

## PET CORNER

A column prepared by the  
Prince George SPCA

Skin problems in pets are often a difficult problem to cope with. They can be difficult to treat and slow to heal.

If your pet has been violently scratching or you notice hair loss, examine him to determine, if possible the cause of the irritation. Look closely for fleas or lice. Some pets have an allergy to fleas which can cause loss of hair and extreme discomfort. The hair loss is usually along the backbone just in front of the tail. If fleas are found to be the cause of the irritation, the use of a flea collar that is replaced every three months should solve the problem.

Hormonal imbalances or food allergies can be another cause of skin problems. If you suspect the latter, change your pet's diet immediately to correct the problem.

Many skin disorders are caused by fungal infections, such as ringworm, or by parasites as in the case of mange.

If you are unable to determine the cause of your pet's skin disorder, see a veterinarian for diagnosis and treatment. Don't expect mira-

cles overnight as some skin disorders take a long time to correct.

Make sure your pet does not come into contact with harsh caustic substances such as gasoline or turpentine which destroy the skin's ability to heal itself, or other substances like acids which burn the skin.

Plenty of exercise, regular vigorous brushing and the addition of fatty acid supplements to the diet are all conducive to good skin health in your pet.

**TIP OF THE MONTH:** Never let a dog ride in the front seat of a car where he could interfere with the driving, and don't let him hang his head out the window. Wind-blown particles can irritate his eyes and ears.

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## CALENDAR OF THE ARTS

The second annual Prince George Dance Festival begins Friday at Vanier Hall. The purpose of this festival is "to advance, promote and encourage the study and practice of the art of dance."

Scores of entries have been scheduled between the opening entry from St. Mary's School at 9:30 a.m. Friday and the final presentation Acrobatic Dance Solo at 4:20 p.m. Sunday. The honors performance will be held Sunday at 8 p.m.

The syllabus was planned to accommodate all the various dance disciplines that are being seriously studied at this time in Prince George.

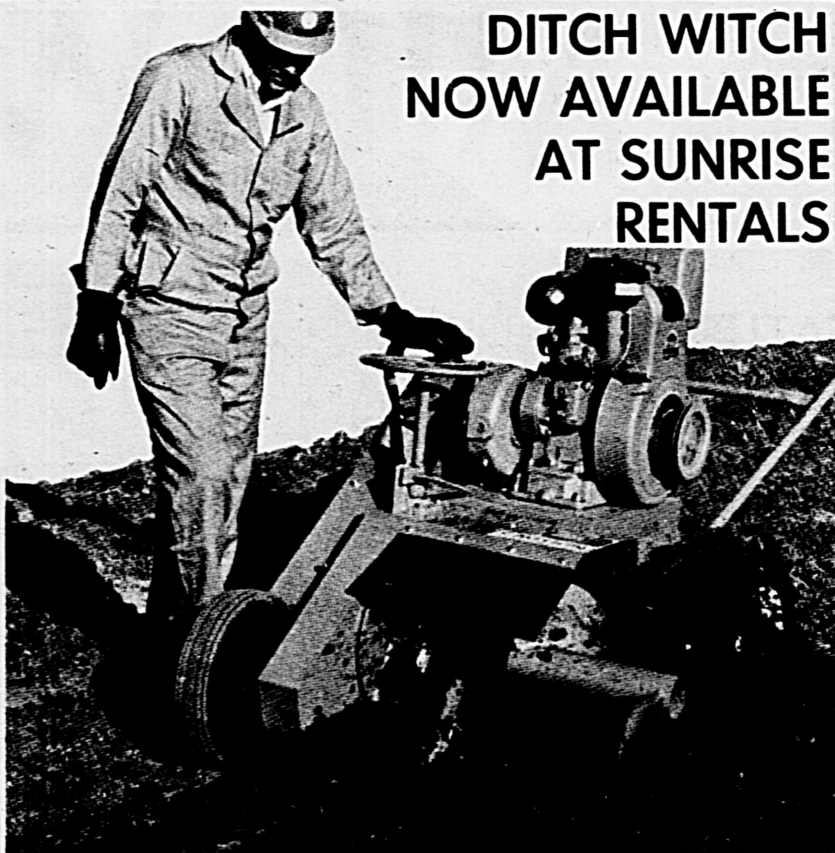
The adjudicators will be Wenda Crawford, of Edmonton for folk dancing, ethnic, highland, Irish, and ballet and Doris Sitter of Moosejaw will adjudicate the tap, jazz, musical theatre, acrobatics, dance twirl and ballroom dancing.

