor out of storage. He barely has the car unloaded when he's sent to town for groceries and beer.

When he gets back, he's expected to take the kids for a swim, then cook a barbecue dinner. Later, he's expected to sit up half the night talking to the people from the next cottage, who just dropped in for a night-cap.

And that's only the beginning. Today's father is expected to hurtle over the highways, anywhere from 100 to 300 miles, every week end, so that he can go through roughly the same performance. He arrives back on the job Monday morning feeling like a bull fiddle that's been left out in the rain for a week.

In my father's time there wasn't much that could go wrong with a cottage. The toilet might flow over, but it wouldn't back up. The water system couldn't go on the blink, because you got it from the lake with a pail. A hydro failure meant nothing when you cooked with wood and lighted with coal oil. If you got a hole in the roof, you put a bucket under it to catch the rain water, which was nice and soft for washing the hair.

Nowadays the poor, harassed devil who arrives at the cottage Friday evening after a three-hour drive is greeted by the news that the septic tank is not septic, the stove is blowing fuses, the hot-water tank has burst, the kids have smashed the propeller of the outboard on a reef and "We're having a few couples in tonight."

The whole business is another example of today's man energetically wielding a spade at the digging of his own grave. In my dad's day the male was smart enough to work six days a week and have the family cottage far enough away so that he couldn't possibly "run up" on week ends. It's a wonder to me that there isn't a wave of suicides in the cities every Friday, about noon, all summer in these times.

## THE TURNING POINT

by J. M. STARR

"Laugh and the world laughs with you, Cry — and you cry alone!" This has always been so true of human nature. Everyone enjoys a good laugh... it stimulates the whole system, while sadness, though often inevitable, is destructive and wearing... both physically and mentally.

Let's give three big cheers then, for the cartoonist. He has contributed greatly to the laughter of the world. People see themselves in his pencil characters and learn to laugh at situations that had seemed a burden. Bill Mauldin was a past master of this particular art during the Second World War, and his appealingly humorous portrayals of the common fighting man and his "up front" situations were applauded and enjoyed by thousands in the services. Their morale was lifted by his clever adeptness in turning to humour, otherwise unbearable situations. One of the directors of a large European firm was a guest of ours not long ago. He relaxed by reading the funnies, and won great approval from our sons by his enthusiastic exchange of Disney comic books!! It has been a long accepted fact that a large percentage of hard-bitten businessmen are great comic fans and it may have lead one of our greatest authors to remark... "Only if you can appreciate nonsense can you really appreciate sense!"

Edward Lear with his "Pobble Who Had No Toes," and Don Marquis both gained fame over their poems of "nonsense." Marquis' cockroach named "Archie" appealed to the humour of the world. Writers and cartoonists often try to disguise the truth by cloaking it in a coat of nonsense. Al Capp's "Li'l Abner" is actually a very clever satire! Nonsense, like his, really does play a definite part in life, for often if you are able to make your fellow humans laugh, you help to make them think. Mark Twain was very clever at carrying this off when he wrote his famous books. If you find that you cannot circulate among people as much as you would like to, there are some entertainingly humorous books on the market today, including a few perennials such as Robert Fontaine's "Happy Time," Skinner and Kimborough's "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay" and "Popcorn," and Betty McDonald's "The Egg and I" . . . just to mention a few, each with a very different approach to humour. They will keep you laughing merrily for hours.

There are, of course, many different types of humour. In Helen Keller's "Three Days to See," she expresses the feeling that we, with our sight, are so very fortunate as to be able to detect humour in the "subtleties of expression, the quiver of a muscle" . . . signs that she denied her. I remember as a child, staying with an adult friend of the family on a holiday. This fellow had a very dry wit, but it did not take long for me to discover that I could detect his jokes by watching his eyes, for he could not keep them from twinkling merrily, though his features remained passive! Most of us will recall too, that the teachers who taught well, and were most admired by the students, were those who kept a high standard of discipline, yet were willing to engage in a little nonsense on occasion. The students really looked forward to their classes, and in the majority of cases, worked twice as hard to please them.

If you find yourself digging too deep a furrow, resolve to step up and re-kindle your sense of humour by indulging in a little nonsense now and then. It is one of the most important ingredients for our happiness in the tenseness and strife, and the tremendous pace of today's world. The following quote is very well known, but so old as to have lost its author.

"A little nonsense now and then, is relished by the wisest men!"

