



A lucky few find daycare

Parents in Regent Park who are working or at school during the day are having difficulty finding good day-care arrangements for their children.

There are many Regent Park parents who want to work, take a retraining course or go back to school but have small children who cannot be left alone. The options available to these parents are few. If they do not have a friend or relative to babysit for their children they must hire a babysitter. However, if a parent is going to school or working full-time hiring a babysitter can be quite expensive and many cannot afford this.

Another option for parents is home day-care. A parent can place his or her child in a private home with a person who looks after no more than five children. However, it is very difficult for a parent to find such an arrangement.

A third option available to parents is to enroll their children in a

day-care centre. Day-care centres provide a full-day (generally from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm) program to children of working parents or parents who attend school. Most day-care centres serve children from the ages of 2 to 9. A variety of indoor and outdoor activities and programs, in addition to a hot lunch meal and snacks, are provided for the children. Day-care centres hire qualified teachers who have knowledge of and experience with young children. The Day Nursery Branch, Ministry of Community and Social Services of the Ontario government sets strict standards for day-care that are enforced. Those who cannot afford to pay the full fee for day-care (which ranges from \$30.00 to \$75.00) can be subsidized by Metro.

Day-care centres would then seem to be the ideal solution for many parents whose children need care during the day.

However, there are problems finding day-care in Regent Park.

The major day-care centres serving Regent Park residents — Blevins Place and Duke of York — have long waiting lists.

What are parents to do in this situation? What they can do is place their name on the day-care centre waiting list and hope that in a few months there will be an opening for their child. Meanwhile, because they have no one to look after their children they will lose their job or their chance of taking courses. Or they can enroll their child in a day-care centre outside of Regent Park that has an opening. However, few day-care centres outside the Park have openings and the centre that does have an opening may be 5 or 10 miles from Regent Park! Parents must then transport their children there and back every day. This can be very difficult if the parent does not have a car or must be in work early in the morning. Even if a parent finds a day-care centre for his or her child it takes a long time for the parent to obtain a subsidy

for day-care. Presently, one may have to wait two months for an appointment. Meanwhile, the parent has to pay the full fee, even if he or she cannot afford it.


It is obvious that day-care is a problem in Regent Park. Many organizations serving Regent Park realize this and so do Metro Social Services. However, no new daycare centres are planned or are opening in this area. A group of Regent Park residents and the Regent Park Communications Committee (whose membership is composed both of

agencies serving Regent Park and of Regent Park residents) are concerned about this issue and want to do something about it. They want to talk to parents who need day-care for their children and are having difficulty finding it or anyone who is concerned about this problem.

If you live in Regent Park and need day-care for your children or are concerned about this problem or just want more information please phone Shelley at Regent Park Church — 363-4234.



No room for many children



NEWS

TORONTO'S OLDEST COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
315 Dundas St. East (All Saints Church)
Toronto M5A 2A2 Phone: 363-9650

VOLUME 9, NUMBER 17 — JANUARY 13, 1979

You can bet on it

Oil won't last forever

By HOWARD HUGGETT

Every so often we in this country get a message from one or more of the oil-producing nations to remind us that the long-term energy situation is very grim. This happened in 1973 when the OPEC countries sent the price of oil up by a huge amount and slapped an embargo on the export of it for long enough to cause shortages in many areas. Some lessons were learned at that time, and the first serious conservation measures were begun. A lot of people are now driving smaller cars, thermostats get lower settings, and the sales of insulating materials are very encouraging.

However, we are still wasting energy on a huge scale, and just recently one of the OPEC nations was kind enough to give us another warning. Oil production in Iran, the second largest producer in the Middle East, shrank to a dribble for weeks on end, and is just beginning

to show signs of recovery. Iran exports more than five million barrels a day out of its normal production of six million a day, and a prolonged strike in that country would soon turn the current situation of ample supply into one of serious shortages. If that lasted very long we might find ourselves competing with other nations for vital supplies of that precious commodity. Canadians should remember that we are now importing around a third of our oil requirements from abroad.

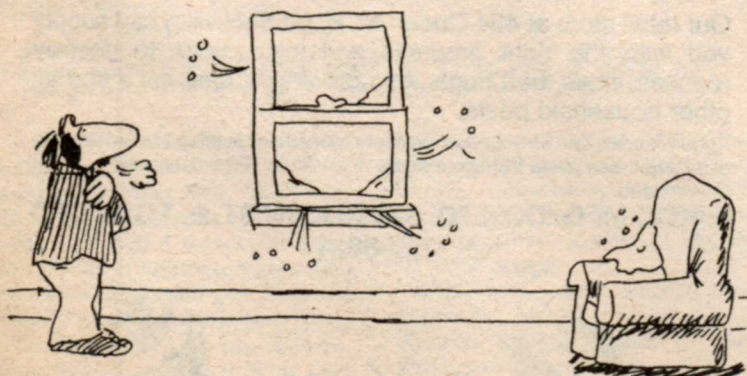
There is some doubt that the Iranian refineries will ever recover completely as a result of the current strike, and of course there is no guarantee that the political turmoil in that country will now end. Furthermore, it is possible that similar upheavals may occur in other OPEC countries. The Middle East is presently undergoing profound and rapid changes in its economy, changes that place great stress on its ancient forms of government that

are quite unsuitable for a modern society.

Someday, sooner or later, there will be more political upheavals in the Middle East, and we cannot be sure that the huge reserves of oil and gas in that area will always be available to maintain our present wasteful way of life. Richard Needham, the popular columnist of the *Globe & Mail*, once said that the Arab nations would go on overcharging us for their oil until we stopped wasting it.

As a matter of fact, OPEC leaders themselves have on occasion given the Western nations some very good advice on that subject. From time to time they have pointed out that the fuel will be all gone some day and that we should use less of it now. Now I find that kind of honesty very refreshing; can anyone recall another instance of a seller advising buyers to purchase less of his product? The sellers in this country go to great expense and trouble to persuade consumers to buy, buy, buy. If it is something that you don't need and can't afford, that is the least of their worries.

Perhaps a cynic would say that the OPEC leaders know very well that we will not take their good advice. One thing is certain, we will surely use much less oil and gas when supplies become scarce and the prices really go up. Doesn't it make sense to arrive at the decisions ourselves, rather than waiting for future events and people far away to do it for us? Think it over.



Some feel oil will last until hell freezes over. Better stock up with warm clothing.

Education Minister Says No new Frankland

Ontario Education Minister Bette Stephenson is refusing to make funds available for the construction of a new Frankland School.

Money for the new school, which has already been approved and designed, has been allocated from all other levels of Government involved. But provincial government financing has always been a major component of new school funds, and the refusal of the Progressive Conservative Education Minister to release the funds may make construction impossible. Provincial funding would be about \$480,000; more than half the \$879,498 projected expense for the new school.

In addition to being a school, the new building was also designed to incorporate a community centre for the area between Jones and Broadview on both sides of the Danforth, an area which presently has no community centre at all. The City of Toronto Department of Parks and Recreation has approved the necessary funds for the community

centre part of the project, but it will not proceed if the new school is not built because the shared use of Board of Education-owned land is a vital and cost-saving part of the proposal.

