



NEWS

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Politicians Take Stroll

by Norma and John Barnett

We took the scenic route, of course, and kicked off from the Fred Beavis Memorial Park on Bleecker Street. Dr. Barry Rolfe led the expedition through the concrete canyon while the biting wind was on its best behaviour and dutifully froze the diligent walkers.

The 40 participants toured the picturesque car parks (sorry, open space) and progress was only halted for photographs of kiddies enjoying the amenities of one of the two concrete play areas. Jim Houston explained that these areas had only been provided when O.H.C. mothers demonstrated at the lack of facilities.

Aldermen and "friends" stood on the site of the 1963 Don Vale Report park, upon which now stands the Vancouver building and shopping precinct. The post-4 o'clock tour more than adequately pointed out the lack of afternoon sunshine in major areas of St. James Town.

Alderman David Rotenberg displayed his usual lack of interest by riding Alderman Kilbourn's bicycle ahead of the group - this did not, however, go unnoticed by the gentlemen of the press. Alderman Fred Beavis, wearing his customary green, took steps to impress upon us that he does have our interests at heart and that a park is needed in the area. Alderman Sewell graced the occasion by wearing a suit - absent members of City Council will undoubtedly kick themselves when they discover what an earthshattering experience they missed!

Bleecker Street teenagers sang and demonstrated "Ring O' Roses" around Ben Grys - just goes to show that rings can be run around Grys outside of Council meetings. Amongst the notable absentees were Alderman Hugh Bruce and Alderman Ying Hope who, as members of the Building & Development Committee, are expected to pass judgement on the development yet couldn't spare the time to visit the area. One wouldn't have thought that Hugh would pass up another opportunity to be photographed feeding cookies to the kids. Atty. General Allan Lawrence who wrote to a constituent stating that he personally would lead members of City Council on a walk around St. James Town also did not make it, and, although his assistant was present, even he, when attempting to discover Lawrence's whereabouts, disappeared never to return. Donald Macdonald M.P., who had previously advised that, due to federal business, he could not be present, was represented by his executive assistant.

After the completion of the tour and some much-needed refreshment at St. Simons, meaningful discussions took place. And so concludes another round in the battle for a park.

(Cont. P.4 Col. 5)



"WIDER!"

Some people feel that Dundas St. will be widened right out to the extension of the Gardiner Expressway. This extension was recently approved by the Metro Council and the plans show a major interchange at Dundas. In short, the extension will probably mean that a six-lane swath will be cut through Ward 7.

Akehurst Quits

By Norman Browne

Peter Akehurst, chairman of the Don Vale Community Centre Committee, severed all connection with the Community Centre and walked out of their meeting held on March 15th.

The walk-out by Mr. Akehurst came after a stormy one-hour debate on whether to allow the use of the building to an outside group called THOG. After the debate, a motion was passed accepting THOG on a two-month trial basis with specific time and space limitations set on their activities. THOG was also asked to have an on-going representative at each Community Centre meeting for purposes of accountability.

THOG (Temporary House of God) is a group of young people using a variety of art forms as a means of expression. Their primary interest is theatre and they would be using space in the Community Centre for rehearsals and for a theatre workshop. They are presently working out of

PARKING MEETING

by Velda Cyr

For those people who thought R.C.O. was failing Tuesday April 6th proved otherwise.

The Parking Committee of R.C.O. met with about one hundred and thirty-five people present to offer their solutions to the parking.

The resolutions were:

1. that the by-law be changed to permit free overnight parking-1 permit per householder.
2. that off-street parking lots be provided one per group by expropriating vacant lots, making arrangements with Board of Education for use of their lots overnight, and making arrangements with local business to use their parking lots overnight.
3. arrange alternate parking and or specify times in order that street cleaning may take place.
4. that R.C.O. enter into direct negotiations with Commissioner Ray Bremner to achieve the above results immediately.

Letters of invitation had gone to the four aldermen representing Wards seven and eight, Mr. Beavis, Mr. Clifford, Mr. Jaffary and Mr. Sewell, along with letters to the members of the Public Works

(Cont. P.4 Col. 3)

Book Thrown at Citizen Group

by Norman Browne

Last Monday, April 5th, another citizen's group got shot down in flames in a confrontation with a developer.

