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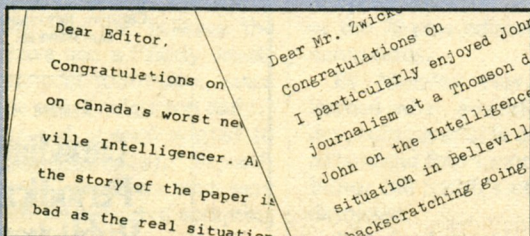
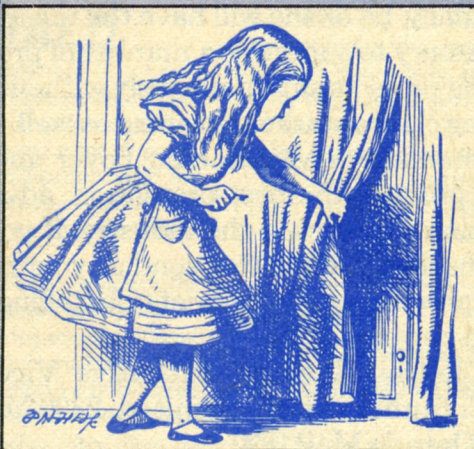
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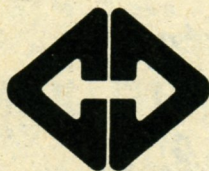
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NEW GLEANER FINDS CHAFF GOOD EATING

FREDERICTON — Jim Morrison, who resigned in May as managing editor of the Fredericton *Daily Gleaner*, predicted after most of the *Gleaner* newsroom was fired three months later that the newspaper would proceed to turn back the clock ten years.

It has. The *Gleaner* these days boasts the worst kind of small-town journalism — commercial fluff, massive church coverage, and daily photographs of prominent citizens and family pets.

Morrison, who divides his time between a farm and a job as associate editor of the weekly *Woodstock Bugle*, admitted after the firings that, for five years, he had fought the same battles over news content at the *Gleaner* that led to the dismissal of 10 newsroom members in August.

There don't seem to be any battles at the newspaper now. The *Gleaner*, which is the smallest of the five English-language dailies owned by K.C. Irving interests in New Brunswick, isn't rocking any boats.

The newspaper recently carried numerous stories favorable to the Fredericton police department, while ignoring a series of stories in the weekly Fredericton *plain dealer* about city police brutality.

It also ignored a story in September about an 11-year-old boy who had been suspended from a school near Fredericton for more than a year. The story received extensive national coverage.

The newspaper's major investigative effort since August was a series of stories on the New Brunswick Telephone Co. Ltd. that drew a letter of praise from a ranking telephone company executive.

Russell Hunt, a media commentator and co-author of *K.C. Irving: The Art of the Industrialist*, said he believes the August firings have had a "fairly disastrous effect" on local journalism, since the *Gleaner* is the only Fredericton daily.

"The *Gleaner* had at least started to come along (under Morrison)," he said. "There were several reporters who were out generating stories instead of accepting press releases."

Hunt also said the firings would have a lasting effect within the Irving chain of newspapers, by intimidating other reporters who might question management

policies.

Whether the Irvings played a direct role in the August firings, "it certainly is the Irving style," he said.

"And that style is to give the feeling that there's power there," he said. "Then you don't have to use it very often."

"From now on, any reporter is going to be hesitant about bucking management."

Most of the dismissed reporters and editors have moved on to jobs elsewhere. A lawsuit against the *Gleaner* for unjust dismissal is slowly making its way to court.

In September, Tom Crowther, a 31-year employee of the Irving newspapers in Saint John, was appointed publisher of the *Gleaner*. He had been the vice-president and general manager of the New Brunswick Publishing Co. Ltd., which publishes the Saint John newspapers.

He said after his new appointment that he thought the Fredericton newspaper was a good one, and he wouldn't be making any changes. — Allan Chambers.

SMALLER STAFF BETTER NEWS SAYS HERALD

HALIFAX — A determined, if precipitant, effort was being made by the ITU to organize the editorial employees of the Halifax *Herald* as *Content* went to press. The results of the certification vote are not expected to be announced until hearings are held by the Labour Relations Board in January.

The move by the ITU to organize the *Herald* came quickly. Annoyed by the incompetent quality of copy reaching them, the *Herald's* ITU production staff called in international representative Bob Earles to talk with editorial staffers. He found a receptive audience. Within three days, 33 of the 70-plus editorial staff had signed union cards.

By Monday Nov. 21, management learned what was afoot. The following day, starting at 2:30 p.m., a parade of six editors and four reporters were called into Editor Bill Smith's office and summarily dismissed.

The fired ten ranged in experience from three months to 12 years. They were Fred Bembridge, Al Herron, Reg Horner, Betsy Chambers, Vince Coady, Greg Coolen, Doris Saunders, Sue Calhoun,

Jim Gould and Brian Condran. All but Saunders had signed union cards. Severance pay varied from two months to six months.

The company explained that the dismissals were for "budgetary reasons." The ITU promptly filed a complaint of unfair labour practices with the Labour Relations Board and applied for certification.

The vote was taken Dec. 2 and the results were expected to be close. Despite arbitrary shifts of assignment by Editor Smith (among other things, three experienced reporters were assigned to the library to paste up clippings for filming purposes) and despite a newsroom atmosphere described by one staffer as "deadly," there were serious doubts whether the ITU would win.

As noted in an article in the September-October issue of *Content*, pay rates at the *Herald* are among the best in the country. Also, in the words of a staffer, "We're dealing here with a bunch of kids Smith hired. Most of them can't even spell and they know damn well they couldn't get a job on any other paper in Canada — not at the same pay rates, anyway."

An important factor in the attempt to unionize may be an amendment to the Trade Union Act passed in May, 1977. In cases where the certification vote fails to meet the required 51 per cent, the Labour Relations Board may, of its own volition, certify the union if it is satisfied that intimidation or other unfair practices were carried out by management.

The *Herald's* explanation for the firings was laughed at by many. Said one former senior employee: "The company's claim that the so-called

Are you a library science student or similarly qualified?

If so, you may be the person we're looking for. The job — to be completed over a mutually agreed period — is the establishment of a master subject index of material in *Content* from issue no. 1 (October 1970).

Several indexes have been published, including one covering the first five years, but the new master must be consistent with current practices and needs in the library and research communities.

The person selected will be familiar with preparing a computerized index or willing to learn.

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Lede Copy

layoffs were for budgetary reasons is bullshit. The *Herald* is one of the wealthiest papers in Canada. Even during the Depression, no one was laid off. Also, when true layoffs take place, it's always the most junior people to go. This wasn't the case here."

The firings came less than a week after the *Herald* announced that it was opening a Charlottetown bureau — "the latest step in a program aimed at widening reports to our readers in light of existing national economic and constitutional problems. Direct reports are now provided from Edmonton, Quebec City, Fredericton, and St. John's, Newfoundland, as well as from London and from an expanded bureau in Ottawa."

At press time, speculation was rife that if the *Herald* loses either the certification vote or the unfair practices charge, Editor Smith's days are numbered. A common thought was that he would be bounced upstairs to executive editor, a post vacant since A.M. (Doc) Savage "resigned" in September.

"Smith has got to go if peace is to re-

turn to the newsroom. It's his fault that this whole damn union thing started in the first place," said one anti-Smith, anti-union employee. — Harry Flemming.

WRITERS CHOKES ON LEFTOVERS

OTTAWA — The Canadian publishing industry is in grave danger according to the Writers' Union of Canada.

Eleven of the country's prominent authors trekked to Ottawa in November to deliver that message to Secretary of State John Roberts and Consumer and Corporate Affairs Minister Warren Allmand.

Their problem is that the three leading book chains in Canada, Coles, W.H. Smith and Classics, are importing remaindered U.S. editions of Canadian works and selling them at lower prices than the home edition.

Pierre Berton told the ministers that his book *Drifting Home* was priced at \$7.95, but the remaindered version was being sold for \$4.44. The Writers' Union presented the government with a list of remaindered books which had been selling in Canada, with an approximation of the royalties the authors lost.

