



Jim's JOTTINGS

BY JIM DILLS

● THE INCREASING need and growing concern for a locally based ambulance service prompts me to wonder again if the hospital is not the logical place for an ambulance service. Certainly there are difficulties involved, but the least being finances, but the town is already participating in subsidizing ambulance facilities and could be expected to play a part in a local service if one could be worked out. The advantages of a service at the hospital are evident, since the community naturally looks first to a hospital in times of emergency. Located as the hospital is, it could serve a good sized area promptly and efficiently. Could the Hospital Board and Council consider the problem in a joint meeting?

● IT'S BEGINNING to look like the dreaded threat of automation is not going to arrive too soon. If all the promised reduction in work from automation

doesn't arrive soon we'll be having problems. Already work is being downgraded, work weeks are being shortened, new skills to fill leisure time are being promoted, guaranteed income for all at 65 are recommended, the pressure for \$100 a month old age pension assistance is increasing and if government is going to provide all this they're going to have to collect from someone who remains working. I hope a few machines join the ranks of the working soon.

● THE REPORT of Canada's Auditor General annually reveals same embarrassing blunders in government spending. This year is no exception. It does, however, give us an annual reminder that bigness does not automatically generate the ultimate in efficiency. In fact, too often the opposite is true. With everyone pushing at local boundaries to expand them wildly in every direc-

tion, it bears some thought. Business won't provide the answer to every problem, locally or federally.

● THERE WAS pathetic irony in the fact that Michael J. Quill who led the transit strike in New York had to be conveyed during his funeral in a makeshift hearse because of a strike of funeral car drivers. Were it not for the gravity of the situation one might wonder if that was a form of strike breaking.

● THE PROMISE of increases to local school board in the grant structure will be heralded with glee but the other possibility of an increase in sales tax, ostensibly to finance this and other increases, is not so bright a prospect. It just emphasizes that the only producer of government revenues is the taxpayer. No matter which pocket it comes from, it starts with the ordinary citizen.

Sugar and Spice ...

BY BILL SMILEY

"It's not the cough wot carries you off. It's the coffin they carry you off in."

That old English folk saying pretty well sums up my attitude toward life this week. It isn't the work that's killing me; it's the after-hours stuff in a typical week.

Last Monday after work, I wrote my column, then spent five hours studying an essay by C. S. Lewis, concisely called "Right and Wrong as a Clue to the Meaning of the Universe." Try selling that one to a girl whose chief worry is her hairdo, or to a boy who can hardly wait for the last bell to ring, so he can streak for the pool-room.

Tuesday night I went curling. First time this year. Next morning, I felt 112 years old when I crawled out of the sack. My muscles working only in fits and starts.

Wednesday afternoon, rushed to matinee to see movie of Macbeth. Fat with doe-eyed female English

teacher. Later told my daughter I'd held hands with her throughout the show. Daughter furious. Wednesday night, a two-hour meeting of our staff's General Futility Committee.

Thursday afternoon, a two-hour drive to the city, through a swirling snow-storm with Kim, her last (hallo! hallo!) visit to the orthodontist. Five years and 700 dollars after it all began the kid has straight teeth.

Two more hours home, the transport trucks giving us a mud-bath about every two miles. But we had a jolly conversation in the cozy car, in the black night, in the white wilderness. Talking about four-letter words, their origin and their fascination. We agreed they were ugly but powerful. Not the dirty ones. They reveal merely a limited vocabulary. But such epithets as vob, drab, slob, slop, punk, jerk, fink, have a certain horrible charm.

