Recreation

are part-

Last year the Halton Net-

work held two successful pub-

lic forums. The first was to

provide input on Mississauga

MPP Terry Jones proposal

about changing the drinking

age; the second was on young

persons in conflict with the

Last summer the Network

carried out a two-pronged

project to research the needs

of youth in the west Oakville

area. One part was a door to

door survey of households in

the Hopedale area, while the

second involved a youth drop-

in centre at Hopedale Mall

and a sports program at nearby Queen Elizabeth Park

Departments

icipating now.

Halton Youth Services Netan organization devoted to helping young people fill their needs and share community resources, is expanding into North

Halton. Oakville and this year expects to branch out to cover the whole Halton Region, according to program co-ordinator Barbara de Kruiff. Chairmen have been chosen to launch local committees amd William Tom will head the work in Milton with Eric Balkind in charge in Halton Hills, she said.

The YSN began last year in Director of Halton Children's Aid Society is the key speaker for Thursday's annual, Mr. Coupland acknowledges that community agencies sometimes have difficulty communicating with one another as well as co-ordinating their programs to youth's best advantage. He plans to present some ideas about improving the situation.

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The Halton YSN plans its annual meeting this Thursday evening, Feb. 24 at 7.30 p.m. at Sheridan College and urges anyone interested in the program to attend.

Secretariat's criteria for networks is, "to provide a forum for the discussion of needs Ron Coupland, Executive concerns of young people; and to share information and explore the sharing of community resources toward the improvement of the quality of youth services." The Youth Secretariat funds one-third of a network's cost while the community covers the remainder.

"We are very anxious to have young people represented on the board of directors." Mrs. de Kruiff said. One-third of the members of the local board can be young people but one-quarter

Youth Secretariat helped

Halton Youth Services get

organized last June. The

of them must be of voting age. Halton Regional Police, Sheridan College, Canada Manpowef, Children's Aid, the juvenile Assessment Centre, in Burlington, Halton Board of Education and local

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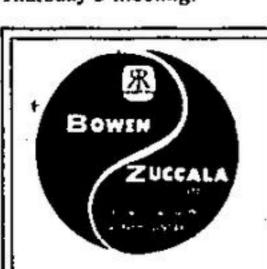
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The Network also funded the printing of a youth resources report done under the auspices of Burlington Social Planning Council. A director of youth services, further discussion

forums and a regular newsletter are projects on tap for 1977, Mrs. de Kruiff said. YSN is also distributing information on government programs providing employment for youth, including the Young Canada Works program, the Experience '77 pro-

munity Service program. Members of government groups and school guidance counsellors are especially invited to Thursday's meeting.

gram and the Student Com-



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the Outskirts o Acton

Mushing up the sideroad

by Jennifer Barr There's something quieter and more exciting than snowmobiling these cold winter days. Sledding with dogs is becoming more and more popular, especially at R. R. 2, Acton where Doug and Sheila

Pantling have eight Siberian

huskies and indulge in the

sport every weekend. It all started four years ago on Valentines Day when Doug bought Sheila her first husky . Dmidri. The family were facing the loss of their old collie and were looking for a purebred puppy. Choice of a husky pup was just by chance but the Pantlings have never

Having a young purebred good enough to show, started the Pantlings on the round of dog shows and eventually races. They found themselves getting more and more interested and decided to have "one load of pups."

The rest was the age-old story. Dmidri produced a fine litter by a red Siberian (she's a silver grey) and three of the pups were kept. Son Jeff kept a young bitch pup, Anastasia, and started showing her. He says she's done very well in the six months on the circuit.

