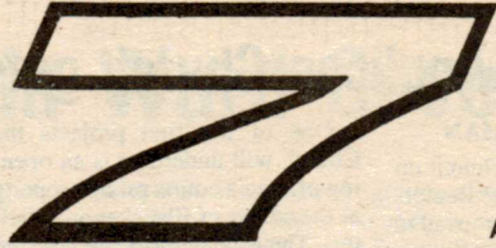


EASTER ISSUE

Next issue is our Easter Issue as it will be published over Easter Weekend: April 17. Deadline, as usual, is the Monday prior — noon on April 17. But get your copy in earlier if possible as we have a lot of copy leftover and space will be limited.



NEWS

WARD 7 COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
265 Gerrard St. East 920-8632
Office at 80 Winchester St.

APRIL 3, 1976

VOLUME 6, NUMBER 20

WANT ADS WANTED

WANTED: Well-worded, interesting, concise want ads. Price reasonable: \$2.50 for 25 words or less paid in advance. Ads will be taken at 249 Gerrard St. E., 265 Gerrard St. E. (NIP office) or at 80 Winchester. SEE page 7 for samples and details.

Contact school sets up centre

by KAREN ENSLIE

Earlier this year Contact High School opened up a storefront education centre with the aid of a L.I.P. grant. The storefront offers education information, individual counselling and a variety of courses. It is located at 326 Parliament just north of the corner of Dundas and Parliament.

Pam McConnell, the co-ordinator of the program, along with Ken Esch and Elaine Gaber-Katz help to staff the storefront. In addition it has a full-time teacher, Margaret Wells, who is on loan from Contact School.

The storefront welcomes anyone from downtown Toronto who wants to improve their skills in math and reading. It also provides an opportunity to earn high school credits in traditional courses as well as in community volunteer work. Counselling is also provided for people in job opportunities and in other education possibilities.

Volunteers, who have trade skills, are encouraged to come in and help out for a couple of hours a week. If you have any suggestions or would like to find out more about the storefront, call Elaine or Pam, at 964-0414.



Photo by Steven Evans

Sherry Ann Barnes, 5, in Kindergarten at Lord Dufferin School has her hair fixed by Educational Assistant Gertie Callan prior to her going on stage as part of the two-day concert put on at the school last month on the "History of Musicals". Sherry Ann played the part of Maria, singing Do-Ray-Me from The Sound of Music, together with the senior kindergarten children.

Planners report on S. St. Jamestown

by NORMAN G. BROWNE

The long awaited planning report dealing with the concerns of local residents about the proposed Winchester Square Development in South St. Jamestown has finally been released.

The report was asked for by the City Council Committee on Buildings and Development at the conclusion of a public meeting held last October in St. Peter's Church. At the meeting, a large number of citizens expressed their worries, concerns and doubts about various aspects of the development.

The report does little to satisfy those concerns and doubts.

ITEM: Many people expressed concern about the density, layout and height of the buildings in the plan. The Report states that these items are covered by the "Memorandum of Understanding" (between the City and the Developer) and can only be changed if that agreement is changed.

ITEM: Many people expressed a desire for more social services,

not only for the people moving into the project but also for those now living in the area. The report states that this is almost impossible to plan as the people in the area don't know what their needs are and no one knows the needs of the newcomers.

The report suggests that full use be made of existing services, they be expanded where necessary, and new construction be flexible to allow for new services. It also recommends that the City hire additional planning staff to work in the area as community workers.

ITEM: The planners don't know what recreational facilities will be provided in the project by the developer. However, the report states that the total mixed and personal recreation space provided is adequate for a project of that size.

ITEM: The report suggest the five remaining buildings on the site (four houses and church building) be retained for social/ recreation use by both those in and outside the development. All are presently owned by the developer.

ITEM: The report suggest that the Cabbagetown Youth Club on Lancaster Street continue its efforts to obtain a long-term lease or buy their building. (The same developer owns this building as well and it is thought that he may be using this as a bargaining point in future negotiations on his main plan.)

The report estimates that it would cost \$170,000 to properly renovate the building housing the Cabbagetown Youth Club but says the City has no money to spare toward this cost. It suggests that the implementation of a Neighbourhood Improvement Program might provide some of the money.

ITEM: The original plan for the development called for 40,000 square feet of retail store space. Negotiations by Parliament Street businessmen cut this down to 15,000 sq. ft. and they are now seeking only 7,000 sq. ft. of new stores. The planners have reservations on this idea, feeling that the high-rise dwellers want more new stores and not less.

They conclude: "If the proposed reduction in commercial floor area is maintained, the Parliament Street merchants will have to compete only with existing facilities for the new population. Whether they will manage to draw that population eastwards will depend largely on the attractiveness of the street, the range of merchandise provided and the energy of local retailers."

A local public meeting, to discuss the report, is expected to be called shortly.

Library outreach program helps elderly citizens

by ELAINE FREEDMAN

One of the newest L.I.P. (Local Initiatives Program) projects in Ward 7 is the Parliament Library Outreach Program. The people who are most aware of this project already are Senior Citizens and Shut-ins, primarily in four apartment buildings — 41 Oak, 220 Oak, 155 Sherbourne, and 200 Wellesley. The Program was set up to tell these people about the public library and bring its services to them. At the same time, it also provides three people with temporary employment.

Unlike many social services, the Outreach Program works only on references and group meetings to contact individuals. It has received many references to clients both from other people in community services and from other clients.

The Outreach Program has been making visits to both individuals and groups. It has helped people

apply for new library memberships and renewals; it has delivered books including large-print books and talking books for those with sight problems, foreign language books, and general fiction and non-fiction, specifically requested by the client or selected by one of the librarians; it will also deliver records, magazines, newspapers, brochures, pamphlets, and pictures (all of which are available at the Parliament Street Library to everyone); and it has referred people to other groups for aid where necessary. Wherever possible, the Program encourages people to come to the library, especially during fine weather.

The Program has visited several Senior Citizens' groups in apartments, churches, and community buildings. It has shown films at various clubs and helped others to borrow them; it has spoken to groups; and it will arrange play-

reading groups, poetry reading, film and lecture programs, puppet shows, and other activities; for Seniors and Disabled people in clubs and other organizations wherever they meet in the community.

By the end of March, the Outreach Program will be setting up book and information kiosks in the four selected apartment buildings, thus providing a library that is more accessible to their tenants, at least. Each deposit will consist of a stand with about 150 books that will be changed every few weeks and pamphlets of interest to Seniors and the Disabled.

It will be set up in the apartment recreation room and will be in service one afternoon and one evening a week when it first opens; however, the hours may be extended with the use of volunteers from within the community. These deposits will bring library service

to a large group of non-users, mostly Seniors and Shut-ins, but also to other people who rarely go out, especially to the library. If they are popular in the four buildings, it may be possible to open deposit collections elsewhere to meet a demand.

During the month of May, the Parliament Street Library with its Outreach Program is having a Salute to Seniors. There will be a display throughout the month in the Adult Library, partially made up of items and information borrowed from the community, specifically directed toward Ward 7's Seniors' interested but open to everyone. Each Wednesday evening there will be special events including films, craft demonstrations, music and dancing, lectures, and tea served by different groups.

