



Helen Porter, Randi Helmers and Barb James.

Presentation of "Loving Women" more than an emotional experience

By MARIE LABRON

On Valentine's Day I played audience to a unique drama production. I went because it was a benefit for the new home for teenage mothers Jessie's on Bathurst Street, but by the end of the evening I was happy not only to have supported Jessie's but also the very talented women who entertained and informed me and gave me and the other two

hundred people attending the performance a very memorable Valentine's Day.

The performance was entitled "Loving Women" and presented by the Women's Drama Collective, a new group dedicated to presenting musical and literary works that celebrate women. That is exactly what "Loving Women" is, a celebration of women, a very wonderful celebration.

Randi Helmers, Barb Janes and Helen Porter performed twenty songs, stories and poems which dealt with the many sides of women. Accompanied by Rob Frayne on piano, sax, percussion, guitar, etc., the three-women ensemble mesmerized their audience with the work of such writers as Sylvia Plath, Alice Munro, Bertolt Brecht, Holly Near

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Re-assessment will affect all

By HOWARD HUGGETT

A most important meeting was held this past month between members of Toronto City Council and the Minister of Revenue for Ontario, George Ashe. This gathering occurred as a result of the extensive re-assessment carried out by the province across the city and the widespread indignation that they have caused amongst homeowners. The meeting assembled in the office of the Minister and the media was not allowed to attend. However, they had ample opportunity to interview those who did, and the information that reached the public was so inadequate as to be misleading. Neither the television stations nor the newspapers presented the issues that were discussed at the meeting. Fortunately about a dozen homeowner representatives were allowed in the Minister's

office, and as one of them it is my intention to tell the story. But first, the background to this whole question should be sketched in.

Perhaps the best presentation was made by Alderman Sewell. He pointed out that the province had created a political situation by treating some people differently from others in the same neighbourhood, that these people would be reminded of the injustice each time they paid another installment of their taxes. Sewell referred to the flood of complaints that would occupy the assessment boards for months, to possible appeals to the courts that could drag on for years. He suggested a roll-back in order to leave time for negotiation and correction of the errors that have been made.

In spite of all this, Mr. Ashe ignored the criticism and the arguments. He treated the meeting as if it was just a group of disgruntled tax-payers trying to escape taxes, accompanied by politicians looking for votes. He kept saying "everybody hates to pay taxes" and made the remark that this offered a tempting issue for politicians to take up. Mr. Ashe refused to admit that the re-assessment had been sloppily done, saying only that assessors were human and mistakes did occur. When asked point blank if he thought that the 6,200 odd re-assessments represented most or even half of the renovations that have been carried out in this city over recent

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Homeowners object to haphazard re-assessment

office, and as one of them it is my intention to tell the story. But first, the background to this whole question should be sketched in.

The province has for a number of years been urging municipalities to adopt the practice of using actual market value of properties for the assessment figure. Many of them have already done so, but Toronto has been holding back, largely because the city claims that the change would considerably alter tax burdens as between various classes of properties. Toronto Council has suggested a phase-in period for the program and made other recommendations as well — such as an increased provincial tax grant to assist low income homeowners. Now the province has begun a re-assessment drive that is declared to be aimed at renovated properties. However, it was done so incompetently that many done-over homes were missed, while other houses that had never been renovated were re-assessed, sometimes drastically.

Because of this situation and the feelings it has aroused City Council passed a motion last December, calling upon the province to roll back the whole assessment for this year. This motion was presented to the Minister of Revenue at the meeting of the 29th, which was attended by Mayor Eggleton and

Regent Park now has unity

If you're not aware of it already, the Regent Park Service Unit and the Regent Park Community Improvement Association have amalgamated to form the Regent Park Residents' Association. Over the past two years the two boards have made a concerted effort to work together on most issues and events affecting the residents of the Park. This approach evidenced great success in the two annual conventions in

Geneva Park, the formation of the race relations committee, neighbourhood action committee, daycare committee, legal clinic. This united approach also paved the way to more efficient input into existing committees such as the community centre group, Oak-Street site and supermarket co-op. Along with all the committee work, only some of which has been mentioned, are the ongoing weekly meetings of the board

and the continuing struggle to keep the people of Regent Park informed through leafletting, public meetings and the use of media outlets.

As you can see, the amalgamation of the two boards was an inevitable and positive turn of events. We hope the community will assist the Residents' Association in this growth. Please get involved with the board or one of the committees by calling 863-1768.

OHC delays its decision

By MORRIS SALDOV

OHC has decided to put off its decision on whether to evict parents who are between the ages of 50 and 59 whose children are no longer at home or are considered independent and over 18. OHC's decision was expected by the empty nest evictions policy the chance to do something to save their housing. Every family with children, and especially those with older children or those with terminal illnesses could be evicted. Therefore, no family's parents are safe unless they qualify for housing by having become a senior citizen, (over 60), are disabled, or retarded.

If you are a family or individual of low income, according to Ottawa, you have a right to live in public housing, however, the Province of Ontario is saying regardless of how low your income is you no longer have the right to public housing once your children are gone or don't need you any more. Ontario's policy is a cruel one which is contrary to the reason why public housing was created in the first place — to house low income individuals and families.

A Number of Things

If you want to fight to keep your housing and those of the empty nesters, there are a number of things you can do. First, phone the Metro OHC Tenants Council, (MOTC), at 654-0345. The MOTC is an organization of volunteer OHC tenants from across Metro working with other OHC tenant organizations across the province on trying to change the empty nest evictions policy and generally improve living conditions in public housing. Second, write a letter to your Member of Parliament responsible for OHC, i.e., Margaret Scrivener in St. David's, mainly Regent Park; or Susan Fish in St. George, 200 Wellesley, the Blecker St. buildings, and St. Jamestown; or David Crombie if you're in Rosedale Riding which includes Moss Park and Regent Park as well as the St. Jamestown buildings. Tell them what you think of OHC's empty

nest evictions policy and ask them to put their own opinion on the matter in writing to you. Send me a copy of your correspondence at P. O. Box 54 Station F, Toronto, M4Y 2L4. I'll publish the letters for you so the rest of the people in Ward 7 can see what their politicians' position is on the empty nest policy. If any of them choose not to write back with their opinions I would like to know that too and I'll publish the fact that they

Part 2

Sole support parents want to stay home

Continued from last week

Recently, the Minister of Community and Social Services, Frank Drea, announced proposed changes in the system which are very threatening to sole-support parents on government assistance. The Ministry is setting up pilot projects in several places. These projects are to integrate Family Benefits and General Welfare and have the clients deal with the local welfare offices rather than with the Provincial Family Benefits offices. Three projects are scheduled to start. At the time of this writing, one is underway in Waterloo. The proposed pilots for Peel County and Etobicoke have not started because the municipalities are in debate with the Province over financial implications of the pilot to the municipality. The Ministry is quick to point out that these pilot projects will, in no way, affect those who are now receiving Family Benefits. They will not be changed over to General Welfare. It is just the new applicants who come to the General Welfare office who will be affected. This means that a woman applying in any of the three areas where the pilot projects are in effect, can no longer expect to be transferred to Family Benefits after three months on General Welfare. Instead, the focus of the planned integration is to make available to her the support systems she needs in order for her to go into the labour force. Mr. Drea made a statement to the effect that the use of support systems would be linked to income. We interpret this to mean that if a mother is offered job-readiness training and daycare for her children, she cannot refuse without the risk of being cut off assistance. This information is very threatening to us, as sole-support mothers. There are many other parts of this proposed plan that cause us to fear for our futures and our children's futures.

have no opinion on the matter or that they are not interested enough to reply.

To write to the above politicians in Ward 7, no stamps are required:

Margaret Scrivener M. P. P. St. David, Queen's Park, Toronto
Susan Fish, M. P. P. St. George, Queen's Park, Toronto
David Crombie M. P. Rosedale, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa.

Mr. Drea refers to us as able-bodied recipients who need help to get back into the labour force and off the welfare rolls. What he fails to consider is OUR RIGHT TO STAY AT HOME WITH OUR DEPENDENT CHILDREN. It is true that nowhere is this right clearly stated. However, the implementation of Mother's Allowance and later, Family Benefits, indicates a recognition of that right.

The difficulty of parenting is recognized and addressed constantly in our society, even for the two-parent family. The stress of

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Children's concert a success

By CANDICE PHOENIX

On Saturday January 30th a concert for children, co-sponsored by the Children's Circle Daycare and St. David's N. D. P., was well attended despite bad weather.

Those that braved the outdoors were rewarded with a professional performance. There was something for both kids and adults in Ken Whitely's music and Luba Goy and Kevin Hopper's skits. Kids clapped to the music and danced in the aisles.

Claude La Brecque's were enjoyed by all and rounded out the concert. Those of you who were disappointed that Ken's album, Junior Jug Band, was not available will be glad to hear the Candice Phoenix will arrange the purchase of it for you. Profits from the \$7.00 sale will go to the Children's Circle Daycare and St. David's N. D. P. Please call Candice Tuesday or Thursday evenings at 466-0724 if you would like a copy of the album.



is a newspaper founded in 1970 and published every other Friday by Seven News Incorporated. Address: 315 Dundas Street East (All Saints Church) Toronto M5A 2A2. Phone 363-9650. 7 News is distributed free in its circulation area; mailed subscriptions are \$10.00 per year. Opinions expressed are those of their authors and not necessarily those of 7 News.

