

Superannuated Teachers of Ontario

District 16 City of Toronto

Newsletter

President:

Al Robb

Editor:

Phil Hornick

January 9, 1986

Dear Friends:

Greetings, and all best wishes for the NEW YEAR! May the months ahead bring good health, pleasant times, and glad tidings.

A warm welcome is extended to our new members. You have joined a very select group. But get involved, and participate. Attend our meetings and enjoy the company!

Are you looking for an interesting way to spend an afternoon? Come to our General Meeting on Wednesday, February 12, 1986. Our Guest Speaker, Mr. William Dendy, an architectural historian and author of LOST TORONTO, will present an illustrated lecture based on many of Toronto's historic landmarks, buildings that have been torn down "in the name of progress" but still very familiar to all of us. The illustrations will revive many memories.

You won't want to miss this meeting! So, come along, bring another retiree, have coffee, meet your friends, and socialize. We'll look forward to seeing you!

Much has been happening at STO. The November Senate was interesting, and you now have your copy of FACTS AND IMPRESSIONS, which provides a summary of the proceedings. You should note that corrective lenses following eye surgery are now included as a one-time benefit, and that fees for Associate Members have been increased to \$5.00 per annum, payable directly to STO.

Although not included in FACTS AND IMPRESSIONS, there was a proposal by Lawson Orser (President) that STO become involved in supporting "causes." Tom Tait (District 5) also proposed that STO prepare a handbook which would include, among other things, information of importance to the elderly, particularly instructions and procedures to be followed when a spouse dies. Both proposals will be introduced at the May Senate.

At our local level, everyone on the Executive and Committees has been busy. There is much to do, in order to carry on the programs and activities. Many of our members volunteer their services, and these offers of assistance are very much appreciated.

At the local level, too, several items will be up for discussion at the Executive: the Group RRSP, increased grants for the "northern" districts, the proposals by Mr. Orser and Mr. Tait, and motions and resolutions for the May Senate. It looks like an interesting year!

Finally, our congratulations go to Al Robb, upon his election to the Executive of STO!

NOTES FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING (October 17, 1985)

Mary Thomas (President) welcomed everyone, with a special word of welcome to our new members. She then thanked the members of the Executive for their support during the past year, and made a few comments relative to the meetings of the Senate...

Elizabeth Patterson (Good Will), Jean Watson (Club 16), and Mary Moore (Membership), spoke briefly about their respective areas of activity on the Executive...

Bill Whitehouse (Treasurer) distributed copies of the Financial Statement, as of August 31, 1985, showing a balance of \$4468.00. The Statement was adopted...

Al Robb (1st Vice President) introduced our two Guest Speakers, Robinson Hamilton, from the Health Services Committee, and Bob English, from Confederation Life, who discussed a number of matters related to our Health Services, and answered questions from the floor. Some points mentioned, were:

- * Health Plans must be designed to meet the needs of the greatest number of subscribers...Rates from Confederation Life are competitive...Membership is increasing, and so are the claims...
- * Subscribers should send in letters to either the Health Services Committee, or Confederation Life, if they feel that new or extended coverage is needed... All such inquiries are fully explored...
- * Subscribers should make constant reference to their Health Service Booklet. However, if further information or clarification is required, Confederation Life should be contacted...
- * Confederation Life cannot pay the difference between OHIP rates and extra billing by doctors...The same policy applies in the case of dentists...
- * New retirees must apply for Extended Health and Semi-Private coverage within 31 days of the cessation of any previous coverage...New spouses, and surviving spouses must also apply within this time frame...Some 80%-90% of applications received after this period has elapsed are turned down...
- * The Dental Plan may be applied for at any time. However, claims for the first year are limited to \$100.00...
- * If a large dental bill is anticipated, the matter should be discussed with the dentist, and then cleared through Confederation Life, as claims are based on the least expensive procedure(s)...Bridges, crowns, and dentures are not eligible, as these would add considerably to the premiums...
- * It is likely that corrective lenses following eye surgery will be included in the coverage...

