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Office at 80 Winchester St.

MARCH 6, 1976

**VOLUME 6, NUMBER 18** 

Publication of next issue will be over the weekend of March 20. Last deadline for anything going into the paper is noon on March 15 but get copy in earlier if possible.



When the weather is nice, workmen continue to assemble, piece by piece, jig-saw fashion, the

barn that is going up on the old Riverdale Zoo Photo by Steven Evans

# Cressy announces he won't seek re-election

Gord Cressy, Chairman of the Toronto Board of Education and school trustee for Ward Seven will not run again for that post in the civic elections this winter.

In a statement to Seven News, Mr. Cressy said, "I've decided to leave education politics this year.'

He states he has no plans for what he will do when his term runs out at the end of this year, and says only that, "I'm considering a number of intriguing possibilities.

Cressy, a Don Valley resident, youth worker, and teacher has been active in Ward Seven affairs since 1967. He was first elected as a school trustee in 1970, re-elected in 1972 and acclaimed in 1975. In 1975 he was elected to the post of Board Chairman.

In addition to his school board responsibilities, Cressy is active with the YMCA and other youth serving agencies. Prior to his election as a school trustee, he was a director of the Rose Avenue After School program and a director of Opportunity House on Broadview

Mr. Cressy is 33 years old, married, and has a child attending Sac

Ville French school.

The full text of Mr. Cressy's statement is as follows:

"There comes a time when we all know that it's time to move on. I've decided to leave education politics this year. It has been seven exciting, demanding and fulfilling years. Many times I found myself hustling hard just trying to keep

"I've enjoyed working with many of you. In particular I would like to single out my two friends and fellow trustees: Doug Barr (1973-1976), and Graham Scott (1970-1972). It's been great working as a team.

"I understand Doug Barr is going to run again. This is a good thing. I hope whoever replaces me will continue to focus on quality education in our inner-city neighbourhood.

"A number of you have asked what I plan to do next. That's a fair question. Right now I don't know. I'm considering a number of intriguing possibilities. At any rate, something will come up.

"In the meantime, there is much to do at the Board and in the Ward.

# Regent Park sets up youth employment service

by ULLI DIEMER

An employment referral service for unemployed teenagers is being set up in Regent Park, where the lack of jobs for young people is being felt very severely

Still in its initial stages, the project has arranged job placement interviews for about 10 teenagers so far. Four or five of them successfully landed jobs as a result. The

**NEWS ROUND-UP** 

interviews are set up with Canada Manpower, which has been cooperating with the Regent Park undertaking.

The aim is to help teenagers (who must be at least 17 and out of school a year to qualify) to "sell themselves to employers", and to define their objectives regarding further schooling, job training, and job-hunting. At this point, the project is "only an experiment", according to Janet Ross of the Regent Park Community Improvement Association (RPCIA).

Its future and potential are linked to a job survey of Regent Park teenagers which was recently undertaken by four young people working on a grant from the Children's Aid Society. When the results are compiled, the job situation in Regent Park should be clearer, as should the need for a job referral service.

The organizers of the project also hope to set up meetings with local businessmen to persuade them to provide jobs for unemployed young people. They point out that the first job is often most important, since employers always look for work experience. But many of the young people are caught up in a vicious circle: they have few academic qualification and no job experience to land them that first job.

Without the first job, they have no work record and consequently have a much harder time finding work. Project organizers hope that concerted efforts on their part can help to overcome this problem. How successful they can be in the face of a sagging economy and government cutbacks that hit the least powerful hardest remains to be seen. Says Janet Ross, "We have to try something.



**GORD CRESSY** 

### Community orchestra seeks members

Residents and tenants living in the South of Carlton area are asked to attend a meeting of the South of Carlton Community Action (SOCCA) at 7:30 p.m., Wed. March 10 at Central Neighbourhood House, 349 Ontario to discuss the spending of a recent \$15,000 award.

The Annual Meeting of Dixon Hall will be held March 30 at 7 p.m. at the Hall, 58 Sumach Street. The annual report and financial statement will be presented along with the election of a new Board of Directors.

A dance for teenagers will be held Fri. March 12 at 8:30 p.m. at Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach Street. The band will be Zachariah and admission is 50 cents.

All Toronto Public Libraries in the Ward Seven area will be closed on March 23 to allow library staff to take part in a professional development day.

Free Friday films at the Parliament Street Library House are Flying Down to Rio on March 12, and Don Juan and Sea Beast on March 19. Show time is 8 p.m.

Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach Street will hold a progressive euchre night on Wed. March 24 from 7 to 10:30 p.m. There wil be prizes and luncheon. Admission is adults, \$1; seniors, 50 cents.

Nancy Craig, formerly of the Parliament Library House has been promoted to head of the Beaches Branch of the library. New staff at the Parliament Library are Barbara Freeze and Linda Fair.

A square dance, with live music will be held at Winchester School, 15 Prospect Street on Friday, March 12, starting at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$1 at the school or phone 921-2178.

A St. Patrick's Day Dance will be held at Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach Street on Sat. March 20 at 8 p.m. There will be a disc jockey, buffet and bar. Admission is \$2.50. For tickets call Fred at 863-0499.

New members are still needed for the Don Vale Community orchestra, a fun group of people who meet to play every second Thursday. Also needed are donations of sheet music. For more information, phone John Piper at 921-7798, or Elaine Farragher,

The Tuesday Literary Workshop held at the Parliament Library House at 7:30 p.m. will feature Gethin James speaking on Alliterative Verse and Metrics on March 9, and David Brenner and Joe Lea discussing their new publication Germination on March 16.

A Bingo is being held at Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach Street on Mon., March 15, starting at 7 p.m. Refreshments will be sold and admission is 50 cents. All

The Winchester School hot lunch program needs a volunteer to supervise lunch time activities from 12:15 to 1 p.m. every weekday. Ten to 15 children are involved. Anyone who can help out is asked to call Jane Neal or Chris Hume at 921-2178.

There will be a St. Patrick's Day dance at All Saints' Curch, Dundas and Sherbourne on March 17 at 7:30 p.m. Admission is 75 cents.

Thursday poetry readings at the Parliament Library House will feature Rosemary Aubert, Robert Priest and Elaine Pal on March 11 and Leonard Gasparni

**CONTINUED ON PAGE 5** 

## Riverdale committee plans intercultural festival

A Riverdale Intercultural Committee has been formed and Rev. J. Robson of Queen Street East Presbyterian Church has been named its chairman.

The committee sees itself as a community based, multi-ethnic group which hopes to promote more understanding and cooperation between ethnic groups in the area. It proposes to do this through projects in the community that will encourage cross-cultural sharing and understanding.