The confrontation occurred at a Building and Development Committee meeting at City Hall when New Style Developments appeared to ask for approval of a high-rise project at Sherbourne Dundas Streets. Opposition to the project was from the Don District Housing Action Committee.

If points were scored for such confrontations, the developer, Mr. Fred Braida would have scored 85 while the citizen opposition might have scored 10 for their effort.

Mr. Braida had over 25 people from the immediate area at the meeting to support his application. The citizen committee had one or two to oppose it.

Mr. Braida had a petition with 250 names of people supporting the project. All from the immediate area of the project. The opposition had one or two names attached to letters opposing it.

Mr. Braida was willing to write into the agreement with the city his guarantee to relocate all tenants being displaced by the project. This was one of the main points of contention between him and the opposition committee.

Mr. Braida also evinced complete willingness to negotiate with the Ontario Housing Corporation to take over all or part of the project. The lack of accommodation for poor people in the project was also one of the contentious points raised by the citizen committee.

Mr. Braida also had a local clergyman from a nearby church speak on behalf of the project. The Don District committee had no one with any credibility from the area speaking in opposition to the high-rise towers.

Needless to say, the project was approved by the Building & Development committee. It now has to go to the city executive committee, city council and then to the Ontario Municipal Board. Hopefully, the citizen opposition will be able to come up with better tactics if they wish to continue to oppose the development.

The opposition should be able to come up with better tactics. They now have a book on the subject. The book was thrown at them by Mr. Braida in their confrontation on April 5th.

News from City Hall

By John Sewell

One little glimmer of hope on West St. Jamestown is that the Committee on Public Works has requested the Commissioner of Works to take a second look at the traffic changes that would be needed to implement West St. Jamestown — namely the widening of Bleecker Street and Howard Avenue. Hopefully this can be tied in with a meeting planned to talk about whether Howard Avenue should continue to be a one-way street. That meeting is scheduled for Thursday April 15th at St. Simon's Church, and anyone interested is invited.

The City has authorized the erection of Stop signs on Sumach Street at Spruce, Carlton and Winchester, as requested by the Don Vale Association of Homeowners and Residents.

The 'Yield' sign on the Don Jail Roadway at Gerrard will be replaced by a Stop sign, in order to safeguard pedestrians.

On Monday April 5th, a Committee on Buildings and Development approved the Braida development on the east side of Sherbourne, just north of Dundas. The proposal consists of two twenty-four storey apartment towers for middle class people who can afford to pay \$150 a month rent for a one-bedroom apartment. Quite a few resident groups were at the Committee to protest the development, since they felt that it would not serve the people who now live in the community. But it was the same old story: to hell with the residents — let's see how we can help the developer.

RCO CONCERT

by Norm Craven

Sunday April 4th. The Carrol Hall, 785 Queen East, was the scene of a lively accordion musicale. The producer, Earl Haegerman, is a 7 News' distributor. The artists, some 70 strong, were under the personal direction of Tony Saboe.

Despite the miserable acoustics and some sound distortions, I realised that just maybe I was in for a rare treat. I put away my earplugs and relaxed. Before they were half way through the third number, "When the Saints Go Marching In", I was sure.

The first half of the programme consisted of lively foot-tapping airs played by the juniors. After the intermission, the seniors played in-depth music. Their repertoire was both excellent and varied.

Rarely has a disbeliever become so quickly enthralled. The audience of 200 plus were equally captivated. Although for the most part the performers were juveniles, they were not a bunch of precocious mini-adults.

The show was superbly M.C.'d by Miss Helen Faulstich. Amongst the more outstanding of the soloists, Jim Bush played with considerable verve. The only fault, and it was a major one, lay in the length of the musicale. Some of the "wet-set" became a little fidgety.

R.C.O. are fortunate they can draw on the remarkable talent displayed by these young musicians, and they are musicians. They earned the title that Sunday afternoon.

Whatever happened...?

Ward Seven Council

By D. Swift

In January 1970 the ward seven Ward Council was born. By the autumn of 1970 it was clear it had died. Today there is at least one of its former adherents who would like to see it revived, though in a different, more specific form.