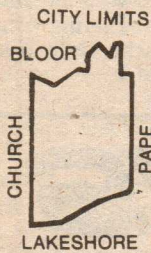
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People in need of money fill tax refunding centre

By JOAN BRYDEN

The people crowding the dingy waiting room at the Tax Refund Buying Centre on Parliament Street all have one thing in common — they are desperate for money. So desperate that they would rather collect only 85 per cent of their tax refund now rather than wait another few months for the government to get around to paying it in full.

The middle-aged man with braces on both legs who sells his refund so he can buy food is not atypical. Right now, the customers are mainly welfare recipients, those who will only get a rent rebate and don't need to wait for any of the tax forms.

Business will pick up though once the T4, T4U (Unemployment Insurance) and TFA1 (Family Allowance) forms are sent out. Then the centre, run by Beneficial Income Tax Service, will see people from all classes and all walks of life come through its doors.

Beneficial agent John Homer says the centre deals with everyone from accountants to students. Last year, he estimates that he personally handled 25 Ryerson

Pre-natal programs provided

The City of Toronto's Board of Health is pleased to announce that "Healthiest Babies Possible" — a prenatal outreach program for high risk pregnant women — has become part of the regular department services.

The ultimate aim of Healthiest Babies Possible is to reduce the number of premature and low birth weight babies born to Toronto residents. (2500 grams) are more prone to developing mental disabilities and handicaps. Experts say that one way to influence a baby's birth weight is by ensuring that the mother consumes an adequate diet during pregnancy. Women who gain between 24 and 28 lbs. during pregnancy have been shown to have the healthiest babies.

The program provides essential information about prenatal nutrition and childbirth education to women not attending other prenatal services. A specially trained team of nutritionists and public health nurses visit women in their homes.

For further information please call 656-6072.



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For information on children's activities and other programs, call the Rector, 368-1362.

students, with two other people working in the centre.

"They needed money at the end of the school year," he says, "their summer earnings or grant money was running out and a lot of them saw a bleak future too."

Fellow worker Drew Whiteside says people have different reasons for selling their tax refunds. "Some say I'm broke, I need it for rent or for a drink." He admits that sometimes "I feel a little sad for some of the people who come in here."

A no-loss situation

However, Whiteside feels the Centre offers these people a necessary service. "The way the economy is right now, with high interest rates, it's cheaper than taking out a loan. And then there's a lot of people who don't qualify for loans."

For Beneficial Finance it seems to be a no-loss situation — giving loans to those who can afford them, buying tax refunds at a discount from those who can't.

Beneficial is only one of a number of such services and they are all strictly regulated. Before refund buying became regulated, however, there were a lot of fly-by-night operators in the business. Whiteside says "buyers were taking whatever they could get off people, 50 per cent, whatever."

By law, refund buyers can now take only 15 per cent of a person's tax refund. If the government should make any adjustment and the actual refund exceeds that calculated by the buyer, the buyer

must pay the claimant 100 per cent of the added refund.

Pay buyer back

But, if the government refund turns out less than that calculated, the customer must pay the buyer back. At Beneficial, a customer must pay 24 per cent interest per year on the overpayment, from the date of receiving payment to the date of repayment. "Basically, it becomes a loan," Homer says.

Occasionally, Homer says people will try to file two claims, one through Beneficial, and one by themselves. However, the chances of getting away with this are slim. Beneficial will not accept any duplicate forms and, in the case of welfare recipients who don't have any forms, Beneficial is still one step ahead.

"We deal direct with the tax office," Homer says, "whereas they have to mail their tax form in where it won't be processed until Feb. 18."

After a person files his claim with Beneficial there is a three or four day waiting period before he will receive his cheque.

Beneficial makes use of this time to find out from the tax department whether the claimant owes any taxes from the previous year. If he does, Beneficial will not buy the refund.

In the days before government regulation, Homer used to work for a refund buying service that charged 50 per cent. Though the customer was not protected from unscrupulous buyers, Homer says, "we weren't protected either."

Regent Park parents continue their fight

Continued from page 1

parenting on one's own is practically unparalleled. We know, as single parents, that if the proposed integration ends up being applied across the province, that we are not only going to be subjected to the stresses of parenting but also forced into the labour force in unskilled positions. It is one thing to live with barely enough to survive while staying at home, but quite another to live on approximately the same income in a minimum wage job. What happens if we, or one of our children, take ill? What if we miss a week's work looking after our families? Who picks up the tab? Even more importantly, what about our children's rights to parenting? It is conceivable to us that an individual welfare worker will have the right to determine whether or not we can remain at home and parent.

Injustices will multiply

The system is full of injustices. If this proposed integration takes place, these injustices will multiply to staggering proportions. Just ask welfare recipients about their experiences and you will hear of situations beyond belief. Is our right to stay at home and parent our dependent children going to hinge on saying the right words at the welfare office? — on being personable? — on begging? To what extremes will we be forced to go in order to protect what we demand as OUR RIGHT. Under this proposed integration, sixty years of providing sole-support parents with the means to allow them to stay at home and parent, can be swept away without any input by those the changes affect.

This is not the first time that mothers of dependent children have been threatened with being

forced to go to work. In 1976, the Minister of Community and Social Services, James Taylor, tried to introduce changes that would require mothers to go into the labour force whether they were needed in the home or not. This was controversial at that time. The main media gave a great deal of coverage to Mr. Taylor's proposed changes. The opposition took up the debate in the legislature.

"Pilot Project" stage

Today, we are not seeing much coverage, probably because the integration is in the "pilot project" stage. We are not so naive that we cannot recognize that pilot projects can be rigged. It is not too difficult to start with a small group of mothers and give them the benefits of numerous support services and then declare the pilot a success, indicating that a complete integration would be possible. However, does a successful pilot project mean that mothers who want to remain at home and children who want their mothers at home, are to have their rights denied? We say NO!

We, as sole-support parents in the Regent Park area, have come together as a group to look at ways that we can work together to stop this proposed integration. Primary in our minds is the right of our children to full-time parenting.

A coalition of representatives from social service agencies, community service groups, unions, welfare mothers and interested individuals, has recently been formed around this issue. We, as those most affected by the proposed integration, feel the need to organize ourselves and add our voice through taking our own action and through representation of our group within this coalition.

NEWS ROUND-UP

The Wellesley Hospital will be one of five Toronto hospitals to receive CAT scanners in the upcoming year. A CAT scanner is a sophisticated diagnostic tool that combines x-ray, computer and video-display technologies to provide a cross-sectional view of the patient's body. The machine costs about one million dollars and the Ministry of Health will help fund the cost of operating the scanner.

A recreation program for children is being run in the recreation room of the Don Mount Court building of the Metro Housing Corporation. It is open ten hours a week, contact Shelley Weeks for more information.

Riverdale Intercultural Council is running a project aimed at bringing together young people of all races in a fun, educational environment. The Growing Up project, it is hoped, will help promote intercultural understanding. If you would like to volunteer, or simply want more information contact Caroline Murray at 461-3213.

A study just completed by the Toronto Department of Public Health's Health Advocacy Unit has shown that children's car seats can save lives and reduce the injuries suffered by children in traffic accidents. It also showed that legislation could drastically increase the number of people who will use the devices.

A 31 page booklet of information for seniors is now available from Metro's Public Information Centre. The easy-to-read booklet contains over 100 listings of services, programs and organizations of particular interest to the elderly.

300 women elementary teachers from across Ontario gathered in Toronto on the weekend of February 13 for a conference discussing the challenges of the eighties.

In April Jarvis Collegiate will celebrate its 175 anniversary with three days of events beginning with the official opening April 23rd. For more details contact the school.

Organic gardeners offer their advice

By HOWARD HUGGETT

This is the time of year that winter-weary Canadians begin to look forward eagerly to the springtime and to dream hopefully of green grass and gardens. That time is still about two months away, but you can make a date with spring now by starting to plan.

Residents of Ward Seven who love to get their hands in the spring earth will be interested to learn that there is a group known as Canadian Organic Growers that provides helpful service to gardeners. This organization is made up of city and town residents, along with farmers, all of them devoted to growing things

organically. COG issues a bulletin four times yearly that contains a lot of useful information, and they maintain a lending library made up of dozens and dozens of periodicals, books, tapes, transcripts and reports on gardening subjects such as composting, insect repellants, harvesting of seeds, etc. This service is free to members. They also swap seeds with each other. There is even a farmer who will grow vegetables for members under contract.

The secretary-treasurer of the local chapter is Howard L. Wills at 36 Hiawatha Road, M4L 2X8, and the cost of a year's membership is \$5.00. Their next bulletin comes out in April.

