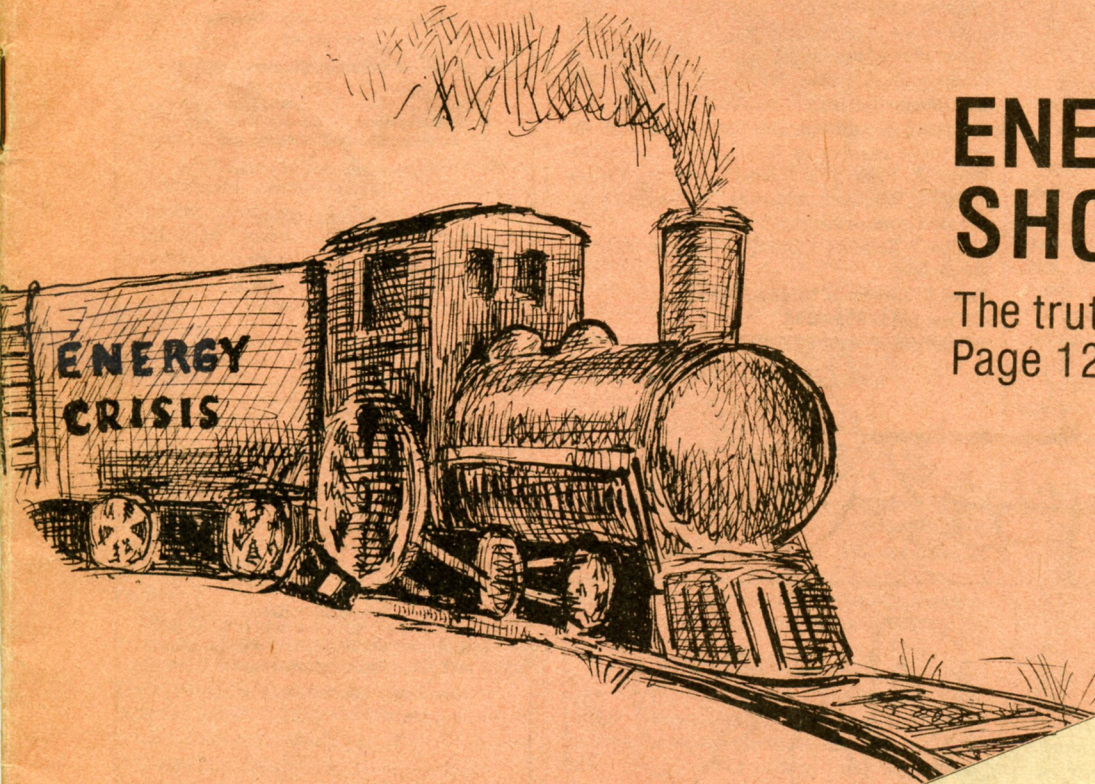


# content

Canada's National News Media Magazine

June 1978 Number 86 75 Cents



## ENERGY SHORTAGE?

The truth is hard to find  
Page 12

## OTTAWA TODAY

No time for goodbyes  
Page 10

# DO, DIE FOR 67s P.31

Have A Nice Day

CFRA  
58

HAVE A NICE DAY  
cloudy  
high 8  
25 cents  
Vol. 1 No. 158

# Today

### 25 left homeless in fire

Konrad Elbich, TODAY's Vanier firemen consultant, says public works officials at Laval Street fire yesterday had to scramble to get off hydro lines which were threatened by the fire.

# SOURCES SOURCES SOL

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

(p. 13, col. 3)

## CANADIAN BANKERS' ASSOCIATION

Delete from entry:  
**Liliane Lavoie**, Information Officer  
 Office: (514) 878-3148  
 After-hours: (514) 465-2947

Add to entry:  
**Stephane Moissan**, Information Officer  
 Office: (514) 878-3148  
 After-hours: (514) 332-4669

(P. 32, col. 2)

## ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Delete from entry:  
**Frank Moritsugu**,  
 Director, Communications Branch

Add to entry:  
**Frank Moritsugu**,  
 Director, Information Services

Delete from entry:

**Grant Mulholland**, Information Officer

Add to entry:

**Wayne Mutton**, Information Officer

(p. 22, col. 3)

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 After hours: (416) 925-6575

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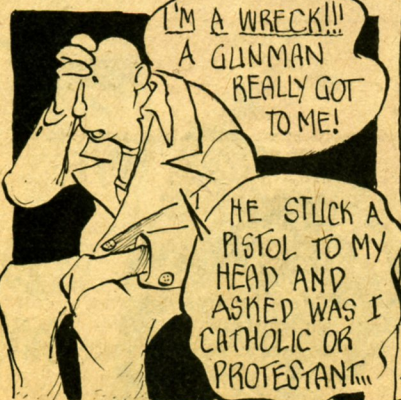
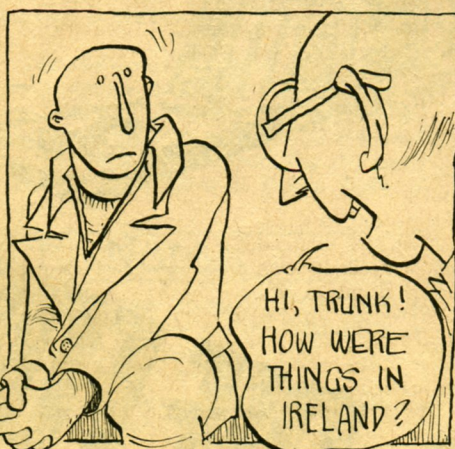
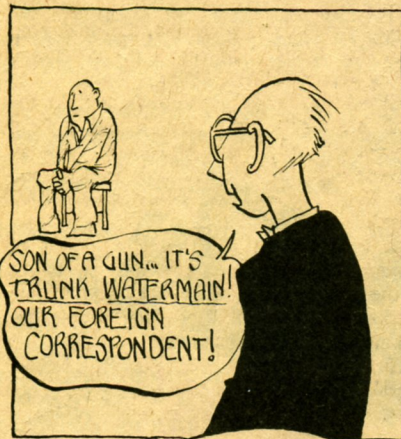
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# WIFE FILER



## BLACKS SEEK CHANGE IN MEDIA IMAGE

TORONTO — Black communicators in Canada are continuing efforts to establish an organization to facilitate and develop communications within the black community and develop better links between blacks and the rest of the society.

After three days (April 28 — 30) of intensive discussion, the second national black media conference, held in Toronto, appointed a seven-member committee to plan the structure of the organization.

Committee members are Al Hamilton, publisher, *Contrast*; Gregory Regis, journalist; Sam Donkoh, journalist; Ian Francis, community worker; George Bancroft, university professor in Toronto; and Betty Riley and Michael Parris, community workers in Montreal.

It had been hoped that the Toronto conference would set up the organization, but by the third day a strong opposition group led by Hamilton had developed. Francis maintained that not to establish the body would be sheer procrastination.

Hamilton called Francis' attitude "dangerous" and urged more discussion. He later said that he feared the new group would operate in competition with existing black media.

The discussion point was a report prepared by a steering committee appointed at the first national conference in Montreal last year. The report proposed a body which would

- devise methods of surveillance of all media content to prevent the presentation of pejorative images of black people;
- sensitize the majority media to safeguard the image of black people and the black community;
- develop a network of media services to enlighten and enhance black awareness to achieve unity of purpose; and
- develop a body with political acumen to monitor and influence the process of political representation, informing and lobbying on behalf of black people.

These aims were described as too ambitious by some delegates to the Toronto conference. Hamilton thought that lobbying in "political circles would be a destructive step," but the consensus was that the organization should be able to lobby institutions concerned with the media, such as the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission.

Steering committee chairperson Iris McCracken of Montreal, responding to an expressed fear that the proposed organization would usurp the functions of existing black media, said it shouldn't get involved in (broadcast) programming. "We should facilitate the development of individual members," she said.

The new committee will prepare three pos-



Photo: Gregory Regis

Al Hamilton (left) putting his case to another delegate.

sible structures for presentation at the next conference due in Toronto next year. — Gregory Regis.

*Gregory Regis is a journalist with CBLT-TV in Toronto and is a member of the black communicators planning committee.*

## LABOR MEDIA NEEDED TO COUNTER BIAS

QUEBEC CITY — Widely differing views on how the news media cover organized labour were heard here Apr. 1 at the biennial convention of the Canadian Association of Labour Media, a two-year-old organization made up mainly of journalists working for unions.

The darkest came from retiring CLC president Joe Morris who said the media's "distorted" news sense is the reason the public, including union members, think "unions mean little more than strikes, demonstrations, violence and troubles."

That, he contended, is why organized labour needs its own periodicals: to inform union members about "all the issues — political, sociological, economic — that concern them and that the news media fail to cover altogether or cover in a biased oversimplified manner."

The brightest view was that of Frank Hilliard who covers the beat nationally for *CBC* TV news. Hilliard said coverage by Canada's TV networks and big-city newspapers "is the best you are going to get anywhere in the world" and Canada "is lucky to have them."

He conceded, however, that quality begins to taper off in medium-sized cities and that it's "a joke" in the smaller ones.

Unfortunately they didn't make the statements to each other. Morris spoke at the morning session to an audience made up almost entirely of editors of labour periodicals. Hilliard spoke in the afternoon, one of three reporters who addressed the convention in a "meet the press" panel discussion dubbed by one conference participant as a "Christians to the lions" session.

Morris told the morning session that union periodicals have to explode the "myths" that strikes are the rule rather than the exception, that public employees wages are too high, that unemployment is as unavoidable as death and taxes, that unions are too powerful, and that Canada "will go to the dogs" if pensions of public employees remain indexed.

In the afternoon session, Hilliard and the other panel members — George Dobie of *The Vancouver Sun*, David Gersovitz of *The Canadian Press*, Montreal, and Warren Beck of *CHML-Radio* news, Hamilton — were taken to task for a broad range of "failings."

The list included giving wide coverage to strikes, but little to peaceful settlements; "neglecting" health and safety issues; and using "journalistic language," such as contract "demands" for union proposals and calling elected officers "bosses."

Hilliard even got criticized because the *CBC* has "too many people doing farm broadcasts" and "not enough educational programming about labour." He protested that those complaints should go to *CBC* president Al Johnson.

At which point Bob Douglas, editor of *Canadian Interchange*, a monthly periodical of the Brotherhood of Railway and Airline Clerks, observed: "The wrong people are talking to each other."

He was right. The encounter might more usefully have occurred between the panelists' "bosses" and the union editors' "leaders." — Roy LaBerge.

*Roy LaBerge teaches journalism at Algonquin College in Ottawa. He is a former editor of Canadian Labour, published by the Canadian Labour Congress.*

## INVESTIGATIVE CENTRE UNDERWAY

MONTREAL — Work to establish a centre for investigative journalism began Apr. 22. The impetus behind the centre comes from a number of experienced reporters and editors across Canada in both print and the elec-

# Lede Copy

tronic media.

The founding meeting of the Centre for Investigative Journalism/Centre de journalisme d'enquête was held at the offices of *Le Devoir* and attended by nine journalists — Jean-Claude Leclerc of *Le Devoir*, Jean-Pierre Bonhomme of *La Presse*, Henry Aubin of the *Montreal Gazette*, John Sawatsky of *The Vancouver Sun*, Tim Creery of *Report on Confederation*, Nick Fillmore of *CBC TV news*, Jacques Benoît of *La Presse*, Graham Fraser of *Maclean's* and Jock Ferguson of *CBC TV news*.

The meeting quickly agreed on the need for the Centre to work to end the isolation in which most investigative and research journalists work.

The group also felt that it is unfortunate that the bloom has gone from investigative journalism. It was felt there is a general retreat from research journalism across Canada and the U.S. as newspapers, and the media in general, tend to go with a higher percentage of light and feature material.

But the meeting felt the Centre could foster and develop investigative work despite the prevailing mood in the national media.

An important function of the Centre will be to assist journalists by providing guidance and expertise so that stories aren't dropped because of lack of research know-how. Good work in one part of the country could stimulate similar efforts in other areas if individual reporters can contact the author through the Centre for direction and leads.

The other major function of the Centre will be to provide funding for investigative journalism and research. It was felt the Centre must do a careful job of screening projects it chooses to fund and make sure that the final product achieves the highest possible level of accuracy and fairness.

A group will act as provisional advisory board and will be co-chaired by Jean-Claude Leclerc and Jock Ferguson. Other members are Henry Aubin, John Sawatsky, Nick Fillmore, Jean-Pierre Bonhomme and Graham Fraser.

The interim board will be busy during the next few months raising funds, distributing information outlining the aims and objectives of the Centre and soliciting support and members.

Founding memberships will be \$100 and annual membership fees will be \$25.

The Centre is being incorporated as a non-profit charitable organization. It was agreed that funds raised by the Centre will go exclusively for funding investigative and research projects. The cost of operating the centre will come from membership fees.

John Laskin, of Toronto will act as the English-language counsel for the Centre.

The Centre is seeking the active participation of interested journalists. Anyone wanting to join should contact Jean-Claude Leclerc of *Le Devoir*, 211 rue du Saint-Sacrement, Montreal H2Y 1W9 (514-844-3361) or Jock Ferguson, 18 Park Avenue, Toronto M4J 1B6 (416-699-0450). — Nick

Fillmore.

