

# Three days in dirty Istanbul

Andrew Ruhl of Milton has been travelling in Europe and Great Britain and the following is the fourth of his articles on his travels.

Setting out from Thessaloniki, Greece early one morning, we drove east towards Istanbul, Turkey. Crossing northern Greece to the border town of Alexandropal, we passed through mainly pasture areas, the main occupation of the people being sheepherding. The land itself was very barren, with very

little vegetation, the exception being small shrubs and grasses. From Alexandropal we left early in the morning, hoping to reach Istanbul by nightfall.

Driving through Turkey, we were interested in the Turks' apparent disregard for their animals. Dead dogs, sheep and even donkey lay on the side of the road where they had been hit by passing vehicles or had died from overwork.

**Smoggy city**  
Approaching Istanbul that

evening we saw in the distance, the city, barely discernible beneath a cloud of black haze. After three days in the city we realized that the dense smog we saw on entering was a permanent feature of Istanbul.

Arriving in the city we were immediately struck by the incredible traffic situation. Cars, mostly taxis, were jammed up everywhere, moving very slowly, their drivers apparently relying on nerve and luck to avoid accidents as there were virtually no

traffic signs and no police control of any kind was evident.

Fortunately, we managed within a few minutes, to find a youth hotel within walking distance of central Istanbul. Parking the van nearby we rented rooms for about 80 cents a night each.

From our first look at the city we were impressed by the eastern way of life, which was completely different from anything we had seen before.

**Beggars everywhere**

The streets of the city were incredibly dirty; garbage covered many of them and beggars, many with two or three small children squatting around them, were situated at frequent intervals along the sidewalks. It was not uncommon to see children between the ages of five and 10 carrying large heavy loads on their backs. We were particularly interested in the fact that everyone in the city who could afford it, drank only bottled water.

The main factor in giving Istanbul the eastern look is its history. The city, formerly known as Constantinople, has always been the dividing point between east and west; that is, between Europe and Asia. Most Asian countries would send their goods via Constantinople to the civilized countries of northern Europe.

To us, one of the most interesting places in the city was the Grand Bazaar, a labyrinth of small shops situated in the center of the western side of the city. This market displayed a variety of goods from the east including Persian rugs, hand painted china and a wide selection of suede and leather garments. Almost anything imaginable could be had at unusually cheap prices.

**Back to Greece**

After three days in the city, we packed our things and left, heading back to Thessaloniki after scraping off the thick layer of soot and oily grime that had been deposited all over the van after our short stay in Istanbul.

The return trip to Thessaloniki was uneventful and after pausing for a day in that city, we continued south, hoping to reach Athens in four days.

It was travelling down the east coast of Greece that we found the first evidence of sub-tropical vegetation. We passed through many areas of citrus fruit farming where trees were loaded with oranges, lemons and grapefruit. We also saw hundreds of acres of olive groves and even some cacti.

Upon reaching Athens we found a cheap youth hotel just below the famed Acropolis and very near the centre of the city.

**Winter base**

We were immediately impressed by the number of young Canadian and American travellers we found in Athens. We realized that Athens was the winter base for travelling students, just as Amsterdam had been the main centre in the warmer months.

Staying a week in the city, we spent much of our time viewing the many interesting historical

game is a home treat Thursday Jan. 20 vs. the Central Sinners.

Even with the terrific play of "Kansas" Jeff White, our senior basketball team could not pull a win over the eyes of Nelson Friday Jan. 7. Both the juniors with great teamwork from Rick Ross and the midgets were defeated by rather large

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THE SHEPHERDERS of Greece are a colorful sight and Andrew Ruhl encountered many of them by the roadside as he continued his tour of several European countries, by van. —(Photo by Andrew Ruhl)

## Milton District High School

### Smoking hall controversy

**By John F. McIlwraith Jr.**

A long time issue for many of the students at M.D.H.S. has been the need for a "Smokers' Room" for those who must.

Previously smoking was allowed outside, but this again can run into difficulties once the cold weather arrives.

Mr. Ziegel, the vice-principal and one of the older "swingers" at M.D.H.S. has, for a time at least, appeared the "Lion" by allowing the students to smoke between the outside doors and the corridors of the old "Tech" wing of the school.

The students mainly by their own efforts further accommodated themselves with benches and a quickly established sound system.

Despite all the organizations in the world, problems were bound to arise.

**Johnny caught**

Some parent got wind of a remark that her "Johnny" had been seen smoking at the high school. The problem? Johnny

was only 14.

The principal was inevitably caught between crossfire of the students and the parents to both of whom he is responsible.

Solution? Only students 16 years of age or over were allowed to use smoking hall.

