Metric 'inches' a little further

BY SEAN PINLAY Ottawa Buresu of The Herald

FIRST OF TWO ARTICLES Bill Domm is angry about

metric. When he talks about metric, it's not in the calm, measured tones Opposition hirs usually use when talking about government policy.

There's passion as he rails against government plans to force retail food stores to sell and advertise individuallyweighed items in metric starting Jan. 4.

There'll be civil disobedience, he says, quickly adding that he isn't encouraging it, as people start buying their meat in kilograms, not pounds. "It's obvious, it's there," be

says. "There is definitely civil disobedience going on now." Mr. Domm PC-Peterborough may not be encouraging civil disobedience against metric, but he is the focal point

for metric opposition. As Jan. 4 gets closer, he gets more and more requests to do radio and television hot-line programs on metric: in the ast 10 days of November, he

did 18 hot-line shows. Mr. Domm is from Peterborough, a hot-bed of metric opposition. The south-central Ontario city was a metric test centre: opposition to metric measurements in Peterborough was so overwhelming that it was called off.

Polls taken in Peterborough while metric measurements were being tested showed 88 per cent opposed, says. Mr.

"That's who I represent, the 88 per cent of the people in Peterborough who don't want metric in the weights and measures divisions of retail food stores."

Mr. Domm also claims to represent retail merchants.

"The government isn't representing them. I can give you a list a mile long of husiness groups opposed to metric. "I'm speaking for those people, too, because the gov-

ernment isn't." Metric Commission officials would have people believe that he started the rebellion in Peterborough against metric.

claims Mr. Domm. "I didn't institute any rebellion," says Mr. Domin, who was first elected as Conservative MP for Peterborough in 1979, a year after metric was first introduced in Peterbor-

"All I'm doing is responding to my constituents today who don't want it, who don't want any part of it. If it was left up to them to move voluntarily, as It was in the United States. they wouldn't move.

"Neither would the westerners, neither would the people in

Kamloops, which along with Peterborough was a test centre, is scheduled to be converted to metric starting Jan. 4.

"They're in for a lot of trouble there," predicts Mr. Domm, "I just came back from a speaking tour through the Okanagen Valley, and there's so much animosity about this forced implementalion program, that if there isn't a lot of civil disobedience, I'll be very much surprised."

Westerners, believes Mr. Domm, just won't accept what he calls a unilateral, dictatorial approach.

"There's a lot more backbone and spunk from westerners than there is from the soft-soap people in Ontario. We're so used to having it

Ag. ministry opens OSCA to many more

By HENRY J. STANLEY Halton ag rep STOCKER CATTLE

PROGRAM EXPANDED Agriculture and Food Minister Lorne Henderson has announced a change in Ontario's Stocker Cattle Assistance Program which will allow hundreds of additional beef producers to participate.

The program was initially open only to those farmers who bought at least ten calves, raised them in Ontario for at least 150 days, and then sold them for finishing purposes when they weighed 600 pounds or more. Those farmers were eligible to receive grants of \$20 per head of cattle.

The program is now open to all farmers who sold ten head of beef cattle for: finishing in - whether they were bought as calves or raised by the farmers themselves.

"It's only fair," Mr. Henderson explained, "to offer farmers who raised their own calves the same assistance offered to those who bought calves"

The Stocker Cattle Assist-

Historic Diab The use of yogurt can be traced back 2,000 years in the Balkan countries.

ance Program has already paid out more than \$2 million to more than 800 beef produc-

This is one of three major Ontario programs designed to help the beleagured beef producers with grants totalling nearly \$60 million.

Dec. 1 Mr. Henderson announced the \$20 million Cow-Calf Program which will give farmers \$40 per bead for beef cows in their possession Aug. 1, 1981. These cows must be part of a producer's normal beef breeding herd and have, or will have, a calf in 1961.

The Ontario Slaughter Cattle Program has already paid out more than \$28 million to more than 4,500 qualified farmers.

Amended application forms for the Stocker Cattle Assistance Program are now available at the agricultural office



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He "rather suspects" that people in Atlantic Canada are opposed to metric; the Nova Scotia government, he says, is opposed.

CUSTOMERS SAY THEY'LL PAY In Peterborough customers are telling retall store owners

they will pay any fine levied

metric.

for not selling in metric weights, says Mr. Domm. Merchania not selling in metric can be fined or even

jailed for refusal to sell in "Customers have come and said don't put in metric weigh scales; we have no intention of

learning metric." The government will have the same kind of problem all

across the country, says Mr. Domm and there are indications that consumer groups will refuse to order in metric units.

