THE WESTMOUNT
Examiner
Making all of Westmount your home

Vol. LXII, No. 5 Westmount, Quebec, Thursday, February 1, 1990 50¢

Charges laid Friday:

MP Berger denies ads violated election laws

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

Westmount MP David Berger was charged last Friday with violating the Canada Elections Act.

He allegedly published advertisements in two community newspapers, including THE EXAMINER, before the permitted date in the last federal election.

Mr Berger denied the charges in a telephone interview Tuesday.

"I intend to fight this and I intend to plead not guilty," he said.

Mr Berger will contest three counts of election act violations in Quebec Court (formerly Sessions Court) March 1. He was handed a summons last Friday, following an RCMP investigation.

The summons states that Mr Berger illegally published advertisments in *The Downtowner* Oct 19, and in THE EXAMINER and its monthly shopper *Buys* on Oct 20 "with the aim of favoring his election."

According to section 61.2 of the Canada Elections Act no candidate is allowed to advertise between the day the election is called and the 29th day before polling day to promote his election or oppose the election of another candidate or party.

Christine Jackson, a spokesperson for Elections Canada, said that for the last federal election on Nov 21, 1988, candidates were not allowed to advertise between Oct 1 and midnight on Oct 22.

Nor were candidates allowed to advertise the day before election day or on election day.

She refused to comment on or divulge any details of the charges her department laid against Mr Berger, saying it is the policy of the department not to discuss any cases under investigation or before the courts.

Mr Berger, on the advice of his lawyer, chose not to reveal how he is going to fight the charges.

But he did give a hint of one of the arguments. He said the ad was only an invitation to the opening of campaign headquarters.

The ad, which in THE EXAMINER was two columns wide and 3¼ inches high, read: "You are invited to meet Liberal candidate for St Henri-Westmount David Berger, MP, at Campaign Headquarters," and included the address and time of the meeting along with a telephone number.

Ms Jackson said candidates were allowed to announce meetings if they

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ACCEPTING THE DIFFERENCES: A very special group of puppets, Kids on the Block, visited Westmount Park School last Friday. They came to show the students that disabled and non-disabled children aren't really so different from each other. The group included **Renaldo** who is blind, learning disabled **Jennifer**, non-disabled **Melody**, **Mark** who has cerebral palsy and **Brenda**, non-disabled. Their manipulators are the trio of women tucked in amongst them: **Debbie Jacobson**, **Sharon Klar** and co-ordinator **Ellen Lerner**. *Photo by VALERIE TETLEY*

Freak traffic accident kills gallery owner Lang

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount art gallery owner Elisabeth Lang was killed Saturday on Olivier avenue when a driverless taxi backed over the sidewalk, trapping her against a pickup truck near the post office, police confirmed.

The freak accident occurred only a few feet away from the site of last December's hit-and-run death of another woman.

Mrs Lang, 75, who had been able to talk to emergency personnel at the scene despite severe injuries to the pelvic region, was declared dead at Montreal General Hospital almost three hours later, police said. She is reported to have lapsed into shock and to have suffered a cardiac arrest.

"She was always so full of life, she wouldn't go without a fight," said her son, Robert, a resident of Port Hope, Ont.

The Atlas taxi is reported to have been parked with engine running outside the apartment building at 225 Olivier while the cabbie went to pick up a customer about 11:05 am.

Police said it was not yet determined if charges would be laid under the highway code against the driver, a 41-year-old man.

"There are still things to look into," said MUC accident investigator Claude Fournier after questioning the driver Tuesday night. The case will take about a week to complete.

A familiar figure

The victim, who lived on Grey avenue, was a familiar figure on Greene avenue where she founded Galerie des 5 Continents some years ago. Her death has closed the gallery until further notice.

She was widely known as having one of the largest personal collections of African art in Canada, some of which was donated to the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

A memorial service takes place today at 3 pm at the Unitarian Church on Simpson street at Sherbrooke.

Mrs Lang was on her way to the gallery when the accident occurred. She was walking south on Olivier to the lane north of the post office. As

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La Transition

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Teen gang robs boy, 9, of $1.10

A nine-year-old Westmount boy was robbed of $1.10 Wednesday last week at de Maisonneuve boulevard and Kensington avenue, police report. The thief, aged about 17, was accompanied by a gang of six or seven other youths.

The victim, a resident of de Maisonneuve, was asked by one of the gang for directions to the Vendôme Métro station. At the same time, another pulled out a knife and held it behind the boy asking for money and a bus pass. After taking the money, the gang departed.

The robber is described as wearing a dark blue ¾-length coat. The others in the group are all described as about 17 or 18 years of age.

Agreement with white-collars:

City's labor troubles settled with latest offer

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

It's all over.

A year of unsettled labor problems between the city and its 100 white collar employees came to an end Wednesday last week with acceptance by the workers of the latest city offer.

The new three-year contract for 1989-91 is expected to be submitted to city council for approval next Monday, with signing scheduled for a few days later. Retroactive pay, plus a signing bonus, is expected to be a considerable amount, said Gordon Black, director of human resources. Calculations are now being made and "we're aiming for payment on Feb 22."

He said he is happy the settlement was finally reached in face-to-face negotiation rather than through a conciliator though many conciliation sessions had taken place last year.

The new contract was accepted by a vote 73-7 at a membership meeting of local 2987, Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), said local president Michael Crouch.

"I told everyone that it was thanks to Councillor Peter Duffield we had our contract," Mr Crouch told THE EXAMINER.

It was Mr Duffield, he said, who after several requests, had intervened to help break through the impasse in negotiations. His action lead to the offer that was finally accepted (see story Dec 21).

A vote of confidence in the union's ing by city inspector Guy Tassé, he said.

Highlights of the agreement include job security for employees having 10 years' service as well as clauses providing for job classification, both areas never previously included in city labor agreements.

Mr Crouch also attributed the new contract to the withdrawal of councillor Phillip Aspinall from city council. The former finance commissioner had publicly expressed his refusal to grant any job security.

Efforts by Mayor May Cutler to persuade council to offer job security after 10 years of service finally paved the way for settling of other outstanding clauses taken up by Mr Duffield.

White-collar employees include city hall clerical staff, library workers, fire department dispatchers, city inspectors and parking inspectors. They carried out brief strikes: a one-day walkout Oct 27 (the city's first strike) and a curtailment of weekend services that closed the library Dec 8-10.

Pothole strikes

A 1987 Volkswagen damaged a tire and rim Tuesday last week when it was driven into a pothole in front of 3279 Cedar avenue, police report. The mishap occurred about 8:10 pm. The car belonged to a Knowlton resident.

CITY OF VILLE DE **WESTMOUNT**

Official NOTICE BOARD

TABLEAU D'AFFICHAGE officiel

Next Scheduled City Council Meeting
Monday, February 5, 8 pm

Date de la prochaine séance du conseil municipal
Le lundi 5 février, 20h

CITY HALL/HÔTEL DE VILLE
4333 Sherbrooke Street West
Westmount, PQ H3Z 1E2
935-8531

Monday-Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

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 or 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	935-8444
Public Security Unit	935-1777

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 Sta..ton	935-8531 Local 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	935-8444
Sécurité Publique	935-1777

EMERGENCIES / URGENCES

Fire/Incendie
Police
Ambulance
911

Two more local transformers found to contain toxic PCBs

Two more electrical transformers in Westmount have been identified as contaminated with PCBs, city officials revealed Monday. One is in the Reader's Digest building on Redfern avenue, the other at Youth Horizons, 6 Weredale Park.

They were uncovered last September after a city letter urged building owners to have their electrical switchgear tested for PCB contamination, said fire inspector Lieut Barry Coates. Neither transformer is owned by the city.

Both units are described as mineral oil transformers that have become contaminated over the years, probably after being topped up with PCB-laced oil.

The Reader's Digest transformer is reported to be located in a concrete basement vault ventilated to the exterior. Its PCBs were identified Sept 27. The Youth Horizons transformer is located outside and is enclosed by wire fencing. On Sept 13, its three separate pods were all found to be contaminated.

The two bring the total number of known PCB sites in Westmount to 13, according to the latest fire department inventory updated Sept 27.

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

City officials report that all electrical equipment in Westmount specifically manufactured to use PCB coolants has been identified. A number of mineral-oil types are now being found to be contaminated (see story June 29, 1989). Detection of these, requiring oil analyses, is more difficult.

City officials wrote to the owners of 43 local buildings last August asking them to verify their units and forward results to the city. To date, 19 written responses and seven verbal replies have been received.

Efforts will be made this month to contact those who did not reply, city operations manager Bruce St Louis said.

A status report on the situation of privately-owned equipment was requested by citizen Stanley Baker at the last city council meeting Jan 15 (see story Jan 18). He also sought an updated inventory of PCB equipment.

PCB locations

Privately owned PCB-filled equipment is listed at the following nine buildings:

- Place Alexis Nihon;
- Château Maisonneuve;
- Steinberg store at 4840 Sherbrooke;
- Westmount Medical Building;
- 250 Clarke;
- Shaar Hashomayim Synagogue;
- Royal Bank Data Centre;
- 6 Weredale Park; and,
- 215 Redfern.

City-owned equipment is in use at: Westmount Square and the Pascal building (4823 Sherbrooke) as well as at the Olivier and King George Park power substations.

Two previously contaminated transformers at the Glen power house were de-contaminated last Sept 8 (see story Sept 14).

Disposal of city's PCBs awaits 'home-grown' solution

Replacement of Westmount's city-owned PCB transformers may be stalled until ways can be found to dispose of the contaminated equipment within the province, city officials indicated this week.

"We could sneak them out the back door and send them overseas, but is this a responsible solution?" asked operations manager Bruce St Louis.

Ever since the St Basile fiasco where British dockworkers turned back shipments of PCBs, he said, the city has been expecting Quebec authorities to announce a method of PCB disposal.

Since none has been made, it is hoped the situation may be clarified at a PCB conference in Toronto at the end of March.

In the meantime, the city has been contacted by private contractors saying they are still in the business of removing PCB equipment for disposal elsewhere, Mr St Louis said.

"We could follow this route but we want to be responsible in how we do it. We're still waiting for a home-grown solution."

In its capital expenditures budget, the city allocated $500,000 for removal and replacement of equipment contaminated with toxic polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in 1990.

Before the attempted export of St Basile PCBs (now stored near Baie Comeau), the city hired a private contractor to remove some out-of-service PCB equipment stored at the Corporation Yard. It was shipped to Wales in December 1988.

Mr St Louis said an inventory of all city and privately-owned PCB equipment known to exist in Westmount was sent to citizen Stanley Baker this week. Mr Baker requested an up-date at the last city council meeting Jan 15.

The list includes two privately owned transformers uncovered last September.

Efforts to track down additional privately owned units has not turned up any others previously unknown, he said (see separate stories).

Trent to take his place at council session Monday

Newly acclaimed city councillor Peter Trent will assume his seat at the council table for Monday night's regular public meeting starting at 8 pm.

A generally routine business agenda following question period will start off with several resolutions dealing with Mr Trent's appointment to various committees.

Other items listed for council's consideration by press time yesterday are:

- Payment of $17,729 for Westmount's share of 1990 budget of Conference of Montreal Suburban Mayors, decreased from $17,759 last year;
- Payment of $15,425 for Westmount's share of 1990 budget of the Régie intermunicipale de gestion des déchets, down from $24,447 last year;
- Announcement of annual essay competition for Westmount school children;
- Approval of collective agreement between the city and white collar workers (CUPE);
- List of accounts for month ending Dec 31, 1989;
- Light and Power tenders for different types of cable;
- Purchases: mechanical mailing machine, electrical cable and printing of recreation booklet;
- Cadastral operation to permit extension of house at 36 Sunnyside;
- Installation of stop signs on Shorncliffe at Surrey Gardens for both eastbound and westbound traffic;
- Conversion of lane beside 4215 St Catherine street (post office building) west of Greene to one-way traffic northbound to improve safety for pedestrians and motorists; and,
- Reports of mayor and councillors.

CANADIAN PACIFIC LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Canadian Pacific Limited intends to apply to the National Transportation Agency pursuant to Section 123 of the Railway Act for exemption from the requirement to submit a plan, profile and book of reference showing the proposed removal of the station building at Westmount, Québec, at Mile 2.0 of its Westmount Subdivision.

This removal is required in order to permit transfer of the building to the City of Westmount.

Inquiries with respect to this matter may be addressed to Mr. M.G. Mudie, Superintendent, CP Rail Québec Division, 5785 Paré Street, Suite 300, Town of Mount Royal, Québec, H4P 1S1.

Any party having objections to the Company's proposal should contact Ms. S. Clément, Secretary, National Transportation Agency, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0N9, with a copy forwarded to Mr. H.C. Wendlandt, General Solicitor, Canadian Pacific Limited, Law Department, Room 234, Windsor Station, Montreal, Québec, H3C 3E4.

Meter master means money for some lucky robber

A master key to some of Westmount's parking meters seems to have fallen into the wrong hands.

The revelation came late last week after 14 older-style meters were emptied of coin and their tumblers removed on Tupper street as well as in the Tupper municipal parking lot, police report.

Fortunately, only a few meters of this type remain in service, says city operations manager Bruce St Louis. The newer meters have a more complicated locking system and are more difficult to penetrate.

The thefts are under police investigation.

"Since the meters were not smashed open we have to assume someone has a copy of the master key," Mr St Louis confirms. "We're in the process of replacing all our meters."

He says he has ordered a report on the situation to prevent a similar occurrence in the future.

PSOs stop solicitors

A man claiming to be a deaf mute was cautioned Sunday afternoon against soliciting in Westmount without a permit, public safety officials said. He was reported to have left a home quickly on spotting officers. There had been two complaints from residents on Somerville and Claremont.

Another door-to-door solicitor was stopped earlier in the week on Wednesday. He was trying to sell memberships in a video club.

Community Calendar

Today, Feb 1

Seniors seminars scheduled to take place at Greene Avenue Community Centre, have been cancelled.
Watercolor exhibit of work by Ernst H. Kofler, SCA, at Westmount Library until Feb 4.

Friday, Feb 2

Lecture by Richard Heinberg, author of *Memories and visions of Paradise*, at Victoria Hall at 8 pm. $7.50, $5 for seniors and students. 483-3681 or 486-8810.

Saturday, Feb 3

Samedi Greene presents a chess demonstration and workshop for children of all ages from 10 to 11:30 am at Greene Avenue Community Centre. Children who own them are asked to bring their own chess sets if possible. Chess instructors Howard Streit and George Levtchovk will show beginners the moves and keep more advanced players challenged as well. Children under six must be accompanied. $1.

Sunday, Feb 4

Reading of Gail Gibbons' *The milk makers* and other cow tails for kids of all ages at Oink Oink!, 1361 Greene avenue. Programs every second Saturday. 939-2634.

Wednesday, Feb 7

SWAG meeting: Seniors of Westmount Action Group meets 10 am at Victoria Hall. Speaker is Nancy Weisbloom, a dental hygienist from CLSC Métro, who will discuss dental health.
Story hour: Today and every Wednesday, a 20-minute story hour for two- and three-year-olds, followed by a 20-minute storytime for children four to six years old and, after that, 20 minutes of story-telling in French. Readings begin at 10:30 am and 3 pm at Westmount Library.

COMING UP

Feb 8: *Appreciation of antiques and their appraisal* lecture at 7 pm at Greene Avenue Community Centre by Henrietta Anthony. You may bring an item for appraisal. Free. Refreshments will be served. 931-6202.
Feb 8: Heart saver CPR course at the Y from 6 to 10 pm. $25 residents, $35 others. Register at member service desk. 931-8046.
Feb 11: The École de Cirque du Soleil will perform at 3:30 pm at Victoria Hall as part of the Westmount Young People's Concerts. Tickets available at permits office, city hall. 935-8531.
Feb 15 and 16: Winter Carnival opens with community supper at Victoria Hall. Saturday activities in arena.
March 8: *Income tax, the annual rite of spring* by David Laidley, partner of Touche Ross at 7:30 pm at Greene Avenue Community Centre. Free. Refreshments will be served. 931-6202.

