

# GOOD OLD DAYS

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## OUR GOLDEN AGE?

My sons say, " — Stone age era"  
When I speak of days, gone by  
Their faces showing understanding  
But that wink is kind of sly.

I tell of crawling under circus tent  
To cheer animals and funny clown  
The billowing steam of the calliope  
While emitting those happy sounds

The squeaky, rasping crystal set  
Coal rumbling down the chute  
A screeching, sparking steam engine  
Belching its gritty soot.

The squeegee horn on the family  
The open air rumble seat  
Running boards, radiator cap  
Brass trim, to make it neat.

Chasing the Ice Man down the street  
Milk from a horse drawn cart  
Walking a mile to the General Store  
For a nickel jelly tart.

Trolleys with straw bound seats  
Hooking a ride on the back  
Stretching clotheslines across the street  
To knock the pulley off its track.

Counting different kinds of cars  
There were so many then  
We'd sit there most all day long  
Maybe get as high as ten.

Scouring the town for two-cent boys  
To total to a dime  
For the Saturday Tarzan movie  
One serial at a time.

Or a nickel to spend on candy  
Old fashioned, licorice and such  
When 'twas nine or ten for a penny  
Dad — This is — Too much.

I suppose one can't blame them  
For their thoughts on bygone days  
I used to laugh when my folks  
Talked of bustles, spats, and stays

Each generation has its moments  
Each treasures memories  
Each thinks its most important  
Its times are the better days.

This is part of progress  
This is the way we've come  
Each era adds its building stone  
Each and every one.

So, one thing to remember  
Tho ancient — most vital to recall  
If it wasn't for Columbus —  
There'd be no one here at all  
Bob Furness, 116 Groveland Ave.,  
Wick, Rhode Island 02886



NOVEMBER

1969

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# GOOD-OLD-DAYS

Featuring: LETTERS • STORIES

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