

Region heads' raises stalled

By Mike Patton
Three senior Halton officials won't be getting 10.5 per cent salary increases approved this week by the Region's administration committee, because their jobs are being re-classified. Halton's Clerk Garfield

Brown, Administrator of Social and Family Services Rennie Vivian, and Jack Charlton, Administrator of Halton Centennial Manor home, will have to wait until the Region's management structure is re-organized this summer before any

adjustments will be made to their pay cheques, chief administrative officer Dennis Perlin said Wednesday. "They will not be department heads any more," Mr. Perlin said in an interview after the

salary increases for 257 other non-unionized regional employees were approved.

A major reorganization of Halton's administration, approved by regional council on March 18, calls for the hiring of a director of social services (a newly-created position) who will be responsible for duties formerly handled by Mr. Vivian and Mr. Charlton.

Until the restructuring is completed, both men will continue to receive their 1980 salaries.

Last week, council decided that former Regional Treasurer Donald Farmer will be kept on staff as a special advisory until the end of this year.

Mr. Farmer, the Regional Treasurer since 1973, asked to be relieved of his duties last August after a \$700,000 deficit was discovered during an audit of Halton's books.

Longtime chief administrative officer Ernie Reid resigned shortly afterwards last year and was replaced by Dennis Perlin, the Region's solicitor.

In the last month, council has hired a new treasurer and a new director of business development.

Wednesday's Admi-

stration and Finance Committee decision gives 7.5 per cent salary



Garfield Brown, Administrator and Finance Committee member, says 7.5 per cent salary

increases to regional office employees, retroactive to Jan. 1 plus a further three per cent on July 1.

But Bob Moore, Director of Public Works, Rash Mohammed, Director of Planning, and Dennis Camm, personnel Director, don't get the July pay raises because of salary review.

Mr. Perlin, Gerry Lawson (the new treasurer), Dr. Peter Cole (the new medical officer of health) and Matthew Fisher (the new director of business development) don't get any raises this year because their salaries were negotiated when they were hired.



Halton Regional Police Chief James Harding appeared at regional council last week urging cuts in his department's proposed budget not be too deep. He warned of the need to provide adequate service.

Longer vacation for town staff

Town employees not already covered by a union agreement, will have longer vacations this year.

Most of the changes affect long term employees who will now have four weeks after 12 years instead of 15, and five weeks after 19 years. The maximum after 25 years has been raised to six weeks, instead of five.

Supervisory staff will

now have four weeks vacation after 10 years rather than the previous 12, five weeks after 17 years and the maximum has been raised to six weeks from the previous five for 25 year employees.

Department heads have also had their maximum vacation time upped to six weeks from five.

Library looseleaf

by Esther Taylor

A lifetime Tory who backs up her "terrible man" description of Pierre Trudeau with unprintable four-letter words, admitted staying up until four a.m. to finish *The Northern Magus* by Richard Gwyn. Her verdict: "A fascinating book, whether you loathe Trudeau or like him. Somehow, Gwyn has succeeded in getting inside the P.M.'s tough skin. Nothing else that has been written about PET, including the mildly laudatory Trudeau by George Radwanski compares in perceptiveness with *The Northern Magus*. At the end of the book, he's still a riddle—but not an unreadable riddle. If I had lots of dough I would buy enough copies of *Northern Magus* for every P.C. around so they would know what they're up against in the Grit party."

The front cover of *Northern Magus* is almost inspired. It depicts Canada's Prime Minister in a dashing black cloak and hat, relieved by a red boutonniere carnation. He is looking down, shyly? wearing a smile, which depending on party affiliation can be described as "diabolical" or endearingly boyish. Set this cover beside the head and shoulders portrait of a visionary-looking Trudeau on the front of Radwanski's book and one can almost guess at the contents.

Every Canadian should read *Northern Magus*, if only to learn something of what goes on behind the scenes of government among political Outsiders and Insiders, about whom the average Canuk knows next to nothing. Who manipulates whom and why and their aims and ambitions are disclosed by Richard Gwyn who interviewed more than 100 insiders "in search of past and present truths about Trudeau-cabinet ministers, MP's, Prime Ministerial and ministerial aides, party officials and personal friends to Trudeau."

There are candid insights into the Prime Minister's fractured marriage, beginning as a romantic love affair with a flower child who flitted when she could no longer stand the stress of living with Canada's most complex prime minister. Gwyn makes the point that "since boyhood Trudeau has never lost a single fight. Only one opponent has held Trudeau at least to a draw, Margaret."

Gwyn sees Pierre Elliott Trudeau as a sorcerer and magician, which accounts for the revealing title *The Northern Magus*. Richard Gwyn, Ottawa editor of the *Toronto Star* is by way of being a magician himself—a magician with words. His book is rather like a political whodunit featuring PET as a human enigma who thus far in his career has not been able "to understand the nature of the country that he governed."

