



Pictured above is a possible path that the extension of Esplanade might take through the lower south-west area of Ward Seven. After stopping the highway threat. photo: e. kolompar

New highway to be bull-dozed through South Cabbagetown

by NOREEN DUNPHY

Residents in the South of Queen area will soon be facing the threat of yet one more roadway in their community being widened to become a main arterial road providing access to the centre of the city for the suburbs. Several years in the planning, the Eastern Esplanade extension appears to be accepted as a reality by the City of Toronto Planning Board if Metro Centre is to proceed as planned.

The plan calls for the extension of Esplanade St. eastward across a lot at Berkely St. to just east of Parliament St. where it will connect up to Eastern Ave. This will provide

a main east-west route just south of Front and then King St.

Nobody has asked the residents who live in the community about to be ravaged yet one more time by yet one more mini-highway what they think about the increased noise and air pollution sure to result. The South of Queen area had its community fragmented when the Richmond and Adelaide St. ramps for the Don Valley were first built. The district is bounded and dissected already by five main east-west roads: Queen, Richmond, Adelaide, King and Eastern. Does the area really need Eastern Ave. to be turned into another Don Valley?

The Metro Centre - Interim Report, accepted by the Department of Public Works in Nov. 1970, calls for the extension of Esplanade to Eastern with a road width of 120 feet. This allows for two 33-foot roadways with a median separating them. That would make Eastern as wide as the Don Valley Parkway and yet there has been no public discussion of this proposed roadway!

It has been accepted to such a degree that the report released by the Metro Centre Working groups on City Objectives barely mentions it, and then only shows the beginning of the road in Metro Centre itself as though it doesn't matter what happens to it after it leaves the development!

Some hard questions about this road have to be asked by citizens because it is quite clear that no one else will ask them. Do we need another mini-highway running into the centre of the City? If so, could it not be re-routed further south where it will only disturb factories and warehouses?

The Planning Board is holding a public meeting on Metro Centre on Thursday, March 28th at 8:00 p.m. in Council Chambers. The South Cabbagetown Community Improvement Association will be presenting a case against the Eastern Esplanade.

SCCIA feels that there are too many places that will be affected: the widened road might cut through Sackville School, houses on the southern part of Sumach St. and a couple of houses still left on Eastern Ave. SCCIA will also ask that all information on this important subject be made public.

GRO to hold general meeting to pick directors

by JOHN NEVARC

The Greater Riverdale Organisation (formerly RCO) held a meeting at Queen St. East Presbyterian Church, Thursday March 7th. Twenty-three members were present.

It was disclosed that the present executive, Linda Torney et al., has been in office four months longer than their term allowed. The reasons were mainly financial. Now that the situation has eased their resignations will take effect March 31st.

The necessary machinery has been set in motion and a new board of officers will be elected at a general meeting. The tentative date set for this meeting is May 11th.

It is felt in some quarters that the "arrangements committee" should seek approval from the City Executive Committee for GRO to use Council Chambers for this meeting. It could be billed as "A demonstration in democracy".

Even if the bid failed it should generate a lot of publicity. If it came off, it would be the first time in North America that a citizens' group had used council chambers. This is old hat in Europe!

GRO has decided to live up to its name, at least literally. The "arrangements committee" is committed to exploring the feasibility of planting trees to brighten up the neighbourhood. Can you imagine,

apple trees in bloom along the banks of the Don?

GRO is filing an application with the Company of Young Canadians for the service of two community workers. The community workers are essential to direct energies into projects for the betterment of the community.

The most pressing problem is the pollution issue, re Canada Metals.

The views of the workers at Canada Metal are shaped by their source of income. They are aware of the environmental hazards, but if no alternative sources of income are readily available, they will not jeopardise their livelihood by protesting too loudly. They should realise, when they have ingested enough lead, they will be a long time dead!

Canada Metal has applied for injunctions to restrain the CBC and other reporters of the truth from telling it like it is. In the meantime our children suffer.

Dallard Runge, unsuccessful candidate for alderperson in Ward 8, is the only concerned politician. The elected alderpersons, Fred Beavis and Tom Clifford, as usual do nothing but sit on their fannies. This one issue alone shows who cares for people!

COPY NEEDED

We managed 12 pages this issue but it looks like a lot more 12-page papers will be upcoming in the months ahead. So keep writing something for us. We love letters-to-the-editor. Deadline is NOON, Monday, April 1. Drop copy off at 80 Winchester or 265 Gerrard St. E.

Reports conflict on use of Bloor Sherbourne site

Three different proposals have been put forth independently of each other for the development of a now-vacant site at the corner of Sherbourne and Bloor in the north-west corner of Ward Seven.

At a meeting held in St. Simon's Church on Howard Street last month, people from north St. Jamestown met to discuss the future of that area. They suggested that the Sherbourne-Bloor corner be grassed, be used for tennis courts or be used for a medium-scale commercial development.

Meanwhile, the previous October, a letter was sent to the city from Trinity Lutheran church, which abuts the property, suggesting that the lot be turned into a park for senior citizens.

At the same time, Metro, which owns the property, received an offer from Bovis Corporation to lease the property and build on it a high density, medium-rise residential-commercial building.

The Bovis proposal calls for a 12-storey building containing two floors of retail shops, four floors with mixed parking and office space, two floors of full office space, four floors of residential

apartments and a roof garden.

The residential component of the project would contain 73 dwelling units: 34 one-bedroom units, 31 two-bedroom units and eight three-bedroom units.

The Bovis proposal would require a special by-law because of the mixed use of the building and as well an official plan amendment as the proposal calls for a density higher than allowed.

Although the Metro level of government has approved the plan in principle, the city has considerable say as the plan calls for the use of a city-owned lane which would have to be deeded by the city to the developer.

The planning board report, presented to Toronto's Committee on Buildings and Development last week, recommends that the project:

- Provide residential accommodation for non-family households such as the elderly or handicapped.
- Provide community meeting and recreation facilities.
- Reduce or eliminate the office-commercial aspects of the project.

Decision delayed on sale of Trefann houses

by ALAN DUDECK

The full question is whether or not the new homes being built on Trefann Street under the Trefann Urban Renewal Scheme will be offered for sale to residents of Trefann Court.

It has always been the intention of the Trefann Court Working Committee and the non-profit corporation which is building the homes that half the homes be sold and half rented to local people.

However, the Federal Government has been having eighth and ninth thoughts on the matter of selling any of the homes. The government's Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) has expressed concern about the possibility of buyers re-selling their homes and making a fast buck on a "non-

profit" built house.

Recently, Alderpersons Sewell and Jaffary, Mayor Crombie and representatives from the Working Committee paid another visit to Mr. Basford in Ottawa.

The Minister of Urban Affairs indicated a willingness on his part to work out safeguards against re-sale rip-offs in order that the houses be sold as intended.

So the latest word is that it appears that approximately half of the new houses on Trefann Street will be for sale to local citizens.

City Council helped the cause a couple of weeks ago by warning the Federal Government that if the houses couldn't be sold to local residents, then the Urban Renewal Scheme would be stopped.



Meridian tactics forces tenant to skip

Letter to the Editor:
Re: St. Jamestown
Apartment Sublets

Due to problems with management (new superintendents) etc., a friend and myself decided to move out of St. Jamestown and rent a house. We checked in the papers and saw a townhouse we thought we would like and upon inspection found it to be excellent. The superintendent gave us permission to move in on March 15, 1974 and we proceeded to make the necessary arrangements with regards to subletting our apartments, etc.

I gave a month's notice to the superintendent and to Mr. Shear (our Property Manager) and he agreed to allow us to use our last month's rent. (Due to bungling in the signing of our lease on the part of Meridian management, our rent is paid from the 15th of the month to the 15th and not from the first as in most cases.)

I placed notices on the board in the laundry rooms of the Ottawa, Winnipeg, Vancouver, Victoria and Toronto buildings which I thought might bring some response, but no luck. As fast as we put them up someone was ripping them down.

I complained to the superintendent and was told that it was probably some tenants taking them down. We kept this up for about two weeks and the only aid the superintendents would give us was to refer anyone to these signs if they wished to sublet an apartment.

We kept wondering why no one was calling and after some digging around I found out that it was the management themselves who were pulling our signs down.

Their reason, when confronted with this, was that it was against management's policy to allow tenants to advertise sublets as the boards were for sales notices only. Now, why they suggested this course of action in the first place is beyond me.

We then advertised in the Toronto Star and the Sun but I received only two calls and these people were not interested (one because we faced the cemetery and the person was superstitious and the other because the person required a place for March 1, 1974). Due to personal reasons I chose not to skip my lease and I called Mr. Bain the Property Manager of Meridian in the hopes that he could offer us some help but the only thing he suggested was paying three month's rent and for me that is in excess of \$700.00 which I just cannot afford. As it was the three of us in the apartment were just able to afford living in a decent place.

I then called to find out about this rumour of apartment shortages, in the hopes that perhaps I could find a reason why no one was call-

ing about our apartment. The management office told me that they had a waiting list an arm long of people waiting to rent two bedroom apartments. I asked why if they had this would they not refer them to my ads or anyone else's for that matter and received the usual reply - it's against management's policy.

I know my apartment could be rented in two days because one above us was, and it was in worse condition than ours. If what management says is true and there is a shortage of apartments and a waiting list for them, then why can't they release an apartment if a person wants to move out?

Why three month's rent, when there seems to be such a shortage? Would one not think they would be willing to rent the apartment for a higher fee as quoted in the papers? Perhaps this scare about apartments is as feeble as the scare about the price of sugar going up. One wonders.

I know a lot of people skip and nothing seems to happen to them. If the conditions in St. Jamestown were better, I might have considered staying, but in the last six months living in St. Jamestown has become utterly ridiculous. If anything needed repairing it was done promptly or if anything needed doing we never had any problems with our past superintendents.

Parking is another ridiculous problem in St. Jamestown that I no longer want to fight over. My roommate bought a car a month ago and the only way we could park it was to obtain visitor permits (because of the new underground system) weekly. This is rough at times because if you don't get one it's a five dollar parking ticket given out by our conscientious security men. It's ridiculous because (for an example) I had a friend stay overnight and since it was after hours we could not obtain a parking permit and there were no parking spots anyway - so we just parked in the fire lane (which is a violation) and it was a five dollar ticket anyway.

