

"The Jarvis Record"

TELEPHONE 37, JARVIS, ONTARIO

— Published Every Thursday Morning —

Member of the Canadian Weekly Newspaper Association and the Ontario-Quebec Division of the C.W.N.A.

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To all points in Canada \$1.50 per year in advance. To the United States \$2.00 additional for postage. The date to which subscription is paid is indicated on the address label.

A. L. MILLER, Editor

LIFE, ART AND ARTIFICE. —

NOT LONG AGO the English critic Anthony West had a piece in an American periodical in which he referred to the Saturday night habit that drew Londoners to a particular stretch of street.

There the children would buy candy, observe life, and "listen to the patter of the salesman at the stalls, who, in a circular process, modelled themselves on the music-hall comedians who had studied their kind of patter."

An interesting observation, that. Interesting to speculate on the influence on city life and speech and manners of the music hall and vaudeville theatre. And their successors, the motion picture and radio; and now, television. What has been the effect on life and manners of a badly-acted presentation of life and manners? The effect on people of hearing and seeing artificial speech, posture and behaviour?

The movies and radio and TV, of course, attempt to reproduce life — in entertaining forms. Sometimes through craftsmanship that approaches art, they get close to the real thing. But often they do not.

The danger is not, probably, in a caricature of life that is meant as such and so is recognizable. The danger is in the caricature that is presented not as a caricature but as life; and in the serious attempt that fails.

When that happens, people look at themselves in a circus mirror whose distortions vary. Unconsciously we are copy-cats. The result is that for a generation the human race has been adopting speech and manners from a bad copy of life.

City living? Well, of course these mass forms of entertainment are common in the country too. For years now the automobile has whisked the farmer's son and daughter to the movies for relief from tedium; and few are the fishermen with the sea at their front door who can't turn a dial and bring in anything from the weather reports to Dragnet.

But somehow the effect isn't quite so concentrated there. Men still go out to work the topsoil created by centuries, with no smoking chimneys between them and the sun. They still go out on moving water with nothing between them and the lurch of seas but a shell of wood or metal. The spinning wheel and loom are gone but there are still women who can look from their kitchen windows across open fields to a prospect of woods or hills or water. And there are still kids growing up in those surroundings.

We have a feeling that as long as this is so the natural and casual ways of life will not be overturned entirely by artifice.

GUARANTEED ANNUAL STRIKES —

— by Lewis Milligan —

WALTER P. REUTHER, in a speech at the United Automobile Workers convention in Cleveland, proposed the raising of union dues to create a fund of \$25,000,000 for the "crusade" to secure the Guaranteed Annual Wage. In plain words, it is a strike fund, and Mr. Reuther has placed a tax or levy on union members' wages, collected by the employer, for the purpose of closing down the employers' plants and keeping the workers out of employment on a reduced "wage" as long as the fund lasts.

In other parts of his speech Mr. Reuther emphasized the need for greater purchasing power of union members, and yet he has reduced their present purchasing power by taking \$25,000,000 out of their pay envelopes, and proposes further to cut off their entire wages by means of a strike and put them on a union dole for an indefinite period.

Mr. Reuther, however, said the union's plan to raise a \$25,000,000 fund did not mean that the auto workers were preparing for a strike. Rather, he said, "we're preparing to negotiate from strength." If that means anything, it surely means strength and power for the union leaders to order a strike of compelling duration if the negotiations fail. On the part of the strikers, however, it means negotiating from growing weakness and poverty, and the liability of wrecking the industry upon which they depend for a living.

Strikes have done more than anything else to reduce the annual income of union workers. Last year alone the strike at Ford plants deprived the workers of more than three months' wages, estimated at \$11,000,000, to say nothing of the financial loss suffered by the communities concerned.

So, far from securing a guaranteed annual wage, that \$25,000,000 in the hands of union officials endows them with still greater power over the workers and, perhaps, guarantees annual strikes of greater injury than ever to all concerned. A Toronto delegate of the Mass-Harris-Ferguson local, attending the convention, said: "The 73,000 Canadians in the union are overwhelmingly opposed to higher dues to give the UAW president a big stick for his looming battle with the motor industry on the guaranteed annual wage."

At the close of his speech Mr. Reuther warned that there were "signs of a new great de-

pression showing in the economy," and he said the guaranteed annual wage would help to correct it.