Stephenson bases her refusal to make funds available on declining enrolment statistics. She says that Frankland's students could be accommodated in surrounding schools if the school has to be torn down because it is unsafe. Local residents, however, who have been fighting for a new school for 10 years, say that Stephenson's statistics have nothing to do with reality. Neighbouring schools could presently accommodate only 100 of Frankland's 530 pupils. And parents don't want their children to have to travel long distances to a school which might have room for them. Finally, residents see a local school as being the necessary focus of their community. Their reaction to Stephenson's decision will be covered in the next issue.



Minister of
Education

Worarl Block
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1L2
416 965-3277

December 28, 1978.

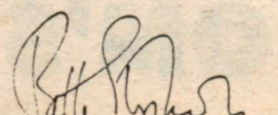
Mrs. F. Nelson,
Chairman,
The Board of Education for the
City of Toronto,
155 College Street,
Toronto, Ontario.
M5T 1P6

Dear Mrs. Nelson:

Re: Frankland Public School

I have your recent letter in which your Board requests that I personally attend a community meeting at Frankland Public School. As Minister of Education it is necessary to make decisions regarding provincial funding of the capital costs of new schools. As I indicated to you in my letter of December 13, I cannot justify a replacement project at Frankland in the light of the enrolment projections in this area. You are advised, therefore, that the Ministry of Education is unable to provide capital support for the construction of a new Frankland school.

Yours truly,


Bette Stephenson, M.D.
Minister.

GAYS BEATEN UP! Where's the outcry?

By MARIO CUTAJAR

Last week four gay men were coming out of a bar in the Yonge-College area. It was late and the TTC had stopped running.

"Are you queers looking for a cab?" shouted a young woman.

"The word is gay," one of the men replied, "and yes we are looking for a cab."

The reply sent the woman into a rage and attracted the attention of two men who were hanging around the area. Without warning one of them punched a gay in the face. Hearing the commotion, the victim's friend went over to investigate. At the time he was not even aware there was danger.

"Are you a friend of his?" one of the punks asked.

Not suspecting anything he replied that he was.

"The next thing I knew I was flat on the ground." He stayed there unconscious until the police arrived.

The incident is not isolated. The man who was beaten to the ground himself knows other gays who have suffered worse.

The harsh glare of the media's spotlight is presently focussed on gays in Toronto, but somehow this kind of ugly and increasingly frequent incident doesn't rate even a passing mention. Not surprisingly: one could hardly expect the fomenters of the present anti-gay hysteria to react responsibly to the excesses it is causing.

A nasty little paradox this: while Toronto hosts the trial of three gays charged with distributing "indecent, immoral and scurrilous" material — an article in *The Body Politic* — a virtual hate campaign which is resulting in very real physical abuse against gays is continuing with impunity.

Interestingly, the raid on *The Body Politic* took place over a month after the article in question has been published. The raid took place only after Claire Hoy had discovered the article and denounced it in the Sun. Another example of how effective hate literature can be?

It is worth noting in passing that *The Body Politic* is published by Pink Triangle Press. The Pink Triangle comes from Hitler's concentration camps. It was the mark which identified prisoners as gay which in Nazi Germany was as much of a crime as being a Jew or a Communist or a trade unionist.

The police went out of their way to do their job well in the *Body Politic* raid. It wasn't enough to arrest the officers of Pink Triangle Press. No, twelve shipping boxes filled with everything from subscription lists to distribution and ad records were carted away as evidence. This for a charge that according to Clayton Ruby, lawyer of *The Body Politic*, only required for evidence a copy of the magazine and proof that it had been distributed (a check in a couple of bookstores would have established this.)

The significance of the *Body Politic* raid has to do not just with the fact that it happened in the first place but even more so with the way it was done. One of those arrested, Ed Jackson, put it very succinctly: "It was an obvious attempt to terrorize the readers of a newspaper by seizing its subscription list." Readers and advertisers are now aware that the police may have their name on file. The issue, consequently, is not limited to the gays who were arrested but touches the principle of freedom of the press.

Which raises the question: who is a threat to whom?

The current campaign against gays is based on the claim that they are potential child molesters. The Anita Bryant campaign calls itself Save Our Children and Claire Hoy has made this the main theme of most of his attacks. Children, goes the argument, are in danger of being converted into homosexuals or, worse, of being made the object of sexual attacks by the readers of *The Body Politic*.

The two charges are patently false. Homosexuality is not something one is "converted" to. And even if it was, why would attempts to convert someone to it be more illegal than trying to convert someone to, say, evangelism?

As for child molestation, it has yet to be shown that gays have any special taste for children. The hard fact is that most sexual attacks against children are made by heterosexuals. The likelihood of a girl being raped by her father is in fact statistically higher than the probability of a boy being molested by a homosexual. Not to mention that a large number of gays are lesbians.

Gerald Hannon, the author of the article "Men Loving Boys Loving Men" for which the *Body Politic* was raided raises another important point when he says that the really abused children are the ones whose homosexuality is repressed by parental and social convention. Not to say anything of sexual repression pure and simple, homosexual or heterosexual.

Which brings up the point of what say children themselves have in all this. Hearing Anita Bryant or Claire Hoy talk you get the impression that children are simply the property of their parents, with no rights of their own. But as anybody who has ever been a child will testify — Anita and Claire excluded — being young doesn't mean being free of sexual impulse. For some reason, however, when you're a kid you're expected to "burn it away" building model airplanes. Someone has yet to explain why this form of abuse is tolerated.

Abuse. The word is a sham in our society. Most of us are abused every day of our lives: at work, at home, in our leisure, working our lives away so we can live to work more, enduring insult and humiliation to keep our measly job . . . Do you ever read about that in the Sun?

The anti-gay campaign taking place at the moment threatens more than just gays. The same elements and the same authorities that attack gays are the ones who do their best to keep the rest of us "in line" — the ones who want strikes banned, the ones who welcomed the imposition of wage controls, in short, the ones who cannot do anybody any good.

Don't wink

You could face a prostitution charge

By JOAN BRYDEN

Bill C-51, a federal government proposal for strengthening present laws on pornography, has many up in arms about increased censorship. There is, however, a small section of the bill that has gone largely unnoticed: Clause 24, section 195.1 which redefines 'soliciting' and the term 'public place'. Women at the Elizabeth Fry Society (E.F.S.) have noticed it and they are vigorously opposing the proposed legislation because of it.

According to Wendy Hughes at E.F.S., this small and apparently insignificant section of Bill C-51 will have enormous repercussions if it is passed. Priscilla Platt, a criminal lawyer who runs a weekly legal aid clinic at E.F.S., explains that recently the Supreme Courts of Canada and Ontario have been moving toward a more liberal view of prostitution, finding women guilty of solicitation only if they have been 'pressingly persistent' toward prospective customers. In short, the courts have been viewing soliciting as a nuisance offence rather than as a moral or criminal offence and have found prostitutes guilty only when soliciting involved harassment as well.

