

# The Townships Sun

August 1980  
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Lennoxville  
Quebec



Chateauguay Holiday, a photo essay, P. 28



Blood Money: Champion Multinationals profiled, P. 14



Market Gardening—Québec's biggest organic grower, P. 8

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Volume 8, Number 2

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Charles Bury

**Topsoil—Paydirt Blowing in the Wind**

Topsoil is the rare and little-understood surface layer of the Earth's crust, the vital skin that supports plant life and keeps us all fed and housed. Topsoil keeps us alive, but it is threatened and so are we.

Varying in depth from a few inches or less to dozens of feet in some isolated spots, topsoil is the product of millions of years of glacial and weathering activity on the bedrock. Long before the first signs of life appeared on Earth, rainwater was gradually chipping away tiny particles of minerals which collected ever so slowly in river and lake bottoms, in a process which continues today. Somewhere along the way the spark of life appeared and tiny plants called microorganisms (microscopic versions of today's mosses, some say, although this is not clear), began to grow.

The moment the first prehistoric plant died, topsoil was born. Another plant took its place, and the decay of the first gave the second a head start—a source of nutrients and a foothold on the Earth. As plant life prospered the foothold grew stronger and gradually the plants themselves added to the slow breakdown of the bedrock, through the pressure and chemical erosion from their roots as they sought nourishment.

Millions of years later this process had advanced to the point that animal life was possible; Man appeared and with him the urge to grow things.

The earliest farmers simply moved on when they had depleted the topsoil, and found another fertile patch to cultivate. Although methods

became more sophisticated with time, the basic principle remained: slash and burn, cultivate for a few years, then hit the road for greener pastures. Evidence of this can be seen everywhere man has settled, from the biblical Fertile Crescent of the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers (now a sterile near-desert) to the depleted farmland of eastern North America. Russell Pocock's farm, for example (see page 8) was in Canada's major food producing region—the Eastern Townships and Chateauguay Valley—until the beginning of this century.

Now man has nowhere else to go, but he still hasn't figured out what to do about depleting the topsoil. In fact, in the years since the Second World War the problem has been getting worse. At that time, there was a massive switch away from "intensive" farming which used a lot of manpower and manure, to "extensive" farming based on modern chemistry and heavy machinery. This change-over brought many new factors into play, some of which we are only beginning to understand, much less control.

The "Miracle of Modern Farming" was simple. By adding chemical fertilizers to the soil, yields increased dramatically. By using bigger and bigger equipment, one man could "do the work of ten". But the depletion of the topsoil, we are now learning, suddenly accelerated.

Topsoil is a complex, fragile substance, made up of mineral particles, microscopic plants, bacteria, enzymes, dead plant matter (humus), tiny animals and more. Now we know

that massive doses of agricultural chemicals (fertilizers and pesticides) are effectively killing the living organisms in our topsoil.

For a few years the higher yields were encouraging, but in the long run farmers are discovering that they have to add more and more chemicals every time around.

Mechanization has brought larger fields, fewer windbreaks, and the tendency to plant the same crop in the same place year after year. This leaves the topsoil more open to erosion by the wind and water, which carry it away faster and faster.

The Sun has so far been unable to "unearth" any Québec statistics on topsoil depletion. Although the following figures are taken from areas where the problem is more advanced (longer, dryer summers and more aggressive practices are generally found in the areas cited), the principle remains the same.

•For every bushel of corn that is taken from the hillside fields of Iowa, a bushel and a half of topsoil

washes away and another half bushel blows away.

•The Pennsylvania County Soil Conservation Service has found that: "some (tobacco) farms now lose as much as 20 tons of topsoil each year."

•The United States Department of Agriculture estimates that: "an average US acre of cropland loses 12 tons of topsoil per year while naturally gaining only 1½ tons."

•The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization estimates that: "14 million acres of cropland become infertile every year," and "One-third of today's arable land will be lost to desert during the next 25 years, primarily because of modern agricultural techniques which deplete the soil."

Here and there among us a few brave souls like Russell Pocock and Angus Curry are trying to start the first tiny reversals of this fatal trend. As Confucius said, "The best fertilizer is the foot-step of the farmer. But will it be enough?" □



Paul Lindell



Murder and suspense in North Hatley. Karen Lazar, Damir Andrei, and Terrence LaBrosse in "Catch Me If You Can", now showing at The Piggery. See page 31.

# coming soon...

**The Children's House.** A Montessori program in Sherbrooke for children 2½-6 years of age, with a qualified teacher. Commencing September 1980. Call **Pauline Evans** 569-2091 after August 25th.

## Water-Ski Championships

If you're into water-skiing, you can see some of the best water-skiers in Eastern Canada in the upcoming Eastern Canadian Water-ski Championships to be held in Sherbrooke August 2nd and 3rd at Lac des Nations in Parc Jacques Cartier. The competition starts at 9 a.m. Saturday.



Opening Friday, August 22nd at 2:00 p.m. to Saturday, August 23rd, the church of St. James the Apostle in Stanbridge East will be holding its annual Flower Show. Our show is the largest of its kind in the province and is now in its 45th year.

Afternoon activities include the exhibition and judging of flowers, afternoon tea, sale of fancy work and food as well as a children's corner and a men's nearly new table.

Exhibitors' tickets for the Flower Show, which entitle the holder to exhibit flowers and to admission both afternoons, cost \$2.50 for adults and \$1.00 for children under 13. Visitors tickets, which include the visiting of the arrangements and sales tables, plus refreshments, are priced at \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children under 13. A card party is held on the Friday night at a cost of \$2.00 with numerous prizes to be won.

In addition to the numerous classes of best specimens of various blooms and house plants, are classes of arrangements. This year's theme is "A Salute to Florales '80". As Canada hosts Florales '80 we take you on a tour of Canada through flowers.



## Four-Wheel Drive Race

For those who like to participate by sitting and watching, Victoriaville is waiting for you on the 16th and 17th of August. From all the corners of Québec, the province's quickest and most daring small-truck drivers will be gathering for the sixth race of an eight race series leading to the Québec Provincial 4 x 4 Racing Championships.

Sanctioned by the Fédération Auto-Québec, the meet will be sponsored by the O'Keefe Breweries. The specially equipped trucks will be making a lot of noise, so bring your ear-plugs, and be prepared for a dusty weekend. Should be a lot of fun, although some would say they can see the same show on their own road any Sunday afternoon.

The North Hatley Library Art Show will be held August 1 to August 10 at the Hay Barn Gallery situated on the North Road to Hatley. This year will be our 14th annual show and we are anxious to have a really good turnout of artists and other hand-crafts i.e. weaving, pottery, quilting or carving.

Bring your work to the gallery and show your neighbours what you can do!

The show is held for the benefit of the North Hatley Library, and anyone interested is asked to call Mrs. Roger LeBaron at 842-2714. Work will be accepted on Wednesday, July 30th, and Thursday, July 31st. In order to be ready for the opening which will be on Friday, August 1st from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Other days the gallery will be open from 12 noon until 6 p.m.

We always have a show which is really worth a visit and the gallery atmosphere makes a very attractive background for the work on display.



Québec City will host an international music extravaganza entitled "Les Murs de Sons" from the 8th to the 14th of August. More than 40 groups will appear in the week long festival of music. Virtually every style of modern music represented, including jazz, blues, rock, new-wave, folk, and québécois. Hurry up if you want tickets; one concert (Deep Purple) is already sold out. Available at all TRS outlets. Many of the events (15 hours each day) are outdoor concerts, which are free. The remainder will be held in Québec City theatres and night clubs.

At 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday Aug. 12th Oscar Peterson, the world's greatest living jazz pianist will give a concert at the Grand Théâtre. Tickets are \$10, \$13 and \$15.

At the same time, Kate and Anna McGarrigle, Richard Séguin and Jim Corcoran will be performing together for the first time ever at Palais Montcalm. Tickets for this one are \$9.50, \$11.50 and \$12.50.

The long list includes Arthabaska, Troisième Etage, Jay McShawn and Eddie Vinson, Sandelina, Demesure, Maneige, Oregon, Plume Latraverse and Big Mama Thornton, Agharta, Ron Carter and Jack DeJohnette, Quatuor de Jazz de Québec, Malicorne, Michel Maurice Fortin, Bob Walsh, John Lee Hooker and the Chicago All Stars, Blues Revue, Woody Shaw and Fraffiti, Tandem, Delta, Ephemere, B.B. Gabor and the Diodes, Michel Papineau and Michel Provencher, Pegase, Corbeau, James Cotton, John Hammond, Ellen McIlwaine, Max Webster, Conjonction Jazz, Alambic, Paul Winter and Larry Coryell.

For more information, call (418) 659-3953. See you there.

## ARTS-SUTTON

Aug. 15, 16 Display  
Aug. 17 Arts Sutton Auction

## Bromont Festival

On Friday, August 15th at 8:30 p.m. the Festival de Bromont will present **André Gagnon**, the well-known pianist/composer. Tickets are \$9.

The Festival will also present the **McGill Chamber Orchestra**, **Alexander Brott** conductor, along with **Maureen Forrester**, contralto, performing **Brandenburg Concerto No. 3** and **Cantata No. 82 "Ich habe genug"** by Bach. They will also perform "Per rendermi beato" and "Ombre mai fu" (excerpts from the opera "Xerxes") and **Concerto grosso Opus 6 No. 5** by Handel. Saturday, August 16 at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00.

On Sunday, August 17 at 8:00 p.m. the McGill Chamber Orchestra will perform a second concert with world renowned flautist, **Jean-Pierre Rimpal** featuring Vivaldi and his works: six concerti Opus 10, Overture "Olympiade" and Concerto grosso for 2 violins and 2 cellos in D major. Tickets are \$12.00 each.

Tickets for the Festival are available at The Bay (downtown) in Montreal, studio 2420 in Bromont, Pharmacie Corriveau in Cowansville, Pharmacie Jean Coutu in Granby, Boutique du Village in Knowlton and The Book Nook in Sutton, Au Bon Marché, Mercerie Cartier (Carrefour) and le Centre d'Orge (13th Ave.) in Sherbrooke.

The performances will take place at the St. François Xavier Church in Bromont, which is well-known for its acoustics.

The Festival de Bromont will also present the 4th Annual Bromont Antique Show as well as a country kitchen bake sale Friday, Saturday August 22, 23 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and August 24 noon to 6 p.m. Admission \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for children. For information call (514) 534-2774.



**Give Generously Give from the Heart Receipts Supplied**

Note: Watch for us at Sherbrooke Exposition, August 10-16 at the Sports Palace.

For information:  
Miss Peggy Barber 566-7327  
Miss Sallie Nutbrown 562-3493

**QUILT SHOW**— The advanced Adult Education Class of Quilters, E.T.R.S.B., under the direction of **Iris Brown**, will be displaying their work to the public on Saturday, September 6th, at a Quilt Show in St. George's Church Hall, Lennoxville, from 2:30 to 6:00 p.m. Admission is \$1.50, including tea, which will be served by St. George's Guild.



**Merrill Hodge**, fieldman for the Québec Farmers Assn. sends us the following news: **The Coaticook Milk Festival** will be held from **August 8th to 11th**. The Q.F.A. van from Macdonald College will also be there. There will be a dance sponsored by the Richmond Branch to be held on **August 23rd** at the Richmond Fair grounds with the proceeds going to the Richmond Fair. Music will be provided by the "Country Sundowners", everyone welcome!

The **Ayer's Cliff Fair** will be held from **August 21 to 24**. There is also a one day trip planned to visit Les Florales internationales de Montréal sometime in August. Anyone interested should contact **Merrill Hodge** at 819-848-2329 or Mrs. Laurie Walker at 819-826-2756.

**Norman Majury** of the school-board is trying to organize an Agricultural Course for which a larger grant has been received this year, but if the grant is not taken advantage of, they won't get another. Anyone interested should contact **Merrill Hodge** or Mr. Majury. The deadline for these courses is Sept. 1.

The Q.F.A. is also holding a contest open to all Q.F.A. members for the design of a new Q.F.A. logo or emblem. There is a \$100.00 prize offered. The winner is to be decided by the Executive Committee. The final design will be unveiled at this year's Annual General Meeting, after which the logo will appear on all Q.F.A. letterhead, newsletters, etc.



## Hemmingford Apple Festival

One local festival that might be interesting is the tenth annual Apple Festival in Hemmingford, just east of the Richelieu River. August 22nd, 23rd and 24th are the dates and by then the earliest apples should be just about ripe for the picking.

Activities will include baseball games, a barn or outdoor dance, an open-air ecumenical church service on Sunday morning, and the usual gala parade. Hemmingford is near the centre of Québec's largest apple-growing region, and is surrounded by orchards, packing plants and cider factories.





# Letters

I see some respondents to the Sun poll think I'm "biased" and "negative". Biased? !□&X\*! right I'm biased: I'm irrevocably, committedly biased against so-called nice people and responsible citizens who &□ in the rivers until and unless Big Brother tells them not to. No wild animal or alleged savage would be caught dead doing that. I'm also irrevocably, committedly biased against all politicians and planners who presume to spend my future and the future of my planet, through every device from the draft to deficit spending to nuclear waste dumps our children will have to live with for eons. I'm deeply and thoroughly biased in favor of life and freedom; against cowardice, laziness, willful blindness, avarice, and deliberate stupidity.

But negative? Hellfire no! I have a positive dream of clean rivers, clean skies, abundant fish and wildlife, and people with the conscience, intelligence, and imagination to live without killing. A dream where we keep ourselves in shape and behave with common sense, instead of poisoning ourselves and our surroundings, then turning toward temporary technolo-

gical fixes that chiefly prolong agony. A dream where no man holds a gun to another's head and says "Thou shalt," because all men learn as children to become self-reliant and to respect divergent choice; where children are not treated as mere raw materials, herded into factory-like schools and stamped and pressed until most lose all sense of individual worth, instead learning to think and act as part of the death-machine.

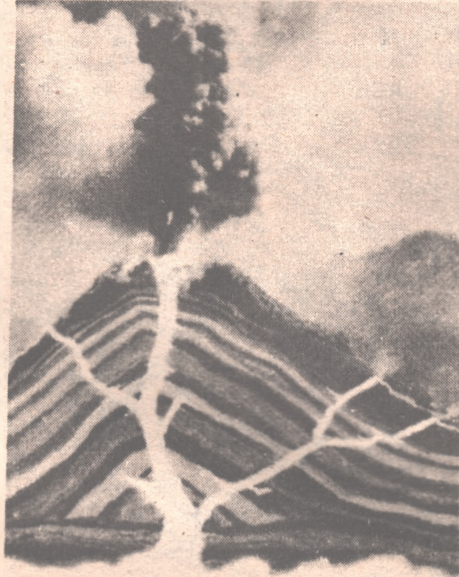
I accentuate the positive wherever I find it. In recent Sun issues, I've described the courage and determination of the traditional Mohawks, resisting Big Brother and the mass-production lifestyle; the valiant but futile effort the Mewatts of Rainville made to save some of the Yamaska River fish population; how Jim Matthews spends his summer trying to figure out how humble bacteria can overcome the environmental damage done by arrogant men.

I may seem negative to those biased toward death, but I say to them, wake up! Life is too short and too scarce to waste, to hide from behind 'labor-saving' gadgets that turn work into repetitive drudgery, mass entertainments that make all play passive, and drugged anesthesia, including the bland, escapist pap so many might prefer to read.

Incidentally, Charles Bury can collect a beer on me any time for his

'Pollution Picnics' piece. The only thing wrong with it is that it's too short. We could easily fill the Sun with similar.

Regards,  
Merritt Clifton



Bernard Epps' article on volcanoes in the Townships was very interesting—but please don't cancel any plans to visit Mt. Orford. Mr. Epps has apparently confused volcanoes with volcanic rocks, volcanic rocks with intrusive rocks, and the causes of earthquakes with the causes of volcanoes. A little delving into geologic time spans might clarify matters a bit.

Volcanoes or "vents" are mountains or hills or just plain holes in the ground which emit molten rock (lava), gases and steam. Volcanic rocks are what you get when the lava and ashes solidify. We do have volcanic rocks in the Townships, so there must have been volcanoes around here once. But our youngest volcanic rocks are from the Devonian

era, about 350 million years ago. While the rocks endure quite a while, the mountains themselves are eroded away very quickly, and the crater form of a non-erupting volcano will be unrecognisable within a very short period of time. (Before the Pompeii eruption of Vesuvius, no-one knew that Vesuvius was a volcano, and it had been dormant only a few thousand years).

To deserve the name, volcanic rock must have actually made it to the surface. Rock which has been molten, but solidified underground, is called intrusive. This is the sort of rock found on Mt. Orford and the Monteregian Hills. They might have been the deep underground roots which fed a volcano, but the mountain forms we see today are the result of erosion of softer surrounding rocks, not of a volcano. Mt. Orford has been good and solid (knock on rock) for 450 million years. I would hazard a guess (I've never looked at it) that the crater lakes on Orford and Ham are cirques, features of glacial erosion. The "collapsed western rim" on Megantic (also intrusive, not volcanic, rock) is the result of combined glacial and stream action working on fractures in the underlying rock.

It is true that volcanoes are associated with earthquakes, but not all quake zones have volcanoes. Quakes occur where the earth's crust is unstable; to get a volcano, you need molten rock as well, and that happens where part of the crust is forced down to where temperatures and pressures are high enough to melt it. The closest place to here that is happening in the Antilles. Our volcanoes are irretrievably extinct; we aren't likely to get any new ones unless there is a major change in the way the crust is working right now.

Quakes are another matter. We live in the Appalachian region, which has been stable for a mere 100 million years, unlike the Canadian Shield, continued pg. 41

## SECOND THOUGHTS

### Dr. Thomas Neill Cream

In the May issue, the Sun told the tale of Québec's Foulest Fiend who was hanged in London in 1892 for murdering five prostitutes with strychnine. Since then, correspondence with R.D. Moysey of Montreal and Don Bell of Sutton has revealed that Cream was intimately connected with the Townships.

After graduating from McGill in 1876, Cream met Flora Eliza Brooks, eldest of the three daughters of the owner of the Brooks House" hotel (afterwards the Waterloo Hotel). In September of that year, Flora fell ill



and it was discovered that she had had an abortion. Her father cornered Cream in the Ottawa Hotel in Montreal, held a shotgun to his head and forced him to marry Flora Eliza in Waterloo the very next day.

Cream went to England soon after his marriage to continue his medical studies and on August 12th, 1877, Flora Eliza died. She is buried in the Protestant cemetery of Waterloo next to the fence on the Court Street Side.

Did Cream do away with Flora Eliza with some slow acting and accumulative poison? One of the prostitutes in London was pronounced dead of 'delirium tremens' and safely buried before any suspicion of poison forced her exhumation. Did she die as a result of the bungled abortion? Did she die of consumption as local tradition still holds or was her health destroyed by some combination of all three? We will never know for sure.

Don Bell (author of Saturday Night at the Bagel Factory and Pocketman) believes that Cream was none other than Jack the Ripper himself. Jack the Rip, as everybody knows, slaughtered at least four, and possibly seven, prostitutes in a seamy side of London called Whitechapel in 1888. He wrote letters about his crimes.

Cream began poisoning prostitutes in the seamy side of London called

continued pg. 42

### Tent Caterpillars

In the July issue, The Sun carried a story of the plague of tent caterpillars that was stripping hundreds of acres of forest in the Townships. Since then, other periodicals have taken up the tale but the plague wasn't over when we went to press.

By the end of that month, nearly all the caterpillars were building cocoons. Everywhere in the woods—in the ferns, in the spruce and balsam needles, in the bare crotches of trees and among what few leaves remained—were little balls of white cotton with a tougher pouch inside. They'd draw the edges of the leaves over them like blankets, curl up tight inside and work their private miracles.

But the nicest miracle was going on in the trees. By the beginning of the month, the trees were already going green again—latent buds pushing out new leaves—first the tops of the fast growing poplars and then more slowly on the harder woods. Within

two weeks, the poplars had almost entirely recovered and even the mighty ash had produced a complete new canopy. The beeches and maples were the last to recover and had to make do for three weeks or more on what tattered shreds and chewed scraps of leaves the caterpillars had left them. A glance across the valley then could pick out the denuded acres only by their newer green.

I took a few cocoons home and put them in a jam jar to monitor their miracle. On July 12th, there was a female moth in the jar, brown and continued pg. 42

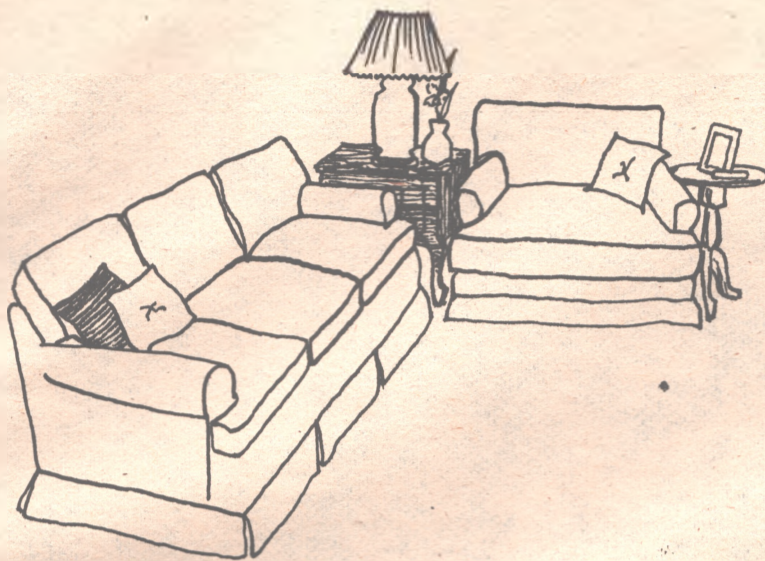


TENT CATERPILLAR  
(a) Full grown caterpillar. (b) Female moth. (c) Male moth. (d) Tent caterpillar.

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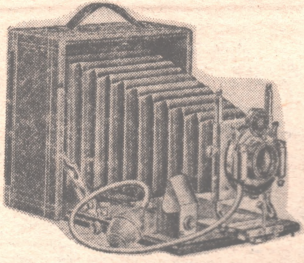
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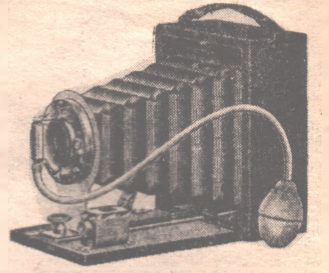
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WHEN YOU LOOK AT THE BOTTOM LINE, WE'RE THE BEST



# Photo Contest Winners



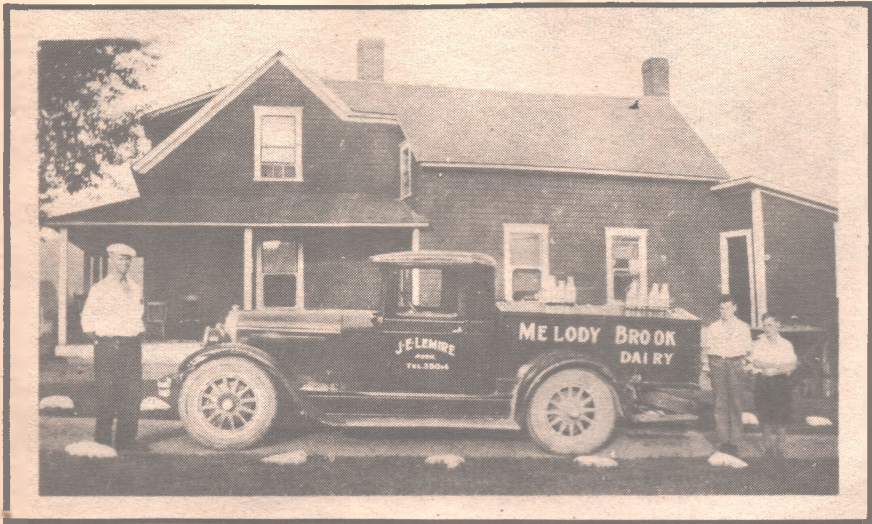
**First Prize Overall: David Simms, North Hatley**



**First Prize, Contemporary: Susan Mastine, Danville**



**First Prize, from a collection: Mme J. Roland Gagnon, Sherbrooke.**



Not everyone could win, but we thought you might like to see some of the many other photographs sent in for our contest.

Clockwise from the top left: two portraits from the collection of Mme J. Roland Gagnon of Sherbrooke, 1935 and 1912; The Ford Repair Shop 1928; and a home-made truck, both from Deborah Sheldon, Martinville; Sunset on Lake Massawippi, by Jocelyn Boutin; J.E. Lemire and Louis St-Cyr, Cookshire Police and Fire Chief, Strathcona Square, Sherbrooke 1905; and two on a horse, 1914, both from Mme Gagnon; Solitude on Brown's Hill, Ayer's Cliff, by Suzanne Champagne.



ROBERT GAGNON, SHERRIDGE

THE PARK, COASTALVILLE, BROWN HILL, DAVENPORT

# Market Gardening the Quiet Way



Charles Bury

The first thing you notice at **Russell Pocock's** farm near Compton is that nobody's wearing shoes. It's quiet. No whining tractors, no thumping balers, no roaring ventilators. Not even any animals. The loudest noise is 30,000 heads of lettuce bursting open in a corner of the north field.

Pocock is trying a daring experiment in modern farming. He's staking his farm, his livelihood and his credit rating on twelve acres of market vegetables, grown the quiet way—without heavy machinery, without the "Shout it Out" marketing methods of Green Giant, Kraft, Anita Bryant and Company. And most importantly, without the choking sounds of an environment suffocating in its own excesses, fertilizer which ends up largely in the rivers, herbicides and pesticides which end up in the vital organs of birds and other people, and gasoline which simply goes up in more and more rare and expensive smoke.

Twelve acres may not seem like much to North Americans used to thinking in terms of 500 acre dairy farms and 40,000 acre cattle ranches, but it's a lot of vegetables. Those 30,000 heads of lettuce only take up half an acre, and that half acre will be replanted as soon as it's been harvested.

As well as three types of lettuce (head, Boston and the epicure's delight, Romaine, used in Caesar and Greek salads), Pocock is growing garlic, broccoli, shallots, onions, red and green cabbages, beets, Swiss chard, spinach, kale, turnips,

rutabagas, tomatoes (100 dozen plants), sweet corn (4 acres), green and yellow beans, winter squash (2 acres), peas, snow peas, Windsor beans, parsley, dill, carrots, parsnips, standard and pickling cucumbers and radishes.

## Methods

"For years we've been told that the small farm is not profitable, that no one should bother trying to make a living from the land without machinery, chemistry and hundreds of acres of land," says Pocock, who expects his experiment to prove the contrary. "But some day, a family with a couple of kids will be able to make a fine living on ten acres or so."

Instead of planting in rows far enough apart for a tractor to pass between them, Pocock's system of bedding the plants closer together uses the land much more intensively. "I can get three rows in the space where one would normally grow," he explains, "so what you have in three acres here is equal to about ten acres planted conventionally."

"A big part of this for me is to show that high-energy farming is not the only way. Farmers are not living off the land. They're living off cheap petroleum resources and topsoil reserves built up over millions of years."

