



Jim's JOTTINGS

BY JIM DILLS

● I PROMISED this would be my last on a holiday trip to Virginia. What follows is just some general observations that present themselves.

● BY FAR THE most distracting thing to a driver travelling from Ontario south of the border is the clutter of signs that suddenly appears on U.S. roads. Ontario has some pretty strict sign laws and the contrast with the U.S. is sharp. I couldn't help but get a little dizzy trying to read them all, a habit necessary in Ontario where signs normally offer the driver some specific instruction.

● HISTORICAL markers are another thing that seems to be popular south of the border. I've never been able to stop and read them and get anywhere but they always look mighty interesting. Ontario has a policy of erecting historical markers but I'm not sure that anyone in the Milton area has undertaken any research to determine if any markers are deserved.

● WHEN BOTH countries speak the English language it came as a surprise to me to find there were some sharp differences. That stretch of grass down the centre between the two lanes of traffic on a divided highway we call medians. In Maryland they're a parkway and in Virginia a grass plot. I asked for some icecream bars in Virginia and was asked if I meant squares or bannos. I voted for squares and was handed a brick of ice cream, pre-cut into squares.

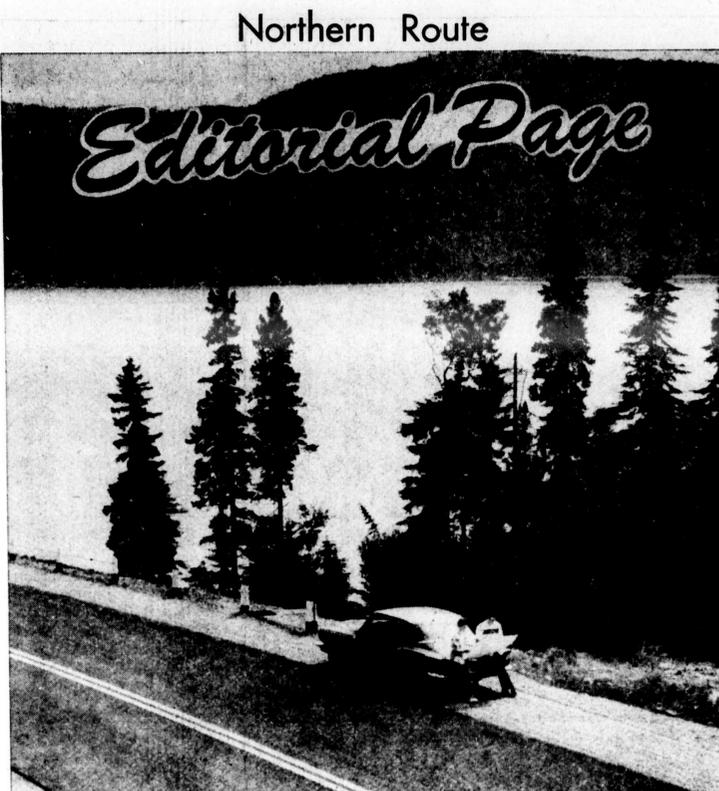
● THERE can be food difficulties too. It was impossible at several places to buy butter although margarine was plentiful. When we did find "lightly salted butter" we still weren't certain we'd found the familiar creamery butter. At 81 cents a pound we were anxious to be relatively certain.

● IF YOU'RE passing by Washington and choose to drive in for a quick look at the things for which the city is famous, don't. It's a driver's nightmare. Unless

you can park away from the congested area and take a tour on a bus you're better not to go near the place. With my co-pilot glued to a map and my eyes riveted to the traffic lights, one way streets, the maze of streets radiating from the hub and traffic indicators as the view we got of such things as the White House soon left us with nothing but a headache.

● ONTARIO CAMP sites, I found, don't need to take second place to any we found in state parks. Spots we camped last year in Ontario were superior in many respects. The best we found in the U.S. were private operations contrary to our generally held belief that state and national facilities are better.

