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Examiner

Making all of Westmount your home

Vol. LIX, No. 3 Westmount PQ, H3Z 2Y8, Thursday, January 15, 1987 35¢

First smoking law conviction comes during Non-Smoking Week

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount's no-smoking by-law obtained its first conviction in court Tuesday, ironically, during National Non-Smoking Week.

The case, which grew out of an incident at the Bank of Montreal Oct 31 in which an argument was reported to have ensued, became Westmount's first no-smoking challenge (see story Dec 11, 1986).

Clarence Silverman, who pleaded not guilty "with explanation" to charges of smoking in a public place, was fined $25 plus costs by Judge William P. Shaw in Westmount Municipal Court.

Although Mr Silverman said that he had "stamped out" the cigarette in question as requested by a citizen "not even a second" after lighting up, Judge Shaw said that the minimum fine "would satisfy the aims of justice."

The defendant, who had been accused of violating the city's no-smoking by-law 961, initially pleaded not guilty at the Tuesday appearance.

He said he wanted, however, to provide an explanation at the same time since he would be out of town for several months.

When told this would have to wait for a trial, he changed the plea to guilty, adding, "but in my mind I'm not guilty."

By way of explanation, the accused told the court he had been waiting in the bank line "concentrating on my papers."

He said he was not aware of the no-smoking regulation. As soon as he lit up, he said, he put out the cigarette on request.

Judge Shaw asked if there had been an argument involved in the incident.

"The gentleman in front of me is the guy who asked me. I put it out. Then he came back at me to tell me there was no smoking. He was yelling hysterically. He appeared like a mental case."

Prosecutor Romano Robusto said that the circumstances which occurred after the smoking incident were probably "what has resulted in our being here (in court) rather than the smoking itself."

A complaint was made to city officials who laid charges under the by-law.

The accused, after sentencing, told the court that a bank employee at the time told him that workers there were allowed to smoke by moving behind the counter.

Judge Shaw replied that such an area probably was considered to be an office.

Prospect child likely prospect for first baby

Hear ye! Hear ye! Hear ye!

THE WESTMOUNT EXAMINER hereby serves notice to residents of the City of Westmount that should no party come forth to declare a child of the city was born at a date and time earlier, Jeremy Maclaine, son of Craig and Catherine Maclaine, 1 Prospect street, will be proclaimed the first new citizen of 1987 and showered with a multitude of gifts provided through the generosity of EXAMINER advertisers.

Be it known that Jeremy Maclaine was born at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Jan 2 at 7:20 am, weighing in at 6 lb, 15 oz. Anyone who has cause to believe there is a child born to Westmounters before this time, should make it known to THE EXAMINER before 10 am Monday, at which time a winner must be announced in the paper's fifth annual first baby contest.

Call the editor at 932-3157.

Public meeting on lights plan set for tonight

Tonight's the night Alderman Joan Rothman hosts a public information meeting on Westmount's three-year, $5 million lighting project at 7:30 pm in city hall.

Large stretches of Westmount are involved in the plan to replace antiquated street lights with modern Washington standard fixtures (see story Dec 24).

The meeting is open to all residents and will be followed by a question and answer session.

Due to an editing error, last week's edition incorrectly reported the date of the meeting.

THE EXAMINER regrets the error.

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CAT'S GOT HIS TONGUE?: While **Don Johnston**, Liberal MP for St Henri-Westmount, ponders his future in politics (see story page 10) he and his family have taken in this grey and white, neutered male cat which has been hanging around their Highland avenue home since November. The Johnston family would like to return the cat to its owner who they feel might be worried because of the recent increase of cat disappearances. If the owner is not found they will gladly share their home with the stray. The cat already has spent Christmas in the country with the Johnstons and has come to an understanding with their dog, Mike. If the cat is yours you can call Mr Johnston's St Henri-Westmount riding office at 937-9351.

No Westmount plans to duplicate Lachine non-profit tax refunds

By THOR VALDMANIS

Unlike Westmount, Lachine city council has decided to act unilaterally in aiding its non-profit organizations recently stricken by a retroactive business tax dating back to Jan 1, 1985.

"It's up to us locally to decide who should be taxed and who shouldn't be," Lachine Mayor Guy Descary told THE EXAMINER Tuesday.

Lachine city council began issuing grants on Monday "that correspond to the tax levied" this fall against non-profit organizations under Bill 40, an amendment to the act respecting municipal taxation, adopted by the provincial government in June.

In November, Verdun city council awarded $29,957 in grants to 16 community organizations to, in effect, nullify the impact of Bill 40.

The bill was intended to close previous loopholes that permitted non-profit, but commercial organizations — such as unions and professional organizations — to

Continued on page 27

WHATEVER THE WEATHER SHOP

WESTMOUNT SQUARE GALLERIES

NEXT WEEK'S WEATHER
By Capt Eric Neal
January 15 to 22

Mainly sunny and extremely cold to commence this changeable week. Blue skies and blowing snow. Deep drifts. In addition to heavy wind and ice storms, 25 to 40 cm of snow may be expected — wet and fluffy in the south, powder in north and Gulf regions. A short snowfall each day would be normal. Temperatures easing and quite pleasant, although misty to end the period, but followed by another cold spell.

St. Catherine St. W. at Greene

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Bargain time

SO, THIS is January. A little quieter than December, isn't it? Certainly for local merchants. That's why January is sale time. Here at THE WESTMOUNT EXAMINER, the only newspaper devoted exclusively to Westmount, we don't just have a January sale. We also have a sale in February, March, April and every other month of the year. Our sale is called **BUYS**, our monthly shopper. While the regular paper is delivered each week only to those homes that pay for a subscription, we send **BUYS** once a month to all the other homes in Westmount that don't subscribe. After putting any regularly priced ad in the regular paper, advertisers can insert the same ad in **BUYS** for just a very small additional surcharge — a sale if there ever was one because the two papers combined offer Total Market Coverage in this lucrative community. And **BUYS** isn't just thrown about; every copy is individually addressed and delivered by mail right into the mailbox. THE EXAMINER and **BUYS** is the best combination to reach the Westmount market. Make your January sale come to life by advertising in both papers next week, which is **BUYS** week. Deadline for both the regular paper and **BUYS** is 1 pm Tuesday. Call **931-7511** right away to book your space.

BUYS from THE WESTMOUNT Examiner

"Your new diet will be simple . . . if it tastes good, spit it out."

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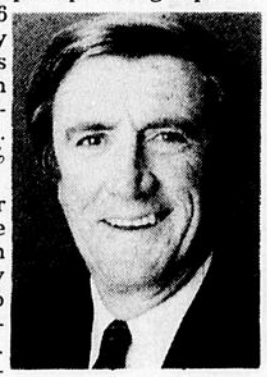
Official NOTICE BOARD / TABLEAU D'AFFICHAGE officiel

Our mayor . . .
BRIAN O'N. GALLERY

. . . says

THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND YOUR TAX BILL

The final versions of the 1987 Operating and Capital Budgets were adopted formally by council on December 16th, 1986. The bottom line was that Municipal operating expenditures increased 6.9% over the 1986 budget, the cost of water supply increased 19.5% and our shared costs for the M.U.C. operations, which accounts for 35% of our total expenditures, are up 6.9%. The total M.U.C. budget for 1987 has increased by 8.9% over last year's to $777,332,403.



Westmount and many other municipalities on the island have experienced significant increases in the market value of single-family homes, ranging mostly from 16% to 29%. In Westmount, the taxable valuations, as determined by the M.U.C. Valuation Department, have increased by 17.7% *on average*. The valuations for apartments and condominiums are up 10.0%, for commercial buildings 12.3% and 2.2% for industrial and other properties. This indicates that a shift in the tax burden to the owners of single-family dwellings would be inevitable, as municipalities cannot legally levy variable tax rates for the various categories of dwellings and businesses.

The City's 1987 operating expenditures total $37,064,000, of which $4,958,900 will be financed by non-tax revenues, $1,650,000 from our accumulated surplus, leaving $30,455,100 to be derived from municipal and business taxes, and compensation in lieu of taxes from the federal and provincial governments.

The tax rate is established by taking the net revenue required from taxation and apportioning it over the total taxable property valuations in Westmount. Due to the vast disparity of increases in valuations for single-family dwellings as compared to the other categories, we find that the $2.00 per $100 valuation tax rate has a varied effect on the taxpayers.

Based on the *average* tax bill for single-family dwellings, we note an increase of 7.8% as compared to a 1.0% increase for apartments and 2.6% for commercial buildings. One must be cautioned when reading statistics about averages, as this figure relates solely to the total valuations of properties divided by the number of properties in that group.

For example, the average valuation increase for single-family homes was 17.7%; however, many homeowners have experienced greater increase in valuations, while others may have realized much smaller increases. If your valuation has gone up 30%, then your tax bill will have resulted in a 19.8% increase. Conversely, if your valuation has remained unchanged over last year's, your tax bill will have decreased by 7.8%.

Since Westmount's valuation roll is prepared by the Montreal Urban Community, ratepayers are requested to call the M.U.C. Valuation Department for any questions concerning their valuation, at 280-3940.

Forms for a "Complaint Concerning the Real Estate Assessment Roll" may be obtained at the City Clerk's Office in City Hall. The procedures for contesting valuations are detailed on the reverse side of your tax bill.

The Council has worked hard on the 1987 Budget with the objective of keeping taxes as low as possible while at the same time maintaining quality of services in Westmount second to none of the other municipalities in the MUC.

We believe we have attained that objective.

CHRONIQUE DU MAIRE — JANVIER 1987
LE BUDGET ANNUEL ET VOTRE FACTURE DE TAXES

Le 16 décembre, le conseil adoptait officiellement, dans leur version finale, les budgets d'exploitation et d'immobilisations pour l'exercice 1987. En fin de compte, on y note que les dépenses d'exploitation de la Ville sont en hausse de 6,9% sur celles de l'exercice précédent, que le coût de la fourniture d'eau a grimpé de 19,5% et que notre quote-part des frais de la C.U.M., qui correspond à 35% de nos dépenses totales, accuse une hausse de 6,9%. Le budget total de la C.U.M. pour l'exercice 1987 a augmenté de 8,9% par rapport à l'an dernier pour se chiffrer à 777 332 403$.

Dans Westmount et plusieurs autres municipalités de l'Île de Montréal, la valeur marchande des résidences unifamiliales a connu une augmentation substantielle allant dans l'ensemble de 16% à 29%. Les évaluations imposables, établies par le service d'Évaluation de la C.U.M., ont augmenté *en moyenne* de 17,7% dans Westmount. L'évaluation des maisons d'appartements et des condominiums est en hausse de 10,0%, celle des bâtiments commerciaux, de 12,3% et celle des propriétés industrielles et autres, de 2,2%. Ceci indique qu'un déplacement du fardeau fiscal vers les propriétaires de résidences unifamiliales devient inévitable puisque la loi ne permet pas aux municipalités d'imposer des taux de taxe variables selon les diverses catégories de logements et de commerces.

Les dépenses d'exploitation de la Ville seront de 37 064 000$ en 1987, dont un montant de 4 958 900$ sera financé par des revenus autres que de taxes, un autre de 1 650 000$ proviendra de notre surplus accumulé, laissant un montant de 30 455 100$ à retirer des taxes municipales et d'affaires et des compensations tenant lieu de taxes versées par les gouvernements fédéral et provincial.

Le taux de la taxe est établi en prenant le revenu net à retirer des taxes et en le répartissant sur l'ensemble des évaluations foncières imposables dans Westmount. En raison des grands écarts au niveau de l'augmentation des évaluations des propriétés unifamiliales par rapport aux autres catégories, nous constatons que le taux d'imposition de 2,00$ par 100$ d'évaluation a un effet différent selon les contribuables.

La facture de taxe *moyenne* pour les propriétés unifamiliales nous indique une hausse de 7,8% par rapport à une augmentation de 1,0% pour les maisons d'appartements et de 2,6% pour les bâtiments commerciaux. En examinant les statistiques relatives aux moyennes, il faut avoir présent à l'ésprit le fait que ce chiffre est lié uniquement au total des évaluations des propriétés, divisé par le nombre de propriétés s'inscrivant dans ce groupe.

À titre d'exemple, signalons que l'augmentation moyenne d'évaluation pour les maisons unifamiliales a été de 17,7% mais que plusieurs propriétaires de maison ont subi une augmentation d'évaluation plus forte et d'autres, une augmentation beaucoup moins marquée. Une augmentation de 30% sur votre évaluation se traduira par une hausse de 19,8% de votre facture de taxes. Par contre, si votre évaluation n'a pas changé par rapport à l'an dernier, votre facture de taxes aura diminué de 7,8%.

Comme le rôle d'évaluation de Westmount est dressé par la Communauté urbaine de Montréal, les contribuables sont priés de communiquer avec le service d'Évaluation de la C.U.M. en appelant au 280-3940 s'ils ont des questions à poser au sujet de leur évaluation.

Des formules de "Plainte à l'égard du rôle d'évaluation foncière" sont disponibles au bureau du Greffier de la Ville à l'Hôtel de Ville. On trouve à l'endos de la facture de taxes une explication détaillée de la procédure à suivre pour s'opposer à une évaluation.

Le Conseil a travaillé avec assiduité sur le Budget de 1987 en ayant pour objectif de maintenir le taux de taxes aussi bas que possible, tout en s'assurant que la qualité des services offerts par Westmount n'est inférieure à celle d'aucunes autres municipalités de la C.U.M.

Nous croyons avoir atteint cet objectif.

WESTMOUNT

AVIS PUBLIC est par les présentes donné par le soussigné, président d'élection de la Ville de Westmount, qu'à l'expiration du délai fixé pour la mise en candidature des candidats pour la charge de curateur de la Bibliothèque publique de Westmount, soit à 14h00, le lundi, 5 janvier 1987, la personne suivante a été élue par acclamation à ladite charge:

DONNÉ SOUS MON SEING à Westmount, ce cinquième jour de janvier 1987.

WESTMOUNT

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given by the undersigned, Returning Officer of the city of Westmount, that, at the expiry date of the delay fixed for the nomination of candidates for the office of Trustee of Westmount Public Library, at 2:00 p.m. on Monday, 5th January 1987, the following person was elected by acclamation to the said office.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND at Westmount, Québec, this fifth day of January 1987

Robert C. Wilkins
Président d'élection - Returning Officer

CURATEUR DE LA BIBLIOTHÈQUE/ LIBRARY TRUSTEE

Mr. Peter Michael McEntyre
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Fire (business calls) 19 Stanton St.	935-2456
Police (business calls) 21 Stanton St.	280-2223
Municipal Court, 21 Stanton St.	935-8531 Local 351-352
Nights, weekends and holidays	
Victoria Hall, 4626 Sherbrooke St. W.	935-2066
Municipal Yard, 14 Bethune St.	935-8037
Light Department, Glen Road	935-8218
Library (and nights)	935-8444

lundi à vendredi, 8h30 à 16h30	
Incendie (bureau d'affaires) 19, rue Stanton	935-2456
Police (bureau d'affaires) 21, rue Stanton	280-2223
Cour municipale, 21, rue Stanton	935-8531 Loc. 351 ou 352
Nuits, weekends et jours de fête	
Hall Victoria, 4626, rue Sherbrooke ouest	935-2066
Voirie, 14, rue Béthune	935-8037
Service d'éclairage, chemin Glen	935-8218
Bibliothèque (et nuits)	935-8444

Continued on page 27

WESTMOUNT *Community Calendar*

The following events are scheduled in Westmount this week:

Today, Jan 15

☐ **Public information meeting**: Re City of Westmount's $5 million street lighting project, City Hall, 7:30 pm ☺

☐ **Art exhibition**: "Hard Hats and Dresses," Visual Arts Centre, 350 Victoria, until Feb 7 ◔

☐ **Print exhibition**: Photographs by Montreal Camera Club members, at the Westmount Public Library, until Jan 18 ◔

Sunday, Jan 18

☐ **Breakfast forum**: Speaker Prof Yochanan Silman on the relationship between religious and non-religious in Israel, Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue, Côte St Antoine at Metcalfe, 10:15 am; preceded by shachrit service at 8:45 am and breakfast at 9:30 am ◥

☐ **Fellowship breakfast**: Sponsored by the Entre Nous cultural and social group of Temple Emanu-El - Beth Sholom; guest artist Dora Wasserman will sing English and Yiddish folk songs, 4100 Sherbrooke street west, 10 am; for reservations call 937-3575 ☺$

Monday, Jan 19

☐ **Westmount recreation department chess program**: Victoria Hall, 7 pm to 10 pm ☺

☐ **Auditions**: Aspiring male and female models are invited to audition for the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation's annual fashion show, to be held in April; try-outs at Temple Emanu-El - Beth Sholom, 395 Elm avenue, 7:30 pm; for further information call the JDF office, 337-0826 ☺

☐ **Meeting**: Montreal Camera Club, pictorial competition, Westmount Park Church, de Maisonneuve at Lansdowne, 7:30 pm ☺✓

Tuesday, Jan 20

☐ **Open house**: Westmount High School will be open to the public from 8:45 am to 11:45 am in order to show parents of prospective students what it has to offer; continues Jan 21 and 22 ☺

☐ **Meeting**: Election of the board of the Montreal Children's Library, Atwater Library, 1200 Atwater avenue, 10:30 am; for further information call 487-7806 a

Wednesday, Jan 21

☐ **Used book sale**: Hard-cover English fiction and non-fiction, Roslyn School, 9 am - 3 pm 🛒

☐ **Luncheon meeting**: Rotary Club of Westmount, Victoria Hall, 12:30 pm ←+

COMING UP

☐ **Jan 23**: Book sale, Atwater Library, for members only, 5 pm - 8 pm; open to the public Jan 24, 10 am - 5 pm, and Jan 25, 1 pm - 5 pm a🛒

☐ **Jan 26**: Financial seminar titled "Outlook for '87," with Dr A. Tan of Bache Securities, Atwater Library, 7:30 pm - 9 pm ☺✓

☐ **Jan 27**: Buda Books poetry series features Louis Dudek and Anne Diamond, at the Double Hook, 1235A Greene avenue, 8 pm ◔

☐ **Jan 31**: Investment workshop, with Dr A. Tan of Bache Securities, Atwater Library, 9:30 am - 1 pm ☺$

☐ **Feb 21, 22**: Writers' workshop, with Adrian Waller, Victoria Hall; for further information phone 634-2020 $

W Weekly	/ Monthly m
● Public meeting	/ Annual a
Religious	/ Cultural event ◔
For children	/ Sporting event ◇
☺ All welcome	/ Sale 🛒
No smoking	/ Phone for details ☎
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←+ Members and guests

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THE WESTMOUNT
Examiner

Thursday, January 15, 1987 - 3

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486-0785

The following calls were answered by the Westmount Fire Brigade during the past week:

Jan 6

3:21 pm: 4840 Sherbrooke, Steinberg's, oil spill from furnace into sewer (see story last week);
9:31 pm: 10 Willow, burglar alarm;

Jan 7

3:33 pm: 331 Clarke, apt 40, code 2 automatic mutual aid from Côte St luc cancelled at 3:41 pm, for smell of gas, none found;
3:57 pm: 745 Upper Belmont, steam scare from overheated hot water heater;

Jan 8

2:20 pm: 5 Murray, exterior gas leak (see story);
5:41 pm: 4656 Sherbrooke, first responder unit;

Jan 9

1:37 pm: 65 Hillside, burglar alarm accidentally activated;
4:25 pm: 6865 Norwalk, code 3 automatic mutual aid to Côte St Luc cancelled at 4:34 pm;
5:40 pm: 18 Forden, burnt grease in oven (see story);

Jan 10

4:24 am: 30 Stanton, apt 703, fumes from from unused oil tank;
9:50 am: 10 Church Hill, St Matthias' Church, code 2 automatic mutual aid from Outremont cancelled at 9:56 am;

Jan 11

7:47 am: 77 Columbia, defective circulating pump on natural gas furnace;
3:57 pm: 5002 Sherbrooke, Toronto-Dominion Bank, fire in commercial building (see story);

Jan 12

11:28 am: 16 Winchester, smell of oil from recently installed tanks;
5:52 pm: 33 Holton, fumes from propane tank (see story);
7:02 pm: 4670 St Catherine, for strange odor, none found;

Jan 13

2:42 am: 7460 Kingsley, code 3 automatic mutual aid to Côte St Luc cancelled at 2:51 am.