The Riverdale area of Ward

Seven is composed of a large Greek and Anglo-Saxon population. It also includes expanding Chinese, West Indian and East Indian communities. The Committee feels that these elements have a potential for learning and working co-operatively together in a strong, unified community.

The first major event planned by the Committee will be an Intercultural Spring Festival. Anyone interested in joining the Committee, learning more about it, or helping it with its Spring Festival, should call Rev. Robson at 465-1143.

Saturday by Seven News, Inc., 265 Gerrard St. East. Editorial offices are located at 80 Winchester Street, phone 920-8632. SEVEN NEWS does not support any political party or individual and invites all members of the community to write for it. Any opinon expressed in SEVEN NEWS are those of the individual writer and do not represent the views of the staff or publishing organization. Where errors of fact are brought to our attention, we will print a suitable correction

PAID STAFF: Managing Editor, Norman Browne; Business Manager, Ulli Diemer; Distribution Manager, Phil Jalsevac; Production Manager, David Ruppel; Volunteer Co-ordinator, Ulli Diemer; Advertising Manager, Jim Fulton.

VOLUNTEER STAFF: Paste-up: Marjorie Thom, Cubby Coatsworth; Proofreading: Elizabeth Wilson, Karel Horsley; Billing: Dorothy Bushey; Subscription mailing: Ralph Cunningham

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Jack Cooper, Alan Dudeck, Bill Lee, Jordan Hill, Carol Finlay, John Cheng, Roop Sharma, Tom Corbett and Bev Coney.

## Rose Avenue kids seek help



Rose Avenue P. S .- room 18 675 Ontario Street Toronto, Ontario

Dear Friends in Our Community, This year our class is called "The Busy Bees of the Beehive."Danny Mocibob gave us the idea for the name. We are collecting information, arts and crafts, pictures and personal stories. If you can help us, please write to our class.
Yours truly,

Adrea McLellan

The Don Vale Medical Centre 597 Parliament St. (at Wellesley) is pleased to announce the opening of the practice of

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# LETTERS



Letters-to-the-editor are more than wel-come. Letters should be short, topical and contain your name and address. Howevr, your name and address will be withheld from publication at your request.

## All Saints Anglican church offers space for homeless transients

Dear Mr. Browne:

We read with interest your comments re need for OverNight Shelter for homeless people.

May I call to attention of your readers that the Gymnasium at All Saints' has been open three nights a week for some years - Friday when necessary, Saturday and Sunday — from 11 p.m. till 7 a.m. It is open to anyone who is not badly drunk in the way that would prevent other people sleeping (e.g.

we can't have chaps singing hymns at three o'clock in the morning!).

This effort costs us about \$13,000 for the three nights: this is chiefly for staffing, and it isn't easy to find people for this kind of job in the middle of the night; the money comes from the City, Metro, and mostly from the Lions' Club. The point is that we might be able to operate every night in winter for say \$40,000, which is a great deal cheaper than the official

Metro estimate. This, of course, would not offer all the comforts of home, or even of the Royal York Hotel: we have no doctor, just a telephone for emergency. But we can afford shelter, warmth, coffee and a place to sleep on the deck, for those who are caught out in the open. We frequently have nearly a hundred men.

On behalf of All Saints' Over-Night Drop-In,

Norman Ellis

## How to recycle this newspaper

Dear Mr. Browne:

If you stopped putting out your used newspapers for pickup because you thought they were simply being incinerated instead of recycled, you're half right.
In 1975, the market for waste

newspaper dropped in line with the general economic slowdown. At times last year, the paper was

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worthless and much of what was collected was destroyed as if it were ordinary garbage.

Now things are different. The market price of waste newspaper went up to \$12 per ton this February (it has fluctuated from \$5 to \$50 per ton in the past), and the collection trucks are coming in half empty. The demand for old newspapers is much higher than the

In fact, less than 10% of the residents of the City of Toronto and Etobicoke are putting out their used newspapers for collection. (Globe and Mail, Feb. 28, pg. 5)

Anyone who is a resident of the City of Toronto (that means you!) can put their old newspapers out every week, and be fairly sure that they will be picked up and recy-

You must have the newspapers tied in bundles, not in plastic bags or boxes or garbage cans. And to be certain they get picked up, you must have the bundles out by the curb or sidewalk where they can be seen by the truck driver. Get your bundles out on Tuesday night. The trucks come around at 7 a.m.

Wednesday mornings, so unless you get up at the crack of dawn, remember to put them out Tues-

You can put any newsprint-type paper in your bundles, as well as the body of a magazine without the cover. Don't include any glossy magazine pages or covers (the body of a magazine like Time is

Old newspapers are used mainly for packaging. According to R. G. Ferguson, director of planning control and development with the Metro Works department, 70% of reused newsprint is used for paperboard in packaging and boxes in 1/8 inch thicknesses. The other 30% goes for miscellaneous uses, primarily in the construction industry, for plasterboard, gyprock facing, ceiling tiles, etc. Ferguson hopes for a market to develop to use the newsprint as an ingredient in insulation material.

In Canada, old newspapers are not recylced into new newspapers, because this requires a de-inking process. There are de-inking plants in the United States but none here. because there is a much smaller market here, and the process is too

Cutting down on the amount of stuff that goes into our regular garbage really makes sense. If Metro Works can sell more newsprint than they're getting, doesn't it make sense for all of us to support this recycling effort, instead of adding to the cost of incinerating extra garbage? C'mon - bundle

> Wendy King Wellesley St. E.

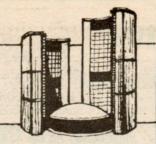
## **SQUARE DANCE**

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## city ball report



#### Committee gives up on Ward 7

by JANET HOWARD Ward 7 Alderman

The Neighbourhood Services Work Group was set up by City Hall to study neighbourhoods, services available within them and needs that are not being filled. Its members, largely drawn from ratepayers' associations in other wards, also attempted to set up Ward Advisory Committees to involve residents in policy-making with regard to services, but in a number of wards the attempt failed. The group's report explains the failure in Ward 7 as "a lot of resistance to City Hall initiated activity and City Hall offered opportunity for citizen in-

If we look at some of the research the Group did on our ward, and then look at what government are doing to Ward 7 residents, it is easy to understand why they see little point in trying to make policy:

"A skid row group has been known for many years in the southwest (area of the Ward) and they are now moving farther along Gerrard Street seeking low-cost rooms.'

- Metro proposed to cut \$30,000 for improving furniture at the Seaton House hostel for men who have no place else to go, despite a report from the South of Carlton Skid Row Committee severely criticising conditions in the hostel; cut the \$48,400 to keep the O'Neill Baths open, used by some 60,000 people, many of them homeless, last year; cut \$278,000 in shelter supplements to single employable welfare recipients, at a time when governments are deliberately increasing unemployment and rents are still going up.