If you want more information about the Parliament Library Outreach Program and its services, call 964-8595.

No buyers for Regent Park church

by ULLI DIEMER

Efforts to turn St. Cyril and Methody Church at Sackville and Dundas into a Regent Park community centre have ground to a halt.

According to Simon Mielniczuk, a community worker with the Regent Park Community Improvement Association (RPCIA) the blame rests with the City Parks and Recreation Department, which he says has been continually "stalling" on the issue. According to Mielniczuk, the Parks Department

has been giving the RPCIA the runaround, repeatedly promising to meet, but not showing up when a meeting was scheduled.

The RPCIA wanted the Parks Department to purchase the church and turn it into a recreation centre which would be either controlled by a community board of directors, or would at least give the RPCIA an equal partnership role in running the centre. The Parks and Recreation Department, however, said that it would only accept an "advisory" committee from the community.

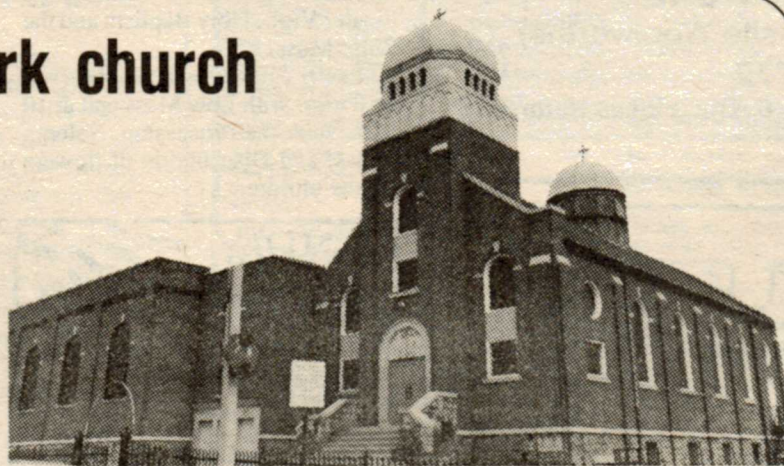


Photo by Audrey Kitson

Mr. Chicules, the president of the church, confirms that the Macedonian and Bulgarian Orthodox congregation would like to sell the building and re-locate.

CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE



NEWS is a community-owned newspaper published every other 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 opinion 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.

LETTERS



Reader objects to crime article

Dear Mr. Browne:

I am writing to complain about an article that appeared in your March 20, 1976 edition of the 7 News. The article by Tom Corbett, namely "Shoplifting is Hobby of Local Resident".

I feel quite strongly about articles of this kind being printed in any newspaper and when it is printed in a community newspaper, something is definitely wrong with the thinking and intelligence of the people who are responsible for the publishing.

There, I would guess, are many troubled families in Ward 7 who are having this problem with their children and the parents are trying their best to raise their children as decent and respectable law abiding citizens but with articles of this nature being printed on "How to Shoplift" these parents have a hard job ahead of them.

If you want to publish articles on

"How To" try something like: How to make a friend, How to help a neighbour, How to Share and Care, etc.

Children entering into their teens look to the adults of the community for examples and guidance of how to live and what to do — I think your newspaper has failed on both points. It's a sad day for the people of this community when trash of this nature is printed.

Gay Lowndes
Sherbourne St.

(EDITOR'S NOTE:

1. Seven News does not propose to stand in moral or ethical judgement on the activities of either its readers or the people of Ward Seven. We merely report on them.

2. The article in question was a profile of an individual with a "different" hobby and NOT a "How To" article.

3. Before we would consider changing our policy on printing such articles, we would have to have proof that such an article is the prime and contributing cause to starting a person on a life of crime.NGB)

St. Peter's Anglican Church gets new rector

by SHARON WYMAN

St. Peter's Anglican Church on Carlton Street has a new Rector. He is John Wiseman who moved to Don Vale from the Beaches where he was Rector of St. Saviour's.

Rev. Wiseman, 45, was born in Montreal. He is a graduate of Sir George Williams University and Trinity College, University of Toronto. After his ordination in 1960 he served in the Lake Simcoe area for four years before going to St. Saviour's where he was Rector for nine years.

Nearly destroyed by fire in 1973, St. Peter's Church is a community landmark. The one hundred and twelve year old church has been completely rebuilt. Rev. Wiseman sees as his first task rebuilding the congregation which has dwindled as a result of the changing facing of the community. As the parish church of the Don District Rev. Wiseman hopes St. Peter's will become a vital and concerned force in the community.

Regent churches to hold joint Easter services

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES

The Regent Park area is to have two ecumenical services on Good Friday. St. Bartholomew's Anglican and Regent Park United Churches are joining together on that day in remembrance of the crucifixion of Christ and in prayer for Christian unity. All interested are invited.

The morning service will be at 10:00 a.m. at St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church, 509 Dundas St. East, a "Good Friday Family Service" with children of both churches taking part.

The evening service will be held in Regent Park United Church, 40 Oak Street, at 7:00 p.m. It is an Ecumenical Vigil Service in which the unity of Christian people will be prayed for.

SERVICES AT
REGENT PARK UNITED

Easter Sunday will be observed at Regent Park United Church with a special early Communion Service at 8:00 a.m. Then there will be the regular Sunday morning service at 11:00 a.m. preceded by the informal singing of Lenten and Easter carols at 10:30 a.m. The minister at both services will be Rev. Arthur Dayfoot, assisted by others.

SERVICES AT ST. BARTS

The Church of St. Bartholomew will start their Easter Services on April 16 at noon with The Solemn Liturgy of Good Friday. On Saturday, at 10 p.m. they will hold the Easter Vigil, Holy Baptism and the First Mass.

Easter Sunday will be observed at 8 a.m. with Low Mass and at 10 a.m. with the Procession, Solemn Mass, and Distribution of flowers to the children.

One of the first projects the Church will undertake is an opening of tennis courts on its property at the corner of Bleecker and Carlton. The asphalt has been laid and

the posts have been set. Individuals who want to play and who are interested in forming an association should contact St. Peter's at 924-1891 for more information.

Education Report

High student suspension rate

by DOUG BARR and GORD CRESSY

Seven News has been receiving reports from residents that many students appear to be on the streets during regular school hours. As your school trustees, we have been asked to comment on this.

We are assuming that people are referring to the situation after the Christmas holidays and hence after the strike. As you are all aware, even though the schools were open, secondary school students were without teachers for nine weeks late last year.

The majority of them, in our ward at least, did not make use of the facilities during this period and hence were "on the streets".

Strike aside then, there are generally four ways in which a student may be legally absent from school — suspension, home instruction, the "leaving school early" program, and work experience. They can also be absent illegally and that is still called truancy.

Under the Education Act, 1974, a principal may suspend a pupil for a period of up to 30 days (in Toronto) for one or more of the following reasons:

- Persistent truancy.
- Persistent opposition to authority.
- Habitual neglect of duty.
- Wilful destruction of school property.
- Use of profane or improper language, or conduct injurious to the moral tone of the school or to the physical or mental well-being of others in the school.

The language of the art

Obviously the language of the Act is old fashioned and open to individual interpretation and that is precisely what happens across the City. Hence the number of suspensions vary from ward to ward.

