

Welfare supplements: Bonus or bad joke?

By HOWARD HUGGETT

It is hard to understand the thinking behind the Ontario government's newly announced plan to help welfare recipients, particularly single parents and disabled persons, to get jobs. This program, we are told, is directed primarily at sole-support mothers who number about 47,250 in this province.

The key feature of this scheme is a cash benefit to supplement wages earned by the person who goes off relief and takes a job. This supplement varies between \$95 and \$185 a month, depending on the size of the family or the extent

of the disability. These sums are paid in full to those earning up to \$7,000 a year, and will be reduced by 50¢ for every dollar made over \$7,000. The supplement ceases when earnings reach \$9,276 to \$11,436, depending on the size of the family. In any event, the payments cease in two years.

At the same time persons coming off welfare to take a job will be entitled to certain fringe benefits they received while on public assistance, such as payment of OHIP premiums, free prescription drugs, basic dental care and eyeglasses. Finally, those leaving welfare will

receive \$225 in decreasing payments over three months to help defray back-to-work expenses.

You may say that sounds pretty good, what's wrong with it? Well, in the first place financial assistance alone won't enable many to find employment in these days of high unemployment, particularly when the situation is that most of those on family benefits have less than Grade 10 education and tend to be unskilled. Any jobs they get are likely to be low-paying, dead-end ones that will leave them still on low wages and in a financial bind two years later when the cash sup-

plement and fringe benefits are cancelled. What is sadly lacking in this program is some job re-training and up-grading of skills to help these people find jobs and better jobs. There is no mention of this.

That payment of \$225 over three months to defray back-to-work expenses would be quite a help — if you can walk to work and take your lunch. But it costs \$1 a day to ride the T.T.C., and that means about \$250 a working year. If you have to buy lunch every day that could easily come to \$300 or \$400, even on a rigid budget. That \$225 doesn't look very big after all. And

then there are the costs of extra clothing and cleaning bills required, on-the-job collections, etc.

And of course there are the payroll deductions. Even at the minimum wage of \$3 per hour U.I.C. premiums work out to about \$7 per month, while Canada Pension ones add up to just over \$8. The income tax deduction for a single mother with one dependent child would come to almost \$28 — a total of \$43 taken out in all. Now the U.I.C. premiums may pay off later on, the C.P.P. deductions will bear fruit at retirement, and refund

Continued on page 2



7 NEWS

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

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FREE TAKE ONE

Deadline for the next (Oct. 19) issue of 7 News is Monday October 15. Bring or mail your news or ads to 7 News, 315 Dundas St. E., Toronto M5A 2A2 or phone 363-9650.



Members of the Meca Tavern Baseball Team:
Standing: Wayne Janisse*, Bob Garner, John Piper*, Terry O'Sullivan*, Doug Frizzell*, Gary Morrison, Peter O'Connor, Tim O'Malley
Kneeling: Vito Furlano, Gary Tumber, Rick Law*, Wayne Nagle*, Marty Snelling*, Doug Lewis
Missing: John Catanzaro*, Wayne Butt
*living or working in Ward 7

Photo by Cherry Hassard

Meca team battles into finals

The Meca Tavern fastball team advanced to the finals in the Greenwood Division of the Toronto East Fastball League this week by beating the Edelweiss Club in a best of five series. Meca will meet Wicks' Jets in the finals this week. All games are played at the Greenwood Park at Dundas and Green-

wood.

After winning the opener on a two-hitter by John Piper, Meca lost to Edelweiss 10-0 and then tied the next two games on several sensational plays by shortstop Doug Lewis. At one point, Meca was down 4-1 with two out and no one on base in the last inning. When the

dust cleared, the score was 4-4 and Meca went on to preserve a thrilling tie.

In the final game, Meca's Peter O'Connor slammed a home run and a triple, Lewis went three for four at the plate, and John Piper hurled a four-hitter as Meca whipped Edelweiss 10-3.

Skid row housing scheme on skids?

The Rooming House Tenant Project is looking for funds to enable it to continue operating.

The project, which runs five skid row houses for 'hard-to-house' roomers, was started up three years ago, under the auspices of the Christian Resource Centre, and was given a three-year demonstration grant by the federal government. That grant expired on September 30, and as of now no other money is available to keep the project going.

For the time being, project staff are continuing to work although there is no money for their salaries, in the hopes that funding will soon be forthcoming.

The project is seeking 'bridge' funding to tide it over, and is also applying for permanent funding.

Those associated with the project feel strongly that it has been a real success, and they not only want it to continue, but to be expanded.

The project currently manages three houses for alcoholics, one for single women over 30, and another for men who are attempting to stay 'dry'. About 50 people live in the five houses. Rents (a furnished room is about \$95 a month) pay for the upkeep of the houses, but not for staff salaries.

Meanwhile, the Christian

Resource Centre has just transferred control of the project to a separate, autonomous advisory group which will soon be officially incorporated as the project's board of directors.

The purpose of the project is to provide skid row people with clean low-rent housing and the opportunity to learn to manage their own lives.

According to CRC executive director John Metson, the project is "viable and worthwhile, and ought to be duplicated." Metson also points out that improvement in the general well-being of tenants means that they use social services less, at "a considerable saving to the taxpayer."

The Rooming House Tenant Project unlike most other social agencies doesn't demand that alcoholics cure themselves by giving up treatment before allowing them to move in, but it does provide challenges for them, in asking them to make their own decisions on the daily management of the houses, and in making them responsible for the cleanliness and upkeep of common rooms.

The staff of the project provide financial, nutritional, and personal counselling.

City rents to soar

Tenants in city-owned non-profit housing are facing substantial rent hikes this winter.

Rents in all the 2,800 units owned and managed by the Toronto Non-Profit Housing Corporation are under annual review, and so far the average proposed increase is about 14 per cent. Non-profit housing is automatically exempt from the six per cent ceiling on rents imposed by the provincial government.

According to Mayor John Sewell, a special meeting is to be held on October 10 at City Hall to give tenants an opportunity to have their say about the proposed increases.

Sewell himself drew the anger of public housing tenants who tried to attend a meeting on the rent increases only to find themselves barred by Sewell from the closed meeting. Sewell admitted later that the non-profit housing corporation had never met in closed session before, and also added that "we might have been able to" meet in open session.

June Pritchard of the Dundas-Sherbourne project in Ward 7, called the planned increases

"ridiculous". "How do they justify those kinds of increases?" she asked. "This is supposed to be for low and middle-income people."

About one-third of the tenants in the housing are subsidized, which means that any increase in their rent will be picked up by the government. The other two-thirds face increases which in some cases will be as high as 33 per cent. For example, a five-bedroom unit in Dundas-Sherbourne will now go from \$430 to \$572.

7 News needs distributors!

Seven News is looking for volunteers to distribute the paper on streets and in apartment buildings that presently do not have delivery. It would take about 10 to 30 minutes once every two weeks to deliver from 25 to 100 papers. The paper would be delivered to your door in a bundle every second Friday for you to deliver over the weekend. If you are interested, or know someone who is, call 7 News at 363-9650.

Regent Park centre seeks funds...

The Regent Park Community Improvement Association has asked City Council to grant \$49,000 in operating funds for the proposed Regent Park Community Centre. The centre would serve teens and adults in the Regent Park area.