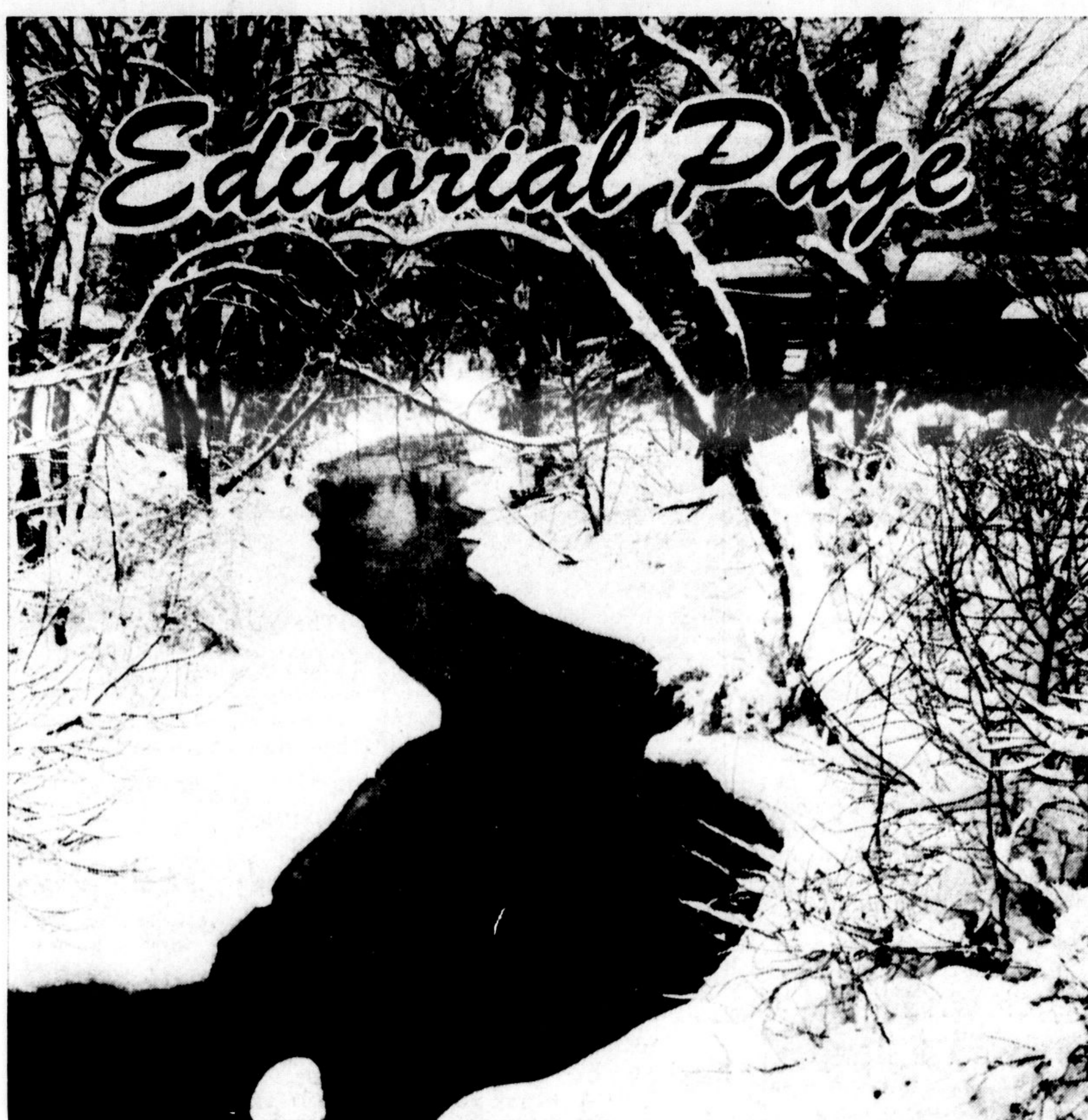
Friday night is relax night, the week over. I curled again, and later got into a session, one

of those "Kids don't know how lucky they are today" sessions with some other creaky relics of the Depression. I also got hell when I got home. But not to worry. Tomorrow I could sleep in.

Tomorrow arrived, about 30 winks later, and the Old Girl still a bit owly, informed that she was not up to driving the kid to the city for music lessons. I was thrust into the snow and ice. She slept in.

Hugh was to come home with us, for a weekend's skiing. He didn't show up at the rendezvous. We went to his men's residence. Nobody had seen him since eight o'clock the night before. With some faint hope that he'd either eloped or been kid-

(Continued on Page C4)



Main St. Bridge View of Creek

—Staff Photo

Rates Not Only Basis for Decision ...

The Bell Telephone Co. proposal to enlarge Milton's telephone calling area must be some kind of "hot potato." The firm last August invited written support or opposition. The lack of opposition was cited as support but the firm still wanted Milton Council endorsement. Council was timid and has asked the people again before it takes action.

And no matter what decision is made, it can be expected that "the people" will participate as little as possible until action is taken, at which time "the people" will find their vocal chords and ability to write, cutting loose in all directions.

It is easy and popular to oppose increased telephone rates. Anyone can do it and be a hero. Frankly though, we feel the increase in rates should not be the only part of the project that is given consideration.

Milton is centrally located in Halton County. No one knows the future government of the area until the Plunkett Commission has tabled its findings and had them dissected. The increased calling area would put every area of Halton with the exception of Acton, in a direct calling basis with Milton, the present centre and capital of the county.

Parental Interest Good Sign ...

It is encouraging to find so much parental interest in the formation of the high school of a non-denominational "Pioneer Club" for students interested in religious study.