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THE WESTMOUNT Examiner

Thursday, February 1, 1990 - 3

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932-7818

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

Jan 23

10:45 am: 4333 St Catherine, first responder unit;
2:01 pm: 730 Lexington, smell of smoke from fireplace;
4:33 pm: 4215 de Maisonneuve, code 2 automatic mutual aid from Outremont cancelled at 4:49 pm, defective chimney flue, smoke seeping into apartment building from chimney next door;
8:38 pm: 4898 de Maisonneuve, fire alarm ringing;

Jan 24

8:51 am: Greene and St Catherine, first responder unit for traffic accident (see story);

Jan 25

11:23 am: 4873 Westmount, first responder unit;
6:44 pm: 331 Clarke, for smell of gas, none found;
8:42 pm: 365 Metcalfe, smoke detector activated by bathroom shower;

Jan 26

12:01 am: Opposite 4000 de Maisonneuve, gas leak issuing through crack in sidewalk 50 feet west of city limits;
8:57 pm: 4643 Sherbrooke, extension cord hazard (see story);

Jan 27

11:08 am: Front of 220 Olivier, first responder unit for woman hit by car (see fatal accident story);

Jan 28

12:41 am: 1 Wood, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St Luc and Outremont cancelled at 12:54 am, false alarm;
9:45 am: Rear of 381 Clarke, wire down (see wind story);
11:54 am: Rear of 66 Chesterfield, fallen antenna (see above story);

Jan 29

1:58 am: 414 Victoria, first responder unit;
5:56 pm: 1210 Greene, water leaking through ceiling from broken dishwasher hose;
6:34 pm: 200 Lansdowne, code 3 automatic mutual aid from Côte St Luc and Outremont cancelled at 6:42 pm, car leaking gas;
9:42 pm: King George Park, first responder unit (see story);
10:03 pm: 4508 St Catherine, code 2 automatic mutual aid from Outremont cancelled at 10:10 pm, alarm accidentally activated;

Jan 30

3:16 am: 4508 St Catherine, code 2 automatic mutual aid from Outremont cancelled at 3:25 am, defective alarm.

Restaurant workers nab teen after purse-snatch

An attempt by two teenagers to snatch a purse from a woman on Greene avenue Saturday night failed when her screams brought two workers from Nick's restaurant to the rescue, police report.

The boys were chased and a 14-year-old was finally caught and handed over to a public safety officer. The suspect was arrested by MUC police. He is identified as a resident of Little Burgundy.

The robbery attempt occurred about 7:15 pm when the 27-year-old woman, who works nearby as a nanny, was assailed by two boys.

She was dragged screaming into a nearby lane as they tried to yank the purse off her shoulder. She refused to give up the bag and the boys took off when the restaurant workers appeared.

The patrolling PSO was flagged down at Greene and St Catherine by a man who told him there was a problem with a youth running east. The officer spotted a boy being held by a man wearing a kitchen apron and went to give assistance.

They were driven back to the restaurant where the suspect was turned over to MUC police.

Window vacuums sucked away

The Electrolux outlet got sucked out of two vacuum cleaners by a smash-and-grab thief overnight Monday-Tuesday.

The store's large display window at 395 Victoria avenue appeared to have been broken by someone using a shovel found on the sidewalk nearby, police said.

The burglar took not only a regular model vacuum and a central system type but also cleaned out a few smaller items also on display.

It is believed to be the first time in many years that the shop has been broken into. Vacuums are not highly fencible items, police pointed out.

Rising winds cause a flap

High winds Sunday caused power lines and loose construction material to flap around at several locations in Westmount, according to public safety and fire department reports.

Crews were called to the rear of 381 Clarke avenue at 9:45 am when a TV cable blew down. At 11:54 am a TV antenna was found to have toppled onto electrical lines at 66 Chesterfield avenue.

Pieces of wood later had to be secured around the extension to 4896 Sherbrooke beside Prince Albert.

TIME TO CALL GASTON: Westmount's well-known MUC crime prevention officer **Michel Caza**, standing, left his high-profile job at station 23 Friday to go to a one-man patrol car in station 15 (N.D.G.). He is awaiting a posting with the youth squad. His replacement, **Cst Gaston Bernier**, 35, has served the Westmount station since 1981 as a patrolman and latterly as a special investigator in the detective office. He is fluently bilingual and has been in the police force 14 years. Though an official appointment to the position is not expected for a while, Cst Bernier says he is looking forward in the interim to assuming the responsibilities, including Neighborhood Watch advice. He can be contacted at 280-2823.

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THE WESTMOUNT
Examiner

Making all of Westmount your home
Published every Thursday by
Publications Dumont (1988) Inc.
COGECO Media Group
155 Hillside Avenue, Westmount, PQ
H3Z 2Y8

1988 PRIZE WINNER CANADIAN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS ASSOCIATION CCNA BETTER NEWSPAPERS COMPETITIONS

Editorial and Circulation
932-3157
Display and Classified Advertising
931-7511 FAX: 932-5700

Publisher & Editor: Don Sancton
Director of Advertising: Louise Wolman
News Editor: Kathleen Hugessen *Staff Reporters:* Laureen Sweeney, Charles Abramovici

Typeset by Adcomp Inc., Westmount
Printed by Richelieu Roto-Litho Inc., St. Jean sur Richelieu, Quebec
Second class mail registration number 1760

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Association des Médias Régionaux Anglophones du Québec

Mail subscriptions in Canada, $20.00 per year, 2 years $36.00, 3 years $49.00.
Subscriptions of less than one year, 50 cents per copy plus $2 handling.
Fifty cents a copy. Outside Canada, additional $50.00 a year.

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Thursday, February 1, 1990

CCNA VERIFIED CIRCULATION PAID

We Say

Hidden agenda?

JUST a year ago we had what was an extraordinary — for any municipality, let alone Westmount — dust-up which, even with the perspective of time, seems unbelievable.

The incident, which need not have blown up except for stupidity, saw the appointed director-general of the city openly challenge the authority of the elected mayor. A newcomer councillor backed the director-general and then the rest of the solons backed their aldermanic colleague against the first magistrate!

The eight councillors together like sheep defied logic, good sense and even the principles of good government.

If they thought they would thereby get rid of a headstrong new mayor, junior in municipal office experience to most of them, they also proved to be bad judges of character. The mayor stood her ground. As improbable as had been her election in the first place, the likelihood of her resigning was even more remote.

Perhaps both sides, mayor on one hand and councillors on the other, learned. At least, they seem to have learned to keep their differences more hidden than was the unseemly public quarrel which not only had Westmounters agog but others far afield.

* * *

MEANWHILE, the problems with the director-general have continued and deepened, thanks in no small measure to inaction of the elected council. The administration of the City of Westmount never has been at a lower ebb.

Council, unwilling a year ago to act, has remained so. Its members together have a situation in which each succeeding management gaffe appears, publicly at any rate, to be accepted by them as normal.

The conclusion of some citizens, with which we tend to agree, is that council has continued in disarray. There appears to be little focus of policy. No defined sense of direction comes out to the citizens. Only the routine and essential business appears to get done, and some of that after procrastination and delay.

One prominent Westmounter with some knowledge of how city hall works suggests to us that, while he agrees the top of the management has serious shortcomings of experience, ability and personality, some of the blame must rest with council for not providing the necessary leadership or example.

The difficulty with that thesis is that, under the general manager form of local government, it is supposed to be the ongoing "permanent" staff which points the way for the elected council. Watching for problems and correcting them is the management's first responsibility. That includes anticipating situations before they develop.

Assessing policy alternatives and presenting them to council with recommendations is the other duty of a wide awake, competent city management. There is little evidence that much of this is being done in any meaningful way. Without decent staff work, council is bound to flounder — specially if it is divided.

* * *

ON this anniversary of Westmount's most monumental civic crisis it would be nice to be able to say that, as unpleasant as it was, it cleared the air and therefore was worthwhile.

It didn't and wasn't.

In different ways some councillors may find satisfaction in some areas of their commissionerships. Most certainly, there is some highly competent middle management, however thwarted, still serving the city and we are fortunate to have many loyal, devoted public servants on the front line in most departments, despite morale problems stemming from higher-level distractions.

* * *

BUT none of the members of council seems willing, understandably, to defend the overall performance of the management of the city.

The trouble is, neither is there any outspoken criticism of the obvious shortcomings of the administration, elected or employed. Even Her Worship, who a year ago did not hesitate to say what she thought, is uncommonly muted.

It could be that something is afoot, with or without the participation of the outside consultant, Mr George Cuff.

If it is, there should be more forthrightness to the outside from within.

We fear, rather, the impasse and discord continues.

No way to run a city.

I Say!

HUMANITARIANISM consists in never sacrificing a human being to a purpose.

— *Dr Albert Schweitzer*

They Say

Don't go swimming with the Meech boys

(From The Record, *Sherbrooke, Quebec, Jan 24, 1990)*

ASK any victim — it's just a matter of time before somebody holds you responsible for acts against you.

In December 1988, when Premier Robert Bourassa used the notwithstanding clause in the Canadian Constitution to override a ruling by the Supreme Court of Canada, English Quebecers felt abused and betrayed. Bourassa used the clause after the Supreme Court ruled that a section of Law 101, restricting the use of a language other than French on signs, was unconstitutional. Two Quebec courts had reached the same conclusion.

But it wasn't the answer the Liberal leader wanted. He found his escape hatch in the Canadian Constitution. The notwithstanding clause was written into the 1981 Constitution under pressure from provincial premiers who wanted the power to "opt out" if and when provincial objectives appeared compromised.

The debate over Law 178 was not about signs. It was about rights. It was about living in a society where individual rights and freedoms are supposed to be respected and protected. It was about a federal government failing to speak out on behalf of its minorities. It was about having a Constitution which fails to provide the security that minorities need when unscrupulous leaders deny them equal status.

Bill 178 showed English Quebecers, and indeed all Canadians, how flimsy the Canadian Constitution really is when a single clause can be used by a majority to impinge on the rights of a minority.

When Robert Bourassa used the notwithstanding clause, he must have known it would cast a shadow on the constitutional accord agreed upon by the first ministers at Meech Lake.

The accord has been in trouble ever since.

But the "Friends of Meech Lake," who want to give Quebec distinct society status, control over immigration, three Supreme Court judges, and control of federal spending in provincial jurisdictions — along with the notwithstanding clause and everything else other provincial premiers were able to wrangle — say it's English Quebecers who are ruining the whole thing.

They claim that all the whining and complaining from English Quebecers about "losing their rights" is going to unravel the country. It's making French Quebec feel unwanted, they say.

"Their opposition to Bill 178 has created the impression in the rest of Canada that they have no rights at all," droned former New Brunswick Premier Richard Hatfield — the champion of bilingual causes.

And Casper Bloom, the former chair of Alliance Quebec, and another Meech Lake buddy, says as much as Quebec anglophones don't like Bill 178, "they will have to get the message out they can live with it." I hope if you ever go to camp with these guys, you don't draw either of them in the buddy system — especially if you expect to be swimming in deep water. I'd hate to see the line they'd throw you.

— Sharon McCully

You Say

Newfoundlander queries value of baby bonus

Sir: As we know, your government, concerned about the falling francophone population in Quebec, increased the baby bonus. A recent radio report, received in Newfoundland, indicates that Quebec women have obligingly upped the birth rate by 13 percent.

This certainly is a plus for the Quebec government: but isn't it a negative for the status of women?

C. Luther

Box 196
BUCHANS NF A0H 1G0

Seniors and children build good rapport

Sir: Due to the concern and encouragement of so many, KIDS Westmount finally exists and enters the 1990s. We want to thank you for all you and the citizens of Westmount have done to help make my dream of opening Westmount's first private daycare a reality.

KIDS Westmount's first months have proved a great success; so much so that we now offer several other programs and are looking forward to a successful summer camp.

Our location in the new Place Kensington building has provided us not only with a wonderful home but also with an association with Place Kensington residents which has been a source of delight for both the young and the young at heart! We worked together on a "caring and sharing" project and recently presented the Montreal Children's Hospital with two boxes of toys and a cheque. Encouraged by this success we are planning more tandem projects, including a concert this spring. All of the profits will be donated to the Montreal Children's Hospital.

Evelyn S. Wajcer
and the teachers at KIDS Westmount
4432 St Catherine street west
WESTMOUNT PQ H3Z 3E4

our M.P.
David Berger
says...

Kafkaesque refugee system

EARLIER this week, in the House of Commons, I asked the minister of employment and immigration, Barbara McDougall, to help the refugee claimants who are in the so-called backlog, who came to Canada because of its good reputation, yet find themselves caught up in an inhumane Kafkaesque system.

There are perhaps 100,000 persons in the backlog. All came to Canada prior to Jan 1, 1989, when the new refugee law came into force. All are subject to a painstakingly slow, bureaucratic procedure designed to determine whether they can remain in Canada. Yet almost none will ever be asked to leave.

Their situation is desperate. Their lives are on hold. Most have been waiting for two years or more. They wait, and they wait, and they wait.

A Canadian citizen who befriended a young Iranian family put it this way: "They are treated by our society as less than second-class citizens; they work at underpaid, unstimulating jobs; they cannot study or take training programs; they do not qualify for family allowances; they have absolutely no control over their own lives; they have virtually no hope of improving their future prospects.

"I am anguished for them and must ask whether Canada cannot do better. Canada owes it to these human beings and to herself to hasten the refugee claimant process."

In the House, I asked the minister of immigration to do just that. Do better. Hasten the refugee claimant process.

our Mayor
Her Worship May Cutler
says...

The politics of cities
(or why nothing of importance gets done)

WHY do city councils seem to be taken up only with housekeeping and never with the house itself, with the patch, paste and prop-ups and never with the structure and how well it meets present and future needs of the inhabitants?

Why? Because city politics is different, that's why. And I mean "is" not "are." Different totally to provincial and federal politics.

The push by citizens is essentially nega-

Continued on page 22

The Westmount Examiner

Westm't Rotary Club Members On Hospital Visit

Introducing The Examiner To The Westmount Public

ST. STEPHEN'S WOMEN'S ASS'N ANN'L MEETING

Calvary Church Held 50th Anniversary Sun.

REV. S. MILNER WILL SPEAK AT LOCAL CHURCH

SERVICE CLUB NAMES OFFICERS

Notice To Secretaries of Clubs, Churches And Associations

Examining the Files

Forty-five Years Ago
February 2, 1945

"'One battleship requires 2,200 telephones — enough to serve a city of 10,000 people,' declared George L. Long, historian of the Bell Telephone Company of Canada in an address to the Westmount Rotarians.... A clever and interesting practical demonstration accompanied his talk on 'Giving Wings to Words — Today and Tomorrow.' Speaking over a portable public address system and surrounded by gadgets ranging from a First World War German field telephone to a modern photo-electric cell, the speaker... held the group's rapt attention with his vivid account of the progress and future possibilities in the fields of auditory and visual communications."

Thirty-five Years Ago
February 4, 1955

"More than a thousand issues ago this newspaper made its initial bow to the residents of the City of Westmount. Today we are celebrating a full 20 years as the weekly newspaper serving this important residential section of Canada's metropolis. On its first appearance THE EXAMINER avowed that it was devoting itself to local news first — and to this principle it has resolutely adhered throughout the two intervening decades. Of the 943 weekly newspapers in Canada with their combined circulation of 2,475,000 THE EXAMINER perhaps serves the most difficult community to assess from an editor's chair.... It would be difficult indeed to coin the phrases to wrap up in words the 'average' Westmounter."

Twenty-five Years Ago
February 5, 1965

"The health department of the City of Westmount — which began about 35 years ago primarily as a health service for city employees — has grown to become the watchdog of the city's health and standards of sanitation. Now located in the spanking-new City Hall Annex at 15 Stanton avenue, the health department occupies bright, well-equipped, roomy quarters. The department... is concerned primarily with the prevention of disease. That concern is manifested in services ranging from well baby clinics and examination of school children, to the control of communicable diseases and the maintenance of environmental sanitation."

Ten Years Ago
January 31, 1980

"Privileges for on-street overnight parking might be sold to residents of some Westmount streets for a limited period of perhaps two years, THE EXAMINER learned this week, though the city is going to try its hardest to have as little on-street parking as possible in the long term.... Such privileges would only be allowed for residents of certain streets south of Montrose avenue and Côte St Antoine road where no off-street parking is available now. Residents who qualify might be able to purchase — for an undisclosed price — stickers they could put on their cars which would allow them to remain on the streets throughout the night."

One Year Ago
February 2, 1989

"Mayor May Cutler Monday suspended city manager Peter Patenaude from his duties as director general, saying he had 'exceeded his authority.' She also relieved Councillor Daniel Tingley of his commissionership of administration at the same time and for the same reason. Both suspensions were handed down 'until the next sitting of council' (tonight), at which time the mayor is required, under the Cities and Towns Act, to report in writing on the matter. The action plunged city council into a state of crisis and resulted in a public meeting being called for 8 o'clock this evening in the council chamber."

our PSBGM commissioner
Joan Rothman
says...

English streams

THE PSBGM public meeting held Jan 17 took major decisions on school and program closures and transportation boundaries that will affect parents, students and PSBGM staff on Montreal Island for the school year 1990-91.

The most dramatic event of the evening was the closure of the English stream at Barclay School, where 137 children will be transferred from a largely French sector school to Sinclair Laird School, now housing 200 English-language pupils. The population with permissibility to English language schools is decreasing in this area and the decision to group English-language students in one school will give viability to Sinclair Laird for a few years.

Barclay School will continue to teach the children of Park Extension directed to French language schooling by Bill 101. The parents of children in the Barclay English stream or English school disagreed strongly with the PSBGM recommendation. Their demonstration that evening with their children was shown on TV and comment on their action was spread across the newspapers in the following week.