To date, no site for building has been obtained but the centre plan-

ning committee is endeavouring to obtain the commitment for operating funds so that the construction funds can be secured.

The request to council was referred for study by Alderman Gordon Cressy, who will work with Alderman Janet Howard and the

Parks and Recreation chairman Susan Fish to see if the city can participate in such a venture. A report is expected by October 30.

Anyone who is interested in assisting the residents' association in their tireless efforts (they began in 1972) please contact Sam McPherson at 364-2909.

...while 203 Sackville Green closes

The Ontario-Housing-ruin community centre in South Regent Park, at 203 Sackville Green, has closed.

Officially, it has closed for "renovations", but there is at present no indication of when it might re-open, and some users think that OHC has no intention of ever re-opening it.

The closing, announced only a couple of weeks before the fact, left user groups scrambling to find alternate space, if indeed any can be

found. There is no full-fledged community centre anywhere in Regent Park, and little suitable space available in the vicinity.

Open Door wants your donations

The Open Door Centre is holding a White Elephant and Bakesale Thursday November 1/79 from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

We are in need of donations of baked goodies and White Elephant articles, e.g. household utensils, old jewelry, books, games (no clothes).

Among the users were a Catholic Children's Aid girls group, a bingo, a day care centre, and an after school tutoring program.

If you have any donations please drop them off at the Centre from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday to Friday, or leave them with the caretaker (Harry) for the Open Door Centre.

Any and all donations would be greatly appreciated. Proceeds to support the operation of the centre.

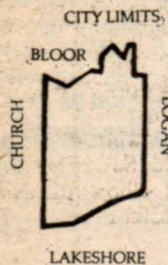


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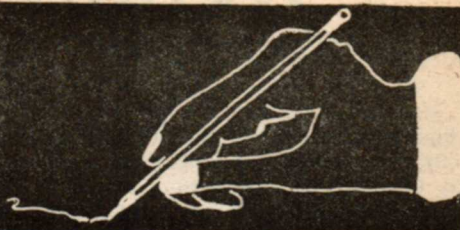


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Gov't ignores adult education

Approximately 5,000,000 adult Ontarians may be neglected in the plan for the new Ministry of Education. Bill 19, an act which creates one ministry for all education in the Province, says very little about those who pay the bills. The Plan for Reorganization distributed in April of this year provides only a glimmer of hope for those wanting job upgrading or retraining, the 1,393,935 functional illiterates in Ontario, the 1.5 million seniors, the homebound mother, and the other typically underserved groups. There will be a branch to deal with continuing education — "Senior and Continuing Education Branch". The Ontario Association for Continuing Education is concerned whether this one small branch in the bottom corner of the Organization can handle the immense job of meeting the educational needs of our citizenry.

The Government of Ontario's focus is still children and youths. The Ministry of Education and many professionals see the issue to be declining enrollments in our schools. They are ignoring the fact that what we learn by 18 is no longer enough to get us by until we retire; in fact it is often not enough

to get us by until we are 30. The Government must face the economic, political, and social realities today and search for ways to provide education to their constituents.

Ontario Association for Continuing Education

Schools need common sense

We have problems in our education system especially in the Regent Park area. Some blame the teachers while others blame the parents or kids. The thought strikes me that rather than blaming the other guy, all parties should use 'common sense' and work together.

One of the real problems is that the teachers do not fully understand the problems in these schools. Or do the parents go and talk to the teachers. Perhaps, parents feel that the teachers will not listen to them

because the parents do not know how to express themselves in proper English. If you are a parent, do not worry about not being able to speak in high class English. Teachers appreciate parents taking an interest in their child.

As soon as we start working together and understand the other guy's point of view, our schools will start to meet the need of our community.

Peter B. Pocock

Welfare supplements inadequate

Continued from page 1

ds will probably come back from the Income Tax Department — next year. But to a person struggling along on low wages in these inflationary times immediate financial needs are dominant and next year can be far away.

But the rock on which this program really founders is that of day-care. The plan is supposed to be directed mainly towards sole-support mothers, who of course need day-care facilities for their children. Not only is this service costly, it is in very short supply. A recent Metro report on this situation stated that only about 15,000 spaces were available to serve 118,000 children in need of care.

As an example of how scarce day-care facilities are, take the situation in and around Ward Seven. There are very few establishments within the ward limits — the Children's Circle at Danforth and Hampden with 35 spaces, Woodgreen at Queen and Logan with 86, and Central Neighborhood House on Ontario Street with 34 for a total of 155 spaces. The largest of these, Woodgreen, is on a direct street car route from East Toronto to downtown. Many parents from such areas as the Beaches, which is very poorly served with facilities, make use of Woodgreen.

There are other centres nearby, such as the Salvation Army one on Pape with 25 spaces, another at the Duke of York on Pembroke Street with 25. Victoria Day Care on Jarvis has 60 spaces and Ryerson has 44, while there are another 53 at St. Andrew's Church at Bloor and Church. These add up to another 207, or a grand total of 362 spaces for all that area, with its high density of population that contains high percentages of working people and

persons on relief. Day care workers will testify that they have long lists of parents who have applied for their service and are waiting their turn. Women actually make reservations for space when they become pregnant, and even before, when they are planning to do so.

When parents do secure spaces for their children the service can be very expensive. According to information in the daily press, and this is substantiated by what day-care workers tell me, unsubsidized care may be as high as \$224 a month for one ten-year-old child. But I know someone who is paying more than that for an infant less than one year old. Maybe that is because the provincial government cut off all funding for infant care a couple of years ago. In the face of costs like that it is ridiculous to offer a supplement of \$100 to mothers who may be forced to meet all that extra expense involved in taking a job.

Of course subsidized day-care is much cheaper than the figure quoted above — if you can find any. The reason that it is so scarce is that the Ontario government has

been cutting back on funds for this vital service since 1974. Some parents are fortunate enough to find neighbours or relatives who will care for their children when they are at work, and I am told that this can cost as little as \$30 a week. No doubt much of this care is quite good, but conversely a lot of it will be of poor quality. In this case it would be a bargain in the short term, but a bad one in the long term.

Now why would Queens Park go to the trouble of drawing up such a plan of assistance to sole-support mothers, knowing very well that the lack of day-care facilities — for which Queens Park is responsible — cripples the program from the very beginning? Could they be that dense? I don't believe it. It is difficult to escape the suspicion that this move is a cynical one to win favour with better-off sections of the population that are not aware of the facts of this situation and are interested mainly in cutting the costs of public assistance. To parents on welfare it is a cruel kind of joke, but I don't think it is funny.

Library drop-in re-opens

The Parliament Street Library House drop-in centre is re-opening on October 15.

Hours are from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday.

The centre will be located on the second floor of the library house.

The centre had been closed down when the library shut down for renovations, and the library had not planned to re-open it.

Concerted pressure from citizen groups and agencies, especially the Downtown Interaction Group, got the library to change its mind.

Funding for the centre comes from a grant from the City of Toronto, and is scheduled at present to last until April 18, 1980.

Did You Know?

You shouldn't fill the electric kettle when it is plugged in. If there happens to be an electrical fault in the kettle and you are touching a metal faucet you will be grounded and may receive a shock.

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Lay—Away—Plan

Developer moves into non-profit housing

Profits: now you see them, now you don't

A private developer seems to be moving quickly into the non-profit housing field.

