

Not guilty means not guilty!

The gay news magazine, The Body Politic, is organizing a public campaign to make Attorney General Roy McMurtry withdraw an appeal against the magazine's acquittal on obscenity charges last year.

Last February, Ontario provincial court judge Sydney M. Harris acquitted The Body Politic of a charge that an issue of the publication was "indecent, immoral, or scurrilous." The Crown is appealing the acquittal, under a quirk of Canadian law that allows the

Crown to appeal acquittals. The effect of the law is to create a form of double jeopardy: if a person or organization is acquitted on a charge the first time, the Crown can go right back and try again to get a conviction on the identical charge in another court.

The Body Politic is prepared to fight the appeal, but it is also trying to persuade McMurtry to reconsider the appeal and withdraw it. Each time the paper has to go to court, it has to spend thousands of dollars and a great deal of time in

defending itself. The Body Politic fears that the effect of the Crown's prolonged assault on it may be to bankrupt it through legal fees, even though the charges themselves fail.

To try to prevent this, The Body Politic Free the Press Fund is taking out a full-page ad in the Globe and Mail, which it hopes to have signed by 1000 people, urging that the charges be dropped. Supporters are asked to send contributions of about \$10 to help pay for the ad. Donations can be sent to The Body Politic Free the Press Fund, Box

7289, Station A, Toronto M5W 1X9.

Meanwhile, in a related development, the Crown has been ordered to return materials seized from the offices of The Body Politic two years ago and to pay the paper's legal costs of getting the material back.

The court ruled that the Crown had no reason to hold the material and that the Crown's action had caused "inconvenience, distress and monetary loss" to the paper. Twelve cartons of material were

taken by police in the raid, including subscription and advertiser lists. Yet not a single piece of paper from all the materials used was ever introduced in evidence. Indeed, no supporting documentary evidence was necessary to the Crown's case, since the paper freely admitted having published the article in question. Yet the Crown refused to return the materials even after the Body Politic was acquitted.

Even now, the Crown is appealing the court order telling it to return the materials.



7 NEWS

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

VOLUME 10, NUMBER 14 January 11, 1980

FREE TAKE ONE

7 News is readjusting its schedule, so the next issue will be published in three weeks time rather than in two. Deadline for the next (February 1) issue of 7 News is Monday, January 28. Bring or mail your news, pictures, or ads to 7 News, 315 Dundas St. East, Toronto M5A 2A2 or phone 363-9650.

Queen merchants organize

Businessmen on Queen Street East, concerned with the drop in local purchasing power and the loss of trade to Gerrard Square and the Eaton's Complex, have decided to organize and fight back. At a meeting on October 16, twenty-four merchants voted to apply to the City to have their section of Queen Street East designated as a Business Improvement Area. The advantage of this move is that the businessmen agree to accept a surcharge on their business taxes which the City will collect and hold for them as an area improvement budget. A board of Management made up of five local merchants elected by their colleagues and the two Ward aldermen will plan and pay for these improvements out of this budget.

This new area will run from just east of the Don River to Empire Avenue and would include all commercial business fronting on Queen Street East. A pre-vote canvass conducted by a local merchant steering committee indicated very strong support for a Business Improvement Area. Residents are also behind this effort and have committed \$25,000 from N.I.P. for street improvements on Queen Street East. The merchant's budget would be spent on collective promotions and sales, festivals like those held by the Old Cabbagetown Business Improvement Association, and maintenance of street improvements like benches, planters, and litter containers.

Businessmen in other Business Improvement Association Areas have reported as much as a 100% increase in trade, making lower prices and wider selections of goods possible. Old, shabby commercial districts have been reborn and a greater degree of co-operation developed with the surrounding community.

If the City poll of merchants in the proposed area indicated majority support, the Business Improvement Association could have its first Board and first budget approved by September 1980.

7 News has been increasingly extending its distribution area to parts of Ward 6 east of Yonge Street, especially in the St. Lawrence and North Jarvis neighbourhoods.

We would also like to increase our news and photo coverage in these areas. If you know of events which we should be writing about, please let us know. Also, if you are interested in writing or taking pictures, or in delivering the paper in your apartment building, we would like to hear from you.

7 News is in All Saints Church, 315 Dundas St. E. (at Sherbourne). Our phone number is 363-9650.



Photo by Cherry Hassard

With a scant two weeks' experience on bobsleds, two-year-old Kirk Hornblow still needs a little help on the ice. Kirk and his skating instructors Debbie and Donna live on Sackville Street close to the Regent Park ice rink, north of Dundas off River Street.

Parks and Recreation (Toronto) maintains four other artificial ice surfaces in the Ward Seven area: Regent South (Shuter and Sumach Sts.), Jimmie Simpson (Queen St. E., west of Logan Ave.), Riverdale (Broadview Ave. and Montcrest Blvd.) and Withrow (Carlaw Ave., south of Danforth Ave.). The rinks are open for pleasure skating on the following schedule: Tues. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., 6:30 p.m.-10 p.m., Thurs. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Fri. 6:30 p.m.-10 p.m., Sat. 1 p.m.-6 p.m., 6:30-10 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

On the voters' list?

There will be no enumeration of voters for the upcoming federal election.

Instead, 15 million Notice of Enumeration cards will be mailed out by January 11 to notify voters that they are on the preliminary list of voters for the February 18th Federal General Election. The notices, in the form of cards, will be mailed to everyone whose name appeared on the final, official voters' list that was used in the last general election on May 22, 1979.

If you do not receive a card but are eligible to vote, you should contact the local Returning Officer for information on what to do. This must be done between January 15 and February 4. The phone numbers will be available from information. To be eligible to vote you must be 18 years of age by February 18, a

Canadian citizen, and residing in Canada on December 31, 1979.

Planners move

The Don District Planning Office is moving, after 2 years at Central Neighbourhood House. This office is being closed as part of the Planning Department's policy of closing local site offices after the bulk of planning work is completed in an area and amalgamating district offices. After December 17, 1979, the Neighbourhood Planning Assistant, Bonnie Alter will work out of the South Riverdale Planning and Development office which is located at 821 Queen Street East (at Empire Avenue). The new telephone number is 463-5914. Alter will still be doing area planning work for the South of Carlton Area, but at the new location.

Mothers fight Ontario Housing

By KARIN JOEVEER

M.A.D. stands for Mothers Against Discrimination. MAD also describes the way the members of the group feel about the policies of Ontario Housing.

At a recent public meeting, M.A.D., composed primarily of West Indian women living in Ontario Housing, portrayed through song, speeches and role plays a dilemma faced by single West Indian mothers who have had children coming from outside the country to live with them.

Normally, O.H.C. grants transfers to tenants who, through circumstances such as the birth of another child, become underhoused, or, in the event that someone leaves, overhoused, because strict standards are maintained for the number of people allowed to occupy a unit.

However, since 1975, an O.H.C. policy has been in effect which has virtually prohibited women from transferring to larger units if they had children arriving from outside the country to live with them. Not only were these women, mostly West Indian, denied the right to have their names put on an internal transfer waiting list for transfer to a larger unit, they were also asked to vacate the premises and then re-apply from the outside, to take places on the general waiting list for all new O.H.C. applicants. This translates into finding other cheap suitable housing accommodation which would accept children (no mean feat with today's inflated competitive rent market), and then being put on a long waiting list as larger O.H.C. family units are much in demand.

Several cases of West Indian women facing eviction orders because of this policy came to the attention of Neighbourhood Legal Services, a local community legal clinic which provides tenant advocacy and other legal services to low income people. As more West Indian women started to receive eviction notices with the addition of family members (often because guardians back home could no longer care for the children), a group sprung up nearly a year and a half ago to combat O.H.C.'s policies. Thus was born M.A.D., Mothers Against Discrimination, a forceful group that has brought the issue of no transfers to the attention of the Legislative Committee working on the new Landlord and Tenant Act, and as well, to the Housing Committee of City Council.

O.H.C. has defended their policy by saying that the women in question would be jumping the waiting list, as their original applications did not indicate that their children would be arriving to live

with them. However, had these women stated at the time of application that they had children arriving later they would have been told to apply when all their children had arrived. Meanwhile they would have to scramble for affordable housing elsewhere — where? Most of the women, new to the country, ended up working in domestic services and other areas where salaries are low and they did not have many alternatives. Transferring to subsidized city-owned housing seemed like a solution for those who found themselves in the bind of not being allowed to transfer. However, it was soon discovered that O.H.C. controlled the subsidies for city owned housing and thus, the same transfer policy still applied.

M.A.D. is also disputing O.H.C.'s policy of terminating the leases of older single women who have raised families in Ontario Housing and now are being asked to move because their dependents have left. O.H.C.'s mandate is to provide housing strictly for low income families, for senior citizens and the physically handicapped. Older single women under 65, whose children have left can stay if they can prove medical disability. M.A.D. claims this creates bad feeling as people compete to claim the worst ailment, in order to stay. The issue they say is really the need for more subsidized housing. Some women may not have medical disabilities, but would still be hard pressed to find affordable housing as they would not have the current skills to obtain well paying jobs, after years of marginal or no job at all.

Janet Howard, chairman of City Council's Housing Committee, is questioning O.H.C. control of who qualifies for transfer to subsidized city-owned housing and would like to see the city setting its own criteria. She feels that single older women should still be able to live in public housing if they need to do so, and more housing needs to be made available.

