

Will you help us keep up the good work?

by NORMAN G. BROWNE
SEVEN NEWS Editor.

On June 1st SEVEN NEWS will start its third annual fund raising drive.

The first fund raising drive, conducted by SEVEN NEWS in the spring of 1970 netted over \$2,000. This money was used to defray the initial cost of starting up the paper.

The second drive for funds, held last summer, was not as financially successful

but at that time the paper seemed to be on firm financial ground.

This year's fund raising drive is a direct result of the \$4,000 Local Initiative Program grant received some months ago by SEVEN NEWS. The money went into salaries for two full time workers for the paper. Because of the increase in staff, circulation has jumped by 5,000 copies and the size of your paper has gone up from 4 to 8 pages.

The major source of revenue for the paper is the sale of space to advertisers. However, this source of revenue varies from issue to issue and does not always meet the total cost of publication. It is also the policy of the paper to have its funding diversified.

If you like your paper, think it is doing a worthwhile job and serving a need in the community, please show your appreciation.

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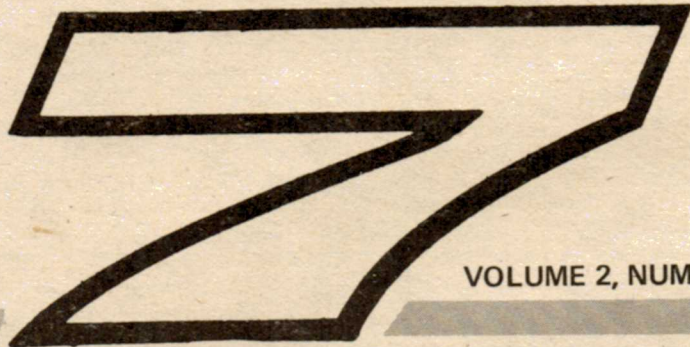
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COMING UP

Watch for our second anniversary issue coming up June 9th. Big things are planned. Deadline for the next issue is 5 p.m. May 19th. Next editorial meeting is May 17th at 8 p.m. in the SEVEN NEWS office, 80 Winchester Street.



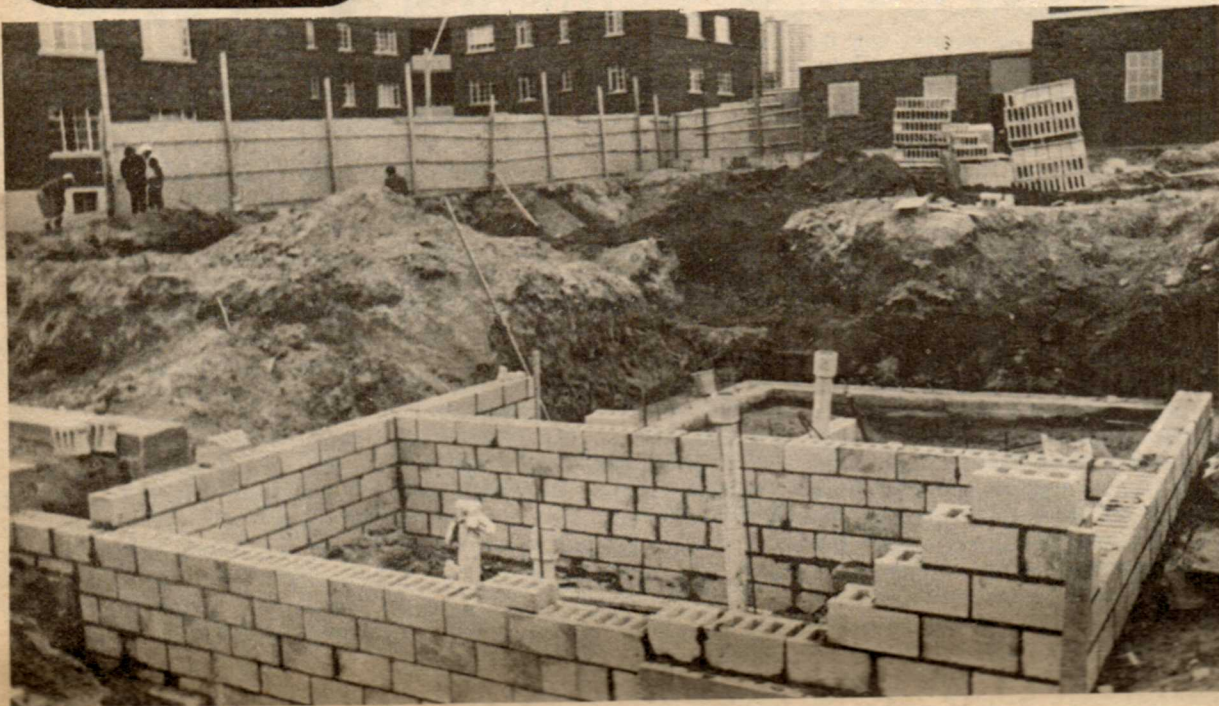
NEWS

WARD 7 COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
265 GERRARD ST. E.

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MAY 12, 1972



IT'LL BE A LONG, HOT, SUMMER

Regent Park North swimming pool may not be completed until early August if kids from the area keep climbing over the hoarding surrounding the construction site and causing damage.

Henry Ott, site foreman, explains that some of the delay in completion of the pool was caused by rain and the fact that two 20,000 gallon oil tanks had to be excavated from the site before construction could begin.

The outdoor swimming pool, measuring 75 feet by 95 feet was originally scheduled for completion early in July.

Mr. Ott, the site foreman, is a volunteer youth worker in his home area of Oakville and is quite sympathetic to the high curiosity level of kids. As a method of "policing" the site while construction is

underway, he has enlisted the aid of four boys from the area, given them hard hats to wear and appointed them "assistant foremen."

The boys, Mike Meecham, 14; Keith Chatten, 14; Ricky Chatten, 13; and Tom Bell, 15, screen visitors, give out hard hats, open and close the hoarding to allow trucks to enter and generally make themselves useful around the site.

This week Mr. Ott arranged for a full-time security guard to watch overnight at the site.

The Regent Park Community Improvement Association (RPCIA) met Wednesday to see what could be done about the lack of summer recreation programs. In addition to the delay on the pool, baseball diamonds promised will not be available and the adventure playgrounds have been shelved.

SOCCA will travel by flashlight to demonstrate lighting problems

by INGRID SMITH

The South of Carlton Community Action (SOCCA) is planning a meeting May 29th at Central Neighbourhood House to demonstrate the need for better lighting on Seaton, Ontario and Berkeley Streets.

