by a reader.

- THE LEAF of the peach tree looks harmless yet it contains one of the most dangerous poisons known, hydrocyanic acid, according to the article. Deadly Cyanide is packaged in twigs of the cherry tree and the leaf blades of rhubarb contain oxalic acid that causes kidney damage.
- more than 700 species of plants dren. that are known to have caused illness or death — some of the plants so common they're in home gardens.

• THERE ARE some beauti- narcissus, hyacinth and daffodils ful floral displays, some attrac- can cause nausea, vomitting and tive blossoms and a profusion of diarrhea and can be fatal. Attractively striped "dumb cane" and not beauty, however, according to the familiar "elephant ears" both contain crystals of calcium oxalate which cause painful swelling of the mouth and tongue severe enough to close off air passages of the throat.

- MISS MARJORIE MAY, director of Home and Education division of the Greater New York Safety Council, also mentioned that one leaf from the poinsettia can kill a child and there is enough poison in a dime packet of • APPARENTLY there are castor bean seeds to kill five chil-
  - THE ARTICLE also warns against nibbling on laurel rhodendron, azalea, daphne, oleander and wisteria. People have died

were speared with oleander sticks and roasted over a fire.

- BERRIES ARE always attractive but Miss May warns that berries from nightshade and moonseed (which resembles wild grape) can kill. Jimson weed (also called stinkweed or thorn apple) grows in abundance and is considered responsible for more poisonings than any other plant.
- IF YOU MUST get your greens wild, ordinary lawn grass is safe unless it is heavily coated with insecticides. But leave the wild mushrooms to the experts.
- WITH CAMPING a prevalent summer activity the safest solution in dealing with wild plants, if in doubt is to leave them alone. Berries have a strange attraction for children and a little warning • POISON FROM the bulbs of merely from eating steaks that in advance can pay dividends.

# Sugar and Spice ...

BY BILL SMILEY

of those rather decisive birth- from a telephone to a plate of days, like 13, and 21, and 30. On- roast beef by my wife. Yet ly 10 years before I'll be middle- there's hardly a scratch on me. aged. A good time to sum up.

One thing that strikes me is the amount of junk a fellow can collect in such a brief span. I came into the world without a stitch or a nickel. And in only four and a half decades, I have acquired a number of stitches, about 400 nickels, a house with two mortgages, a car with 12 payments to go, two teen-agers to put through university, and a wife currently talking up the glories of an automatic dish

Not to mention a houseful of furniture that's all due to be replaced, a basement full of empty bottles, a tool shed full of rusty tools and broken bicycles, and an attic full of black squir-

But I have no complaints about life. I was the runt of the litter in our family, and grown into a magnificent physical specimen, towering five foot eight on hot days, and tipping the scales at a strapping 138 in my winter over-

And what a beating that men or religion. meagre machine has taken in 45 years! I've been sea-sick and airsick and love-sick. I've rolled over in a car, crash-landed in an aircraft, and smashed into a steel bridge at top speed on my bike. I've been beaten into unconsciousness by a gang of Ger-

I'll be 45 this week. It's one mans, and hit with everything Outwardly.

> I've broken fingers and toes and nose (three times). I've had hemmorhoids and hangoven by a hockey stick and a horseshoe. I've had measles and mumps and TB, scarlet fever and bursitis and pink eye and dysentry.

And yet, amazingly, the old carcass presses on. Sight and hearing are sound as a bell, though smelling is gone comp-Appetite is unimpaired, and the old stomach can handle anything but broken glass. Hair and teeth are thinning and have changed color, but are still orig-

Endurance isn't what it used to be. I couldn't run 200 yards at top speed if the devil himself were after me, with a red-hot pitchfork. But he rarely chases us Sunday School teachers, so why worry?

I can still swim a few hundred vards, and tramp a trout stream of golf course half a dozen miles a day. I can still sit up all night and argue about politics or wo-

I can still get excited about an idea or a song or a poem or a play. I can still thrill to the sight of a beautiful girl, or a big fish, or a full moon, or a bluebird, or a bonfire.



I enjoy loafing and hard work, chess and dry martinis, thunderstorms and trees, good movies and little children, old friends ers. I've had my scalp laid op- and new clothes, though not necessarily in those combinations.

> Not bad for an old chap, eh? Please don't think I'm bragging. What I'm doing is singing a paean of thanksgiving for my own good luck, and a note of consolation for you birds who are creeping up on

A lot of people burble, "If I could only live it over, knowing what I do now." Not me.

