



Jim's JOTTINGS

BY JIM DILLS

• THE CANADIAN loss of a hockey game to the Russians at the Olympics leaves me cold. Sportscasters and columnists try desperately to whip the Olympic encounter up into some kind of international incident. Efforts seem to be made to place our whole international reputation on the game. Seems to me this is not only contrary to the original purpose of the Olympics, but also to good sportsmanship. Just listen to the wailing of sports reporters as they seek to justify the outcome. So we lost. Can't we ever learn to shut up and take a defeat graciously? If we can't, that should be a good reason to quit sending teams to the Olympics. But Heaven help us if we quit because we can't win.

• FROM a safe distance (hundreds of miles) I watched the antics of the Beatles through the magic of the "idiot box". These purveyors of the latest international crazes presented a show

that didn't provide much scope for criticism. The people watching it, as seen on TV, proved far more entertaining, however. It seems every age has its craze and there's nothing particularly wrong with the outlet provided by the Beatles' performances.

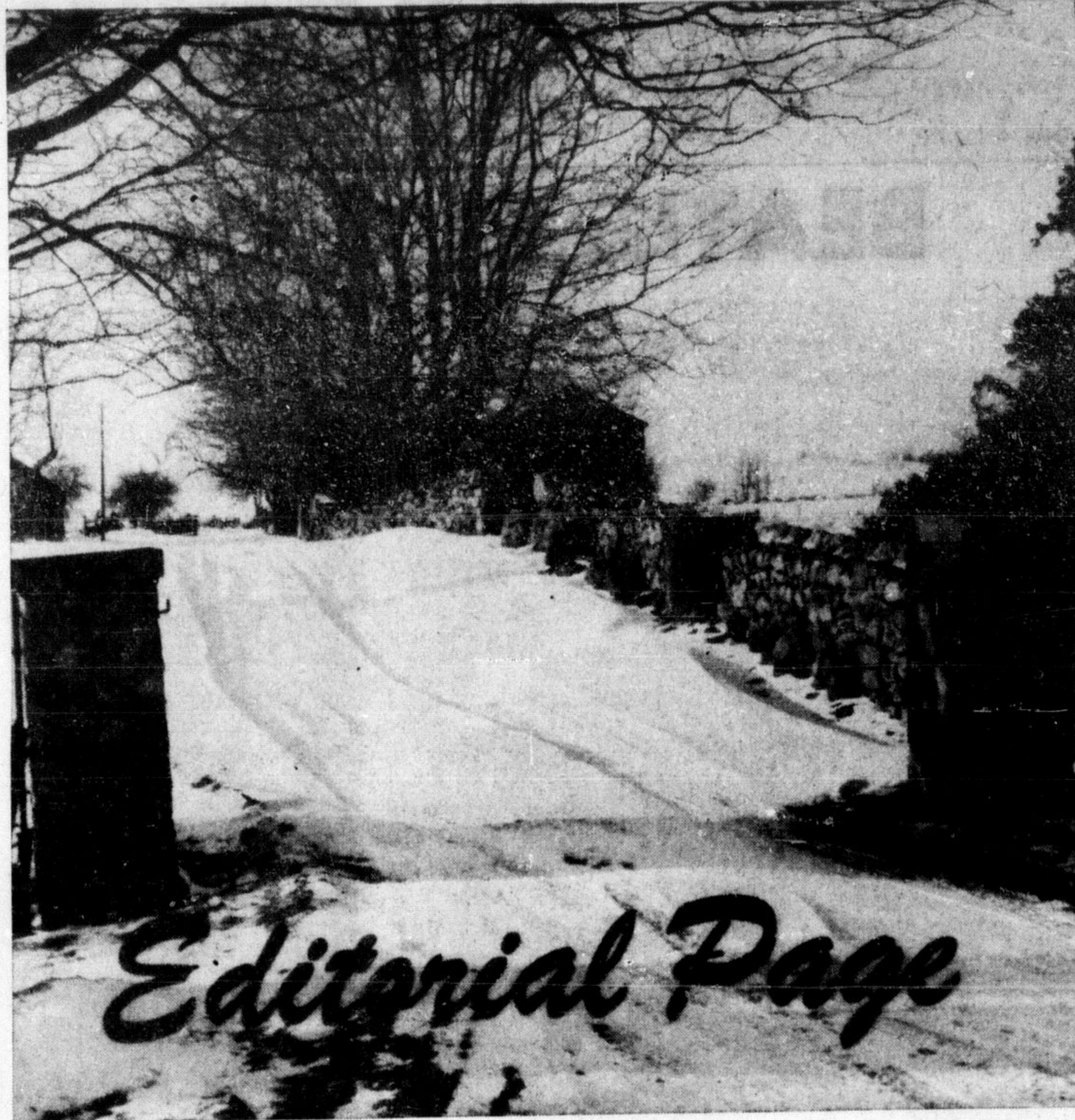
• TOURING THE new plant of the Toronto Telegram on Saturday proved an interesting experience. I've had people tour our plant and wonder how everything comes together in a newspaper. On Saturday at the Telegram I faced similar bewilderment. The building is lovely and a tour is worthwhile if you have an opportunity some Saturday.

