

# Community

## Former MPP not impressed by NDP performance

By BEN DUMMETT  
The Herald

Former Liberal North-Halton MPP Walt Elliot opposes the New Democrat government's centralization of power.

The NDP appears to be centralizing power at 'Queens Park, but "I philosophically believe whatever the regions and municipalities can do they should be permitted to do," said Mr. Elliot in an interview Friday.

Although unwilling to comment on the performance of area MPP Noel Duignan, saying he hasn't heard much about Mr. Duignan "one way or another," the former MPP wasn't at a loss of words when it came to commenting on the general performance of the NDP government.

Garbage is one issue in which the government's attempt to control the problem will be of no benefit to the public, said Mr. Elliot.

Under the David Peterson Liberal government the regions were responsible for garbage disposal but now, said Mr. Elliot, Environment Minister Ruth Grier appears to have taken away that power from the regions and given it to the province.

The act further removes the issue of garbage disposal from households making it more difficult for people to relate to the ideas of reduction, reuse and recycling, he said.

Also on the issue of garbage, Mr. Elliot opposes the government's decision "to pull the plug" on Metro Toronto's initiatives to find a new landfill site. Unless people change their way of living - which Mr. Elliot predicts won't happen at least in the near future - the waste stream in Ontario won't be 50 per cent less by the year 2000. The goal was introduc-

ed by the Liberals and is supported by the NDP government.

Mr. Elliot predicts New Democrats face "a horrendous problem" in fulfilling their campaign and promises. The problem is that more difficult given the slowdown in the economy, he added.

The government's spring budget will provide a good indication of what promises the New Democrats plan to keep, said Mr. Elliot.

The former Liberal MPP went on to say the government hasn't come anywhere close to fulfilling its campaign promise concerning housing. According to Mr. Elliot, the New Democrats promised during the campaign 20,000 affordable housing units would be built yearly but nothing has happened. "There is no reason they (the New Democrats) couldn't have started by now, he said. "We (the Liberals) had 10,000 units being built a year," added Mr. Elliot.

Mr. Elliot is also upset with the provinces' decision not to proceed with the proposed expressway that was to bypass Hamilton on the way to the Hamilton airport. The expressway would have helped transform the Hamilton Airport from a Regional airport into a much larger one, said Mr. Elliot.

The New Democrats scrapped the plan citing environmental reasons. Mr. Elliot argued disruption to the natural area could have been restored after the completion of construction.

Seventy-five million dollars has been spent on the project since its introduction almost 20 years ago and that's now "down the drain," said Mr. Elliot.

He also opposes the method the government employed to kill the project. Instead of doing it unilaterally the government should have consulted with the City of Hamilton and the Region of Hamilton-Wentworth. "You don't conduct business that way," said Mr. Elliot.

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City of Hamilton and the Region of Hamilton-Wentworth. "You don't conduct business that way," said Mr. Elliot.

As for the provincial budget deficit the Liberals said was much smaller than subsequently revealed by the NDP, Mr. Elliot said people shouldn't have been surprised. The Federal govern-

ment had told us last spring they would lower the interest rates by June but that didn't happen, he explained. This fact coupled with a slowing economy meant revenue was lower than expected and thus more government borrowing was required, said Mr. Elliot.

Mr. Elliot said he is taking a

wait and see approach to whether he will run in the next provincial election. It will depend on the new Liberal Party leader who won't be elected until later this year, he said.

Since his loss, Mr. Elliot has spent his time renovating his Milton house and doing some work for a publishing company.

### The Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act ...is now in effect.

This Act covers all municipal corporations and a wide range of local boards - including those in education, police, health, roads, public utilities and conservation authorities.

Each of these organizations is required to have - for access by the public - a listing of the general classes of records and personal information.

While the law provides for a right of access to these records, limited by certain specific exemptions, it also protects your personal information. Each organization will have an individual - designated as the Information and Privacy Coordinator - who can assist you when making a request.

If, however, you are not satisfied with decisions, the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner (1-800-387-0073) will be available to review the case.

Information, about this Act, can be obtained from:

The Freedom of Information and Privacy Branch,  
Management Board Secretariat,  
56 Wellesley Street West, 18th Floor,  
Toronto, Ontario, M7A 1Z6  
(416) 327-2187



### Legion Lines

## More Activities upcoming

By BOB McNEILLY

Now that the season festivities are over, and everything is getting back to normal, plans for activities are underway at the Branch. Two big nights coming up are Robbie Burns Night and St. Patrick's Night. Both activities are sponsored by the Ladies. These are two occasions we should not miss. Past years have been sold out so get your tickets early for you and your friends.

I don't know of any other organization that has as many weekly winners as we have at Branch 120.

For last week, here they are: Early Bird Draw Winners: E. J. McClintock, F. Shields, D. L. Cooke, H. Cartwright, K. A. Clarke, F. Cleave, L. Clyma, Mid Brunski, John Collier, P. D. Martin. All these members will get their 1991 dues refunded.

