

Editorial

Roaring Game Getting Big Interest

At least equalling or even surpassing, a dwindling interest in hockey, has been the surge of interest which has arisen in the game of curling. Big stimulus locally has been the new Rolling Hills rink, but added to this has been a new national interest in the game and the publicity given to the recent National Championship matches at Kitchener. Some from here have even driven down to watch these big games and this has added stimulus to the chat at home and in the lounge rooms at Rolling Hills.

Time was when curling was considered to be primarily a players' game. But now from the comfort of a glass-partitioned lounge, the bar-room of the swank city clubs, or just an easy chair in one's own living room, the game is watched with interest by thousands throughout the

country, and certainly no game leaves more room for second-guessing.

What better way to gain interest than by audience participation? You hear it every week from behind the glass, "wrong ice — didn't sweep hard enough — missed the broom — shouldn't have tried that shot in the first place — he was light — he was heavy."

Then too, there are the costumes, the big colourful sweaters and the Glengarry hats; there's the vigorous sweeping, the suspense just before a rock slips by a guard or is wrecked by it, and the roar of the skip, "bring her in, sweep."

Build up in interest in various games from time to time, is interesting to watch, and interesting to see that here in Stouffville many have been struck by the "bug" as well as all across the country.

Calling Their Bluff

A magazine firm recently hauled two local residents into court in an effort to collect an over-due account. The defendants in this case were a husband and wife, similar to the many householders who are constantly plagued by door-to-door magazine sales personnel. They were given the "under no obligation" pitch, according to the evidence and like so many innocent victims, they verbally agreed to accept the free for nothing offer.

Pretty soon, the magazine volumes started to arrive. The lady of the house, possibly a little more

shrewd than her husband, refused to accept delivery at the post office. The literature was either thrown out or returned. When the "donations" had finally run their course, the would-be customers were presented with a sizeable account. When they refused to pay the bill, they were summoned into court. The interesting part of the whole affair was that the plaintiff, the magazine company, never even showed up in the court room to present their case. The action was dismissed. These people had called the bluff and had won. Others, less fortunate, would possibly have paid up, rather than contest the issue.

Ambulance Service Needed

There has been considerable discussion recently within the ranks of Markham Village Council concerning the suggested withdrawal of ambulance service presently operated by Mr. W. J. Dixon. This must not be permitted to happen. We would contend that an ambulance is equally as essential to this area as fire protection and perhaps should be supported in a like manner. We would suggest that the municipalities who benefit from this service should certainly be given an opportunity to

discuss the matter before any action is taken by the owner.

We can certainly appreciate Mr. Dixon's stand on the issue. Too often, we suspect that persons who would pay a million dollars to acquire the services of an ambulance at an accident scene are loathe to spend ten dollars following their arrival at hospital. It is ridiculous to expect the ambulance owner to shoulder this expense. If we wish to share the service, we must help to cover the cost.

Judicial Speed-Up Needed

Last week the Richmond Hill Liberal took up the cause for some judicial speed-up to which we must surely add our amen. Hon. Kelso Roberts, Attorney-General of Ontario has recently indicated that major changes in the courts is pending, changes which will contribute to much speedier operations.

It would seem to the ordinary layman that one of the main causes for the long backlog of cases are the continual adjournments. Cases are laid over week after week and each week's court seems to accomplish

little in lowering this long list of delayed hearings.

It is pointed out that additional judges to handle the ever-increasing number of cases, would do much in lessening delays. Certainly the present speed with which cases are dispatched is most frustrating.

A further amendment concerns Juvenile and Family Courts which would have full-time trained judges and costs would be apportioned among the municipalities served by such judges so that not all would be borne by one municipality.

Television Commercials

Canadian TV, the operation of which, is the subject of so many complaints, won't be hurt too much if we add still another complaint to the long list. Like so much of the public, we are always irked at having to pay through the nose for this government subsidized interference in private enterprise, making us very free to criticize.

However, the beef we would like to add to this list is, why are the commercials always presented so loudly?

