

Income Tax Item Replaces Rebate

Ontario home owners and tenants can say goodbye to the basic shelter tax exemption introduced in 1967. Instead there will be a new tax credit scheme based on a home owner's or tenant's ability to pay.

The new scheme, undertaken in co-operation with the federal government, was announced February 24 by Provincial Treasurer Darcy McKeough.

The basic shelter exemption amount varied from municipality to municipality (it was \$81 in Richmond Hill last year).

The new system will allow the homeowner to deduct from his federal income tax a portion of the property tax assessed by the municipality. The exact amount will be geared to a sliding scale that varies with taxable income, assessment and number of dependents.

The 1973 tax forms are expected to include a special box or separate sheet to permit deduction for the 1972 taxes.

Homeowners who do not have an income high enough to bother filing a tax return, will have to do so in 1973 if they wish to collect this benefit.

Increased levies on those in high income brackets will generate the money needed for those at the bottom end of the scale, it is hoped.

Owners of cottages in Ontario will no longer be able to claim tax rebates for them under the legislation to be introduced by McKeough. Since 1967 owners have collected the tax rebate both on their city or town homes and on their holiday cottages. The new credit system will apply only to a person's principal residence.

Recently Premier William Davis told the Ontario Good Roads Association that the province will cut back on subsidies to municipalities for road building this year.

This decision does not mean that the province is "getting out of the road building business," but rather is part of a general belt-tightening by the government as it strives to hold the line on spending, he said.

The impact of this decision on local municipalities will not be known until supplementary road estimates are prepared and sent to the Department of Transportation and Communication for approval. The taking over of several local municipal roads by the Region of York this year will also have a great effect on the influence of the cutback, it is believed.

Year's Science Fair For Separate Schools

More than 80 pupils exhibited a total of 68 entries in the science fair at Our Lady Help of Christians Roman Catholic School, Bayview Avenue, North, Richmond Hill, which was held March 3. Entries came from pupils in grade 1 up to grade 8 in the southern schools of the York County Roman Catholic School system.

The entries were of excellent workmanship. The entrants really understood their projects and the whole event was judged a terrific success.

Winners of crests, emblematic of exceptional exhibits for their level were:

Primary (kindergarten to grade 3): Robert Reale, door bell and Terry Cyr, dinosaurs, St. Luke's, Thornhill.

Junior (grade 4 to 6): Laura Lee Donahoe, filtration plant; Laura Evans and Sue Hill incubation, St. Patrick's, Markham; Don Gibson, the hand, moveable arm, the eye, St. Mark's, Stouffville; Silvio, Conte, electricity, St. Mary Immaculate, Richmond Hill; Olinda Mileti and Sandra Marsan, seeds and plant life, St. Luke's, Thornhill.

Intermediate (grades 7 and 8): Chris Rodgers, inert gases; Mike Pearce, logical car; Bernadette MacGregor, shell collection; Mark Evans and Elaine Sagi, magnetism; Brady Bell, wood, St. Patrick's, Markham; Cindy Heenan and Mary Anne Hulshof, what causes moulds, St. Mark's, Stouffville; Michael Chateauvert, ancient time; Greg Shearer, whooping crane; Rudy Poseika, structure of the atom, Our Lady Help of Christians, Richmond Hill.

Primary (kindergarten to grade 3): Robert Reale, door bell and Terry Cyr, dinosaurs, St. Luke's, Thornhill.

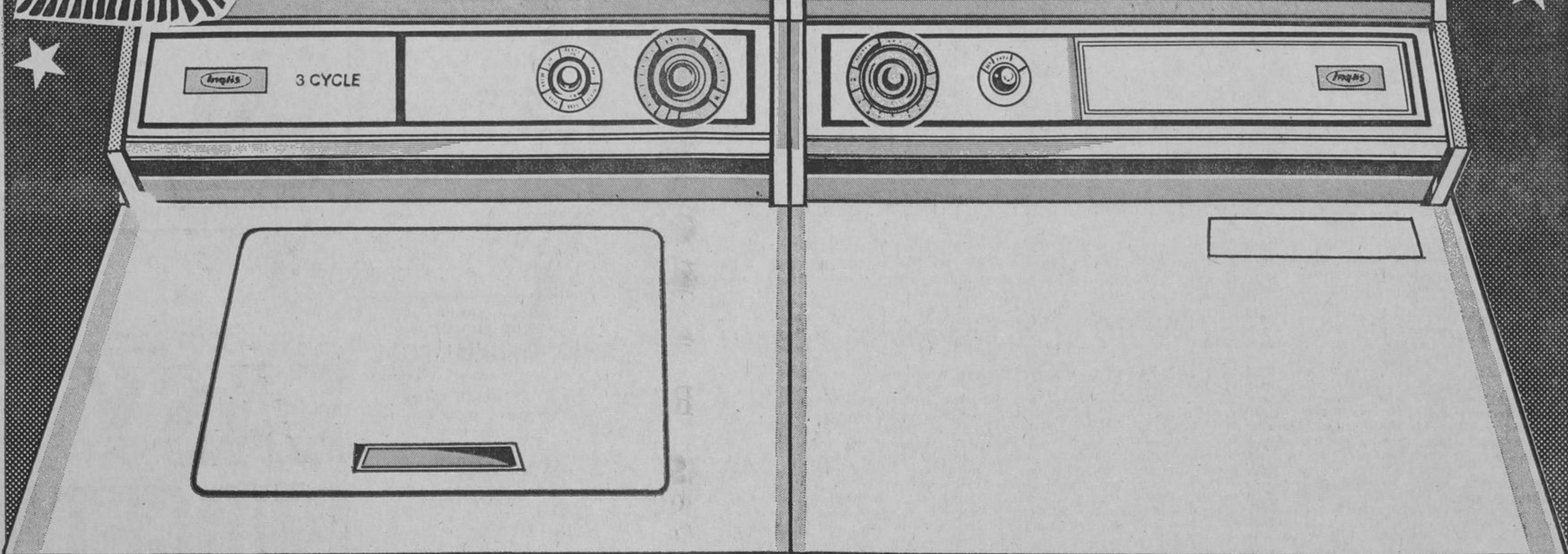
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