The new legislation, instead of continuing this liberal trend, would reverse it, making solicitation once more a moral crime. The term 'soliciting' is left vague and undefined so that a mere wink or the way a woman is dressed would be enough to convict her. In addition, the term 'public place' is left equally vague so that a car may be classed as a public place. Platt feels this puts prostitutes back into the situation where 'their status is the offence',

not any criminal activity they may have engaged in.

The new legislation is, according to Hughes, 'a hasty response' to the slaying of the 12 year old shoe shine boy, Emmanuel Jacques, and the resultant public outcry to clean up the Yonge Street strip. It is largely due to pressure from Toronto that the federal government introduced the bill. The bill, originally entitled Bill C-21, died with the end of the last Parliamentary session. Though the number was changed when it was reintroduced in the current session, the substance of the bill remained unchanged despite criticism.

Wendy Hughes opposes the legislation because she sees prostitution as a 'victimless crime'. If anyone is hurt it is the girl herself. She also opposes it, however, because she sees the proposed legislation as 'discriminatory'. Prostitution is carried on at almost all levels of society, from the sophisticated call girl to the woman who sleeps her way to the top in business. Yet, legislation such as Bill C-51 affects only the street level prostitutes. Marc Lalonde was recently quoted on the legislation of marijuana that people can not respect the law if it is applied inconsistently. Hughes does not see how the government can justify this and propose Bill C-51 at the same time.

If prostitution is viewed as a 'moral crime', Hughes wonders why it is that 'the man, the partner in this moral crime, cannot be prosecuted'. And what about the men who hassle women walking down the street? They are certainly soliciting sex, perhaps not for money, but they are probably more



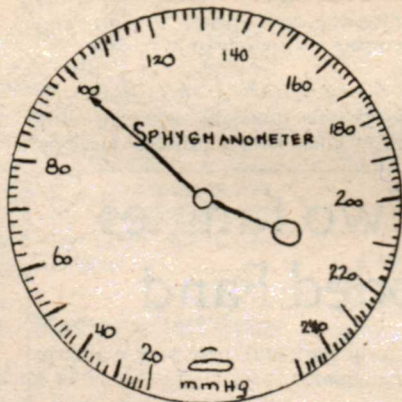
Accused prostitutes prefer fine to court fight

annoying to most women than prostitutes are to men.

For Platt, the biggest problem in trying to change the laws on prostitution is the prostitutes themselves. They overwhelmingly plead guilty to charges solicitation, preferring to pay a fine to going to court over and over again as would be required if they were to plead not guilty. To fight Bill C-51, Platt is trying to get women to plead not guilty and to appeal any convictions. A phone service is also planned for the near future so that women can call in for advice when they are arrested. In the meantime, legal aids funds Platt's clinic at E.F.S. (Thurs. 7 to 8:30, 215 Well-lesley St. E.), a clinic that will offer advice on criminal law, not moralize.

High blood pressure in Riverdale

The blood pressure clinic offered by South Riverdale Community Health Centre on December 12, 1978 at Gerrard Square made a successful impact on the Christmas shoppers present from 4-8 pm. Ninety-eight people from the ages of 12-79 had their blood pressure measured free of charge. Twenty one were registered as having hypertension. The point used to evaluate a person with high blood pressure was 140/90. The first number represents the systolic pressure — the force the heart pumps the blood through the arteries. The second is



dystolic; the pressure during the resting beat of the heart.

Nutrition counselling was an added bonus at this clinic. Twenty-three people had their concerns answered on diverse topics of diabetic, sodium restricted, infant and weight reduction diets. Lynne Kenton responded to budgeting questions as well.

Over 360 pamphlets on nutrition, blood pressure and heart disease were picked up by passing shoppers. One of the aims of the blood pressure clinics is to increase health awareness in the Riverdale area — a task which seems to have started well with this effort.

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"... DO THEIR QUIET BEST TO MAKE YOU FEEL AT HOME IN THE SEVERAL SMALL ROOMS" — *Toronto Calendar Magazine*

"... A REMINDER OF THOSE FAMILY-RUN INNS OF RURAL FRANCE" — *Toronto Life*

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ENTERTAINMENT

West Indian sound grips North America

By JOY EVANS-RIDEOUT

Within the last decade reggae music has brought world wide attention to the small island of Jamaica in the West Indies. The music which hadn't caught on because it was "monotonous" and had "no beginning or end" has swept through the arenas of refined music.

Both Jamaica's citizens and its government are becoming aware of the enormous financial potential of reggae for attracting tourism and drawing record-sales dollars. This has been shown by the world's largest ever reggae festival (a week long musical event) held at Montego Bay in the fall of 1978.

Bob Marley, the most popular international reggae star, and his Wailers have established reggae as the musical force to be reckoned with in the entertainment world. As

unchallenged King of Reggae, he is much more than a recording artist. Bob Marley is a vibrant, magnetic stage personality whose main attraction is raw ghetto soul mixed with uptown musical instruments.

It was in the urban ghettos and shanty towns of neo-colonialism, jammed with uprooted peasants and farm workers, that reggae music got its start and found its base. Coming from an oppressed environment, The Wailers have been among the more consistent exponents of this type of music, which emits the cry of those who live in ghettos the world over. Using instruments as they were never before used in Jamaica, The Wailers revolutionized reggae and attracted foreign attention soon after the reggae era began in the late 1960's.

It used to be that you couldn't hear reggae music anywhere except in the dusty yards of West Kingston where the Rastafarians mixed it out of Afro-Jamaican folk music and rhythm and blues. Although reggae is not purely a Rastafarian creation, they have made it "their music". Many of the genre's top stars are members of the cult and some use it as a vehicle for preaching the Rastafarian message of love, peace and anti-oppression. Reggae superstar and ex-Wailer Peter Tosh is highly articulate on the subject. To him, music is no more an entertainment; it is "a weapon without compromise".

Today, reggae music is the forefront of a "cultural revolution"

Music

which is transforming Jamaican society. Throughout the island 45rpm records are a primary form of political communication. Music (perhaps the greatest unifier of Jamaican people) is everywhere. Updated reggae is King and every song has a message. For, this natural music of the people, has roots drilled deep into the hearts of Jamaica. It is the only musical art form to have grown up in Jamaica in the past decade, and it embodies the historical experience of the people, reflecting and revealing the contemporary situation of the nation. An oppressed people, culturally and economically throttled, Jamaicans have turned to themselves for an alternative to what has been forced down their throats. They have combined American rhythm and blues with the distinctive rhythm of the Caribbean, the age-old pulsing of their African homeland, and the experiences of everyday life to produce "Rebel Music".

In this sense, reggae has been a music of consolidation. One

pamphlet reads: "If one could write down a recipe for reggae, it may read as follows: One part rock steady, one part mento, a hint of ska tempo. Mix well in the heat of West Kingston, bring to the boil with an increasing social conscience and you have reggae."