*Nick Fillmore works for CBC news in Toronto and is a member of the provisional advisory board of the Centre for Investigative Journalism.*

## SOUTHAM ENDS FLING WITH NAT'L UNITY

TORONTO — Southam Press Limited is actively seeking investment prospects outside Canada for the first time.

President Gordon Fisher let this be known at the 51st annual shareholders' meeting here April 13. "(Should) all Southam eggs be in the fragile basket we call our national economy?" asked the chief executive officer of the 101-year-old Canadian company.

Part of the reason for the outward expansion must be that opportunities for acquiring Canadian media outlets have become seriously restricted because of the high concentration of ownership in this country. Only 30 of Canada's 118 dailies are independently owned, for instance. Southam has been publicly seeking major newspaper acquisitions in the Atlantic provinces for at least two years without success.

Southam admirably and formally recognized in its 1976 annual report that "public concern with concentration of mass media ownership is legitimate," and stated the company would not acquire control of more than one medium of mass communication within a single community, nor of a group "that might represent a regional concentration." Southam's corporate responsibility in this regard now must have become an additional constraint on its expansion in its homeland.

With all its weaknesses, the egg basket served Southam rather well in fiscal 1977. Net income at \$25,145,000 was up 7.2 per cent over the previous year. There was a \$5.5-million increase in working capital.

Illumination for the bright picture was pro-



Marnie Paikin with Gordon Fisher.

vided by, for instance, a 12 per cent increase in ad revenue from Southam's dailies, a 21.3 per cent increase in ad revenues for *TV Times*, and so on.

Even Fisher felt it "unduly modest" of the board of directors to characterize 1977 as "only satisfactory" for the company.

Southam's board may be ingrown to the extent that its judgements are a bit out of step. A criticism, voiced by shareholder Julius Revich of Toronto, that not enough of the 17 board members are outsiders was partially endorsed by board chairman St. Clair Balfour. "Your point is right," Balfour told Revich. "We should not have too many (insiders). We're working toward restoring (a balance)."

The most noteworthy outsider added to the board in the election held at the meeting is Marnie Paikin, a Hamilton housewife and civic leader who is chairman of the governing board of The University of Toronto. She is the first female Southam board member and her election fulfilled a promise made last year by Fisher.

The cover of Southam's annual report, once again a beautifully printed job, featured a photograph of a hand-stitched Canadian flag. But perhaps a bit paradoxically, only one question was asked (by *Content*) about the investment promised by Fisher at last year's annual meeting of up to \$1-million as a "special response to the challenge of national unity."

His answer indicated that \$300,000 spent as Southam's share of a controversial nationwide poll would be the last. No attempt had been made, he added, to calculate ancillary costs of conducting the poll and publishing its results, but they may have been \$200,000 to \$250,000.

If they were, the amount would be in the \$500,000 range and fulfill the promise in letter, if not in spirit. — B.Z.

## TORONTO SUN

### TRIAL WILL BE HISTORY-MAKER

TORONTO — On April 7 the prosecution of *The Toronto Sun* under the Official Secrets Act got under way with the arraignment, in a crowded Toronto courtroom, of *Sun* publisher Doug Creighton and editor Peter Worthington.

The trial will make history. And not only because it marks the first time a newspaper has ever been prosecuted under the Act. If, as the political pundits expect, the government calls an election this year, it will be the first time a Canadian government has deliberately chosen to go to the polls with a club hanging over the press, and a built-in freedom-of-speech issue handed on a plate to the opposition parties.

The trial will be before a judge and jury, since the government chose to proceed by way of indictment rather than, summarily, before a judge alone. Whether the trial is over by polling time, the fact of the prosecution is bound to be an election issue.

## TORONTO SUN

### OTHER MEDIA THREATENED

And it cannot be confined to *The Toronto Sun*. The government chose in the same week to issue search warrants against *CTV* television news, against *CBC* radio program *As It Happens* and against *Global* television news in a different, but still disturbing, context.

As *Global's* news editor Bruce Garvey told *Content*: "You can't turn around these days without finding the police in somebody's newsroom. If that isn't intimidation, you find a better word for it."

In *Global's* case, it was the Ontario Provincial Police demanding film of picket-line incidents — not just on-air film but everything taken on the scene, to be used against the strikers. *Global* resisted at first; when police later returned with a warrant, the network handed over the on-air film, but not the out-takes.

In the case of the *CBC*, it was the RCMP demanding tapes of an interview with the *Sun's* Peter Worthington after the *Sun* published information apparently taken from a secret RCMP report on Soviet espionage activities in Canada.

It was apparently the same report that Tory MP Tom Cossitt had used in the House of Commons in questioning the Liberal front bench. And, apparently, the same report was also available to *CTV News* in an hour-long program called Operation Code Blue.

*CTV* was not prosecuted for that program. Tom Cossitt was not prosecuted — but he was threatened with prosecution and, to back up the threat, the RCMP demanded from *CTV* the entire film footage of an interview with Cossitt.

*CTV* handed over the sealed can under protest and with an undertaking from the RCMP that the can would not be opened until *CTV* went before the courts to challenge the RCMP's right to it.

The sealed can was later returned, unopened, before *CTV* could get into court.

And it was then that the decision was taken to prosecute *The Toronto Sun*. Bruce Garvey's comment seems more and more apt: if it isn't intimidation, find a better word for it.

The *Sun*, in a front-page editorial, had this to say:

"The *Sun's* dilemma was a classic one for a free and responsible press. If it has information that contradicts what the top minister of government is dispensing, does the *Sun's* loyalty belong to the government, to the truth, or to the country?"

"Our decision was that the information did not jeopardise Canadian security. On the contrary, it alerted Canadians to the risks of accepting Soviet officials at face value. The correctness of that decision will have to be determined by the courts. . .

"The *Sun* is prepared to fight the issue in court, and it relies on our system of law to see that justice is done, that press freedoms are preserved, and that the public's interest is served.

"There are greater threats to Canada and our security than the *Toronto Sun*. And we shall continue to follow our conscience with, we hope, courage, compassion, integrity, loyalty and due regard for the law." — Alan Anderson.

OTTAWA — During the government's investigation of Tom Cossitt's possible violation of the Official Secrets Act, two RCMP inspectors, Gordon Butt and I.M. (Sonny) Saunders, contacted various members of the parliamentary press gallery to discover what they knew about a press conference the Leeds MP held Feb. 21.

Craig Oliver, office manager of *CTV's* parliamentary bureau, was contacted at home on Thursday March 2, by Insp. Saunders, who wanted to know what occurred and who told Oliver he was interested in obtaining the film shot at the conference.

On the following weekend, the Mounties telephoned *Global News* reporters John Burke and Gordon Henderson with similar requests. Henderson told the two officers he had nothing to do with the story and no further contact was made.

Oliver promised to check into the matter, while Burke notified *Global's* Ottawa bureau chief, Peter Desbarats.

On March 6 Saunders telephoned the Ottawa office of *CTV* to ask the co-operation of bureau chief Bruce Phillips. Phillips did not know exactly what the network had and refused to give a final answer.

After finding out how much filmed material *CTV* had, Phillips consulted news vice-president Don Cameron and the network's attorneys, Goodman and Goodman.

The lawyers discussed the situation with Insp. Saunders. It was agreed *CTV News* would comply with a court order to turn over the film.

Phillips was given no choice in the matter and states flatly: "We shouldn't have accepted the lawyers' advice."

It was a different matter at *Global*.

Desbarats asked the RCMP, through Burke, whether they wanted the filmed stories or the outtakes as well. He explained that he considered aired material to be equivalent to published material in a newspaper or magazine.

On Tuesday, March 7, the inspectors told *Global* they wanted all material and said they would get a writ to facilitate this.

The next morning, the police called Desbarats and arranged to receive the material that evening at 5.

They similarly arranged with *CTV* to pick up their material at the network's Ottawa affiliate, *CJOH-TV*, that same evening.

Earlier contact had been made with the *CBC*, but it explained that its video tape had been erased.

After having made the decision to turn over *Global's* film, Desbarats informed the network's news director, Ken Mallett, of his decision. Mallett was filling in for the absent news VP, William Cunningham.

Desbarats made the decision on his own. He said "In retrospect I think checking with a lawyer would be a normal thing to do. . . but it's also a question of good journalistic practice."

He said he complied with the police request

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because he couldn't think of a reason not to. "I don't know if I want a lawyer to make that decision."

At 4.30 Mallett called back and suggested to Desbarats that the incident be filmed. Desbarats explained that the amount of time involved in processing the film would prevent the item from appearing on the six o'clock news. It was decided instead to turn over the film in a *Global* studio and videotape the procedure.

Approximately 10 minutes before the RCMP were to arrive, a *CBC* camera crew also turned up to tape the surrender of the films. Other members of the press corps heard about *Global's* plans and by the time Butt and Saunders arrived, the *Global* studio was filled with television, radio and print reporters.

The two inspectors at first were reluctant to proceed with the serving of the warrant, but when Desbarats said he couldn't release the film under any other circumstances, they conceded.

What the RCMP received was John Burke's story on the Cossitt conference, a story by Bruce Garvey on the RCMP which contained some of Burke's footage and the outs from both stories.

*CTV* turned over no story, but the clips used in Craig Oliver's piece, plus the outs.

*CTV* had sealed its film and made an agreement with the RCMP that the film would not be opened until a Toronto court ruled on the networks claim that the writ was null and void.

When justice minister Ron Basford announced that no charges would be laid against Cossitt, the *CTV* case was stopped. Both networks had their film returned March 21.

However, at the same time, Basford announced *The Toronto Sun* and the paper's editor, Peter Worthington, would be charged under the Official Secrets Act for a column Worthington did on March 7 about the secret documents Cossitt was alleged to have.

All of this raises some disturbing questions about the law and the media.

Why was Worthington charged when *CTV's* Inquiry ran much of the same material weeks earlier?

Are newspapers which picked up Worthington's column from the *Sun* syndicate liable to be charged under the Official Secrets Act?

Another disturbing aspect of the case is the usual procedure during trials under the Act. Unlike cases under the Criminal Code, the case is heard in camera unless a judge specifically rules otherwise. Publication of details of the case is strictly forbidden.

These have not been the only incidents in which material was taken by the police. *The London Free Press* and *Global* were forced to turn over material dealing with a strike over to Ontario Provincial Police.

The same day the RCMP returned film to *Global* and *CTV*, they took audio tapes from the *CBC* radio program *As It Happens* which

dealt with Worthington and his column.

Bureau chiefs from *Global* and *CTV* take opposite stands in the debate.

Desbarats argues too many reporters tend to see the police as their enemies. It is not up to a journalist to decide whether the police have a strong case, he suggests.

Phillips takes into account the long standing political dispute between the government and Tom Cossitt.

"I don't like the principle of search and seizure. This is a politically inspired move to harass a political opponent of the government. It's an immoral use of government power," he said.

But in a commentary on a 10 p.m. newscast, Peter Desbarats told his audience:

"... When no principle of journalism is involved and the police have a legal order, I felt that *Global News* had to be careful about appearing to obstruct the police without a good reason. On the other hand, the state has to have a good reason for sending the police into a news office. I hope it turns out that, in this case, the Trudeau government has a good reason." — Paul Park.

## NATIONAL BUSINESS WRITING AWARDS

TORONTO — Jeffrey Carruthers' report in *The Globe and Mail* accurately predicting the route of the proposed Arctic gas pipeline 19 hours in advance of the Official National Energy Board announcement has won a **National Business Writing Award** for distinguished business news reporting.

The award reflects the time and effort expended by Carruthers in gathering details for the story, which had a noticeable impact on the business community and which one of the judges described as "a superb example of busi-

## Notice Board

May 25 & 26: RTNDA Atlantic region convention, Kaddy's Motor Inn, Saint John, N.B. Arrangements chairman: Derek Chase, (506) 652-1650.

June 1 & 2: RTNDA prairie regional convention, Holiday Inn, Lethbridge. Arrangements chairman: Bill Skelton, (403) 327-3161.

June 8: ACDIRT annual meeting, Hotel Hilton, Quebec City. Contact Jacques Labrie, Radio Francaise.

June 8 - 10: BCYNA summer meeting, Ganges, Salt Spring Island.

June 13 - 14: CDNPA editorial seminar (west), Newsroom Management, Marlborough, Winnipeg. Contact Dick MacDonald, (416) 923-3567.

June 23 & 24: RTNDA national meeting, Bayshore Inn, Vancouver. Arrangements chairman: Terry Spence (604) 386-8451 or Warren Baker, (604) 522-2711.

ness news reporting."

**Robert Hutchison**, a European correspondent for *The Financial Post*, won the investigative business reporting award for 1977 for his revelations concerning foreign sales of Canadian-designed nuclear power plants. Hutchison's material carried the first details of payoffs.

Another *Financial Post* staffer, **Sheldon Gordon** of Montreal, won the business feature writing award in the category covering publications with circulation over 100,000 for his report on Quebec. In it, he probed the business trends and social changes set in motion by policies of the pro-independence provincial government.