The bookstores are able to continue this practice because of the vague wording of the Copyright Act. In addition, the matter is in the jurisdiction of four federal ministries — Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Justice, National Revenue and Secretary of State.

The two ministers who met with the union appeared to be unaware of the situation, but when informed they were very sympathetic to the writers' plight. But both were unwilling to speculate on what action, if any, the government will take.

Allmand inquired about the efficacy of legal action, but was told that previous attempts had been unsuccessful. He then suggested that the offending book chains be requested to halt the practice of importing remainders, although the Writers' Union appeared to be dubious about that course of action.

The writers complained that some foreign editions of their books have been retitled for the non-Canadian market and when these works are brought into Canada, unsuspecting buyers who think they are getting a new work accuse the authors of defrauding the consumer.

The union explained that its campaign is identical to one being waged by Canadian publishers, who also lose business to the remainders. Until now,

the fight has been carried on solely by the publishers. The November meeting was the first representation the writers have made to the government.

The issue of remaindered books affects Canadian literature seriously, as Margaret Atwood explained.

"If this practice goes on, pretty soon there'll be no more Canadian publishing as we know it.

"And, once there's no more Canadian publishing, soon there'll be no more Canadian writing...As far as we're concerned that would be the end." — Paul Park.

B.C. WEEKLY DIES OF EXCESS

VANCOUVER — One of Canada's great weekly newspaper success stories came to an abrupt end in November.

The Victorian was started as a shopper by John Damgaard, a service-station operator with a penchant for Rolls-Royces. It swiftly burgeoned from a 16-page tab in 1968, picking off succulent real estate ads from somnolent local dailies and moribund weeklies.

From an advertiser, the paper grew to 25% news and saturation free-distribution to the Greater Victoria area — 73,000 papers.

From a staff of five, the paper grew to 100 people plus 500 carriers, and prosperity seemed assured when the two local dailies were struck in 1973, and the paper went thrice weekly.

Probably the arrival of the I.T.U. was the first external sign of major troubles. Damgaard fought bitterly for two years against the union, losing out finally on a Labor Relations Board ruling.

During 1977 Damgaard tried several management changes and apparently tried, abortively, to sell the paper. Nov. 4, he called the staff together and announced they were through.

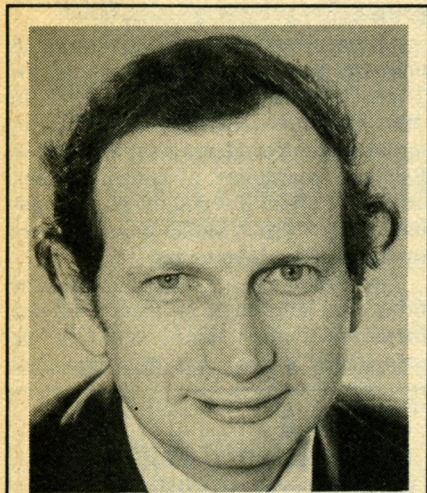
In retrospect, the consensus seemed to be "too big, too soon": perhaps *Victoria* just was not ready to support a thrice-a-week paper with a staff of 100, when one or other of the two dailies was regularly threatening to close down.

The demise of *The Victorian* left a bitter dispute over severance pay while a coterie of loyal old-timers tried, without great hope, to start a modest new weekly.

Meanwhile, *Monday Magazine*, a lively competitor, invited Damgaard's side of the story and reported that all they got was: "Nope. I'm through. No comment. Zero. I don't give a shit anymore."

— Nick Russell.

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PETER REHAK

Peter Rehak, 41, has been appointed producer of CBC-TV's *The National*. He was previously national assignment editor. Rehak has 18 years of wide-ranging experience. He was Toronto bureau chief for *Time Magazine*, Ottawa staff correspondent for *Time*, Montreal Star Parliamentary correspondent, and vice-president of the Press Gallery.

From 1962 to 1972, Rehak was an AP foreign correspondent, bureau chief in Bonn, Prague and Vienna and a foreign deskier in New York. For his 1968 world beat on the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia he received the AP Managing Editors Award, the Overseas Press Club of America Award and the George Polk Memorial Award. Before joining AP, Rehak worked for CP Toronto, the Vancouver Sun and the Windsor Star.



STRAIGHTJACKETS, SUITS & VESTED INTERESTS

TORONTO — It's a free country isn't it? Well, isn't it? I have my doubts, and no reporter who has ever tried to get *everything* he knew about a story into his paper, and of course failed, can really be all that sure either.

Forget for the moment the recent hassle over an access to information bill. Instead, consider how easily Ontario Supreme Court chief justice Gregory Evans did away with the traditional freedom of the press in covering Parliament. Ruling on a question of privilege brought before him by Conservative house leader Walter Baker, Judge Evans decided Nov. 10 that the federal government had no power to stop MPs from discussing the notorious uranium cartel which, under government auspices, artificially inflated the world price of uranium and the Canadian price of electricity.

But the judge also ruled that newspapermen reporting on any such parliamentary discussions would be liable to prosecution. In one step, Judge Evans took the country back 246 years.

The Speaker of the House, James Jerome, later ruled against Judge Evans and in favour of the press, but it does go to show just how fragile our freedoms are, and how little we can afford to take them for granted.

Governments, of course, are not the only powers who would take away freedom of speech. People with profits to protect have a quick way with a press gag too.

The classic example, up to now, is the hassle over "Dying of Lead," broadcast on *CBC Radio's* As It Happens nearly four years ago. The program dealt with health hazards caused, according to public health authorities, as a by-product of the operations of two Toronto metal smelters.

Quoted on the program was Ian Outerbridge, lawyer for the two companies. In part, he said: "We brought in the best man in the world, a Dr. Bartrop from England, and he was regarded as a white-wash. I don't really think people want to hear the truth."

Fifteen minutes before the program was due to go on the air, Ian Outerbridge delivered an injunction to *CBC* headquarters ordering them to ban their own program. *CBC* editors were unable to

By ALAN ANDERSON

stop broadcasting in the Atlantic region, which had already begun, but they did delete extensive speeches from the program the rest of the country heard an hour later.

Within weeks the *CBC*, *The Globe and Mail* and dozens of reporters found themselves knee-deep in legal proceedings which amounted to some \$16,000,000 in damages for libelling the two lead companies — and Ian Outerbridge's "best man in the world," Dr. Donald Bartrop.

Dr. Bartrop was quoted on the *CBC* program, and elsewhere, as saying that

because people living near or working in a lead smelting plant had high blood levels did not necessarily mean the lead plant was responsible.

And an American public health expert, a Dr. Epstein, responded in this way:

"Dr. Donald Bartrop is a paid consultant to the lead industry. He is paid to say what he has just said."

That comment was heard only in the Atlantic region. Dr. Bartrop sued the *CBC* for libel.

As it happens, the Nova Scotia judgement has recently come down — and Dr. Bartrop has lost his case.

(See *SUITS*, page 14)

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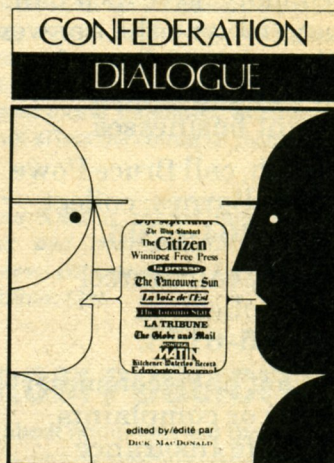
The book, like the seminar from which it derived, gives a better appreciation of the current and long-term dimensions of the Confederation Debate. And it examines the very kinds of coverage the press is giving, or could be giving, to this fluid topic.

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- Political scientist Arthur Siegel
- Retired PC leader Robert Stanfield
- Researcher Martin Goldfarb
- Evelyn Dumas, *Montreal Le Jour*
- Allan Fotheringham, *Vancouver Sun*
- Norman Webster, *Toronto Globe and Mail*
- Anthony Westell, *Carleton University*
- Claude Beauchamp, *Quebec Le Soleil*
- Eric Kierans, former cabinet minister
- ... and many, many more.

