

Halton Farmland

It Requires Protection

Town and city dwellers live in unfortunate isolation from the country-side, even when the two are physically side by side, as we are in this area.

One of the benefits of regional government is that people will now be forced to re-examine that relationship. Over the next three years, a regional planning council will be setting down guidelines for the future growth of the Halton area.

Yet agriculture in Halton has a particular quality of its own, which we cannot afford to lose. Because of the long period over which purebreds have been raised here, the quality of livestock is above average.

A Plan Worth Studying

A city of Brampton plan to adopt a significant new tax deferral plan for senior citizen homeowners represents one of those measures which has a great deal going for it—and unfortunately, against it as well.

The plan would allow senior citizens to have residential taxes on their homes deferred for settlement by their estate.

In effect this means that senior citizens could opt for a residential tax holiday during their own lifetime. The taxes would then be collected from their estate after death.

The proposal is, needless to say, a delicate one because it goes to the very heart of the question of what purpose material property serves.

If the acquisition of property—a home and the land upon which it is located—is for the purpose of security of ownership and thus, some security for retirement age, then the plan is directly applicable.

What it means is that senior citizens, who have already paid their fair share of education and improvement taxes many times over, could live tax-free in their

in many other parts of the province. The Halton region is blessed, too, with a good quantity of class 1 and class 2 soil. The amount of this top quality soil in the province is limited, and it becomes much less economical to try to grow the same crops on class 3 or class 4 soil.

The constantly rising cost of food cannot help but be further increased if we foolishly persist in turning our best farmland into subdivisions and parking lots. We mustn't kill the goose that lays the golden eggs.

Beyond the primary importance of food production, there are social advantages to having a mix of urban and rural use. Nothing is more depressing than miles of urban sprawl, and city-dwellers should be happy to have the sight of open green space preserved for them by agricultural zonings.

homes as long as no thought is necessary for the future after their death.

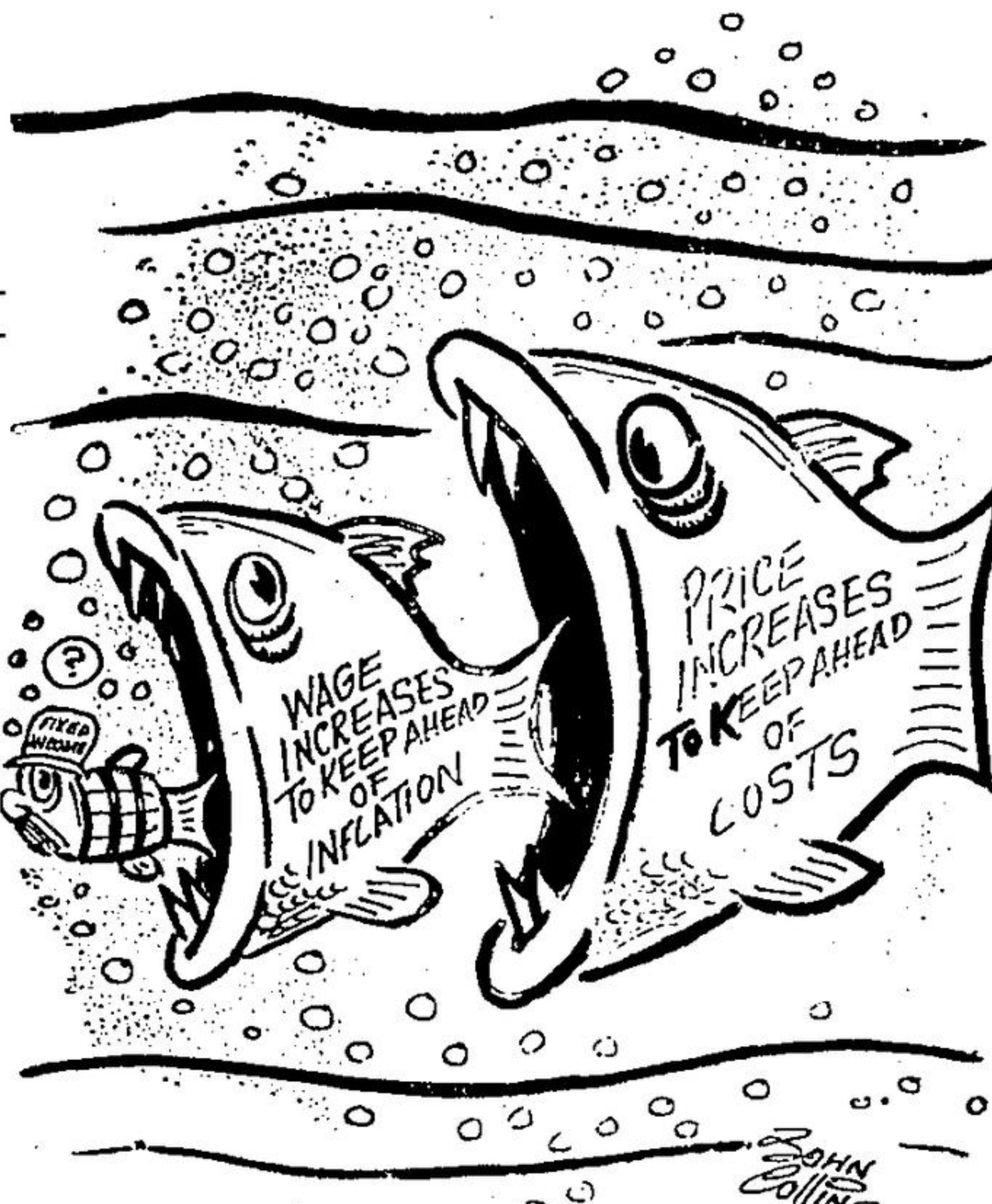
It is possible that property tax may well be a strong deciding factor for some senior citizens on whether they can afford to stay in their own homes or find it necessary to move into an institutional home.

