



*Scrapbook Collection of Catherine McMullen Mann*

*Book #19*

*1985*

*By*

*Catherine McMullen Mann*

# for Kenya relief

By DOREEN HOOVER

Corn was collected and bagged at the Norwich United Co-operatives by the Canadian Foodgrains Bank last week in an effort to aid the starving in Kenya.

The Canadian Foodgrains Bank is a partnership of seven denominations - Baptist, Lutheran, Missionary Alliance, Christian Reformed, Mennonite, Pentecostal and United. The Foodgrains Bank was operated by the Mennonites for about six years before inviting other denominations to participate last year thus forming the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

One hundred metric tonnes of corn were collected in Norwich with most donated and the rest bought from the Co-op. Bagging of the corn in Norwich began on Thursday and was expected to be completed Saturday.

The 100 MT of corn collected in Norwich will be part of a shipment of 300 MT of corn and 150 MT of red beans to be sent to Kenya in mid-January. A second shipment of the same size will be sent in February. The total amount shipped is being collected from around Ontario and bagged in three areas; the Chatham-Wheatley area, the Kerwood-Sarnia area and the Norwich area. The head office of Canadian Foodgrains Bank is in Winnipeg, Man., and when shipments are ready to be sent to Kenya, trucks will be sent to the three main areas to pick up the bagged corn and red beans.

The corn and red beans will be sent to the Garissa District of Northeast Kenya which has not seen rain for the last five years. Although the people in this area are not in as severe a position as in Ethiopia, they are in serious condition and the food donation is to try to prevent the situation from getting worse. William R. Smith of RR 3, Norwich, said. Mr. Smith, chairman

Relief and Development Committee of the Canadian Baptist Federation, has been personally involved with the committee for three years and was asked to organize the bagging of the corn in the Norwich area.

The collecting of food for Kenya started when the African Brotherhood Church, a partner of the National Christian Council of Kenya, told missionaries of the need for food. The missionaries then told the Relief and Development Committee of the Canadian Baptist Federation. The federation then made a request to the Canadian Foodgrains Bank.

The food shipment will be freely distributed in the Machakos and Kitui areas to the needy people. The nomadic Kikuyu and Somali people make up most of the population in these areas. This area is now starting to receive rain and it is hoped there will be a long, gentle rain to aid their crops. The food being sent over will tide the people over until their crops are ready to be harvested, Mr. Smith said.

The food is being shipped over in two sections because Kenya cannot handle the entire shipment at once. It is shipped in bags which can be easily handled by the country and are easier to transport inland rather than bulk. The National Christian Council of Kenya will distribute the food.

To aid in the bagging of the corn in Norwich, volunteers from Christian Reformed Churches in the Ingersoll and Woodstock areas gave of their time to help. For further shipments it is hoped to get volunteers from other churches to also help.

A large portion of the 100 MT of corn was donated by the United Church members in Embro. Most donations made to the Canadian Foodgrain Bank are in dollars and it is with this money that the rest of the 100

(Continued on Page 2)



## Weighing corn

John DeWeerd (left) of Hickson and William Hannenburg of Innerkip weigh some of the sacks of corn at the Norwich Co-op on Friday. The corn, destined for Kenya, Africa, was donated by people throughout Ontario and the project was organized by the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. One hundred metric tonnes of corn will be combined with another 200 MT of corn and 150 MT of red beans to help the undernourished in Kenya. (Staff Photo)

# Mayor recommends continued restraint

By DOREEN HOOVER

The sidewalk situation in downtown Norwich, township road conditions and a continued emphasis on restraint will be concerns of Norwich Township council in the coming election year.

As council enters its third year, one of the first items it will have to deal with will be the 1985 budget. This year council hopes to start forming the budget in January instead of May and June as in 1984, Mayor John Heleniak said. He will be recommending a continued practise of restraint while providing basic services.

Council will also continue its interest in the streetscape design project for downtown Norwich and is now in the position of waiting to hear from the Norwich Business Improvement Area before further action is taken, Mr. Heleniak said.

Action may also get underway on the Industrial Park in Norwich when council will decide in the new year whether to begin Phase One which would consist of putting a road in the park. Mr. Heleniak said there are persons interested in the industrial park and meetings with council will take place in January.

Even though council signed an agreement in 1984 with Oxford County that use of the Holbrook landfill site will cease on or before June 30, 1989, Mr. Heleniak said he

still has concerns about the county's ability to prepare an alternate site for use by this date. He said he was disappointed when the county, after numerous attempts by himself and Councillor-at-large Helen Smith to have the county look for alternate landfill sites in the event the Salford site had not come on stream, turned down their requests.

"It is a very real concern of where is the waste going to go," Mr. Heleniak said. "I know the county councillors are sincere and I hope they live up to the agreement." Prior to the Environmental Assessment Board hearing in Norwich in June, 1984, the township and county reached an agreement on Holbrook thus "saving ratepayers' money and guaranteeing the health and safety of residents of the township," he said.

With the closing of the waste site in Otterville in 1984 Mr. Heleniak said he was going to recommend to council that it investigate rural garbage pickup in the Otterville area and possibly in other parts of the township. He said it was an "inconvenience" for residents in South Norwich to have to transport their garbage to the Holbrook site. He was also disappointed when the county turned down a request to have a waste bin placed at the site of the closed Otterville waste area.

Another issue to be dealt with in 1985 will be the consideration of an automated system for the municipal offices. The township, along with four other municipalites, are investigating the usefulness of automation in their operations and council will decide in 1985 if it will implement the computer system. Mr. Heleniak sees the computer system study as an "important step." The system would provide information quickly for council use as well as for residents of the township.

Although major issues remained unresolved in 1984, the councillors and mayor saw many accomplishments made during their second year of working together.

Bob Carney, Ward 1, said he feels council did not accomplish much other than conducting regular council business and many issues were still unsettled at the end of 1984 and will receive action in the coming year.

The Norwich downtown core streetscape project is in its minor planning stages but is a long way from getting started concretely. Councillor Carney said. No further action can be taken until it is determined what grants are available.

He feels the Holbrook landfill site matter is a closed issue at the moment for the closure agreement has been signed. "It

will be a long time before Salford is open but the wheels are turning at least," he said. For the computer feasibility study the council is looking into the cost involved and the type of equipment and software available but no money has been set aside for the project.

"People don't look for great accomplishments by council but look for council to run in a businesslike manner and to the best of its ability and that is what we have done," Coun. Carney said.

Looking ahead to the election in November Coun. Carney said he has no thoughts on the matter for it is 11 months away and people can change their minds many times in that period of time.

Michael Oliver, Ward 1, saw the passing of the new zoning bylaw as a major accomplishment for 1984. The new bylaw recognizes existing non-conforming uses and brings everything up to date.

Getting a firm date on the closing of the Holbrook landfill site, approving in principle the Norwich BIA streetscape project, participating in the computer feasibility study, approving a zone change to accommodate William DeJong's business in Norwich and finding a new location for the Otterville Public Library were other achievements of the year. Council also

(Continued on Page 2)

# Norwich Township Council Briefs

## Hockey family nights

Family nights will be held at all Junior C hockey games from now to the end of the 1984/85 hockey season following the passing of a motion by Norwich Township council Monday. With Family Nights children accompanied by parents and persons under the age of 19 years will be allowed into the Blue Line Room at the Norwich Arena.

## Commend society

Council commended the action of the

South Norwich Historical Society for its excellent programs in the past year and its "very sound" financial position achieved at its own expense.

## Prevent parking

Council instructed the township public works department to construct several concrete-filled pipes around the fire hydrant in the Norwich Community Centre parking lot. The pipes will prevent parking by the hydrant that may

restrict access to the hydrant in the case of a fire.

## Snow removal tender

The snow removal tender in Oxford Centre made by Wayne Dakin was accepted by township council at the rate of \$25 per hour.

## Levy tax

Council instructed the treasurer to levy tax of 120 mills against the rateable assessment in the township as an interim tax levy and that the levy be payable in two equal installments on March 21, 1985 and June 21, 1985.

## Appoint to board

Councillor Don Pettigrew was elected to the Local Agricultural Manpower Board for 1985. The alternate member will be Councillor John McNally.

## Refuse support

Council voted to not support a resolution from the Township of Adjala in Loretto, Ont., that the council petition the Province of Ontario to enact appropriate legislation ensuring that livestock and poultry producers are allowed to shoot, without harassment and without being subject to prosecution, dogs not under proper control and found upon premises of producers. The petition has been circulated to all township and counties in the province to seek support.

## Pavement patching

Council approved a recommendation from the Agriculture and Works Committee that the Minister of Transportation and Communications be requested to do pavement patching on the Connecting Link in the Village of Norwich as per Connecting Link Agreement with material to be HL3 asphalt for a permanent patch.

## Request sign erection

Oxford County will be requested to erect a Stop Ahead sign approaching County Rd. 40 on the road allowance between Lots 12 and 13, Concession 5, in the former Township of East Oxford after council approved the Agriculture and Works Committee recommendation Monday.

## Gravel resurfacing

Any money left over from the 1984 road budget will be kept for 1985 gravel resurfacing. Council approved the Agriculture and Works Committee recommendation Monday.

## Construction policy defeated

Council defeated the Agriculture and Works Committee recommendation that one mile of gravel road be set up each year beginning in 1985 in Ward 1, Ward 3 and Ward 4 to be followed with pavement the following year after set up.

## Install additional lighting

The Norwich Public Utility Commission will be requested to install additional street lighting at the main entrance to the Norwich Arena complex after council approved the Agriculture and Works Committee recommendation.

## Continue road oil program

The Road Oil Program undertaken in 1984 in the township will be repeated in 1985.

## Erect guide rails

The approval by council of the Agriculture and Works Committee recommendation states the Oxford County engineering department take immediate steps to erect guide rails on County Rd. 19 at the westerly approach to Otterville to safeguard a potentially dangerous situation arising from the recent construction. Another recommendation approved was that the township request the county engineering department to place a guide rail on the south side of County Rd. 19, south of Church Street and east of Big Otter Creek, Otterville.

## New hall locks

Township clerk will be instructed to arrange to have locks changed in the Otterville Community Hall for security reasons.

## Include in budget

Florence Street in Ward 2 will be included in the 1985 Township Roads budget.

## Place signal system

Council approved an Agriculture and Works Committee recommendation that South-West Oxford Township be contacted on a suggestion made that Oxford County Roads Department be asked to consider the placing of a signal system on the railway crossing on County Rd. 19 at Ostrander.

## Submit application

The Agriculture and Works Committee recommendation that the application be submitted as soon as possible for sending Chuck Clark, assistant municipal inspector, to the course, The Inspector and the House.

## Sidewalk requirements

Road superintendent Ron Smith submitted to the Agriculture and Works Committee a report of sidewalk requirements on County roads as follows: 1,848 square metres in Otterville totalled at \$46,200; 1,548 square metres in Norwich for \$38,700 and 1,167.3 square metres for the business section of Norwich valued at \$29,182.50.

## Petition for subsidies

Council approved the Agriculture and Works Committee recommendations that the road superintendent petition the Ministry of Transportation and Communications for subsidy in the amount of \$15,000 toward the cost of construction of residential sidewalks along County Rds. 18 and 19 subject to Oxford County approval and petition the MTC for subsidy of \$15,000 towards the cost of construction of sidewalks in the business section of Norwich along County Rd. 18 subject to Oxford County approval.

## Building permits

Building permits issues in Ward 1 during December totalled \$56,000, \$250,000 in Ward 3 that includes the new fertilizer warehouse at the Norwich United Co-operatives. There were no building permits issued in Ward 2 and 4 during December.

## Council information sought by ratepayers

Request for information on Norwich Township activities in 1984 by a township resident was aided by council Monday.

At Norwich Township council Monday Catherine Mann of Otterville requested copies of all 1984 council and committee meetings minutes be made available to her as well as a copy of all future 1985 council and committee meetings. Mrs. Mann agreed to pay 10 cents per sheet for any information from the 1984 minutes she wanted copied.

Although councillors were pleased with her interest in council activities some wondered if this interest was prompted by the rumor of the forming of a ratepayers association in Ward 1.

Lyle Davis, Otterville, also present at the meeting, said there was not a ratepayers association formed at this time, but that was not saying there would not be in the future.

Mrs. Mann said the idea of such an association was why she wanted the council information. "I don't want to get involved in anything I don't understand if one (a ratepayers association) is formed," she said.

Councillor <sup>HELEN SMITH</sup> Don Pettigrew said he felt it was money well spent to give the public all the information possible. "It is not a big burden to enlighten people," he said. His only concern was if a great number of township residents began asking for copies of the agenda.

Mrs. Mann also asked council if it would be possible for the publication of yearly financial statements of the township to remain consistent from year to year so residents could make comparisons.

Township deputy clerk-treasurer John Gilbert said financial statements from auditors change but the publications of in-

formation from the statement could be made as similar as possible from year to year.

A request from Bill McMullen of Otterville for a breakdown of revenue received in each respective ward for the 1984 taxation year and the number of people in each ward was also approved by council Monday.

Councillor Bob Carney said he thought Mr. McMullen just wanted to know the total assessment per ward and the number of people living in each ward.

"If this bit of information will set some of the records straight and help put an end to the bickering going back and forth and put it to rest, than it is for the benefit of the entire township," he said.

Councillor Larry Martin thought the request for information would isolate the wards in the municipality, "They live in one township," he said. "By fragmenting you aren't going to get a clear picture of what goes on in the township."

Deputy clerk-treasurer Gilbert said the information on tax revenues Mr. Mullen requested would give a clear picture of action in the township but the information on expenses would not.

Councillor Hardee Richardson was concerned if such requests took time away from office employees.

Councillor Carney suggested any request for information not readily available should come before council for members to decide if it was worth taking the time of office staff to undertake.

Councillor Michael Oliver said the request from Mr. McMullen was reasonable and that council members should not adopt a "confrontational approach" but try to be helpful.

## Hydro rates up 5.9 per cent

An overall hydro rate increase of 5.9 per cent has been approved by the Norwich Public Utility Commission.

Proposed rate increases for the village of Norwich, Otterville and Burgessville include a residential rate increase of 6.2 per cent and a 5.4 per cent increase in the general service rate. The net income raised by the rate increases is proposed to be \$10,576 for 1985.

The rate increases were approved by the Norwich PUC during a special meeting Nov. 22. If approved by Ontario Hydro the new rates will be effective Jan. 1, 1985.

50 YEARS AGO  
January 10, 1935

A petition to grant authority for the sale of beer in licenced premises, presented to the Weston council, carried 877 names of bona fide voters, while on a vote of the ratepayers being taken only 472 voters registered their votes in favor.

Bruce Palmer left on Monday for Schreiber, where he has secured a position in the mine of his uncle, Crawford Palmer, who has been in the northern town for some months.

John Segner was elected reeve of South Norwich, defeating the present reeve, James Johnston, by 130 votes.

# Discontent evident in South Norwich

Rumblings of discontent are still emanating from Ward 1 (the former Township of South Norwich) in Norwich Township and rumors are still circulating regarding the formation of a ratepayers' association.

Lyle Davis, a former township councillor and resident of Ward 1 who attended Monday's council meeting, said an association hasn't been formed yet but he said the possibility still exists of one being organized down the road.

Mr. Davis attended the council meeting along with Otterville resident Catherine Mann. Mrs. Mann asked council for copies of all 1984 council and committee meetings as well as a copy of all future meetings.

Although councillors were pleased with Mrs. Mann's interest in council's activities, some wondered if the interest was prompted by the rumor circulating about the ratepayers' association for Ward 1.

Mrs. Mann said the talk about such an association was why she wanted the council information.

"I don't want to get involved in anything I don't understand if one (an association) is formed," she said.

Mrs. Mann said the information was necessary to provide her with a better understanding of what council is doing with taxpayers' money.

After lengthy discussion Mrs. Mann's request was granted but she will have to pay 10 cents per sheet. She will be provided with copies of future agendas and council and committee minutes free of charge.

Councillor ~~Don Pettigrew~~ said he felt it was money well spent to give the public all the information possible. "It is not a big burden to enlighten people," he said. His only concern was if a great number of township residents began asking for copies of the agenda.

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Mayor John Heleniak believes two recent incidents triggered the storm now brewing in South Norwich. One was the dedication of a memorial plaque in October to honor Dr. Emily Stowe at the Norwich and District Museum and Archives and the second was council's approval of a plan to give downtown Norwich a \$140,000 facelift. Residents felt the Stowe plaque should have been located in South Norwich and people are upset about the cost of the beautification project.

Discontent has been evident since restructuring of Oxford County took place in 1975, combining the former townships of South Norwich, North Norwich, East Oxford and the Village of Norwich into one municipality.

Residents believe regionalization has meant more cost to taxpayers for fewer services.

## Urges action on industrial land policies

Norwich Township council was advised to establish prices and policies for the industrial park in Norwich to help attract businesses.

During the regular council meeting Monday Simon Erkelens, sales representative for Canada Trust in Norwich, addressed council on the idea of taking further action on the 7.5 acres of land north of the Norwich Community Centre.

"I am concerned that it is a vacant piece of land now and it is difficult to get interested people to look at it," Mr. Erkelens said. He said in the past few years he has had interested people but they wanted to move fast. At present council has not taken any action to put in a road, or service the park.

Mayor John Heleniak said council has not taken any action on the property for there were thoughts a prospective buyer might want more than one of the nine lots in the park, so no service was put in. The industrial park can now be sold as one lot or up to nine lots according to the offers that come along. Township clerk Bob Watkins said a road could be put in the park in two to three days if needed and that it would be possible to put all the services in within 60 days.

Mr. Erkelens also suggested council present copies of the preliminary planning in the industrial park to local realtors to aid them in attracting businesses to the area. He said there is current interest in the park by a business.

Mr. Heleniak suggested the erecting of a sign at the entrances of the village about the existence of the industrial park for added advertisement and that the signs include contact numbers for interested persons.

The industrial park property was purchased by Norwich Township in 1980 for industrial use. The park has a dry industry restriction so only industries that produce no liquid waste except from accessory kitchens and washrooms are allowed. This makes the park "very restrictive," Mr. Heleniak said.

## Snow removal costs over budget in 1984

Snow removal costs on Norwich Township roads for the calendar year of 1984 exceeded the 1984 budget because of the heavy snowfall during the first few months of 1984.

For the year \$75,000 was spent on snow removal, exceeding the \$60,000 budget, but \$48,000 was spent on sanding and salting, lower than the budgeted \$55,000.

"It was an exceptionally bad year last year," Ron Smith, township road superintendent, said. Bad winter conditions usually go in three-year cycles and "last year was one of those years."

The winter of 1985 has so far been minimal with the first concern of the year

being the heavy ice fall in the township on New Year's Eve that required salting and sanding. Monday's snowfall also kept the seven snowplows and three sanders busy clearing township roads.

Mr. Smith expects the snow removal budget for 1985 to be less than the amount allotted in 1984 as it is hoped this will be a milder winter than 1984.

Sidewalks in the township are experiencing the normal ice on their surfaces for this time of year, Mr. Smith said.

Whenever there is money left unused in the snow removal and sanding and salting budgets it is spent on maintenance of township road equipment.

## Don Miller elected chairman

Don Miller of Norwich has been elected the chairman of the Norwich Township Culture and Recreation Advisory Committee.

The culture and recreation advisory committee advises the township council through the community services committee on the best uses of township-owned and operated facilities, buildings and programs.

Mr. Miller is taking over the position left after Joe Hampson of RR 4, Woodstock resigned last year.

N.G. JAN 9

N.G. JAN 16

# Norwich beautification project put on hold

T.N.  
JAN 25

By DOREEN HOOVER

Norwich Township council is considering repairing or replacing sidewalks in downtown Norwich when weather permits and eliminating immediate beautification plans in the core area.

Council tabled a motion Tuesday evening dealing with doing necessary repairs or replacing of downtown Norwich sidewalks and doing necessary upgrading of streetlight wiring but in future will be dealing with the motion and the idea of adding provisions so the Norwich Business Improvement Area (BIA) can continue beautification plans as funds become available.

Norm Lusk, council representative to the BIA, will be addressing the group on the council action Tuesday and expects to present council with a letter stating the BIA wants these provisions made for future beautification. Provisions would be included so BIA could deal with purchasing trees, garbage receptacles and benches for beautification of the downtown area as funds become available. The BIA has a fund organized that sets aside \$2,000 per year for beautification and Coun. Lusk said the BIA could "live with a \$2,000 a year beautification plan."

Township clerk Bob Watkins told council Tuesday that many beautification items included in the engineer's design could be purchased at lower costs such as less expensive trees or streetlights. "There are lots of things that can be reviewed in the project without taking away from the beautification, only on a financial basis," he said.

On Friday, council held a special meeting to deal with the Norwich BIA streetscape design project and during that meeting rescinded a motion approved Nov. 20, 1984 that stated council would transfer \$15,000 from the 1984 sidewalk budget to a reserve fund for sidewalk improvement under the project, that council would budget for \$35,366 in 1985 for the project and that council authorize the completion of an application for funding under the Commercial Area Improvement Program (CAIP). Under CAIP, the township share

of the estimated \$145,432 project would have been \$100,732, with the township being eligible for a grant of \$16,788.66 and a low interest loan of \$33,577.34.

Also at the Friday meeting council tabled a motion to apply for funding under the Ontario Neighborhood Improvement Program (ONIP) that would provide 50 per cent funding for the streetscape design project. Under ONIP the township would have to put less money into the funding, but the BIA would be required to pay more. With CAIP the BIA's share of the project would have been approximately \$29,000 over a 10-year period. With ONIP the cost would have been from \$34-35,000 with higher interest rates.

While CAIP was affordable for the BIA, ONIP was not; yet CAIP was not favorable to the township.

To qualify for ONIP funding the township would have had to put a workable property standards bylaw in effect and from the total cost of the streetscape project, 20 per cent also had to be spent on "soft services" such as improving a recreational facility.

On continued discussion on ONIP Tuesday evening Councillor Bob Carney said he was not in agreement with placing more regulations on the ratepayers through the property standards bylaw. The bylaw prescribes the standard for maintenance and occupancy of property and requires any property under the standards to be repaired and maintained.

Coun. Lusk also said ONIP funding would not aid the township for council already has money budgeted for replacing sidewalks on the Main Street of Norwich and subject to approval from Oxford County, there will be funding available for removal of the step up on the north side of Main Street and repaving of the parking lane. He said the only aid ONIP funding would provide would be for funding for the Norwich Public Utility Commission's involvement in the streetscape project. The PUC has passed a resolution approving participation in the Main Street improvement project and stated it would replace existing services on the street at the ap-

proximate cost of \$9,000 and apply for grants available.

Councillors were also concerned if the township participated in ONIP that it could be two years before any sidewalk work began. Coun. Carney said the downtown Norwich sidewalks are in bad shape and that council owes the businessmen improved sidewalks and they shouldn't have to wait two years to get them.

Following Friday's council meeting BIA president Roy Arn said he was "disgusted and frustrated" by council's action regarding the streetscape project and funding programs, CAIP and ONIP. He was asked to attend the meeting Friday to provide additional information to councillors to aid in their decisions on future action, but he did

not attend for he felt council had all the information available.

Mr. Arn, who has been president of the BIA for three years, said Tuesday morning he was "almost fed up" with the entire situation and is thinking of resigning his position. He said his feelings change from day to day as he sometimes wants to have no further involvement with the project and then on other days wants to "fight it through." Mr. Arn was not available for comment following council's action Tuesday evening.

A general meeting of the Norwich BIA will be held Feb. 5 for members to discuss the streetscape design situation. Mr. Arn said the BIA has already spent more than \$4,000 on engineering fees on the project.

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John France  
City Editor  
537-2341

Cancelled project prompts threats of resignations

## Norwich BIA chief disgusted with council

By ALISON DOWNIE  
of The Sentinel-Review

OTTERVILLE — The president of the Norwich Business Improvement Area (BIA) board is threatening to resign.

Roy Arn is disgusted with Norwich Township Council's handling of the downtown improvement project and says a large number of businessmen in the village feel the same way.

"A whole bunch of us plan to resign and the BIA may even be disbanded," Arn told The Sentinel-Review. "We're not going to fool around with this anymore. It's been going on too long."



BOB  
CARNEY

provement project but there were no BIA members on hand. Arn was invited to attend but he said he's not sure why.

At the meeting, council voted unanimously to rescind a motion passed Nov. 20 approving in principle a proposed \$145,000 streetscape design for downtown Norwich.

A lengthy discussion was held over a report from clerk Robert Watkins which recommended that if council chose to proceed with the project it should do so under the Ontario Neighborhood Improvement Program (ONIP). Another government program had been considered, but ONIP offers higher (50 per cent) subsidies, Watkins said.

### STANDARDS BYLAW

Coun. Bob Carney asked the clerk what the proposed cost of the \$145,000 project would be to township taxpayers. Watkins said it would be a maximum of about \$30,500, with the BIA paying

\$34,150 and the county kicking in another \$8,050.

Several councillors raised concern that the township would have to enact a property standards bylaw in order to meet ONIP requirements.

A motion to apply for ONIP funds to carry out improvements downtown was tabled. There was no decision made as to when the motion might be discussed again. As it stands now, council no longer approves an improvement program in the downtown area.

Coun. Mike Oliver said he did not support the motion partly because of a lack of input from the BIA.

"We can't make decisions for someone else," Coun. Don Pettigrew said.

### FORGET THE PROJECT

The BIA's council representative Norm Lusk said the businessmen's association, which represents about 54 members, believes it has given adequate information to council to make a

decision.

Coun. Carney, obviously frustrated at the outcome of the meeting, said council should go ahead and replace sidewalks on the main street, which it has money budgeted for, and forget the beautification project.

Arn did not seem surprised when informed of the outcome of council's meeting.

"They're the stupidest bunch I've ever dealt with," he said, indicating that the BIA has lost interest in the project.

During the past couple of years, he said the BIA has done a lot of work and spent between \$5,000 and \$6,000 on planning and blueprints for a downtown beautification project. Members have attended five council meetings to discuss the project and still nothing has been resolved, Arn said.

He blamed Norwich's ward system for delays in getting a project approved, saying ratepayers in other parts of

the township feel the village of Norwich is getting preferential treatment.

"We're only getting what we pay for," he said.

Under the proposed project, council considered Friday, the BIA would pay for frills such as garbage receptacles, trees and benches.

Council would pay for sidewalks and streetlight wiring.

The BIA's next scheduled meeting is set for Feb. 5 but Arn said he may call a special meeting before then to discuss council's lack of action on the downtown improvement project.



DON  
PETTIGREW

# Norwich needs bylaw

By Ben Steidman  
Staff Writer

D.N.  
JAN 23

NORWICH — Township Council appears to be following a winding road on the way to a proposed downtown facelift for Norwich.

At Friday's special meeting, Councillors voted to rescind its motion of Nov. 20, 1984, which approved application for a grant for this project under the province's Commercial Area Improvement Program (CAIP). The vote was recorded and passed unanimously.

After hearing a staff report, reviewing the project, which suggested an application for a grant instead under the Ontario Neighbourhood Improvement Program (ONIP), Council decided this might be a better route, as it lessens local costs.

## *One hitch to this approach (ONIP funding) is linkage to a Township Property and Standards Bylaw.*

One hitch to this approach is linkage to a Township Property and Standards Bylaw. The township really doesn't have such legislation on its books.

A motion for application under ONIP for the project, linked to this Bylaw, when it exists, was tabled. Two Councillors voted against this measure.

Approval in principle has already been given to the redevelopment scheme estimated to cost about \$145,000.

Councillor Mike Oliver, who voted for tabling, said he objected to such a bylaw because he saw it as an "intrusion to private property rights."

Councillor Oliver expressed dismay at the failure of Norwich's Business Improvement Association (BIA) to have representation at Friday's meeting for input. He was also concerned about "too many uncertainties" surrounding the project.

Councillor Norm Lusk said the BIA held two meetings after the Nov. 20th resolution was passed. He defended the BIA against charges it was "self-centred and pushy." Councillor Lusk argued that BIA needs a long-range plan that's not there so it can "spend its money wisely" on redevelopment.

All Councillor Bob Carney wanted at this stage was action on putting in sidewalks and wiring for lights on Norwich's main street. As for talk about grants, he reminded Council the money still comes out of the taxpayers' pockets. Councillor Carney at one point urged dropping of the project as it's becoming too big.

Councillor Carney rejected the need for "frills" included in the project such as trees, park benches, new street lights, etc. He wanted to see about \$40,000 used for rewiring the arena. This figure added to the project's estimated cost could bring total cost to around \$185,000.

There was confusion about how much is covered by grants and how much would have to be paid by township ratepayers.

Councillor-at-Large Helen Smith felt Norwich would not get its new sidewalks until 1986.

It's possible, according to Clerk-Administrator Bob Watkins, the entire project might have to be reviewed again.

# Norwich facelift on hold

By Ben Steidman  
Staff Writer

D.N.  
JAN 30

NORWICH — Township Council will be asked to approve a proposal to reconstruct sidewalks in downtown Norwich as soon as possible.

This recommendation was made at Monday's Agriculture and Works Committee meeting.

Included in the proposal, besides approval of necessary plans and specifications for sidewalk replacement in the downtown business area of Ward 2 (Norwich), were provisions for upgrading street lights and accommodation of future tree sites.

It's expected the proposal will be a top priority at the next Council meeting scheduled for Feb. 11 at 9 a.m.

The committee also passed a second recommendation which suggests Council relate its requirements on alterations to parking lanes, storm drains, sidewalks and utilities for Ward 2 to the county engineer for assistance.

Mayor John Heleniak said after the meeting that if the county engineer "can't assist us," then Council will seek outside professional help, such as consultants.

## **Beautification**

With these recommendations on only repairing and replacing sidewalks and upgrading street lights in downtown Norwich, a proposed \$145,000 redevelopment plan for the downtown area has been shelved. Mayor Heleniak said it was possible the plan could be revived later this year and an application made then for funding in 1986.

Roy Arn, chairman of Norwich's BIA, and Councillor Norm Lusk, Council's representative on BIA, were present at Monday's meeting.

Council was told BIA's annual meeting is to be held Feb. 5 in Norwich at which time plans for the downtown area, sidewalk and light upgrading, will be reviewed by the general membership.

A BIA Downtown Beautification Committee has been set up. It plans to work closer with Council on future plans to redevelop Ward 2 through recommendations on specific projects.

Mayor Heleniak said there were no firm cost estimates available yet on the proposed sidewalk and street light work. Costs may be available by mid-February when preliminary township budget estimates for 1985 are to be discussed.

The original proposal for work on sidewalks and lights was made at last week's regular Council meeting. But after a lengthy discussion on what funding route to take, Council referred the motion to the Agriculture and Works Committee.

Councillor Bob Carney said after the Council meeting that some clarification was needed on his suggestion about spending \$40,000 for arena rewiring.

He told the News-Record that "at the present time, I'm not in favour of it, because we don't have the money for it."

Furthermore, he added that "I've never said I was in favour of it."

# Works committee wants immediate sidewalk work

NG  
JAN 30

Immediate action on plans for replacing sidewalks in downtown Norwich should be taken according to the Norwich Township Agriculture and Works Committee.

During the committee meeting Monday a recommendation was made that necessary plans and specifics for replacement of sidewalks in the downtown business area of Ward 2 be proceeded with immediately and these plans include a provision for upgrading of streetlighting and accommodation of future tree sites.

The committee also approved a recommendation that Norwich Township relate the requirements to the Oxford County engineer on alterations to the parking lane, storm drain, sidewalks and utilities in Ward 2. If the county is unable to assist in this manner then outside professional services are to be obtained. Recommendations made by the committee have to wait

for approval by council. The next council meeting will be Feb. 11.

Mayor John Heleniak said the township plans to replace the sidewalks in downtown Norwich and take action for the planting of trees in the future by the Norwich Business Improvement Area (BIA) for beautification.

Roy Arn, president of the Norwich BIA, said members would be shown action taken by the BIA and by council regarding beautification plans when the annual meeting of the BIA is held Feb. 5 at the Norwich Public School at 8 p.m.

Mr. Arn said the BIA is going to activate its beautification committee to decide on the placing of trees and garbage receptacles in the downtown area and to work with council on continuing the beautification of the area.

# Slippin and Slidin

NG  
JAN 30

By Doreen Hoover

Hooray! The huge mounds of snow that covered the curb area of the downtown streets in Norwich were finally removed by the township roads crew Tuesday morning.

It was getting to the point where people attempting to cross the street had to be in constant search of a little tunnel that was made by some merchants. If a pathway could not be found, people had to be athletic and attempt to climb over the mounds to reach their destinations. I think the only people who enjoyed the mounds of snow were the children; at least those interested in learning mountain climbing through the use of the mounds. I hope there isn't another heavy snowfall at least for a while so we have time to enjoy the cleared streets.

I'm sure the people of Otterville are also eagerly awaiting the township trucks to come and remove their snow that is forcing many parked cars far out into the roadway.

It seems every winter there are problems keeping the downtown areas of the villages cleared of snow. Some merchants are good at cleaning the

sidewalks in front on their stores in Norwich while others are not so good, although the responsibility to clear the sidewalks does belong to the township. It is always an adventure and a time when good balance and agility come in handy, when shoppers struggle along the walkways to buy goods.

Ice is also a problem that must be taken into consideration when people venture out, especially the elderly, who should not have to endanger their health to go shopping in downtown Norwich or Otterville. People have fallen in the past and I expect will in the future unless something more can be done to rectify the problem.

So until warm weather returns and melts the snow and ice hampering the travel of people in the community, we will have to endure. While drivers have to get accustomed to driving more slowly on snowy, slippery roads, the people in the village will also just have to slow down their walking pace to combat the slippery sidewalks. Maybe the worst of this winter is past. Hopefully.

# Norwich Township Council Briefs

## Snow removal

Norwich Township council approved the retaining of W.D. Excavating of Norwich to handle snow removal at the Norwich and District Medical Centre for the 1984-85 winter at \$30 per hour.

## Purchase plaques

Upon request of the Norwich Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee, Norwich Township council will purchase 10 plaques to be placed on buildings designated to be of historical significance under the Ontario Heritage Act. In the township there are five designated buildings; the Woodlawn Community Centre in Otterville, Trefry Mill in Otterville, Curries United Church, the Sutton-Clark House in Norwich and the Beck Store in Hawtrey. The additional five plaques will be used for buildings designated in the future.

## Salary increase

All full-time and part-time employees of Norwich Township will be awarded a two per cent increase in salaries retroactive to Jan. 1, 1985 with no increment unless recommended by department heads. Council members agreed to no increase in their remuneration. They will continue to receive the 1984 rate.

The per diem allowances of council members are \$108.88 for mayor, \$103.01 for councillor-at-large and \$93.31 for councillors.

located at the east side of the church, could create up to 60 additional parking spaces.

## Engage for study

The Norwich Township Agriculture and Works Committee recommended G. Douglas Vallee Ltd., Simcoe, be engaged to do a Roads Needs Study major update and be involved in providing traffic counting.

The roads needs update will define the township roads system, identify deficiencies, estimate costs of improvements necessary to eliminate the deficiencies, study specific problems to the roads system, give a guide to the operation of the township roads department and aid in selection and scheduling of road systems to obtain the maximum road service with the township's financial limitations at a minimum cost to the taxpayer. The committee interviewed five consulting firms before Vallee was chosen.

Cost of the study will be \$12,930 but this amount does not include the cost of obtaining additional traffic counts.

All recommendations by the Ag and Works Committee must be approved by council before undertaken and the next council meeting is February 11.

## Clearing snow

Road superintendant is to be instructed to engage the services of Al Clark, Norwich, to clear the snow from the parking lot located at the rear of the stores north of Main Street in Norwich between Stover Street and Washington Avenue. He is to be paid at the rate of \$34 per hour and will be called to remove snow at the discretion of the road superintendant.

# No to Woodstock

Norwich Township residents have good recreational facilities within close proximity so township council sees no reason to give financial support to plans for another complex in Woodstock.

Brian Whitehead of Jean Monteith and Associates is visiting councils in Oxford County collecting information for a 10-year recreation plan and a feasibility study on recreation and cultural facilities for Woodstock. He attended Norwich Township council last Tuesday evening to see how such a plan would affect existing facilities in the township.

Mr. Whitehead is preparing a two-stage study with the first part determining the cultural and recreational needs in Woodstock over the next 10 years and secondly a feasibility study for a cultural recreation centre looking at the site and cost.

Council members described some of the athletic facilities within the township and ones in Tillsonburg and Woodstock now used by many residents of the township.

Councillor Don Pettigrew said there may be some support from municipalities to this recreation plan but that geography would play a main part and he didn't think

"there will be any great interest here," he said.

Councillor Bob Carney said council's financial support for any recreational facility in Woodstock would be "zip." He said, "It would be insane to offer any other community money when we are having trouble in our own community."

Councillor-at-large Helen Smith agreed with Coun. Carney saying even if the township was able to offer support financially she couldn't support the idea for Woodstock and Tillsonburg already have enough facilities.

Coun. Carney said financing recreational facilities is becoming too great for taxpayers and municipalities to handle and township-operated recreational facilities will "soon be a thing of the past," he said. He sees the facilities in the future being operated by private enterprises with people paying as they use the facilities.

Mayor John Heleniak suggested Mr. Whitehead contact Don Miller, new chairman of the Norwich Township Culture and Recreation Advisory Committee, for further input on township facilities.



NG JAN 23

A wintery look to the Otterville dam

Photo by Doreen Hoover

# Shamrock grant for expansion

Funding will be provided to Shamrock Industries in Norwich and to Norwich Township as two of the eight Canada Works projects approved for Oxford County.

Shamrock Industries will receive \$47,000 to help fund a major plant expansion that is estimated to cost \$750,000. The grant will involve the forming of four jobs for an eight-month period to be involved in construction of a loading warehouse for the company's Speedel Soiless Mix. The building will be 20,000 square feet in size and be heated and insulated, owner Pat Murray said.

"We have orders for our product over our heads and we can't keep up," he said. The large increases in demand at the business is resulting in the undertaking of the expansion to speed up the company's ability to produce and ship out its product. At present Mr. Murray said there is no place for storage of the raw materials for Speedel and the expansion project will in-

volve the mixing facilities and loading facilities. When completed the expansion is expected to create 30 additional jobs. There will also be \$200,000 in new equipment involved in the expansion.

This expansion, expected to be completed by October, will be Phase I of a three-year plan for the business. The first phase concentrates on Speedel while the second part will involve the construction of a Perlite processing plant in Norwich by late 1985 or early 1986. Perlite is an ore that is used in soiless mixes, plaster ceilings and as insulation.

The company got all the money it applied for from the Canada Works project and Mr. Murray said this may have been caused by the large increase in exports of Seppedel and the fact that all materials in the Speedel mix are Canadian.

The first bag of Speedel was produced in January 1981 and was originally developed for tobacco markets but rapidly spread to include fruit and vegetable markets, in-

terior and exterior landscaping and forestry markets.

A Canada Works grant was also received by Norwich Township totalling \$11,000 to provide five jobs for two months.

The grant will be used to make renovations to the Otterville Community Hall and to the township offices for storage of records and office space.

The \$11,000 grant is only a fraction of what the township had applied for but Municipal Inspector Doug Wilson said the approval of funding was "great" and the township "could certainly benefit from it." The township had made an application for funding for works totalling \$110,438.

Other projects given funding under the Canada Works program are the Annandale House project in Tillsonburg that will receive \$20,000, creating six jobs for three months to carry out repairs to the historic home of Tillsonburg's first mayor.

The Oxford County Library received ap-

proval for its Who's Who in Oxford project, with \$14,550 to create three jobs for four months. The project will involve the preparation of a biography of prominent people in the county, highlighting some of their achievements.

Our Oxford #3, a project of the Oxford Genealogical Society, will receive \$10,725 to create three jobs for four months and the Town of Ingersoll will receive \$10,700 to create three jobs for three months for its Heritage '85 project.

Teledyne Canada Metal Products in Woodstock will receive \$13,750 to create two jobs for six months for its Monorail Project and the Princeton and District Housing Association will receive \$18,000 to create five jobs for three months.

The eight approved project funding will create a total of 31 temporary jobs at a total cost of \$145,725.

Hiring for the various projects will be done by the project sponsors on referrals from Canada Employment Centres.

## Historical Society sees slides of England

The January meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society was held on Jan. 14

at Woodlawn with president Jack Smith in charge.

Following the reading of the minutes for the last meeting, a short business session was held.

A letter from the Ontario Historical Foundation was read which indicated the Foundation will consider erecting a plaque commemorating the early black settlement in this area.

Rick Singer reported a burglar alarm is being installed at the Treffry Mill as a result of a recent breakin.

It was decided the file cards developed from research for writing "South of Sodom" were to remain the property of the Society and should be placed in the Otterville Public Library where they will be retained for reference. The Historical Society decided to put on a Heritage display again in the Library. The float committee was requested to continue in charge for the next year.

Dr. Murray Downing gave a report on the November auction and made some suggestions for the future. President Smith agreed to act as chairman of the auction committee, assisted by Dave Hussey, Ken and Catherine Mann, Dr. Downing and Jean Davis.

Following the business session the meeting was turned over to Lorne and Anna Treffry who showed pictures and gave a most interesting account of their trip to England last summer, accompanied by a large number of Treffry family members from all across Canada and the United States. Mrs. Treffry traced the history of the Treffry family from 1326 down to the present. Several branches of the family came to Canada and the U.S. at different times; other branches immigrated to

Australia and to Columbia, South America.

They showed slides of Treffry Castle in Cornwall which is ancient and is still in the Treffry name. The castle was extensively rebuilt and improved by Joseph Thomas Austin Treffry who was a successful mining, shipping and railway magnate in the early 19th century. There were many notable family members over the years. Sir John Treffry fought under the Black Prince at Cressy and was personally responsible for capturing the French King's banner. Later one of the Treffry's served under Drake in the defeat of the Spanish Armada. Still later one of the family was prominent in Cromwell's army, but was beheaded when the Stuart Kings were restored.

The family counted more than one Quaker minister among their members. In 1793 Roger Treffry wrote a dissertation on "Smut Balls in Wheat" which was accepted as an authority for more than 100 years. Mrs. Treffry also said that in 1457 French forces attacked Treffry Castle in the absence of the owner. His wife, however, directed the defence and drove off the attackers by pouring molten lead on them from the battlements.

Two, or possibly three, separate branches of the Treffry family settled in South Norwich. Mr. Treffry's great-grandfather, Robert Treffry, came to Canada about 1850. John Treffry, who was of another branch of the family, had come to the Hawtrey area somewhat earlier. John Treffry kept a diary which is often quoted in writings of pioneer days.

Following this most interesting talk and display of pictures and slides a tasty lunch was enjoyed.

## Rebekah lodge meets

OTTERVILLE (C) — Violet Rebekah Lodge #330 opened in regular form with N.G. Sister June Ash and Sister Ann Arthur presiding.

Calling the roll of officers showed two absent. Report of the visiting committee, V.G. Sister Ann Arthur reported sending get-well cards to Mrs. Keith Arthur, Brother Darch and a fruit basket to Sister Annie Godby at Christmas.

Sister Jean McClintock read the first

reading of the bylaws and a letter was read from Monto Lodge, giving the dates of their meetings.

Thank-you notes were read from Sister Annie Godby and Fred Moore. Sister Ethel Arthur thanked the lodge for the card sent to her daughter and Sister June Ash thanked the lodge for the card sent her daughter Madalynne.

Lodge closed in regular form followed by lunch and a social time.

## Irish Club holds election

LaSALETTE (C) — Tony Murphy presided at the January meeting of the Irish Club in Delhi on Sunday. Minutes were read by Mariea McNamara and Parnell McNamara gave the treasurer's report.

Election of officers followed. Tom Nealon of Tillsonburg was elected president; vice-president, Michael Murray, RR 1, LaSalette; secretary, John O'Sullivan of Simcoe; treasurer, Bud Webb of Otterville; Mariea McNamara will continue to send cards and retiring president Tony Murphy was named as fifth director.

Final arrangements were made for the pub night to be held at the Polish Hall on February 8. A draw will take place with the proceeds going to the Ethiopian Relief Fund.

Kelly Murphy will make the posters for the St. Patrick's dance to be held on March 16 at the Belgian Hall and Pat O'Brien will supply the materials. Members voted to buy 100 Irish coffee mugs.

## Sunshine Club meets

The Otterville Sunshine Club met on Jan. 24 at the home of Sandra Hussey with 11 members answering the roll call, "What bugs you most when shopping," given by Marion Pettigrew.

Due to renovations of the kitchen at the St. John's Anglican Church there will not be a Pancake Luncheon this year. A valentine cake will be made by Margaret Shearer for the next meeting when tickets will be sold on it.

It was decided that each member bring a friend and Court Whist will be played. The meeting will be held Feb. 14 at the home of Doreen Mountain.



# Lions donate \$1,000 to Norwich Historical Society

The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the Community Hall, Otterville Monday evening, Jan. 28.

Lion Paul Wood, first Vice-President, presided in the absence of Lion president Jack Walther, vacationing in Florida.

## Norwich-Otterville

### Lions club meet

The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions club was held Monday, Jan. 14, in the Norwich Legion Hall.

Lion Paul Wood, first vice-president, was in charge of the meeting, in the absence of Lion Chief Jack Walther, who is holidaying in Florida. Thirty-five members enjoyed the dinner served by the Eastern Star.

A profit of \$360 was realized from the sale of tickets on the Cabbage Patch dolls, that were drawn at the Santa Claus parades in Norwich and Otterville.

A donation of \$500 was granted to the VON towards the purchase of a new car. A \$50 donation was also granted to a Norwich District High School student as part of the cost for her to attend a Drug Awareness program at the Terry Fox Youth Centre.

Six Lions attended the winter rally at Langton Sunday, Jan 13. One hundred and thirty-seven Lions from the District attended to hear a speaker and enjoy breakfast.

Several members are planning to attend the Friendship Convention being held in Niagara Falls on March 29-30-31, when the district and deputy district governors will be elected for the 1985-86 year. Lion Colin Cope is a candidate for Deputy District Governor of Region 4. Members are asked to assist him with his campaign by accompanying him on visitations to other clubs.

Members of the Lions Club now have tickets available for the fish fry to be held April 6 and for the VCR to be drawn the same night.

Winner of the convention draw was Lion Harold Kirktown.

There were 35 Lions in attendance including four from the Fisherville Lions Club and three from the Windham and District Lions Club, through the Norwich District Historical Society.

This was a special meeting for the club in that the club made a presentation of \$1,000 to the Norwich and District Archives.

Joyce Pettigrew, archivist and one of those instrumental in establishing and organizing the Norwich and District Archives, was introduced by Lion Les Dickson. She gave a comprehensive review of the Archives which is rapidly acquiring many articles from the past. The local archives owes much to the efforts of Stella Mott whose foresight accumulated a great deal of local history for several years prior to the founding of the Archives.

Acting president Wood thanked the speaker and made the monetary presentation. There was an accompanying slide presentation and a question period in conclusion.

Lions Fred Thompson and Jim McLaren were presented with 100 per cent attendance pins.

Lion Raymond Rohrbach, a Deputy-District Governor from the Fisherville Lions Club, spoke to the meeting as a candidate for District Governor in the coming year.

A new Lions Club has been formed in Sweaburg and an invitation was received to attend their Chapter banquet March 23 in Woodstock.

Ladies' night is set for March 7 with a bus trip to Flamboro Downs. Reservations



### Aid work of Archives

Past President Les Dickson (left) and 1st Vice President Paul Wood presented Joyce Pettigrew, archivist at the Norwich and District Archives, with a cheque for \$1,000 from the Norwich-Otterville Lions Monday. The money was donated to the Norwich and District Historical Society for use in archival work. (Staff Photo)

must be made at least two weeks in advance.

Fish Fry tickets and VCR draw tickets are now available from all members to be held April 6.

A request was received from the Norwich Boy Scouts for \$600 to assist in the cost of sending some members and leaders to Canadian Jamboree 85 to be held in Guelph.

Lion Ron Kennedy spoke briefly from Windham District Lions.

A motion was presented by Lion R. Scott to pay a portion of the cost of a Drug Awareness film to be used in schools and other public functions.

Convention draw was won by W.D. Swanton and Jim Poole.

# Doris Fowler guest speaker at Otterville P.T.A.

The monthly meeting of the Otterville P.T.A., held Wednesday, Jan. 23 featured guest speaker Doris Fowler of Woodstock.

Introduced by P.T.A. President August DeWachter, Mrs. Fowler, a teacher, was hired by the Woodstock Children's Aid to co-ordinate a program dealing with Child Abuse. The Children's Aid saw a need for a kit on sexual abuse to be made available in the schools.

Sexual abuse is something that can be prevented by teaching children who do not know how to say no, how to face someone. A kit developed in Toronto was rewritten for Grade 3, the age level of seven to nine, when improper touching most often starts. Being used this year as a pilot project, eight public schools in Woodstock and the eight separate schools in Oxford County are using the program.

A parents' night is held before the program is started in a school which is carried out for 10 days. The teachers have been pleased with the response of children, which brings the class closer together developing a sharing rapport within the class.

In 85 per cent of cases sexual abuse is carried out by someone the child knows. Violent attacks are not as common as bribery and threats and often it happens over a long period of time rather than in surprise occurrences. The child through the program is taught to take responsibility of their bodies and feelings and to make judgments in stopping an assault.

The program uses tapes, role playing cards, study cards, puppets, story telling, art, writing ideas and films Better Safe Than Sorry Part I and II.

The program is divided into four units which cover various aspects of child abuse. The first unit, Touching, covers the range of touch from touch that is pleasant, nurturing and friendly to touch that is confusing, strange and exploitive. The program helps children recognize the difference between nurturing and exploitive touch and to understand their own needs for love and affection.

The second unit, Standing Up For Yourself, encourages children to trust their feelings, to be assertive and to stand up for themselves. It gives children an op-

portunity through activities and games to practise these skills.

The third unit, Other Personal Safety Issues, teaches children to be aware of what is happening around them and gives accurate useful information and some common sense rules of what to do in uncomfortable or threatening situations.

The fourth unit, Getting Help, makes children aware of the people in our community who are available and approachable if they need help. This is important since all too often the first person a child goes to with a problem either does not believe him or does nothing about the situation.

Mr. Russ Stangel thanked Mrs. Fowler for her interesting explanation of the program and presented her with a gift on behalf of the P.T.A.

During the business portion of the meeting Mr. Stangel announced a meeting would be held Tuesday, Jan. 29 with the Transportation Committee of the Oxford County Board of Education, to discuss the busing issue from the Otterville delegation.

P.T.A. president, A. DeWachter inform-

ed the members 10 more homes had been approved for the Block Parent Program.

Plans for future meetings were discussed with the February meeting to be announced at a later date.

## Book Fair held

OTTERVILLE (C) — A successful Book Fair was held at the Otterville Public school on Wednesday, Jan. 23, organized by librarian Janice Buchner.

The books provided by Scholastic Publishing Co. of Toronto, ranged in reading and interest levels from Kindergarten to Grade 8. The books were available for sale to all students and the public until 7:30 p.m.

As a benefit the Otterville Public School received 40 per cent of total sales to buy paperback books for the school.

A similar Book Fair was held at the Norwich Public School during the previous week organized as well by Mrs. Buchner.

## St. John's Anglican vestry meeting held

The annual vestry meeting of the Otterville St. John's Anglican Church was held Monday evening Jan. 28 at the Parish Hall beginning with a delicious potluck supper.

Following the bountiful repast, the meeting was opened with prayer by acting chairman, Carl Howse, in absence of Rev. Grant D. Darling, recovering from illness.

Various church offices were established as follows: Vestry Clerk-Carl Howse; Rector's Warden-Jack Freeland; People's Warden-Ross McMullen; and Lay Delegate to Synod-Violet Howse. The membership of the Board of Management was formed being Jack Freeland, Ross McMullen, Martin Cowan, Carl Howse, Janet Ryerse, August DeWachter, Don Freeman, Cathy Furlong, Audrey Neuman, Lila Freeland and Violet Howse.

Reports from the Church, Anglican Church Women, Sunday School, and Anglican Cemetery were given. The 1985 budget was received and accepted.

Church Board Meetings will be held on the fourth Monday of the months March, June, September and November during the coming year.

Mr. Howse expressed appreciation to Rev. and Mrs. Darling for their guidance during the year as well as all church members who have helped and held office during 1984.

The meeting closed with repeating of the benediction in unison.

## St. John's ACW plans fashion show

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the Otterville St. John's Anglican Church Women featured guest speaker Kathy Durkee of Otterville.

Introduced by Olive Pickersgill, program convener, Kathy is a Grade 12 student attending Norwich District High School who recently attended a four day Toc-Alpha conference held at the Skyline Hotel, Toronto, during late December.

Toc-Alpha which stands for Taking On Concerns About Life, People and Human Achievement is a youth organization of drug and alcohol concerns which stresses a lifestyle independent of harmful drug use. Teenagers from all over Ontario attended numbering around 700 with Kathy attending as well as two other students from N.D.H.S. It provides an opportunity to develop character of independence, judgment and awareness of self as well as suggesting alternatives and fostering friendships. It has influenced thousands of youth over its many years of operation.

All individuals present had a chance to attend six sessions on various topics. Kathy shared with the group the highlights and main ideas of the sessions in which she participated.

The reasons for taking drugs such as

feeling and looking good, keeping awake and peer pressure, were discussed in one such group. Disadvantages of the habit being expensive, illegal, temporary and dangerous were also pointed out. Often teenagers take drugs for attention and to feel good in a life in which they have given up. However, when they come back to reality it is often too great to handle. Consequently, a solution is to get help by sharing one's problems and oneself with others.

Environmental problems, another topic, dealt with hope for the future. One must be aware of the ego system and surroundings and keep them healthy.

Dealing with friends who take drugs was considered by Kathy to be one of the best and most informative sessions. Suggestions for management of someone under the influence of drugs such as assessing the situation, not accepting the behavior, being firm and not arguing were discussed.

Teen relationships, one of the most popular sessions, stressed that the most important aspect was the need to communicate with each other. This was a participation session when students actually could apply what they were learning.

Teen alcoholism dealt with the four perspectives from which this problem can be viewed. The traditional, moral view; the medical view in which the drug user is considered a medical problem with a medical disease; the psycho-social view with emphasis on the individual and the social-cultural perspective which stresses the complexity of drug use which varies from culture to culture.

A session demonstrating massage showed how massage can help one to feel relaxed - an alternative to drug and alcohol use.

Other activities of dances, regional meetings, variety night and interaction groups were enjoyed by the individuals at-

tending who varied in age from 14 to 21. Kathy found the conference fun and beneficial and plans to become a member of the staff next year attending smaller conferences throughout the year.

Mrs. Pickersgill thanked her for such an informative presentation and presented her with a gift on behalf of the A.C.W.

The devotional with the theme Beauty opened with the singing of "Let Us With A Gladsome Mind." Mrs. Pickersgill shared the thought of the theme, He has made everything beautiful in His time. Where shall we turn for manifestations of God's love and power but to the beauty of the universe. This is a constant reminder of the love and care of God. He grants to each season its beauty. The love of God is a growing thing which fills the lives of all. Prayer and the Lord's Prayer closed the devotional.

Mrs. Pickersgill tested the group's knowledge with an oral contest of names found on the body.

The business portion of the meeting announced to the group the box to Uganda would be sent immediately with the donations to St. Monica to be sent soon. Members were reminded of the upcoming World Day of Prayer in March and the Annual Vestry Meeting to be held Monday, Jan. 28 at 6 p.m. beginning with a potluck meal.

Decisions were finalized in regards to the A.C.W. donation to be made for forthcoming rebuilding of the Parish Hall kitchen.

Plans were made in regards to the A.C.W. Fashion Show to be held March 21 at the Otterville Community Hall, featuring fashions of Threads and Fashions and Hi-Lo Fashions of Tillsonburg.

The meeting closed with the benediction and lunch provided by Mrs. Pickersgill was enjoyed during the social time which followed.

## Meeting's theme focuses on beauty

OTTERVILLE (C) — The opening meeting for 1985 of the Otterville Anglican Church Women was held Thursday evening, Jan. 3 in the Parish Hall of the church.

The devotional, presented by Olive Pickersgill, focused on the theme of beauty which opened with the singing of For The Beauty of the Earth. The thought was taken from Eccl. 3:7, A time to read, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak.

Scripture was from Job 38:9-33, When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it. The devotional closed with prayer.

The business portion of the meeting drew some upcoming events to the attention of the members. The Vestry Meeting to be held Monday, Jan. 28 at 6 p.m., will begin with a potluck supper and World Day of Prayer, held at St. John's Anglican Church, will take place Friday, March 1. Commencing Monday, Jan. 7 quilting took place at the church and all those interested in helping are welcomed.

The next meeting of the ACW will feature guest speaker Cathy Durkee. A thank you was read from her in regards to the ACW donation for the conference she attended in Toronto.

Donations to St. Monica House, Kitchener and the box for Uganda were discussed and requests were made in order that boxes may be sent soon.

## Otterville UCW meet

The January meeting of the Otterville United Church Women opened with the Vice-President Lorraine Downing giving words of welcome and a reading, Wouldn't It Be Wonderful If We Could Learn The Trick To Live In The Present Not The Past, followed by prayer.

All repeated the U.C.W. purpose.

The convener, Jean Gehring, introduced the guest speaker Wilma Butler of Otterville. Mrs. Butler gave an interesting talk on her grandfather Davis who served 17 years as a missionary in India before contracting leprosy. She was assisted by Norma Davis showing several pictures and artifacts used at that time.

June Ash thanked Mrs. Butler and presented her with a gift of appreciation.

Thank you notes were read from the South Norwich Choir thanking for the refreshments served after the Christmas Eve service; the Women's Emergency Centre, Woodstock and Annie Godby.

Anna Treffry reported for the quilters, 15 quilts having been quilted in 1984. Donation had been made to the organ fund; money had been given for flowers around the church; and a life membership to the U.C.W. had been given to a quilter.

Members were reminded of the Interdenominational Fellowship on Feb. 13. Anyone wishing tickets contact Elsie McSpadden or Jean Gehring. Lorraine Downing volunteered to attend the Oxford Presbyterial on Jan. 30. The World Day of

Prayer will be held in St. John's Anglican Church, March 1 at 7 p.m.

Mrs. Downing read a few excerpts from an article written by Rev. Irwin Jones.

For the devotions Jean Hill read, I Am The Light of The World, and From Now On. Mrs. Little was pianist for the hymns "O Master Let Me Walk With Thee" and "Who Is On The Lord's Side." Grace Gehring gave a reading Our New Horizon. Marion Pettigrew read the scripture Matthew 4:18-22 and offered prayer.

Offering was received by Ethel Arthur and June Ash with Mrs. Hill offering the prayer.

All enjoyed the several accordion selections Elsie McSpadden played.

Jean Gehring closed the meeting with prayer. The evening closed with a social hour.

OTTERVILLE (C) — On Jan. 16 the Leisure Club met at the Woodlawn Adult Centre with 22 members enjoying a potluck dinner.

Gladys Evans conducted a short business period. Get well cards were signed for Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hicks and Dorothy Daniels. It was decided to make the yarn that is in the cupboard into articles to be donated to either the Children's Aid or nursing homes with the executive being responsible for sorting the yarn. Violet Cole kindly donated an afghan she had made to the Woodlawn living room.

After the business the members enjoyed a few games of pool, euchre and aggravation. The next meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan. 30 at 1:30 p.m. which will

feature birthday cake with Mrs. Evans being responsible for the dessert.

The Otterville Sunshine Club met on Jan. 10 at the home of Margaret Shearer with 10 members present.

Sandra Hussey, the incoming president conducted the business. Minutes of the last meeting were read by secretary Marion Pettigrew. A report was given on the November Bazaar which was successful. Thank you cards were read for the Christmas cheer boxes.

The next meeting will be held Jan. 24 at the home of Sandra Hussey. Olive Pickersgill expressed thanks to the hostess and to Dorothy Wardell for the lunch.

# Norwich District Church Services

## OTTERVILLE UNITED

Vi Sackrider led the morning worship service with her message of Love and three passages of scripture, Matthew 22:34-40, You shall love the Lord with all your heart; Romans 13:8-10, You shall love your neighbor as yourself and Corinthians 13: Faith, hope and love, the greatest of these is love, were incorporated in her sermon.

In Jesus' time there were so many laws that most people were baffled by them. When He was asked what was the greatest law, Jesus cut through all the red tape and said Love the Lord and love your neighbor. The Ten Commandments made us law abiding. But if we love we do not commit adultery, kill, steal or covet. It is not always easy to love for often people are annoying. However, we know that if we do love, we please God and if we do not love, we fail Him.

For the children, Mrs. Sackrider held up a Bible and a bottle of vitamins. She said we get strength from a vitamin pill and we get strength from the Bible. Sometimes we need vitamins from a bottle but we need the Bible all the time for that is God's vitamins.

The choir's anthem was "How I Love Jesus" and was directed by the organist, Jean McClintock. Jean Little accompanied the singing of the hymns on the piano.

The offering was received by Boyd Little, Donald Neale, Lorne Treffry and John Walther.

## CURRIES UNITED

Rev. J.R. Williams led the service of worship in the United Church on Sunday, and to the children he continued the story of Moses, telling of God's call to him from

the burning bush to lead the children of Israel from their bondage in Egypt to the Promised Land.

The Scripture reading from Acts 4 tells of the community of possessions in the early church.

In his sermon, Mr. Williams stated that since that time, the Christian church has upheld the mission of sharing with the needy in the world.

Mrs. Jim Stephenson was organist. During the Sacrament of Holy Communion, Mr. Williams was assisted by elders, Mrs. R.E. Stephenson, Chester Oliver, Earl Start and Frank Sumsion.

## OTTERVILLE ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN

Holy Communion service, held the second Sunday after Epiphany, emphasized the spreading of the good news of Christ for the world.

The junior and senior choirs entered the church during the singing of "My God" and "Is Thy Table Spread" accompanied by Lila Freeland at the organ.

Scripture readings were I Corinthians 6:12-20, "All things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful and the Gospel, John 1:35-42, The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples.

The children adjourned to their Sunday school classes during the singing of "Earth Has Many A Noble City."

Rev. Grant D. Darling focused his sermon on the topic of The Positive Approach. As Christians we should go out in the world and tell people about God's love and good news. Our society lives in a life of destitution waiting for bad things to happen rather than living with a positive attitude. People lack belief in religion since they have a negative attitude towards life.

God wants us to take an affirmative approach towards life and we must tell people we have something to look forward to. Peoples need for better results can be gained from a little praise. The positive approach makes life much more enjoyable which God wants and encourages us to have through his good news for the world.

Offering was received by Jack Freeland which was followed by the sacrament of Holy Communion shared by Rev. Darling

## OTTERVILLE FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST

On Sunday, Jan. 20, Sunday school was held for all ages at 10 a.m., followed by morning worship at 11 a.m.

Bob Marshall led the service. Pastor Bull read the scripture from II Timothy 2:1-13 and I Cor. 4:2 and spoke on "Faithful Servants."

We as servants of God are required to be faithful. Paul reminded Timothy not to look for perfect men but reliable men. It was this quality God saw in Paul. Using the word "Faithful" as an outline Pastor Bull gave the following examples:

Faith - believe what God says and do it.  
Available - We need to be available to serve God as a soldier.

Interest - We need to be interested in the Master's work and do it wholeheartedly.

Teachable - a faithful man or woman is one who is teachable; willing to be useful.

Honest - Fulfill the responsibilities that are expected of us.

Flexible - Willing to bend to the right situations that arise, and be obedient to those over us.

Usefulness - Do your best; always expand yourself to become useful.

Loyal - Life time loyalty; I love my Master and seek to serve Him.

Offering was received by David Hill and Paul Babcock. Pianist was Dwight Davis.

and the congregation.

The service closed with the recessional hymn "The Love of Christ Constrainseth."

The congregation was reminded of the Annual Vestry Meeting to be held Monday, Jan. 28 at 6 p.m. at the church, beginning with a pot-luck supper.

## OTTERVILLE UNITED

Vi Sackrider gave her farewell message on Sunday morning. *JAN 27*

She has been the lay minister of the Otterville Pastoral Charge for the past four months. The charge has been without an ordained minister for that period of time. Charles Seed, the new minister, assumes his duties next week.

Scripture readings were from Genesis 15:1-7-18, The Lord's covenant with Abram, Deuteronomy 8:11-18, Take heed lest you forget the Lord your God, and John 13: 34-35, We are commanded to love one another.

The choir's anthem was "Jesus Is Lord Of All" under the direction of the organist Jean McClintock.

Mrs. Sackrider's story to the children was about two words "I'm sorry." Sometimes they are used for an apology and sometimes because we are sad. She said I'm sorry because she is leaving. She gave each child a valentine heart. The children went to their Sunday School classes during the singing of the hymn "We Love The Place O God."

The sermon was Our Small Church. Mrs. Sackrider has attended both very large and very small churches and decided she liked small. In big congregations people did not know one another and were not able to celebrate together in happy times or help one another in bad times.

As nice as small churches are, we often see them abandoned or used for a purpose other than their origin. Why? Have the worshippers lost interest? Were they too experienced to keep up or did the people move away?

Country churches are close to the land and God is the landlord. If we reach out and touch others and draw them into the church, God will see us through. Our small churches will survive.

The closing hymn was "Blest Be The Tie That Binds."

Jean Little played the piano and accompanied the organ for the hymns. David Cope, Donald Neale, Lorne Treffry and John Walther received the offering.

## OTTERVILLE ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN

*JAN 27*  
Morning prayer service, marking the third Sunday after Epiphany, opened with the singing of "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er The Sun" while the junior and senior choirs entered the church accompanied by organist Lila Freeland.

Carl Howse led the service in the absence of Rev. Grant D. Darling due to illness.

Scripture readings were Jonah 3:1-5, 10, The word of the Lord came to Jonah the second time, read by Marion Dowds, Corinthians 7:29-31, Brethren, the appointed time has grown very short, read by Jack Freeland and Psalm 62:6-14, Take refuge in God, all you people, read responsively.

The children adjourned to their Sunday School classes during the singing of "God Sees The Little Sparrow Fall."

Mr. Howse talked about the close relationship which Jonathan and David had as friends. A real friend thinks not only of himself. The secret of Jonathan and David's friendship was that they were

close to God. We too can have a good relationship with a friend if we are close to God. We should have the attitude of giving rather than receiving all the time. We have to respect our friends and have high regards for them because they appreciate and respect us.

Offering was received by August DeWachter and the service closed with the recessional hymn "We Have The Place, O God."

## OTTERVILLE BAPTIST

On Jan. 27 following the Sunday school hour, morning worship began with the singing of "Crown Him With Many Crowns."

Bob Marshall led the service. Scripture reading was taken from Genesis 37:1-11. On Being Servants: Joseph "Character Thru Pressure."

God had a purpose for Joseph's life. Being the son of a wealthy and indulgent father, Joseph was in danger of being spoiled. At age 17 he received a coat from his father which caused anger and jealousy in the lives of his brothers. After telling his brothers of the dream he had, they hated him yet more. When opportunity arose, they sought to get rid of him, and sold him to the Ishmaelites.

God was at work in Joseph's life. After 15 years of hardship and being pushed around by others, Joseph had learned his lesson. He saw the value of honesty after being mistreated himself. He saw the value of mercy and could forgive his brothers.

Joseph didn't give up when hard things came against him. God brought fulfillment years later. From a slave to Master - Joseph was now the servant God wanted him to be.

Offering was received by Alex Davis and Paul Babcock. Wilma Butler was pianist.



### Honor Deacons

The Otterville Fellowship Baptist Church recently honored the work of past deacons and their wives for service to the church. Present for the special ceremony on Jan. 6 left to right Fred Hill, Dorothy Hill, Norma Davis and C.E. Davis. Unable to attend were Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Stover and Ainsley Barber.

## Deacons are honoured

Otterville Fellowship Baptist Church honored four Deacons and their wives for their faithful service over the years on Jan. 6.

Ainsley Barber of Norwich served the church from 1949 to 1978, Fred Hill of Otterville served from 1951 to 1981, Bruce Stover of Springford served from 1952 to 1981 and C.E. Davis of Otterville has been

actively serving since 1950 and continues as Deacon along with Dwight Davis, his son, and Bob Marshall.

The church members are grateful to these men and their wives for their willingness to give of their time and energy to supply leadership and guidance to the church family.



### A bingo is called

Linda Letoile (left) of Otterville and Linda Cheney of Springford were two of the 60 people who attended the Spring-Otter Optimist Club bingo night Saturday at the Otterville Community Hall. When Mrs. Letoile called out "Bingo," Optimist Bill Redman confirmed the win. (Staff Photo)

## Optimist television bingo goes public

NG  
JAN 16

In an extension of the extremely popular Nor-Del Cable TV Bingo, the Spring-Otter Optimist Club held a regular bingo Saturday night at the Otterville Community Hall.

The idea according to organizer Nick Visser was to let people see and meet the Nor-Del callers in a more informal at-

mosphere.

More than \$300 of prizes were given out to the lucky ones among the 60 people who enjoyed sharing a social evening of bingo action with friends and neighbors. Proceeds from this and the next bingo, Saturday, Feb. 16, at 8 p.m. at the Hall will be used to support Optimist community services.



### Refreshment time

Adam Cheney (left), Springford; Marci McMullen and Francine Countryman, both of Otterville; stress the fact that popcorn and pop are necessary to enjoy a film festival. Spring-Otter Optimist Club members Dick Everett (right), Larry Dymant (back left) and Tony Rose were kept busy Saturday afternoon providing the free refreshments to children attending the Optimist Club film festival at the Otterville Community Hall. (Staff Photo)

## Optimists show films

NG  
JAN 16

The Spring-Otter Optimist Club presented several films for an appreciative young audience Saturday afternoon at the Otterville Community Hall. The 65 kids who ranged in age from five to 12 enjoyed the antics of Laurel and Hardy, a cartoon feature and a thriller by Boris Karloff as well as popcorn and pop, all provided free of charge by the Optimists.

This is the second year for the film festivals which are put on monthly through

January, February, March and April. Youth Activities chairman Rene Letoile said the days are meant to provide a cold weather activity for local kids and are part of the youth community services which takes up about 90 per cent of their budget.

Mr. Letoile who was happy with the response of the kids thus far was already looking ahead to Saturday, Feb. 16, at 1 p.m. for the next presentation.

# Otterville PS renovations top priority

Additions and alterations to the Otterville Public School have been recognized as a priority with the ministry of education but it has asked for more detail on the work required to support a request for capital funding for the project submitted by the Oxford County board of education.

At the board's meeting Monday night trustees approved the hiring of appropriate architectural and engineering services to conduct a feasibility study outlining the extent and cost of the necessary alterations, additions, repairs and renovations to the school.

Once a report has been submitted, the ministry will be able to make an appropriate recommendation as to the capital funding, said D.A. Kinchlea, regional director of education with the ministry's Western Ontario Region.

The work at the Otterville school was listed as the board's first priority in its 1985 capital forecast submitted to the ministry. The cost of the required additions has been estimated at \$640,000. Mr. Kinchlea said in a letter to the board that, after a visit to the school, it was evident the building fabric and structure needs extensive renovation and repairs to bring it to a condition that would conform with current building and safety standards.



## Outdoor skating

Members of the Spring-Otter Optimists were busy on the weekend preparing an outdoor rink for area residents to enjoy. Optimist Dick Everitt was one of those busy flooding the ice Sunday evening

to make a rink on the Springford Area Athletic Club's tennis courts. If the weather co-operates and the ice can be flooded again during the week, the rink should be ready for skaters by the weekend. (Staff Photo)

TN JAN 28



**OTTERVILLE** - Retail/Warehouse w. res. **READY FOR NEW OWNER.** Residence has 2,000 sq. ft. of liv. area, former furniture and hdwe. outlet has 14,000 sq. ft. w. 3 furnaces. Can be seen anytime.

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## Billiard hall reopens

Ernie Meiszner (back right), new owner of Norwich Family Billiards, looks on along with some other avid pool players as Fred

Honcoop of Norwich prepares to make his shot. The billiard hall reopened Jan. 2 and will remain open for business until the end of March. (Staff Photo)

X EUGENE DAERT OTTERVILLE



### Efforts recognized

The parishioners of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Tillsonburg honored Carman Scott of Otterville, on Friday night with a presentation to recognize his years of service as the church caretaker and school bus driver. Mr. Scott and his wife Marie were thanked as well by Father Michael Langan, centre. (Jack Parker Photo)

T.N JAN 30

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### Logo for anniversary

This logo will be used during 1985 in celebrations organized for the 175th anniversary of the Village of Norwich and former North Norwich. Barbara Jull, Norwich, created the logo that strongly states the Quaker presence in the area.

### Almonte Murphy

Almonte Murphy of Delcrest Ave., Delhi, formerly of LaSalette, passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Thursday, January 10, 1985, in his 89th year.

Mr. Murphy was born in Hawtrey, son of the late Stephen Murphy and the former Elizabeth Beal. He was a life-long resident of South Norwich Township and was a former councillor for the municipality.

Mr. Murphy was active in the community for many years. He was a former direc-

tor on the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board; member of the Delhi District Secondary School Board; director of the Otter-Dorchester Mutual Insurance Company; life member of the Knights of Columbus, having been a charter member of Sacred Heart Council No. 1969, LaSalette, St. Mary's Council 3212, Tillsonburg and the Fr. Uyen Council No. 5095 Delhi.

Surviving are his wife, the former Kathleen Casey; one daughter, Mary E. Murphy of London; three sons, J. Patrick Murphy of Schaumburg, Ill., Anthony F. Murphy of Delhi and Rev. Francis L. Murphy of Windsor; a sister, Mrs. Irene O'Brien of Sarnia; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by a son, Joseph A. Murphy in 1970 and by two sisters, Mrs. Nellie Dertinger and Mrs. Mary Blake.

Rested at the Murphy Funeral Home, Delhi, until Saturday morning, thence to Our Lady of LaSalette R.C. Church for Funeral Mass at 11 a.m.

Interment in LaSalette Cemetery.

Prayers were said at the Funeral Home on Friday evening at 8 o'clock.

A Knights of Columbus Memorial Service was held Friday evening at 7:15 conducted by Council No. 5095, Delhi.

Memorial donations to any charity would be appreciated by the family.

Members of the Knights of Columbus formed an Honor Guard at the Funeral service.

Pallbearers were William Dertinger, Frank Dertinger, Steven Dertinger, Paul Blake, Robert Blake and Carl Beal.

### A. Evelyn R. Cooper

Mrs. Lorne Wilfred Cooper of 103-3 Erie Court, Tillsonburg, passed away at St. Joseph's Hospital, London, on Monday, January 28, 1985, in her 66th year.

Born in Medicine Hat, Alberta, August 17, 1919, she was a daughter of the late Marshall Clifford and the former Elizabeth Baldwin. Her husband predeceased her February 9, 1974.

Surviving is one daughter, Mrs. David (Debra) Barnim of Toronto; two sons, Robert Cooper of St. Catherines and David Cooper of Tillsonburg; five grandchildren; one brother, Cecil Clifford of London; her step-mother, Mrs. Lena Clifford of Simcoe; and a step-sister, Mrs. Steven (Arlene) Harris of Tillsonburg.

She was predeceased by a step-sister, Bessie Rachar.

Resting at the Ostrander's Funeral Home, Tillsonburg, where service will be held Thursday, January 31 at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Thomas Hiscock of St. Pauls United Church.

Interment in Rosanna Cemetery.

Memorial donations to the Oxford Lung Association would be appreciated by the family.

### Peter Drescher

Peter Drescher of RR 1 Otterville died at his residence Friday, Jan. 18, 1985 in his 79th year.

Born in Sonta, Yugoslavia, he was the son of the late Peter Drescher and the former Rose Herting. He came to Canada to the Delhi-Otterville area in 1954. He was a member of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Tillsonburg.

Surviving are his wife, the former Anna Ehlich; one son, Anton (Tony) Drescher of RR 1 Otterville and three daughters, Mrs. John (Anna) Lansky of Stoney Creek, Mrs. Fred (Maria) Fink of Kingston and Mrs. Frank (Hilda) Hoffer of Stoney Creek.

Also surviving are eight grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Rested at Murphy Funeral Home, Delhi, until Monday morning, thence to St. John Brebeuf and Companions Roman Catholic Church, Delhi, for Funeral Mass at 10:00 a.m., said by Rev. J. Nevett.

Interment in Delhi Cemetery.

Prayers said at the Funeral Home Sunday evening at 7:30 p.m.

Acting as pallbearers were: Tony Drescher, Robert Drescher, David Drescher, Michael Hoffer, Wayne Fink and Stephen Fink.

A black Q encircling a grey wagon wheel has been chosen as the logo to represent the 175th anniversary of the Village of Norwich and former North Norwich this year.

Members of the Norwich 175th Anniversary Committee chose Barbara Jull of Norwich as the winner of a \$50 prize for creating the logo that will be used on the many items and events organized to celebrate the anniversary during the year. Chris Byl of Burgessville received honorable mention in the contest.

In an effort to capture the simple life of the Quakers who first settled in the Village of Norwich and former North Norwich in 1810, Barbara used a large black Q. The grey wagon wheel in the centre of the logo is representative of the heritage of the community and the form of transportation used by early settlers. In red is Norwich 1810-1985 to mark the anniversary years. The simple design and lack of bright colors is meant to capture the simpleness of Quaker life.

# Norwich district museum reports successful year

By DOREEN HOOVER

Following a successful year at the Norwich and District Museum that saw an increase in attendance and community interest, plans are underway to make 1985 full of new exhibits for the public to enjoy.

Curator Scott Gillies said although the museum complex had its "ups and downs," 1984 was a relatively successful year. The complex was really only open to the public for the last few months of the year. The grand opening ceremony of the 4,000-square-foot museum addition was held in August and the addition allowed use of the meeting room and more space for exhibits.

The museum in 1984 surpassed attendance records from 1983 and "made more people aware of our existence," Mr. Gillies said. More people in Norwich are beginning to recognize the museum but the majority of visitors are still from outside Norwich Township.

Along with special displays this year the museum staff and volunteers have been busy conducting tours of the complex for schools and various organizations. Many museum items were taken to schools and to different community organizations and there was participation in the township Canada Day Parade and the Salford Bicentennial Parade. Mr. Gillies also spoke to many organizations in the township making more people aware of the museum and its special displays.

"It has been an exceptionally busy year," Mr. Gillies said. "The strength of our volunteers kept us going."

The decision to highlight the gallery with special exhibits and displays has proven to be the right direction to take, Mr. Gillies said. With exhibits in mind Mr. Gillies has informed the Norwich and District Historical Society about his preliminary plans for special displays for the coming year.

On the first weekend in February a special one-month display entitled, A Way To A Man's Heart, will begin. The exhibit will include old cookbooks, cooking utensils and give a history of former bake shops in the village. For the first weekend of the display there will be sampling of the recipes as dishes are made at the museum. The exhibit will end Feb. 24 and work will get underway preparing for the March display of Hot Off The Press.

This exhibit will include displays of old books and newspapers, a look at paper making, a brief history of The Norwich Gazette is possible and the exhibit could include the setting up of a newspaper office.

March 17 will be a special day when children will be able to make potato stamps, do some quill pen writing and have lessons in calligraphy.

A geneology fair will be held at the Norwich United Church on April 27 in a repeat of last year's event. During the fair, people will have the opportunity to talk to publishers, book dealers and geneology societies from Ontario and perhaps from abroad.

During May there will be a new exhibit of a Collage of Color that will consist of Norwich Township talent. The various art forms will include early paintings to modern sketches, carvings and sculptures. This exhibit, that goes until May 26, will be the big exhibit to usher in the traditional open weekend season.

As part of the 175th anniversary of the Village of Norwich and the former North Norwich the museum will organize a display of Quaker artifacts and items associated with the Norwich Quaker Settlement beginning in June and extending to July 24.

From July 27 to Aug. 25, which could also be in connection with the 175th anniversary, will be a repeat of last year's successful Toying With The Past display that involves old toys, games and dolls.

On Sept. 28 and 29 Energy Days will be held again and will include live demonstrations of man power, animal power, steam, gas, wind and electricity. There may also be a corn roast and other activities such as a corn husking bee and corn husk doll making.

A Harvest Home festival will be held in October and will look at the traditional aspects of an old-fashioned Thanksgiving. The festival may also include a cider fest and highlight the history of the apple industry in the township.

In recognition of Remembrance Day in November there will be a repeat of the successful yet poignant, Norwich Township And The Wars exhibit.

The year of special exhibits will conclude with special Christmas celebrations through the month of December.

Mr. Gillies said the museum staff are trying to get more community involvement with the museum and hope to do this by offering different and less traditional museum exhibits such as the cooking displays.

"We want to keep bringing in new people and get more people in the community involved," he said. This involvement includes visiting or lending items for various displays as many did through 1984.

# Continued support needed by society

N.G.  
JAN 16

Continued financial support is needed as the Norwich and District Historical Society three-year \$100,000 Community Heritage Program fund-raising project enters its second year.

In 1984 the historical society was successful in paying the \$15,556, the society's share of the Canada-Ontario Employment Development (COED) project on the addition to the Norwich and District Museum. Great progress was also made on making renovations on the meeting house in the museum that was estimated in the heritage program as totalling \$14,444. Still needed to complete the renovation are storm windows, air conditioners and humidifiers to meet preservation standards in the orientation room and the museum gallery.

Under the Community Heritage program \$20,000 was collected in 1984, \$2,800 has been pledged for 1985 and \$2,000 for 1986. Lavern Irving, chairman of the fund-raising committee of the historical society, said. The society is "well-satisfied" with the response to the first year of the fund-raising program and Mr. Irving said he was pleased the society met the COED obligation and almost completed renovations on the meeting house.

Fund-raising activities this year will be concentrating on meeting the needs of the Norwich and District Archives. The year will be spent creating more interest in the

facility, looking into putting a new roof on the building and meeting preservation standards with air conditioners and humidifiers.

The much needed help of volunteers for the Archives and the museums is "greatly appreciated" and much needed, Mr. Irving said. Two archivists are working voluntarily for January and February to keep the complex open.

Fund-raising events planned for the year to aid in the program are the Norwich Historical Show, bake sales and a truck-a-thon. The orientation room in the museum is also available for renting for meetings of organizations for \$15.

Mr. Irving said the thoughts of placing computers in the Archives, if funding was available, have existed for the last couple years. With a computer system the Archives would be enhanced in being able to store community heritage, family trees, and sports and cemetery data. Volunteers would be required with the knowledge to program the computer system if it became a reality.

The major emphasis for next year will be restoring the Peter Lossing house and the yard around the house.

"The Norwich and District Historical Society Museum and Archives are a research centre and tourist attraction," Mr. Irving said. "It is a service we should all be proud of."

# Holding 15th annual <sup>TN</sup>

JAN 25

## Norwich Historical Show

By DOREEN HOOVER

Holding the 15th annual Norwich and District Historical Show a week earlier this year has organizers worried about poor weather and attendance.

The Historical Show will be held Friday, May 31, Saturday, June 1, and Sunday, June 2, this year instead of the usual first full weekend in June.

A booking mix-up at the Norwich Community Centre resulted in a wedding being booked for June 8 and the Norwich and District Historical Society was booked for the June 1 weekend.

Don MacPherson, president of the Historical Society, and Lavern Irving, past president, attempted to convince Norwich Township Council in December to ask the party that had booked the centre for the wedding to change their date but council refused.

Mr. MacPherson said the historical society decided it "couldn't afford to fool around any longer" and decided on the June 1 weekend.

Before deciding to move the date of the steam show a week earlier, organizers considered holding the show outside of Norwich. Some "pretty attractive offers" were received from other areas but the "overwhelming majority" of the members of the historical society felt it would be "bad to move out of the community," Mr. MacPherson said. "I agree with this in principal but how much abuse can we take and keep going?"

Representatives of the historical society are again planning to meet with township council this month to see if a better deal can be made on rental of the community centre and grounds. "We will ask if they

can give us a break this year," he said. "There are more risks and expenses."

Added risks with holding the annual event a week earlier include the higher chance of rainy weather and the added cost of advertising the new dates. Mr. MacPherson said that already 1,500 cards advertising the show for the June 8 weekend had been circulated and advertisements had been put in Show magazines in the United States.

The historical society began its tradition of having the steam show on the first full weekend in June when events were held around the Norwich and District Museum 15 years ago. The following year, the 1st Norwich Historical Show, was held on the first full weekend in June and the tradition was continued.

Mr. MacPherson said he did not like moving the date of the show up a week and feels council should have supported the historical society and let it keep its regular weekend for the show. Mr. MacPherson said he was "hopeful" about this year's show, but "things are more against us this time."

The show in 1984 experienced good attendance but turned out to be "one of the less profitable years" for the show, he said. Gate fees had not been raised for a couple years and "inflation caught up with us." For this year's show it is expected admission will raise to \$4 per person.

Strain was also put on the Historical Society with the understaking of an addition at the Norwich and District Museum in 1984. Council agreed last year to pay \$400 a month towards the salary of Scott Gillies, museum curator.

Mr. MacPherson said the society will be trying to catch up from last year and 1985 will be a difficult year. "We will need a bit of luck on our fund-raising projects," he said. "If there are failures we could be in desperate straits."

The Norwich Historical Show entertains thousands of spectators each year with steam powered engines on display and inside exhibits of collectables, antiques and crafts.



# Route to the past

by Scott Gillies

Like General MacArthur, I have returned. I have been enjoying some time off since Christmas, sort of catching up on last year's holidays I never got around to taking.

1984 was certainly a hectic one for myself and for the Norwich and District Historical Society. I will not bore you with relating items from our immediate past. Instead I would like to look further back in time.

1985 marks the 175th anniversary of the first recorded settlement in the former North Norwich Township/Village of Norwich area.

I have said recorded settlement because we do not know exactly when the Indians were living on this land. The Neutral Indians hunted, fished and farmed along the banks of the Otter Creek. History does record that the Neutral Nation was over run by the Iroquois prior to 1655. For a time the land remained empty, except for the odd hunter wandering across the forests. This country soon became the hunting grounds of the Mississauga tribes from Northern Ontario.

In the 1780s a large tract of land was purchased from the Mississauga's by Sir John Johnson, Indian agent for the British Crown. As this tract consisted of what is now Southwestern Ontario, the present-day Township of Norwich was included in the purchase.

The Township was first surveyed in part in 1790; The Gore was not surveyed until 1835. At first the area belonged to Norfolk County, hence many of the English placenames, and then on Jan. 1, 1800, the township was made a part of Oxford County.

In that same year, large parcels of land were granted to landholders in the town of York (Toronto). This was a business transaction undertaken to finance the construction of Yonge Street and the road to Kingston. A Mr. Wilcox was granted 15,000 acres in the Township of Norwich lying east of the middle townline from the 1st to the 12th Concession.

As with most landowners Mr. Wilcox did little to improve the area until 1809 when he met Peter Lossing, a Quaker from Dutchess County, New York. Mr. Lossing had been attending a Society of Friends Meeting in Prince Edward County, where he had heard of good, yet cheap land in southern Ontario. After visiting the area

he, and his brother-in-law, Peter DeLong purchased the entire 15,000 acres from Mr. Wilcox for the sum of 50 cents per acre.

On July 14, 1810 the property was deeded to Lossing and DeLong who had, by this time, returned to Dutchess County and recruited several families for this new settlement. One such family was that of Adam Stover. He agreed to accept 1,000 acres for each of his three sons willing to move and 500 acres for his daughter and son-in-law, Peter McLees. Joseph Lancaster accepted another 3,000 acres. In all, close to 50 families agreed to venture

forth. These included the Motts, Cornwells, Snyders, Sackriders and Emighs.

Not everyone was able to travel that first year. Some families were delayed by the War of 1812. However, the Lossings and the Motts were the first to arrive following a difficult trip, which was recounted by Moses Mott several years later. They had travelled by land with wagons and horses carrying as much of the goods as possible; the remainder was sent by boat and raft along the Mohawk River, and Lakes Champlain and Ontario. By the fall of 1810 they had reached Burford, where the

women and younger children remained until the following year. (John Yeigh ran a halfway house on the Stage Road.)

Meanwhile the men set out for their final destination. Upon nearing the township, young Moses Mott and Benson Lossing ran a foot race to be the first white child in that area. To their dying days each claimed to have won the race!

Within a few days, Mr. Lossing had constructed a log hut and this was to be their dwelling for the first winter in the new land.

To Be Continued....

Those first few months of dwelling in the new land were spent chopping down trees.

Around the first of March, 1811 Mrs. Lossing and Mrs. Mott arrived with the young children. In that same year, Peter Lossing established the first religious services in his house and planted the first fruit trees which were brought up from the village of Vittoria. On Nov. 2, 1811 the first child, Gary DeLong, son of Peter DeLong was born.

The following year, 1812, saw the first school opened -- a small log structure on the banks of the Otter Creek. William Hulet was the first teacher. A few months later a second school was established by Elias Snyder in the northern section of the township. By 1813, the first school was closed and another one was opened in Peter Lossing's house.

Mr. Lossing also established the first post office, the second in the County, in 1830. By that time the village had begun to develop. The Stroud House, a hotel, was built on what is now the corner of Main and Stover Streets where Cayley Insurance is located. Nearby, James and William Barker started the first store in 1828.

Michael Stover owned the 1,000 acres upon which the village grew. He also gave the property for the first Methodist Church. In the 1830s John McKee moved here, started a tannery and married Michael's daughter Paulina. McKee's son and grandson, Hugh and John, later established the Brookside Stock Farm and Norwich Dairy.

By 1847, the village had grown to include a sawmill, a carding mill and a flour mill, as well as two general stores, a distillery and ashery, a carriage shop, a furniture business, a blacksmith shop and McKee's tannery as well as much more.

The first settlers quickly recognized the value of their land when they were able to produce surplus amounts of crops within the first few years. An agricultural society was formed on Jan. 3, 1852. Fairs were held in Otterville and Norwich alternately until 1855. The agricultural traditions continued. In 1864, the first commercial cheese factory in Canada was established on Quaker Street. In the 1870s Solomon Allen began making vinegar and apple juice and by 1910, at the time of his death, was employing 60 workers.

Another industry which helped to put the village of Norwich on the maps of Canada and on the mouths of many Canadians, was the broom factory. Originally, E.H. Thomas opened a broom factory in 1894 in what is known as the old school property near the Anglican Church. Thomas later moved to St. Thomas and from 1902 to 1904 there was no broom industry in the village. Then in 1904 Doherty and Stewart ran an operation on Main Street where White's Flowers is now located, later moving to its final location. In 1905 West Taylor and Bickle bought the operation and by the 1920s they had reached a peak period, producing 150,000 brooms per month.

There have been many leading men and women in the history of the village and Township of Norwich. John Tidey was a surveyor who owned lumber and flour

mills. His son, John A. was proprietor of the first medical hall, or drug store, in the village. Seneca Pitcher was a leading businessman as was William Poldon, and his son George. Gilbert Moore, while being involved in many things, was president of the Port Dover and Lake Huron Railway. Dr. Ephriam Cook was another influential man, being the first doctor in the area.

There are still some other men and women who had their beginnings in or around the village of Norwich. These include missionaries Robert and Nesbitt Chambers who went to Turkey; Dr. Gertrude Hulet, the first Baptist medical missionary in India and Louisa Walker, a Friend's missionary in Bhopal, India (scene of the recent Union Carbide disaster). Dr. Emily Stowe who was born near Summerville, spent a short period of her busy life in the village of Norwich. Nationally known artist Ross Butler and internationally known historian and economist Harold Adam Innis hailed from Norwich Township. Harlow Wilcox, formerly of Springford was the radio announcer for the Fibber McGee and Molly programs.

As you can see, this area has had a very colorful and interesting past. 1985 gives us an excuse to look back on that past with fond memories and perhaps with a bit of pride. In the coming weeks and months you will be hearing of different plans to celebrate the 175th anniversary of settlement in this part of the township. I hope that you, as individuals, or as a group, will decide to take part in this anniversary and make 1985 a year to remember when 1986 rolls around.

# Council supports national tobacco plan

Norwich Township officially gave its support to the proposal of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board for the establishment of a National Agency for flue-cured tobacco. During its regular meeting Monday, council approved a motion stating the tobacco industry is of vital economic importance to this municipality and the effects of declining tobacco revenue are already being

felt. The approved motion said further erosion of this valuable tax base will undoubtedly result in a general overall reduction in Norwich Township's ability to provide necessary services. A copy of the resolution will be sent to the National Farm Products Marketing Council with a copy to the Marketing Board.

## Submit quote

Crysta-Plex Plastics Ltd. will be asked by council to submit a quote for the supplying and installing of two-foot tempered glass to go around the players' benches at the Norwich Arena. The company provided and installed tempered glass around the arena early this week.

## New custodian

Mrs. Paul Yeoman of Oxford Centre has been hired by the municipality as custodian-caretaker at the Oxford Centre Hall effective March 1 to fill the position to be vacated by Carol Leis, RR 4, Woodstock, who recently submitted her resignation to council.

## Approve recommendations

Council approved recommendations made by the Agriculture and Works Committee at its Jan. 28 meeting with the exception of a recommendation regarding reconstruction of the road on the 6th Concession easterly from Highway 59 to the Odie Sideroad in former North Norwich Township that

had been tabled at the Jan. 28 meeting. Council dealt with the recommendation separately and tabled it back to the Ag and Works Committee for further deliberation.

## Drainage complaint

Marcel DeWitte will be asked to prepare a report in response to a drainage complaint from Frank Fisk in regards to the placing of dirt to the south of the Norwich Race Track. The recommendation, originally made by the Ag and Works Committee, was the result of complaints that surface water accumulates on Mr. Fisk's property as well as the Robinson and Suprun properties and that fill placed at the south end of the race track interferes with drainage on these lands.

## Halt sanding services

The Norwich and District Curling Club and Holland R.V.E. Ltd. will be notified the Public Works Department

will no longer be providing sanding services for their parking lot since council approved the Ag and Works recommendation Monday.

## Determine rental fee

For the 1985 Norwich Historical Show, the Norwich and District Historical Society will be charged rent for the arena and grounds for the amount of eight per cent of the gate receipts with a guaranteed minimum charge of \$1,000. Hydro over and above regular usage will be paid by the historical society in addition to the rent. Council approved the Community Services Committee recommendation Monday.

## Elimination fee

A \$15 bar rental fee will no longer be charged at the the Norwich Community Centre with the approval of the Community Services Committee recommendation by council Monday.

## Settling for sidewalks

NORWICH — It appears as though action is to be taken here on sidewalk replacement downtown.

Township Council voted Monday to have necessary plans and specifications drawn up as quickly as possible. In addition, these plans will include provisions for upgrading street lights and accommodating future tree sites in the downtown core of Norwich (Ward Two).

The recommendation for this scheme came from Council's Agriculture and Works Committee.

Council had originally given approval in principle to a proposed \$145,000 downtown beautification project. With this scaled-down version of the original plan, Council has indicated it has stopped dragging its heels on downtown improvements for Ward Two.

In another move, Councillors also approved a request for help from the county engineer on alterations to parking lanes, storm drain, sidewalks and utilities for the downtown area. And, if the county can't help, Council decided then to seek a consultant's services.

## Council turns down hike

By ALISON DOWNIE  
of The Sentinel-Review

OTTERVILLE — A hefty raise for members of the Norwich Public Utility Commission has been refused.

Norwich Township Council turned down a request from commission members last night that their per diem rate be increased to \$90 for the chairman per meeting and \$70 for commissioners, plus travelling expenses. The new rates would be retroactive to Dec. 1, 1984.

Last year the chairman received \$80.26 per meeting and commissioners

got \$61.74.

Coun. Don Pettigrew said if the proposed rates were granted it would work out to a 12.2 per cent increase for the chairman and a 13.5 per cent increase for commissioners.

Mayor John Heleniak said the commission checked with other municipalities in Oxford County before agreeing on the proposed per diem rates. Coun. Pettigrew said he did not think it was reasonable to compare Norwich PUC, which serves the villages of Norwich and Otterville, with Woodstock, Ingersoll or Tillsonburg.

## Norwich Township council rejects PUC increase

Raises in excess of 12 per cent requested by members of the Norwich Public Utility

Commission were turned down by members of Norwich Township council when they met last week.

The commission members had asked that their per diem rate be increased to \$90 per meeting for the chairman and \$70 for

commissioners, plus travelling expenses, retroactive to December 1, 1984.

Last year the chairman received \$80.26 per meeting and commissioners \$61.74. Councillor Don Pettigrew noted the raises, if granted would mean a 12.2 per cent in-

crease for the chairman and 13.5 per cent for commissioners.

Mayor John Heleniak said the commission checked with other municipalities in Oxford County before agreeing on the per diem rates. But Coun. Pettigrew said he did not think it was reasonable to compare Norwich and Otterville, with Woodstock, Ingersoll or Tillsonburg.

## On their own

OTTERVILLE — Norwich Township councillors dug into their own pockets to help local Boy Scouts.

Council received a request from the First Norwich Boy Scouts to provide pins, adorned with the township's crest, to 11 Scouts who will be attending the sixth Canadian Jamboree for Scouts in Guelph July 3-12.

It was Coun. Norm Lusk who suggested councillors make the contribution on their own without using township funds. Other councillors agreed.

Each of the boys attending will be given 10 pins with which to swap or give away at the jamboree. The Scouting jamboree only takes place once every four years and will be attended by 15,000 to 20,000 scouts from across Canada and other countries.

## Not sharing

OTTERVILLE — Norwich Council does not want to share its representative on the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA) with either South-West Oxford Township or East Zorra-Tavistock Township as has been suggested.

At council's meeting Mayor John Heleniak said Norwich has had a representative on the UTRCA since 1947. The authority is proposing to reduce its membership.

Members are appointed to the UTRCA by county council on recommendation from local councils.

The UTRCA will be informed of Norwich's stand on the matter in writing.

## Flood fix

OTTERVILLE — The problem with flooding in the basement at the Burgessville Library will be fixed soon. At Norwich Township Council's meeting councillors authorized that repairs be made to correct the problem.

That during the week of Feb. 20, 1965:

Ontario Flue-Cured Marketing Board Chairman S.C. Smith announced that all of the remaining flue-cured tobacco of the 1961 crop had been sold. Total amount of the 1961 crop left in storage was 140,000 pounds. Prices paid ranged from 18 to 55 cents per pound.

That during the week of Feb. 27, 1965:

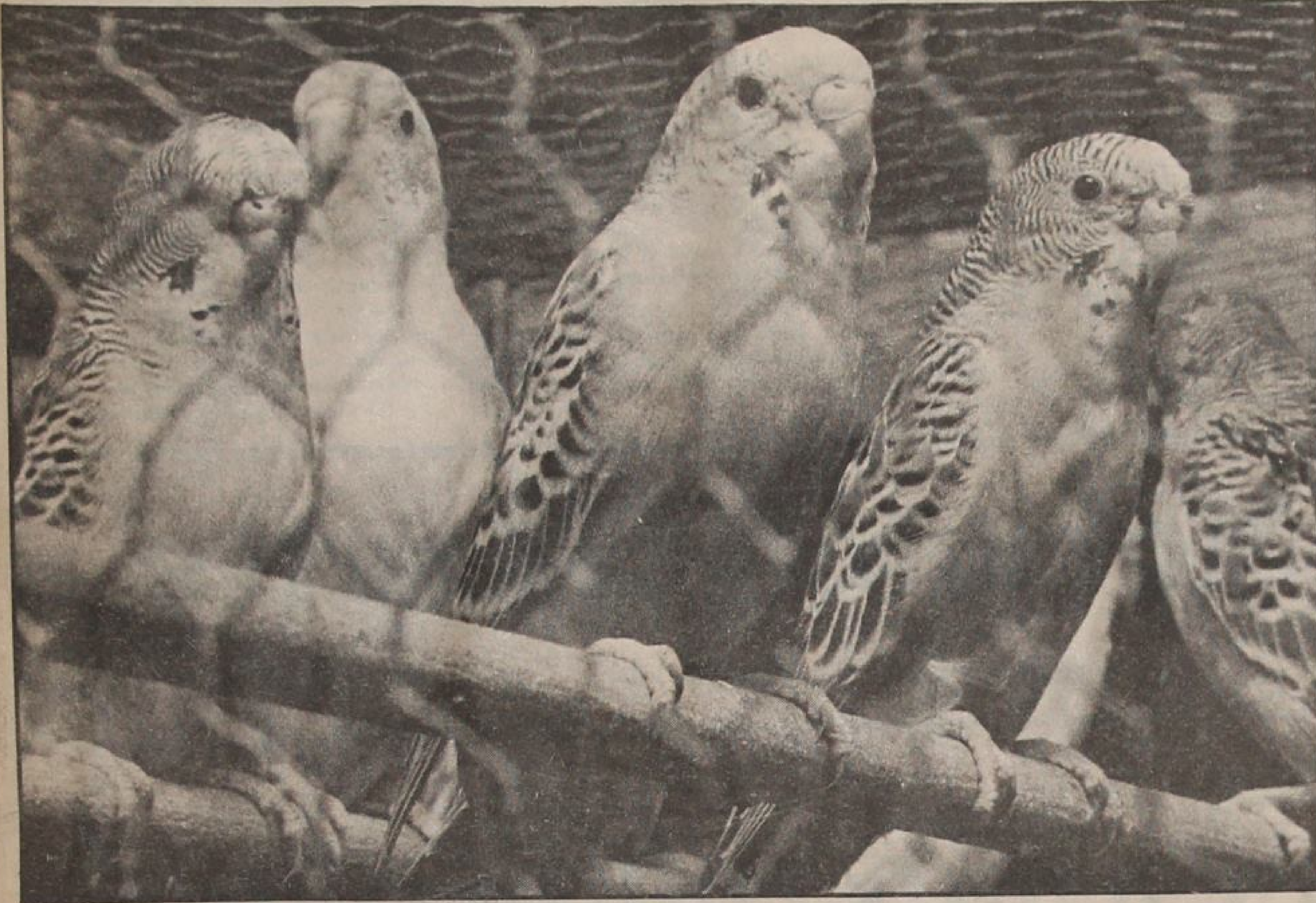
Earl Johnson was appointed Windham Township representative on Delhi District High School Board.

Winners in the Royal Canadian Legion speaking contest were: Debbie Hill, Lynedoch; Mary Kraus, Delhi; Ralph Puype, Delhi; Brenda Mudford, Delhi.

After 15 years serving as clerk of the Township of South Norwich, Herbert Parsons has resigned because of ill health. Edward McElhone was appointed to replace him.

Murray Corner was elected as chairman of the Community Centre Board.

# Township bylaw limits pets



## Budgies

These budgies are legal, as it were, even though they are behind bars. Norwich Township Council has recently passed a new animal

control bylaw that redefines the number and restrictions of pets kept in the township. (Staff Photo)

Crocodiles, alligators, snakes and their reptilian brothers are "persona non grata" in Norwich township.

The scaly creatures were excluded from the new animal control bylaw passed by council Feb. 11. The bylaw regulates and prohibits the keeping of certain animals within defined areas of the municipality.

With the bylaw in force only two dogs and two cats are allowed on either commercial or residential lots. Agricultural areas are not covered by the bylaw.

The keeping of pigeons is also restricted by the new bylaw. Pigeon coops or other shelters can not be located any closer than 60 metres to any school, church or public hall, or 40 metres from a neighboring dwelling house.

Show birds, hamsters, gerbils, guinea pigs, parakeets, budgerigars and tame mice are exempt from restrictions if totally confined and are not used for breeding or sale purposes.

In addition to dogs and cats, residents are allowed to own two monkeys, two parrots and two cockatiels as long as they are caged.

Rabbits are also allowed, but they had better be a disinterested pair because no more than two are allowed per lot.

Township clerk Robert Watkins said the animal control bylaw as well as a sign bylaw were redefined so as to be more compatible with the new comprehensive zoning bylaw.

Anyone who contravenes the bylaw is subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

## Summerville WI

February meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Lorne Treffry.

Mrs. Donald Barnim donated a sweater set to the Women's Institute.

Mrs. Milton Chesterman, district president, was introduced by Mrs. Jack Walthers and spoke to Institute members. She was thanked by Mrs. Kenneth Arthur and presented with a gift.

Mrs. Lorne Treffry read a poem "A Friend" and Mrs. Kenneth Arthur read an article on "Success, a Dream."

Mrs. Lorne Treffry showed pictures on the family history of the Treffry family in England and spoke of their trip there.

Meeting closed with lunch and a social time was held.

The January meeting of the Summerville Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Stanley Gehring, with thirteen members and two visitors present.

Mrs. Joseph Ash handed in the profit she had made from the sale of Regal articals.

Roll call was name your favorite way to relax. Miss Vera Welsh spoke on different expressions, smile, frown, sadness.

Mrs. Hugh Zimmer was introduced by Mrs. Stanley Gehring and spoke on Trinidad, having been sent there to set up a program for dietitians. She also showed slides of the country and hospital.

She was thanked and given a gift by Miss Vera Welsh.

A social time followed the meeting.

## Historical auction being planned for Oct. 26

The February meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society was held on Feb. 11 at Woodlawn with President Jack Smith in charge.


Following the reading of the minutes it was reported space had been reserved at Norwich Community Centre for the Fall auction to be held Oct. 26.

The Mill Committee reported the alarm system would soon be installed and inquiries into cost of sash for the mill are being carried on. A letter from the United Empire Loyalist Association of Canada was read announcing that the Association now have a new publication for sale: "Loyalist Vignettes and Sketches." A letter regarding the Genealogical Fair to be held at the United Church in Norwich in May was also read. It was decided the Historical Society would continue to subscribe to "Ontario History" for another year.

A motion was passed that a letter of thanks be sent to Lyle Davis for two tables which he has made and donated for use in the mill. It was voted that outstanding bills be paid.

Following the business session Jean and Ed Moore showed slides of part of their visit to Zimbabwe and South Africa last fall, after which lunch was served.

*Otterville Firefighters Club*



1985

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# DANCE

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**SAT. FEB. 23 \$10.00 PER COUPLE**

9.00 - 1.00 LUNCH

INDUST ONE SHOPPER FEB 5

**NOW IS POSSIBLY THE MOST CRITICAL TIME** for the Norwich and District Community Heritage Programme. Financial support from the community is most needed now. It is urgent that the Norwich & District Historical Society meet its \$15,500.00 obligation and pay its portion of the C.O.E.D. programme. There is quite a large shopping list of fixtures and building materials that are needed to complete and add finishing touches to the complex. Financial support is extremely critical right now and an additional funding is needed immediately for renovations and the actual completion of the building construction.

# Dairy princess at Lions club

The regular meeting of Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held Monday, Feb. 11, in the Legion Hall, Norwich.

Lion Murray Cornwell introduced Allyson Hagerman, the Oxford County Dairy Princess. Miss Hagerman presented a film entitled "The Milk Connection" which gave a good insight to the production of milk and the processing involved in converting to dairy products.

Miss Hagerman's duties as Dairy Princess are to visit schools and various organizations to promote milk and dairy products.

Lion Grant Orth expressed appreciation to Miss Hagerman and presented her with a gift. In 1985 she will compete at the CNE for Dairy Princess of Ontario.

Guests were present from Langton, Port Dover and the newly chartered Sweaburg Lions Club.

Lion Albert Cornwell presented Lion Bill Weatherspoon of the Sweaburg Club with a gong to be used by the president to call

their meeting to order. Lion Bill expressed appreciation and invited our members to attend their Charter night to be held March 23 in Fairview Centre, Woodstock.

Lion Don Robertson, Deputy District Gov. Region 4, spoke and brought greetings from Langton and asked for support in his campaign to be elected as District Governor of A-2 for 1985-86.

Lion Don presented a 35 year membership pin to Lion Dalt French, a 20 year pin to Lion Rene DeCooman, and to Lion Grant Orth a 10-year membership pin.

Guests were introduced from Langton, Port Dover and Sweaburg.