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- The Constitutional Road to the Future*
- The Decade Ahead*



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PUBLIC SCRUTINY AS SPECTATOR SPORT

By PAUL KIDD

HAMILTON — A woman — who shall remain nameless — was recently a witness at a Hamilton triple-murder trial.

The question is: Should the woman have remained nameless in the daily news media?

Should the media have acceded to a high court judge's request — not order — that the witness not be identified?

The media were divided in responding to the judicial request made by Mr. Justice John O'Driscoll of the Supreme Court of Ontario.

The woman testified she had an affair in the summer of 1975 with a 35-year-old city hall office manager, on trial for first-degree murder in connection with the deaths of his wife and two small children.

Crown attorney Anton Zuraw told Mr. Justice O'Driscoll that the married woman had had a child since the affair ended more than two years ago. The Crown attorney requested that the judge make a "very strong request that her name not be published." Defence counsel William Hubar had no objections.

Before the woman, in her twenties, entered the witness box, Mr. Justice O'Driscoll addressed the news media.

"In a few moments, the Crown will call its next witness, whom I am told is a woman who will come forth and admit sexual intimacies with the accused," said his Lordship.

"The crown also tells me that this woman has given birth to a child fairly recently. He (the Crown attorney) asks that this woman's name not be published by the media.

"There is no suggestion by Mr. Zuraw, nor by Mr. Hubar, who concurs in his recommendation, that there is any legal basis to ask that this woman's name not be published. What she is going to say will take place in front of the jury and in a public courtroom, and unless there is some reason in law, all of that is subject to publication."

However, after referring to related observations made by a fellow Supreme

Court judge, Mr. Justice O'Driscoll said: "I simply say here, I think it would probably be a great act of discretion — and be a humane thing to do — for the news media not to publish this woman's name."

The trial judge pointed out that the woman had been subpoenaed, and there was no suggestion of any complicity between her and the accused man or that she was responsible in any way for the death of the murdered wife.

"She is the unfortunate victim of circumstances," said Mr. Justice O'Driscoll. "Again, all I say is I hope the news media will exercise its discretion and not publish the name."

Short of a direct judicial order, which he had indicated he was not empowered to issue, the judge could scarcely have made a stronger request in the name of humanity.

Under these circumstances, it now became a question of journalistic judgement. Should a judicial request from a high court judge be respected or ignored? Regardless of the request, should this particular woman witness and her family be exposed to the glare of publicity as are other witnesses in any trial?

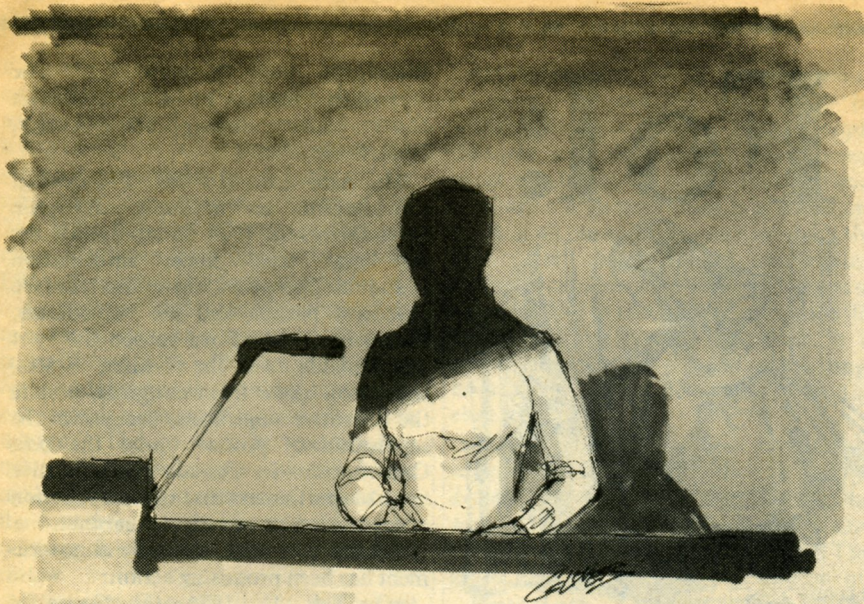
The Globe and Mail, *The Toronto Star*, *CHCH-TV* and *CJJD Radio* in Hamilton, and *CING Radio* in Burlington, respected the judge's request.

The Spectator in Hamilton, *The Toronto Sun*, and Hamilton radio stations *CHML* and *CKOC* ignored the judicial request.

The Canadian Press and *Broadcast News* identified the woman — but subsequently stated that they would not have done so had they know of Mr. Justice O'Driscoll's request. *The Spectator*, which supplied both copy and a picture of the witness to the national wire service, did not inform *CP* of the judge's request.

The Spectator published the woman's name without her street address in nearby Burlington. The witness has an exceedingly common name, which could be unfortunate for other local women with the same name.

The Spectator sent both the story and the picture to *The Canadian Press* — and they were moved over the wire.



Courtroom sketch by Lyle Glover, courtesy CHCH-TV.

Gordon Grant, chief of CP's Ontario service, said: "The *Spectator* did not say anything about the judge's request. Frankly, if I had known about the request, CP would not have used the woman's name. I would have told my desk not to use the woman's name. We just didn't know anything about the judicial request."

Similarly, CP picture editor Harold Herschell said that had the service been aware of the judge's request, it was virtually certain *The Canadian Press* would

neither have wanted nor used the picture.

But the picture did go out on the wire...and, in a notable instance, ended up filling almost half the front page of *The Toronto Sun*. The picture was described as being that of "The other woman in murder suspect's life," and identified as a CP photo.

Content associate editor Ken Popert contacted *The Spectator* about editorial decision-making in the matter.

Spectator publisher John Muir told Popert he was not involved in the

decision to use the witness's name. Muir also said he was not involved in the decision to put the story on the wire without the judge's request being included, or in the decision to send the picture to CP.

Spectator executive editor John Doherty said, "Anyone who brings this kind of testimony to a trial should stand the test of public scrutiny."

Spectator managing editor Alex Beer was asked by Popert who had made the final decision.

After saying it had been "a sin of omission," Beer added: "All of us were guilty."

The facts would indicate that journalists, like members of every other profession, have divided opinions. And we can all justify the positions we take. But sometimes, in the name of truth, is it necessary for the media to identify a person in the face of a judicial request not to do so?

Do the media have to place before an inquisitive and sometimes cruel public the names, as well as the humiliating experiences, of those who have strayed from what are supposed to be society's accepted moral standards, when to do so will not affect the course of justice?

Paul Kidd is special investigative reporter and commentator, CHCH-TV, and news commentator, CJJD Radio, in Hamilton, Ont. 30

THE CHAMPIONS OF PUBLIC SCRUTINY FLEE FROM PUBLICITY

TORONTO — "We are having an internal conflict which we don't want to air in public," Robert Austin, associate managing editor of *The Spectator*, told *Content*.

But one *Spectator* staffer, who asked not to be identified, describes *The Spectator's* self-admitted internal conflict as "a newsroom revolt of major proportions."

And, according to the general newsroom version, it reached its zenith over the handling of the picture of a woman witness in the Supreme Court murder trial.

Ironically, it seems, *The Spectator* does not want to air in public a conflict arising from the airing in public of the woman's picture.

By coincidence, in the spring of 1973, the same woman had appeared in *The Spectator* as Girl of the Week. Now, four years later, the picture was plucked from *Spectator* files with the original intention

of making her a sort of witness of the week.

Newsroom sources say that some senior editors favored running the picture.

But executive editor John Doherty, in an interview with *Content*, said he personally had decided against using the picture.

In any event, the picture went into the following day's first edition.

The next morning, at Doherty's insistence, the woman's picture was taken out of the paper and a portrait (not shown on this page) of another witness substituted.

The substitution was supposedly made on compassionate grounds.

But staffers say that a factor in the pulling of the picture was that the woman was the daughter of a former long-time *Spectator* employee, who had been secretary to a former editor of the newspaper.

