



Announce Engagement

Miss Karen Elizabeth Burgess and Bruce Donald Walker, whose engagement has been announced by the bride-elect's parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Richard Burgess of St Catharines. The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Carlisle Walker of Richmond Hill. The wedding will be May 6 in St. Thomas Anglican Church, St. Cath-

Perspective.

A column of news and comments from the point of view of today's youth by Ian McAlister

CENTENNIAL - FOR BETTER OR WORSE

For some time now, I have been hinting my disagreement with the various Centennial efforts in our country this year but, because of the dirty looks and nasty comments I received in return, I must admit I shied away from saying anything in public. However, I have finally gathered up sufficient courage and by the time this column goes to press I will be safely barricaded in my basement, so I think now I'll take a chance.

At the risk of sounding unpatriotic, I'm afraid I find the entire Centennial theme just a little farcical. Money is being spent as if it is water and everyone but the taxpayer who is footing the bill, is cashing in.

As far as the politicians are concerned it has been wonderful. In Ontario, where we are expecting a provincial and a federal election in the very near future, it has given the politicians a chance to show how truly Canadian they really are. Oh, people may be hungry and others homeless, but at least we'll have our Centennial projects.

I think the effort in Quebec has been something else again. For years Ottawa has been trying to win over the French-Canadian population and now at last they have their chance. Over one half of the federal government's Centennial budget has been sunk into Expo '67. But we should not criticize our fellow-Canadians because they have shown ample gratitude in their exhorbitant hotel rates as well as their threats to shoot the queen.

The business world is cashing in on this year like they've never cashed in on anything before. You see the Centennial emblem on everything from jars of pickles to decals enclosed with your gas bill. Centennial flags are flying everywhere, most of them colors you wouldn't believe. Somebody's making a mint selling Centennial pins, buttons, etc., and kids are going door to door selling Centennial roses.

If you're like a lot of people I speak to, you'll say that all this publicity is just an example of the Canadian spirit of these businessmen. And I say phooey! Never in their lives (well, at least not in the last one hundred years) has big business had such a natural advertising gimmick fall into their laps. They know a good thing when they see it and they're not about to let it slip by.

Well, I think I've said enough for now and anyway, there are two men in red coats and boy scout hats at my door waiting to talk to me so I had better go. But before I do, let me say this. I'm not knocking Canada, and I'm not knocking her one hundredth birthday. I say wish our great country a happy birthday, and, if you like, have a drink to the next one hundred, but don't get caught up in all this commercialization and political manoeuvring that is tending to spoil what might have been a good thing.

(Ian McAlister is a secondary school student residing in Richmond Hill)

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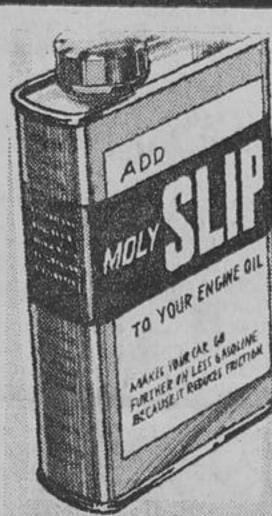


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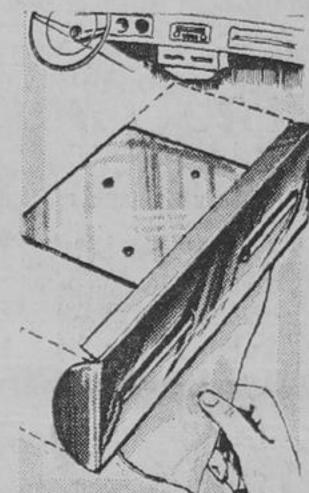
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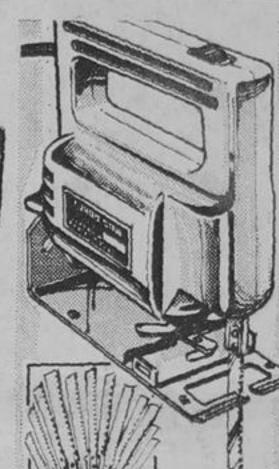
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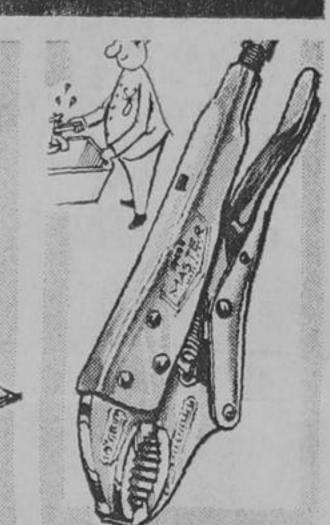


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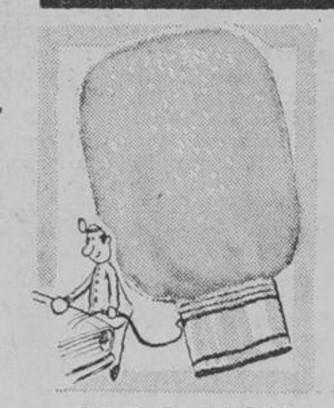
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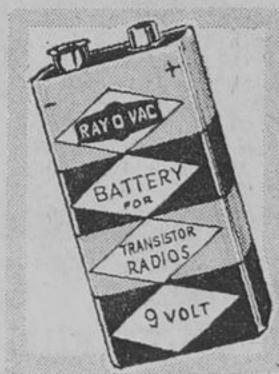
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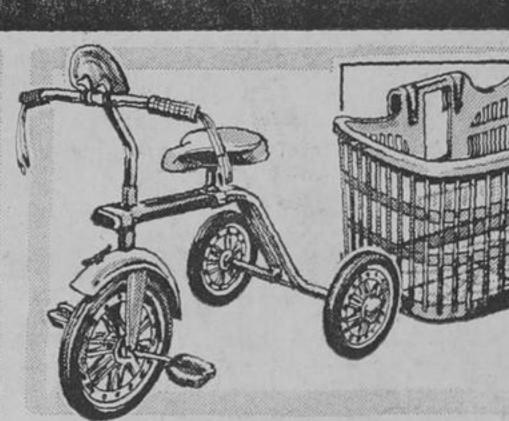
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