

Majority oppose legal 'pot': survey

A "slim majority" of the 977 Halton residents who responded to a recent survey by MP Dr. Frank Philbrook believe that marijuana should not be decriminalized by the federal government.

According to the survey results, published in Dr. Philbrook's quarterly report to his constituents 51.4 per cent of those who responded oppose making any alterations to existing narcotics laws, compared to 43.7 per cent who believe possession of marijuana should not be considered a criminal offence.

The survey, circulated in the MP's last newsletter, also sought opinions on national unity, the proposed saccharine ban and urban transit. The 977 questionnaires returned to Dr. Philbrook represent the feelings of approximately 2.25 per cent of the total contacted.

A majority of 36.8 per cent urged the government to bolster national unity by educating the public about the social and cultural ties among the provinces. The remaining options, in order of popularity, were constitutional reform (25.5 per cent) economic measures (12 per cent) and open political debate (10.8 per cent).

Other suggestions included increased language training in the schools, a national or Quebec referendum and even the charging of separatist MPs with treason. A scant 2.5 per cent of the respondents advocated military intervention.

Under other headings, 64.7 per cent of those polled opposed a complete ban on saccharine, while 22 per cent favored a partial ban, as proposed and 9.4 per cent said leave saccharine alone.

Urban transit is a popular enough idea that 65.8 per cent advocate government cut-backs in other areas so that such services can be expanded.

64 home plan rejected for Silver Creek

Halton Hills planning board turned down a subdivision plan for the Silvercreek area brought to them last week by J. Axler.

Mr. Axler told the board he had presented his plan to the Esqueping township council in 1968 when he farmed the land on which he hoped to build the subdivision.

At that time they were "anti-development," he said. Then the Niagara Escarpment Commission (NEC) was formed and the property came under its jurisdiction.

There would be 64 houses in the development, roughly 1,500 square feet in size with an average of 100 foot frontage. They would be landscaped and have a community water system, Mr. Axler said.

Chairman Roy Booth told Mr. Axler that the NEC only looks at subdivision plans after there has been an application for a zoning amendment to allow for such a subdivision.

Mr. Axler told the board that he has no intention of making an application and paying a fee for it just to be told no later on.

Ward 2 Coun. Russ Miller said that "there are some nice homes" in the adjacent area and he did not feel the proposed homes would compare with them. Mr. Axler's plan resembled a checkerboard in his eyes and "should not even be considered."

Ward 1 Coun. G.W. McKenzie felt that lots of less than two acres were unsuitable in that area because there will be no "town water or sewers" in the area for a long time to come.

Rumors on pact

Rumors persist that a meeting between Ontario Labor Minister Bette Stephenson and the Ontario Nurses' Association (ONA) and local health boards will take place this week.

Elizabeth Peters who is on the executive for Local 1, of the ONA bargaining unit in Halton said public health nurses have had to face the rising cost of living without any salary increases.

"A public health nurse's maximum salary is equal to a registered nurse's minimum salary," Mrs. Peters said in an interview Wednesday.

The public health nurses have not had an increase since January, 1976. They currently earn a maximum of \$13,200.

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READY CUT MACARONI, SPAGHETTINI ON
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Spaghetti 14-oz tin **3 for 1.00**

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Downy 2 litre plastic jug **1.79**

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PKG OF 2 8-OZ TUBS **69¢**

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Imported New Zealand Frozen lb **1.29**

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10 CHOPS IN A PKG
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