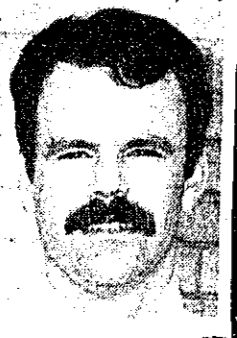


PEDALING AROUND

Brown with envy

By Mike Eliasohn



The way I look at it, I was born white and I intend to stay that way.

I am not a racist, but I am not embarrassed about my race, either. Therefore, you will never see me trying to change.

Not so for lots of white people, though. Give them a warm sun and they are outside roasting like a chicken on a spit.

If I have to be outside, fine, be it for work, other necessities, like going to the supermarket, or for pleasure, such as riding my bike. But to be out in the hot sun for no other purpose than to be out there, no thanks.

I have my reasons. One is simply I can't see sweating unnecessarily. It is possible to get skin cancer from too much exposure to the sun.

Being in the sun too much dries skin out, causing one to look prematurely old. (Of course, I could grow a beard if that happened, but then I would look like Gabby Hayes.)

However, since I am not prejudiced against persons who want to turn brown, I will tell you about the latest product to help you in doing so. It will make you look like an orange chicken, but few things in life are perfect.

Let me first digress slightly. To persons who don't like being white, nothing is more embarrassing than going through winter in that condition.

One solution is to go to Florida or Arizona, but that is expensive, plus any tan gained there in two weeks obviously won't last an entire winter.

A more enduring solution is sun lamps.

I don't pay much attention to such things, but I think there are lotions that will turn one's body brown without sun. Of course, if you don't put the stuff on evenly, you will look like a brown and white zebra.

There are also tanning salons. The tan seeker forks over his or her money, goes into a little booth with lots of lights in it wearing little clothing, and in a matter of a few minutes, comes out very brown.

Questions have been raised about the safety of the tanning salons, however, because of the possibility of dried skin, burns and increased chances of skin cancer.

That brings us to the latest, for which you have French chicken farmers to thank. It was at a farm near Marseilles that raised chickens for barbecuing that chickens were fed canthaxanthine, a chemical compound used in the United States to darken butter and cheese.

It worked. The chickens, which in their natural state looked too pale, turned a more attractive yellow.

A French firm then reasoned if the canthaxanthine worked for chickens, it might work for humans. It did. It turned them orange, or as the firm prefers to call it, light apricot.

