



Helen Jartus was one of about 30 seniors who took advantage of free flu vaccinations last week at the Chimo Club. Dr. Amir Geran provided the service. He noted it is important for high risk groups - seniors, people with cancer, cystic fibrosis, heart or kidney disease, tuberculosis, asthma, emphysema, chronic bronchitis, residents of nursing homes, and diabetics - to receive the vaccination yearly. It is estimated that 1,000 Canadians die each year from influenza. Watch next week's issue of the News for the full story. Photo by Dave Chmara

# VIA cuts draw attack on government's word

Continued from page 4

The majority of European countries are operating successful rail lines. The USA is doing well with its AMTRAK operations since that government had the courage and foresight to make the necessary supportive legislation.

Only the Canadian Conservative Government has failed, due to its own incompetence and lack of care for the non-big-business and non-big-centre Canadian.

No rail system is totally self-supporting. But, all governments, with the exception of Canadian Conservative Government, have found rail links essential to the viability of their countries.

This is not to say that VIA does not have problems. Any company that has a 3 to 1 ratio of labor to management is poorly operated. But even that falls back onto the inadequacy of the governmental overseer.

Let's examine the latest decision concerning VIA:

1. Brian says, "Use it or lose it." Over the last year my wife and I have made upwards of 10 trips on the Canadian. The train was virtually full on all except a January '89 run. Obtaining reservations has been difficult even upon two to three months notice. And this is a route chosen by our illustrious elected officials to be cut.

2. A Mulroney puppet (Benoit Bouchard) says ridership is at 35% (55% at peak periods). Question: Where did all those people come from? Why is getting reservations so difficult? There is a saying: Figures never lie but liars often figure. It is not difficult to see where the current government is on that one.

3. The Conservative solution is to fire 2,700+ workers and give them minimal severance in order to save the VIA subsidy. No mention is made of the need to place these individuals on unemployment insurance and eventually, for many, on welfare. Whatever happened to the Mulroney cry,

"Jobs, jobs, jobs!"

4. Use the bus instead, we are told. No mention is made of the lack of relative comfort on the bus, the dangerous conditions on Northern roads in the summer (let alone winter), the increased air pollution caused by bus traffic, or the implicit subsidies paid to bus companies through relatively inexpensive road usage tax.

5. Use the airlines, says our government. No mention is made of the fact that many Northerners have to travel hours just to get to an airport. We are not reminded of the overcrowded and dangerous conditions at many airports. We are not informed of the relatively higher pollution caused by aircraft (both air and noise) when compared to trains.

The case could go on. But the vision is clear. The decision to shelve the majority of VIA is ill conceived. Those making such a decision are clearly incapable of discerning the real needs of true Canadians.

The rich do not normally use the rails. Big cities do not need the railway. The big business airlines and bus companies would benefit at the cost of the average Canadian and his environment. The USA will gain from increased tourism when the Canadian Rail system is gone.

In short, all of your friends, Brian, will benefit at the expense of true Canadians.

Sir, you have lied to Canadians one time too many. You deceived concerning VIA. You deceived concerning the deficit during the last election. You are raping the lower and middle income Canadians to the benefit of upper income individuals and big business with Free Trade and your ill-conceived GST.

It is time you admit you do not represent those who elected you and resign along with your whole Canada ruining government.

Further, none of your attacks on Canadians should be implemented until you reapproach the

Canadian people now that your true intentions have come to light.

Canadians are tired of politicians who function upon lies and deceptions. And you, sir, have shown yourself to be the epitome of both.

The Rev'd. Larry Winslow  
Nipigon, Ontario



## Township of Schreiber NOMINATIONS

for Schreiber's "CITIZEN OF THE YEAR" are now being accepted

Nominations should include a resume and must be in before November 1, 1989.

Send to:  
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Township of Schreiber  
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