The developer — Del Zotto Enterprises — is working through a separate organization — The Cimpello Charitable Foundation — and is seeking funding from the federal government's Central Mortgage and Housing Company (CMHC) to develop non-profit housing.

The Cimpello Foundation was set up with the co-operation of members of the Ontario Credit Union League and Del Zotto. The non-profit housing to be built by the foundation would be built on Del Zotto owned land, by a Del Zotto property management firm (Del Realty).

Critics of the scheme charge that the "organization (Cimpello) appears to have been set up to allow a private developer to make a profit out of the non-profit housing program."

The particular developer, Del Zotto, has been embroiled in controversy a number of times. Five years ago Del Zotto Enterprises was mentioned during the Royal Commission on Certain Sections of the Building Industry. They have also recently been linked to anti-union activity.

A private developer would not be

eligible for the kind of government assistance to non-profits that Cimpello is seeking. However, because Cimpello is separately incorporated as a non-profit foundation, it is eligible.

Critics of Cimpello (who include various non-profit and co-op housing groups) are also angry at the involvement of the Ontario Credit Union League. In this setup, non-profit organizations of various kinds, and co-operative, deposit their funds with credit unions rather than banks because they see credit unions playing a more positive social role.

Opponents of Cimpello's involvement point out that Cimpello's proposed projects leave no room for tenant management, something that has been seen as a goal by activists in the housing field.

In fact, one of the projects which Cimpello is most actively pursuing is in the Grange area, where it is directly competing with the residents, who are trying to set up a housing co-operative (Grange Area Co-operative Homes Incorporated).

However, credit union officials defend their involvement. Paul Meehan, a loans officer for the Ontario Credit Union League, and a member of the six-member Cimpello board of directors, says that

"I welcome Del Realty's proven expertise in property management."

The Ontario Credit Union League does not look very

favourably on co-ops as a matter of policy. As they explain in a position paper submitted to the Co-op Housing Federation of Canada,



Prizes in the Carl Orbach Cabbagetown Festival art competition have been announced. This year's winning works are now on display in the St. Lawrence exhibit area at Old City Hall. First prize was won by Lorraine Dell; second by Jana Watanabe, third by Paul Till. Above, left to right are Jane Watanabe, Mary Bender (chairman of the contest), Lorraine Dell, Carl Orbach, and Paul Till.

their prime goal is supporting individual home ownership. Co-ops are not a priority, although the League says it supports them if someone capable is in command. However, says Meehan, "there are just not enough trained property managers in the co-op housing field." The League also sees them as less desirable because residents do not acquire personal equity in the property.

Non-profit housing supporters now fear that the involvement of large private developers in the field will result in the much smaller co-operative groups being squeezed out in the competition for funds, with the result that new tenant-managed projects will be harder and harder to build. Says one co-op activist, "They'll elbow us away from the trough faster than you can blink."

Quote of the week

"No doubt alcohol, tobacco and so forth are things that a saint must avoid, but sainthood is also a thing that human beings must avoid."

—George Orwell



The Common Cold

Watch those handshakes

By HOWARD HUGGETT

Now that the fall weather is here, with winter to come, the season for the common cold is upon us. Any time now the flood of commercials will start, telling us about the "one sure cure" for this familiar scourge. Advertisers have claimed preventive and curative virtues for vitamins, alkalizers, lemon drinks, antihistamines, decongestants, time-released capsules, antibiotics, antiseptic gargles, bioflavonoids, nose drops and sprays, quinine pills, aspirin mixtures, laxatives, inhalers, aromatic salves, liniments, room air sprays, and a variety of other products. There is also, of course, that medicine that is sold only at the liquor store. It is never advertised as a cure for colds, but many people swear by it just the same.

There is no cure for the common cold; it hasn't been discovered yet. That doesn't prevent sufferers from spending large sums of money on various medicines. The Consumers Union estimates that American shell out \$735 millions a year for cold and cough remedies. Since our population in Canada is about one-tenth that of the U.S., we can assume that Canadians spend about \$75 million a year in the same way.

So, since there is no real cure for this affliction it is wise to avoid catching it in the first place. The advice that most people would give is to stay dry, especially around the feet, dress warmly, and avoid drafts. However, colds are not caused by sudden chills or wet feet. That was proven many years ago by having human guinea pigs sit around in cold rooms in wet clothing. Colds result from infection from various viruses, about 100 in number. They are passed from person to person of course, and that is why coughs and colds are more prevalent in the colder weather when we all spend more time indoors in crowded areas.

Obviously, one of the best ways to avoid infection is

to stay out of stores, buses, subways, churches, discos and all other public places. This is rather difficult to do. However, there is one precaution that is not too awkward to take. Recent evidence has shown that a great deal of infection is spread from person to person via the hands, more so than through kissing. So, when you encounter a friend or are introduced to someone of the opposite sex, don't take chances on infection through shaking hands; there is a better way.

However, once you have caught a cold, what should you take for it? According to Consumers Union the best medicine is plain old aspirin, which is known to be good for aches and pains, which so often accompany colds. Aspirin won't cure your cold, but neither will Dristan, Coricidin, Coricidin D or Alka-Seltzer Plus Cold Tablets, all of which contain about the same dosage of aspirin as you get in an ordinary 5-grain tablet of A.S.A. All of these other products contain other substances, such as antacids, antihistamines and caffeine. For instance, Dristan contains about as much caffeine per tablet as an ounce of brewed coffee. It sells for about twenty times the price of plain aspirin, and so does Coricidin. The best way to take caffeine, surely, is in a mugful of piping hot liquid.

As for antihistamines, there is no proof of their value in treatment of the common cold. Besides, they often produce unwelcome side effects, such as drowsiness, headaches and dizziness. And then there are the decongestants, such as Sinutab. Cold sufferers should be careful about taking these, because decongestants may increase blood pressure, cause side effects in patients with thyroid disease, or alter the effect of insulin therapy in diabetics.

No, if you are going to take anything for the common cold it is better to stay with something simple and inexpensive, like aspirin. And watch those handshakes!

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New buildings south of Carlton

It's hard to keep track of all the new developments in the South of Carlton area, so here is a brief guide to some of the more obvious ones:

Corner of Dundas and Sherbourne Streets: on the south-west corner: several new fast food stores, 1 storey high with 7 parking spaces provided.

On the north-east corner: Metro Senior Citizens' building, 7 storeys high with one or two stores on the main floor. The site includes the two older houses next door (to the north) which are being renovated as part of the project. Altogether there will be 167 units and the building will be ready for occupancy in 1980.

390 George Street (through to Jarvis Street): three new townhouses; 27 facing onto an inner courtyard with a walkway through to Jarvis Street and six facing onto George Street.

At 214—222 Berkeley Street: 13 new townhouses, six facing onto Berkeley and seven facing onto Milan Street.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Flamingo Cabaret tops in comedy

By SETH BORTS

After seeing every other comedy club in town, I'd have to say that Flamingo Cabaret is definitely the best for its regular performers, week in and week out.

Oh sure, Yuk Yuk's has its name acts like Larry Horowitz and Paul Delstud. But they don't play there

all the time. Flamingo does its stuff for a sometimes subtle, oft times surprisingly receptive audience.