Jeremy Carver is a member of the Don Vale Residents Association and was one of the ward seven citizens who saw a ward need for a controlling body of citizens after the municipal election of December 1969. Launched about the same time as the relatively successful Citizens' Forum at City Hall, the Ward Council got off to a promising start. The turnout at the first meeting at the Regent Park United Church was good. The proceedings were taped by Satu Repo and minutes were later written up from the record. Citizens volunteered to involve themselves in publicity for the meetings which were to be held every other Monday night, with alternating locations on the west and east sides of the Don River. The initial session saw interested discussion of the salary issue of City Council members, their car privileges with City automobiles, and the matter of citizens' control of their elected representatives. It was decided that the Ward Council would remain virtually

unstructured, with alternating informal chairmen — Peter Akehurst chairing meetings west of the Don, and David Clanfield east of the Don. In a typical month the Council would meet at the Regent Park United Church (west) and at the Broadview YMCA (east).

The democratically-minded alternation of locations to cover both halves of the ward proved to be a problem in keeping attendance full. Before the advent of Seven News it was up to the efforts of a small number of citizens, notably Bill Huculak of South of St. Jamestown, to produce and post notices in as many spots as they could manage. "People tended to lose track of which location's turn it was on a given Monday night," said Carver, reflecting on the reasons for the decline of the Ward Council. "One of the proposed functions of the Ward Council was to discuss items on the City Council agenda for the following Wednesday. Another was to ensure ward control of the two aldermen. Since the people of the ward were essentially in agreement with the actions of the two aldermen there was not much need for any "control". Those who attended also never had the feeling of coming to speak to a political adversary whose vote they might try to influence at the next City Council meeting. It wasn't like Citizens' Forum where you might come face to face with Rotenberg and try to make him vote your way. Another feeling was that the ward aldermen were powerless to get their constituents' views across in City

Council anyway, so why bother communicating your views to them."

Carver thinks that the Ward Council had good possibilities as a forum for the educational process, but that it cannot be effective here without a great deal of leg-work and organization. As an arm of ward citizens for exerting political pressure it would have to be able to make the transition from an airing ground for the various problems of small groups in different neighbourhoods to a gathering place for ward-wide support for such groups. Last year its most concerted effort at applying pressure was its attempt to persuade the board of directors of Central Neighbourhood House to attend a meeting to hear citizens' views on proposed expenditures for a new CNH building on Ontario Street. The attempt failed.

Carver thinks there is room for a revival of the Ward Council on an ad hoc basis to rally ward-wide support for specific issues in trouble spots around the ward. A citizens' group in the affected area could set up, publicize, and host a particular session of the Ward Council to deal with a specific problem with the backing of the ward as a whole.

Dundas Day Centre

by Barry Morris

Queen Street Mental Health Centre has known for a long time that the most serious problem for the leaving patient is what happens, now? Inner-city churches have known for some time that the old days of thriving, well populated churches are over. The old-timers have either left for the suburbs or have died off, and under-used buildings are question marks. The 4-month old operation of the Dundas Day Centre, operating out of the All Saints Anglican Church at the Sherbourne & Dundas intersection, has fulfilled both of these needs. Queen Street patients, some still under treatment at the Hospital and some recently released, now have a place to use as a much needed support base. And All Saints Church has a new sense of mission, or collective purpose. The Dundas Day Centre is a daily process: it is professionals, ex-patients, present patients, volunteers, community workers and local people trying to pull together: trying to wrestle meaning out of lonely and otherwise ripped-off and ripped-out lives. Of the some 15 resource people of the DDC staff, three are full time: Bob Scheeh, Elsie Morosnick and Don White. Don, like his able team-mate George Sneyd, works out of the Centre and keeps his contacts fresh by spending about 40% of his time in the Don District community. He often works on his own time doing the same thing in other parts of the area. He also acts as a resource to the community support group that operates out of the 297 Carlton Resource Centre every Monday evening, or the new one at the Parliament Street Library House every Wednesday evening. Thus, the Day Centre is a bridge: through its workers, mental health resources are brought to the community, and the community is being called to places like the Day Centre. Here is where volunteers come in — but there is

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News In Brief

SEVEN NEWS may be publishing a little irregularly during the next few months because we are having editor - problems. But we particularly want to thank those of you who have sent in your dollars to help Seven News. It's a good feeling to know the paper is being read and appreciated by so many and your contributions have enabled us to end up the fiscal year in the black. Thanks. And thanks, too, to the distributors who remain faithful despite winter weather and occasional schedule lapses.

