

Alberta continues crackdown on health care freeloaders

By MARK LISAC
EDMONTON (CP) — The Alberta government will stop suspending health insurance for people who don't pay their medicare premiums, but the crackdown on premium payments will continue in a different form.

requiring Albertans to register with the health plan. Registration will basically consist of providing an address, Russell said. That, he said, will allow health officials to go after anyone behind in premium payments. Coverage would not be cut off for non-payment, but defaulters might find themselves in small claims court or pursued in other ways.

ers of anything have some print at the bottom that overdue accounts are subject to penalties after 30 days or 60 days... at an interest rate of such and such. Even your credit card has that and that's the nature of the penalty."

Carol VanderWell, information officer for the Alberta Health Care Insurance Plan. Those registrations, covering 90,400 people, included 31,400 registrations for which plan officials do not have a current address.

down on premium payments last October. As of March, she said, the provincial government was paying all or part of medicare premiums for 169,483 people covered by 82,435 registrations.



WHAT IS IT?

Angela Gunnlaugson, a student at Park Meadows School, makes an adjustment to one of her classes artistic efforts. It is one of a number of creations that were the result of a brainstorming session between some of the teachers. Art teacher Rita Kerr says the ideas just kept mushrooming until they came up with the final colorful product, although they aren't quite sure what to call it.

Seen and Heard

Lethbridge alderman BILL COUSINS, recovering from abdominal surgery, walking gingerly across the room at the Marquis Hotel to present a city pin to SUSAN HARGRAVE, Miss Rodeo Canada. Hamilton Junior High school teacher RUTH GREG was as red as her new Corvette after school Friday — it seems she forgot there was a burglar alarm with the new car and she set it off getting in to go home, much to the delight of most of the school population which gathered around to laugh at the predicament as she thumbed through the owner's manual trying to find out how to silence the alarm...

ALD. BILL COUSINS explaining why he got discharged from hospital early after surgery: "I took a turn for the nurse." University of Lethbridge president DR. JOHN WOODS saying 30 years ago he drove a garbage truck and adding many people believe that's when he peaked. KEITH ROBIN at the U of L Chancellor's dinner Friday saying if people noticed something wrong with his voice, it was because of the time he's spent on hockey ice recently and later U of L Chancellor BILL RUSSELL saying it's not the ice, it's the hot water he's been in... BILL REIDELL at the dinner saying Honorary degree recipient VAN CHRISTOU's roots are in Lethbridge. CHRISTOU is an orthodontist.

GRAFFITI
IF SOMEBODY HAS GOT TO LOSE... IT MIGHT AS WELL BE THE OTHER GUY

Index

Agriculture	A9, A10
Books in Review	B6
City	A3
Classified	D4-D9
Comics	D3
Comment	A6-A7
Deaths/Notices	A2
Entertainment	C8-C10
Lifestyle	C1-C5
Marketplace	B8-B10
Real Estate	C11-C12
Region	A5
Religion	C6, C7
Sports/Recreation	B1-B5
Theatres	C9
Travel	D1-D2
TV listings	D3
Weather	A4