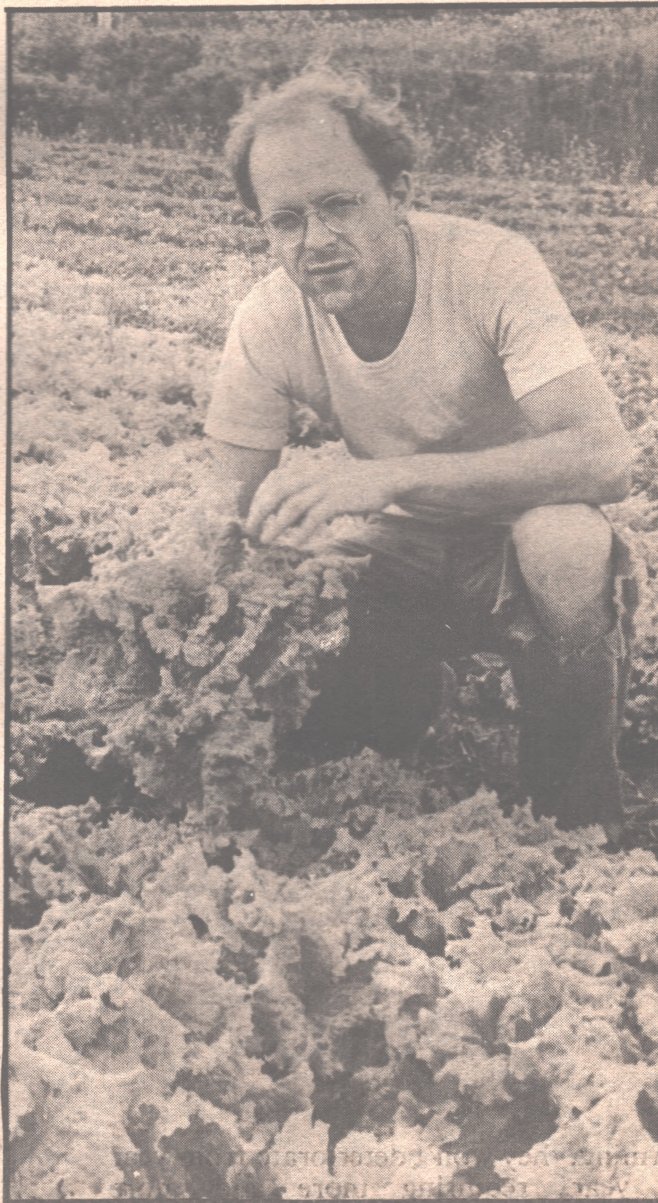
For every gallon of gas a farmer uses in his machinery, another is used in petroleum-based fertilizers and pesticides. "Some day Canadians will have to stop paying only half the world price for fuel,

and produce food competitively. We're living in a fool's paradise. Soon, more labour-intensive farming will become the only way possible."

Pocock's barefoot band of farm workers replace the tractor. He first witnessed this type of farming in the Philippines. "The first time I saw four or five people working in a field of vegetables, it really made me feel good, it gave me a warm feeling in my heart. Everyone was happy and the vegetables were beautiful and delicious."

*La Ferme des Vieux Anglais* as it's called in local lore, is home to as cosmopolitan a crew as you'll find anywhere. An Acadian mother with her young son in tow, a CEGEP student from Trois Rivières who brought his younger brother along, a painter from France taking a break from his vacation, all are happily working side by side in the fields, each at his own pace, carefully weeding among the plants, with bare hands or hand implements. Each takes his breaks at his own pace, and prepares his own lunch in the kitchen of the hundred-year-old farmhouse that is the centre of the operation. Each is proud of doing the work and the quality of the product.

Chemical fertilizers have been replaced here by a mix of natural ones, selected and balanced by **Angus Curry** and his team from **Eaton Valley Agricultural Services**, who share Pocock's concerns and provide soil analysis and consultation for "organic" producers all over Québec and parts of Ontario and New England. **EVAS** serves all kinds of producers, from



Charles Bury

hobby gardeners with tiny backyard plots to large commercial orchardists. As Québec's largest completely organic farmer, Pocock is also one of their best customers.

"The guys from Eaton Valley have been a big help," he explains. "They do a complete soil breakdown, advise on what to add to feed the soil, not just the plants, and they carry many hard-to-get organic fertilizers. And if you don't need to use something or they can see a cheaper alternative, they'll tell you not to buy. It's an outfit with real integrity."

Among the products Pocock uses are ground rock phosphate, liquid seaweed and "liquid seafish", made from bones, entrails and undesirable fish caught by accident. He also uses **Sulpomag**, a combination of natural sulfate, potash and magnesium. But by far the largest component of his nutrient package is that mystical, mysterious substance, compost. "Manure itself is a good fertilizer, although it's a little strong to be applied directly, especially for food crops," he says. "When it's composted though, it's almost ideal. Manure is full of undigested weed seeds, and when it's spread on the fields, they grow, of course, like weeds. But after composting, the weed problem almost disappears."

So far, Pocock has had little problem with insect pests, indeed scarcely a moth or worm can be seen in his cultivated fields. He sprays occasionally with *Bacillus Thuringensis*, or BT, marketed under the trade name **Thuricide**. It is a natural bacterium that kills the worm or caterpillar phase of most garden pests, and nothing else.



Charles Bury

But the proof of the pudding is in the eating, they say too, and here is where the organic, carefully grown product really stands out.

"The first time I took a load of lettuce into **Superfruit**, a fruit and vegetable store in Sherbrooke, it was incredible," says Pocock, smiling at the memory. "Shoppers with lettuce in their baskets when I came in actually put them back in the bins and took mine right out of the box I was carrying them in! I didn't believe it."

non-organic producers as well. "Last week the price of lettuce at the Central Market in Montreal was ten cents each. There are 18 in a box, and the box itself costs 40 cents. How can anybody make any money like that? It's ridiculous, 18 heads of lettuce for \$1.40!"

One of the big problems for the small producers is recognition. The Union des Producteurs Agricole (UPA) has only recently recognized that they exist, and has hired an agent to "organize" them. But this agent also looks after all the otherwise unrecognized "specialty" producers as well, from horsemeat to honey, from goat's milk to garlic, and he does it all over the province.

On a more local level, Eastern Townships producers are beginning to take matters into their own hands. Plans are afoot to organize a large farmers' market in Sherbrooke, along the lines of smaller ones already in existence, in North Hatley, Lennoxville and Bromont for example. As the province's largest organic vegetable producer, Pocock is taking a major part in these formative activities. "We don't know yet how many commercial fruit and vegetable producers there are in the region. So far we've found about a dozen, but there are probably more out there, it's just that nobody knows about them."

Pocock is working with fellow producer **Robert Beauchemin**, local UPA official **Bernard Houle**, Sherbrooke businesswoman **Christine Connors** and others to get the Sherbrooke market going. A few preliminary meetings have been held, and progress has been mixed. The downtown merchants' association and the Alexander Street Association are behind the project, but the City of Sherbrooke Sanitation Department has other ideas. The new group has been told that selling fresh produce is "unsanitary" and that a provincial law now being prepared will outlaw outdoor markets.

Another recognition problem that plagues small and organic producers is with the provincial Ministère d'Agriculture. "When I told the agronome that I had 30,000 lettuce plants started in a greenhouse, he didn't even believe me. Of course he wasn't prepared to help me



Jessica Perkins

### Product and Marketing

Many critics of the organic method insist that it will never be commercially feasible, because the yields won't be there, labour costs are too high, and "why bother doing it the hard way" when you can get just as good a product chemically and mechanically?

Pocock's labour costs are high, but his fertilizer, fuel and machinery costs are much lower. His yields per acre are extremely high. And unlike chemical farming, they won't deteriorate from year to year, requiring more and more chemicals.

Neither did the store's owner **Martin Pruneau**, after eight years in vegetables a veteran retailer. He claimed that they were "The nicest Boston lettuce I've ever seen."

Suddenly, in his first year of full production, Pocock has, however, a serious marketing problem. He has to compete with national and international wholesalers with complete farm-gate to supermarket distribution systems on the one hand, while on the other lies a largely apathetic consumer public, who don't care where their produce comes from or how it's grown, as long as it's cheap.

This is a problem he shares with other



Hot Flash

Just to show how things work chez nous, guess what came in the mail on the day we put The Sun "to bed". The following communiqué is from the Ministère d'Agriculture du Québec:

Québec...In order to improve yields and harvest quality, The Ministry favours the pursuit of "technical fine tuning" among producers to verify the production potential of certain new cultures.

Financial Aid

In addition to technical help, the ministry grants a subsidy to the agricultural producer for the introduction of new varieties. The amount of the subsidy is \$250 per hectare for field crops (Les plantes de grandes cultures), \$750 per hectare for field grown horticultural plants, and \$200 per 100 square metres for sheltered (greenhouse) cultures.

For the introduction of new techniques, for new specialized equipment and materials or for sheltered cultures, the amount of the subsidy includes 50% compensation for new equipment investments, a contribution of 75% for supplementary costs and a guarantee of 80% of the revenue forecast for the project.

The maximum subsidy is \$5000 per producer per year.

Conditions

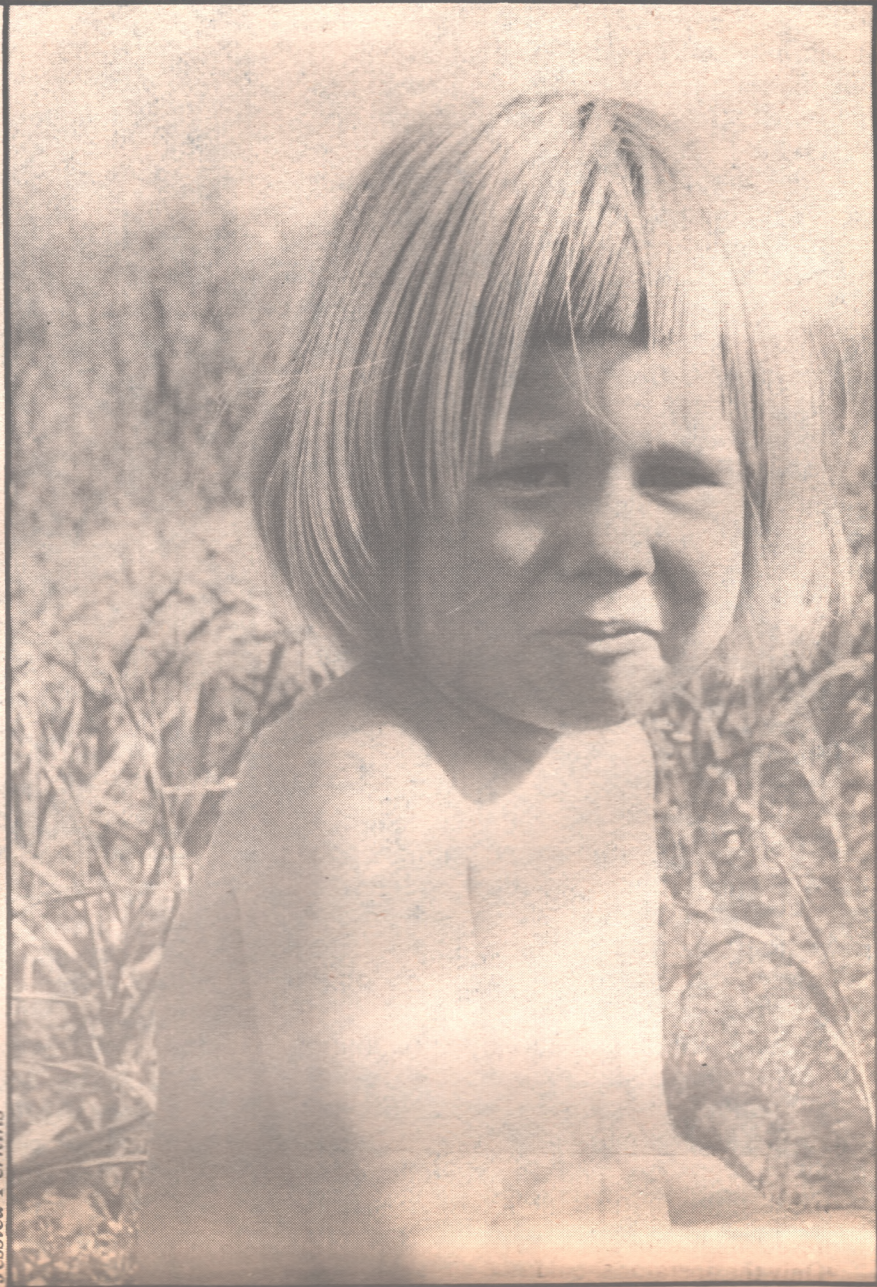
To participate in this program, one must be a recognized agricultural producer and own the land and equipment necessary to realize the project. Producers can find out the details of the project and the requirements. Surprise, Russell.

C.B.

out," says Pocock. Although a government program is helping with his summer help as it does for all card-carrying farmers who apply, he adds, "The agronomer hasn't even been out here to see the operation. None of them know anything about vegetable production anyway."

Deeply in debt (his labour bill runs about \$100 a day), and getting deeper, Pocock isn't about to give up. Next year his expenses will be less—"I've learned a lot this year and next year I will be able to produce just as much with just a couple of workers. A big part of this for me is to show that the organic method really works commercially, and not just in theory. Agricultural pollution is a giant problem. The fertilizers fertilize the rivers and end up killing the fish. The pesticides and herbicides end up killing much more than their targets, and now scientists are showing that they stay in the environment for a long time and even cause cancer and birth defects (Reye's Syndrome, see The Sun, Feb. 79, Spruce Budworm comes to the Townships). The only thing that will make organic agriculture work is to go out and try it."

by Charles Bury



Jessica Perkins

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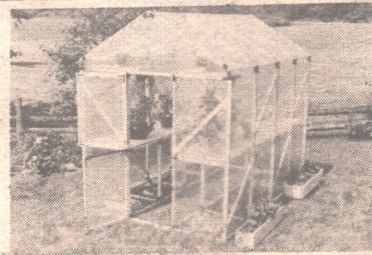
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**Tractor Safety**

Manufacturers are designing safety features into tractor and farm equipment in general, but it is up to the operator to recognize unsafe conditions and the hazards involved in tractor operation.

The following tips will be useful in preventing tractor accidents:

- Only the operator should ride on the tractor. Keep children away.
- Reduce speed before applying brakes.
- Stay clear of ditches, embankments, holes, etc...to avoid upset.
- Do not dismount when tractor is in motion.
- Disengage power take-off (PTO) before dismounting.
- Lower all equipment before leaving tractor.
- Keep safety shielding in place when using the power take-off (PTO).
- On public roads observe traffic regulations and identify equipment with the SMV emblem.

Many farm accidental fatalities involve tractors according to the Canada Safety Council. More than half of these "tractor fatalities" result from overturn accidents.

Deaths can be avoided and injuries are minimized by installing rollover protective frames or crash resistant

cabs on tractors, and by making sure, in addition, that operators wear safety belts. Should a rollover occur, the safety belt will keep the operator within the protected area.

To reduce the risk of tractor overturn, spread tractor wheels as far as possible. Be extra careful when operating on slopes, rough ground, near ditches and embankments or when pulling with a cable or chain. Reduce speed before making a turn. Attach equipment or chains to recommended points only.

Set drawbar in lowest position when hitching to a heavy load. Hitching too high on the tractor would cause it to pivot on the rear wheels and turn-over backwards. Use front weights to balance the tractor.

**Food Infractions**

Next time you're shopping for food there are a few names you should look out for. Le Ministère de l'agriculture des pêcheries et de l'alimentation du Québec recently released the names of violators of the food and dairy product laws. These verdicts were given in the first three months of 1980.

Throughout the province there were 32 types of infraction resulting in 88 convictions with fines totaling \$16,900.

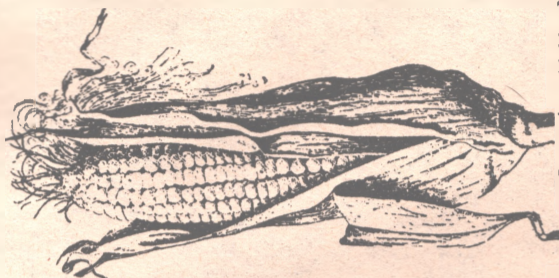
In the Eastern Townships there were 8 convictions for 6 different types of infraction and a total of \$2,825. in fines:

**Marcel Lahaie** of R.R.2, Bromptonville, was fined \$200.00 for the presence of antibiotics in his milk. The Restaurant l'Ami du Passant (**René Poirier** prop.) of 645 Champlain St. in Disraeli was fined \$50.00 for having perishable food in a mobile canteen not equipped with a refrigerator. **Gaston Blanchet**, a Rock Forest food broker was fined \$1100. for falsely claiming 100% soya oil content on his margarine labels. The Laiterie Chagnon Ltée of 819 Lewis St. in Waterloo was fined \$100.00 for false indication of fat content in their milk. **Marché Tarte & Fils Inc.**, a butcher shop at 1243 Shefford in

Bromont were found guilty of running an unclean butcher shop and fined \$200.

**G.A. Juair** of 300 St. Jacques St. in Granby was found guilty of running an unclean butcher shop and fined \$200. **Archie Sheldon** of R.R.1 Martinville was found guilty of operating an unclean slaughterhouse and fined \$100. **Denis Fréchette** of R.R.1 St-Georges-de-Windsor was found guilty of operating a slaughterhouse without hot water and fined \$75.

D.C.



**Farming Must Go On!**

- Where was the first calf born, produced from a frozen embryo?
- What is the "Québec Farmers' Association" and how can they help you?
- Where were the **Dorval** and **Yamaska** oat cultivars, the **Laurier** and **Laurent** cultivars developed?
- If someone asked you the origin of **Dollard** red clover and the future of the **Mirabel** birdsfoot trefoil, would you know the answer?

Where can the answers to these questions and many more be found?

At the Macdonald College/ Q.F.A. information unit at the Cookshire and Coaticook Fairs. Macdonald College has been and still is a dynamic leader in agricultural research in many areas. Considerable effort is made to apply the agricultural "know how" to the farming community; Dairy Herd Analysis Service, Evening Courses, Feed Analysis Service. The Extension Department's Community Services programs are but a few examples of the close relationship that Macdonald College maintains with rural life.

To find out more, come visit the Macdonald display at Cookshire from August 1-3, and at Coaticook from August 8-11.

**SOL-O-RAMA, what is it?**

First of all, it is the Canadian and Provincial Plowing Championships, as well as the largest soil equipment exhibition in the Province of Québec.

As in the past years, we will find at the Provincial level two classes of Visitors, Novices and Advanced, and Intercollegiate classes, Utility, Junior and Senior. At the National level British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and, of course, Québec already have two participants per province registered.

Something new?

For the first time in the history of the Canadian Plowing Championship, young representatives from all the provinces will compete for the "Junior Canadian Champion" title. The Province of Québec will be represented by **Benny Hammond** from Lachute.

75 acres, 50 of which will be worked right before your eyes, and 25 of which will be given to the exhibition of new machinery, as well as a consumers' program.

So don't miss it, at Macdonald College, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue. When? September 10-13th.

**The History of the Morgan Horse**

Once upon a time, nearly 200 years ago there was a horse called **Justin Morgan**. Justin Morgan was the legendary progenitor of the Morgan Horse breed. He was born in 1789, the same year as the 1st President of the United States of America, George Washington.

The great stamina and vigor of the Morgan Horse, together with its excellent conformation and way of going have contributed to make other American light breeds what they are today, yet they retain their own identity across two centuries.

In American Saddlebred history such famous champions as Bourbon King and Rex Peavine trace to Justin Morgan. Rated as best of all time, mighty Wing Commander is another descendant.

Justin Morgan's great-grandson, **Ethan Allen**, was the champion trotter of the world. Then Indian wars, and the only survivor of the Little Big Horn was Keogh's Morgan-bred horse, **Commanche**.

These were the links in history that inspired Walt Disney to select for production the film **Justin Morgan had a Horse**.

When you see a thick silky mane, a lovely head with huge alert eyes and tiny ears, you see the Morgan Horse.

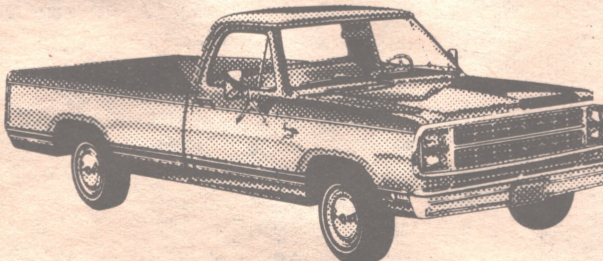
A Morgan will try anything you ask of him, willingly and they are quietly teaching children to know and love animals. No child can better learn gentleness, willingness and good judgement than by raising and knowing a Morgan Horse.

W

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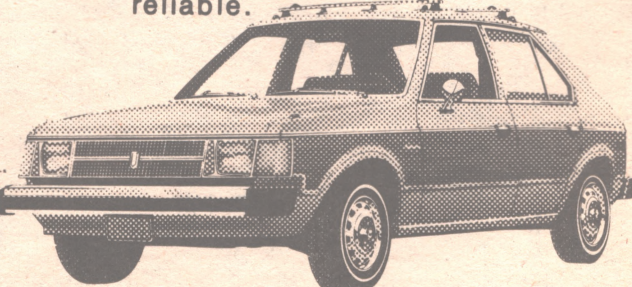
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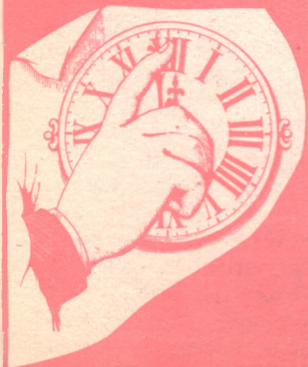
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# Blood Money

Merritt Clifton



Sometimes the daily news doesn't tell the real story of the day. Sometimes it doesn't even suggest it, even while remaining factually accurate. "General Motors of Canada Ltd. still holds its place as Canada's top industrial corporation in terms of sales," the Canadian Press wire told us toward the end of June. "But Canadian Pacific Ltd. has overtaken Ford Motor Co. of Canada Ltd. for second place, **The Financial Post** reports...Hydro-Québec of Montreal is given top ranking in terms of both assets and net income. Ontario Hydro, based in Toronto, has the second-highest assets..."

Those are the facts, but not the full truth. The full truth about Canada's 500 largest corporations, as listed by **The Financial Post**, is long and grim. The list is virtually identical to a list of our largest polluters; only the order varies. In addition, many of the multinational corporations have been deeply involved in upholding foreign dictatorships, in effect promoting torture, slavery, and death to bring us marginally improving material prosperity. Of Canada's 100 biggest corporations, roughly half have been charged with abusing the earth and indigenous peoples by such groups as the Greenpeace Foundation, Friends Of The Earth, the Clamshell Alliance, White Roots of Peace, the American Friends Service Committee, VOW, and Amnesty International.

The following list of corporate offenders is by no means all-inclusive. Corporations and activities mentioned are only those having received major media attention during the past 12 months. The result is not an indictment, but an indicator of just where and how the rich get rich.

The number preceding each corporate identity tells where the corporation ranks among the top 100.

**1. General Motors:** a multinational, GM is the single corporation most responsible for destroying light-rail mass transit in North America. Following World War II, GM began purchasing metropolitan trolley systems wherever available, then replacing them with bus systems using GM-built coaches. While the old trolley-lines were mostly profitable, the new bus fleets were not—but by threatening to cancel all service, GM then got the various communities to buy back their mass transit systems. Most still operate at a loss, deepening as the cost of gasoline rises. Many communities are now studying a return to light rail; Calgary is now constructing one.

**2. Canadian Pacific Railways** made headlines throughout Québec recently after CBC-6 of Montreal televised 'The Asbestos Line', a four-part documentary describing how CPR has re-ballasted Townships tracks with asbestos tailings. Loose asbestos from the tracks is now contaminating air and water from Caughnawaga to Abercorn on the Adirondack Subdivision, and from Highwater to Sherbrooke on the connecting Beebe Subdivision. Inhaled asbestos is a long-established cause of cancer, while ingested asbestos is strongly suspected of causing gastro-intestinal cancers. This story, incidentally, appeared in **The Townships Sun** in February 1979—16 months before the CBC series ran.

**4. Imperial Oil** 76% owned by EXXON, the world's largest energy conglomerate. Imperial operates six different uranium mines in the Kawartha Lakes region of Ontario, where miners and residents have complained for nearly twenty years

about lax safety standards. Lung cancer among miners here has increased by 50% over normal levels, according to the 1976 Ham Report on the Health & Safety Of Mine Workers. Imperial and EXXON have also been deeply involved in exploitation of energy resources located on Indian lands. Typically they will lease mineral rights through the U.S. and/or Canadian Bureaus of Indian Affairs at a fraction of market value, stripmine until the mineral deposits are exhausted, then move on, leaving behind deserts in place of mountain forest. The Mohawk newspaper **Akwesasne Notes** has documented numerous such cases in the American northwest and southwest. Finally, the Dene nation of northern Saskatchewan and the Northwest Territories has accused Imperial of environmental negligence in developing the MacKenzie Valley.

outlined as follows: "The conscious and intelligent manipulation of the organized habits and opinions of the masses must be done by experts, the public relations counsels; they are the invisible rulers that control the destinies of millions...the most direct way to reach the herd is through the leaders. For if the group leaders accept our ideas, the group they dominate will respond...all this should be planned...indoctrination must be subtle. It should be worked into the everyday life of the people 24 hours a day in a hundred ways...a redefinition of ethics is necessary... **the subject matter of the propaganda need not be true.**" While fluoridation may somewhat reduce some incidence of tooth decay, the U.S. National Cancer Institute also suspects it has caused up to 35,000 excess cancer deaths over the past 15 years. **The Townships Sun** published these and

*"The conscious and intelligent manipulation of the organized habits and opinions of the masses must be done by experts... indoctrination must be subtle."*

**6. Alcan**, a part of the multinational Alcoa Aluminum chain. In common with other aluminum producers, Alcan is responsible for fluoride pollution of lakes and rivers. Fluoride is a waste product resulting from aluminum processing. Around 50 years ago, Alcoa discovered it could increase profits by persuading towns to fluoridate their drinking water. Alcoa's own attorney, **Oscar Ewing**, became U.S. Administrator of Federal Security in 1944. He used his influential position to promote fluoridation as an alleged antidote to tooth-decay, following strategy he

other statistics during 1976, together with statements from 12 Nobel Prize winners who oppose fluoridation. Nonetheless, the Québec government has made fluoridation of municipal water supplies mandatory.

**11. Gulf Canada**, part of the multinational Gulf Oil Company. Gulf is also heavily committed to nuclear development, especially uranium mining and processing, and has been charged with the same offenses as Imperial Oil: exploitative mineral leasing, unsafe procedures, and environmental negligence after desired minerals have been extracted.

12. **Inco**, operators of the massive Sudbury copper refinery. Inco's single smokestack at Sudbury contributes more sulphur dioxide to the atmosphere than any other man-made source. According to CBC's 'News-magazine' program, the Inco smelter is singly responsible for much of northern Ontario's acid rain damage, spewing forth 3,500 tons of sulphur smoke per day. Inco refused to install 'scrubbers' designed to reduce sulphur emissions on grounds this would not return a financial profit. However, on May 1 the Ontario government ordered Inco to keep emissions down to 2,500 tons per day, and has ordered further reductions by 1982.

15. **Ontario Hydro**, responsible for over 60% of all nuclear development in Canada. Much of this development has been reckless and unnecessary by any economic standard. As M. Mueller of **The Birch-Bark Alliance** reports, "Ontario Hydro is in debt to their eyeballs," despite their high cash flow, "and they already have more surplus energy than they know what to do with." Americans are not buying nearly as much electricity as Ontario Hydro anticipated. Meanwhile, Ontario Hydro's reactors at Rolphton and Pickering have been plagued with minor accidents—or, at any rate, accidents officially labeled 'minor'. The **Ottawa-Citizen** recently conducted an in-depth investigation of the troubles at Rolphton, editorially concluding on June 18, 1979 that "All the platitudes radiating from Ontario Hydro and the Ontario government about openness and honesty have been proven so much bunk. Not only have these two institutions lied to the public about the seriousness of problems at the Rolphton nuclear generating plant, but now they have demonstrated themselves to be devious liars as well." The Rolphton plant had in fact been operating while officially closed for repairs and safety inspection.

17. **Texaco Canada**, part of the multinational Texaco energy conglomerate. Texaco recently took over much of the Chaco region of Paraguay to conduct oil prospecting. In the process, Texaco either tacitly ignored or clandestinely encouraged Paraguay's systematic slaughter of Chaco's actual owners, the Ache bushfolk. Under dictator Alfredo Stroessner, the Ache have been shot, trapped, poisoned, and enslaved until their numbers have dwindled from several thousand to about two or three hundred. Among Stroessner's top advisors is a man suspected to be Dr. Josef Mangale, "the Doctor of Auschwitz", who has reportedly used Ache slaves to continue the experiments in torture and degradation he began with Jews some 40 years ago. Another Stroessner advisor, Manuel de Jesus Periera, was convicted in 1972 of enslaving and raping Ache girls as young as 6. The **Sunday Times** of London, **Amnesty International**, **White Roots of Peace**, **Akwesasne Notes**, and the **United Nations Commission On Human Rights** have all investigated and documented massacres and enslavement of the Ache; in 1975, Ache children brought as little as \$5 on the glutted San Juan Nepomuceno market. In supporting the Stroessner government financially, Texaco and the U.S.-based Anschutz Corporation are in fact underwriting genocide.

19. **Noranda Mines**, presently under investigation by the Environmental Health Laboratory, part of New York's prestigious Mt. Sinai Hospital

and medical school. Like Inco, Noranda contributes heavily to our acid rain problems, and has also been linked to serious mercury pollution in waters near their Noranda, Québec smelter.

