

NEWS

WARD 7 COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
265 GERRARD STREET EAST

VOLUME 4, NUMBER 11 920-8632 NOVEMBER 17, 1973

NEXT ISSUE
Hey! Don't do any Christmas shopping until you see our next issue. There'll be lots of Christmas specials on sale by local merchants. And write! Copy is still needed for upcoming issue. Deadline is Mon., Nov. 26 at 80 Winchester or 265 Gerrard St. E.

Queen Refuge may be bought by city

The Good Shepherd Refuge at 412 Queen St. East may be acquired by the City of Toronto under the Trefann Court Urban Renewal Scheme.

The refuge is presently operated by the Little Brothers of the Good Shepherd, a Roman Catholic order. They feed 400 to 600 men a day and provide beds for about 60 every night.

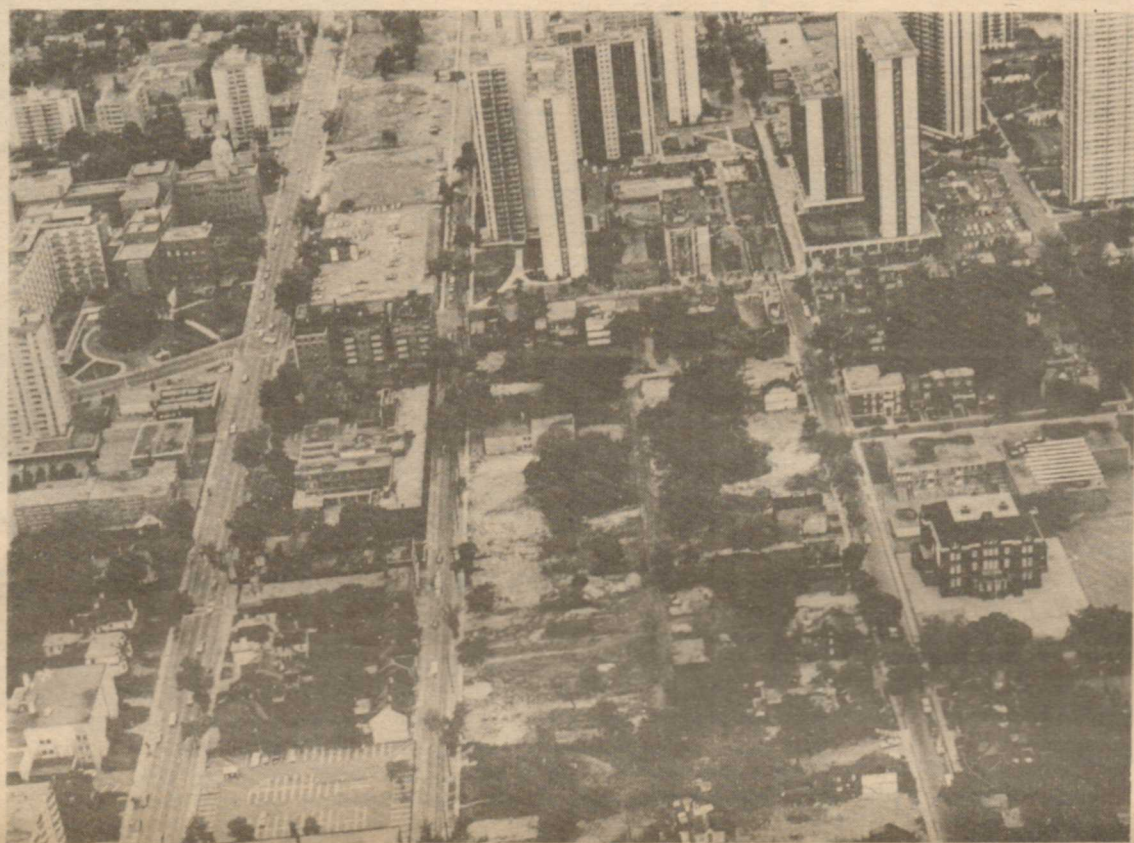
At a community meeting held last week, it was pointed out that the Urban Renewal Scheme document identifies the Refuge for re-use as a community centre for the area.

The meeting was held to see if the community still agreed with that concept and if so, what services and activities should be provided by the new community centre.

The building has 30,000 square feet of floor space it was felt that so much space would require several uses at the same time. This could mean apartment units, office space, stores, etc., in addition to a community centre.

Other ideas suggested were community programs for different age groups, local services which people wanted to have located at the Refuge as well as commercial and housing units.

A final decision of the acquisition and future use of the building will be made by the Trefann Working Committee at a later meeting.



With all but two houses remaining South St. Jamestown resembles more a farmers field than a downtown city block. That's St. Jamestown at the top of the picture with

Winchester school on the right. To date no plans have been set for the site. See page 4 for more details.

Photo by E. Kolompar

RCMP comes under strong criticism

The RCMP and Federal Government came in for some strong criticism at a recent South of Carlton Working Committee meeting. The issue was the purchase by the RCMP of property on George and Shuter street for the eventual expansion of the RCMP headquarters.

Edna Dixon, a member of the Toronto Planning Board, stated that a strong public issue should be made of the fact that the Federal Government was considering demolishing housing without providing accommodation for those displaced.

Alderman John Sewell suggested it might be reasonable to ask the Federal Government to include housing in their plans for the site rather than relocate the tenants somewhere else.

Steve Nicholls, planner for the area, pointed out that most of the tenants were fearful of harassment and would be reluctant to get involved in any kind of demonstration around the issue.

After further debate, the Committee requested the RCMP to not demand vacant possession when purchasing properties at George and Shuter streets. They also asked that the present tenants of the property be allowed to remain until they can be relocated satisfactorily and that the Federal Government ask OHC to relocate them into its project at Sherbourne and Shuter streets.

A strong request was also made to the RCMP to discuss their plans for the site with the South of Carlton Working Committee.

