

content

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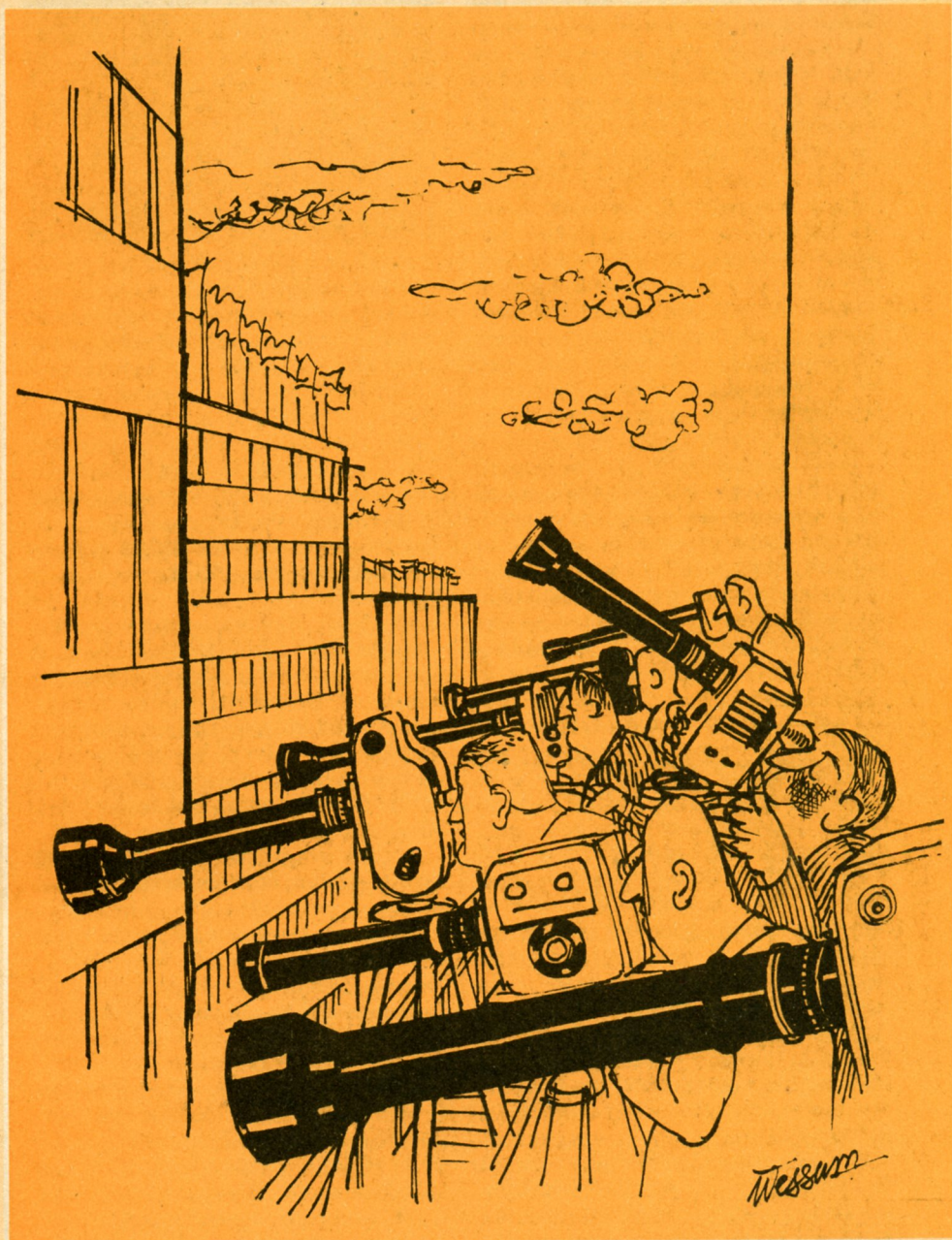
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And:
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COLUMNISTS PUNCH THE CLOCK • HIGH COST OF ETHICS
• NOW, THE MECHANICAL REPORTER? — ALL IN Lede Copy

Letters

WITNESSES' NAMES SHOULD BE PUBLISHED — REPORTER

As someone who sat through — and wrote on — the entire capital murder trial of Jon Rallo in Hamilton, I feel I should reply to Paul Kidd's accusation (PUBLIC SCRUTINY AS SPECTATOR SPORT," *Content* No. 81) against those who reported the name of one of the witnesses — Rallo's mistress. This letter is not in any way the opinion of *The Spectator*, but my own.

I advocated from the start that the name of the witness, who I shall refer to here as Mrs. X, should be printed. I felt her address (street name) should have been used and her picture as well.

I feel that decision was proved correct from a news point of view when during the trial the Crown asserted that the woman's relationship with Rallo had been one of the two prime motives for three murders. Clearly, she was an important figure in an important news story. Furthermore, it is interesting to note that the Crown, judging by Mrs. X's demeanour on the stand, suggested that the relationship might not yet be over.

I could not see leaving out the name of one witness in one trial, while allowing all other witnesses, in other trials and in this one, to be exposed to the glare of public scrutiny.

For the record, Mrs. X's relationship was well-known at city hall where she worked. Her husband knew. Her child is still only two years old and not yet in school.

I would just ask *Content* this: Should newspapers leave out the names of people because someone may be hurt by publicity? If it's a grey issue, who is going to decide? When is *Content* going to urge that names be protected?

As for Mr. Kidd's contention that a judge's request is almost as high as a sign from heaven, I feel it is only fair to say judges have no say in this type of matter under law and, in all due respect, it's not their business.

Now look at this particular case. The woman in question — was she just any woman? Aside from being the key witness in the trial, she was the wife of a policeman.

Is it surprising that the Crown asked that her name be left out? Is it surprising the Crown overlooked asking that the name of a second woman, who was also embarrassed by the social connection with a killer, be left out?

It is furthermore interesting that news-

papers and television in Hamilton for this major murder trial had no difficulty getting pictures of almost every witness they wanted in the case.

But in the case of Mrs. X, police took great pains to conceal her after her testimony and spirit her out of the building. Another reluctant witness, a guard at the municipal dump who for some reason didn't want his picture taken, had to devise his own means of escape from the cameras.

Then we get to the question of the judge's request.

First, it was a request.

Second, it followed a lengthy plea by the Crown and a concurrence from the defence.

In this case the Crown and defence cooperated rather effectively in such a way that certain embarrassing information (evidence?) which had been brought out in the preliminary did not reach the ears of the jury. For what purpose I don't know.

But that aside, simply because the Crown and defence chose to cooperate to pass over embarrassing information (and to get names withheld from the public at large), there can be no excuse for the press following suit — even at the request of the judge.

Mr. Kidd, of course, was not in court while the judge was making his "request" and does not appear to have interviewed him later. I was in court.

I had the feeling he was making his request partly because he had genuine compassion for the predicament of Mrs. X, but primarily because the request had been put to him by the Crown.

It was a request that I, for one, would have to decline in order to remain consistent to my own beliefs — to my duty.

At times, as you are aware, the press and the judiciary find their ways parting. I have read numerous tributes to brave reporters willing to be jailed rather than acquiesce to commands — far less requests — from judges.

And then we see Mr. Kidd's reference to such a decision to publish, not as a positive act, but merely as: "The *Spectator* in Hamilton, *The Toronto Sun*, and Hamilton radio stations *CHML* and *CKOC* ignored the judicial request."

I can assure you, that just isn't so. The city editor of *The Spectator* himself was in court at the time the request was made,

(See **LETTERS**, page 12)

content

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TECHNOLOGY PUTS NEWSROOM ON THE SPOT

TORONTO — A briefcase-size portable machine may revolutionize coverage of events by reporters. The machine, the Printercom, doubles as a typewriter and copysender-receiver.