SOCCA members and residents on the streets concerned will be asked to bring flashlights to the meeting. At 9:30 p.m. when the meeting ends, SOCCA has arranged for those attending to be escorted home in groups led by a flashlight-bearing guide.

FEAR OF DARK

Local residents feel that many people do not come out to meetings and get-togethers because of the fear and danger that bad streetlighting conditions create.

SOCCA has recently petitioned City Hall about lighting conditions.

Also on the agenda for the May 29th meeting will be a film about living in Don Vale, St. James Town, Trefann and South of Carleton.

The fourth SOCCA planning

committee meeting was held in the last week of April. Anita Rusack of the City Planning Staff gave about 50 people (including Alderman John Sewell) a short history of housing and population trends in South of Carlton and Central Toronto.

She reported:

- A decrease in population since 1951 of 16 per cent
- The high proportion of multiple families in households in the SOCCA area: north of Dundas 3.3 families per household, and south of Dundas 3.3 families per household
- 57 per cent of all persons live in families, while a very high proportion, 43 per cent, do not. They may be single, unrelated people sharing accommodation, widows, widowers, etc. Motions were passed to the effect that:
 - Houses in suitable condition should be rehabilitated
 - Only poor houses should be torn down and replaced by new compatible houses

The changes should be for the benefit of the people NOW living in the area

• There should be a moratorium on demolishing homes without due consideration; and vacant land should be utilized for new housing.

Nominations for the election of the Working Committee are still open and several additional people were nominated so that there are 2 nominees for the category of "Absentee Landlord", 5 for "Homeowners", 1 for "Businessmen", 2 for "Community Institutions", 1 for "Developer", 5 for "Tenant Families" and 5 for "Roomers".

The next planning meeting will be on May 9th at 7.30 p.m. and the election for the Working Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 23rd, at 7.30 p.m. at Central Neighbourhood House, 349 Ontario Street. The elected members will be presented and introduced to the General SOCCA Meeting on Monday, May 29th.

EIGHT GROUPS

South St. James a step nearer to working committee

South of St. James Town is a step nearer to a working committee representing all interests which could map out the future development of the disputed neighbourhood.

Alderman David Crombie outlined progress made in informal meetings in the neighbourhood to Toronto Executive Committee on May 1st. He reported that the eight groups now operating South of St. James had agreed to participate in a City Working Committee.

Executive Committee heard his report and deferred a decision on the establishment of a formal working committee with a site office and planning staff assistance until its next meeting.

EIGHT GROUPS

Crombie listed the eight participants: Homeowners For High Parliament Tenants Association, South of St. James Town Homeowners Association, Homeowners Association, Meridian Group, Ward Seven Businessmen's Association and South of St. James Town Absentee Owners.

Each group agreed to participate in weekly meetings, both public and private, on the future of the area.

Executive Committee also heard two delegations, Peter Akehurst, president of the Don Vale Homeowners and Residents Association, told the Committee that the neighbourhood looked like England after the Blitz. He presented a petition with several hundred names asking that the City attempt to influence Meridian so that the residents of the area would be treated with "compassion".

HIGH DENSITY

Homeowners for High Density presented a petition with the names of 125 of the 180 property-owners in the area calling for the "highest possible density zoning". The group feels that this would mean the highest increase in the value of their properties.

At a meeting of several of the area groups in April, the Homeowners and Tenants presented Meridian and the politicians with their proposal for improved management of the Meridian-owned houses in South of St. Jamestown.

The homeowners want to see that property-values in the neighbourhood do not deteriorate any more than they already have. Tenants wanted simply to get better management and better housing.

There was general agreement at the April meeting that Meridian is not doing a good job of managing their houses. Alderman Jaffary agreed that Meridian's management is "awful", and even Mr. Roth said, "It may very well be that I am a bad landlord." Roth did not attempt to defend Meridian's practice of renting to middle-men.

The residents made the point that almost none of the money now being paid to the middle-men in rent is used for repairs to the houses, and that in many cases the middle-men seem to take no interest in the management or upkeep of these houses. The residents also said that the person responsible for the management of a house should be living in that house.

Roth and Aldermen Crombie and Jaffary agreed that talks should be started with either the City, Metro or the Province to see if any Government body would rent the houses from Meridian. This was approved by the Committee.

The residents on the Committee also said that they wanted to be involved in the discussions as far as possible, to make sure that whatever deal is arrived at works to the advantage of the neighbourhood.

Tenants groups and some Homeowners are taking the position that the first problem to be dealt with is the problem of the deterioration of the neighbourhood; and once that is settled through a better system of management, then there can be a reasonable discussion of planning and re-development.

Homeowners oppose new "secretariat"

The Don Vale Association of Homeowners and Residents, at its executive meeting held last Sunday, went on record as opposing the proposed Community Secretariat to be set up by the Social Planning Council in the area. (SEE STORY ON PAGE 5).

It was the unanimous feeling of the association that the wishes of the community were not being taken into account. They would prefer the money to be given directly to citizen groups.

Poll shows 1969 non-voters now support Sewell and Jaffary

The first SEVEN NEWS Opinion Poll shows that 85 per cent of respondents who didn't vote in the last municipal election intend to vote for Sewell or Jaffary in the next election.

The other interesting result was that when confronted with a choice of voting for either Sewell or Jaffary, 33 per cent wouldn't make a choice.

But of those that did vote; an overwhelming 95 per cent said they would prefer Sewell over Jaffary. John Sewell also led the voting in all other categories.

A total of 60 ballots were received from all over the ward — a number which is meaningful, but not statistically significant. Nor can the Poll in any way be construed as being scientific.

But here are the results:

1. "Did you vote in the last municipal

elections?" YES — 41. NO — 19.

2. "Do you intend to vote in the next municipal elections?" YES — 53. NO — 4. MAYBE — 1. DON'T KNOW — 2.

3. "If an election were held today and the following were running for ward alderman, which two would you vote for?"

JOHN SEWELL — 50. KARL JAFFARY — 43. OSCAR SIGSWORTH — 3. SAM ROTENBERG — 5. NORMAN BROWNE — 1. DAVE TODMAN — 1. JOHN BARBER — 1. GEORGE HILL — 1. NO ANSWER 18.

4. "If you could cast only one vote for alderman which would you vote for?" SEWELL — 37. JAFFARY — 3. WOULDN'T VOTE — 6. DON'T KNOW — 9. NO ANSWER — 5.

