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Wednesday, January 8, 1992

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Telephones ringing off the hook for updated anthem

By BEN DUMMETT
The Herald

The new versions of O Canada spearheaded by Limehouse resident Ross Carlin with the help of local MP Garth Turner have turned out to be very popular.

To accommodate the many people from across the country who want a copy of the new version, an O Canada Foundation office has been opened in Georgetown located at 55 Sinclair Avenue.

Mr. Turner said Friday, the office had been open three days and already more than 1,000 people from one end of the country to the other had called in requesting a copy of the new recording of the anthem.

The new recordings feature more than 200 top artists, including Rita MacNeil, Luba and Alannah Myles.

Mr. Carlin, who is the radio morningman at DC 103.5 in Orangeville came up for the idea after he

discovered there were few recordings of O Canada available.

Mr. Carlin recruited Mr. Turner to solicit corporate sponsorship to pay for the recordings.

Schools and radio stations Canada-wide received free copies of the new recordings.

More than 300 radio stations played the new versions at 12 noon Jan. 1 to commemorate the country's 125th Anniversary this year.

"You could literally flip up the AM dial and down the FM dial and

hear the song; it was terrific," said Mr. Turner.

The new recordings offer both contemporary and symphonic versions.

The O Canada Foundation is a non-profit organization set up to ensure that quality recordings will continue to be produced and available.

By calling the Georgetown-based office at (519) O Canada or locally at 873-9555 people can join the organization by paying a \$20 membership fee. As a foundation member people will be sent a copy of the new O Canada recording.

Memberships will only be taken over the telephone.

Mr. Turner said calls will be taken in both English and French.

Approximately 30 per cent of calls received at the foundation office to date have come from Quebec, said Mr. Turner.

Questioned on whether his work on the anthem has been a waste of time because it hasn't done anything to improve the economy?, Mr. Turner said it hasn't prevented him from doing his regular duties.

Defending the recordings, Mr. Turner said, "I see it as a positive thing; it makes me feel good and hopeful it will do the same for others.

"Maybe the music will help. I don't know if it will work but I think it is worth a shot. It doesn't replace the work on the economy, but it's a private project, so what's the problem," he said.

Local man takes to the street to protest government taxes

By BEN DUMMETT
The Herald

Georgetown resident Art Cousins has decided to take his fight against the Federal government to the streets.

Angred by Federal government taxes that he thinks total too many and are too high, Mr. Cousins has posted a sign outside his Main Street home saying, "(No) more

taxes, you are killing this family. Brian (Mulrouney)."

Mr. Cousins, who has been unemployed for the past year and a half, since being laid off from his job at Toronto Wood Treating in Acton, said Monday high Federal government taxes make it impossible for factories to hire workers like himself.

"No one can afford them (taxes)," he said.

Most people don't protest enough, but they are going to have to if Mulrouney is to be stopped," continued Mr. Cousins.

Mr. Cousins said his wife works part-time, and the two have one child.

He said he contacted Halton-Peel MP Garth Turner in the summer, but the MP shrugged him off.

"He (Mr. Turner) is tired of people hollering and screaming at him. Well we pay his salary so we have the right to yell and scream at him," said Mr. Cousins.

Contacted Monday Mr. Turner said he remembers talking with Mr. Cousins.

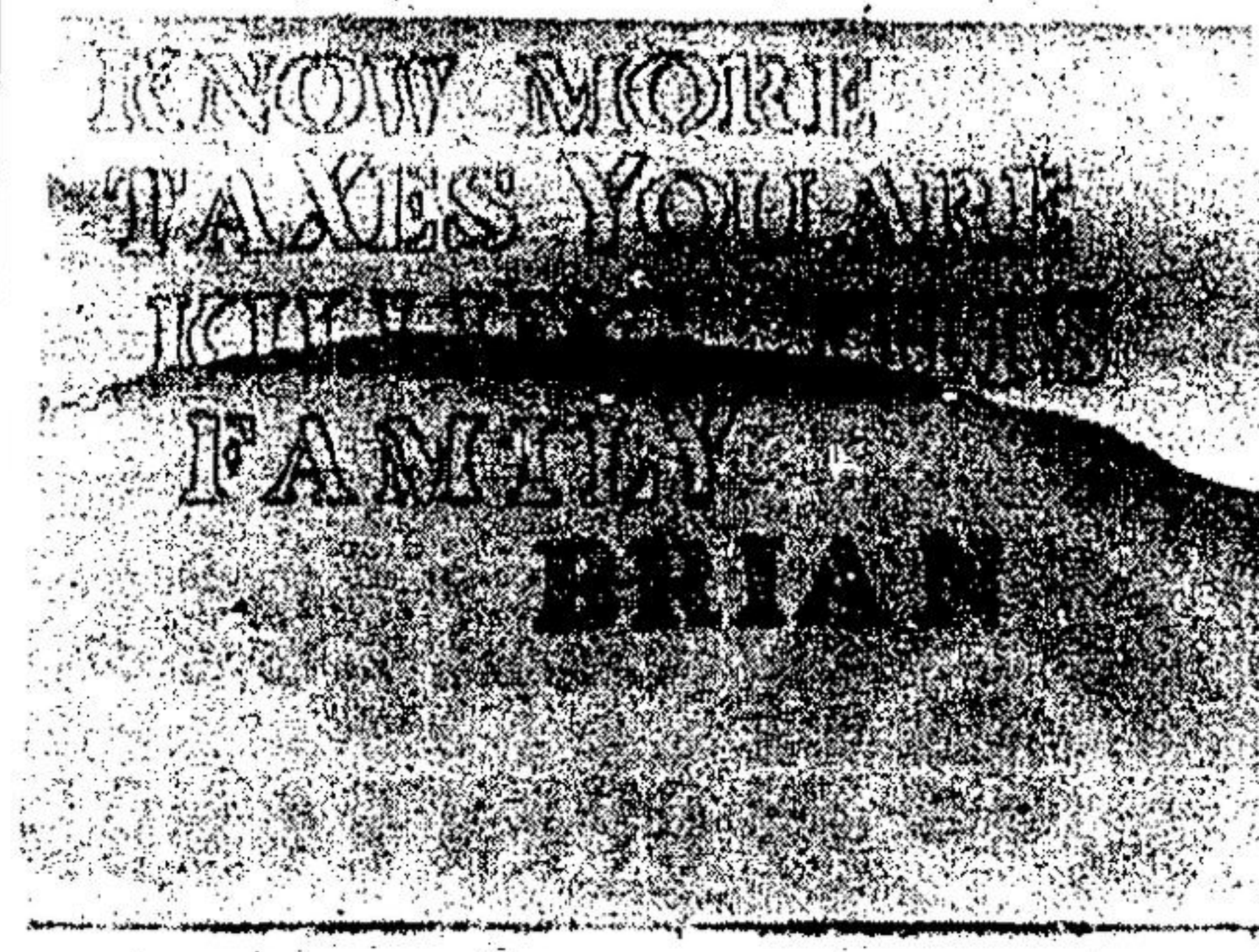
"I didn't think I shrugged him off, but if I left that impression, I'm sorry," said Mr. Turner.