Before we look at suspension statistics, readers should know that every official suspension is reported to School Programs Committee of the Board of Education every three weeks. If trustees are not satisfied with the reasons given (for the suspension), they can ask for additional information.

Under the new Education Act, parents can appeal a suspension and get a fair hearing at the Board. Last year, as a result of the Director's Report on Discipline, the Board approved a policy which gives principals the authority to suspend a student for one day "informally" without reporting it to the Board.

The reason for this was that sometimes a day was all that was needed to cool down an upset student. This seemed to make more sense than waiting until a youngster was in so much trouble that he/she required a week-long suspension.

This policy also recognized the reality that principals had been operating unofficially this way for some time.

In 1967-68 there were 941 suspensions for the whole city. As trustees turned their attention to these statistics, the numbers dropped, and quite dramatically. In 1972-73, the total number dropped to 444. During the next school year, a trustee committee studied suspension statistics and methods of better meeting the needs of disruptive students.

In 1973-74, the total dropped again, this time to 225. The most recent statistics for September 1975 to March 12, 1976 indicate 131 suspensions city-wide.

Suspension rate dropping

What about Ward Seven? During 1972-73 we had 125 suspensions or 28% of the total for the city. In 1973-74 the numbers had dropped to 81, but this was 36% of all city suspensions. From September 1975 to mid-March of this year, Ward Seven had 65 suspensions — which was 50% of the city-wide total. (There are 11 wards in the city.)

In general then, it can be said that the number of suspensions have dropped in recent years for both the city as a whole and Ward Seven in particular. The figures look like they are leveling off this year in line with statistics over the past two years, but our ward's percentage of the total is increasing.

Why this is happening is hard to judge. It may be that the single day "informal" suspensions better meet the needs of schools outside Ward Seven and thus it isn't necessary for them to resort to the longer "formal" type.

There is no question that for many reasons — health, financial problems, the bias of curricular material, lack of teacher training, etc. — school is not as positive an experience for many Ward youngsters as it is for others. Hence they are more difficult to teach.

It may also be that ward schools have found fewer workable alternatives to suspensions than other schools in other areas. A more detailed breakdown of the statistics within Ward Seven itself would tend to invalidate this last point. Two schools of identical size serving essentially the same community have had two and 32 suspensions respectively thus far this year.

In other words, given a difficult situation, the decision to suspend or not to suspend will be arrived at quite differently by various principals.

NEXT ISSUE: More information on real or apparent truancy in Ward Seven.

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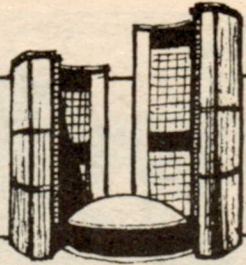
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city hall Report



U.D.I. FIGHTS TO KEEP ADULT ONLY BUILDINGS

by JANET HOWARD
Ward 7 Alderman

Since I last reported on the controversy regarding adult-only apartments, City Council passed a very mild compromise bylaw which would make it illegal for landlords to discriminate against people with children as tenants in apartments of two or more bedrooms within four storeys of the ground.

My original position, together with the other members of The Reform Caucus and two other aldermen, was that people's right to shelter is more important than the desire to live apart from certain kinds of people, like Greeks or West Indians, or children. We fought against a well organized campaign run by the Urban Development Institute (UDI) who have so far sent seven letters to all tenants of their adult-only buildings.

By their own admission UDI control at least a quarter of the rental units in the city, most of which are now adult-only. They are the big landowning corporations, Meridian, Greenwin, Cadillac and the like, who for years have bought and demolished houses to make way for high rise buildings. Also by their own admission, they charge their tenants extra rent for doing something that saves them money anyway: banning children, and therefore saving on the recreation facilities they would otherwise have to provide.

The UDI letters completely reversed the issue. While we were trying to restore the right to choose to the hardest-hit section of the tenant population — families — UDI presented the bylaw as eliminating the right to choose on the part of their childless tenants. They hinted at chaos and destruction if the "child-free environment" were changed, and urged their tenants to write or telephone the Mayor and members of Council.

One notice that made me especially angry went out in St. James-town, with no letterhead, no signature, but my name, John Sewell's and the Mayor's at the bottom, saying "we" were trying to protect the interests of childless tenants against having to put up with families.

Even if that won political points from people who are frightened of children or dislike them, I resent the implication that I would do anything to make it harder for people to put a roof over their heads.

Naturally most parents would prefer to raise their children in a house with a fenced-in back yard. The trouble is, most of them can't afford that. With a growing majority of Metro residents now tenants because the ownership option is gone, families have to take what they can get. What they can get is more limited all the time. Anyone, single or not, who has tried to find a place to rent, especially in Ward 7, knows it's hard unless money is no object. With children, it's virtually impossible.

People who have always paid their rent on time, taken care of their accommodation and even improved it, watched the hope of owning a house fade, find, suddenly, if they have a baby they are undesirables. They have no right to a clean three-bedroom apartment they can afford on the sole grounds that a person under the age of 16 will live there with them. Yet six 18-year-olds can share the same apartment that is barred to the people with the baby.

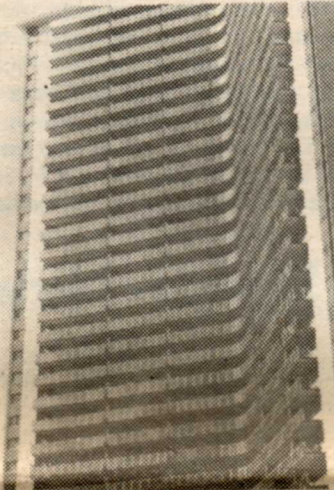
DON'T HAVE CHILDREN

One man who called me said anyone who can't afford a house should not have children. He had bought a house for his family, he said, and his wife hadn't gone out to work "like some of you witches"; now he didn't want "anklebiters" in his apartment building. A woman told me it is bad enough having foreigners around her, did she have to live with children too?

UDI has been successful in several ways. They have set one tenant up against another by pushing off bad management as the fault of certain classes of people — children, in this case — as if they could not evict families who create damage and disturbance the same way childless tenants can be evicted. In their policy of converting more and more buildings to adult-only use, they have ensured that the few buildings without restrictions contain so many families that the resulting problems are used as an example of what happens if children are allowed into rental accommodation. They have conned tenants into believing that their high rents are protecting them from families as a special privilege.

Worst of all, they have frightened enough members of Council so that the basic human need and right to shelter may go by the board. Landlords may still be allowed to refuse their larger units to families, and continue to build the one-bedroom and bachelor apartments they make the most money on, so that housing for families will continue to dwindle.

The right to choose? UDI is keeping that for the time being, and to hell with human rights. Sometimes I wonder what we are coming to.



Forum tackles wage & price control issue

by ULLI DIEMER

People have to "put the fear of God" into politicians, Ward Seven alderman Janet Howard told a forum on wage controls and government cutbacks last week.

At present, she said, most politicians ignore the needs and wishes of their constituents. Despite widespread protests against government cutbacks, "politicians aren't scared", she told the fifty people attending the meeting at the Don Vale Community Centre.