But there is another purpose for acquisition of property in the minds of many people. In addition to the security of ownership, some senior citizens also find it comforting to be able to leave something behind for their children, something which would give their children a head start or an extra boost toward their own retirement security.

In this case, it is possible that deferred taxes could, along with succession duty, eliminate a great portion of the estate.

Both viewpoints represent a question of individual preference. For this reason, it is probably important that some choice be available. In this case, it is commendable of the city to be investigating the proposal.

(Brampton Times)



PICTURE PUZZLE - FIND THE POOR FISH

Reader's Forum

Grape, Lettuce Boycott Urged By Union Official

Sir: I suppose we all remember the California grape boycott of 1970, and with the help of Canadians refusing to buy grapes for the table, United Farm Workers won contracts with the growers. But when the UFW on behalf of the pickers, approached the growers for new contracts, the growers refused to renew, claiming that new contracts with the Teamsters Union. All UFW members were unaware of these sweetheart contracts.

Without going into detail about the union busting and interference of the Teamsters Union in the States, the UFW is again looking for support to boycott grapes.

Also, the lettuce pickers are in the same position. Just to summarize the problems of the pickers and their families, did you know that after the last boycott of 1970 the wages went from 95 cents to \$1.75 per hour which is just a minimum wage?

Farm Workers are the poorest paid workers in the U.S.

In 1934, when collective bargaining legislation was passed, farm workers were excluded. But in 1962 Cesar Chavez became leader of the UFW and due to the use of the boycott the UFW forced growers to sign contracts.

In 1973 when contracts

expired, growers refused to negotiate with the UFW and signed backdoor agreements with the teamsters, the pickers went on strike. When the strike was brutally crushed, and I mean just that, the boycott was on. The growers brought in scabs to cross the picket lines and the pickers put up a good fight. But an injunction was levied against them and they were not allowed to use a bull horn to talk to the scabs and were only allowed 100 feet between each picket. When they broke the injunction, 6,000 people were arrested and many were beaten by sheriff deputies. Two persons have been killed.

One thing we must remember is that because the wages are low everyone in a family must work to earn averages of \$2,700 a year per family. Therefore, the children are not in school getting an education.

Another dispute is the poison of pesticides. Most of them are banned in Canada but not in the U.S. The UFW is asking for strict control of the untested pesticide Modular Four, DDT, DDE, and Endrin. The average life expectancy of a United States farm worker is 49, in Canada it is 71.

Medical facilities are deplorable and with working 11 to 12 hours per day, seven

days a week, people are sick and exhausted but must go on to live. The boycott has reached us again in Canada with the picketing of food stores. Labor, churches, city councils, and large newspapers and others are backing the boycott in Canada but Dominion still says No!

Dominion, which is the largest buyer of grapes and lettuce in Canada, refuses to take these items off its shelves. Instead of helping, Dominion is paying \$8.50 per hour for security guards to interfere with peaceful picketing in front of its stores. Some Dominion stores are being picketed also.

We must convince these giant chain stores that the grape and lettuce pickers deserve a decent living too. I ask people to back this boycott and not buy California grapes or lettuce. If you know of a store that is selling these items, tell the manager you will refuse to shop in his store unless he supports this boycott. Dominion must listen to the shopping dollars you spend in its stores.

Dan O'Connor, Georgetown, V.P. UFW, Local 531

Man Has The Ability To Transcend Himself

Sir: Thank you for your editorial "Seek Out the Eyes of the Eagle," a poignant account of an experience in personal growth. To quote: "And so we sit surrounded by our electric machinery, secure in the knowledge that it represents life." It is my sincere hope that child and man will experience many of those moments when, "All the trivial and petty things shrink from the mind and leave only an overwhelming and unknowable truth" to occupy it. I am sure that you who know this experience will agree with me when I say it can be shared by a Scout leader and his boys in a canoe, a math student who suddenly understands a new relationship between two concepts, a bunch of winter hikers on the Bruce Trail, or a couple of kids taking a look at the first snowflake.

