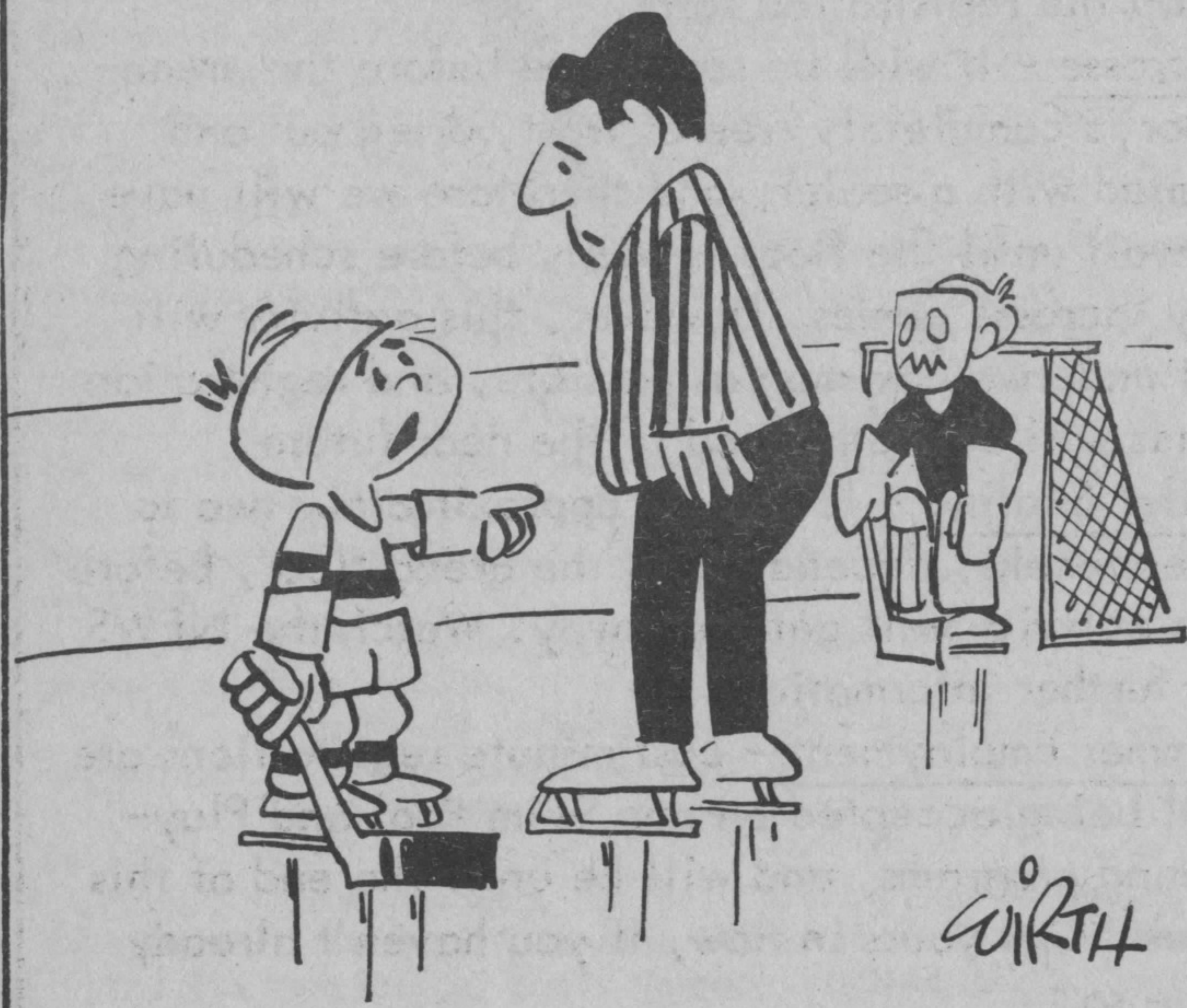