• GREAT WERE the tales of woe I heard over the weekend concerning the Thursday night storm. Having travelled through it late Thursday to join other editors at a convention, I had some idea of its force. But the greatest tales were not from editors ar-

riving from Prescott, Chesley, Leamington, Durham, Ridgeway, Palmerston, Walkerton or any of those points. The greatest problems seemed to have been encountered by city residents trying to get through the traffic snarl.

• PERIODICALLY WE get around to binding old copies of The Champion by years. Hadn't done any since 1957 and recently we managed to catch right up to 1963. It makes a fairly impressive pile and provides part of the answer to what we've been doing over the last six years. With the exception now of about one year, our files date back to and include 1864. Although the paper was started in 1860, no files were kept for the first four years, apparently. It's the oldest existing record of early Halton and Milton, spanning as it does 100 years. Most other papers seem to have lost their files through fires, but we certainly hope no such thing befalls our records.

Country Lane



—Staff Photo

A PASSING PHOTOGRAPHER couldn't resist this pretty scene, near the village of Campbellville. The old field-stone fence and the stone gateway stand as a silent tribute to the toils of the pioneers who cleared the land in Halton's early days. The photo shows the laneway of the old Reed farm, now the residence of Mrs. M. A. Moore.

Editorial Page

Sugar and Spice ...

BY BILL SMILEY

Frightening it is to discover the ideas some kids are picking up in school these days. I got some insight into the sheer wildness of it when I was helping young Kim with her history the other day.

She is 12 years old, an average kid by most standards, a very bright one by those of her parents. She's in Grade 8. I was reading from her history notebook and asking her questions based on the notes she had made.

First, I asked, what did the early pioneers build their homes out of? The answer came smartly: the earliest homes were little more than shanties, but soon the pioneers began building with lumber, stucco, brick and stone. I asked her where they got these materials. "In the fields," was the answer.

Baffled, I looked in her notes. There it was: "Soon the settlers began to build houses out of lumber, brick, stucco and stone from their fields." I had quite an argument before convincing her that lumber, stucco and brick do not grow in fields.

Next, I shot her a question on the harvesting of grain in the early days. Her note book stated that "the grain went through many painful processes." It went

on to say that the grain was threshed and winnowed, and then was taken to be ground at "saw-mills and grist-mills, preferably grist." Painful, indeed, putting grain through a sawmill.

A little later I came across the startling information that during the Rebellion of 1837 in Upper Canada, William Lyon Mackenzie's rebels had been defeated by 30 men "at Maple Leaf Gardens."

Frankly, I was appalled, and slightly delighted. What an interesting way to learn history! Then, pursuing her notes, I was informed that Lord Selkirk, in trying to establish his communities in what is now Manitoba, got into a squabble with the Northwest Fur Trading Company, and "carelessly captured Fort William." How do you capture a place carelessly?

After the initial shock wore off, it occurred to me that my daughter didn't know limestone from fieldstone; that she really had no idea where bricks and stucco came from; that she didn't even know what a sawmill was; that she didn't realize that, while the NHL is adept at crushing rebels, it was not in existence in 1837; and that she had just thrown that adjective "carelessly" in through

sheer good spirits and a complete ignorance of who Lord Selkirk was, and where Fort William is.

I'm not trying to blame her teacher. Heaven forbid. The kids are to blame. They copy stuff down from the text-book, leave out a word, or add one, and the results are hilarious. They are over-awed and over-whelmed by facts, and are much more interested in "what?" than in "why?"