The business feature writing award for publications with circulation less than 100,000 went to **Doug Fetherling**, of Toronto, for his article in *Toronto Life* exploring the operations of *The Globe and Mail* and FP Publications.

**Dian Cohen**, of Montreal, was named winner of the award for a regular business or financial column. Her columns appear in a number of major Canadian daily newspapers.

The distinguished Service Award for 1977, intended to recognize outstanding achievement in Canadian business journalism over an extended number of years, will be presented to **Jack McArthur** of *The Toronto Star*, financial reporter, editor and, latterly, columnist.

The award for business or financial writing by a non-journalist was won by **Arthur Drache**, of Ottawa, for his series on tax matters that ran in *The Financial Post*.

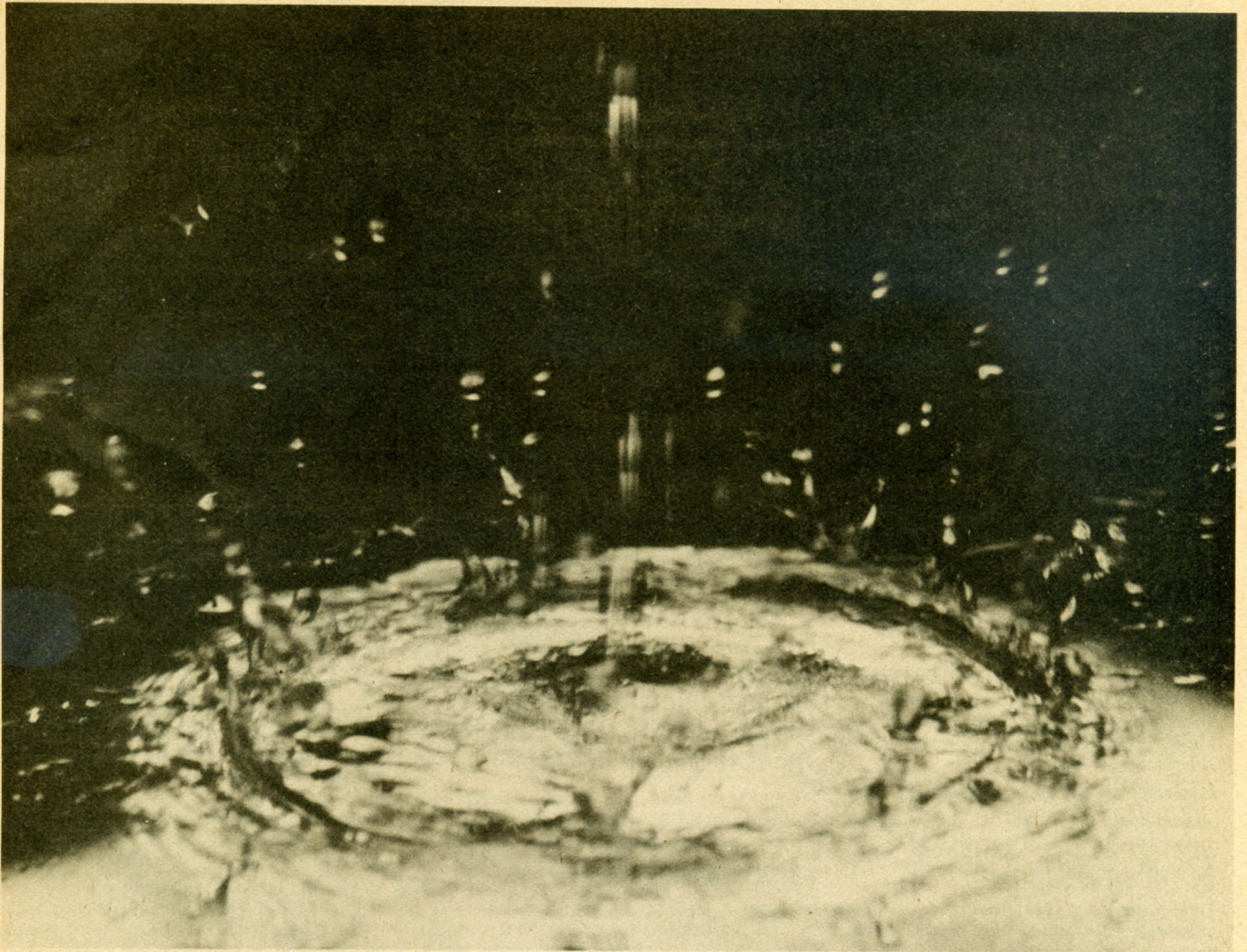
A panel of 14 judges selected the winners from among a record-setting number of 265 entries from across Canada. Many remarked on the high calibre of journalism achieved by the entrants. Several entries were singled out for honorable mention. They were **Peter Cook**, *Financial Times News Service*, for his article on the uranium cartel, and **Jim Romahn**, *Kitchener-Waterloo Record*, for his report on the hog industry facing a challenge from Quebec, in the spot news category.

**Jacques Forget**, *Le Soleil*, for "La transformation de l'amiante au Québec," **Harvey Southam** and **George Froehlich**, *The Vancouver Sun*, for disclosure that executives skirt Anti-Inflation Board salary controls, and **Keith Atkinson**, *Financial Post Magazine*, for his probe into the buying and selling of art, in the investigative reporting category.

Receiving honorable mention in the feature writing category for larger publications were **Graham Davies**, *Financial Times of Canada* Perspective-on-Money, for his piece on how to survive a tax audit, and **Mike Grenby**, *The Vancouver Sun*, for a feature on inflation and how long it takes to earn what you buy.

In the feature writing category for publications with smaller circulation, honorable mentions went to **Stephen Probyn** and **Michael Anthony**, *Canadian Business Magazine*, for "The Cartel that Ottawa built," and to **Bob Meyer**, *The Windsor Star*, for his series on white-collar crime.

In the regular business or financial column category, honorable mentions were earned by two National Business Writing Awards winners from last year, **Donald McGillivray**, *Southam News Services* and *Financial Times of Canada*, and **Peter Brimelow**, *Maclean's* magazine. (30)



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# Letters

## EVEN AFTER FORTY YEARS REPORTING BEATS SORTING

Congratulations on your special issue on women in the Canadian news media.

There are hundreds more great women you could have mentioned who have done outstanding work for 75 years or more. News women have always shown an unusual capacity to help each other in spite of being often underpaid, overworked and given the crappy assignments.

I got my first job because the publisher of *The Calgary Herald* lived across the road and liked my smile. But the next year I didn't get a raise because I lived at home (12.50 a week was enough).

Anyway, I am still smiling 40 years later and still turning out three columns a week. I have no illusions about newsrooms, but journalism still beats sorting letters in the post office, cleaning streets after a storm or painting the back steps in the heat of the noon day sun.

Alixé Carter,  
*The Ottawa Journal.*

*Alixé Carter, 75, is a past chairman of the Ottawa branch of the Media Club of Canada and a former national director of the Canadian Women's Press Club.*

## JOURNALIST FINDS SEXISM STILL A PROBLEM IN THE NEWSROOM

I must admit to a certain amount of disappointment when I opened your special issue on women in the media.

I am sure our experiences here are not unique. If one of the few women on staff — I am the only one on news out of a staff of 10 reporters — is not doing her job properly, she hears about it, in the newsroom. The men go out for lunch with the editor or maybe for a late afternoon drink.

At the very least, problems are discussed in the editor's office. Women receive memos from the editor, displayed on their desk for everyone to read.

I have recently taken over a beat and, although I have been handling it as instructed by the male reporter who handled it before, I was verbally dressed down in the middle of the newsroom for not doing my job properly.

If the newsroom secretary is absent, it is one of the female reporters who is assigned to do meeting checks — never one of the men. We have strictly vetoed making the coffee, but many of her other jobs seem to find themselves on our desks.

The male reporters are not, however, any problem. It is strictly management.

I know incidents such as these continue in other departments, both editorial and otherwise. I have no doubt there are many newsrooms across the country where the situation is similar, or worse.

The pages in the special issue devoted to Kit of the *Globe* and to the titles for women's

sections were very interesting. Perhaps, however, the space could have been put to better use discussing problems encountered on a daily basis by women journalists.

Until I came here, I had never encountered the feeling that I may not be as capable as a man. Women are told frequently, sometimes by other women, that the problems have disappeared — perhaps that is what makes them so hard to deal with when they appear.

Name Withheld.

### Publisher's comment:

Our general rule of not publishing anonymous letters is broken in this case. The letter-writer is personally known to me as an honest and straightforward individual.

Her fear that, should her paper be identified, there would be "negative feedback" against her and other female staffers is an unfortunate comment on the situation in at least one newsroom. — B.Z.

## READER CITES STUDY ON ONTARIO SEXISM, FILLS IN A PIECE OF NEWSPAPER HISTORY

Your May issue was worth waiting for. Presumably, it will serve as something of a watershed for reasonably regular coverage of one of the important, on-going stories in journalism — specifically, the status of women in the Canadian news media.

For that matter, it seems to me this subject has to get fairly continuous, thoughtful play if we're to better understand how journalism's complexion changes in relation to the broader society we serve. Congratulations on a good beginning.

You may recall a report released earlier this year by the Ontario Press Council which summed up the status quite nicely. The report, written by the council's committee on sexism, said women — who accounted for 26 per cent of the employees at the council's nine daily members — held 5.1 per cent of roles making minor decisions and nine-tenths of one per cent had major roles.

Robert Pearson, publisher of *The Windsor Star*, wrote in the report's section on employment that the number of women in editorial departments was surprisingly low — because there has been a trend in recent years to employ more women in newsrooms.

"Women have proven themselves to be equally efficient in all aspects of skills required in the newsroom," he wrote. Yet the figures tell a somewhat different, if gradually changing, story.

On another matter, your survey of what used to be known as women's sections revealed that a quarter of the papers replying use the Lifestyle label, or a variation thereon.

I may well be corrected from some quarter, but my impression is that *The Montreal Star* was the first Canadian daily to use Lifestyles to

identify what had been known as Women's News. The entire section was redefined in order to cover a wider range of topics for a wider variety of people.

The new section first appeared April 21, 1969 (my memory has been refreshed by *Star* librarian Theresa Butcher). A full nine years ago. (And, as immodest as it undoubtedly sounds, the idea was mine, being on staff at the *Star* at that time. Donna Logan, now assistant managing editor, was section editor then and set out to make the pages reflect the name change.)

Dick MacDonald,  
Manager of Editorial Services,  
Canadian Daily Newspaper Publishers  
Association,  
Toronto, Ont.

## GLOBE EDITOR CITES ERRORS, PROVOKES MASSIVE RETALIATION

Jean Howarth is assistant editor of *The Globe and Mail*. Mary Trueman, formerly with our Queen's Park bureau, is now with our Ottawa bureau. Wendie Kerr is half our Montreal bureau. Brenda Large was at Queen's Park until she resigned for personal reasons earlier this year. Not long ago a woman turned down the job of night city editor and a few years ago a woman turned down the job of Queen's Park bureau chief because she and her husband decided to return to the West.

Women make up a quarter of our city reporting staff — most of them on senior beats — and there are more women than I care to take the time to count working as writers and editors in the business, sports and entertainment departments. So I was annoyed by Eleanor Wright Pelrine's statement in her article "Whatchamacallit and Why" that "Today, *The Globe and Mail* has only a handful of women working 'city side,' and the important bureau postings — China, Ottawa, Queen's Park — just don't go to women."

In fact, hirings, postings and promotions are made without regard to sex. Ms. Pelrine misspelled Margaret Cragg's name throughout, but to be fair to her, I must say that the rest of her article was slightly more accurate than that one paragraph.

E.H. Moser,  
Assistant Managing Editor,  
*The Globe and Mail*,  
Toronto, Ont.

### Pelrine replies:

To deal with the most important issue first, I very much regret the misspelling of Margaret Cragg's name. I have known and admired her for many years and consider the error inexcusable. Freelancers, alas, have no access to a daily column apologizing for *Our Mistakes* and inaccuracies.

Mr. Moser's admission that "women make up a quarter of our city reporting staff" is

(See Letters, page 19)



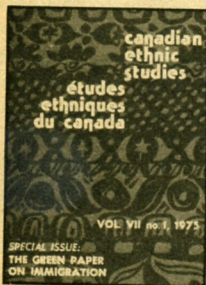
# Ten good reasons to read Canadian Magazines.



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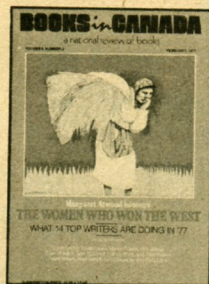
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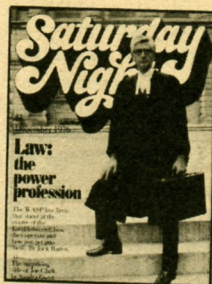
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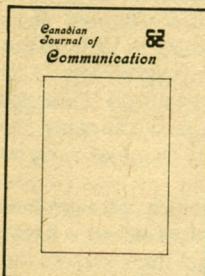
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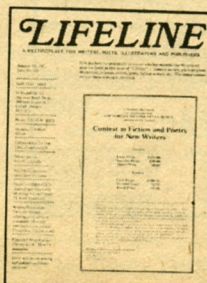
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# OTTAWA TODAY:

## A BITTER END

By BILL BEAN

OTTAWA — Stan Nadin carefully cut the *Ottawa Today* patch from his jacket.

