

Philbrook praises budget as boon to small business

Halton MP Dr. Frank Philbrook, in his budget speech to the House of Commons, noted favorable reactions from most sectors of society to the Minister of Finance's presentation. He quoted newspapers from across the country as praising the even-handed approach to the dual problems of inflation and unemployment.

However, the Halton MP also reacted to criticism of the budget by the Opposition and the media with reference to its lack of dramatic content. "I believe it is time to recognize the budget is no longer intended to be dramatic or earth-shattering, rather it is an opportunity for stock-taking. Those who complain about the budget's lack of meat are those who fail to realize an advanced and complex society such as ours requires constant care and feeding," Philbrook told the Commons.

The Halton MP said that since the credibility and intent of a budget is undermin-

ed by misconceived expectations both in the press and amongst the Opposition it might be proposed that an annual "State of the economy" address be instituted to replace the general discussion of the economy which usually prefaces budget speeches. Philbrook sees such an address as providing government and press with an opportunity to focus clearly on the debate surrounding major issues, while leaving the budget to deal with specific—and lengthy—details.

He also proposed that budget presentations be restricted to the half-hour of summary of the main points and full details be tabled to expedite what he feels has become a

laborious exercise. Philbrook claimed the budget, in increasing tax incentives to small business, was a boon to the small businessman. The Government has raised the eligibility requirements for tax deductions on small businesses mainly Canadian owned from a previous profits ceiling of \$100,000 per year and \$500,000 over five, to a ceiling of \$150,000 over one and \$750,000 over five years. Intent of the tax concessions is to encourage small businesses to grow by improving cash flow so as to compete more effectively with large firms.

He also saw the concessions contributing towards more economic efficiency on a two

fold basis: "First, greater recognition of the independent businessman as an important political and economic force in our society. Illustrative of this is the fact the new tax concessions announced in the budget are exactly those that had been called for by the President of the Canadian Federation of Independent Businessmen, John Bulloch.

"Second, since domestic demand for Canadian-produced goods is still weak, most manufacturers will have to rely on export sales. Thus, the competitive status of Canada's small and medium-sized businesses places them in a relatively strong position to handle this chal-

lenge and to prosper for as long as we must continue to rely on exports for growth in the manufacturing sector," Philbrook said.

Philbrook also pointed out other areas which would be of concern to the small business sector, which should be recognized:

"The need to control inflation by controlling government spending and deficits and the abuse of monopoly power by big business and labor unions.

"Next, the need to overcome the stifling effects of massive bureaucratization in a spontaneous, competitive economy.

"Next, the need for continuing adjustment of our tax laws to place small business on an even keel with big business. Presently, our economy is still biased against small and medium businesses, labor-intensive small firms, for example, are forced to pay a disproportionate share of payroll taxes while the large capital-intensive firms can reduce their tax burden by qualifying for capital incen-

tives."

"I believe that we must continue to help the small businessman, as the very perpetuation of the free market sector can only be achieved by transferring resources to it from the sectors dominated by big business, labor and government," the Halton MP said.

Philbrook also praised modification in the Unemployment Insurance system:

"Extending the eligibility requirement for receiving unemployment insurance benefits from eight weeks of work to 12; relating the number of weeks that one can remain on unemployment insurance more directly to how long and where one has actually worked; linking the administration of the UIC and Canada Manpower; all of these changes, plus others, indicate that in handling unemployment, the government is determined to alleviate both sides of the problem. Not only shall those forced out of employment receive all due protection, but much is being done to bring them back into the labor force as quickly as possible.



REGIONAL WORKS EMPLOYEES get safety hints from Jim Coulson of Milton Fire Department. Dave Hannah of Georgetown and Ted Curtis of Acton are shown receiving assistance from Asst. Deputy Chief Coulson. The region recently purchased new equipment and Mr. Coulson advised the workers on how to use the gas masks and other safety equipment.

Police profile

Richard Hilton

Sergeant Richard (Dick) Hilton has been appointed to head the Acton precinct of the Halton Regional Police.

The change came last week, after Staff Sergeant Bernie Ward was transferred to Burlington.

Sgt. Hilton began his police career on the Metropolitan Toronto force in 1965. Two years later, he joined the Oakville police force where he remained until a year ago, when he was transferred to the Georgetown precinct.

In his first week here, Sgt. Hilton has been getting to know businessmen, heads of departments, the fire chief, and other people in town.

Eleven constables will be answering to Sgt. Hilton, and he feels he has a staff of good self-motivating officers.

In his spare time, which the sergeant says is rare, he is occupied with the relaxing sports of golf and fishing, and his wife and five-year-old son.

The family lives in Mississauga.

Passenger injured in crash

Complaints of pain were heard from a passenger in a car involved in a two-car, trailer collision on Main St., June 13, at 5 p.m., Halton Regional Police say.

Sally Wagg of Toronto was riding in a car driven by Marjorie Wagg, R.R. 4, Georgetown. The trailer pulled by the Wagg car received \$100 in estimated damages. Police estimate \$200 in damages to a vehicle driven by James Pattison, Guelph St. and \$1,000 to a car driven by David Williams, 107 Elizabeth Dr.



Carolyn Mackenzie

Carolyn North Mackenzie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Finlay Mackenzie, 164 Churchill Rd., Acton, graduated from the University of Toronto on June 15 with a four-year Bachelor of Arts degree with honors, majoring in Sociology.

She was awarded the Governor General's Silver Medal for the highest scholastic achievement in Arts at Erindale College and the E. A. Robinson Medal for the highest marks in Centre C, Erindale College.

Carolyn has also been awarded the John D. Falconbridge Memorial Entrance Scholarship for the study of law at Osgoode Hall Law School and will continue her studies in September.