As an example of the warped priorities of politicians, she cited the \$20,000 grant Metro Council gave to the Shriners last summer, while at the same time it cut \$20,000 from the day care budget. The Shriners, she said, are a group of rich American businessmen — "you have to be rich to even be allowed to join. They need \$20,000 like a hole in the head."

According to Howard, those in power survive by dividing people against each other. "The working poor kick the welfare recipients, and the welfare recipients kick the Pakistanis," she said. "Meanwhile they aren't organizing against the politicians and bosses who are really doing it to them. As long as we fight each other instead of against them, we'll

get it in the eye," she added amid applause.

Howard was part of a panel that included Purleen Doyle, a hospital worker and union activist at Riverdale Hospital in Ward SEVEN, Wally Majesky of the Toronto Labour Council, Lina Chartrand of the Federation of Metro Tenants' Associations, and John Lang of the Council of Canadian Unions. Their remarks were preceded by a film on wage and price controls made by the Canadian Union of Public Employees (C.U.P.E.).

Stressing the need for unified action, Lina Chartrand urged people and organizations at the meeting to support the Metro-wide Coalition Against Cutbacks. She noted that the present provincial cutbacks are to be "only the beginning". The Davis government has said that even more cutbacks will be made in the fall and in 1977.

John Lang told the audience that he was "amazed" at the way Trudeau and other leaders imply in speeches that "workers can set their own wages." "Workers have to fight employers for every penny," he said, while "corporations can set their own prices."

He pointed out that despite the proclamation of price controls, prices for such essentials as food, gas, and transit fares have risen dramatically since the controls

were introduced.

The panel discussion was followed by a lively discussion period with the audience. There was disagreement over what people could do.

A speaker from the Wages for Housework Collective urged people to sign a petition against cutbacks which the group has been circulating in the Ward Seven area.

Some speakers called on labour unions to provide leadership and education, while one man protested that union leaders were "another pack of bureaucrats living off the average union man."

A retired carpenter argued that people weren't using their vote properly. "We're all to blame," he said. "We're continually electing the same bunch of clunks. We've got to turf them the hell out to get any change." But another speaker protested that "voting doesn't mean a damn. Everybody voted for Trudeau because he said he was against wage controls, and look what happened."

One woman had the clincher. "I would like to ask the union people when they could arrange for a complete revolution of all the people against the government," she asked.

No one had an answer for that one.

Winchester school to hold fun fair

On Saturday, April 10 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Winchester Public School (15 Prospect Street) will be holding its first annual Fun Fair.

Sponsored by both the school and local community, the purpose of the Fun Fair is to raise funds to send to the Grade Eight class at Winchester on a three day field trip to Elliot Lake. Up to now, the students have been selling chocolate

bars and raffle tickets to offset expenses.

In charge of overall organization is teacher Jill Smeets with a good deal of student-teacher-community participation. The Fair itself will consist of a white elephant sale, a tea room, baked goods and crafts, exhibits and a number of game rooms.

Rumour has it that Winchester principal Jim Wilkinson will be a prime candidate for the kissing booth. With his Fu Manchu moustache, Jim is out to prove that you can be kissed and get the brush off

at the same time.

Volunteers and participants are still needed — either to generally help out or to run their own booth. Anyone free that afternoon and wanting to help out a worthy cause should phone Jill Smeets, Jane Neal or Chris Hume at 921-2178.

Regent church

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE
Several appraisals were made of the building last year, but no firm offer was made. According to Chicules, "as far as I know, the matter was just dropped." The church presently has no plans to move. Without a purchaser for their present building, they say it would be "too expensive".

Meanwhile the RPCIA seems to have given up on Parks and Recreation, and on Mr. Pirk, the official in the Department they are supposed to be dealing with. According to Simon Mielniczuk "it seems like a waste of time trying" to meet with them. But the RPCIA would still like to have a community centre.

Seven News tried to reach Mr. Pirk several times at the Parks Department for comment, but was told each time that he was "in a meeting". Messages left were not answered.

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SURVIVAL!

THE PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

In recent columns you have been introduced to two nurses in the community; the V.O. nurse and the nurse practitioner. Now I would like to introduce a nurse who is probably more familiar because of a long and varied service to the community — the public health nurse.

Who is the public health nurse? She is a registered nurse with university preparation in the field of public health.

What is public health nursing? It is professional nursing that focuses its attention on serving people in the community, in the home or in the school. The public health nurse is concerned with well people and with the sick and the disabled. Public health nursing strives primarily to prevent illness but also provides care for the non-hospitalized patient. Support and encouragement are given to families and individuals in times of stress, crisis or grief.

What services are offered? The public health nurse is often known to families because of the service in both public and separate schools. In this area she is involved with assessing health needs of the children and helping the student, parent and/or teacher meet these needs by health education, counselling, etc.

A large part of the public health nurse's time is spent visiting persons of all ages in their home on the request of an individual, a physician, or a hospital. She will discuss any health concern, provide health information, and assist patients to use other appropriate resources in the community.

The older citizen may have met a public health nurse and received information, advice and health supervision from her at various senior citizen centres and residences. This service varies with the needs of the group and is additional and complementary to that of the doctor.

The nurse's involvement in groups is not limited to the elderly. She may work with any variety of health related groups, from new mothers to those interested in weight loss.

The nurse may also be involved in a community health centre, physicians' group practice or in a hospital. Here she sees patients individually or in groups for health counselling or education. She may also visit the centre's patients at home as is necessary.

Other areas where public health nurses may be involved are family planning clinics, expectant parents classes and other areas where the need arises in the community.

Any other questions about Public Health Nurses: Phone Heather Snowden at 209 Gerrard St. 922-1901.

Distributor of the Week

by PHIL JALSEVAC

The brother and sister team of Barry and Tanyss Horsley are this issue's Distributors of the Week.

The two youngsters have been delivering the paper to the residents of Withrow Ave. since last summer.

Barry, an 11 year old student at Withrow Public is the older brother whose consummate interest outside of school is hockey. He plays for both the house league in the minor pee-wee division of the Ted Reeve house league and is also a hard-skating, fast-shooting centre for the all-star team. "We've only lost three games," Barry noted and emphatically stated that "we're going for the championship."

Tanyss, an eight year old pupil at Sackville Public, has her inclinations towards a more academic interest, the French language, which she studies to read, write and speak daily in the special French school at Sackville. Asked her favourite subject in school, Tanyss replied that she likes "a lot of things." Her most enjoyable program on television is "Policewoman", and Barry added his unanimous consent to this choice.

She stated that "some kids (in her class) don't know that much French" as of yet because of their early age while others are learning



Photo by Ulli Diemer

to speak quite fluently. One youngster has an unusual problem in that he speaks little English, with French being his native tongue. There is sometimes a slight embarrassment in class however, because "he says bad words — but he doesn't know what they mean."

Barry hopes to be a professional hockey player someday, or at least he is "planning it so far." He noted that there is no fighting at Ted

Reeve Arena during their games, otherwise "they throw you out." As for fighting in the big leagues, he felt that "it's O.K. if the fellow has a good reason and they don't get too rough."

Both youngsters enjoy reading the Distributor of the Week best of all the features in Seven News and Tanyss admitted that "I'm going to read ours as soon as we get the paper."

