



WINNERS OF THE 1975 students' fire prevention poster contest were honored by Halton Region Fire Prevention Committee and Halton Regional Council on Wednesday. Winners pictured with their desk pen sets and winning posters are (from left) runner-up Margaret Hall of Acton;

runner-up Colleen Murray of Oakville; girls' winner Janine Baker of Georgetown; boys' winner Daniel Miron of Burlington; and boys' runners-up Roy Vascotto of Milton and Scott Greig of Georgetown.

Bus reports on CFRB

Those magic words "No school today in north Halton" may be heard on CFRB this winter.

Should severe winter storms force cancellation of bus transportation to schools in the Halton Hills and Milton areas students will be informed this winter through reports from CFRB, Toronto, 1010 on the AM dial.

According to north education centre spokesman, D.J. Gentleman, every attempt will be made to have the information available to the area residents by 7 a.m.

Additional radio stations serving north Halton will be provided with similar information subsequent to CFRB if time and conditions permit.

In the event of a storm, bus transportation owners have requested that calls not be made directly to them except in cases of emergency.

This reporting situation also pertains to students who are bused to General Wolfe and General Brock High Schools from north Halton.

Report From Queen's Park



by Julian Reed MPP, Halton-Burlington

The legislative committee considering the Rent Control Bill is very much in the news this week. Real estate firms have predicted a crisis if Ontario imposes these controls pointing out that "no new investment in rental housing will take place" in this event.

A representative of some 20 real estate companies told the committee that the "inequities in rental buildings are being exaggerated" and "rental control is the first step in eliminating the free enterprise system."

A Toronto builders group maintains that if the current legislation is passed it would serve to stifle rental construction. Metropolitan Toronto Apartment Builders Association, in a brief to the committee, warned that rental controls would cause a downward spin in the rental industry, leading to a shortage of vacant apartments and forcing landlords to let their buildings deteriorate.

The proposed 8 percent ceiling on rent increases would they said, force landlords to postpone repairs, reduce profit incentives and dry up capital which would otherwise go into apartment construction.

The association said the lowest rental rates are found in Vancouver and Montreal—the only two provinces which now have rent controls.

Housing minister John Rhodes this week released the results of the survey carried out by Elliott Research Corporation during June July: results reported to the government in August, but

only now made public.

According to the survey the average rent increase for the year ending last July was less than 12 percent.

In anticipation of the Rent Control Bill Metro Toronto landlords are seeking the shortest possible leases.

Premier William Davis told the legislature that the provincial government is increasing mortgage interest subsidies to assist home buyers. The latest federal proposals are at present being examined by the province to ascertain whether provincial assistance is needed.

Ontario doctors have voted to increase their fees by 35 percent May 1 which would produce a 48 percent increase in their average net income, although it is uncertain that these new fees would be allowed under the federal government's anti-inflation legislation.

Provincial health minister Frank Miller has stated that he cannot accept the doctors' demand for a 35 percent increase in fees, but feels their statement is simply an opening bargaining position. He intends to meet with representatives of the Ontario Medical Association within the next two weeks to negotiate an increase in fees.

Refusing to say what increase the government proposed he indicated 15 percent might possibly be considered but noted that federal guidelines restricted professionals to income increases of 10 percent

a year, to a maximum of \$2,499.

The average net income for an Ontario doctor in 1973 was \$40,024. They received a 7 percent increase last year and another 4 percent this year.

The minister said that if the federal government approved a 35 percent increase the Ontario Health Insurance Plan could not afford to pay them.

Toronto's high school teachers continue on strike. They sent a large delegation to Ottawa last week to demonstrate against the federal anti-inflation guidelines. Some teachers have resigned in protest and their negotiators have warned that "they are ready to go into battle."

The provincial executive council of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation have voted unanimously to recommend that the teacher's union "take the strongest legal and constitutional measures to prevent the application going to the anti-inflation board for collective bargaining."

Three new mediators have been appointed to the new round of bargaining: Stanley Hart of Montreal (the fact-finder); George Adams, vice-chairman of the Ontario Labor Relations Board; William Dickie, assistant deputy minister of labor.

Mr. Hart has warned that the new negotiations are "everybody's last chance" pointing out that "there will have to be pretty serious bargaining this time."

The mediators are prepared to work around the clock to end the strike, which has left

140,000 students without teachers since November 12.