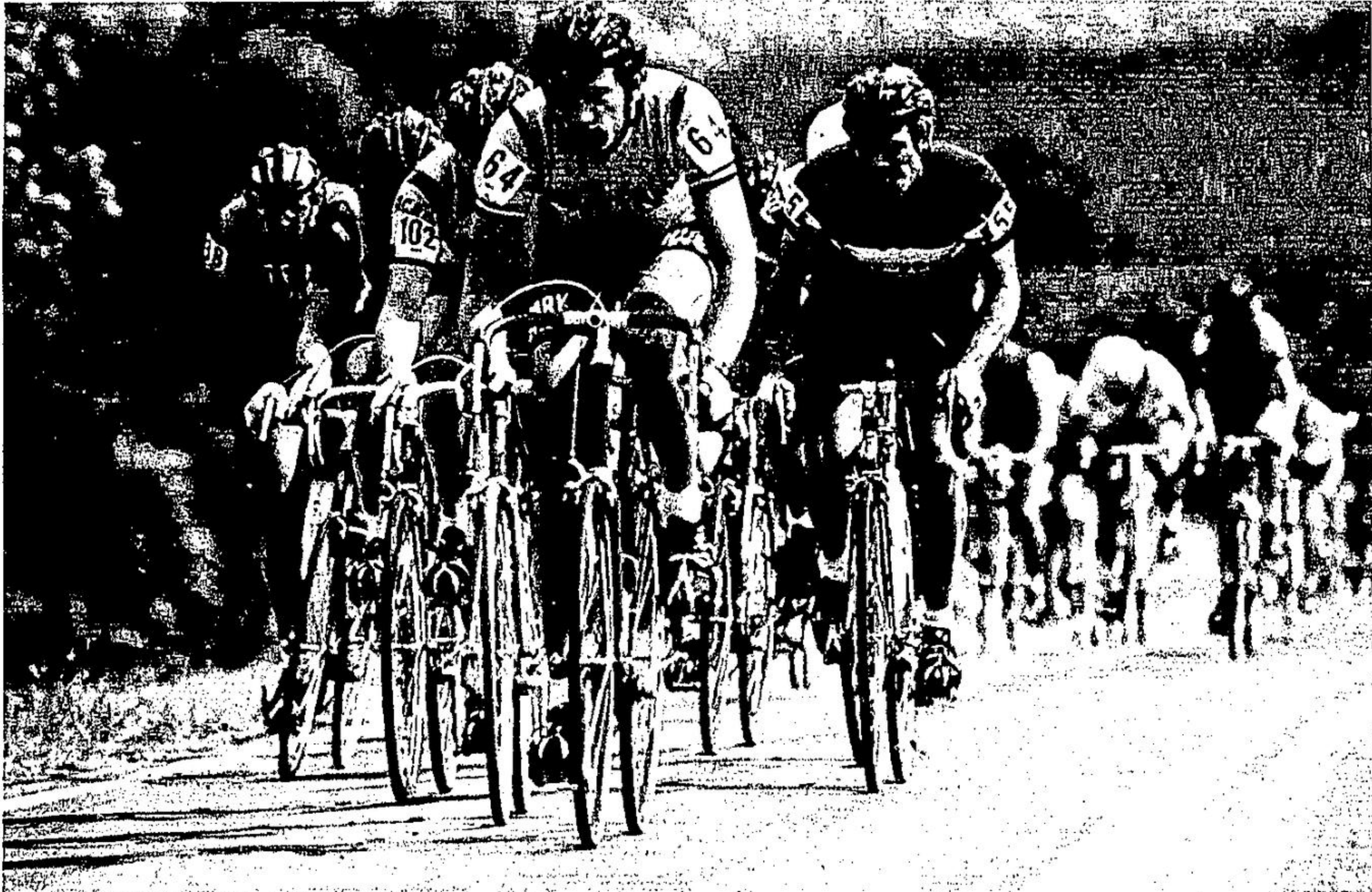
Crime and mystery readers nowadays encounter a lot of non-heroes who would be revolting as real-life acquaintances. Paula Gosling portrays a thoroughly likeable guy, a musician with problems in her crime novel *Loser's Blues*. John Owen Cosatelli finds that he is a suspect in the murder of his ex-girl friend Lisa. Tension mounts as Johnny is threatened by two enemies, and almost winds up a corpse himself before the killer is identified. While being hounded Johnny falls in love with a woman very different from Lisa, a development which complicates both their lives. Paula Gosling is a new author for local library patrons. Her first two books not on hand are *A Running Duck* and *The Zero Trap*.

Yorkshire-born Sara Woods, who lives in London, Ontario can be depended upon to produce a very readable thriller, involving urbane barrister-detective Anthony Maitland. She doesn't litter her novels with bodies; one is usually adequate for an engrossing plot. In her latest novel, *Weep For Her*, Maitland is involved by his irascible Uncle, Sir Nicholas Harding, Q.C. in the defence of a medium, who is accused by a widower of causing the death of his wife by suicide. Emily Wapole allegedly received a fraudulent message from her dead son whom she idolized. After Maitland starts his private investigation, Sally Wapole tells him that her mother was murdered. This turn of events jars Sir Nicholas who does not approve of his nephew's unorthodox methods. Enter Maitland's old foe Superintendent Briggs seeking an opportunity to put the barrister-detective very much in the wrong. *Weep For Her* is vintage Wood.

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