

ELECTION TIME

Let's Pull For Majority

The race is on.

Canadians go to the polls in July to elect a new federal government, hopefully a complete one, with a majority to govern.

The minority government fell last week, over, of all things, a budget, the first such toppling to occur in the nation's 107-year history. Governments have lost confidence votes before, but never about a budget.

During the next two months, Canadians will have plenty of opportunity to reflect on the track record of the Liberal minority machine. It was in office for 18 months, and survived 18 of 19 non-confidence motions.

Opposition parties will wage a campaign tied in mainly to the economy and inflation; it's the one subject most on everyman's mind.

The Liberals probably were not as successful as everyone might have liked them to be in fighting economic problems and they will have to campaign on the issue of credibility.

For a few prognostications, consider these:

David Lewis will continue to work in attacks on corporate ripoffs, Robert Stanfield will continue to press for economic controls, as applied to prices and wages, and the Liberals probably will be returned to office, in a power role.

No matter who gets into office, though, a majority government would be nice. It could rule for at least four years, because just like the rising cost of food, election costs escalate also. Canada doesn't need federal votes every year and a half.

Fighting For Survival

Independent retailers and wholesalers are having to change their habits to stay in business. Retail chains, catalogue, discount and warehousing stores now present a considerable threat to traditional businesses.

Wholesalers who have managed to avoid being bowled over by mass merchandising have hung on either by buying out weaker competitors, widening their assortment of merchandise, or selling directly to the public.

Because retailers frown upon this direct competition from wholesalers, the wholesalers rarely advertise directly to the public. Retailers have been fighting their battles by teaming up in, for example, cost-saving collective purchasing. The problems retailers face are high cost of shopping centre rents, reluctance of shopping centre developers to accept an independent with no track record, high equipment costs and lack of support when their own children can find more rewarding employment elsewhere. The independent retailer is being forced to lose his identity by using a group name, in many cases. They are faced, in addition, with a push by the National Retailers' Institute, for stores being opened weeknights Monday to Saturday, instead of just Thursday and Friday.

Death Wish Is Strong

Since mandatory seat belt legislation was suggested as a possible consideration in the current session of the Ontario Legislature, newspapers across the province have been receiving letters voicing opposition, not only to legislation, but also to seat belts themselves.

"The majority of the objections indicate to me an unreasonable, irresponsible attitude on the part of uninformed writers," says Terry Thompson, Public Information Manager for the Ontario Safety League.

He has been collecting newspaper clippings for his files since the Throne Speech mentioned possible legislation.

"Whether or not you agree with mandatory seat belt legislation is beside the point at the moment," he suggested. "The

point is, seat belts work and we've got the figures to prove it. They've been published time and time again, yet people seem to dismiss them so easily."

"A report released last year by the ministry of transportation and communications stated that out of the 827 drivers killed in Ontario in 1972, only 40 were known to be using seat belts. A further look at the Ministry's figures shows that one out of every 865 belted drivers involved in collisions that year was killed. One out of every 447 unbelted drivers was killed."

You don't have to be a mathematician to see that wearing seat belts can decrease your chance of dying in a highway collision by some 50 per cent. And these figures are not from Australia, Sweden or France...they are from Ontario.

ECHOES FROM THE PAST

10 YEARS AGO

Cadet Maj. Larry Stief and Cadet Cpl. Dennis Stief received major awards during annual inspection at Georgetown armory. Another cadet, RSM Mike Pratt, was made cadet captain.

Neighboring residents Mr. and Mrs. Syd Orr protested construction of a town storage garage of former sewage disposal property on Main Street south. The couple planned to appeal a decision of the committee of adjustment granting the town permission to build the garage, contrary to provisions of the zoning bylaw.

An Acton man, Alfred Long, who had taken two trips to Africa, to Kenya and Tanganyika, showed films of an African safari during a visit to the Brotherhood of Anglican Churchmen at their spring dinner.

A young man who had instructed YMCA classes in judo was the newest member of the Georgetown police force. Harry Liberty, 40 Hale Dr., started as a probationary constable.