Then the *Today* production manager put a match to it and “watched it curl up and go black.”

His reaction was typical of the anger and frustration felt by employees after the demise of Ottawa's new morning tabloid.

The official death April 24 threw 71 people out of work, leaving them without their final payroll, severance pay, vacation pay or even the separation slips needed to collect unemployment benefits.

The staff was quick to organize. Assignment editor Eleanor Dunn and news editor Phil Gibson retained Ottawa lawyer Kenneth Ross to launch legal action against shareholder Daisons Press and their agent, *Today's* executive editor and general manager, Robert Essery.

The action, on behalf of all employees, alleges that Daisons Press made a verbal commitment to meet the final two-week payroll, vacation pay and severance pay, a bill which could tally \$80,000. Employees have now been told that they will have to file claims for the money, just like any creditor.

“I can put up with a lot of things,” says Dunn, “but I can't put up with people who lie to me.”

The veteran of newspaper guild activity says, “If they think they're dealing with pussycats, they've got another think coming . . . I know some of the legal tricks too.”

What does Daisons Press and its agent think of all this?

Robert Essery declines to comment and says that Paul Ianuzzi, the Daisons principal who was in on *Today* from the beginning, won't talk either.

“Why don't we just sit on it for a couple of weeks,” said Essery.

THE PORTENTS of the newspaper's coming troubles were there even before the first Sept. 6, 1977 edition.

A preliminary market study had not

been followed by a thorough one — the paper's market and possible circulation had never been nailed down.

The figure upon which the investors apparently banked was the 27,000-paper Ottawa sales of *The Globe and Mail* and *The Gazette*.

President Bill Morrison estimated the paper could better that figure by 3,000.

Box sales would be the major thrust of circulation; boxes were placed at every bus stop. But the planners apparently forgot that Ottawa was not Toronto. Subway riders need something to look at, but surface commuters have the scenery. And a large part of the Ottawa work force still drives to work. “We made the paper too hard to get at,” said ex-editor Charles King.

It was months before management realized the error and launched a home delivery drive. By that time, circulation had fallen dramatically.

According to King, the “basic blunder of not trying home delivery right away” and lack of money were responsible for the ultimate failure of the newspaper.

Although staffers believed the paper had at least a \$1 million behind it — enough to last the first year — King says that only about \$750,000 was pledged and doesn't know how much of that ever actually got into circulation.

But we were young. We were the best there were — our bosses told us so — and we were going to show *The Citizen* and the *Journal* that a small paper could knock them on their ears.

That was September.

BY MID-NOVEMBER, the paper was in trouble. Circulation crashed from 57,000 to 7,000 within a month.

Initial investment was lighter than it should have been, as investors expected to reach the break-even circulation of 20,000 easily. When the \$5,000 daily cash flow did not appear, the house of cards began to come tumbling down.

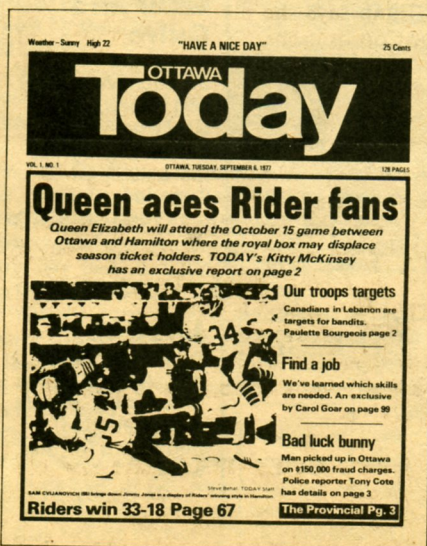
There were other indications the honeymoon was over.

Weather was lousy, which, it was thought, discouraged box sales. News was very slow.

Tension grew in the newsroom between reporters, who felt they were being “wasted” writing “trivial” or “sensational” stories, and news editor Ted Stuebing, who felt their copy was too “dull” or “serious.” Copy was constantly spiked or rewritten without consulting the reporters.

Tension came to a head Dec. 15 when assignment editor Colin MacKenzie was removed from his position. A mass resignation by reporters was narrowly averted. But they soon began to trickle away.

A month later, Jan. 12, came the night of the long knives. The board of directors was shuffled, with two members of the Ottawa group — editor Charles King and Bill More — being dropped. The Toronto group — Al



First issue: Sept. 6, 1977.

Bruner (ex of *Global*) and Paul Iannuzzi (Daisons) — strengthened their position by pledging more financial support to the paper.

The major Ottawa group shareholder, Sol Shabinsky, also saw his position strengthened with the addition of Ottawans Jerry Grafstein and Lorne Greenberg to the board of directors.

Through this, Essery, then a consultant from Daisons at the paper, rose in importance, a month later to replace publisher Bill Morrison after he resigned from the business.

King says he resigned because he didn't like the way the new power on the board — Daisons — was running "the editorial department on the cheap . . . replacing experienced reporters with students."

Reporters continued to leave the paper — on Day Last, only Aileen McCabe remained of the original eight reporters. The staff had shrunk from eight to five reporters.

The public first got wind of *Today's* financial bind on March 20 when *The Toronto Sun* seized a number of *Today* boxes for non-payment of box rentals. The boxes were returned the next day, but there remained a smell of death in the air.

Essery told Ottawa media reporters the box seizure was a "misunderstanding," but the attempt a few weeks later by another creditor to seize office furniture cleared up any "misunderstanding" the staff may have had about the paper's situation.

ON APRIL 14, *Today* went into voluntary receivership, with Essery appointed receiver for Daisons Press. He told the staff privately that the action was a "financial manoeuvre" to give the company "breathing space" while new money was sought.

The breathing space lasted one week.

After a marathon meeting with directors and shareholders on Thursday, April 20, he told the staff to come to work as usual Sunday, saying the paper would continue to publish.

Sunday we learned the paper would not publish Monday. Essery said it didn't necessarily mean the end of *Today* — after all, strikes stop papers all the time — but few believed him then.

By Monday morning, most were at the unemployment office, laughing and joking about being on the breadlines, but privately very angry with the turn of events.

Essery told many employees Sunday and Monday that "payroll will be met by Daisons Press" and assured them

Last issue: April 21, 1978.

that severance pay and vacation pay "would be taken care of."

By noon of April 25, *Today* was officially bankrupt. Those who hadn't already cleaned out their desks had to deal with the trustees — Conway, Her-shoran and Young of Toronto — if they could get into the padlocked office.

Payroll had not been met on Monday as scheduled and few expected to see their pay by the next promised day, Wednesday. But all believed the Bankruptcy Act provided for the payment of employees before creditors.

The next unpleasant surprise came Wednesday when trustee Lewis Belfer told a group of employees that they had to file claims like any other creditor. Belfer said vacation pay claims would be treated as a priority, but expressed little hope that salaries or severance pay would be covered.

Dunn says she plans to work through the Corporations Act and the Master and Servant Act, which, she says, provide that the employers, ultimately the board of directors, are responsible for "all wages and benefits accrued to their employees." A creditors' meeting was to be held May 16 in Ottawa.

Creditors, including the employees, will have a rough time squeezing anything out of *Today*. Belfer said the firm had only a few accounts receivable.

Most of the newspaper's equipment was rented or leased. Payments were not made on many items; hence the seizure of the boxes.

WHERE DOES THIS leave the employees?

Most are in a financial bind.

Much of the composing room staff came to *Today* from the picket lines out-

side *The Ottawa Journal*. There are few jobs in Ottawa for them.

Some of the reporters turned down job offers at other Ottawa papers to work at *Today*. Now summer hiring is complete and there won't likely be any openings till the fall.

For many it means a move out of the Ottawa market, for some as far away as Edmonton, where the *Journal/Sun* rivalry is opening jobs. For those who "dug in" when they joined *Today*, buying houses or land, a move is not welcomed.

*Today's* financial track record has been tough on the reputations of some.

Production manager Nadin and former chief photographer Ted Grant are among those who used their personal contacts to secure equipment and supplies for a paper which didn't pay for them.

Now Nadin and Grant feel their standing with their suppliers has been reduced to zero.

For many in the news staff, there was a "professional" concern that overrode even the money issue — the way the paper died.

*Today* died without saying good-bye.

There was no "30" edition — just the usual Friday paper, 64 pages — containing not a word or phrase that indicated anyone at the paper knew the end was nigh.

That's not to say the newsroom was blind to what had gone before. But we had been told and believed that we had at least another week before the "final" decision came down.

"Survive," said Essery that last Thursday night. "The name of the game is still survival." He called on us to "keep up the good work" in the coming editions.

Columnists held onto items for their Monday columns. Weekend assignments were ordered. It was business as usual.

When the end finally came, only a few had prepared resumes, and only one of the 20-member news staff had an assured job elsewhere. For the others, the frantic search for work began.

Several staffers asked Essery about publishing a final edition, but even the offer of free labor was spurned.

Said entertainment editor Bob Jutras: "At least they could have given us the dignity of being able to say good-bye."

But the *Today* staff couldn't even have that. No jobs, no money, and no fond farewells.

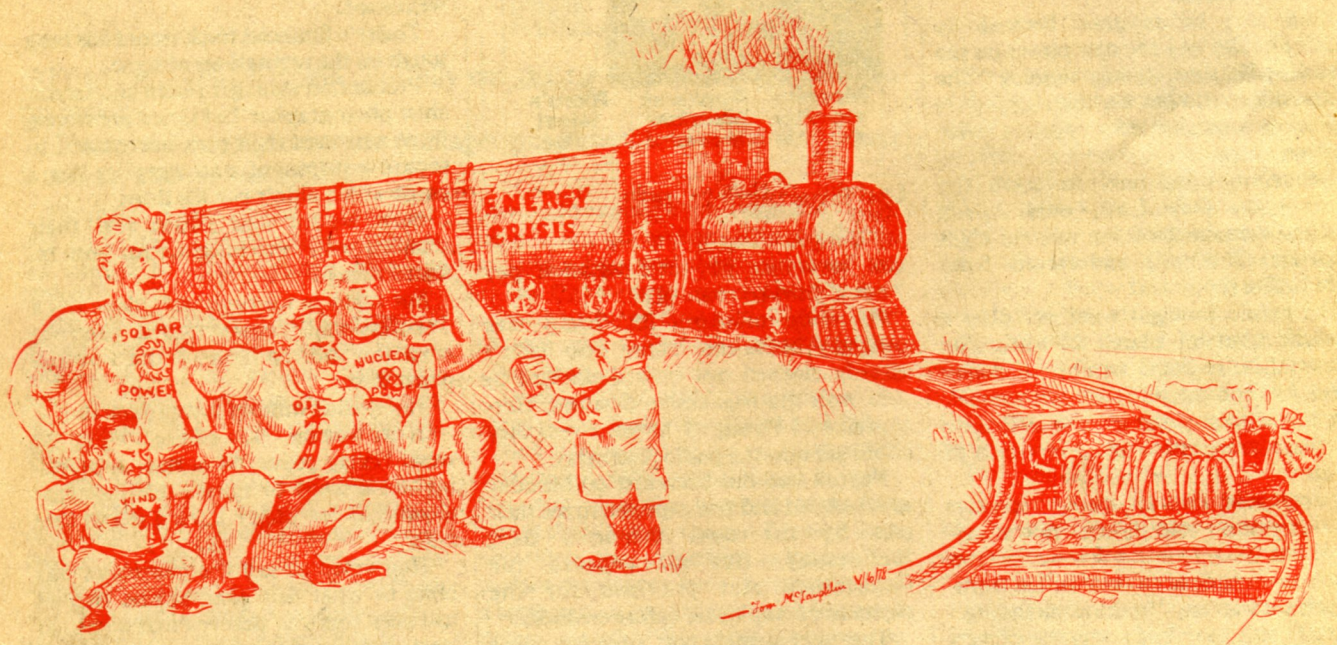
*Bill Bean was news editor and columnist for Ottawa Today and was with the paper from cradle to grave. One of the lucky veterans of Today, he is heading for Edmonton where he will work for the Journal.*

30

# THE ENERGY CRISIS:

## A DILEMMA FOR JOURNALISTS

By KEN WYMAN



LONDON — It was a casual conspiracy.

Reporters from several of Canada's major dailies met in the corridors and agreed to a temporary embargo on copy. The first day of the energy crisis conference, "Petroleum and Beyond," hosted by the University of Western Ontario School of Journalism, was taking an unexpected turn.

The available stories were all too pat, too familiar. Credible experts predicted the end of civilization-as-we-know-it within ten years. Other equally credible experts promised to save the world, as soon as funds were found for their favourite research.

The sense of *deja-vu* was strong. How many times has the end of the world been predicted and statistically proven lately? And yet, the potential dangers of ecological disaster, population explosion, or energy shortages are certainly real.

The difficulty of accurately interpreting the facts to a crisis-jaded public became a major topic of debate that

evening for the two dozen top Canadian journalists at the conference.