The people at Flamingo give their audiences strong, solid sets of comedy. In return the audience is a strong and happy one. Liquor is served, and the atmosphere is still friendly.

Jarvis looks to its past

By Charles Nash

Minerva's Diary, a History of Jarvis Collegiate Institute, is being published to commemorate the 175th anniversary of Toronto's oldest high school. From its founding on June 1, 1807 as the Home District Grammar School, "Old Blue" has been the scene of struggle and achievement, tragedy and elation.

The text describes the academic, athletic and social aspects of the Collegiate's history as it survived three years as a trash depot and twenty-five more as an object of theft. The latter episode climaxed when the University of Toronto almost succeeded in selling it at auction.

The *Diary* gives an account of the 'Lit', the Cadet Corps, the 'Games', the operettas and promenades from their inception to the present. Other sources of

nostalgia include students' shenanigans, teachers' eccentricities, a principal's attempt to rid the school of all women teachers, and the valiant effort to separate the sexes by means of double doors and lofty fences.

More than 150 black and white illustrations are used to complement the text. The oldest photograph is dated 1871. Some alumni may recognize grandmothers in the 1888 photo of the Girl's Literary Society; others may find themselves in the 1922 panorama of the entire student body.

Minerva's Diary will rekindle memories in Jarvisites of all ages and is available until October 31 at a price of \$15.00 after which the price will be \$20.00. Inquiries should be forwarded to Mr. Harvey Medland, Jarvis Collegiate Institute, 495 Jarvis Street, Toronto, Ontario, M4Y 2G8.

A lot of the credit for this goes to producer Roy Gaysek. Gaysek shoots from the hip with material largely written by himself.

It's a bit disappointing to see the likes of former cast members Dick Green and Paul Shato move along their surreal comedic ways.

However, the material stands up, and is constantly being refreshed and revitalized by the current cast members.

It's a roving show that parodies and reviews that strange element of reality that we know as everyday life. Picture Glenda Fordham as a

tour guide in the King Tut exhibit: "This is your basic, dead, Egyptian boy-god king..."

Or cry-baby Jim Downing as the DC 10 mechanic, whose plane lost an engine, "What about the other two that stayed on! No one comes down and says great job, Jim, you had two engines stay on!"

There's also Lorenzo (nee Larry Byrne) who is an incredible mime artist. Hopefully he won't follow in Shatto's and Green's footsteps and leave.

And then there are the visiting stand-up comedians. The other day,

I was one of them. I was poised and ready. I had on a flack suit underneath my vest. Riot troops were ready. I swallowed my pride — and my dignity, it seems. And, suddenly, I was on.

What were the last words of the late John Diefenbaker? "Our contribution to the international year of the child, was to elect Joe Clark..."

They laughed! Like I said, these are nice people. Whew!

Yuk Yuk's is still number one for name acts. But Flamingo has the best regular comedy troupe in the city.

Regent Park

Nine thousand human guinea pigs are crowded into a few city blocks providing a never ending source of research for sociologists.

Huge apartment blobs sprout out of the endless concrete where young men desperately try to breathe life into dead cars.

Mothers serving a life sentence put up with their 'worker' who snoops for evidence of a man closeted in her cubicle.

Later in the afternoon social workers stampede back to the security of their offices to file a few lives in the bottom drawer.

Tom Clement

Whatever Happened to Fay Ray?

While a group of Young Progressive Conservatives chanted, "Kong, Kong" Joe Clark scaled the side of the Peace Tower with a Raggedy Ann Doll between his teeth.

Tom Clement

Tenderloin Express

No one knows how many, reached the end of the line on the track, where the ladies of many nights leave their office at Dirty Louie's, to climb into cars with license plates from far away places like Scarberia.

Meanwhile male prostitutes with competitive rates wiggle their bums with tattoos reading, "This side up."

Tom Clement



First Session of Parliament

Former conservative, former cabinet minister, former cowboy former a lot of things, Jack Horner attempted to cross the floor to return to the conservatives.

The speaker of the House prevented the walk pointing out Horner had already been kicked out of Parliament by the voters.

Tom Clement

Church Gloucester Triangle

There are two million stories in the Church Gloucester Triangle, any resemblance these characters have to anyone living or dead is purely intentional:

Visions of climbing another rung on the community ladder dance in his head as he sifts thru his personal mound of newsletters, reports and almost briefs.

The uncrowned closet king of the community checks his dog-eared datebook, making certain which meeting he is attending.

Finally he spews out a series of unrelated motherhood catch phrases while people nod their heads in disbelief realizing they are supporting actors in a never ending summer re-run.

Tom Clement

Found Poem

Jesus is the sun of God The light of the world plug in!

(Scrawled on a wall outside the Eaton's Centre, Toronto, May, 1979. Amen) Tom Clement

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7 News needs news

Is there anything new on your block or in your neighbourhood? Do you have an opinion about something that is happening (or isn't happening) in this area? Have you taken some interesting pictures of last week's street dance, or of your school's

graduation, or of some other event which you think readers of 7 News might be interested in? Then please give us a call at 7 News at 363-9650. We are always interested in printing your opinions or your photos (they will be returned undamaged).

And we really rely on our readers to let us know what is happening in the way of news. (You could write up a short account yourself, or one of our writers could do it by following up your tip.) Let us know...

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Saturday October 6

There will be: **Magic Films** at the Pape/Danforth Library — 701 Pape Avenue, 465-1221, at 2:30 today.

There will be a **march** for women's right to choose, supporting safe legal abortion, no forced sterilization, and "every child a wanted child". Today at 11 a.m. at Queen's Park. Followed by a march to the Royal York, site of the international "Right to Life" conference.

Sunday October 7

The **Saint Lukes Forum** has arranged for Anne Cools as speaker for today. In Allan Gardens, Sherbourne and Carlton, at 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday October 9

There will be a workshop on **Immigration: Children's Experiences**. A slide/tape presentation developed by the Riverdale Intercultural Council. The presentation focuses on the history of Canadian immigration from the point of view of immigrant children. Each program will be held at the Cross Cultural Communication Centre, 1991 Dufferin St., beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Opening October 9th and playing to November 3rd, **Solar Stage Lunchtime Theatre** presents the second show of our new season: **Pinter's Revue Sketches**. Location: 149 Yonge Street (below Richmond).

Wednesday October 10

There will be a **Rummage Sale** today at WoodGreen United Church, 875 Queen St. East (at Logan Avenue). Good kitchen utensils, linens, bedding, chinaware, clothes, shoes etc. Sale starts 10:00 a.m. till 2 p.m.

The South of Carlton Community Association is holding its monthly **meeting** at 7:30 at Central Neighbourhood House. All South of Carlton residents welcome.

Thursday October 11

"**The Grapes of Wrath**", a 1940 movie, will be showing at the Parliament St. Library at 7 p.m.

There will be a Fall Meeting of the **Friends of Naturopathy** today, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Location: 252 Bloor Street, West Room N204 (at St. George subway). Speaker: Dr. G.A. Hershoff, D.C., N.D. Topic: Natural & Biological Healing.

Saturday October 13

There will be a **magic show** with Glen Ottaway at Pape/Danforth Library, 701 Pape Avenue, at 2:30 p.m.

Fun for the whole family and it is **FREE**. At the St. Lawrence Centre, 27 Front St. E. from 9:30 till noon. Presented by the Forum, Toronto Arts Productions, in co-operation

with Kidsrap Volunteers.