Secondly, I blame their parents, people like me, who are "too busy" to find out what they are learning, and to correct such garbled nonsense.

Check your son's homework, and you'll find him writing this sort of thing, especially if he learned to spell phonetically. "He kept koshusly threw the nite, trang to peer into the fog."

Have a look at your daughter's arithmetic. You'll learn that she has just sold twelve pounds of butter for \$19,844 and thinks nothing of it.

In short, Dad, have a look. It will shake you rigid.



"Those 50 Cent Signs" ...

There's little doubt but that we're all proud of the new county administration and justice building, on the Base Line Road just north of Milton.

It has had its difficulties as a project. It was denounced for not having a front door. Its sign came in for assault when it failed to mention the justice function of the million dollar building.

Nevertheless we're all proud of it now that it's operating and is located.

We hesitate to start any new storm on the sign question but frankly the roadside signs at the entrance or "those 50 cent signs" as one reader described them, just don't become a million dollar building.

The signs are small, stuck on a post at

the two Base Line Road entrances, and completely unimpressive. The pylon just in front of the building is a sharp contrast. It is permanent looking with some marks of stability and solidity. The roadside signs compete with the various club signs that dot the town entrance of any centre and they are no more impressive.

There is undoubtedly a solution that someone of an artistic bent could produce. But surely something reflecting the stature of the building and its significance is possible as an aid to searching motorists.

We're all proud of the building but as our reader complained "we get mad every time we go past those 50 cent signs."

The Need to Know ...

"There is one point on which workers in the field of alcohol problems are generally agreed," says Mr. Tom Knott, founder of Alcohol Education Week in Ontario, "and that is the need for alcohol education." Whether one abstains or drinks, whether one thinks that liquor laws should be tightened or relaxed and whether one looks upon alcoholism as a disease or a weakness, there is consensus regarding the need for an informed public on the matter of alcohol.

Mr. Knott is the Youth Director of the Ontario Temperance Federation whose program of alcohol education for youth consists of health class lectures and youth conferences through the Toc Alpha organization which during the past six years has reached several thousand teenagers with scientific information on the nature of alcohol and its potential effects. "But we have only scratched the surface," says Mr. Knott. Hence the need for Alcohol Education Week. It is hoped that every community across the province will carry on some alcohol education program during the week—lectures, discussions, study groups, film-showings, or some other educational activity.

What'll We Get ...

So far the chief interest displayed by most Canadian communities in 1967 celebrations marking the centennial of Confederation appears to be debating just how much cash they can get out of the federal treasury for local projects.

They seem to have forgotten the primary purpose was to have been to educate the people of this country on the conditions that brought about Confederation and the suffer-

Teenagers today are entering into an entirely different world from that of their grandparents. In any age of jet planes, high-powered motor cars and manned rockets encircling the earth in minutes, the question of the use or non-use of alcoholic beverages has taken on new dimensions from the era of the horse and buggy.

Then too, the guide-posts of life are less clearly set out for young people today than they were a generation or so ago. Moral standards and proprieties are less firmly fixed, so the individual's judgment assumes increased importance. If one is navigating one of our uncharted waterways, he must depend on his own resources—intelligence and ingenuity. Life is not as clearly charted for youth now; much depends on their mental acuity and discernment. The potential danger of using some self-administered narcotic which has the effect of anaesthetizing the brain, the seat of intelligence, is greatly increased.

If knowledge was power in the days of Socrates, the truth has even greater potency today, and lack of knowledge in the area of alcohol usage can be disastrous.

—Sherbrooke Record.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

GLANCING BACK TO 10 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, February 11, 1954.

Milton council at their regular meeting Monday approved the building permit issued to Angelina Restivo to build a house on a Main St. lot, providing proof could be presented of the ownership of 40 feet, eight inches, with an area of 4,000 square feet since that was all the land that was available. In the resolution of approval, council also went on record as not being in favor of issuing any permits for renovation of the house opposite on lot 11, Main St. east, known as the Tuck property. Speaking on the resolution, Councillor Charles Wilson reported that at a recent meeting for the Milton fire brigade, they had unanimously approved that site for future construction of a fire hall.