Another litter, a year later, produced more fine pups, some of which were kept. Daughter Diane Penrice of Georgetown owns one of the offspring, while Jeff and second daughter Patricia share the responsibilities of the remaining dogs.

the Nordog Sledders, a club

embracing an area from

Bracebridge to Cambridge,

and the Siberian Husky Club

of Canada, has provided the

Pantlings with much needed

information and a chance to

Sleds can be costly

Frequent events include

cross country races in which

teams compete by running

individually timed courses of roughly seven miles. Rules

differ with every club but one

of the universal ones states

contestants must complete

the course with the same dogs

they started with. If a dog is

injured or tired, he's brought

in riding on the sled or trott-

The valuable dogs (they

sell as puppies for \$250 to

\$350) are well cared for by

their owners. Feet are

toughened and checked care-

fully for injury. Harness fits

comfortably. Each harness is

usually made individually for

the dogs. Roger Johnston of

Acton has been making

padded nylon harness for the

Pantlings and they are well

pleased with it, finding it

more durable than leather.

able investment. Racing

sleds weigh 35 lbs. and cost

\$175 to \$250. This may not

sound like much until one

realizes a sled may only last a

Jeff Pantling remarks

"They get pretty busted up if

you run them into a tree."

That's one of the reasons he

uses a heavy rough-built sled

The wood used in sled mak-

ing is usually ash and has to

single race.

for training.

Sleds are also another size-

ing beside the team.

join in club events. •

Pulling a 'barge' To Jeff falls the major part of the training. Even though the Pantlings still wish to show for conformation, sledding is their love. Jeff agrees it's possible to make more income from a show stud than a sledding stud but he says they're not in it for the money. Besides, "shows are too political," he thinks.

This is the first year the Pantlings have competed with their team and as yet have only gone to practice

Jeff has made a heavy breaking sled - "a barge", he calls it- and can be seen most days mushing up the sideroad behind a trio of eager huskies. Finding a good lead dog can

be a problem. He must be intelligent and love to stay out in front. After talking to a great many people, reading and learning, Jeff started to work his dogs and decided to use Bucky as lead. This friendly open-faced young dog is strong and keen with all the makings of a first class

After the lead dog, teams consist of four or six dogs teamed for strength and pulling ability. At the moment, Jeff works only three dogs at a time for better control and communication.

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HUSKIES ARE friendly as Jeff Pantling proves. Belonging to two sled clubs, be pliable and supple as well as light weight.

> he states, but only the pro-Siberians, Alaskans, Mala- the Pantlings moved to Acton

family only races in the book and are X-rayed for thoroughbred races but there the presence of hip displasia, are races for mixed teams us- an infrequent but sometimes ing any breed of dog. These crippling hereditary proteams are sometimes faster, blem. fessional northern dog - became too many last year,

gruelling races.

Dogs sleep out Cost of keeping the dogs is considerable and the Pantlings are loath to add it up. Five pounds of meal, plus great quantities of meat, eggs and 'dog dinner' are used every day. Milk bones and oil for the coat are daily treats. Veterinary care can be very expensive although Doug says they find routine care cheaper now they have a visiting Guelph vet come to the kennels instead of the clinic visits necessary when the family lived in George-

The dogs are housed outside in pens, two to a run, with small sleeping kennels. However, Sheila Pantling says the dogs rarely use the kennels. Their coats are made for weather, she explains, saying huskies can shake the rain off and be dry in a second. The dogs are happier outside, the Pantlings feel, although a large whelping box is kept in the basement for confine-

disinfected daily and each dog gets his daily run. Doug Pantling says the Pupples have every shot in

When the number of dogs

mutes, and Samoyeds - have from suburban Georgetown. Now they have room for their their own bush.

the stamina for the long kennels and sled trails in They recently built a heated kennel for boarding

> dogs on their 12 acre pro-"They don't think I've got enough to do" laughs Sheila who is the main force behind the kennel. Doug hopes to be able to make the boarding kennel a business proposition

for the whole family. Snow eyes Sheila becomes quite lyrical when talking about her huskles. They're ideal family dogs, she thinks, explaining the husky is most gentle with

"They only fight among themselves," she says.