Lots of fun at Seven News party

by ULLI DIEMER

A magic wand dissolved into thin air. Two white doves appeared from nowhere. Milk poured into a funnel evaporated. Coins fell from the sky. Ropes passed right through a solid body. And, of course, a rabbit was pulled from a top hat.

It was the Seven News kids' party, with Michael the Wizard presenting astounding feats of prestidigitation, legerdemain, and magic. In the audience were Seven News distributors, who were themselves called upon to help the Wizard with some of his tricks. And even those who weren't called up found the Wizard reaching over and pulling coins from their ears.

After the magic show came lunch. It seemed as if the kids had learned something from the act, for they made astounding quantities of hot dogs and pop disappear in a vanishing act that rivalled Michael the Wizard's.

Then it was back to the action, with Seven News production man-

ager David Ruppel displaying coolness under fire and dedication above and beyond the call of duty in explaining how the newspaper gets put together. Afterwards he was led mumbling from the battlefield while the Master of Ceremonies, Seven News Distribution Manager Phil Jalsevac, steered the youthful hordes to the Gestetner machine on which a copy of the 7 News(letter) was to be produced right on the spot.

Production was held up slightly by some "technical difficulties" which were resolved when it was discovered that Seven News Volunteer Co-ordinator Ulli Diemer had put the stencil on the machine backwards. This feature gave the kids present a deeper appreciation of the wide range of skills possessed by the Seven News staff. Finally the newsletter rolled off the press to be snatched away by eager (and ink-besplattered) hands.

Then it was time for the presentation of recognition awards to the distributors present, and the party came to an end.

Many people helped to make the affair possible, and Seven News thanks them for their help. First and foremost is Susan MacDonald, the organizer of the party — her contribution is much appreciated. Wonder Bakery donated hot dog buns, Elizabeth Wilson donated pop, the Community Secretariat provided the Gestetner. Also helping were John Cheng, Winnie Wai, John Piper, Kathy Chow, and Lois Harvey.

And special thanks go to Mark, Patrick, Peggy, Louise, Egghead, Jeanette, Patty, Tim, Coyote, Linda, Michael, John, Danny, Susan, Laurie, Big Red, and all the other Seven News distributors and volunteers.

Distributors wanted in St. James Town

Distribution of Seven News in St. James Town, spotty over the years, has improved over recent issues due to the hiring of a paid distributor. However, this arrangement can't continue too much longer due to the financial burden it entails.

If you live in St. James Town and like getting Seven News, you could help out by volunteering to distribute the paper in all or part of your building.

The job requires only 30 minutes to an hour of your time twice a month — and it's good exercise! We're sure your neighbours would appreciate your efforts and it would certainly help the overall financial situation of Seven News.

If you can assist, please contact Phil Jalsevac at 7 News, 920-8632.

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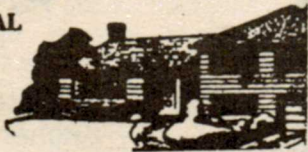
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NEWS ROUND-UP

Ward 7 was under water 12,000 years ago

Children in the **Broadview-Gerrard** area are invited to the Riverdale Library on Saturday, April 10, at 2 p.m. to participate in the colouring of **Easter Eggs**.

Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach Street will have a special **Easter Hot Lunch** at noon on Wednesday, **April 14**. Tickets are \$1.25 at the door or in advance from Fred at 863-0499.

Eastminster United Church is holding its annual **Spring Tea and Sale** on Saturday, **April 24** starting at 1:30 p.m. On sale will be delicatessen foods, baked goods, plants, handicrafts, quilts and good used clothing. Admission is free.

NOW IT CAN BE TOLD: A check with City Hall reveals that there will be **no sidewalks** built on the south side of **Eastern Avenue**. Lack of pedestrians to use it is the main reason.

For History buffs: A brochure titled **Toronto's Geological Past** is now available from the Ontario Government Bookstore, 880 Bay or from Room 6404, Whitney Black, Queen's Park. Of local interest is the fact that Ward Seven was at the bottom of **Lake Iroquois** some 12,000 years ago.

A **progressive Euchre** will be held at Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach St. on Wednesday **April 21** at 7 p.m. Admission is 50 cents for seniors, \$1 for adults.

To mark **Health Week**, the Broadview YMCA, 265 Broadview, will have a **fitness testing program** from April 4 to 10th in their gym. The test takes about half an hour and a fee of \$1 is being charged.

Gail Beglin has been named Office Manager of the Community Secretariat on Gerrard St. East. She replaced **Marty Crowder** who quit last month and has since moved to Vancouver.

Neighbourhood Information Post (NIP) and the Don District Community Secretariat are discussing the possibility of **merging their operations**. A financial saving could result, besides giving NIP greater visibility in the community and more room to operate.

Poet **Len Stewart** will be the guest at the Tuesday literary workshop being held April 6 at 7:30 at the Parliament Library House. On April 13, same time and place guest poet will be **Ivan Burgess**.

The Don District Community Health Centre may be seeking a change in the provincial law that would allow them to **hire a dentist** to work in their planned dental clinic. Under present legislation they are unable to do so.

Adults and seniors in the Don District are welcome to a **weekly Bingo** held every Tuesday afternoon from 1:30 to 4:30 at **41 Oak St.** in Regent Park. Admission is 35 cents for two cards and free refreshments are available.

WANTED: Someone with an hour or two free in the daytime to **teach reading** at the Don Jail. Call **Gwen** at 466-7323 or 466-2164, loc. 286.

Woodgreen Community Centre is holding a 10-week lecture and demonstration course in **Chinese Cooking**. The course will be held Saturday mornings starting **May 8** and a fee of \$35 is being charged for the 10 two hour sessions. For info, phone **Jane Lee**, 461-7668.

The popular **bus trips** sponsored by the Regent Park Senior Citizens "41 Bingo Club" will be coming up soon. Anyone interested should call **John Sanlon** at 368-7503 for more information.

Any adults living in the King-Queen area interested in **darts or shuffleboard** are asked to call Fred at Dixon Hall, 863-0499.

The Parliament Library House will have an evening of poetry with **Gwendolyn MacEwen and Shadrak** at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 8. Admission is free.

The **St. George Liberal Association** will hold their annual meeting at 8 p.m. on Wednesday **April 7** at the Old Spain restaurant at Bloor and Sherbourne. Light refreshment will be served.

There will be a **Bingo** at Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach Street on **April 5** starting at 7 p.m. Admission is 75 cents. A **teen dance** will also be held at Dixon Hall on **April 30** starting at 8 p.m.

Free Friday Feature Film at the Parliament Library House will be **Night of the Living Dead**, a classic horror film on April 9 at 8 p.m. Admission is free.

The Senior Citizens program at **Sacre-Coeur Church**, Sherbourne at Carlton, has received a **\$12,098 New Horizons** grant. The money will be used to establish an arts and crafts, music and physical education centre for French speaking seniors in the area.

Seven News **may not** have to fold in July after all. The 7 News Board of Directors have established a Lottery Committee and plans are underway to hold a **lottery in June**. Needed at present are people who can serve on the Committee or people who can get people to sell lottery tickets. If you can help, phone Lottery Co-ordinator **Ulli Diemer** at 920-8632.

There are a few subsidized spaces available in the **day care centre** at Central Neighbourhood House, 349 Ontario Street. Call **Barbara Greer** at CNH, 923-4363, for details.