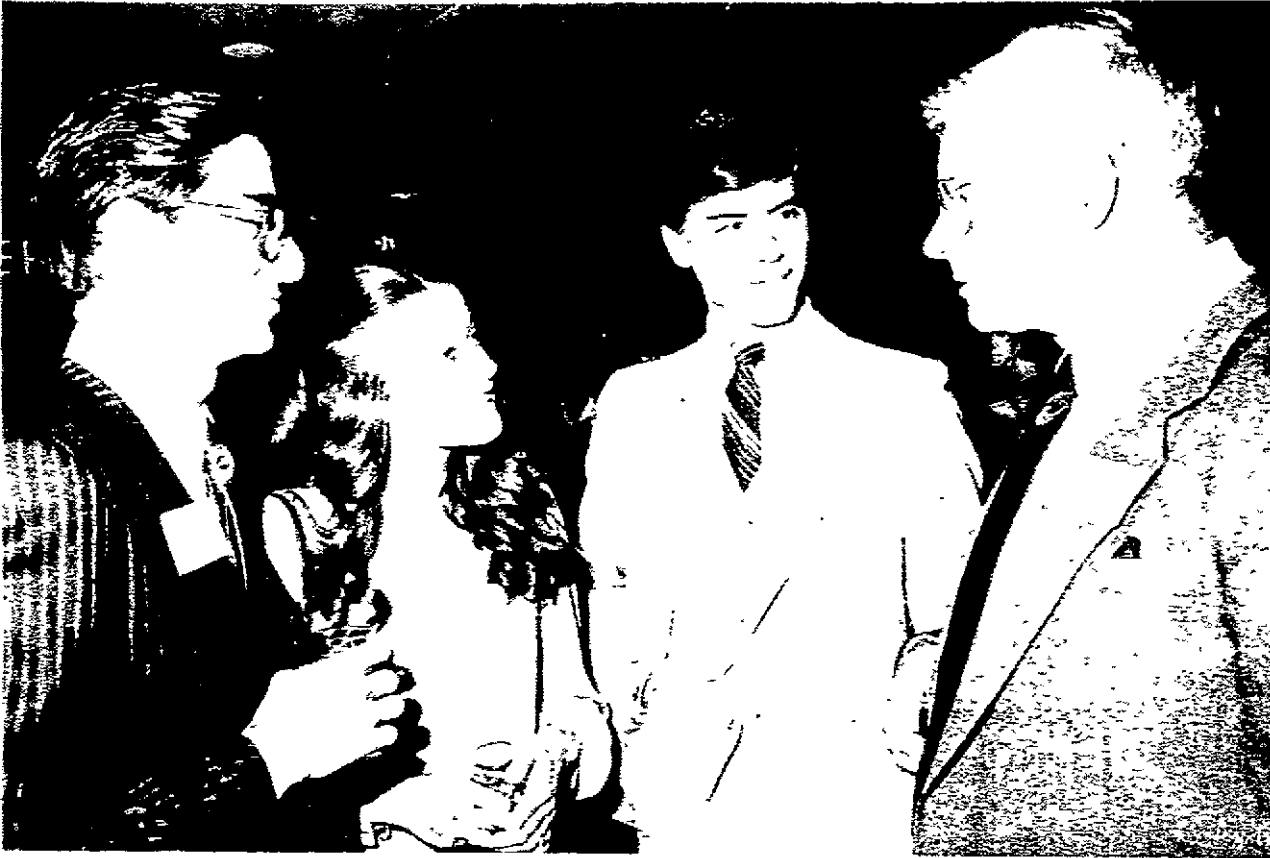
Weather

LOW TONIGHT 2
HIGH SUNDAY 12

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Vancouver might dump its garbage in Elk Valley



HONORARY DEGREE recipients Van Christou, far left, and Archie Stalker, far right, chat with University of Lethbridge graduates Sandra Bonetti and Darrel Pittman at the annual Chancellor's dinner Friday.

U of L Canada's 'Harvard'

By JUDY PARSONS
of The Herald
More than 100 University of Lethbridge officials paid tribute Friday to three honorary graduates to be given degrees during U of L convocation ceremonies today.

the struggle for the fundamental relationship of the mind, the body and the environment" adding such a relationship at the U of L is more important than its awe-inspiring design.

"It's to explore the sciences, philosophy and mathematics... thrilling things like that," he said. "I like to call the University of Lethbridge the University of Alberta. I think the one in Edmonton is misnamed."

Labor leader wants Canadians to boycott Chilean products

Boycotts of Chilean products and Canadian banks borrowing money to that country will help opposition there fight the military junta, says a member of a fact-finding trip to Chile.

meeting at the Labor club, jointly organized by the World Citizens Centre and Oxfam in Saskatoon. He made the Chilean trip along with

"Don't buy Chilean products," Fisher says. That boycott requests come from the Chilean people themselves, he says. Such actions really can't hurt the people much more than they are suffering already in the economically-shaky country.