Checking with the police, and with the co-operation of Chief Ray Andress, I found the following stated in an edition of the revised statutes of Ontario. In Chapter 276, page 797, listed under the "Minors Protection Act", it states that no one under the age of 18 is allowed to purchase or use (smoke) cigarettes, cigars or tobacco in any form.

**Outdated?**

Is this law by any chance outdated? Is smoking a matter of personal conscience or legal eligibility? Although I don't condone smoking, I must note, (and I stand to be corrected) that a smoking hall is another first for Milton, and all of Halton County.

M.D.H.S. student council will be selling peppermint patties to

raise funds for football bleachers. Peppermint patties, a seasonal household favorite will be sold in your area soon! Buy a box and support your High School.

"Manchild" will rock the town of Milton on Friday night, Jan. 28. Doors open at 8, band begins at 8.30. Don't miss it! Be There!

### M. M. Robinson

#### Parents check up

**By Donna-Jane Byers**

Good morning! Well, let's start the week's column off with Parents' Night. Commonly referred to as "Tell and Show Night". We had a fantastic turnout of mummies and daddies, all checking up on their kiddies, whether they be a 40 per cent student or a 90 per cent student. Part two of the two part feature is Tuesday Jan. 18 when parents with surnames M-Z move in.

Ladies' volleyball has opened its season doors. Robinson visited Aldershot for a triple header this week. The midgets coached by lovable Mrs. McKirgan fell to the mini volleyball fingers of the opposition. The juniors manned by that ferocious Miss Kinik, began their winning ways with a spike here and a smash there. The seniors, although they have a very young team, are being shipped into shape by our leader Mrs. Gill. They too left the battlefield victorious. The next

## Learn about high school

Grade eight students of Martin St. School will be acquiring first hand knowledge of the academic aspects of high school. The principal of Milton District High School, Charles Hunter will describe the grade nine curriculum to the students and answer any questions they might have, at a meeting planned for Jan. 19.

Mr. Hunter and members of his staff will be meeting with the grade eight students' parents, to answer any questions they might have about high school life on Jan. 24. The meeting will be held in the auditorium of the school at 7.30 p.m.

An athletic assembly was held at the school on Friday afternoon for the purpose of awarding physical fitness awards to members of the student body who excelled in last year's athletic program.

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A new singing group has been born in Milton. Members of the grade eight class of Holy Rosary School have formed a junior folk group. The group has tentative plans for future public engagements.

A girls' basketball match, Holy Rosary vs. Martin Street was held at the school on Friday afternoon. At the same time the Holy Rosary boys' basketball team journeyed to Martin Street for a competitive match.

sights Athens has to offer.

We were very much interested in the different types of Greek food we found. There were many good, cheap restaurants where full meals could be had for about 50 cents. One thing we particularly enjoyed was the popular Greek "souvlaki", a dish much like North America's hamburger. Taking a few slabs of roast beef from a large barbecuing spit, the waiter placed them on a pancake-like roll along with onions, tomatoes and mustard, then rolled the combination up into a cone shaped sandwich which was delicious. They could be had for for about a dime.

**Inexpensive movies**

During our stay we went to theatres almost every evening. Popular American and British films were running regularly and all were in English with Greek sub-titles. The price of admission was always less than 35 cents.

From Athens we will be continuing along the southern coast of Greece and up the west coast, our destination being the port of Igoumenitsa.

Champion

"Youth Page"

### White Oaks

## Why criticize school?

By Ed Ford

The Wildcat hockey team has finally found its mark as they trounced and totally humiliated Milton 10-3. The team could do no wrong as they mercilessly peppered the Milton goalie with blazing shots. Big scores came from Brian Watson, Al Dale and Tom Dixon.

The senior basketball game was another matter, though. They were defeated 59-41 by Georgetown. The boys have been thinking about graciously bowing out, but who knows, they may win a game yet.

More bad news hit White Oaks on Wednesday. M. M. Robinson's wrestling team somehow managed to sneak by us and win the match by a mere 30 points. The wrestlers now go to a tournament in Streetsville, and better luck is extended to them.

**Revolt...**

Certain radical groups in the school have been stirring up quite a bit of trouble in the past few days. They claim that White Oaks is run by a bureaucratic, totalitarian, fascist organization. I really question this. Where else but in school do you get the chance to really do what you want? There is a huge selection of subjects of which you take only six, and quite a few of these subjects are interest subjects like theatre arts or journalism.

In school you can, if you wish, become educated. The problem is that many people do not wish to further their knowledge but just go to school because they have to. But you can quit school after you're 16, and I'm sure your parents would just as soon see you working as wasting yours and other people's time in school. School makes you realize what a competitive world we live in. When you fail a subject you say you almost passed it, but as you know "almost" doesn't make it, and "almost" getting a job isn't going to help you.