● A CAMPING holiday leaves you with many reflections but this method of travelling is now so popular I'd see no point in boring those who regularly experience it with a rehash of what they already know. If you haven't camped don't hesitate. It's changed a lot in recent years.



Northern Route

Editorial Page

Plenty of Activity ...

This summer Milton children have an abundance of organized activity if they want to participate.

The Milton Recreation Committee, the Kelso Tennis Club, various baseball teams and four Milton churches have all arranged summer programs for the youngsters.

Swimming lessons and just plain swimming, a day camp and three different playgrounds have been made available to the children by the Milton Recreation Committee. An 18 member staff and a number of volunteers spend every day at the Rotary Park, the J. M. Deneyes and W. I. Dick Public Schools and the Kelso Conservation Area planning and supervising the work and play of the children.

Over 180 children will learn to swim this summer at the Milton Community Swimming Pool in Rotary Park under the guidance of trained lifeguards. Two courses of swimming lessons, each three weeks long, were offered. The first course has been successfully completed and the second course begins within a week. Qualified lifeguards are also present during the seven afternoons and six nights a week the pool is open for swimming. Small children can use the Rotary Park wading pool which is closely supervised every afternoon.

A morning playground is conducted at Rotary Park. This playground along with day long playgrounds at the J. M. Deneyes and W. I. Dick Schools provides crafts,

games, films and physical fitness programs for approximately 300 children a day. Mildaco, the Recreation Committee's day camp held at Kelso, offers camp experiences on a daily basis to another 40 children a day.

The Recreation Committee also co-operates with the Milton Tennis Club to provide free tennis lessons at the Club's Main St. courts on Wednesday and Saturday mornings. The Tennis Club has three courts in good condition available to members for play at all times. Facilities for swimming, swimming lessons, boating, camping, picnics and nature hikes make the Kelso Conservation Area a favorite district spot. The Authority offers swimming lessons to both children and adults throughout the summer. Picnics at Kelso, Rattlesnake Park or other area parks can add to summer enjoyment for the whole family.

Baseball teams for boys of all ages have been organized and play regular schedules. There is a ladies team playing in a softball league this year.

Grace Anglican, Knox Presbyterian and St. Paul's United Churches held a co-operative Church Vacation School the first two weeks of July. This was the fourth year for the co-operatives school. Emmanuel Baptist Church also offered a two week Vacation Bible School the first weeks of July.

Summer recreation is available to every Milton child. Much work and effort goes into organizing the various programs that assure plenty of organized summer activity.

Views on Capital Punishment ...

(Reprinted from Red Deer Advocate)

Not since December 11, 1962, has there been a hanging in Canada. Normand Laterear, aged 23, who was convicted of capital murder for being an accomplice in the shooting of a supermarket employee in a robbery in Trois-Rivieres, Que., recently became the twelfth murderer to have his sentence commuted to life imprisonment since the Liberals took office. Thus, during their two-year government, the hangman has been excused from carrying out his revolting task.

This does not mean the end of capital punishment, however. A change of government could also mean a change of policy, though it is only fair to point out that the last Progressive Conservative government was almost as reluctant as the Liberals to employ the rope as punishment for murder.

Some time this year, assuming that the Liberals are not pushed into a general election, a free vote will be held on a proposal to abolish the death penalty for murder. Recent straw polls have indicated that there is no certainty that such a proposal would be passed by the Commons.

The strongest proponents of capital punishment have always believed that the end of

hanging would mean an increase in the number of murders because only capital punishment is feared by those violent enough to consider killing as a means to achieve their dishonest ends. This theory has long since been disproved in all countries where capital punishment has been scrapped. There is no noticeable increase in murder under such circumstances.

The old biblical yardstick of an eye for an eye is outmoded by modern living. Newer standards of justice and an insight into the minds of men have altered this crude and cruel standard.