Bus Trip to Niagara Falls, New York, on May 22, 7 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. The Bus price is \$4.00. For information call Victor Patterson, 368-3296.

Eastminster United Church Women, 310 Danforth Avenue, are holding a Tea and Sale, on Saturday, April 24th, 1.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. White Elephants, Handcrafts, Home Baking. Eastminster Junior Choir will sing. Admission 50c, including refreshments. Bloor East Subway to Chester Station. Public Parking.

The Community School Workshop of Toronto was founded on February 28, 1971, to promote the development of community schools in Toronto. For further information please contact Joan Doiron, 220 Brunswick Avenue, Toronto: 929-0427.

Mr. Fred Sheridan of the Regent Park Community Boosters Club informs us that their Chairman, Mr. Joe McDonald, is returning home to the East because of sickness in the family. We share Mr. Sheridan's regret at losing Mr. McDonald's outstanding ability in community affairs.

The Broadview Community Health Clinic, sponsored by St. Michael's Hospital, opened on March 29, 1971. Located at 367 Broadview Ave., the Clinic aims to provide treatment, counselling, and health education for residents of the area. For appointments and general information, call 360-6590.

A Senior Citizens' Meeting is being held every Wednesday afternoon from 1:30 to 3:30 at Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach Street. A variety of programs are featured and everyone is welcome.

The First Bingo in the new Don Vale Community Centre will be held on April 16th starting at 8:00 p.m. The place is 80 Winchester Street. Admission is 35c for 20 games with a door prize and merchandise prizes for the games.

Don Vale Food Co-op received its newest member via the classic co-operative event, as of Thursday, April 1, at 6 a.m. via Rick Astley & Karen Ryan. Name: Stoni Ché... allegedly conceived on Geneva Street, while the parents were delivering Seven News.

The Don District Health Resources Committee is planning a health clinic in Regent Park. It is proposed that the clinic operate as a family practice unit with paediatrician, internal medicine and obstetrician on staff. The Committee also hopes there will be supporting dental and mental health care and that the clinic will be a comfortable, friendly place. Attempts are being made to obtain funding for the clinic from the Federal Government.

Full Length Feature Films are being shown every Wednesday night starting at 8:00 p.m. at the Don Vale Community Centre, 80 Winchester Street. Admission is only 25c per person.

A Guitar Instruction workshop is being held every Tuesday night from 7:30 to 9:30 at the Parliament Street Library House at Gerrard & Parliament. The workshop is free and open to teen-agers between 13 and 18.

A Youth Drama Workshop for teens is being held every Thursday evening at the Parliament Library House, Parliament & Gerrard. Starting time is 7:30 p.m.

ALL POOR PEOPLE'S GROUPS in Ward Seven are asked to send three delegates to a meeting being held on Thursday April 29th at 8 p.m. at 30 Charles St. W. The purpose of the meeting is to form a poor people's council for Metro Toronto.

NOTICE OF IMPORTANT MEETING A group called THOG, based at the Bathurst United Church has applied for space at the Don Vale Community Centre. There has been a lot of dispute over this, and the matter will be decided at a public meeting on April 22nd at 8:00 p.m. at the Don Vale Community Centre, 80 Winchester Street. All Don Vale Residents are welcome.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28th at 8:00 p.m. A flower demonstration for homes and apartments by Mrs. E. Sargent will be held in St. John's Presbyterian Church at Broadview and Simpson. There will be lucky draws and refreshments. Admission is \$1.00.

OPERATION FAMILY RIGHTS is having its annual Spring Fling on Saturday April 17th at 8:30 p.m. at the Woodgreen Community Centre, 835 Queen St. East. All types of music will be featured plus refreshments. Tickets are \$1.50 at the door.

A HEALTH CLINIC has been opened by St. Michael's Hospital at 367 Broadview. The Clinic provides general health treatment, care and counselling. For information and appointments, phone 360-6590.

TWO TEEN-AGE PAPERS are being started up in the Ward. CONTACT, sponsored by Dixon Hall and edited by Michael Comerford has already had its first issue. The articles range from poetry, to the Drug Scene to the Generation Gap. Copies of the paper and more information can be obtained by phoning 364-6576.