ANNUAL MEETING (Cont'd.)

* For dental services outside Ontario, claims are paid on the basis of the 1983 O.D.A. schedule...In the case of Extended Health outside Ontario, payment is based on the district in which the services are rendered...

Margaret Smith (2nd Vice President) thanked the Speakers, and suggested that further questions should be directed to either Sid Coles or Mike Lennox.

Harold Dean (Past President) presented the Slate of Officers for 1985-86, which was adopted. Is Gang thanked Harold Dean.

Al Robb (New President) made a number of closing remarks, in which he referred to the meeting as "most worthwhile."

District 16 Executive: 1985-86

Officers

Past Pres:	Mary Thomas	Corres. Sec'y:	Cecilia Dineen
President:	Al Robb	Record. Sec'y:	Alice Gibbs <i>revis</i>
1st Vice Pres:	Margaret Smith	Treasurer:	Bill Whitehouse
2nd Vice Pres:	Mitchell Lennox	Assist. Treas:	Anne Fraser
3rd Vice Pres:	Bernice McGinn		

Executive Members

Membership:	Mary Moore	Newsletter:	Phil Hornick
Hospitality:	Anne Fraser	"	Gerry Boone
Health Insur:	Sid Coles	Member at Large:	Bill Ketcheson
Mailing:	Nort Heard <i>did June/86</i>	"	Walter Reid
Good Will:	Elizabeth Patterson	"	Lew Fick <i>my 85</i>

Club 16

President:	Jean Watson	Treasurer:	Israel Gang
------------	-------------	------------	-------------

Our sincere thanks, and best wishes, are extended to Harold Dean (Past President) and Ken Strangway (Member at Large) who leave the Executive after many years of service. All their efforts are most appreciated.

Twenty-one teachers are members of the Ontario Legislature. Ten are Liberals, eight are New Democrats, and three are Conservatives. This group of 21 includes seven members of the Cabinet, and three former members of the Conservative Cabinet. (OPSTF NEWS, Oct., 1985)

S.T.O. NOVEMBER SENATE (Additional Notes)

- * Al Robb was the Senator from District 16. Mary Thomas, Mary Moore, Cecilia Dineen, and Phil Hornick were our Observers...
- * The Resolution, whereby a pensioner would pay one-half the actuarial cost of recalculation to the December 1983 Act, was withdrawn. Studies showed it to be "unfeasible, impracticable, and for many persons unprofitable"...
- * The number of persons who requested assistance from the Good Will Committee represented fewer than one-half of one percent of the total membership...There appears to be an acute need among single women under the age of sixty-five...The Committee is often asked for advice re accommodation, health care, and other forms of social assistance...
- * The overall deficit in our Health Insurance is \$439,238., in spite of a surplus of \$71,060. in Extended Health... Predictably, there will be an increase in premiums in order to reduce and eventually eliminate the deficit...
- * Non-members who participate in the Travel Programs often provide the additional persons required to make a tour financially viable, or fill the gap for members who would otherwise travel alone and pay the single supplement...
- * The Treasurer of Ontario has turned down a request that STO have representation on the Superannuation Commission... The Treasurer pointed out that the re-organized TSC is new, and requires time to operate...He also noted that STO has other opportunities for expressing its concerns...
- * One member, responding to the suggestion by Lawson Orser, urged that every effort be made to prevent the supporting of "causes" from becoming too controversial, and having a divisive effect on STO...
- * The Nominating Committee recommended Al Robb for the Executive. However, an election became necessary when there was a nomination from the floor...

G E N E R A L M E E T I N G

Date: Wednesday, February 12, 1986
 Time: 1:30 p.m. (Coffee at 1:00 p.m.)
 Place: Education Centre Conference Room,
 155 College Street., Corner McCaul.
 Speaker: Mr. William Dendy, Architectural
 Historian, Author of LOST TORONTO
 Topic: LOST TORONTO (Illustrated)