Tax re-assessment for everyone

Continued from page 1

In this connection, it is interesting to note in the Globe & Mail of February 13th that the director of the ministry's assessment policy branch is quoted as admitting that "ministry officials are plowing ahead with the re-assessment program in hopes of catching homeowners who so far have escaped detection by the assessors". In other words, Mr. Ashe's employees have gone back to catch the renovated homes that he will not admit were missed.

Objected

Not only did Mr. Ashe refuse flatly to consider a roll-back of assessment for this year, he would not consider any extension of the time limit for appeals to the assessment board. When he was told that there were perhaps several thousand more homeowners who would appeal if they could, he maintained that city council had authority under the Municipal Act to issue rebates to tax-payers who were over-taxed. The mayor countered that their understanding was that this section of the act referred only to special cases of hardship, and when Alderman Gilbert asked the minister if he had obtained a legal opinion on this point he got no satisfactory answer.

When the meeting ended and Mr. Ashe was interviewed on television he stated that he had received "literally only a handful of letters" on this question and

that they were divided about fifty-fifty. It is obvious that the minister does not realize how strong is the resentment of homeowners against the province's action, so it is up to them to tell him. You can reach him at the Ministry of Revenue, 77 Bloor Street West, 19th floor.

Market Value Assessment

Homeowners who think that this struggle concerns only those properties that have been renovated are badly mistaken. The current re-assessment drive is part of the province's plan to introduce market value assessment, and this will seriously affect all properties, renovated or not. City council will be discussing property tax reform proposals in February and March, and it is important for people to get involved. What can they do? Well, for a beginning they could write to their local M. P. P., particularly if he or she sits on the

government side. When they begin to feel the heat they will pass the word on to the provincial government. In the Ward Seven area that means Margaret Scrivener or Susan Fish.

If you are one of the many who have been re-assessed and are wondering what the new figure really means, you should dial the assessment office at 486-6300 and get in touch with your friendly neighbourhood assessor. He can tell you how he arrived at your valuation. Be prepared for surprises.

The offices of Alderman Reville or Sewell can put you in touch with a number of citizens' groups that have become active in various areas lately. If you cannot find a group close enough to you, why not contact some of your neighbours to see how they feel. Reville's number is 367-7916, and Sewell's is 367-7911.

SEVEN NEWS ANNUAL MEETING

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Crombie talks housing

By Morris Saldor
and
DEL WOLFSON

MORRIS: Mr. Crombie, you represent the largest constituency of public, non-profit and co-operative housing tenants in Canada. Do you not feel therefore that you have a special responsibility to act as a watchdog and advocate for fair management and housing policies by public housing agencies?

A General Concern

CROMBIE: Housing is a general concern of mine. I was very involved in the late 60's and 70's in co-op and non-profit housing. I got a lot of requests for speaking engagements. I try to keep up with the federal and provincial and municipal scene. Forty percent of my caseload is housing.

MORRIS: Mr. Crombie, you've known about the empty nest problem in OHC for some time, why haven't you spoken out on the issue?

CROMBIE: Public statements are not the only way to deal with the problem. I made recommendations to the Social Planning Council and to OHC a year and a half ago. Policy areas are Susan Fish and Gordon Cressy's responsibility. I don't believe that the federal government should intervene in the situation. It should be left up to the province and municipalities. We need more units to accommodate the empty nesters.

MORRIS: In view of the fact that there are over 32,000 people on the waiting lists of Metro Housing agencies for Unit-geared-to-income housing, what is your position with regards to housing programs like non-profit and co-op housing which deliver only one in four of its family and 1 out of 2 of its seniors units for rent-geared-to-income housing? Will you ask the province to provide rent subsidies for up to 502 if the family units in non-profit and co-op housing?

CROMBIE: It's a scandal that

there is such a shortage of supply of housing. There needs to be a combination of public and private

sector expansion. It is the Ministry of Housing's responsibility to deal with this problem.

Crombie holds meeting

By MORRIS SALDOR

At a meeting held in the basement of 200 Wellesley on Monday Feb. 8th, David Crombie Conservative MP Rosedale, announced to the 150-200 residents there how prompt his office staff were at returning calls or reporting to letters. When he was confronted with the fact that he had not returned calls from this reporter for the Ward 7 News to get an interview. He immediately offered a time at his office for the next day.

A report was given on the Federal Budget, every opposition MP's favourite whipping boy. While condemning the Liberal budget as unfair Crombie neglected to point out how the Conservatives under Clark and Crosbie were also going to follow a tough line on fighting inflation by holding down salaries, and increasing costs of fuel, and borrowing. While Crombie appears to be for the little guy, his Conservative Party is an advocate for the rich — the banks, the corporations, and the real estate and development industries.

If Crombie is genuinely for the average people, he is in the wrong party. Other matters which came

up during the course of the evening's discussions were: the post office and the time it takes to get the mail; capital punishment; the CROW rail rates; snow removal; and OHC's practice of putting seniors on month-to-month lease, and the parents who lose their children, and being kicked out of OHC altogether if they're under 50 years of age. Mr. Crombie promised to look into the OHC matters and report back to the tenants. If you missed your chance to ask a question or want to hear about what he's done since the last meeting Crombie's next meetings are March 8th — 8:00 p.m. at 275 Shuter Street at the Moss Park Apartments in Cabbagetown.

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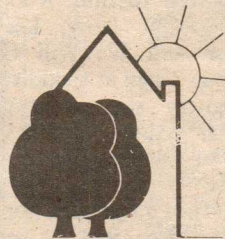
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LETTERS AND OPINIONS

If you have any comments or opinions about what is happening in the community or about what you read in 7 News, write us a letter at 315 Dundas St. E. Toronto M5A 2A2. All letters must be signed but if you ask us to, we will publish your letter anonymously.

Provincial policy is misrepresented

I would like to take this opportunity to comment on the article by Pat Schulz in the November 27th edition entitled "Single mothers may be forced onto welfare".

The article states that the Ontario Government plans to transfer sole support mothers in receipt of Family Benefits (delivered by the Province) to the General Welfare Assistance program (administered by the municipalities). This statement is incorrect. The actual plan is only to transfer responsibility for that aspect of Family Benefits dealing with sole support mothers from the Province to Ontario

municipalities. Even after the transfer the sole support mothers will continue to receive a Family Benefits cheque.

In addition, municipalities taking over the administration of Family Benefits cases will be required to abide by both the legislation and the Policy and Procedural Guidelines set by the Province. The principal purpose of the transfer is to eliminate administrative duplication and confusion caused by the presence of two levels of government providing the same type of service to sole support mothers. (Approximately 80% of all sole support mothers who eventually receive Family Benefits have gone through the

municipal system on General Assistance).

The other major reasons for effecting the transfer are to amalgamate existing social and employment services in the municipalities where the bulk of these services and expertise exists now and to provide alternatives to social assistance.

I hope that these comments will assist in clearing up some of the confusion that has surrounded this issue over the past few months.

John Stapleton
Senior Policy Analyst
Queen's Park

A tribute to Cressy

By Morris Saldov

I have known Gordon for almost 8 years, and yet I feel I have known him for a lifetime. He graduated from The Community Organizing and Community Development Program at the University of Toronto a few years before I entered it in 1974. I had heard that he failed his field practicum because he was too radical. I took inspiration from this and decided to pursue a field placement with the Toronto Board of Education as the first Community work student in their Social Services Department. Gordon was then the Ward 7 Trustee along with Doug Barr, now the Executive Director of Metro's Children's Aid Society. Gordon was teaching a course at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education on Community Schools.

I took this course and learned more about Gordon's passion for community involvement and resources. When Gordon decided to run for Ward 7 alderman I was so buoyed by the prospects of his representing Ward 7 on Council that I immediately went to work on his campaign. While I have lived in Ward 6 for the 8 years I have known Gordon, my deep

respect for him and the people of Regent and Moss Park have been the main reason why I continue to work for Ward 7.

Gordon has always represented to me the kind of social passion which gives voice to those who are most in need of representation — those who are pushed around and kept down by an uncaring society — whose interests are not adequately represented in the political and bureaucratic institutions serving that society — the poor.

Ward 7 has been very lucky indeed to have had his calibre of representation for the past decade or more. Gordon's shoes will be very difficult to fill, and his political commitment to act on, the needs of the people of Ward 7 has probably been his most significant contribution, but what he will probably be best remembered for is his style of communication. The thing I have always been impressed with is Gordon's continuing capacity regardless of his position to be available, personable, humble, critical, compassionate, gracious and diplomatic. While in many ways I regret his loss to the political arena, I know that the service he will perform with the United Way will continue in another way his fight to achieve greater social justice for the needy.

The other side of interest rates

It's about time, we hear about the other side of the interest rate arguments. Interest rates are no longer "a sacred cow", because like other services, they also are effected by inflation.

Today's interest rate is composed of two parts, inflation of 12%, and the balance of 7 to 8%, the "real interest" rate. So interest rates will come down when inflation does, not before, unless it is done artificially.

For some time a few years ago

lenders took a negative interest when inflation was higher than the rate, and saw their capital eroded.

With regard to mortgages, with those having to buy or renew, I am in sympathy. But for years lenders subsidized mortgage rates, and today owners have a fantastic appreciation of home values, some as high as 20 times cost; and that point is always "softpeddled".