Because the Prince George Dance Festival is still in its infancy an unusual amount of planning and organization has been required of the executive and the committees to make this a successful festival. It is hoped it will lay a firm foundation for future festivals and that it will provide a new cultural interest for Prince George. The association is expecting to see some outstanding dancing both from within the community and beyond.

The hours are: Friday - 9:30 - 12, 1-4:30, 7 - 10 p.m.  
Saturday - 8 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.  
1:30 - 11 p.m.

Sunday - 7 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Those attending the Honors performance at 8 p.m. Sunday are assured of some truly fine entertainment. All sessions except the honors performance are free.

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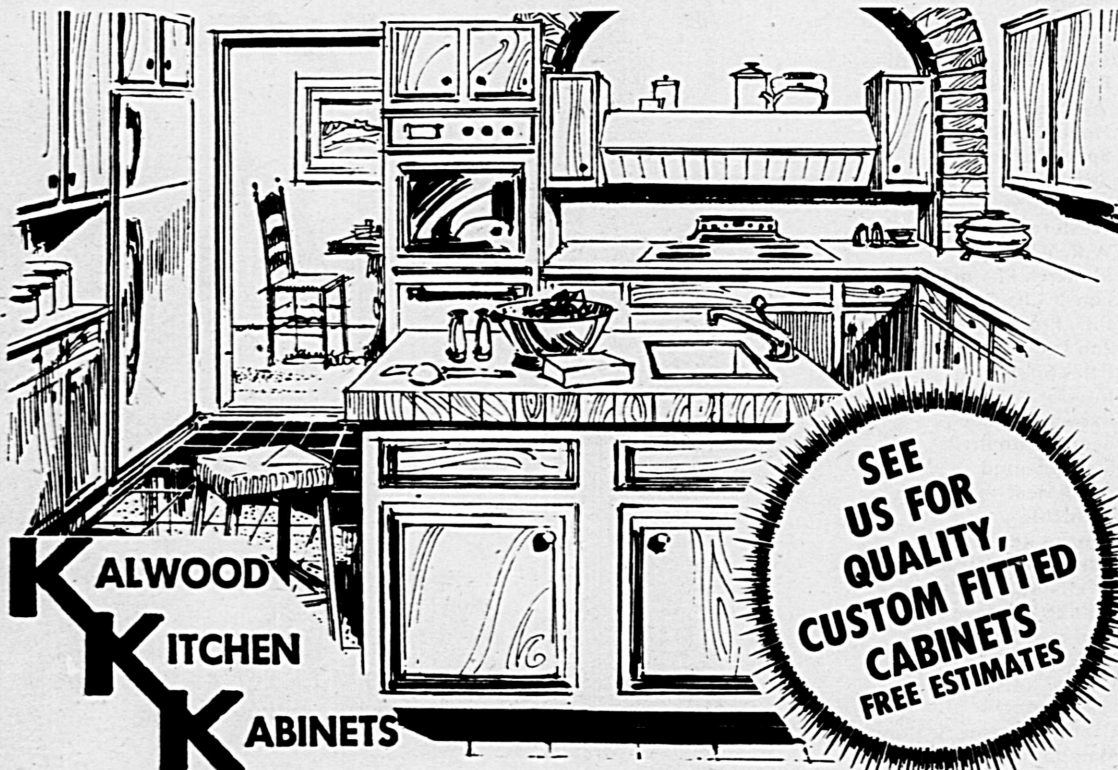


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