The eviction cases brought to court by O.H.C. were dropped for the most part (with the help of sympathetic judges and presentations by M.A.D.) and O.H.C. has ceased to evict tenants whose children have joined them later from outside Canada. For a while, these tenants were not being evicted but still were not eligible for the internal transfer waiting list and consequently had to endure prolonged periods of overcrowding. I spoke to a tenant placement officer at O.H.C. recently and he assures me that the policy has changed and that these tenants are now being placed on internal transfer waiting lists.

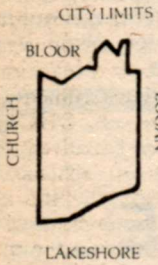
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7 NEWS

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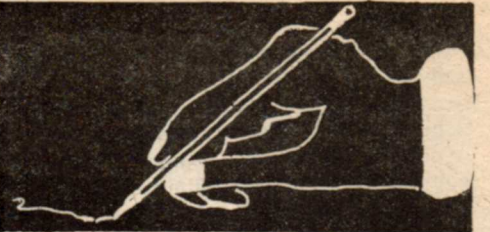
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LETTERS

If you have comments or opinions about what is happening in the community or about what you read in 7 News, write us a letter to 7 News, 315 Dundas St. East, Toronto. All letters must be signed but if you ask us to, we will publish your letter with a pen name and keep your real name confidential.

**We rely too much on government**

Welcome 1980. At the exciting juxtaposition of an election campaign and a new decade, I hope that we will recover a true spirit of social change essential to our country, our community and to ourselves as citizens.

At a local meeting, and in letters in *Seven News* (See "Socialists rap Rae", November 30, 1979), I have been overwhelmed and exasperated by the casual use of terms such as "social control", "Social Good", and "social change". At best, the meaning of these words is elusive, often they are meaningless. The common element in all of these phrases seems to be government involvement.

The concern expressed by the authors of the letter entitled, "Socialists rap Rae" is proper; we must scrutinize and criticize elected representatives. However, if we are to have "social change" we cannot rely solely on the initiatives of the government and other authoritative institutions. Perhaps the socialists should look beyond our political system if they wish to construct a

foundation for social change.

The social change which I advocate and envisage is a change in mentality. As responsible citizens our aim at the outset of the decade should be to counter the wave of dependency on the state. Canada needs the energy of ambitious individuals. We are not a poor, suffering

and oppressed peoples. We are very fortunate and furthermore our potential as a nation is tremendous. If we are to take advantage of the opportunities which arise daily, we must be strong and creative, believing in, and respecting the individual.

Happy New Year

L. Owen

Rae is a great fighter

In response to "socialists Rap Rae", a letter in the December 14 issue of 7 News, I wish to express disapproval of the twenty-one people who criticized Bob Rae on the stand he took on some of the issues that came up in the NDP convention.

If they had taken the time to watch Bob Rae's performance in the House of Commons they would have seen what a great fighter he was in the defense of justice for the common people of Canada before throwing bricks at him.

It would seem to me that there is another Waffle group being formed in the Broadview-Greenwood riding to the detriment of his chances of

carrying that riding again in the coming election.

My advice to the twenty-one beefers is to get behind Bob Rae and give him their unstinting support in the February 18 election and put him over the top with a plurality far greater than in the last election and stop beefing over a controversial issue. For Bob Rae is one of the best members in the House of Commons. You don't know how lucky you were to have Bob Rae as your representative in the last House. He will also continue to be your best hope for a socialist Canada so stop beefing and start working.

Francis Furlotte
 Member, Rosedale NDP

They're our resources

By W.J. STEVENSON

Human nature being what it is, we Easterners can surely be excused if we feel the occasional twinge of envy when hearing of the Niagara of money flowing into the provincial coffers of Alberta and Saskatchewan from the development of their natural resources.

It is particularly true in the case of Saskatchewan which until a few short years ago was considered one of the principal have-not provinces. To-day not only has this situation been dramatically reversed but it has been estimated that within a year Saskatchewan will receive more than a billion dollars annually from natural resources alone.

It becomes a surprising exercise to compare the total value of natural resources removed annually from Saskatchewan against that of Ontario. In actual fact the total for Ontario is substantially higher than Saskatchewan.

Why then — one might ask, is the financial benefits to Saskatchewan

so much higher than enjoyed by Ontario? The answer is relatively simple.

The government of Saskatchewan adopted the attitude that their not-to-be-replaced resources are the property of the citizens and there people are entitled to the fullest advantage from their development. Ontario on the other hand has had a more magnanimous attitude towards developers. Saskatchewan through hard-nosed negotiations on the part of their Premier, Alan Blakeney, obtains an average of 84% of the value of these resources in taxes whereas Ontario is content with a mere 6%.

Should Queen's Park decide at some future date to emulate the customs so effectively practices by both Alberta and Saskatchewan we might have the pleasure of seeing many additional billions flowing into our Treasury annually. Perhaps it might even be sufficient to allow the elimination, as in Alberta, of our Provincial Sales Taxes.

RHTP says thanks

The Board, staff, tenants and participants of the Rooming House Tenant Project with to extend sincere thanks and appreciation to the many organizations and individuals who have given us their moral, practical and financial support over the last few months.

Project funding terminated on September 30th, 1979 and it is entirely due to these financial and practical donations that we have been able to, not only continue operating on a full-time basis, but also provide and extremely lavish Christmas party and Christmas food hampers for project tenants and many other needy individuals.

Many thanks to: Mr. Dokse Perkin, Innkeeper, Holiday Inn, Chestnut Street. The Toronto Red Cross. Libby's. Colgate-Palmolive. Avon. Lever Detergents. Primo. Rosedale United Church. St. Luke's Church. The Fred Victor Mission. Nellie's Hostel for Women. The Sisters of St. Joseph. The 155 Sherbourne Residents Assoc. The Canadian Women's Mining Assoc. Fairlawn United Church. The A. Cushing Memorial Fund. The Eglinton United Church. Deer Park United Church. The Toronto United Church Council. Bloor United Church. Royal York United Church. The Lees. Peter Jackel. Gene Miller. Veronica Ged-

des, plus — others who wish to remain anonymous.

Best wishes to all for a very Happy New Year.

Jeanette Keenan, Co-ordinator
 Rooming House Tenant Project
 503-B Parliament St.

How about tolerance?

Individuals make a great city. Nowhere in Toronto can more interesting citizens and various lifestyles can be found than in Ward 7. Unfortunately when some 'disadvantaged' group hears about another 'disadvantaged' group getting something, sometimes misinformed individuals will cause heartache for the majority.

St. Paul's Church was a centre of such a conflict. Dignity — Gay Catholics — was having Mass Sunday afternoon at St. Paul's. We were not bothering anybody. But certain members of Parish Council forced Dignity out of this parish. The most unfortunate result was the neighbourhood could not get to know gays as people. An old fear of gays attacking young children could not finally be put to rest.

Most gays are the first to speak out about men having sex with young boys. That is sick! Gays and disabled individuals only want human dignity. **Peter B. Pocock**

I personally contacted the store owner and the woman responsible for this assault and asked for some explanation or apology. Their response was to hang up the phone and refuse to discuss the matter with me or the elderly lady.

The elderly lady I am speaking about is my mother and so I can speak honestly about her and her reactions to this kind of treatment. She is extremely inoffensive, hard-working and honest; she has never been accused of anything dishonest in her entire life and she suffers from a chronic heart condition which is aggravated by stress, fear or excitement of any type. As a daughter, my initial reaction was to seek immediate retribution in the form of charges laid against the store for assault. Once my anger had abated somewhat I began to wonder how many other inoffensive — and honest — individuals had been treated in this cavalier manner.

I would be interested in finding out and helping put a stop to it.

Jeanette Keenan

D.V.A.

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Ontario Housing on chopping block?

By JOAN BRYDEN

First it was PetroCanada, then De Havilland, Eldorado and a host of other crown corporations. Considering the federal government's obsession with "privatization", it should come as no great surprise that provincial and municipal governments are trying to get in on the act now too. The latest victim to go on the chopping block is Ontario Housing Corp., though, so far, there has been only talk and no action. If the Social Housing Action Coalition (SHAC) has its way, it will remain just talk.

New development explained

You have probably noticed that there has been a great deal of new development on Berkeley and Ontario Streets, south of Dundas Street. Over the past 2 years, many older homes on these streets have been demolished and townhouses facing onto both Berkeley and Poulette Streets and Milan and Ontario Streets have been built.

This has been possible for several reasons. Under the Zoning By-law which governs all development, a house must face onto a street and have a street address. To build any other form of residential development, a developer must go through a rezoning process and receive permission from City Council. Milan and Poulette Streets, while much narrower than the majority of City streets, are in fact, designated public streets (as opposed to lanes) so that one can build houses facing onto Milan and Poulette. However, there are other restrictions on the kind of buildings permitted in residential areas which still apply such as: height, density, amount of open space provided, minimum distance from the front, back and side property lines and width of the property.

One can apply for minor variations from these restrictions from the Committee of Adjustment, at City Hall, and many of the developers have done this. Residents can, and have, in many cases commented at Committee of Adjustment meetings.

