

Terrace Bay Schreiber News

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Our Opinion

Rec Centre discipline needs review

If you belong to the Terrace Bay Rec Centre or if you are thinking of joining there is a discipline policy in effect that you may be interested in, the story on page one will explain it all to you.

This policy is very unfair and it goes against Canada's constitutional rights. The Rec Committee should not have the right to say who is allowed to go into the rec center and who will be out for a year, six months or whatever they think is "fair". Terrace Bay is a small community and limited in places where our kids can go and be off the streets.

This column was originally too strong. It mentioned something about our fathers, grandfathers, war and a dictatorship. This issue has nothing to do with war as we are not at war with our children.

Mr. Kettle the Chairman of the Rec Committee on the other hand said that they should see how people in the army are punished. The rec policy says that the punishment for misdeeds is the same for adults as it is for children. However with the seven suspensions in the past year not one of the suspensions has been given to anyone over twenty years of age. There is apparently drinking done in the change rooms by adult team members after nine o'clock at night.

There has to be some kind of punishment but it has to be looked at and given out accordingly. You cannot give the same punishment to an adult as you do to a child. There is a big difference as to being accountable for your actions.

At the present time the town seems to be divided as to whether the policy is fair or unjust. This is only one problem that has come out of the Rec Center. There have apparently been other problems that should be looked into.

Reeve Speer's investigation into the issue is welcomed as we are dealing with children here and not common criminals.



Letters to the Editor

Stokes upset at Post Office

Open letter to Mr. Michael Warren, President and Chief Executive Officer, Canada Post:

Dear Mr. Warren:
On January 5, 1985, I received a letter from Mr. Don Lucky, President of The Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce, inviting me to their 20th annual meeting on Tuesday, January 22, 1985.

On January 5th I received a notice from our Post Office in Schreiber that I owed your Crown Corporation 96 cents as a charge against me for postage due. I paid the 96 cents so that I could claim the envelope, from the above organization. I was advised that the regular postage for this envelope was 48 cents and since there was no postage affix-

ed I was required to pay the 96 cents.

I want to know by what authority Canada Post is able to charge an innocent party a double penalty for mail sent to the addressee without postage. Since there was a return address on the envelope one wonders why I should be the victim rather than the

person or organization who inadvertently neglected to affix the proper postage. Was this an arbitrary decision imposed by Canada Post? Do you have some legislative authority for acting in this high handed manner?

I have a receipt for the 96 cents and hereby request a refund for a charge over

which I have no control and for which I played no part.

Please may I hear from you at your earliest convenience?

Yours sincerely,

**Jack Stokes, M.P.P.
Lake Nipigon Riding**

Old Age Security letters

**The Honourable Jack Epp
Minister of Health and Welfare
and
The Honourable David Crombie
Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development**

Dear Mr. Ministers:
I am writing to both of

you to see if you can help resolve an ongoing and frustrating ordeal that I have been working on since 1983.

It concerns establishing and proving dates of birth for the purpose of receiving Old Age Security. Enclosed is a Band Council resolution together with an application for Old Age Security for Mrs. Mary

Frogg of Big Trout Lake, Ontario, wife of Henry Frogg. Also enclosed are applications for Old Age Security on behalf of Mr. Rory Chapman of Big Trout Lake and his wife Rubina Chapman, together with Declaration of Undertaking and Declaration of Witness.

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Arthur Black

Wisecracking Rabbi will ride again



The Marx Brothers. George Burns. Myron Cohen. Jack Benny. Mel Brooks. Henny Youngman. Woody Allen. I wonder why so many people who are skilled at making us laugh turn out to be Jewish.

Is it because the Jew has a better sense of humour than the stiff, solemn goyim? I don't think so. I'll bet Clifford Cohen doesn't think so either. Mister Cohen is an out-of-work comedian presently drawing unemployment insurance in London, England. He hasn't always been unemployed, mind you. Up until last week he worked in the London community of Southgate.

As a Rabbi,
The Southgate Progressive

Synagogue Council — the group Rabbi Cohen answered to — gave the guy his pink slip. His crime? Rabbi Cohen was too funny. Or rather the Council felt that he failed to conduct himself with the solemnity and dignity that befits a rabbi.

To give the Council its due, Rabbi Cohen was just a tad ... unorthodox. His wardrobe might have been described as Neo Lumberjack — plaid shirts, T-shirts, and a bush jacket that was ripped and out at the elbows.

But it wasn't the way he dressed that got the rabbit in hot water; it was the way he talked. Rabbi Cohen was a wisecracker. And nobody was too august to escape the sharp edge of his

tongue.

He once told the people who fired him (members of the Southgate Progressive Synagogue Council) that they represented "one of the best proofs that there is death after life."

At a bar mitzvah, the Rabbi promised the youth of the hour that in years to come he would learn all about "this, that and the other. Especially the other."

During a synagogue service, a young girl carrying a vessel of sacramental wine stumbled slightly. The Rabbi quipped: "One drink and she's anybody's."

Then too, it could have been Clifford Cohen's extra-rabbinical activities that acted like a bee under the

Council members' yarmulkas. You see, when he wasn't in the synagogue, Rabbi Cohen could often be found filling out one-half of a two member, non-profit comedy team that billed itself as (what else?) — Mazel and Tov. The Rabbi and his pianist partner specialized in satirical songs which they performed at bar mitzvahs, rummage sales and B'nai Brith dinners.

It was all too much for the Rabbis superiors. They fired him, and last week a British government tribunal upheld the dismissal.

Well, I think it's a shame. As the Rabbi said in his own defence: "The Sabbath is something to be celebrated ...there is a tendency to treat every

religious activity as if it were a memorial meeting."

At least some members of the Rabbi's ex-flock agree. Many of them obviously enjoyed Rabbi Cohen's uninflated, earthy approach to worship. One of them said: "I sensed a subdued swelling of mirth throughout the synagogue ... I don't think many other people took offence either ..."

Unfortunately the Rabbi's bosses did. He's out of a job — and that's no joke.

Still, Rabbi Cohen sounds like a cheerful, resilient sort of fellow. He'll bounce back. He can take comfort in the knowledge that, though he may have bombed in Britain, down in the Catskills he woulda knocked