We know then that reggae isn't purely entertainment and a contagious form of music. As suggested by Cathy McKnight and John Tobler, it is "also a means of reciting parables to the people, warning them, encouraging them and generally keeping their spirits up. Reggae doesn't just turn its hearers on, make them feel better — it is also something to fall back on in troubled times, a reference when you want to know the answer to a problem, a reliable friend when humans let you down. Not just a music, more a philosophy, with the advice handed out to a danceable beat."

Now that reggae has become a commercial proposition (since Bob Marley and other singers rocked the "eccentric little upbeat" to suit American and Americanized tastes), what is its future? There seem to be varying opinions. Some proclaim it as the Sound of the Seventies. Others feel that this is exaggerated optimism at its best, and at its worst a potentially dangerous self-confidence. And that, without careful attention by artists and producers etc., it may easily disappear from the world scene.

Can reggae music, with its rebel content, withstand the pressures of North American society? Or will we no longer hear roots reggae — but instead a "watered down", diluted version that has been denatured for foreign consumption? According to Bob Marley, reggae music will become "more spiritual and maybe more complicated". There exists at the present time a network of reggae studio musicians which lend basic stability. And there are a growing number of new bands keeping the music alive and fresh, forecasting (we hope) a healthy music scene for years to come.

Whatever the future of reggae may be, this North American is "hooked" on the sound. In my record collection reggae is well represented (with both 12 and 45 rpm records) and certain to produce hours of continued happy listening in the years ahead.



Uncrowned king of reggae



Formerly with Bob Marley

An inside look at our penal system

GO-BOY!: MEMOIRS OF A LIFE BEHIND BARS
by Roger Caron
McGraw-Hill Ryerson, 264 pages,
\$10.95

By DON WEITZ

Going "stir-crazy" in prison is just a matter of time, and usually results in inmates doing more "hard time". Or getting sent to a psycho ward to be experimented on like a

guinea pig or rat. Prisons, like "mental hospitals", are classic Catch-22's. To survive years in the punishing, dehumanizing prison environment and retain one's sanity and humanity takes incredible physical and mental strength and courage. Very few of us have it.

Roger Caron has both — awesome physical strength and sheer guts. He's a genuine survivor

Books

of the Canadian prison system, still locked up in medium security Collins Bay penitentiary in Ontario. Now 40, Caron has spent over half his life, almost a quarter of a century, in no less than thirteen jails and prisons. He's sampled some of the toughest: Guelph Reformatory, Kingston Penitentiary, Millhaven and "Penetang" (for the "criminally insane"). He started his prison career at 16, when he was convicted and sentenced for a "B & E" (breaking and entering). Caron has seldom been free for more than a few weeks or months at a time. Thefts, armed robberies and escapes inevitably led to doing more



"hard time" in the "Big Joint".

It's amazing that Caron has survived this long with his sanity and humanity intact. But what's even more amazing is that, while locked up, Caron produced *GO-BOY!*, an autobiographical account, covering roughly twenty-two years, of many of his prison experiences. Undoubtedly the act of writing the book helped Caron remain sane:

GO-BOY!, as the book jacket explains, is "prison slang for a runner and the prisoners' chant of encouragement to those who make the desperate break for freedom." Caron escaped six times from about as many prisons. His vivid descriptions of these daring and ingenious but futile breakouts surpasses almost anything on TV or in the movies. Caron's keen sense of the dramatic is tempered by his compelling to stick to what happened to him, to tell it like it was, which was horrible enough. If it were not for a few brief interludes of black inmate

humour, and for moments of real sharing and love with his girlfriend and family, *GO-BOY!* would be a real horror story.

Of course, much of it is: guards beating and gassing inmates in cells and corridors; near-fatal fights with other prisoners; the brutal and maddening experience of solitary confinement in "maximum deadlock", where sewer rats sometimes emerged through open toilets; the terrifying psychiatric "treatments" he was forced to endure in the psycho ward; and the flesh-cutting torture of the "paddle" or strap in the "Limbo Room". This passage describes sadistic treatment by a guard while Caron was near madness from one continuous year in solitary confinement:

But it was the gorilla who took the greatest delight in scaring me into climbing the walls of my cell. Always pussy-footing around and observing me through the peephole, he would wait until I got spaced out and then with a brutish grin boot my door with great force! I'd come right up off that concrete pallet with arms slashing, eyes rolling, and my mouth twisted open in one long shuddering scream . . .

Caron's account of forced psychiatric treatment with, I believe, Indoklon gas administered while he was in a strait-jacket is equally horrifying. Caron was subjected to this torture by the prison psychiatrist as an alternative to the "paddle":

The mask clamped firmly over my mouth and nose and suddenly I found that I could not breathe! . . . Then I heard the ominous hissing of gas . . . Horror-stricken, I started thrashing about while the hands that were gripping me squeezed more tightly than ever. There was an eerie buzzing in my ears like an angry horde of wasps trying to chew their way into my brain. And I still couldn't breathe . . .

On two occasions, Caron was sentenced to the "paddle", administered to him naked in the "Limbo Room":

The eerie ritual began when the dozen witnesses ominously scraped the soles of their shoes on the floor in unison, deliberately done to confuse my sense of direction. "ONE!" I clenched my teeth and my body went rigid as the strap sliced through the air. "CRACK!" Like a pistol shot, it made solid contact with my buttocks, my head snapped backwards, while violently driving my shackled body forward. White searing pain exploded throughout my being and blood gushed from my lips as I struggled to stifle a scream. It was brutal and it was horrible . . .

In his supportive forward to the book, Pierre Berton comments on this brutality:

It is not good enough for Canadians to say that they did not know these things were going on inside our prisons. They did know. They were told about it over and over again. Some of us have tried over the years to protest; but the Canadian public, in spite of the clear knowledge that physical torture of the most painful kind was part of official policy, continued to accept it, and indeed, in some cases applaud it. One of the reasons that the Canadian penal system has yet to emerge from the dark ages is because the people continue to demand revenge rather than rehabilitation . . .

GO-BOY! can be read as a major social document which cries out for long-overdue prison reforms in Canada. It's a major contribution to prison, literature and criminology. But *GO-BOY!*, like much concentration camp literature, can also be read and appreciated as a forceful witness to survival in hell. Caron has been there and come back to life whole, human and still fighting. The public and critics will judge whether Caron makes it as a writer. I say he will, and I'm eagerly awaiting his next book, on the Kingston Riot. *GO-BOY!* deserves to attract wide readership and public acceptance.

Postscript: Roger Caron was released from prison in late December.

Jacob Two-Two tangles with the Hooded Fang

By MARY ANN WILSON

Jacob Two-Two Meets the Hooded Fang, but not often enough, according to the hundreds of disappointed people turned away from the doors of the Young People's Theatre on Front Street.

The play is based on a book, based on a real Jacob, son of writer

Theatre

Mordechai Richler. Jacob is two plus two plus two years old; he has two older brothers and two older sisters, and must say everything twice so he might be heard. Hence the name Jacob Two-Two.