There will be a **benefit party** to celebrate 50 Years of Women Legally Becoming Persons. Entertainment by Nancy White and Marie-Lynn Hammond. Dance starting at 9:00. Food and cash bar. Also admission charge. Sponsored by Women's Press. Call Margie at 925-3137 for further information. Today at 6:30 p.m., St. Paul's Centre, 121 Avenue Road.

Sunday October 14

There will be a **mass demonstration to oppose increasing racism and police violence**, organized by Action Committee Against Racism and sponsored by various Sikh organizations and anti-racist groups. Call 463-3132 or 677-5732 for further information. Today at City Hall at 2:00 p.m.

The speaker at today's **St. Luke's Forum** will be Rev. David McKane, Hope United Church. In Allen Gardens at 2:30 p.m. All welcome.

Monday October 15

There will be a meeting today at 7:30 p.m. 765 Queen St. E. (at Saulter St.) of the South Riverdale Neighbourhood Improvement Program.

Tuesday October 16

The **film premiere** of First Lady of Manawaka, a film about author Margaret Laurence, is today at 8 p.m. at the St. Lawrence Centre, 27 Front Street E. Free admission. Limited seating of 500.

Thursday October 18

There will be an **Al-Anon Meeting** today at 8 p.m. If someone in your family has a drinking problem, you can see what it's doing to them. But can you see what it's doing to you? Come and see, Timothy Eaton Memorial Church, St. Clair Ave. W. at Dunvegan Rd. Flora McCrea Eaton Auditorium Entrance on Dunvegan Rd. For further information contact Al-Anon, 366-4072.

Saturday October 20

An all-day seminar on **interracial marriage** and its ramifications will be held at Ryerson (L72) on Saturday, October 20. The program will include speakers, workshops, and open-floor participation. Topics include "The Inter-Racial Factor and the Offspring", "Inter-Personal Relationships", "Social Impact of Intermarriage", and "The Future of the Japanese Canadian Subculture". Anyone interested in this subject is most welcome to attend and share their experiences. Advance registration (\$3) and 'bento' (Japanese box lunch) for \$3, is available until October 12. Registration after that date is \$5. Contact: Gordon Mizuyabu, 463-7441.

General

Toronto Arts Productions presents Centaur Theatre Company's production of **Balconville** by David Fennario. Directed by Guy Sprung. October 2-29. Box office 366-7723, St. Lawrence Centre, 27 Front Street East. Opening October 3, at 7:30 p.m. The play runs Monday-Saturday evenings at 8:00 p.m., Saturday matinees at 2:00 p.m. Until Monday October 29, with a special student matinee on Wednesday, October 10 AT 1:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$4.00-\$10.00 and are available through the box office of the St. Lawrence Centre, 27 Front Street East, phone 366-7723.

Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach Street, is having a **Monte Carlo Night** October 27, 1979, 7:00 p.m. — 1:00 a.m. Advance Tickets: \$5.00 (includes entrance & full Buffet Dinner. Held at Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach Street (863-0499). Sponsored by The Canadian Progress Club. A special occasion permit has been issued by LLBO.

Dixon Hall's **Home Help for Seniors**. Available to any senior living in the area bounded by Gerrard St. E. to the Lake — Sherbourne St. to River St. Services provided include light housekeeping and laundry \$1.00 per hour. Transportation to medical appointments and weekly van shopping \$1.00 each way . . . and more. Please call Elizabeth Fossella 863-0499.

The 7th season Performance Series opened on October 3, with **Hasid**, Richard Nieoczym's one-man show about a victim of the Nazi Holocaust. Based on the searing poetry of David Rosenfeld, 95 Danforth Avenue. **The Pact**, a repertory creation starring Kenneth Puley and Richard Nieoczym, opens October 17. A Mephistophelian dream of a soulless man's pursuit of the highest knowledge.

Coming soon for kids, at the Parliament St. Library, 269 Gerrard Street E., 924-7122. **Stories, Songs and Games for Children**, 3-5 years old, 10 weekly sessions. Every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Please register in advance at desk or phone 921-7122.

Women: Get fit exercises and discussion Mondays, Thursdays 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., tel. 863-0499, Dixon Hall, 58 Sumach Street.

The Pape/Danforth Library (701 Pape Ave., 465-1221) has **activities for boys and girls** every Saturday at 2:30 p.m.

The **Riverdale Library** is undergoing renovations and will be closed for several months. While work is in progress, the library will be in a storefront, at 364 Broadview.

The **Parliament Street Library** (269 Gerrard E., 924-7122) has activities for kids every Saturday at 2 p.m.

St. Peter's Church, 190 Carlton St., is presenting **Saturday Night movies** on the first and third Saturday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free. Refreshments available.

Information on services and programs for children and parents of Downtown East Tor-

onto in celebration of International Year of the Child is being provided by Neighbourhood Information Post. Information may be obtained by telephoning the N.I.P. office, or by dropping in to receive information and printed material. N.I.P. is located in the Library House, 265 Gerrard St. E.

The St. Jamestown Y has a **meals program** Wednesdays at 5:00 p.m. in the 200 Wellesley recreation room and Fridays in the 325 Bleecker Recreation room. The cost is \$1.25 per person. If you are interested, phone the Y office at 924-4403.

Community Calendar is a free community service. If you have an upcoming event which you would like listed in the October 19 issue (any event from October 19 to November 3 should go in this issue) send your announcement to 7 News, 315 Dundas St. East, Toronto M5A 2A2, or call 363-9650.

The action's at Dixon Hall

Dixon Hall will be offering classes for kids and adults starting the first week of October.

To register for the following, please call Janice or Ross at 863-0499.

We will be holding a 6 week beginners **Ceramics** course where students will be introduced to cleaning and glazing pre-cast ceramic forms. Such techniques as applying decals, sgrafitto and marblizing will be taught. The course starts Thursday Oct. 18, either in the afternoon or evening. Fee of \$30.00 includes everything.

A **Dance** class is being offered for children between the ages of 7-15 years. There will be ballet for children from 7-10 years, and for those 11-14 years; both ballet and folk dancing. Classes start after school on Monday October 15, at 4:00 p.m. The fee will be \$10.00 for 10 weeks. Both classes will be taught by Mrs. Eleonra, a professional dancer from Argentina, who has had 15 years experience in teaching. She presently teaches in schools throughout the city for the Inner City Angels.

Music school is starting up again this month here at Dixon Hall. Anyone interested in lessons (anything from trombone to guitar!) should come fill out a registration form. Cost is \$1.00 per lesson. We are looking for volunteer teachers, especially guitar, piano, and string instruments.

There are various sports programmes, friendship groups, tutoring programmes etc. Also being run at Dixon this season. For more information on any of these programmes just call us:

We are always looking for **Volunteers** especially this time of the year. When new programmes are starting up. If you'd like to volunteer to be a tutor to a child, or help out in one of our programmes we could really use you.

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Thursday, October 18, 7:30 pm

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Ex-patient knocks mental health 'care' system

ON OUR OWN: Patient-Controlled Alternatives to the Mental Health System by Judi Chamberlin
Hawthorn Books Inc., 1978, 236pp., \$12. McGraw-Hill Ryerson (paper), 1979, \$4.95.

