

# Doctors Highest Paid, Factor In Medicare Scale, Snow Says

Ontario has the highest paid doctors in Canada, a factor which had to be taken into account when the province designed its medicare plan, Jim Snow, Halton East MPP, said this week.

Snow was answering criticism levelled at the provincial government's Ontario Health Services Insurance Plan since it came into effect October 1 to take the place of private medical insurance plans.

The payment formula of the OHSIP program has been rejected by both the public and doctors.

OHSIP legislation states the plan will only pay 90 per cent of the fee schedule of the Ontario Medical Association.

The Halton County Medical Association has rejected the 90 per cent payment formula and

said it will bill patients for the full 100 per cent.

Doctors blame the provincial government for forcing them into a "squabble over money" which they don't want. The OHSIP plan and the fee wrangle which it caused, is destroying the dignity and respect of the traditional doctor-patient relationship, Halton doctors feel.

Meanwhile the public is complaining about the higher medical care premiums.

**Full Fee**  
"We recognize that some doctors will expect patients to pay the final 10 per cent, creating hardship for certain people," Snow said.

Because of this he added, the government will study billing practices to assess the actual situation throughout the province and will review our policy in the light of our findings."

Snow explained the prohibition against supplementary insurance for that uncovered 10 per cent is a "major condition of federal participation in medicare."

The province has been ordered by the federal government to forbid the sale of any supplementary private insurance if it wants to continue to receive federal funds for the medicare program.

**10 Years**  
The province will spend \$85 million annually for the next 10 years to improve health services, Snow noted.

The total cost of the OHSIP program for the first full year of operation will be \$508 million, which is \$199 million over the estimated revenue from premiums, the Halton East MPP said.

The federal government is ex-

pected to contribute about \$168 million, which still leaves \$31 million to be made up by direct payment from the provincial treasury.

Snow noted it would be possible for the province to reduce the premiums but this would mean an increase in taxation.

The Halton medical association has blasted a statement made by Finance Minister Edgar Benson that doctors have had higher increases in income than any other group in Canada. County doctors call the statement "a shocking distortion of the facts."

Halton doctors denied that increased cost of health services are the result of higher doctors' fees and said the main reason is the rising costs of building and operating hospitals.

HORNBY

## Women's Group Enjoy Chinese Dinner

The Evening Starlight Group of Hillcrest United Church met at the church on Monday evening, Nov. 3, and journeyed from there to Hoy's Restaurant in Streetsville where they enjoyed a Chinese dinner, with nine members present. Following dinner they returned to the church where they held a very successful penny sale with Mrs. Jim Tyner in charge. The articles for the penny sale are all donated by the members. Final arrangements were discussed for the annual bazaar and each one was assigned to a job. The nominating committee was elected to look after the election of officers at the next meeting which will be held in the church on Saturday, Dec. 1.

The ladies will cater to a wedding reception in the church on Saturday, Dec. 15. A banquet for the Federation of Agriculture will be held at the church on Tuesday, Dec. 2. The General meeting will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 3 and the Georgetown Fair Board banquet will be held on Friday, Dec. 5. It looks like the ladies of Hillcrest will be living at the church the first week of December. Lunch was served by Mrs. Leslie King and Mrs. Earl McDowell and a social hour enjoyed.

The 7th meeting of the Hornby Meat Balls was held at the home of Mrs. Roy Wilson on Monday evening, Dec. 3. They sampled the meat loaf which was made by Cindy Cordingley and Cathy O'Hearn and a savory salad made by Laurie Currie and Janet Copeland. Mrs. Cordingley gave notes on the various ways to cure meats.

Friends of John Alderson will be pleased to hear he was able to return home last week from the Milton district hospital.

—Mrs. Jim Hamilton

SILVERWOOD

## Jamaica Visitor Sees First Snow

Mr. Stanley Walker, who has been visiting with Mr. Len Walker and family has returned to Kingston, Jamaica. He arrived in September and expressed a desire to stay and see snow. He was obliged by the weatherman in October and thinks snow is nice. This was his first experience with the white stuff. (Wonder how a lane 100 feet long to be shovelled would look to him?)

The Pro Teens met November 1st at the home of Wendy Hannah for another lesson in meat cooking. This was a delicious meat loaf, beef, veal and pork mixed and flavoured with parsley, and the girls pronounced it excellent. They learned to look for certain points in buying as well as cooking meats, from an economic point of view.

Silverwood received 1.90 inches of rain November 1st.

Six members of Silverwood W. I. along with members of other institutes were invited to a health and public relations meeting in the hall at Ballinacree by Ballinacree W. I. Slides on accident prevention were shown along with excellent participation by members of visiting groups. The evening closed with coffee and sandwiches.

Mrs. N. Bombholt is home again from Guelph General Hospital and we hope to stay.

—Allie F. C. Scott

## Rug Hookers Learn Coat Hanger Dyeing

The Georgetown Rug Hooking Guild held a workshop on Thursday, Oct. 30 at St. Andrew's United Church on Mountainview Road. Mrs. Jean Fields of Port Credit came to instruct 23 members in the method of coat-hanger dyeing.

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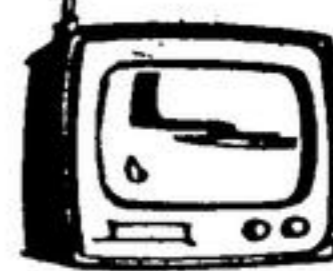


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CANADIAN GENERAL ELECTRIC

## 21 Now on Roster for New Concert Orchestra

The very recently formed Concert Orchestra, has attracted many more musicians than expected. At the moment 21 members from Acton, Brampton, Milton, Cheltenham and Georgetown assemble each Sunday evening at Cedarvale to

play their chosen instruments. The orchestra, conducted by Erhardt Liedke, assistant director of music for Peel County Board of Education, consists of Austin Ledwith on violin; Hugh Hunter, clarinet; Marty Wheeler, trombone; Charles Lands-

borough, trumpet; John Dueyk, trumpet; David Sales, oboe; George Elliott, oboe and French horn; Allan Heatley, clarinet; Phillip Levy, violin; Ed Peters, percussion; Jean Tufts, violin; Dorothy Claxton, violin; Don Merritt, violin; Charlie Crimes,

bas; Keith Barber, cello; Archie Kerr, violin; Ralph Ursel, piano; Carol Rutledge, violin; Janis Mayes, violin; and Anne Burton, violin. The orchestra was the brainchild of Keith Barber, president and Ralph Ursel, secretary.



Keith Barber, foreground, on cello, was one of the organizers of concert orchestra which is practicing every Sunday.

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