Jacob is played by Hadley Kay, who sings, speaks, cries and laughs with engaging charm. He is scarcely off the stage. The plot contains all the elements of a great fairy tale, satisfyingly blended with modern problems and solutions. In a fairy tale we ask the good to be good, the bad to be bad, and the good to be forgiven if they fall, if they will help others and themselves out of their predicament. Jacob's "bad guys" are his brothers and sisters who don't want him to play with them because he is too little. Then he has to contend with the adults, who either don't have time for him, or think he is rude when he says everything twice. Jacob falls asleep

in the park and these people alter in his dreams.

Rafe Macpherson plays the father, Louis Loser, and a Slimmer. As Louis Loser, he is a lawyer, supposedly defending Jacob, who is in court on trial for insulting an adult. Louis Loser himself breaks down and cries, and it is Jacob who tries to comfort him. They lose the case, and Jacob is sent to prison on Slimers' Isle.

George Buza plays the policeman and the Hooded Fang. He is scary, yells a lot, sweeping around his domain on Slimers' Isle with billowing cape and threatening fangs. Kenneth Wickes is a thin, obsequious Mr. Fish, who has been assigned to break into a toy shop and switch parts of puzzles and toys.

Miss Fowl, played by Barbara Hamilton, keeps the little prisoners working at a fog machine to keep the island hidden. Jacob's brother and sister, played by Sammy Snyders and Janet Zuccatini, disguised as Fearless O'Toole and Intrepid Shapiro, zero in to the rescue, capes and swords flashing.

The sets and costumes are among the best ever seen in Toronto. Stephen Katz, the director, should be encouraged to take this production to the Royal Alex, and perhaps on tour, or even make it an annual event. Those who loved it will want to see it again and again.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

EXHIBITIONS

There will be an **exhibition of Pakistani art**, painting and crafts, sponsored by the Federation Pakistani-Canadians, at Harbourfront, 235 Queen's Quay West, from January 21 to January 30. Hours at 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and admission is free.

An **exhibition of wildlife art** by Paul Geraghty, titled Images of Nature, runs from January 19 to March 5 at the Royal Ontario Museum. Geraghty has travelled extensively throughout Canada, Europe and East Africa observing wildlife and wild places. He is a noted scientific illustrator and has participated in many exhibitions of animal art.

ENTERTAINMENT

A **Clash of Symbols** is the first production of 1979 at the Alumnae Theatre, until January 21 in the Upstairs Studio, 70 Berkeley St., Toronto. This work was created by a talented group of Quebecois writers and actresses under the title La Nef des Sorcieres. Seats for this show may be reserved by calling 364-4170. Admission is \$3, \$2 for senior citizens and students. Call 364-4170 for reservations & details.

Playing at The Adelaide Court, 57 Adelaide St. East, is the New Theatre's **Curse of the St**

Playing at The Adelaide Court, 57 Adelaide St. East, is the New theatre's **Curse of the Starving Class**. Evening performances at 8:30 p.m. Sunday matinees 2:30 p.m. Ticket prices Tuesday through Sunday and Sunday matinee \$4.50, Friday and Saturday \$6.50.

The **Young Peoples' Theatre Centre** is holding a **gala birthday bash** to celebrate its first year on Saturday and Sunday, January 20 and 21. The centre has planned a full program of events each day from noon to 5 p.m. including a marionette show, mime,

puppet show, a movie on the centre, a light show, make-up and costumes. Everyone is invited to join the fun. Admission is \$1 at the door of the YPTC, 165 Front St. E., near the corner of Sherbourne St.

YOUNG PEOPLE

The **South Riverdale Child Care Drop-in Centre** is a place for parents to come with their pre-school children for coffee, conversation, and play. It is located in the Old Post Office, at 765 Queen St. East two blocks east of Broadview. Hours are Mondays and Wednesdays from noon to 4 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 to 1:00. For more information call 469-3776.

The Toronto Parks and Recreation department is offering a **free Saturday program** of swimming, arts, and crafts, games and sports for mentally handicapped kids living in the east end of the city. The location is the Pape Recreation Centre, Gerrard and Pape. If you know someone who could benefit from recreation on a Saturday afternoon (2 to 4 pm) phone the Metro Toronto Association for the Mentally Retarded, 361-0773 ext. 44.

Victoria Day Care Services, the centre at 539 Jarvis St. that offer "child care in private homes" is interested in talking to people interested in becoming providers of day care. Do you want to enjoy your growing family at home? Do you get pleasure from the energy, curiosity, and creativity of children? Do you want to develop your parenting skills? If so, consider becoming a provider of day care. Give yourself a satisfying occupation and extra income. For details call 925-3419.

Community Calendar is a free community service. If you or your group have something you would like to put in to the calendar call 7 News at 363-9650 or bring or mail it in. However: please remember to get your item in in time: the deadline for the January 27 issue is Monday January 22. Any event happening before February 10 should be called in by that date.

EDUCATIONAL & SERVICES

Theatre Plant is offering 10-week winter classes starting January 13 to 18 in a number of different areas: Children's Acting (ages 7-9); pre-teen acting (ages 10-12); teen acting (beginning); teen acting (advanced); adult acting; beginning scriptwriting; and advanced scriptwriting. Acting classes are held at Theatre Factory Lab (207 Adelaide E. (at Jarvis)). To register or to get more information, call 964-1648. Fees for the courses range from \$40 to \$85.

St. John Ambulance will be conducting a **child care course** at 46 Wellesley St. East starting **January 18** from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Classes are held 2 hours weekly for 6 weeks at a total cost of \$9.00 per person. Call Joan Holba at 967-4244 for more information.

There will be **music workshops** at Contact School, 310 Gerrard St. E., Tuesdays at 3:30; and **free Yoga classes on Fridays at 3:30. Call Roman at 967-5258 for more information.**

There are **music workshops** at Contact School, 310 Gerrard St. E., Tuesdays at 3:30; and **free yoga classes on Fridays at 3:30. Call Roman at 967-5258 for more information.**

The Royal Ontario Museum is offering **classes** over the winter and spring months, in drawing, historic media, and aesthetics and creative art. Call 978-3708 or 978-45° for more information.

MISCELLANEOUS

Regent Park Service Unit has been the host of many agencies for the past eleven years. When you have a problem, need advice with housing, school, budget, furniture, clothing, or just need a friendly person to talk to over a cup of coffee, the door is open. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday. Welfare, Mothers' Allowance, Metro and Catholic

Children's Aid, and Family Benefits workers are available at the Service Unit. Phone 863-1768 or drop in to 63 Belshaw, Apt. 101 (just as you come in the door.) The service unit is also looking for **volunteers** who want to become involved in the community.

FESTIVALS, BAZAARS, CELEBRATIONS

The Danforth Library, 701 Pape Ave., is having a **Chinese New Year celebration** on Saturday **January 27** at 7:00 p.m. There will be entertainment and refreshments. For more information call 465-1221.

