

ART CLUB NEWS

Films to be shown in the Adult Study Lounge on Thursday at 8 p.m. All members and other interested persons are cordially invited to attend.

Registration deadline for the drawing course is February 14th and registration is limited. A number of out-of-town registrations have already been received.

SNOW FESTIVAL - Continued from page 1.

ladies. Gordon Kydd was the victor in the snow sculpture contest with the judges being Mrs. I. Marsh, N. Cornthwaite, and D. Earle of Marathon.

The ice fishing contest was won by W. Heinrich with a 9 lb., 9 oz., lake trout. Winner of the power toboggan race was Bill Stachiw, one hour, 10 minutes.

Prizes for first place winner in the toboggan race was a silver tray and \$30, sponsored by Molsons' brewery.

To close the day, a dinner was held at the Terrace Bay Motor hotel for visiting dignitaries sponsored by the chamber of Commerce.

The Terrace Bay Teen-Town thank all those who helped make this event a big success.

Among the out-of-town visitors over the past week end were popular Marion Vickruck and Gerry Isherwood, both of CKPR TV Station in Port Arthur.

Mrs. Vickruck had been in Terrace Bay some years ago and was keenly interested in changes made and in all phases of the Carnival and sports program in our town. A first-time visitor, Gerry was very impressed and has promised to return again, perhaps with an out-of-the country visitor.

Reeve Waghorn of Nipigon and Mrs. Waghorn were in town on Sunday where they visited their son Lionel and his family and attended the Chamber of Commerce Dinner in the evening.

Mr. Bob Spadoni and Mr. H. McParland with their wives, represented Schreiber during the festivities and were also guests at the dinner.

Among the many out-of-town students in town for the weekend festivities were Sharon Timpano, Bonnie Gunter, Bonnie Hamilton, Darlene Larsen, visiting their parents.

HAVE YOU GOT YOUR LICENSE PLATES YET?

Last-minute lineups for new license plates will be more acute than usual this year if more Ontario motorists do not get their plates soon.

"Only 30.6 percent of the plates and permits have been issued so far, compared to 35.2 percent a year ago," said the Hon. Irwin Haskett, Minister of Transport. "If this slow pace continues, many motorists will be facing the delays and inconveniences of lineups much earlier than was the case last year," Mr. Haskett said.

Not only have fewer motorists bought their licenses, but there are many more to be issued. There were 1,682,384 passenger cars, station wagons and motorcycles in 1965. This year there are 1,771,550.

Deadline for getting plates and permits will be February 28 and there will be no extension.

The week of Feb. 6 to 12 was designated National Electrical Week by manufacturers, distributors and dealers across Canada to mark the birthday, Feb. 11th of the inventor of the electric light bulb, Thomas Edison.

THIS WEEK AND NEXT
by Ray Argyle

A Place To Live

One of the myths to which our society pays lip service — that every Canadian family should be able to own its own home — received another blow when the interest rate on National Housing Act mortgages was raised to six and three quarter per cent.

The rate was boosted in the name of "sound fiscal policy," that strange device which government and economists apply from time to time in an attempt to match supply and demand in the money market.

Raising the rate from 6½ to 6¾ per cent. — it was only six per cent a half dozen years ago — was a signal of the dilemma in which the government has found itself as a result of five years of rising prosperity.

In order to attract money for mortgages from the big lending institutions — which were shying away from NHA mortgages in favor of better-paying investments — the interest rate had to go up.

But what was a device to attract more lending capital and thus ensure that money would continue to be available for home building, also created another stumbling block for would-be home buyers.

Hardest hit were big city residents who have been caught not only in the high interest squeeze, but in the spiralling cost of land in the suburbs where the majority of today's home building is done.

As a result, of the salary requirements for NHA mortgages (\$6,100 annually for a \$15,000 mortgage with taxes of \$35 a month), additional thousands of Canadians will be unable to qualify.

National Housing Act loans are made through approved lending institutions such as chartered banks, and backed up by a Crown agency, the Central Mortgage and Housing Corp.

But the Act has never been of much assistance to residents of smaller communities, where little of the new housing construction is undertaken. And as only new homes qualify for NHA mortgages, the measure is of no assistance to persons forced to buy older homes where on the open market, conventional mortgages cost up to seven and one-quarter per cent. interest, with second mortgages even higher.

Two measures have been ad-

vocated which would give home building a new shot in the arm, and enable more Canadians to own their own homes.

The first is that NHA mortgages should be made available in the resale of older homes. The government has resisted every invitation to move into this field, which is now the monopoly of private lenders.

The second is to permit home buyers to deduct from their taxable income the interest they pay on house mortgages. The U.S. has done this for many years.

On a typical \$13,000 mortgage, the home owner over the standard 25-year NHA period pays back something like \$25,000. During the first five years of his mortgage, because he is carrying so much unpaid principal, the interest will eat up nearly all of his monthly payments. In five years, he will pay back something like \$5,000, of which only about \$1,000 will go to reducing the principal. The other \$4,000 will be swallowed up by interest.

If a taxpayer were permitted to deduct mortgage interest up to \$1,000 from his taxable income each year, this would mean thousands of additional Canadians would be able to entertain the idea of owning their own home.

The home building industry is one of the key barometers of the country's economic health. It not only provides a lucrative field for mortgage investment, but affects every segment of the economy from the building industry itself to forestry, durable goods manufacturing and a host of service industries.

It would be a good idea for the home building industry and real estate groups not only to call for the elimination of the 11 per cent. federal sales tax on building materials, but for extension of NHA loans to old homes as well as new, along with legislation to free Canadians from paying taxes on mortgage interest.

Until measures such as these are recognized and introduced, the whole apparatus of government, the building industry and the architectural profession will have failed to face up to the fundamental problem of shelter for Canadians.

Lawrence Mushqush holidayed at the Lakehead this week with his daughters.

Rev. Father Maurice, S.J., of Port Arthur, visited Pays Plat Mission over the weekend.

Chief Chemist T. Yandon, Mrs. Yandon and two children of Noranda are residing in Rosspoint where Mr. Yandon is employed by Zenmac Mines.

Mr. and Mrs. Herb Legault visited her mother, Mrs. Buzzi, who is ill in Fort William.