

**Ain't it Awful-** *Continued from page 5*

talist.

They poured my coffee into a cup, then poured the cup into my container. When questioned, they informed me that regulations prohibited them from pouring the liquid directly into my cup. Bureaucratic nonsense. Would you agree this is kind of... how shall I say it.... Dumb? By the way, if you want to get Canada's pension indebtedness under control, just blow up a McDonalds during the week they dispense free coffee. There's no one in there without white hair and wrinkles. The retirees gather, slip their ample behinds into the heavy seats, and spend several hours discussing the horrible state of the world while sipping free coffee. They're having the "Gee, ain't it awful" discussions... the state of health care, of politics, of young people, you name it, it's awful... which come to think of it, is the definition of this article. I'm told there is a coffee shop in Wellington that puts a limit on the amount of time you can spend sipping your coffee. Given the numbers of aged people in Wellington-on-the-Lake, that makes good business sense.

I went to the bank the other day to deposit money in my daughters account. I didn't know her account number so they wouldn't allow it. Privacy considerations. I didn't want to take money out or even see her account number. I wanted to put money *into* it. So now you can't give people money. I used to take limbs from the burning pile at the dump with which to construct rustic furniture. Can't do that anymore. The rules say you can take nothing away from the dump, in spite of the fact that many landfills in Canada have "swap shops", where you can deposit potentially re-usable material for others to check out. These are rules set up by the faceless bureaucratic masses in the rabbit warren of cubicles who determine the direction of our daily lives.

Gee, Ain't It Awful?

- George Underhill

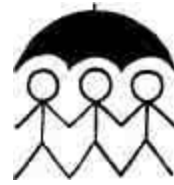
- George Underhill

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