



Jim's Jottings

by jim dills

* With the American announcement that the U.S. will recall 25,000 troops from Viet Nam would it be fair to look forward to a similar announcement from Hanoi? It often seems the initiative for peace is always supposed to come from the U.S. always Hanoi continues to have significant support even in the U.S. for its "demands".

* Announcement that Texaco has plans to build a new refinery in Burlington came officially over the weekend. With a \$400 million price tag, the refinery would cover 720 acres. Good job it didn't come to Milton or we would have to have another annexation and what a brow wiping session that would have touched off.

* Handing out the Emmy awards for television programs the other night made it look like there was a plentiful supply. There seemed to be category upon category and if there wasn't one for a particular situation, there was a special citation. Somehow I just can't accept that television is of that high a calibre yet.

* Fellow editor John Morris of Prescott was incensed recently and this is what he concluded: "Probably the most vulgar bit of sensationalism to hit Canada in the past several years is the 'lie-in' being conducted in Montreal this week by one of the Beatles and his wife. This couple may be having their private little joke about our morals in this country, but we'll wager our dollars against their marijuana that our

lives are much happier and that we have fewer hang-ups and personal problems than this pair of crude bed bugs. It's time we sent them packing back to Britain with a healthy puff of DDT."

* There's the story about the worker who was one dollar short in his pay envelope and complained to the cashier. She looked at the records and said, "Last week we overpaid you a dollar, but you didn't complain about that mistake did you?" "An occasional mistake I can overlook," replied the worker, "but not two in a row!"

* I keep hoping, for the sake of the local sidealk superintendents, the town's contractor will be starting soon on construction of the trunk sewer. It's bound to be a big attraction this summer and if you think you've seen some deep holes in town and some big pipe, the specifications on this project indicate "you ain't seen nothing yet". It's a 42 inch pipe and at the north end the hole will be 18 feet deep. When that crosses the Main St. it will need plenty of sidewalk superintending.

* Interest in the town's new official plan seems to stem largely from large land owners-developers. The individual home-owner may develop interest some day when the plan is passed and he finds he can't do what he wants with his property. Then see how much the delayed interest will cost! An amendment to the official plan is not a cheap exercise.



ST. STEPHEN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH at Hornby held its annual Memorial and Decoration day Sunday. Rev. Canon James Maxwell of St. Stephen's with the choir and orchestra of his church who provided the music for the service, part of which was held outside in the adjoining cemetery.—(Staff photo)



Sugar and Spice

by bill smiley

We all know what happens to good Samaritans, don't we? They end up holding the bag.

Recently we acquired a kitten. It was practically over my wife's dead body, but Kim insisted she was going to crack up psychologically if she didn't have a little brother for company. As usual, Dad was the catalyst. No pun.

It turned out to be a little sister, as I've mentioned, but that was to be expected. She was a little beauty and immediately took over the house with that mixture of charm and utter arrogance that only a female kitten can muster.

Even the Old Battle Axe became fond of the thing, despite the usual clawing of furniture and drapes. Kim was ecstatic. I'm the only one in the family who can barely be civil to cats. I'd as soon have a baby gorilla, or a pet anaconda, as a cat.

Pip, the kitten, had been retrained, after a traumatic lapse when the painters were here. All was serene. She had the run of the house, slept with Kim, and began spending some time playing in the back yard making like a tigress with insects and worms. Tragedy struck Sunday afternoon. I was sitting outside, reading, when I heard the unearthly but unmistakable scream of an animal in its death-throes.

I couldn't believe our kitten could make such a noise. But it was definitely feline, and she'd been playing around in the yard only a little while before. Leaping up, I spotted the direction of the wails, and ran out to the road. There was Pip, head down, wailing wildly, crouched in the middle of the road, as the cars sped by.

I picked her up as gently as possible, certain she'd been run over, or at least hit by a car. She squealed piteously and clutched my sweater. She was shuddering with terror and pain.

I carried her in like a wounded bird and called my wife. She was horrified. The kitten was obviously in shock, eyes glazed, head shaking. Her hind legs seemed paralyzed and I thought her back must be broken. Her face was bloody and half her nose seemed to be missing.

We put her in her box-bed and stood about, wringing our hands. My wife shrieked, "She's shrinking!", and I agreed. Creatures seem to do that when they're dying.

