



HOME CARE—A Halton VON branch nurse visits a patient at home. The VON nursing program enables patients to remain in their

Better ways to save for retirement

New Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP) limits will provide Canadians with better opportunities to build an adequate retirement income. These changes announced by Finance Minister Michael Wilson are part of the government's overhaul of the country's retirement income system and will provide fairer and more flexible tax treatment for Canadians' retirement savings.

One comprehensive set of limits for tax assistance on retirement saving will now apply to all taxpayers, regardless of their employment or pension situations. Beginning in 1989, those who do not use their allowed RRSP contribution fully in a given year will be able to carry forward the unused portion for seven years — a major gain in flexibility and an effective increase in contribution room for millions of taxpayers.

Prior to 1986, individuals who were not members of a Registered Pension Plan or a deferred profit sharing plan were permitted to contribute up to \$5,500 to an RRSP each year. This ceiling had been unchanged for 10 years. A new system of higher RRSP contribution limits is being phased in to ensure that those who do not belong to pension plans have the same ability to build a retirement income as pension plan members.

The contribution ceiling for the 1986 and 1987 taxation years will be \$7,500, to a maximum of 20 per cent of income. The ceiling will then rise to \$9,500 in 1988, to \$11,500 in 1989, to \$13,500 in 1990 and to \$15,500 in 1991 to a maximum of 18 per cent of income.

Beginning in 1988, the basic dollar limit for pension plan members will be the same as for non-pension plan members.

VON a challenging role

One of the more challenging functions of the nursing service provided by the Victorian Order of Nurses involves palliative care — working with patients who are terminally ill, providing counselling and support to them and their families.

All nurses with the VON Halton Branch are involved in the palliative care program, and receive special ongoing in-service training through the Palliative Care Education Committee.

The aim of the program is to help

patients remain comfortable in the surroundings of their own homes. VON nurses work to control symptoms such as pain, nausea, and lack of appetite.

Because of the stresses involved in working with terminally ill patients, VON nurses alternate between palliative care patients and those who are more fortunate. No one nurse is assigned solely to the program.

Palliative care involves some cancer patients plus others suffering from any type of terminal disease.



Fond memories

DEDICATION—Christine Wilcox, who died in an automobile accident last March, had a machine dedicated to her at Georgetown District Memorial Hospital Jan. 2. Christine worked in the hospital's lab as a co-op student and was one of the first to use the blood gas analyzer dedicated to her. Seen here making the dedication are (from left) Ilmar Lepik, manager of the lab, and Bert Coeks, co-ordinator of co-operative education at the high school. (Herald photo)

Staff correspondent Kay Wilson honored



Neighborhood correspondent Kay Wilson received newspaper honors from The Herald by winning the Lillian Bellbody Memorial Trophy. The award is presented annually to the correspondent or freelancer who shows both professionalism and a sense of duty in carrying out their reporting tasks. Winifred Smith of Ballinacree was the 1985 recipient. Kay Wilson won the award for her working during the 1986 year. The Herald staff created the Lillian Bellbody trophy after a long-time newspaper neighborhood correspondent. (Herald photo)

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