Crackdown on pubs underway

The executive of the Don Vale Residents Association took the first step last week in a drive to clean up conditions in the area's local beer parlours.

At the first meeting of the newly elected executive, it was decided to write letters to the Liquor License Board of Ontario and the Metro Toronto Police and ask them to strictly enforce the laws governing the operation of the beer parlours in the area.

This action by the Don Vale executive was prompted by complaints from local residents of rowdiness, fighting and drunkenness at the pubs.

Peter Akehurst, a member of the executive, stated that the intent was not to close down the pubs but to merely clean them up. "All we want is a place where members of the community can go to have a quiet drink," he stated.

The beer parlours within the boundaries of Don Vale are the Winchester Hotel, the Gerrard Tavern and the Avion Hotel.

South Carlton 90 percent tenants

The 1971 Census data is just in the process of being released and the South of Carlton Planning Office has come up with some interesting figures and trends for the area between Carlton and

Queen from Parliament to Jarvis Streets.

The city average for over-65 residents is 10% but in South of Carlton the over-65 population is 15%. In the last five years there

has been a decrease in the city and an increase south of Carlton.

Single, unmarried, divorced, separated or widowed people over 15 years of age constitute 74% of the population south of Carlton.

The proportion of unattached males is twice as high south of Carlton as in the rest of the city. South of Carlton is 45% while the City is only 21%.

The proportion of family households south of Carlton is lower than the City (15% to 25%) and a declining trend has been evident for the past 10 years.

There has been a decrease in the number of households with families.

There has been a decrease in the number of rooming houses.

The number of rooms per dwelling unit increased slightly in Metro but showed a dramatic drop south of Dundas Street.

The number of persons per dwelling unit decreased across Metro but again the sharpest decrease was north of Dundas.

Approximately 90% of households south of Carlton are tenant occupied. The Metro average is a little over 50%.

South of Carlton has the highest proportion of single people in Metro.

There are more non-family households south of Carlton compared with the City and Metro.

There are less families with children south of Carlton compared to the rest of the city and Metro.

It was pointed out, when presenting these statistics, that the building of Moss Park Apartments in the mid-60's had a lot to do with changing the population pattern for the area.

NEWS ROUND-UP

81 projects seek LIP funding

SEVEN NEWS is looking for an Auditor to check over its books. Preferably someone who won't charge too much money for the job. Phone 920-8632. SEVEN NEWS still needs drivers with cars who will donate a couple of hours of their time, one week-end a month, delivering bundles of papers to the distributors. Phone Norman Browne at 920-8632 if you can help out.

BINGO is being held every Friday night at 415 Gerrard E. in Regent Park and every Monday night at 80 Winchester in Don Vale.

On Tuesday, November 6, 1973, Daniel and Cathy Evered had a bouncing baby boy, weighing 8 lbs, 2 ozs., at Women's College Hospital with father's assistance. Father doing well.

The Broadview YMCA is seeking volunteers to work with its youth programs. Needed are two volunteers for supervision of the youth centre two evenings a week; two volunteers for gym supervision three evenings a week and a volunteer to instruct an Arts and Crafts class three evenings a week. For further information contact Jay Burns at 461-8123.

Roughly 81 projects have been submitted for funding under the

new Local Initiative Program from Rosedale Riding which covers most of Ward Seven. The Riding Advisory Group has been given a November 27 deadline for approving the best applications. Approved applications should be notified by December 1 with some funding to begin as of December 15.

The Trefann Court site office will be open Tuesday evenings from now on. Their address is 440 Queen St. East.

CORRECTION: Dennis Morice is not replacing Frank Cserepy as field worker with the Community Development Branch for the Don District. Dennis is a senior consultant with the Branch. A new replacement for Frank will be chosen in a month.

A magazine on the newstands features a big write-up on Howie "Baldy" Chard who was recently elevated to the Boxing Hall of Fame. Mr. Chard is well known in the area and presently works as a bouncer at the Gerrard Hotel.

Eve Gilmour, a staff member at Dixon Hall, is in Wellesley Hospital having a back ailment attended to.

BUSINESS NOTES: Patty's Florist Shop has moved to a new

location a few stores further south on Parliament Street. The store it vacated and a neighbouring house are reportedly going to be demolished to make way for a new private health clinic. The Dominion Store on Gerrard Street which closed recently has reopened after extensive renovations as a Shoprite Catalogue Store.

HELP WANTED: A bookkeeper-business manager is urgently needed by SEVEN NEWS. Working hours and pay are open to negotiation. SEVEN NEWS also is looking for an advertising salesperson to work on a salary and commission basis. Phone 920-8632 for info.

Regent Park Community Improvement Association had a recent by-election to fill two vacancies on its executive. Elected were Dr. V.G. Pande, who replaces Dave Martin as First Vice-President and Melinda Nicholson who replaces Lynda Falls as recording secretary.

Michael Starr, new head of the Workman's Compensation Board was a surprise visitor to Injured Workman's Consultants at the Don Vale Community Centre last week.



Toronto Island threatened

Dear Editor:

In the last issue of Seven News, there was a letter from Peggy Welsh criticising the operation of a community centre. Many people in Ward Seven may not realize that the idealistic type of community where the residents have control of the running of the community exists in Toronto at present but is in danger of being destroyed.

This community gets no recreational grants from the city, has no paid workers running things and has a full recreational program run by the residents. This community has its own baseball team, lawn bowling, hockey, tennis, basketball and every other sport in which there is sufficient interest. It has dances and card games and movies for the community to enjoy. Every summer it has a weekend long celebration of summer which includes games for the kids, contests, outdoor dances, barbecues, etc. For three dollars for the whole summer per child, the children are supervised in fun and games for each day, Monday to Friday. They go on overnight camping trips and excursions to such places as Ontario Place. The community raises money to support its activities through such things as rummage sales, bake sales and dances. The whole community participates, the whole community benefits.

The community is the most cohesive that one could find anywhere. Everyone is equal because there are no status systems, no cars, no striving for social place.

