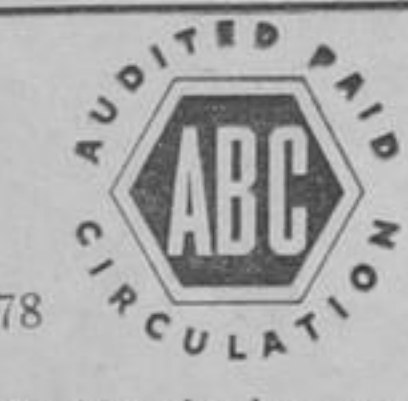




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Guns For Gifts?

What appears likely to be an annual controversy for some years to come is once again raging, with battle lines drawn up and flags waving—whether or not children should be given war toys for Christmas.

On the one side are concerned various women's groups and various parents while on the other side are toy manufacturers who claim they only manufacture war toys because there is a strong demand for them.

If there is this strong demand, it makes us wonder why manufacturers find it necessary to advertise the toys to the point of nausea. The conclusion is inescapable that much of the demand is created by toy manufacturers themselves.

The conclusion is also inescapable, however, that youngsters, blood-thirsty little creatures that they are, enjoy games of physical conquest and "Bang! Bang! You're dead!" has been their happy cry for generations.

In our childhood, it was cowboys and Indians who skulked among the lilac bushes; in pioneer times it was no doubt rebels and loyalists who fought it out among the hay ricks; and earlier still, roundheads and cavaliers clashed halbergs among the hollyhocks.

We suspect that what alarms parents today is not only that war itself has become so deadly not only for armies but for whole populations and is brought so terrifyingly near by the daily papers, but that the war toys themselves appear so authentic and look just as deadly as their real counterparts.

A small boy playing with a stick of wood which becomes in turn a pistol, a rifle or a sword as his fancy dictates doesn't present nearly the horrifying aspect as does one decked out in jungle green, equipped with a helmet and a super-weapon, the exact replica of which is scouring the jungles of Vietnam at this very moment.

And surely putting such a weapon, even a mock one, into the hands of a child, bearing as it does the stamp of approval for the activity for which the weapon is intended, carries with it a much deeper psychological significance than did parental indifference towards our old fashioned cowboy toys.

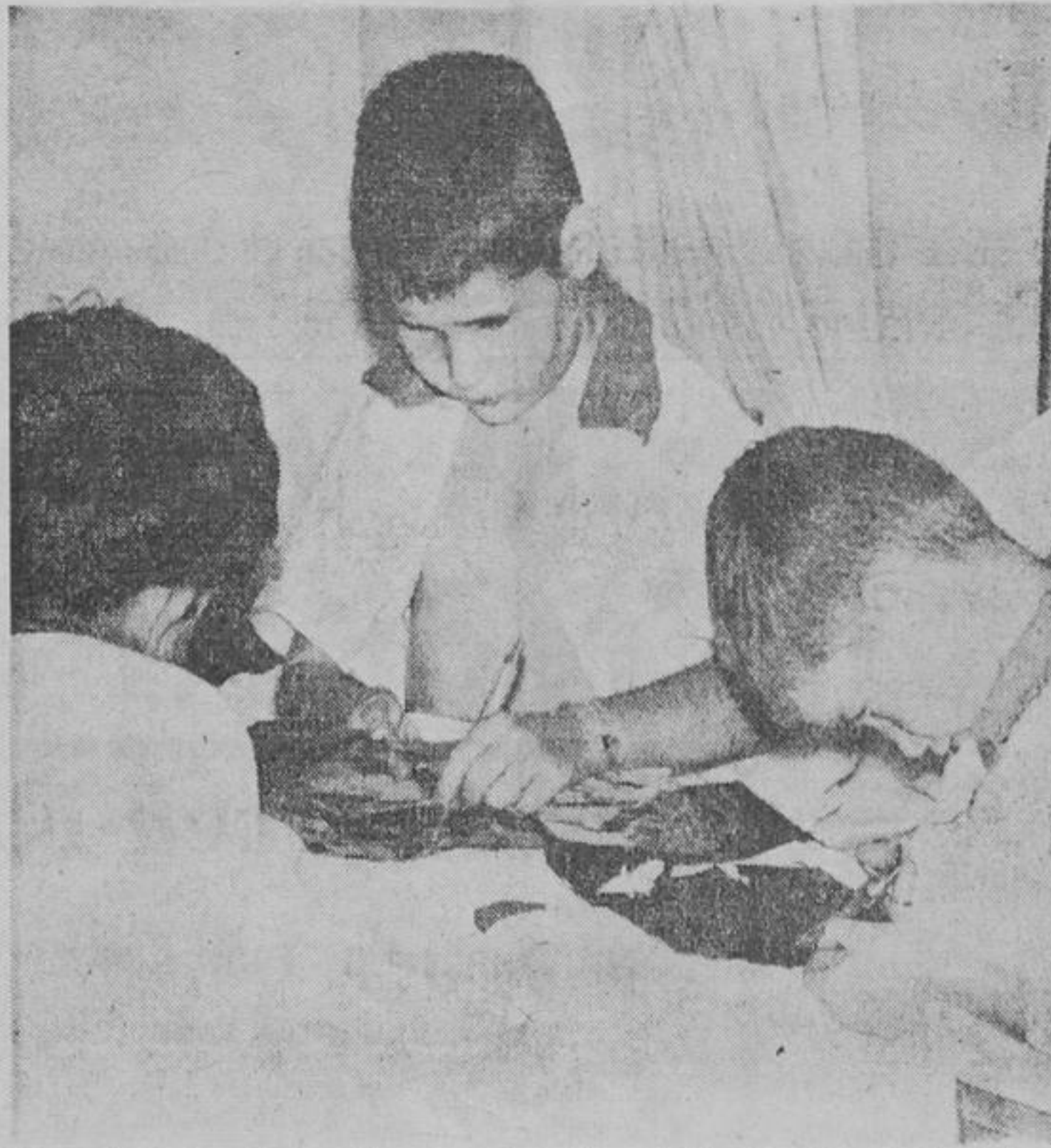
As to whether or not such toys should be given at Christmas, the theme of which always used to be "peace on earth, good will towards men", how would parents who buy their children war toys like to see them taken to church?

