Report From Queen's Park



Julian Reed MPP, Halton-Burlington

Quite a number of businessmen, especially lenants of shopping plazas, have expressed concern about the amendment to the Assessment Act which was passed in 1974. Unitl that time, assessment was based on the actual area occupied by a lenant, but the new formula is based on the total assessment value of the entire tenantoccupied property (for example a plaza) divided among the tenants in proportion to the fair market rent of the space they each occupy. This means, in effect, that the tenant who pays a higher rent will also be paying higher taxes.

No exceptions are made for existing leases, and some tenants are locked into five or ten years leases, having been Riven to understand that they would be paying taxes of a certain amount, based on actual taxes already being paid in similar malls elsewhere. However, they have been faced with tax bills as much as ten times as high as those projected figures. Both large and small tenants are virtually trapped in existing lease arrangement, since they were not aware of the amendment to the

Assessment Act. In some cases, large tenants have had their taxes substantially reduced (\$150,000 in one case) below the projections made at the time of entering into the lease arrangement. The shift of the tax burden onto the small tenant is being appealed by many, but in the meantime they are faced with the possibility of bankruptcy because of this situation.

Not only has the change in legislation led to a considerable shift of tax burden onto the small business, but from a pratical point of view it is very cumbersome. Any change in rental by any one involve reassessment of all the others. Realty taxes continue to be paid by developers, but the assessment office apportions thd total among the various tenants (taking into consideration location, access to main corridors, use of facilities provided, etc.) Assessments are increased, therefore, where the rents are higher and assessment is taxed at 30 percent, and decreased where assessments are taxed at 50 percent.

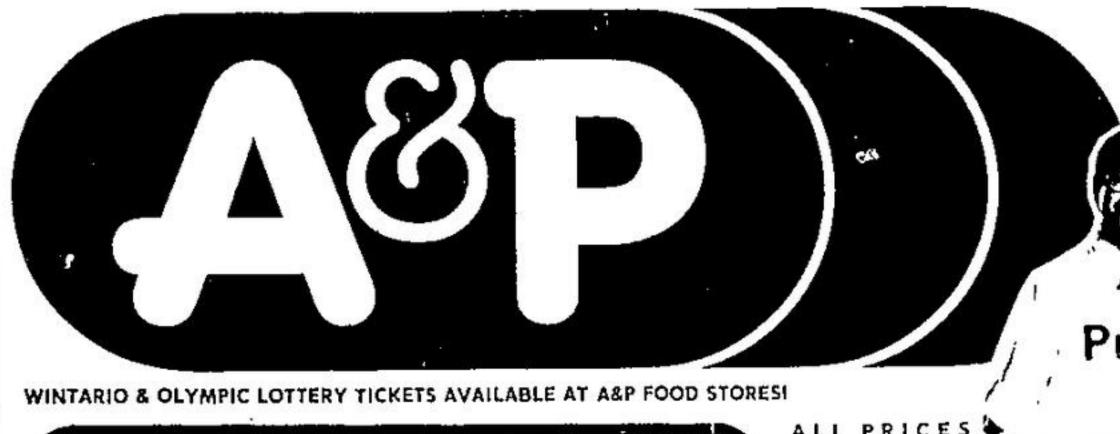
Large tenants are charged much less rent per square foot, due to their attraction value for the shopping mall. Smaller tenants pay higher rent, because their space is used much more intensely and they usually have direct access to a common area in the mall, providing mnay facilities for their customers.

Some inequity may exist in this situation. Possibly when the legislation was considered and passed by all three parties, it was not fully realised that rents charged by shopping malis varied to such a great extent. Ministry officials are of the opinion that prior to the amendment, the small businesses were not paying their fair share of the taxes. When the government introduced the legislation to amend the Assessment Act, It was stressed by the minister that it was the intention to provide a formula which would mkae a fair apportionment of the assessment value among The tenants in accordance with the market rental value of the ispace they occupied, so that itenants occupying the most valuable space would be assesed for a greater portion of the total assessment of the

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total property than tenants

A"Bright" New Promise from the Man in the "Bright" Red Jacket!