"Are we to be apostles, carrying the message from on high?" Jeff Carruthers, the parliamentary press gallery freelancer wondered. "And who's message should we carry?"

"We could all go out and start reporting the (energy) crisis is here. . . wolf! wolf! wolf! . . . and by some circumstances beyond our control, it doesn't happen in 1981, or '85, or '91. . . Experts are often wrong. So who do you believe?"

Mistrust of the experts was widespread. Peter Trueman, *Global TV's* newscaster, confessed his own "inability to assess the self-serving stuff fed to us by government and business" and others were quick to agree.

Chris Dennett of *The London Free Press* was one of the most outspoken on the subject of experts. "I covered energy for three years," he said. "I was lost. I sat down with oil men, and they had all the statistics. I know I was suckered a hundred times."

It would be difficult for anyone not to

be taken in by the type of polished professional lobbyists who appeared at the conference. Million-dollar budgets and years of experience as advocates for their own brand of power production made them hard to question deeply.

Nor were they pushed very hard to resolve the contradictions in their statistics. In one presentation, for example, a vice-president of the Chase Manhattan Bank, John G. Winger, showed two consecutive slides offering two different figures for current levels of U.S. unemployment. Neither was questioned.

(No Canadian unemployment statistics were offered. In thoroughly memorized speeches, expert after expert referred to "this country," meaning the United States.)

However, the sheer confusion of so many conflicting truths and the blatant contempt for Canadian sensibilities which came from the many American experts drove the level of skepticism higher and higher.

"I could understand Canadian nationalism far better after I heard the  
(See ENERGY, PAGE 20)

## The show must go on...

Bravo! The world premier performance of "Petroleum and Beyond," which debuted recently at London's lavishly refurbished Spencer Hall, has proven again that Canadians can produce Broadway-class theatre. With an all-star international cast and an amazing, gimmick-packed set full of technological nostalgia for the mega-watt sixties, this show is strongly reminiscent of the classic melodrama.

The conference as theatre. Is that unfair? All the elements were there: Despair in the first act as the experts gloomily argue over the exact date of the energy apocalypse (1980, or '90, or maybe '95, if we're lucky). Then breast-beating anguish from journalists torn with doubt over their role — Guardians of the Truth or Messengers of the Gods. In the second act, joy and hope as alternative energy experts assure us that if solar and zephyr power can't save us, oil trees and bio-mass gas can. At the denouement, cathartic relief as the details of salvation pour forth from government sages, would-be scene stealers, who speak with the wisdom of Ottawa's oracles.

The set couldn't have been better for a conference on the energy shortage. A windowless, over-heated room, with banks of fluorescent lights gleaming day and night. John Marshall of *The Globe and Mail* captured the mood.

"It was a set out of a Bond movie. Not a piece of chalk in sight. But three blackboards that were not blackboards. They were back projection screens.

"Opaque screens could rise up to cover them. Another could descend from the ceiling. Lights could fade and rise in various patterns. Movie projectors. Still projectors, conventional and otherwise. All to the theme music of living better electrically."

The building itself, originally the mansion of a Canadian oil industry millionaire, had recently undergone \$2.5 million worth of renovation, including filling in the indoor swimming pool to make a billiard room for the Bank of Nova Scotia management trainees who share the space with the university.

Most appropriately, a vast Cadillac Fleetwood limousine ferried reporters and speakers from the airport and back. But the driver assured me, as we drove downtown, that the limo gets better mileage than his best friend's Vega (which is out of tune).

The speakers were pure theatre, too. Fatherly John Runnals from Uranium and Nuclear Energy Canada calmed our silly nightmare fears of radiation leaks, explosions and creatures that glow in the night. The Chase Manhattan Bank sent a senior vice president with a slide show that confused everyone except parliamentary press gallery reporter Jeff Carruthers, who's seen the exact same act from the same man three times before. "Businessmen," Carruthers said, "were a lot more sceptical of the bank's presentation than the journalists here."

There was an unbelievably hyper, mad scientist from the U.N., boiling over with science fiction solutions. Comic relief from the witty third world chairman. Bluster from American foreign policy experts. . . in short, a great piece of theatre, if they can only trim it down from three days to one action-packed evening. A sterling piece of semi-fiction.

And if you can't wait for the play, you'll soon be able to read the book. Yes, coming in early July, *The Complete Script for Petroleum and Beyond (Abridged)*, edited by Dick MacDonald, will be available at selected stores in your area. — K.W.

## Stories you may have missed

### ● CANADA IS THE WORLD'S LARGEST PER CAPITA USER OF ENERGY

We've passed the U.S. now, although they still waste more energy gross. Are our cold winters the reason? Sweden is just as cold, but uses one-third of the energy per capita. **Contact:** R.B. Toombs, Energy, Mines and Resources, Ottawa.

### ● SOLAR FRIDGES AND OIL TREES

New developments in alternative technology include solar refrigerators that operate on evaporating recyclable coolants; genetically-engineered latex-producing desert plants that can be farmed for petro-chemical substitutes; water temperature difference activated turbines that

make thermal pollution from industry an asset; and mini-hydro plants that turn even intermittent creeks into economic producers of power. **Contact:** Joseph Barnea, U.N. Institute for Training and Research, New York, N.Y. (212) 754-1234.

### ● OLD FAITHFUL'S KILLING ME

The natural geysers in Yellowstone Park (a potential source of geo-thermal energy) dump 200 tons of arsenic into the Mississippi River every year. **Contact:** Joseph Barnea, as above.

### ● OIL Oozing OUT OF GROUND SPARKS NEW 'BLACK GOLD RUSH'

There it was just bubbling up out of the Oregon ground. After a hundred years of exploration and

geological surveys to record depths, the Beverly Hillbillies scenario comes true. See *The Journal of Energy and Development*, University of Colorado at Boulder.

### ● THREE IMPORTANT CONFERENCES

Employment in a Conserver Society, May 12-14. National Survival Institute, Toronto. **Contact:** Bea Olivastris (416) 449-1971  
Growth in a Conserving Society, Aug. 3-7, 47th Couchiching Conference. **Contact:** Kurt Swinton or Stuart Marwick, (416) 489-9219.  
Renewable Alternatives Aug. 20-24. Solar Energy Society of Canada, Inc., London, Ont. **Contact:** Robert Swartman, (519) 679-3332.

# LEARNING FROM THE MISTAKES

## SASKATCHEWAN JOURNALISTS' ASSN DISBANDS

By DENNIS GRUENDING

REGINA — There were only a few stragglers on hand, idealists to the end, to lay the Saskatchewan Journalists' Association to rest at a mid-April meeting in Saskatoon.

That small gathering of the faithful was quite a contrast to the founding meeting one sunny July morning in 1975. That day more than 100 of us came to Regina to create English-speaking Canada's only provincial journalists' association. Membership that first year was about 115.

Our object was stated in deceptively simple terms in a rough constitution prepared for that first meeting: "to promote standards of excellence among Saskatchewan journalists."

It's not that there isn't some excellence among the reporters and editors in Saskatchewan. But there's a lot of mediocrity too. And there most assuredly is a lack of standards.

The situation is only heightened by our position as a media hinterland. Our journalists, on the whole, are young, inexperienced, on their way to somewhere else. And our media managers are not generally as talented as those in larger centres. There's a lack of crisp leadership from them.

The SJA was based on the premise that individual excellence and ethics aren't enough. There was, and is, a need for some kind of vehicle to promote a continuing discussion on important journalistic issues, individual and collective. Media managers, with always at least one eye on the ledger, haven't provided the kind of leadership we needed.

The SJA tackled many important questions, however inadequately, but we clearly failed to convince the journalists of Saskatchewan that we were necessary.

ONE IDEA in the minds of at least some

of the founding members of the SJA was that they could set up some kind of a "complaints mechanism" which would allow journalists and members of the public to review the performance of individual journalists and media organizations.

One of the few founding members still in the province is Barry Wilson of Saskatoon. In 1975, he was a legislative reporter for the Saskatoon *Star-Phoenix*. Now he works for the farm paper, *The Western Producer*.

He says the media have considered themselves totally unaccountable to anyone but the owners for too long.

"I really believe that journalists should

be accountable to the community in a very real sense. I'd like to see some kind of vehicle set up to judge journalists, to give the public some way of taking us to task when we screw up.

"That's one of the things I hoped the SJA would do, set up a complaints council . . . not a press council, because they tend to be cover-up operations rather than judges, I think."

There was an immediate and largely skeptical response to that idea, even at the founding convention. Some people thought it sounded suspiciously like a press council, and that was going too far (while Wilson thinks press councils don't achieve enough, the mere mention of the words sends some media managers in Saskatchewan into a state of apoplexy).

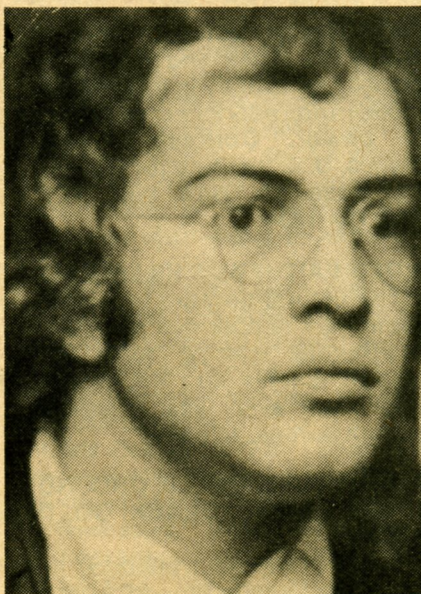
Others simply didn't want their mistakes and omissions publicized, particularly by their peers.

Nevertheless, the SJA appointed a committee to investigate the idea and to determine what other areas the SJA should pursue.

Long before the first year had ended, even the members of that committee were cooling to the idea. For one thing, they had approached lawyers, who told them that without the organization being established in legislation (like a medical association), any public criticism of journalists or media outlets was potentially libellous.

THE ASSOCIATION soon shifted its emphasis to preparing briefs, holding seminars and preparing a newsletter, *The Saskatchewan Journalist*. To a great extent, the critique of performance began to occur in the newsletter, and the *Journalist* became a bright spot particularly for the last 10 or so of its 18 issues.

The newsletter carried stories about a



Barry Wilson

Photo: Ian Caldwell

reporter fired from the Prince Albert *Daily Herald* because she had been friendly with some reporters at the Saskatoon *Star-Phoenix* known to be guild sympathizers and about the action of the *Star-Phoenix* and the Regina *Leader Post* in pulling an edition of *The Canadian* magazine containing a toughly-written story about Saskatchewan cabinet minister Otto Lang.

And the *Journalist* tried to pose some of the more theoretical questions faced by journalists. How close should we be to the political parties we cover? Is our role to promote, to describe, to influence? When are press conferences not news? To whom are journalists and outlets accountable?

If the newsletter became one pre-occupation of the association, the other was studies and briefs. The SJA sent some members into northern Saskatchewan to discuss media coverage with people living there. The interviews and related research resulted in a comprehensive brief to the CRTC when it met in Regina in February, 1977. The commission was reviewing the CBC licence in Saskatchewan.

The SJA presentation, along with a number of others from northern groups and the provincial government, was probably instrumental in the CBC moving quickly to spend more money and improve its northern coverage in Saskatchewan.

A second major effort went into a brief to the University of Regina regarding its proposal for a journalism school. The SJA surveyed as many journalists as time allowed about their experience with journalism schools and their expectations of them.

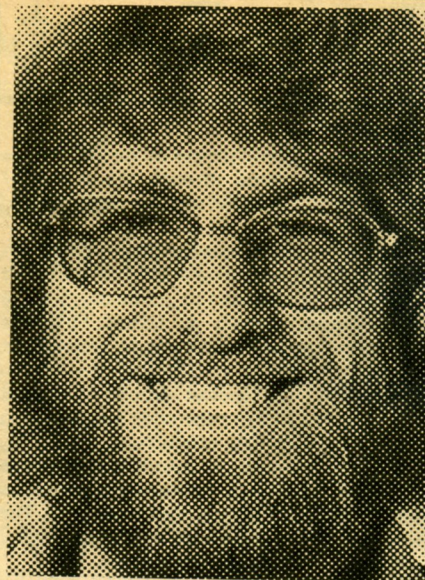
The result was a qualified approval for the Regina school: only if the university was certain that the prairie job market could absorb journalism graduates and provided the program was a good one.

The organization also attempted, with limited success, to make statements and take positions on issues which involved journalists.

**BUT IN SPITE** of what looks like a considerable list of accomplishments, interest in the SJA declined to the point where the business portion of the fall convention in October 1977 drew only eight members.

The executive at that time decided it would send a ballot to each of the 60 members asking if the organization should continue. At least 31 members would have to return ballots marked "yes" or the executive would recommend disbanding.

Only 14 members returned their



Paul Brette

ballots. Eight said the organization should continue.

In this, as in all failures, we learned a great deal: about ourselves and about the journalistic community.

My experience is that journalists remain stalwartly anti-organizational, one of the last groups of open-frontier dreamers and believers in unhampered individuality. As such they are timid, because they're isolated and infused with the belief that they are always alone, always the safe, detached observers, never the doers.

Those journalists didn't like the idea of the SJA in the first place and they didn't join.