20. **Hydro-Québec's** nuclear program is presently suspended, after Gently 1 became what **Maclean's** has called "one of the world's most conspicuous nuclear duds." Numerous breakdowns between 1971 and 1977 released radiation into the air and water, and the plant generated electricity for only about 350 hours. However, Gently 2 is still under construction. Hydro-Québec is also committed to environmentally disruptive high technology in the James Bay dam project. James Bay has already cost Québec rate-payers \$17 billion, plus the lives of 32 construction workers. By the beginning of the 21st century, silting and other maintenance problems will require a complete overhaul, probably costing at least as much more. Since New York and Massachusetts are not buying nearly as much Québec power as anticipated, James Bay may never break even, although Gov. Snelling of Vermont recently offered to finance further James Bay development. If James Bay does operate at peak capacity, however, and if Hydro-Québec completes Gently 2 and Gently 3, operating them at peak



capacity also, the three projects combined will have a total power output of 8,788 megawatts. Energy minister **Guy Joron** admits that existing low-head dams in Québec have 10,000 megawatt potential—without creating any radiation or flooding any areas not presently underwater. However, while New England utility companies are rapidly restoring their old low-head dams to working order, Hydro-Québec continues retiring what low-head dams can be operated here, and has not taken any concrete action toward reopening those that have been allowed to deteriorate. Except for announcing one million-dollar Feasibility study, Hydro-Québec has shown no interest in low-head whatever, but still monopolizes river generating rights so that no one else can provide competition. Finally, as **The Townships Sun** reported during 1976 and 1977, Hydro Québec is notorious for needlessly and recklessly expropriating land to build high-voltage electrical transmission lines, for dismissing damage claims from farmers and others suffering through exposure to 750-kv electrical plasmas, which travel not through the wires but instead as force-fields surrounding them, and for spraying defoliants in and around power-line paths to keep weeds down. At least one Hydro-Québec assault on the environment has been perhaps

permanently stopped as a result of pressure from **Sun** readers, the Fullerton Pond pumped-storage scheme, a hydroelectric variant on perpetual motion. However, the plans do still exist and could still be dusted off at some future date.

27. **Domtar**, whose crews are presently clearcutting on Singer Mountain, threatening the Yamaska and Missisquoi River watershed: Domtar is among the most blatantly visible polluters in the Eastern Townships, repeatedly threatening to close down plants and lay off hundreds of workers if forced to meet basic environmental safety standards. Domtar pulp and paper mills have been caught dumping mercury into the Saguenay River, poisoning fish that in turn poisoned from 5 to 25 Cree Indians at Matagami; the government confirmed 5 poisonings, but the Cree stand by the higher figure. Domtar is heavily subsidized by the Québec government (whose pension plan owns 21% of Domtar) and also tightly protected by high tariffs on paper products.

31. **Canadian General Electric** belongs to the international G.E. conglomerate. G.E. manufactures nuclear reactors for military as well as civilian use and is involved in making nuclear weapons. Last year G.E.

launched a mammoth public relations campaign on behalf of nuclear power, circulating several hundred thousand copies of a handbook called **Nuclear Power Quick Reference II** among schoolchildren and the media. Of the 204 'factual' claims within it, 82 are false or under serious dispute.

39. **British Columbia Hydro** has just agreed to construct fish-ladders at all dam sites, after years of pressure from Indians and environmentalists. B.C. Hydro construction projects are blamed for part of a drastic decline in the salmon population recently.

49. **DuPont of Canada**, part of the world's largest multinational holding company. Most sinister inclusion among the long and grim DuPont inventory is the Savannah River Nuclear Weapons plant in Aiken, South Carolina, constructing H-bombs since 1952. Plant workers suffering from leukemia have been

unforeseen death and destruction, including PCBs, PCV plastics, and Agent Orange.

56. **Dominion Textile**, another contributor to local river pollution, frequently accused of discharging dyes and fibres by la Front de depollution Yamaska. Many of the dyes are acetone-based, highly toxic to fish, whose rotting corpses increase pollution problems further.

59. **ITT Canada**, part of the multinational ITT conglomerate. ITT's most sinister known activity took place in Chile 8 years ago, where ITT subsidiaries helped several generals and the CIA to overthrow elected president Salvador Allende. Allende had attempted to nationalize various ITT holdings. Since that military coup, up to 40,000 dissident Chileans have disappeared. Amnesty International has located only about 3,000 of them in secret concentration camps. Among the thousands known dead, many suffered hideous torture; survivors report that the torture chambers operate under American advisors, who may in fact be ITT employees as well as CIA agents. Jack Anderson continues investigation. ITT, incidentally, was fined for illegally contributing to former U.S. president Richard Nixon's campaign fund, at about the same time as the Chilean coup took place.

60. **Dow Chemical** is the world's largest maker of Agent Orange, an equal blend of the herbicides 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T. Dow also provides the 2,4-D sprayed along Québec roadsides to kill wildflowers, as exposed by **The Townships Sun** during 1978. Overuse of 2,4-D on midwestern grain fields may be partially responsible for the rising incidence of birth defects and declining soil fertility. Dow Chemical also manufactures napalm. Much of the napalm dropped on Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War era originated from Canadian factories.

61. **Canada Cement Lafarge** makes asbestos-cement pipes. Banned in many parts of the U.S., these shed 1.5 million asbestos fibres per litre passing through 6 miles of pipe, creating a serious pollution hazard when used for long-distance water conduits.

62. **Union Carbide** receives roughly one billion dollars per year to operate nuclear fuel enrichment plants at Paducah, Kentucky, and Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Both are involved in building nuclear weapons. Union Carbide's refusal to compensate cancer victim Joe Harding has become a landmark in the anti-nuclear struggle. Harding worked in the Paducah plant from 1952 until 1970. He spent 12 years in the most radioactive part of the plant. He died after suffering many of the strangest mutations on medical record, including fingernail-like scales on other parts of his body. Not only did Union Carbide refuse to issue company compensation, but they also persuaded Social Security and Harding's own private insurance company to cut off compensation, on grounds he was "a troublemaker and publicity-seeker". Harding's youngest daughter died of radiation exposure in 1977. His surviving daughter

*Where are the conscientious workers who will disobey orders and be fired before opening the valves to poison themselves, their wives, their children and their neighbours.*

denied company compensation. DuPont also manufactures several thousand other chemicals contributing to

and a co-worker named Ernest Pur-

continued pg. 41

## Bourassa's Bathwater

by Robert Winters

Former Premier Robert Bourassa has been wearing a self-satisfied smile since the Malouf report which pinned most of the blame for the \$1.6-billion cost squarely on Montreal Mayor Jean Drapeau.

While most of the media coverage focused on the inquiry's devastating attack on Drapeau, less attention was given to a section of volume four on conflicts of interest which describes a series of financial transactions involving top officials in the Bourassa administration.

This section includes a look at a special slush fund that Bourassa had which was replenished with gifts from Olympic contractors that were collected by Paul Desrochers, who worked in the premier's office as his senior advisor.

### Private Supper

It also provides a fascinating glimpse into the mysterious world of fast-flowing cash and free apartments behind the scenes in Québec City under the Bourassa regime before and after the premier had opened the floodgates of the provincial treasury in January, 1975.

This was when the premier announced—after a private supper with Drapeau in Bourassa's apartment in the national assembly building—that the Québec government was giving the city the green light to continue building Paris architect Roger Taillibert's monumental sports facilities.

Aides to the premier quickly spread word among reporters that this would probably mean a provincial contribution of no more than between \$100 and \$200 million—a small price to pay compared with the international prestige the Olympics would bring to Québec just before a provincial election.

The private supper followed several days of national assembly committee hearings during which Mayor Drapeau provided little information, although he maintained firmly that no alternatives to the Taillibert designs were possible.

The Malouf report said that at these hearings, "Mayor Drapeau, with consummate art, was able to practise a policy of *fait accompli* in the face of already spiralling costs."

"The government obtained only the information which the city authorities, and Mayor Drapeau in particular, were willing to give it," despite an agreement to provide full informa-



*"You just have to keep the taps open long enough"*

tion to a special provincial watchdog committee headed by Fernand Lalonde.

### The \$800 Million Blank Cheque

Although the Malouf report takes a stern look at the financial transactions (more about them later), the inquiry took a considerably softer stance when dealing with Bourassa's decision to write a blank cheque which eventually wound up costing the province \$800 million, its share of the \$1-billion deficit.

It might be worth pausing for a moment to consider what could be done with \$800 million...what new technologies might have been developed if Québec had invested this money in alternative-energy research? How much public housing could have been built? How much help could have been given to farmers? By how much could pension cheques have been increased?

Anyway, there's no point crying over spilt milk. The Malouf inquiry gives its approval to Bourassa's decision to stand by and watch the large-scale raid on the public purse.

"Since the City of Montreal is an autonomous entity, administered by a democratically elected council, the

government of Québec could not act directly until it became obvious that the Games themselves were in jeopardy," the report said.

The direct action referred to is the creation of the Olympic installations board in November, 1975, when the province took over the main sports facilities after it became apparent that hundreds of millions of dollars of provincial funds were on the line.

The only flaw in the report's line of reasoning is that municipalities are creatures of the province under Québec law, meaning that if the city declares bankruptcy, the provincial government must pick up the pieces and pay whatever debts the city has run up.

Bourassa knew this in 1975 and he must have suspected that the mayor was not being completely open about the project.

But he also realized the mayor's tremendous political weight and he feared what the political cost would be to him personally if he crossed swords with Drapeau and denied him his fondest dream! To bring the Games to Montreal in style, with breathtaking sports facilities that would put the city on the world map—for good.

Bourassa's decision left the Québec

government with a long-term debt of \$693.1 million once the spending spree was over. By the end of 1979, this long-term debt had been whittled down to \$606.9 million.

Meanwhile, a total of \$227.3 million had been paid out in interest payments on this long-term debt and one of the main sources of revenue—Loto-Canada—had disappeared.

Loto-Canada paid \$168.3 million to the province for the Olympic debt by the end of 1979, an amount that will be sorely missed by those attempting to fill the Olympic bathtub—an image that was so fondly used by Drapeau at the 1975 national assembly hearings.

### "You Just Have to Keep the Taps Open Long Enough"

By that point, Drapeau's affirmations that there would be no Olympic debt were beginning to wear thin so he trotted out a new image. The money spent on the Games is like a bathtub, he said, you just have to keep the taps open long enough and any deficit will eventually be erased. The main tap was Loto-Canada and it was closed off—apparently for good—by the Clark government which turned over the lottery field to the provinces.

With interest payments on Québec's debt climbing to \$87 million in 1979 alone, the province's Olympic tobacco tax of about \$70 million a year cannot come near filling the bathtub. In fact, the level of the water continues to rise and new loans will be needed in the new fiscal year of the Olympic installations board which begins in November of this year. It is expected that the \$700 million in long-term debt picked up by the Québec government will mean an additional \$1 billion in interest payments and money spent in exchanging Canadian dollars for other currencies to pay off loans. These payments will continue at least until the year 2000.

The Québec government also threw in about \$100 million in cash right after the Games, before setting up the financial structure to pay the \$693.1 million in long-term debt.

### Red Carpet Treatment

Of course, Bourassa has never had to answer questions about his decision to allow Drapeau to go ahead.

When the former premier appeared before the Malouf inquiry, he was given the red-carpet treatment and was not questioned intensively about his decision. It was assumed by the commission that Drapeau had pulled a fast one on Bourassa although the



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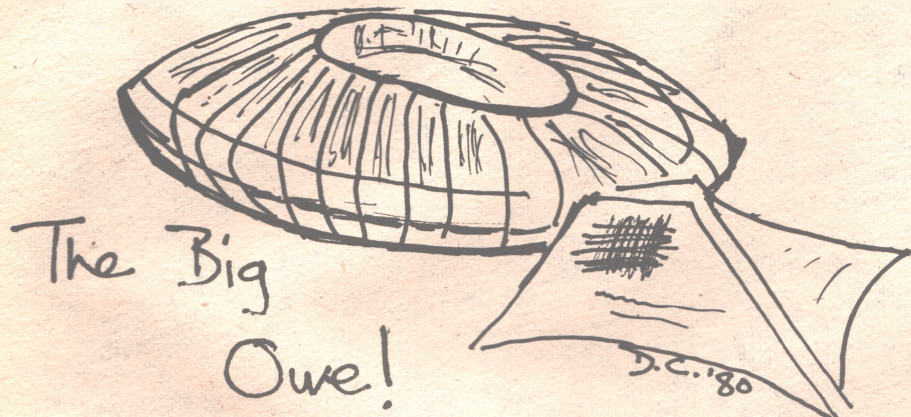
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danger signs were blinking wildly for all to see in January, 1975.

When Fernand Lalonde, head of the provincial watchdog committee and later justice minister, appeared to testify, he was originally defensive in

Rouleau, who held a variety of posts including deputy minister of transport, highways and public works, took \$17,000 of this money in cash from Trudeau.

Rouleau also received a gift of



his answers. Lalonde appeared to be expecting rough treatment from the commission for his role which involved directly informing Bourassa of progress on the Olympic project.

But Lalonde was visibly relieved when Mr. Justice smiled and said the inquiry did not doubt that Lalonde had performed admirably, it was merely a question of finding out what had happened. In other words, the inquiry wanted to know what Drapeau had done to make their job difficult.

**The Kingmaker Who Picked Bourassa**

The inquiry was considerably tougher when it came to examining the financial transactions involving Paul Desrochers, Bourassa's senior aide and the man described as the kingmaker who picked Bourassa as the man to lead the Liberals to power in 1970.

Desrochers shared a luxury apartment in Québec City with Régis Trudeau, whose controversial engineering firm Régis Trudeau et Associes received \$7.2 million in Games contracts, and Claude Rouleau, the senior civil servant who was named president of the Olympic installations board when the province set it up to finish Games construction in November, 1975.

The engineering firm's books show that "half the rent for this apartment was defrayed by this company, despite the fact that Mr. Trudeau testified that he had been reimbursed for half his share of the cost," the inquiry's report said.

"Moreover, these persons possessed no document in support of their alleged division of expenses," it said, leaving the reader to conclude that Trudeau's firm had paid the whole rent.

The close relations between these men went beyond sharing an apartment. Trudeau gave Rouleau \$42,000 to pay off a "betting debt" on the results of the 1973 Québec election.

\$1,000 at Christmas in 1973 from Claude Desjardins, president of the firm Desjardins, Sauriol et Associes, another Olympic contractor.

**No Receipts**

On the same trip to Québec City, Desjardins dropped off a \$10,000 political contribution—in cold cash—at the office of an old friend he had known since the late 1940s, Paul Desrochers. He made a total of three such payments, without receiving any receipts, between 1971 and 1973.

This money, which Desrochers testified he kept in an envelope in the safe in his office, was to be used to pay Bourassa's expenses when he had visitors from the various Liberal riding associations.

But the inquiry concludes that this money was used for payments that had nothing to do with the reasons mentioned by Desrochers. The report said that a special bank account had already been set up by the Liberals for Bourassa to handle this sort of expense.

"It is hard to understand why the party leader had recourse to a special account at the time when he had only to use the official account of the party. Moreover, from the point of view of Mr. Desjardins' contribution to the electoral fund, as he put it, why did he not make out three cheques for \$10,000 in the party's name rather than give the amount in cash to Mr. Desrochers?"

"Also, according to Mr. Desrochers' testimony, if he accepted these amounts as political contributions or as contributions to a special fund, why was the money kept in envelopes rather than deposited in a bank account?"

Desrochers said there was \$9,000 left in the envelope in his safe when he left the premier's office in April, 1974, and his place was taken by Jean Prieur, who committed suicide soon after the Parti Québécois was elected.

Both Prieur and Desrochers were trustees of the Liberal party's controversial electoral fund, along with T.B.

[Teddy] Ryan. When Claude Ryan took over as party leader, he forced Desrochers to resign his post as party trustee, a job he had kept although he had left the premier's office.

Desrochers went on to become vice-president of Canada Permanent Mortgage Corp. and president of Maislin Industries Ltd. Rouleau went on to become president of Lavalin International, part of the large Lavalin group of engineering firms which co-ordinated construction of the Olympic stadium under the installations board which Rouleau headed after November, 1975...

**How much did Bourassa know?**

Yes, it truly was a fascinating period in Québec politics. It was a time when Claude Rouleau won \$10,000 playing cards with Olympic contractor Marcel Dufour in July, 1975, and another \$1,000 in November.

Trudeau, of course, is the man who handed over \$10,000 in five cheques to Drapeau in October, 1974, as a contribution to the Civic Party. The money was given to the mayor when the two men were alone in Drapeau's office at city hall.

Trudeau also footed the bill for the \$160,000- country house Gerard Niding had built in Bromont, which included an indoor swimming pool for the former chairman of Montreal's executive committee.

Trudeau—whose firm was unable to complete plans for the Olympic stadium, provided faulty plans for an underground parking garage and was given protection by the city against any legal recourse—also kicked in \$220,000 to Québec Liberal coffers between 1973 and 1976. When Drapeau was considering giving the stadium contract to Trudeau's firm, he said he first consulted Paul

Desrochers about the decision.

As for the firm of Desjardins, Sauriol et Associes, it gave \$528,000 to the Liberal party between 1970 and 1976. This was aside from the \$30,000 in cash given to Desrochers for Bourassa's special slush fund.

After the Malouf report was released, Bourassa denied knowledge of Régis Trudeau's contribution of \$100,000 in 1976. He said he had placed a ceiling of \$5,000 on all contributions, noting: "It wasn't my job to check all the details."

The former premier made no mention of \$52,500 in gifts from the Desjardins, Sauriol group in 1975 and 1976.

The main question is how much Bourassa knew about the money flowing around Québec City while he was in power. Was he too busy running the province to check on what was happening? Or was he afraid to find out, realizing that the less he knew about the transactions, the better. Is the top man responsible for the actions of his subordinates? Or does his responsibility end with his own actions? Would Bourassa be more vigilant if he returned to power? Would he keep a tighter rein on his senior civil servants and top aides? Or would he continue as before?

The questions are significant because Bourassa is currently involved in the sensitive task of edging his way back onto the political stage after a short period of exile since 1976. If Ryan falters, he knows Bourassa will be nearby with his eye on the leadership position.

Meanwhile, the process of selecting Liberal candidates for the next provincial election is expected to see considerable conflict between those still loyal to Bourassa and his style of politics and those favoring the new politics as practiced by Ryan. □

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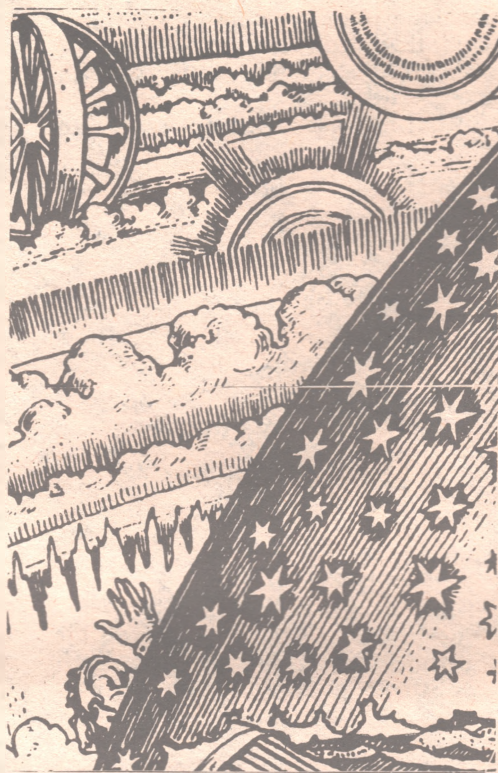
### TIBETAN eye chart



The design of this Tibetan Eye Chart was originated by the Buddhist Monks to exercise the muscles of the eye.

Attach a full-sized version of this chart (8½ x 11) to a convenient wall with the center circle in line with the nose. Stand erect with the tip of the nose as close to the circle as possible. Then move the eyes slowly clockwise following the outer edge of each arm of the figure, including the black spots, until the point of beginning is reached. Then repeat the same action in a counter-clockwise direction. After each cycle blink and relax the eyes, then do 3 to 5 minutes of palming (gently holding the palms to the eyes).

Full instructions and chart available at: House of Quality Herbs, U.S. Distributors, P.O. Box 14, Dept. E.C., Woodland Hills, Calif., 91365.



### New Moons

Recent observations suggest that a newly discovered moon of Pluto may actually be a planet. Should this be true, then Pluto and its moon—tentatively named Charon—form a double planet system, the only such system with two bodies of similar size in the solar system.

Reports of Pluto's moon were made this spring by Allistar R. Walker at the South African Observatory in Sutherland. Walker reported that Charon has a minimum diameter of 1,200 miles, which may make it half as large as Pluto. Other astronomers caution that it is too early to say for certain if Charon is that large, since Walker's observations have yet to be confirmed.

Pluto and Charon seem to travel locked in orbit around each other, separated by a distance of 12,400 miles. By contrast, the Earth and its moon are separated by 240,000 miles.

East West Journal

# short notes &

## Klickage

(Klik-aj) noun

Distance, speed or fuel consumption measured in kilometres.

Klickage is a proposed new metric substitute for mileage.

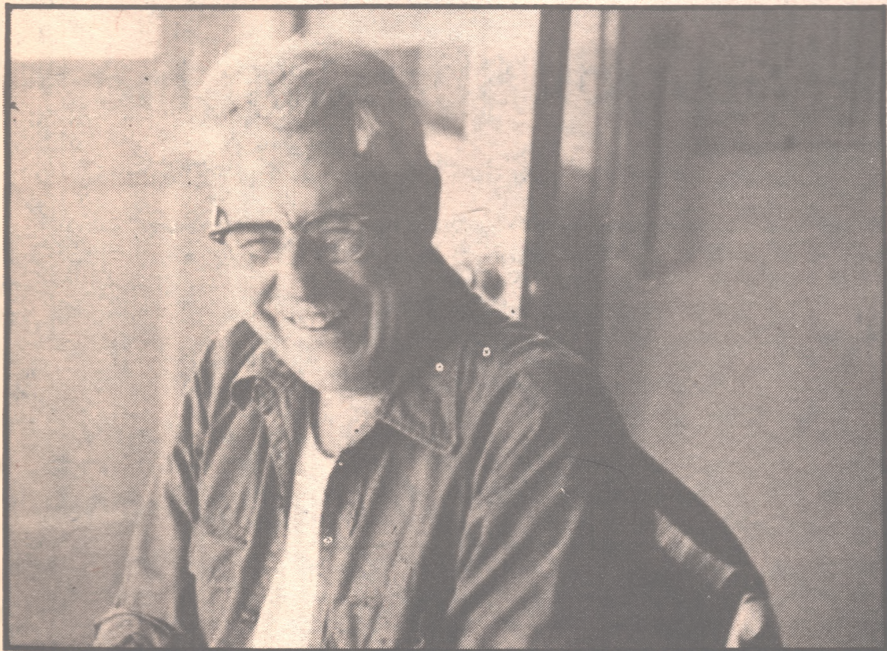
Coined by Ernest McCallum, Sawyerville, Quebec.

According to the intrepid publication, *Brave New Words* (Bill "Sesquilingual" Sherk, Doubleday) within which Mr. McCallum's verbal invention is entered for all times, Klick (or klik) has been used as American military slang in Indochina for kilometre and the notable klickage, itself may be considered as the North American version of kilometrage (Fr.) and kilometraggio (H).

Mr. McCallum, a philosopher and retired engineer, whose favorite word is ruggfrutch, thinks the application of the metric system to the N.A. continent has gotten kind of silly. To help this silliness along, he suggests that many official offshoots of klickage are possible. For example a speeder could be said to be going not "lickety-split" but "klickety-klick" and we could describe the speed of a vehicle running in reverse as moving at so many "klacks per hour".

In recognition of Mr. McCallum's contribution, the Ford Motor Company's PR department gave him the use of an auto for 2 weeks whereupon he and Mrs. McCallum went on a nice vacation. A resourceful man, he computed his holiday travel both in klickage and in mileage but has yet to disclose which proved to be the most economical in terms of gas and distance—mileage or klickage.

SW&JP



Ernest McCallum of Randboro, near Sawyerville is a dreamer, but a realistic one. Aside from Klickage he has many other projects on the go. One he's not talking about too much involves tidal power and the Bay of Fundy.

Last month we mentioned McCallum's brother Leslie and his gift to humanity, the Randboro Free Spring. Must be something in that water...



### An Imported Scale for \$1.10.

No. 20F2658 Our Imported Balance Scale, made in Germany, has 24-inch brass pans, brass pillar, 6-inch beam, and stands 12 inches high when set up for use. The entire scale packs away in the box on which it is set up, has complete set of weights from ¼ grain to 2 grams and comes complete in oak box.  
Price, complete ..... \$1.10  
If by mail, postage extra, 20 cents.

## Metric Madness

It may sound paranoiac and even a bit like right-wing fanaticism, but I am beginning to think that metric conversion is a sinister snow job.

Sure, I know the metric system is more practical and efficient, especially for those who are experts on where to put decimal points. But why have the Americans, generally regarded as the most practical and efficient people on earth, decided to hold back and stick to Fahrenheit and good old-fashioned miles?

Travelling to some parts of the United States by car used to be like moving into the future.

Now an automobile trip to any part is like a journey into our own past, a warm, comfortable past where things made sense, where an inch was an inch and a quart was a quart, even when it wasn't a quart as in the case of 22-ounce beer bottles.

For scientists and multinational corporations doing business in the four corners of the world, the metric system may be splendid. But for the day-to-day affairs of ordinary folk in a vast, sparsely populated and cold country like Canada, it is a mistake, psychologically all wrong, removed from human proportions.

Lengths of travel, for example, seem much greater than they used to be. At one time Sherbrooke and Montreal were only 95 miles apart, but now the distance has expanded to

152 kilometers.

There was a time, also, when during much of the long Canadian winter the temperatures were positive, above zero Fahrenheit—maybe 5 or 10 or 15—and we all knew that the weather was fine.

We began to dig out the ear muffs, woollies or long johns only when the temperature dropped to minus something or other. Now the temperature is always minus something or other. Even a balmy 30 degrees Fahrenheit is minus 1.1 Celsius.

A very negative and dispiriting way of looking at winter it is. And, of course, even when we have less snow than normal, it seems like more.

Metric conversion has special torments for cooks and carpenters. The plump, saintly lady at the corner of the block who bakes those glorious pies, cookies and Christmas short bread—how can she possibly be expected to exercise her art with something as insipidly sterile as milliliters instead of tablespoons, teaspoons, pinches and dashes?

And what on earth is the carpenter going to do without the two-by-four, or le deux-par-quatre as they say in one of the distinctive expressions of Québec French? Mind you, it has been many years since a two-by-four actually measured two by four inches.

But no matter. It's the spirit that counts.

Why we are even going to have to rewrite a good part of our literature. The subtlety of such vivid phrases as "In a gesture of disapproval, she hit him over the head with a two-by-four," will not be understood by future generations.

But more important, perhaps, is the likelihood that metric conversion is contributing to our current national depression and identity crisis.

That in so many little ways the country just does not seem the same any more certainly is not helping, especially at a time when we need all the help we can get.

Ronald Sutherland  
North Hatley



University in Japan, found that when he exposed cloned species to as little as 150 millirems, mutations resulted: cells of hairs on the stamens changed from blue to pink.

Federal guidelines for public exposure to man-made radiation call for no more than 170 millirems a year.

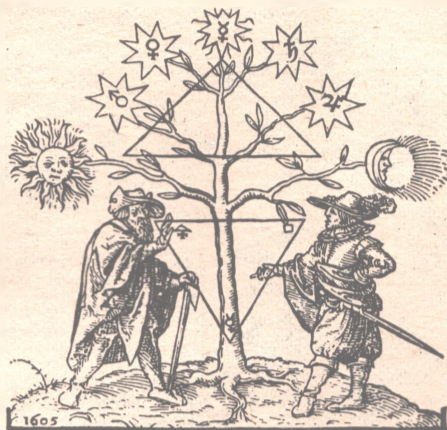
Since Dr. Ichikawa's discovery, the spiderwort has become "the flower of the antinuclear movement," says **Richard Lercari**, secretary of the Nuclear Hazards Resource and Information Center in East Quogue, L.I.

One spiderwort project has turned up "a very high probability" of radiation from the Trojan nuclear power plant at Prescott, Oregon, according to **Steve Given**, a Portland laboratory technician. "We are still working on the data," he says.