We used to have a security guard on duty on weekends and now since there isn't one, we have to do our own policing. The vandalism has increased in our building and I just don't feel safe living in my apartment anymore, so I want out. (In the last week we have had a window kicked in the stairway door and a fire hydrant's fillings sprayed all over the stairs, wallpaper torn down by the elevators - approximately six times since last September I've had my apartment broken into (luckily nothing was taken), and the chain lock was kicked off, thereby leaving slight damage which I must pay for. Which only indicates that the chain locks are not for your security and sometimes not even very good for your peace of mind.)

So, with all this happening when it never happened before, it makes one wonder what is really happening in St. Jamestown. The apathy of the management and the people who live there is not anywhere near what it was like when I first moved in two years ago. It's worse. The elevator situation is intolerable, the living conditions are becoming

abominable and lackadaisical, and as far as I am concerned, the whole place is going to the dogs.

In our building, for example, it is quoted as an all-adult building. How come I see kids running around the halls? No pets - how come I see cats, dogs, etc., in the elevators? No peddlers allowed - it's becoming increasingly difficult to turn them away from the door. With a security guard, they seldom, if ever, got in.

The number of people in St. Jamestown is expanding every day and if Meridian doesn't increase their management staff and start to listen with a heart instead of callous minds there will be a great deal of confusion and problems in the future.

A last month's rent cheque was sent to the bank by mistake and an NSF was posted. Meridian had been informed of the change two weeks before the cheque was to be sent through that the tenant was using her last month's rent. As far as the tenant was concerned, things were finalized.

When confronted with the NSF cheque, the tenant questioned the Property Manager and was told that since they had to look after 2,500 suites, how could they possibly look after one cheque? When told it was their job to do so and that they were not supposed to make such mistakes, the tenant was told "you can't expect us to look after your business. It's your responsibility, not ours." End of quote.

I was confronted by Mr. Shear and Mr. Bain for having three girls in my apartment and was in no uncertain terms told I would be watched and if any more persons occupied my apartment I would be out on my ear. I wrote a letter to management about this and never did receive a reply. They make you feel like a criminal in your own apartment and feel if they use hard tactics to scare you, you will listen to their garbage. Why hassle me when I know there are four or five girls living in a one-bedroom just down the hall? If anyone is overcrowding, it is more they than myself.

The trouble is in St. Jamestown, you've got to be discreet and hush hush in order to survive. If you're open and honest about what you do, they immediately jump down your throat and take you for all they can get, without giving much in return. It's really not the apartments themselves but the people who run them that get my goat, and that is one of the biggest reasons I'm leaving St. Jamestown.

I'm tired of always having to be on my guard against being evicted if any of my friends stay at my place for a few days or weeks while they look for jobs or places of their own to live. If I have to live in a prison at least give me some freedom. I have always tried to be a good tenant and stick to the rules of my lease and I treat my apartment as if it were my own house and all I get in return is a kick in the ass when I try to stay within the law. Is it any wonder people skip leases when they are backed into corners; they see no other way out of it.

Miss Heather Galbraith
650 Parliament Street

Late valentine to Don Vale

Dear Editor:

Our family marks its first anniversary living in Don Vale on March 26th. When I read the Editor's request for copy for this issue, I decided to comply by writing about why I like living in Don Vale. (Bothers - of which I feel few - I won't mention this time around.) This is a biased piece, emphasizing a few of my pleasures in living East of Parliament.

First, I like our tall, thin, brick-fronted semi-detached. Each week-day night, home from work, I walk down Carlton Street envisioning a dream we are slowly changing to reality: cleaned old orange brick with cream-painted trim, a modest cobbled garden with a small lime tree in the southwest corner and a couple of sweet-smelling shrubs beneath the bay window.

I like the convenience of the street-car stop four minutes from the front door that starts my hour and a quarter trip to work. I read or regard with interest the other passengers, feeling a part of the daily life of Toronto that I never knew

when I used to drive. The car stop also brings the ROM or the newly done-up Grange at the Art Gallery of Ontario within minutes for Sunday outings. In good weather city parks and museums are within walking or bicycling distance. I like feeling close to the Lake: the ferry to the Islands is almost just down the street.

But I don't have to leave the neighbourhood to find a park: an unusual city neighbourhood, Don Vale is bounded on two sides by parks and cemeteries. A walk through the carefully-kept garden of the Necropolis refreshes during all seasons: lilies in spring; shade maples and elms in summer; coloured leaves in autumn; clean snow in winter. I like the polished brass on the caretaker's old brick house, the abundant ivy growing on the old brick walls.

On summer evenings I like to stop for a beer and chat on a neighbour's front stoop. To go for a late cool swim under the stars in the pool on the other side of the Don. To feel the breeze from the Lake after a blistering day.

And finally, I like living in Don Vale because of friendly neighbours, generous with advice for stripping layers of paint from old pine woodwork or with the temporary loan of a level or a ladder. May we mark more anniversaries until we are long-time residents of this pleasant old neighbourhood.

Carol Gardner
338 Carlton St.

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Volunteers needed

Dear Sir;


Woodgreen Community Centre is located in the east end of Toronto. We receive numerous requests from Public Health Nurses, Social Workers, Hospitals, Parole Officers, etc., to supply volunteers to visit people in their homes.

The volunteer's function mainly would be to get to know the client and encourage them to become involved in community activities.

Could you assist us in recruiting the necessary volunteers by letting your readers know of our need for their help? There is a volunteer training program beginning March 25, and as well there will be an on-going training and support program.

I can be reached at 461-1168.

Carol Scott
835 Queen East


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Bain Avenue tenants fight condominium proposal

by ALEXANDRA WILSON

On February 11, the tenants of the Bain Avenue Apartments received notice from the landlord, Toronto Housing Company, Ltd., that the apartments would be completely renovated and sold as condominium units.

Tenants were given until March 31 to decide to either buy their unit at a special price or move out when current leases expire. No more leases are being renewed and for some, this ultimatum means clearing out by the end of March.

Those tenants allowed to stay on can only do so on a month-to-month basis and are being asked to pay rent increases of up to \$40. As well, several tenants living on the south side of Bain Avenue, where renovations have already started, have been asked to relocate to the north side of the street.

And Toronto Housing Company has just renamed the complex and is now calling it "Connaught Court".

PRICES TOO HIGH

For most tenants, buying their units as a condominium is not an alternative. The "special offer" to tenants only consists of a minimum down payment of \$3,950 and prices that range from \$26,950 for a one-bedroom unit to \$46,500 for a five bedroom unit. Few, if any, can afford those prices.

The Toronto Housing Company was founded in 1912 with the stated aim of "better housing for working people". Over the years, the project has continued its historic purpose of providing decent, low-rental housing for families and individuals in its 256 units.

Decent, that is, until recent years when the complex was deliberately allowed to run down while mortgage after mortgage was taken out to finance Toronto Housing's other ventures.

About a year and a half ago, many of the tenants formed a tenant association to force their absentee landlord to make necessary repairs and bring the apartments up to city housing standards.

WORK ORDERS

The City's Housing Standards Division issued work orders on two occasions and although Toronto Housing took its time, the repairs were eventually made (although many of the repairs were made after the deadline had passed to do them).

It seems, however, that Toronto Housing used the Work Orders as an

excuse to begin extensive renovations that tenants are now paying for through an increase in rent. The owner's attention had been drawn to the potential of the complex for modern, high-priced condominiums and huge profits while tenants had simply been fighting for long-awaited and necessary repairs.

Though traditionally a stable neighbourhood populated by working people, this part of the city is quickly changing. The availability of low-cost housing in the area is rapidly diminishing with the result that low-income people are being forced to look elsewhere for housing that is becoming more and more difficult to find.

Many of the present tenants have lived in their apartments for a long time — some as long as 40 years — and they do not want to leave the homes that they have renovated and decorated themselves.

The tenants, however, have decided not to accept Toronto Housing's deal. On February 20th, a meeting of tenants was held to discuss the situation and to explore alternatives to moving out.

CO-OP FORMED

At a second meeting in early March, alternatives were discussed in depth and the consensus was that co-operative ownership of the complex by the tenants was the most feasible and desirable alternative.

The people at that meeting formed a co-operative and decided to put pressure on the Toronto Housing Company to sell to the co-op. At the same time they requested assistance from the municipal and provincial governments and began negotiations with Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

Since then, the tenants have sent a deputation to the Housing Committee of City Council. The Committee passed a motion supporting the concept that Bain Avenue Apartments should be kept as housing for low-income people.

The motion included a recommendation that "the housing consultant, the appropriate development department officials and tenant representatives be requested to hold discussions with the Toronto Housing Company with a view to delaying renovation, freezing rents and preventing evictions while



negotiations with the province are underway."

The motion was forwarded to City Council where it was approved.

On March 14, discussions were held between representatives of the tenants association, alderperson John Sewell and three officials from Ontario Housing Corporation, to determine ways that OHC could help maintain the apartments as low rental housing.

OHC IN FAVOUR

The meeting was surprisingly encouraging. The OHC people were extremely favourable to the idea of a non-profit co-op purchasing the complex through CMHC financing. They said that they were anxious that tenants living there now be able to stay and mentioned that they would be interested in helping out by subsidizing rents for perhaps 25 per cent of the units.

Although tenants whose rents were subsidized would have to meet OHC requirements, there would be no eviction of present tenants in favour of those already on the waiting list.

They also stated that the provincial government's new housing program is aimed at subsidizing non-profit co-op housing to the tune of about ten per cent of the capital cost of a project. Such a grant would be concentrated in the first 15 years of the mortgage and the program includes a provision for technical support.

The meeting also decided to:

- Contact CMHC about the Bain Avenue Apartments.
- Set up a meeting between tenants, CMHC and OHC.
- Send a letter to Mark Tanz, owner of the complex, urging him to sell the complex to a non-profit co-operative.
- Order an independent real estate appraisal of the complex.

With both the city and OHC interested, the tenants of Bain Avenue apartments may yet be able to purchase their apartments at a price they can afford.

The problem, however, is that Mark Tanz, the owner, does not want to sell. The price that he has mentioned is over \$6 million without renovations.

The struggle continues.

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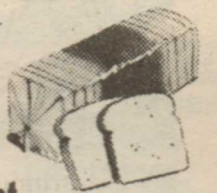
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Browndale gets license despite city by-law

Efforts to get Browndale to disperse its therapeutic group homes throughout the Don District have met a temporary snag.

Browndale has purchased seven houses at the corner of Winchester and Sumach Streets and is currently renovating them to accommodate about 20 disturbed children in a therapeutic family setting.

Opposition by local residents to the concentration has resulted in City Council passing a by-law forcing group homes to be located a minimum of 400 feet from each other. This would satisfy local Don Vale residents who state they have no problems with group homes as such but are concerned about a massive concentration of them in one area.