It has been the custom of Rev. D. T. Evans of Thornhill Presbyterian Church for several years to hold a special Christmas Day service each year and to invite children to bring with them their favorite toy.

Let's hope he doesn't get bow down in the crossfire.

Maybe we should just hope that all the gun-happy youngsters will be like the grade 4 boy in Ottawa who when asked his opinion on war toys promised "When I grow up I will try not to buy a real one and if I do I will shoot myself."

SHAUN GETS SOME HELP



Shaun's last orthopaedic operation forced him to stay in bed for quite some time. It is important for patients like Shaun to keep busy while they are recovering from these operations. Shaun takes his school lessons in bed and is often involved in one of many occupational therapy projects. These projects range from coloring books for the younger patients to basket weaving and mosaics for some of the older children. You can help these children by sending your Christmas donation to The Hospital for Sick Children, 555 University Avenue, Toronto 2, Ontario.



Rambling Around

by Elizabeth Kelson

Aboard The Cruiser, Neptunaire, With Allan Whyard

Once it was Long John Silver bound for fabled Treasure Island. Now, it is Allan Whyard, a modern treasure hunter, who may never find the gold that is said to lie hidden in the waters of the sunny Bahamas, but will surely bring home a treasure trove of experiences to relate to his friends for months to come.

It all came about when Allan, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Herb Whyard, Elgin Street, Thornhill, met a chap doing computer programming with him at Massey-Ferguson. He was Bill Clark, a fellow Bachelor of Science.

It seems that Bill already had plenty of treasure, a new bride and a beautiful 30 foot cabin cruiser called the Neptunaire, drydocked at Gibraltar, Michigan. One more thing was needed to complete his happiness and that was a long cruise before he finally settled down into domesticity. He broached the subject to Al, and found immediate enthusiasm. Things began to move as plans were made and resources pooled for the event.

On September 1, the Neptunaire, with Allan Whyard and Bill and Helen Clark aboard, began the first knot of a long and watery journey from a Gibraltar dock.

The Neptunaire which was to be their home for several months was equipped with many comforts including a record player, a TV set, and a freezer in the galley. The real prima donna of the trip was the diesel motor which was to give them considerable trouble along the way.

It was bad weather ahead as they sailed across Lake Erie on the way to Buffalo. Mr. and Mrs. Whyard were waiting there to see the adventurous trio off.

The motor had already given considerable trouble and Allan admitted to feeling dirty and smelly most of the time until he got it working properly. "You don't worry about that after a while." He also managed quite a beard but shaved it off. It wasn't worth all the scratching, he said.