Homes entered to check gas

Gas crews called police and a locksmith to help gain access to homes on Burton avenue Tuesday afternoon last week following a leak of natural gas.

Police said 19 homes had to be checked for safety after repairs in the event that pilot lights had to be relit.

Skis snared

Two pairs of skis and a set of poles valued at $800 were reported stolen Monday last week outside 805 Roslyn avenue, police said. Two other pairs were not taken. The theft occurred between 4:30 and 5 pm.

Westmounter **Karin Stiefenhofer** puts some fancy moves on her friend **Luc Harvey**, doing his best to repel her attack. This scene took place last week on the outdoor rink in Westmount Park, before it and other city rinks were ravaged by the recent mild weather.

Robber not content with penny rolls

A man who asked a bank teller for two rolls of pennies Friday suddenly produced a gun and demanded "the rest of the money."

Police said the holdup took place Friday at 5:45 pm at the Bank of Montreal branch on Sherbrooke street at Claremont avenue when the man, aged about 24, pulled a revolver from his pocket and was given less than $600.

He left the bank and disappeared without being followed.

Chevy slides into Jaguar

A 1984 Chevrolet driven by a Montreal woman slid into a black 1987 Jaguar on Summit Circle near Summit road Sunday, police said.

The mishap was reported to have occurred about 11:40 am on slippery streets. More than $500 damage resulted to both cars but no injuries were reported.

The driver of the Jag, a resident of the street, was ticketed for not having proof of insurance.

Bike ditched

A BMX bicycle, abandoned outside 391 Roslyn avenue, was reported taken to local MUC police station 23 Monday last week.

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MUCTC BUS TICKETS

Weather irks rink makers; city snow removers serene

By THOR VALDMANIS

While city snow removal crews are revelling in the recent mild temperatures and light snowfalls, recreation department officials are pulling their hair out.

"It's going to be the worst year ever," John Garland, Westmount's superintendent of parks and recreation, said of the outdoor rink season Monday.

"We just can't get any sustained cold weather."

Mr Garland said ice flooding, carried out daily by the department, requires at least two consecutive nights of sub-zero weather to have any positive, lasting effect.

After a tour of Westmount's rinks Monday, Buddy Selby, the general foreman in charge of the city's seven outdoor rink locations, said that while some rinks, namely those at Devon Park and the Westmount Athletic Grounds, are showing signs of exhaustion and are bare in some areas, they are "skateable."

"Our rinks are as good as any other municipality's," Mr Selby said.

Over the weekend, some complaints were aired concerning the outdoor rink in Westmount Park. According to sources, the rink was covered in snow and neglected both Saturday and Sunday.

Mr Selby explained the rink was currently "unmanned," meaning that it was without an attendant.

"The situation will be rectified by the weekend," he said, when someone is assigned to it.

That will leave the dual-purpose (hockey and skating) Devon rink and the oval skating rink at the Westmount Athletic Grounds as the only unmanned locations, Mr Selby said.

Those rinks are cleared every morning, though, the foreman said, and are regularly patrolled by the city's public security officers.

The remaining outdoor hockey and skating rinks at Stayner, King George and Prince Albert parks and Queen Elizabeth Gardens, all have attendants stationed, Mr Selby said.

"All we need is some colder temperatures," he added.

In the meantime, over at city hall, Fred Caluori, Westmount's director of public works, said he had "no objection" to the current weather that has made life easy for the city's snow removal crews.

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PSU records more condo site woes

Reports of hazardous conditions continue to pile up concerning the construction site at 4476 St Catherine street.

The complaints involve gaps in hoarding at the site as well as traffic congestion and unmarked materials lying in the street, according to public safety officers.

Several sheets of plywood were reported to have fallen Sunday at 10:36 am after being laid against each other for fencing. Another panel was found to have fallen in last Thursday night at 11 o'clock.

On Friday, traffic was reported backed up about 12 car lengths on either side of the site when an 18-wheel truck was parked in front of the site. Neither a foreman nor a flagman could be located.

Pile driver gets to china

Vibrations from pile driving on the construction site at Greene avenue and St Catherine street Wednesday last week were reported to have broken a Chinese plate in an apartment at 3 Westmount Square, police said.

It was valued at $300.

The plate was toppled about 7:05 am.

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THE WESTMOUNT
Examiner

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CCNA VERIFIED CIRCULATION PAID

4 - Vol. LIX, No. 3, Thursday, January 15, 1987

We Say

Don Johnston not quitting, yet

OVER the past two or three weeks reports, or rumors if you wish, have reached us from well-placed sources that our MP, Hon Donald J. Johnston, was on the point of announcing his retirement from politics and returning to his practice as a leading tax lawyer full time.

The scuttlebutt had a certain amount of apparent credibility. This high-profile Trudeau cabinet minister appeared to have nowhere to go, even when and if the federal Liberals return to power in Ottawa. He was an opponent of Hon John Turner in the party leadership race — in which he was highly respected but only lightly supported — and was not quick off the mark to endorse the chief at the recent reconfirming convention.

It would be reasonable to assume, therefore, that Hon Don would not necessarily be one of Rt Hon John's favorite people. And even the highest cabinet post, such as finance, in a future Turner government could be the end of the line.

So we talked to our ever affable, frank and friendly Member this week. He discounted that the talk of his imminent stepping down might have been instigated by wishful thinking of possible successors. But he added that some long-memoried persons may have been looking at the calendar in light of his statement in 1978, when he entered the fray, that he thought that 10 years was about the limit one should stay on the very public political scene. He believed then and still does, he said Monday, that way should be made for new blood to take over.

However, he has not yet decided to quit nor even said that he will not be available to run in the next election. It could be in St Henri-Westmount or even perhaps a Westmount-Outremont riding which still may come out of redistribution — a new combination for which he sees some practical difficulties, such as location of a riding office to satisfy constituents in both communities, and the not altogether desirable plan of putting together an area of like socio-economic characteristics. He feels that St Henri and Westmount have been a successful combination which it would be a pity to break up and which he is happy serving.

Is Westmount legally impotent?

THE troublesome construction of a condominium building at 4476 St Catherine street west, between Abbott and Metcalfe avenues, goes on being troublesome.

Offences against community standards of behavior for developers and contractors have been so numerous that there is no accurate count, even of demonstrable infractions of laws and codes.

It is clearly the owners' business if they choose to let the public conclude by what it can see for itself that shoddy supervision or workmanship or both characterize this undertaking. The building itself may be going up to the finest specifications. But this is not suggested to neighbors and passersby who constantly are offended by evidence of their own eyes of ramshackle, inadequate, unsightly hoardings, bad security, the busy street used for storage of materials, muddy sidewalks and general inconsideration of citizens.

It is clearly the public's business, however, if they continue to be discommoded or concerned by the state of this site since the excavation began last summer.

This is to say nothing of the taxpayers' resentment that their officials, from mayor and city manager down to the basic inspector and security officer, have had their attention drawn from other, more abiding things to deal with the ongoing complaints from this project. A thorough analysis of the costs to the public purse of the behavior of those responsible well might be eyebrow-raising.

What continues to baffle us is how little appears to happen as a consequence of the many complaints, even those allegedly leading to summonses or charges. Our inquiries at city hall and elsewhere indicate a great deal of confusion concerning the city's by-laws, provincial codes and even criminal and civil law as they may be applicable.

Thankfully, there do not appear to be many builders gaining contracts in Westmount so contemptuous of the public. However, what the 4476 people apparently have been able to get away with is a very bad example to others.

We should have thought that the City of Westmount, itself a law-making authority with some rather broad powers, would not show itself so seemingly powerless, reticent or possibly even indifferent.

Is Westmount really this impotent in the legal department?

our M.P.
Hon. Donald J. Johnston
says...

Free trade yes, but how?

IT IS IRONIC that we live in a world where almost everyone preaches "free trade" or "freer trade" but no one is really prepared to make it happen. We all know the lessons of "comparative advantage" and we see the results as foreign products of nearly all descriptions invade our markets. The response by Canadian manufacturers to this inflow, for example, of footwear and clothing from Brazil and the Far East, is really no different than the response of the U.S. lumber industry to Canadian softwood imports.

Adding 15 percent to the cost of Canadian lumber imports hurts American consumers. Putting quotas on the import of clothes and footwear hurts Canadian consumers. But in both cases domestic manufacturers are benefitted and jobs are protected. Protecting jobs has always enjoyed more political support than protecting consumers.

The same is true of every Western industrialized society. The political pressure of potential job losses and industrial dislocation becomes too great for the politicians to withstand. That is why we in Canada move so cautiously to eliminate trade barriers even when they prop up inefficient industries.

At a ministerial symposium I attended in Davos some years ago, a senior British minister remarked, "From what I see we are all in favor of free trade, but not just yet."

What is the answer? How can we obtain a national consensus that will give political leaders the backbone to do the right thing, not simply what is politically expedient?

The answer is obvious, albeit seemingly cynical. We must make the political choice and the right choice one and the same. I think I know how that can be done. More next week.

our M.N.A.
Hon. Richard D. French
says...

Space agency launches row

THE GOVERNMENT of Canada has announced its intention to establish a national space agency to co-ordinate Canadian efforts in transport and communications in the atmosphere. The new agency will be composed from space-related programs and personnel in a number of departments and agencies such as the ministry of science and technology and the department of communications.

The recent report published by the federal task force on the economic development of Montreal designates aerospace and communications as two of the priority sectors for the city's industrial base. It also recommends unequivocally that the new space agency be established here. To no one's great surprise, the governments of Quebec and of Montreal are strongly in favor of such a decision, as are the universities and business groups.

The problem, however, is the broad backlash in Western Canada against what is (wrongly) perceived as Ottawa's undue generosity toward Quebec. The awarding of the maintenance contract for the F-18 fighter plane to Canadair instead of its Winnipeg competitor seemed to have resulted from a rather tortuous interpretation of the virtues of the rival bids. The decision crystallized a sense of frustration with the federal government's efforts to support employment in Quebec, and the federal cabinet seems extremely sensitive on the matter.

Federal public servants who will staff the new agency have not been slow to exploit the political fallout from the F-18. They have been lobbying vigorously to keep the new agency in Ottawa. The puzzling thing, however, is the notion that keeping the agency in

Continued on page 27

Air Canada passes are better

THERE are many things we might say about the appointment of Mayor Brian O'N. Gallery as acting chairman of Canadian National.

Every such remark, however justified by the facts, would smack of a cheap crack at our first magistrate.

Despite those who denigrate His Worship, ever fewer as he has shown himself to be a dedicated and capable first citizen of Westmount, he can and should command respect.

Unfortunately, the CN appointment simply doesn't help. The quips and jokes must long since have outstripped whatever honor and expressions of admiration came in the wake of his new job.

We are quite sure that Mr Gallery would himself acknowledge that there are literally thousands, perhaps tens of thousands of Canadians as qualified as he to be CN chairman. Knowledge of railroading clearly is not among the specifications.

The sad thing about it is that among the widely held attributes is that of being a Progressive Conservative. In that, however, it must be admitted that Mr Gallery has an edge: he is a prominent fund-raiser for the party and is a good friend of a former Westmount resident named Mulroney.

If we were to criticize our mayor for anything in all this it would be for not holding out instead for the chairmanship of that other Crown corporation transportation plum, Air Canada. Their travel passes are more useful than CN's.

Ask Hon Bryce Mackassey of the Liberals.

Other views on language

THREE letters (see You Say) came in as if on cue from defenders of Mr Allan Singer in the wake of last week's editorial on the language of signs.

They have something else in common: they ignore the essential point of the editorial.

Our advocacy of respect for the sensibilities of others instead of blind insistence upon uniligualism, of whatever language, appears to have been passed over.

We don't think our point was obscure. Several Westmounters whose opinions we respect have nodded, even lauded it. They agree that moderation and respect for others are to be preferred to redneck militancy on either side.

By coincidence and without knowledge of what the other was writing, the editorialists of this paper and of our sister publication, the TOWN OF MOUNT ROYAL WEEKLY POST, last week were on the same topic. In view of the comments from our readers we draw their attention to They Say on page 22.

I Say!

I'D always assumed that I was the central character in my own story but now it occurred to me I might in fact be only a minor character in someone else's.

—*Russell Hoban*

Forty-five Years Ago
January 8, 1942

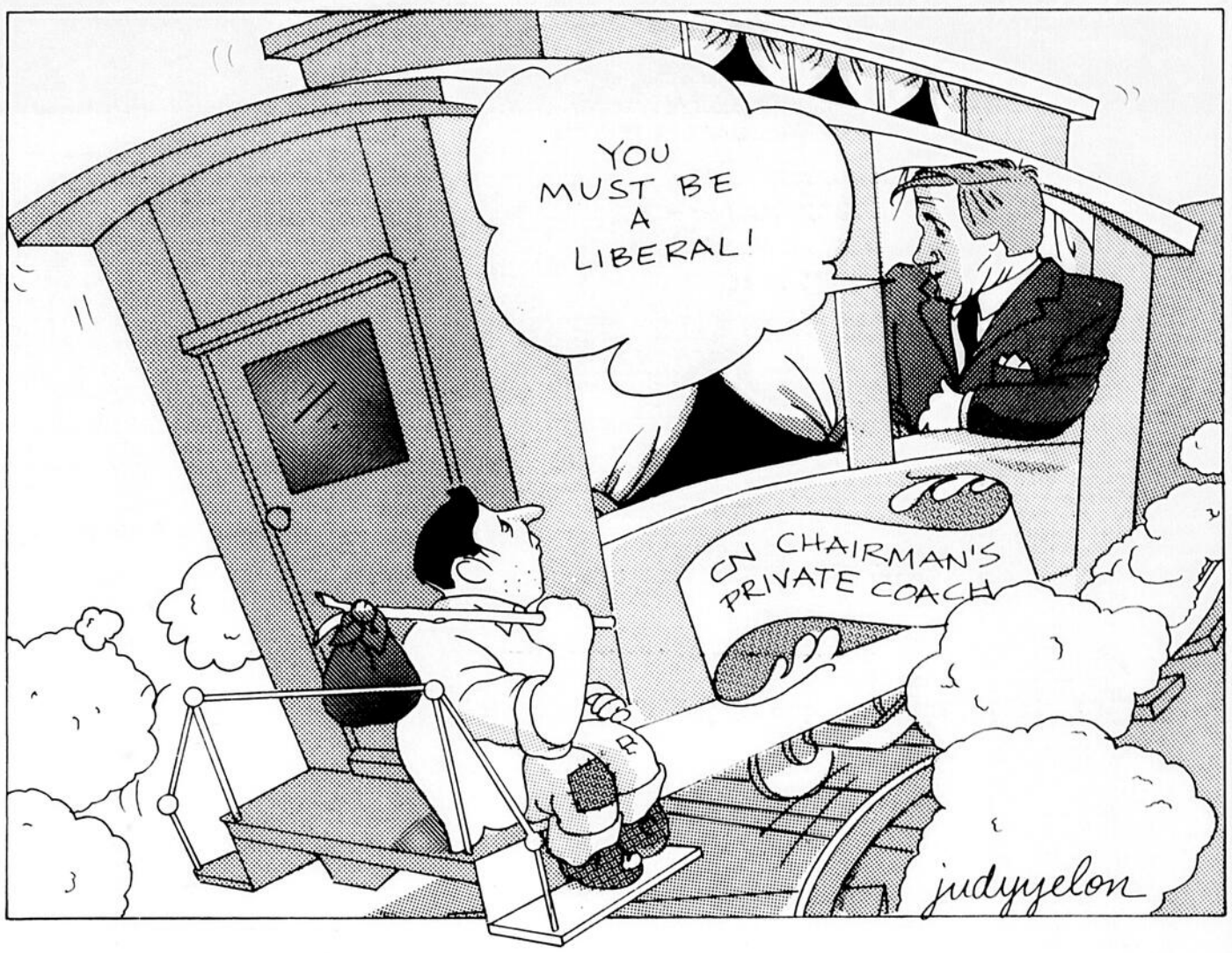
"The death occurred suddenly yesterday afternoon of Henry Reid Cockfield, prominent advertising executive, director of aluminium production and distribution of the department of munitions and supply, and head of the Protestant Education Committee of Quebec. Managing director of Cockfield Brown and Co, Mr Cockfield dropped dead suddenly in his office yesterday afternoon. His death came as a complete shock as he was seemingly in excellent health. He was 53 years of age."

Thirty-five Years Ago
January 11, 1952

"Canada's role in the first 100 years of the atomic era depends on immigration. Lt Col G.R. Stevens, OBE, told Westmount Rotary Club members at a regular meeting on Wednesday. There are three possible roles which Canada can play, and her destiny

Continued on page 22

MAYOR GALLERY ELECTED ACTING CHAIRMAN OF CN



You Say

NEWS ITEM: Stratford's *Mikado* to tour U.S. Harry suggests an addition to the cast

My object all sublime
I shall achieve in time
To be adored by millions and
Enshrined in classical rhyme.

My noble crown will shine
All glory will be mine
For *amor vincit omnia*'s
My favorite bottom line.

To gain my worthy aim
I'll play the amorous game
Extend my bounty to everyone
Provided they do the same.

My friends will get their rewards
With grants or appointment to boards
Or judgeships, senatorial seats
Or medals or contract awards.

I'll make token appointments to
Even those who my views eschew
So politicians of every stripe
I shall add to my loyal retinue.

I'll negotiate any trade pact
If supplies of love are intact
And please don't talk about duties and such
Or distract with irrelevant fact.

I will all my ministers trust
Who for my office do lust
And I'll even have a kind word for those
Whose actions fill me with disgust.

Peccadillos I'll never expose
Nor punishments ever impose
For I am a monarch who everyone knows
Is a pussycat from head to toes.

Our sovereignty will I uphold
If it's not too demanding or bold
Our independence I'll loudly proclaim
Nor will it be too cheaply sold.

Fixed frontiers will I maintain
From ocean to bounding main
But if polar limits shrink with the cold
To Ronny I will not complain.

Gracious presence I'll never deny
The remotest to meet I will fly
Just lay on a junket executive-class
With Coronas and Mumm's extra dry.

So give thanks in wild merriment
For a leader whom heaven has sent
Everyone's interest will he protect
At least till the money's all spent.

Now let's have a rip-roaring cheer
With a "hip!" and a loud "hear! hear!"
For the sweetest Mikado that ever did live
That lovable huggable dear!

Harry Mayerovitch
WESTMOUNT

Editorial on language called strange reasoning

Sir: Your editorial rebuke of an elderly N.D.G. stationer for the alleged crime of having a commercial sign in English and your equation of this offence with a group (FLQ) that advocates firebombing and window-smashing as legitimate methods of expression is pretty strange reasoning by whatever measure one chooses.

In the Westmount context, this condemnation I assume would also apply to "Joe the Barber's" sign that had been in place for 30 years. A group of strident anonymous "callers" had forced the removal of the allegedly offensive words "the Barber."

THE EXAMINER had treated the incident of Joe's sign as a joke with a cartoon and caption, "It's nice to see the French face of Quebec being preserved" in the Dec 11, 1986 edition.

This editorial raises three very fundamental questions:

1) Does this editorial mean that THE EXAMINER supported the "callers" whose activities were found to be so amusing?

2) Does THE EXAMINER know the identity of the "callers"?

3) Does THE EXAMINER now recommend that this tactic be directed at the N.D.G. stationer to obtain the same result as was obtained in Westmount?

Clearly some straight answers are in order from THE EXAMINER.

W.A. Sullivan
4444 Sherbrooke street west
Apt 105
WESTMOUNT PQ H3Z 1E4

Editor's note: Our answers: 1) No, 2) No, 3) No.

Extremist label said 'low blow' to Mr Singer

Sir: The editorial board of THE WESTMOUNT EXAMINER has delivered a low blow to N.D.G. stationer Allan Singer by attempting to brand him an extremist in last week's editorial.

And, worse still, the editors then chose to put him in the same category as FLQ firebombers and window-smashers.