Then we have the SJA adherents. Young turks, idealistic, strident, self-righteous and generally too serious. A group which was to learn too late that many of our colleagues thought us an elitist bunch.

But if the SJA members were different in some ways, we shared many of the inadequacies common to our profession.

We were inept organizers: of membership drives, of meetings, of publicity. We were timorous salesmen, afraid to push something that we believed in. We did not work well in committees. Our well-honed ability to analyze, often cynically, kept us pinning ourselves to the wall for our failures, but seldom doing anything about them.

**AMONG THE JOURNALISTS** who stayed away in great numbers, the criticisms of the organization were varied.

The opinion of at least some of them might be summarized in a few comments from Tom Loran, a veteran reporter who

returned to *The Star-Phoenix* from out of the province after the SJA had organized.

Loran says he has his own news ethics, "and I don't like other people telling me how I should act or how I should work."

He says he also objects to having employees telling management what to do. "I don't think there are enough mature newsmen in an organization like this (SJA) to make the kinds of judgements they made."

Finally, Loran hits upon a tender spot which helps to explain the suspicion which the SJA created.

Coincidentally, the organization was being created at about the same time as the newspaper guild was organizing *The Star-Phoenix*. The paper stubbornly resisted the guild and, in February, after a third decertification attempt, the guild was voted out.

Loran says that he saw the same people active in the guild were also active in the SJA. "It smacked of unionism to me."

Loran adds that "I would think from the little I know of them (SJA adherents) that they would use their influence to encourage unionism."

He says, though, that he doesn't believe the organization was "fronting" for the union.

Indeed, the association almost wrote a line into its constitution stating that it was not encouraging unionism.

One unfortunate series of arguments which encouraged skepticism was the lengthy debate about who should be allowed into the organization. For most of the first year, those who wanted only "working" journalists, but not management, admitted, won the day. But that decision was later changed to admit management.

**THE MANAGING EDITOR** of the Moose Jaw *Times-Herald*, Joyce Walter, was at the founding meeting and she took out a membership. She never renewed it.

She says the debate over keeping management out of the organization disturbed her. "I got the impression that once you are in management, you cease to be a journalist."

She also thought that the organization "might be a step to more unions in the newsrooms."

Another criticism which Walter levels at the organization is the "big-cityness" of it. She says the people in her newsroom in the small city of Moose Jaw did see a need for some method of getting together with other journalists to talk shop.

But at the SJA founding meeting journalists from Saskatoon and Regina

(See SJA, page 20)

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# Lee Lester

## ●LONDON

The days of newspapers as we know them could be numbered through the advent of electronic transmission systems now in use in Britain.

The *British Broadcasting Corporation, Independent Broadcasting Authority* and Post Office have all hurried to get involved in the new systems, known as teletext. Teletext transmits "pages" which can be received on domestic TV sets.

Currently, the special decoders required cost about \$2000, but the price is expected to fall rapidly with mass production.

The information is transmitted as code carried in the interval between the bottom of one TV picture and the top of the next. The decoder translates the code into words, letters and symbols to fill the entire screen.

The three systems — the *BBC* calls its system CEEFAX; the *IBA's* is ORACLE; and the Post Office's is Viewdata — offer a choice of between 500 and almost 900 "pages." ORACLE is an acronym for Optical Reception of Announcements by Coded Line Electronics.

Viewers can select any page at will from an index and by using a walkie-talkie-size push-button selector. It is possible to view the page at the same time as a regular program.

It is this ability to select pages and to recall them that could eventually open the way to disposing of the whole, cumbersome apparatus of printing and distributing newspapers on a mass scale. All that is now necessary, is for one copy to be printed — or formulated on a video display terminal — and the individual pages to be entered into a computer's memory for transmission. Back issues can easily be stored in the memory banks.

The British, so far, are transmitting pages featuring stock market prices, foreign exchange rates, road travel condition reports, theatre program listings, horse racing results, corporate, domestic and foreign news items, and advertisements.

The facility of pages being locked for closer or repeated study offers an enormous advantage over the rolling newscasts available to cable TV viewers in Canada. Teletext also enables information updates to appear automatically on the screen if a news headline is selected.

So confident is the Post Office in its Viewdata system, that it has linked telephones to TV sets. These enable contact to be established with the Post Office computer. Viewers can then access the computer through their handheld programmers.

So it seems the technology is already with us. But so are the unions, newsstand owners, paper carriers and the forest industry. But for how long?

## ●MONTREAL

Globe Communications, of Montreal — publishers of *Midnight* and the *National Examiner* — may acquire *US*, the gossip magazine published by *The New York Times*.

*US* is said to have cost the *Times* \$1 million since its launch a year ago. Talks have gone on between the two companies.

## ●LONDON

From the 1978 *Benn's Press Directory* classified index under Women's Interests: **Ninety magazine titles and cross-references** to "children, food and cookery, health and hygiene, home interests, motherhood, etc."

No titles are listed under Male Interests — only a cross reference to "Sex Interests."

## ●NEW YORK

"In an early edition of *The Times* yesterday a photograph of the sun was erroneously used to illustrate an article on the moon." — *The New York Times*, Jan 25, 1978.

## ●LONDON

British journalists are pressing for more maternity leave. But some of the agreements already negotiated by the National Union of Journalists with UK employers will leave Canadians envious.

At Penguin Books, the entitlement is 42 weeks: 16 on full pay, eight on half-pay and the rest unpaid. The original job is held open during this time and the mother can stay at home for up to two years. If she does so, she is given priority in filling vacancies appropriate to her skills on giving notice she wants to return to work.

At *Time Out*, London, she is entitled to 18 weeks on full pay.

Both *Time Out* and Penguin also provide paternity leave. At *Time Out*, the entitlement is six weeks' paid leave and, at Penguin, 10 days. *Time Out* parents can add their entitlement together and share it out as they wish.

Most NUJ claims are for 26 weeks maternity leave, half on full pay and the rest on half-pay.

## ●LONDON

The English capital is to get a third evening paper again. Beaverbrook Newspapers have noticed the gap at the bottom of the market and hope to move in below their own *Evening Standard* and Associated Newspapers' *Evening News*.

If the venture is successful, it will be a repeat of what Australian Rupert Murdoch did when he relaunched *The Sun* as a down-market publication. *The Sun* has now overtaken the *Daily Mirror* for No. 1 place in the circulation league.

London had three evening newspapers until the demise of *The Star* in 1960.

Sources for this column include UK Press Gazette, The Journalist, Editor & Publisher, *MorE* and the London Sunday Times. (30)



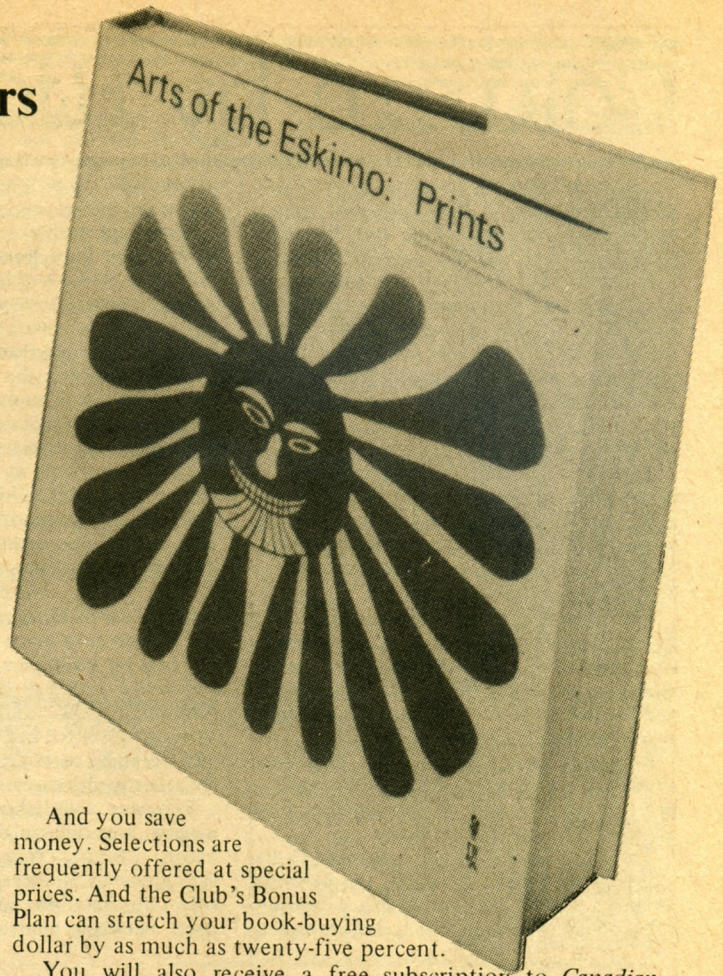
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**1484 An Appetite for Life.** Charles Ritchie. This second volume of the Ritchie diaries covers his youthful years in Nova Scotia and at Oxford, 1924-27. Ritchie won the Governor General's Award for his first published diaries. \$10.95

**1229 The Shannon and the Chesapeake.** H. F. Pullen. A big, heavily illustrated, sumptuous book about the great and bloody 1813 naval victory over the Americans. \$11.95

**1473 The Wars.** Timothy Findley. A powerful, compelling novel about the destruction of a well-bred young Canadian in the universal madness of WW I. A front-running candidate for the Governor General's Award. \$9.95

**1315 The Wretched of Canada.** Edited by L. M. Grayson & Michael Bliss. A collection of poignant letters written to Prime Minister R. B. Bennett by people suffering from the Great Depression. \$12.50

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**1417 A Question of Privilege.** Carolyn Gossage. The first and only complete portrait of Canada's independent (private) schools. A book that's full of surprises about these influential and much-misunderstood institutions. Illustrated. \$15.00

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# Column by Richard Labonté

The status of feminist magazines in Canada is doubly encouraging: first, they exist, somewhere between struggling and thriving; second, the three best exist outside Toronto.

In Ottawa, *Upstream* is into its second year of publication with plans to go national; in Edmonton, a revived *Branching Out* mixes sound social analysis with acceptable fiction and poetry; and in Vancouver, *Makara* provides an outlet for the best — and some very good — feminist fiction, poetry, graphics and photography.

*Upstream*, in a tabloid newspaper form, is the toughest of the lot with a deep commitment to a socialist perspective on the women's movement; news and feature coverage are competent and comprehensive — and, if all goes well, monthly.

The magazine's news and analysis are strong enough to inform and, when necessary, anger; just as valuable are the many service columns on feminist counselling, women and the law, rape counselling and upcoming events relevant to the movement.

*Branching Out*, five years old, specializes in analysis which tends at times to be stodgy; but it offers the sort of philosophical base any movement needs to build on.

The latest issue (volume 5, number 1) discusses women and education: the need for women's studies and continuing education, the problem of sex-role biases and demeaning

role models, the slow growth in availability of non-sexist books.

*Makara* is the most exciting of the three. Without the hard lines of *Upstream* or the dull tones of *Branching Out*, it offers a loose forum for excellent artists whose work is rooted in the women's struggle but not tied to it by doctrinaire restraints.

Taken together, the three magazines are a signal that the women's movement, despite the lowered expectations of the 1970s, is still a powerful sisterhood.

With issues such as abortion, wife-battering, pornography and child abuse — the violence of the patriarchal society — to deal with, there's no reason to doubt that the movement and its magazines will continue.

Back in Toronto, meanwhile, the magazines for women care more about clothes, glosses and best-bet boutiques.

*Toronto Life* has launched the quarterly *Fashion*, a slick compendium of style and where to get it for the benefit of women who care to look carefree and yet confident in their new spring ensembles.

Full-page color shots of artfully tousled women lounging around in the best that Moon, Creed's, Wing On, Morning Star, Robin, Daniel Hechter and Capezio's have to offer; tips on where to find the right lotion, jewel, handbag, panty and shoe to make any

occasion the occasion: that's the tone of *Fashion*.

The magazine, given the basic competence of publisher Michael de Pencier and editor Tom Hedley, can't fail; the question is whether this sort of success is necessary.

The answer is no, but it can't be stopped. This is the age of look-at-me, for men as much as for women. The masses are being told to pamper themselves and magazines such as *Fashion* are appearing to show the way.

There is more, and worse. *Fashion* at least has mass appeal; *City Woman* is for the snobs.

The controlled-circulation magazine (200,000 upper-income households in Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver) is aimed at the women, according to publisher Tim Goodman, "who have been quietly running our cultural and social institutions for years."

Best left unasked is how Comac Communications uncovered this massive reservoir of unacknowledged non-male power and why the women's movement hasn't stumbled across it in its decade of seeking the strength of equality.

Better to marvel that Comac, (of *Quest*, *Homemaker's*, *Madame au Foyer*) has decided to bring "upscale" glamor accessibility to the style-starved Canadian woman.

A preview issue, presented at press and industry receptions in May in the three target Canadian cities plus New York, promised "City Women: Profiles in Passage," "Paris: An Affair of the Heart," "Big City Fashion," "La Nouvelle Cuisine" and seven pages of Beautiful Faces.

Who needs status and equality and opportunity and access and strength? It's still so much more fun to be an object. They say.

