## Terminally ill are not well served doctor says

Group

Modern toward death and dying amount to a conspiracy the business of dying, physician

recently. Adam Grzeslo who is spearheading the drive for a palliative care consulting team at Burlington's Brant ospital, said turn of the century attitudes toward death and dying may have been more constructive.

"Our attitudes have clearly changed from what they were and I personally hope they swing back to those of the turn of the century when death was a part of living," he said. "Now members

care provided to terminally ill patients, is a controversial topic within the medical community today, he said, but attitudes toward it are starting to change.

In North America, Dr. Grzeslo said, palliative or hospice care is becoming more and

more available. The first hospital to provide it in Canada was the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal.

"The rule that we live by now in treating the terminally ill," he said, "amounts to a conspiracy of silence to protect the emotions of those who are involved and that is a very de-

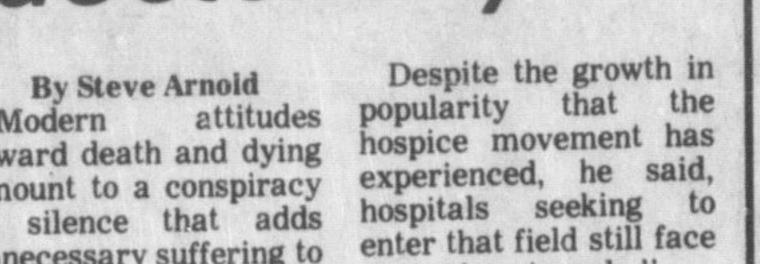
structive attitude. Despite the interest and concern of some hospital staff, Grzeslo said people who die in hospitals often

suffer unnecessarily. "About 70 per cent of the people who died in 1970 died in an institution of some sort and the studies clearly show that they suffered unnec-

essarily," he said. This suffering includes mental, physical, spiritand interpersonal aspects," he added.

"Medical teams often fail to meet those special needs and that is contrary to the pride we take in providing the best health care possible," he added.

The predominant idea medical community, he said, as always been that the involves care "aggressive diagnosis therapeutic inter-



"The majority of the concern for the dying rather than from those medical staff," he said. In areas such Burlington where efforts are being made to start a palliative care program, the involvement of the medical staff has been growing "but it seems to be a battle wherever a

seems to have more clout," he said.

care," he said, "is just part of providing good medical care. Death is a part of day to day life ignoring it for years."

Grzeslo said the Joseph on home care.

beds allocated to us but because of the attitudes of the staff we are not going to utilize those beds," he said.

who want to stay at home is gaining support, but it is expensive.

patients who die, die at home, but it requires a lot of time to co-ordinate the care they require,'

"As long as we can provide the necessary support care I am going to continue to do this,



a "major struggle."

service has been star-The involvement of a physician in the start of program is vital, because of the necessity for getting involved "in the red tape of hospital politics and that is an

"Providing palliative we have been

While some palliative care units have opted from providing full bedservice for patients, Dr. Brant program would have a heavy emphasis

"We have had five

Dr. Grzeslo said the aim of providing support in the community for terminally ill patients

"The majority of my

he said.



Adam Grzeslo

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#### Man charged in theft

Halton Regional Police have charged a Milton man with break, enter and theft following break-in at Milton Music at 223 Main St.

Edward McSpadden, 21, of 232 Parkway Dr., will appear in Milton Provincial Court Monday, Oct. 19.

Police said entry was gained by smashing the front window of the music store.

An electric guitar, microphone, four sets of drum sticks and harmonica were stolen.

Halton Regional Police arrested McSpadden after finding him on Thomas St. bleeding from numerous

He was taken to Milton District Hospital and later released.

Police have also remusic covered equipment.

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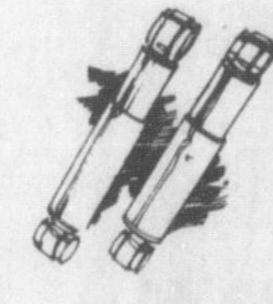
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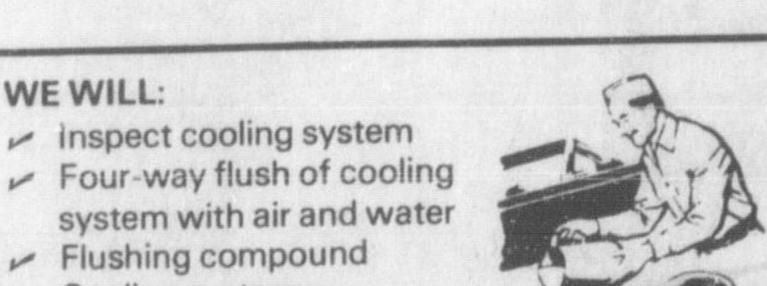
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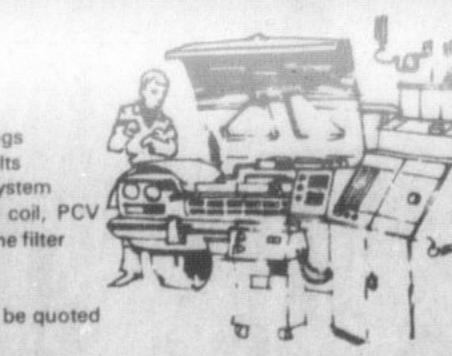
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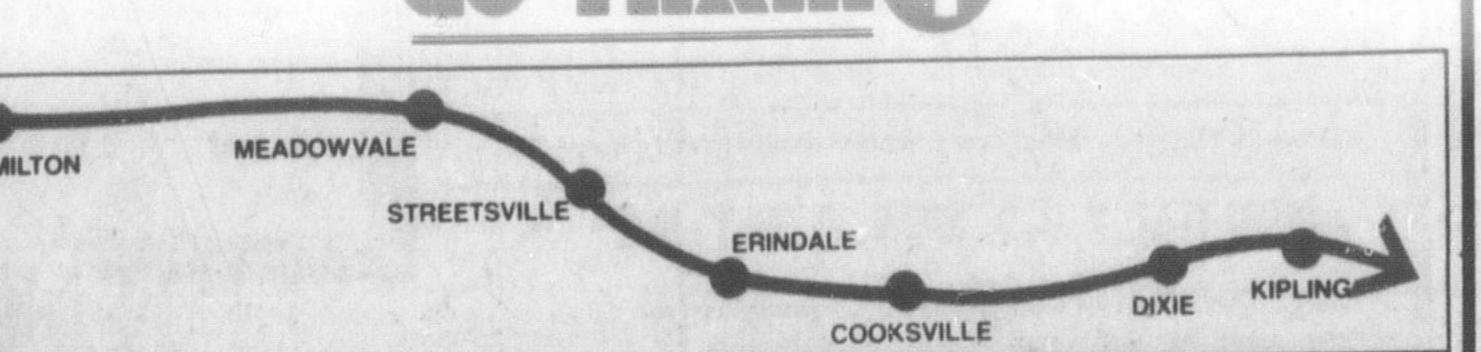


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