Mr Singer, a 73-year-old World War II veteran, has exercised his democratic right and has taken action against the "extremists" in the Quebec government who would say that his crime was to post a sign (for the past 34 years) in the English language. And,

Continued on page 22

RE/MAX Westmount Inc., Broker
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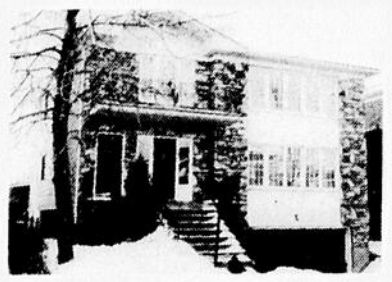
933-6781

OLD HAMPSTEAD

For gracious entertaining and comfortable living, consider this detached, stonefront duplex in Old Hampstead. A quiet couple has lovingly cared for and tastefully decorated the upper flat for more than 15 years. The owners leave their immaculate lower flat with some regret in June. Truly in "move-in" condition, this 3-bedroom flat features spacious living and dining areas. A bright family room and a most pleasant garden. $369,000. For more details, contact

Reg Morden 933-6781/937-7061



HAMPSTEAD

Detached stone front 6½-7½-2½ luxury duplex, quiet street, one extra large room, playroom. Fully rented.

Julia Daniels 935-4524

DOWNTOWN CONDO

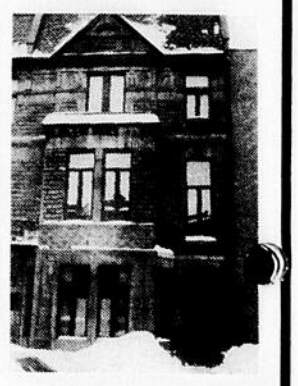
Exquisite 2-bedroom condo in a prestigious renovated building. Fireplace, 2 bathrooms, indoor parking, alarm system. Very nice! Excl. $159,000.

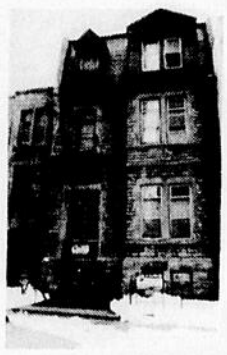
B. Von Dorp/C. Palardy 737-0910

DOWNTOWN

"Beautiful" 2-bedroom condo with a/c, alarm, equipped, kitchen. Within walking distance to everywhere. $139,000.

Luc Desrosiers 989-9102





DOWNTOWN

Whose chance at such an opportunity? Be smart, invest now in trendy Faubourg area. Reduced price $385,000 for such potential. Please call me for exclusive showing.

Manon Gagnon 489-8334

CENTRE EAST

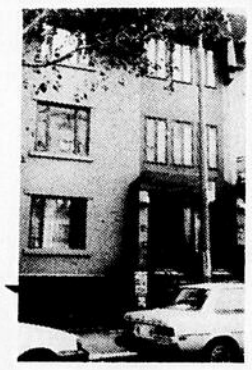
"Revenue" small 7-unit building in very good condition. $189,000.

Luc Desrosiers 989-9102

OLD MONTREAL

At Cour le Royer. Lovely 1,100 sq.ft. 1 bedroom condo. Spacious and bright room. $129,000.

Luc Desrosiers 989-9102



CENTER

"Stunning" 1500 sq.ft. 2-bedroom condo. Fireplace, garden, parking.

Luc Desrosiers 989-9102

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Only 5 minutes from downtown. 2 and 3-bedroom condominiums, penthouses and townhouses from $137,000.

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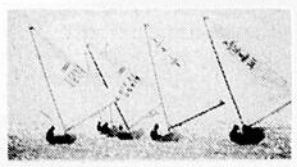

Marie Max-Farr 766-3339

RE/MAX IS GROWING!

ANNOUNCEMENT
HANNAH BUXTON

We are pleased to announce that HANNAH BUXTON has joined RE/MAX Westmount Inc. Hannah brings her enthusiasm and dedication to our sales team of real estate professionals, and can be reached at **933-6781** or **484-2691.**

FOR SALE
WESTMOUNT

EXCLUSIVE – JUST LISTED – Charming 3-bedroom T.H., completely renovated. Parking, garden. Absolutely move-in condition. $279,000.

Brian Dutch 738-1744

FOR SALE
OUTREMONT

EXCLUSIVE – JUST LISTED – LE SANCTUAIRE most desirable Phase I. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 1387 sq.ft., 1 car garage, oversized terrace and garden. Lovely views towards forest. $239,000.

Brian Dutch 738-1744

FOR SALE
FORT DE LA MONTAGNE

Luxurious 1700 sq.ft. 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom condominium apartment on 14th floor with western exposure, large terrace, garden, all amenities. Excl.

Peggie Hopkins 765-3482
Joyce Faughnan 932-9766

FOR SALE
JUST LISTED

Westmount – Lovely 5-bedroom semi-detached cottage across from Stayner Park. Splendid woodwork and mouldings. High ceilings. Small garden and 2-car parking. A hop away from metro and shopping! $259,000.

Sylvie Lafrenière 933-6781

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Investment and commercial properties needed in Westmount and adjacent areas for serious investors. Call in complete confidence.

Claude Palardy 933-6781

PROPERTY WANTED

Family home needed urgently. Westmount or adjacent. $250,000 and up. March occupancy preferred. Please call

Beatrice Von Dorp 737-0910

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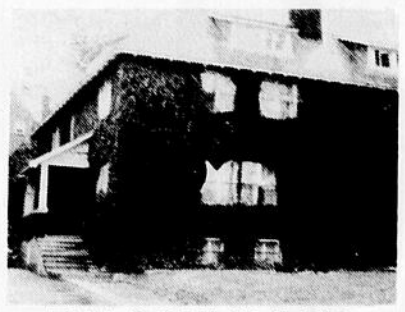
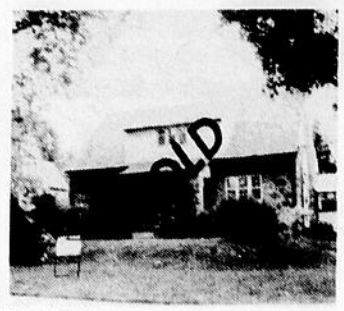
METCALFE AVE.
Julia Daniels 935-4524

VICTORIA AVE.
B. Von Dorp/C. Palardy 737-0910

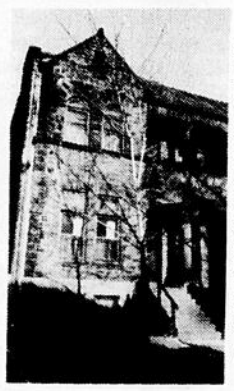


THE BOULEVARD
Joyce Faughnan 932-9766
Julia Daniels 935-4524



THURLOW AVE. (Hampstead)
B. Von Dorp/C. Palardy 737-0910

GROSVENOR AVE.
Julia Daniels 935-4525



WESTMOUNT
Exciting brownstone townhouse on Olivier. Totally renovated and professionally decorated, spectacular staircase leading to large upstairs den, open fireplace in the living room, separate dining room, country kitchen with adjacent laundry room, mudroom, 3 & 2 bedrooms & basement rec. room. Garage and garden. Immediate occupancy. Interior photos available. Excl. $469,000.
Joyce Faughnan
932-9766

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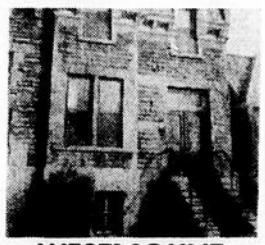
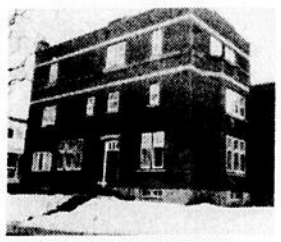
NOTRE-DAME ST.
Luc Desrosiers 989-9102

WESTMOUNT
Victorian charm and lots of lovely details make this 5-bedroom home a "must visit" for those who want to entertain in style. $489,000.
Julia Daniels
935-4524



WESTMOUNT
Victorian old charm! Semi-detached stone cottage on Clarke, above Sherbrooke. 4 bedrooms, garden, large deck, skylight, parking. High ceilings, superb floors and mouldings! Excl. $285,000.
B. Von Dorp/C. Palardy 737-0910



WESTMOUNT
Facing park near Westmount Square, this 6 plus bedroom home is nestled on quiet Wood Ave. and Barat Rd. Southwestern exposure, view of mountain, city garden, garage and parking. Will offer the special famly a quality of life hard to beat. Interior photos available. $495,000. For more information call:
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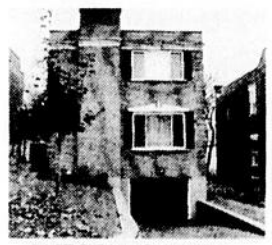

WESTMOUNT
Mid-level detached "newer" home with large garden. 3 bedrooms, 2½ bathrooms, fireplace, eat-in kitchen, master bedroom ensuite, all in move-in condition. Ideal for empty-nesters or small family. Interior photos available. $375,000.
Joyce Faughnan 932-9766
Julia Daniels 935-4524

WESTMOUNT
Very rare! A detached revenue property in the heart of Westmount. Renovated kitchens, seven garages at rear. Large lot. Please call me for more information.
Sylvie Lafrenière 933-6781

WESTMOUNT
Solid construction, impeccably updated 4-bedroom family home. Ground floor family room, modern kitchen, well finished basement. $529,000.
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FOR RENT
Old Montreal: 1 bedroom condo with magnificent view on St. Lawrence, $800/month.
Luc Desrosiers 989-9102

FOR RENT
St. Denis Street, 2 storey, 2-bedroom condo with parking. $750/month.
Luc Desrosiers 989-9102

PROPERTY WANTED
Urgently required for out-of-town client. Detached 4-5 bedroom house with garage. MUST HAVE VIEW! Please call in confidence:
Kristina Lipski 484-2779
RE/MAX Westmount Inc. 933-6781

PROPERTY WANTED
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Julia Daniels 935-4524

FOR RENT - WESTMOUNT
Upper 6½ completely renovated. Parking. $950/month.
Luc Desrosiers
989-9102

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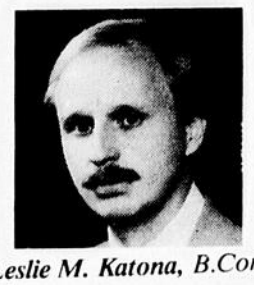


Leslie M. Katona, B.Com.

WESTMOUNT HOMEOWNERS

Is your property tax fair?

The real estate market has exploded in the past 6 months, **BUT** your "Standardized Total Value" is representative of **LAST YEAR'S** market value (Jan. 1, 1986) for your house.

You have the right to contest the accuracy of your tax valuation. The deadline for filing a complaint is April 30, 1987.

If you have any questions, please phone:

ANDY DODGE enr.
REAL ESTATE CONSULTANT
specializing in Westmount tax valuation appeals
C.P. 472, Succ. Victoria, Montreal H3Z 2Y6
932-6495

Typical home worth $354,664 in summer:

September action reveals roaring realty trade

By PETER BLACK

Westmounters muttering oaths about their 1987 tax bills now due would be well advised to save a few expletives ... and many dollars, for next year when a *real* tax sledgehammer is likely to fall.

That caution is the unavoidable conclusion drawn from recent trends in the Westmount realty market as revealed by EXAMINER analyses of property transfers. The latest compiled, for September, shows the market gaining momentum on the skyward trajectory embarked upon last spring.

Prices for sales recorded in September averaged 85.3 percent higher than valuations, a rate rivalled only by a market surge in 1981.

Based on that mark-up, the "typical" home in Westmount, estimated by city finance officials to be evaluated at $191,400 in 1986, probably would have sold for $354,664 last summer.

Transfers logged at Westmount city hall generally reflect transactions which took place at least two months previously.

The mark-up rate for September transfers is 13.8 percent higher than the 71.5 percent average recorded for August. There were 40 sales of one- and two-family homes that month and 38 in September, representing a total sales price of $11,992,050.

If the two highest and two lowest mark-ups are cast out of the calculation, the average mark-up for the month actually rises — to 86.5 percent, giving a "typical" sale price of $358,875.

Using the same adjusting formula, the average sale price among the 38 September home transfers works out to $309,760.

38 Windsor
Lowest markup, 25.6%

SEPTEMBER TRANSFERS

Following is a summary of sales of single- and two-family homes in Westmount registered in September. Transfers of homes due to successions, family or business transactions are excluded, as are commercial or industrial properties.

- **Total sales:** 38
- **Total price:** $11,992,050
- **Total valuation:** $6,470,000
- **Mark-up of average price over average evaluation:** 85.3 percent
- **Mark-up of average price over average evaluation (adjusted*):** 86.5 percent
- **Average price based on mark-up of typical evaluation (adjusted**):** $356,961

*To compensate for the effect of extreme unusual sales, the adjusted value eliminates the two highest and lowest mark-ups from the calculation.

**The City of Westmount calculates the average evaluation for municipal tax purposes in 1986 to be $191,400.

Comparison to 1985

A comparison to the previous year provides a tangible reference point for assessing the magnitude of the escalation. In September 1985, the average home would have sold for $229,480. A year later that home would have fetched 56.3 percent more. It must be noted that the average valuation in 1985 was calculated to be $178,445, a slight 7.2 percent less than in 1986.

The average mark-up over evaluation was 33.3 percent for September 1985.

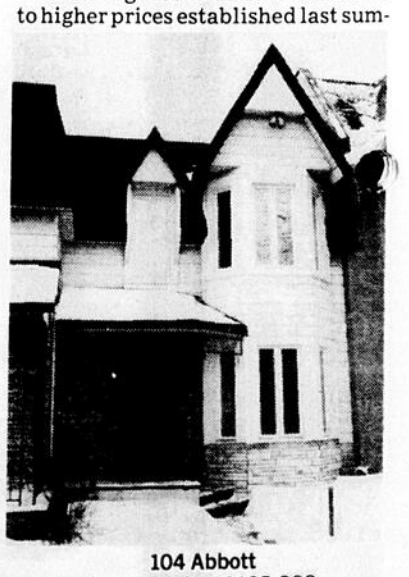
Four homes sold for more than $600,000, the least expensive being **18 Edgehill**, at $610,000. That home, evaluated at seemingly low $187,400, had the largest mark-up at 225 percent.

The other three homes, whose price has not been listed officially on city hall documents, rang up a total $2,174,750 in sales. The sales prices of each of these three were marked up at least 120 percent over evaluation.

Other wild mark-ups included: **214 Côte St Antoine road**, selling for $285,000, but evaluated at $117,000; **358 Grosvenor**, sold for $200,000, evaluated at $87,000; **37 Windsor**, sold for $239,300, evaluated at $110,300; and, **534 Mount Pleasant**, sold for $425,000, evaluated at $213,200.

On the other end of the scale, the "bargains" among the batch would appear to be: **40 Roxborough**, sold for $365,000, evaluated at $287,100; **38 Windsor**, sold for $200,000, evaluated at $159,200; and, **104 Abbott**, at $125,000 the least expensive single-family home in lower Westmount that month.

These figures illustrate the trend to higher prices established last sum-



104 Abbott
Lowest price, $125,000

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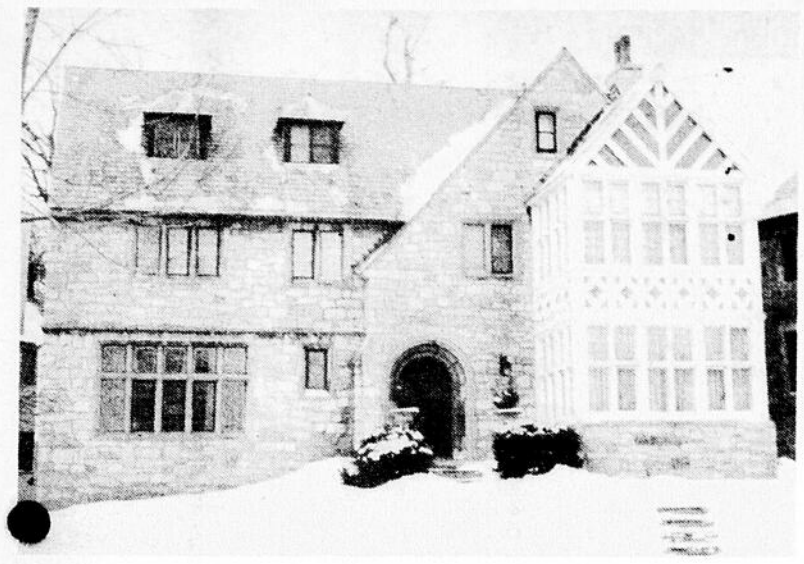


66 Forden crescent
Evaluated at $355,000

mer, which, according to knowledgeable sources in the realty community, has not abated. Indeed, they say, it has intensified. Gone are the days of a home in good condition sold below $200,000 in any corner of Westmount, says one agent.

Several factors

Realtors say several factors account for the continued upward pressure on the local market, probably the most significant being the short supply of homes offered for sale. One agent suggests money being made in a bullish stock market has freed cash with which people are dabbling in the upper ends of the realty market.

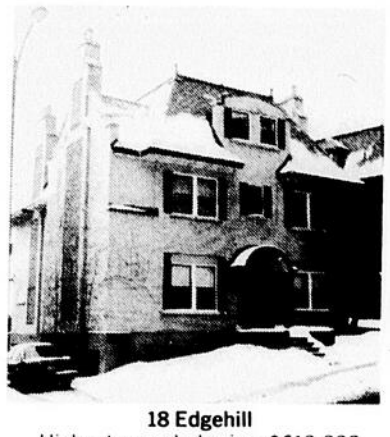
Continued low interest rates, political stability, growing legions of young professionals hooked on the realty game and, not to be forgotten, the high desirability of having a Westmount address are other factors.

While it is an exhilarating time for those playing the game, for Mom and Pop paying the mortgage on the comfy family roost, this fast-paced action only means higher taxes, as the taxman tries to catch up to prices in the run-away market.

It is this average taxpayer who pays the price for real estate thrills and chills in the end. The 1987 Westmount tax bill, received by homeowners earlier this month, is most likely a modest foretaste of what that price will be come 1988.

Following are details of transfers recorded in September, listed alphabetically by street:

104 Abbott: Maria Teixeira and Alberto De Mendonca to Frances Gregory, sale price $125,000 (1986 Montreal Urban Community evaluation $82,200);
80 Belvedere road: Banque Commerciale du Canada to Marcel Vachon, $285,000 ($151,700);
630 Carleton: Sheila Ruth Horn to Art Intel Venture Inc, $1 and consideration ($295,000);
399 Clarke: Sandra Kalezic to Elliot Fraser and Diane Forcier, $75,000 ($40,100);
9 Côte St Antoine: Robert Hemmings and Gisele O'Donnell to Janice Daiglish, $1 and consideration ($139,800);
214 Côte St Antoine: Samuel Kert estate to Jan Hoedeman, Eva Maria Albrecht, Suzanne Albrecht, $285,000 ($117,000);
466 Côte St Antoine: Jack Melmed to Nitin Amersey, $1 and consideration ($289,200);
4215 de Maisonneuve: Curtis Ronci Holdings Inc to Peter Charlton, Rodney Birrell, Anthony Pitfield, Jonathan Kolbert and Michel Laflamme, $575,000 ($254,000), apartment building;
4725 de Maisonneuve: for Shelagh Francis McDonald to Michael Quigley and Janet Wilson, $220,000 ($104,000);
4801 de Maisonneuve: Nelly Franquet to Marlene Matthew and Morley Swan, $1 and consideration ($157,600);
4915 de Maisonneuve: Donald Andrus to Beatrice Felin, $175,000 ($94,700);
4142-42A Dorchester: Louise Vaccaroni to Gisèle Boucher, $1 and consideration ($111,400);
4172 Dorchester: Beatrice Felin to Maria Ruardi-Wichers, $220,000 ($84,400);
7 Douglas: Marion Ruth Black to Michel Goulet and Suzanne Dorion, $1 and consideration ($164,700);
18 Edgehill: Cydney Ann Brown to Gisèle O'Donnell and Robert Hemmings, $610,000 ($187,400);
2 Forden: Phillip Robinson to Josef Zemen and Marie-Jeanne Le Marchand, $400,000 ($254,800);
66 Forden: Joan Haffer to Ian Greenberg, $1 and consideration ($355,000);
316 Grosvenor: Alban Hawthorne Blackall estate to Katherine Gray-Donald, $230,000 ($107,200);
358 Grosvenor: Katherine Gray-Donald to Daniel Kennedy and France Poirier, $200,000 ($87,000);
386 Grosvenor: Joyce and Patricia Johannson to Eugene Plawutsky and Mary Sheperd, $135,000 ($88,400);
642 Grosvenor: Camilla Vézina to Innomet Investments, $250,000 ($121,300);
644 Grosvenor: Cynthia Holt to Adam Balazinski and Bednarek Bozenna, $1 and consideration ($138,900);
37 Renfrew: Rosemarie Schutz to Ernest Skutezky, $1 and consideration ($169,200);
40 Roxborough: Saabco Consultants Canada Ltd to Jacqueline Arida, $365,000 ($287,000);
381 Melville: Henry Morgentaler to Karen Schiff, $365,000 ($261,200);
315 Metcalfe: Jack Nordin and Margueret Byron to Mark Friedman, $1 and consideration ($124,000);
317 Metcalfe: William Ian McCallum to Dr Ross Robbins and Reggie Potts, $180,000 (MUC evaluation $119,400);
534 Mount Pleasant: Lily Clarke to 148177 Canada Ltd, $425,000 ($213,200);
388 Olivier: 24367336 Quebec Inc to Daniel Rosenthal and Leon Rosenthal, $1,135,000 ($308,300), apartment building;
73 Somerville: Paul Cowan to Matthew Cope, $1 and consideration ($72,400);
4565 Sherbrooke: Constantinos Katsanis and Denise Lea Prevel to Mostafa Elhilali, $280,000 ($172,600);
3641 The Boulevard: Dr Gerhard Benz and Marie-Luise Schietrumpf to Lien Trinh, $415,000 ($245,900);
3714 The Boulevard: Micheline Zaidan to Wanda Musial, $362,500 ($237,800);
563 Victoria: Valerie Sherwin to Gaetan Grenier and Jane Marcella Evan, $1 and consideration ($247,400);
23 Winchester: Peter Gutkind to Janet Newey, $1 and consideration ($124,100);
25 Winchester: Geraldine Casselman to Jaswant Bains, $1 and consideration ($118,200);
37 Windsor: Eileen Levy to Eric Kokish and Beverley Kraft, $239,300 ($110,300);
38 Windsor: Howard Prudence to Mataman Inc, $200,000 ($159,200);
484 Wood: Patrick Suissa to Michel Vennat, $515,000 ($276,100).



