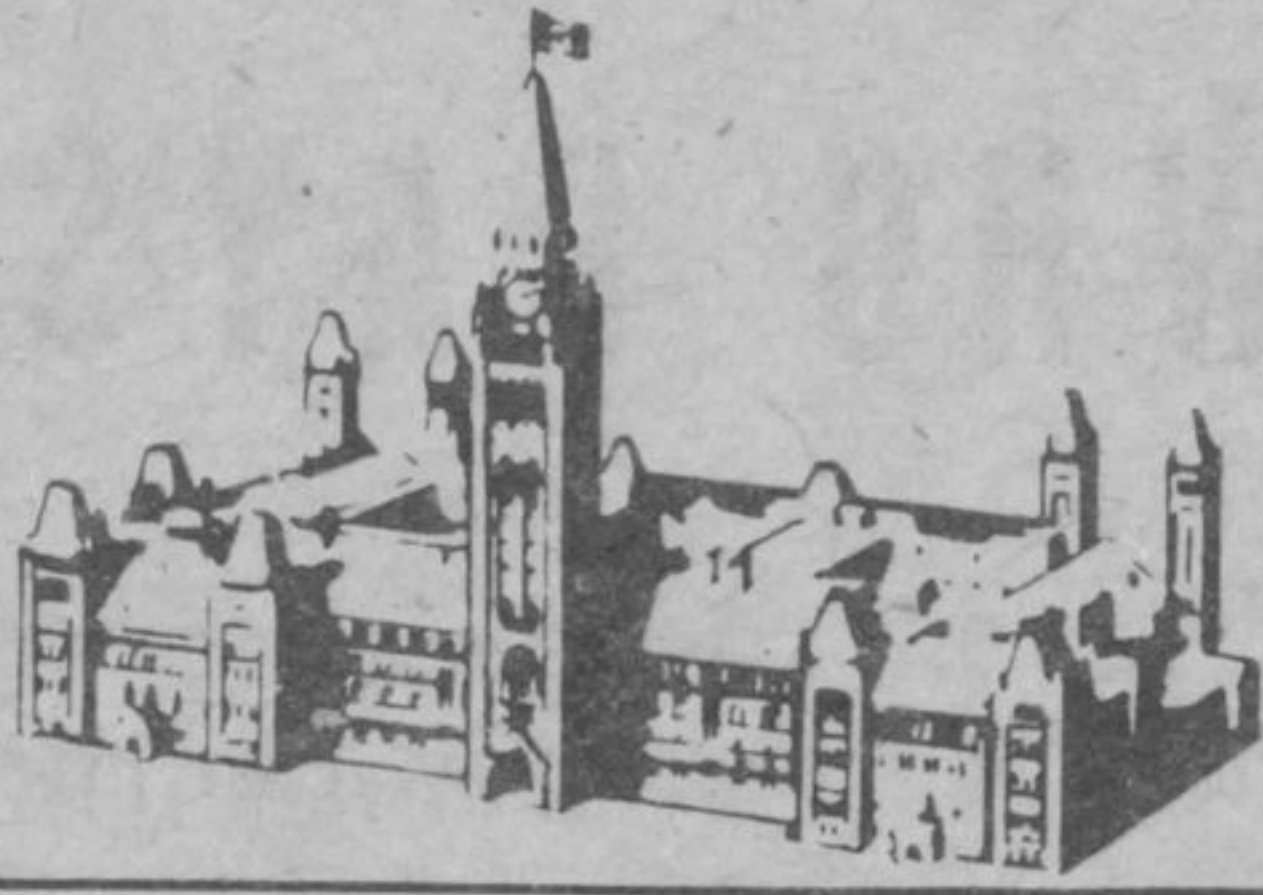


## OTTAWA and Small Business



### Sickly Sweet

by JIM SMITH

Tired of that dull, routine office job? Fed up with cleaning the house? Then consider how one group of Canadian scientists brightened up its working hours.

• • •

Every day for three years, the intrepid scientists force fed saccharin to herds of hapless laboratory rats. Rats are not stupid, you see, and the only way to get a rat to consume massive doses of anything — including saccharin — is to force feed the little beast. In this experiment, the rats were given the human equivalent of 800 12-ounce bottles of diet pop *a day!*

• • •

At the end of the three-year period, the descendants of the original rats were dissected and studied. Some had bladder stones and tumours. From which the scientists concluded that saccharin can cause cancer in people. From which the national Department of Health and Welfare decided that we'd all be better off without saccharin. And that's why, after July 1, you won't be able to buy diet soft drinks that contain saccharin.

• • •

Not everyone wants to be saved from saccharin, however. There are some very annoyed dissenters who argue that a human would drown long before finishing off 800 bottles of diet pop in a day.

They also note that the proportion of rats which developed tumours was very small and that rats are prone to tumours even without the presence of a cancer agent; similar studies with monkeys in the United States suggested that saccharin is completely safe. Above all, the dissenters argue that saccharin is currently allowing millions of diabetics to carry on relatively normal lives, free from sugar but not devoid of sweeteners.

• • •

Meanwhile, the government's unilateral action — saccharin producers were not consulted prior to the ban — is jeopardizing the survival of at least one member of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business. A spokesman for Cumberland Packaging Ltd., which produces the well-known "Sweet'N Low" line, notes that saccharin has been widely used in North America for 80 years without any indication that it might cause cancer.

• • •

You can, of course, still buy cigarettes or whiskey in this country, even though study after study has demonstrated their unhealthy side effects. And you can consume refined sugar to your heart's content — until it causes a heart attack. But you won't be able to buy saccharin after this summer. How much protection does the Canadian consumer need?

### AUXILIARY TO THE McCAUSLAND HOSPITAL

The Auxiliary to the McCausland Hospital met on March 21st at St. Martin School. The Treasurer's report revealed that \$386.70 profit was made on Winter Carnival Bake Sale. In addition \$79.50 worth of knitted goods were sold and \$35.00 worth of raffle tickets on the Bridge table set were collected.

Plans for the Hospital Ball (Saturday, May 7th) are going well. Advance tickets sales have been arranged for Thursday and Friday (April 21,22) 7 - 8:30 in the Schreiber Town Hall and Thursday April 21, 7 - 8:30 in the Conference Room of the Recreation Centre in Terrace Bay.

The decorating and lunch committee were set up and it was decided that a cold plate be served at the dance this year.

Copies of the Constitution were distributed to be reviewed at the next meeting. All members are welcome to the next Auxiliary meeting which will be held in Schreiber High School Library April 18th.

## PREVENT FOREST FIRES!

SINGER

SALE-A-THON

IS ON

SUPER SAVINGS ON ALL MODELS



**CANISTER  
VACCUM  
with  
Power  
Nozzle  
NOW  
\$158.00**

**Model 774 Open Arm**

PHONE: TERRACE BAY NEWS 825-3747 for an appointment with Mr. C. Smith who will be in Terrace Bay and Schreiber April 12th and 13th. Phone prior to April 12th ONLY!