

Sexsmith population is rocketing

Margaret White

Throngs of people gathered Thursday, Dec. 28 at Teepee Creek to pay final tribute to Mrs. Margaret White. Services were held fittingly in the auditorium of the school where Margaret had taught grades 1-2 for 22 years of her 34-year teaching career. The large attendance (many of them former pupils) was evidence of the very high esteem in which she was held in the community upon which she so evidently left her mark.

Margaret was born in Rosemary, Alberta & came with her family, the Alfred Vinets, to the East Kleskun District in April, 1928. After living there for two years the Vinets moved to their homestead in the Fitzsimmons area.

Shortly after Margaret began her teaching career Cupid shot his dart and it wasn't long before a young Teepee Creek lad, Bob White, claimed her as his bride. On July 18, 1944 Margaret became Mrs. Bob White and the newlyweds settled down to farm at Teepee Creek. Soon a baby boy and a little daughter joined the family and they began the task of bringing up children.

Where's the 'fair' in the budget?

'It's not going to affect me too much because it doesn't matter which government's in, it's going to be the same thing. They've got to do something to reduce the deficit, but I think they could have nailed the rich people more.'

By DAVID HOWELL
Herald-Tribune staff

Finance Minister Michael Wilson has missed the mark with his "tough but fair" budget.

Missed it, that is, by leaving out the "fairness" part.

That's the opinion of eight of 10 people interviewed Monday in an informal Herald-Tribune survey conducted downtown on Richmond Ave.

Most of those interviewed said they were not impressed by last week's federal budget, which concentrated on tax increases instead of spending cuts.

Perhaps just as revealing as the overwhelming number of respondents unhappy with the budget were those — 15 people — who declined to be interviewed, on grounds they didn't know enough about it to comment.

Retired Grande Prairie farmer **Bob White**, the first to be interviewed, was also the first to express dissatisfaction.

"I'm not too enthused about it," he said. "Those damn guys in Parliament, they're just like kids to me. To hear them, you know, they carry on and they never seem to do too much. . . . but if they don't do something about farming pretty soon, it's going to be lights out for some."

City lawyer Terry Lock said he had been looking for tougher steps towards reducing the deficit.

"My gut level reaction is that I'm disappointed in it (the budget). I don't think it was tough enough, in terms of reducing the costs of many social pro-

grams, such as family allowance and unemployment insurance."

Sixteen-year-old local high school student Adam Tenzsen said he had neither heard nor read much about Wilson's budget.

"All I know is that cigarettes have gone up and there's nothing I can do about it."

Dale Sarwan, a Continental Bank commercial credit officer, said that after the budget was announced, he fired off letters to Peace River MP Albert Cooper and Grande Prairie MLA Bob Elliott, telling them about his disappointment.

"I was disappointed about tax increases to the ordinary Canadian, including myself," said Sarwan. "They had an excellent opportunity to perhaps have the corporate sector pay more of the tax load."

Sales clerk Brenda Patterson said the new budget will hit her right in the pocketbook.

"I won't be able to afford very many luxuries. All I'll be able to afford is the basic necessities. (The budget) will hit people on their own and larger families harder."

Joe Calenda, a senior planner with the South Peace Regional Planning Commission, said Wilson's is "probably a reasonable short-term budget."

"I'm glad they're working on reducing the deficit. I'm concerned about interest rates, though. Interest rates are going up and that means consumer demand and spending are going to go down because the cost of money is higher."

"Whatever the Bank of Canada can do to keep the Canadian dollar high, even if it's artificial,

should be done to keep interest rates low."

Barb Benvik, an intern teacher from Grimshaw who's teaching this week at Crystal Park school, said she feels frustrated by all budget announcements.

"I just feel it's the same as it was before," she said. "I just don't see how they can help, regardless of the government."

A wheelchair user, Benvik said she is especially hard hit.

"I'm paying sales taxes on wheelchair repairs; handicapped people are a minority."

Larry Schultz of Grande Prairie, a welder, also expressed a feeling of helplessness.

"It's not going to affect me too much because it doesn't matter which government's in, it's going to be the same thing."

"They've got to do something to reduce the deficit, but I think they could have nailed the rich people more."

Sexsmith homemaker Elaine Snoble said that while the budget offered mostly bad news, she was somewhat encouraged by the promise of more jobs.

"What's bad about it? Cigarettes and booze are going up. Income tax is going up. And (Wilson) is too easy on cutting down on spending."

Valerie Smallwood, a Spirit River accountant, said she is "not very impressed" with either Wilson or his budget.

"To me, the man hit all us middle-class working people, and I just don't think that's the way to do it."



BOB WHITE

Theodore "Bob" White, 71, of Grande Prairie

On Thursday, December 9, 1993, Theodore Robert "Bob" White, resident of Grande Prairie, passed away at the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital, Grande Prairie, Alberta, at age 71.

Bob was born in Sexsmith, Alberta on December 6, 1922. He was raised in Teepee Creek, and married Margaret Vinet in 1944. Margaret taught school, and Bob farmed in Teepee Creek until Margaret's death in December, 1978. Bob then moved to High Level, where he farmed for 3 years. In 1981, he retired to Grande Prairie.

Bob was predeceased by his parents, Charles and Kate; his wife Margaret, sister Doris Walker, brother Bill White, and niece Sharon White.

Bob is survived by his son Ken (Donna) White of High Level; daughter Lorraine (Marv) Keyser of Airdrie; grandchildren: Darren Keyser, Robbie White, Trudy White, and Peter White; his in-laws: Pete Kebalo; Jeannette McAllister, Frank Vinet, Norma White; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A memorial service for the late Bob White will be held at St. Paul's United Church, Grande Prairie, Alberta on Tuesday, December 14, 1993, at 11:00 a.m., with Rev. Joanna MacQuarrie officiating.

Memorial donations to the Grande Prairie Cancer Clinic would be appreciated by the family.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Oliver Funeral Chapel & Crematorium, Grande Prairie. Telephone 532-2929.



THEODORE ROBERT
"BOB" WHITE