Examples of such variances which have been granted in the past are: decreased distance from the front and side property lines and decreased property width as well as slight increases in density and height.

From a planning perspective there are definite benefits to be gained for the area from this kind of redevelopment. New and increased sources of family accommodation are provided in the area, houses in poorer condition are replaced and accommodation at somewhat lower prices may be available.

Residents have expressed some concern about the new houses. They feel that all the houses should be set back on the lots and driveways should be long enough for cars to be parked without overhanging the sidewalk and inconveniencing pedestrians. Milan and Poulette Streets should be treated as regular streets and the new houses should continue to be as high a quality as Berkeley and Ontario Street homes. Densities of new houses should be lower and access should be provided from one street through to the other, by means of wider side setbacks.

In many cases, both the developers and the Committee of Adjustment have been very positive in their response to these concerns. They have decreased the number of houses, increased the length of driveways and redesigned the exterior of the houses so that they fit in with the rest of the street.

Alderman Janet Howard has recommended that the Planning Department report to City Council on planning guidelines which could be applied in these situations and SOCCA is also working on the development of such guidelines.

SHAC was formed in November in response to a report by Metro Planning that proposed the transfer of all OHC projects to a new agency to be called the Metropolitan Toronto Non-Profit Housing Corp. The purpose of this transfer was to encourage non-profit and co-operative housing and to encourage private developers to include some subsidized units within their developments. Aside from reducing government expenditures on subsidized housing, this proposal was designed to help integrate those in need of subsidized housing into a mixed environment, to help overcome the problems of ghettoization and stigmatization caused by large public housing projects.

Don Richmond of the Planning Department maintains that the report was intended strictly as a focus for discussion and nothing more. The sole purpose of the report was to propose a way in

which to reduce the cost of subsidized housing to the city and the province. Under existing conditions with OHC, the federal government pays 50% of the subsidies, the province pays 42% and the city 7-1/2%. According to Richmond, if OHC were dismantled in favour of providing subsidies to non-profit housing and private developers the city's costs would be reduced to zero and the province's share would be drastically minimized. The federal government would be the one to pay for the new arrangement.

SHAC counters this argument, claiming that it is the present OHC tenants who would pay — pay being evicted. Whether the subsidy is paid directly to tenants for housing or to private developers for including low rental units in their buildings the cost remains the same, unless, of course, the total number

of subsidized units is reduced. This is what SHAC fears is the real import of the metro planning report. Even if, under private control, the number of units remained the same, there is, as one SHAC organizer, Liz White, puts it, "no guarantee that those units will be maintained beyond five years."

White also attacks the report's notion that integration can best be achieved through "privatization". Blaming OHC policies for ensuring ghettoization, she claims that a mixed environment could be developed if tenants were given more involvement in the management of the projects and if they were allowed to remain in OHC developments after they began making more than a certain income.

"A lot can be done to change attitudes and break down barriers but this has never been a priority of OHC."

Furthermore, Liz White does not believe Richmond's claim that the report is meant only to generate discussion saying, "My interpretation is that a report like this is usually adopted." She can only have found this belief affirmed when it was revealed last month that a legislative committee was also recommending the disbanding of OHC.

However, Richmond feels that

the chances for the success of his report are "practically nil", mainly because the ministry of housing has convinced itself that, rather than reducing its costs, the proposal would increase them. The ministry is supported in this by the general manager of OHC, Doug Beasley, who says, "For every OHC unit you moved out, you would need to build four units to constitute a mixed environment. Obviously this would be very expensive". In addition, the federal government is integrally involved in OHC and would be even more involved in the proposed non-profit scheme. To date, Ottawa has been little more than an interested observer of the controversy surrounding the metro report. Obviously the federal government would have a lot to say on the matter before it ever became accepted policy.

Despite the opposition to the report, Richmond is very optimistic about the end result. For him, the important thing is to "generate concern over the future of subsidized housing in Toronto."

If the ire his report has raised in city council and in groups like SHAC is any indication, the report has been successful in at least that much. Both SHAC and Metro Planning seem to be in agreement that new solutions to subsidized housing are needed. The question is, will they be found with or without OHC?

A rousing finish to '79

By Ken Hamilton

Junior and intermediate boxers from the Cabbagetown Youth Centre finished off 1979 in rousing style with the following results:

At Hamilton, December 4:

Don Dill, Age 12, 95 lbs., easily defeated John Hannah, of Hamilton.

Patrick Brown, Age 14, 85 lbs., lost out to Robbie Hill, of Hamilton.

Harry Tse, Age 18, 112 lbs., was stopped by a TKO in the second by Mike McDonnell of Port Dalhousie.

At Cabbagetown, December 9:

Conrad Gray, Age 9, 60 lbs., won out over Marrece Archie of Buffalo.

Phillip Brown, age 12, 85 lbs., showed his usual classy skill in defeating Junior Olympic Champ, Zenel Webster, of Buffalo. Phillip's record is now 7-1.

Patrick Brown won nicely over more experienced Nate Gainey of Buffalo. Patrick's record is also 7-1. He has defeated four junior champions.

Fitz Bruney, age 12, 80 lbs., decisioned tough Tony Borden of Buffalo. This was Rod's second bout, and he showed unusual determination and courage.

Warren McKeown, age 13, 85 lbs., Ontario Junior Champ, won a close decision over David Jones of Buffalo.

Garth Grant, 15, 105 lbs., had little trouble in decisioning Junior Olympic Champ James Gardiner of Buffalo.

Don Dill, age 12, 95 lbs. Ontario Junior Champ, took only 27 seconds of the first round to score a TKO over Donel Cathcart of Buffalo.

John Shaw, age 13, 80 lbs., lost a close decision to National Junior U.S. Champ Vernon McGriff of Buffalo. John had defeated Vernon on two previous occasions this year.

At Lansdowne A.C., December 10:

Conrad Gray added another vic-



Garth Grant

tory to bring his record to 10-1, by defeating southpaw Cesar Marambo of North Scarborough.

Don Dill scored again by handily outpointing Al-LeClaire of London. Don's record is now an impressive 21-1.

Glen Maclean, age 15, 132 lbs., took on Bob Hackett of North Scarborough. Maclean packs such a solid wallop that Hackett elected to hold and wrestle continuously. The referee therefore disqualified Hackett in the second round.

Garth Grant did it again by scoring a TKO over Jimmy McNee of Bramalea in the second round. Garth's personal boxing record now stands at 8-0.

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News from Riverdale

Riverdale Collegiate students started a new term on January 3 after a school-wide set of examinations in the week preceding the Christmas holidays. Riverdale students will also be involved in new extracurricular activities. Sportswise the hockey team, basketball teams, swimming teams and others will be competing with other secondary schools.

The Riverdale Raiders hockey team has already played two exhibition games against Jarvis and Lawrence Park and tied both, so like the Philadelphia Flyers they have an unbeaten string. Mike cooper is the captain, Mike Schmidt and Rick Leuning are the assistant captains. The team plays Tuesdays and Thursdays, usually between 4 and 6 pm at various arenas including the Ted Reeve Arena.

cluding the Ted Reeve Arena.

To close off the year 1979, Riverdale hosted its sixth annual junior basketball tournament on December 7 and 8. Eight teams competed for the championship medals. The host team lost in the consolation semi-final to Monarch Park. Kipling Collegiate from Etobicoke defeated Eastern Commerce in an exciting championship game by a score of 84 to 80. Diane Wood, one of Riverdale's cheerleaders, presented the medals to the Kipling players.

The 1980 tournament is already slated at Riverdale for next December 5 and 6. Bob Curran, the Kipling coach, said that he would bring his team to defend their crown.

Ross Mackintosh

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Into the Eighties

By HOWARD HUGGETT

The beginning of a new year is always an important milestone, but the entering of another decade is some special. Furthermore this particular one, the 1980's, has a very different look about it than the last few that have gone before. As people stand at the threshold and peer into the future they are inclined to feel uneasy at the very best. The economy is faltering, inflation is still with us, and the energy situation goes from bad to worse. There is a general belief that tougher times are coming and most of us will have to tighten our belts.

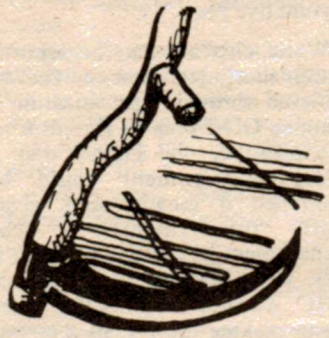
It is not my intention to advance a contrary point of view, but I would like to make this point. Many of us who are now gazing into the Anxious Eighties were growing up in the Fabulous Fifties and they tend to evaluate the decades that have followed in comparison with those very prosperous years. But quite a few of us are old enough to recall the great depression of the thirties and the war years of the forties, and we have the advantage of a longer perspective.

During the 1950's the economy took off and most of the people in this country began to enjoy a substantial increase in our living standards. Today the majority of the population is better fed and clothed, is more adequately housed, and leads a richer and more rewarding life than a generation ago. This happened although statistics show that the poorer sections of our people actually receive a smaller share of the national wealth than they did twenty years ago. They are better off only because there has been so much more to go around.

As we head into the 1980's the economy is sluggish and all indications are that there is not going to be as much wealth to divide up. That indicates that we had better try for a fairer distribution of what is produced.