Reviewed by DON WEITZ

On Our Own is Judi Chamberlin's first book; I trust it won't be her last. It's a natural outgrowth of her personal experiences as a "mental patient", ex-"mental patient" and fighter for human rights for "mental patients". (Psychiatric inmate is a more accurate and consciousness-raising term used by many in the Mental Patient's Liberation Movement.) With force and honesty, Judi recounts many painful and dehumanizing experiences she suffered while incarcerated in four mental hospitals within one year, including being heavily drugged and locked in solitary. Her gradual awakening and liberation through participation in patient-controlled alternatives like the Vancouver Emotional Emergency Centre (no longer exists), the Mental Patients' Association and the Mental Patients' Liberation Front in Boston make more uplifting reading.

Like psychiatric critic Thomas Szasz, Chamberlin deftly exposes many major myths, stereotypes and biases about "mental illness", "mental patients" and "mental hospitals". The medical model, which still dominated psychiatric and mental health ideology, takes a beating, and rightly so. The real issue is psychiatric power or "psychiatric imperialism". Chamberlin succinctly states, "Power, not illness or treatment, is what the system is all about." Thousands of sane and non-violent people have been labeled, stigmatized, committed and permanently damaged by psychiatric "treatment" — for their "own benefit". Judi also defines "mentalism" as the "unreasonable fear of mental patients";

this also includes stigmatizing unconventional or strange behavior as "sick".

However, unlike Szasz and other anti-institutional writers, Chamberlin wisely focusses upon both false and real alternatives to mental hospitals. She criticizes phony alternatives such as the "partnership" model and community mental health centres. The "partnership" exists in the name only. In both, the client-patients are perceived and treated as "mentally ill"; helper and helpee roles are rigidly defined; psychiatrists, other mental health professional or para-professionals remain the only legitimate providers and controllers of service; the recipients are as powerless as they were in hospital. Two examples are halfway houses and boarding homes, which are typically paternalistic, like mini psychiatric wards in the community.

Chamberlin also issues a timely warning about community mental health centres, which have spread like an epidemic throughout the United States; they're about to be established in Canada. She writes:

"Community mental health centres are not replacing the state hospital system; they are growing parallel bureaucracy. Community mental health centres need state hospitals as weapon with which to threaten their 'difficult' patients."

In short, psychiatric power is moving out of the institution and into the community. The outer trappings have changed, but the power underneath remains.

The "supportive" and "separatist" models are more humane and democratic and come closest to being real alternatives. In the "supportive" model, patients and non-patients are treated as equals; professionals are excluded from meetings and decision-making roles but serve as useful back-up resources to the group.



The "separatist" alternative is the most democratic but also the most difficult to achieve. This is the type of group in which ex-patients have total control and decision-making power. The political structure is usually horizontal and all positions elective, all activities and services exist to serve only members, and all professionals are excluded from meetings and membership. Chamberlin and many other liberated ex-patients clearly prefer this alternative, mainly because professionals have little or no opportunity to co-opt or take over the group (which they invariably do in "patient governments" or "community councils" on psychiatric wards).

Judi spent one or two years with MPA in Vancouver. MPA was the first group of its kind in North America. This self-help group is now eight years old and boasts a

membership of approximately four hundred, including a number of non-patients who are working as volunteers or paid co-ordinators.

The chapter "Inside the Mental Patients' Association" is probably the book's most down-to-earth section and features vivid descriptions of daily life in MPA by some members. Judi recalls how MPA started back in 1971 with only two or three ex-patients. MPA has come a long way since those days. It now runs a 16 hour-a-day drop-in, owns five resident-controlled houses, runs a drop-in in Riverview Hospital (the only public mental hospital in Vancouver), and as of 1976 had an annual budget of \$200,000. MPA can take pride in saving B.C. taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars in health and welfare costs each year. It's also helped to give hundreds of ex-patients back the dignity, self-respect and sense of competence which were severely threatened or damaged in hospital. A study done in 1974, for example, showed that only ten percent of MPA's 115 residents had to be readmitted within a ten-month period. Compare that figure with the perennially high readmission rate of sixty to sixty-five per cent in most mental hospitals in B.C. and other provinces. A clear indication of MPA's effectiveness.

On Our Own should help patients and ex-patients in their continuing struggles to liberate themselves

from the dehumanizing psychiatric-institutional treatment and mentalistic thinking which pervade the mental health establishment. It should also help many patients and ex-patients rediscover their dignity, competence and power. This book should be required reading for all mental health professionals — especially psychiatrists — who still believe that "mental patients" are too "sick", helpless and incompetent to run their own lives. **On Our Own** qualifies as a Certificate of Supreme Competence, and a ringing Declaration of Independence.

Grants for seniors

Two seniors groups drawing many of their members from the Ward 7 area have received federal New Horizons grants.

The Filipino Senior Citizens Club has been given \$18,242 to furnish and equip a new drop-in centre and to organize recreational activities to include music, film showings, a choir and instrumental ensemble, arts and crafts, cooking, leadership courses and several indoor games including billiards.

Macedonian Canadian Senior Citizens are getting \$14,934 to start an educational program, advocacy, games, social events, run a library, and complete the research and production of a book on Macedonians in Canada.

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RELIABLE BABY SITTERS NEEDED. Phone Neighbourhood Information Post, 924-2544 or drop in, 265 Gerrard St. East.

PART-TIME caretaker for church, own hours. Call 962-4518, 4-6 pm.

SINGERS, especially alto and soprano, are required for St. Peter's Church Choir. Ability to read music not essential but would certainly be an asset. Rehearsals on Thursday evenings from 7:00-9:00 p.m. One morning service at 11:00 a.m. For more information please call 534-0024 or 534-2107.

VOLUNTEER TUTORS needed for tutoring students from Park School either Tuesdays or Thursdays 7 to 9 pm. No experience necessary. Phone Carol 698-5824.

VOLUNTEER TUTORS needed. No experience necessary. If you can read and write, you can teach a neighbour to read and write. Free training sessions will be held in this area soon. For more information call 363-1689.

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My ad should read as follows:

Education Round-Up

By JOANN HUTCHISON

It's only a month into the school year, but already things are happening on the education front. The Park Community Education Council has held its first meeting; Project Achievement has begun its tutoring program at its new location; T.E.C.C. (Toronto East Community Council) recently held a forum informing parents about the Board of Education's Psychological Services and Social Work Services; a parent-initiated Homework Program is starting at the Parliament St. Library; and on October 23rd, a march against cutbacks in children's services is planned for Queen's Park. That's a fairly impressive line-up for one month after the summer vacation.

Rhoda Hill, a parent at Park School, phoned me last week and asked me to use this space to remind all parents who have children at Park School that they are welcome to attend the meetings of the Park Community Education Council. The Council was formed last June "to bring about a better form of education for inner city schools", Rhoda said. "All parents who take an interest in their children's education should come to ask questions and discuss how they think programs could be better done to help their children." Although the council's voting members have already been named (5 parents, 5 members of the com-

munity-at-large, 5 teachers, and 1 school administrator), Rhoda would like as many parents as possible to attend the meetings and express their concerns. This is not just another group of people getting together to talk. All members of the council want action as soon as possible. For more information about what the Council hopes to do, and how you can get involved, call Rhoda at 368-2443. Even if you can't attend the meetings, why not phone Rhoda and express your concerns? The meetings are held every 3rd Thursday in the Park School staff room from 7:30 p.m.

