



Aloud Thought

by Richard Whipple.

YOU'RE BACK TO ANOTHER Aloud Thought, philistines. Please be seated. I was rather alarmed these past two weeks by the possibility you might believe I had forgotten about you, noticing that I only received one piece of hate mail (that not even signed). Well, to allay your fears, I was only on vacation, so you can all rest easier now I'm sure.

This week's lesson of social woe considers the television set most of you have in your homes. Or, more directly, the questions concerning the responsibility television plays; the boob tube that enacts such a major role in society's leisure, the one that gets turned on while company visits and conversation dies; in entertaining and informing its viewers. Of concern are the following questions; who is responsible for television programming? what motivates television programming? does television affect/effect us? are we influenced by it and to what extent is this influence?

Along the way, I shall contemplate the chances the Expos have at winning the National League Pennant—for all you sports fans who took exception to my generalization of athletic supporters through my column greeting "Hello Sports Fans". There were many athletic supporters who commented on that salutation, nice to see that the university keeps you folks busy.

By-the-way, congrats to the Ladies B-ball team. There was a follower of yours amongst my thronging staff deziens until his sudden departure. I attended his funeral last week-end in Summerside. Being from 'Away' it fell to me to read his eulogy while the Vancouver company laid him to his final rest. The subsequent flooding in that area has no connection to the hole that was dug.

Onward to business and my next to last column of Aloud Thought. "Sit back, relax, and learn you Teeming Millions," as 'Uncle Cecil' might say.

Responsible Television: You've strayed a long way baby.

I can't help but be reminded of my formative school years when the talk by the lockers mainly consisted of soap operas and the 'Leave It To Beaver' reruns which were on between 'Yogi Bear' at four o'clock and 'Gomer Pile, USMC' at five. It would depend, largely, on your gender as to which shows you would be talking about at the lockers. I say largely because there is always that one percent who, in high school, you are never quite sure of. And so it was at Lindsay Place High School. But, I digress.

I remember having been caught up by the 'LITB' craze and the secret clubs I partook in; those would put even a Free Mason or Knight of Pythias

to shame by our clever use of 'LITB' cryptograms. Memories of my visiting friends culminate in front of the tube and watching The Beaver lie to his father about a new bicycle he'd won the day he played hookey from school. I recall the laughter this situation induced and finally the stern reprimand The Beav's father gave to him on discovering the truth. It was a clear warning to all of us sitting there: If you lie, don't get caught by Mr. Cleaver!

Granted this was not the message we were *morally* obligated to learn, then again we did not concern ourselves with such things as morals or had we ever taken a 101 Philosophy course either. Besides, what were morals when we could advance the dial to the Adult Channel? It would be an interesting study to learn just who watches television today and for what main purpose. During my youth, neither I nor any of my friends had such interests. We were quite content to plunk down in front of the television and be entertained.

Society has outgrown the naivety of the 'Golden Age' shows (now immortalized in syndicated reruns) alongside its responsibility to the medium. Society's interest in television flourished, during its youth, like a newborn's parent it was more discerning towards its programming

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ruled the nurse was discriminated against on the basis of a disability.

A nurse who complained to the Ontario Human Rights Commission that he was fired from Toronto Western Hospital because he has AIDS was reinstated in June. The commission

A wide-ranging policy directive adopted by the Quebec Human Rights Commission April 29 prohibits employers from firing their workers because they have AIDS.



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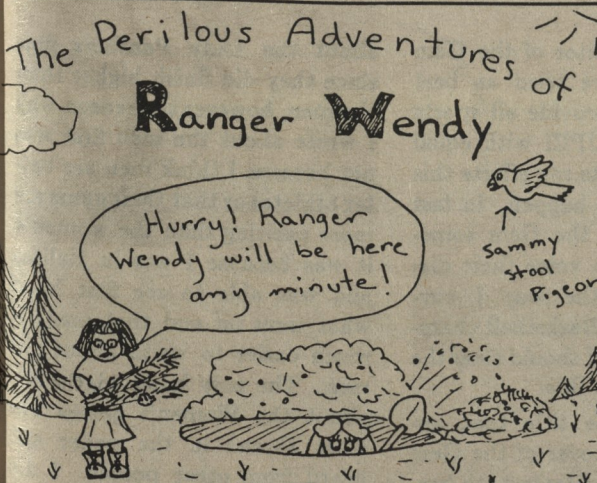
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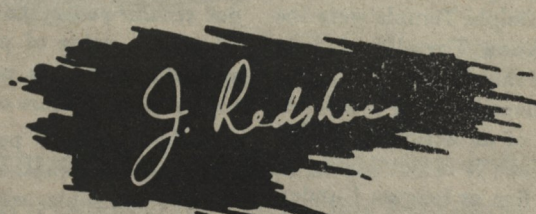
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Is it back to the stacks for our two mischievous tourists?
Did Ranger Wendy enjoy her two week hike?
Will the cartoonist be found one day soon at the bottom of the Bay in a cement labcoat?
Whatever happens, Happy E... from everyone at Park Tonkijgetchala!!



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