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Terry Westgarth-Taylor trains these Siberian huskies, owned by Bob and Lauren Taylor, to run in the sled team. The dogs will give rides to children at the Milton Winter Carnival Sunday, Feb. 11.

Photo by JOHN WARREN

## Mushers will be on the run at carnival

By KAREN SMITH

Whether they are racers, show dogs or pets, Siberian huskies don't stop short, as visitors to the upcoming Milton Winter Carnival will have a chance to discover.

Bob and Lauren Taylor are well aware of the dogs' attributes. The couple from Orton, a small town just north of Acton, does all of the above with their 20 of the breed.

A musher, Mr. Taylor races his huskies in a dog sled team across southern Ontario and the northern United States with the help of trainer and friend Terry Westgarth-Taylor and sponsor, Tuffy's Pet Food.

Teams can travel anywhere from 60 to 250 miles with from six to 16 dogs. A 60-mile run would take six to nine hours for a team of six dogs to complete with one 15-minute break for food and water.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Taylor enters the pure-bred dogs in about 100 shows per year in Canada and the United States where they are judged for structure. Among the Taylors' kennel-full of huskies, are numerous Canadian champions.

"There's enough shows in Ontario alone to keep me going," she says.

The dogs, said to be brought to the United States for the first time in the 1920s after 3,000 years of breeding in the Siberian arctic, don't need much to keep them going.

Siberian huskies are born with natural ability and instinct to run and they probably enjoy pulling the sled more than people like riding in it, says Mr. Taylor.

The Taylors' dog sled team will visit Milton Sunday, Feb. 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. to take children for rides at

Rotary Park during the carnival.

The dogs' happy-go-lucky nature makes them safe pets for children, but it also keeps them off a person's list of security options, says Mr. Taylor.

"They're very friendly animals. You wouldn't want them as a guard dog."

Their power on the other hand, is a different story, he says. "They don't look like that big of a dog, yet their strength is incredible."

That it is. They can pull four times their own weight and often even more. Mrs. Taylor says she saw one Siberian husky pull as much as 900 pounds.

Male Siberian huskies weigh up to 60 pounds and grow to be about 23 inches long. Females follow close behind at 55 pounds and 22 inches long.

To keep them in shape, Mr. Taylor takes his dogs for a 22-mile run every night if there is enough snow on the ground.

As a musher, he gets his reward when the dogs pull him across the finish line in a race, win or lose.

"Just to finish the race is the biggest thrill I could have whether I'm first or last," says the seven-year veteran who sometimes competes against as many as 41 other teams in one race.

Although he hasn't won a race yet, Mr. Taylor is confident the future holds a first-prize trophy.

Owners of Taybro Kennels, the couple also breeds Siberian huskies. Seven puppies have been born this month and three more litters are expected this year. They sell for about \$400.

Dear Barbara;

I've noticed that often while dieting I have almost no energy. What causes that?

Reply

Many diets are concerned only with calories, or worse, draw their entire regimen from only one of the food groups. When you begin a program that falls into one of these categories, your body is missing some of the nutrients it needs and your energy level drops, and you feel tired all the time. The only way around this loss of energy is to focus on nutrients and not calories and to see that you eat a balanced diet.

At Diet Center, you learn to eat a wide variety of fresh foods that are packed with the nutrients your body



Barbara Janzen, R.N.  
Diet Center Counselor

needs to function properly. Many people find that while they are on the Diet Center Program they actually have more energy than they can remember ever having.

## TAX TIP OF THE WEEK

A PUBLIC SERVICE OF HAR BLOCK

Q. I spent five months of last year in the United States working for a U.S. employer. Must I report all my earnings from the United States on my Canadian income tax return?