Thatcher denied bail

REGINA (CP) — Colin Thatcher, a former Saskatchewan energy minister charged with murdering his former wife, was denied bail Friday by the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal.

riding of Thunder Creek, which surrounds Moose Jaw, has been in custody since he was charged May 7 with first-degree murder.

Fisher says the group's visits with a wide variety of Chileans yielded testimonies of the political persecution which has existed since the military coup (said to be backed by the CIA) overthrown democratically-elected Salvador Allende in 1973.

19 cabinet ministers now backing Turner

VANCOUVER (CP) — Senator Jack Austin announced today he is supporting John Turner in his bid for the Liberal leadership because the former finance minister can "address the underlying reasons for Western alienation and discontent."

major challenger, Energy Minister Jean Chretien. Austin said the Liberal Party lacks political credibility because it has no members of Parliament in the three most western provinces. He said Turner can use his "coat-tails" to get members elected in British Columbia.

affairs minister Arthur Laing and Turner was parliamentary secretary to the minister. Austin also worked with Turner in the 1970s when Turner was in the federal cabinet as justice and finance minister.

VANCOUVER — The Elk Valley may become the garbage dump for Vancouver. Several abandoned open pit coal mines in the Sparwood area are being eyed for disposal of 500,000 tons of residential refuse produced in Vancouver every year, The Lethbridge Herald learned today in an exclusive interview in Vancouver.

The proposed project, conceived by Continental Environmental Landfill Corporation of Mission, would utilize empty coal cars on their return trip from the coal port here to East Kootenay mine sites.

The proposed project, says Alfred Grimm of Grimm and Associates, would solve two major problems. It would rid Vancouver of refuse concerns, while providing an environmentally-sound way of reclaiming mined out properties.

Each car would be loaded with 36 compressed and bound bales of garbage for disposal in old, unused pits. The corporation was formed by a group of local businessmen who have pumped more than \$100,000 into designing the project, which will be presented to Sparwood residents next month.

Preliminary discussions already have taken place between Continental, B.C. government representatives, CP Rail and three East Kootenay coal mining firms.

Initially, the corporation proposes to haul 1,500 tons of refuse daily to one of several 120-metre-deep pits, now under study. The volume could rise to 4,000 tons daily — all of Vancouver's garbage — if the project works out. At that rate, it would take up to 30 years to fill a single pit, consultants say.

area. Roughly 80 per cent of any city's refuse is organic and could be used for mulch and mining reclamation purposes, says Grimm. Although the plan would produce some low-quality methane, the gas would be tapped and burned off, he adds.

Similar plans are under consideration by Continental for hauling the refuse from Lethbridge, Edmonton and Calgary. Continental and its consultants, Underwood McLellan Ltd. and Grimm and Associates Inc. of Washington, are to discuss the proposed Alberta projects with provincial officials early next month.

Continental and its consultants are continuing studies into the project including ground water surveys. Negotiations with East Kootenay coal mining firms and CP Rail also continue.

Westar wants more info

CRANBROOK — A spokesman for British Columbia's largest coal mining firm said Friday his company needs "far more" information on proposals to use one of its old mined out areas in the East Kootenay for a Vancouver garbage dump, before it officially comments on the matter.

about the program. We haven't really had the chance to review what we know at senior levels... it appears to be entrepreneur concept. It's entertaining and unique but we need more definitive comments on its viability and more exchange on information."

Prairie grain farmers may get federal cash

OTTAWA (CP) — Prairie grain farmers will get an interim payment from the Western Grain Stabilization Act before July 31. External Relations Minister Jean-Luc Pepin announced Friday.

Pepin's announcement came as he outlined the amendments to the stabilization plan to allow a payout of about \$350 million this October. The bill received second reading — approval in principle — and now goes to the Commons agriculture committee for detailed study.