18 Edgehill
Highest recorded price, $610,000
Highest markup, 225%

Greenhouse glass is found broken

Two greenhouse windows were found broken early Saturday morning in Westmount Park, public safety officers report. They were located in the roof along the west side of the building.

Another window had been broken overnight Tuesday-Wednesday last week.

Owner asked to check dog after bite

A 50-year-old Westmount man was bitten by a dog Sunday morning while walking along Sherbrooke street at Arlington avenue, police said.

The dog was reported to have been pulled away from the man by a woman walking it.

Public safety officers, who referred the victim to police, have appealed to the woman to call police so that the dog's medical record can be checked.

They described the dog as a blond Labrador-type animal.

The man, a resident of Mount Stephen avenue, complained of being bitten on the forearm and left leg. He was reported to have gone to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for treatment. The incident occurred about 11:50 am.

Theft foiled

An attempt to break into a house on Dorchester boulevard Sunday at 5:50 am was foiled when the burglar alarm went off, police report. A window in the front door was broken causing $250 damage.

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These agents were not identified correctly. The *Westmount Examiner* regrets any inconvenience this might have caused.

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388 Olivier
Apartment building sold for $1,135,000

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IT'S GOOD TO KNOW SOMEONE WHO KNOWS

Dynatune has two co-owners

Last week's story on Westmount's fading automotive service industry incorrectly identified Geoffrey Crocker as the owner of Dynatune Inc.

In fact, Mr Crocker is co-owner of the company together with Jerry Stitchman.

THE EXAMINER regrets the error.

To place a classified ad in THE EXAMINER call 931-7511.

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Project director at Westmount Rotary:

Operation Eyesight brings hope to sight-impaired in Third World

By year's end in India, 75,000 children under the age of five will have their vision permanently impaired. Another 60,000 children will be permanently blinded.

"Cataracts (one of the primary sight-robbing afflictions) are not only restricted to senior citizens as we assume across Canada," said Thomas Balke, the assistant director of Operation Eyesight Universal.

In addressing the Rotary Club of Westmount last week, Mr Balke presented slides of his recent tour of India and stressed his message was "one of hope."

Rotary clubs across Canada, together with the support of organizations such as Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), have been instrumental in bringing sight back to the Third World by financing the building and operation of modern ophthalmic clinics and hospital eye wards.

"There are between 35 to 40 million people in the world with cataracts that can be cured," Mr Balke said.

Millions of others live in impoverished, rural areas where trachoma, river blindness and xerophthalmia are primary conditions for blindness.

Through preventative measures, proper nutrition and irrigation for instance, sight can be retained.

Mr Balke showed slides of masses of Indian children who suffered from xerophthalmia, a dry, thickened, lusterless condition of the eyeball resulting from a severe systemic deficiency of vitamin A.

Studies indicate that once groups began eating fruit on a regular basis, "the incidence of blindness went way down," the assistant director said.

For those already afflicted with sight loss, Operation Eyesight Universal often dispatches mobile eye units to rural villages to perform up to 350 sight recovery operations a day.

Thomas Balke, the assistant director of Operation Eyesight Universal, answers questions from Westmount Rotarians last week at Victoria Hall as **Reverend George Campbell**, seated, and president **Thomas Fisher** look on.

"The most skilled surgeons can be in and out of the human eye in five minutes," Mr Balke said.

Thanks to low administrative expenses, the cost of the average sight recovery operation is as little as $25.

With an annual budget of over $3 million, the Calgary-based group has projects in India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Liberia, Cameroon, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Malawi, Zambia, Haiti, Peru, the eastern Caribbean islands and Palestinian West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

"It's a story of hope," Mr Balke said. "Something that Rotary is very proud to be a part of."

Rotary's guest was introduced by Reverend George Cambell.

For further information concerning the initiative, write: Operation Eyesight Universal, PO Box 123, Station M, Calgary, Alberta, T2P 2H6.

Family threatened; husband charged

A 48-year-old Westmount man has been charged with mischief as well as threatening his wife and daughter in connection with an incident Tuesday last week, police said.

The man was arrested when police were called to a home on de Maisonneuve boulevard about 11 pm.

He was alleged to have threatened to kill his 45-year-old wife and 16-year-old daughter and burn down the house.

The man was described as being under the influence of alcohol.

The two women managed to hide in a bedroom and to get to a phone after another one was damaged. The home was reported to have been turned upside down.

The man was sent to police headquarters where conditions were set down before he was released.

Johnston denies rumors of his leaving politics

By PETER BLACK

Rumour is a pipe / Blown by surmises, jealousies, conjectures.

That's how Shakespeare put it, and it seems that pipe has been tootling with abandon these days about the political future of St Henri-Westmount's MP Don Johnston.

"I don't know where they'd originate from," Mr Johnston told THE EXAMINER Tuesday, acknowledging he too had heard rumors of his own retirement.

He speculated that perhaps people are expecting him to reflect on a comment he made a decade ago, that he would stay in politics for 10 years.

Mr Johnston admits he has not decided yet whether or not to run in the next election, but his publicly expressed indecision does not necessarily mean he plans to sit out the next federal vote.

"I have to make that decision," Mr Johnston said, adding that "the fortunes of the party are certainly looking up."

In the meantime, he said that although his shadow cabinet post of external affairs critic is "not as active as finance," he continues to find the job "intellectually rewarding."

How long he stays in the high-profile post may rest in the hands of recently affirmed Liberal Party leader John Turner.

Mr Johnston says about a shadow cabinet shuffle, "We're about due for one," although not necessarily for him personally, as he stepped into the shoes vacated by Jean Chrétien less than six months ago. "I'd be happy to stay where I am."

Mr Turner arrived in Ottawa from holidays Wednesday to prepare for the resumption of Parliament Monday.

"Turner's got his mandate" to make changes in his caucus portfolios, hence Mr Johnston is "quite sure" a shuffle is imminent.

Noisy snow removers are charged

Several snow removal contractors face court action following a number of noise and nuisance complaints early Monday, public safety officers report.

The workers were cautioned regarding work outside 313 Roslyn, 115 Sunnyside, 15 Belvedere, Prince Albert and Somerville as well as clearing of the parking lot at 1250 Greene.

Another incident involving snow dumping was reported Wednesday last week at 66 Aberdeen.

Records are kept of snow removal complaints and contractors cautioned, officials said. Court action is taken after the second alleged offence.

FROM GARAGE TO CONDO: The truck garage of the former Pom Bakery building on St Catherine street is now an empty lot where soon will rise the Westmount Park Towers condominiums. **Pat Homa**, left, a Royal LePage agent, is the exclusive broker for the project.

Machine torched again; youths believed behind fire

A second suspicious fire broke out Sunday in the automatic banking machine area of the Toronto-Dominion Bank at Sherbrooke street and Claremont avenue, fire officials report.

The fire, which was caught in the early stages, was found to have originated in instruction manuals.

Police said the booklets had been ignited by smokers' or other materials pushed through a small opening in the panel beside. Possible electrical causes had been ruled out by Fire Captain Gary Watson since no wiring was located in the area of the fire.

Damage was estimated at $500 to property and $300 to contents.

The previous fire Dec 6 which caused $22,000 damage to the banking machine and enclosure is still under investigation (see story Dec 11).

Police said a gang of youths had been seen by a person across the street immediately prior to flames shooting out of the area.

Firemen responded to the call at 3:57 pm using a 1½-inch stream to put out the fire which was found burning directly behind the machine.

'Top-rated' Vermont course impresses local firefighters

Six Westmount fire officers last weekend attended the second phase of a two-part course given in Middlebury, Vermont, by the U.S. National Fire Academy of Washington, D.C.

The second part, entitled "Commanding the Initial Response," dealt with such topics as developing and implementing plans of action, establishing command and transfer of command.

"Our officers were very impressed with the course," Fire Director William Timmons said.

"We were fortunate to have the opportunity to attend such top-rated courses from the Fire Academy, being Canadians."

The maximum class size is kept at 40, he said, adding that the reason the Canadians were included probably resulted in part from the participation of some local fire officers as volunteer instructors in Vermont.

He said he was further pleased that the City of Westmount was encouraging and supporting such outside training for firefighters.

Those who attended and received certificates, in addition to Director Timmons, were: Capt Graham Morrison, Lieut Barry Coates, Lieut Réal Dessureault, Lieut Tony Testa and Fire Inspector Hugh Clarke.

Propane said cause of odor

A faint odor of propane gas Monday in the dining room of a house at 33 Holton avenue was traced to a leaking propane tank in the garage, fire officials said. Firefighters tightened the valve solving the problem after being called to the home at 5:52 pm.

The following building permits were issued at Westmount city hall recently:

Jan 7

116 Blenheim place: for C. Logan and F. Legault, by Fitzpatrick Plumbing and Heating, install gas line, $150;

Alexis Nihon Plaza: for Alexis Nihon Plaza, by owners, exterior alterations, $250,000;

Jan 9

641 Grosvenor: for Innomet Investments Inc, by Taya Construction, patio door, $3,000;

116 Blenheim place: for C. Logan and F. Legault, by Lachaine Plumbing, plumbing, $3,000.

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Swaps gun for golf clubs:

Veteran cop Stanley Tait packs in 36-year career

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

When Stanley Tait retired last week after 36 years as a policeman, the MUC force lost its most senior captain.

Although he had worked 28 years in the Town of Mount Royal, he spent the last eight in Westmount as second-in-command at station 23 on Stanton street, serving under four different directors.

"When I had to leave the Town I was happy to come to a place like this that was so similar," he said in a parting interview.

"It might have been a big change if I'd had to go elsewhere."

Since being transferred to Westmount, he's chosen to work every legal holiday around the calendar from Christmas through Thanksgiving to be able to spend as much time as possible golfing at his home in Hollywood, Florida, where he plans to spend his retirement.

Saying farewell to station 23, **Captain Stanley Tait** retired Monday last week.

"Cap," as he was called around the station, is known as an old-school, hard-line cop.

"Beneath his growl, is a very sensitive man," said Russell Swailes, one of his lieutenants, who stopped by his office during the interview.

And they both laughed heartily.

Captain Tait, who turned 60 last October, had joined the Town of Mount Royal police and fire department in 1950 for a yearly wage of about $1,500 or $1,600.

Doubled as fireman

Those were the days before the department was split into separate services and he doubled as a firefighter when needed.

The industrial sector was developing at that time and he remembers the farms on "the other side of Kindersley."

He worked his way through the ranks under such Town police chiefs as Bill Mather and Walter Boyle (who had been assistant director of the Montreal police force).

"Policing in itself hasn't changed, only the methods," he says.

"Police work is police work. Some people do it one way. Some do it another."

He recalls policing the Town in one of its nine patrol cars.

He liked the one-man patrol cars. "Personally, I always liked to work alone. If you got into a hassle, you called for backup. It was automatic."

Crimes were the same then as they are today," he said. "I don't think we had as many bank holdups, but lots of breaking and entering. Patterns go up and down but the crime doesn't change."

When he worked the Town, he said, he got to know "every nook and cranny and resident. You got to know who was coming home at what time. Today, it's not the same at all in that respect."

He was appointed to the rank of acting sergeant in 1959 and to full sergeant in 1960. He became a lieutenant in 1967 and captain in 1970.

"After 20 years of pushing the beat, that's when you get to the paper work," he chuckles.

He describes himself as a sportsman. He used to play football for the Royal Canadian Navy team. He's hunted, fished and, of course, loves golf.

He also is an avid gardener and jack-of-all-trades.

Whenever the mouth-watering aroma of scalloped potatoes and ham wafted through the upper storey of 21 Stanton street, it was no secret who was cooking dinner. The captain.

Four directors served

The four MUC station directors whom he served under while at 23 (Gabriel Ayotte, Michel Groulx, John Dalzell and Gilbert Côté) were among those who turned out Dec 15 at his retirement party.

"I really appreciated that party," he said.

It was on that occasion that he probably best summed up certain mixed feelings regarding his long-awaited retirement.

"After 36 years, it's tough," he told his friends.

A new captain is not expected to be named for station 23 until month's end.

A message from the Public Curator (44)

Protection of the incapable person

A certain number of people become incompetent of assuming their day to day responsibilities, living in the present society, or cannot take decisions on their own behalf. These people become weak and vulnerable, be it because of their age, health or mental deficiency. These people require protection and this responsibility is transferred to a legal representative.

The Public Curator is in the position of assuming this protection to the mentally incapable as well as to make sure that their rights and assets are respected. The Office of the Public Curator is not a government body, but is subject to strict legislation.

Once an individual has been declared incompetent, he is placed directly under the jurisdiction of the Public Curator. The declaration of incapacity is authorized after a psychiatric examination and countersigned by his director of professional services.

The protection of the Public Curator takes effect immediately after the issuance of the certificate of incapacity. This protection can be temporary, either by the nomination of a private curator or after another examination which declares the person capable.

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Churches swap leaders for ecumenical week

St Andrew's-Dominion-Douglas Church celebrates the beginning of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on Sunday at 11 am and 7:30 pm

At morning worship the Côte des Neiges Council will have an exchange of pulpits. Mr Farquhar will be preaching at St Paul's Anglican Church and Mr Burns will be doing the homily at Notre Dame des Neiges. Father Brady of St Kevin's Roman Catholic Church will be the guest speaker at St Andrew's-Dominion-Douglas.

At evening worship at 7:30, the Côte des Neiges Council of Churches will sponsor an ecumenical service. The speaker will be Father Stéphane Valiquette, SJ, co-director of the Canadian Ecumenical Centre.

Everyone is invited to attend these services and refreshments will be served after the evening service.

This week has its roots in Lyons, France, some 54 years ago. A certain Abbé Couturier, of the Roman Catholic Church, met some Russians who were members of the Russian Orthodox Church. After contact with these fellow Christians, he came to see the ecumenical vision with unique intensity, but without any compromise to his own Roman Catholic persuasions.

At that time, in the Roman Catholic church, between Jan 18 and 25 there had been established for years a Week of Prayer for Unity, but the purpose was to pray for the return of all Christians to Rome. The Abbé saw that it was impossible to ask all peoples to pray for this. He therefore began to pray that "God should unite His people in the way He wills by the means He wills and when He wills."

Without any obvious promotion or organization, Protestant and Orthodox began to pray in like fashion. From these small roots the prayer now unites Christians of 30 countries. Canadians themselves have travelled this ecumenical road for many years and it is with this in mind that all peoples are invited to join services.

The theme for this year is "Christ our Reconciliation."

Tory heads Parliament group on Soviet Jewry

William Attewell, MP (Don Valley East), has been elected chairman of the all-party Canadian Parliamentary Group for Soviet Jewry, a committee of 282 MPs and senators. Mr Attewell, a strong human rights advocate, has been active with the Parliamentary Group since 1984.

Mr Attewell succeeds David Kilgour, MP (Edmonton-Strathcona), who served the group for almost three years. Mr Kilgour visited the Soviet Union in 1985 and has taken up the Soviet refusenik issue at senior levels.

The executive committee of the Canadian Parliamentary Group for Soviet Jewry includes former speaker of the House John Bosley, Sheila Finestone, St Henri-Westmount MP Donald Johnston, Robert Kaplan, David Kilgour, Fred King, Monique Landry, Lynn McDonald, Barbara McDougall, Stewart McInnes, Nathan Nurgitz, John Oostrom, Guy Ricard, and Nelson Riis.

Jewish Services seeking helpers

Program animators are needed for group homes for the elderly. The volunteer department of Jewish Family Services is looking for individuals who are comfortable working with the elderly. Good listeners who can encourage others to become involved are invited.

Volunteers lead a short activity for one to 1½ hours in arts and crafts, music, exercises or discussions on a weekly or biweekly commitment.

The residents who are living in the foster homes need social and recreational stimulation and these activities make a tremendous difference in their lives. A staff person is available to provide direction, give ideas and support.

For more information, call Suzanne Herscovitch, coordinator, volunteer department, 731-3881, local 311, or Marcy Dudkiewicz at local 309.

Everyone knows someone who's been helped by a blood donation. You might be next. Do your part to keep the supply available. Be a Red Cross blood donor.

Pain specialist at St James meet

Dr Ronald Melzack, a pioneering pain researcher, will be the guest speaker for the Jan 20 meeting of the St James Literary Society, in the McGill Faculty Club, 3450 McTavish street, starting at 7:45 pm.

Dr Melzack is the recent nominee to the E.P. Taylor chair in psychology at McGill University and director of research at the Montreal General Hospital's pain clinic. His research includes study of burn pain, post-operative, labor and hemophiliac pain.

He is distinguished for his "gate control" theory of pain, now accepted as fundamental research by experts in the field.

For further information on this or other St James Society activities, call Allan Raymond at 489-8741.

Anti-blues group needs volunteers

Just two hours each week is all SHAD is asking.

Self Help Against Depression is looking for volunteers who are mature, reliable, responsible, compassionate and patient.

SHAD Inc is a network of people helping people to overcome stress, emotional problems, depression, anxiety and social problems. SHAD teams compatible individuals for mutual help and support.

Teams work on a one-to-one basis only, over the telephone, using first names. Anonymity is assured to both volunteer and partner. The volunteer is given his/her partner's telephone number, but need not divulge his/her own.

SHAD is not an emergency service.

Interested persons who would like more information, or who are willing to be interviewed by a trained staff member, are asked to call 684-9896 or write to SHAD Inc, PO Box 307, Côte St Luc Station, Montreal, Quebec H4V 2Y5.

Minister's lung test to launch anti-butt week

Quebec's environment minister, Clifford Lincoln, officially launches the Mount Sinai Hospital respiratory awareness program clinic in conjunction with the Quebec Lung Association's 12th annual National No Smoking Week.

The event takes place at Complexe Desjardins tomorrow at 10 am.

As part of the official opening, Mr Lincoln will be tested by Mount Sinai Hospital's Respiratory Awareness Program clinic. The simple breathing test is designed to detect the earliest signs of chest disease.

The clinic is open to the public at Complexe Desjardins from today through Jan 23, except Sunday, between the hours of 10 am and 5:30 pm.

Israeli religion on forum agenda

Prof Yochanan Silman PhD is the invited guest speaker at the Congregation Shaar Hashomayim breakfast forum Jan 18.

Prof Silman plans to speak on the relationship between the religious and non-religious in Israel.

A Shachrit service at 8:45 am, followed by breakfast at 9:30 am, precedes the speaker at 10:15 am.

For more information call the synagogue at 937-9471.