There is something else that has to be considered, and that is the question of what should be produced. The best way I can find to illustrate what I mean is to take the example of one family. When it is enjoying a high income it spends

a lot on luxuries, goods and services that it doesn't need and often would be happier and healthier without. If that family experiences a cut in income it will, if it is wise, sit down and figure out what can be done without.



A people can act the same way, we can make decision as to what are really the good things in life and try to produce enough of those for everybody. The rest can wait. In looking back over the last twenty or thirty years we can now realize that a great deal of our store of natural resources, including oil and gas, have been recklessly squandered for the production of vast amounts of goods and services that were not worth what they cost. It seems to me that we owe the OPEC countries a vote of thanks for giving us such a jolt and making us realize just how important petroleum products are while there are still very considerable quantities available.

There is a quotation that is very applicable to the situation that faces us as we enter the eighties. I wish I could remember who said it, but, as usual, I don't. Here it is: A time of danger is a time of opportunity.

Throw out the word "maintain" and replace it with "prevention" is the gist of a report of a special steering committee set up in October to examine the plight of children in Metro Toronto.

Specifically, three forums were held, November 5, 6, 7, in the Regent Park area, made up of local residents, agency personnel and resource people. Informal groups, informational agencies, and one-to-one contacts, discussed a proposal of the Social Services and Housing Sub-Committee of Metro Council to prepare a brief for the formation, staffing, funding and responsibilities of a children's services committee for Metro Toronto. This was in response to the Province's intention to re-organize services to children at all levels: regional, provincial and local.

These forums were held throughout Metro Toronto to give the Special Committee insight into the gaps and overlaps in services for children.

A preventative approach rather than the existing "maintenance" one was headlined plus the urgent need to make full use of the potential of local citizens, their know-how and experience. The Special Committee emphasized the need also for "people power"; that local residents be trained precisely "to assume their responsibilities in order to make decision-making on the local level effective and productive."

Are you a poet? Then send us some of your poetry, to 7 News, 315 Dundas St. East, Toronto M5A 2A2 and get your works in print.

However, the report asked, "Could the community be given time and support in order to develop its own concept for a structure?"

The Special Committee report also challenges the government's sincerity by asking, "Is the government sincere when it says it is willing to shift the burden of decision-making to the community level? And, if so, will it help in the development of that process to insure that the decision making is effective?"

Its analysis of the current state of Children's Services is that "it is unsatisfactory, and change, of some sort, is desirable."

The report comes out strongly in stating that if any change is simply to result in more "bureaucracy" then it would be better to do nothing at all.

"This added bureaucracy," it states, would mean only "impotent citizenship representation. It would not only be undesirable, but would add yet another straw of disillusionment to the already burdened back of this particular (Regent Park) community."

However, the report continues: "if change results in an opportunity for the local community in true partnership with government and the agencies, to set its own priorities, based upon its own perceived needs through a structure designed to insure local accountability, it would do much to redress the many grievances felt by residents of this area."

The Special Committee report concludes with a question. "Can a new structure be so designed?"

Follow-up meetings will be held in January, and the Special Committee expects to publish a draft re-

port in January/February. The Committee, during the public forums held in Regent Park area, was impressed by the dedication and concern of both children and parents to improve a situation where many families "find themselves in a 'Catch-22' situation as a result of multi-level government agencies seemingly working against each other."

Note: If you remember the children and wish to get involved in particular action, please contact: June Johnson at Dixon Hall, 863-0499; Eric Burton at the Downtown Boys and Girls Club, 367-0648; or Ria Harting at Central Neighbourhood House, 925-4363.

Learn paste-up

Have you ever wanted to try your hand at putting a newspaper together? 7 News is looking for one or two volunteers to help with the paste-up of the paper. No experience is necessary — we'll show you how — and times are flexible, anywhere from one or two hours to all day, morning, afternoon, or evening. Paste-up occurs every second week on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. If you're interested, call us at 363-9650.



A DAY IN THE LIFE

I'm 30 years old, I'm in good health, I'm a hard worker, I have a good education and I don't have a job. I've been looking for several months now, I've tried every trick in the book but I've come up empty handed. Inevitably, with 200 or more people applying for each advertisement I answer, there is someone out there with more experience, more education or more "pull" than I have.

I haven't always been in this situation. Aside from the usual short-term summer jobs and government "make-work" projects, I once had a responsible and demanding full time job and consequently I became a victim of economic "Belt-tightening". So I find myself with an excellent recommendation from my former employer, with a varied set of practical skills and without a job.

Ten years ago, when I decided to go back to high school after a stint in a low paying, dead end job, it never occurred to me that it could come to this. At 30 I thought I would be settled into a solid career, in the midst of paying off a mortgage on my first house and generally sharing in the Canadian good life. Instead I'm back to square one — starting all over again. I'm still financially dependent, living in rented accommodation, constantly worried about being able to pay my bills and with virtually no security for the future. The real difference now is that there are few options open to me. Going back to school is obviously not the answer. I need more work experience, but how do I get it? What has gone wrong? Where did I go wrong? These questions haunt my waking hours.

Sure I'm better off than a lot of Canadians. Sure, I'm not starving and glad of it, but a life of economic dependence on others — a life devoid of a sense of self worth, purpose and accomplishment isn't

much of an existence.

I know I'm not alone. There are thousands of Canadians out there sharing my fate, but I can't help feeling that it is somehow my fault, my personal failure that has brought all of this upon me. After all, some of my friends have "made it" and everytime I go downtown I see the streets lined with expensive late-model cars and the trendy restaurants and bars brimming full with young well-dressed affluent executives. Everytime I leaf through a city magazine, I see stories about the successful people, the business and media whiz kids who live in renovated, sandblasted townhouses and spend their leisure time sipping Perrier water and jogging in their Pierre-Cardin sweat suits. It is obvious that some people are making it, so times couldn't be that tough, or could they?

To add insult to injury, so many letters to the editor in our local newspapers rail against the "lazy" unemployed and the welfare "bums". As the saying goes "anyone who really wants to work can find a job" (in spite of the statistic that there are 20 job seekers for every position available.)

It wasn't too long ago that jobs were comparatively plentiful. University graduates and skilled workers were practically guaranteed secure employment, and those fortunate enough to cash in on the prosperity of the 60's are now sitting pretty. Many cannot accept the fact that things have changed so drastically. Opportunity came easy to them,

the vast majority of their friends are employed and, on the surface at least, Toronto appears to be a very affluent city. (In a recent editorial in the Toronto Star, Gale Garnett asked "Where are Toronto's poor?"). The obvious conclusion is that those who are unemployed don't really want to work.

All of the self-blame, the humiliation, the feelings of worthlessness and shame, have had a devastating impact on my personal life. My world is divided up into those who have jobs and those who don't. Confused ugly emotions swell to the surface when I see my successful friends. Jealousy and resentment take the place of the former warm and friendly feelings I had toward them when I was also employed. I can't help but resent my dependency on my husband, much the same as I resented my dependency on my parents when I was a young adult. Being a parasite (or feeling like one) isn't much fun.

And so, I must wait on the sidelines and watch as the best months and years of my life slip by. No one thinks my time and effort is worth anything — so I am not worth anything. Bored, frustrated, humiliated and bitter, I have no way of productively releasing my feelings. The more I blame myself and the more society blames people like me for a problem we did not create, the harder it is to summon up the courage to face another day of rejection.

Carol Bailey

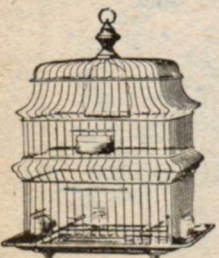
This article was written last spring.

We are hoping to make Day in the Life a regular feature of 7 News. Day in the Life is to be a section of the paper in which people talk about how they feel about their jobs, where they live, where they shop or go to have fun, and where people who have lived in this community for a long time can share their memories with the rest of us. If you would like to talk to a 7 News writer about your experiences, or if you would like to send in your own story, call us at 363-9650.

What's new

Is there anything new on your block or in your neighbourhood? Do you have an opinion about something that is happening (or isn't happening) in this area? Have you taken some interesting pictures of last week's street dance, or of your school's graduation, or of some other event which you think readers of 7 News might be interested in? Then please give us a call at 7 News at 363-9650. We are always interested in printing your opinions or your photos (they will be returned undamaged). And we really rely on our readers to let us know what is happening in the way of news. (You could write up a short account yourself, or one of our writers could do it by following up your tip.) Let us know...

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Saturday, January 12

The Book Discussion Group at Pathways College will lead off its winter Saturday at 1 p.m. Reading Series with Bernice Lever, who has had two books of poems published recently, **Yet Woman I Am** and **Excuses For All Occasions**. All are invited to drop in or come by to meet the author at Pathways, 591 Parliament St. Phone 967-4668.

Sunday, January 13

Mrs. Mary Brubaker of the Queen St. Mental Hospital Chaplancy service will speak at the St. Luke's Church Forum, at 2:30 p.m., 648 Huron St.

Tuesday, January 15

General meeting of **Riverdale Intercultural Council**, at 947 Queen St. East, at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, January 17

Dixon Hall again opens up its regular **Neighbourhood Fun Night** tonight, starting at 6:15 and ending usually around 9:00 p.m. Watch for flyers to get the details of program activities, or call 863-0499. This is an adult and family night so children will not be admitted unless accompanied by an adult.