If you haven't guessed by now, this ideal community is on Toronto Island and is in great danger of being destroyed. This community should serve as the model for neighbourhoods all over the city where people must learn to live and work together to keep Toronto a humane place to live.

If there is a shortage of houses in Toronto and in Ontario, then how can the destruction of 250 homes be justified? This is a relatively crime free community and one which adds immeasurably to the safety of the Island park.

All ages live together in harmony in the Toronto Island community. If we wish to obtain and retain a high quality of life in Toronto then all citizens of Toronto must work together to see that this historic community which dates back to the 1830's is allowed to live and continue to be part of the mosaic of Toronto.

Everyone who is truly interested in the well-being of our city should contact their politicians to express their support for the Toronto Island residents in their fight to keep their homes.

R. A. Holder
308 Carlton St.

City of Toronto Notice of

PUBLIC MEETINGS

TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF THE TORONTO ISLAND RESIDENTIAL AREAS.

TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT CITY HALL ON:

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1973 AT 12: p.m.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1973 AT 8:00 p.m.

Metropolitan Toronto Council will in the near future decide whether the residential areas on Wards and Algonquin Islands are to remain after August, 1974, or be converted for park purposes only. Metro Council has asked the City to submit any proposals it might have with respect to taking back control, operation and administration of the residential areas. City Council will consider its position on November 21, 1973.

The City Executive Committee has decided to sponsor the above public meetings to obtain the views of the public.

You are invited to attend these meetings and to present your views on the matter. Staff of the City of Toronto Planning Board and the Metro Parks Department will be available at the meetings to explain their views and recommendations.

All interested persons, groups and organizations desiring to make short presentations or submit briefs on this matter are requested to notify the City Clerk's Department at 367-7020.

Fudger Home for the Aged on Sherbourne Street near Wellesley held their 5th annual handicraft and art exhibition last week. On display and sale for a three day period was the year's work by 35 residents.

The exhibits ranged from pot holders to wall hangings, to oil paintings and all were produced in the Fudger Home handicraft shop under the able direction of arts and crafts director Roy Passano.

All exhibits were for sale and most were quickly snapped up by eager buyers. Two-thirds of the proceeds from a sale go to the artist and the remainder goes to buy more supplies for the arts and craft shop.

As well as the yearly exhibition, the arts and craft shop is open all year around for visits by the public and items produced in the shop can be bought anytime through the year.

Photo by Frank



Battle for Norm's Kitchen continues

Dear Editor:

For the last 9 months or so, the residents in the vicinity of Pembroke and Dundas streets have been waging a continuous battle with the power-that-be to have a restaurant on the corner, called Norm's Open Kitchen, closed down.

The main reason voiced by these people for closing down the restaurant is that it is a hang-out for "undesirable" characters.

It seems to me that these are dangerous grounds to enter. If people can close down an establishment because of the

dubious character of the customers, could they not also close down an establishment because the clientele are black, yellow, Indian, etc?

We have seen what can happen when particular groups are singled out by society: in Germany from 1930 to 1945, the North American Indian, and the American Negro, the Japanese in Canada in 1941-42.

Gateway school seeks funds

Attention Editor:

Gateway School for Children with Learning Disabilities has entered its fourth year this fall as a private free school. The school is organized and run by parents of students now attending. We are convinced that the school has helped our children to master the three "R"'s. Those who think this is the answer to their child's learning disabilities are invited to apply in writing for possible placement in January of 1974.

The uniqueness of the school is its ratio of six students to one teacher. This enables each child to receive individual attention hourly.

A financial campaign is presently being conducted to ensure that Gateway School continues as a free school.

Applications and Donations may be sent to Gateway School, 947 Queen St. East, Toronto, M4M 1J9.

Diana Horgan
Executive Director

If the customers of an establishment commit illegal acts outside that establishment then surely this is a police matter. If the clientele are not suitable to other residents because of class differences then surely to attempt to restrict their freedom of travel, speech and to go about their lawful business is in direct conflict with the very basis of our society.

If we allow the residents in a community to close down an open establishment for no other reason than their "feelings" that the customers are "undesireable" than we have lost the foundation of our democratic form of life.

And what protection do we give to those individuals who are the object of this vicious, bigoted and undemocratic harrassment? Surely there must be some standard rules of acceptibility for establishments.

Bill Lee,
Don Vale.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: A similiar high-handed and arbitrary effort was made by the province to close down an east end smelter and throw 200 people out of work. Fortunately, the courts intervened to uphold and protect our basic democratic heritage.)

Fashion show at local school

On Tuesday, November 27, at 8 p.m., Winchester Public school will present a fashion show.

The fashions will be donated by Simplicity Fashions, the pattern people, and will be modelled by students attending the school. A total of 27 outfits will be modelled—24 by girls and three by boys. Refreshments will also be served.

The fashions to be modelled are considered fairly sophisticated and suitable for secondary students.

A charge of 35c is being made to attend the show with proceeds going toward the grade eight graduation party in June. If enough money is raised, it will also be used to defray costs of a camping trip or cross-Canada tour for students in the summer.

The show will be held in the Winchester school gym with entrance off 15 Prospect street.

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EDUCATION REPORT

New principal at Winchester school

Budget cuts hurt everybody this year. One of the very special groups of people to be cut back were our educational assistants who assist the kindergarten teacher in the classroom.

A committee at Frankland School on Logan Avenue organized a very strong effort to maintain their educational assistants. The Toronto School Board responded by keeping one assistant in every inner city kindergarten and one in every school with a 25 percent New Canadian population.

However, this arrangement is only good until the end of December and we must keep the pressure on.

Secondary School Teachers

Much has been written recently about the dispute between the Ontario Secondary school Teachers Federation and the Metro Toronto School Board.

Simply stated, the teachers believe they should have the right to negotiate working conditions, including the class size formula. They believe that for the last few years they have had many sympathetic hearings but no concrete action. And they are tired of sympathy only.