**Things to do**

Another feature of school is the extra-curricular activities such

as basketball, hockey or drama, if you are so inclined.

Teachers nowadays are much more understanding than ever before. If you have problems they are willing to help you with them, and if you have problems at home there are guidance counsellors.

School years are the best years of your life. You don't have to work too hard to make the grade, nor do you have the threat of a machine replacing your job if you stay in school.

I can't see any reason why anybody would want to criticize school unless they were of an unstable and garrulous sort.

### Percy gives weather talk

Well-known CBC weatherman Percy Saltzman will be featured in a new course at Sheridan College Brampton campus—"Everything You Always Wanted To Know About the Weather and Were Afraid to Ask - Your Children."

The nine lectures of two hours each will run from 8 to 10 p.m. Monday nights, beginning Jan. 24. One of the sessions may take the form of a visit to a weather office.

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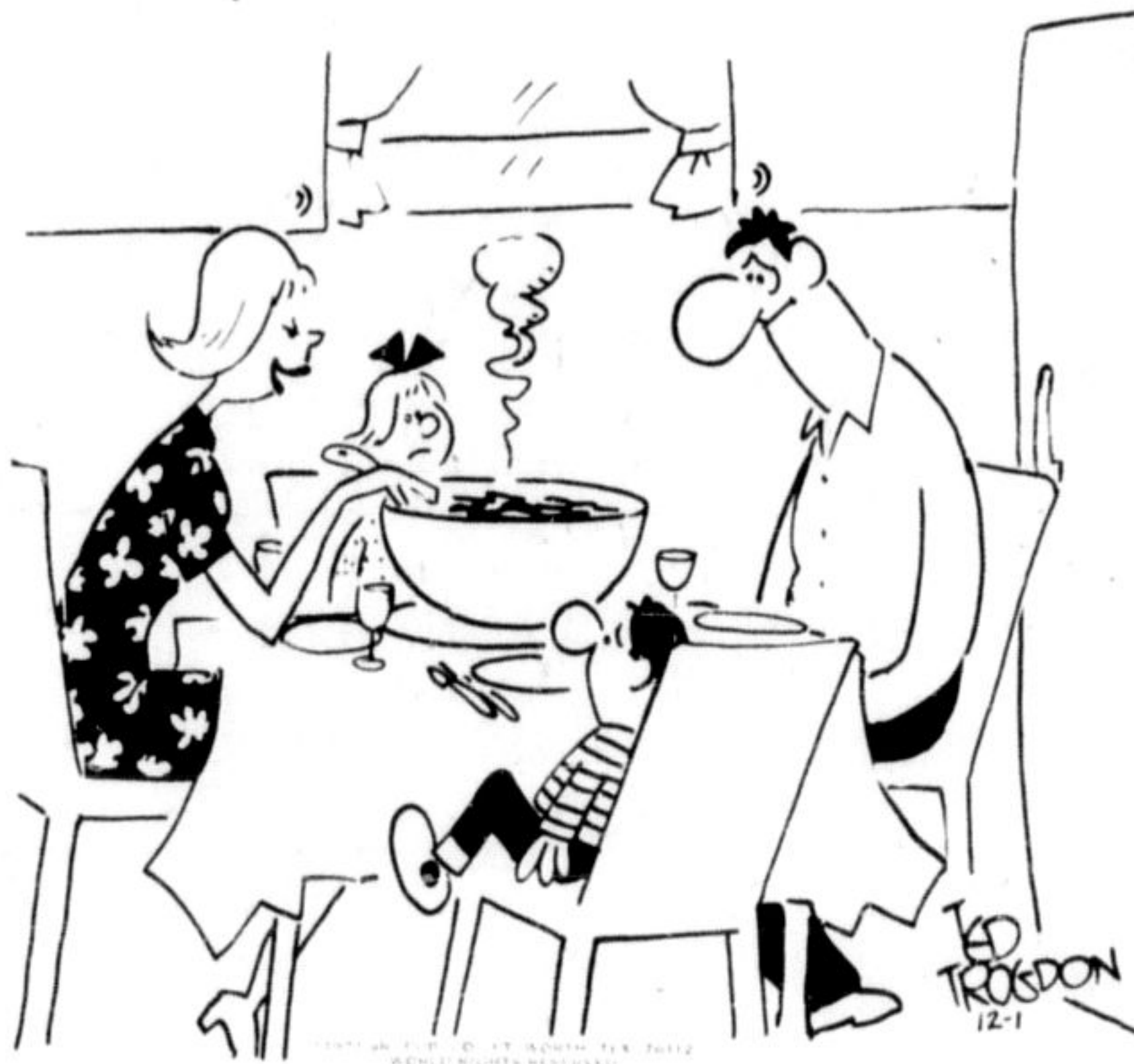
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