I wouldn't trade my childhood, romantic, shy, imaginative, for any I've seen since. The thrill of sports as a teenager; falling in love half a dozen times; first job on a steamboat; university and ideas and new friends; air force and kicks as a fighter pilot; prison camp and hunger and good talk; marriage and kids; weekly newspaper editor; high school teacher. And be hanged if a fellow didn't offer me an interesting new job just last

No sir. I've had a good run. And I'm going to keep right on running. When I'm 85, I want to be known in the nursing home as, "That old devil, Smiley, who pinches your bottom every time you walk past his wheelchair.'

"Still, the man by the roadside

has a beautiful book ful of instruc-

tions in his pocket, with a whole

lot of 'Don'ts', printed therein. A

man will try and learn something

from his book when his carriage

doesn't go right, and will struggle

with the technical names found

therein and try to make them fit

some of the parts of his machine.

"One poor fellow was towed in

the other day by a farmer and I

He said his piston had dropped

out of his engine. His piston, how-

ever, was still in place, the troub-

le being that the plate holding

the balls in place around the

crank pin had worked loose, and

the result was that our friend lost

the balls and plate somewhere

along the road in Northern New

"The next victim I came across

was a man who was 20 miles from

home with the shadows of night

fast approaching, and his little

trouble was that the front tire of

his auto had the valve stem cut

entirely off and the air in the

tire was gone. I examined his

rim and found that the holes were

round and the valve stem fitted in

without a particle of play. The

lug screws in the rim had lots of

room, and the result was that the

tire commenced to creep on the

rim and the valve stem could not

hold it, and was finally cut off.

Now why did not the maker of

these wheels pierce an oblong

hole in the rim or a round hole

large enough to allow for the

shifting of the tire and let the

screws on the rim and tire re-

ceive the strain? Can someone tell

"I started to write some of my

own trouble, but have written so

much about the troubles of oth-

ers that I must defer mine to

"Machinist".

some future time."

asked him what his trouble was.

# Halton — Banner County . . . The prime location of Halton in the path

CHERRY BLOSSOMS ARE BLOOMING on the trees in district orchards and if the blossoms

are any indication of a good crop it should be a bumper year. This photo was taken at

Blossom Time

of metropolitan growth has been the subject of considerable pride to many municipal administrators and citizens.

the Hughes orchards on the escarpment west of Milton.

The difficulty of quoting the specific evidence of its position as one of Ontario's most progressive counties was overcome last week with the publication of the Ontario Statistical Review. Counties of the province were listed and ranked under a variety of classifications.

A staffer of this paper took the time and trouble to sort out Halton's story and this was reported in last week's issue.

The story is a dramatic one, based on 1961 census figures that are even now somewhat outdated but nevertheless revealing.

Halton had the greatest growth in population between 1951 and 1961, the highest percentage of people earning over \$6,000 a year, the greatest in per capita disposable income, in the average family income and in motor vehicle registration increases.

Be Water Wise . . .

The drowning statistical survey publish-

ed recently by the Canadian Red Cross shows

that 1,127 Canadians died by drowning in

1964. The majority of these casualties re-

sulted from boating activities, swimming and

associated with boating mishaps. Most of

these mishaps involved non-powered boats

like canoes and rowboats. Over 19 per cent

of the drownings occurred while victims

were swimming or wading. High on the

list was the general category of "falling into

water". About 20 Canadians or 17 per cent

drowned because they lost their balance

while standing, sitting or playing near the

edge of a body of water. This total includes

some 73 persons who fell into ditches, wells,

sloughs, dugouts and other excavations fill-

ken down into age groups, show that 171

victims were six years of age or under, 155

were between seven and 12, 224 were be-

The Red Cross drowning statistics, bro-

Over 25 per cent of the drownings were

falling into water.

ed with water.

tween 13 and 21, 210 were between 22 and 33, 169 were between 34 and 46 and the

known or over the age of 46.

It is a tragedy that so many Canadians should die at a moment when they were enjoying themselves. Water recreation is fun and we' think more Canadians should participate in it and take advantage of our natural playgrounds. However, there's a right way and a wrong way to enjoy water recreation. The wrong way is to be ignorant of the dangers inherent in it. The right way, as the Red Cross so often tells us, is to be water wise. A person can enjoy water recreation much more fully if he knows about its dangers and knows how to avoid or overcome them.

June 6 to 12 is Red Cross Water Safety Week in Canada. We urge everyone to make an honest effort to be water wise this summer and make sure the whole family is water

# Our Resources . . .

Canada's resources constitute the basis for our National wealth. Our nation can remain solvent only as long as our natural resources remain productive. The conservation of our soil, water, forests, fish and wildlife is essential not only to our prosperity, health and happiness, but also to the security and

Canaan with its "milk and honey", Baby-Ion with its boundless wealth, and the worldrenowned empire of Cyrus and Hannibal, were great powers only while they posessed abundant resources; these nations perished when their renewable resources became ex-

### Municipalities have had ample indication of the phenomenal growth as they juggle the

eoning debenture debts. Indications are that retail sales are also up - 205 per cent in the 10 year period. In this growth the county ranks second only to

expanding service requirements and burg-

similarly well located Peel county. The complexion of Halton will continue

to change. We are now half way through the next decade and the healthy growth has shown no signs of abating.