Today when a home is sold, if it is the principal residence,

no tax at all is paid. By comparison, lenders pay tax on every nickel of their interest, except for the current \$1,000 exemption.

Here is a warning. If interest rates go down artificially, the golden goose will go elsewhere, and then the problem is not high interest rates, but getting any money for borrowers. This is a point that do-gooders and union leaders omit to state when they try to make "hay" of interest rates.

W. Wood

Why is this man smirking?

The front page article on Gordon Cressy should be re-titled "Why is this Man Smirking?"

The simple answer to why Cressy is leaving City Hall is easy: \$80,000 per year.

Mr. Cressy's oft proclaimed statements of "wanting to serve the public" can now be seen within the factual statement of

how quickly service to the populace will be dispensed with should a better opportunity come along.

How discouraging politicians are, to be sure! But, alas, from the top down, they're all the same.

Yours truly,
Merlin Andrew
A Ward 7 taxpayer

Manpower is a world away

Temporary Help Centres provide part-time jobs

By BILL BALLARD

The Canada Manpower Centre at 200 Dundas Street East looks like a filing cabinet. The inside of the building is filled with signs. NO ANIMALS, BICYCLES PERMITTED, reads one sign in French and English. NO LOITERING OR SMOKING, reads another. THIS WAY TO AREAS 5,6,7,8,9. There are strips of yellow tape on the floor to indicate where you should line up.

Charlie's Temporary Help, a temporary employment service at 189 Dundas is just across the street, but it is a world away. The Canada Manpower Centre is a place of government clerks, signs, line-ups, computerized "job searches" and forms in triplicate. It is the kind of place most of us think of when we think about getting a job. Charlie's is a vague place of street people and first names.

A foreign world to Manpower office

Charlie's belongs to a world that is foreign to the comfortable clerks at the Manpower office. They do not recommend Charlie's for someone like you and me. "They don't pay very much money and they're a day here a day there jobs and things you know," a clerk says when asked about Charlie's.

Things even look different at Charlie's. The linoleum floor is filthy, the ashtrays and garbage cans are overflowing. There is an old fashioned Spartan brand cabinet radio which works and another one, its guts exposed, which doesn't. Five guys are sitting

around waiting for a job to come in. They are roughly dressed in work clothes. There is John, Bertie, Max and a couple of others.

The man who runs the place is called Nick. Nick is a big man — pushing 250 pounds with a belly. He has a gap between his front teeth and a face that looks like it was run over by a Mac truck.

Rooms are scarce right now

Others live in rooming houses nearby, which because of the pressures of "white painting" are becoming harder to find. Rooms Are Scarce Right Now, Leave Your Name And We Will Get Back To You, a sign at a skid row housing registry service in the Anglican All Saints Church at the corner of Dundas and Sherbourne reads.

But this is not a transient population. 10 to 20 percent are transient, Peterson says. The rest live here most of the time.

Erin Rittich, a woman who works for the 4-U Non-Profit Temporary Work Centre, 244 Gerrard St. E., agrees. "My

feeling is a lot of them come from smaller towns. They come to Toronto looking for work and end up in the downtown core," she says.

Can't find full time jobs

Once they get here most of them are unable to find full time jobs. You have to understand that most of these people are unskilled, Rittich says. They lack job search skills and it is hard to be "well turned out" when you live in a hostel. Most of them are turned off by Canada Manpower Centres. Manpower Centres with their forms in triplicate and computerized job searches are not part of their world. If they go at all they only check the board, Rittich says.

If these people want to work, and most of them would like full time jobs, according to Peterson, they are forced to use temporary employment centres like Handy Andy, 335 Queen Street East, Centaur, 213 Queen St. E., Charlie's Casual, 83 Queen St. E., or Charlie's Temporary Help.

Peterson and Rittich explain

how these agencies work. The agencies contract with an employer to provide men for temporary jobs. Most of the contracts are long term. An agency can deal with the same employer for years, Rittich says.

When the company needs temporary help they contact the agency. The agency charges the company an hourly rate per man and invoices the company on a weekly basis.

Pay minimum wage

The agencies, with the exception of 4-U which passes the profits along to the worker, pays minimum wage, \$3.30 an hour, for general labour. None of the agencies will say how much they receive from the employer, but Peterson estimates it is about \$4.50 an hour for general labour. Some of the difference between what the agency receives and what it pays the worker is used to cover overhead. The rest is profit.

Peterson says that these services are also exploitive in human terms because they don't encourage full time employment. He says

Co-op gets provincial money

The province has reached an agreement with a Toronto co-operative housing group to help provide geared-to-income housing in Toronto.

Margaret Scrivener (MPP - St. David) said that the T.C. Douglas Housing Co-operative Inc. would now be able to allocate three addi-

tional units on a geared-to-income basis at its River Street development, with Ontario paying 100 per cent of the subsidies involved.

Subsidies in the first year of the five-year agreement will amount to an estimated \$12,000. Monthly charges for eligible residents will be based generally on their

incomes.

With OCHAP assistance, up to 25 per cent of the units in private non-profit and co-operative developments for families may be allocated on a geared-to-income basis. In projects for senior citizens, up to 50 per cent of the units may qualify for OCHAP aid.

So why do people use these services? "When you are hard up for a job you will take anything you can get," Rittich says.

Back at Charlie's Temporary Help Nick and Max are talking about Bertie who has a night job walking around wearing a wooden advertising sign. Nick doesn't think much of Bernie's job.

"That job's good," Max says. "Lots of time during the day to do other things."

Nick disagrees. He still doesn't think much of Bernie's job.

"What the hell. It's a job," Max says.

Meanwhile, a world away, across the street at the Canada Manpower Centre, the lines are long and the clerks are frazzled. Their whizz-bang, super-duper "job search" computer is temporarily out of order.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Saturday, February 27

• You are invited to **Franklands Winter Carnival** from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 816 Logan Ave. (just south of the Danforth). Featured will be indoor and outdoor games, prizes, refreshments and a rummage sale. Everyone is welcome.

• **The Mississauga Choral Society** presents a concert tonight at 8 p.m. at St. Aidan's Anglican Church, 2423 Queen St. E. at Silverbirch Ave., in Memorial Hall. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for seniors and students. For tickets and information call 691-2222.

Sunday, February 28

• Today the **St. Luke's Forum** will feature Rev. J. M. Finlay. The meeting begins at 2:30 p.m., at St. Luke's Church at Sherbourne and Carlton. Everyone is welcome.

Monday March 1

• **The East End Peace Action** is meeting today at Earl Gray School, 100 Strathcona at 7:30. Topic: Canada's role in the world of nuclear weapons. Speakers and discussion. Call 694-7922.

• **The Corktown Association** is holding a general meeting for residents of the area at 7:30 p.m. in the Enoch Turner Schoolhouse on Trinity St. The meeting will discuss safety and security in the home.

• An important public meeting on the treatment of epilepsy will be held tonight at OISE, 252 Bloor St. W., in room 4-413 at 7:30. Panelists will be Dr. J. Bruni, Neurologist, Dr. M. Burnham, Pharmacologist, and Dr. K. Meloff, Neurologist. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. There is no charge. Literature will be available.

Tuesday March 2

• **The Riverdale Farm Committee** will hold a meeting at Sprucecourt Public School in the staff lounge tonight at 8. On the agenda will be Donnybrook, the Farm Report, Farmhouse Use and the Selection of the new Farm Committee. Please come out and rejuvenate the Farm Committee.

Wednesday, March 3

• **The Funnel Experimental Theatre**, 507 King St. E., presents Howard Guttenplan, the Director of Millenium Film Workshop, which is a prominent centre for production and exhibition of avant-garde cinema in New York City. Guttenplan will present and discuss a program of recent works by Millenium members. 8 p.m., admission \$3.

• **The The Ralph Thornton Centre** is forming a new club to include social activities (dancing, group activities, theatre, bowling and darts) for singles. The Club is geared to interest men and women 35 years of age and over. The singles meeting will begin tonight at 7:30. For more information call 461-6311.

Thursday, March 4

Contact School is holding a luncheon meeting to discuss the question, **How Can Contact Best Serve the Needs of the Community?** Come and share your ideas with us. The meeting will run from noon to 3 p.m. today. Contact School is at 310 Gerrard St. E. (just east of Parliament).

• Lakeview Secondary School, 45 Felstead Ave., will hold an **Open House** tonight between 7 and 9:30. It will be an exhibition of student work in shop, business, gym, service and academic classes. Special activities will include a bake shop sale, and wood and metal crafts for sale. Door prize for the first 200 guests will be a free package of fresh baked rolls. Admission is 25 cents and a chance to win a colour television.

Friday, March 5

• Vancouver-based experimental filmmaker Chris Gallagher will be present at the **Funnel Experimental Film Theatre**, 507 King St. E., to show and discuss a program of his work including his most recent film, *Seeing in the Rain*. Admission \$3 at 8 p.m.

• The 519 Church Street Community Centre is screening **Ivan The Terrible**, Parts 1 and 2 tonight at 8. Admission is free.

