NEW ASSOCIATE PASTOR

chis Maple Avenue Baptist

Ottawa

By Terry O'Connor

the federal government could hold long range significant implications for parliamentary system of government. At least, the steps taken together are being interpreted by some Ottawawatchers as indicating this government's attitude toward our constitutional arrangement and the respective powers and roles of each of the House of Commons, the Senate and the Supreme Court.

First, consider the recent appointments to the Supreme Court of Canada, particularly that of Bora Laskin as Chief Justice. There is no question about his legal ability, integrity and that he is the most progressive member of the court. He will be an outstanding Chief Justice, especially in subject areas concerning the rights of the individual. However, he also is a determined and outspoken centralist on constitutional questions. That is, he very definitely believes that the federal partner in our federal-provincial system, should be strong and dominant.

His appointment comes at a time when a serious federalprovincial power struggle over the right to control natural resources, particularly gas and oil, looms as a real possibility.

The centralist-Laskin ap-

pointment over the senior judge on the Court, Maitland from Alberta, is seen by some as a politicizing of the court, that is, an attempt by one branch of the system, the legislature to enroll the support of another branch, the Supreme Court, as an ally in its political struggle with the provinces. The court's traditional function has been to interpret laws made by the i legislature, not to make laws themselves. It should also be noted that the other appointment was of a new member to the court, Mr. Justice Beetz, who formerly was a special advisor on constitutional matters to Mr. Trudeau, and who might thus be expected to share the Prime Minister's views on such issues.

The second action being viewed with interest is that involving the role of the Senate in the Wiretapping Bill. After months of debate and consideration, the fundamentally necessary Wiretap Bill passed the House of Commons, amended by the Opposition in a few minor respects and one major respect. The major endment requires the police, wer tapping a citizen and detecting no crime and no reason to continue the surveillance, to notify the citizen of the tap within 90 days of completion.

GOVERNMENT FIGHT The government fought this

amendment tooth and nail, lost It and the Bill went to the Upper House. Then, the Liberal dominated Senate (74-17) after but a single morning of hearings, eliminated the section offensive to the government. It made no other amendments. There seems little question that the Senate was employed by the govern-ment to do it's bidding.

The traditional role of the Senate has been one of Mective second thought, and atterly one of research into the long range problems and goals of society. It has not been used by the governemnt to achieve its legislative ends.

The interesting point these cases raise is whether there is a conscious effort by this government to alter the traditional roles of these important institutions or whether the cases are ad hoc responses to specific situations, If we are taking the first exploratory steps towards dramatically altering the system, this should be publicly stated and debated. If you have a problem, idea,

comment, criticism or if you simply wish to get in touch with me, please stop by my Riding Office at 347 Kerr St., Oakville, or telephone Fran Raines at

Sunday as associate pastor to help Pastor Lohnes with his **O'Connor's Beta Phi Chapter**

Holds Dec. Meeting Norma Tripp and Lynda Tyrrell introduced Mrs. Milt Moyer, proprietor of Kirkcraft Two recent actions taken by Handicrafts in Norval, who enabled Beta Phi chaper, Beta Sigma Phl, to visualize in two different aspects, the meaning

> After the members arrived, she encouraged them to browse around and enjoy themselves. The Art of Dressing could apply to the home, as well as the person. Members admired jewellery, leathercraft and handwoven clothing, all of which could enhance one's

of the program, Dress is An

To beautify the home, examined with pleasure were: pottery sets, handcarved wood, pewter, crystal and many decorative objects.

It was with a feeling of pride in their fellow Canadians that they learned that all the crafts are handmade and eighty percent by Canadlans. conclude the program, the girls watched a demonstration of handweaving. Many girls left with new ides in the art of dressing, both the person and

After leaving Kirkcraft, the group convened at the home of Mrs. Tripp for the business meeting. Her co-hostess for the evening was Gall Webb.

On December 4, Carolyn Stewart and Nancy Snider co-hostess for the evening was began their program, Our Own Home, in Homestead Interiors and Furniture in Georgetown Market Centre. Owner, Jack Pieters, who is originally from Holland, has been in the furniture business in Canada for many years. Aided by his wife, Marion, he led an informative

because of its carcity.

plastic will soon be replacing wood in many areas. Trim is often plastic, even on very expensive furniture. Picture frames, book shelves and even tables can be produced in a plastic that looks so much like real wood, even an expert has

difficulty in differentiating. Included in the discussion was care of furniture, which pieces of furniture are worth recovering, and how to choose furniture that reflects your personal life style.

Norton, representtive from Armstrong Flooring, concluded the cultural program by showing various samples of broadloom. He discussed where specific carpets would be most practical and also included in his talk, how to care for carpets.

The chapter continued with

the business meeting at the home of Carolyn Stewart. Eleanor Cawley, service chairman, became aware during a recent stay in the Georgetown Hospital, that the volunteers who styled the patients' hair were in need of new equipment. Because this is such an appreciated service, it was decided to purchase two portable hairdryers, shampoo, hair spray, cream rinse, two hair brushes, and other needed accessories, to enable them to continue their work. Carolyn's

Sigrid Robson. Highlight of the Christmas festivities came during the happy hour at the home of Sue Minchin on Dec. 11. While carol singing, a hearty Ho Ho Ho was heard, and there to add to the fun and excitement, was Jolly Saint Nick. He arrived unexpectedly to help distribute the He indicated how valuable gifts to each Secret Sister. The hardwood is on today's market evening was completed with a Christmas dinner held at Hi

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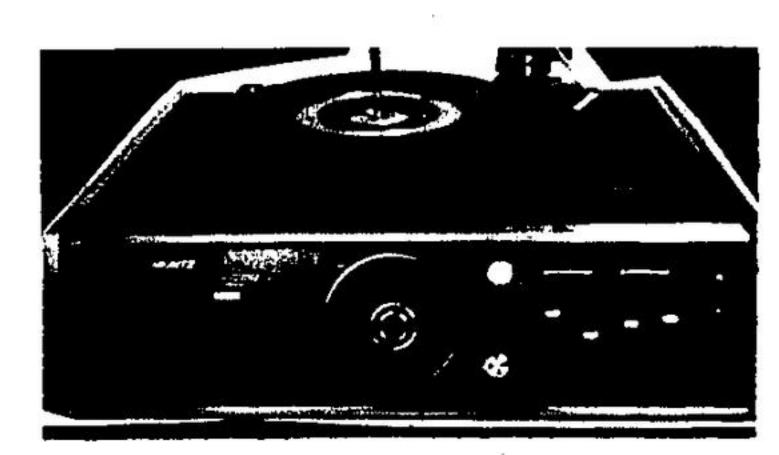
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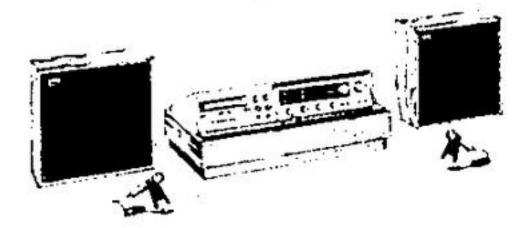
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