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NOTES and COMMENTS

Weed Killer at 93

We remember a pioneer farmer—who had cleared his own land north of Peterborough—who was so conscious of the menace of weeds that long after he had handed over the prosperous farm to his sons, he continued his lifelong battle.

In summer from dawn to sunset he would be out in the fields and lanes personally attacking each individual enemy of his homestead and prosperity. He felt his mission so strongly that he deliberately stayed alive until he was 93 to carry on with methodical zeal his one-man-war.

A successful war, too: Not a weed could be found on the property while he lived. —Peterborough Examiner.

Ground Observer Corps Important

An integral part of defence enterprise, and one that probably has wider ramifications, is the recently instituted Ground Observer Corps. Like all other babies, the group is saving its teething troubles and apparently the biggest ache is being felt on account of a lack of public appreciation and interest.

The spotting of intruders that might try to infiltrate in the event of a national emergency is a vital business, giving warning to the military and civilian sources of the path of attacking aircraft. Canada's much vaunted radar screen is by no means infallible and low-flying aircraft are likely to escape the screen. Therefore, without any system of following and anticipating the course of the enemy, air defences would have to rely upon luck in greater proportions than skill.

Perfectly by the British during the early part of the last war, when Hitler stood poised on the coast of conquered France for the impending attack upon the Channel beaches, the voluntary system of spotting proved to be an invaluable source of home defence.

There is a difference of course. In those days the wolf was at the door; it was a case of do or die. Canada is hardly in a like situation today. The war in Korea might reach its unfruitful conclusion at any day, and closer to the mirror, Soviet Russia is continuing the peace offensive. What is the incentive then for people to devote their time and energy to what might seem to be a toy for the air force?

Firstly the national defence department is not convinced by Russian overtures and is pressing ahead with the defence scheme. Secondly, only the sublime and the indifferent would accept the latest Eastern lullaby as permanent. As it has already been said a thousand times, only through strength can the Allies feel a measure of external security.

The Ground Observer Corps is a unique undertaking here and it will take a little time to be accepted as fact. However, the greatest difficulty will be to convince the average man-in-the-street of the necessity of the organization at this time.

Family Reunion Has Many Good Points

Now is the open season for family reunions, particularly in York and Ontario Counties. The custom of family reunions has grown in these counties and goes back for more than 75 years. It is not known when the first family reunion was held here but it is presumed to be at least that long ago.

Doubtless in an old Bible in some home there is the record of the first or at least an early reunion.

There is nothing in human association more productive of good feeling than the reunion of those who take their origin from a common parentage. There is also no more pleasant method of preserving history than the promotion of family association down the generations.

It can perhaps be said with some certainty that the families that promote periodical reunions have the least misunderstanding and unfriendliness among them. While this condition cannot be said to be entirely the result of the reunion spirit, there is no doubt but that the reunion events foster an increasing spirit of goodwill in all branches of the families that stem from the common relationship.

Mennonite families have been prominent in promoting the reunion idea. Some of these families have been holding reunions for close to a century. The secretaries of these family associations could provide much historical data from the files.

The gathering from time to time of the descendants in a family relationship is a commendable practice. It spreads acquaintance among distant cousins and fosters a type of friendship that is conducive to the highest quality of citizenship.

The idea of the family reunion should take in more territory than it does. It should be adopted more widely.

A Grim Business

A lot of us imagine the automobile as a wonderful plaything, a shiny toy which responds magically to the touch of a foot on the accelerator pedal, a pull of the hand on the wheel.

Actually it is a death-dealing machine if not controlled with extreme care. On our heavily travelled highways a car represents a constant menace to safety.

Today's drivers have to realize the danger. Too many still behave as if their car were a kind of floating living room, where good conversation, with plenty of head-turning, is the goal. Or a travelling picnic ground, with dad taking his eyes off the road now and then to reach for a sandwich.

In the 1953 whirlpool of traffic, driving is a grim business and nothing else. It is estimated that the average motorist makes 20 to 50 decisions an hour. Any wrong decision can be fatal. In heavy going, a driver is never more than one second away from an accident.

