

THE STOUFFVILLE TRIBUNE

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NOTES and COMMENTS

Rubber on Rubber

A great many experimental rubber roads are being built throughout the world and tests to which these roads are being subjected are being watched with interest by engineers. One of these roads is a stretch on No. 7 Highway near Unionville.

Ontario was one of the pioneers in the experiments in the Western Hemisphere although the Dutch can probably lay claim to being the "first" with rubber roads.

A rubber road built in the years preceding the Second World War survived all the pounding of the Second World War traffic in Holland. Other roads crumbled under the pressure.

In Newfoundland, the city fathers at St. John's have laid a number of streets in rubber, and municipal observers are keeping an eye on this type of municipal street to see if worthwhile savings are effected in maintenance.

Hurryin' and Prolongin'

There's been a lot written and said of late concerning the weather in this section of the country. Many people claim that the seasons are changing . . . that fall is no longer as cold as it used to be . . . that winters are becoming warmer and so forth — But are they really? Or are we simply trying to hurry the changeover from fall to winter too much and prolong the winter too long?

There was a time when we accepted fall as it unfolded . . . if it was an open fall (and there were many of them) that was fine because it really made little difference other than to prolong the fine weather and conserve fuel bills. If it was a cold fall and winter set in early, it was equally agreeable as long as the late crops were successfully harvested and an ample supply of fuel on hand. If winter ended early that was fine too, because it meant an earlier start on spring and summer activities.

But that time has apparently passed. Now, when the last of the ball games are over (and sometimes even before) there are those among us who would at once be done with summer. They want no more of it. "Begone!" they say, "We want winter now or at least winter-like conditions so that we can get on with the hockey and skating season." No sooner are their protests registered than the voice of Christmas is heard and a public already frustrated by attempts to get in a hockey or skating mood in balmy weather, is further confused with pleas to "get your Christmas shopping done early." Then, still later, with Christmas over and the hockey season underway (with modern protracted schedules) a break in the winter weather, which long before had set in in earnest, brings a further hue and cry concerning the shortening of the winter seasons.

Yes, there's a heap of hurryin' and prolongin' going on these days while the seasons are following their usual independent pattern governed by laws unaffected by hockey schedules, skating, Christmas trade and other seasonal activities indulged by man.

Shop at Home This Christmas

One trip to Toronto's big stores, the headache of trying to find a place to park the family jalopy, the pushing, shoving and waiting while uninterested clerks powder their noses, should be enough to suggest to even the most ardent bargain hunters that they should shop at home this Christmas.

Stouffville has an excellent shopping district with an adequate number of well-equipped and well-stocked stores. As a town it has almost everything to offer that a bigger centre has and it is a whole lot more accessible. The people who operate the shops are just as anxious and even more so, to serve and please the public, as those in larger centres and their merchandise is equally as good.

The real pleasure of shopping at home is, of course, the fact that it is a friendly, dependable arrangement. Most people in the community are acquainted with the merchants who serve them and this naturally engenders a relationship which is impossible to duplicate in the city.

EDITOR'S MAIL

TORONTO, Ont., December 2, 1953

Editor, "THE TRIBUNE" STOUFFVILLE, Ontario

Dear Sir: May I be privileged to bring the following "Meat" scene from the columns of your daily contemporary (Guelph Mercury) to the notice of the price-conscious readers in town and country:

"A healthy young steer, well-fed and sleekly fattened will bring its farm owner about 20 cents for each of its 1,100 lbs. of live weight, when he sells it to the meat packer for slaughter. With that figure of 20 cents a pound fresh in his mind, perhaps the farmer goes to a butcher's store to buy himself a round steak. When he is charged 69 cents per pound he hits the roof and wonders who is making the killing. That 1,100 lb. steer lost hide, hoofs, offal, intestines, moisture and some bone before becoming a 605 lb dressed carcass, which the packing house sold for about 38 cents a pound. This shows a profit of less than \$10 for the packer, but it adds to this by

selling the by-products. The butcher loses about 20 per cent as sirloin and round steak at from 55 to 69 cents per pound; 26 per cent as chuck or shoulder at 39 cents; 24 per cent as shank or plate at 25 cents; and the rest at other prices. He probably makes a profit of around \$40 on the animal; but out of this he must pay his overheads. His net profit is lower than the net of the packing house which, on all livestock, averages about 4 cents per pound handled. But both enjoy a net profit which, per hour of labor devoted on Elsie's offspring is far far higher than the rewards of the farmer who raised the steer." (Ottawa Report—P. Nicholson) A. B. C.