At the same meeting, while defending his school, Mr Athanasiadis, commissioner, stated that the PSBGM was discriminating against Barclay and Park Extension when they recommended closing Barclay English stream and keeping Roslyn English stream in Westmount open.

There was no discrimination. There was an honest effort to keep English schooling as a option for children in various Montreal neighborhoods in the face of the declining English school population (3.73 percent from Sept 1988 to Sept 1989).

Why was there confusion on what constitutes an English stream?

Firstly, Roslyn since 1907 has taught its students using the English language. It is today a school in the PSBGM English sector and its curriculum is approved by the ministry of education for English-language schools.

Twenty-five years ago the PSBGM approved French immersion as a pilot project in Roslyn School, using as its model an extra-curricular school established by parents Carol Kahn and myself. We in turn had used Dr Lambert's model in St Lambert and new audio-visual methods developed in France. The Roslyn French immersion program (part of English curriculum) has always had an English option, Grades 1 to 6, for those parents who would not or could not register their children in French immersion. As well, the English option provided an alternative in a familiar setting for students who found learning a second language difficult.

To enter French immersion one must register in kindergarten or no later than Grade 1. This explains the lineups for kindergarten registration at Edinburgh and Royal Vale. With two programs, English and French immersion, children from the same family who are registered in different programs can attend the same school. Since the entire school has English curriculum, all 692 Roslyn students can share programs and specialists.

In Barclay the PSBGM questioned the viability of a dwindling English *school* housed in a building with a French-language school. At Roslyn the school committee, the orientation committee and the parents of the school who were polled all wished to retain an English program option.

Two very different streams were called by the same name since both taught in the English language, but the reasons for which they were kept open or closed were very different.

Bill 101 has categorized people in Quebec and forced their children to attend certain schools with specific programs taught in a specified language. I have tried to unravel the tangle of regulations that attached itself to a simple education term, English stream.

our M.N.A.
Richard B. Holden
says...

Spending real money

THE other day I picked up my mail at home about 7 pm. I was surprised to find an urgent notice from Dicom, the private messenger service, indicating they had tried to deliver an envelope from the ministry of industry, trade and commerce during the afternoon.

Why surprised? Because I have given strict instructions, in writing, to the National Assembly delivery service not to send anything to me by messenger service. I want them to use the regular postal service. When you have three offices, as I do, you're never at the right place when the courier arrives. When he leaves the little note saying he has your envelope, there begins a series of calls, delays, insults and bickering which, in my experience, is worse than the extra day or two it takes for the post person to leave your mail quietly in your box at home or at the office. Besides, it is very costly.

It turned out that the urgent missive the minister of industry sent by courier to all the MNAs was a pamphlet explaining the wonderful things he was doing to encourage the manufacturing sector of the economy. It was pure pap and could easily have been mailed for 75 cents. But it wouldn't have seemed so important and a secretary would have had to stamp it instead of shipping 125 envelopes to the messenger service at, say, $10 a piece. All that requires is a phone call and a pile of money.

I intend to put a question on the order paper in March (when the Assembly starts sitting again) asking how much the government — i.e. all ministers, agencies, commissions etc — spends on Dicom and Purolator. I'm sure it's in the hundreds of thousands of dollars. And it's not only the provincial government officials who abuse the taxpayers and spend money on useless items like messenger services. Federal and municipal officials act the same way. It may have something to do with the belief that public money is like Monopoly money. It's not real.

Nor is it only a matter of courier service; it's also a question of long distance telephone calls, travel expenses, entertainment, printing, postage etc, all seemingly minor expenses but they add up. To expect parliamentarians and/or civil servants to respect the public purse may be a lot to ask but at least we should keep the heat on.

* * *

Last week I attended the hearings being held by the parliamentary committee on health and social service. The draft bill, known as the *avant-projet*, is a wholesale restructuring of the health and social service network throughout the province. Don't let anyone (especially a Liberal) tell you that it won't have a deleterious effect on your favorite hospital or other health institution. It will.

Over the coming weeks (because these hearings are scheduled to last for six weeks), I will be going into chapter and verse on just how bad this law is.

Fortunately for the anglophone and other cultural minorities, a large number of francophone organizations are also against this legislation.

But before you uncork the champagne, let me warn you that, with governments (especially this one), it matters not what people think. What counts is the upper echelon of the civil service and, in this particular situation, we are dealing with an extremely devious and powerful associate deputy minister whose mind is already made up. There is, however, a glimmer of hope. Liberal MNAs on the committee tell me that the minister, Marc-Yvan Côté, while unable to speak or understand English, is nonetheless a man with extremely sharp political antennae. They say he will not walk the plank to please his deputy minister no matter how intimidating the latter may be intellectually.

Stay tuned!

Prices and markups down in October real estate

The average price of Westmount home sales in October nosedived by more than $160,000 when compared with the previous month despite an increase in sales, an EXAMINER analysis of property transfers registered at city hall shows.

In September, the 18 single- and two-family homes sold in Westmount fetched an average of $630,033

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

each. But in October, the 24 homes sold for an average of only $461,698 per home, a whopping $168,335 decline from the previous month.

Despite six more sales being registered in October, the total price of sales declined by $259,900. The 18 September transfers netted those homesellers a total of $11,340,600 while 24 October sellers collected a total of only $11,080,700.

Along with prices, the markup of average price over the average Montreal Urban Community valuation also tumbled drastically.

Last September, Westmount homeowners received an unadjusted average of 74.1 percent more for their homes than MUC valuations. In just one month, that figure dropped by 30.9 percentage points to 43.2 percent.

Adjusted averages

The above figures are somewhat inflated by high-priced deals with high markups of sale price over valuation. If the two highest and lowest sale prices are removed, the adjusted average price of a home sold in October is $420,785. Doing the same for the markups results in an adjusted average markup of 41.6 percent.

This is still considerably lower than the September adjusted markup of 62.3 percent and the adjusted average home price of $497,614.

Despite the gloomy overall price picture, some Westmount homeowners had a good month fetching 75 to 109 percent markups over valuation for their homes.

The sale of **48 Delavigne** resulted in the highest markup of sale price over valuation. The home sold for $925,000, almost 110 percent above the MUC valuation of $441,800.

Two homes on Oakland fetched almost 80 percent more than their MUC valuations, with one home selling for more than $1 million. The second-highest markup of the month was registered for **54 Oakland** which sold for $730,000, 79.8 percent more than the $406,000 MUC valuation. The second-highest price in October was registered for **60 Oakland** which sold for $1,050,000, 78.8 percent more than the MUC valuation, the third-highest markup.

The highest-priced home sold in October was at **642 Carleton** which sold for $1,275,000, about 45 percent more than the MUC valuation of $879,000. One home at **16 Grenville** sold for $670,000 while another at **4508 St Catherine** sold for $510,000.

Another four houses sold for more than $400,000, four sold in the $300,000 range and seven homes sold for more than $200,000. Only two homes sold for less than $200,000.

642 Carleton
highest price, $1,275,000

The typical price for a house in October was $539,410 which is $78,854 less than the September mark of $618,264. The typical house price is calculated by applying the adjusted average markup, 41.6 percent in October, to the average Westmount house valuation on the roll. The city calculates the 1989-91 valuation of single-family homes in Westmount as $380,939.

The lowest markup was actually a markdown. **4404 de Maisonneuve** was sold for $270,000, 4.8 percent lower than the MUC valuation of $283,500. Another house at **464 Victoria** sold for $1 and considerations. The value of the sale declared for transfer tax purposes was the same as the $250,200 on the MUC valuation.

The lowest price recorded during the month was $165,000 for **22 Burton**. That figure, however, was still 49 percent higher than the MUC valuation of $110,700.

Railway cottages

Also sold in October were three controversial properties bought last summer by a developer posing as a private buyer who in fact was working on behalf of CP Rail.

Geoffrey Chambers had purchased two of the four "railway cottages" at **4870 and 4872 St Catherine** and in October resold them to Canadian Pacific Limited. The one at 4870 was resold for $285,000, 80.49 percent more than the valuation of $157,900 while 4872 was sold for $239,000, 41.25 percent higher than the MUC valuation of $169,200.

A lot on St Catherine owned by Cygnus Development Corp, in which Mr Chambers is a partner with Goulam Amarsy, was resold to CP for $900,000. The MUC valuation of the lot is $142,500.

Mr Chambers was accused at the time of the purchases of misleading the owners of the properties because he posed as a private buyer. It was later learned he was acting on the behalf of CP Rail. He said at the time that telling the owners he represented a large corporation would distort the market. In other words, the owners might have asked for a higher price for their properties.

Following are the details of the October transfers, in alphabetical order by street address:

63 Arlington: sold by Jack Ingham to George R. Hucal, sale price $319,000 (Montreal Urban Community valuation, $218,600);
132-134 Arlington (54% share): from L. Guy and André Blain to Sandra Bowles, $310,000 (total building $492,500);
5-7 Burton (1/2 share): from Eda Kistler to Lola Gordon, $175,000 (total price $228,700);
22 Burton: from Frances J. McKee to Jeffrey Waxman, $165,000 ($110,700);
642 Carleton: from Steinar Knai to Kenneth Harold Shore and Matilda Alter, $1,275,000 ($879,000);
61 Columbia: from Evelyn Eddy to Lorrainne Shatilla, $215,000 ($169,900);
22 de Casson: from Francis Buckley and Esther Goldberg to Berd Burghard, $417,500 ($351,500);
48 Delavigne: from Jacqueline Viau to John M. Hallward, $925,000 ($441,800);
4404 de Maisonneuve: from Elizabeth Nelson to Marie Josephe Cafassier, $270,000 ($283,500);
16 Grenville: from Eileen Karnilowicz to Gary Leonard Alexander and Lois Dale Simms, $670,000 ($381,000);
555-555A Grosvenor: from George Sachewsky and Mary Warcholak to Muk Wong Khek and Martati Ibrahim, $790,000 ($482,600);
241 Kensington: from John Taylor Baxter to RLIT Development Ltd, $305,000 ($254,200);
392 Lansdowne: from Monique Clement to Gem Jibodh, $280,000 ($220,900);
419 Lansdowne: from Duncan Robert A. Bremner and Janice Brown to Catherine Sucher, $455,000 ($379,400);
10 Lorraine: from Salvatore T. Carbonetto and Claudia Ann Peters to David Hammonds and Gillian Biggs, $265,000 ($218,900);
265 Metcalfe: from Richard D. French and Diane Boivin to ERS Ltee (Toronto), $320,000 ($304,700);
422 Metcalfe: from Jean Durcak and Sue Lin Chow to Robert J. Routs and Janicke Talsma, $405,000 ($240,200);
54 Oakland: from John Nettel to Josee Lacoste, $730,00 ($406,000);
60 Oakland: from estate of Fernande Nols to Yves Marois and Hélène Trepanier, $1,050,000 ($587,300);
380 Olivier: from Entreprises Randy Inc to Philip Mongeau and Emily Ralph, $270,000 ($283,500);
4508 St Catherine: from Maria Neureuther to 136391 Canada Inc, $510,000 ($400,600);
4870 St Catherine: from Geoffrey Chambers to Canadian Pacific Limited, $285,000 ($157,900);
4872 St Catherine: from Geoffrey Chambers to Canadian Pacific Limited, $239,000 ($169,200);
464 Victoria: from Marilyn Rappaport to Richard L. Rochester, $1 and considerations, transfer tax paid on $250,200 ($250,200).

OCTOBER TRANSFERS

Following is a summary of sales of single- and two-family houses in Westmount registered in October, 1989. Transfers of properties due to successions, family or business transactions are excluded, as are commercial and industrial properties:

- **Total sales:** 24
- **Total price:** $11,080,700
- **Total valuation:** $7,738,200
- **Markup of average price over average valuation:** 43.2%
- **Markup of average price over average valuation (adjusted*):** 41.6%
- **Typical price based on adjusted markup of typical valuation**:** $539,410
- **Average price for month's transfers (adjusted*):** $420,785

*To counteract the statistical effect of extreme sales, the two highest and two lowest mark-ups or prices are eliminated from the calculations.

**The City of Westmount calculates the average 1989-91 valuation of single-family homes in Westmount as $380,939. The typical price is determined by applying the adjusted average markup to this average valuation.

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Real Estate
By Reg Morden

THE HOME-BUYING SINGLE WOMAN

Increasingly important in today's housing market is the single woman. Many are buying homes, either by themselves, or together with other women. This trend reflects the growing number of single women in the population, and the growing number of affluent single women as a result of new occupational opportunities. It also reflects the fact that financial institutions are more willing to lend money for home purchase to single women (as result of legal action and moral persuasion by women's groups). Their motivation to buy is largely financial — a home purchase is best hedge against inflation and also one of the best tax shelters available to single women. The largest market is in condominiums, but single women also buy single family homes, investment properties, and vacation homes.

Many builders are aiming their advertising at women; providing information on tax advantages; and designing and furnishing models to appeal to women. This is an important new development that can greatly broaden the base of the home building industry.

★ ★ ★ ★
HOME OF THE WEEK

Sitting just beyond Westmount's border at 3624 Northcliffe is a splendid home that has been lovingly cared for. Built in the 1910's, it features an abundance of woodwork, high ceilings and leaded windows. A large gracious living room with wood burning fireplace has an equally spacious dining room with beamed ceilings next to it. Adjacent the dining room is a cosy oak dinette to handle overflow party crowds or to serve as the perfect breakfast room. A bright kitchen leads to the deck and small sunny garden. Upstairs, 3 king size bedrooms and 2 new bathrooms await. The basement has a wood panelled family room. Some of the extras include a brand new sauna bath and detached garage. Asking $379,000, the new owner will receive excellent value. To visit, please call me.

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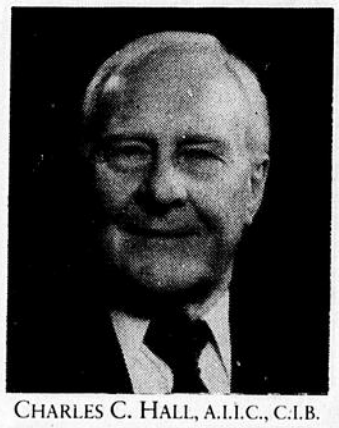

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City spreading less salt to conserve short supplies

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

The public works department will be spreading less salt on Westmount city streets because of an island-wide salt shortage, city officials confirmed this week.

"We're going to be spreading it thin," said Fred Calouri, Westmount's director of public works. "We're really going to minimize the amount of salt used."

Mr Calouri is taking these measures because Westmount's salt supplier, Sel Akzo Ltée, informed him last week there is "a problem with availability."

The problem is that all of Montreal's three salt suppliers are running out of the stuff.

"It's a fact that all companies are low on inventories," said Yves Fleury, the sales director at Sel Akzo. "There is a possibility that people will miss salt."

But Councillor Peter Duffield, public works commissioner, played down the salt shortage, saying the city has sufficient supplies on hand.

Mr Duffield said using less salt was consistent with the city's policies of cutting down on salt usage for environmental reasons.

"This will allow us to cut down even further."

But will it make the streets dangerous? "No. I don't think so," he said. "I think we're going to be as cautious as we can."

Streets still safe

But Mr Calouri said some residents will notice that less salt has been used on certain streets, including hills, but he also stressed that all streets will remain safe.

Mr Calouri said the city has 1,100 tonnes of salt in its storage facilities at the corporation yard on Bethune street.

He said the possibility of a salt shortage depends on the weather. During Monday's snowstorm which dropped 15 cm of snow, the city used 240 tonnes of salt. Mr Calouri said it is not unusual to use 400 to 500 tonnes during similar snow-clearing operations.

The city used about 4,300 tonnes of salt during the months of October, November and December 1989 compared to the roughly 1,750 tonnes used during the same period last year — an increase of more than 2,500 tonnes. In 1987 Westmount used 2,114 tonnes of salt during the same period.

Mr Fleury blaims the salt shortage on this year's winter which saw small snowfalls and a lot of freezing rain.

"This was the worst in a long time," Mr Fleury said. "We always foresee a bad winter but this year has surpassed all expectations."

He said the all three salt companies in the city are in the same boat. The others are Mines Seleine Inc and Domtar's Sifto Salt.

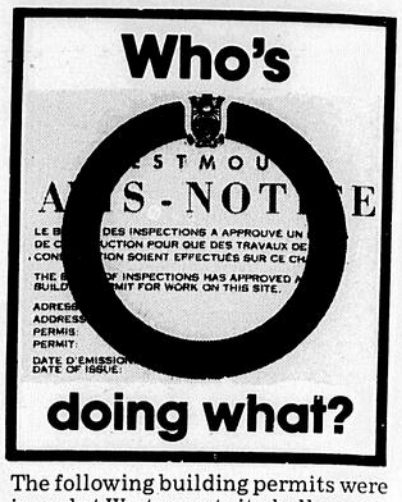
Sel Akzo gets its salt from a mine in New Brunswick. It is transported to Montreal by train. But because the mine has not been able to keep up with demand, Mr Fleury was forced to buy 11,000 tonnes of salt from England to try to satisfy demand.

