

# Divorce Actions Triple Under New Canada Laws

The old man in the divorce court was in his eighties. He had been separated from his wife for more than 30 years but until the new divorce laws came into effect last year the matrimonial bond was a tough one to break.

But now the old man is free.

He was one of the many married people streaming through the Supreme Court in the Halton County building during the current winter sitting to take advantage of the amended Canada Divorce Act and finally terminate their unhappy unions.

## Divorces Increase

A three-fold increase in the number of divorce actions since the new laws was Georgetown lawyer Ken Langdon's estimate.

It was lawyer Langdon, son of Halton Judge K. M. Langdon who issued the first divorce petition in Halton County under the new federal law. That was on July 2 of last year, day after the reform-law came into effect.

Since then there have been more than 130 petitions issued in the county, the lawyer said, about three times more than usual.

There are 40 divorce petitions to be heard in the Supreme Court in Halton during

the current sitting. About half this number were heard during a special Supreme Court sitting this week and the rest come up before Mr. Justice Lacourcière of Toronto Monday.

Since there are a great many more divorce petitions being filed, there is a backlog of official guardian reports to be made. These reports are the children of the petitioning couple must be filed with Supreme Court Registrar Gordon Madill before the case is heard.

Madill is yet to receive some of the guardian reports for the current petitions and for this reason not all the 40 cases may be heard. Those that don't make it this time get to come back to the next Supreme Court sitting in Halton starting May 2.

Meanwhile, in they come to be finally liberated from a bond of matrimony that's become meaningless. They come into the Halton County courthouse with an anticipation of freedom they haven't known for five or 10 or 20 or 30 years or however long it's been since they last enjoyed the company of their spouse.

Before Ottawa amended the Canada-Divorce Act, a person had to prove adultery before an unsuitable marriage could be dissolved.

A young, attractive woman

whose husband may have walked out on her with no intention of ever coming back, was previously barred from getting a divorce and marrying again — unless it was a case of adultery.

Now the deserted woman can retaliate and if the period of separation is three years she can take it to the divorce court and then she will be free again. If the person who petitions for the divorce is also the spouse who did the deserting, the separation period must be five years before the court will hear the case. In other words there's a two year penalty for the deserter, and deserting means leaving home yourself or forcing the other to leave.

## Backs Reform

Langdon, like all the lawyers appearing in Halton County courthouse currently, heartily endorses the new divorce laws.

The grounds for divorce have been widened greatly, he said, and the procedure has been simplified.

"It makes the law much less of a hypocrite," he added "I think it's a vast improvement."

Mental cruelty is another new ground, but the chief one is the complete breakdown of a marriage due to a long separation during which little or nothing has been done to restore the union.

There has been a "great flood" of divorces since the changes, said one lawyer. Another termed it a "real horde of divorce actions." However, they express it, the lawyers are being kept busy with these people who, by their faces are enjoying the final act of obliterating their unhappy marriages.

## Divorce Act

The lawyers are busy but they wouldn't have it any other way. The new Divorce Act is "real progress" and "eminently sensible" and "wonderful" they say as they go into court to set free a gentle woman where husband cleared out years ago, or a young girl who wants to correct an impetuous error, or an old man who's



KEN LANGDON

thinking of giving it another whirl.

Ken Langdon recalled issuing the first new divorce petition in the county. It was an Acton woman who hadn't lived with her husband since he took off 25 years ago.

"Under the old act this marriage would have to go on and on," he noted. It was meaningless and a cause of unhappiness

for the woman that it had to. And now she's free, Langdon go on and on but that was the added. And that's the big happy law and on it went until a de-pen-ing in the Halton court-cree nial was granted at thehouse, all these people are be-fall sitting in Halton undering liberated. They come out of the new laws and the divorce court with freedom written all was made absolute in mid-Dec-over their faces.

## Broadloom for Mayor Over Hyde's Objection

It could have been "home decorating night" at council Monday night, when a table, rugs and drapes for the mayor's office became a heated topic.

Cr. Ric Morrow, seconded by Cr. Donna Denison proposed the purchase of a table, filing cabinet, drapes and broadloom. The table, filing cabinet and drapes met with no opposition but the broadloom seemed too much for Cr. Ernie Hyde.

Cr. Bill Smith contended broadloom should be in the mayor's office, when it was put all through the engineering office.

