



Watch the birdie

In recognition of 25 years service at Milton Hydro, Ed Ramsbottom received a camera and took a picture of Bill Rowney (right) of Milton Hydro Commission who presented the gift last week.

## Government policies petitioned by Jelinek

By STEVE ARNOLD  
Champion News Editor

Opposition members of Parliament are going to spend the summer months circulating a petition against the policies of the Liberal government and Otto Jelinek will be in the thick of it.

Halton's Conservative MP said in a telephone interview from Ottawa last week that the petition was developed in response to a growing tide of resentment of the economic policies of Pierre Trudeau.

"I've been asked a hundred times in the last few months just what an ordinary person can do to help change the leadership in Ottawa," he said.

"This may not be the only answer, but I think a lot of public opinion in a particular area can help to jar the government into action."

The petition being circulated by the Conservatives is addressed to the Governor-General and asks him to dissolve Parliament and call a general election.

Asked if he thought the petition campaign would actually move the Governor-General to action,

Mr. Jelinek admitted "I'm not going to hold my breath waiting."

"It really depends on the results of this petition and others across the country."

As an example of the groundswell of support for a change in government, Mr. Jelinek noted a recent quarter page ad published in the Globe and Mail calling for signatures asking for a change.

Another man in western Canada hopes to collect \$5 million to bribe Pierre Trudeau into resigning.

In the House of Commons recently, Mr. Jelinek challenged back bench Liberal members to speak out against the economic policies of the government that are doing so much damage to the country.

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## Region threatens...

(Continued from page 1)

Following a Regional staff report concluding that those allegations were unfounded, Mr. Johnson suggested a special committee be established to investigate rest home conditions and standards in Halton.

That suggestion was tabled by Regional council pending a decision on a possible inquest into the death of a former resident of Cher's who was admitted to Guelph General Hospital suffering from badly infected bedsores.

Gerald Punnett, a Guelph lawyer representing the Cherwoniaks, told committee members last week that he felt all of the problems between his clients and the Region were the result of a "breakdown in communications between my clients and this department."

Mr. Punnett said allegations have been circulating through the Acton community about residents of the home being assaulted and money being taken from some of them.

"We are trying to find out who made those allegations and when we do we will issue writs for slander," he said, adding later that two other slander actions have already been started by the Cherwoniaks for other allegations made against them.

"Dr. Cole is saying there have been some problems, but there have never been any problems. There has never been any trouble with either Mr. or Mrs. Cherwoniak welcoming public health nurses," he said.

While the Region does not actually place residents in rest homes, it does provide citizens seeking advice with a list of homes that have signed purchase of service agreements with.

Mr. Punnett noted that he recently telephoned the Regional headquarters asking for that information and discovered that Cher's is not among the list of homes, despite the fact that Halton has an agreement with the Cherwoniaks.

"It's things like that that lead me to believe there is some persecution of Cher's Rest Home," he told committee members.

Mr. Punnett also accused the Region of being at least partly responsible for the breakdown in communications because several of the allegations that lead to visits by Regional staff had never been reported to the owners.

"When allegations are made I'm asking that you at least approach the rest home operator about them," he said, noting that even statements about the bedsores of the resident who died "came to us through the back door."

"At the very least you should give her the chance to answer the allegations before you go into long reports. I believe she is running a clean establishment and is taking good care of her

residents," he added.

Dr. Cole stated that the major interest of his department in the home was to ensure that the residents were receiving proper and adequate care for their needs.

"There has been a concern that some new residents may require a higher level of care than is appropriate for that home," he said.

He also noted Mr. Punnett's comment about a breakdown in communications and said some of the information about patients that reached Regional staff left them with the impression that important facts were being withheld from them by the rest home operator and that this was impairing their ability to adequately judge the quality of care being provided.

That was the case with the bedsores suffered by the patient who died, he said, adding that the ulcers became a concern to public health nurses because they hadn't heard about them from Mrs. Cherwoniak.

"We know that when these things happen, they are usually beyond the expertise of the average rest home operator," he said.

If the developing ulcers had been reported to public health nurses, they could have provided the Cherwoniaks with necessary advice and assistance, Dr. Cole added.

In a confidential report to committee members, Dr. Cole said his order to the Cherwoniaks had been issued because of their "totally uncooperative" attitude in recent months.

"Most recently, the operators of the Rest Home have been totally uncooperative in allowing the staff of the Health Department to fulfill their responsibilities in this particular area," he wrote.

Dr. Cole added that on two separate occasions his staff were denied access to records and patients of the home and "experienced verbal abuse at a constant and intolerable level."

"Consequently," he concluded, "in view of the fact that there have been a number of circumstances that have made us suspicious about the quality of care in the rest home and because we have been unable to have access to the patients, or cooperation from the operators, I felt that it was essential that we identify those changes that must be made in order to allow us to fulfill our responsibilities. If these changes do not occur, it will be necessary to deliver an Order of Closure since there is no way of determining whether or not our suspicions can be substantiated."

The order compels the Cherwoniaks to provide Regional public health inspectors and nurses unobstructed and unrestricted access to patients and records of the home to ensure that patients are receiving proper care and treatment.

## Jelinek tells Grits to revolt

Citing the recent layoffs of 2,100 employees at Dofasco Inc. in Hamilton, Halton MP Otto Jelinek has called upon members of the Liberal caucus to revolt against the government's economic policies.

Speaking in the House of Commons July 15, Mr. Jelinek condemned the policies of the Liberal government from which not even a "blue chip" industry like Dofasco can insulate itself.

Mr. Jelinek said it was Dofasco's first major layoff in the history of the company.

"I should like to put a question to the Acting Prime Minister or to the Acting Minister of Finance," Mr. Jelinek told the House of Commons. "When are they going to recognize that the government's interest rate policies and massive deficit have wrestled our economy to the ground, and what action do they intend to take to deal with the 2,100 newly unemployed in one community alone?"

Jean Chretien, Minister of Justice and Minister of State for Social Development replied. "Madam Speaker, I think the honorable member is very unfair because the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, and the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce are meeting at this time with some labor leaders in this building in order to try to get the consensus we need to bring Canada back into a competitive position in world markets. They are working on the problem this very moment."

"Of course," Mr. Chretien added, "if they succeed in getting a consensus that it is in the best interests of all workers in Canada to do what is needed to make sure we bring Canada's workers and products back to a competitive position, that will serve the purpose that the honorable member is seeking. It will make sure that a company which produces goods in his riding, or elsewhere, will be able to sell its goods abroad at a competitive price."

Mr. Jelinek replied, Mr. Chretien's answer would not help 2,100 newly unemployed at Dofasco.

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Scouts need help

The Milton Boy Scout movement is appealing to the general public to find a district secretary for the organization.

"We are in drastic need for someone who can attend Scout council meetings and type up the minutes, as well as look after correspondence," said Jim Strain, president of the local association.

He is also looking for an editor for the group's monthly newsletter.

Those interested in helping are requested to call Mr. Strain at 878-6522 (bus.) or 878-3377 (home).

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