This apparent intervention by management was not acceptable to senior editors

and, about noon, they left the building to hold a protest meeting. At the meeting, talk of a possible mass resignation reportedly evaporated into the drafting of a memo, signed by most of the senior editors. The memo is said to have been addressed to Doherty, with copies to Muir and Beer.

Spectator insiders say the memo conveyed deep concern about the news integrity of *The Spectator*, mentioning that news judgements in the newsroom should be left to the editors, and specifically mentioning picture use in the murder trial. The editors reportedly noted that while they recognized that compassion must be considered, the news must come first, and there should be no special treatment for any individual.

Muir was asked by *Content* if there had been any discussion about the matter since the decisions involving the story and the picture were made. The *Spectator* publisher replied that there had been no discussion that he was aware of.

(See **CHAMPIONS**, page 14)

OTTAWA — Freedom of information. It is a topic you hear a lot about these days.

About a year and a half ago there were occasional references to it in the media. There was a parliamentary committee, the Joint Senate-Commons Committee on Regulations and Other Statutory Instruments, studying a private member's bill introduced by MP Gerald Baldwin (PC — Peace River).

Baldwin was responsible for the interest generated at that time. He had taken across the country his message that the public has a right to know what the government is doing and why. Thanks to his efforts, support grew. Special interest groups, unions, associations and others took up the cry.

Citizens' and other groups, representing nearly three million Canadians, now support FoI. And there are groups formed especially to lobby for FoI legislation: the Freedom of Information Association in Vancouver, Access in Ottawa, the Freedom of Information Committee in Toronto, Acces: Quebec in Montreal, and an FoI committee in Halifax.

These FoI organizations are sponsoring public symposiums and pushing letter campaigns aimed at government officials and federal or provincial legislators.

A year ago, Baldwin formed the League to Restore Parliamentary Control. An advertising campaign in daily and community papers across Canada asked readers to sign the ads in support of FoI laws and more government accountability for the tax dollar. Baldwin told me recently the response has been encouraging.

Last April, a group of MPs formed an All-Party Committee of MPs for Freedom of Information. It is headed by Lloyd Francis (Liberal — Ottawa West) and includes, besides Baldwin, deputy Opposition House Leader Ray Hnatyshyn (PC — Saskatoon-Biggar) and Andrew Brewin (NDP — Toronto Greenwood). The group is on a drive to obtain wider support in the House and is preparing a position paper.

Next to Gerald Baldwin, the bar association has earned the most publicity for the FoI issue. The association passed a resolution on FoI at its 1976 annual convention in Winnipeg and has since presented it to Justice Minister Ron Basford and to the Prime Minister. Their rejection of the idea prompted the bar association

Tom Riley is an Ottawa writer/broadcaster and a former government researcher.

FoI:



**The time has come
to bring
the curtain of secrecy
tumbling down . . .**

By TOM RILEY

to form a Select Committee on Freedom of Information to push through its commitment. Last Aug. 4 the committee published its response to the government's green paper in the form of a highly critical report by Rankin entitled *Freedom of Information in Canada: Will the Doors Stay Shut?*

One of the reasons for the growing demand for an end to obsessive government secrecy is the continuing series of scandals in Ottawa. We have had cover-up after cover-up in such cases as the judges affair, the list of 21 (and more, as it has turned out), Sky Shops, Polysar, the AECL kickbacks and RCMP illegal activities.

And, of course, the uranium cartel scandal. The government had passed an order-in-council in September, 1976, forbidding any discussion of the documents involved. This meant the Opposition was prevented from seeing documents available in the U.S. to the Moss congressional committee, the courts and the press. MPs were effectively stopped from doing their job. Most importantly, it provided another instance of the press being denied reports without which it could not do its job — to investigate the cartel.

The central point of the recent scandals is that they form the same pattern that existed in the United States which led to

Watergate and Nixon's fall. The American Freedom of Information Act has revealed, among other things, Nixon's hate list.

The Americans got their Freedom of Information Act in 1966, and then amendments in 1974 to strengthen the Act and truly make information available. There were objections from the executive branch and the bureaucrats. President Gerald Ford vetoed the 1974 amendments. In the United States, legislation came from congress, despite the executive objections, because of the separation of powers under the U.S. Constitution. In Canada the executive controls parliament and the introduction of legislation rests with the cabinet.

For the past year, the federal government has been promising action:

- On Feb. 12, 1976, the House of Commons unanimously endorsed the principle of freedom of information;

- In May, 1976, then House leader Mitchell Sharp said the government was drafting FoI legislation;

- In October, 1976, a speech from the throne promised the government would introduce a green paper on access to public documents. This meant that, instead of legislation, we were going to have a policy paper and a discussion of proposals.

Rubbing salt into the wounds it had inflicted on FoI advocates, the government got around to introducing the green paper, entitled *Legislation on Public Access to Government Documents*, only in June, 1977, 8 1/2 months after it was promised. And at that the paper was merely tabled in the House of Commons, not put forward for debate. This means that the paper was not referred to committee for public discussion.

The key to all this delay rests in the green paper itself. The document goes into detail about the problems in formulating an FoI act: timeliness (How long should it take a request to be filled?), accountability (Is the civil servant responsible and to what extent?), reproduction costs (How much should it cost to search out information?) and exemptions.

Exemptions pose the most serious problem. Everyone admits that they are necessary, but the green paper, in outlining nine areas of exemption, places most information outside the power of the proposed law. It also gives the minister charged with administering the law broad discretionary powers to impose exemptions in individual cases.

The green paper also fails to deal clearly with such matters as national security, international affairs, and crim-

inal and investigatory files. The latter category of files, for example, does not need to be exempt in every case. No one is trying to impede police investigations, but surely there should be a limit on the amount of time required to obtain a file. The U.S. FoI law allows for this and many files have been obtained from the FBI with sources of information deleted.

I mentioned earlier the discretion of the minister to exempt documents. This is a critical issue: who will have the right to review documents in the event that someone appeals a denial of information? The minister? The courts? An independent tribunal? FoI advocates say this is the main block to enactment of legislation: the controversy over the choice between ministerial responsibility and judicial review.

A minister is responsible to Parliament and to Parliament alone. The government of the day is formed by the majority in Parliament. In theory, civil servants are responsible to the minister. This is the theory of ministerial responsibility and this responsibility, argues the green paper, must not be dispersed. This, it says, would be contrary to our traditions and the British North America Act.

The green paper puts forward five options for review. The parliamentary option would have Parliament itself debate and rule on denials of information. Under another option, an information auditor would report to Parliament once a year on requests denied. A third option would endow an advisory information commissioner with the power to hear cases and to report publicly, but leave the final decision with the minister. The terms of a fourth option would give such an information commissioner the power to order the minister to release information. Finally, appeal to the courts is set forth as an option.

The fourth and fifth options mentioned above are ruled out by the green paper as being incompatible with ministerial responsibility, but FoI advocates strongly disagree. The Canadian Bar Association, Gerald Baldwin, professor Donald Rowat (an information expert of more than 20 years' standing), Access lawyer Peter Rock and many others — all say that, for any information legislation to be worth a hoot, there must be a form of review which will remove from the political arena and into the hands of an impartial observer.

Proponents of ministerial responsibility say the minister is responsible only to parliament. Mitchell Sharp argues in favour of an ombudsman to review cases and publicize the results. Sharp says it is to Parliament that the minister is

responsible and, if he makes a bad decision, he can be questioned by members of the House. If the people disagree with the minister, the government can be turned out at election time.

Sharp's argument does not stand up. Look at all the cases *last year* in which the government has withheld information through cabinet solidarity and government control of the House. Also, with the length of time between elections, it is obvious a case of government wrongdoing could easily be forgotten by the electorate.

Sharp also argues against the courts, saying a judge is not qualified to make a decision on a sensitive document as he would not be aware of all the facts and extenuating circumstances to hand! The green paper makes the same argument.

