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CHRONICLETTES

Sitting at the kitchen window of an early evening a few weeks back, we noticed a group of youngsters on the lawn next door. Couldn't help wondering what they were doing. Junior suggested they were playing marbles. "Marbles" -- it couldn't be -- recalling the game of marbles as we'd known it. You just don't play marbles in the first grass of spring. Marbles is a sidewalk game.

Watched the kids further, running here, there, everywhere, and suddenly popping down on all fours to pick something out of the wintered grass. Looked to us as though they were picking dew worms -- except they were putting the object of their search in pants pockets. On second thought, we decided in the first place it wasn't dark, and besides it was too early in the season for night crawlers, and besides again, the fishing season was two or three weeks off. Why would they be gathering dew worms? So it must have been some kind of marbles. At least it was the season for marbles -- but, with all the science and stuff kids learn today, they'd probably never learned to play marbles the right way.

Brought to mind though, not only our own marble rolling days, but our first big business venture. Back in those days, dew worms were five cents a dozen (retail) and not too much in demand. But the year of our first business venture it was a cold backward spring. First of May fast approaching and bait almost impossible.

At our house was a quarter acre lawn, or so it seemed when we cut the grass on a hot summer day. We decided to give the night crawlers some encouragement. Heated gallons of water and sprinkled it on the lawn before dark, two days before opening season. Went out at dark, armed with lantern and container -- but we hadn't fooled the night crawlers. They stayed put in their winter quarters. "Old-timer" neighbor, watching our failure, offered advice: "What ya gotta do son, is be smarter than the worms." He suggested we sprinkle the lawn with dry mustard to warm the earth, and the worms would think the heat was coming from the sun. Gingerly feeling our chest, where we'd worn a mustard plaster a few hours to relieve a cold a few weeks earlier, we decided he might just have something there.

April 30th after school, we invested our last 50¢, in fact our only 50¢, in five pounds of dry mustard. Gave the quarter acre a liberal spreading -- and waited for false summer to arouse the night crawlers. Came dark, armed with lantern and container, we went out on the lawn, admittedly dubious of "old-timer's" optimism. Doubt vanished instantly. Whether it was

the warmth of the dry mustard, or a sudden upward jump in the temperature, or even a combination of both, that was responsible we were never quite sure, but night crawlers were everywhere. We gathered one hundred and eighty of them -- and let it be known throughout the neighborhood we had bait for sale. Up early next morning, we sold ten dozen worms before school and had our mustard investment back -- and five dozen left for clear profit. But it seems somewhere along the line something went wrong. We didn't learn of it till after school. But seems when those mustard tingling worms suddenly came in contact with the cold, clear water, they immediately broke out in an almost instantly fatal case of what might be described as unappetizing hives. The few trout who defied the unseasonable elements that year would come and look, sniff, and swim away.

And that, friend, spelled doom to our first business enterprise, which but a few short hours before, when the dew worms were popping up to right and left and fore and aft of us, we'd envisaged, advertised in neon lights, "Night Crawlers Unlimited".

Took stock of our enterprise. Assets: savings bank even from sale of 10 dozen night crawlers -- five dozen unsold night crawlers which Old-timer "freely" took off our hands to give his chickens a change of diet. On the liabilities side were ten customers whom we expected would be demanding their nickles back, to say nothing of mustard-blistered hands and knees; and we missed the 10¢ a week that year for mowing the quarter acre of lawn. The wintered grass was still stunted and yellow in August.

And just at this point in our reverie, the every day housewife who gave up the good life arrived home from her night to work. Now we've nothing against working wives, but this time she'd carried the cause of the working wife too far. Above the hem of her pre-war version of the mini-dress, and below the hem of her mink coat, was a bold type banner: "To Hell With Housework". Couldn't say too much, tho' -- we'd bought her the apron ourself -- in a weaker moment.