Lion John Wells, Zone Chairman for 4 East, asked for support in his campaign to be elected as Deputy District Governor of A-2 for 85-86.

Lion Paul Wood reported on the upcoming Ladies' Night at Flamboro Downs March 7 for Lions, ladies and guests.

A meeting at Lion Chief Jack Walther's house Friday, Feb. 15 at 7:30 p.m. will be

held for members who are attending the Mini Convention at Niagara Falls.

Lion Tony reported on the upcoming Fish Fry and UCR Draw on April 6. Lion Wood announced the Lions club will be sponsoring the Wintario Draw to be televised on Thursday, July 11 along with a fish dinner before as well as a dance afterwards.

## Lions taking ladies on racetrack outing

The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the community hall, Otterville, Monday evening, Feb. 25. Lion President, Jack Walther presided.

There were 24 members present and two guests including Marie Avey, teacher of the Museum School, Burgessville and Elaine Arthur, area representative of the District Lions Effective Speaking Contest.

The club will hold the annual ladies night on Thursday, March 4 with a bus trip to Flamboro Downs racetrack, including dinner.

Lion Andy Vandenberghe introduced Elaine Arthur, our sole entry in this area's Effective Speaking Contest. She spoke on

the topic "The Poppy." Elaine's impromptu speech, protecting the environment followed her prepared speech and showed a good knowledge of the subject.

Judges for the speech were Marie Avey and Lion Murray Downing. Lion Andy Vandenberghe is in charge of this club's candidates. Lion Jack presented Elaine with a token gift from the club.

Letters of appreciation were read thanking the club for assistance in sending a Toc-Alpha representative to Toronto with assistance to the Girl Guides Convention.

Lion John Leitch was presented with a 20 year chevron by Lion President Jack.

Lion Mark Gilmore reported that plans are being completed for our next meeting, "Family Night" to be held in the Legion Hall, Norwich, March 11.

The second March regular meeting will be in the form of a fish-fry in the Community Hall, Otterville, Monday, March 25. This will be in preparation for frying fish for the Fall Fish Fry, April 6, in the Community Centre, Norwich. Wives and guests are invited to the March 25 meeting.

The club has been busy visiting other local Lions Clubs, usually with Lion Zone Chairman Colin Cope of this club, who is running for the position of Deputy District Governor of Zone 4.

Convention draw was won by Lion John Sandham and Lion Jim McLaren.

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## Optimists screening new films

The Otterville Optimist Club will be screening five new films at the Otterville Town Hall Saturday, Feb. 16.

The monthly event will, as always, feature free popcorn and soft drinks. Admission is also free.

The films will be Riki-Tiki-Tavi, Sam On Winter Safety, Readin' and Writin' with the Little Rascals, Ottawa: Reflection of a Nation, and A Hero Named Bill.

Later in the evening a Bingo will be held at the town hall.

## 90 year olds to become life members

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Otterville Leisure Club met Feb. 27 at Woodlawn. The meeting was called to order by the President Mrs. Gladys Evans. A letter was read from Tillsonburg recreation centre regarding a variety show June 23. No decision was reached on providing a number for this show.

Mrs. Grace Squance, good cheer convenor, reported sending a birthday card to Mrs. Laura Pettigrew. A thinking-of-you card was signed for Ivan Leitch and a belated birthday card for Mrs. Florence Moore.

During the business it was decided to present Life Memberships to members at age 90. Donations were also made to Norwich 175th Anniversary committee towards the publishing of their anniversary book and to the Woodlawn Maintenance Committee.

Mrs. Bertha Lee read a clipping from a 1972 paper regarding the formation of a Senior Citizens club in Otterville which later was called the Leisure Club.

Mrs. Evans reported she had made four lap robes from the wool that had been purchased several years ago by the club.

After the business, the members enjoyed a few games of cards: UNO, Aggravation and pool. After which all enjoyed birthday cake and ice cream. Next meeting March 13 will be a potluck dinner.

## Demonstrate microwave cooking

Otterville Public Library is once again busy with upcoming activities.

Story Hour for pre-schoolers ages two years and five years is beginning another

session. Registration, which is now closed, received 21 participants which are divided into two classes held on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, 10-11 a.m., beginning Feb. 6 until March 13.

Mother volunteers leading these sessions are Marilyn Driedger, Otterville and Margaret Lee, Springford, with many other mothers supporting through their offers to be helpers.

Another session is planned in the Spring for which volunteer leaders are needed.

The library is offering another form of education on Tuesday evening, Feb. 12, 7:30-9:00 p.m., through a MicroWave Demonstration. Through the use of microwave ovens supplied by Ken Lee and Sons Electric and Appliances, a demonstrator from the Maytag Appliance

Co. will be showing various cooking methods to be used with microwave ovens and make uses of such an appliance more familiar.

Registration for the evening is being held at the library, Feb. 5-9 during library hours. No registration fees are being charged but participants will be asked to share the cost of the food.

During the month of February the South Norwich Historical Society will have a display in the library on Heritage, helping celebrate Heritage Day, taking place during the month.

With Valentine's Day fast approaching there are books available at the library on this special theme for use with various reading levels and age groups.

## Otterville

Eleanor VanParys was guest of honor at a dinner and presentation at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Murray Downing in recognition of her many dedicated years to the medical profession in Otterville. Present were co-workers through the years and their spouses. Dr. J. Narancsik and Dr. Downing both spoke briefly of her great value and made a presentation of a Royal Doulton figurine.

## Otterville library sponsors microwave cooking program

OTTERVILLE (C) — Tuesday evening, Feb. 26, the Otterville Public Library continued its educational program by sponsoring an evening concerning the field of microwave cooking.

Librarian, Lurene McMullen welcomed the 35 people in attendance as well as demonstrator for the evening, Greg

Bourne of the Maytag Appliance Co., London. Such an evening demonstrates that the library is a source of reference and a resource facility for an endless variety of topics and interests.

During the hour and a half demonstration, Mr. Bourne, using appliances provided by Ken Lee and Sons Appliances, Otterville, outlined the construction of the microwave oven explaining its means of operation. As well, he elaborated on the history of the microwave concept and how it developed from the discovery during World War II of warmth being felt when working around radar.

Basic methods of cooking, appropriate recipes to be used and how to clean the microwave were some of the topics covered. Many handy tips were passed out such as the fact that water, fat and sugar heat much quicker in the microwave which drastically effects some recipes.

Problem questions were answered with Mr. Bourne emphatically stressing that owners of microwave ovens must read the cookbook that comes with the appliance. This should be regarded as the microwave cook's "bible."

Sample foods were tasted and shared at the conclusion of the evening which was followed by coffee and a time for everyone to socialize and discuss aspects seen during the evening.

The staff of the library were very encouraged by the response of the people to offer a variety of educational evenings at the library in the future.

# Improvements to Otterville school would cost more than \$500,000

An engineering study examining deficiencies of the Otterville Public School building has estimated the renovations required to improve the building would cost more than \$500,000 while the cost of replacing the building would be close to \$600,000.

The engineering study, presented to members of the Oxford County board of education at their meeting Monday night in Woodstock, has been forwarded to the ministry of education to support the board's request for capital funding to improve the school, built in Otterville in 1927.

Mr. Young said the ministry voiced concern about the size of the \$640,000 capital allocation requested by the board for a school with such a small student population. But after ministry officials visited the school it became clear that the building fabric and structure needs extensive renovation to bring the building to a condition that would conform with current building and safety standards, said D.A. Kinchlea, regional director of education for the ministry's Western Ontario Region.

In order to make a suitable recommendation with regard to the board's request for capital funding for the renovation project, Mr. Kinchlea requested more information on the extent and cost of the necessary alterations, additions, repairs and renovations to the school in the form of an engineering study.

In a report to the board Monday night, Superintendent of Business, George Hammond, said the study involved architectural, as well as structural, mechanical and electrical engineering consultants, and it identifies parts of the 1927 section of the school building which do not comply with the current Ontario Building Code.

The capital funding requested from the province for the improvements at the school would enable the board to carry out

the work "necessary to have an appropriate, modern facility," either through an addition to the existing structure, partial or total replacement of the facility, Mr. Young said. He pointed out the board has poured a lot of dollars into the school for maintenance each year and trustees felt it was important to have a

building that is heat efficient, safer, cleaner and that has appropriate office and library space.

Mr. Young said it will now be up to the ministry to respond to the engineering study with a recommendation on how the board is to proceed if capital funding is approved.

## Oxford school board requests \$640,000 to fix Otterville school

WOODSTOCK (Bureau) — The Oxford County board of education is backing its request for \$640,000 worth of improvements at Otterville Public School with an architect's study of the building.

"It identifies the areas of the building that have to be corrected to bring the school up to current standards," George Hammond, the board's superintendent of business, said Tuesday.

The study has been forwarded to the education ministry's regional office in London.

While a four-classroom addition built in 1951 is sound, the ministry may consider replacing the part of the school constructed in 1927, Hammond said. "It's at the stage where it's going to need a lot of

work to upgrade it."

The work is at the top of the board's list for capital financing from the ministry this year.

"Based on the report . . . there isn't a great deal separating the cost of renovations versus the cost of new construction," said Hammond, who refused to speculate about the board's chances of getting financing. "It may very well be that when they (ministry officials) look at the funding available for the province, we won't get any approval for it at all this year. I would think that we would have some word from them next month."

The school needs a general purpose room, a resource centre, more office space, student change rooms and general repairs.

## Honor top sellers

Top salespersons in Otterville Public School's chocolate bar campaign were

recognized Friday at an awards assembly.

Special certificates of merit were awarded to the top sellers in various categories, and a prize draw was held.

Everyone who sold at least four chocolate bars was eligible to win one of several prizes which were chosen with an athletic or educational theme. Otterville principal Cathy Murphy said the approximate \$1,500 profit, realized from the campaign which was held before and during the Christmas holidays, will be used for several purposes. It will support a school participation day, when students will enjoy an activity such as skiing or swimming. New computer equipment and playground apparatus will also be purchased.

Ms Murphy thanked everyone who ignored their calorie count and supported the school through the campaign.



### Top salespersons

Overall top salespersons in the Otterville Public School chocolate bar campaign were awarded for their efforts during a special ceremony Friday. Top sellers are left to right Dwayne Kozuck, Grade 7; Kent Cooper, Grade 6 and Shawn Pinnoy, Grade 6, who all sold more than \$100 worth of bars; and Tammy Boughner, Grade 6, and Rob Hussey, Grade 8. (Staff Photo)

## Pre-school story hour continuing

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Otterville Public Library is once again busy with upcoming activities. Story Hour for pre-schoolers ages over two years to five years is beginning another session. Registration, which is now closed, received 21 participants which are divided into two classes held on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, 10-11 a.m. It began Feb. 6 and goes until March 13.

Mother volunteers leading these sessions are Marilyn Driedger, Otterville, and Margaret Lee, Springford, with many other mothers supporting through their offers to be helpers.

Another session is planned in the spring for which volunteer leaders are needed.

The library offered another form of education Tuesday evening, Feb. 12 through a microwave demonstration. Through the use of microwave ovens supplied by Ken Lee and Sons Electric and Appliances, a demonstrator from the Maytag Appliance Co. showed various cooking methods to be used with microwave ovens.

During the month of February the South Norwich Historical Society will have a display in the library on Heritage helping celebrate Heritage Day, taking place during the month.

With Valentine's Day fast approaching there are books available at the library on this special theme for use with various reading levels and age groups.

## Otterville UCW plan April beef dinner

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Otterville United Church Women met Thursday, Feb. 21 with Betty Walther presiding. All repeated the UCW purpose and Bertha Gehring gave the financial report in the absence of Vicki Walther. Lorraine Downing gave an excellent report from the Presbyterial which she had attended accompanied by Jean Little. During the business portion of the meeting it was decided to have a beef dinner in April.

The members were reminded of upcoming events for the UCW. The London UCW Conference will be held in Sarnia, April 15-16; the Westminster weekend, May 24-26; and Alma School for Women, August 17-19.

It was announced that anyone wishing to purchase Korean Women's pins are to contact Gretchen Pollock, Norwich. Betty Walther read a poem, "What Went

Wrong" and announced that the deadline for the newsletter was March 6.

A memorial offering in memory of the late Mrs. Wilma Gleason was taken and donated to the MS fund followed by a poem read by Betty Walther entitled "Not By the Years We Live but How Much We Give."

Marion Taylor gave the call to worship, "Those Who Walk With Love Knows Peace and Joy." Jean Little played for the hymn, "Love Divine." Isabell Harris read from the New English Bible I Corinthians 13:1-13 and gave the devotional "Love is a Gift of God." Anna Treffry gave a talk and showed pictures on the Treffry Heritage trip to England she and her husband had taken last year.

The meeting closed with all repeating the benediction followed by a social time. At the close all sang "Bless Be the Tie That Binds."

DELHI NEWS-RECORD, Wednesday, February 27, 1985

## Minister inducted into United Church

OTTERVILLE (C) — A Service of Induction for the Rev. Charles S.F. Seed to the Otterville Pastoral Charge was held Sunday evening, Feb. 3 at Springford United Church.

Presider for the service was Rev. Gary Boratto of Plattsville, Chairperson-elect of Oxford Presbytery. Rev. David Steadman, minister of the Princeton Pastoral Charge and a former neighbour of Mr. Seed, read the Scripture, the Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4: 3-7, But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost, and the Gospel: John 1: 6-14, There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

Rev. David K. Mack of Thamesford, Westminster and Zion United Churches made an analogy in his sermon between Rev. Charles Seed and Johnny Appleseed of North America, a special man sent from God.

He made a comparison to John the Baptist who preached and baptized spreading an effective message from God. Jesus said there was no greater man than John the Baptist.

Rev. Seed was presented by Rev. Ross Hibberd, Tillsonburg, Corresponding Secretary of Oxford Presbytery.

A combined choir of the Otterville and Springford churches shared the anthem, Thou Whose Purpose Is To Kindle. The offering was received by Doug Wilson, Rick Lee, Doug Rice and Gary Smith.

A reception followed the service when everyone was invited to stay for a time of fellowship and refreshment provided by the Springford and Otterville ladies.

## Talks to St. John's ACW on work in Trinidad

The regular meeting of the Otterville St. John's Anglican Church Women featured speaker Katherine Zimmer, Otterville, who recently worked in Trinidad with the World Health Organization.

Through her talk and slide presentation she explained the country of Trinidad as well as her job to motivate dieticians, write a manual and set up internships to be taken by students working to become dieticians.

Mrs. Zimmer found Trinidad interesting, seeing many new things but suggested it is not a tourist haven as are other Caribbean islands. Since the major oil boom is now declining people have migrated to the cities with sugar cane and coconuts being the major crops grown. The government is encouraging people to grow their own gardens since most other commodities are imported making them expensive.

There are four basic ethnic groups in Trinidad which has been an independent country for 22 years after being under the rule of various countries. There are East-Indians, Chinese, Blacks and a mixture of other nationalities.

The criminal element is high in Trinidad and free enterprise is not encouraged but the philosophy of everything for everyone is encouraged.

Mrs. Zimmer found the major health problems to be obesity, hyper-tension and heart disease which is not helped by the peoples' diets which are starchy. Rice is a staple and hot pepper is used in most of the foods. Hospitals are run by the government and progress is greatly hampered by paperwork with changes taking a long time to happen.

At times discouraging, the professional people are not using their knowledge. It is hard to evaluate the cause of the problem whether it be the system, laziness of the people or the restraint of government. Ma-

For things go undone while minor things take priority. Mrs. Zimmer only hopes that something she did will change their thinking and practices.

She has recently been notified the internship she helped to set up will begin March 6 with six people being trained. The program has been approved for one year.

Mrs. Zimmer found it to be a valuable experience giving her an appreciation for that part of the country as well as her own students here at home at Guelph.

Winnie Leitch thanked her for the interesting presentation making everyone more aware of the different aspects of this third world country.

Mrs. Zimmer opened the meeting based on the theme of Love and Valentine's Day with a reading by Phyllis Mitchell on Love In Action - The Power of Christian Love. She suggests we should strive for better relationships and avoid situations which cause problems. We should cast our attitudes away that block our thoughts but direct more kindly ones towards people. Love can open doors.

She shared scripture, I Corinthians 13 and closed with the hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" and prayer.

During the business portion of the meeting members were reminded of World Day of Prayer, March 1, to be held at St. John's Church and the upcoming ACW Spring Fashion Show, March 21, held at the Otterville Community Hall. As well, the annual meeting will be held April 25 at St. Paul's Church, London.

ACW President, Cathy Furlong, announced the parcels to Uganda and St. Monica House had been sent and Lila Freeland reported two quilts had been completed.

The meeting closed with the benediction which was followed by lunch provided by Mrs. Zimmer appropriately featuring Valentine cake.

# Rev. Charles Seed takes over charge

By DOREEN HOOVER

Getting to know the people of Otterville and Springford will be a high priority for Rev. Charles Seed as he takes over his charge at the Otterville and Springford United Churches.

Rev. Seed and his wife Renita, moved into Otterville Saturday and he led services on Sunday. His induction service was held at the Springford United Church Sunday.

While working to help find a minister to take the Otterville-Springford charge following the departure of Rev. Earl Moore, he heard the job description and "felt it fit in with my type of ministry," he said. He considered the position, talked it over with his wife, prayed and "felt the Lord was calling us here to serve the people."

Rev. Seed has been involved with the church all his life and felt the Lord was calling him to work in the church in some form. He attended the Anglican church in his hometown of Strathroy, Ont., and was a licenced layreader with the Anglican Church for 25 years. He is now head of the Manse inspection committee for the Oxford Presbytery.

While in Strathroy Rev. Seed began his involvement in the grocery business and eventually ran his own store, Superior Foodmarket for five years. He then went to Kitchener and Hanover in the grocery business and while in Hanover got his second calling into the ministry. His first calling came when he was 28 years old but he was told he didn't have enough high school education and to wait two years to enter training as an adult student.

At age 42 he followed his second calling and entered the ministry beginning with a year of studying art at Guelph University, followed by a year at Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, and finally spending two years at Emmanuel College which is a United Church college on the University of Toronto campus.

While attending his four years of study Rev. Seed served four churches in the Collingwood area. He attended classes during the week and then visited sick and shut-ins from the four churches and on Sunday gave four services to the Maxwell United, McIntyre United, Badjeros United and Wareham United congregations.

After being ordained at Grace United Church in Hanover in September 1982, he settled in Drumbo to take over the two-point charge of Drumbo United and Richwood United Churches.

With his new charge, he will be pastor to 200-215 families in the Springford and Otterville areas, which is slightly larger than at Drumbo and Richwood United Churches.

While he has only been in this area a short time, Rev. Seed said he and his wife have been received "tremendously" and he has met a great many "beautiful people." Rev. Seed and the congregations got off on the right foot when the Seed



## New minister inducted

Family, friends, and members from past and present congregations were present at the Springford United Church Sunday for the induction of Rev. Charles Seed who is taking over the two-point charge of Otterville and Springford United Churches. From left to right are Rev. David Steadman, Princeton United Church, who read the lessons; Rev. Seed, Rev. Gary Boratto, chairman elect of the Oxford Presbytery, who inducted Rev. Seed; and Rev. David Mack, Thamesford United Church, who gave the sermon. (Staff Photo)

family had a welcome song sung to them at the Springford United Church Sunday.

At his induction sermon many family members, friends and members of former congregations were on hand to celebrate his new position. "To see the church full really touches your heart," he said.

Welcomes have also been given to Mrs. Seed who has been invited out to meet members of the communities. His family, which includes three grown children, has always been a strong point in his ministry and Mrs. Seed is "my right hand," he said.

While serving the Otterville and

Springford churches, Rev. Seed will not try to change members of the congregation or any of their attitudes on God. He plans to preach his continual theme that Jesus loves them. His main concerns will be having a fun time with the people in serving Jesus Christ and showing his love, he said. "Love is communicating and if we had more love the world would be a better place to live."

By being part of the ministry Rev. Seed receives enjoyment from meeting people, serving Jesus Christ and telling the good news of Jesus Christ to whoever will listen.

## OTTERVILLE UNITED

Morning worship at Otterville United Church opened with music for listening, played by the organist Jean McClintock.

Rev. Charles Seed and the congregation repeated the call to worship responsively. The choir sang the anthem "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing," under the direction of Mrs. McClintock.

Before the children went to their Sunday school classes Mr. Seed told them of God's love. He showed them several valentines and said they were symbols of love - when we give them and when we receive them. God sent us a valentine when he sent Jesus - a symbol of God's love to us. Because Jesus came to show us how, we are able to share love with one another.

The scripture reading was I John 5:1-12, The victory of faith, and John 3:22-36, John the Baptist testifies of Jesus.

The pastor's message was We Have This Ministry. As he was getting settled in his new home, his new community and his new ministry Rev. Seed was making plans for the coming year. He knows the church will continue as it has for 2,000 years because it belongs to Jesus Christ. Paul said all parts of a congregation can fit together perfectly, much as hands fit together when interlocked. Jesus' philosophy was that before he made any big decision, he searched out a quiet place and did nothing - thinking it through - the pendulum principle - swinging between vigorous and quiet.

The present attendance at morning worship is good but if ever there were fewer worshippers, it would be an opportunity to reach out to others and draw them to the spiritual fellowship of our church.

To gauge the character of a person ask about his priorities - how he spends his money; what he does with his time; and what does he allow to interrupt him. Jesus was never too busy or too involved to stop and help people who needed him. There was never any pressure, no bullying, but people were drawn to him. He really became their servant. If we work together quietly, we can fit together the church of Jesus Christ.

The offering was received by Boyd Little, Donald Neale, Lorne Treffry and John Walther. Jean Little was at the piano.

## OTTERVILLE ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN

Morning prayer service, the fifth Sunday following Epiphany, continued to convey the Epiphany theme that Christmas and Epiphany are closely related.

In order to emphasize this fact the service opened with a Christmas carol, "See Amid The Winter's Snow," as the junior and senior choirs entered the church accompanied by organist Lila Freeland. Floral arrangements at the front of the church were in memory of Roy Exelby.

Scripture readings were Job 7:1-7, Has not man a hard service upon earth; Mark 1:29-39, Immediately he left the synagogue, and entered the house of Simon and Andrew; and Psalm 147:1-11, Praise the Lord who heals the broken-hearted, read responsively.

The children adjourned to their Sunday school classes during the singing of a contemporary hymn based on Isaiah 49 which expresses the idea that we are always in God's hands.

The new board of management was inducted by Rev. Grant D. Darling to begin their special ministry in the parish. The members of the board are Church Wardens: Jack Freeland, Ross McMullen;

Lay Delegate: Violet Howse; Substitute: Eva Deveney; Vestry Clerk: Carl Howse; Board Members: Audrey Neumann, Lois Rachar, Martin Cowan, Bryan Parr, Don Freeman, Janet Ryerse, Lila Freeland, Cathy Furlong and August DeWachter.

Rev. Darling focused his sermon on the importance of getting back to God by doing good and working for God. The people within the church can be divided into three groups. There are people who are full of life and happiness, working for God, people who are not seen at all, and those who have trials and burdens and can not come even with them.

Life has its ups and downs and God is with us in the good times and bad times and this we must remember in trying to do God's work.

Offering was received by Jack Freeland and Ross McMullen which was followed by the recessional hymn, "Angels From the Realms of Glory."

## OTTERVILLE FELLOWSHIP BAPTIST

On Sunday, Feb. 10, Sunday school was held for all ages at 10 a.m., followed by morning worship at 11 a.m.

Bob Marshall led the service. Scripture reading was taken from Daniel 1. Pastor Bull's message was entitled "On Being Servants: Daniel 'Appealing to Authority'."

Scripture teaches us to be subject to authority. As servants of God, to what extent are we to be submissive? What do we do when those over us ask us to do wrong? How do we respond? Can we base our convictions on scripture or is it a personal preference?

When Daniel made up his mind not to eat the food and wine given to him by the King; he graciously asked permission to eat other things instead. Daniel suggested a creative alternative, but left the final decision to the person in authority. He was concerned for his friends as well as those over him.

Daniel and his friends proved to be wiser than those around him.

Offering was received by Alex Davis and Paul Babcock. Wilma Butler was pianist.

THE PARISH OF SAINT ALBAN, DELHI and SAINT JOHN, OTTERVILLE

LENTEN NEWS LETTER - 1985

Beloved in Christ,

First of all, I want to thank you for your prayers and concern during my recent illness. I'm feeling much better. There was no damage to my heart, thankfully, and the doctors say I can get back into my work. Thanks again for your many cards, plants, fruit baskets, etc. What some priests won't do to get attention!!

Lent is about upon us - a good chance for us to do some spiritual exercises along the lines of self-denial and self-discipline. We all need to grow in the spirit, especially in this crazy old world with all its crises and dangers and evil. Please take advantage of our mid-week services - Wednesdays - 7am. at S. Alban & 11am. at S. John. There'll be a hearty breakfast each week following the 7am. service at S. Alban - everyone is welcome.

The enclosed Lenten coin folder is our primary way of feeding the hungry of the world and giving them the help to help themselves. Please use this folder and bring it to church for offering on Good Friday or Easter. Thanks.

Also enclosed are some Parish statistics which I thought you might find interesting and helpful.

Now, for a trip through our calendar - coming events:

ASH WEDNESDAY (February 20) - Holy Communion - 7 at S. Alban; 11 at S. John.  
"Thinking Day" Church parade: S. John - Sun., Feb. 24 at 9:30am. (Brownies)  
Cub, Scout & Beaver Church Parade: Sun., Mar. 3 at 11am. at S. Alban.  
S. John's ACW.: Mar. 7 at 7:30 - Ed & Jean Moore - pictures on Japan trip.  
Spring Break: The week of March 10.  
Saint Patrick's Tea: Sat., Mar. 16 at S. Alban's Hall. (ACW sponsored)  
S. John's ACW ANNUAL FASHION SHOW: Mar. 21 at Otterville Comm'y Hall at 7:30pm.  
Rummage Sale: Fri., Mar. 22 at 9am. at S. Alban's Hall. (ACW sponsored)  
Deanery B.A.C. Fish Supper Meeting: S. Paul's, Port Dover, Mar. 28 at 6:30pm.  
Palm Sunday: Blessing of the Palms - Sun., Mar. 31st.  
GOOD FRIDAY: Apr. 5th. Services: 9:30am. at S. John & 11am. at S. Alban.  
EASTER DAY: Apr. 7th. Holy Communion at 8 & 11am. at S. Alban; 9:30 at S. John.  
Combined Service at S. John's Church: 11:15am. at S. John's, Otterville. On Sun., Apr. 14. (Bus leaves S. Alban's Church at 11:00am.)  
Theological Education Sunday: Apr. 21st.  
Oxford-Norfolk Deanery INTENTIONAL EVANGELISM meeting: Sat., May 4 at Saint Alban's Church - 10am. to 3:30pm.  
S. Alban's B.A.C. "LADIES' NIGHT": Thurs., May 9 at 6:30pm. This is your night, ladies! Come along and be "Wined & Dined".  
Huron Diocesan Synod: May 12, 13 & 14. - London, Ontario.  
Mothers' Day Youth Services: Sun., May 12 at 9:30 & 11am.  
53RD. WEEKEND: May 24 - 26, Huron College, London, Ont.  
Diocesan CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL: Sat., June 1st. - S. Paul's Cathedral, London, Ont.  
Delhi LEGION ANNUAL CHURCH PARADE: Sun., June 9 at 11am. at S. Alban's Church.  
S. Alban's B.A.C. CHICKEN BAR-B-Q: Sun., June 23 - 5-7pm. at Delhi Pavilion.  
JULY: Father Grant will be away on vacation with his family.  
CONFIRMATION: Classes will begin on Sun., Sept. 8th. More details later.

W O W !

FR. GRANT  
DARLING  
CA



P A R I S H     S T A T I S T I C S   -   1 9 8 5

SAINT ALBAN, DELHI

SAINT JOHN, OTTERVILLE

154	- - - - -	TOTAL FAMILY UNITS	- - - - -	62
349	- - - - -	TOTAL BAPTIZED PERSONS	- - - - -	148
243	- - - - -	TOTAL CONFIRMED PERSONS	- - - - -	87
20	- - - - -	SUNDAY SCHOOL ROLL	- - - - -	35
11	- - - - -	BAPTISMS IN 1984	- - - - -	8
6	- - - - -	CONFIRMATIONS IN 1984	- - - - -	5
6	- - - - -	MARRIAGES IN 1984	- - - - -	4
9	- - - - -	BURIALS IN 1984	- - - - -	2
81	- - - - -	AVERAGE SUNDAY ATTENDANCE	- - - - -	55
112	- - - - -	NUMBER OF IDENTIFIABLE SUPPORTERS	- - - - -	33

GIVING LEVELS (1984)

47	- - - - -	Below \$100.00	- - - - -	8
13	- - - - -	\$100.00 - \$200.00	- - - - -	9
17	- - - - -	\$201.00 - \$300.00	- - - - -	4
5	- - - - -	\$301.00 - \$400.00	- - - - -	2
9	- - - - -	\$401.00 - \$500.00	- - - - -	4
7	- - - - -	\$501.00 - \$600.00	- - - - -	1
6	- - - - -	\$601.00 - \$700.00	- - - - -	2
1	- - - - -	\$701.00 - \$800.00	- - - - -	
1	- - - - -	\$801.00 - \$900.00	- - - - -	2
1	- - - - -	\$901.00 - \$1000.00	- - - - -	
1	- - - - -	\$1001.00 - \$1100.00	- - - - -	
1	- - - - -	\$1201.00 - \$1300.00	- - - - -	
1	- - - - -	\$1501.00 - \$1600.00	- - - - -	
	- - - - -	\$1701.00 - \$1800.00	- - - - -	1
1	- - - - -	\$2001.00 - \$2100.00	- - - - -	
1	- - - - -	\$2701.00 - \$2800.00	- - - - -	

AVERAGE GIVINGS

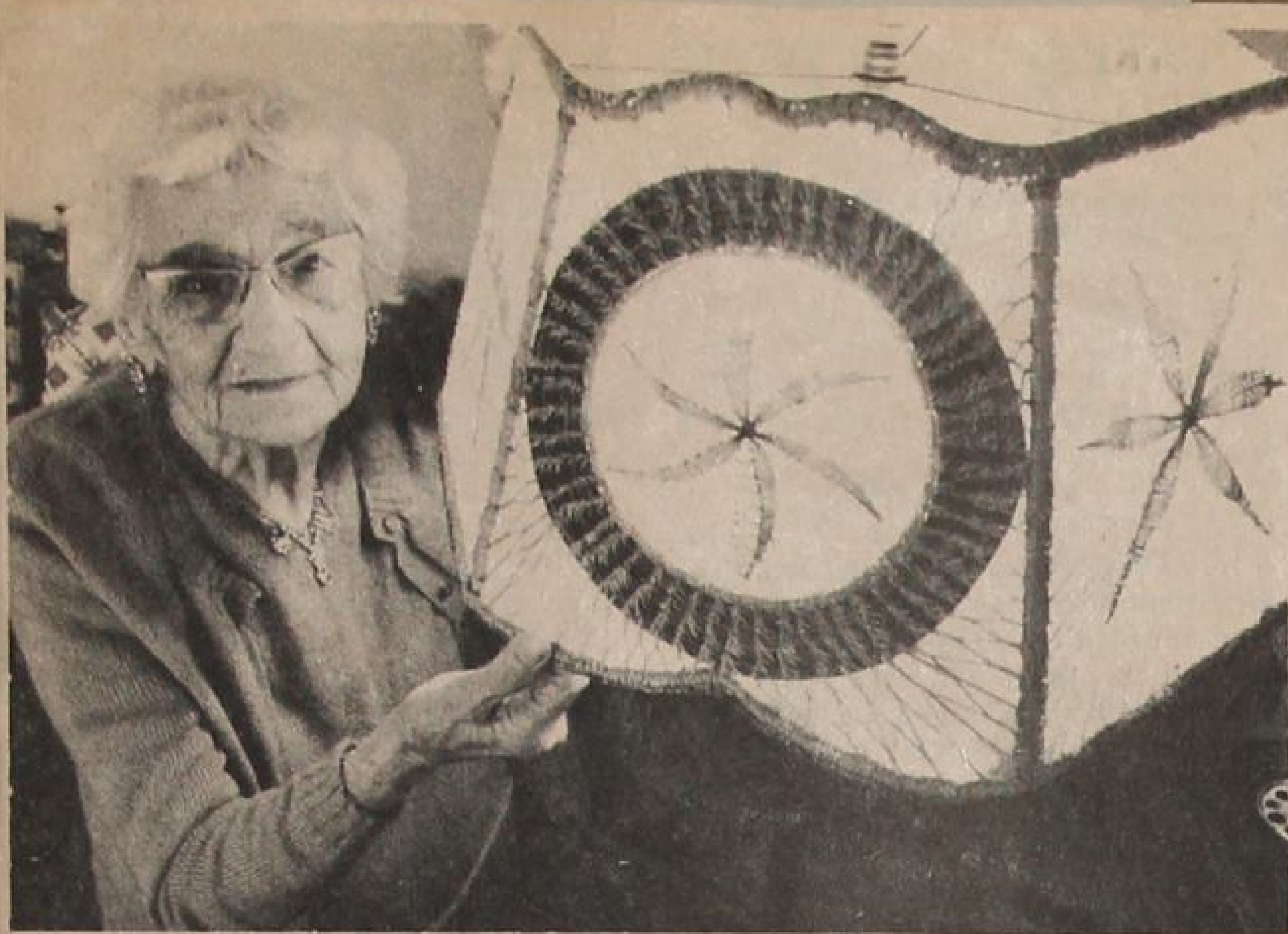
\$293.00 a year (\$5.63 a week)		\$316.20 a year (\$6.08 a week)
	<u>1985 OPERATING BUDGET</u>	
\$45,900.00 (10.6% increase)		\$18,903.00 (8% increase)

The only way to meet our financial obligations is for everyone to do his (her) share. Let's pull together, folks, and see that the burden is shared!

- Here are some suggestions which may help us to meet our new 1985 budget:
- Those who are not supporting our parish consider taking on some of the load.
  - Present supporters increase their givings by the % increase in your congregation.
  - Everyone use church offering envelopes so that it's easier to give on a regular basis - every Sunday.
  - We all consider giving on a proportional basis: a percentage of your income - whatever it may be - to your church.
  - Remember - you can't take it with you. Why not use some of it for God's work in His church?

Keep the Faith!!

*Father Grant Darling*



### Interest in handicrafts

Laura Pettigrew of Otterville celebrated her 94th birthday on Feb. 8 and received messages from many well-wishers. Mrs. Pettigrew keeps herself busy knitting, crocheting, embroidering, painting and hooking rugs. (Staff Photo)

## Otterville nonagenarian advises to keep active

Laura Pettigrew of Mill Street, Otterville, recently celebrated her birthday reaching the milestone of being 94 years "young." It can be easily seen through her activities and attitude towards life she is far from being "old."

She is still going strong, running her own household, doing her own cooking, enjoying her garden in the summer, canning and freezing her own vegetables and going for daily walks, weather permitting.

She and her late husband Ernest came to Otterville in early June 1923 and for 37 years operated their chicken hatchery just south of Otterville. Starting with 200 chickens, every year the operation grew larger until the hatchery burned on Easter Sunday morning in 1960 when its capacity was 75,000. She was 69 years old when the hatchery burned and it was never rebuilt.

But as well as being a successful business woman with her husband, Mrs. Pettigrew's talents were much more wide-ranged. Still having a keen business mind,

she put her artistic abilities to work in many ways - perhaps a reflection of her upbringing within a family of eight girls and one boy. Her mother spun wool, made yarn and cut strips of clothing for weaving.

Mrs. Pettigrew also does knitting and hooks rugs as well as crochets afghans, embroiders wall-hangings, does pine needle work, oil painting, apple dolls and many other crafts, always eager to try anything new that comes along. In fact she finished a hooked wall hanging on her 94th birthday.

She gives many of her creations away as gifts or donates them to church bazaars for she does them purely for enjoyment and to fill her hours. Her many crafts decorate her home which shows that her hands are never idle.

Mrs. Pettigrew's secret to her longevity is to eat lots of natural foods and vitamins and to keep active - a practice she obviously does not find hard to do.



### License to drive

Norwich mayor John Heleniak has a well-known penchant for collectables. Among his possessions are 11 different personalized license plates. Among his collection are the plates MAYOR, NOR ICH, OXFORD and POLAND. And in the unimaginable situation where he is no longer mayor, he has ready X MAYOR. (Staff Photo)

## The Oxford Farmer ENQUIRING REPORTER

*Is the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco  
Growers' Marketing Boards proposed move  
to a national agency a good idea?  
If so why or why not?*

KEN MANN, North Street, Otterville - Sure the national agency is a good idea if the board can show me as well as other tobacco producers there are benefits to the move. I do believe there are still too many unanswered questions on the proposed national agency. But the final answer should be one made by the people in the form of a plebiscite. There were major meetings on the issue held in Delhi and Tillsonburg but there are still a lot of farmers with doubts. I do believe having a national agency couldn't be any worst then our present situation. I'm not saying the present board isn't doing a good job; it's just that their hands are tied and they need help.



## BUILT TO LAST



This octagon house was built by Thomas Wright, a wood-turner in Milldale in 1861. Wright, using his own ingenuity and Dr. Orson Fowler's design from a book published in 1853 entitled *The Octagonal House-A Home For All*, he built this board and batten cottage calling it "Woodlawn Place."

The cottage is of plank construction. It consists of two layers of one inch planks, fastened vertically, with horizontal spacers between, forming the frame of the house. A third layer of boards with battens (triangular strips that cover the seams) form the outer covering.

Wright's house has a rather ingenious extension. He managed to attach a woodshed and summer kitchen in such a manner that he still had win-

dows on all eight sides of the house. The woodshed has a large, rounded door with a lovely multi-paned window above it. This wing is designed to form a recessed porch on the east facade, which is decorated with a unique arrangement of simple scrolls, with ellipses and geometric lines in the rail.

The Wright family occupied the house until the turn of the century. In 1911 it was purchased by John Oddy. Then, in 1975, Mr. and Mrs. McKay Davis, who had purchased the property from the Oddy family in 1969, donated the octagonal house to the Township of Norwich for restoration. Woodlawn Place was moved to the west side of Otterville and restored as the Woodlawn Adult Community Cen-

(Continued On Page 14)

(Continued From Page 11)  
tre and was completed in 1977.

The original floor plan was changed slightly to facilitate the new use. The hall became a stairway and partitions were removed to enlarge the front room and to create a lounge. The original summer kitchen became a modern kitchen. It has been otherwise restored to its 1860's appearance.

There were not many followers of Dr. Fowler in Ontario. He encouraged people to be their own architects and emphasised the practicality of octagonal dwellings. Fowler, who disliked square corners, argued that an eight-sided building was not only more beautiful

than a square one, but easier to heat and made greater use of the sun's rays. Furthermore, this plan required fewer steps to do housework, and most importantly contained one-fifth more floor space for the amount of exterior wall.

The house now occupies the site of the Pine Street Friends Meeting house established in 1819. The first church was a log construction, replaced in 1849 by a framed building with porches. It was used until 1893.

The Quaker burial ground to the east of the building is the resting place of many of the areas early settlers.



**BEGINNING SMOCKERS** -- Two Otterville ladies tried their hands at smocking during the two day seminar put on by the Oxford County Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Pictured (l to r) are Margaret Barnim and Grace

Gehring, this was their first time learning the needle art. A Summary Day to display the crafts made by the participants of the smocking program will be held on April 30 and tentatively at the Fairview Centre.



### Out of town delivery

Senior citizens and disabled persons in Otterville and Springford are now able to receive a hot, nutritious meal from Meals on Wheels for \$2.50 per meal. Meals are delivered to their door over the noon hour by volunteers and are prepared by the Maple Manor Nursing Home in Tillsonburg. Delivery began Monday, February 4, when Evelyn Waring of Otterville, along with seven other villagers,

received her first hot meal. From left, Marion Taylor, Otterville volunteer, Mrs. Waring and Margaret Stanbridge, co-ordinator of Meals on Wheels. Meals on Wheels is operated under the Home Support for Seniors program, a component of the Tillsonburg and District Multi-Service Centre. Initial funding for supplies was provided by the Spring-Otter Optimist Club. For more information on Meals on Wheels call 842-9007 or 842-9517. (Staff Photo)

## Springford, Otterville benefit

T.N. FEB 6

# Meals-on-wheels extended

Senior Citizens in Otterville and Springford can now receive a hot, nutritious meal, delivered to their door over the noon hour.

This past summer, as part of a Community Outreach project, the Tillsonburg and District Multi-Service Centre sponsored a Canada Works Program funded through the Employment Development Branch. As many Oxford County seniors as possible, were interviewed, within a 10 mile radius of Tillsonburg, and it was found through a "Needs Survey" and personal interviews that there were a substantial number of people who needed the service in Otterville.

In November and December, the program was further developed. Interested persons were interviewed, volunteers recruited, and a caterer secured to provide the meals.

The program comes under the auspices of the Home Support for Seniors Program, a component of the Tillsonburg and District Multi-Service Centre.

Initial funding to get the program in Otterville and Springford started was provided by the Spring-Otter Optimist Club, by way of a generous \$200 donation, used to purchase supplies.

The delivery of meals began Monday, February 4 to eight seniors in Otterville and one in Springford, with a total of 27 meals delivered per week. Twenty-two enthusiastic and energetic volunteers from Otterville and Springford will deliver the hot, nutritious meals over the noon hour to any senior citizen or disabled person in

either village. The cost for each meal, being prepared at Maple Manor Nursing Home in Tillsonburg is \$2.50. Special diet requirements can be accommodated.

Of the 22 volunteers, Jean Davis and Isabelle Harris are the head volunteers who will work closely with the co-ordinator of Meals on Wheels, Margaret Stanbridge of the Multi-Service Centre.

Anyone wishing to receive Meals on Wheels or volunteer for delivery of same in Otterville and Springford can call Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Harris or Mrs. Margaret Stanbridge at 842-9007 or 842-9517.

In the future it is hoped the Outreach Program can be expanded into other small communities surrounding Tillsonburg.

# Antique telephones : He makes them like they were

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

They don't make things like they used to.

How many times have we heard people say that about their car, their easy chair or even their surf boards?

Well, Dave Hussey, of Otterville does make things the way they used to.

The Bell Telephone employee is a master restorer of old phones of all vintages. He is almost fanatic in refurbishing the old antiques to their original specifications.

He travels throughout Ontario looking not only for old phones, but the old circuits, wires and bells that make up the seldom seen innards of the telephones.

Having worked 20 years with Bell, the installation and repair manager comes by his love for Mr. Bell's invention honestly.

Fifty years ago his mother operated the original Otterville switchboard. His cousins and his father too, were also involved in its operation.

In addition to restoring and converting phones for practical use, Mr. Hussey boasts a fairly substantial archives of his own.

About 10 years ago he began collecting, after purchasing a 1907 wooden century wall phone which he rigged up to house modern components.

"That was going to be the end of it, until a lot of people saw it and began asking if I could do the same thing for them."

Today he owns more than 50 telephones valued at more than \$11,000. His oldest phone, a Grocer's phone, was manufactured in 1899 and hangs prominently in his living room.

His pride and joy however, is an old desk telephone made in 1907 by the Dominion Telephone Company of Waterford. The rare old contraption, still with the original magneto, is especially dear to the collector because of its local origins.

"I love picking up things that are local ... close to home and with a bit of history to it."

The phone still has its original name plate.

Another local telephone he treasures, also manufactured in 1907, is a wooden wall phone built in Dunnville by the Wilhelm Telephone Company.

These two telephone companies, says Mr. Hussey, were among approximately 200 companies making telephones in North America at the turn of the century. Most, however, went belly up in a very few years because of inadequate financial backing.

While many of these "fly-by-night" companies - as Mr. Hussey calls them - were

managerially ill-equipped, they still manufactured fine, beautiful phones.

The old telephones, with their fine oak cabinets, elegant, long-necked mouth pieces and bell-shaped receivers are the most favored among collectors, says Mr. Hussey.

But the old desk models, or "candlestick" type, so often seen in movies, are also very popular.

The vast majority of antique telephones he reconditions are the wooden wall phones.

Oak was the wood of choice when the phones were manufactured by the millions during the phone boom of the early 1900s. From time to time, however, one can run across the occasional phone made of mahogany, he said.

He keeps quite busy throughout the year with his hobby, supplying orders coming to him from as far away as Pennsylvania.

"Last year I refurbished about 20 phones. And I'd say about 90 per cent of the people wanted them converted."

It's a fairly simple procedure to make an antique do things that some may think only the modern telephone can do, says Mr. Hussey.

"Everything's a 100 per cent original except where the batteries used to be. In their place I put in modern day components to bring it up to modern standards."

But the mystique of the old-fashioned phones is not lost: "You still have to crank her up," he says.

While the Bell manager is getting a lot of orders for reconditioning, he's beginning to find less good quality phones around to add to his collection.

"There's now a greater interest in old phones, so they're a lot harder to come by."

He says the renewed interest in old telephones has grown along with a growth in the interest of antiques in general.

Most of the people opting for functional, antique phones, he says, are older people. People who remember using them when they were younger.

In addition to his phone collection, Mr. Hussey also collects telephone directories, calendars, old tools and "just about anything else connected with the telephone industry."

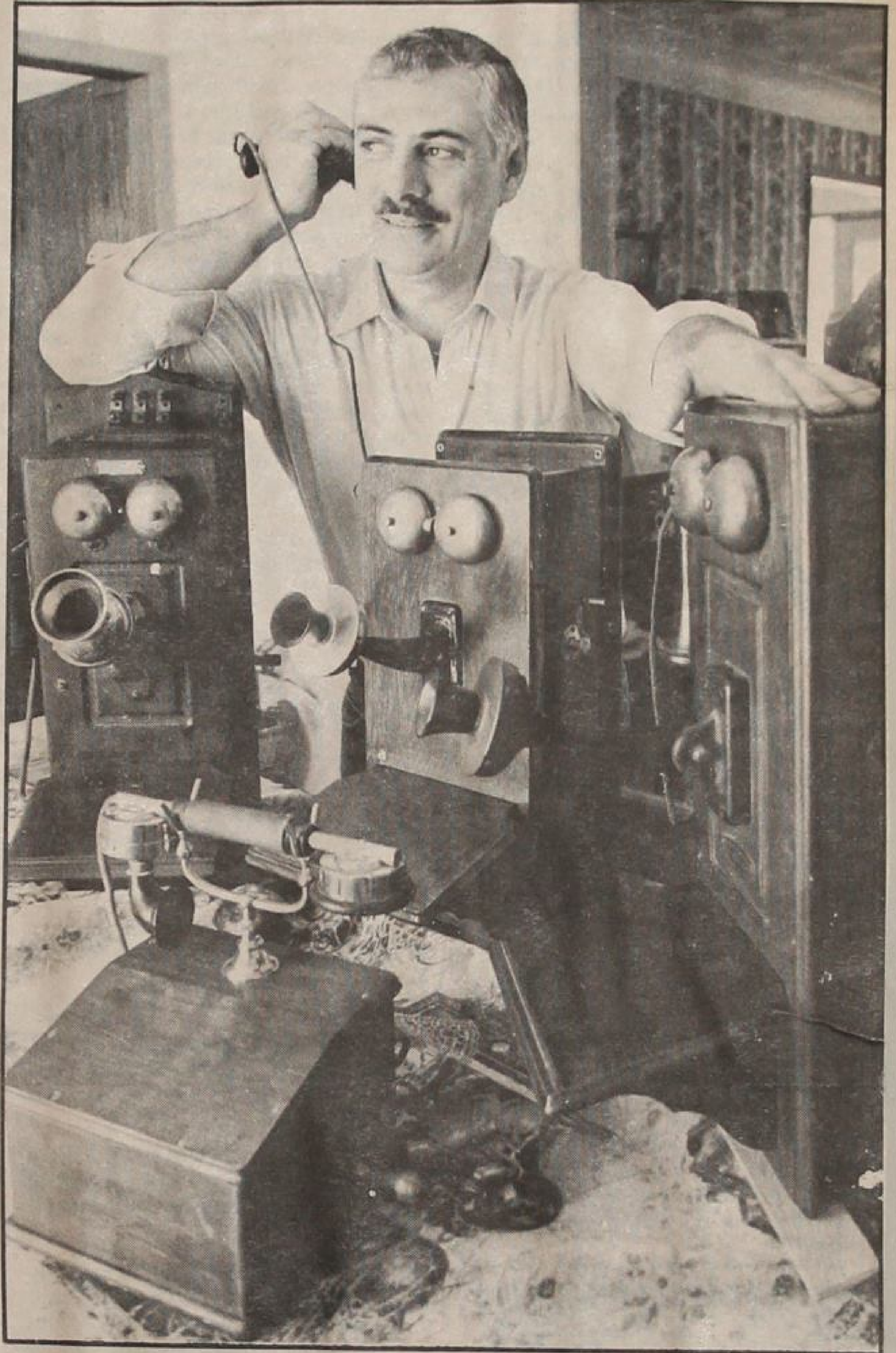
"Things are turning obsolete left and right. Things that seemed to be quite adequate a few years ago are disappearing because they're not compatible with today's technology."

The increasing sophistication of today's

telecommunications network, he says, can be seen in all aspects of the industry.

Old switchboards have given way to computerized data processors. Above ground lines are bowing out in favor of

underground cables and laser optics. Even the telephone repairman's body belts and spurs will soon be history, and no doubt one day will become part of Dave Hussey's collection.



## That long distance feeling

Antique telephone collector and restorer David Hussey has a collection of more than 50 telephones. Among his collection are a Wilhelm (left), a Century (centre) and a Dominion (right). Also pictured is an Erickson from Europe. All phones were manufactured at the turn of the century. (Staff Photo)

Delhi, Ontario, Wednesday, February 6, 1985

## Norwich celebrates rich

By Staff Writers

This week, Delhi News-Record presents a panoramic look at Norwich Township with features, news and photos on, of or about the area.

A predominantly rural Township, Norwich has strong roots in both agriculture and history. A new industry, Shamrock Industries for example is taking a good idea and running with it. It wasn't by mistake that President Pat Murray decided to locate in Norwich four years ago to watch his operation grow.

The Norwich and District Historical Museum and Archives is another thriving operation with a sense of where it is going and where it has come from. A new addition in 1984 has provided the museum with a new outlook and a good hold on the 1985 celebrations that will highlight the 175th anniversary of Norwich.

Another new development is the Meals on Wheels program being offered in Otterville. Following the publication of a survey that demonstrated the need for such a program and the necessary monetary input from the Spring-Otter Optimists, the

### Area features profile people, places and events

program was launched only this week in association with volunteer drivers and the Tillsonburg and District Multi-Service Centre.

Various sights and scenes from throughout the Township are also profiled. Winterscapes can be as pleasing to the eye as any photos and there is an abundance of them in Norwich.

After a shaky start last year, Norwich Township Chamber of Commerce is finally getting its act together with a new president and new direction. As part of their commitment to attract business to the area, the Chamber has formed liaisons between themselves and various interest groups. It's all part of a new spirit to promote enterprise and enrich a growing community.

In Otterville, the South Norwich Historical Society has been busy restoring the Treffry Mill. Exterior work is almost completed, with pine siding, duplicating the original siding, being put up last month. Society members hope to continue on the renovations both inside and out over the next couple of years and discussed the work completed, and the work which they hope to complete.

Herbal specialist Marilyn Driedger of Otterville explains how she began her

unique type of gardening and how easy herbs are to grow. Mrs. Driedger has been growing herbs for 14 years now and has started up a business called The Herbal Touch, selling herbs as well as handcrafted items.

Clubs and church groups in Otterville are also described through several short reports from correspondent Joyce McMullen. Mrs. McMullen's stories include an informative report on child abuse and a parting minister's final message.



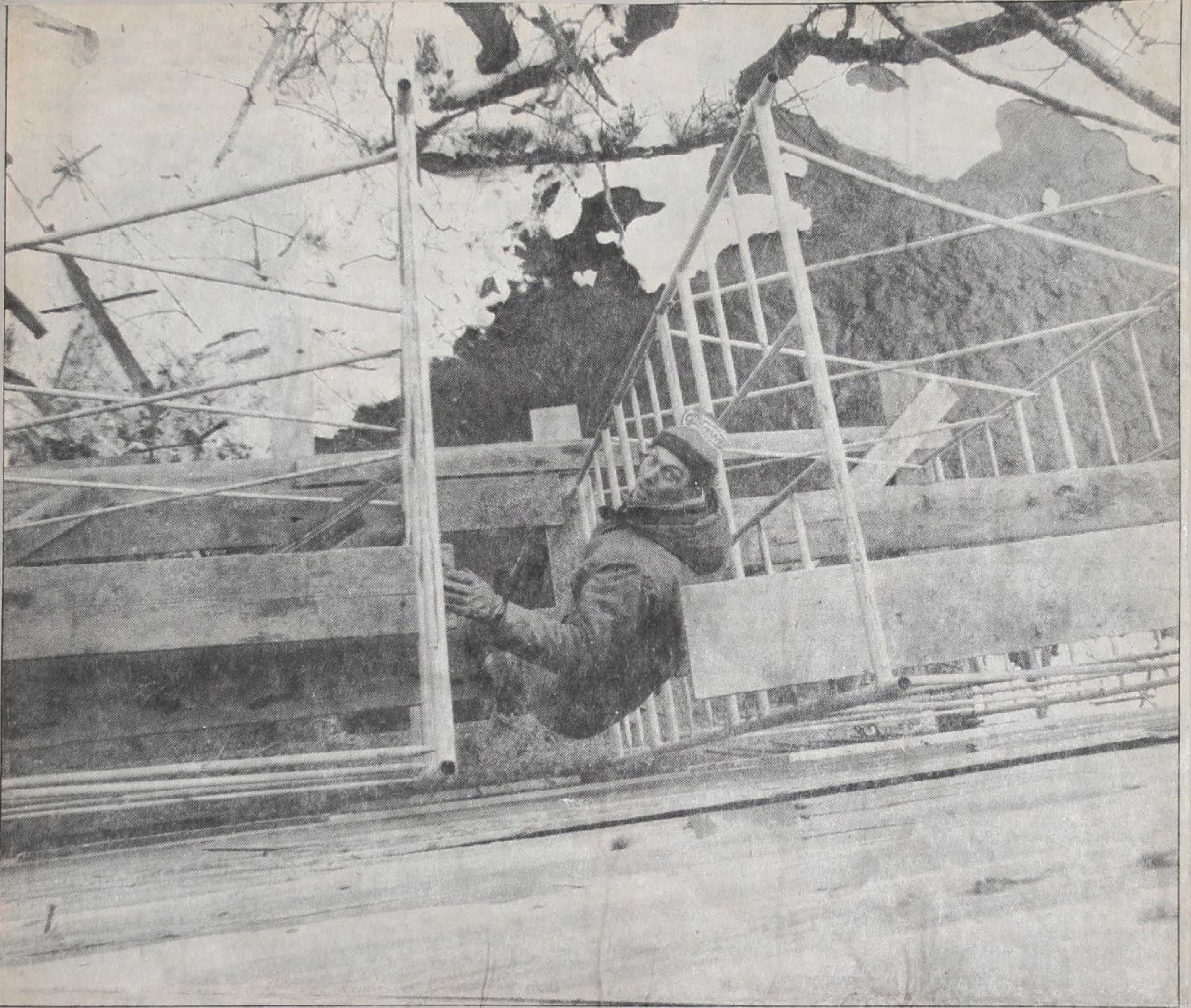
### Scaffold scales history

The grand old Treffry Mill is getting a facelift and the scaffolding demonstrates the heights to which people will climb for history. The South Norwich Historical Society is in charge of the operations and hearty volunteers have been working through the winter on the siding. For more information and photos, see page 3. (Staff Photo)



### Meals on wheels

Harold Walker of Spring-Otter Optimists delivers a cheque to Margaret Stanbridge of Tillsonburg Multi-Services for the launching of the new Meals on Wheels program in Otterville. The first group of meals was delivered on Monday. For more information and photos see page 8. (Staff Photo)



### **That's a long way down**

*Looking up to the top of the Treffry Mill in Otterville is a lot better than looking straight down for Floyd Lewis. Situated on the scaffolding 35 feet above the freezing cold water made him move carefully. Mr. Lewis and his father Al put the new pine siding on the Mill completing it just this past*

*week. For other photos and stories on Otterville and Norwich, and an update on the work being done on the Mill, see Section two. (Staff Photo by Ria Dieleman)*

SOUTH

# restores Treffry Mill

## Norwich Historical Society

By Ria Dieleman  
Staff Writer

OTTERVILLE — Thanks to the efforts of members of the South Norwich Historical Society, one of the village's landmark buildings will be around for a long, long time.

The Treffry Mill, built in 1845, was leased by the Society from Norwich Township for 10 years at a cost of \$1 a year. Work on the mill began in April 1983 two months after the lease agreement was signed.

Members and volunteers began on the mill's foundation, restoring it and leaving space to add outside stonework to the original

foundation. Although a lot of passersby haven't been able to see the exact efforts of the Society in the past year, they have recently, ever since the new siding has been put on the building.

Ken and Catherine Mann of Otterville donated the pine lumber for the building which will duplicate the original siding. "There was 8,000 feet of it... And ever since that siding's been up, it's created a lot more interest with area residents," said Mr. Mann. The Manns are members of the Society and have been actively involved in the restoration of the mill. A lot of volunteer hours have been put in by them and

other members to clean up the place. A grounds chairman (Dave Hussey) has even been named to ensure maintenance is kept up. Expenses have totalled near \$20,000, not including the volunteer manual labour.

"There's been a lot of good workers coming out. The donated help means a lot," said Rick Singer, Society chairman. Some of the expenses have been met through auctions and barbecues and according to Mr. Singer, "If it wasn't for the fund-raisers and organizers, we wouldn't be where we are now" in the restoration.

The mill is one of the oldest in the province which

is still operable. Although it isn't in use now, it was still operating until two years ago, and all the equipment remains inside for a grist mill.

The majority of the restoration has taken place over the last year. While the siding was just completed this week, the window frames and sashes still need

some repairing and one major undertaking still remains: restoring the roof. The roof was originally cedar shingles and this is something the Society plans



Rick Singer and Ken Mann, both members of the South Norwich Historical Society, stand outside the Treffry Mill. Mr. Mann donated the lumber used to refurbish the siding and both men, along with other Society members, donated a lot of their time towards fixing up the Mill. (Staff Photo)



With careful planning and a strong commitment toward the future, Norwich Chamber of Commerce President Glenn Baxter and Norwich Mayor John Heleniak hope to attract business to the area. Part of their plan includes developing a seven and a half acre industrial park off Highway 54 in the background. (Staff Photo by Stuart Mann)

to restore or duplicate in its original form in several years' time.

Other work has included erosion control efforts by the Long Point Region

Conservation Authority beside the mill, said Mrs. Mann, helping the mill to "add to the community." Guided tours of the mill (by appointment) have been taking place and Mr. Mann said once the restoration is completed, it will complement the other historic sites around the town as well.

Despite its old equipment within, the mill is not eligible to be a museum since it doesn't conform to fire standards. Museums should be cement block and fireproof but the mill, said Mr. Singer, "is

pretty hard to make secure. We want the mill as close to the original as possible," he added. And, as a precautionary measure to deter any vandalism (there has been some in the past), an alarm system has been installed to help preserve the work the Society has done. The Society plans to continue its restoration on the mill as long as funds are available, whether it be through their own fund-raising efforts or through private donations. The lease runs out in 1993, and although that's a long time off, Mr. Singer said the Society would "like to keep babysitting it."



# Growing herbs interesting and profitable

By Ria Dieleman  
Staff Writer

OTTERVILLE — What began by being named family gardener and innocently buying a package of every seed type in the store has grown into a full time hobby and herbal business for Marilyn Driedger.

Mrs. Driedger began growing herbs 14 years ago when her parents put her in charge of the garden. She grew half a row of herbs and did some reading on how to use them. "After that I just kept adding something new and went from there," she said.

The herbs are used for a variety of things, ranging from wreaths and pot pourris to tea and culinary delights. Mrs. Driedger's knowledge and interest in the herbs has spread and she has extended her hobby into a business called The Herbal Touch, selling handcrafted items she has made, herbs and herbal tea.

Although she believes herbs make for better health, she does not sell them for medicinal purposes.

"I don't get into that at all. It scares some people off. I don't grow any poisonous herbs here, what with children wandering around," she said, adding the "worst" herb she grows is cayenne pepper.

Some of the herbs she grows range from sage, thyme, basil and oregano to lemon verbena and lemon grass. While some of the more basic herbs can be bought at stores, others have to be bought from nurseries whether as seeds or plants. Mrs. Driedger's house is filled with herbal

plants (that can't stay outside during the winter) as well as wreaths and pot pourris. The wreaths are made of branches or the dried stems of the herbs and are decorated with flowers from the plants. To cap it off, she ties a bow to the wreath.

Another kind of craft she is working on is a living wreath. Sphragnum moss is bound into a wreath-form with chicken wire and ivy is woven through it, creating a centrepiece or hanging which needs the occasional watering like any other plant. The living wreaths are also decorated with dried herbal flowers.

Straw hats and wall hangings also number

among the other handcrafted items laced with the flowers. The Driedgers recently learned basketweaving and Mrs. Driedger is working on decorating the willow baskets they made with herbs and its flowers as well.

Growing the herbs is no problem; finding the herbs you want can be, however. Mrs. Driedger said it has taken her many years to find some of the more rare types. Planting takes place in May and there can be several harvestings of some of the herbs before it freezes in September. Herbs don't like chemical fertilizers, Mrs. Driedger said, so she uses compost manure.

"It's nice to grow your own herbs and harvest them when they're ready, especially since the herbs brought into Canada have chemicals sprayed on them," she said. Store-bought herbs may be on the shelf for a "long time" while their homegrown are chemical-free and can retain their fragrance for a couple of years.

The prime time to harvest herbs is when the flowers are opening. "The essential oil is at its peak then," she said, but added the morning dew should be dried before the harvesting begins. Herbs should be dried in cool, dark places although to make herb

vinegar, the herb should be out in the sunlight during the day to draw out its oil.

Mrs. Driedger said there has been a revival of sorts in the interest in herbs and that groups of people visited her regularly last summer for information on herbs and advice on growing them.

Last June she had an open house that was educational and informative for visitors and gave them an opportunity to buy some of her products. She is also planning an open house again for this June. Workshops of sorts have been held at the old train station market in Tillsonburg and she has attended the Woodstock market (Saturdays) and Simcoe market (Thursdays). Although a lot of people ask her how to start up, she said it is based on what types of food they preferred to make since herbs can be used in baking bread, making tomato sauce and in making jams and jellies. In fact, she has served herbal tea, bread and butter and rhubarb punch and herbal treats

when she is displaying her products and crafts.

Because of her interest in herbs, it comes as no surprise that she is actively involved in the Delhi Horticultural Society which is planning to make a pioneer garden at the Delhi Tobacco Museum this summer. Mrs. Driedger is also becoming more involved in displaying her herbal items at local craft shows and fairs and said she wants to do more workshops in the future, lecturing people on the goodness of the spices of life.



A living wreath (centre front), decorated hats and homemade herbal bread are just some of the items Marilyn Driedger has learned to make and display as part of her business. Mrs. Driedger works out of her home in Otterville where she grows herbs. Her three-year-old daughter Kyla helps her on occasion. (Staff Photo)



### Carport roof collapses

Jane VandenBrink, 45, of Main Street, Otterville, is in critical condition at London's Victoria after she spent 15 minutes trapped in

her car under a collapsed carport roof. Her two sons, escaped injury. The Norwich Fire Department and the Tillsonburg OPP assisted in the rescue operations. (Staff Photo)

# Roof collapses on woman

T.N. FEB 13

A 45-year-old Otterville woman is in critical condition at London's Victoria Hospital following the collapse of a carport roof which left her trapped under the roof for 15 minutes.

Jane VandenBrink, of Main Street, Otterville, was initially taken to Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital and later transferred to Victoria Hospital.

Mrs. VandenBrink and her two sons, Neil, 21 and Gary, 8, were leaving her store, Janny's Groceries, in Otterville, at

6:10 p.m. on Tuesday when the incident occurred. The oldest son, Neil, was in the driver's seat of the vehicle which was stuck at the time. His mother and younger brother were pushing the car in an attempt to free it when the roof collapsed. Gary managed to run out from underneath but his mother was trapped under the roof for 15 minutes before the Norwich Fire Department could free her. Both sons escaped any injury.

The roof had collapsed due to ice and nine inches of snow on top of it.

Constable J. Wallington of the Tillsonburg OPP was the investigating officer.

### Jane H. VandenBrink

Jane H. VandenBrink (Janny) of Main Street, Otterville, passed away at Victoria Hospital, London, on Sunday, Feb. 17, 1965 at age 45.

The former Jane H. VanderSpek was born in Zeyenhuizen, Holland, daughter of Aletta VanderSpek and the late Cornelis VanderSpek. She came to Canada with her parents in 1948 and settled in British Columbia and moved to this area in 1960.

She operated a dress shop in Norwich several years prior to purchasing the General Store in Otterville. She was a member of the Toronto Reformed Church.

Mrs. VandenBrink was predeceased by her husband Henry VandenBrink on May 26, 1984.

Surviving are two daughters, Marguerite and Aletta and four sons, Henry Jr., Neil, Gary John and James, all of Otterville; her mother, Mrs. Aletta Bos of Springford; sister and brother, Mrs. John (Greta) Sandhan of Springford, Mrs. Derk (Audrey) Scholten of Norwich, Mrs. Dennis (Henny) Howles of Thamesville, Mrs. Matthew (Fren) Heerschap of Norwich, Mrs. Martin (Joanne) Breitman of Toronto and Cornelis VanderSpek of Norwich; and one grandson.

Resting at the Arn and Son Funeral Residence, Norwich, until Thursday, February 21, thence to the Netherlands Reformed Congregation Church, Norwich for service at 2 p.m. with Rev. J. Spaan officiating.

Visitation at the funeral residence is Tuesday from 7-9 p.m. and Wednesday from 2-4:30 p.m. and 7-9 p.m.

Interment will be in the old Reformed Church Cemetery in Burgessville.

Pallbearers will be Geurt Ryksen, Bas Megcheisen, Jack Veldsherizen, Evert Jansen, Theo VandeScheur and Bill Klassen.

Memorial donations to the Rehoboth Christian School or to the charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family. No flowers please.

# Woman killed in carport collapse

An Otterville woman has died in hospital five days after a carport collapsed on top of her last Tuesday.

Jane (Janny) VandenBrink died at Victoria Hospital in London, Sunday. She was 45.

The accident occurred at the Janny's Grocery store at about 6 p.m. following a snow storm that dumped 29 cm of snow and freezing rain across south western Ontario.

Otterville fire chief Bill McMullen said the carport crashed down under the weight of nine inches of wet snow and ice.

According to the chief, the woman and her youngest son had just pushed her car out from underneath the carport when she realized she had left her purse behind. When she went back to the carport for her purse the carport collapsed.

Her two sons tried to free her themselves, but having no luck called the fire department.

Using jacks and crowbars, about 17 firemen were finally able to get her out.

Mr. McMullen said it was about 15 minutes before the woman was freed.

### Roy Enerst Exelby

Roy Enerst Exelby of 11 Queen St., Otterville, passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Friday, February 1, 1985, in his 64th year.

Born in Oxford County, he was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Exelby. He was a life-long resident of Otterville and attended Otterville United Church.

Surviving are his wife, the former Bessie Bulmer; one daughter, Mrs. Jack (Gerdine) Cronkwright of Tillsonburg; two grandchildren; three sisters, Mrs. Ruth Taft of Milton, Mrs. Fred (Jean) Zaharchuck of Otterville and Mrs. Gordon (Shirley) Park of Woodstock; and one brother, Robert Exelby of Tillsonburg.

Rested at the Arn and Son Funeral Residence, Norwich, where service was held Monday, February 4 at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Charles Seed of Otterville United Church.

Pallbearers were Larry Park, Douglas Zaharchuck, Wayne Spicer, Bert Cowell, Brian Kunderman and Ken Hawley.

Interment in Otter Cemetery, Otterville.

### Henri Daelman

Henri Daelman of RR 1, Otterville, passed away at University Hospital, London, on Friday, February 8, 1985, in his 70th year.

Born at St. Kruis Brugge, Belgium, he was a son of the late Leon Daelman and the former Emma Floorizone. He came to Canada in 1954, to Langton, and moved to the Otterville area in 1956. Mr. Daelman was a tobacco farmer, retiring in 1976.

Surviving are his wife, the former Clara Vanengelandt; one brother Camiel Daelman of Belgium; two sisters, Mrs. Joseph (Cecilia) Platteau of Otterville and Mrs. Gaston (Alice) Deleau of Belgium; and several nieces and nephews.

Resting at the Murphy Funeral Home, Delhi, until Tuesday, February 12, thence to Our Lady of LaSalette R.C. Church, LaSalette, for Funeral Mass at 10 a.m.

Interment in LaSalette Cemetery.

Prayers will be said tonight (Monday) at 7:30 at the Funeral Home.

Memorial donations to the Canadian Cancer Society would be appreciated by the family.

### Wilma M. Gleason

Mrs. Nelson Gleason of Otterville passed away at Victoria Hospital, London, on Friday, February 15, 1985, in her 66th year.

Born in London, January 28, 1920, she was a daughter of the late William Ford and the former Alice Atkinson.

Surviving, besides her husband, are two daughters, Mrs. Robert (Dianne) Butler of Otterville, and Mrs. John (Mary Ellen) Keno of Nanaimo, B.C.; three grandchildren, Donna, Janette and Bret Butler; and three sisters, Mrs. Mary Galloway of Lambeth, Mrs. Barbara Doig of Listowel and Mrs. Ted (Edna) Davis of Rodney.

She was predeceased by a son, Douglas Gleason in 1969; and by two brothers, Douglas and Norman Ford.

Rested at the Ostrander's Funeral Home, Tillsonburg, where service was held Monday, February 18 at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Grant Darling of Delhi and Rev. Joseph Bull of Otterville.

Interment in Otter Cemetery, Otterville.

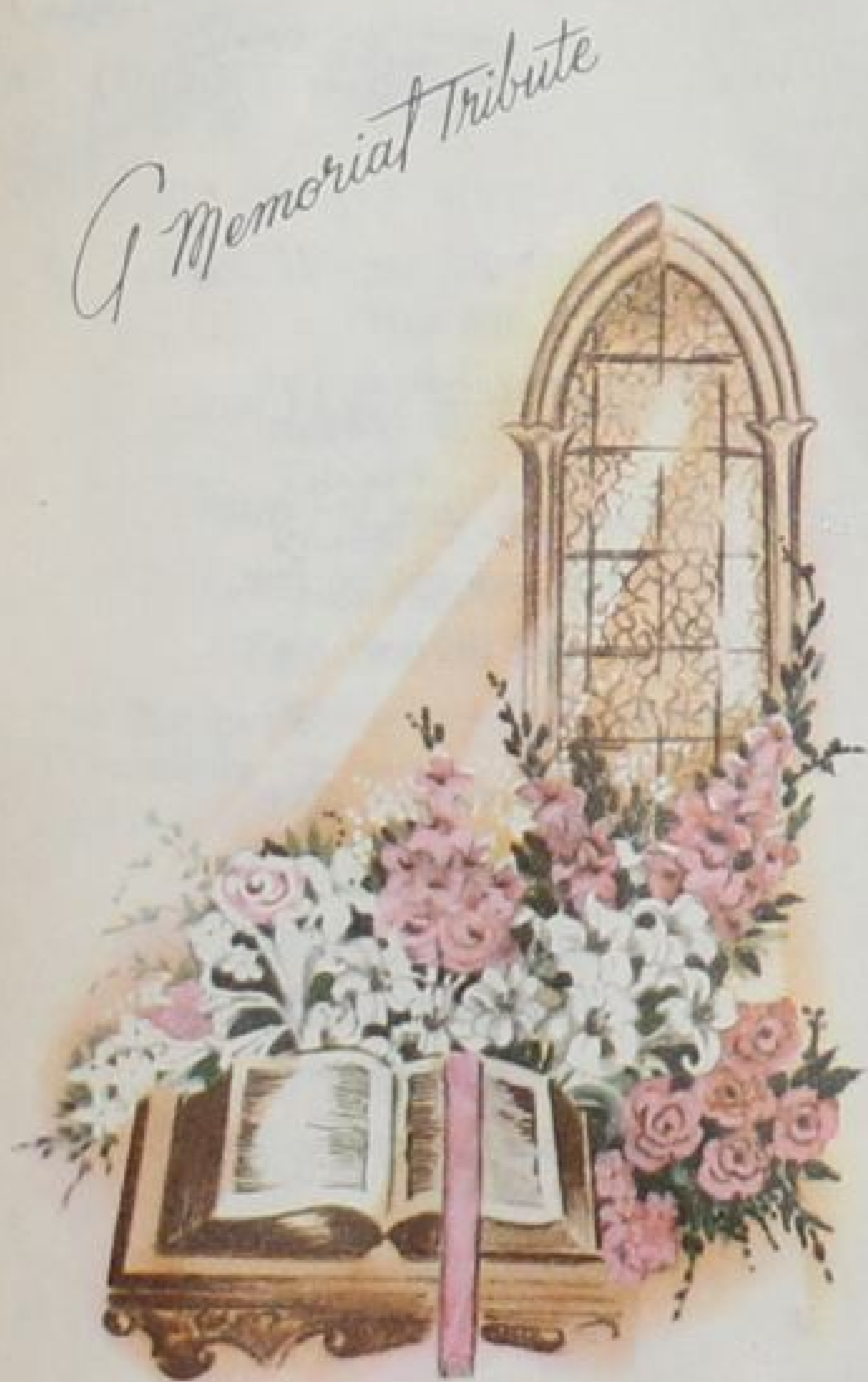
### Wilma M. Gleason

Funeral service for the late Mrs. Nelson Gleason of Otterville, who passed away on February 15, 1985, was held at the Ostrander's Funeral Home, Tillsonburg, on February 18 at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Grant Darling of Delhi and Rev. Joseph Bull of Otterville.

Pallbearers were Don Chisholm, Bill McMullen, Ross McMullen, Art Moore, George Davis and Dave Kennedy.

Interment in Otter Cemetery, Otterville.

Members of the South Western Ontario Funeral Directors Association and Commercial Salesmen attended the service in a body.



# OK second house on property

Township councillors went against the recommendation of the county planner voting to allow a rezoning permit for Dream World Plumbing.

Norwich Township Council approved in principle a zone change application from Pieter Velthove, owner of the company, who wishes to build a second residence on his property.

The property, situated on the west side of Highway 59 between Concession 3 and 4, is located in a restricted industrial zone. The owner wants the second dwelling for his son. Already on the property are a house and a showroom.

Planner Brent Clarkson recommended the application be turned down because the request did not fit into the county's official plan or township bylaws.

The existing house would not be there now under the present zoning bylaw, if the house had not been built before the bylaw was enacted, he said.

He added that the present bylaw only allows industrial use directly related to the support of the agricultural community.

Pieter Velthove Jr., told council much of his family's plumbing business comes from the agricultural community.

He said the second dwelling would put the business on a stronger financial footing, adding that his wife would be nearby to help his mother in the showroom.

Mr. Velthove said his business is an asset to the community: "We bring in a lot of money from outside the area into town."

Councillor Norm Lusk said he saw some inequity in permitting a retail outlet or warehouse in a restricted industrial zone and not a second accessory dwelling which

is simply an extension of the present facility.

"He should be able to go ahead with it, if it's necessary for his business," said Councillor Don Pettigrew.

In other business regarding zoning, council granted a minor variance to permit a second house to be built on a 96 acre piece of land belonging to Aubrey Martin of RR 8, Woodstock.

## Questions tendering process by county

A letter from a Norwich Township contractor, questioning the county's tendering practices on several county projects, was referred to the county's public works committee for consideration but received no action when the committee met on Thursday.

The letter, from contractor Mel Smith of Otterville, was presented to county council at its meeting last week by Norwich Township Mayor John Heleniak. In the letter Mr. Smith suggested the county should put projects, such as road construction, and work at the Holbrook and Salford landfill sites, up for tender "so that everyone in the county has an equal chance at all of the work."

Mr. Smith said he is sure there are new and old contractors in the county that the county staff are not aware of that would be interested in bidding on such projects. "Public tender is the fair and just way for all."

But when his letter was presented at Thursday's public works committee, it was noted and filed with no action taken.

In an interview Friday Mr. Smith said he decided to write the letter when the county began work to develop the Salford landfill site without offering it for public tender. He said he had also written to the county in December to ask if he could get work on the job but received no reply to his letter.

He then talked with members of the

county engineering department in January to see about work at Salford and was given no definite answers. Mr. Smith said he later learned equipment owned by a South-West Oxford Township contractor and a London firm had been hired to do the work at the site.

Mr. Smith questioned how the county can hire a select few to do the work without tendering. The county has stated that it did not tender the work because of the possibility that a legal dispute over the approval of the landfill site could bring the work to a halt. But Mr. Smith said the work could have been contracted on an hourly basis in a manner that would allow the county to stop the work at any time.

He said he is disturbed that he and other contractors in the county that might have been interested in the work, didn't get a chance to bid on the job and he has asked Norwich Township's mayor to put forward a resolution at the next county council meeting asking that the work be put up for tender.

## Of times gone by

25 YEARS AGO  
February 1960

Richard Herbertson, 25, Livingston basketball and Winnipeg football star, died instantly when his car skidded on an icy patch and crashed almost head-on into a transport on Highway No. 2, east of Woodstock.

Springford - The new public school was opened last week. Principal is Norman Young and teachers are Mrs. Montrose Monk, Mrs. Fred Broad and Mrs. Sorrenti.

The official opening for Glendale High School has been set for Monday, March 7. The Hon. John P. Robarts, Ontario Minister of Education, will be the special speaker.

100 HUNDRED YEARS AGO  
January 1885

Mr. John Wilcox, who at one time ran a barber shop here, has returned to town from Michigan and talks of starting a roller skating rink here if he can get a suitable place for it.

Vienna - Mr. Geo. Marlatt has leased the grist mill about four miles from here known as the Little Mill.

The new Methodist church in Otterville is to be opened on Sunday, the 25th inst.

## Chief hot over fires in dump

A recent fire at the Holbrook landfill site has Norwich Township Fire Chief Brian Workman a little hot under the collar.

In a letter to Oxford County, owner of the site, the chief pointed out that the burning of materials is not allowed under the Ontario Fire Code. The code only permits small confined fires, supervised at all times, and used only to cook food.

The Norwich Fire Department received a call Feb. 1, about a fire at the landfill site. Thirteen firefighters turned up only to find rubbish burning.

"This response was a considerable cost to the taxpayers of the township," Chief Workman said in his letter.

He said it would have been much more costly if another fire had occurred at the same time particularly if a life were at stake. "A delay in our response could have meant a life lost."

Although the fires could have been started by "persons unknown" or mischief makers, the problems could have been avoided if all materials at the site were buried at the end of each day.

## Want own representative

Norwich Township Council does not want to share its representative on the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority with any other township.

"It's in our best interests," said Mayor John Heleniak, "that we have our own representative of the municipality of Norwich on the authority."

The conservation authority is proposing to reduce its membership and is canvassing municipalities on the prospect of sharing representatives.

The mayor said Norwich has had its own representative on the UTRCA since 1947.

Members are appointed to the conservation authority by county council based on recommendations from local councils.

## Councillors buying pins for Scouts

Township councillors are dipping into their own pockets so that Norwich scouts will have some mementos to give scouts from other countries at this summer's International jamboree in Guelph.

Norwich council was approached by First Norwich Troop Scouter John McMillen Tuesday, who asked for lapel pins, adorned with the township crest, for 11 boys planning to attend the event.

Councillor Norm Lusk made the suggestion councillors supply the pins themselves and spare the township funds. The other councillors agreed to supply each of the scouts with 10 plastic pins to swap or give away to other scouts.

About 20,000 scouts from 20 countries will be attending the jamboree between July 3 and 12.

Convention costs \$4,600

W.S.R.  
MAR 12

## That's a lotsa lira for a ROMA weekend

By ALISON DOWNIE  
of The Sentinel-Review

OTTERVILLE — The bills from the seven Norwich Township councillors who attended the ROMA conference last month in Toronto amounted to \$4,624.

Council approved payment of the \$4,624 at its meeting yesterday with little discussion.

The 1985 Rural Ontario Municipal Association (a section of the Ontario Municipal Association) conference was held at the Royal York Hotel Feb. 3 to 6.

Council members who attended the conference included Mayor John Heleniak, councillors Jack Lester, Helen Smith, Hardee Richardson, Don Pettigrew, John McNally and Michael Oliver. Road superintendent Ron Smith also attended but has not submitted his expenses yet, Mayor Heleniak said.

Included in the \$4,624 total was registration fees — \$90 for councillors and \$35 for their spouses, mileage, ac-

commodation and meals.

Council members who did not attend will not hear a report on the conference, said the mayor, as the majority attended. He said with Norwich being a rural municipality the ROMA conference is beneficial to local council members.

Topics discussed at the conference included energy from waste, a new municipal insurance program, women in rural life and funding of education.

"It was a very good meeting," Mayor Heleniak said. "It is basically oriented to rural municipalities such as ours. It was definitely beneficial."



JOHN HELENIAK

## No action on Norwich signs

T.N.  
MAR 8

Norwich Township Councillor Bob Carney says a bylaw designed to regulate signs in the township is a "crock of garbage."

The Ward One councillor, exasperated with the draft bylaw presented nine months ago, said: "If this council has the nerve to charge businessmen taxes then we have to let them advertise."

He said only signs which obstruct traffic signals should be regulated.

"We'll be telling people what to wear to church before long," he added.

The bylaw, presented last June, has yet to be acted upon. Although the issue received some discussion at last Thursday's meeting, no action was taken.

Councillor Hardee Richardson also expressed some apprehension about getting over regulated, but Mayor John Heleniak said that without a bylaw in place any type or any size of sign could be erected in the township.

"There has to be something in place," said Councillor Norm Lusk, "or we'll have

a sign on everybody's house."

If the bylaw were passed, said Councillor John McNally, it would regulate portable signs as well.

It would also prohibit the use of illuminated flashing red, green or amber lights within 90 metres of an intersection.

That type of regulation said Councillor Carney, would put every Petro-Canada service station out of business because they have red signs.

Councillor Helen Smith said: "We've been putting this off since June. If the bylaw needs going over how much longer are we going to put it off."

## Gone fishing

OTTERVILLE — A local resident who wants to set up a trout farm has been given the green light from Norwich Township Council.

Aime Jacques was granted two minor variances by council Monday. The first permits him to situate a mobile home on the property located on the north side of the boundary road between Norwich and Norfolk townships. The second relieves him from meeting the minimum ground floor area.

Council granted the minor variances subject to approval from the Ministry of the Environment.

## Leadership skills

One of the 4-H clubs being offered this year is a Leadership Skills club. This project focuses on communications, social recreation, public speaking, leadership styles, values and motivation, and working as a team.

Any 4-H member 16 years of age or over as of Jan. 1, 1985 can join at the March 13 fun night at the Fairview Centre. If interested young people can't make it, call the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food office in Woodstock.

## Eyes were smiling

OTTERVILLE — Shamrock Industries is expanding.

On Monday, Norwich Township Council granted a minor variance to allow the company to construct an addition to its existing building so manufacturing capacity can be increased.

"If granted this will allow us to complete everything we need at this site," Pat Murray told council.

The company presently employs 21 persons.

"Your business is certainly an asset to our community — we're proud to have you here," Mayor John Heleniak said.

## Council buys new truck

NG  
MAR 13

Norwich Township Council has bought itself a new truck.

Council approved the purchase of a single-axle Ford from McNab Ford of Ingersoll at a price tag of \$52,687.35 at a meeting Monday.

The new truck will replace a 1983 GMC with sander unit currently experiencing brake problems. The old truck has 32,500 km on it.

The McNab Ford tender was the second lowest among seven tenders opened March 7. A tender from Forest City International, which was 43 minutes late of the deadline, was not opened until Monday. The Forest

City tender was opened through a special resolution of council because of extenuating circumstances.

The lowest bid belonged to Fidlin GMC, but was passed over in favor of the Ford.

Township Roads Superintendent Ron Smith recommended council accept the McNab bid because it was "the only truck in the market today in single-axle without air brakes that had drum brakes on the rear axle."

He said the drum brakes are an advantage because they are completely enclosed so sand will not enter and wear down the brakes.

The disc brakes on the old truck were wearing down prematurely because sand cast off from the sander was getting caught between the brake pads and the rotator, he said.

The cost of replacing the rear brakes is between \$400 and \$500.

## Meeting with works committee

# Snow on street bugs merchants

NG  
MAR 13

No one is more tired and aggravated by the snow still on Norwich streets than downtown merchants.

With the rapid approach of spring, the snow may be gone in the next few days, but merchants are still preparing to have it out with the township Public Works Committee at a meeting Monday, March 18.

At a Norwich Chamber of Commerce retail committee meeting Thursday, merchants expressed frustration that mounds of ice and snow — on Main Street since mid-February — have not yet been cleared away.

One merchant said snow along Main

Street has only been cleared once this winter by township crews.

The days of simply sitting back and complaining have passed, said Jeweller Al Munro. "It's time to go straight to the horse's mouth."

"We can't be apathetic. The only way to get a reaction is to have so many people (at the meeting) that there are no seats left."

Retail Committee secretary Linda VanDenBorre said Otterville has received good snow removal service after 10 people "beefed" about snow and ice on their streets.

"The majority of the tax money comes

from our area," she explained. "Our streets should be cleared as well."

Committee treasurer Stan Davis said youngsters have been forced to walk to school on the highway because the sidewalks are so congested with frozen snow.

Committee chairman Dave Irving stressed the need for all to attend the 10 a.m. meeting. "If we're not organized council won't act."

Ironically, on Friday, a county roads crew arrived in Norwich to remove snow along the north side of east-end Main Street.

County Roads superintendent Don Pratt

said Friday Norwich's Main Street was in a "hell of a mess."

With ice and snow blocking catch basins and making parking difficult, "somebody should have done it ages ago," he said. "Usually the township looks after the matter."

Mr. Pratt's township counterpart, Ron Smith, said however, snow removal on Main Street is the county's responsibility.

"It's a county road," he said. "They own it from curb to curb."

The superintendent added that "on occasion" township crews will remove snow from a county road.

# Letters to the editor

The Editor: In regard to the front page article, in the March 13 edition of The Gazette "Snow Removal Bugs Merchants," I would like to state that I was misquoted. No reference was ever made, as to "Otterville receiving good snow removal." I realize that Otterville as well as Norwich, has had a problem with snow removal this winter.

However, I did suggest that Norwich should follow the example set by the Village of Otterville to work together as a group to achieve results when a problem arises. I also mentioned that taxpayers are entitled to adequate snow removal, and no reference was made as to where "the majority of tax money comes from."

I sincerely hope there are no ill-feelings over these false statements. The purpose behind our meeting was to bring attention to the problem of snow removal before something serious happened to one of our residents.

Linda VandenBorre,  
Linda's Apparel and Accessories

Ed. - The Norwich Gazette stands by the statements and quotes attributed to Mrs. VandenBorre.

To The Editor:

Before I start I want everyone to understand that opinions in this letter are mine and do not reflect the opinions of any other individual or group.

I have been a member of the Norwich Fire Department for almost 11 years. I have seen good times and bad times. Now things are in such a state. I believe either something should be done or I know you people do not care about your fire dept. If that is the case I wasted 11 years.

In March of 1984, a delegation from our hall visited the protection committee of council with a few problems. A few of the minor things were ironed out and then everything was forgotten.

I will list a few things which I feel the people of Norwich should know. We are very much understaffed. We have two officers and eight men. We have always tried to maintain at least three officers and between 11 and 14 men.

The fire marshall advisor stated in a report that there should be at least 21 men in this hall. I know of at least two occasions where there have been less than five firefighters able to respond.

We have been understaffed for nearly a year. Even though we are paid we consider ourselves volunteers because we provide a service to you at an inconvenience to ourselves. Our chief and council feel we are not qualified to decide who our new men are and who should be made officers. We are willing and do lay our life on the line every time we are called. We depend on each other for our safety. Therefore I would like to know who is more qualified.

When we visited the council protection committee we were asked to leave then the chief had his say to the committee. He was allowed to hear what we had to say but we were not allowed to hear his response. Do you think this is fair?

I understand one comment he made was that there was very poor communications between the men and himself. Do you know how we found out who was chosen as our new deputy chief? We, like you, read it in The Gazette. The chief has visited just a few times since the meeting. When he does come he finds some of us not worthy to speak to.

As you know we are fortunate in this town, we do not have many fires. Therefore it takes a very long time to gain experience and experience is the best teacher.

Within the last short while we have had

two of the top three senior men quit. I am the other in the top three and I imagine I will also be gone shortly. The combined service of these three total over 30 years. The combined seniority of the rest of the department is not much more than this.

One thing that our chief mentioned is that there is a possibility that the fire hall in Norwich be discontinued. How do you feel about this? How does your insurance company feel about this?

In the last few months at least two of us received letters from our chief stating we are not minding our own business. If the safety of our members and the operation of our hall is not our business, please tell me whose it is.

Our chief has stated that our hall is at least two years behind in training.

Who is in charge of training? Who is in charge of the quality of our training? Some of us feel that some of the training we have had is a waste of time. Also compare our equipment with that of Otterville and Burgessville, they each have three trucks, we have one.

I feel one of the most important places in town as far as lives in case of fire is the Nursing Home. Two and one half years ago we had an evacuation there. At that time they asked if we would do one a year. We have not done one since.

There are other things that could be mentioned but if no one cares why waste the paper. Get out and ask the rest of the firefighters what they think. I believe if you asked some of the other halls they may have comments.

You say if I have all these complaints why don't I quit. Well, I care about the department and the men who are on it. I care about every life in this town. We won't always be so lucky with fires. I have put a lot into this hobby of mine. There are plenty of things I have done that I received no pay or praise for. I don't care about that because of the love I had for it. I have heard two former members of the department say at one time I would have done the job for nothing, now they can't pay me enough.

What do you the people of Norwich think? I believe there are some of the other firefighters on the edge of giving up. Do you care? Oh, you don't want to become involved. Take time to think about it. Who's property are you playing Russian Roulette with? Or better yet who's lives are you playing with? Or are you one of the lucky ones who will never have it happen to you?

Larry W. Charlton  
Norwich

The Editor: Help! Help! Help! Time is running out. The 175th Anniversary Souvenir Booklet being published must be finalized soon.

Community organizations throughout the Township of Norwich have responded magnificently but individual businesses and farms are not as yet well represented in the material received to date.

Your brief account (no more than 200 words) and an up-to-date photograph should be delivered to Irving's Store or a member of the committee within 10 days. Thank you!

Marie Avey, Leslie Dickson,  
Paul Moore, Dorothy Phillips,  
Gretchen Pollock, Jessie Tribe

## Special budget meeting planned by Council

NORWICH — Township Council will hold a special 1985 budget meeting on March 20 at 7 p.m. The meeting shapes up as a preliminary look at this year's budget, including the 1985 road budget, according to last week's Council meeting.

The proposed 1985 road budget, prepared by Road Superintendent Ron Smith, will be examined prior to this special session by Council's Agriculture and Works Committee at its regular meeting on March 18.

In other Council business, Norwich wants to retain its representation on the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority Executive Committee.

The township has one representative among 14 on the committee. The Authority plans to trim this number to 10 and has asked Norwich Township to share

one spot on the committee with a neighbouring municipality.

It was learned at last week's Council meeting that both Norwich and its neighbours have rejected this proposal. Council passed a resolution urging the Authority to let it maintain the current status.

Township Public Utilities Commission members won't get a pay hike this year. Council turned thumbs down on a proposal to increase commissioners' stipends for 1985 at last week's meeting.

It was proposed to bring the chairman's stipend to \$90 a meeting from \$80 and a commissioner's stipend to \$70 a meeting from \$61. In addition, travel allowance and reimbursement for time lost from work for attending conferences and so on would have been raised.

## Township in financial pink, says auditor

Norwich Township is financially healthy according to the report of the auditor.

Doug Slade, a chartered accountant with the Simcoe firm of Millard, Rouse and Roseburgh, told a meeting of council last night the township has been working close to budget with a fairly substantial amount of money set aside in reserve and very little long term debt.

"It reflects well on you as a council in the management of the township," he said.

For the year ending December 31, 1984, the Township brought in revenues totalling \$6.4 million, about \$100,000 over the budgeted figure for 1984. It was also an increase of about \$400,000 over last year's

revenues. Tax revenues accounted for about 76 per cent of the total revenue.

Expenditures in 1984 totalled \$6.3 million, \$6,665 less than council expected to spend. The township ended the year with a \$155,450 surplus.

Township assets according to the report were valued at \$1.6 million. The accountant commended the municipality's tax collectors, noting that there is steady trend in the reduction in tax monies that go unpaid.

Liabilities totalled \$409,750. Mr. Slade said the only long term debt of any consequences — \$25,000 still owing on the Norwich and District Medical Centre — "is really nothing to speak of."

## Roads grant to township up but only two per cent

Norwich Township has received a \$394,000 grant from the Ministry of Transportation and Communications (MTC), an increase of only two per cent.

The township's public works committee, however, was hoping for about five per cent so it could more adequately fulfil its obligations of promised road repairs in the township.

However, the Public Works committee considers itself lucky to get any increase.

Roads superintendant Ron Smith told the committee Monday during a roads budget discussion that Delhi Township in fact lost \$14,000 from what it received in the way of a grant last year.

Mr. Smith said the maintenance program will be unaffected for the present year, but capital construction projects might be "toned down a little."

Mr. Smith said new hard top will be applied to John Street in Otterville, the Zenda Road and the Cornell Road this year.

But Otterville resident Jack Walther, who attended the meeting, said there are other streets in more need of resurfacing. "Some streets (in Otterville) are in terrible shape. I can't remember when they were treated last."

He singled out John and Dover Streets as particularly bad. "There wasn't one speck of work done last year."

Councillor Don Pettigrew said Dover Street wasn't done because it's scheduled to be entirely rebuilt after some utility work is done. "We would have liked to have done it last year."

"Pipedreams!" said Mr. Walther. "You're so far behind with your road work that that street has as much chance of being rebuilt as a snowball in Florida."

Public Works chairman Larry Martin told the resident that there's only so much money available and that it has to be spread out as evenly as possible throughout the township.

He said Otterville is not nearly as hard done by on the issue of paving as the north end of the township. "We haven't got one little bit!"



### Standing room only

Public Works chairman Larry Martin shares a joke with a township resident at a public works meeting Monday, but the smiles were short-lived as residents vented their frustrations over the lack of adequate snow removal in the municipality this winter. About 50

residents were packed into council chambers with most having to stand along the walls and in the hallway. Presentations were made on behalf of merchants groups, businessmen and individuals. (Staff Photo)

## The taxpayers speak

T.N. MARR 22

# Township officials told to shape up

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

Tempers were just about hot enough to melt the snow still on township sidewalks Monday, as 50 people crammed into council chambers to take a strip off the back of the Norwich Township Public Works Committee.

Township residents, angry over inadequate snow removal this winter, came out in force to find out why streets and sidewalks were virtually ignored by road crews this winter.

Merchants, businessmen, housewives and citizens lined the four walls of the chamber, sat in unoccupied council seats, and stood in the hallway outside the chamber to voice their concerns at a morning public works meeting.

Both Council itself and the works committee were criticized for the poor service, but neither were as harshly criticized as the Roads Superintendent Ron Smith, who sat silent through most of the 90 minute presentation.

"I've never seen such a mess as this winter," said Greta Swears, a Norwich resident since 1951. "I don't think that man (Ron Smith) is capable. It's utterly ridiculous."

Others also criticized the road superintendent for not establishing the proper priorities. They also wanted to know why township road crews were picking up branches after a recent ice storm, and not clearing away snow.

Councillor Don Pettigrew came to the road superintendants defense saying: "He's got the toughest political job in this municipality. Picture 10,000 people calling Ron Smith, each claiming his own problem a priority."

Mr. Pettigrew said the superintendent has to decide every day what the real priorities are. Mr. Smith, however, said nothing in his own defense.

In his address to the works committee, Chamber of Commerce President Glen Baxter, a former Mississauga resident, said five years ago when he moved to Norwich, he was impressed by well kept streets and sidewalks.

"However, in the past year it's been going downhill," he said.

He recalled only seeing a snow plow once and a snow blower twice this winter in Norwich.

"Merchants, I believe, did their best to keep the sidewalks in front of their stores clear, but the huge snow banks were never picked up, so people had to either walk on the roads or climb," he said.

He also related the difficulty experienced by customers trying to park on the

mounds of snow and then getting stuck. The parking situation, he added, also made for hazardous traffic problems.

"If we in Norwich and the Chamber of Commerce, in the coming year, are going to attract people to town, we must do something about our streets.

"We're defeating the purpose of making Norwich more attractive."

One resident agreed, saying: "Every morning I see a tremendous pile of snow and junk and I ask myself, What are the customers thinking?"

"If it were me I wouldn't even stop to buy a rose. Our ability to pay taxes is dependant on the amount of business we do. And if the people don't want to stop what are we supposed to do."

Committee chairman Larry Martin said the problem is that both the county and the township are sitting back protecting their own little reserves of cash.

"It's the time of the tight buck. We (the township) want to hold on to ours. And they (the county) want to hold on to theirs."

Norwich Insurance broker Norm Lusk said a resolution passed by council in 1982 was not being adhered to. The resolution said that streets in the core areas of Norwich Township must be kept clear of snow, ice and other debris as required, and that it is up to the roads superintendent to implement normally accepted clearing procedures when such situations occur.

Mr. Lusk said the resolution demanded that the township clear away the snow when the efforts of the county road department appear insufficient on county thoroughfares.

"With this resolution clearly in effect, I have to wonder why this work wasn't done.

"Our roads superintendent has a job

description that makes it necessary for him to follow the will of council."

Mr. Lusk said that on March 7 following an ice storm on the previous day, he saw someone fall on the sidewalk. He relayed the message to the township administrator. Two days later he called the clerk to find out why nothing had been done.

"The clerk told me our priority today is to pick up brush."

Burgessville resident Pat Smith pointed out to all that the snow problem is a township-wide problem, not specifically confined to Norwich.

She accused the council of not leading. "Let's get together," she said. "Get some direction and leadership."

"Just two days away from spring and there isn't a sidewalk in Burgessville you can walk on, even today."

Otterville appliance dealer Ken Lee said: his few customer parking spaces have been filled with "the biggest pile of snow" all winter.

Let's have something in place so this won't happen again next year, urged Glen Baxter.

It is likely the issue will be addressed by a full meeting of council at its next meeting March 26.

## Fee for request

It will cost the public \$5 for each request regarding information concerning Norwich Township bylaws.

The new fee schedule was approved at a meeting of township council March 26.

# Letters to the editor

To The Editor: In regards to the front page article in the March 10 Gazette, "Township Officials Told To Shape Up," to all the residents who complained, criticized, accused and blamed.

Pickey, picky, picky!

Thank you, Don Pettigrew, for putting things in a proper prospective.

Ed Douma  
Burgessville, Ontario

To The Editor:

This letter is addressed to the citizens of the village of Norwich. It is in regards to a letter which appeared in The Norwich Gazette on Wednesday, March 20. This letter contained many accusations which do not properly reflect the situation. It also fails to give the complete facts.

In the Norwich station, there are at present 13 firefighters. On the night of March

13, when some interviews were held, the decision was made by the officers to hire three of the applicants. The officers' recommendations were delivered by the Fire Chief to the Community Service Committee meeting on March 19, whereupon the recommendation was approved to hire the three applicants. They were notified the following day and started their duties on March 21. More interviews are expected to take place in the near future after these three have a chance to become familiar with procedures, as the training officer can only look after a limited number of new recruits at a time.

It is the Fire Marshal's recommendation that elections of officers and hiring of new personnel be up to the officers.

If elections of new personnel were carried out by the firefighters and orders were issued that were not liked, no form of order or discipline would prevail, because the officers could be voted out of office at any time.

An officer is responsible for the fire scene, for the safety of the firefighters under the Occupational Health and Safety Act, and for communications between the personnel and the chief. Therefore a qualified person must be appointed to an officer's position to carry out the duties assigned by the fire chief. Appointments are made by interviews of applicants with regards to skills and knowledge.

The communication problems in Station 2 were eliminated with the appointment of Jim Tapley as Deputy Chief. I have been in touch with him on a weekly basis so as a team these problems can be worked out.

He, in turn, carries out decisions to eliminate problems. Also the presentation of the helmet was made at the fire hall to announce the appointment of Jim Tapley as Deputy Chief. The reason it appeared in the press was because it was found out by the press after approval by the Community Services Committee prior to the announcement at the Fire hall. There had been a delay in the appointment of a deputy chief due to illness of some of the applicants.

Due to illness of some of the firefighters recently, response to a fire has been low. Also since some of the members work out

(Continued from Page 4)

been set aside for the future purchase of a new truck. Small equipment has been extensively built up in the last four years in order to upgrade the four stations. A recent unforeseen expense was the purchase of new helmets and boots and eventually the turn out gear. This is due to new provincial regulations set forth for the protection of the firefighter. As you can see, another truck would greatly improve our situation but finances are limited.

Due to the seriousness of firefighting of today, it has been hard for some of our senior members to change with the times. Firefighting is one of the most hazardous occupations and we must therefore do our best to be prepared for any of the situations that might arise.

In the past 20 years of service that I have given there have been many changes. These changes are occurring at such a fast pace, it is hard to keep up let alone catch up. I feel that in the last four and a half years that I have been chief, great strides have been made to improve the firefighting capabilities in the Township.

While many of the men spend a night a week in a meeting or a practice at the fire hall, I often spend seven nights a week at this part time job. This is one of the reasons why I don't always make it to all the practices and talk to each individual. I try to make myself available if an issue is brought to me in a civil manner. This is not

of town or work shifts, they cannot respond to all fires. In the case of a low response of personnel, the officers in charge would call in for assistance from another station so there is always ample personnel for fire protection.

I was asked at a practice if it were possible this station would be closed. My reply was it is possible, the reason being that there is no legislation, provincial or federal, stating that we have to have a fire department. If our municipal council felt, for whatever reason, that they could no longer operate this station, it could be closed. It is possible but not probably because the taxpayers and insurance rates would hardly allow it. The statement made in the letter of March 20 was completely quoted out of context.

The letter that was sent out to the two firefighters was for disciplinary action. These letters were strictly between these two men and the Fire Chief and did not involve the department as a whole.

In regards to training, I am strongly in favor of training. I have always put this as a priority issue. An attempt was made a year ago to establish a program through the township. Due to a delegation of firefighters approaching council, it was stopped, until our Fire Marshal advisor, the fire chief and the community service committee could resolve the situation. Due to the work load of the advisor, it will resume in late spring of this year.

Training is being carried out in each station by the individual training officers. It is hard to present a program that is satisfactory to everyone when everyone has a different priority subject for training. Our information for the training is supplied by the Fire Marshal's Office, and is very thorough in all aspects.

In regards to Norwich having only one truck, Oxford Centre also has only one truck and it has been budgeted for the last four year for a new truck. The Norwich station truck has been listed on the budget for the last two years. Due to the economic times and the high cost of these vehicles (about \$80,000), council found itself financially unable to purchase the vehicle. Each year for the past four years, funds have

(Continued on Page 5)

a hobby to me it has become a way of life. It is a job with no set hours and I am here to carry out its responsibilities the best way that I can. We must do the best we can with what we have to work with.

The fire department is going to progress. With firefighters who want to learn and want to participate, we will greatly advance in all fields.

Yours truly  
Brian N. Workman  
Fire Chief  
Township of Norwich  
Fire Department

The Editor: The snow removal on the Main St. and sidewalks was sure a disgrace. I have never seen or walked on the streets when they were as bad, and cars stuck especially near the Post Office. We didn't have these problems when Mr. Williams was superintendent.

Also I don't think sand is required, if only salt was used we wouldn't need the street sweeper and all the dust in the spring or the catch basins wouldn't require cleaning as often.

Our taxes seem to be higher each year, but most roads, streets and sidewalks are in poorer shape and with errors being made.

I think it's time the Township had a qualified man on as engineer.

G.A. McMillan, Norwich

## Legal Notices

TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH

### TENDER FOR GRASS MOWING

Sealed tenders CLEARLY MARKED AS TO CONTENTS will be accepted by the Township Road Superintendent, Mr. Ron Smith, on or before 12:00 NOON, MONDAY, APRIL 15, 1985, for roadside grass mowing along Township roads in the former Township of North Norwich and East Oxford.

Tender forms and specifications available at the Township Office, 10 Main Street East, Otterville.

RON SMITH  
ROAD SUPERINTENDENT  
TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH  
P.O. Box 100  
Otterville, Ontario  
NOJ 1R0

## Legal Notices

Township of Norwich

### NOTICE

Tax bills have been mailed to all property owners and business operations for taxes due March 21, 1985.

Taxpayers who have not yet received their tax bill should contact the Township Office.

TAX COLLECTOR  
879-6568 or 863-2709

Township of Norwich

### NOTICE

Dog Tax Collectors will be canvassing in the various wards commencing March 29, 1985. Canvassers have been supplied with identification cards.

Dog tags are \$8.00 for each dog regardless of age.

ROBERT C. WATKINS  
CLERK



# Improvements proposed at area landfill sites

Holbrook and Otterville landfill sites have been earmarked for \$35,000 in improvements, provided Oxford Council decides to set aside the necessary funds, says county engineer Roy Brankley.

In an interview Monday, Mr. Brankley said he has proposed to council that \$75,000 be set aside to complete work on the four county landfill sites of Tillsonburg, Lakeside, Otterville and Holbrook.

He has proposed that \$20,000 be put toward sealing the now closed Otterville landfill site. The money is needed to cover the expense of applying a clay sealant to the site.

He estimated that \$15,000 would be required for top-soiling, patching and grassing over the top of the Holbrook site to keep the surface stabilized after the site closes in June 1986.

Capping and resealing the Tillsonburg site, he noted, would cost about \$25,000. About \$15,000 would be needed to upgrade and equip the Lakeside site with a new garbage compactor.

If the proposal is accepted by Oxford Council, the county will become responsible for operating the Lakeside site, now run by the Township of Zorra. The annual operating cost would increase to \$50,000 from \$35,000.

The landfill site improvements are to be considered during 1985 budget talks.

# Clerk moves on to new challenge

NORWICH — Leaving friends is difficult, but it's also hard not to accept a new challenge in life.

