

RESOLUTIONS

Mrs. Harvey Noblitt

Twelve resolutions were researched by the Committee and presented at the Board Meeting. Six emergencies were handled at various intervals.

Note: Letters were written during the Spring of 1977, names of government officials may have changed since then.

DISPOSITION OF RESOLUTIONS

EASTERN AREA

Because of the difficulty in obtaining a dental appointment it is felt there is a shortage of dentists—request Ontario Government to consider the situation with a view of finding a remedy.

Hon. Dennis Timbrell

"The Ministry of Health has been particularly aware for some years of the maldistribution of dentists within the Province of Ontario and the difficulty in some smaller towns and more remote areas to obtain dental services. Since 1970, one hundred and five dentists have been selected and placed in areas of the Province designated as underserved. At the present time seventy-three private dental practitioners are located in a formerly underserved area.

This program of providing financial support to dentists wishing to locate in a designated underserved area will continue indefinitely.

I am also pleased to inform you that the Ministry of Health has purchased five additional Mobile Dental Units. We have been operating five Units for the past several years in the more remote areas of the Province, providing all preventive and basic treatment services to children residing in these communities at no direct cost to the parents.

This fleet of ten Dental Coaches will now enable us to more than double our efforts at treating children in the Province residing some distance from private dental care.

Some sixty-five Medical-Dental Centres have been constructed by small communities in the past eight years. Many have received government grants for the construction costs. These clinics have been most instrumental in attracting both physicians and dentists to the areas.

NORTHERN AREA

Small toys enclosed in cereal boxes unsafe for small children—request Department of Consumer Affairs to investigate.

A reply received from the Product Safety Branch of the Consumer and Corporate Affairs stated toys in cereal are regulated under the Hazardous Products Act and the prohibition of sales require a change in regulation. Their concern was with the quality of the toy and that we should approach the Dept. of Health and Welfare. To date no answer to our letter from either Hon. Marc Lalonde or the Products Safety Branch.

Request Government to enact legislation to permit the spouse to receive payment for labour, deductible from spouse's income.

Minister of Finance

"Under our system of progressive tax rates where an increasingly higher rate of tax is paid on increased

amounts of income, the tax on any amount of income in a year is likely to be much less if the income could be split between more than one taxpayer. For this reason, the income tax rules do not generally recognize transactions between closely related persons, commonly referred to as non-arm's length transactions. This ensures that deductions in computing income and other tax reliefs in the Act cannot be manipulated by related persons to provide greater tax advantages than what is intended.

Nonetheless, because of repeated representations in this respect, the matter is scheduled for review by the department.

Your recommendation has been recorded and will be further considered during the review of this important tax policy."

NORTH CENTRAL AREA

Request Government to enact legislation that prohibits shows, documentaries and previews advertising violence which include scenes of hate, murder, violence scheduled to adult viewing hours.

"As you know, the CRTC is not authorized to act as a censorship body, in view of the freedom of expression requirement of the Broadcasting Act. However, the Commission may make specific recommendations to individual broadcasters at the time of their licence renewal. For example, the renewal decisions of a number of television stations included the following comments:

"the licensee should . . . exercise greater care in the selection of foreign programs, particularly those containing violent elements which are of the deep and legitimate concern of many responsible citizens. The licensee should also exercise greater discretion in scheduling such programs."

The Commission continues to examine with licensees the most effective action to be taken to reduce the amount of television violence through self-regulatory action, in the context of the larger challenge of increasing the production of popular Canadian alternatives programming of excellence.

Your comments will certainly be taken into consideration, and in view of the broadcaster's responsibility in matters of programming, we would like to suggest that you also communicate your views directly to stations and networks which concern you."

Request Government to enact legislation that prohibits magazines promoting sex nudity violence be prohibited from being prominently displayed in areas patronized by school children.

Hon. Roy McMurtry, Attorney General.

Given that retailers, as a breed, are extremely sensitive to negative comments by consumers, we have also been encouraging individuals in the private sector to make their views known to retailers and local officials.

As a result of the ground-swell of expressed concern by the private sector during the past year, it would appear that magazine distributors are requesting, and aiding, retailers to utilize great discretion in the handling of this material. Consequently, many communities are beginning to report significantly improved conditions in the retail outlets in their areas.