

Superannuated Teachers of Ontario

District 16 City of Toronto

Newsletter

January 1981.

The merry season is over and we're into '81. The temperature keeps dipping to unheard of depths but no despair, we bring warm and hearty greetings from S.T.O. 16.

Hope your holiday period was fulfilled and you didn't gain a pound. (Now that's optimism)

TO BRING YOU UP-TO-DATE

The annual meeting was held on Wednesday, October 15th at the Education Centre. A new executive was elected and introduced by the incoming president, Walter "Bun" Reid. Here are your officers for 1980-81: Past President, Cec Longmuir; President, Bun Reid; 1st V.P. Mary (Molly) Moore; 2nd V.P. Sid Coles; 3rd V.P. Harold Dean; Secretary, Margaret Smith; Treasurer, Bill Whitehouse.

Executive members are Mattie Clark (Membership); Anne Fraser, (Hospitality); Nort Heard (Mailing); Elizabeth Patterson; Laura Schissler (Goodwill); Ken Strangway; Mary Thomas (Communications); and Bea Machin (Club 16).

A single page containing names and telephone numbers of all executive officers, executive members, Club 16 personnel and the Goodwill Committee is included in this mailing.

Our sincere thanks and appreciation to two members leaving the executive: Gertrude Allen (Newsletter), and Esther Lunney (Hospitality).

A special thanks to Cec Longmuir who completed his presidency this year. Cec has given many years of service as president of several organizations both local and provincial.

SPEAKER - GORDON JOCELYN

Our speaker for the October 15th annual meeting at the Education Centre was Gordon Jocelyn formerly with the T.V. program, "From Now On".

The ideas presented were quite provocative and deserve repetition and thoughtful consideration. Here are some gleanings with editorial comment.

"We must break the image - the stereotype of seniors."
"Prejudice against the elderly is enormous."
"Characteristics of dawdling and daydreaming are common to all ages." (Fair is fair!)

"Loss of memory." (Remember student exams!)

"Youth cults are reviving our 20's, 30's and 40's." (And stealing our fashions, too!)

"Old people won't try new things." (Check the activities at the end of this Newsletter!)

"The old are grumpy, aggressive." (What about teenagers?)

"Society has prejudices vs old but the old have prejudices vs youth." (C'est la vie!)

"The elderly are badly served re programs" but "How often do we write a letter?"

And Very Positively

"You are a growing minority." (A powerful, growing minority?)

"Your knowledge and skills cannot be put to sleep." (So say we all!)

FROM S.T.O. (Ontario)

Clare Perry, Secretary-Treasurer of the parent Ontario body reported to our annual meeting on the present state of S.T.O. (Ont.)

"Your organization S.T.O. (Ontario) is a growing group of 16,000 members."

Re Benefits and Pensions

"Your pension is secure."

"Your escalation is secure."

"The superannuation fund is healthy and growing."

"The government will invest your funds in the open market."

"We are facing an increase in premiums for the Extended Health Plan because costs have far exceeded the premiums paid."

(More about this in Senate News)

Re Travel Club

"Up to 1000 members used the club."

"The club booked 1500 units of accommodation in Florida this year."

HAPPENINGS AT THE EXECUTIVE

Grant - A grant of \$400.00 will be sent to Club 16, the very busy centre of interest and activities.

Luncheon - It was decided to poll the members at the upcoming February 17th meeting re a future luncheon. Be prepared to offer suggestions.

Goodwill - This is a most active committee under the leadership of Laura Schissler. The names of shut-ins, those ill, in hospital etc. have been allocated to the committee members for follow-up with cards, phone calls, etc.

The Committee depends on all members of S.T.O. 16 to send in information re illnesses, bereavements. Phone any of the Committee members.

Membership - As of January 6, Mattie Clark reported our membership to be a healthy, flourishing 680. Cheers!

From the Treasurer - The books were audited by Byron Brown. Postage and printing are the largest items totalling over \$1000.00. The May breakfast was subsidized by \$402.00. We have a bank balance of \$3,726.58.

May Breakfast - Royal York Hotel - May 5, 1981

Concern was expressed re the conflict of this day, May 5th and the Day of Prayer but the room was only available on May 5th. Jot the date down now.

Coming Up Soon - O.T.F. will be conducting a retirement planning seminar January 16th (Evening) and January 17th (All Day). Bun Reid, Cec Longmuir, Israel Gang and Molly Moore will be involved.

FROM THE SENATE

S.T.O. Ontario (30 Districts) - The Senate met November 5th at the Park Plaza Hotel. Bun Reid attended as senator from S.T.O. District 16, with observers Cec Longmuir, Molly Moore and Laura Schissler.

Health and Welfare Committee - This committee has the large task of considering and deciding the terms of our next E.H.P. contract. It met twice with Mr. J. Causley, Director of the Teachers' Superannuation Commission and Mr. Peter Clarke, General Manager of CHSO.

Here are the Facts - The present three-year contract of the Extended Health Plan ends May 31, 1981.

Agreement reached by the Health and Welfare Committee, Mr. Causley and Mr. Clarke re Extended Health Plan CHSO

- (a) that the new contract be for a period of one year: namely, June 1, 1981 to May 31, 1982,
- (b) that the monthly premium structure for that period be Single - \$5.50, Couple - \$8.45, Family - \$11.35,
- (c) that despite the very high proportion of claims for drugs (63.8%), the maximum in claims for drugs be the same; that is \$500.00 for the contract year.

Recommendation - Members of the committee were concerned that 63.8% of benefit claims were for drugs, in spite of the fact that there is an Ontario Drug Plan that provides free generic drugs for senior citizens. The committee urges subscribers to request the use of generic drugs in prescriptions whenever possible.

For those interested, a booklet entitled "Drug Benefit Formulary" is available at the Queen's Printer for \$1.00.

Dependants' Allowance - O.T.F. is studying the cost of raising the dependants' allowance to 75% of the teacher's pension.

CHSO (Co-op Health Services of Ontario) - The past year showed unprecedented growth in revenue, claims and expenses.

Delta Dental Plan amounts to 60% of CHSO business.

Net loss for the year was \$1,375,021.00 but CHSO is financially sound. The 1980-81 budget will show an operating profit of \$300,000.00 to \$350,000.00.

CLUB 16

No doubt this is the most active, social and recreational addition to any of the 30 districts in Ontario. When you join S.T.O. 16 you have automatic membership in Club 16 and the activities are free. Enjoy it! You won't find better!

INFORMATION FOR SENIORS

Gertrude Allen listed some free or half price discounts for Seniors in the September Newsletter. Here are more -

Theatres - \$1.00 seats at several - apply for special card.

Horse Racing - free on special days (Jockey Club - 675 6110)
(This is only for the racy crew.)

Bowling - at some lanes - (752 8541)

Curling - special rates - East York (425 2872), Royal (461 0251)

Baseball - Bluejays - half price on special days (595 0077)
(Spring will come!)

Pamphlet - Information for Seniors - (863 0505)

We welcome news items or ideas for the Newsletter. Keep in touch.

Mary Thomas (Communications)
Bun Reid (President)

IN MEMORIAM

Laura Avery
Mary Carroll
Edgar "Ted" Davey
Margery Fennell
Les Goldring
Ina Howill
H. Lloyd Matthews
William "Bill" Purvis
Mary Taylor
MacEachern Tolmie
Harold Whitley - a former President of S.T.O. District 16