

Ice storm blacks out Gormley

By Evelyn Milsted
GORMLEY — The severe ice storm, Sunday, caused a "blackout" in Gormley for about four hours. With no hydro or heat, church services were cancelled. Area roads were turned into "skating rinks", making both driving and walking very hazardous.

Mrs. Walter Cloke of Wainfleet is visiting her brother, Mr. Landon Steckley.

Miss Velma Brillinger is on a missionary deputation among the various Brethren in Christ churches in Florida.

Mr. Albert Hawkins was joined by members of his family, Saturday, at Brierbush Hospital. The occasion was his 85th birthday.

Mr. Max Hazel has been a patient in Scarborough Centenary Hospital for several days.

Mr. Ray Atkinson is home from hospital following surgery.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wright and family spent Saturday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Eric Byers and family.

Mrs. Jack Quinn is a patient in York Central Hospital, Richmond Hill, following surgery.

Mrs. Robyn McQueen of Scarborough, enjoyed dinner recently with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Steckley.

Mr. Don Steckley of Willowdale, visited with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Steckley, Mr. and Mrs. Ken

Baker and family were guests, Sunday, of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Williams, Holland Landing, Mr. and Mrs. Hans

Koopman and children of Kingston, were weekend visitors with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Barrett.

Mr. Gordon Cullen remains a patient in York Central Hospital, but is now making a satisfactory recovery.

Mr. Ab Cook is recuperating at the home of his son Doug, in Scarboro.



O.P.P. Constable turns coach every Saturday morning.

David Bourne, R. R. 2, Stouffville, is a Constable with the Ontario Provincial Police, Oak Ridges. He's also a Coach in the Atom House League of the Stouffville Minor Hockey

Association. He's shown here with his young recruits at the conclusion of a Saturday morning contest.

Jim Thomas

Community plans games day

By Mrs. Wm. Sandle for the Victoria Square VIC. SQUARE — A Community Centre, Sat., "games day" is planned Jan. 26, beginning at 2:30

p.m. All young people from Headford and Victoria Square, between the ages of 14 and 18 years, are invited. A table-tennis tournament has been organized with a pizza supper to follow. Those attending are asked to bring along their skates.

Mr. and Mrs. Alex Cowley have purchased a winter home in Florida. They are leaving this week to spend some time in the sunny south.

Sympathy of the community is extended to Mr. Landon Steckley and family in the passing of Mrs. Steckley, following a lengthy illness.

Birthday greetings to Alvin Caseley, Jan. 24; to Dr. David Tinker, Jan. 25; Carl Walker, Jan. 27; Robin Morton, Jan. 28; and Henry Allen, Jan. 31.

Members of the Explorers had a wonderful time, Jan. 17, on the open-air rink at Mary Boynton's home. The next euchre in the Community Hall is Friday, Jan. 25 at 8 p.m.

Mrs. Jean Rumble, president of York Presbyterial, U.C.W., was the guest speaker at the Jan. meeting of the U.C.W., at the manse. The worship service was conducted by Mrs. Ethel Boyd, Mrs. Don Boyd and Miss Edith Boyd.

\$50 or 5 days

YORK REGION — Fines of \$50 or five days for those convicted on possession of a narcotic charge were the order of the day, Jan. 18, in Newmarket Provincial Court.

Ronald Gary Ash, 17, of Aurora pleaded guilty before Judge Clare Morrison, for possession of marijuana after police searched a Stouffville residence, Dec. 2, that revealed the drug. At the time, according to evidence, Ash refused to admit to owning the "grass".

Gregory Clapperton, 29, of Markham was stopped by York Regional Police while driving his car. According to crown evidence police "detected" a smell of burning marijuana in the man's car. A plastic bag containing the drug was found in the glove compartment, but Clapperton also refused to admit it belonged to him.

Impairment not alcohol

STOUFFVILLE — Albert Maxwell Snow, 22, of R. R. 3 Stouffville pleaded guilty in Newmarket Provincial Court Friday, to a charge of impaired driving. But his impairment wasn't due to alcohol consumption.

On Oct. 5, 1973, Snow was driving a car on Main Street, Newmarket, when he collided with a Datsun stopped in front of him. But according to crown evidence, Snow backed his car up striking another vehicle.

Another man jumped into Snow's car and the two drove off. He was later arrested by York Regional Police and taken to 19 Division,

Newmarket, where he was given a breathalyzer test. However, the test revealed no presence of alcohol in Snow's blood.

Assuming that Snow was under the influence of drugs, police learned he had been taking prescription drugs for nerves. He admitted taking several that day. Snow, now serving a nine month definite and 12 month indefinite sentence for fraud last November, was sentenced to 30 days concurrent and his driver's licence suspended for one year.

Snow was also remanded to March 15 for trial on two narcotics charges.



Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations

The Consumer Protection Act protects YOU, the consumer

Cooling Off Period

Last fall I signed a contract in my home to have \$3,700 worth of aluminum siding installed on my house. As a down payment I wrote the company a cheque for \$700. The next day I decided that I couldn't afford the job, so I telephoned the dealer to cancel the contract. That afternoon, the siding was dumped on my driveway. I immediately wrote the dealer a registered letter cancelling the contract, but haven't received my \$700. Is there any way to get my deposit back?

Yes. The Consumer Protection Act allows for a cooling off period in which you can cancel a contract by registered mail or by letter personally delivered within two days after the contract has been signed. (The postmark is considered the delivery date.) A TELEPHONE CALL IS NO GOOD. This cooling off period applies only when the contract has been signed in a place other than the seller's place of business, for example, in your home. In this case, the dealer must return your \$700, because you notified him correctly.

Unsolicited Goods

Last month I received three hardcover books by mail. I didn't request these books so I set them aside. Now, the company is billing me \$35. I seem to have misplaced them and suspect they have been thrown out by mistake. Do I have to pay these people?

No, you don't. The Consumer Protection Act deals with unsolicited goods and credit cards. You are not responsible for any unsolicited goods delivered and you have no legal obligation as to their use or disposal, unless you know the goods are intended for another person. If unsolicited goods are sent to you, you can either keep the goods or throw them out.

Another tip — if you receive an unsolicited credit card you have no legal obligation as to its use or disposal unless you accept the card in writing or you purchase goods with it. In this case you are responsible for the goods purchased. But, if you don't want the card simply cut it up and throw it out.

Contracts

I recently spent \$880 on a home food plan which was supposed to supply me with meat and other food essentials for six months. The first of the six installments of food couldn't have been worth more than \$30. I checked with the seller and he said that the contract I'd signed called for only \$233 worth of food. The balance, \$647, included charges for administration, meat cutting, packaging, delivery and the salesman's commission. The contract stated a lump sum of \$880 for goods and services. Is there any way I can get out of the deal?

In this case, the Consumer Protection Act protects you because the seller didn't itemize the cost of the goods and service charges involved. Because of this, the contract is void. The Act states that any executory contract of \$50 or more has to include:

1. Name and address of both the seller and buyer.
2. Description of goods and services.
3. Itemized price of goods and terms of payment.
4. A statement of security if credit is involved.
5. A statement of warranty or guarantees, if any.
6. The signatures of both parties.

If a contract fails to include one of the above items, it is void. You should always read and understand every detail.

For a pamphlet on "THE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT and how it helps YOU, THE CONSUMER", write Consumer Buy-Line, Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, 555 Yonge Street, TORONTO, Ontario.

Consumer Buy-Line is an information service of the Ontario Ministry of Consumer & Commercial Relations.

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What this means to you as a beneficiary

From January 1st 1974, Canada Pension Plan benefit payments will be adjusted to reach... then maintain a level in line with the actual cost of living.

If you are receiving monthly benefits that began during the period 1967 to 1973, your benefits have been recalculated so that the amount you receive in 1974 is related to the actual increase in the cost of living over the years your benefits have been paid. When you receive your January 1974 benefit cheque, you will see that it has been increased. The increase in your payment will vary from 8% to 20% and will depend on the year in which your benefit first became payable.

In future years, if living costs continue to rise, you can expect further increases in your benefits based on current cost of living data.

What this means to you as a contributor

As a contributor to the Canada Pension Plan, you are building a basic and portable retirement plan for the future and at the same time providing current protection for yourself and your dependents against the possibility of severe disability or early death.

In order to protect the value of your eventual benefits, the Canadian Parliament has passed legislation which ensures that the contributions you make today will give benefits that maintain the purchasing power of today's wages twenty, thirty or even fifty years from now... when you need it!

To achieve this, the Government plans to have the earnings ceiling — the maximum amount on which contributions are paid and on which benefits are calculated — increased each year so that it will reach, and then keep even with the average earnings of Canadian industrial workers. This ceiling will be raised from \$5,600.00 in 1973, to \$6,600.00 in 1974 and \$7,400.00 in 1975.

This new earnings ceiling means that the year's basic exemption — the initial amount on which you do not pay contributions — is changed from \$600.00 in 1973 to \$700.00 for 1974.

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These changes also mean that the maximum employee contributions will increase from \$90.00 a year in 1973 to \$106.20 in 1974. Your contribution is matched by your employer. In the case of self-employed persons, the maximum annual contribution is increased to \$212.40 for 1974 as against \$180.00 last year. For earnings of less than \$5,700.00, there will be no increase in contributions.

The change in the earnings ceiling means that the maximum retirement pension will rise from \$90.71 for pensions effective in December 1973 to \$134.97 for those whose pensions will begin in December 1975. As the maximum earnings levels for the years after 1975 continue to rise, so will the maximum retirement pensions in those years. There will also be increases in the maximum values each year for disability and survivors' benefits.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please write:

Canada Pension Plan,
 Department of National Health and Welfare,
 Place Vanier, Tower "A",
 Ottawa, Ontario,
 K1A 0L1.

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Department of National Health and Welfare
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