The man who climbs behind the wheel this summer—or any other time—should approach his job with the same sober responsibility that any air-line pilot does. The hazards he will face are really much greater.

If he doesn't want to treat the job that way he should stay home, or turn it over to somebody else who will.



For Parents Only

"TRAVEL PLANS"

By Nancy Cleaver

"Of journeying the benefits are many; the freshness it brings to the heart, the seeing and hearing of marvellous things, the delights of beholding new cities, the meeting of unknown friends, the learning of high manners." (written by Saadi in the 13th century.)

Vacation time is approaching and many families are making plans to go on a trip. Parents realize the educational values of travel some of which are mentioned in the above quotation written so long ago. Adventuring in far places has cast its magic spell over people in every generation. Robert Louis Stevenson once said, "For my part, I travel not to go anywhere, but to go. I travel for travel's sake."

Journeying for the individual is much simpler than travel for a group, especially for a family group which includes small children. But never before in the history of mankind have so many families had the leisure, the money and the facilities for voyages of discovery on land and sea!

Careful planning beforehand removes many of the difficulties of family travel. It is fun to look forward to holiday good times as well as remember them afterwards with pleasure! Plans should be flexible enough that they can be changed if unexpected events occur.

It is very important to remember not to travel too far any one day or to plan too long a trip. If any member of the group becomes exhausted, extreme fatigue almost shows itself in irritability or lowered resistance to illness. The too weary traveller is miserable, and John Buchan once wisely remarked — "Misery knows no manners."

On a trip the members of the family see more of each other than they do on ordinary days at home when father goes to work and the children attend school. It takes a little extra effort to continue to be courteous and considerate throughout the whole day on a trip. Mark Twain once observed,

"I have found that there isn't no surer way to find out whether you like people or hate them than to travel with them."

To prevent individuals in the family from getting on each other's nerves, it is wise to split up into smaller groups of mother and daughters or father and sons in the latter part of the day. If the family are motoring, the father is doing the driving while mother has major responsibility for keeping the children happy and occupied in the car, perhaps after supper at a tourist camp, dad will offer to take the children on a walk while mother has a chance to relax all by herself. Then during the children's bed-time hour, dad can do as he wishes.

No careful parents would take their children on a trip in a car which had not been carefully checked by a reliable mechanic. Many of the accidents on our highways however can be traced not to defective brakes or a stalled engine but to the driver being over-crowded or his attention being distracted at a critical moment. Whether mother or dad is driving, there should be a strict rule that the driver must have plenty of room. The driver's complete attention must be on his job. Heavy traffic frequently demands quick and wise decisions.