Rencontre oecuménique à Saint-Léon-de-Westmount

A l'occasion de la semaine de prière pour l'unité des chrétiens du 18 au 25 janvier qui a pour thème en cette année 1987 "Christ, notre réconciliation," une rencontre de prière aura lieu le dimanche 18 janvier à 16h à l'église St-Léon (angle Clarke et de Maisonneuve).

Le père John Tkachuck et la communauté de l'Eglise Orthodoxe du Signe de la Théotokos ont aimablement accepté de venir chanter les Vêpres composées de quelques psaumes, une grande synaptie, apostikha, la prière de St-Siméon et une prière d'intercession "troparia."

Le chant sera assuré par l'excellente chorale de cette église orthodoxe qui a son lieu de rassemblement au 330, avenue Clarke à Westmount. Cette chorale vient d'ailleurs d'enregistrer un disque "Musique byzantine dans le Nouveau Monde" sous la direction de Vassilis Hajinicolaou.

L'iconographie a repris une grande importance en Occident depuis quelques années. Il est donc intéressant de la mieux connaître. C'est pourquoi après les Vêpres, le moine orthodoxe Georges Leroy présentera un bref exposé sur la spiritualité de l'icône dans l'Eglise orthodoxe et qu'il a intitulé "Image de Dieu en l'homme."

Le Père Leroy est né à Bruxelle en 1955, venu au Canada en 1986, il réside à Ste-Anne de Rawdon.

Toutes les églises du territoire de Westmount et tous les citoyens sont les bienvenus de même que tous ceux qui veulent fraterniser et mieux connaître l'Eglise Orthodox qui est à Westmount, cette petite communauté qui est bien fervente et bien vivante dans notre milieu.

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10:30 am Holy Eucharist, Sung
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Sabbath Day: 8:40 am in the Main Synagogue
Sabbath Twilight: 4:45 pm
Daily Services
Mornings: Sun, Jan 18, 8:45 am; Mon-Fri, Jan 19-23, 7:30 am
Evenings: Sun-Thurs, Jan 18-22, 4:45 pm

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Westmounter **Anne Farquhar** plays Randy Reefer, devious girl friend of Gabor Pelzic, played by **Vlasta Vrana**, in Saidye Bronfman Centre's production of *Up Your Alley*.

Up Your Alley a naughty, courageous debut for SBC's drive to boost English theatre

By PETER BLACK

The Saidye Bronfman Centre wanted a boffo kickoff of its mission to establish a new oasis of English theatre in Montreal. Its chosen vehicle for that ambition is *Up Your Alley*, a raunchy, rude and raucous tale of a Romanian immigrant's scheming to realize his dream of prosperity in the West.

Seasoned cynics may choose to pooh-pooh all over *Up Your Alley*, but for folks who relish theatre that stirs the heart and tickles the funnybone more than it furrows the brow and turns the stomach, the play is sure to please.

This is so not because the play is gripping in its plot or compelling in its characterization. It isn't, particularly. Its real strength lies in the energetic chutzpah of its lead and minor characters, who propel the play along from comic to tragic moment, leaving the audience scarce opportunity to unravel the logical validity of the action.

Vlasta Vrana, a journeyman Montreal actor, delivers a towering performance as Gabor Pelzic, the hapless but big-hearted hero of this theatrical adaptation of Seymour Blicker's comic novel *Schmucks*. Mr Vrana is backed up by a uniformly able supporting cast and a highly imaginative set design by Jean-Charles Martel.

Director Alexander Hausvater has drawn elements of the play together, some adventurous and risky, and come up with a 2½-hour performance with mercifully few pit-stops for the attention span, numerous crashing surprises and poignant and slapstick moments in satisfying equal measure.

Alley standoff

The story goes like this: Pelzic, a cab driver, is at a standoff in a narrow alleyway, which gives him time to reflect on how pathetically his rut in Canada compares to his dream of life in the West, complete with limousines, drinks aplenty and fetching mermaids leaping out of the sea into his arms. Alas, Pelzic's dream has been scaled down to cruising east end Montreal for fares in his rattletrap cab; cavorting with an exotic dancer/journalist; conspiring with the hilarious Murray Schmecker, a fellow hack trying to coax Pelzic onto Easy Street with an insurance scam; and consoling his passionate gypsy wife Katrina with promises that his New World ship will come in.

Guy Sanvido, who may be familiar to TV viewers as the adenoidal tailor in a Dristan commercial, almost steals the show from Mr Vrana with his portrayal of Schmecker, the runty, polyester-bedecked sleaze who, incredibly, claims to spend more time *schtupping* female fares in the back seat than he does steering in the front.

Schmecker persists in rubbing Pelzic's nose in his failure by comparing him to a fellow Romanian immigrant, now a big wheel in the Crescent street restaurant trade.

Margarita Stocker is alternately fiery and chilling as Mrs Pelzic, tender and patient with her husband's efforts to make a better life, but homicidally menacing at the hint of Pelzic's philandering. She pulls off a

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passable and consistent Slavic accent, all the while sparking gypsy sexuality.

Difficult character

In the role of Randy Reefer, Pelzic's dancer girl friend, Westmount's own Anne Farquhar succeeds in etching a difficult character: a journalism student who finances her studies by dancing at a gay men's bar, while, as it turns out, using Pelzic's amorous activity as the subject of an article on the sex lives of Montreal cab drivers.

Ms Farquhar seems a bit too proper to be living in the sleazy world in which she is cast, but in the end that works well considering her real nature as a condescending and conniving journalist who would use her body, as readily as any other connivance, to get the hot story.

Joe Cazalet, as a bum personifying the Western dream turned to grimy rags, is effective as an absurd counterpoint to Pelzic's ambition; Sam Stone as the sharpy Jewish lawyer handling Pelzic's insurance claim, and as a doctor treating his impotence, is delightfully smarmy; and, Peter Colvey and Robert Austen as Romanian soldiers and various other roles including gay dancers, traffic cop, and the slimy Iggy Rescu, are wonderfully carved bit parts that add flavorful meat to the play's structure.

The star, though, is Mr Vrana, who blusters and weeps and laughs with an infectious gusto, as fortune drops a succession of banana peels at his feet. As a portrait of an immigrant, Pelzic does not serve as an admirable example, insurance fraud being his last-ditch stab at prosperity in Canada. But as a theatrical character, Mr Vrana's Pelzic is irresistible, endearing in his earnestness and pluck, touching in his dream of a better life.

And the Saidye Bronfman Centre is to be admired as well, for having the courage to bring audacious homegrown theatre to its stage to kick off the new season.

Up Your Alley may not be an intricately structured or brilliantly staged play by some standards. But by the true test, audience enjoyment, it is a triumph for its daring freshness.

As Murray Schmecker would say, *Up Your Alley* has "balls like *this*."

Up Your Alley is at the SBC until Feb 8, with Saturday to Thursday 8 pm performances and matinees at 1:30 pm Wednesdays and Sundays. For box office information call 739-7944.

Library displays happiness squares

The Arts Westmount Happiness Hanging is on display beginning today at the Westmount Public Library.

The Happiness Hanging is an Arts Westmount initiative, bringing together unique quilt design squares from around the world.

The library display, scheduled to promote the hanging and produce additional entries, is to last approximately one month.

Edythe Germain, president of Arts Westmount, said Monday that to date about a dozen quilt squares have been submitted.

"We'll need at least 50 squares before we begin to sew it together," Mrs Germain said.

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Beyond Westmount's Borders

A random sampler of things to see or do in the bigger city surrounding us

by RICK KERRIGAN

It's Greek to children

There is precious little good English theatre available for children so parents should take advantage of shows when possible. The Saturday Morning Children's Theatre program continues this Saturday, 10:30 am, at the Centaur Theatre with a show titled *Theseus and the Minotaur* presented by the Picardi Marionette Theatre. Greek mythology has always provided a wealth of material for storytellers and this play is described as "a story of adventure, love and sorcery set on the magical island of Crete." It is told and accompanied by "ancient Greek musicians" and string puppets. For ticket information and reservations call 288-3161.

Greek drama parodied

The McGill Players' Theatre is presenting Woody Allen's *God* beginning Tuesday and running through to Feb 7 at the Players' Theatre, 3480 McTavish street. Shows are Tuesdays to Saturdays, 8 pm. In this parody of Greek drama, the characters of the Greek gods are humanized by integrating their past and our present. Jean-Marc Jolicoeur is directing this play. For ticket information call 392-8989.

A theatrical relationship

The relationships of artistic and creative persons often are marked by self-indulgence, irrationality and immaturity but that makes them all the more fascinating for the rest of us. Sometimes two creative personalities act like magnets, alternately attracting and repelling as they rotate around each other. The Café de la Place Theatre of Place des Arts is offering us a look at the relationship between Anton Chekhov, the playwright, and Olga Knipper, the actress, in a play titled *Tchekhov Tchekhova* by François Nocher and Francine Bergé. It seems he first beheld her when she was performing in his play *The Seagull* at the Moscow Art Theatre. Gilbert Sicotte and Patricia Nolan star in this production which is being directed by Yves Desgagnés. The play is based on cor-

Continued on page 21

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Appeal in UN Year of Homeless:

Shelter for women with nowhere to go, Auberge Madeleine seeks financial help

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Few Westmount women have ever been homeless.

Few probably even know that 1987 has been designated by the United Nations as the International Year of the Homeless.

But the growing number of women in the Montreal area who have nowhere to stay when they are pushed out of family homes, psychiatric wards or the social system in general is considered to be acute.

The lack of short-term emergency shelters for such persons was tackled head-on Saturday at a special meeting held in the Westmount home of David Johnston, principal of McGill University, and his wife, Sharon.

Mrs Johnston is one of several Westmounters on the 15-member board of directors of Auberge Madeleine, the downtown shelter started three years ago with initial seed funding from downtown churches.

"We've decided the need is great enough to appeal to the public for funding to keep this shelter going," Mrs Johnston said following the all-day session.

A general appeal to the public for about $150,000 will take place in April, she said, to help the shelter meet the $250,000 budget for the upcoming year.

Now that the three-year start-up period is near completion, she said, it is hoped that a government grant can be obtained in addition to continuing grants from churches.

Both she and Gavin Elbourne, another Westmount board member, have been chosen to head up a special names committee of the campaign.

Heading the appeal will be Father Dennis Drainville, Anglican chaplain at McGill and author of *Poverty in Canada*, who has worked closely with Toronto's inner-city poor.

Spacious home

The Auberge Madeleine, which does not publish its civic address on St Hubert street for protection of residents, is housed in a spacious, homey, three-storey building bought with the help of a grant from the McConnell Foundation.

It is one of only four such homes providing short-term shelter to lone women who are temporarily without a place to stay and are not seeking refuge in a centre for battered women.

The Auberge, a non-profit independent corporation with 14 beds, cares for some 300 women a year who are referred by hospitals, police, social agencies, other shelters, churches and individuals.

The need for such accommodation in Montreal is so great, its officials say, that every month the shelter is forced to turn down about 40 referrals owing to lack of space.

The initial seed money for the shelter which came from the Anglican diocese and the United Church presbytery, runs out at the end of the current fiscal year in March, explains Mr Elbourne, who represents Christ Church Cathedral on the board.

"The reason why we, as churches, got into this," he explained, "was the lack of beds for homeless women compared to the number available for men."

Holly Jonas, another Westmounter, who lives on Metcalfe avenue, represents Erskine and American Church.

The issue for battered women has been better accepted than the need to help homeless women, they say.

Statistics for last year's operation of the Auberge Madeleine show that only four percent of those sheltered were "bag ladies."

Immigrant woman

Among some individual cases was an immigrant woman from North Africa whose husband returned home taking along her passport and personal papers. She had no means of support or proof of identity until the Auberge could help sort out her problem.

McGill Anglican chaplain **Dennis Drainville**, standing, who became a member of the board of Auberge Madeleine at Saturday's meeting, discusses the shelter with Westmounters **Sharon Johnston**, left, **Holly Jonas** and **Gavin Elbourne**.

Another was a woman whose husband was in prison awaiting a court decision to determine where he would serve out his sentence.

Yet another was sheltered at the Auberge while awaiting psychiatric treatment after becoming caught up in bureaucratic red tape between hospitals.

Although almost all have varied and different problems, most are classified as poor, some with nowhere to live until the start of welfare cheques.

Some of the support for Auberge Madeleine already has come from Westmounters.

Mrs Johnston, for instance, became interested after donating beds to the shelter through an appeal from her daughter's school, Bishop's College School.

Another Westmounter, Norma Mulder, this week has donated stair carpeting left after redecorating her own home.

The shelter is hoping a benefactor will donate a computer for use in following up on residents sheltered.

Further information can be obtained from Sally Spilhaus, the executive director, at 844-7578.

Other short-term shelters for homeless women are the Auberge Marguerite run by the Grey Nuns on Dorchester at St Mathieu; Le Chainon, a shelter on Esplanade operated by a Roman Catholic community group, and the Salvation Army's women's shelter on Dorchester boulevard in Westmount.

If you are healthy and between age 18 and 65, remember to give the gift of life. Be a Red Cross blood donor.

Medina speaks to WCC Monday

Ann Medina, one of Canada's top foreign correspondents and a regular on *The Journal*, speaks to the Women's Canadian Club of Montreal Monday at 2 pm in the auditorium of the Royal Bank at Place Ville Marie.

Coffee is to be served at 1:15 pm.

The date of the talk was incorrectly reported in last week's EXAMINER as Monday of this week. We regret the error.

COMING EVENTS
ÉVÉNEMENTS

GRADS CLUB DANCE

Graduates Club of Montreal, a non-profit organization for discriminating singles, invites you to '87 First Dance, Friday, Jan 16, at the Sheraton Centre, Rooms ABC (Dorchester boulevard at Stanley) at 9 pm. Member, $5; non-member, $10. Information: 287-1017.

WRITING WORKSHOP

A writing workshop is to be given by Fran Davis, poet and professor of English, Vanier College, Monday, Jan 19, at 7:30 pm, at Concordia University, 1455 de Maisonneuve blvd west, in the Faculty Club, 7th floor. Sponsored by the Canadian Authors Association. For information: 933-9725.

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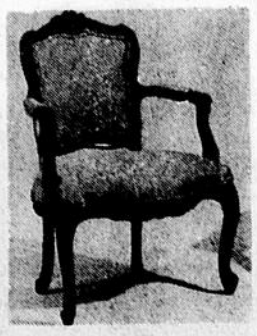
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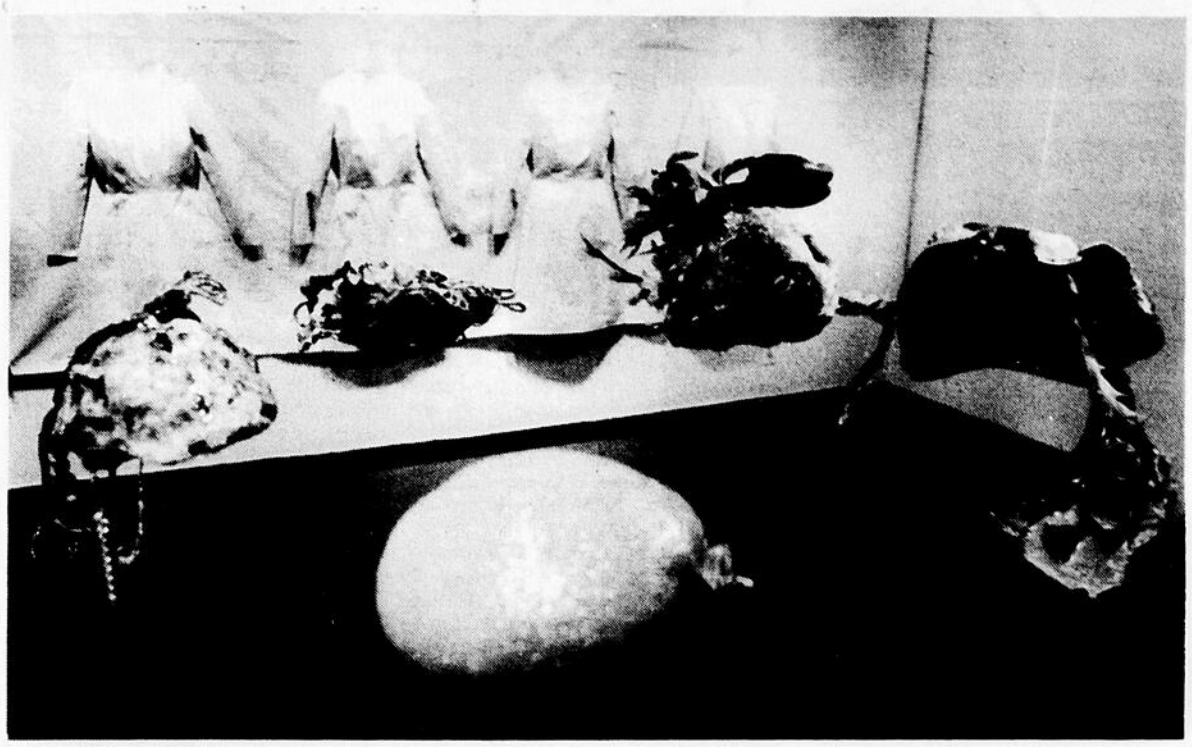

HATS OFF TO ART: Art can be as near as your clothes closet according to this exhibition titled "Hard Hats and Dresses" currently at the Visual Arts Centre on Victoria avenue until Feb 7. The resin-dipped tea hats by Aganetha Dyck are suspended from the ceiling in positions that suggest women seated around a table. The dresses are by Lee Bale.

Atwater Library holds book sale

The Atwater Library, a registered, non-profit institution, holds its annual book sale on Jan 23, 24 and 25.

Friday is for members only from 5 pm to 8 pm. Saturday sales hours are 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday, from 1 pm to 5 pm.

On Jan 26, Dr A. Tan of Bache Securities and professor at Concordia University is to hold a free financial seminar at the library, titled "Outlook for 1987," from 7:30 pm to 9 pm.

Dr Tan also plans to hold a workshop in investment on Jan 31 from 9:30 am until 1 pm. The fee for this workshop will be $30. All proceeds will go to the Atwater Library.

Call 935-1960 for additional information.

Library hosts dealer, author

The Westmount Public Library is hosting two special events next month.

On Feb 2, John Howard of the DPM Financial Planning Group Inc is scheduled to speak on "Investment Planning for Retirement" at 7:30 pm in the library.

On Feb 23, Westmount poet Michael Harris will be reading excerpts of his work at the library as part of a Véhicule Press-sponsored Canada-wide tour to promote his new collection "In Transit." The poetry reading begins at 7:30 pm.

Both evenings are open to the public and admission is free.

To register phone the library at 935-8531.

Models needed for diabetes show

The Juvenile Diabetes Foundation will stage its fifth annual fashion show at the beginning of April at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel.

Auditions are now being held for aspiring male and female models at the Temple Emanu-El - Beth Sholom, 395 Elm avenue, Monday at 7:30 pm.

For more information, call the JDF office at 337-0826. All proceeds from the fashion show go to research into juvenile diabetes.

Allan Raymond guest speaker

Allan Raymond, well-known local historian and lecturer, is scheduled to address the Golden Age Club of Congregation Shomrim Laboker, 5150 Plamondon avenue, Jan 22 at 1:30 pm, on the topic of "The Lives and Loves of Old Montreal."

The talk is illustrated with audio-visual aids. Besides his speaking engagements, Mr Raymond also finds time to serve as treasurer of the Westmount Historical Association, as public relations director for the St James Literary Society and as membership chairman of the Jewish Historical Society.

Talk on violence

Action Femmes Handicapées Montréal, the Montreal section of the Disabled Women's Network, will present a lecture Sunday by Joanne Doucette on "Violence and Women with Disabilities."

The lecture is set for the YWCA, 1355 Dorchester boulevard, at 1 pm. For more information call 725-4123.