The MP said he plans to meet with Mr. Cousins in an attempt to address his concerns.

Mr. Turner continued by agreeing with Mr. Cousins that Canadians don't don't speak out enough, adding, "there is nothing wrong with his (Mr. Cousins') sign."

"I agree Canadians are highly taxed and I really hope in the next budget there are no new taxes, he said."

Mr. Turner then went on to say he hopes the provincial government follows suit.



Georgetown resident Art Cousins has posted this sign outside his Main Street house to protest Federal government taxes. (Herald Photo)



Call 519 O Canada

To meet the growing demand from people across the country wanting to join the O Canada Foundation set up in support of the new high quality recordings of the country's national anthem, the foundation has established an office at 55 Sinclair Avenue in Georgetown. People can telephone this office at (519) O Canada to join the non-profit organization. For a \$20 fee people receive a membership and a copy of the recording. Pictured above (right) Limehouse resident and the recording's Executive Producer Ross Carlin and area resident Brad Wilson have some fun while taking calls Saturday. The office will only accept membership orders over the telephone. (Herald Photo).

Conservation Authority readies for budget battle with province

The Credit Valley Conservation Authority has joined forces with authorities across Ontario to protest the province's plan to cut back 1992 transfer payments to the watershed management agencies.

According to a CVCA staff report, the provincial Ministry of Natural Resources, which provides funding to the authorities, recently announced it was reducing 1992 transfer payments to the CVCA by \$88,000.

The CVCA ensures the protection of the Credit River and its tributaries, both of which run through Halton Hills.

CVCA General Manager Vicki Barron wrote in her report, the \$88,000 cutback represents 10 per

cent of the total amount the authority receives in yearly provincial transfer payments.

This funding reduction follows a \$44,000 cut the province made to the CVCA's 1991 administration and operation transfer payments.

The cutback's expected effect on CVCA services for 1992 remains undetermined, writes Ms. Barron.

While acknowledging the recession has forced the provincial government to closely monitor and even reduce expenditures, she along with her counterparts across the province, are upset with the way the MNR has imposed the cutbacks.

It's Ms. Barron's understanding the MNR is cutting back transfer

payments in order to meet 'in-house' expenditures. Usually, Ms. Barron explains, a reduction in transfer payments results from a reduction to a ministry's transfer payment budget allocation.

Ms. Barron noted the MNR decision is not only surprising because it is uncommon, but also, because the conservation authorities are already underfunded a total of \$8.8 million.

Ms. Barron goes on to state it is disconcerting the MNR is currently using up valuable resource management money to reorganize the ministry to provide services already supplied by the authorities.

North-Halton MPP Noel Duignan couldn't be reached for comment on the province's position at press-time.

People power needed to stop Acton dump

Do you want a dump in the middle of Halton Hills?

This is your last chance to respond. If groundwater contamination, pollution in Black Creek; the degradation of the Niagara Escarpment, dropping property values or having your tax dollars spent at a hearing concern you then you must write by Jan. 17.

If you write today when you receive the paper you can still have P.O.W.E.R. deliver your letter by dropping it off to Willowlane in Acton, Preston's in

the Glen, Knechtel's in Moore Park, Georgetown Yarn and Crafts in the plaza, Foodstuffs on Main Street, Art Effects on Guelph St. or Osborne's Decorating in Norval by Thursday morning.

Write to: The Honourable Ruth Grier, 135 St. Clair Ave. West, Toronto, Ontario, M5V 1P5 with cc to Bob Rae and Peter Pomeroy. P.O.W.E.R. will make the copies. Or FAX to Ruth Grier at 416-323-4682.