Saturday, March 6

• The 44th Scout Group is holding a **March Frolic** at St. Jim's Hall and Gerrard and DeGrassi between 8 p.m. and 1 a.m. Buffet, refreshments and prizes. Tickets are \$5 each at the door or contact John Baldwin 463-3470.

• The second **Parents' Convention** will be held today at Central Technical School, Bathurst and Harbord Sts. Parents of students enrolled in the public secondary and secondary schools in the City of Toronto will come together to discuss various aspects of public education throughout the day. Parents wishing to attend are being asked to contact one of the organizations or committees at their schools and to become part of that delegation. For further information call John Piper at 598-4931 ext. 346 or Angelo Delfino 598-4931, ext. 420.

• St. Barnabas Church and Danforth and Hampton Avenues is having a **Super Garage Sale** today between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Available will be used clothing, furniture and household articles.

Sunday March 7

• Today the guest at the **St. Luke's Forum** will be retiring Ward 7 alderman Gordon Cressy. The forum begins at 2:30 p.m. at St. Luke's Church, Sherbourne and Carlton. Everyone is welcome.

• An **International Women's Day Celebration** will be held today between 1 and 5 p.m. at Ryerson Institute, 350 Victoria Ave., Rm. L 72 on the main floor. There will be displays, refreshments and daycare by Adventure Education Concept. For more information contact 532-4317.

Tuesday, March 9

• **Author Paul Theroux**, currently touring North America to launch his most recent novel, *The Mosquito Coast*, appears at Harbourfront's Reading Series at 8:30 p.m. This will be his first visit to Canada. Admission is free at the York Quay Centre, 235 Queen's Quay West.

Thursday, March 11

• The first of four programs held at the **Funnel Experimental Film Theatre**, 507 King St. E., surveying the films of Norman McLaren, will be presented tonight at 8 p.m. in co-operation with the National Film Board and Harbourfront. Tonight's program, entitled *Influences* looks at films that influence McLaren and his work and includes films by Oskar Fischinger, Len Lye, and Alexander Alexieff. Admission is free.

Friday, March 12

• The **Toronto Movie Club** presents their twentieth annual Gala Film Festival of humorous, travel, dramatic and documentary films. This is a unique opportunity to see films shown in international competitions and are not normally available to the general public. Most of these have won national and international film awards. The show begins at 8 p.m. at the OISE auditorium, 252 Bloor St. W. Admission is \$3. For tickets call Emerald Ross at 367-8507 or 536-2138 (evenings) or Ben Andrews 751-8300 or 977-7869 (evenings).

• The 519 Church Street Community Centre is screening **Olympia Part 2**, plus **Marathon**, Part 1 at 8 p.m. Admission is free. For more information call 923-2778.

Ongoing

• Through May 30, The Market Gallery of the City of Toronto Archives will present **Bayefsky's Toronto: A Celebration of the City and its People**, a retrospective covering 30 years in the career of Toronto-born artist, Aba Bayefsky. Many scenes of the St. Lawrence and Kensington Markets are included in this 61-piece retrospective, along with oil portraits and watercolours on a tattoo theme. The Gallery is located at 95 Front St. E. at Jarvis and is open to the public without charge, Wednesday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 2 to 5 p.m.

• Looking for an inexpensive and fun night out? About 15 men and women are joining Don in the **Central Neighbourhood House** kitchen on Thursday nights at 6:30 p.m. Club members cook the meal together and then sit down to enjoy the product. Cost is \$1 per person per night — not bad for a good meal and even better company. Child care is provided free of charge. For more information call Pat O'Connor at 925-4363.

• Until March 14, the Theatre du P'tit Bonheur will present **C'Etait Avant La Guerre a L'Anse-A-Gilles**, by Marie Laberge. Admission is \$5. For reservations call 363-6401.

• Actor's Lab in association with the Goethe Institute of Toronto presents

Goethe's Faust, adapted by Richard Nieoczym. Shows are held every Wednesday through Saturday until March 14 at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$6.50, \$5.00 for students, seniors and equity. Sunday matinee at 2:30 is pay-what-you-can.

• Dwight's Siegner's presentation of **Watercolours and Drawings at the Sword Street Press Ltd., 10 Sword Street, continues until March 4 from 2 to 6 p.m.**

• The South Riverdale Community Health Centre is offering a series of **Supermarket Tours** through supermarkets in this community. The tour is a chance to wander through a supermarket without the pressure of doing the shopping — just to look at some of the things that make us buy food — good and bad. If you would like to go on a tour — by yourself or with some friends — call Karen Stephens at the Health Centre 461-2492.

• Every Sunday until April 4, Toronto-area filmgoers will have the chance to see social documentaries rarely screened for commercial audiences. The Bloor Street Cinema (just east of Bathurst) will host the **Reel to Real Film Festival**, a series of independent productions from Canada, Australia, Italy, West Germany and the United States. All programs begin at 2 p.m. Ticket prices are \$3.50 each or \$24 for 8, seniors \$2.50. Tickets are available at the Development Education Centre at 427 Bloor St. W. For more information call 964-6901.

• The 519 Church Street Community Centre would like to announce the formation of the **519 Performing Arts**. Classes include classical ballet, ballet jazz, afro-cuban, lunch time jazzercise, tap and modern contemporary. All ages, all levels and all welcome. For further information call 923-2778.

• The 519 Church Street Community Centre will hold its **annual income tax clinic**. Free to those meeting the income guideline stipulations. For an appointment or further information call 923-2778.

• **Regent Park Adult Recreation** would like to inform people in the park and surrounding areas of the centre of what they have in the centre. There is bumper pool, shuffleboard, darts and cribbage. There is an arts and crafts day for ladies on Thursday afternoons, and there is a Bowling League. If anyone would like to join for next year call the centre at 364-4915. There is also a TV, stereo and a library. The centre is open 5 days a week from 1 p.m. til 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. until 10 p.m.

• **Do you have a legal question and wish to talk to a lawyer?** Come to Dixon Hall's free Legal Aid Clinic on Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. Please note: the

Legal Aid Clinic is located at 417 King Street East (just east of Parliament, west side of Little Trinity Church). Please enter through the side door. For more information call Lorraine at 863-0499.

Torontonians wanted to experience the sights and smells of spring can welcome an early season as the **Spring Flower Show** comes to Allan Gardens from March 1 to May 1. Hundreds of colourful domestic and exotic flowers and plants will be on display daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Allan Gardens, bounded by Jarvis, Carlton, Sherbourne and Gerrard Sts., is easily accessible by public transit. Free guided tours are available by calling 367-7291. Photography is permitted.

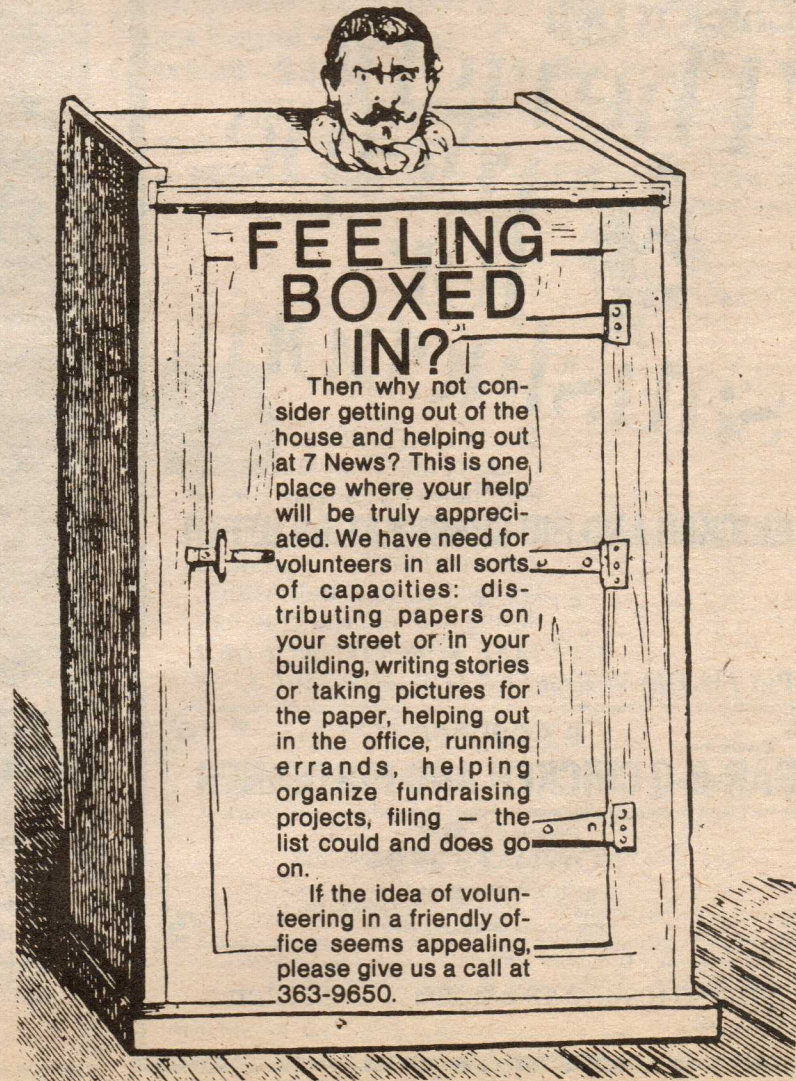
The Jimmie Simpson Recreation Centre's Master Swim Programme will be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8 p.m. for adults 20 years of age and over.