Sandra Payne

Sandra Payne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Payne, 43 Rosemary Rd., Acton, graduated from the Guelph Nursing Division, Delhi St., of Conestoga College on June 12. Convocation was held at the Kitchener Memorial Auditorium.



Deborah Slingerland

Deborah Slingerland, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Slingerland, 149 Wynford Place, graduated from the University of Windsor with her Bachelor of Human Kinetics degree on May 26. It was a four year honors course.



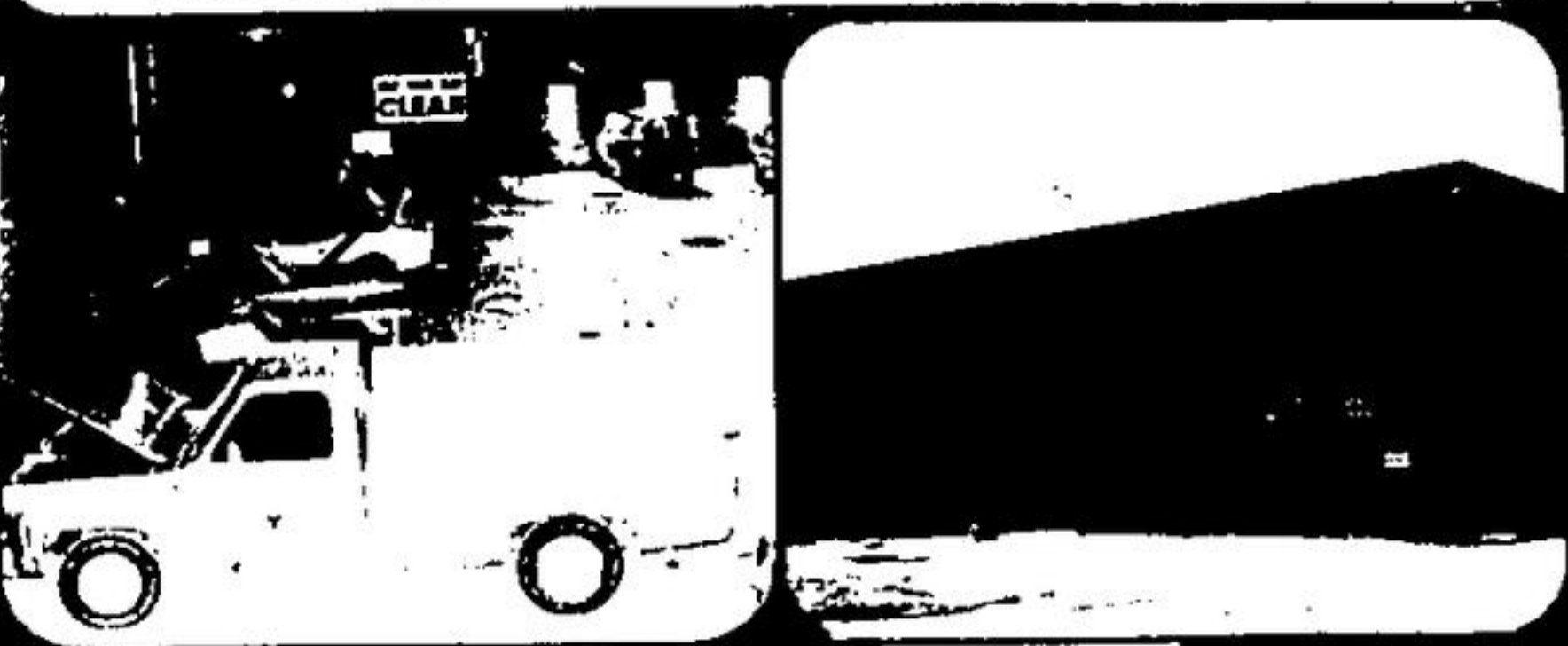
Peg Graham

Peg Graham, daughter of Kathleen Holmes and the late Frank Holmes (Twitter), graduated from Sir Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, with her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology on May 30.

She attended M.Z. Bennett and Acton high schools, and is at present teaching grade two at Holy Rosary school, Milton.

Attending convocation exercises were her mother, husband Pat, children Lynn and Chris and in-laws, Mr. and Mrs. George Graham.

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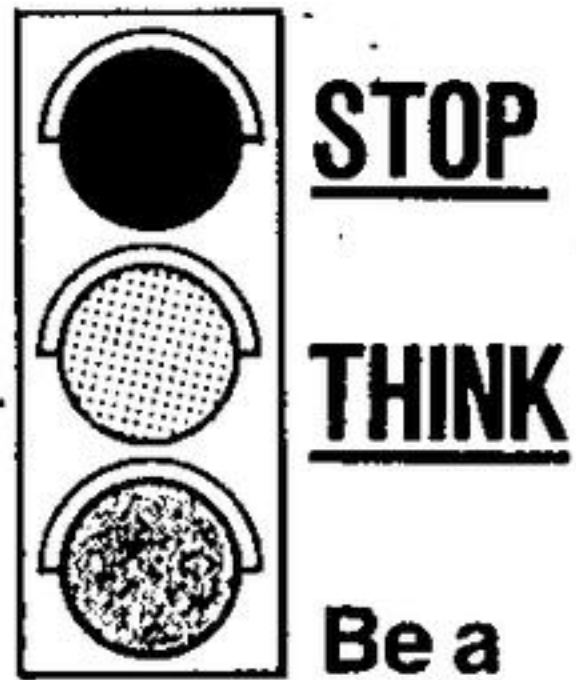


Broken

The side window was broken in a car parked in a parking lot on Main St., Acton police were told June 16.

Bad cheque

A bad cheque was reported by an Acton merchant to police Saturday, and as a result of the investigation an Erin man was charged.



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