Parliament Street Library is showing **Wee Gordie**, a 1955 film about a small Scottish boy who takes a body building course and enters the Olympics. With Bill Travers and Alastair Sim. Shown at 6:30 p.m. and also Friday at 2 p.m. 269 Gerrard St.

Monday, January 21

The **South Riverdale Neighbourhood Improvement Program** will be having its regular monthly meeting tonight at 7:30 p.m. at the new Site Office, 821 Queen St. E., 2nd Floor, to discuss 1979 Budget, Post Office Plans, and Boston Avenue.

An evening of solidarity with the Japanese farmers struggling against the Narita airport, will be held at 8:00 p.m. at the Trojan Horse (179 Danforth, near Broadview). A slide show "**Sanrizuka: The Farmers' Struggle for Life**", will be featured, as well as music and poetry. A \$2 donation is requested to cover costs and to raise funds.

Saturday, January 26

The **Don Hall Flea Market**, 157 Broadview Ave., opens today and will be open every Saturday and Sunday from now on from 10-5 p.m.

Thursday, January 31

The Parliament Street Library will be showing **The Man Who Knew Too Much**, a film from 1934. An Alfred Hitchcock story about a political assassination plot, starring Peter Lore. At 6:30 p.m. and again on Friday February 1 at 2 p.m.

Those who would like to be in the **Ward 7 Musical** will have a chance at the casting meeting, tonight at 7:30 p.m. So if you want to have a part be there at Winchester School Music Room, 15 Prospect St. For further information call 363-9650.

ONGOING

The new location of the **Don District Planning Office** is 821 Queen St. E. (at Empire Ave.) The new telephone number is 463-5914. Bonnie Alter will still be the Neighbourhood Planning Assistant for the South of Carlton Area and will work out of the new location.

Awaken your innate ability to **move and dance** in a new set of classes beginning at the Centre of Movement, 171 Hampton Ave., beginning January 14. The Centre's Movement teaching, which it refers to as "western yoga", allows you to relax, breathe, and discover deceptively simple ways to transform everyday movements into re-energizing activity. Movement studies and improvisation and dance classes awaken and invigorate the body to bring you in touch with your creative

self. Open to both sexes and adults of all ages, plus children 3 to 7. Located at the Chester-Danforth subway stop. Further information: 466-9549.

A "Reunion Tea" will be held for former Franklanders at the school on Saturday February 2, 1 to 5 pm. This will be your **last chance to visit old Frankland**. The new school is nearing completion and demolition of the old building is expected to start in April. The Reunion committee is looking for old newspaper clippings, school pictures and other memorabilia for display at the reunion. If you have any items of interest, please contact the school office (463-1119).

Opportunity for Advancement offers a 14-week course at Central Neighbourhood House, 349 Ontario St., for **sole support mothers** feeling the need to plan for a better future. The course aims to help women to develop a realistic plan. Assertiveness training, counselling, and vocational testing to help you find what is right for you. Tuesdays 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Starts January 22. Transportation and day care provided. Call Barb or Jill at 925-4363.

A **new library** has opened: the Queen and Saulters branch. It's at 761 Queen St. East. Hours are noon to six on Wednesdays and Fridays, noon to 8:30 Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 9 to 5 Saturdays.

The Parliament Street Library has **free exhibit space** available to display the work of local artists. Please contact Linda Thomson at the library, 924-7122, for details.

The **Riverdale Library** expects to be moving back from the storefront to the renovated branch this month, and will be closed for about two weeks. Call 466-0776 for details.

The **Parliament Street Library** has movies for kids every Wednesday at 4 p.m. It also has activities for kids every Saturday at 2 p.m. Every Monday and Wednesday, it has a homework programme, with a quiet place for kids to work plus help with problems. And every Tuesday, from 6 to 8 p.m., it has yoga classes at \$3 a class.

The **Pape/Danforth Library**, 701 Pape, has activities for kids every Saturday at 2:30. Call 465-1221 for details. Also, on Thursdays at 10 a.m., there is a pre-school story hour for two to four-year-olds.

The Toronto Dance Theatre is holding six **choreographic workshops**, January 23 to 27 at 80 Winchester Street. For more information call 967-1365.

For those interested in finishing studies for the **Grade 12 and 13 diplomas**, daytime or evenings, Pathways College announces it has expert, qualified teachers in all subjects. Adults and youths who have been away from school for a while are encouraged to come by and discuss their particular interests and educational needs with the principal any weekday between 9 and 5:30. Call 967-4668 or come to 591 Parliament St.

Once again this year the Ministry of Natural Resources in Maple will be sponsoring **Bird Box Workshops**. There will be four to choose from — 2 evening workshops, January 30 and February 6, and 2 weekend sessions February 2 and February 9. These workshops have been very popular in the past, so call the Maple District Office now to reserve a space at 832-2761 Ext. 275.

The workshops begin with a short slide presentation on wildlife habitat in urban and rural areas. Angus Norman, Maple's extension biologist, says, "we will give a mini course on the importance of food, water and shelter to wildlife then the people can go to it and put together one of the prefabricated bird boxes."

The boxes are designed for use by bluebirds, flickers, hairy woodpeckers, wrens or wood ducks, but may be used by a variety of wildlife. Building and erecting a bird box can lead to the rewarding hobby of bird watching while providing the much needed facilities for the birds.

Once the boxes are in a suitable location, all you have to do is wait out those winter days until the birds return. Get out for one of these workshops, it's a great opportunity to

build a bird box. Call 832-2761, ext 275, for further information.

Volunteers are urgently needed to help supervise the annual free income tax clinic sponsored by the Neighbourhood Information Post at Library House, 265 Gerrard East. The annual clinic, which offers free help to people of limited income in filling out their income tax forms, is due to start on the evening of January 15. Volunteers are needed to act as receptionists, to book clients, answer phones and/or assist with filling out income tax forms. Chartered accountants will also be donating their services. The clinics will be held every Tuesday and Thursday evening until May. Day-time volunteers are also very welcome. The donation of even a few hours would be much appreciated. The free tax service is provided only to people below certain income levels. If you would like to know if you qualify, telephone the Neighbourhood Information Post. And if you would like to help out, please phone 924-2543 or 924-2544.

TRAC, the Toronto Recycling Action Committee, is looking for greater participation by the residents of the City of Toronto. As a Special Committee of Toronto City Council, its goal is to encourage more appropriate waste management systems, emphasizing waste reduction, reuse and recycling. The Committee meets every second Monday evening. Anyone interested in becoming a member should call Judy Vellend at 531-3548 (days) or Janice Palmer at 487-5755 (evenings). TRAC also welcomes any queries or comments about its programs as well as waste management issues in general.

Attention Senior Citizens! Would you like a new hairstyle? Has your toaster stopped popping? Students at two Ward 7 schools can help you and at very reasonable prices too! Services such as hairdressing, small appliance repair, small carpentry repairs and dry cleaning are being offered at these schools, once again this year. By helping senior citizens and disabled adults with these services, students gain work experience in the trades they are learning. Call 225-8897 for more information.

The **Regent Park Adult Recreation Centre** wishes to announce that we have started to have euchre games on Friday nights at 603 Whiteside Place. Hours are from 7:30 to 11 pm. All persons who are interested in playing are more than welcome. Also we have cribbage, and anyone interested in playing can come in to play and pick a night they would like a cribbage game on. The centre is open Monday to Friday from 1 to 4 pm and nights Monday through Thursday 7 to 10 pm and Friday 7 till 11 pm. We also have an arts and crafts day for the ladies. The Centre is open to people in Regent Park and surrounding areas.

Volunteers are needed for Project Achievement, a tutorial program for Grades 3 to 8 students at Park School. The program runs Tuesday and Thursday evenings at Park School, 7 to 9 pm. Tutors are also required for students in other schools — volunteer or paid. Please contact Carolyn Forsyth at 282-8346.

Free Store: open 2 to 4 pm Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays on the 375 Bleecker main floor.

Are you aware of the medical and dental services offered by the **Don District Community Health Centre**? If you are an area resident, you may want to use the services of the centre, located in suite 102 of 295 Shuter St. (in the Moss Park Apartments). The telephone number is 364-1361. Hours for medical services are Monday to Friday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays. Hours for dental services are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The South Riverdale Child-Parent Drop In Centre is an informal place for parents to come with their infants and pre-schoolers, for coffee, conversation, and play. It is located in the Old Post Office at 765 Queen St. E. and is open Monday to Thursday, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Once a week there is a speaker and discussion on various topics. For further information, call 469-3776.

Downtown Care-Ring is for you. This is a project which seeks to help the elderly, sick or lonely people, to get them to the doctor or hospital, or just to keep someone company. **Care-Ring is in desperate need of volunteers.** It is awful when someone calls and we cannot send the help they need, if we have to leave a call unanswered. So we beg you, if you have an hour or two to spare, do please offer your help. Call Dianne, at 868-1190 between 9 am and 2 pm Monday to Friday.

Do you like finding out what's going on in the community through reading the community calendar? Then maybe you'd like to get in on the ground floor, so to speak, and help us put the calendar together. If you have any time to spare, and you think you might like to help, please give us a call at 7 News, 363-9650.