5. "Do you think John Sewell is doing a good job at City Hall?" YES — 48. NO —

8. DON'T KNOW — 2. DON'T CARE — 1. NO ANSWER — 1.

6. "Do you think Karl Jaffary is doing a good job at City Hall?" YES — 40. NO — 9. DON'T KNOW — 7. DON'T CARE — 3. NO ANSWER — 1. 7. "What is your

reaction to Sewell's actions in committee and in City Council?" PRIDE — 32. EMBARRASSMENT — 5. DISGUST — 6. ADMIRATION — 3. DOESN'T MATTER — 3. DON'T CARE — 1. NO OPINION — 3. OTHER — "fight for the people",

"varies from issue to issue", "mixed", "Hate, Kill, Destroy", "not brilliant but brave", "too argumentative", "necessary",

"concern for the issues", "he represents people", and "It's fun to watch!"?

8. "Do you think John Sewell keeps in close touch with the people in Ward Seven?" YES — 30. NO — 12. DON'T

KNOW — 14. NO ANSWER — 3. OTHER — "from time to time."

10. "If you were asked to nominate a candidate for Mayor of Toronto who would you choose?" SEWELL — 12. JAFFARY — 6. MORTON SHULMAN — 6. DAVID CROMBIE — 5. BILL DENNISON — 4. TONY O'DONAHUE — 2. MARGARET CAMPBELL — 2. OTHERS — Fred Beavis, Richard Daly, Abbie Hoffman, Bill Lee, Albert Rose, Al Baldwin, John Barber, Giles Endicott, Piccininni, Sam Rotenberg — one vote each. NO ANSWER — 13.

Keep those Opinion Poll Sheets coming in. And get your friends and neighbours to fill them in as well. The more that come in, the more significant the results.

SEVEN NEWS will run a third "What's Your Opinion" in its next edition.

Venereal Disease: A full report on a community problem

A Health Column
by BEV SPRING
and DON WEITZ

Since this is a COMMUNITY health column, anybody living or working in Ward 7 can get his/her article or letter published. Here's a very informative article on V.D. written by Bev Spring, a former volunteer worker in the Regent Park Family Services Unit. Thanks, Bev.

How do you get it? Syphilis and gonorrhoea are two different venereal diseases. One thing they have in common is that they are caught in only one way: from having sexual contact with someone who already has V.D. The germs can only live for a few seconds outside the human body; if they become too hot or cold or dry, they die. To spread to a new person, the germs must be deposited on warm, moist surfaces (e.g., lining of genitals, mouth or a break in the skin). This means that the stories that V.D. can be caught from toilet seats or dishes, etc. are false. People get V.D. from other people who have V.D. through intimate physical contact.

Can you prevent V.D.? There is no shot or vaccine to prevent V.D., you can get it over and over. There is no sure way to prevent the transfer of germs from one partner

to another if one partner has V.D. (Neither washing with soap or wearing a condom is totally reliable.)

Syphilis ("Siff"): This disease, if treated, can be cured; if not, it can be disabling and fatal. Once the germ enters the body, there are four stages: 1. **Primary Stage** (9-90 days after germs enter body): A small red sore (chancere) appears usually on genitals, fingers, lips, breast, anus or mouth. Sometimes the chancere doesn't develop and sometimes it develops inside the body, so the infected person doesn't know he or she has syphilis. This is frequent for women where the sore often develops inside the vagina. Even if the disease is not treated, the sore goes away.

2. **Secondary Stage** (Within a few weeks — 6 months after contact): A rash may appear on chest, shoulders, abdomen, anus, and on hands and feet. The infected person may also suffer from sore throat, fever, headache, sores in mouth, painful and swollen joints, balding, and infectious raised areas may appear around the genitals and rear end.

This is the **most infectious stage** of the disease; it may last 3-6 months or the symptoms can come and go for years. Just like the primary state, the symptoms may disappear by themselves but the germs don't.

3. **Latent Stage:** The symptoms disappear but the germs may invade inner organs (heart, brain). The infected person may go on for 40 years and not know anything.

4. **Late Stage:** The results of the invasion of the inner organs become evident — heart disease, crippling, deafness, blindness, paralysis, insanity, death.

Diagnosis & Treatment of Syphilis: Early in the primary stage, pus from the chancere can be analyzed. After a week or two, a blood test reveals infection. Since blood tests are not totally

dependable, a second one should be taken a week after the first even if the first showed nothing. The treatment for all stages is **penicillin** — in one large dose or several smaller ones. **The first 3 stages can be completely cured** and in the late stage, effects can be stopped from going further.

Syphilis and Pregnancy: If a pregnant woman has syphilis, she can pass the germs on to her unborn baby. The germs attack the fetus just as they do an adult; the child may be born dead or with tissues deformed or diseased. If the mother's syphilis is treated before the 18th week of pregnancy, the fetus will probably not be infected at all. Even after the fetus has gotten syphilis, penicillin shots will stop the disease, but cannot repair damage already done. Therefore it is very important that **EVERY PREGNANT WOMAN GET A BLOOD TEST FOR SYPHILIS AS SOON AS SHE KNOWS SHE IS PREGNANT**

Gonorrhoea ("clap") Unlike Syphilis which goes all through your body, gonorrhoea is essentially a disease of the genito-urinary organs. The germ works its way along the passageways of the genital organs. The disease can be transmitted to another person at all stages. It takes from 2 days to 3 weeks after germs enter the body for symptoms to show up. The symptoms are different for men and women, even though the germ is the same.

SYMPTOMS IN WOMEN

In a woman, gonorrhoea is hard to detect. The bacteria lodge in the cervix (opening to the womb) and the urethral opening (tube through which urine flows) and slowly spread to the reproductive system and bladder.

Unless informed of her infection by her male partner, a woman usually goes without treatment until complications develop.

She may have no outward symptoms at all or she may have pain when she urinates or has a vaginal discharge. Some complications are: swollen glands in the genital area; infection may spread up urethra to bladder causing painful and frequent urination; infection of Fallopian tubes can occur, causing pain in the lower abdomen; nausea, vomiting and fever.

If untreated, scar tissue may develop in the Fallopian tubes, twisting them, so that eggs can no longer pass through; if this happens to both tubes, the woman can become sterile.

SYMPTOMS IN MEN

At first (2-5 days after germs enter body), he will feel a painful burning during urination and then a white or yellow pus from the penis appears. The discharge is very infectious and may be carelessly spread to the eyes.

If the male is not treated, complications develop. It may spread to the bladder, the seminal vesicles or the epididymis (the latter two are organs where sperm are stored or pass through). This internal infection will form scar tissue and may block the passageway of the sperm, making it impossible for him to conceive a child.

DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF GONORRHEA

There is no reliable blood test for gonorrhoea. But diagnosis in a male is not difficult; the germs can usually be seen under microscope in a sample of the discharge from his penis.

In a woman, diagnosis is more difficult. She may have no symptoms for a while; the germs are more spread out in her body and are much harder to find and identify.

If she suspects she may have it, she should go to a clinic where a

sample of secretions from different parts (vagina, cervix) will be taken.

The germs of the sample taken are left to multiply for several days. Sometimes, there are so few germs in the sample, they won't show up even after a few days. Therefore, more than one test should be made.

The treatment for gonorrhoea is **penicillin**. The size of the dose has been increased over the years because gonorrhoea germs, unlike syphilis germs, have the ability to build up resistance to penicillin. Other antibiotics are now being experimented with as treatments.

Whenever you get a penicillin treatment for any disease, don't drink any alcohol for 48 hours. Alcohol de-activates the white blood cells, which are the agents that actually kill the disease.

WHERE TO GET HELP

V.D. clinics in Toronto hospitals are strictly confidential, with drugs and services free. For up-to-date information, call the VD HOT LINE 864-1011. Call anytime for a taped message of the hours and locations of the V.D. clinics operating that day. The V.D. clinic at Wellesley Hospital is open every Tuesday, 5-6 p.m. and Friday, 12-1 p.m., for both men and women.

For further information or literature on V.D. and related problems, get a copy of the: McGill Birth Control Handbook, P.O. Box 1000, Station G, MONTREAL 130, Quebec (FREE COPIES);

or

Our Bodies, Our Selves, c/o New England Free Press, 791 Tremont St., Boston, Mass. (35c/copy);

or

Dr. Anne Keyl, V.D. — People To People Diseases, Toronto: House of Anansi (paperback), 1.25. (Available at Coles Book Stores).



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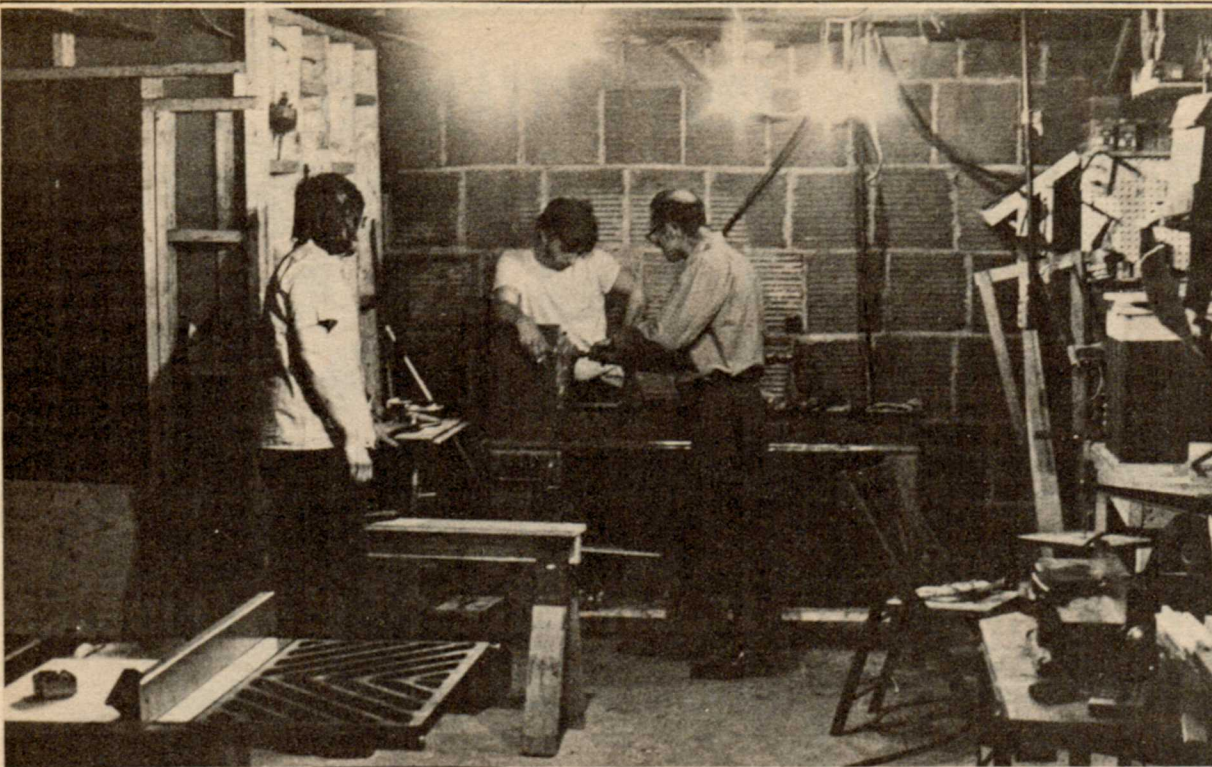
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The Don Vale Woodworking Shop, one of the more successful LIP projects, is also one of the few in the area to receive an Opportunity For Youth grant.

Located in the basement of the Don Vale Community Centre, 80 Winchester Street, the shop

does woodworking and small construction jobs for both individuals and community groups. The present staff of four workers will be increased to 7 under the new grant. They can be reached at 920-8632.

ALDERMAN'S REPORT

Constructive action on parking

by KARL JAFFARY
Ward 7 Alderman

Some very constructive things have been happening about the parking problem in the east end in the Riverdale area. This has all been started by the Riverdale Community Organization's Parking Committee, but I think now shows promise of filtering down to involve people who have been completely unorganized up to now.

In the first place, City Council has passed a by-law saying that it is no longer illegal to park overnight on any of the streets in the Riverdale area. That by-law will not become valid until it has been approved by the Provincial Government and that may take some time, but it passed City Council unanimously.

PARK OVERNIGHT

The result will be that anybody will be able to park overnight on any street between Coxwell and the Don without getting a parking ticket. That may cause a lot of problems, but it will get rid of what has been the greatest problem up until now — parking tickets!

The next thing that has happened is that we have started having little street meetings with the people from some of the streets where the problems are the worst. The first one was a meeting on Empire Avenue, which at the present time has night-time permit parking. Under the permit parking by-law, people have to pay \$5.00 a month to have the right to park overnight on their street. If you don't have a permit and you are on the street after 11:00 p.m., you get a ticket.

TEN SHORT

That by-law can't be very popular.