The by-law is only effective for the Don Vale area and although it takes effect immediately, it won't become a permanent law until passed by the Ontario Municipal Board.

The snag is that the Provincial Ministry of Health has gone ahead and issued licenses to Browndale for its seven houses in Don Vale. A spokesperson for the Ministry is reported to have stated that there is "no bylaw stopping us."

The counter argument is that the City by-law has the force of law until such time as it is vetoed by the OMB.

Alderman John Sewell has reportedly discussed the matter with a lawyer with regard to obtaining an injunction against Browndale.

Meanwhile, the Don Vale Residents' Association and a sub-committee set up to deal with the problem are looking further into the matter.

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Concern for roomers: too little and too late

Ward Seven News editor Norman Browne considers the current concern and press hysteria about roomers and rooming houses to be rather bitterly ironic.

Mr. Browne, a roomer himself, has for the last four years been waging an almost one-man battle to get someone concerned about the problems of rooming houses and the people who live in them.

In the fall of 1969, he researched, wrote and independently published an 8-page brief titled, "ROOMERS: The Lost Race of Society". The brief was widely distributed, drew lots of response but very little positive action.

"The brief," says Mr. Browne, "called for the design and construction of new accommodation specifically designed to meet the needs of roomers."

"By coincidence, a local small developer was at the same time in the process of designing such a building. He later gave me credit for the idea, but I don't know. I did hear, however, that Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation were passing out copies of my brief to other developers looking into the idea."

The second outcome of the publishing of the brief was that the Toronto Christian Resource Centre, located on Carlton Street, received a \$3,000 grant to conduct a six-month survey on the "roomer problem". Mr. Browne was hired by the CRC to help work on the survey.

"Because of the magnitude of the problem," says Mr. Browne, "it was closer to 15 months before the Study was published and probably

cost closer to \$10,000."

Mr. Browne was dissatisfied with the final Study on Roomers published by the CRC in the winter of 1972. "The recommendations in the Study," says Mr. Browne, "were written with the thought in mind of securing more money from the government to conduct more action surveys."

"The only major recommendation of any worth was that rooming houses be licensed. But you don't need 88 pages to say that."

Mr. Browne was also upset because a number of major papers he had written on roomer problems were left out of the final Study. Because he felt they were important to the problem, he published them himself and the 18-page booklet, titled "Over-looked aspects of Roomers", was widely distributed.

But still nothing much happened.

"Oh, I'd get interviewed by the press or TV about once a year," states Mr. Browne, "and professors, or students, or bureaucrats would interview me about once a month. But there was no action."

Then the Ontario Government put together a housing Task Force and Mr. Browne was asked to sit on its advisory committee. Even though he had an inside pipeline to the Task Force, Mr. Browne still made a formal, public presentation of his briefs and concerns.

"What a hope," says Mr. Browne. "The final report of the Task Force devoted one sentence of two lines to the subject. It said the problems of roomers should be more fully investigated. Wow."

Now, everyone is concerned about roomers. Late last year, Ward Seven Alderperson Karl Jaffary asked the city to study the possibility of licensing rooming houses. The city in turn hired a firm of consultants to do the study. Then the South of Carlton Planning Office began a study of roomers in the South of Carlton area. And it was rumoured that Central Mortgage and Housing had finally made a major grant to do a study.

Then the daily press "discovered" that people were dying in rooming house fires and roomers were no longer "The Lost Race of Society."

"The irony," says Mr. Browne, "is that my original 1969 brief stated that over 100,000 roomers were living in inadequate dwellings. The CRC roomer study called for the licensing of rooming houses — and that was in 1972. Now people are concerned because a lot of people have died in rooming house fires."

Last Monday, Mr. Browne attended a meeting with the consultants working for the city on the rooming house study. He was shown a map of Toronto with red dots pasted over it to indicate the location of rooming house fires.

Almost the whole area south of Wellesley, east of Jarvis, was one mass of red.

Does the whole map have to be red before action is taken?



Seven people have been killed in rooming house fires in the last two weeks. Five people were killed in this blaze on Maitland Place. The house is owned by the Meridian Group.

NEWS ACROSS THE WARD

Information Workshop

The Neighbourhood Information Post, in conjunction with the Oak Street Community Project and the Don Vale Community Centre, is sponsoring an Information Sharing Workshop for all groups operating in, or serving the Ward Seven area.

The workshop is designed to bring all groups together so they can meet, exchange ideas, and find ways of helping each other to serve the Ward better.

The Workshop is being held Thursday, March 28 at the Don Vale Community Centre, 80 Winchester Street. The workshop conference starts at 10:00 a.m. and will last until 2 p.m. with a break for lunch to be served by the Community Centre.

Any group not registered should do so immediately by phoning the Neighbourhood Information Post at 924-2543. Groups sending representatives to the Workshop should also send along a one-page information sheet on the activities of their particular group or project.

Play street on Rawlings

by CAROL GARDNER

The portion of the narrow lane called Rawlings Ave. running between Carlton and Winchester Streets is about to be repaved by the city — an excellent move to keep down summer dust, to improve the surface and appearance of the lane.

But cars and trucks unnecessarily using Rawlings as a short cut are a danger to neighbourhood children playing in the lane in spring, summer and fall. Cars sometimes speed up or down the lane barely stopping before making a right or left turn. Cars turning into the lane sometimes swerve quickly without slowing to check the safety of their turns.

For cars lucky enough to be garaged off Rawlings and the houses fronting on the lane, access is a necessity. But no other traffic need use this small lane.

With spring weather nearly here, now is the time to consider blocking the lane to through traffic, perhaps by a traffic maze arrangement, to make a safe play-street for the children.

South Riverdale Study

The City of Toronto has opened an office at 731 Queen St. east from which two city planners are doing a detailed study of the South Riverdale area.

The area they will be studying is bounded by Lakeshore Blvd., the Don River, Gerrard Street and Jones-Leslie Streets. First step in the process involves discussion with the Greater Riverdale Organization and tenant-ratepayer groups in Ward Eight.

Following these meetings, a preliminary report will be issued and then public meetings will be held as the planners seek information and areas of concern to be included in their detailed planning study.

Problems with Zoo site

Ward Seven may never have a new facility in Riverdale Park to replace Riverdale Zoo when it closes.

The plans are drawn up, the money is available and construction is ready to start the moment Riverdale Zoo is closed down. But Metro (which owns the property) is holding up the transfer of it to the City (which wants to construct the new facility).

Indications are that Metro and the Metro Zoo Society want to hold onto Riverdale Zoo and use it for holding and storing animals and quarantining them prior to moving them to the new Metro Zoo now under final construction.

It is anticipated that a lot of people from across Toronto will make use of the new facility to be built in Riverdale Park to replace the present Zoo. They would do so as an alternative to the long distance and high cost of going to the new Metro Zoo. They may be out of luck.

The Don Vale Association of Homeowners and Residents and Ward Seven Alderpersons John Sewell and Karl Jaffary are supporting City Parks Commissioner Ivan Forrest in his efforts to get Metro to turn over the property to Toronto.

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Bleecker St reunion

A re-union of all tenants and people involved in the South St. Jamestown Tenants Association will be held Saturday, April 13th at the Don Vale Community Centre.

The South St. Jamestown Tenants Association fought for over three years to save the existing houses on Bleecker and Ontario Streets from demolition to make way for the expansion of St. Jamestown.

The homes were all eventually levelled and yet today, nearly a year and a half later, the land is still vacant with no plans for construction.

The re-union is open to anyone who was involved with the tenants association — however, because of space requirements, and so that they have a fair idea of how many people are intending to come — they are asking that if you are going to come or want more information, phone Marilyn at 924-2543.



Another surprise party for the Senior Citizens of Moss Park Apartments was held last week in the penthouse at 285 Shuter Street. People were invited to the party from each of the three buildings in the complex. The group had a sing-song, refreshments and gifts were distributed. The money for the party was raised by holding bingos on Sunday afternoons during the previous year.

photo: f. elsasser

DACHI hires manager

by STEVE LACROIX

On March 5 in the Don Vale, the property assembly known as the "Cowley Houses" was purchased by Don Area Cooperative Homes Inc. for \$1.6 million under an 8 per cent CMHC mortgage. The package consists of 36 houses of Carlton, Spruce and Sackville Streets, and on Dermott Place.

Proposals were immediately received from architects for the restoration and renovation of ten of the Carlton St. houses — on the South side, numbers 255 to 273. The firm retained by DACHI to prepare contract drawings for the renovations was Erdman Knaak. Their work should be completed early in April, and project manager Walther Schlapkohl hopes to have workpeople on the site by April 10.

Basic to the restoration of these buildings is the importance of preserving their period characters, and of enhancing the architectural integrity of the street. DACHI intends to proceed in consultation with the neighbourhood and with area designers and architects.

Present plans call for the ten houses to be renovated, following CMHC and City standards, to provide 36 housing units: 2 5-bedroom apartments, 4 4-bedroom, 2 3-bedroom, 8 2-bedroom, 9 1-bedroom and 11 mini-bedroom or bachelor units. All units are self-contained, with private kitchen and bathroom.

Some of the houses were sand-blasted under previous ownership, but in such a way that the façades were damaged. An immediate priority for these is to repoint and replace brickwork, and to apply a protective silicone coating to prevent further deterioration. Exterior trim and furnishings will be consistent with original design.

DACHI workers are presently cleaning up the properties and boarding up basement windows to prevent accidents to children. A permit has been obtained from the city to allow removal of some exterior trim from the Carlton buildings as a preliminary to restoration. Walther Schlapkohl is investigating subcontractors to assure sufficient and competent building tradespersons when contracts are let.

DACHI's project site office is located at 267 Carlton St. Walther Schlapkohl, or his assistant Michael Grunsky, will be available there every Wednesday from 7:30 to

10:30 p.m., to explain and discuss aspects of the project with interested parties.

Primary input regarding layout and design of these units will be from the present Cowley House residents — since their occupancy entitles them to become members of the cooperative when the project is completed. DACHI guarantees the right of all present residents to remain in the project. Secondary input will be from interested neighbours, who have already submitted several points of concern for DACHI's consideration.

These include priority in the project for families with children and for senior citizens, planning for existing tenants, questions of density, ideas for the use of two large buildings on Carlton which DACHI finds economically unfeasible and intends to sell, and preservation of the neighbourhood's architecture. These questions and others were presented on Thursday, March 14, at the first of a series of meetings between DACHI and Don Vale residents at the Don Vale Community Centre. The inherent flexibility of cooperative — as opposed to commercial — development will allow DACHI to profit from the existing pool of local expertise.