20 YEARS AGO

Robert Cunningham, member of the board of Equestrian School Area, presented the Burlington Cup to Sylvia Lambert for Georgetown High School, winning entry in the choir group at Halton's Music Festival.

A Georgetown man, Bill Campbell, stationed at Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, was promoted to corporal with the RCMP. He is the son of John Campbell.

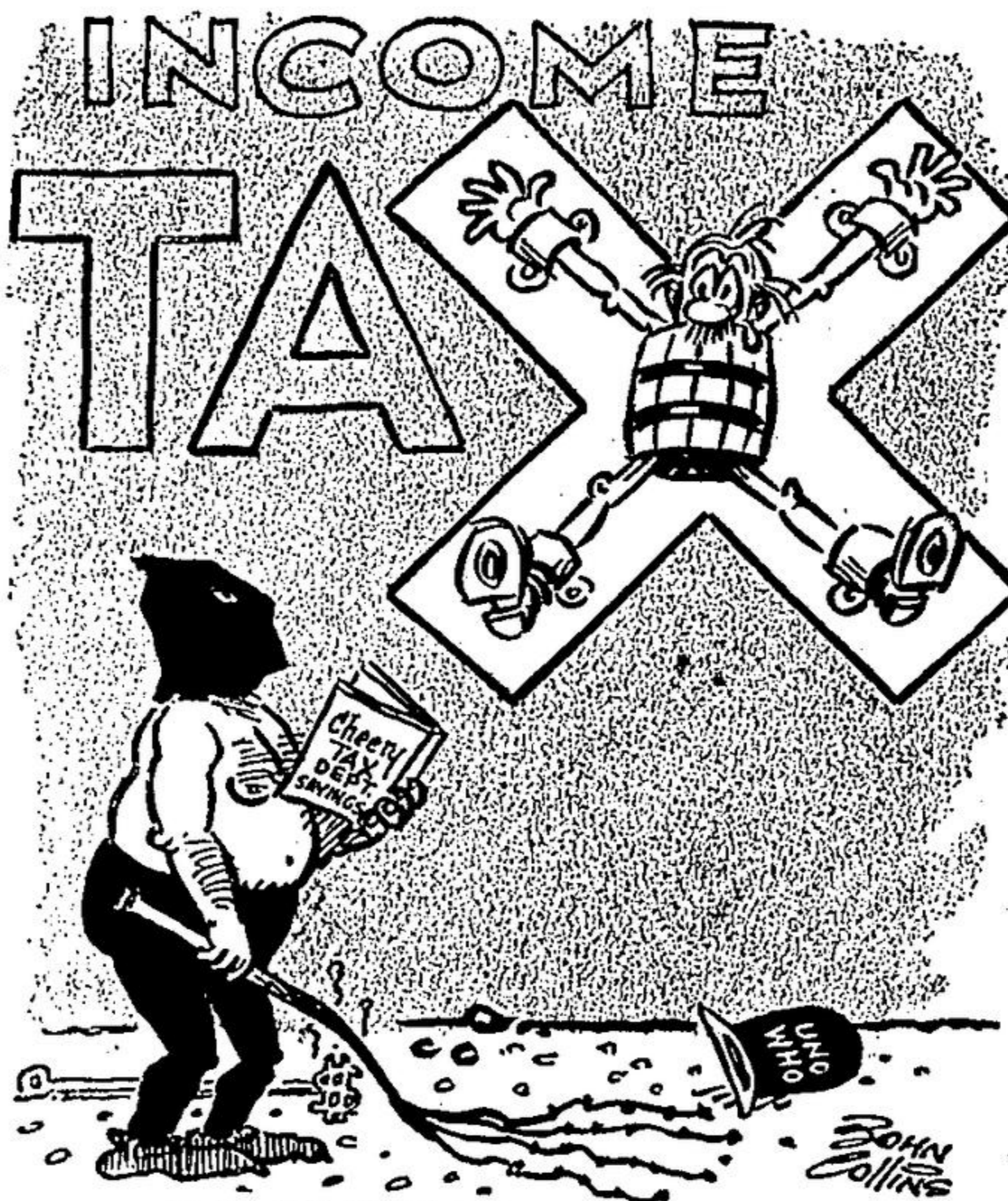
A Georgetown High School student, Leanne Darou, was named intermediate champion at Play Day at Guelph OAC. One of a group of local athletes, she placed first in three events, standing broad jump, running broad jump and the 75-yard dash.