In Denver, **Dr. Ben Leichtling**, a biochemist, is directing a project that plans "a mutation contour map" of the area. Spiderworts will be planted this spring, he says, near the Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant in Broomfield, Colorado, and in a

congested section of Denver. The spiderwort is versatile: it can detect pesticides, auto exhausts and sulfur dioxides, as well as radiation.

**New York Times**  
March 16, 1980



Wondering what to do with all those old newspapers and bottles that have been lying around the house? There is a solution! Recuperation de l'Estrie at 1152 Belvedere in Sherbrooke recycles paper products such as newsprint, paper packaging (no plastic), milk cartons, etc. They also recycle glass of any type; wine bottles, peanut butter jars, and so on.

A pick-up service is also available just by phoning them at 563-5501. Every first Saturday of the month there are depots at three shopping centres in Sherbrooke; Carrefour de l'Estrie, Les Galeries Quatre Saisons, and Place Belvedere in the respective parking lots from 9 to 5. There are also a number of co-operatives which are depots. For this information simply phone the above number. One more thing, they don't pay you for the material, they just take it away!  
D.C.

The meek spiderwort, a roadside wildflower, took on new importance a year ago when a geneticist said it could detect radiation. The geneticist, **Dr. Sadao Ichikawa** of Saitama

# lengthy graffiti

## Jetstream

Wood heating specialist **Richard Ellis** of Malvina Furnaces in Lennoxville brings word of a new type of wood furnace that looks like a winner with its revolutionary design.

The Jetstream system, the first wood-fired heating system engineered to extract virtually 100% heat energy from wood in a creosote-free combustion process, is technologically superior to any wood-fired heating system available.

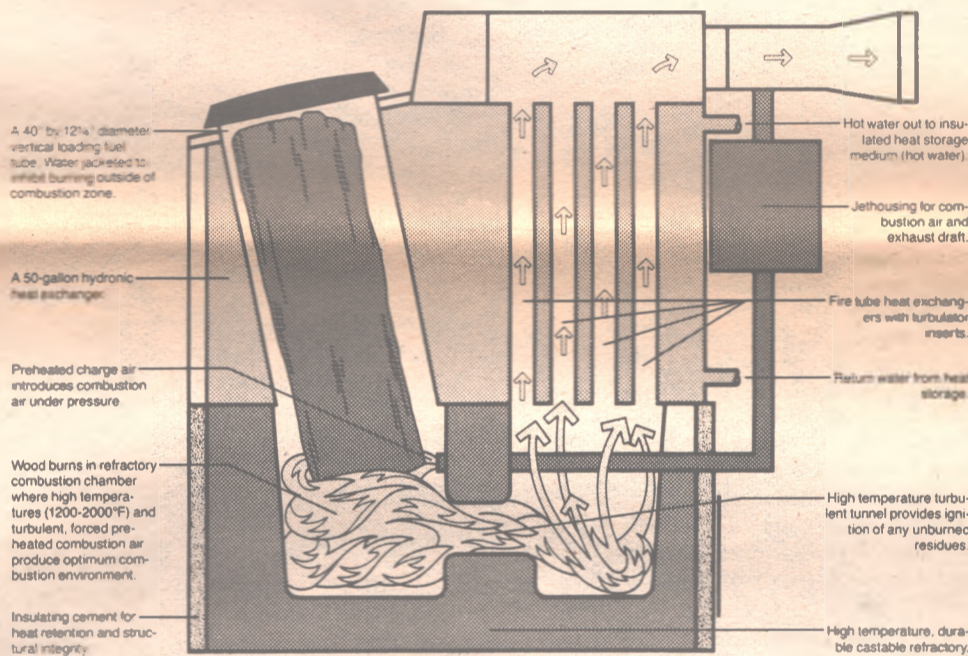
The unique Jetstream concept separates the wood-burning process from the heating process, extracting maximum heat energy available in wood while storing that heat for automatic, controllable use when required. Because the heat produced in the wood-burning process is held in insulated storage until needed, it is never wasted.

The heart of the Jetstream heating system is its unique combustion process (patent pending). It combines the proper mix of fuel and air in a turbulent, high temperature combustion zone that consumes wood solids, tars (creosote) and gases in a way that is virtually 100% complete.

After leaving the combustion zone, the clean, hot gases pass through a heat exchanger where heat is transferred to water and is circulated into the heat storage tank(s) for use exactly when and where the homeowner needs it.

When the house requires heat, it is automatically transferred from storage into the heating system. The size of the storage tank will vary according to the size of the home and its heating requirements.

Intervals between firings may be hours or days depending on the outside temperature, the heating requirements of the home, and the heat storage capacity of the tanks. By sizing heat storage, intervals can be conveniently regulated to fit the homeowner's needs.

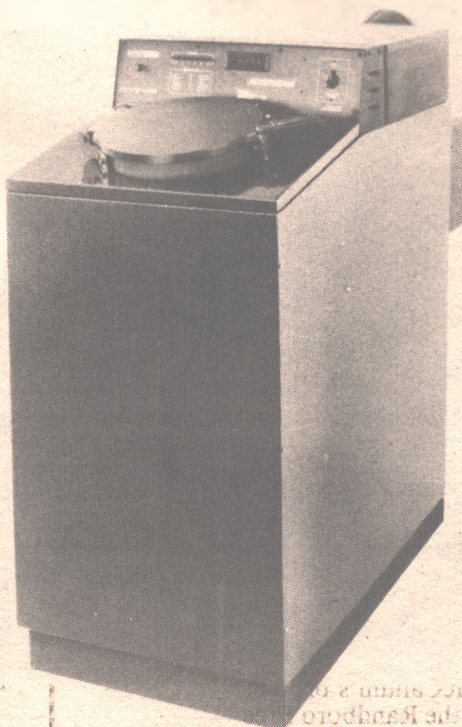


The total wood combustion achieved with the Jetstream system, coupled with the latest in heat transfer and heat storage engineering technology, provide a combined system efficiency of 80% or more.

With unsurpassed practicality, the Jetstream is easy to light, quick to load and requires no tending. It can efficiently burn hardwood, softwood, and even wood with a moisture content of up to 40%.

The Jetstream system is designed to be easily installed in any home, new

or old, with or without an existing heating system. It is totally adaptable



## Hope for Fusion

Successful operation of a fusion reactor may be as close as 1983, scientists at Princeton University report. Fusion involves the joining of light elements under such terrific force that they receive massive amounts of heat. The main fuels for fusion are heavy isotopes of hydrogen that can be extracted from sea water. **Dr. John M. Deutch**, Undersecretary of Energy, expects that fusion could be a significant energy source in the next century, replacing fossil fuels and uranium fission reactors, which operate by splitting atoms apart. The scheduled fusion reactor is being built at Princeton University. If things go as planned, the Department of Energy hopes to operate the first commercial fusion reactor by 2005.

**East West Journal**

to either hot air (registers) or hot water (radiator and baseboard) heating systems.

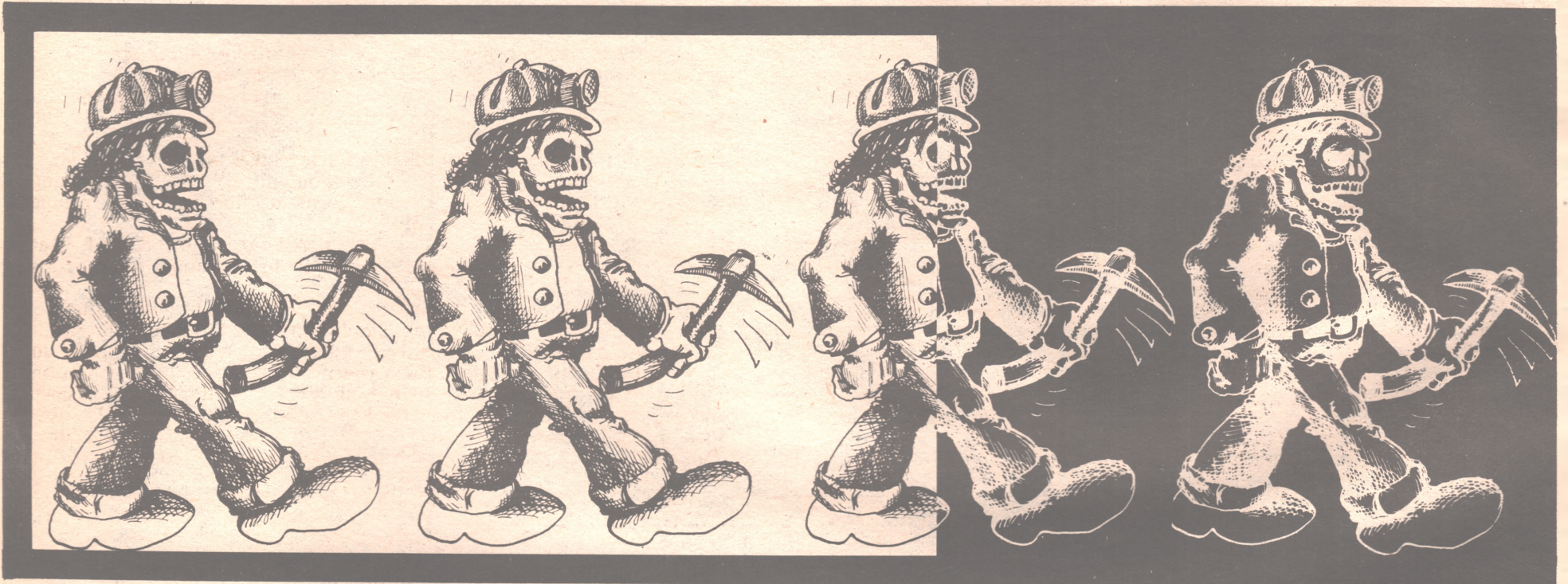
It can supply heat for space heating, hot water for baths, showers, dishwashers, and even swimming pools. And because the Jetstream uses heat storage, it can be easily integrated into existing or planned solar heating systems.

The Jetstream concept, originated from the work of Professor **Richard C. Hill** at the University of Maine, has been further refined and developed by the engineers at Hampton Technologies Corporation.

Hampton, located in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, is introducing the Jetstream to the U.S. market this year, and distributing the product through a network of authorized dealers in the U.S. and Canada. When the Jetstream was introduced and installed last winter in Canadian homes, it proved its efficiency and environmentally sound operation.

Anyone interested in more information about the Jetstream should call **Richard Ellis** at Malvina Furnaces (819) 563-3585. □

## The Asbestos Line



The Asbestos Line

In May of this year, the CBC "discovered" that Canadian Pacific Railways had been dumping deadly asbestos mine tailings all over the Eastern Townships. The "discovery" came only 18 months after the news first surfaced in The Sun and then the Sherbrooke Record, which continued reporting on the story steadily until it was finally picked up by the "national" media.

CPR and the Ministère de l'environnement have so far silently agreed to do nothing about the problem. This is a slightly modified transcript of the CBC series. -ed.

### Part 1, May 27, 1980

**Deborah Weinstein, reporter:** This is the CPR track that runs between Caughnawaga and Abercorn on the U.S. border. This gang of 80 workers is now replacing a rail. It's part of CPR's longterm program of upgrading the railroad. Sadley, many of these workers, in the opinions of scientists, are downgrading their health.

The 90 mile track they're working on is supported by more than half a million tons of dusty asbestos waste. Science proved that breathing asbestos dust causes cancer 50 years ago. And the International Agency for Research on Cancer now says there is no safe level of exposure when working with asbestos. These men were not warned of the danger. They've never been issued protective masks.

The CPR began upgrading this 90 mile track two years ago. Their film documents our story. This silent movie was filmed on location in St. Jean, Québec. CPR's publicity department sent it out as a news release in August, 1978, and CPR says 32 of Canada's 60 TV stations used the film which came with a script provided by CPR's PR men. But the prepared text never mentioned that the dusty crushed rock being used to stabilize or ballast the railbed is asbestos, a proven carcinogen. In the summer of 1978 this and every other ballast car was dumping 75 dusty tons of highly toxic crushed asbestos. 250 workers were spreading four thousand, five hundred tons of waste asbestos containing 10,000 tons of pure asbestos. Yet no one in this film is wearing a protective mask.

In June 1978, at the same time as the CPR's publicity department was filming the asbestos ballasting in St. Jean, Québec, cancer researchers at the Mt. Sinai Environmental Sciences Laboratory in New York were hosting an international symposium entitled The Health Hazards of Asbestos Exposure. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Irving J. Selikoff. A thirty year veteran of asbestos study, he's widely known as "Dr. Asbestos". Selikoff has proven that microscopic asbestos fibres cause a myriad of diseases.

**Dr. Selikoff:** Cancer of the lungs is the most common, cancer of the lining of the chest, the lining of the abdomen—that's called mesothelioma—is another, cancers of the stomach, the colon, rectum, esophagus, the larynx, the pharynx, kidney. A variety of areas.

**Deborah:** Dr. Selikoff, you've seen the publicity film that the CPR issued. What type of exposure would those kids have received?

**Dr. Selikoff:** The longer the exposure occurs, the greater the risk. If it's been a day or two, there's comparatively less risk. If it's been two months there's more, if it's been two years it's even more than that. Studies at the American Cancer Society have shown that even a week, a month, a month and a half of work significantly increases the risk of cancer.

**Deborah:** Do you think they should have been told to wear a mask?

**Dr. Selikoff:** Yes; clearly, anyone who works around asbestos should have respiratory protection. Since, as I say, we don't know any safe dose, you should protect people who might be exposed to it.

**Deborah:** The 90 mile asbestos railbed has been the subject of some federal activity. Although there is no Canadian law against using asbestos ballast on railbed, last year the Environmental Health Directorate invited the CPR to a special hearing in Ottawa. They discussed the upgrading of this track. The CPR was represented by Dr. William May. According to these minutes, Dr. May clearly stated that each workman was issued a protective mask, and advised to wear it during the entire operation. And at the hearing, that statement remained unchallenged.

Claude Boulanger worked on the track two years ago. He's working on it now.

You always wear your protective hat?

**Claude Boulanger:** Yes.

**Deborah:** You always wear your hat?

**Claude Boulanger:** Yes, I use that.

**Deborah:** And the boots?

**Claude Boulanger:** Yeah, same thing.

**Deborah:** Any other safety equipment? Do you ever wear a mask?

**Claude Boulanger:** No. Just protective boots and the hat.

**Deborah:** That's it, nothing else?

He's never worn a protective mask. For Claude Boulanger, another summer on the dry, dusty track means another exposure to asbestos. We asked Dr. Irving J. Selikoff for a medical opinion:

**Dr. Selikoff:** He could be informed. Now I don't know who does that. In our country here (the U.S.), a card was sent to some thirty million people by our Department of Health, telling them about the special hazards that they might have faced or might still be facing and what to do about it.

**Deborah:** We should note that workers on the American side have nothing to fear. The United States banned asbestos ballast five years ago, three years before our asbestos upgrading even began. The CPR's Abercorn border crossing is a stunning example of this. Although the tracks only dip into the United States for a matter of miles, lo and behold, at the U.S. border, asbestos ballast magically becomes non-toxic crushed rock, even though the American track belongs to the CPR. Canada allows asbestos ballasting, the U.S. does not. The people who live along the 90 mile asbestos track are paying for this lack of consideration. Working with asbestos causes cancer; inhaling asbestos from the railbed can also be very dangerous.

### Part 2, May 28

### Inhaling Asbestos

**Deborah:** This is the CPR's Farnham depot. Twelve to fifteen trains travel these tracks every day. The tracks they travel are stabilized with asbestos waste. Geologists estimate that the pulverizing action of every train releases microscopic asbestos fibres into the environment, fibres so hazardous that minimal exposure can cause cancer.

There's no Canadian law against asbestos ballasting on railroad tracks, but Lawrence and Carol Moreau say there ought to be. The 90 mile track runs through their backyard. Mrs. Moreau thinks about asbestos every time a train passes.

**Carol Moreau:** I have a tendency to stop breathing or go in the house, which I don't like to do. You know, I'd like to continue my life—

**Deborah:** The CPR explained why it used asbestos waste to a closed door hearing of the Environmental Health Directorate last year. According to these minutes, CPR purchased the ballast for a low price from Asbestos Corporation, with their assurance that it was safe. Others attending the meeting weren't so sure. Some said the asbestos fallout might constitute a health hazard. The meeting closed with an agreement that the Environmental Health Directorate would collaborate with the CPR on monitoring the contamination.

The Department of Health and Welfare released their study last month. It's a thin report. One page describes how fibres were counted. There are two graphs with results. It doesn't detail when or where samples were taken; but one sentence sums it all up: "The effects of using ballast containing asbestos fibre were negligible at the time of sampling."

We decided to ask for a second opinion on Health and Welfare's report. Dr. Art Langer is a geologist specializing in asbestos studies at the world renowned Mt. Sinai Environmental Sciences laboratory in New York.

**Dr. Langer:** These are just figures which report analyses of ambient air by transmission electron microscopy, and the concentration of fibres reported are fibres per cc greater than 5 microns. The asbestos standard the world over is based on fibres greater than 5 microns in length for the workplace. The 5 micron fibre limit was judged adequate because the study upon which this was based was in an asbestos textile factory—

**Deborah:** Where it's very easy to find that length of fibre.

**Dr. Langer:** Well, it's very easy, and they're all very long. And that the number of fibres that were shorter than 5 microns were very few. I personally would not expect to find fibres in the environment of greater

than 5 microns in length unless I were sampling outside of an asbestos factory or taking them directly off the rocks.

**Deborah:** So would it be conceivable that in this particular study a lot of fibres have not been counted?

**Dr. Langer:** There's no question of this; no question whatsoever.

**Deborah:** This is the bible of asbestos research. It contains several studies that demonstrate the dangers of low level exposure. Dr. Irving J. Selikoff compiled the book.

**Dr. Selikoff:** We're worried, naturally, about the very low levels that can occur with these very fine fibres because, unhappily, it's been found, not infrequently, that the wives and children of asbestos workers can get mesothelioma, the special kind of cancer that's been associated with asbestos. And there we can't measure asbestos in the air of the house but we can find the very fine fibres with the electron microscope.

**Deborah:** That's why they're removing asbestos from schools. The CPR has no plans to remove the 90 miles of asbestos waste. But citizens like Harvey Lawrence are wondering how it ever got there in the first place.

**Harvey Lawrence:** Well, I think somebody should have thought more about the welfare of the people around before they did it. I don't know why they did it; it does stretch my imagination to think that they did it unknowingly.

**Deborah:** Asbestos in the air is a definite carcinogen. But what's in the air is also in the water. Some scientists think drinking large quantities of asbestos is dangerous. Others say there's absolutely no proof. But we do know that in May, 1979, the prisoners of the Cowansville penitentiary were drinking sixteen point two million fibres of asbestos in every litre of drinking water.

*Environment Canada's engineer found the highest asbestos content here, at Farnham military base: a whopping twenty-five point six million asbestos fibres in every litre of drinking water. But at the Farnham military base, no one is up in arms.*

Part 3, May 29

What Happens When You Drink Asbestos

**Deborah:** CPR's track of asbestos waste runs just above the Yamaska River, between Cowansville and Farnham. For two years, melting snow and spring rains have been washing asbestos fibre into the river water people drink. The Cowansville reservoir is a case in point. Located just below the track, it collects asbestos runoff which the Cowansville pumping station passes right on, unfiltered, to the consumer. Environment Canada measured the contamination last May. One litre of drinking water sampled here in downtown Cowansville contained four point six million asbestos fibres. At the Cowansville penitentiary, one litre contained sixteen point two million fibres.

But Environment Canada's engineer found the highest asbestos content here, at the Farnham military base: a whopping twenty-five point six million asbestos fibres in every litre of drinking water. But at the Farnham military base, no one is up in arms.

Although there's no absolute proof that drinking asbestos-laden water causes cancer, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency does say there's a risk. When the citizens of Duluth, Minnesota discovered their drinking water was contaminated with a similar fibre, called taconite, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was instructed to install filters on all public water fountains. They've now completed a special water filtration plant that removes 99.5% of the fibres.

While there's no doubt about the dangers of asbestos in the air, scientists at the Mt. Sinai laboratory are now turning their attention to asbestos in drinking water. Dr. Art Langer probed the pollution problem in Duluth. His associate, Dr. Irving J. Selikoff, had already discovered a three-fold excess of gastrointestinal cancer in asbestos workers, and Langer's 1978 study warned that drinking fibre may constitute a health hazard.

**Dr. Langer:** The question is, does the body's defence overcome this insult? Does the body take care of these particles in the gut? There have been a series of experiments in Germany by an investigator by the name of Pott and others who feel that any minimal fibre may induce cancer, and there have been studies by other investigators such as one by the name of Volkheimer who has shown that various materials that are ingested are absorbed in the gut and released throughout the body host. So that taking into account whatever we call these mineral fibres along that railroad track, whatever we call them, they have a certain amount of biological activity, and if they are washed into a water supply and they are drunk they will be ingested by the body host. And those two observations, relating to different subject areas, make us worry.

**Deborah:** Although the 90 mile asbestos track ends at the U.S. border, Environment Canada's study indicates we're exporting our pollution problem. The Sutton river is also contaminated with asbestos. It flows to the Missisquoi River, which runs through Vermont to Missisquoi Bay and Lake Champlain. We asked Montreal marine scientist Dr. Gilles Laroche to comment on these findings.

**Dr. Laroche:** Depending on the concentration of fibres in the stream, it can go several hundred miles, according to the experience in Duluth.

**Deborah:** So we may indeed be contaminating the United States with asbestos fibre.

**Dr. Laroche:** Most certainly.

**Deborah:** Although asbestos ballasting is illegal in the United States.

**Dr. Laroche:** I should think so. It should be illegal here as well.

**Deborah:** Dr. Laroche, what do you think of using asbestos waste as railway ballast?

**Dr. Laroche:** Personally, I think it's somewhat ridiculous, because every time you have a train going over the ballast, you're essentially powdering more material, and with weathering, with rain, erosion of this area, you're going to have a clear amount of fibres in the water—drinking water, presumably—for a number of years to come.

**Deborah:** And what should be done, in your opinion?

**Dr. Laroche:** In my opinion, it should be removed.

Part 4, May 30

Political Tracks

**Deborah:** Some of the citizens and all of the mayors along the 90 mile asbestos track are aware of the dangers. A few of them have demanded action. The federal government has released two studies, but pollution is a provincial jurisdiction, and the government of Québec has ignored the entire issue.

The CPR's 90 mile track of asbestos waste snakes through several large towns and small communities. It affects thousands of lives. Each passing train pulverizes the railbed, releasing toxic asbestos fibre into the air people breathe, and the water people drink.

And yet, it's only here in Brigham, population four hundred, that anyone's been protesting. June Kemp was the first to notice the asbestos railbed, back in September 1978.

**June Kemp:** I used to jog down the tracks in the fall, and I noticed that the rocks looked kinda funny, and that didn't bother me too much either. But then I noticed in *The Sherbrooke Record* that reporter Terry Scott had said in one of his articles that the CPR had denied using asbestos as ballast on those tracks, and I wondered why they should say anything like that since there'd been no question anyway. So when I was running one day, I took a look at some of this stuff and I picked it up and recognized it as asbestos.

**Deborah:** June Kemp took these samples from the railbed to journalist Merritt Clifton. Clifton was incensed.

**Merritt Clifton:** Because asbestos, in any form, is a carcinogen. It can cause cancer, various other lung diseases, and they didn't want to take responsibility for their own action.

**Deborah:** So what did you do at that point?

**Merritt Clifton:** Gathered up samples and I mailed them off to every geologist, scientist of any kind I knew, asking for information.

**Deborah:** And what did they write back?

**Merritt Clifton:** Well, a number of them responded, saying I should do something about it and raise hell.

**Deborah:** He's been doing that ever since. Unfortunately, *The Sherbrooke Record* has a small circulation, and the asbestos story created little concern.

Do you think this shows a real apathy among people in this area?

**Merritt Clifton:** It shows apathy, it shows timidity, it shows stupidity—just blind willingness to accept whatever comes down. I've written probably 30 newspaper articles; I've probably written 60 or 70 letters to various public officials and I've harangued anyone I could buttonhole about it.

**Deborah:** Only one politician responded to Clifton's letters, then Conservative MP for the riding, Heward Grafftey.

**Heward Grafftey:** At least I would say I communicated with the environmental authorities on the provincial and federal level, with the railway, the Board of Transport Commissioners. Those are the obvious people I communicated with and I remember now, thinking back, there may be a host of other people I communicated with.

**Deborah:** Grafftey's one year on the case netted one federal hearing, two environmental impact studies, and a host of unheeded headlines in *The Sherbrooke Record*.

**Heward Grafftey:** I did everything humanly possible that I could within the private sector and with all levels of government, working with people here to have it rectified.

**Deborah:** What happened?

This series was severely attacked by an official of Health and Welfare Canada and the president of La Société Nationale de l'amiante, the Québec crown corporation whose role is the further development of asbestos mining and Québec-made asbestos products. Their remarks and a rebuttal by journalist Merritt Clifton, implicated in the criticism, turn to page 38.

**Heward Grafftey:** Well, the same sort of thing happened with this problem as with so many of this nature. This is why an awful lot of people are losing faith in governments. They studied it to death and did nothing.

**Deborah:** The Government of Québec has turned its back on the 90 mile asbestos track, even though environmental pollution is a provincial concern. Witness this letter from Environment Minister Marcel Leger, answering Grafftey's first alert a year ago:

"I am sorry for the delay in answering your correspondence. As you probably know, May is the month of the environment, and we had to concentrate our efforts to organize it."

The letter promised further developments.

This was the first development: a resolution dated November 5, 1979, from the people of Brigham, in the Municipality of Adamsville. It demands further investigation of the asbestos railbed. Québec responded two months later, on January 11, stating that Deputy Minister of the Environment André Caillé had been asked to conduct an inquiry into the matter. CBC contacted Monsieur Caillé four months after that, on April 15. He said he'd never heard of the CPR's asbestos railbed, much less an inquiry. We arranged an interview to discuss the matter, but it was cancelled without explanation. It's been seven months since Gilles Daigneault, mayor of Brigham, sent his request to Québec. He's still waiting for the investigation.

Have any inspectors from the government come?

**Gilles Daigneault:** I don't think so, I never see any around.

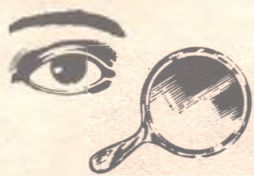
**Deborah:** Has anyone come to see you? Anyone?

**Gilles Daigneault:** No, no.

**Deborah:** It's obvious that public officials aren't rushing to do anything about the CPR's 90 miles of asbestos waste. It's been there two years; it's designed to stay there for another forty, even though two studies have shown that passing trains release asbestos fibre into the environment—fibre so toxic that the International Institute for Research on Cancer says there's no safe level of exposure. Asbestos is a proven carcinogen. That's why internationally acclaimed scientist Dr. Irving J. Selikoff says we should remove the asbestos railbed.

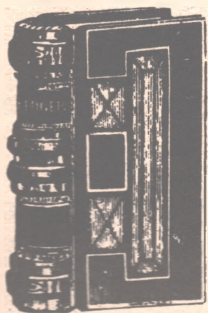
**Dr. Selikoff:** Now, if there were no human beings, I think you could leave it—but not in Canada.

continued pg. 40



**DO YOU REALLY OWN YOUR COTTAGE?**

By Yves Descôteaux and Mario Denis, translated by David Cochrane from JUSTICE, a magazine published by la Ministère de la justice de Québec



Many owners or occupiers of property bordering lakes and rivers take advantage of the beautiful summer season to make improvements or repairs on the shores or beds of waterways, the construction of



The surveyor's chain, or Gunter's Chain is the standard unit of measurement in land surveying. It consists of 100 equal links in a 66 foot chain. It is also 1/80 of a mile. Of course today's surveyor uses an electronic measuring device, but the traditional unit of measurement persists.

La Reserve des trois chaînes reserves ownership for three chain-lengths up from the shoreline as government property.



Josette Bouchard

docks, jetties, dykes, retaining walls, or beaches, forest clearing operations, shoreline cleaning, etc.

All such undertakings bordering lakes and rivers, as they may affect the shoreline and aquatic environment, as well as public property, must for the most part be based on certain rights, and above all satisfy certain legal and administrative requirements, development norms and standards of quality. It is also necessary to obtain permits and authorizations, and respect the rights of other shoreline owners. You must know your rights in order to respect those of others.