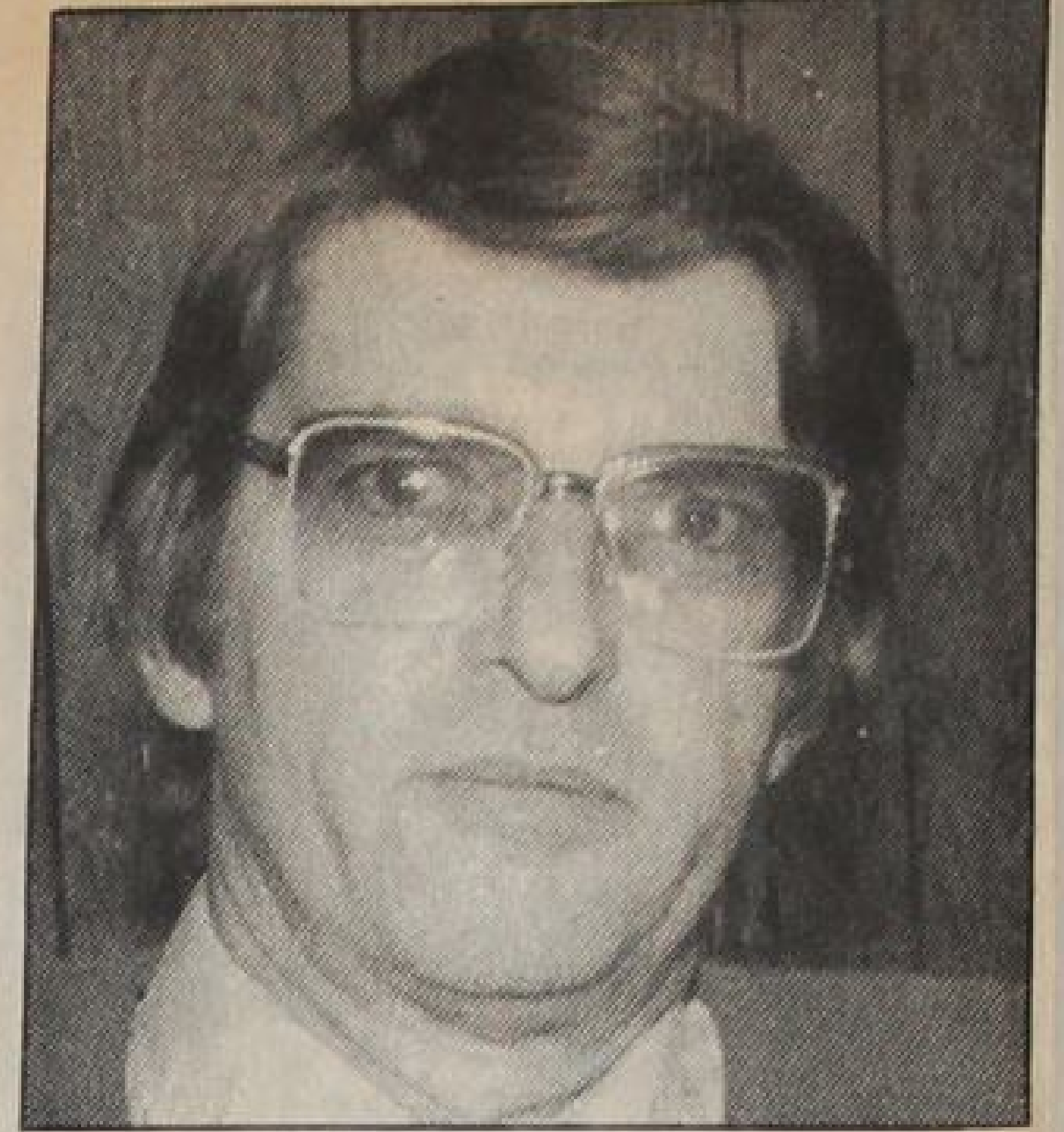
That's how Township Clerk-Treasurer John Gilbert felt in deciding to accept the position of Wilmot Township treasurer.

He tendered his resignation from Norwich Township with many regrets after seven years and began his new post Monday in New Hamburg. Wilmot is part of Waterloo Region. Mr. Gilbert said before he left that the position was "a new challenge I couldn't turn down. I found the staff here always co-operative and really appreciated Council wishing me well."

Mr. Gilbert, his wife Connie and four children live in Princeton. He said the family will probably sell their home there and move closer to the Kitchener area sometime in the near future.

Growing up in Norfolk County and graduating from Delhi District High School left Mr. Gilbert with fond memories. He was born in Hamilton, but moved to this area at an early age. He began his municipal career after high school graduation in 1956 as assistant clerk-treasurer in Delhi. In 1961 he accepted the treasurer's job in Ancaster, staying there until 1973.

From 1973 until 1976, Mr. Gilbert was clerk-treasurer for Burford Township in Brant County. He recalled leaving municipal affairs for about two years to pursue "something different," but returned



John Gilbert

Staff was co-operative here.

when he was hired by Norwich Township seven years ago.

Over the years, Mr. Gilbert has accumulated a wealth of experience in municipal accounting and general experience in municipal operations. Moreover, he has successfully completed a number of required courses for certification in municipal finances.

Wilmot has a Township clerk in addition to a treasurer. "I believe I was selected because they wanted someone with lots of experience," said Mr. Gilbert.

While working in Norwich, Mr. Gilbert served on the Canada Week Committee for three years and played for a slo-pitch team for three years.

"I liked it here, but at the same time, I'm sure looking forward to working in New Hamburg," he noted.

# Council vetoes increase in PUC per diem rate

Norwich Township Council has turned down a request by Public Utilities Commission members for a raise in per diems.

At a meeting last week, council voted unanimously to refuse the request, which would have raised the per diem rate for a chairman by 12.2 per cent and a commissioner by 13.5 per cent.

Commission members requested their per diem rate be increased to \$90 for the chairman and \$70 for commissioners.

Last year the PUC chairman received \$80.26 per meeting while commissioners received \$61.74.

The commission surveyed five other area utility commissions before agreeing on their proposed rates, said Mayor John Heleniak.

According to the survey, which examined the rates paid to members of Ingersoll, Thamesford, Tavistock, Tillsonburg and Woodstock PUC's, the Norwich commis-

sion is receiving considerably less, said the mayor.

Councillor Don Pettigrew argued against the raise saying that it was unreasonable to compare the Norwich PUC with its counterparts in places like Ingersoll and Woodstock.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE OTTERVILLE WATERWORKS CUSTOMERS

The Norwich Public Utility Commission regret to advise, that due to increasing costs, on all bills rendered on and after April 1, 1985, the water rates will be increased to \$7.80 per month.

# Council hires new clerk

NORWICH — Council moved swiftly last week to fill the vacant clerk-treasurer's position with the hiring of Township Accountant Reg Saunders.

Mr. Saunders of Norwich will assume his new duties almost immediately. He takes over the post left open by the resignation of former Clerk-Treasurer John Gilbert.

Council will now advertise to fill the accountant's job.

Mr. Saunders was hired as accountant in June, 1984. Prior to that, he worked as deputy-treasurer and manager of accounting for the City of Woodstock.

# Preliminary figures indicate Norwich budget increase

NORWICH — Township Council began the arduous task last week of wrestling with 1985 budget estimates.

Major items presented at the special budget session were department estimates for public works, general administration and Community Centre complex.

Estimates for fire, police and recreation departments are to be presented at Council's next budget meeting on April 2 at 7 p.m.

Mayor John Heleniak said it's too early yet to estimate how much of an increase this year's budget is over 1984 as these are only preliminary figures.

Public works presented a preliminary estimate of \$1,243,500 for 1985. Of this amount, \$287,500 is earmarked for road construction and \$956,000 is for road maintenance.

Clerk-Administrator Bob Watkins said \$394,000 of this estimated total could be in line for a Ministry of Transportation and Communications subsidy. This is a 2 per cent hike over last year's MTC grant.

The 1984 public works department budget totalled \$1,044,730 of which \$182,602 was used for road construction and \$862,128 went for maintenance.

About \$77,000 is being budgetted for bridge deck repairs and purchase of a new dump truck. Mr. Watkins said \$38,500 of this amount could be eligible for MTC supplementary grants.

Council's Agriculture and Works Committee has recommended acceptance of the public works estimates as application for funding must be made to MTC before the end of March. This item was scheduled for discussion at last night's Council meeting.

Preliminary estimates presented for the Community Centre complex amounted to

\$264,935. This total consists of about \$209,000 for operating costs and about \$24,000 for capital costs, and funds for arena renovations.

Last year's Community Centre complex figures ran to \$218,570 of which \$16,760 went for capital costs and \$201,810 used for operating costs.

General administration estimates came to \$217,595. In 1984, general administration costs totalled \$197,495.

Mayor Heleniak said that outside of the public works estimates, no recommendation on action has been made on other budget items for 1985.

D. NEWS MAR 27

### PUBLIC MEETING

NOTICE TO ALL CONCERNED

TAXPAYERS OF NORWICH TOWNSHIP

If you are interested in forming a Ratepayers Association, please attend a meeting on

**MARCH 27, 1985**

**at 8:00 P.M.**

**at Otterville Community Hall**

A Ratepayers Association can monitor the expenditures of your tax dollars, provide you, the taxpayer, with more information and provide an excellent opportunity to voice your concerns.

Mar 22 46

### PUBLIC MEETING

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NOTICE TO ALL CONCERNED TAXPAYERS OF NORWICH TOWNSHIP. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN FORMING A RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION, PLEASE ATTEND A MEETING ON MARCH 27, 1985 AT 8 P.M. AT THE OTTERVILLE COMMUNITY HALL.

A RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION CAN;

- MONITOR THE EXPENDITURES OF YOUR TAX DOLLARS,
- PROVIDE YOU, THE TAXPAYER, WITH MORE INFORMATION,
- PROVIDE AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO VOICE YOUR CONCERNS.

## Norwich Township residents look into ratepayers association

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

A few concerned citizens are spearheading a move to form an association to act as watch-dog over the public purse in Norwich Township.

Several ad hoc organizational meetings have been held over the past few weeks to gauge the interest of area taxpayers in forming a township-wide ratepayers association.

Otterville resident Lyle Davis said in an

interview Thursday that attendance at the meeting has ranged from six at the first to about 25 at the last.

Norwich township taxpayers are invited to a meeting Wednesday, March 27 at the Otterville Community Centre at 8 p.m. to discuss the proposal.

Mr. Davis said a ratepayers association would be better able to monitor the way township tax dollars are spent, as well as,

providing the public with more information on council's activities.

He said there were "a few things" regarding township council that ratepayers are a little dissatisfied with, but he would not be explicit.

Catherine Mann, also an Otterville resident who attended the last meeting said: "I'd like to know where the tax dollars are going." She also admonished The Norwich

Gazette for not publishing council financial accounts.

Murray Wardell, again of Otterville, said a ratepayers association, in addition to being a watch-dog of the public purse, would also help create general interest in the township and its operation.

Most of the interest appears to have developed in Ward One of the township, but there are rumblings of interest in Ward Three, said Mr. Davis.

It is still a matter of speculation whether a township-wide association will be formed.

# Ratepayers group formed with modest support

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

A ratepayers association has been formed in Norwich Township.

About 30 residents from three wards met last Wednesday in Otterville where they decided to establish a township-wide organization.

Otterville resident Lyle Davis co-chaired the meeting with David Arthur, also of Ward 1. Mr. Davis told the assembly that such an association would monitor the spending habits of council, as well as act as a powerful lobbying force for taxpayers.

The association would also publish a quarterly newsletter explaining council activities and their effect on ratepayers.

While finally getting the association started after four months of planning and

preparation, organizers however, were mildly disappointed with the turnout, expecting the Otterville Community Hall to be "jammed from wall to wall."

As one ratepayer noted, without a burning issue before the public, growth of the fledgling organization might be rather slow.

"We can't become strong overnight. It takes an important issue to get going," said Jean Carney.

"You have to have a reason that gets people excited," she added.

Despite the modest turn out, those assembled agreed to form hoping the association would grow over time.

Twenty ratepayers from Ward 1 (South Norwich), six from Ward 2 (Norwich), and three from Ward 3 (North Norwich) at-

tended the meeting. There were no representatives from Ward 4 (East Oxford).

A second organizational meeting will be

held in Oxford Centre Tuesday, April 9 at the Senior Citizens Centre at 8 p.m. with the hopes some Ward 4 residents will attend.

(Continued on Page 2) 2

(Continued from Page 1)

At Wednesday's meeting five of eight executive positions were elected. Norwich resident Marilyn McLees, was named chairman while David Arthur was elected vice chairman.

In addition to Mr. Arthur, the other Ward 1 representative is David Hussey of Otterville. Ward 3 representatives are Ida Cowan and Bruce Barnim. Two Ward 4 representatives and a second Ward 2 position will probably be filled at the next meeting, said Mrs. McLees.

Former township councillor Bob Pettigrew said a strong ratepayers association would ensure that council would operate more smoothly.

He said it was important that the association pick its issues carefully. "We can't be squawking about all sorts of little things. It's the major things we have to get excited about."

Norwich businessman Al Munro expressed the opinion that the formation of the ratepayers association was "one of the most sensible things that has ever happened" in the township. He added that it was hard to believe more people did not show up.

"I was hoping I wouldn't have been able to get in the door."

In an interview Monday, Mrs. McLees, a part time health care worker, said the next meeting would take the form of an information session.

She said steps toward establishing policy would come in subsequent meetings after the group had filled all its executive positions.

Membership fees were established at \$5 per household.

## Cost of policing could fall entirely to Norwich taxpayers

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

Taxpayers living outside the Village of Norwich should no longer be asked to subsidize a police force that is of no benefit to them, says Township Councillor Bob Carney.

The Ward 1 councillor presented a motion at a meeting of council last Tuesday evening calling for Norwich residents alone to cover the entire township portion of the cost of running the police department.

The motion was tabled and will be re-introduced at the next meeting of council Tuesday, April 9.

Coun. Carney said the Township of Norwich Police Department is of no direct benefit to the residents of Wards 1, 2 and 3.

While the force investigates bylaw infractions in those wards, it does not actively patrol those areas. Its mandate is to patrol and protect only the Village of Norwich. Outlying areas of the township are under the jurisdiction of the Ontario Provincial Police.

"I object to having to subsidize this force," said Mr. Carney.

Bylaw enforcement outside Ward 2, said the councillor, could be handled more easily and economically without the township force. He suggested a full or part time bylaw enforcement officer.

The Otterville businessman said it cost each township resident about \$5 to cover the taxpayer portion of the force's 1984 \$208,000 operating cost.

Norwich Councillor Darrell Force said Mr. Carney had a solid argument, noting that the 7,500 residents living outside Norwich indeed receive less protection than the 2,300 minority who comprise Norwich. But, he added, the whole nature of a township is to work together with a certain amount of give and take.

"I don't mind paying for the paving of the gravel road (Ward 4 councillor) Larry Martin lives on.

"There are many things each township resident helps pay for that directly or indirectly benefit everyone," he said.

Both Couns. Don Pettigrew and Darrell Force urged the tabling of the motion. "We want to hear all the arguments," said Mr. Pettigrew.

"I've done a lot of soul searching on the topic of area rating," said Coun. Force. "And personally I'm against area rating."

Ward 1 Councillor Michael Oliver said the Township Force, with an operating budget of more than \$200,000, is the "Cadillac of police forces" with two cruisers and officers now asking for a 10 per cent pay raise. "They have the best of everything."

Of the \$208,065 it cost the police force to operate last year, \$149,000 came from a government grant and \$53,800 came from the taxpayers.

In the event of area rating, Norwich's 2,300 population would be required to carry the entire tax burden for the police force.

Area rating too, could jeopardize the size of the provincial grant. In 1985 the government will be offering municipalities \$50 per household for police protection. There are 3,177 households in the township. The Village of Norwich alone has 849 households.

Based on 3,177 households the township will receive more than \$158,000 from the province this year for police protection.

## D.N. APR 1 Councillors favour police user fee

NORWICH — Some councillors believe Town of Norwich ratepayers should bear a larger portion of township police costs as they appear to benefit more from the service.

Councillor Bob Carney proposed a motion at last week's meeting suggesting that police department costs be area-rated to those areas and residents receiving most of the service.

Essentially, the motion questioned the type of service provided and its cost to Wards 1, 3 and 4. Township police only provide bylaw enforcement to these three basically rural wards.

Ward 2 or Town of Norwich has law enforcement in addition to bylaw enforcement supplied by township police.

Law enforcement in Wards 1, 3 and 4 is provided by the Ontario Provincial Police.

The motion, seconded by Councillor John McNally, suggested that bylaw enforcement could be handled in a more economical fashion than the system now in use. The motion was tabled by Council for discussion at a future meeting.

# Major upgrading for Otterville school

An engineering study examining deficiencies of the Otterville Public School building has estimated the renovations required to improve the building would cost more than \$500,000 while the cost of replacing the building would be close to \$600,000.

The engineering study, presented to members of the Oxford County board of education at their meeting Monday night in Woodstock, has been forwarded to the ministry of education to support the board's request for capital funding to improve the school, built in Otterville in 1927.

Mr. Young said the ministry voiced concern about the size of the \$640,000 capital allocation requested by the board for a school with such a small student population. But after ministry officials visited the school it became clear that the building

fabric and structure needs extensive renovation to bring the building to a condition that would conform with current building and safety standards, said D.A. Kinchlea, regional director of education for the ministry's Western Ontario Region.

In order to make a suitable recommendation with regard to the board's request for capital funding for the renovation project, Mr. Kinchlea requested more information on the extent and cost of the necessary alterations, additions, repairs and renovations to the school in the form of an engineering study.

In a report to the board Monday night, Superintendent of Business, George Hammond, said the study involved architectural, as well as structural, mechanical and electrical engineering consultants,

and it identifies parts of the 1927 section of the school building which do not comply with the current Ontario Building Code.

The capital funding requested from the province for the improvements at the school would enable the board to carry out the work "necessary to have an appropriate, modern facility," either through an addition to the existing structure, partial or total replacement of the facility, Mr. Young said. He pointed out the board has poured a lot of dollars into the school for maintenance each year and trustees felt it was important to have a building that is heat efficient, safer, cleaner and that has appropriate office and library space.

Mr. Young said it will now be up to the ministry to respond to the engineering

study with a recommendation on how the board is to proceed if capital funding is approved.

## Meeting to discuss Otterville school

N.G.  
MAR 13

Ministry of education officials will be meeting with Oxford County Board of Education trustees and administrators to discuss plans for the Otterville Public School.

The board had asked the ministry for a capital allocation of \$640,000 to upgrade the school but the size of the allocation prompted the ministry to request an engineering study be done to support the capital request. That study, examining deficiencies in the school, estimated renovations to improve the building would cost more than \$500,000 while the cost of replacing the building would be close to \$600,000.

In a letter presented to the board at its meeting Monday night, the ministry's

regional superintendent of business and finance, K.A. Carter, indicated the cost of a renovation project, to be able to qualify for grant approval, must not exceed 60 per cent of the cost of replacing the building. "The engineering analysis indicates that a renovation should not be undertaken," Mr. Carter informed the board.

Education director for the board, John Young, said Tuesday representatives of the board will meet with ministry officials before the end of March to discuss the situation at the Otterville school. The ministry has recognized the building fabric and structure of the 1927 section of the school needs extensive renovation to bring the building to a condition that would conform with current building and safety standards.

## World Day of Prayer marked at Otterville

OTTERVILLE (C) — World Day of Prayer, Friday, March 1, was celebrated in Otterville at the St. John's Anglican Church for all congregations of the village churches, Springford United Church and anyone interested and wishing to attend.

The theme for 1985, Peace Through

Prayer and Action, was elaborated upon by guest speaker Mrs. Vi Sackrider who co-ordinated her presentation with the opening thought of The Prayer of St. Francis, "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace," later sung in unison by the congregation.

The World Day of Prayer service was prepared by the Women's Inter-Church Council. Leader for the service was Anglican Church Women's President Cathy Furlong with readers being Isabell Harris, Olive Pickersgill, Dorothy Neale, Dorothy Durkee and Elaine Oliver.

Olive Pickersgill shared the appropriate solo "Let There Be Peace on Earth" accompanied by pianist Lila Freeland, who also played for the service hymns, "In Christ There is No East or West," "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun," "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life" and "Prayer of St. Francis."



### Seniors helping seniors

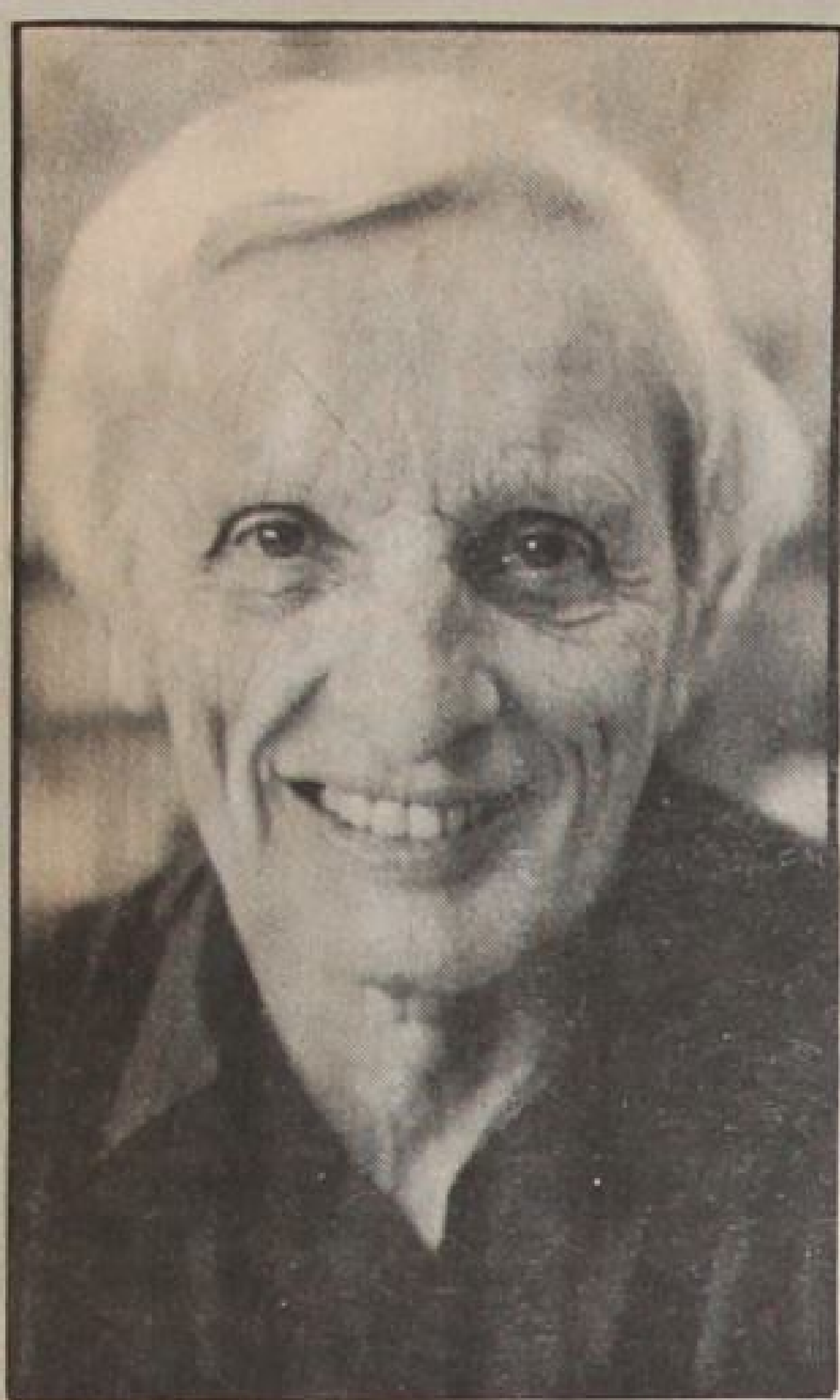
Senior citizens can now receive help filling out their income tax returns free of charge by making appointments through the Tillsonburg community centre. Volunteers Wilma Butler of Otterville and James Weir of Tillsonburg who took a course on filing tax returns, are on hand to assist seniors in preparing their claims from now un-

til the end of April. This is the first year the service has been offered. Appointments can be arranged by calling Kim Bidwell at the community centre. Sessions are held in the Rotary Wing. From left: Donald Treffry of Tillsonburg reviews his tax claim with Mrs. Butler. (Staff Photo)

### KERR

After a lengthy illness at her residence, Lois Lenore (Angell) Kerr; in her 55th year. Beloved wife of Charles (Red) Kerr of London. Dear mother of Karen Kerr of Hamilton and Douglas and wife Julie of Surrey, B.C. Dear grandmother of Amanda. Dear sister of Mrs. Velma Nutkins and husband George. Also survived by nieces Diane Harvey of Milton and Darlene Nutkins of London. Donations to the Juvenile Diabetic Association would be appreciated by the family. Arrangements by Memorial Funeral Home, 546 King Street, London.

Mar 13/85



Carl Howse, retiring after 29 years.

## Caretaker retires

# Otterville school loses friend

By SUZANNE STOOP

The times have changed but kids are basically the same today as they were 28 years ago, said Carl Howse and he should know, he's seen enough of them pass through the doors of the Otterville Public School in his 28 years as caretaker at the school.

But for Mr. Howse, Friday was the end of an era as he locked the doors of the school for the last time. The activity in the school will continue, but for Mr. Howse, who celebrated his 65th birthday on Friday, his career as caretaker of the school has ended.

Mr. Howse admitted Friday he has mixed feelings about retiring. "As it gets closer, I begin to wonder." The school has been a major part of his life for the past 28 years but at the same time he's looking forward to retirement. "I don't have any hobbies but I expect I will do just what I want to do," Mr. Howse said. The break

with the school won't be quite so dramatic, though, as Mr. Howse has agreed to come back on a daily basis as a noon hour supervisor and he may do some volunteer work to keep in contact with the children and teachers that have been such a big part of his life over the years. "That will help make the break easier," he said.

Mr. Howse has been the sole caretaker at the school for the last five years but he began his career with the school board driving school bus for the Springford area for 23 years. He started out working for the South Norwich school board in November, 1956. Before that the lifelong Otterville resident was a farmer.

In those early years, three hours of his day would be spent driving bus and the rest of the day working as one of the caretakers in the school, eventually giving up his bus route and becoming the head caretaker at the school.

When he started at the school there were over 400 students—every classroom was filled and there was even a class held in the school's gymnasium and a portable classroom added later. The school now has about 175 students but each student and staff member is special to Mr. Howse. He and his wife have no children of their own but the children at the school have been his family.

"I've enjoyed it—the students and the teachers and the board people I have come in contact with have been very good to me," Mr. Howse said. A lot of teachers have come and gone over the years but they've all been just great, including the four principals he's worked with—Boyd Little, Lee Locker, Fred Brown and Cathy Murphy.

While Mr. Howse admitted he was tempted to quit during his first week on the job, he soon got accustomed to the school life and had no desire to change jobs. "The first week I thought I'd quit because the noise got to me but anymore I don't even hear it," he said, noting that for 25 of his 28 years at the school he acted as noonhour supervisor on the playground.

"You know kids are funny," he said. "At times you could skin them and the next minute you'd feel sorry for them but on the whole they're a good group of kids," he said. They were always respectful and obedient and they were always good to him, said Mr. Howse. And whenever he had a little job for them to do "all you have to do is ask them and they're just tickled to do it."

Mr. Howse said he had to be a jack-of-all-trades in his job as caretaker, doing a little bit of painting, plumbing and carpentry in addition to his regular cleaning of the school. Having read the job description for his successor, Mr. Howse jokingly said he probably wouldn't be qualified for the job now.

While Mr. Howse will miss his daily routine at the school, he shouldn't lack for things to keep him busy. He may not have a hobby in the sense most people would apply to the word, but for him, his hobby is the community. Over the years he's been an active member of his church, serving about 45 years as Sunday School superintendent, church treasurer for 47 years and teaching Sunday School for about 20 years. He's also been a vestry clerk at the church for about 20 years and secretary-treasurer of the cemetery board since 1952.

If that weren't enough, Mr. Howse has also been secretary of the Otterville chapter of the Independent Order of Odd-fellows for 25 years and also serves as secretary of the South Norwich Historical Society and mill committee. "Those are my hobbies," Mr. Howse said. "I enjoy doing those things...and it doesn't seem to be a hardship at all."

Mr. Howse's wife Josephine will continue to work for another year before retiring and the two have no plans to leave the Otterville community. "As long as I had work and the community was like it is, there's none any better," Mr. Howse said, adding he has many dear friends in the community.

## Caretaker retiring

After almost 30 years on the staff of the Otterville Public School, caretaker Carl Howse is retiring.

Mr. Howse, a life-long resident of Otterville, has been employed at the school since Nov. 1, 1956.

In addition to his caretaking duties, Mr. Howse also drove a school bus for 23 years. Five years ago however, he gave it up in favor of his full-time maintenance duties.

When he retires on March 8, his 65th birthday, he will not be turning his back on the school for good. He plans on coming back as a noon-hour yard supervisor.

Anyone wishing to wish Mr. Howse well on his retirement are invited to attend a retirement party hosted by the PTA and the school staff.

The party is planned for Wednesday, March 6 between 7 and 9 p.m. at the Otterville Public School.

Mr. Howse will be presented with a gift. Those wishing to contribute may contact Mrs. Janice Buchner in care of the Otterville Public School.



## Optimisses executive named

The first executive of the newly-born Optimisses Club of Otterville and Springford are: Carole Rose (left), vice president; Marie Hill,

treasurer; Linda Cheney, secretary and Linda Letoile, president. The group was sworn in Saturday evening at the Otterville Community Hall. (Staff Photo)



## Gold velvet to be purchased

### SUMMERVILLE W.I.

The Summerville Women's Institute met at the home of Mrs. Gordon Gehring for the March meeting.

Mrs. Joseph Duffy, president, opened the meeting.

The spring board meeting is to be attended by branch district director and secretary-treasurer at Ostrander on March 26. A piece of gold velvet is to be purchased to line the case in the library that holds the Summerville Tweedsmuir Book.

Members were invited to attend a smocking course at the Otterville Library on March 18 and 19. The course was conducted by Mrs. Gordon Gehring and Mrs. Donald Barnim.

Mrs. Gordon Gehring read an article on the cosmic flow cycle, Shifting into high regards to Auto Pact; automobiles built in Canada. Also an article "If God had a Committee."

Lunch was served and a social hour enjoyed.

### One last look

This battered coal scuttle has been a familiar landmark around the Otterville Public School for many years and it has never been far away from caretaker Carl Howse who has used it and the dust pan in his cleaning duties around the school. During a special open house and retirement roast in his honor at the school Wednesday evening, Jeannette Berenz, 9, a staff member at the school, and two students, Melissa Justus, 11, and Amy Gehring, 9, right, take one last look at the coal bucket that is being retired with Mr. Howse after 28 years as the school's custodian. In recognition of his many years of service to the school, a congratulatory plaque was also mounted on the keepsake scuttle. Mr. Howse was surprised but amused by the presentation made by the staff and students of the school. (Staff Photo)

## Coal scuttle retired along with caretaker

By SUZANNE STOOP

Caretaker. The dictionary defines the term as one who takes care of a place or person and Carl Howse did both during his 28 years as caretaker of the Otterville Public School.

Those he cared for—staff, students, members of the community, friends and family—all came out Wednesday evening for a retirement roast, to say thank you and goodbye to a man who put the emphasis on "care" in his job as caretaker.

The retirement roast and open house, held in the school that Mr. Howse had diligently cared for since he was appointed to the job of custodian on November 1, 1956, attracted more than 150 people.

Former school principal Fred Brown described Mr. Howse as "one of the most caring people I have ever met"—a caretaker with the emphasis on caring. Teacher Janice Buchner, on staff at the school for 17 years, recalled that Mr. Howse was the first person she met when she arrived to take up her new position at the school noting his "ever-caring attitude and his friendly helpfulness" have been his hallmark.

Others to pay tribute and do some friendly roasting included the master of ceremonies for the evening, Rev. Grant Darling; former Otterville Public School principals Boyd Little and Lee Locker; former bus driver, Mike McClintock; Oxford County's chief custodian Jerry Hiperson; staff member Jeanette Berenz; Parent Teacher Association president Augie DeWachter and the school's present principal Cathy Murphy.

Following the roasting, several presentations were made to Mr. Howse. A watercolor of the Otterville Public School, painted by local artist Nellie VanGastel, was presented to Mr. Howse and his wife Jo by the school staff, the PTA, the community, friends and relatives. A special presentation was also made on behalf of

the staff and students by Mrs. Berenz who presented Mr. Howse with his battered old coal scuttle, suitably marked with an engraved plaque congratulating him on his 28 years of service to the school. The coal scuttle and dust pan, never far from Mr. Howse while he performed his duties at the school, were being retired with him as a memento of his many years of service to the school.

Mr. DeWachter also presented Mr. Howse with one of the school's graduation pins, normally presented to students upon graduation from Grade 8.

Rev. Darling, in his closing tribute to Mr. Howse, described him as a pillar of the community, a man who gave much to the school and his church, exemplifying kindness, friendliness, caring and love. "How did God know we all wanted you as a friend," Rev. Darling said.

Mr. Howse in expressing his appreciation for the tributes and the outpouring of sentiment from friends gathered for the open house, said he will miss the school but he is planning to sever his ties slowly. Mr. Howse will still be coming back to the school on a daily basis to act as a noon-hour supervisor "so the break won't be so sudden."

## Otterville Notes

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Sunshine Club met on March 14 at the home of Jean Dow. Minutes of the last meeting were read by secretary-treasurer, Marion Pettigrew. Ten members answered the roll call, "a chore you disliked when you were a child" given by Margaret Shearer. Report on cards sent was given by Olive Pickersgill. Tickets were sold on a beautifully decorated cake made by Sandra Hussey which was won by Doreen Mountain. The next meeting will be held at the home of Dorothy Neale. Everyone enjoyed the delicious lunch served by Jean, the hostess.

The Otterville Public Library now has a display on view from the Delhi Horticultural Society featuring a variety of information including projects, seed catalogs, society literature and reference books which can be used in the library. As well, activities of the society are outlined.

Wednesday evening, April 3 at 7:30 p.m. the library is offering an evening in correspondence with their continuing education program, focusing on preparing your garden and artistic work. The presentation will feature Ben Janssens, Mae Leonard and Marilyn Driedger, all area residents and the executive of the Delhi Horticultural Society.

Mrs. Edith Petch, Mrs. Winnie McMullen and Mrs. Evelyn Waring were guests at the Buchaneer Restaurant, Burgessville, on Friday evening. The event was held for Mrs. Waring who celebrated a

birthday that day. Before the dinner the ladies presented the guest of honor with a rose corsage. Mrs. Waring thanked her friends for their thoughtfulness and also appreciated the lovely greeting cards and telephone cards received throughout the day.



### That fashion sense

Christa Darling models some casual wear at the annual St. John ACW fashion show held at the Otterville Community Hall Thursday. In addition to casual wear, skirts, dresses and dress pants

were also modeled. About 150 people attended the show. (Staff Photo)

## Spring fashions on parade

OTTERVILLE (C) — Though the first day of spring officially arrived last Wednesday, to many of us it seems hard to believe with cold temperatures and snow on the ground that spring has arrived. Thursday evening, March 21, the Otterville St. John's Anglican Church Women made the atmosphere more seasonal with their annual Spring Fashion Show held at the Otterville Community Hall which was filled to capacity.

ACW President, Cathy Furlong, welcomed everyone present, especially Threads and Fashions and Hi-Lo Fashions of

Tillsonburg, whose designs were featured during the evening and Laurie Stone, Aloette Cosmetics, and her assistants, who were in charge of makeup for the models. Also, White's Flowers, Norwich, were warmly thanked for their pretty floral decorations and loud speaking system.

A setting of brightly colored balloons and spring flowers provided the setting for the fashion presentation commentated by Olive Pickersgill with soft background music performed by Lila Freeland on the piano.

Models for Hi-Lo Fashions were Judy Freeman, Audrey Neumann, Doreen Mountain, Julie Wetzner, Dorothy Durkee, Catherine Zimmer, Janet Naranscik, Cathy Furlong and Olive Pickersgill, the commentator who wore a dusty mauve sheer dress with dropped blouson waistline and corded embroidery bodice. Jane Furlong, Susan Wavell, Kelly Davis, Kathy Durkee, Darlene Smith, Mary Lou Pickering, Christa Darling, Delores Moore, Wenda Smith, Julie DeWachter and Dawn Mounts modelled designs for Threads and Fashions.

A variety of fashions were featured including coats of suede and garbardine, accented with matching scarfs as accessories.

Dresses were shown with cowl necklines and waistlines formed by covered or contrasting belts. Details such as ruffled bodices, sheer materials, buttons on shoulders, pleats in skirts and a variety of sleeve lengths predominated.

Practical styles were seen in cotton and polyester blends, with horizontal stripes, plaids, stripe trim and polka dots. Cut away pockets, butterfly pleats and circular cuts created different styles of skirts.

Co-ordinates featured Paris Star and Kovack designs. Jackets, skirts and pants of both matching and contrasting materials were modelled featuring narrow lapels, slash pockets, belts and elastic waists, zippered fronts and pleats. Blazers were used in co-ordinating these outfits.

T-shirts, shorts and slacks were seen in textured fabrics, cotton and polyester and honeycomb weave material.

Bathing suits and cover-ups set the mood for upcoming summer days in the hot sun featuring colors of purple, magenta and royal blue.

Sleepwear comprised of coffee coats, house coats and matching nighties were highlighted with silk and eyelet embroidery, ruffles, gathers and ribbon trim.

A wide variety of fashion designs were offered to the audience providing ideas for almost any occasion or climate for the spring and summer seasons.

During intermission several draws were made by Evelyn Picknell and Anne Rachar assisted by Jodi Smith, Joni Ryerse, Heather and Lindsay Picknell for door prizes donated by area merchants and business people. Winners were Barbara Wilson, Joan Vandelande, Winnie McMullen, Donna Butler, Donna Dymont, Marci McMullen, Patricia Wetzner, Ila Howse, Betty Jean Davis, Julie DeWachter, Lorraine Wavell, Dorothy Neale, Violet Howse, Winnie Leach, June Ash, Edna Furlong, Maxine Doan, Mary Lou Pickering, Eleanor Briggs, Nellie Goossens, Gail DeWachter, Lorraine Vuylsteke, Marg Kramer, Cindy Davis, Chris Vincent, Hazel VandenBulck, RoseAnne Thompson, Yvonne Savoie, Peggy Adlington, Darlene Smith, Di Neumann, Doreen Mountain, Betty Oenema, Marilyn Brady, Timmi Brady, Lois Rachar, Wenda Smith, Muriel Kozuch and Cheryl Richardson.

Lunch, convened by Evelyn Picknell, was served with varieties of fruit breads, tea and coffee. During the evening tickets were sold by the St. John's Sunday school for a spring afghan to be drawn early in June. Tickets are still available from any member of the Sunday school, being 50c each or 3 for \$1.

### ACW supper

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the St. John's Anglican Church Women, held at the home of Wenda Smith, focused on business and upcoming events for the organization.

President Cathy Furlong read a thank you letter from St. Monica House for the boxes sent. Plans were made for the upcoming A.C.W. Turkey Supper to be held Sunday, April 28, at settings of 4:30, 5:30 and 6:30 p.m., adults \$6, children \$3 and pre-schoolers, free. It was decided to hold a Rummage Sale, Saturday, June 1 at the church, with details to be decided later.

The next meeting will be held at the Parish Hall, Thursday, April 18.

Many thanks goes to Roger Robinson, Jim Durkee, Peter Pickersgill and Randy Mudge for preparations in the hall.

A very successful evening, everyone left with the spirit of spring and many new fashion ideas to put to use.

# Birthday celebrated by Rebekah lodge

OTTERVILLE (C) — Monday evening, March 18, marked the 39th birthday party of the Violet Rebekah Lodge with Myrtle Rebekah Lodge performing the opening ceremonies. Violet Lodge officers took their chairs with N.G. June Ash and V.G. Ann Arthur in their respective chairs. Sister Olive Pickersgill, P.N.G., introduced Sister Mabel Mabee, P.P., R.A., who was seated on the right of the Noble Grand.

Thirty-four visitors were present from Myrtle, Avalon, Fidelity, Arkess and Vigilant Lodges, a guest from Nanaimo Lodge, Calgary, as well as 21 Violet Sisters present making 54 present in all.

Sister Mabel Mabee, P.P.R.A., spoke briefly about the installation of the lodge 39 years ago and asked the visitors to sing "Happy Birthday" to Violet's members. N.G. or representatives of the lodges present spoke briefly expressing best wishes and thanking the lodge for the invitation.

The visiting committee reported that Sister Ann Arthur's granddaughter was recovering from surgery and Brother Ab Byer's brother had passed away.

Correspondence involved a letter from D.D.P. Bernice Pettman advising her proposed April visits, Violet Lodge April 15 and District Meeting April 9, 2:30 p.m. in I.O.O.F. Hall, Tillsburg. An invitation was read from Myrtle Lodge to members and friends to a salad euchre April 17.

A reminder was given from the Good Friday Rally Committee to be held April 5, of the attendance of the L.S.N.G. or

representative to participate in the opening and closing exercises.

An invitation was read from Fidelity Lodge inviting Violet members to their 53rd birthday party April 22.

A letter from R.A. on Ontario reminded the members to elect their representative to the R.A. of Ontario. Sessions to be held June 17, 18 and 19. Also a representative is to be elected to the district association. The Odd Fellow Rebekah Rally committee spent the date of their rally as Saturday, April 20 at Prescott.

Sister Srudwick thanked the lodge for the letter of sympathy in the passing of her brother and Winnie McMullen thanked for the card sent to her sister Myrtle Riste.

Sister Jean McClintock reported of a request from Sister Ruby Glover, secretary of the Heart Equipment Fund, for help and donation of pies for the ploughing match at Talbotville Sept. 14-15. It was agreed to send six people and 45 pies.

Birthday greetings were sung to Sisters Margaret Kitchen, Ann Arthur, June Ash and Brother Carl Howse.

Lodge closed in regular form after which Sister Jean McClintock introduced Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fisher, Delhi, who showed pictures of China where they had taught for two years. Following Mrs. McClintock expressing thanks.

Sandwiches and birthday cake made by Sister Olive Pickersgill were served downstairs to bring an enjoyable evening to a close.

# Beef supper planned by Otterville UCW

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Otterville United Church Women's meeting opened with President Betty Walther offering prayer. The convener Jean Gehring, introduced the guest speaker Lori Barnum, who thanked the committee for the courage presented to her and gave a very interesting talk on the Toc-Alpha conference she had attended at Christmas time.

She encouraged the members to tell anyone ages 14-21 about the conference at Woodstock April 12, 13 and 14. Gail Lewis thanked Lori for her inspiring talk.

Freda Arthur gave a reading "Every Day I Will Bless Thee" and "Praise Thy Name For Ever and Ever." Jean Little presided at the piano for the hymns "Beneath The Cross Of Jesus" and "In The Cross Of Christ I Glory." Betty Arthur read the scripture and offered prayer.

Offering was received by Gail Lewis. Freda Arthur gave a reading The Paradox of The Cross followed by prayer.

During the business portion Marion

Taylor, the good cheer convener, reported sending a get well card to Laura Pettigrew and gave a synopsis of a thank you letter she had received from Dr. Graham Homes.

The corresponding secretary, Edith Petch, read thank you notes from Oxford Presbytery Camp Committee for the donation to Camp Bimini and from Thomas Crosby for the box of books.

The members were reminded of the Community Choir singing in the church Good Friday at 7 p.m. and the Easter Sun Rise service at the home of Les and Bertha Gehring at 6:30. It will be followed by breakfast at the church and the regular church service at 11:55 p.m.

The Beef Supper will be held April 17, with tickets available from Vicki Walther who also asked for an old record player, if available, from anyone would be most appreciated at the library for Story Hour.

Elsie McSpadden reminded the members of the Thank-Offering meeting Thursday, April 18, with the Springford U.C.W., Norwich U.C.W., Otterville A.C.W. and Baptist ladies and Catholic friends as guests.

Birthday greetings were sung to Evelyn Waring, a social time was enjoyed and the meeting closed with "Bless Be The Tie That Binds."

# 23 children attend Lions family night

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the Legion Hall, Norwich, on Monday evening, March 11. Lion President Jack Walther presided.

This was the annual Lions' Family Night with Lions' children, grandchildren, friends and relatives as special guests. There were 23 children in attendance, three visiting Lions from the Townsend Club, two attending clowns and 21 members.

There were draws for door prizes for the visiting children only. Winners were Teresa Cornwell, Kathy Gilmore, Pam Walther, Steven Cornwell, Adam Cornwell and Adam Bickle.

The next regular meeting will be held at the Otterville Community Hall, Monday evening, March 25. This will be a fish-fry and Lions' wives and friends are invited. This will be a trial in frying fish prior to the annual fish-fry to be held in the

Community Centre, Norwich, April 6.

Lion Paul Wood reported on the club's annual ladies' night held at Flamboro Downs racetrack which included dinner at the track. Forty-two attended.

The clowns in attendance were from the Woodstock Shrine Club. Lion Mark Gilmore expressed the thanks of the club.

On official visitations were Lions Paul Wood, Rick McKim, and Jim McLaren with zone chairman Colin Cope in Waterford, April 5.

Lion Lou Ferraro reported that Lions Don Miller, Howard Fleming visited the Six Nations Club with Lion Colin, February 25.

Lion President Jack thanked the local Lions' wives for serving the meal.

Vice-President Bill MacKenzie of the Townsend Lions Club spoke briefly to the meeting.

Lions Murray Cornwell and Murray Downing were convention prize winners.

# Paul Wood elected Lions club president

The regular meeting of Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held Monday, March 25, at the Community Hall, Otterville. A good turnout of Lion members and wives. As well, there were Lions and their wives visiting from Dereham District Courtland, and Simcoe.

This was an experimental event to allow our members to get experienced in cooking fish on a large scale. The experiment was successful, and a delicious meal of deep fried trout was enjoyed by all.

Lion John Daniels, District Governor, was guest speaker. His subject was Lions membership, and what should be done to retain more members, especially in the one to three year group, where turnover is unacceptably high.

Lion Chief Jack Walther presented Lion John with a \$25 cheque to be donated to the charity of his choice.

A slide presentation was given by Mrs. Betty Walther, the subject - alcohol and

drug abuse. The statistics provided give cause for concern about the amount of drugs used and the results. The slides are available for any group wishing to use them.

Lion Les Dickson presented the proposed slate of officers for the 1985-86 year.

The following list of officers were accepted and will be installed at the final meeting in June. They are: past president, Jack Walther; president, Paul Wood; first vice-president, Gary Walther; second vice-president, Murray Cornwell; third vice-president, Tony Drescher; secretary, Jim Poole and treasurer, Rick McKim.

The new directors are Mark Gilmore, Dick Harrison, John Leitch and Harold Kirktown.

The new tail twister is Bob Scott who will be assisted by Brian Parr.

Elected to other offices were: Lion tamer, Harold Kirktown, assistant Lion tamer, Les Dickson and bulletin editor, Fred Thompson.



# Saf-t-wing new for young cyclists

OTTERVILLE — The 1985 Bike Safety Week Program will take on a new dimension when the Spring-Otter Optimist Club joins in an international campaign to save lives of young cyclists everywhere.

In addition to the educational program and bicycle rodeo scheduled for May 18, for the first time in Canada, the optimist club shall be offering a new product "the SAF-T-WING". "This highly regarded reflector is a must for young cyclists," said Leon Poirier, Bicycle Safety Week co-ordinator, "and its usage could be an integral

part of reducing the unhappily high number of bicycle injuries and fatalities each year."

The SAF-T-WING is designed for use on all bicycles and adds a new dimension to the safety of the cyclist, by its extension away from the bicycle frame, providing a much larger visual recognition area for motorists.

"The life and well being of even one child is important," added Mr. Poirier, "but the widespread distribution and usage of the saf-t-wing would result in a sizable reduction in fatalities and injuries."

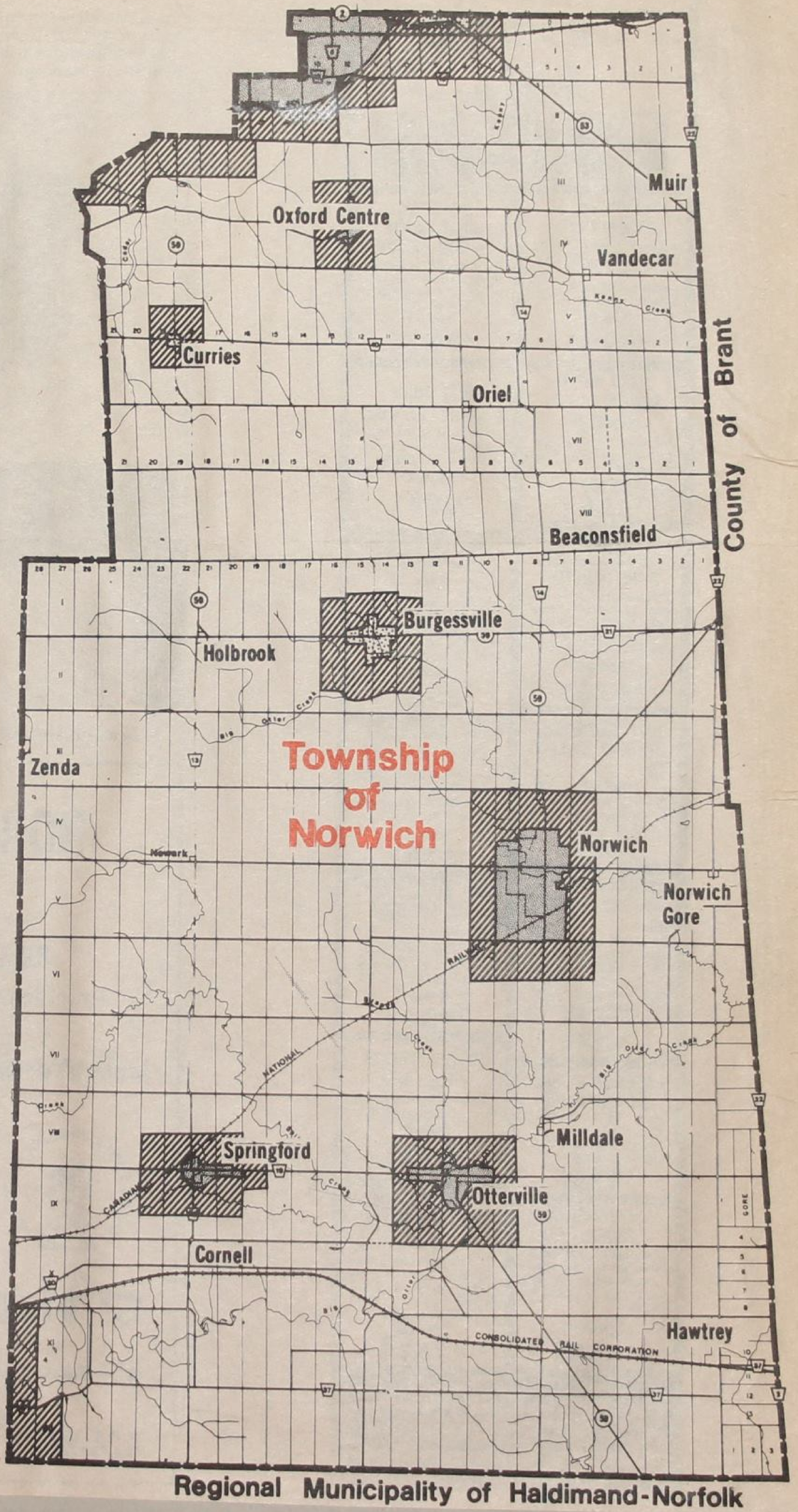
The saf-t-wings shall be distributed through the public schools in Delhi, Otterville, Norwich and Burgessville at a cost of \$5.00 each. Mr. Poirier stressed that this particular project is not designed as a fund raiser for the Optimist Club. However, a small profit margin is incorporated into the price of the reflectors, which shall remain with the schools distributing them.

"This way we offer an important safety device to our young cyclists, while simultaneously providing a fund raising project for sports groups, etc. in the local school," said Mr. Poirier.

The Spring-Otter Optimist Club is encouraging parents to make this small, yet well worthwhile investment in the safety of their children. Bicycle Safety Week runs from May 13 through 18, and winds up with a bicycle rodeo in both Otterville and Delhi.

At each of these rodeos, a free draw shall be made to award a new bicycle to some lucky participant.

- Cornell
- Curries
- Hawtrey
- Milldale
- Muir
- Oriel
- Oxford Centre
- Summerville
- Vandecar
- Zenda



Regional Municipality of Haldimand-Norfolk

# AT THE CROSSROADS

## Summerville As beautiful as a summer's day

Miss Carrie Robertson, a school teacher, thought Sherwood Settlement such a beautiful place she called it Summerville, and the name stuck.

Summerville, a mile east and two miles south of Otterville on Highway 59, is not sign posted. But its name does appear on detailed road maps. Really, the only visible testimony to the hamlet is the Summerville Cemetery, neatly groomed and preserved by the Women's Institute.

Muriel Gehring, a charter member of the WI and curator of the Institute's Tweedsmuir history of Summerville says the other structure still exists from the village's past — the old school house. But its fate is not a glorious one. It is ending its years as a storage bin for corn on a farm nearby.

One of the first prominent settlers to Summerville was Rev. Robert Addison who wrote glowing letters to his family back in England of the "wild plums and apples and the sugar that comes from trees."

In May 1831, his nephew Robert and his wife Agnes came to Summerville to settle. They cleared the land according to accounts, with an axe and "a piece of a saw." They spent their first winter with friends in Niagara returning in the spring to break the land and plant their first crop — potatoes.

George Singer was like a number of settlers who moved to the area to reap the

benefits of the plentiful stands of white pine. He used to send his logs down the Otter Creek to Spencer's Mill.

In later years, much of the wood harvested around Summerville was stacked along the tracks of the Canada Southern Railway and used to fuel the locomotives.

According to Mrs. Gehring, the boom years for Summerville were between 1850 and 1920, when the village boasted a cheese factory, a blacksmith shop, a Methodist Church and a hotel.

The first school was built in 1870. It was a small wooden structure that burned down a few years later. A second one was constructed in 1873 and had its first class two weeks before Christmas. It had double seats and two stoves to heat it.

In 1910 Summerville was granted a Post Office, but it could not keep its name since there already was a Summerville near Toronto. For mailing purposes, the village became known as Hussey, named after the first Postmaster Charles Hussey.

According to Mrs. Gehring, Mr. Hussey received a supply of stamps valued at \$6.40, sufficient for the post office's first two months of operation.

The mail was transported by train. When the mail train came through Summerville it never stopped, just slowed down so the conductor could toss the mail bag to Mr. Hussey, and Mr. Hussey could toss the outgoing mail to the conductor.

The system worked very well until 1913 when the Post Office was closed and rural mail delivery initiated.

Summerville still might have prospered, suspects Mrs. Gehring, if the town of Otterville had not been so close, attracting the new settlers within its boundaries.



Summerville Cemetery

## Milldale

# One time mill town

By KERRY POND

Driving down Highway 59 through Milldale, looking at the swamp land and the very quiet homes, it is almost impossible to believe that this tiny village was at one time a very prosperous milling community.

Newtown, as Milldale was first named, was a very important location for many different varieties of mills and businesses.

William Potter Barker, known as the founder of Newtown was responsible for opening one of the best general stores in the area around the year 1830.

Barker had been working in mills since age 11 with his father and in 1838 he followed his father's footsteps and bought 100 acres of land from Michael Stover where he erected a saw mill, grist mill and a fulling mill.

The town was very grateful for the dense forest of pine which was noted as a forest of very high quality by a surveyor. Therefore it was only logical that this be an ideal place for Barkers Mills.

Newtown was also the perfect location for James Norris' "Bachelor's Hall."

Being directly on the road going north to Norwichville and south to Otterville it made the ideal resting spot for tired travellers.

Stover was another respected name in the village.

Although they were not the founders of Newtown they would have had to have been considered one of the earliest settling families in the community, arriving in about the year 1811.

Among the Barkers and Stovers many other history making family names were



Students of Milldale School, 1940

represented in Milldale as well. The Bowermans, John Tidey, Thomas Wright's family, and the Dodges just to mention a few.

James Barker's son, Lewellys, was one of the town's more famous sons, as he became a well-known physician and head of the Department of Medicine at John Hopkins University in Baltimore.

Thomas Wright, as mentioned, was also a very prominent figure in society.

Wright was a mechanic and an inventor. In 1871 he manufactured the "New Dominion Spinning Wheels," which was patented.

By now Milldale had grown substantially and due to this a meeting house was badly needed, so William Barker proceeded to clear out his store and sell all of the stock.

This was now regarded as the meeting house.

Now in 1876, the size of the meeting had also grown to be too large for the store and subsequently a new site was being searched for.

On the former site of Norris' Tavern, Barker built the "Milldale Meeting House," and the name has been used ever since.

When the "Milldale Preparative Meeting of the Society of Friends" was formally established in 1877, Barker sold the land to the society's trustees two years later for \$1.00.

In 1873 the saw and grist mills were doing exceptionally well. The saw mill had a capacity of over one million feet of timber per year and the grist mill was grinding close to 200 bushels per day. Bowman Bros. took the Milldale Mills over and renamed them "Eureka Mills."

By 1880 the Milldale sawmill had stopped

production, probably caused by the lack of prime timber in the area now.

In the two final decades of the 19th century Milldale saw the death of many of its leading citizens including Mr. and Mrs. Wright and Mr. and Mrs. Barker.

Now the town was basically agricultural. Mills were shutting down left and right. The community's strongpoint had fallen and the opportunities were extremely limited and agriculture seemed to be the only way of earning a living.

Even the social life of Milldale decreased drastically. In 1917 the meeting house was advertised for sale or rental after the membership had fallen to be less than 15.

Although in 1922 the Milldale band was formed.

Among the members were Levi McNaughton, Lou Deer, Amos Bowerman, Johnny Wade, Cecil Uren and many others.

Such instruments as the kettle drum, harmonica and accordion were used in the hometown band.

After a few years many of the members lost interest. The band finally came to a complete end when a bunch of pranksters posted a sign on McNaughton's mailbox that read "Woodpecker Bandmaster."

Although Levi McNaughton was no longer in the band he had another interest.

He had raised bees for many years and literally kept the neighborhood in honey.

Everyone always had a supply of honey after visiting with Mr. McNaughton.

In 1928 Mr. Henry Ash moved to Milldale.

(Continued on Page 8)

## Only stories remain

(Continued from Page 5)

At this time there were six mills, the Milldale school and one church.

Today these are no longer present.

Through the time of "Newtown" its people have seen seven mills, one school, church, three stores and one foundry.

All of this has covered almost 1,700 acres of land.

Today 20 houses stand in the tiny community. There are no mills, no school, no church and no stores.

Once a thriving community making history daily now all that there is left are many fascinating stories about the town and its people that will educate you not only factually but socially on one of the small communities of South Norwich.

## Cornell

# Series of misfortunes spelt end for village

Little is left of Cornell, once a thriving community hewn out of the white pine wilderness of South Norwich almost 180 years ago. Even the white pine has all but disappeared.

The tall stands of white pine were the main reasons why the village became something of a boom town in the mid-1800s. Between 1850 and 1860 there were no less than 20 steam and 14 water mills sawing out fine pine lumber.

But as the supply of wood diminished, so did Cornell. The only thing that has not diminished is the community spirit of the village focusing now around its community centre and held together by the local Women's Institute.

While not a Cornell native, Marie Hicks has spent the better part of her life in the community to which she moved with her family just before she married Cornell native Mack Hicks.

A member of the Cornell Women's Institute, she recalls the history of Cornell

from the pages of the Institute's Tweedsmuir history of Cornell.

Cornell was originally known as Farmerville, but later became Cornellville with the arrival of John and Samuel Cornell from New Jersey about 1850.

The two merchants laid out part of Lot 15 on the 10th Concession into village lots, calling their venture Cornell. Their arrival brought commercial development into the area as they built a store, warehouse and meat packing house on the northwest corner of the main intersection.

According to Mrs. Hicks, Cornell was the central grain, egg and pork market for the country side for miles around. The activities of the Cornell brothers inspired others to set up shop in the community. Soon there were two churches, a blacksmith shop, a carriage maker, a shoemaker, a school and two hotels.

The construction of the Canadian Southern Railroad through the village in 1872 helped further the boom.

In 1870 the population of Cornell numbered 100 and at one time people thought this bustling community might actually match Tillsonburg.

"But now Cornell is nothing like it used to be," says Mrs. Hicks. In its heyday the village stretched out for two and a half miles, she added.

The first school in the community was a log structure with a dirt floor. It was built in 1844 but was soon replaced with a frame structure in 1851. Thirteen years later another more improved structure was built.

About 120 students attended the school during the winter, but as the population of the community declined, so did enrollment. The school was closed in 1947 and students were bused to Otterville.

Even the churches found it difficult to cope with declining congregations. Today, neither the Baptist nor the Messiah Church is operating. The Messiah Church along with the Hicks Hotel were eventually moved to Tillsonburg, taking on other uses.

As the timber supplies in the area were exhausted, saw mills shut down or moved away. Even the railway station, closed during the 1920s and trains no longer stopped in Cornell which had long since lost the majority of its businesses.

With the commerce of the community reeling, Cornell was dealt "a fickle blow" with a series of misfortunes, says Mrs. Hicks.

After the death of John Cornell, arguably the better businessman of the two brothers, the family enterprises did not run smoothly. And the store, which also served as a bank was robbed in 1868 of about \$30,000. Several years later in 1871, the store, warehouse and pork factory burned down.

A general store continued to operate for many years afterward under different ownerships, but it too closed its doors in 1965.

"We missed the store terribly," recalled Mrs. Hicks, "but now we're used to going to the big shopping centres."

Only the one-room school house, now used as a community hall, is the only remnant of the early Cornell. And it is the community hall now, says Mrs. Hicks, "that keeps us all together."



**Cornell Community Hall**

## Rock's Mills

# The only water-powered mill left on Otter Creek

There's still a mill at Rock's Mills. It's the only water-powered mill left on the Otter Creek, and one of only a few left in the entire province.

The mill, once owned by the Rock family, is now owned by the Long Point Conservation Authority, and leased to Russ and Barry Noels of Springfield, who carry on the business.

There are few reminders to suggest the mill was once the centre of a thriving little farm community, with its own general store, church, blacksmith shop and post office.

Gilbert Stover built the first saw and grist mills on Lot 21, Concession 11 in the early 1800s. There's some uncertainty about when a mill was established on the property, but Mrs. Aletha Stover, an area resident who has researched the history of the Stover family, believes the mill was built about 1820.

Along with his two brothers, Gilbert cleared a stand of white pine along the Otter Creek, using the lumber to build the houses still standing on the east and west

sides of the gravel road running through Rock's Mills.

In 1857 Adam Spencer purchased most of the property from Gilbert Stover. The Spencers continued to operate the saw and grist mill, and also installed a ground flour mill. About this time the community became known as Spencerville. According to the 1861 census, Spencer was assessed as owning two water-powered mills valued at \$8,000. He employed five men at a monthly wage of \$18.

In 1869 Mr. Spencer sold part of his holdings -- the site of the present Clarence Swance home, on the road north of the mill -- to the Society of Friends, and built a Quaker meeting house there. But doctrinal disputes eventually split the community into two factions, and by 1890 they were discontinued. The old church was eventually sold for use as a granary on the John Brumpton farm on the New Road.

The country store was run by Spencer's only daughter, Phoebe, until about the turn of the century. Phoebe's granddaughter, the late Ida Cattel, worked in the store as a young girl. Phoebe Spencer's husband, William Wilkinson, operated a blacksmith shop in a metal-clad garage near the house. Possibly the same garage standing on the site today.

John Rock began working at the mill during the 1870s. After marrying the widowed Phoebe Spencer Wilkinson, he eventually assumed ownership of the mill.

The mill underwent major renovations in the early years of the century. In 1909 a flood destroyed the wooden dam which had just recently been replaced following a previous flood in 1892. A modern concrete dam was built to replace it.

The new dam was the only one on the Otter Creek to withstand the 1937 flood, which destroyed the Lake Joseph dam in Tillsonburg. But a tragedy of another sort

struck that year as fire destroyed the mill.

The little community had its own post office for a brief time in the late 1800s.

The store, post office, blacksmith shop and church are all gone now, but the mill itself grinds on -- more than 160 years after the first mill on the site was built.

## Hawtreys

# Checkers at the general store

They no longer play checkers at Beck's General Store in Hawtreys.

"My uncle would play all night sitting around on top of old pop cases," recalls Muriel Gehring, whose uncle, the Hawtreys station agent, would sit with his friends to all hours of the night playing checkers in the century-old brick store.

The store is closed now. Its windows boarded up to keep vandals out.

When the general store closed its doors in the early 1970s, the tiny crossroads community lost a community centre as well as a place to buy bread and milk.

Hawtreys, located near the Oxford-Norfolk county borders, is now pretty much a ghost town, although the store, a gospel hall and school still stand.

The store, designated an historical site by the Ontario Heritage Foundation, is slowly being renovated by descendants of the Beck's.

George Southwick was the first postmaster between 1868 and 1881 when the mail was delivered by stage. The Post

Office closed in 1914 with the introduction of rural mail delivery.

In its heyday, said Mrs. Gehring, there were a number of hotels, livery stables, two blacksmith shops and a carriage maker.

The little community also boasted two railway stations and two lumber mills.



Springford Baptist Church

## Springford

# The first apple orchards in Norwich

By KERRY POND

According to several history books the name Joseph Spitler keeps popping up as the earliest known settler in the community of Springford and from his name Spitler Creek was named.

Another early settler in the beginning of the 1800's was John Phillips.

He and his sons are said to have had the first apple orchard in the township from which one lonely tree survived for 150 years.

The first settlers on the land, known as the northwest corner of the village, were United Empire Loyalists.

After the American Revolution some of these loyalists were said to have moved to Nova Scotia and from there to Upper Canada a place now called the township of South Norwich or Springford.

Around the time of the 1830's the pioneers of the village would have had to have been self-supporting since there were no local businesses or industries to fulfill their needs.

In 1847 however, a man by the name of Peter Burger bought two acres of land on main street.

(Continued on Page 10)

# Timber the business to be in in 1860

(Continued from Page 9)

Somewhere on this narrow strip of land he owned and operated the first blacksmith shop in Springford.

By 1857 Springford was a booming village, accumulating industries and businesses all the time.

General stores, a post office, a school, wagon shop and a shoemaker just to name a few.

Heading into the 1860's timber seemed to be the business to be in.

As roads were being built they made it simpler for lumber to be transported to the places it could be sold at.

Drawing to a close of the 19th century, business was booming for everyone.

When the railway of Brantford, Norwich and Port Burwell was completed through Springford in 1875 it was regarded as a substantial benefit to the entire community.

It was used to ship lumber, brick and tile, cheese and cream.

This was a very prosperous time for Springford as a third store was opened and all of the other businesses seemed to be doing considerably well.

However, right before the turn of the century, many of the businesses had folded or were declining slowly.

By 1893 the Jenvey brick and tile yard was closed.

Many of the services offered in town could be had at a much cheaper price from the factories in the cities when they were shipped in by train.

Although despite this reality many businesses continued to prosper as things they had to offer were needed right then and couldn't wait for shipment.

Such businesses were the cheese factory and the blacksmith.

By the time of the 1906 Oxford County Directory the list of business was very short.

There were two general stores, a painter, cheesemaker, harnessmaker and a blacksmith.

During the time of Springford's incline in business and even still today, the changing of hands of the storeowners and postmasters seemed never-ending.

Since its opening in 1852 there have been 14 store owners for the General Store on the south side of Main St.

William Mowat who had owned the store for 37 years sold the store in July, 1984, to its present owners Mr. and Mrs. Friesen.

In the year of the opening of the store (1852), Springbrook, as it was originally called, was allotted its first post office.

It was at this time that Springford was given its present name due to the fact that there had already been a post office in Upper Canada with the name of Springbrook.

To date (1982) 15 postmasters have held the title.

Springford was also noted for having a three manned water commissioned water system built in 1924, three hotels with names "Exchange Hotel" owned by D.W. Oatman, "Traveller's Home" owned by J. Rice, and "Reavely House" owned by W.H. Reavely.

Springford was recognized as well for its hall and a United Church, which later became a Methodist Church.

When church union came about in 1925 and the Methodists, Presbyterians and Congregationalists united to become one church, the church was named a United Church of Canada.

Exactly a decade ago marked the 50th anniversary for the United Church of Canada establishment. In this honor several renovations were made including a new floor, water heater, panelled walls and electrical wiring was completely replaced throughout the building.

The most recent change for the church has been the changing of the solid wood doors in the front to bright clear glass doors.

According to history books of South Norwich Township, 21 Reverends have had their sermons heard by the Springford community.

## Vandecar

Vandecar, like Oxford Centre, is located on the Old Stage Road, a road rich in history from its origins as an Indian trail to its use as a military road during the War of 1812.

Vandecar, now however, says local historian Ken Peers, "is hardly a wide spot in the road now."

Vandecar was named after the Vandecar family, the first settlers of note. Seymour Sage established the first registered subdivision in East Oxford in 1857 which he called Sageville. It was at the corner of the Old Stage Road and the Vandecar Sideroad.

A Wesleyan Methodist Church was built in 1856 and used until 1900 when it was sold to E.M. Sage.

The Post Office was established in 1836, but was closed in 1913 with the advent of rural mail delivery.

About 1862, Vandecar boasted a mill, a blacksmith, a plasterer, a carpenter, a mason, a weaver, a teacher and a physician. There was also a match factory.

## Muir

# Named after contractor

Muir was formerly known as Trimble's Corners in the early 1800s. It was located on the Plank Road between Eastwood and Brantford, presently Highway 53.

The present name comes from the name of the contractor who helped build the road, Robert Muir.

Prominent families of the area were: the Bennetts, the Muirs, the Hutchisons, the Campbells, the Mightons, the Virtues, Summervilles and the Richardsons among others.

The first church was built in 1862 for \$600. It was rebuilt in 1910.

The only major industry was the Diamond Cheese Factory which was built about 1880. The first cheese makers in the area were Joe Copeland and Wes Kent. Cheese in those days sold for about eight and one-half cents per pound.

The first blacksmith was Jessie Richardson, but he was bought out by an ambitious fellow by the name of Robert Thompson, who not only operated the blacksmith hearth but took on the postmaster's duties and tended the general store.

## Oxford Centre

# The seat of government for more than a century

Oxford Centre was once merely an open spot in the woods when the first settlers, Sam and Lucy Canfield, arrived in 1793.

The village was founded on an Indian trail later to become the Stage Road, the first road built in the township.

Oxford Centre had its first mild growing pains prior to the War of 1812, when Governor John Graves Simcoe, some soldiers

and 100 Indians widened the trail in preparation for the war.

During the war the village was marched past by advancing and retreating armies of both the American and British sides.

The village began to "sprout" shortly after the end of the conflict, says Ken Peers, who wrote a history of East Oxford Township as a Centennial project in 1967.

## Curries

# Zion, now just Curries

It was once called Zion, but with the building of the Port Dover-Lake Huron Railroad it soon became known as Curries Crossing. Many years later it would become known simply as Curries.

Located in the former township of East Oxford, at the junction of Highway 59 and concessions five, six and seven, the hamlet is essentially an agricultural community.

The first settlers arrived in 1789, but the real history of Curries really didn't begin until the early 1800s.

Prominent names in the early history of the settlement were Herman Dodge, John Rice, Edward Rinch, George Start, James Innis, Malcolm Schell, W.D. Smith and Robert Gracey among others.

Robert Gracey's great-great-grandson, Garfield Gracey still lives near the original Gracey homestead. Some of the other descendants from the original settlers still residing in the area are the Earl Edwards family, the Ralph Abbey family and the Peter Fiddy family.

After clearing the land, building their homes and establishing their livelihoods in the Ontario wilderness, the new citizens turned their attention to building a church.

In 1855 the Wesleyan Methodist Church was built on a tract of land purchased from John and David Watt. It was later torn down and a new one built on the site in 1891.

Across from the church was a blacksmith and carriage shop as well as a grocery store, all operated by W.D. Smith. In addition to his various entrepreneurial endeavors, Mr. Smith was also the village's first postmaster.

Mail would come in by rail, thus establishing rural mail delivery. The first mail deliveryman was Alfred Rice who had a special horsedrawn carriage built to withstand the sleet, snow and rain postmen are known for getting themselves into.

When the railroad was closed in 1936, Curries Crossing became Curries, the name it still holds today.

The first school was a whitewashed, frame structure built in 1846. A second school was built in 1892 to replace the old one for \$2,100. It was regarded at the time as the most modern one room school in the county because of its anterooms, enlarged playgrounds and spacious basement.

## Oriel

During the 1880s Oriel boasted two well attended churches.

They were the Episcopal Methodist which held service in the white frame church house, and the Wesleyan Methodist, which held services in a white brick building on the northwest corner of the main town corner.

The two congregations later amalgamated holding services in the brick church house.

When the population started to drift away from the area, the brick church was sold. This took place in May of 1943.

Thomas Clement operated a store in Oriel in the 1870s and he was also the postmaster. A man by the name of Mr.

Summerville later bought the store and operated the Post Office until 1909 when the post office closed.

The only business of note in Oriel was a blacksmith shop where carriages and wagons were also built.

The old school was purchased by W.D. Smith and moved to his property adjacent to the church where it was placed on the stone walls of his blacksmith shop allowing a second storey for the building.

The first industry into the village was an evaporator and processing plant built to dry turnips and later apples. Cheese factories soon followed.

While farming always remained the most popular means of livelihood, one farmer, Herman Dodge, attempted to run a farm on an "estate scale."

However, the cost of the buildings, the huge house and the carriage house was so expensive, he was forced to sell to an aristocratic family by the name of Pickthall.

While the local farmers were milking the cows and fattening their pigs, the new owners were out and about riding to the hounds and sipping mint juleps in the summer sun.

One of the more noteworthy farmers today is G.R. Row, owner of the internationally renowned herd of "Rowsdale" Holsteins.

Today the church and community hall (a building purchased in 1891 by the Ancient Order of United Workmen) are the social focal point of Curries.

The Oxford Centre cash cropper says "it's hard to say whether one could say the village actually really ever thrived. "It never had a railroad and it never had a mill." Both basic ingredients in those days to a town having any sort of chance of really taking off.

There were several small businesses however. There was a general store, a carriage maker and a blacksmith. The population, said Mr. Peers, probably did not surpass 75 people, "pretty much the same as it is today."

Stage coaches began travelling through the village carrying mail in the 1820s.

While Oxford Centre remained relatively small, it nonetheless was chosen as the seat of government for East Oxford. The town hall was built in 1850 and was the home of the council until the township was reshaped in 1973. The village is now a part of Norwich Township with meetings held in Otterville.

## Zenda

# Home of famous flowers

Believing its tiny size, the little community of Zenda was once the most famous place in Oxford County.

Its name was known across the length and breadth of the country for its renowned garden parties of the 1920s.

The village, located on the township line between Norwich and S.W. Oxford, was named Zenda by the first postmaster Charles Branbury. The postmaster, had a passion for the Anthony Hope novel "The Prisoner of Zenda," a popular best seller of the time, and named the community after the fictional place.

In fact in 1937, the citizens of Zenda were given a trip to New York to see the premiere film of the same name.

The first settler was a Mr. Gibbs, a man of considerable means. He purchased land between Zenda and Mount Elgin where he built a log mansion.

He spent the summers in Canada and the falls and winters in his native England. Eventually he chose to remain in England

(Continued from Page 3)

ed them in transparent rubber-coated paper without benefit of cheese cloth. This process eliminated mould and the necessity of a rind. The company was the first in Ontario to use the new process and was also one and a half years ahead of the United States in introducing the method.

The Zenda Cheese factory was established in 1885 by Ezra Bates. It was a large frame building with a cement chimney and believed to be one of the largest plants of its time.

A few years later, the client farmers formed a joint stock company and bought the factory from Mr. Bayes. In its first year the factory produced 183 tons of cheese.

The first church, the Salem Methodist Church, a white brick building painted red, was constructed about 1870. It was a small one-storey structure that is now the Foresters Hall.

A new church was built in 1901. In less than a month \$2,675 was raised to finance its construction. The church, however, was not blessed with the best of luck. In Sept. 1912 a cyclone hit between Sunday school and the regular church service levelling the horse shed and blowing out the church windows and part of the roof. Fortunately no one was seriously injured.

Around 1900 a community hall was built as were two churches, an Anglican and a Methodist. For many years the community hall was the only public hall in East Oxford Township.

However, tragically in 1979 the hall, the churches and the general store were either destroyed or severely damaged by a tornado.

The tornado was a sort of historical punctuation mark in the relatively easy history of Oxford Centre. According to Mr. Peers, the tornado only left three homes relatively unscathed. The Methodist Church was salvaged losing its roof to the winds but leaving the four walls standing.

The Anglican Church and the community hall were rebuilt, hopefully to stand at least a couple hundred years more.

and his land and property fell into the hands of squatters.

In 1857 the first school was built on the third concession on the Arthur Smith farm. A second school was built in 1873.

Near the end of the 1800s lumbering gave way to farming and cheese making. Two cheese factories of note were the Lawson Cheese Factory and the Zenda Cheese Factory.

Jimmie Lawson operated the Lawson factory beginning in the late 1800s. It was originally located on top of a steep hill, but Mr. Lawson chose to move since many farmers complained about having to climb the hill.

In 1899 the factory burned, but was rebuilt and back in operation by April 1900. The factory changed hands several times before 1952 when it was purchased by the New Lawson Dairy Products.

New Lawson Dairy Products pressed its cheese into 20 and 60 pound cubes and seal-

(Continued on Page 6)

In 1970 a fire gutted the church. Only a commemorative plaque remains to mark where the church used to stand.

The first store, owned by a Mr. Perry, was opened across from the church. The store owner would haul groceries throughout the countryside delivering them and often taking farm produce as payment.

In exchange for the eggs, the farmers would accept aluminum money to be used as barter money during the winter months. When the hens quit laying and the cows weren't milking they would use the money as legal tender at the store.

The first garden party in Zenda was held in 1912. The Canadian Order of Foresters decided to hold it on the farm of Jeremiah Hughes whose farm was three farms west of the church. It took the form of a supper followed by entertainment. The gate receipts of the first party totalled \$70.

Everyone who was anyone came to the party in coach and buggy. The event was eventually moved to the COF park. The party was held annually for more than 25 years. At times attendance reached 5,000. But with the changing times the crowds dwindled.

Those garden parties of the gay '20s are only fond vague memories for Zenda now.



# The house the Admiral built

The character of Eastwood has changed drastically in the 150 years since the little village was founded by Admiral Vansittart more than 150 years ago.



Eastwood United Church

Present day Eastwood is a huddle of truck stops and service stations along a four lane highway, nothing at all like the quiet little community nestled on "The Plank Road" which ran between Hamilton and London.

Today all that is really left of the early settlement is the name itself, says Jean Porter, who has lived in Eastwood all but six weeks, of her life.

Something of a local historian, Mrs. Porter has herself seen the community alter over the last 75 years.

The old core area centering around the Post Office and the general store are gone, and the only active commercial operations left are those connected to the service of motor traffic.

According to Mrs. Porter, Eastwood was named for Admiral Vansittart's sister, a Mrs. East. However, some say the name was sort of an acronym for "east of Woodstock."

The Admiral's first home, built on a 100 acre lot just north of Eastwood, was a compound of several log buildings housing his family and servants. A 40 room brick mansion which still stands today was constructed soon afterwards.

The Admiral's business endeavors concerned both a saw mill and flour mill. Most of the lumber produced in his mill went to build a corduroy road between Hamilton and Eastwood.

With the popularity of the road, the soft pine logs eventually disintegrated and had to be replaced with stone. The "Plank Road" then became known as The Stone Road, a name used until the Department of Highways took it over and designated it Highway 53.

(Continued on Page 3)

(Continued from Page 2)

The Plank Road served Eastwood well drawing traffic and commerce into the village. In time the Great Western Railway saw fit to run a line through Eastwood, doing so in 1853.

With the establishment of the railroad many more businesses were drawn to the village. There were three shoemakers, a general merchant, a stove and barrel factory and a blacksmith and an inn.

The first brickyard in Eastwood was operated by Joseph Clark who began making bricks in 1836. From this yard, says Mrs. Porter, came the bricks from which was built the first brick house in Woodstock.

As a sort of crossroads for rail and cart traffic to the county, Eastwood had its share of traffic accidents, recalls Mrs. Porter.

The most devastating of which was a train crash in Sept. 28, 1904 that left four men dead and the Eastwood train station destroyed.

In subsequent years, a rather low railway overpass was responsible for a couple more incidents. A truck load of turkeys as well as a truck laden with boxes of packaged soap flakes met with in-glorious ends under the overpass.

Recalls Mrs. Porter: "Eastwood was awfully clean after that."

Eastwood had two churches, although only one, St. John's Anglican was situated within the immediate area. The first church was given to the community by Admiral Vansittart in 1836. In the early days it had congregations of almost 300 people.

A Methodist Episcopal Church was built a mile south of Eastwood. The land was donated by Reuben and Eliza Kipp. The church itself cost \$625 and was dedicated on December 23, 1866.

The first Eastwood School was built west of County Road 14. It was built of logs in 1848 at a cost of 37 pounds, 10 shillings. A second school was built on the corner of the Plank Road and the 2nd concession. In 1912 the school burned down. Mrs. Porter recalls, as a young child being wrapped in a quilt by her father and swept away from the burning school.

According to Mrs. Porter, Eastwood is the scene of a famous murder.

In 1890 Reginald Birchall shot and killed Frederick Benwell in a swamp just north of Eastwood. Birchall had befriended Benwell who had newly arrived to Canada, later killing him in the hopes of collecting the young man's monthly allowance from his family in England.

Birchall was hung for the crime in the Woodstock Jail.

NC  
APR 3

## The cost of good government

On the door panels of this township's police cruisers it reads Township of Norwich Police.

The title is pretty much a misnomer. For in fact the township police only serve the 2,300 people who live within the boundaries of the Village of Norwich.

The 7,500 township residents who live outside those boundaries help pay for the upkeep of that force but receive virtually no benefits from doing so.

Acting only on written requests, the township police are empowered to enforce bylaws outside the village limits, but all regular patrolling is restricted to Norwich proper.

Each man, woman and child in the township outside Norwich is paying about \$5.40 each to keep the police force operating in Norwich. At first glance this hardly seems fair.

Ward 1 Councillor Bob Carney certainly feels that way. He has introduced a motion calling for area rating, which if passed would mean that only the residents of Norwich would be taxed for police services.

This would mean that Norwich's 2,300 residents would end up having to make up the shortfall brought on by the loss of revenue generated by 10,000 township residents.

Instead of paying the average \$5.40 per capita, Norwich residents would be looking at a bill for police service in the neighborhood of \$23.50 a head.

Last year the police force operated on a budget of about \$208,000. About \$149,000 came in the way of a provincial grant while the balance -- \$54,000 -- came from taxes.

Mr. Carney's motion was tabled largely because council was not prepared to deal with an issue of that magnitude on such short notice. Mr. Carney, however, vowed he would keep re-introducing the motion until council was prepared to deal with it.

The motion, once council is prepared, will be a very contentious issue, and could prove to be very decisive perhaps rekindling animosity between the wards.

When the debate over policing really begins it will be important not to lose sight of one basic reality.

Norwich councillor Darrell Force made note of it last week. He noted that while someone from Oxford Centre might be helping pay for police protection of the Force household in Norwich, Force family tax dollars would at the same time be going to pave that person's road in East Oxford, a road he is unlikely ever to drive down.

Isn't this the essence of living in a civilized society?

Is it not bordering on absurdity for someone to believe that every tax dollar that goes into the municipal coffers must somehow come right back out in some direct benefit to him and him alone?

It is hard to see how any municipality can work on a basis like that.

## Letters to the editor

To The Editor: You are cordially invited to become members of the newly formed Norwich Ratepayer's Association. The Ratepayer's Association can monitor the expenditures of your tax dollars, provide you, the taxpayer, with more information, and provide an excellent opportunity to voice your concerns.

There will be three or four general meetings held per year in the four wards, with an executive meeting held once a month.

For the present, there will be two representatives for each ward, to effectively represent all ratepayers in the Township.

The next General Meeting will be held April 9, 1985, in the Senior Citizen's Centre in Oxford Centre at 8 p.m. This meeting will be a general information meeting; please attend and bring your ideas and concerns.

Norwich Township  
Ratepayer's Association

To the Editor:

I was rather amused at the comment by the gentleman writing from Burgessville - who works in Woodstock on the Norwich snow removal situation. Both he and Councillor Pettigrew are apparently very much better informed and knowledgeable about what goes on in the Village of Norwich than the 40 or so people who actually live here.

Incidentally the Norwich residents were joined by Burgessville, North Norwich and Otterville residents in complaining about the service provided by Councillor Pettigrew's friend.

Paul M. Moore  
Norwich, Ont.

The Editor: In regards to our Norwich Fire Department. To my knowledge over the past 55 years, the Norwich firefighters have done an excellent job in saving lives and keeping property loss at a minimum. This was due to many dedicated firemen over the years and I'm sure it was not just for the small amount of money they received.

I must remind the ratepayers of Norwich Township their fire departments are the most important in our township. One only has to read the daily newspaper and read of the many lives lost and property lost running into the billions of dollars in North America.

The people of Norwich Township have a silent killer stalking 24 hours a day and that killer is fire. Many senior citizens can well remember the terrible fire that happened at the Cocoanut Grove in Boston, Mass., in Nov. 1942, killing 491 and injuring hundreds.

A word of advice to all the ratepayers of Norwich Township, make sure you have a well trained and an efficient fire department. Your lives depend on them.

D.C. Smart, Norwich

## Council OKs rezoning in principle

Norwich Township council has approved in principle a rezoning application submitted by John and Marian Heleniak, RR 1, Norwich.

The Heleniak brothers, owners of Norwich Packers, are planning to build a wholesale and retail meatpacking and abattoir operation on a six hectare (14.8 acre) property lying on the west side of Highway 59 between Concessions 5 and 6 (North Norwich) and the CNR tracks.

The property is presently zoned Development but must be amended to General Industrial to permit the establishment of the packing plant.

Existing land uses in the immediate vicinity are a mix of highway commercial, industrial and a small lot of rural residential dwellings. The subject property is now in agricultural production with no buildings located on the site.

Oxford County Planning Commissioner Ken Whiteford told council last week the establishment of an abattoir is a permitted use under the county's official plan so long as the facility is not built within 600 feet of any neighboring dwelling.

However, he added, due to the size of the lot there is practically no place on the property where the abattoir could be built and be outside the 600 foot stipulation, as homes exist to the north, east and south of the property.

Council was informed it could either revoke or alter the stipulation.

A site plan has not been prepared by the Heleniaks, but the planning commissioner said one was not absolutely necessary at this early date.

Mr. Whiteford reported the Oxford County Board of Health had no objections to the zone change in principle, but prior to the board's approval, a detailed site plan and various other assurances would be required.

The Board of Health stated the only concerns presented by the establishment of an abattoir are likely to be aesthetic, namely odors and noises. There would be no direct hazards to human health.

Township Councillor Don Pettigrew expressed concern over the possibility of odors, which could affect the business of two nearby restaurants, the Glide-Inn Motel and Restaurant and Sherry's Drive-In.

"We (the township) rely on these business people who in turn rely on fresh air."

Coun. Bob Carney noted council would only be approving the application for a zone change. "It doesn't mean we're approving the abattoir yet."

## Township appoints new treasurer

Norwich Township accountant Reg Saunders has been appointed deputy clerk and treasurer for the township.

Norwich Township Council appointed Mr. Saunders to the position at a council meeting March 26. He replaces John Gilbert who resigned the position a few weeks ago.

Mr. Saunders, 52, was the former deputy clerk and treasurer for the City of Woodstock between 1976 and 1984. He also held the same positions with the former

Township of Dereham between 1971 and 1976.

He was also an accountant with Judd and Company for eight years.

Mr. Saunders is a graduate of Norwich District High School and attended Otterville Public School as a youngster.

He joined the Township of Norwich office staff last June as accountant.

The Townshi will be advertising for a replacement for the vacated position of accountant.

25 YEARS AGO  
April 1960

Otterville — Fire of undetermined origin completely destroyed a chicken hatchery on the farm of R.E. Pettigrew, RR 2, Otterville, about one half mile south of this village early Sunday morning.

Three members of the Springford Mounted Boy Scout Troop, Kenneth Rice, Ronald Blackmore and Wayne Campbell will be initiated as Queen Scouts at a ceremony at Port Colborne.

15 YEARS AGO  
April 8, 1970

Council discussed the possibility of South Norwich, Norwich, North Norwich and East Oxford amalgamating to form a second tier government under a regional system, with a population of around 10,000, in order to retain their identity.

# Police issue put on back burner again

N G APR 10

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

A motion to area rate police protection to Norwich was tabled once again at a Township Council meeting Tuesday morning.

Ward 1 Councillor Bob Carney reintroduced the motion a second time, only to have council shuffle it to the back burner. The Otterville businessman has vowed to introduce the motion at every meeting of council until the membership is prepared to deal with the potentially explosive issue.

The motion calls for Norwich residents alone to carry the entire tax burden for the Township of Norwich Police force. If passed the motion would free residents from the other three township wards from footing their present share of the bill.

Mr. Carney's motion was first introduced at a meeting March 26 when he said residents of the other three wards should not have to pay for a service they do not receive. Despite the title, the Township police force only patrols in the Village of Norwich although it will investigate bylaw infractions outside their jurisdiction on request.

With two council members absent (a Ward 4 and one Ward 2), Mayor John Heleniak suggested the motion be tabled until all members were present.

But Coun. Carney stormed back, "if anything controversial comes before this council and you don't want to get it through you just say wait till we have 100 per cent in attendance."

He said council could continue stonewalling his motion if perfect attendance was required. "Anyone around this table could pull that trick by being absent from each council meeting."

Ward 4 Councillor Larry Martin, who in fact seconded the motion, moved the tabling of the Carney motion.

"Because of the magnitude and impact of this resolution, I feel their should be adequate representation from every ward. I don't feel it should be dealt with until there is total representation."

Meanwhile reaction to the possibility of area rating police protection has been met with cautious words from the Norwich business community.

Norwich Township Chamber of Commerce president Glen Baxter said following a chamber meeting on the issue, "the whole subject of area rating needs considerable thought and study before a precedent setting decision is made."

The Norwich businessman expressed the fear that other services and capital expenditures could be seriously affected if particular wards decide to opt out of present responsibilities.

"Such rationalization is divisive and cannot contribute in a positive manner to the health and economic growth of our township."

Norwich Retail Merchants Association president David Irving said the financial burden shouldn't be on Norwich residents alone.

It is a township force, he said, and it should operate as such. "We should be working to find township not isolated solutions."

Norwich Business Improvement Association Roy Arn was less willing to express an opinion, except to suggest that "the less publicity the better." He hopes the issue will blow over.

Norwich Township Ratepayers Association chairman Marilyn McLees said she would reserve comment until "I hear the different arguments."

The police force has a proposed 1985 operating budget of slightly more than \$209,000. Based on 3,177 township households the township will receive more than \$158,000 from the province for police protection. The balance, \$51,000, will come from the taxpayers.

## Trim fire budget

Norwich Township councillors sharpened their scissors April 2 trimming the fire department budget by more than \$7,000.

At a budget meeting last Tuesday, council cut \$7,025 from the four departments in each of the four Norwich township wards.

The cuts, however, still allow a 5.4 per cent increase over last year's fire department budget of \$160,850.

Despite the cuts, the department is "still moving ahead, not standing still. It looks good," said Councillor Bob Carney.

The meeting was the second of possibly four budget meetings before Norwich Township Council presents its finished budget.

Council is attempting to decrease total expenditures in its overall budget this year by at least \$121,500 to hold the increase over 1984 at five per cent. The actual budget for 1984 was \$2,554,880. Preliminary estimates for the 1985 budget have been pegged at \$2,751,810.

Council also reviewed the police budget which proposes a .007 per cent increase over the 1984 budget of \$208,065.

Another budget meeting is scheduled for April 17 at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers.

# Police rating defeated

N G APR 24

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

By the narrowest of margins, Township Council voted last night against area rating police protection to Norwich.

Six councillors voted against and five in favor of the motion, which, if it had passed, would have seen Ward 2 (Norwich) ratepayers shoulder the entire tax burden for the operation of the Township of Norwich Police Force.

The police force, which only has jurisdiction in the Village of Norwich, is also funded from tax dollars generated in the other three rural wards. The operating budget for the force last year was \$209,000, of which \$53,000 came from taxes.

The motion, originally introduced by Ward 1 Councillor Bob Carney at a council meeting several weeks ago was reintroduced for the third time last night by Councillor Don Pettigrew. All councillors were present for the vote.

"The police department is of absolutely no service to the other three wards," reiterated Coun. Carney.

"It's a fact. There's no possible way I get one portion of one tax cent out of that police department." He added that bylaw enforcement outside Norwich, which the township police will undertake on a written request, could be done more economically

## Councillors chop proposed budget

Norwich Township Councillors lopped off \$3,265 from the preliminary figures of the Townships 1985 budget at a budget meeting April 17.

At the third of four budget meetings, Council deleted \$2,500 for fencing from Commercial and Industrial development, \$750 for a pitching machine for Norwich parks, \$4,315 for total capital expenditures in Springford Park and \$950 for a fence requested for the Oxford Centre Hall.

Added to the budget was a \$2,500 grant to the Norwich Cemetery Company, \$900 for an arena renovation study, \$500 for pots and pans and \$100 for fluorescent paint at the Norwich Arena, \$700 for a furnace at the Ward 1 fire station, \$270 for a desk and chair for the building inspector, and \$300 for a dusk to dawn light at the Oxford Centre Park.

In a presentation to council Edith Lees, treasurer of the Norwich District Historical Society, asked council for a grant of \$10,000 to help pay off a debt of the same amount.

However, she said, the greatest need was for an additional \$2,400 to supplement the \$2,400 already authorized by Council for salaries.

with a part-time bylaw enforcement officer.

Township Mayor John Heleniak said area rating police protection would set a dangerous precedent perhaps eventually leading to the fragmentation of both Council and the Township.

"I've received numerous telephone calls from people saying that places like the Otterville swimming pool and the Medical Centre be area rated. I personally feel this could set a dangerous precedent and perhaps lead to the dissolution of the Township."

I believe we should be working for the best interests of the inhabitants as a whole."

Ward 1 Coun. Don Pettigrew said area rating would help trim the fat off the existing police force.

He said the cost of policing has risen drastically in the past 10 years and that it was time the escalating police budget be reigned in.

While expenditures on roads maintenance has been prudent in the past decade, "the police budget has kept on climbing. It's time to put the brakes on it," he said.

Mr. Pettigrew made the point that area rating would result in a leaner police force because of a smaller grant and less available tax money.

"If you buy a quart of milk you use every drop but if the milk is free you end up wasting a lot."

Coun. Carney said policing has risen \$27,000 since 1983. "Now they're asking for a 10 per cent pay raise. Where is it going to end?"

The costs for policing are going up like everything else. "The only thing we can do is keep costs to a minimum," said Ward 2 Coun. Darrell Force.

Defending the status quo, Mr. Force said Ward 2 residents will not see any benefit from \$315,000 earmarked for gravelling and other road work in Wards 1, 3 and 4. He noted that Ward 2 ratepayers are not calling for area rating road work.

Coun. Norm Lusk, also a Ward 2 representative, said one common mill rate across the township allows for all residents who may be losing in one area to gain in another.

"What you lose on the oranges you gain on the bananas."

Ward 4 Coun. Larry Martin agreed with the concept of area rating, but had some reservations over the divisiveness the issue might create.

"Can you put a price tag on unity? Is \$20 too much," he said, referring to the average cost per household to support the police force.

Ward 1 Coun. Michael Oliver said the issue of policing was a "prime candidate for area rating."

"I think it's fair to everyone."

Without the police force in Norwich, said Ward 3 Coun. Jack Lester, there might be more hardened criminals in the municipality.

The results of the vote are as follows: Mayor John Heleniak, No; Councillor-at-large Helen Smith, No; Don Pettigrew (Ward 1), Yes; John McNally (Ward 3), Yes; Bob Carney (Ward 1), Yes; Darrell Force (Ward 2), No; Norm Lusk (Ward 2), No; Hardee Richardson (Ward 4), No; Michael Oliver (Ward 1), Yes; Jack Lester (Ward 3), No; Larry Martin (Ward 4), Yes.

# Norwich ratepayers find Ward 4 representative

The turnout for the second Norwich Township Ratepayers Association meeting, like the first, could still be termed modest.

APR 9  
Thirty-six people attended last night's meeting in Oxford Centre, about the same number as at the first meeting held two weeks ago in Otterville.

The association, however, did score one small victory in attracting seven Ward 4

residents to the meeting. There were none at the first.

Larry Miller, a tackshop owner on the 7th Concession was named as Ward 4 representative to the ratepayers executive. The association is still looking for one more Ward 4 (East Oxford) and one more Ward 2 (Norwich) representative.

A third meeting planned for Norwich will be announced at a later date.

# Identify community deficiencies

Deficiencies ranging from poor streetlighting to inadequate municipal water systems have been identified in seven Norwich Township communities.

A draft of the Oxford County planning department's Community Improvement Policies, outlining the deficiencies, was presented to township council at a meeting last week.

Planning Commissioner Ken Whiteford told council the draft is a proposed amendment to the county's Official Plan and would assist the municipality in selecting areas most in need of improvement programs.

The draft cataloged deficiencies in Norwich, Otterville, Hawtrey, Springford, Oxford Centre, Curries and Burgessville. Throughout the county 37 communities were reviewed.

In Norwich, of the 710 single-family and multiple family residences, about 19 per cent were classified as being in fair, poor or bad condition. Eighty-one per cent of the dwellings were considered in good condition.

Other deficiencies noted included: the condition of County Road 18, the need to upgrade the municipal water system, the upgrading of streetlights, major sidewalk improvements, road improvements on certain local streets, two underdeveloped neighborhood parks, and that the sewage lagoon will be at capacity when committed residential development occurs.

Almost 30 per cent of Otterville's 267 family dwellings are, according to the report, in need of repair.

The report also notes that rebuilding of County Road 19 is required, that the county owned water system requires upgrading with respect to supply, storage and distribution; upgrading of existing sidewalks and provision of a new one are required, that more energy efficient streetlighting units are needed, and that there is a need for additional park

facilities in the southern portion of the village.

Burgessville was identified as needing additional sidewalks and sidewalk improvements, upgraded streetlighting, and repairs to 22 per cent of the residential buildings.

In Springford total rebuilding of County Roads 13 and 19 are called for, the water distribution system requires upgrading, sidewalk improvements and repairs to 14 per cent of the residential dwellings are needed.

# Norwich approves donation for flood relief work

The Chatham-Kent Flood Disaster Committee has come cap in hand to the Township of Norwich.

At a meeting last week, council approved a donation of \$250 to the committee.

The committee has been canvassing regional municipalities for contributions which will be distributed to the communities affected by last winter's major flooding of the Thames and Sydenham Rivers.

On March 20 the Ontario Cabinet declared the municipalities involved disaster areas. The provincial government will be matching dollars raised by the committee on a one to one basis.

# Free meetings granted ratepayer organization

The Norwich Ratepayers Association has been granted one meeting free of charge in each ward until the organization gets on its financial feet.

Norwich Township council approved the ratepayers request at a meeting April 9.

Originally the association asked that council waive the rent on all ratepayer meetings held in township-operated facilities. That request, however, was defeated.

# group's effectiveness

April 17, 1985 THE NORWICH GAZETTE Page 4

# Questions ratepayer

A former township councillor has called into question the potential effectiveness of a ratepayers' association.

John Eacott, a councillor from 1980-82, told a meeting of the Norwich Township Ratepayers Association on April 9 that the newly-formed group would be "little more than a shadow organization" of the township council, fragmented by the same divergent ward interests.

"How can you effectively take a (unified) position when in many cases you'd be divided. I can't think of an issue where you wouldn't be divided."

Mr. Eacott, who was one of 36 in attendance at an Oxford Centre meeting last week, said, in theory, the idea of a ratepayers association has merit but at the same time "I attach a certain degree of nervousness to it."

The East Oxford (Ward 4) resident added that the association would be merely a forum for debate with no legal decision-making status.

A number of ratepayers disagreed with the former councillor regarding his views on the effectiveness of the organization. Association chairman Marilyn McLees, of Norwich, said the organization is very worthwhile and "it can work."

"A ratepayers association can monitor an issue before it becomes a major problem," she said.

Vice-chairman David Arthur said the association might be able to draw the township together. "There's a lot of conflict in the township so we should work together to iron things out."

Otterville resident Bill McMullen said the wounds, divisions and animosity between the township's four wards is the result of the restructuring of the local government in the mid-1970s.

"We're too big and we're too wide and our council can't handle it," he said.

"This association (the ratepayers)," said North Norwich (Ward 3) resident Mark Harrison, "if it can get together, can maybe help narrow this township down."

Mr. Harrison said that if the association can talk about its problems, for the overall good of the township, the ratepayers association might be just the group that can start putting an end to much of the ill-feeling between wards.

The Norwich Township Ratepayers Association, with a paid membership of 27, was formed at a meeting in Otterville on March 27. A third meeting is planned for Norwich in the near future.

Deficiencies in Curries are a lack of streetlighting and sidewalks. Oxford Centre has limited streetlighting and no sidewalks. Hawtrey, states the report, requires more parkland and recreational facilities. The hamlet of 39 persons, also has no municipal services. Almost half the residential buildings require repairs.

Township council endorsed and approved the amendment to include the community improvement policies, as presented, in the Official Plan.

Norwich Public Utility commissioners will be receiving a five per cent increase in the pay they receive for attending Commission meetings.

The PUC recently asked for a 10 per cent increase in rates, but was turned down by council. The five per cent increase means the chairman will receive \$85 per meeting while commissioners receive \$65. PUC members also receive travelling expenses.

A copy of all Norwich Township council minutes and agendas will be available to the general public for inspection at each area library.

The motion was approved at a meeting of council last Tuesday.

A second motion put forward by Councillor Don Pettigrew called for a two-thirds reduction of hall rental, provided the dates did not conflict with income producing rentals. It too was defeated.

A third motion, accepted by council, was put forward by Coun. Larry Martin. Once the association has held the four free meetings, it will be required to pay full rental for all subsequent meetings.

# Need sizeable grant for system

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

A "sizeable" government grant is needed if the Norwich Public Utilities Commission has any kind of hope of building its planned \$1.5 million water system, says PUC board chairman Gordon Powell.

"The municipality can't afford it alone," he said in an interview Monday. "The grant would have to be more than half the total cost."

The PUC will apply for a grant once necessary approval for the plan is passed by town and county councils.

The Commission's three-phase plan, developed from a water consultant's study begun last year, calls for a new 400,000 gallon water tower and replacement of some existing water lines in the first phase; the opening of a new well just east of the village limits and a new pump house in the second phase, and the upgrading of some water mains in the final phase.

The most urgent need, said the chairman, is the replacement of the old Norwich water tower. "Right now, the present tank has age against it."

The 35,000 gallon tank, built in 1915, is in such a state that for safety reasons it is never filled to capacity. With limited

water volume in the tank, water pressure problems are frequent, he said.

If a grant is forthcoming, the balance of the capital required would be made up from an increase in water rates and debentured capital.

Over the past few years the commission has been putting aside money for a new water tank, but the chairman held some doubts whether the little bit saved would cover the cost.

The Norwich water system, owned by the county and administered by the Public Utilities Commission, serves residents within Norwich and some in the village limits.

The Norwich PUC also looks after the Otterville system which has also undertaken a water study of its own.

The Otterville study calls for a new well and pump house, a new water tank and a "great deal of line upgrading." The cost of the Otterville project is estimated at \$1.3 million.

The chairman said that if all goes well, the plan could be implemented in about a year.

# County grant for archives

By SUZANNE STOOP

The Norwich Archives will get some temporary financial assistance from Oxford County but the allocation included in the county's 1985 budget is only half of what the Norwich and District Historical Society requested to keep the archives operating.

The historical society had asked the county for \$27,000 to get it through 1985 but a grant of only \$13,500 was included in the budget. And some county councillors voiced concern that the funding request might become an annual one.

"I see it as an inheritance that we're going to regret but county council decided the county should be involved in the archives and Norwich is in a position where it needs funding for 1985," said East Zorra-Tavistock Mayor Donald McKay, chairman of the administration and finance

committee who presented the 1985 county budget for council approval last week.

Ingersoll Mayor Doug Harris pointed out the funding request was for salaries and operating expenses—costs that will still have to be met next year. "Don't kid ourselves that this is a one time thing; they'll be back next year," he warned.

Ingersoll Councillor Jack Warden agreed. "Somewhere down the road the county will be asked to take the whole darn thing over."

But the county treasurer, Howard Day told council the administration and finance committee was told the funding would only be temporary financing. Woodstock Coun. Phil Poole pointed out that county council had approved the establishment of a board of management to investigate the establishment of a county archives. But by voting for that board, the county was "just voting to see what they had to say"; it wasn't a vote to commit funds on a long-term basis.

"I don't really think we should look at this as permanent," Coun. Poole said.

When asked about Norwich Township's commitment to the archives, Norwich Township Coun. Helen Smith said the township is providing \$400 a month to the historical society. "I personally think we do need an archives in the county and the only substantial archives at the moment is in Norwich. We're just trying to keep it alive," she said. "At the moment Norwich

is the only one in the position to offer archival information and to do this it will have to have some help."

Zorra Township Mayor Wallis Hammond said county council has to accept that it has approved the establishment of an archives board. "Whether we want to say it's a one-time grant to the Norwich archives, the board will be set up and, if an archives is set up in the county, Norwich is seen as a branch of the county archives," he said. "When I accept this, I accept that we're into this for time immemorial."

An archives committee, representing the Oxford County archives group and the Norwich archives, has proposed the establishment of a county-supported archives system that would operate with a central facility in Woodstock, retaining the archives in Norwich as a branch or satellite office, similar to the system in place in Perth County.

The archives board of management is being set up to investigate the establishment of a county archives and the costs involved.



### Safe accessory

Twelve-year-old Kim Walthers of Otterville and Spring-Otter Optimist Rene Letoile pose with a new bike accessory the Optimist club is helping to promote. The Safe-T-Wing should help reduce accidents involving cyclists and motorists. (Staff Photo)

## Optimist club selling bicycle safety device

Young cyclists in Norwich Township have a friend in the Spring-Otter Optimist Club.

In an effort to promote bicycle safety, the local service club is promoting an accessory that could help save the lives of young cyclists throughout the area.

The Safe-T-Wing, a highly regarded new type of bicycle reflector, designed for use on all bicycles is now on sale. The reflector extends out about 15 inches from the frame of the bike, providing a much larger visual recognition area for motorists.

The Safe-T-Wings will be distributed

through the public schools in Delhi, Otterville, Norwich and Burgessville at a cost of \$5 each.

Optimist Leon Poirier stressed that this particular project is not designed as a fundraiser for the Optimist Club. What profit there will be from the sale of the devices will remain with the schools distributing them.

Bicycle Safety Week runs through May 13 to 18, winding up with the Spring-Otter Optimists bicycle rodeo in both Otterville and Delhi.

At each of these rodeos, a free draw for a new bicycle will be made.

## Discuss teen dance at meeting

OTTERVILLE — On April 29, the second official meeting of the Spring-Otter Opti-Mrs. was held with 10

members and one guest present.

President Linda Letoile opened the meeting by asking all to recite the Optimist Creed. The secretary's report was read by Linda Cheney and Marie Hill read the treasurer's report.

New member Gail Poirier was installed by the president. She was happy to receive her name badge and membership certificate. She was welcomed by an enthusiastic round of applause. Members received certificates commemorating their donations to Ronald McDonald House.

Items of business discussed were teen dance expenses, Norwich Historical Show work schedule and men's breakfast meeting work schedule. It was decided to have a fining session at the next meeting to add some laughter and help fund the refreshments and coffee.

The next meeting will be held May 27, same time and same place.

## Spring-Otter Opti-Mrs. organized as auxiliary

The "Spring-Otter Opti-Mrs." have been organized as an auxiliary to the "Spring-Otter Optimist Club." The ladies group consists of the wives and friends of the members of the Optimist club. The group has three main purposes: 1) to create friendship among the wives of the Optimist club; 2) to be an auxiliary to the Optimist club (helping them in any project in which they may be engaged) and; 3) to engage in welfare work or any other worthy community service projects.

After a banquet was enjoyed recently by members and guests, the charter

members were sworn in by Dale Cheney, lieutenant-governor of Zone 16 of the Southwestern Ontario District of Optimist International. Linda Letoile, president; Carol Rose, vice-president; Marie Hill, treasurer; and Linda Cheney, secretary were installed as the first board of directors. Mrs. Rose, vice-president, thanked everyone for coming and expressed gratitude to the Optimists for the presentation of a meeting bell (donated by President Jim Countryman), and a Creed Banner (donated by Lieutenant-Governor Cheney).