Peter Rock, in arguing for the courts, says: "The important point regarding the security of the public domain and information legislation from a legal point of view appears to be the fact that parliamentary democratic tradition dictates that the legislature enact legislation, Ministers administer and interpret legislation, and that Courts independently review Ministerial interpretation The legal and economic reasoning here is that no Minister should act as both defendant and judge."

Professor Rankin of the Canadian Bar Association strongly disagrees. "The incredible assertion that no judicial officer can be properly made aware of all the factors to take into consideration in a freedom of information decision must be

FoI Organizations

The following groups have been formed to fight for freedom of information legislation:

Freedom of Information Association

c/o Consumers' Assn of Canada
163 West Hastings St, Room 106
Vancouver, B.C.
V6B 1H5

Ontario Freedom of Information Committee

c/o Irene Stein
152 Cactus Avenue, Apt. 34
Willowdale, Ont.
M2R 2V3

Access

P.O. Box 855, Stn. B
Ottawa, Ont.
K1P 5P9

Accès-Québec

c/o Dana Doiron
615 Dorchester Ouest, Suite 1200
Montréal, Québec
H3B 1P5

based on one of two assumptions. Either the evidence of arguments that a minister can advance to support non-disclosure are so insubstantial or ephemeral that he could never hope to persuade an independent person of their worth, or, alternatively, a judge lacks the intelligence or capacity to understand the evidence or arguments to give them appropriate weight. That either argument could be seriously advanced by a present day government is eloquent evidence of its determination to avoid any meaningful legislation on the subject," says Rankin.

Baldwin and Hnatyshyn say independent review is the key to a good act. The review should be binding, once law, on whomever forms the government. The tendency to want to withhold information is not exclusively a trait of the Liberals.

Despite all the talk of good intentions, despite the green paper, despite the enormous amount of support for such legislation, it is still anybody's guess as to when Canada may have a freedom of information law.

Freedom of information is an idea whose time has *more* than come. In Nova Scotia an Act has been passed (though not yet proclaimed). In Prince Edward Island a bill has been introduced and is expected to pass when the legislature next sits. Ontario has named a royal commission to study the question. In almost every province private members' bills have been put forward.

Sweden has had the right to know since 1809. Australia is about to introduce a Freedom of Information Act. In Great Britain a wide public campaign is underway. Legislation is expected after the reform of the British Official Secrets Act.

The time has come to bring the curtain of secrecy tumbling down once and for all.

The government can show its good faith by bringing in legislation in the fall session. It should allow independent review and prove conclusively that it truly does have the best interests of Canadians at heart.

In the words of James Madison (from a letter written in 1822),

"A popular government without popular information or the means of acquiring it is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy, or perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance; and the people who mean to be their own Governors, must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives." 30

Letters

LOTS OF LETTERS FROM OTHERS, BUT NO COMMENT FROM THE INTELLIGENCER

The *Intelligencer* yarn in your September/October issue was a good one. All true, but perhaps only three quarters as bad as it was. It's unfortunate the union-busting mess and the lack of backing by the ME of city staff could not be told at the same time. But it would take a book.

You would have experienced a satisfied "good job done" feeling had you seen that mag, and that story, whip around the newsroom at *The Beacon Herald*. A lot of: "Oh my God! Was it that bad? I don't believe it! For shame!"

And of course there were comments — with which I agree — that it happens everywhere, at every paper.

Algis Zabas,
The Beacon Herald
Stratford, Ont.

Re *Content* no. 78.

I am amazed that *Content* would use up 151 inches on its Belleville *Intelligencer* story in *Content* no. 78.

John Asling may be excused for his "disillusion." After all, he only spent 8 months in the business and perhaps had not had a chance to learn that his report on *The Intelligencer* could be applied, changing only the names, to all but a half-dozen of Canada's other English-language dailies.

If he had read them all for a week — as I have — and still thought *The Intelligencer* worthy of 7,000 words, I might be more impressed. I might even understand why *Content's* editor could go along with this long report.

Content could contribute much to the improvement of Canadian journalism if it took Asling's story as a mere for-instance and assigned somebody competent to look at the same problems in the other dailies of this country.

The one surprising thing in Asling's piece was the comment that *The Intelligencer* has an editorial staff of 12. I would have bet that most Thomson papers had no more than 6 on staff: a managing editor, a wire editor, a sports editor, a woman's editor and two general purpose juniors.

In order of their importance to the Thomson organization I'd rank them:

1. the wire editor — he trims *CP* copy to fill in the spaces around the ads;
2. the sports editor — he writes about 60% of what appears as local news, in-

cluding puffs for the stock car track;

3. the women's editor, who fills in around the special ads on a half-page daily and a page-and-a-half Saturday;

4. the two general purpose juniors who re-hash the handouts which appear as local news coverage.

The managing editor is, of course, the contact man with the publisher, the advertising manager (the *real* power) and the influential local sources.

But *The Intelligencer* is no worse than 75 or 80 other dailies.

And that's the really disillusioning story.

T.M. Ferguson
St. Catharines, Ont.

Thank you for the 'plug' in our *Enterprise Holidays* on page 25 in the article on backscratch journalism in the September/October edition of *Content*.

I'm enclosing without comment a clipping from *The Toronto Star* that I thought you might want to add to your collection.

Steve Howe, P.R. Officer,
British Airways,
Toronto, Ont.

A first for Toronto its own Jaeger store

Some 90 years ago, L.R.S. Tomalin, the founder of the Jaeger woollens shop in England enunciated his philosophy this way: "Jaegers does not sell clothes. . . they dress ladies and gentlemen."

Tomalin had become an enthusiast of "Dr. Jaeger's Sanitary Woolen System" which argued that wool was healthier and longer lasting than any manmade fibre — and from that health cult a great fashion house grew.

Torontonians will no longer have to travel to England to get the full line of Jaeger sportswear because the first

Jaeger store in Canada opens its doors in the Toronto Eaton Centre mall tomorrow.

A by-invitation-only English hunt breakfast in the Empress Room of the Park Plaza Hotel will unveil Jaeger's fall collection tomorrow. The breakfast of beef Wellington, terrines, beef and kidneys in rice topped up with champagne starts at 5.30 and the show at 6.45 p.m.

Diners (or should they be called breakfasters?) will witness a fast-paced choreographed military show with some romantic and low key moments set to classical refrains.

ANOTHER BOOST FOR OUT-OF-CITY NEWS

Alan Bartley covered the points well in his article on district reporting (November *Content*).

District reporting adds a dimension to a paper's view of life.

Once, though, it merely gave me the chance to practice my typing.

One night I hurried back to my bureau, wrote a story on a city council meeting (a courier would drive by at 5:30 p.m.) and phoned it in to a copyboy about 10 p.m., 45 minutes before deadline, only to be told the story wasn't urgent. It could wait a day.

With nearly 25 hours before the next deadline, I learned I could rehash my fresh news story of Tuesday night into a stale think-piece for Thursday morning.

Meanwhile, the competition, a reporter from a daily of 5,000 circulation — ours was 80,000 — phoned several council members the next morning, put some pieces together and ran an article that afternoon. My think-piece still awaited the 5:30 courier.

My experience impressed upon me the need for good out-of-city coverage. In fact, much of it already rises above weddings (as if written by a stenographer) and traffic accidents (as if taken down by a copyboy).

Regional coverage of conservation, labor and planning has given distinctive character to the news and editorial pages of, for example, the *Winnipeg Free Press* and the *Sacramento Bee*, both in vast trade and farming regions.

Few papers with such strong bonds to their many communities need fear hard times.

Alan Hensher,
Los Angeles, CA,
USA.

FIRES ON DISTANT HILLS

I found your interesting little paper in the bus station. It's funny how our press only seems to be interested in things like bilingual, metric and separation.

Truly, there's nothing of *real* interest anywhere here but full bellies. The above mentioned topics remind me of the ancient device of lighting fires on distant hills to distract an unhappy populace from the major concern, an empty belly. Useful, certainly, only to an illiterate people.

The moral is: Don't be sucked in!
Too: No one over 70 in the obits. Why?
Tandy Smith.