While the Board, in an initial presentation of the idea, discouraged the proposal they did not formally reject the suggestion, as a careful reading of the news article on the subject will reveal.

Unfortunately news articles do not always get the careful reading they sometimes deserve, and a number of people have taken the position the Board was adamantly rejecting the proposal. This attitude is evident in a number of the letters appearing on the subject in last week's issue.

Perhaps with the presentation of a concise and detailed proposal on the project, from those interested in insuring adequate

leadership and participation, the Board will be in a better position to make a final and formal decision.

We are not familiar with the type of organization proposed but it should surely not be rejected simply because it has a religious base. Its true success will only be determined by the acceptance of the students and the capacity of the leadership offered, and it should be allowed to succeed or fail on that basis.

There are unquestionably limits to the number of groups that can function in the after-hour hours at a school, however, and the Board's concern may be more significantly in this area.

It is to be hoped calm reasoning can be applied to the matter despite the frequent tendency of any religious discussion to be obscured by more heat than light.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

GLANCING BACK TO 20 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of The Canadian Champion, February 7, 1946.

The three week Short Course in Agriculture held in Milton during the month of January culminated the formation of the Milton Junior Farmers' Association. Plans have already been made to hold monthly meetings, the first of which is to be held at the home of Robert Ford Jr., near Omagh on Tuesday evening, February 19. The officers of the newly organized Association are as follows; president Cameron Wilson, vice-president Jack Marchmont, secretary-treasurer Russell Coulson, Clarence Ford and John Richardson.

Fire of an unknown origin did damage estimated at \$10,000 and the loss of 1,100 chicks at the Walker Poultry Farm near Milton. The fire was discovered about seven o'clock on Saturday evening.

The large two-storey hen house, which was modernly equipped, was burned to the ground. The loss is partially covered by insurance.

C. D. Graham, Director of Extension for the Ontario Department of Agriculture was the guest speaker at the annual meeting of the Halton Jersey Breeders' Association, held at Hornby on Wednesday of last week. F. D. Charles of Georgetown was elected president and other members of the executive were Jack Featherstone of Oakville, first vice-president; William Davies, first vice-president; second vice-president; J. E. Whitlock of Milton, secretary-treasurer; and directors Gerald Graham and D. R. McLaughlin of Evesham, A. E. Padbury and Duncan Mollat of Nassagawewa; W. E. Breckon of Nelson, M. C. Beatty and Victor Hall of Trafalgar, Charles McKeown of Erin and John Leybourne of Eramosa.

GLANCING BACK TO 50 YEARS AGO

adian Champion, Feb. 10, 1916.

The annual meeting of the Milton Public Library Board was held on Tuesday evening. Officers were elected as follows; Directors Mrs. V. Chisholm, Mrs. Ptolemy, Mrs. E. E. Yates, W. J. McClenahan, W. Panton, C. H. Stuart, F. S. Cochrane, W. B. Clements, J. M. Denyse; president Mrs. V. Chisholm; secretary Mrs. Ptolemy; treasurer F. S. Cochrane; librarian Miss MacKenzie, auditors W. C. McClenahan and Wm. Panton.

There are nineteen Milton Oddfellows now in khaki and nine of them on the front. On Friday evening Halton Encampment gave a box social to raise money to pay the dues of the nine. There were forty-seven beautifully decorated boxes donated by ladies. T. F. Chisholm was the auctioneer and the proceeds were \$26.25. Boxes

sold as high as \$10.25 each. The Halton Press Association will meet at Burlington tomorrow and will discuss the proposed increase of subscription rates from \$1 to \$1.50 per year.

On account of the overcrowding at the Sunday evening recruiting meetings at the town hall, it has been decided that in future nobody less than 16 years of age will be admitted to them. The doors will not open until 8.30 p.m. The decision to refuse admission of children to the meetings was necessary. It is reported that the floor of the hall sagged last Sunday evening owing to the great weight upon it. The hall, as The Champion has repeatedly explained, is a fire trap. Should a panic have occurred at any of the recruiting meetings which have been held, many lives might have been lost.

GLANCING BACK TO 100 YEARS AGO

Taken from the files of The Canadian Champion February 8, 1866.

At a meeting of the Board of Common School Trustees of the Township of Milton, the following appointments were made: W. L. Eager, chairman; F. McCallum, secretary; John Dewar Jr., superintendent; F. J. Jones, collector of school rates. Mr. Jones also requested to take the census of the School Section and found it as follows; total population in the township 202, children between one and 16 in the town 217, children between one and 16 in the township 47. Making a total of 1,009 people in the town and township and 264 children in the town and township.

