Mosaic

NEWS

A last look at winter

Metric — a compromise solution has been reached. The federal government has announced that food, gasoline and home furnishings may be sold in metric only or in both systems of measurement. Retailers who advertise in imperial only, however , will be prosecuted. In all other areas, such as highway speed signs and weather reports, metric only must be used. Consumer and retail groups are pleased with this solution.

The Armed Forces have $55.6 million worth of new uniforms — blue in the winter and white in the summer for the navy, green in the winter and tan in the summer for the army and two different weights of light blue for the air force. By 1988 all 102 000 of the Armed Forces personnel should be wearing the new attire.

Domed stadiums are in the news these days. Vancouver stole the limelight by getting the countries first domed stadium, but Montreal beat out Toronto in getting the second. Eleven years behind schedule and at an inflated price tag, Montreal's stadium will be crowned with the suspended retractable roof it was supposed to have received in time for the 1976 Olympic Games.

The Toronto domed stadium will be built at the foot of the CN Tower at a cost of $130 million and is expected to be ready for the 1988 baseball season.

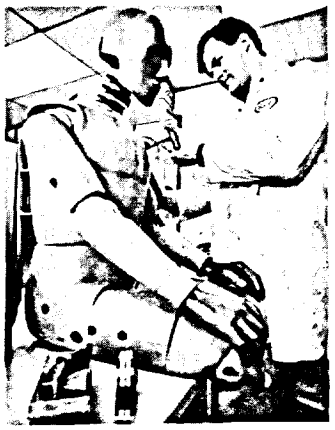
LAW

Crime stoppers. Beginning March 4, any one with information about an unsolved Ottawa crime can anonymously call the city's new police hotline — 233-TIPS and receive up to a $1 000 reward. The caller will be given an identification number and asked to call back a week later. Should the information lead to an arrest, the police will make arrangements to get the reward money to the caller using whatever means he or she wishes. (The money comes from private donations not the police budget.) *The Citizen, Le Droit,* CJOH — TV and six radio stations will also detail a major unsolved Ottawa crime every week and encourage people to call in should they have any information. From all 15 Crime Stopper's cities in Canada, the project has been responsible for 1 500 arrests, 2 410 solved crimes, $33 million in recovered property and $1.5 million in drug confiscations. Almost $175 000 has been paid out in rewards.

OTTAWA CRIME STOPPERS
ÉCHEC AU CRIME·OTTAWA
233 TIPS

Seatbelts. Only two provinces — Prince Edward Island and Alberta — do not require the use of seatbelts. Transport Canada surveys indicate that in provinces where they are required, about 60% of the people wear them, and where they are not required, about 10% do.

It has been proven that they do save lives, but now the concern is to redesign them so as to eliminate the three types of injuries that often occur due to their use — facial injuries from hitting the steering wheel, chest injuries from the over – the – shoulder portion of the belt and abdominal injuries when the lap portion of the belt slips over the hipbone onto the unprotected abdominal tissue.



Researcher with crash dummy

Taxpayers will be considered "innocent until proven guilty". Revenue Minister Perrin Beatty has introduced legislation whereby taxpayers will no longer have to pay taxes in dispute until after they receive an impartial hearing. Under the existing system, payment in the form of cash or a security is required within 30 days of an assessment. If the assessment is successfully appealed, the money is later refunded. The new legislation says taxpayers who file a notice of objection within 90 days of an assessment will not have to pay anything until their case has been heard by the appeals branch of the Revenue Department. If he/she is not satisfied, a further 90 days will be allowed for an appeal and the department will not attempt to collect until a ruling is made. If the taxpayer is still not satisfied and wants to appeal to a higher court, the department will then ask for security in lieu of a cash payment.

Native Women. The present law deprives native women of their Indian status when they marry non-Indians, yet confers status to non-Indian women who marry native men. Indian Affairs Minister David Crombie has just introduced legislation that will allow the estimated 16 000 women (plus their 46 000 children) who have lost their status, to apply to have it automatically restored.

HEALTH

Nutrition. A group of government health officials, academics and food processors are setting up a new information centre which they hope will become a credible source of nutritional information and a catalyst for the development of more nutritional foods. The centre plans to begin full operation in Ottawa by mid-1985 and will act as a resource centre, a lobby for more nutritional research in Canada and will probably publish a newsletter of nutritional developments. Dr. Harvey Anderson, Associate Dean of Medicine at the University of Toronto and chairman of the new institute says the centre is necessary because nutrition is vital to the nation's health yet is poorly understood, plus many of the informational sources are controlled by interest groups and their findings are sometimes suspect.

PEOPLE

Frank and Ann Miller