He could have bought more salt but couldn't find a bigger ship willing to navigate the St Lawrence in the winter to transport the load.

The shipment from England is expected to arrive between Feb 5 and 9.

Council last November approved buying 10,000 tonnes of coarse, crushed rock salt from Sel Akzo Ltée at $35.57 per tonne. The total price of the contract was $387,713.

In 1989 city spent about $2,100,000 on snow removal, about $300,000 less than the $2,409,300 budgeted, according to the director-general's latest monthly report.



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

Jan 22

63 Clandeboye: for Jean-Pierre Houle by André Gendron, plumbing, $5,000;
1310 Greene: for CHOM/CHTX by S. Kowch, antenna, $1,000;

Jan 24

450 Strathcona: for Robert Doyle by Les Entreprises André Kowalski, interior alterations, $60,000;
419 Mount Stephen: for Miss Johnson by Levine Brothers Plumbing, install two fixtures, $3,850;

Jan 26

438-440 Mount Stephen (apt 25): for Nick D'Angelo by self, renovate kitchen and bathroom, $3,000;
438-440 Mount Stephen (apt 21): for Nick D'Angelo by self, renovate kitchen and bathroom, $3,000;
438-440 Mount Stephen (apt 20): for Nick D'Angelo by self, renovate kitchen and bathroom, $3,000;
4921 Sherbrooke: for M. Salice by Atlantic, change windows, $5,000;
456 Elm: for Grant Genova by Leme Construction, new kitchen, $10,000.

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Debts on duplex paid in time to halt auction

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

The auction of a Prince Albert avenue duplex was called off last week when a resident of the building paid the $24,998.52 municipal tax bill last Thursday, a city hall official said.

Mr Ura Greenbaum paid the bill at 3:30 pm Jan 25, said Tony Forchilli, Westmount's billing and collection supervisor. The auction was planned for 10 am the next day in Westmount's council chamber.

Council passed a resolution Dec 18 approving the sale of 510-512 Prince Albert avenue for non-payment of three years worth of municpal back taxes. Peter Patenaude, Westmount's director-general, said at the time the action was undertaken to protect the city's interests.

According to section 44 of the Cities and Towns Act, a municipality loses its claim on back taxes if no action is taken within three years.

City documents indicate the duplex is owned by Jacob Greenbaum, Ura's father who died in 1988. The duplex has since been the subject of a succession dispute.

The bill for the 1987, 1988 and 1989 back taxes, including interest, amounted to $16,636.06. The remainder of the bill, $8,362.46, was for costs incurred by the city in planning the auction.

The biggest expense was the publication of the notice of sale for taxes in *Le Devoir* and *The Gazette* Dec 23 and 30 at a cost of $6,214.15.

The bill also included a $1,952.33 charge for unpaid costs due to the planned auction of the same duplex in 1985. Jacob Greenbaum had contested the auction for non-payment of back taxes in Superior Court. He eventually deposited a cheque for $13,010.13 with the court which transferred the money to Westmount.

Ura Greenbaum gave the city a cheque for $25,000 last week, Mr Forchilli said.

Westmount kept the change — $1.48.

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It's RRSP Time! Consult an Expert

New limits for RRSPs set for each year to 1996

Registered Retirement Savings Plans (RRSPs) are more important than ever under tax reform, still Canada's biggest tax shelter and the essential factor in millions of Canadians' hopes for solvency in retirement years.

Plans for major changes to expand RRSP opportunities were first announced by Finance Minister Michael Wilson in 1986 and have been on-again, off-again since then. In December, they were on again, with the legislation before Parliament.

Here's an RRSP/pension calendar to show you what's scheduled in the RRSP saga and when, courtesy Royal Trust.

For the 1989 tax year (for which your return is due by April 30), RRSP contribution limits for taxpayers without a company pension were 20 percent of earned income to a maximum of $7,500. Pension plan members could contribute up to 20 percent of earned income to a maximum of $3,500, minus the amount they paid into their employer's plan.

Also for 1989, all pension income (including Old Age Security and Canada/Quebec Pension Plan payments) and up to $6,000 paid in periodic income from private pension plans or deferred profit sharing plans could be rolled into spousal RRSPs; but transfers of retiring allowances into RRSPs were limited to $2,000 for each year of service after 1988. (Pension plan membership doesn't affect this amount.) RRSP contributions can normally be made to the end of February, but for 1989 pension rollovers had to be made by Dec 31.

In 1990, the same contribution limits will apply as in 1989 for members and non-members of employer pension plans. But pension rollovers will no longer be allowed except for the special spousal plan rollover described above, and foreign pensions. Direct plan-to-plan transfers will still be permitted although special rules may limit amounts.

By 1991, the contribution limit for taxpayers without pension plans becomes 18 percent of 1990 earned income to a top of $11,500. For plan members in 1991 and subsequent years, contribution limits will be determined by Revenue Canada individually, relating to the year's earned income minus a "pension adjustment." Taxpayers can expect to be advised of their amounts in ample time to make contributions.

Then for 1992 and years following, contribution limits for taxpayers who aren't pension plan members will be 18 percent of earned income to maximums as follows: 1992, $12,500; 1993, $13,500; 1994, $14,500; and 1995, $15,500.

Then for 1996 and afterwards, contributions for "non-plan members" will be 18 percent of the prior year's earned income to a maximum indexed to the annual increase in the average industrial wage.

Revenue Canada adds 'GAAR' to its weapons

When you're doing your tax planning, don't forget about GAAR. No, it's not some exotic fish. GAAR stands for "general anti-avoidance rule," a powerful new weapon Revenue Canada was given as part of the tax reform program.

GAAR is one of those catch-all laws that can be used to declare invalid any tax manoeuvre which Ottawa doesn't like but which doesn't fall under a specific regulation. It's administered by a special committee within Revenue Canada.

Tax experts aren't sure exactly what impact GAAR will have on tax planning, and it may be years before we understand its full implications.

However, it is generally believed ti will have little, if any, effect on ordinary taxpayers. Revenue Canada is expected to wheel it out only in cases involving a lot of money or where a taxpayer has been overly aggressive in his or her claims.

But no one can say at this stage. So . . . you should be aware GAAR does exist. If you have any concerns, concult a tax-planning consultant.

Financial planning show starts

CF Cable TV channel 9 offers a personal financial planning program with co-hosts Syd Stepner and Dominic Iannuzzi.

The season premier is 8 pm Tuesday and the topic will be options and opportunities for RRSPs.

On Feb 20 the program will continue with the topic of RRSPs and on March 13 the topic will be how to achieve financial success.

The program is 1½ hours long, and viewers can participate through a live phone-in segment.

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Westmount's crime in 1989 lowest for decade

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Westmount's overall crime rate levelled off in 1989, matching the record low for the decade set the previous year, according to year-end statistics released last month.

The total number of crimes in Westmount has dropped each year from 1985 when 2,789 were reported, local MUC director Pierre Vézina said. By comparison, 1989 recorded 2,081 incidents, just one fewer than in 1988 (see accompanying table).

Breaking and entering incidents, long considered a barometer of crime in the community, plunged 28 percent below a five-year average to the lowest point in at least 10 years. This was offset by a 108-percent increase in stolen cars.

The overall drop in crime from a peak in 1985 is attributed by police officials to greater police presence on the streets and increased crime-prevention programs.

"We have to look at crime results in the long term for them to be meaningful," said Dir Vézina.

Thefts in cars, like break-ins, declined during 1989 to their lowest levels in at least eight years.

Dir Vézina said the trend to declining crime in Westmount is especially significant considering citizens throughout North America are being made more aware of the need to report incidents to police. This means the proportion of unreported crime — what police call the "black number" — is declining. In theory this would increase the number of reported crimes if criminality remained constant.

Crime in Westmount in 1989
as reported by MUC Police Station 23

	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
Murder	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sexual crimes	0	1	2	3	1	1	5	1	2	2	0	1	19
Robbery (theft with violence)	12	8	12	3	5	2	6	14	7	4	9	8	90
Break and entry	22	29	23	24	26	26	27	30	24	20	18	24	293
Theft of vehicles	8	9	10	7	8	3	4	9	14	14	11	7	104
Theft from vehicles	17	14	18	20	4	11	12	14	19	16	13	13	171
Other (theft, vandalism, assault, etc.)	121	117	103	131	138	133	125	118	114	112	82	109	1403
TOTAL, All Crime:	180	178	168	189	182	176	179	186	180	168	133	162	2081
Unfounded cases	3	6	3	4	4	4	2	4	4	0	1	0	35
Total cases cleared	46	62	46	71	62	54	50	45	40	43	31	46	596
— by arrest	30	34	31	49	44	42	36	39	30	37	23	34	429
— other than arrest	13	22	12	18	14	8	12	2	6	6	7	12	132
SOLUTION RATE:	25.6%	34.8%	27.4%	37.6%	34.1%	30.7%	27.9%	24.2%	22.2%	25.6%	23.3%	28.4%	28.6%

Above statistics pertain to Westmount sector only and do not include those relating to the local station's St Henri territory.

One area of crime where this is evident in Westmount statistics, he said, is in cases involving sexual assault. Many such incidents may involve only a slight touch by someone rather than actual rape, but are reported nonetheless.

On average, 1989 was a good year in the operation of station 23, Dir Vézina said.

A higher proportion of criminal incidents were solved in Westmount, 28.6 percent compared with 23 percent in 1988.

In addition, there was a lower turnover rate of police officers with 36 percent requesting transfers compared with 42 percent. Over the past few years, station 23 has become a training ground for recruits who then seek transfers to busier stations with more action.

"We have to make our type of policing more attractive," Dir Vézina said.

The year's decrease in crime no doubt resulted from increased police presence on the streets, the director said. This followed implementation of one-man patrol cars, mixed motorized-foot patrols and the decentralization of traffic squads to local stations.

Crime in Westmount — Yearly totals, 1984-89

	Yearly Totals 1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	% change '88 to '89
Murder	1	1	1	1	–	–	0%
Sexual crimes	19	11	9	4	7	4	+ 72.7%
Robbery (theft with violence)	90	78	75	85	106	105	+ 15.4%
Break and entry	293	367	304	403	494	452	– 20.2%
Theft of vehicles	104	50	69	75	57	56	+ 108.0%
Theft from vehicles	171	194	199	224	259	282	– 11.9%
Other (theft, vandalism, assaults, etc.)	1403	1381	1675	1902	1866	1838	+ 1.6%
TOTAL, All Crime:	2081	2082	2332	2694	2789	2737	0%
Unfounded cases	35	28	44	70	58	47	+ 25.0%
Total cases cleared	596	478	771	1022	925	956	+ 24.7%
— by arrest	429	335	578	759	639	679	+ 28.1%
— other than arrest	132	115	149	193	228	230	+ 14.8%
SOLUTION RATE:	28.6%	23.0%	33.1%	37.9%	33.2%	34.9%	+ 24.3%

Above statistics pertain to Westmount sector only

Big increase in car thefts but recovery rate high

Most of the 104 cars stolen in Westmount in 1989 were recovered soon after, police report. This indicates they were probably taken by juveniles for joy rides or transportation.

"Since our buses do not seem to be too well organized, the kids are stealing cars to get around," said Director Pierre Vézina.

This also means the majority of the stolen vehicles in Westmount are not being channelled into the black market for resale or used parts as in many other areas.

Though police station 23, with territory including Westmount and St Henri, reported the highest increase of car theft in the MUC during the year, "our recovery rate of 75 percent is the highest on the island," he said.

A special effort to curb the theft of vehicles in the district was launched Jan 8 for the next three months. It is called Operation Yellow Peril since most of the cars being stolen are Japanese.

A number of suspects are being closely watched, the director explained. "We may have to make special representation to youth protection officials to restrain certain repeat offenders."

In the Westmount sector, vehicle thefts soared 108 percent last year from 50 in 1988 to 104, statistics reveal. This is a 10-year record high.

The rate of increase in the MUC overall is reported at 25 percent.

Man raises rucus, goes peacefully

A man was ejected from the Westmount Public Library Friday morning after he was reported to have been causing a disturbance, public safety officers said.

When officers arrived shortly after 11:30 am, the man arose of his own accord from where he had been sitting. He said security guards should leave people alone. He proceeded outside walking west along Sherbrooke street.

The man was described as having a straggly beard, straggly hair and carrying a violin case.

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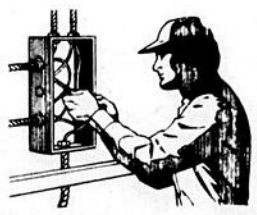
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La sexualité et l'Église discuté jeudi à St-Léon

Les conférences des "jeudis de St-Léon" portent cette année sur la morale chrétienne et certaines de ses applications. Nous nous posons beaucoup de questions, nous avons à porter des jugements sur différents aspects de la vie et nous sommes toujours placés devant des choix à faire. La Parole de Dieu nous éclaire, notre conscience nous guide, mais il arrive souvent que notre émotivité l'emporte.

Tout ce qui touche la sexualité, l'éducation sexuelle, la vie sexuelle, les moyens de contraception, l'avortement... est d'actualité. Une réflexion sur le sujet est essentielle et qu'en dit l'Église.

"L'Église a-t-elle peur de la sexualité?" est le titre donné par le conférencier M. Guy Durand, père de famille, docteur en théologie, professeur d'éthique à la faculté de théologie de l'Université de Montréal.

Bienvenue à cette conférence à la salle St-Leon, 310 avenue Clarke, jeudi soir, le 1er février à 19h30.

Popote roulante

Appel à des personnes qui seraient prêtes à nous offrir leurs services à l'occasion, le mardi ou le vendredi, de 10h45 à 12h30 pour livrer des repas (service de chauffeur assuré) à nos bénéficiaires, personnes âgées, malades ou en perte d'autonomie. Appel également à des chauffeurs de suppléance. La popote roulante répond comme l'on sait à un très grand besoin des temps présents. Prière de communiquer au 935-4950 pour donner vos noms et numéros de téléphone. Merci d'avance pour votre bienveillante collaboration.

Club de bridge

Duplicata et Robre, tous les lundis et mercredis 12h30, salle St-Léon, 310, avenue Clarke. Direction Madeleine Tessier, 646-9111.

Ascension lecture series examines changes in church

The Parish of the Ascension of Our Lord is planning a series of three evening lectures in February dealing with the church. They are organized through the adult religious education services of the diocese, and are designed to help Roman Catholics review the basic teachings of Christianity and to understand ongoing changes in the church.

The first lecture will be Wednesday. Fr T. Ryan, CSP, of the Centre for Ecumenism will discuss *The Catholic Church: an old/new story.*

Feb 14 Dr Martin Jeffrey of the McGill Faculty of Education will speak about the sacraments.

Feb 21 Sr Maureen Sager, NDS, coordinator of adult religious education services will speak on *The Church past, present and future.*

Ascension parish is extending an open invitation to anyone wishing to attend the lectures in the church's parish room, 375 Kitchener avenue. Each session will run from 7:30 to 9 pm. Those in attendance will be invited to ask questions and join in discussion following each presentation. Coffee will be available. For information call 933-8202.

Police officer Peace dies, served 32 years with city

A funeral service was held Saturday for longtime Westmount police officer Gordon William Peace who died last Thursday after a lengthy battle with cancer. He was 55.

Retired constable Peace had been a familiar figure walking the beat around St Catherine street and Greene avenue. He was one of four retiring officers honored by city council only two weeks ago. He was unable to attend, having been in Montreal General Hospital over the past five months.

He is survived by his wife, Pauline Smith, eight children and four grandchildren.

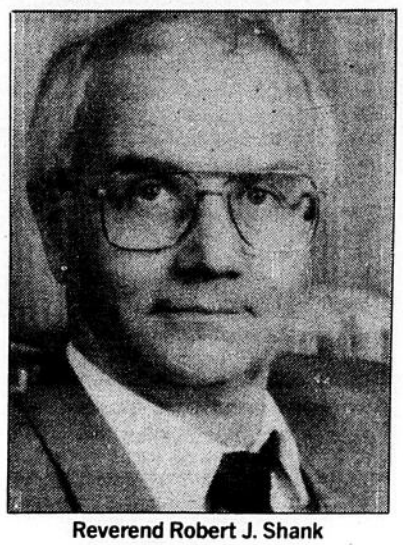
"Gordie was easy-going and full of fun. We're going to miss him," said his longtime colleague George Payne who was among those to attend the funeral in Pointe-aux-Trembles.

Mr Peace started his career with the Westmount Police Force on Aug 16, 1957. He remained at the local station on Stanton street after integration of the force into the MUC, serving all his 32 years in this community.

Mr Peace had served in the Army Signal Corps Reserve for four years and was an ardent bowler.

He had been unwell for some time but had been determined to return to work last summer after recovering from surgery. He resumed his foot beat but was suddenly taken to hospital Aug 24 from the station. He was never able to return.

