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Jan. 5

One-and-three-quarter-million dollars may buy a lot of sand, salt, plows and trucks, but it won't buy happiness, city hall learned this week.

Numerous complaints regarding snow removal had been received from ratepayers.

City officials explained how their priority system works, and how the \$1,750,000 snow-removal budget is spent.

A 21-year-old Mississauga man, charged with the murder of four people in Kitchener, appeared briefly in a Kitchener court today. Val Paul Palic of Malton was remanded into custody. He later committed suicide in his cell.

The first week of the new year finds area merchants looking into the till and finding out how well they did over the holiday season. A survey of area merchants revealed little disappointment with Christmas sales.

Residents in the former towns of Streetsville and Port Credit were spared the 26 per cent increase in hydro rates experienced by other areas in Mississauga. The increase in those two towns was about 19 per cent.

Police spot-checks over the holiday season in Mississauga netted eight impaired drivers out of 5,234 cars checked.

The dateline more than the headlines made the news in the Jan. 13 issue of The Times. The 13th, a Thursday, marked the first time in the paper's history

that it had not been published on time. The delay was caused by a storm which pounded Mississauga with an estimated 10 inches of snow. A spirit of camaraderie often surfaced in storm-prompted encounters as strangers pushed each others' cars or offered lifts to stranded fellow motorists.

In the eye of the storm, inaugural ceremonies were held for mayor-elect Ron Searle.

Searle, a 12-year-veteran of city council, won the mayor's chair in a five-way race, defeating former mayor Martin Dobkin by 3,600 votes.

In his address, Mayor Searle said his council would be "concerned only with solutions, not problems that give us an expedient platform from which to wave a flag."

Lou Parsons, former Peel County warden, was elected to a second term as regional chairman. Parsons was first appointed chairman when regional government came in to being in 1973. There was only one dissenting vote, that of Hazel McCallion's, among the 20 regional councillors re-electing Parsons.

JAN. 19



Everyone was digging out after one of the biggest snow storms in years hit Mississauga.

The kitty litter hit the fan after Mississauga city council made public its new animal-control bylaw.

Many citizens were concerned that the new legislation would require cats to be kept on a leash and considered this as much of a pain in the neck for catowners as for the cats themselves. The bylaw also contain-

ed clauses for the control of pigeons and other birds in residential areas.

City council re-affirmed a 10-per cent pay raise for councillors first proposed by the preceding council. The \$1,000 raise brought Mississauga councillors to the \$11,000 level. All receive another \$10,000 for serving on regional council. The mayor's salary was boosted from \$20,000 to \$22,000.

Peel Chairman Lou Parsons also found himself on the winning end as he had his salary raised to \$38,000 from \$35,000. Parsons also receives an additional \$4,000 to cover expenses and the use of a car.

Ward 9 Councillor Hazel McCallion accused her colleagues on council of taking their politics with two teaspoonsful of petty after she was refused a seat on the Credit Valley Conservation Authority for the second time.

Through her questions following a 5-4 vote, Mrs. McCallion implied that CVCA Chairman Grant Clarkson, whom she defeated in a race for a spot on council three years ago, didn't want her on the Authority and he had convinced Mayor Searle to keep her off.

The mayor denied the allegations. Mayor Searle and Mrs. McCallion have continued their cool relationship.

Ward 2 Councillor Mary Helen Spence said it was no secret that there was a movement afoot to keep Mrs. McCallion off the authority.

feb rua ry

FEB. 2
Next time you're in the Muskokas and the black flies are biting think

of this. During his trial on a charge of cultivating marijuana, a Peel high school teacher told the judge that he was growing the 55 plants in his garden for use as an insecticide.

Robert Garthson, 30, a teacher at Cawthra Park Secondary School, was sentenced to a fine of \$250 or 25 days in jail for growing the 15 to 20 pounds of "insecticide."

It was forgive and forget as far as his employers were concerned, however, and he returned to his teaching position.

"Had I felt he was using marijuana in any way to consume it or traffic it, it would be quite a different story," explained the director of Peel education, John Fraser.

In a mass vote, teachers gave the go-ahead to their leadership to call a strike. Teacher representatives, however, said they were prepared to wait before taking what they described as a "drastic step."