Many complications can arise from the numerous laws and regulations that involve the construction of secondary dwellings on the shores of lakes and rivers and the protection of the environment! If you have plans in mind, beware! You might regret them if they are not in accordance with the rights of other waterfront owners or with the Environmental Quality Act.

Obtain the necessary authorizations and permits, observe the official development norms and respect the property rights of the other waterfront residents, and you will fully enjoy your results as an amateur waterside contractor.

The most important problem that arises is knowing who is the true owner of the property that interests you. Do you have any rights to the

shores or the waterways? Simple questions at first appearance, but questions that have confounded even the most knowledgeable jurists. In most cases appropriate answers to a few simple questions will allow you to find out if you truly own your property or who actually owns the land you propose to buy, and to take the minimum necessary precautions before proceeding with any development work.

**Who is the Owner?**

The first elements of an answer are found in the Civil Code. Ownership depends on whether the waterway is navigable or not. How to establish this distinction? It's not simple, especially in Québec where neither classification nor judicial criteria exist to distinguish between the two. It is a question of facts often dealt with by the courts. Generally a navigable waterway is one where navigation or log-driving is commercially feasible, whereas a non-navigable waterway is any other that flows in an uninterrupted fashion.

**Navigable Waterways**

The bed and shores of navigable waterways belong to the Crown unless an official document indicates otherwise.

**Non-Navigable Waterways**

In the case of non-navigable watercourses, two periods have to be considered.

For property ceded prior to the 9th of February 1918, ownership of the property bordering on a waterway automatically includes ownership of the shore and bed.

After that date, all lakes, rivers, non-navigable waterways and their shores, bordering land ceded by the Crown, remain public property. For land ceded by the Crown after February 9, 1918, all the waterways, meaning the bed and shores, must be considered to belong to the Crown.

In the case of non-navigable waterways, one must effect a title search\*

**\*Title Search**

A title is a document that officially establishes that one is the owner of a tract of land, a building, or a moveable item (e.g. automobile). Searching a title involves finding the title and establishing its validity. To this end, you must draw up a list of the people who were once owners of an immovable (land or building). This is referred to as a "chain of title". This research is done at the registry office, under the jurisdiction of le Ministère de la Justice du Québec.

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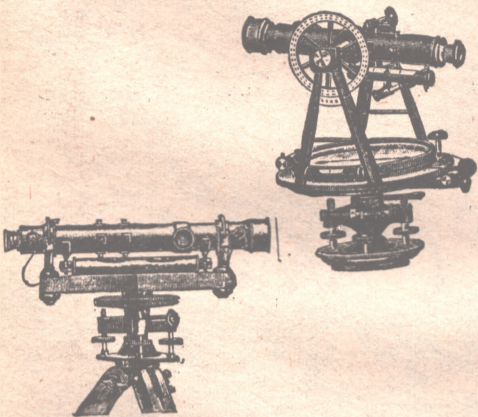
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to clarify the question of ownership of the shores and bed. If the Crown owns the waterway, it also becomes necessary to establish where the property line begins.

In some cases it begins after the so-called "réserve des trois chaînes" (reserve of three chains), and in others at the high watermark. These two notions must be understood to avoid ownership problems.



**The Reserve of the Three Chains**

The reserve of three chains is a strip of waterside property 198 feet deep, measured from the high-water mark, reserved by the crown in the case of sales of public property bordering waterways.

This reserve has existed since 1884 for lands bordering non-navigable waterways sold by the Crown.

But there is disagreement over the significance of the reserve for the period from 1884 to 1919. Some believe that it was established in 1884 merely for the purpose of fishing rights, others that it reserved full ownership for the Crown. An important distinction. In the first case you

are the owner, but in the second the government owns this 198 ft. strip.

This controversy was at issue in a recent judgement that concluded that the Crown's "full ownership" reserve exists only for lots bordering non-navigable waterways and sold since March 17, 1919. This judgement has been appealed and is therefore without effect for the moment.

For land ceded since March 1919 bordering on non-navigable waterways, and for land sold since January 1970 along navigable waters, the situation is clear: the government reserves ownership of the 198 foot strip already described above.

So be careful! Your property could be subject to this reserve and you may own either nothing at all or much less than you imagined! Clarify your situation and obtain an uncontested title before spending any money. We will get back to this point later.

**High-Water Mark**

If the reserve of the three chains does not apply to your land, it will extend to the high-water mark. How is this borderline between your property and that of the Crown established?

If a dispute arises, the courts must decide. A riparian (shoreline) owner may refer to certain criteria gathered from past judgements. For tide waters, such as the St. Lawrence River, the rule often laid down is the highest tide. Uncertainty still exists as to the appropriate season to determine the highest tides, whether to choose those in the spring or the fall. For non-tidal waterways, including rivers and lakes, the line is less clear, generally being the high water level normally reached, excluding periods of flooding.

**Respect the Environment**

If you do own the property you occupy, congratulations! But to avoid further problems, we suggest you not just build anything, anywhere.

If the Crown owns the bed and shores, you must get its permission before building there. The dock of your dreams could be sitting on government property...In examining your request, the Crown will verify that the land will be properly used and that your project won't harm the environment.

On the other hand, if the bed and shores belong to you, you may build a dock or retaining wall or add a beach, as it is your property. But you must not cause damage to neighbouring waterfront owners or adversely affect the quality of the water. Keep in mind that in many cases you must obtain permits from le Ministère de l'Environnement du Québec.

If your land borders a navigable waterway, your projects must not only conform to provincial environment laws, they must also not obstruct navigation or hamper commercial fishing or log-driving operations.

You must also respect federal provisions protecting the feeding and resting grounds of migratory birds. Finally, your municipality may have by-laws to prevent excessive encroachment on its waterways.

**Finally, Your Privileges**

Even though the privileges of the shoreline occupant are based on custom and tradition—not on any specific provision of law—they are nonetheless very real.

The much coveted rights of access

to water are not the least of these privileges. They include pleasure boating, fishing, and swimming, and the right to draw water for domestic use. Even in a seasonal or secondary dwelling, who doesn't need a waterway for watering the garden, drinking water, or as an outlet for land drainage?

The enjoyment of water doesn't end there either. We should add as well rights of view, the right to anchor or moor a boat, and the right to fish.

These privileges of the waterfront owner are not absolute; they may be withdrawn in the public interest. If this were to happen to you, you would have the right to compensation. The right of ownership must also be exercised in a reasonable manner so as not to harm the other property owners, neighbours with the same privileges as you. The Civil Code encourages good relations between shoreline neighbours by stipulating, for example, that water drawn from a river must be returned intact in order not to adversely affect property owners downstream.

And the "luxury of water" is not limited to waterfront owners and tenants. The general public has certain rights as well, for example the right of navigation, anchoring and mooring of craft, and fishing in tidal waters. Unfortunately, the lack of a general right of public access to water causes problems. Many ministries and a few municipalities now provide access points to the thousands of rivers and lakes so marvelous for recreation.

*Yves Descôteaux is a lawyer in private practice. Mario Denis is a judicial counsellor for la Commission de refonte des lois [Québec's law reform commission]. David Cochrane is a student at The Townships Sun.*



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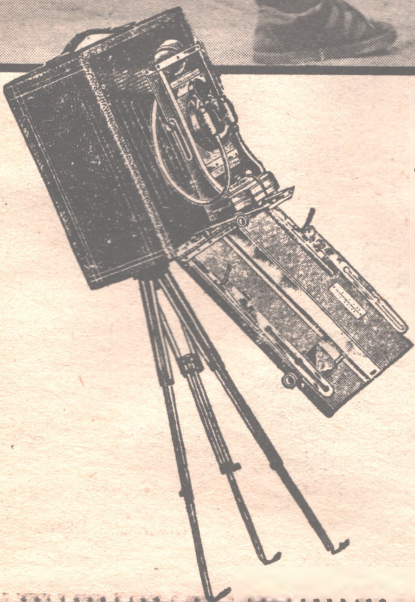
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# The Man Who Made Sherbrooke Famous

By Bernard Epps

There were more than thirty-five reporters in town. All the major United States dailies were represented along with a large portion of the foreign Press. The *Sherbrooke Daily Record* treated them all to an automobile ride one slow afternoon out to North Hatley and the lake. The Sherbrooke Board of Trade gave them a banquet at the Magog House and speeches were made thanking them for "the temporary shifting of the news centre of the universe" to this, "the electric city of Canada".

The prestigious *New York Times* filled the entire front page of one section with photographs from Sherbrooke and a snuffy editorial which began;

"To be the idol of a town of 18,000 population may not appeal to everybody as the height of fame: but there are plenty of minds so constituted that any kind of idolatry is good enough..."

"Sherbrooke," it continued, "is a little Canadian town where the biggest dissipation is an occasional one-night stand by a travelling troupe... Harry Thaw rides through the streets in an open carriage lifting his hat with a delighted smile quite in the manner of Woodrow Wilson or Theodore Roosevelt, only with an obvious vanity and keen joy which a mere President has outgrown. And little children who do not understand a word of English run by his carriage yelping French hurrahs for 'British fair-play' while their elders shout it from the sidewalk in broken English."

II— The cause of all this excitement —**Harry Kendall Thaw**—was the son of a Pittsburgh steel millionaire who had always been spoiled, reckless, willful and unstable. He'd gained a reputation as a Broadway playboy by wrecking night clubs, beating up policemen, spending wildly and indulging himself in drink, drugs and bizarre sexual frolics. After one unforgivable escapade, his mother only kept him out of prison by exiling him to Paris for three years but there, and in London, he continued his headlong habits.

Back again on Broadway, he became infatuated with an artist's model and showgirl named **Evelyn Nesbit** and they were married in Pittsburgh in 1905. Everyone thought it high time Harry settled down. He was 34.

But Evelyn had been seduced as a young girl by **Stanford White**, America's most prominent architect and a man some thirty years her senior. She had been his mistress until he abandoned her but, after her wedding to Thaw, there were constant nagging rumours that he was once more pressing his attentions.

On June 25th, 1906 Stanford White was seated at a table in the Madison Square Roof Garden Theatre as the opening night performance of "Mademoiselle Champagne" was drawing to a close. Thaw walked down between the diners, stopped in front of him, drew a revolver and shot him three times.

His defence at the first murder trial was 'the unwritten law' which supposedly permits a husband to kill his wife's seducer as a point of family honour. Evelyn tried to save her husband's life by testifying to every



Photo taken in the cells of Coaticook Jail. Harry K. Thaw in the white shirt, is flanked on his left by his lawyer W.L. Shurdeff.

shameful detail of her affair with Stanford White. The press loved it. The prosecutor, New York District Attorney **William Travers Jerome**, argued manfully against this 'unwritten law' and then surprised everyone halfway through with "an appeal to the conscience of the court". It was obvious to him, he said, that Thaw was insane. The jury was unable to agree on a verdict.

The second murder trial began in 1908 and the defence based its case this time on a plea of insanity—with William Travers Jerome now arguing against the very stand he had suggested. Thaw, he now insisted, was not insane but had murdered in defence of his family honour—the 'unwritten law'. Thaw's mother testified to the existence of insanity in her family and to Thaw's erratic behaviour through childhood and adolescence. Psychiatrists testified that he was an incurable paranoid. The newspapers lapped it up. The jury sent him to Matteawan State Hospital for the Criminal Insane at Fishkill, New York.

Having been found innocent of murder by reason of insanity, Thaw now had to prove he had recovered and should therefore no longer be kept locked away. It became Jerome's job to insist he was insane and a danger to public safety. At the first hearing, he produced **Susan Merrill**, a 'woman of the underworld', who testified that Thaw was a sexual degenerate and that his battery of lawyers had spent a great deal of money before the first trial getting women out of town who could testify to that degeneracy. Again the press

was avid. Evelyn took the stand and this time testified against her husband, corroborating many of the lurid details in Susan Merrill's testimony, and Thaw did not help his case by shouting "I guess I'll have to kill you next!" He was returned to Matteawan.

Legal fees by this time totalled almost a million dollars but the battle had just begun. Appeals went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court and were denied. A parallel set of "habeas corpus" proceedings also failed. Then Thaw arranged to pay a lawyer, **John N. Anhut**, \$25,000 with which to bribe the director of the asylum for a certificate of sanity. The plot was exposed, the director resigned, Anhut was prosecuted and Thaw tried to demonstrate his sanity by testifying against his lawyer in court. Anhut went to jail. Thaw went back to Matteawan.

It was time for more desperate measures.

III— On Sunday morning, August 17th, 1913, the old gatekeeper of the Matteawan State Hospital for the Criminal Insane, **Howard H. Barnum**, took up his post as usual at 7 a.m. A bell high above his head was connected to a handle on the far side of the wall and anyone requesting admission would ring the bell and be inspected through a peephole before Barnum unlocked the gate.

Shortly before 8 o'clock, the milkman arrived with his wagon and rang the bell. He noticed a small car parked across the road and two men inspecting it as if it had broken down. Barnum opened the peephole, recog-

nized the milkman, unlocked and began to swing back the heavy gate. Across the road, the two men climbed back in their car and started its motor.

Inmate number 3105, Harry K. Thaw, had been strolling about the exercise yard near the gate. Just as the milk wagon entered and blocked the gatekeeper's view, Thaw sprinted out to the car which was already moving and was dragged into the back seat.

Half a mile away, a larger and more powerful Packard was waiting with 'Gentleman Roger' Thompson at the wheel. Thaw was transferred, the cars took separate roads and raced through the dusty country lanes at 70 miles an hour.

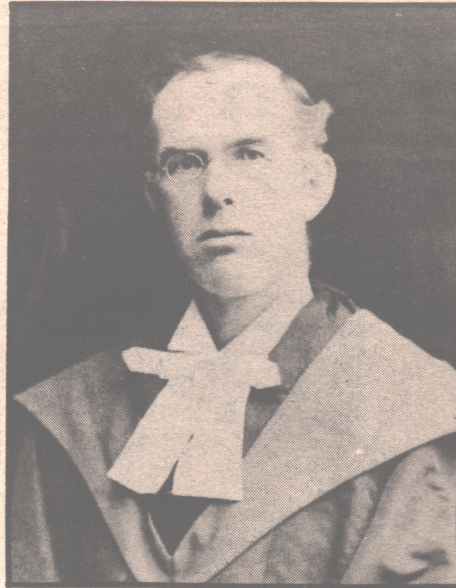
A hue and cry was raised all over New England. It was supposed Thaw was heading for the Connecticut State Line and then to rendezvous with a fast boat on Long Island Sound but he might also have headed north toward Canada or south to New York City. When Evelyn heard he was coming, she called the New York police and begged for protection. "Harry has threatened to kill me!" she wailed. Sheriff **Fred Hornbeck** of Dutchess County, where the hospital was situated, threw old Barnum the gatekeeper into jail and gave him the 'third degree'. Barnum protested that he had had nothing to do with it but Hornbeck knew better. "We recognized, of course, that this was an assertion made to cover up a plan of escape," he told the *New York Times*. "We continue to question Barnum very closely. We hope to have a full confession of his part in the matter before morning."

Barnum, being innocent, couldn't tell him anything but the sheriff did discover that a pair of high-rolling strangers had stayed at the Fishkill Hotel a week before. They were registered as Roger Thompson and Eugene Duffy. They'd explored the countryside and then had gone away only to return two days before the escape with a large Packard touring car and two more men. Thompson seemed to be their leader and all spent money freely and "acted like New York gangsters".

The following day, Saturday, a fifth member of the gang had arrived in a smaller car that fitted the description of the one parked outside the gates of Matteawan the next morning. All five went out in their cars that day and then spent the

They walked to a farmhouse and got the farmer out of bed—Octave Nedeau was his name. Thaw spoke fluent French from his years in Paris and asked Nedeau to drive them to the nearest village which turned out to be St. Herménégilde. They settled on a price of nine dollars and the farmer got dressed, harnessed his horse to his buggy and drove them through swamps and over bone-rattling corduroy roads to the St. Herménégilde Hotel. His clients, exhausted and bruised, were glad enough to retire to their rooms. It was 10:30 p.m.

V— Meanwhile, Sheriff Kelsea had the information he needed and was on their trail in his own car. He traced them into Canada and took the main road through Norton Mills and



W. L. Shurtleff

Hornbeck to bring Thaw back.

When Thaw's mother heard of his arrest, she first said; "I can't believe it," and then; "I won't have it!"

The Thaw millions were thrown behind his defence and, within a remarkably short time, he had a small army of Canadian lawyers headed by J.N. Greenshields (who had made a reputation defending Louis Riel and Donald Morrison, the Megantic Outlaw) and W.L. Shurtleff of Coaticook.

Newspapermen, aware of another chapter to be played out in a story full of glamour, sex and violence, converged on Sherbrooke by the dozen and began feeding the public all the fascinating details. The public, in turn, left no doubt where their sympathies lay and believed Thaw killed the man who disgraced his wife—no more nor less than any man worth his salt would have done—and had been persecuted by William Travers Jerome for seven years since. When the 2:30 train from Coaticook arrived with Thaw aboard;

"Most of Sherbrooke's 18,000 inhabitants swarmed the station," reported the *New York Times*, "and drowned the rumbling of the train with a mighty cheer as the flier came to a stop."

Thaw appeared surrounded by guards and they cheered again. "Let him go!" they shouted.

The crowd surged forward to shake his hand or to rescue him and Thaw's guards had to fight their way out to the waiting car. Thaw grinned and waved and bowed.

VI— Thaw was given the best cell in the jail and his keepers were delighted to learn their celebrity guest spoke fluent French—albeit with a Parisian accent. He quickly became a favorite.

Warden LaForce was asked by reporters if he was not afraid Thaw

would be freed by the mob or kidnapped by vengeful New York State authorities. LaForce answered that if he was, he would have confined Thaw to "a particularly secure section of the jail built especially for the retention of alleged criminals of whom there is any reason to suspect attempts to escape. It was prepared some twenty-five years ago for Morrison, the famous Megantic outlaw, who was held here at that time and kept secure against attempts of his sturdy Highland friends to release him. It was also used for Remi Lamontagne who, about the same time, was hanged for the murder of his brother-in-law. It is protected with double steel grilling and is considered practically impregnable."

(Note: The tale of Donald Morrison was serialized in *The Sun* during the later part of 1975 and the first half of 1976. The story of Remi Lamontagne was told in *The Sun* in November, 1978, as 'The Wolfestown Murder' and reprinted in *Great Stories from the Canadian Frontier*, 1979.)

"Gentleman Roger" Thompson was lounging in the courtroom waiting for Thaw's case to come up when he was arrested by Canadian immigration authorities for "aiding and abetting a lunatic to enter the country illegally". He was thrown into jail for lack of \$500 bond.

He came close to being forgotten—with all the spotlights concentrated on the jail's other inmate—but "Gentleman Roger" was no one's ninny. One morning, he removed the dark glasses he always wore and told visiting reporters he was "up against it" and would "spill the beans" unless the Thaw family looked after him.

"I need money and help now and it's up to the Thaws," he said. "I was framed up in getting in this case and they ought to stand by me now. It's rough stuff. The other four fellows mixed up in the game made their getaway. But I stuck to Thaw to the finish and I'm the goat. That's pretty hard."

His message was heard where he wanted it heard and, within a very short time, "Gentleman Roger" was out on bail and had for counsel a man named Louis St. Laurent from Compton. St. Laurent was just 31 years old at this time and had still to make the name that would lead him to become Prime Minister of Canada.

"Gentleman Roger" turned out to have been born and raised in Toronto and therefore not subject to deportation as an illegal immigrant. He was well known to New York authorities as a "chauffeur and car-dealer" but he'd never actually been arrested for anything other than speeding. New York now had a warrant out on him for conspiracy in the Thaw escape but "Gentleman Roger" had been taken care of and was no longer worried. He lounged about Sherbrooke with plenty of money to spend and told reporters he wouldn't 'peach' now. "I would not squeal if you gave me the whole town of Sherbrooke," he said.

VII— The battle lines were drawn. On one side stood Greenshields, Shurtleff and the Thaw millions. On the other was Jerome, Sheriff Hornbeck, the people of the State of New York and the Canadian immigration authorities.

Shurtleff had begun "habeas corpus" proceedings for his clients release but if Thaw were let out of jail now, the immigration authorities would snatch him up immediately, hold a cursory hearing to determine if he had entered the country illegally and then pitch him out of it into the eagerly awaiting arms of William



Constable Boudreau and Harry K. Thaw leaving Coaticook Town Hall.

evening in the barroom drinking freely. When asked his business by the landlord, Thompson had lowered his voice and said; "Getting good fellows out of trouble".

IV— Away up in Coos County in northern New Hampshire, Deputy Sheriff Burleigh H. Kelsea climbed aboard the Maine Central in Lancaster, the county seat, for a ride to his home in Colebrook. He settled down in an aisle seat to read his paper.

Some time later, he was interrupted by a tap on the shoulder and a tall, pale-faced man asked where they were and the name of the county seat.

The sheriff hesitated. He'd seen that face before somewhere. Recently, too. His eyes drifted down to the newspaper on his knees and there the same face stared up at him.

"You don't know who I am, do you?" asked his questioner.

"I think I could give a good guess," said the sheriff.

"Who am I?"

"You're Thaw. Harry K. Thaw."

The tall man nodded. "Yes," he said. "I am Thaw." He told the sheriff he was going to Canada and then "across the water." He went back to sit with his two companions.

At Colebrook, Kelsea got off the train and headed for the telegraph office to make a few enquiries. Thaw and his friends got off and headed for the livery stable where they hired a carriage and a man to drive it. They crossed the Connecticut River into Canaan, Vermont, and then turned north to cross the Canadian line into Hereford. Five miles further, their driver grew suspicious and complained that his old horse was played out and could go no further. They paid him off and sent him home.

Stanhope to Coaticook where he roused Constable John Boudreau in the early hours of the morning. Boudreau made enquiries of his own, located three strangers in the St. Herménégilde Hotel and arrested them for "crossing the line by stealth".

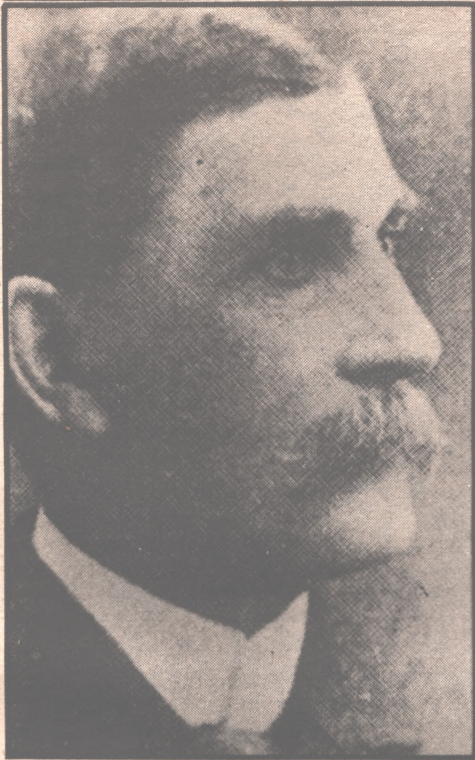
In Coaticook, the prisoners were sorted out and brought before Alexis Dupuis, retired grocer and Justice of the Peace. Dupuis committed Thaw to jail in Sherbrooke as a wanted fugitive. His companions were released and they contacted Thaw's family and hired the best lawyers money could buy. The authorities in turn notified New York of Thaw's arrest and William Travers Jerome was brought out of retirement, sworn in as a special deputy attorney general for the State of New York, and sent to Sherbrooke with Sheriff Fred



Constable Boudreau



J.N. Greenshields



Alexis Dupuis

Travers Jerome and Sheriff Fred Hornbeck. Extradition proceedings, on the other hand, could take months, even years, and so it became imperative for the defence to keep their client safe behind bars for the time being.

On Friday, August 22nd, Greenshields sent Shurtleff off to Ottawa on some pretext and did not press his "habeas corpus" writ as soon as court convened at ten a.m. Instead, he delayed and the opposition could not figure out what he was up to. At 2:30 in the afternoon, reporters from the *Sherbrooke Record*, the *Montreal Gazette* and Associated Press were summoned to the judges chambers. Judge Globensky informed them that, since W.L. Shurtleff had mysteriously disappeared and he, the judge, had to leave for Montreal on the afternoon train, Thaw's case would have to be postponed until next Wednesday.

By the time the opposition heard about this turn of events and rushed to the judge's chambers, they found them empty. They searched the courthouse and finally charged into Sheriff Aylmer's office where he and Warden LaForce were pondering what to do with a writ of "habeas corpus" just presented them by Greenshields. It instructed them to present it to the judge upon receipt—but the judge had gone.

Round one to Greenshields.

VIII— When Wednesday rolled around and Thaw came finally before the judge, the courtroom was packed solid. The Sherbrooke Exposition had begun and many of those who'd come to town for the fair, tried also to catch a glimpse of the man who'd made Sherbrooke famous. The question on everybody's minds was; would Thaw be held as an escaped criminal to face lengthy extradition proceedings or be released to the immigration authorities as an illegal alien to be deported within hours?

When the immigration officers stood up to address the court, Judge Globensky cut them short.

"I do not wish to hear from your side of the case," he snapped. "This is an 'ex parte' proceeding."

Nobody was prepared for what happened next, least of all Judge Globensky. The spectators jammed into the courtroom jumped suddenly to their feet and began cheering wildly. "Three cheers for Judge Globensky!" they roared. "Three cheers for British fair play!" Shreiking men and women clambered on

chairs and tables and benches and struggled forward to shake the hand of Harry Thaw or clap him on the back.

"The scene was probably unprecedented in the annals of Canadian trial history," reported the *Montreal Gazette*, "and spoke amply of the lengths to which hero worship will go in sympathy for a man who in the judgement of the public has paid the price of anything he may have done and now appeals as a martyr."

Court was adjourned in bedlam. When it was reconvened at 3:30 in the afternoon, Globensky first threatened to jail any demonstrators and then ruled the habeas corpus proceedings withdrawn and Thaw bound over for trial at the next quarter sessions.

Round two to Greenshields.

IX— William Travers Jerome was not popular. The waitresses in the Magog House refused to serve him. He tried to get Alexis Dupuis to quash his original indictment so Thaw could be freed but Dupuis had to live in the country. He informed these big city lawyers that he was far too busy. "I have a horse I want to sell at the Ayer's Cliff Fair this afternoon," he said.

Jerome tried to get the Provincial and the Federal Ministers of Justice to take a hand in the case but they refused to interfere and the formidable Greenshields was waiting to pounce on any such interference with "due process". There was one other recourse. Under the law a writ of "habeas corpus" could be filed by a third—supposedly neutral—person purely in the interest of seeing justice done. Jerome persuaded John Boudreau, the Coaticook constable, to file such a writ before Judge Mathew Hutchinson. Fearing a repeat of the turmoil in Globensky's courtroom, Judge Hutchinson heard this case behind closed doors and ruled that Thaw was entitled to his freedom "nolens volens"—whether he wanted it or not.

For five minutes, Harry Thaw was a free man, conversing urgently with his counsel but then the immigration authorities took him into custody, hustled him out to a waiting car and "fled down the gravelled drive en route to Coaticook so quickly that the cameramen had scarcely a chance for a flying snap!"

"Practically every spare automobile in the city," continued the *Gazette*, "was engaged by the small army of lawyers, immigration officers, friends, reporters and photographers and a veritable procession started out for Coaticook and Sherbrooke falls back upon her fair for diversion."

Thaw was locked in the immigration detention room over the Coaticook railway station pending his hearing the next morning. It looked very much as if he'd be back in the Matteawan asylum within hours and that William Travers Jerome, his arch enemy, had won round three rather decisively.

Jerome and Sheriff Hornbeck journeyed to Norton Mills to wait for their prisoner.

X— But Greenshields and Shurtleff weren't ready yet to give up their client and the fees he represented. Frantic calls to Montreal paved the way for a court test on the constitutionality of the immigration act which seemed to deny 'due process'. Such a test and its consequent appeals could take years to filter through the courts and provide a handsome living for an entire army of lawyers.

Overnight, Greenshields managed to get Thaw ordered to appear before the Court of King's Bench in Mont-

real and a restraining order against deportation by the immigration authorities until that appearance. Time was fast running out, however, and Thaw might be deported before these papers could be served so they chartered a locomotive and two coaches (the reporters dubbed it the "Thaw Special") and rushed these court orders to Coaticook. They arrived in the nick of time. Thaw was saved. Greenshields won round four.

Jerome gave up waiting at the border and returned to Coaticook for the next round, got invited into a penny-ante poker game with waiting reporters and found himself under arrest for gambling. Round five to Greenshields.