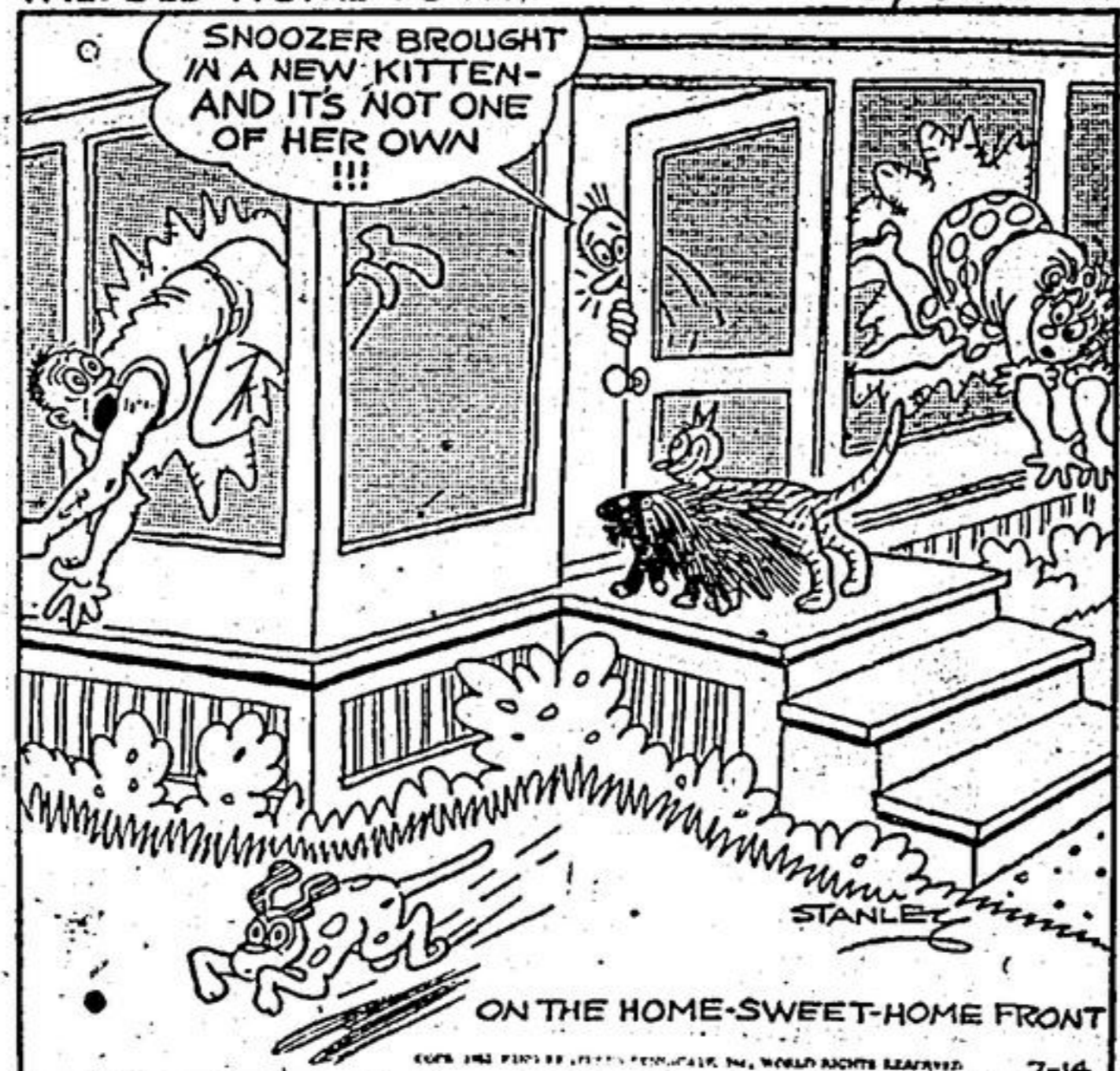
In recent years a number of families have taken advantage of between week-end and off season lower plane rates for families. If a long trip is being considered, a plane trip can be never to be forgotten experience for a boy or girl! So can a train trip!

Such a large number of families own cars, that many of the present generation have never known the thrill of living on a train, eating in a diner and going to sleep in a berth. The inexpensive fares of the large bus companies do attract many families who must budget very carefully. If dad is a commercial traveller or must do a good deal of driving in connection with his work, it is worthwhile giving careful thought to the advantage of a family trip by plane, train or bus.

So you think you've got troubles. A Los Angeles man is allergic to paper money.

The average girl doesn't discover that candy is sold by the bag until she gets married.

THE OLD HOME TOWN By STANLEY



ON THE HOME-SWEET-HOME FRONT



Oh Boy! This is the Life!

You will likely do some boating too during your vacation—but remember the safety rules that will make your holiday a happy one. For added enjoyment travel by bus to your favorite resort.

ASK YOUR LOCAL AGENT ABOUT "HIGH-WAY TOURS" TO ALL PARTS OF THE U.S.A.



BYGONE DAYS

From the Files of the Tribune 19 Years Ago

Norman Baker, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Baker, obtained his first year University Course in Arts, passing with honours. He is to be congratulated in obtaining such a high standing.

There were 70 present at the Senior Women's Institute meeting held on Wednesday of last week at the home of Mrs. Ed. Baker when the local branch entertained the Altona Institute. Mrs. E.J. Davey in the chair welcomed the guests. While the program was being rendered by the visitors, Mrs. Wesley Lehman, the Altona president was in the chair and Mrs. Barkis Reesor presented an interesting reading.