And now that we've mentioned mini-skirts -- of a chilly morning last week as we were guiding the jalopy through the 8.40 a.m. maze of blue knees and shivering shanks exposed to the chill air 'neath mini-mini-skirts, it was refreshing to see one high school girl sensibly and comfortably clad in slacks. Perhaps it is later than we think, but as we steered past her and braked for a backward glance, we found ourselves secretly admitting that despite the brevity of the mini-skirt, for good poise, good sense, and a second look, they can't be compared with gaily colored stretchies, stretched in the right

places. Seems friends, somewhere along this column we've strayed from its intended purpose, which was to tell you about the original, old-fashioned game of marbles. But then perhaps it's just as well that the game has changed with the changing times. We fear that today's "softies" might develop incurable cases of rheumatic knees or multiple hemorrhoids, should they alternate between kneeling and sitting for hours on end on the late March or early April sidewalks, in knee pants and knee socks. And when we changed from winter knickerbockers and fleecies to knee pants, we knew then it was time to play marbles. Wonder what the awkwardly-skirted little girls did, besides skip, come spring, back in those days.

National Hospital Day

In recent years, a growing number of people have been turning to the community hospital -- rather than a physician -- for their families' immediate health needs. Because of this trend, a product of our mobile society, there has been a significant change in the hospital's role in the community. Today, the public hospital is faced with a tremendous increase in the demand for ambulatory and emergency services. For more and more people, the doctor's office is being replaced by the hospital's outpatient and emergency departments because they are having difficulty identifying with a family doctor. In most cases, frequent moves from city to city during a lifetime is the reason for this. Because of their increasing involvement in screening and diagnostic programs, hospitals have selected "Prevention -- The Key to Tomorrow's Health" as the theme for National Hospital

Day this year, to let people know what they are doing in this area of total health care. National Hospital Day is held on May 12 every year to honor the anniversary of nursing pioneer Florence Nightingale's birth in 1820. Through the years it has become an occasion for hospitals in Canada to let the public know more about their developing role in the community. Preventive medicine, which has come a long way from the days when an apple a day kept the doctor away, is an important part of the overall health care of the community. The aim is to detect and halt or cure disease before it progresses too far and requires special attention. Besides being beneficial to the patient, by shortening illness and sometimes lengthening life, prevention contributes greatly towards the control of spiralling hospital costs because a person usually doesn't have to be confined to bed if the problem is discovered early enough. By 1971 it is estimated the combined operating costs of hospitals in Ontario will reach one billion dollars a year. Co-ordination and planning among hospitals and health-oriented organizations and agencies has become vital. Improved treatment techniques, modern facilities and qualified medical personnel require the utmost teamwork if they are to be mobilized effectively. Today's community hospital is more than just an in-patient institution. It is a community organization developing new ways to deliver optimum health services to everybody.

Apply Early For Passports

Marvin Howe, M.P. for Wellington-Grey, has issued a warning to his constituents that if they are planning to travel where passports or visas are required, they should make application for these well in advance of their planned departure. Mr Howe suggests, that where possible application should be made three or four months in advance.

The problem and delay in obtaining passports is due to the fact that many Canadians are travelling to all parts of the world.

EDITORIAL

Government Intervention

Communities in rural Ontario now have another ridiculous commission set up by the Provincial Government, to further harass municipal government bodies. For downright ridiculousity this one should be awarded Rural Ontario's fur-lined mickey pot. Garbage collection, itself has long posed at least some problems to smaller communities, but now municipal councils are to be faced with a new problem -- that of garbage disposal. Hitherto, garbage had been collected and burned at the town dump. But now the Air Pollution Control Service of the Ontario Department of Health has advised the Walkerton council that the open burning of refuse at the town dump is in violation of the Air Pollution Control Act. The Councils must apply within thirty days for permission to continue the burning until another method of disposal is implemented. Just

how government permission is going to lessen the danger of air pollution is not explained. No doubt some costly type of incinerator designed for crowded metropolitan areas will eventually be forced on all rural communities by some provincial commission, whose members have never breathed clean, fresh air as we know it in this area. Commenting on the increasing inroads which the Province of Ontario is making into municipal government, Mayor Lobsinger of Walkerton said: "About all the town council had left to control was the dog by-law and the dump. Now the dump is gone."