President Mrs. Letoile gave a brief description of the ideals, purposes and aims of the club and thanked the Optimists for the wonderful evening they planned.

After reciting the Optimist Creed everyone sat down to a very entertaining magic show presented by "The Jolly Jeweller" Al Munro of Norwich. This was followed by dancing and merriment. It proved to be an exciting and inspiring evening for all.

The first official meeting of the Opti-Mrs. was held on April 1 at the Woodlawn Adult Community Centre (better known as the "Oddy House" in Otterville). Nine members were present. A resounding bell tone opened the meeting followed by the reading of the minutes and the treasurer's report.

A mysterious male guest made a brief presentation and exited promptly. One member was officially installed and presented with her charter certificate and name badge. A new member was also welcomed. Several fundraisers and community service projects were discussed. Donations were collected for Ronald McDonald House in London. All members received a copy of the suggested constitution and bylaws.

Look for these ladies at the Norwich Historical Show and July 1 in Otterville. Keep smiling.



### Good Friday hymns

The South Norwich Community Choir under the direction of Jean McClintock brought in the Easter holiday Friday evening at a ser-

vice held at the Otterville United Church. The accompanist was Lilian Broad. (Staff Photo)



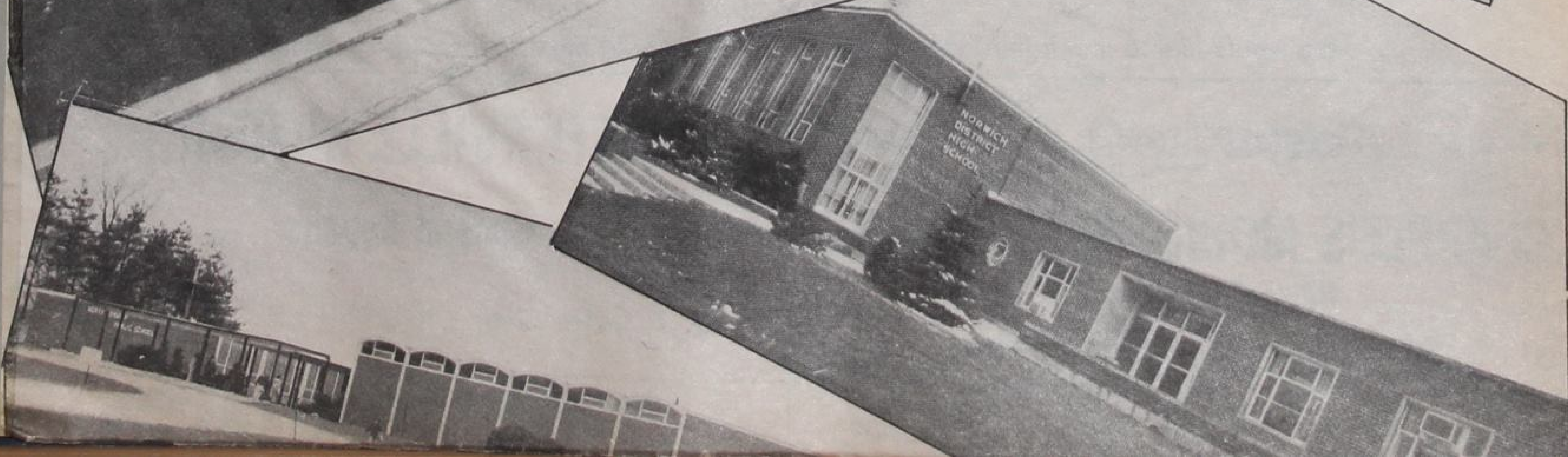
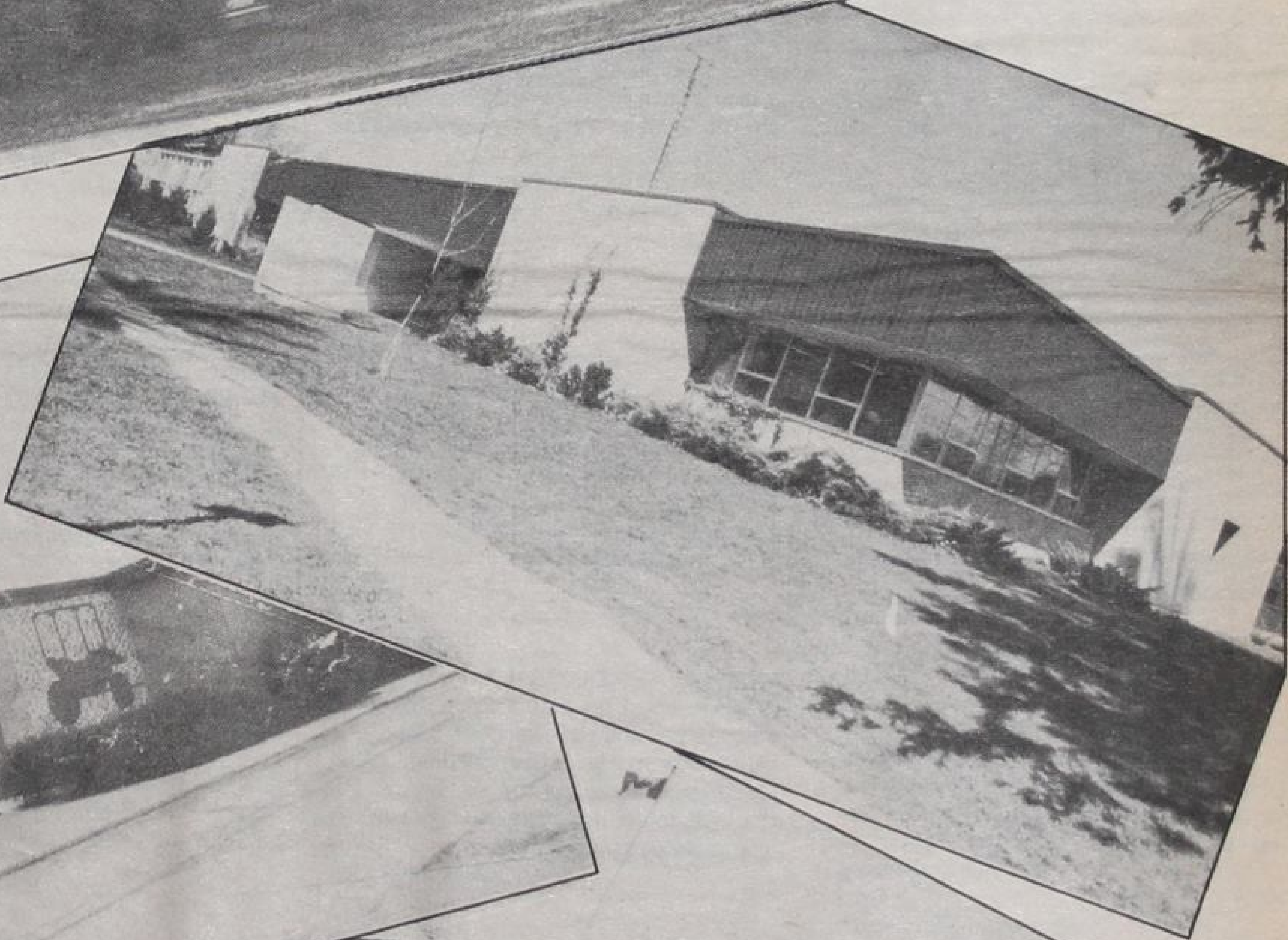
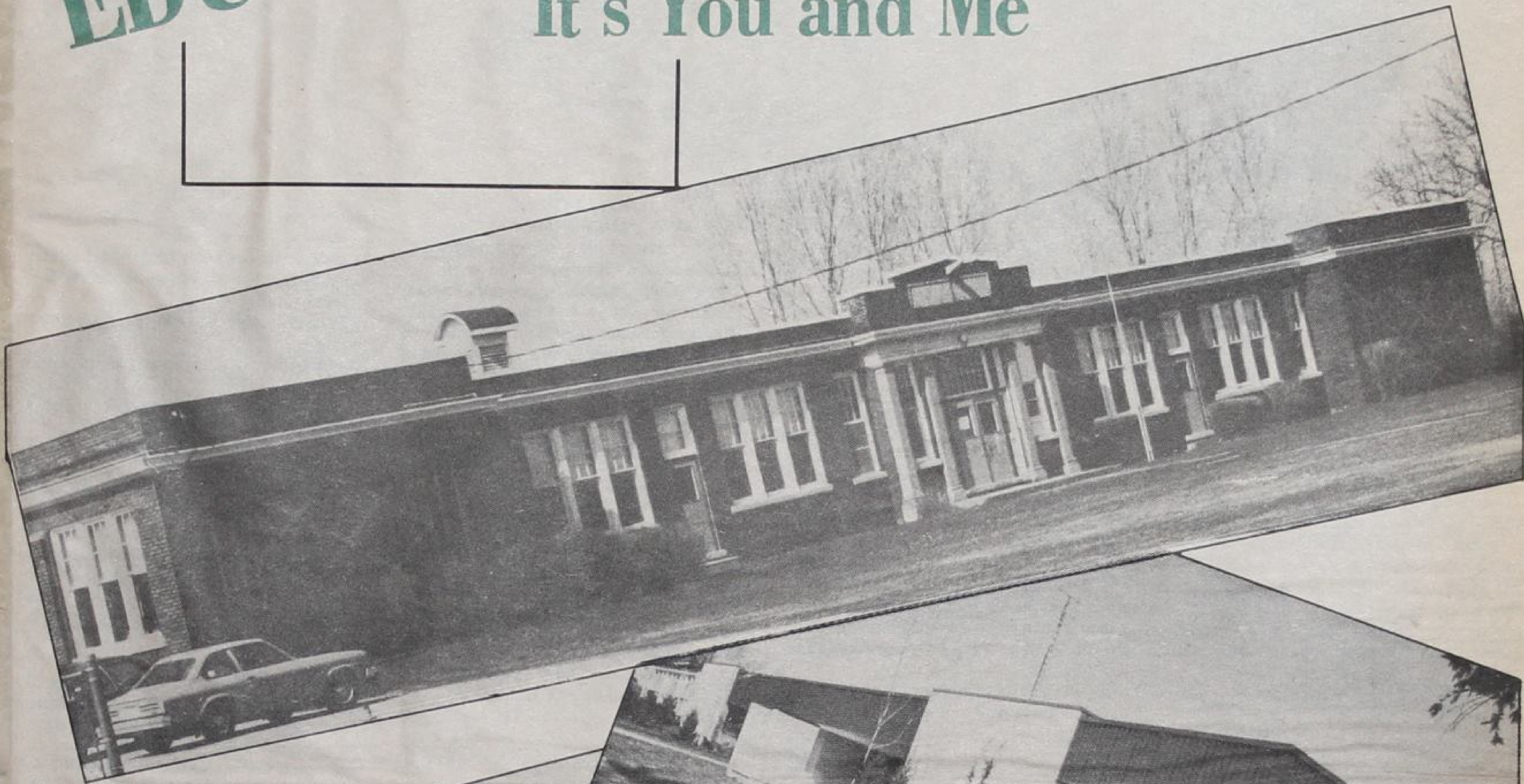
### Easter Cantata

The South Norwich Community Choir lifted voices in song in an Easter celebration presented last Sunday evening to members of the Free Methodist congregation in Tillsonburg. Accompanied by pianist Lilian Broad, of Springford, choir director Jean McClintock, of Otterville, led the community choir through the Easter

Cantata, Behold Your King. The 30-member choir performs throughout the year in various communities but the Sunday concert was the last until fall. All of the members are residents of the former South Norwich Township or have roots in the community. The choir represents about seven denominations and performs basically sacred music.

# EDUCATION WEEK:

It's You and Me

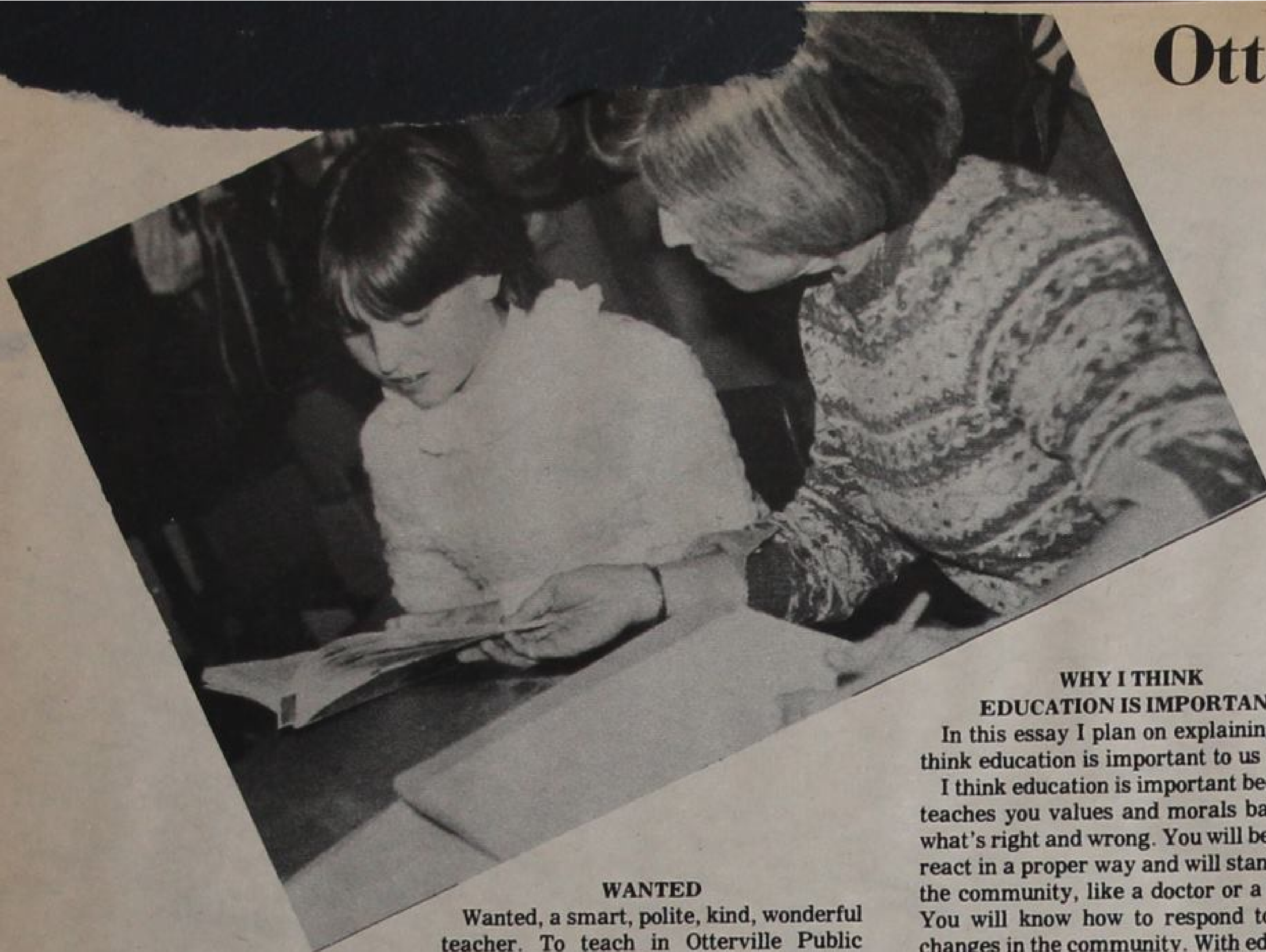




# Otterville

## Public

## School



### EDUCATION — IT'S YOU AND I

What is education?

Education is learning and listening. If you do not have an education you can't get in a good college or get a good job. That's why education is so important. You have to pay attention and try to get good marks in school. Try to co-operate with other people and try new things. Listen to your parents and teachers because they can help you if you have trouble in your work.

Education is co-operation between you and I.

Heather Picknell  
Gr. 6  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION IS YOU AND I

We have fun at our school. I like school because we have gym. It is fun.

Susanna Friesen  
Gr. 1  
Otterville P.S.

### WHY I LIKE SCHOOL

We have fun at school making dinosaurs. I like the school year.

Adam Zimmer  
Gr. 1  
Otterville P.S.

### MY SCHOOL

I like the work that our teacher gives us because we color and print. We have activities and play. My teacher is nice. She tells us if our work is wrong and right.

Shannon Ziegenbalg  
Gr. 1  
East Oxford-Sweaburg

### WANTED

Wanted, a smart, polite, kind, wonderful teacher. To teach in Otterville Public School. She will work 19 hours a day at 2 cents an hour for five days. She has to have long, curly, brown hair and blue eyes. She must speak every language in the world. She has to lift 150 pounds or tons. She must know how to water ski, wrestle alligators and go out into the jungle to kill wild tigers and lions. She has to know how to swing from trees like a monkey. She has to be younger than 35 years old. On top of it all, she has to make a giant sundae every time it is lunch.

If you want this job please contact Otterville Public School and ask for Miss Murphy.

Tina Irie  
Age 12  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION — IT'S YOU AND I

It was just me and my education. It started when I was five. That's when I learned to co-operate and to read, write and draw. But I hope that soon with everyone's co-operation I will survive until college, and make my parents proud.

Nicole Rochus  
Gr. 6  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION

I like school because it's fun. School is education. Education is good because it teaches us mathematics, reading, social studies and also can get us a good job that's fit for us and pays good. Education also gives us manners.

Alex McMullen  
Gr. 3  
Otterville P.S.

### WHY I THINK

#### EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT

In this essay I plan on explaining why I think education is important to us all.

I think education is important because it teaches you values and morals basically, what's right and wrong. You will be able to react in a proper way and will stand out in the community, like a doctor or a mayor. You will know how to respond to social changes in the community. With education you will feel like part of the community, not sitting back because you are lost, mentally and socially.

Education is everybody's own responsibility. With education you not only learn for the present, but for the future as well. We can better or correct ourselves, by not making the same mistakes over and over.

With education you can keep up with times and the changing society instead of being left behind. It is never too late to get a good education, so for your own good, apply yourself and be a SOMEBODY.

Rob Hussey  
Gr. 8  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION YOU AND I

Education is about a whole bunch of things, like math, social studies and more. In the world, education is important to everybody even to us. If we didn't have education we wouldn't have school and we wouldn't be smart. We wouldn't have cars, buildings or machinery. We need education to count up numbers for everything. We all need education for all of our needs.

Julius Vigh  
Gr. 4  
Otterville P.S.

Why I like school. I like recess. We have fun at our school. I like arithmetic. My favorite time is art.

Brett Walther  
Gr. 1  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION

Education is needed for many people around the world today.

Different jobs need education or schooling. University is where you go to get further education.

College is another place to go for job training.

Assignments are given so we can learn our work.

Teachers teach us our new work and help us if we don't understand.

I want to be a doctor, so I will need lots of education.

Oodles of friends are made on our way through school

No one can do without it because we use it everyday. And that spells education.

Kathryn Arthur  
Gr. 4  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION

Education is learning and listening and understanding. If we didn't have education, where would all of those great stars be? Education is important, without it, how would we be able to read or write? So we're going to school for our own good, even if we don't want to. You have to learn sometime or you won't get a good job.

Jason Hird  
Gr. 4  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION IS YOU AND I

People have suffered many times because they always fooled around in their classes.

Then when it came to getting a job, all they had to do was work in tobacco or work in a little place, where you get little money.

Then they couldn't afford to get good clothes or nutritious food for their family.

So don't be like them. If you want to lead a good life, listen to what your teacher says.

Sheri McCormick  
Gr. 5  
Otterville P.S.

We would like to thank the following area businesses who have sponsored our edition

424-2134

**Masterfeeds**  
Division  
Maple Leaf Mills Limited



424-2134

## CHAPPLE'S MOBILE FEED SERVICE

RR 2, Burgessville

Complete line of bulk and bag feeds

## OTTERVILLE MOTORS

### General Repairs

RR 1, Otterville

879-6600

Congratulations

Canada Trust Bank

### EDUCATION — IT'S YOU AND I

If it wasn't for the teachers, who would we have?  
To teach us and correct us and tell us if we've been good or bad.  
The students and the teachers, they all work together.  
Students do the work, and teachers make it better.  
When the students graduate the teachers are all proud.  
"He was in my class," they say very, very loud.  
Students are responsible for neat desks, papers and notes.  
"I can't wait 'till tomorrow," the next girl always quotes.  
That's what education is.

Jennifer Hicks  
Gr. 6  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION WEEK IS...

Education is for you and me.  
A lot of people take education for granted. They think they won't need it until they really do and then it's sometimes too late. There isn't one job you can get without education. Some people quit school when they are young and they end up regretting it. A few people are able to go to night school and their reason is probably to expand their horizons. In the years to come I don't think anyone could make it without an education. If you don't think education is important, you'd better think twice.

Julie DeWachter  
Age 12  
Otterville P.S.

### WHY I LIKE SCHOOL

I like school because school is fun. Gym is fun too. Activities are fun. I like the sand.

Michelle Redman  
Gr. 1  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION — IT'S YOU AND I

What is education?  
Education is co-operation, friends working together, what you do in school, parents, teachers and me. Education is working together on a social studies project and being able to try new ideas; expanding our thoughts and friendships. Education is learning responsibility for yourself, discovering new interests and accomplishing tasks in a stimulating, learning environment. Education means a job for the future.

Stuart Harrison  
Gr. 6  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION — IT'S YOU AND I

To have a good education all throughout this land.  
Every single being has to lend a helping hand.  
And with our hands together we're stronger than before.  
So come on everybody lets open our future doors!  
Everybody has many dreams of money, flowers and a sun that always beams.  
An education will help many of these dreams to come true, dreams that last for me and you.  
So come on everybody, let's help each other out!  
All working together, that's what education is all about.

Francine Countryman  
Gr. 5  
Otterville P.S.

I think school is fun because instead of sitting in front of the TV we are learning something.  
I like going on trips.  
I like reading, math, spelling and spelling dictation.

Jeff Arthur  
Gr. 2  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION IT'S YOU AND I

Education, what is it? Education is learning to do math and other subjects. Education gives you a chance to co-operate with other people and learning about your environment. Education also means being willing to try new things if it doesn't work out the first time. To make education work, you need to learn to respect your teacher, principal, friends and parents. We will accomplish a great deed if we hang on and work together.

Marci McMullen  
Gr. 5  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION

It teaches us to read and write.  
Without reading someone would have to read a book to you.  
Without math you would not have a choice of too many jobs.  
Without science you wouldn't know how we got rain or snow.  
Without social studies you wouldn't know about different customs.  
Without art you wouldn't know how to make an idea in your head, or create masterpieces from scratch.  
Without French you couldn't communicate with people of a different language.  
So without school, life would be very dull.

Jennifer Hill  
Gr. 4  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION, YOU AND ME

Education is described in many ways. Some people say you go to school, learn, finish public school, and go on. But in my opinion it's not just learning to spell, add and read. It's learning of your past. How did Canada get started? How do you do this addition? How do you spell oxygen? You don't have to ask if you went to school. You learn how to spell, add and read. Instead of asking about Canada, adding or spelling, you'll be telling about it. Isn't education great?

Samantha Letoile  
Age 13  
Otterville P.S.

### EDUCATION — IT'S YOU AND ME

When people say education, it's you and me. I guess what they really are saying is that education is for everyone. We use education, no matter how simple, everyday. It helps us to react and respond in an active community situation. Schools and education help to teach all of us how to be responsible and reason with problems. School prepares us for our future occupation although education doesn't stop there, it continues on for the rest of our lives. So therefore, since school has taught me so much, and will probably be responsible for my future job, I intend to give every penny I earn to the board of education. Oh yes, by the way, April Fools.

Paul Marchuk  
Gr. 8  
Otterville P.S.

### WHY I LIKE SCHOOL

My favorite part about school is Art because it is my favorite subject and I can do it very well. I like gym because we run around.

Lloyd Durkee  
Gr. 2  
Otterville P.S.

## Kathy Murphy speaker at Lions meet

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the Norwich Otterville Lions Club was held in the Community Hall, Otterville, with Lion President Jack Walther presiding. There were 37 present, a small attendance likely due to the remarkably warm weather with several Lion farmer members busy on the land. The ladies of the Eastern Star provided a fine roast beef dinner.

This being Education Week in Ontario the guest speaker was Kathy Murphy, principal of the Otterville Public School. Miss Murphy was introduced by Lion Brian Parr.

Miss Murphy brings a wide education in her field as principal and gave a very comprehensive talk on the objectives and methods of today's public school teaching in stressing confidence, self discipline, and self worthiness.

Besides the educational basics taught, here are also many other aspects such as

physical, emotional basics. A slide presentation was also included followed by a question and answer period.

The speaker was thanked and presented with a gift by Lion Colin Cope. All present were in agreement that the Otterville Public School is in good hands.

Preparations are continuing on holding a Wintario draw on July 11 at the Norwich Community Centre.

The Lions annual Las Vegas Night will be held in the Norwich Community Centre Saturday, September 14, replacing the former fall carnival. An Elimination Cash Draw with tickets at \$10 will replace the former car draw. There will be an early bird draw at the Wintario Draw, July 11.

There were three Lion visitors from the Straffordville Lions Club and from the Brantford Lions Club which included Lion Rick Baxter, a former member of this club.

Lion Aloys Sanders was elected to serve as a two year director.

The St. Thomas Lion Club plan to attend the club's May 27 meeting. They plan to bring 33 members.

Past District Governor Mort Cooper, a member of the Tillsonburg Lions Club attended the meeting as he is now a resident of Otterville.

Winners of the convention draw were Rick Baxter, Jack Walther and John Leitch.

## South Norwich Historical Society meet at Woodlawn

The April meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society was held at Woodlawn on April 8 with President Jack Smith in charge.

Following the reading of the minutes Rick Singer gave a report on the progress made in obtaining windows for the Treffry Mill. It is hoped that they will be delivered before the next meeting.

Doreen Mountain has obtained reservations for a book stall at both the Genealogical Fair and the Steam Show in Norwich and for the food booth at the Steam Show.

Sales of "South of Sodom" now show a profit of over \$3,000, and there are still on hand 46 hard cover copies and 220 soft cover books.

Catherine Mann reported on the progress being made in obtaining a plaque to mark the birthplace of Dr. Emily Stowe in South Norwich.

Don Rice made and donated a very attractive sign marking the entrance to the Treffry Mill which was much appreciated by the Society. A cleanup of the mill grounds was announced for Saturday morning, April 13, weather permitting. Volunteers are invited. Following the treasurer's report, Mary Murray introduced the speaker of the evening: Mrs. Lydia McCaul.

Mrs. McCaul gave one of the most interesting talks we have had in some time as she told of her first hand experiences homesteading in an unsettled area of northern Saskatchewan starting in 1931.

Mrs. McCaul told of the drought and dust storms of southern Saskatchewan where for seven successive years there was no crop harvested and at times the air was so darkened by blowing dust that it was necessary to light lamps in the house and chickens remained on the roost all day.

To re-locate farmers from this stricken area the Saskatchewan Government opened a tract of land north of the Beaver River to homesteaders and Mrs. McCaul, her husband and small son set out to take up a homestead in the summer of 1931.

According to the Homestead Act it was necessary to live on the homestead for seven months out of each year for three years, to clear and break 30 acres, to build a house and barn and to dig a well. If these conditions were met the homesteader received title to his land at the end of three years.

Mrs. McCaul told of having to travel by wagon over rough trails for 80 miles

beyond the railway to reach their 160 acre homestead site.

The many difficulties and hardships of getting established were told in a very graphic manner and in a way that made many situations which were terrifying at the time seem hilarious in the telling.

A sense of humor is undoubtedly a great asset to a pioneer. Throughout the whole period Mrs. McCaul repeatedly spoke of how fortunate they were and how they never felt they were suffering although she told of forest fires, 60 degrees below zero weather, getting lost in the wooded country where their cattle ranged, and of giving birth to their second child with no medical aid available. It was an inspiring story told with great humor.

Joyce Pettigrew presented Mrs. McCaul with a small token of appreciation and in thanking her for her presentation commended her for having written out the story of her experience so that they might be preserved.

Following the meeting a huge birthday cake and ice cream was enjoyed in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the founding of the South Norwich Historical Society.

At the May meeting there will be a presentation of pictures and music entitled "When You And I Were Young Maggie." This will be given by Mr. George Rickard, a London artist who has written a book and prepared pictures of Ontario Mills which includes mention of the Treffry Mill at Otterville. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance for this program which has been arranged by Mrs. Lorraine Downing.



### Don't be a dope

OPP Constable Vern Fleming was the guest speaker at an Otterville PTA meeting Monday night. He spoke on the topic of drug abuse in the area. Looking at some samples of illicit drugs is PTA chairman August DeWachter. (Staff Photo)

## Leisure club meets

OTTERVILLE (C) — The meeting of the Otterville Leisure Club, held at the Woodlawn Adult Centre, was opened by president Gladys Evans who in the absence of Grace Squance gave the report of cards sent. Get-well wishes had been sent to Annie Pritchard who is confined to her home because of an ankle injury.

"Happy Birthday" was sung for members having birthdays in March being Ann Arthur, Erie Hicks, Norman McIntyre, Florence Moore, Nellie Taylor, Evelyn Waring and Douglas Carroll.

A workshop meeting will be held on April 16 dealing with parliamentary procedure in conducting meetings. The Zone Rally will be held on May 8. Discussion was carried out on having a bus trip with the possibility of using a mini bus.

The president extended thanks to Violet Cole for making a lovely afghan and presenting it to the club. A thank-you note was read from Mrs. Daniels.

Evelyn Waring brought a scrapbook which was bought several years ago for the club. The president asked members to look up clippings regarding club activities

and hoped several members would look after putting clippings in the book.

The next meeting will be held at Woodlawn Adult Centre, April 16 at 12:30 p.m. being a potluck dinner.

### Leisure club meetings change

OTTERVILLE (C) — Twenty-five members of the Leisure Club met at the Woodlawn Adult Centre on April 10 after enjoying a noon day pot luck dinner.

The president, Mrs. Gladys Evans conducted a short business period during which a motion was made that a Life Membership be granted to a past member who has been sick and unable to attend a meeting for a year. A new schedule for the meetings was given out. Mr. and Mrs. Mel Beecroft will represent the club at the convention in Kingston. It was reported that Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hicks are not well and Mrs. Annie Pritchard is still confined to her home with a broken ankle.

Pictures were retaken for the Norwich 175th Anniversary Book after which all enjoyed games of euchre, aggravation and pool.



Jack Smith, President and Carl Howse (right), Secretary of the South Norwich Historical Society, cut the 10th Anniversary cake marking 10 years of historical preservation carried out by the group. In the 10 years they have unveiled three plaques, held two history fairs, researched, written and published a 400 page history of the former township and re-sided the Treffry Mill as part of its restoration project.

# Donate for eye research

OTTERVILLE (C) — Violet Rebekah Lodge opened in regular form with N.G. Sister June Ash and V.G. Ann Arthur presiding. Sister Esther Smith called a humanitarian committee meeting next lodge night at 7:30 p.m. As Sister Jo Howse is unable to attend the district meeting April 9 Sister Jean McClintock was nominated to take her place.

Invitations were received from Charity, Vigilant and Fidelity lodges to attend their birthday meetings. A letter from Edna

lodge was received inviting Violet lodge to their friendship night.

A donation was made to the Ontario IOOF Eye Research. Sister Violet Howse RSVG acted for Sister Ruth Collver LSNG who was unable to attend the Good Friday Rally. Sister Eva Deveney and Ann Arthur also attended.

Sister Jean McClintock was nominated to be representative to the RA in June with alternate being Sister Vera Welsh. They were also nominated to be representatives to the district.

NG appointed Sister Jean McClintock to be responsible for getting help and pies for the ploughing match if the Heart Equipment Fund had a booth.

It was reported Sister Helen Bowman PP is in the hospital with a heart attack and Sister Madalene McClung and husband Wilfred celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary, April 7.

Lodge closed in regular form followed by a few games of Court Whist with Sister Em Strudwick and Eva Deveney winning first prize. All enjoyed a social hour afterwards.

## Fellowship meeting

OTTERVILLE (C) — The monthly meeting of the Women's Missionary Fellowship was held at the Baptist Church, Otterville with Mrs. C. Haggith as hostess. Vice-president Betty Oenema opened the meeting with a poem "Guide Paths to Peace" and Psalm 119:165, Great peace have they who love thy law. The opening hymn was "Peace, Peace, Wonderful Peace."

A letter from the Lovedays in Africa was read and Mrs. Wilma Butler shared a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Herb Pollard. A letter from the Leprosy Mission was received saying thanks for the used stamps. Mrs. Fred Hill and Mrs. David Hill led in missionary prayers.

Mrs. Oenema reminisced about the holiday some of the ladies had at the Muskoka Baptist Camp last year. The theme of the program was Consider Him and Running With Confidence. Mrs. Dwight Davis reviewed the part of the program about running with confidence in life's race and that we have a choice concerning the way we will run. Hebrews 11:6 says Without faith it is impossible to please God and Hebrews 13:5, I will never leave thee.

Mrs. Dave Spencer remembered we are to keep running with joy but Biblical joy is more than a glad feeling. It is produced by the Holy Spirit not by self-effort. If we choose we can run with joy she concluded.

Mrs. Janet Vandelinde recalled that we can run with dignity as Christ did on the cross. With Christ's likeness we have a

## Sunshine club

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Otterville Sunshine Club met at the home of Dorothy Neale on March 28. Roll call, given by Doreen Mountain, was to name two former members of the group. It was decided to have a cake for Easter which will be made by Olive Pickersgill. The next meeting will be at the home of Etta McSkimming on April 11. Sandra Hussey thanked the hostess and Marion Pettigrew for the lunch.

new dignity and run with patience which can be demonstrated toward the elderly and New Canadians, etc.

Mrs. Hilda Stockmans quoted that we can run with an awareness of others and show love to one another. We should try to think of someone who needs encouragement and then encourage them.

The meeting closed with the singing of "Consider Him" and prayer. Mrs. C. Haggith served lunch assisted by some of the ladies.

## Rebekah Lodge

### holds meeting

OTTERVILLE (C) — Violet Rebekah Lodge opened in regular form with N.G. June Ash and Sister V.G. Ann Arthur presiding. Receiving visitors, Sister Oliver Pickersgill P.N.G. welcomed three sisters from Myrtle Rebekah Lodge and introduced Sister Bernice Pettman D.D.P.

V.G. Sister Ann Arthur reported sending get well cards to Sister Helen Bowman P.P.R.A., Bob Butler, Bill Hanson and an anniversary card to Sister Madeline McClung and husband.

Sister Jean McClintock P.N.G. gave an excellent report of the district meeting.

Correspondence was read from Charity and Avalon Rebekah Lodges inviting the members to their birthday parties. Sister Bernice Pettman D.D.P. brought greetings from the district and spoke briefly.

Sister Jo Howse and Sister Violet Howse are to attend Belmont's Friendship night, April 17. Sister Jean Martin reminded the members of the Salad and Euchre held April 17 by Myrtle Lodge. Sister Violet Howse spoke on the Good Friday Rally, also attended by Sister Ann Arthur and Sister Eva Deveney.

Lodge closed in regular form after which a few games of Court Whist were played with winners being Sister Helen Thompson, Sister Anna Treffry and Sister Margaret Kitchen. All enjoyed lunch.

The Otterville Sunshine Club met on April 11 at the home of Etta McSkimming with 11 members answering the roll call, "name something you look forward to doing in the spring" given by Sandra Hussey.

A beautiful cake made by Olive Pickersgill was won by Dorothy Wardell. The next meeting will be held April 25 at the home of Marion Pettigrew with everyone asked to have ideas for the annual night out.

Lunch was provided by Inga Irie who was thanked as well as the hostess by Marj Pearce.

## Gardening instruction given

OTTERVILLE (C) — Gardening is first and foremost on many people's minds with warmer temperatures and sunny days. In correspondence to this, the Otterville Public Library held a timely session in their continuing education program on gardening, emphasizing starting seedlings, plants and working with roses.

Librarian Lurene McMullen introduced the guest speakers: Ben Janssens, president of the the Delhi Horticultural Society and Mae Leonard, vice-president of the DHS, both local Otterville residents. Mae opened by outlining the Delhi Horticultural Society and its aims of beautification of both private and public properties. She also invited people of Otterville to become involved in the society.

Mr. Janssens dealt with starting plants for your garden advising people to use wooden or styrofoam containers rather than cardboard which dry out. A good starting mixture he has found is one-third peat moss, one-third vermiculite and one-third potting soil. Mix well so it is loose, fill the container three-quarters full and push with your fingers, he said. He demonstrated the use of a sifter and packer which he had made to obtain a fine layer of soil for the planting of very fine seeds such as carrots.

Begonias and impatiens plants take 12 weeks to grow while marigolds take six to eight weeks. They should be transplanted when the two heart leaves show and water with lukewarm water. When planting cuttings, dry for one-half hour before planting to prevent rot.

When buying seeds, insure they are Canada No. 1. If uncertain of seed germination, check a few by placing in a plate with a wet paper towel. If fertile they should germinate in one to two days.

Mae Leonard discussed the planting of roses which should be done middle to the end of April or in the fall. She stressed to buy roses grown in the area to ensure successful growth. They should be planted two feet down in the soil following clipping off broken branches and the end of the roots which encourages the plant to root out. Plant in order that the union of the rose bush is one inch below the soil level.

Fertilizing should be done in the spring, when the buds burst, and in the middle of July. Roses should be mounded up in the autumn to protect the plant for winter and cut off fungus. Pine needles serve as a good mulch for roses.

Ben and Mae closed by encouraging people to attend meetings of the DHS which meets the second Monday of the month at the Friendship Centre, Delhi.

Assistant Librarian Elaine Oliver thanked Mr. Janssens and Mrs. Leonard for a very informative interesting evening, providing many ideas and suggestions for perhaps more successful gardening.

## UCW entertains guests

OTTERVILLE (C) — Thursday evening, April 18 the Otterville United Church Women entertained guests from Springford and Norwich U.C.W., Otterville Baptist Women and the Otterville Anglican Church Women at their Spring Thank-Offering meeting.

There were 45 in attendance, including three gentlemen.

U.C.W. President, Betty Walther extended a warm welcome to everyone present followed with Wordsworth's poem The Daffodils. The U.C.W. purpose was repeated in unison.

Convener Elsie McSpadden, welcomed everyone and invited them to join together in singing the hymns "I'm So Glad I'm Part Of The Family Of God," "I Will Enter His Gates With Thanksgiving In My Heart" and "God Loves You And I Love You." Mrs. McSpadden conducted a game of finding hidden names of the books of the Bible, which all enjoyed.

Offering was received by Betty Walther and Jean Stewart. All sang the hymn "God Forgives And Forgets" and "He Loves Us" written by Jean McClintock, pianist for the evening.

Jean Stewart read scripture from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians, followed by an article "Jesus Has Paid Your Penalty" and prayer.

Guests Eva Ray and Madge Gradjon sang two beautiful duets "Raise Me Jesus To Thy Bosom" and "Balm of Gilead."

Elsie McSpadden gave the meditation "Lift Jesus Higher" using passages of scripture and examples from daily life. We can lift Jesus higher by memorization of scripture, prayer and praise and by becoming a living example of Jesus' teachings.

The worship service closed with the singing of "Because He Lives."

Lorraine Downing explained the June

outing, the play "One For The Pot" at the Shaw Festival Theatre, June 28 in Niagara-On-The-Lake.

Members were made aware of upcoming events, the Westminster Weekend, May 24-26; Alma School for Women, August 17-19; Retreat at Camp Binimi, June 10; and New Road Thank-Offering, May 2.

## Turkey supper at St. John's

Sunday evening, April 28, a very successful and prosperous Turkey Supper was held by the Otterville St. John's Anglican Church Women.

Organized by A.C.W. president, Cathy Furlong and conveners Olive Pickersgill and Georgina Spicer, everyone's help both at the church and through foods sent in, was greatly appreciated.

Floral table centres of daffodils, tulips, hyacinths and greenery, arranged by Jean DeWachter, provided a spring setting for

the bountiful meal. Carl Howse, a member of the church, gave the blessing for the meal which was filled to capacity at all of the three settings.

The women of the A.C.W. thoroughly enjoyed their new kitchen facilities just recently completed. Much of the credit for the renovation of the kitchen must go to August DeWachter who made it possible to have the kitchen ready for Sunday evening and to him great appreciation is expressed.

## Hear history of Cornell at WI meeting

CORNELL (C) — A very enjoyable time was had on Thursday evening at Cornell hall when the WI members entertained their husbands and family to a potluck supper.

After eating much more than we needed, the regular business meeting was conducted by Mrs. Mac Hicks.

The district annual was discussed and it was decided to give a donation to Pennies for Friendship and the convention fund.

Roll call was answered by paying of dues and bringing a picture for the Tweedsmuir Book.

Mrs. Hicks gave a report of the board meeting.

Members were sorry to hear that the Senior WI of Tillsonburg had folded. There are now 15 WI left in the district.

Mrs. Art Boughner, leader of the 4-H group, reported that their achievement day will be in Mount Elgin on May 9 at 7:30 p.m.

All officers remain the same for another year.

Mrs. Hicks gave a report about a local newspaper of bygone days reporting some local news of local people. Mrs. Ross Adlington read "People who put my community on the map" written by Mrs. Hicks.

A poem, Women's Institute, written by Clarence Stover was read by Mrs. Ted Debus.

A contest on "Guessing Who" pertaining to old snapshots was won by Mrs. Ross Adlington.

Meeting closed and thanks was expressed to all who made this night a success.

## Mrs. Joseph Duffy heads Summerville WI

The Summerville Women's Institute held its annual April business meeting at the home of Mrs. Donald Arthur, with 11 members present. Roll call was paying of membership fees.

The conveners for programs read their report and Mrs. Gordon Gehring read a

report of the spring board meeting. She also reported that 11 ladies took the stocking course given by Mrs. Donald Barnim and Mrs. Grace Gehring. Summerville Institute is to make and send crafts to the Erland Lee Home.

Mrs. Joseph Ash was secretary for nominations and Mrs. Lorne Treffry conducted the election of officers for 1985, who are as follows: past president, Mrs. Joseph Duffy; president, Mrs. Joseph Duffy; first vice president, Mrs. Kenneth Arthur; second vice president, Mrs. Jay Durkee; secretary, Mrs. Joseph Ash; treasurer, Mrs. Keith Arthur, Mrs. Donald Arthur; district representative, Mrs. Gordon Gehring; alternate, Mrs. Donald Barnim; curator, Mrs. Stanley Gehring; assistant, Mrs. Harold Arthur; good cheer, Mrs. Joseph Ash; public relations officer, Mrs. Joseph Ash; auditors, Mrs. Gordon Gehring and Mrs. Jack Walthers.

Standing committee conveners: agriculture, Mrs. Jack Walther; citizenship, Mrs. Reg Walters; Canadian industries, Mrs. Bert Redman; resolutions, Mrs. Harry Pickersgill; education, Mrs. Jay Durkee.

A social hour followed the meeting.

## Mrs. Murray Downing WI president

April meeting of Springford WI was held at the home of Mrs. Esther Smith. Eight members answered roll call by paying their annual dues.

Members were informed of various upcoming events: District Annual at Norwich, May 8; trip to the Erland Lee Home, June 3. Each member is asked to make a craft to sell at the Erland Lee Home and hand it in by the May meeting.

It was decided to purchase new steps for the hall and remove the old ones; also to purchase a drip coffee maker.

Plans for the rummage sale were finalized.

Eva Lee, district director, gave a report on the spring meeting held at Ostrander.

Margaret Lee gave the nominating committee report and Dorothy Palmer installed the officers as follows: past president, Esther Smith; president, Lorraine Down-

ing; vice-president, Carol Tribe; secretary, Margaret Lee; treasurer, Carol Tribe; district director, Eva Lee; alternate district director, Sherrill Babbey.

Standing committee conveners: agriculture and Canadian industries, Mae Oatman; world affairs and citizenship, Ruby Fleming; cultural activities, Ruth Ann Haley; family affairs, Sherrill Babbey; consumer affairs, Esther Smith; resolutions, Nancy Lester; education, Joyce Pettigrew; curator, Lillian White; public relations, Ruth Ann Haley; nominating committee, Carol Tribe and Sherrill Babbey; auditors, Eva Lee and Joyce Pettigrew; cards, Ruth Ann Haley.



### Car cleaning

David Braun, 15, of RR 1, Otterville, applies some muscle to clean the inside of a car at BJ's Mini Golf and Driving Range outside of the Tillsonburg town limits on Highway 19. David has received a \$1,100 loan from the Ontario government's Student Venture Capital

Program to set up a car cleaning business for the summer which will offer competitive rates for inside and outside work. It takes him and a friend, David Cope, about 4½ hours to do the interior and exterior of a car and they ask that potential customers phone ahead to make an appointment. (Staff Photo)

### Shows initiative

# Student starts own business

By JANE STIRLING

Initiative, inventiveness and risk-taking are three key words for the operator of any small business—three words that a 15-year-old Otterville high school student is becoming well-acquainted with.

David Braun, of RR 1, Otterville, has been busy during the past month learning the ins and outs of running a small business after receiving a \$1,100 loan from the Ontario government through its Student Venture Capital Program.

He and David Cope, both Grade 9 students at Norwich District High School, will be operating a car-cleaning business this summer at BJ's Mini Golf and Driving

Range on Highway 19 just outside of the Tillsonburg town limits.

Actually, the business opened last Saturday with three appointments, and will continue on weekends or after school until mid-June at which time the youths will take appointments for any day of the week.

David Braun, the moving force behind the business, came up with the idea of a car-cleaning operation after noticing ads for similar but more expensive work in town. "I thought we could set one up that was less expensive to appeal to middle income people," he said. Having performed car cleaning jobs on family and relatives' automobiles, he felt he had the necessary knowledge to set up his own business.

After hearing of the provincial government loans offered to students to operate their own businesses, David became more determined to go through with his plan of earning some extra cash during his summer holidays.

But obtaining the loan is not simply a case of writing away for it with an accompanying letter explaining the proposed business. David said he had to provide details about his operation such as where he was going to operate it, what he was going to charge, how much materials would cost and names of people who would be interested in the service.

He then had to take his application to the Tillsonburg and District Chamber of Commerce for a stamp of approval before it could be sent to Toronto for processing.

About a month after he sent his application away, he received confirmation of the \$1,100 loan and proceeded to set up a bank account to prepare to go into business.

His preparatory work was not finished, however, as he hired his friend to assist in the cleaning duties and investigated a similar business operating successfully in London.

David said the program will give him a good business background and he might be willing to try something else at a later date with this experience behind him.

"It requires a certain amount of initiative (to get involved in the program)," he said. "Students must think up a good idea that will appeal to people." He charges \$35 for complete interior car cleaning including shampooing of the carpets, cleaning and spraying the vinyl and cleaning the windows and chrome. Outside cleaning costs \$30 for a wash and hand wax. The total package can be purchased for \$60.

The process takes about 4½ hours and people must make an appointment. They can do so by calling 863-3875 after 4 p.m. weekdays or 842-8773 on weekends.

The Student Venture Capital Program offers interest-free loans up to \$2,000 from April 1, 1985, to October 1, 1985, to full-time students returning to a high school, college or university in the fall.

The applicant must be 15 years of age or over.

The business should provide a product or service and fall under the definition of an independent business. The successful applicant may be required to submit a brief interim status report about four weeks after receiving the loan.

The program, designed to appeal to students, can be continued after the loan has been repaid in October. David said he intends to continue his business year-round if it proves successful as a summer operation.

Other details about the program are available at the Canada Employment Centre, 4 Ridout St. E. in Tillsonburg. The supervisor of the Canada Employment Centre for Students, Lynne Burns, can be reached at 842-5907 for more information.

## Township Council

# Stirring up the dust

Three North Norwich (Ward 3) residents are stirring up some dust of their own over a dust problem on the 2nd Concession.

Tees Bouwheer, John Seebolim and William Knox appeared before Township Council for the second time last Tuesday demanding action on a problem, which they say has plagued the concession road for several years.

## New home for retired truck

The Ward 1 Firefighters Club will have a home for its cherished old-time fire truck.

The club was granted permission to erect a garage behind the Otterville Fire Hall to store the restored 1940 fire truck.

Final approval, however, depends on whether a suitable location can be worked out with the municipal building inspector.

Deputy chief Bill McMullen told council last Tuesday the club wanted to erect the building on the north corner of the fire hall parking lot.

The problem with the site, however, is that there is a tile bed directly underneath the spot.

The club proposed a 12 foot by 26 foot structure on a cement pad. "It probably wouldn't be legal," said Mr. McMullen, since it would cover part of the tile bed. He estimated, however, that only 62 tiles of the 400 tile bed would be covered.

If this isn't satisfactory, he said, the club had a second idea, which is to build an elevated structure "which in no way would interfere with the tile bed" and leave enough room (one foot) for evaporation to take place.

The deputy chief was adamant about finding a permanent home for the now-retired truck. "It's spent the last few years in garages everywhere.

"It goes to someone's overnight, then to someone else's where it's put under a tarp; it's also been in my garage..."

The truck was retired from the South Norwich Fire Department in 1973 and purchased by the firefighters club. Since then it has been fully restored.

"Right now we're stuck for a place. We've got an historical vehicle which we've put a lot of money into and we need some place to store it."

Mr. McMullen said the club will build the structure at no cost to the municipality. He added that the building would also be ideal for training purposes.

He said the proposed placement of the building would not interfere with either parking or access with neighboring homes.

Excessive truck traffic into and out of a local quarry is causing the trouble, said the men. They are asking that council apply the necessary coats of liquid calcium or oil to eliminate the problem.

The severity of the dust problem, said Mr. Bouwheer, is worse than on most other township roads because of the heavy traffic.

Mayor John Heleniak said the problem area -- just east of Prouse's Gravel Pit, west of County Road 13 and one mile south of Holbrook -- is indeed unique because of the traffic.

Council, however, opted to hold off on an immediate decision. When council last heard from the delegation in mid-March, their request was turned down.

Apple grower John Seebolim said he is taking a loss of about \$4,000 a year because of the reduced quality of his apples. "My apples taste like sandpaper."

Mr. Bouwheer said some days a truck passes by his property every 10 minutes during the summer.

"Prouse is the biggest problem," said Mr. Knox. "They should be paying for the extra calcium."

He said the dust problem is going to get worse once the trucks start hauling full loads May 1.

One coat of flaked calcium was applied last year to the road, but only lasted two weeks, he said.

## Blessing given for land severance

Norwich Township Council has given its blessing to a request for a land severance, although the county planning department recommends against it.

Council has approved an application by Elwood Morrison, RR 4, Woodstock, for a minor variance to divide an existing two acre residential property into two separate lots.

Mr. Morrison owns a parcel of land on the west side of Highway 59. The property was acquired in two stages over a period of three years, 1967 to 1970. Because title was held in the same name, the two original properties were caused to merge under the Planning Act and one lot resulted. The owner now wishes to restore the property to correspond with his two deeds.

Mr. Morrison's lawyer, David Beatty, asked council to confirm the proposed severance will conform with the township's zoning bylaws before the application is dealt with by the Ontario Municipal Board.

The Oxford County Planning Department reported that the requested variance would, in effect, create a new building lot and is not desirable because the property is amidst the County's Agricultural Preserve Policy Area.

## More insurance

Because of increasing insurance claim settlements over the past several years, Norwich Township Council is purchasing excess liability coverage.

At last Tuesday's meeting council approved doubling its present coverage of \$5 million to provide an overall limit of \$10 million, at a cost of \$2,244.

Council made the decision after a presentation by Frank Cowan Insurance agent, Hank Roy. He said courts are awarding settlements so large that premiums in the not-too-distant future will increase.

## Beer tent for ball game

Norwich Township Council has authorized the Norwich Co-op Slo Pitch team to sell beer at its annual tournament.

A beer tent will be erected at Dillon Park the evenings of Friday, June 28 and Saturday, June 29, 1985.

# Norwich council holds final budget meeting

After Township Mayor John Heleniak congratulated council for holding the township's budget increase to only four per cent, council -- in the last minutes of the final budget meeting Monday -- added \$8,500 to its 1985 operating budget bringing the increase over last year to five per cent.

Council cut \$83,145 from its preliminary budget in the last of three budget meetings held over the past several weeks.

At one point council had shaved more than \$91,000 from the preliminary figures, but in the end deemed it wise to stash \$6,000 into a reserve fund. \$2,500, in the way of a grant, was also given to the Norwich Cemetery Company.

In Monday night's session, the Roads Department was the hardest hit, with council deleting \$58,000 from that department's budget.

A pickup truck budgeted at \$9,000, \$30,000 worth of road construction on East Street in Ward 4, and \$19,000 for arena renovations were deleted from the Public Works budget.

Coun. Bob Carney led the charge on the roads budget requesting that the pickup truck be dropped from the budget. The Ward 1 councillor doubted whether any of the present vehicles really had to be replaced yet.

"We should be buying a vehicle when we need a vehicle not when it's time for a new vehicle."

Coun. Don Pettigrew, however, dug in heels trying to keep the \$199,000 roads budget in tact.

"I hate to see one dollar deleted from this roads budget. Our roads budget has already fallen behind enough," he said.

Ward 4 councillor Hardee Richardson who moved the deletion of the money earmarked for the East Street reconstruction project was backed up by his ward-mate Coun. Larry Martin.

"I hate to see it cut too," said Mr. Martin, "but my God, people can only afford so much."

The Ward 4 councillor could hardly believe he was arguing for the deletion, after so long trying to get roads improved in his part of the municipality.

"Here we were finally gonna get something in Ward 4, but the ratepayers can only afford so much," he repeated.

Council also deleted \$6,500 budgeted for a police cruiser and \$1,500 for new doors at the Ward 1 firehall. Added to the budget were \$950 for mats for the Norwich Arena dressing rooms, a \$500 grant to the St. John's Anglican Cemetery and \$1,070 for replacement of a light tower at the arena.

### 50 YEARS AGO May 1935

Rosanna - The people of Rosanna are reminded of the opening for the summer of the Rosanna Baptist Church.

### 100 YEARS AGO May 1885

Windham - Mr. Obed Manuel of Windham has commenced building his foundry on the site of the C.S.R. Hotel, which was recently burned.

Otterville - Mr. Copeland, the principal of our school, has decided to introduce the "Ontario Readers" in the lower division at an early date.

Houghton Centre - Prof. Ball is starting a singing school at the Hemlock school house. We wish him all success.

Prayers were offered up in all the churches in town on Sunday for the gallant soldiers who have gone to the North-West to suppress the half-breed and Indian uprising.

### 15 YEARS AGO May 27, 1970

Jr. Merchants are honored at a banquet and dance. Closing out the greatest hockey season ever witnessed in this immediate area, Norwich Jr. D Merchants, All-Ontario Jr. D Champions and Southern Ontario Jr. Champions, were honored at a banquet and dance. Most improved player 1968-69, Doug Hall; 1969-70, John Avey.

Highest scoring defenceman, 1968-69, Mike Mountain; 1969-70, Chris Pettigrew. Lady Miller Trophy for the most gentlemanly player, Wayne Longthorne. Most valuable player, 1968-69, Gary Thorne; 1969-70, Frank Menich, Sportsman trophy, Rick Nickerson. Highest scorer, 1968-69 and 1969-70, Wayne Chalkley.

# Norwich police still on Carney's hit list

NG  
MAY 1

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

Bob Carney, the councillor who spearheaded the recent move to area rate police services, though content for the present to abide by council's decision not to area rate, still has his sights trained on the Township police force.

"I'll be looking to cut down the police force," he said in an interview Thursday.

The Ward 1 (South Norwich) councillor, who is also the Community Services chairman — the man on council who is responsible for fire and police matters — said "we've got to get the cream off that force somehow."

Mr. Carney feels the Township of Norwich Police force, which cost the municipality \$209,000 to operate last year, is unaffordable.

Although the police force only patrols the Village of Norwich (Ward 2) it is subsidized by tax monies from residents in the municipality's other three wards.

"We've got to look at some way of either limiting over-time hours or reducing personnel.

"The cost is increasing every year and people can't afford it."

Mr. Carney said there are three full-time constables, two or three part-time constables, a part-time jailer and a police chief, all to tend a village of only 2,300 people.

"I think I speak for the majority of councillors; it shouldn't be as large as that."

Coun. Don Pettigrew, who has made a study of police forces in Ontario comparable in size to Norwich Township's, said 20 other police forces are operating efficiently on a much smaller tax base. "They're paying their way."

The Norwich Township Police force, he said, is operating in a municipality with a gross income of \$7 million. "Yet 20 other forces of similar size, that is one to five members, are operating on a total gross revenue of \$1.85 million."

Asked if he would continue to lobby for another vote on the issue of area rating of police protection before the next election, the Ward 1 councillor said he would not. "I'm satisfied with the vote."

Mr. Pettigrew was one of five councillors who voted for area rating. The motion, introduced last Tuesday for the third time in as many weeks, was defeated six to five.

"It has been dealt with by council; it's been dealt with by every council and no doubt it will be dealt with by future councils."

# Council smells trouble

NG  
MAY 1

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

Norwich Township Council smells potential trouble over a proposal for a meat-packing plant and abattoir on the southern limits of the village of Norwich.

Council was considering the repeal of part of a Health Protection and Promotion Act bylaw which would allow the construction of an abattoir within 35 metres (600 feet) of a residential dwelling.

But at a meeting last Tuesday, council decided it wanted more information before it would bend any rules allowing development to go ahead. It declined third reading of the bylaw and will continue to hold off on a decision until at least a site plan for the property is submitted.

The main concern of council is the possibility of odors created by the plant.

Councillor Bob Carney said he didn't think residents and businesses in the area "are totally aware of what's taking place."

"I won't vote without hearing from the adjacent property owners," he said.

John and Marion Heleniak, RR 1, Norwich, have applied for a zone change from existing developmental to industrial to permit the operation on a 14.6 acre property on the west side of Highway 59. The

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued from Page 1)

Heleniak family now operate an abattoir immediately adjacent to the property in question.

"This is an industry that can present some very strong odors. I just don't feel personally, at this stage, I can support this

without hearing from the adjacent people," said Coun. Carney.

"I think we need an awful lot more information before we go bending the rules. There are a lot of established people and businesses around there."

Mr. Carney was particularly concerned with the affect unpleasant odors could have on the two eating establishments in the area.

Despite the fact that residents within 400 feet of the property were notified of the proposal, he said odors could affect residents as far away as 1,500 feet.

Coun. Larry Martin said when council approved the rezoning in principle at its last meeting he thought more information would be made available before any further decisions were made.

"Things are moving too fast for me," said Coun. Carney.

"People need a final fair warning and a chance to speak their peace before this goes through."

NG  
MAY 1

## Letters to the editor

To the Editor,

I read in The Norwich Gazette with disappointment that area rating of police in Norwich Township was defeated by a 6-5 vote.

This means taxpayers of Ward 2, 1, 3, 4 will be saddled with a burden of \$209,000 plus indefinitely.

\$53,000 will come from the taxpayers taxes and the other \$156,000 will also come from taxpayers money in the form of a grant. Now the police are asking for a 10 per cent raise in pay?

If I were a councillor I would grant it to them so the "Cadillac police force" would become a "streamlined Cadillac police force."

It is a time for restraint anyway, as farmers are growing only 45 per cent of their quotas and most of the taxpayers are falling on tougher times.

I remember when (I think it was) Todd Henry policed the village of Norwich himself as Art Kilpatrick did in South Norwich. I wonder what their salaries and benefits were?

Somewhere back in the late 50's a provincial policeman, I believe, policed the village of Norwich. When my wife asked the councillor at large what happened to him she said she thought he was too expensive and they couldn't afford it. All of a sudden along came regional government and now we can afford four full time policemen and two part time policemen plus a hefty amount of overtime which was approximately \$11,000 in 1984 just to police

a village.

Jack Lester says in The Gazette on April 24, 1985, without the police there may be more hardened criminals. When does most crime occur? I don't think the police are on duty 24 hours a day but may be on call which is overtime.

I have been in Norwich many times lately and I have yet to see a policeman in uniform walking the beat. I see them in other places or at least the cruiser outside of the village limits.

Darrell Force says in the article that ratepayers from Ward 2 are not complaining about graveling roads in the other wards. Don't most of these gravel roads bring people to Norwich village some way or another or does he want the village isolated?

Everybody can use these roads anytime night or day but if we have a problem or need for police can we call Norwich Township Police?

What about the police cruiser having "Norwich Township Police" on it when they only police Norwich Village? They are also bylaw enforcement officers of the township so I've been told (I didn't know) but about a month ago in The Norwich Gazette under police report I see they investigated one bylaw infraction. Now listen to this, if you have a bylaw infraction it must be in writing to police or council as a phone call will not suffice. How long does this nonsense take to get the infraction attended to. A noise bylaw infraction recently cost the taxpayers over \$700 and from

what I know the noise still exists.

The mayor said he has had numerous phone calls saying places like the Otterville swimming pool and medical centre be area rated. These places do not have to be used if you don't care to use them. Nobody is making you use them but you are having to pay the police.

I can hardly wait for some members of council to come knocking at my door next fall wanting a vote. It will be interesting.

No, I am not running for election to council but you can bet I'll be campaigning.

I am not against Norwich Village having some police protection but to spend \$210,000 on them is ridiculous.

Ken Mann  
Otterville

To the Editor,

Archbishop Garnsworthy deserved support from his senior, the Primate.

Was his language "extreme" or "intemperate?" It seems quite controlled to this writer, especially so at the height of an election campaign. The comparison was limited to governmental procedure, and nothing else in Hitler's infamous conduct was specified. Our former premier's methods were impugned in no other field.

Archbishop Garnsworthy is hereby commended for his remarkable self-control in withholding his sincere comments for so long.

J.C. St. John  
Norwich, Ont.



## Township Council

# Residents concerned over tree removal

Concern has been expressed over the number of trees cut down in Otterville and Norwich.

Mayor John Heleniak, at a council meeting Monday, said he had received "a lot" of calls from residents concerned

about trees cut down in the two villages over the last month.

The township has removed about 24 unhealthy and unsafe trees. The county, as well, has also removed some trees.

Coun. Don Pettigrew, who has also received a number of calls, said he has heard rumors that trees were being cut down on private property and that property owners were not being notified the trees were coming down.

Road Superintendent Ron Smith reported that the trees were marked "two or three weeks" in advance. "And before we take them down we ask the owner if they want the wood."

"It's sad to see the trees come down," said Coun. Pettigrew. "It changes the landscape completely."

Coun. Pettigrew also said he had heard that the PUC was having trouble maintain-

ing its power lines and as a result found it easier to take the trees down.

The councillor wondered whether the trees couldn't be doctored in some way so that the problem tree couldn't be saved.

"If a person has a dental cavity you don't slate him for the slaughter block," he said.

The road superintendent, however, said the trees were indeed unhealthy. "Sometimes the trees don't look so bad,

but they can be pretty rotten."

On the suggestion of Coun. Jack Lester council decided to eliminate the risk of trees being cut down indiscriminately, by implementing a tree removal program for the future, supplemented by the expertise of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Council has also purchased 200 12 foot maples from Sheridan Nurseries for planting in Otterville and Norwich. The trees cost \$4,036.

## Workers get pay raise

All full-time employees of the township with the exception of the police department and township treasurer, Reg Saunders (a new employee), have been given a pay raise of \$16.35 per week retroactive to Jan. 1, 1985.

The increase will amount to \$850 per year for each employee.

Mayor John Heleniak said council decided on the lump sum payment rather than a

percentage increase so each employee would receive the same amount.

All part-time employees including the township's 60-plus firefighters will receive a pay increase of three per cent.

Wage discussions with the Township of Norwich Police Department will continue at a Community Services meeting May 21. The police are asking for a 10 per cent pay raise.

## Norwich opposing Hydro routes through township

By Ben Steidman  
Staff Writer

NORWICH — Township Council is making no bones about its opposition to any proposed Ontario Hydro high-voltage transmission lines crossing its territory.

At last week's meeting, Council took another step to cement its position by passing a motion against construction of transmission lines through the township.

Council had already approved a resolution back in June, 1983, rejecting location of Ontario Hydro's proposed new 500-kilovolt (kV) lines in Norwich Township.

Nevertheless, Council did hold a carrot out to Ontario Hydro. The utility could expect Council's support for plans to construct power-transmission lines at other sites during upcoming environmental assessment hearings, if Ontario Hydro did indeed abandon plans to put transmission lines through the township.

However, the motion wasn't passed unanimously as some councillors showed little enthusiasm for backing Ontario Hydro. Councillor Larry Martin echoed the sentiments of other members in voicing opposition to Council support for the utility.

According to Councillor Jack Lester, these hearings should be staged in a few months.

Ontario Hydro has been conducting studies and holding public meetings on

possible routes for the proposed transmission lines.

Councillor Lester said Ontario Hydro is in the "midst of making a choice" now on possible routes. This system, expected to be unveiled in July, would become the basis for environmental assessment hearings.

In 1981, Ontario Hydro had conducted studies on alternative routes for expanding its high-voltage transmission system in Southwestern Ontario. An environmental assessment went to Ontario's Ministry of the Environment and public hearings held in 1982.

Study areas were approved for detailed route location studies and a number of possible transmission routes and new transformer sites identified near Barrie and from London east to Hamilton and Nanticoke.

However, a June 1984 decision by the Divisional Court of Ontario invalidated findings at the hearings held in 1982, and resulted in Ontario Hydro repeating the exercise again.

Ontario Hydro spokesmen said this past March that alternative routes still up for grabs are one along Highways 401 and 403 and one along an existing 115-kV line, both affecting Norwich Township.

Councillor Lester said Ontario Hydro is still considering putting through two high-voltage lines. In proposing the motion to Council, he felt it necessary to "tell Hydro to pick a system suitable for the Township."

He admitted that at this stage, "everything was wide open" as far as routes were concerned.

## Dust a thing of the past

The dust problem on the 2nd Concession (North Norwich) near the Prouse Gravel Pit will hopefully become a thing of the past now that council has decided to apply dust layers when required.

The decision was made after three residents, troubled by the dust problem, approached council for the second time at a meeting two weeks ago.

On the first occasion, the residents request was turned down.

This time, however, several councillors visited the stretch of road just east of the gravel pit and watched the gravel trucks kick up clouds of dust. "It was unbelievable," said Coun. Larry Martin.

## Council briefs

Norwich Township Council approve the payment of \$300 for 1984 and \$425 for 1985 maintenance of the Ducky Dennis Park in Burgessville.

At a meeting Monday, council also increased the money budgeted for additional storage capacity at the park to \$1,500 from \$600.

The Norwich 175th Anniversary Committee was granted free rental of the Norwich Community Centre auditorium during celebrations this summer.

Waiving of the rental stands so long as use of the facility by the committee does not interfere with paid bookings.

More swings will be installed at the Otterville Park.

Council authorized the Otterville Sunshine Club to install the additional swings.

Council accepted the tender of Cornell Construction Ltd., in the amount of \$33,953.75 for approximately 5.25 miles of single surface treatment.

Ward 1 Councillor Michael Oliver has been named the township's "Good News" reporter.

Coun. Oliver, along with representatives from other municipalities

within the county, will submit articles of an up-beat nature to the new Oxford County newsletter, "Good News."

The County Council-published newsletter will be published every two or three months. The project is being co-ordinated by the staff of the County Planning Department.

A Norwich couple say they are vehemently opposed to the expansion of Norwich Packers, which may include a new abattoir.

In a letter to council, Ronald and Judy Renwick said they were "vehemently opposed" to the plant.

"After enduring the stench which originated from Norwich Packers last summer and fall, we are vehemently opposed to any expansion of the company."

At a meeting April 15, council approved the rezoning of the property in principle, from Development to General Industrial. The property is owned by John and Marian Heleniak, RR 1, Norwich.

The Heleniaks are planning to build a wholesale-retail and meatpacking and abattoir operation on a six hectare (14.8 acre) property lying on the west side of Highway 59 between Concessions 5 and 6 (North Norwich) and the CNR tracks.

# Mill rate increased by 7 per cent

Norwich Township Council has managed to keep the general mill rate below five per cent. But circumstances beyond their control have resulted in a 7.02 per cent overall increase over last year.

Council, meeting Monday, set the general residential rate at 64.799 mills, up 4.71 per cent from 61.886 mills in 1984. The rates are based on a total assessment of \$18,673,422.

"Township councillors did an excellent job in trying to keep the budget increase below five per cent," said Mayor John Heleniak. Their efforts, however, were thwarted by an unusually high increase in the elementary school mill rate.

The elementary school rate has risen by 13.38 per cent to 84.474 mills, up from 74.504 mills in 1984. The secondary school rate is 65.115 mills, a 3.54 increase. The county mill rate is 40.321 mills, an increase of 4.12 per cent.

This year a property owner with \$4,000 of assessment will be paying taxes of \$1,081.84, a \$66.83 increase over the \$952.01 he paid last year.

The township's commercial mill rate has been set at 76.234 mills, 47.436 mills for the county, 76.606 mills for secondary schools, 99.381 mills for public schools and 107.170 mills for separate schools.

The total budget is \$7,043,854. Tax levies and charges for 1985 will bring \$4,979,280 into the township coffers. Other revenues, generated from grants, user fees and transfers from reserves totalling \$2,064,574, will bring municipal revenues to \$7,043,854.

Operating expenses for the township will total \$2,757,488. The municipality will also be spending \$2,780,177 on secondary and public schools. An additional \$161,272 is earmarked for separate schools.

Residential mill rates on other township services are: streetlighting (Norwich), 5.035 mills; (Otterville and Burgessville), 8.299 mills; (Springford), 4.332 mills; gar-

bage collection (Norwich), 7.088 mills; (Otterville and Burgessville), 9.710; sewer area (Norwich), 3.282 (Ward 3), 3.053; band levy (Norwich), .483 mills.

## Lighting up the night

The night sky over Norwich Township will be bright with starbursts and skyrockets Monday with two Victoria Day fireworks displays scheduled.

In Burgessville, the display sponsored by the Burgessville Firefighters Association will cap two days of baseball.

The Fireball Tournament featuring five Senior Tier II teams from Norwich, Hamilton, Toronto, Waterloo and Sarnia, will kick off Sunday, May 19 beginning at noon. Monday's games will begin at 10:30

a.m. with the final game at 7:30 p.m. Eleven games will be played in total -- five on Sunday and six on Monday. Fireworks begin at dusk.

The firefighters association will also be holding a draw for a grasstrimmer.

The Norwich-Otterville Lions Club will be hosting the fireworks display at the Otterville Park. It too will follow a fastball game between the Lions Club and The Spring-Otter Optimists at 8 p.m.

Admission for adults will be \$2, students \$1, and pre-schoolers free.

## Ratepayers to meet

The Township of Norwich Ratepayers Association will hold an executive meeting June 10 when it will decide on a date for its third general meeting. The meeting will be held in Norwich.

Association president Marilyn McLees said Tuesday an association member will begin May 28 - be attending Township Council meetings. A copy of council agendas and minutes will also be made available to the organization.

## Designate Norwich properties as historic sites

The Norwich United Church and the church manse will probably be declared heritage properties this summer, says Susan Start, the chairman of the Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee (LACAC).

They will be the first properties within the Village of Norwich to be designated as historic sites.

Mrs. Start said Friday that the two Italianate structures, both built in the late 1800s of locally produced white brick, are actually of greater architectural than historical significance.

"But from a historical perspective the buildings were major focal points for the community." She noted that the church was important as a symbol of union between the Methodist faith of the 1880s and the formation of the United Church of Canada in 1925.

The Township of Norwich is presently

advertising its intention to designate the properties. If no objections are filed, the buildings could be designated by council within 60 days, said Mrs. Start.

"We had hoped to have the church and manse designated before the 175th Anniversary celebrations, but it looks likely that it will be in the early fall or the end of this summer."

LACAC was approached last autumn by the Norwich United Church Board of Stewards to have the buildings designated.

In addition to the pride that comes with a historic designation, there is also one practical benefit, said the LACAC chairman. That is the provincial government matches the money spent on the upkeep of a designated property up to a maximum of \$3,000.

A further benefit of the designation, said Mrs. Start, is that other citizens or organizations in the municipality may pick

up on the idea resulting in more historic designations for the community.

To date, there are five properties in Norwich Township that have been designated. They are: the Treffry Mill, Otterville; the Otty House, Otterville; Beck's Store, Hawtrey; the Clark Home, Quaker Street, and Curries United Church.

Norwich United Church was built in 1885. Its 200,000 bricks were manufactured at the local Irwin brickyard. The structure features a broad gable with three recessed doors below triple round-headed windows.

The facade and sides are supported by slender buttresses which grow out from the bases of the molded window surrounds. Pinnacles on the facade were removed earlier in this century. The church also retains its original stained glass windows.

Aspects of the sanctuary worth noting include: the apse, a nineteenth century pipe organ, unusual, cast-iron-ended extended pews; wide pine floors and baseboards. The two side staircases connecting the lower floor with the sanctuary are also original.

The manse, built in 1875, was a prototype for more than 40 similar homes built in the Norwich area in the following decade.

Exterior features include paired brackets under the eaves, twin round-headed windows and doors and original windows and storms. The interior is noted for its hand-crafted woodwork.

### TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH SPRING CLEAN-UP COMMENCING TUESDAY, MAY 14th, 1985

Garden refuse and brush for collection in the Village of Norwich must be placed in the boulevard for collection not later than 7:00 A.M. on the above date.

The truck will pass along the route ONCE ONLY.

No telephone call back will be accepted.

Earth, masonry and any refuse from building repairs or construction will not be picked up.

Your co-operation in refraining from placing refuse on the road allowance prior to 24 hours before pick-up would be appreciated.

AGRICULTURE AND WORKS COMMITTEE  
TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH

Township of Norwich

### Volunteer Advisory Members

The Municipal Council is inviting written applications from citizens who are interested in acting as a member of CULTURE AND RECREATION Advisory Committee.

Applications must be received by the undersigned before May 17th, 1985.

ROBERT C. WATKINS,  
CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR,  
Township of Norwich  
P.O. Box 100,  
Otterville, Ontario  
N0J 1R0  
879-6568 or 863-2709

TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH

### FOR SALE

The Township of Norwich offers the following trucks for sale at SUNRISE EQUIPMENT AUCTIONS INC., RR 3, Norwich, on June 14th, 1985:

1 — 1971 FARGO 500 Cab and Chassis with Plow  
1 — 1974 FORD 750 Cab Chassis with Dump Box.  
The above to be sold as is to the highest bidder.

AGRICULTURE AND WORKS COMMITTEE

## Artist speaks at Historical Society meeting

The May meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society was held at Woodlawn on May 13 with President Jack Smith in charge.

Minutes of the April meeting and of a book committee meeting were ready by Secretary Carl Howse. Letters and announcements of various meetings and workshops to be held in the area were read by corresponding secretary Loreen McMullen.

Mary Murray brought to the attention of the meeting that microfilm reels covering several years' issues of The Norwich Gazette were available, but the Norwich Archives did not have funds available to purchase these films. After some discussion several individual members each pledged themselves to purchase a reel covering one year's issue of the paper.

A committee volunteered to look after the barbeque to be held at the Treffry Mill on the weekend of Canada Day. It is planned that all barbeque tickets must be purchased in advance, with none available at the gate. Several members also volunteered to be responsible for the food booth at the Steam Show.

Dave Hussey gave the financial report, which was followed by a discussion on purchasing a mower to cut the mill grounds. This matter was turned over to the grounds committee. A meeting of the Mill Committee is to be held shortly.

The speaker of the evening, Mr. George Rickard, was introduced by Mrs. Lorraine Downing. Mr. Rickard is an artist and writer from London, Ont., who has written and illustrated a number of books, including one on the "Mills of Ontario" which shows and describes the Treffry Mill.

He spoke on one of his books which told the story of the song "When You And I Were Young, Maggie." This was a very attractive book with many of Mr. Rickard's drawings. Since he wrote the story, drew the illustrations and published the book himself, rather than selling the story to a publisher, he outlined the mechanical aspects of preparing and printing a book which were considerably more involved than many had realized.

The song "When You And I Were Young, Maggie" was written by George Washington Johnson in the 1860's. The Maggie of the song was Margaret Clark, eldest of the 12 children of James Clark who bought land in Glanford Township, Wentworth County in 1840.

James Clark was a farmer, but also operated a sawmill on his property. Maggie was born in 1841 and first met George Johnson when he came from Binbrook and became her teacher. Later they became engaged and at this time George wrote the

poem which was later set to music and became famous. They were married in 1868.

In the meantime George had become a journalist and moved to Cleveland. Maggie had contracted tuberculosis before they were married, and died a year after her marriage. A year after her death the poem was set to music and first sung by one of Maggie's sisters, and soon became very popular.

George returned to Ontario and taught school again in Binbrook, Stoney Point, Hamilton and later at University of Toronto and at Cornell University. He died in California 50 years after Maggie.

The Clark home is now marked by a plaque, but the old mill has disappeared. The stream which drove the mill was Twenty Mile Creek. There are members of the Clark family living in Aylmer and Tillsonburg.

Mrs. Downing thanked the speaker and presented him with a gift, after which refreshments were served.

## Otterville UCW hold May meeting

OTTERVILLE (C) — The May meeting of the Otterville United Church Women opened with the president Betty Walther welcoming all, especially a former member, Marion Moore. Betty Walther read a poem "Give Us Daily Awareness" and offered prayer.

Program convener Isabell Harris opened the devotions by giving a few inspirational words. She introduced the guest speaker Vi Sackrider who gave a very interesting talk on Women of the Bible. Afterwards she and Mrs. Harris conducted a Bible quiz on "How Many Women Can You Name in the Bible?" Mrs. Sackrider was thanked for her talk and for bringing the beautiful banner of the church crest she had made.

All sang "Spirit of God" with Mrs. Walthers performing the solo with "God's Hand In Mine." Marion Pettigrew offered prayer. Offering was received by Dorothy Neale and Laura Hooker. All sang "There Will be Sunshine in the Morning."

During the business session it was decided to give a donation to the church board.

Lorraine Downing spoke on the June trip. Though the bus is full she is taking names to be put on a waiting list.

Thank-you notes were read from Lucille Debus and the Chambers family. Jean McClintock thanked the ladies for the refreshments served to the community choir after the Good Friday service.



— Jim Countryman surfaced with some unusual photography featuring the restored Treffry Mill in Otterville.

"The mill cannot grind with water that's past."

# Lions club meet for roast beef

Regular meeting of Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held Monday, May 13, at Norwich Legion Hall, Norwich. Twenty-nine members and four guests enjoyed a roast beef dinner served by members of the Eastern Star.

Lion Les Dickson introduced Lion Cliff Mathews, from Sweaburg, who is the Oxford County agriculture representative. Mr. Mathews made some interesting comments and showed some excellent slides pertaining to lifestyles and farming methods in New Zealand, where he spent a year, June 1981 - June 1982, as an exchange agriculture representative.

He gave several interesting comparisons of life there as compared to Canada, for example annual income of \$12,000 would be taxed approximately 50 per cent rate. Car insurance lower, grass fed meat products cheaper, housing generally lower cost. Dental and doctor rates lower. Manufactured goods and petrol (gasoline) more expensive. Public school children wear uniforms to school.

Mr. Mathews was thanked by Lion Albert Cornwell, who has also been a visitor to the "Kiwi" country in the past.

Lion Howard Fleming P.D.G., reported on the Multiple District "A" convention, held in Kitchener, May 9-12.

Lion Howard attended several of the official functions, and eight members and wives journeyed to Kitchener Saturday, May 11 to participate in the parade. It covered a distance of approximately three miles, with over 100 entries. The parade was shown on Kitchener TV Sunday, May 12, in its entirety.

Lion Colin Cope and son are going to participate in the "Ride for Sight" May 25 from Simcoe to Tillsonburg, and any donations will be used for sight conservation. Anyone wishing to make donations are most welcome.

Lion Les Dickson received his past president's pin and button and Lion Grant Orth received his past secretary's pin.

Three Lions from Waterford were present and brought greetings from Water-

ford club. Lion Ted Frystak spoke and invited us to their Blue Grass festival in July.

A delegation of 30 members from St. Thomas will attend our next regular meeting on May 27.

Incoming officers school will be held Sunday, June 9 at Port Dover. All incoming executive are urged to attend.

Convention draw won by Lions Don Miller and Carmen Denton.

The annual fireworks display will be held at Otterville Park, Monday, May 20. A lob-ball game between the Spring-Otter Optimists and the Norwich-Otterville Lions will start at 8 p.m., preceding the fireworks.

## Norwich-Otterville Lions

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the Community Hall, Otterville, Monday evening, May 27. Lion president Jack Walther presided with 47 present.

This was an outstanding meeting in that 15 Lions from the St. Thomas club plus a Lion bus driver from the Port Stanley club, attending. The added congeniality was soon apparent. There were also five visitors from the Courtland Lions Club.

The evening began with a fine turkey supper catered by the Eastern Star followed by a Chinese Auction, conducted by Lion Fred Thompson, the winner being Lion John Wong, a visiting St. Thomas Lion.

A club team is anticipated in the Norwich Historical Society tug-of-war in Nor-

wich, Saturday, June 1.

Lion Colin Cope represented this club in the Lions Journey for Sight from Fort Erie to Tillsonburg. Lion Colin rode 20 miles accompanied by his son Steven, who also rode. Lion Gord Shearer assisted the riders.

Due to rainy weather, the annual Lions ball game and fireworks display was cancelled on Victoria Day, May 20 in the Otterville Community Park.

Lion president George Hall, of the Courtland Club spoke briefly with greetings from his club. Likewise, Lion president Wayne Cudney offered greetings from the St. Thomas club.

All Lions of this club have been issued tickets for the first Elimination Cash Draw to be held at the Annual Las Vegas Night Sept. 14.

This night replaces the previous car draw and carnival. There will be an Early Bird draw of \$500 July 11 when the Wintario draw will be held in Norwich. Cash draw tickets remain at \$10.

Winners of the Convention Draw were Lion Fuzz Fazakas of the Courtland Club and Lion Bill Martin of the Norwich Club.

## Rebekah Lodge opens in usual fashion

OTTERVILLE (C) — Violet Rebekah Lodge opened in regular form with N.G. Sister June Ash and Sister Ann Arthur presiding.

Visiting committee Sister Ann Arthur, V.G. reported sending get-well cards to Sister Norma Wilsons and Sister Marion Williams. Sister Jo Howse reported that Sister Norma Lefevre had been bitten by a dog and Brother George Lefevre was in hospital after having two slight heart attacks.

Sister Esther Smith reporting for the Humanitarian committee announced the annual meeting on July 13 at Harrowsmith.

Sister Anna Treffry thanked the lodge and members who had sent her sympathy cards in the loss of her sister.

Birthday greetings were sung to Betty Adlington.

Plans were made for Friendship Night to be held June 3. Several members made plans to attend Arkens Rebekah Lodge at Springfield May 22.

Lodge closed in regular form followed by a time of refreshment and fellowship.

## More than just books at library

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Otterville Public Library has much to offer for those visiting besides reading material. Presently a display of basic English Smocking is being presented for perusal by the Somerville Institute.

Examples of smocking featured on children's and adult clothing shows the variety of ways smocking can be used.

Previously, a short course was held at the library co-sponsored by the Somerville Institute and the Department of Agriculture. Led by Margaret Barnim and Grace Gehring, methods of smocking were taught during three evenings. The display will be at the library for two weeks.

As well, the Otterville Public School have an education display set up in the library which consists of projects, creative

writing, art and research outlines done by all grade levels.

The very successful story hour held at the library during the fall and winter months has completed its schedule. The organizers of the program were very pleased with the response to all the sessions which were completely filled.

Held for children two to five years of age, many activities were featured including guest visitors, crafts, stories, songs, games and related activities.

The leadership and assistance of all mothers was greatly appreciated. Another series of sessions is planned to commence in the autumn which will be organized after the summer months.

OTTERVILLE (C) — The monthly meeting of the Otterville Parent Teacher Association featured speaker Ms Kathy Murphy, principal of Otterville Public School.

She provided a presentation on computers in the school.

She noted that computers will not replace the teacher, parent or family. The emphasis in education is going to be increasingly focused on thinking and learning skills rather than simply the recalling of facts which is where the computer becomes very important.

The teacher will become more and more the guide and resource person having the responsibility lifted of having all information available. The computer will have the information needed.

It is estimated that 80 per cent of the next generation will work with computers or highly technical machinery. Therefore students must be taught how to live and participate in that society and be given lots of experience with computers. They must be prepared for an automated society.

There are four basic areas of responsibility of computers. It can be used as a

tool just as we use a pencil, typewriter or calculator and as such, is only as good as we make it.

A computer can be used as a toy in helping the student to get used to the workings of a computer. Games are motivators and allow the student to learn through play and simulation.

It can be a tutor giving one to one programmed instruction. This is where the computer can be adjusted to the level of the student accommodating the needs of the child in the classroom. Relating to this, Grade 1 teacher, Jeanette Berenz, told how the computer is used in her classroom having two of her students, Adam Zimmer and Kaleb Dreidger, demonstrate games used in her classroom. Ms Murphy also showed the different types of programs available and their uses explaining how a computer is only as good as the software used.

The Foot Care Clinic operated by the VON will be held Tuesday, May 28 at the home of Evelyn Waring, 9 Main Street, Otterville. Patients will be treated in the order in which they arrive. The session will begin at 1 p.m.

# Bike riding skills tested

About 25 youngsters put their bike riding skills to the test at the 5th Annual Spring-Otter Optimists Bike Rodeo Saturday in Otterville. A rodeo in Delhi was held in the afternoon.

## Delhi

Junior Boys: first, Brad Verspeeten; second, Justin Huyge; third, Kevin George Maxin.

Senior Boys: first, Ken Wray; second, Frank Yalaksa; third, Jason Loncke.

Junior Girls: first, Kristen Boughner; second, Angie Wormsbecker; third, Nicole Lach.

Contestants rode their bikes along a 1.1 km course in residential Otterville using the appropriate hand signals, actions and etiquette required by a "safe" bike rider. Riders were marked on both their riding skills and on a written test. The event was supervised by Constable Vern Fleming of the Tillsonburg detachment of the OPP.

Matthew Cowan was the big winner of the day winning the Otterville Junior boys division, as well as a new bicycle in the morning draw. The winner of the second bicycle was Melissa Vandekerckhove of Delhi.

The following are the results of the Otterville and Delhi rodeos.

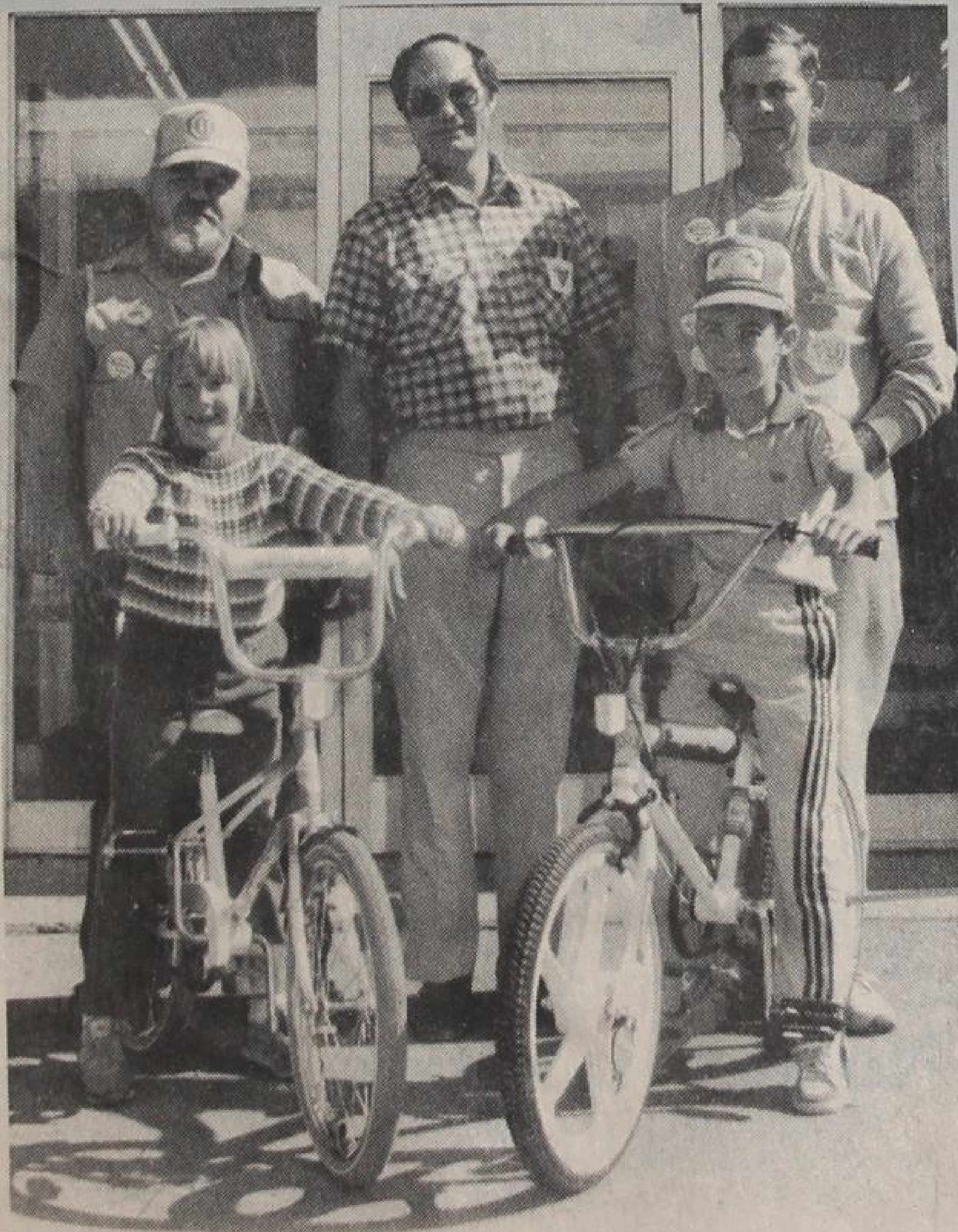
## Otterville

Junior Boys: first, Matthew Cowan; second, Greg Wilson; third, John Hopkins.

Senior Boys: first, Rene Letoile; second, Jason Hird; third, John Letoile.

Junior Girls: first, Mandy Hicks; second, Mandy Letoile; third, Lindsay Picknell.

Senior Girls: first, Francine Countryman; second, Shelby McMurchie; third, Becky Hopkins.



Otterville Optimists combined with Canadian Tire to allow two lucky youngsters to receive new bicycles. Young Melissa Vandekerckhove, 8, of Delhi and Matthew Cowan, 9, of Springford are the proud new bike owners. Standing from left to right are Leon Poirier, Bicycle Safety Week chairman; Barry Bruder, Canadian Tire owner and Rene Letoile, Youth Activities Co-ordinator for the Optimists. (Staff Photo)

# At the churches

## OTTERVILLE UNITED CHURCH

The guest minister for the morning worship service, Rev. Bob Sinasac from Brownsville Pastoral Charge, was introduced to the congregation by Mr. Sam McSpadden.

The opening hymn was "This is the Day that the Lord Hath Made."

For the children's story Mr. Sinasac asked them about preparing for a vacation. Suggestions were made by the girls and boys.

The minister said Jesus has prepared a place for them in heaven in much the same way they would prepare for a holiday.

The choir's anthem was "Lead me Lord," with the solo sung by Mrs. Betty Walther. Mrs. Jean McClintock was director and organist.

The scripture was Colossians 1:1-19 with special emphasis on verses 3-6.

Mr. Sinasac's sermon was "Characteristics of the Christian Church," and he listed Faith, Hope and Love as the basis. Faith we put on as we would a cloak, hope is uncertain, love is pure. If we have faith, hope will come, so we'll be able to withstand the strains and stresses of life. Christians accept people as they are, and don't tear one another apart. They seem to be the happiest people on earth because their motto is "FAITH - Forsaking All I Trust Him."

The offering was received by Donald Chisholm, Donald Neale, Lorne Treffry and John Walther.

## OTTERVILLE ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

Sunday service, the fifth Sunday of Easter, was a service of welcome to Rev. Grant D. Darling, back after a leave of absence, which opened with the singing of "Stand Up and Bless the Lord" led by organist Lila Freeland.

Scripture lessons were taken from Acts 8:26-40, An angel of the Lord said to Philip; John 4:7-12, Beloved, let us love one another; and John 15:1-8, I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser.

The children gathered with Father Darling and expressed their welcome through singing "We Missed You Father Grant." He shared with them thoughts about hypocrisy when someone promises one thing and does another. If we say we love someone we should do it and show it. Rev. Darling shared his love by giving all the children a gift, showing if someone promises something the promise should be kept. The children adjourned to their Sunday school classes during the singing of "Can a Little Child Like Me."

Rev. Darling focused his sermon on the theme of putting love into action. We must learn to love in deed not only in talk. If we are going to be Christians we must go out and make our love known through our actions. Jesus taught the gospel of the love of

God and then proved it by suffering and dying for others.

Hypocrisy must be fought through Christians worshipping, sharing and caring. Through worship we keep in touch with God as a community. We are the family of God which is where our strength lies. Sharing is evangelism for we witness to people of God and caring is loving one another. We are not alone in this fight against hypocrisy for Jesus is with us.

## CURRIES UNITED

The service in the Curries United Church was led by the minister, Rev. J.R. Williams.

The Bible reading from the second and third chapters of Hebrews reasons that we ought to be obedient to Jesus, who took on our human nature and ought to be regarded as more worthy than Moses.

In his sermon, Mr. Williams spoke of the beauty and wonder of nature and the universe created by God.

In their research into His creations, scientists increase their wonder of God. To mankind He revealed Himself in Jesus who gives us comfort, love and the assurance of His constant Presence.

To the children Mr. Williams told the story of God's call to Samuel who was obedient and became a great prophet in Israel.

Mrs. David Start was organist and the junior choir sang "Tell Me Why."

## OTTERVILLE BAPTIST

On Sunday, May 5, Otterville Baptist Church commemorated its 127th anniversary.

Special music for the anniversary service was Bonds of Love from Woodstock.

Pastor Bull led the morning service. Scripture reading was taken from Joshua 1:1-9.

Guest speaker for the service was Rev. Ken Taylor from First Baptist, Waterloo.

Rev. Taylor spoke on three elements for true biblical success. Ponder God's Word. Perform God's Will and Prosper God's Way.

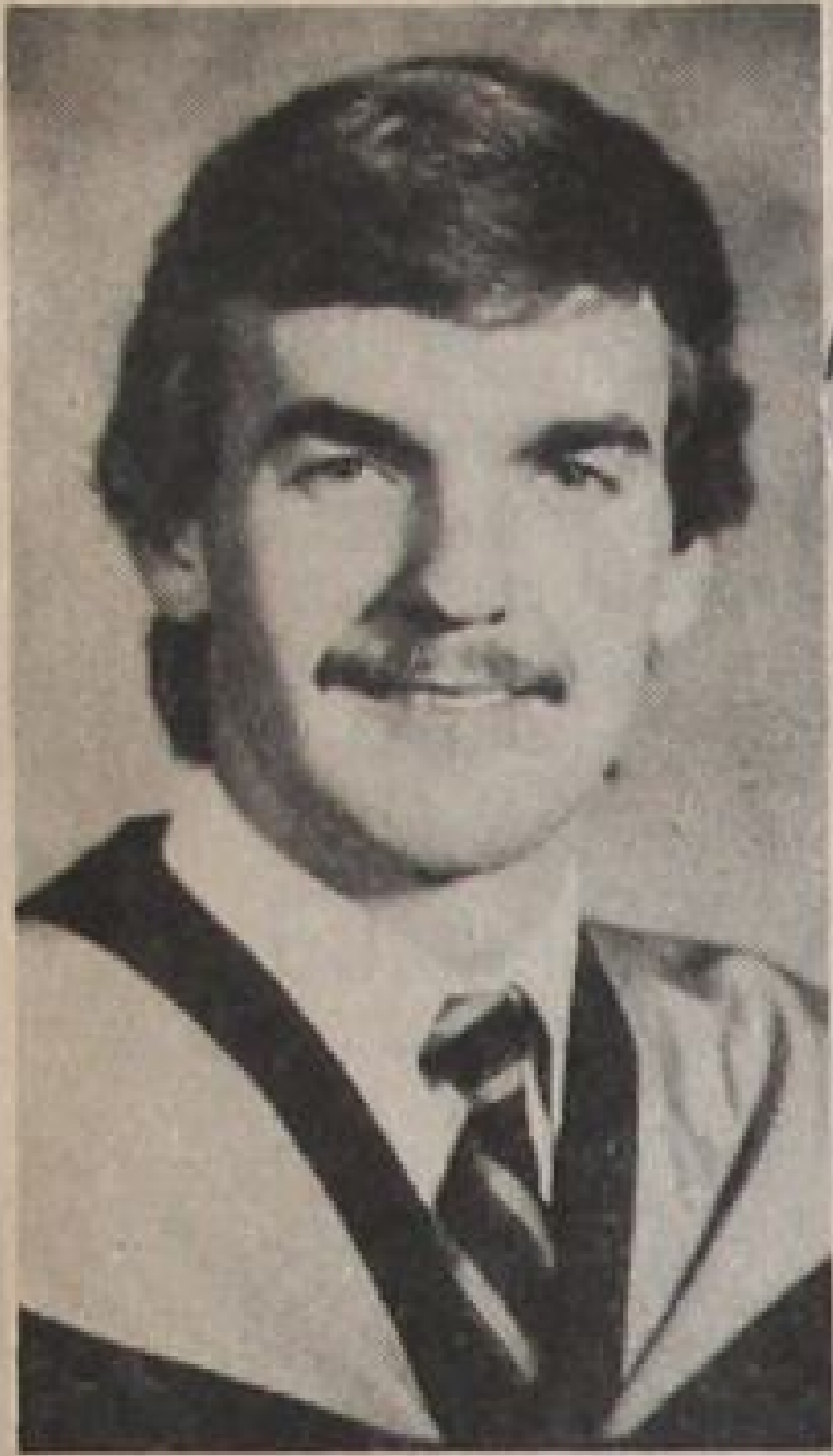
God's encouragement to Joshua was to be strong and courageous. He was to ponder God's Word. Meditate upon it day and night. Joshua was guaranteed success if he followed this.

Then he was to perform God's Will. After we ponder, we need to do something about it. Obedience is needed to be successful God's Way.

To prosper God's Way we are to be faithful to our calling, look to the Savior and do His Will.

Lunch was served following the evening service.

# Students clean up



Brian Sherman, son of Eleanor Sherman of Tillsonburg and Fred Sherman of Otterville, has graduated from McMaster University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mathematics. He has accepted a position with IBM in Toronto. Brian is a former graduate of Glendale High School.

More than just math and history were taught in Otterville Public School Monday. The students also learned a little about keeping the environment clean.

Monday was Pitch-In day at the school. Students from all grades took time out from classes to tidy up the school, the school yard and neighboring lawns.

Pitch-In day is a Ministry of the Environment endorsed program designed to encourage school children to recognize the importance of a clean environment.

In a blitz of the school yard Monday afternoon, the primary grades managed to fill 30 plastic bags with assorted bits of garbage, dead leaves and sticks.

"The idea," said Principal Cathy Murphy, "is to get the kids to take some responsibility for the yard. If you get them to feel it's their own yard, obviously they'll be more thoughtful."

In addition to picking up litter around school property some of the grades are extending the theme to regular class work.

The Grade 8 class this week is studying environmental issues including acid rain. The Grade 6 class is doing general assignments on air and water pollution, and the primary grades are writing songs about a clean environment.



## Pitch-in

Students at the Otterville Public School descended on their school yard as well as neighboring lawns, picking up litter, sticks, leaves and other refuse as part of the Pitch-In campaign. The project, sponsored by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters and Sunoco Inc., and endorsed by the provincial Environment Ministry, is designed to promote a clean environment. Adam Zimmer (left) Grade 1, Jeffrey Arthur, Grade 2 and Verna White, Grade 3 were among the students who stuffed 30 bags with garbage Monday. (Staff Photo)

# Automotive stamping industry chooses Otterville location

The good guys don't always finish last—at least not when the small farming community of Otterville wins out over other major centres in the area to capture what could be a multi-million dollar industry.

Fleetwood Metal Industries, a division of Starcan Corporation, a Toronto-based manufacturer, will be establishing an automotive metal stamping plant in the former Powell Agri-systems property on Dover Street in Otterville. The facility could eventually employ 75 to 100 skilled and unskilled workers—a boon for Norwich Township.

Starcan President Grant Burton said the company was attracted to Otterville over other centres such as Woodstock and Brantford, in part because of the "loyalty factor" with employees in smaller communities and their willingness to work. He

also made an unspecific reference to the failure rate of businesses in the two large centres. In the end it was Otterville that had the appeal.

The company was also interested in locating in Tillsonburg after hearing good reports about the town. But when they learned of the vacancy in Otterville, they decided to take it, since it is also equal distance between the major automotive centres in Oshawa and Windsor-Detroit.

Operations at the plant may begin by July, Mr. Burton said, but added a specific date for start up has not been decided. New equipment will be purchased gradually. Initially it is expected the plant will employ 10 to 15 workers.

The plant will manufacture components for the automobile industry and will stamp metal for household appliances. The company, which is 12-years-old and employs people across Canada, has holdings in the automotive and rubber distribution fields.

Norwich Township Mayor John Heleniak was pleased with the news of the new industry, adding it would be good for Norwich Township and Otterville. Mayor Heleniak noted Oxford County Council has removed a half-load restriction, at the company's request, on County Road 19 from Otterville east to Highway 59 to ensure the continuous shipments of steel from Hamilton and shipments to customers.

Township council also agreed to put an additional one-inch of pavement on John Street, from Main Street to the John Street entrance to the Starcan property. Paving will be done as soon as possible, the mayor said.

The purchase of the property should be finalized by June 3. Interviews for skilled and unskilled workers who have responded to ads in area newspapers will probably begin at that time, Mr. Burton said.

The former Powell Agri-systems property, owned by DeCloet Ltd., was being used for storage before the purchase by Starcan.

# Furlong - Smith vows exchanged

Blue candelabra with blue flowers to match the bridesmaid's bouquets, decorated St. John's Anglican Church, Otterville, on May 4, 1985, at 6 p.m. for the wedding of Darlene Ruth Smith and John Douglas Furlong. Rev. Grant Darling of Delhi officiated. Organist Lila Freeland of Otterville played "Ode to Joy" as the Processional and "Wedding March" as the Recessional. Soloist was Allan Lee of Otterville, brother-in-law of the bride and guitarists were Allan Lee and Lawrence Black. Musical numbers rendered included "My Sweet Lady" and "I'll Have to Say I Love You."

The bride is the daughter of Mel and Violet Smith of Otterville and the groom is the son of Robert and Catherine Furlong of Otterville.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore her

mother's bridal gown, a floor-length, fitted, ivory dress with bateau neck, long, chantilly lace sleeves over satin with lace and satin panels down the front and back and a full hooped skirt. She wore a crown style headpiece of lace, featuring scalloped pearls with pearls and rhinestones in lace flowers which held a scalloped, three-quarter length veil with pearls in the scallops. The bride carried a large, cascade style bouquet with cattaleya orchids, gardenias, blue hypois and stephanotis with pearlized ribbons.

Maid of honor was Jane Furlong of Otterville, sister of the groom, and bridesmaids were Deb Lee of Otterville, sister of the bride, Brenda VanTorre of Norwich, friend of the bride, Cheryl Smith and Marty Smith, both of Otterville, sisters of the bride, and

Cheryl Richardson of Otterville, sister of the groom. They wore cocktail length dresses in powder blue satin, with a beaded motif on the fitted bodice, and a long sleeved bolero jacket highlighted by a high ruffled neckline. They carried blue roses, cream Queen Anne's lace and blue mysatis. Coordinating flowers were worn in their hair.

Randy Mudge of Otterville, friend of the groom, was best man and ushers were Dave Davis and Joe Webb, both of Otterville, friends of the groom, Mark Holbrook of Tillsonburg and Jim Durkee, of Otterville, friends of the groom and C.D. Richardson of Otterville, brother-in-law of the groom.

Reception was held at the Norwich Community Centre. Bride's mother received guests in a cocktail length dress in peach shade, styled with long sleeves and a

pleated V-neck, worn with a corsage of peach roses with stephanotis and cream ribbon. Groom's mother chose a rosy pink dress with cowl neck, long sleeves and a slightly flared skirt, worn with a pale pink rose corsage with stephanotis and pink ribbon.

Bride's gifts were engraved crystal wine glasses; groom's gifts were engraved beer mugs.

For a wedding trip to Montreal, the bride chose a two-piece dress of pale yellow, worn with grey jacket, grey accessories and a corsage of pink orchids, baby's breath and ivory ribbons.

Mr. and Mrs. Furlong are residing on Pine Street, Otterville.

Guests, which included three grandmothers, were present from Tillsonburg, Woodstock, Norwich, Burlington, London, Delhi, Brantford, Simcoe, Muir and Ingersoll.



MR. AND MRS. JOHN DOUGLAS FURLONG

*Mr. and Mrs. Mel Smith  
and  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Furlong  
request the honour of your presence  
at the marriage uniting their children  
Darlene Ruth  
and  
John Douglas  
on Saturday, May the fourth  
nineteen hundred and eighty-five  
at six o'clock  
St. John's Anglican Church  
Otterville, Ontario*

*DD*

*Reception 8:00 p.m.  
Norwich Community Centre*





*Mr. and Mrs. Paul Groeneveld*  
*and*  
*Mr. and Mrs. Albert Belaen*  
*request the honour of your presence*  
*at the Wedding Reception of their children*  
*Wendy Joan*  
*and*  
*Gary Alphonse*  
*on Friday, May the seventeenth*  
*nineteen hundred and eighty-five*  
*at eight-thirty o'clock*  
*Delhi German Home*  
*Delhi, Ontario*

LOVE IS PATIENT AND KIND:  
 Love is not jealous,  
 or conceited, or proud;  
 Love is not ill-mannered,  
 or selfish, or irritable;  
 Love does not keep a  
 record of wrongs;  
 Love is not happy with evil,  
 but is happy with the truth.  
 Love never gives up:  
 its faith hope and patience  
 never fail.  
 LOVE IS ETERNAL.

## Belaen-Groeneveld vows said

Two nine-candle candelabra with pastel colored flowers decorated Otterville United Church on May 17, 1985, at 3 p.m. for the wedding of Wendy Groeneveld and Gary Belaen. Rev. E. Moore officiated. Jean McClintock was organist and Betty Walther, soloist.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Groeneveld, Sr., of Otterville and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Belaen of Otterville.

Given in marriage by her father, the bride chose a floor length gown of white brocade, styled with pearl beaded bodice and sheer, long train over a satin lining. She wore a white brocade crown beaded with pearls which held her floor-length, four tier veil and carried three, mauve orchids surrounded by white roses and ivy leaves.



Mr. and Mrs. Gary Belaen

Mrs. Peggy Adlington, sister of the bride, was matron of honor and wore a mauve, floor length dress, styled with a V-neck, short, puffed sleeves and a gathered waist. She wore a mauve and white wreath in her hair and carried mauve sweet pea blossoms and white blossoms. Gowned similarly, in pink, yellow and mint green respectively, were the bridesmaids, Pam Forsyth, Annie Krauss, both friends of the bride, and Carol Groeneveld, sister-in-law of the bride.

Rebecca Dol, cousin of the bride, was flower girl and wore a floor length, peach gown with ivory ribbon trim, round neck and short, puffed sleeves of peach and white sweet peas.

Best man was Larry Belaen, brother of the groom, and ushers were Daniel Groeneveld, brother of the bride, Gary Hill, friend of the groom and Paul Groeneveld, brother of the bride.