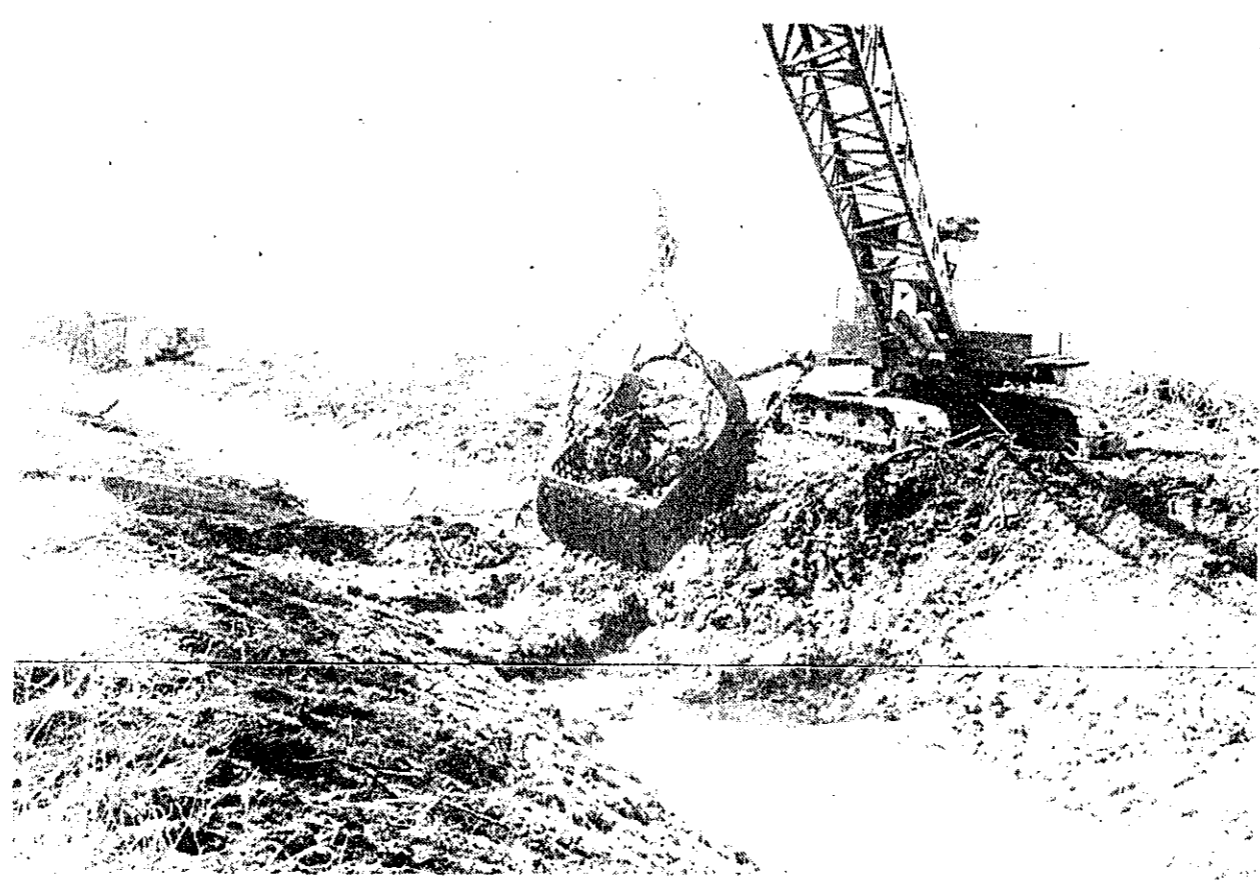
The chemical, in the form of pills called Oro-bronze, have been imported into Canada for two years. All one has to do, after laying out \$25 for 80 of them, is take two each morning and two each afternoon for two weeks, and then take two a day to maintain the proper skin tone.

Selling the pills in this country isn't as easy, however, as the Food and Drug Administration must first give its okay and the manufacturer is only now preparing an application.

With the warmest time of the year ahead of us, it doesn't make a difference now.

But come this fall and winter, while tan worshippers in this country are turning green with envy, their neighbors to the north will be turning brown with pills.

Note to college graduates and their parents: Some colleges are very slow in sending out their lists of graduates. As we like to run a short story about each graduate (parents, high school, future plans, etc.), preferably with a photo, if you would like to speed up the process, feel free to send us the information, stop by or call.



BOND DRAIN -- Nicol and Sons of Cass City are contractors on the Bond Drain cleaning project in Evergreen and Greenleaf townships. Photo was taken Friday south of Pringle Road, east of Leslie Road.

Drain commissioner wins dispute with Sanilac board

A specially appointed board of review has upheld Sanilac County Drain Commissioner Stuart Armstead in his dispute with the county Board of Commissioners over the cost to be assessed to the county-at-large for the Bond Drain cleaning project.

An appeal by the county board is likely. Four miles of the drain, which is in Evergreen and Greenleaf townships, are being dug out. Work started about three weeks ago.

Of the total cost of the project, Armstead assessed 26.5 of the \$63,000 total cost of the project to the county-at-large. Benefiting property owners were assessed 60.5 percent; Evergreen township, 11.5 percent, and Greenleaf township, 1.5 percent.

County commissioners thought their share - \$16,695 - was too much and appealed to the board of review.

Of that total, \$8,341 was for total cost of two new tube bridges where the drain crosses Leslie and Pringle Roads, and \$8,354, for benefits to roads.

The board of review was appointed by Probate Judge George E. Benko. It issued its ruling April 29.

County commissioners had hired an expert witness, an engineer from St. Johns, who testified before the review board that the county's

share should only be 11.27 percent.

The board, however, agreed with Armstead's 26.5 percent assessment, to be borne by the county taxpayers at large.