The last issue of *Seven News* advised of the City's concern over the state of Don Area rooming houses. Tragic events since then have focussed attention on these houses and their suitability for occupancy. At least three of DACHI's houses are occupied by roomers who are guaranteed residence while the project is underway as well as subsequent opportunity to join the cooperative. DACHI has asked the City to inspect these buildings so that for the remainder of their existence as rooming houses they will not be a hazard to their occupants.

DACHI's next meeting with the Don Vale community will be at the Community Centre, Thursday 28 March, at 8:00 p.m. At that time DACHI will report on its Board's

reaction to community proposals already presented, and will discuss other items in an agenda which will be circulated as widely as possible throughout the area well in advance. DACHI's tentative, overall schedule for the Cowley Project will be outlined so that interested parties will be able to bring up appropriate concerns at the right time.

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Queen's Park report

School board - teacher conflict has implications for Ward Seven

by MARGARET CAMPBELL, Q.C.
M.P.P. St. George

During the last part of last year and the first part of this year much of the time of the Legislature has been taken up with the matter of education and particularly the rights of the teachers. In all of the long years of education in this Province there has never been a serious disruption in the service to the child or to the student.

What then, happened this time? We have to go back to the time when the present Premier was Minister of Education. During his tenure of office we saw a profligacy in public spending for purposes related to education such as had never before been seen.

Certainly, most of us welcomed the philosophy that educational opportunities should be universal both at the elementary and secondary level but also in post-secondary education. There was the initiation of the college system and programme and throughout the Province we saw the burgeoning buildings and facilities.

Notwithstanding the fact however, that there were reports which indicated that we had reached a peak student population, the spending went on with no planned projection and Boards of Education were encouraged to purchase television equipment and other equip-

ment which certainly in some areas has been stored over a period of years.

This was the time when the Toronto Board of Education approved the purchase of two bongo drums for a school in Toronto for kindergarten students at the sum of \$500.00 a piece. No one, and I repeat no one, was prepared to skimp on costs which were legitimately incurred to educate our population but, unfortunately, waste and extravagance and unnecessary costs were incurred.

In Metropolitan Toronto we saw the fight for prestige as each of the Boroughs followed Toronto's lead in the establishment of an educational centre with directors who would be paid, at that time, in the range of \$30,000 to \$40,000 a year.

There is no doubt that this sort of spending had to be curtailed. The administrative costs had soared and, of course, the development of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education and other such Institutes were established to research education.

You are aware that in that institution at least 30 per cent of the staff was American and that in our colleges and universities we have embraced Americans with special tax exemptions.

CEILINGS IMPOSED

Mr. Davis then became the Premier of Ontario and suddenly the educational costs had to be faced and ceilings were imposed. They were imposed upon the elementary and secondary school systems arbitrarily with no appreciation of the system or what such ceilings would do.

At the same time, the Province brought into effect its development days, its open curriculum and the New Math and all of these decisions had to affect the costs of educating a child.

Teachers who have never had a voice in the curriculum became concerned about the quality of education as, in fact, did the parents. There was a restlessness which began to surface. Teachers in the elementary system are now expected to have University degrees and yet, the disparity between the elementary teachers and the secondary teacher in salary widened.

It is interesting to note that the greater proportion of teachers in the elementary system are women and this may well account for this disparity.

No one sought to cut administrative costs either in the Ministry, at O.I.S.E., in the colleges and universities or in the elementary and secondary system. The way to cut costs was to cut teaching staff, hold

salaries down and provide only minimal services and supplies.

UNREST GROWS

At this point in time the Government continued to expand provisions for the education of teachers. And so, the unrest grew. Teachers do not have a right to strike; each is forced to sign an individual contract drawn up by the Government and, in fact, on Government forms.

The contracts permitted teachers to resign at two periods in the teaching year, one at the end of November and one at the end of May. Teachers had no right to express their concerns except under the provisions of those contracts and, therefore, many tendered resignations effective as of the end of November.

We must bear in mind always that the concern over the lowering of educational standards was felt by all parents and the teachers were the only visible pawn in the game. How many people know anything whatsoever about O.I.S.E., about the Ministry of Education or even about the Metropolitan School Board. Local school boards were amalgamated into county systems and this further frightened parents used to the old ways.

TEACHERS WANT VOTE

As a result of the resignations, the Province brought in Bill 274 and Bill 275. Bill 274 was brought in to vitiate the resignations in advance and to force the teachers to continue at their jobs notwithstanding the fact that their bargaining had bogged down.

The teachers took the position that if they were to be blamed by parents for this deterioration in education they certainly had to have a voice in the classroom size. You will hear retired teachers say: "I was able to teach a class of 50 - these new young teachers are lazy."

What we have to realize is that these teachers, too, could handle classes of fifty if teaching remained the structured establishment that it once was with a teacher being a person who stood up before a classroom and faced fifty students seated at fifty desks and regurgitated facts more or less effectively. The concepts in education had changed.

The teacher's role now was to present facts still, of course, but to involve the student in the thinking process so that learning became something more than absorbing facts but became an opportunity for broadening the mind. And all this, at a time when the open classroom permitted greater mobility of the students, when it was considered inappropriate that a child should fail and that therefore children were pushed along faster than many of them could accommodate to.

There is certainly a significant number of students who reach the Grade 8 or 9 level unable to read or to write and this, of course, causes such students to opt out, to become truant, to pass their time out of the schoolroom because they cannot continue to cope.

TEACHERS UNITE

When Bill 274 was introduced the teachers for the first time in their history united to express their concerns and it is interesting that there were clear-cut policies among the three parties in the Legislature. The Province, having been able to hide its own responsibility and considering the history of teachers, felt it appropriate to bring in legislation in advance of any strike, legislation which stated unequivocally that teachers had no right to withdraw services and to force them to compulsory arbitration.

There was at that time no definition as to what could be arbitrated other than salaries and wages. There was no clear-cut Government policy on conditions of work and this the

teachers found intolerable.

The NDP, following their usual line, voted easily against compulsory arbitration. The Liberals, concerned about the quality of education and about the principles of compulsory arbitration, took their philosophical position firmly and it was simply this: the right to withdraw services is an inalienable right and should not be removed except in the most exceptional circumstances.

Where the withdrawal of services would affect the health and/or safety of the community then, reluctantly, the Liberals would invoke compulsory bargaining but inherent in compulsory bargaining is the autonomy of both sides of the bargaining table, in this case the Board of Education and the teachers.

The Board of Education, however, was almost a straw man in that it was faced with bargaining within ceilings and it had no voice over curriculum or educational policies themselves and therefore could hardly bargain on any of these points without some direction from the Government.

FAIL TO BARGAIN

In my opinion Bill 274 died. A new bill, Bill 275, does provide for bargaining for working conditions but also provides compulsory arbitration. This Bill is still to be re-introduced. Meanwhile, York County became the rebel with a cause.

The teachers withdrew their services, the Board, according to all of the information which I have been able to assemble, was quite unmovable and refused to bargain for working conditions. There is certainly evidence that the Government position on this question was not made clear to the Board.

And so, Bill 12 was introduced to force the teachers back into the schools but, at a last gasp, the Government made clear to both sides that classroom size, pupil-teacher ratios and generally working conditions were arbitrable. One cannot, of course, usefully attribute motives but it would appear that the trustees felt they were fighting the battle of all trustees in Ontario.

The teachers may well have felt the same but what of the role of this Government? The Government lost heavily in its confrontation with the teachers last year. The fact that until Bill 12 was introduced it would appear that that Government position was not made known. This causes one to wonder whether once more the Government was not fighting the teachers to strengthen its position with parents and, again, use the teachers as pawns in a game.

VISIBLE ENEMY

It is unfortunate that the matter of salaries was part of the package because to many people the teachers appear to be greedy and recalcitrant and eager for job security. The teachers themselves did not express as clearly as they might have done their concerns for the deterioration in education itself.

Again, they were the visible enemy to the parents who were justifiably concerned about the fact that their children were not in the schools, particularly those in Grades 12 and 13. I would hope that the people of Ward 7 would look very closely at the overall issues and consider whether they are satisfied with the education that children are receiving. Do they feel that the teacher in the classroom should have something to say about teaching methods and overall philosophies? Or should they be dictated by people who have long since been out of the classroom and particularly by those whose culture is not the culture of Canadians?

Those, indeed, are the questions.

A point by point primer on how to lose your driver's licence.

It's actually quite simple.

All you do is accumulate fifteen demerit points and lose your licence for thirty days. Do it again and lose your licence for six months.

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At fifteen points, you'll lose your licence for thirty days and drop back to seven points. Get fifteen again and you won't drive for six months.

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How Demerit Points Accumulate:

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5 points	Driver of bus failing to stop at unprotected railway crossings.	
4 points	Exceeding the speed limit by 20 to 29 m. p. h. Failing to stop for school bus. Following too closely.	
3 points	Exceeding speed limit by 11 to 19 m. p. h. Driving through, around or under railway crossing barrier. Failing to yield right of way. Failing to obey a stop sign, signal light or railway crossing signal.	Failing to obey directions of police officer. Failing to report an accident to a police officer. Improper passing. Crowding driver's seat. Wrong way on one-way street or highway.
2 points	Failing to lower headlamp beam. Improper opening of vehicle door. Prohibited turns. Towing of persons on toboggans, bicycles, skis, etc. prohibited.	Failing to obey signs other than those mentioned above. Pedestrian cross-over. Failing to share road. Improper right turn. Improper left turn. Failing to signal. Unnecessary slow driving.

The whole point is to score nothing, keep your record clean and drive happily ever after.



Ministry of Transportation & Communications

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New role for library in a changing society

by EVA MARTIN

When Parliament Street Library first opened its doors nineteen years ago, it was the first library especially designated to serve inner city neighbourhoods in the east end.

At that time the public library fulfilled a traditional book-oriented function which meant that service to the public was given within the confines of the library building. Librarians expected the people of the community to come to them for service, books and factual information.

It became evident that in order to make the library known to a community where books and reading were middle-class values and to whom the library was a forbidding institution, the library must extend outward into the community.

If the library was to be used at all by the people in the immediate community a new philosophy of service must be devised, and under the dynamic leadership of Sadie Jordan the library began to turn its eyes outward. Unusual tactics such as knocking on the doors of individual homes, and persuading young teenagers to carry a sandwich board up and down Parliament Street were employed to make the library known.

Gradually a pattern of special programmes evolved — high-quality literary evenings at which authors such as E.J. Pratt and Irving Layton read their poems, and ethnic evenings which brought people from all over the city. Such activities were organized by the library staff.