30 YEARS AGO

Norval Boy's Club held its first father and son banquet. Arrangements for the banquet were in charge of the club president, Rev. Leonard J. Self, of Norval Presbyterian Church. Rev. S.R. Colebrook of St. Paul's Anglican Church acted as toastmaster.

Georgetown was represented at a meeting of the Aeronautical Society, meeting in Toronto, by S.W. Orr, for the town, and A.R. Speight of the board of trade.

Council decided to purchase \$17,500 in bonds during the Sixth Victory Loan Drive. Joint chairman of the local drive, W.F. Bradley and L.E. Fleck, appeared before council to speak in support of the loan.



IT ONLY HURTS WHEN I LAUGH

VIEWPOINT

Being Surface Beautiful Leads To Insensitivity

BY G. LANDBOROUGH
Terra Cotta

There appears to be a strange coincidence between the relationship between the various types of protection available to us today.

We have products that protect us from un-slightly candour, bad breath, body odor, and heaven forbid that we should show any gray hair. The ideal of every man, woman, and child according to the ad men is to become "one of the beautiful people."

Who would show even slight surprise to find on the market shelf, a small brush and foam lather, for those who want to keep their navels cleaner than clean. While we continue to spend millions and millions of dollars annually to achieve the goal of being surface beautiful and protected from every possible natural odor, we are losing the protection of being able to walk down our streets safely. The more protected our bodies become from natural causes (odor and age) the more unprotected we become to physical violence.

A recent news story told of an apartment in Mississauga that had been vandalized. The television set, stereo and some other furniture, had been smashed. Furniture was smeared with nail polish, garbage was strewn about and even the pet hamper was drowned. The sad part was the vandals were three little boys, each five years old.

Apartment owners have been hard hit with this particular form of vandalism. Many are now using 24-hour security guards whose maintenance costs are passed on to the tenant in rent increases.

Violence is the direct result of misplaced aggression. Society has to open its eyes and take its head from the sand.

IMPERSONALITY
Michael Jacobs is the director of the Crisis Intervention Unit of Toronto East General Hospital. In an open letter to the Star, he tells us that suicide among young people is reaching epidemic proportions. The relation between the two is that young people are faced with a society that has

become impersonal and places value on the amount of personal wealth collected. It stands to reason that as inflation increases, the ability of the young person to become what society presents as the ideal individual, a "beautiful person" becomes more and more of an impossibility. The aggression we are seeing in our young people today is the direct result of the unrealistic goals we have presented.

Detroit, which has the infamous reputation of being the "murder capital of the world" has had since January, 237 murders to date. Gun registrations indicate that one out of every 10 persons is licensed to carry a pistol. Guns have but one purpose - to kill. The person who purchases a gun makes a commitment to the fact that he or she at some point may kill. Yet, when we read of instances of grave bodily harm such as the Toronto woman who was kicked to the ground last week, we can understand the fear that the individual alone on the street can develop.

Insensitivity to others, impersonalization, frustration and lack of self worth are the main factors for what we are witnessing. The Vietnamese war was the first war to be brought live and in living color into our living rooms. In the beginning, experts told us that the outrage of the viewers would quickly put a stop to these

atrocities. They were very much mistaken. Instead, we became accustomed to the violence and either continued to watch or turned to a John Wayne war and never really saw a difference between the two.

SPORTS VIOLENCE

Violence in our sports such as hockey is another example of what we all tolerate. Clarence Campbell of the NHL has maintained that fighting in hockey acts as "an escape valve." We would question the type of thinking that says mans aggression must be taken out on his fellow man.

Human aggression is a learned, not an innate, behavior pattern. We cannot stop the violence in our society without being aware of why we have allowed ourselves to become desensitized.