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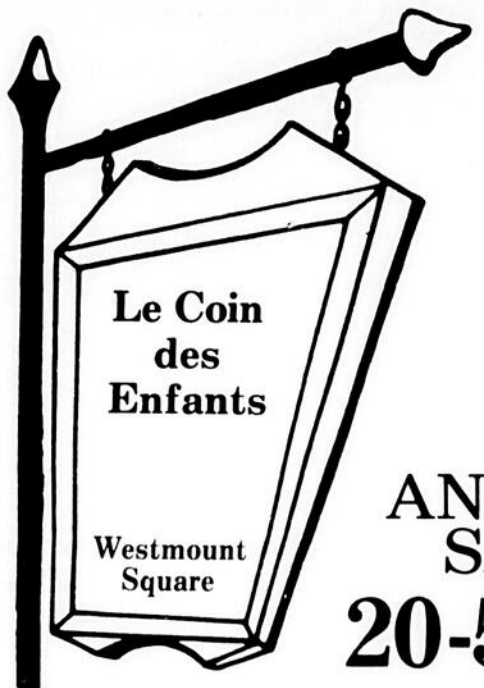

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Centaur's Fire: a hot musical from the gospel of rock

By JANET COUTTS

Fire, currently at Centaur Theatre, is a toe-tapping, hand-clapping showcase for the devil's music. It features some fine performances, particularly by Ron Lea as the sanctimonious fundamentalist preacher and Ted Dykstra as the rocker who *knows* that his musical ability is a gift from God.

Centaur staff and the cast set the mood as the audience enters the theatre, by welcoming them to service. As the church worship gets under way all, even the set changers (who, incidentally, receive no program credit though they are on stage in character throughout the play) and the musicians, do double duty as members of the congregation, calling out "Praise the Lord" at appropriate intervals.

And we get to know the central characters of the play.

There's Peter Millard as J.D. Blackwell, the father of Cale and Herchel, and preacher at this little church in Razorback, Arkansas, which has one of the two pianos in town. Janet Land is Molly King, a ripe little body who spends a lot of time looking at pictures of Jesus, but still more worshipping the two brothers and daring to dance. Her daddy, Truman King, has the same difficulty about loving the Lord — he wants to make money.

Fire, in the form of rock music, soon comes down from heaven to settle on Cale, and he takes to joining the musician in the town's cat house, and decides not to go to Bible college with his brother after all.

Since Truman becomes Cale's manager, keeping Molly out of the clubs becomes impossible. She soon takes to makeup, high living and sex.

Meanwhile Herchel graduates at the top of his class, turns his back on his brother, and takes to the radio waves to bring folks to Jesus. Molly flees the physical brutality of Cale for subtle and complete suppression at the hands of the more and more successful preacher.

Truman wants power as well as money and, abandoning rock, campaigns for political office. He joins his daughter in Herchel's camp but J.D. Blackwell soon uncovers a slander, with all the weight of Herchel's TV ministry behind it, on Truman's political opponent. Molly prays for Cale's soul, and seconds J.D. in the battle against Herchel's overweening pride. But try as Molly might, Cale believes himself doomed to hell, Herchel continues to enlarge his ministry of hate, and Molly is left to try to find her own way back to God.

The cast has some very funny lines, and there are many hilarious scenes, particularly in act two, where Ms Land gets a chance to do more than swirl her crinoline, and Mr Dykstra gets interviewed for a "golden oldies" British television show. But at times the writers have us laughing at the beliefs of Pentecostals.

Much to commend

There is much to commend this production, which was developed at Magnus Theatre in Thunder Bay. First there is the music, interpreted by Mr Dykstra with backup from Paul Hessey, Peter Millard, Pat Perez and John Wright under the direction of David Smythe. The humor and sheer good ol' boy verve that Mr Dykstra brings to the role do nothing to show that Jerry Lee Lewis and his ilk are truly wicked men, and while the trappings of success may contribute to his downfall, he finds music a convenient scapegoat.

Turn on your TV early Sunday morning and you see the equivalent of Mr Lea at full preaching rant, along with his empty-headed, plastic wife who just thanks the Lord for whatever.

Guido Tondino has given us a set that smoothly changes from a little church to a nightclub, to a bedroom, to a TV studio, to whatever is required and helps continue the dizzy magic.

Audiences love the show, but it has a few weaknesses, that hardly affect the enjoyment of the evening. The script, by Paul Ledoux and David Young, is weak, and here we have a case of actors overcoming the paucity of story, which has some difficulty deciding whether it is straight satire or a piece made to make us consider the human condition, and our relationship to God and our fellow humans.

The result is that when Molly, overcome by accepting Jesus back into her life, starts to "speak in tongues," presumably a serious moment, it gets a laugh; the same thing happens time and again. The first act, in particular, is very long, and the depths (or is it shallownesses?) to which fundamentalism will go to discredit the enemies of the "Murrican Way" is glossed over in favor of laughs (and the music, which, no matter what the reservations, will have you dancing in your seat).

Fire, by Paul Ledoux and David Young, directed by Brian Richmond, is at Centaur Theatre, 453 St François-Xavier, until Feb 1. Box Office: 288-3161.

MUSICAL THREESOME: This group of young Westmount musicians gave a concert recently for the parents and students of the Westmount Early Childhood Music School on Sydenham avenue. The trio comprises, from left, **Katherine Simons**, French horn, **Elkin Seto**, violin, and **Jennifer Weeks**, oboe. The musicians say they must do considerable transposing for this unusual combination of instruments.

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BEYOND . . .

Continued from page 15

respondence between the two and we are told that the relationship was marked by tenderness, generosity, respect, understanding and intelligence, all colored by their shame about expressing passion or demanding it. The play opens Wednesday and runs until March 7. For tickets and information call 842-2112.

Yuk it up

The McGill Programming Network is presenting a Comedy Fest Friday, 8 pm, in the McGill Union Ballroom, 3480 McTavish street, featuring Steve Brinder, Marty Putz and Evan Carter. Peppermint Patti of CHOM-FM will be hosting the event. Tickets are available at the door or at the box office of the union.

Dora Wasserman sings Yiddish songs at Temple

Dora Wasserman, artistic director of many popular Saidye Bronfman Centre presentations, is to be the guest artist at a fellowship breakfast at Temple Emanu-El - Beth Sholom, Sunday, at 10 am.

Mrs Wasserman is to recite and sing Yiddish folk songs, explaining their significance, so that they can be enjoyed whether or not one is familiar with the Yiddish language.

Mrs Wasserman is the recipient of such honors as the Molson award and an award from the Quebec ministry of cultural affairs.

The event is sponsored by the Temple's Entre Nous cultural and social group.

Reservations can be made by calling 937-3575.

The second dragon

La Trilogie des Dragons is a play that was well received at Toronto's Harborfront last summer and you will be able to see the second part of the trilogy from today until Feb 7 at Théâtre d'Aujourd'hui, 1297 Papineau avenue. Shows are Tuesdays to Saturdays, 8 pm, and Sundays, 3 pm. In this trilingual production we follow Jeanne and Françoise through 75 years of Canadian history in Quebec, Toronto and Vancouver.

Showing what they've learned

A company of 10 students from the National Ballet School of Toronto will be in town to demonstrate their skills Jan 24, 7:30 pm, at the Bibliothèque Gabrielle-Roy, 350 St Joseph boulevard east. Tickets are free but you must reserve a space by calling 1-800-387-0785. At a reception following the show you can meet the students and Betty Oliphant, artistic director of the school. The school is accepting applications for auditions from boys and girls in grades 5 to 12 until Jan 31. For more information call the above number.

Culture from Montreal

Timothy Hutchins, flutist, and Janet Creaser, pianist, will give a concert today, 8 pm, at the Maison de la Culture, 5290 Côte des Neiges road. On Sunday, at 2 pm, the students of the Opéra de Montréal's lyric workshop will present Engelbert Humperdinck's *Hansel et Gretel*. Also on Sunday, 2 pm, at the Maison de la Culture N.D.G., 3755 Botrel street, a group comprising harpsichord, viola da gamba, baroque bassoon and baroque violin will give a concert of 17th century music. This concert coincides with an exhibition of ancient musical instruments from many countries which will be at the maison until Feb 1. Admission for concerts is free but you must pick up tickets at the maison or at a Banque d'Epargne in the district.

Youth orchestra plays

The Orchestre des Jeunes du Québec will give two concerts under the baton of Michel Tabachnik Friday and Saturday, 8 pm, in Redpath Hall, 3459 McTavish street. Erik Oland, baritone, will be the guest soloist for the concerts which will include music by Mozart and Mahler. Tickets are available at the door or at the Place des Arts box office.

Concert in church

Marie Bouchard, organist, will give a concert of music by Buxtehude, Desjardins, Bruhns and Bach Friday, 8 pm, at the Queen Mary Road United Church, corner of Queen Mary and Finchley roads in Hampstead. Admission is free.

Exhibitions about town

Drawings by Faye Fayerman and Peter Krausz will be at the Galerie III, 363 Place d'Youville, from today until Feb 13. ... An exhibition titled "Works of Craft" is at the Stewart Hall Art Gallery, 176 Lakeshore road, until March 1. The exhibition represents a range of craft work — glass, fibre, wood, leather, metal and clay — being done in Canada today. Call 630-1220 for gallery hours.

Bits'n'pieces

Actors Patricia MacGeachy and David Gow will read the first draft of Colleen Curran's *Miss Balmoral of the Bayview* Monday, 8:30 pm, at the Playwrights' Workshop Montreal, 4001 Berri street. The play is described as a slightly off-the-wall comedy. ... I. Lavin of Princeton will speak on Bernini's "Speaking Marbles" Sunday, 3 pm, in the auditorium of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. ... Trained volunteers will give guided tours of the Montreal Botanical Gardens greenhouses Monday to Friday, 10 am to 1:30 pm, for groups of 10 to 50 persons. For reservations call 872-1823 at least two weeks in advance.

933-1956

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"Anxiety in the heart of a man weighs it down, but a GOOD WORD makes it glad."
— *Proverbs 12:25*

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You Say

Continued from page five

two out of five judges of Quebec's highest Court of Appeal agreed that he had the right to post his English sign.

In those parts of Ontario where French-speaking citizens reside, signs are often unilingual French and no one objects, or smashes windows. With the exception of Moammar Gadhafi's Libya, Quebec, Canada, is the only country that I know that specifically legislates the language of signs to prohibit the English language.

Mr Singer has continued his brave stand in full public view, while racists and cowards who hide under cover of darkness have smashed his window and smeared his sign with paint. And you would try to have the community believe that Mr Singer is an extreme ally of these people. Come, come, sir, that's stretching credibility a bit thin, don't you think?

In May 1981, when Mr Singer asked the community to support him financially, hundreds did so, including many from Westmount. Would the editorial board consider these supporters extremists also?

Every major newspaper in North America, including *The Wall Street Journal*, has noted how ridiculous the Quebec language law is in prohibiting the posting of English signs. Are they also extremists?

D.C. Macdonald

4511 Sources boulevard
ROXBORO PQ H8Y 3C2

Allan Singer stands for freedom and justice

Sir: I completely disagree and object to your editorial comparing Mr Allan Singer to the FLQ. Mr Singer, a veteran who fought for freedom and justice, rightfully takes exception to legislation removing the freedom and justice many Canadians gave their lives to preserve.

Mr Singer has been a generous contributor and supported the Freedom of Choice Movement. The FOCM, with Mr Singer's support, has intervened for French-language rights in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, a concrete demonstration of the importance of freedom of choice. He has had the courage to stand up for this freedom and not give in to extremists and radicals.

All Canadians would not be paying the economic and emotional price for punitive restrictive language legislation if there were more Canadians like Allan Singer living in Quebec. I also agree with Mr Singer, Judge Montgomery and Judge Paré, that the legislation violates our Canadian Constitution as drafted by the Fathers of Confederation and enacted by a fair and just parliament.

Arlene Burns

250 Percival avenue
MONTREAL WEST PQ H4X 1T9

City should have ensured protection from Edgehill ice

A copy of the following letter has been sent to THE EXAMINER:

Mayor Brian Gallery
Westmount City Hall
4333 Sherbrooke street west
Westmount, PQ H3Z 1E2

Dear Mayor Gallery:

I am writing to you in your capacity as mayor of Westmount and also as a fellow parent of a teenage daughter. I would refer you to an article published in THE WESTMOUNT EXAMINER of Dec 4, 1986, which refers to an extremely dangerous ice condition that prevailed on lower Edgehill road the night of Nov 24, 1986.

I was shocked to identify the "other person" in this potentially serious accident as our teenage daughter, a young but very careful and competent driver. She found herself in a traumatic situation where the consequences could have been far more dire than the several hundred dollars' damage caused to the other car. I am only thankful that she came out of this physically unscathed but would like to register my strong feelings about this occurrence.

I suggest that there was negligence in responsibility on the part of either or both the houseowner mentioned in the article and Westmount public works in terms of dealing with this situation so as not to jeopardize the safety of innocent drivers.

In ordinary circumstances, Westmount does a highly commendable job of snow-clearing and ice-salting, particularly on our hilly thoroughfares. I can only say that measures should have been taken under these extraordinary circumstances to protect citizens from possible injury through due precautions such as warning flares if the ice could not be immediately salted and melted.

I await your reply.

Yours sincerely,

Ann Schwartzman

697 Aberdeen avenue
WESTMOUNT PQ H3Y 3A9

Will mediation help ease trauma of divorce?

Sir: With the recent proclamation of the new Divorce Act, we are about to enter into a new era in the legal termination of marriages that have irretrievably broken down. It has long been widely acknowledged that reliance on the traditional adversarial legal process and its fault-orientation tended to aggravate the emotional trauma of spouses and children that are a natural concomitant of marital breakdown.

However, with the advent of a "no fault" basis for divorce following a one-year separation period between the spouses, as well as the possibility of a joint spousal divorce application, it is hoped that the acrimony so frequently associated with fault grounds and the adversarial process will be significantly reduced.

One of the other laudable objectives of the new Divorce Act is to promote the equitable disposition of the economic consequences of the marriage breakdown. The legislator has expressly introduced certain new policy considerations to move our courts away from a strict "needs" and "capacity to pay" approach that has all too often been the basis of alimentary awards.

In determining a support order for a spouse or a former spouse, the Courts will hereinafter be directed to:

1. recognize any economic advantages or disadvantages arising from the marriage or its breakdown;
2. apportion between the spouses or former spouses any financial consequences arising from child care;
3. relieve any economic hardship arising from the marriage breakdown;
4. and insofar as practicable, promote the economic self-sufficiency of each spouse or former spouse within a reasonable period of time.

As far as parenting rights are concerned, the new Divorce Act provides that the best interests of the child shall be the only relevant consideration in any judicial disposition respecting the custody of, or access to, a child of the marriage. There are doubtless those who are of the view that the "parenting provisions" of the new law, which essentially reflects current judicial practices, will not result in any substantial reduction in the incidence of contested custody and access litigation, at least not initially. There are, however, alternatives to the traditional adversarial process in seeking to resolve parenting disputes. Lawyers will now have a duty to inform a spouse in a divorce proceeding of the availability of mediation as such an alternative.

It is almost a truism to state that responsible parenting after divorce cannot be mandated by judicial decree; parents may divorce each other but they cannot divorce their children. The way in which the potential value of mediation as an emerging and beneficial complementary or alternative process in this area comes to be viewed in the months and years ahead may ultimately dictate whether or not the acrimony associated with custody and access litigation will remain as an unwanted souvenir of marriage termination.

Ian M. Solloway

1155 Dorchester boulevard west
MONTREAL PQ H3B 3V6

FILES . . .

Continued from page five

depends on whether or not she gets enough new citizens to become a numerically powerful nation. The first of these roles is that of world power, but it is unlikely that Canada will increase her population enough in the next 100 years to rank as a top nation in either people or production, Lt Col Stevens said. . . . Canada can either become an appendage of the United States, submerged first in U.S. culture and then in U.S. politics, or she can maintain her independence and act as a good friend and stabilizing influence to Americans . . . who are a dominant nation in the world."

Twenty-five Years Ago
January 12, 1962

"Westmount's 'Man-in-Quebec', 49-year-old Richard Hyde, 2997 Cedar avenue, added another chapter to the history books of the provincial government Tuesday, when he took up his new office as speaker of the Legislative Assembly. Mr Hyde, one of the few English-speaking MPPs, is only the third English-Canadian to hold the office. The new appointment marks a singular personal victory for the tall, quietly speaking politician. His entry to provincial politics came in a situation of challenge few candidates have experienced. Mr Hyde's father, the late Hon Gordon Hyde, had been the first Liberal representative for Westmount, from 1939 to 1942. He was succeeded by Hon George Marler, and the seat fell vacant in 1955 when Mr Marler switched to the federal government as minister of transport."

Fifteen Years Ago
January 13, 1972

"Stanley Presbyterian Church has been sold to the Seventh Day Adventist Church for $50,000. The Seventh Day Adventist and Presbyterian congregations have been sharing the big church since Dec 20, when the sale took place. The Presbyterians have been holding their services in the hall of the church, which is at Victoria and Westmount avenues. Rev Scarth Macdonell of the Presbyterian congregation said membership in the once fashionable church had been declining for many years and the building had become too large for the needs of the congregation."

Five Years Ago
January 14, 1982

"More than 30 firefighters from Westmount and five mutual aid cities braved frigid temperatures early yesterday morning to fight the first major Westmount fire of 1982. The blaze caused extensive damage to a 20-room mansion at 210 Edgehill road at Upper Belmont avenue and sent one fireman to hospital. It is believed to have started in the living room. Heat from the fireplace spread into the floor and walls of the structure where it may have smoldered undetected for many hours, according to fire officials. The fireplace apparently had been used to help heat the house throughout the afternoon following furnace problems."

They Say

Rights are rights

An editorial in The Town of Mount Royal Weekly Post

PERHAPS one of the most disturbing developments of the year just past was the reemergence in Quebec of old language battles, spurred by fanatics on both sides of the question and abetted by a year of inaction by the new Quebec government in implementing the policy under which it had won a resounding election victory.

As the old year closed, we got the long-awaited ruling from the Quebec Court of Appeals that struck down the French-only sign provisions of Bill 101, ruling that while the government could insist on having French on public signs, it could not ban the use of other languages without contravening both the Quebec and Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

This is pretty basic stuff, so we're surprised at the attitudes of those who believe the original Bill 101 should be kept as it is. It's not just the language-terrorist vandals who espouse this view; they simply have a more disgusting way of saying it. Even Opposition leader Pierre-Marc Johnson, an educated man who should know better, feels in this case basic rights should be cast aside in favor of the holier goal of protecting the "French face" of Quebec.

What an appalling thing for any supposedly responsible politician to say!

If Mr Johnson and his fellow language fanatics feel this way on the question of language of signs, what is to stop them from throwing away other basic rights on the Holy Grail of some other cause?

Somehow, rights of Quebecers who wish to speak and read languages other than French have come to be seen as less important than other basic rights. The thinking of the French fanatics seems to be that their cause is the only just one and that as a result they are entitled to diminish the rights of others to strengthen their own particular cause. When talking about something such as the language of signs, this attitude might not seem particularly threatening, but let's apply the same logic to other basic rights and see how the philosophy sounds then.

* * *

LET'S assume that instead of regulating language to keep the "French face" of Quebec, a government decided Quebec, being predominantly and historically white, should present a "white face" to the world. As a result, it would pass a Charter of White People that said that while blacks and Orientals and others could still live in Quebec, they could only be seen on the streets in public in a few limited circumstances.

An agency would be set up to monitor all public appearances by non-whites and those who dared defy the law would be fined. Some, however, would challenge the law in court and eventually win their case, with the court ruling the law an infringement on basic rights. Mr Johnson's reaction, based on his Bill 101 position, would not be to hail the just ruling, but to call instead for a repeal of the section of the rights charters that forbids racial discrimination.

There is a place where just such logic prevails, other than in the minds of Mr Johnson and his Parti Québécois supporters — South Africa. If English Quebecers were once called the white Rhodesians of Canada, then surely now the PQ can be labelled the South African National Party of Quebec by its willingness to achieve its own political and social goals by subjugating the rights of a large segment of the population.

What Mr Johnson, his party and other language fanatics seem to forget is that there has been a profound change in English Quebec in the past 30 years, as profound as the change in French Quebec. Save for a few francophobes, the English community long since has accepted the idea of Quebec as a French-speaking province and is as concerned as other Quebecers with allowing this French presence in North America to be maintained.

* * *

WE REFUSE, however, to have our own rights subjugated to achieve that end. Why should the rights of the French as a minority in North America be any more important than the rights of the English as a minority in Quebec?

All Quebecers should be concerned with the reaction of vandals, PQ politicians and others to the Court of Appeals ruling. The court has said clearly that the rights of non-francophones are being violated by Bill 101, yet their reaction has not been to acknowledge the injustice but to decry the existence of those rights. In the case of the vandals, no doubt encouraged by the irresponsible statements of the politicians and others, the response has been the very scary one of taking the law into their own hands. This has nothing to do with law or rights; it is pure anarchy.