Matthew Belaen, nephew of the groom, was ring bearer.

Reception was held at the Delhi German Home.

For receiving guests the bride's mother chose a light blue, floor-length gown with ruffled neckline and front, worn with a corsage of white orchids, tipped with blue. Groom's mother chose a light pink gown, similar to that of the bride's mother, worn with a pink corsage.

## Meeting called to discuss community hall

Springford area residents and other interested residents of Norwich Township can get an update on the Springford community's plans for a new community centre at an information meeting being held Wednesday evening in the Springford Women's Institute hall at 8 p.m. *MAY 20*

The open meeting is being held to discuss plans for the new centre and to give a progress report on those plans, said Marj Seitz, president of the Springford Area Agricultural Society. She said Norwich Township council has set aside \$30,000 in a reserve fund for the new centre and the community has raised \$15,000 in pledges for the facility's construction, estimated to cost \$90,000. The building committee is also seeking provincial funding for the project and looking into Win-tario grants to defray the cost of construction.

Mrs. Seitz said the group spearheading the drive for a new community hall wants input from the whole community on the project and to let people know what stage the building committee is at.

# Estimate \$115,000 cost for new Springford hall

By SUZANNE STOOP

Members of the Springford community hall building committee will be going to the people to see if community support for a new community hall in the village exists.

At a sparsely attended community meeting Wednesday evening at the Women's Institute hall in Springford, area residents were told the cost of constructing a new hall would be about \$115,000. While provincial funding is available for part of the cost and community and township pledges have already been obtained for the building project, there would still be about \$36,000 not covered by grants or donations.

Chairman of the building committee, John Sandham, wondered if there was sufficient community support to proceed with the building project. "Why isn't there more support at this meeting if people are interested?" asked one of those in attendance. "You should have a lot of people here when you're talking about \$115,000," the same gentleman said. He suggested the the initial proposal of moving the Women's Institute hall to the community park or purchasing property adjoining the present building site to add to the hall and parking area would be a less expensive option.

"We need something here (in Springford) and what we have isn't adequate," said Mr. Sandham. When community residents were canvassed for pledges to assist the project more were in favor of a new building than moving the existing Institute hall, committee member Marj Seitz said. Preliminary plans for the new building were drawn up last fall with an estimated cost at about \$78,352. That figure had to be revised to bring the building up to the required provincial standards.

Norwich Township council has pledged \$15,000 for 1984 and another \$15,000 for 1985 toward the project and close to \$16,000 in pledges have been obtained from the community. Provincial grants for at least 25 per cent of the total project cost may also be available but the funds from all sources won't cover the entire cost.

Township councillors Michael Oliver and Donald Pettigrew, present at the meeting, said it was their opinion council would be reluctant to put more money into the project.

"We have a big township with a lot of small communities that all want certain things," Coun. Oliver said. But people in other areas of the township often resent

paying for things they don't use, he said. He also pointed out that the ongoing costs, which would be a burden on the township, must also be considered when discussing the project.

"The experience we've had with these community centres is that they're losing propositions and the money usually comes out of the township's coffers," Coun. Oliver said.

But Mrs. Seitz pointed out that Springford has been noted for carrying its own weight and she didn't see any problem with it continuing to do so.

Coun. Pettigrew said council recognizes that fact, "but the history of these things tend to turn around."

Bea Nunn, another Springford resident and member of the Springford Area Agricultural Society, said that "Once you get a building down there you'll find people support it. Once you start breaking ground people will come forward."

But Coun. Pettigrew said he didn't think council "would go for the project with \$36,000 in the air." Coun. Oliver agreed that "council would like to know that it would be financed fully."

Another resident at the meeting questioned whether a community the size of Springford could support such a facility. It was mentioned that banquets, weddings and dances could bring in revenue in addition to the groups that would rent the hall for meetings. But Coun. Pettigrew stressed that council had supported the plan with the understanding that it would be a meeting room not a banquet hall, pointing out such facilities already exist in Norwich and Otterville.

But Mrs. Seitz said, "A meeting room is not adequate—it's not big enough."

Coun. Pettigrew seconded a motion by Terry Barham, another member of the building committee, to send out a questionnaire to area residents to assess their support for the project before proceeding with further planning.

"To give it a real honest shot, send out another questionnaire to ask people what they want and give them some options," Coun. Pettigrew said. "It's the only logical way to go right now."

"It's a pretty ambitious project," said Coun. Oliver. "I think you should be sure the community wants this particular project."

The committee will proceed with grant applications to get in line for funding should the building project get underway.

## Otterville gets car parts plant and chance at brighter future

By Howard Burns  
Woodstock Bureau

OTTERVILLE — The farming community of Otterville has beaten industrial centres such as Woodstock and Brantford in a tug-of-war for a plant that will produce components for the automotive industry.

Starcan Corp. of Toronto will close a deal to buy the former Powell Equipment Ltd. building on Dover Street next week, Starcan president Grant Burton said Wednesday. The plant will be operated by a division of Starcan known as Fleetwood Metal Industries.

The venture could mean a multi-million-dollar investment in Otterville, Burton said from Toronto. The

plant's initial work force of 10 to 15 will grow to 75 to 100 over the next several years, if projections are correct.

He said company officials looked at centres such as Woodstock and Brantford but settled on Otterville, partly because of the "loyalty factor" of employees from smaller communities. He wouldn't be specific but said the company was concerned about what he described as the "failure rate" of some businesses in Woodstock and Brantford. He said residents of smaller communities such as Otterville show a willingness to work.

"That has a lot of appeal."

The company considered moving into the vacant Gardner-Denver of

Canada Inc. plant in Woodstock, but that was ruled out, partly because it was too big and the taxes were high, he said. The company was interested in locating in Tillsonburg because it had heard good reports about the town, but learned of the site in nearby Otterville, which is about equal distance between the major automotive centres of Oshawa and Windsor-Detroit.

The plant will make metal stampings and assemblies for the automotive industry, said Burton, adding he hopes it will begin some operations by July. He said there will be a gradual purchase of new equipment for the plant.

Starcan has a number of holdings in the automotive and rubber distribution fields.

*LFP May 30*

## Otterville *N.G.* *MAY 29* midgets win

Otterville Midget Girls won their first game in the South Oxford League on Wednesday. The girls defeated Princeton 11-6.

Pitching for Otterville was Wendy Walters and catching, Bonnie Vanbesien while Kim Sift and Sherri Govie did the same for Princeton.

Scoring for Otterville were Arthur, Walters, B. Vanbesien, S. Vanbesien, Mounts, Bell, Butler, Briggs and Neale; for Princeton: Podetz, Rowe, Sift and Szombat.

MCMULLEN - In loving memory of a dear husband and father, Nate McMullen, who passed away five years ago May 15. We will always remember the way he looked, And the way he spoke and smiled, The little things he said and did, Are with us all the while. He meant so very much to us, That nothing we can say, Can tell the sadness in our hearts, As we think of him each day. It doesn't matter the day or year, There is always a heartache, always a tear. Memories don't fade, they just grow deep, For the one we loved but could not keep. Life goes on, we know that's true, But not the same Dad without you. — Sadly missed by wife Winnie, daughter and son-in-law, Catherine and Ken Mann. 9



Mr. and Mrs. Rene deJonge

## *deJonge-Vanden Brink*

The Netherlands Reformed Congregation Church, Norwich, was the setting on May 10, 1985, at 1:30 p.m. for the wedding of Marguerite Vanden Brink and Rene deJonge. Rev. J. Spaans officiated and Jackie Den Dekker of Burgessville was organist for the ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Henry Vanden Brink of RR 1, Norwich, and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacobus deJonge of RR 1, Norwich.

The bride and groom walked down the aisle together, the bride wearing a white, floor-length gown of chiffon over satin with high waistline. The bodice was covered with applique, and the long, sheer sleeves were finished with a wide cuff. For her headdress, the bride wore a hat with black silk rose and appliqued trim which held a knee length veil. She carried a bouquet of white carnations, pink roses and baby's breath with black ribbon entwined.

Maid of honor was Aleta A. Vanden Brink of Otterville, sister of the bride, who wore a floor-length gown of bluestone polyester with jacket, worn with hat to match, trimmed with pearls. She carried a bouquet of white roses, pink carnations and baby's breath with black ribbon entwined.

Best man was Adrian M. deJonge of RR 1, Norwich, brother of the groom.

Reception was held at the Otterville Community Hall, decorated with red roses. Bride's table featured a wedding cake with blue flowers. Groom's mother received guests in a street length, navy dress with flowered border print, worn with a corsage of pink roses.

Bride's gift to her attendant was a figurine. Groom's gift to his attendant was money.

For a wedding trip to Grimsby and St. Catharines, the bride wore a black and white checkered dress with white accessories.

Guests attended the wedding from

Holland, St. Catharines, Thamesville, Burgessville, Norwich, Toronto, Alberta and the surrounding area. Special guests included the groom's mother's mother and the bride's aunt and uncle, all from Holland.

Mr. and Mrs. deJonge are residing in Otterville.

# TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH 1984 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

## COMPARATIVE AVERAGE MILL RATES

PURPOSE	1984	1983
General Township - Residential & Farm	61.886	60.580
Commercial/Industrial/Business	72.807	71.271
County - Residential & Farm	38.725	37.337
Commercial/Industrial/Business	45.559	43.926
Public School - Residential & Farm	74.504	69.921
Commercial/Industrial/Business	87.652	82.260
Separate School - Residential & Farm	81.181	76.319
Commercial/Industrial	95.507	89.787
Secondary School - Residential & Farm	62.887	57.874
Commercial/Industrial/Business	73.985	68.087

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

	1984	1983
	\$	\$
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Unrestricted		
Cash on Hand	150	150
Taxes Receivable		
Current Year Levies	303,155	270,430
Previous Year Levies	96,965	130,470
Prior Year's Levies	134,934	153,111
Accounts Receivable		
General	152,677	75,855
Other Municipalities	---	39,642
Unconsolidated Local Boards	750	8,111
Province of Ontario	398,897	325,015
School Boards	283	19,411
County of Oxford	3,219	---
Government of Canada	---	3,774
Due from Trust Funds	2,529	2,150
Underlevies to County of Oxford	81	---
Underlevies to School Boards	1,155	---
Prepaid Expenses	1,975	---
	<u>1,096,770</u>	<u>1,028,119</u>
Restricted - Bank Balance	41,784	35,130
Capital Outlay to be Recovered in Future Years	409,750	32,000
	<u>1,548,304</u>	<u>1,095,249</u>
	<u>1984</u>	<u>1983</u>
	\$	\$
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Bank Overdraft	55,263	449,839
Bank Loans	50,000	220,116
Accounts Payable and Accrued Liabilities	160,036	81,814
Due to Unconsolidated Local Boards	4,833	5,809
Due to Schools	---	---
Due to Other Municipalities	---	202
Due to Province of Ontario re: Sewers	87,359	101,387
Debenture Debt Charges payable	5,928	7,422
Commuted Tile Drainage Debentures	2,010	666
Overlevies from School Boards	---	3,115
Overlevies from County of Oxford	---	1,543
Accrued Sick Leave	91,691	87,148
Due to Trust Funds	534	---
	<u>457,654</u>	<u>959,061</u>
Net Long-Term Liabilities	409,750	32,000
<b>MUNICIPAL EQUITY</b>		
Municipal Fund Balances		
To be used to offset (to be recovered from)		
Taxation or User Charges -	175,882	130,944
Net Unfinanced Capital Outlay	(449,162)	(457,644)
Reserves	519,433	395,757
Reserve Funds	434,747	35,131
	<u>680,900</u>	<u>104,188</u>
	<u>1,548,304</u>	<u>1,095,249</u>

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

	Budget 1984	Actual 1984	Actual 1983
	\$	\$	\$
<b>SOURCES OF FINANCING</b>			
(Note II)			
Taxation and User Charges			
Residential and Farm Taxation	1,010,820	1,132,347	1,094,190
Commercial and Industrial Taxation	263,340	266,284	251,654
Taxation from Other Governments	30,005	29,839	28,972
User Charges	323,035	355,358	205,869
	<u>1,627,200</u>	<u>1,783,828</u>	<u>1,580,685</u>
Grants			
Government of Canada	11,135	74,480	119,012
Province of Ontario	761,745	1,026,630	991,094
	<u>772,880</u>	<u>1,101,110</u>	<u>1,110,106</u>

Other			
Fines	150	260	372
Penalty and Interest on Taxes	75,000	77,015	77,549
Investment Income	50,000	49,689	65,005
Sale of Publications	---	2,991	3,938
Prepaid Special Charges	---	124,219	25,441
Donations	---	10,135	2,050
Contribution from Telephone System	---	440,146	---
Lot Levies	---	5,000	500
Sundry	1,700	45	1,879
	<u>126,850</u>	<u>709,500</u>	<u>176,734</u>
Proceeds from the Issue of Long-Term Liabilities	---	---	---
Municipal Fund Balances - Beginning of Year to be Used to Offset (to be Recovered from) Taxation or User Charges	130,944	130,944	(45,679)
Net Unfinanced Capital Outlays	(457,644)	(457,644)	(479,769)
	<u>(326,700)</u>	<u>(326,700)</u>	<u>(525,448)</u>
	<u>2,200,230</u>	<u>3,267,738</u>	<u>2,342,077</u>
	<u>Budget 1984</u>	<u>Actual 1984</u>	<u>Actual 1983</u>
	\$	\$	\$

	Budget 1984	Actual 1984	Actual 1983
	\$	\$	\$
<b>APPLICATIONS OF FINANCING</b>			
(Note II)			
Current Operations			
General Government	422,515	389,328	392,238
Protection to Persons and Property	330,225	323,364	320,732
Transportation Services	950,855	830,494	949,931
Environmental Services	72,180	55,231	40,232
Health Services	21,020	20,691	27,414
Telephone System	---	73,197	---
Recreation and Cultural Services	357,845	357,840	312,131
Planning and Development	129,565	117,736	96,856
	<u>2,284,205</u>	<u>2,167,881</u>	<u>2,139,534</u>
Capital Operations			
General Government	11,700	1,792	2,597
Protection to Persons and Property	48,885	38,887	23,319
Transportation Services	163,000	197,572	140,802
Recreation and Cultural Services	29,390	181,309	98,681
Planning and Development	---	430,285	204,593
	<u>252,975</u>	<u>849,845</u>	<u>469,992</u>
Net Appropriations to Reserves and Reserve Funds	109,750	523,292	59,251
Municipal Fund Balances - End of the Year to be Used to Offset (to be Recovered from) Taxation or User Charges	10,944	175,882	130,944
Net Unfinanced Capital Outlay	(457,644)	(449,162)	(457,644)
	<u>(446,700)</u>	<u>(273,280)</u>	<u>(326,700)</u>
	<u>2,200,230</u>	<u>3,267,738</u>	<u>2,342,077</u>

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### (a) Basis of Consolidated

##### (i) Consolidated Balance Sheet

This statement reflects the assets and liabilities of the revenue fund, reserve funds, the capital fund and includes the activities of all committees of Council and the following local boards, which are under the control of council:

- Norwich and District Historical Society
- Pioneer Cemetery Board
- Rosanna Cemetery Board
- Milldale Cemetery Board
- Norwich Business Improvement Area

##### (ii) Consolidated Statement of Operations

This statement reflects the consolidated sources of financing and expenditures of the revenue fund, reserves, reserve funds, and the capital fund of the municipality and those local boards described in Note 1(a)(i).

##### (iii) Non-Consolidated Entities

For those local boards, municipal enterprises, and utilities of the municipality which are not consolidated, the "Consolidated Balance Sheet" does not reflect their assets or liabilities except to the extent of amounts due to or from those entities. The "Consolidated Statement of Operations" does not reflect their revenues and expenditures except to the extent of the municipality's contribution to those entities.

Those entities which are not consolidated are as follows:

#### Norwich Public Utilities Commission

(iv) The taxation, other revenues, expenditures, assets and liabilities with respect to the operations of the school boards, and the County of Oxford are not reflected in these financial statements except to the extent that overlevies (underlevies) are reported on the "Consolidated Balance Sheet" as "other liabilities" ("other current assets").

(v) Trust funds and their related operations administered by the municipality are not consolidated, but are reported separately on the "Trust Funds Statement of Continuity and Balance Sheet."

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

## OPERATIONS OF SCHOOL BOARDS AND THE COUNTY OF OXFORD

	1984		1983	
	School Boards	County	School Boards	County
Taxation	2,709,444	791,910	2,514,507	762,009
Grants	---	---	---	---
	2,709,444	791,910	2,514,507	762,009
Requisitions	2,713,714	793,534	2,516,178	762,022

### TRUST FUNDS

Trust funds administered by the municipality amounting to \$58,236 (1983 - \$60,646) have not been included in the "Consolidated Balance Sheet" nor have their operations been included in the "Consolidated Statement of Operations."

### MUNICIPAL EQUITY (OR DEFICIT) AT THE END OF THE YEAR

(a) The balance on the "Consolidated Statement of Operations" of municipal deficit of \$273,280 (1983 - \$326,700) at the end of the year is comprised of the following:

	1984	1983
	\$	\$
— for general reduction (increase) of taxation or user charges	175,882	130,944
— acquisition of fixed assets to be recovered through taxation or user charges	(449,162)	(457,644)
	<u>(273,280)</u>	<u>(326,700)</u>

The balance of \$175,882 (1983 - \$130,944) is comprised of accumulated equity from the following sources:

	1984	1983
	\$	\$
Revenue Fund	162,050	121,052
Norwich and District Historical Society	819	(1,245)
Norwich Business Improvement Area	8,719	8,101
Pioneer Cemetery	1,482	900
Rosanna Cemetery	1,660	1,405
Milldale Cemetery	1,152	731
	<u>175,882</u>	<u>130,944</u>

### RESERVES AND RESERVE FUNDS

The total balance of reserves and reserve funds of \$954,180 (1983 - \$430,888) is made up of the following:

	1984	1983
	\$	\$
Set aside for specific purpose by Council for debenture retirement	392,428	---
for acquisition of fixed assets	279,432	205,757
for working capital	190,000	190,000
for mill rate stabilization	50,000	---
	<u>911,860</u>	<u>395,757</u>
Set aside for specific purposes by legislation, regulation or agreement for Planning Act Purposes	42,320	35,131
Total	<u>954,180</u>	<u>430,888</u>

These statements are extracted from the annual audited financial statements of the Township of Norwich for the year ended December 31, 1984. Copies of the complete audited statements are available for inspection at the Township Office in Otterville.

R.E. Saunders, Treasurer

# Council not keen on health club proposal

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

A proposal for a health club in the Norwich Community Centre has been met with skepticism by Township Council.

"I'm not against a health club," said Coun. Bob Carney, "but I am against (council) putting out a large sum of money to get back possibly a small amount of money."

Dale Brown, a Karate instructor and Tom Lamos, a service station owner, both of Tillsonburg, wish to establish a health club facility in Norwich. Their proposal was discussed at a meeting of council last week. The gentlemen, however, did not show up for the meeting, so the proposal was tabled.

The proposal calls for the establishment of a facility on the second floor of the community centre. Mr. Lamos and Mr. Brown would make an initial investment of \$10,000 to purchase equipment and establish the club. The township would receive 10 per cent of the net profits bi-annually as rent.

It also calls for the municipality to supply carpets, suspended ceilings, ventilation, a water fountain and enclosing the area overlooking the arena with plexiglass. The township would also have to provide washroom and shower facilities, as well as a club manager.

Mr. Brown and Mr. Lamos would have the option of ceasing operation after six months should the venture prove to be unprofitable.

Coun. Carney was critical of the proposal, stating that the partners only had to risk \$10,000 and had the option of backing out if they were losing money. "But how do we (council) recover the money we invested." Mr. Carney estimated that the plexiglass alone would cost the township \$15,000.

Township clerk Bob Watkins noted that such a facility would tie up the upstairs area so that it might not be possible for another group to use it.

Mayor John Heleniak also noted that a petition containing about 360 names in favor of a health club had also been submitted with the proposal.

"I wonder if these 360 people are ratepayers and I wonder if they were aware of the cost that would come out of their own pockets whether they would support it?" said Coun. Carney.

Contacted Tuesday, Mr. Brown, said a mix up in communications was the reason the pair missed the meeting. He said they would be attending a future meeting of council to discuss the proposal.

## Leisure club

OTTERVILLE (C) — Nineteen Leisure Club members sat down to a bounteous potluck dinner, Wednesday, June 12, noon, at the Woodlawn Adult Centre. Afterward, President Gladys Evans conducted a short business period.

Violet Cole thanked the members for cards sent her when her ankle was broken. Cards were to be sent to Edith Petch in the hospital and Frank and Erie Hicks.

The president mentioned the Art Festival in Woodstock, June 25; the District Competition, August 19 in Woodstock and the Variety Show at the Tillsonburg Community Centre, Sunday, June 23, at 2 p.m.

After a discussion regarding the meetings it was decided to have no summer meetings and beginning in September the meetings will be the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

## Otterville UCW

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Otterville United Church Women, a few husbands and friends totalling 47, enjoyed a bus trip to Niagara-on-the-Lake on Friday, June 28.

Lunch was enjoyed at the Oban Restaurant followed by a conducted tour of the area and a matinee at the Shaw Festival where the play "One For The Pot" was seen. President Betty Walther, on behalf of the group, thanked Lorraine Downing for the enjoyable and well planned trip.

# Heleniak to run again as Mayor

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

Norwich Township Mayor John Heleniak has thrown his hat in, and will run for his second term as mayor in November's municipal election.

Mr. Heleniak, a full-time politician, announced his candidacy last Wednesday. Urged by many of his constituents to run again, he said the bottom line is that he finds the post "interesting" and "enjoyable."

"I've been thinking about it a long time and a lot of people have been asking me to run again," he said.

Mr. Heleniak first ran for council in 1976 losing to incumbent Roger Orth by five votes. In 1978 he won by acclamation. Two years later, he and Jack Lester were elected as Ward 3's representatives.

The 30-year-old mayor, the second youngest in the province, was elected mayor in November 1982 defeating incumbent Carmen Sweazey.

While the forthcoming election is more than five months away, the mayor's announcement has not caught colleagues on council off guard. Many of them, polled this week by The Norwich Gazette, have given the matter some thought and have made some definite decisions about their political future. Five of 10 will be or are leaning toward running again. One will not, and four have not made up their minds.

Ward 2 councillor Norm Lusk will run again. To the insurance and businessman, running again is an opportunity to "get my final report card."

Mr. Lusk, who has served at least six years on council, has a distinct philosophy on community and community service. "You can't always take out without putting back in. I enjoy putting back into the community as a public servant. It's only on that basis that any community survives."

Ward 4 Coun. Larry Martin, now completing his first year on council said: "As far as I know I'm going to run, unless something drastic happens between now and November."

The dairy farmer said he finds council interesting as well as challenging. He also holds the post of Chairman of the Public Works Committee.

Councillor-at-large Helen Smith, like Coun. Martin, will be on the hustings, unless, as she says, "something unforeseen happens."

"Being on council has its ups and downs, but the ups outweigh the downs."

Mrs. Smith will be trying for her fourth term in office. Her first two terms, beginn-

ing in 1978, were as councillor for Ward 2. This past three year term was spent as councillor-at-large, the highest position in council next to the mayor.

Ward 1 Coun. Bob Carney, another first term councillor said: "I fully expect to be running for some position on council." He would not say whether mayor was one of those positions he was considering.

"I've still got a lot of work to do. I've a lot of unfinished business." The Otterville businessman has been outspoken on the cost of the township of the police force and other fiscal matters.

Ward 3 Coun. Jack Lester said he hasn't given the matter a great deal of thought, "but I've no great reason to quit." The retired dairyman has been a member of council for five years. He was a member of the old North Norwich Township Council for nine years, three of which he spent as Reeve.

Ward 4 Coun. Hardee Richardson, a councillor since 1978, hasn't given it any thought yet. Likewise Don Pettigrew, Michael Oliver and John McNally are all still undecided.

Ward 2 Coun. Darrell Force is the only one who says he definitely will not run again. Now in his second term, he says he just does not have the time to devote to the position that it deserves.

"I have enjoyed it and I've always tried to do my best. It's an experience I won't soon forget."

## Irish Club

LaSALETTE (C) — The Irish Club met at the Golden Leaf in Delhi on Sunday evening with 30 members present. Tom Nealon of Tillsonburg, presided and John O'Sullivan of Simcoe read minutes. Mrs. Marion Kerr, travel agent representative, delivered passports to those taking part in the trip to the British Isles. James Boll of Simcoe stated that all preliminaries had been completed and that the Irish Club had become incorporated as of April 11, 1985. He explained the advantages of having a club incorporated.

John McNally of Norwich was named convener for the Irish Club pub night and dance to be held at the Norwich Community Centre on June 22. He stated that the Irish band Celtic Dream had been obtained for the occasion.

Charles Weeks of Otterville was named convener for the Irish Club float to take part in the Canada Day parade in Norwich on July 1. It was decided to hold a picnic for the Irish students who will be located in the area for the tobacco harvest.

Members voted to reimburse the Delhi Chamber of Commerce for the Irish flag which is placed at Delhi Secondary School. The Ontario Tobacco Museum has requested Irish dolls to be placed in a display at the Delhi Museum from May until December.

A letter was read from the Norwich District Historical Society thanking Lucy Gaynor and Tom Nealon for the fine display at the second annual Genealogy Fair held in Norwich in April.

# New Lions executive installed at meeting

OTTERVILLE (C) — The regular and final meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held at the community hall, Otterville on Monday evening, June 24. Lion president, Jack Walther, presided with 33 present including two visitors.

Lion Murray Wardell expressed the thanks of the club to the Eastern Star for the fine meals and service not only for this evening but for the past year. Jo Howse responded.

Lion Jack introduced the two guests, Lori Barnim and Kathy Durkee, both who were students at Norwich District High

School. These girls attended a Toc Alpha seminar in Toronto on drug awareness in relation to teenagers. The seminar also included such discussions as alcoholism, unemployment as related to teenagers, changing life styles and environmental problems. They thanked the club for assistance in attending the seminar. A question and answer period followed. Lion Dick Harrison expressed the thanks of the club for their attending and speaking.

Lion Don Swanton was presented with a 30-year pin.

Norwich Community Centre, Thursday,

The club will again be sponsoring free swimming buses to the Otterville pool beginning July 2. Buses will be operating on the same schedule as last year.

Lions and wives were reminded that there will be two entries in the Canada Day parade which starts at the Norwich Co-Op at 10:30 a.m., all in attendance being on hand at 9 a.m.

It appears that the Wintario draw at the

July 11, will be a busy day for all Lions, especially those looking after the Fish Fry beginning at 4:30 p.m. Fish Fry tickets will be only by advance sale. These may be purchased as long as available from Canada Trust Realty, Buck's Supermarket, The Pop Shoppe, Harold Kirktown, Fred Thompson and Murray Cornwell.

Past District Governor Howard Fleming was in charge of inducting members for the executive of the following year. The new executive is past president, Jack Walther; president, Paul Wood; first vice-president, Gary Walther; second vice-president, Murray Cornwell; third vice-president, Tony Drescher; secretary, Jim Poole; treasurer, Rick McKim; Tail Twister, Bob Scott; Lion Tamer, Harold Kirktown; bulletin editor, Fred Thompson; two year directors - John Leitch, Aloys Sanders; one year directors - Mark Gilmore, Dick Harrison.

Lion president, Jack, expressed his personal thanks to the past executive and all members for their help in making the past year a success.

Lions Russ Hall, Harold Kirktown and Don Pettigrew were winners of the convention draw prizes.



## Roarin' new executive

The Norwich-Otterville Lions Club installed its new executive Monday night. They are, from left: Paul Wood, president; Gary Walther, 1st vice; Rick McKim, treasurer; Tony Drescher, 3rd vice; Jim Poole, secretary; Murray Cornwell, 2nd vice, and Jack Walther, past president. (Staff Photo)

The South Norwich Historical Society Auction Committee established Saturday, October 26 as the date of their 3rd Annual Auction and Sale. It will take place at the Norwich Community Centre.

Items will be available for sale during the hours of 10 a.m. to 12 noon with the auction following from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. As before, any donated article selling for \$10 or more will entitle the donor to a receipt for income purposes. The committee is looking forward to another successful event and is very grateful for all the support given in the past.

Articles will be picked up at anytime by members - Dr. Murray Downing 879-6852, Jack Smith 582-1766, Ken Mann 879-6412, Dave Hussey 879-6549 and Rick Singer 842-3748.

## South Norwich Historical Society meet at Wood Lawn

The June meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society was held June 10 at Woodlawn with President Jack Smith in charge.

Minutes of the last meeting were read and adopted. Various letters were read which had been received since the last meeting.

There was considerable discussion regarding the best approach to keeping the grass mowed on the grounds around the mill. It was finally decided to leave the matter in the hands of Dave Hussey, chairman of the grounds committee. The meeting was pleased to learn that their food booth at the Steam Show in Norwich had shown a good profit.

The committee in charge of arranging the float for the July 1 holiday parade plan to meet next Monday to finalize plans.

Treasurer Dave Hussey gave the financial report and was authorized to pay any necessary bills coming up during the summer. It was reported that several groups have visited the mill during the past month and have displayed considerable interest.

Following the business session, we were given a most interesting account of two farms in the Springford area. Mrs. Lillian White outlined the history of the Dave Ramer farm, Lot 20, Con. 8, which was first set up in 1800 as a clergy reserve, and was then purchased by a Doctor Cameron who was the first doctor in Springford.

Over the years this lot has been divided into rather small holdings and later gathered into a larger unit again, with a long list of owners, some of whom remained only a very short time. There have been many changes in buildings, crops and methods of farming which were shown by several farm pictures. At present it is one of the most attractive tobacco farms in the area, as well as being completely up-to-date in operations. Quite a number of visitors are taken here on tours.

Mrs. Robert Lee then told us the story of Leeholm Farm, presently owned by her son Pat Lee. This farm is located on Lot 24, Con. 8. The first owner was Wm Fitzgerald who settled here in 1800.

There followed a long list of owners one after the other until it was purchased in 1912 by M.H. Haley who sold it to his son-in-law Fred Lee the following year. It has remained in the Lee family since that time and has been the home of many notable and prize winning Holstein cattle in that time.

The Lee family have also been prominent in agricultural, municipal and church matters through the past three generations. The house on this farm was built from bricks made on the farm, and in 1925 was recovered with new bricks.

Over the years, the farm buildings have been modernized and greatly enlarged. Mrs. Lee also showed us enlarged aerial pictures taken at two different times. In addition to this two volumes of the Tweedsmuir history prepared by the Springford Women's Institute were on display. These contained the history of these two farms as well as several others in the neighborhood and showed many pictures of the families who had lived on these farms in the past.



## New directors

The Norwich-Otterville Lions installed a slate of new directors for 1985-86. They are: John Leitch, Aloys Sanders, Fred Thompson, bulletin editor; Harold Kirktown, Lion tamer, Dick Harrison. Absent were Mark Gilmore, Brian Parr, assistant tail twister and Don Miller, assistant Lion tamer. (Staff Photo)

## Violet Rebekah Lodge hold friendship night

OTTERVILLE (C) - Violet Rebekah Lodge opened in regular form with visiting sisters in the officer's chair for our Friendship Night.

N.G. Sister June Ash's guest D.D.P. Sister Bernice Pettman acting as N.G. and V.G. Sister Ann Arthur's guest Sister Martha Sundy acting as V.G.

Receiving visitors P.N.G. Sister Olive Pickersgill introduced D.D.P. Sister Bernice Pettman. Twenty-nine visitors were present from Myrtle, Fidelity, Arkess, Avalon and Vigilant lodges as well as Violet sisters made a total of 47 present.

Good Welfare Sister Helen Thompson gave two readings, Old Friends and Recipe For Friendship. Sister Margaret Kitchen gave a reading Sisterhood Officers. Members introduced their guests; each one was presented with a plant.

Sister Helen Thompson presented

Sisters Winnie McMullen, Ruth Collver and Beulah Sweazey each with a plant as their birthdays were the nearest to the Friendship Night. Happy Birthday was sung to Sisters Dorothy Redman and Violet Howse. D.D.P. Sister Bernice Pettman brought greetings from the district as her year was drawing to a close, saying how much she had enjoyed it.

Sister Norma Lefevre thanked the lodge and sisters for the get-well cards sent she and her husband.

Lodge closed in regular form with the visiting sisters presiding followed by a sing-song with Sister Jean McClintock at the piano.

A social hour followed downstairs very capably handled by the social committee. The bake table was well patronized. D.D.P. Sister Bernice Pettman gave the courtesy remarks.

## Noble Grand visits lodge

OTTERVILLE (C) - Violet Rebekah Lodge opened in regular form with NG Sister June Ash and VG Sister Ann Arthur presiding. Sisters Jean McClintock and Sister Vera Welsh were attending the Rebekah Assembly.

Vice Grand had sent a get-well card to Sister Mary Jull and a sympathy card to Stanley and Muriel Gehring in the passing of Muriel's brother.

Correspondence was read from the heart fund, St. Thomas, and the RA regarding the tornado fund with a donation to be sent. A thank-you card was read from Mary Jull.

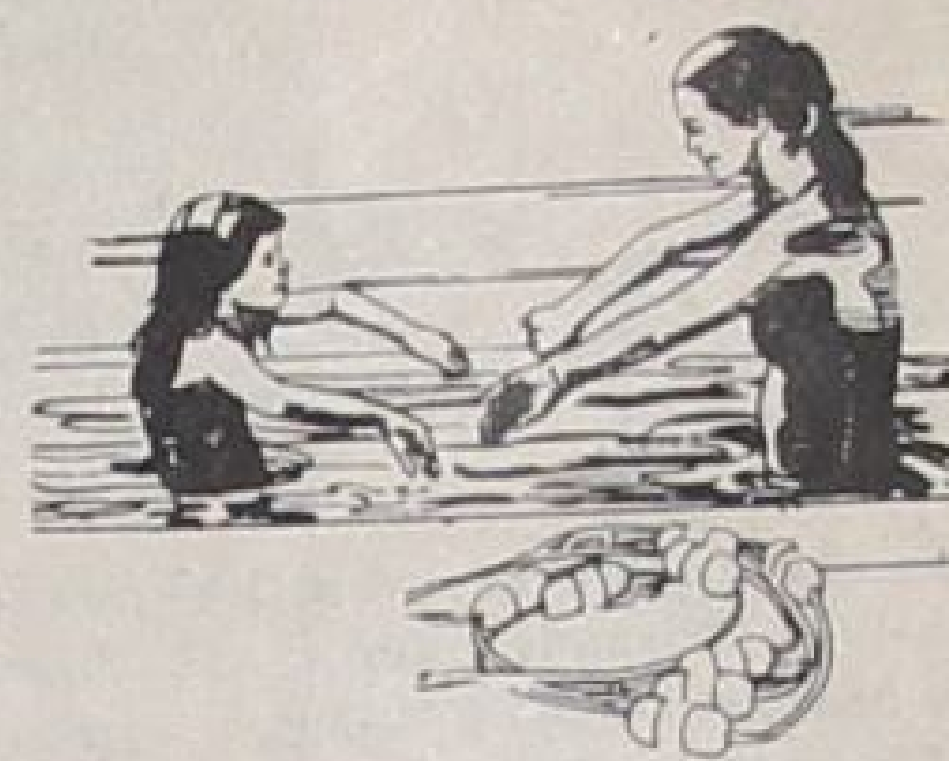
Brother Carl Howse spoke on the condition and circumstances the subordinate lodge is up against.

It was decided to have a Harvest Euchre, September 25 when other lodges will be invited with the community most welcome. Sister Helen Thompson will be in charge of lunch with Sister Olive Pickersgill taking care of cards. It was announced that the first meeting in the fall will be September 9.

Lodge closed and was followed by lunch and a social time together.

## OTTERVILLE LIONS CLUB POOL

Registration and Information



Saturday, June 22

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Monday, June 24

7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

### Ada May Miles

Ada May Miles of 174 Lisgar Ave., Tillsonburg, passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Friday, June 21, 1985, in her 89th year.

Born in Tillsonburg, March 5, 1897, she was a daughter of the late Edward Young and the former Rosetta Crossett. She was predeceased by her first husband, E. Albert Young in 1948; and by her second husband, Leonard Ross in 1972.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. George (Vivian) Coulter of Strathroy; a son, Albert Young of Tillsonburg; and three grandchildren, Cole Young, Matthew Young and Heather Richardson.

She was predeceased by a son, Fred Young and by a grandson, Brian Coulter.

Rested at the Ostrander's Funeral Home, Tillsonburg, where service was held Monday, June 24, at 1:30 p.m. conducted by Lieut. Owen Hudon of the Tillsonburg Salvation Army.

Interment in Tillsonburg Cemetery.

## Piano and organ recital

OTTERVILLE (C) - An interlude of piano music by Jennifer White and Jennifer McMurchy and organ music by Susan Lee ushered in the fourth annual Recital of Piano and Organ Students of Muriel Kozuch, Otterville.

The students, parents and friends made a well attended voice to "O, Canada."

The Students' Choir accompanied by their teacher on the organ, then sang "We Are The World" written by Michael Jackson and Lionel Ritchie.

Mrs. Kozuch welcomed everyone in attendance pointing out it is a privilege to have all her students present. This is an opportunity for these students to perform their selections they have worked on. For some it is the first recital and for others a quest.

The Lee sisters, Susan and Shannon, accompanied on the piano by their mother, Carol, sang the duet "He Will Hold Me" by Harry Dickson Lowes.

Piano solos were performed by Lloyd Durkee, Kelly Vandyke, Pamela Hussey, Amy Gehring, Melissa Poole, Michael Kapin, Charlene Treffry, Carrie Lewis, Harold Durkee, Lisa Hicks, Marci McMullen, Kim Dougherty, Shelby

McMurchy, Brady Parr, Jennifer McMurchy, Marny Kramer and Jennifer White.

Organ solos were played by Annette Wood, Kerri Mikula, Andrea Hornyak, Pamela Farkas, Jannine Duwyn, Joanne Antoszko, Jarrin Penny, Angela Wood, Donna Vanbiesen, Brenda DeWaele, Michelle Duwyn, Julie DeWachter, Ann Marie Duwyn, Kathy Durkee and Susan Lee.

The church Casavant Pipe organ was played Mrs. Kozuch. Celebrating the 300th anniversary of Bach, she performed J. S. Bach Preludes and Fugue's No. 1 and VIII.

Students doing piano exams of the past season and earning good marks were Marci McMullen, Harold Durkee, Shelby McMurchy, Jennifer McMurchy, Suzie Kramer and Marny Kramer with theory students being Susan Lee, Lisa Oenema, Donna Vanbeisen, Suzie Kramer, Marny Dramer and Angela Wood.

Those taking piano exams in June this season will be Brady Parr, Lisa Hicks and Melissa Poole while organ exams will be done by Jeannine Duwyn, Michelle Duwyn, Joanne Antoszko, Julie

DeWachter, Brenda DeWaele, Susan Lee, Annette Wood, Angela Wood, Pamela Farkas, Andrea Hornyak and Kerri Mikula.

Students are also encouraged to enter the Music Festival and also make an appearance on Big Top Talent Show from C.K.C.O. TV with Oopsy The Clown.

Many thanks were expressed to Mrs. Kozuch's brother Ed White for the sound system; all those who helped by being present and to the mothers who prepared sweets for the refreshments served in the Parish Hall by parents Paddy Parr and Jean DeWachter. Mrs. Kozuch concluded by extending a special thanks to St. John's Anglican Church, Otterville.

Mr. and Mrs. James Squence were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Krohe, Woodstock, on Sunday.

Evelyn Waring accompanied Deborah Haight of Woodstock to Mount Pleasant where they visited with Mrs. Gladys Waring.

## Family Reunions

### McMullen

OTTERVILLE (C) - The 22nd annual McMullen Reunion was held at Spring Creek Farm of Ken and Catherine Mann, Otterville, on Sunday, June 23, with over 40 in attendance.

A beautiful potluck meal was enjoyed by all. Following, program conveners conducted games for which the children all received prizes with adult contests being won by Nancy Dow, Winnie McMullen and Wanda McMullen.

Matthew and Heather Mayer conducted the business meeting with the same officers being retained for 1986. Everyone enjoyed an opportunity to visit and reminisce and look forward to next year's reunion planned to be held in June at the Meadow by the Mill in Otterville.





THE PARISH OF SAINT ALBAN, DELHI and SAINT JOHN, OTTERVILLE

RECTOR: Father Grant Darling - 209 James St., Delhi - Telephone - 582-0192

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - JUNE 16, 1985

OUR PARISH WORSHIP

Today: 8:00am.-Holy Comm'n- S.Alban
9:30am.-Holy Baptism and Dedication - S.John.
11:00am.-Holy Comm'n- S.Alban
(B.A.C.Breakfast at S.Alban after 8am. Communion.
-Baptism at S.John: Pray for MEGAN ANNE McMullen
-Dedication: Memorial Book Stand in loving memory of NEAN MCMullen.)
Readings: S.Alban: Jonah 3:1-5,10
S.Mark 1:14-20
Psalm: 25:4-9
Psalm Refrain: "SHOW ME YOUR WAYS, O LORD, AND TEACH ME YOUR PATHS."
Fri.: 7pm. Blessing of Marital Union at Saint Alban.
Sat.: The Feast Of SAINT ALBAN
Next Sunday: Fourth Sun.Aft.Pent't
8:00am.- Holy Communion at S.Alban
9:30am.- Morning Prayer at S.John
11:00am.- Morning Prayer at S.Alban

OUR PARISH CYCLE OF PRAYER

This week your prayers are asked for:
-Richard & Juanita DeRoo, and Patrick
-Gord & Florence Campbell
-Dan & Bonnie Carroll, Steven & Marie

HYMNS TODAY:

S.John: 123, New Hope, 58, 316
S.Alban: 29(1,2,6), 166 and 174

FATHERS' DAY!! God's rich Blessings on all you "Dads" out there. Have a nice day!!

A little 5 yr, old watched as a Priest got into his car one cold morning. He tried to start the car over & over again but no luck. He was getting quite impatient but said nothing as he kept trying to get the car started. Finally the little girl announced, "I think I know what the trouble is. You have to say, "dammit" like my daddy does!"

Memorial Window Dedication: Next Sunday at 9:30am. at S.John. Please try to be on hand for this significant ceremony.

S.John's Parish Family Picnic: Tuesday at 6:30pm. on the church grounds. Pot Luck -bring your own food: beverages will be provided. Come one -come all!

S.Alban's PEW FUND: We're well on our way!! Three pews have already been paid for!! The cost will run about \$700.00 per pew(\$366.00 for choir pew). Several families have indicated that they wish to offer a pew as a family memorial. Donation of any size will gratefully be received. The total cost will be about \$12,000.00

S.Alban's BAR-B-Q: Next Sunday from 5-7pm. at the Delhi Pavilion. Tickets available from B.A.C.Members.(Carl Howse at S.John).

ANGLICANS IN MISSION REPORT:

Pledges all paid up - 48
Pledges 2/3rds. paid- 10
Pledges 1/3rd. paid - 6
No payments yet - - - 3

FIND SOME DAD AND GIVE HIM A GOOD BIG HUG TODAY!

A woman in a supermarket overheard a father talking to his very young son who was screaming. "Now Albert, keep calm. Now Albert, control yourself. Now Albert, don't scream." Impressed, the woman approached the man to compliment him. "I'm very impressed with your patience with little Albert." "Lady," said the man, "I'm Albert!"

HUMOUR: "Real laughter; deep, human, caring laughter is a moral and religious necessity. When we lose it, then the things we believe very quickly degenerate into bigotry and hatred." - Ralph Milton.

"It's hard to plan your day when you wake up not knowing whether to save the world, or to enjoy it." -E.B.White

ST. JOHN'S ANGLICAN

Sunday service at Otterville St. John's Anglican Church was a family Sunday. Sunday school awards were given to children who had attended during the year.

Perfect Attendance Awards were presented during the church service by Rev. Grant D. Darling and Sunday school teacher Jean DeWachter.

Recipients of the awards were: pre-school, nursery - Elizabeth Freeman and Ashley McMullen; primary - April Smith, Michael DeWachter and Kathleen Freeman; junior - Neil Smith, Julie DeWachter and Jodi Smith.

Following the service a time of fellowship, organized by the Sunday school, was enjoyed with coffee and cookies being served. Participation Awards were presented to the children who had attended Sunday school classes: pre-school, nursery - Patricia Freeman, Rebecca Zimmer, Amanda Richardson, Andy Richardson, Billy Jo Redman and Nichole Weszner; primary - Adam Zimmer and Lindsay Picknell; junior - Kerrie Spicer, Heather Picknell, Karla Spicer, Joni Ryerse, Liza Parr and Brady Parr.

As well, the Sunday school afghan draw was held. Three year old Ashley McMullen, who had sold the most tickets, made the draw. The winner was Bessie Exelby of Otterville.

Everyone enjoyed a time together as a church family on Trinity Sunday.

OTTERVILLE BAPTIST

On Sunday, June 2, following the Sunday school hour, morning worship began with the singing of "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms."

Bob Marshall led the service and played "I Would Be True," on his harmonica.

Pastor Ray Kaufman from Maranatha Baptist Church, Paris, was the speaker.

His sermon was based on Matthew 7:13-23 which he said has been termed the most negative passage in the Bible. Actually, it is most positive because it stimulates people to examine themselves. He said, this is the age of easy believism. Professions of being "born again" are appearing everywhere. He stated that we need fewer professions and more disciples of Christ.

He challenged us to avoid phony conversions and just going through the motions, but rather to live holy lives without which no one can see God. The changed character must be revealed by our actions by forgiving and loving.

Repentance is not often preached but there can be no salvation without repentance. To do so, produces a counterfeit Christianity which is not approved by God.

The Lord's Table was observed following the morning service.

# Longthorne paints the signs of the times

In his Otterville basement, Don Longthorne spends between 12 and 15 hours a day painting signs. With several signs on the go at once, his basement-cum-workshop is filled with signs of all sizes, shapes and descriptions.

The self-taught painter has been at his craft for more than seven years. Over that time, he has honed his talents to the point where he is one of the most sought after sign painters in the area.

"I've always had enough work. If the orders were to stop today, I'd still have enough to keep me going for the next three months."

On his own business sign, it says he will "paint signs of all kinds," and a brief once-over of his work shop proves that. He specializes in everything and anything. He will paint signs or letter mail boxes, trucks and cars, banners, boats, children's toys, illuminated signs - "anything I can put my brush on."

All his work is done free hand and his standards are high. He has been mildly insulted, on occasion, when people have asked to borrow his stencils. "It's kind of a kick in the teeth," he says. "Regardless of how perfectly formed the letters might look, all my work is done free hand. I don't

own any stencils."

Longthorne derives about three-quarters of his income from sign painting with the other quarter coming from a part-time job with the Liquor Store in Delhi. As much as he enjoys the painting, he admits to being at a crossroads in his life.

"In the next two years, if I don't get on full time at the Liquor Store, I'll have to think seriously of making the sign painting business really big and run it more like a business." That would mean building a bonafide workshop and hiring extra help.

The painter has always had an artistic bent, getting gradually into sign painting

when - while a transport driver - he began painting signs on the bug-deflectors sported on the hoods of transport trucks.

Since "there is really no money in pictures," he gravitated toward sign painting. He once went off to Fanshawe College in London for a 10-week course in sign painting, only to find he knew just about as much as the teacher. So seven years ago he put out his shingle, and the orders haven't stopped coming in.

As a self-taught artist, he has few regrets, but, as one, he admits to perhaps being a little slow. "I never learned any of the time saving tricks, such as the proper way to hold a brush. Self taught or not, the signs seem to sell themselves."

On occasion, if he finds he has taken too long on a project, he may only charge a customer for eight of the 12 hours he may have worked on a sign.

He finds the months between March and December to be his busiest, peaking in the summer and at Christmas. "December's really crazy." During those months, "I have a hard time getting anything done for myself." He's been waiting almost a year for the opportunity to paint a sign for his own truck.

The Otterville man has been looking for someone to help him with the signs, but, he says, it's hard to find someone of the right calibre. "He doesn't have to be the best sign painter, but he has to be at least as good as me. I don't care how slow he is, as long as he's good."

Most of his work involves just lettering, but a lot also involves graphics, cartooning, company logos, and routed wood signs. Eventually he hopes to move more towards the woodworking side of sign making.

On average, Longthorne creates about 200 signs a year, many of which are readily identifiable in and around Norwich Township. Among his most prominent are the Norwich Township Police cruisers, the Norwich Packers signs, The Bun Shop sign, and the Clips And Curls sign among others.



## Sign of his times

Sign painter Don Longthorne of Otterville has been painting and designing signs of all types for seven years. He works out of his

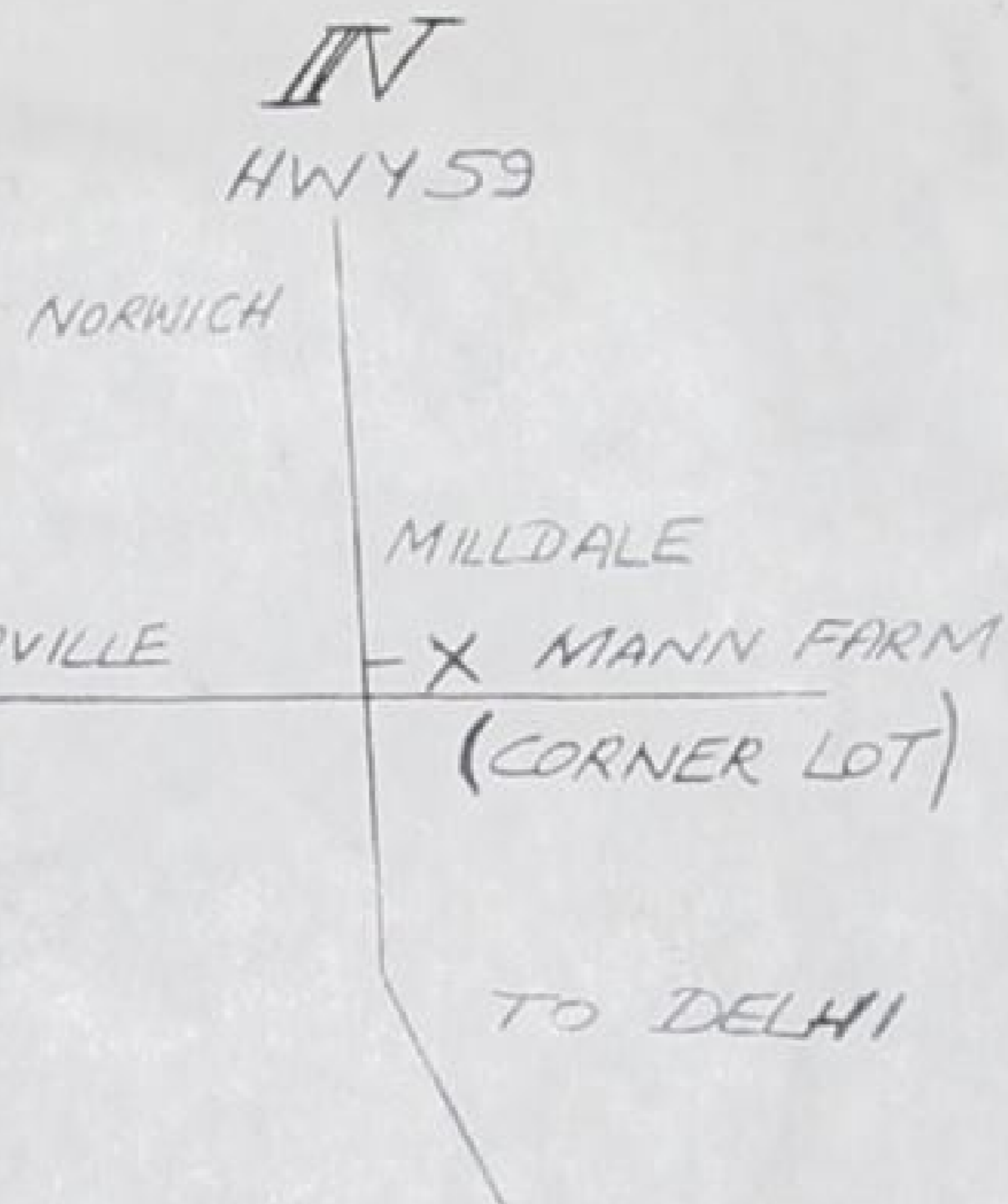
basement, but the time is quickly approaching when he may have to start thinking big and expand. (Staff Photo)

Just a sample  
of what we send to  
everyone else

YOU ARE INVITED TO:

THE McMULLEN FAMILY REUNION

DATE: June 23, 1985  
TIME: 2:00 p.m.  
PLACE: The farm of Catherine and Ken Mann



GAMES!

PRIZES!

FUN!

LADIES PLEASE BRING LUNCH.

If you know of anyone who may not have received an invitation, please let them know time and place.

Hope to see you there!





Branch 190 of the Royal Canadian Legion and the Ladies Auxiliary presented Walt Vanbesien of Otterville Minor Ball and Tana Wise (second from left) of Norwich Minor Ball with cheques of \$180 and \$340 respectively. A presentation was also made to Burgessville

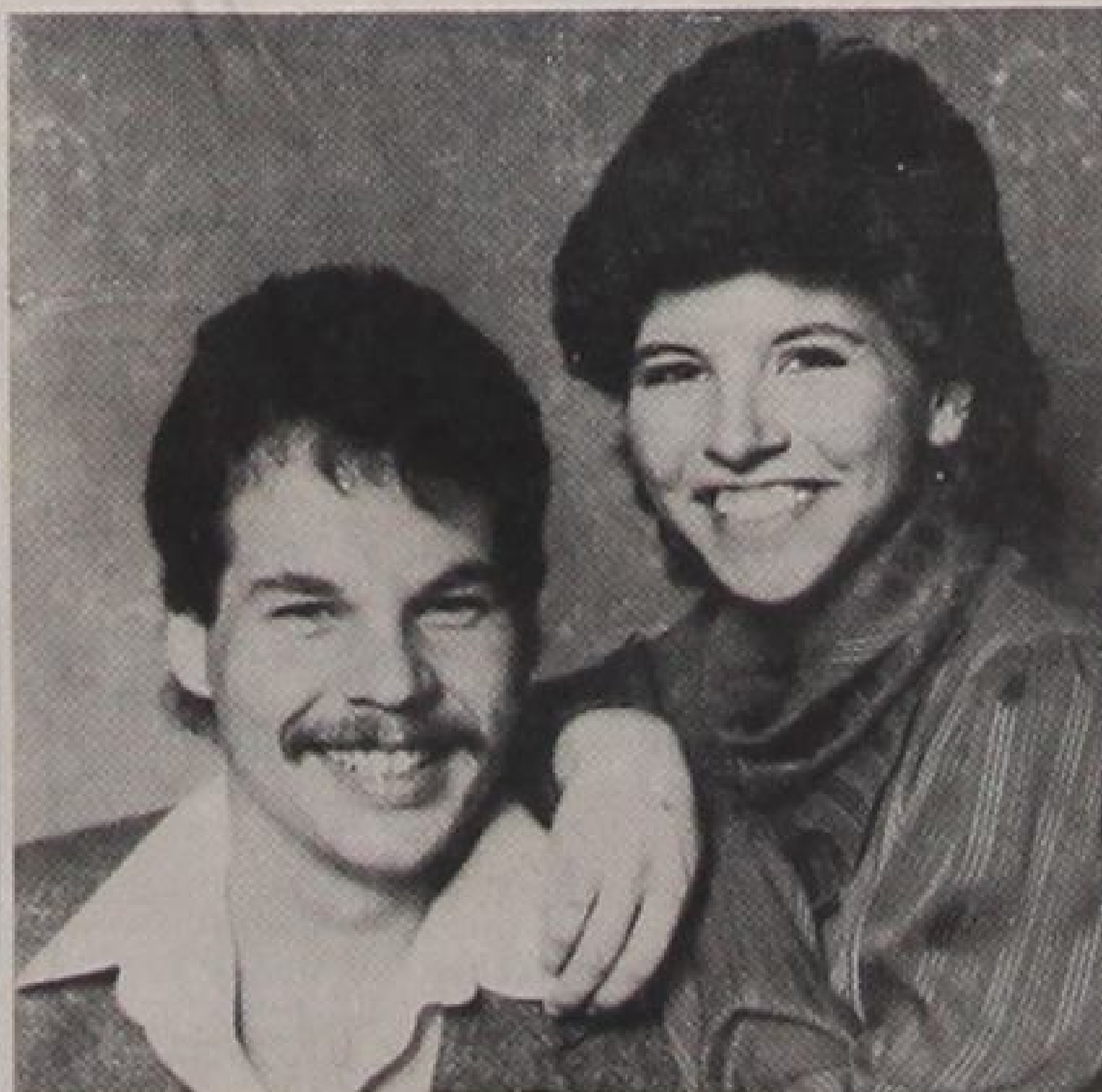
Minor Ball for \$296. The donations were made on \$2 per registration. Presenting the cheques are: Branch president Gay Franklin (left) and Ladies Auxiliary president Ruth Hutchinson. (Staff Photo)



### Taking a tour

Wendy Walters of Otterville was one of many residents taking part in the Otterville Post Office's open house Thursday. Last week was Postal Employees Week. Betty Oenema (left) is the post office's assistant postmistress. (Staff Photo)

### Engagement



Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Gehring of Otterville are pleased to announce the forthcoming marriage of their daughter Ida Heather to Jeffrey James Corbett, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Corbett of Woodstock, on June 7, 1985 at 2 p.m. Delhi United Church.

# Barnim-Duits vows spoken

Two candelabra in hurricane shades decorated with flowers to match the wedding bouquets, decorated Otterville United Church, Otterville, on June 8, 1985, at 6 p.m. for the wedding of Laura Joan Duits and Duane Donald Barnim. Rev. Charles Seed officiated and Mrs. Lurene McMullen of Otterville, was organist.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Duits of RR 2, St. Williams and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Barnim of RR 2, Otterville.

Escorted by her father, the bride chose a floor-length gown of white satin with chiffon layer, styled with long, chiffon sleeves, lace and pearl upper bodice with fitted waist and a full skirt. Flowers and cameo appliques decorated the neckline of the dress. She wore a heart-shaped, pearl head-dress which held her cathedral length veil and carried white and pink roses, pink gardenias, light pink orchids and mauve mini carnations with English ivy and baby's breath.

Lisa Duits of Courtland, sister of the bride, was maid of honor and wore a floor-length gown of mauve jersey. The long-sleeved gown featured a chiffon blouse open at the back with lace inset. In her hair she wore a flower piece of white roses on white netting with pearl string and white ribbons. She carried white roses, pink roses and baby's breath with small mauve flowers.

Gowned similarly, only in navy, medium blue and baby blue respectively, were the bridesmaids Diane VanAssche of Delhi, best friend of the bride, and Lori Barnim of Otterville, and Joanne Barnim of London, both sisters of the groom. Flower girl was Sarah Lynn Barnim of Norwich, niece of the groom. She wore a mauve and white gingham cotton gown with white Swiss eyelet pinafore and carried a small white wicker basket with flowers to match those of the bride's bouquet.

Dennis Walter of Otterville, cousin of the groom, was best man and ushers were Harold Hewitt of Otterville, friend of the groom, Danny Barnim of Norwich, brother of the groom, and Gilbert Duits of Simcoe, brother of the bride. Trevor Purdy of London, cousin of the bride, was ring bearer. Door ushers were David Barnim, brother of the groom, and Steven Duits, brother of the bride.



MR. AND MRS. DUANE DONALD BARNIM  
(Cheryl Mahrt Photo)

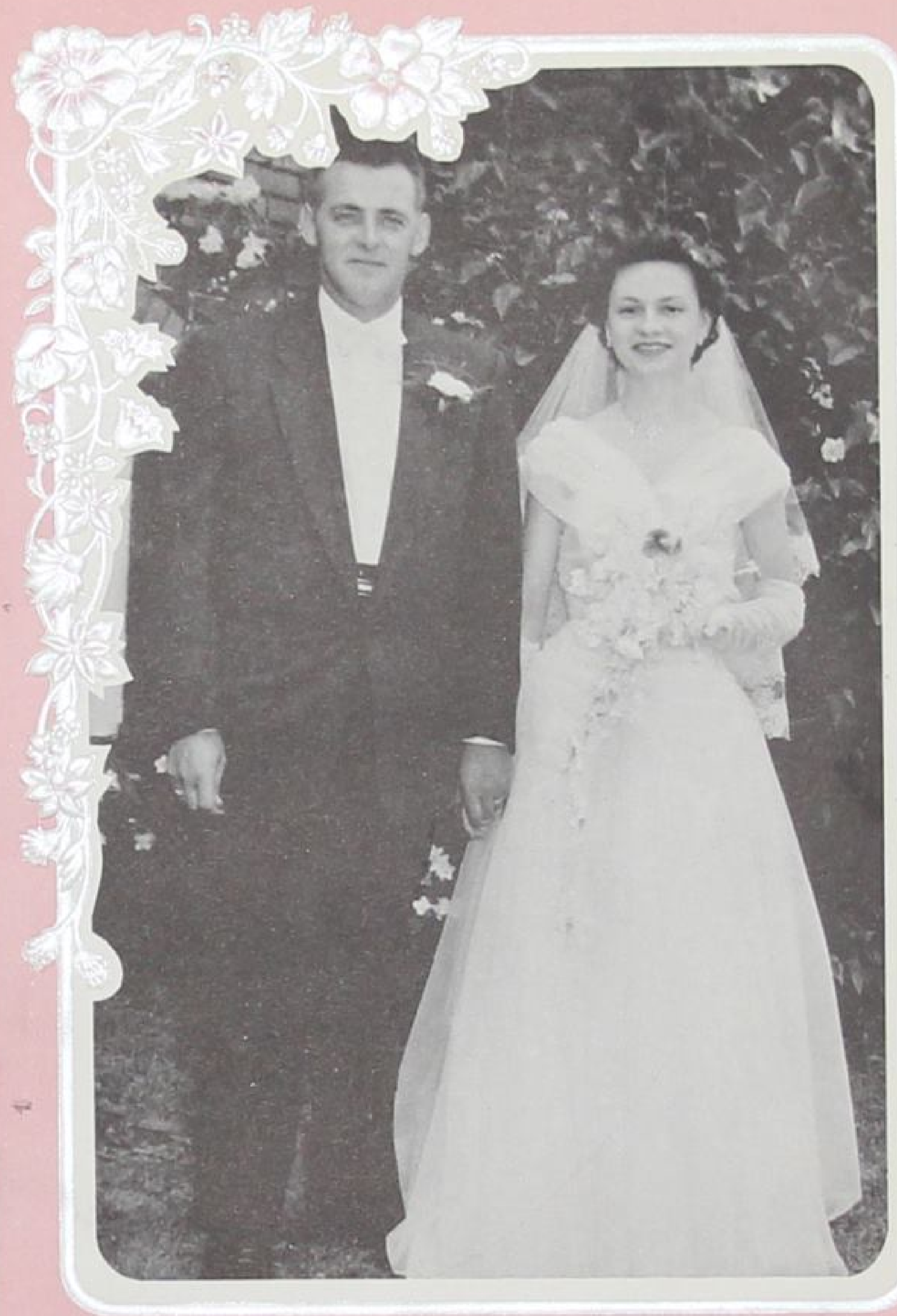
Reception was held at the Delhi Hungarian Hall. Bride's table featured a wedding cake, made by the bride's mother, and the wedding bouquets. David Barnim of Toronto was master of ceremonies.

For her daughter's wedding, the bride's mother chose a pale blue, chiffon, floor-length gown with draping shoulder to waist, worn with white accessories and a corsage of pink roses. Groom's mother chose a long, mauve, jersey gown with chiffon over blouse, worn with natural accessories.

For a wedding trip to Manitoulin Island, the bride wore a navy dress jacket with white fitted skirt, belt and lapel.

Guests, including five of the bride's relatives from Holland and a friend of the groom from Calgary, attended from Toronto, Barrie, Stratford, London, Durham and the surrounding area.

Mr. and Mrs. Barnim are residing at Otterville. Laura is employed at Hoover Universal and Duane is apprenticing for small engines at Norwich Co-Op.



# Norwich Township Council briefs

Norwich Township Council will seek cost estimates on repairs to the cenotaphs at the Otterville Park and Norwich District High School.

The condition of three local cenotaphs was brought to the attention of council by Branch 190 of the Royal Canadian Legion.

"It has been brought to the executive level of our branch that the cenotaphs within your township are in dire need

of repair," branch president Gay Franklin said in a letter.

The branch also singled out the Oxford Centre cenotaph as being in disrepair, but Coun. Hardee Richardson told council he inspected the site recently finding it in good shape.

The Township will close parts of Oxford and Norfolk streets which form part of the former Powell Agri-Systems property on Dover Street in Otterville.

The closings are a precondition to the completion of the sale of the property to Starcan Corporation.

Mrs. Marg Seitz has been appointed to the Culture and Recreation Advisory Committee.

Otterville Public School has been allowed two-thirds off the rental of the Otterville Community Hall. Normal rent is \$75.

The Spring-Otter Optimists are hoping to bring a circus to Norwich this summer, and are looking to hold it at the horse training track adjacent the Norwich Community Centre.

Council will examine its policy on charges for rental of the area.

Plastic Township of Norwich lapel pins are available at the Township Offices for a cost of 75 cents. Council will no longer supply pins without charge.

In the last several months councillors have set a precedent by supplying pins to constituents and absorbing the cost themselves. Mayor John Heleniak said he has already given away \$400 worth of pins.

"We can no longer afford to continue giving these things away. At almost every meeting there's a request for pins," said Coun. Bob Carney.

The Canada Day-175th Anniversary Committee has received a grant for \$3,000 to be put toward Canada Day celebrations.

Romain Catry and Norman Marshall, two landowners dissatisfied with the operation of the Haylock Drain just south of Norwich, have put forward a request to plead their case before the Ontario Drainage Tribunal.

The landowners, along with council, the contractor and the engineer who designed and built the drain, will meet in an attempt to iron out the problem at a council meeting June 25.

## Norwich Council Briefs

The Spring-Otter Optimist Club has been given a two-thirds reduction in rental for the Otterville Town Hall.

Norwich Township Council approved the

reduction for a Teen Dance on June 7. The regular rental fee is \$75.

Township council has found itself a new accountant to take the position vacated by Reg Saunders when he took the position of deputy-clerk-treasurer in March.

Arthur Fuller took over the position June 3.

Brian Wolfe has been hired as the part-time assistant to the municipal inspector commencing June 10, 1985.

His duties will involve primarily building and drainage inspection.

Eric Mannell, one of the main proponents behind the establishment of the Norwich and District Medical Centre, has submitted his resignation from the centre's advisory committee.

"I feel it is time to step aside and make room for younger talent on the Township's Medical Centre Advisory Committee," he wrote in his letter of resignation submitted at a council meeting May 28.

On a motion by Coun. Jack Lester, council has asked Mr. Mannell to remain in his position until the end of his present term of office expiring the end of the year.

Firefighters and township fire equipment are no longer available for hire or volunteer to private individuals.

Council made the policy change on the recommendation of the Community Services Committee May 28.

Community Services chairman Bob Carney said that if something should happen to a firefighter or someone borrowing a piece of fire equipment, and for whatever reason be injured or killed, the municipality may be liable to a lawsuit.

Ward 2 Firefighter Larry Charlton was officially dismissed from the fire department at a meeting of council May 28.

Council terminated Mr. Charlton's employment on the recommendation of the Community Services Committee. The committee made its decision after hearing submissions from the fire chief and from Mr. Charlton. It was on the Fire Chief Brian Workman's recommendation that the committee made its decision to fire Mr. Charlton.

Mr. Charlton was suspended from the force March 22 after he alleged that the department was understaffed, poorly trained, and that the line of communication between the chief and the men was strained.

## Upset with treatment

Dismissed Firefighter Larry Charlton is upset with the way he was treated by the Township Council.

Mr. Charlton, suspended from the Ward 2 (Norwich) Fire Department March 22 and officially dismissed May 28, said Thursday he received no formal notice of either his suspension or dismissal, and that he had to read about the termination of his employment in the press.

The ex-firefighter was suspended by Township Fire Chief Brian Workman after he alleged that the department was understaffed, poorly trained, and that the line of communication between the chief and the men was strained.

Mr. Charlton was also annoyed that he was not given the opportunity to hear what the chief had to say to the Community Services Committee. The Community Service Committee, chaired by Coun. Bob Carney, listened to both parties separately and in camera.

According to the Community Services report read at Council May 28, the decision to terminate Mr. Charlton's employment was made on the recommendation of the fire chief.



### Monument defaced

Township council will look into the cost of repairing two area cenotaphs. The cenotaph in Otterville (above) has been vandalized. Repair work is also needed on the cenotaph at NDHS. (Staff Photo)

### 75 YEARS AGO May 1910

Culoden - On Thursday of this week, if it is fine, some of the people intent to jack up the English church and fix it on a better foundation.

### June 1885

Otterville - Dr. Downing's fine new residence is nearing completion under the direction of Wm. Smith.

## Load restriction lifted

Norwich Township Council has lifted the load restriction on John, Wellington and Dover streets in order to accommodate heavy trucks associated with a new industry locating in Otterville.

In a letter to council, Starcan Corporation president Grant Burton asked that the restrictions be lifted. Fleetwood Metals, a division of the Toronto-based Starcan, will begin operation out of the former Powell Agri-Systems building on Dover Street some time this month. The plant will manufacture stamped metal parts for the automotive trade.

"In view of the fact there are a great

number of industries wishing to move to the Norwich-Otterville area..." said Coun. Bob Carney, tongue-in-cheek, "let's not do anything to drive them away."

Council also voted to put an additional inch of pavement on John Street, from Main Street to the plant's John Street entrance. Wellington and Dover streets will eventually be repaved as well.

Roads Superintendent Ron Smith estimated that the additional inch will cost about \$14,000.

"Small potatoes," said Coun. Carney, noting that it was a reasonable price to pay for a business that may one day employ upwards of 75 people.

Norwich 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

# BRUNCH

catered by Bud Ritchie

Sunday, June 30, 1985

10:00 am. to 2:00 pm.

at

Norwich Community Centre

Advance Sale Only — By June 22, 1985

adults: \$7.50

children: \$3.00

preschoolers free

Tickets available from any

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBER, OR:

NORM LUSK INSURANCE

NOR-DEL CABLEVISION

JEAN'S COFFEE BAR

MUNRO'S JEWELLERY

BUCK'S FOOD MARKET

SCOTT BIG V DRUGSTORE

YES — we will attend!

We would like to order:

\_\_\_\_\_ adult tickets

\_\_\_\_\_ children tickets

Total cheque enclosed:

Gayle Stannard

An Old Fashioned, Friendly Show

# 15TH ANNUAL 1985 NORWICH HISTORICAL SHOW

Friday, Saturday and Sunday  
May 31, June 1 and 2

*Featuring*

- Many Displays and Exhibits
- Parades, Contests and Races
- Hundreds Of Gas Engines, Tractors, Steam Engines, Antique Cars and Much Much More.
- Musical Entertainment

**"Make It A Family Affair"**



*Sponsored By*

**THE NORWICH and DISTRICT  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**



# Historical show draws record crowds

By SUZANNE STOOP

It may not have been the best weekend weather-wise that organizers of the annual Norwich Historical Show have had but it may turn out to be one of the best years ever financially and even in terms of attendance.

Rain on Friday threatened to put a damper on the show when it opened Friday afternoon and turn-out at the show was

about one-third of the usual attendance for the first day. But the weatherman smiled on the show Saturday and Sunday sending sunny skies and warmer temperatures that tempted people out of doors and down to the 15th annual historical show.

According to show chairman Don MacPherson, the attendance at the show Saturday was as good as any of the show's best years and preliminary tallies indicated

Sunday may have had record crowds attending the event in spite of the change in date and competition with other events such as the London air show.

"It should turn out to be one of our better years financially," Mr. MacPherson said, partly because of an increase in the gate fee and partly because of a reduction in expenditures.

There was concern initially that the mix-up over bookings which resulted in the date of the show being moved forward one weekend might have an effect on attendance and the number of exhibitors. Mr. MacPherson said it cost the historical society more to readvertise the event and some exhibitors weren't able to attend but the overall effect on the show was minimal.

With the good weather and large crowds, the event can't help but be in the black said Mr. MacPherson, although the historical society won't know exactly how much was made on the event until all the bills are in.

While there has been talk in the past that the show's appeal might be wearing thin, the large turnout of both exhibitors and show-goers this weekend attests to the fact that there are still a few years left in the show yet.

"I don't think likely it will die yet for a while," Mr. MacPherson said. Another show organizer Ben White said quite a few people are already talking about next year as they cleaned up the remains of this year's show.

## Route to the past

by Scott Gillies

As the July 1st celebrations of the 175th anniversary of settlement quickly approaches, it is time to look back at some of our early history. Much has been written

on our history, and doubtless more will be recorded. This week's column is based heavily on the work of Stella Mott and my predecessor Joanne Moulton.

The history of settlement in the township begins with William Hambly, who in 1790 surveyed the area which was then part of Oxford County. It was Hambly's duty to divide the township into 12 concessions consisting of lots containing 200 acres each. Following a territorial division of Upper Canada in 1799 the township became part of Norfolk County. It was during this time that the township was given the name of Norwich after the village of Norwich in Norfolk County, England.

Then in 1800, the status of the township changed again, through an act of parliament, becoming once again a portion of Oxford County. That same year the government, following the practice of the day, granted large parcels of the townships to select individuals. (Government patronage is not a new issue.) In this manner, William Wilcox of York became the owner of 15,000 acres in Norwich Township.

In 1809, while visiting a Friends Meeting in Prince Edward County, Peter Lossing and his brother-in-law Peter DeLong heard that these 15,000 acres were for sale by the absentee landowner Wilcox. Together they purchased the entire tract for 50 cents an acre. Once back in Dutchess County, N.Y. they had little trouble in selling parcels of this land to others who were willing to settle in the new land.

Adam Stover purchased 4,000 acres to be divided among his sons Michael, Frederick and Adam and his one daughter Mrs. Peter McLees. Around the same time, Joseph Lancaster agreed to purchase 3,000 acres. Many other families decided to come to this portion of Canada's wilderness, including the Motts, Cornwells, the Snyders and the Sackriders to name just a few.

Peter Lossing and Sears Mott then prepared to move their families in the fall of 1810 and eventually settled in the northern portion of what is now known as concession, or what is now known as Quaker Street. Living in crude log cabins, Lossing and Mott were able to clear 32 acres of land that first year. As more families arrived the next year a total of 735 acres were cleared.

In that year of 1811, the DeLong, Cornwell and Barnes families arrived; they

were followed by the Lancasters, Snyders, Youngs, Hunts, Sackriders, Woodrows, Corbins, Emighs, Gillams, Barkers, Siples, Hights, Suttons, Cohoes, Moores and a host of others.

The actual village of Norwich, first known as Sodom and later Norwichville, began to grow up around the Methodist Church that had been built one concession south of Quaker Street. A general store was opened in 1828 by James and William Barker dealing in dry goods, groceries, glassware, crockery, hardware, patent medicines and anything else needed. In 1830 Norwich's first post office was opened by Peter Lossing, and in 1831 Dr. Ephriam Cooke became the first doctor in the community. The village continued to grow and in January of 1876 Norwich was incorporated.

At the time of incorporation there were two railroads passing through the village: the Port Dover and Lake Huron with president Gilbert Moore and the Brantford, Norfolk and Port Burwell railway with Dr. James Carroll as president. Both Moore and Carroll were residents of the village of Norwich.

Other businessmen in the village in 1876 included John A. Tidey Jr. who ran the Medical Hall; D. Nicholson who was a photographer; Seneca Pitcher who ran a dry goods and grocery outlet; the Royal Canadian Bank; jeweller, C.G. Sutton; M. Charlton and Joseph Will who both made boots and shoes; blacksmith William Poldon; harnessmakers H.J. Adams and son; W. Addison and George Walker who both were in the undertaking business; Couzens and Rawlings, carriage makers and many, many more.

In 1876, the first Fire Company was organized with 50 members on the company roll. In that year it was also decided to form a Mechanics Institute. This later became the public library. At this time, the only streetlight was a lamp erected on a pole in front of the Standard newspaper office. In 1890, William Merrill, who was responsible for the construction of many railway stations, introduced the first street lighting system in the village. This was later purchased by the Beattie Brothers in 1894 following Merrill's death.



## THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

BOX 10  
OTTERVILLE, ONTARIO N0J 1R0

Telephone 879-6553

### TRADERS BANK OF CANADA - Managers

M.C. Elliott - November 1903 to May 1904  
E.A. Batcheller - June 1904 to November 1905  
A.A. Stepler - November 1905 to October 1910  
M.C. Zimmerman - April 1910 to 1912

THE TRADER'S BANK JOINED THE ROYAL BANK OF CANADA IN  
1912

AND MOVED TO THE PAXTON BUILDING

R.R. Tough - October 1912 to April 1913  
A.M. Bryson - April 1913 to November 1929  
L.A. Carley - November 1929 to October 1938  
V.D. Olliver - October 11 to March 1941  
D.C.V. Morrison - March 1941 to March 4, 1954  
H.W. McDougall - March 1954 to May 1963  
H.H. Pauli - May 1963 to February 1970  
A.E. Montag - February 1970 to March 1973  
G.W. Christensen - March 1973 to June 1977  
W.R.S. Harris - June 1977 to May 1983  
B.S. Parr - May 1983 to

### ***Historic bank***

OTTERVILLE (C) - The South Norwich Historical Society is establishing the Royal Bank as an historical building in the village of Otterville. This is going to be done through the erection of an historical plaque on the structure Saturday, June 22 at 2:30 p.m.

An open house with refreshments being served by the Royal Bank will follow.



### Township crowns her queen

Elaine Arthur, 18, of Otterville, was crowned Miss Township of Norwich Monday. The Norwich District High School student succeeds Mary Jane Beal (left), last year's queen. Named first runner-up was Jennifer Hanson (right) of Norwich. Second runner-up was Lisa Oenema of Otterville.

# Ratepayers want access to salaries

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

The Norwich Township Ratepayers Association wants to know the salaries and wages of all full and part-time Township employees, but they may have to go to court to get that information.

Kent Murray, a municipal adviser with the Department of Municipal Affairs in Cambridge, said the section of the Municipal Affairs Act dealing with the issue is sufficiently vague that the municipal clerk could be within his rights to withhold access to the information.

"The section (of the Act) is open to interpretation," Murray said in an interview Friday. "The courts would have to decide in the event of a dispute."

In a letter to council last week, ratepayers chairman Marilyn McLees also requested a list of all overtime paid to employees in 1984 and to date, as well as the amount paid for attending meetings, including mileage.

"I don't know what we're obliged to provide under the Municipal Act," Councillor Helen Smith told Council last Tuesday.

Other councillors as well were unsure just how much information Council is obligated to release to the public. "I don't know if we have the right to say that employee 'X' make so much money," said Councillor Norm Lusk.

Mayor John Heleniak said that salaries and mileage is public information.

"But to say what the clerk made last year shouldn't be just passed out," argued Councillor Bob Carney.

He did say however, that he would have no qualms about providing the ratepayers with information regarding salary ranges for each municipal position. Not including Township firefighters, the municipality employs about 36 full and part time workers.

Ideally, said Mrs. McLees in an interview Sunday, the association would like

the specific salaries and overtime paid to each employee by name; but for the present, would settle for the salary ranges.

"We're really concerned about the overtime question," she emphasized. "Overtime is the key issue."

(Continued on Page 2)

## 175th ends, new day begins

One of Norwich's favorite sons, opera singer John Avey, may have set the mood as the 175th Anniversary celebrations drew to a close Monday.

The baritone, a member of the Canadian Opera Company, sang a number from the musical "New Day" to the thousands who thronged to the weekend-capping Garden Party.

With 175 years of history to its credit, Norwich now begins a "new day" as it makes its way towards the 21st century and its bi-centennial 25 years from now.

The celebrations which covered four days, climaxed July 1, with the Canada Day parade, contests, parachuters, superb local entertainment, firefighting demonstrations and a spectacular fireworks display concluding the weekend.

The various events throughout the celebration were well attended, but never more so than the closing Garden Party, where the crowd was estimated at about 2,000.

(Continued on Page 3)

# Township Council will release wage ranges to ratepayers group

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

Norwich Township Council and the Norwich Township Ratepayers Association have struck a "happy medium" on the disclosure of township employee salaries and overtime.

Council will provide the ratepayers with a copy of the township's grid system which outlines the salary ranges of each township employee position, as well as the total overtime paid out in each department from 1984 to the present.

Deputy clerk Reg Saunders told council and two members of the Township of Norwich Ratepayers Association Monday that it may take a couple of days before overtime data can be compiled.

Directed by council two weeks ago to investigate the legal ramifications of the disclosure of salaries, Mr. Saunders reported Monday that he had checked with Municipal Affairs and Housing as well as two other municipalities.

In his report, Mr. Saunders said one municipality released the employee position and the low and high range of the salary grid for each position. Overtime was reported in total dollars for each department.

The second municipality, which did not have a grid system released the position and the actual salary for that particular job.

The deputy clerk suggested council aim at "striking a happy medium." He suggested it would not be proper to name the employee with his or her actual wage.

He asked ratepayers' chairman Marilyn McLees, who was at the meeting, if she required employee names and actual wages. She said she would be satisfied simply with the salary ranges for each position.

"We didn't get all we wanted," she said after the meeting, "but it's a start. We'll study (the grid) and see what we've got."

Mr. Saunders also reported that the township's municipal advisor said if the clerk did not release any information, court action could be levelled against the municipality. Conversely, if the township felt such a request infringed on the rights of its employees, it too would have to be settled by the courts.

July 10, 1985 THE NORWICH GAZETTE Section 1 Page 3

## Council allows tender to be changed

Norwich Township Council has allowed Silverthorne Concrete to change its tender after it was accepted as the lowest bid on a sidewalk job at a meeting of council two weeks ago.

Silverthorne put in a bid of \$19 per square metre for the removal, supplying and laying of concrete sidewalks within the township.

However, Mr. Silverthorne approached council Monday claiming he forgot to include the new federal tax on building materials which came into effect July 1. He asked if he could add the seven per cent on to his original tender.

He said that because the tax only applies to materials and not trucking, the percentage increase would only be four per cent, transforming the original tender from \$19 to \$19.34 per square metre.

Deputy Clerk Reg Saunders said the 34 cent increase still left his bid as the lowest. The second lowest tender had been \$20 per square metre.

"Under the circumstances," said Coun. Mike Oliver, he's still the lowest tender and it was an honest mistake. I would allow the increase.

Coun. Hardee Richardson said he would accept the changed tender, "but I think we're stepping out of line." Roads Superintendent Ron Smith recommended that council not accept the changed tender.

"A tender is a tender," agreed Coun. Larry Martin. He said council should not accept the change, on principle.

Council will now be paying \$19.34 per square metre for 1,558 square metres of sidewalk in Norwich and Otterville.

# Norwich sports reps offer input

Representatives of various sports a community groups offered input into the future of the mezzanine level of the Norwich arena at a Township Council meeting last Tuesday.

Council wanted the information so its engineer, J. Bryon Wiebe Ltd., of Simcoe, could draw up some preliminary plans that would accommodate all users.

There were representatives from minor hockey, the Norwich Figure Skating Club, the township's culture and recreation advisory committee, the Norwich Musical Society, the Norwich Karate Club, and the as yet unborn Health Club.

The engineer suggested that the mezzanine might ideally be split up into three rooms, measuring 12 feet by 24 feet, 24 feet by 24 feet, and 36 feet by 24 feet.

Randy Nobbs, president of the Norwich Junior C's told Wiebe the hockey club does not require any additional facilities. He did say, however, he was concerned about whether Wiebe would leave the Blue Line Room in tact.

"If that room is divided then the hockey club is (folding)", said Nobbs, the Blue Line Room, a beverage room located on the west end of the mezzanine provides the hockey club with its main source of income over the playing season.

Council assured Nobbs that the Blue Line Room would not be discarded. Wiebe added that his terms of reference only included the 90 foot by 24 foot mezzanine area.

A representative of the Norwich Musical Society said the group would like to have a self-contained, acoustically sound room with a high ceiling, as well as a storage area. "We'd also like a separate access so we wouldn't have to go through the arena."

Julie Penny, president of the Norwich

Figure Skating Club, expressed an interest in a room of sufficient size to hold meetings in, as well as a storage room.

Randy Nobbs noted that a meeting room in the arena would only make sense if there would be no charge for its use. "If you have to pay \$20 to use it, then it's not worth it. People will end up going someplace else to meet; the room will just stand vacant."

Dale Brown of the Norwich Karate Club said that any one of the three proposed rooms on the mezzanine level would suit the club's purposes. He added that the club needs some type of finished floor covering, "something other than just bare concrete." Presently, the club uses the Blue Line Room for its twice-weekly sessions.

Tom Lamos, the Tillsonburg service station owner who is proposing the establishment of a health club at the arena, said he would require a room with floor space between 900 and 1,500 square feet. The club would also require heat and ventilation system, washrooms and changerooms.

Mr. Lamos took the opportunity to put forward his proposal to Council, but Council did not discuss it.

Lamos told Council that the club would be a good drawing card to the community. Under the proposal the Township would take ten per cent of the club's profits in the form of rent.

Councillor Hardee Richardson cast a shadow over the health club proposal noting that the club, in requesting 1,800 square feet of floor space, "needs almost the whole (mezzanine)". The club would also have the room filled with heavy exercise machines that couldn't be moved, resulting in its limited use by other groups, he added.

## Ratepayers hold on to salary list

The Township of Norwich Ratepayers Association received a list of the salary ranges paid township employees Friday, but they are not prepared to release the information to the general public.

Association chairman Marilyn McLees said Monday she doesn't want to release the information obtained from deputy clerk Reg Saunders, until the association executive has had a chance to look over the list.

"I don't have the authority. I don't feel that I should say: 'Okay, here it is, have a look at it,' until we have had a look at it."

She said she had hoped to have a quick executive meeting to review the list, but was unable to get the group together on such short notice. Mrs. McLees will be out of town for the next few weeks.

"I would think it will be a couple of weeks before everyone's had a chance to

look at it and sort of digest what's in it."

The Norwich Gazette is unable to get a copy of the salary ranges since council only resolved to provide the information to the ratepayers association.

In a letter to Norwich Township Council June 25, the association asked for the information regarding the salaries of all full and part-time township employees, as well as overtime and mileage.

# Norwich launching accommodation inquiry

By Ben Steidman  
Staff Writer

NORWICH — A public hearing is scheduled for July 25 at 2 p.m. in Otterville Community Hall at which Township Council plans to obtain further input on the need for assisted and rental housing for senior citizens and families.

## Questionnaire

This week (July 15), a questionnaire is being mailed to senior citizens and families to find out how many are interested in assisted or market rental accommodation in the municipality.

These two phases are part-and-parcel of a study by the township to determine if there is a need for assisted and rental housing by seniors and families.

Information is also being gathered through a review of the area housing situation, an assessment of economic trends, growth factors and current and

future housing demands. Advertising and interviews are also involved in the study.

Those considered eligible for either senior citizen apartments or family rental housing include persons over 58 for the former and persons with one or more children with a modest income for the latter.

Once the study is complete and indicates a need for housing, Norwich has several avenues open for meeting this need.

Council can develop an assisted and market rental housing project on its own through a municipal non-profit housing agency.

It could also request Ontario's Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to find private sector funding to secure units under the Rent Supplement Program or Private Assisted Rental Program.

Then, Council could choose to encourage creation of a local non-profit group — community, labour, service club — to develop a non-profit housing project.

# Province studies housing need in Norwich Township

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

People interested in assisted and market rental housing in Norwich Township want a facility located near shopping and other municipal services.

That was the message about 30 people gave an Ontario Ministry of Housing official at an information session held in Otterville last Thursday.

The ministry is currently conducting a survey to determine the need for a housing project in the municipality.

The ministry undertook the study at the request of Norwich Township council several weeks ago. According to Clerk Robert Watkins, 1,340 questionnaires were sent out to local seniors and 694 to families.

At the information session, housing analyst Dave Cowan said he has received a good response to the questionnaires, having received about 25 per cent of them so far.

Deadline for completed questionnaires is August 6 with an analysis of the results to be completed in about a month. He said, however, it would be about a year before the ministry is able to report back to council with a recommendation.

After the township receives the results of the survey indicating a need for a specific number of units, the municipality can develop an assisted and market rental housing project through a municipal non-profit housing agency.

Mr. Cowan said such a project would only come to fruition if there was a need for at least 20 units. "You have to have 20 or

more units to make it economically feasible to build."

A municipal non-profit housing development requires no municipal contribution. Funding for the project, said the analyst, would come from the federal government through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the province.

The housing complex would include a mix of families and seniors who could afford to pay market rents and those who need some sort of financial assistance.

Mr. Cowan said the location of the complex would be chosen by council, but that it was reasonable to expect the building would be built where the need is greatest.

Many at the information session, most of whom were seniors, said it was of utmost importance that the facility be located near stores, since many seniors do not have access to cars.

"We always try to locate a building within a reasonable distance to services. That's an important point, and it's always considered," said Mr. Cowan.

He added the facility would probably be one storey so seniors would find it easier to get around the building.

Such projects also include some landscaping, parking space and a common room. One person in attendance wanted to know if there would be a swimming pool.

"That's not a bad idea," said the analyst, "but they're kind of hard to get."

Questionnaires are still available at the township office in Otterville.

## TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH

### VOLUNTEER ADVISORY MEMBER

The Municipal Council is inviting written applications from Ward Four (former East Oxford Township) citizens who are interested in acting as a member of LOCAL ARCHITECTURAL CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LACAC).

Applications must be received before AUGUST 2nd, 1985.

ROBERT C. WATKINS, CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR,  
Township of Norwich,  
P.O. Box 100,  
Otterville, Ontario N0J 1R0  
879-6568 or 863-2709

## NOTICE

### SENIOR CITIZEN APARTMENTS FAMILY RENTAL HOUSING

- IF YOU ARE 58 YEARS OF AGE OR OVER  
OR
- IF YOU HAVE ONE OR MORE CHILDREN  
OR
- IF YOUR PRESENT ACCOMMODATION IS  
INADEQUATE
- IF YOUR INCOME IS MODEST  
THIS  
IS OF INTEREST TO YOU!

Your Municipal Council is trying to determine the need for assisted and market rental housing for senior citizens and families in your community.

Questionnaires are being distributed to senior citizens and tenant families as part of a survey during the week of JULY 15th, 1985.

A public meeting will be held on THURSDAY, JULY 25th, 1985, AT 2:00 P.M. IN THE OTTERVILLE COMMUNITY HALL.

ONLY BY COMPLETING A QUESTIONNAIRE CAN YOU HELP TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE IS A DEMAND FOR ASSISTED AND MARKET RENTAL ACCOMMODATION FOR FAMILIES AND SENIOR CITIZENS.

Families and seniors interested in obtaining more information should contact:

ROBERT C. WATKINS  
CLERK-ADMINISTRATOR

## 80 attend Hanson Family reunion in Otterville

### HANSON REUNION

Over 80 people attended the Hanson family reunion in Otterville Community Park on Sunday, July 28, 1985.

These were the descendants of William Hanson, born in Manchester, England in 1855 and emigrated to Canada as a young man.

He married Sarah Elizabeth Arthur (1865-1942) of South Norwich Township. They lived on the 11th Con. of South Norwich and later moved to the 10th Con. where a grandson Craig Hanson and his wife Sandra now live.

Sarah (Dunbar) Him of Downey, California came the greatest distance and Rossilind Lammens, Langton, great-great-granddaughter was the youngest present.

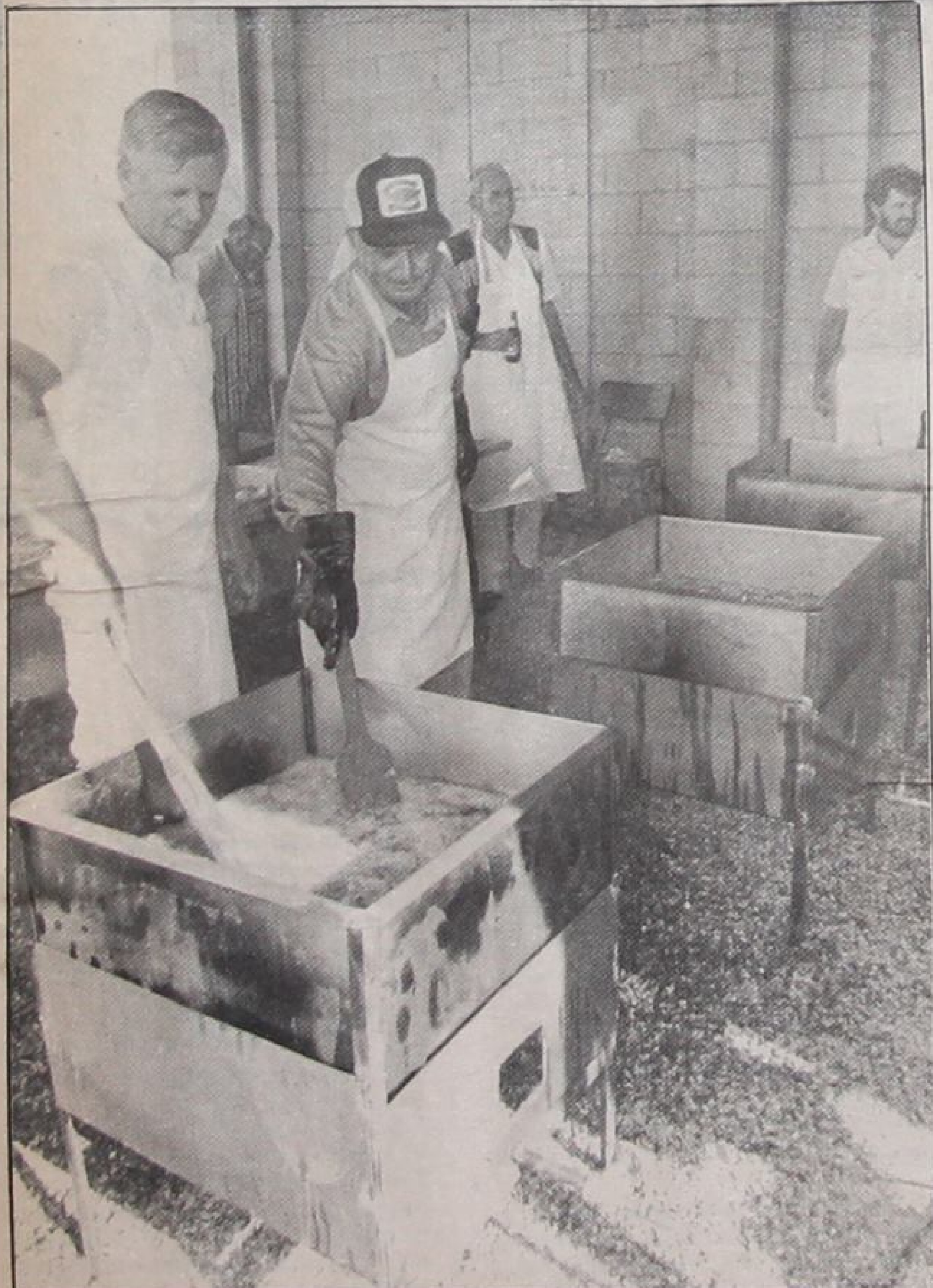
The picnic will be held again next year on the second Sunday of July in the same place.



### Easy over

Members of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club were cooking up a storm Sunday afternoon, as they prepared for the South Norwich

Historical Society's annual chicken barbecue, held on the grounds of the Treffry Mill in Otterville. Tickets for this year's barbecue were sold out, with about 350 sitting down for dinner. (Staff Photo)



### Fish fryer

Tending to the 410 pounds of fish cooked up for the hungry Wintario masses were Lions Tom Leitch and Tony Drescher, among others. The Lions Club had to order an extra 150 pounds of fish because of a late run on tickets. (Staff Photo)

## Otterville Personals

OTTERVILLE (C) — The Annual Otterville Firefighters Picnic was held Sunday, July 21, at the meadow by the mill, Otterville. About 100 people enjoyed an afternoon of fun which involved activities of

dress for the fire, water barrel fights, water relays and tugs of war for all age levels both women and men. Following, a delicious chicken barbecue and picnic was enjoyed by everyone completing an eventful summer day.

A miscellaneous bridal shower was held Sunday, July 21 for Sue Kipp of Woodstock in honor of her forthcoming marriage. Held at the Woodlawn Adult Centre, Otterville, with over 30 in attendance, the afternoon was hosted by Dorothy Wardell, Elinor VanParys and Margaret Shearer. The bride-elect opened many beautiful gifts assisted by Cheryl Richardson and Nancy Davis. Sue expressed appreciation for the thoughtfulness of everyone after which refreshments were enjoyed.

The Summer Reading Club of the Otterville Public Library has attracted a good response of students to "Celebrate Canada." The program to be completed the middle of August features a tour of the Otterville Mill as well as prizes and contests.

# Otterville



## Book club

Volunteer co-ordinator of the Otterville Library, Marion Dowds (left) signs up two more children for the library's summer book club. Jennifer Hill (seated left) and Carrie Lewis signed up July 2. The summer club will run to August 10. The club was established so area youngsters would not "lose touch" with the library over the

summer months. As an added incentive, children who read a certain number of books will get a chance at winning two tickets to the Spring-Otter Optimist sponsored circus coming to Norwich in August. (Jeff Tribe Photo)

OTTERVILLE (C) — Wednesday morning, July 10, the Otterville Public Library was host to Margaret Atkinson and Matthew Romain and their puppet friends.

Sponsored by the library, the theme of their show entitled Join Hands, featured live music, action songs and sing-alongs. During the 45-minute show, an "open" style of puppetry was featured when the performers came out in front with the puppets. The filled library provided a very receptive audience to this exciting and enjoyable summertime fun.

## Carl M. Hilliker

Carl M. Hilliker, formerly of 59 King St., Tillsonburg, passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Friday, July 19, 1985, in his 90th year.

Born in South Norwich Township, July 19, 1896, he was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Emeul Wellington Hilliker. His first wife, the former Agnes Cutler, predeceased him in 1947 and his second wife, the former Edna Sandham, in 1975.

Surviving is one son, Bill Hilliker of Tillsonburg; two grandchildren, Carl Brian Hilliker of Waterloo and Mrs. Marty (Laurie May) Legein of Hamilton; three step-children, Mrs. Donald (Marion) Trefry of RR 3, Tillsonburg, Mrs. Patrick (Helen) McCready of RR 2, Thamesford and Max Rohrer of Woodstock; seven step-grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by a brother, Lloyd and by a sister, Nora.

—Rested at the Ostrander's Funeral Home, Tillsonburg, where service was held Monday, July 22 at 2 p.m. conducted by Rev. Thomas Hiscock of St. Pauls United Church.

Interment in Otter Cemetery, Otterville.

Memorial donations to the Avondale United Church would be appreciated by the family.

# Otterville girl killed in crash

A 16-year-old Otterville area girl was killed and seven other people injured following a three-vehicle accident north of Woodstock on Highway 59 Friday night at 7 p.m. *July 19*

Donna Vanbesien, of RR 1, Otterville, was pronounced dead at the scene of the accident by coroner J.D. Town.

Dawn Hamilton, 15, of RR 3, Scotland, was transported to Victoria Hospital in London where she is listed in critical condition. Michael McLean, 23, of Beachville, was also taken to Victoria Hospital where he is in serious condition.

Five other people were taken to Woodstock General Hospital. William Hamilton, 17, of RR 3, Scotland, was treated and released; David Buchanan, 15, of Norwich, was treated and released; Sandra McKee, 15, is in satisfactory condition; Karen Andrews is in satisfactory condition; and Betty Demelo, 20, of RR 1, Princeton, is in satisfactory condition.

Three other people in a motor home that was involved in the accident were not injured.

A southbound Ford Mercury, carrying six people, including Miss Vanbesien, went out of control near Pittock Park Road and slammed into a northbound vehicle driven by Mr. McLean. Both Miss Vanbesien and Miss Hamilton were thrown from the car.

Heavy rain was falling in the area at the time of the accident and may have been a contributing factor.

The accident is still under investigation by Constable E.R. Haley of the Woodstock OPP.

Miss Vanbesien was born in Tillsonburg and was a graduate of Our Lady of LaSalette Separate School. She was a Grade 11 student at Norwich District High School.

Surviving, besides her parents, Willy Vanbesien and the former Rose Marie Er-

chaute, are three brothers, Dwayne Vanbesien, Daniel Vanbesien and Darren Vanbesien, all at home; her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Gustaff Vanbesien of Langton; and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was predeceased by a brother, Wayne Vanbesien, in 1965.

Resting at the Murphy Funeral Home, Delhi, until Tuesday, July 23, thence to Our Lady of LaSalette R.C. Church for Funeral Mass at 1:30 p.m.

Interment in Our Lady of LaSalette R.C. Cemetery.

Prayers will be said tonight (Monday) at 8:30 at the Funeral Home.

Memorial donations to the Sick Children's Hospital, London, would be appreciated by the family.

Pallbearers will be Randy VanTorre, Rick Vuylsteke, Roger Handsaeme, George VanHooren, Paul Bradley and Meint VanVliet.



DONNA VANBESIEN

# Meals On Wheels on the move

May Lee has the door open even before the volunteers from Meals On Wheels even get to her Otterville doorstep.

The 85-year-old widow, like the eight other seniors receiving the service in Otterville, looks forward to their visit as much for the company as the meal itself.

"It really means something to these people; they really look forward to seeing the volunteer," says Bonnie Briggs, manager of the Home Support Services for Seniors at the Tillsonburg and District Multi-Service Centre, the group that administers the Meals On Wheels program in the Tillsonburg area.

The Tillsonburg Meals On Wheels program expanded to serve Otterville clients in early February of this year, providing nine senior citizens with 27 meals the first week.

Up until July 1, the program has served a total of 18 seniors with 560 hot, nutritious meals.

Otterville is the only area in Norwich Township receiving the service. The Multi-Service Centre discovered a need for the program last summer after completing a survey of communities within a 10 mile radius of Tillsonburg.

A network of 26 volunteers headed by Jean Davis and Isabelle Harris in Otterville, distribute an average of 35 meals a week to Otterville's nine clients.

The volunteer effort in Otterville, says Ms Briggs, is "amazing. The volunteers are probably why the program works so well."

"There's more volunteer help in Otterville than I have here in Tillsonburg," says

Margaret Stanbridge, the centre's assistant manager, who has 30 volunteers for 30 seniors on the program.

"Otterville's a very caring town," said Ms Briggs.

"If it weren't for the invaluable assistance of all our volunteers, the programs could not exist," said Mrs. Stanbridge. Despite the harsh weather of last winter, there were only two days that the meals couldn't get delivered.

Getting meals to the seniors and disabled are not life and death situations, said Ms Briggs. Most are capable of getting themselves something to eat.

Most of the seniors receiving the service are rather "independent," who like most people, get tired of cooking for themselves, and so, order the meals. Only seniors over 60 and disabled persons are eligible for the service.

The meals are prepared at the Maple Manor Nursing Home in Tillsonburg and arrive at the seniors homes hot. The meals are packaged in tin foil and styrofoam disposable containers.

Since the meals are prepared in an in-

stitutional setting, special diets such as diabetic, low sodium and reducing, can be arranged.

The hot, nutritious meals are delivered during the noon hour at a cost to the senior of \$2.50. Anyone interested in receiving Meals On Wheels can call the Tillsonburg and District Multi-Service Centre at 842-9007 or 842-9517.



## Meals On Wheels

May Lee, 85, of Otterville, has been receiving the Meals On Wheels service since it was implemented last February by the Tillsonburg and District Multi-Service Centre. Here she receives her noon-day meal from volunteer Lorraine Downing (right). (Staff Photo)



Mr. and Mrs. Don Barnim of Otterville will be celebrating their 30th Wedding Anniversary on July 16, 1985. Love and best wishes from David and Deb, Danny and Nancy, Joanne and Tom, Duane and Laura, Lori and Sarah Lynn. (Cheryl Mahrt Photo)

## 40th Wedding Anniversary



Happy 40th Wedding Anniversary to Allan and Audrey Jardine on July 14, 1985. Love from all the kids, Jerry, Sue, Wayne, Kathy, Murray, Roseanne, Marty, Jeanne and your grandchildren, Betty and Jason.



# Arthur-Bossy vows exchanged at Delhi

St. John Brebeuf and Companions Roman Catholic Church, Delhi, was the setting for the wedding July 6, 1985, of Suzanne Bossy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Camiel Bossy of RR 2, Otterville, and Paul Arthur, son of Mr. and Mrs. Keith Arthur of RR 2, Otterville.

The church was decorated with baskets of spring flowers and white bows on the pews for the 4 p.m. ceremony, conducted by Fr. X. Paul. Soloist was Johnny Stevens of

St. Thomas, and organist was John Boon of Delhi. Musical numbers included "Praise the Lord, the King of Heaven," "Ave Maria," "Turn Around," "Sunrise Sunset" and "Wedding Song."

Given in marriage by her parents, the bride wore a floor-length gown, with high neckline, fitted waist, leg-o-mutton sleeves and full skirt. Beads and sequins accented the gown and the three-quarter length veil, falling from a Juliet cap. She

carried carnations, roses and orchids, all in white, with greenery.

Maid of honor was Miss Kathy Demarest of Drumbo, cousin of the bride. Bridesmaids were Blanche Godelie of Otterville, Margaret Douglas of Toronto and Arlette Clark of St. Thomas, sisters of the bride, and Pauline Seguin of Cornwall, a cousin. Junior bridesmaid was the bride's niece, Jennifer Godelie of Otterville.

Attendants wore floor-length gowns of georgette in dusty rose, with blouson styling and full, flowing skirts. Headdresses were three miniature pink roses, with greenery and apple blossoms. Bouquets were of pink roses, freesia, carnations, greenery and baby's breath.

Flower girl was Christine Godelie of Otterville, the bride's niece, who wore a taffeta gown with lace overlay and pink ribbon trim, a halo of apple blossoms, and carried a basket of flowers similar to other attendants.

Best man was Kevin Church of Otterville, friend of the groom. Ushers were Dale and John Arthur of Otterville, the groom's brothers; Rudy

Maitz and Richard DeWachter of Otterville, friends, and junior usher, Michael Godelie of Otterville, nephew of the bride. Ring bearer was Ryan Scott of Otterville, the groom's nephew.

Reception for 350 was held at the Delhi Hungarian Hall. Bride's table featured two candelabra, white roses and white carnations and five love tapers. Bud vases of mixed flowers decorated guest tables.

Bride's mother wore a flowing, floor-length gown in periwinkle blue, with matching hat. Groom's mother chose a coral, two-piece, floor-length gown and matching hat. Both wore white orchid corsages.

Master of ceremonies was Brian Goossens.

Leaving for a wedding trip to the Thousand Islands, the bride changed to a yellow dress with white jacket and white accessories, and wore a corsage of white roses with yellow carnations.

Out-of-town guests attended from London, Toronto, Woodstock, Cambridge and the surrounding area.

The couple are making their home at 204 Lisgar Ave., Apt. 41, Tillsonburg.



