



Jim's Jottings

by jim dills

• **Probably a rare thing**, but the other day I heard of an individual on the receiving end of one of those obscene phone calls. There are a variety of types of this kind of disturbing nonsense and the advice this individual received may be helpful to those who also receive calls but fail to report the trouble. The most effective, however, is to have a whistle handy and let a blast go at a suitable instant. The result on the other end is more shattering than if you dropped the phone, and serves to discourage future calls. Hanging up the receiver and refusing to listen is also quite effective, I'm told.

• **I find it disturbing** to have so many Grand truck operators take calculated risks on my behalf at the intersection of Highway 25 and the Campbellville Sideroad north of Milton. While I cross the brow of the hill driving south and they approach the intersection, they judge my chances of passing them on the left by measuring the north bound traffic. If they figure my chances are o.k. they pull out onto the highway while I either apply the brakes vigorously or agree with their calculation and pass as they grind slowly onto the highway. I prefer to figure my own chances without help, and I'd prefer it if they stopped and waited for traffic approaching the intersection to

pass, as they are required. I think most other drivers would, too.

• **The weekend weather** must have been warm enough for everyone. Haven't heard other than sighs of relief as the cooler Monday weather descended on the area.

• **I haven't heard** the formula for calculating this new rating of discomfort that weather forecasters are throwing in, called the humidex. It would be better for my morale though if it started at a lower number. When it gets over 100 it gets too close to the temperature.

• **Local swimming facilities** have been a real blessing during those hot, hot days of the past week. Besides the relaxation and good exercise they offer, they do provide very cooling effect for those who don't join the bumper to bumper parade north.

• **Because of the extent** it is impossible for news media to report on traffic fatalities in other than numbers, but the more than 60 fatal accidents over the weekend reflect a tremendous toll in personal grief for unnumbered families and friends. Every accident and every death affects many people and it is within this circle the real tragedy is felt. The statistical presentation can never fully report this.

Harley to Halton

by harry harley m. p.



Interest in the problems of older people has been quickened in the past several months by the publication and discussion of the report of the Special Senate Committee on Aging particularly in the last few days while debating the Canada Assistance Plan.

The recommendation of this Committee is simply this—that all Canadians 65 and over be assured of a guaranteed minimum income. As a start, single persons would have an annual income of \$1260. (\$105 a month) and married couples would have \$2220, a year (\$185, a month). The Federal Government would fill the gap between existing incomes and this proposed minimum annual income. This guaranteed income, the Senate Committee concludes, would best serve the purpose of enabling older citizens to "live with dignity" while still continuing to make a worthwhile contribution to their communities.

The Senate Committee's proposal has several points in its favour. The Senate recommendation would provide additional payments for those with incomes below the proposed minimum and no payments would be made to those over the guaranteed annual minimum income.

The use of income tax forms as the basis for an income test would be simpler and more acceptable to older people than any of the various other methods proposed or used for determining who is and who isn't eligible for additional payments.

The plan would be less burdensome on the public treasury and on the taxpayer; in fact payments could be expected to drop steadily as the Canada Pension Plan starts paying full benefits. (It matures to full payment in ten years.) We already expend over one million dollars a year under the Old Age Security Program as it now stands and this amount will rise to \$1.6 billion by 1970 primarily because of the lowering of the eligibility age to 65 years. In addition we have committed ourselves to heavy additional ex-

penditures over the next few years in the fields of university education, medical insurance and health resources to name three examples.

It is difficult to estimate the precise cost of the guaranteed minimum income proposal if applied to older persons; the Senate Committee itself declined to give any estimate but its Chairman, Senator David Crombie, suggested the cost would be approximately \$100 million a year initially. The Government feels it would be higher than this figure, perhaps three times as high, but certainly it would still be lower than the payment of an additional \$25 per month to everyone in receipt of Old Age Security. Another potential problem with the Senate proposal is that it might require recipients to estimate a year in advance what they think their annual income will be. Say, for example, a person estimated that his income will be \$1100 for the year; he would be eligible for additional payments of \$133.33 a month, to bring him up to the guaranteed income of \$1260 for a single person.