The trip through the Erie Canal was just one lock after another. Stopping points along the way

(Continued on Page 16)

New York Aids Disturbed Children

A quiet but dramatic salvage operation of emotionally disturbed children has been in progress in 87 elementary schools in New York City for the past five years.

While the program was not kept secret, the demand was so great that no public announcement was made about it until recently.

The Junior Guidance classes, as they are called, now serve 2,500 children and are designed for very withdrawn children, who may appear quiet, model children in the classroom but in fact are so withdrawn they learn nothing; and for more obvious troublemakers, unable to control their aggressiveness and disruptive behaviour.

The program operates in three areas: second and third grade classes with 15 children, 10 of whom are withdrawn youngsters and the balance disruptive and aggressive; classes in early grades made up of 10 boys, who may enter in September, December or March and who are so wild and disturbing that they would otherwise be suspended; and "vestibule" classes which hold small groups of youngsters for short periods to explore the basis of their disruptive behaviour.

The program is said to be the most extensive and intensive of any public school program for disturbed children in the U.S., although numbers are still small. Louis Hay, the clinical administrator of the program stated that by the most conservative estimate, about five percent, or 30,000 of the 600,000 elementary school children in the city have emotional difficulties requiring

Second Thoughts

BY GEORGE MAYES

• Yesterday's news is not necessarily dead

Africa's Negro Republics have threatened to declare war on Great Britain unless it sends troops into Rhodesia by December 15. This would almost be as laughable as "The Mouse That Roared," except that we notice Prime Minister Harold Wilson has arranged to be over here visiting Ottawa on the 19th.

Oak Ridges Lions recently held a draw for a snow blower. The lucky winner of the blower was a Toronto man — who lives in an apartment.

The only news of interest on the Gemini 7 flight last week was that Astronaut Frank Borman had developed a cold and was sneezing; but ground control says this is nothing to worry about. We disagree. In a weightless state, the retro-effect of a good healthy sneeze could set a man to bouncing around the walls for a week.

Meanwhile, Gemini 6 was being sent up AFTER Gemini 7 — prompting the thought that these astronauts have gone astro-nuts.

In the row over whether the federal government or the provinces should control Canada's Eskimos, we see where the Eskimos at Fort Chimo, Quebec, have agreed to accept aid from Quebec provided they continue to receive aid from Ottawa. . . . Which, it would seem, indicates that they have already come under the French influence.

Toronto police are setting a watch for souvenir hunters who have been stripping the old city hall of its door knobs. We disagree with this too. Just leave them alone and it would solve the problem of what to do with the old place.

A Miss In The Motor — British petrol stations are having the equivalent of an American gas war and some station operators are reported to be enticing customers with bikini-clad girl attendants. . . . And we can just see a bikini-babe asking the chap in the sports car, "Fill it up?" . . . And the chap in the sports car answering appreciatively — and with a level gaze — "You certainly do, honey. You certainly do!"

The United States has joined Canada in taking economic action against Rhodesia. . . . feeling apparently, that it is wrong to deny the Negroes a vote — instead of just making it difficult for them.

Two separate reports of the past week claimed

(Continued on Page 16)

Book Fare

At Your Richmond Hill Public Library

THE APPLE OF HIS EYE

By Gerard Robichaud

Set in a small Maine milltown in the early twenties, this is the warm and funny story of an orphan boy and the week that not only changed his life but gave meaning to the life of his guardian, Uncle Victor.

THE HONEY BADGER

By Robert Ruark

The honey badger is traditionally a small animal of evil manner, and is the symbol in the life of the central character. Set in the expensive bistros and luxury apartments in New York and bombed out London, this is a probing study of our unhappy confused times and values.

THE GOLDEN EAGLE

By Robert Murphy

The author of the popular 1964 nature novel "The Pond" has again written a story around the life of a wild creature. This is the story of Kira, the golden eagle, and her short, exciting but tragic life as hunters killed or captured first her brother, then her father and finally Kira herself. The superb drawings for the book were done by John Schoenherr, who illustrated "Rascal".

POLICE BLOTTER

By Robert L. Pike

New York is the scene for the many cases that come across the desk of the 52nd Precinct's Lt. Clancy in a single week. The strain and struggle of the officer's life come alive in this unusual novel.

PEOPLE OR PERSONNEL

By Paul Goodman

The humanitarian nonconformist author of "Growing up absurd" expounds here on the rise and the stultifying effects of excessive centralization and depersonalizations in government, business, education, and all spheres of American life.