Joan Lewis on the Rae farm, 10th con., found a large turtle the other day with a top like a large plate, nearly 15 inches across. Since Mr. Lewis found the turtle, Mr. Harvey Cober living near Cashel also found a big one measuring some fifteen inches wide. The age of the turtles is said to be about 50 years. Mr. Cober's turtle weighs 20 lbs. and has a vicious snap.

To commemorate the fifth anniversary of business in Stouffville, R.E. Curtis' Men's Store is throwing overalls, straw hats, etc. on the bargain counter for this week only.

At the municipal council meeting on Monday, it was charged that a west end citizen had run his lawn hose all last Sunday until the water ran to waste down the ditch in front of the home. Owing to the rush to adjourn early no action was taken. The bylaw calls for prosecution to anyone who uses a lawn hose other than between 6 and 8 p.m. without special permission. If any citizen is a witness to such a flagrant breach of the bylaw he would be doing a good service by notifying Constable Pugh.

The Stouffville Horticultural Society captured third prize in a grand flower show in the Toronto Exhibition Park. Those who worked day and night on their display were President, Mrs. H.O. Klinck, Sec. Miss M. Mertens, Miss Cora Wideman and Mrs. T.B. Rae.

Fire of unknown origin completely destroyed the farm home of Mr. Michael Guthrie on the fourth concession of Whitechurch on Wednesday morning.

Mr. and Mrs. M.E. Watts, Miss Luella Holden and Mr. E.M. Still composed the local rink to enter the mixed bowling tournament at Newmarket, winning one of the best prizes.

Mr. Stanley Rose has been appointed principal of the Uxbridge Public School at a salary of \$1,200. There were over one thousand applicants for the position. A third book teacher was also engaged at \$750.

Mr. Archie Fleming's colliery with an experience on his master's farm at Cashel the other day that he will long remember. Out in the fields Mr. Fleming encountered a porcupine which the colliery attacked without fear. The old "porkie" of course used his one and only weapon of defence and poor doggy had no less than 75 quills in his mouth. It was a painful operation to extract them but it was successfully completed and the dog is now getting all right.

Work on the construction of the new school at Garibaldi S.S. 9, Uxbridge will commence this week. Contractor John Ashenhurst of Goodwood intends to rush the job to completion and make it ready for school opening on Sept. 1st. The building will be about 36x39, brick clad with basement and will replace the frame structure burned down last winter after 75 years of service.

Our private statistician says a person will exert himself 176 times as much to put something in an empty stomach than in an empty head.

Special HOLIDAY DANCES

Saturday, August 1st.
Sunday Midnite, August 2nd, 12.05

CEDAR BEACH PARK (north shore)
MUSSELMAN'S LAKE

Van Walker and His Orchestra
featuring the voice of Walter Scott.

DANCING EVERY SATURDAY

North York Liberals To Join Rally, August 7th

North York will join with the other York and Toronto ridings in what will undoubtedly be the largest political rally of the 1953 Canadian election campaign Rt Hon Louis St Laurent will speak at the Maple Leaf Garden on Friday August 7th.

Several thousand from this riding are expected to attend and in various communities arrangements are already being made for transportation. Tickets for seats, which will be reserved until 8 p.m., may be secured at any of Jack Smith's campaign committee rooms in the riding.

The big meeting on the Friday evening before voting has not yet been advertised, but already we are being swamped with requests for tickets. Jack Smith, the North York member, said today. He gave assurance that his organization would make sure there was an equitable distribution of tickets to all parts of the riding.

Jack Smith has had a busy week. He has been visiting in all parts of the riding where he has received enthusiastic receptions. Mr. Smith, an experienced campaigner who has been elected with increasing majorities in North York, said today, "things never looked better."

Addressing meetings in Schomberg and Maple, Tuesday evening, the popular N. York member pointed out that under the Liberal government, every year has seen a growth

in the national strength and unity of Canada. "We have had the greatest expansion of social welfare in our history. We have increased employment. Our production and our national income have risen every year. When we are doing so well, do you seriously think it's any time to change?" asked the speaker. "It is just sound sense and good business," he said, "to re-elect a government under which we have prospered and done well."