And the good news: according to figures released in April by the Magazine Association, ad revenue for *Miss Chatelaine* has dropped, from \$385,000 in the first quarter of 1977 to \$306,000 in the first quarter of 1978.

The trend is even more reassuring — for anyone opposed to the values a magazine like *Miss Chatelaine* presses on the young and impressionable — because ad revenue is up, in some cases remarkably, for 19 other magazines surveyed.

Periodicals, books and news releases which must be sent for comment should be mailed to Richard Labonté, 64 Marlborough Avenue, Ottawa K1N 8E9.

## COMING IN CONTENT

Interviews with John Dauphinee and Keith Kincaid of CP.

"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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(from page 8)

depressing confirmation of my assessment of the *Globe's* attitude. Women, as feminist rhetoric reminds us, hold up *half* the sky. There may, indeed, be "more women" than Mr. Moser "cares to count working as writers and editors in the business, sports and entertainment departments."

Finally, I am delighted to learn that E. H. Moser really exists. My notable lack of success in reaching other members of the *Globe's* senior management had almost persuaded me that they were all figments of somebody's imagination.

### BROADCASTER GIVES WRITER 'F' FOR SPELLING, 'A' FOR BOOKKEEPING

The tone of Brian Bannon's article on the Chrysler auto unveilings ("Readers Taken For A Ride"), at least as regards our decisions, is probably set by his spelling of my name. It is W-R-Y-E, though I suppose given the general accuracy of the article, I shouldn't have been the least bit surprised at his spelling (Rye).

It was convenient, I suppose, for a *Windsor Star* reporter to acquit the *Star* of any wrongdoing at all while managing to convict the rest of the media. No mention, of course, was made of the four or five model preview stories written by *Star* reporter Bill Shields at the Chrysler unveiling... perhaps it didn't fit the tone of Bannon's article.

That a journalist doesn't understand the news importance in *Windsor* to the unveiling by Chrysler of two new sub-compacts is appalling. In view of the sluggish sales performance of most other Chrysler models, the Omni and Horizon represented crucial new ground for the company... Indeed, some analysts still feel the health of Chrysler Corporation depends to a great extent on its

success in the marketplace.

Your "reporter" does deserve my thanks for one thing. Somehow, the bill for our airfare and hotel accommodations got misplaced between Highland Park, Michigan and Windsor. When I phoned our accountants to check the amount of the bill, I discovered the oversight. It has been rectified. The bill was for \$461.00.

Frankly, Bannon could have also checked with our accountants or asked me to do so. But, having denied we took any freebie, I simply worked on the premise he believed the denial. Obviously, Mr. Bannon had better things in mind. Unfortunately, this kind of cheap-shot journalism grates me. I have been opposing "freebies" of any kind ever since becoming news director of this station in 1973. And just so you get the message straight, it is not the policy of CBET to accept any free trips or other gratis offerings from any potential news source. Clear enough?

Bill Wrye, news director,  
CBET.

### JOURNALISM ABOUT NEWS, NOT ABOUT MONEY — REPORTER

Former Thomson man Dick Wright took it upon himself in the March issue of *Content* to criticize reporters for not bending enough to the dictates of their newspapers (or as Mr. Wright euphemistically put it, they often refuse to recognize "the role (management) want their product to play in the community").

He apparently sees this as a deplorable indication of unwarranted and counterproductive idealism among young reporters.

I think his is an attitude which has deprived Canadians of first rate media service in many cases.

Mr. Wright's basic argument is that re-

## Letters

porters must keep an eye on the financial health of the newspapers and be willing to write PR hype for advertisers and the business community under the guise of business copy.

He says that, by scorning this type of assignment, reporters are not living in the real world.

It is worth it to repeat his exact words: "Management can bridge this serious gap by taking time to explain policy and the role they want their product to play in the community. Reporters, on the other hand, must listen with open minds and be prepared to cast aside misconceptions if necessary, even turning an idealistic cheek from time to time... There are things about the climate of a community that only the experienced publisher and editor can comprehend — it's what they are paid for, although it takes some reporters years to accept the fact."

There are several basic points which bother me about that opinion.

In the first place, I do not believe a newspaper should simply reflect its community. Just because the publisher knows what the climate of the community is and how he would like his newspaper to fit in (reinforce?), that does not mean he knows the news. Publishers and editors are usually part of the power structure of the community or at least circulate in the same circle and often share the same goals. Their idea of how the newspaper should perform may relate more to preserving that power structure than disturbing it.

However, there is something even more fundamental which disturbs me about Mr. Wright's argument.

I believe a reporter's responsibility is not to his current employer, his community or his peers. It is to his calling and, to be true to that calling, a reporter must be more interested in finding information and having it distributed to the public than in playing the politics of his workplace or his community.

Mr. Wright would likely argue that the advertisers pay the bills and money is needed to finance news gathering. It is an argument which has sustained the conservative Canadian news business for decades. It also may be true, but few have had the courage to try to disprove it.

If anyone is going to support the principle of news dissemination above all other considerations, it must be at the 'working journalist' level. Media managers may also care about it, but by the nature of their job, they also must keep an eye on the owner's rate of return and capital investment.

The conflict which will grow from these two concerns is not unhealthy.

Mr. Wright argues there is a need for more realism among reporters. I think, to the contrary, that we need far more idealism.

If that makes me "theoretical" or "idealistic" to a fault in Mr. Wright's eyes, then I proudly plead guilty.

Barry Wilson,  
Saskatoon, Sask.

# Great moments

in wire service journalism

B0020

d b PM-Bank 519 13-03

MANILA (AP) - The head of the Bank of Nova Scotia said today the business climate under Philippine martial law is conducive to making the country one of the "great international centres in the future."

Asked whether he and other officials of Scotiabanc have ever

B0022

r b PM-Bank 527 13-03

!!!!CORRECTION Manila 519 SUB para 1 delete martial law

MANILA (AP) - The head of the Bank of Nova Scotia said today the business climate in the Philippines is conducive to making the country one of the "great international centres in the future."

0745es 13-03

# CP News Picture of the Month



**Photographer:** Bill Ironside.  
**Newspaper:** *The London Free Press*.

**Situation:** Ontario Provincial Police arrest one of 80 UAW members demonstrating in sympathy with strikers at the Fleck manufacturing plant in Huron Park, Ont. Ironside says police seizures of *Free Press*

film made coverage of the strike difficult. "As a result of the film seizure, three strikers have been charged and this puts us in a poor position of doing the police dirty work for them."

**Technical Data:** Nikon and motor drive with 105-mm lens at f8 and 1/500th second on Tri-X film.

**Award:** *The Canadian Press* "News Picture of the Month," March, 1978.

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

**SJA (from page 15)**

dominated the discussion and one crack made about Thomson newspapers (Moose Jaw is Thomson) insulted the people at the meeting from smaller outlets.

She says the SJA never did offer any social basis for people to get together comfortably and talk about their profession.

"After awhile the association seemed to become more concerned about surveys than anything else. You can get surveyed to death."

THE SJA'S PRESIDENT, Paul Brettle, a reporter with the *Regina Leader-Post*, says he encouraged the SJA to convene more events which would allow people to relax socially, "but the SJA people were afraid we were just going to become the press club, and we shouldn't exist for

that."

During two terms as president (in both cases replacing elected presidents who moved on), Brettle tried to promote a local presence for the organization in each of the major centres. That idea failed to catch on and the organization remained stiff and formal, gathering its forces for annual and policy meetings and the occasional seminar.

Brettle says each large newsroom should have had an identifiable SJA representative, someone to see that seminars and social events were set up on a local basis, someone who would approach new staff members to explain the journalist's association and sell memberships.

Those and numerous other initiatives were never taken, but the concept behind an organization like the SJA was a good one and it's still valid. I hope the next group of journalists to try it, in this pro-

vince or another, are organized better, but more relaxed in their approach to the profession; people who are committed to better performance, but not so zealous that they scare other well-intentioned journalists away.

*Dennis Gruending works for the CBC in Regina and is Content's contributing editor for Saskatchewan.* (30)

**ENERGY (from page 12)**

first two speakers," said British-born *Financial Post* correspondent Peter Foster. "By the time I had heard Mr. Winger (of the Chase Manhattan Bank), I was practically a radical marxist."

Foster was not the only one being radicalized by the hyperbole of it all. John Marshall of *The Globe and Mail* was one of several journalists troubled

by the one thing all the rival experts agreed on: the need for ever increasing supplies of power.

"It reminds me of our experts who told us in Toronto we needed another airport," he said. "They knew how many people were travelling by plane. . . (but) not one of them seemed to say 'Hey, wait a minute, this is not a good thing. Let's have them travel by train instead. Is there another solution? Do we have to have all this energy in the future? Why don't we change something else instead?'"

Perhaps Marshall was merely playing devil's advocate. Several other reporters insisted that their apparent support for limited-growth planning was merely journalistic bear-baiting, a technique for extracting information.

"It sounds corny," Jeff Carruthers said, "but we're looking for the truth. One school of thought says you report the events and the truth eventually seeps out. Another says keep asking questions."

"But the truth doesn't necessarily emerge," Peter Trueman added. "I may be naive to think that the truth will emerge from a conference like this. . . but I hope I'm always that naive."

"Journalists are permanently naive," Chris Dennett chipped in. "We'll sit and listen to anybody. That's our charm."

Giving print space to anybody who makes a pronouncement in the name of science is apparently quite another matter, though. When a ministry of energy, mines and resources spokesman made a plea for reporting a more "positive, hopeful future. . . something that people can fantasize about" instead of automatically lumping all alternative energy proposals into a radical fringe, Peter Foster snapped back that "the ministry has already conned too many non-scientists into writing far too hopelessly."

Jeff Carruthers agreed. "It's a lot easier to report this kind of story if you don't know anything," he said. "I could have written an 'experts say we'll be out of oil by 1985' story, adding nothing to anybody's knowledge."

But the difficulties of getting a truthful, engaging story out of the experts must not obscure the importance of getting the story into print, according to Tarzie Vittachi, a former Fleet Street journalist turned U.N. population expert, who chaired the sessions.

"Energy just isn't sexy," Vittachi said. "The exceptional, man bites dog, is the news. But what do you do when the exceptional becomes normal; the extraordinary, ordinary? The great human dramas of the world, population

growth, the malnourishment of 400 million children, the energy shortage, they're boring. Our editors tell us so.

"The problem is, what do you do about it tomorrow? You've reported it already, but the kids still go to bed

hungry and cold. How do you keep the incredibly human problems on the front burner?"

*Ken Wyman is a freelance writer based in Toronto.*

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# CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY



## JOURNALISM

A professorial appointment is offered in the Faculty of Arts and Science to take effect 1 June 1978. Extensive journalistic experience is essential, experience of university teaching is desirable. The successful applicant will teach in and co-ordinate the Minor in Journalism programme, which gives students practical training in the journalist's craft as part of their undergraduate education in the liberal arts. Academic rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications. Inquiries and applications should be addressed immediately to Associate Dean David McKeen, Room H-401, Concordia University, 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West, Montreal, Quebec H3G 1M8.

## New Program in Mass-Communication Studies

*Leading to a B.A.*  
Beginning September, 1978

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*For further information contact:*

Mass-Communications Program Co-ordinator  
School of Journalism  
Carleton University  
231-5530

# Carleton University

FOR BOTH PART-TIME AND FULL-TIME STUDENTS

(from page 24)

**Bob Pennington**, former wine expert for *The Toronto Star*, is now covering television for *The Toronto Sun*.

\* \* \*

**John James Sr.** of the *Bowmanville Canadian Statesman* and **Jack Pickell**, past OWNA president were presented with Gold Quill Awards by the CCNA, signifying more than 50 years in the community newspaper business.

\* \* \*

A new monthly, the *Mississauga City Magazine*, is being distributed to 26,000 selected homes and another 4,000 will be sold on newsstands. The editor, publisher and company president is **J. Garth Turner**, who was involved in the founding of *Guelph Life* in 1975.

\* \* \*

**Susan MacDonald** has been appointed legal affairs reporter at *The Ottawa Journal* and night city editor **David Millican** takes over her former duties as night news editor. **John McLain**, formerly of *The Toronto Sun*, replaces Millican.

\* \* \*

Arson was the cause of three fires set April 25 which burned out the office of *Share*, a weekly tabloid started less than four weeks before to serve the Toronto black community. The office was housed in the apartment of publisher/editor **Arnold Auguste**, who lost most of his personal belongings. Damage was estimated at \$15,000. The paper continues to publish.

\* \* \*

The prestigious Edgar Allan Poe award from the International Congress of Crime Writers has been presented to **Barbara Amiel** and **George Jonas**, the husband and wife team who wrote the book, *By Persons Unknown*, which deals with the murder of model Christine Demeter.

## Quebec

After five months of publication, **Pierre Péladeau's** tabloid, *The Philadelphia Journal*, is experiencing financial difficulties. The paper is 28,000 copies short of the circulation figure at which it would break even, but editor **Jacques Beauchamp** hopes to reach 100,000 copies this year.

\* \* \*

*Derrière l'image*, a two-hour **Jacques Godbout** documentary recently released by The National Film Board of Canada, deals with the manipulation of the news in Quebec and other parts of Canada and the world. It was shown on *Radio Canada's* French network in two parts.

