

LET'S TALK CARS

The Parking Problem

AUTOMOBILE: a machine with four wheels, a motor, and not quite enough seats, which enables people to get about with great rapidity and ease to places they never bothered going to before and where they'd just as soon not be now, because now that they're there, there's no place to park.

When comedians start making a living out of the parking problem it just shows how wealthy we're all getting to be. Things are so bad that in the last ten years the number of cars on the road has increased by better than 50%.

By 1976 (that's only another short 13 years to go) the car population is expected to go up 50% more based on today's figures.

It is difficult to resist mentioning here how Communism has overcome this problem except to state simply that the United States ALONE has more cars than ALL of the Iron Curtain countries combined and 2.5 million miles of paved roads, which is more than ALL THE REST OF THE WORLD combined.

Downtown traffic of large cities of the future will be restricted to 10% of all auto trips and freeways will increase. It may not even help to own a small car. One of those lush big city apartment houses recently posted a notice that "baby carriages and foreign cars must not be left in the lobby."

Auto dealers, so economists say, will still be necessary in the foreseeable future. So in 1976 your car still needs tune-ups and oil changes and other services, we plan to be still in the same old stand doing business as usual with worthwhile guarantees and reliable service.

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World Plowing At Caledon on Smythe Farm

The 11th World Plowing Contest will take place on Conn Smythe's farm near Caledon, Ontario, Oct. 8-12 this year. It was announced at the World Plowing Contest headquarters Friday. Ploughmen from 19 countries are expected to take part.

The contest is one of the world's most prominent agricultural events. About 30,000 people are expected to visit the event each day and it will be held in conjunction with the Canadian championship and the annual Ontario International match.

The World Contest was started in Canada in 1933 at Cobourg. Since then it has been held in nine European countries and this is the first time it is back in Canada.

Canada's champion ploughman, Toby Trimble of Portage La Prairie, Manitoba, and Grant Wells of Stouffville, Ont. will represent Canada at this Contest.

"This is a very important anniversary," said Alex McKinney, president of the Canadian Plowing Council, "and a great deal of interest is being aroused here in Canada. In addition to the plowing displays of machinery, side events of interest to women and children are being planned."



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Bloomington History Recalls Old-time Social Activities

Have you ever imagined what life would be like without radio, TV, cars and telephones? None of these modern inventions were in common use in the early days in Bloomington.

In those days, if one wished to visit with a neighbour, one could not just go to the telephone, or jump into the car and drive over. Neighbours did depend more on each other's company than we do today. Farmers could do up the chores early and spend an evening with friends on the next concession, driving there by buggy or cutter with the old gray mare. They could not spend their evenings listening to the radio or watching television but depended on each other for their social times together.

School Picnic
Of course in summer the farming community was too busy to take much time off for pleasure, therefore when they did, it was all the more enjoyable. In days gone by the Annual Musselman's Lake School Picnic held the last Saturday in June, was an event that few people missed. This was a special occasion for the schools, when several school sections within driving distance of the lake would each send a wagon load or two of children. The wagons were freshly cleaned or painted with bright red wheels, harness of the well-groomed horses would be cleaned, shining and ribbed, the wagon decorated with evergreen trees and flags.

What a day this was for the children, who gathered early in the afternoon at the school, were collected by the driver and with songs and laughter transported to Appleton's Park! Later parents would come with the lunch. Each school would compete in the football matches, races and stunts.

Community Parties
During the summer also the churches held strawberry or honey festivals, garden parties, ice cream socials, etc. In the fall there were annual hot fowl suppers (25¢ a supper) in the old hall on the lot where Tom White now lives. The large upstairs hall served as a community centre for many activities in the 80's and 90's. Later the fowl suppers were held in the Christian church basement. In the fall also were held husking and paring bees. The latter were held in the evenings when the young people gathered at a farm house to prepare apples for apple butter, to be boiled next day in large kettles outdoors. When three to six or more bushels of apples had been peeled then the fun began: games were played, spelling or geography matches or debates were held, followed by lunch. Then couples paired off for the homeward walk or ride.