HOLD YOUR NOSE is being sponsored by the Parliament Street Library and claims to be a magazine for the youth of Ward Seven. It is seeking stories, cartoons, disc reviews, sports items and poems from teens 13 to 18. Meetings are every Tuesday at 4 pm at the Library House or phone Valerie or Ted at 921-8674.

ON FRIDAY, APRIL 30 6-9 p.m., the Mothers' Executive of Regent Park Nursery School is holding a Rummage and Bake Sale at 203 Sackville Green. Everyone is welcome. Proceeds will go to buy more equipment for the School.

Want to earn some extra money? The Government of Canada is going to take a census this Spring, and it needs people to help out. Rumour is that the pay is good, and that the work only spreads over a few weeks. Need more information? Here are a few numbers to call:

Peter Merrill 925 6702
 Don Weir 920 6689
 Mrs. Nora Clark 962 4767
 Mrs. Brigitte Connor 861 1242

Citizens Labelled Agitators

By Loretta Newell

Its taken a long time and maybe its too late but people are beginning to wake up and realize how vital it is for them to be involved in their community.

Electing someone who represents your views isn't enough anymore because once City Hall devours your elected official they're lost forever.

A sign of opening eyes was last April 1st when a public meeting was held at City Hall to discuss developments going on across the city. What a beautiful sight to behold when 400 concerned citizens showed up on a miserable rainy night.

Although other developments were discussed, everyone's attention focussed on the largest and most critical, that of St. Jamestown which is a prime example of poor planning.

Mr. Walter Manthorpe, the representative from Meridian, stated that the people in St. Jamestown were happy and arrogantly added that they had successfully integrated the "rich with the poor".

At least 40% of the people were from St. Jamestown and Mr. Manthorpe lost his credibility when those happy people shouted him down.

Colin Vaughan, president of CORRA (Confederation of Residents and Ratepayers Association) informed the people of statistics which proved how much money and land was being wasted. These figures showed that the housing need could be filled without "high-rise" and still have money left over. Mr. Vaughan also warned the people that now that they were involved they would be labeled as agitators or other common names which are attached to active and concerned citizens.

Well, if a few names are going to stop us, we are beaten before we start, because much worse obstacles are going to be thrown in our path in the process of getting the decision-making power back into the hands of the people where it rightfully belongs.

At the next public meeting, concrete action is going to be discussed. So please come and be labelled agitator.

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Norm Craven.

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Ward 7

Sports

Round-up

By Joe Ganny

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Moss Park House League Hockey Finals: NHL: In a 2 out of 3 series, the Rangers won both games with a 4 to 1 victory and a 3 to 2 win over the Hawks. The Rangers' goals were scored by A. Horbath, J. Black, G. White; and for the Hawks by P. Cook.

AHL: The Bears outscored the Barons in the first game 5 to 1 but the second game was much closer, as it ended up 4 to 3. Goal scorers are as follows: For the Bears, D. Gates, P. Cunningham, V. Corkum, J. Woodcock; and for the Barons, T. Black, G. Sakasian, D. McDonald. The Executive wish to thank the following sponsors: House of Usher, Canada House, Broadview House, and Local 43. The Most Valuable Player awards went to Sean Stevenson and Danny Duranovich.

Regent Park North House League: Storys 3, Duggan 2. For the winners Jim Chaissan potted one goal as did Mike Patton and Greg McNally. For the losers Kevin Hill scored 2 goals.

Andru 3 Story 2. This was by far the most exciting final hockey game of the season, as with 58 seconds to play in the last period Doug Daily potted the winner. Congratulations to John Andru who received the Dave Speyers Memorial Trophy, to Ricky Thomas for his fine work in organizing this league, and to Mr. Sid Doyle, Rec. Director in Regent Park North!

Friday Night Bowlers: ended up their regular season on a successful note with the Roadrunners ending up in first

place, just barely holding off a very determined bid by the Mod Squad. Mary Murdock, the Oak St. Phantom won the Ladies' High Average with a 186, over Steady Sue Binstead, who finished with a 184. Serg Tucci, The Little Old Winemaker, won the Men's High average with a 223. Congratulations to the rest of the individual winners: Delores McGuire 298, Carol Benn 335, high singles with handycap; Jack Watson 335; and Ron Horniblow, 798, high triple with handycap! Gord Gooderham, 778, High triple; and Ron Horniblow, 798, high triple with handycap! The Roadrunners, The Mod Squad, and the Alley Cats meet in the A Series. The other seven teams meet in the B Series. Special mention to Kathy Locicero and Frank Ruffalo who were in every category but just missed by a few points each. Good Luck to all teams in the Total Points Playoffs!