Earlscourt Child and Family Centre announces the operation of a special summer day camp for children with social and behavioural problems. The camp will operate out of Montcrest School which overlooks Riverdale Park in the Broadview-Danforth area. Camp sessions run from July 5th to July 30th and from August 2nd to August 27th. Children can attend for either session or both sessions. The camp fee is \$200 per session. The Wimodausis Club will provide bursaries up to \$175 so no child otherwise qualified will be denied the program. For more information or an application form regarding the camp, parents can call Miss Thorst at 654-8989. Campers will be selected on a first come first served basis.

Toronto Workshop Productions will present the Canadian Premiere Production of Irish playwright Brendan Behan's **Richard's Cork Leg** for a limited engagement until March 28th. Performances are Tuesday through Saturday at 8:30 p.m. and Sunday matinee at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 weekdays and \$12 weekends, matinee \$5. For reservations call 925-8640. 12 Alexander St.

Do you have a room or apartment for rent at reasonable rates? Maybe we can find the perfect tenant for you. Contact Vincenza DeBonis, Woodgreen Community Centre at 461-1168.

Curious to experience the newly decorated King Edward Hotel? Take a chance in the **Neighbourhood Information Post's lottery**, where you can win a weekend stay for 2 at the fabulous King Edward Hotel plus \$100 — paint-the-town-red money. Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5 and can be purchased at NIP in Library House near Parliament and Gerrard Sts. The draw, license no. 347149, will be held at 5:30 p.m., March 19.



Loving Women: A unique drama production

Continued from page 1

and many others. The show was directed by Mira Friedlander.

The show begins with a Marge Piercy poem entitled "For Strong

Women", which sets the stage for the rest of the evening. The poem tells us: "A woman finds comfort in others loving her equally... strong is what we make each

other." The scenes that follow expand on this, from Holly Near's song "Fight Back" to Margaret Atwood's poem "A Woman's Issue" to Jane Rule's touching

story "Killer Dyke and The Lady," each of these praising the strength and choices of women. There is joy, sorrow, laughs and tears in this show, as an emotional experience it is complete; but there is also a lot more.

At the end of the performance the decision of the audience was a unanimously favourable one, as the applause which lasted for some time indicated. My only regret was that this was a one shot deal and that I would not be able to tell my friends about the show

and encourage them to go and see it. I was wrong, however. As I was leaving the auditorium I was handed a flyer which told of eight more performances of the show in March in conjunction with International Women's Day. "Loving Women" will be performed March 4-14, Thursday through Sunday evenings at 8 p.m. at the Palmerston Library Theatre (Bathurst and Bloor). Tickets are available at Women's Bookstore and SCM Books. I recommend the show whole-heartedly.

"Saga of Wet Hens"

Celebration of women for women

By ROBERT KEIR

One of the characters in *The Saga of Wet Hens* claims that "historical time was invented to divide us". Jovette Marchessault's play defies historical time by bringing together 4 Quebecois writers — Laure Conan, Germaine Guevremont, Anne Hebert and Gabrielle Roy.

It is not important that Laure Conan, who died in 1924 when Gabrielle Roy was only 15, never really met her three fellow writers. The play does not operate on a literal level. Nor is it important that Gabrielle Roy is the only one well-known in English Canada.

The *Saga of Wet Hens* is a celebration of women by women. It attacks the myths created by our patriarchal society and its powerful ally, religion. The expression, wet hens, refers to cowardice, to the inability to speak out against the oppressors.

Laure Conan, brilliantly portrayed by Monique Mercure, is known as the Ancestress. She tells a poignant story of the scorn and slander heaped upon her, and of the book-burning by the "missionaries of fire".

The role of religion in Laure Conan's life (she was raised by nuns from age 13) provides one of the play's too few conflicts. When Gabrielle Roy, played with overwhelming gusto and Tarzan yells by Diane D'Aquila, parodies the breaking of bread and asks about the anonymous waitresses at the Last Supper, Conan is at first shocked and afraid.

The coming to terms with religion, acknowledged as an oppressor of women yet so ingrained that it is hard to dismiss, may explain the play's popularity in the predominantly Catholic Quebec.

The rest of the play tries to exp-

lain the entire scope of women's oppression and self-oppression in an atmosphere of solidarity that allows for very little further conflict. In order to avoid blatant dogmatism, the dialogue leaps from metaphor to complex metaphor, quite often leaving the audience miles behind. Much is lost because there is too much.

The director appears to have been aware of these difficulties. To hold the audience, the characters dress and behave in a manner hovering on outrageous. Conan descends upon the stage on her broomstick and prances around whinnying like a horse. Roy is lowered in a glittering contraption, like a giant Christmas decoration, on which she performs acrobatic tricks while delivering her lines. Hebert is discovered curled on a bookshelf, a sylph-like creature all blonde and pink.

The play concludes in an elaborate dance, with the women dressed and acting like clucking hens until the emergence of the last contraption — an immense aluminum hen.

The women, "spreading their wings and dipping their beaks into the Golden Egg", climb aboard their version of the Trojan Horse and are lifted heavenwards, presumably to lay siege after their successful evening of political awareness.

Marchessault's play raises that topical issue of self-censorship, the desire to conform in order to have one's art escape the book-burners, yet at the same time recognize that "conformity is the byproduct of narrow minds".

Marchessault herself appears to have escaped both book-burners and self-censorship in order to follow the bold literary direction of such Quebecois writers as Michel Tremblay and Marie-

Claire Blais.

Emerging as an important feminist, it can only be hoped that Marchessault will speak to us as herself, rather than behind the masks of past writers, or under the cover of wet hens. It is evident that she has plenty to say, and that an audience is waiting. She has reassured us that a world does exist beyond Laverne and Shirley.

(The *Saga of Wet Hens*, Tarragon Theatre, 30 Bridgman Avenue, 531-1827, Until March 20th).

Bravery rewarded

The Toronto Harbour Commissioners awarded Certificates of Commendation today to two Toronto-area citizens and a resident of St. Catharines for acts of bravery on the waterfront.

The recipients, Lincoln Evans, 43, of Toronto, Paul H. Fleming, 18, of Etobicoke, and Douglas Alfred Carr, 23, of St. Catharines, were presented the certificates at an official ceremony during a regularly-scheduled board meeting held at 60 Harbour Street.

In presenting the award to Mr. Evans, a Toronto Island resident who saved the life of a man who had fallen into the York Street slip on March 31, 1981, Commission Chairman Monte Kwinter read from the certificate:

Mr. Fleming, a sailing instructor, was watching from shore on March 29, 1981, when he noticed a fellow sailor in trouble in the Outer Harbour. His quick response to that emergency earned him the Harbour Commissioners Certificate of Commendation.

Clay: A docu-drama of harboured passion

By VERA HELD

Lawrence Jeffery's "Clay" which premiered at the Adelaide Court February 17, and runs until March 14 is a docudrama of harboured passion.

Set and lighting designer, James Plaxton (Dora Mavor Moore Award-winner and 1981 nominee) beautifully identifies and precipitates the action in a split set connected by a proscenium-type ramp.

On the left, we are welcomed into the home of Harold Burns, brother of the deceased. To the right, the backyard and swing to Harold's home. The childhood haunt of his niece Caroline.

Caroline (Nancy Palk) home for her father's funeral (Simon Burns) swings in spotlight while she and Michael (Stephen Hunter) her childhood love recapture some old memories.

When the couple depart, Bobby (Jim Warren) Harold's handyman focuses on the empty swing, pushes it, then slows it down to a stop. He produces an instamatic camera and captures the swing's "silent" effect. A finely-tuned execution.

Harold (Stan Coles) and Simon's wife Ella (Marion Gilseman) give us both background and humour. Harold's humour is a cheerful cascade — for example — "The last film I saw had subtitles," states Harold. "What was it called?," asks Michael. "It was French,"

answers Harold. "But what was it called?," repeats Michael. "It was French", reiterates Harold. And so on.

Ella, extremely restrained in her relationship with her husband, clues us into Simon's nature and his effect on others. She enlightens us about herself as well, "The height of men always made me nervous" and "people only kiss me to say they're sorry, 'cause they think they should." Bobby wraps her up quite neatly. "A paranoid personality like you needs a hobby."

The most provocative character in the production is young Bobby. Not unlike a younger R. H. Thompson, Bobby physically commands your attention. At the swing, we see him gentle and wistful. At one point, when Ella faints as a result of Bobby's tale of a crushed dog, he hikes her dress to her thighs and steps back to observe. The moment could have been even further electrified had he taken out his instamatic.

Later, bereaved and love-lost, he waits like a patient vigilante to slay Caroline's conqueror. Baseball bat in hand, he strikes. The play closes with Bobby's re-entry into the home after the funeral. Covered in mud, clad in a yellow raincoat, he reminds us of the miner of Robert Service's "The Shooting of Dan McGrew" — then stumbled a miner fresh from the creeks, dog-dirty, and loaded for bear."

