

News briefs

Health and Welfare Canada intends to pass regulations ensuring that secure packages are used for non-prescription drugs manufactured after January 1, 1984. These measures will significantly reduce the possibility of consumers being injured by the deliberate addition of toxic chemicals to non-prescription drugs. The products affected will include all drugs for ingestion, inhalation, insertion or application to the eyes. A variety of security packaging methods will be acceptable, and labels will alert the consumer to the security feature on the package that should be intact at the time of purchase.

A Montreal businessman says he has finally found an efficient way to burn those bulky newspapers that pile up beside the family fireplace. Noel Lawrence's idea is a steel grate, set into the fireplace, on which a week's worth of newspapers are simply stacked on edge. The base of the newspaper burner is angled at 20 degrees and is perforated to allow air to circulate. Papers burn off page by page, with little tending. "It works beyond my wildest dreams," he said in an interview, adding that he came away from the patent office with six orders for his burners. A grate-load of papers will burn between two and three hours, and since newsprint contains no resin, its smoke produces little of the creosote that causes most chimney fires.

John T. Henderson, 77, a physicist described by his peers as "the father of radar" in Canada, died in hospital January 2. Henderson was a pioneer in ionospheric (upper atmosphere) research, leading to his appointment in 1933 as chief of the radio section of the National Research Council. His work on cathode-ray direction finders was crucial to the development of radar used by allied forces during the Second World War. To honour his achievements, the British government appointed him a member of the Order of the British Empire in 1943.

Carling Bassett, the 15-year-old from Toronto, Ontario, captured the 18-and-under world junior singles tennis crown at the prestigious Orange Bowl junior tennis tournament in Miami Beach, Florida December 27. She defeated 15-year-old Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria. Fellow Canadian Jill Hetherington, 18, from Mississauga, Ontario, teamed up with Patty Fendick of Sacramento, California, to win the junior doubles title.



It's inventory time at the Calgary zoo. Director Peter Karsten finds his office becoming a little crowded as he is joined by Mia the llama, Mowat the owl, Pacas the donkey, Floppy the rabbit and Rosey the boa constrictor, who enjoys acting as a scarf. They gathered in his office to be registered in the count.

Sprinter Angella Taylor, who won four medals, including a pair of golds, at the Commonwealth Games in October, and downhill ski champion Steve Podborski, have been selected the top amateur female and male athletes of 1982 by the Sports Federation of Canada. Miss Taylor, a 24-year-old history student at Toronto's York University, won gold medals in every competition she entered last year. In addition to the exploits in Brisbane, Australia, she struck gold at the Eight Nations meet in Japan and events in Yugoslavia, Italy, the United States, Switzerland, West Germany and Belgium. Podborski, 27, of Toronto dominated the World Cup men's downhill circuit last year and became the first North American to win the World Cup downhill title. He won three races, placed second in two and was fourth in two others.

Canada has been selected as the 1983 recipient of the Arizona-based Safari Club International's Wildlife Conservation Award. The award was established years ago to recognize an individual nation's contributions to the field of wildlife-conservation. Past recipients have included Spain, Bulgaria, and most recently, Zimbabwe.

Thanks to Montreal's McGill University chemistry professors Ian Butler and Arthur Grosser, first-year students are casting aside traditional textbooks and

are learning the chemical basis of such every day phenomena as basic cooking techniques, the treatment of duodenal ulcers, neutralizing chemical wastes, and the causes of a chinook. The Butler/Grosser text *Relevant Problems for Chemical Principles* offers "a change from the usual abstract drudgery of introductory chemistry by relating problems to the real world". The authors downplay memorization and emphasize how students can learn to answer and ask pertinent scientific questions. Entering its fourth edition, the book has been used in some 100 schools across North America. It is also available in Spanish and will soon be published in German.

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