'According to the 1971 census, Ward 7 has the largest population per ward in the City — 79,655. There was an increase of 4,750 from 1966, mainly related to St. Jamestown and Moss Park.

#### **Advisory Bureau Closing**

- Most people in the city are tenants, yet Metro is closing the Landlord and Tenant Advisory Bureau to save \$116,300. The Bureau informs people of their rights and in many cases has prevented them from losing their accommodation.

"The ward also has the highest number of individuals between the ages of 55 and 69, presumably related to the number of housing units for senior citizens. Ward 7 also has the greatest number of singles per

- Metro is talking about cutting \$164,800 for helping meet the cost of dental services, like false teeth, for people receiving government assistance. It has just let the T.T.C. increase fares for seniors, and proposes to cut homemakers' and nurses' services by \$88,300, so people living on their own who get sick or disabled will have to take up expensive hospital or nursing home beds.

"Ward 7 has the third highest families per ward (16,195), double the number of families with two children and highest of families with five or more. Second to Ward 3, Ward 7 has the most residents with less than grade 9 education, highest in residents with 9 or 10 and no other training. This Ward also has the highest male population in the labour force (employed and unemployed equal 23,020), and the third highest female population in the labour force (15,355). The income as an average was the lowest in Ward 7 in 1971 at \$4,936 with the median income of \$4,518. (That means half the people earned less than that.) The average for a household was \$7,533, the lowest in the city with the second lowest median of \$6,213.

- Metro is really doing it to the families: cutting \$400,000 in wage supplements which help the working poor stay off welfare; \$150,000 off the Educational Incentive Allowance, for students from poor families to buy what they need to go back to school or stay in school at a time when there are few jobs for unskilled teenagers anyway; \$946,000 for three new daycare centres, none in Ward 7 but still decreasing the total number of places available; cutting \$8,000 for start-up grants to community run daycare centres. In effect, Metro is forcing people onto welfare and then hitting their children.

#### \$500,000 for O'Keefe Centre

It sounds as if poor old Metro can't afford much, but consider that the O'Keefe Centre will cost us \$500,000 this year alone. That would pay for the Seaton House furniture, the O'Neill baths, the dental programme, the Landlord and Tenant Bureau and the nurses' services, with some left over. We are supposed to spend \$14,200 to operate a trout pond this year — why not the daycare start-up grants at \$8,000 instead?

We are paying interest charges on a number of things Metro recently felt we could afford, like a new \$40 million library located on some of the most expensive land in the city; a \$15 million baseball stadium; a \$60 million water filtration plant intended to help Metro sprawl from here halfway to Nova Scotia; a \$20 million zoo.

Many of the cuts are chicken feed in the total picture, yet mean a lot to people who need a boost to become self-sufficient. Ward 7 people know from bitter experience that they come somewhere behind trout ponds and baseball stadiums in government policy.

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## Local food co-ops get new truck

by NEIL ROTHENBERG

In January a new truck could be seen driving through the streets of Ward 7. It belongs to the Toronto Food Co-operative Federation. Last September a group of Ward 7 food co-ops and food clubs got together to discuss mutual problems. At the meeting they decided to form a federation of the food coops and clubs in the Don district (this later expanded to include all of Metro Toronto), and to begin to seek funds to help them buy a new truck. It was agreed that a new truck would help solve their major problem, lack of reliable transpor-

The Federation applied to P.L.U.R.A. (a group comprised of representatives from the Presbyterian, Lutheran, United. Roman Catholic, and Anglican churches who fund local, selfhelp, low income groups who are working for social change) for a grant of \$10,000 to buy a new truck. In December P.L.U.R.A. awarded the Federation a \$5,000 interest free loan, that is to be payable over a 5 year period.

This left the Federation with enough money to buy a used truck, but it was not enough for a new truck, which the Federation's members felt would better suit their needs in the long run. The Federation then applied to the United Church for a grant that would provide the additional revenue to cover the minimum costs of a new truck. In early January the Federation was awarded a \$3,000 grant by the United Church.

The 1975 CMC 2-1/2 ton truck was delivered in late January and a small reception was held on January 21, at the Community Secretariat to christen the truck and thank all the people who helped to make the dream come true. The truck is currently being put to use



by all 6 food co-ops and food clubs in the Ward 7 area. The truck is used to pick up and deliver produce, and has been going to the Kitchener area bi-monthly to buy cheese for most of the Food co-ops and clubs in Toronto. The truck is currently being driven by the staff of FEED, a Ward 7 based LIP pro-

The Federation in addition to transporting food for food clubs and co-operatives, would like to begin to supply non-profit community groups, such as daycare centres and group homes. For more information call FEED, 249

## **Municipal Board approves Dundas-Pembroke project**

Despite the objection of three adjacent property owners, the Ontario Municipal Board last week approved the City of Toronto's Dundas-Pembroke housing pro-

The project which takes up more than half the block bounded by Sherbourne, Dundas, Pembroke-Dundas site was to house the tenants being displaced from their homes in South St. Jamestown but this factor was largely ignored by the residents of South of Carlton who had a hand in designing the project.

The project will have a density of two times coverage and provide 200 units in two existing houses, two rows of connected stacked townhouses and a seven storey building fronting on Sherbourne. It is planned that 50% of the units would come under the province's rental supplement program.

With approval by the OMB, it is expected that construction will start in the late summer.

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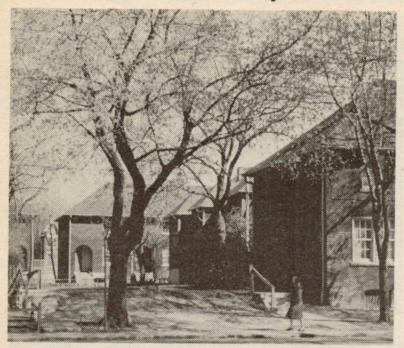
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## Spruce Court explores co-operative status



Spruce Court apartments, above, located in Don Vale is investigating the possibility of becoming a housing co-op.

by ANGIE GROSSMANN

The Spruce Court Tenants Association met on Wednesday, Feb. 18 to discuss the possibility of the Spruce Court Apartments becoming a co-op.

Spruce Court is a unique complex in the Don Vale area. It stands on the corner of Spruce and Sumach Sts. The complex is non-profit and is owned by the city. It's made up of brightly lit apartments looking out over grassy court vards.

The tenants expressed the fact that their already strong involvement in the running of the building, and their concern as to its livelihood were factors the city should take into account. The tenants already have a strong bond between them. The Spruce Court Tenants Association was formed in 1973 when the building was in danger of being sold to a private buyer who planned to renovate the building and turn the apartments

into luxury condominiums. The alarmed tenants took their grievances to City Hall. In 1974 the government's non-profit housing corporation (CMHC) agreed to buy the building for the city and preserve the building for low and moderate income people. The tenants association has been going strong ever since.