Women's weekend planned for May

With the coming of spring, there will be a Women's Weekend held in Ward Seven. A group of women have organized a series of discussion groups exploring women's choices today: choices in life-

style, choices in child care, choices in employment, choices within oneself.

Guest speakers will relate their experiences and points of view.

However, it is the discussion group participants who will consider the specific issues and define what should be done in this community. It is hoped that a women's action group will develop from the event.

In some discussion groups there will be demonstrations of crafts and self-defense. In others there will be displays or panel discussions. All groups will seek the maximum in group involvement and activity.

The event will take place Friday evening May 7 (7 to 9:30 p.m.), and Saturday, May 8, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Central Neighbourhood House, 349 Ontario Street. Anyone with any suggestions or who would like to help plan the weekend should call Lynda Salmon at 925-4363.

Regent Seniors hold St. Patrick's party

by TED PLANTOS

Ain't it grand. All the leprechauns and Senior Citizens from the 41 Oak Bingo Club were wearing their Kelly Green at the Annual St. Patrick's Party on Wednesday, March 17. John Sanlon, who organized the affair, describes the party as "bright and lively . . .". Shamrocks and hats were provided. Margaret Scrivener donated Irish Coffee mugs for the Lucky Draw, won by Mrs. Margaret Morrison. There was wine, cheese, beer and Irish cake available.

Although a genuine shillelagh

from the old sod was on display, it was not required for use since a donnybrook did not occur. The Ulster Accordion Band, led by Joe Cromwell with his Majorettes, provided the music.

Elaine Freedman, who works with Senior Citizens in Regent Park through the Parliament Library Outreach Program, was in attendance, and found it difficult keeping up with some of the lively, dancing seniors.

A group of young dancing girls, directed by Betty Ann Roth from Moss Park, provided a lively series of Irish reels and jigs.

Meeting called on child care

Lynda Salmon, a worker involved in women's issues, and Sharon Cunningham, a resident of

the area, have called a meeting for Wednesday, April 7 at 7:30 at St. Peter's Church, 190 Carlton Street, to discuss the opening of a community controlled child care centre.

People in need of child care, people who are presently working in child care and representatives of organizations concerned with child care in the area have been invited to attend. For more information, call Lynda Salmon at 925-4363.

SPORTS BRIEFS

The newly formed **Cabbagetown Softball Association** is seeking teams and individuals to take part in summer baseball. The fee is \$30 a team for players 11 to 13 years old born 1963 or after. For players 14 to 15 years old born 1961 or after, the fee is \$40 a team. Adults to manage, coach and umpire are also needed for this newly formed league.

Anyone interested call John Wylie at 961-2912, 690-0568 or Gus Plytas at 465-5763.

The **Marauders**, a pee-wee football team formed in 1973 is the only team in central Toronto offering 12 and 13 year old boys a chance to play football in a weight controlled league.

Boys 12 or 13 wishing to try out should weigh around 120 pounds and be able to pay a \$30 fee. All equipment is provided and a good coaching staff is on hand. To register, call Armi Flint at 964-9047 evenings.

Registration closes May 28, try-outs are June 5 at Rosedale Park, and the playing season begins early September and ends mid-November.




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How old is your house . . . ?

by GEORGE RUST-D'EYE

In my last article I outlined the steps you could take to find out the exact age of your Ward 7 house. However, most people are just not that interested in reading street directories or tracing names through old assessment rolls, but do enjoy looking at old houses, and would like to know a little more about the buildings they see around them as they walk along the street. What follows is a layman's guide (written by a layman) to 19th century house styles in Ward 7 from the point of view of that most worthy and least understood individual — the pedestrian.

Everybody knows what functions a house is supposed to provide. The basic requirements haven't changed much over the last 125 years. However, many things have changed, such as the choice of materials available, their cost and the cost of land and labour, the extent of government regulation over planning and building standards, and, of course, the increasing effect of the ever-present motor vehicle.

These factors have all had an effect on the development of house styles in Toronto. But the most important factor — the human ingredient — is what makes Victorian houses so interesting. Unlike many of the houses built today, the 19th century home was not only well-designed and solidly constructed, but it showed that whoever had built it cared about how it would look to those living in it and to those who would just walk by.

Most 19th century houses were designed by builders, not architects, and were intended to provide their owners with the basic amenities of life without being ostentatious. Although Sherbourne, Carlton and Gerrard Sts., and Broadview Ave. boast some quite substantial homes, most Ward 7 houses were built for people who would not be considered wealthy. Some of the houses are downright tiny!

In spite of the great variety, it is

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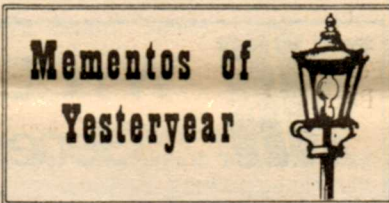
24 Hours

possible to list four basic 19th century styles represented in Ward 7. For the sake of convenience, if not strict architectural accuracy, I will call them the "Georgian", "Victorian", and "Romanesque" houses, and the labourer's cottage.

THE GEORGIAN PERIOD

The Georgian period is represented in Ward 7 mainly by buildings built during the 1850's. Look for high, large ornamental chimneys arising out of the flat end walls of 2-1/2 storey red and yellow brick buildings. Georgian houses were elegant and austere, lacking the individualistic and decorative flair of their picturesque successors. Their strong horizontal lines, often emphasized by brick patterns under the eaves, permitted them to be placed easily in pairs or terrace rows. In this context, each building became part of an ordered and unified whole, unlike the later "Victorian" houses which each tried to assert its own individuality. As part of a row, a Georgian townhouse would have its door at one side of the front, as opposed to the centre-door symmetry of single buildings, and its separation from its neighbours would be marked at the roof level by brick firewalls, out of which came high chimneys.

Other characteristics possessed by the Toronto Georgian house were: many panes of glass in large double-hung window sashes, large wooden shutters, decorative



corner stones or bricks (quoins), and a side-facing roof gable or hip, with that part of the roof sloping to the front often broken by dormers. One of the most striking of Georgian features was the large solid wood front door surrounded by sidelights, and an overhead transom. In detached buildings, the door would be in the centre and would mark the entrance to a centre-hall interior floor-plan.

Some examples of Georgian houses in Ward 7 are: 85 Winchester, 435 Sackville (rear), 185, 229-231 Carlton, 56 Rose, 176-8 Dundas, 205-7 Gerrard, 77 and

133-7 Seaton, and 241, 251, and 283-5 Sherbourne (241 Sherbourne, the Enoch Turner house, is in an architectural class by itself, and will be the subject of a future article).

There are also, in Ward 7, some interesting examples of mixed styles — Georgian buildings with later Victorian features on top. Examples may be found at 115-7 Berkeley, 36 Metcalfe, and 209-11 and 230-2 Carlton.

I have been able to find only one, or possible two, Georgian style houses in Ward 7 east of the Don. The first is the unique little cottage at 469 Broadview, built, probably, in the 1860's, and the second is the old farmhouse at 28 Playter Cres., so changed as to make it difficult to date.