Donations are being received in his name by the Canadian Cancer Society.



Reverend Robert J. Shank

St A-D-D to induct new minister

A service of induction and covenanting of the Rev Robert J. Shank to St Andrew's—Dominion-Douglas Church will be held Sunday at 3:30 pm.

Mr Shank is a native of Saskatchewan, where he completed most of his studies. He comes to Westmount from St Andrew's-Wesley in Vancouver, where he was first associate minister and then senior. Mr Shank and his wife Pearl have two grown children.

Organizers of the special service are hoping for a strong turnout to welcome Mr and Mrs Shank and to meet them at a reception following the service.

Parents help other parents with problems

Parents who feel they are losing control of themselves and taking it out on their children, those who find themselves hitting or shouting at their children before thinking it out and those who find themselves picking on one or more of their children are urged to contact Parents for Parents.

The anonymous, confidential and free group comprises other parents who are having similar problems and who are looking for better ways of disciplining. It is sponsored by Catholic Community Services.

Parents for Parents meets Tuesday evenings at 1857 de Maisonneuve boulevard west, corner of St Marc street. For more information call Gail or Nancy at 937-5351.

Extend your reach. When you put a classified ad in THE EXAMINER, you can put the same ad in THE MONITOR (N.D.G.) or TOWN OF MOUNT ROYAL WEEKLY POST at great discounts. For details and to place an ad, call 931-7511.

Genesis offers free legal clinic

Project Genesis, a non-profit community organization at 5940 Victoria avenue, offers a free legal information telephone service.

Information about housing laws, family law, immigration, consumer protection and so on will be given over the phone by third and final-year law students. Appointments for the free legal clinic Thursday evenings can also be made through the service at 738-2036 or 738-2635.

Plans afoot at station 23 to boost police visibility

Increases in zone patroling and greater focus on mixed motorized/foot patrols are expected to heighten police presence in Westmount this year.

Plans to increase the visibility of police were outlined by local MUC police director Pierre Vézina last week as a priority for the year in the station 23 district.

He also announced a number of crime-prevention and safety campaigns, including a new anti-theft car-engraving operation to be launched throughout the MUC.

Other programs will be directed at problems related to summit rowdiness, cyclists, impaired driving, car theft and parks. A crackdown on the sale of alcoholic beverages to minors will take place at the start of summer.

The local station is also preparing to set up its own fingerprinting facilities as part of the decentralization of the identification section, Dir Vézina said. This will allow police to fingerprint suspects locally rather than having to make appointments to send them downtown.

The MUC's new patrol zone concept which began on a small scale more than a year ago is being further expanded here this year.

The program assigns one patrol constable to each of several high-risk zones to serve as a community relations officer with whom merchants or citizens can communicate.

"In addition, we are now implementing the system of mixed patrols," Dir Vézina said. "This means officers won't spend an eight-hour shift in a car but will diversify into other areas such as foot patrols and crime prevention."

All these changes are being undertaken to increase police visibility as decentralization of the MUC force continues.

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Sun, Feb 4, 8:45 am
Mon-Thurs, Feb 5-8, 7:30 am
Evenings:
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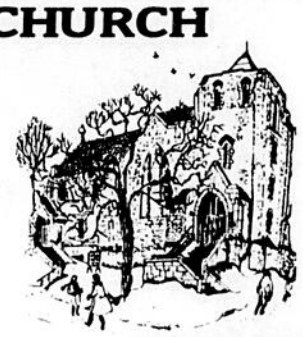

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Patrick Wedd, Director of Music

QSPELL to hold annual meeting

The annual general meeting of QSPELL will be held Monday, Feb 5, at 7:30 pm in room 773 of Concordia University's Hall building.

At the meeting the president will review the year's activities and Westmounter Philip Cercone, treasurer, will present the financial report. An election will be held for the board of directors, which currently includes Westmounters Edward Phillips, Judy Mappin, Terry Reigelhof and Roma Gelblum-Bross. Members will also be elected to the executive committee. Members who wish to nominate someone should call Westmounter and secretary Jeanne B. Randle at 489-5301.

Nominations will be accepted from the floor though members only may vote.

Those who wish to become members ($10 a year) may do so at the general meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend, and QSPELL welcomes input from members and friends.

Westmounters who serve on the QSPELL advisory council include Louis Dudek, Alex Patterson and Maurice Podbrey. For more information call 845-5811.

Concert hall's concert menu

Regular concerts will be held in Concordia University's new concert hall on the Loyola campus of Concordia University, 7141 Sherbrooke street west.

Saturday at 8 pm, Sun Ra and his Arkestra will perform.

On Tuesday at 8 pm, there will be a jazz improvisation concert.

On Thursday, Feb 8, the Haydn Heritage Quartet — Liselyn Adams, Hendrik Bouman, Chantal Remillard and Suzie Napper — will perform.

For information call 848-7148.

Beyond Westmount's Borders

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

By JANET COUTTS

Princess Ida

The Lakeshore Light Opera Inc is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year, which is also the 25th year that Leonard Langmead has been the group's stage director and the 15th year the organization has donated to Lakeshore General Hospital. With all this to remember, they will present Gilbert and Sullivan's *Princess Ida* at John XXIII High School, 1301 Dawson avenue in Dorval, March 1 to 3 and 8 to 10. This may be far in the future, but the G&S buffs have been aggressively selling tickets for more than a month now, so reserving in advance would be a good idea. 636-1189 or 697-1368.

Senior skiers

Have you noticed that grandparents and even great-grandparents no longer are little grey-haired people in rocking chairs? The folks at Mont Sutton have, and they are inviting people over 60 to be their guests for a week, Feb 5 to 9. For $12, seniors receive a day ticket, a free morning lesson, a dietetic lunch at one location, or a 15 percent discount on lunch at another. Every afternoon special activities will be offered. 866-5156.

Israeli films

The long nights of February seem ideally suited to a film festival, and the Consulate of Israel has joined forces with the Jewish Public Library and Israel Youth Program Centre to present an Israeli film series Wednesdays in February at 8 pm at the Jewish Public Library, 5151 Côte Ste Catherine road. All films are in Hebrew with English subtitles. Feb 7 the film is *Noa at 17*; Valentine's Day the series screens *Late summer blues*, winner of Best Picture at the fifth annual Israeli Film Festival. *Atalia* will be screened Feb 21 and *Shell shock* winds things up Feb 28. General admission is $4, $3 for students and seniors. 345-2627.

Carnaval in your home

For those who don't want to miss the fun of the Quebec Winter Carnival, Feb 5 to 9, CBC has decided to include live coverage on Channel 6's *Newswatch at 11*. The nightly newscast will originate from the ice castle, and will include news, weather and sports, highlights of the day's activities and interviews with principal characters, including Bonhomme Carnaval, the carnival queen and the president of the organizing committee. Daily reports will also be presented during the 6 pm edition of *Newswatch*.

Can lit featured

Playwright/novelist Michel Tremblay will be the next featured speaker at the "People making a difference" public affairs series at the Saidye Bronfman Centre. *An evening with Michel Tremblay* will be presented Monday, Feb 12, at the centre, 5170 Côte St Catherine road. Mr Tremblay will read in English and converse with his audience. Translator Sheila Fischman will introduce Mr Tremblay. Admission is free. 739-2301... Then on Monday, Feb 19, Canadian Cultural Programmes will bring together two comedy writers at 1:30 pm at the National Film Board Theatre in the Guy Favreau Complex. Ted Stone will read and comment on Prairie humor from his favorite stories about the mythical town of Deer River. He will share the spotlight with Leacock humor medalist Ray Guy, who will read and comment on Newfoundland humor from *his* favorite stories. This event is also free, and readings in English will be followed by bilingual discussion. 937-7937... Rita Joe, a Micmac, a community helper and a poet, lives on the Eskasoni Reserve in Nova Scotia. The 53-year-old mother of 10 is a shy woman whose poetry has created a sensation. She will read and answer written questions Monday, Feb 12, at 8:30 pm at Playwrights' Workshop, 4001 Berri. 843-3685.

17th century love songs

L'Ensemble Arion thinks they've got the cure for the February blahs. On Feb 9 and 10 they present English tenor Nigel Rogers and American lutenist and theorbist Paul O'Dette. They will perform love songs by John Dowland, Thomas Morley, Henry Lawes, Jacques Mauduit, Gabriel Bataille, and more. If this won't put you into a romantic mood for the 14th, nothing will. It takes place at McGill's Redpath Hall, 3459 McTavish street, at 8 pm. Tickets cost $15 for most of us, $10 for students and seniors. 355-1825.

Gogol in musical comedy

Jason and Chris Beck are brothers from Toronto. They have made an original adaptation of Nikolai Gogol's *The Nose*, called *The nose of Polton Worth*, in which Polton and his nose work for a multinational conglomerate. The work will run Feb 6 to 17 at McGill Players' Theatre, 3480 McTavish street, third floor. Tickets are $8 and $4. Thursday, Feb 13 is pay what you can night. 398-6813...

For the kiddies

Premier Preschool is sponsoring a musical happening for children Sunday, Feb 11, at 11 am at Ross Hall, 1000 Lucerne in Town of Mount Royal. Montrealer Allan Falovitch, a new, young children's entertainer who has worked at New York's Folk City Club, will play guitar and sing in both official languages. He is building an affectionate following among the small fry. Tickets are $5 and available at 345-1740. Proceeds are donated to Montreal Children's Hospital... I warn you now so you can order tickets early or else keep your children away from all media for the next seven weeks — otherwise they'll want to go. *Big Bird's Sesame Street Story* will be at the Forum for five performances March 21 to 23. The show stars Big Bird, Bert, Ernie, Grover, Cookie Monster, Prairie Dawn, Oscar the Grouch and the Count, with special guests and a new character called Tedious J. Molehill, a broadcast mogul. Tickets are on sale at the Forum box office and all Ticketron outlets. The Teletron number is 288-2525.

At the galleries

A new gallery, Galerie d'Art de Bougainville at 4511 St Denis street, is showing Quebec works Feb 4 to 28, and will have its official opening Feb 18. 845-2400... Contemporary art is being shown in some maisons de la culture. At the N.D.G. maison, 3755 Botrel street, a travelling exhibit, part of the Exposer dans l'Ile program, *Figures d'accumulation*, is on display to Feb 11. The controversial and colorful graffiti painter Zilon is being shown at the maison at 465 Mount Royal east during the month of February. A brochure from the City of Montreal describes several others. It is available at maisons de la culture. 872-6211... Benjamin Chou presents his *Fresco series* of photos at Dazibao, 4060 St Lawrence boulevard, until Feb 25. 845-0063... Two top-ranking video artists, Nam June Paik and Curt Royston have a show called *No vanishing point* at Galerie Esperanza, 2144 Mackay street, until Feb 25. 933-6455.

Suzuki violin at Greene Centre

At the Greene Avenue Community Centre, 1090 Greene avenue, there are still a few places left in the Suzuki violin class for beginners. Children three years and up are taught by Suzanne Jennot, who also teaches at McGill and Ecole Marie de France.

Classes are Thursday afternoons from 3 to 4 pm and 4 to 5 pm, with a maximum of three children per group. Course costs $190 for 16 weeks; program costs are negotiable for those unable to pay the full fee. Call 931-6202 for information on this aspect of the program.

To register your child, or for information about the course, call 483-6784.

A Flea at Dome

The theatre department of Dawson College is presenting the classic farce, *A flea in her ear* by Georges Feydeau, directed by Douglas Buchanan to Sunday, Feb 4 at 8 pm at the Dome Theatre, 3990 Notre Dame street west.

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Westmounter Leyrac plays Bernhardt in SBC production

By JANET COUTTS

The mink ad reads: "What becomes a legend most?"

Perhaps, in the case of Westmounter Monique Leyrac, rather than Blackglama mink, it is recreating another legend.

Or even re-recreating Sarah Bernhardt.

Ms Leyrac, who played *The Divine Sarah* at Théâtre du Nouveau Monde, in Toronto and at the Piggery nearly 10 years ago, is playing Bernhardt again at the Saidye Bronfman Centre until Feb 4.

Westmount impresario Sam Gesser approached Ms Leyrac some time ago about playing Bernhardt.

"I worked from 1965 to 1975 all with Sam before I went to live in France. It would be the first time (we would work together) after all those years. We talked about *The Divine Sarah*, but I do not repeat myself.

"I talked to Marilyn Gascon (the widow of Jean Gascon, former artistic director of the Stratford festival) and she knew I was fascinated by Sarah."

Mme Gascon suggested Ms Leyrac talk to Michael Bawtree, who wrote and directs *Sarah Bernhardt and the Beast*.

"We met and talked and he said 'I will write it.' But he did not start to write it until September, and I got the script the first of November."

And started working on her English diction.

To communicate

"My accent is much, much better because Michael made me work. I must speak good English because I want to communicate — make people laugh and cry. If you do not communicate the instant, if there is a delay in receiving a line, *c'est perdu*."

Be that as it may, in whatever language she chooses, Ms Leyrac communicates.

"I never learned English," Ms Leyrac explains. "We went to movies in the '50s and a few times went to the U.S. Of course, one had many occasions to speak English in Montreal, and we watched English on TV.

"But never anybody told you how to pronounce. Now I know a few things with *exactitude*."

Ms Leyrac left school at 13 to work during the Second World War. But a year later she auditioned for a radio play and won the leading role. Since then, she's been acting and singing.

Monique Leyrac

Asked her favorite role, Ms Leyrac says: "I like better what is successful, so my favorite was Polly Peacham in *Three Penny Opera*.

"It was a role exactly fitted for me. Jean Gascon directed me in it in 1960, and it was the best thing I did."

Ms Leyrac was a little slower starting her singing career — she didn't get around to that until she was 18. She replaced a sick friend one evening at Le Faisan Doré on St Lawrence boulevard, and got hired for two months.

"In songs it is difficult to say which is my favorite. My first lp, *Monique Leyrac chante Vigneault et Léveillée*, I thought it might be bought by two or three persons... do you know, it is still in the mind of people?

"Nelligan was also good (*Monique Leyrac chante Émile Nelligan*). I produced it myself. In 1972 André Gagnon had the idea to put his poems to music, and I did the show. It was a record of the songs from that show. At that time, Nelligan had been nearly forgotten. The record was not commercial enough for producers, and André told me, 'Do what you want' with the music."

Nelligan's name is unlikely to be forgotten soon in Quebec. Ms Leyrac happily takes the credit.

While Bernhardt's legend has lost none of its appeal over the years, Ms Leyrac feels her new vehicle will let us get to know the woman behind the legend. "Sarah Bernhardt lied all the time, and her biographers were either *admirative* or *mechant*. But the truth?

"Here we meet her vulnerable, alone, forgetting her image. At 56, she is facing the public in Paris, playing a boy — not for the first time. But he is 20 and she is an old woman. She didn't know what was going to happen.

"She is nervous but laughing. The play is very, very witty. I hope people will be moved, but mostly it's a comedy."

In from Kingston

Before opening at the Saidye Bronfman Centre, this new play will have an out-of-town tryout in Kingston. After its local run, the show will tour Canada. "Including *Terre-Neuve*, the only place in Canada I have never been."

This summer it will play The Piggery, and Ms Leyrac expresses great pleasure at the idea of returning there. But she has something else to do first.

"I have accepted to do Molière in March," she confesses, eyes sparkling with — can it be — mischief. "I haven't played with my friends in Montreal for maybe 30 years. In *Sarah* I am *angoissée* and all that. It will be *contrebalancé* by the light comedy of Molière.

"Now I think maybe I should not have accepted. I start my *lecture* for that two days after I open at the Saidye Bronfman."

Ms Leyrac claims her third love is gardening, and she has a country home where she normally lives three months a year. "There I garden *a lot*, 24 hours a day. But at my house it is very small and already planted, so there is not very much to do. I would like a greenhouse, but I have no orientation. If I ever move (from Westmount) it will be because I will have a greenhouse."

And about her upcoming show, she adds, before kissing me goodbye, "I am not nervous at all. This is not me. But I felt very confident in this play the first time I read it. I work well with Michael, and I am not frightened to speak English now. I will be nervous before the first performance, but not *angoissée*."

Frankly, it's hard to imagine Ms Leyrac frightened of anything, let alone a little thing like speaking English.

Conference on economics for high school students

Westmounter and chair of Prenor Group Ltd Lorne Webster will be one of the speakers at a conference for Montreal-area teachers and outstanding students of economics at Lower Canada College Friday from 8:30 am to 3:15 pm.

The conference title is *Issues in economics*. It aims to present alternative viewpoints and develop a better understanding of opportunities and challenges facing economics teachers and students.

Other speakers include MP Bob Layton, MNA Neil Cameron, Profs Dan Otchere and Yarema Kelebay of Concordia and McGill Universities, McGill economist William Watson and Catherine Morrieson, executive director for the Council of Canadians.

High schools across Quebec and eastern Ontario have been invited to participate. Teachers or students who wish to register should call 482-9916.