This year is **Dixon Hall's 50th anniversary** and several events are planned over the coming months to celebrate this occasion. Sunday **January 28th** is Dixon's big kick-off dinner and show. Dinner will be at 7 p.m. and the entertainment featuring James Ray begins at 8 p.m. Tickets for the entire evening are \$5 and are available now. The room will be licenced so admittance is restricted to over 18 years. For more details call Sue at 863-0499.

MEETINGS

The **St. Luke's forum** on Sunday will feature Mr. William Burton speaking on fire prevention. The forums are at 2:30 and everyone is welcome. The forum on the following Sunday, **January 21**, will feature John Metson of the Christian Resource Centre.

The steering committee of the **South Riverdale Neighbourhood Improvement Program** will meet on Monday **January 15** at 7:30 p.m. at 765 Queen St. East. As requested at the previous meeting, a quarterly financial report on N.I.P. has spent up to December 31, 1978 and how much money remains. Please come with whatever questions you might have about N.I.P. so that we can start off 1979 on the right foot. And bring a friend!

NEWS BRIEFS

Charge against lawyers dismissed

Two civil rights lawyers, Charles Roach and Mike Smith have had charges against them of "touting" dismissed. As reported in the November 18 issue of 7 News, the two lawyers were brought before the discipline committee of the Law Society after they approached a man to offer him legal assistance. The man turned out to already have a lawyer, and a complaint was laid against Roach and Smith. Roach and Smith said that they hadn't known the man already had a lawyer. Roach and Smith had been supported by a group of supporters who saw the case as harassment of civil rights work, much of which is done by lawyers working free of charge. Roach, in defending himself before the discipline commission, suggested that there are still some lawyers whose sole motivation is not financial gain.

600 teachers may be axed

According to a report prepared for the Metropolitan School Board by "fact-finder" Kevin Burkett, about 600 high school

teachers may be fired in the next three years because of declining enrolments. School board officials have stated that they think major layoffs will not be happening in the next two years but don't know what will be happening after that. The issue of teacher firings and educational cutbacks has been developing into a major issue in Toronto, and it is to be expected that further teacher layoffs will result in bitter battles.

Candidates in Broadview-Greenwood

Alderman Tom Clifford has resigned the federal Progressive-Conservative nomination in Broadview-Greenwood. Clifford ran unsuccessfully against NDPer Bob Rae last October, and was then re-elected alderman for Ward 8. Two men have announced their intention of seeking the nomination in Clifford's place: Michael Clark, president of the York East PC riding association, and David Lakey, a senior vice-president of The Molson Companies Ltd. A number of other people are said to be interested in the nomination as well. Liberal Phillip Varelis, who ran a poor

third in the by-election, still retains his party's nomination.

New 519 Board

A new board of directors has been elected for the 519 Church Street Community Centre. Fifty people turned out to vote into office a board consisting of Rick Archbold, Tom Greenfield, Ken Hartwick, Mike Haynes, Leo McMahon, Liam McEvoy, Tony Moffat-Lynch, Yvonne Moryto, Janet Pugsley, Elanor Quance, Norman Rubin, Ann Turner, Judy Tusell, Bill Vine, and L.E. Walkelin. Alderman Allan Sparrow and Dan Heap are ex-officio members.

St Mike's Reconstruction

A major rebuilding of St. Michael's Hospital at Queen and Bond Streets will be taking place over the next six years, at a cost of more than \$30 million. Construction is to start in the spring on the project, which will leave the hospital with a reduced number of beds (644 as against the present 701) but with more walk-in services. Construction will be

done in phases so that the hospital will be able to continue operating with a minimum of disruption.

Food donated to Good Shepard

About 300,000 tins of canned food have been donated to the Good Shepard Refuge on Queen EAST OF Parliament, by students in the Metro Catholic school system.

Renew your dog license

Last year, the Toronto Humane Society admitted close to 5000 lost dogs to their Wellesley Street shelter. Without proper identification, it is almost impossible to return these animals to their owners. If a day at large is licensed it can be picked up and immediately returned to its owner without being subjected to the trauma of a visit to the pound. Dog licenses were due for renewal on January 1st. If you are unsure where you should but the 1979 license, call the Humane Society at 922-1191.

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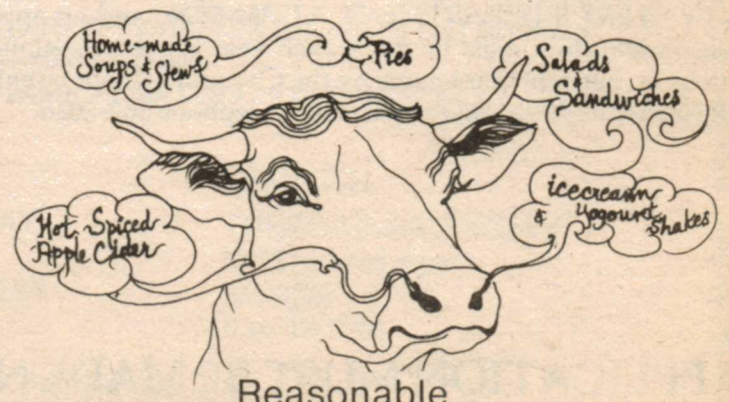
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Bacon & eggs, potatoes, toast & coffee: \$1.25

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2. Omelette, any style
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4. Any Hot Sandwich
Including soup, potatoes, choice of desserts & beverages: \$2-2.50

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Steak served with choice of potatoes, sour cream, vegetables, chef salad, fried onions, hot dinner roll or garlic bread \$2.95

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CITY OF TORONTO
1979 ELDERLY
PENSIONERS
TAX ASSISTANCE
PROGRAMME
(HOME-OWNERS IN THE CITY OF TORONTO ONLY)

To provide financial assistance to elderly homeowners, City Council has authorized the City Treasurer to allow certain owners of residential property a credit of \$100.00 against the 1979 taxes imposed on such real property subject to the following qualification:

TO QUALIFY, THE OWNER OR SPOUSE OF THE OWNER MUST:

- Be 65 years of age or more by March 31, 1979, which is the last day for filing applications;
- Be in receipt of the monthly GUARANTEED INCOME SUPPLEMENT provided under the Old Age Security Act (Canada);
- Occupy the property on which the municipal taxes have been imposed and;
- Have been continuously assessed as the owner of residential real property in the City of Toronto for not less than 5 years immediately preceeding March 31, 1979.

If you qualify for this assistance and have not received an application form TELEPHONE THE CITY CLERK'S DEPARTMENT AT 367-7036, and an application form will be mailed to you. Application must be made each year for this assistance. This credit, where allowed, will be an outright grant made by the City and will not be entail repayment of any kind. For further information or assistance, telephone 367-7036.

ROY V. HENDERSON,
City Clerk.

APPLICATION MUST BE MADE NOT LATER THAN MARCH 31, 1979.

SPORTS

Dan Dill wins again

By KEN HAMILTON

Cabbagetown Boxing and Youth Centre boxers of all ages and sizes are currently getting ready for the Golden Gloves Tournament to be held at the Seaway Hotel on January 20th and 21st.