In consequence of a complaint being made to the trustees by some of the teachers that scholars at times took the liberty without the consent of the teachers to move from department to de-

partment, a resolution was passed by the board authorizing the teachers to classify pupils according to their proficiency and ability and to insist on their remaining in the class to which they belong till removed by their teacher.

Considerable contention was created in the susceptible bosoms of the Milton curlers, by the arrival in our midst of several sleigh loads of curlers from Acton, Georgetown and Evesham. These gentlemen came prepared to play for the medal but by some neglect the Milton club was totally unprepared to play. The keen curlers had to make a change of base for their homes.

The annual meeting of the County of Halton L.O.L. was held in the Orange Hall, Milton on Wednesday. The following are the officers elect for the ensuing year: W.M. J. B. Lindsay; W.M. Arthur Little; secretary, D. A. Agar; treasurer, Wm. Gibson.

DOWN(S) IN THIS CORNER

WITH ROY DOWNS



"Now you behave, Johnny, or I'll tell a Policeman."

We've all overheard this dire threat to a rebellious youngster, uttered by a harassed mother who hesitates to employ a more direct and effective method of silencing her offspring. The threat seldom, if ever, does what it is intended to do, but it certainly helps strengthen an animosity in young Johnny to the man in uniform. And, as increasingly obvious today, Johnny and his kind are paying less attention to the threat of retribution for their misdemeanors.

Crime statistics on the North American Continent are soaring up the graphs in a manner that leaves sociologists, law enforcement officers, the Courts and the majority of thinking citizens appalled. There has never been a time in history of law enforcement when those whom "we have retained to protect us" are more in need of the backing and support of the Courts, the legal profession, the teaching profession and above all, the general public.

There has hardly been a time when police have been subjected to more criticism, more abuse, or more frustration than at present. The problem facing the police, and most of the rest of us is that, along with a lot of other old-fashioned ideas, authority has become the suspect. In the present gay, mad, free atmosphere in which we are now getting ourselves trapped, authority of all kinds is being resented. No longer is it proper for a father to simply belt one of his youngsters on the behind if he thinks the little guy is asking for it. You might be interfering with his God-given right of free expression, and this is bad, even if he wants to express himself by kicking you in the shins or by sacking a leg off the dining room table.

By the same token many are inclined today to look upon criminals as being simply misunderstood boys, and as a result, they stand at the police and general public all the way to the bank. Far too often, instead of putting them in a common hoodlum and placing him in jail, where he belongs, the tendency is to invite

him as one of the guests of honor at a seminar on social reform. Meanwhile, as our do-gooders continue to con us into a state where it is becoming increasingly difficult to ascertain who is right and who is wrong on almost any subject, it is becoming more dangerous to walk the streets after dark.

Spectators stand idle by while policemen are beaten up by toughs. The wives of convicted criminals are invited to appear on television and sell their heart throbbing memoirs to the press. Many times in court after the defence counsel has presented his argument you wonder if the police and their independent witnesses should be on trial or the accused. As a result there is a marked trend today; citizens who would make excellent witnesses do not see well anymore.

We may be called old-fashioned, and from the so-called old school but to us respect for the law means a parent's word is law, a teacher's word is law, a policeman's word is law. Today we have been conned into a dream

(Continued on Page C4)

PEEKING INTO MILTON'S PAST



A BUNCH OF THE BOYS who served in the First World War are shown in a classic pose. Bill Cross loaned the picture, and he thinks Jack Brewer and Arthur Mayes are two of the men. Do you recognize any of them?

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LET'S PLAY BRIDGE

By Bill Coats

The Acton Bridge Club is sponsoring a series of games duplicate bridge. These games are open only to bridge players who have never played duplicate bridge before.

In watching these players in action, I noticed one particular area of weakness. This was in their overcalls. An overall is any bid made after the opponents have opened the bidding. An overall should be made for one of three reasons:

(1) To indicate to partner a suit which can be led into.

(2) To compete for a part score.

(3) To raise the bidding level so as to make it difficult for the opponents to exchange information.

Overcalls are made on relatively long suits which have playing strength in the suit. Overcalls are never made on the point count of the hand. When you overcall, you are indicating the suit in which you desire to play the hand. Partner should seldom bid another suit. Above all, partner should not panic if you are doubled.

Last week in a rubber bridge match, East broke this last rule with disastrous results.

Dealer — West.
East-West vulnerable.

North
S-10 6
H-O 5 3
D-A 10 8 7 6
C-Q 6

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"There is no surgery by which a new idea can be grafted to a closed mind."

—G. W. Olinger