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Empire Avenue has about 30 parking spaces on it and there are about 20 off-street spaces. If everybody who has a car and lives on Empire parks there, we are still 10 spaces short after using all of the street and all of the off-street spaces. Probably those people park on other streets or on a few private lots that are around.

In any event, the permit parking is so unpopular that only 6 permits have been issued for the 30 spaces on the street. A lot of people find the permit unsatisfactory because it doesn't let them park legally during the day-time and, therefore, discriminates against shift-workers.

The permit parking by-law also means that if you have friends over for the evening they are very likely to get a parking ticket. There are other problems about it. The result of passing the permit parking by-law has apparently been to cause a lot more people on Empire to get tickets than was the case before. And the fine for parking without a permit is higher than the normal \$2 fine.

FREE PERMITS

Empire has asked for free permit parking. In a meeting that took place on May 5th on Tiverton, the people there asked for the same thing. That issue will be coming before the Committee on Public Works very shortly and we will see what City Council does about it.

Health Centre elects directors

About 150 members attended the First Annual Meeting of the Health Committee of the Riverdale Community Organization (RCO). Members heard progress reports from the various committees, received a financial report, and elected a Board of Directors for the community-controlled Health Centre.

Elected to the executive of the Board were: Howard Leslie, president, Bob Braithwaite, vice-president, Joy Chong, recording secretary, Gloria Gallant, corresponding secretary, and Donna Benoit, treasurer.

Also elected were: Bob Kemp, Audrey Abbott, Al Cummings, Ray Bonnah, John Robson, Janet Leigh, Nadine Leslie, Norma Littwiller, Marie MacDonald, Al Seaton, Denis Colby, Ed Morse, Doug Loney and Velda Cyr.

The financial statement reported a balance of \$2,059.04.

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Board committee sets up educational alternatives

by GORDON CRESSY
Ward 7 School Trustee

There is a very interesting committee down at the Board of Education called Alternatives in Education. This Committee has been responsible for approving three schools in the past two years, SEED, ALPHA and Laneway.

Laneway is a downtown school for downtown children and is located at Dixon Hall. It has a capacity for 40 children and has openings available. Parents must participate in the school program. Although classed as a community school it stresses the three R's. For more information about admission, curriculum, etc. call 364-6021.

Another proposal before the Alternatives Committee is for a school for drop-outs. Drawn up by some teachers and young people, the proposal will come before the Board on Tuesday, May 25th.

If you like the idea, come out to the meeting or if you want a copy of the brief phone me at 921-3720.

The official opening of the New Withrow School is scheduled for May 24th at 2:30 p.m. Trustee Graham Scott, a former student at Withrow will lay the cornerstone. For more information, contact the Withrow school principal, Mr. Taylor.

Homecoming at old Withrow

The new Withrow School, which will replace the old one, will be completed in May. When this happens, the old Withrow School, a school that has stood for about 70 years, will be demolished in six short weeks.

Withrow Home and School Association feel that it would be a shame to let the old school pass without saying good-bye. They have set Saturday, May 27th from 2 - 9 p.m. for a homecoming and leave-taking ceremony and ask that all former staff, former pupils, friends and all connected with Old Withrow to attend.

Donations are being solicited toward a fund to purchase a suitable art work for the foyer of the new school. The fund will also defray the costs of the homecoming event.

The Home and School Association is also interested in borrowing trophies, souvenirs, etc., that relate to the old school for an exhibit planned for the homecoming day.

Anyone with items to loan, or money to donate, is asked to contact Mrs. M. Cave, 79 Sparkhall, at 466-0052.

Park School fire hazard?

by EDNA DIXON

On May 5th, the Globe and Mail and the Toronto Star carried stories that the Toronto Board of Education was going to the Ontario Municipal Board to try and force the Metro School Board to approve renovations in 24 Toronto schools.

The two schools most urgently in need of repairs are Park and Shaw Public schools which need enclosed stairwells. If these schools have been declared a fire hazard why would the Metro Board be so reluctant to repair them especially when they have no qualms about building a new Oak Street school in order to remove the Park Portables?

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Do we need Oak Street . . . or changes in school boundaries?

by EDNA DIXON

It is still not clear what is happening at the Oak Street School. Last October the Board of Education sent a revised application to the Department of Education for approval to build a Kindergarten to Grade Six school to accommodate 651 pupils in 27 classrooms at a cost of \$1,327,900.

In January of 1972 the Toronto Board still hadn't received approval from the Province when they agreed to the Oak Street Citizens Committee request to change the school from a K to 6 school to a K to Grade Eight school.

In February the Province wrote asking the Toronto Board to co-operate with the Metro Separate School Board in clearly establishing the need for additional pupil places in the area.

SHARED USAGE

The combined preliminary survey

showed a need for only 15 to 18 classrooms. School enrolment has dropped and the Province expects Toronto to make full use of existing schools including shared use of public and separate school classrooms.

Since then, the Toronto and separate School Boards have sent the Province detailed surveys which show actual and projected enrolments for seven schools in the area: Park, Park Senior, Lord Dufferin, Regent Park, and Spruce Court, St. Martin's and St. Paul's.

This survey showed that enrolments had dropped from 5,024 pupils in 1967 to 4,127 in 1971. Although there was a further drop to 3,973 in January of 1972, their projected enrolment for September is 4,200 and September 1973 is 4,183.

NUMBER OF PORTABLES

There are 21 portables now in use; nine in Park Junior, seven in Lord Dufferin, and

five in Spruce Court. There are also 11 vacant classrooms . . . six in Regent Park, four at St. Martin's and one in St. Paul's.

Although Rose Avenue, Church, Duke of York, Winchester and Sackville Schools are also in the area, and pupils from them feed into senior schools at Park, Lord Dufferin and Winchester, and there are vacant rooms in some of these schools, the Toronto Board of Education didn't provide enrolment figures for these schools.

On the basis of the partial survey Metro Public and Separate School Boards now recommend that Oak Street School be built to relieve the portables. The vacant rooms in the separate schools are now used for other purposes and the Board believes that the space at Regent Park will be used by pupils coming from new housing in Trefann when built, or from the Sackville Street School which could be closed because it lacks modern facilities.

PARK SCHOOL CLOSER

Do Sackville School parents want their school torn down? Would parents living at King and Sumach send their kids to Regent Park when Park School is closer?

It is more likely that the boundaries for all these schools will have to be changed because there are vacant rooms at Duke of York and perhaps in other schools not surveyed.