We tend to agree with them. The teacher's withdrawal of extra-curricular activities and services and the very real possibility of a mass resignation at the end of 1973 has met with mixed public reaction.

We would be interested in your thoughts on this problem. In the meantime, negotiations continue.

We hope the teachers do not strike - yet we recognise and accept their desire and need to negotiate working conditions.

As you may recall, a special method was introduced to chose the principal at Winchester school. The new system involved having your school trustees taking

part in the final interviews.

We are pleased to announce that Mr. Jim Wilkinson has been appointed Principal of Winchester school effective November 5. Mr. Wilkinson has been a vice-principal for the past six years and has a good deal of solid inner-city experience.

GRO moves office to Queen

by LINDA TOURNEY

The Greater Riverdale Organization has moved their office to 731A Queen Street East. The phone number remains the same, 466-2148.

For those who are new to Ward Seven, GRO covers the area from the Don River to Coxwell and from the lake front to Danforth. The goal of the organization is to provide the opportunity to participate fully to local residents so that they can attain community goals through collective, democratic, unified action.

During the past four years, GRO, its forerunner RCO, and its member groups have accomplished many things in Riverdale. Among these have been the new Jones Avenue Bus, Chinese books in the library, Greek language classes, the establishment and improvement of neighbourhood parks, better streets, lighting and lane improvements and much else.

At present the organization is actively fighting the proposed Scarborough Expressway which threatens to divide the community and destroy 409 houses.

A member group of GRO, BREMM, is involved in the fight against pollution. Other member groups are working with the Planning Department of the City of Toronto to ensure that Riverdale attains and keeps a well balanced residential character.

GRO is presently conducting a fund-raising drive to continue its organizing function in Riverdale. One of their methods is to hold a buffet dance on December 15 at Woodgreen Community Centre.

The party will be a great kick-off for the Christmas season and an opportunity to meet friends and neighbours and do something for the community at the same time. Watch for further information on this gala event in the next issue of SEVEN NEWS.

Agency provides unique day care for families

by Kathleen G. Hayes

Family Day Care Services, a United Way sponsored program, provides unique day care for families.

Located at 380 Sherbourne Street (at Carlton), this agency provides day care of a child in a family home, rather than a centre, when his parents are working.

The agency supervises the program. It studies and selects the home, and with the approval of the parents, effects placement and provides continuous supervision of the day care home, while maintaining a helpful relationship with the parents.

"Our service relieves the parents of the responsibility of seeking a competent day care mother," said Harvey Steinberg, director of the infant care project.

Parents make payments directly to the agency. Fees are usually determined on a sliding scale related to income and family

expenses. The agency pays the day care home directly by using an established board rate scale for full or part time care.

The agency tries to provide day care within walking distance of the child's home, avoiding the need for taking public transportation long distances. Also, the day care can be adapted to meet special circumstances, such as providing individual care for children with particular handicaps or for avoiding separation of several children in the same family.

"Once a month, we hold meetings, one for the parents and one for the day care mothers," explained Helen Kerr, social worker for the agency.

"The parents' meeting encourages them to speak out on anything disturbing them about their child or the day care arrangement, also to meet each other. It makes them feel involved with the day-to-day activities of their child," Miss Kerr continued. "The same is true with the day care mothers and we encourage them to exchange ideas. We want to stress to these women that they are more than babysitters. They are a part of our organization, doing an extremely important job."

"Our infant stimulation program," added Mr. Steinberg, "assures that the infants are exposed to an environment that promotes their learning capacities and responsiveness. We supply the day care mother with educational toys and guidelines on how best to help the child play and learn. This will have a lasting affect, their curiosity will be heightened and learning will be easier and more enjoyable for them in the future."



Photo by Kathleen Hayes

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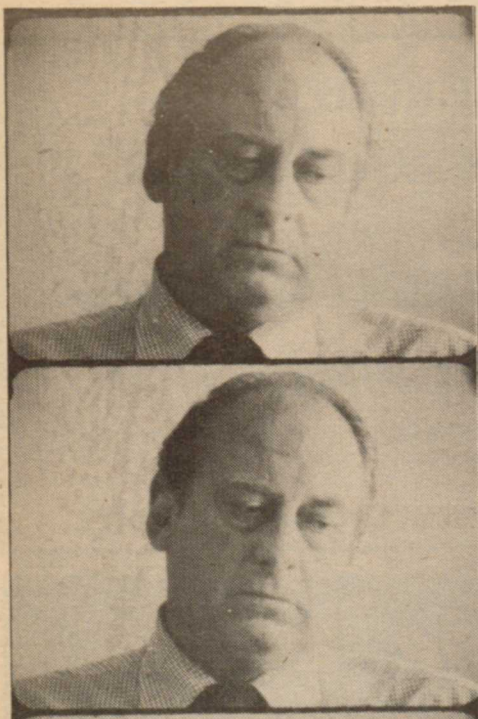
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METRO LICENCE # P H 251



The following is a partial transcript of an interview with Walter Manthorpe - former Commissioner of Development for Toronto but who now works for Meridian (the developer of St. Jamestown, West St. Jamestown, South St. Jamestown, Homewood, etc....)

The interview was conducted by Lisa Kolompar for a local film group and is part of a film documentary dealing with the development of South St. Jamestown.

The film is available free to any individual and tenant groups for screenings. For further information regarding the film phone 924-2543.

Transcript provided through the courtesy of the Community Secretariat.

Q. What made you become involved in city planning?

Manthorpe: I think city planning is one of the most interesting subjects that you can ever get involved in - it's an area in which you find that you can do anything you please and it's still within the orbit. Of course, the edges are not very clearly defined.

Q. That sort of gives you a heavy responsibility, doesn't it?

Manthorpe: I think city planning does give a heavy responsibility to the people who are involved, whether they accept it or not is another question.

Q. How responsible did you feel as a city planner in Toronto for, say, the low income people that live in downtown Toronto?