FEB. 9
The conservative's conservative, and former U.S. presidential candidate, Ronald Reagan, was in Mississauga this week to break bread at a "mashed-potato session" sponsored by the Mississauga North provincial Tories.

Reagan attacked conservatism and consumerism for going too far, making it impossible for private enterprise to work properly. He was interrupted on numerous occasions by applause and cheering.

Erindale Secondary School student Karen O'Neill was crowned Queen of Hearts in a contest co-sponsored by The Mississauga Times and the Peel Heart Foundation. Miss O'Neill was presented with a \$400 bursary.

Senior citizen Frank Cooper began his second marathon swim for the Peel Heart Fund. Cooper, 80, went on to swim 30 miles during the month of February, with proceeds from sponsors going toward the fund.

FEB. 16
City councillors began debate over whether they should turn Mayor Ron Searle's pumpkin into a more appropriate carriage.

At a general committee meeting, councillors considered either renting or leasing a more suitable automobile for the mayor than the aging yellow sedan he owned at the time.

"This is a very small item, but we have a great city and should provide an

auto for the mayor," said Councillor Frank Leavers. It eventually decided not to provide the car.

From the Who's Side Are They on Department comes a decision by the divisional court of the



Senior citizen Frank Cooper completes 28 miles in the pool for the Mississauga Heart Fund.

Supreme Court of Ontario which prevented Mississauga from paying the legal bills of James Murray and Ken Rowe stemming from the city's aborted judicial inquiry.

Included in the \$25,000 legal bill which council had agreed to pay, were fees for a contempt action launched by Murray against the city.

"Are you suggesting the municipality should pay the costs of the motion against itself," asked Mr. Justice Reid, one of the

three Supreme Court judges on the divisional court panel.

FEB. 23

It was no-go for the Streetsville and Cooksville GO Transit Line following a decision by the federal government to renege on its share of a \$53 million expansion project.

The project, which was to have included the construction of a new overpass at the Bathurst Street rail bottleneck and the development of double-decker cars was stopped by the federal government's move.

Regional Chairman Lou Parson was "furious at the broken promise."

It was one week down and weeks to go in the work-to-rule imposed by Peel secondary school teachers. At the beginning of the second week, teachers were waiting for a reply to a counter offer they presented to the board. The work-to-rule policy curtailed many extra curricular and classroom activities of high school students.

Two sisters at St. Dominic's Church were banned from preaching at mass by the archbishop of Toronto.

The archbishop cited canon laws under which only ordained priests and

deacons can preach and read the gospel at mass. Parishoners at the church appealed the ruling.

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MARCH 2

City councillors were carefully looking a "gift-house in the mouth" following a proposal by developer S. Bruce McLaughlin to build 6,000 affordable housing units in the city.

McLaughlin said his firm could build the houses in the contentious "hole in the doughnut" (central, undeveloped areas), provided the city gives approval immediately and applies the lower 1976 levies to the project.

Councillor Larry Taylor said it was "a feat to propose affordable housing by bending every rule in the book."

The proposal was referred to staff for study.

When Mississauga needs a second hospital it will have a place to build it. All this follows approval by the ministry of health to purchase a plot of land at Erin Mills Parkway and Eglinton Ave. The land will cost \$600,000. It is not expected that a hospital will be built before 1982.

MARCH 9
Anita Pallenberg made a brief appearance in Peel provincial court on charges of drug possession. She also made a brief appearance on the front page of The Times because she happens to be the wife of rock music star Keith Richard. She was remanded out of custody.

The Ontario Labor Relations Board ruled that 32 workers were fit to be fired by Milrod Metal Products in Malton. Milrod fired the workers (most of whom were black) for slowing down on a production line making Chevy dashboards. The workers countered with charges of racism and an illegal lockout.

The board ruled that it was not an illegal lockout and recommended arbitration. At the time of the hearing, five months after the incident, half the workers were unemployed and disqualified from benefits.

MARCH 16
The front page of The Times took care of another \$73 of your earnings, if you took it seriously. The board of education announced a tax increase of 13.5 per cent or \$57 on the average home assessed at \$30,000. At the same time, city hall announced a

Continued on page A4

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