Activities in the Boys and Girls Department expanded from the traditional storytelling and puppet shows to painting and other creative pursuits which encouraged local children to express themselves artistically in a way that was not possible at home or in school.

TEEN DROP-IN

A drop-in centre for young teenagers grew in the sixties out of a request from a few young people for a place where they could listen to their own records and talk.

Flo Murray ..a profile

by TED PLANTOS

This article was not written specifically to announce the forthcoming anniversary of Flo Murray's tenure at the Parliament St. Library; although, it could have been. She will have been here ten years this April.

Flo has come a long way since 1964 when the out-going Sady Jordan, head librarian at the time, would introduce her shy young assistant to everyone that came through the door. Knowing, from personal experience, about some of the characters who have come through the Library door, I would guess that she got over her shyness quickly.

In talking with Flo today, one gets the impression of an out-going, communicative person.

"I can laugh at it now, but it really bothered me then," Flo says. "It's pitiful when I think back about how withdrawn I was. I wouldn't speak unless I had to. I'd never go out of my way to say hello to somebody."



As the community became more aware of the newly-evolving function of the library as an open forum which welcomed groups from all parts of the district, many community-sponsored events took place. One of the rooms was used for counselling by a Jesuit priest.

In March, 1967, the first meeting of young local poets was held on a Saturday afternoon, a group which has continued to meet there to the present day. This group has fluctuated in scope and membership with the times, and the members have a commendable list of publications to their credit. The atmosphere is informal and the conversation easy. It is an excellent starting point for young poets to gain confidence in themselves and their ability to write.

The number and type of groups using the library and the number of activities within all departments accelerated until the saturation point was reached. A new opportunity presented itself when the World War I veterans were forced to vacate the house

next door to the library, and the Toronto Public Library Board was given first option to purchase the building.

This was a "first" for the city of Toronto and perhaps for the whole country. The building now known as the Parliament Street Library House was, in 1969, a totally experimental programme. A special community services librarian, Bruce Geddes, was employed to develop the programmes and to project ways in which the building might be used by the community.

TRAINED STAFF

The library staff as a whole is trained to keep its ears tuned in to the particular needs of the people served. Therefore, it was not long before the Neighbourhood Information Post came into being, to provide a kind of information not provided by the traditional library function — information about the social, recreational and medical resources of the community.

NIP is given space in the Library House and whatever assistance in training volun-

teers and organizing files that it requires, but operates under its own board of directors, not under the Toronto Public Library administration.

While it provides a variety of programmes — films, photography and guitar workshops, chess and checkers — the Library House is basically a drop-in centre for adults and young people. The teenagers meet in "the cellar" where they listen to records and rap, and the adults have free access to colour television, newspapers, magazines and paperbacks on the ground floor.

The staff at the Parliament Street Library is an extremely interested and committed one, displaying many special talents and interests. Louise Smerek who is in charge of our foreign language collection, speaks Slovak, Czech, and Hungarian fluently and has a working knowledge of many Slav languages, German, Polish, and Italian.

Flo Murray, talented artist who has more than 100 paintings floating around Toronto to her credit, is in charge of special programming for women at the Library House and arranges interesting speakers and films on a variety of subjects for Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Charlene Girt and Bonnie Bird who tend the reading needs of the adult and young people's departments are two bright and cheerful people who have an infectious enthusiasm for people and books.

In the boys and girls department, Elizabeth Cummings can often be seen listening to the woes of a small child with patience and humour, and reading stories to children which they enjoy very much, while Christine Bolander, an import from Arizona, directs the art programmes for children.

Nancy Craig is in charge of the Library House activities with her staff of dilettantes in the field of community services — Jack Heighton, Jim Wiberg (the chess expert), Judy Billett (youth worker) and Ted Plantos, our poet in residence.

The whole staff is interested in people and always open to suggestions from people in the community as to what programmes and services they would like to see happening at the Parliament Street Library.

BRIGHT FUTURE

Although the library buildings now are bursting at the seams with people and special events, the future holds many exciting prospects. If the City Council passes the 1974 budget, Parliament Street Library will become a downtown learning resources centre where films, records and the necessary equipment may be borrowed by anyone who has a library card.

We hope to tie these audio-visual resources in with remedial reading classes for adults if such a programme is needed and of interest to the people who live in the area. Under the direction of Nancy Craig, the library is already launched into the collection of local history materials — pictures, letters, newspaper clippings and documents about the area bounded by Bloor Street, the Don River, Jarvis Street and the waterfront — an area rich in history and personality.

A committee of local people is working on the project, suggesting in what direction the collection might move and actively collecting materials. Part of the collection will consist of taped interviews with senior citizens in the area, as well as a section on "Cabbagetown in the Thirties", interviews with people who survived the depression years here.

The local history collection will be open to anyone who wants to learn about this most interesting community, and will be particularly useful as an introduction to children and students to the exciting historical past of their environment.

The future of the library is an exciting one in this particular community for there is a vitality here and total lack of pretension that is not present anywhere else in the city.

What the Library Offers

- a library card is available to everyone FREE of charge
- a broad general collection of books, pamphlets and periodicals for recreational and informational reading
- books may be reserved free — through an interloan system, access to the resources of more than 70 libraries in the metropolitan area
- a place to browse, read newspapers and magazines, or just to sit quietly
- prints of famous paintings may be borrowed on a library card
- information about community affairs and resources — phone the Neighbourhood Information Post at 924-2543
- a collection of books in French, Greek, Italian and Hungarian
- a photocopier — 10¢ per copy made
- programmes featuring films, records and filmstrips including French language films
- colour television in the Library House
- chess and checks with expert advice on the rules of the game if wanted
- a preschool story hour every Tuesday at 11:00 a.m.
- a photography darkroom and workshops for adults and young people
- poetry workshops and evenings at which anyone can come and read their poetry
- tutoring in high school subjects plus quiet study space
- meeting space for tenant groups, ratepayers or any non-profit community group
- special programmes for children — creative drama, films, story hours, displays, etc.
- librarians willing to give booktalks to classes, senior citizen groups, women's groups, church groups who may come to the library — if not, we travel abroad
- a friendly, cooperative staff who will listen

Flo's time at Parliament St. is split between community programming and the Library routine. Now she enjoys greeting by name, and being greeted by name.

Her programmes include the energetic Saturday Poetry & Rap session that has, under her direction, developed over the past seven years into an active meeting place for poets and writers. Along with group writing activities, these are discussion and criticism of poetry and periodic workshops with established poets. Book talks are held on the last Saturday of each month, and a Speech and Communication Workshop is planned for four times a year. An annual edition of their anthology, 2 O'clock Rap, includes the work of those who attend. It is published through the Toronto Public Libraries.

Several of this group's early members have gone on to gain recognition as writers and poets. They include the late Harold Ladoo, Don Bailey, Dorothy Rath, John Jessop, David Type, C.H. Gervais, Sean o'huigen, Tom Arnett and Wayne Moore, whose novel, soon to be published, is entitled "The Home Country."

About the poets Flo says, "I don't want them to think that I'm a Library person and I'm just there to over see them. I like the idea of going out to have a beer with them on Saturday afternoons. There's no alienation between us."

Now, it's a good thing that Flo doesn't get into the suds with the Second Mile Club; they are a group of senior citizens who meet with Flo twice a year at the Library House — too long between beers. I am ashamed to admit that only tea is served at these functions. They also read plays.

Other activities that Flo is involved in at the Library include Music appreciation, a Tuesday Ladies' Day, Monday Playreading and a trip to the Shaw Festival once a year.

Flo lives in South Regent Park with her husband Jerome — one of the founders of the Regent Park Community Association — and their three children, Joey, Alice and Stewart.

Included among Flo's personal interests is painting, which she considers a hobby.

"I don't think I'd like to get into it professionally; but if the opportunity presented itself at my feet I wouldn't kick it aside."

Flo prefers the more traditional styles of art. She paints in her pantry while her son, Stewart, studies his school books and occasionally asks for assistance.

But there seems to be a paradox. Flo says, "If I had my way I wouldn't be in community work. I'm just not a community person, like Jerome. I just like being alone, with nobody around. It doesn't bother me at all."

Flo feels that she gets enough contact with people when she's working. "We don't have people dropping into our place all the time, and we don't visit much. I really appreciate my solitude."

Flo Murray is her own person: enjoys playing piano with her keyboard guide handy, reading Gothic Romances, and making her own clothes. She's also into breathing exercises. That's understandable.

Flo doesn't want people to say, "Oh, you're Jerome Murray's wife," in connection with her work. "I'm an individual and don't want to be under anyone's shadow." She isn't.

newsroundup

Riverdale Co-op seeks CMHC funding for 25 houses

Riverdale Co-op Homes, a non-profit housing group, similar to Don Area Co-op Homes, is seeking a \$660,000 loan from Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to buy 25 houses and renovate five others...

The City of Toronto has supplied Bob Didulka from the Development department to work in liaison with Don Vale residents and DACHI...

The Toronto Public Libraries has cancelled the Bookmobile stop on Sumac Street near the Riverdale Zoo. However, the Library-on-Wheels will continue its Tuesday morning stop at the parking lot off Queen East and Berkeley at Moss Park...

The Don Vale Community Centre has made application to the City of Toronto for a grant of \$15,000...

New staff at Dixon Hall, hired after a recent rash of quitings, are: Richard Otero-

Culver, program director; Marsha Riehm, dental nurse; Ted Lemay programmer; and Sherry Rockstad, secretary...

Candidates for election to the executive of the Regent Park Community Improvement Association are: First vice-president - Vego Pande and Harold Jackman; second vice-president - Helen Clarke and Roy Grenon; Treasurer - Ozzie Smith, Stanley Ware, and Bob Ralston. Olga Burnett has been acclaimed treasurer. Elections are March 26 and voting is at 40 Oak Street...

After a series of semi-private showings, the underground film classic, "Bleeker" is now available for showing free to community groups. It's a 16mm film and can be had on loan by phoning SEVEN NEWS at 920-8632...

The Gerrard "K" Club, 101 Spruce Street, is taking applications for boys and girls who want to attend its summer camp

this year. Fees are \$25 for girls and \$35 for boys. Phone 925-2243 for dates and details...

Congratulations to Regent Park minor-bantams who defeated East Riverdale 4-1 and Regent and East Riverdale atoms who tied 4-4 in the recent Toronto Playground hockey finals...

Contributions of photos, poems, stories, experiences, etc., are wanted for a downtown children's book. If you have anything to contribute or know of anyone that might, phone Ruth Johnson at 925-6463 or Meredith Hutchings at 921-4072. Contributions in any language are welcome...