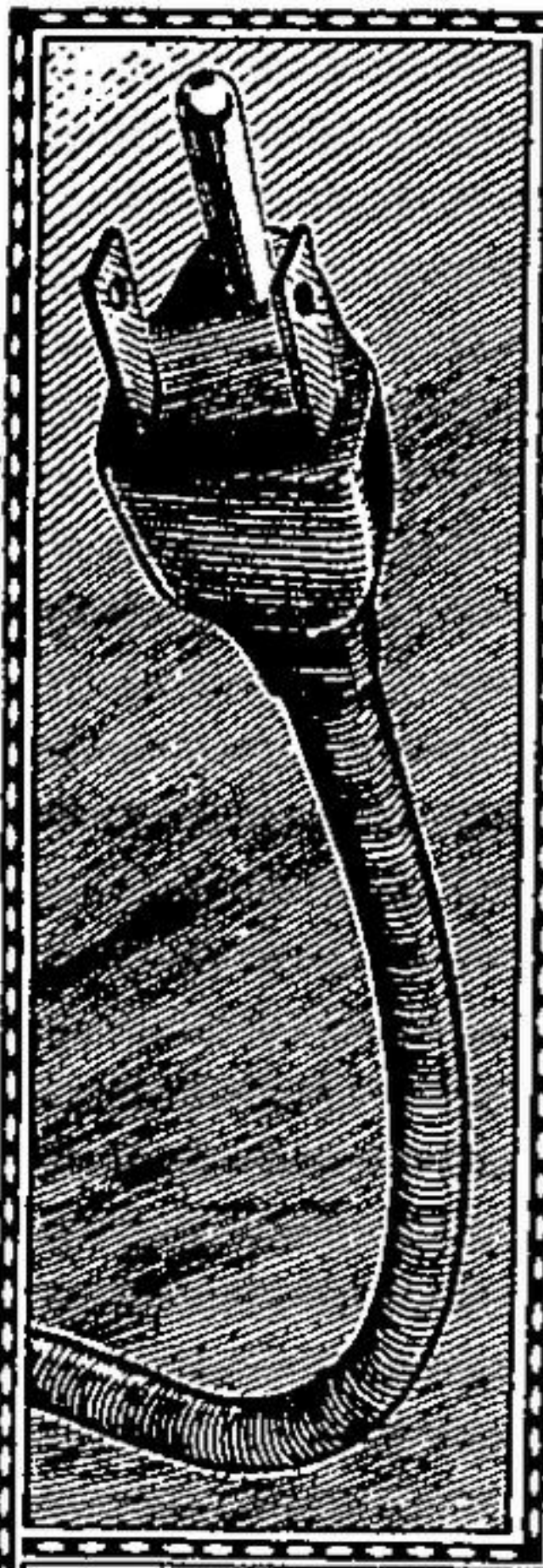
Speaking of Dues. Those members who have not paid their dues by December 31st are now in arrears and will not be eligible to participate in Legion activities.

Car Club Draw: Don Dedman, Joyce Stuttard, Errol Stapleton, Neil Patullo, Marjorie Tennant and Ethel Murdy, and Trudy Paul.

Euchre Winners: Ladies: 1st. V. Allen, 2nd. Glad Inglis. Most Lone Hands: Emily Sargent. Men: 1st. M. Zilio, 2nd. Phil Landry. Most Lone Hands: David Hannah.

Meat Draw: Early Birds: N. Bradley and D. Westlake. Regular: J. Doucette, S. Hicks, J. Thomas, B. Lewis, W. Richardson, O. Paul, D. Chamberlain, J. Casson, K. Tost (won twice), M. Southan, J. Stroud. The Roast was won by W. Richardson. Special Draw was won by L. Botoms.

# PLUG IN



THIS IS A PLUG FOR SAFETY: DON'T BREAK OFF THE THIRD PRONG!

Think about it. Where do you see 3-prong cords? On appliances, equipment and extension cords that are designed to draw a lot of power. The third prong is there to act as a ground. So that if a short circuit occurs, the current flows through the third prong, not through you. That is why you should never break off this safety plug. If you live in an older home, you can change the outlets to accommodate 3-prong cords. It is important that these new outlets are grounded with a ground wire. Just changing the outlets without grounding them is not safe. Your electrical contractor can advise you on how to do this properly.

# HALTON HILLS HYDRO

ENERGY HINTS

## The Hidden Drafts

**Finding Them**  
In most homes, air escaping from the home is the greatest source of heat loss. A quick and simple way of finding invisible drafts is to take a piece of cellophane or plastic wrap and hang it from a coat hanger with a clothes pin. On a cold, windy day, pass this in front of areas where you suspect drafts. The cellophane will flutter when it meets a draft.



**Sealing Them**  
Go to your building supply store, hardware store, or local utility and ask for advice on the best products to use to seal. Remember you want to seal the drafts from the inside.

For more free energy tips on heating, cooling, appliances, lighting and much, much more, just drop by our office today. Ask for your FREE Energy Tips Package!

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