Planning for such growth requires foresighted work on the part of municipal and county government. It's wise for citizens to give adequate thought to this important area before elections roll around.

Halton's prime location, and that of Milton at its heart, will induce growth and change we haven't even dreamed of yet. If we are prepared the progress will be ben-

# ages of the remaining 198 were either un-

wise too.

permanency of our National life - yes, even

## to our very existence.

hausted.

# The Canadian Champion

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"In the event of a typographical error advertising goods or services at a wrong price, goods or services may not be sold. Advertising is merely an offer to sell and may be withdrawn at any time."

# THE GOOD OLD DAYS

# GLANCING BACK TO 10 YEARS AGO

adian Champion, June 2, 1955.

The local executive of the Halton Advisory Board of the Canad-Blind this week announced completion of the annual campaign with receipts totalling \$1,300. Canvassers were under the convenership of Mrs. M. E. Gowland of the

ton attended a meeting with members of the North Halton High School District Board and repre-Education, in Stewarttown hall on Monday evening of this week to consider the possibility of the the Milton Public School Board garet Harry, junior champion.

Taken from the files of The Can- and constructing a new school. Georgetown council was not represented at the meeting. No decisions were reached in the meeting ian National Institute for the as all council representatives sought more time to consider.

At the annual mother and daughter banquet of the C.G.I.T. of St. Paul's United Church, Linda and Margaret Whewell were each John Milton Chapter of the I.O. awarded C.G.I.T. pins for their work on various points of the Municipal councils of Milton, year's work. Carol Rene Galloway Esquesing, Nassagaweya and Ac- was presented with a button and crest and Donna Hamilton and Marina Hall received crests.

Field Day Champions at Milton sentatives of the Department of Public School on Friday of last week were Doug McCutcheon, senior champion; Linda Crucefix, senior champion; Ruth Ann Sher-North Halton Board selling the att, intermediate champion; Bill existing Milton High School to Currie, junior champion; and Mar-

### GLANCING BACK TO 20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of The Canadian Champion, May 31, 1945.

A well attended meeting was held last Monday evening in the Town Hall for the purpose of organizing a Milton hardball team. Officers elected were president Fred Mills, vice-president Sam Randell, secretary-treasurer Alex Cooke, executive members Peter Blinco and Don Toletza. A committee of three was appointed, Don Toletza, Jack Blinco and Cliff Houston to manage the Juniors.

The plaque symbolic of taking the highest position in Halton County in the Eighth Victory Loan was presented at a very fine event in the Princess Theatre here, which was attended by many citizens Sunday night. Dr. Carl Martin was chairman and told the audience how the last day of the loan saw the greatest bond buying of any loan, but urged citizens to buy earlier in the campaign.

Mrs. Harold McGrogan was elected president of the Home and

School Association for the year 1945-46 at the closing Empire day exercises. Others elected include honorary presidents L. L. Skuce, Rev. S. A. Kirk; first vice-president Mrs. Campbell Wilson; second vice-president Mrs. S. Lockie; secretary Mrs. Charles Anderson; treasurer Mrs. Cecil Wood; councillors Mrs. D. Wilson, E. W. Foster, Mrs. C. N. Kerr, Miss M. Gemmell, Mrs. M. E. Marchand, Miss I. Minty, Miss A. Fraser, Miss B. Barton; program convener Mrs. E. Downs; and program committee members George Hord, Harold Whewell, E. W. Foster, G. Gowland, C. Pickett, Mr. Snyder, Miss Featherstone and Mr. F. W. Brown

A presentation was held in Brookville Hall on Monday evening in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kelly, the former being Miss Sadie Buck. The couple was presented with a china cabinet, living room table, chenille bedspread, table lamp and table mir-

# GLANCING BACK TO 50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, June 3, 1915

The machinery for making shells for the British army is being installed in the P. L. Robertson Co.'s factory and will be put into operation as soon as possible. It comes from the United

Help the Red Cross: by going to the garden party at A.S. Willmott's on Friday evening, June 11th. Excellent program. See posters. Duncan R. Cowan, entertainer, of Toronto, Miss Munro, dancer, of Toronto, with piper, C. E. Robertson, baritone, and

ty from 7:30. 5c one way. Entire proceeds for the Red Cross.