NEW JOURNALISM PIONEERED DOWN EAST

Content has done a serious disservice to journalism in Atlantic Canada by attack-

ing newspapers here in its October issue. The writers have completely failed to appreciate the policies of these newspapers. They imply that they are lazy, stupid and arrogant. They say they are "pandering to local business and political interest groups." This is not the reason for the approach taken by these newspapers. Rather, they have developed a unique style of "stimulative journalism."

The aim of this type of journalism is to keep the reader alert at all times. What might seem like poor reporting or lousy copy-editing elsewhere is actually a clever way to get reader attention.

Over the past year, I have been collecting outstanding examples of "stimulative journalism" in the region. Where else would a story about Bert Lance carry the heading: "Communists demand Lance resign"? This proved, on reading, to be about columnists protesting Mr. Lance's

behaviour.

Then there was another headline: "Optimistic haddock quota will be hiked." This immediately gets the reader's attention — have we discovered a way of determining whether fish are happy or unhappy? However, the optimist turned out to be the executive director of the Atlantic Fishermen's Association — and not the haddock.

Sometimes, the headlines catch the essence of a problem so well that you don't have to read the copy; for example: "Two-man patrols will require more officers."

Maritime newspapers seed deliberate mistakes through the pages to keep the reader alert. One story on an RCMP corporal reported that he was to stand trial in a case. It turned out that he was the investigating officer.

Then there was the story of an evangel-

ist who was described as a "guided missile pilot."

The concern of these papers for their readers is shown by the way they keep printing a story twice in the same edition to make sure that it is not missed.

Enough of this carping about the poor quality of the newspapers down here! Looking at them in a positive light, it's obvious that they are pioneering a new style of journalism. This approach is far in advance of anything being done elsewhere in Canada. There the reading public will get complacent and come to rely upon newspapers for factual, accurate news. They will become supine and intellectually lazy, while we lucky readers in Atlantic Canada will learn to take nothing that is printed in the papers for granted.

Jim Lotz,
Halifax, N.S.

30

CP Picture of the Month



Photographer: Doug Griffin.
Newspaper: *The Toronto Star*.
Situation: After a gunman released two hostages in exchange for having a *Sun* photographer take pictures, Griffin suggested through police that he also take pictures if two more hostages would be released. The gunman

agreed and had one of his hostages kiss him on the cheek as the photos were taken. Two hostages were released and a few minutes later the gunman surrendered.

Award: *Canadian Press* "News Picture of the Month," October, 1977.

Congratulations: This space is contributed regularly in recognition of excellence in photojournalism by The Canadian Life Insurance Association, representing the life insurance companies of Canada.

NATIONAL BUSINESS WRITING AWARDS 1977

Entry Deadline: January 15, 1978

Entry forms for the sixth annual competition for business and financial writers will be available shortly in newsrooms and press clubs.



This annual competition is co-sponsored by the Toronto Press Club and



The Royal Bank of Canada.

FACTS

The journalist who wishes to be better informed about petroleum in a global context can tap BP Canada for a variety of background materials.

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BP Canada

Lee Lester

•ZURICH

Switzerland's biggest-selling daily, the 250,000-circulation *Tages Anzeiger*, is attacking government secrecy in the country.

Says the paper: "The great hopes which were once placed on a concerted information policy by the Swiss government have yielded to disenchantment.

"This is mainly because many of the leading officials and, in particular, the ministers themselves, have a strange relationship to journalists.

"They cannot grasp it is the task of the media to judge their remarks and decisions critically. If some discrepancies are pointed out, this is usually misunderstood as a personal attack."

Not so different from Ottawa, is it?

•ANTWERP

Eight of the nine journalists employed by *To The Point International*, based in Belgium, have been fired in a dispute over the use of alleged South African propaganda material.

The material was received from the parent magazine in Johannesburg and the journalists insisted on their right to rewrite it to make it acceptable to a non-South African audience.

They claimed that the copy was "generally written from a parochial, pro-government point of view." They had tried to preserve the international edition's "balance, accuracy and integrity."

To The Point International is a 45,000-circulation weekly published by Hubert G. Jussen, a Dutchman living in South Africa. He instructed the staff not to rewrite Johannesburg copy "to give it a different angle or political line."

When the staff objected to this, they were told either to accept the instruction or resign. All but one elected to be dismissed and were promptly ordered out of the magazine's premises.

Intervention by the Belgian Journalists' Union resulted in the dismissed journalists each being given four months salary.

Jussen said it was not the practice of his company to give in to ultimatums, especially where its principles were involved.

•NEW YORK

More than half the reporters on the *New York Post*, the evening acquired by Australian publisher Rupert Murdoch in January, signed a petition complaining of bias in the paper's coverage of the Demo-

cratic primary election for mayor of the city.

Murdoch's reply was swift — and typical. Anyone who felt his integrity was compromised by working on the paper could leave anytime, he said.

Post sales have risen from 480,000 to 650,000 since the Murdoch takeover.

•LONDON

The Reutersmessage caused flurries in newsrooms around the globe. It said West German Commandos were on their way to try and free the 86 hostages on the Lufthansa Boeing 707 jet hijacked to Magadishu.

It was followed 16 minutes later by a second message relaying a request to the agency by the West German government to refrain from reporting the movement.

The incident posed a basic ethical question for news editors everywhere. Should they hold back on publication and deprive their readers of what was obviously a major news item? Or should they publish and risk prejudicing the safety of the jet and its passengers?

Some papers in Canada were already running the story when the second message came in. *The Toronto Star*, for example, quickly pulled the story out of its next edition.

In London, however, the *Daily Telegraph* continued to run the story. It claimed the hold message was directed at radio stations rather than newspapers, which would not be on the streets till the following morning.

Reuters maintains it is not the agency's function to suppress news. "We sent out the news but we also sent the request to editors," it says. "From then, it was up to the conscience of each editor whether or not he printed the story."

Frankly, the Reuters defence is a cop-out. Its message could have been seen in a newsroom anywhere by a sympathiser of the hijackers who could then have relayed the information to the plane. This was clearly a case for the exercise of responsibility by the world's greatest news agency.

What would have been their defence if the hijackers had been warned and the raid had failed?

Sources for this column include UK Press Gazette, The Journalist, Editor & Publisher, and the London Sunday Times.

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Column by Richard Labonté

Allan Fotheringham's observation in *Maclean's* a few months ago that national unity is the hottest growth industry around was, as usual, as wise as it was witty.

Quebec's aspirations haven't hurt the news business, for sure: more reporters have been sent to Quebec to file more stories back to non-Quebec, and Quebec has given both newspapers and magazines a handy continuing crisis to sensationalize or analyze, depending on their bent.

But Confederation's cause has also become something of a speciality business: it has spawned publications all its own.

One, *Opinion Canada*, is wretched; a second, *Report on Confederation*, is welcome.

First, the worst.

Opinion Canada is a mouse of a magazine produced by the government-funded and business-controlled Council for Canadian Unity. The Council has been in operation for about 14 years, but went public — and preachy — only after the Parti Quebecois win last November.

The bimonthly periodical is a shrill shill for national unity, no crime in itself except that it masquerades as public service when it is in fact propaganda.

The December issue, for example, featured:

- A shamelessly superficial study of what nine of Canada's prime ministers have had to say about national unity.
- An equally slight study of what premiers besides René Lévesque have had to say about Quebec: nothing more than out-of-context quotes strung together without context.
- A breathless recital of the federal government's initiatives on the unity front: "Like a car put together with spare parts, the Unity Machine does not have much style or smoothness, but is on the road, and picking up steam."

A better magazine — the second issue is now available — is Tim Creery's *Report on Confederation*. Like *Opinion Canada*, it operates from a base of deeply-felt anti-separatism, but Creery seems to prefer dialogue to the monotonous monologue of his competition.

The writing — most in the first issue by professional journalists, not by public relations flacks — is a credible blend of news and analysis, bringing together unity proponents like Anthony Westell, Peter Cowan and Don McGillivray with Pequiste supporters such as Evelyn Dumas.