It seemed that most of the lawyers and judges in Québec were involved in the case by now and tangling it as much as possible. Jerome's hearing was to be before Judge James McKee but was postponed until September 11th. Round six to Greenshields.

Jerome's lawyers got Judge Mulvena to hear the case instead on the pretext that McKee had turned it over to him. Round seven to Jerome.

The plaintiff, however, (like W.L. Shurtleff earlier) mysteriously disappeared and his counsel asked for a postponement.

Round eight to Greenshields.

Jerome's lawyers objected and persuaded the judge to send for the records of the case at least—even if McKee hadn't really turned over the matter to him. The records were in charge of Constable John Andrews but he, too, had disappeared. Joseph E. Beaulne, perhaps the last Coaticook lawyer to get in on the case, stood up to explain this disappearance and was told by the exasperated judge to sit down and shut up because he represented nobody. Beaulne said he had instructed Andrews not to appear. Jerome's lawyers shrieked that this was plainly contempt of court and demanded an adjournment until 7 p.m.

"We can't adjourn this court!" shouted poor Judge Mulvena. "We have not yet begun!"

Round nine to Greenshields.

Thaw had meanwhile appealed the deportation order, been denied and had filed a fresh "habeas corpus" writ in Montreal. The attorneys seemed to be hoping the case would never be unravelled as long as the Thaw millions held out and the only loser would be the poor Canadian taxpayer who had to foot the bill for the country's courts.

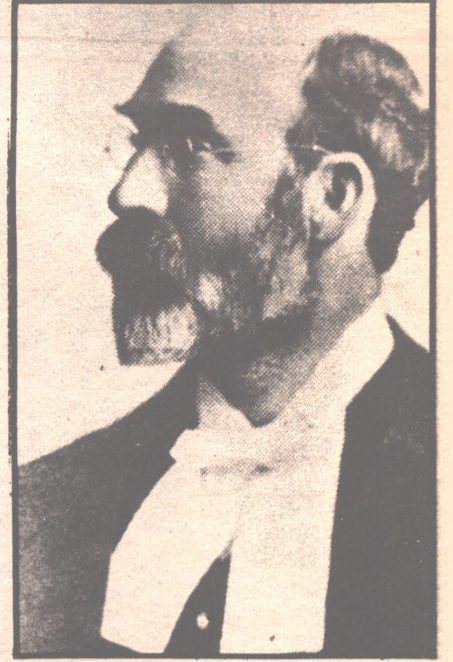
Then three burly, silent men from the Ministry of Justice appeared in Coaticook in the middle of the night, woke Thaw from his sleep and ordered him to dress. After a struggle in which he tried to brain one of the officers with a heavy water glass, Thaw was dragged downstairs screaming; "Don't let them kidnap me! Save me, for God's sake!"

They hustled him into their waiting car, drove him to Stanhope and literally pushed him over the line into Norton Mills.

Round ten to Canada.

Nobody had informed Jerome or Sheriff Hornbeck so there was nobody waiting to receive him. He was a free man. The Canadians didn't care where he went as long as he didn't try to cross back over the line and if he could just get far enough away, he might still stand a chance. But he had less than \$10 in his pocket.

There were, however, two alert Associated Press reporters who had heard the commotion in Coaticook and followed the car in one of their own. They were now waiting around to see if anything else would happen and they were quite willing to give Thaw a ride wherever he wanted to



Joseph Beaulne

go. He hopped in, they crossed one state line into New Hampshire and drove for three hours until they reached Colebrook and the eagerly awaiting arms of Sheriff Burleigh H. Kelsea.

Jerome (finally acquitted of the gambling charge with an apology from the court) was furious at not having been informed of the deportation. The Minister of Justice calmly replied that his agreements had been made with the immigration authorities and not with the Ministry of Justice. Greenshields was furious that this deportation had been carried out while Thaw was under the protection of a restraining order. The Minister pointed out that this order was addressed to the immigration authorities and not to him. He had sent his officers, he said; "to prevent Canada being made a dumping ground or refuge of undesirable citizens of other countries."

XI— That was the end of the story as far as the Townships were concerned but it was far from the end for Harry K. Thaw. He fought extradition from New Hampshire, of course, but Jerome was merciless and eventually got him back in Matteawan. Two years later, Thaw won another sanity hearing, was declared sane and acquitted of all charges.

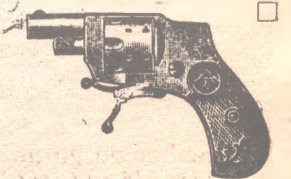
He was out barely eighteen months when he was arrested for kidnapping and whipping Fred Gump, aged 19, in Long Beach, California. The Gumps sued for \$650,000. Mrs. Thaw settled out of court and had Harry committed to the Pennsylvania State Hospital to forestall criminal charges.

He was there for seven years, won another sanity hearing in 1924 and was once more released. The Hospital immediately presented his mother with a bill for \$75,000—seven years' board and lodging.

The following year he was sued for breach of promise by a chorus girl and was frequently in the headlines for rioting in nightclubs and throwing extravagant champagne suppers all through the darkest years of the Depression. In the late 30's, he was arrested for beating Marcia Estardus, "nightclub hostess," and went through three trials before paying her \$16,000 in damages.

He died in Miami of a heart attack in 1947.

He was 76. □





## Eat It Raw!

by John Max

We are living in an age where eating lots of raw foods is essential. Cooking destroys many of the vitamins, all of the enzymes, chelated minerals, nucleic acids and chlorophyll. Chlorophyll contains the light and energy of the sun, and is stored in all plants and fruits that we eat. Foods highest in chlorophyll are green. All fruits and vegetables should be sun ripened and organically grown if possible, and, the sooner the produce is utilized after harvest, the more alive and nutritious it is. Now is the time when fruits and vegetables should be eaten and preferably in their raw states. The following recipes do not use heat to transform them, nor is sugar or salt used as a flavor enhancer, and may be found in the book, *Light Eating For Survival* by Marcia Madhuri Acciado. Enjoy!

### Live Juices

Our most natural supply of live organic water is in our fresh fruits and vegetables.

It is good to use all the skins of fresh organic produce. The best vitamins and minerals are just beneath the outer layer. Only orange peels should not be eaten or juiced. The orange oil in the peel is not easily digestible but the white skin beneath the peel is excellent and high in bioflavonoids.

### Carrot Juice

Carrot juice is a delicious and very alkalizing juice. It is a good source of vitamins A, B, C, D, E and K, as well as calcium, magnesium, iron, phosphorous, sulphur, silicon and chlorine. These nutrients are easily assimilated by the body in juice form especially on an empty stomach. It is recommended for pregnant women, nursing mothers and small infants. It aids in liver and intestinal diseases, ulcer treatments and helps to normalize the whole body. A carrot juice fast of three to six days can be safely done by most people using one pint to one quart a day.

### Apple Juice

Apple juice is a natural blood purifier and is helpful for skin and liver disorders. It can be a great aid in losing weight as it aids in digestion and acts as a laxative. Best when eaten in season. One to three day apple juice fasts are good for cleansing.

### Melon

Melons are one of the easiest foods for the body to digest only if they are eaten by themselves. When one is juicing ripe melons, it is important to remember to juice the rind with the fruit. The rind contains excellent minerals and enzymes as well as chlorophyll. The juice of melons can be combined with a few fruits if you have strong digestion and do not eat any solid food with the juice. Melon fasts from one to three days are excellent for kidney cleansing. Eat the fruit and juice the rind.



### Green Glow

4 oz. comfrey leaves, parsley, spinach, celery, 6 oz. apple. Fresh mint to taste.

### Tomato and Bean Sprouts

2 C mung bean sprouts  
3 C tomato juice  
2 stalks celery  
½ green pepper  
1 small onion  
2 Tbsp. parsley

### Green Blood

1 quart carrot juice  
8 oz. any green juice  
1 oz. celery  
1 fresh tomato  
Handful of parsley  
Kelp and cayenne to taste (optional)

### Complexion Cocktail

3 oz. carrot  
2 oz. cucumber  
2 oz. apple  
1 oz. beet

### Cayenne Cooler

1 quart water  
3 lemons

1 tsp. cayenne  
1 Tbsp. maple syrup

### Pink Party Punch

2 quarts mint tea  
1 quart apple or orange juice  
1 quart grape juice  
2 lemons sliced

Honey or maple syrup to taste. Thin slices of lemon or strawberries for floating on top.

### Smoothies

Smoothies are drinks that are made in a blender. They can be a complete meal any time of the day. Be sure that all your fruits are ripe, especially bananas. Bananas should have black spots on them. The so-called "rotten" ones are the best, because starch in the banana is converted to sugar in the ripening.

### Smoothie Smile

8 oz. grape juice  
1 apple  
1 C papaya or peaches

### Apple Smoothie

8 oz. apple juice  
1 banana  
½ C blueberries, strawberries or peaches.

### Carob Smoothie

1 banana  
8 oz. coconut milk  
1 Tbsp. carob powder  
1 tsp. honey

### Date Shake

8 oz. apple juice  
1 banana  
¼ C pitted dates

### Blueberry Frappé

2 C almond milk  
(½ C almonds, 4 cups water, honey to taste. Blend and strain.)  
1 C blueberries  
1 C papaya  
1 tsp. honey.

### Nutritional Shake

8 oz. apple juice  
1 banana  
1 tsp. honey  
1 Tbsp. wheat germ  
1 Tbsp. nutritional yeast

### Herb Teas

Herbs are wonderful foods that should be studied and used according to taste. There are a great variety of programmes as well as medical remedies for the body. Herbs are best when they are fresh and grown in your area. They can be grown indoors or out. Hang up and dry for winter use if necessary.

### Herb Mix

½ C Fenugreek tea  
½ C peppermint  
slices of fresh ginger

### Red Ringer

1 C apple juice  
3 C red zinger tea  
½ tsp. cayenne  
½ lemon

### Sun Tea

Make your favorite tea by just letting it sit in the water in the sun on a hot day. Strain and serve. Delicious.

### Sun Bread

Sun Bread is the ultimate substitute for baked bread as it is still full of life. It is very tasty and can be added to any meal. It is a heavy food and so all grains must be chewed thoroughly until they become liquified in the mouth to be well digested.

2 C sprouted grain (wheat, rye, corn)

Run sprouted grain of your choice through grain mill or champion juicer or press thoroughly with a roller to make a dough. Oil a tray or dish and press out the dough. Shape as desired for wafers, or sandwiches. Place in sun or in a warm spot in the house (above oven or heater) to dry. When the top side has dried, turn it over with a spatula and allow the other side to bake. If there is neither sun nor a sufficient warm spot, a low oven with the door open will do.

Variations: Seasonings of all kinds are delicious in sun bread; try kelp, thyme, caraway or cumin. Sesame seeds may be sprinkled on the oiled plate before pressing. Soaked dried fruit may also be added like raisins or dates.

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**Appetizers**

**Zucchini Chips**

Slice zucchini thin and dry on screens in the sun or in a dehydrator to make chips for dips.

**Humus**

1/2 C ground sesame seeds (tahini)  
1 C mashed garbanzo bean sprouts (or boiled)  
2-3 cloves garlic crushed  
3/4 C olive oil  
2 Tbsp. tamari  
2 Tbsp. lemon juice  
2 Tbsp. chopped parsley  
Water if needed  
Mix or blend wet then add dry ingredients. Should be of thick consistency. Mix in parsley last.

**Dips**

**Guacamole**

2 or 3 mashed avocados  
1 mashed tomato  
1 Tbsp. kelp  
1/2 onion chopped  
1/4 C chopped hot peppers or 1/4 tsp. cayenne  
2 lemons juiced  
1 clove garlic crushed  
Mix well and serve

**Sun Dip**

3/4 C lemon juice  
1 Tbsp. tamari  
1 Tbsp. honey  
1 Tbsp. paprika  
1 tsp. fresh basil  
1/2 chopped red onion  
2 cloves garlic crushed  
1 1/2 C sunflower seeds.  
Blend sunflower seeds with water. Add seasoning.

**Tahini and Olive Dip**

1 C sesame butter (Tahini)  
2 lemons juiced  
1/2 C chopped green pepper  
1 C chopped parsley  
1 C chopped black olives  
2 Tbsp. honey  
2 Tbsp. kelp  
1 tsp. sage.  
Mix well.

**Soups**

Pan soups are good for light diets or for people who have trouble chewing or digesting large meals. They can also be served before a salad. You can blend any combination of vegetables, sprouts, oil and seasoning of your fancy.

**Corn Chowder**

2 tomatoes  
1/4 C sunflower seed sprouts  
1/4 C chopped celery  
1 clove garlic  
1/2 C water  
3 ears corn kernels  
Blend.

**Cream of Spinach**

1 lb. spinach  
1 Tbsp. oil  
2 C water  
1/4 C onion  
1/4 C celery  
your favorite herbs  
Blend.

**Fruit Soups**

**Pineapple Avocado Soup**

1 Avocado  
2 C diced pineapple  
honey and lemon to taste  
Blend. Add water as needed.

**High Fruit Soup**

2 C chopped apples  
2 C sliced bananas  
1 C soaked raisins  
1/2 C ground sesame seeds  
1/2 C ground sunflower seeds  
Dash of nutmeg, cinnamon and lemon juice, apple juice.

**Salads**

**Middle Eastern Salad**

4 large diced tomatoes  
2 cucumbers diced  
2 stalks of celery diced  
1/2 C finely chopped red onion  
1/2 bunch watercress chopped  
1/4 C chopped parsley  
1/4 C chopped fresh mint  
1/4 C lemon juice  
2 Tbsp. olive oil  
Kelp to taste.

**Seas and Peas**

1 C fresh peas  
1/2 C soaked hijiki  
1 C chopped comfrey  
2 Tbsp. chopped scallions  
1/2 C grated carrots

**Sunshine Salad**

1/2 C grated summer squash  
1/2 C grated pumpkin or yam  
1/2 C grated carrots  
1/2 C red clover sprouts  
6 sliced radishes

**Open Sesame Dressing**

1/2 C sesame seeds  
1 tsp. chopped onion  
1 tsp. chopped parsley  
1 tsp. cayenne  
1 clove garlic  
1 tsp. chopped comfrey  
1 tsp. kelp  
1 tsp. paprika  
1 tsp. tamari  
water  
Blend all seasonings with 1/2 C liquid. Add sesame gradually. Blend to cream.

**Nice 'N' Spicy**

1/2 C tomato juice  
1 C olive oil  
2 Tbsp. lemon juice  
1 tsp. apple cider vinegar  
1/2 tsp. horseradish  
1/8 tsp. mustard  
1/2 tsp. honey  
1 clove garlic  
cayenne to taste.

John Max is proprietor of Little Forks [Les Petites Fourches], a natural health food store in Lennoxville.

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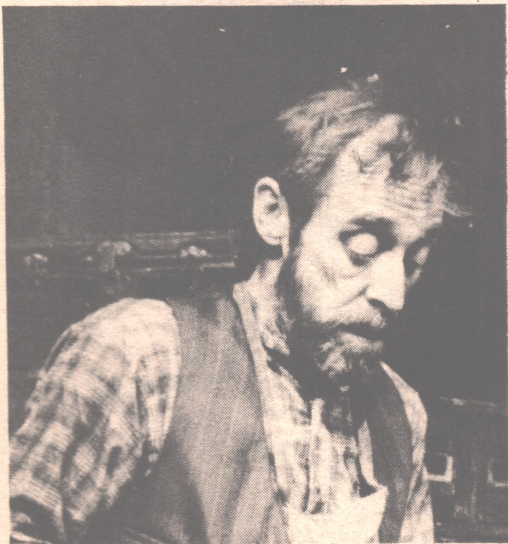
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## The Devil & Hugh Webster at Festival Lennoxville



by Stephanie Wells

A play about a curling match in Wild Rose, Alberta between a fiesty cobbler named Wullie MacCrimmon and...the Devil? W.O. Mitchell has concocted this unlikely scenario and the stakes are high: Wullie wants to win the MacDonald Brier and the right to keep his soul intact. Now anyone who loves to curl appreciates the importance of the MacDonald Brier.

Originally written for radio, "Bonspiel" was performed twice on television, first starring Frank Peddie, and later John Drainie (whose daughter Bronwyn is co-host of CBC Radio's "Sunday Morning"). Hugh Webster played the part of the plumber in those productions and told Mitchell, "One of these days, your play will be on the stage and I'm going to play Wullie MacCrimmon!" It was—and he did.

Hugh Webster completed his studies at the Canadian Theatre School in Toronto in 1948. One of his teachers was Sterndel Bennett, who later founded the Dominion Drama Festival, an amateur company which played a different Canadian city each summer. Webster has performed in Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, four years at Stratford—well, all over Canada—and in New York with Rod Steiger in "Moby Dick". I asked him if that show had enjoyed a long run and with a wry smile he replied, "Noooo, not long at all. Steiger is brilliant on film but the stage is a

completely different discipline. In a film, the actor must produce many, many short takes of some intensity and he's constantly skipping around, so he must be able to reproduce what he's done perhaps many takes before and keep track of where he is all the time. On stage he must project and maintain a crucial momentum to see the thing through to the end. There is a certain freedom on the stage—once the play's begun, there's no stopping you, you're on your own and no one can call 'Cut!' You always have to do your homework, whether it's for film or stage. Always."

I asked him which he prefers: "There are intricacies and advantages and disadvantages to both film and stage."

And television? "As far as I'm concerned, it has the disadvantages of both. But there is some good work being done on television."

Webster has worked in film, television, and radio: "I generally made money on the radio and put it into the theatre." For several years, he ran his own summer theatre, The Carousel Players, outside of Toronto. "I'm interested in all parts of the business and I've worked at all of them—writing, producing, acting, and so on...I also run 50 acres of struggling farm just to keep myself sensible."

"The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon" was produced in Peterborough three years ago, then twice in Calgary. W.O. Mitchell was around the theatre in Calgary and made a few changes and additions. By that time, the Energy Crisis had reared its ugly head and Mitchell had some fun comparing Alberta's underground resources and the Devil's territory. Webster has a lot of admiration for Mitchell and his work. "He understands the value of simplicity. I believe it's an actor's job to take it apart and boil it down to the simplest terms—the essence—and really understand the character. If this business has any redeeming value, it lies in getting to the point and getting that point across to the audience."

Mitchell's tale of Wullie MacCrimmon is uncluttered and a charming vehicle for the classic struggle between good and evil. Webster loves Mitchell's choice of a small town Presbyterian to tangle with the Devil—"Presbyterians may not be too sure about Heaven, but Hell's a different matter."

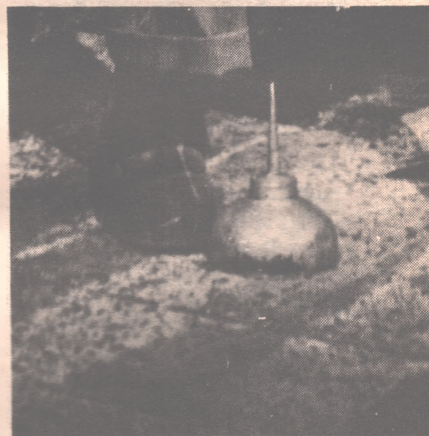
Of course, the reactions of the audience affect the performance. "When they're with you, you soar—you soar! There have been times during my career when I wondered if the audience had got up and gone home—but then you kind of peer out and see those rows of ovals. They are there, but they aren't with you. There was one night here recently when there seemed to be no reaction at all. But suddenly, at the climax of the story, there came this roar of applause. That particular group seemed to be totally involved in the moral struggle at hand rather than the humour around it."

This show has attracted quite a number of people who never or rarely go to a play. Webster says that he has met more than one satisfied customer after a performance who said they had never been to a play before and really enjoyed it. Nothing high falutin' about "Bonspiel"—it's a solid, clever show.

Nothing stodgy or dull about it either. There are a number of tricky special effects—characters sometimes enter and exit via a puff of smoke. I asked Webster if they'd ever had trouble with these tricks and at first he didn't want to tell me. He thought a moment and said, "Well, you know the way the Devil can point to a spot on the floor and there's a great pouff of smoke? One night in Calgary, there must have been a short circuit or something, because he pointed to the spot, but the smoke pouffed way over on the other side of the stage! And you know, it was wonderful—he only hesitated for a split second before he turned to me and said, "Funny, it worked fine in Poughkeepsie!"

And what about those tricky

curling shots? The entire second act is the curling match, and the accuracy of the shots determines the outcome of the play. There is no room for a stone misplaced. After seeing the play, two experienced Townships curlers came backstage and asked, "Who's curling the rocks? What's the trick?" The actors do the curling and they have worked hard to perfect their shots. "No trick at all," says Webster, "Other than plain hard work. We have around 28 performances to give this summer and we cannot miss. This business is hard work, with or without a curling scene. But when you know you've got the reactions of curlers and Presbyterians in the audience, you know you can't put a foot wrong." □



The same evening I spoke with Mr. Webster, he did put a foot wrong during the performance and is now wearing a cast. In spite of his discomfort, he has not missed a show and I'd like to stand up and give him a big hand.

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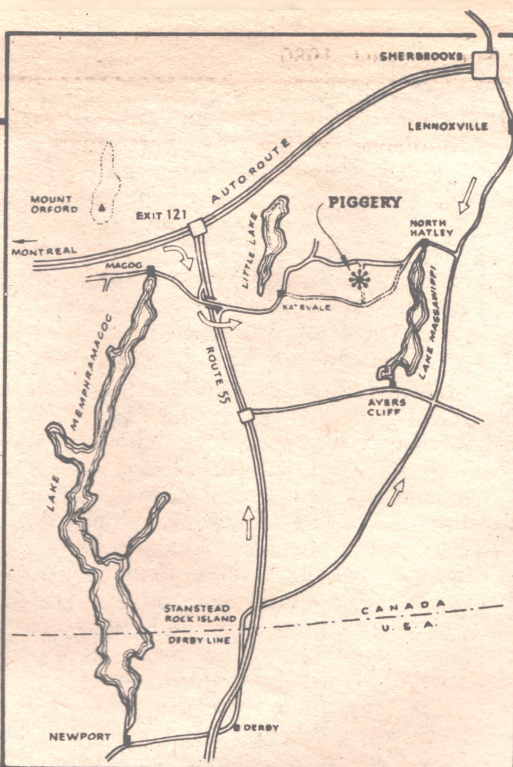
### ...and Mystery at The Piggery

The opening of "Catch Me If You Can" was a rather delightful way to spend a summer evening. The country supper served at The Piggery is nice straightforward fare and includes lots of fresh garden greenery. The show is pretty straightforward, too—a mystery clever enough that you do find yourself wondering just which of the characters really has the handle on the plot.

The fun is that while there is foul play at hand, all the characters are sort of endearing. That is with the exception of the mystery lady played by Karen Lazar—she does a fine job of keeping an icy feeling on the stage.

Terrence LaBrosse is the either bumbling or sophisticated cop and handles some funny lines very well. The same goes for George Pothitos and Heather Hodson. But all three play French Canadians and their accents and mannerisms were a bit irritating at first. Miss Hodson's costume struck me as a northern version of Aunt Jemima's garb and the initially overdone Québec stereotypes smacked faintly of Amos and Andy and "Feets...git movin'!" Maybe I spent too many uncomfortable years in the southern United States, or maybe it was a case of opening night overkill. Whatever, the discomfort subsided as the characters seemed to settle down. Damir Andrei was good as the rich boy from the city with lots of youthful charm.

In short, "Catch Me If You Can" is a good whodunnit and lots of fun for the community that loves the Piggery. The play is set in North Hatley and funny bits of local colour are sprinkled throughout.



There was another opening at the Piggery that night. Immediately following the performance is an "After Hours Cabaret" featuring Bridget O'Sullivan and Eric Hughes and the music of Harold Arlen. You might think you have no idea who Harold Arlen is, but you do know his music. It seems as if he wrote every wonderfully schmaltzy tune you've ever heard and a lot of blues as well. Songs like "That Old Black Magic," "One More For the Road," "Come Rain or Come Shine," "Get Happy," "Over the Rainbow" and the rest of the score of "The Wizard of Oz". Hughes and O'Sullivan obviously enjoy what they're doing and it feels very mellow. Everyone enjoyed it—a nice way to end the evening.

"Catch Me If You Can" and the "After Hours Cabaret" will run until August 9. □

Stephanie Wells

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*Hugh Webster*

in

W. O. Mitchell's

### The Black Bonspiel of Wullie MacCrimmon

Directed by Rick McNair  
Set Design by Arthur Penson  
Costumes by Evan Ayotte

*Devilish good fun!*

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### I'll Be Back For You Before Midnight

Directed by Brian Rintoul  
Design by Arthur Penson

*Mystery so entertaining, its criminal!*

Sharon Pollock's

### One Tiger To a Hill

Directed by Richard Ouzounian  
Set Design by Lawrence Schafer

*Topical as tomorrow's headline!*



by Bijou Ardglass

**The Auberge du Fenil**, R.R.1, Eastman. This country inn is open daily for three meals a day. Takes Visa, MC, AmEx. For reservations call (514) 297-3362.

Price range: moderate

Supposing that no one else but us would be foolish enough to go out on a cold and rainy weekend, Stanley and I ventured out on a Saturday night sans reservations to a place we had heard very good rumours about in the Eastman area. Big mistake. We had forgotten about the Théâtre de la Marjolaine. The restaurant was bursting at the seams, but the proprietor was obliging enough to direct us to another establishment which had opened only three weeks before—the Auberge du Fenil. It was a very happy discovery.

It is a bit difficult to describe the exact location of this inn, but reaching it is not as difficult as it sounds. You exit from the Eastern Townships Autoroute at Eastman (exit 106) and go to highway 112. As soon as you come off the autoroute you will see yellow and brown signs directing you to the place, which is located on the Chemin du Mont Bon

Plaisir. We were a bit afraid of not being able to be seated here, seeing the parking lot full of cars with not only Québec but Ontario licenses. There was no problem, however.

It seems that the owner of the Auberge, **Mr. Douglas Howard** (called Monsieur Doo-glass by the staff), fell in love with the Eastman area and decided to buy an old barn built at the turn of the century and remodel it to make an art gallery. In the middle of all this, he exercised his right to change his mind and created a country inn with restaurant instead. In this endeavour, it seems he received help from the owners of the Brome Lake Inn, another excellent establishment, which ought to be an indication of excellence.

The dining room has windows partly around two sides with a balcony and a beautiful view of the mountains to the east. It must be very pleasant indeed to eat breakfast on the balcony in the morning sun. The decor is essentially barn-like, as one would expect, and I'm relieved to see "country decor" done in good taste in a place where it belongs for a change. One wall of the dining room is made of planed and varnished barn boards, while the others are painted

cream. Carpet and tableclothes are brown, there are fresh flowers on the tables and a comfortable living room adjoining the dining room had, on that cold day, a nice fire in the fireplace.

At the time we were there, there was only a table d'hôte menu, but we were told that an à la carte menu would soon be added. Canadian dishes are featured (and I don't mean meat-ball stew), and French chef **Michel Levrero** displays his talents with such delicacies as canard à l'érable (a lot better than canard à l'orange any day in Stanley's opinion) and brochette of chicken Compton in addition to roast beef and crab claws Provençale. We were first brought a plate of celery, carrot strips and green olives as well as those delicious sesame rolls from Paramount Farms (served warm), while we had a drink and decided on our dinners.

Of the four entrées named, I chose the chicken (\$12.50), while Stanley took the duckling (\$13.50). My dinner began with a pâté of duck liver which was excellent. Stanley was served consommé with sherry which was also very good. We were next brought a salad with house dressing, one of the best vinaigrettes I've had in a long time. The main course was served with potato balls which had been boiled and then sautéed, and peas cooked with ham. The latter vegetable was somewhat lacking in flavour, although the peas were not canned. The duckling was very tender and being cooked with maple syrup gave it a very delicate flavour. The brochette of chicken Compton turned out to be boned chicken breast grilled nice and brown and served with cooked apple slices. Something very good had been done to the apples. The results in both cases were simply delicious. With our dinner we had a

bottle of Prince Blanc (\$11.00).

In the dessert department there was not a great deal of choice: pears flambéed with pernod or zabaglioni, both for two. Although coffee was included in our menus, we decided to have café flambé instead, which was made with Tia Maria, Grand Marnier and Cognac (\$4.50) and was a very nice ending to the meal. When we asked before ordering it if we could take it into the living room by the fire we were told to make ourselves comfortable and it was made for us there.