The question of becoming a coop is still up in the air at the moment. There has been no formal
vote by the tenants on the subject.
However, the tenants are enthusiastic and hopeful. It's uncertain whether or not the city will
give Spruce Court permission for a
co-op. A similar building on Bain
Ave. has applied to the city to become a co-op. "That will be a test
case," says tenant Noreen Dunphy, "it will give us a good indication as to our potential success."

Spruce Court is an attractive project built in 1912. It was built to give good accommodation to

working class people at reasonable rates. It has a fairly high density rate of 50 units per acre. It's hard to believe that in 1912 when it was built it only cost \$55,000.

As it stands the tenants at Spruce Court feel they are already running the show. All the responsibilities are being taken by the tenants, three out of five votes taken as to the management of the building are tenant votes. However, the city now has the final say on everything; it can veto anything it wants. The tenants are confident that they can run the whole show with no help, and are hopeful for a chance to try

Turning Spruce Court into a co-operative would mean that all the tenants would collectively own Spruce Court. The tenants would lease their units on a non-profit basis in the form of rent. Any money that was gained by the coop would go back into the building. The management, finances and maintenance would be done voluntarily by the tenants. This would cut costs and help keep rents low. If the co-op did decide to hire a person to do a certain duty, such as a bookkeeper, his salary would be paid out of the collective rents. The co-op would also ensure tenure to each tenant, which means, though every tenant must pull his own weight, the apartment is the tenant's for as long as he wants it, and can even be passed down to his

At the meeting there was a film shown, made by the National Film Board, named "Co-ops". After the film a member of another inner city co-op called ForWard Nine, in the Beeches area, was on hand to answer questions and tell what it's like to live in a housing co-op.

The 40 tenants that showed up at the meeting seemed to be very optimistic about the co-op idea. The meeting ended in a lot of excited chatter and another meeting was arranged for three weeks hence.

# Home nursing students graduate

The ten people who took the Volunteer Home Nursing course taught by the Red Cross and sponsored by the Don District Community Health Centre graduated last month.

The group was taught by Mrs. Barbara Kelly (an RN with a knack of making classes fun and understandable at the same time) and final examinations were taken on the day of graduation.

Graduating from the course and receiving certificates were Marlene Burns, Helvi Beck, Bobby Campbell (the only male member), Helen Furze, Veronica Geddes, H. Giblen, Sarah Kinghorn and Ruth McGuin. Lena Brown, the tenth member was ill, but will take her exam later.

After the results and presentation of certificates, the class celebrated with a giant heart-shaped chocolate cake baked by Ruth McGuin in honour of Barbara Kiely and the Red Cross. An assortment of home-baked goods brought by the other members was also enjoyed.

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- refrain from requesting or using information about family planning in evaluating credit applications
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- consider alimony and child support as a source of income
- not alter a person's credit rating solely on the basis of the credit rating of the spouse
- allow husband and wife to have separate files with credit reporting agencies.

For a free booklet giving the Guidelines in detail, and covering the entire subject of women's access to credit, write:

Ontario Consumer Queen's Park Toronto, Ontario

Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations Sidney Handleman, Minister



Province of Ontario

William Davis, Premier

## Education Report

### School taxes to go up 20%

by GORDON CRESSY and DOUG BARR

The Board Budget

By now the media will have reported that education taxes will be going up about 20% this year. This seems outrageous in a time of economic restraint. Let us try and explain how we find ourselves in this

For the last five years (1970 to 1975), education spending has been controlled by Provincial ceilings. The total education tax increase during this period was only 6% or just over one per cent a year. In many ways a remarkable achievement.

This year, however, the Province has lowered the boom and made all education cost increases the responsibility of the local taxpayer. The timing of this action could not have been worse.

Teachers' salaries, which account for over 62% of the budget, have just been hit with a 24% increase in the case of elementary teachers and a yet-to-be-finalized increase for secondary teachers.

The school system receives its money from two sources: directly from the Province in grants or from Metro in the way of property taxes.

Teachers' salaries account for 62% of our budget and show an incease this year of 24%. Other staff (caretakers, secretaries, maintenance, senior officials, social workers, etc.) account for 18% of the budget and show a cost increase this year of 12%. Other costs (heat, light, furniture, equipment, etc.) pick up the remaining 20% of the budget and these costs have risen 12%.

With 80% of our expenses locked up in salaries and with many costs fixed, we really have little room to maneuver. However, in a cost cutting approach, we will have to reduce some level of services. Make no mistake about that.

The Province has opted out of the action at a crucial time. In our view it is unfair — and places a near intolerable burden on the local taxpayer.

So this year we go it alone. Next year the increase will level out as the anti-inflation board salary guidelines begin to work.

There will be a special meeting of the Board at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 11 to consider the budget for 1976. The public is as always welcome.

#### **Local Staffing Committees**

One of the interesting items in the elementary teachers contract is the local staffing committee which is charged with planning the local school organization for the coming year.

This committee involves Principal, Vice-Principal (if there is one), teachers and a parent. As we have travelled to the different schools, we have noticed that each school has developed a slightly different approach to involving parents — and that is as it should be.

The parent representatives at the different schools are: Rose Avenue, Elizabeth Bice, Pat Houchen; Winchester, Pam Chapple; Sprucecourt, Brian Millan; Lord Dufferin, Sonia Christie; Regent Park, Minnie Nicholson; Park, Ed Harcourt, Sylvia Roberts; Sackville, Karl Eader; Jackman, Michael Craig; Frankland, Merylie Houston; Withrow (still to be selected); Dundas, Mrs. Roth; and Queen Alexander, Redina

## Withrow school gets new principal

After seven years at Withrow, moved. Bill was here before, school after seven years as theprinnew shoool and is well known in the east end. Peter is in his thiramong Ward Seven residents.

As part of an administrative pol- holds an M.Ed. degree. icy of the Board of Education to enced principals, Bill moved to a McMurrich and Winona Drive new school on February 2.

Withrow had been enjoyable, to Withrow and to Ward Seven. Quoting the playwright, he said, "We trust that his years with us will This is certainly true of my happy staff and the children attending days at Withrow.

The new principal at Withrow is principal Bill Taylor has Peter Chown who comes o the during and after the building of the cipal of Adam Beck Public School ties, is married with a family, and

He was appointed to the Toronto facilitate the transfer of experi- staff in 1959 and has taught at Public Schools. For two years he In his farewell letter to Withrow was vice-principal at Fern Avenue parents, Bill wrote that his years at Puble School. We welcome Peter 'I am a part of all that I have met.' be rewarding ones for him, his Withrow School.

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# Health Centre seeks more dental care

The Don District Community Health Centre, in an effort to provide an even wider service to the community, has set up a committee to look into the possibility of providing dental care to the area.