It uses household current to type copy, but the copy is stored in an electronic memory which can be activated by batteries. It can thus be taken to a phone anywhere in the world and with the press of a button the stored copy can be transmitted to a receiver. The speed of transmission can dramatically cut the cost of long-distance phonecalls.

Copy can also be transmitted as it is typed or, if the memory is used, can be recalled for editing. The machine can also be used to receive, so that messages can be passed to the reporter operating the Printercom.

The manufacturers, Spectronics, of Poole, Dorset, England, say the Printercom will transmit at three times the speed of Telex, thus cutting cable costs. Later models may run entirely on batteries or through 12-volt lighter sockets in cars.

A built-in error-detecting system prints a dash where a character is distorted by a poor quality line. If a poor line results in a garbled message, the machine's memory will enable the message to be retransmitted without it being retyped.

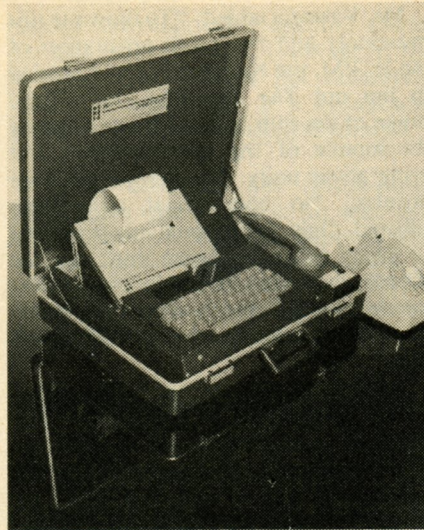
Cost of the Printercom in the UK is £3,000 for one sender and receiver. The system can be hooked into existing computer set-ups.

Apart from savings in transmission costs, the machine, because it delivers typed copy, obviates the need for a copy-taker.

DISAGREEMENT OVER ETHICS COSTS PLENTY

OTTAWA — A disagreement over ethics resulted in a three-day suspension in October for Ottawa *Citizen* reporter Katie FitzRandolph.

City editor Gordon Fisher told FitzRandolph to do a background piece on three Ottawa doctors who were charged with defrauding the Ontario Health Insurance Plan, apparently unaware that



Printercom

a ban on publication had been invoked in one case. FitzRandolph refused to do the story, citing ethical grounds. She says publication of any story would "jeopardize their (the doctor's) right to a fair trial."

Fisher says FitzRandolph did not object when she was assigned the story on Oct. 12. She told him the piece wouldn't be ready in time for the evening edition, so it was slated to appear in the next night's paper.

The lead story on the charges appeared in the Oct. 13 editions of *The Citizen* without any background. After missing the early edition FitzRandolph told Fisher the piece would be ready for the Capital edition. After doing a few more checks she went back to the city editor and voiced her objections to the story.

Fisher suspended her for insubordination for Oct. 14, 17 and 18.

The background was put through an assistant city editor, but was never assigned and never appeared.

FitzRandolph is president of the *Citizen* local of the Newspaper Guild and feels her suspension may be related to this, a charge which Fisher denies.

The Guild immediately filed a grievance with the Ontario Labour Relations Board and took out an ad in the Nov. 3 *Citizen* denouncing the suspension without mentioning Fisher by name.

The Guild was also expected to take the matter to arbitration.

"I feel justified. I'd never suspend a reporter unless it were a necessary thing to do", Fisher said. "Part of the problem is that a reporter said to a city editor 'I

refuse' after twenty-four hours on the assignment."

FitzRandolph is hoping the next contract the Guild negotiates with *The Citizen* will include a clause that will permit reporters to refuse assignments they find distasteful. At present, she says, there is a conflict between one's conscience and one's employer over objectionable stories. That conflict cost her three days' pay. — Paul Park.

COLUMNISTS GET FIRST CONTRACT

VANCOUVER — Six freelance writers have won an unusual first contract with the *Vancouver Sun* and *Province*, under Newspaper Guild aegis.

The B.C. Labor Relations Board had classified the regular freelancers as "dependent contractors" under the labor code and eligible for certification.

An outside mediator then worked out an agreement rating the five *Province* writers individually according to the number of the hours worked each week — food columnist James Barber was rated a 30-hours-a-week employee while critic Art Perry was classified as 15 hours weekly. They will be paid regular Guild rates according to their experience, along with other benefits.

The sixth writer, Lloyd Dyck of the *Sun*, retains the "freelancer" label and will be paid per item. — Nick Russell.

OWNER SAYS JOURNALISTS CORRUPT

MANILA — The Philippine Council for Print Media (PCPM), a powerful association of publishers of leading dailies and magazines, has issued a sweeping indictment of the professional and ethical values of Filipino journalists.

The litany of damning accusations, bitterly described by a local columnist as libellous, appeared as a front-page "guest editorial" in the Sept. 26 issue of *Economic Monitor*, an obscure fortnightly paper. Surprisingly, it failed to land in the pages of the bigger dailies owned or controlled by leading figures behind the PCPM.

Portions of the PCPM "white paper"

Lede Copy

follow:

•“Government officials have not outgrown their weakness for self-publicity. It is no secret that officials pay to glorify themselves. Towards this end, they employ press relations officers, who may or may not be active newspapermen.”

•“In the private sector, businessmen maintain secret payrolls that include sacrosanct names in Philippine journalism: pristine-pure editors, ‘hard-hitting’ columnists, the female chorus, and the run-of-the-mill correspondents.”

•“The news desk is also a source of corruption. The good beats are given to reporters who are willing to share their ‘take’ with the desk. Photographers sent to cover VIPs are expected to share with the desk whatever good fortune comes their way. Ditto with reporters.”

•“Reporters may show their copy to the government agency or official before submitting it to the desk. Stories critical of an agency or official may undergo a change for a ‘fee.’ Insignificant press releases are published and the news clippings are shown to the official who then properly compensates it.”

•“Ad agencies keep reporters also on their payrolls, setting aside sums for ‘representation.’”

•“The sports beat and the business beat are two of the most notorious beats in local journalism. Sports writers are fawned upon by businessmen with sports teams to promote. They know exactly whom to give their ‘envelopes’ to in order to get the widest publicity. It is open knowledge that sports columnists and editors are among the most spoiled of the lot and a curiosity survey would reveal that many of them on this beat drive cars that they could not otherwise buy on their legitimate pay. These cars are gifts of businessmen.”

Teodoro F. Valencia, widely acknowledged as the country’s leading columnist, has taken issue with the PCPM’s portrayal of the working newsman as a corrupted and corruptive force.

He blames the PCPM’s unbridled grasping for profit as one of the causes of the deterioration of the quality of the Philippine press today.

In one of his columns, Mr. Valencia said: “Newspaper readers may not know it but the quality of the Philippine press today is below par not because the government controls the press but more because the publishers have put profit as the main objective of their publishing. They use the name of the President to borrow money, get contracts to sell the

government institutions, utilise government facilities and government-paid employees and then pocket the profits to give the cash generously to their favourites, not necessarily their employees.”

Mr. Valencia added: “To illustrate this monopoly and the profit-orientation of the PCPM, the National Press Club tried to put out *The Journalist*, an official organ of the club, a magazine to improve the morale of the newspapermen and bring about unity. The permit was conditional: No commercial advertising allowed. Only institutional ads permitted — which means newsmen must beg for support, just what the publishers say they should not do. That’s downright pettiness. Even crumbs, the PCPM won’t give.”

To back up his position, he has called on the government to require the publishers to publish their assets and liabilities before and after martial law so the people will know who got rich. He offered to testify in any investigation that will be conducted by the government into businesses of the publishers.