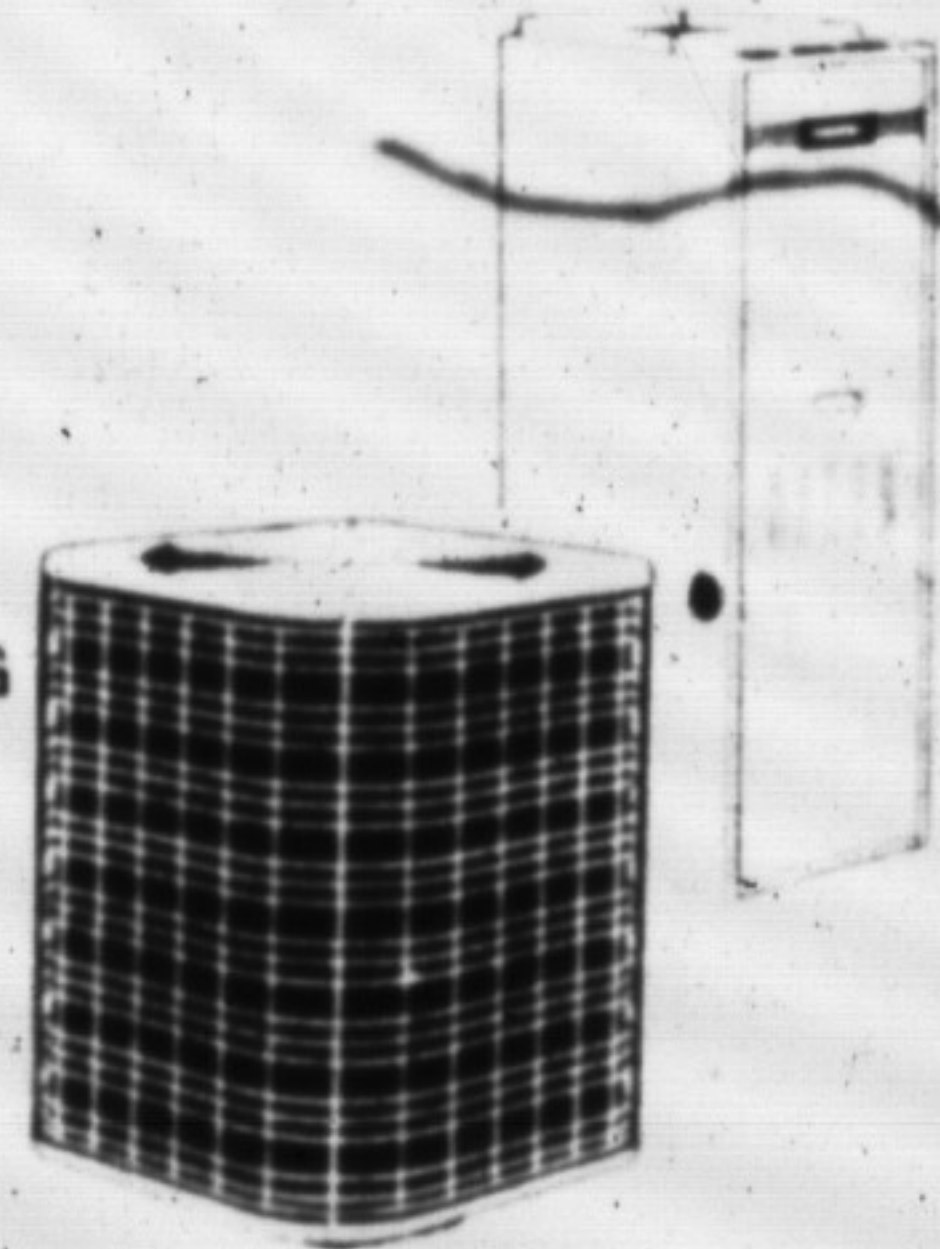
A. Yes, you must. If you were in the United States for less than 184 days and earned less than \$10,000 you would get a refund of taxes withheld in the states by filing a U.S. return. However, if the period exceeded 183 days or you earned over \$10,000 you must file a U.S. return and pay the calculated tax. In that event you may claim a credit on your Canadian tax return for the taxes paid to the U.S. on that income.

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