A program may be interrupted to permit a commercial, or several of them. Immediately the voice is raised to a high pitch, and if there is a small orchestra it almost raises the roof. The listener is glad sometimes to get off his chair and turn the control down.

Surely the same volume of sound used in presenting the program should be good enough for presenting the commercials. Merely making louder noise than the other fellow is not a good selling pitch.

"Well, I've decided people over 40 shouldn't wash socks"



For Parents Only - - -

By NANCY CLEAVER
YOUR CHILD AND CANADA'S HISTORY

History of one's own country should be one of the most fascinating subjects taught at school. But is it? Once the early period of exploration and the story of New France has been "covered," far too many scholars are frankly bored by textbooks heavily laden with political details.

Why is this? Perhaps one reason is that boys and girls are more interested in colorful individuals, in the struggle to make a living in the early days than in organization or the growth of responsible government. Teachers do the best they can with large classes and often with uninspired textbooks. But encouragement from home, particularly in this field, would be useful.

Fathers and mothers can reinforce the work of the schools and do their part in making their child aware and proud of our nation's past.

The public library is a wonderful place for children to find out more about the men and the groups of people who have had a part in building our country. Here they can borrow biographies or stories with a historical background, written especially for them of those who lived in the period which they are studying.

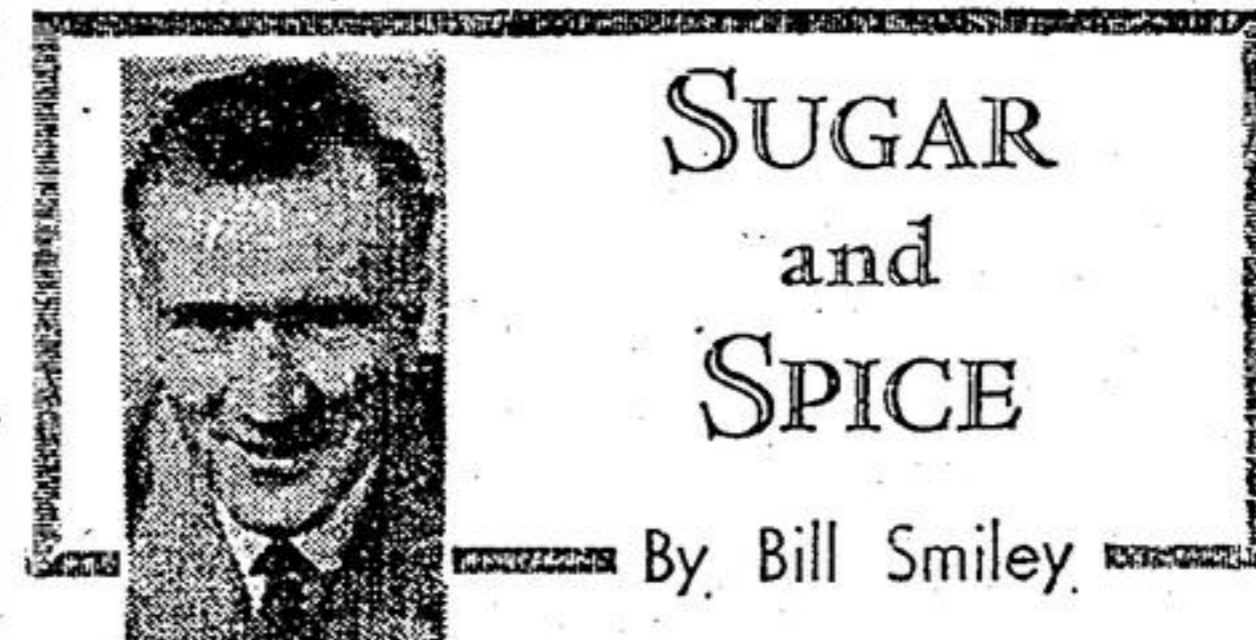
In 'The Story of Mankind', H. W. Van Loon wrote, "The history of the world is the record of a man in quest of his daily bread." Why not try this approach to increase curiosity about our country's past? Let your child ask the children's librarian for assistance in finding a book about fur trading and the rule of the Hudson's Bay Company in the West, or about the sea-faring Atlantic provinces in their famous boat-building days.