There is no longer any justification for judicial murder. The taking of life, under any circumstances, is to be deplored, for it makes of man an animal instead of a rational human being governed by heart and mind and conscience.

If hanging does not discourage murder, then there is no other reason left for retaining it. A life sentence with its time for repentance and sorrow, is more than adequate as a substitute punishment for the man who breaks the most serious commandment of them all: Thou shalt not kill.

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THE GOOD OLD DAYS

GLANCING BACK TO 20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, July 26, 1945.

The celebration for the Battle of the Boyne held in Totterdam was a great success with 23 lodges taking part and a crowd of about 4000 in town for the day. The parade was held at 1.30. The Milton No. 2385 lodge took part in the celebrations and won a prize as the lodge coming the farthest distance to participate. The Milton lodge was led by the Girls' Kiltie band of Georgetown and marshalled by the youngest and oldest members from Milton on parade, Brother L. J. Maudé and Brother Findley McCallum. Brother Maudé has marshalled the lodge for 55 years.

The women's institute and the Rosalind Goroth Auxiliary of the Rosalind Presbyterian Church held their joint meeting in an Oakville home. Mrs. Robertson of Milton, District Vice-President of section 2 visited the society and gave an inspirational address on "Prayer Promises" giving instances of her own experiences in China as ex-

amples. Mrs. Snow and Miss Mary Johnson read poems keeping with the theme and Mrs. McFadden read a story. Mrs. Robertson closed the meeting with prayers.

The Street Fair held last week under the auspices of the Legion for the Milton Red Cross was a great success with proceeds amounting to \$691. The following won prizes in the draw held during the fair: \$50 bond — Mrs. Joe Graham; blankets — Fred Mills; lamp — Kenneth Ridell; Card table — Merle Thompson; smoker — Mr. Lemmon.

Some thirty members of the Georgetown Women's Institute and their guest members of the Acton Women's Institute enjoyed their annual picnic in the Acton Park. A sports program had been arranged and a picnic supper was served.

The Milton Board of Trade advertised for an amateur talent party on Labor Day to raise funds for child welfare work in Milton.

GLANCING BACK TO 50 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, July 29, 1915.

A Norval man, a Captain in the 4th Battalion, returned home after being wounded in the Battle of Langemarck. He spent some time in an English hospital recuperating before being sent home to Canada. He lost two fingers on his left hand and still walked with a limp but otherwise was in high spirits. Over a hundred vehicles, motor cars, cycles, buggies and wagons from far and near met him at the G.T.R. station. On his arrival a procession was formed which was nearly two miles long, led by the band of the Halton Rifles. This was followed by a motor car holding the Captain, his parents and family. A parade of school children joined the procession at the village where practically every building was decorated. The reception was held on a stage erected in the front of the public school that in Cap- tain had attended. Speeches were made and the returning soldier

was presented with a gold watch, which had the crest of the 20th Halton Rifles on the back, in honor of his courage. Captain Brown spoke, asking all young men to go and fight for the Empire and the world of freedom. The band played "Tipperary" which everyone sang and other selections. The proceeding closed with the National Anthem and cheers for the King.

J. M. Denyes, B.A., Public School Inspector, went to Guelph to attend the Inspectors short course of two weeks at the Ontario Agricultural College. This was to include five lectures on scientific agriculture.

Championship motorcycle races, bicycle races, baseball and football games, track and field events were offered for entertainment on August 2, the Civic Holiday at Streetsville. The Toronto Motorcycle Club was to be present, with one hundred machines. They promised lots of excitement valuable prizes and added attractions.

GLANCING BACK TO 100 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of the Canadian Champion, July 27, 1865.

On the 7th inst., John Nicol, farmer, Esquering, had his family increased by the birth of three daughters. Mrs. Nichol and the little ones are all healthy and well. On Monday evening the interesting little triplets were baptised by the Rev. Ewing of Georgetown and received the names of Barbara, Elizabeth and Agnes.