Baseball News: Yes, the first day of Spring has arrived and the talk around Ward Seven is: When do we go into training? Last year the scores, names of teams, and the outstanding players were put in this paper. Now Seven News is asking for your help to keep the news coming your way with a slogan in the last issue: One Dollar Would Make A Good Paper Better. So come on you Good Old Cabbage Towners, send a one dollar bill to Seven News, 265 Gerrard St. East. See you at the next roundup!

Joe Ganny

New 7 News
Number

Seven News wishes to apologize to anyone who tried to phone them over the Easter week end and was unable to get through.

Seven News has been on answering service since late spring of last year when it was found impossible to man our office and phone with volunteers for any set periods of time. At that time, and up to now, Seven News retained a phone at its office in the Parliament Street Library House. The phone was seldom, if ever used, however, as all incoming calls were picked up by the Answering Service.

Early in April, it was suggested that since the phone was not being used, a considerable saving could be realized by tying the phone line directly into the Answering Service, and cutting off all outside connections to the line completely. However, to do this, the number would have to be changed. We agreed with the understanding that all connections would be made and there would be no loss of service.

Unfortunately, Bell failed to make the proper connections and from Thursday, April 8th until Tuesday April 13th, people phoning either the old or new number were being given a "line disconnected" announcement. The trouble has now been straightened out and we ask that everyone please make a note of our new number: 368-5101.

PARKING MEETING

(Cont. from P.1 Col. 5)

Works Committee for Tuesday April 13th. Those wishing to go were asked to leave their names. From the response the delegation would seem to be of fair number.

All this observer can say is that R.C.O. appears to be still going strong despite their financial position.

Why not Dude Ranch?

Riverdale Zoo Site

by Tony Barclay

It is clear that in the next few years all of us in Ward Seven are going to become involved in the planning of the development of the lower Don Valley. This area, which starts at the railway tracks below Thorncliffe, where the Don Valley Parkway intersects with the Don Mills Road, and continues on down past the brick works to the turning basis in the old harbour area, is unique and potentially of immense recreational value. It contains some well-developed park land, some rough undeveloped land and some unsightly dumps. It also contains East York's Centennial Project, the charming and historically interesting Todmorden Mills. The river itself is dirty and highly polluted and the city has just finished constructing a storm sewer outlet to pour a mixture of sewage and storm water into the lower reaches of the Don River when we have a rain storm. Finally we have the zoo, shortly to be moved, and therefore the problem of what we should do with this site.

In the early part of the century the city fathers were quite sure what would happen to the site. The lower part of the river was dredged and made ready for pleasure boating, and one could at this time hire boats to row on its waters, I believe. Earlier it had been the scene of a turkey shoot in the rough pasturage that was chronicled by Governor Simcoe's wife, later it was the haunt of the great Canadian children's writer, Ernest Thompson Seton, who made it the locale of some of his books, and then later again, in a primitive wooden hut situated below the present expensive housing in Rosedale, Tom

Thompson spent his winters painting.

The city has suggested that part of the area be used for a camp and trailer site, and the Humane Society has put in a bid for the zoo site as their new headquarters. This last alternate suggestion includes the idea of preserving at least part of the present site for a children's zoo. Both these plans are apparently in a sufficiently tentative stage that they have not yet been presented to the citizens for detailed study.

I feel that the whole area needs a comprehensive study. Surely a river that was the accepted place for East End kids to go skinny dipping only a few years ago and is still quiet enough to form an accepted meeting place for lovers (perhaps not the most sensitive lovers!) is not past redemption. What is needed to make it an acceptable canoeing place? Could it become a cycle track in the summer (it was there that I taught my kids to ride) and a snowmobile course in winter? How much would it cost to make it once more a place to hire horses? Might it be developed as a Dude Ranch? Finally, there is the railway, surely a great asset to some imaginative person with a love of old trains. Why could the old zoo not become the terminal of a train which would run one up to the new Zoo? Is there not some ancient engine that needs to be saved from the wreckers that could puff us up and so deliver us to the new animal world with a heightened expectation of adventure in much the same way as the ferry now delivers us to the island?