Pioneer life on a farm in Ontario is pictured by such writers as Catherine Parr Traill or Susan Moodie. Books on homesteading on the prairies such as Nellie McClung's "Clearing in the West" or Kathleen Strangle's "With the West in Her Eyes" may be found in the Canadiana section. Older pupils will find Nan Shipley's new book "Whistle on the Wind" (Ryerson) with its setting the building of the Hudson Bay Railway, fascinating.

Family expeditions to historic points can be leisurely and enjoyed by everyone. Know something about why the place you plan to visit is significant before you make your visit. Take a camera along and keep your snapshots as a souvenir.

History is not just something that is made up of what Wordsworth called, "Old, unhappy, far off things, and battles long ago." It is continually being fashioned here and now. Canada during the last decade has admitted more than one and a half million immigrants and has become the second largest immigrant receiving country in the world. The many different ways our ethnic groups celebrate holidays is a fascinating study.

The festivals of a country reflect the character of its people and a book which makes history come alive in the early days and in the present too, is "Christmas in Canada" by Barber and McPherson (Dent). Here is a charming gift for the family



SUGAR and SPICE

By Bill Smiley

Well, Education Week is all over for another year, thank goodness, and we educators can get back to the job of leading horses to water, without being urged on by fervent articles in the newspapers and dull panels on television.

It's strange; Education used to be considered the most boring topic in the world. Now, it is a conversational gambit that will throw any gathering into a verbal donnybrook before you can splutter "Egerton Ryerson."

Chief reason is that every adult who got past Grade 4 is an expert on the subject. Everyone has at least one cure for the ills of the school system.

People who used to be beaten mercilessly by their teachers for pure sloth will sit back there with a big, fat drink in their hand and tell you earnestly that today's kids are "lazier'n hound dogs."

Women who couldn't stagger out of Grade 9 because they were so absorbed in Joe, and who quit as soon as they were 16 in order to marry him, will declare vehemently that they all "go steady" and think about nothing else but boys.

Men who spend hours bragging about what hellions they were at school, scream for everything short of a Royal Commission to investigate when a teacher gives their Johnny a dirty look, after he has tried to live up to the old man's reputation.

Then there are all the people who think that the job of the school is not to educate people, but to teach them how to make a living, the bigger the better. "This being so, 'Why do they teach them poetry and Latin and all that junk they can never use?'"

I'm not adopting a holier-than-thou attitude toward all these people. Before I wandered from the Elysian fields of the weekly newspaper into the blackboard jungle, I too, sat on the veranda of my glass house and fired rocks at the system.

I still think there are many flaws in it, many gaps in the process, and a good deal of bewilderment about the direction in which it's going, but I am also aware of some of the obstacles in the way of making it perfect.

Perhaps the biggest of these lies in the materials used. In manufacturing, a product of high quality can be turned out if certain procedures are followed.

bookshelf which lends itself to being read aloud. "Our First Canadian Christmas" by a Hungarian, Dr. Nadine Hradsky is a particularly delightful sketch. This is the kind of book which will give your child glimpses into our colorful past and an insight into life today in Canada.

lowed: obtaining the best materials, using the best equipment, and following the most efficient methods.

But in education, the unit coming off the production line is made of flesh and blood. It breathes and thinks and fears and rebels and laughs. You can't mold or press it into the desired standard shape and size, cram it into a package, and peddle it through an expensive advertising sales campaign.

And it's a jolly good thing you can't, because there are plenty of people in the world who would like to do just that. In the big Commie countries, they are trying to do it right now. They are having apparent success, and that's why everybody panics whenever the newspapers announce that the Russians are now "turning out" 22 or whatever per cent more engineers than we are.