Newspapermen’s salaries are a raw nerve on the publishers’ side. Despite the series of salary increases granted to other professions and even ordinary labourers, Filipino newsmen are still getting one of the lowest pay scales in the country. One of the three biggest morning dailies gives its reporters a starting base pay of P 375 (C\$56) a month, only a few pesos higher than the street sweeper on a daily wage.

Mr. Valencia said: “According to the labour laws, a casual becomes a permanent employee with all the rights and privileges of regular employees after six months as casual. In the newspapers, a correspondent who does the regular work of a staffmember on a piece basis can remain ‘casual’ forever. The publishers, I say, are violating the labour laws with impunity, relying on their collective clout against the exploited and the Department of Labor that’s supposed to protect these correspondents.” — Lucino Rebamontan.

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AMNESTY INT’L

AN ISLAND FOR JOURNALISTS

On the Indonesian island of Buru there are enough journalists to form a club. They might not be permitted, though, because Buru Island is a prison for over 13,000 political prisoners. All the prisoners on the island are being held

without charge or trial, many of them for more than 10 years. The Indonesian government has repeatedly stated that it has no intention of trying the Buru prisoners, because it does not have enough evidence to do so.

Banda Harahap, aged 59, a well-known poet and journalist, is one of the Buru prisoners. He was arrested in October, 1965, after the abortive coup. At the time of his arrest he was cultural editor of the Communist Party newspaper *Harian Rakyat*. The paper was closed down and many of its staff detained, because the military administration claimed that the editors were implicated in the coup attempt. This charge rested solely on the fact that they had reported statements by the coup organizers favourably.

Banda Harahap is one of about 50,000 political detainees being held as “communists,” out of Indonesia’s population of 100,000 political prisoners. The broad allegation made against those journalists associated with newspapers which were banned after the attempted coup or with the national news agency, *Antara*, before it was purged is that their pro-national or pro-Communist writings helped to create a climate which favoured the coup attempt.

The Indonesian government has no intention of ever finding out the truth of these allegations. Instead, it appears to be trying to solve its political prisoner problem by transporting large numbers of prisoners from prisons in Java to Buru. It intends to increase the island prison population to 20,000 in the next 2 years.

The Indonesian government sees the Buru prisoners as part of a scheme of permanent “resettlement” on the island.

The Indonesian government sees the Buru prisoners as part of a scheme of permanent “resettlement” on the island. But it has failed to persuade the families of prisoners to join them there. Only 200 families have gone to the island since the Buru transportations began in 1969. Once there, the families are not allowed to leave.

Living conditions on the island are unsatisfactory. Mr. Harahap, like many others, suffers from ill-health. Prisoners are used as forced labour to produce their own food and that of the soldiers guarding them. This use of forced labour has been condemned by the International Labour Organization.

Amnesty International has also consistently condemned the Buru Island scheme. If you want more information, write Amnesty International, Canadian Section, 2101 Algonquin Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 1T1 — Jean Sonnenfeld.

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Column by Richard Labonté

The Ottawa tabloid which boasted at birth of becoming a blend of *The Globe and Mail* and *The Toronto Sun* was looking more like the *National Enquirer* as the new year started.

With this difference: the *National Enquirer* is likely to survive.

Ottawa Today's shift to more sensational news at the expense of thoughtful coverage was an inevitable result of the tabloid's journalistic schizophrenia.

A set of reporters and editors prepared to offer high-quality news ran into the realities of the low-quality readership *Today* needed to carve out for itself in what is already a newspaper-saturated city.

In December alone, assignment editor Colin MacKenzie was told to write a daily column or sit on the news desk; entertainment editor Jacob Siskind quit as popular rather than classical culture was ordered onto his pages; business editor Earl Green resigned rather than move onto the newsdesk as part of a cost-cutting measure; Parliament Hill reporter Kitty McKinsey was told before she left for Christmas holidays that her sort of services might no longer be required; and rumors were certainly not abating that editor Charles King — who hoped to oversee that *Globe-Sun* blend — was on the list of people unlikely to fit into *Today's* more rough-and-tumble image.

Another sign of a lagging circulation, besides an effort to save on staff salaries, was the paper's decision to start home circulation in January. As of late December, about 200 delivery orders had been received in the first area selected for delivery service — from 8,000 potential subscribers.

Today's problem from the start, the reason it faltered and will perhaps fail, was its lack of personality: it was not a newspaper people talked about.

There is a new emphasis now on chatty newspaper columns, elderly-woman-bites-dog stories, front-page girlie photos and exclamation marks on the editorial page. The paper has more personality.

And less news, a shrinking and disillusioned staff, and still not enough readers.

Praise is long overdue for *Fugue*, a two-year-old music magazine which may become as important outside Canada as in Canada, a feat performed by few Canadian publications.

The film journal *Take One* has broken that nationalism barrier and become a re-

spected international magazine; *Fugue* has that same potential. Coverage of the classical music field is not exclusively Canadian; even better, it is written and presented with some wit and much style.

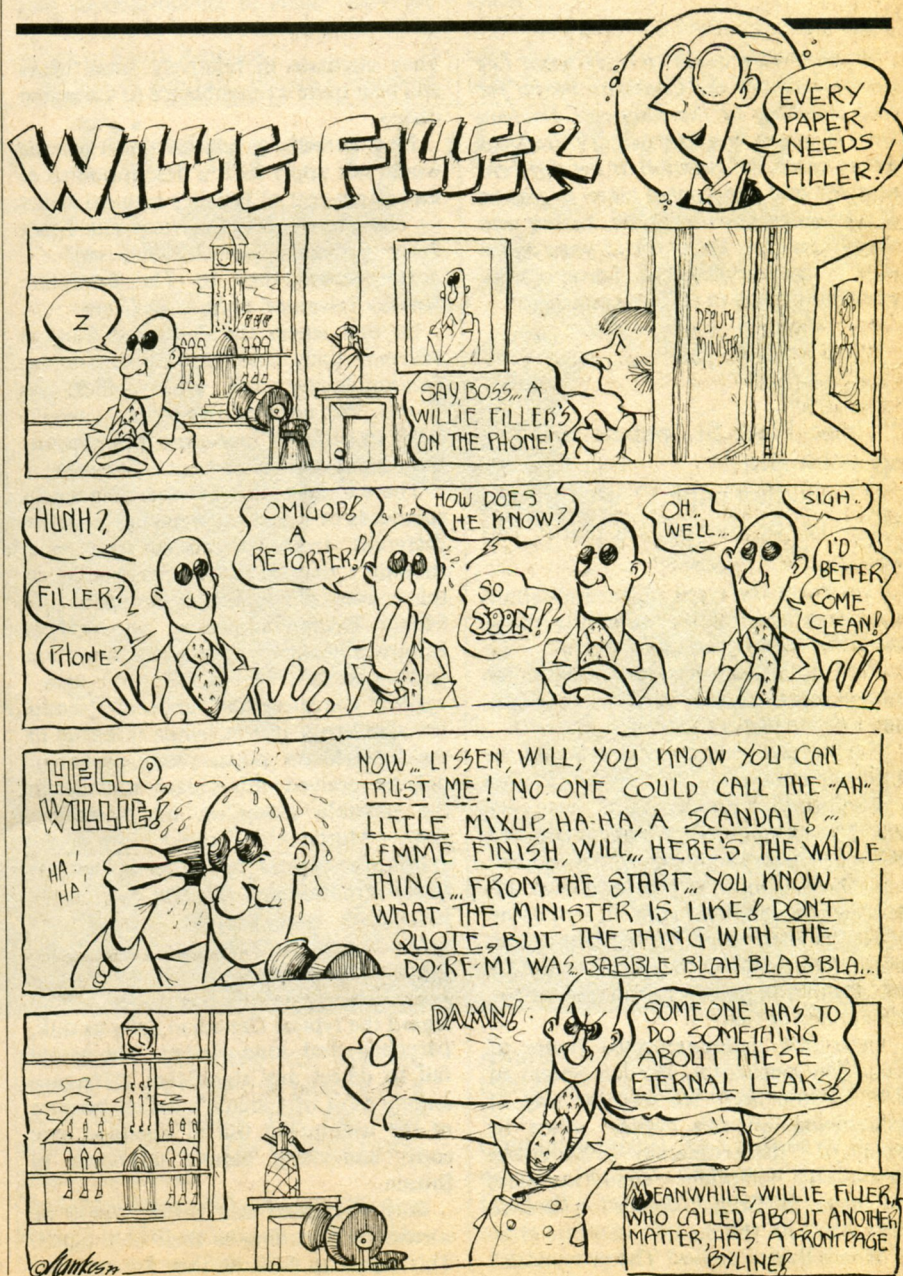
With an unwieldy but to-the-point title, people who believe in the wind and the sun have started a newspaper to pro-

mulgate their beliefs.

