

Readers' writes



The gun amnesty

Dear Editor,

Amnesty, according to Webster's, "an act of pardon by a legislative authority which effaces not merely a punishment inflicted but the cause of it as well, so that no fresh proceedings can be instituted".

The way the government does gun owners a favor by having "amnesties" about every five years is nothing less than astonishing.

The type of commentary one hears on radio and TV would tend to indicate that all gun owners are, because they own guns, the problem, and that by getting guns out of their hands will solve all of our crime problems.

The advertising, by government, is directed at people who have guns, but perhaps do not know much about them, or the law. Some guns are handed down in the family, some purchased.

Property rights have a predominant place in this issue. If people had the right to own property in Canada, then they could have the right to own guns. Since none of our politicians in Ottawa seem to feel that property rights are good for us, we have a problem.

There have been many TV reports about the number of guns, swords, ammunition turned in to the police. According to the reports, these will all be destroyed.

The destruction of private property by the police -

now, isn't that something to think about?

We may lose priceless antiques and heirlooms because of this insane policy.

It is my opinion, as Deputy Leader of The Ontario Libertarian Party, and as a director of the Libertarian Party of Canada, that this whole concept should be scrapped.

At any time, not just at the whim of some politician, a person who needs advice on the legalities of gun ownership should first contact a registered firearms dealer who knows guns.

He/she can determine if the gun is legal or illegal, and give the owners advice on such things as value, storage etc. Dealers would be happy to do this.

Should the gun be illegal, the dealer could arrange for the local police to be involved.

Should the owners of the guns still want to get rid of them, the dealer could purchase or arrange to put them in an auction, the proceeds going to the owner.

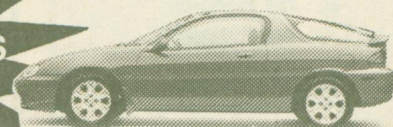
The majority of gun owners would want, if some crime has been committed, the guilty person charged.

The state has no more place in the gunroom than in the bedroom.

John Shadbolt
Deputy Leader,
Ontario Libertarian Party

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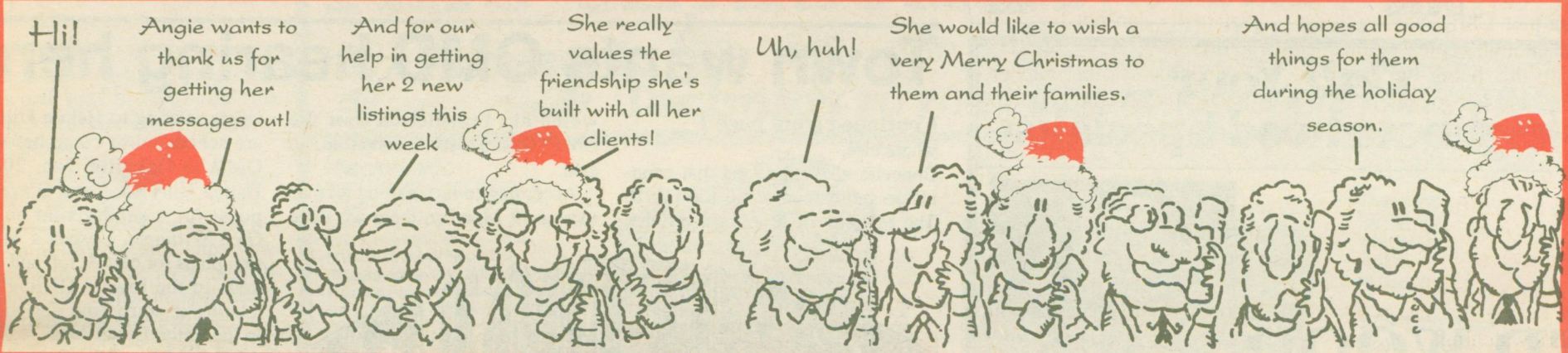


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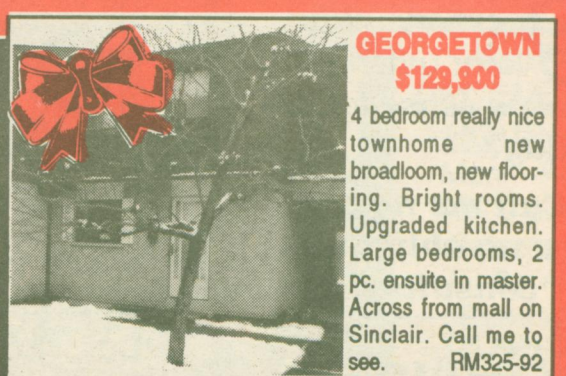
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