"Before the end of the year we'll be looking for two or three hundred dollars" commented Cr. Hyde.

"If we can't properly outfit

very handy piece of equipment. Don't forget, though, that when a battery is being charged, hydrogen gas is generated and a match or a spark close by could result in a dangerous explosion.

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THURSDAY, JAN. 16th, 1969  
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## NATURALIZER

### Mid - Winter Sale

Of Women's Fine Shoes

**\$11.99**

CHOICE OF BLACK - BROWN - BLUE

# SILVER'S

QUALITY FOOTWEAR

## THE HALTON COUNTY Board of Education

The Board has decided for the time being that the Central Administration offices will be at . . .

166 SOUTH SERVICE ROAD EAST,  
OAKVILLE — ONTARIO

Arrangements are being made with the Bell Telephone Company for the installation of Zenith numbers so that anyone in Halton County may call these offices without long distance toll charges.

Until these arrangements are completed, anyone calling the Central Administration Office is requested to call Collect — Oakville 845-2501.

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NO CLEARANCE SALE THIS JANUARY (You Cleaned Us Out In December) INSTEAD AN

# INTRODUCTORY SALE

OF

## 2 NEW MODELS

SPECIAL PRICES (Limited Offer) NEVER BEFORE SHOWN TILL NOW

# MOTOROLA

25" COLOR | 19" COLOR

QUASAR | Solid State at 17 Vital Points Golden M Chassis MODEL 550 with UHF

Works in the Drawer All - Transistor MODEL 870 with UHF

PLUS MANY OTHER 1969 MODELS

COLOR — BLACK AND WHITE — STEREO  
ALL SCREEN SIZES AVAILABLE WITH UHF

AT

## RYDER'S TV

SALES & SERVICE  
Georgetown 49 Main St. North 877-9796

\* UHF CHANNELS 17, 19, 23, 25, 29, 41, 47, 49, 53, 75 and others have been allotted to this area to the best of our knowledge. Your new TV should have a UHF tuner to receive these channels as they come on the air.

## SALE CONTINUES

# Garners

MAIN ST. GEORGETOWN

## A WINDFALL OF BARGAINS

# JANUARY CLEARANCE

### HARVEY WOODS LINGERIE

## Once-A-Year SALE

# SAVE 20%

ON THIS LEADING BRAND FAMED FOR QUALITY AND FIT

## RAYON PANTIE

A choice of 3 popular styles — Banded brief, banded flare leg, or banded knee pantie . . .

Regular \$1.59 — **\$1.29**  
SALE PRICED

OVERSIZE — **\$1.37**  
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## RAYON BRIEF

Band or elastic leg — Regular 3 for \$2.89 — **\$2.29**  
SALE — 3 for

### SPECIALS FROM GOSSARD

## Slips at 20% Saving

### ANTRON SLIPS

A great opportunity to buy a truly elegant slip at 20% saving. Lace trimmed — Short or average.

Reg. \$7 — **\$5.59**  
SALE PRICE

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### HALF-SLIPS

Clearance at great price reductions. Many styles of nylon, cotton, or ermel — 3 groups —

Regular \$1.98. For . . . **98c**  
Regular \$2.98. For . . . **\$1.49**  
Regular \$3.98. For . . . **\$1.79**

### CHILD'S MITTS AND GLOVES

SALE PRICE **39c - 50c**  
**\$1 - \$1.19**

### LADIES' MITTS AND GLOVES

Wools or Acrylics  
Reg. price to \$3.59  
**99c**

### FULL SLIPS AT CLEARANCE PRICES

### LADIES' FLANNELETTE

## Gowns & Pyjamas

All at bargain prices — Beautiful sleepwear

**\$2.39** TWO PRICE RANGES ONLY **\$3.19**

## SEWING FABRICS

### 60" Bonded Wools

## ALL AT 1/2 PRICE

Smart Bonded Wools in an attractive selection of Tweed and Plain colors — 2 price ranges to choose from . . .

Reg. to \$4.98 yd. **\$2.49**  
Reg. to \$6.98 yd. **\$3.49**

### 38" Wool Fabrics

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Reg. to \$3.98  
Ideal Wool Fabrics For Jumpers — Suits — Slacks at a Price to Sew and Save — SPECIAL . . .

**\$1.79** YD.

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