The Canadian Renewable Energy News, published by the Conserver Society based in Ottawa, is a tabloid crammed with visions of a cleaner world powered by solar panels and wind generators, heated by wood stoves and cooled — with stored water. From PO Box 4869, Station E, Ottawa K1S 5B4.

Richard Labonté is a columnist for *The Citizen* in Ottawa. Periodicals, books and news releases which must be sent for comment should be mailed to Richard Labonté, 64 Marlborough Avenue, Ottawa K1N 8E9.

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CANADIAN & BRITISH NEWSPAPERS: APPLES & ORANGES HAVE MORE IN COMMON

By LEE LESTER

Readers were quick to reply when Lee Lester criticized the Canadian media for their handling of the Margaret Trudeau story (Content No. 74 / May 1977). Their letters raised the question of the different attitudes and approaches taken by papers in Canada and Britain. Here, Lester, who worked on Fleet Street for 15 years and is now a reporter for The Toronto Sun, compares papers in the two countries...

“Those Fleet St. papers are just sensationalist.”

“Canadian papers? Well, if you want to be bored to death old boy . . .”

These are the types of generalisations Canadian and British journalists throw out about each other's efforts.

And, like all generalisations, although rooted in fact or supposed fact, the conclusions are just not correct.

To compare papers in Canada and the UK is more than an exercise in setting up apples against oranges. It's more like trying to compare every fruit on the shelf with its neighbors.

Economic, cultural and historical differences have led papers in the two countries along different paths. Sometimes you might think the only thing they have in common is English. And you're not always sure of that.

Even that highly-respected figure of Canadian journalism, Borden Spears of *The Toronto Star*, fell into the trap of generalising on this subject when he wrote of “the technically brilliant but essentially shoddy sensationalism displayed in British dailies” (*Toronto Star*, April 30, 1977).

Which British dailies? The provincials?

They circulate in relatively small areas and bear quite a resemblance to Canadian dailies.

Fleet Street's products? Most people would not apply such a description to at least 50 per cent of Britain's national dailies — *The Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Daily Telegraph*, and *Financial Times*.

Nor would they to *The Observer*, *Sunday Telegraph* or *Sunday Times*.

So that leaves the daily and Sunday *Mirrors*, daily and Sunday *Expresses*, *Sunday People*, *Sun*, and *News of the World*. But none of these papers would claim to be solely organs of information. They boast they also set out to entertain.

There's little doubt that Canada's standards of just what is entertaining are different from Britain's. And why shouldn't they be? Few could imagine this country giving birth to humor of the Monty Python or Goon Show type. Britons are more freewheeling about sex and booze, too.

So if you mention that word “sensationalist” to a Briton, while referring to the Fleet Street pops, you'll probably only be received with a blank stare. With the possible exception of Australian Rupert Murdoch's *Sun* and *News of the World*, he would not regard them as being sensationalist. Neither would the journalists who prepare them. They would look upon these papers as presenting news in a perfectly normal manner.

Conversely, a fleet Street type would regard the typical Canadian daily as dull, parochial and long-winded. He would fail to detect any significant difference among most of Canada's dailies because of the widespread use of unedited wire copy, something almost unknown in Britain.

Both Canadian and Briton would be correct — according to their own lights. This seems to indicate that not only do

they each march to the beat of a different drummer but, quite correctly, each tailors his product for his own market.

Thus, there is not one Canadian paper that would last five minutes in a British market. And the British product is as unlikely to succeed over here, although *The News of the World* each Sunday prints editions for Eastern and Western Canada.

However, the major sin of the Fleet Street pops is not sensationalism. It is the same sin that is committed by too many papers here. It is the sin of trivialisation. Only the choice of subject is different.

In both lands papers have too often failed to zero in on many of the problems that need to be pinpointed in society. Readers — in Winnipeg or Wigan — can ask if their countries might not be in a better state if their journalists had done a better job of informing them about things that really matter.

The UK press has excelled — aided by much stricter laws on divulging commercial information — in holding up a magnifying glass to the activities of big business.

But they have not paid nearly enough attention to the politicians. Perhaps this can be blamed on the more stringent British libel laws.

In Canada, every cough, sneeze, wheeze, grunt and groan of the politicians is reported in almost Victorian style. You would think papers still engaged penny-a-liners.

But little probing is done into what goes on in the boardrooms of the nation, where decisions taken are every bit as important to our daily lives as any taken in Ottawa, provincial legislatures or council chambers.

Investigative reporting, unlike in the UK, is a rare commodity in most Canadian publications. A hangover from

small-town traditions perhaps?

British papers do not have the huge paginations of their Canadian counterparts. And so layout, editing and writing skills have become much sharper in order to squeeze the proverbial quart into a pint pot.

But it's precisely this terse writing that makes many Canadians feel uncomfortable. With justice, they will point out that it often leads to over-simplification. Britons, on the other hand, will say that the real meaning of a thing reported in a Canadian paper is often lost in a mass of verbiage.

At roots level, there is one major reason why British papers are livelier — not necessarily better — than Canadian papers. It is to be found in the existence of competition in the UK between journalists. It is not to be found in the single-paper cities of Canada. The existence of

morning and afternoon papers in a city does not provide the direct competition that keeps journalists on their toes.

There is thus a sharp dividing line between older Canadian journalists who were trained in an era when there was still competition and their younger colleagues.

This means that older journalists here have more in common with British journalists.

Britain's history as a maritime trading nation and one-time world power has led to Britons being more internationally minded than Canadians. This is reflected in news operations.

As Borden Spears noted: "Only two (Canadian) newspapers maintain full-time correspondents in Asia; there are almost none in Europe and none at all in Africa or South America."

By way of contrast, Britain's *Financial*

Times, for instance, has 20 staff writers scattered around the world.

London has long been the crossroads of the British Empire and the Commonwealth. And so, it always drew journalists from member countries who picked up its techniques and concepts.

Except for Canadians. They had the USA to go to. And they did.

The result is that North American journalism is quite different from that found in other English-speaking countries.

Take an Aussie or a Kiwi and in writing style and editing techniques he is immediately at home in Fleet Street. The same goes for Kenyans, Indians, South Africans, etc.

But a Canadian immediately feels uneasy.

A basic point of philosophy will indicate the depth of the difference of approach. Outside Canada and the USA, a

CP Feature Picture of the Month



Photographer: Tedd Church.

Newspaper: *The Gazette*, Montreal.

Situation: Assigned to take a church-page shot of Moslems celebrating Id-al-Adna, the feast of sacrifice, at Paul Suave arena in Montreal, Church climbed up onto a piano — he had shed his shoes at

the door according to Moslem custom — and got this picture of a small boy standing tall for once among his elders. *The Gazette* front-paged the photo.