Mr. and Mrs. Paul Arthur  
(Photo by Rose-Le Studio, Simcoe)

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## Dessert bowl

Otterville's Mary Furlong casts a bowl during Thursday's Norwich Lawn Bowling Club Ladies Pairs Dessert Tournament. Mrs. Furlong and team mate Helen Dickson placed second. Looking on is opponent Molly Radford of Hagersville. (Staff Photo)

Announcing Otterville's only full-time professional  
Hairstyling salon and Barbershop

Opening July 4, 1985

# Salon Prestige

879-6433

## Offering

- Permanents, hair colouring, waxing, facials, etc.
- Seperate room for men's barbering
- 10% discount for Senior Citizens (Tues. only)
- Free transportation for Senior Citizens  
on Tuesdays (10% discount not applicable)

## - HOURS -

TUESDAY	9 AM - 8 PM	
WEDNESDAY	9 AM - 5 PM	
THURSDAY	9 AM - 8 PM	
FRIDAY	9 AM - 5 PM	
SATURDAY	8 AM - 3 PM	
		NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

FREE TICKET FOR  
DRAW ON  
PORTABLE B & W T.V.  
WITH EVERY VISIT

Owned and operated by WANDA SCOTT  
Staff - JANET SHEARMAN  
CHRISTINE WALTERS

**6 MAIN ST. E. OTTERVILLE**

# NORWICH 175th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS



July 1<sup>st</sup>

## Canada Day CANADA WEEK June 27 - July 1

### THURSDAY, JUNE 27th

#### 6:00 p.m. SIDEWALK DAYS KICK OFF

Join us on Main Street, Norwich, for clowns, music and more. Helium filled balloons for all.

#### 8:30 p.m. OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

Main St., Norwich

#### 9:00 p.m. BALLOON RELEASE!

Balloon returned from farthest distance by Aug. 1st, sender will receive a prize.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 28th

#### 9:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. SIDEWALK DAYS

Great bargains to be found in downtown Norwich!

#### 6:00 p.m. HOT DOGS!! for 25c on Main Street.

Brought to you with relish by the Norwich BIA Committee.

#### 6:30 p.m. SLO PITCH TOURNAMENT

at the Norwich Community Centre. Refreshment tent open! Open Air Dance with a DJ for your enjoyment until 1:00 a.m.

#### 7:00 p.m. NORWICH ANTIQUE CAR CRUISE NIGHT

Come out and see these beauties!

### SATURDAY, JUNE 29th

#### 8:30 a.m. SLO PITCH TOURNAMENT

at the Norwich Community Centre. Admission. Refreshments available. Last pitch around 6:00 p.m.

#### 9:00 a.m. SIDEWALK DAYS

continues until 5:30 p.m.

#### 10:00 a.m. SOAP BOX DERBY

takes off in Otterville at the Royal Bank. Contact Rene Letoile at 879-6452 for information.

#### 11:00 a.m. HOMECOMING AND SCHOOL REUNION

at Norwich District High School. Displays and old friends. Refreshments available, sponsored by Norwich Golden Age Club. Open till 4 p.m.

#### 2:00 p.m. PLACING OF HISTORICAL PLAQUE

at Sutton-Clark house on Quaker Street.

#### 9:00 p.m. YOUTH DANCE

at Community Centre with DJ. Check with Craig Majernick for details at 424-9086. 'FREE.'

#### 9:00 p.m. 5th ANNUAL OPTIMIST STREET DANCE!

Dance to 'Pyramid' in the parking lot at the Township Hall in Otterville until 1:00 a.m. 'FREE.'

### SUNDAY, JUNE 30th

#### 10:00 a.m. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BRUNCH

at the Norwich Community Centre, \$7.50 adult, \$3.00 for kids under 12 and pre-schoolers free. Serving until 2:00 p.m.

#### 1:00 p.m. NORWICH MUSICAL SOCIETY BAND

will provide background music during the brunch until 2:00 p.m.

**HOMECOMING AND SCHOOL REUNION** open until 4:00 p.m. at Norwich District High School. Come and enjoy!

**JUNIOR FARMER CAR RALLY** takes off from the Norwich and District Museum! Cost for antique cars \$2.00, departure 1:00 p.m. Cost for vintage and regular cars \$3.00, departure 1:30 p.m. Call Dave Dymant at 863-2907 for details.

#### 2:00 p.m. NDHS HISTORICAL PRESENTATION

#### 5:00 p.m. SOUTH NORWICH BARBECUE

at the Treffry Mill in Otterville. Contact Jack Smith at 582-1766 or Lorne Treffry at 879-6932.

#### 7:00 p.m. INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH SERVICE

Norwich Community Centre. Outdoors, weather permitting. Speaker - Jean Zavitz, former resident of Norwich. Interdenominational Church Choir. For details call Rev. D. Fearon 863-2006.

### MONDAY, JULY 1st

#### 10:15 a.m. 1.75 KM FUN RUN

beginning at the Norwich LCBO. Team challenges, fun and prizes. Contact Linda Van den Borre at 424-9088 or Linda's Apparel and Accessories at 863-3004.

#### 10:30 a.m. 5th ANNUAL CANADA DAY PARADE

starting at the Norwich Co-Op, moving up Main Street to traffic light, north on Stover to Southcourt, east to Cook, down to Main and then swinging south to community centre. Entry forms available at Norwich Big V, Burgessville Village Market, Oxford Centre Village Market and Township Office in Otterville.

**LAWN BOWLING TOURNAMENT** - 3-12 end games in a mixed tourney. Contact Norm or Edith Lees 863-2649.

**MISS NORWICH TOWNSHIP CONTEST** - speeches and judging. Contact Suzanne Hanson-Stoop 842-3803 or 842-4255.

**BEARD GROWING CONTEST** - judging

**COSTUME CONTEST** - judging

**QUILT CONTEST** - display and judging

#### CANADA DAY YOUTH AWARD PRESENTATION

#### 2:00 p.m. MILTON & DISTRICT PIPE & DRUM BAND

for your listening pleasure at Norwich Community Centre

#### SPRING-OTTER OPTIMISTS KIDS DAY

features all sorts of games for kids at Norwich Community Centre. Prizes and fun galore!

#### 2:30 p.m. FIREFIGHTERS

Demonstrations and competitions.

#### 5:00 p.m. JUNIOR C CHICKEN BARBECUE

at Norwich Community Centre. \$6.00 adult, \$3.00 children. Contact Bryne Wise 863-3100.

#### 7:55 p.m. PARACHUTERS

Local parachuters will drop in on spectators at the Barbecue and Garden Party!

**SPECTACULAR SKY SHOW** don't miss this event!

#### 8:00 p.m. GARDEN PARTY

featuring a variety of exceptional local talent. Free admission, come and enjoy.

#### 9:30 p.m. FIREWORKS

A spectacular and unique display of color to conclude the weekend.

Post Parade Events At Norwich Community Centre Beginning At Approx. 12 noon

\* For any information please drop by our  
**175th ANNIVERSARY HEADQUARTERS**  
located on Main Street, Norwich.

\* Souvenir Hats, T-Shirts, Spoons and Souvenir Books and Programs are available at our headquarters or any committee member.

\* Note: This program is updated.

The Norwich Gazette  
is pleased to present...

175<sup>th</sup>



# ANNIVERSARY SOUVENIR EDITION

Birthday's only come once a year. They are either dreaded or fondly awaited. But most often they are tolerated like so many weeds in a garden.

But birthdays gradually become something special as milestones are reached. Each year older becomes a sort of victory to an individuals -- or in this case -- a community's staying power.

This year Norwich and the former municipality of North Norwich reached the ripe old age of 175 years. It's a great milestone that the community can be rightly proud of. One only has to look around to see the hundreds of "ghost towns" that never fulfilled their promise.

In honor of Norwich's 175th birthday, The Norwich Gazette has compiled this souvenir edition which contains pictures and stories from the anniversary celebrations held over the July 1 weekend, as well as brief histories of Norwich organizations and their contributions to the community.



This Weekend Is Supported By The  
Federal And Provincial Governments



July 1<sup>st</sup>

Canada Day

# Garbage bylaw not up to snuff

A proposed garbage collection by-law needs "a little tidying up," says Coun. Norm Lusk.

The Norwich councillor expressed several qualms with the by-law during second reading.

"There are several things with this that I think need a little tidying up."

## Cap in hand

Two disaster relief committees have approached council with cap in hand.

The Essex County Flood Disaster Relief Committee and the Sudbury Region Disaster Relief Fund Committee are looking for financial support from the municipality to aid victims affected by flooding in both regions last spring.

Coun. Hardee Richardson didn't have a lot of sympathy for the flood victims. "You get people building on low land and this sort of thing's going to happen."

"The next time my place floods I'm filing for relief," joked Coun. Bob Carney.

Council noted and filed the requests.

Last month, council donated \$2,000 to the Central Ontario Disaster Relief Fund in an Oxford Centre SPADE (Supporting People After Disaster Emergencies) blitz on behalf of Barrie area tornado victims.

One of the terms bothering the councillor was that the bylaw requires retailers not put their garbage out before 6 p.m. This would mean merchants would have to stay around their premises for a half hour after closing before they could legally put out the trash.

"I wonder if this sort of regimentation is what we really need."

The bylaw, in its present form, demands apartment owners provide garage containers to hold all tenants garbage, and that the municipality will no longer pick up manufacturer's and trade waste.

"I don't think this is any way of enticing commercial growth," he said.

The bylaw was referred to the Agriculture and Works Committee for further discussion.

## Park lights shot out again

Vandalism is taking its toll on the Otterville Park.

Three dusk to dawn lights at the park have finally been fitted with protective covers after vandals shot out the lights on two separate occasions.

The new lights and covers cost \$272 to install.

## "Keeping in line"

# Norwich police force get 4.3 per cent raise

The Township of Norwich Police Force has signed a contract that will give the three-man force a salary and benefit increase of 4.3 per cent.

"We're pleased," said Constable Mike Ellul, chief negotiator for the local force. "We're keeping in line with most of the other forces in the area."

Norwich Township Mayor John Heleniak said Monday he was also happy with the agreement which was ratified by Council Monday. The force had begun negotiations asking for a 10 per cent raise.

"We're satisfied with the agreement because we heard that we weren't going to get even that (4.3 per cent), said Const. Ellul.

The one year agreement brings the base salaries up to \$22,840.16 for a 4th Class Constable, \$25,395.51 for a 3rd Class Constable, \$28,075.25 for a 2nd Class Constable and \$30,407.24 for a 1st Class Constable. All three township policemen are 1st Class Constables.

The agreement is retroactive to January 1, 1985.

Under a separate agreement Chief Robert Knight will receive \$33,380.38 per year retroactive to January 1. An additional \$240 per year will be paid in recognition of 20 continuous service. He has been with the force for 22 years.

### 50 YEARS AGO July 1935

Damage to the extent of \$200,000 or more was caused to the Otterville branch of the Tip Top Cannery, Ltd., when fire broke out on Sunday evening. It is hoped to have the factory rebuilt in time to process the corn pack, which is only a month away.

## \$4,000 worth

# Saplings stolen from Township lot

NG AUG 14

By PETER McLAUGHLIN

Nursery stock, valued at \$4,000, have been disappearing from township property for more than a month, but the police were only notified Monday by a resolution of council.

About 40 red maple trees, earmarked for transplanting around Norwich and Otterville, were stolen from the old public works area behind the Norwich Curling Club.

"The stock is gone," Coun. Don Pettigrew informed Norwich Township Council Monday. "The roads superintendent can't account for any authorized usage."

The trees were dug up without permission and "nobody knows where they are," he said.

"Why haven't the police been notified," asked Coun. Darrell Force. "Why did this have to be reported through council before the police?"

Councillor-at-large Helen Smith said she only heard news of the stolen trees Saturday. "It seems to me if they were taken without authorization that it should have been reported."

Roads Superintendent Ron Smith said the trees which were planted in May have been disappearing since June. "They've been disappearing a little bit at a time."

Mr. Smith said one of the foremen noticed the trees were missing and told the township clerk. He said some of the councillors were aware of the problem since June.

### 100 YEARS AGO August 1885

The trail of Riel has resulted in his being sentenced to suffer death for his crimes against Canada.

Otterville - The barns belonging to what was the Commercial Hotel here, have, under the direction of their owner, Mr. Nesbit, been torn down and shipped to Woodstock.

### 100 YEARS AGO August 1885

The late Ebenezer Haley of Springford left the Baptist Church of that village the handsome legacy of \$1,000.

Springford - Our blacksmiths are very busy at present, Bob works from sunrise to one o'clock in the morning. Springford is the place in which to coin money.

Otterville - The barracks for the Salvation Army is being completed and will doubtless present a neat appearance when finished.

## Letters to the editor

### Wake up and smell the coffee

To The Editor:

Re: Letter to the Editor, notice on police bulletin board that police force is not allowed to frequent Glide Inn Restaurant.

Over the past couple of years complaints have been aired from time to time that Township of Norwich Police cruisers were parked at a local restaurant parking lot for what appeared to be excessive periods of time.

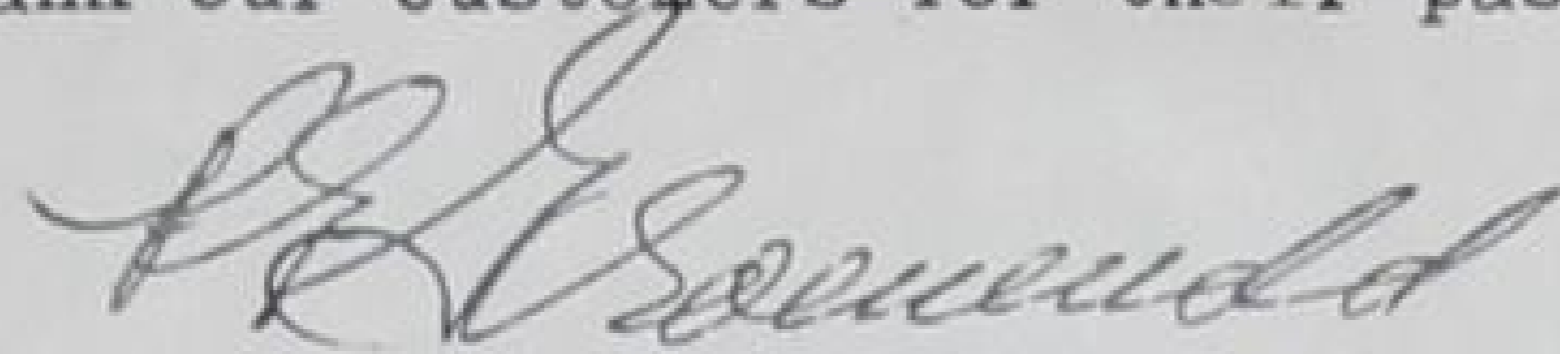
If this so-called notice has been posted, it was not ordered by council.

If the chief feels these steps are necessary to satisfy those complaints, then it has been under the chief himself. Council has no right not to allow their employees a coffee break.

Bob Carney  
Ward 1 Councillor

As of August 1, 1985, PAUL GROENEVELD GARAGE LTD. was purchased by Paul & Carol Groeneveld. It would be appreciated if all accounts were settled as soon as possible.

We would like to thank our customers for their past patronage.



Due to rising costs, beginning August 1, 1985, all gas will be cash or credit card (Visa, Mastercard, or Petro-Canada). Petro-Canada credit card applications are available at the Garage.

We look forward to serving you; our valued customers.



## Otterville visited

OTTERVILLE (C) — Saturday afternoon, August 17, several residents of Norvilla Nursing Home, Norwich, enjoyed a relaxing afternoon at the home of Grant and Doreen Mountain, Otterville.

This is the second year for a visit to the Mountain residence with 16 residents being able to attend. While there, they admired Mrs. Mountain's gardens, took leisurely walks and sat reminiscing.

Residents from the Otterville area also enjoyed tracing family histories. Lunch and refreshments were enjoyed.

The residents travelled by cars driven by Madeline DeRoo, Julie Richardson and Bill Woodrow. This is not the first such outing, but is one of many enjoyed in Norwich, Otterville and area farms. On an earlier occasion they enjoyed an afternoon at the home of Mrs. Richardson, Otterville.

Afternoon teas are a regular summer activity at Norwich Norvilla Nursing Home with volunteers being readily available to drive. The residents enjoy the outdoors, change of scenery and pleasant fresh air.

Anyone interested in having residents for an afternoon visit is encouraged to do so. It is sometimes easier to have them come to visit than making a special visit to the nursing home.

## Meals on Wheels volunteers thanked by Centre

OTTERVILLE (C) — Special thanks was extended Thursday evening, August 22, to all volunteers involved in the Otterville Meals-On-Wheels program through an appreciation night held at the Multi-Service Centre, Tillsonburg. In combination with those of the Tillsonburg program, everyone received certificates of special thanks.

Marg Standbridge and Bonnie Briggs spoke with Ms Briggs pointing out the

meaning of being volunteers and how much they are appreciated. Because of them and through the program, people are allowed to remain independent in their homes and enjoy hot meals.

Those honored and to whom appreciation was extended were: Mr. and Mrs. Rod Taylor, Inez Webb, Evelyn Duffy, Marie Scott, Brigitte Weeks, John Herbert, Lloyd Powers, Dorothy Pinnoy, Lorraine Downing, Vera Welsh, Mr. and Mrs. Boyd Little, Jean Gehring, Stella Hanson, Jean McClintock, Lois Rachar, Mr. and Mrs. Don Chisholm, Sandra Hussey, Marion Pettigrew, Irene VanTorre, Cathy Wells, Mr. and Mrs. Don Addison, Georgina Spicer, Cliff Rachar, Carl Howse, George Douma, Madeline Cowan, Isabelle Harris and Jean Davis.

The program, started in February, has been very successful and enjoyed by the people making use of it. The program ensures well balanced meals of meat, potatoes, vegetable and a dessert packaged in tin foil and styrofoam disposable containers. The food is prepared at the Maple Manor Nursing Home in Tillsonburg with consideration given to special diets such as low sodium, reducing and diabetic needs.

However, the volunteers coordinated by Jean Davis and Isabelle Harris is the key to the success of the program. Such a response of interest and caring by these volunteers makes it possible for the meals to be delivered hot during the noon hour. Without these people the service could not operate. It is a clear demonstration of people caring for one another.

The program will definitely continue regardless of how many or few take advantage of the service. The number of meals delivered during the summer has been less since it is easier for people to get out. However, with fall and winter coming the number is anticipated to increase.

Presently anyone interested in meals or helping as volunteers may contact Isabelle Harris, Otterville. Volunteers are used every other week and if only available sometimes can be put on a spare list to help out occasionally. Helpers are always needed.

Results of the Royal Conservatory of Music Piano Exams were: Melissa Poole, Grade 1 - First Class Honors; Lisa Hicks, Grade 2 - Honors; Brady Parr, Grade 4 - Honors; and Angela Wood, Theory, Preliminary Rudiments - First Class Honors.

Exam results for the Palmer, Hughes Course for Organ were Annette Wood, Grade 1 - Honors; Kerri Mickula, Grade 2 - First Class Honors; Joanne Antoszko, Grade 3 - Honors; Pamela Farkas, Grade 3 - First Class Honors; Geannine Duwyn, Grade 3 - First Class Honors; Andrea Hornyak, Grade 4 - First Class Honors; Angela Wood, Grade 5 - Honors; Julie DeWachter, Grade 5 - First Class Honors; Jarrin Penny, Grade 5 - Pass; Brenda DeWaele, Grade 6 - Honors; Michelle Duwyn, Grade 6 - First Class Honors; Susan Lee, Grade 8 - First Class Honors.

Mrs. Kozuch will be resuming lessons during the week of September 2 following the summer holidays.

## Lions hold first meeting of year at Walther farm

OTTERVILLE (C) — The first regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club for this new season was held at the Walther farm, RR 1, Otterville, Monday evening, August 26.

Lion president Paul Wood presided with 34 members and eight guests and prospective members present to enjoy a fine steak barbecue.

Main item discussed was the upcoming Vegas Night to be held in the Norwich Community Centre, Saturday, September 14. Vegas Night replaces the previous Lions Fall Carnival, and will be a one-night affair featuring the cash Elimination Draw, replacing the previous car draw. Other attractions that night will be various games as well as food and dance.

Lion president Paul also reported on the Wintario draw held at the Norwich Community Centre, July 11. This was well attended and won much praise from Wintario organizers for such a successful evening. Wintario has also suggested that the Lions Club consider holding a second Wintario Night in Norwich at a future date.

## Deaths

### Ella Leone Johnson

Mrs. Ella Leone Johnson of Toronto passed away at North York General Hospital, on Wednesday, August 7, 1985, in her 74th year.

The former Ella Leone Holmes was born in Otterville, June 30, 1912, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. R.M. Holmes. Mrs. Johnson had resided most of her life in Toronto and was a member and elder of Trinity St. Paul's United Church. With her husband Grenville, she owned and operated June Flowers, Toronto, for many years.

Surviving are her husband, Grenville C. Johnson; a son, Murray Johnson of Scarborough; a daughter, Mrs. Paul (Velma) Burley, Pickering; one sister, Mrs. Marion Taylor, Otterville; also four grandchildren, Lesley, Heather and Ken Johnson and Ella Burley.

She was predeceased by her father, Murray Holmes in 1970 and mother Velma in 1971.

She rested at the Morley Bedford Funeral Chapel, Toronto. Funeral service was held Friday, August 9, 11 a.m. at Trinity St. Paul's United Church, conducted by Dr. Bruce Gordon, Owen Sound, friend of the family.

Pallbearers were Scott and Brian Taylor, Ken Johnson, Paul Burley and friends from Toronto.

Interment was in Otterville Cemetery.

## Kozuch music students get grades back on exams

OTTERVILLE (C) — Music students of Mrs. Muriel J. Kozuch, Otterville, recently received marks of their exams taken in June. The grading system used is First Class Honors - 80-100 per cent; Honors - 70-79 per cent; and Pass - 60-69 per cent.

## Local lad returns from air base

OTTERVILLE (C) — Darren McMullen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Don McMullen, Main St., Otterville, and a member of 153 Varnavair Squadron of Tillsonburg, recently returned from the camp for Air Cadets at Trenton Air Force Base. While there, Darren attended Sir James Whitney School where he was the first one of his squadron to successfully complete and pass the Air Studies Course for Gliders.

# Otterville correspondent retiring after 30 years

OTTERVILLE (C) — Mrs. Evelyn Waring, a long-time resident of Otterville, has spent the last 30 years as the Otterville correspondent for local and area newspapers.

Mrs. Waring came by this occupation honestly, her mother, Mrs. Ernest Jull and mother-in-law, Mrs. William Waring, both being rural correspondents for the Norwich Gazette.

After the sesqui-centennial of Otterville, Evelyn took over as correspondent for The Norwich Gazette and The Tillsonburg News. Previous to this she had periodical-

ly assisted the late Myrtle Addison, Otterville correspondent at that time. As well, Evelyn became involved in writing for other papers in the surrounding area.

Later Mrs. Waring's husband, Harold, began writing sports for the paper and became County Scorekeeper, keeping the county standings of the baseball games and attending many games at the Otterville Community Park.

As a child Evelyn remembers being anxious for the arrival of The Norwich Gazette in order to read the Otterville News. But

today with the changes in lifestyles she finds that people are too busy to be concerned or interested in the type of news that once was popular. Personal news is no longer a high priority for people do not read the paper like they once did. Likewise, they do not take time to chat on the telephone or share their personal happenings for the press.

However, Mrs. Waring has enjoyed being correspondent for it has involved working with people. In order to get the local news she has met many people, had great conversations and learned many interesting things. Many people who were previously strangers have become good and dear friends.

Now that Mrs. Waring has decided to retire, she is reminded of many events and memories that have taken place in Otterville through the years. Such things as the burning of the Tip Top Cannery, the closing of Spicer's Bakery, Gleason's Funeral Home, and Powell's Industry; the rebuilding of Holmes-Taylor Hardware and Pinnoy's Meat Shop destroyed by fire; relocation of the Otterville Post Office to Dover St.; Royal Bank robberies; formation of Regional Government; organization and promotion of senior citizens through the Leisure Club; demolition of the bake shop; establishment of Meals On Wheels; relocation of the Otterville Public Library and new businesses developing, are brought to mind.

Evelyn has given the responsibilities of correspondent to her niece Joyce McMullen, Main St., Otterville, who has been assisting her for the last couple of years. However, this does not mean she has completely given up her interest in the news. Mrs. Waring will continue to help her niece, always having her ear to the ground for news and eager to chat with anyone on the phone regarding things happening in the village.

With thoughts of retiring Mrs. Waring formulated her numerous memories into the following poem:

Back in those days of the late "30's"  
When things seemed tough and things  
were dreary  
I got a letter from The Tillsonburg News  
telling me they need a writer for the  
paper

And I would choose to notify them later.  
Well I soon told my relatives and friends  
about the letter

"Go to it Evelyn, you could do no better."  
So with paper and pencil I set by the phone  
Called many people who all were at home.  
Asked if they had company that went  
sooner or later

This all worked out fine and seemed great  
for the paper.

Then suddenly my finger got sore  
So pen and pencil was needed no more.  
I decided I needed a typewriter right away  
So I called my sister in Toronto who had  
seen one yesterday.

Along it came I having little or no typing  
education

Many suggestions were given from friends  
and the relations.

It has been great, called neighbors and  
friends

There were times of course when we wrote  
sad events.

Then we wrote of weddings, this would be a  
long script

Picnics and sports were not forgotten a bit.  
Ball games sure had their place in the  
news

Their wins and losses were many and few.  
To mention sports, ball games were  
always in play

And my late husband Harold took no time  
to delay.

Getting to the park with pencil and pad  
Got the names of players and kept scores  
good and bad.

He came with the news of the games to  
report

And talked to the desk which handled the  
sports.

Well this is a brief history of when I began  
Other papers called and said help us if you  
can

I could not say no and did well with the  
press

But I didn't do it alone I must confess.  
If you had trouble just get on the phone

They were all glad to help you could tell by  
their tone.

So now after a period of time with the news  
My niece Joyce McMullen consented to  
choose

In taking on this work in fact already  
started

Good luck to you Joyce you are so good  
hearted.

## Ash Family reunion takes place in Shedden

### ASH REUNION

On July 20, the third Ash Family reunion their home, 155 Union Rd., Shedden.

Relatives began arriving Friday evening for the Saturday afternoon festivities celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the family's coming to Canada from their home in St. George, Italy in 1885.

About 100 family members attended, a far cry from the nine members, a father, mother and seven children, who came to Canada a century ago to settle in the Hawtry-Otterville area.

Four generations of the family present came from London, Tillsonburg, Windsor, Burgessville, Thamesford, Norwich, Bornholm, Woodstock, St. Thomas, Barrie, Ottawa, Collingwood, Mount Clements, Farmington and Detroit, Michigan.

The youngest member was one month old, Erin Kitchen, daughter of Kim Kitchen (nee De Block) of Woodstock.

Proclaimed as Queen mother of the gathering was 86-year-old Mary Ash Brown, Mt. Clements, Mich., oldest member of the family.

Also honored was her sister Emma Ash McCready, Burgessville. Both are daughters of the late Alferd Ash, who arrived from Italy with his parents at the age of eight years. Also present were some of

his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Others present were grandchildren and great-grandchildren of two more of the seven children who came to Canada in 1885, the late Mary Ash Angott and the late Josephine Ash Medai.

The afternoon was spent by many in the pool at the Jone's home. While others reminisced over a photo album put together by Mrs. McCready for the occasion. The old family photos included a much treasured photo of Angelo and Victoria Ash, of whom all those present were descended.

For the smorgasbord supper, the party moved to the Shedden Country Club where they were greeted by a cake display, made by Leanne De Block of Bornholm. A silver bridge, decorated with roses spanned the distance between two cakes, one decorated as the Italian flag, dated 1885, the other the Canadian flag, dated 1985. After dinner, master of ceremonies Henry De Block, Bornholm, brother of Mrs. Jones, gave a run down of facts about the early life of the Ash family. The history was supplied by Pauline Gray, close friend of the Ash family.

Additional information will be supplied to Madalon Ash Mawhiney, Tillsonburg, who is working on a detailed family history.

## Davis-Wilson vows spoken

OTTERVILLE (C) — Darlene Marie Wilson of Otterville and Alexander D. Davis, RR 1, Otterville exchanged marriage vows on the lawn of the groom's parents on Friday, August 23, at 5:30 p.m.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Green, Norwich and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charter Davis, Otterville.

The double ring ceremony was performed by Pastor Joseph Bull with summer flowers in the background.

The bride chose a street length dress of champagne, sheer polyester with long sleeves and lace bodice inset and twisted pearl necklace. To complete her ensemble, she wore flowers in her hair of peach roses, yellow daisies and stephanotis. Darlene's tie bouquet consisted of a silk yellow gladiolia surrounded by roses, daisies and baby's breath, to match her hair corsage.

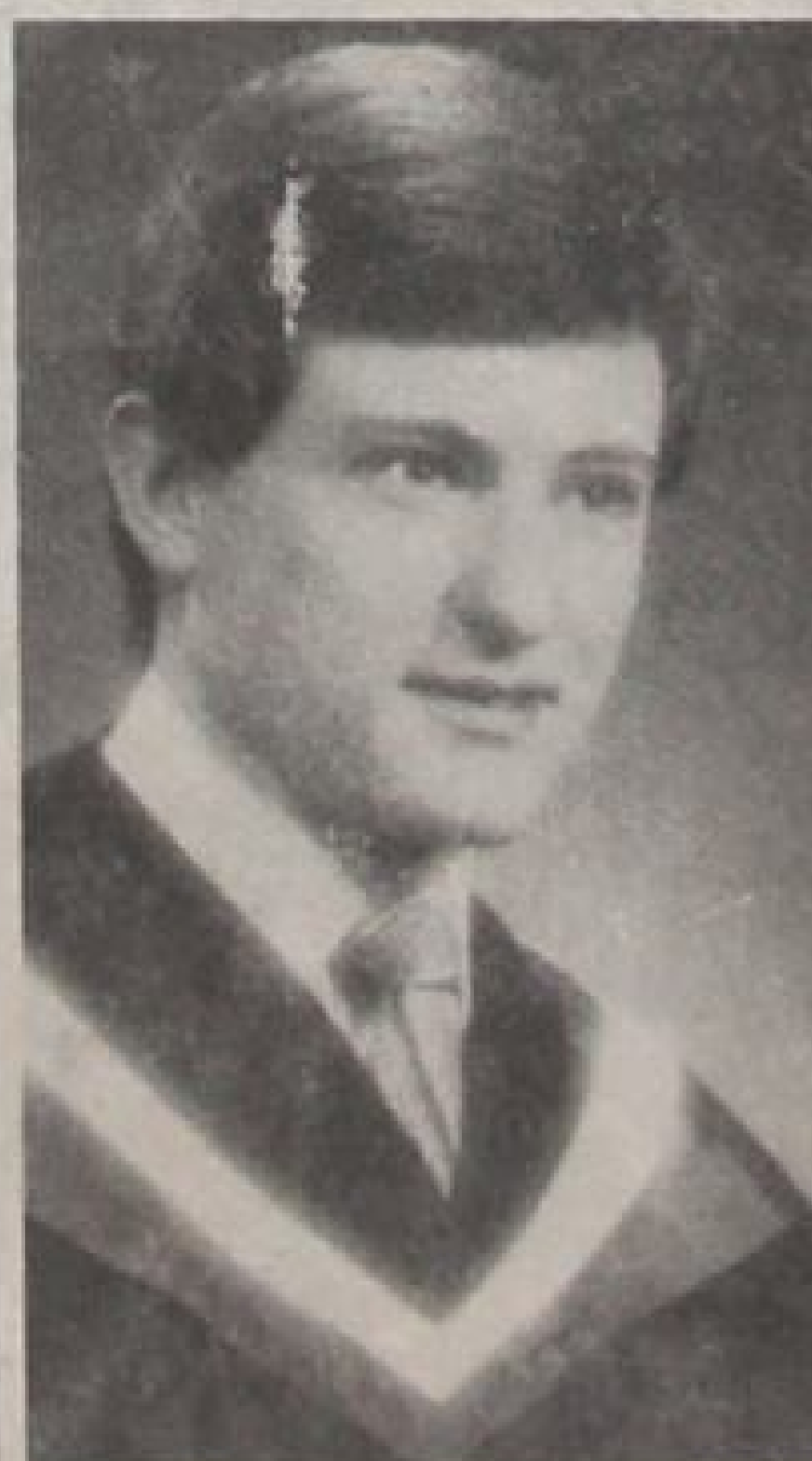
The couple were attended by their parents.

A reception was held at 7 p.m. in

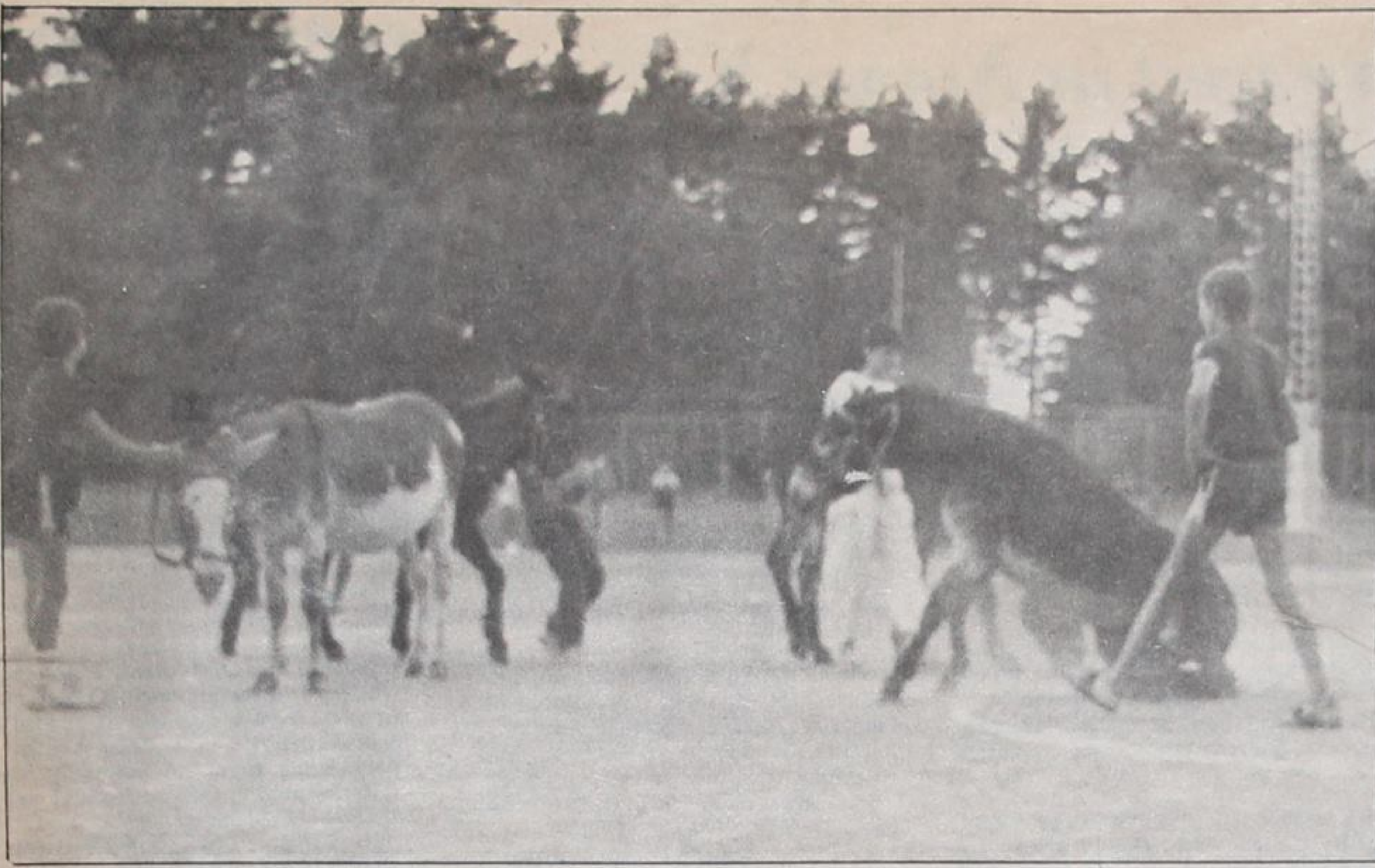
the Cane Room of Covey Brothers Motel for 25 guests. The tables were decorated with mixed bouquets of red roses and fall colored chrysanthemums arranged by sister-in-law of the groom Mrs. Dwight Davis. The three-tier wedding cake was decorated with colored flowers and yellow roses topped by a miniature bride and groom. White candelabra lighted the cake from each side and was served by Alex and Darlene.

Following a wedding trip to Florida, Mr. and Mrs. Davis are residing at RR 1, Otterville.

## Graduation



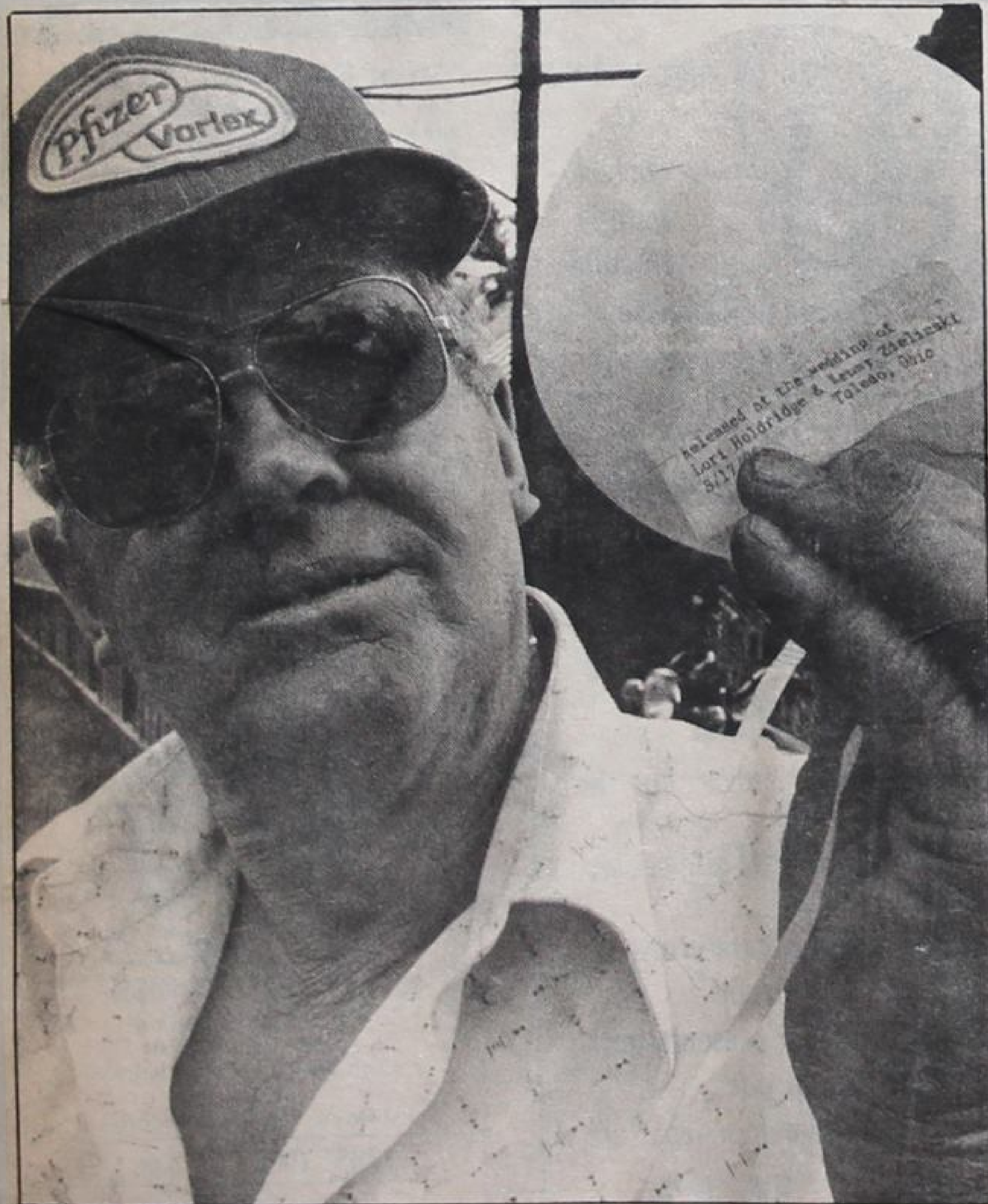
Kevin Church has obtained his Honors Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from Wilfrid Laurier University. Kevin is the son of Ted and Mary M. Church of Otterville.



**Donkey ball**

A raucous game of Donkey Baseball was had at the Otterville Park Friday night between the Otterville firefighters and the Otterville

Slo-pitch team. It's hard to say who won, but by the look of this photograph, it might have been the Donkey's. (Kerry Pond Photo)



**Wedding balloon**

Milldale tobacco farmer Ross Chambers didn't find anything new, borrowed or blue, but he did find something concerning a wedding. He found a balloon laying in his tobacco field a week ago Sunday released at a wedding celebration in Ohio. The balloon was released Aug. 17 from Toledo, Ohio and was found the next day by Chambers. The balloon commemorated the marriage of Lori Holdridge and Kenny Zielinski.(staff



# Kipp-Davis wed in Woodstock ceremony

Suzanne Elizabeth Kipp, daughter of Ronald and Blanche Kipp of Woodstock, was married to David George Davis, son of John and Barbara Davis of Otterville, on August 17 at St. David's United Church in Woodstock.

Rev. Peter Scott officiated at the ceremony. The bride was traditionally dressed in a white poly-sheer over netting and taffeta gown. A re-embroidered sheer yoke was beautifully decorated with seed and rice pearls, as was the guipere-type

lace on the natural bodice. Multiple ruffles bordered the high neck, off-the-shoulder yoke and cuffs of the long fitted sleeves and the hem which flowed into a cathedral train. She wore a matching hat with a netted veil and carried a silk cascade of dusty rose roses, pink carnations, white shasta daisies and baby's breath.

The maid of honor was Cheryl Kennedy of Woodstock. Bridesmaids were Cheryl Richardson of Otterville, Nancy Davis of Otterville,

sister of the groom and Johanne Tremblay of Woodstock.

They wore pink taffeta gowns with on-and-off shoulder 'V' necklines; full, rustling skirts; wide taffeta sashes and hats to match. They carried silk cascades of dusty rose and pink carnations, soft pink orchids and baby's breath.

The best man was Bill Richardson of Otterville and the ushers were Doug Furlong of Otterville, Mike Kipp, brother of the bride, of Toronto and Peter Davis, brother of the

groom of Otterville.

The men wore black satin peak lapel tuxedos with matching vests, black trousers and black bowties.

A reception was held at the Polish Hall in Woodstock. Fred Wilks was master of ceremonies. Guests were present from Toronto, Buffalo, London, Kitchener, Grimsby, Port Dover and surrounding areas.

The couple enjoyed a honeymoon trip to Cleavelands House Resort in the Muskokas and will reside at London, Ont.

*Sue  
and  
Dave*

*Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Kipp  
and  
Mr. and Mrs. John E. Davis  
request the honour of your presence  
at the Wedding Dance for their children  
Suzanne Elizabeth  
and  
David George  
on Saturday, August the seventeenth  
nineteen hundred and eighty-five  
at eight-thirty o'clock  
Polish Hall  
Woodstock, Ontario*



**Mr. and Mrs. David Davis**

# Mark 150 years in Springford

By SUZANNE STOOP

On the surface, it looked like just another family picnic in the park. But for the 75 members of the Bell family who gathered in the Otterville Lions Park and on the Bell Homestead at Springford Saturday, the occasion held much more significance.

The reunion not only brought the various branches of the family together for the day—it marked the 150th anniversary of the family's settlement in the Springford community, reinforcing the family's sense of history and their past.

It's the third such reunion that's been held over the years. The first took place in 1935 in Port Burwell where Michael Bell and his wife Charlotte Herring first landed after crossing Lake Erie from the United States. The next gathering took place three years ago, again in Port Burwell, and it was the family's historian, Lloyd Bell of Toronto, who prompted the third reunion on the weekend.

The oldest member of the family at the gathering Saturday, Mr. Bell, at 89, has endeavored to keep the family tree intact and the family's sense of history alive. While his professional field was mathematics and physics, which he taught in Toronto high schools from 1921 until 1957, he has an avid interest in the family's history.

Mr. Bell was born on the Bell Homestead at Springford the son of Michael Bell. Michael Bell, named after the original settler on the farm, was the third generation of Bells to farm the 200-acre property, now in the hands of Richard Bell, great-grandson of the first Michael Bell, and the sixth generation of the family to occupy the farm.

The first Michael Bell and his wife Charlotte had emigrated to Canada from Hexham, England, together with their children, Alice, Richard, Elizabeth, Michael and Mary. They had received word from a friend in Canada that a mill was for sale in the Otterville area and it is believed they came to Canada to purchase it.

Their travels took them by stagecoach to Liverpool where they embarked aboard a primitive vessel for New York City. From there they travelled up the Hudson River to Albany where they rode by railway to Schenectady, landing in Port Burwell after crossing Lake Erie. They then headed for Otterville in South Norwich to purchase the mill but upon their arrival learned it had been sold just a few days before. Failing to find another, he purchased the 200 acres of land at Lot 22, Concession 9 in the former South Norwich Township near the village of Springford.

The homestead has been in the family ever since and the old brick farmhouse, constructed by Michael Bell in 1843, still stands. It was the first brick house constructed in the southern part of the township. The farm passed to a son Richard, who married Eliza Hevenor, then to Richard's son William who carried on the farming tradition, passing the farm on to his son Charles and on down the line to William A. Bell. His son Richard remains on the homestead to the present day and his son Michael Bell—great-great-grandson of William M. Bell—is the seventh generation on the farm.



## New generation

Lloyd Bell, 89, of Toronto, was the oldest member of the Bell family gathered at the Bell Homestead, Springford, for a family reunion marking the 150th anniversary of the family's settlement in the area. And 11-week-old Danielle Coleau, of England, was the youngest member present. Both gathered with other family members for family photographs taken of the various branches of the family descended from the original settler, Michael Bell, who came to Springford in 1835 from England. (Staff Photo)

As part of the anniversary celebrations Saturday, the family members—representing four generations of the Bell family—observed a service of remembrance and thanksgiving at St. Charles Anglican Church in the former Dereham Township. Following the service was a visit to the St. Charles cemetery where the first two generations of the Bell family are buried. Taking part in the special church service, conducted by Rev. Earl McDonald, son of Libby (Bell) McDonald (1866-1967), was Melissa Cowan, great-great-granddaughter of William M. Bell (1861-1950); Lloyd Bell, son of Michael Bell (1864-1946); John Bell, grandson of William M. Bell and Doris Haley, granddaughter of William M. Bell.

Following the morning services, the family enjoyed lunch in the Otterville park, and a program of sports and entertainment and at 4 p.m. all visited the Bell Homestead where the cutting of an anniversary cake by Lloyd Bell capped the eventful and historic day.

## Bell Family reunion

by JEFF TRIBE

The Otterville Park, well known as a great picnic site, was the scene Saturday for a gathering of the Bell Family, which celebrated its 150th Anniversary in Canada.

In 1835, Michael, Charlotte Bell and family took a two month trip from Liverpool, England to the site of the present day Bell Homestead, and never went back. The homestead is just south of the main corner in Springford.

The Bells reached Springford by way of steamer to New York, riverboat to Albany, rail to Schnectudy, scow to Buffalo and Lakeboat to Port Burwell.

Arriving in Otterville, Michael Bell found that the Otterville Mill had been sold only a few days previously, and so instead bought the 200 acre farm which six generations of Bells have called home.

After dinner and entertainment, about 75 guests—who hailed from across Southern Ontario and as far away as the Soo and the UK.

Clare Wardle(nee Bell), of Springford said the family gathered three years ago in part to set this up noted that it was especially assemble the family from such diverse locations.



About 75 members of the Bell Family converged on the Bell Homestead on the weekend to celebrate the family's 150 years in Canada. (Jeff Tribe photo)

## Norwich Council briefs

# Grants for water projects sought

The Township Clerk has been instructed to submit applications for grants for waterworks projects for the Villages of Norwich and Otterville.

## Agency support

Norwich Township is supporting the Township of Delhi with a resolution supporting the establishment of a national tobacco marketing agency.

The Delhi resolution states that the agency is the most efficient means of re-establishing stability in the industry and petitions the federal cabinet to approve the Canadian Flue-Cured Tobacco Marketing Agency.

The resolution adds that further decline in the tobacco industry will result in the loss of farm revenue, farm employment, revenue and employment in related businesses, loss of municipal assessment, and loss of provincial and federal revenues.

## World Food Day

Norwich Township, along with other communities across Canada, will recognize Oct. 16 as World Food Day.

Ontario government organizations, private sector organizations, voluntary organizations, educational institutions and individual citizens will be focusing on the problem of world hunger experienced by more than 500 million people in 147 countries.

## On my list

The County of Oxford Planning Department and Development has been asked to provide the Township of Norwich with a list of properties in the Residential Existing (RE) category which do not have an agricultural use on the property.

Council is concerned that many RE property owners are not aware that their properties are of a residential classification.

## Salute to Allyson

Ontario's new Dairy Princess, Allyson Hagerman, will be presented with a plaque by the Township in recognition of her achievement as the first Township resident to win the title.

Miss Hagerman will be presented with the award at the forthcoming Ontario Milk Producers banquet.

## Blue Line Room

The Norwich Junior C Merchants have been authorized to operate the Blue Line Club during the 1985-86 hockey season.

The club operates out of the mezzanine level of the Norwich Community Centre.

The projects, estimated to cost \$1,562,490 and \$1,318,575 respectively, could qualify for government funding as high as 85 per cent, says Norwich PUC secretary-treasurer Shirley Sweazey.

In Norwich, the Commission has a three-phase waterworks plan calling for a new 400,000 gallon water tower, the replacement of some existing water lines, the opening of a new well east of the village limits, a new pump house, and the upgrading of some water mains.

The Otterville study calls for a new well and pump house, a new water tank and a great deal of line upgrading.

Last spring, PUC chairman Gordon Powell said a "sizeable" government grant was needed if the commission is to have any hope of upgrading the two water-systems.

## Mobile home move

Douglas Rogers, of lot 11, Con. 3 in Ward 3(North Norwich), has been given permission to retain a vacant mobile home until it can be moved in 1986.

Council granted Mr. Rogers permission to situate the trailer on his property in 1983. The trailer is no longer needed and will be moved to Northern Ontario.

## Council consents to severances

Council has consented to the zone change application of part of the Carl Siple property, lot 22, Con. 5 in Ward 3(North Norwich).

Mr. Siple wishes to sever a 3,283 metre(.81 acre) lot including existing residence and accessory garage making it Residential Existing from General Agricultural.

The property to be retained covers 35 hectares(86.5 acres) and includes an existing vacant house and barn. The lot will continue to be used for agricultural purposes. The subject property is located on the south side of County Road 18 lying at the corner of County Road 13.

Likewise, Council supported the application for consent to sever a property belonging to Alice Fisk, lot 9, Con. 6 in Ward 3.

Mrs. Fisk wishes to sever a .64 hectare(1.6 acre) parcel for a farm machinery repair garage and accessory single-family dwelling. The retained parcel, .5 hectares(1.23 acres), is presently vacant with no development plans.

The zone change requested is from Restricted Industrial(M1) to Agricultural Industrial(M6). The subject property is located on the south side of Concession Road 5 between Pick Sideroad and Highway 59.

Council approved the application for consent as the municipality encourages the development of farm-related businesses in agricultural areas.

Public hearings on the two applications are scheduled for Oct. 15.

## Oliver to run

Ward 1 Councillor Michael Oliver has decided to run for a second term as one of South Norwich's three representatives on Norwich Township Council.

The Otterville lawyer made the announcement Monday following a meeting of council.

Oliver's Ward-mate Bob Carney announced he would run for "some position on council" earlier this summer. Coun. Don Pettigrew, the third representative from the ward, said Tuesday he is still undecided.

"There's still another two months to go yet," he said. He added that he won't make a decision until he picks up the nomination papers.

## Carney not running for re-election

Ward 1 Councillor Bob Carney will not be running for Norwich Township Council this fall after all.

Earlier this summer, Mr. Carney told The Gazette he would definitely be running, but with a new business soon to be on the go in Port Rowan he "just won't have the time to devote to the job".

"I regret having to make the decision," he said Monday.

"I may run again in the future—maybe in the next few years, but I don't feel I have the time right now."

The Long Point resident, who owns and operates the Country Kitchen just east of Otterville, said he has enjoyed his three years on Council and has no regrets with the job he's done. "I feel I've served the ratepayers to the best of my ability."

## No more dusty road please

A request by Mr. and Mrs. John Ryksen to have Smith's Lane in Burgessville paved has been referred to the Public Works Committee.

In a letter to Council Monday, the Ryksens said the road, at present, is extremely dusty.

## ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO September 1885

Chief Pow found a portion of the goods stolen recently from the Air Line station at Corinth in an old stove in the Baptist church shed. A boy named Kilman ran across them and told the Chief where they were.

At a special meeting of the Council last Tuesday night, the by-law to raise money to build an addition to the public school was passed with the amount required at \$5,000.

Otterville — Dr. Collver has purchased the common south of Main St. and is having its appearance somewhat improved.

## Ratepayers meetings hard to arrange

It's been a difficult summer for the Norwich Township Ratepayer's Association, says Chairman Marilyn McLees.

With holidays and conflicting personal schedules to contend with, the five-month-old association has been unable to timetable an executive meeting or a general meeting this summer. In May, the group held two general meetings, followed by an executive meeting. A second executive meeting was held in June but was cancelled because they didn't have a quorum.

"It's really frustrating," said Mrs. McLees Thursday, "we just can't seem to get everybody together."

The most crucial item on the agenda is a first discussion on the salary and wage lists of Township employees which the group received from Council in early July.

Mrs. McLees said if she cannot schedule an executive meeting sometime this week

she may decide to release the information to the press. The chairman has been reluctant to release details of the salary lists without first discussing its contents with her six person executive.

While the ratepayers association has been relatively dormant this summer, the group has received "a lot of favourable comments", said McLees.

The chairman also said she was "under pressure" to run for council this fall. But because of her health and the desire to bone up for public life with—at the very least—a course in municipal government, she will not run.

"Maybe the next time around."

McLees is hoping to have a general meeting of the association sometime this month. The venue is tentively set for Norwich. The previous two meetings were held in Otterville and Oxford Centre.

# Council calls for OPC study

Box 14,  
Otterville, Ont.  
NOJ 1R0 G Feb. 09876

Norwich Township Council has requested the Ontario Police Commission to undertake a workload study of the municipal police force.

In a closed session of Council Monday, OPC advisor Bob Russell was asked to initiate the study which will analyse workload and manpower development.

"We want to make sure that the residents of the municipality are being provided with the best service available," said Mayor John Heleniak following the one hour meeting.

The resolution to implement the study, moved by Coun. Bob Carney and seconded by Coun. Don Pettigrew—the two coun-

cillors most visible in trimming the police force—was passed unanimously by Council.

The study, assured the mayor, is not a move to somehow emasculate the police force. He said the recommendations from the OPC do not have to be accepted.

The study will commence in about a month.

Police Chief Robert Knight said he welcomed the study. "Anything that will give the people of the township better service, I'm all for it."

It's not a survey to see if the men are working, it's a survey to see how we can better employ our men, he said.

"It's nothing detrimental to the force in fact it's very advantageous. It's going to show us how to put the men to better use, so I'm all for it."

During the study, calls to the police department will be monitored and peak busy periods identified.

Continued on Page 3

## Tree thefts a misunderstanding

The "theft" of \$4,000 worth of maple trees was all a big misunderstanding between township officials and the public, says Norwich Township Police Chief Robert Knight.

"The trees haven't been stolen as some people think," said the chief Tuesday. "it was just a lack of communication between

the public and administration."

Township Council sounded the alarm early last month when it was discovered that about 45 trees earmarked for transplanting in Norwich and Otterville were missing from the township lot behind the curling club.

Continued from Page 1

The young trees had been slowly disappearing since June.

Chief Knight said people who had hazardous trees removed during the spring were supposed to get the trees to replace the culled ones, but "some people thought anyone could go down and get them."

"Once the hullabaloo hit the paper, I had people phoning me saying they had the trees. It was a straight lack of communication."

He said the trees at the township lot represented only about one-third of the total township order.

The chief admitted that some propertyowners may have come away with a few extra trees. But the whole crisis, he said, was blown out of proportion.

"No charges have been laid and as far as I'm concerned the case is closed."

The chief said he has reported his findings to Township Clerk Robert Watkins.

## Police study

Continued from Page 1

Asked if he thought the move by Council demonstrated a lack of confidence in the force, Knight said: "No. I've been assured by Council that that's the furthest thing from their mind."

In the past, some councillors have criticized the Township force for overtime and the high costs of operating the four-man squad. Last spring a controversial vote was held over whether the police service costs be area rated to residents of Norwich. The resolution was narrowly defeated.

## Vandals running wild

By Ben Steidman  
Staff Writer

NORWICH — Vandals are running wild at Otterville Park this summer.

Township Council is getting worried about the situation as repairs to damage caused by vandalism continue to mount.

At Monday's meeting, Council approved payment of \$1,185 for repairs to the park. Clerk-Administrator Bob Watkins said vandalism has become a "real problem" and a costly one at that for Norwich.

Vandalism at the park has been consistent this summer, pointed out Clerk Watkins. He added that discussions have been held regularly with OPP on how to "cope with it."

As a consequence, police have indicated something different is to be tried for controlling the vandalism.

Earlier this summer, vandals were busy shooting out lights at the park and ball diamond, until heavy light covers foiled this exercise.

Clerk Watkins said it appears the vandals have now gone on to "bigger and better things" such as breaking into or damaging park property including the pool.

Little of value apparently has been taken, noted Deputy-Clerk Reg Saunders.

Councillor Bob Carney suggested the problem may be due in part to "not (having) near enough illumination at the park."

Councillor Mike Oliver's suggestion to close the gates was felt too severe, as it probably would discourage persons wishing to use the park for purely recreational pursuits.

## Stiff legal fees prove a rude awakening for Norwich

by PETER McLAUGHLIN

Reeling from the bill presented by the Township lawyer, Norwich Township Council is going to think twice before seeking legal services again.

A bill from the firm of White, Coad, Patience and Bennett in the amount of \$3,500 for their counsel at a one-day Ontario Municipal Board

Hearing(OMB) last month was greeted with surprise by councillors at a meeting last Tuesday.

"That's quite a bit of money to ask the ratepayers to put up," said Coun. Hardee Richardson. He was particularly miffed noting that the hearing, which concerned an appeal against the Township's Comprehensive Zoning by-law, was basically

just a discussion "about birdhouses."

Councillor-at-large Helen Smith said the bill seemed quite unfair considering that many other people, including the Oxford Planning Department staff, spent more hours preparing the defense of the by-law than the lawyer and were not paid for the extra work.

With a bill that size, Council may have to think about setting aside funds for legal counsel at budget time, said Richardson.

"I question whether legal counsel would have been worth it," said Coun. Michael Oliver, who is a lawyer himself.

Coun. Bob Carney said too often

Councils jump to a lawyer without considering that they might do well without one. "A lot of cases don't need a lawyer."

Defending the use of legal counsel, Township Clerk Bob Watkins said: "If you feel strongly about you're by-law you have to defend it properly."

"And I might remind you, that you now have your new Comprehensive by-law."

Watkins also reminded council that he once had to defend council himself without benefit of counsel and the municipality was fined \$1,000.

## 3 firefighter medals

Three Township of Norwich firefighters will be receiving long service medals from the Ministry of the Solicitor General.

William McMullen, deputy chief of Ward 1(South Norwich) fire station, as well as Otterville firefighters Lorne Treffry and Ross Dow will receive their medals Oct. 18 for 25 years service.

# Downtown sidewalks in Norwich

By Ben Steidman  
Staff Writer

NORWICH — It's finally going to happen.

Norwich Township Council at long last took action Monday on the much-delayed reconstruction of sidewalks in downtown Norwich by accepting the draft plan.

Tenders should now be called within a week to 10 days. A copy of the draft plan will be given to Norwich's Business Improvement Area (BIA) for comments from downtown Norwich merchants.

Rick Morrison of Ken Smart and Associates Ltd., Kitchener, the firm that prepared the draft plan, said estimated cost of the project will be about \$35,000 plus an undetermined amount for "incidentals" such as light standards.

Doug Wilson, Norwich drainage superintendent, said during a presentation to Council, that it was imperative to "do something this fall" on the project.

Basically, work on the north side of Main Street will entail reconstruction of sidewalks including light standards, and possible handrails or potted plants for the two-tier sidewalk system.

The south side requires sidewalk replacement; some sidewalk work is also needed on a section of Stover Street.

Councillor Don Pettigrew urged Council to "put the plan in force quickly, the (construction) season's running out."

Roy Arn, BIA president, told Council that the draft plan was "far from what the BIA wanted," as Council had delayed and scrapped previous plans at considerable cost to the group.

Nevertheless, Mr. Arn said the plan was a good one and suggested Council "go ahead and build the sidewalks and make the people happy."

Since Main Street is an Oxford County Road, the draft plan has included a road allowance of 44 feet to comply with engineering requirements. Some road reconstruction will also be needed. It's expected the county will approve the plan.

Councillor Norm Lusk, Council's representative on the BIA, said that "in principle, I see nothing wrong with the plan." He wanted to keep the BIA involved in the project and making the draft plan available to it would ensure members were "aware" of what's happening.

Mr. Arn pointed out that he had talked to merchants on the north side of Main Street and they appeared to "favour" the plan. He also assured Council that the BIA would not ask for changes later on after tenders are called.

A six-foot wide lower sidewalk on the north side, according to Mr. Wilson, was needed for easier snow removal and to accommodate cars parked along that side.

# Committee to examine Otterville school's future

A committee has been formed by the Oxford County Board of Education to examine methods of improving the Otterville Public School facility to ensure its viability.

The committee, formed at last week's board meeting, will be comprised of Norwich Township Trustee Russ Stangl, Tillsonburg Trustee Marilyn Popham, Otterville Public School's principal, the superintendent of schools for the area and two parent representatives — Jennifer Grant and John Walters.

The committee is to report back to the board on Oct. 21.

The existing school facility, which accommodates 148 pupils, leaves a great deal to be desired, said the board's director John Young. He said the building built in 1927 has long been one of the most antiquated facilities in the system and it needs to be updated to provide a viable institution for years to come.

Renovations to the school, totalling \$640,000 were given top priority in the board's 1985 request for capital funding from the province but Mr. Young said the ministry is reluctant to provide that kind of funding for such a small facility.

He said the committee will study the possibility of increasing the number of children, convincing the ministry to provide the grant or closing the school and

transferring the students to another facility.

At last week's meeting the board also appointed another committee to study ways of lowering the staff workload at Norwich District High School.

The six-person committee, including Norwich Township Trustee Helen Dickson, Blandford-Blenheim Township Trustee Gow Harvey, the director of education John Young, the appropriate superintendent of schools, Norwich District High School's Principal Jack Parker and two teachers from the high school, chosen by the staff, will investigate methods that might be used to bring about greater equity between staff workload at Norwich and the other six secondary schools in Oxford.

The committee is to report back to the board by Nov. 12.

Mr. Young said the problem is how to staff the school economically with the number of programs the school is trying to offer. Norwich District High School has the smallest student-teacher ratio among the county's seven high schools, he said. Yet staff are burdened by an oppressive workload.

The committee will look at alternative staffing and school timetable arrangements, including changes to the curriculum and possible cuts, to ease the workload for staff.

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## Money making trophy

Kelly Walther (right) of Otterville was presented with a trophy by the Norwich and District Branch of the Canadian Cancer Society for raising the most money in the society's Move-a-thon held in May. Kelly raised \$535. Also pictured are Donna Kirktown, move-a-thon chairman; Ron Cougler, CCS County Chairman, and Harold Kirktown, campaign chairman. (staff photo)

That during the week of Sept. 25, 1975:

Former Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board Chairman George Demeyere registered a strong protest against the over-use of closed meetings and Board inaction during the summer months.

A 60-bed nursing home for Delhi was approved in principle at the Township of Delhi Council.

It was a "good opening" for hunting at the Long Point and Waterford waterfowl management units, according to senior conservation officer Bob Ellah.

Norfolk General Hospital received the Ontario Hospital Association Accident Prevention Achievement Award.

The goal of \$105,323 has been set for the Norfolk area in the United Way campaign for this year. The dates for the general United Way canvass have been set from Oct. 15 to 31.

A team of architects have been engaged by the Norwich Chamber of Commerce to suggest methods of maintaining and beautifying the village's downtown core.

That during the week of Sept. 25, 1965:

At Delhi District High School, Student Council elections resulted as follows: John Stefek, president; Chris Yuristy, vice-president; Valerie Grant, treasurer; Ruth Backus, secretary.

Delhi District High School's top student Helen Temmer received five awards as follows:

# Ontario Hydro route selection forces Otterville couple to move

By SUZANNE STOOP

Ontario Hydro's choice of the existing 115-kilovolt transmission line right-of-way as the route for its new transmission line from London to Nanticoke is the least damaging option for everyone, according to Ontario Hydro officials. But it's not the least damaging option for Otterville residents Gordon and Margaret Shearer.

Their home is in the path of the new transmission line Hydro proposes to build from London to the Nanticoke generating station along the 115-kv transmission line that passes through South-West Oxford Township north of Tillsonburg and through Norwich Township south of Otterville.

The Shearers were told by Hydro officials at an information centre in Tillsonburg Monday they would have to relocate their home or themselves if the route is approved and construction gets underway.

"I'm not happy," Mr. Shearer said Monday after discussing the situation with Hydro officials. He and his wife have lived in their home on the south edge of the village of Otterville for 29 years. "I planted every tree on the property," Mr. Shearer said, noting he and his wife will either have to move to a new home or move their existing home if construction of the new line proceeds along Hydro's preferred route.

Mr. Shearer noted he is 60 years old now. In five year's time he'll be 65 and looking forward to a relaxing retirement. But in five years time, construction of the new

transmission line will be underway if the Consolidated Hearing Board approves Hydro's route selection. And instead of enjoying his sunset years in his Otterville home, Mr. Shearer and his wife will be uprooted - faced with the prospect of finding a new home.

"The only thing farmers have to lose is their land. I stand to lose my home," Mr. Shearer said somewhat bitterly Monday afternoon. Right now there's little he can do except wait to see if the route is approved next year.

A property negotiations supervisor with Hydro, Al Davis, said the Shearers' home will be right under the new transmission

line when it is constructed, necessitating their move to a new location.

While he said the situation is one of the impacts Hydro planned to avoid by following an existing right-of-way, some conflicts just can't be avoided. He said the only other alternative would be to move the line further south - a move that would affect even more houses and have more impact on the surrounding farms. It would also be a more costly alternative.

He said the acquisition of the Shearers' property and compensation will be discussed with them further if Hydro gets joint board approval for the transmission route. He said the line won't be built until

the early 1990s so it's possible the Shearers could stay on in their home until the line is actually built.

The existing 115-kv line has a 100-foot right-of-way, said Steve Rimmer, a planner with Hydro's land use and environmental planning department. The new transmission line will require a 220-foot right-of-way which will add an extra 110 feet on either side, he said.

## Hydro reps pay visit to Township Council

Two Ontario Hydro representatives paid a visit to Norwich Township Council Monday to brief councillors on the corporations impending transmission line project for the southern part of the municipality.

Plan 7, the favourite of four plans studied by Hydro, will run just south of Otterville along the present 115kV right of way.

The plan consists of a single circuit 500kV line from the Bruce Nuclear Power Development to the Essa Transformer station near Barrie, north of Chesley, southwest of Markdale and across the Niagara Escarpment near Lavender.

A new 500/230kV transformer station west of London and three four circuit, 230kV lines from the new station to existing 230kV lines will be built. A double circuit 500 kV line from Bruce to the new station will pass east of Ripley and Zurich, and west of Ailsa Craig.

A single circuit 500 kV line will run eastwardly from the new transformer station to the Nanticoke Generating Station. This line will be the one that passes through Norwich Township.

Morris Hewitt, Ontario Hydro's route and site selection community relations of-

ficer, said the plan possessed the least overall environmental affects of any of the four plans.

"It has the least impact on wetlands, forests and agricultural lands," he said. With something in the neighbourhood of 400 properties affected by the line, it is the plan that affects the least number of properties, he added.

Coun. Don Pettigrew noted that with the dismantling of the old line the new rebuilt line will have "double the impact" on property owners since easements will be more than doubled. The new line requires an easement of 250 feet.

Project planner Alan Beck said in many instances the corporation will be able to "jog around" a bit sparing some property. In Otterville, he said, one, and possibly two houses may have to be expropriated to make way for the line.

He said one of the houses could be spared by jogging but it would cost something close to \$800,000 to bypass both houses, making it economically unfeasible. The two houses are located at the junction of Dover and John Streets.

"It's something we'll have to discuss at the hearing," said Beck.

Hewitt said that property owners affected by the present line will be compensated "as if it were a new line."

Beck said owners will be compensated 80 per cent of the value of one acre of land for the first tower, and five per cent more for each subsequent tower.

He added that the corporation will look closely at using narrow-based towers so as little prime agricultural land as possible is wasted.

Coun. Jack Lester asked Hewitt if Hydro will give assurances it will not parallel the line in the future.

"Who can say," said Hewitt.



### Powerline conflict

Gordon and Margaret Shearer of Otterville are two area residents who aren't happy with Ontario Hydro's choice of the existing 115-kilovolt transmission line for its new line from London to Nanticoke. The line, with its expanded right-of-way, will pass over the Shearers' home necessitating their relocation or the relocation of their house. They talked with Hydro's property negotiations supervisor, Al Davis at an information centre Monday afternoon in Tillsonburg. The 115-kv line is Hydro's preferred route and will be presented for approval at a joint board hearing in November. (Staff Photo)

# Norwich-Otterville Lions hold meeting at curling club

The first regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held Mon. Sept. 9 at the Norwich District Curling Club.

Dinner was served by the ladies of the Norwich and District Figure Skating Club. Forty-three members and guests were present.

Lion Colin Cope introduced the speaker, Dr. Mark Coates, the clinic director of the Ontario Chiropractic Centre, Tillsonburg. His topic: Chiropractic and Your Health.

Dr. Coates gave a brief history of the origin of chiropractic adjustments, which started some 90 years ago. To become a chiropractor now requires four years of intense study.

He's also studying to become a naturopath at the Ontario College of Naturopathic medicine.

He stressed the fact that our regular diet generally contains too much protein and high fat, and that we need to exercise more. Swimming is one of the best ways of keeping our bodies in shape.

Lion Gary Walther expressed appreciation to Dr. Coates and presented him with a gift.

The Lions Club will have a display booth at the Trade Fair Sept. 17, 18 and 19 at the Community Centre.

The elimination draw and Las Vegas Night will be held Saturday Sept. 14 at the Community Centre from 7:30 p.m. til 12 a.m. Tickets for the elimination draw must be purchased before 8 p.m. The final ticket drawn will be for \$2,000.

An Irish masquerade dance will be held at the Norwich Community Centre Fri. Oct. 25. Music by the Celtic Dream Orchestra.

The Lions zone rally is to be held at the Norwich Community Centre Wed. Oct. 2. The next regular meeting Sept. 23 at the Otterville Community Ha.

# South Norwich Historical Society

OTTERVILLE(C)--The South Norwich Historical Society which met at the Woodlawn Adult Centre Sept. 9 with President Jack Smith presiding, featured guest speaker Esther Smith.

She spoke on the history of the farm she and her husband Bryce now own. In 1808 the Gilberts moved to the farm which comprised 200 acres. The first house was a log house and it was on this farm that the first white child in the township was born. Charles Anstice came on in 1826 with some members of the family there for more than 100 years; one member still being alive.

J.R. Johnson bought the farm in 1914 having three daughters. One of the daughters married Murray Holmes, a successful hardware dealer and respected citizen of Otterville. Irn Fox acquired the farm in 1929.

Esther and Bryce Smith bought the farm in 1950 now comprising 25 acres.

During the business portion of the meeting, it was decided to put plaques in the Treffry Mill noting that the picnic tables were donated by the Otterville WI.

Members were reminded of the Annual Auction Sale to be held Sat. Oct. 26 at the Norwich Community Centre. The sale will operate from 10 a.m. until noon with the auction taking place between 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.

The meeting adjourned followed by lunch

## SNHS holding auction

OTTERVILLE(C)--The South Norwich Historical Society will soon be holding its 3rd Annual Auction in the Norwich Community Centre with proceeds going toward further restoration of the Treffry Mill.

The auction sale will take on a new format this year. From 10 a.m. to noon, groups of articles will be offered for sale at \$2, \$4, \$6, and \$8. Articles for the afternoon auction may be viewed at this time.

The auction will begin at 1p.m. and should be completed by 5 p.m. with reserved bids on certain articles. There will also be a silent auction on a few specific items.

Township residents have already donated many articles. Only clean, saleable items are requested (no clothing, no junk). Painting and repairs to items can be done by the committee. Donors of things selling for more than \$10 will receive receipts for income tax purposes. Any historical information regarding older items would be appreciated.

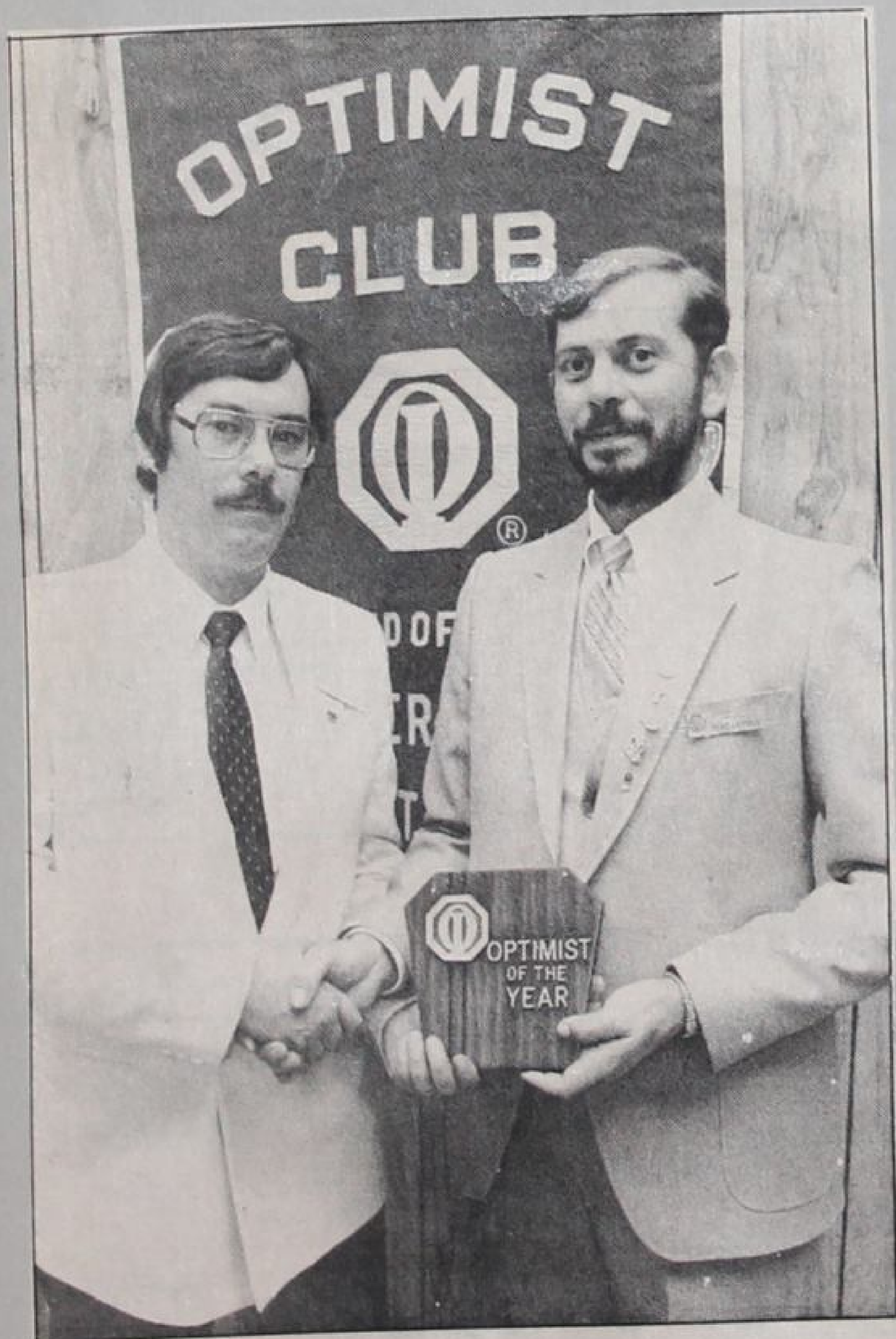
Donations may be left representatives Dave Hussey, 879-6549; Mountain's Barber Shop, 863-2108; Pat Smith, 424-9176; Charles Bradford, 879-5509; Rick Singer, 842-3748; Jack Smith, 582-1766 or Don Rice, 842-7173.

## Otterville Personals

The opening meeting of the Leisure Club was recently held at the Woodlawn Adult Centre. Due to sickness of several of the members and prior commitments, few members attended. Cards were played and a social time followed.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weeks, Evelyn Duffy and Marie Scott recently returned home from a two week trip to the British Isles sponsored by the Delhi Irish Club. The trip taken by 48 members from points throughout Southern Ontario involved a conducted tour of England, Scotland and Ireland.

The Foot Cre Clinic operated by the Tillsonburg VON will take place at the home of Evelyn Waring Tuesday Sept. 24 beginning at 1 p.m.



### Way to go Rene

Spring-Otter Optimist Rene Letoile(right) was named Optimist of the year at the Optimist's annual banquet last week. Past president Jim Countryman presented the award.(Staff photo)

## Harvest Luncheon held

OTTERVILLE(C)--Violet Rebekah Lodge 330, Otterville, held its annual Harvest Luncheon and Euchre, Sept. 25.

A lovely luncheon, convened by Sister Helen Thompson, was enjoyed by all. Afterwards, a euchre party, convened by Sister Olive Pickersgill, was held upstairs, with seven tables in play.

Winners were: Ladies High, Doris Howey; Second, Norma Williams; Low, Dorothy McQuiggan, and Lone Hand, Betty Jelly. Mens High, Jean Hunter(playing a man's card); Second, Ed Demaray; Low, Jean McNally and Lone Hand, Irene Sherman.

There were several other prizes with everyone receiving something. A thankyou is expressed to all those who made the day such a success.



## Summer reading program concludes at Otterville library

OTTERVILLE (C) — This summer 21 children aged 5 to 12 registered for the Otterville Public Library Summer Reading Program. Small awards such as balloons, colouring sheets and buttons were given for each book read. Children who completed the program by reading and reporting on six or more books were Jeff Arthur, Jennifer Arthur, Rebecca Arthur, Francine Countryman, Kaleb Dreidger, Pam Farkas, Jennifer Hill, Carrie Lewis, Shelby McMurchy, Liza Parr, Brett Walther, Adam Zimmer and Simon Chipps. These children all received a certificate. The champion read 21 books during the six weeks of the program.

Other activities were also featured. For every three books read, participants were allowed one guess at the number of popcorn kernels in a bottle. Shelby McMurchy won the bottle of popcorn by guessing closest to the correct number. Jeff Arthur, Francine Countryman, Pam Farkas and Adam Zimmer won books as prizes for the posters they coloured. The first five readers to complete six books won passes to the Donkey Baseball Game held at the Otterville Community Park on August 9. These lucky

people were Jeff Arthur, Jennifer Arthur, Francine Countryman, Pam Farkas and Adam Zimmer. The last meeting for this summer was a wiener roast and tour of the Otterville Mill on Aug. 8. Kaleb Dreidger and Shelby McMurchy each won a ticket to the circus in the draw held that afternoon.

Many thanks must be given to all who helped. Mrs. Marion Dowds organized the whole program, put in extra hours planning, listening to book reports and helping children find new books to read. Librarian, Lurene McMullen helped throughout and organized the Mill tour and

wiener roast. Dianne Butler heard countless book reports as well as providing the book prizes awarded for the posters. Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Treffry gave the children an interesting tour of the Mill. Rob Hussey and Brett Butler painted a colourful map of Canada on the library window to carry

out the program's theme to Celebrate Canada. The Minor Ball Association generously gave passes to the Donkey Baseball game and the Spring-Otter Optimist Club offered two circus tickets. With such great community support the reading program was bound to be a success.

## Sunshine Club has first meeting

OTTERVILLE(C)—The Otterville Sunshine Club held their first meeting of the fall season at the home of Sandra Hussey.

Eight members answered the roll call which was "What exciting things You Did This Summer". A discussion on a Christmas Bake Sale led to a tentative date of Nov. 30.

The next meeting will be held on Sept. 26 at the home of Joyce Leeming. Margaret thanked the hostess for the delicious lunch and social time.

Violet Rebekah Lodge 330 opened in regular form with N.G. Sister June Ash and P.N.G. Sister Violet Howse acting as V.G. presiding.

Sister Ann Arthur reported on Sister Florence Church who had suffered a fall and Sister Howse reported on Sister Winnie McMullen now home from hospital.

Correspondence was read by from Fidelity Lodge inviting Violet Lodge to their installation night Oct. 28.

"Happy Birthday" was sung to Sisters Eva Hill and Esther Smith. The Lodge closed with a social time following.

The Otterville Leisure Club met Wednesday, Sept. 18 at Woodlawn Adult Centre with a small attendance.

Cards of thanks were read by Mel Beecroft and Evelyn Waring and appreciation was read from the Norwich Presbyterian Church for the donation made to them in memory of the late Lolita

Tolman.

The Good Cheer convenor reported on sending get well cards to Amy Cowie, Evelyn Waring and Mel Beecroft.

Euchre was enjoyed and the afternoon closed with a birthday cake and ice cream.

The next meeting will be held Oct. 2 with a potluck dinner at 12:30 p.m.

The Otterville Sunshine Club met Sept. 26 at the home of Joyce Leeming. Roll call, taken by June Ash, was "close your eyes and envision some place you would like to be."

It was decided to have a Christmas Bake Sale Nov. 30 at the Norfolk Mall.

The next meeting will be held Oct. 10 at the home of June Ash. A tasty lunch was served by Olive Pickersgill.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Pickersgill visited their youngest son Jeffery and daughter-in-law Robin in Grimsby, Saturday.

## Otterville ACW meet at Furlongs

OTTERVILLE(C)—The Otterville St. John's Anglican Church Women met Thursday evening at the home of Cathy Furlong to begin their regular monthly meetings.

President Kay Darling opened with the reading of the Gospel, St. Mark 7:1-8,14-15, 21-23. The ACW prayer and the Lord's Prayer were then repeated in unison.

The officers for the 1985-86 season are: President Kay Darling, Vice President Evelyn Picknell, Secretary Lila Freeland, Treasurer Wanda Smith, Catering Convenors Olive Pickersgill and Georgina Spicer. Meetings will be held the first Thursday of each month in the homes of ACW members.

Mrs. Darling announced the 1986 church calendars have been ordered and Cathy Furlong reported on the clothes taken to Tillsonburg.

It was decided that the annual beef supper will be held Sun. Nov. 3 with settings at 4:30, 5:30 and 6:30 p.m. with Joyce Leeming and Janet Ryerse as convenors. Tickets will be \$6 for adults and \$3.50 for children.

A Granny Rose Afghan will be drawn for the evening of the supper with tickets now available at 50 cents each or three for \$1 from any ACW member. Proceeds will go to St. Monica House, Kitchener, a home for unwed mothers. The afghan will be on display at the Otterville Library.

Plans were started for the Valentine Tea Feb. 14.

A delicious lunch was served by the hostess, assisted by Alice Picknell. The

meeting closed with the Benediction. The next meeting will be held Thurs. Oct. 3 at the rectory, Delhi.

## Otterville UCW meet

OTTERVILLE(C)—The monthly meeting of the Otterville UCW opened with President Betty Walther giving words of welcome followed by a poem, "A Gift For Me", and prayer.

Guest speaker was Joyce Pettigrew from the Norwich and District Archives, who gave a talk on paper treasures. She made everyone more aware of the fragility of such things as diaries, letters and photographs. Donna Murray thanked Joyce and presented her with a gift.

Mary Murray, program convenor, opened with devotions. Donna Murray read scripture from II Romans: 1-11, followed by a prayer. Two hymns were sung with Betty Walther at the piano.

During the business portion of the meeting, letters of thanks were read from Evelyn Waring and Edith Petch for flowers and cards sent.

An invitation from Norwich UCW for their Thankoffering, Sept. 24, was read. It was decided to order church calendars. The date of the turkey supper was set for Oct. 28.

A social time followed the meeting.

## 1,800 under the 'Big Top'

The Big top was jammed to capacity Thursday as 1,800 people flocked into Norwich to go to the circus.

There were no complaints from those who packed the main tent of the Al Kelly-Miller Bros. Circus for two shows Thursday, said circus promoter and Spring-Otter Optimist president Jim Countryman.

"We were very, very pleased with the turnout and we can't say enough about the people we worked with."

The Optimist Club had some reservations about bringing in the Oklahoma-based circus sight unseen, admitted Countryman, but "we were more than pleased with the calibre of the performance."

Comments by the audience following the shows were all positive, he said. "Virtually everyone who came up to me said it was really good and worthwhile. A lot of people said they were glad they came."

Countryman said the club made about \$2,000 on the circus taking a cut on the sale of advance tickets, parking and 10 per cent

of the gate. All the money raised will go toward community service projects.

"We didn't make a bundle, but for a single project it was our single biggest profit maker."

Because of the success of the circus, Countryman said it would be likely the club in the future will stay away from smaller money making projects concentrating more on major ones.

"It takes just as much organization to make \$200 as it does to make \$2,000. So I think we'll try to keep away from the smaller things, like the Turkey Shoots."

## Otterville students' art places in top 10

Places like Toronto and Ottawa are usually considered the Ontario centres of culture and art, but Otterville it seems has stolen a bit of their thunder.

Two Otterville boys—Brett Walther, six, and Adam Zimmer, seven—were two of the top 10 winners in a province-wide poster contest in the 2nd Annual Royal Bank Junior Olympics Art Competition.

Out of more than 1000 entrants from across Ontario, Brett placed first in the six

and under category, and Adam third in the age seven to eight group. For their efforts, the two Otterville Public Students won ribbons and Royal Bank Junior Olympics T-shirts. Their posters will also be displayed at selected Royal Bank offices and Olympic Association meeting venues.

As the Ontario winner, Brett has a good chance of winning the national competition with the opportunity of having his poster displayed in Calgary at the 1988 Winter Olympics.



### Olympic artists

Brett Walther (top) and Adam Zimmer each entered posters in the Royal Bank's Junior Olympic poster contest and were judged to have two of the 10 best posters in the province. (Staff photo)



### Big pay off

Audrey Neumann of Otterville was the winner of \$2,000 in the Elimination Draw held by the Norwich-Otterville Lions at their Las Vegas Night. Presenting the cheque are President Paul Wood (left) and Aloys Sanders, ticket chairman. (Staff photo)

## Summerville WI meet at Gehring home

OTTERVILLE(C)—The September meeting of the Summerville Womens Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Irvin Gehring.

Mrs. Kenneth Arthur opened the meeting with Miss Vera Walsh convenor on World Affairs. The roll call was "Name a cabinet Minister and his portfolio".

In correspondence, Miss Welsh gave a very informative talk on the role of South Africa. She then called on Mrs. Joseph Ash to give a few highlights on her trip to England, Ireland and Scotland.

The meeting closed with lunch and a social time. The next meeting will

be held at the home of Mrs. Stanley Gehring, Oct. 8.

Twenty-one members of the Leisure Club sat down to a delicious potluck dinner held at the Woodlawn Adult Centre.

Afterwards, President Gladys Evans conducted a brief business period wishing the members that are sick and unable to attend the meetings, a speedy recovery. She also reminded the members of the fall rally to be held in Straffordville, Wed., Oct. 23.

Euchre was then played. The next meeting will be the Birthday

Meeting, Wed., Oct. 16 at 1:30 p.m. with Mrs. Evans providing the cake.

Mrs. Jack Freeland recieved word last week of the death of Walter Simpson, Sept. 12 at Peace River, Alberta. He is survived by his wife the former Rae Whaley, son Bruce and daughter Lila.

Members of the Springford Womens Institute, some of who are residents of Otterville, are making preparations for their annual rummage sale Sat., Oct. 19 at the institute Hall, Springford.

## Rural Ontario tradition

# Springford hosts eighth fall fair

By KEN MAVER

Fall is synonymous with many things. The vivid symphony of color as the leaves on the trees bid farewell for another year; children returning to school and last but not least, the multitude of fall fairs hosted by rural communities throughout the province.

Springford is not a community to be left out of what it has become, over the years, a rural Ontario tradition. On Saturday, Springford held its eighth annual Springford Fall Fair. Both the Springford Fair and the parade which preceded it were organized by the Springford Area Agricultural Society.

Agricultural Society president, Marj Seitz, said the society has been putting on the event since 1980 but before that time the Springford Area Athletic Club had sponsored the event for two years.

The festivities got underway Saturday when the Springford fair parade left the grounds of Maple Leaf Mills Ltd. at approximately 10:40 a.m. Led by the Tillsonburg Air Cadets and color guard, the parade proceeded to march into the centre of town where a moderately large crowd of people of all ages eagerly awaited the parade's arrival. After turning left on County Road 19 through the heart of Springford, the parade marched down to Water Street, turned right and headed back into town along County Road 13. The parade ended up at the Springford community park where the majority of the fair activities were about to begin.

As the parade turned down County Road 19 through Springford, parade emcee Doug Babbey described the various floats, antique cars, and participants in the parade. Bob Turnbull, parade marshal for the last six parades, said the entries in the parade, between 20 and 25, were about the same as in previous years.

When asked why Springford decided to organize a parade eight years ago, Mr. Turnbull replied, "They (the community) just wanted a fun day for the kids and it just started getting bigger."

Mr. Babbey, originally from Haldimand-

Norfolk said, "...every little hoot and holler place down there had their own fair. I thought we could have a fall fair. Of course we got the children at the school involved."

The highlight of the parade was the participation of the three Springford Fall Fair Queen contestants, Sandra Wilson, 18, of RR 7, Tillsonburg, Lori Barnim, 17, of RR 2, Otterville and Cheryl Pettman, 16, of RR 7, Tillsonburg. Jodi Sandham, last year's Springford Fall Fair Queen, was on hand to offer encouragement to this year's hopefuls and administer her final duties as fair queen.

Miss Tillsonburg Anne Hildebrandt participated in the parade, as well as Miss Township of Norwich, Elaine Arthur, 18, of RR 2, Otterville. Miss Arthur made a stylish appearance in a 1930 Ford Model A Roadster driven and owned by John Suprun, 54, of RR 1, Norwich. Mr. Suprun has owned the vintage automobile since 1978 and after extensive restoration work, the car has been on the road for the last three years.

The Cubs and Beavers from Springford and the Tillsonburg Shrine and Kiwanis clubs also participated in the parade. Music was supplied by the Norwich Musical Society Band.

One of the more interesting vehicles in the parade was a 1903 McLaughlin Surrey owned by Cecil Franklin of RR 7, Springford. The surrey was built by the famous McLaughlin Oshawa Carriage Co. Ltd which later became McLaughlin-Buick and was eventually bought out by General Motors. Mr. Franklin said he bought the surrey from a friend in Ottawa about three years ago and did all the restoration work himself. The most difficult job in the restoration was scraping off all the old paint. Mr. Franklin said the entire job took three solid weeks of work to complete.

The parade also featured two antique fire engines from Otterville, driven by volunteer firemen, a number of children dressed in colorful costumes, clowns and Shrine Club members on mini-bikes as

well as various Springford area people riding on horseback.

Township of Norwich Councillor Donald Pettigrew officially opened the Springford Fall Fair at the community park at 12 noon and a busy afternoon got underway.

There were a variety of activities for fairgoers of all ages to enjoy, including craft exhibits, a pet show for the children, bake sales, horticultural exhibits, horseshoe pitching, pumpkin carving a beef barbecue sponsored by the Springford Area Athletic Club, a garden party held at the Springford Institute Hall and the crowning of the new Miss Springford.

Although the fair was for the most part an unqualified success, there was one major disappointment. The contractor who had been contacted to provide rides for the children failed to show up. Agricultural Society president Marj Seitz said Maple City Shows from London, Ontario had been contacted one year ago and had agreed to supply all the rides for the fair. "Everything had been arranged," said Mrs. Seitz.

Mrs. Seitz said she was extremely upset about the amusement company's no-show. "That's the thing the kids are here for," she said. "Our advice to anyone is to get a contract."

The Springford Area Agricultural Society is a member of the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies. Membership in the association entitles the group to receive a small grant to help defray the costs of running a community fair. Agricultural Society Treasurer Bea Nunn said the society received \$200 from the provincial association for this year's fair. The amount of the grant is based on the membership in the local agricultural society and a percentage of the number of exhibits in the fair. Oxford County donated \$500 to the fair and Mrs. Nunn said donations were also received from Norwich and South-West Oxford Townships, in addition to the contributions made by local businesses and individuals. The Springford Fall Fair is a break even proposition, Mrs. Nunn said.

Norwich Township Council has no objection to the issue of a Dining Lounge and patio licence for the Norwich Golf Club.

The club, managed by Manford and Karen Robillard, hope to have a liquor licence early next year.

Norwich Royal Canadian Legion members will be out in force soon selling poppies in memory of the country's war dead.

Council declared the week of Nov. 4 through Nov. 10 Poppy Week in the municipality.

Council has granted foodmarket owner Andy Buck permission to pave a 12-foot stretch of driveway on the property just north of the Norwich Post Office at his own expense.

The owner of Buck's Foodmarket will be putting in a parking lot on the site of the present lot. A home and two garages will be demolished to make way for the lot.

Council also deeded the easterly 54-foot continuation of 12-foot strip of land to Mr. Buck or his nominee.

Township Council has called for tenders for the construction of sidewalks in the core area of Norwich.

Bids close today with the most suitable tender being awarded Thurs. Oct. 3. The project is estimated to cost \$35,000-plus.

The Ministry of Transportation and Communications will subsidize the lowest tender. It is hoped the sidewalks will be in place before the snow flies.

Council has accepted an offer by John Ryksen, RR 1, Burgessville, to rent the 10-acre Bailey property at \$65 per acre for 1986.

The quality of service and maintenance performed by the Norwich District Medical Centre custodian has been called into question by Coun. Norm Lusk.

Coun. Lusk, Council's representative on the Medical Centre Advisory Board, has asked Marcel DeWitte to go over the job description and evaluate the custodian's performance.

Council wants cars and trucks off township roads during certain hours over the winter months.

The Public Works Committee has been asked to consider bringing

forth a by-law restricting parking on local roads.

Vehicles parked on the side of the road during winter makes it difficult for snow removal operations, said Coun. Darrell Force. "It was a considerable problem last year."

Mike and Joyce Cuthbert have been allowed to park two school buses at their East Oxford home.

The County's official plan does not allow the parking of commercial motor vehicles over 4,000 kilograms in a residential zone.

Council granted the minor

## Not touching RC ballot question

Norwich Township Council is not touching a request from a citizen's group opposed to full funding to Catholic schools, which wishes a plebiscite added to the ballot during this fall's municipal elections.

The Coalition for Public Education is asking municipalities around the province to consider inclusion of two questions on the Nov. 12 ballot.

They are: In light of the impact on local school taxes, are you in favour of the extension of full public funding to Roman Catholic separate secondary schools? Yes or No.

and Would you prefer a single enriched secondary school system accessible to all? Yes or No.

The request by the Coalition was endorsed by the Oxford Board of Education by a vote of 10 to 3 at a Sept. 9 meeting.

"I don't think it's necessary to put the question on the ballot," said Coun. Darrell Force. "I don't believe it would serve any useful purpose. It's not a municipal matter."

Coun. Norm Lusk agreed. "A referendum at our level wouldn't even be heard."

Coun. Don Pettigrew said he would like to see the plebiscite on the ballot. "I don't see the problem of putting it on the ballot. What better way to lobby and get the ear of government? What better way than a plebiscite, even if it is illegal."

A joint report by the City of Mississauga solicitor and clerk said

variance on the condition that only two school buses be parked on the property and that they be parked no closer to the highway than the front of the Cuthbert residence.

The couple drive the buses for the Oxford Board of Education.

The Township has asked the County to resurface rather than patch the section of the third concession from County Road 13 to the Holbrook Landfill site as part of the site's rehabilitation before it closes in June 1986.

## Will use county tree inspector

When hazardous trees need to be removed from Township property, the Ministry of Natural Resources will not be asked for advice.

### Zone change

Council has approved in principle the zoning application of Alice Fisk whereby lands located in part of Lot 10, Concession 6 (North Norwich) are rezoned from Restricted Industrial (M1) to a Special Agricultural Industrial (M6 Special), to permit a farm-related industrial use and accessory single-family dwelling.

### Yule party

Township councillors, staff, and their families will be breaking out the party hats and hooters Nov. 15 at the Township's 1985 Christmas Banquet. The party will be held at the Norwich Community Centre.

### Free banquet

The Township of Norwich will treat players and coaches of the municipality's two Ontario Rural Softball Association (ORSA) Championship teams-- Burgessville Midget 'C' Girls and the Oxford Centre Bantam 'C' Boys--to a banquet at the Oxford Community Centre. Plagues will also be presented.

Norwich Township Council has rescinded a resolution made last May requiring that an MNR forester be used, when necessary, to identify trees that should be removed. Instead, the advice of the Oxford County tree commissioner will be sought on matters regarding tree removal.

In a letter to Council last Tuesday, M.F. McKenzie, district manager of the Ministry of Natural Resources, Simcoe, recommended the municipality use the county tree inspector. The MNR would, however, be happy to assist in disease identification.

Last spring, many Township residents were concerned that perhaps the municipality's tree removal program was a little ruthless, with about 19 trees removed in Otterville and Norwich. As a result, Council resolved to seek expert advice on future tree removal programs.

That during the week of Oct. 23, 1975:

More growers rejected bids on their leaf offerings than was the case on opening day of the auction last year. The daily average paid was 90.21 cents per pound as compared to 92.12 cents when the 1974 crop opened.

A grant of \$44,618 from the Local Initiative Program has been approved for the Township of Delhi Winter Works program.

Bert Sullivan was named president of Zone 3, United Senior Citizens of Ontario Inc., at the fall rally held in the Jarvis Community Centre.

All five incumbent directors of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board running for re-election Oct. 21 were returned to office. It was the first time this had happened in the Board's history.

Owing to such a busy schedule during fire prevention week, the Langton Fire Department held fire drills at the schools in their area.

That during the week of Oct. 23, 1965:

Decision has been announced that the tobacco auction markets at Delhi, Tillsonburg and Aylmer will commence the season's activities on Nov. 11.

At the December municipal elections, voters will be asked to vote on the question: "Are you

That during the week of Oct. 9, 1975: Haldimand-Norfolk Regional Council committee meetings will be open to the press. Council passed the motion by a vote of 13 to 6.

Constable Robert Knight succeeds retiring Chief Ken McLay as head of the Village of Norwich police following a resolution passed by Township of Norwich Council.

Haldimand-Norfolk Council rejected a recommendation from the Planning and Development Committee which would have deferred all applications for amendments to the zoning bylaws or Minister's Orders in the lakeshore areas of the region for six months.

Georges A. Dufort, whose appointment as Secretary of Imperial Tobacco Limited, was announced by Edmond Ricard, president, Imperial Tobacco Limited.

Flue-cured tobacco producers in all provinces decided to form a committee to study the feasibility of a national marketing board.

That during the week of Oct. 30, 1975:

A distinguished career with Agriculture Canada will conclude Dec. 31 when Lea S. Vickery retires from the office of Director of the Delhi Research Station.

Two commercial fishermen drowned Sunday when a propane gas tank exploded on their vessel forcing six crewmen to take to Lake Erie waters.

The Oddy House, that octagonal masterpiece of 19th century architecture, should be moved to its final location at the Erbtown Cemetery within the next month.

A \$500 fine, with the alternative of 40 days in jail, was levied against Howard Wells, RR 1 Otterville, for the contravention of a regional bylaw controlling the destruction of trees.

About 50 members attended the curling season opening party for the Delhi Golf and Curling Club.

The Delhi-Langton Leafs ran out of steam in Tillsonburg losing 4-1 to the Maroons following brief glory in first place.

That during the week of Oct. 30, 1965:

A tender of \$329,890 was accepted for the construction of the head office of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board.

# Lawyer's bill shocks councillors

by PETER McLAUGHLIN

Reeling from the bill presented by the Township lawyer, Norwich Township Council is going to think twice before seeking legal services again.

A bill from the firm of White, Coad, Patience and Bennett in the amount of \$3,500 for their counsel at a one-day Ontario Municipal Board Hearing (OMB) last month was greeted with surprise by councillors at a meeting last Tuesday.

"That's quite a bit of money to ask the ratepayers to put up," said Coun. Hardee Richardson. He was particularly miffed noting that the hear-

ing, which concerned an appeal against the Township's Comprehensive Zoning by-law, was basically just a discussion "about birdhouses."

Councillor-at-large Helen Smith said the bill seemed quite unfair considering that many other people, including the Oxford Planning Department staff, spent more hours

preparing the defense of the by-law than the lawyer and were not paid for the extra work.

With a bill that size, Council may  
Continued on Page 2

Continued from Page 1

have to think about setting aside funds for legal counsel at budget time, said Richardson.

"I question whether legal counsel would have been worth it," said Coun. Michael Oliver, who is a lawyer himself.

Coun. Bob Carney said too often Councils jump to a lawyer without considering that they might do well without one. "A lot of cases don't need a lawyer."

Defending the use of legal counsel, Township Clerk Bob Watkins said: "If you feel strongly about you're by-law you have to defend it properly."

"And I might remind you, that you now have your new Comprehensive by-law."

Watkins also reminded council that he once had to defend council himself without benefit of counsel and the municipality was fined \$1,000.

## TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH

### FALL CLEAN-UP COMMENCING TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8th, 1985

Garden refuse and brush for collection in the Village of Norwich must be placed in the boulevard for collection not later than 7:00 A.M. on the above date.

The truck will pass along the route ONCE ONLY.

No telephone call back will be accepted.

Earth, masonry and any refuse from building repairs or construction will not be picked up.

Your co-operation in refraining from placing refuse on the road allowance prior to 24 hours before pick-up would be appreciated.

AGRICULTURE AND WORKS COMMITTEE  
TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH

Help Wanted

Help Wanted

TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH  
Requires A

### GENERAL ROAD WORKER

Applications will be accepted by the undersigned until 4:30 P.M. on Friday, November 15th, 1985, for a position with the Township Roads Department.

Applicants must complete an application form which is available from the Township Office.

Applicants shall possess experience in the operation of heavy trucks and equipment and shall hold a Class "D" Drivers Licence. Applicants should also possess practical experience in welding and maintaining heavy equipment.

Enquiries may be directed to the undersigned.

Ron Smith  
Road Superintendent  
Township of Norwich  
10 Main Street  
Otterville, Ontario  
NOJ 1R0  
(519) 879-6568 or 863-2709

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## Look at rural pickup

It's time the Township started looking at rural garbage pick up with the Salford Landfill site due to open in less than a year, says Norwich Township Mayor John Heleniak.

In an interview Thursday, the mayor said he has brought the issue up before at Council, but nothing has come of it.

Failing rural pick up, Heleniak said an alternative might be the establishment of transfer stations for township residents to deposit their garbage in instead of driving all the way to Salford.

"Salford is just too far for some people to drive," said the mayor.

Ward 3 candidate Gord Samways  
Continued on Page 5

Continued from Page 1

is also keen on the getting a pick up service established. He said if rural pick up or transfer stations aren't utilized, a lot of people too lazy to make the trip to Salford will dump garbage along Township roads.

County Warden Charlie Tatham says rural pick up is money well spent. He said the service costs between \$25 and \$36 per household per

year. "That's less than a dollar a week"

Mayor Heleniak, who once before pushed County Council garbage bin at the gate of Holbrook, said he would still like to see one there.

"A lot of people get flat tires, damage their vehicles and even get stuck driving into the site."

## Letter to the editor

SERVING ALL?

The Editor: It is my understanding that Norwich Township was formed to create a more unified area. Rather than thinking of South Norwich, North Norwich or Norwich, we are supposed to think of Norwich township and benefit from it.

One of the leading wedges, that seeks to split this union, is when people think smaller than Norwich Township. Also, when people who work for the municipal government or are the government, think smaller than Norwich Township, it adds a driving blow to that wedge.

When I read an announcement, like the one placed in "The Norwich Gazette" (Volume 110 - Number 40) on Oct. 2, 1985, on page 3, I can see why there is unrest in the township. It says "Township of Norwich" and then speaks of "Garden, refuse and brush collection in the village of Norwich." It does not say anything

about similar pick ups in Otterville, Springford or Burgessville. It would seem to me that when the announcement is underwritten by the "Agriculture and Works Committee, Township of Norwich," it should apply to all centres of the township. It, however, smacks me in the face that if Norwich needs it, it is fine, but if another centre does, it is not a concern of the township of Norwich.

I would like to think that such a statement is not true and simply a poorly worded announcement.

It might help unity, if the government of Norwich Township were to rectify this unfortunate announcement. Failure to do so, merely substantiates my feelings in regard to this announcement.

A concerned taxpayer  
and businessman  
in Springford  
which is part of Norwich Township  
Lloyd Smith

Township council opposed, but...

# Norwich PUC supports Hydro route

The Norwich Public Utility Commission (PUC) says the route through Otterville is the most sensible place for Ontario Hydro's new 500-kilovolt transmission line. And the local commission wants the project underway without further delay.

At a meeting Thursday, the PUC drafted a letter to Norwich Township Council informing the municipality of its position. The municipality is on record as opposing the route which cuts through the southern part of the township.

Norwich Township Mayor John Heleniak, a member of the commission, told the PUC the municipality

is opposed to the line because it will adversely affect specialty crops and that the township - with four transmission lines through it already - has more than met its share of the provincial load.

"That doesn't go with me," Commissioner Murray Wardell said. "Would you rather see it go through good farm land (north of London) rather than through (marginal) tobacco land?" he asked.

"I can't see a thing wrong with the route. It seems to me the most logical."

In any event, the commissioner said the route, along the existing 115-

kilovolt route, would create very little disruption to tobacco land. And, he added, "There's oodles and oodles of tobacco land."

PUC Superintendent Everett Jenkins agreed with Mr. Wardell saying the proposed route promises the least impact on agricultural land, as well as on residential properties. Hydro has stated that only one, or perhaps two houses, will have to be removed.

Chairman Gordon Powell commended the route, noting farmers will lose little of their land and, in fact, will be financially ahead of the game. "They're going to be paid for

the right of way and the farmer will still get the use of his land."

Mr. Jenkins suggested many farmers are not using all their available land now. "You see them farming right around the towers and then you see a clump of trees on their property taking up more land than the towers do. It doesn't make sense."

Mr. Wardell suggested local farmers should welcome the project since they depend so heavily on a reliable supply of hydro power. "How would they feel if the power were shut off for a week?"

"After all," said PUC Secretary-treasurer Shirley Sweazey, "tobacco

farmers with the new bulk kilns use a large amount of hydro."

Mr. Powell said he'd heard of one tobacco grower who lost two full kilns when the hydro went out for two hours during a thunderstorm several weeks ago.

Mayor Heleniak told the commission the Southern Specialty Crop Committee, opponents of the proposed Hydro route, would be appearing before township council Tuesday to ask the township for money to fight the route.

"If they want to fight the route, let them fight it, but not with taxpayers' money," offered Commissioner Wardell.

## Hydro lobby group refused handout from Norwich Township Council

There will be no money coming from Norwich Township Council to help a local farm group fight Ontario Hydro's proposed power line route through the southern part of the township.

The Southern Specialty Crop Committee came cap in hand to a meeting of Council Tuesday morning for funds to battle the corporation. SSCC representatives Hugh Zimmer, an Otterville area tobacco grower, Frank Menich, of Teeterville and Les Gehring, of Otterville,

are hoping to raise \$25,000 from tobacco producing municipalities.