Manthorpe: Very responsible. I was in charge of urban renewal schemes which were being constructed, and actually saw those things through and I was responsible for the implementation of three major urban renewal schemes (note: the three are Alexandra Park, Don Mount, and Moss Park). I also promoted specifically, other public housing projects which were in fact carried out which hadn't been thought of.

Q. When building downtown - do you feel the responsibility for setting aside a certain amount of land for parks? I'm concerned about some sort of an exact amount in downtown Toronto, not the suburbs, but downtown Toronto - particularly around the high rises and apartment buildings.

Manthorpe: You're too simple. I'm afraid if you're concerned about, what do you mean, you're "concerned about"? You want to be told precisely what that exact amount should be?

There's no way that you can be told in precise terms. It's much more complex than most people seem to assume, and of course, the essential thing about it all is - where?

Q. Well, don't you think there should be parks for the people that are living downtown?

Manthorpe: No question, absolutely right, no doubt about that. I've been working on the problem for thirty years. O.K. I'm with you - but where?

Q. Well isn't that something that you should be responsible for when you plan your buildings, to plan a park area at the same time?

Manthorpe: No.

Q. Why not?

Manthorpe: Creation of parks is the city's responsibility, always has been and perfectly logical. How can I get into providing public parks? It's a tremendously difficult area. No one developer can do this.

Q. No, not one developer, but it seems to me that Meridian is large enough that in allocating lands for buildings, that you can

"The biggest problem with St. Jamestown is its still going to be there for 100 years"

- WALTER MANTHORPE

allocate land just for land sake at the same time.

Manthorpe: Nonsense, absolute nonsense. There is no basis for this whatsoever.

Q. How do you feel about high rises in general, as a place to live, particularly for families.

Manthorpe: There's no question about it. High rise buildings fill a tremendous need in the population of this metropolitan area. It's extremely suitable for a very high proportion of the population who enjoy living there, if property is managed correctly, and this has been the subject of considerable investigation which was initiated last year. There's a very high degree of satisfaction.

On the other hand, I do not think and this company does not think that high rise development is appropriate for families with children, and consequently we reserve high rise buildings purely for adult use.

Q. Going on that then, a lot of the low income people that live in downtown Toronto where a good deal of redevelopment is, such as the St. Jamestown area, have large families and you're taking away the houses that they live in and building high rises for singles or couples. Where are these families supposed to go?

Manthorpe: They desperately need accommodation as well, and I think it's an extremely short-sighted kind of attitude which is repeated time and time again, in the press and elsewhere. There's only one group of people who

have got to be seen after in terms of downtown accommodation. That to me is a negation of any kind of social conscience with regard to the city as a whole.

First of all let me say this, that some techniques have been tried in order to preserve housing, and one of the obvious techniques is to down zone it. This happened to the Don Vale area several years ago, something like eight or nine years ago.

What happened was, the young lawyers, the intellectuals, the young politicians moved in and started to paint up the houses. They could afford to buy a house, and what happened? Where a house previously had maybe at quite cheap rents, those people were got out.

They were simply tenants and young two-person family comes in with no kids, paints the things white and if you've been to Don Vale at all, especially the Northern end of Don Vale, you'll see a whole movement going on of gradually improving the housing. The result is of course the poor people can't afford it.

Q. Would you live in an apartment area where the density was as high as in, say, St. Jamestown?

Manthorpe: Oh, I've done so. I've lived in an apartment building for several years where the density is higher than St. Jamestown in the city of Toronto.

Q. But do you live in one now?

Manthorpe: No, I don't.

Q. Why not?

Manthorpe: I decided to change. I change my address every two or three years anyway.

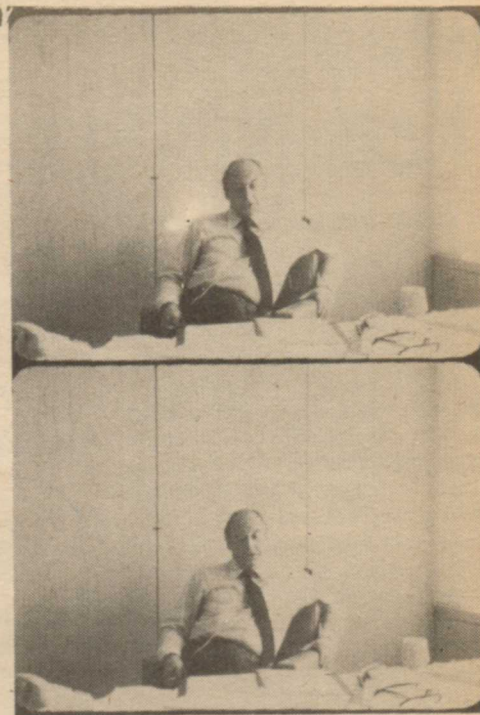


Flashback: July 6th, 1972 - Four people were arrested as police moved in to help the sheriff evict tenants at 45 Bleecker Street for Meridian. The action resulted in a near riot in which several people were hurt. The

house once secured was torn down several days later.

Today with the remaining houses demolished there is still no plans for the area.

Photo by J. Dunn



Photos by E. Kolompar

Q. Do you find a community spirit in high rise areas?

Manthorpe: I don't want to be integrated into the community, not to any great degree. It depends to a very large extent on the kind of people who live around me and personally I'm quite happy with limited contacts. I don't think it's an essential part of life to be integrated into the community. I think that's a very peculiar idea.

Q. It seems odd to me that your job would be city planning and that you would be half-way negative towards community involvement or integration or whatever you want to call it.

Manthorpe: I think it's a presumptuous thing to say that I'm in favour of community involvement because it would mean a kind of prejudice irrespective of the desires of individuals. Not every individual wants to be integrated into the community. People want privacy as well. They want to be able to live their own lives.

I think anonymity is one of the greatest qualities that you can gain in a big city. It's one of the things that contrast enormously with the little towns and villages where you can't lift a finger without your neighbor knowing what you're doing.