Bashed-in car midnight mystery

A parked car sustained about $1,000 damage late Tuesday last week when it was struck by an unknown vehicle near a loading zone at Westmount Square, police report.

The 1986 Pontiac was left near a wall of the building between 11 pm and midnight when it may have been hit by a truck making deliveries. It belongs to a Montreal man.

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Psychiatrists at MCH launching new study

Two psychiatrists at Montreal Children's Hospital are beginning a study to identify the best combinations of treatment for children affected by Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder.

Drs Gabrielle Weiss and Lily Hechtman are running the study. They say symptoms of the disorder include hyperactivity, poor attention span and impulsiveness. These lead to difficulties at home and at school, poor relationship with peers, teachers and family members, and school underachievement. It is thought to affect three to five percent of school-age children.

Treatment programs will include various combinations of academic study skills training, remedial education, help with homework, peer activity groups, social skills groups, parent training and parent support groups and individual psychotherapy for the child as well as appropriate medication.

The study, in collaboration with a study in New York, is funded by the U.S. National Institute of Mental Health.

Parents of children seven to nine years old who are affected by the disorder, and who are interested in having their children participate in the study, should call Dr Hechtman or program co-ordinator Joy Etcovitch at 934-4449.

Recreation program for disabled teens

The Montreal-Laval chapter Learning Disabilities Association of Quebec will hold registration for its adaptive recreation program for teens on Saturday at 10 am at Marianopolis College, 3880 Côte des Neiges road.

The program is specifically designed for teens who want to upgrade their skills in social interaction, fitness and swimming. For information call 937-4095.

Legal advice

A free legal clinic on the subject of the rental board will be held at the Montreal YMCA Wednesday from 7 to 10 pm. Participants are invited to bring their leases. For information call 939-0398.

Give the gift of life. Be a Red Cross blood donor.

Recent graduates of Jewish Family Services volunteer internship project, from left, Westmounter **Judy Bilefsky** and **Eleanor Kogan** with **Léon Ouaknine**, director general of Jewish Family Services. The two are among six graduates of the new program.

Westmounter among grads of volunteer internship

Jewish Family Services recently held a graduation ceremony for six interns who successfully completed the volunteer internship program at Jewish Family Services.

The agency is interviewing potential candidates for the 1990 program, beginning this month.

The program requires a 400-hour commitment, consisting of 70 hours of academic sessions and 330 hours to be spent in voluntary field placement. Each intern is assigned to one department within the agency, either involved in direct client work or in an administrative capacity.

Co-ordinator of volunteer services Suzanne Herscovitch says, "The demand from our volunteers to continue learning the theory and the practical skills required in the social service field helped to generate this program, offered for the first time this past year."

Westmounter Judy Bilefsky is one of the new graduates. The mother of two teenagers is trained in orthoptics, a specialized area of ophthalmology. She was looking for a stimulating new experience when she applied to the internship program.

Working in the volunteer department, Ms Bilefsky's tasks have involved supervising the volunteer tutorial project, assisting with computerizing department data, as well as assisting with the many other tasks of this busy department. She praises the program for giving her a better understanding of people's interactions and an opportunity to improve her administrative, writing and computer skills.

Anyone interested in the internship program should call 485-1112, local 311 or 316.

Support service from CLSC Métro

Family life education service of CLSC Métro is offering a free support group for families of the mentally ill. The eight-week program starts Tuesday at 6:30 pm at 1550 de Maisonneuve boulevard west, suite 430. For information call 935-2392.

New Zealand VIP to address lunch

The Royal Commonwealth Society, Montreal branch, will hold a luncheon meeting Thursday, Feb 8 at 12:15 pm at the Hillside Armory officers' mess, 3 Hillside avenue. Guest speaker is Bruce M. Brown, high commissioner of New Zealand.

The public is invited to attend. The fee for the luncheon is $10. Reservations are necessary, and may be made by calling 499-9543.

Combining roles topic at Temple

Donna Soble Kaufman, partner, Stikeman Elliot law offices, broadcaster, law scholar, barrister and solicitor, and business executive will speak on *Combining roles of family, community and workplace: a personal overview* at Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom on Monday at 1 pm.

Congregants and friends are invited to attend and participate in the discussion period.

The event is sponsored by the Entre-Nous Group. A brown bag lunch will be eaten at 12:30 pm, before the speech, and coffee will be available.

For information call 937-3575.

Hosts needed

Host families are being sought for Latin American students for four weeks during summer. If you are interested call 725-5249.

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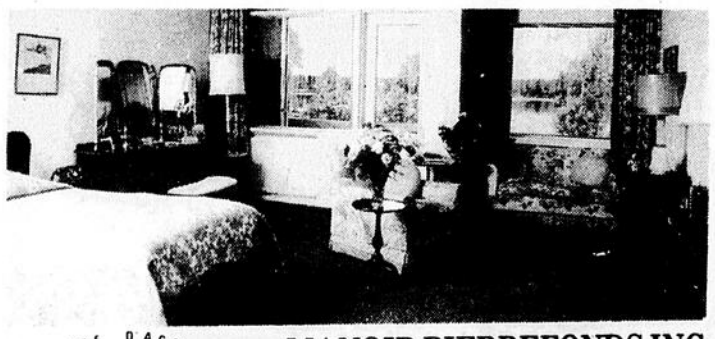

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Seniors Say

Seniors share writing

It is wonderful what can happen when people get together and share concerns and even dreams. Before you know it, the concerns are worked on and the dreams realized.

This is how most of our community organizations started, and it is how they will survive in this world of rapidly changing "everything."

What does this have to do with Westmount seniors?

Eighteen percent of our residents are 65 and older. Many are involved in or are served by groups such as the YMCA, Contactivity Centre for Seniors, City of Westmount programs, SWAG, church and synagogue groups, the Greene Avenue Community Centre, Rotary and so forth. Representatives from key seniors' groups in Westmount meet from time to time to share ideas on how best to meet the socio-cultural, recreational and general well-being needs and expectations of Westmount seniors. It is hoped these meetings will foster involvement and growth in helpful and interesting directions, while avoiding unnecessary duplication.

A key ingredient in meeting needs is information, and to this end THE WESTMOUNT EXAMINER has kindly agreed to reinstate a seniors' column. Although we miss Dorothy Sirota and are unlikely to be able to entice her back to Westmount to write these columns, other senior scribes are volunteering to keep you informed about what is going on, from their perspective.

In the meantime, if you wish to get involved, join the Contactivity Centre for Seniors (for information, call 932-3433) or attend a SWAG (Seniors of Westmount Action Group) meeting on the first Wednesday of each month at 10 am in Victoria Hall. If you are an early riser, come to a WEACT (Westmount Environment Advisory Committee) meeting on Feb 7 at 8 am in Victoria Hall.

— Councillor Sally Aitken

SWAG to meet

The Seniors of Westmount Action Group (SWAG) will meet at 10 am Wednesday, Feb 7 at Victoria Hall. The guest speaker will be Nancy Weisbloom, a dental hygienist from CLSC Métro. She will discuss the latest in dental health information. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

It's easy to place a classified ad in THE EXAMINER. Simply call 931-7511.

Symposium on Namibia being held at McGill

The World University Services of Canada and McGill Southern African Committee will sponsor a symposium *Namibia: prospects for the future*, Saturday at the McGill University Centre, 3480 McTavish street.

World University Services is a non-governmental national development organization. The volunteers at McGill, among other things, sponsor two refugee students at the university.

The Southern African Committee has an additional mandate to educate and develop.

The morning program of the symposium, which starts registration at 9 am, will include a film, *Namibia on the brink*. Afternoon workshops will be held on economic choices; human resources; the constitution, political factors; and Canadian co-operation with Namibia.

In the evening there will be speeches by Namibian representatives, followed by a fundraising dance at the Alley in the basement of the centre. The Latin-African trio Saingua will provide the music, and more entertainment will be provided by the improv group Theatre Sports.

Fees are $5 for students and the unemployed, $10 for the employed and $25 for representatives of institutions. For information call 937-3457 or 284-5447.

N.D.G. forum to discuss police and community

Police and the community working together in N.D.G. is the theme of the N.D.G. Community Council's next monthly forum Monday at 8 pm at the Monkland Community Centre, 4410 Westhill avenue.

Speaking on behalf of the police is Claude Girard, director of station 15, along with other local officers. Other guest speakers include community group representatives who are participants on the Council's police relations committee. As well, a group of young people will be performing a short play about the attitudes teenagers have toward the police.

The panelists will discuss work being done to build stronger links and greater understanding between the local community and the police. The forum will offer residents an opportunity to ask questions and raise concerns about crime, safety and security as well as to find out how they can become more involved in working with other citizens and the police.

For more information call 484-1471.

Cancelled

The six seminars for seniors, scheduled to take place at the Greene Avenue Community Centre, have had to be cancelled. The centre's administration regrets the necessity and is hoping to find a replacement for the series.

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

COMING EVENTS
ÉVÈNEMENTS

Notices for this column should be sent in writing to: Coming Events, 155 Hillside avenue, Westmount H3Z 2Y8. Text should be accompanied by payment of $7.00 for maximum of 50 words. Only announcements of specific events permited in this column.

Lecture

Author Richard Heinberg will speak on his book "Memories and Visions of Paradise: exploring the universal myth of a lost golden age," on Friday, Feb 2, 8 pm, at Victoria Hall. Cost: $7.50; seniors & students: $5. Information: 483-3681, 486-8810. The book is available at the Westmount Public Library.

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For Valentine's Day, we're placing our home made chocolates in pretty little boxes imported from England; as for our imported chocolates they will have a "special occasion" wrapping.

Equality still elusive under new divorce law, lawyer tells Rotary

Quebec's divorce law changes don't go far enough in forcing the equal division of the assets of a marriage, family lawyer Richard McConomy told last week's regular luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club of Westmount.

"In my view this legislation has a fine aim, the equality of economic strength at the time of marriage breakdown. My complaint is that it did not go far enough," Mr McConomy said at Victoria Hall Wednesday last week.

On June 22, 1989, the Quebec National Assembly passed "An Act to Amend the Civil Code of Quebec and other legislation in order to favor economic equality between spouses."

The purpose of Bill 146, according to Mr McConomy, is to divide equally certain assets of the marriage between spouses at the time of divorce.

One of the major changes resulting from the new law, which Mr McConomy said radically alters the rules of the divorce game, is the creation of a new patrimony — the family patrimony. A patrimony is the accumulation of assets and liabilities which one possesses.

The family patrimony includes: the principal residence, the secondary residence, household furniture, motor vehicles and interest acquired during a marriage under a retirement plan.

Favors men

Mr McConomy said the family patrimony favors men.

"The most striking element of the legislation is that the assets which are included in the family patrimony are those that women usually own or claim and the assets that are excluded are those traditionally held by men such as shares in companies or other business interests," he said. "This remark is not inspired by a

By CHARLES ABRAMOVICI

sexist outlook but simply by observations over a long period of practice."

Mr McConomy, of the McConomy and Sévigny law firm, has been practising law since 1971. The Westmount resident is also a board member of Centraide of Montreal.

He said if a family acquires a successful business during a marriage it is usually due to a good support system at home.

Before the 1989 law revisions, spouses could choose by marriage contract whether they would administer their own patrimonies by choosing which matrimonial regime would affect their marriage. A matrimonial regime determines how property should be divided at the end of a marriage through divorce or death.

Under the community of property matrimonial regime, the patrimonies merged and were administered by the husband. In the separation of property matrimonial regime, the patrimonies remained distinct and each spouse administered their own property.

Without a contract

If there was no marriage contract, the marriage was automatically subjected to the Partnership of Acquests matrimonial regime which protected separate private property acquired before the marriage and equally divided what each spouse gained during the marriage.

Now, regardless of a marriage contract or not, the family patrimony is divided equally at the time of death of one of the spouses or divorce.

Matrimonial regimes and marriage contracts are now subject to the rules of the family patrimony which, with one exception, cannot be changed or opted out of at the time of marriage.

"The matrimonial regimes remain but they only apply to the residue of the property," Mr McConomy said. "But how many of us have property beyond house, cars, furniture, RRSPs or pension plans?"

However, couples married before May 15, 1989, can opt out of the new family law within 18 months of July 1, 1989.

Mr McConomy said there is no application to common law marriage as that form of matrimony does not exist in Quebec. He said after his speech that there are no legal ramifications for couples who are not married, no matter how long they have lived together.

Mr McConomy concluded by telling Rotarians to review their family situations. "Your individual rights and your personal net worth have been drastically changed by this new law and a full review of your new position should be made," he said.

* * *

For more information on matrimonial regimes you can call The Legal Phone, a free provincial legal service, at 845-0888. Ask to hear cassette number 315 — it's in English.

If you want to consult a lawyer or notary you can call the referral services of the Barreau de Montreal at 866-9392 or the Chambre des notaires at 879-1793. You will be referred to a professional who will charge you $20 for a 30-minute consultation.

If you think you are eligible for legal aid call 842-2233.

A plethora of wallets disappear while unwatched

Workers are again cautioned not to leave purses and wallets where they can be easily taken while at the office. The advice comes from police on the heels of five such thefts in Westmount last week.

Two wallets were reported stolen from a man's jacket in an office at Château Maisonneuve Sunday, Jan 21. One contained money, the other personal papers. Three more thefts were recorded on Thursday. One was a purse stolen from a teacher at Westmount Park School after it was left in the teachers' room. Another purse disappeared the same afternoon from an office at 245 Victoria avenue where the victim left her bag while attending a meeting. The same day cash was taken from a wallet left in a jacket at a dentist's office in 4150 St Catherine.

On Saturday, a Toronto man lost the wallet from his jacket which he left in a cloakroom at the Seventh Day Adventists' Church at 571 Victoria avenue.

Woman injured as truck jumps red

A woman was taken to hospital Wednesday last week when her car was hit by a postal truck going through a red light eastbound on St Catherine street at Greene avenue, police said. The driver was ticketed for the offence.

The impact at 8:54 am pushed the woman's southbound BMW into traffic lights on the southeast corner. It also damaged the building occupied by the Henrietta Anthony antique store. Both vehicles sustained more than $500 damage.

The victim was treated for neck and back injuries and transported by Urgences Santé to Montreal General Hospital, according to firefighters who assisted.

Slide effect

Slippery streets caused an eastbound car to slide into an oncoming one Monday last week in front of 4383 Montrose avenue, police said. Both sustained more than $500 damage. The accident at 4:20 pm involved a 1986 Honda driven by a Montreal resident and a 1989 BMW belonging to a man from Brome.

Out camera

A Minolta camera and two lenses were stolen from an apartment at 399 Clarke avenue Jan 19, police said. The break-in was not reported for three days. The door had apparently been forced open between 1:15 and 1:45 pm.

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Elisabeth Lang remembered as warm and understanding

Elisabeth Lang was like the hub of wheel keeping many different people connected.

That's how Westmounter Irene Kon, her longtime associate, describes the woman widely known as a philanthropist, art collector and owner of the Galerie des 5 Continents on Greene avenue.

"Her warmth and understanding brought so many people together from different backgrounds," Ms Kon explains. "The gallery was such a gathering place for so many years that she had become part of the street."

The gallery is now closed until further notice following the death of Mrs Lang Saturday when she was struck by a taxi on Olivier avenue (see separate story). She was 75.

A memorial service is to be held today at 3 pm at the Unitarian Church on Simpson street.

Mrs Lang was predeceased eight months ago by her husband Justin. Mr Lang was a businessman and had been president of Minerals and Chemicals Ltd.

Elisabeth Lang

Photo by OWEN EGAN

The Langs began travelling to Africa in 1971 and started to build their collection of artifacts from North and South America, Europe and Asia. Soon their home was overflowing and Mrs Lang decided to open a gallery on Greene avenue.

Several items from their collection can be found at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts but the bulk of the collection is at the Agnes Etherington Art Centre in Kingston.

Elisabeth Von Taussig Lang grew up in Vienna, later moving to Amsterdam. She fled Europe for Cuba via Paris in 1941 before the Nazi invasion of Holland. She spent 12 days in a Cuban prison for not having the correct papers. As a political refugee, she worked briefly in Havana as a translator and secretary.

She came to Montreal at the end of that year to join her fiancé who had also escaped Holland.

Mrs Lang is survived by two sons, John, of Mississauga, Ont., and Robert, of Port Hope, Ont.

LANG. . .

continued from page one

she approached the lane to cut through to Greene, she probably did not see the taxi starting to move toward her, police said.

As it backed over the sidewalk, she was trapped between the car and a small white truck in the lane that had stopped at the sidewalk to let her pass.

The truck's driver, a 24-year-old N.D.G. man, is reported to have moved both vehicles to free her and called for help.

Urgences Santé, the fire department's first responder unit, police and public safety officers responded and Mrs Lang was transported to hospital.