At their most recent meeting, the committee discovered the problems involved. Unlike doctors and lawyers, who can be employed by a non-profit community corporation, dentists are, by law, unable to

Under the Health Discipline Act, a dentist can only be employed by a university, hospital, a government or government

agency. This means they can never come under community control and community control is what groups like the Don District Community Health Centre is all about.

The health centre and its dental committee are now faced with four options if they want dental care to be provided to the Don District. These options are:

- · Use volunteer dentists. This isn't a reliable or easily controlled option.
- Provide a third-party insurance scheme similar to OHIP with no premiums and the City of To-

ronto paying the dental fees.

- . Show the City of Toronto that better dental service is needed in the area and get them to hire one or more dentists and place them at the disposal of the Health Centre.
- Bring pressure to bear on the government to change the Health Discipline Act so that the community can hire dentists on its own.

The Health Centre dental committee and its Board of Directors have yet to decide on what option to take.

**NEWS ROUND-UP** 

## Free lecture on TM at Library House

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

on March 25. Programs start at 7:30 p.m., admission is free and all are welcome.

A rummage sale will be held at Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach Street on Tuesday, March 16, at 6 p.m. Items will be sold from 10 cents to 50 cents.

The Church Street Community Centre, 519 Church Street, has opened a folk and blues music coffee house where live music is played every Saturday morning from 8:15 to noon. Admission is free and any individual or groups can play free. For info phone

The Riverdale Sikh community has been holding a series of "open house" get-togethers around the community. Their next presentation of slides, photographs and crafts, etc. will be at Pape School, 404 Pape Avenue, on Wed., March 10 at 9:30 p.m.

Thanks to Mrs. Minnie Davenport for her recent

donation of \$10 to Seven News. It all helps!

On Tuesday, March 9, at 7:30 p.m., an introductory lecture on Transcendal Meditation will be held at the Parliament Street Library House, 265 Gerrard East. Admission is free.

The Don Vale Co-op Nursery school is selling 'down filled' bed comforters to raise funds. The prices for standard sizes are: Queen, \$100; double, \$85; twin, \$75; and single, \$65.00.

The "Tomorrow's Eve" Theatre Company will be performing the play Any Day Now at Central Neighbourhood House, 349 Ontario Street, on Thursday, March 11, at 1 p.m. Admission is free. For info contact Lynda Salmon at 925-4363.

The Parliament Library Outreach Program is seeking volunteers to take the services of the library to senior citizens, shut-ins and disabled people in the immediate area. Anyone interested can call Harlan Brown at 964-8595

### Kung-Fu offered at Don Vale Centre

WoodGreen gets \$14,700

In response to a growing need for self-defence, as well as the need for a sound mind and body, the Don Vale Community Centre, 80 Winchester Street is now offering a course in Kung-Fu.

The course is taught by the Eagle Claw Kung Fu club situated on the third floor of the Community Centre and lessons are given every Monday and Thursday

Centre, on Queen Street East in

South Riverdale, has received a

\$14,700 grant from the Atkinson

Foundation to set up a nutrition

program for the elderly in the area.

be to educate elderly people living

alone on how to get the best nutri-

tion when buying food on a limited

One aspect of the program will

WoodGreen

budget.

evening from 7 to 10 p.m

Head instructor is Dr. Ling-man. Tsang who comes from Hong Kong where he studied martial arts for eight years. Assistant instructor is Yan-kee Kan who has studied under the Taiwan Kung-fu Association for several years.

For more information, Mr. Kan can be reached at 922-2043.

would be the establishment of a

community co-op kitchen where

cooking basics could be demon-

strated and which could be used as

a drop-in kitchen for those who

Plans also call for a home-

visiting program and a produce and

grain store that would operate three

days a week at the Centre

have limited cooking facilities.

Photo by Steven Evans Kung-Fu at Don Vale

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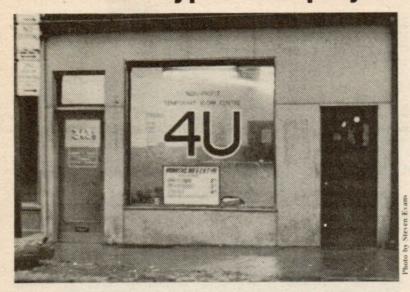
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## 4U: An untypical employment agency



#### by BILL MARSHALL

A client offering to buy the staff cups of coffee is not an everyday occurance in the usually cold and impersonal world of the casual employment agency but it does happen at the 4-U Employment Agency and typifies the friendly atmosphere within its walls.

The 4-U Employment Agency, located at 343A Dundas St. E. was created in January 1972 with the aid of a LIP grant and money from downtown church people. The agency is run by a volunteer board of directors consisting of church personalities and some neighbourhood businessmen.

"They felt that the privately owned employment agencies were very exploitive. They set us up to compete with those operations," explained General Manager, John McDonald

At the young age of 24, John McDonald successfully shakes the image of the hardened general

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The agency itself employs three full time paid staff members and is now applying for another LIP grant which would enable it to add two more people to its staff.

"All the staff are people who have been employed one way or another with a casual labor agency," said Mr. McDonald.

With experience such as this the staff is able to identify with the casual laborer who comes to the 4-U Agency. At least two of the staff members were casual laborers for the 4-U Agency before working there full-time.

Since its inception the agency has been self-sufficient and operating on a non-profit basis.

Companies which use the services of the agency are charged on an hourly basis. From that charge the 4-U Agency only takes enough money necessary to cover its operating costs. The entire balance of the charge rate is then paid to the worker. In this way the company which hires a worker from the 4-U Agency is charged a minimum and the worker is paid a maximum.

"There's a good spirit among our workers. They know it's a non-profit agency and we're not in business to fill our pockets. We're here to find them work. The company is after all for you," said Mr. McDonald.

Right now, however, the 4-U Employment Agency is losing money.

"It's seasonal and it's also related to the fact that we haven't had an active sales program," said Mr. McDonald.

The application for another LIP grant for a larger staff is a necessity. Mr. McDonald explained, "we can't afford to pay sales staff out of our normal financing."

"This is an area where a large percentage of the male population is employed in casual labor. Geographically the majority of casual labor agencies are situated in this area because this is where the work force is," said Mr. McDonald, explaining the concentration of casual labor agencies in the Ward Seven area.

Hundred of men who have worked for the 4-U Agency have gotten full time jobs because of it.

"We encourage our workers to take full time employment and we encourage our employers to hire our workers full time. From the point of view of private agencies that's not good business relations," said a smiling John McDonald.

"Some of the workers who have been hired full time are now supervisors and now hire their help from us," added Mr. McDonald.

