

# Posties prepared to disrupt mail service

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 the employees want a five-year contract, while management is only offering a three-year deal.  
 On the issues of wages the union wants a \$1.15 an hour increase for the first year, retroactive from August 1, 1989 through to August 1, 1990. From August 1, 1990 to August 1, 1991 the union wants \$1.09 extra an hour and another \$1.09 an hour increase from August 1, 1991 to August 1, 1992.

## Suicide workshop

An intensive course to train professionals to provide a suicide intervention workshop will be held in Burlington in September.  
 The Suicide Intervention Training for Trainers course is being sponsored by the Canadian Mental Health Association, Halton Region Branch from Sept. 30 to Oct. 4 at Park Bible Church on Kerns Road in Burlington.  
 The registration cost is \$1,900 per person (plus GST) which includes five days of training, lunches and trainer materials.  
 For more information about the Training for Trainers course or the Suicide Intervention Workshop, please call Pearl Wolfe, Executive Director of CMHA, Halton at 845-5044.

Postal clerks and letter carriers are currently paid \$14.41 per hour.  
 They also want a 6.5 per cent average increase to COLA as of August 1, 1991.  
 According to the same release, the employers oppose salary increases during the first two years, support a nine per cent increase for August 1, 1991 to August 1, 1992 and increases of 2.25 per cent for the two following years.

Management opposes a COLA clause.  
 Mr. Moore's response to no COLA clause is, "they are trying to take away what we've worked hard to obtain." A COLA clause is included in the union's now expired contract.  
 Instead of retroactivity, management is offering a \$3,000 lump sum to all full-time employees, the union release indicates.

That figure is "ridiculous," said Mr. Moore. Between \$6,000 and \$7,000 would be more reasonable, he added.  
 "We are not out to interfere with the public but they have to realize the employees are due for a raise," said Mr. Moore.  
 Mr. Moore said the union also objects to attempts by management to have employees move between types of jobs. An example would be having a wicket clerk sort mail if the sorter was injured, said Mr. Moore. To have

workers move between types of jobs is unfair, he said.  
 Mr. Moore contends management has been using harassment techniques to demoralize the employees.  
 If management was serious about negotiating in good faith, said Mr. Moore, it wouldn't have placed a large advertisement in the July 28 edition of the Toronto Sunday Sun offering postal clerk and letter carrier positions.  
 "These are just scab labor tactics," said Mr. Moore. As well, people who accept these jobs are being misled.  
 Ida Erwin, Canada Post spokesperson in Ottawa, said the advertisements shouldn't be

taken to mean the corporation is expecting a strike to happen. "We are anticipating a collective agreement will be reached," she said.

However there are 10 million Canadians who rely on postal service so contingency plans must be put in place in case of a strike, explained the spokesperson.

Ms. Erwin then went on to say the advertisements aren't unusual for large urban areas like Toronto. The corporation is in short supply of casual workers - those who are available when telephoned. The ad campaign reflects the corporation's need to replenish the supply, she said.

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## Fire Calls

### Smoke-eaters busy

Halton Hills firefighters had a busy day and night July 31st responding to three calls for car and house fires.  
 The first call came at 1:57 in the morning. Firefighters were called to a car fire on 5 Sideroad near the 10th Line where a Chevrolet Impala, parked on the side of the road, was on fire. Firefighters say the car was fully engulfed in flames by the time they arrived. They have no estimate of damage.  
 The next call came at 4:24 from a business on 4th Line in Esquesing Township where a 1989 Chevrolet Silverado caught fire at a business.  
 Firefighters say they were able to quickly extinguish the fire in the engine of the vehicle but the fire had already burned much of the engine and cab, causing an estimated \$10,000 in damage.  
 Lastly, firefighters were called to a house fire on 3rd Line south of 5 Sideroad in Milton but when they arrived, found the Milton Fire Department had control of the fire and returned to the station.

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