Wallet trio

Three wallets were found Friday outside 4873 Sherbrooke street, police report. All were found containing personal papers but no money and were believed to have been stolen. Though they belong to people living a considerable distance from Westmount, it may be that the victims all work locally, police suggest. The find is under investigation.

Thief gets $500 with stolen card

A Greene avenue merchant became suspicious Saturday when he received a phone call from someone requesting his bank card code number, police said. He then discovered his wallet had been stolen.

The call came from a French-speaking person saying someone had tried to use the man's card and the bank needed the zip number to cancel the card. He refused to give out the number but a call to Visa revealed that somehow someone had already manage to withdraw $500 from the account using the credit card.

The wallet may have been taken by a man who had entered the store, By the Yard, about 2 pm, used the phone and then left.

Sign vandal

Someone vandalized a small showcase-type sign for X-tra Stylist outside 4124A St Catherine street overnight Friday-Saturday, police report. The case was torn off the wall of the building causing $50 damage.

Coroner's report indicates hit-run victim was run over

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

A coroner's report states that 50-year-old Vera Horvat died from multiple internal injuries to the upper body caused when a hit-and-run vehicle ran over her Dec 21 at Olivier avenue and St Catherine street, investigators said Tuesday.

It is still not known whether she was already down on the street from a possible fall or was knocked over by the vehicle passing over her, Constable Luc Desjardins told THE EXAMINER.

"I received the coroner's report Monday and for sure a truck or a car ran over the lady," he said.

The victim was also found to have had "an impact behind the head" but that was not listed as the major injury.

Cst Desjardins, of the MUC's accident investigation squad, said last week's re-enactment of the accident filmed for Info Crime had not yet produced any results. He was still waiting for it to be aired on CFCF-TV's Pulse News.

An earlier story in THE EXAMINER resulted in one witness coming forward after he had been sought by police. This was the driver of a car that had stopped in the street near the body.

Police are still seeking witnesses who might have seen the actual impact but not realized a crime had been committed.

It is believed the suspect vehicle might have been turning north on Olivier off St Catherine and have run over the victim as she crossed Olivier eastbound, Cst Desjardins said. Streets were described as slippery that day and she might have slipped.

The victim had apparently been to a bank nearby and was walking toward the Atwater Métro to return home to Longueuil. She had been Christmas shopping.

Info Crime pays up to $1,000 for information leading to prosections involving major crime. Callers can remain anonymous. The Info Crime number is 393-1133.

Parent-drivers most likely to disobey school-zone laws

Parents, who should be the most concerned for the safety of children, appear to be worst offenders of traffic regulations in school zones, says a local police official.

Sergeant Hubert Rodrigue is on a campaign to improve school zone safety in Westmount. He says parents must start thinking safety first when picking up children by car.

"My concern is about parents who double park, park in no-parking zones and block corners," he explains.

One of the most frequent dangerous practices is that of letting children enter cars from the street side instead of from the sidewalk.

Sgt Rodrigue, who heads station 23's traffic squad, says he is reviewing school loading zones with Westmount's traffic officials to improve safety conditions.

One such loading zone in front of Selwyn House School on Côte St Antoine road permits children to enter cars in the safest ways possible without having to cross the street.

Sgt Rodrique says he and Bruce St Louis, as chairman of the city's administrative traffic committee, are to be visiting St Léon's school to look in to safer loading areas.

"I also intend to visit the principals of all our schools to ask them to write to parents about the safety issue."

BERGER. . .

continued from page one

did not promote their election. Candidates were also permitted to hand out flyers.

Placed by committee

In a press release, Mr Berger said the ads were placed by his election committee.

"This summons is a great surprise to me because it concerns something done by my committee which, in my opinion, is very minor. I wonder whether it is appropriate to deal with such technical matters before the courts? If there has been a violation, there should be some other way of dealing with the matter," he said.

André Collin, who was Mr Berger's official agent during the election, said he did not place the contested ads. He said he legally became Mr Berger's agent Oct 24 when Mr Berger announced his candidacy.

The ads list Mr Collin as the official agent. Mr Collin said he only paid the bills in his capacity as official agent.

Mr Berger faces a maximum fine of $1,000 and/or a maximum sentence of one year in jail if found guilty.

RCMP officials in Montreal could not be reached for comment.

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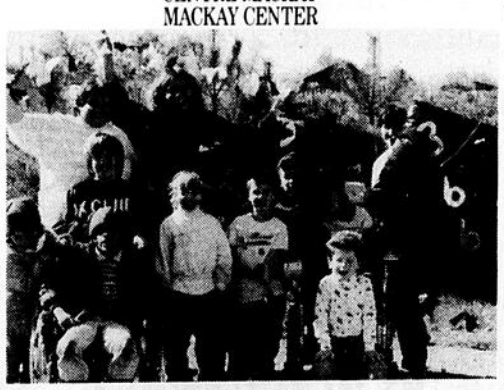

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The Project School at WHS: an experiment in education

By KAY DILA

Westmount High School NEWS

Since September 1985, Westmount High School has been the campus of the Vanguard Project High School, which rents space here from the PSBGM. These two schools co-exist providing for students the most appropriate education possible.

The Project School was established five years ago to provide a junior high school education with the possibility of ministry of education of Quebec credits for youngsters who have learning disabilities.

Students apply to our small private school from school boards on and off the Island of Montreal. Our criteria of acceptance are: documented learning disabilities; and interviews with students, families and former teachers.

Our students often need tutor support to complement our adapted program. Classes are small (10 to 14 students) and Grade 7 and 8 core subjects are team-taught by two teachers. Students meet a tutor during school time one period each week when there is time and expertise to address their learning problems.

Our expectations for students' behaviors of respect and motivation are high.

The Project participates in the social life of WHS. We use the same bells, calendar, assemblies, cafeteria, library and special projects. Our 45 students (four homerooms) are encouraged to join the clubs and teams of WHS. This co-existence of two schools is an ongoing experiment to which both schools are committed.

Students have the option of integration at the secondary IV level, before if the student is prepared. This is carefully negotiated between the receiving school and the Project and is certainly one of the most exciting and difficult things we do.

Information about this Vanguard School is available at our St Laurent campus, 747-5500, or at Lansdowne Centre, 487-6516.

A NEW GYM FOR ST GEORGE'S: A 90-foot ribbon took a lot of cutting at the official opening ceremonies Jan 26 of the new St George's high school gymnasium. Among the six dignitaries to take a slash at the tape was **David Hirsh**, president of the school's student council. *Photo by OWEN EGAN*

Early exchange at St Andrew's

The kindergarten classes of St Andrew's School were hosts to children from the McGill community family centre on Jan 26.

The entertainment consisted of a joint concert with each group presenting a variety of multi-cultural songs with foot-stamping, hand-clapping rhythm.

The St Andrew's children prepared sandwiches; the McGill group brought dessert. Seated on the floor in the gym, the children cleaned off all the platters — only a couple of lonely celery sticks were left behind.

The visit served to introduce the McGill children to kindergarten.

The party was pronounced a success and plans were made for St Andrew's children to visit the McGill Centre in the spring.

Marianopolis has open house

Marianopolis College, 3880 Côte des Neiges road, will hold its annual open house Monday, Feb 5, from 6 to 9 pm. Faculty, staff and students will be on hand to answer questions on curriculum, programs, admissions and activities. Tours of the facilities have been organized. Refreshments will be served.

Past, present and prospective students and their parents are welcome, as well as the general public. For information call 931-8792, ext. 263.

CPR courses at Westmount Y

The Westmount Y is offering a number of CPR heartsaver courses. Those interested can register for the four-hour training at the member service desk of the Y.

Workshops will be held Monday, Feb 12, from 6 to 10 pm; Saturday, March 3, from 9 am to 1 pm and Wednesday, March 14, from 6 to 10 pm.

Cost is $25 for Y members and $35 for non-members. For information call 931-8046.

Strikes a light

A truck failed to stop after it hit traffic lights on the southwest corner of Sherbroke street and Victoria avenue Saturday at 8:47 pm, police said. The vehicle was followed by public safety officers as it drove south and east and a licence number recorded. The truck bore the markings of a Tilden rent-a-truck.

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Access for handicapped to public buildings being surveyed in city

Barbara Moore has a very ambitious mission. She wants Westmount business people and community leaders to be aware of the importance of accessibility to their buildings.

What worries her is the fact that most buildings such as banks, restaurants and schools in Westmount do not have facilities that allow disabled people to enter.

After consultations with city council, Mrs Moore decided to launch a three-month project to find out how many public buildings are easily accessible to physically disabled people.

The survey was started Wednesday

By JOHN-THOMAS DIPOWE

last week. The work is being carried out by three Dawson College students in first year with the social services department.

Mrs Moore, a member of the social affairs committee for Westmount, says the survey resulted from a meeting held at the Westmount branch of the CLSC Metro during Accessibility Week last year.

"We discussed a lot of problems and when the problem of accessibility for the disabled was mentioned, I felt it was my obligation to do something about it," she says.

Attuned to needs

Having worked at the Mackay Centre for 10 years, she is, she says, more aware of the needs of the handicapped. She says the centre is the only one in Montreal that has a school with adequate facilities for the disabled.

Westmount city councillor Sally Aitken says the aim of the project is to make people more aware of what they can do to make their shops more accessible and safe for disabled people.

"People with limited abilities don't hestitate to go to buildings which are more accessible," she said.

Dawson College students were chosen for the survey because the school is in Westmount. The three students involved are Sabrina Petrococo, 18, Vanessa Robillard, 17, and Cynthia Daher, 20. They are doing the project as part of a course assignment.

The three students are taking a questionnaire to selected banks, stores and post offices in the Westmount district. They will find out whether each of the selected institutions has reserved parking for the handicapped, whether entrance is possible by wheelchair, the height of elevator controls and whether there is a telephone device for the deaf.

Mrs Moore says that after the survey results have been analysed, the group will put together a directory for the disabled. She says she believes more people will become aware of the importance of accessibility.

Mrs Moore is coordinating the project with the help of Pat Harris. This is the first project of its kind in Westmount and Mrs Moore is confident that the results are going to be very helpful for the city when it reviews its building codes and guidelines.

Library goes 'on line' with new valuation-roll computer

THE library is finally on line.

Westmounters will no longer have to trudge to city hall during office hours to find information on property valuations and taxes.

That's because the city recently installed a terminal at the Westmount Library which allows citizens access to the valuation roll. The terminal officially starts operating today.

Last Tuesday Jerry Dolar, city hall's computer expert, was at the library to show the librarians how to use the system which has been operating at city hall since last October (see story Oct 26, 1989).

Mr Dolar said that because the terminal was installed at the library the information will now be accessible after office hours. In a press release, Peter Patenaude, Westmount's director-general, said the installation will coincide with the issuance of the 1990 property tax bills.

The first Westmounter to use the library computer was Thomas W. Dench who looked up information on his home and his neighbor's. He said the system is excellent and easy to use.

And he said he found what he was looking for.

French course for executives

McGill University's languages and translation department is introducing a course in French writing techniques for executives, the first course of its kind targeted to the specific needs of senior practitioners.

No more than 14 students will be in each class. The first of the two-part series will be held in the conference room of the Centre for Continuing Education from 9 am to 4 pm starting March 3 and continuing for four consecutive Saturdays. The fee is $280.

The department will also work with interested corporations to adapt the program to deal with special requirements. Courses can be held on-site and at times most convenient to business schedules.

For information call 398-8078.

Correction

In an article in last week's EXAMINER describing the MUC police anti-drug program, the organization with which Glen Nolan is associated was incorrectly given. Mr Nolan is the director of treatment for the Phoenix Centre in Lachine. THE EXAMINER regrets the error.

In a scrape

A Westmounter's car was scraped along the side by an unknown vehicle while parked overnight Friday-Saturday on Bruce avenue, police said. The hit-and-run caused more than $500 damage to the 1986 Honda.

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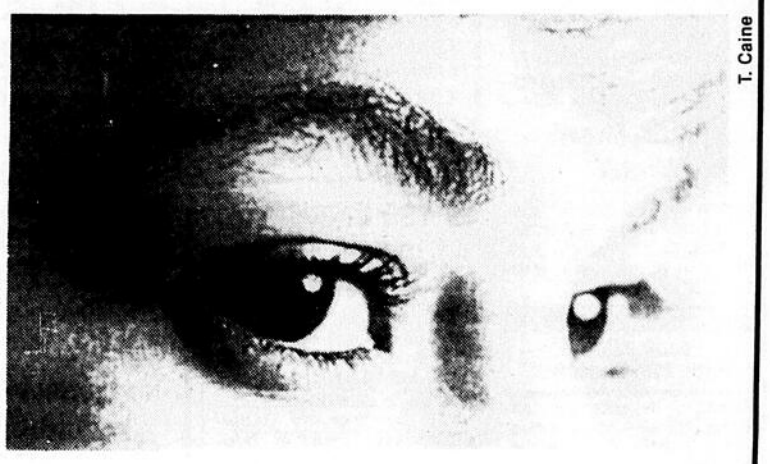
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ANTIQUITÉS

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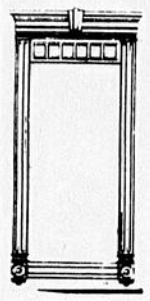

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YOUNG HEART RESEARCHERS: Grade 6 students from The Study visited Jewish General Hospital where Dr George Honos, the hospital's first fellow in cardiology research, demonstrated how the hospitals new echocardiography equipment is used in performing a heart examination. Front row, from left, **Sarah McCans, Katie McCann, Gabrielle Lore** and **Sarah Morris**. Second row, **Robyn Seidman, Georgina Dimyan, Francesca Carvana** and science teacher **Mrs Wright**. Back row, **Jill Doctor, Dr Honos,** Westmounter and chief of cardiology division **Dr John McCans** and **Kim Johnston**.

Arrest in coffee-machine thefts; fax, office machines recovered

A RASH of break-ins at the Royal Trust and Royal LePage offices on Sherbrooke street at Mount Pleasant avenue may have been solved with the arrest of a south shore man, police announced last week.

Office equipment valued at $20,000 was recovered.

The suspect, arrested Wednesday last week at his office downtown, is described as 49 years old. Three others are being sought in connection with the incidents.

Recovered goods included fax machines and other equipment taken from the adjacent bank and real estate offices in a series of some seven break-ins (see story Jan 5).

The arrest came on the heels of the latest break-in over the weekend Jan 20-21 when a memory typewriter was taken from Royal LePage along with $4 or $5 from the coffee machine.

The investigation continues under sergeant detectives René Purtell and Gérard St-Germain, assisted by constables Michel Carignan and Pierre Mantha.

Michelangelos wanted to sculpt in snow

Westmount residents are enouraged to make like Rodin or Moore (two renowned sculptors, if you didn't know) and create exquisite snow sculptures on their lawns.

This will ensure their participation in the recreation department's annual Winter Carnival. The snow sculptures will be judged on Feb 16.

The goal of the event, according to recreation department literature, is to promote family-oriented activity as well as decorating neighborhoods with snow art.

Prizes will be awarded and the winner will have a picture of their sculpture published.

Any school, group or resident interested in submitting an entry can contact the recreation department at 935-8531, local 320.

Course helps green thumbs get ready for springtime

THERE are still openings in the new spring gardening course offered by Westmount's recreation department.

The course was created because of the success of the fall gardening course. The new course starts Feb 6 and will be held Tuesdays from 7 to 9 pm.

The course's intructor, Larry Hildreth, will be dealing with a variety of topics.

He will be look at planning gardens and which are the best locations to plant. Students will be made aware of soil conditions, the proximity to sun or shade, and choice of plants.

Other topics include seeding indoors, plants from cuttings, spring bulbs, dormant treatment and pruning, and transplanting.

The cost of the four-week course is $25. For more information contact Beverly Adams-Coskun, Westmount's socio-cultural co-ordinator, at 935-8531, local 212.

Ankle agony

A 57-year-old N.D.G. man injured his ankle falling on ice in King George Park Monday night, fire officials report. He was found lying on his back about 9:42 pm and was transported to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

MATHEMAGICIAN: Miss Edgar's and Miss Cramp's School held its sixth annual mathematics competition for Grade 7 students early in December 1989. ECS math teacher Richard Taylor says about 200 students from public and private schools across Montreal competed. Prizes are awarded to the top three individual scorers, and to the school accumulating the best overall score — this year Herzliah St Laurent. Westmount resident **Cari Davine**, 12, took home the medal for ECS student with the highest score. She says, not surprisingly, that math is one of her favorite subjects.

Six feet plenty for lamp cords

Residents are cautioned that extension cords for lamps should not exceed six feet, fire officials say. This is the maximum length for lamp gauge cords adopted by the Quebec Electrical Code in 1977.

Longer cords could overheat, they say.

The advice follows an incident Friday at the Abbey apartments, 4643 Sherbrooke street. Firefighters were alerted to a series of extension cords running along a hallway to an apartment where power was shut off.

The lamp cords were disconnected.