If all the garbage in Grey and Bruce Counties were collected and burned in one area, there would still be but a tiny fraction of the air pollution which exists over a similarly sized area in the City of Toronto.

Canine Capers

According to a neighboring weekly, a number of dog owners in that community have recently paid fines of \$10.00 and costs for flouting the dog regulation. In Durham a similar by-law requiring that a dog must not run at large, unattended by its owner or a responsible person, and controlled by a leash, is on the

Town's statutes. In spite of a warning published a few weeks ago, to the effect that Durham's by-law would be strictly enforced, a number of dogs are still running footloose and unconcerned on public streets and private property, through flower gardens and shrubbery which are often damaged or ruined as a result.

Mother's Day

Today's Mother's Day celebrations reflect a custom which goes back to the 17th century. Now almost universal in scope, this tribute to mother started in Europe as "Mothering Sunday" to honour the mother and the home. On the fourth Sunday of Lent, boys and girls were expected to travel to their homes, if absent, and to assume all household chores for the day. If they were unable to make it to their homes, they resorted to carefully written letters, the forerunner of today's greeting cards.

national event, she corresponded with editors, businessmen, ministers, industrial leaders, politicians, governors, mayors, clubs and service organizations. In the United States her efforts were crowned with success when President Woodrow Wilson signed a joint resolution from Congress establishing Mother's Day as a national holiday and citing mothers as "the greatest source of the country's strength and inspiration."

Once the custom became established in the United States, it was adopted very quickly in Canada and gradually spread to all parts of the nation. Ann Jarvis, the lady who is generally recognized as the founder of Mother's Day as we know it, died in a Philadelphia rest home in 1948, penniless and lonely at the age of 84. Almost her entire life had been devoted to a single cause -- to give honour to mothers everywhere -- and she saw her efforts crowned with unusual success. The theme of Mother's Day today is much as she wanted it to be but the observance is far beyond what she could have anticipated -- a warm, affectionate tribute to mothers which has become a universal event of deep significance to everyone.

On the North American continent, the custom really became established because of the interest and determination of a West Virginia spinster, Anna Jarvis, who conceived the idea of establishing the second Sunday in May as a memorial to her own mother and mothers everywhere. Her mother had died in Philadelphia in 1905, an event which had a deep impact on the sensitive girl. She started her campaign by persuading the city fathers of Philadelphia to hold a city-wide Mother's Day observance. In 1912, at her urging, West Virginia made Mother's Day a state-wide holiday and Pennsylvania followed suit the next year. In her crusade to make this a

To The Editor

The Editor, The Durham Chronicle. Dear Sir:

The Ontario Society for Crippled Children and associated Easter Seal service clubs join with the crippled children in the province to thank your newspaper wholeheartedly for the supporting publicity which was directed to the 1969 Easter Seal Campaign. Although final returns for the campaign will not be officially known for a few weeks, we are confident that every one of the 229 participating Easter Seal clubs will not only reach, but surpass their local campaign goal this year to establish a new record high Easter Seal return for Ontario.

To each and every member of the community and surrounding area, we extend deepest appreciation from all the crippled girls and boys who will receive help this year through Easter Seal gifts. Sincerely yours, W. D. Whitaker, Provincial Easter Seal Chairman.

BEV KIRKLAND SR. MANPOWER COUNSELLOR

Dear Sir: I beg the privilege to use your fine paper to express a personal opinion. Being a farmer by trade and a preacher by calling, I am very interested in the welfare of rural people. I know the joys and frustrations of farming (and of the ministry) for I keep in close touch with both of these vocations. Therefore I have watched with great interest the trends of agriculture, such as skyrocketing costs, fluctuating prices, part-time farmers, and other job holding farmers, etc. I have carefully observed movements by farm organizations in attempts to improve the lot of the family farm. Some of these actions are commendable while the others are morally debatable.