At the outset of Milton Public

School Board's review Monday evening of anticipated costs for school operations this year, finance committee chairman M. Ledwith revealed "the 1954 estimates are exactly double the 1953 estimates." A total of \$64,000 will be needed in 1954, the estimate sheet showed. Ratepayers would raise some \$43,000 of this estimated figure after expected government grants of \$18,240 and a previous balance of \$2,000 are applied to the full amount.

Milton Inn last week installed a new Carland Industrial restaurant stove that manager H. Weber proudly points out will cook 24 broiler chickens at one time or 80 steaks, as well as 200 lbs. of turkey. It will handle a crowd of up to 200 without any difficulty. It is equipped with two ovens, broilers, grill and six burners, and the stove is fired with propane gas.

GLANCING BACK TO 20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, Feb. 10, 1944

The winter meeting of the Clergy of Halton Deanery was held at St. Jude's Church, Oakville. The Holy Communion was Celebrated by Ven. W. G. O. Thompson, with Rev. E. Rigby, Deanery Secretary, assisting. Rev. W. C. Eccleston of Oakville preached. At the afternoon session, Rev. S. A. Kirk, Rector of Grace Church, Milton was nominated as Rural Dean, the election to that office being in the hands of the Bishop.

A special meeting of Esqueping Township Council was held in Georgetown on Thursday afternoon. All members were present and Reeve C. H. May presided. It was moved by Murray and seconded by Currie that W. C. Cunningham be appointed Road Superintendent for the Township at a salary of \$1,200 per annum. Duties to commence January 24, 1944. The clerk was instructed to prepare a by-law to comply with the resolution.

On Saturday, February 5, the Lodges of Halton County L.O.L. met for their annual convention with large attendance from all the Lodges. Right Worshipful

Brother Saunders, Grand Organizer of Toronto, also Past Grand Master Brother Cecil Armstrong were present and gave interesting talks to those present. The following officers were elected and installed for 1964: County Master, Robert Brownridge, Milton; Deputy County Master, Veeny Bradley, Milton; Chaplain, Art Norton, Glen Williams; Recording Secretary, George Peacock, Milton; Financial Secretary, William Evans, Acton; Treasurer, David Douglas, Milton; Marshal, Lewis Samson, Hornby; Lecturer, Ist. C. B. Beatty, Hornby; Lecturers, Deputy, J. E. Wilson, Milton and C. Robinson, Georgetown.

A citizen of town wrote the editor this week, enclosing a clipping from a Toronto paper, telling of the popularity of curling and the heavy demands on the rinks there now. He also tells us that one Miltonian has to journey to Guelph to enjoy his game; that a municipal official is pining away because there are no curling facilities and that another prominent citizen is accumulating fat because of lack of winter-time curling. Worse than that, this note adds, "dozens of other boys are in the same condition."

GLANCING BACK TO 50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, February 12, 1914.

On Saturday R. J. Campbell heard the charge of stealing ducks, laid by a Nassagaweya woman against two young boys. The woman swore that she saw and claimed her lost ducks on the premises of the boys. It appeared the boys' father said he refused to surrender the ducks and advertised them. The prosecution alleged that the advertising was not done until after it appeared likely that they would be in trouble. The case was dismissed. There was a big turnout of the friends of both parties.

The annual meeting of the Lord's Day Alliance was held in the Methodist school-room on Thursday evening last. The president G. S. Boves occupied the chair. Rev. W. M. Mackay read the minutes of the past year in the absence of the secretary, Rev. J. C. Willmott, who had retired. Rev. D. W. Snider gave an excellent address on the aims and objects of the Alliance. A contribution was taken up for the cause. The election of officers

took place and the following were elected for the ensuing year; president Edward Wilkinson; secretary-treasurer Elgin Ford; vice-presidents the three resident ministers. The executive were two representatives from each of the three churches, namely, Methodist, G. A. Hemstreet and W. A. Shields; Knox, Jas. Alexander and W. J. McClenahan; Grace, S. Dice and John Macted.

An earthquake lasting about four minutes was experienced on Tuesday about 1.30 p.m. It was so slight here that few people noticed it. Among those that did were Thomas Monaghan, who says it shook a damper off his stove, and R. Menet who felt his house heaving. The shock was much more noticeable at Toronto and to the east, north and south of that city.

A cold snap began on Saturday and there is no sign of a change. The official figure at Toronto yesterday was 12 below zero. It was 22 below here this morning, but E. G. Paige and Frank Pearen said they saw a robin in a mountain ash tree on Mill Street.