OUR MAYOR . . .

continued from page four

tive in cities, whereas it is positive in our provinces and our nation. Those wider elections promise (whether sincerely or opportunistically is irrelevant here) new directions and major changes. Any political party not in office and not offering big plans has no hope of gaining power. (Look at the efforts of the Liberals and the NDPers to come up with something new and different at the moment.)

Not so in municipalities.

In cities those citizens who vote usually vote *against* rather than *for*. When they come to council meetings, stand up to question or make statements, when they write or phone the mayor or councillors, they are usually objecting to something: noise, zoning changes, demolition decisions, parking rules, dog rules, slippery streets and the decline of efficiency in services. They get worked up over what's *not* done. And, of course, the biggest protest is always against any form of tax increase.

Even when citizens seem to be asking for something positive, there is a negative base. When they want streets repaved, better sanded or salted, a stop sign added here, a landlord forced to make repairs, they are really protesting what is *not* done rather than what they feel should be done. Even citizen committees looking into city spending aim at cutting expenses in any possible way, not discussing how tax money might be better spent to benefit citizens.

Citizens protest

At the same time, citizens protest the removal of any service, no matter how much money can be saved. There's always somebody who likes it, no matter how little it is used.

No one ever seems to ask big questions or even expect their elected officials to ask them: Where is the city going? What level of services should we be providing? Do our public buildings and parks answer the present needs of our citizens? How has the population changed in age, ethnic make-up, interests and do our leisure and culture activities serve them?

Since citizens expect nothing but housekeeping from the elected, that is all they get. The elected know that positive changes (which must always involve some expense and/or inconvenience to somebody) will be protested. So why go looking for trouble? In consequence, cities just run on and on, somehow, any old how, slogging along in administrative trivia without positive direction.

Why do I bring this up in Westmount?

Because, not being a politician, I ran (call it naively, if you wish) on a positive platform.

I felt it was time to look at and renew our public facilities, particularly the library/Victoria Hall/greenhouse complex and extend the cultural services offered by the city. But I cannot count the number of times I have been told I wasn't elected for that platform. I was elected, I am told, because the previous administration failed to assure tenants against condominiumizing, or seemed to threaten dog rights, or failed to permit question periods at council meetings to run on.

But since being elected and seeing the way our city runs, my objective has enlarged, not diminished. From wanting to renovate our public facilities, I have gone on to want to look at and renew our whole city structure.

That is why — in answer to THE EXAMINER — we have hired an outside consultant to force us to look at our council and where we think our city should be heading so that we can have something positive to show at the end of our term, at our administration and see if it is the most efficient and economical structure to serve us and help us move ahead.

THE EXAMINER is quite right in saying that this should be done by every council regularly. I don't know how long since it's been done, if ever. Look at the dismal architecture of all the buildings built here since the Second World War: the library extension, the recreation building/skating rink, the city hall annex. All look as if apologizing for being there at all and hoping you won't notice them. Good architecture always provokes comment. Build a box and everybody will assume you have been economical — even though a drab box may cost even more than a building that is a pleasure to look at and pleasant to be in.

And so our council is at last looking at everything, itself, its plans for the city and our city structure. I hope that every future council will do the same when it is a year into office. It will change city politics for the better and may not even need outside help to do it.

Night ski trip during Carnival

For the first time in the history of the Westmount Winter Carnival, the recreation department is offering a night ski trip to Mont St Sauveur. The bargain basement cost is $15.

The price includes the bus ride and the towlift ticket. The bus will leave the Westmount arena at 4:40 pm Feb 14 and will return by 11 pm. Ski equipment can be rented for $10. Tickets for the night excursion should be purchased before Feb 12 from the recreation office.

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Guards	17	4	11	2	54	100	10
ATOM							
Penguins	18	12	5	1	68	43	25
Canucks	17	9	7	1	63	62	19
Nordiques	18	6	9	3	57	61	15
Canadiens	17	5	11	1	54	76	11
PEEWEE							
Capitals	15	9	4	2	71	55	20
Canadiens	16	7	6	3	66	65	17
Seals	15	3	9	3	60	77	9
SENIOR A							
Stars	21	17	4	0	115	62	34
Wanderers	21	12	5	4	88	44	28
Flames	21	8	8	5	68	64	21
Sabres	21	8	12	1	69	85	17
Bruins	20	2	18	0	52	137	4
SENIOR B							
Hawks	19	14	4	1	99	62	29
Devils	19	13	4	2	89	50	28
Flyers	18	8	5	5	60	53	21
Fathers	19	8	8	3	82	95	19
Aces	19	6	10	3	44	61	15
Kings	19	4	12	3	60	94	11
Oilers	19	3	13	3	73	92	9

Peewee Seals keep fighting to tie Capitals

By WARREN VALDMANIS

The Seals staged an impressive last-minute comeback to tie the Capitals 4-4 Monday in Westmount peewee hockey action.

It was a breathtaking match from start to finish.

At 13:00 of the first period, Capital winger Francis Lussier opened the scoring when he beat strong Seal goalie Roland Sperlich with a high shot to kick off what was to be an inspired offensive game for the Capitals. Capital forwards such as David Durand and Nicholas Sinclair dominated play inside the Seal blue line. They threatened Sperlich with shot upon shot while the brilliant Capital defense, featuring Jonathan MacDougal and bulwark Ricky Mezey, turned away all Seal scoring attempts empty-handed.

Sperlich made many difficult saves during the first period and managed to cover up on most of his rebounds. With just over a minute remaining, however, he was scored on again. This time it was Anthony Perzow who one-timed a pass from Ricky Mezey into the mesh.

The second period brought much of the same: the Capitals continued to dominate and Sperlich continued to make excellent saves.

At 10:40, however, Seal centre Michael Shanahan was set up by linemate Jonathan Stubbs with a breakaway pass Shanahan was able to convert for a goal to put his team on the scoreboard. Thanks to the efforts of Sperlich and Capital goalie Mike Vineberg, there was no further score and the period ended 2-1 Capitals.

Back in it

After a brief but rousing interperiod speech by coach Dylan Hoey, the Seals came out fighting.

Despite an early goal by Capital centre Jonathan Albright to make the score 3-1, the Seals's spirits remained high. They got a few more clutch saves by Sperlich to keep them in the contest and by 7:35 had diminished their deficit to one goal after Brandon Sant connected on a pass in front from James Surridge. A minute later, however, Ricky Mezey scored a power play goal and the Capitals were once again up by two goals. It seemed they had secured their victory as the seconds ticked away.

A solo effort at 1:59 by Seal defensemen Eric Bui-Quang brought the Seals back within one and restored the glint in coach Hoey's eyes. The Seals were brought back to life.

After several challenging saves by Capital goalie Vineberg, Seal efforts bore fruit. Circling behind the net Gretzky-style, Stubbs gave a perfect pass to Brandon Sant in the low slot. Sant slid the puck past Vineberg with just over a minute remaining. When the siren blew the Seals and Capitals were tied at four goals apiece.

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Holiday season travels:

Mayor catches glimpses of India's many faces

When Mayor May Cutler arrived in Bombay Dec 15 it was 10:30 at night.

A little "Oxfam kid" approached the door of her taxi and pointed to his open mouth. When she managed to produce a small pack of soda crackers and cheese she had saved from the airplane, a second suddenly darted up beside him. And together they ate right there in the dark.

Then she registered at her hotel, the Oberoi, where she was welcomed in splendor with a jewel in the forehead, fresh flowers in her room and personalized stationery printed in gold.

From dazzling opulence to squalor in the streets: her four-week visit to India had begun.

"It's an emotionally exhausting country of peacocks and vultures," she said last week on her return.

In Bombay alone, a city of 8.5 million people, there are 500,000 living on the streets — beggars, crippled children and women "shoving babies at you." Human waste in the street brings out the flies and dogs feed on the feces.

By LAUREEN SWEENEY

Efforts by one municipal official to introduce plastic garbage bags are failing because people use the bags for other things like shelters and they continue to dump their garbage, she said.

Garbage collection and recycling was one of Mayor Cutler's main interests during the visit. She went to Bombay a day before others on her British tour so she could meet with city officials and look into the problem — "at my own expense.

"The mayor is just a figurehead in Bombay, so I met with one of three commissioners who run the city — the one who is in charge of garbage," she said.

Refuse collection, she found, is carried out by individual entrepreneurs as in Hong Kong and Cairo, rather than by companies. "Every paper is shredded down and the shreddings sent to Japan for recycling."

She discovered first-hand a very efficient entrepreneur one day as she ate a banana in a village. She was looking for somewhere to toss the peel. Suddenly it was pulled from her hand by a goat. "That solved that problem," she said.

Bananas and oranges are among the few foods clean and safe enough to eat, she said. "I didn't exactly starve, but you have to be very careful. One man on our tour survived on cheese sandwiches and soda."

The mayor's experiences unravel as quickly as she can catch her breath.

The holy Ganges

The temperature plunged to zero degrees when she visited the city of Varanasi (formerly Benares), on the holy Ganges River. "People are bathing in the water, but they don't look cold," she said.

This is the place where many of the dead are brought to be cremated and to have their ashes scattered on the river. Children, on the other hand, are not cremated but weighted to the river bottom, sometimes floating upward. People bathe and do their laundry in the same waters.

Life and death go on side by side.

"At one point I was walking along a narrow passage and I looked up to see a man holding the body of this little baby to be put into the river. It was all wrapped in blue and he was holding it so preciously in his hands."

She visited a film site in Bombay, movie capital of the world, where 400 feature films are made each year. She met leading Indian film-maker Ramand Sagar and his five sons, one of whom drove her back to her hotel. Father and sons not only work together but share the same house with their wives and children, a group of 24. She was invited to the home where each family has its own unit of rooms, but all eat together in a common area.

She went to a maharaja's tiger preserve where she was told she had seen a tiger at night. "I couldn't swear in court I actually saw it, but I took a picture of it so we'll see when it's developed," she said. (Along with all 20 rolls of film, that is.)

Traffic horror

Then there was the traffic — and her only "really horrible" experience.

"India has the highest accident rate in the world with one death per 268 cars compared with one for 4,000 in the United States.

"Anyone who can get something to move moves it. There are hit-and-runs all over the place. If you can get away, you go. You never know what you'll meet when you turn a corner. There are camel carts and oxen carts, bikes with things sticking out the sides, haywagons that take the whole road, buses without doors and vehicles without lights."

The bad experience occurred at the end of a day's trip from Khajuraho ("in the middle of nowhere"), site of the ornate pornographic temples to Varanasi.

"Our group took three taxis along a single-lane highway where you had to go up on an embankment to pass anything. The last hour was in darkness. The fog came in. We passed three accidents, one where they hadn't yet extricated the injured people. It was a nightmare. You cannot *believe* what it was like. The taxi ahead of us ran into the back of a bus without lights. The three Aussies riding in it crammed into our cab. They were *hysterical*."

As a result of road conditions, taxi and bus drivers have to be the greatest to survive, she said. "Ours drove 11 hours making only one stop and he was going all the way back that night."

Pedestrians and cows

Crossing city streets is another hazard as drivers calculate how fast pedestrians are moving and go around them, she said. Cows just stand in the middle of it all, seeming to know their status.

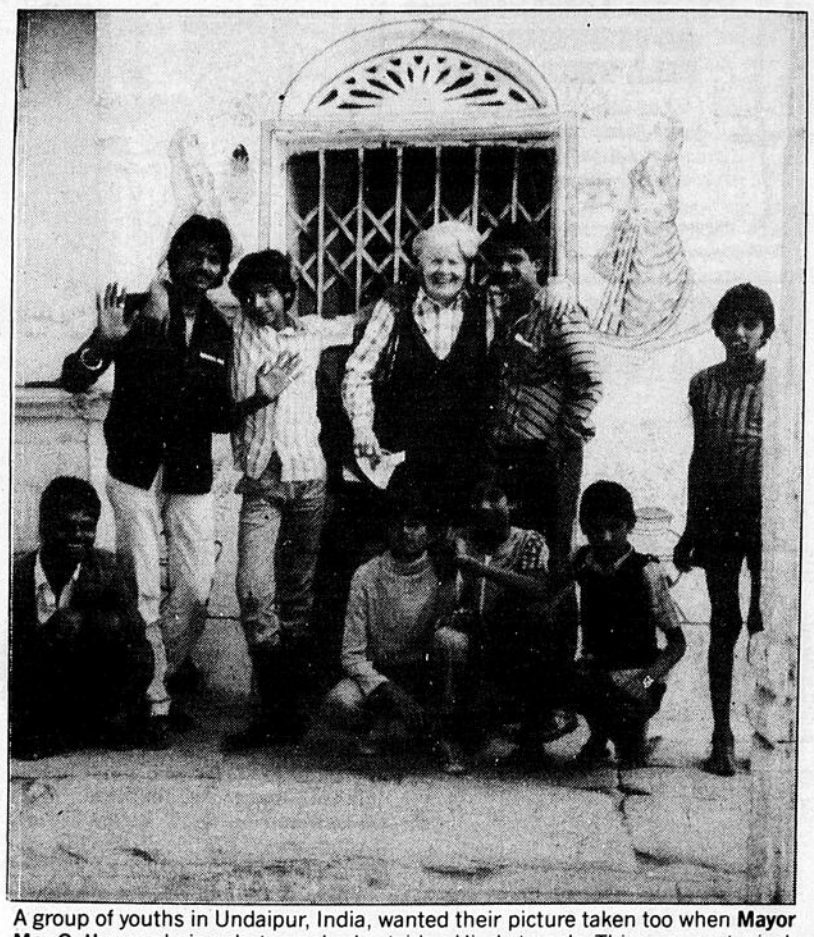
"I did see one man stoning a cow though, so I guess they're not holy to everyone," she added.

There were problems phoning long distance and she finally had to go to a telegraph office that hadn't seemed to have changed in 60 years.

The newspapers were wonderful though, especially the numerous ads for brides and grooms. "They're looking for partners with fair skin and United States green cards. They also want horoscopes to be included with replies."

On the return trip to Canada, Mayor Cutler spent four nights in Hong Kong and three in Nepal. Walking down Freak street in Kathmandou, a famed hippie haunt of the '60s, she was approached three times in one block by people offering hash. "The best offer was from a man saying 'Madame, I can get you *anything* you want.' I told him I just wanted to walk down the street."

She was yearning to see her first granddaughter, born Jan 1 in Vancouver (see story Jan 18). After a stopover there, it was back to Westmount where, it seems, the mayor is more than just a figurehead.



A group of youths in Undaipur, India, wanted their picture taken too when **Mayor May Cutler** was being photographed outside a Hindu temple. This was very typical, she said.

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ALLIANCE FOR Madras based Nair girl, 29/160, Pleasing personality, Central Government employed. Correspond with horoscope to Box No. 2872, C/o THE HINDU, Madras-600002.

ALLIANCE INVITED for Tamil Vadagalai Srivathsava girl Uthiradam 3rd, Sudha Jathakam, fair, good-looking, slim, 25/160, M.Sc. Bio-Chemistry, trying Higher studies in USA from boys below 31 green card employed student in USA, two brothers in USA. Reply with horoscope particulars. Box No. 9526, C/o THE HINDU, Madras-600002.

B.Sc. VERY fair, unemployed Athreya Ashtasahasram girl, Anusham, 24/150 seeks C.A./Eng. Bank officer. Sub-sect no bar. Horoscopes details Box No. 2782, C/o THE HINDU, Madras-600002.

ALLIANCE INVITED from a Jaiswal or any Hindi speaking, well educated settled boy preferably in business or a good job with good family background for a convent educated, graduate Hindi speaking Jaiswal girl, 26 years, 154 cms, slim, fair, well versed in house affairs from a reputed family in Hyderabad. Reply Box No. 2814, C/o THE HINDU.

A sampling of newspaper ads for bridegrooms run in *The Hindu* in Bombay, Dec 24, 1989 edition, shows importance placed on horoscope of potential mate.

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No-smoking indicated well in four local establishments

Three more local stores and a restaurant have been added to the list of commercial establishments deserving kudos for the high visibility of their no-smoking signs. All are on Victoria avenue.

Public safety officers named La Galerie restaurant, Spritz clothing store, Club Copie and Cantor's bakery.

The latest locations wrap up inspections of 117 stores, banks, restaurants and other establishments visited by officers since Jan 22 in the west end area around Sherbrooke and Victoria.

The inspections were begun Monday, Jan 22, to check out compliance with the city's no-smoking by-law adopted five years ago (see story last week).

Of the 117 establishments, 66 were found to be without the no-smoking signs required by the by-law. As a result of the visits, 340 no-smoking stickers were distributed along with 101 copies of the by-law.

In the central area (St Catherine and Metcalfe) 20 places were visited of which 10 had no signs.

At 11 restaurants visited in the west and central districts nine had some signs to mark designated no-smoking sections as required by law. One that didn't is a restaurant much frequented by city employees including city officials.

Five eateries were listed as needing to add more signs, officers said.

The visits are continuing in Westmount's east end.