Project Achievement, the 1-to-1 tutorial program set up last year to provide remedial help for selected students from Park School, began October 2nd at its new location in the basement of Park School. The program runs every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. There is always a need for new tutors. If you can volunteer some time to help a student in grades 3 to 8, contact Carole at 698-5824.

Project co-ordinator Carole Craig, will be leaving the program in the near future to take up her job as a full-time mother. Although Carole will be greatly missed by tutors and children alike, she deserves credit for giving Project Achievement a very successful first year of operation. Carole has agreed to join the committee of

community members which backs Project Achievement, however, and her continuing involvement with the program in that direction will certainly be valued.

The first T.E.C.C. meeting of the year began with a lively discussion of the social work and psychological services available to students in our schools. The forum provided the parents and teachers in attendance with some useful information on current trends, and provoked a great number of questions. Although the discussion had to be cut short due to time constraints, Merylie Houston, co-chairman of T.E.C.C., suggested that it might be useful for local PTA's or school councils to invite the school's social worker and psycho-educational consultant to a local meeting to continue the discussion.

Some points of interest that emerged from the discussion:

- Psychological services is encouraging part-time special education placement for children experiencing difficulty in school. Such placement would enable a child to function in the regular classroom environment as much as possible, and thereby prevent labelling of a negative sort.

- Psychological services is taking a preventive approach, rather than a remedial one, trying to catch potential difficulties as soon as possible. The classroom teacher

may be able to help a child in the regular program if she is aware of the difficulty early enough in the child's school career.

- Parents would like to see psychological services' reports that a layman can understand. Current jargon tends to be confusing.

- Truancy from school tends to be worst in grades 7, 8, and 9, with the highest percentage of truants in grade 9. It was suggested that parents find out what the school's policy is on reporting absences. How long could your child be away before you were informed?

- A pilot "night attendance" program is being tried at a few schools this year. If it proves successful, it may be expanded. A night secretary is given a list of that day's absentees and phones home to inquire when the child will be returning to school. In this way, if a child is truant, working parents who cannot be reached during school hours will be informed. The phone calls are meant to provide for better communication.

For information on how to contact your school's social worker or psych-ed consultant, call your school directly, or phone 363-9462 (East District, Regent Park School, Social Work Services) or Dr. Marg Perkins (East District, Psychological Services) at 364-5822.

The next T.E.C.C. meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 24th, at Kew Beach Public School, at 7:30 p.m. All interested parents and teachers are welcome to attend.

Beginning Wednesday, October 10th, and continuing every Monday and Wednesday evening thereafter, at the Parliament St. Library, volunteers will be on hand to help students with their homework.

The Homework Program was initiated by a group of parents in the area who were concerned that many students did not have a quiet place to study. Students can receive help with homework, and research projects, or they can just come to work quietly on their own. Volunteers will be available from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, beginning October 10th.

The program is initially aimed at students in grades 6, 7, and 8 at Sprucecourt, Lord Dufferin, and Park Schools, and parents will be visiting those schools to explain the program in more detail. The organizers do not intend to turn any children away, however, so even if you are not in those grades at those schools feel free to attend. Parents are also welcome, if they wish to accompany their children.

For more information on the program, phone: Paula Gibson (Lord Dufferin) 862-1058; Rhoda Hill (Park) 368-2443; or Sharon Vernon (Sprucecourt) 922-4877.

A rally to protest government cutbacks of children's services is being organized for October 23rd. The organizers plan to march on Queen's Park at 7:00 p.m. to present their demands to the Ontario government. There is a wide variety of supporters for this march including: Metro Social Planning Council; Ontario Federation of Labour; the teachers' federations; Ontario Public Service Employees Union; Ontario Federation of Students; Canadian Union of Public Employees; Action Daycare; and more.

Those of you who marched on the Board of Education last spring to protest any further cutbacks of programs for your children know that you succeeded with this Board. Across Metro, however, similar parent protests failed. The organizers are asking you to come out again to support this march. As you proved last spring, numbers count. So mark October 23rd on your calendar, and watch this space next issue for details on where to meet for the rally.

A few years ago, this paper featured a regular section on children's work, primarily creative writing. We would like to start up such a feature again, but we need the input of the young authors. If you have a child in your family or classroom who enjoys writing, and who would like to see his/her story in print, why not send us the material? We can't promise to publish everything, but we'll try.