A word about service—in our experience there is a distinct difference between American and Canadian restaurants in this department, the former being very warm and friendly and the latter rather lah-di-dah about the whole thing. Well, from the minute you enter the Auberge du Fenil, you feel that the entire staff is just tickled to death you came. The service is efficient, professional and relaxed. Waiters take time to talk to you and answer any questions you might have. They make you feel it is a pleasure to serve you. We wish this new restaurant lots of success and hope they will continue to keep up the high standards with which they have begun.

Dinner for two including wine, two flambéed coffees and tip: \$59.10. □



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The first symbolic sod was turned recently for the much needed new archives of the Missisquoi County Historical Society. Your reporter arrived late, so Mr. Kenneth Tree, former president of the Society and a senior member gladly gave the first re-enactment of the historic event, with the assistance of President Doris Jones McIntosh.

Although the campaign to finance the \$50,000 fireproof structure is well underway, it's not complete and any donations will be appreciated. Support your local Historical Society.

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES**



The Eastern Townships Heritage Foundation met on June 10 in Lennoxville, and will meet again in Richmond in the Fall.

Lennoxville-Ascot Historical Society officially opened its Museum on June 9; it will be open to the public Wednesday and Sunday afternoons from 2-5 p.m., throughout June, July and August. This opening exhibit, a most successful one, was of glass and china.

Richmond County Historical Society Museum is open Wednesday through Sunday afternoons from 2-5 p.m. During June they had a most

interesting exhibit of early time pieces. At their June meeting, Professor Barnett, Professor of Economic History, Bishops' University, spoke on the general Economic background of the Eastern Townships. The President of the Richmond Society is Mr. Dennis Keenan; Vice-Presidents: Messrs C.W. Dickson, Brian Woods; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Eileen Perkins; Corresponding and Membership Secretary, Mrs. Alice Mellish; Treasurer, Mr. Donald Chamberlin.

The Missisquoi Historical Society Museum is open 10-5 week-days and Saturdays, 11-6 Sundays and holidays, from June 1-October 14. Work on the planned fireproof archives extension is about to begin; the Building Fund has reached \$37,000, and efforts are continuing to raise the contractor's estimated costs of \$46,000. Mr. Stuart Bird, Chairman of the Building Fund Drive, and Mrs. D.J. McIntosh, President of the Society, are most grateful for the wonderful help and co-operation of members and friends which have been shown.

A successful Museum season is anticipated.

A bus trip for members to Les Floralies is scheduled for July 30.

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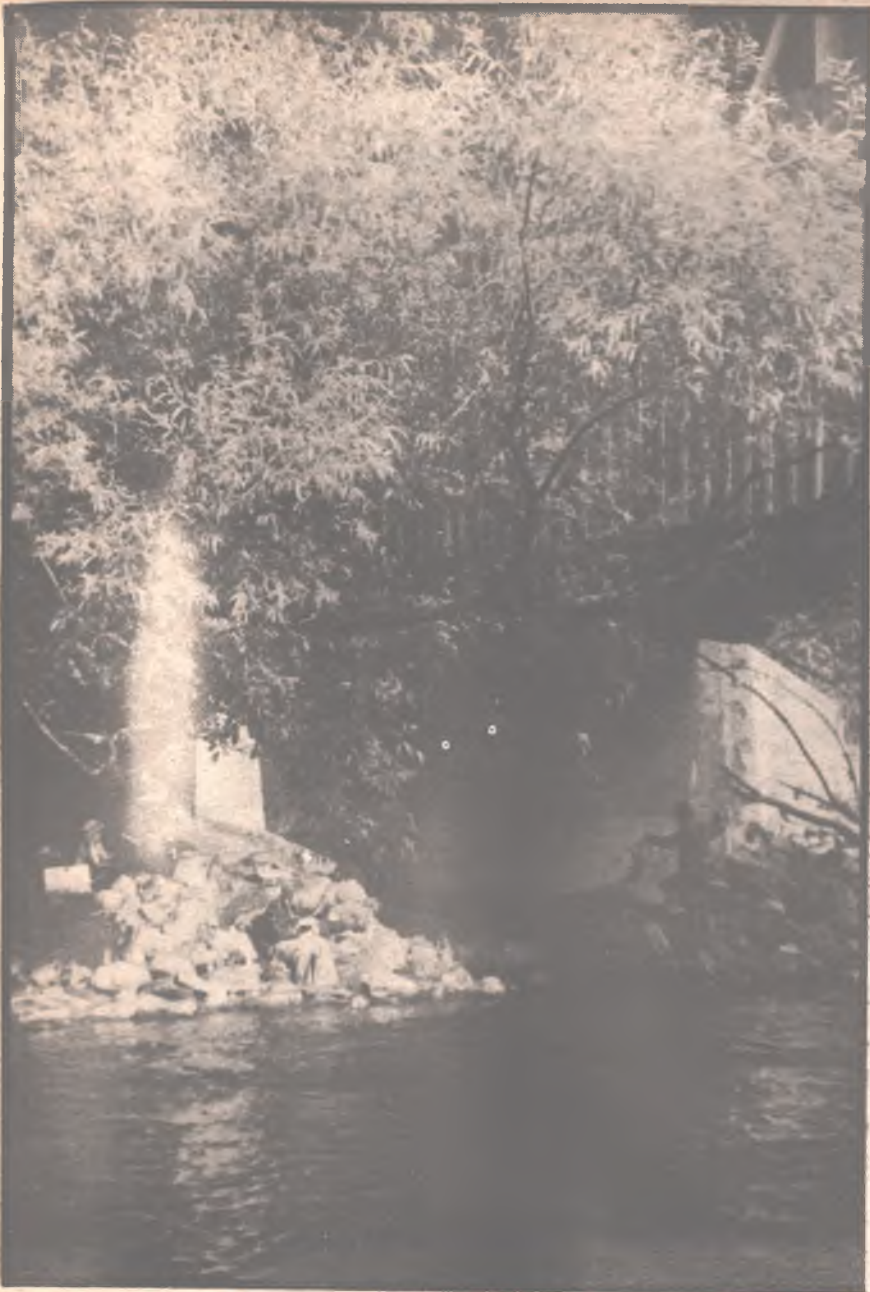
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## Chateauguay Holiday



Not everyone gets to take a holiday, but this year I did. It was on a Wednesday afternoon, and I was delivering some copies of *The Sun* in the Chateauguay Valley. The weather was too nice to keep on working. So with the help of Sun reader Mr. Orr of Athelstan, I got my feet wet under the covered bridge near Powerscourt, where the Upper Chateauguay River separates Elgin and Hinchinbrook Townships. Later that day, I found these stately cows cooling off further downstream near Allans Corners, where there is a fine historical presentation of The Battle of the Chateauguay during the War of 1812.

For those who are able to travel, this is a beautiful place to do it. For those who aren't, here is what it looks like.

*Charles Bury*

# Conservation and Nature Notes

by Gladys Mackey Beattie

This is a very interesting time of year for the naturalist. Most of this spring's baby birds and mammals are fledged or have left their dens and are in a state of semi-dependence on their parents. Their innocence will cause them to wander into our paths more now than at any other time in their lives. Young birds are in abundance around here. My red currant bushes are a good attraction for cedar waxwings. Their table manners are above reproach. One adult parent picks a ripe currant and passes it to the nearest offspring who passes it on to his neighbour and so it continues until the currant reaches the last bird in the line, and he, having no one to pass it on to, eats it. The next berry stops one beak sooner and so it goes until all are fed.

The half grown robins with their speckled breasts have no such dignities. They hop clumsily from branch to branch where they wobble precariously pecking at any berry within reach—green or ripe. The catbirds young must still be in the nest in the blackberry bushes because the adults are carrying away one berry at a time and are soon back for another. The tree swallows have long since fledged—three families of them, and they gather each evening on the telephone wires. In flight it is difficult to tell the adults from the young. To my observations they become self sufficient within a few days of leaving the nest, and some of the first brood are now helping feed a second hatching that looks like it too will soon be ready to try its wings.

One of my bird houses is having an occupancy rate that would make any hotel owner envious. Early in the spring it was used by the chickadees, later the tree swallows and then the house wrens. The tree swallows seem to want to use it again now, but so do the wrens. The wrens seem to be winning despite their much smaller size.

A couple of immature rose breasted grosbeaks are constantly in the nearby red elderberry bushes enjoying the tart fruits and a family of young chickadees are staying in the cedars



The chickadee that needed a helping hand.

just behind the elderberry bushes, still under the guardianship of one parent. Along with learning to find food, fly and protect themselves from danger, they are learning to sing. Not unlike their human counterparts they seem to make more noise than song, but occasionally a lisping chick-a-dee-dee can be discerned. One of the four that fledged from the bird house accepted a helping hand from the ground below the birdhouse to the woods where his brothers huddled on a low branch. Although he was hopping and flapping his little wings bravely he couldn't seem to get airborne and our cat was taking the normal feline interest in his efforts. (The cat settled for a saucer of milk and a couple of hours in the kitchen.)

The warblers will soon start to loose much of their colorful spring plumage. Sharply contrasting blacks, yellows and browns fade into dull yellow grey and pale olive green. Then all but the best of bird watchers will have to look up that page in their bird guides entitled, "fall warblers". Immature birds, especially the females require careful study and often do not still long enough. Fall bird watching can be very frustrating, and challenging.

Some interesting birds seen in the area lately include a mocking bird, black billed cuckoo, indigo bunting and even a pair of ravens seem to be staying in this area.

Some rare and beautiful fringed orchids have been found in this area. I hope everyone is keeping an eye open for rare and endangered wildflowers with a view to protecting their habitat from destruction.

something about the art of mountain-climbing, a one-day introduction course is being offered by Service Plein Air de L'Estrie in Sherbrooke on September 21st. Pre-registration is required. The cost is \$14.00 and equipment is supplied. For more information call 819-569-6822.

The St. Francis Valley Naturalists Club is starting its fall outdoor program Saturday September 6th at Beckett Park in Sherbrooke. The theme is mushroom identification and two specialists will be there. If you have ever wondered about "those toadstools" growing here and there, now is your chance to learn more. There is no charge and the public is welcome. Meet at 9 a.m. at the end of Jacques Cartier Blvd. on Beckett Road beside the Beckett Park sign. For more information phone 565-1079, 567-0288, 562-2279 or 567-5301.

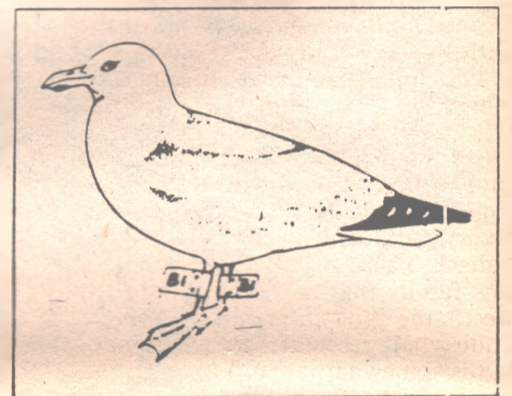
If you have any news or information that would be of interest to readers of this column, send it along to the Sun, care of this column. We need to receive it by the tenth of the month to get it into the next issue. □

Les Sentiers de L'Estrie reports that the Mount Orford section of the trail is now operational. This part of the trail is 16 km long and offers two camping areas on the trail designed for hikers only. There are four lookouts along the trail offering magnificent views on clear days. Picnic tables and drinking water are also available. Maps may be obtained at the administration offices at Orford Park (phone 819-843-6233) or at the offices of Les Sentiers de L'Estrie at 31 King St. West Local 315 - Sherbrooke. The woods are especially dry this year despite the rains and care should be taken everywhere to prevent forest fires. In the park, no campfires are permitted except at the two camping areas, and then they must be made only in the receptacles provided for the purpose.

The Mount Chapman trail at Stoke is undergoing a garbage pick-up at last. This is not a fun job for anyone so lets show some community spirit and keep it clean. Carry out your trash, reproach the litterer and lets walk it proudly.

If you are interested to learn

Great Lakes Herring Gulls have been marked with numbered and lettered green, orange, blue or pink leg ribbon—one on each leg. If you see any Herring Gulls so marked, please note number, letter and colour of each ribbon and date and place of sighting. Contact Dr. D.V. Chip Weseloh or Mr. Pierre Mineau, Canadian Wildlife Service, Box 5050, Burlington, Ontario, Canada, L7R 4A6. Tel. (416) 637-4264. Say you read it in the Sun!



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# Your Back Door Friends

by Lynn Pageau

We have already looked at that lively and inveterate chatterbox, the red squirrel, who invades our bird feeders and warns everyone in the vicinity when a hunter steps into the woods. Another member of the same family, the chipmunk, may often be seen running about, devouring maple tree seeds and other food sources near our back doors. This cute little striped creature must surely be one of everybody's favourites.

When we returned from vacation late in June, we found that two of them had made a nest somewhere in our cedar hedge and were coming right up to the edges of the house for seeds. They must have considered it quite a windfall when my husband cleaned all the maple seeds out of the gutters—they really had a feast!

This little mammal is the smallest member of the squirrel family. Instead of living in the treetops as does the red squirrel, it is a ground-dweller (not to be confused with the ground squirrels, which belong to another genus), although it climbs very well indeed. There is another member of this family that is found only in the west, the golden-manteled ground squirrel. It resembles the chipmunk, but is somewhat larger and its stripes are on its back only, while those of the chipmunk continue up its head to the nose.

The chipmunk's face is more pointed than the squirrel's, and one wonders if it got that way from curiosity, for as long as it does not feel threatened, it will investigate any newcomer to its surroundings and can become quite friendly. Because many people have summer cottages, this might be a good opportunity to say a word about feeding animals with which we are especially in contact at this time of year. Wild animals should really not be fed in summer because under normal circumstances they are quite capable of getting food for themselves. In fact, they must learn to rely on themselves alone for food if they are to survive in the colder months of the year when the summer cottage is no longer used. Not only this, feeding animals teaches them to lose their fear of man somewhat and this is far from healthy, especially during hunting season. Some people will kill anything, whether they intend to eat it or not. Feeding birds in winter is an exception, although most "experts" agree that it is not a good idea to start even this if you plan to be away for a month or so in the south.

The chipmunk's call is probably quite familiar to most of us and is similar to that of the red squirrel. When startled it will give out a loud "chip" and beat a hasty retreat, but when it is mad, it can often be seen in



The Chipmunk

a tree, trembling in righteous anger and calling "chip—chip—chip—churr". Sometimes two chipmunks will merely call back and forth and they can even call when their cheek pockets are stuffed full of food.

As far as their habitat is concerned, chipmunks prefer brushy areas instead of mature forests. The latter do not provide enough food and cover for them. In the former, then, they construct tunnels and nests underground, concealing the entrance under rocks or tangled undergrowth. This burrow doesn't seem to be as complex as that of the woodchuck, usually consisting of one chamber about 1½ to 2 feet underground with a corner for its toilet and its seed husks and shells. Here in its sleeping chamber, the chipmunk piles so many provisions under his bed that it is raised nearly to the ceiling. This cache usually consists of as much as ½ to 1 pint of seeds. In this way, dinner or a snack is always handy in winter and the chipmunk doesn't have to get out of its warm bed for meals. I guess having crumbs in bed doesn't much bother this elbow. By spring he will have consumed his food store and his bed will have sunk down to the floor again.

It should be mentioned that the chipmunk is far too clever to have its burrow discovered by predators because of a telltale pile of earth at the door. As it digs its tunnel, it removes this pile of dirt by pushing it with its nose, forepaws on each side of its cheeks, to a safe distance away. It also carries dirt out in its cheek pouches and dumps it away from the hole. Then it sprays this dirt around the surrounding vegetation with vigorous kicks with its hind feet before returning to its hole. When the job is completed, it stops up the first hole and makes another entrance which is well-camouflaged.

A strictly diurnal animal, the chipmunk normally begins caching its food supply in late July. Instead of

getting a good layer of body fat in summer, it works clear through October when most ground squirrels are already hibernating. In November, however, it begins its hibernation. Unlike the woodchuck, it is believed by most scientists to awaken from time to time and eat part of its food supply.

In March, the chipmunk emerges from its burrow even if it has to tunnel up through several feet of snow, and breeding season begins in April or May. In Canada, there is only one breeding season, but farther south there are often two litters per year. About thirty days after conception, four to six young chipmunks are born, and by the time they are two weeks old have hair. Their ears, however, are closed until they are 28 days old and their eyes open only after thirty-two.

At the age of five to six weeks, the young begin to leave the nest and forage for food. Only about four weeks after this they establish their own burrow.

Chipmunks must be constantly on the alert for their predators which include hawks, owls, weasels, martens, raccoons, coyotes, foxes and snakes. Weasels and snakes are especially dangerous, as they can crawl right down into the den and eat the unsuspecting victim while he is asleep. These little mammals are nervous, having a very high metabolic rate. Their only defence against predators is flight, and they are very quick. In fact, if you have ever observed a chipmunk, you will remark that you hardly see it move—one moment it is crouched on all fours and the next it is sitting up on its hind feet with its forepaws folded across its white stomach, looking at you.

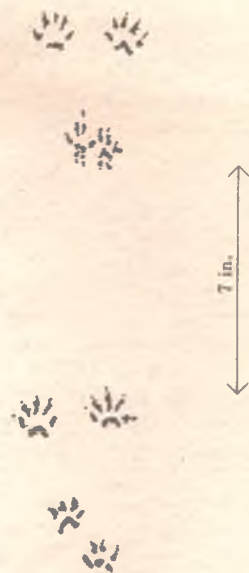
Chipmunks do not eat only seeds, but wild fruits as well, such as chokecherries, raspberries, partridge berries, etc. In addition to this, they eat a surprising number of insects and



animal food, such as slugs, worms, frogs and salamanders. They also need water and drink it by sucking it up as do horses instead of lapping it as do dogs and cats. When making its winter cache, one of these small mammals can cram as many as thirteen prune stones into its bulging cheek pouches at one time and add them to their winter store. As far as damage is concerned, they do very little, occasionally eating bulbs of ornamentals. A.W.F. Banfield recounts one such humorous incident in *Mammals of Canada*:

"One pleasant July evening while reclining in my garden admiring my favourite stand of tall, regal lilies, I was amazed to see one stalk suddenly collapse. I hurriedly picked up the stalk, which pulled freely out of the ground, revealing a hollow chamber in the soil underneath. As I peered down, the bright, saucy face of a chipmunk returned my gaze as it finished off the remainder of the lily corm from which it had cut the stalk."

From the tone he uses, I doubt that Banfield got revenge on this charming creature. Perhaps one or two lily corms from the garden is a fair exchange for having this cheery animal around the house all summer.



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The Asbestos Line cont. from pg. 19

### When in Doubt, Deny Everything

When the CBC series was broadcast, Messrs Hickman and Perlstein [see below] reacted quickly, denying everything. Hickman, whose job is to protect people from health hazards, rattled off an "open" telegram to the CBC and made sure it was widely distributed among local politicians and media. Perlstein, another civil servant, whose job is to make asbestos Québec's new national industry, attached a "public" letter to the telegram. A whitewash for the White Death.

What strange bedfellows this odd couple make. CPR couldn't have done a better job themselves! Makes you wonder just exactly who these guys work for.

Hardworking Merritt Clifton, who first made this issue public, takes up his own and the CBC's defence against their denials, which attack the journalists' competence. -ed.

From May 27, 1980, through May 30, CBC-6 of Montréal televised a 4-part documentary on the use of asbestos tailings as track ballast by the Canadian Pacific Railway, along the 90-mile Adirondack Subdivision running from Caughnawaga to Highwater, Québec. Since this series evolved from research and investigative reporting of my own, beginning as soon as the asbestos ballast appeared in my community during September, 1978, I feel eminently qualified to answer criticism directed at the series by J.R. Hickman of Health & Welfare Canada, and Daniel Perlstein of the National Asbestos Society, funded by the Québec government.

Below and in the following pages, I quote first Hickman's criticism, then Perlstein's, and offer my own annotated line-by-line rebuttal.

**Hickman:** "The Society Radio-Canada, English network, broadcast to the Montreal region from the 27th to the 30th of May a series of television reports on the use of asbestos fibres as railroad ballast along a 90-mile section of the Canadian Pacific Railroad. Without a copy in hand, I understand that two researchers from Mt. Sinai have cast doubt upon the conclusions of a preliminary study carried out by the national Ministry of Health & Social Welfare in September, 1979, which was reported and published last April 14."

**Rebuttal:** The report in question has come under heavy criticism not just from Mt. Sinai Environmental Health Center researchers, but indeed from all who have studied it carefully, whether scientists or laymen. Faults in the Health & Welfare Canada report are as follows:

1. Control samples designed to provide information on normal local asbestos levels, i.e. on levels before the CPR laid asbestos ballast, were not taken in a neutral, unpolluted location. Engineer Gilles Levesque of Montreal, in an earlier and much more extensive report prepared for Environment Canada, took his control samples from Brome Lake. Brome Lake is fed by precisely the same watershed as the Yamaska River, but the CPR tracks do not run near it, and none of the rivers contaminated by the tracks flow into it. Brome Lake contains absolutely no presence of asbestos, according to Levesque's testing. Health & Welfare Canada, on the other hand, used Bedford tapwater as a control sample. While no CPR tracks run near Bedford, Bedford tapwater comes from an area of Missisquoi Bay filled almost entirely by the Missisquoi River. The asbestos-ballasted CPR tracks parallel the Missisquoi River itself from North Troy to Highwater, within a distance never exceeding a quarter mile. In addition, the asbestos-ballasted tracks run equally close to the Sutton River, a Missisquoi tributary, from Sutton to Abercorn. As Montreal marine scientist Dr. Gilles Laroche pointed out on the CBC series, asbestos can travel very rapidly through water, so that the CPR tracks some 20 miles away are still very likely responsible for the high asbestos count in the control sample.

2. Health & Welfare Canada did their testing during an extremely dry period in September, when runoff from the CPR tracks would have been minimal. Testing during both wet and dry periods in May, 1979, Environment Canada found an average of 10 times as much asbestos at all generally indicated sample locations.

3. Exact locations for the Health & Welfare Canada tests have not been specified, so that we have no way of knowing how representative they may have been.

**Hickman:** "He (researcher Dr. Art Langer) asserted that the report didn't take into account fibres less than 5 microns in length. As a result of these remarks, we telephoned Mt. Sinai hospital to point out that contrary to this declaration, our report does count all fibres revealed by electron transmission microscopy. This technique is the most perfect available at this time and we did count fibres shorter than 5 microns. Mt. Sinai agreed with us and concluded that the levels of fibres in the air at a distance of 2 metres from the railroad are of the same order in size that we can obtain from the urban centres of North America."

**Rebuttal:** Authorities both at Mt. Sinai and elsewhere throughout North America have long since concluded that airborne asbestos levels in most big

cities are dangerously high. To reduce airborne asbestos levels, New York City recently removed asbestos insulation from public schools. Québec school boards announced plans to do likewise. The International Institute for Cancer Research strongly emphasizes that there is no 'safe threshold' for exposure to asbestos; any exposure must be considered dangerous.

**Hickman:** "The asbestos particles found in the drinking water of the Cowansville, St. Jean, and Farnham regions are of the same relatively negligible quantity that can in fact compare to levels found in other regions across Canada."

**Rebuttal:** This all depends upon whether one accepts Hickman's figures, taken during a prolonged draught, or Levesque's, taken during both wet and dry periods. The following table lists both the Hickman and Levesque figures, followed by figures from various other communities in North America where asbestos pollution has caused public concern:

City	Million Fibres Per Litre	Pollution Source	Testing Agency
Knowlton (Brome Lake)	0.0		Env. Canada
Cowansville (lake)	20.1	CPR tracks	Env. Canada
Cowansville (tapwater)	4.6	CPR tracks	Env. Canada
Cowansville (tapwater)	16.2	CPR tracks	Env. Canada
Cowansville (tapwater)	2.0	CPR tracks	Health / Welfare
Cowansville (tapwater)	2.0	CPR tracks	Health / Welfare
Farnham (Yamaska River)	37.4	CPR tracks	Env. Canada
Farnham (Yamaska River)	57.2	CPR tracks	Env. Canada
Farnham (tapwater)	25.6	CPR tracks	Env. Canada
Farnham (Yamaska River)	3.5	CPR tracks	Health / Welfare
Farnham (Yamaska River)	5.6	CPR tracks	Health / Welfare
Farnham (tapwater)	.3	CPR tracks	Health / Welfare
Farnham (tapwater)	.3	CPR tracks	Health / Welfare
St. Jean (surface water)	.6	CPR tracks	Health / Welfare
St. Jean (surface water)	.1	CPR tracks	Health / Welfare
St. Jean (tapwater)	.1	CPR tracks	Health / Welfare
St. Jean (tapwater)	.2	CPR tracks	Health / Welfare
Bedford (tapwater)	15.0	CPR tracks	Health / Welfare
Bedford (tapwater)	11.0	CPR tracks	Health / Welfare
Asbestos (surface water)	1200.0	mining	Health / Welfare
Asbestos (tapwater)	200.0	mining	Health / Welfare
Thetford Mines (tapwater)	172.0	mining	Health / Welfare
Thetford Mines (tapwater)	1300.0	mining	Health / Welfare
Drummondville (surface water)	680.0	mining	Health / Welfare
Drummondville (tapwater)	1.1	mining	Health / Welfare
Plessisville (surface water)	13.0	mining	Health / Welfare
Ottawa (tapwater)	2.0	unknown	Health / Welfare
Ottawa (melted snow)	33.5	unknown	Health / Welfare
Ottawa (river)	9.5	unknown	Health / Welfare
Toronto (tapwater)	4.4	unknown	Health / Welfare
Montreal (tapwater)	2.4	unknown	Health / Welfare
Hull (tapwater)	9.5	unknown	Health / Welfare
Beauport (near Québec City)	8.1	unknown	Health / Welfare
Drummondville (addtl. tests)	2.9	mining	Health / Welfare
Asbestos (addtl. tests)	5.9	mining	Health / Welfare
Thetford Mines (addtl. tests)	172.7	mining	Health / Welfare
San Andreas, California	2.9	asbestos reservoir	U. of Calif.
Calaveras, California	100.0	asbestos reservoir	U. of Calif.
Crystal Springs, California	66.0	asbestos reservoir	U. of Calif.
Marin, California	.049	asbestos pipe	U. of Calif.
Marin, California	2.5	asbestos pipe	U. of Calif.
Berkeley, California	.020	unknown	U. of Calif.
Berkeley, California	.042	unknown	U. of Calif.
San Francisco, California	15.0	asbestos reservoir	E.P.A.
San Francisco, California	1.6	asbestos reservoir	E.P.A.
New York, New York	0.0		E.P.A.
Chicago, Illinois	0.0		E.P.A.
Dallas, Texas	0.0		E.P.A.
Kansas City, Missouri	0.0		E.P.A.
Denver, Colorado	0.0		E.P.A.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	200.0	unknown	E.P.A.
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	0.0		E.P.A.
Boston, Massachusetts	10.0	unknown	E.P.A.
Boston, Massachusetts	1.4	unknown	E.P.A.
Atlanta, Georgia	36.0	unknown	E.P.A.
Atlanta, Georgia	8.4	unknown	E.P.A.
Seattle, Washington	1.9	asbestos pipe	E.P.A.
Seattle, Washington	1.6	asbestos pipe	E.P.A.
Tolt River, Washington	1.2	rocks disturbed by logging	E.P.A.
Tolt River, Washington	30.7	rocks disturbed by logging	E.P.A.
Everett, Washington	135.0	rocks disturbed by logging	E.P.A.
Duluth, Minnesota	1.0	mining	E.P.A.
Duluth, Minnesota	30.0	mining	E.P.A.
Connecticut state average	.7	asbestos pipe	CT health dept.
Connecticut state average	.001	asbestos pipe	CT health dept.

The link between high levels of asbestos in drinking water and incidence of gastro-intestinal cancer has not clearly been established only because where asbestos contaminates the water, it usually also contaminates the air. Deciding whether asbestos in the air or in the water caused any given case of cancer is accordingly difficult. Dr. Donald T. Wigle of Health & Welfare Canada is Canada's leading expert on asbestos water pollution. He believes it is a serious health hazard even if the link is not directly demonstrated. Dr. Martin S. Kanarek of the University of Wisconsin has demonstrated that gastrointestinal cancer rates are significantly higher where water-carried asbestos levels are higher, and his work is supported by similar statistical studies done at Mt. Sinai Hospital.

Among the major North American cities listed above, only Atlanta and Duluth have more asbestos in their water than average Farnham and Cowansville levels cited by Environment Canada. (The Duluth asbestos, moreover, is taconite, a less toxic form than chrysotile, the type found here.)