Editors Matheson and Hunter thanked the publishers of the Hamilton Spectator, T. White and R. White for the copy of an address on the Reciprocity Treaty by Hon. Joseph Howe of Nova Scotia given before a convention in Detroit. The edition had been specially revised by Mr. Howe and sold for one dollar for 20 copies.

On passing through the village of Palermo the editors were pleased to notice the evidence of the enterprise of the village inhabitants in the shape of a substantial

drill shed. It was to serve as the Floral Hall at the Township Show to be held there in the fall. The building cost \$300 of which the township council paid \$10. The remainder was collected from the residents of Palermo. The editors thought this spoke well of the public spirited liberality of the people of the village.

It was reported that the Market House was being rapidly completed; the basement story was completed and the form of the Lock-up for the disorderlies of Milton could be plainly seen. The little apertures on each side for light would little afford but a dismal prospect to the 'jolly' inmates.

The main item of foreign news was the English elections. There had been three hundred different elections which resulted in a gain of six seats for the Liberals under Lord Palmerston. Among the London elected members in sixteenth were John Stuart, Mr. Hughes, author of "Tom Brown at Rugby" and Baron Rothschild.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DISTRICT

GEORGETOWN — The town's police force was considerably reinforced recently when council implemented directives from the Ontario Police Commission by naming two acting sergeants and adding three men to the staff. New members of the force will be George Louth Jr. who will be a sergeant, David Bell and Henry Vandersluis, constables. The police force now numbers 12 men. A constable in town for nine years Harley (Bud) Lowe has been promoted to sergeant.

ACTON — A globe-trotting couple from New Zealand came to Acton by bus recently to see the town where the husband had lived until the ripe old age of two. Needless to say he couldn't recognize anything. Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery left their home in New Zealand in March to attend a daughter's wedding in England and they have been travelling ever since. The Montgomerys, who enquired on the street for the mayor's office, were taken to the home of Mayor and Mrs. Les Duby who entertained them for the afternoon. Mr. Montgomery is a chartered accountant in New Zealand.

OAKVILLE — Five student visitors from Oakeville, Malaysia, Antigua and Dominica were recently students of Canada under the Colombo plan and attended the Labor College of Canada jointly run by the University of Montreal and McGill University. They were on the last leg of a four-month stay in the country. This year 145 students attended the labor college. Over 50 of the students came from countries, most of them assisted under the Colombo Plan.

BRAMPTON — Faced with what Reeve Cyril Clark termed, "the worst season in our history for our roads," Chinguacook Council has approved a supplementary by-law for road construction in the amount of \$39,200. This is made up of \$19,200 for construction and \$20,000 for maintenance. Reeve Clark remarked that due to the absence of spring rains to bring the frost out of the ground, the township road surfaces have been in their worst shape in years.

Sugar and Spice ...

BY BILL SMILEY

Any of you old-timers noticed the gradual, but steady changes in the physical world about you? You have? Good. I was hoping it wasn't just me.

You know what I mean. The hills on the golf course are steeper than last year. The lawn grows larger each year. The dining-room table grows a little farther from you each year. The weeds in the garden are a lot farther away when you stoop to pull them. You look up, instead of down, when you scold your children.

And there's one other change that is particularly evident at this time of year. The water in the lakes is ten degrees colder than it was last year.

I noticed this when I went swimming this week with the Old Lady. It was a rather historic occasion. With both our kids otherwise occupied, it was the first time we'd been swimming alone, together, without the kids, since our honeymoon.

Driven by nothing but sheer male pride, I finally stuck one foot in.

Twenty minutes later I was

right up to the knobs on my knees. The old girl had barely wet the paint on her toe-nails. We'd be standing there yet shuddering, had not a couple of six-year-olds dashed past us, splashing us from stem to gudgeon. And my gudgeon still hasn't recovered.