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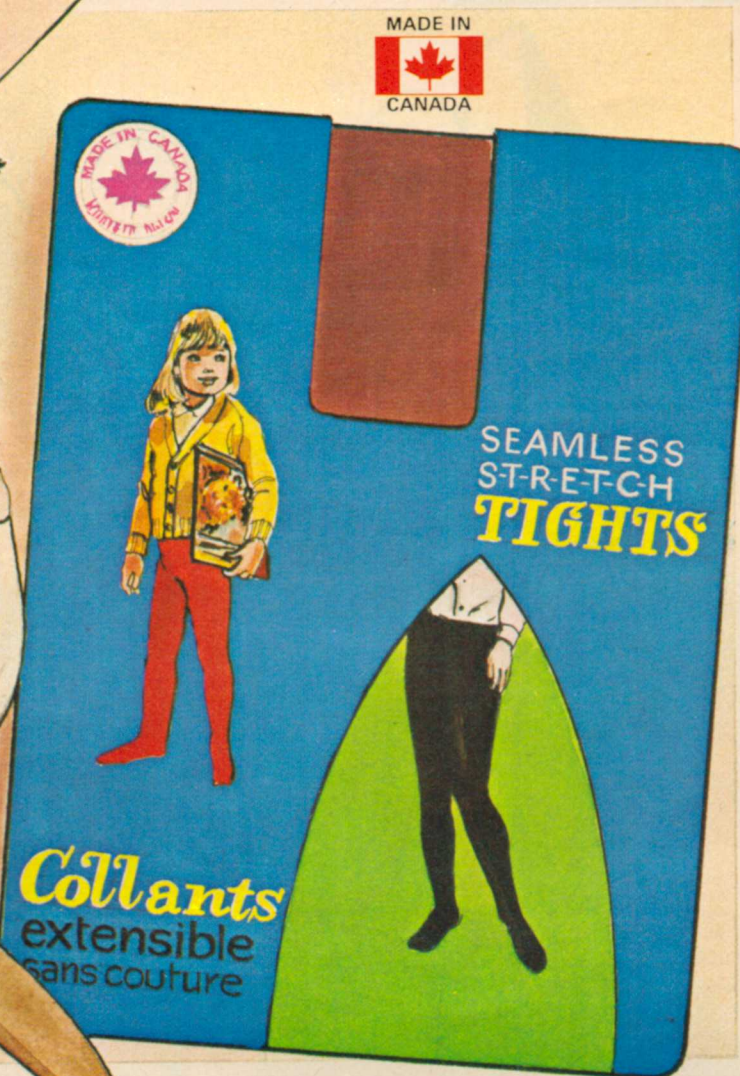
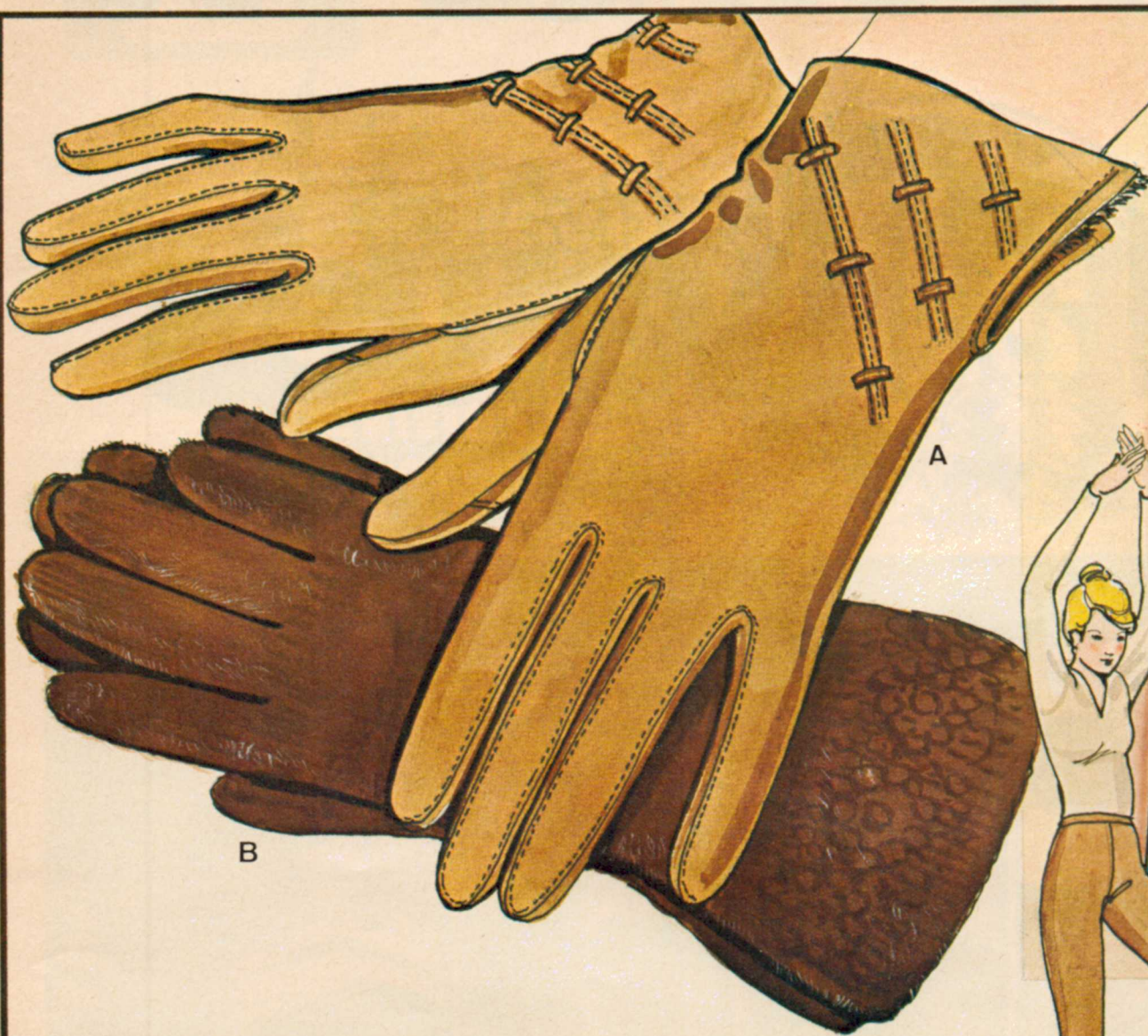
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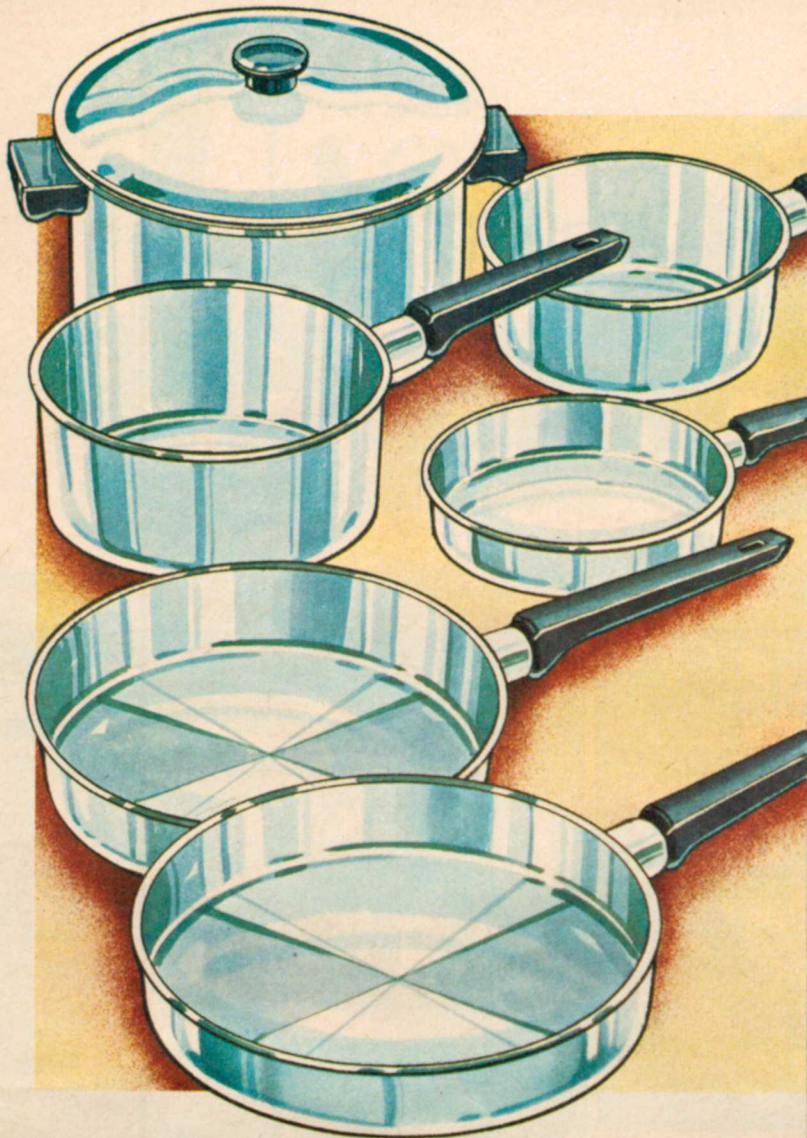
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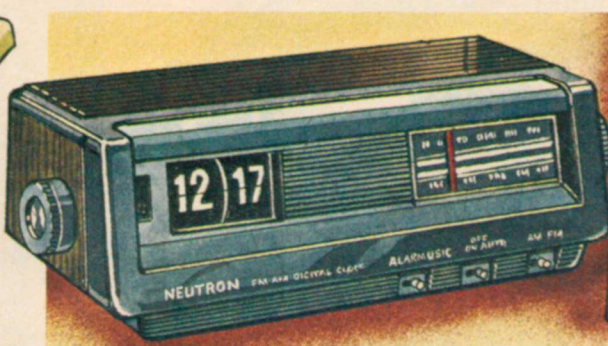
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