A walk across Withrow Park to No. 14 Dingwall Avenue will be well rewarded with a view of one of the most interesting and beautiful houses in the City — an 1850's brick farmhouse "cottage", with its main floor high off the ground over a "basement" floor containing the kitchen.

THE VICTORIAN PERIOD

The Victorian (also known as Gothic Revival, Romantic, or Picturesque) period of Toronto architecture is represented in Ward 7 by buildings erected in the 1870's and 1880's. The majority of the houses in the older 3/4 of the Ward were built during this period. This style is characterized by high front-facing pointed roof-peaks surrounded by carved decorative verge-boards (also known as barge-boards or "ginger-bread"), large windows and doors often surmounted by masonry dripstones (or "labels"), and sometimes with keystones. This period saw the heaviest use of contrasting yellow and red bricks in patterns across the front of the house, often arching in patterns over doors and windows. Each house, whether detached or part of a row, stood out as an independent entity.

The typical gable-roofed house had 2-1/2 storeys, with the peak covering part of the large attic above the second floor. Another type of Victorian roof arose out of the French influence on Toronto architecture. This was the mansard, a roof flat on top with a vertical or sharply sloping part covering the second or third floor. Mansards are to be found throughout the ward, often on smaller houses, for instance on Allen Avenue, Spruce Street, and Alpha Avenue. Some beautiful large mansards are to be



14 Dingwall Avenue. This is a farmhouse (built in the 1850s) of cottage form, and displays typically Georgian features. It has a Georgian door, centre hall plan, large shuttered windows with 6-pane, double-hung sashes, quoins, side-chimney and small verandah (portico).

Photo by George Rust-D'Eye

seen on the houses at 377 Sackville and 298 Carlton, 502-8 Parliament, and in the Chamberlin Block on Carlton near Seaton.

Other features of Victorian houses were: the extensive use of wooden decoration, for instance in ornamental brackets under the eaves, fewer panes of glass (1 or 2-pane sashes), rounded or Gothic arches over windows, the use of stained glass, ornamental wrought-iron fences (cresting) over bays or mansard roofs, small wooden verandahs (often added some time after the house was built), and high transoms over windowed front doors. There is no need to cite examples of "Victorian" houses in Ward 7. They are everywhere.

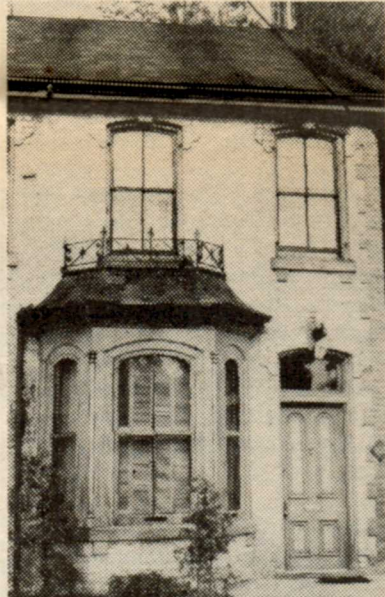


Photo by George Rust-D'Eye

108 Bleecker Street. This attractive small house has been well taken care of by its present owner. The wooden bay window has been restored and the cresting on its roof is in good condition. The house has a front door of carved wood with windows. The windows have sashes of two panes. Brickwork quoins and dripstones add to the pleasing facade.

The Romanesque house is a little more sedate than the frivolity which characterized its Victorian predecessor. In the 1890's, city regulations began to require that buildings be made of brick (some pre-1890 examples had brick fronts but were basically of stuccoed frame construction). Facades flattened out and became more massive, although some "Victorian" features held for a while. Instead of contrasting brick colours, decoration consisted of more subtle projecting brick arches and horizontal lines. The Roman arch over windows and doorways was the outstanding feature of this period. There were more three-storey houses. Large "picture" windows and windowed bays prevailed. Storeys were often differentiated by the material used as well as by ornamentation. Features such as turrets, parapets, large verandahs and a variety of classical forms became incorporated into facades. "Terra cotta" (plaques of red clay with floral or other designs) were often applied to substantial red brick buildings. Interesting Romanesque houses are to be found throughout the ward. Some outstanding examples are 275 Broadview (Nellie's), 191 and 297 Carlton, and 50 - 52 Metcalfe St. Others are to be found on the north side of Wellesley east of Parliament and on the east side of Sherbourne north of Dundas, and in Don Vale. The Annex area of Toronto is characterized by such houses.

The labourer's cottage is a familiar feature in Ward 7. ("Cottage" describes a house with only one main floor.) These small 1-1/2 storey houses were built in Toronto throughout the period from the 1840's to the 1880's. Not so elaborately decorated as their larger Victorian neighbours, they typically have a centred front door with a window on each side, and often a front-facing centre peak. So many have been modified over the years that it is difficult to date them. They exist throughout the ward. Some interesting rows of them are to be found on Seaton, McGee, Shuter and Munro.

It is impossible, in an article of this length, to even attempt a clear, accurate, and comprehensive classification of house styles in Ward 7. I have not even mentioned several quite important types. The descriptions above are very general, but will, I hope, enable people walking through the streets of Ward 7 to appreciate more fully the rich heritage of beautiful houses which we are fortunate enough to enjoy.



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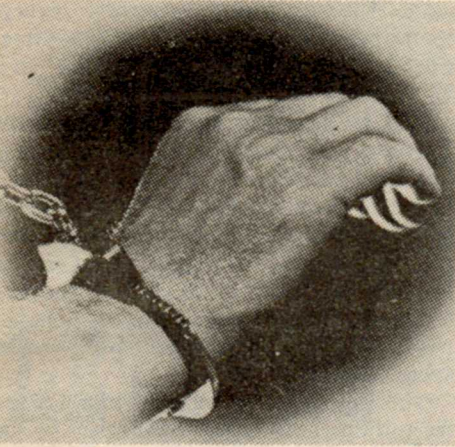
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CRIME IN THE WARD: We're not the best or the worst



by TOM CORBETT

Ward 7 had one of the lowest incidents of crime in the city last year. Out of the 18 police divisions in the city, No. 51 was seventh in overall reported crime in 1975. In 1974, it had the fourth highest rate.

Although crime was down last year, there are several criminal offences quite prevalent in our area.

We were second highest in woundings in the city last year (64), down from 79 a year earlier when we topped all other areas in the city.

Reported assaults were also down last year (532), but we remained in the number four spot we held the previous year when there were 649 cases.

Although there were over 500 reported assaults last year in the area, Division 51 Staff Sergeant Ted Starrett said the figure is not a true representation. In a number of assaults the people involved failed to prosecute after reporting the offence.

Inspector William Dickson of Division 51 agreed with this assessment and added that many crimes of violence, such as wounding and assault, are "domestically oriented." He said, "the people involved usually know each other or are related."

Both Inspector Dickson and Sergeant Starrett said alcohol plays a major role in these offences.

MORE RAPE REPORTED

In cases of rape, the Inspector said a large number of the attackers also know the victims.

While this area was third highest in the city in reported rape and attempted rape (20) last year, we had the dubious distinction of being number one in 1971 and 1974.

In 1974 alone, we had 34 reported cases or 17 per cent of the total for Metropolitan Toronto.

However, as in other cases, statistics don't tell the whole story. While our area had more reported rapes, it is believed there are more unreported cases in other parts of the city.