I think the subject is well worth a meeting at the Town Hall. Does anyone agree?

DUNDAS CENTRE

(Cont. from P.2 Col.3)

a critical need for five or more volunteers. The volunteers are needed between 9 to 5 p.m. or any part of it, to be around to talk, to relate the strengths and issues and resources of the Don District area to people. With only 2 volunteers now, the Centre can handle about 25 people; with 5 more volunteers, they could look after 50 users of the Day Centre.

AKEHURST

(Cont. from P.1 Col. 2)

Bathurst St. United Church but lack of space has forced them to expand into other quarters.

At the beginning of the discussion, Mr. Akehurst relinquished his position as chairman so that he could take part in the debate. When he spoke, Mr. Akehurst stated that he had witnessed an interview and production of THOG on television and it was his opinion that the group was nothing but a "bunch of ding-a-lings".

When asked to clarify and elaborate on this statement by a couple of THOG representatives who were at the meeting, Mr. Akehurst stated only that he felt that allowing THOG into the Community Centre would alienate the older section of long-time residents in the community.

Following Mr. Akehurst's walk-out, the meeting felt that nothing would be gained by reversing its decision and that only time would tell if Mr. Akehurst was right or wrong.

At a board of directors meeting, called the following Monday, it was decided to send Mr. Akehurst a letter thanking him for his work on behalf of the community centre and expressing the hope that he would rejoin the community centre as an active participant at a later date.

A CANVASSER'S CONFESSION

by Matthew Gventer

It is almost impossible to go to five houses at random in our area and not come across a family faced with a serious problem. Some of the problems I have come across while drumming up support for the NDP are disturbing.

Housing seems to be one of the most desperate problems facing us. A wife and her children are deserted by her husband. All the odds are stacked against her. She can't have any assets over something like \$150.00 and get welfare. Mother's allowance doesn't start for 2 months after she starts getting welfare. O.H.C. says it will take 8 weeks to process her application, and they don't supply emergency shelter. If she decides to work, she has no one to look after the kids. One woman said she had been on the O.H.C. waiting list five years, and she has never been sure the house she lives in won't be sold out from under her. One woman lives in a third floor flat. She has to climb up the steepest stairs I have ever seen and has suffered a heart attack recently. She said she was refused housing by O.H.C. More than one person I have spoken to in O.H.C. housing live an hour and half's ride or more from work and have not been able to get a transfer to housing closer to their jobs.

A related problem often raised is recreation. People on Booth

Avenue are very happy about the park planned for the Dunlop site. Their children are hard pressed for an outdoor play area. However, I fear the park will make the surrounding area more attractive as a high-rise development area. The people in Don Mount continue to express a need for recreation space. The central malls serve that function, but many people claim that this space is dangerous and confining as well as the noise being disturbing. While going around Don Mount with a petition in support of the Regent Park Recreation Centre, almost everyone I spoke to signed it. However, there was some anger that Regent Park would get one and not Don Mount. The residents feared 1) that their kids wouldn't be permitted to use it and 2) that if their kids went to Regent Park they would get beaten up. Some people complained that kids from Regent Park came to Don Mount dances and brought in drugs and started fights. The dances were stopped for this reason. These claims were very disturbing for I remember that dances ran by the RPCIA a year and a half ago were very successful until the organization was forced by authorities to stop them. I wonder if any relationship exists between

alleged trouble at Don Mount dances and frustration of Regent Park kids over the cancelling of their dances. One fellow I met was very upset about the Broadview Y. He told me that the older people have taken it over and there is no place for the teenagers. He said there used to be a championship floor hockey team there, but it has disappeared because no one cares about the teenagers any more.

One elderly couple I met had a very odd problem. The old man was hard of hearing, and his wife said the doctor told them that a hearing aid wouldn't do any good, but an old-fashioned ear horn might help. If this is true, I don't know why the doctors didn't supply him with one. They fixed him up with two heart pacers, but left him hardly able to hear. I've asked around but haven't dug one up yet.

These are only a few of the many problems people have brought to my attention. I am working in my way to do something about them. I believe the party of my choice will introduce or force the introduction of policies that will make for more responsive social relationships. Meanwhile I do what I can to direct people to other people or organizations that might help them deal with these problems.