People living south of Shuter Street in the Don District can now make use of the Dixon Hall Dental Clinic which has appointment time available. Cost is only \$2 a visit and dentures are made very reasonably for senior citizens. Phone Marsha Riehm at 863-0499

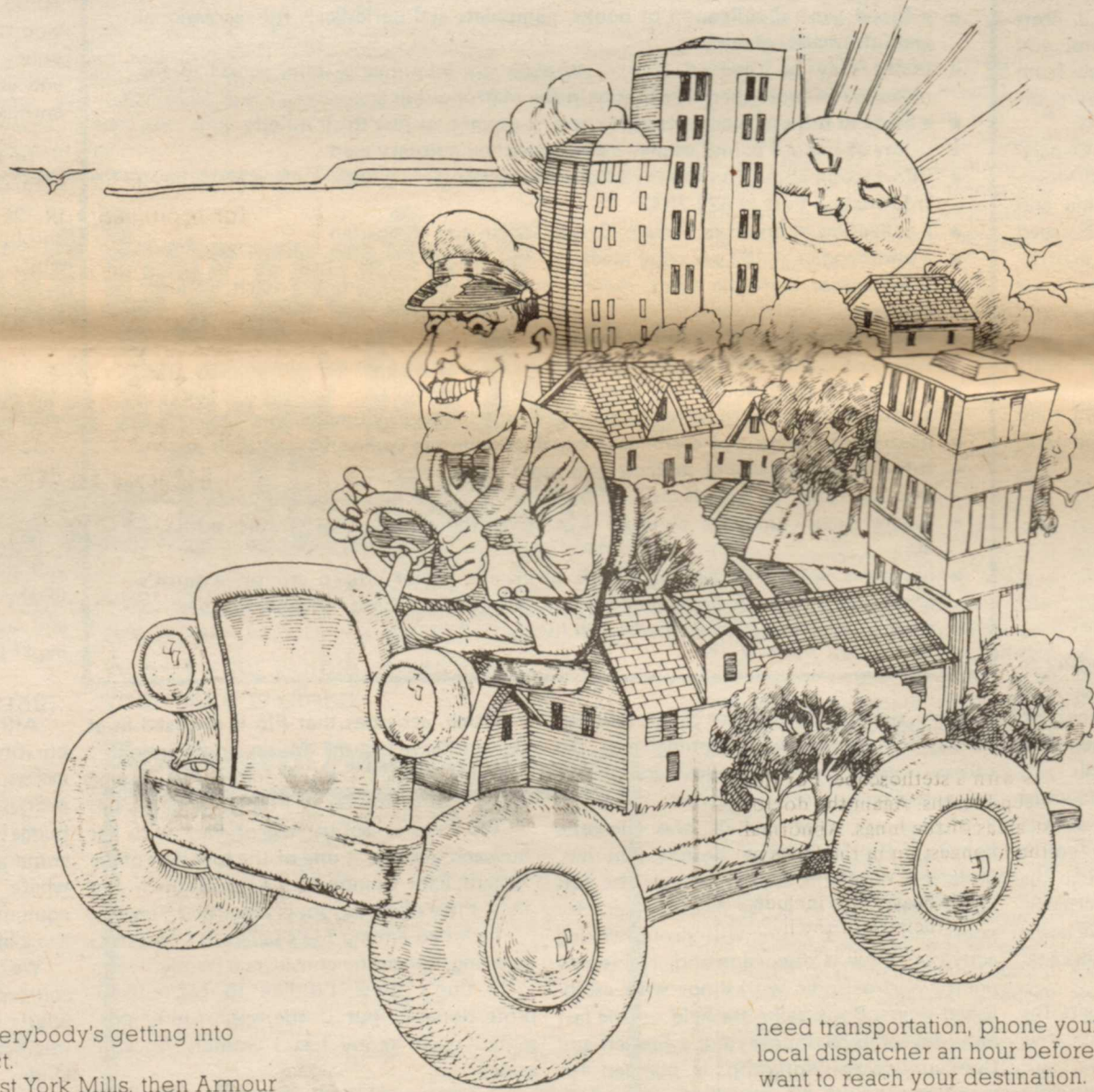
for an appointment...

Neighbourhood Information Post, 265 Gerrard East, has new hours for its free income tax clinic. From Monday to Wednesday, it's 9:30 to 11 a.m., 1 to 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. On Thursday, the clinic is open evenings only. Phone them at 924-2543 for more information...

The Gerrard "K" Club gymnastic team and their 10-year-old piano player, John Ohtake, will be performing at the Royal York Hotel before the Governor General of Canada...

FOLLOW-UP: A Major McColl who is evidently connected in some way with the Provincial Riding Boundaries Commission states that the Commission does not have a mailing list and if anyone wants to take part in the Committee's decisions, they should run in the next provincial election. So much for citizen participation...

GO-DIAL A BUS. It's putting neighbourhoods on wheels.



Everybody's getting into the act.

First York Mills, then Armour Heights and now Downsview. Very soon the eastern part of Willowdale will become part of the Go Dial a Bus experiment in Metro Toronto.

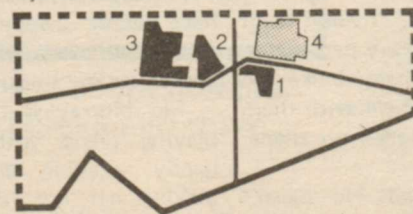
Four short years ago, Dial a Bus was just an idea. The problem: how could public transportation reach people who live in areas not served by fixed route buses, streetcars and subways. The solution: have them phone for buses when they need them.

So Dial a Bus was set up in Bay Ridges in July of 1970. Three years later the experiment was turned over to Pickering Township as a proven success. The pioneer project had evolved into an important new transit link. Today Kingston, Stratford, Bramalea and Sudbury have all

adopted variations of Dial a Bus and more are coming.

Dial a Bus is working beautifully in smaller centres. The question now is how to adapt it to larger cities. They's why we're running a three-year experiment in different areas of Metro Toronto.

How does Go Dial a Bus work? If you live in an area served by Go Dial a Bus (see map) and you



- 1. York Mills
- 2. Armour Heights
- 3. Downsview
- 4. Willowdale

need transportation, phone your local dispatcher an hour before you want to reach your destination. You'll be picked up at the door.

In rush hours the driver will take you to bus and subway lines. In off-peak hours you can go shopping, visiting, and then take Go Dial a Bus back home again.

The TTC is operating the buses for the government of Ontario. Both groups will evaluate successes and problems as they arise to tailor the system to neighbourhood needs.

And then? We'll have even more answers on how to keep Ontario public transit among the finest in the world.



Ministry of Transportation & Communications
Hon. John R. Rhodes A.T.C. McNab
Minister Deputy Minister

For further information about GO-DIAL A BUS service in York Mills, Armour Heights and Downsview call 248-3112.

\$400,000 for South of Carlton

The people in the South of Carlton area are now faced with the problem of how to spend well over \$400,000 in less than a year.

This became evident at the last South of Carlton Working Committee meeting after the Committee endorsed all the recommendations of the proposed Part 2 Official Plan.

When one of the planners suggested that the Working Committee may wish to disband itself, a number of members quickly jumped in with arguments which indicate that

the Committee's work may have just begun.

There is now little doubt that the Working Committee has become a central force in the community, and members pointed out that since City Council has designated South of Carlton as a Neighbourhood Improvement Program (NIP) area, with a 1974 budget of \$400,000, someone had to make sure that the money was spent.

Someone also had to make sure that the groundwork was done so that people in the area could get hold of some of the loans and

grants for rehabilitating houses and businesses.

While city staff could help, the Working Committee felt it was up to themselves to make sure that work got started, and that local people controlled things.

However, the planners pointed out that nothing is as easy as it sounds, and when government is involved, it doesn't even sound easy.

The Neighbourhood Improvement Program gives a neighbourhood money to improve the area, as long as you don't use any of it to fix up houses. Anybody need any parks, lane pavings, community centres, etc.?

What the NIP designation does give local property owners is access to other funds (e.g., R.R.A.P.). You can get a confirmed loan/grant for up to \$5,000 for each dwelling unit if you occupy your own house and earn less than \$11,000, or if you are an absentee owner and agree to rent control. The Ontario Home Renewal program could add to these rehabilitation funds and the entire program could be added to in future years.

What does it all mean? Nobody is quite sure, but the planners feel that the people in South of Carlton have really got their work cut out for them.

Local people will have to nail down what can be done, what they want done, and then drag the money out of the big government machine.

Will it be worth the trouble? Most people feel \$400,000 justifies a lot of frustration, and South of Carlton certainly needs work.

The big question is: who will gain?

Lower income homeowners could finally afford some badly

needed repairs. Some absentee-owners could get very cheap money, if their tenants were safeguarded.

It also seems that some NIP money could be used to drastically reduce the cost, and therefore the rent, of non-profit housing. And of course, that crumbling back lane could finally be paved.

It certainly seems, however, that tenants will have to be a little more inventive than homeowners, if they are to get equal benefit.

Taking what it considered to be the first necessary step, the Working Committee has called an informal public meeting at Central Neighbourhood House, for Monday, April 8, at 7:30 p.m. City officials will be there for local people to grill, and then future decisions will be made.

At this point it seems that only one thing is perfectly clear.

No one should expect paradise. That costs a bit more than \$400,000, even without inflation.

UNDER THE HOOD

Hogan Pontiac Buick

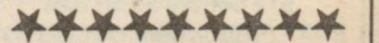
If everyone riding in a car this year wore a seat belt at least 5,000 lives could be saved.



Alertness is not the only factor in good driving. Attitude, mood and personal outlook are more important.



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SURVIVAL!

Physical exam important

A HEALTH COLUMN by AUDREY SMOLIN

A routine physical exam will continue in an orderly way from head and neck (discussed in the last issue of *Seven News*) down through the chest, abdomen (what a lot of us falsely call the stomach), arms and legs, sex organs and urinary system and rectum. Some simple tests of how your nervous system is working will also be made.

This part of the exam makes many of us uncomfortable because we must expose parts of our bodies we usually keep covered (except for streakers of course). We should expect that the exam will be done in a way that respects our human dignity. No one should be present without your permission and an explanation of their purpose. If you feel more relaxed with a friend or relative present, the person should be able to be with you.

You will probably be asked first to undress to the waist. The doctor will observe for the normal curve of your spine as well as any deformity. He or she will check to see that you can move and bend normally and may press or tap your back to check for pain or tenderness.