Man has the ability to transcend himself, and he is not suddenly endowed with it at the age of twenty-one. To quote your second editorial, "Educated or Learned." "But the idea that each

student is a free individual and is generally interested in education at a Grade 6 level is completely false." This holds interesting implications for those of us who deal with children of this age.

The alternatives, as I see them, are, teach children facts to help them fit the coin slots of our present industrial society, or teach children how to find the facts and keep on learning because the "facts" of today may be different tomorrow.

The trouble with the first alternative is that by the time our children leave school, the industrial coin slots may have been redesigned. The second alternative involves helping a child learn a core of necessary skills - and providing him with personal growth experiences.

"The eagle faced the wind, strong and proud of stance. The eyes-staring at some invisible object in the skies."

(Mrs. J. Callaghan Georgetown)

Heritage Ripe Fruit From Political Tree

Sir: This is an open letter to MP Terry O'Connor regarding the National Heritage "rip-off." Come off it Terry! Heritage is another ripe fruit picked off the political plum tree. Previous plums were picked by Fiddam and Mogg, not to speak of windfalls that fell into the laps of Bates, McKeogh, Yaremko, McNichol.

The big "Blue Machine" has turned out to be a big "green machine" working at full capacity to further the finances of the party elite and the party big men. For the lesser fry it grinds out jobs as regional chairmen.

(William A. Johnson Rockwood)

Aim Message At The Young

Sir: Your editorial about education deserves much applause. To think of words and be able to put them in their proper perspective is indeed an art and your article proved to be enjoyable reading and one which I heartily agree with.

One can tell this writer is indeed educated.

May we please have more of your thoughts and let's hope that your meaning gets across to the young folk who are really in the middle of it all and just follow suit.

(Mrs. Janet C.C. Orwin Georgetown)

Tax Credit Service Answers Enquiries

Ontario has established a multilingual tax credit information service to answer telephone enquiries about the year's changed tax credit program.

Revenue minister Allan Grossman explained that the Ontario Tax Credit Information Centre can be reached by telephone, free of charge, by any Ontario resident.

"So far, we have received close to 5,000 telephone enquiries on the property tax credit, the sales tax credit and the pensioner tax credit, which residents apply for by completing a federal income tax return," he said. "This degree of interest, particularly by pensioners, demonstrates the value of quick public access to information on an important new government program."

"In establishing our information service, we realized many Ontario residents were not fluent in English. To surmount this language barrier, staff was recruited with a capacity to provide information in 20 languages."

In addition to French, the languages available are: Bulgarian, Chinese, Czech, Danish, Estonian, Filipino, Finnish, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hungarian, Italian,

BILL SMILEY

Battle Of Britain Is Townsend Study

I've just been reading a book about the Battle of Britain, written by Peter Townsend. He was a World War II fighter pilot and was in the battle himself.

He's also the chap the royal family wouldn't allow to marry the then Princess Margaret, because he'd been divorced. He was probably lucky, later she married that pipsqueak photographer called Jones or Smith or something. He is now Lord Something-or-other. His wife is Princess Northing-or-other.

Anyway, it's an excellent book, for anyone interested in battles that have changed the course of history. Townsend has consulted a mass of material from both German and British records, and gives a balanced picture of the B. of B., looking at it from both sides of the English Channel.

By the way, is anyone interested in the battles that changed history, besides me and a few history buffs? There are quite a few of them, and one must wonder what would have happened to history if the battles had been lost, not won.

At least one of them has probably affected you, personally.

If the Persians hadn't been slowed down at Thermopylae and trounced in Marathon, they'd have wiped out the Greeks. Think what that would have done to the restaurant business in Canada. Not to mention Jackie Onassis' \$20,000 a week in spending money.

BUFFLEIGHT

If Drake and his fleet had not beaten the Armada, half the people in Canada would be talking Spanish, eating garlic and going to bullfights.

How would you like to be out a bullfight this afternoon (it's below outside), sitting in the shady side of the arena, and shouting "ole" at a bullfighter and a bull frozen, literally, into the classic stance of the bull-ring?

And what about the battle of the Plains of Abraham? If the Limeys hadn't won that one I'd be happily back in Ireland right now, cutting peat in a bog, instead of sitting here wondering how in the name of energy I'm going to meet my fuel bill.

Go father back. If Joan D'Arc (later St. Joan), hadn't lifted the siege at Orleans, there'd be no French, no Separatist Party, no Canadian problem.