If you look at people honestly you'll find that is in fact what they do want. They want varying degrees of involvement, they want a choice.

Q. I read an article the other day in which someone said that the building quality, the material quality in high rises was not the best and that in twenty or thirty years we'd have a high rise slum versus a low-rise slum which was torn down to make the high rise. How do you feel about that statement?

Manthorpe: I think it's ridiculous, and perhaps to substantiate...let's take St. Jamestown. The biggest problem with St. Jamestown in terms of a long range approach is that its still going to be there solidly, in reinforced concrete, for seventy-five or a hundred years.

The basic structure will be capable of being...will stand the plastering, the minor partitioning, the plumbing and so on, I think maybe the biggest problem will be that you'll still have it there a hundred years from now when maybe it will not be the right form of development for the area.

Q. What about the historic side of it? A lot of the downtown core, there's a lot of old houses - one in particular on Bleecker Street in South St. Jamestown, was a house that used to belong to the lieutenant governor of Ontario.

Manthorpe: I find that the city council over the years is completely inadequate in looking at a very simple and a very practical problem. What should happen very simply is that there should be an appropriate act of the legislature. The buildings should be established on good grounds so that everybody knows which building is listed and which isn't.

Q. Do you personally feel any responsibility towards saving, preserving....?

Manthorpe: Yes.

Q. What about 71 Bleecker then, is that house going to be torn down?

Manthorpe: No plans for that area have been prepared at the moment. The city is not doing anything about the area. It's just sitting on at the moment, because no planning has been done.

(Editors note: Thirty days following this interview Meridian demolished the remaining houses on Bleecker and Ontario Streets, including the leutenant governors house - 71 Bleecker. To date no plans have been decided upon for the area).

"Get the lead out!"

Community action on Canada Metal

by JACK KURLIN

There is lead contamination in our community.

A meeting last Thursday night on Leslie St. was part of continuing attempts by local groups to solve the problem. The meeting was organized by BREMM to get information about the problem out to people in the community, and to give people a chance to speak their mind about lead pollution.

(BREMM is a local community group that has been doing work since September to have everyone in the area around Canada Metal at Eastern & Berkshire given a blood test, and to have all lead emission from the plant stopped, one way or another. Their number is 463-0591).

A panel of six doctors from the Sick Children's Hospital, the city Health Department, and the provincial government answered questions from 200 concerned and angry residents from near the smelter. Blood tests, done on residents because BREMM insisted, showed potentially harmful levels of lead in about 50 of the 732 tests, many of them in children at the Bruce School.

STRAIGHT ANSWERS

So people came out to get straight answers about the effect of these levels, and the source of them. Very often they didn't get them. Medical experts disagree, or are unsure of the effects of these levels. As questions were answered vaguely, especially those about shutting down the plant, shouts of "You people don't give a damn about our health" came from the residents.

"Production for profit, that's at the root of the problem", one speaker said. "This company doesn't care about the people living around it." The doctors could not guarantee that the continued running of the plant was not harmful to people in the area. "Why not shut it down until it can be proved that it isn't a hazard?" the doctors were asked.

The reply was that the company was innocent until proven guilty, just like everybody else. "When companies can use courts to control the neighborhoods... it's time the people started running the courts, not the companies," a speaker told them.

Dr. Parkinson of the Sick

Children's Hospital said that the government did not present the evidence it could have to the courts to keep the plant shut down. Further questioning of two representatives from the provincial Department of the Environment made it clear that the Department was putting the welfare of the company ahead of the danger to people in the area. It was pointed out at the meeting by one questioner that this wasn't exactly an accident.

The company has in fact been negotiating with the Dept. of the Environment for a number of years about pollution control standards. Yet during the first part of this year, there were 16 occasions where lead in the air near the plant was above the legal maximum, and monthly dustfall was higher than the maximum every month from January to July.

And it was only because local citizens in BREMM demanded blood tests that the facts started to come out. Now the different levels of government are jumping over each other to propose solutions. City council has suggested buying the plant and relocating it (with our tax money). The province is saying that soil in the area must be replaced, again at our expense.

There is even the fantastic suggestion that residents be moved out of the area. (The tested area alone covers Eastern to Dundas, Leslie to Pape.) But it is clear that the decision is to be made by medical 'experts', politicians, and government employees, not by the people directly affected - workers in the plant and people in the area.

SOME SOLUTIONS

The lead emitting processes at the plant should be shut down until it can be proved that they are not a

The Broadview-Riverdale NDP Association are holding a dance to be held at Ulster Hall, 1047½ Gerrard Street East on Friday, November 30th.

The dance will begin at 8:30 p.m. and there will be a bar and refreshments. Admission is \$2 per person.

risk to health. But if this is done, what about the workers put out of a job? Under provincial law, when there is a shut down or a work stoppage because of pollution the company does not have to give severance pay, and has no responsibilities to its workers.

There is even some evidence to suggest that Canada Metal is trying a few tricks to win support from its employees. A pay raise of 26c an hour, due in December, was given in September, because of the "rising cost of living" for its workers.

It has been suggested that the responsibility for the welfare of the workers lies with the company which is half owned by Cominco, a subsidiary of giant Canadian Pacific Ltd.

With reported profits of \$29 million for the first nine months of this year there appears to be plenty of money to clean up the plant and soil in the area and/or find its employees jobs elsewhere.

It is also suggested that any "shut down and clean up" operation should be supervised by an elected committee of workers in the plant and people in the community.

If the different levels of government can't decide on the proper course of action on this issue then maybe it should be left to the plant workers and people in the community to decide.

After all - it's their health that is at stake.

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BOOK REVIEW

Once a Cabbagetowner always a Cabbagetowner

ONE DAMN THING AFTER ANOTHER
an autobiography
by Hugh Garner

Reviewed by Ruth Johnson
Though he lives here no longer, Hugh Garner was, is, and always will be a Cabbagetowner. His book, *One Damn Thing After Another*, shows that the area is very much a part of his heart, soul and guts.

