

SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley



One Week Of Sacrifice

We were sitting around bickering after church the other day. My daughter had a bad cold, and was generally owly. She didn't think much of God.

"How can God let so many people in the world be starving?" she wanted to know. Well, it's a fair question.

Her mother and I tried to explain that it was not God's doing, but man's. We said it was man's greed, insecurity and fear that made us live like kings (far better than medieval kings, in fact), while hundreds of millions of people in the world, our brothers, starved and died of illness unnecessarily.

She wasn't buying any. "It all sounds pretty foggy to me," she grumped. "I don't think much of God, if that's the way He runs things."

I asked her what she'd do about the situation. Like all kids, she didn't know, except to repeat that it was all wrong.

Well, you can't have a 15-year-old sitting around running down God; so, like all fathers since the cave-days, I tried to come up with an answer.

First, I explained that the government did a great deal to help less fortunate countries, with our taxes. When she cornered me on details, I had to admit that it was a drop in the bucket with a lot of strings attached (try that metaphor on for size). I further admitted that government could not do much more without creating a hue and cry among the taxpayers.

In desperation, I looked around for someone else to blame. "The churches should take the lead, and start a nationwide campaign to help feed the hungry." My wife reminded me that we give a buck a week to missions. "Yes, and all these piddling church missions add up to a spit in the ocean," says I.

"So what would you do, Mr. Smart Alex?" says she.

"So I can probably think of something, Mrs. Wise Guy," says I. And I did. The result is National Tighten-Your-Belt Week.

It's very simple. For one week a year, every Canadian family willing to help will live on a bare subsistence allowance. The difference between that and the normal cost of living goes into the pot. Every cent of this pot goes to buy food, clothing, con-

traceptive pills and other necessities for the vast, poor, downtrodden masses of the world.

It's hard to believe that this world-shaking concept took seed and blossomed right there in our living-room. But it did. Swiftly we did some figuring. It was rough, but close enough.

The average family spends from \$20 to \$30 a week on food. One week a year we exist on \$5 per family. It could be done, you know. Lots of rice, macaroni, porridge, bread, home-made soup. Water instead of coffee, tea, milk, beer. The same week we walk everywhere and save \$3 on gas. We turn off the furnace and learn what it's like to be cold. We clean our teeth with salt. We avoid shaving and hair spray and deodorants and drugs and cigarets. We wear nylons with runs. We turn off the hydro, except for cooking, and use candles.

The average family could kick about \$30 into the kitty. Take a town of 10,000 population. Let's say a minimum of 1,000 families. That's \$30,000. That will pay for a lot of wheat, penicillin, and birth-control pills. Multiply this modest token by all the families in Canada, and you could jack up India in about two years.

I know, I know. You've already picked 84 holes in the plan. All the supermarkets would go broke if they lost a week's business. Well, there's no reason they couldn't tighten their belts, too, for a week.

All the fruit and vegetables and meat would rot. Not if the producers knew such a week was coming, and planned for it.

The provincial government would collapse, if it lost a week's taxes on booze and beer. I doubt it. A few miles of highway might not be built. So what?

Seriously, I think it would be fun. Many people would take part because it is something concrete, rather than a vague thing like foreign aid or missions.

And there'd be beneficial side effects. Slimmer waistlines. A new slant on our good life. And I can guarantee that, after three days of macaroni, the squirrels in our attic would never be a problem again. They'd be stew.

HOUSE FOR SALE - 6 year old, three bedroom bungalow--kitchen, living room & three-piece bath. Full size basement, oil furnace, lot 50 x 150 - low taxes. Also one baby carriage (converts to stroller) in good condition. Phone Rossport 545R1.

MOVING? Call Ray Theriault at 825-3816, your Rember Agent. Rember's are affiliated with United Van Lines.