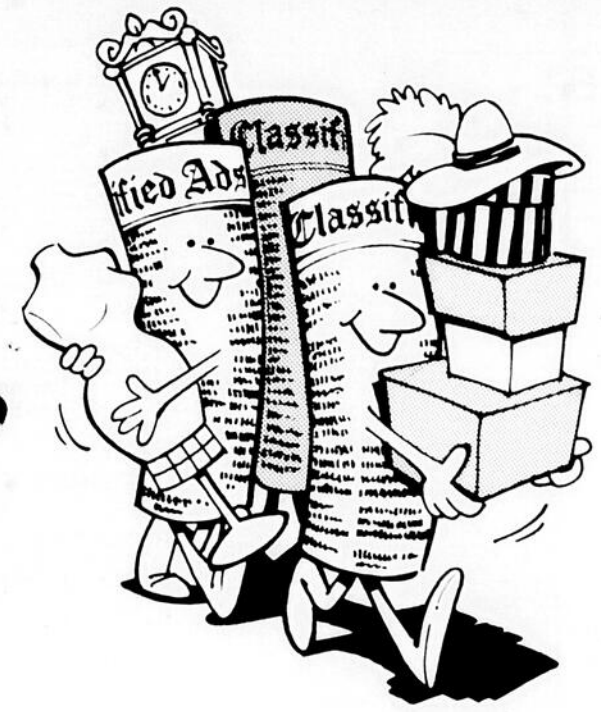
It's time the English of Quebec stopped being the whipping boys for the difficulties in maintaining the French language and Quebec culture midst the sea of English and American influences of all kinds. The threats to French in Quebec are not caused by the English of Quebec. Those threats of worldwide communications and American media and cultural domination threaten English Canada as much as they threaten French Quebec.

As for French Quebec's reaction to the threat, we wouldn't accept the banning of blacks or Orientals from the streets so Quebec could give the false impression of being lily-white, so why should we accept the banning of English and other languages from signs so Quebec can look completely French, which it isn't?

Thankfully, we believe most Quebecers — French and English — understand the importance of our basic rights and how vital it is that the rights of all be respected in all circumstances. It is for precisely that reason we have our supposedly sacrosanct charters of rights. Overall, we are glad at how well we do respect each other's rights and how well we live together. This certainly is reflected in a community such as Mount Royal where English and French co-exist in relative harmony.

That makes us all the more sad and angry that the Parti Québécois and Mr Johnson would seize on base emotions and be willing to throw away some of the rights of all of us in the expectation of short-term political gain. Their words and actions are beyond being irresponsible. They are dangerous.

Rights are rights. Not political playthings.



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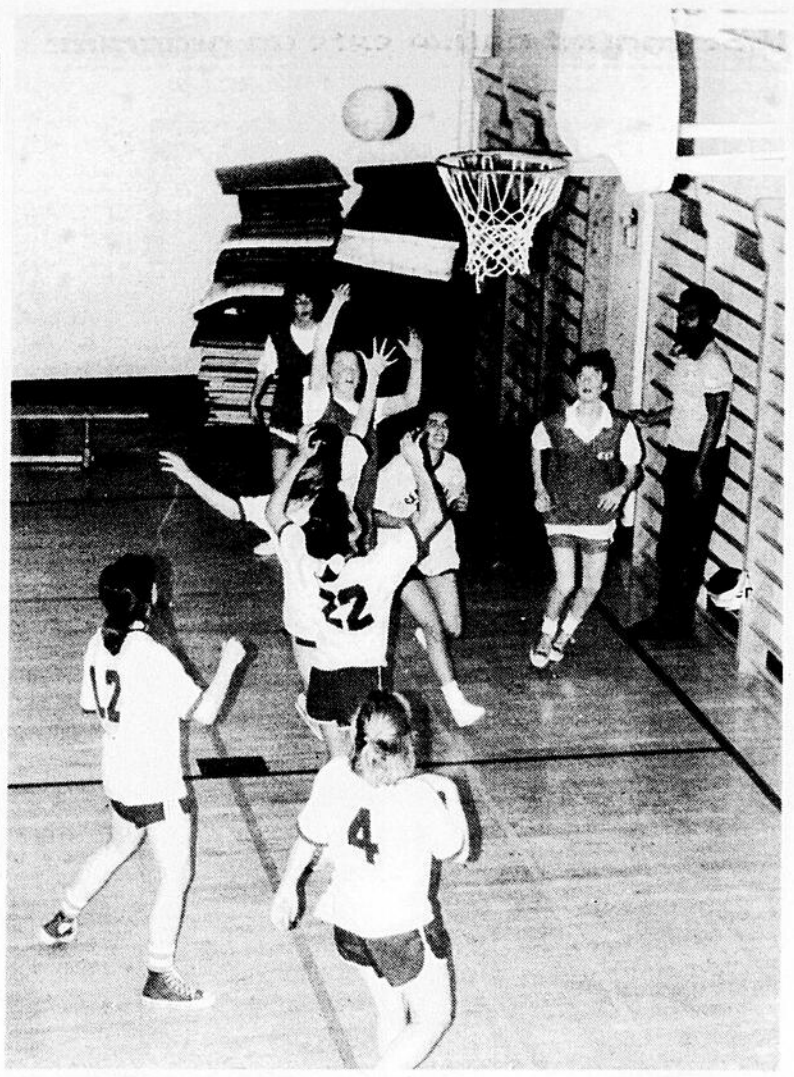

ECS REMAINS UNDEFEATED: Senior basketball players from Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School (in dark) risk a shot while Centennial Academy rivals await the rebound in a GMAA contest Monday won by ECS 59-47. The victory at home extended ECS's season record to 6-0. Coach Richard Taylor attributes much of his team's current success to Teta Dafiotis and Westmounters Lissy Kates and Christie Grant, all of whom dominate in scoring. Barring the late-season injuries that crippled the team in last year's playoffs, Mr Taylor believes the team stands a fair chance of taking the GMAA Juvenile C (small school) division championship. St George's School, another local team having a good year, may be the team for ECS to beat.

Backhoe hits Gaz Met line

A gas leak at 5 Murray avenue last Thursday was caused by a backhoe digging at the location, public safety officers said. Gas crews were reported on the scene at 2:51 pm about 30 minutes after the mishap.

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HOCKEY STANDINGS

Following are the standings in the Westmount municipal hockey leagues as of Tuesday Jan 13:

	GS	GP	W	L	D	F	A	Pts
NOVICE								
Guards	15	8	6	2	0	43	31	12
Canadiens	15	8	4	4	0	38	36	8
Dragons	15	8	3	5	0	38	44	6
Bears	15	8	3	5	0	34	42	6
ATOM								
Canadiens	15	8	5	3	0	35	22	10
Canucks	15	8	4	4	0	27	23	8
Nordiques	15	8	4	4	0	25	36	8
Penguins	15	8	3	5	0	13	19	6
PEEWEE								
Scouts	15	9	7	1	1	45	24	15
Seals	15	9	5	3	1	29	26	11
Canadiens	15	9	3	4	2	29	32	8
Capitals	15	9	0	1	2	27	48	2
ALL STAR								
Novice	-	3	1	2	0	5	16	2
Atom	-	8	5	2	1	37	25	11
PeeWee	-	5	2	3	0	22	29	4
Bantam	-	3	1	2	0	6	15	2
EXHIBITION								
Competitive								
Old Timers	-	6	3	1	2	22	15	8
Senior								
Old Timers	-	6	2	3	1	21	36	5
BANTAM/MIDGET								
Hornets	27	13	8	5	0	73	68	16
Leafs	27	13	6	3	4	[illegible]		16
Canadiens	27	13	5	6	2	71	[illegible]	12
Rangers	27	13	3	8	2	55	81	8
SENIOR "B"								
Devils	24	12	9	1	2	61	23	20
Fathers	24	12	7	5	0	44	29	14
Oilers	24	12	6	6	0	42	38	12
Jets	24	12	5	5	2	44	57	12
Hawks	24	12	5	6	1	34	58	11
Flyers	24	12	4	8	0	50	69	8
Aces	24	12	3	8	1	37	38	7
SENIOR "A"								
Wanderers	24	13	11	2	0	53	18	22
Stars	24	13	7	5	1	45	40	15
Flames	24	13	6	5	2	36	41	14
Bruins	24	12	5	7	0	47	33	10
Sabres	24	13	1	11	1	15	64	3

Westmount native sets up program:

Simons finds booze, small population frustrate crime prevention in North

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

The time is ripe for permanent crime prevention work in the Northwest Territories and a young Westmounter has been chosen to develop the necessary programs.

Nicholas Simons, a 22-year-old university graduate in criminology, has landed the challenge after working in Yellowknife last summer and fall.

"I just happened to be in the right place at the right time," he said happily last week. "This is a job I would never even have hoped to get otherwise."

Mr Simons, who has been home for a month, returns to Yellowknife in about two weeks to evaluate the needs for permanent crime prevention and to design specialized programs under the auspices of the solicitor-general's office.

The project, he explained, grew out of work he began last November as the first co-ordinator of National Crime Prevention Week in the Territories.

Mr Simons had travelled to Yellowknife last summer in search of a job along with his brother, Andrew, 23, and two cousins.

His training in criminology from the University of Ottawa landed him initial work which enabled him to make government contacts.

Alcohol problems

Ninety percent of all crime in the N.W.T., he said, is related to alcohol, or alcohol and drugs. It's what he calls "hidden crime," mostly family violence.

"There is little street crime and no muggings."

The distances between settlements and the great variety between them means that crime prevention programs need different emphasis depending on the community, he said.

"It boggles the mind whenever I think of the distances involved up there and the smallness of the population."

The Northwest Territories account for about one-third of the Canadian land mass, he said, yet have a population of about 50,000, half the number of Prince Edward Island.

"A settlement of 200 persons, for instance, can't support a shelter for battered women. Therein lies the major problem: how to make services available to everyone."

Successful crime prevention programs used in southern Canada, such as Neighborhood Watch and Block Parents, are not applicable in the north, he notes.

In most criminal cases in the Northwest Territories, he said, the victim and the offender know each other.

"The problem is how to get people not to be violent. To reform a man, as they say, you have to start with the grandmother."

The ultimate solution, he expects, will probably be "a little of this and a little of that."

He foresees that a sniffer dog at Frobisher Bay airport, for instance, would help curb the flow of drugs into the Territories from Montreal.

Some communities, such as Snowdrift near Yellowknife, he said, already have opted to become "dry." This helps to control the alcohol problem but makes them ripe for bootlegging.

Although Mr Simons looks forward to his new job, he hopes ultimately to continue his education by pursuing a master's degree in criminology, he hopes, at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver.

He grew up in Westmount, attending Westmount Park School, FACE and Marianopolis College before going to the University of Ottawa.

Checking distances in the Northwest Territories in an atlas, **Nicholas Simons**, a resident of Olivier avenue, prepares to return to Yellowknife.

Stolen papers are recovered

A briefcase containing papers was stolen from a car parked overnight Saturday-Sunday outside 331 Clarke avenue but the papers were found by the owner, police said.

The briefcase was valued at $200.

The car, a white 1986 Dodge, was entered by breaking a window in a rear door, causing $50 damage.

Pictorial show at camera club

The Montreal Camera Club meets Monday at Westmount Park Church at 7:30 pm for its fourth annual pictorial competition, featuring slides.

The church is located at 4695 de Maisonneuve boulevard. Interested persons are welcome to attend.

Easy target

A $600 detachable radio was stolen from a blue Audi Wednesday last week while parked across from 370 Elm avenue, according to police. No signs of forced entry were found.

OUR MNA . . .

Continued from page four

Ottawa for the convenience of public servants will really please anyone but those same public servants. Let's hope the federal government will respect its often-stated engagement to spread the benefits of public spending fairly across the country — especially in the crucial science and technology sector.

Roslyn school skating party set for March

The Roslyn school committee has set March 20 as the date for its annual skating party at the Westmount artificial ice rink.

Susan Brooks, the committee's activities co-ordinator, is organizing the evening.

Scheduled to begin at 7 pm, the evening is expected to consist of costumes, races, refreshments and prizes.

Parents, teachers and students are invited to join the fun.

"It has become a very popular event," school committee chairman Pat Ackman said Wednesday.

Man nabbed with hot cans in his hands

A man was arrested late Wednesday night last week in the lane at the rear of the Unity Boys' and Girls' Club as police answered a call for a burglar alarm at the place, officials report.

A 44-year-old Montreal man has been charged in connection with the incident.

Police said they found a man carrying a box containing 28 cans of soups and corn when they responded to the call at 1090 Greene avenue shortly after 11:50 pm.

A check of the building revealed that an upper window had been broken after removal of a grill.

Canned goods were discovered missing as well as a radio which was not recovered. Total amount of the theft was about $230.

Missing board exposes building

A piece of plywood used to cover a ground floor window of the apartment building under renovation at de Maisonneuve boulevard and Olivier avenue was found missing early Monday, public safety officers said.

The open window made the interior of the building easily accessible.

Car skips stop, strikes Mercury

A brown 1987 Mercury had to be towed away Saturday after colliding about 8:30 pm with a blue 1977 Plymouth at Côte St Antoine road and Argyle avenue, according to police.

The driver of the southbound car was reported to have been ticketed for passing through a stop sign.

More than $500 damage was sustained by each. Both drivers lived in N.D.G.

Toronto mutt romps in park

A chocolate-colored Labrador was taken to the Animal Hospital of Westmount Friday afternoon after being found loose in King George Park, public safety officers said.

The dog had a Toronto address on its tag.

NON-PROFIT . . .

Continued from page one

escape municipal business taxes.

"The government in Quebec did well in passing Bill 40 because some benevolent associations should be paying the business tax," Mayor Descary said. "It has enabled us to recoup $25,000."

Lachine's Caisse Populaire and union associations were the only non-profit groups not to receive the tax offsetting grants, he said.

Referring to the Caisse Populaire, Mayor Descary said, "They can afford to pay the tax; they're a $25 billion operation. If any unions feel they cannot pay, they'll have to submit their financial statements and we'll review them."

Upwards of $220,000 has been assessed recently against 23 non-profit organizations in Westmount, including the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF) Association, the Junior League of Montreal and the Maurice Pollack Fund (see story and list of affected organizations, Nov 20, 1986).

Describing the non-profit business tax as a "non-issue," Westmount Mayor Brian Gallery said Tuesday that "what Mayor Descary does is his business and what Westmount does is its business.

"We're waiting to see what the provincial government does."

Changes in spring?

André Bourbeau, the provincial minister of municipal affairs, has said he plans to introduce amendments to Bill 40 sometime this spring or early summer.

During city council's meeting Nov 17, Mayor Gallery said, in reply to a question, that the city "is very sympathetic" to the plight of many non-profit organizations adversely affected by the current interpretation of Bill 40.

He added council was studying the matter and would have a statement prepared in time for the next council meeting on Dec 1.

Mayor Gallery said Tuesday that the Bill 40 debate centres around which non-profit organizations deserve to be taxed and which don't.

Asked why Westmount is reluctant to adopt a solution similar to Lachine's decision to solve the debate at a local level, Mayor Gallery replied: "I'm not too sure that's correct."

Why?

"That's all I'm going to say," the mayor said. "I have to go."

When reached yesterday, Alderman Phillip Aspinall, Westmount's finance commissioner, said that, in speaking recently with Westmount MNA and communications minister Richard French, he understood it was the provincial government's intention to wipe out the business tax for legitimate non-profit organizations before next year.

That would leave the burden of compensation on municipalities for business taxes levied in 1985 and 1986 against legitimate non-profit organizations.

"There will be a discussion on Tuesday," Ald Aspinall said, referring to the upcoming city council meeting.

"The whole issue is very much on the table."

While there are some "legal technicalities" involved, Ald Aspinall added that in light of other communities providing Bill 40 rebates, "there is a certain amount of pressure on Westmount to do the same."

CITY OF WESTMOUNT
VILLE DE WESTMOUNT
Official NOTICE BOARD
TABLEAU D'AFFICHAGE officiel

Continued from page two

Next Scheduled City Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 20, 8 pm

Date de la prochaine séance du conseil municipal
Mardi, le 20 janvier, 20h00

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Giftedness '87 conference chance to update progress

In view of the need to offer educators and parents a forum for the discussion of services to gifted and talented children, the Montreal Catholic School Commission, the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal, the ministry of education and Giftedness Quebec have co-operated to organize Giftedness '87.

This conference is planned for May 1 and 2 at Pavillon Lafontaine of the Université du Québec à Montréal, and at Le Plateau School of the Montreal Catholic School Commission.

Giftedness '87 gives parents, teachers, university and college staff, administrators and educational professionals the opportunity to continue the sensitization process begun by school personnel responsible for meeting the particular needs of gifted and talented children, organizers say.

The cause of the gifted in the schools was featured in October 1984, at the first Quebec conference on this topic. This first provincial meeting was organized by the Montreal Catholic School Commission and the Université de Montréal.

In October 1985, in response to the requests and needs of the school system, the ministry of education published the document entitled *Gifted and Talented Students at School: Current Situation and Proposed Developments*. In it, the ministry proposed certain directions and options to its educational partners. To achieve the goals proposed in this report, the ministry encouraged co-operation among the parties concerned.

The Giftedness '87 conference presents an opportunity to become informed about what has been accomplished over the last few years in the area of services to gifted and talented students. Participants will be able to share their experiences of services offered in various regions, discover instruments likely to respond to their needs, or simply exchange ideas about the phenomenon of giftedness. Giftedness '87 will enable them to hear well-known speakers.

The conference program and registration forms can be obtained by writing to Giftedness '87, Conference Secretariat, 5555 15e avenue, Rosemont, Montreal, Quebec H1X 2T9.

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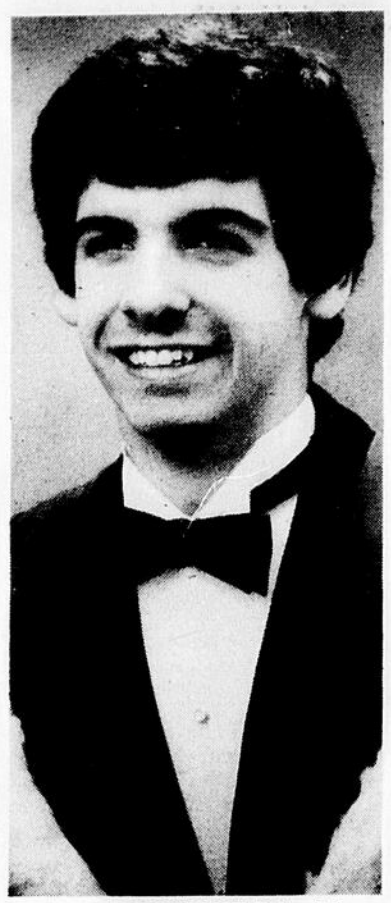

PRICE ON DEAN'S LIST: Brian Price, a life-long Westmounter and resident of Montrose avenue, was recently named to the dean's list in the faculty of engineering at the University of New Brunswick for the 1985-86 academic year. Mr Price was one of only six students, out of a total of 1,200, to receive the honor for outstanding academic and community service. Mr Price is employed with J.C. Holden, Consulting Engineers in Westmount.

Church's dance for Salvadorians

Victoria Hall is to be the scene Jan 23, from 9 pm to 1 am, of a dance sponsored by Somerlea United Church in aid of a refugee family from El Salvador the church congregation has taken under its wing.

Tickets are $10 a person and refreshments and attendance prizes will be offered. For more information call 637-5283 or 634-0209.

Next study skills program gets under way next week

Because of response in previous years, the Lansdowne Centre is again offering study skills courses throughout the year.

An eight-hour course is offered to help students become more successful, independent learners. Parents are invited to a mid-session meeting to assess and review the program.

Formal assessment of the effectiveness of this course will be conducted in conjunction with Danielle Michaud, a psychology intern at the McGill-Montreal Children's Hospital Learning Centre, using pre- and post-testing on a representative sample of students attending the course.

The next course begins next week. Students will have the choice of attending Mondays or Wednesdays in Pointe Claire and on Tuesdays or Thursdays in Snowdon.

To emphasize that study skills do not end with the last lesson of the course, a follow-up session is scheduled approximately six months later for students who have already completed the course. The session includes review, integration and expansion on the concepts that have been taught.

The follow-up session is offered at no additional charge.