Thirteen is an unlucky number for some people—when it's a judge and jury.

B.F. Goodrich TUBELESS TIRE



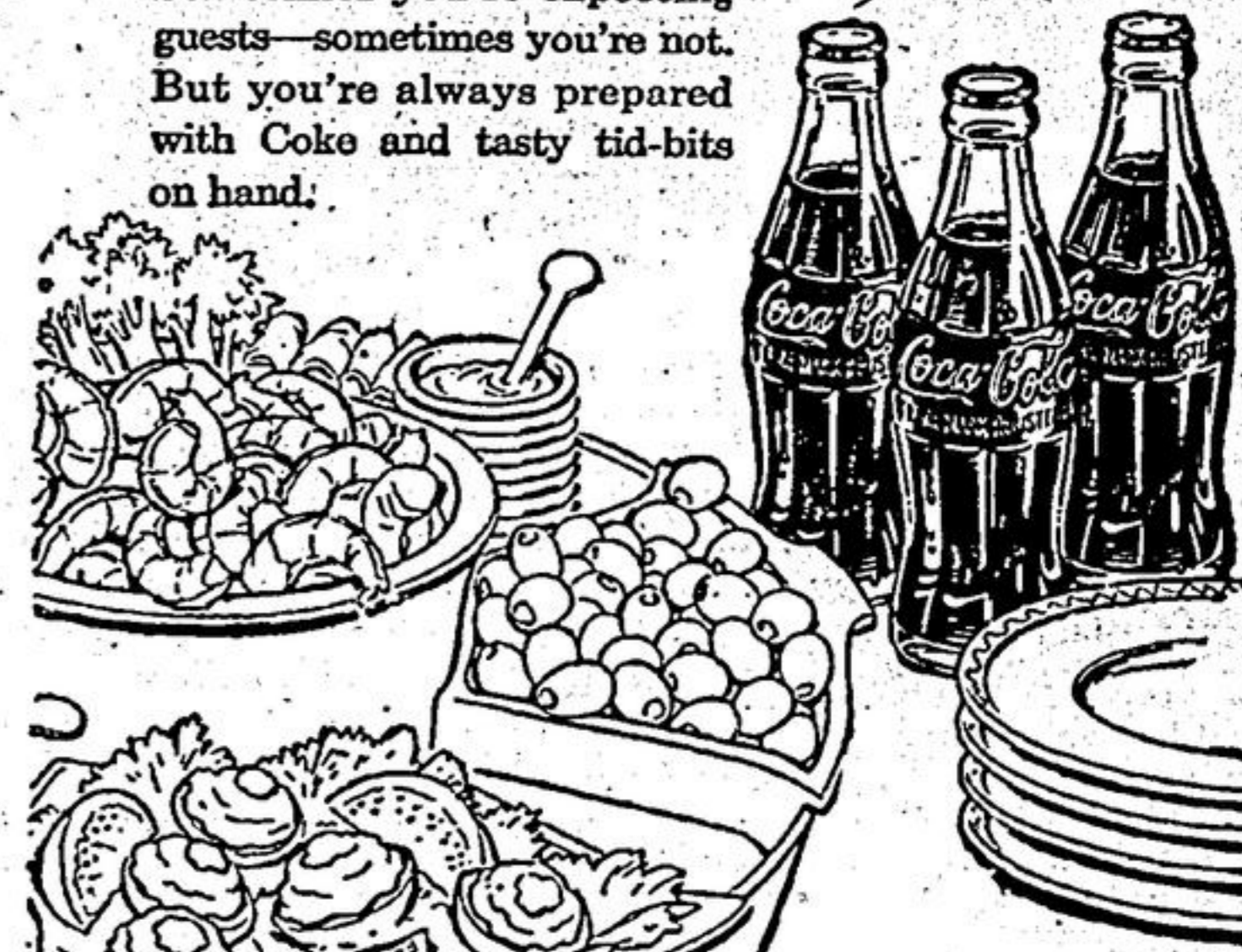
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