WARTS

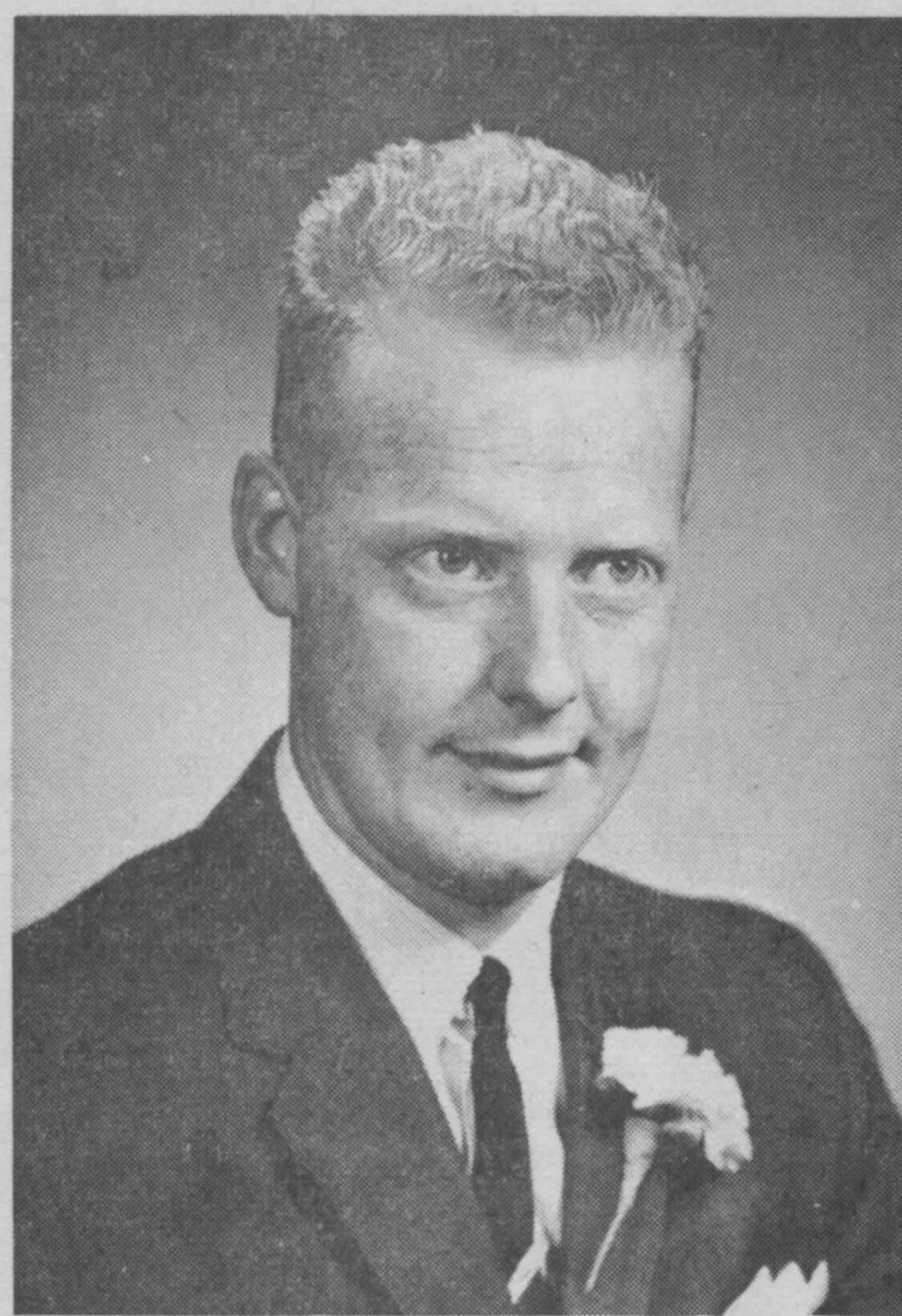
Unightly WARTS and other fungus growth on hands, face, feet permanently removed within 3 to 5 weeks with DEIGHTON'S WART REMOVER. Not an acid. An herbal formula, harmless to healthy skin.

Waghorn's Pharmacy

FOR SALE - 1960 Ply-nine passenger station wagon. New motor - good condition. Phone Schreiber 310 or 499.

CASH-O - Continued from page 4

Mrs. Smart, Schreiber, Irene Tols, Schreiber, Mrs. Alma MacDonald, Terrace Bay, Rose Huard, Schreiber, Henry Gaulin, Terrace Bay, Mr. Joe Campbell, Schreiber. Marg Phillips of Terrace Bay won \$30.79 half proceeds and Mesdames Gorman, Zwir and Shiffon each won \$17.



Dave Brabrooke, formerly of Terrace Bay, received his Registered Industrial Accountant designation from the Society of Industrial and Cost Accountants at the convocation held recently in Toronto.

Mr. Brabrooke will assume new duties in the Comptroller's Division of Hydro's Toronto head office.

JUNIOR BOWLERS ROLL-OFF

On Saturday morning the junior bowlers competed in their Roll-off competition. Divided into senior and junior divisions the results were as follows:-
Winning team - Lorne Pinkerton, Joanne Stevens, Ricky Hamilton and Danny Edmunds. Senior girls - Hi-single, Joanne Stevens; Hi-double, Sharon St. Louis - Senior boys - Hi-single, Lorne Pinkerton - Hi-double, Larry Stevens. Junior Girls - Hi-single Teresa Ramsay - Hi-double, Susan Whalen. Junior boys - Hi-single, Danny Edmunds - Hi-double, Ricky Hamilton.

Prizes and trophies were presented by Lew Edmunds who thanked all bowlers and hoped to see them all back next season. A friendly game has been arranged for next weekend with Marathon.

TEEN CLUB MOVES TO OLD LIBRARY ROOM

The Recreation Association announces that the Teen Club will now occupy the old library room on a permanent basis. It has been agreed that the Club will provide sufficient and adequate furniture for their own use. The Wurlitzer will be located there as well as a full size shuffle board.

Teen Club is expected to hold their annual election this month when a new (Continued page 10)