Taconite, a byproduct of iron-mining, is not used commercially.)

**Hickman:** "Given the observations contained in the study published last April, it appears that the use of ballast containing asbestos fibres has negligible effect upon air and water quality, and that the promoters of the broadcast have played a role in an ill-founded scare tactic, and have spread a false alarm."

(Signed, J.R. Hickman, director of chemical hazards bureau, Health & Welfare Canada.)

**Rebuttal:** Given the contrasting observations in Environment Canada's Levesque report, already cited above, it appears that J.R. Hickman has negligible evidence supporting his conclusions. Even before undertaking any detailed study of pollution from the asbestos ballast, and without ever having inspected the railbed or surrounding terrain, Hickman expressed his opinion that the ballast is safe, at a meeting between CPR and federal environmental health officials held in Ottawa March 9, 1979. Hickman's investigation has accordingly been neither objective nor thorough; his remarks here seem mainly to conceal his own incompetence. We must note that he has a job to protect, paying him a high salary. By contrast, my own 2 years of steady work to expose the hazards of the asbestos ballast, including printing and mailing this rebuttal, have been undertaken on my own time at my own expense, from a sub-poverty-level income; my total earnings from newspaper articles on the ballast have come to somewhat under \$600. Furthermore, far from engaging in scare tactics, I spent over three months doing research before ever bringing the ballast to public attention. Had Hickman done similar research before reaching his March 9, 1979 pre-conclusion, he might be taking this matter much more seriously.

#### Supporting Scientific Opinions:

**Dr. Gilles Laroche:** "In my opinion, the ballast should be removed."

**Dr. Irving Selikoff,** director of the Mt. Sinai environmental health centre: "Now, if there were no human beings around, I think you could leave it—but not in Canada."

**Perlstein:** "As the president of the crown corporation, the National Asbestos Society, that was created to develop the asbestos industry here in Québec, I am obviously up to my neck in the controversy agitating the scientific milieu and the governments of most developed nations as to the real and potential dangers caused by the use of asbestos. This, I believe, authorizes me to pass the following judgements upon the CBC broadcast 'The Asbestos Line.'"

**Rebuttal:** It must be noted immediately that Perlstein is in effect a salesman for asbestos, not an environmental health expert. His job, as he admits in his own first line, is promoting asbestos use.

**Perlstein:** "I conclude that the reporters have committed two professionally unethical errors, both of which I will let you appreciate the gravity of. Firstly, the reporters have seriously distorted, whether deliberately or through ignorance, the fragmentary scientific results known on high levels of asbestos dust in the workplace, and applied them in this case to low levels in the environment."

**Rebuttal:** Research connecting high asbestos dust levels to high incidence of lung cancer and mesothelioma is by no means fragmentary; I have in my possession some 20 medical journal reports so establishing, including, for instance: 'Asbestos-Associated Disease In U.S. Shipyards', by Dr. Irving Selikoff & Dr. E. Cuyler-Hammond, published in *CA - A Journal for Cancer Clinicians*, March / April 1978; 'Long-Term Mortality Experience of Chrysotile Miners & Millers in Thetford Mines, Québec', by Dr. William J. Nicholson, Dr. Irving Selikoff, Dr. Herbert Seidman, Dr. Rith Lillis, & Dr. Paul Formby, published in *Annals of the New York Academy of Science*, Volume 330, 1979; 'Mesothelioma & Asbestos in the Province of Québec, 1969-1972', by Dr. Gilles P. Theriault & Liliane Grand-Bois, published in *Archives of Environmental Health*, Jan./Feb. 1978; 'Penetration of the Small Intestinal Mucosa by Asbestos Fibres', by Dr. Alan Storeygard & Dr. Arnold Brown, published in *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*, 1977; etcetera. The full bibliography of scientific literature proving that asbestos causes cancer would run for many pages.

During the course of all this research, Dr. Irving Selikoff and his Mt. Sinai team became aware that exposure to low levels of asbestos is also dangerous. As Selikoff stated on camera during the second part of the 4-part CBC series, "We're worried, naturally, about the very low levels that can occur with these very fine fibres because, unhappily, it's been found that not infrequently the wives and children of asbestos workers can get mesothelioma, the special kind of cancer that's been associated with asbestos. And there we can't measure asbestos in the air of the house, but we can find the very fine fibres with the electron microscope."

The CBC series 'The Asbestos Line' cited research dealing with asbestos in the workplace primarily in Part 1, which concerned the 250 teenaged track workers who laid the asbestos ballast during 1978. As a silent publicity film provided by the CPR proved, these workers were often enveloped in clearly visible clouds of asbestos dust. When dealing with smaller quantities of asbestos that are presently polluting local air and water, the CBC series cited research appropriate to these problems, and did quite carefully indicate that the dangers of low-level asbestos pollution are still under investigation. For instance, CBC reporter Deborah Weinstein stated in concluding Part 2: "Some scientists think drinking large quantities of asbestos is dangerous. Others say there's absolutely no proof." Scientific research was never distorted, misrepresented, or misapplied.

**Perlstein:** "Secondly, the reporters have taken apart and placed in doubt the competence of the concerned administrations of both the federal and provincial governments, the Canadian Pacific Railway, and the asbestos industry, without questioning one solitary responsible person of any of these organizations, which seems to me a flagrant lack of balance in the fabrication of information, which I can only explain as a desire to fabricate a juicy story."

**Rebuttal:** Part 2 of 'The Asbestos Line' fully quoted J.R. Hickman's conclusions in his Health & Welfare Canada report, cited earlier. In Part 4, CBC reporter Deborah Weinstein interviewed former Brome-Missisquoi member of parliament Heward Graffety, the governmental leader most actively involved in investigating the asbestos ballast. Weinstein read aloud

a letter on the subject from Québec minister for the environment Marcel Leger. She traveled in person to interview on camera deputy minister for the environment André Caillé, who had been appointed to investigate the asbestos ballast. He never appeared for their scheduled meeting, and admitted by telephone that he had conducted no investigation. Weinstein also attempted to interview Cowansville city manager Georges Bernier, who refused to be filmed or taped. The CPR refused to make any public statements until after 'The Asbestos Line' was broadcast. Following the broadcast, CPR ordered all employees not to speak to reporters. Weinstein also contacted the Asbestos Corporation, which sold CPR the asbestos ballast in the first place. The Asbestos Corporation denied ever making any such sale.

The so-called concerned administrations of both the federal and provincial governments, the CPR, and the asbestos industry have put their own competence in doubt; we have merely reported their actions, or in this case, their inaction.

**Perlstein:** "Our society seeks either a broadcast correction or a chance to respond to the CBC series, but we fear that arranging this opportunity will go slowly, if it happens at all, and that the poisoned message that the journalists have broadcast will remain a long time in suspension in the atmosphere in the absence of an antidote."

**Rebuttal:** There is no known antidote for asbestos inhalation or ingestion. It has been medically established that whenever 50,000 asbestos fibres accumulate per dried ounce of lung, fatal lung cancer and/or mesothelioma results. Lethal amounts of asbestos can accumulate to this level very, very slowly. The CPR's asbestos ballast is designed to remain in place for 40 years, at the end of which time, like other ballast, it will have been entirely powdered by the weight of passing trains and dispersed into the surrounding environment. The danger from nuclear radiation and other manmade poisons can be measured in years, but asbestos never breaks down into safe elements, and once released into air and water, remains dangerous forever.

**Perlstein:** "You will find attached a lightly sarcastic text that the people responsible for 'The City At 6' will no doubt refuse to transmit, but will at least have the value of making you personally aware of our position, and to reassure publicly the people who were unduly alarmed by their report. If, on the other hand, you imagine that my remarks are exaggerated, and consider that at the moment you are reading this letter, there exist very likely in your office as many asbestos fibres as there are along the railroad track in question, I would counsel you to purchase immediately a dust-mask. Reassure yourself I am only exercising upon you the same pleasantries in poor taste that the reporters have inflicted upon the people living alongside the railroad track. It is true that you breathe asbestos fibres, but these are perfectly without danger at the low-level dusting that exists in the environment. I would finally, in conclusion, like to point out as a simple television viewer and spectator that considering that I was surprised by the distortion of the information supplied by the CBC in an area that I consider myself fairly knowledgeable, I hope that this is an isolated case, because I have no desire henceforth to watch other CBC broadcasts on subjects that I am not familiar with, keeping in mind this broadcast, 'The Asbestos Line'."

(Signed, Daniel Perlstein, director-general, National Asbestos Society.)

**Rebuttal:** Many offices insulated with asbestos do contain dangerously high asbestos dust levels. This, again, is why the New York public schools have removed their asbestos insulation, and why Québec public schools plan to do so. That offices do contain high asbestos dust levels in some cases in no way means low-level asbestos exposure is "perfectly without danger." On the contrary, Dr. John Marshall of the Canadian Cancer Society considers low-level asbestos exposure is second only to cigarette smoke as a major cause of our current cancer epidemic. Says Mt. Sinai's Dr. Selikoff on camera: "We don't know any safe dose. You should protect people who might be exposed to it."

**Perlstein's** attached text raises one issue not already covered above: "Neither the National Asbestos Society nor the CBC nor any scientific authority known to them can indicate to the people living along that 'asbestos line' any known place on earth where they could be assured that they will breathe or drink less asbestos fibres, for the simple reason that asbestos is one of the most frequently occurring natural substances since the formation of the earth's crust, and natural asbestos fibres fly or flow everywhere as soon as their size and weight are small enough."

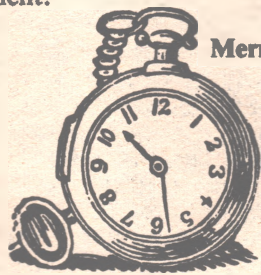
**Rebuttal:** Natural asbestos deposits are found in only 5 of the 230-some nations on earth, according to the *Encyclopedia Americana*: Canada, the United States, South Africa, the Soviet Union, and East Germany. In Canada, natural asbestos deposits appear in only one of the provinces—Québec, and the Territories. In the United States, chrysotile asbestos deposits comparable to Québec's appear in only 6 of the 50 states: Vermont, California, Arizona, Maryland, Georgia, and Montana. In the southwestern portion of Québec's Eastern Townships, where the asbestos ballast was laid, no asbestos occurs naturally. Asbestos appears in serpentine rock formations. There are only two serpentine rock formations in this region, neither of which contains chrysotile. That the Thetford Mines region of Québec contains a thriving asbestos industry is in fact because natural asbestos deposits are extremely scarce and usually deeply buried, where the fibres do not pollute air and water. According to the Health & Welfare Canada statistics cited above, asbestos levels along the Adirondack Subdivision are significantly higher than those in New York, Chicago, Dallas, Kansas City, Denver, and Seattle, where tests were carried out by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. According to Environment Canada statistics, our asbestos levels here are higher than those found anywhere outside regions directly contaminated by asbestos mining or reservoirs constructed from asbestos-bearing rock.

I should add before concluding that I myself live alongside 'The Asbestos Line'. Many other trackside residents began protesting over the CPR's use of asbestos ballast long before the CBC became interested. However, until the CBC broadcast 'The Asbestos Line', our complaints and demands for

**The Asbestos Line cont. from pg. 39**

serious investigation mostly fell upon deaf ears. On behalf of all trackside residents and their children, I urge all who read this to immediately take whatever action they can toward getting the asbestos ballast removed and safely replaced, and toward getting the CPR to establish an insurance policy that will compensate those who develop cancer as a result of the asbestos ballast for medical treatments and loss of income. Since asbestos-caused cancer normally takes from 15 to 30 years to manifest itself, establishing such an insurance policy should cause CPR no undue financial hardship. Removing the ballast promptly, meanwhile, will minimize the hazard; the longer the asbestos remains in place, the more it will be pulverized and either washed or blown into the environment.

Sincerely,  
Merritt Clifton



**Second Thoughts cont. from pg. 4**

Thomas Neill Cream

Lambeth two years later and wrote letters about his crimes. The handwriting on the letters, says Bell, has been compared and could have come from the same hand.

All information, however, indicates that Cream was still in the Illinois State Penitentiary serving time for murder when Jack the Ripper was abroad in the streets of London. Bell believes he could have

bribed his way out or paid a substitute to serve the remainder of his sentence for him. He is currently trying to prove his theories and working on a book about it.

My wife insists she read somewhere that, at the very moment the hangman dropped the trap, Cream shouted out; "I'm Jack the...awk!"

by Bernard Epps

**Tent Caterpillars**

hairy, sitting shivering her wings on a stalk as if drying them and waiting for something to happen. Sometime between the afternoon of the 13th and the morning of the 14th, it happened and I missed it. I found a smaller male in the jar and a varnished egg cluster all ready wrapped around a twig. On the next day, another male emerged and another egg mass was laid near the first, and the female, her job done, lay down and died.

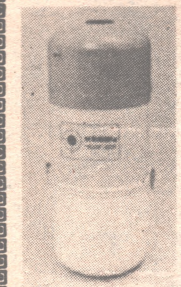
In the woods, I could find no moths—male or female—but suspected they climbed to the tops of the trees to do their thing as mine climbed

to the top of the jar. They also seemed more active at night.

Next spring, these egg masses will hatch and we will either have another plague much larger than the last, or the stresses of overpopulation will bring diseases among them and predators to gorge themselves until they, too, overproduce and die.

Only time will tell. But there was already this morning, in my sealed jam jar, a black wasp about half an inch long that must have hatched somewhere with the cocoons.

By Bernard Epps



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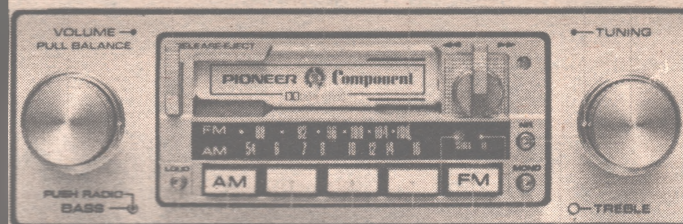
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Letters cont. from P.4

which has been stable not only for the past century but for the past 900 million years. But stability is relative. Glacial rebound usually causes small quakes (don't forget the usually). But the faults running up the St. Lawrence and Ottawa and Saguenay valleys can cause havoc, which we might feel. The Champlain-Richelieu and St. Francis-Connecticut lines are ancient faults which are weak points, the first to go when stresses pile up. But still, this isn't California. The building code does not have us in an earthquake zone (Quebec City is in one). But there's still a chance, as the history points out.

One more interesting tidbit: recent research in New England indicates that in New Hampshire, intrusions of the same age and type as Megantic are among the areas most likely to have a severe quake. The research isn't conclusive yet, but it bears thinking about.

Mryka Hall-Beyer



As the Sun is evidently still interested in Townships history, you may care to hear of the first doctor in Sherbrooke. He was my late husband's grandfather, James Bell Johnston. His father, James Johnston, like other Scots, came to the New World to seek his fortune, and settled at Yamachiche (then called Machiche Mill) near Québec, where he acquired the mill and part of the seigneurie. He married the seigneur's daughter, Amelia Gagy, of Swiss origin. James Bell Johnston was the first Canadian to graduate in medicine from Edinburgh University, where he wrote his doctoral thesis on "Delirium Tremens". Back in Canada, in Montreal and looking for a practice, he received a letter from the City Fathers of Sherbrooke stating that if he would minister to the medical needs of the town and of an area of about forty miles around it they would guarantee that, if he accepted, in no week would he "take" less than \$25.00. He accepted and went to Sherbrooke in 1839, where he continued to practice successfully for the rest of his life, and the guarantee was apparently never invoked—surely a very early example of community medicine. He married Mary Frances Wyatt, who

had come out from England to keep house for her brother. Their son, Galt Wyatt Johnston, godson of Sir Alexander Tilloch Galt (one of the "Fathers of Confederation" and with many interests in the Townships) studied at McGill and became a distinguished pathologist—the first Provincial medical officer in Québec, the first Professor of Hygiene at McGill and pathologist at the Montreal General Hospital, who also did much medical-legal work. He kept to his Townships connection by marrying Julia Elizabeth Turner, of Lennoxville (whose grandfather, Colonel Joseph Hill, had fought at Waterloo as a Lieutenant at the age of 16). Galt Wyatt Johnston died young of septicaemia, before antibiotics, the great menace of pathologists. Elizabeth Turner's father, Michael Turner, of Staffordshire, came to Canada as secretary to Lord Elgin and remained as secretary to succeeding Governors General until he retired to Lennoxville.

Though his parents lived in Montreal, my husband retained a deep affection for the Townships, and as a child visited his maternal grandmother in Lennoxville. So it was no accident that in 1950 he bought a century-old stone farmhouse near Knowlton and ultimately retired there, where I now live with our son and his family.

In these days of racial and linguistic arguments it is of interest that James Bell Johnston's brother married a daughter of Dr. Wolfred Nelson, "rebel" or "patriote" according to your point of view, and settled in Sorel. But the two families did not keep touch, possibly for political reasons, although I have no evidence.

Old Dr. Johnston's popular and wide-flung horse and buggy practice seems a long way from Sherbrooke's present important hospital, but was a revered and conscientious predecessor of it, and deserves remembrance.

Yours truly,  
Beatrice L. Johnston  
Knowlton



It is probably too late for this letter concerning an article in the February issue, but here goes anyway.

My good friend Gladys Beattie wrote regarding the use of horses in pre-automobile days, and the ex-

tremely long distances they were frequently required to travel. She said "Today's horses are as pampered as poodles and often just as useful."

I am writing in defence of Poodles and all companion dogs! Dogs are what you make them. I have a Poodle who comes cross-country skiing and for long walks, and kills woodchucks when he has a chance. He is hard-muscled and fit. He is Standard size (the largest) but I have known Miniatures and even Toys who enjoyed an active life because they were allowed to enjoy it. Poodles were originally duck retrievers and are excellent swimmers.

Simply because a dog does not herd sheep, hunt game, guard a warehouse, pull a sled or lead the blind, etc., does not mean it isn't useful. A dog who does nothing more than be counted as a family member, or act as companion to a lonely person, is doing a job. That's what he, or she, is there for. A little pampering of the animal makes both owner and dog happy, and is a lot better than abuse or neglect. I admit the pampering is sometimes carried too far, but this is not the dog's fault.

So, Mrs. Beattie, take that, and that, and that!

P.S. I hope I am still invited for a return visit, to see your lovely Canadian mare again, and this time her baby too!

Yours sincerely,  
[Mrs. Alex] Lorna Casgrain

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I don't know whether or not you're aware of it, but such volcanic eruptions have great meaning in the gemstone world. The eruptions of Mount St. Helens were an outward manifestation of activity deep within the earth which could be forming gemstones at this very moment. Of course we'd never see these gems in our lifetime. It takes millions of years for gem minerals to form. That's one of the reasons why they're so highly prized.

Most gem minerals form deep within the earth rather than in the lava that is expelled from volcanoes because the heat and pressure below the surface promote slow crystallization. Lava cools rapidly at the surface, so most of it doesn't have a chance to crystallize and forms a glass called obsidian. Whether or not any gemstones are produced at all depends on the chemical composition of the lava.

It is not uncommon to find peridot in the lava from Hawaiian-type volcanic eruptions because the lava (in this case, basalt) is rich in iron and magnesium, which are the basic chemical components of peridot. The peridot which forms from the cooled lava is, for the most part, not of gem quality.

Peridot of finer quality is found in ancient deposits, the remnants of age-old volcanic eruptions. St. John's Island in the Red Sea has long been the source of the finest peridot. Today much is also mined in Burma.

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Peridot has a fascinating past and still fascinates people the way it did centuries ago. I hope you enjoyed reading this fragment of its story.

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### Blood Money cont. from pg. 15

due are now suffering similar mutations, and are continuing Harding's quest for justice. They do not receive union support. Union Carbide has proved particularly resistant to unionization, and has been accused by labor leaders of opening Canadian plants in order to escape U.S. unions. Union Carbide's plastic-rolling plant in Cowansville isn't unionized at all. On the other hand, it boasts an environmental health and safety record better than that of most other Townships industrial plants, considerably better than Union Carbide's overall reputation.

66. **Swift Canadian**; 68. **General Foods**; 72. **Kraft**; and 84. **Standard Brands**, are all charged with adding unnecessary amounts of sugar and salt to their products as flavor-boosters and preservatives. Excess sugar is blamed for tooth-decay, diabetes, and hyperactivity, while excess salt contributes to heart disease.

76. **Reed Paper** caused Canada's most serious outbreaks of mercury poisoning several years ago at White Dog and Grassy Narrows, Ontario. The company and government refused all damage claims and even covered up evidence that Reed and Abitibi Paper (No. 14 among Canadian corporations, not listed above) were to blame. Eventually, however, the evidence became inescapable. Reed continues to cause mercury pollution, and is also clear-cutting much of northern Ontario, in regions that may become tundra forever after.

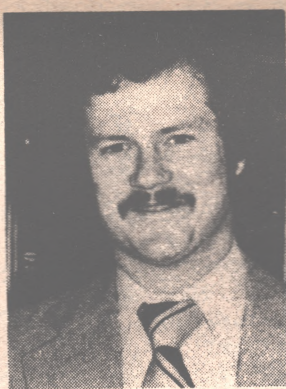
77. **Goodyear Canada**, owned by the U.S.-based Goodyear Corporation. One division, the Goodyear Atomic Corporation, runs the uranium enrichment plant at Portsmouth, Ohio, where spent fuel from Canadian reactors is reprocessed for further use, including in weapons. Last year, 1,550 plant workers formed a union and went on strike. For the second time in three years, Goodyear continued operating with untrained strike-

breakers. The main strike issue was lax safety precautions. During the first strike, an accidental radioactive discharge caused a major fish-kill on the Big Run River.

82. **Chevron**, another division of EXXON, engaged in all the same activities as No. 4, Imperial Oil. Chevron uranium mining operations are concentrated more in the American northwest than in Ontario, however.

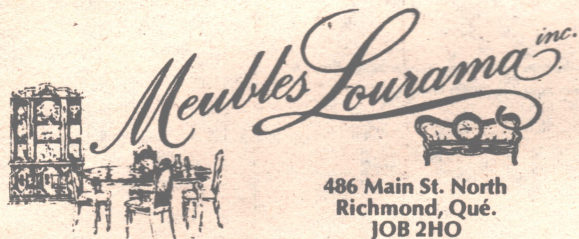
Other corporations among Canada's top 500 are as guilty of as much. Scarcely any could claim a clean environmental and political record. One must wonder if raping the earth and its inhabitants is essential to the corporate structure. Marxists who think the government should run the corporations might note that many of the worst offenders are government-run already.

Henry David Thoreau pondered this same problem 140 years ago, concluding, "It has been said that a corporation has no conscience. Yet if we form a corporation of conscientious men, we have a paradox, a corporation with a conscience." Where are the conscientious executives to say 'no, we cannot do this no matter what the potential profit margin, because this is dangerous and wrong'? Where are the conscientious workers who will disobey orders and be fired before opening the valves to poison themselves, their wives, their children, and their neighbors? They had better stand up and speak up. We need them badly. □



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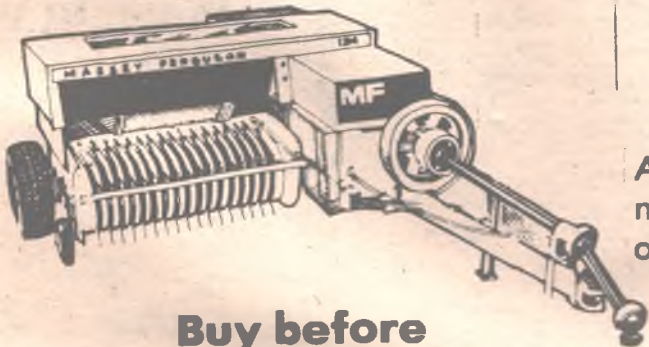
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Wool to clear, few lbs. only each or grey, white, and brown, thick spun, suitable for pillows, ponchos etc. \$11.00 per pound, post paid. Spun diameter about 1/4"-1/2". 827-2307.

Harness for horse and pony single and double work and drive. One Massey Harris tractor and pony colts for sale. William Henderson, Cookshire.

Hardwood wing-back high chair, 3 position tray; white 4-drawer chest, child's car seat, wooden baby sleigh. Excellent condition. 566-6492.

Farm, 30 acres, modern house, 2 barns, apple orchard and pond, beautiful view. Martinville (15 mins. from Sherbrooke. (819) 835-5238.

Double building lot at 4 seasons development. 18,000 sq. ft. Priced reasonably, 5 min. from Mt. Orford. 835-5238.

Farmhouse for rent Sept. 80-April 81, near Sawyerville. 889-2638 or 514-279-4606.

St. Peter's A.C.W. Thrift Shop open Sept. 3rd (first Wednesday of each month) from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the lower hall of the church, 200 Montreal Street, Sherbrooke. All clothing and household articles offered for sale are in nearly-new condition.

Two-wheel horse cart, saddle, 15" Western 832-3249.

COOKBOOK- Country Kitchen Favorites—2nd printing now available 206FAMILY TESTED RECIPES\* Can. Food Guide, Temperature and Weight Charts, Equivalents / Substitutions, Metric Conversion Tables, Weight Charts for Men and Women, Food for Thought. Send \$4.00 each plus postage (New postage rates - 1 bk. 35 cents; 2 or 3 bks. 85 cents; 4 or 5 - \$1.) - to Mrs. Sheila Andrews, R.R.2, Lennoxville, Qué. JIM 2A3.

New Holland bailer No. 65; Massey Ferguson wheel rig; John Deer PTO rig; used 12 in./13.6 in. x 28 in. tractor tires and tubes; 2 Cockshutt spreaders No. 6; all in good condition Wm. French, R.R.1, Cookshire 819-875-3654.

1960 G.M.C. 1 ton light, flatbed—good cattlebox and motor. 819-657-4755.

72 G.M.C. pick-up 250 motor 6 cyl. fair cond. 67 Camaro 327 motor 8 cyl. good cond. 4 truck tires pick-up. H78-15 with wheel and hub caps. Truck camper and small fibreglass boat. Tel. 514-292-5220.

250 gallon bulk tank, complete with vacuum system, 2-10 gallon stainless pails and hook-ups. Sell for \$750 or trade for 30 H.P. tractor. 292-3808.

Strombecker road racing set \$20. and train set \$60. Windsor 845-2633.

Thermopane Windows: 2 panes tempered safety glass 1/16" thick. Dimensions 32" x 72". Recommended for solar heating (passive and active), greenhouses, renovations, new houses, workshops, etc. Low price of \$50.00 each while supply lasts. Can deliver. Eaton Valley Ag. Services - 819-875-3676.

Aluminum door 34" x 82" - \$25. Closet door 16" x 80" - \$20. Draw drape rod with rod for sheers, will extend to 12" - \$10. Metal bathroom pole cupboard, avocado green - \$20. 16 self sticking cork tiles, 12" x 12" x 1/2" - \$10. Presto pressure cooker - \$10. Record player with 2 speakers - \$20. Windsor 819-845-2633.

Franklin Fire Places, woodstoves, furnaces, many antique items - coats, etc. F. Ingalls 538-5143.

Piano for sale 875-3821

### wanted

Work wanted—bilingual babysitter, 14 yrs. old. Will take 2-3 children. Some housekeeping. Transportation needed. 837-2989. Ask for Sarah.

1975 Yamaha 250-B or parts. 1973 Suzuki 380 G.T. or parts. D. Cooper 875-3241.

volunteers to participate in handicapped child's therapy program 2 1/2 hrs. a week. No experience necessary! All ages and interests very welcome. Lennoxville area. Call 565-1687 for more information.

I'm a lonely gentleman living alone. Please come and share my home with me—very cheap rent. Raymond Wheeler, East Hereford, 844-2235.

Light weight chainsaw in good running condition, old model preferred, similar to Homelite XLI with 16 inch bar. No plastic models please. Tel. 826-3260.

Express wagon and mowing machine for horse. Also interested in other horse-drawn equipment. 567-5301.



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### services

The Country School, P.O. Box 155, Richford, Vermont (5 minutes from the Abercorn, Canada-U.S. Border). This small, alternative school has enrollment openings from ages 3-12 for September, 1980. Call 1-514-538-3733.

French courses and trans. François Sirotkin. 872-3297.

### personal

The editor of *The Entertainer* suffered a mild concussion in an automobile accident last month while on her way to cover the Stratford Festival and interview Maggie Smith. We are happy to report she is now out of hospital and back at her desk.



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