Siberian huskies don't have any odor and are non-allergenic for people who suffer from dog hair allergies. They come in many different colors, from red, buff, and chocolate brown to white and silver-grey. They can have either blue or brown eyes and have a third eyelid called a snow eye for protecting the eyes against glare and snow. The runs are cleaned and The eye looks blurry when the snow lid is in place - sort of, built-in sunglasses.

Judging by the happy yelps of welcome that greet the visitor and the enthusiastic licking one gets from the Pantling huskles, sledding is not only a healthy hobby but a very rewarding one for the owners of these delightfully friendly animals.



SHEILA AND JEFF Pantling hitch up the dogs for a run.



Church Services

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA KNOX CHURCH, ACTON

Rev. Androw H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D. - Minister Mr. E. A. Hansen, B.A. Organist and Choir Master Sunday, Feb. 27, 1977

9:50-10:35 a.m. - Minister's Confirmation Class for Teenagers 11:00 a.m. - Divine Worship. Surmon theme: "The Deeper Providenco."

11:00 a.m. - Church School for Nursery, Kindergarten and Grades 1 to B.

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> 853-2715 9:45 A.M. Christian Education Hour

Rev. R.W. Struthers

Mr. Frank Patrick

11:00 A.M. Divino Worship 7:00 P.M. Evening Service

TUESDAY B:00 p.m. Bible Study THURSDAY 8:00 p.m. Young Peoples

MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH 177 Maple Avo., Georgetown (A Followship

Beptist Church) Sunday, Feb. 20, 1977 9.45 a.m. - Sunday School for all

11.00 a.m. - Morning Worship 6.30 p.m. -- Evening Fellowship Thought-Peace rules the day when Christ rules the mind.

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THURSDAY 7:00 p.m. - Choir Practice 7:30 p.m. - Young Peoples' Pan-

SATURDAY 7:00 p.m. - Moody Science Film followed by Adult Bowling in

Georgetown Sunday, Feb. 27, 1977

9:30 a.m. - Sunday School and

Adult Class 11:00 a.m. - Morning Worship 7:00 p.m. - Evening Fellowship

> Everyone Welcome UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

TRINITY CHURCH, ACTON Rev. Chas. Beaton B.A., B.D. Dr. George Elliott M.A., Ph. D.

Director of Music Sunday, Feb. 27, 1977

10:00 a.m. - Morning Worship UNITED CHURCH MISSIONARY Rev. Bruce Eston "Feed My Sheep"

Reception Following Baby Fold and Toddler Care Sunday School

Everyone Welcome

BAHAT

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Sunday, Feb. 27, 1977

9:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist 10:30 a.m. - Mattins Installation of Officers The Rector Will Be In

Charge Of Both Services CHURCHILL

COMMUNITY CHURCH Churchill Rd. N. Minister The Rev. J. L. McFadden B.A., B.D.

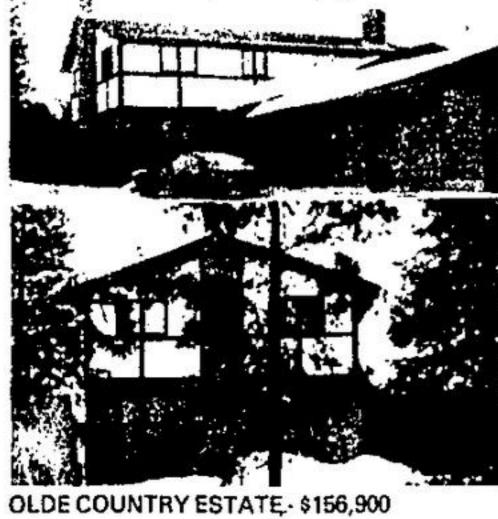
and Mrs. Eleanor McFadden, Box 731, Guelph,

Phone 821-3215 Sunday, Feb. 27, 1977 11.00 a.m. - Worship and Church

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