Before final plans for the Oak Street School are passed, the boundaries for the various schools in the area should be established.

Parents need a say in where their children go to school and if the Board welcomes participation at Oak Street it should establish participation in other schools.

(Edna Dixon, a resident of Trefann Court, has been active in community affairs for many years.)

CITIZENS OPPOSED

Province to fund "secretariat" not community groups

by SKIP HAMBLING

The Social Planning Council is soon to open a "community secretariat" in downtown/central Toronto to serve citizen groups in the inner city core. The secretariat is likely to be located somewhere on Dundas or College between Parliament and Dufferin and will be budgeted for a two year trial period with a proposed staff of eight full or part time people, at more than \$81,000 for each year. Partial funding for the project has been committed by the Social Planning Council and the provincial government with the remaining needed funds being sought from both federal and voluntary sources.

In a brief outlining their proposal the SPC states: "The emphasis in this approach is to pool professional and technical services into a central resource bank in order to assist the largest possible number of citizen groups in the development."

Specifically, the Council has outlined eleven different services ranging from typing and duplicating of program materials, to assisting citizen groups with common interests to come together, to providing a telephone answering service and meeting space when required, to development of special workshops to assist citizen groups in leadership and program development.

"STORE FRONT" MODEL

The SPC has based this proposed model on its experiences gathered in establishing and maintaining their Danforth "Storefront" office where, under the auspices of a LIP grant, they provided much the same services to many groups; and on an analysis of the developing trends of the basic needs of citizen groups.

In proposing this model of service to groups the Council is anxious to demonstrate its workability to other agencies and institutions, including governments, so as to gain multi-level interest in and support of the citizen group phenomenon.

The SPC includes in their proposal a procedure to transfer responsibility for the secretariat to the community served by the end of eighteen months of operation.

Groups in the Don District first became aware of the SPC's proposal when several were visited in the last week of April by Marilyn Carley of the SPC Storefront staff. Marilyn discussed the concept with several groups who had used Storefront services. A few showed some hesitancy about the concept and asked to meet with Marvyn Novicle, Director of Social Development for the Social Planning Council and prime author of the brief outlining the concept, to clarify some particulars as to the development of the concept and plans for its implementation.

MEETING

A meeting was arranged under the auspices of the Neighbourhood Information Post's Board of Directors and was held on May 2 with representatives from South of Carlton Citizens' Association, South of St. Jamestown Tenants' Association, Ward Seven News and the Christian Resource Centre being present.

The people attending the meeting voiced strong concerns about many aspects of the concept and indicated that they were not alone in such concerns.

Two general points were of primary concern: community participation — or rather lack of it — in developing the basic concept and deciding the Don District needed such a concept; and community control of the secretariat if, as and when it became established. Questioning of Mr. Novicle was at times quite heated on these two major points with Mr. Novicle attempting, at some length, to satisfy his questioners as to the SPC's intent.

He pointed out that while it was true that the broad community had not participated in the exact detailing of the concept it was, in fact, only as a direct result of contact with community groups across Metro and across the province that the SPC and the Community Development Branch of the provincial government — to date the prime financial contributor to the concept — had developed this concept.

BOTH AGREED

An interesting factor here, was that, independent of each other both bodies — charged with the responsibility of having to plan for community and social development in Metro and the province, and developing likely ways of gaining

public and private support of community action — came to similar conclusions about best serving demands community groups were making of them. In fact, the Community Development Branch, in reassessing its program, had already been formulating the idea of shifting emphasis to service to groups rather than continuing a program of direct grants to groups, when the SPC approached them with regard to the likelihood of provincial funding in mid-December, 1971).

Further, Mr. Novicle pointed out that it had never been intended, nor was it now intended to establish the secretariat without participation by the community.

In responding to questioning as to why the SPC felt it could, without direct community input on the matter, arbitrarily decide to request funding on behalf of the community, Skip Hambling (a community worker placed in the district by the provincial government and now attached to the SPC) pointed out that the simple force of events created by provincial government budgeting practices necessitated this action. Proposals for new budget expenditures had to be made by April 1. If the SPC and the Community Development Branch had taken the time to gain full community consensus on the concept prior to asking for funding the chance for such funding would have been lost.

ALL OR NONE

In fact, because of internal policy decisions in the government, the choice was either asking for these funds on behalf of the area without the community's full participation in deciding to make such a request it is true or not asking, which would have meant virtually no provincial funds would

have been available to groups here.

People pointed out that while that fact may be true, the money now available must be used to establish a concept that most people in the area do not know about and with which many local people could and do quarrel. Mr. Novicle said that people should not become overly concerned about such details as the brief was merely a vehicle to achieve funding and the exact details as to establishment, operation and control were highly flexible and to be decided with full scale community input.

He indicated, that when stripped to its bare essentials, the concept must include: 1) the provision of a non-partisan pooling of material and technical resources and services in a central location that would be available to all non-profit community groups with members who live and work in the district served; 2) that direct cash grants to groups in place of services would not be possible; 3) that the provincial government and the SPC would have the right to place at least one worker each on the proposed staff as part of their direct input; 4) that the concept must be undertaken as a partnership between the SPC and the community with a 50/50 split on all decision making including finances and that this partnership must continue for a minimum of 6 months, with dissolution being possible by mutual consent from 7 to 12 months and final dissolution possible any time after the twelfth month upon community request of it.

OTHER POINTS

Other specific points raised concerned: the area served — How big will it be — be expected to be using the services; location — Where will it be? accessibility — What hours will

it be open? Who will decide who can use the services?; information — Exactly who will be told about what groups are planning and doing?; daily operations — Who will decide who does what and when? What kind of equipment will be bought to be used; budget — Who decides what to spend and on what? and finally, one big question, How will all these decisions be made?

It seems now that the district is faced with at least three choices to be made regarding the concept: one, it can reject the whole thing outright; two, it can accept it as it stands; three, it can accept the general outline and develop a mechanism to work together to make the details of the concept what the community wants.

(Skip Hambling is a community worker for the Community Development Branch of the Ministry of Community and Social Services. He is presently on temporary assignment to the Metro Social Planning Council.)

WATCH FOR

SEVEN NEWS

2ND ANNIVERSARY

EDITION

JUNE 9TH

SEVEN NEWS questions secretariat plan

WARD SEVEN NEWS EDITORIAL STATEMENT

SEVEN NEWS is involved in the controversy over the proposed Social Planning Council Storefront Secretariat. On two occasions SEVEN NEWS has made requests to the Community Development Branch of the Provincial Government for funding.

