

New non-addictive drug

STOUFFVILLE — A non-addictive pain-killing drug, developed over a 10-year period by McNeil Laboratories, is now on the market.

Announcement of the new medication, zomepirac sodium or ZOMAX as it's known commercially, was made, Thursday, at a press conference, held at the Four Seasons Hotel, Avenue Road, Toronto. It's been approved both in Canada and the United States.

The oral tablet is non-addictive and effective in treating everything from minimal to acute pain.

It's not, however, a "wonder drug", Dr. Edward Sellers stressed. Dr. Sellers is a

professor of pharmacology and medicine at the University of Toronto and head of medicine at the Clinical Research Institute of the Addiction Research Foundation, Toronto.

"Whenever you say wonder drug, it comes back to haunt you," he stated.

The "wonder" in ZOMAX, he continued, is that you wonder if it will take another eighty years to perfect one better. The reference was to aspirin which, the meeting was told, had been in use since 1879.

No drug, Dr. Sellers explained, is without side effects. However, unlike codeine, the side effects are less. The big plus with ZOMAX, he pointed out, is that it's not associated with addiction.

ASA is not addictive either, the professor stated, but it is used mainly for treatment of mild pain. For something more severe, narcotics are prescribed. In between, he said, is a combination of both, giving rise to 222's and 292's.

"Now, we can use a single agent," he said.

Among other advantages, the drug is easily absorbed and rapidly eliminated from the body, he explained.

One media representative wanted to know why ZOMAX is listed as a prescription drug but ASA isn't, when the former has less side effects.

Dr. Sellers said such drugs must abide by regulations as set out in 1937, then they're

reviewed. He suggested that ASA might also have been licensed if it had been necessary to meet the same requirements.

Dr. Walter Fergiel, Director of Scientific Affairs and Research Programs for McNeil's, described the firm as "a highly conservative company that wanted to make sure it had a competent product". He said a long-term safety evaluation had been conducted. Patients suffering chronic pain were treated for one year, then two years, he said.

Work on the drug first began at McNeil's U.S. laboratory in Spring House, Pennsylvania. There, animals were used. Later, clinical testing of patients was carried out both at Spring House and in Stouffville.

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Rare owl

STOUFFVILLE — A beautiful snowy owl, common to the polar regions but rare in these parts, was seen, Saturday, perched atop a hydro pole at the laneway entrance to Busato's Greenhouses, Tenth Line South.

The bird, white with dark spots, had a wing span estimated at five feet. Although unwilling to pose for pictures, it showed no fear of traffic.

Edgerton Pegg of Greenwood, an authority on birds of all kinds, said three such owls had been seen in the area this month. One of these, reported on 19th Avenue, Markham, could have been the same one seen, Saturday, he suggested.

"No one knows what brings them so far south," he said, "but it's presumed it's due to a scarcity of food." Their main diet are lemmings, mouse-like rodents with short tails and fur-covered feet.

Power surge explodes TV's

STOUFFVILLE — An act of God.

Prior to inspection of an east-end transformer, that's the closest explanation Town Hydro Chairman Ken Laushway could give for a sudden surge of power, Saturday, that burned out a number of television sets and turned electrical elements white hot.

The chairman said that, to his knowledge, such a thing had never occurred in Stouffville before; at least not in the 16 years he had been on the Commission.

He said Ontario Hydro inspectors were to be in town, Tuesday, to check out the

problem. Until then, he said, he couldn't state definitely what had happened.

With respect to damaged household appliances, the chairman said insurance carried by the Commission would not apply. Home-owners, he stated, should contact their own companies and find out where they stand.

The transformer in question, he said, had been cleaned last summer and adequately maintained. "There was certainly no negligence on the Commission's part," he said. He claimed there was no way of knowing such a thing would occur.

In spite of the sudden emergency, there were only two fire calls, one on Millard Street, a private residence, and another at the Arena. Some householders, Laushway explained, ran into additional problems by switching on appliances after the first ones 'blew'. "You can't blame them," he said, "they had no way of knowing what was going on."

Despite the seriousness of the breakdown, the situation could have been much worse, the chairman admitted. Fortunately, he noted, most modern TV sets have automatic switches that shut power off when an overload occurs.

When the east-end station was closed down, all of the former village was thrown onto the depot at Main Street West. Mr. Laushway said the Commission was worried that during peak hours (around 6 p.m., Monday), the entire town might be 'blacked out'. Had this occurred, additional power could have been obtained from a transformer at Ringwood, the chairman explained.

Without stating a figure, Mr. Laushway said repairs to the sideland station would be considerable.

Sanders in favor

A Town historian

STOUFFVILLE — Whitchurch-Stouffville Council, last week, agreed with member Jim Sanders that it had "lots of history to be collected".

However, it was less unanimous as to the method of collecting it. The issue was raised when a letter was received from David Waite of the Town Museum Board, recommending Council name an official historian for the municipality. In line with the position, he suggested that the person selected be paid a salary, a car allowance and retain clerical services.

The employee's chief role,

Mr. Waite said, would be to collect material for the archives. He recommended C. Wesley Brillinger of Stouffville for the job.

In making his choice public, the museum's board chairman said Mr. Brillinger would see past rural-urban boundaries with no prejudices whatsoever. "We knew what was needed to keep the museum alive and he gave unstintingly of his time," the letter read.

Mayor Eldred King held to the policy that the Historical Society should comprise only volunteers.

Councillor Sanders supported the request, saying there was much history still to be compiled.