Another fog you can't see through is the pessimist.

It would be just like a perfect nuisance to get a big kick out of being perfect.

Honesty is the best policy, but the premium is very high when one has to deal with dishonest people.

As far as pedestrians are concerned, spring will be in the air all winter.

ONTARIO'S CHRISTMAS TREE HARVEST IN FULL SWING



Stouffville Area Feeds Christmas Tree Market

Two weeks before Christmas, and the Christmas tree harvest is in full swing. That is, the more business-like operators, such as members of the Ontario Christmas Tree Growers Co-operative Association Ltd., are cutting and "baling" Scotch and Austrian pine for the U.S. market. In spite of its rather weighty title, the association has only 40 members, and will be very happy not to have any more, thank you, so says the Globe and Mail.

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FIRST CHRISTMAS CARD WAS CREATED IN 1842

Over 250 years ago English school children wrote Christmas expressions of good will called "Christmas pieces." From this school chore came the gracious custom of sending Christmas cards.

med William Egley. Original of the first card is now on display in the British museum. In the United States, Louis Prang published the first Christmas cards. During the 1870's and 80's Prang introduced thousands of beautiful cards and has become known as the grandfather of the business.

The Dog and the Bone

A DOG was crossing a plank bridge over a stream with a piece of meat in his mouth, when he happened to see his own reflection in the water. He thought it was another dog with a piece of meat twice as big; so he let go his own, and flew at the other dog to get the larger piece. But, of course, all that happened was that he got neither: for one was only a shadow, and the other was carried away by the current.

MORAL: Make it your first aim to hold on to what is already yours. Open a savings account with The Canadian Bank of Commerce. Add to it steadily. Soon you will find that your money has grown—and without any risk. Visit our nearest branch today.



Illustration by Arthur Rackham, from the Heinemann Edition of Aesop's Fables.

The Canadian Bank of Commerce

Christmas Visits Started in 1540

In 1540 when a plague was raging in Switzerland, 12 pious men of Rheinfelden formed a brotherhood to pray for St. Sebastian's aid and to nurse the sick and bury the dead.

Pestilence in medieval times was ascribed to evil spirits in water, so the Brotherhood of St. Sebastian visited each of the town's seven fountains, praying and singing hymns at each stop. They still continue this custom, but only on Christmas Eve.

For this ritual the 12 Brothers are dressed in black, with black silk top hats. At every fountain they gather around the lantern bearer and sing a medieval song.

The march begins at the Froschweide fountain where the plague is supposed to have started three centuries ago.

When they have passed the seventh, they enter the church for midnight mass, and ceremoniously place their lantern on the altar of St. Sebastian.

that reputable Christmas tree growers are increasing Ontario's wealth, rather than despoiling it. Mr. Jones quotes a booklet on the industry published by the federal department of resources.

"From time to time attacks are made on the Christmas tree industry, and those who profit from the industry. Actually, there are only two kinds of Christmas tree cutters whose actions are harmful: those who cut greatly in excess of demand, with resulting waste of trees, and those who destroy older trees in order to sell the tops. These operators, very small in number are rapidly disappearing with the advent of Christmas tree plantations and orderly marketing systems."

To which Mr. Jones adds that many of the association members grow their own seedlings from their own seed, and that those who get seedlings from the Department of Lands and Forests pay for those seedlings. The department no longer provides free settings for men in the Christmas tree business.

When there's a big rush, a bargain sale counter is a place where a woman can ruin one dress and buy another.

Women are the only people besides men who dress in front of a mirror to see what's going on.



Theatre UXBIDGE

— Phone 252 — POLICY — 2 Shows Nite 7.00 & 9.00 Matinee Sat. 2 p.m.

Last Showing Tonight— Thursday, Dec. 10th

"GIRLS IN THE NIGHT" plus

"ON THE LOOSE" (adult entertainment)

Fri. & Sat. — Dec. 11 & 12

"Man from the Alamo" Technicolor — starring GLEN FORD and JULIE ADAMS

MONDAY & TUESDAY DECEMBER 14 & 15

"THE DESERT RATS" The great sequel to "The Desert Fox" starring James Mason

Wed. & Thur.—Dec. 16 & 17

"War of the Wildcats" starring JOHN WAYNE and MARTHA SCOTT plus

"Battle Zone"