Technical Data: Nikon with 180-mm lens at 1/15th second at f2.8 on Tri-X film rated at 1200 ASA.

Award: *Canadian Press* "Feature Picture of the Month," November, 1977.

Congratulations: As a tribute to the art of feature photo-journalism, Ford of Canada is pleased to regularly sponsor this space.

reporter is expected to use his skills and experience to sum up a situation on behalf of his readers. He is expected to establish facts and not report just what people claim are facts.

In North America, such an attitude is unthinkable. It is termed "editorialization." It is regarded as inflicting the writers' attitudes on the reader.

But in other English-speaking countries, if he didn't "editorialize," he would be regarded as having failed in his job.

He would probably never have even heard of the word "editorialization." He would regard quoting an expert and an idiot, giving their words equal weight and leaving the reader to make up his mind as a total abdication of responsibility.

But to give more weight to one source than to another is "editorialization."

The greater influence of TV in the UK has meant that papers there have had to move away from hard news. But they have not developed the role they should have undertaken — using the greater number of hours at their disposal before publication to dig deeper into the news, to explain it more fully and to tell what is behind events to their readers.

The greater amount of coverage given to foreign news by British papers probably means that Britons are better informed on global events than Canadians. However, on the subjects papers here choose to cover in depth, Canadians have a breadth of knowledge far greater than the equivalent British popular paper reader.

Incidentally, what a pity it is that so many overseas reports in Canadian papers are supplied by Britons or Americans and not by Canadians.

If there is one area where Canadian papers are years in front of every British paper, it is in the treatment of women's news. The pre-women's-lib stereotype of the female interested only in show-biz personalities, her household and fashion still lives in Fleet Street. The acceptance of women as independent, thinking persons with an equal role to play in society hardly seems to have rippled over the Atlantic.

British pop papers tell almost everything in stark black and white terms. The greys of this life do not exist in Fleet Street. From a social point of view this is quite irresponsible. It means, for instance, that an honest difference of opinion is magnified into a major clash.

But before anyone on this side of the pond takes a holier-than-thou attitude, let's look at the kind of trivialisation that is practised day after day by, for example, *The Toronto Star*, where story after story begins something like this:

(See APPLES, page 12)

HALF BACK
THE ONTARIO
REBATE PROGRAM
THAT TURNS
OLD WINTARIO
TICKETS INTO DISCOUNTS

Renew your subscription to *Content* now and save with HALF BACK

If you already subscribe to *Content*, HALF BACK has a deal for you until April 12. You can use those old Wintario tickets to save up to \$2 on your subscription renewal.

Each ticket, endorsed with the name and address of the person redeeming it, is worth 50¢ when mailed with your renewal cheque. Up to four tickets can be submitted.

To determine the expiry date of your subscription, just check the address label on the cover of this magazine. 5-78 means May 1978.

But it doesn't matter when your sub expires. You can take advantage of this offer to renew in advance.

HALF BACK, an Ontario Ministry of Culture and Recreation program, applies to participating Canadian magazines and to Canadian-authored books. HALF BACK runs until April 12, 1978. Renewal orders must be postmarked on or before that date to be eligible.

All Wintario tickets from draws on Jan. 19, Feb. 2 and 16, and March 2, 16 and 30 are eligible.

Renew your subscription to *Content* now and save \$2.

I want to take advantage of the HALF BACK program to renew my subscription to *Content* for One year (\$10 less HALF BACK discount) Two years (\$17 less HALF BACK discount) Three years (\$22 less HALF BACK discount).

I enclose _____ (up to four) endorsed Wintario tickets worth 50¢ each for a total of \$ _____. I enclose a cheque or money order for the balance.

NAME

ADDRESS

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Hon. Robert Welch
Minister

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FEB. 2 AND 16, MAR. 2, 16 AND 30 ARE ELIGIBLE!**

AN AGREEABLE COLLECTION OF DOGMAS

By WILF KESTERTON

In the fifth edition of *The Globe and Mail Style Book*, the late Eddie Phelan said, "Look like an idiot is English; look like you're an idiot is not... The single most frequent error in contemporary English is probably the misuse of *like* as a conjunction."

By contrast, Furnivall, probably the foremost English scholar of his day, had scathing words for those who condemned a usage which began about 1600 and which may be found in the writings of Shakespeare, Southey, Newman, Morris, More, Sidney, Dryden, Smollett, Burns, Coleridge, Shelley, Darwin, Brontë, Thackeray, Kipling, Shaw, Wells, Masfield, Maugham and Morley Calaghan.

The Globe and Mail Style Book's claim that *hectic* means *habitual* rather than *characterized by feverish activity, confusion or haste* may have made sense in 1901, when the *Oxford English Dictionary* found little evidence of what

has since become the more general usage. But to insist today on the primacy of *habitual* as the meaning of *hectic* is like rejecting *foolish* as a synonym for *silly* because the primary meaning of *silly* was once *simple* or *innocent*.

Some readers will disagree with the *Style Book's* categorical insistence on such ill-sorted spellings as *benefited*, *appall*, *dumfound*, *goloshes*, *practice* (as a verb), *ambience*, *caldron*, *minuscule* (without permitting *miniscule* as a variant) and *whisky*. The book maintains an uneasy compromise between American and British spellings. This is probably because it doesn't consistently follow *Funk & Wagnall's*, its main authority.

The examples just cited indicate why some readers find style books slightly irritating. Such books are a collection of little dogmas, and rarely do all the book's dogmas coincide with all the reader's dogmas. Sometimes the style guide seems illogically arbitrary. Sometimes it seems unjustifiably permissive.

Traditionalists who rely on the unex-

plained *dicta* of half-forgotten school teachers tend to condemn any practice not sanctified by Latin-based grammar. Structuralists, taking their cue from Charles Fries and Noam Chomsky, are impatient with what they consider ill-founded reliance on lexical meaning. All sensitive students of style are intolerant of writing derived from faulty thinking. And if reporters work for the newspaper for which the style book is written, they follow its precepts just because the book says, "This is how we do things on our newspaper."

And so, because it is arbitrary and because it fails to mirror the reader's own tolerance and intolerance, a style book can cause irritation. It speaks well for Eddie Phelan's congeniality and other personal qualities that, although he edited books of this genre, he should have been so well-liked and respected by his colleagues and other friends. Certainly anyone may disagree with some of his pronouncements and still regard the late *Globe and Mail* editor with affection.

And readers will find much to applaud in *The Globe and Mail Style Book*. Those who value well-written prose will agree with most of Phelan's admonitions and strictures. They would probably regard as sub standard usage; *he lays down; the argument centered around relief payments; the score is tied at this point in time; the strike idled the workers; hoards of people searched for the horde of money; the bomb was diffused; the dramatic critic reviewed the play; the media causes violence; the sun will rise tomorrow, he claimed; "We're going to win," he enthused; between you and I; and (although not everyone will agree) hopefully the bus will arrive soon.*

Not every solecism is caused by what Fries would call a lexical flaw. Some are caused by structural ambiguity. Thus Phelan illustrates the misplaced modifier: *Two trawlers were ordered escorted to Victoria by Fisheries Minister Jack Davis* (our own one-man navy).

And many errors of usage are caused not by mistakes of grammar, or structural flaws, but by the reporter's faulty thinking. One example cited is: *The corporation tax rate will also go down 2.5 per cent from 45 to 42.5 per cent* (that's 5.55 per cent; what was meant here was 2.5 percentage points).