His theory was that by guaranteeing regular income the workers would be able to buy more of the things they produce and thus keep the wheels of industry in steady operation and themselves in constant jobs. That, if one does not think too much about it, seems like a perfect remedy against market fluctuations.

Let us suppose that automobile workers were given sufficient additional purchasing power to buy a new car every year. Would that provide sufficient market for their product? In the first place it would not increase the cost of production. The price of cars would go up and general sales would go down, unless everybody's wages were guaranteed at a rate to enable them to purchase the cars. The same would apply to all products, and no industry, of course, could afford to guarantee such a rising scale of purchasing power to its employees.

The solution is very simple, for increased purchasing power is all that is needed to insure full employment and prosperity, then the government could print enough money and distribute it freely and inaugurate Utopia at one stroke.

ADVERTISING ALONG THE HIGHWAYS —

EVERYBODY who travels over Ontario roads has benefited from a branch of the Ontario Department of Highways which few people know. It is the Sign and Building Permits Branch, and its duty is an official publication of the Highways Department as "to see that no edifice, from a telephone booth to a baseball park, is erected in such a position as to be a hazard to the man in a car."

This branch possesses and exercises tight control of roads. In some areas no signs of any kind may be erected — a field advertising, it is called — and where signs are permitted the regulations are strict. The official publication summarizes them:

In rural areas that are not restricted these signs cannot be over 53 feet in length, 15 feet in height and must be three feet above the ground. If 10 feet or under in length they must be set back from the boundary of the highway at least 25 feet; if from 10 to 25 feet in length they must be placed 175 feet from the highway; and those between 25 and 50 feet may be no closer than 275 feet. "Moreover, no sign may be placed with less than 1,000 feet of another sign. Most signs now are in the municipalities where sometimes it happens that the control by local councils is far less restrictive than the regulations of the Sign and Building Permits Branch of the provincial department."

Thanks to this control the highways of Ontario are mercifully free of the signs so common years ago — and still common in some provinces — which block scenic vistas and create a hazard to public safety by obstructing the view of hills and curves or by taking the attention of the driver from the road ahead. Most signs now are in the municipalities where sometimes it happens that the control by local councils is far less restrictive than the regulations of the Sign and Building Permits Branch of the provincial department.

SPANKING YOUR WIFE —

IT'S ODD that no storm has broken over the head of Edmund Prefontaine for his brave statement in the Manitoba legislature that he is in favor of spanking wives — when necessary.

Could it be that wives are so solidly entrenched these days that they can shrug off such an expression of opinion by a minister of the crown? We suspect that's exactly right. Mr. Prefontaine, municipal affairs minister for Manitoba, didn't go all out. He didn't subscribe to the old theory that wives should be beaten regularly, or support the ancient British legal axiom that it is permissible to apply a rod no larger round than one's thumb.

The minister, who is 54, has been married 32 years and has seven children, favored "gentle spankings when they require this treatment."

There are a couple of stumbling blocks there for the ordinary husband. First he would have to decide just when they need the spanking.

Would a gentle spanking be in order when the wife is an hour late with dinner because she stayed too long at the bridge club? How many snacks for coming down to breakfast in a dressing gown? Would gossiping on the phone for half an hour warrant a five-minute whacking?

The husband who takes Mr. Prefontaine seriously will have to figure out these things for himself. The minister provided no schedule of wisely misdeeds with the proper punishment.

Neither did he explain just how a husband goes about giving a wife a "gentle" spanking, requiring at least some measure of co-operation from the recipient.

First he'd have to sell her on the idea, convince her that this sort of thing didn't go out with the pioneers. He might do it, granted a convincing manner and a dull-witted wife.

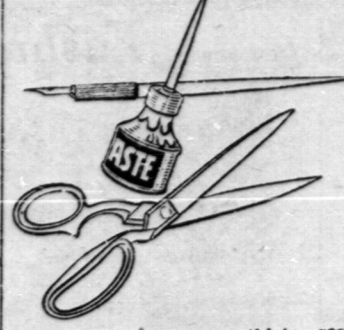
But it's entirely unlikely and that's why we can't understand Mr. Prefontaine linking "gentle" and "spanking." With modern wives feeling as they do any attempt to administer a spanking of any proportions is likely to result in a free-for-all with hubby as apt to come out on the short end as not.

What we'd give a year's subscription to learn is how Mrs. Prefontaine thinks of all this and what happened when Mr. Prefontaine came home that night.