The book is an autobiography centering mainly around Hugh Garner's childhood in Cabbagetown, his war experiences, and the struggle he went through to become an accepted writer—his battles with bullets, booze and books.

He refers to his two greatest hates as a youth—bed bugs (to be currently replaced by roaches?) and social workers who, "like the school teachers and librarians of the times, were largely untrained and uneducated."

Yet he does mention, with obvious pride, the ease with which he wrote essays and stories and the fact that they were usually the best in the class. This is the man who still managed to fail his grade eight grammar high school entrance exam!

He speaks with love, of his good hard-working mother—a credit to the working class; and with scorn for the sociologists and psychologists who could find many faults with her life style.

Claiming to have only a few books in the house, Mr. Garner was a compulsive reader who read *Treasure Island*, *Robinson Crusoe* and others including *Tobacco Road* and "every other dirty book I could lay my hands on."

Many of the streets where Hugh Garner lived are familiar and still around, even if the houses aren't: Ontario, Henrietta, Steinger, Metcalf, Wellesley, Berkely and others.

And he lets no one miss the wonderful times he had in Cabbagetown, with so many good places to play: back lanes, freight car lines, clean sandy beaches, the Don Valley, to mention a few.

One of his great joys was to rush "down to the hill to the Don Valley to swim naked at the old Red Bridge over the Don. We



underprivileged kids felt nothing but pity for the Rosedale private school boys who had to wear bathing suits."

The writings about his war experiences are direct, honest and critical. His experiences are committed and brave. Without apology to anyone he refers to his Spanish Civil War involvement by saying, "Going there was one of the few things I am proud of having done. It is always better to fight for what you believe in."

The road to success has been a rough one for Mr. Garner—with rejections all along the way. His confidence has been remarkable and he sees his experiences for the writing material they gave him.

"Most of my jobs, travels, love affairs, wars and living in general were preparations for writing." He has even said that "I've never been able to afford to write things I couldn't sell." While this view may be attacked by many, it represents his writing career, and it has worked for him.

He describes himself as having a "vulgar scorn for established authority, a mistrust of other people and a determination to

show his detractors they are wrong."

One Damn Thing After Another is a book filled with contradictions or paradoxes—depending on your point of view, but while the book is cynical and tough it is also historical and powerful.

He writes a blow by blow account of his struggle to deal with people, life and survival. Yes, he is wandering, mouthy and abrasive. Even the title, *One Damn Thing After Another*, shouts this to us.

What does come through in the book is his tough honesty and instinctive talent for sticking up for the underdog—but not to the point of being sentimental.

No doubt Bill French was right when he said that Hugh Garner had a "determination to succeed" and "that stubborn perhaps poor born Yorkshire streak."

Welcome home, native son!

(NOTE: This book is available for \$6.95 from bookstores or may be loaned free from your local library branch.)

Park school to hold workshop on "How children perceive"

The Park School Community Council in conjunction with the Donner Foundation are holding a workshop at the school on the evening of November 29.


Called, "How Children Perceive", the workshop will be held by Miss Betty Beatie, Mrs.

Barbara Braenaert and Mr. Dave Henshaw.

The Workshop will start at 7:30 p.m. with coffee being served at 7 p.m. It will be held at the Park School Staff Room, Room 22, 440 Shuter Street. Admission is free.

All those wishing to attend must register in advance and registrations must be in by Tuesday, November 27. Confirmation or registration will be given to those applying the next day.

Those wanting to attend should submit their name, address and phone number to Park School or phone them at 364-8717...



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Hey, Mom!

by CATHERINE VERRALL

Questions to ask a toy:

Who will do the playing: you, or the child? Do you let the child play with you? Or do you play, while the child can only watch? (wind-up, or battery-run toys, talking dolls...) Joy is in the doing!

Will you inspire the child to use his own imagination, to invent his own wonderful ideas?

Will you help the child discover more about the world? (books, a magnet, a magnifying glass, a kaleidoscope...)

Will you help the child develop skill? (remembering, or matching colours or shapes, or planning, or co-ordinating hand and eye, or balancing...) A challenging game is interesting longer than a pure fun game.

—Are you worth the cost, in play-learning value? A high price (or a new fad) does not make a good toy. Kids soon learn that T.V. ads are not always true.

What kind of feelings will you trigger, as the child plays with you? War toys give practice in hurting and hating. An ad for building-bricks says: "Peace: In this nervous world, a toy that does not go bang."

After 16 Christmasses with our four children, some toys have scored high on this quiz.

Babysitters needed at CNH

C.N.H. is beginning a program, with mother and babies. The plan is that through visiting mothers with young babies, in their own homes and by bringing them all together once every three weeks, we can look at some of the ideas available about early childhood education. Mothers are the important people in this plan. They are naturally interested in, and already stimulating their babies.

By visiting in their homes we will give them further knowledge and understanding about babies "learning through play", and the support to try to do more. Mothers are each others greatest help. What woman doesn't ask another mother her ideas on diaper rash or what to do with a cranky baby.

We need community help with this in the form of **Babysitting:**

—Two or three people to watch and play with the children: age 3 weeks to 4 years.

—Time: every 3rd Monday afternoon 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. or Tues. 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Payment will be made at the rate of \$1.00 per hour

There are many other meeting times at C.N.H. when we need babysitting. So, this could be a more involving position if someone were interested.

To apply or for more information—please call Anne Lind or Irene Kyle at 925-4363.

Lego bricks: best bet for 4 to 10 year-olds, girls as well as boys. Each day the child's mind invents new schemes for the same little old bricks. Each year can add more pieces, and more challenges. Similar, larger, and cheaper bricks (Sta-Lox) are good for 2 to 5's. Block sets serve the same purpose. (We keep the bricks near the T.V. so the child can be building and inventing instead of just passively watching.)

Little people (wooden), like the tiny Fisher-Price dolls. Kids make them live interesting lives, along with bricks or blocks or trucks or home-made furniture.

