

**OUR READERS WRITE:**

**Message to women**

**URGENT MESSAGE TO ONTARIO WOMEN**  
The undersigned, acting as individuals, believe that the Family Law Reform Bill (Bill 59) will have disastrous consequences for women if it is adopted in its present form.

The government of Ontario has stated its intention of passing this Bill within the next few weeks so that it would be law by March 31st 1978.

We strongly urge you to join us in attempting to stop this Bill in its present form. The Bill should be amended as follows:

1 To broaden the assets to be shared on separation or divorce (called "family assets" in the Bill) to include pension rights, savings and investments acquired during the marriage. This change would do much toward recognizing the equal contribution of the wife to the marriage partnership. (Section 3)

2 To guarantee widows a share of the matrimonial assets upon the death of their husbands. As the Bill abolishes dower rights without providing for sharing of the marital assets upon death, it would make widows worse off than they are at present. The law should ensure that women whose marriages continue until death get at least the same rights to their husbands' property as women whose marriages have broken down.

3 To change the Bill's retroactive presumption that a wife who received property from her husband is holding it in trust for him (in other words, he is still the real owner). Whenever a spouse transfers or buys property in the name of the other, the transaction should be considered to be one of gift. This would affirm women's rights over property they have received from their husbands and would bring the law into line with most people's beliefs and practices. (Section 1)

The Bill will apply to all Ontario spouses who do not opt out of it through a joint contract. As the above indicates, the authors of the Bill did not recognize the equality of the spouses during the marriage and have not given adequate consideration to the effects this legislation would have on continuing marriages.

**Campaign receipts up**

February 22, 1978  
Dear Mrs. Dills:  
The Executive Council of the Halton Lung Association would like to express appreciation to your publication for the excellent newspaper coverage given to this year's Christmas Seal Campaign just concluded. Campaign receipts increased 4 1/2 per cent over last year's final figure.  
We are also very grateful for the publicity

**ACTION:** (Most effective before February 28, 1978)

1 Communicate with your Provincial Member of Parliament immediately, stressing that the Bill in its present form is not acceptable to you and why. All M.P.'s can be reached at the Parliament Buildings, Queen's Park, Toronto.

2 If your M.P. is in one of the opposition parties, request that the party drop its support of this Bill.

3 Also write to the Premier (Hon. William Davis, same address).

4 Use all possible avenues (including your local media) to get similar immediate action by other women.

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(Note: The above affiliations are stated as credentials only. The organizations with which the authors are associated have made representations on Bill 59, but the time was too short to get their agreement to a joint text.)

giving our program throughout the year, bringing to the attention of the general public the tangible results of their donations to Christmas Seals.

Sincerely,  
Jessie Lunau  
(Mrs. M. E. Lunau)  
Executive Secretary



**LOOKING FOR spring.**  
Photo by Wendy Thomson

**Province won't pay**

Ontario Health Minister Dennis Timbrell says his ministry is not about to consider picking up 100 per cent of the bill for construction of or additions to hospitals.

Halton Regional Council had asked that the minister give consideration to that proposal. Council felt that health is a provincial responsibility and the province should shoulder the entire cost of hospital construction.

Forecasts show heavy expenditures being required in Halton over the next five years.

During the same council meeting Wednesday members voted to authorize an expenditure of \$100,000 for Joseph Brant Hospital.

The expenditure is to repair a wing of the hospital. The council was told the cement slab that part of the building sits on has settled causing damage to the building.

Burlington Councillor Walter Mulkewich told council the total cost of the work

**Extinction the rule in the history of life**

by Ward Chesworth  
University of Guelph

The limestones in this area are full of fossils. They represent the remains of animals that lived in the shallow tropical sea that covered this region some 400 million years ago. You can find corals, clams, marine snails and sea lilies and the striking thing about all of them is that they are varieties (species) that are now extinct. In fact this is the striking thing about the whole of the geological record. Fossils are found in rocks dating all the way back to more than 3 billion years ago and most of the species found are extinct.

In other words extinction is the rule rather than the exception in the history of life.

The classic example that everybody has heard about is the group of animals called dinosaurs. These reptiles began to conquer the land surface of the earth about 250 million years ago. By the 100 million year mark they had evolved into a wide variety of living things that had colonized every continent. Some forms had even gone back to living in the sea like their amphibian ancestors and others had developed wings, though probably for gliding rather than true flight.

The dinosaurs varied in size from small, chicken-like reptiles to enormous 60 ton monsters like Diplodocus which may have been forced to live partly immersed in water in order to support its own weight. Extensive remains of such animals are found today in the badlands of southern Alberta.

Why did these animals that once ruled the earth become extinct? There are many theories ranging from the bizarre to the plausible. One possibility arises from the fact that the earth's magnetic field holds a shield of charged particles around the planet and this cuts down the amount of lethal radiation reaching the earth from space. If the earth's magnetic field were to die down the shield would disperse and a lethal dose of radiation would reach the surface. Strangely enough, the earth's

**New Farmer deputy**

James Stewart will join Halton Regional Council's staff in the capacity of deputy treasurer, effective March 20, the region's Administration Committee was advised at its meeting Wednesday.

Stewart is currently employed with the Hamilton Board of Education.

He replaces John Young, who held that post for a short term and quit after indicating that he didn't feel he was cut out to deal in a political form.

would be in the order of \$400,000. He told council the work was required because of an error on the architects' part.

magnetic field does die down periodically and maybe it did when the dinosaurs died out about 60 million years ago.