Clay is the first script by Canadian author-artist Lawrence Jeffery. Although not compelling in its use of the universal theme of passion, jealousy and hatred, the play boasts a fine cast and set design and skilled lighting and audio.

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BAR-B-Q CHICKEN AND RIB DINNER
 served with homemade Smoked Sausage, French Fries, Sauce and Roll, Regular price \$8.95
NOW ONLY \$5.95
 CHICK 'N' DELI EAST
 842 Gerrard St. E. (Corner of Carlaw Ave.)
 Offer valid until April 30, 1982

•Entertainment 7 days a week •Fully licensed •No cover charge

We also feature an extensive Deli Menu.

Telephone: 469-5311 Bar: 469-3668



We have the menu and the decor that you will be proud of to entertain your friends, comfortable and pleasant to meet your new neighbors.

A new French restaurant in your neighborhood of MODERATE price menu & QUALITY cuisine. Come for an EVENING MEAL After theatre DRINK, COFFEE & DESSERT Sundays, BRUNCH.

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Parkway Tavern

Morning Special 7 — 11 a.m.

Bacon & Eggs, Potatoes, Toast & Coffee, Tea or Milk — \$1.75

Parkway Special

Steak served with choice of potatoes, sour cream, vegetable, chef salad, fried onions, hot dinner roll or garlic bread — \$4.20 (Includes dessert & beverage)

Every day a different special!

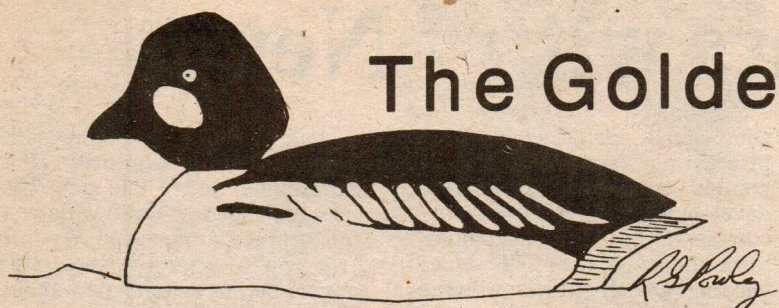
Seafood, Steaks & Chicken (4-course meals) Price from \$3 to \$3.50

Entertainment Special

8:30 pm — 1:00 am

New group every week

488 Parliament



The Goldeneye

The Goldeneye is one of winter's birds

By ROGER POWLEY

Goldeneye's are very strong swimmers and often feed in fast flowing rivers where ice cannot form easily. This diving duck often swims right under the ice and is undeterred by ice cold water. In Toronto they do not

usually form large rafts like the scaup ducks but are usually seen in twos or threes. On Lake Ontario they usually stay close to shore in sheltered bays. They are very shy and it is almost impossible to get a close look at these birds without binoculars. From a distance the

drake appears to be just black and white, but the head is actually a very dark green colour. The shape of the head makes this bird easy to identify as only goldeneyes have such a puffed out nape. The young birds and the females are dark brown on the head and do not have a white cheek patch like the drake.

The drake is quite often seen displaying for the female. The display consists of throwing the head back until the bill nearly touches the tail. He also makes a funny buzzing vocalisation and kicks up water with his feet.

This duck is found on the Humber River, off of the Leslie Street Spit and at Humber Bay Park. It is often the first Arctic diving duck to arrive in Toronto in the fall.

Parliament Gold is a fun store

By JOHN CLEMENT

Patricia Pettigrew's establishment, **Parliament Gold**, opened two months ago and is one of the most innovative shops in the heart of Ward 7. Although it will cater more to women than to men, **Parliament Gold** is not a speciality store. But it is special and deserves full community support, especially during these early stages of its

growth.

Patricia voices a common concern faced by most newly formed enterprises when she says, "I'm forced to function on a shoestring budget. During the first six months, very few companies are willing to risk giving me credit when I purchase stock. I must pay cash."

Taking a chance with her own savings, she rented the premises on Parliament Street, north of Gerrard. An artistic friend, Kathleen Brindley, collected planks of pine, then designed, painted, and pieced together the whole golden sign which hangs outside the store. Not only is it a work of art, it functions just as effectively as a neon.

The store is divided into two sections, reminding me of a home's living and dining room areas. The back room is set up like a miniature library with shelving units along three walls. Naturally, the books which line these shelves are for sale and include diverse subject matter.

In the near future, Patricia

intends to carpet the floor, install a few chairs and a chesterfield. Already she visualizes customers coming into **Parliament Gold** to browse, and to sit with interesting people in the homelike atmosphere she's creating.

The front room is where art-work and records are displayed.

Patricia believes, "Music is music, regardless of whether the performer is male or female." Consequently, both men and women will find an enormous range to choose from. And thanks to **Olivia Records** south of the border, many hard to obtain recordings by such women as Chris Williamson, Robin Tyler, Theresa Trull, Meg Christian, Mary Watkins, and Linda Tillery are available.

Also, Canadian entertainers who record on private labels, including Heather Bishop, David Sereda, and pianist Patrick Godfrey (who once backed up Bruce Cockburn on an album), have left adequate quantities of their records with Patricia to sell.

Not only does **Parliament**

Gold purchase and sell secondhand records, it also offers another service. Albums can be rented for a period of three days at a charge of \$3 per album, plus a deposit of \$8 for a single lp, \$10 for an import, and \$12 for a double.

As well as music, **Parliament Gold** promotes Canadian art, most notably, artists Larry Peloso, Bruce Eaking, and Penelope Dickinson.

And for the art collector more interested in the international scene, American artist Lon Beck is represented.

An unusual and unique item is a silk screen on aluminum, done in 1969 by Andy Warhol's New York factory, **The Velvet Underground** (a company no longer in existence). Entitled 'Miss Ultra Violet', it is known as a submit poster, and was designed to shock. Its purpose was to force writers into submitting completed manuscripts for various projects. The price: a mere \$275. Obviously a collector's piece.

For the more traditional collector, antique prints (1802 through 1804) depicting various plants, all signed and numbered by Syd Edwards, are selling at just \$20 each.

Parliament Gold is not overly spacious, nor does it attempt to be pretentious. It's simply a fun store housing an assortment of artistic achievements in an environment where enjoyable conversation is sure to be found.

(**Parliament Gold**, 420 Parliament Street, 922-5688) (Hours: 10-6 Mon. to Thurs. & Sat. 10-9 Friday)

Magic Mop

Residential Cleaning Services Inc.

- apartments
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 - basements & special occasions
 - well trained bonded personnel
 - reasonable rates
 - 366-2307
- the cleaner the better

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Floor sanding and custom refinishing. I offer a durable three coats of polyurethane, staining, repairs and installations of all types of hardwood floor. Stairs sanded and refinished. Excellent references. Call 631-2114.

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SUNDAY WORSHIP
SUNDAY SCHOOL
11 a.m.

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COMMUNITY SERVICES

NEIGHBOURHOOD LEGAL SERVICES — Legal Clinic for low-income people within Carlaw-Bloor-Yonge. PROBLEMS: Landlord-Tenant, welfare, UIC, Consumer, CAS, Immigration. CALL: 961-2625. 238 Carlton St. (12-24).

HELP WANTED

BOOKKEEPER? PART TIME, approx. 24 hours per month. Local housing co-op needs experienced bookkeeper. Co-op experience an asset. For info call 968-1853 or send resume to Fieldstone Co-operative Homes, Inc. 135 Bleecker St., Unit 107, Toronto M4X 1X2. Deadline March 15. (12-17).

HELP WANTED. Sales reps for business newsletter. All areas of Toronto. Call 481-9829. (12-16).

HELP WANTED: Telephone survey people to call local businesses in the Toronto area. Good incentives, bonuses. Call 481-9829. (12-16)

HELP WANTED: Students to research and write proposals for government. Salary dependent upon experience. Call 481-9829. (12-16)

THE TORONTO SUPERMARKET CO-OPERATIVE is conducting a one-year feasibility study to develop a consumer-controlled business in downtown Toronto. We are looking for a community membership co-ordinator in a full time position, to be responsible for: Planning and Execution of the community membership drive; Development of Educational Programs related to co-operatives; Assistance to the Co-operative's Board and committees; Community Liaison. Applicants should have strong experience in co-op member relations or community organizations. Good communications skills and experience in community education and/or public relations would be an asset. Salary: up to \$20,000 annually. Starting date: early April 1982. Please forward resume by March 8 to Hiring Committee, Toronto Supermarket Co-op, care of 204 Sackville Green, Toronto M5A 3H1. (12-16)

BUSINESS LISTINGS

BUSINESS RESEARCH. Research for small businesses needed information on customers, inventory, marketing, advertising and all operating business areas. Reasonable rates. Call Flora 481-9829.