The matter was turned over to personnel committee for a report.

Extra police at concert

MUSS LAKE — An ounce of prevention's worth a pound of cure.

Adopting this motto, York Regional Police were out in force here Thursday night, guarding against possible problems that might erupt during a Max Webster rock concert at Glendale Hall.

Nothing developed although five persons, ranging in age from 17 to 25 were arrested for

possession of marijuana.

The officers were in charge of Deputy-Chief Don Hillock and included members of the Emergency Response Unit.

Altogether, thirty-four were apprehended, most for liquor offences. One 20 year old Musselman's Lake man was taken into custody for causing a disturbance.

An estimated 400 attended the show.

New Canadians

Students fit in

STOUFFVILLE — Unlike volatile situations experienced in some areas of Metro, no racial incidents have occurred at Stouffville Dist. Secondary School, Principal Michael Muir told The Tribune last week.

He said that within an enrollment of close to 900, there are students from countries like Argentina, Cuba and Australia. "But they all fit in," he said.

"Young people here are products of a tolerant environment," he reasoned, "they accept each other for what they are."

He credited a strong religious influence within the community as a main factor in dissolving racial prejudices. He described S.D.S.S. as "a family type school".



Sengay's back and eight year old Sebastian Rigby, R.R. 2, Claremont is happy again. The shaggy Lhasa Apso, missing almost two weeks, was found on Morningside Avenue in Scarborough. Jim Thomas



For beginners, two hands are better than one

She may use two hands instead of one but six year old Heather Kerswill, daughter of Lloyd and Sheila Kerswill, Albert Street North, Stouffville has the right idea. The Grade 1 pupil at Orchard

Park Public School comes by her bowling enthusiasm honestly. Her father headed up the Youth League in Stouffville for several seasons. Jim Thomas

Break-in suspects

Nabbed in house

STOUFFVILLE — Two teenagers, one an escapee from the Mimico Correctional Centre, were caught red-handed in the basement of the Neil Patrick home on Burkholder Street, Sunday, when the owner returned and surprised the intruders.

York Regional Police believe Paul Robert Withers of Agincourt and Daniel Joseph Saumure of Oakville are the pair who attempted to enter the residences of Dr. John Button, O'Brien Avenue and Fred

Williams, Rose Avenue, that same night.

The suspects face charges of break and enter with intent (two counts); attempted break and enter and possession. Saumure is also charged with being unlawfully at large.

Police believe that Saumure was one of three men who entered the premises of B & M Motors, Woodbine Avenue, Markham, Jan. 12, threatened the attendant with a shotgun, tied him up and escaped with \$600.

In addition, he stands

charged with the attempted armed robbery of a Leslie Street Variety Store, Jan. 13 and a Mac's Milk Store in Oakville, Jan. 14. On both occasions, the man was armed with a butcher knife.

At the Variety Store, the youth fled when the proprietor brandished a baseball bat. At the milk store, he escaped with \$300.

Both Saumure and Withers appeared in Newmarket Court, Monday and were remanded in custody until Jan. 23 when a trial date will be set.

Took long walk

Dog rejoins family

CLAREMONT — Back on Jan. 3, Heather Rigby, RR 2, Claremont, let "Sengay", a 3½ year old Lhasa Apso dog out the front door for a romp in the yard.

He didn't return immediately, but that wasn't unusual. He'd strayed off the property before; besides, there are a lot of side attractions at this country location, south of Pickering's 8th Concession.

However, when he failed to come back that night, Heather became concerned. The weather had turned extremely cold.

When a whole week went by the owner inserted a "Lost" advertisement in The Tribune. Still no response.

By chance, Heather decided to check the "Found" ads in a Toronto daily. And there, sure enough, was a description of Sengay, even to the breed. He had been taken in by a kindly woman in the area of Morningside Avenue and Hwy. 401.

The lady, Heather said, happened to look out her window and spotted the shaggy little pet trotting along the road. She

called and he came bouncing through the door.

Heather identified Sengay's rescuer as Cheryl Paulin, formerly of Uxbridge. She described her as "a wonderful person". She warned him up, brushed him and fed him well, she said. His paws were slightly frostbitten but otherwise, he seemed okay.

Heather's son, Sebastian was to mark his 8th birthday, Saturday. He could have wished for no finer gift than Sengay's return. The family's together again.

Parkview Home

in Stouffville

Welcome 500th guest

STOUFFVILLE — Resident No. 500.

Since its opening back in June, 1965, Parkview Home has welcomed five hundred guests. That milestone was reached Jan. 2 with the admission of Lena Reesor, formerly of Vineland and RR 2, Markham.

"It's like coming home," Mrs. Reesor told The Tribune, "we're like one big happy family here". In the two weeks since her arrival, she's met folks she used to know 40 years ago, she said.

Born Lena Fretz, daughter of Chris and Lydia Fretz, she married Edwin Hoover, RR 1, Stouffville in 1924. Mr. Hoover was killed in a farm accident in 1940.

Several years later, she married Joe Reesor and lived at Vineland.

Mrs. Reesor points with pride to family photos in her room that include a son Merle at Vineland, three stepsons and six stepdaughters.

Skilled at rug-making and quilting, time never hangs heavy on her hands. A "Tree of Life" quilt that took three years to complete, has been admired by many at Parkview. She's now working on a wall hanging.

Mrs. Reesor appreciates the fact there's always someone to talk to. "With good care, good food and good friends, I couldn't ask for more".



LENA REESOR