Rib Portion 4 TO 7 RI85 Tenderloin Portion 3 TO 314-LB CUT

Tenderloin Half Loin

Rib Half Loin

Centre Cut Loin PORK ROAST 16 \$1.79 Rib Loin Pork Chops 151.59 Spare Ribs COUNTRY STYLE IS \$1.39 THROUGH SAT., MARCH 13, 1976.



PORK LOIN QUARTERS CUT INTO

PORK CHOPS

2 Rib Chops Chops

Centre Cut Ib Chops

10 CHOPS IN A PKG

FROZEN FOODS! Chocolate, Vanille, Strawberry, Lemon-Layer Cakes SARA LEE CAKES

13%-OZ 89¢

A&P ORANGE JUICE 4 6.FL-OZ \$1.00

2-12-FL-OZ TINS-\$1.00 Frozen Waffles 10-ozpkg 59¢ SUPER-RIGHT QUALITY, SLICED

BEEF LIVER 149¢

SUPER-RIGHT -- SLICED Side Bacon

1.1b Vac Pac \$1.68

UNIVERSAL -WITH PEPPERONI Deluxe Pizza 1.1b, 9-oz pio \$1.99

Schneiders -- Red Hots -- Dutch Trest -- All Beef -- Skinfess Wieners BURNS-STORE PACK

Luncheon Meats 6-02 Vac Pac 44¢ Pork Shoulders 1.5.6 16 189¢

₱\$1.39 146 Vac Pac 78¢ Corned Beef Beef & Pork Sausages 189 Lamb Shoulder Chops 188

Look for the Man in Red at A&P

The bright new jacket worn by our store manager is a symbol of his renewed commitment to be more responsive to you. You can go to him if you have a question, if you have a problem, or if you have a special need. Our manager can do a lot to help make your shopping easier and more satisfying. And he will. We're proud of him.

If We Can't Do It, Nobody Can.

Fresh Produce!

FLORIDA'S FINEST, INDIAN RIVER, PINK, LARGE, SIZE 32's

GRAPEFRUIT FOR '

A COLOURFUL FLOWERING PERENNIAL

PRIMULA PLANTS 4" POT \$1.99

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CELERY HEARTS

EACH 49¢

MEXICAN-LARGE SIZE PINEAPPLE

EACH **59**¢

(PREPRICED) Coca-Cola PLUS BOTTLE DEPOSIT 40-FL-OZ BOTTLE

8 O'Clock-Contains Rich Brazilian Coffees nstant Coffee

STANDARD Iona Peas 19-FL-0Z CTION PRICED!

CREAM SANDWICH - VANILLA - CHOCOLATE DUPLEX -- LEMON Princess Cookies

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& VARIETIES-INCLUDING DINNER TIME MINTS PEGGY ANN CANDIES 1-15 cello 77 7 ¢

Mother Parker 10-oz jar \$2.79 Mazola Corn Oil 24-Il-oz bil \$1.19

Old Tyme Syrup 32-fl-oz bil \$1.29

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Serve Quality A&P Baked Goods and Save!

White Bread 416-0% \$1.00

Snowflake Rolls PKG OF 39¢

(PKG OF 12-5AVE \$1.19) pkg of 6 69¢ Hot Cross Buns SAVE 10c pkg of 12 59¢ **Cake Donuts**

SLICED 40% OR 100% WHOLE WHEAT OR CRACKED WHEAT Jane Parker Bread 224-oz loaves 79¢ BUY 2 LOAVES-SAVE 15c

CHECK THESE LOW PRICES!

CHERRY BLUEBERRY

Libby's Vegetables 3/\$1.00

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Pillsbury Biscuits 8-02 pkg 49¢ Kraft Velveeta 2lbpkg \$2.59

PLASTIC BTL

SEALTEST-CREAMED 16-OZ CARTON

ACTION PRICED! BOUTIQUE