

## About the Hills

### Cop's charity volleyball this Friday

The Halton regional police force's second annual Al Reulens Memorial Volleyball Tournament, originally scheduled for Nov. 27, will take place this Friday (Jan. 16) at Ferndale High School in Oakville. Spectators are welcome to come and watch Acton's "dirty dozen" - the 12-man squad assigned to patrol Acton a year ago - try and defend their championship. Admission is free, though Cancer Society volunteers will be present to accept donations. The tournament, which is set to circulate annually among Halton schools, honors regional police sergeant Al Reulens, who died of cancer early last year.

### Spirit of '81 lives on

Those who are interested in the welfare of handicapped people are invited to attend a viewing of two films about the importance of friendships between handicapped and non-handicapped people tomorrow (Thursday) from 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Sheridan College in Oakville (Room C 227). See the films and talk to resource people about a special four week course for volunteers starting Jan. 28. For further information, call the North Halton Association for the Mentally Retarded at 878-0440 or 877-7702.

### Flea market March 1

The date's been changed for Norval Junction's combination flea market-antique sale-auction. Instead of March 1, as reported in Friday's Weekend Extra, it will be Feb. 28 at the former Way-Jay Club, running from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is 50 cents and interested vendors can find out about participating by phoning Jerry Robertson at 877-2385 or 846-0834.

### Varian's xenon arc lamps

A federal contract worth \$95,197 has been awarded to Varian Canada Inc. of Georgetown to provide the defence department with xenon arc lamps, the department of supply and services announced last week. It was one of 299 contracts worth \$10,000 or more awarded to Canadian companies in the week ended Dec. 18. Total value of the contracts was \$29.2 million.

### Take the 'A' stamp

With newly-increased postal rates implemented, Canada Post is advising citizens that a unique "definitive stamp" went on sale Dec. 29 which bears no face monetary value. Since stamps printed with the new first-class letter rate of 30 cents will not be available until spring, the post office has issued new stamps printed with the letter "A", denoting its 30-cent cost and value. The idea was borrowed from the U.S. and Sweden.

### Smalltown Oakville

The Oakville Historical Society has announced publication of "Oakville a Small Town, 1900-1930". Long-time resident and author Frances Robin Ahern continues her historical endeavors with a personal glimpse of the one-time community where she grew up. The book is available in hardcover at \$9.95 from the OHS workshop at 168 Lakeshore Rd. East in Oakville and several other locations in the city.

### Calling all Wrens!

Calling all Wrens! The Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service's Vancouver Association is planning a 40th anniversary reunion Aug. 19 to 23 for all WRNS veterans from World War II and the Korean conflict. Former "Wrens", as they were known, are invited to write WRNS Reunion, P.O. Box 1420, Postal Station A, Vancouver, B.C., V6A 1H3, or phone Jane Vigner at (604) 690-6041 for more information. The eighth annual reunion, taking place in Vancouver, should feature city tours, banquets and lots of time for reminiscing.

### 'Safe Passage'

"The vast majority of the 350,000 babies born in Canada each year have a 'safe passage,'" according to Dr. Wallace Lotis, medical director of the Easter Seal Society. "They are healthy and born to women who have normal pregnancies. However, about ten per cent of pregnant women require highly-skilled and specialized care if their babies are to survive and be without physical or mental handicap." To assist these women, the Society has launched a "Safe Passage" program to educate women about potential risks and safeguards available. More information is available from Carolyn Omand of the Society: write P.O. Box 663, Station K, Toronto.

## Conversion plan is doomed - opposition member

# Feds will give up on metric, MP says

By SEAN FINLAY  
Ottawa Bureau  
of The Herald

### SECOND OF TWO ARTICLES

The federal government will change its mind about forcing conversion to metric, says Bill Domm (PC-Peterborough). "After it spends about \$2 billion and finds it won't work, I know it will change its mind."

Only one group is forcing "French metric" on the country, says Mr. Domm, and that's the government.

He has had pressure only from two groups to support the switch to metric: academics and people from foreign countries who have grown up with metric.

"They teach it or they grew

up with it. Those are the only two groups who say we need it in the weights and measures in the retail food sector," claims Mr. Domm.

"Do we represent, as MPs, the people, or do we know best, as MPs, what's best for the people?" asks Mr. Domm.

"I take the opposite view to the government today, be-

cause my view is that the people know best. And they don't want metric."

The switch to metric, first proposed in a government White Paper in 1971, was supposed to be done in harmony with the United States, Canada's major trading partner, says Mr. Domm.

"Now the whole thing is changed. The Americans have

backed off. The British have backed off. But they were supposed to go metric."