Melanie Danson, from the Toronto Rape Crisis Centre, feels the stigma on family and husband's careers makes rape less apt to be reported in more affluent areas of the city.

She said because of this, "You may get more reported rapes from lower economic areas. Rape in higher income areas are not reported as much."

Besides unreported rape in other parts of the city, Ms Danson said that as few as 10 per cent of all actual rapes are ever reported.

There are several explanations why such a situation exists. The main reason is the trauma women go through after the rape occurs, which many victims say is more unnerving than the actual rape itself.

First of all there is intensive quizzing by the police, which in most cases is a male officer not specially trained to deal with the problem.

To overcome this situation, Alderman Dorothy Thomas last year suggested a trained rape squad be set up in the city. The police looked into the situation but later rejected the idea because of manpower shortages.

The courts have also been cited as another reason for unreported rape. Ms Danson said defense lawyers for rapists introduce a victim's moral background in an effort to question her integrity and demean her.

The federal government is making a slow

effort in bringing about a change in this situation. For several years it has promised a law which would limit the use of a rape victim's moral background in a trial.

Ms Danson feels this law change would be very welcome. "It would lessen the trauma for a woman, which would reduce the psychologically damaging aftermath of rape," she said.

In the meantime, reported rape cases continue to increase. There has been a 200 per cent increase in Canada since 1968 and in Toronto from 1966 - 1972 a 76 per cent increase was reported.

If rape does occur, the Rape Crisis Centre is tended by women 24 hours a day and can be reached at 368-8383. The centre offers counselling services and has sympathetic doctors on file, as well as other support staff. They also supply speakers and are aware of defense programs in the city for women.

Ms Danson feels rape will be with us as long as men view women as they have in the past. Women are seen as sex objects to be dominated, an attitude reinforced by advertising and other forms of communication.

We were fourth in reported robberies (215) last year, down from 284 in 1974 when we had the second highest rate in the city.

While the number of robberies is quite high in the Ward, Inspector Dickson said, as a rule "they are not the hold-up kind."

He said a large portion of the robberies each year are purse snatchings. He said the typical purse snatchers "are usually young people."

Of the nine purse snatchings so far this year, Sergeant Starrett said, "three or four of the victims indicate juveniles were involved in the theft."

Inspector Dickson said most purse snatchings usually don't involve large sums of money.

He pointed out that a woman in her 30s was attacked in the ward a few weeks ago by four youths who took her purse, which only contained one dollar.

He admitted, however, most of the victims aren't as young as this woman. "A good percentage of the victims are elderly," he said.

To avoid purse snatchings, women are advised to hang on to their purses at all times while shopping and avoid laying them down.

While carrying purses, it is also recommended that women do not wrap the straps tightly around their neck or shoulder. In purse snatchings, women are sometimes injured when their handbags are grabbed from them.

Another offence involving a large number of juveniles (those under 16) and minors (ages 16 and 17) are cases of break and enter.

Inspector Dickson said young people in this age group are involved in over half the break-ins in this ward, a pattern which applies to the whole city.

Although juveniles are involved in a number of criminal offences, total juvenile crime in the area was the lowest in the entire city during 1974.

MANY BREAK-INS UNSOLVED

There were 980 reported break-ins in the ward last year, although this area was behind six other parts of the city in this crime.

However, break-ins still remains one of the crimes police have the least success in solving and only 212 were solved last year.

One unsolved case involved a Riverdale resident who lost a stereo in a break-in last August.

She said the only witness to the offence, a neighbour, saw several children around the age of 12 running from her house with the set.

This break-in was just one of many such crimes in her area last year.

"Whenever we went visiting, the people had either been robbed or knew of someone who was," she said.

In order to combat the rash of break-ins, about 15 people in the area banded together.

"If something suspicious is going on outside one of our houses we call the owner,"



Above is the busy communications centre at Police Headquarters on Jarvis Street. Chances are that any serious

crime committed in Ward Seven will pass through the hands of one of these officers.

she said. "If they're not at home, we call the police."

She added, "People should get to know each other better and know who lives where. Then you could tell if the people poking around a house lived there or were breaking in."

DON VALE A TARGET

Another part of the ward which appears to be a favourite target for break-ins is the Don Vale area.

One Metcalfe Street resident, who has experienced two break-ins in the last year says, "A lot of people in the area are being hit."

The first break-in at her house was done by two 10-year-olds but the goods were recovered several hours later.

A break-in last Halloween, however, netted thieves \$2,000 worth of jewellery and this case was never solved.

She also feels that people must work together and be alert for anything suspicious. After all, she said, "We can't have the police everywhere."

Inspector Dickson agrees with this point and said all residents in the ward should report any "suspicious activity." Although there are witnesses to crime, he said, not enough people inform the police when the crime is taking place.

The total value of all the goods seized in break-ins and other robberies in the area last year, totalled \$1,483,880. Of this loot, only \$37,157 worth was recovered.

Also last year, 319 automobiles and trucks were stolen but 281 of these were recovered. Bicycle owners were not so lucky. While 325 cyclists in the area lost their transportation, only 41 of the bikes were recovered.

While many people in the ward point to drinkers in the section known as "skid row", the number of people charged with being drunk in the area was lower than two other parts of the city.

However, we are number one in the listing known as "other charges under the Liquor Control Act."

Inspector Dickson explained these charges include such things as unlawful possession of liquor and drinking under age.

However, he said, "The majority of these charges are for having liquor in a place other than a residence."

Most of them are laid against those who drink outdoors, with wine being the most popular beverage.

Inspector Dickson also noted the large number of false fire alarms in Ward 7 as well as reports of public mischief.

Included in the latter offence, he said, "there is a lot of damage to property." He said the feeling is that a lot of it may be done by children.

"I don't know how much of it is deliberate or accidental," he said.

More serious crimes reported by Division 51 last year, such as manslaughter and non-capital murder, were not as common here as in other parts of the city.

This area reported two non-capital murder charges last year out of a Toronto total of 48.

At the same time there were four attempted murders reported, while there were 40 in the rest of the city. There were no manslaughter or capital murder charges last year in the area.

Both Inspector Dickson and Sergeant Starrett agree that the district most prone to crime in Ward 7 is the central core, the area between Queen and Gerrard Streets.

What can the residents of Ward 7 do about the crime rate?

Crime Prevention Officers

Inspector Dickson asks concerned groups of residents to contact the police department to arrange meetings with crime prevention officers. He said, "We will be happy to have our men talk with them."

Suggestions have also been made that people should be alert and report crimes when they see them. Unfortunately this step, while catching more criminals, does not necessarily cut down the crime rate.

Criminal Youth Worker Irene Lee said people in the community should become more involved in programs that are geared to help criminal youth. As well, more programs should be initiated to keep young people away from criminal activity.

In these times of economic cutbacks though, the first programs to be axed are usually those in the field of social services.

While there are probably as many solutions and reasons for crime, as there are crimes, nothing can be done to solve the problem until people decide to do something.

NOTE: For purposes of comparison, crime statistics pertaining to Police Division No. 51 were used in this article. Although Ward Seven overlaps three Police Divisions, most of the ward lies in 51 Division. There are 18 police divisions in Metro Toronto.