The agency tries to discourage clients from constantly turning down jobs in order to keep receiving welfare cheques. "We ask them to leave at that point," said Mr. McDonald.

"This place was different because we didn't feel like you were getting ripped-off. There's a friendlier atmosphere. I think they have more concern for their workers," said Bill Montgomery. Bill, a full time staff member since September, first came into contact with the 4-U Agency when he was a casual laborer.

Brian French, another full time employee who also began as a casual laborer, vividly remembers his reasons for getting work through the 4-U Agency.

"When I first started here there was a lot of work so I didn't need to try those others. It paid more here anyway," stated Brian.

"We hope to be able to provide a job or employment for everyone that walks through the door looking for it. I suppose that's the ideal," concluded Mr. McDonald.

It's a tall order to fill but if the 4-U Employment Agency maintains its friendly atmosphere and continues to give workers and employers an even break then this ideal is close to being realized.

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# SURVIVALI

# Health Centre needs more community input

by MAGGI BROCKHOUSE

It take too long to get Community Input . . .

Lately lots of people have been calling into DDCHC asking how a Community Working Board functions and how effective it is. Mostly they are people doing a University course or researching a project. None of them are from around here and that is worrying because if the Community Board at the DDCHC is to maintain a strong board then the people we want to see are the people who live here, and how can we tell them that community-started and community-run agencies are important if the neighbourhood doesn't come to use them, to find out if we're effective and how we work.

People in this neighbourhood fought and won a battle for a Community Health Centre and the work wasn't that exciting — just slow and steady slogging, questionnaires to distribute, meetings to be planned, and on and on.

The principle that people worked for was control of their own health services by: 1) Direction of day-to-day functioning of the Centre and, 2) Direction of programs planned by Centre for their needs alongside those of Professional employees.

#### Provisions of Systems of Accountability to the Community

So the Health Centre is directed by the people who live within our boundaries (Lake Ontario to Carlton Street, and Jarvis Street to the Don River), and not by any agency with a stake in being relevant to justify employment of outside personnel within the area. (And if you think that doesn't happen look around you at all the non-community agencies who've justified their payrolls for years by directing what you need without your help.) You are the only person who knows what your needs are and if you don't direct any service or agency — it doesn't matter how good they say they are — and feel that they are accountable to you, then you do not have control of your own future.

If, up till now, you haven't asked for the rights of your community to demand that you decide your own needs, think about how you can do so now. One way is to work through established community initiated, based, and directed organizations. (In the next Survival column, we will try to list them.) These organizations need new blood because if the same old faces are around, they're not always representative of the neighbourhood. Most of our community agencies form around an issue, but after that issue has been dealt with, it takes steady work to keep them effective and accountable.

Recently I heard an alderman say that community input at the developmental stage of a committee took too much time. (The alderman was not from Ward 7.) I think there are many people who said that they believed in community participation and direction two years ago at City Hall, who've forgotten that people who direct their own services use their own services; perhaps they need their memories jogged.

At the Don District Community Health Centre, we do need to keep our Board strong and steady and we are asking you, if you live within our boundaries, to consider how you can help yourself by becoming either a member of the Centre or a member of the Board of Directors. Before you commit yourself, the Board asks that you attend two or three meetings just so you can see what you're letting yourself in for.

The Board asks for a minimum of four hours work a week plus a Board meeting every three weeks. There are two empty places on the Board and we need new blood, not the same old faces. I'm asking you if you agree that this community should decide its own fate, and if you are interested in health care to phone me at 364-1361.

We welcome especially anyone who thinks that the Health Centre can be improved, or is not meeting the needs of the community. It's up to you, phone me and come and meet the Board.



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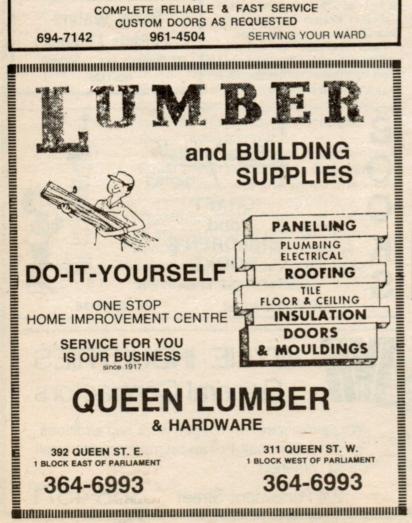
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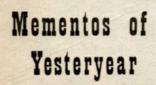
Systems

# How old is your house?

#### by GEORGE RUST-D'EYE

Contrary to what the decriers of heritage conservation might claim, there aren't that many really old buildings in the City. Sure, there is a reconstructed 1796 log cabin at the C.N.E. There's the lighthouse at Toronto Island (1808), the Fort York buildings (1813-1816), the Grange (1818), the Campbell House (1822), the Bank of Upper Canada (1822), parts of Osgoode Hall (1829), Drumsnab (1830), a row of four townhouses at the NE corner of Simcoe and Adelaide (1835), and Colborne Lodge, High Park (1836). By Toronto standards these are all very old buildings — but these are the only remnants of the first 45 years of Toronto's history, and, except for the townhouses, nobody has bothered to preserve any of the homes of ordinary people who lived in Toronto in that period.

In Ward 7 the situation is somewhat different. When the City of Toronto was incorporated in 1834, it included all of what is now Ward 7 south of Queen Street. The remainder of the Ward on the west side of the Don was included in the Liberties. However, these areas were not to become heavily populated for some time, and the area east of the Don north of Queen was to continue to be part of York Township for 50 years. The





Don area began to be subdivided and settled in the 1850's and 1860's, and filled in during the 1870's and 1880's as successive waves of immigration from the British Isles entered the area. In these years Toronto's population grew from 56,092 in 1871, to 181,220 in 1890, and the boundaries of the settled area moved north from Queen to Bloor and across the Don east to Logan and north Gerrard

Since Ward 7 was settled so late in Toronto's early period, most of the houses ever built in the Ward are still with us. In three quarters of the Ward we therefore have a community of homes most of which were built by 1890. Except for the addition of numerous verandahs and lots of paint, the streetscapes of Ward 7 haven't changed that much since 1890.

Since there are so many old and beautiful homes in Ward 7, many people may want to find out the age of their homes, who first lived in them, and what the neighbourhoods were like when the homes were first built. There follows a summary of the steps

to follow if you want to find answers to these

The first step, one which everyone can do, is to look at your house, note its characteristics, and compare it to other houses. My next article will provide some guidelines for determining the age of your house in this way, and will describe many of the most interesting houses in the Ward.

For accurate information, however, it will be necessary to visit the City Archives at City Hall, for it is there that you will find the Assessment Rolls for the City, the best source of information about old buildings. Unfortunately, the Archives keep normal office hours, making it difficult for people who can't get downtown before 4.30 on weekdays. The Baldwin Room at the Central Library on College St., the U. of T., and the Provincial Archives on Grenville Street all have research material other than assessment rolls, and their hours are longer.

