

Bits and Bites

By Helene Ballard

Hello, here I am again folks. I look forward to these wee chats. I hope you do too.

First off, I want to say a warm welcome back to Marge and Scotty Hamilton. Sure hope you brought nice weather with you. How about coffee sometime, Marge?

Last Friday, April 25 we had the pleasure of listening to a wonderful concert by the Fort William Male Choir. This humble person had been told how well they sang, and believe me, I was not disappointed. It was a most enjoyable evening and we are lucky to be able to have this type of entertainment in our town.

Then on Wednesday, April 30 our activities director took three of the residents of Birchwood to

the grade school to teach a class of students how to do "decoupage." The students seemed to enjoy it as much as we did.

Mr. Felix Legault, Mr. Cliff Barker and yours truly went with Joann for this. There was a lot of different activities going on and it made us feel young again. The children were well behaved and were anxious to learn, which just goes to show you that youth and old age can work together.

Don't forget, May 11 is Mother's Day. Even if you can't buy your mother a present, do something nice for her. Help make the meals or make beds. I am sure you will think of something. To all you dear mothers out there, Happy Mother's Day and God Bless you.

The other day while making flowers for wed-



dings, I thought of a beautiful toast a bridegroom made to his bride, and I would like to close this week with this toast to the bride:

"My darling, may you live a thousand years, and may I live a thousand years less one day, so I will not know when you have passed away."

Au revoir, mes chers amis!



Choir performs

The Fort William Male Choir appeared in concert at the Terrace Bay High School on April 25 as the fourth in the Youth and Music Series. The world famous group rose to national prominence as Canada's Cent-

ennial Choir and have been together for 50 years with various members, now including one from Terrace Bay. There are 41 singers plus a conductor and pianist. They will perform at Expo '86 later this year.

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Spring is here

By Mary Hubelit

Had occasion recently to do some in-depth research into Terrace Bay weather patterns. Some interesting facts turned up--there is no pattern. The sun shines more in winter than in summer, fog ruins more than the raspberries (namely people's dispositions), and generally January jangles the thermometer more than any other month.

Oh yes, one more vague, arguable hint of a pattern--some time in May in each year the lovely birch trees bud and burst into stately life again. So stick around, eh?

Spring suggests summer, summer suggests tourists, and you won't believe the news item I read recently: "Canada must change its outdoorsy laid-back image to attract more American tourists... Americans view our cities as being vast and unpopulated, a little bit hick

and too clean."

One can only assume the newspaper was somehow short of material that day, or perhaps someone with a sick sense of humour "snuck" the item into print. (It wasn't this paper! Ed.) As for the author, I wouldn't touch him or his theories with a nine-foot Pole, a six-foot Uke, or a five-foot-five Irishman.

If the Americans don't like it here, by all means let them go somewhere else for their vacations. You can probably think of some place you would like to see them go, right?

We are very busy these days with the spring chores everyone understands, so I have little to say--just wanted to get the tourist bit off my chest. We hope to do some touring ourselves this year--in Canada--so I hope to have some experiences to share with you later. Take care, now!

Trees need help

Forest renewal and protection are the key elements in ensuring that Canada has productive, healthy forest resources in the future, the president of the Ontario Forest Industries Association said recently.

In a statement recognizing every year by fire, insects, and disease than is harvested, Bird said, adding that the current budworm infestation of jackpine and spruce in Northern Ontario is a major threat to valuable timber stands, which must be protected by aerial spraying.

"Our economic well-being, now and in the future, is largely dependent upon the health and abundance of our forests," he said in Toronto last week.

"Annual sales of Canada's forest products amount to approximately \$30 billion," he pointed out. "More than 300 communities across the country owe their existence to the forest resources and the industry which harvests the forest crop and produces a host of useful products from it."

Bird also noted that increasing world demand for

forest products could double Canada's production within 40 years.

"In order to achieve this goal, the existing resource must be protected and the new forest must be improved," he explained.

More forest is destroyed every year by fire, insects, and disease than is harvested, Bird said, adding that the current budworm infestation of jackpine and spruce in Northern Ontario is a major threat to valuable timber stands, which must be protected by aerial spraying.

"Effective forest management is absolutely essential to our present and future well-being," Bird concluded.

The Ontario Forest Industries Association is composed of 24 major forest products companies and subsidiaries which carry out mill and woodlands operations in the province, including Kimberly-Clark of Canada, which has a pulp mill based in Terrace Bay.