What we are witnessing now is but the forerunner of things to come. Arnold Toynbee, the distinguished British historian, sees violence as a necessary and inevitable part of our future. "A society that is declining materially may be ascending spiritually. In some respects what we see may be a blessing in disguise if we can only rise to this grave occasion."

Therein lies the rub. Can we rise to the occasion. Do we care enough to speak out now, or will we become merely apathetic and passive until we regress back to the Stone Age?

Overhead Lines, Wires Are Boating Hazards

With the advent of the boating season, Ontario Hydro has issued its annual warning to inland sailors.

"Around marinas, cottages and docking facilities generally, there are overhead electric wires which present hazards when taking boats in or out of the water," said Dr. Don Grant, director of Hydro's Health and Safety division.

"Too often boaters don't take the time to look up and look out for electric wires. These lines provide the necessary electricity to shore line facilities, but if a

mast comes in contact with them serious accidents or a fatality can happen."

Dr. Grant said even wooden masts, with metal guy wires and metal stays can cause trouble.

Fluctuating water levels provide another possible hazard. A rise of a foot can put a mast dangerously close to a line.

"Ontario was fortunate the last two years. No accidents or fatalities to boaters were recorded because of overhead lines. However, three fatalities and six accidents were traced to this cause in 1970 and 1971."

BILL SMILEY

Once Is Enough For Teacher's Movie Career

GOOD GIMMICK

Another place in the same city was "Harry's". He has a good gimmick, which I'd like to see Estar's and Simpsons adopt. It is a clip joint for suspecting North Americans. There are no Germans in the place. But you can buy anything from a Hummel figurine to a vast, lousy painting. However, his gimmick getsem. When you walk in the door, you are offered a coke, a coffee, or a beer. And when you leave, you are offered a free gift; comb, nail-file, plastic carkey-holder, sunglasses. It's chicken stuff, but it's smart. In a lot of Canadian stores, all you are offered is a slice of cold shoulder.

Trees. The Germans treat their trees as we would roses. They are carefully husbanded - and even wifed - and produce the expectant harvest. They are then cut up as carefully as bread. We whack ours down and burn

them. Not that I'd want to live in Germany. Who wants to live in a country where the trains run on time, and highway signs say something as vulgar as Ausfahrten? MOVIES
Recently I was involved in the making of a movie. I am here to declare, by the grace of God, that I do not now, or ever, want to be a movie star, a supporting actor, or an extra.
You guessed it. I was an extra. Unpaid. I spent a beautiful spring afternoon running up and down hills, shouting, "Get him! Kill him! Hang him!" in a soldier's uniform, and brandishing a stout club.
Why, as a soldier, was carrying a club, instead of a musket, I don't know, but extra's don't question DeMille, do they?
Trouble was with the movie, that we extras didn't

know what the hell was going on. We puffed up and down the hills, got slapped in the eye by willow switches, and jumped over logs, waving our clubs menacingly. It was pretty exciting. The first time.

Then we did it over and over again, because someone had forgotten to take off the sun-glasses, or the watch. It was a period piece, and the beer cans and coke bottles didn't fit into the 19th century milieu.

MANY SHOTS
Must admire the cameraman, though. He climbed about forty feet into a tree, to take "down" shots of us idiots running through the woods, yelling, "Kill him! Get him!" and such. Then he lay under a log shooting up, getting crotch shots and feet shots as we did the same thing. Then he waded into a river (in April) and did the same thing.

READER'S FORUM

Education Philosophy Is Campbell's Concern

Sir: I gather from your editorial backing the System (May 1, 1974) that there is an apparent misunderstanding of the circumstances associated with my initial protest concerning what I consider alarming trends in public education.

I do not blame the board of education for a failure to provide a hearing for my initial complaint. I withheld my property taxes as a conscientious response to a public educational system dominated by a secular totalitarianism which I could not support voluntarily. As you can gather from the enclosed copies of my original letter of protest to Milton Mayor Anne MacArthur, and my personal letter to M. M. Robinson high school principal, K. N. Craig, I "went public" because I was protesting trends in the basic philosophy of public education which can only be corrected through an arousing of the public. As I said to Mayor MacArthur, "this disease demands surgery, not a bandaid."