CARS FOR SALE

1969 KARMANN GHIA blue hardtop. Certified. Newly rebuilt engine — 72,000 miles. Call 961-7404 anytime.

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Initial Visit — No Fee

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LE CENTRE ACADIEN/Acadian Secretariat, 40 Oak St., does bilingual typing and translation. Accurate handling of large or small orders. Please call Veronica at 366-6724. (12-16).

BOOKKEEPING & TYPING SERVICE Fast, accurate and reliable service for small businesses and professionals. Call 699-1525. (12-16)

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE needs volunteers 3 hours a week. In either group programs or on a one-to-one basis with people of all ages. If interested phone Eva 925-4363. (12-16).

LITERACY IS A RIGHT and you can get involved by teaching an English speaking adult to read and write. A volunteer tutor training program will start soon. Call Elaine or Jan, 968-6989 or drop into East End Literacy at 265 Gerrard St. East, upstairs of N. I. P. (12-16).

DAYCARE/BABYSITTING

BABYSITTER Kindly, energetic, patient — for charming two-year-old, full-time position. Preferably live-in — excellent accommodation, good conditions and location, social insurance number and references needed. 466-0827. (12-16).

NEED A BABYSITTER? Neighbourhood Information Post, at 924-2543, has a registry of people who will do babysitting and odd jobs and daycare (12-16).

MONTESSORI DAYCARE available to children ages 2½-5. Half and full day programs. Gerrard and Carlaw. School, 463-2043. Evenings and weekends 366-0929. (12-16).

7 News Classified Ads cost \$2.50 for 25 words or less, and 10-cents for each additional word. All Classified Ads must be paid in advance. (The ONLY exceptions are ads advertising jobs available and lost and found ads — these are free). Fill in the coupon below and mail or bring it with your payment to 7 News, 315 Dundas St. E. (All Saints Church), Toronto M5A 2A2.
My ad should read as follows _____

Through the last ten years with 7 News

Ten years ago in 7 News a frustrated David Crombie was resigning from his position as chairman of the South of St. Jamestown Working Committee — Crombie was then a humble alderman. Regent Park was the focal point of a proposed study of youth drug use; the study was to look into glue and solvent sniffing, which, it had been charged were more common in Regent Park than other Metro areas. Regent Park security guards estimated that 25 area youths were

habitual glue sniffers and said that that figure was about average for the city. The Don Youth Project became incorporated and planned to launch a fundraising drive. The project employed youth workers to work with teenagers in housing projects in the area; at the same time another community association was being set up, this one for businessmen. Eric Rosen, publisher of the St. James Newspaper was trying to form a second Businessmen's Association in the Ward. A News in Brief item told

of a Don Valley Community Centre program called "Lunch at the Top," which offered a five course meal for 75¢ — to accomplish that at today's prices the first four courses would have to be variations of water soup.

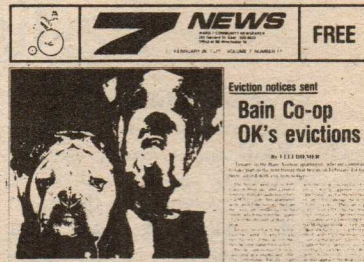
Regent Park Executive to act on youth programs and drug abuse



Five years ago in the 7 News David Crombie, now mayor, was enthusiastically promoting the new Central Area Plan. CAP was a twenty five year plan for downtown Toronto development, both

commercial and residential. An interesting facet of the plan pointed out that if commercial development increased without a corresponding increase in downtown housing the TTC would become grossly overcrowded as use increased — we were warned. Quilter's Common, a non-profit handicrafts business announced its opening. Tenants all over the ward were protesting rent increases; tenants in the Barbara apartments were protesting a 17.6% increase and tenants at the Bain Co-op who were participating in a rent strike were faced with eviction. The strike was held to protest an 18% rent increase that some tenants felt was unfair. A rooming house project was opened

to help the "hard to house", tenants whom landlords find undesirable (today this label has been expanded to those with pets and children, too). And Ward 7 held one of its most successful general meetings attended by about fifty people. The meeting was described as lively and fun, words that still describe the 7 News.



Central Neighbourhood House needs volunteers 3 hrs. a week in either group programs or on a one-to-one basis with people of all ages. Special needs at the moment include dance instructor, arts & crafts teacher and a volunteer with photography and display interests.

FRANKLAND COMMUNITY CENTRE
Every Sat. 2:30-4:30
Boxing from ages 10-17
FREE — CAPS
Learn a good self-defence method
Call 463-0554 Debbie or Norman

G. B. LANCASTER CONSULTANTS LTD.

**ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE
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790 Queen St. E.

PLANTS, FLOWERS & ACCESSORIES

466-6446

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

619 Sherbourne St.
Rev. Robert Cole
921-9417

Sunday Worship	11 a.m.
Sunday School's Bible Classes	10 a.m.
Friday Night Bible Study	8 p.m.

Parents discuss education issues

What should be happening in public education?

What do parents want?

More than 1,000 parents of children in Toronto schools will get together on March 6, 1982 at Central Technical School to discuss what they think are the issues in education for the 1980's.

Delegates to the second major parents' Convention will represent parents' organizations and special interest groups from the

City's elementary and secondary schools. The first convention in 1979 attracted 860 delegates.

This year's program includes over 60 workshops, focussing on topics ranging from financing education and provincial control of schools to discipline, language and cultural policies, staffing and community involvement.

The convention will run from 9:00 a.m. to 5:45 p.m., Saturday, March 6. Central Technical School is located at Harbord and Bathurst Streets, Toronto, and supervised day care will be available at nearby King Edward Public School.

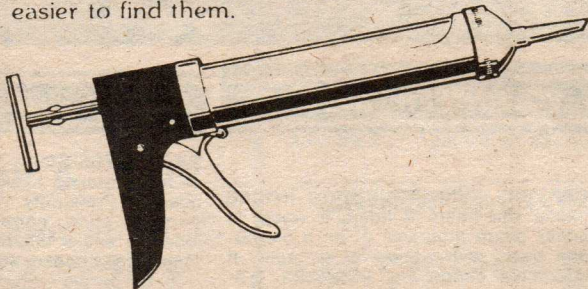
ARE YOU GOING TO SPEND ANOTHER WINTER HEATING THE GREAT OUTDOORS?

Drafts and cold spots in your home are where your heat is escaping. Whether your house is old or new, tiny cracks and holes — in the attic and basement, around windows, at electrical outlets — are allowing a substantial amount of your heat to leak out.

Why waste energy heating the outdoors? Be more comfortable, and weatherize your home.

You can do it yourself for very little cost and effort. All you need are a caulking gun, caulking, and good quality weatherstripping. Sealing the air leaks in your house will probably cost less than \$100, and take a few hours of spare time.

Because you should weatherize your home from the inside, **now** is the best time to do it. During the winter the drafts are stronger and colder, so it's easier to find them.



TO LOCATE THE LEAKS:

Explore your house on a windy day. With the back of your hand you can easily feel the drafts.

Is your attic warm? If so, your heat is bypassing the insulation. Check for cracks along interior walls, and stains in the insulation.

Much of your home's air will leak through the space where the foundation meets the house walls in the basement. Check wiring and plumbing holes that go through outside walls, too.



Ontario

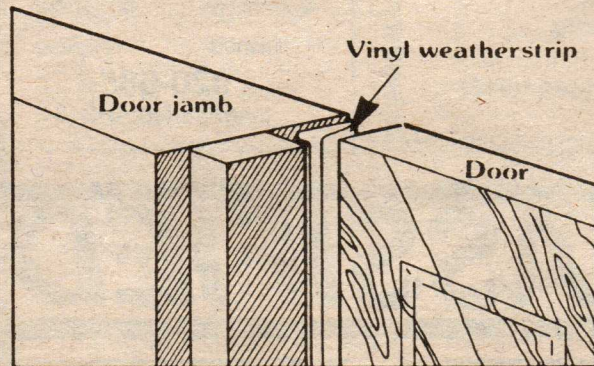
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Claude Bennett, Minister

William Davis, Premier

TO SEAL THE LEAKS:

Weatherstripping has been greatly improved in recent years, and can easily be fitted around most windows and doors. Clear silicone caulking along baseboards is invisible when dry — and easy to apply.



We can tell you more about the fastest way you can stop heating the outdoors, with the least cost and effort. Clip this coupon now. For the cost of a stamp to mail it, you'll receive our detailed, 16-page instruction booklet showing how to find your home's air leaks and which materials to use to seal them — and we'll send you our Fact Sheet on **FRESH AIR AND HUMIDITY IN A TIGHTER HOUSE.**



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

POSTAL CODE _____

MAIL TO: The Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Box 2159, Toronto, Ontario M5W 1H1



St. Peter's Anglican Church
190 Carlton Street
Toronto, Ontario M5A 2K8
Rev. John Wiseman, Rector

SUNDAY

9:00 A.M. Holy Communion
11:00 A.M. Sung Services of Morning Prayer or Holy Communion
7:00 P.M. Evening Prayer

WEDNESDAY

6:00 P.M. Holy Communion

For information on other services and programs, please call 924-1891 before noon. Rental space available.

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ON REQUEST

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WEDNESDAYS 1:15 p.m.

Royal Canadian Curling Senior Citizen Club
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