A fair house greeted the performance of the Milton Minstrels on Friday evening, in aid of the Citizens' Band. The receipts were about \$60 and as the expenses were not heavy, a goodly sum must have been cleared. There were about 25 cork artists in the company with Sam Henson as interlocutor. The make-up was good all the way around, particularily that of the four endmen, in red suits. Fine chorus singing was a feature. The quartette by Messrs. Gollins, Robertson, Henson and Adams was well sung and Milton band. Jitneys will run was encored. All four end-men from Main Street, opposite Mc- were good but J. Adams deserves Gibbon Hotel, to the garden par- special mention.

BRAMPTON — An addition of 222 beds at a total cost of \$4,778,770 is being planned by the Peel Hospital Board. Of the total cost, provincial and federal governments will contribute \$1,920,300 and the balance must be raised locally. Peel council has been asked to contribute \$4,000 per bed and an estimated \$200,000 must be raised by public donations. Construction on the project is expected to start in the spring of 1966 with completion scheduled for early 1967.

ACTON — "Let's spruce up our homes, lawns, yards and gardens to present to our own people and to visitors and tourists the best-kept town in the County of Halton," Chamber of Commerce president Rev. Andrew McKenzie has urged. A total of \$175 in cash awards will be made to the occupants of homes entered in the contest and judged to be best kept by an independent group of judges. Judging will begin on September 7, 1965.

BURLINGTON — Leo Podetz, a former vice-president of the Ontario Jaycees, has been appointed secretary-manager of the Burlington Chamber of Commerce. The new secretary-manager has many years experience with the Hamilton Junior Chamber of Commerce and the Ontario organization. Dedicated to Chamber work, Mr. Podetz has attended the Canadian Institute for Organization Management conducted by the Canadian Chamber of Commerce at the University of Western Ontario.

OAKVILLE - All school children in the south end of Oakville were warned to be on the alert for a small plastic medicine bottle containing 100 nitro-glycerine tablets, last week. The bottle was lost by an Oakville citizen between the Oakville Medical Arts building on Reynolds Street and Hopedale Plaza late last week. Police officers conducted an almost inch by inch search of the three mile

GEORGETOWN — "I wonder if people realize how useless and costly these proclamations are," queried Mayor Joe Gibbons at a recent council meeting when a letter from the Red Cross asked-that June 6-12 be declared Water Safety Week. However he changed his tune a bit when Reeve R. Elliott headed a motion authorizing the mayor to proclaim Safety Week if the advertisement did not exceed three dollars. "How small we are in small things," commented the mayor.

## WEDNESDAY'S

Man entering psychiatrist's office - fried egg on head, bacon over one ear, carrot over the other, coat on backwards, pant legs rolled up to his knees, carrying his socks, shoes and a rabbit - Dialogue - "Doctor, I've come to see you about my brother!"



# DOWN(S) IN THIS CORNER

WITH ROY DOWNS

MAYBE YOUR CAR hasn't been starting properly. Maybe you've had to take it in for mechanical adjustments recently. Or perhaps you're still puzzled by that annoying squeak in the left rear

Mister, you really have nothing to complain about.

Read this "letter to the Editor"

which appeared in the Horseless Age magazine on April 9, 1902. "Editor, Horseless Age:

"I am the owner of a steam carriage made by a company that has a good reputation in the trade for doing good work. The carriage is an expensive one, as I believe the best of anything is the cheapest in the long run.

Being a possessor of a steam carriage, I am likewise possessor of the troubles the carriage is heir to, which, by the way, I am happy to state are not numer-

"Now, Mr. Editor, I want to tell you one of my troubles and ask your advice, but before doing so I wish to ask the privilege of giving the manufacturers a 'little dig' through the medium of your journal, just to let them know that we love them (not exactly for the enemies they have made), but for the trouble we sometimes have, and which we can lay at

their door. When a man buys an automobile from a representative of some company he naturally supposes that the representative possesses the necessary knowledge to acquaint the prospective purchaser of his machine with some vital points that it is absolutely necessary to know, so that if he be an ordinarily intelligent man he may successfully manage his machine, at least with careful study of the printed mechanical instructions he should receive.

"But it seems to me that a good many manufacturers seek the glib tonged man who is a good talker but doesn't know 'Beans' about mechanics. I have seen steam carriages by the roadside afire, with their owners standing by shivering with fright. I have seen other owners of carriages who were down on their hands and knees in the mud, trying to adjust some part of the machinery which got disarranged, but as a rule they were getting deeper in trouble all the time by not possessing the knowledge which should have been imparted to them by the manufacturers who sold them their carriages and coolly took their cash. And in questioning some of these people who are in trouble I find that it is the old, old story — 'I don't know anything about this or that and the agent never told me what to do

## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Money never made a man happy yet, nor will it. There is nothing in its nature to produce happiness. The more a man has, the more he wants.

-Benjamin Franklin

in such an emergency.'