If Creery can remain impartial without becoming imperious, if his magazine can continue to speak with several voices without compromising its editorial perspective, *RoC* will fill a gap in the Canadian magazine field.

The Ontario government is gambling that lottery tickets can support both the dreams of the common folk and the reach of Canadian culture.

A lottery ticket redemption scheme — the HalfBack program, so-called because 50 cents of each \$1 ticket is involved — starts Jan. 20, intended to boost sales of Canadian books and participating magazines.

The program is risky for the Ministry of Culture and Recreation: if it's ignored, they've flopped; if response is high, the Wintario Corporation's revenues won't be as heady as they now are, because the redemption value of each ticket equals almost exactly the profit on each ticket.

And surely the psychology — encouraging the public to keep losing tickets — is wrong when possible wins rather than piled-up losses are what any lottery wants the public to think about.

It's to the ministry's credit that these arguments were overcome: the program includes about 120 magazine titles — from across Canada, not just from Ontario — and almost any Canadian-authored book in print.

Periodicals, books and news releases which must be sent for comment should be mailed to Richard Labonté, Tatty Hill, RR #2, Calabogie, Ont. K0J 1H0. 30

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SUITS (cont. from page 5)

That makes it a landmark decision for freedom of the press in Canada. Mr. Justice V.A. Morrison's written reasons for judgement are very interesting, for they agree that what Dr. Epstein said about Dr. Barltrop was defamatory — but the judge goes on to say, in effect, that Dr. Barltrop asked for it.

Mr. Justice Morrison pointed out that on at least three occasions — one of them after the *CBC* program had been broadcast — Dr. Barltrop had been brought to Toronto by the lawyers for the lead companies. He had appeared at press conferences organized by the lead companies. He had testified before public health authorities, on behalf of lead companies. And he was paid \$1,000 a day, plus expenses, every time he opened his mouth.

"Dr. Barltrop's evidence," said Mr. Justice Morrison in his written judgement, "although he appeared to me to be evasive when the question was put to him directly, seems to indicate that he appeared at the request of and on behalf of Canada Metal Company Ltd. Although it may not be a proper conclusion to say that he was paid to say what he said, nevertheless he would not have been called unless the companies were aware of what he was about to say."

The judge said he was satisfied that Dr. Barltrop was "a very competent and a very learned man in his own particular field of study," but he cited several legal precedents and added:

"Dr. Barltrop entered into the forum of public discussion on the question of lead poisoning, which was and is a highly controversial matter and which is subject to opposing views by expert witnesses. He must, consequently, having entered the ring, be prepared to accept the blows given him.

"I do not think that the comments made...constitute a deliberate and improper attack on him. It is clear that the doctor accepted fees of \$1,000 per day and expenses for his appearances to give testimony when called by the metal companies, and, as a matter of fact, did this on more than one occasion.

"What else then can be expected but that someone might very well allege that he is getting paid to say what he said? The very least that can be said is that experts, once they elect to testify in a public forum, leave themselves open to a certain amount of criticism. I think it is also fair to say that the climate in which the statements are made by the experts may very well form a justifiable base for exaggerated criticism."

The judge concluded that after careful study of the entire transcript of the *CBC*

broadcast, "I have reached the conclusion that the statements complained of were fair comment made in good faith and without malice on a matter of public interest."

The story is not yet over, of course. The lead companies have appealed Mr. Justice Morrison's decision, but now the onus is on them. For the first time in four years, their lawyers are not cracking the whip for everyone else to jump to.

And as for that \$16,000,000 price-tag on freedom of speech — forget it. Or rather, let the lead companies forget it. An out-of-court settlement is in the air, and the final amount will not be in the millions. Not after a judgement like this one.

Alan Anderson has worked for the Toronto Telegram, the Toronto Star and The Toronto Sun and for CTV and the CBC. 30

CHAMPIONS (cont. from page 7)

The meeting of the senior editors reportedly took place in a room known as the Golden Garter at The Golden Steer steakhouse on Dundurn Street in the west end of Hamilton, not far from *The Spectator's* new building.

Senior editors contacted by *Content* denied attending a meeting at The Golden Steer.

However, city editor John Gibson said: "You have the wrong place."

In the same context, Beer admitted that the name and picture issue had been discussed at a meeting, but did not specify where the meeting had taken place. "Sure the subject came up," he said.

District editor Bill Dunfield said: "It's an internal matter. I'm neither confirming nor denying it."

Gibson said: "I'm not prepared to comment. This just isn't for public consumption. It's an internal matter we have going here."

Finally, Austin was asked if he had signed a document protesting the exercise of special privileges by *Spectator* management in removing a picture from *The Spectator*.

He replied: "I know what you are referring to. My position on that is that we are having an internal conflict which we don't want to air in public."

One thing, at least, is clear from this repeated confirmation of an internal conflict: All is certainly not happy in the space-age newsroom of *The Spectator* in Hamilton. — K.P. 30

OMNIUM (cont. from page 16)

request that the sports editor be excluded from the bargaining unit.



Gord Brooks of Port Colborne (right), a former Chatham bureau reporter for *The London Free Press*, gets an appreciative chuckle as he recalls a humorous incident of the past during the Kent Press Reunion, Oct. 28-29 in Chatham, Ont. His audience, from left: former *Chatham Daily News* city editor **Ted Karry**, now of Union Gas Co. Ltd., former *Chatham Daily News* city editor **Richard Doyle**, now editor of *The Globe & Mail*, **Edna Jean Dalgleish**, women's editor of the *Chatham Daily News*, and former *Chatham Daily News* sports writer **Cam Norton** now in the

press gallery at Queen's Park for *The Windsor Star*.

The Chatham Daily News continues *The Planet*, a weekly founded in 1851 by **Jacob A. Dolsen** and **Miles Miller**. It became *The Daily Planet* in 1891.

At a weekend meeting Nov. 18-20 in Ottawa, the board of directors of the **Media Club of Canada** voted to enlarge the club's newsletter from four to eight pages, to reduce membership fees from \$50 to \$35, and to implement spending cuts at the national office.

John Austin has moved from *CJCS-AM* in Stratford to the newsroom of Ottawa's *CFGO-AM*.

The Steel City Gazette, a new Hamilton weekly, has folded after four issues. **Andrew Krasuski**, president, said the newspaper has been forced from the market by the failure to reach an agreement with a prospective partner in the company.

The West

Pleading a conflict of interest, Alberta Press Council chairman-elect **George McClellan**, who was to have taken office Jan. 1, has resigned. McClellan is a former commissioner of the RCMP.

CKCK Radio news director **Roger Currie** has replaced **Ron Hill** as RTNDA prairie director for radio. Hill left *CFRW-AM*, Winnipeg, to go to *CJOB-AM*, Winnipeg.

Don Brinton, general manager of *CKND-TV* Winnipeg, has been elected president of the Manitoba Association of Broadcasters. Other officers elected are: vice-president **Red Hughes**, *CFRY* Portage la Prairie; secretary-treasurer **Elmer Hildebrand**, *Radio Southern Manitoba*; and director **Jim Purvis**, *CKY-TV* Winnipeg.

The Calgary Press Club 1977-78 executives are **Bob Bell**, president; **Ralph Melnychuk**, vice-president; **Dick Cowie**, secretary; **Mike Mason**, treasurer. Past president, **Herb Legg**, will be active on the board, heading committees on by-laws and Press Club Canada.

Gordon Bullock, general manager of the Hamilton *Spectator*, has been appointed assistant publisher of the *Edmonton Journal*.

B.C.

The *Vancouver Sun & Province*, last letterpress dailies in B.C., are in the process of changing over to Di-Litho. One press is expected to be changed fully over to the lithographic process by mid-January.

CKO-Vancouver went on air as scheduled Nov. 21. News director of the westernmost station in Canada's first all-news radio network is **Cam Scott**.

Reg Reynolds, five year sports reporter and columnist for the *Victoria Colonist* is now sports reporter for the *Sportscaster* in Victoria.