The Senate committee's recommendation is now undergoing careful study as, indeed, the Committee itself suggested it should. The Prime Minister has already announced that careful, immediate and expert attention is being given to the Senate report and, in fact, a committee within the Federal Department of Health and Welfare is already at work assessing its recommendations and findings. In this connection I would also bring to your attention remarks by the Prime Minister, speaking in the Throne Speech Debate last January: "It is important that we do all that we can to meet the needs of older people, which must remain the concern of this and other government in Canada. The Government is taking important steps now to expand its support in these fields through Canada Assistance Plan and the Medicare Programme which it hopes will soon be in effect, especially the latter because it is the older groups which are most vulnerable to the high costs and uncertainty which relate to medical care."

PEEKING INTO MILTON'S PAST



SCHOOL GIRLS FROM MILTON attending a parade in the town's early days, include several who are still residents of

Milton. Recognize any of them? Mrs. R. Reid, Miles St., loaned the picture.

Champion

Editorial Page

North growth slim

Early indications for the Plunkett Report on local government are that the dice will be pretty well loaded against development in the northern sections of the county. That's the way we read preliminary pronouncements on the subject made to some county council representatives recently.

Changes there will be. The Boards and Municipalities that make up the two counties under study acknowledge that and even invite it. Of the more than 100 briefs received in the year-long study the majority proposed changes in the present government set-up. Only four of the briefs argued for a continuation of the present conditions and organization. Apparently 20 favored some kind of government reorganization and 12 other briefs presented during the study said they had no real objection to change.

Mr. Plunkett has told the county representatives there will not be much development in the northern halves of Peel and Halton, despite projected population growth for Halton to 313,000 and Peel to 310,000. Each county now has less than 150,000. The main deterrent to growth in the northern sections of the counties would be what the Commissioner feels would be the high cost of servicing land. Sewage would have to undergo extensive treatment or be piped to the lake and given regular treatment, either of which is expensive.

Mr. Plunkett's report is to be in the hands of the Minister of Municipal Affairs by September and its release will be eagerly awaited. The very existence

of such a study has already clouded municipal issues and stalled or hastened projects by its imminence and anticipated major recommendations on municipal structure.

We hope in his final report Mr. Plunkett will use more specific terms than the northern section of the counties and the southern sections. These terms are already confusing local politicians. To some, the north of the county starts at the Dundas highway, while others regard the division at the point of the Base Line Road between Oakville-Burlington and Nassagaweya-Esqueving.

We hope, too, that Mr. Plunkett will recommend permission for development of municipalities within their proven capacities for meeting service requirements. Engineering studies can provide accurate information on water supplies and the ability of streams to cope with treated effluent. These are the logical guidelines on which to project and permit development and growth. The provincial government already has ample authority to insist an adherence to such guidelines.

It seems inevitable there will be change in the structure of local government, and about the only change that would seem a certainty is the abolition of a good many boards and committees with their power and responsibility returned to a council.

Where the structure will place the local or county levels of government is still fair game for conjecture — at least until the in-fighting settles after filing of the Plunkett Report in September.

Respect for the law

Open defiance of a court order normally results in a confrontation between the court and the offender. When a penalty is invoked for that defiance it is regarded as the upholding of law and order in a society.

But recently when some were inspired to disobey a court injunction and exceed the number of pickets permitted, they were punished and immediately a host of officials were ready to attack the judge responsible, the courts, the government and the premier.

Really the subject under attack was a specific law, the law that permits injunctions on the number of pickets or on picketing during labor-management disputes.

Within the same week the news develops that a wild-cat strike delayed the unloading of 17 ships because police charged one man with an illegal act. Apparently 150 more walked out in sym-

pathy and a further 450 joined in. At this point they had refused to return to work until the police responsible for the charges and an alleged assault had been dismissed or apologized.

Farmers have found it necessary in some areas to technically break the law by impeding traffic on highways in support of their case for higher milk prices. It causes one to reflect on where the breakdown in a society comes, when all respect for law and order has been trampled. Not all laws are good laws. But while a law is in force the courts are compelled to uphold it. When one is broken, it is not the quality of the law that is measured, but the violation.