My wife wailed, "Her eyes are funny, and her ears are turning inside out." I agreed. The kitten shivered uncontrollably. The death rattle was imminent.

"Better tell Kim," quavered the boss. "She'll never forgive us if Pip just dies and she isn't here."

Once again I agreed, and raced upstairs, where Kim was watching Hamlet on TV. My face as long as a foot, I intoned, "Kim, you'd better come quick. I think Pip's been run over, and she's in bad shape."

She looked up, startled, and said, "Dad, what have you been into? Here she is, right here." And sure enough, there was Pip lying snoozing on the couch, as elegant as Cleopatra waiting for Mark Antony.

Well, you don't have to be Sherlock Holmes, do you? I'd rescued the wrong blasted cat. There was some excuse. My tender heart. The thing was screaming. And it was exactly the same coloring as Pip.

The reason my wife thought the beast was shrinking was that it's about a month younger than Pip. The reason its eyes were dull is that it's retarded, I'm sure.

Kim promptly produced a saucer of milk. The cat with the broken back and paralyzed legs just as promptly walked over to it and drank it, though still shivering, then curled up and slept for two hours. Its bloody nose was probably from gravel spattering under a car's wheels.

Well, what do you do? Throw it back on the road? Pip and my wife are furious, one at having an interloper, the other at having two cats when she didn't want one. Kim is delighted and determined to keep the ugly, stupid little mutt, who eats like a lion.

And I, as usual, despite the fact that this is a cat story, am in the dog-house, where good Samaritans frequently find themselves.



Down[s] in this Corner

with roy downs

The Bible doesn't say what Eve gave to Adam on Father's Day but it could very well have been a present to bring pleasure and relaxation to the world's first dad.

Times haven't changed that much and while four million fathers across Canada wait eagerly for June 15 to open their presents, the chances are that the traditional gift of cigars will bring a broad smile of satisfaction.

While the Americans regard George Washington as the "Father of his Country", it was really Julius Caesar who deserves the title. The word "father" is taken from the name given to Roman senators - "patres."

The idea for a Father's Day originated in the United States and was first celebrated in Spokane, Washington, in 1910. Mrs. John B. Dodd wished to honor her father, William B. Smart, a Civil War veteran who had raised six motherless children.

She sensed the occasion as a way to call attention to the multiple role of a father as husband, dad and breadwinner. With the encouragement of her minister, she wrote a letter to the Spokane Ministers' Alliance which received her suggestion favorably. It was then brought to the attention of the Spokane YMCA which took steps to make Mrs. Dodd's idea effective.

President Woodrow Wilson had a Father's Day button pressed in the White House in 1916. Eight years later President Calvin Coolidge recommended national observance of Father's Day.

While Father's Day has never had quite the same impact as Mother's Day—for obvious sentimental reasons—it has nevertheless become widely popular over the years as a means of paying tribute to the hardworking man-of-the-house.

In Canada, Father's Day is observed by some people who have nothing in their tradition equivalent to Father's Day, but who have taken up the "white man's" ways. The Iroquois Indians here, for instance, have a word for the occasion - "Ra Wenawe."

The Eskimos, on the other hand, have such closely-knit family ties that it can be said they celebrate Father's Day and Mother's Day every day of their lives.

Throughout much of South America where Spanish is the language, Father's Day is called "Dia del Padre." June is the favored month but in some places Father's Day comes ahead of Mother's Day, in keeping with the lesser importance of women.

In most places the observance is not official but in the Dominican Republic it was Trujillo himself who made the public announcement in 1933 and it has been kept since. Other countries which celebrate the day are Honduras, Costa Rica, Brazil, Argentina, Venezuela, Columbia and Panama.

In El Salvador and Guatemala the citizens go along with the day but, like many European countries, they blame American merchants "who only want to sell more goods. It's not bad, it's not good. It depends on which way you take it."

Ecuadorians take the idea in good humor: "It's popular, but in fact every day here is Father's Day." Haiti ignores the

day. So do Chileans, on the grounds that "we love our parents all the year long and don't need special days to show it."

European and Asian countries tend to look on Father's Day with a mixture of suspicion and skepticism. Frenchmen, for example, tolerate the practice while adding: "In America they have a day for everything."