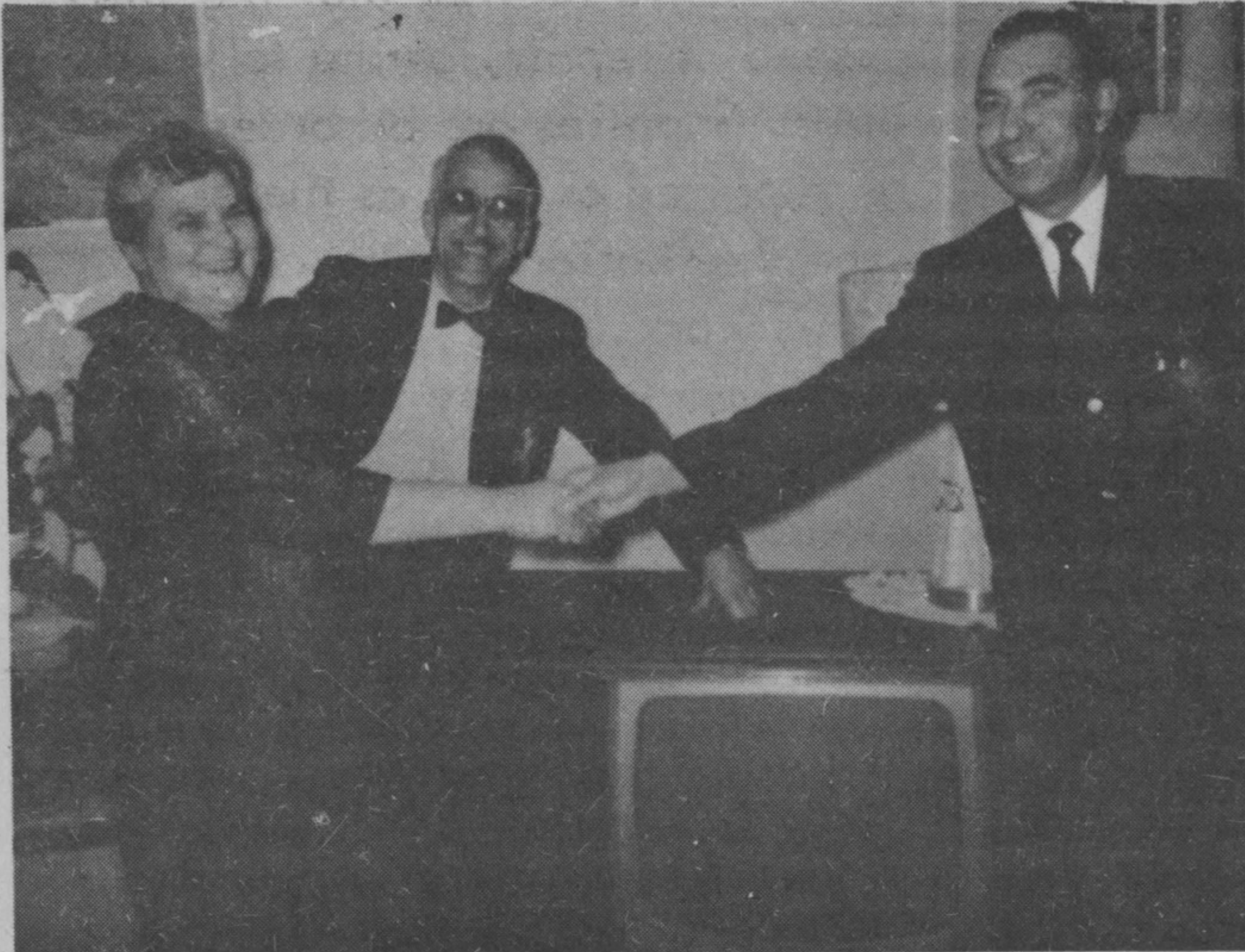