An example taken not from the Phelan (See **STYLEBOOK**, page 12)

"Those of us who hold power are always certain that we wield it responsibly and in the best interests of those who do not share it. But those who lack power look upon us with suspicion, distrust and resentment. They doubt our wisdom, question our abilities, and suspect our motives."*

*Public Responsibility and Private Enterprise, by Paul Paré. An address to the "Options — Conference on the future of the Canadian Federation", University of Toronto, October 1977. Full text available from the Public Relations Department, Imasco Limited, 4 Westmount Square, Montréal, Canada, H3Z 2S8.



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It developed from a seminar held in Montreal in late 1977, under the sponsorship of the Canadian Daily Newspaper Publishers Association and the Canadian Managing Editors Conference. A lot of valuable information was generated . . . information of interest to the media, yes, but as well to the broader public, governments, schools and universities.

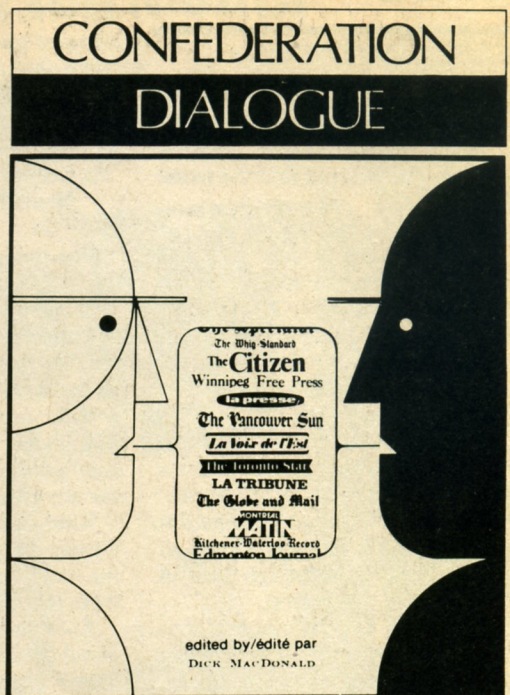
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- Political scientist Arthur Siegel*
- Retired PC leader Robert Stanfield*
- Researcher Martin Goldfarb*
- Evelyn Dumas, Montreal Le Jour*
- Allan Fotheringham, Vancouver Sun*
- Norman Webster, Toronto Globe and Mail*
- Anthony Westell, Carleton University*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

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Content

Letters

(cont. from page 2)

as were two other *Spectator* reporters and myself. We certainly did not ignore the request. There was a positive decision made (at least at that level) that the name should be used.

Once having taken the decision that the name should be used, of course, I was also in favor of using the address of the woman so that other Mrs. X's in Burlington would not find themselves having to explain they were not "that Mrs. X." *The Spectator* editorial decision, however, was based, I believe, on the fact that the Crown, in its ardour to protect, had not in court asked the woman her address and the newspaper felt that strictly speaking, stories could contain no information that was not before the jury (Keep in mind the jury at all times through the trial was allowed to read the papers).

Why the judicial request was not conveyed to *CP*, I don't know. I believe the answer can be found in an answer in Mr. Kidd's story, although in the story it is out of context. The answer is that it was "a sin of omission."

But even if it had been relayed to *CP*, I cannot understand the *CP* attitude (in your article) that they would not have used her name had they known about the request.

As far as I'm concerned it shouldn't be *CP*'s function to censor, but rather it should be to send. They are not writing for the public, but are serving member papers. If they have the name they should pass it on along with a note of the judge's request.

Concerning your sidebar story "THE CHAMPIONS OF PUBLIC SCRUTINY FLEE FROM PUBLICITY," may I only say *The Spectator* did not run Mrs. X's picture in the first or any other edition of the paper.

They did run the picture of the other woman in Mr. Rallo's social life in the first edition and then removed it for later editions. That woman was never a 'Spectator girl of the week'; Mrs. X was. Sorry you couldn't get your facts right — you have jumbled two separate happenings into one minor mess.

I am shocked to see *Content*, which has made some landmark journalistic points, suddenly abandoning its usual stand to advocate shortchanging the public's right to know.

As a reporter I feel I must inform people who are not where the news is happening. Some 100 spectators were there when Mrs. X's name came before the court. She was a consenting adult

caught in an adulterous situation. That may be no offence, but it is a fact. It was evidence and, until newspapers adopt a policy that any witness who may be hurt by the publication of his or her name be protected, I'm not about to make exceptions. Are you?

Kenneth Campbell, Reporter,
Hamilton, Ont.

Content replies:

Campbell makes some good points regarding the issues, points which speak for themselves. Parts of his letter, however, seem to have arisen from a hasty reading of the articles.

Kidd properly observed in his piece that judge O'Driscoll did not have the legal authority to impose his request on the news media.

Kidd was the only journalist who, during the trial, took the trouble to get the exact wording of the judge's request from the court reporter.

Kidd did take the trouble to inquire about the decisions made by other media. Those paragraphs were cut from his article for lack of space.

Content did have its facts right in the sidebar to Kidd's story. Mrs. X's photo went into the first edition of *The Spectator*, but was removed before the presses rolled. The substituted drawing was removed from subsequent editions that day. We agree the wording, "went into the first edition," was unacceptably ambiguous.

Campbell seems to ascribe to *Content* editorial endorsement of every line of these stories and by implication, all material in the magazine. It should be unnecessary to point out to a journalist that this magazine is primarily a forum for discussion of issues such as those raised in connection with the Rallo trial media coverage.

The publication of an opinion in *Content* does not mean the magazine has taken a stand, any more than publication of news stories, articles or opinions in *The Spectator* means that *The Spectator* endorses each. (30)

Coming in *Content*

Reporters and the
psychology of obligation

APPLES (cont. from page 8)

"Joe Blow thought he would go for a walk yesterday. As he left his home on Bloor St. W., his footsteps took him along Yonge St..."

Somewhere about the fourth paragraph, you read Joe fell over a crack between the paving stones and was taken to hospital.

Only after being told that do we finally get to the point of the story. "Joe was one of 200 persons in Metro last year who suffered falls due to what Councillor Cyrus K. Finklefeffer charges is 'downright neglect of the sidewalks.' Law suits arising out of the accidents threaten Metro with a possible \$4,000,000 bill should claims for damages prove successful."

Such treatment trivializes news to the point of idiocy. It turns the reader off and obscures the real issue by giving prominence to a nobody.

It might even be worse than the news judgment of Fleet Street pops which carry stories about "Vicar's Wife Takes 99th Lover" or "Goat's milk for hairy chests," says GP."

As I remarked at the beginning, to try and make a comparison between Canadian and British papers is to tackle more than an apples and oranges situation. The virtues of papers in the two countries are different. So are most of their sins. And why not? Any marketing man will prescribe horses for courses.

Meanwhile, Canadian journalists might be thankful they have never had written about them lines like these:

*You cannot hope to bribe or twist
Thank God! The British journalist.
But, seeing what the man will do
Unbribed, there's no occasion to.*

Lee Lester, for nine years an investigative reporter for London's Sunday People, is a reporter with The Toronto Sun. (30)

STYLEBOOK (cont. from page 10)

book but provided by the Ottawa *Citizen* sports pages is: Irv Lightstone is \$2,100 poorer today because he did the right thing on the wrong hole. (The implication was that, if he had not scored a hole-in-one on the seventh hole, he would have won \$2,100. But the reason he failed to win the \$2,100 was that he did not score a hole-in-one on the 14th hole.)

Some information in *The Globe and Mail Style Book* holds little interest except for reporters required to observe the idiosyncratic conventions of the newspaper or of persons or organizations designated:

The Ontario Centennial Centre of Science

CP News Picture of the Month



Photographer: Ross Kenward.

Newspaper: *The Province*, Vancouver.