I'd like to make a little prophecy. Mark this down and pass it along to your children. Here it is: Those production line education systems we fear are currently sowing the seeds of their own destruction.

Why? That's easy. Look at what happened to the western world when they began educating us peasants. Now we think we're as good as anybody. We topple governments; we criticize kings; we demand more money for less work; we thumb our collective noses in the general direction of authority.

What do you get when you start educating the masses? You get a lot of smart alecs. Or smart Ivans, or smart Wongs. Mark my words, one of these days their leaders will wake up to it, but it will be too late. When all those educated Commies get sick of the same old ideas and start looking around for some new ones, there'll be a tremendous explosion. You man't put everybody in a concentration camp.

And with these few confusing thoughts, let us say farewell to Education Week as it slowly sinks out of sight for another year. And let us spare a tear for my son Hugh, who chose this, of all weeks, to come home with his worst report of the year.

Many people could retire comfortably on what their experience has cost them.

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"Gods Love for the Whole World" - Theme of World Day of Prayer

(Marian Wells) The world today is involved in a war of ideas. The warfare is hottest in those newly awakened under-developed countries where we have been helping to make the people literate. The newly-literate are eager for books. Literature is the greatest force we have in this war of ideas, despite all the propaganda poured forth from radios, television, from both sides of the iron curtain. The Communists still believe the pen is mightier than the sword. The Moscow Foreign Language Publishing House pumps out more than 4 books a year into India alone, for its 72 million potential readers.

Literature has played an essential role in the growth of great religions. Would the Christian Church have survived without the Gospels and Epistles? Judaism depended on its books of the law, Islam on its Koran. Confucianism shaped the course of history in China with its "Four Books". Buddhists travelling from India to evangelize China carried along their sacred classics.

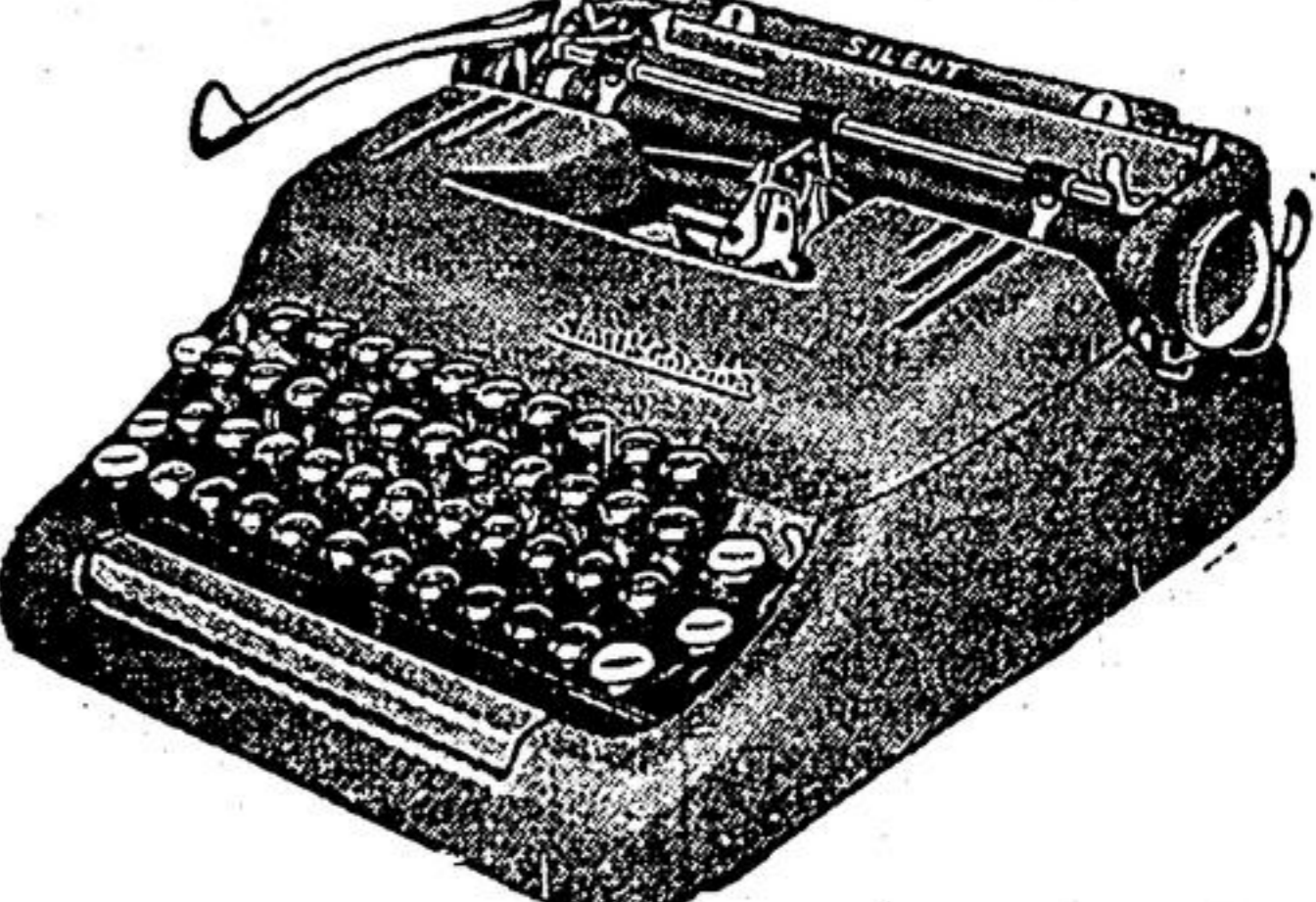
Free people can acquire a sufficient knowledge of the culture and literary style of a language other than their own to make their translation effective. Such works seldom touch the hearts of the readers.