Victoria Day Care Services at 539 Jarvis St., is interested in talking to you, if you are interested in being a Day Care Provider. Why not consider: a companion for your child, additional income, and the stimulation of meeting new people? To learn more about our Private Day Care programme, call 925-3419.

It's not easy to ask **questions about sex and birth control**. And, there's a lot of unreliable information out there. If you have concerns about birth control, your sexuality, or the course of your relationship, call Planned Parenthood's Love Line. The Love Line operates from 9 am to 9 pm, seven days a week as a special service to Metro's teens. Call 961-8311. We're here to help.

Dixon Hall's **Home Help for Seniors** is available to any senior living in the area bounded by Gerrard to the lake, Sherbourne to River St. Services provided include light housekeeping and laundry \$1 per hour. Transportation to medical appointments and weekly van shopping. Call 863-0499.

There is now an **Adult Education Centre** at St. Ann's School, 70 Boulton Ave. It provides upgrading in English and mathematics. It operates daily from 9 am to 3:30 p.m. It is for adults 18 years and over. For more information call 469-3659.

The St. Jamestown Y has a range of activities for adults and seniors. These are:

The Senior Monday Club, which meets each Monday from 1:15 to 3:30 pm in the 200 Wellesley Rec Room. Bingo, card games, refreshments.

Monday Evening Crafts, held in the 275 Bleecker Rec room each Monday from 7 to 9 pm. Knitting, crocheting, chit chat, refreshments.

Monday Bingo: held in the 200 Wellesley Rec Room each Monday beginning at 8 pm.

St. James Town Songsters: a group of seniors who get together in the 200 Wellesley Rec Room each Tuesday evening at 7 to sing old and familiar songs. They often entertain at various homes and hospitals in the area.

Wheels of Fortune: a club for handicapped and seniors meeting each Thursday in the 325 Bleecker Rec Room at 8 pm.

Library: open 1:30 to 3:30, Monday to Friday.

New members are welcome at the **519 Food Co-op**, at 519 Church St. Hours are 1st to 6 Fridays, 10 to 1:30 Saturdays. Contact Linda Pim at 881-0719, evenings.

Metro Toronto Nursery Schools for Handicapped Children are in **urgent need of volunteers** to work on a one-to-one basis in an early-stimulation developmental program. One morning a week: 9 to 12. Contact Virginia Mills, 361-0773.

Harbourfront offers a regular **senior's program** at York Quay Centre, 235 Queen's Quay West. The program runs Tuesdays through Thursdays from 11 am to 3 pm and offers a variety of educational seminars, entertainment and special events.

Community Calendar is a free community service. If you have an upcoming event which you would like listed in the February 1 issue (any event from February 2 to February 15 should go in this issue) send your announcement to 7 News, 315 Dundas St. East, Toronto M5A 2A2 or call 363-9650.

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(north of Danforth)
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and Sunday from 10—5
Reserve Your Stall Now
Call 429-2101

WARD 7 MUSICAL

We are ready to start casting for parts!
If you would like to be in the Ward 7 musical, come to our casting meeting, where parts will be chosen.
Thursday January 31
7:30 p.m.
Winchester School Music Room,
15 Prospect St.
For further information call 363-9650.

School streaming a hot issue

By JOANN HUTCHISON

Nearly fifty deputations spoke to the Special Board on Special Education on November 15th. Included among those who spoke were a number of Ward 7 parents, teachers, and principals. Excerpts of their comments appear below, particularly as they related to the issue of streaming working class kids.

All parents who spoke (with the exception of Merylie Houston, who presented a petition on behalf of a number of individuals and school-community groups, and Bob Johnson, who spoke for the Winchester Council), did so for themselves as concerned individuals and not as representatives of any parent groups. The same holds true of the teachers and principals who spoke, with the exception of Ernie Priest who spoke for the Winchester staff. Barb Dawson,

who was out of town because of an urgent family matter, was unable to speak at the Board that night. She had intended to however, so comments from her brief have been included with her permission. Schools are named solely for the purpose of geographical identification.

Donald Irquhart (principal, Rose Ave.)

Streaming means the division of pupils into classes based upon ability. The reason given for streaming is that it reduces differences among pupils... in fact, streaming cuts down the differences by only 2/5.

Bottom-stream classes used to be handed around on an annual basis, because of the large number of behavioural problems in these classes... In principle, students could

move between streams. In fact, they moved hardly at all.

A study done by Rosenthal at Harvard showed that teachers' expectations affected kids' performances. Low-stream children will likely produce to teachers' low expectations.

The alternative is a wider range of achievement in regular classrooms... In an average grade 4, you can be shown how to deal with these differences... Teachers must become adept at assessment. They must take a developmental approach that involves the subtle use of grouping and individual programming. Availability of many resources, multi-level materials, and the use of resource rooms is essential.

Streaming must end because it is bad for children.

Audrey Goldfinch (teacher, Duke of York)

For 3 years at Duke of York school, we have used special education teachers on a withdrawal basis. This team teaching approach has become increasingly successful. We invite you to investigate what is happening at our school. Our kids are at least average, alert, and bright. They need the opportunity to learn from each other.

Vera Desommers (learning centre teacher, Duke of York)

I used to have a self-contained behavioural class. I now run a learning centre which I find to be a more hopeful situation. It is important to have a good ratio of adults to children. This approach seems to be working. But more could be done. We need more flexibility for admission to this type of special education program.

Merylie Houston (concerned parent, Frankland)

Public discussion of this issue is essential. Parents and teachers need to become sufficiently informed and hold meetings. I would ask that all the information available be forwarded to principals, recognized parent groups, and teacher organizations.

Although 215 briefs were received concerning the **Draft Report**, and 15 public meetings held, just as the Board changes hands, so do parents' organizations change, and we need a new opportunity to understand.

Rene Souery (concerned parent, Withrow)

Two major issues are being confused here, special education and streaming. Tonight we have heard a lot of passion about special education. The main problem is streaming.

'PUBLIC INPUT INTO THE Draft Report is more of a fantasy than a reality.

The majority of special education students end up in dead-end tracks. Just because a tremendous effort has gone into producing something (the **Draft Report**), that does not justify it if it is wrong... I would ask that you reopen the subject for public debate.

David Clamfield (concerned parent, Gabrielle Roy)

Martell's proposals have not been given the chance for analysis by parents. The Martell guidelines would make Special Education more flexible. They are against the labelling of children, against class bias in assessment, and aim to upgrade programming.

Many people really don't know, haven't been informed, haven't been asked about these guidelines... Educational reforms which a society does not understand or does not believe in will fail, not because they are wrong, but because the society does not want them.

Alderman Janet Howard

I have waited seven years to make this speech. When I first moved into my downtown neighbourhood, I noticed that something very strange was happening to all the working class children on my street. They were all in Opportunity Class, which they called the "dumb dumb class". I thought it was

an odd coincidence that working class kids and opportunity class placement went together like that.

In this society it is considered indecent to talk about social class. We speak of different kinds of economic status in this country, but heavens no, not social class... This Board has been faulted tonight for making streaming a political issue. Well it is a political issue, and I, for one, am proud of the political process. The political process can be used to bring about useful changes in society.

This dumping (of working class kids) has gone on for years and years. It has to be acknowledged and stopped.



Sharon Vernon (concerned parent, Sprucecourt)

I am presently attending a seminar on the education of working class students. The first night in that seminar, I was told that there is a greater chance of my child ending up in a special education program simply because of her class background.

I am tired of hearing that working class parents aren't as concerned about their children's education as middle class parents. We are just as interested in our children as you are.

Linda DiCarlo (concerned parent, Lord Dufferin)

This subject has always been personal to me. I never thought I'd have to speak of it to anyone, let alone to a committee, but the time has come when I have to speak out. You see, I was one of your special education students.

My three years in A.V. class were hell. We did no serious work, and there was no reward for progress made. My teachers didn't expect me to go anywhere.

Three years ago, I went back to school. I was scared of being a failure again; scared that the school had been right and I was wrong.

When I left A.V. class they said I was reading at a grade 5.6 level. At George Brown, I had a reading level of Grade 12, though I found English super-hard.

I don't doubt that there are a lot of kids who need special education, but I got dumped and pushed aside. I have two kids in the school system right now, and I'll be damned if my kids will go to a level 3 high school.

Rhoda Hill (concerned parent, Park)

A child should be helped as soon as the need is present. If a child is labelled, he will not try to do as well as possible.

My child is in Special Education and has not improved in writing skills, math, and S.R.A. She cannot cope with the work pace in the regular classroom.

The kids in our junior special ed. program can't work on their own. They have an IQ span of average to low.

David Reville (concerned parent, Withrow)

There has been a lot of tension in this building tonight. We've had misinformation and maybe even some outright lies. Parents don't want mucking with special education programs unless there is something else in place.

Martell's guidelines are just that — guidelines. Some people seem to support their thrust.

We have 109 recommendations in the **Draft Report** but not very much about streaming. Eight years ago, Park parents said their kids were getting the short end of the stick. At that time 50% of their kids went to dead-end high schools. That figure is 60% now. This is why the Martell guidelines are important.

Martell has been involved with this issue for ten years. His guidelines don't come out of thin air. He has worked with the Trefann Court mothers, the Park Council, and Cabbagetown teenagers who formed their own school... It's even here in his election literature: "we must do something about streaming in our schools".

