

Mosaic

PEOPLE



Tommy Douglas

Tommy Douglas, the Prairie preacher who became Canada's first socialist premier and medicare pioneer, died on February 24 at the age of 81. Under his 17 year leadership Saskatchewan introduced the first medicare plan in North America, the first public automobile insurance and numerous other pioneering social measures. In 1961 he gave up the leadership to become the leader of the NDP party where he served for ten years, then remained as an MP until 1979.

Jean Chrétien, who left public life several months ago, was back in the headlines again on March 31 when he helped organize a "citizens' committee" for Katimavik, thus ending Senator Jacques Hébert's 21-day fast protesting the cancellation of the youth program.



Tracey Wainman

Tracey Wainman, the 18 year old from Toronto, won the 1986 Canadian figure skating championships defeating Elizabeth Manley from Ottawa. Then, at the World Championships in Geneva, Switzerland, on March 19-22, 1986, the tables were turned and Manley placed 5th while Wainman finished 9th.

Other Canadian athletes in the news are Jim Read, the 23 year old Calgary skier who won his first Canadian men's slalom championship in Rossland B.C. and Josee Lacasse who became a double winner at the Canadian women's skiing championships, adding the slalom title to her earlier win in the giant slalom event.

HEALTH



Auditor General Kenneth Dye with his no smoking signs.

Canada's No. 1 Non-smoker, is Auditor General Kenneth Dye. 23 years ago he quit smoking because "I was afraid I would burn the baby with my cigarette". It was Marcel Ferland's (former deputy Auditor General) death, though, that prompted him to crusade for the elimination of tobacco from offices across the country.

On January 15 he was awarded a certificate of merit by the Canadian Council on Health and Smoking for creating Canada's first smokefree atmosphere — the three floors of the Auditor General's office.

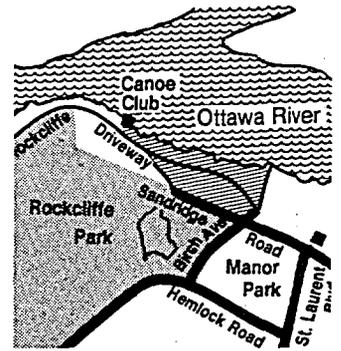
On his travels to meet his counterparts in other countries, he picks up no-smoking signs and has them mounted on plates with the English translation, country and date of visit on the back. The translations are interesting. The Arabs say "I beg you not to smoke" while the Japanese say "don't smoke".

On January 1, 1986, Health Minister Jake Epp banned smoking in working areas of all Health and Welfare offices across Canada.

OTTAWA

Ottawa risks losing its position as the coldest capital in the world — and Ottawans do not mind at all. Based on average mean temperatures over the past 30 years, Ottawa is two-tenths of a degree colder than Moscow during December, January and February. The mean temperature is -9.4 degrees Celcius in Ottawa compared to -9.2 in Moscow. This December, January and February, however, were all slightly milder than usual with slightly more hours of sunshine and fewer centimeters of snow. Now it depends on Moscow's statistics to see which city will retain the well earned status as the world's coldest capital.

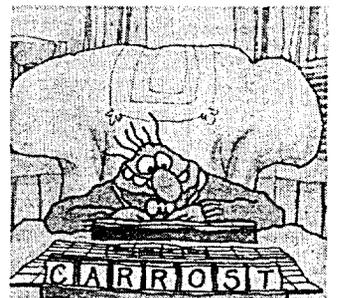
Green street signs are on the way. The traditionalists who have been fighting to keep Ottawa's white and black signs, lost their last battle in February 1986 when council reaffirmed its decision to switch to green. But it could take 25 years before all the city's 32 000 street signs have been converted to green with white lettering. Signs will be replaced as they wear out or when new streets are added. Green sign supporters say they are more visible and cheaper, costing only \$57 compared to the \$97 price tag for the black and white variety. The sign debate has been going on for more than a year.



The Mile Circle (lined area)

Manor Park and Rockcliffe Park residents are concerned about the prospects of the United States building their chancery in the Mile Circle. Over 1 000 residents demonstrated on Saturday February 22 by circling the Circle and releasing hundreds of green balloons. The NCC has proposed that 20 of the Mile Circle's 52 acres be set aside for embassies, and the Americans have indicated that that site is their first choice.

A Canadian cartoon and a documentary were in the running for the 58th annual Academy awards, but did not win. *The Big Snit*, a ten minute comedy by Richard Condie about a quarrelsome couple playing a game of Scrabble while nuclear war rages outside their door, has already won awards in Montreal, Hiroshima, Chicago and France. The second, *Making Overtures*, is a documentary on the Northumberland Symphony Orchestra, which humourously and sensitively reveals the strong feelings of accomplishment that a modest amateur ensemble can experience.



Snit by Winnipeg animator Richard Condie.