The government backed off a proposed switch to metric in the livestock industry when the Canadian Cattlemen's Association said flatly it would not go

metric, says Dolmm. Mr. Domm's opposition to what he describes as 'the

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forced march to metric' is shared by his party. "We support the voluntary implementation of metric. It's

the forced aspect of it we

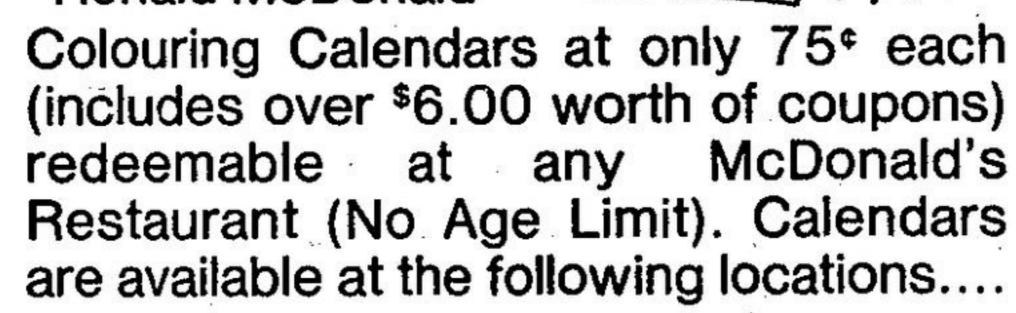
And if anyone wants to measure out everything in metric, "more power to them. "But don't walk in as a government and say: 'Do it, or else we'll put you in fail."

(B)

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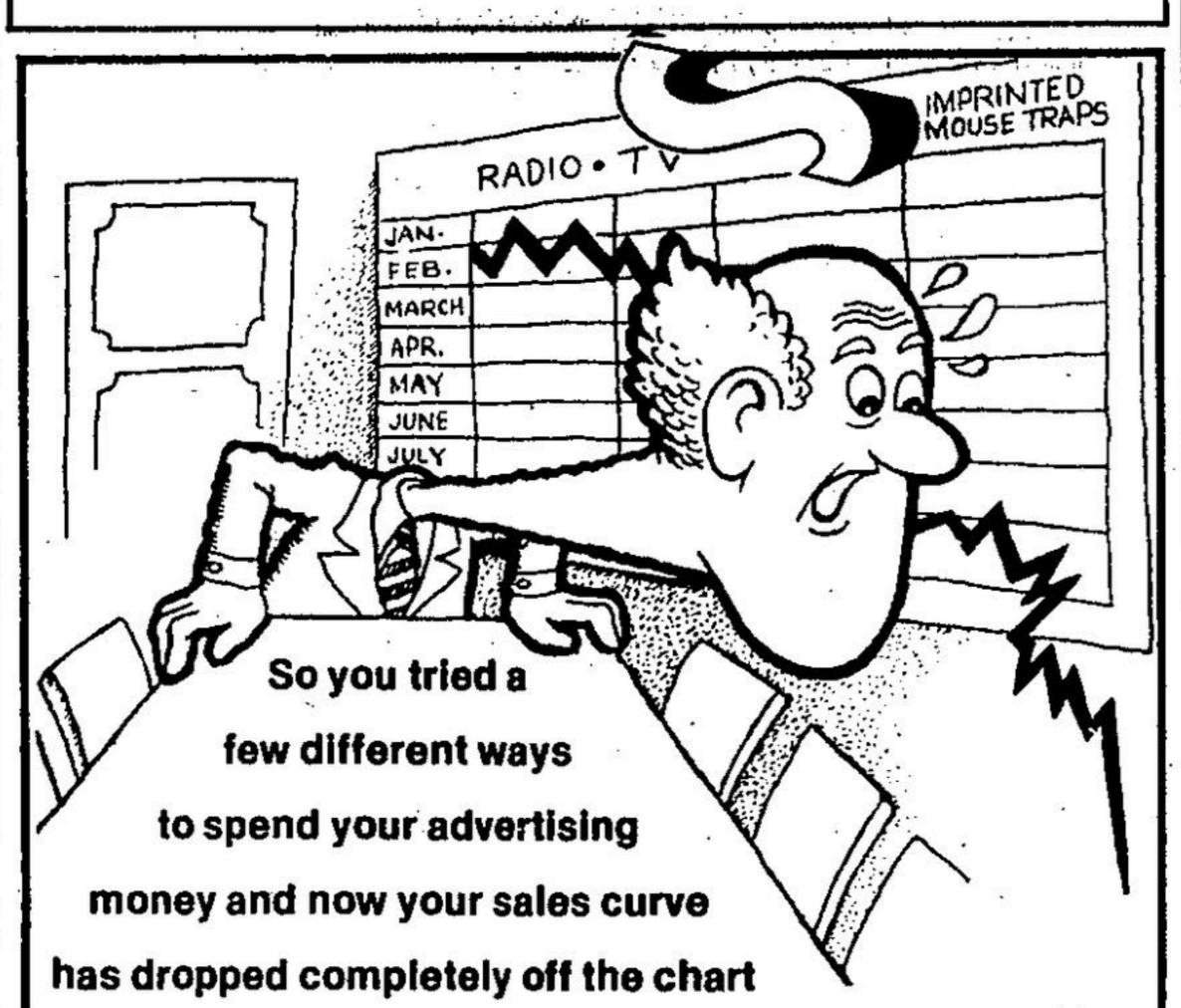
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