Just how long can we continue to cast the law in disrespect and still expect it to be a force? Or are we really building a whole new power structure with authority vested other than in elected officials and judicial courts?



Down[s] in this Corner

with roy downs

"Heat-beaters, Inc." is the name of the new community service organization I founded last week at the height of the heat wave. I'm sure every family will find our new service suited to their needs (and their budget) so feel free to call on me anytime.

At great expense to the management (as they say in all the ads) I have lined up a summer heat-beating program sure to please young and old.

There's a special treatment offered to harassed husbands whose wives have gone half-crazy with the heat. For a slight fee we'll dispatch a driver to your house, who will wait until your wife is screaming at you at the top of her lungs, then toss a painful of ice cubes over her.

It's bound to cool her off and should solve all the marital problems a heat wave usually brings on. If you prefer, our technician can explain to your "icy-fied" wife that the cooling gift comes with the compliments of the neighbors. That should literally "take the heat off" you.

Our treatment for children who at the slightest bit of sunlight turn from glowing angels into satanical monsters, is likewise simple but slightly more expensive.

For only \$200 you can have your little monster (or child) quick-frozen in a 100 lb. block of clean ice the moment he or she or it throws the first temper-tantrum brought on by heat or humidity. Once Johnny or Matilda tosses supper on the ceiling or picks all the flowers your ever-loving has tended with loving care, or turns the hose on the cat and the visiting minister, phone us.

A technician will shortly arrive at your home with the apparatus for a quick-freeze job. Little Johnny won't be hurt when he or she is encased in the centre of the ice block, we'll insert a tube for

feeding purposes, and your wee urchin will be ready to be put away for the summer. For slightly extra cost we can provide a glass-wall freezer so you can gaze upon your beloved from time to time.

Controls will be set so the ice won't melt away until the first snow flies next winter, and you'll have a happy and care-free summer, knowing your child is always at home and always well—but never in trouble.

We're working on a plan for a larger freezer which will store away wilting wives for the summer months and should have the new model in operation by next summer. Until then, brother, you're on your own.

For the humid husband we offer a pay-as-you-cool plan that involves our head technician (me), but I'm willing to make the sacrifice of time for a few lousy bucks. When the tired executive or factory worker arrives home from work and gets cleaned up, I'll pick him up and take him on a tour of some of the cooler areas in nearby Toronto (like the Crown Derby, Friars Tavern, Zanibar, etc.) where he can be gently cooled inside and outside with the respective liquid and mechanical refrigeration devices available in such places.

Then in the wee small hours of the morning when the cool spots close up, we'll walk through some of Toronto's scenic attractions like William Beauty's Allan Gardens, Jarvis St., Yorkville and CBC headquarters where the cool evening breezes will balm the spirits and comfort the tired exec.

A multitude of other plans will soon be available to appease melting mothers-in-law, invading in-laws and the nuisance of neighborhood youngsters. Watch for more details later.



Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley

In about the last three decades, the face of a Canadian summer has changed almost beyond recognition.

Think back to your summers as a child. The sights and the sounds and the smells have all changed. You'd scarcely know you were in the same country.

Summer itself has not changed. As a nation half-frozen after a long, weary winter and a cold, wet spring, we still greet it with rapture and incredulity. It is the celebration of the season that has been transformed.

Thirty years ago summer was a quiet time. The pace was leisurely. The mood was one of peace. Today it's just the opposite. It is the noisiest time of the year, the pace is frantic, and the mood is jazzy.

In those days, summer pleasures, for the working staff, were simple. And for a couple of good reasons. He worked nine or 10 hours a day; and he didn't have any money.

When he got home, he was whacked. After supper he might water the lawn, or do a little weeding or just sit on the front porch until dark. Occasionally, he'd take in a ball game, or maybe drive the family around for a while, and buy everybody an ice-cream cone.

When his holidays rolled around, he didn't do much. Puttered around, painting the trim on the house, or worked in the garden. Maybe took the family to visit relatives for a few days.