Let's get all the facts out. These guidelines of Martell's are based on real experiences with real people. Streaming isn't working. Let's not be afraid to say it.

Chris Dorevitch (principal, Regent Park)

Twenty of my twenty-five teachers have been with me for five years or more. Thirteen of my staff have special education qualifications. They spread

the gospel throughout the school.

There are 400 kids in my school. We have seven special education programs: 2 withdrawal, 1 primary contained, 1 junior contained, 1 reading contained, 1 learning centre, and student services in the building.

We are very grateful for these additions. We have a loving, learning environment and the kids are benefitting.

Despite the staff's qualifications, and the low pupil-teacher-ratio, my teachers still find it necessary to recommend kids for special ed... We have 100 kids in special education at this time. There's nothing shameful about that... if our kids need help.

Susan Berlin (concerned parent, Northern Secondary)

I think we should look at the realities of special education, and have these classes really helped... The principal of Regent Park says he has 100 kids out of 420 in Special Education of some sort. I don't think that's special education.

The system of teaching regular classes must be at fault, not the kids, if 1 out of 4 children fail... Outside of school, these kids seem competent and perceptive, yet they are in a slow learner class.

Janet Ross (concerned parent, Lord Dufferin)

We demand action for our children... because we want to see a drastic reduction in the high percentage of working class kids in dead-end programs.

Eight years ago in the Park Council brief, we asked for an end to the dumping of our children in dead-end streams. We were promised action. We're still waiting. Thousands of dollars was spent on research that has been gathering dust for eight years.

Our kids don't see themselves as failures; they see the system as failing them. We need the resources for back-up before a problem becomes a crisis.

If you can't read and write where can you go in this society?... Our kids have reasons for their frustrations. Often they lack the skills to express themselves at the level they're thinking at.

It takes patience, time, and love to motivate a kid. You have to understand a kid's problem, don't just tranquilize it. Isolation in a special education class doesn't speak to a child of love. It just says "Sorry, kid, I can't deal with your problem." When you label a kid, you are teaching him more than you think you're teaching him. You are speaking to him of low expectations and class bias.

This Board has always had a bandwagon approach to equality. We don't need therapeutic special education programs. What we need is programs that teach our children to read and write.

Esther Fine (teacher, Rose Ave.)

There are children who need one-to-one therapeutic treatment. Until such a time as this need is met for the individual child the child will tend to use other situations (ie. small group situations, classroom situations etc.) to demonstrate this need. The child will tend to be as demanding and destructive as possible in order to be heard as a desperate human being. We must address ourselves to this need before we talk about classroom placement.

Ernie Priest (principal, Winchester)

We have had no opportunity to examine the guidelines submitted by our trustee... We would strongly suggest that the present special education programs be retained till all possibilities have been explored.

Barb Dawson (concerned parent, Park)

I feel like I've been here before. You see, George Martell's guidelines say what we've been saying in Trefann Court of the last ten years. You promised us action then. Basically nothing was done about it. I hope you intend to do something now.

Opportunity class — or self-contained special programs primary, junior, and senior as it's called these days — is basically a babysitting class. The kids in those classes aren't being taught anything. You can tell me all you want about what's supposed to happen in these classes, But I tell you what it's supposed to be, and what it is, are two entirely different things.

They definitely need to teach reading and writing better and earlier in our schools. A lot of time spent in school these days is wasted time. The other day my grandson in grade 1 said to me, "I'm so bored in school, Nanna, coloring and colouring." He's bored and he's only six years old. Why isn't someone challenging him?...

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The nuclear threat hangs over us all

By ANNE WOODS

"In view of the threat that nuclear technology poses to the ecosystem, we must acknowledge that Homo sapiens has reached an evolutionary turning point," said Dr. Helen Caldicott to a full house at the St. Lawrence Centre.

With all the crises reported in the media, it is tempting to stick one's head in the sand. But Dr. Caldicott, a pediatrician at Boston's Children's Hospital Medical Centre and an untiring anti-nuclear activist, warns that we cannot afford to ignore the burning issue of nuclear power. In the case of nuclear accident or warfare, medicine is helpless. The only kind of medicine that works is preventive and Dr. Caldicott says that "now is the time to act."

Dr. Caldicott, well-known for almost single-handedly educating and organizing the Australian public into one voice of protest which led to the banning of atmospheric bomb tests by the French in the South Pacific and the exporting of uranium by Australia, breathlessly turned a two hour lecture into an expose on the nuclear power industry. Nuclear power involves the splitting of uranium atoms. When the atoms are split, heat is given off. This heat boils water and the resulting steam turns turbines which, in turn, produce electricity.

Nuclear power is dangerous because it uses and produces radioactive elements. Radioactivity is linked with cancer and scientists now maintain that there is no safe level of radiation. During the course of mining, milling and enriching the chief raw material for nuclear power, uranium, workers are exposed to excessive levels of radiation which increase their chances of getting cancer and giving birth to deformed offspring. Any nuclear plant has a lifespan of only twenty-five to thirty years because it eventually becomes too radioactive to work in.

Nuclear waste, the "unusable, radioactively contaminated by-products of the nuclear fuel cycle and weapons program", presents an overwhelming problem. Despite 30 years and millions of dollars of research, scientists still do not know

how to store all the dangerous radioactive waste, some of which, like plutonium, must be isolated from the environment for thousands of years. Many of the carbon-steel tanks designed to last for fifty years as temporary storage, have already sprung leaks and hundreds of thousands of gallons of deadly waste has leaked into the soil where it will probably work its way into drinking water and the food chain. By the year 2000 the industry will be working out logistics for storing 152 million gallons of this high-level waste. The storage may not be foolproof but the cost will be exorbitant, running into the billions of dollars.

Radioactive elements are unstable and capable of spontaneously ejecting or "radiating" particles and energy from their nuclei. While a radioactive atom is decaying, it can give off three kinds of radiation — alpha, beta and gamma. Any of these types of radioactivity can invade a person's body and start altering his chemistry without the person even knowing. Radiation cannot be detected by our senses!

Although it is not exactly known how radiation causes cancer, scientists believe that it involves damage to the genes. Whether radiation has penetrated our bodies by bursting through our skin, by being inhaled into our lungs from the air or by being swallowed in contaminated food and drink, the effect is the same. "The radiation collides with a regulatory gene and chemically damages it, sometimes killing the cell. The surviving cell continues to function normally, until one day, five to forty years later, instead of dividing into two new cells, it goes berserk and manufactures billions of identically damaged cells", said Dr. Caldicott. "This type of growth

which leads to the formation of a tumour is called cancer. Cancer cells often break from the main mass of a tumour, enter the blood or lymph vessels, and travel to other organs where again they divide uncontrollably to form new tumours. Because they are more aggressive than normal body cells, cancer cells utilize the body's nutrients, causing normal tissues to waste."

As frightening as the reality of radioactive waste and cancer, is the probability of a nuclear power plant accident called Meltdown in which the fuel rods would turn into a "mass of molten uranium eating through the protective concrete base of the plant and into the earth, possibly triggering a steam explosion that would blow the containment vessel apart, releasing its deadly radioactive contents into the atmosphere", Dr. Caldicott added. "Soon after a meltdown with release of radioactivity, thousands would die from immediate radiation exposure; more would perish two to three weeks later of acute radiation illness. Food, water, and air would be so grossly contaminated that in five years there would be an upsurge in solid cancers. The genetic deformities that might appear in future generations are hard to predict, but they surely will occur."

There are 360 nuclear power plants in 30 countries around the world today. Each of these plants annually produces the most carcinogenic element known to man — plutonium. One millionth of a gram is enough to induce cancer in a human being. Plutonium also concentrates in the testicles and ovaries of successive generations of human beings, conceivably causing repeated genetic damage for up to 500,000 years. Plutonium is in demand,

however, because it is used for making atomic bombs. Not only are we threatened by accidents in nuclear power plants but by the industry's hand-in-hand proliferation of nuclear armaments.

The technology-hungry nuclear power industry added one step to the old principle of producing electricity — they generated the necessary heat by splitting the atom. It is remarkable when you think of the spin-offs resulting from unilateral decisions made by the nuclear power industry and the government. We, the taxpayers and inhabitants of the earth, have paid billions of dollars to subsidize new power plants, underwrite government insurance policies for them and also to dispose of nuclear wastes. We have also witnessed the evolution of a nuclear arms race that can obliterate the planet within a matter of hours. In the interim, we are subjected to the risk of nuclear accidents. Our waters, once pure, may become the carriers of radioactive waste which will work through the food chain so that, one day, unbeknownst to us, the piece of fish we eat or the milkshake we drink, will contain the little atom of radioactivity that will mark us for death by cancer.

Politicians and industrialists, unaware of or indifferent to the medical hazards of the nuclear power industry, play russian roulette with our well-being. It is our duty, as concerned citizens, to make ourselves aware, to arm ourselves with the facts and to tell our governments that we will no longer tolerate their short-term profit-oriented policies. "Each of us must accept total responsibility for the earth's

survival", says Dr. Caldicott. She says that we must become an informed electorate so we can get "the democratic process to work for us." If you don't feel the obligation towards yourself, how about your children, who will inherit the legacy of disease, death and deformities.