It is this department that decided not to give any further funds to citizen groups but instead to fund the Social Planning Council "secretariat".

SEVEN NEWS is not alone in this regard. South of St. James Town has made a request to the same provincial department for \$2,000. South of Carlton Community Action asked for \$500. Trefann has asked for over \$2,000. The Don Vale Resident's Association requested \$3,000 and Neighbourhood Information Post sought a grant of \$10,000.

All these grant requests were pared-down, rock-bottom budgets for specific, immediate needs or projects.

None of these needs or projects will be satisfied by the setting up of a "community secretariat".

Following are some of the questions that have been raised by SEVEN NEWS at meetings on the subject:

— Why didn't the Provincial Government formally notify citizen groups that their requests for grants had been turned down?

— Why didn't the Provincial Government notify those that had applied for grants of its change in grant-giving policy?

— Why didn't the Government ask the community how its grant money could best serve the needs of that community?

— Why didn't the Government and the Social Planning Council consult with the

community before deciding what it thought was "best" for us?

— Why does the community have to wait a year or 18 months before assuming control of the Secretariat?

— How much control will the community ever really have over the operation of the Secretariat?

— How realistic is the budget for this project? The total budget is for \$81,000 of which \$64,000 is for staff salaries.

— How realistic are the salary levels for the staff of the project? Under the proposed budget, the Co-ordinator will get \$16,000 a year and two "community workers" will each get \$10,000 a year.

By contrast, the average salary paid to community workers in the Don District is roughly \$4,500 a year; ranging from a high of \$6,000 to a low of \$2,000 paid to the editorial co-ordinator of SEVEN NEWS.

REGENT SPORTS

Regent takes floor hockey title

by JOE GANNY
7 NEWS SPORTSWRITER

Regent Park came from behind to take a 9 to 8 win floor hockey championship in the City of Toronto Parks and Recreation League. Once again it was Allister Campbell that led his team to the win.

Congratulations are also due to the following boys: Tim Christie, Ricky Gosse, Ricky Green, Robert Millar, Randy McCormick, Delbert McCulloch, Paul Szabo, Danny Duggan, Len Quinney, Ron Chapman, Greg Downey, Tommy Adams, Marcel Lafleur, Steve Thomas, Mike Simpson, Jeff Bacon, Tom Busby and their coach Mr. Les McCormick.

Due to the construction of the ball diamond in Regent Park, the Ladies Softball League has been moved to the Moss Park Recreation Centre. Games will be played there on Tuesday and Thursday evenings starting May 23rd.

This year Regent has rounded out 5 teams with the following sponsors: Ernie Orphans, Big Bucks Best, Norms Knockouts, Regent Park North Old Boys and Best Line Products. Once the Regent Ball diamonds are ready, the league will move back.

Remember the opening date: Tuesday, May 23rd at 6:30 p.m. at Moss Park, Queen and Sherbourne.

The Regent Park Men's Softball League will be playing at Riverdale Park on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays with all games to start at 6:45 p.m. Monday games will be played on the east side of the Don River with the other games being played on the west side of the Don near the duck

pond.

The Men's Softball league has the following sponsors: Marg Scrivener, Avion Hotel, Alton Florists, Active Construction, Anthony Cartage, Langs Auto and Regent Park Old Boys.

These ball team schedules are only tentative and when they move back to Regent Park, a notice will be placed in this paper. For more information call 363-2955.

Volunteers at Sprucecourt

by SHARON GOODIER DALE

A meeting of a small group of parents and teachers at Sprucecourt Public School last month resulted in a significant step. At the next meeting, May 18, parents wishing to volunteer time in the classrooms will be able to offer their services to those teachers who wish to have them.

In addition, posters and other forms of communication will appear in the area inviting any local people who wish to share time and talents with small groups of students to phone the school. This includes local craftsmen, businessmen and industries who would allow groups of 5 or 6 students the experience of observing their operations.

The idea behind this is that the school cannot possibly provide all possible experiences within its walls. The school and the community must work together to provide the best possible education for their children.

Any local person interested can call the school for further information or attend the next meeting on Thursday, May 18 at 8 p.m. in the school (call near May 18 to check date and time with Sprucecourt School - 922-6321).

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News in brief

WARD SEVEN NDP MEETING will be held May 30th at 8 p.m. at the Don Vale Community Centre, 80 Winchester Street. Discussion will be on running a candidate in the coming municipal election and such a candidate might be nominated at the meeting.

PIERRE BERTON WILL HOST A PARTY in aid of the South of St. James Town Defense Fund on Wednesday, May 31st at 7:30 p.m. at 175 St. Clair Ave. West. Tickets are \$2.50 - phone 928-7149.

THE RULES OF THE GAME: A Homeowners and Tenants Handbook will be published in May by Pollution Probe. The book will discuss assessment and services, planning and zoning, redevelopment, and lots of useful information about City Hall, etc. For single or multiple copies, call Pollution Probe, 928-7149.

THE NEXT SPRUCECOURT SCHOOL Parent-Teacher meeting will be held at the school on Thursday, May 18th at 8 p.m. Discussion will be on the parent volunteer program at the school.

THE SALVATION ARMY is sponsoring a summer boy's camp for one week in July and a girl's camp for a week in August. Kids age 6 to 11 can attend free. Register at 148 Jarvis Street or phone 366-9941 for more information.

THE CHILDREN'S PLAY YARD at Central Neighbourhood House will be expanded in the near future as the result of a donation of \$700 from Neathern Trust and the Toronto Kindergarten Teachers Association. Parents of the children involved are working with an architect in drawing up a 2-stage plan for the project.

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE will have a four week day camp this summer from July 10 to August 4 followed by a week of family tenting August 14 to 18. The program has been made possible by a grant from the Ontario Department of Education, Youth and Recreation. For more info call Anne at 925-4363.

DIXON HALL AT 58 SUMACH STREET has a legal aid clinic every Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. The service is free.

NEIGHBOURHOOD INFORMATION POST is having a variety show on May 20th at the Don Vale Community Centre, 80 Winchester Street. Show time is 7:30, tickets are \$1 from NIP at 265 Gerrard Street East.

A SPRING CONCERT will be held at Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach Street on Tuesday, May 30th starting at 7 p.m.

THE DON VALE COMMUNITY CENTRE is holding a gala bake sale, Bazaar and Flea Market starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 27th. A Sprir Dance will be held at 8 that evening.

