



Champion to the rescue

Recognizing Milton District High School's need for proper gym equipment, The Canadian Champion has helped to organize a lucky draw. The newspaper has thrown in a portable black and white television set as a raffle prize. Shown, from l. to r., with the TV and draw tickets, Circulation Manager Les Feero, Jim

Thring of the boys' athletic association and Janet Rereich of the girls' athletic association. Tickets are available for \$1 each from high school students or through The Canadian Champion. Other prizes include \$100 cash and a free pass to Kelso Conservation Area.

Halton doctors staging . . .

(Continued from page one)

"In the past we have been very modest in setting that dollar value," he added.

Dr. Chong noted the fee schedule established by the OMA (the amount that doctors are paid for their services if they have opted out of the government's Ontario Hospital Insurance Plan) is currently the same as that paid to physicians opted into the government plan in British Columbia.

"Despite the difference," Dr. Chong said, "at no time has the community of physicians here ever talked about seeking parity with our brothers in B.C. or in the United States."

"I know that's not going to happen this year for sure and I don't see it in the cards for the foreseeable future either," he said.

Another of the issues upsetting physicians, he said, is the government contention that they are "overservicing" their patients.

Dr. Chong drew the example of a mother calling her doctor to complain that her child is suffering from an ear ache similar to one treated a month ago.

"Sometimes it is really inconvenient for that mother to come to the doctor's office, so he may prescribe something over the telephone and then call the pharmacist so it is ready for her to pick up," he said.

If the physician were actually overservicing the woman, he would require her to come to his office where he would examine the child, at the ap-

propriate fee, before prescribing some form of treatment.

"When we know that some cases are recurrent we will occasionally render the service over the phone, for free, and take all of the legal consequences that go with that."

"We have always provided services like that for free so it is a monstrous thing for the government to perpetrate the lie that physicians are overservicing their patients," Dr. Chong said.

"When we really want to make money then we will have the patients come into the office. Medically and ethically that would be the proper thing to do, but it would definitely be over-servicing," he said.

Dr. Chong added that any physician who does not want to take part in the actions would have his wishes respected by the association.

"There will always be some physicians who find this kind of action distasteful. Personally, I find the whole thing exquisitely distasteful," he said.



DR. DENNIS CHONG
HALTON OMA

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Putting the show . . .

(Continued from page one)

As with practically every other organization in Canada today, one of the first problems Mr. Burton sees with the fair is the need to keep its budget balanced.

"This is the 54th year for the fair and we do have a problem keeping a balanced budget. We've managed to stay in the black for the last couple of years, but we require the combination of all the parts to stay there," he said.

The Royal, as it is commonly known, is a finely balanced combination of elements reflecting traditional agricultural fairs and elements designed to attract city dwellers as well.

Last year, for example, the fair drew 4,500 visitors from off-shore, some from as far away as Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

"That is quite a number of people who come all that way to visit a fair, but this is a first rate fair and even the pomp and circumstance of the horse show is a very necessary part of it all," he said.

"For some of the hard working farmers that take part in it that may sound like a lot of nonsense, but it is one of the things that makes their fair a premier event," Mr. Burton added.

"If we were running strictly an agricultural fair we would also be facing a deficit of several hundred thousand dollars. It's an important mix of events that we have here, even if it does have some difficulties."

Difficulties, however, have been a part of the fair since the earliest days of Mr. Burton's involvement "as a young, subaltern," in the Governor General's Horse Guards, riding in military classes in the horse show.

His involvement was confined to that of an exhibitor until he returned from World War II and became involved in the program committee, which faced the problem of getting the popular horse show to end before 2.30 a.m.

That goal was finally accomplished by eliminating some of the more specialized events, such as one called "ride one—lead one" in which the rider jumped his mount over an obstacle while leading another horse.

"That had been designed specifically for the members of one family who put up the trophy and won it all the time," he said.

Mr. Burton's involvement with the Royal dropped off in 1951 when he was named general manager of the Simpson's store in Toronto but picked up again in the 1960s when he was named vice-president and managing director and later president of the firm.

Two years ago he was elected vice-president of the board and most recently, president.

"The fair is quite an organization, but, until you really get into it, you don't realize just how dependent it is on volunteers," he said, noting that the Fair only has a full-time staff of seven people—including the general manager.

That number swells to about 130 during the actual show, with another 600 to 800 involved in various volunteer capacities.

"You couldn't get people to do for money some of the things they do for free for the Royal," he said.

Despite the tremendous support the fair receives from volunteers and exhibitors, its financial situation is still heavily dependent on government grants and other gimmicks.

"For the last two years it's been the lottery that has really saved our bacon," Mr. Burton said. "The proceeds from that were down this year though and I certainly hope that this isn't the year the downward and upward trends meet."

"Without government support, though, we would really have to change our style," he said, noting as an example the "magnificent" floral exhibits which are allowed to occupy an entire wing of the building, "but which also costs us a tremendous amount."

"These are the kinds of activities that help to make the fair what it is. Government support gives us a base for many of the serious things that we do. I think our government support is certainly growing. We have a very solid base there," he said.

In the long range, he said, there are some items of concern for the future of the fair.

Normally held in the Coliseum building on the grounds of the Canadian National Exhibition, the location has become an important part of the success of the fair.

Plans for improvements by the CNE Association have caused some concern, he admitted.

"They have assured us that they won't put us out of business, but we have let them know that we are concerned about it," Mr. Burton said.

"We really have to be part of another facility. We couldn't even conceive of putting up our own building," he said, adding that the central location offered by the CNE grounds is an important part of the success of the fair.

"I don't think the fair should be in such an out of the way place that people can only get to it by car," he said. "If we weren't near a major population centre, we would be missing a very important aspect of the fair."

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