The following are results of various tune-up bouts for the tournament:

At Hamilton, Martin Mezzara, 147 lbs., Cabbagetown, defeated Wayne Halfkenny. Martin was a New York State Golden Gloves Champ last year. He is also a Canadian champ. John Shaw, 75 lb. Ontario Junior Champion, age

Pileggi, 119 lbs., another Ontario Junior Champion from Cabbagetown, decisioned Dwight Fraser of Bramalea.

At Campbellford, Ontario, a large audience witnessed Cabbagetown boxers taking six bouts out of eight from Buffalo Westminster Club. Dwight Scarlett continued his winning ways by neatly outboxing Dominic Johnson of Buffalo. John Shaw lost another close, hard-fought battle. The winner was Vernon McGriff of Buffalo. Jim Fennell, 90 lbs., Cabbagetown, showed a lot of courage in losing to more experienced Brian Bordon of Buffalo. Don Poole, Cabbagetown's 126 lb. Ontario Intermediate Champion, stopped Tom Elston in the third round. Shawn O'Sullivan, 119 lbs., a national junior champion from Cabbagetown, decked John Herrod of Buffalo twice in the first round. Herrod decided he'd had enough and retired. Don Marshall, Cabbagetown, took less than one round to finish off Jeff Toliver of Buffalo in a 147 lb. bout. Alex Williamson, Cabbagetown, defeated King George Slaughter in a heavyweight contest. Highlight of the evening was a five-round bout between Cabbagetown's Pat Fennell, a European Gold Medalist and a native of Campbellford, and Ron East of Buffalo. Pat won the exciting, rugged, light-heavyweight fight.



Dan Dill. Four TKOs in six bouts.

12, lost a close one to David Picques, age 14.

At the Lansdowne A.C., Conrad Gray, 55 lbs., Cabbagetown, eliminated Sean Slater, Tuxedo Court, in less than 30 seconds. Dwight Scarlett, Cabbagetown, 65 lbs., easily decisioned Mike Riddell of Tuxedo Court, Milton Thompson, Cabbagetown, 85 lb. Ontario Junior Champion, won over Jimmy McNee of Bramalea. And Vince

At the Junction B.C., John Shaw scored a win over Andy Spencer of Bramalea. John has been boxing since age 6, and has lost only 7 bouts of 33 in his 6 years of experience. Don Dill, 90 lbs., Cabbagetown, scored a TKO in the second round against Jimmy McNee of Bramalea. Donnie, age 11, is getting to be a young sensation, having scored 4 TKOs in his 6-bout career — with no losses.

Parliament Street library re-opens

By GRACE CAMERON

When the Parliament Street Library reopens on January 15th, be prepared for a big surprise.

The Library has been closed since September for renovations. With the work almost completed, it promises to be as modern as any other library in the city.

With the numerous changes that have been made, there's hardly a hint of the crowded, poorly lit library that existed before September. The adults and the children's libraries and also the library house have been unified. The walls dividing the sections have been knocked down to create an airy, spacious atmosphere. Added to this, are the large glass windows which let in the sunlight and allow for viewing in and out. Before this, the windows were blocked by bookshelves and tables.

The floor is also carpeted, a first for the library; and in some places brightly coloured lights hang from the ceiling.

Janice Long, the Head Librarian beams with pride as she mentions the three lounge areas and the record listening devices. It is evident that she's proud of the whole operation; the double-sided fireplace (built by some of the residents of Ward 7), and the tiny kitchen in the library house. There's another fireplace in the children's area, and a ramp for the handicapped leading from the library into the library house.

"We want this to be a place where everyone feels welcome",

said Long, "but we're not going to be the traditional library. People will come in and see the books in the shelves facing forward." She added that the library has increased its number of books from 35,000 to 42,000, and hopes to have about 50,000 within five years. For the magazine readers there will be about 200 different subscriptions. The number of seating and study places have almost tripled.

The entrance that used to lead to the children's library, has been transformed to the main entrance. The mock castle and the crafts area will no doubt be a welcome addition for the youngsters.

The library was originally scheduled to reopen December 5th, but delays in getting materials have held up the work.

The cost of the renovations is estimated at \$300,000.



More than the outside has been fixed up

Lend a helping hand Many will appreciate it

The Christian Resource Centre at 20 Spruce St. will be embarking on a program of friendly visiting to the shut-in elderly and disabled of the Don Vale (Wellesley to Dundas and Sherbourne to River).

According to several agencies in the area, loneliness is still one of the biggest hardships facing older people in the area. The steering committee of the new Dundas-Sherbourne CARE-RING did a survey six months ago on the needs of seniors. According to the 50 agencies who answered their questionnaire the three outstanding needs were (in this order) — other home help, friendly visiting, and transportation.

The CRC does not have the resources to augment home help or to provide transportation but with the help of volunteers and referrals we hope to provide regular visits, escorting (to the bank and doctor's appointments) and reading to those left on their own.

Who are the people who might need a regular visitor? A good ex-

ample is an old person who lives in a room or small apartment. Often friends and relatives live too far away. Some have no one at all. Most are on a fixed income and may have trouble maintaining a proper diet. Sometimes it's a problem of not being able to get out to do shopping. Sickness is a frequent problem but the big complaint is always *loneliness*.

Anyone who has been left alone during an illness may have a sense of what it feels like but for most of us the situation improves. Imagine months and years of that and you begin to know what many of our older people go through.

If you could visit just one person each week you would be helping a lot, we also need a few people who can be available for one-time escorts. Would you like to read to the blind or the almost blind? Please give Pat Trudeau a call at 922-7391 (Wed.-Fri) or leave a message. Even if you've only got half-an-hour to spare each week, you're really needed.

Best dressed windows in Cabbagetown

By JEAN WRIGHT

Rosedale M.P. David Crombie presented the prizes when the Old Cabbagetown Business Improvement Area held its annual meeting and holiday party at the Parson's Nose, 438 Parliament Street, on December 27.

A new Board of Management was also chosen. New members of the board are Dani Trodd, Cheeze Pleeze; Barry Ashley, The Peasant's Larder and Ticky Tacky Taco Take-Out; Jackie Vadas, Carlton Delicatessen, and Peter Lee, manager of the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Returning members are Carl Orbach, Q.C., chairman; Mary Bender, Harris Department Store; Izzy Snyder, Shopper's Drug Mart and Sol Wayne, Wayne Furniture, treasurer.

Alderman Janet Howard is the City of Toronto representative on the board. Jim Renieris of Home Hardware is retiring from the board this year.

Mr. Crombie presented prizes for the annual Cabbagetown Christmas Window Dressing Contest. First prize went to Steve's Beauty Salon, 298 A Gerrard East, for an original decoration made of bare tree branches, white birds, snow and tiny white lights. Second prize winner St. Jamestown Meats, 516 Parliament, featured a hand-painted window. Third prize went to Carlton Food Mart, 493 Parliament, for an attractive combination of traditional decorations and Christmas foods.