The Committee on World Literacy and Christian Literature gathers together in various centres, Christian editors, writers and potential writers from many lands with some of this continent's most experienced editors. All work enthusiastically together. Their varied backgrounds lend colour and interest to discussion and mutual criticisms of their work result in new inspirations and writing skill. Each returns to his own corner of the world, fired with new understanding which he is eager to share with fellow-Christians through the printed page. Christians tend to feel proud and a little self-satisfied when we hear that the Holy Bible has been published in 600 new languages during this century. Yet there still remain many languages into which not even one gospel has been translated. Many other very worthwhile projects are being planned for India, Hong Kong, Formosa, West Africa, Tamil, South India and the Caribbean.

Friday, March 9, was set aside as a day of intercession. Let us pray that the hearts of more Christians may be touched so they may receive a new understanding of God's love for the whole world and all its people, just as they are.

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PLAN AHEAD FOR YOUR EASTER LILY

Easter may still seem a long way away, but now is the time to tend to your potted bulbs. Raise the temperature of Easter lilies to 65 deg. F., advise horticulturists with the Ontario Dept. of Agriculture. During growth, provide plenty of light and a

moist soil. Until the small buds start to form, light spraying with a syringe is beneficial; after buds set, moisture around them may cause rot. When the plants are six inches high, feed them with a complete soluble fertilizer, or a light nitrogen fertilizer such as ammonium sulphate, every two or three weeks.

When the buds are just visible, the plant requires 5 weeks

to flower if grown at 60 deg. F. When the buds start to bend over, it will bloom in two weeks. If the plants are late, raise the temperature to 65 or even 70 degrees.

Avoid excessive temperatures or too dry an atmosphere, as this is liable to cause "blasting" or drying of the unopened flowers. Splitting of the flower may occur if there is a severe check in growth.

The Stouffville Tribune

ESTABLISHED 1928

A. V. Nolan & Son, Publishers

Member of the Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association and the Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association.

Authorized as second-class mail, Postoffice Dept., Ottawa.

Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Issued every Thursday at Stouffville, Ont.

In Canada \$3.50

Elsewhere \$4.50

C. V. NOLAN, Publisher

145 THOMAS, Editor

McKEAN, Advertising