The doctor will observe your breathing — it should be smooth, quiet, relaxed and rhythmic. He or she will note if your breathing seems forced, noisy or uneven. The doctor will watch which muscle groups you use most to breathe and if your chest expands equally on both sides.

The doctor may press (palpate) your back over the areas of the lungs to check evenness of chest expansion in breathing. He or she may also press against your chest to check for lumps or tenderness.

Next the doctor will percuss (tap) over the area of your lungs. He or she will use one finger to tap against a finger of the other hand. The sounds made by the tapping indicate what the tissues are like in that area — hollow cavities, solid organs or solid organs containing air (like the lungs). Normal lungs will produce a sharp, clear sound over most of their area. The doctor should percuss over the back, side and chest areas of your lungs. Abnormal percussion sounds give clues about many different kinds of lung problems.

To add to the information gotten by pressing and tapping, the doctor will listen to your breath sounds with a stethoscope. For this you will be asked to take a series of deep breaths. Again the doctor should listen over back, side and chest areas of the lungs. Abnormal breath sounds may indicate mucus or fluid congestion in the lungs or major breathing passages.

Your doctor will probably next examine your heart. This includes observation for abnormal bulging or heaving in the area of the heart and gentle pressing to feel the heart beat in different areas of the heart. Your doctor will find the point where the heart beat feels the strongest. This is a clue to heart size. An enlarged heart is a sign of several different heart problems. Percussing the heart also gives information about heart size.

Next the doctor will use the stethoscope to listen for (auscultate) the normal lubb Dup lubb Dup sounds of your heart. He or she will listen for heart rate (how fast), rhythm (how even), and listen carefully to be sure both heart sounds are normal. The doctor will listen over different areas of your heart because the heart sounds are somewhat different when heard over other sections of the heart.

If there is any suspicion of a heart problem the doctor will do an electrocardiogram (ECG or EKG). This measures and records the electrical activity of the heart. Many doctors do an ECG for all their adult patients. It is one method of detecting damage to the heart tissue. Some doctors prefer that a cardiologist (doctor specializing in the heart) "read" the ECG.

While your chest area is still exposed the doctor will examine your breasts. This includes comparing them — they should look pretty much alike. The doctor will look for dimples or bulges present in one breast but not the other. The nipples are checked for redness, discharge or sores. The breasts are gently pressed using circular motions in an orderly process to feel for any lumps or tenderness. You may be asked to lie down or position your arms because the position of the breast tissue changes with your position. All women should learn to do their own breast exam every month in addition to the doctor's examination. You should ask your doctor or nurse to teach you.

In this issue of *Seven News* we've gotten to the heart of the matter. Next issue we'll descend to the belly of the beast and complete this description of a routine physical. If you have any questions please contact the Don Vale Community Health Centre, 80 Winchester Street, 961-8627.

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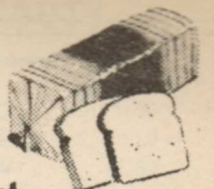
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Seven News rips-off PM's dinner

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The big daily papers get all kinds of rip-off privileges. Their reporters get press passes, get invited to press previews, press trips, press parties, etc., etc.

SEVEN NEWS gets only the occasional Press Invitation or Press Pass to an event. In almost every case, the event or whatever is of no interest to SEVEN NEWS.

If it's a non-event (like the opening of a new pool-room in the west end), it goes in the garbage. If it's an event (like the Auto Show or Ice Capades), I give the tickets away to anybody handy on the basis that everybody in Ward Seven is on the volunteer staff of the paper and has a right to attend as a "reporter" from SEVEN NEWS.

However, the P.M.'s Dinner, held annually at the Royal York Hotel, is an exception. It's become a tradition with SEVEN NEWS to attend. In 1971, we had no less than six reporters there and ran four stories. We've continued to attend the event ever since.

But we've never had a serious story on it since 1971.

Norman G. Browne)

by HARRY S. KADICKLE

I knew of course it was going to be one of those days the moment I stepped out of my house. Upon walking out the front gate, I was immediately confronted by a rather well-to-do-looking young gentleman in a flashy blue Mustang (Mach II, I believe) who, seeing me, screeched to a halt, rolled down his window and asked rather desperately: "Do you know how to get to Amelia Street?"

I was stunned... after all it was only 8:30 in the morning - I had yet to have my first cup of coffee... but Amelia St.?... where the... was Amelia Street?

I couldn't handle it and disappointedly I mumbled some in-

coherent phrase that amounted to something along the lines of... "I'm sorry, I don't know".

"Oh," he says... "well, you just go up Parliament St. and turn right the first street north of Winchester, you can't miss it."

With that, he rolled up his window, stepped on the accelerator and was gone leaving a trail of burning exhaust fumes.

The day went downhill from there...

I arrived at the Seven News office (my mind admittedly somewhat confused), opened the door and came face to face with a huge green and gold sign on the wall that proclaimed:

**TODAY IS THE DAY!
TOMORROW ISN'T**

-harvey limpton

Being in no shape to argue I merely ripped it off the wall, grabbed a coffee and proceeded to my desk where I was greeted by a rather formal looking invitation that read:

**Prime Minister's Dinner
(a three act play)
Royal York Hotel
one performance only
6 p.m. - tonight
admission \$100
(booze incl.)**

and scrawled at the bottom was a note that read - "press free - can you cover this?"

Yes, friends, once against your reporter had been called upon to tread the political waters and float downstream with Toronto's elite. And float I would!... if last year's performance was any indication, not only would I float through this year's performance - I would sail!

And accompanied by my illustrious editor, two compatriots, a white mouse named Leroy and singing: "Row, row, row your boat", we entered the main dining room of the Royal York Hotel, exactly 15 minutes late - just in time to miss



Donald S. Macdonald, M.P. for Rosedale Riding, is pictured above talking to "unidentified man" (SEVEN NEWS editor, Norman Browne) at the recently-held Prime Minister's dinner at the Royal York Hotel. Mr. Browne claims that Mr. Macdonald was asking for the location of a TV set and not the washroom as the picture suggests. - photo by j. dunn

the first act and the first round of booze.

Undaunted, and using Leroy (who was cleverly disguised), we slipped through the rather tight-knit security blanket and crept into the huge ballroom - ordered our first round of drinks and waited for the first act to finish.

Meanwhile, Leroy was causing havoc in the dining room. Having successfully eluded RCMP officers for 30 minutes - Leroy's "trail" was picked up under the table of the Honourable Member from Westmount and traced to the kitchen where he was found dining on Canadian cheddar cheese and caviar. The last we heard, he escaped through the hotel's ventilation system and took refuge in the wine cellar.

Back in the ballroom, the first act had ended as we gulped down our third round and staggered forward to mingle with the crowd - a formally attired group of tinkling diamonds and violet-smelling people who looked rather like a lost flock of penguins. They approached

the bar and proceeded to get sloshed - it was disgusting - but not to be out-done, we returned to the bar, ordered another round and sat there trying to look elegant.

By the time we finished our fourth round, the second act was about to commence.

ACT TWO

THE PRIME MINISTER SPEAKS
The lights dimmed... a hush went through the expectant crowd as the Prime Minister, accompanied by a pipe band playing something vaguely reminiscent of "When the saints come marching in", strode in, climbed the podium and waited for the crowd to hush.

Meanwhile, Norm (our illustrious editor) who was still back at the bar downing yet another round, eased his way off the bar stool, staggered through the crowd back to the press room and ate three trays of sandwiches.

This was later to prove somewhat important as the press (most of whom hadn't eaten all day) returned, only to find Norm passed out on a chair with three empty trays at his feet.

When awakened and questioned about the conspicuous absence of sandwiches, Norm mumbled something about, "if it doesn't pertain to Ward Seven - I don't want to hear about it", and went back to sleep.

Back in the dining room, the Prime Minister was talking about ships, seagulls and streaking. The crowd loved every minute of it - and kept shouting out for more... more! However, it wasn't quite clear what they wanted more of. Every time one of them would yell "More!", a waiter would rush over and deposit another bottle at the table - spirits were running high.

The speech ended in a frenzy of "qualities of life, a united Canada and a toast to the Queen." One toast led to another and soon everybody was toasting anything and everything that walked.

Quite frankly I found the whole thing a bit of a bore. Although the Prime Minister came up with a few good funnies - Don Rickles he ain't. And even with the few choice one-liners that he did have, he was constantly playing the straight man and consequently suffered seriously on follow-through material.

The addition of another performer would have added a whole new dimension to the act (something along the lines of Laurel and Hardy, or Abbott and Costello, would have had them laughing in the aisles). As it was, the only thing happening in the aisles was a rather wealthy board member of a large eastern company being sick (it was not known whether this was from too much toast or a comment on the performance).

Anyway, with a bit better material and a little more polish, "The Prime Minister" could become a mild success - but at \$100 a performance (even with free booze), I seriously doubt it would catch on to a mass audience.

APRIL AID

The income tax help system and how to make it work for you.

As you know by now, we changed a lot of things last year. We gave you a new return, a new Guide, several new deductions and a few new rules. And quite honestly, we were more than a little concerned about your reaction to it all. (And very, very interested in your opinions.)

Well, now that we've had time to really look back at it and assess it honestly, it appears that most taxpayers did not seem to find it too difficult. The error rate did not accelerate greatly or change drastically from former years. Generally, most taxpayers seemed to handle their new returns fairly well.

However, Income Tax will never be the easiest or most enjoyable thing in anyone's life. And it will always present problems in some areas, for some people. That's expected and understandable.

So, what we want to do now is really work on those problem areas. And the best way to do that is to work with you, individually, on whatever part of Income Tax that causes you difficulty.

And that's what April Aid is all about. It's a help system and its primary objective is to ensure that whenever or whatever you need help with, you can get it. And know how to get it.



And this is how it works:

First. Your Guide is always the best answer when you have a problem. Read it. Follow it. It not only gives explanations, but in many cases, examples of just how to figure something out.



Second. If you're still confused or something just doesn't seem to work, phone. The number of your own District Taxation Office is below and at the end of that number there are people whose only job is to help taxpayers with problems, by telephone. And on Mondays and Tuesdays phone lines are open 'til 6 p.m. So don't hesitate.

If you live outside the office area, call the Operator and ask for Zenith 0-4000. She will automatically connect you to your own District Taxation Office. Remember, all calls are free, all questions are answered, and if you have queries, we want you to call.



Third. Some people prefer to talk things over in person. If you're one of them and have problems, drop by for free help. Anytime. The address of your District Taxation Office is below.