DOWN(S) IN THIS CORNER

WITH ROY DOWNS

ONE MUNICIPAL council in the district recently decided to discontinue the time-worn custom of proclaiming special "weeks" and special "days" for local charitable organizations. And you can see why!!

Here's a list of some of the important occasions happening in the month of February, as compiled by an American newspaper ad ideas outfit:

Heart month, music month, good breakfast month, frozen potato month, national freedom day, groundhog day, national children's dental health day, Boy Scout week, Edison's patent of light, national beauty salon week, crime prevention week, national electrical week, picnic indoors month, Edison's birthday anniversary, Shrove Tuesday, the beginning of Lent, Ash Wednesday, Abe Lincoln's birthday anniversary, fish and seafood time, Valentine's day, future farmers of America week, national engineer's week, brotherhood week, heart Sunday, salesmen's week, pencil week, bachelor's day and leap year day, all fall in February.

And March, that quiet month, will be the occasion for celebrations of such things as the Red Cross fund, Easter Seal campaign, children's art month, buttermilk bread month, national coffee month, egg month, mushroom month, specialty advertising month, save-your-vision week, peanut week, smile week, spring

millinery week, Girl Scout week, want ad week, Friday the 13th, poison prevention week, national rice week, wildlife week, shoe care week, St. Patrick's day, green candle of hope week, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday, honey for breakfast week, and national shut-in day.

What this country needs is a day or a week or a month ... that isn't anything special.

IT'S HARD ENOUGH to translate the abbreviations of long-handled organization names used in headlines of Canadian newspapers, but you ought to see the headlines in some of the American papers. For instance, we notice the GOA is feuding with NHFA and URA. The NSC, AMA and USPHS report a rise in the MDR, due largely to more MPH.

NIH is getting the brush from Congress. The UPEA is good and sore at WTC, IUASA and CAB, while the MSMRBMF has literally been sunk.

Furthermore, the PPA is openly challenging the PGA and the AAU isn't happy with NCAA.

If this sort of thing is vaguely disturbing, think how alarming it might be if the readers had the faintest idea what all those initials stand for!

Let's face it, this is the Age of Initials (AOI). Maybe it's time to organize SPOALRCIMTEUI for

short, but everybody would know that its full name was the Society for Prevention of At Least the Reduction of Cruelty to Inferior Mentalities through the Extravagant Use of Initials.

OK?

HAVE YOU HEARD the true story about the motorist who bet \$150,000 to try to win 4 cents? The odds: 3,750,000 to 1!

This man was a friendly fellow who had a nice wife and three fine children. He liked an occasional round of golf with a small bet on the side. He never lost more than \$1 ... certainly didn't act the part of a person who would risk \$150,000 for 4 cents. But he did.

It happened while he was driving to work one day. He was late and hurrying. The traffic light was amber ... he raced it, and lost ... to a truck.

That's where the long odds came in. He earned \$2.40 an hour—\$5,000 a year. That moment he gambled at the amber light was worth 4 cents of his pay. But at age 35, he could reasonably expect to work another 30 years before retiring at 65. The amount he would earn would total \$150,000.

Motorists like this man, we'll just call him Joe, risk a lifetime every day in order to gain a few seconds. No one sits down at a card game and battles these terrific odds, but many thousands do it every day when they sit down behind the wheel of their automobile.

It is really worth it? \$150,000 or more for 4 cents ... 3,750,000-to-1 odds?

IN HUNGARY, efforts to reduce traffic accidents include a dastardly punishment for women violators.

Newspapers publish their names, and AGES. That should be enough of a deterrent for any woman!

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Head of the House

A salesman called a prospective customer and the phone was answered by what was obviously a small boy. "Is your mother or father at home?" the salesman asked.

The child said no and the salesman asked if there was anyone else he could speak to.

"My sister," the youngster replied.

"Let me speak to her," the salesman said.

There was a long period of silence and the little boy returned to the phone.

"I can't lift her out of the play pen," he said.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

The man who is worthy of being a leader of men will never complain of the stupidity of his helpers, of the ingratitude of mankind, nor of the inappreciation of the public. These things are all a part of the great game of life, and to meet them and not go down before them in discouragement and defeat, is the final proof of power.

—Anonymous