Caldicott appealed to the audience to get involved in their foremost duty to humanity — nuclear disarmament. She paraphrased what she has so eloquently written in her book, *Nuclear Madness — What You Can Do About It*: "We cannot trust in the sanity and stability of world leaders. (In fact, great powers tend to attract disturbed individuals. Recent history abounds with examples: Hitler, Mussolini, Stalin.) Meanwhile, we are racing like lemmings toward mutually assured destruction. Someone must make the first move away from death and toward life. Do we really have anything to lose? We are doomed if we don't — but we may save the human race if we do."

MAD

Continued from page 1

"Canada Wants Our Labour But Not Our Children!"

"Done raising your kids? The GET OUT says O.H.C."

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NEED A BABYSITTER? The Neighbourhood Information Post, 924-2543, has a registry of people who do babysitting, daycare, and odd jobs.

DAY CARE — Wanted, woman for babysitting & light housework, Monday to Wednesday, 3:30 to 6:30, 466-5869 (evenings); 864-1004 (days) Barbara.

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WANTED — Someone to deliver 1400 copies of 7 News to stores once every two weeks. Pay: two cents a paper. Call 363-9650.

WANTED: Qualified homemakers to live in with adults/children, on temporary assignments. References required. 929-5740. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

HELP WANTED — EDITOR, part time, for new newsletter advocating for psychiatric patients. Must be ex-psychiatric patient. Resume and sample of recently published writing to be received by January 15. Ontario Patients' Self-Help Association, Box 7251, Station A, Toronto M5W 1X9, 921-9475.

WANTED: Mature man for weekend work. Phone 461-1168.

LOTTERY SALE AGENTS WANTED. Become a Wintario/Provincial sales agent and earn up to \$6,000 yearly in your spare time. Call Sil-Ken Lottery Sales, 10 Britain St., 363-0057.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY: 7 News is in the process of seeking funding for a business manager and a production manager. These positions, to open up in the next 4 to 8 weeks, may be either full or part time, depending on the funding source and might possibly be of particular interest to recent graduates or students in these areas. If you are interested, call 363-9650.

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WANTED: A reliable volunteer to regularly gather sports scores and news for 7 News. Call 363-9650.

HAVE ANY SPARE TIME? Then why not consider becoming a volunteer distributor for 7 News on your street or in your apartment building? It takes 10 to 30 minutes once every two weeks to deliver however many papers you have time for. The bundle gets delivered to your door. Call 363-9650.

Credit: Sometimes it's spelled t-r-o-u-b-l-e

By RIVERDALE SOCIO-LEGAL SERVICES

Many things can plunge a person into financial difficulties: loss of a job, a house fire, a long labour strike, an accident or illness. Then there is the constant temptation that prevails in our society to succumb to the offer of easy credit — to try to "keep up with the Joneses" by buying things that the family can't really afford.

When you buy things it is your legal obligation to pay your bills. You are bound by the terms of any contract that you enter into of your own free will. In not paying your bill you are breaking the terms of the purchase contract. It is clearly your responsibility to pay the money you borrowed or pay the bills for the things you bought on credit. If you don't pay, then what happens? First, you will receive a polite reminder of your outstanding account from the company concerned. The polite letter turns into a series of not-so-polite letters. After sending this series of dunning letters you will probably be informed that the matter has been placed in the hands of a collection agency or that

a judgement summons is being sought against you.

These collection agencies are masters of the art of collecting overdue accounts. They assume at the outset that the time for courtesy is past and start right in with a campaign of blunt letters and telephone calls to the debtor. They have been known to phone the debtor's wife and employer as well as his associates. Personal calls at the debtor's home or work place are not ruled out. A debtor is not obliged to speak to a debt collector and the debtor has every right to ask him or her to leave the property should he/she make a personal call. When these agencies fail to collect the debt they furthermore resort to court action. If the debt is less than \$1,000, the action would be before a Small Claims Court; if it is more than \$1,000, the proper Court will be County Court. Then the matter will be dealt with by the proper Courts.

At the Hearing, you should present any defense or counterclaim you might have. If you prove a partial defence, the Creditor's Claim might be reviewed accordingly. At the end of the Hearing, the creditor may be granted a judgement against

you. If you have not appeared, the judgement can be made anyway — by default. The creditor will not attempt to collect the money. One of the many options open to the Small Claims Court Judge is to make a Consolidation Order. It means the Judge takes the Debtor's bills that the creditors are claiming payment on and puts them all into one pile. He then sets a realistic amount for the Debtor to pay into the Courts weekly or monthly. All the creditors show this money according to their part of the total debt. While this Order is in effect, the creditors may not take any other steps to recover their money. This is a good way out of an apparently hopeless credit tangle.

If you still can't or don't pay, the creditor can choose to do one of the following:

- (a) He may seize any of your assets that are not considered necessities and are therefore not exempted.
- (b) He may register a lien against any land that you own and arrange for the land to be sold if the judgement is not satisfied after one year.
- (c) He may garnishee, or seize your wages or any other payments due to you.

A Garnishee Order is obtained from the Court and served on the debtor's employer. The employer must deduct from any money due to the debtor the amount directed by the Court Order and pay that money into the Court. The creditors can continue to garnishee until the debt is satisfied. Thirty per cent of your wages may be garnisheed, but you can apply to Court to have the amount reduced.

If there is no hope that you will ever be able to meet your debts, the one way you can get them off your back is to declare a Personal Bankruptcy. Bankruptcy is a serious step and should be taken only as a last resort. Bankruptcy takes what you own and gives it to your creditors. It also cancels most of your debts. But there are still debts for which the debtor will remain liable. Those debts include court fines, maintenance payments for a spouse or child, debts arising out of fraud and, especially, debts for goods supplied as necessities of life. Once you are declared bankrupt, you get a fresh start.

The first question with regard to bankruptcy is, who can go bankrupt? — anyone who cannot pay his

bills and who owns less than the amount of his debts. You cannot go bankrupt if you can earn enough to pay your debt; you cannot go bankrupt if you are spending more than you are making.

Second, how do you go bankrupt? You have to file an application at 241 Jarvis St., 4th Floor, the Federal Trustee's Office. Once you have filed your application, someone from that office will talk to you and prepare the necessary papers. You will then swear that you told the truth and then they will file your statement and you will be bankrupt.

Now your property is given to a Trustee. He will tell you what to do. He can garnishee your wages and sell your property. Any money he gets will be given to your creditors — your creditors have to deal with your Trustee. They cannot come after you for money nor can they garnishee your wages.

This whole process will cost you a fee in relation to your ability to pay. It should be remembered that if you have a co-signer or a guarantor for any of your debts, the creditor can collect from them. The creditor can also collect from anyone who has a mortgage on something you own.

There is some property the Trustee cannot take unless it is pledged as a chattel security; up to \$2,000 worth of household furniture — you get to choose which furniture (a TV set may not count as furniture at all); clothing for you and your family with a value of up to \$1,000; tools or books you need in order to make a living.

There are duties you must observe while bankrupt. You must not borrow over \$500 without telling the lender that you are an Undischarged Bankrupt; you cannot make a deal with any creditor to give him an advantage over the others; you must keep track of your spending and keep the Trustee informed of it; you must tell the Trustee when you move; and you cannot leave the country. If you break these rules, you can be sent to jail!

After about three months, the Trustee applies for Discharge, then there is a Court Hearing. Discharge means you are no longer Bankrupt. The Court can give you a Discharge right away; this is called an Absolute Discharge. Alternatively the Court can give you a Suspended Discharge which means that you have to wait a while, usually one or two months. During that time you are still Bankrupt. If you need any further information, please contact Riverdale Socio-Legal Services at 932A Queen Street E., Toronto, or call 461-8102.

Snowstorm warning

The Board of Education tries to keep all schools open throughout the winter regardless of the weather.

However, if there is a severe storm, it is possible that schools may be closed. The Board tries to avoid closing schools during the day because it doesn't like to send kids home in a storm if their parents may not be home from work yet. Schools may be closed in the morning, however, if the weather looks bad enough that teachers won't be able to get to work.

If you are a parent, here is what you should remember:

If there is a storm, and you are worried about your child's safety, it's better not to send the child to school.

Listen to the radio between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m., if there's a storm. School closures would be announced on the radio at that time.

If you have any doubt whether the school is open, or whether you should send your child, phone the school. If travelling is very difficult, you may not get an answer before 8:30 a.m.

Quotations to Remember

I read the newspaper avidly. It is my one form of continuous fiction.
—Aneurin Bevan

Now it's the Law. You can no longer drive without insurance.

The Compulsory Automobile Insurance Act came into effect on December 1st, 1979. Now Ontario residents must have insurance to register any motor vehicle. Drivers can no longer pay \$150 into the Motor Vehicle Accident Claims Fund and register a vehicle without insurance. The MVAC Fund did not provide insurance; it compensated the victim of an accident and made the driver responsible for payment of the claim.

The deadline for car registration renewal is February 29, 1980.

To register any motor vehicle you must have a minimum of \$100,000 third party liability insurance. If you want more information on the new Compulsory Automobile Insurance Act, pick up a pamphlet at Vehicle Licensing Offices and Driver Examination Centres, or write to (call collect 1-416-963-1111):

Consumer Information Centre
Ministry of Consumer
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