The first thing to find out is what your street was called when your house was built. There were many changes in names in the 1880's: for instance, Broadview was Don Mills Road; Logan was Blong; Dundas was Wilton; Shuter was Sydenham; and Ontario was McMahon. There were also renumberings of houses from time to time, to make things even more confusing.

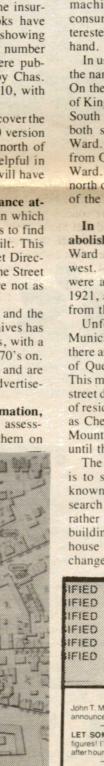
City Archives has a list of all street name changes, but this problem, with others, can probably be solved by checking the insurance atlases. These amazing books have large-scale maps of city streets, showing every house, its exact shape, street number and plan of subdivision. They were published by Boulton in 1858, and by Chas. Goad in 1880, 1884, 1890 and 1910, with various amendments in between.

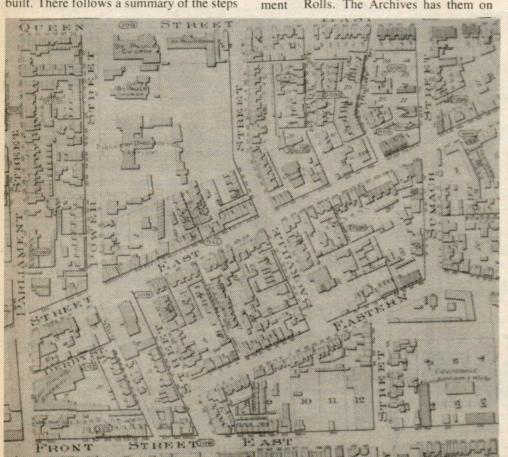
The 1858 and 1880 atlases don't cover the area east of the Don, and the 1880 version doesn't even show the west side north of Queen. However the atlases are helpful in limiting the period for which you will have to do more detailed research.

Once you have used the insurance atlases to find out the earliest date in which your house existed, the next step is to find the exact year in which it was built. This may be done by means of the Street Directories and the Assessment Rolls. The Street Directories are easier to use but are not as accurate or complete as the Rolls.

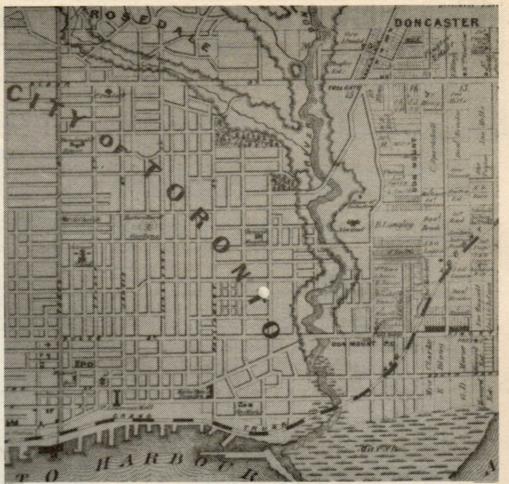
They show addresses of houses and the names of occupants. The City Archives has directories going back to the 1830's, with a fairly complete set from the late 1870's on. These are interesting books to use and are well worth looking at for the old advertisements which they contain alone!

For the most accurate information, resort must be had to the City Rolls. The Archives has them on





Part of a street map from the Goad's Insurance Atlas of 1890 showing the area bounded by Parliament, Front, Sumach, and Queen Streets. Photo by George Rust-D'Eye



Above is a map of Ward 7 and part of Ward 6 as it appeared in 1878. This map is one of those contained in the Historical Atlas of York County. Photo by George Rust-D'Eye

microfilm which can be used on a viewing machine. Using the Rolls is timeconsuming but fascinating for everyone interested in finding out historical facts first-

In using the Rolls, it is necessary to know the name of the Ward at the relevant period. On the west side of the Don, the area north of King was originally in St. David's Ward. South of King (or the Kingston Road) on both side of the Don was St. Lawrence Ward. In 1873 the part of St. David's Ward from Ontario St. west became St. Thomas' Ward. In 1883 the area east of the River north of Queen to the Danforth became part of the City as St. Matthew's Ward.

In 1891 the "Saints" wards were abolished and this part of the City became Ward I east of the Don and Ward 2 to its west. Small areas north of the Danforth were added to Ward 1 in 1909, 1912 and 1921, and both wards continued unchanged from that point until 1966.

Unfortunately the York Township Municipal Office burnt down in 1881, so there are no assessment rolls for the east side of Queen for the period before that date. This makes research very difficult, since the street directories, although listing the names of residents of the areas east of the Don such as Chester, Doncaster, Riverside and Don Mount, don't provide more specific data until the middle 1880's.

The best way to use the Assessment Rolls is to start at a date when the house was known to exist, and work back. It is best to search the whole block, or a large part of it, rather than try to pick out an individual building, so as to be able to know which house you're dealing with in spite of changes in ownership, renumbering, etc.

There are also other helpful sources of historical information. If the above methods aren't successful you could go to the Registry Office in City Hall. There, you can buy a copy of your original plan of subdivision, which will give an idea of when settlement in the area began, and may show early buildings as well. A search of title may also be useful, but is difficult and may not be much help, since documents of title show changes in land ownership but do not usually mention buildings.

There are also many useful books, of which the best is "Toronto, No Mean City" by Professor Eric Arthur. If you are in-terested in architecture, "The Ancestral Roof" by Anthony Adamson and Marion Macrae is a must. Reprints of the 1878 Historical Atlas of York County are also available. There are also numerous old maps of the City, some of which show buildings. Many of these are included in "Toronto, No Mean City", and the City Archives has copies copies of them all. Other useful sources include the photograph collection at the City Archives (where the staff are very helpful), the John Ross Robertson collection at the Baldwin Room, and numerous books on Toronto, including inexpensive reprints of books by Dr. Scadding, G. Mercer Adam, C. Pelham Mulvaney, and John Ross Robertson.

The other primary source of research material is contained in newspapers. The three libraries referred to above have many of the early Toronto newspapers on microfilm. As well, modern newspaper clippings on various subjects of historical interest are kept at the Municipal Reference Library in the branch library at City Hall, and in the local history collection at the Parliament Street Branch.

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## Many roomers exploited despite new laws

by NORMAN G. BROWNE

Tenants who rent rooms are traditionally the least aware politically and the least active politically. Of all tenants, roomers are also the one group least capable or willing to deal with their landlord on an equal basis.

Their traditional method of meeting any landlord-tenant problem is to accept it or cut and run.