The Canadian Cattlemen's Association opposition to metric was based on cost, says Mr. Domm.

"Economic conditions could not cost-justify the move by that sector," he says. "Cattlemen can't deal in kilograms when all their buyers and sellers are dealing in pounds."

The switch to metric in Canadian centres, to be phased in over a two-year period starting in January, will be costly for retail food stores, says Mr. Domm.

"Everything that has to be brought in from the United

States is in pounds. They can't market it in pounds, they've got to double-handle it to get to metric."

Loblaws says double-handling will be a major cost of conversion, other than the cost of converting scales to metric, claims Domm.

For Mr. Domm, the fight is really about the way metric is being implemented.

"It's all done behind closed doors by cabinet decision by orders-in-council, without the input of Parliament. That's what the fight is all about."

Conversion to metric weights and measures in the retail food industry will be complete by December 1983,

says the Metric Commission.

Two dates are given by the Metric Commission for conversion to metric.

The first date is for the start of conversion of retail food scales; the second, for completion of conversion.

At the starting date, all advertising of store-weighted foods must be in metric. Equivalent prices per pound may also be shown, if less prominent. Equivalent prices may be shown until the end of 1983, whether completion of conversion is made before the end of 1983 or not.

Conversion in Halton region takes place through January and February.

## NDP's economy task force found frustration nationwide

By SEAN FINLAY  
Ottawa Bureau  
of The Herald

There's more than doom and gloom in the country about the economy, says Nelson Rilis (NDP-Kamloops-Shuswap); there's disappointment and frustration bordering on anger.

Mr. Rilis crossed Canada in December heading a New Democratic Party task force on the economy.

"There was real anger at politicians and the political system," says Mr. Rilis. "There was doom and gloom, certainly and there was frustration and anger."

The anger was in the West, says Mr. Rilis, from communities and areas that had been booming 18 months ago.

"Hopes have been dashed so much more in western Canada. Hopes were up so high, things were looking so good; all of a sudden, within six

months, things have turned around."

The disappointment and frustration was found in Atlantic Canada, says Mr. Rilis.

"They're more prepared to accept tough times and difficult times and economic hardship is not new. Things are worse than they have been for some time, but not that much worse."

If there was one universal theme to the hearings, it was condemnation of the high interest rates, says Mr. Rilis.

About 150 briefs were received by the task force, and groups appearing at task force hearings in the eleven cities were not those which would normally appear before an NDP task force, says Mr. Rilis.

"There was either explicit or implicit concern about the lack of economic leadership," he says. "What was universal was that Canada doesn't know what it is trying to do."

Most of the people appearing before the task force were business or labor leaders.

"They are people who understand that planning is necessary. They were surprised that their country, their province doesn't have a plan. They see that as a major weakness."

The task force-which visited Vancouver, Edmonton, Yellowknife, Regina, Winnipeg, Thunder Bay, Toronto, Montreal, Fredericton, Halifax and St. John's-also hoped to get opinions about the federal budget.

"Everyone is upset about the budget," says Mr. Rilis. "Everyone went out of his way to point out that the budget was not going to help his sector of

the economy."

Criticism of the budget came from groups and individuals appearing before the task force and in informal discussions with people over lunch and on plant tours, says Mr. Rilis.

"People would say 'I've always been a Liberal, but I'm not going to be any more,' or, 'I just can't believe what I'm hearing, what I'm reading about this budget.'"

That discontent with the budget has reached Parliament Hill, says Mr. Rilis.

"You talk to the Liberals around here, and these guys are afraid to go home. They know what they're going to

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Newsprint Prohibition at Regional Landfill Sites  
By-Law No. 115-81

In accordance with By-law 115-81, passed on November 4, 1981 after the 1st day of April, 1982, the Regional Municipality of Halton will not permit or accept any form of newsprint whatsoever in any of the facilities provided by the Regional Municipality of Halton for the purpose of receiving, dumping, and disposing of solid waste, including any sanitary landfill sites owned, operated, or contracted for by the Regional Municipality of Halton.

Contravention of this by-law will result in a fine of \$500 for each offence, and each day on which a contravention occurs shall constitute a separate offence.

Garfield Brown  
Regional Clerk

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**JOAN THOMS**  
Family Trust Corporation is pleased to announce the appointment of Joan Thoms to our Georgetown Branch. Joan is an accomplished Real Estate Saleslady with 7 years experience in the Georgetown area. She has lived in the community for 20 years and is an active member of "Globe Productions" Theatre Group and has been active in many community related associations throughout the years. Joan will be a tremendous asset to our office and the industry as a whole.

Joan is available to assist you at 877-5261.

For more information call: **877-5261** or **793-4690** Ext. 34