THE WARD SEVEN BUSINESSMEN'S ASSOCIATION have made a donation of \$100 to send 10 boys and girls from the Junior Special Education Class of Winchester School on a camping trip for a week at Honey Harbour, Georgian Bay along with their teacher, Sue Barnard.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN A CO-OP DAY CARE CENTRE west of the Don River is asked to phone Marcy Gibbons at 924-2544 or 962-9679.

DIXON HALL, 58 SUMACH STREET is holding a Bingo on June 6th. Early Bird games start at 6:30. Regular games are at 7 p.m.

THE RIVERDALE SALVATION ARMY will be holding a Daffodil Tea and Bake Sale from 2 to 4 p.m. on May 27th at 312 Broadview Avenue. Admission is 50¢.

LUNCH AT THE TOP is a weekly social event at the Don Vale Community Centre, 80 Winchester Street. A five course meal, all you can eat for 75¢, is served every Wednesday from noon to 2 p.m.

DON VALE COMMUNITY CENTRE is holding its second annual spring flea market at the end of May. The Centre is seeking donations of hard goods, furniture, tools, pictures and frames, books, dishes, etc. Anyone with items to donate is asked to drop them off at the Centre, 80 Winchester, or phone 921-6710 for a pick-up.

This column is now being compiled and written with the help and cooperation of the NEIGHBOURHOOD INFORMATION POST. In future, please address any items concerning new programs or future meetings to Neighbourhood Information Post, 265 Gerrard Street East. Or phone 924-2544.

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SPEAKING OUT

Q: "As a tenant in the district, what do you think of rents and living conditions? What can be done?"



"Rents are too high. \$140/month for a basement apartment is ridiculous. Rents should be lowered and repairs done."

Mary-Jane Senechal
39 Metcalfe Street

"Tenants shouldn't have to beg to get things done. Maybe the government should do something."

Jean MacDonnell
39 Metcalfe Street



Tenants can do very little... making complaints, they just get booted out. Rent Review or Rent Control would be a good thing...

Bruce Weston
434 Sackville Street

CABBAGETOWN-OLD YORK

A new citizens' group is born

by JOHN GOYEAU
7 News Staff

Belching factory stacks, graveyards for rusting automobiles and lanes of suburban commuters today dominate one of the oldest and most historic areas of Toronto.

Once part of Old York, and later part of what was called "Cabbagetown", the section of Ward Seven west of the Don River and south of Queen Street has recently fallen on poorer days.

Passersby whizzing at full speed back and forth from suburban homes to downtown offices don't often notice the narrow streets and tiny homes scattered throughout the neighbourhood.

KICKED OFF

But over the last two months residents of the area have kicked off one of the more active neighbourhood groups in the Ward Seven. An organization meeting in March drew more than 50 people to Dixon Hall from little streets like Bright, Ashby and Percy and from houses on Power, Sumach, Queen and King.

Residents set down their concerns and decided to act on improving them through a group called the Cabbagetown Community Improvement Committee (Old York).

Most often mentioned at the first meeting were:

- unfair practices by housing inspectors
- air pollution from cars, plants and trees
- lack of dog control
- possible street widenings and traffic problems

J.J. Bradford, Toronto Housing Standards Director, was invited to a second meeting in April to answer residents' longstanding complaints about unfair and inconsistent inspection and threats of eviction.

Residents asked that a regular area inspector be maintained so that inspections would be consistent. They also got Bradford to promise that letters of approval would be available so that the neverending process of inspection and repair could be settled and homes declared approved.

INACCURATE

Through cooperation with Alderman John Sewell, Bradford was invited to inspect several houses and agreed with residents that building inspectors reports were often inaccurate.

Gladys Gimpel, a resident of Bright Street, was delegated to pursue housing standards complaints with Bradford. In a letter read at the most recent meeting of the Committee,

Bradford said that "a year's period would be aimed for" in assigning inspectors in the Cabbagetown-Old York area although he had "great difficulty in making any promises".

Residents have still been unable to secure final letters of approval from inspectors despite Bradford's promises at their meeting. They intend to pursue this matter further and would also like a firmer commitment to a more permanent inspector for their area.

The Cabbagetown-Old York group was also represented at recent Ontario Municipal Board hearings on Metro Centre. A spokesman complained about the possible widening and extension of The Esplanade to Eastern Avenue and won positive comments from the OMB Chairman for his presentation.

POLLUTION

Residents tackled the question of air pollution at their most recent meeting which was attended by J. Kawasaki and V. Shantora, district engineers of the Air Management Branch of the Ontario Department of the Environment.

Complaints to the air management engineers included: the City incinerator, the Tomlinson foundry stacks, the concentration of vehicle traffic in the area, and the idling of oil trucks for long periods on narrow streets.

Carl Head, principal of Sackville Public School, complained that air pollution from the incinerator and the foundry was bad enough to disturb classes and outdoor activities at the school. He agreed with Provincial officials that the Tomlinson foundry situation had improved but made complaints about emissions from the City incinerator. Air quality engineers could only report that the City had a plan which would lead to acceptable standards of air quality... by 1975.

WANT COPIES

Residents asked the officials for copies of the schedules established for emission control improvements for local factories and demanded that a regular inspector be assigned for their area.

Ward Seven citizen activists used to think that the area south of Queen was too scattered and too thinly populated to support its own community organization. Cabbagetown-Old York residents have proven them wrong.

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Housing for psychiatric patients

A new kind of housing arrangement for men and women who have experienced psychiatric disturbances or hospitalization is being proposed by a committee of former patients and workers from community resources.

To combat the loneliness and alienation felt by so many people left on their own after leaving hospital, often living in isolated rooms, the proposal is to rent or buy a house or houses in which the residents would live together in a cooperative group, sharing the rent and management of the house, having communal meals prepared by themselves, and giving each other help and support through the rough spots.

It is hoped to locate such a house in the Don District. Anyone interested in living in such a house is asked to call Marion or Joan at the Dundas Day Centre, 863-1879.

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TAVERN

Hogan asks Jackman be two-way to Hurndale

Hogan Pontiac at 348 Danforth has applied to the City to make Jackman Avenue a two-way street for one block North from Danforth to Hurndale.

Although a similar application had been previously turned down by the City, Hogan hopes to provide better access to customers and to facilitate test drives in the neighbourhood by potential car-buyers.

Vern Burnett, a resident on Hurndale Avenue, complained last week that the direction change would mean additional traffic on a busy street. She pointed out that Hogan already uses Hurndale as a parking lot for its cars although the company owns considerable land along Danforth which it does not now use for parking.

Residents will have a chance to comment on any proposed changes to the City Public Works Committee.

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