Another dandy was the Battle of Culloden, where Bonnie retarded Prince Charlie was beaten by the English. Instead of the Scottish invading England in kilts, they were forced to invade with their brains, and they took over the financial affairs of the British Empire. Which, as we all know, are somewhat less than remarkable.

BACK HOME

Back home again, there's the Battle of Queenston Heights, which nobody knows much about except the residents of Queenston, and few of them. But this produced a great, pure,

Bible Thought

"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." Hebrews 13:8

Nothing has changed! Put this great truth up against the greatest trial you are facing and let Him solve it. O God, in the name of Jesus and by the power of your Spirit, send many miracles in the lives of each of us today. Amen.

Canadian image, Laura Secord chocolates, without which Canada could probably not have maintained its integrity, nationality, and rotten teeth.

The Yanks have theirs. The Luftwaffe did not destroy the R.A.F. which had the privilege of being attached to me (or was it the other way around?) during the war.

Result, Britain is sliding down the sluice into economic anonymity. Germany is master of Europe, financially.

It pays to lose wars. Germany and Japan, the big losers in WW II, are riding an incredible winning streak in penicillin.

Italy won a short war in Abyssinia, bombs against arrows, machine-guns against spears. She's in her usual mess.

France "won" two wars and is in chaos. Britain "won" two wars and couldn't borrow a quarter for a pint of bitter.

America "won" two wars and the dollar is about as healthy as a wet tissue.

Maybe we should have lost the Battle of Britain.

FIRST AID

First Aid Posts at public gatherings are provided by St. John Ambulance as a public service. They are manned by trained volunteers who are ready to serve the public.

Queen's Park

Tourist Project Economic Device

BY DON O'HEARN Queen's Park Bureau Of The Herald

TORONTO—A year ago if you had mentioned Maple Mountain to pretty well anyone in Ontario you would have received a blank look.

Today if you mentioned Maple Mountain to pretty well anyone in Ontario you would receive a blank look. Except for one area: the riding of Temiskaming.

Next year if you mentioned Maple Mountain to pretty well anyone in Ontario? Who can tell?

Maple Mountain is said to be the highest hill in Ontario (about 1,000 feet).

It is situated in the general area of the tri-towns: Haileybury, New Liskeard and Cobalt.

This area has been depressed. And a bit more than a year ago when John White was still minister of Industry and Tourism he decided something should be done about it - as well as the rest of that part of north-central Ontario beyond North Bay which was economically in poor shape.

His immediate thought was tourism and he sent out a team to investigate.

The first idea it had in mind was a series of half a dozen or more attractions spread across the area which would draw tourists on a grand circuit tour.

The survey team couldn't come up with any such half dozen spots.

But it did come across Maple Mountain, and got excited, and also got Mr. White excited.

O'CONNOR'S OTTAWA

Over the last two weeks we have looked briefly at what I consider the major pieces of legislation introduced by the government and passed by Parliament in 1973.

Of the 19 mentioned, I considered 10 to be major social bills, most involving direct transfers of cash from the Treasury to individual Canadians. I made no comment, critical or otherwise, of these programs. I and my party agree with some and not with others, but in most cases we would place a different emphasis on the program or the amount spent than does the present administration.

Some analysis of the figures involved provide an insight into the government's philosophy toward the appropriate manner of fairly redistribution of wealth in Canada.

In 1972 baby bonus payments were \$611 million. In 1974 the cost of this program will have jumped to \$1,800 million.

Comparable figures for other programs are as follows: Unemployment Insurance Benefits-1972-\$1,869 million; 1974-\$2,311 million. Federal government pension plans such as veterans' allowances, civil servants pensions, etc.-1972-\$1,208 million; 1974-\$1,462 million.

transfer payments of 11 per cent annually or about 22 per cent over two years, half of the actual increases.

Large increases in transfer payments can be paid for only by significantly reducing the rate of growth of other government expenditures or by increasing taxes. It doesn't take an economic genius to figure out which method the government has chosen.

As the Economic Council has pointed out many times, there is a limit to which the productive elements in the economy can sustain the unproductive sector, by way of tax increases, without the result of massive inflation.

Herein lies the difference in the philosophy or approach of the two major parties. Every responsible party and politician recognizes the necessity for collective, ie. government, assistance to the sick, aged, generally those genuinely unable to provide for themselves. However, I feel some more emphasis must be placed on considerations such as the need of the recipient and particularly on whether he is able to obtain such payments through his own initiative.

A headlong rush toward welfare for everyone is potentially disastrous in a free enterprise economy. It is discouraging and frustrating to the productive sector and equally debilitating to those who are encouraged to become dependent on it.

If you have a problem, idea, comment, criticism, or simply wish to get in touch with me, please stop by my riding office at 347 Kerr Street, Oakville, or telephone Fran Baines, 877-6475.