Now how do you explain this? It was the same body of water my son has been swimming in since early May. He said it was great then. But in mid-summer the temperature of the stuff was thirty degrees lower than in May. Something's wrong.

But I must admit, like all the other dopes, that it's grand when you get ducked. There's nothing quite like a middle aged swim, with the old bursitis in the shoulder crunching at every stroke, the heart pounding alarmingly, the chest heaving wildly for air.

It does have its compensations, though, this swimming without kids. No one expects you to act as a human diving tower. You don't have to engage in duck-diving competitions. You don't have to race a couple of sturdy teenagers to the big rock. And your wife certainly won't compel you to see how far you can swim under water.

It's rather pleasant, really, swimming with the old lady. She dog-paddles about in the shallows with the four-year-olds. You wade out to the deep part right up to

your waist, and hit out with a purposeful breast stroke for eight yards before taking a rest. After six minutes, you may return with dignity to the beach.

And there's no one dragging at your arm ten minutes later, demanding that you go back into that liquid refrigerator for another shock treatment. There's nobody bugging you for money for ice-cream or pop. There's nobody intercepting with badly aimed beach balls, your aesthetic appreciation of the latest in bikinis. There are no squabbles to break up.

It's pretty nice, really, just sitting there in your folding chair, book on your knee, jug of iced mix handy, watching the human comedy. The beach boys holding in their stomachs so hard they can't breathe. The beach girls, sticking out their bosoms so hard they almost fall over backwards. Human hippos. Human giraffes. Human gorillas.

But surely something can be done about that water. If we can devise rockets to hit the moon, surely to goodness we can figure out some way of warming up our lakes so that people over forty don't turn from sophisticated citizens into gibbering cowards the minute they get near the water's edge.



DOWN(S) IN THIS CORNER

WITH ROY DOWNS

like the devil was after him. I did not mention South Vietnam again.

When I caught up to him on Queen St., I was silent for several minutes. He laughed a lot. To change the subject I launched a line of chatter about American manned space flights. He cried "Down" rather loudly, so I let him walk again. You just don't argue with men of the world. Besides, a lady who was passing by threw me a glance that had "meany" printed all over it.

My friend was obviously not a United States fan so I started on Canadians and Canadian affairs. I was beginning a question about the Pearson-Diefenbaker feud when the little guy yelled "Bad" at the top of his lungs. He pointed to the sucker he had just stuck in my hair and looked sheepish for a minute.

When he was busy unangling the candy and I winced with pain, I said maybe the election would really come up in the fall. He answered "Good", and put his sucker back in his mouth. The next few minutes were rather hectic as I took one sucker from his mouth, unwrapped another and put it in before the gentleman and I went

the corner for the lights to change came and clobbered me.

When we got all straightened out and the gentleman had crossed the street, I asked the little fellow about Lucien Rivard. He shrugged his shoulders, escaped my clutch and darted to a bubble gum machine. I persuaded him that I had no pennies, all in the same breath. He still seemed dubious though.

I was going to ask him the solution to the French put — English problem when he put his hands in the air and pleaded "Home". I picked him up and continued the talk, but he seemed tired and closed his eyes just as I whispered that maybe we should learn to speak French.

He did not answer and nestled down closer against my shoulder. You can sure learn about politics by taking a two-year-old for a walk.

OH THIS modern world! There is a new ailment being suffered by modern executives who fly a lot (in planes, that is). They call it "jet plane strain".

One firm strain their top men against holding any important conferences or transacting any big business immediately after a jet flight, or until they have recovered from plane fatigue. Seems some of the boys are getting a little ratchety after a jet trip.

Thank goodness, that's one thing our grandfathers never had to worry about!

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Mathematics possesses not only truth, but supreme beauty — a beauty cold and austere, like that of sculpture, without appeal to any part of our weaker nature, sublimely pure, and capable of a stern perfection such as only the greatest art can show. — Bertrand Russell.