Consolation prize winners were: Agnew Surpass Shoes, 471

Parliament; Ambassador Dryden Warehouse Outlet, 458 Parliament; Carlton Delicatessen, 231 Carlton; Fraser's Drycleaning, 499 Parliament; Jim's Barber Shop, 503A Parliament; Philippine-Asian Trading, 482 Parliament; Sam's Barber Shop, 437 Parliament; The Bank of Nova Scotia, 405 Parliament; Shish Kebob Village, 443 Parliament; Tasty-Rite Chicken, 478 Parliament; Whole Foods Trading, 489 Parliament.

Judges for the contest were Alderman Janet Howard and commercial artist Barbara Ryder.



Presentation of a painting of a typical Cabbagetown Victorian house was made to Bart Davis, the founder and first chairman of the O.C.B.I.A. Presentation was made by Carl Orbach on behalf of the group.

Appreciation was expressed for the various organizations who provided Christmas music and entertainment on Parliament Street during December, including the Salvation Army, Contact School, The Cabbagetown Strollers, Sprucecourt Choir and the Church of God Carollers. Special thanks were also expressed to Emily Bartlett of the Regent Park Service Unit, and of course, Santa Claus (Gordon Burt).

Without knowing it, you could be a turn-off.



Do you always take a bath, instead of a shower which uses less power?



Do you fill a kettle full to make a single cup? Turn on the washing machine for just a few things?



Leave the TV on when no one's watching?



And do you often forget to turn off the porch light even though everyone's home in bed?



Any of these thoughtless little habits can make you a turn-off. Because waste of electricity, like anything that everybody really needs, can turn people off.

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HELP WANTED

DRIVER, part-time, for Ross Cleaners, 355 Queen St. E. Phone Mr. A. Raj at 363-9976. F9-17

7 News Classified Ads cost \$2.50 paid in advance for 25 words or less; ten cents for each additional word.

Name

Address

My ad should read as follows:

Open door at Open Door

A gala Christmas Party was held at the Open Door Centre on Wednesday, December 20th, where over 100 of the lonely ones of this community enjoyed a wonderful lunch with all the trimmings, sang carols and received a small gift from the brightly decorated Christmas Tree.

The Director of the Centre, Grace Morris and her staff of four worker spared no effort to make the party the warm, happy and successful event it turned out to be.

Everyone enjoyed themselves thoroughly, said Mrs. Morris, and if their stomachs were not filled to capacity with the good and plentiful food provided, it was not because of any shortage.

For this, our thanks and gratitude go to the Provincial Benefits Support Fund, the Red Cross and the Downtown Churchworkers' Association (D.C.A.) who all donated most generously towards the costs of the Party.

New Rent Review Act Shifts Tenants

RIVERDALE SOCIO. LEGAL
SERVICES

Conservative government is determined to push through act which many see as an attempt to kill rent controls.

Presently the government of Ontario is considering a new Bill that will drastically effect the law concerning landlords and tenants. This Bill, known as number 163, proposes creating a new commission that will deal with a wide variety of landlord and tenant matters. Under the Landlord and Tenant Act now in effect housing disputes are dealt with by a number of different courts of boards which often leads to confusion, inaccessibility and inefficiency. Though the concept of a single commission is a step in the right direction the Residential Tenancies Commission proposed has a number of very serious flaws.

Under the present act a landlord can only evict a tenant for a good reason and this reason must be one of the 7 or 8 reasons listed in the Act. Reasons include arrears of rent, damaging the premises, landlord needs place for his own use, over-crowding, etc. The new Bill effects this security that tenants now have in 3 ways.

Firstly it allows landlords to set up house rules that if broken could lead to eviction.

Secondly, the Bill does not list all the reasons for eviction so that it's not certain for what reasons a landlord will be granted an eviction order.

Thirdly, the act does not specify the length of notice a tenant has to be given of a landlord's application for eviction nor does the Bill allow a time in which a tenant can correct the situation.

The lack of specified procedure is one of the most serious flaws in the Bill. Presently a landlord must give a tenant between 20 and 120 days, written notice depending on the reason of his intention to evict. After that he must apply to the court for an order. This allows the tenant time to negotiate with the landlord, seek legal assistance or make plans to move. The new bill does not require a landlord to give notice to a tenant of his intention to apply for an eviction order. He must only give the tenant a copy of

his application at "the earliest reasonable opportunity". In an attempt to simplify the procedure the Bill has gone far too far in the other direction by not settling out clear procedure.

The hearings that the Board will hold are also governed by very loose rules. For example a commissioner could telephone neighbours to get information and the parties involved might never have the opportunity to hear and react to the evidence given on the telephone.

For many years tenant groups have been asking the government to set up a rent registry which would list legal rents for an apartment. This would be especially useful for tenants moving into a new apartment who don't know the rent the previous tenants paid. The new bill proposes that a landlord keep a schedule of rents which would be available to the tenants to examine. This does not seem to be a solution to the problem since a tenant who asks too many questions about legal

rents might not be offered an apartment and a landlord could record incorrect rents which are difficult to verify.

The new commission will deal with the area of rent levels. Presently the allowable rents to be charged by a landlord are strictly based on increases in costs. Bill 163 introduces the possible consideration of rents charged in other units in the same geographic area. This could effect tenants who live in a relatively inexpensive apartment that has been well managed or not sold many times. Their rents might increase if surrounding apartments are more expensive.

The government of Ontario will on January 29th begin to look closely at this bill. Sometime in March they should present a new Landlord and Tenant Act to parliament. In the meanwhile people need to make their views known so that the new law that we receive will be fair to everyone involved. For further information call R.S.L.S. at 461-8102.

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Variety of salamis, hams, sausages
Home prepared food, party catering

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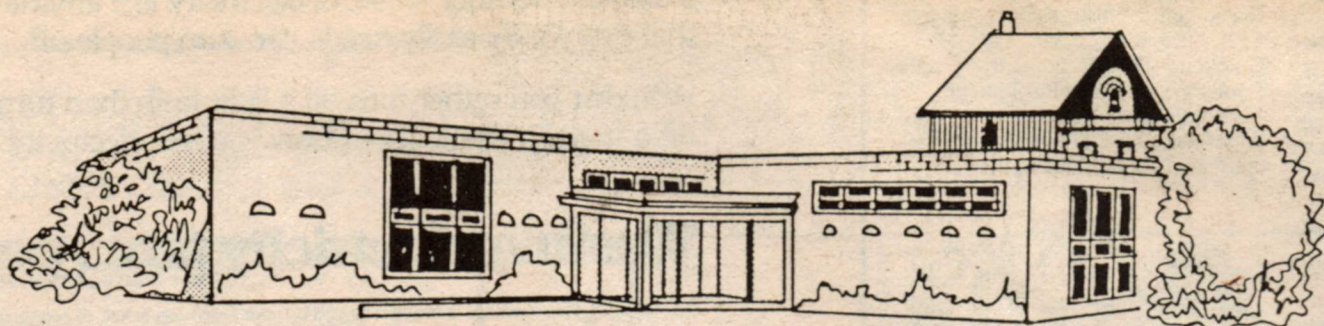
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- 3:30 p.m. Draw: prizes of books and records
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