In those days, summer cottages, and power boats, and resort hotels and golf were the wealth.

What a difference today! The working stiff gets home, and his day has just begun. He has a golf date. Or the kids demand he drive them for a swim. Or his wife has asked somebody over for drinks and a barbecue and he must don the apron and get to work.

When his holidays come around the pace triples. No puttering about the house for him. No sitting in the back yard, under a shade tree, and restoring himself.

It doesn't matter what has been planned for his holidays. Whether it's a mad motor trip of 3,000 miles, or a cottage at

Crud Lake, or a tenting excursion, he's going to have to be a human dynamo for about 18 hours a day.

What's happened in three decades? Cars, affluence, desire for status, and women.

Cars, and the subsequent highways to accommodate them, have opened up the quiet, little summer settlements at the end of a rugged gravel road are now roaring, raucous neon jungles by night, flesh strips and screaming motors by day.

Virgin lakes, not long ago accessible only by canoe and portage, are now laid bare by developers, and the bulldozers are at work, and everybody wants to own his own plot, though prices have skyrocketed.

Affluence, combined with the never-never-land of the finance company, has made its inroads. Today the working man owns his own cottage, or cruiser and belongs to the golf club. The big resorts have been taken over by the moderately well-to-do. The rich, in disgust, fly to Europe.

The eternal pursuit of status in our society has played its part. If that crumb next door can afford a cottage for two weeks, Joe can afford a flight to the West Coast. If he has a 50-horse motor, Joe needs a 75-horse. If his kids are going to camp for two weeks, Joe's are going for the whole of August.

And women? Ah, how they have helped change the face of Canada's summer! They used to be content to stay home, look after their gardens and put up preserves in the summer. They used to be happy with a family picnic on Sundays. They used to enjoy making a pitcher of cold lemonade on a hot summer evening, and bringing it out to the porch.

Now they want a cottage for two months, or a new and bigger boat, or a second car, plus a membership at the golf club, plus a swim patio, plus a couple of weeks at a new resort.

It's no wonder poor Joe is a whimpering shell at the end of the summer, exhausted, broke and frazzled.



Pages of the Past

from champion files

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of the Canadian Champion July 4, 1946

Having is now in full swing on the great majority of Halton farms. While the crop varies materially from the farm to farm, in general, the crop can be considered from fair to good. The harvesting of the crop reveals the shortage of labor on a great many farms. In conversation with Agriculture Representative J. E. White-lock, we learned that the Milton office of the Department of Agriculture has placed 90 western farm hands on as many farms in Halton during the past 10 days. The great majority of these westerners come from the provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta with a few from Manitoba.

We learned from Mr. Whitelock that there is also a demand for day labor. In order to cope with this need, Comandos are being brought out from Toronto. Halton farmers interested in securing help of either type would be well advised to contact the Agricultural Office, Milton, 230, at once.

The parliamentary flag committee has reduced national flag designs to two—a red ensign with gold maple leaf and a flag composed of red and white triangles with a green maple leaf on the diagonal line separating the colors.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, July 5, 1916.

There was a collision between two motor cars at the corner of Main and Bronte streets yesterday. One was that of H. Wheeler, who was driving it and says the other was occupied by four strangers, that instead of keeping to the right, they bore to the left, and ran into him, and they had the assurance to put the blame on him. He has their car number. Mr. Wheeler's car had one tire burst, and axel bent and otherwise damaged. The strangers' car suffered less. Nobody was hurt. The tracks on the road bear out Mr. Wheeler's contention that he kept to the right and that the strangers were responsible for the accident.

A garden party will be held on the lawn of Oscar Downs, lot 4, concession 7, Trafalgar, Thursday evening, July 20. The program will be given by the following: James Fax, Comedian, Toronto; the Lawrie Brothers and Sisters, Scottish singers and dancers, Hamilton; and Oakville brass band. Quills will be sold by auction by J. D. McGregor. Refreshment booth on the grounds. Admission 25 and 15 cents.

100 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, July 5, 1866.

We have had the pleasure of tasting the produce of the Milton Cheese Factory, and would state that it is "just the

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