Baby dolls, child dolls, stuffed animals, puppets: ordinary ones, the different faces (brown and white, Raggedy-Ann and monkey), so the child can give them different personalities, and love

them all. Let the child invent the doll's conversation and action (instead of restricting him to a few machine-made ones that soon wear out). Baby and child dolls let children father and mother them (yes, boys need practice at being fathers!) But Barbie and Ken dolls are models to grow into,—and I don't want my children to become like Barbie and Ken!

Memory, a card-matching game. A perfect family game, because adults need memory-training as much as kids do! 3 and 4-year-olds love to match the pictures and talk about them.

Creative Stuff: blunt scissors, glue, crayons or oil pastels (many shades), marking pens, plain paper. NOT colouring books. They kill a child's own imagination.

Toys like these are less than \$5.00 and they help a child grow inside.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

Community Bulletin Board is compiled and written by the staff of the Neighbourhood Information Post. All items for this column should be directed to them at 265 Gerrard St. E., phone 924-2543.

FRIDAY NOV. 16

8:00 p.m. **Parliament St. Library House** (265 Gerrard St. E.) Friday Films - This is Stompin' Tom, The Country Fiddler, and Hard Rider.

SATURDAY NOV. 17

Broadview Y (275 Broadview Ave.) Santa Claus Parade outing. For further information contact Y at 461-8125.

11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. - **Riverdale Library** (370 Broadview Ave.) Childrens stories.

SUNDAY NOV. 18

8:00 p.m. - **Backdoor Theatre** (474 Ontario St.) Two one act plays. Reservation necessary. Call 961-1505 and 964-1513.

MONDAY NOV. 19

4:00 p.m. - **Backdoor Theatre** (474 Ontario St.) Two one

MONDAY NOV. 19

4:00 p.m. - **Riverdale Library** (370 Broadview Ave.) Children's stories.

TUESDAY NOV. 20

10:30 a.m. - **Parliament St. Library House** (265 Gerrard St. E.) Ladies Day - Women's Programmes, films, speakers, discussions. This week Patchwork Quilting.

7:30 p.m. - **Central Neighbourhood House** (349 Ontario St.) S.O.C.C.A. meeting to discuss rents and controls.

4:00 p.m. - **Riverdale Library** (370 Broadview Ave.) Children's stories.

THURSDAY NOV. 22

8:00 p.m. - **Parliament St. Library House** (265 Gerrard St. E.) - Open poetry readings.

SATURDAY NOV. 24

2:00 p.m. - **St. Bartholomew's Church** (509 Dundas St.) Bazaar, something for everyone.

2:00 p.m. - **Parliament St. Library** (406 Parliament St.) Puppet Show-The Princess and the Pea, and Little Red Riding Hood.

SATURDAY NOV. 24

11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. - **Riverdale Library** (370 Broadview Ave.) Puppet show.

TUESDAY NOV. 27

10:30 a.m. - **Parliament St. Library House** (265 Gerrard St. E.) Ladies Day - This week a film - The Teens

FRIDAY NOV. 30

8:00 p.m. - **Parliament St. Library House** (265 Gerrard St. E.) Films en Francais - Peut-etre Maurice Richard and Mon Numero en Or.

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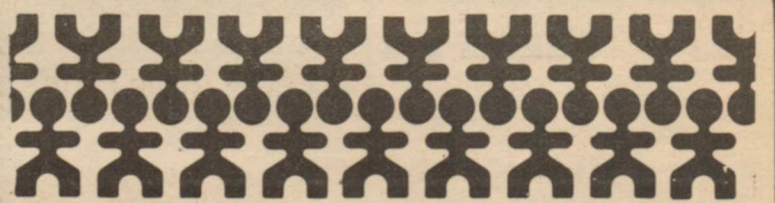
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It is a most worthwhile effort, requiring considerable staff who must be paid, as well as many volunteer helpers, and you are to be highly commended for continuing publication under present difficult conditions.
I am happy to enclose a small contribution of \$5 in response to your urgent appeal and I hope it will provide a little help and encouragement at this time.
Mrs. E. Wilson
275 Shuter St.

Were you out when the SEVEN NEWS canvasser called at your door? Maybe you live in an area that wasn't canvassed at all? May be you were short of money when the canvasser called and would like to give more? Here's your chance. Fill out the coupon below, clip it from the paper, and send it along with your donation to SEVEN NEWS, 265 Gerrard St. E., Toronto.

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And still more donors to SEVEN NEWS

Donations are still being sought by SEVEN NEWS. The continued need for donations was dramatised this week when it was learned that the money raised by the recent fund drive has already been spent and there is no money available to pay any staff members.

The paper will continue to operate, however on volunteer help and some delayed salary payments. It is hoped that when the new LIP applications are funded, starting in mid-December, there will be room on some projects for people who can work full time paid for SEVEN NEWS.

In the meantime, if you have any loose change or a couple of extra bucks you can donate to

keep the paper alive, it will be more than welcome.

Following are recent donors to SEVEN NEWS. More will be printed next issue.

Our thanks to these wonderful people:

Mary's Variety Store, L. Grabowski, Rusty Wood, Mrs. Montgomery, Merle Knox, Dena Attridge, J. Knight, Rodger Hunter, Art Sloan, Miss E. Hart, Katherine Fung, H. Brubacher, Miss Gill, Miss G. Staples, Mrs. B. Greenshields, Mrs. S. Krakowetz, Leo Dow, Mrs. McKinnen, Howard E. Cohen, M.S. Waddell, Mr. Erlichman, Thomas Oki, Michael Stuart, William R. Weldon, Miss Donna Hyde, Ralph Cunningham, Miss Jeanne Le Gal, Irene Lee, Mr. George Shane, Hamilton Keir, Ruth Johnson, Mr. Chris Biggs, Kathryn Levene, Miss Dorothy Macmillan, Jim Madkenzie, Mrs. Vern Burnett, Mrs. Margaret Scrivener.

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