The province's seat belt legislation has received third and final reading. Only royal assent is needed to make Ontario the first jurisdiction in North America to implement the mandatory wearing of automobile seat belts. The law takes effect January 1 but the police will be instructed not to lay charges during the first month.

Reduced speed limits introduced together with the seat belt legislation will probably be in effect on all highways in the province by mid-January. A special temporary exemption to the reduced speed will likely be allowed for long distance buses until new timetables and connections can be scheduled.

Although only a few MPP's actually voted against the seat belt legislation many others expressed reluctance and reservations about the measure.

The chairman of the Workmen's Compensation Board has told the legislature's standing committee on estimates that, although occupational injuries are down 9.4 percent compensation has increased by 29.4 percent due partly to inflation, but also to amendments to the WCB Act increasing the benefit rates.

As a result employers, rates will increase by between 35 percent and 100 percent next year.

'Norval News

Norval WI in festive spirit

By Dorothy McLean

Flower arranging with a difference was the highlight of the Christmas meeting of Norval Women's Institute held at the home of Mrs. Jean May on Thursday evening, December 4 with Mrs. Amy Burk presiding.

Those present were divided into three groups and were given red and white mums, some greenery, and a flower container, then they had to arrange the flowers with Mrs. Eitel Webb and Mrs. Marie Murray as judges. All three arrangements were very pretty but all made the same mistake by arranging the dark colours on the top instead of the bottom.

The flower arrangements were later given as prizes for contests. They were won by Mrs. Gladys Chester, Mrs. May Cleave and Mrs. Edna Murray.

A singsong of carols with Mrs. Doris Sharpe at the organ was followed with an exchange of gifts. The program was planned by Mrs. Ina Terry and Mrs. Kathy Chester.

During the business it was decided to either take the course on quilts if it is a different course than the one already taken or to make a quilt this winter.

Mrs. Marie Murray and Mrs. Edna Murray assisted the hostess in serving mince meat tarts and ice cream for lunch and a social time was enjoyed.

The Christmas meeting of Norval Presbyterian Church W.M.S. was held on Wednesday afternoon, December 3, at the home of Mrs. Clure Archdekin with Mrs. Andrew McClure in the chair.

The president opened the meeting by repeating the verse from the Bible, Isaiah 9:6. The roll call was answered with a gift for a patient in Tusamore Nursing Home, Brampton, and a Christmas verse.

Mrs. H. Anthony read the scripture lesson and Mrs. J.M. McClure led in prayer. Mrs. Andrew McClure was in charge of the program on the theme "How Far To Bethlehem" which took the form of readings, commentaries, and poems. She

was assisted by Mrs. Dixon Duff, Mrs. Harold McClure and Mrs. Sam McClure. A social hour followed the meeting with Mrs. Harold McClure assisting the hostess

in serving lunch.

Norval United Church Sunday School had a very enjoyable evening on Friday evening, December 5th, when they met at the church and then went to Mayfield school for skating or swimming, then back to the church for lunch and fun. A good number of Sunday School pupils, young people and teachers attended.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Crawford, Sr., have returned home from three weeks touring Florida where they enjoyed staying for several days at the various holiday resorts.

They found quite a change in the weather when they arrived home to our raw cold December days.

Get well wishes are extended to Harold Early who spent about a week in Peel Memorial Hospital, Brampton, for tests and a check-up.

A turkey dinner with all the trimmings was enjoyed by the Pinegrove Farm Forum for their annual Christmas dinner which was held in the Pinegrove hall on Monday evening, December 1.

The hall was suitably decorated for the occasion. An evening of cards followed the dinner and an exchange of gifts from the tree. Mrs. Joan Harrop and Mrs. Anne Wilson were the committee in charge of the enjoyable evening.

Leona and Bryon Dearsley, children of Mr. and Mrs. Leon Dearsley celebrated Christmas early this year at a Preview '76 Showing of Canadian products at the Government of Ontario House, London England.

Zenith Mfg. 53 Mountainview Road, Georgetown, have now set up sales and warehouses facilities for the United Kingdom and Europe at Maidstone Kent, UK, to market Christmas and summer lines and have now completed their first year's operations. They are the sole importers and distributors of Noma artificial trees and lights which have proven to be a most acceptable product by the UK buying public. Zenith are now making headway into the outdoor living scene through their own brand of barbecues and accessories.

Mr. Dearsley is managing the UK operations while back in Georgetown Roy Buttrey is overseeing plant operations. As well as being involved with exports Zenith is making future plans for a line of imported furniture for Canada.

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