

Too soft with prisoners

Dear Sir: Solicitor General Robert Kaplan recently confirmed to the Commons Justice Committee that, because of the ruling by the Ontario Court of Appeal

that "gating" of dangerous prisoners by the Parole Board is illegal, no further ones will be attempted within Ontario until the Supreme Court of Canada decides the issue. In the meantime, the practice will continue in all other provinces unless their respective provincial courts rule against the

practice before the Supreme Court of Canada settles the issue for the entire country. From an Ontario perspective, this attitude must be unacceptable because

it may take up to 18 months or longer for the Supreme Court of Canada to decide if "gating" is legal in this province. Mr. Kaplan has already indicated that he will bring in legisla-

tion to authorize the practice if that court says it's not permissible, so why doesn't he do so immediately so that the same protection from truly dangerous people will be

afforded in the meantime to Ontario residents as to other Canadians? A study by the Minister's own department has already indicated that the mandatory

supervision system in present form is about equally unacceptable to the public at large, police and responsible inmates themselves. It shows, for example, that be-

tween 1974 and 1979 fully one third of the 15,627 people pre-released on mandatory supervision went directly from maximum security to the streets of our cities and towns. In

other words, 5,300 inmates who were not for whatever reason considered safe enough to be in minimum or medium security institutions were by operation of the ex-

isting law pre-released on mandatory supervision. The system itself is a time bomb urgently in need of reform. Sincerely, David Kilgour, M.P.,



JANET LOWE

A better Canadian

WHITCHURCH — Eighteen-year-old Janet Lowe of R.R. 4, Stouffville, prides herself in being Canadian. However, after attending a National 4-H Citizenship Seminar in Ottawa, last month, she's an even prouder Canadian.

Janet's address at a York South 4-H Achievement Day in Victoria Square, April 30, was enthusiastically received. "Obviously," said one mother in the audience, "her enthusiasm rubbed off on others."

Janet described her busy itinerary that included a tour of both Ottawa and Hull; a visit to the House of Commons; entertainment provided by the Ottawa Police Male Chorus; a square dance and a banquet attended by the Federal Minister of Agriculture and Food, The Hon. Eugene Whelan.

Emotions ran high at the seminar's conclusion, Janet said. She described the hotel lobby as "flooded with tears."

"We were filled to overflowing with memories and feelings. I now have a closer understanding of Canada—my home and native land," she concluded.

Art Show

MARKHAM — Canada's largest art show and sale opens this Thursday, May 12 and continues through May 15 at the Markham Community Centre, Hwys. 7 and 48.

The event, featuring more than 1,200 paintings and sculptures, is sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Markham. Admission is \$2.00; senior citizens and children free. Hours May 12 to 14 are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sunday, 12 noon to 4 p.m.

A "meet the artists" evening is planned for Friday, May 13.

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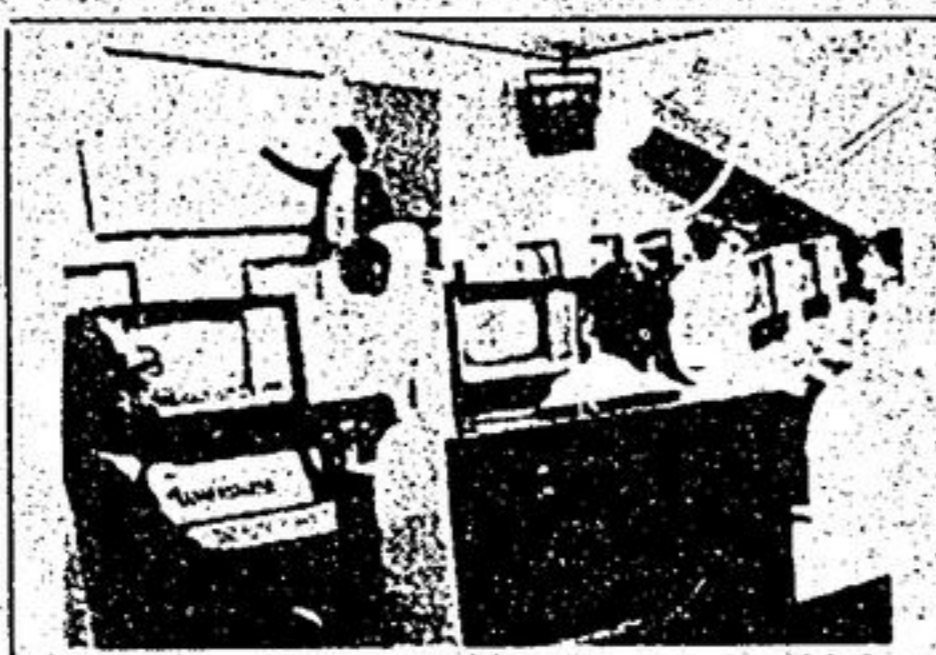
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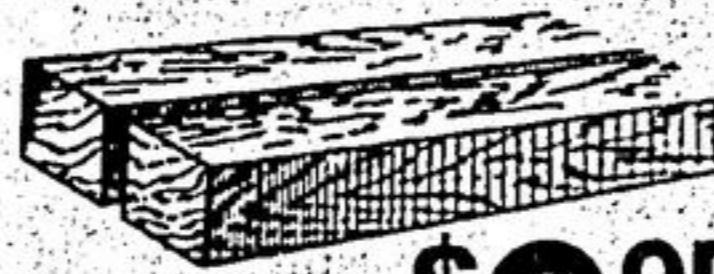