The British regard the event as "contrived commercialism" while going along with the idea. The Irish, independent in all things, suffer Father's Day cards to be shown in shops but don't do anything about celebrating.

In Italy the people celebrate the day much as here. They remark in a wry tone, however, that "it has become like Christmas. Up to 15 years ago Italians bought cribs for Christmas, then the Americans introduced Christmas trees, so now we buy trees."

Russians regard the practice as another sign of Western decadence: "We do not celebrate such days, only religious holidays." There is no observance in China and Japan, and the Thailand representative was indignant at the suggestion: "No, no, no!"

Some kind of gift-giving takes place in Belgium, Monaco, Switzerland, Sweden and Spain, but not in neighboring Portugal, nor in Greece, Germany, Austria or Denmark.

In Norway the custom is to have coffee early in the morning and the children give a present of some small piece of handiwork. As for the Finnish - "We've heard about Father's Day but we think mother took that over too!" The Dutch see the whole thing as an "exploitation of something that was not there before."

One reader called to comment on last week's article about the Grand Jury suggesting later lock-up times, piped-in music, extra shower privileges and bedtime snacks for prisoners at the Halton Jail in Milton.

The man felt the Grand Jury had missed just one thing in their campaign to spice up the poor inmates' lives: free weekend passes.

Which prompted one of our staffers to pipe up, "What, no free chits for a short beer at the corner hotel?"

A successful marriage requires falling in love many times, always with the same person.

Mignon McLaughlin

A Marriage Counsellor began to ask a woman some questions concerning her disposition. "Did you wake up grumpy this morning?" "No," she replied, "I let him sleep."

Champion Editorial Page

Economies or emotion?...

If the people of North Burlington want a fire station located in Kilbride, they had better be prepared to shoulder the added cost.

Right now they are getting service from Milton Area Fire Department, at a cost of a little more than \$7,000 a year. For that money they cannot buy better fire protection. But if they cry for a neighborhood fire station they can expect their tax bill to keep going upward—estimates on the project run anywhere from \$60,000 to \$130,000 and the cost must logically fall on the shoulders of those who will benefit.

Milton's fire department is administered by a committee of representatives from the town and four neighboring municipalities the brigade also serves—Burlington, Oakville, Esquesing and Nassagaweya. Each municipality pays a share of the total cost of running the brigade.

The firefighters are efficient, their response is always speedy, and their equipment is modern. The distance to a fire is often a problem, as it sometimes takes 15 or 20 minutes for the trucks from Milton to reach some fires in outlying areas. Naturally everybody would like to have a fire hall in their back yard. But are they willing to pay for it?

Burlington could take over fire protection in its northern area, and

put a new fire station at Kilbride. But the costs would have to be borne by the 3,000 residents of Ward Three. And there is still an area of Burlington atop the escarpment which will have to continue being serviced from the Milton fire hall, as there is no access from the west.

Or Milton could set up the Kilbride station. But it would be of no use to neighboring municipalities and the people of Burlington would still have to bear the costs.

Certainly when fire strikes minutes are precious, but it is economically impossible to provide urban type fire protection in rural areas where population and tax-bearing assessment are smaller.

We wish Burlington well in deciding whether it should extend its fire protection service through establishment of a new hall at Kilbride. In the meantime we object to suggestions that Milton should offer better protection. The Milton Fire Area offers the kind of protection the representatives of Burlington, Nassagaweya, Esquesing and Milton jointly agree to pay for. A number of sub-halls has not previously been considered by the group on which Burlington has always had a representative.

Emotional support for an increased number of fire halls can be rapidly generated, but economic support is far less rapidly raised.

A voice on the inside...

At last Halton, or at least a piece of it, is represented in the provincial cabinet following the appointment of George Kerr to the portfolio of Energy and Resources management last week.

It is an important portfolio and we feel confident Halton has a worthy representative who will provide capable leadership and administrative ability.

Much has been said about the portfolio including responsibility for air and water pollution. But it also includes responsibility for conservation and as a former member of the Select Committee on Conservation, Mr. Kerr has a good background for this responsibility as well.

As close observer, too, of the projects and programs of the Halton Region Conservation Authority, he will be keenly familiar with benefits that accrue from well-managed projects as well as the impediments to their extension.

