

SPORTS

Where Help Is Needed

Guided by health minister Marc Lalonde, the federal government is jumping into sports. Specifically, it is seeking to limit American involvement in Canadian professional football, ostensibly protecting Canadian interests, and the game, as well.

way into any form of control. With amateur sport crying for development, Ottawa should carry its sporting interest much deeper and help Canadian athletes where it counts, at the junior level. If we're going to encourage more Canadians athletes, we've got to do more than close doors.

Cleaning Up An Image

Dump trucks, more than any other class of commercial vehicle, have to improve their public image on public highways. Much of the criticism the trucking industry receives occurs because dump trucks are ugly to the eye, they're noisy and they haul dirty loads.

much about vehicle design (what else could a dump truck look like?) they can do much to reduce the public's negative attitude by keeping loads, especially sand and gravel, covered, by avoiding overloading and by being more conscious of driving behavior.

Property Tax Reform

If you're feeling the pinch of inflation, then the recent provincial budget won't do all that much to ease things. If you're a resident of Halton Hills and waiting for the municipal budget, you won't feel much joy at all.

home, but who has limited income, pays the least possible tax. As incomes grow, so would tax levies. There would be a lot of difficulties faced in introducing such a scheme, as there always are when any tax change is begun, but surely the task is not impossible.

ECHOES FROM THE PAST

10 YEARS AGO An impressive total value of \$325,900 was issued in building permits during March. However, \$325,000 of it was for the new Holy Cross Church.

with his brother in operating the Dayfoot Shoe Company at the time of its sale in 1945. A new grocery store was nearing completion in Georgetown. The store, a supermarket under the IGA label, was to be owned and operated by Bob Caldwell of Georgetown and Bruce Williamson of Burlington.



WILL APRIL SHOWERS BRING MAY FLOWERS?

BILL SMILEY

Got VIP Treatment During German Stop

Have you ever been a VIP? As a matter of democratic principle, I'm solidly against special treatment for anybody. But when it came to practice, I found it delightful, and wondered what the poor people were doing tonight.

uniform now, a reasonably attractive dark green. There are no more Group Captains or Lieutenant Commanders, Army titles are used throughout. At any rate, these were the people I got tangled with for a few days which I thoroughly enjoyed.

Carried my bag, took me to the officers' mess was got me a room for a night, showed me where the bar lined up for dinner drove me back to the terminal, checked my bag and ushered me through the blizzard right into the plane and to my seat.

CONCERNED SENIORS Needs Largely The Same Across Whole Of Canada

Canadian governments - federal, provincial, municipal, are aware of many of the problems of senior citizens, and have been moving to help in many directions - special low cost housing, increased pensions, medicare, and the like, says R. G. D. Anderson, president, Pensioners Concerned Canada, Inc.

"They are now treated the same as those who have come to Canada very recently. Is this right? All Senior Citizens should voice their opinion. Currently we have a patchwork of aid programs for seniors through various branches of federal, provincial and municipal governments. Many people do not know what they are entitled to, or where, and how to apply for these benefits.

There should at the very least, be one department in the three levels of government, and in my opinion, only two - federal and provincial - to handle problems of those 65 and over. If all seniors showed the same kind of intelligence, by having one organization of their own to deal with these matters, it would increase our influence, and at the same time make it easier and more effective for governments."

Inflation Raises Cost Facing Hydro

Cost estimates of Ontario Hydro's proposed system expansion program have risen about a billion dollars, the Ontario Energy Board was told in Toronto. The proposed expansion of the provincial utility's power system originally designed to increase capacity by 92 per cent between 1974 and 1982 in order to meet anticipated power demands.

power consumers which it will serve. "Today's customers," explained Mr. Nastich, "receive the benefits of equity contributions of past customers - future customers will receive the benefits of equity contributions of present customers."

"Ontario Hydro's customers neither subsidize nor are subsidized by government," said Mr. Nastich in his evidence before the board. "Customers do not pay in their electric rates for government services which are unrelated to their consumption of electricity. Nor do taxpayers pay part of the costs of Ontario Hydro in their tax assessments," he said.