Both the Ontario Federation of Agriculture and the Ontario Farmers' Union have sought to achieve economic improvements for rural people. The F.O.A. lays claim to having imported lower cost farm machinery while the O.F.U. claims to have lowered the cost of commercial fertilizer. (to mention only two) Both these acts are commendable achievements. The tragedy has been that these acts have been done in a spirit of rivalry rather than in a spirit of co-operation. Thoughtful men in both organizations, plus those not involved with either group, feel strongly that a combining of minds and

energies is in order, so that there may emerge an official "Voice of the Farm". Therefore the movement toward establishing a General Farm Organization is presently proposed. Having become familiar with this proposal and hearing it well explained by Mr Gordon Hill of Varney (O.F.U. member) I heartily endorse this proposal as a rational, intelligent, sane and reasonable attempt to grapple with the economic and social issues of agriculture. I believe that when intelligent and reasonable men at government level, marketing board level, farm organizational level, and grass roots level sit down at the bargaining table and carefully weigh all the issues involved and explore new avenues of possibility, constructive measures can result. This is the aim of the G.F.O. proposal. No movement is a panacea for all problems, but a constructive start can be made on many issues. Thank you, Yours truly, Adolph Hahn.

Mr John Hanbidge, Manager of the Owen Sound Canada Manpower Centre, has announced the promotion of Mr Beverley K. Kirkland to the position of Senior Manpower Counsellor in the Owen Sound Canada Manpower Centre.

The establishment of this supervisory position is in keeping with the continuing efforts of the Department of Manpower & Immigration to provide additional services to the residents of this area served by the Owen Sound Canada Manpower Centre.

Mr Kirkland, a native of this area, joined the Department in May of 1953 and, with the exception of six years spent with the Unemployment Insurance Commission, he has been actively engaged in assisting residents of this area find gainful employment.

Mr Kirkland is married to the former Doreen Wark of Tara and they have two children; Brenda, age 6 and Bonnie, age 3. He is a member and past president of the Tara Rotary Club.

Sir John A. Macdonald was Postmaster General of the Province of Canada for one day only - August 6, 1858.

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NOTICE
During my temporary illness, my business will be carried on as usual by JOHN McCULLOCH, a duly licensed FUNERAL DIRECTOR, who has been assisting me for the past number of years.
Harry Kress
DURHAM - ONTARIO

A Letter To Parents

The Ontario Safety League asks your help to make sure this Victoria Day is not marred by needless fireworks accidents. There are two ways this can be done: Firstly, don't let your children buy and use firecrackers. These noise makers are small in size but cause approximately 90% of injuries and fires. Secondly, choose family fireworks for your celebration and follow these rules:

Lets made this an accident free fireworks day.

Sincerely, George G. Ham, Manager, Home and Community Safety Department.

YOUR OLD FRIEND SOME GIRLS DON'T EXPECT TOO MUCH OF A HUSBAND, JUST A MAN TO SPEND WITH THE REST OF THEIR LIFE

1. Choose a location clear of overhead obstruction, be sure you're not an annoyance or danger to your neighbor.
2. Never set off fireworks on apartment balcony. Do not use any private property without permission of the owner.
3. Keep young children away from firing points, do not let them fire pieces. Older children may be taught to participate in firing under adult supervision.
4. Use a bucket, box or wheelbarrow filled with sand as your firing base.
5. READ THE PRINTED INSTRUCTIONS before each piece is fired. Keep all fireworks in a box and close the lid after removing each piece.
6. Have a metal container handy, partly filled with water, for disposal of used fireworks. And please remember that the ever popular sparkler while it is the only firework designed to be held in the hand when lighted, burns at a high heat and could cause burns if mishandled.

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Watch For Wires

Ontario Hydro issued a warning to parents and children against flying kites and model airplanes near power lines. The warning comes in the wake of incidents across Ontario in which young people have been injured when kites have become entangled in electrical wires. While kite flying provides endless hours of fun for the young -- and the not-so-young, some caution is needed.

A sudden gust of wind can carry a kite into a power line, which carries many times the voltages found at home. Because electricity will take the shortest route to the ground, metal struts, metallic wire, wire-reinforced string, and even damp string will act as a conductor. The best way to enjoy kites and model airplanes is to fly them in open spaces away from power lines.

For That Very Special Person On **MOTHER'S DAY**
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