THE HOME TEAM



"Does he have to wear that spooky mask?"

Mrs. J. Campbell is shown in the photo by Marg Lundberg being congratulated on winning the colour T.V. on a ticket for the Knights of Columbus Easter Dance.



GOLF NEWS

A Notice of Interest to all Lady Golfers

Mrs. Peggy Willings, President of the Ladies' Golf Club attended the Golf Club Workshop held in Winnipeg by the Manitoba Ladies Golf Association, of which we are a member.

Items of interest coming out of this workshop will be brought up at our General meeting on Tuesday, May 7th in the curling lounge at 8 p.m. This meeting and the tea following should make an interesting evening.

SUGAR AND SPICE

by Bill Smiley

Take that Mr. Whipp!

Somebody is reading this thing, anyway. Letters have been coming in shovelfuls lately. Keep it up, chaps, whether you agree or not.

A recent column on high taxes seemed to touch a sore spot. I didn't hear from the Minister of Finance, but I did hear from a number of people who are getting hot under the collar as various levels of government take bigger and bigger bites from an apple that has already been well chewed.

Ken Gagnon of Tillsonburg dislikes compulsory benefits. He says the needy, after a means test, should be looked after, but those who just don't want to work should be given menial labor if they want public handouts. He also protests the costly commissions established to investigate tax and other problems, and whose reports, after a cursory examination, are shelved.

G. MacDonald of Toronto, with terse Scot sense, says, "The government has become top-heavy." Mrs. M. Ferguson, also of Toronto, tells of the incredible cost per day for a hospital bed in a public ward in that city — from \$45.15 to \$52.50 a day, for those who don't have provincial hospital insurance. And many don't.

Wm. E. Smith of Oakville writes, "Just wanted to get my two cents worth in to support your views." Fastened to his letter were three pennies, with the postscript, "Why the extra penny? Tax."

The Whipp Affair. You remember Mr Whipp, editor of the Petrolia weekly, who warned me to stop writing about education and teen-agers, or he'd cancel. Buckets of letters excoriating Mr. W. and encouraging your hero. It seems that there are a lot of people, of all ages, who are interested in these topics.

Many of them run to two or three typed pages, but I'll quote excerpts from a few which are representative.

David Bell of Preston: "Your column swings with its own sweet suburban rhythm. Keep telling it like it is."

Mrs. Mina Wesley of Georgetown: "Felt impelled to write as per invitation. I never miss reading you. Does that mean anything? Think you are 'kinda good'." Thank you ma'm.

Sometimes I'm kinda bad, too, but it usually makes me feel kinda good.

Mary McCaughna of Keswick swings into rhyme:

"Tell that managing editor to jump in the lake;

I subscribe to the Era mostly for your sake;

As to teen-agers, call 'em young adults,

Perhaps then, by semantics, you'll get better results.

As to education, you're in it, well brother, so are we,

And besides, as you mentioned, it certainly isn't free."

T. A. Deans of London: "If, in some of your columns, you stress education and youth — good for you. You obviously don't agree with Richard J. Needham. I do. But . . . education, whether formal or informal, is essential, and for the Managing Editor of a paper to threaten to cancel a column of references to it is completely idiotic." This was one of his milder paragraphs.

A teen-ager from Walkerton: "I think that your column is one of the most alive writings in today's newspapers . . . Being a teen-ager is one of the roughest and loneliest times I have reached. I'm torn between loyalty to my parents and anger at them for clipping the wings that I think are full-grown enough to fly. It's particularly hard when I start to wonder if I'm the only one that acts this way, and ask myself, 'What's the matter with me, anyway?' There's more, but she ends, "So please keep reaching out to students and teen-agers, Mr. Smiley; too few people do!"

A former student, Maureen Schwartz (Killoran), of Cooksville, writes hotly in defence, but she's prejudiced (I gave her 85 in English). Not long out of her teens, she's getting the message: "Speaking of raising kids — it is no wonder the 'older generation' always seems to be making such a mess of things. Raising the 'younger generation' is enough to reduce them to babbling idiots . . . All this and my kidlet is 17 months. What will I be saying when she is 17 years?" All I can say is that you wouldn't believe your ears, Maureen.

Give up, Mr. Whipp?