Zimmer told Council \$25,000 would secure the services of lawyer David Estrin, one of the province's top attorneys. While more prosperous farm lobby groups north of London can afford to budget upwards of \$100,000 for legal counsel, the sum the SSCC is hoping to raise will suffice so long as Estrin can get the balance of his fee by applying to the court for costs after the fight.

"I look for most people to have a

bill of \$200,000, so if we can purchase him for \$25,000, we'd be getting a pretty good deal," said the tobacco grower.

Council, however, denied the group any financial contribution. Initially, a motion was made to offer the committee \$5,000 but it was defeated by a vote of 5-4. He warned Council the Township could find itself with three new high voltage lines instead of one if something isn't done to prevent the construction of the proposed 500kV line through South West Oxford and Norwich Townships.

Zimmer stressed opposition to Hydro's proposed new transmission lines in Central Ontario and the area north of London is strong and well-organized. And he warned a strong lobby effort by those lobby groups could force more lines across southern Ontario if people aren't prepared to fight.

He said if the SSCC was merely up against public interest groups then there would be no real need to canvass local municipalities for money, "but when we're up against towns and counties as well..."

He noted that the main lobby group north of London, the Foodlands Ontario group, has one of the best lawyers in Canada working for them and that most of the ridings north of London are Liberal. "That really just about sums it up."

Cash cropper Les Gehring said if anyone thinks Hydro will stop at one line through the southern part of the county, they're naive. "They're probably going to have a couple through here. When it costs them billions to

put (a new route through now) how can ever afford to do it again" He said the corporation will try to build the route big enough to handle future power needs decades down the road.

"We only have \$1,900 now; that's about enough for a day and one hour (in court). If we can't find enough money, we'll have to withdraw and this area will not be represented," said Menich.

The group said it would also be approaching the Township of Delhi, and perhaps Oxford County for assistance. Zimmer said they might also ask South West Oxford Township, even though it is on record in support of Hydro's proposed route through southern Oxford County.

Menich said that some farmers, because of the dire financial straits they find themselves in, are looking forward to the compensation for the use of their land by Ontario Hydro. "But they don't realize that a lot of those compensation figures aren't going to be a reality."

"I was under the impression that Hydro was going to treat the route as they would if it were an entirely new line," said Councillor Larry Martin.

"Not entirely true," said Menich. He said there would be no environmental compensation, among other types.

Asked by Coun. Don Pettigrew if the committee would canvass money privately, Menich said that the area's impoverished farmers haven't got the strength "mentally or physically to handle a fight."

## PUC shouldn't throw stones

"People who live in glass houses shouldn't throw stones," says Otterville tobacco grower Hugh Zimmer, addressing himself to comments made by Norwich PUC commissioners who prefer a high voltage transmission line through the southern part of the township.

Several members of the PUC said at a meeting two weeks ago that Ontario Hydro's preferred route, which passes immediately south of Otterville was, in their view, the best

route. The PUC also notified Township Council of its view.

PUC Commissioner Murray Wardell said that it was better the upgraded 115 kV line go through tobacco land rather than "good farm land" north of London. He added that the line would cause little disruption to tobacco land.

"I'm really surprised by the comments," said Zimmer, a representative of the Southern Specialty Crop Committee, a group which has battl-

ed Hydro transmission routes in the past and hopes to again in the future.

Zimmer said the Norwich PUC is hardly in a position to make such "inflammatory" remarks. He said PUC water services are "decayed to the point of hurting development" in Otterville.

He said the commission hasn't kept up and maintained the utility as it should, and as a result new homes and economic growth are not occurring as they should.

# Zimmer not discouraged by refusal

Norwich Township Council's decision not to give a local farm group money to fight Ontario Hydro's proposed high voltage transmission route through the southern part of the municipality hasn't discouraged Hugh Zimmer, one of the representatives on the Southern Specialty Crop Committee (SSCC).

Zimmer said he's heard from several of the councillors another vote will be held on the matter. Quite likely this will mean \$5,000 in the group's pocket to fight Hydro. Two weeks ago Council narrowly rejected a move to grant the organization \$5,000 of the \$25,000 it needs to hire a top-flight lawyer to represent them at the joint board hearings.

On Wednesday, the SSCC will approach Oxford County Council for funds. The group has also applied to the provincial cabinet for money as well.

Zimmer said his organization will be asking the county for some of the money--collected from Norwich Township taxpayers--set aside for the municipality's defence against additional hydro lines.

Those funds, however, will be used to pay county lawyer Marc Sommer-

ville "to just sit there," said Zimmer, an Otterville area tobacco grower. The county has hired the Kitchener lawyer to simply monitor the hearings, which begin Nov. 12.

"To me it's not worth it. A guy like that is not cheap; you're looking at between \$1,000 and \$2,000 a day to

just sit there and listen. That's a pretty expensive secretary."

If, however, there is no money coming from Norwich Council, the blow will not be to the SSCC, but to Council itself, said Zimmer. "It'll be

Continued on Page 3

more of a blow to (Council) if the line goes through because they'll take the heat of the blame."

"We've spent four years working on it with our own time and money without any contributions from Council. It just boils down to--are we second class citizens south of Norwich?"

He said South Norwich pays three times as much taxes as North Norwich and doesn't draw much in the way of benefits. He added that for only \$25,000, the area could purchase legal talent that would normally be worth \$100,000.

The crop committee has also approached Delhi Township Council for funds, but Zimmer is not optimistic. Delhi Council, he said, would like to see the region handle it.

If the SCC doesn't have enough money by the time the hearings begin, the committee will bow out.

## Norwich PUC wants funding

By Ben Steidman  
Staff Writer

NORWICH — The township's Public Utility Commission (PUC) is trying to budge the inertia at Queen's Park to obtain funding for a much-needed upgrading of water systems in the villages of Norwich and Otterville.

PUC Chairman Gordon Powell said separate grant applications on the projects, estimated to cost \$2.8-million, have been sent to Ontario's Ministry of the Environment.

He added that Ministry certificates of approval have already been issued on the projects.

Ministry grants for water system upgrading range from 15 to 85 per cent of total cost. Mayor John Heleniak, a PUC member, expressed concern that Oxford County would be ranked as a regional municipality for grant purposes, thus reducing financial support for the projects.

In addition, Ministry officials have indicated it might take until spring to approve the applications.

So, for these reasons, the PUC is attempting to arrange a meeting with Provincial Environment Minister Jim Bradley and Provincial Treasurer Robert Nixon to discuss the grant structure and also to speed the process along at Queen's Park.

Also in attendance at the meeting when arranged, besides the mayor and PUC members, are Oxford County Warden Charles Tatham and Oxford MPP Richard Treleaven.

### 'Still in limbo'

Mr. Powell said: "We're still in limbo, but we're hoping for the best. There's been nothing so far on the meeting."

The PUC operates both village systems, although Oxford County owns the water systems. Applications were made at the township level to obtain larger grants.

Without substantial provincial funding, said Mr. Powell, the projects would fall through as there aren't enough consumers to pay for the upgrading.

There are 2,290 water users in Norwich and 885 in Otterville.

Mayor Heleniak said Oxford County has thrown its support behind the projects, but he admitted the upgrading is "facing difficulty" if the Ministry decides to approve grants at the lower end of the scale.

Doug Matheson, a senior Ministry of the Environment officer at London, said decisions on grants are based on population. He added that a decision on how the applications would qualify will be made in Toronto; if they are assessed on the basis of Oxford as a regional set-up, he noted, it could lower the percentage available to the Norwich PUC.

Basically, the projects involve construction of new water towers and upgrading of the distribution system to provide adequate water supply and pressure.

### Recent studies

These needs were detailed including water storage in recent studies on the two systems.

Observed Mr. Powell: "Funding the projects alone with the small number of users puts us out of the picture. And, unfortunately, restructuring (of the county in 1975) was not in our favour in this instance."

However, he added, it was vital for the PUC to point out to the minister that Oxford is in reality not a Regional Government and evidently should have no bearing on the grant formula.

A new water tower in Norwich is estimated to cost \$500,000; a new water tower in Otterville could run as high as \$430,000.

In Norwich, the water tower, to contain 400,000 gallons replacing one holding 35,000 gallons, built in 1915, and water line replacement constitute a first phase of upgrading. The second phase consists of a new well, east of Norwich, and a new pump house; third phase comprises replacing water mains.

Total cost in Norwich is \$1.5-million.

In Otterville, besides the new water tower, work consists of a new well and pump house and water line upgrading.

Total cost in Otterville is \$1.3-million.

## NOMINATIONS NOTICE TO MUNICIPAL ELECTORS TOWNSHIP OF NORWICH

TAKE NOTICE THAT persons may be nominated as candidates in an election between 9 o'clock in the forenoon and 5 o'clock in the afternoon of nomination day, MONDAY, OCTOBER 21st, 1985, but nothing in Section 35 of The Municipal Elections Act, 1980, prevents a persons filing a nomination paper with the Clerk during his normal office hours during the four days immediately preceding nomination day.

### OFFICES FOR WHICH PERSONS MAY BE NOMINATED:

- MAYOR AND MEMBER OF COUNTY COUNCIL;
- ONE MEMBER ELECTED BY GENERAL VOTE AS A MEMBER OF THE AREA MUNICIPALITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL;
- TWO PUBLIC SCHOOL MEMBERS FOR THE OXFORD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION;
- TWO SEPARATE SCHOOL MEMBERS FOR THE OXFORD COUNTY ROMAN CATHOLIC SEPARATE SCHOOL BOARD;
- THREE COUNCILLORS IN WARD ONE (SOUTH NORWICH);
- TWO COUNCILLORS IN EACH OF THE WARDS TWO, THREE AND FOUR (NORWICH, NORTH NORWICH AND EAST OXFORD RESPECTIVELY);

Electors are hereby required to take notice and govern themselves accordingly, and further take notice that the manner in which said nominations shall be filed is set forth in Section 36 of The Municipal Elections Act, Nominations Forms and full particulars of procedures to be followed, may be obtained from the undersigned.

If a greater number of candidates than required to fill the said offices are nominated and make the required declarations, notice of the time for the holding of the poll, including the advance poll and notice of the last day for making applications for a certificate to vote by proxy will be given forthwith.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE THAT where the number of candidates for an office who are nominated at the end of nomination day is not sufficient to fill the number of vacancies to which the candidates may be elected on the Wednesday following nomination day, October 23rd, 1985, the Clerk may, between the hours of 9 o'clock in the forenoon and 5 o'clock in the afternoon, receive and certify additional nominations for the office in respect of which there was insufficient number of candidates.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND THE 9TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 1985.

ROBERT C. WATKINS,  
RETURNING OFFICER

# Township workers not fat cats after all: McLees

by PETER McLAUGHLIN

Township employees are not the fat cats we thought they might be, says Marilyn McLees, chairman of the Norwich Township Ratepayers Association.

Mrs. McLees' comments came following an executive meeting of the organization in Oxford Centre after releasing the municipality's salary list to The Norwich Gazette.

The list, in the possession of the ratepayers group since July, contains the salary ranges of each township position but not the names nor specific salaries of each individual employee.

The chairman said she was satisfied with the quality of the information contained in the list, but didn't discount the possibility of going back to Township Council to get more specific information.

One item in the lists, however, did catch the chairman's eye; that was the overtime paid out to employees—specifically those in Public Works—who accumulated \$15,429.44 in overtime in the first six months of this year, almost twice the \$8,903.93 accumulated by the department during all of 1984.

Township treasurer Reg Saunders said last winter's heavy snows demanded that works employees be out ploughing the township roads more than usual.

"That was why it was so high. We had three solid months of harsh winter and the guys were out a lot of nights and on weekends," he said.

In 1984, the overtime paid to township employees amounted to \$26,953.53. As of June 30, 1985, over-

time paid out for this year was \$21,547.64.

Overtime paid to the administration department last year was \$7,108.64. As of June 30, the figure was \$3,214. Saunders said virtually all the administrative overtime belongs to himself and Clerk-Administrator Bob Watkins for attending Council meetings.

Police overtime is way down over last year. In 1984, the Township of Norwich Police were paid \$10,940.96. After the first six months of this year, the figure was \$2,214.13.

The following is an abbreviated list of low and high salary ranges for each staff position (There are five salary levels for each position):

#### PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES

Road Superintendent, from \$27,357.45 to \$34,526.85; Foreman, from \$23,687.70 to \$29,710.50; Grader operator, \$18,154.20 to \$22,416.15; Truck driver, \$17,937.90 to \$22,146.

Base Category, \$11,770.20 to \$15,187.95; Driver II, \$15,904.05; Operator II, \$16,429.05 to \$19,054.05;

Lead Hand I, \$18,319.05 to \$20,944.05; Foreman, \$20,104.05 to \$22,729.05.

#### ARENA STAFF

Facilities Manager, \$24,701.20 to \$30,941.20; Assistant Manager, \$19,274.20 to \$23,966.20; Staff, \$18,680.20 to \$23,185.70; Staff, \$15,091.20 to \$19,117.20; Cleaner II, \$10,678.20 to \$13,303.20. The hourly rate for part-time help ranges from \$4.64 to \$6.66.

#### ADMINISTRATION STAFF

Clerk-Administrator, \$35,868.70 to \$41,443.20; Treasurer-Deputy Clerk, \$32,356.00 to \$37,511.00; Accountant, \$17,650.20 to \$21,150.20; Drainage-Building Inspector, \$26,015.20 to \$32,964.20; Accounting Clerk, \$14,543.20 to \$16,380.20; Payroll and Accounts Clerk, \$16,328.20 to \$18,428.20; Secretary, \$13,300.20 to \$15,558.20; Bookkeeper and Tax Clerk, \$13,103.20 to \$14,678.20; Receptionist/Typist, \$9,449.20 to \$11,035.20.

#### PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

Dump Custodian, \$9.76 per hour; Janitors (Township office), \$385.22

per month; (Burgessville Library), \$75.71 per month; (Medical Centre), \$257.50 per month; (Police Station and Comfort Station), \$229.18 per month.

#### POLICE DEPARTMENT

The three 1st Class Constables employed by the Township force earn \$32,407.24 per year. The Chief earns \$33,380.38.

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief, \$10.50 per hour; Deputy Chiefs, \$560.28 per year; Captain, \$373.54 per year; Firefighter, \$18.57 per hour on fire calls. The chief and deputy chiefs also get \$18.57 per fire call.

#### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mayor, \$108.88 per meeting; Member-at-Large, \$103.01 per meeting; Councillors, \$93.31 per meeting.

### Contrary

To the Editor:

Contrary to the headline in the Oct. 2 of The Norwich Gazette re: Ratepayers Association; the term "fat cats" was not used in the statement issued to the press following our committee meeting Monday evening.

The committee members who were present when the statement was made, feel the article was misleading, and unworthy of front page coverage.

Marilyn McLees  
Chairman,

Norwich Township Ratepayers Association.

Ed.— The Norwich Gazette was careless in reporting that Mrs. McLees made her comment following the ratepayers executive meeting. She made the comment in question one week prior to the meeting. The Gazette apologizes for the mistake.

## Mayor, councillor-at-large acclaimed

# Election races in two wards

Anticipating a race for his Ward 4 (East Oxford) Council seat, incumbent Larry Martin ordered 750 election calling cards a few weeks ago. But when nominations closed at 5 p.m. Monday, and he found himself a winner by acclamation, he didn't know whether to laugh or cry.

"You can always use them as scribble pads," was the advice from Councillor-at-large Helen Smith, herself a candidate acclaimed for another three year term as Norwich Township Council's second-in-charge.

The November 12 municipal election promises to be a rather tame affair with races in two wards, the mayor's and councillor-at-large's seats, already decided.

In Ward 2 (Norwich), real estate broker Paul Wood and incumbent, businessman Norm Lusk, were acclaimed as the ward's representatives Tuesday evening when Mark Harrison, who filed for both Ward 2 and 3 ridings, finally opted to run in Ward 3 (North Norwich).

Wood, the new man on the Norwich block, is the manager of Canada Trust. It is his second run at Council. Having had a longtime interest in local politics, his primary goal is not attract more industry to the municipality.

"I've seen many changes in the village and the Township, and some of those changes have not been to the advantage of Norwich Township," he said Tuesday.

There will be a race in Ward 1 (South Norwich) with a new and not-so-new challenger for three seats. Gary Walther, a beef producer from Otterville will be running for the first time while Hawtrey farmer Daniel Wagner takes a second shot at a seat. Incumbents battling to retain their seats are Coun. Don Pettigrew and Coun. Michael Oliver. Otterville businessman Bob Carney will not be running this time.

In Ward 3, Coun. John McNally is standing as the only incumbent seeking re-election. After filing his nomination papers Monday, Coun. Jack Lester decided to withdraw. Again seeking a seat in Council is mechanic Mark Harrison and trucker Gordon Samways.

Joining Coun. Larry Martin for Ward 4, is Richard Martin, of Oxford Centre. It is the first time the 30-year-old dairy farmer has sought a seat on Council. A former accountant, he is married and has a daughter. Councillor Hardee Richardson decided not to run.

Mayor John Heleniak, after finding out of his acclamation, said it

was relief not to have to fight a campaign.

"I'll continue to do the best job I possibly can for the next three years," he said.

Councillor-at-large Helen Smith admitted to having mixed feelings about her acclamation. "It's nice to know you don't have to spend the next four to five weeks knocking on doors, but I've always had a little bit of a problem with acclamations—you

never really know whether the people really want you."

Running for the two Township of Norwich seats on the Oxford Board of Education are Otterville incumbent Russ Stangl, and challengers Pat Wright and Pat Smith, both of Burgessville.

John A. Wolters, of Mt. Elgin and Debra Ann Howse, R.R. 2, Otterville, will be seeking election to the Oxford County Roman Catholic School Board.



# South Norwich Historical Society holds October meeting at Woodlawn

The October meeting of the South Norwich Historical Society was held at Woodlawn on October 14 with President Jack Smith in charge.

A brief business session was held after the reading and approval of the minutes. As in previous years, it was decided to hold a pot luck supper at the time of the November meeting.

Rick Singer announced that it would be impossible for him to continue as Chairman of the Mill Committee due to his hours of work. It is with great regret that the meeting heard this as Rick has done a very great deal to further the work of Mill restoration.

Dr. Murray Downing reminded the meeting of the auction to be held in Norwich Community Centre on October 26. This year a somewhat different program will be followed, in that during the forenoon starting at 10 a.m. there will be a sale of some articles at set prices. Then starting at 1 p.m. an auction will take place. Some specified items will be set aside for a "silent" auction and written bids for these may be submitted at any time through the day.

It's hoped many items will still be donated for this sale. So far a few notable donations have been received or promised including a Peter Snyder Print, a (framed) photograph by Karsh, a large bell originally used in a former South Norwich school besides some paintings. An urgent invitation was issued for volunteers to help clean up, receive and arrange sale articles starting at 8 a.m. Saturday in preparation for sale to commence at 10. Volunteers also would be appreciated for the clean up after the sale.

Following this business session the meeting was turned over to the Singer family who provided most very interesting program.

Rick gave a very brief account of the many activities of his grandfather John F. Beck, who lived all his life in Hawtrey. In 1918 Mr. Beck purchased the Hawtrey Store and leased it to the Farmers' Co-operative Company for a time before taking up the operation of the store himself. Rick re-constructed his varied activities from store records.

After establishing himself in the store, Mr. Beck purchased three neighbouring farms. In 1930 he contracted to grow four acres of golden bantam corn for Tip Top Canners and in 1937 started to grow tobacco on one of the farms. Over the years he sold petroleum products for several different oil companies and in addition to the various lines carried by a rural general store he sold coal; and also farm machinery for the following companies: John Deere, International Harvester, Vessot Grindes, John Goodison, George White and Otaco

In 1939 when the Waterloo Company was closing out their business he bought five re-condition steam engines which he later sold to tobacco farmers. Sometime before 1932 he started a grist mill in the old Hawtrey town hall and in 1934 he set up a saw mill behind his store. Later in 1937 he bought a new mill and set it up east of the store.

When an oil drilling company

struck gas on his land he bought the well from them. After the saw mill stopped operations he continued to sell lumber until 1972. After his death his widow continued to operate the store until shortly before her death.

Mrs. Harold Singer then gave a brief outline of various events in the history of Hawtrey. One of the earliest residents was George Southwick who married Peter Lossing's daughter in 1915. Their son Henry Southwick helped raise a log house in 1934 for John Treffrey, when he came from England and settled in the Hawtrey area.

In 1875 many places of business were listed in the Hawtrey settlement. In 1870 a meeting was held to discuss the organization of the first Hawtrey school. Prior to this children from this area had to walk considerable distances to other schools. The lowest tender for construction of the school was for \$375 which was accepted. A teacher was hired for \$16 per month.

Sometime later, the school was closed for a time due to a smallpox epidemic, thought to have been in-

troduced with a shipment of buffalo hides from the North West. In 1974 the school was moved a short distance to accommodate the laying of the Port Dover and Lake Huron Railway tracks.

In 1889 the teacher was paid \$400 per year but 10 years later the salary had shrunk to \$300 per year and in 1901 a teacher was hired for \$314 but was required to build the fires and sweep the floor. By 1916 salary had risen to \$700 per year.

In 1910 the school was burned (insurance paid \$395), but was soon rebuilt. Mrs. Singer gave many other bits of early history and told of the building of the first Catholic church at LaSalette which was later replaced with a large brick church which burned and was replaced by the present church.

Following this, Harold Singer told us of a few of his early experiences as an employee of Mr. John Beck, who later became his father-in-law. Due to the lateness of the hour Harold cut his discourse short to the disappointment of the audience, who greatly enjoyed the account of Harold's early adventures. Following the meeting lunch was served.

## Auction sale

Restoration of the Treffry Mill, Otterville, continues.

New foundations, stained pine siding, windows and electrical service have all been completed. Landscaping progresses, and the major needs have been accomplished. But much remains to be done.

To raise more money for the restoration project, the South Norwich Historical Society will be holding its third annual auction at the Norwich Community Centre Saturday, Oct. 26, with a new format.

From 10 a.m. to noon, groups of articles will be offered for sale at \$2, \$4, \$6 and \$8 (not an auction). Articles for the afternoon auction may be viewed at this time.

The auction sale will begin at 1 p.m. and end at 5 p.m., with reserved bids on certain articles. There will also be a silent auction on a few specific articles.

Township residents have already donated many articles. Only clean, saleable items are requested

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### South Norwich Historical Society SALE and AUCTION (10 a.m.-Noon) (1 p.m.-5 p.m.) Saturday, Oct. 26th Norwich Community Centre

ITEMS: Peter Snyder framed print; large Karsh framed portrait of the Queen and Prince Phillip; oil paintings (local artists); old street lights and large globe lights; old school bell (23" diameter); bicycles; 45 piece Wedgwood "Kent" dinner set, incomplete; large new Ontario flag; large oak bank desk; school desk; and many other items.

"Free Admission" "Food Booth"  
Proceeds for mill restoration. Income tax receipts for donated articles.



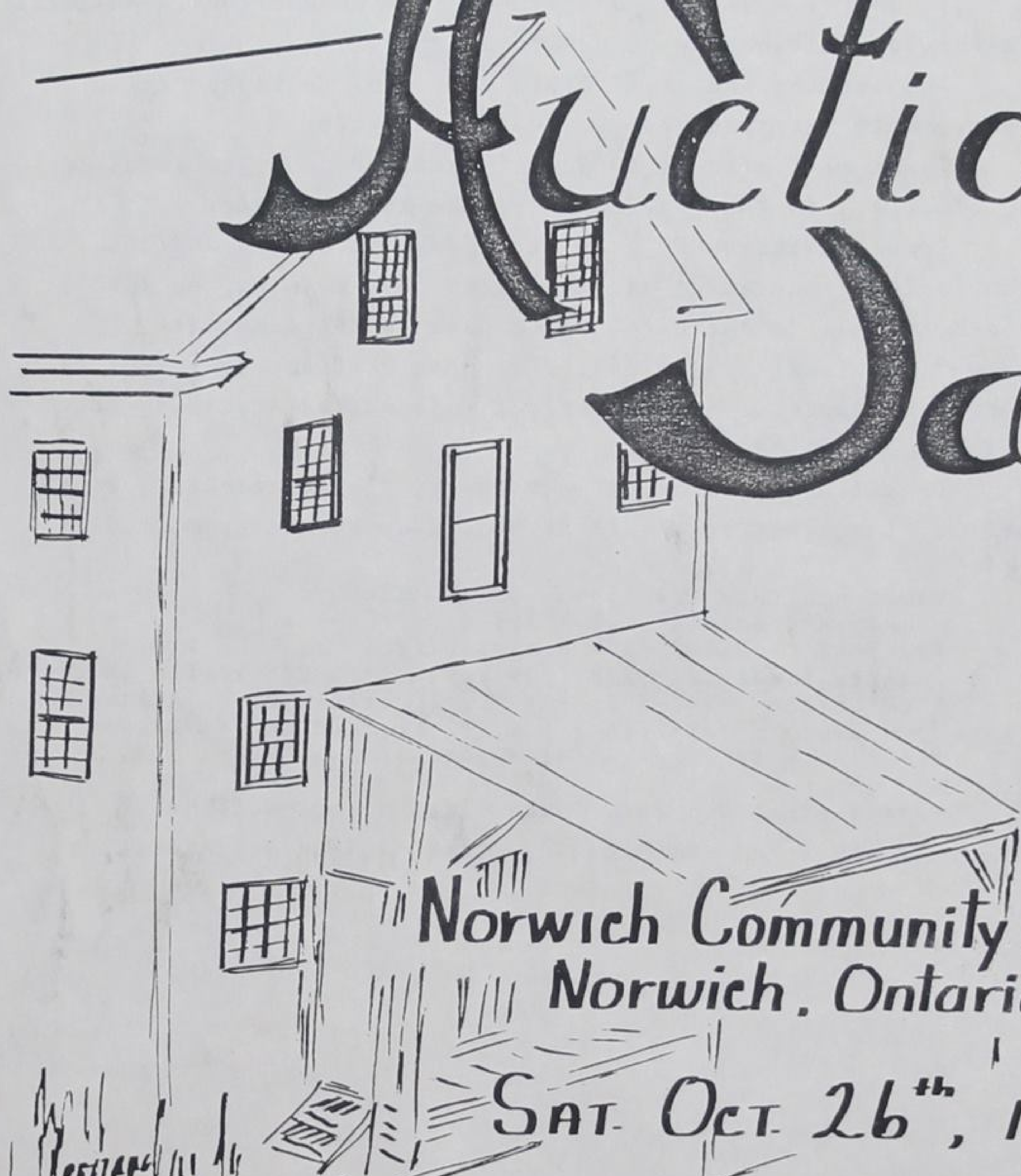
### Auction wares

Dr. Murray Downing of Otterville poses with some of the items that will be auctioned off at the South Norwich Historical Society Auction Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Norwich Community Centre. Among the items is an old school bell, a sleigh and an oil painting. (Staff photo)

SOUTH NORWICH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

3<sup>rd</sup>  
Annual

# Auction Sale



Norwich Community Centre,  
Norwich, Ontario.

SAT. OCT. 26<sup>th</sup>, 1985

Sale 10 - 12 A.M.

Auction 1 - 5 P.M.

# Violet Rebekah Lodge holds meeting

Violet Rebekah Lodge 300 opened in regular form with N.G. Sister June Ash and V.G. Sister Ann Arthur presiding. N.G. was glad to see some of the sisters that had not been able to attend for a while.

The charter was draped in a very dignified manner for Sister Iva Kall P.P.R.A.O. and for Brother Herbert Dawson P.G. Master.

The visiting committee reported that "Thinking of You" cards had been sent to Sister Violet Cole, Annie Godby, Gertie Hanson, Clara Griffin, Edith Avey and Brother Max Avey. An accident card had been sent to Sister Jean McClintock who had dislocated her shoulder.

It was reported Sister Eva McMullen was still not feeling good and Sister N.G. had visited Sister Winnie McMullen and found her feeling quite well. Sister Jean McClintock gave an excellent detailed report on both the district meeting and Rebekah Assembly.

Invitations from Fidelity, Myrtle, Avalon, Arkess and Vigilant lodges to their installations were read.

Brother Carl Howse reported Brother Charlie and Sister Gracie Purdy were celebrating their 50th Wedding anniversary Sunday, October 13 and Violet Lodge was invited to attend.

Brother Carl also reported that the lodge hall was for sale.

Plans were made for installation to be held October 21.

Sister Helen Thompson reported on the salad euchre.

Sister Violet Howse on behalf of Sister June Ash's officers thanked Sister June for the gifts she had presented each one of them.

N.G. Sister June Ash wished V.G. Sister Ann Arthur the best for the coming year.

Sister Jean McClintock thanked the lodge for the card sent her and also the sisters who had sent cards, telephoned and visited her.

Lodge closed in regular form followed by a social time.

## Violet Rebekah

Violet Rebekah Lodge 330 opened in regular form with N.G. Sister June Ash and P.N.G. Sister Norma Wilson presiding.

Receiving guests, P.N.G. Sister Jean McClintock introduced P.P. Sister Mabel Mabee and D.D.P. Sister Betty Bouma, and St. Thomas District 17. Other visitors were present from Vigilant, Fidelity, Myrtle, Keystone and Centennial Lodges.

Sister Norma Wilson gave the V.G. visiting report. V.G. Sister Ann Arthur, Sister Olive Pickersgill and Sister Josephine Howse were absent due to illness. Sister Ann had sent get well card to sisters Eva McMullen and Sister Jo Howse who was just home from hospital. A wedding anniversary card had been sent to Brother Charlie and Sister Grace Purdy for their 50th wedding anniversary. Sister Em Strudwick reported of her son-in-law in the hospital. A birthday card had been sent to Dr. Batson on his 90th birthday.

A letter from the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs Heart Equipment Fund was read reminding the members of their next meeting November 8 in St. Thomas. Invitations to Charity and Fidelity to Violet's installation. A letter was read from Edna Rebekah Lodge inviting Violet Rebekah Lodge to their installation October 22, their bazaar October 29 and an invitation to the N.G. and V.G. to attend their birthday supper November 12.

The officers with the exception of N.G., L.S.V.G. and outside guardian were installed by D.D.P. Sister Bouma and team from Delhi. Installation was done in a very dignified manner. V.G. Sister Jean McClintock thanked the D.D.P. team for the impressive installation.

Sister Ruth Colver presented Sister June Ash with a gift from the lodge. D.D.P. Sister Betty Bouma pinned Sister June Ash with the P.N.G. pin. Sister June presented the D.D.P. with a gift from the lodge.

P.P. Sister Mabel Mabee spoke a few words as well as Sisters from Vigilant, Fidelity, Myrtle and Keystone Lodges.

V.G. Sister Jean McClintock announced the three officers will be installed next meeting and asked all officers to wear long dresses.

Lodge closed in regular form followed by lunch and social hour downstairs. D.D.P. Sister Betty Bouma gave the courtesy remarks.

## Sunshine Club holds meeting

OTTERVILLE--The regular meeting of the Otterville Sunshine Club met on October 10 at the home of June Ash. Eleven members answered the roll call, "Where is your favourite restaurant?" given by Lilly Chisholm. Several hands of Court Whist were enjoyed by all.

Lunch was served by Jean Dow and the hostes with courtesy remarks being given by Dorothy Neale. The next meeting will be held at the home of Etta McSkimming on October 24.

Mr. and Mrs. Colin Robinson of Stoney Creek returned home Sunday after spending several days with friends in Otterville and attending the Way-Barnim wedding held at the Otterville United Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Max Avey celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary quietly at home on Saturday, October 19.



South Norwich Historical Society auction committee member Catherine Mann, of Otterville poses with three of the items that will be auctioned off at the society's annual auction Oct. 26 at the Norwich Com-

munity Centre. There is a crib quilt by Anna Treffry, an oil painting of the mill by Mary Ellen Helsdon and a photograph by Karsh of Ottawa. Carmen Denton will be the auctioneer. (Staff photo)

## SDHS

### auction goes well

The Auction Sale committee was very pleased with the response to the 3rd Annual Auction Sale of the South Norwich Historical Society held Saturday, October 26 at the Norwich Community Centre. Everyone's participation in both the sale and auction was greatly appreciated as well as the many donations of items put up for sale. Proceeds of the sale will go towards further restoration of the Otterville Mill.

## Lions meet at Glide Inn

Regular meeting of Norwich Otterville Lions Club was held Tuesday October 15 at the Glide Inn Restaurant, Norwich.

Thirty two members and three guests from Fisherville, including P.L.C. Lion Earl Terryberry, Cabinet chairman, Dist. A2, for Lions Foundation of Canada. There was also one prospective new member.

Tickets for the Irish Masquerade Dance are available from all Lions. A good time is anticipated. Band will be the "Celtic Dream".

Lion Colin Cope introduced Lion Earl Terryberry, who gave a slide presentation on the Headquarters of Lions Foundation of Canada. It will be the site of Guide Dog Training Centre. It is located in Oakville, Ontario. Facilities accommodate up to 44 dogs at one time.

Since April 1985 nine dogs have graduated from the school, and gone to various parts of Ontario. There is no charge to a student for dogs. Purina Company have so far donated all the dog food for the dogs. The Lions Foundation also provides other public services; for example \$18,000 to the Barrie Tornado Fund, and money to the East coast for the Drug and Alcohol Abuse program.

Lion Brian Parr thanked Lion Earl Terryberry for his presentation, and presented a cheque for \$100 to be used towards Lions Foundation program.

A regional Fall Rally will be held at Port Dover Wednesday October 30. Several Lions from Norwich-Otterville club will be attending.

The Annual Veterans night will be held Monday November 11, at the Royal Canadian Legion, Norwich. All veterans are welcome. Advance notice of attendance appreciated.

Several perfect attendance pins for 1984-85 meetings were presented by Lion Chief Paul Wood. Lion Richard Harrison received his 5 year membership pin.

Lion Don (Donzo) Miller attended and participated in the Annual Octoberfest Parade in Kitchener on Monday October 14. He reported an excellent parade and good participation. Convention Draw won by Lion Bill Martin.

## Lions have party

The Norwich-Otterville Lions Club held their annual Hallowe'en Party, Thursday evening, October 31 at the Otterville Community Hall with a good attendance of ghosts and goblins in attendance.

The children, dressed in a wide variety of costumes, were judged for best dressed and best comical outfits. The winners of the various categories were Girls under 10 years Best Comical - Alyson Mudge, Otterville; Best Dressed - Candace Kinderman, Tillsonburg; Boys under 10, Most Comical - Shawn

Finch, Otterville; Best Dressed - Derek Kunderman, Tillsonburg; Girls over 10, Most Comical - Margaret Comeau, Otterville; Best Dressed - Heather Picknell, Otterville; Boy's over 10, Most Comical - Stewart Harrison, Otterville; Best Dressed - Rene LeToile, Otterville.

Judges for the costume parade were Bob Picknell, John Kapin and Dave Arthur.

Refreshments of hot dogs and drinks were served completing an enjoyable evening of trick-or-treating for the children.

## St. John's UCW meet at Darling home

OTTERVILLE (C)--The monthly meeting of the St. John's ACW, held at the home of Mrs. Kay Darling, Delhi, featured guest speaker Jean Clark.

Introduced by Mrs. Darling, Jean shared aspects of the recent nine month expedition she shared with her family to the Third World.

During the trip, they visited countries in Europe, India, Thailand, Hong Kong and Holland.

Mrs. Clark focused on India showing through slide presentation, the stark contrasts found in this country between wealth and poverty, beauty and filth, art work and detail to primitive conditions.

Through interesting commentary and graphic pictures, the members acquired a very real sense of the bombardment one experiences with the beauty and things not accustomed to within this country.

During the business portion of the meeting, plans were discussed and finalized in regards to Confirmation Service to be held Oct. 27 and the forthcoming annual beef supper Nov. 3. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3.50 for children. Pre-schoolers are free.

A delicious lunch was served by the hostess assisted by Georgina Spicer and Wenda Smith. The next meeting will be held Thurs., Nov. 7 at the home of Lila Freeland.

## Lions meet over turkey supper

The Norwich-Otterville Lions Club met at the Otterville United Church on Monday evening to enjoy their

fine annual turkey supper. Following the supper, members adjourned to the community hall for their

business meeting. LION PRESIDENT Paul Wood presided.

There were 28 members present and one transferred member, past District governor Mort Cooper and three prospective new members.

Lion president Paul reported that the recent Irish Night held at the Norwich Community Centre, October 25 was a very good party in spite of the small attendance.

Past president Gord Shearer was in charge of an induction ceremony for a new Lion, Andy Buck. The sponsoring Lion was president Paul assisted by past District Governor Howard Fleming and Lions Fred Thompson, John Leitch and Mort Cooper.

Letters of appreciation for past financial assistance were received from various local associations. A donation in support of Tyke hockey tournament in Norwich was approved.

The annual Lions Hallowe'en Party will be held in the community hall, Otterville at 9 p.m., Thursday night, October 31 with contests, prizes and food.

The Lions will be sponsoring a New Years Eve dance in the Norwich Community Centre, including a draw on two portable T.V.'s and a ghetto blaster.

The Lions will be sponsoring the annual blood donor clinic at the Norwich Community Centre on Thursday, November 21 in the evening, 5 to 8:30 p.m.

The annual Veterans Night will be held in the Legion Hall, Norwich at 7:15 p.m., November 11. Lion Warren Burger, Fisherville Lions Club, will be the speaker. As many veterans as possible are urged to attend.

The convention prize was won by a prospective member Dave Borter.

## Optimist essay contest

The Spring-Otter Optimist Club of Otterville will hold an essay contest of the subject of "Freedom, Our Most Precious Heritage". All high school students, grades 10-13 are eligible to participate.

The club will select a first, second and third place winner in their contest, and the first place entry will be automatically forwarded to the district competition where it will be judged against other club winning entries from South-Western Ontario district.

The author of the winning entry in the district contest will be awarded an expense paid four day trip to the Freedom Foundation at Valley

Forge for a special seminar on the subject of Freedom and Patriotism.

Entries must be original, completed by the contestants without assistance and submitted by December 15. For further information contact the high school office.



### Life memberships

Mrs. Muriel Gehring (second from left) and Mrs. Ethel Arthur (second from right), both received life membership pins from the Summerville Womens In-

stitute last Tuesday. Both ladies have been members of the organization since 1929. Presenting the pins were Grace Gehring (left) and June Ash. (Staff photo)

# Otterville Public School Halloween activities at Otterville P.S.

## holds open house

OTTERVILLE(C)--Monday evening, Otterville Public School opened its doors to parents and visitors providing an opportunity for all to meet the staff and see the school.

Principal Kathy Murphy welcomed everyone and informed the visitors of various developments at the school since last year.

New equipment has been installed on the primary side of the playground in addition to a new slide purchased by the Otterville PTA.

Fund raising activities had allowed the school to purchase additional computer software and hardware, playground equipment, girls' uniforms and sponsor different events.

The school now has three computers and resources have been upgraded in the junior and Grade 7-8 levels.

Two new programs are going to be operated at the school this year. Next week, the Values, Influences and Peers (VIP) program will begin at the Grade 6 level. It will be presented by teacher Dianne Hutchinson with help from Constable Vern Fleming of the Tillsonburg OPP.

Later in the new year, a child sexual abuse prevention program will be introduced to the Grade 2-3 class.

Enrollment, as it is, has demanded all split grades this year. Intermural activities, a French Club and a new Award system are being carried out.

Ms Murphy stressed that the best decisions for the school can not be made without parental support.

A slide presentation was shared showing the wide range of activities which took place during the previous year at the school.

All parents had an opportunity to then visit the various classrooms meeting the teachers who outlined the courses of study and activities planned.

As well, Monday, a very successful Book Fair was held at the school organized by librarian Janice Butcher.

The books, provided by Schoilastic Book Publications of Toronto, were available for purchases throughout the day.

On Tuesday, the students kicked off their school fund raising program of selling cookies. The Cookie Monster was the special guest.

With Hallowe'n coming, various special activities have been taking place at Otterville Public School at all grade levels.

Miss Tafel's Grades 4 and 5 class is no exception with Mrs. Marie Hill helping the students design their own pumpkin cookies.

Miss Tafel's class and the girls' Grades 6, 7, and 8 physical education classes have been studying, very appropriately for this time of year, the skeletal system using a skeleton on loan from Fanshawe College's School of Nursing, London.

Also the students expressed some of their spooky ideas in the following poems:

Jack-o-lantern burning bright  
Witches hair marshmellow white  
Ghost and goblins, freaky ghouls,  
But most of them, are long haired  
fools.

Jason Hird, Grade 5

Hallowe'en is so scary  
I saw a person dressed as a berry  
There was a bat  
He had a hat  
But I was dressed as a cat

Carrie Lewis, Grade 4

Hallowe'en is scary  
Hallowe'en is fun  
I'm being camauflage man with a  
gun.

I wanted to soap windows if I could  
If not I would go trick-or-treating  
all over the neighbourhood.

Alex McMullen, Grade 4

It is Hallowe'en night  
The light is just right  
Ghost and goblins are everywhere  
Boo!

It is Hallowe'en night  
You are filled with fright  
The jack-O-lanterns are growing  
dim

Your fear has grown within  
Arrgh!  
You race for home and you are  
safe at last.

Booo!

Jennifer Hill, Grade 5

Witches and ghosts, oh what a  
fright  
Flying and floating on Hallowe'en  
night.

Beware of the house on Otterville  
Street

When you get in it you'll say its  
neat.

But before you know it you'll be in  
the basement

Crying and weeping without enter-  
tainment.

So watch the witches and ghosts on  
Hallowe'en night

Before you know it they'll be out of  
sight.

Carrie Ann McKiernan, Grade 5

On Hallowe'en night...  
You'll be sure to get a fright.  
When the ghosts and goblins come  
out

The witches are flying about.  
Hearing shrieks and squeaks  
Around the corner a monster  
creeps.

Eyes glowing in the dark of the  
night

A black cat lurks in sight  
So when you go out to trick-or-  
treat

You never know what you might  
...meet.

Kathryn Arthur, Grade 5

## Otterville P.S. team downs B'ville

The boys Volleyball Team of the Otterville Public School started off its 1985 season in a very positive way by defeating Burgessville two games out of three.

They lost a very close, see-saw battle 20-18 but then rebounded to dominate the Burgessville team by winning 15-1

Team members include Liam Dowds, Robert Sherman, Paul Harrison, Roger Cyr, Steven Cope, Warren Hird, Blair Oatman, Darren Forsyth, Shawn Pinnoy, Joey Comeau, Stuart Harrison, Christ Baker and Brady Parr.

## Otterville PTA meets

OTTERVILLE(C)--The Otterville Parent-Teacher Association has reorganized for 1985-86 by instituting a new format.

Following a meeting of the executive, it was proposed that for the coming school year monthly meetings be discontinued. In place of these, a PTA-Block Parent potluck dinner with a guest speaker

is planned for the fall and a family fun day for late winter.

As well, the organization will be responsible for the graduate's dinners, school pins and will hold a Hot Dog Day for the school each month.

The executive remains the same: President, August DeWachter; Secretary, Ina Arthur, and Treasurer, Floyd Lewis.

## Peer pressure dealt with

OTTERVILLE (C) — A new program, Values, Influences and Peers (V.I.P.) begins this week at Otterville Public School for Grade 6 level students. Presented by teacher Dianne Hutchinson with assistance from Constable Vern Fleming of the Tillsonburg O.P.P., Otterville is the first school to operate the program in Oxford County.

V.I.P. is a preventative program that seeks to encourage pro-social behaviour by increasing students' awareness and building their feelings of self-confidence and self-esteem. Its aim is to provide them with the skills and insights needed to develop a personal determined value system which reflects a

respect for oneself, others and property.

The units of study in the V.I.P. program will provide opportunities for students to become aware of some of the basic values of Canadian society; learn to accept responsibilities for their own actions; understand peer pressure; become aware of the importance of self-respect and self-confidence; gain insights into making choices and develop a respect for the rights of others and for the rule of the law.

The program originated in the United States but was re-written with Canadian content before being introduced in Pembroke, Ontario. The Renfrew Board of Education and O.P.P. Pembroke first

introduced it to eight schools with excellent reviews.

The program is taught on a regular, continuous basis, two or three times a week for 12 weeks. It is incorporated into the reading program for oral work, role playing, discussions, drama, speakers, field trips and audio visual aids are used.

Grade 6 students are chosen since peer pressure seems strong at this age from both younger and older students and it helps to prepare them for adolescence.

The V.I.P. program helps young people cope with negative peer pressure and affords them the opportunity to understand the value of being a good citizen.

Results of the program have found V.I.P. students less likely to have unacceptable behaviour; improved relations between parents, teachers, police and students; students displaying positive attitudes towards situations; more attention paid to parents and less argument and more confidence in making decisions.

# Improvements to Otterville School top of school board's capital project list

By SUZANNE STOOP

Improvements to Otterville Public School have topped the Oxford County Board of Education's list of proposed capital projects for the next five years.

In submitting the list to the ministry of education for approval at the board's meeting Monday night, trustees have given preliminary approval to the projects, subject to the availability of funding and final acceptance of the projects by the board.

The Otterville Public School improvements have been at the top of the board's priority list for at least two years, and among the top five projects for several years before that, said the board's education director John Young following the meeting.

The project has been modified, however, to provide for the demolition of the 1927 section of the school and its replacement with a new facility. The new addition to the newer 1951 section of the school would include one kindergarten room, one classroom, a general purpose room (gymnasium), two change rooms, a health room and a library resource room.

The modification of the project was suggested by an Otterville Public School Study Committee, comprised of Trustees Russ Stangl

of Otterville (Norwich Township), Marilyn Popham of Tillsonburg, Otterville Public School Principal Cathy Murphy, and parent representatives Jennifer Grant and John Walther.

The project, slated for 1986, pending ministry approval, is estimated to cost in the neighborhood of \$920,000.

East Zorra-Tavistock Trustee David Ducklow questioned the decision to expend nearly \$1 million on such a small school. "Why are we spending a million on 150 students?" he asked.

Board Chairman Barry Hunt explained the project list is only a forecast and does not indicate acceptance of any of the projects by the board. Should the ministry approve the projects for funding, they will each have to go through a series of steps, including final approval by the board, he pointed out. "It doesn't commit us to anything."

Norwich Township Trustee Helen Dickson pointed out that all available trustees toured the Otterville Public School last year and it was their unanimous decision that Otterville Public School should be the first priority on the list of proposed capital projects.

Trustee Stangl referred to the engineer's study which pointed out

serious deficiencies in the school "that we are trying to correct."

The board chairman, Trustee Hunt of Ingersoll said following the meeting, "We are trying to get a modest, contemporary building in place in Otterville." And with the new Liberal government, the board probably has a better chance this year than in any other of getting funding for the project from the ministry, he said.

"If the ministry provides funds to rehabilitate that school, the board is committed to maintaining the school," Trustee Hunt said. If the funds aren't forthcoming from the ministry the board will have to react, he said, but would not comment further on what action will be taken.

The earlier engineering study indicated parts of the 1927 section of the school do not comply with the Ontario Building Code, noting major renovation of reconstruction was necessary.

Listed as the third priority on the five-year capital forecast is roof replacement at Norwich District High School. The board proposes the replacement of the entire roof, with the exception of the most recent addition to the school, at an estimated cost of \$151,000.

## Industry <sup>NG</sup> <sup>0679</sup> beginning operations in 3 weeks

Fleetwood Metal Industries, the subsidiary of Starcan Corporation which will be locating in Otterville, will probably begin production within the next two or three weeks, says plant manager Reg Pitre.

Pitre said Monday the company is presently in the process of "getting the plant in order."

Over the next few weeks, the automotive metal stamping plant will be bringing in equipment and several employees.

The Toronto-based manufacturer will be starting off slowly, gradually building its workforce to about 75 people. "In the beginning, we'll be bringing in only one or two plant employees at a time," said Pitre.

He couldn't say when the plant would swing into full production. "We'll have to play it by ear, but we'll build it up as quickly as we can."

The manager said he will be holding interviews for positions in the plant toward the end of this week.

The plant was supposed to be in operation last June, "but sometimes things take twice as long as you expect."

Fleetwood Metal Industries is located in the old DeCloet's building on Dover Street.

## Otterville girl made Queen of the Furrow

OTTERVILLE (C) — Otterville residents have royalty in their midst as Lori Barnim became Oxford County Queen of the Furrow at the 41st Annual Oxford County Ploughing Match.

Lori was one of three young women vying for the county's crown. Surprised by the judges' selection, the 17-year-old student, daughter of Don and Margaret Barnim, RR 2,

Otterville, is very happy about the outcome of the competition and looks forward to meeting people and representing Oxford County during her reign. The other contestants were Deb Durham, 17, of RR 4 Woodstock and Sandra Dickout of Mt. Elgin.

During the year Lori has various duties to perform. She will attend the county meetings for the Ploughmen's Association;

the Ploughmen's Convention in February at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto and compete at the International Ploughing Match at Stirling, Hastings County next year.

Judges for the occasion were Ann Howden, a former Queen of the Furrow for Brant County and two time finalist in the Ontario Queen of the Furrow competition and Lisa Quinn of the Consumer Information Office for the Oxford Agriculture Office. The judging consisted of marks on personality and appearance, individual interviews with each contestant and a speech on agriculture in Oxford, presented before an audience gathered at the Norwich Museum following a noon luncheon. A demonstration of ploughing which was to complete the marking had to be cancelled due to the bad weather.

Since the outgoing Queen of the Furrow, Christine Gee of Mt. Elgin was unable to attend, Lori was crowned by Kathy Dickout, a former Queen of the Furrow and a director of the Oxford Ploughmen's Association, at the site of the match. George Dakin, president of the Oxford County Ploughmen's Association congratulated Lori, wishing her the best during the future year.

Lori received roses and corsage from Gladway Gardens; a trophy and money donated by Wayne Campbell Real Estate, Ingersoll; a gift certificate from Norwich Big V and K and H Videos; a cooler from Pro Hardware and a curling iron from Home Hardware.

Competition is not strange to Lori who was first runner-up in the Miss Springford Contest. This past experience and her interest in outdoor activities

made her consider entering the contest.

Lori, who formerly attended Otterville Public School and Norwich District High School, is presently a student at Fanshawe Community College, London, where she is majoring in basic business. She hopes to specialize in purchasing. She is also involved in Toc-Alpha and enjoys working with children, water sports, gardening and doing crafts and hand work.

The Oxford County Ploughing Match was held north of Norwich on Highway 59 on the farm of Murray Rettie. Lori, who is interested in such outdoor activities is sure to capably fulfil her role as the new Oxford Queen of the Furrow, promoting agriculture wherever possible.



Lori Barnim

# Three Ward 1 firefighters receive long service medal

Three members of the Township of Norwich Fire Department Ward 1 were recently honoured by receiving the Fire Services Long Service Medal. Bill McMullen, Lorne Treffry and Ross Dow received the medals at an Investiture Ceremony held on Friday, October 18 at the Valhalla Inn, Kitchener.

The Fire Services Long Service Medal is an expression of public appreciation for the dedication and hard work of Ontario firefighters. The medal officially recognized by the province and is included as a regulation in the Fire Marshal's Act.

Bill McMullen has been involved with the Otterville Fire Department for 35 years, joining it in 1950. It changed in 1952 to the South Norwich Fire Department with Bill becoming chief in 1958. He continued to be the chief as it changed to the Township of Norwich Fire Department Ward 1 in 1974 and has since remained chief of the department.

Lorne Treffry, retired in 1984, had been with the fire department for 31

years. Ross Dow has been a firefighter for 31 years and during the past six years as well as presently shares the responsibilities of Captain of the Township of Norwich Fire Department Ward 1.

Ninety-one firefighters from throughout Central Ontario were recipients of the medal awarded to both full-time and volunteer firefighters. Along with the medals, each was presented with a citation.

The circular medal is suspended from a red, white and green ribbon. It bears on the obverse the Maltese Cross, with the coat of Arms of Ontario superimposed, and the inscription, Fire Services Ontario. The inscription, For Long Service The Fire Marshal's Act appears on the reverse.

Mr. John R. Batemen, Fire Marshal of Ontario presented the medals with Mr. Sidney E. Oxenham, Asst. Fire Marshal of Ontario being chairman. Among the dignitaries present were Mr. John Webster, Ministry of the Solicitor General, Mr. Frank L. Wilson, Q.C. Assistant Deputy Minister of the Solicitor General,

Mr. David Cooke, MPP Kitchener, Mr. Herb Epp MPP Waterloo North and Mayor D.V.P. Cardillo City of Kitchener.

Wives of the recipients, Lurene McMullen, Anna Treffry and Jean Dow were also presented with brooches in an Ontario Trillium

motif as companion pieces to the medals awarded to their husbands.

The brooches help recognize the sacrifices made by the wives and

## 40th wedding anniversary



The children of Frederick and Esther Stover (nee White) of Thorndale area, formerly of Cornell and Otterville, Ontario, cordially invite relatives and friends to attend an open house on the occasion of their 40th Wedding Anniversary to be held at the Masonic Hall, Thorndale, Ontario, from 2 to 4 p.m., October 5, 1985. There will be dancing from 8:30 at the Masonic Hall, Thorndale.

families of firefighters. They also acknowledge the part played by the women in ladies' auxiliaries to fire departments.



## Long service medals

Three Ward 1 firefighters recently long service medals from the Provincial Fire Marshal's Office at a ceremony held recently in Kitchener. The

wives of the recipients also received brooches. From left are: Jean and Ross Dow, 31 years; Lurene and Bill McMullen, 35 years; and Anna and Lorne Treffry, 31 years of service. (Staff photo)

# Family standbys for everyone on the farm

By Shirley Glendinning

OTTERVILLE — Living on a farm for 30 years and raising four children, it goes

without saying that Betty Walther of Otterville took a keen interest in food preparation over the years. While on the farm she did

lots of preserving and canning.

Jack and Betty raised beef and grew corn and soybeans on their Otterville area farm. The farm is now operated by sons, but Jack still has a hand in things. Jack and Betty have lived in the village for the past three years.

Betty is quite active in Otterville United Church

activities, serving as a co-organist and choir leader as well as currently being president of the United Church Women. Betty has also participated in Women's Institute activities.

Some of the old-loved recipes of the family given here include the cottage cheese salad, the meat loaf,

angel cake and the salad dressing recipe.

When she uses egg whites for the angel cake, Betty makes use of the yolks in the salad dressing (she usually makes double the recipe) and puddings.

Betty described her way of making a macaroni and

cheese dish as easier and less calorific. She simply places layers of cooked macaroni along with cheese in a buttered casserole and covers with milk before baking it in the oven.

CHICKEN DIABLE

3 lbs. chicken legs or breasts  
(continued on page 17)



Mrs. Jack Walther of Otterville makes use of both a microwave and electric stove. (Staff



Happy 40th Anniversary

Cecil and Irene Smart will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary on Sunday, October 20, 1985. Love and best wishes from Kim, Lyle and Erin.



# Ward 1

## Michael Oliver

I am seeking a mandate to continue as a council representative for Ward 1 in the Township of Norwich.

My first term on council was rewarding and productive, but more must be done to improve the municipal operations.

As you know, the wheels of government turn slowly at best. This has been frustrating for me because I like to get things done with a minimum of formality. With experience comes patience and deliberation. Now that I have three years behind me I think I can be more effective.

Continuity is important on municipal council. There are many ongoing issues facing us. New councillors have to gain all the background information required to make informed, intelligent decisions. Four experienced councillors are not seeking re-election at this time. We know for sure that we will have at least three inexperienced new representatives. I welcome them because we need new ideas. But we also need experience or the wheels of government will turn even slower.

Difficult decisions are made by your elected representatives. I have made them to the best of my ability. Among the achievements of the present council are the negotiation of a firm agreement for closure of the Holbrook Landfill Site, a new comprehensive zoning by-law, and a grid pay scale system for Township employees whereby individuals may be rewarded for outstanding performance. We are currently implementing a computer system to streamline accounting and tax roll procedures.

Remarkably, these initiatives were achieved within the constraints of economic conservatism. Tax increases for strictly Township purposes, excluding education, have been kept at or below the rate of inflation. However, educational cost at the same time have surged ahead without apparent restraint. Increases in public school spending at 13.9 percent in 1983, 21 percent in 1984, and 13.4 percent this year have distorted our efforts to contain property taxes. We have done our job. Why can't the Public School Board do theirs?

There are some new issues to be faced by the incoming council and some old ones that never seem to be laid to rest. There is a perceived problem of inter-ward rivalry. Council must deal even-handedly with the various regions in the Township.

If a low rental housing study establishes a need for such accommodations in the Township of Norwich, we must decide if we will proceed to build one, and if so, where.

Council must continue to diligently protect Norwich Township interests in the closure of Holbrook Landfill

Site and in opposing any new hydro lines through the municipality.

I would appreciate your support at the polls on November 12.



## Dan Wagner

Dan Wagner is a candidate for Councillor for Ward 1. He, his wife and their two young sons live on a small farm in Hawtrey, just east of Otterville. He is employed by TRW of Tillsonburg, an auto parts manufacturer, where Mr. Wagner has been encouraged in his bid for councillor by management. Also, Mr. Wagner is a member of the Spring-Otter Optimist Club.

Mr. Wagner is committed to running an efficient municipal government. One that will work to keep expenditures in-line and waste at a minimum.

Mr. Wagner has said he feels council should do its part to help fight Ontario Hydro's proposed high voltage transmission route through the township. Mr. Wagner is committed to confronting the problems and decisions of the next three years directly and honestly.



## Gary Walther

I am running for councillor in Ward 1.

I am a director of the Norwich branch of the UCO, 1st vice president of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club, vice chairman of the Wintario Committee, a director of the Oxford County Corn Growers Association, and I am on the Board of Managers of the Otterville United Church.

Being involved in several areas within the community, I have concerns I would like to express.

One of the things that I would like to see happen in the Otterville area is the promotion and development of more industry. This would provide more employment as well as making Otterville a more profitable community.

Garbage pick up in rural areas is another of my concerns. As well, an area that concerns all of us within the Otterville and Springford communities is that of police protection. I would like to see the Norwich Police force expand itself to these areas.



## Don Pettigrew

Councillor Don Pettigrew, a hog producer and cash crop grower, is seeking a second term on Norwich Township Council.

Over the last three years, Mr. Pettigrew says Council has done a respectable job of "housekeeping"-keeping the affairs of the Township running smoothly.

In these tough times, Coun. Pettigrew feels Council must be especially vigilant in making sure Council reacts to the needs of the municipality and its ratepayers rather than their wants.

"Much deliberation must be given to what is a want and what is a need in these difficult times."

Over the next three years Council should look at developing the industrial possibilities of the northern part of the Township. He says the municipality mustn't miss the chance of capitalizing on any economic opportunity.

The upgrading of Township roads is one of the most important issues facing Council. It is a basic municipal service that is not up to scratch.

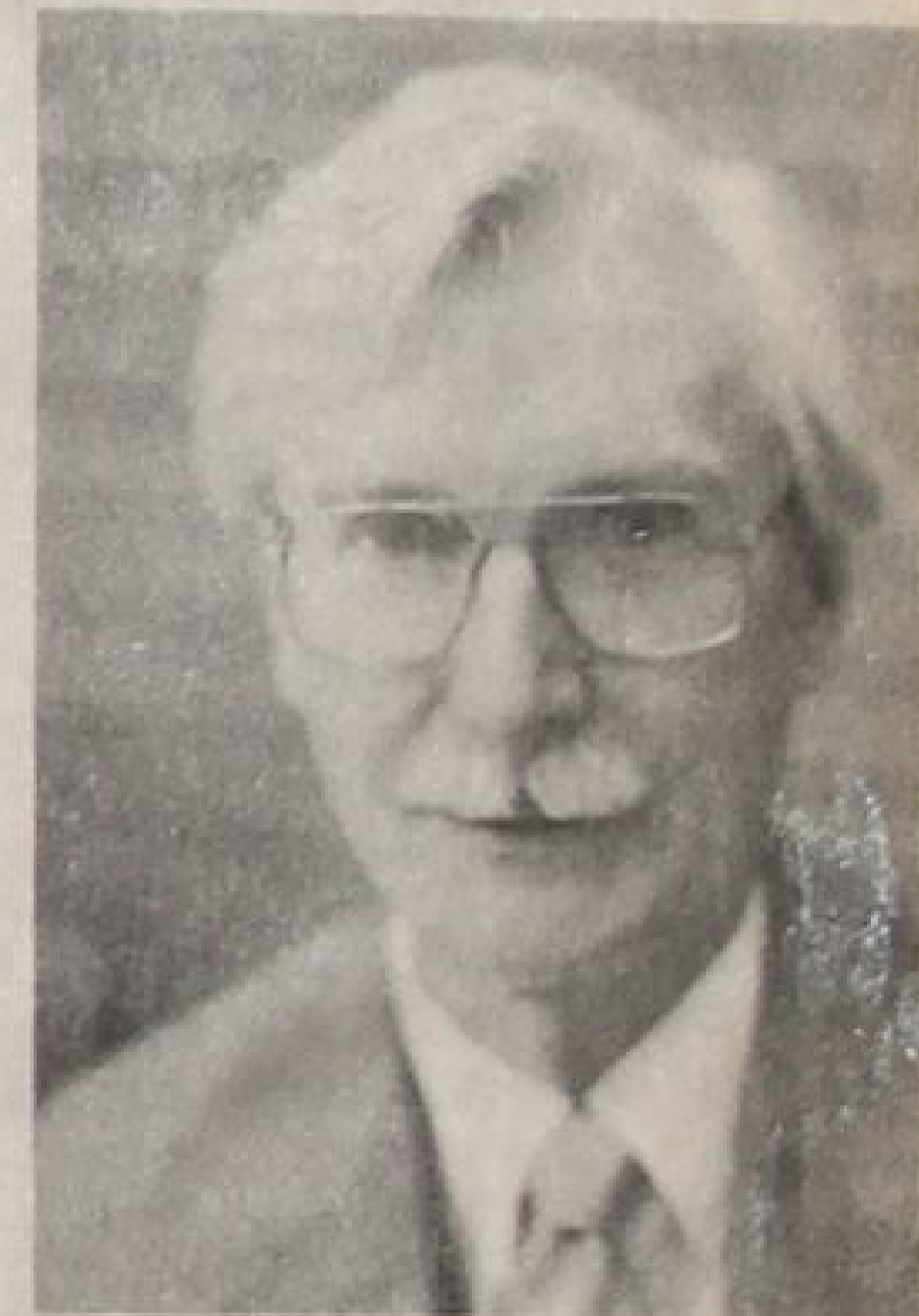
# Ward 2

## Norm Lusk

Quoting from the Norwich Gazette editorial October 6, 1982 — "If you are dissatisfied with the present state of affairs and think you have as much ability as the next person, then, perhaps you should consider taking an active interest in the election, and even running for a seat on council". I couldn't have summed up my thoughts any better, using my own words.

We are in controversial times; extreme caution must be exercised by the elected officials to get better value for the tax dollar. It is time to put aside all territorial differences and encourage everyone to work together for the common good — in ALL areas of public service — the Roads department, Recreation boards, Administration Staff and Council.

I believe councillors should and must set an example. Many have approached me to encourage me to run for councillor in Ward 2. To those, I say, thanks. I shall pledge to remember I am YOUR elected representative. I shall continue to promote Unity of Purpose within the Township of Norwich. We have an industrial site and we should continue to encourage light, clean industry to locate there. I shall always be alert to obtain the maximum benefit for the tax dollar spent. Legislators must realize the general public is unable to continue to supply large volumes of taxation dollars. I shall continue to serve the municipality to the best of my ability for the term of office.



I served on council in 1977-1978 and was later appointed in 1981 to fill a vacancy. I then served from 1983, to the present. I am married to Alie, and we have two daughters away from home. I moved to Norwich 19 years ago.

Before coming to Norwich, I operated an insurance business in Woodstock for 13 years. I'm active in the annual Cancer Society fund drive, and served as chairman for several years. I'm active in Norwich Baptist Church, Norwich District Curling Club. I also served on the Norwich and District Chamber of Commerce, and Norwich Business Improvement Area Board. I have also served on the Oxford County Economic Opportunity Study and various other committees of council

## Paul Wood

My decision to become a candidate for Councillor stems from a long-time interest in community and municipal affairs.

In the past 10 years I have seen many changes in our village and surrounding area. Some I feel were not to the benefit of the residents of Ward 2. As your Ward 2 representative, I will use every available means to protect you the ratepayers

interest.

Residence: 10 Marshall Drive, Norwich, married to wife Yvonne, 3 daughters, Angela 12 years, Annette, 8 years, Jacqueline, 1 year. President - Norwich-Otterville Lions Club, Secretary - Norwich Cemetery Co. Employed - Canada Trust Realtor for the past 5 years. Was Chairman 1985 Wintario Committee.

# Ward 3

## Mark Harrison

I am a 28-year old life time resident of the Township of Norwich, seeking election as Councillor for Ward 3 (North Norwich). My desire to seek this position stems from a life-time interest in municipal affairs and politics.

I am employed full-time at R.S. Harrison Service Centre Ltd., in Norwich, which is a family-operated business. My other interests include being a CPR Instructor for the Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation and teaching here in Oxford County with Heart Save Oxford. I was also recently appointed to the Board of Management for the Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Norwich.

Being involved in a small business and managing a mortgage for our residence makes me realize the need for restraint. Over the past several years the Township's total budget has substantially increased, while as we know farming and personal incomes have not. I would certainly work to bring an attitude of restraint to Council.

One of my concerns at this time is to see that the Holbrook Landfill Site is closed on schedule, with the proper safeguards remaining in effect. I feel that upon closure of the site we will have a very real need for either a transfer site, located at the present landfill site or rural garbage pick-up, if the cost makes this option feasible.

While Agriculture is a very important asset to the economy of our Township, we must realize the need to attract light industry to the urbanized areas of our municipality. The past Council has done little to at-

tract industry. I personally know of two companies that inquired about locating in the Ward 2 Industrial Park and were frustrated by Council's attitude to the point that they both located elsewhere, fortunately still within the Township. However, after a number of years the industrial park in Ward 2 remains vacant.

On the other hand, Council has shown recently that it does not stand behind the Agricultural community. Several weeks ago Council turned down a request for financial support from a group dedicated to stopping the proposed Hydro lines from crossing agricultural land in the Township of Norwich.

If elected as a Councillor of Ward 3, I am ready, willing and able to assist anyone and everyone in Ward 3, because I feel that this is the utmost duty of a member of the Municipal Council of the Township of Norwich. I would sincerely appreciate your support at the polls on November 12th, 1985.



Gord Samways

Gordon Samways is a trucker for Prouse Transport Ltd.

It is Mr. Samway's second try at seat in Ward 3.

His main objectives as a councillor would be to ensure that the Holbrook Landfill site closes when it is supposed to on June 30, 1986, and that rural garbage pick up or transfer stations to the new Salford site be established.

Mr. Samways also would like to see better use of Township recreational facilities and further upgrading of roads in the municipality.

"I want to look into things because I think there's room for changes to make things run more efficiently."

He also wants to work to reducing the amount of tax paid by Township ratepayers.

# Ward 4

## Larry Martin

Three years ago I ran a campaign of no promises, simply because I was inexperienced and did not have a clue as to what I could or couldn't do.

Enough people supported me and what I was saying to elect me to my first term as a councillor. As a result of this first term I now know that you cannot promise anything. Council is comprised of 11 people with 11 different thoughts and ideas. These ideas are quite often conflicting.

The only promises I feel I can make and keep are to attend all or as many meetings as possible and to keep a fair, just, open mind using common sense at all times.

At present one of the hottest issues in the Township is that of the policing of the village of Norwich. Every argument against the Police has an offsetting argument in their favour. We will have to wait for the results of the Municipal Police Authority work load study which is being carried out at this time before dealing with the issue.

I don't need to remind you that June of '86 is supposed to mark the closing of the Holbrook Landfill site. Personally I feel its about time. Norwich Council bargained in good faith 2 years ago, hopefully the County did as well.

My biggest concern; not to belittle any other issues, is that of our municipal roads. I have talked extensively on this issues for the last 3 years and will continue to do so for the next 3 years. This year we updated our road needs study. The consulting firm doing the update has confirmed what I have been saying. Presently we have \$9 million worth of deficient roads and by 1990 this figure will escalate to 13 million. Figures like this are astounding.

In a municipality whose recreational facilities are second to none, surely we should have a more adequate transportation system. Isn't it time something was done to bring this figure of deficiencies down. Unfortunately this cannot be achieved by fixing and upgrading low priority roads.

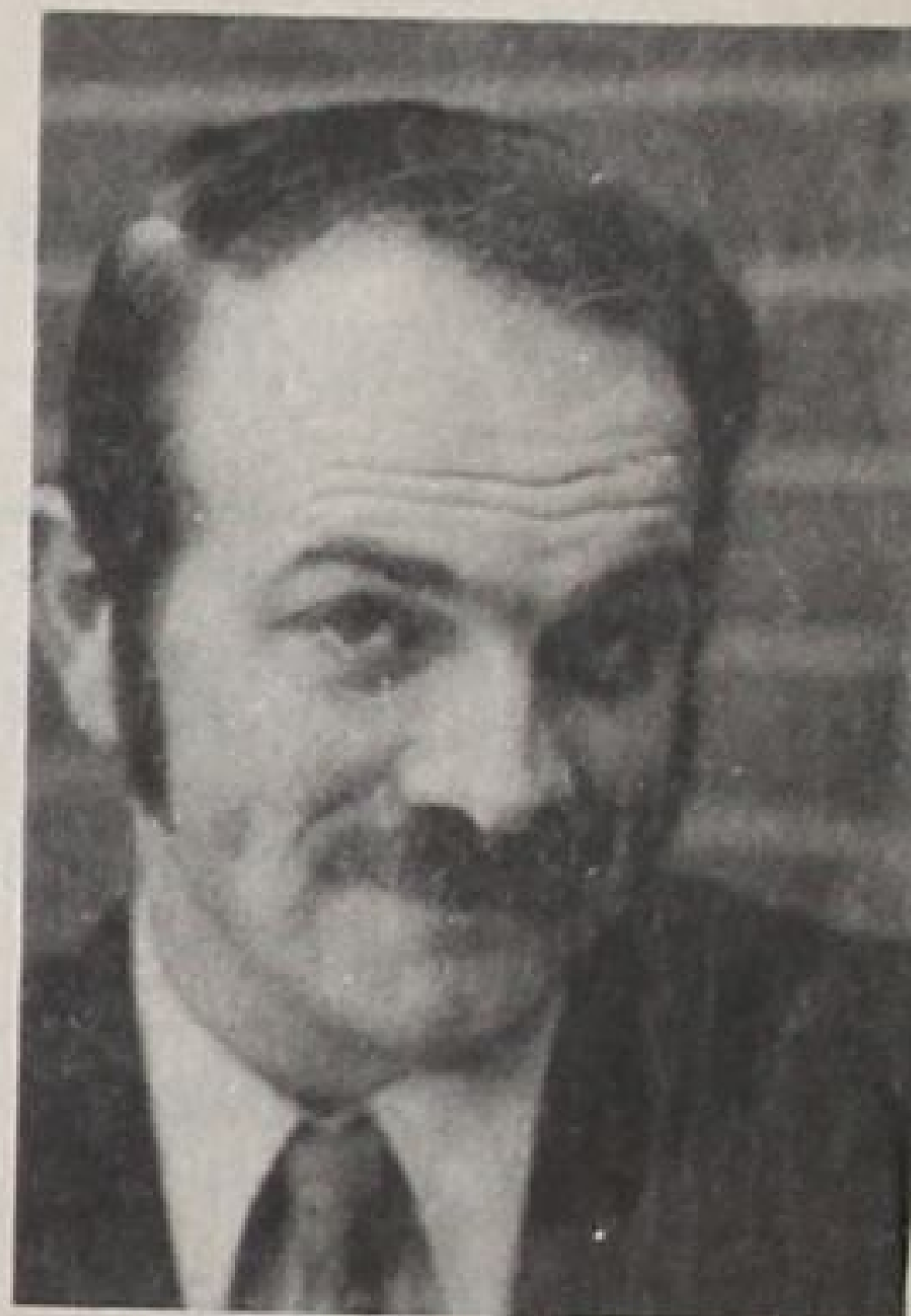
In summary, regardless of the issue which confronts council, we must practise restraint to a certain extent. We cannot stagnate and do nothing; we have to move forward and HOPEFULLY deal with necessities and priorities, regardless of where they are located in the township, and not concern ourselves with wants and luxuries.

I have lived on and helped operate the family farm two miles north of Burgessville for most of my life.

Sharon and I have been married for 12 years. We have two children Troy, 9 years old and Michelle who is 8 years old. Both children Attend East Oxford Central School

I am presently the President of Norwich Minor Hockey, Chairman of the Oxford County Regulated Townships Association and for the last year I have been chairman of the Agriculture and Public Works Committee of Council.

I am looking forward to the next three years with renewed enthusiasm.



Robert Martin

Robert Martin, a dairy farmer, will be joining Coun. Larry Martin in Council as a Ward 4(East Oxford) representative.

Mr. Martin returned to the area last spring after several years as an accountant in London.

Always having had a longtime interest in politics, Mr. Martin is looking forward to the challenge of council.

After an absence from the area for several years, he admits to not being up on all the issues facing Township ratepayers, "but I'll do my best to represent Ward 4."

Although happy to be acclaimed, he was rather surprised it happened.

"After listening to the rumour mills, I thought there would be at least three candidates; so it was quite a surprise."



## John McNally

not

available

## From Our Early Files

**TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO**  
November 1960

Springford — Members of the Springford Mounted Boy Scout Troop, with the help of their sponsors, Otterville-Norwich Lions Club, have erected four large signs, inscribed with the name of the village, at each of the entrances to the community.

Springford — A number of friends and neighbors turned out to help Mr. and Mrs. Donald Wilcox rebuild their barn. Fire destroyed two barns on their farm recently.

**SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO**  
November 1910

Mount Elgin — Mr. Downing of Brownsville has bought the butcher business of Mr. Tattersoll, and has opened a meat shop in the village.

Springford — Two new coal heaters are being placed in the public school this week. No more frost bitten toes, eh, Walter?

**ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO**  
NOVEMBER 1885

Otterville — Rumor says we are soon to have a bank in our village.

Otterville — The Ontario Readers are now being used in both divisions of our school.

# Norwich Township to hold all-candidates night

Norwich Township residents will have an opportunity to hear what the candidates seeking election to municipal office and the school board have to say about the issues during an all-candidates meeting Monday, Nov. 4.

The night, sponsored by the Nor-

wich Township Chamber of Commerce, is scheduled to get underway at 7:30 p.m. at the Norwich District High School auditorium. The candidates will be presenting their platforms and answering questions from the audience on their views.

If residents wish to remain

anonymous, written questions to the candidates can be submitted at the door. There will also be an opportunity for informal discussion with the candidates over coffee and doughnuts.

While there are only races in Wards 1 and 3, and for seats on the

Oxford County Board of Education, candidates who have already been acclaimed have also been invited.

Acclaimed for another three year term on Township Council are Mayor John Heleniak, Councillor-at-Large Helen Smith, Ward 2(Norwich)councillors Norm Lusk and

Paul Wood, Ward 4 councillors Larry Martin and Robert Martin, and Separate School board trustees Debra Ann Howse and John Wolters.

Battling for the three Ward 1(South Norwich) seats on council, are incumbents Don Pettigrew and Michael Oliver, newcomer Gary

Walther and Dan Wagner, who ran the last time around in 1982.

Ward 3(North Norwich) candidates are incumbent John McNally, Mark Harrison and Gordon Samways who both ran in the ward in the last election.

November 20, 1985 THE NORWICH GAZETTE Section 1 Page 8

## THANK YOU

I would like to thank you for your support during the November 12th election.

Sincerely,  
**DAN WAGNER**

## THANK YOU

...for your support at the polls on November 12th

Sincerely,  
**JOHN McNALLY**

## THANK YOU

Special Thanks To My Nominators And Everyone Who Supported Me In The Election.

Sincerely, *Patricia Smith*

## THANK YOU

I wish to state my appreciation for the trust placed in me by the electors of Ward 1 to represent them for a further term as councillor.

I will continue to act as a responsible member of Norwich Township Council and welcome your concerns at any time.

Sincerely,  
**DON PETTIGREW**

### NORWICH TOWNSHIP

MAYOR John Heleniak (accl.).

COUNCILLOR-AT-LARGE (one elected) Helen Smith (accl.).

COUNCIL:

Ward 1 (three to be elected) Mike Oliver, Don Pettigrew, Dan Wagner, Gary Walther.

Ward 2 (two elected) Norm Lusk, Paul Wood (accl.).

Ward 3 (two to be elected) Mark Harrison, John McNally, Gord Samways.

Ward 4 (two elected) Larry Martin, Robert Martin (accl.).

## Low voter turnout at polls as three new faces elected to office

A mere 30 per cent of the Township's eligible voters managed to pry themselves away from their comfy chairs and humming television sets to cast their ballots in Tuesday's municipal election.

While voter turnout figures were unavailable for two of the wards, turnout in Wards 4(East Oxford) and 2(Norwich) were dismal, with 19 per cent and 29 per cent respectively.

In the last municipal election held in 1982, the turnout was 65 per cent overall.

"Last time around there were more candidates and more interest," said Norwich Township Clerk Bob Watkins.

Despite the meagre interest in the election, voters did show a little hutzpah in giving two newcomers to municipal politics, Mark Harrison and Pat Smith, poll-topping wins.

Mechanic Mark Harrison topped

the polls in Ward 3(North Norwich) joining second place incumbent John McNally in Township Council.

Harrison, running for the second time collected 472 votes to Mr. McNally's 392. Trucker Gord Samways, also running for the second time, got 165 votes.

First-time entry Pat Smith, however, stole the show in the Oxford Board of Education race topping incumbent Russ Stangl of Otterville by 566 votes. Mrs. Smith, of Burgessville, finished the night with a total of 1,485 votes followed by Mr. Stangl with 919 and Burgessville's Pat Wright with 855.

It was a very close race for the second position on the school as Mrs. Wright managed to stay on Stangl's heels all evening, at one point closing within 10 votes of the incumbent.

"I knew it was going to be a close race, but I didn't know it was going to be this close," said Mr. Stangl.

Mrs. Smith attributed her success to being well-known through her various volunteer activities throughout the Township. "I've lived and always been active in the whole township; I was known even before I went up to people's doors."

In the only other race, incumbents Coun. Don Pettigrew and Coun. Michael Oliver were both returned for their second terms as Ward 1's(South Norwich) representatives. Joining them will be Dan Wagner, of Hawtrey, who edged out Gary Walther, of Otterville for the ward's third seat.

Mr. Pettigrew edged Oliver for the top position getting 551 votes to the Otterville attorney's 549. Mr. Wagner amassed 411, just nipping Walther, who collected 402 in his first bid for public office.

Mr. Wagner, an employee of TRW, an auto-parts plant in Tillsonburg, said he was happy with the results. "I worked pretty hard for this."

The 31-year-old father of two, said he would spend his first few months on Council learning the ins and outs.

"I'm elated at the results," said Coun. Oliver. "I did better than I thought I would."

Coun. Pettigrew said it was gratifying to see the two incumbents in Ward 1 equally well thought off."

## Spring-Otter Optimists claim voter turnout victory

The Spring-Otter Optimist Club are claiming a small victory over voter apathy in last week's municipal election.

Voter turnout across Norwich Township was, at best, dismal with 29 per cent of eligible voters casting ballots in Ward 2(Norwich), 19 per cent in Ward 4(East Oxford), and 38 per cent in both Wards 1(South Norwich) and 3(North Norwich). But at the two Otterville polls in Ward 1, voter turnout was 50.9 per cent. And the Optimists are taking credit for that statistical aberration.

Optimist Past President Jim Countryman said Monday their efforts to combat voter apathy in Otterville by visiting every household encouraging people to get out and vote, as well as its offer for free rides to and from the polls, is the main reason for the best turnout in the township.

Although the turnout for Otterville

is eight per cent below the 1982 percentage, the village poll compares extremely favourably to the Ward as a whole, which experienced a 22 per cent decrease from the last election.

In the village of Norwich, which featured only the race for Oxford County Board of Education seats, voter turnout was a whopping 42 per cent below the 1982 figures. In the last election, 53 per cent of all eligible voters cast ballots in Ward 4, 68 per cent in Ward 3, 60 per cent in Ward 1 and 71 per cent in Ward 2.

The overall voter turnout for the Township in 1982 was 65 per cent. Last week's election averaged in at 31 per cent.

"Our efforts had a fair impact on voter turnout," said Mr. Countryman. "We may look at a township-wide effort next time, but it may be spreading our manpower and resources too thin."

# Norwich Council Briefs

TN Nov 15

Mayor John Heleniak will be Norwich Township's representative on a committee which will lobby the federal and provincial governments on behalf of a beleaguered tobacco industry.

The committee, comprised of officials from tobacco producing municipalities, will attempt to "enlighten" the two governments of the plight of the Ontario tobacco industry, said Mr. Heleniak.

The committee's immediate objective is to attempt to help dissolve the stalemate between producers and the tobacco companies who have yet to establish a price on this year's harvest.

The mayor said the delay is adversely affecting the economies of tobacco producing municipalities.

The committee was formed by a resolution of the Township of Delhi in October.

Norwich Township Council will present Oxford County's Queen of the Furrow Lori Barnim and the Oxford County Dairy Princess Shelley Martin with plaques honouring their victories in the two competitions.

Miss Barnim, of Otterville, was named Queen of the Furrow at the Oxford County Ploughing Match Oct. 12 and Miss Martin, of Ward 4 (East Oxford) was crowned dairy princess Sept. 27.

Council has no objection to Norwich Minor Hockey installing a display case in the Norwich Community Centre lobby once permission is received from the arena manager.

Council approved a grant of \$500 to the Tillsonburg and District Multi-Service Centre.

The centre operates the Meals On Wheels program, among others, in the Otterville area.

The Springford Agricultural Society's building committee wants the \$30,000 earmarked for a future community hall in Springford transferred to its own bank account, but Council deferred the request until further financial input is obtained from the organization.

## Norwich chief welcomes study of the force

From the Nov. 28 issue  
of The Sentinel-Review

OTTERVILLE — A study of the Norwich Police force is under way.

The Ontario Police Commission began the study Nov. 17 and it will continue for 28 days. The study is being carried out at the request of township coun-

# OPC study of Norwich police force now underway

An Ontario Police Commission study of the Township of Norwich Police Force is underway.

The study, which will examine workload and manpower development, began two weeks ago and will be concluded within 28-days, said Bob Russell, Services advisor with the Inspectorate of the Ontario Police Commission (OPC).

Norwich Township Council requested the study last September to make sure the efforts of the four-man force were being put to the most efficient use possible.

"We want to make sure that the residents of the municipality are being provided with the best service available," said Mayor John Heleniak after the meeting with Mr. Russell.

"All we really do," said the advisor in an interview Friday, "is just keep track of the force activity, the calls for service, and the other administrative things they have to do."

During the study, calls to the police department will be monitored and peak busy periods identified.

The OPC records, on cards, the calls that come into police force headquarters and at the Tillsonburg dispatch centre.

Mr. Russell said a formal report which may or may not contain recommendations, will be submitted to Council probably within two or three months of the study's completion.

If there are recommendations on how police manpower can be better utilized, it will be up to Council to act on them. The recommendations, said the advisor, are not binding on the municipal government.

"We're here to assist. We don't have that kind of jurisdiction (forcing governments to act on the report)."

Mayor Heleniak said Monday the study was not instigated to give Council an excuse to pare down the force. The force has been criticized over the years as being too big and overly expensive for Norwich's needs.

Continued on Page 2

## Councillors' seats will not be retired

A motion by Coun. Don Pettigrew to retire the seats of out-going Norwich Township councillors Darrell Force, Hardee Richardson, Bob Carney and Jack Lester, and have them donated to the Norwich museum, was withdrawn after much discussion at a meeting Tuesday night.

Coun. Force took his bows a little prematurely. "I had no idea we were going to be bestowed with such an honour."

The motion was withdrawn, however, after Clerk Robert Watkins pointed out the chairs would have to be replaced with four new ones.

Newly elected and acclaimed councillors Robert Martin (Ward 4), Mark Harrison (Ward 3), Dan Wagner (Ward 1) and Paul Wood (Ward 2) will be sworn in at the next meeting of Council, tentatively scheduled for Dec. 2.

## Police study

Continued from Page 1

When the study was called two months ago, Chief Robert Knight said he welcomed the study. "Anything that will give the people of the Township better service, I'm all for."

It's not a survey to see if the men are working, it's a survey to see how we can better employ our men, he said.

## Council briefs

### Mayor on tobacco group

Mayor John Heleniak will be Norwich Township's representative on a committee which will lobby the federal and provincial governments on behalf of a beleaguered tobacco industry.

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of how the officers spend their time.

"There's always rumblings about overtime for example, but a picture's worth a thousand words," Chief Knight said. "The study should be able to tell us where we're overstaffed, understaffed and when our peak hours are."

After the 28-day period, the logs will be sent to the police commission for analysis. A special team of analyzers, using a computer, will compile the results and prepare a report making recommendations on how the department could be more efficient.

"It's going to be great," the chief said. "It should satisfy councillors as to what's going on and give us an idea as to where to deploy our manpower. All councillors ever see is a very general report each month. But this will be in-depth."

cil to ensure Norwich is getting the maximum efficiency out of its force, Mayor John Heleniak said. There is no cost involved to the municipality for having the study done.

The village police force consists of Chief Robert Knight, one chief constable, three first class constables and two special part-time constables. Dispatching is done through the Town of Tillsonburg's police department.

"This will be an in-depth study," the chief said. "I welcomed it. In a small town you can become passive and this is like a shot in the arm to make sure

citizens are getting their dollar's worth. If there's something we can do to improve, the study will show that."

Through the dispatcher, all police activity is being recorded, including time on the road, time in court and overtime hours. It should give council a good idea

# Fear tapes Norwich tongues

From the Nov. 6 edition of *The Sentinel-Review*

By RON PRESTON  
of *The Sentinel-Review*

OTTERVILLE — Fear is a strong factor in Norwich Township politics these days.

Fear that innuendo and rumors were going to be used against him in the upcoming election lead Mayor John Heleniak to tape record a closed meeting Oct. 15.

Fear of having what they say at any public or closed meeting recorded prompted Norwich council Tuesday to ban all recording devices at their meetings.

A motion by Coun. Norm Lusk reads: "Notwithstanding the content of Part 4.1 of the Criminal Code, Invasion of Privacy, ... Be it resolved that any type of recording device will not be permitted in the council chamber, at council

meetings, or any other meetings, unless ALL (Lusk's emphasis) parties consent thereto."

Council passed the motion with almost no discussion. The only comments came from Lusk, who said "there's nothing wrong doing what was done ... (and) to suggest this is alright if we're up-front about it."

### NO ELABORATION

When a fellow councillor asked what brought the issue up, Lusk said it was related to a council meeting with Doug Rawling, a representative of the Liquor Licensing Board of Ontario.

In a later telephone interview, Lusk refused to elaborate on what prompted his resolution.

"I'd be pretty dumb to not see where you're coming from," Lusk said when asked if the taping of a previous council

meeting prompted the idea, "but I really didn't want to elaborate on it further."

He conceded it had nothing to do with any action of the media but said it was something he suggested in his capacity as chairman of the policy management board. (All councillors are members.)

"It wasn't discussed by the management committee; I'm a member," said Heleniak. "If he's saying he discussed it with other members, that's fine."

Heleniak confirmed the resolution was a result of his taping of council's Oct. 15 meeting with Rawling, OPP Sgt. Ron Curtis, and Randy Nobbs, president of the Norwich junior C hockey team.

### SEVERAL CHARGED

Rawling and Curtis were scheduled to speak during an open council session

about the fears that minors might be consuming liquor while attending stag and does parties held at municipal facilities. (Several people, including a minor, were charged with liquor-related offences following a recent stag and doe at the Norwich arena.)

But Lusk made the motion to put council in-camera (closed to public). Councillors Mike Oliver and Bob Carney were opposed to the idea but were outvoted.

Nobbs, whose team holds licensed Blueline Clubs during hockey games, demanded to be allowed in. Council granted permission despite complaints from the media. (Heleniak later called the *The Sentinel-Review*, admitting Nobbs's admission to the meeting was improper and constituted an open meeting.)

Heleniak decided to tape the meeting because of a warning someone intended to use comments made there against him during the election.

"I had heard prior to the meeting certain statements were going to be made ... some allegations, some rumors," so he bought a tape recorder "to protect myself."

Although Heleniak put the recorder on the table, many members were unaware it was turned on. While it was not illegal or improper, "I think members of council would like to be informed if someone is recording."

Lusk said he had legal advice before introducing the resolution. When a reporter suggested the criminal code section didn't apply, and that the ban may be improper, he said it could be rescinded if necessary; "it's no big deal."

## Council should be decisive, new member says

By Ben Steidman  
Staff Writer

NORWICH — Dan Wagner, 31, elected in last Tuesday's municipal election as a Ward 1 (South Norwich) councillor, believes Council should be decisive in dealing with problems.

Joining veteran township councillors, Don Pettigrew and Mike Oliver, in representing Ward 1, Mr. Wagner, who ran third, insists on Council continuing its fight to have Ontario Hydro's high-voltage transmission lines placed outside the township.

Realizing it's a thorny issue, Mr. Wagner felt Council should have helped the

farmers' group opposing the lines with funding when asked to do so. He felt rejection of the group's appeal for funding was "not the right thing to do."

Employed by TRW Canada Ltd., an auto-parts plant in Tillsonburg, the father of two and a life-long resident of Norwich Township, observed that he had "worked hard" to get elected to Council for the next three years.

A member of Spring-Otter Optimist Club, Mr. Wagner readily admits he'll be spending the first few months on Council getting his feet wet, so to speak, while learning how it operates.

Nevertheless, at the outset, he believes in "efficient" Municipal Government, one that keeps costs in line and eliminates waste.

Mr. Wagner, too, said he'll be decisive in meeting problems with a direct and honest approach to find solutions.

He rather likes the idea of two Norwich Council members seeking the Warden's chair. Mr. Wagner considers both candidates as "active" and who can give the township "strong" representation at the county level.

"It should be interesting," he added. However, he said he'll be "doing more listening than talking" until he learns the ropes.

## Norwich saves money

By Ben Steidman  
Staff Writer

NORWICH — Higher levels of Government may be spending taxpayers' money as though it were going out of style, but not Township Council.

Council will save municipal ratepayers a considerable amount of money by deciding to have its roads department repair Spittler Creek bridge, about one-half mile west of Otterville, instead of accepting tenders on the job.

Four tenders were submitted on the project — repairing an expansion joint — ranging from a low of \$32,215 to a high of \$51,186.

However, Council feels repairs to the joint-filling with mud and gravel, limiting the span's ability to expand and contract — can be done for about \$1,000.

This is the figure suggested by Doug Vallee, the township's consulting engineer. He says work will have to be repeated every four or five years to ensure the expansion joint stays in top shape.

So, as proposed by its consulting engineer, Council took the usual step in these days of high-spending Government to save ratepayers perhaps \$30,000.

The bridge was built 20 years ago at a cost of some \$55,000.

## Power rates up in '86

Power rates for Norwich PUC customers will increase by an average 2.8 per cent next year.

The new rates will come into effect January 1 pending approval by Ontario Hydro. The PUC is also hoping for approval of its 1986 budget of \$90,000, which is up \$5,000 over last year's.

The increase to customers is quite good, said PUC superintendant Everett Jenkins at a PUC meeting Thursday. "We're receiving a four per cent increase from Ontario Hydro and we're only passing on 2.8 per cent to our customers."

Secretary-treasurer Shirley Sweazey said the increase will represent about a \$5 increase in the average residential power bill. Residential customer's will be paying 2.6 per cent more while commercial users will be hit with a 3.2 per cent increase.

In the commission's forecast of capital expenditures for next year, \$65,500 has been earmarked for relocation and replacement of primary and secondary lines and new transformers in Burgessville, replacement of lines along Bond Street and part of North Street in Otterville, and the continued conversion to 16 Kv system in Norwich.

Transformers worth \$18,000 will be purchased and installed. Underground lines for new lots in the subdivision will total \$1,200, and \$5,300 for new meters and tools.

## Legal Notices

Township of Norwich

### Tender for supply of one 1/2 Ton Truck

Sealed tenders will be received by the undersigned until Friday, Dec. 13, 1985 at 4:30 p.m. for the supply of one only 1/2 ton truck. Specifications and tender forms available at the Township Office, Otterville.

Tenders must be marked as to contents and must be on Township's own forms. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

Ron Smith  
Road Superintendent  
Township of Norwich  
P.O. Box 100  
Otterville, Ont.  
NOJ 1R0

# Electing new warden

There will be six new faces on Oxford County Council when the new council assumes office on Dec. 11.

And those new faces will help to select a new county warden at that inaugural meeting to be held at 10 a.m. in the council chambers in the county courthouse in Woodstock.

Councillors could make history if they select Norwich Township Councillor Helen Smith as warden. If elected, Coun. Smith would be the first female warden in the county's history.

Coun. Smith was the first to declare her intention to seek the highest office in the county and since then, Norwich Township Mayor John Heleniak has joined her in the race. Both Ingersoll Coun. Jack Warden and Zorra Township Mayor Wallis Hammond had indicated interest in seeking election to the warden's chair but neither were returned to office in Tuesday's municipal elections.

Zorra Township Mayor-elect Jim Gibb said Thursday morning he has been asked by several county councillors to seek election as county warden but he has made no decision as yet. He noted he hasn't ruled out the option but he would like to talk to some people before making his final decision.

The current county warden, Charlie Tatham, a Woodstock councillor, said he has also been asked by a few people to seek re-election to another three-year term as warden. "If people want me to take part I will," he said, but he stressed he won't actively pursue election unless "the people really want me."

He said he has enjoyed the past three years as warden, noting it's a demanding job, trying to get everyone to act in concert and trying to get everyone to go in the same direction. He said the warden must also be aware of all the issues that have an impact on the county as a whole.

He said, "The big thing we've worked at, not always successfully, is trying to get people to recognize we are a unit and there are benefits to working together." And even though council's members don't always agree, Warden Tatham said he tries to "disagree without being disagreeable."

Coun. Smith said she announced to county councillors five months ago that she would be seeking election as warden out of a sincere interest in the county's operations. She said she enjoys her county work and the way the meetings are run and felt she has the time to devote to the job.

Mayor Heleniak said he made the decision to run for the warden's chair after serving a full term on county council because he is interested in the county. Mayor Heleniak said he is a full-time politician and despite, being acclaimed to another term as Norwich Township's mayor, feels he has the time to devote to the wardenship.

Candidates for the office must be nominated and the nominations seconded by fellow county councillors. A candidate receiving the majority of councillors' votes will be the new warden.

According to the county's procedural bylaw, members vote, alphabetically, verbally declaring their support for one of the candidates. When the votes have been tallied, should there be a tie in the voting, the individual receiving the least votes (if there are more than two candidates) is dropped from the list and another vote is taken. If there is another tie, the name of each municipality is put into a hat, one is picked, and a representative of that municipality casts the deciding vote.

The individual elected will serve for the duration of the new three-year term of council.

Mayor Heleniak said Oxford is the only county in the province to elect a warden for three years. The other counties hold annual elections. An attempt to change the County of Oxford Act to permit annual elections when the change was made from a two-year to a three-year term, failed.

"It is unfortunate the warden is elected for a three-year term," Mayor Heleniak said, "because it only gives one person an opportunity to serve for that period of time (three years)."

The last woman to run for county warden was Coun. Wendy Calder of Woodstock in 1977. She lost out in the election also contested by Tillsonburg's Ken Webster, to Norwich Township Mayor Ken Peers. The current mayor of Woodstock, Mrs. Calder did not seek re-election this time around and will be retiring from political office when the new council takes over next month. Mayor-elect is Joe Pember who currently sits on county council.

Mayor Calder's will be one of the faces not seen around the county council chamber in the next term and with their defeat in Tuesday's election, Couns. Warden and Hammond will also be gone. Woodstock Coun. Lenore Young and Blandford-Blenheim Township Mayor Ross

Livingston both decided to retire from politics and did not seek re-election. South-West Oxford Township Coun. Howard Cook, although he did not seek re-election as councillor at large and county council representative, was acclaimed to council as Ward 7 representative. As such he will no longer be sitting on county council.

The changes mean six new members will round out the new council.

## Violet Rebekahs meet

OTTERVILLE (C)--Violet Rebekah Lodge 330 opened in regular form with N.G. Sister Ann Arthur and V.G. Sister Jean McClintock presiding.

V.G. Sister Jean McClintock reported for the visiting committee that a birthday card had been sent to Sister Amy Cowie for her 87th birthday and a sympathy card to P.P. Sister Lois Bradfield in the loss of her brother.

It was reported that Sister Helen Bowman P.P. had been in a car accident but not seriously hurt: Sister Jean had visited Sister Olive Pickersgill and with Sister Ruth Collver had called on Sister Eva Hill. A get-well card had been sent to Allan Rachar.

Sister Helen Thompson reported on the contacts she had made regarding a new meeting place for the lodge.

Plans were made for the Beef dinner to be served to the tour from London on December 15.

The next meeting, to be held December 2 at 6:30 p.m. will be a pot luck supper.

Lodge closed in regular form followed by a social time.

## Leisure Club meets at Woodlawn

OTTERVILLE (C)--Twenty-three members of the Leisure Club enjoyed an afternoon of euchre at the Woodlawn Adult centre. Wednesday,

November 20.

A business period conducted by President Gladys Evans followed during which she gave an excellent report of the convention she and her husband had attended in August.

It was decided to give a donation to the Salvation Army.

Those celebrating birthdays for the month were Amy Cowie, James Squance, Isabell Tinknell and Annie Pritchard. Eirthday greetings were sung after which all enjoyed cake and ice cream provided by Mrs. Evans.

The next meeting will be the Christmas dinner held at the Otterville United Church, Wednesday, December 4. Tickets should be ob-

## Otterville Personals

Joyce McMullen, Main St., Otterville

Story Hour for pre-schoolers ages two to five years of age has once again started at the Otterville Public Library. Held on Wednesday and Thursday mornings, 10 to 11 a.m., the children are involved in activities of stories, crafts, songs, games and related activities following a weekly theme.

These sessions to be held until the last week of November are being lead by Jane King, Kim Miller, Teresa Hill and Marg Kramer. A good response of twenty-two children registered for the fall session with the sessions already organized for the winter and spring seasons.

The Otterville Parents and Teachers Association is making preparations for their fall pot luck supper held at the Otterville Public School on Wednesday evening, November 13. The supper held at 6:30 p.m., will be followed by a programme featuring guest speaker Elaine Arthur, Miss Township of Norwich. During the programme supervised videos will be shown to the children in the library.

P.T.A. members, Block Parents and all families interested are urged to attend since this is one of the main yearly events. The P.T.A. has changed its format holding only three functions during the year in place of monthly meetings.

Residents of Otterville and surrounding areas fared very well last week for home cooking as two of the village churches held their annual fall suppers. The Otterville United Church Women served their annual Turkey Supper, Monday evening, October 28, with the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club attending the last sitting. Convened by Jean Little, proceeds of the event will be used for U.C.W. projects.

Sunday evening, November 3, St. John's Anglican Church Women held their annual Beef Supper with a good attendance enjoying the meal. Convened by Janet Ryerse and Joyce Leeming, proceeds of the supper will be used for A.C.W. work.

The Otterville Sunshine Club met on October 24 at the home of Etta McSkimming with members answering the roll call, "What do you think of the budget?" given by Marion Pettigrew.

The date of the Christmas Bake Sale has been changed to Friday, December 6 and will be held at the Town Centre Mall, Tillsonburg. It was decided to sell tickets for three draws.

A social time followed with a delicious lunch served by the hostess with courtesy remarks given by Lilly Chisholm. The next meeting will be held at the home of Lilly Chisholm November 14.

tained from Isabell Tinknell a week ahead.

The Otterville Sunshine Club met at the home of Lily Chisholm on November 14 opening with the roll call, 'something pleasant you have read in the paper lately' given by Dorothy Neale.

The upcoming Christmas Bake Sale was discussed with tickets now available for draws of a Cabbage Patch wardrobe, a musical ceramic centrepiece and a Christmas cake.

A delicious lunch was served by Marion Pettigrew and the hostess with courtesy remarks given by Margaret Shearer. The next meeting will be held at the home of Marion Pettigrew on November 28.

## Sunshine Club

OTTERVILLE (C)--The Sunshine Club met at the home of Marion Pettigrew on November 28 with the meeting being called to order by president Sandra Hussey.

Members answered the roll call, 'What you would like for Christmas' following the reading of the minutes by Mrs. Pettigrew. Plans were finalized for the Bake Sale on December 5 at the Tillsonburg Town Centre Mall.

The delicious lunch was served by Lilly Chisholm and the hostess with courtesy remarks given by Marj Pearce. The Christmas meeting will be held on December 12 at the home of Mrs. Pearce.

## Opti-Mrs meet at Woodlawn

The Spring-Otter Opti-Mrs. met at the Woodlawn Community Centre on October 7 with a record 10 members present.

After the Reciting of the Optimist Creed the secretary, Linda Cheney read the minutes of the last meeting and the Treasurer, Marie Hill gave the Financial report. A motion was then carried to sell coffee at the BX93 Country Roads Concert, in addition to the pop and chips.

Two young gentlemen were present to offer their musical talents for the next teen dance. The motion to provide hot chocolate and donuts after the Christmas parade was carried. Many plans were made for the Christmas party.

The BX93 Country Roads Concert was a smashing success. The Opti-Mrs. made sure that all those Country fans didn't get thirsty. We heard them singing 'Pour me Another Cup of Coffee' over and over again. They sure had 'the munchies'.

Many Witches and strange looking creatures showed up at the Hallowe'en Teen Dance. Even the teens showed up. Thank you to our judges Madeline and Alfred. It was a tough decision, we know. First prize went to a shiny little robot 'Adam Cheney'.

On November eight members met at the Woodlawn Community Centre. The Opti-Mrs. led off the night with the Optimist Creed, followed by the secretary's and treasurer's reports. The Opti-Mrs. clowns will brave the cold to be at the Otterville Santa Clause Parade. Fundraisers and community projects were discussed.

President Linda Letoile offered Opti-Mrs. pins for the ladies to order if desired.

The Santa Claus parade and the Christmas party will require help from all the Opti-mMrs. November and December will prove to be a very busy month for this club.

## Lions entertain war veterans at dinner

The Norwich-Otterville Lions entertained local Veterans at their Annual Veterans dinner Monday, November 11.

This has been an annual event for nearly 40 years. Forty-four veterans, thirty-seven Lions and six guests enjoyed a bountiful roast beef supper served by the Legion Ladies Auxiliary.

Comrade Gay Franklin the first lady president of Branch 190, instructed the Sergeant at Arms to march on the colours. "O Canada" was sung, grace offered by Legion Padre Rev. Herb Herring.

Only two W.W.I. veterans were present, Comrades Cameron St. John and Jim Waterman. They were duly recognized with a round of applause.

Lion Colin Cope introduced the guest speaker Lion Warren Berger, from Fisherville Lions Club. Lion Warren is a police officer with Haldimond-Norfolk police department, but has a sense of humor which he is very capable of projecting to an audience. His talk was entertaining, enjoyed by all present. He finished with an appropriate tribute to all Veterans for what they

have sacrificed and contributed to community and country.

Lion Warren was thanked by Lion Gary Walther, and presented with a token gift.

Lion Chief Paul Wood reminded all present of the coming Blood Donor Clinic on November 21.

After convention draws were made, the meeting closed with singing of the Queen.



### Colour Party

The Royal Canadian Legion Colour Guard marches the colours to the Otterville cenotaph during Sunday's Remembrance Day ceremony. (staff

## Lions meet in Burgessville with 40 present Summerville

OTTERVILLE (C)--The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the Burgessville United Church on Monday evening, November 25.

Lion President Paul Wood presided with 36 members present and four

guests including two members from the Port Dover Lions Club.

Lion Deputy - Governor John Wells of the Port Dover Lions Club, introduced by president Paul, mentioned that Lions International was presently stressing 'Diabetes,

membership and Drug Awareness'.

Lion Paul spoke mainly on drug awareness, emphasis on youth education and the importance of youth learning to say 'no'.

He concluded by showing a very interesting and informative lion film covering the entire drug awareness problems concerning youth.

Lion Tony Drescher thanked the speaker and presented a gift.

Past President Gordon Shearer was in charge of the induction of a new member, Lion Dave Barter. He was assisted by past governor Howard Fleming, past president Murray Wardell, Lion Brian Parr past governor Mort Cooper, and Lion Harold Kirktown.

Lion Fred Thompson reported that the recent blood donor clinic was again successful. Lion Fred also reported that there is a possibility of sponsoring two clinics in the coming year.

Santa Claus parades will be held in Norwich, December 7 at 1 p.m. and

in Otterville on December 14 at 1 p.m.

The annual club Christmas Party will be held in Norwich, December 21 with more details at a later date.

Lion Grant Orth expressed the thanks of the club to the Burgessville United Church ladies for providing a much enjoyed turkey supper. Mrs. Margaret Martin replied.

The convention draw was won by Lions Don Miller and John W. "

## WI meet at Durkee home

OTTERVILLE (C)--The November meeting of the Summerville Women's Institute met at the home of Mrs. Jay Durkee. President Mrs. Joseph Duffy opened the meeting in usual form.

Mrs. Duffy gave a splendid report of the 71st Area Convention she attended accompanied by Mrs. Joseph Ash. A donation is to be made to the London Children's Memorial Hospital.

The meeting with the topic of Education featured Mrs. Jay Durkee who spoke on the problems of child abuse.

The December meeting to be held December 12 at the Otterville Town Hall, will be a pot luck supper. Mrs. Donald Arthur and Mrs. Keith Arthur will be in charge of the meeting with the supper beginning at 6 p.m.

The meeting closed in usual form. Lunch was served and a social hour enjoyed.

**OTTERVILLE FELLOWSHIP  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

On Sunday November 24, Sunday school was held for all ages followed by morning worship at 11:00 a.m.

Bob Marshall opened the service with a responsive reading of selected scriptures.

Scripture reading was taken from Psalm 8.

In the absence of Pastor Bull, Rev. Tom Watson of Oxford Baptist ministered the word of God using Mathew 16:21 as his topic verse where Jesus spoke of his future in Jerusalem where He would be crucified.

God could not look on his son on the cross. There was darkness for three hours because of each one of our sins that was placed upon Christ. He died for each one of us.

As believers in Christ, we go through the waters of Baptism to show that we have been crucified with Christ as Galatians 2:20 says that we have also been raised with Him. God had each one of us in mind 2,000 years ago when Christ died for us. We were born dead in sin BUT GOD gave us a way to be made alive in Christ and now as Christians, we have a heavenly place in Christ Jesus.

It costs to follow Christ. We need to die daily to the world and our old earthly desires as the Apostle Paul declared.

Pianist was Wilma Butler. Ushers were Chris Haggith and Dave Hill.

**OTTERVILLE UNITED.**

Morning worship began with Mrs. Betty Walther at the organ, playing music for listening. Rev. Charles Seed gave the call to worship and introduced the guest speaker, Sheila Hannon-Ruttan, a journalist with the Kitchener- Waterloo Record. She has just returned from a trip to Nicaragua and showed slides and told of her experiences while there.

She travelled with an ecumenical group, 22 in all, who wanted to be informed, and to be of help. There were farmers, business people, mechanics, doctors, journalists, ministers and lay people of various religious orders, including Menonites.

The population of Nicaragua is about 3 million, and much of the country is very fertile. However, there is so much conflict in the country, that very often, just as the crops are ready for harvest, they are burned off.