But why weren't all animals and plants killed off? Probably some species are more tolerant than others in the amount and type of radiation they can withstand.

When we look at the earth today we find mammals in a dominating position, and it is possible that the dinosaurs died out because they could not compete with these more efficient animals. It is equally possible that an even more efficient and adaptable animal is now developing that will one day, perhaps millions of years hence replace the mammals, including the Primates to which we all belong.

In 1897 Rudyard Kipling warned the British that their days as rulers of the world would one day come to an end. He wrote "Far-called our navies melt away — On dune and headland sinks and fire — Lo, all our pomp of yesterday Is one with Nineveh and Tyre!"

He might just as well have been warning the whole human race of its final and inevitable extinction.

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**Emphasize safety with manufactured firelogs**

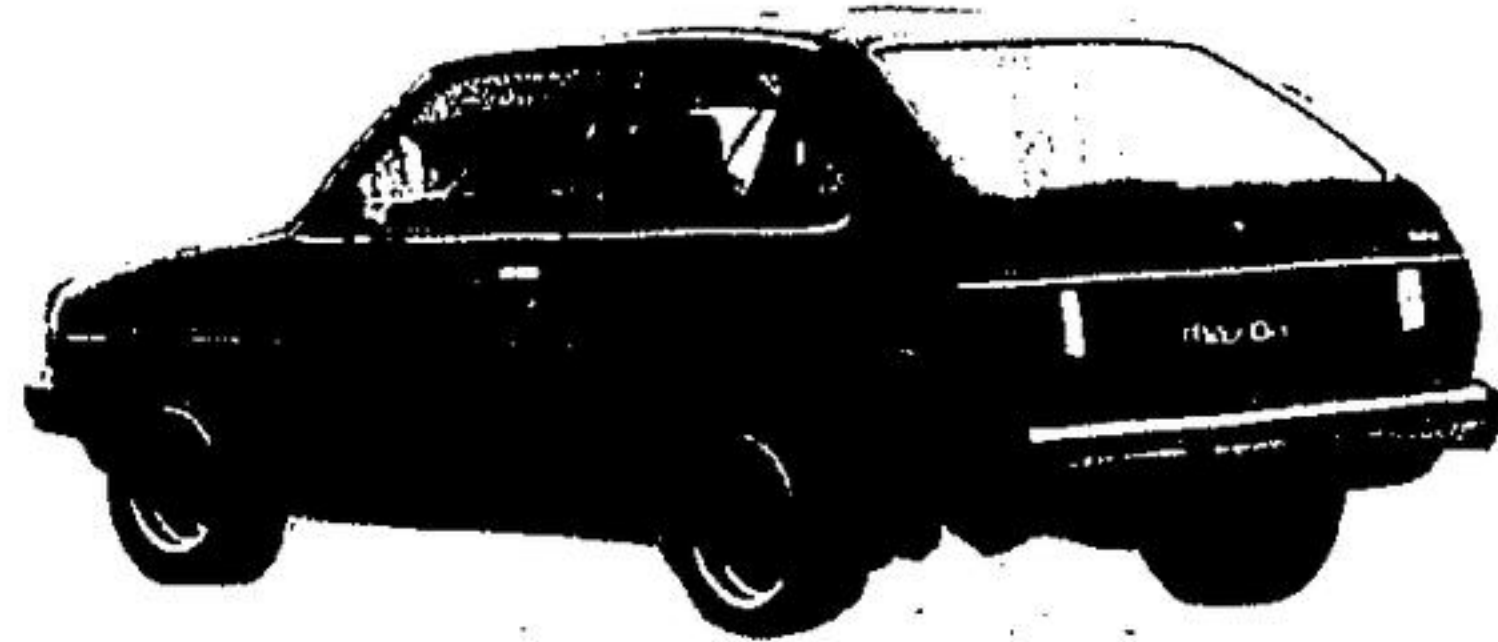
The convenience and economy of manufactured wood-wax firelogs are causing more and more fireplace owners to use them instead of natural firewood. Like all fire products, these logs must be used carefully and the Halton Region Fire Prevention Committee says it is very important that users read the directions, and follow them carefully.

Poking at the fire, breaking up a burning log and building too large a fire are the most serious mistakes, the Committee says.

Using more than one log at a time or adding a firelog to an existing fire are the major causes of difficulty. Most manufactured firelogs put out as much heat as two or three hardwood logs and people can cause accidents if they light more than one at a time. Adding a wax-wood log to an existing fire may result in a flare-up or an excessively hot fire.

5. Don't unwrap the log, slit the wrapper or poke holes.
6. Never break up a burning log.
7. Don't try to move a burning log. It can break, thus increasing the heat beyond a safe limit.
8. Never overload your fireplace, and never add a manufactured log to an existing fire. A firelog or other fuel may be added to a manufactured firelog after two hours. But always ignite the fresh log when placed on an old, almost-out fire, or the heat from the old fire may vaporize the new log before it ignites, filling the fireplace and chimney with enough vapor to cause an explosion.

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Tang 4 x 3 1/2 oz. Cello Bag <b>ORANGE CRYSTALS</b>	(Save 20%) <b>99¢</b>	Swift 1/2 Cryovac <b>DINNER HAMS</b>	lb. <b>\$1.99</b>
Libby's 14 oz. Tin <b>FANCY CREAM CORN</b>	(Save 59%) <b>3/\$1.00</b>	Swift Premium <b>WIENERS</b>	lb. <b>89¢</b>
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