

Legion executive elected for 1990

The Ladies of the R.C. Legion Branch #223, held their meeting on Nov. 27, 1989 presided by Shirley Love.

No minutes were available due to the absence of the secretary. Correspondence was nil.

The treasurer's report was given by A. Falzetta, as well as

the results of the Fall Bazaar.

There will be no need for catering at the New Year's dance as the contract was awarded out.

The publicity convenor stated the winners of the Bazaar draws will appear in the *Terrace Bay/Schreiber News*.

Booking convenor said two

groups have rented the kitchen. Peggy Regis will be contacted regarding Cook Books.

The bursary money will be sent to J. Lohnes as soon as it is found out what college she is attending.

Ladies who helped cater to the Dart Tournament were S. Price, E. Falzetta, L. Belliveau, Carolyn McLeod, S. Love. Plans and suggestions were discussed for next year's bazaar. D. Marcella won the pot of gold.

Nominations followed and lunch was served as the ladies enjoyed an exchange of gifts.

New Executive for 1990

- President - S. Love
- First Vice - A. Hart
- Second Vice - E. Falzetta
- Secretary - C. McLeod
- Treasurer - L. Belliveau
- Sgt. at Arms - S. Gusul
- Ass't - Y. Leclair
- Committees
- Membership - S. Caron
- Kitchen - V. Strapko
- Sick & Visiting - C. McDonald
- Bookings - S. Price
- Publicity - to be appointed

Mainstream Canada

Real GST story now unfolding

By Ann M. Smith

If federal Finance Minister Michael Wilson is to be trusted, the reason for the breakdown in talks between the government and provinces over a federal/provincial combined sales tax system was a refusal by the provinces to come on board. At least that's what Wilson would have us believe.

The real story, however, is just beginning to unfold. According to John Bulloch, president of the Canadian Federation of Independent Business, federal officials continue to blame the provinces for failing to reach an agreement when in fact Ottawa was responsible for the abrupt breakdown in talks. The result, says Bulloch, leaves Canada with the only two-tiered tax system in the world. He predicts that the seriously flawed GST will create an enormous paperburden nightmare for small businesses, especially the 500,000 firms selling at the retail level that do not have the staff and facilities to handle two types of sales tax systems with different exemptions and rates.

"There is no other country in the world that would have even attempted to implement such a complicated and

regressive system," said Bulloch.

In Newfoundland, for example, the GST will give that province a combined tax crunch of nearly 22 per cent after the 11 per cent provincial sales tax is applied on top of the 9 per cent federal GST. Tourism analysts say that all parts of Canada will suffer badly as additional expenses for accommodation, meals and entertainment will drive away Canadian and foreign tourists.

When federal officials called their provincial counterparts to the negotiating table more than a year ago, the provinces assumed that the talks would be in good faith. Everyone agreed that the Federal Sales Tax (currently in place) had to go. However, with the Jan. 1, 1991 deadline looming over the heads of the federal finance department officials, representatives from Ottawa suddenly walked away from the table last spring leaving many of their provincial counterparts bewildered and angry.

"The message coming from every premier and treasurer is the same," says Bulloch. "The provinces were all prepared to continue discussions with the federal government on a unified system. Several provinces, realizing the enormous complexities that would be caused by a federal 'go-it-alone' approach, had even spent tens of thousands of dollars in hiring specialists to deal with their provincial-specific problems.

"There's no doubt that the provinces wanted to make the GST negotiations work."

It now seems clear that Ottawa repaid this good faith by bailing out of the process so as not to disrupt its own rigid timetable. (With a federal election expected to be called sometime in late 1992 or early 1993, the Tory government is gambling that Canadian taxpayers will have forgiven this latest tax assault. Delaying the federal/provincial talks in order to accommodate a unified system, however, would have pushed the implementation date dangerously close to the impending election.)

Wilson has become well-versed during this past summer at laying the blame for the GST federal/provincial discord on the doorsteps of his provincial brethren. Despite this firm government line, it's a story so full of holes that it just won't hold water.

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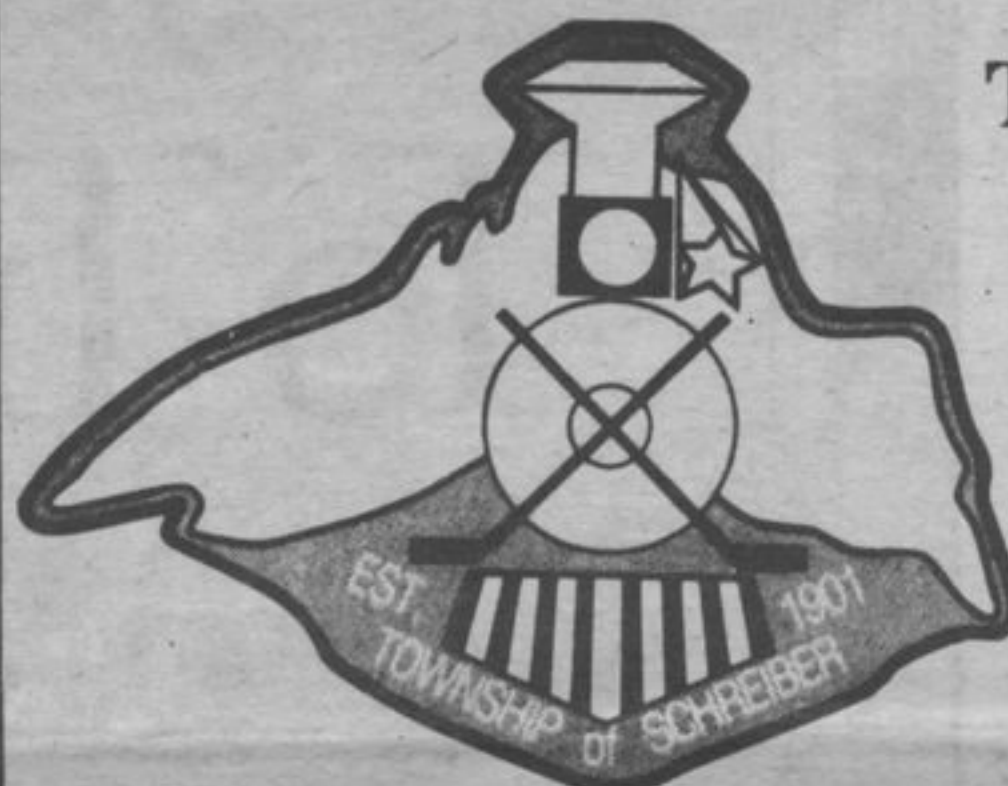
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Township of Schreiber

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