Winters Not Dull
One might think, now, that the winters would be dull for young people, but such was not the case. There were social gatherings, skating, bob-sledding, and tobogganing; quilting bees allowed neighbours to meet and exchange news and gossip, and some women even took along the bread dough to bake rather than miss the friendly visit. Highlights of the winter season were those evenings when the laughing voices, the ring of skates on the ice of ponds at Cliff Lemon's, Art, Story's, Edgar Story's or Albert Laws could be heard in the sparkling moonlight. But best of all were those times, when Cliff or Art, Watson Fairles or Dawson Burnett would come along with their fine horses and sleighs, gathering a load of young people to go skating at Mud Lake. Cold or snow were forgotten in the fun. Many a young man fell head over heels accidentally or otherwise (?) out of the sleigh.

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Cedar Posts Getting Scarce

Cedar posts are becoming a hard item to obtain. Farmers are finding that it is not worth the trouble to cut, draw, peel and deliver posts at the going rate. This information came to light at last week's Victoria County road committee meeting. About the only source of posts which at one time were obtained chiefly from farmers, is now the reforestation plantations. The price is 60¢ a post.

York County forest at Vivian produces thousands of posts but few are used by the road department. Victoria County councillors moved to use more steel posts in future since the cedar seemed to be going out of style in so far as production is concerned. The steel is easier to install, lasts longer and in the long run would be cheaper.

Sunday School Lesson

Golden Text: O give thanks unto the Lord: for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever. —Psalm 136:1

Approach to the Lesson
Psalm 105 is an unsullied song of praise, pure sunshine all the way through. The theme is "Great is Thy faithfulness O God our Father." The writer lets the light of that wonderful truth shine brightly on God's varied dealings with His own people, with the nations and events involved in their history.

C.H. Spurgeon states that this Psalm was evidently written by King David, that the first fifteen verses were sung at the carrying up of the ark from the house of Obed-edom (1 Chron. 16:7). Certainly it would suit such an occasion admirably and, indeed, any season that God's people were celebrating with thanksgiving His watchful care over them. "The last Psalm (104)" Spurgeon adds, "sang the opening chapters of Genesis, and this takes up its closing chapters and conducts us into Exodus and Numbers."

Has Psalm 105 a message pertinent for us today? Yes, indeed, as has all Scripture. God is unchanging. His faithfulness to His people, His dealings with them in the past are both reliable guides for us today. Jesus included the Psalms in the Scriptures that spoke of Him. His salvation, and His commission to His people (Luke 24:48), so we may listen for His voice to us and expect to find His footprints as we search the Scriptures. We shall not be disappointed in these expectations, for the same Lord who delivered His people from Egypt and led them, despite their waywardness, through the wilderness to make of them a people for Himself (Deut. 14:2), is still gathering His Church out of Egypt of this world. He is leading them through their wanderings and establishing them as His peculiar people (a "people for His own possession"—and not as might be supposed at first sight "odd" people).

His purpose is "that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into His marvellous light: which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy" (1 Pet. 2:9, 10) If we are numbered among these people of God, we shall sing along with the psalmist this song of thanksgiving, glad to be reminded of our glorious God and of the solid basis we have for confidence in Him. If we are not among that number, we should pray that our eyes may be opened to see, and long for the blessings of the redeemed.

Heart of the Lesson
God's purposes are sure and His promises absolutely reliable.

Reminders... of action to take to keep insured

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● When you reach your 19th birthday you are no longer covered by your parents' certificate. Register separately within thirty days to keep insured. Forms are available at hospitals, banks and Commission offices.

● When you marry, the Family premium must be paid to cover husband, wife and eligible dependants. Tell your group OR, if you pay direct, tell the Commission.

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