THE SUSPENDED DRAWING ROOM

By S. N. Behrman

A collection of articles, all beautifully written. The first, from which the book's title is taken, is a view of London in 1944 after the bombings. There's a very amusing sketch of Robert Emmet Sherwood, and there are profiles of Chaim Weismann, Bernard Shaw, Ferenc Molnar and others.

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Better Health Services

It was a bleak fall day with a cold rain teeming in a steady downpour, but hundreds of people stood in line to enter a church basement in Palmerston, a small Ontario town, centre of a farming community. What event could be important enough to bring out at least 90% of the population?

The answer was a "free health checkup."

In the Western Ontario county of Wellington, in which Palmerston is situated, the local health unit struck on a novel solution to persuading people to take advantage of modern diagnostic facilities. With a few exceptions, early diagnosis of most diseases means rapid and complete recovery with the aid of modern drugs and treatments. If recovery is not possible, progress of the disease may be halted and kept in check, giving patients the opportunity to continue to live active, reasonably healthy lives.

Palmerston was only one location for the county-wide checkup, four other clinics were also operated.

The multiple mass screening is the first ever held in Canada for adults although there have been diabetic, tuberculosis and glaucoma surveys in other areas.

The high turnout of about 90% of the adults among the 10,000 population of the county is the result of thorough advance planning, according to Dr. B. T. Dale, the county medical officer of health.

Organized through the health unit, the survey was run with the co-operation of the local branches of the Canadian Cancer Society, the Canadian Diabetic Association, the Ontario Heart Foundation and the tuberculosis association. More than 800 women volunteers canvassed every home in advance. They were trained, provided with pamphlets and material to leave at the homes they visited and were given question and answer sheets to help them answer queries. They were encouraged to get the answers to unexpected questions from the doctor or the health staff.

Each canvasser visited five or six homes, explaining the purpose of the

survey, leaving the explanatory material and small bottles for urine specimens.

At the clinics, blood pressure was measured by registered nurses and chest X-rays carried out in mobile equipment provided by the Ontario Department of Health. Abnormalities detected were reported to the patient's private doctor, who will call the patient back for a further check unless he is already treating the condition.

All records are confidential. Results so far are: about 2% with a high blood sugar level (indicating possible diabetes) and about 10% with high blood pressure. Urine tests have also shown abnormal albumin count in some people, indicating kidney disease. X-ray results have not yet been released, but earlier surveys indicate that lung tumors are present on the average in one person in every 500.

Dr. Dale said he organized the survey because an increasing proportion of the population is over 60. Detection of disease early, with rapid treatment, can help older persons maintain health and independence longer.

The Wellington County survey was an overwhelming success, indicating clearly that people — and particularly older people — are more willing to undergo free periodic medical examinations when all checks and tests are looked after in a single clinic, rather than to attend clinics carrying out tests for one specific complaint.

Comprehensive clinics worked well in Wellington County — they could also work well in York County. We would suggest to MOH Dr. R. B. Murray and his staff that an intensive study of the Wellington project be made, the program adapted to this county and put into effect sometime in the near future. Such a program could pay large dividends in detecting illnesses before they become established, and give residents of this county a greater chance of living reasonably healthy and productive lives.

Flashback

In Years Gone By

As soon as Yonge Street became passable for vehicles the necessity for hotels and halfway houses soon became apparent. William Harrison noted in his historical sketches which appeared in "The Liberal" in 1888.

A combination hotel and store was opened by Abner Miles in 1802 on Lot 45 Markham Township. Mr. Miles died in 1806 and the establishment became a private home.

The second hotel was built by David Bridgeford on the north-east corner of Yonge and Centre Streets. He operated it for several years, catering to the military and tourists, then turned it into a private residence when he decided to devote his time to farming.

The first frame building in the settlement was a large hotel built on the land now occupied by Elmo Snider's home, 103

Yonge Street South. With three sheds and stables it covered a wide stretch of frontage and was in use in the early years of the 19th century. This hotel was the scene of pretty lively times, according to Mr. Harrison.

Until 1850 Yonge Street had not been macadamized north of Lyburner's Corners (Carville Road). In that year a government grant was received to continue the macadam road northwards. Many of the laborers, of several nationalities, boarded at this hotel and the drinking and fighting were something extraordinary. The men were paid their wag-

(Continued on Page 16)

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