One bone of contention was the two bridges. The present tube bridges for Pringle and Leslie Roads are to be replaced by larger diameter ones.

The Road Commission, according to Armstead, wanted the new tubes longer

than they need at present, should it in the future build up and widen the roads.

His contention is that if the Road Commission were putting in a new bridge, all the county's taxpayers would have to share in paying for it, therefore, the situation was no different because the bridges were being put in as part of a drain project.

According to County Commissioner Lloyd Severance, in whose district the Bond Drain is located, the board is

likely to appeal the board of review's finding to circuit court, that the commissioners don't feel the benefits to the roads and the county-at-large are equal to 26.5 percent of the total project cost.

Meanwhile, work continues. The contractor, Nicol and Sons of Robinson Road, Cass City, have until fall to finish, but based on their present pace, Armstead expects they will be done in about 1 1/2 months.

Plans street work

Gagetown okays increase in trash pick-up charge

Inflation affects everything, including trash. The Gagetown Village Council Monday evening granted the request of Robert Cove of Cove Sanitation, Bad Axe, for an increase in trash pickup rates.

Starting with the payment for April, May and June, the fee per household will go up from \$10 to \$12 per quarter. The \$10 fee had only been in effect one quarter, having been raised in December from \$9.

The fee for homeowners is included on their village water bills. Businesses contract on their own with Cove for trash pickup.

The council left the meeting room for a while to inspect village streets, then returned and decided to have two sections of streets repaved this year, at a

maximum cost of \$10,000.

One section will begin on South Street, then on Cleaver Street to State Street. The other will be Lincoln Street from the railroad tracks north to the village limits.

Councilmen also decided to have two loads of gravel deposited between South Street and the sidewalk in

front of the homes of Ben Lesoski and Dennis Thiek.

Liability insurance coverage for the two village maintenance men was increased from \$300,000 to \$500,000.

A motion was approved for transfer of the liquor license from United Credit Union to Sherwood on the Hill.

Sebewaing will be the host this year for the annual Michigan Week dinner for village officials from that community, Gagetown, Owendale and Pigeon. The dinner will be May 23.

Sanilac equalized valuation up 10.8%

The Sanilac County Board of Commissioners April 30 approved the 1980 equalization report, with a total state equalized valuation of the county 10.8 percent higher than the 1979 figure.

That compares to an increase of more than 20 percent last year.

The 1980 figure, real and personal property combined, is \$460,379 million, compared to \$415,625 million last year.

For area townships, the total equalized valuation is as follows (1979 figure in parentheses): Argyle, \$9,102,000 (\$8,631,648); Austin, \$7,426,483 (\$7,084,528); Evergreen, \$9,697,748 (\$9,148,735); Greenleaf, \$6,432,110 (\$7,483,709); Lamotte, \$11,605,800 (\$10,868,887); and Moore, \$15,822,234 (\$14,602,166).

Of the 10.8 percent increase, according to county Equalization Director Eugene Regentin, based on past experience, about 1.5 percent of that would be because of new construction. That would leave 9.3 percent due to increases in property values.

Regentin noted that studies conducted for this year's equalization report showed the value of personal property (machinery, equipment, etc.) increased more percentage-wise than per real property (land and buildings). That is the opposite of what usually happens.

Despite the lesser increase in valuation than in 1979, he said there were as many and possibly more complaints than last year. "I guess you reach a saturation point."

Trinity Methodists hear economist

Trinity United Methodist women met May 5 for dessert, prepared by Group 1.

Peggy Houck, Sanilac and Tuscola County Home Economist, spoke on nutrition and answered many canning and freezing questions.

Helen Baker led the group in memory of Maude Blades and Jennie Hutchinson.

members who died recently. Next month, June 2, will be a birthday party for the girls' dormitory at Red Bird Mission. Gift suggestions are wash cloths, towels, bed sheets, room cheerers, slipper socks, iron on patches, brushes, scissors, thread, etc. A 6:30 supper will be prepared by Group 5 with co-hostesses Mary Rexin and Pauline Hulbert.

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