Omnium

The *Juan de Fuca News* tabloid in Victoria has gone to broadsheet and editor **Blaire McKenzie** has retired after nine years to free lance. New editor is **Shane McCune**, and new on reporting staff is **Bryden Turner**.

The *Vancouver Sun* won the sixth annual Michener Award for a story about the illegal police break-in of Agence de Presse Libre du Quebec. The award, created by the former governor-general in 1971, is presented for meritorious public service in journalism by Press Club Canada. Honorable mention this year went to the *London Free Press* for a series of articles on the city's skid row.

Lois Hughes, formerly news editor, is managing editor of the *Castlegar News*.

The North

At *CFYK-CBC Radio* in Yellowknife: **Lin Moody** became the station's first public affairs department researcher. Lin was media liaison officer for Carleton University and Ottawa contributing editor for *Content*. **Aggie Brockman** is the station's new editorial assistant, leaving the *Beacon Herald* in Stratford as city hall and sports reporter. **Chris Brown** left Whitehorse to be an announcer-producer and host of Mackenzie-AM. **Marie Wilson** and **Bill Crossman** are news editor-reporters. Marie left the *Regina Leader Post* as general assignment reporter and Bill resigned as city news reporter for the *plain dealer* in Fredericton. **Jim Antoine**, previously a commercial fisherman and chief of the Fort Simpson Dene Band, joined *CFYK* as an announcer-operator. **John Murphy** left *CBC Yellowknife* to be an editor with The House, *CBC's* Saturday morning coverage of the House of Commons proceedings. **Larry Sanders**, now senior editor in Thunder Bay, has been replaced in *CBC's* Inuvik newsroom by **Steve Housser**, who left a reporting job in Ottawa with *Newsradio*. **Al Baxter** has transferred to *CBC-Radio* news in Ottawa.

The thrice-weekly *Whitehorse Star* went daily Nov. 12, with a small addition to its staff. Publisher **Paul Erlam** said: "We were putting out between 120 and 130 pages a week and in order to grow" the *Star* would have to go daily. On Oct. 31 Erlam said circulation had risen by 1,000 in the previous 2 or 3 months. "It would be really easy to put out your typical small town daily, with lots of national and international wire service stories filling the pages instead of local news. But we're not going to do that."

The weekly *Yukon News*, which changed hands in October, announced Nov. 2 that it will go daily in March.

Erratum

A Lede Copy story in August's *Content* ("Scifacts greeted by big yawn in newsrooms", p. 6) referred to "225 print and electronic newsrooms in Quebec." We should have said "25 print and electronic newsrooms."

30

Classified

TELEPHONE ORDERS NOW ACCEPTED. Until Jan. 6 (guaranteed insertion), Jan. 9 (insertion not guaranteed) for next issue. Distrib. Jan. 17. First 20 words, including address, free up to three consecutive issues. Each additional word, 25¢ per insertion. Indicate boldface words. Display heads: 14-pt., \$1 per word; 18-pt., \$1.50 per word. Box number, \$2.50.

Jobs Available

Editor sought for NDP, left biweekly published in Regina. All editorial skills required, including some photography. Salary related to qualifications. Write to: Editor Committee, 1630 Quebec St., Regina S4P 1J2. 51-82

Jobs Wanted

Who can use me on a weekly or daily? 31-year-old male with some experience on large weekly. Has two-way man abilities and good education. Call (416) 621-1942 collect. 47-81

Bright, ambitious reporter seeks challenging job in writing/research field. Good portfolio. Experienced in print/radio/TV production. Has Journalism degree. Call Dana Flavelle, (416) 233-9900. 48-81

Otherum

"WORDS FOR SALE"

The Periodical Writers Association of Canada presents "Words for Sale," an informal seminar on freelance magazine writing. Not a course on how to write, but a hard-nosed discussion of how to get into the magazine market — and how to make it pay. Featuring six of Toronto's most widely experienced freelancers. 2 p.m., Sunday, Jan. 15, OISE Auditorium, 252 Bloor St. W., Toronto. Advance tickets, \$5 from PWAC, Suite 514, 86 Bloor St. W., Toronto (416) 961-8665. \$6 at the door. 49-81

Arts Journalists!! Dance in Canada Conference, Vancouver, August 13-17, 1978. For info: C. Lee, 142 South Garden Drive, Van. B.C. V5L 4P4. 50-83

Omnium-Gatherum

Atlantic

Bill Rodgers leaves *CHNS-AM* Halifax to be a weekend newscaster at *CFRB* in Toronto.

Newly elected officers of the Atlantic Association of Broadcasters (AAB) are **Dr. Noel Murphy**, president of Humber Valley Broadcasting Ltd., president; **Merv Russell**, *CKCW* Moncton, N.B., vice-president; **Al MacRae**, *CHTN* Charlottetown, P.E.I., secretary; **Jack Fenety**, *CFNB* Fredericton, N.B., treasurer. AAB directors are **Ralph McLenaghan**, *CFBC* Saint John, N.B.; **Neil MacMullen**, *CKCL* Truro, N.S.; and **Joel Irvine**, *ATV* Television Moncton, N.B.

W.R. Anderson of Moncton's *ATV* system is new president of Press Club Canada, succeeding **Bob Weber** of the *London Free Press*. *The Ottawa Journal's* **Bob Wyatt** is secretary-treasurer and regional vice-presidents are

Larry Gunia of Regina; **Jim Blundell** of St. Catharines; and **Doreen Meltzer** of Saint John.

Quebec

Dave Chenoweth is the new entertainment editor of *The Gazette*.

Owner of Québecor Inc., **Pierre Péladeau**, enters the U.S. market with *The Philadelphia Journal*, expected to begin early in 1978 as a daily morning tabloid with heavy sports content. "We can count on a minimum circulation of 60,000 with a possibility of 100,000" says Péladeau.

Maurice Custeau has been appointed president of Société des Quotidiens Québecor Inc. and acting general manager of the daily *Journal de Montréal*. **Jacques Beauchamp**, the former GM, has been named editor of the new U.S. daily, *The Philadelphia Journal*.

In honor of long-time *Gazette* court reporter **Leon Levinson**, McGill University will give annually to a journalist or broadcaster who wishes to study law, the Leon Levinson Award. The value of the cash award will be based on income from a fund set up by Levinson's friends and associates to mark his 75th birthday last year. Levinson continues to report on courts for *The Gazette*.

CHOM-FM has decided to obey an Oct. 1, 1976 CRTC ruling requiring it to broadcast in English (see *Content's* Sept-Oct. issue, page 36). Program Director **Peggy Colston** said the CRTC ruling still permits one-quarter of the records broadcast and some interviews with French-speaking artists to be in French. Commercials have always been in English, she said. Station identification and time checks may still be bilingual. She estimated that 60 per cent of the station's listeners are French, while 90 per cent are bilingual. Seven French-language radio stations complained in the spring of 1976 that *CHOM's* experimental licence to broadcast bilingually amounted to unfair competition.

Ontario

After two years as the *CBC's* vice-president of program policy and development in Ottawa, **Lister Sinclair** becomes a producer in the national music department in Toronto, with the immediate task of doing a preliminary study and review of *CBC's* coverage of music and the arts.

Global Television Network has picked up an International Emmy award nomination for its documentary, *The Tides of War*. The film focuses on the internment of Japanese Canadians in camps in British Columbia during World War II.

Joining the flock of former news directors who have taken to the air as radio newscasters at Toronto's *CFRB* are **Bill Rodgers** of *CHNS* in Halifax and **Bill Walker**, most recently a TV MC.

Ten community colleges with journalism programs and Carleton University formed the **Ontario Journalism Education Association** Sept. 30 in Barrie, Ont. First president of OJEA is **Bob Huggan**, a journalism teacher at Loyalist College in Belleville.

The association defines its purpose as the improvement of faculty communication and the advancement of journalism "as a craft and as an industry."

The editorial staff of *The Daily Times*, a Thomson newspaper in Brampton, Ont., was certified as part of the Toronto Typographical Union Nov. 29 by the Ontario Labor Relations Board. A union spokesman said the board refused to defer certification despite a company



(See OMNIUM, page 15)