Among the projects which those from this area might be interested in would be some action on promised protection for the escarpment which

wends its way through Halton and adds an important scenic touch to the landscape. Acutely aware of this phenomenon and its contribution to the area, Mr. Kerr may find it possible to put into some concrete form the earlier promises of the Premier who assured protection for the rocky ridge.

George Kerr was elected to the legislature in 1963 by the riding that then included all of Halton County. In 1967, after the riding was split, he shared the representation of Halton with Jim Snow and both have filled their roles well.

In the field of regional government, George Kerr will be taking strong local views to the cabinet level. He has been an outspoken supporter of Burlington remaining with Halton rather than being transferred to Hamilton. We hope that view will continue.

Backed by good legislative experience on various committees, we see George Kerr as a worthy addition to the cabinet and it is encouraging too that Halton will have a voice within the cabinet circle at long last.



Pages of the Past

from champion files

20 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, June 9, 1949.

At the regular meeting of Nassagaweya Council May 30, 1949, the road superintendent was instructed to obtain approval of the Department of Highways for road construction at lot 29 between Concessions four and five, and proceed to have the north end of roadway constructed, and call for tenders for building bridge at same location. The tender of the Cox Construction Co. was accepted for supplying, crushing and delivering approximately 6,000 cubic yards of gravel on Township roads.

Work is rapidly progressing at Milton arena, with concrete floor laid, and now workmen are busily engaged in erecting the block wall, for the new extension. The ice has been removed preparatory to the laying of the floor over the piping.

Now that the warm weather is upon us again let us not forget poor Doggie's comfort. The poor fellow is tied up these hot days. See that he has nice fresh water to quench his thirst. Just the other day in town a dear friend of mine said she heard a poor dog crying at night and it kept her awake. She said if it had been her dog, she would have gone to see what was the trouble. Perhaps the poor dog was lonely and perhaps he wanted a drink of nice cold water. Here is a tip for his comfort. Have a ring on the clothes line, fasten his rope to it so he can run a little. Better still, have it so he can crawl into some shade. Remember it was the dogs that had compassion upon Lazarus who lay at the rich man's gate. As a friend says, they were His doctors.

50 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, June 12, 1919.

The county by-laws establishing high schools in Milton and Burlington having been approved by the Department of Education, Milton's high school will open after the holidays with three teachers. It is understood that Burlington's high school will open at the same time.

Attention is directed to the advertisement on the second page of the big field day for soldiers in John M. Robertson's park, opposite Ligny School, two miles west of Milton, next Wednesday. It will be found attractive, but an additional feature has been added since the posters were got out. All patients in the Brant Military Hospital, Burlington, who are fit to travel, will be there, numbering perhaps 300. The affair is managed by a committee of residents of Ward No. 1,

Esquesing, and no pains are being spared to make it a success.

The police village of Campbellville is said to be the most progressive in Ontario, with a finer class of buildings and more cement walks than any other Ontario village of its size. It is now negotiating for electric lighting.

100 years ago

Taken from the issue of The Canadian Champion, Milton, June 10, 1869.

The Georgetown Fair was not any great success. There was a good amount of stock on the grounds, most in rather thin condition, however. We heard of one team sold by Mr. Smith Bessey to a Mr. Thompson of Hamilton for \$300 cash.

Groceries can now be bought very cheap at G. Smith's. He is giving 20 lbs. of good currants for one dollar, 12 lbs. of raisins for one dollar, 20 lbs. of rice for one dollar, tip top tea from 60 cents to one dollar per pound and coal oil 40 cents per gallon.

A man met with an accident at the paper mills near Georgetown on Tuesday last. He had been putting on a belt, when his sleeve was caught by the shaft and he was carried around it, his feet striking. He was much bruised around the shoulders and feet, but no bones were broken. He is doing well.

An Iowa man telegraphed thus to an Illinois sheriff: "Arrest C.A.W. eloping with my wife. Owes me \$100. If he pays, let him go."

Dr. Ormiston has refused a call from California... salary, \$7,000; also one from Chicago, \$8,000 a year and free manse, and his congregation in Hamilton has presented him with a paid up Life Assurance policy for \$10,000. The doctor's removal from Canada would be a subject of regret to all.

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