Carolyn Melmed

Westmounters Kay Dila and Carolyn Melmed are founding members of the centre.

Children pushed too hard?: experts address AJCS series

"Our Hurried Children" is the title of the 1987 annual lecture series of Women's Federation of Allied Jewish Community Services, with the sub-title "Too Sophisticated... Too Stressed... Too Soon."

The series, chaired by vice-president Rona Davis, a Westmount resident, begins on Jan 27 at 9:30 am with Dr Ellen Fantus, psychologist with the Montreal Children's Hospital, focussing on "Early Childhood Development."

Dr Fantus is associated with both the department of psychology and the department of psychiatry at the Children's Hospital.

The series is being presented at Cummings House, 5151 Côte St Catherine road.

Other presentations in the series include: Feb 18, Dr Morton Weinfeld of the department of sociology of McGill University moderating a panel on "Education — the Formative Years"; March 24, Annette Werk, associate professor of the school of social work at McGill University, on the "New Adolescent Morality"; and April 28, McGill University social worker and psychoanalyst Jacob Raby on "Separation/Leaving Home."

Registration for the series is limited. Further information may be obtained or reservations made by calling 735-3541, local 254.

Rona Davis

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Ronald Haynes returns to WHS; succeeds principal Richard Jack

A popular and affable former vice-principal has returned to Westmount High School as its principal.

Ronald F. Haynes was officially introduced before the WHS committee Monday evening as the successor to principal Richard Jack.

Mr Jack was chosen last month over 75 other applicants by Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal commissioners to head the board's department of buildings and grounds (see story Dec 24). He began his new duties as director Monday.

"I'm glad to be back in Westmount [illegible] School," Mr Haynes said after being introduced to parents by Mr Jack. "It was a school I was very happy in ... I virtually began my teaching career in Westmount."

After initially joining the PSBGM as a teacher in 1966, Mr Haynes soon was assigned to Westmount Park School and taught there from 1968 to 1972.

He was then appointed vice-principal of Guy Drummond in 1972, principal of Royal Arthur in 1974 and principal of Iona Avenue School in 1976.

In 1978, Mr Haynes joined Westmount High as vice-principal and over the next four years built strong ties with both the staff and students.

"When we heard Mr Jack was going to leave, we were very upset. We feared they were going to revive some retired administrator," Iona McAulay said on behalf of fellow WHS teachers.

"When we heard that Ron was coming back (from Northmount High where he was vice-principal) we couldn't have been more pleased. The kids are absolutely delighted."

The 21-year PSBGM veteran also has strong ties in the Westmount community. He currently acts as vice-president of Youth Horizons, a reception centre for troubled youth located on Weredale Park.

Mr Haynes, his wife and four children reside in Dollard des Ormeaux.

Jack's sudden leaving stuns WHS committee

Principal Richard Jack's abrupt departure from Westmount High School created a potentially explosive situation.

No one knew this better than Joan Rothman, the PSBGM commissioner for the area including Westmount.

"Had we gotten anyone other than Mr Haynes, it could have been dangerous," Mrs Rothman said at the conclusion of Monday evening's WHS committee meeting.

"I know this school committee, it can be militant."

Mrs Rothman was on hand to greet new principal Ronald Haynes and wish the best to Mr Jack, who takes on an internal position with the PSBGM as the new director of the department of buildings and grounds.

Mr Jack was a highly regarded principal, the man widely identified with Westmount High's renewal of late.

According to sources, Richard Lock, the school committee chairman, was livid when informed of Mr Jack's impending departure without prior school committee consultation.

Mr Lock was admittedly calmer when Mr Haynes' appointment was announced.

"I realize we didn't consult the school committee," Mrs Rothman said during Monday's meeting. "I want to apologize for that. It happened pretty quickly."

She told the parents, however, that under the circumstances, "I tried to speak for you."

While parents of the school committee agreed they were more than happy with the choice of Mr Haynes, at Mrs Rothman's suggestion they voted to write PSBGM director general Joseph Rabinovitch to register their displeasure at being neglected in the decision-making process.

Specs spotted

Eyeglasses in a black case were reported found Tuesday last week at 4650 St Catherine street. They were taken to local MUC police station 23.

New members join Roslyn panel

Two new members were added to the Roslyn school committee Monday evening.

Marja Sherman and Marie-Claire Michaud-Fraser were elected by acclamation to fill the vacancies left by the recent departures of veteran committee members Marilyn Gotman, the external representative, and Chris Bagnall, the head of the absentee program.

Both Mrs Gotman and Mrs Bagnall resigned from the committee because of conflicting commitments.

With the new additions, the Roslyn school committee maintains its membership at 23 parents, the largest public school committee in Westmount.

Keys found

A set of two keys was turned in at local MUC station 23 Monday last week, police report. It had been found at the Westmount Athletic Grounds.

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WHS committee supports PSBGM 'network' plan

The Westmount High School committee agreed Monday to send the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal an initial reply to the board's study, "A Network for Tomorrow."

The reply, largely prepared by committee member Georgi Beal-Kish, "agrees in essence" with board plans to change the traditional nature of the PSBGM secondary system by creating a complementary network of schools whereby each has a unique educational focus.

Under the network plan, Westmount High would maintain its status as a "traditional English secondary model," while its two technical/vocational training courses, nursing assistance and office machine servicing, would be transferred to LaSalle High at the end of this academic year.

In their place, Westmount High would establish a "special education centre" in time for Sept 1988.

While giving their tacit approval to the board's plans, the school committee said it expects to examine the implications of a special education centre and specifically define Westmount High's role in future submissions.

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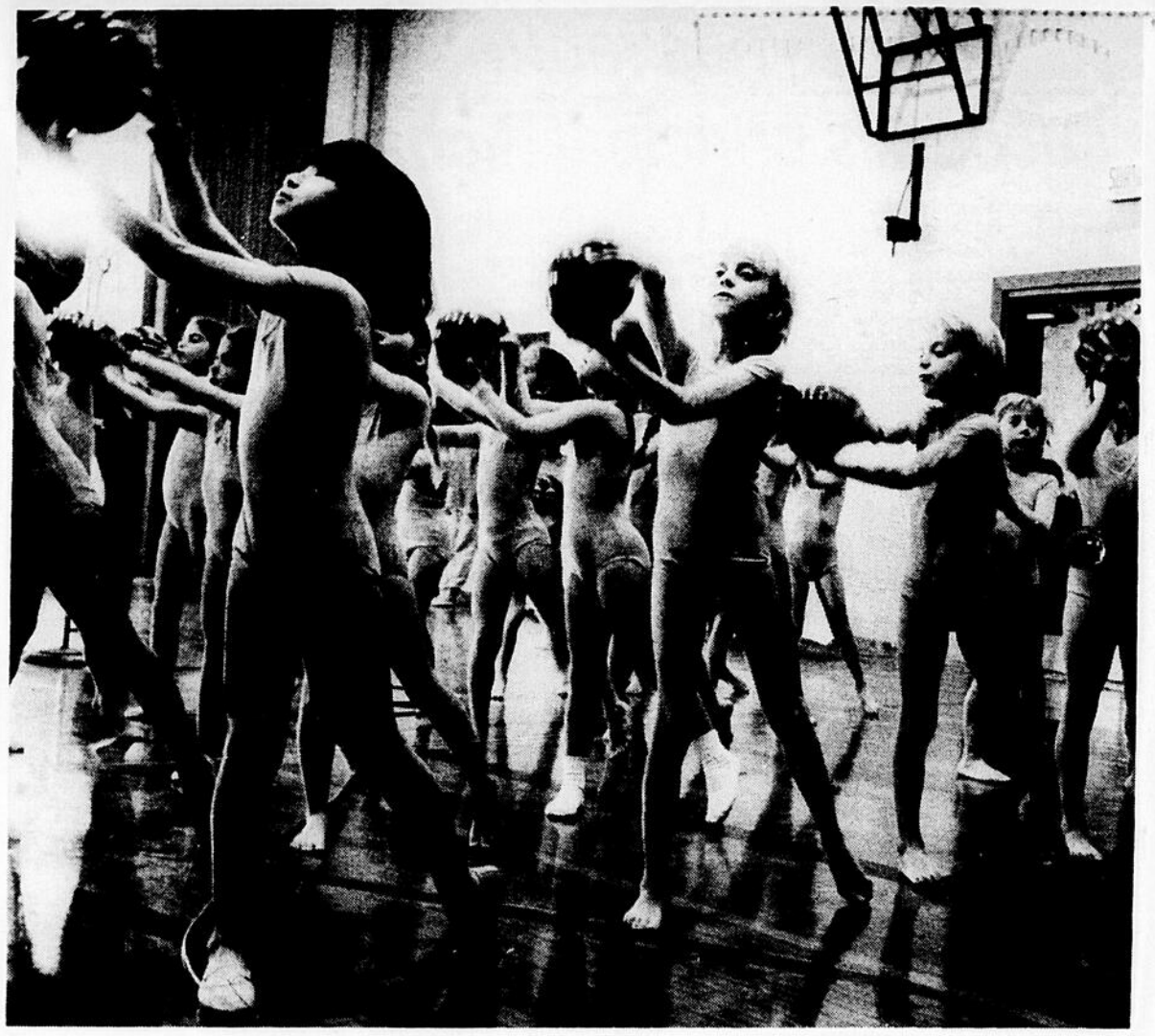
Sharper Sabres carve out point; Flames fume

The Sabres, largely on the extraordinary efforts of stand-in goaltender Michael Prévost, made Westmount senior A hockey history last Thursday with a 2-2 tie against archrivals the Flames.

It was the Sabres' first earned point of the 1986-87 season (the woebegone team did, in fact, manage a win by default before Christmas).

After tying the Sabres, Flames players were so distraught that a number of them steamed off the ice, knocking over a net and hurling unquotable verbal gems across the arena.

The Flames, a young team known for its dexterity and speed, dropped to third place with the tie, one point behind the second place Stars.



Lithe limbs of members of the Westmount-based Elysian Rhythmic Sportive Gymnastics Club are in full swing in preparation for the group's TV appearance Saturday.

Westmount gymnast club on TV Saturday

Gymnasts of the Elysian Rhythmic Sportive Gymnastics Club, based in Westmount, will perform on television on Saturday, at 11 am on channel 2 (cable 4).

The gymnasts are to appear on the program *Les Héros du Samedi*, which is devoting one hour to rhythmic gymnastics. Several clubs from the Montreal area are involved. Elysian gymnasts are performing four routines: ball, scarf, individual and clubs.

The ball routine, to music by Jacques Offenbach, is executed by 25 recreational gymnasts age six to eight. Faces pasted on the balls make this a fun routine for gymnasts and audience alike.

The scarf routine, performed by eight recreational gymnasts age nine to 12, is done to music by Gershwin. The music and the large white silk scarves create a lyrical mood for this routine.

Abigail Rasminsky, 9, a daughter of Westmounters Michael and Judy Rasminsky, performs the Level I competition compulsory routine. The program ends with the Elysian competitive group executing a club routine to "Ragtime pour plus tard" by Dompierre. This routine is very lively and shows off the gymnasts' high skill level.

All Elysian classes for recreation and competition are held at Westmount Park United Church, 4695 de Maisonneuve boulevard, corner of Lansdowne avenue. Head coach and choreographer is June Schmidt. Assistant coach is Robin Fowler, formerly of the national team. For further information about classes for the winter term, contact 636-9487 or 487-2990.

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Penguins freeze Canadiens; Nordiques outscore Canucks

By JOHN SHANNON

Last Saturday in Westmount atom hockey, the Penguins and the Canadiens went at it. The first period of the game was mainly defensive, as both teams' goaltenders played in excellent form.

The first goal of the game was scored early in the second period, as the Penguins' Alexis Sparling put one in. A few minutes later, the Canadiens scored to even it up 1-1.

At this point both teams were struggling to get the go-ahead goal. However, it was the Penguins who were successful, as Alexis Sparling scored again, early in the third period, making the score 2-1.

The Canadiens worked hard to try to tie up the game, but they could not do it as 2-1 for the Penguins was the final score.

The next game of the day was a battle between the Nordiques and the Canucks. The Nordiques struck first, 55 seconds into the game, when Tom Bell put them ahead by one.

The Canucks were able to tie the game soon after, with a beautiful unassisted goal from Marc Schaffer. Early in the second period Bradley Adams of the Canucks put his team ahead 2-1. However, five minutes later the score was tied again, when Marty Ozolins of the Nordiques tapped one home.

Both teams were starting the third period facing a 2-2 tie. The Nordiques took the lead with seven minutes remaining in the period. As Tom Bell of the Nordiques scored his second goal of the day, he also boosted his team's lead to 4-2.

With one minute left, the Canucks scored, making it 4-3, but it was too little, too late as the Nordiques held on to win 4-3.

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Unity seniors program registration starts Jan 6

Unity Boys' and Girls' Club is now offering a program for senior citizens. Members meet in a large and bright hall every Wednesday from 11 am to 3 pm.

For only $1 per year, seniors can do arts and crafts, listen to music, dance, play games and travel. A hot lunch is also served at noon.

Registration dates are from Jan 26 to 30, from 9 am to 4 pm. Anyone may join.

The Unity Club is located at 1090 Greene avenue. For more information call 931-6202.

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TENNIS IS THEIR RACKET: Using special small racquets and soft foam tennis balls, these students at Ecole St Léon got a taste of the sport Tuesday morning from their physical education teacher, **Claude Saladain**, left. The students and Ms Saladain were demonstrating a new tennis instruction program which is being introduced by the Fédération Québécoise de Tennis for use in primary schools.

Tennis crowd raids boutique

Merchandise valued at about $400 was discovered missing from the Tennis Bug after a group of about 19 high school students crowded into the store Friday about 4:15 pm, police said.

Among the missing items were three sports shirts, a towel and a pair of pants.

A similar theft occurred previously under similar circumstances, police said.

Mom calms kids but smashes car

Two cars collided Saturday morning at Sherbrooke street and Mount Stephen avenue when the driver of one was attempting to calm two children in her car, police said.

No injuries were reported.

The woman, who police said had been attempting to turn left off Mount Stephen about 10:58 am, claimed not to have seen a westbound car.

Both cars sustained over $500 damage and were driven by Westmount residents.

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HOCKEY SCORES

Following are the scores in the Westmount municipal hockey leagues for the week ending Jan 13:

NOVICE
Guards 3, Dragons 2
Canadiens 7, Bears 4

ATOM
Nordiques 4, Canucks 3
Penguins 2, Canadiens 1

PEE WEE I
Seals 3, Capitals 2
Scouts 4, Canadiens 3

SENIOR 'A'
Oilers 3, Jets 0
Devils 14, Flyers 2

SENIOR 'B'
Fathers 7, Aces 2
Oilers 8, Hawks 1
Aces 8, Flyers 1

SENIOR
Wanderers 4, Flames 1
Bruins 5, Sabres 1
Wanderers 3, Stars 0
Sabres 2, Flames 2

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Goalers camp 7-21	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

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THE WESTMOUNT Examiner

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Computer 'growing pains' behind tax bill botch-up

By THOR VALDMANIS

Westmount's land area has apparently expanded a hundred-fold, according to recently issued 1987 municipal tax bills.

MUC taxation certificates sent to the city hall in November contained, for the first time in recent memory, two decimal places for land area, Jerry Dolar, Westmount's data systems supervisor, explained Tuesday.

So Westmount, always a stickler for tradition, overlooked the MUC decimal places when creating its taxation computer program, thereby superficially increasing residential land area by a multiple of 100.

"It was something we didn't bother checking because we thought it would be the same as last year (with no decimal places for land area)," he said.

4,500 issued

By the time the statistical error was unearthed, 4,500 tax bills had already been run off, Jean-Luc Emond, the city's treasurer, said Tuesday.

"It was too late to change the program. Sometimes you just have to bite the bullet and make a decision and run," he said.

In addition, there were errors in the land areas of multiple lot owners.

"For instance," Mr Emond said, "it (the computer program) would add lot 1 to lot 2 and then add the sum to the total of the two."

The city treasurer stressed that both errors were strictly those "of information" and in no way affected the actual taxable amount levied.

The errors have since been corrected in the city's system, he added, but a revised bill hasn't been sent to residents.

"In my opinion I think it's a waste of taxpayers' money to reprint 4,500 bills."

He added, however, that individual requests for a corrected version of the 1987 municipal tax bill would be honored.

Mr Dolar said errors in municipal bills this year were generally attributable to "growing pains" in the city's computer system, which was substantially upgraded this fall.

"You learn from experience," he said.

Minor items at council on Tuesday

City council meetings appear to be starting off the New Year with a bit of a holiday hangover judging from the contents of a brief agenda prepared by press time yesterday for Tuesday night's session.

The meeting is scheduled to start at 8 pm in the council chamber at city hall with consideration of generally unexciting housekeeping items.

Council is expected to adopt amending legislation to by-law 742 which establishes electricity rates as well as to by-law 699 concerning police and firemen's pensions.

Peter McEntyre is to be named for another term as a library trustee following his election by acclamation Jan 5.

List of accounts for November and December also will be submitted for approval.

Other business includes a cadastral operation at 530 Mount Pleasant avenue for construction of a garage and the setting of fees for street cuts replacing tariffs set April 5, 1982.

City boss kicks butts

The man responsible for enforcing Westmount's no-smoking by-law in municipal buildings is working on kicking the habit himself.

Peter Patenaude, the city's director general, told THE EXAMINER yesterday during National Non-smoking Week, that he hadn't had a cigarette since 8 pm New Year's Eve.

He didn't yet feel he was in a position to state categorically, however, that he had stopped smoking.

Westmount Quebec returning officer named under 'depoliticized' system

By THOR VALDMANIS

François Deslandres, a 57-year-old realtor from N.D.G, recently was appointed deputy returning officer for the provincial electoral riding of Westmount — the first named under a new "depoliticized" system for selecting election officials.

Mr Deslandres takes over the position from Alain Ouellette.

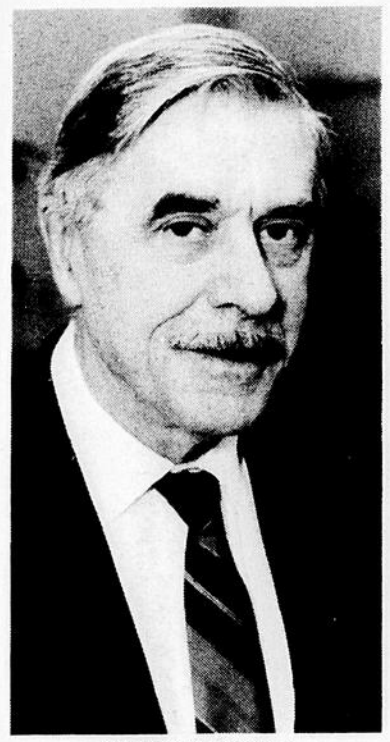
"The electoral system in Quebec is one of the most efficient systems in the world," Mr Deslandres said Monday, "so I'm very proud to help make it work."

Mr Deslandres, who is also a consultant for the Federal Business Development Bank, was appointed in November by the director general of Quebec elections after emerging as a prime candidate from examinations and an interview session.

His responsibilities will include voter enumeration and the monitoring of political party spending.

(During the Dec 2, 1985 provincial election, according to the riding office of Westmount MNA and Communications Minister Richard French, the spending limit per political party was $27,930 in Westmount — a figure based on the number of those eligible to vote.)

Mr Deslandres has been appointed to a five-year term and will be paid between $20 and $21 an hour for work done during the next election — a salary comparable to that of an administrative public servant, said Leola Charron, the head of information services for the office of the director general of Quebec elections.



François Deslandres

Until a general election or Westmount by-election is called provincially, Mr Deslandres will not be required to do more than attend several preparatory courses, she added.

Mr Deslandres was quick to stress he has no "links with either the Parti Québecois or the Liberal Party.

"This is not a political appointment," he said.

According to Miss Charron, before a Parti Québecois government amendment in 1982, the province's veteran top election official, Pierre F. Côté, chose the three best candidates in each riding and submitted them for final cabinet approval. Cabinet then made its choice.

Mr Côté, recognized as an official entirely separate from the government, now has full authority to choose his deputy returning officers and no longer must consult cabinet, Miss Charron explained.

According to Miss Charron, 875 candidates vied for positions in 105 ridings across the province. Only the ridings of Hull and Rivière-du-Loup failed to attract candidates. Another round of recruiting is soon to resume in these two areas.

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