Despite the passing of the Rent Review Act and changes in the Landlord-Tenant Act, nothing seems to have changed much for roomers. Due to ignorance or fear, most roomers are still being treated and exploited as second-class citizens.

In Don Vale there are three rooming houses, containing 27 units, all owned by the same person. A survey of the units shows that all of them have had their rent increased at least once and in many cases twice in the past five months.

The Rent Review Act says that only an eight per cent increase in rent is allowable over the rent being paid last July — unless the owner gets the tenant's permission in writing to raise the rent higher.

Of the 27 units in the three rooming houses, only one tenant acted to lower his rent under the act. During the key five-month period, his rent was increased in two stages by 50%. In February, he paid his rent based on the 8% increase and not on the 50% increase that the owner had demanded.

He is now waiting to see if the owner refunds the extra money he

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paid in rent during that period.

If a landlord doesn't refund the extra money paid in rent over and above the 8% ceiling by Feb. 29, the tenant can make a claim to a rent review officer on a prescribed form for that purpose. If the rent review officer agrees with the tenant's claim, the refund can be deducted from future rent pay-

But another roomer in the same building, acting out of ignorance and fear has done nothing. He is 45 years old, been a tenant all his life, and lived in his particular room together with his wife for two

His rent in July was \$25 a week. In December it was raised to \$30 a week and in January to \$35 a week.

His rent should be \$27 a week but he didn't know it.

At the time of his last rent increase, he did raise a fuss with the owner. All that resulted was he got his room painted. The other ten-

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ants did even get that much done.

But still the fear persists, because at the outset of the interview for this article, he requested that his name and address not be mentioned. He feared retaliation by the owner.

He said he knew the name of the owner but not the owner's address. Few other roomers knew that much. The one tenant who paid a lower rent had to find out the name and address of the owner by phoning the rooming house licensing bureau at City Hall.

Under the Landlord-Tenant Act, the name and address of the landlord must be posted in a conspicuous space in any building with one or more units sharing common facilities.

As a final question, the tenant being interviewed for this article was asked what he would do if the owner came up to his room and told him he had to leave in two weeks.

He said he would argue the matter and possibly go "down to City Hall."

Under the new Act, a landlord must give notice in writing, in a prescribed form and giving reasons. The landlord must also give such notice 28 days in advance for a weekly tenancy and 60 days in advance for anything over that. The reasons given by the landlord for eviction must be those prescribed in the Act. A tenant can still sit tight and force the matter into court. A tenant can only be evicted by a sheriff under the authority of a court order.

For the nameless, faceless tenants on the bottom rungs of society, new and changed laws are not much good. First they must be aware of them, second they must know how to use them, and third they must be willing to use them.

It may take years.

# RECENT CHANGES IN LANDLORD-TENANT ACT

by SHELLEY APPLEBY for Neighbourhood Legal Services

In this column we are going to look at some of the most common landlord and tenant problems. It is important to know that the Landlord and Tenant Act has been recently changed and is very different now than it was before December 18, 1975.

PROBLEM ONE (rooming-house eviction)

You are living in a room in a house that is rented out to several other roomers. You pay your rent every week on Saturdays. One Saturday when you go to pay your rent the house operator gives you a slip of paper that says you have to be out by the next Saturday because he rented the room to one of his friends.

#### **SOLUTIONS:**

• You could refuse to leave because the notice you were given was not legal. It did not give you a reason that is approved under the new Landlord and Tenant Act and did not give you enough time. (One week's time is never enough anymore.) A legal notice must be signed, identify the room, give you an approved reason, give you the right amount of time and tell you that you have the right to dispute the eviction notice in court. A landlord can no longer evict someone because he has rented the room to a friend of his. You could stay in the room and explain to the landlord that the notice was illegal and you have the right to stay.

#### PROBLEM TWO:

The landlord turns around two weeks later and gives you notice to be out in 60 days because his son and daughter-in-law want to move in. He has signed the notice, identified the room, the reason given is legal, the amount of time given is proper and he has told you that the eviction notice can be disputed in court. (Each reason used requires a different number of days notice to make it legal. In the case where a member of the landlord's immediate family is moving in, 60 days notice is needed.) The eviction notice is completely legal except you know that the landlord has no son and daughter-in-law. You think that he still plans to have his friend move in after you leave.

#### SOLUTIONS:

You could agree to leave after the 60 days are up but this means you
have to find another place and allows the operator to get away with
breaking the law. Some landlords will continue to lie and act illegally
if tenants don't speak up for their rights.

Perhaps a better solution is to fight the eviction. If you stay past 60 days the landlord can NOT throw you out. You have the right to remain until the landlord gets a court order to have you evicted. If the landlord applies to the court to get you out you will receive a copy of his application. It is very important that you challenge the application either in writing or by appearing before the clerk of the county court on or before the date of the hearing. If you don't the clerk of the court can decide in favour of the landlord because the application was not challenged. If you have problems, call a neighbourhood legal clinic or a lawyer. They can help you dispute the eviction.

If the application is disputed it will be scheduled to go before a judge. In court the landlord will have to prove that the reason for evicting you is valid. The new Landlord and Tenant Act also says that a judge MUST REFUSE to give a landlord an eviction order if the landlord has not lived up to his responsibilities. These include such things as keeping the place in a good state of repair and posting his name and address in a place where it can be easily seen. In this case you should make sure that the judge knew that the landlord was lying. If the rooming house is in need of repair you will not get evicted.

#### PROBLEM THREE: (You are behind in your rent.)

You live in Ontario Housing and pay \$96.00 a month. The last three months you haven't been able to pay the full amount so you paid what you could. Recently you received a notice from Ontario Housing telling you that if you didn't pay \$84.00 within 14 days you will have to leave in 20 days. The notice was signed, it identified your apartment, the reason given is acceptable under the Act and the amount of time (20 days) is proper when the reason is arrears of rent, and it told you that you can dispute the eviction in court.

#### SOLUTIONS:

- You should try and pay the arrears of rent within 14 days if at all
  possible. This will make the notice illegal and give you the right to
  remain. If you can't pay the \$84.00 you should try and work out a
  way of paying the arrears slowly. Speak to the person you pay your
  rent to first. If he/she doesn't offer a solution speak to other people at
  Ontario Housing.
- If you don't think that the arrears are valid you can dispute the
  eviction in court. In this case, before the court will hear your dispute
  you would have to pay into the court the \$84.00.

As you can see the new Landlord and Tenant Act is quite complicated. The Act does give tenants a lot more rights and power but these are only worthwhile if they are known and used. If you have any questions, you could call Neighbourhood Legal Services at 921-7430 or Tenant Hotline at 922-6544 or the University of Toronto law students at 928-6447. If any group wants to have a workshop on Landlord and Tenant law, including Rent Review, you could call Law in the Community at 924-9593.

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