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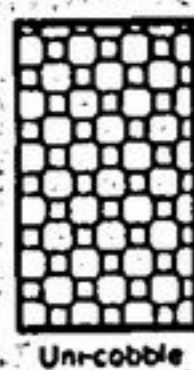


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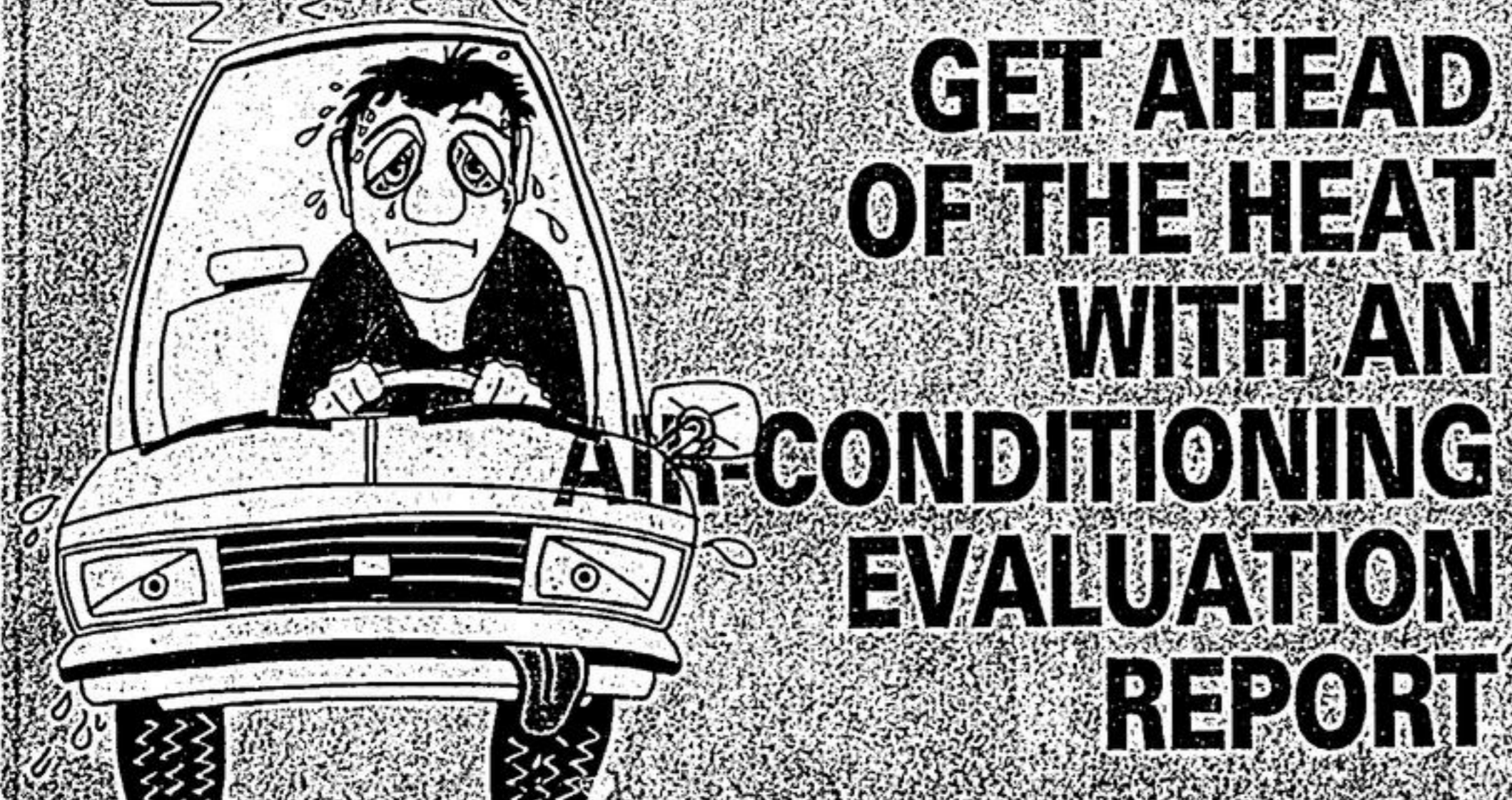
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