

# SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley



## It Brings Out The Best

There's nothing like an old-fashioned blizzard to put that cocky creature, man, in his place. We're right in the middle of a four-star dandy at the moment. It's been snowing and blowing for 48 hours, with salutary results. The world has become a wild, white wilderness. And the people in it have become human beings.

The creature man in his wisdom believes he has tamed nature. He will admit, under quizzing, that he still doesn't know much about himself. But he is confident that he has brought the natural world to heel.

Normally, he thinks of nature as something subdued, something to be used for recreation, or looking at and saying, "Nice, ain't it?"

**It takes a rousing belch from that old trollop, Mother Nature, whether it be in the form of a blizzard, a hurricane, an earthquake or a fire, to set him right back on his primitive heels.**

And strangely enough, it is only when nature comes up with some kind of a spectacular that man seems to shed his scale of materialism, get down to his basic virtues, and find out once again what makes the human race go round in ever-diminishing circles.

Ordinarily, the Christian virtues are as easily spotted as the teeth in a hen who is drawing the old-age pension. But when nature gives a vast rumble of laughter at the little fellows, and collapses the facade of creature comforts which are the modern-day fetishes, the old virtues brighten the darkest corner.

Generosity, unselfishness, decency, do-unto-others — all the things to which we pay lip service — suddenly flower when people are getting a good kick in the teeth from old Mother.

When a blizzard is raging, ordinary, miserable, grouchy people regain some of those qualities the pioneers are supposed to have had. People who

wouldn't pick up the Queen of England, even if she displayed a sign reading, "Buckingham Palace or bust," suddenly start picking up hitch-hikers.

**People who ordinarily wouldn't give you the time of day will stop and shove you out of a snowbank. People who wouldn't buy an apple from a Boy Scout will shovel out old ladies' driveways.**

And strangest of all, they smile and grin and chortle while they're doing it.

Not only do they revert to humanity. They return to a certain primitive pride in doing battle with the elements.

People who will grumble for hours about a sprinkle of rain that spoils a picnic, turn into giants when the big snow comes. They hump through the drifts. They snort and stamp into work half an hour late, as proud as though they'd just crossed the Sahara, single-handed, without water. They die in their hundreds, frozen grins on their faces, clutching their snow-shovels.

I speak from experience. This morning, my neighbor, with whom I exchange a carefully amiable greeting about every six months, had managed to smash his truck through the three-foot drift in his drive. And there he was when he mushed out, grinning like a gargoyle, motor running, to give us a drive to work. And he wasn't practising one-up-manship. He was being a good neighbor.

**Got to work, and found that one chap had driven through the storm for four-and-a-half hours to make it on time. He was slit-eyed, unshaven, and something of a hero, for perhaps the first time in his life.**

I hate to suggest it, in case old Mother N. is listening, but perhaps we need a few more blizzards, earthquakes, holocausts and hurricanes. They work a lot better than nationally advertised B otherhood Weeks.

### STORK CLUB

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Lawrence of Schreiber, on March 1st, a son.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Ramsay of Terrace Bay, on March 1st, a daughter.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. A. (Tony) Comisso of Schreiber, on March 3rd, a son.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Woodrow of Schreiber, March 5th, a son.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. W. Pearen of Terrace Bay, on March 5th, a son.

### SUPPORT THE JUNIOR HOCKEY TEAM

The 5th game of the Junior Finals between Geraldton Goldminers and Schreiber-Terrace Bay Juniors was played on Sunday last in the Schreiber Arena with Geraldton edging the Schreiber-Terrace Bay Juniors 6 - 5 after ten minutes of overtime. A capacity crowd was in attendance and fans were treated to a fast and hard-hitting game. The 6th game now moves to Geraldton on Friday, March 11th and the 7th game, if necessary, will be played in Terrace Bay on Sunday, March 13th.

Nearly 100 people from Geraldton travelled by car to see the game and provide moral support to Geraldton Goldminers, and it is hoped the hockey fans from Schreiber-Terrace Bay will do the same on Friday and accompany our team to Geraldton.

Should there be enough interested hockey fans who would like to make the trip, arrangements for a bus will be made. If we expect to see more Junior hockey here this year, we must get behind our Juniors and the most effective way would be to travel to Geraldton.

If you are interested in travelling to Geraldton by bus, telephone the Recreation Office - 3542.

### FILM LIBRARY - YOURS TO USE

We have in our film library a good supply of very interesting films which can be used by various clubs, associations, etc. These films are mainly of travelogue nature, but we also have several sport films. These films are not getting enough usage and we urge groups to take advantage of them for their programmes.

Call the Recreation Office (3542) if you wish to book any of these films.

### CENTENNIAL PLANS DISCUSSED

Mr. W. E. Cavanaugh chaired the Centennial Committee meeting which was held Monday evening, February 28th in the Study Lounge at the Recreation Centre. Appointed members of various organizations were present. Mrs. M. Simmer was appointed secretary-treasurer of the Committee.

Co-chairman, Mrs. D. Evans-Smith, specified the various activities which are being planned for Centennial year. Mr. Cavanaugh suggested that many start on the beard growing contest and ideas for the 1867 dress attire.

It is the committee's intention to distribute posters, stickers and buttons during the tourist season to promote Terrace Bay's Centennial.

A Fall Fair is being planned in conjunction with the Horticultural Show as a prelude to the one being held in 1967.

Mr. B. Ratchford reported on the Council meeting which he and Mr. Cavanaugh attended and that a Council member is to be appointed to the Centennial Committee. Mechanics of implementing development of the Park-Fountain-Mount Complex were discussed. It was stressed by Mr. Ratchford that the Centennial Committee will make suggestions but that Council will investigate and advise on the feasibility of such. Council is to authorize (Continued page 8)