## THE GOOD OLD DAYS

### 20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion August 7, 1941

A new type of road of experimental nature is being constructed on No. 25 Highway from Acton to Milton. After the road bed has been thoroughly levelled, fine gravel is spread over the entire surface. Calcium Chloride is then spread over this fresh gravel. Two graders scrape the loose mixture in furrows from side to side on the road, thoroughly mixing the gravel and Calcium. It is then spread even taken in spots where the drainage is bad to see that this is rectified before the top surface is put on. The section on the first concession from Milton is apparently completed. While the dust nuisance is helped it has not been entirely eliminated by the treatment. A complete rock crushing and grinding outfit has been set up in the gravel pit on John Moore's farm at Speyside where the material is being secured and prepared.

A home-run by Hearn in the last half of the ninth decided a fast exhibition of softball in favor of the Milton Owls by 7 to 5 when they played Streetsville here on Tuesday evening of last week. The locals were down two runs when they came to bat in their half of the ninth. Varcoe was best for the visitors, having four singles. Peddie for Milton had three. While the visitors played errorless ball the locals had five errors.

Campbellville — The Advance Bible Class its monthly social evening on Saturday of last week at the home of Miss Marion Elliott.

The Jersey cow, Volunteer Aldan's Roxie, owned by Maurice C. Beaty, Milton, has finished a six-year-old record of 9,751 lbs. of milk, 529 lbs. of fat, with an average test of 5.43 p.c. in 365 days.

### 50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, August 3, 1911

On Sunday afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. Biggar, of Omagh, Trafalgar township, were returning home from visiting friends near Milton, and were met by an auto on the sideroad near Berry West. The horse that Mr. Biggar was driving was supposed to be all right with autos, but the driver of the car stopped the machine and immediately the animals was seized with a panic and throwing the buggy over, dumped the occupants into the ditch and they were severely injured. Mr. Biggar getting his back hurt and Mrs. Biggar's limbs being badly bruised. The buggy was almost a complete wreck. The horse was caught by William Golden, a short distance from the place of the accident and had several bad cuts that will take a long time to heal. Mr. Golden took the horse and the pieces of the buggy to his place and the injured owners were taken home in the auto.

The Halton Agricultural Society this year offered \$50 in prizes for the best five acres of white oats. The money was divided into five prizes of \$15.00, \$12.00, \$10.00, \$8.00 and \$5.00. There were 19 entries made, but some of the grain had been cut before the judge got around to judge. However, 14 different lots were inspected and the prizes awarded as follows: 1st. Robert Patterson, Zimmerman 83, 2nd. J. H. Wilson, Milton 82, 3rd. Ed. McCann, Omagh 81, 4th. W. A. Dixon, Lowville 78, 5th. George E. Castle, Lowville 75. M. Williamson, Ashgrove, and Paul Kennedy, Acton, highly recommended. The possible score was 100. W. A. Kelly, of Rodney, was the judge and did his work in a satisfactory manner.

## AROUND THE DISTRICT

WITH ROY DOWNS



GEORGETOWN — Some groups of residents in Georgetown will breathe easier as a result of a plan proposed by Mayor Hyde. He has suggested an industrial waste disposal program for two paper mills by employing a lagoon. The companies indicated they would co-operate in an attempt to cut down on the offensive odors. The mayor pointed out that it may not be cheaper but it will be a great deal less offensive.

BRAMPTON — Plans are being drawn up for a 2,500 square foot, \$15,000 addition to the Peel Memorial Hospital to house the Peel County Health Unit. The health unit has been moved from the basement of the county court house in 1946 to its present location at 22 Nelson St. W. in 1956. The hospital board was told last week the county would rent it for 25 years, and it would bear the cost of furnishings.

STREETSVILLE — Toronto Township council approved in principal provision for water and sewerage facilities at about \$7,500,000 to 6,000 acres of land around Streetsville to allow the development of the land by Erin Mills Developments Ltd. and Meadowvale Developments. The 20 year project will have an estimated population of 80,000. Present township population is 65,000. A trunk sewer will also open an additional 6,000 acres above the purchased property.

ACTON — After a discussion on whether to build a new community hall, or wait to buy Blue Mountain school, Ballinafad voted to build a new hall. A building committee was named at a public meeting on Monday of last week with a full house present. Mr. Greenwood of Orangeville gave an estimate on the erection of a new hall.

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