Situation: Kenward heard about a residential fire on his police radio as he drove to work Nov. 23. He took this photo of a grieving rela-

tive as officials removed a body from the house.

Technical Data: Nikon with 50-mm lens at f8 on tri-X film.

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

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

and Technology is the correct full name for the group of buildings at Don Mills and Eglinton...It is Loblaw's Ltd. but Loblaw's Cos. Ltd....Do not use the article "the" with O'Keefe Centre...Seaway MultiCorp has no final period...We accept Harbour Castle and Harbour Square for the hotel and apartment block on the Toronto waterfront, but have rejected Harbourfront Park in favor of Harborfront Park.

Other items that do perhaps have a curious interest are:

Sir George (not Georges) Etienne Cartier. Our research suggests his mother insisted he be named bilingually. George is also correct for Vanier...The Dominion Government, I am told, is still bound by an Order-in-Council passed in 1871 to use the terminal -our in official business...The monarch is Queen Elizabeth II; the ship is Queen Elizabeth 2.

The Globe and Mail Style Book also

contains a short but useful section on The Courts and The Press. It is advice of value that the word *alleged* will not protect a journalist from a libel suit or contempt citation and that it is legally dangerous to publish the previous record of a person on trial. But the definition which holds that libel may only be written or pictorial defamation and which implies that oral defamation is always slander is no longer serviceable. Broadcast defamation, which is usually oral rather than written or pictorial, is libel, not slander, at least in British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Also, although journalists might approve of the *Style Book's* suggestion for identifying members of the judiciary, the legal profession probably will not. Justices, judges and lawyers apparently

dislike mention of either their Christian names or initials; at least so a reading of *Dominion Law Reports* or *Canadian Criminal Cases* would indicate.

Finally, it is only because what Eddie Phelan has written is a *style* book that it will probably not be thought invidious to note that the book misspells *Liszt* and *Metcalfe* (Charles). And the sentence, "A Father of Confederation, his was the most powerful voice raised in its support," provides an unintentional example of the misplaced modifier.

The Globe and Mail Style Book. Edited by Ed Phelan. 5th edition. Published by The Globe and Mail. Toronto. 1977. 145 pages.

Wilf Kesterton teaches journalism at Carleton University and is the author of The Law and the Press in Canada. (30)

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The following are updates for the 2nd edition of the Sources directory (Content No. 80, December 1977):

(p. 25, col. 1)

GULF OIL CANADA LIMITED

Delete from entry:

Garth Hopkins,
Co-ordinator, Public Information
Office: (416) 924-4141
After hours: (416) 483-3194

(p. 26, col. 2)

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH CENTRE

Delete from entry:

Ernest Corea, Associate Director,
Public Affairs
Office: (613) 996-2321, ext. 376

Add to entry:

Ernest Corea
Director, Publications Division
Office: (613) 966-2321, ext. 188

(p. 26, col. 3)

INUIT TAPIRISAT OF CANADA

Delete from entry:

222 Somerset West, 6th Floor
Ottawa, Ontario K2P 2G3

Add to entry:

176 Gloucester, 3rd Floor
Ottawa, Ontario
K2P 0A6

(p. 27, col. 2-3)

MACLEAN-HUNTER LIMITED

Delete from entry:

Donald G. Campbell,
Chairman and President
Office: (416) 595-1811

Add to entry:

Donald G. Campbell,
Chairman
Office: (416) 595-1811
Frederick T. Metcalf,
President
Office (416) 595-1811

Delete from entry:

Paul S. Deacon, Editor & Publisher
Office: (416) 595-1811

Add to entry:

Paul S. Deacon, Publisher
Office: (416) 595-1811

Delete from entry:

Frederick T. Metcalf, President
Maclean-Hunter Cable TV Limited
Office: (416) 675-5930

Add to entry:

Frederick T. Metcalf, President

Maclean-Hunter Cable TV Limited
Office: (416) 595-1811

(Page 30, column 3)

ONTARIO CONFEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY FACULTY ASSOCIATIONS

New description of nature and purposes reads:

A confederation of faculty associations at all Ontario universities representing some 10,000 members. The confederation is mandated to express the views of university professors to the government and the public, to seek to maintain the quality of higher education in Ontario, to advance the standards of teachers and researchers in Ontario universities.

Delete from entry:

Lillian Smith, Information Officer
Office: (416) 979-2117

Add to entry:

Sam Barber, Information Officer
Office: (416) 979-2117

(p. 37, col. 1)

TRANSCANADA TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Add to entry after Saskatchewan Telecommunications and Telesat Canada.

(p. 26, col. 1)

IMASCO LIMITED

Delete from entry:

Paul K. Ryan, Asst. to the Vice-Pres., PR
After hours: (514) 489-8716

(p. 38, col. 3)

XEROX OF CANADA LIMITED

Replace description of nature and purpose with:

Xerox of Canada is in the information processing business. The company manufactures xerographic copiers and markets xerographic copiers and duplicators, computer-related equipment, facsimile transceivers, labelling and addressing machines, electronic typewriters and xeroradiographic products that print X-ray pictures on paper instead of film. Xerox also publishes textbooks, reference works and other materials, reproduces manuscripts and dissertations from microfilm and markets a variety of management training courses.

Delete from entry:

Ms Katherine Futter,
Public Relations Manager
Office: (416) 429-6750

Add to entry:

Michael R. Barrett
Public Relations Manager
Office: (416) 429-6750

30

OMNIUM (cont. from page 16)

\$65, to \$365 a week. Other changes in contract, retroactive to Oct. 1, 1976, include hospital-surgical insurance, pension payment and vacation entitlement.

* * *

Elthan Durrant moves from managing editor of *The Reformer*, Simcoe, to executive editor.

Doug MacDonald, city editor, replaces Durrant.

Bob Blakeley, a senior staff reporter, becomes city editor.

* * *

Bud Riley is the new director of *CJRT-FM*, Toronto.

* * *

Sports reporter for *The Gazette*, **Randy Phillips**, is the 1977 recipient of the Canadian Intercollegiate Athletic Union media award, which is presented for major contribution to the growth and development of Canadian University sport.

Quebec

Pierre Peladeau, head of the Montreal-based Quebecor Inc., became an international publisher with the publication of the first edition of the Philadelphia *Journal* on Dec. 5. With a press run of about 200,000, the tabloid is devoted half to sports and is patterned after Peladeau's *Journal de Montreal*.

* * *

The **Montreal Guild** applied to the Quebec Labour Relations Board for certification as bargaining representative for the employees of *The Gazette*. The Guild, which represents some *Montreal Star* employees, should by Quebec law receive certification without an election when 50 per cent plus one of an employee group authorizes a union to be their bargaining agent.

Atlantic

Halifax Herald Ltd. has rehired seven of the ten newsroom employees it fired Nov. 22 when management became aware of a unionization drive. The seven accepted reinstatement after securing a ruling by the Nova Scotia Labor Relations Board that they could do so without weakening their grievance over unfair labour practices.

* * *

Barometer, a new weekly tabloid, began publishing in Halifax Jan. 5. The paper is owned by H.H. Marshall Ltd., a Halifax magazine publishing firm, and by Cumberland Publishing Ltd. of Amherst, which also publishes the daily *News*.

The new weekly succeeds *The Loyalist*.

* * *

The plain dealer, Fredericton's battling alternative newspaper, has folded. The bi-weekly, which energetically attacked corruption among New Brunswick's high and mighty, died of financial problems. *The plain dealer* was the last remaining alternative paper in the Atlantic region.

Plans are well advanced for the launching of a weekly tabloid in Fredericton. **Dave Henley**, publisher of *The Woodstock Bugle*, and **Jim Morrison**, former ME of *The Daily Gleaner*, expect to see the rise of *The Fredericton Sun* in January.