QUOTE FROM YESTERDAY —

O poor mortals, how ye make this earth bitter for each other.

— Carlyle



The definition of an athlete, says the London Free Press, is a man who is as young as he feels though seldom so important.

That Sam Morris is a character if we ever knew one. After being nice to him for a couple of weeks we decided this week, after his unkindly cut about good old Haldimand, to give him a blast that would blow him into the intake pipe of their new water system. After carefully phrasing a two-thousand word article, we were ready to put it on the Linotype hook when the mail arrived. After opening a letter from the Editor of the Port Dover Maple Leaf we found enclosed a substantial cheque for a hundred dollars. Being the kind of person that we are, we had no alternative but to take the hundred copy for this column off the hook and discard it in the wastepaper basket.

While there will not be a published record of the contributions to the Miller Fire Fund, we feel compelled to mention that this column also has received a cheque from our old friend Harry Minter who is spending the summer at his habitation in Burke's Falls. One would almost think that two such thoughtful and generous fellows as Harry and Sam would know how to vote.

Just in that connection, we can

hardly wait for this week's edition of the Port Dover Maple Leaf. No doubt the lead editorial will be in praise of George Drew for his magnificent stand in upholding the majority of Parliament. We have maintained for years that George Drew should be counted among the foremost Statesmen in this country and if what has happened this past three weeks doesn't prove it, nothing will. Give him his due, Sam, even though it hurts.

It took until July 9th to do it, but Jarvis finally beat Selkirk in a ball game. There wasn't much margin, but enough to decide the issue in the thirteenth innings of a real thrilling softball classic. The edge was just slightly taken off the savor of the win by the fact that a couple of the Selkirk regulars were not in the line up. However, if the regulars are any better than the substitutes they are altogether too good.

We wouldn't say that Vern Weaver was the best player on the Selkirk team, but we can say with considerable assurance that he is the best 45-year-old player on the Selkirk team. We have played a good many games against Vern in years gone by, but we couldn't have played the game he did last Saturday night without recuperating in a hospital for a month after. Where he gets his stamina we don't know. Catching Joey Dennis would be a chore for an athlete in the peak of his career, so we can only conclude that Vern has found the fountain of youth and drinks from it regularly.

This is the kind of ball the fans like to see and we expect, as we are getting out this issue, the park will be packed (Wednesday night) when those two teams meet again. Will Johnny Edwards even the count with two wins apiece? Or will Jarvis take second place in the league for sure? That is the question the thousand or so fans went to the park last night to see.

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10:00 A.M. — Sunday School

10:30 A.M. — Rev. Dr. Harold Supply

CHALMERS CHURCH, WALPOLE

9:45 A.M. — Rev. Dr. Harold Supply

10:45 A.M. — Sunday School

THE ANGLICAN PARISH

The Rev. K. N. Beaton, R.A., L.T., Rector

Sixth Sunday After Trinity, 17th July

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, JARVIS

11:30 A.M. — Holy Communion (S.S. children attend Church)

CHRIST CHURCH, NANTICOOK

6:00 A.M. — Holy Communion

10:00 A.M. — Morning Prayer

10:30 A.M. — Sunday School

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JARVIS — ONT.

News of the Countryside

From The Record's Correspondents

ERIE

On Tuesday at noon, fire companies destroyed two large barns on the farm of Mr. Thomas Butler on the west side of Walpole Township.

At 1:30 A.M. Mr. Butler's daughter went to the barn and upon opening the door discovered the hay now in a mass of flames which confirms the theory that the fire was caused by spontaneous combustion. The loss, only partially covered by insurance, will be heavy since a quantity of machinery was stored in the barn. About fifty hens were also lost in the blaze. The Fisherville Fire Department responded to a call, and although too late to save the barns, managed to keep the flames from spreading to the garage and shed nearby. The wind blew the flames in the opposite direction from the house, which was at no time in danger of being burned.

A large number of the members of the Orange Lodge of Erie accompanied by their life and drum band attended the Orangemen's parade held at Danville on Saturday afternoon. Rev. Mr. Hancock of North Bay.

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MONDAY and TUESDAY

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starring — CHAS. MCGRAW, MARIE WINDSOR

CARTOON

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July 20 - 21

"ON THE WATERFRONT"

(ADULT) — starring — MARLON BRANDO, EVA MARIE SAINT

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