Fourth. Write. To the address below. Explain your problem as clearly as possible and include all information. (And your return address, please.) In return, we'll answer all letters as quickly and clearly as possible. Remember - if you need help, it's there. (And free). And all you have to do is ask.

April Aid.
The Income Tax help system.
Let's make it work for you.



Together, we can get it done.



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Taxation

Revenu Canada
Impôt

Robert Stanbury, Minister

Robert Stanbury, ministre

Mackenzie Bldg., 36 Adelaide Street East,
Toronto, Ont. M5C 1J7 - 869-1500



After a year and a half the ugly hoarding at the corner of Gerrard and Parliament was finally taken down — for two days — and then instantly replaced by a hoard of construction shacks, equipment and more men working. It's named Anniversary Park, but Disaster Area might be more appropriate.

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

MONDAY, MARCH 25

10:30 a.m. Parliament Library House (265 Gerrard E.) Ladies Day Program. Indoor and outdoor gardening.
7:30 p.m. Don Vale Community Centre (80 Winchester St.) Ladies exercise class.
7:30 Parliament Library House — Creative writing workshop.
8:00 Dixon Hall (58 Sumach Street) Meeting of South Cabbagetown Community Improvement Association.
7:30 p.m. Danforth Library (701 Pape) Free film series.

TUESDAY, MARCH 26

10 a.m. Enoch Turner Schoolhouse (106 Trinity St.) Today, the Schoolhouse of Yesterday. Admission 50¢.
7:30 Jackman Public School. Important meeting to all tenants and homeowners of Playter Area regarding formation of Ratepayers Assoc. — everyone welcomed.
8 p.m. Regent United Church (40 Oak St.) Regent Park Community Improvement Association elections.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

12 noon Don Vale Community Centre (80 Winchester St.) Hot lunch for the community. Eat what you can — pay what you can.
7:30 Cabbagetown Boys Club (5 Lancaster Place) Meeting to discuss formation of a Community Sports Council for Ward Seven.
7:30 Parliament Library House — Photography workshop for teens.
7:30 Neighbourhood Information Post (265 Gerrard E.) Legal clinic. By appointment only. Phone 924-2543.
7:00 Don Vale Community Centre (80 Winchester) Leatherworking classes for anyone over 10 years of age.

THURSDAY, MARCH 28

10 a.m. Don Vale Community Centre (80 Winchester) Information Workshop for community groups.
7:30 p.m. Enoch Turner Schoolhouse (106 Trinity St.) The Schoolhouse idea in 1848. Admission 50¢.
7:30 p.m. Parliament Library House — Open poetry readings.
8 p.m. Don Vale Community Centre (80 Winchester) Meeting to discuss issue of amalgamated Board of Health for Metro.
8 p.m. Woodgreen Community Centre (835 Queen East) Open discussion groups on various topics. No admission charge. Come as you are.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29

8 p.m. Parliament Library House. Films en français.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

2 p.m. Parliament Library House — Poetry and discussion.

MONDAY, APRIL 1

7:30 p.m. Don Vale Community Centre — Ladies Exercise class.
7:30 p.m. Parliament Library House — Photography workshop for adults only. Bring your own cameras, etc.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

10:30 a.m. Parliament Library House — Ladies Day program, films.
7:30 p.m. Parliament Library House — Creative writing workshop.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

8:00 p.m. Community Secretariat (249 Gerrard E.) Meeting of Federation of Don Area Residents Associations. Free.
Noon Don Vale Community Centre (80 Winchester) Hot lunch for the community. Eat what you can — pay what you can.
8 p.m. Don Vale Community Centre (80 Winchester) Meeting of Don Vale Community Health Centre. All welcome. Free.

THURSDAY APRIL 4th

8:00 p.m. Don Vale Community Centre. Pub Nite, everyone welcome. 80 Winchester.

FRIDAY, APRIL 5

8 p.m. Parliament Library House — Feature film: "Spies". Free.

(Information for this column is collected by Neighbourhood Information Post. Items for future listing should be phoned into NIP at 924-2543. There is no charge for this service.)

(This space contributed by Community Development Branch, Ont.)

Meeting on Health board

by JANET HOWARD

The Executive of the Don Vale Association of Homeowners and Residents will hold a special meeting on Thursday, March 28th, 8 o'clock, at the Don Vale Community Centre to discuss the question of municipal boards of health vs. an amalgamated Metro board of health. Anyone in the community who is interested is most welcome to attend, and an alderperson will be present to answer questions on the subject.

The scheme for amalgamation is an old one, lately reactivated by a provincial offer to subsidize an amalgamated board to the amount of 75 per cent of its budget, as opposed to the 25 per cent now paid to municipal boards. However, there is no guarantee that ceilings would not be set on board expenditures so no dollar figure can be stated.

The City of Toronto board of health is opposed to the amalgamation, on the grounds that a larger board would entail greater bureaucracy with less local control over issues such as health problems specific to ethnic communities, lead poisoning, and problems of poverty in downtown areas. The City board favours a federation of municipal and borough boards, with improved communication and co-operation, but retaining local autonomy.

Those in favour of amalgamation cite duplication of some facilities and the greater funding available from the province.

The amalgamation proposal is the latest in a series of suggestions for Metro takeover of City institutions, ranging from the school board to the historical board. Given the insensitivity of many borough politicians to such items as expressways, street widenings, removal of historical buildings — all designed to facilitate suburban journeys to office developments in downtown Toronto by car — each such proposal deserves very careful study.

In this case, we must ask — is the City Board of Health's recent tough stand on lead poisoning, which the province did little about, behind the offer of increased funding within an amalgamated board?

Would the boroughs allow City health priorities as much staff time and funding as they receive now? And would a Metro Board of Health be prepared to exert as much force in City issues?

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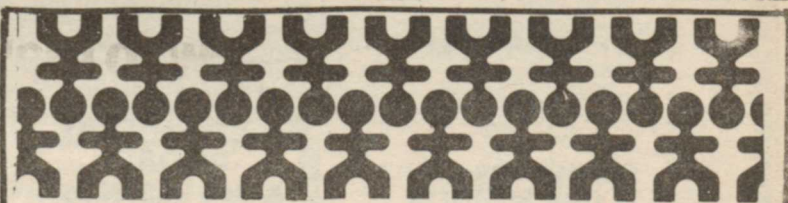
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New health clinics for Don District

The Provincial Ministry of Health has given strong encouragement to the setting up of a Community Health Clinic for the south half of the Don District.

Representatives from Trefann Court, Moss Park, South of Queen and South of Carlton recently met with officials from the Health Ministry and had a very positive discussion with them on the subject.

It now appears that the surveys conducted last year, the formation of joint health committees and the submission of a documented proposal to the Province will yield an improved and controlled health

care situation for the area.

The brief presented to the government outlined in detail the present lack of medical services and doctors in the Don District, especially in the area south of Carlton.

The brief went on to suggest the development of a community-based centre or centres to provide a much-improved range of medical, dental and related health care services.

The response from the Health Ministry was that a detailed plan was needed showing the location and amount of office space needed to set up such centres.

Once centres are established, a roster will be compiled of people who will regularly use such a Medical Centre for their basic medical needs.

It is important to note that the key requirement to both start a centre and make it work successfully is that many, if not most, local residents will use and support the centre.

The greater the number of people using it, the more money given — thus yielding better and more improved services for the people in the area.

The representatives of the various community organizations in the area have begun meeting and working on specific proposals for locations, staffing, budgets, services, etc.

Throughout the whole process of developing a plan for better health services in the area, one goal has been to get as many people involved as possible and to keep everyone informed of progress.

Before any final plan is presented to the government, it will be presented first to the communities concerned for their approval.

A formal Board of Directors will be elected from the communities involved and this Board will assume responsibility and exercise control of the ultimate operation.

If there are any individuals in the area who wish to contribute ideas, make suggestions or just get more details on what's going on, you should contact your representative in your community group. The groups involved are: South of Carlton Community Action; Trefann Court Working Committee; South Cabbagetown Community Improvement Association; Improvement Association of Moss Park Apartments; and Moss Park Apartments Community Association.



Distributor of the week

My name is Curtis Hawkins and I live at 248 Sackville St. I am eight and a half years old and deliver SEVEN NEWS in my building and also at 540 Dundas Street.

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Sports Council in the works

by JOHN PIPER

Except for Regent Park, there is virtually no co-ordination of major sports in Ward Seven and the surrounding area. Yet there are thousands of kids and adults interested in participating in major sport activities on a semi-organized basis.

Some of us feel a Community Sports Council of residents and agencies might be an answer.

A number of neighbourhoods can get one team together but they end up looking for a league to play in, and there usually is none. Or, a neighbourhood gets a good house league going and they want to go on to play other teams and there is no organization to help them do it.

Some leagues, like the Don Valley Softball Association, are struggling along with volunteer help. Last year they had about 20 teams and 400 people playing in four leagues run by volunteers with no full- or part-time paid staff.

This year, the Association needs more help than ever, especially if more people want to play.

Some hockey leagues had trouble getting off the ground and as a result, many kids never got to play this winter. The primary reason for this was because no

volunteers had time to organize a league over and beyond their own teams.

Soccer, lacrosse, hardball and basketball are examples of other major sports which could involve more people if there were some ward-wide co-ordinating body that gave them the opportunity to play. As well, house leagues, one of the most important aspects of organized sport, could then have something into which to feed.

A number of meetings have been held in the ward by concerned people trying to come to grips with the problem. About a month ago it was decided a Community Sport Council should be formed for the Ward Seven area as a method of co-ordinating major sport activities in the ward.

The next meeting to discuss the formation of a Sports Council will be held on Wednesday, March 27th at 7:30 p.m. at the Cabbagetown Boys Club, 5 Lancaster Place.

The meeting is open to anyone interested in the problem. Further information can be had by phoning Jake Smythe at the Broadview YMCA, 461-8123 or John Piper at 921-7798.

It's soccer time again

by BILL WALKER

Yes, with the sweet taste of warm weather in the air, everybody is once again talking soccer. This is good news for the Broadview YMCA as they have a sum of money put away for the sole purpose of recruiting former soccer coaches, former soccer players or anyone over the age of 17 who is interested in the game and willing to devote time and energy to coaching a boy's soccer team.

Experience is not necessary as a

coach's clinic is now being organized and will be free of charge. For those interested, the clinic will start Monday, April 1st and be held for the next four Mondays.

This is only the second year in the Ward Seven area for a major soccer program and it needs a lot of community support and participation.

If you are interested in volunteering for this program, call the Broadview YMCA at 461-8123 or drop around and ask for Bill Walker.

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