* * *

While renewing the licence of Moncton's CTV affiliate, **CKCW**, the CRTC has ordered the station to produce specific plans for regional programming designed for northern New Brunswick.

* * *

Tom Crowther, former VP and general manager at the *Telegraph-Journal* and *Evening Times-Globe* in Saint John, has gone to the Fredericton *Daily Gleaner* as publisher.

* * *

Whit Fraser, a native of Stellarton, N.S., has been assigned to serve as *CBC* national reporter in Newfoundland. He comes to the assignment from *CBC* in Yellowknife, where he was senior editor.

Financial

Thomson Newspapers Ltd. has purchased three dailies and a weekly published in Ohio from the Chew family of Xenia, Ohio. Each of the four is the only newspaper in its community. No financial information was disclosed about the sale.

Magazines

Ken Popert, president of Pink Triangle Press, is one of three persons charged under two sections of the Criminal Code dealing with the distribution of obscene materials. Charges were laid after police searched the offices of *The Body Politic*, a Toronto journal devoted to gay liberation. Popert, 30, is associate editor of *Content*. Others charged Jan. 5 are Pink Triangle secretary **Ed Jackson** and treasurer **Gerald Hannon**. **Clayton Ruby**, lawyer for the accused, harshly criticized the raid which was carried out before charges were laid by Metropolitan Toronto and Ontario Provincial Police. Police removed 12 cartons of materials, including subscription lists, business correspondence, editorial materials for the next issue of *The Body Politic*, and personal correspondence. The raid, Ruby said, effectively prevents the paper from further immediate publication.

The Canadian Civil Liberties Association, Canadian Periodical Publishers' Association, Periodical Writers Association of Canada, writer-broadcaster-civil rights activist **June Callwood** and *Content* publisher **Barrie Zwicker** were among those who have protested the police raid.

Erratum

In our listing of the new officers of Press Club Canada in last month's *Content*, **Bob Wyatt** was erroneously described as an employee of the *Ottawa Journal*. In fact, he has been at *Edmonton Journal* for the past four years. (30)

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Omnium-Gatherum

B.C.

CP Vancouver's **Phil Adler** has been instrumental in setting up the **Scott Schill Memorial Scholarship** for a promising journalism student at Vancouver Community College. Early donor groups include **CKCK** in Regina (staff and management) and the staff of the *Regina Leader Post*.

Donations can be sent to The Principal, VCC, 100 West 49th Ave., Vancouver V5Y 2Z6.

Maurice Rush, former editor of *The Pacific Tribune*, has been elected as the new leader of the B.C. wing of the Communist Party of Canada.

Surrey News, *The Powel River Progress*, and *Coast Life* have all ceased publication. The weekly *Surrey News* went under without advance notice either to readers or to employees.

Ron Thody has joined *The Abbotsford Express* as news editor.

Stu Ducklow has replaced **Gordon Hamilton** as ME at *The Terrace Herald*. Hamilton has left newspapering for other

Classified

TELEPHONE ORDERS NOW ACCEPTED. Until Feb. 3 (guaranteed insertion), Feb. 6 (insertion not guaranteed) for next issue. Distrib. Feb. 16. 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.

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Jobs Wanted

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Otherum

Arts Journalists!! Dance in Canada Conference, Vancouver, August 13-17, 1978. For info: C. Lee, 142 South Garden Drive, Van, B.C. V5L 4P4. 50-85

parts. Meanwhile, joining the staff of the *Herald* are **Donna Vallieres**, **Ann Dunsmuir**, and **Juliet Proom**.

The West

Tom Cooney, a *CBC* television reporter in Saskatoon, becomes a current affairs producer. Cooney's promotion leaves the Saskatchewan unit of the Canadian Wire Service Guild temporarily without a chairman.

Dennis Robertson has been hired by *CBC* television in Regina to produce a new program, *Regina Noon*. Robertson had worked for *CBC* in Vancouver, and recently as a producer-director for Harvard Productions in Regina.

Irene Gessler has resigned as story producer for Saskatchewan Today, *CBC Radio's* morning information program.

R.H. (Rusty) Macdonald has retired from the executive editorship of *The Western Producer*. Macdonald is replaced by **Keith Dryden**, former associate editor. Dryden's place, in turn, is taken by **Clarence Fairbairn**, who had been news editor. And, in the last of the string of replacements, **Michael J. Gillgannon** replaces Fairbairn as news editor.

Also at the *Producer*: **Elinor Florence**, a reporter, leaves for Los Angeles, where she will freelance. **Adrian Ewins**, a reporter, joins the *Producer* from the *Regina Leader-Post*, and **Jim Graham**, a deskier at the Saskatoon *Star-Phoenix*, becomes markets editor at the *Producer*.

Mark Lisac, a freelancer in Saskatoon, becomes a radio reporter with Saskatoon's *CJWW*. Also at *CJWW*, Roy Norris moves to become operations manager. He had been news editor. He is replaced by **Dave Erickson**.

The North

The Drum, until recently Inuvik's weekly newspaper, has gone to biweekly publication. Publisher **Tom Butters** blames the economic situation in the Mackenzie delta for the retrenchment.

Ontario

Bill Newbigging, former general manager at the *Ottawa Citizen*, replaces retiring publisher, **R.W. Southam**. Newbigging began as an *Edmonton Journal* reporter in 1957 and became Southam's assistant in 1973 and general manager in 1975.

The Order of Canada, the highest civilian award Canadians can receive for their contribution to the country or community, was presented to writer and host of *CBC's* current affairs show, *In Touch*, **June**

Callwood. She is known for her dedication to human rights, her part in the closing of Toronto's Don Jail, her regular column in the *Toronto Globe and Mail* and several best selling books. She is vice-president of both the Canadian Civil Liberties Association and the Writer's Union of Canada.

Peter Trueman and *CTV* have announced agreement has been reached to release him from contractual obligations to the network. After three years of daily newscasts, the change to in-depth features and documentary programming had proven disruptive and unsatisfying, Trueman indicated.

Lloyd Robertson and **Helen Hutchinson** were on Jan. 15 to host *CTV's* new topical Sunday evening news and current affairs program, *Prime Time*. He will continue as broadcaster on the *CTV* news and she will remain with *CTV's* early morning news and current affairs program, *Canada A.M.* *Prime Time* will feature in-depth analyses and reports on domestic and international affairs.

R. MacLeod Rogers, a Nova Scotia lawyer, was appointed a part-time commissioner of the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission by **Jeanne Sauve**, minister of communications.

Lee Lester, *Content* columnist and former freelancer, is now a reporter for *The Toronto Sun*.

David Jonah, executive director of the **Canadian Community Newspapers Association** since February 1976, leaves that post March 1 to return to his family farm in New Brunswick. Jonah will "Keep his finger in the community newspaper pie," he said. During his stint with CCNA, a number of important ad sales and other programs were undertaken and carried forward, and the CCNA's presence in Ottawa considerably enhanced.

Barrie Hussey has joined The Canadian Life Insurance Association as Manager, Media relations. He previously worked for *CBC's* *As It Happens*, and radio stations *CFRB* and *CKFM*, Toronto.

At the annual general meeting of the Ontario chapter of the Outdoor Writers of Canada in November, **Wayne Adair**, **Johnny Fitzgerald**, **Joe Van Haagen**, **Mary Mastin** and **Shirley Teasdale** were elected to the executive.

Former managing editor **J. Britt Jessup** has been appointed editor-in-chief of *The Nugget*, North Bay, and associate editor **Colin P. Vezina** becomes managing editor.

In a new two-year **Canadian Wire Service Guild** contract with *UPI* of Canada, journalists' and photographers' top minimum rises (See **OMNIUM**, page 15)