PRESSING NEEDS The most pressing needs are probably provision for the married couple where one partner is 65 or more, and the other is younger than 65, and for the widow, or widower who is under 65. (This could vary in different provinces.)

Explaining its financial programs, Hydro told the board that the cost of providing future generating and transmission facilities should be borne by the customers who will use them. Hydro says that this suggests that it borrow the entire amount of money required to expand its system.

EVIDENCE During the first four days of hearings, the board has heard evidence from Hydro witnesses on the financial policies of the provincial utility pertaining to classification of expenditures, depreciation, appropriation for debt retirement, equity capital availability, financial integrity and the liquidity policy.

The other major need is to provide more for those who have retired prior to 1966. As of July 31, 1973, there were more than 1,826,000 people in Canada 65 years of age or older - about 8 1/2 per cent of the total population, and perhaps 15 per cent of the voting population. If they all spoke through one organization that was armed with careful statistical research, they could exercise a powerful influence.

The board also heard evidence from representatives of a Canadian and a U.S. bond company who discussed Hydro's ability to borrow funds in the capital markets of both countries. When Hydro completes the submission of its evidence, cross-examination of the witnesses by the Energy Board's legal counsel will begin. This examination should take about three weeks.

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QUEEN'S PARK Widget Makers Ruin Government



REACHES LAHR Tattered off the plane at Lahr, the Canadian base in Germany, in the Black Forest region. Walked into the terminal and an officer walked up: "Are you Bill Smiley?" I admitted as how I was. He was Lieutenant Colonel Hopkins, the chief padre. His wife was with him. They both went to the same high school I did, years ago. My kid brother had asked them to meet the plane. "Hopie" calls himself The Vicar of Lahr. They offered all hospitality.

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The employee believes he is working for the company, not the consumer. Managers work for the boss, who, in turn, works for the shareholder. The system's natural tendency is to become sealed off from the society and individual consumers. The emphasis is on aggregate behavior - the company, the industry, the union or the market. People start to get left out.

With them was a captain who took charge of me, showed me around the town, took my brother on the phone, took me to a bank to change dollars for marks, and took me to a hotel room he had organized. I met this same unflinching courtesy in all Forces people I encountered, both Canadian and American.

There are empires and empires, and empires within empires. The empire and its particular widget is the thing. And there is less and less consciousness of the corporate monster - the public - that government and its civil servants should be feeding.

VIEWPOINT

Alcohol Most Common Drug Figuring In Abuse

by G. Landsborough What may come as a surprise to many of us, when we speak of drug abuse in our schools, is that often we are speaking of substances that the average parent does not associate with the word drugs.

that by lowering the drinking age to 18 (which some feel was done in order to provide an alternative to illegal drugs) has brought about a definite backlash. As one Ottawa physician so aptly put it: "We literally told them to drink and get off the pot." Now we have to con-

cern ourselves with the marked increase in the quantity being consumed. ARF has found a direct relation between drug abuse and those with serious emotional and mental problems. Heavy users are generally users of a variety of drugs. Their drug abuse is usually a clear symptom of their emotional problems.

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what is a Sunday school compared with the schools in Metro. DRUG TAKING A student in a drug taking class could say, quite honestly, that 90 per cent of the kids he knew were on drugs. The result was that Mr. Furlong stated quite confidently "that drug abuse at GDHS was certainly not more acute, than at any other high school and probably much less than some."

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Young People Sought For Trip to France

Ontario Ministry of Education is seeking 24 young people to take part in a three-week visit to France in June. The ministry's educational exchange and special projects branch will pay the group's air fare from Montreal to Paris. While in France, members will be guests of the French

community affairs. The applicants will be selected from across Ontario and will represent the academic, business, technical, and agricultural interests. Application forms are available from Cultural Exchange Programs, Ministry of Education, 15th floor, Mowat Block, Toronto, M7A 1L5. The forms must be completed and returned by May 3. In August a group of 24 French visitors will arrive in Ontario to complete the exchange program.