\* \* \*

**Francis Picard** and **Pierre Sormany** have won awards for their work in the publication, *Quebec Science*. **Picard** has won the Candian Award for Best Achievement in Scientific Journalism and **Sormany** has won the same honour but for medical journalism.

## CP Feature Picture of the Month



**Photographer:** Ed Regan.  
**Newspaper:** *The Globe and Mail*, Toronto.  
**Situation:** As shown.  
**Technical Data:** Nikon F with 35-

85-mm zoom Vivatar lens at f4 and 1/250th second on Tri-X film.  
**Award:** *The Canadian Press*, "Feature Picture of the Month," March, 1978.

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

Joan Irwin, *The Gazette's* television and radio critic, has left for semi-retirement, but will continue to write a regular column on television for *Maclean's*.

\* \* \*

Gerald Snyder, Montreal city councillor, was awarded \$135,000 in "moral damages" after a Superior Court jury found that *The Gazette* had defamed him in a 1975 news story. Snyder originally claimed damages of \$735,316. He wasn't identified in the story by name, but he testified the article has strained his family and business relations. *The Gazette's* defence was that it had met the provisions of the Quebec Press Act.

\* \* \*

Al Strachan has been appointed sports editor at *The Gazette*, succeeding Brodie Snyder. Snyder won a 1977 National Newspaper Award for sports reporting. Strachan was an NNA winner in 1976 for sports writing.

\* \* \*

The Fédération professionnelle des journalistes du Québec held its annual convention with the theme being the role of journalists during a period of political crisis. One resolution opposed federal legislation which would allow the RCMP to open mail under certain circumstances and another urged journalists to investigate police interference with democratic freedoms. A third resolution called for production of a booklet to be distributed to journalists, outlining their rights should they be arrested in the course of their work. The federation has elected **Gérald LeBlanc**, parliamentary correspondent for *Montreal-Matin*, as its next president.

## Atlantic

Ray Aboud of *CBC Radio* has been elected president of the Halifax legislature's press gallery, replacing **John Soosar** of *CP*.

Susan Murray has been appointed *CBC's* legislature reporter for Nova Scotia.

The gallery is setting up the Frank Fillmore Award in memory of the well-known Maritime reporter who died in January. It will be given to a student going into a journalism or broadcasting school.

\* \* \*

Bert Deveaux, formerly of the plain dealer, Fredericton, has joined *CBC Halifax*.

\* \* \*

The first academic department of public relations in Canada set up at Mount St. Vincent University in Halifax is seeking a director. Qualifications: a Ph.D. in public relations. Salary to be negotiated. If interested, please contact **Walter J. Shelton**, Mount St. Vincent University, (902) 453-4450.

\* \* \*

David Oancia, director of journalism at Concordia University in Montreal, has been named director of the University of King's College journalism school in Halifax, effective July 1.

## Obituaries

Fiona Mee, 31, publisher of *Quill and Quire*, died in April of cancer. She was a

central figure in the book-publishing industry and under her guidance, *Quill and Quire* became a significant voice in that field. The Fiona Mee Memorial Award will be established in her honour and awarded annually to the author of the best work, in book or periodical journalism form, on a literary or publishing subject.

\* \* \*

Journalist, broadcaster and novelist **Charles U. Wassermann**, 54, died in May of a heart attack. He contributed regularly to *CBC* and *CTV* television and was best known for a series of interviews entitled *Conversations with World Leaders* televised in 1971. He established Canada's first school of radio and television in Montreal and had spent the past 25 years in Austria.

\* \* \*

**Harold "Hal" Stubbs**, a Montreal broadcaster, died in March at the age of 60. He was a newscaster for the *CBC-International Service* as well as being known for his on-air work with radio stations *CKVL*, *CJAD*, *CFOX* and *CFCF*. He also was a producer of radio and television commercials for Cockfield Brown advertising agency.

## Magazines

July 6 is deadline for submission of entries for the **Author's Awards** (formerly called the Author's Quill Awards). Magazine and paperback book authors and cover designers are eligible for a total of \$3,300 in prizes. Categories are paperback fiction, magazine fiction, paperback non-fiction, magazine public affairs, magazine humour, magazine personality feature, paperback cover design and magazine cover design. Entries must be published between July 1, 1977 and June 30, 1978. Phone **Ted Paterson** at (416) 362-1361 or write **Author's Awards, PDC, Suite 3106, Box 61, T-D Centre, Toronto, Ont. M5K 1G5** for entry forms.

## Miscellaneous

*The Ozone Layer* is the straightforward title of a book by former *Globe and Mail* science reporter **Lydia Dotto** and York University chemistry professor **Harold Schiff**, to be published in September. Dotto, freelancing since leaving the *Globe* in February, said the book examines whether spray can propellants and "numerous other" technologies are harming the protective ozone layer in the earth's upper atmosphere. It's about the social, political and emotional aspects as well as the scientific.



Lydia Dotto

\* \* \*

*Things we in the colony don't always get to find out: Newsweek's March 13 cover bled*

four sides a photo of Cuban military rockets and soldiers. Over the photo was the bright red head "Cubans in Africa." But, reported the New York media magazine, *MorE*, the picture was taken by *Black Star* photographer **Fred Ward** at a December 1976 military parade in Cuba. Ward was *MorE's* source. *Newsweek* editor **Edward Kosner** agreed the photo should have been identified.

\* \* \*

Ah, yes, and speaking of pretension. . . From "View from Quebec" by William Johnson, *The Globe and Mail's* Quebec correspondent, in the March 13 editions of that paper:

(3rd paragraph) "The poll. . . showed the PQ still ahead among French-speaking voters, and the Liberals leading only because of the massive support of the anglophones."

(5th paragraph) ". . . in view of the PQ's pretension to speak for French Quebec. . ."

## Erratum

In the April issue of *Content*, we announced **Richard Daignault's** appointment as chief of *The Gazette's* Quebec City bureau, when in fact it had taken place a year before.

\* \* \*

Also in the April issue, **Peter Crown** of *Southern News Services* should have read **Peter Cowan**.

## Classified

**FIRST 20 WORDS, INCLUDING ADDRESS, FREE** up to three consecutive issues. Write or phone until **June 5** for *guaranteed insertion in July issue*, published June 15. Each additional word, 25¢ per insertion. Display heads: 14 pt., \$1 per word; 18 pt., \$1.50 per word. Box number, \$2.50. Try Us.

## Jobs Available

### STUDENT WANTED

Publisher needs editorial and production assistance with summer project. Send resumé with phone number to: **Astronomy Books, 1293 Gerrard St. East, Toronto, Ont. M4L 1Y8.** 56-88

## Jobs Wanted

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## Otherum

**OFFICE FOR RENT.** Central Toronto, bright, \$90 a month, 200 square feet. Renovated mansion with publishers, writers, near subway, library. **Ken Wyman, 699-3239.** 57-89

**CAN WRITERS FIGHT** political censorship, sexism in media? Want network for mutual support, strategy. **RCMP need not apply. Content, Box 89.** 55-87

# Omnium-Gatherum

## Quotes

"... as with many primitive tribes, newspapers have a special reverence for death, especially when it occurs among themselves. Consider, to begin with, that the termination of a newspaper's publishing operations is invariably referred to as a 'death,' as if the departed institution were clearly of some special human, and indeed rather regal, nature, whereas a bank, somewhat less nobly, is limited to a 'collapse' or 'failure,' a theatrical production (obviously a lighthearted venture!) merely 'folds' or 'closes' and the passing of a TV series — which may well affect more people than the demise of a bank, play, and newspaper combined — is described even more matter-of-factly as a 'cancellation.'" — Michael J. Arlen in the April issue of *MorE*.

## B.C.

The *Cowichan News*, established three years ago to cover the Cowichan Valley on Vancouver Island has new owners, **Manfred Tempelmayer** and **Tony Kant**.

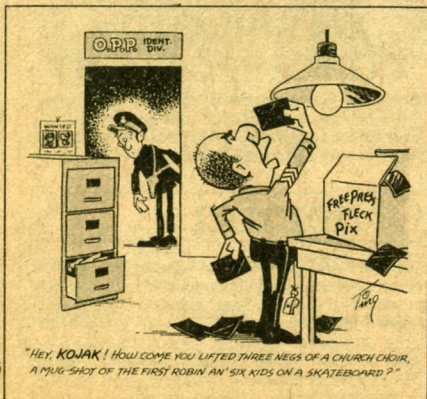
A former editor of *The Winnipeg Tribune*, **Gerald P. Haslam**, has been appointed vice-president, corporate communications, of MacMillan Bloedel.

**Ruth Masters** and **Richard Von Fuchs**, two former candidates for aldermanic seats in Courtenay, have each been awarded \$3,500 after suing the *Comox District Free Press* for libel.

The paper published a letter to the editor containing personal references to the two which were defamatory, according to supreme court justice Alan Macfarlane.

**Brian Davis**, former staff reporter with *The Advance*, has joined the sports staff of the daily *Kelowna Courier*.

Editor of the *Haney Gazette*, **Mark Hamilton**, was awarded a certificate of appreciation by the executive director of the St. John Society of B.C. for publicity and news stories of the work of the society.



"HEY, KOJAK! HOW COME YOU LIFTED THREE NEGS OF A CHURCH CHAIR, A PUG SHOT OF THE FIRST ROBIN AN' SIX KIDS ON A SKATEBOARD?"

Ting, London Free Press

Port Coquitlam *Herald* editor **Pat Tracy** was hit with a banana cream pie by an angry reader who took objection to a photo the paper ran. Perhaps a new alternative to the traditional letter-to-the-editor?

## The West

New members of The Calgary Press Club are **Marc W. Edge**, **Tony Baccari**, **Jerry Bird**, **Ernest L. Zacher**, **Dallas W. Hassman**, **Robert James Baun**, **Arlene Alice Conner**, **Joe T. Feller** and **Joseph Hector Guilmette**.

**Andy Arnot**, news and sports director of CKND television, has been presented with the City of Winnipeg Outstanding Achievement Award. He was recently named Sports Broadcaster of the Year 1977 by the Sports Federation of Canada.

The *Leader-Post* and the *Star-Phoenix* will discontinue their distribution of *The Canadian* magazine in their Saturday editions and will introduce a separate magazine-style tabloid sections in its place. *The Canadian* will be distributed by controlled distribution door-to-door in the two cities.

*Rural Journalism, 1875-1976*, a history of weekly newspapers in Manitoba, was researched and written by **D.M. Loveridge** under a provincial grant. It deals with 15 dailies and a known 246 weeklies serving the province at one time or another.

*The Saskatchewan Senior*, a magazine for senior citizens, began on Jan. 1 and is affiliated with *The Gull Lake Advance*. Between 10,000 and 16,000 copies will be published monthly by *Advance* owners **Ray** and **Kathy Zelowsky**. The editor is **Phillip Wade** of Regina.

## The North

**John Gilmour**, formerly of *CBC Calgary*, is now senior editor at *CBC Yellowknife*, replacing **Whit Fraser**.

**Al Fewster** is now editor and publisher of the *Watson Lake Sign Post*, Yukon.

**John Steeves**, formerly in an editorial capacity at *CBC Moncton*, has joined the Whitehorse staff as news editor.

## Ontario

The *Kitchener-Waterloo Record* recently celebrated its 100th birthday by, among other things, publishing an excellent 36-page black and white "Centennial Souvenir" supplement. The address tab is filled with interesting detail about the paper's history, present people and production. The front and back covers, inside and out, are reprints of Vol. I, No. 1 of the original *Daily News* in what was then Berlin, Ont. So far as is known, the

paper has not missed a single issue in 100 years.

At the 24th annual Western Ontario Newspaper Awards held in London, Ont., April 22, more than 50 writers and photographers were honored. A total of 585 entries competing in 18 categories were received from 20 newspapers, according to **Frances**



Jack Bowman

**L. Denney**, awards chairman. The *London Free Press*, *Kitchener-Waterloo Record*, *Hamilton Spectator* and the *Brantford Expositor* dominated the field of winning entries, the *Free Press* with a total of 13 prizes, the *Record* with 10 and the *Spectator* and the *Expositor* with eight each.

Photographer **Jack Bowman** with the *Expositor* took top spot by winning three first place awards: excellence in photography for newspapers under 35,000 circulation, sports photography and for the photo portfolio category. He was also first runner-up in the under 35,000 circulation class.

Other major winners include **Ken Strachan** of the *Expositor* who took first in humorous writing and was second runner-up for writing excellence and first runner-up for column-writing; **R.J. Hanley** of the *Spectator* with two firsts for sports and column-writing; **Ros Guggi** of the *Record* for a first for novice reporters and a second runner-up tie with **Frank Etherington**, also of the *Record*, for business writing.



Ros Guggi

**Bob Carr**, former news bureau operator at Queen's Park, has been appointed assignment editor of *CityPulse News*, *CITY-TV*, Toronto.

**Sheila Kaighin**, editor of *Outdoor Canada*, is the first winner of the Greg Clark Outdoor Editorial Writing Award. The award is sponsored by the Clark family, the Toronto Press Club and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

(See Omnium, page 22)