The "disease" which I specified was "totalitarianism" with overtones of "sexual fascism." I made it clear from the start that the offensive literature and gay lib visit were in my opinion only symptoms of the disease. If I were dealing with the symptoms only, I could have found an adequate hearing from responsible educators along normal channels. But since it was the trends in the philosophy underlying the entire system which I was protesting, the only way I could do so conscientiously was by the withholding of my property taxes. That made news and focussed the attention of the public on the problem.

REAL PROBLEM
As I listened to the complaints of many other parents who contacted me over the two weeks subsequent to my public protest, it became clear to me that the real problem is the lack of responsibility of the educational portion of my property taxes. That made news and focussed the attention of the public on the problem.

Appeals have also gone out to the 10 provincial governments, the Prime Minister and other political figures for support.
"Because of the increasing

The need for such an independent advisory body of concerned parents and taxpayers was recommended by the consultative committee at the time the regional educational structures were established. With the drift toward the domination of education by a well-paid and often insensitive bureaucracy, becoming more and more apparent, the need for such a parent-taxpayer advisory body as the Halton

Renaissance Committee, is becoming more and more evident to thoughtful citizens.

So we will "keep punching" and are most optimistic of the inevitable impact of the Halton Renaissance Committee for the improvement of the public educational system. Thank you for your encouragement.

Ken Campbell, Chairman
The Halton Renaissance Committee

Insulation Plea Made By Energy Industries

Organizations representing the energy industry in Canada have joined forces in a conservation bid aimed at upgrading insulation standards for residential construction.

The oil, gas and electric industries are seeking changes in the National Building Code which could result in energy savings of about 57 per cent in new homes. They want the changes incorporated in a revised national code due to be published in 1975.

A decision on the request is expected from the Associate Committee of the National Building Code in July of this year.

The appeal was made in a brief submitted to the committee by a joint energy industry task force headed by C.E. Rickards, of the Canadian Gas Association. The other organizations involved are the Canadian Electrical Association, the Ontario Petroleum Association, the Quebec Petroleum Association and the Oil Heating Association of British Columbia.

"All segments of the energy industry feel so strongly about conservation that this united front was established," Mr. Rickards said.

Appeals have also gone out to the 10 provincial governments, the Prime Minister and other political figures for support.
"Because of the increasing

QUEEN'S PARK

Speculation Tax Brings Indecision

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

TORONTO—The real estate industry, and any section of the public with a direct interest are in a state of perplexity over the government's land speculation tax.

So also, one suspects, is the government. Apparently the decision to impose the tax, and then the subsequent legislation, were rushed through in such a hurry that there is quite a shambles.

The situation is not as bad as it was with last year's energy tax, which eventually had to be withdrawn.

But even the government admits that the speculation tax needs a lot of repair work before it can possibly function.

And the NDP, at least, doubts that even with repairs it will do what it is intended to do.

In the second reading debate on principle opposition party critics, and even a few from the government side uncovered numerous weaknesses in the bill.

As just one example the legislation would provide for a 50 per cent tax on speculative profits.

On top of this there would be the regular income taxes which would bring the total to more than 80 per cent. But it could rise even

higher. This would happen if the federal government didn't allow the original 50 per cent as a deductible business expense. If it didn't the take could mount to 110 per cent. And at the time of the introduction of the legislation, notes had been discussed this with Ottawa. DEFEATS ITSELF?

Most pertinent of all, however, is that the tax could be self-defeating.

The purpose of introducing it was to try and force more serviced home building lots on the market.

There are three broad segments in the housing industry: speculators, developers and builders.

The key is the development segment. Developers buy big parcels of land from speculators, or sometimes on their own, put in the sewers, roads and other services, and then sell off serviced lots to builders, while also usually doing some building themselves.

The forecast by the critics, and they appear to be right, is that if the developers have to pay the speculation tax on sales to builders, they will just sit on their land (except for lots they build on themselves).

The result would be an even greater shortage of serviced lots, catastrophe for the many small builders in the province and an even stronger upward pressure on housing prices.