The government is democratic and led by Marxist Sandinistas. The opposition is the Contras, the wealthy upper class, and supported by the U.S. The U.S. has invaded Nicaragua several times and Marines stay on to keep the American presence. The dictator Anastasio Somoza was a U.S. puppet. His harsh rule came to an end in 1979 when priests united with the populace to overthrow him in the revolution.

But the fortunes of the people have not improved much since Somoza left. The people are mainly Roman Catholic, and the Cardinals and Bishops side with the Contras, while the parish priests support the Sandinistas; the church is deeply divided.

There is a big army presence and a constant acts of random terror.

Vehicles will be blown up for no reason, and people disappear without a trace.

Many countries send aid to Nicaragua, including Canada, but the most generous of all is Mexico. Sheila's group took shovels, pickaxes and various hand tools, as well as antibiotics and other medical supplies that were very much needed.

There is contradiction in Nicaragua - Russia is pulling one way, the U.S. the other. The Catholic Heirachy is in dispute with the parish priest. If the people could be on their own, they would have a chance to lead normal lives. That is their fervent wish.

Stuart Godby, Lorn Treffry, Jack Walther and John Walther received the offering. Mrs. Jean McClintock played the piano, and accompanied the organ for the hymns.

**ST. JOHN'S.**

**ANGLICAN CHURCH.**

Sunday morning service, celebrating the Feast of Christ the King, opened with the singing of 'Crown Him With Many Crowns', while the junior and senior choirs entered the church accompanied by organist Lila Freeland. Flowers on the altar were placed in loving memory of Thomas Phillips.

Psalm 93, The Lord reigneth, he is clothed with majesty, was read responsively.

Father Grant D. Darling, with the help of Sunday School teachers Jane Cowan, Judie Freeman and Jean DeWachter presented attendance awards to members of the Sunday School.

Those receiving Perfect Attendance Awards were: Nursery Class-, Rebecca Zimmer, Ashley McMullen, Patrica Freeman, Andy

Richardson, Megan McMullen.

Primary Class-, April Smith, Lindsay Picknell, Kathleen Freeman, Michael DeWachter, Elizabeth Freeman, Adam Zimmer.

Junior Class-, Julie DeWachter, Jodie Smith, Neil Smith, Kerrie Spicer, Heather Picknell, Karla Spicer. Those receiving participation awards were Ashley and Nichole Weszner, Amanda Richardson, Liza Parr, Joni Ryerse and Brady Parr.

The children adjourned to their Sunday School classes during the singing of 'Seek Ye First This Kingdom of Christ'.

Father Darling discussed the future year of the church in his sermon. The Feast of Christ the King marks the end of the calendar year of the church. It is hoped that St. John's Church will progress and develop as much in the upcoming year as it has in the past. It can be seen on both personal and national levels that often progress is achieved by force. This does not necessarily ensure the best outcome. This can be seen in the development of the church.

Offering was received by Jack Freeland and Ross McMullen followed by the recessional hymn 'Zion's King Shall Reign Victorious'.

The congregation was reminded of the upcoming dates December 8- St. John's Christmas Supper and Concert; December 15- St. John's Christmas Pageant and December 22- St. Alban's Christmas Carol and Candlelight Service.

# Confirmation service held recently

OTTERVILLE (C) — Sunday service was a special one of Holy Confirmation, Dedication and Holy Communion with the congregation of St. Alban's Church, Delhi being in attendance. The Rt. Rev. Robert Townsend,

Suffragan Bishop of Huron officiated at the joint worship service. Flowers on the altar were placed by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Picknell in loving memory of George and Dorothy Wavell and Vera and Stanley McCombs.

The processional entered the church during the singing of Ye Holy Angels Bright accompanied by organist Lorne Evans of St. Alban's Church, Delhi.

"We who follow Christ must imitate His life of

Service" was the scriptural theme.

Bishop Robert Townsend assisted by Rev. Grant D. Darling conducted the sacrament of Holy Confirmation receiving Julie DeWachter, Kerri Spicer, Heather Picknell, Jodi Smith, Ronald Smith, John Eadinger, Braden Parr, Liza Parr, Loretta Stone, Michael Stone, Marilyn Evans and Judith Freeman.

A Paschal Candle and holder, offered in loving

memory of Wilma Gleason, was presented at the altar during the singing of Praise To The Lord, The Almighty. Rev. Grant D. Darling dedicated both to Holy service of the church.

Rt. Rev. Townsend presented the sermon focusing on the occasion of Holy Confirmation when God comes to us regarding those being confirmed. We must remember that God is caring, loving and He

forgives us of our wrong doings. By responding to God our lives will ever be changed.

A joint choir of St. John's and St. Alban's churches performed the anthem Because He Lives under the direction of Lorne Evans.

Following the offertory of the bread and wine Bishop Townsend and Rev. Darling presented those newly confirmed with their

first communion. The congregation then shared in the sacrament of Holy Communion.

The recessional took place during the singing of Now Thank We All Our God. A time of fellowship and refreshment was enjoyed in the Parish Hall following the service.

## St. John's ACW meet

The regular monthly meeting of the St. John's Anglican Church Women, held Thursday evening, November 7 at the home of Lila Freeland, opened with the singing of "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er The Sun" followed by the A.C.W. prayer and Lord's prayer.

Scripture, read by Mrs. Freeland, was taken from the 22nd chapter of Proverbs.

The results of the annual beef supper held November 3 were discussed with convener Joyce Leeming giving a summary. The president Kay Darling thanked everyone for their help especially the junior helpers.

The president distributed church calendars with several still available for sale.

Correspondence from the Anglican Church's Womens Council was read requesting help for Uganda and St. Monica House.

Lila Freeland thanked the group on behalf of Olive Pickersgill for cards, flowers and visits while she has been recovering from hospital.

Upcoming events discussed were the December 8 the Christmas Concert and Pot Luck Supper, the December 15 the Christmas Pageant and lunch, and a Valentine Tea to be held in the Parish Hall, February 14.

The meeting closed with the singing of "O God Our Help In Ages Past" and the grace in unison.

A social time followed with lunch served by the hostess assisted by Winnie Leitch.

## St. John's ACW draw

The St. John's Anglican Church Women's draw was held for a hand made afghan with the winner being Vi Newell of Holbrook. The winning ticket was drawn by Edna Furlong with proceeds from the draw going towards St. Monica House, 231 Herbert St., Waterloo.

The A.C.W. supports St. Monica House which is a centennial project of the Anglican Diocese of Huron, opened in 1968, serving Southwestern Ontario and within the diocesan boundaries. The primary role of St. Monica House is to promote care, support, the programs for young girls and women who are pregnant outside of marriage. The program is also available to girls who choose to live at home.

The program offers health care, prenatal classes, continuing education, recreational and social activities, counselling and a program of personal enrichment.

The Foot Care Clinic operated by the Victorian Order of Nurses will be held the fourth Tuesday of the month, November 26 at the home of Mrs. Evelyn Waring, 9 Main St., Otterville.



# Otterville UCW hold

## November meeting

OTTERVILLE (C)--President Betty Walther opened the November meeting of the Otterville United Church Women with the reading "A Letter From Jesus" prayer and the U.C.W. Purpose in unison.

Mrs. Bertha Gehring convened the meeting conducting an interesting and informative Bible study using Love as her theme.

The action song "His Banner Over Me Is Love and Love Is The Greatest Gift" were sung accompanied by pianist Betty Walther.

Readings given were "Is Your Love Patient and Kind" by Jean Hill and "Where There Is Love" by Grace Gehring.

During the Bibly Study the convener reminded us to study the Bible with the four important "P's", Pencil, Paper, Prayer and Purpose. Always end with prayer.

Offering was received by Jean Hill with prayer given by Grace Gehring.

During the business portion of the meeting treasurer Vicki Walther reported a healthy profit from the Turkey Supper.

Mrs. Edith Petch, corresponding secretary, read an invitation from Norwich Gore U.C.W. to their meeting, December 9 at 8 p.m. She also thanked the ladies for saving their used stamps.

Mrs. Marion Taylor, good cheer convener, reported sending cards to Annie Godby, Don Neale and a birthday card to James Squence. A letter from the secretary of the Dr. Graham Homes was read.

The president reminded the members the deadline for the newsletter is December 11. New people will be needed for this project after the New Year as editor Isabell Harris and deliverers Don and Lilly Chisholm are resigning.

Anna Treffry reported for the quilters a good bank balance. Expenses for the year were flowers around the church and the new church sign.

The catering committee reported two Christmas dinners to be catered.

The president gave an excellent report on the Presbyterial executive meeting she had attended. She reminded the members that the church calendars are available and there will be a box in the church for

donations of canned goods, paper goods etc. for the Womens Emergency Centre in Woodstock which Rev. Seed will deliver.

The December meeting will be a pot luck supper with all women of the congregation, their husbands and friends welcome.

Following lunch, a social time was enjoyed with Rev. Seed offering prayer. At the close all sang "Bless Be The Tie That Binds".

## Santa visits Otterville on Dec. 14

Santa Claus shall soon be making his annual visit to Otterville where he shall be the guest of honour at the annual Spring Otter Optimist Santa Parade scheduled for December 14.

"We're confident that this year's parade shall be the biggest and best ever", noted parade chairman Harold Walker. "The Optimist club has seen participation in the parade increase annually since we inherited the organization of the event three years ago, and we expect that trend to continue".

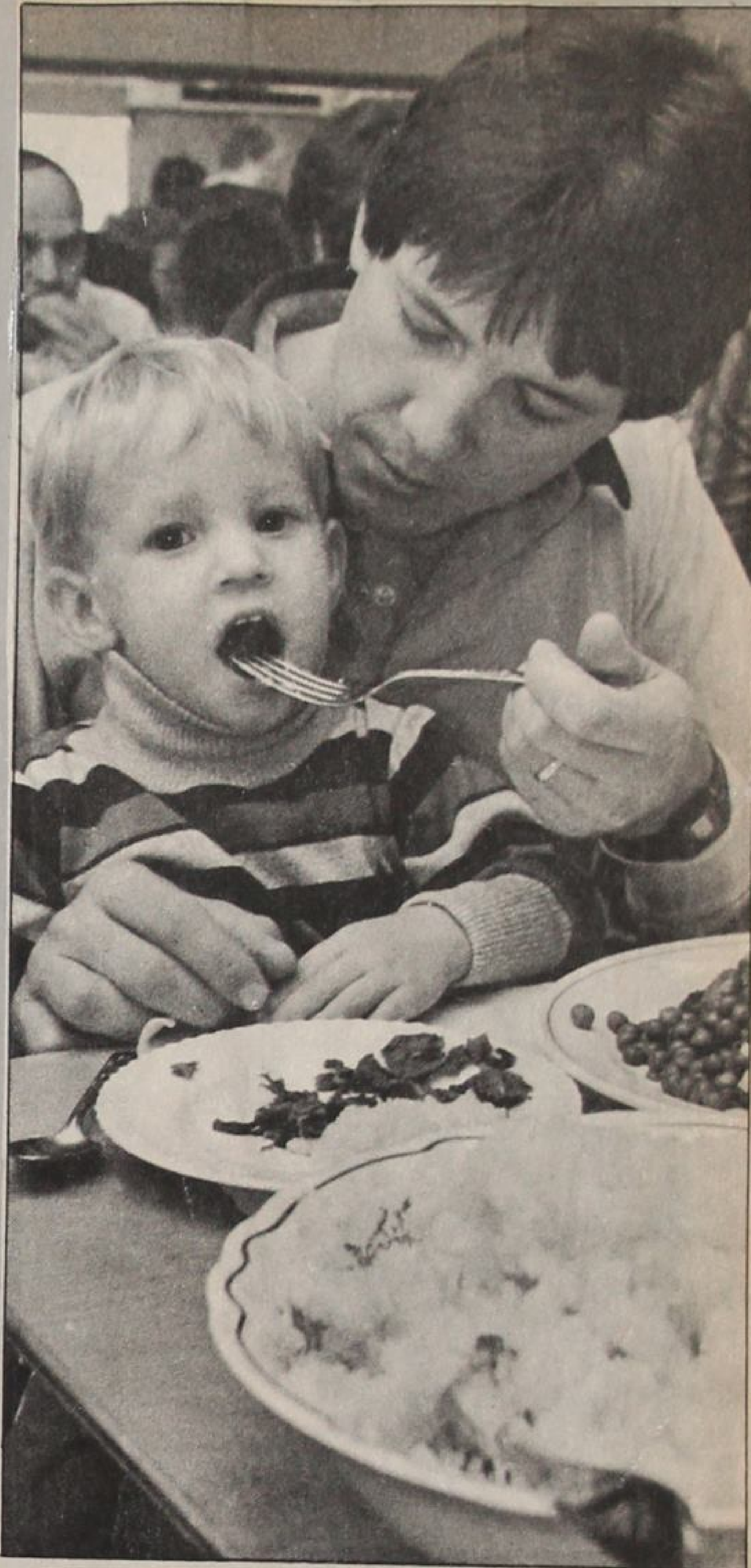
The parade gets underway at 10:00 a.m. starting at the township garage on the east end of Otterville, proceeding west on Main Street to the Public School. Upon conclusion of the Parade, children shall have the opportunity to personally visit with Santa in the school auditorium and receive a christmas stocking of goodies. The Spring-Otter Opti-Mrs. Club shall be serving hot chocolate and donuts to the parade participants.

"We shall be awarding trophies for the best floats in three categories" said Mr. Walker, "including the best over all float, the float best depicting an old fashioned Christmas, and the best float representing the Year of the Youth".

Mr. Walker noted that although the size and organization of the parade has increased dramatically, so has the cost of funding the event. The Optimist Club has budgeted \$1,100 to cover costs, which include the over 300 stockings which are handed out to the children.

"We can certainly use all the financial support we can get from area merchants, and we hope they shall continue to be generous in contributing to this worthwhile cause".

The Optimist Club is presently very active with all the last minute and detailed arrangements. Now is the time to register your entry in the parade. Any and all groups and businesses interested can contact Mr. Walker at 879-6426, or Rene Letoile at 879-6452.



### Down the hatch

Twenty-two-month-old Michael Hutchinson enjoys a hefty morsel of roast beef thanks mostly to a helping hand from his father Colin. The Hutchinson Family were among the 264 people who enjoyed the annual St. John's Anglican Church Beef Dinner in Otterville Sunday. (STaff photo)

## R. BRENT VAN PARYS Chartered Accountant

will be commencing professional practice

January 1st, 1986

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please call 485-2823 (evenings)

# Otterville PTA hold first function

The Otterville Parents and Teachers Association held their first function of the year Wednesday evening, November 13 at 8 p.m. when a pot luck supper and program were enjoyed. Approximately 85 people attended with the tables beautifully laden with a wide variety of foods.

Following, the program featured guest speaker Elaine Arthur, Miss Township of Norwich, who spoke on the importance of involvement in community and school. As well as parents, students and teachers, this is important at all levels of society. She shared a slide presentation to illustrate her ideas and demonstrated different forms which involvement can take.

P.T.A. president August DeWachter spoke on behalf of Constable Fleming, unable to be present, to all Block Parents who have done such a good job in carrying out the program. As well, anyone interested in becoming a Block Parent may do so by contacting Marg Kramer or anyone on the Block Parent Committee.

Miss Murphy, principal of Otterville School, spoke briefly on the future plans of the school. She stated that Mr. John Young, Director of the Oxford County Board of Education, said that the new construction is 'very close to a certainty' and that it was 99% sure of being carried out.

However, the Board must still comply with certain Ministry of Education prerequisites. L. Dickson, an architect, has been hired to design a plan to correspond with the school's needs and that is judged to be satisfactory in the eyes of the Ministry.

Miss Cathy Murphy said she herself was surprised by the quick decision from the Ministry and was pleased that the Oxford County Board of Education supported the recommendation that Otterville School was a number one priority and impressed upon the Ministry a need for school improvement. She pointed out what this means for the teachers, community and especially the students in terms of providing for a high quality of education can not be expressed enough.

She personally sees it as an opportunity for growth and learning and is very excited about what lies in the future.

## Otterville boys play T'burg

On Tuesday, October 29, the Otterville boys volleyball team travelled to Tillsonburg to play the Maple Lane Grade 8 team. The Tillsonburg squad were victorious in the match which was realized by the Otterville boys as a valuable learning experience.

The boys travelled to Norwich on Friday November 1 where they started out slowly but came back to win 2 of the games in the 6 game match.

The Otterville boys hosted the Norwich team on Monday, November 4. This proved to be a very close match with each team winning two of the first four games. The tie breaking game was very close with Norwich finally prevailing 15-13.

The Otterville Boys Volleyball team wrapped up its very successful season on Saturday, November 9 at the County Volleyball Tournament held at Huron Park Secondary School, Woodstock.

There they displayed excellent teamwork, sportsmanship and individual skills. A winning streak began Friday after school when the squad defeated Burgessville convincingly five games straight in the match. The winning ways continued at the tournament when they swept Plattsville two games straight and dominated A.J. Baker school defeating them two games straight. Otterville then met East Oxford School in the semi-finals. Otterville got an early lead of 7 to 3 but the East Oxford School team rallied to win this game 15-9 and went to win the match.

Otterville is very proud of their boys team which represented the school well. Team members included Robert Sherman, Steven Cope, Shawn Pinnoy, Chris Baker, Liam Dowds, Joe Comeau, Stewart and Paul Harrison, Brady Parr, Warren Hird, Roger Cyr and Darren Forsyth.

## Co-operative program at Otterville

A very co-operative, comprehensive program using the assistance of parent volunteers is being operated this year at Otterville Public School in various grade levels. Parents carry out different duties according to the needs of the teachers and students.

Parent volunteers working with various teachers are Dorothy Brayley, Wenda Smith, Melinda Sutherland, Jean DeWachter, Gail Jackson, Judie Freeman, Ina Arthur, Janet Ryerse, Marie Hill, Bertha Gehring, Regina Stangle, Isobelle Harris, and Carl Howse.

Volunteers assume different

duties but an example can be seen in Jeanette Berenz's Grade 1-2 classroom where parents help in the language arts area. Two to three children see a parent a day which allows for every child to work with a parent on a one to one basis every two to three weeks.

The comfortable, pleasant at-

mosphere results when the children dictate stories to the parents who record them. They are then cooperatively read together after which the child makes a picture. This helps to develop such areas as language, reading skills, left to right progression and oral communication. Simultaneously, the parents are pro-

vided with an opportunity to experience first hand some of the learning experiences which the children confront.

Other teachers, Mrs. Orth, Miss Tafel, Mrs. Hutchinson, and Mrs. Neumann likewise utilize parents' assistance to provide good learning situations for their students.

# Remembrance Day school assembly

A Remembrance Day assembly was held at Otterville Public School with the entire student body participating. Samantha LeToile opened the assembly with Kelly Bock reading the scripture, Psalm 23.

Remembrance Day Story was read by Paul Harrison with the poem "Why Wear A Poppy?" presented by Hali Walters.

Students taking part in the wreath laying ceremony were Mrs. Berenz's Room - Michael DeWachter, Rebecca Arthur; Mrs. Orth's Room - Jeff Arthur, Lynne Walgraeve; Miss Tafel's Room - Carrie McKiernan, Andrea Hornyak; Mrs. Hutchinson's Room - Liam Dowds; Mr. Lamont's Room - Robert Sherman; Student's Representative - Debbie Anderson and Staff Representative - Mrs. Marg Shearer.

Organizers of the assembly were Mrs. Janice Buchner and Miss Catharine Murphy.

Students throughout the school had different sentiments about Remembrance Day with some expressing them through creative writing.

Remembrance Day means to me - Soldiers that risked their lives for us and Canada. They were brave and strong and made Canada free. Ben Klassen Grade 4.

Remembrance Day means to think about all the soldiers who fought for freedom. Not only the soldiers but the women who helped save the soldiers. We are lucky we made it through the war and made it a success.

Bill Rose Grade 5.

On Remembrance Day the men went out in tanks and bombers to fight and save our nation. Some of the survivors have had dreams of the war and we remember the dead people. We wear poppies to represent the blood they shed. Neil Smith Grade 5.

Remembrance Day is when we think of people who fought for us to save our country. We all should have a time to think of those soldiers, sailors and nurses that helped. We should wear a poppy on Remembrance Day to remind us. Andrea Hornyak Grade 4

## Otterville P.S. volleyball results

The girls volleyball team for Otterville Public School put forth an outstanding effort at the tournament on Saturday held at Huron Park Secondary School in Woodstock. They defeated Plattsville in the first round 0-15, 15-7, 15-10.

The girls had a good season defeating Norwich and North Norwich in one match each and tying with Oliver Stevens School, Woodstock. Wins were contributed to a good team effort and sportsmanship with considerable improvement seen throughout the season.

Members of the team were Debbie Anderson, Jennifer Arthur, Kelly Bock, Margaret Comeau, Cindy Davis, Pam Farkas, Stacey Hoffman, Tina Irie, Samatha LeToile, Jennifer McMurchy, Shelby McMurchy, Nicole Rochus, Hali Walters and Kim Walters.

## Otterville girls down NNPS

The Otterville girls volleyball team has played against Norwich, North Norwich and Central schools. Both Central and Norwich have defeated Otterville in game scores but on Wednesday, November 6 the girls were able to put the pressure on North Norwich to defeat them 15-3, 9-15, 8-15, 15-2 and 15-8.

The team is getting ready for the tournament in Woodstock on Saturday November 16 in Woodstock. They play Oliver Stevens School on Friday and have two more games before the tournament.

Team members include Samantha LeToile, Kelly Bock, Margaret Ann Comeau, Jennifer McMurchy, Shelby McMurchy, Pam Farkas, Hali Walters, Kim Walters, Stacey Hoffman, Cindy Davis, Nicole Rochus, Tina Irie, Jennifer Arthur and Debbie Anderson.

## Dentist program

Recently Otterville teacher Jeanette Berenz presented an integrated, child centered, activity based program on the topic of the Dentist, to a group of primary grade Teachers. The teachers, organized by Sally Pilgrim, Primary Consultant of the Oxford County Board of Education, had all taken courses from "Math Their Way" program. During the same workshop Barb Currie presented ideas on volume and measurement.

# Otterville school "potentially unsafe"

by PETER McLAUGHLIN

Otterville Public School is "potentially unsafe," says Oxford County Board of Education Trustee Russ Stangl.

The board of education is not being neglectful of the children attending the 58-year-old school, and health and safety act standards are being adhered to, but the building must be upgraded or students may have to be moved to another school, he said in an interview Friday.

Archaic wiring, described by the

trustee as an "electrician's nightmare," and the support structure of the floor are both potential fire hazards.

Mr. Stangl said there's also a wall at the north east corner of the building is bowing out and may one day collapse completely.

"We're worried that in some point in time the wall is indeed going to come down."

The trustee, one of five people on the Otterville Public School Study Committee, said the committee has

stressed to the Ministry of Education that the school has the potential of being unsafe.

Now in its second year topping the Oxford Board of Education's capital projects list, Mr. Stangl is optimistic the necessary funds from the Ministry will be forthcoming.

"We have a very positive feeling about the funding because we've gotten very good feed back from the ministry."

However, if major funding isn't forthcoming it might mean moving students to another school. But such

a scenario, said the trustee, hasn't been considered yet.

"Either we fix that facility or we're going to have to do something about the education of the children in that area," which may mean a move, said Board Chairman Barry Hunt.

But, said the chairman, "I'm not prepared to look at the alternatives until I'm absolutely sure the board is not going to receive the support of the ministry."

Over the short run, "the school can still operate as it is; it's not that unsafe, it's just unsafe related to modern building standards."

Failing major funding, Mr. Stangl said money will have to be found in order to fix up the buckling wall. He estimated the cost to repair the wall at \$20,000.

Rehabilitation of the school, built in 1927 and augmented in 1951, would require demolition of the older section and replacement with a new facility. The addition to the 1951 section would include one kindergarten room, one classroom, a general purpose room, two change rooms, a health room, and a library resource room.

Mr. Hunt said word is expected back from the ministry within two months, and if funding is approved "I can assure you we will be moving forthwith to do something about it."

## School getting \$700,000 grant

by PETER McLAUGHLIN

After two years on the Oxford Board of Education's critical list, the Otterville Public School will be getting a substantial amount of government money to help renovate the deteriorating school.

A \$700,000 grant will be made available to the school board for long-sought after improvements to the 58-year-old facility. The Ministry of Education has also earmarked \$800,000 for renovations to the board's number two priority project, Princess Elizabeth Public School, Ingersoll.

Board Chairman Barry Hunt, who last week predicted it would be two months before the board would receive word whether the projects would get ministry approval for the grants, was surprised how quickly the approvals came.

"Yes, I'm very surprised," he said Tuesday, following a meeting of the board Monday evening. However, he added, it will be several months before final approval is achieved.

At Monday's meeting, two committees were formed—one to deal with Otterville, the other Princess Elizabeth—to supervise the development of building plans and costing of the projects. An architect, Len Dickson, of Woodstock, was also hired to design the new buildings and their respective improvements.

Mr. Hunt said the funds will not be available until April and in the meantime building plans and an estimate of costs must be submitted to the ministry. He expected the plans to be in ministry hands by early January.

The chairman added that the funds will only be available as long as the two projects are completed and paid for before the end of 1986.

"So there's a bit of a push on to get a number of steps done as quickly as possible."

If approvals are speedy, construction could begin in the spring.

Before detailed information is available on the Otterville project, the chairman said he couldn't guess how much it will cost to rebuild part and renovate another section of the school.

The Otterville school project which has been the school board's top priority for the past two years and among the top five for several years, will entail the demolition of the 1927 section of the school and its replacement with a new facility. The addition to the 1951 section of the school will include one kindergarten room, one classroom, a general purpose room, two change rooms, a health room and a library resource room.

Princess Elizabeth needs a gymnasium, a library resource centre and new classrooms. CNA

## At the Archives

Certain areas of Ontario have examples of cobblestone houses. Paris, Ontario is one of these and boasts a number of excellent examples of early cobblestone facing. Most of these are of coursed cobblestone, i.e. stones set in rows or courses. The Paris homes were built in the mid-19th Century.

David and Ina Arthur own the Norwich Township cobblestone house which was built for Kenneth Wardell in 1936 and stone faced with 27 loads of rough fieldstone brought from north of Woodstock.

The stone mason was Alfred Moore of Otterville, assisted by Leith House.

Alfred Moore was widely known for his artistry as a stone mason which is evident, when one examines the stone pattern of the Arthur house. The stones were hand picked every Saturday by Mr. Wardell and

his children, from farmer's fields, and brought back to the site on a lumber truck. Small stones were sorted out to trim around the openings.

Because of slumping, only one row of stones could be laid in a day, all around the house. This fact was reinforced one day when Mr. Moore and his helper felt extra ambitious and put several rows on at one corner - all their work was on the ground in a pile next morning.

Alfred Moore's hand work is seen all over the area in such examples as the Otterville cenotaph, cairns at Dillon Park in Norwich, in Drumbo, in Norfolk and the gateways to many area farms. He was a native of the former Township of South Norwich and Otterville. Several homes in Otterville, including his own (now owned by Lila and Jack Freeland) have, effective cobblestone trim on their porches.



Cobblestones Township's only known cobblestone house is owned by David and Ina Arthur, 10th Concession, Highway 59, Norwich.

## Area museums receive grants

Four area museums have received grants totalling more than \$36,000 from the Ontario government for the development and upgrading of activities.

The grants approved for the Tillsonburg and District Historical Museum, the Oxford Museum in Woodstock, the Norwich and District

Museum and the Aylmer and District Museum are part of \$2.5 million in funding given to 201 museums across the province by the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture.

The Oxford Museum will receive \$6,927 while its Norwich counterpart will receive \$11,923, the Tillsonburg

and District museum \$3,499 and the Aylmer museum \$14,308.

The funding will enable the development and upgrading of activities such as research, collection records management, staff training, exhibition and conservation standards and organizing of educational programs.

# Otterville man wins world tobacco title



## World champion

Gary Godelie of Otterville won the World Tobacco Championship at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. From left, Blanche Godelie, Mr. Godelie and Tilly Stafford, director of Community Relations for Imperial Leaf Tobacco. (Photo by Imasco Ltd.)

Gary Godelie of RR 1 Otterville won the World Tobacco Championship at the Royal Winter Fair, while the Reserve Championship went to Scott Gilvesy of RR 2 Tillsonburg.

Mr. Godelie receives a special award of \$2,100 from Imperial Leaf Tobacco and Mr. Gilvesy \$500. Mr. Godelie was a guest of Imperial in Toronto from Nov. 11 to 13. Official presentations to champions in the field crop sector were made at the Royal on Nov. 12. Ontario Minister of Agriculture and Food Jack Riddell was the speaker.

Mr. Godelie grew 70 acres of Delgold and Mr. Gilvesy grew 60 acres of the same variety. It was Mr. Godelie's third World Tobacco Championship.

Tilly Stafford, Imperial's community relations officer, said 20 contestants entered the World competition as compared to 16 last year. "That's great. The competition is getting larger," she said.

# Old school chums graduate 18 years later

M  
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Eighteen years ago Janet Pike and Ollie Douma—fed up with school and impatient to find work—quit Grade 11 at Norwich District High School.

After leaving school, both women worked at various jobs and along the way each got married and raised a family. Ollie first found work at a Tillsonburg department store while Janet spent a lot of years working in tobacco.

But come last year, both realized they had to get back to high school

and complete their Grade 12—Ollie, so she could enter a health care aid course at Fanshawe College, and Janet, simply to finish her schooling.

"I went back more-or-less just because I wanted to—and for the enjoyment," said Janet, a Burgessville housewife and mother of three.

She was a little apprehensive about returning to school, mainly because of the difference in age between herself and the rest of the students.

"I didn't know how they were go-

ing to respond to me." She was pleasantly surprised, however. "I guess I was sort of like a parent to them; they made me feel really good."

Both Ollie and Janet spent the past semester in school under the affectionate moniker of 'Mum'.

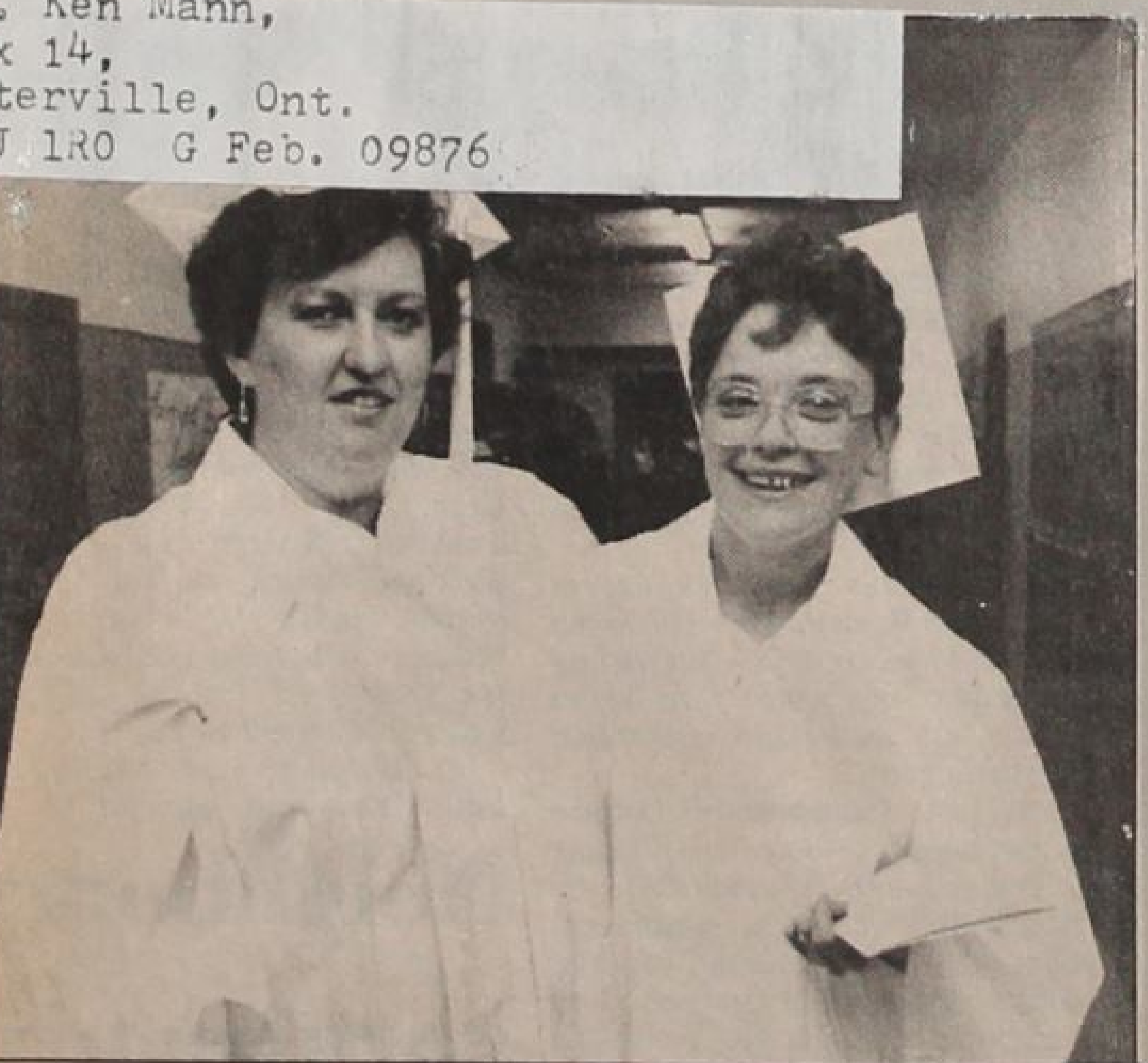
Although high school chums when they left in 1967, as well as neighbours today, neither realized the other was returning to school until they bumped into each other in the school hallway. Ollie enrolled

last January. Janet began her studies in September, 1984.

"It's kind of strange we ended up together again after 18 years," said Ollie, just before the commencement ceremony Friday evening.

And if it wasn't enough to graduate with a friend from 'yesteryear', she was also a classmate of her son Troy—something she found rather handy when it came time exam-time.

Ken Mann,  
x 14,  
terville, Ont.  
J 1R0 G Feb. 09876



## Old chums

Ollie Douma (left) and Janet Pike dropped out of school together 18 years ago. On Friday they became high school graduates together. (Staff photo)

# Committee appointments made as new council meets

Eleven members of Norwich Township Council, including newly-elected representatives Mark Harrison, Paul Wood, Dan Wagner and Robert Martin, were sworn-in at the inaugural session of council last Wednesday morning.

Justice of the Peace Ed Wild took the oaths and the declarations of office from council members and Father Joe Nevett, St. Mary's Parish, Tillsonburg, gave the invocation.

"It's a great honor and privilege to serve this great Township of Norwich for another three years," said Mayor John Heleniak. "I promise to provide the highest level of service I can."

In other business, appointments to council's two standing committees were made. Coun. Paul Wood was

elected chairman of the Community Services Committee, while John McNally was named chairman of Agriculture and Public Works.

Appointed to Community Services, the committee which administers the police, fire departments, and municipal facilities, were Coun. Robert Martin, Coun. Michael Oliver, and Coun. Mark Harrison. Members of the Agriculture and Public Works Committee are Coun. Don Pettigrew, Coun. Larry Martin, Coun. Norm Lusk, and Coun. Dan Wagner. The mayor and Councillor-at-large Helen Smith sit on both committees.

Coun. Oliver was elected chairman of the Management Policy Committee, comprised of council as a whole.

Re-appointed as commissioners to

the Norwich PUC were Dalton French, Burgessville; Fred McKie, Norwich; Murray Wardell, Otterville; and Gordon Powell. Mayor Heleniak is the ex-officio member of the utility.

Coun. Mark Harrison was named as Council's representative on the Township of Norwich Chamber of Commerce, while Coun. Wood was appointed to the Norwich District Historical Society.

A number of recommendations for appointment of lay persons to various environmental organizations were also made. George Thornton, RR 1, Woodstock, was nominated to be the Township's representative on the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority; Ken Peers, RR 4, Woodstock, for the Grand River Conservation Authority; and former councillor Jack Lester, RR 1, Burgessville, and Roger Orth, RR 1, Burgessville, for Long Point Region Conservation Authority.

Former councillor Hardee Richardson was nominated for appointment to the Oxford County Land Division Committee.



## Sworn-in

The new Norwich Township Council was sworn-in at last Wednesday's inaugural meeting. (Top photo) From left, councillors Paul Wood, Dan Wagner, John McNally, and Don Pettigrew are sworn in by Justice of the Peace Ed Wild. (Bottom) Norm Lusk, Robert Martin, Michael Oliver, Mark Harrison and Larry Martin are sworn-in. (McLaughlin

# Dog owner wants compensation

A local dog owner wants the Township to compensate her for the loss of her dog, a Champion bull mastiff that was struck and killed by a car driven by Township of Norwich Chief of Police Bob Knight.

In a letter to Norwich Township Council, Tillsonburg veterinarian Suzanne Burlatschenko said the dog was killed in front of her Sixth Concession home, R.R. 1, Norwich, Oct. 31.

"The animal was quite valuable, being worth at least \$5,000."

The animal was purebred, a Canadian Champion, an obedience-trained guard dog and has been used for stud purposes, she wrote.

Council has referred the matter to its insurance company.

In an interview following the meeting, Mayor John Heleniak said that if the dog was loose when it was hit, it would be unlikely the insurance company would pay.

## Reduced rent

In keeping with the Christmas spirit, Norwich Township Council has waived or reduced the rental fees of Township facilities to several local social and sports-related organizations.

At a meeting last Tuesday, Council waived the rental fee for the Norwich Community Centre to the Norwich Golden Age Club, which will be staging its annual Zone 3 Rally, Oct. 21 and 22, 1986. Council also waived the rental fee for the Community Centre hall used by the Norwich Hockey Mothers during the Norwich Atom-PeeWee Minor Hockey Tournament held Nov. 21 to 24.

The Otterville Hall rental fee will be \$25 for the Dec. 5 Annual Turkey Bingo sponsored by then Springford Area Athletic Club. And the fee for the use of the Norwich Community Centre by the South Norwich Historical Society's recent auction has been reduced to \$100.

The "Group of Friends" has also been authorized to use the Otterville Hall during the months of January, February and March 1986 (a minimum of six or eight times) for a rental fee of \$40 per event.

## Signal system

Council wishes the Oxford County Engineering Department to seriously consider placing a signal system at the railway crossing on County Road 19 at Ostrander.

Although the crossing is not in Norwich Township, the municipality would still like to see some type of warning system in place, said Mayor John Heleniak.

"As far as I'm aware, there's been one fatality there—perhaps more. It's a bad crossing and there's a lot of traffic along that road."

Councillor Don Pettigrew has been appointed a member of the Local Agricultural Manpower Board for 1986 along with Coun. Larry Martin as alternate.

The Mayor and Township Clerk have been authorized by Council to petition the Ministry of Transportation and Communications for subsidies during the term of Council expiring Nov. 30, 1988.

Christmas hasn't even arrived yet, but Norwich Township Council is already making plans for the Township's 1986 Christmas Party.

At Thursday's meeting, a committee was formed to organize the yuletide fete. They include Mr. and Mrs. Don Pettigrew, Mr. and Mrs. Ron Smith, and Mr. and Mrs. Ross Dow.

New Ward 1 Councillor Dan Wagner has been appointed to the Norwich Township Local Architectural Conservation Advisory Committee.

# Teachers shouldn't strike

Norwich Township Council believes school teachers not be allowed to strike and that school boards not lock them out during contract negotiations.

Supporting a resolution by the Town of Durham, a municipality in Grey County presently affected by a secondary school teacher's strike, Council backed the resolution which demands that the services supplied by Ontario's teachers be deemed essential and that binding arbitration be mandatory where contract disputes cannot be resolved.

In a letter to Council, the Town of Durham said the education of children is seriously jeopardized by lengthy teacher's strikes.

# You're hired

Council has hired John Davis as a full-time Road Department employee.

He will be paid the base rate of \$16,429.05. There will be a probationary period of three months before full benefits begin.

The Roads department are presently advertising for quotations to remove snow from sidewalks in the Village of Burgessville.

# Half of Norwich Township's roads are in very poor condition--NEED Study

Half of Norwich Township's roads and streets are in poor condition, according to a recent NEEDs Study of the municipality's roads.

The report, compiled by Douglas G. Vallee Ltd., Simcoe, reveals that there are \$13,247,000 in critical deficiencies in the municipality's 339 kilometres of street and road. Of that total, more than \$9 million are of immediate concern.

In an interview Thursday, Mr. Vallee said that 169.5 kilometres are deficient and 170.2 kilometres are adequate. The study assesses both the immediate and predicted state of the roads over the next 10 years.

"It's not a surprise," said Agriculture and Public Works Department Chairman Larry Martin. "It's what I've been saying for the last three years."

Mr. Vallee said the deficiencies lie basically in the structural inadequacy based on present and future traffic volumes, surface width, and the roads' inability to support heavy vehicles.

The study, which was begun in March and completed in September, reported that there are \$8.5 million in immediate rural road construction needs and \$1.06 million in urban and semi-urban needs. Within the next five years, that total will increase to \$9.9 million and \$38,000, respectively.

Commenting on the condition of the roads, Coun. Martin said, "It's disappointing the roads can run down that bad. But I don't think anybody can be blamed. Everybody's trying to save a dollar, but by saving one maybe you're going to cost the municipality two."

The biggest problem facing the Township, said the Works chairman, are escalating costs of road repairs and the dwindling grants from the provincial government.

By way of example, he noted that a recent tender called for the repair of an expansion joint to a local bridge brought in tenders ranging from a minimum of \$36,000 and a

maximum of \$51,000. The bridge, when it was built, cost about \$55,000.

He said that over the past 10 years the gap between tax dollars and provincial money for roads has increased drastically. "Something has to be done to bring our subsidized dollars higher and hopefully this needs study will do that--hopefully."

But according to figures from the Ministry of Transportation and Communications in Toronto, increased subsidies may not find their way into the Township's Road's budget.

Municipal Roads Development and Evaluation Supervisor Roy Lefevre says that the condition of

Norwich Township roads is similar to that of other rural municipalities, including a few neighbouring our municipality. If the Township has an adequacy level equal to others, it may be difficult to win more subsidies.

Based on immediate needs, about 60 per cent of Norwich Township's roads are considered adequate by the ministry. The provincial average for rural municipalities is 65 per cent. Mr. Lefevre said grant money is set according to immediate need. Norwich Townships 50 per cent adequacy is based on 10-year projections.

The supervisor reported that

Blandford-Blenheim Township has an adequacy of 64.8 per cent, the Township of Zorra, 44 per cent; Norfolk Township, 65.1 per cent, and the Township of London, 61.3 per cent.

The Township of Delhi is the exception with an 80 per cent road adequacy rating. All figures are based on their 1984 NEEDs Study updates.

Coun. Martin said there are priority roads in every part of the Township. When the Public Works Department sits down next March the study will help the body decide where the money will be spent for 1986 road repairs and reconstruction projects.

"But to me, the Middletown Line, the main street of the Township, which comes to Burgessville and dies, is a priority." He said he would like to see it continued on to Highway 2 to hook the Township up to Highway 59, the 401, the 403 and Highway 53.

"And that'll be quite an undertaking."

## Council beefs up its rental policy

Norwich Township Council has beefed up its policy with respect to the rental of Township facilities meaning functions where liquor is served will be strictly controlled.

Now, any individual or organization wishing to rent a Township-owned building for a licensed event will be required to hire an off-duty police officer if minors are to be admitted.

The following exceptions will be made for: wedding receptions and wedding anniversaries, functions where less than 200 people are in attendance, and during the period of time that a meal is being served prior to a function but not later than 10 p.m.

Minors may remain at a licensed function for its duration so long as a police officer is present.

A copy of the Liquor permit is to be furnished to an authorized agent for the Township at least 48 hours prior to the hour the licence becomes effective.

The policy allows room for "Special Agreements" in the rental contract for functions and situations requiring Council or Township Agent approval.

Clerk-Administrator Bob Watkins said the Junior C Merchant Hockey Club-operated Blue Line Room will have to seek a "special agreement" to allow minors into the beverage room during hockey games.

To new policy comes after police and the Liquor License Board of Ontario officials communicated to Township Council its own get-tough policy on liquor offences.

## Norwich mayor requests budget restraints for term

By Ben Steidman  
Staff Writer

NORWICH — Mayor John Heleniak stressed the need for councillors to display "leadership" over the next three years in coming to grips with vital issues affecting the township at Council's inaugural meeting last week.

In his brief address, at the start of his second term as mayor, he told a packed Council chamber that the municipality's financial picture was sound and could remain that way through exercising "restraint" at every level.

The major responsibility for this would fall naturally on Council. Mayor Heleniak re-iterated the necessity of Council address-

ing township priorities to continue provision of services for ratepayers.

Mayor Heleniak said he would serve in his capacity during his second term to the best of his ability. He welcomed four new councillors to the first meeting.

They are Dan Wagner, Ward 1; Paul Wood, Ward 2; Mark Harrison, Ward 3; and Robert Martin, Ward 4.

He also welcomed back councillors from last term. They are Don Pettigrew and Mike Oliver from Ward 1; Norm Lusk from Ward 2; John McNally from Ward 3; Larry Martin from Ward 4, and Helen Smith, councillor-at-large.

Previously, Mayor Heleniak had paid tribute to four councillors who decided not to seek re-election. They are Bob Carney, Darrell Force, Jack Lester and Hardee Richardson.

## Fire Dept. answers 98 calls

The Norwich Township Fire Department answered 98 calls in 1985 an increase of 26 calls over statistics for 1984.

Some of the calls were calls of assistance other than fires including a number of car accidents. Of the fire calls answered most involved chimney and grass fires, said Chief Brian Workman.

The chief said the increase in calls is due primarily to an increase in out-of-control grass fires.

"They're costing (the taxpayers) a lot of money. There's going to

come a time when we're going to have to get tough. We may have to send people a bill."

People don't need to be burning grass, he said. "People should start using a little common sense. Don't start a fire when there's a 30 mile an hour wind blowing."

In other fire department news, the department is looking for an additional volunteer firefighter at the Ward 1 (South Norwich) station. A new member is needed to replace one who recently retired from the department.

# OPC study of Norwich police force underway

An Ontario Police Commission study of the Township of Norwich Police Force is underway.

The study, which will examine workload and manpower development, began two weeks ago and will be concluded within 28-days, said Bob Russell, Services advisor with the Inspectorate of the Ontario Police Commission (OPC).

Norwich Township Council requested the study last September to make sure the efforts of the four-man force were being put to the most efficient use possible.

"We want to make sure that the residents of the municipality are being provided with the best service available," said Mayor John Heleniak after the meeting with Mr. Russell.

"All we really do," said the advisor in an interview Friday, "is just keep track of the force activity, the calls for service, and the other administrative things they have to do."

During the study, calls to the police department will be monitored and peak busy periods identified.

The OPC records, on cards, the calls that come into police force headquarters and at the Tillsonburg dispatch centre.

Mr. Russell said a formal report which may or may not contain recommendations, will be submitted to Council probably within two or three months of the study's completion.

If there are recommendations on how police manpower can be better utilized, it will be up to Council to act on them. The recommendations, said the advisor, are not binding on the municipal government.

"We're here to assist. We don't have that kind of jurisdiction (forcing governments to act on the report)."

Mayor Heleniak said Monday the study was not instigated to give Council an excuse to pare down the force. The force has been criticized over the years as being too big and overly expensive for Norwich's needs.

When the study was called two months ago, Chief Robert Knight said he welcomed the study. "Anything that will give the people

of the Township better service, I'm all for."

It's not a survey to see if the men are working, it's a survey to see how we can better employ our men, he said.

## Helen Smith may become first woman warden

Norwich Township Councillor-at-Large Helen Smith may make Oxford County history this week if she is elected as the County's new warden.

At its inaugural meeting tonight, Oxford County Council could very likely choose Coun. Smith as its first female warden. Smith, now entering her second term as one of Norwich Township's two representatives on Council, will be up against the only other candidate to declare his intention to run, Jim Gibb, the new mayor of Zorra Township.

In an unexpected move, Norwich Mayor John Heleniak, who announced his intention to run a few months ago, withdrew from the contest yesterday, explaining that as a mayor of a tobacco growing community, he should devote more of his time to the problem.

"During my recent trip to Ottawa with the Committee of Concerned Tobacco Area Municipalities, I realized the crisis in the tobacco industry will be an intense one. I feel my responsibility to the voters of Norwich Township means that I should continue devoting my full energies to help individuals weather the crisis, in addition to my regular work."

Current warden, Charlie Tatham will not be seeking re-election when his term expires tonight.

The last woman to run for warden was Councillor Wendy Calder of Woodstock in 1977. She was defeated in her bid by then Norwich Township Mayor Ken Peers.

Councillor-at-Large Smith is not predicting victory in her first attempt at the wardenship, but she is predicting a good showing.

"If people have been honest with me, I expect I'll make a comfortable showing," she said Friday.

Having declared her candidacy

about five months ago, Coun. Smith has been hard at work behind the scenes gathering support among Council's 20 representatives. "I've talked to everyone and I feel comfortable with the support that's been shown me."

However, since the municipal elections of Nov. 12, some of the faces on Council have changed and will certainly affect the way councillors vote. With Mayor Heleniak out and one of other candidates for warden, Jack Warden defeated in Ingersoll, and the new, last-minute entry of Coun. Gibb, the race has changed dramatically. There's also the possibility another candidate could come forward Wednesday night.

In addition to her 10 years of experience on Township Council, Councillor-at-Large Smith has been four years a county councillor and is presently the chairman of the Oxford County Council's Planning Committee. She also serves on the Land Division Committee, the County's library board, and is Oxford's representative on the Norwich and District Historical Society.

# Norwich councillor elected as first female warden

By Ben Steidman  
Staff Writer

NORWICH — Township Councillor-at-Large Helen Smith, of Norwich, made history last week when elected Oxford County's first female warden.

She now takes her place on a long list of county politicians, who served in that position, as Oxford's 125th warden.

Councillor Smith replaces former Warden Charlie Tatham of Woodstock. She was elected to serve a three-year term at county Council's inaugural meeting in Woodstock.

A Norwich township councillor for 10 years, she defeated East Zorra-Tavistock Township Mayor Don McKay and Zorra

Township Mayor John Gibb on the first ballot.

Norwich Township Mayor John Heleniak withdrew from the race a day before county Council's election, citing pressing economic conditions confronting area tobacco growers that require his time.

Currently a homemaker, in addition to her political duties, Councillor Smith has represented Norwich at the county level for seven years, most recently as chairman of Oxford's Planning Committee.

Mayor Heleniak was elected chairman of Oxford's Health and Social Services Committee for 1986.

Councillor Smith regards Oxford's "waste disposal problem as the most immediate issue." She's still optimistic that a new landfill site at Salford will be ready by summer when the current site at Holbrook is scheduled to close.

She believes a final decision on Ontario Hydro's proposed route for its planned high voltage transmission line is "still wide open."

"It would be extremely nice not to have it anywhere in Oxford, but that may not be realistic."

Implementation of an expensive but highly sophisticated land-related county computer system as soon as possible is another of her short-term goals. As Planning Committee chairman, Councillor Smith viewed the system in its pilot project stages.

She also intends to continue the former warden's efforts at cementing county "unity" and seeking "economic growth."

Councillor Smith's husband Bill and oldest son, Matthew, operate a Norwich business. Another son, Reid, works in Chatham and a daughter, Elizabeth, is a Norwich District High School student.

She summed up her feelings by noting "I've got my feet back on the ground."

### SEVENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO December 1910

Brownsville - The box factory has closed for the season. The cheese factory closed last week, the patrons going to the powder factory.

Eddie Oatman, formerly of Tillsonburg, the star player of the Ontario Professional Hockey League last winter, will likely play with Quebec this winter, arrangements having been just about completed by the Quebec Club. He played with Waterloo, Ontario last winter.

Delhi Municipal Council appointed Herbert Best as their representative on Delhi District High School Board.

Hourly workers for Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board were granted an hourly wage increase of 15 cents.

Delhi Junior Rockets defeated Strathroy 6-4. Al Freeman was leading scorer for the winners, with four goals, assisted by Al Bouw and Rick Matschke with one each.

Average temperature for the six-day period were: minimum 30.7, maximum 40.86. Precipitation totalled 1.26 inches.

Average price per pound at the tobacco auctions to date is 63.12 cents, total sales 52,426,415 pounds.

That during the week of Dec. 11, 1965:  
Assessment roll of the Town of Delhi at Oct. 31, 1965, showed a total of \$7,382,250.

# New Oxford warden prepared to do the job

By SUZANNE STOOP

Helen Smith of Norwich may be the first female warden of Oxford County but she hopes she'll be remembered for more than that.

"It's important to me that I do the very best job that I can do," said Warden Smith in a recent interview after she conducted her first county council meeting as the 125th warden of Oxford County.

"I really feel strongly that if you are prepared to take the time to do the best job you can, it doesn't matter whether you're male or female any more than it does in any other job," she said. "I was certainly aware I would be the first woman warden," but she said she doesn't believe it had any bearing on her election.

When Warden Smith first sought election to Norwich Township Council as a Ward 2 representative in 1978 she had no idea that seven years later she'd be seeking election to the post of county warden.

She said her interest in council was first sparked by her husband Bill's involvement. He'd served on the former Village of Norwich council in the 1960s and through talking to him "it just stuck in my mind that it might be something that would interest me when I had more time."

Although she couldn't remember the particular issue that first prompted her to seek election, she does remember thinking that "if you're not happy with things, why not do something about them?"

With her family older, she wasn't happy just sitting at home without some interest so she decided to enter

municipal politics. She had worked one day a week at the Norwich Sales Yard as a bookkeeper for 17 years and had been working part-time for Scott Big V Drugstore in Norwich for about six years when she was first elected.

But after moving into the councillor-at-large position midway through her second year on township council, she found she didn't have the time to devote to both jobs and resigned her bookkeeping position.

The job as councillor has been a demanding one and she admits there will always be bad days, even as warden, but "I've enjoyed it," she said. And the job's been a lot more interesting than she ever imagined it would be. Warden Smith said she never had any aspirations for county council when she first sought election to township council "but all of a sudden I was there and the more I was there the more I liked it."

She completed her partial term on county council and sought re-election as councillor-at-large in the previous municipal election. It was during that second term on county council that she started to think seriously about the warden's post.

Her husband's late brother, Jack Smith, had run twice for the position as warden, unsuccessfully, and he joked that maybe she'd get to be warden where he never could. It was his commitment to county council that stuck in Warden Smith's mind and helped her decide to pursue the role seriously last June. With the support of her family, she set out to achieve her goal after being acclaimed as councillor-at-large in the

fall municipal election.

The months of campaigning paid off last month as she won election to the warden's chair handily over her

two challengers.

She said her ability to work with people is an asset in her new position. "I like people and I feel I get



## Ready for challenge

When Norwich Township Councillor-at-Large Helen Smith signed the oath of office in December, she took on the responsibilities not only of a county councillor but the responsibilities of the county's 125th warden. The first female warden in the county's history, she's ready for the challenges the job will present over the next three-year term. Provincial Court Judge Chester Misener performed the official swearing in duties at the inaugural meeting of county council last month. (Staff Photo)

along well with people and that's important to me. You have to get along to make something like this work."

She's found there's a stronger sense of camaraderie among county councillors than there is among councillors at the township level, although she wasn't able to say why. She's hoping that will help her to break down some of the boundaries to get everyone working together so the county can accomplish more.

Warden Smith said she has several priorities for the three years ahead of her. Bringing industry into the county, regardless of where it goes, is in the common interest of all, she said. But she also feels strongly about keeping agricultural land intact "and not letting it become severed to death."

She said "one of the things this county has to offer is its agricultural base."

Warden Smith is also excited about the potential of the county's new land-related information system - a pilot project between the county and the City of Woodstock that represents a new age in land use planning.

She's inherited the ongoing garbage dilemma but she hopes a final solution to the county's waste disposal problems can be found this year.

"It's up to (Premier David) Peterson to call the shots now (on the Salford landfill issue)," Warden Smith said. If he rejects the site, she admitted she's not sure what the

## Norwich Twp. tobacco farmer elected board of ed. chairman

Norwich Township tobacco farmer Russell Stangl was elected chairman of the Oxford County Board of Education Monday night, replacing outgoing chairman Dr. Barry Hunt of Ingersoll.

Vice-chairman last year, Mr. Stangl was the only trustee

nominated for the chairman's position. Welcoming seven new trustees to the board, Mr. Stangl said he would outline his concerns for the year ahead at the first regular meeting of the board. South-West Oxford Township trustee and Fanshawe College teacher, George Klosler, was the only person nominated as vice-chairman.

In his outgoing address, Dr. Hunt of Ingersoll said regarding the implementation of full funding, the Oxford County public school system has not yet experienced the same problems as some of the other boards in the province. Outlining events from the past year, he said there are still some areas of disagreement with the separate school board, but at the same time there has also been increasing cooperation.

"It is now clearly evident," Dr. Hunt said, that the constitutionality of separate school funding will have to be decided by the Supreme Court of Canada.

Regarding the current negotiations between the board and Oxford County secondary and elementary teachers, Dr. Hunt told trustees he's hopeful "mutually acceptable agreements" can be reached between the board and its teachers.

He said trustees have to weigh teacher demands against a tax increase to local ratepayers and he

made no apology for the perception that the board is fiscally responsible. The board has to "walk the fiscal tightrope," he said.

The Oxford County Roman Catholic Separate School Board had no problem re-electing incumbent Ben VanDerGriendt of Tillsonburg as chairman for the upcoming year, but it took trustees 13 ballots to elect a vice-chairman. Finally after printing up a second batch of ballots during a brief break, William Thompson of Woodstock was elected to the position.

According to board rules, the chairman or vice-chairman must be elected by a majority of the trustees. Vote after vote came up with the same result: William Thompson six votes and John DeKoning five votes. Trustee John Langlois was absent.

Mr. Thompson, who has represented separate school supporters on the Oxford public board for 11 years, said, "It certainly was a struggle. I hope the next three years won't be the same."

Chairman VanDerGriendt said his main concerns were the funding issue and the elimination of the board's deficit in the next five years.

Mr. Thompson said the "challenge" of securing funding for the last two years of the separate high schools, is the reason he came back to the board. "I believe in that philosophy," he said.

county's next step will be. "I just hope the county will keep its word to close Holbrook" when its scheduled closing date arrives the end of June. She said the Township of Norwich has attempted to accommodate the county by allowing extensions of the site's life and she hopes the county will honor its agreement to finally close the site.

The demands on the warden not only mean attending the 10 to 15 meetings a month as well as her four township council meetings but attending various county functions and social events throughout the municipality. She said the three-year term of warden doesn't scare her though "because I knew it when I went into it."

She said a one-year term would give more people an opportunity to fill the position, however. "I'm prepared to do the three years but it cuts a lot of people out because of their obligations and their jobs."

In her inaugural address to county council in December, Warden Smith noted her pride and respect for the county are derived from a long association with the area. An Ingersoll native, she has lived in Norwich Township since she was married 35 years ago. But the roots of her family and her husband's in the county date back to the early 1800s.

"I have always liked to be involved in the community," she said. Her community now is just a little larger - it takes in the whole of Oxford County.



# Otterville club sets budget for big year

OTTERVILLE — The Board of Directors of the Spring-Otter Optimist Club recently approved their club's 1985-6 budget. The budget provides for spending to the tune of \$21,000 for community and youth projects and is a 31 per cent increase over last year.

Nick Visser, president of the club, presided over the three hour meeting which saw all the directors and the standing committee chairmen in attendance. "I'm obviously pleased with the outcome of the meeting," said Mr. Visser. "The members of this club have again shown their very

strong commitment to our community and its youth, and the 31 per cent increase in expenditures certainly reflects the club's intentions to expand our level of service."

Cam Pettigrew, chairman of the T.V. Bingo Committee received the Board's approval for a budget of \$10,400. This is the largest single item on the agenda and is for the operating expenses, prize money, and licence fees for the weekly fund raiser.

The directors also gave approval to a \$4150 budget for Youth Activities Chairman Wes White for the operation of youth projects

during the next year. This figure represents an 88 per cent increase over last year's actual spending to encompass Bicycle Safety Week, The Children's Film Festivals, Youth Appreciation Week, Respect For Law Week and several new projects including Tri-Star Baseball and the sponsorship of the Springfield Otterville Boy Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Guides, and Brownies.

Community Services Chairman Jim Countryman presented and obtained the Board's approval for a 150 per cent increase in this budget category, with \$3750 allocated to fund the

annual Christmas Parade, a Get Out the Vote Program, and several new projects of benefit to the community as a whole.

Publicity and Bulletin Chairman Dale Cheney was awarded a budget of \$640 to maintain the club scrapbook, publish the club bulletin and for postage.

Rene Letoile, Fellowship chairman, received approval of a \$1050 budget to pay for hall rentals, promote interclub fellowship, meeting attendance and recreation.

The final item budgeted was for Treasurer Don

Silverthorn, as \$1010 is to be used for stationery, postage and administration costs.

Mr. Visser commented that approving the budget was really not that difficult. "All of the committee chairmen were very well organized in their preparations, with well detailed programs.

"The finance committee have some interesting and excellent fund raising suggestions which we will implement throughout the year to offset the budget increase.

"T.V. Bingo is certainly our largest fund raiser,"

noted Mr. Visser, "and is doing very well. We expect profits to increase again this year.

"The Spring-Otter Optimist Club has come a long way since our charter in 1980, and our membership has almost doubled in the last year. The club members have realized that with the increase of manpower we are capable of providing more services to our community. They have also realized that it cost more money, and committed themselves to raising it," concluded Mr. Visser.

## Donations sought for Norwich food baskets

For as many as two dozen families in the Norwich area this year, Christmas will not be the festive occasion it should be.

For some of these families, there won't be any presents under the tree, if in fact they even have a tree, and Christmas dinner may be little more than a couple of cans of baked beans and some soup. But thanks to the Norwich and District Benevolent Committee, this Christmas -- as in the past -- some of these families will have turkey on the table and most will have a plentiful variety of foods to offer their family over the Christmas holiday.

The committee, comprised of volunteers from the Branch 190 Royal Canadian Legion, the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club and the Spring-Otter Optimists, are for the third year, asking local residents for donations of food and money to carry out their Yuletide mission.

"Our object is to supply food baskets to the needy throughout the township," said volunteer Bob Knight. Cash donations, cheques payable to the benevolent committee and food donations will be used to provide an estimated 20 to 25 families with food.

Last year 20 families received food hampers with a value totalling \$500. Five families received Christmas turkeys.

Donations can be dropped off at either the Norwich Police Department or the Legion Hall. The committee also asks that anyone who knows of someone in distress this Christmas contact either Tony Drescher at 879-6694, Bob Braun at 863-3875, or Bob Knight at 863-2947

Over the past week or so some gifts and toys have been collected, but the committee is far more interested in collecting food stuffs and money to purchase food.

"The collection of toys is really better left for the Salvation Army and others," Mr. Knight said.

Those wishing to donate toys to needy children, as well as food, can drop off articles at the Salvation Army Christmas Toy and Food Depot at the Bank of Montreal in Norwich. Deadline for donations at the depot is Dec. 19.

## Leisure Club meets

OTTERVILLE (C)--Forty members and friends of the Otterville Leisure Club sat down to a delicious Christmas dinner served by the Otterville United Church Women, Wednesday, December 4.

The president, Gladys Evans welcomed all and grace was sung. At the conclusion of the dinner Mrs. Evans thanked the ladies in the kitchen for the dinner; those who had helped get ready for the dinner and Isabell Tinknel and Mel Ceecroft for looking after the dinner tickets.

The president opened the meeting by reading Christmas Prayer. Bertha Lee, programme convener then assumed duties as chairman. She recited a poem "Cause He Didn't Think" learnt from her grandmother when she was a little girl.

Bill Evans led in the singing of the Christmas Carols accompanied by Mrs. Elsie McSpadden.

Various members gave reading throughout the program being "Excuses" - Tune McNally; "Old Model T's" - Stella Myerscough; "What I Don't Want For Christmas" - Vera Carrol; "Ma and The Auto Ride" - Grace Squance; "Auntie's Cheerful News" - Ethel Arthur and "Mary's Story" - Elsie McSpadden.

Mrs. Nellie Taylor favoured the audience with a piano solo "Star of the East" and a pie contest was conducted by Stella Myerscough.

At the close of the program all sang "Till We Meet Again".

Mrs. Evans thanked all who assisted with the program and reminded members of the next meeting Dec. 18, 1:30 p.m. at the Woodlawn Adult Centre.

## Violet Rebekah Lodge

OTTERVILLE (C)--The regular meeting of the Violet Rebekah Lodge started with a very tasty and plentiful Christmas pot luck dinner with a few husbands and friends as guests.

Lodge opened in regular form with N.G. Sister Ann Arthur and V.G. Sister Jean McClintock presiding.

It was reported that Brother Clayton Arthur had been in hospital; Sister Annie is improving; and Bryce Smith had had surgery.

A card of thanks was read from the Royal Canadian Legion for the purchase of a Remembrance Day Wreath. A letter from the Amblyopia committee was read with their report. Sister Eva Hill thanked the lodge for flowers and sisters who had visited her. Sister Ema Strudwick thanked the lodge for the card sent Allan Rachar.

The next meeting night will be an exchange of Christmas gifts.

Lodge closed in regular form followed by euchre with guests.

Prize winners were: High-, Josephine Howse and Eva Deeveny; and Low-, Norma Wilson and Lorne Treffry. Mystery prize winners were June Ash and Esther Smith.

## Sunshine club meets

OTTERVILLE (C) — Sunshine Club met at the home of Marj Pearce with twelve members present. Roll Call, given by Marg Shearer was Who do you think your secret friend is?

It was reported that the slate of officers will remain the same for 1986.

The bake sale at the Town Centre Mall, Tillsonburg, was a very successful day. Lucky winners on the ticket draw were First, Durelle

DeCooman; second, Julia Watts; third, Terry Socha. The price for selling the most tickets was given to Etta McSkimming.

Christmas boxes were discussed and gifts were exchanged revealing the secret friends' name.

A bountiful lunch was served by Doreen Mountain, Marg Shearer, Dorothy Neale and the hostess, with courtesy remarks by Sandra Hussey.

# Lions meet at Community Centre

OTTERVILLE (C)—The regular meeting of the Norwich-Otterville Lions Club was held in the Norwich Community Centre with Lion President Paul Wood in charge. There were 34 members present including four visiting lions from the Long Point Lions Club.

Lion Russell Hall thanked the Eastern Star for the fine meals served during the year. Lillian Oatman responded on behalf of the ladies.

Past Zone-Chairman of the Long Point Club introduced our present Zone Chairman, Lion Paul DeCloet also of the Long Point Club. Lion Paul emphasized the Lions International have a program to stress the importance and educational needs of diabetis, a medical illness of steadily increasing frequency, with differing serious complications. He stressed the importance of finding new undiagnosed cases, as early treatment is so important.

President Paul thanked the guest speaker.

Lion Tony Drescher reported that the lions, Norwich Legion and the Optimists would be joining together in supplying community Christmas boxes to those in need.

Lion Albert Cornwell moved and Lion Russell Hall seconded a motion that past Zone-Chairman, Lion Colin Cope of the Norwich-Otterville Club be a candidate for the position of Deputy Governor of Region 4. Lion Colin outlined his program for the campaign up until the District A2 convention this coming spring.

Lion Paul reported that the advance sale of tickets for the New Years Party was encouraging. This will be held in the Norwich Community Centre, December 31 with free pick-up service provided in the surrounding area with home deliveries afterwards. There will also be a draw for two T.V.'s and a Getto Blaster on New Years Eve.

The next regular meeting will be the annual Christmas Party to be held in the Legion Hall, Norwich December 21.

Convention draw prizes were won by Lions John Leitch and Jim McLaren.

# Otterville UCW

OTTERVILLE C-- The December Christmas meeting of the Otterville United Church Women was preceded by a bountiful Bring and Share dinner enjoyed by members and their husbands.

Prior to the meeting, Kelly, Tracy and Pam Walther favoured with several Christmas songs joined by Brett and Jenny Walther and Amy and Erica Gehring.

All were welcome by president Betty Walther who read a poem "Christmas In The Heart" and a Christmas prayer.

The report of the nominating committee, given by Dorothy Neale, gave the slate of officers for 1986. They are; Past President - Betty Walther; President - Nancy Walther; First Vice - Vera Welsh; Recording Secretary - Ina Arthur; Assistant Secretary - Renita Seed; Treasurer - Vicky Walther; Corresponding Secretary - Edith Petch; Programme Convener - Elaine Oliver, Jean McClintock, Friendship and Visitation - Marion Taylor, Evelyn Waring, Vera Welsh; Manse Finance - Freda Arthur; Auditor - Chris McMullen; Archives - Edith Petch; Social Committee - Jean Little, Betty Arthur; Press and Publicity - Jean Gehring; Newsletter Editor - Betty Walther; Nominations - Betty Walther, Dorothy Neale.

Betty Walther, presented with a life membership pin by Jean Gehring, thanked the members for both the pin as well as their co-operation throughout her two years as president.

All joined in singing the carol "Hark The Herald Angels Sing". A skit, "Gifts That Money Can't Buy", was presented by Betty, Nancy and Vicky Walther, Jean Gehring, Lorraine Downing, Jean Little and Vera Welsh.

The meeting closed with all singing "Bless Be The Tie That Binds".

# Sunday School Christmas pageant

OTTERVILLE (C)—A Christmas Pageant depicting the Christmas story through narration and song was presented Sunday evening by the Otterville St. John's Anglican Church Sunday School.

Children taking part were: Kerri Spicer, Julie DeWachter, Jodi Smith, Lindsay Picknell, Liza Parr, Adam Zimmer, Elizabeth Freeman, Ashley McMullen, Patricia Freeman, Karla Spicer, Heather Picknell, April Smith, Michael DeWachter, Neil Smith, Kathleen Freeman, Amanda Richardson, Rebecca Zimmer and Andy Richardson, accompanied by Lila Freeland at the piano.

Welcomed by Father Grant D. Darling, the congregation watched as the procession of children entered the church, lit by candlelight from standards at the pews and candles in the sanctuary.

Greenery and burning candles in the windows, a glittering Christmas tree and the Christmas creche provided a very appropriate setting for the younger children who were costumed as angels.

Ann Rachar performed the solo "Hail Mary", a song of God's messenger followed by the solo "Momma Mary", sung by Kay Darling. The feelings of Mary with the angel in the stable and when shepherds and kings arrived were explored.

The birth of the Christ Child was described through "Violet In The Snow" sung by Julie DeWachter, Kerri Spicer and Wenda Smith. In Bethlehem a baby came like a violet in the snow banishing hopelessness and fright.

Jesus came to tell of God's love.

God loves each one as a unique special person which was expressed by the children in the song "If I Were A Butterfly."

Rev. Darling asked the children musically what they would tell Jesus if He asked them to follow Him today. Responses were sung by Kathleen Freeman, Adam Zimmer, Jodi Smith and Heather Picknell as well as the choir as a whole.

"Come Lord Jesus" concluded the pageant as the children reminded

everyone that Jesus is reborn in our hearts everytime we receive Him.

Rev. Darling closed with prayer and the blessing after which everyone was invited to join the children in the Parish Hall as they left the church singing "Come Along With Us To Jesus". There everyone enjoyed a social time together and refreshments provided and served the Anglican Church Women.

# Spirit of Christmas abounds at St. John's

OTTERVILLE (C)—The spirit of Christmas abounded at Otterville St. John's Anglican Church on Sunday evening as congregation and friends enjoyed their annual Christmas family supper and concert. Those in attendance, who filled the Parish Hall to capacity, shared a pot luck buffet supper which was comprised of a vast array of delicious foods. There was no need for anyone to go hungry.

A Christmas concert prepared by the Sunday School followed with master of ceremonies Carl Howse, Sunday School superintendent, extending a warm welcome to everyone. As well, he congratulated the Sunday School children and teachers on the active program they carry on throughout the year and the hard work they had put into the evening's program. The children then gathered with Katherine Zimmer on stage to listen to the Christmas Story as it happened when Baby Jesus was born.

The primary class with teacher Judie Freeman spelled the word WELCOME explaining the Christmas meaning of each letter. Those taking part were Kathleen Freeman, Lindsay Picknell, Adam Zimmer, Elizabeth Freeman, Michael DeWachter, Amanda Richardson and April Smith.

The Nursery Class of Ashley

McMullen, Patricia Freeman, Andy Richardson and Rebecca Zimmer with their teacher Jane Cowan, chorally recited "Of All The Gifts" and sang "Happy Birthday Jesus".

Julie DeWachter created the Christmas spirit with organ solos of "Jingle Jingle Jingle" and "A Holy Jolly Christmas". The audience continued the mood with a carol sing lead by Father Grant Darling and Lila Freeland at the piano.

The Junior Class lead by teacher Jean DeWachter performed the play "Twas The Night Before Christmas" suggesting different attitudes and meanings of Christmas. However, the resolution proved to be the true significance of Christmas; that of the birth of the Christ child demonstrating true giving and love. Those performing were Heather Picknell, Jodie Smith, Liza Parr, Joni Ryerse, Neil Smith, Julie DeWachter, Brady Parr, Kerrie Spicer and Karla Spicer.

Following, Brady Parr favoured everyone with the piano solo "Heaven".

By popular demand America's favourite game show The Price Is Right featuring Ross Barker and John Darling alias Ross McMullen and Grant Darling involved various audience members in trying their hand at guessing the correct price of different items up for bids. Don Freeman proved to be the winner of

the show.

Father Darling congratulated the congregation and everyone responsible for the great accomplishments achieved during the past year in building new kitchen facilities and making improvements to the Parish Hall. A special thank you was extended to August DeWachter who was a major person in doing the renovations and making it possible for them to be completed.

The St. John's Big-Little Girl's Class of Ann Rachar, Cathy Furlong, Wenda Smith, Janet Ryerse and Kay Darling then vocally shared, though young and shy, their favourite songs "My Two Front Teeth" and "Who Is Coming On Christmas Night"?

Their questions were answered with the welcomed arrival of Santa Claus and helpers who were able to drop in for a short visit to give out the many gifts under the prettily decorated Christmas Tree. After answering the little one's questions and hearing their secret requests Santa had to leave with a Ho, Ho, Ho, and return to the North Pole to continue preparations for his big night Christmas Eve.

The evening concluded with everyone extending Christmas wishes and thanking the Sunday School for performances well done.

Mrs. Jean McClintock played organ music to open the morning service, on the second Sunday in Advent.

Rev. Charles Seed gave the call to worship. The ceremony of the lighting of the Advent Candle was performed by John and Vicki Walther, assisted by Brett and Jenny. John read scripture from John 3:16-21 "For God so loved the world" and Vicki explained the meaning of the Second Candle "Love", as it was lit.

The minister then asked parents to bring their children forward for the sacrament of baptism. Matthew Gordon Lynn Gehring, son of Lynn and Deborah (Searler) Gehring; Carmen Danielle Naranczik, daughter of Julius and Janet (Taylor) Naranczik, and Jennifer Michelle Wissensz, daughter of Hank and Brenda (Oliver) Wissensz, were received into the church of Christ, by Holy Baptism. One adult - Deborah Anne Gehring - was baptized as well.

The scripture reading was from Isaiah 40:27-31 "The Majesty of the Lord", and from Romans 6:1-4 "Freedom from Sin's Power".

The choir sang the anthem "Echo the Song", under the direction of Mrs. McClintock.

Mrs. Seed's sermon was "Getting the Baby Done". One of his parishioners said "I want to get the baby done", meaning of course, that she wanted to have her baby introduced into the Christian church through the sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Many people don't really know what baptism is. Mr. Seed explained that it is an ancient act dating back to Jewish practices long before Jesus was born. It only became a Christian ritual after the Resurrection of Jesus.

Baptism in the church is by water. It is a symbol that depicts the struggle between life and death, light and darkness, good and evil. Biblical examples are Noah and the Ark, in which those inside the Ark were saved from the waters illustrating the tug and pull of good and evil.

The same is true of the Israelites being pursued across the Red Sea by the Egyptians, and in the New Testament Jesus stilled the waters that threatened His disciples.

In Baptism, water has a similar meaning. It gathers us into an Ark like community the Christian Church.

The offering was received by David Cope, Donald Neale, Lorne Treffry and John Walther. Mrs. Betty Walther was at the piano and accompanied the organ for the hymns.

OTTERVILLE FELLOWSHIP,  
BAPTIST CHURCH.

On Sunday December 8, Sunday school was held for all ages followed by morning worship at 11:00 a.m.

David Pathy opened the service with a responsive reading of Luke 2:8-20. Scripture reading was taken from Luke 11:1-13.

Pastor Bull, recently began looking "Activities of Worship". In his message this week he looked at prayer.

Because of Christ, we are able to have access to God by prayer. We are commanded as believers in Col. 4:2 to pray or communicate with God. God will only hear the prayer of a believer or a repentant heart God will not answer if sin is present in a believer's life.

Our prayer should contain thanksgiving to God as Psalm 100 speaks of. Ungratefulness is a mark of an unbeliever. Also in Phil. 4:6,7, we are to first be thankful, then offer our requests or needs to God in prayer and He'll give us the peace we need. Also we are to pray for others Eph. 6:18. An example is we can pray for protection and needs of our missionaries.

And finally 1 Thess 5:17 says we ought to be constantly in the attitude of prayer before God. We also should set aside a time and location for specific prayer.

OTTERVILLE ST. JOHN'S,  
ANGLICAN CHURCH.

Morning service, the second Sunday of Advent, opened with the singing of "The Advent of Our God" as the senior and junior choirs entered the church accompanied by organist Lila Freeland.

Scripture reading were Malachi 3:1-4, Behold, I send my messenger to prepare the way before me; Philippians 1:3-11, I thank my God in all my remembrance; and Psalm 126:1-7, The Lord has done great things for us, read responsively.

The children joined with Father Grant D. Darling to light the second candle of the Advent wreath which represents Love. We must remember to be always loving, kind and gentle as God shows us through his love for us. Adam Zimmer lit the candle signifying the second week of Advent. The children adjourned to their Sunday School classes during the singing of "Come, Lord Jesus".

Father Darling continued to deal with thoughts about Advent through his sermon. Advent is a time of preparation. In order to prepare ourselves we have to stay close to God. We do this through such means as hymns, prayer and sermons. When we go to work and do our daily functions we have to take and have God close to us.

In order to get close to God we have to get close to each other. Ways in which we can do this is to be patient with each other and to look for the good in each of us.

Offering was received by Jack Freeland and Ross McMullen after which the congregation joined in the recessional hymn "Tomorrow Christ Is Coming".

Everyone was reminded of the Christmas Pageant to be held at the church Sunday evening, December 15 at 7 p.m. with refreshments following.

# At the churches

OTTERVILLE FELLOWSHIP  
BAPTIST CHURCH.

On December 29, Sunday school was held for all ages followed by morning worship at 11:00 a.m.

David Pathy opened the service with a responsive reading. Scripture reading was taken from Joshua 4:1-24.

Being the last Sunday of 1985, Pastor Bull spoke on "Prospects for 1986". It's so easy when we look back over the past year to remember our disasters. But what about praises? In 1 Sam 7:12, we see how Israel used stones to be physical reminders of God's working. Psalm 77 tells us we are to remember God's past mighty deeds and Isaiah 42:5-9 tells us that God deserves the glory and no one else.

For the new year we need to look forward to change. Change brings about a challenge where we'll have to let God work. Also a vision is needed for something greater. We can't sit and be content where we're at especially priritually. All were challenged in the new year to do something; start a prayer journal, work on building character quality in yourself, greater giving, more time in the word, memorizing more scripture and praying for the lost.

Offering was received by Chris Haggith and Alex Davis. Pianist was Dwight Davis.

On Sunday December 22, Sunday school was held for all ages followed by morning worship at 11:00 a.m.

David Pathy opened the service with a responsive reading of Psalm 96. Scripture reading was taken from Luke 1:1-38.

Being the Christmas season, Pastor Bull spoke on "The Wonder of it All" based on the viewpoints of Zechariah, (Elizabeth's husband), the shepherds, the Magi and the Bethlehem landlord (not mentioned in scripture).

Through Zecharia and the sheperds we see the shock that must have taken place by the Angel's appearances in their normal lives. The Magi or wise men also had to leave their work and go to check out the vision they had been impressed by.

All were challenged that "Christmas is God's glory. Don't give it to another".

Paul Babcock favoured us with a solo singing "Marys Boy Child".

Pianist was Wilma Butler. Offering was received by David Hill and Alex Davis.

In the evening at 7:00 p.m. Otterville Baptist Church held their annual Christmas concert. The various classes of the Sunday school and also soloists did a variety of skits, choir members, piano solos and recitations all to bring across the Christmas message once again.

After Pastor Bull closing words and prayer, gifts were handed out an

time of fellowship and refreshments was enjoyed in the Sunday school room.

OTTERVILLE ST. JOHN'S,  
ANGLICAN CHURCH.

Sunday service of the Litany, opened with the singling of "Hark The Herald Angels Sing" as the junior and senior choirs entered the church accompanied by Lila Freeland at the organ.

Scripture readings were Isaiah 52:7-10, How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good tidings; Hebrews 1:1-12, In many and various ways God spoke of old to our fathers by the prophets; St. John: 1:1-14, In the beginning was the Word; Psalm 98: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God, read responsively.

The children adjourned to their classes during the singing of "Shepherds In The Field Abiding".

Father Grant D. Darling reflected on Christmas through his sermon, pointing out how quickly it seems to pass. It seems that through the great amount of commercialization that the religious meaning of Christmas is lost to a certain extent.

The true meaning of Christmas is that God became human physical flesh; giving up His divinity and experiencing both joy and sorrow for us.

Offering was received by Jack Freeland and Ross McMullen.

The service closed with the recessional hymn "Good Christian Men, Rejoice."

The congregation was reminded of the annual Vestry Meeting to be held Sunday, January 12 at the Parish Hall, beginning with a pot-luck supper at 5 p.m.

The Christmas creche, a twinkling Christmas tree, and Christmas arrangements in the windows provided the setting for the Christmas Eve service which opened with the Blessing of the Manger.

Father Grant D. Darling invited the children to join him in lighting the last candle of the Advent wreath. All the children together held the flame to the Christmas Candle, that which is placed in the centre of the wreath. The joy and meaning of Christmas is found in the celebration of giving - giving to God, giving to those we love and sacrificial giving to those to hurt.

"Away In A Manger" and "Silent Night" were sung as everyone took part in the processional to the manger and Father Darling read the Christmas story from the book of St. Luke.

The singing of "Angles From The Realms of Glory" preceded the offering received by Ross McMullen and Jack Freeland and completed the first portion of the service.

Father Darling then shared the Sacrament of Holy Communion with the congregation followed by the closing hymn "Joy To The World".

# Bitterly cold weather can't stop the parade

There weren't too many people who braved the chill wind on Saturday morning outdoors to view the Spring-Otter Optimists' Santa Claus parade as it travelled through downtown Otterville.

In spite of the sunshine, the wind was biting cold, but that didn't deter the parade organizers from putting on a splendid Christmas display of floats, clowns, horses and marchers.

About 25 entries travelled the parade route from the township shed at the east end of the village, along Main Street to the Otterville Public School where hot chocolate was available to warm up the chilled

parade participants.

And the crowd who filled the public school proved Santa hadn't lost his appeal. About 300 youngsters lined up to put in their Christmas orders and receive a Christmas treat from the jolly old elf.

Trophies to the winning floats in the parade were also presented at the school. The trophy for the best float depicting the International Year of Youth theme went to the 1st Springford Beavers, Cubs and Scouts while the 1st Springford Guides captured the trophy for the best float depicting an Old-fashioned Christmas. The trophy for the best overall entry in the parade went to

the East Oxford-Oxford Centre Optimists.

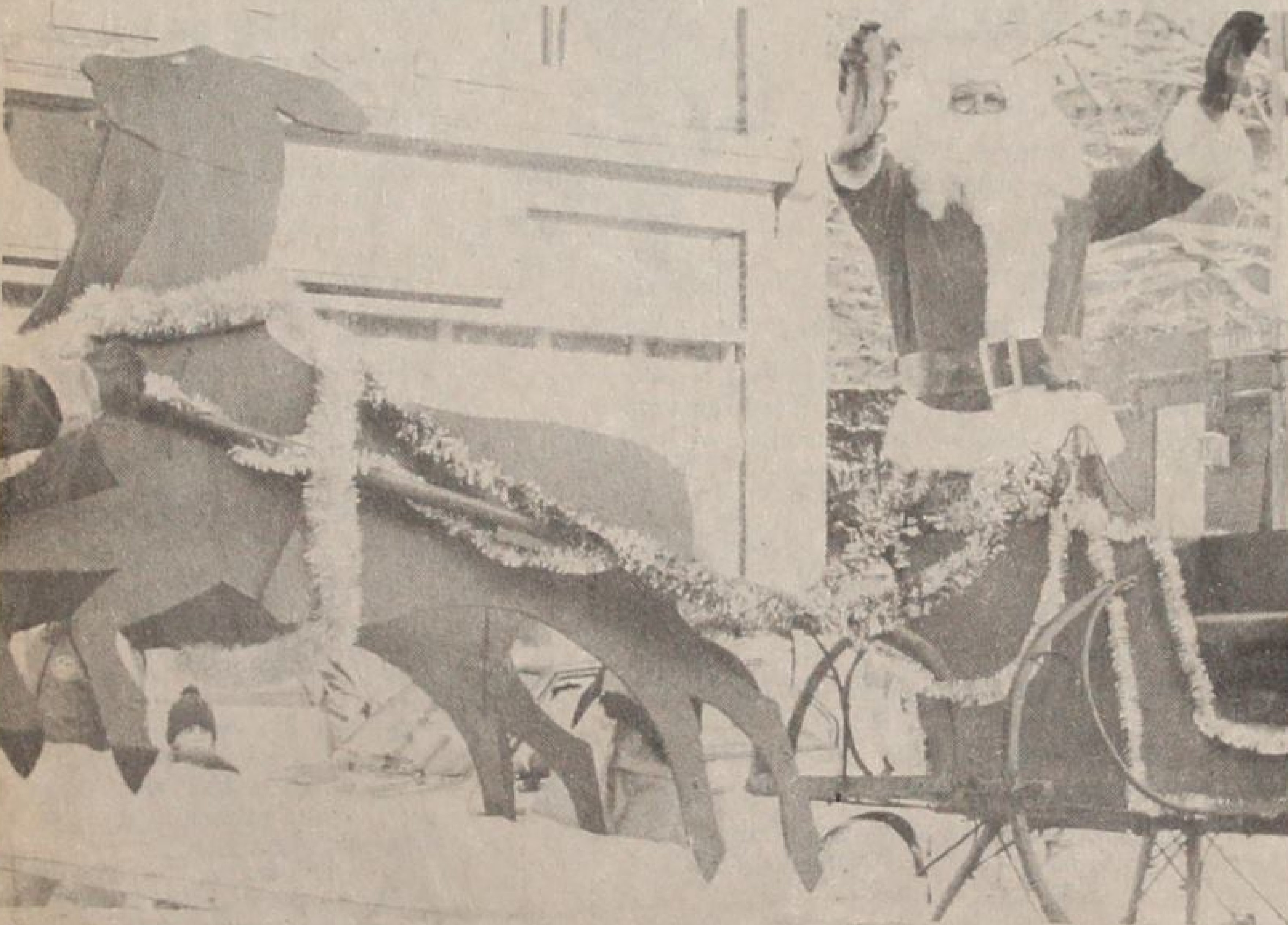
Santa also put in an appearance in Langton Saturday morning. A stalwart crowd braved the chill weather to view the parade of about 15 floats. Bringing up the rear of the parade was Santa's sleigh carrying Santa himself and Mrs. Claus.

Parade chairman Cyrile Dewaele said about 350 children lined up in the community centre to meet Santa and receive a Christmas treat. The only setback in the event was the weather that prevented the horses and the band from taking part, Mr. Dewaele said.



### Long time no sea

The East Oxford Oxford Centre Optimists won the best overall prize with their whale float.



### Santa Claus is coming

Santa Claus came to town a couple of weeks early just to take part in the annual parade held in his honor in Otterville Saturday morning. After travelling down the main street in his sleigh, the jolly old elf was on

hand at the Otterville Public School following the parade to take orders from the more than 300 youngsters who lined up to greet him. About 25 entries took part in the annual parade, sponsored by the Spring-Otter Optimists. (Staff Photo)



### Clown candy

Clowns were a plenty during the parade handing out candy to cold but appreciative kids lining the parade route.



### Lions

Several young lads ride atop the Norwich-Otterville Lions old fire truck.

# Otterville Santa Claus Parade



## Optimists

1st Otterville-Springford cubs, beavers and scouts won the year of youth prize with the above float.

## Graduate



**NANCY LOU DAVIS**

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Davis of Otterville are pleased to announce the graduation of their only daughter, Nancy from the London Regional School for Nursing Assistants. Nancy is employed at Norvilla Nursing Home in Norwich.



## Old-fashioned Christmas

The float entered in the Spring-Otter Optimists' annual Santa Claus parade by the South Norwich Historical Society depicted an old-fashioned

Christmas. Carl Howse and Ida Singer manned the float, keeping warm in the chill weather with the aid of a fire in their old stove. (Staff Photo)

# Santa comes to town

A layer of fresh snow and cold temperatures provided ideal conditions for Santa's arrival to Otterville on Saturday. The Annual Santa Claus Parade sponsored by the Spring-Otter Optimists Club, began at the Township yards and concluded at the Otterville Public School where Santa could see all the children personally and hear their requests.

Many entries from Otterville and surrounding area preceded Santa in making his way to the school with floats being judged in different categories.

Winners were: Year of Youth - The 1st Springford Cubs, Beavers and Scouts; Old-Fashioned Christmas - 1st Springford Guides; and Best All-Over Float- East Oxford Optimists.

Once at the school, Santa with his helpers proceeded to distribute approximately 350 Christmas stockings provided by the Spring-Otter Optimists with any remaining stockings being donated to the Township Christmas Food Baskets.

As well, Lori Barnim, Oxford County Queen of the Furrow, made a draw for Cabbage Patch Twin Dolls with the winner being Pat Chambers of Burford.

The Optimists were very pleased with the response of all participating and enjoying the parade.



**Here comes Elaine**  
Miss Norwich Township Elaine Arthur rides in style in the Otterville parade along with Stuart Rooke and

team of Mt. Elgin.

## New industry

OTTERVILLE (C) — Otterville has welcomed the new business of Fleetwood Metals to the village and looks forward to the possibility of future employment.

Fleetwood Metals is an auto-parts manufacturer which currently has contracts with one or two of the major automobile manufacturers. They produce such stamped metal products as door hinges, retainers and door plates.

Production will increase slowly depending on market conditions. However, the plant could perhaps eventually employ seventy-five people.

Presently, Mr. Reg Petre, plant manager, and two press operators are employed at the plant located in the old DeCloet's building on Dover St. More stamping presses will be brought in as needed with employees simultaneously being hired and trained.

## Reunion

OTTERVILLE C---MAUDER REUNION.

The descendants of the late Spencer and Ethel Maunder (originally of Springford) held their 8th annual family reunion at Woodlawn Adult Community Centre, Otterville, Thursday, December 26, 1985.

Forty aunts, uncles and cousins enjoyed a bountiful pot-luck turkey dinner. The afternoon was spent enjoying the recreational facilities at the centre and visiting and reminiscing of days gone by.

Family members were present from Burlington, Courtland, Culloden, Goderich, Ingersoll, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, Otterville, Springford, Tillsonburg and Winnipeg, Manitoba.



### **Santa on the roof**

Paul Finch of Otterville has started putting up Christmas decorations around his house. He even

went so far as to put this homemade plywood cut-out of jolly old St. Nick on top of his chimney. (Staff Photo)

# Christmas through the years : diaries

The earliest sketches that we have indicate that there was not much time for holidaying and feasting, as illustrated by William Barnes who lived near Norwich and John Treffry who lived near Hawtrey. John Treffry had just arrived in June 1934.

1834 - 'Thursday, 25th Christmas Day.

The snow fell last evening about 6 packed deep this morning it was cold unpleasant damp. Weather - not good for outdoor work. John was turning lathe - self writing letters to England'. (John was probably turning lathe to make furniture for the new home).

1835 - 'Friday 25th, Christmas Day.

A thaw this morning and soft rain most of the day. John and H. Southwick came here about 10 o'clock and went underbrushing for John at the end of clearing at the East end - Edwin and Charley took the pick for John to open the potatoe hole, but as he had left before they arrived they returned with some hay a 2 full Pease - on their backs - self rushing wheat'.

William Barnes reports his activities for the same years.

1834 December 25.

"Worked on the Ox frame for blacksmith for which he agreed to pay me 20 for Ruttecy agrees to give 4extra. Rec'd a subpoena for next court Jany 3rd. Geo Hill versus J. Wright on part of plaintiff. Quite cold'.

1835 - December 25.

"Christmas. Sam'l was here. Went on a visit in evening to J. Moyers. Avery and wife was there. Quite warm with rain'.

William Barnes was a carpenter and was too busy to even acknowledge Christmas in 1834, but things seemed better by 1835.

The son of John Treffry, C.J. Treffry, gives his account in 1857. Notice when the threshing of grain took place in these early times.

Friday, December 25.

"D. Randall and wife Father Jane-and Aunt here to dinner. Joseph cutting wood". The following day, "Joseph threshed oats'.

Gilbert Moore in his diaries, 1865 to 1876, notes family gatherings except for 1867, which was a sad Christmas:

Wednesday, December 25.

"Went to Meeting. Andrew Cohoe buried to-day. Home rest of day. No company'.

These accounts were all written by men. Finally we have the 1890 diary of Elizabeth Mott. Now, the day receives a different description, including the mention of presents.

1888, Tuesday, December 25.

"Dull weather for Christmas rained hard all forenoon quite warm. Kate and Will came, we had a pleasant time. All seemed to enjoy themselves, it was not dull inside if it was out'.

1889 December 25.

"Christmas, bright, quite warm, roads very muddy.' By 1890, Elizabeth was busy working at making presents before Christmas, "worked at a present for Charlie and one for Alice, what spare time I had'.

The next day she crocheted napkin rings. Finally on Christmas Day she reports:

"Christmas Day, bright mostly, but cold and frosty a few snow flakes

flying in the afternoon. Charlie brought Mother and I out last night about dark. Had a lively time exchanging presents this morning.'

In 1892, 8 year old Stella Mott gave a child's account of Christmas Day: December 25. Christmas Day.

"For presents I got a diary and neck ribbon to wear with my coat. It snowed all day until evening when it became very cold. Clarence spent the Christmas. We went nowhere to-day. It is down to zero. I went to Sunday School and Ada Bishop gave me a card.'

Finally by 1900 Mrs. C.J. Treffry describes the meal of the day:

"December 25, A nice day all our children (except Emma who is in Iowa) and grandchildren dined with us numbered 22 in all. We had 4 large plymouth roosters and beef, plum puddings, mince pies, fried cakes, cherries and pickles etc. etc. and had each a plate of candies and nuts in the afternoon.'

According to the Norwich Gazette in 1897, by December 2 the stores were geared up for the Christmas trade. Mrs. F. J. Clark advertised thus: "As I have had, so I have now, a good stock of Fancy Goods, Toys, Doll, etc. for the Christmas and New Year's Trade.'

In the same paper, Mill's Grocery displayed the following ad:

"Our stock of raisins and currants, lemon, citron and orange peel for the Christmas Trade is complete in every line.' "Wanted: 5 Tons of Chicken, Turkey, Geese and Duck for which we will pay the Highest Market Prices.'

We are grateful for these accounts which help us to appreciate the life and times of our forefathers - our heritage.

We at the Norwich and District Archives, wish to thank all those who have helped make this a successful year, through volunteer efforts and contributions. Special thanks to the Norwich-Otterville Lions who made possible the publishing of the Amelia Poldon History of the Norwiches, and to merchants who contributed to the silent auction. Be sure to get your copy to-day and a gift copy for those on your Christmas list.

The Archives will be closed for the holidays, December 16 to January 7, 1986.

## Dr. Harold H. Batson

A highly-respected member of the community, Dr. Harold H. Batson of 64 North St. East, Otterville, passed away on Friday, Dec. 27, 1985, in Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital in his 91st year.

Born in the Community of Tranquillity, October 17, 1895, he was the son of the late Herbert Batson and the former Mary Brown.

He was a graduate of the University of Toronto Medical School in 1923 and interned at St. Luce Hospital in Newburg, New York. He started practice in Chapleau, then to Welland and came to Otterville in 1925, retiring recently.

He was the recipient of the Glenn Sawyer service award in 1983 from

the Ontario Medical Association for long time service to a community. He was a member of St. John's Masonic Lodge, No. 104, A.F. and A.M., Norwich; a member of Tecumseh Lodge, I.O.O.F., No. 182, Otterville; a member of the Otterville United Church since 1925 and an elder since 1926; a member and past president of the Norwich Curling Club and a member of the Norwich Lawn Bowling Club.

He was predeceased by his first wife, Mary Lois Adams, in 1971 and by his second wife, Agnes (Stewart) Batson in 1983.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Donald (Joyce) Pettigrew of RR 1, Otterville, and Mrs. Joseph (Frances) Darkes of Cambridge; one step-daughter, Mrs. Kenneth (Yvonne) Goodwin of Brantford; one step-son, Donald Kitchen of

Belleville; seven grandchildren; one great-granddaughter and four step-grandchildren. Predeceased by one sister, Mr. Barbara McAllister 1977; by one brother, Percy Batson 1917, and by one grandson, Bruce Pettigrew 1976.

Rested at the Ostrander's Funeral Home, Tillsonburg, until Sunday noon, thence to the Otterville United Church where service was conducted at 2 p.m. by Rev. Charles Seed. The eulogy was given by Mr. Robert Scott of Norwich. Interment in the Otter Cemetery, Otterville. Mrs. Betty Walther sang a solo, "The Lord's Prayer," accompanied at the organ by Mrs. Jean McClintock.

Pallbearers were Dr. Elmer Quintyn, Dr. Donald Hevenor, Dr. Allan Ferrie, Dr. Russell Hall, Dr. Murray Downing and Donald Chisholm.

## Myrtle King

Mrs. Ward King of RR 1, Otterville passed away at Tillsonburg District Memorial Hospital on Thursday, Dec. 12, 1985, in her 76th year.

Born in Houghton Township, Sept. 12, 1910, she was a daughter of the late Chancey Matthews and the former Burnice Shyne. She was a member of St. John's Anglican Church, Otterville.

Surviving, besides her husband, are two daughters, Mrs. Paul (Ila) Howse of RR 1, Otterville and Mrs. Jean Francis of Simcoe; five grandsons; four great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Mrz. Ila Lowe of Tillsonburg and Mrs. Marguerite Stilwell of RR 5, Langton.

She was predeceased by a granddaughter Mrs. Deborah Moe in 1985.

Rested at the Ostrander's Funeral Home, Tillsonburg, where service was held Monday, Dec. 16 at 1:30 pm. conducted by Rev. Grant Darling.

Interment in Otter Cemetery, Otterville.

Memorial donations to the Ontario Heart and Stroke Foundation would be appreciated by the family.



### FUNERAL SERVICE FOR

**Mrs. Myrtle King**

of RR 1 Otterville

In her 76th year

Beloved wife of

Ward King

PASSED AWAY

In Tillsonburg on Thursday

December 12, 1985

Resting at Ostrander's Funeral Home Tillsonburg for service on Monday at 1:30 p.m.

#### CLERGY

Rev. Grant Darling

#### INTERMENT

Otter Cemetery Otterville



# Innis one of Canada's great thinkers

Last Thursday evening at the Woodstock public library, a capacity crowd, heard a presentation on one of the greatest minds Canada has produced and one of, it not the greatest social scientist.

Harold Innis, Head of Economics, Dean of Graduate Studies, Universi-

ty of Toronto and pioneer in the social science field was born east of Otterville in 1894.

According to Prof. Ian Parker, a man who has studied Innis and his work for 18 years, Innis's agricultural background was one of the great influences in his life.

During his younger years in Otterville he developed his powers of observation, as well as an acute awareness of natural detail and geography. His agrarian roots, his self reliance and individuality also helped him keep in touch with reali-

by JEFF TRIBE

ty. He was always concerned with what life was really like and never submitted to sterile theorizing.

Prof. Parker also saw his strong Baptist roots as very important. Throughout his life he struggled with his religious convictions or lack there of, but never lost his sense of vacation. This sense of purpose; the knowledge that he was to accomplish something important, was a strong influence.

Thirdly, Innis was strongly affected by his experience as a signater in WWI. Through his exposure to European cultures, he gained a sense of history. He also gained a hatred for military life, it's

hierarchy and militarism in particular. he developed a deep distrust for monopolies of wealth, power or force and abided Lord Actons quote to read "power poisons. Absolute power poisons absolutley."

Also during the war, the arrogance of the British officers for the Canadian enlisted men created a nationalists spirit within Innis.

Wounded at Vimy Ridge, he returned home. He later gained an understanding of how the real world operated. Before becoming a lawyer, he attended the University of Chicago, studying economics. Skeptical about orthodox economics he began working on the original theoretical work that became his

life's occupation.

In what is generally accepted as his early period, roughly from 1920-40, he concerned himself with Canadian staple products and their position in Canada's history. For example, when studying products such as wheat, cod or furs he would show how the particular product dominated the economy of a region and controlled its development.

After 1940, Innis decided to focus on newsprint, a product which had created a massive explosion of information. At this time he realized that there was no serious history of media communication. he saw the media as a staple product, dominating the communication of a

region in a similar fashion as wheat would dominate the economy of a region.

He sought to develop an economic history of knowledge, or a materialist explanation of why people think the way they do.

To get a greater understanding of the history of knowledge and its production, he delved into the ancient civilizations to study the political

impact of papyrus, a far better empire extender as opposed to clay tablets.

He saw the media communication as part of the power and wealth structure, and was known to comment that "the great power of the press is the suppress."

Innis theories and work on the media proved to be a profound

source of influence, for among others Marshall McLuhan.

Harold Innis, like many other Canadians, is probably more famous abroad than at home. A pioneer in his field, his work remains impressive perhaps especially pertinent today.



## Sam attends program about brother

Sam Innis (centre), of Norwich, listened to the talk given by Prof. Ian Parker (right) about his brother Harold in Woodstock last week. Parker is a professor of economics at Innis College, UofT and Vice-president of the Innis Foundation. Also pictured is John Browne, Principal of Innis College. (Jeff Tribe Photo)

# Construction at Otterville Public School

## will cause disruption of classes

The first sod has yet to be turned in the reconstruction of the Otterville Public School, but already plans are underway to deal with the disruption the construction will cause to students and staff.

Beginning Jan. 6, the public school's kindergarten class will be moved to North Norwich Public School in Burgessville.

"It's an appropriate time to do so instead of disrupting classes in the middle of the term when construction begins," said School Superintendent Irv Horton.

Mr. Horton said the construction, which is expected to begin in early April, will cause quite a bit of disruption to both staff and students alike. During the period of construction, the majority of classes will be held in portable classrooms.

It is anticipated that five portables will be needed. There will be one used as a staff room and office and four for classrooms. The superintendent said four classrooms inside the school will still be utilized in the portion of the school that will not be demolished.

With the demolition of the 1927 section of the school, which houses the gymnasium, physical education classes will be discontinued. In all likelihood, library services too, will be suspended until the project is completed, said Mr. Horton.

Construction should be completed by the end of October, said the superintendent. "We have to finish the construction in 1986 because the government grants are only available for 1986. All the money has to be spent during that period of time."

The Ministry of Education is providing a grant of 75 per cent of the project's estimated cost of \$700,000. Revamping the Otterville school topped the Oxford Board of Education's list of capital project priorities this year.

Building plans, however, have yet to receive final approval by the Ministry and the Board. The architect selected for the project has

been Leonard Dickson, Woodstock.

Included in the plans are a new library, a general purpose room in-

cluding a gymnasium, a stage and two classrooms, a new kindergarten facility, as well as a health room and offices.

The board of education had considered renovating, but it was determined too expensive to update and modernize safety regulations in the old structure.



THE DIAMOND JUBILEE COMMITTEE

*proudly presents*

*"We'll Meet Again"*

**Sunday, December 8, 1985**

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION  
Branch 153, Tillsonburg, Ontario

6:00 Dinner  
7:00 Show





C.J. Sulkowski '25

# Canada's first flue-cured

By Ward McKenna

*Ward McKenna of Aylmer has compiled much of the Canadian tobacco industry's early history. Mr. McKenna, whose career spanned many years with Imperial Leaf Tobacco in both Quebec and Ontario, remains active in a number of community organizations.*

The first tobacco grown in the Leamington area, was a variety of burley, an air cured type, and used at that time entirely for chewing, snuff or pipe smoking. The seed was brought in by United Empire Loyalists coming from the United States shortly after the War of Independence, 1775-1783, between Great Britain and the American Colonies.

Months of chopping trees from morning till night, finally cleared sufficient land to establish crops. Among the edible crops was also tobacco, a few plants at first for the use of the men. But then as more and more land was cleared, more tobacco was grown, the surplus being used as barter to purchase other necessities of life. From then on tobacco growing expanded rapidly.

So it was then the Empire Tobacco Company, after locating in Granby, Quebec in 1895, built warehouses and an office in Leamington making it a central point to receive all their tobacco purchases in the area. Here, the tobacco could be received, inspected, weighed, paid for and then stored for shipment to Granby.

The Company was then using more Canadian tobacco in their manufacturing, since the House of Commons had recently imposed a tariff on leaf imported from the United States. As a result it was able to produce and sell its various brands at a lower price than their competitors; William MacDonald of Montreal and Tuckett and Billings of Hamilton. Consequently sales boomed and domestic leaf supplies began to run low. This was when a decision was made to hire a competent man from the Southern tobacco growing area to come to Leamington, take charge of the warehousing and office, and try to interest more farmers in growing tobacco.

The man chosen was Colonel William Gregory, a man well versed in all phases of tobacco culture. He was a man who would be capable of helping new tobacco growers, as well as increasing production among those already involved.

The Company also had the idea that possibly flue cured could be grown in the area. Shortly after the Colonel arrived in

1899, the subject was broached to him. His reaction was favourable and he experimented with a few acres in 1900.

Three acres were rented that year in a cow pasture on the edge of Leamington and Gregory planted Warne, a flue-cured variety. A corner of the Michigan Central warehouse was closed off and fitted to act as a kiln for curing the tobacco in the fall.

The tobacco was harvested, cured and piled and William sent for his brother, Francis Gregory, to come to Canada to act as his assistant. Francis arrived on January 3, 1901, in time to strip, grade and bale the experimental tobacco and then ship it to Granby.

The year 1900 saw Kingsville joining Leamington as a tobacco centre when the Erie Tobacco Company commenced manufacturing tobacco there in June. This company produced several brands including, "Queen's Navy" and "Union Jack" in plug form, as smoking and chewing tobaccos rather than cigarettes, were in popular demand at the time.

In 1899, a new manufacturing firm, The Dominion Tobacco Company, which had been organized by B. & J. Goldstein, moved into a new factory on Papineau Avenue in Montreal. Formerly known as the Lefebvre vinegar factory, it provided adequate room for manufacturing with a total of 100 personnel at the start. There were also outbuildings which would serve in processing the tobacco as well as storage. The new firm would use imported as well as domestic leaf to produce plug smoking, plug chewing and cut tobaccos.

The advent of firms such as these and others, cut into the available supply of leaf being grown, but more and more farms were turning to tobacco. Empire was still able to get a fair share of the market and was producing more and more brands made entirely of domestic leaf, but still used a quantity of American flue cured.

Production was spreading farther and farther. Buying in the late fall had become a regular hunting expedition, driving horse-drawn cutters up and down all the side roads looking for tobacco farms so that no farmer would be missed. There were now over two thousand farmers growing tobacco and no list existed as to where all the farms were located.

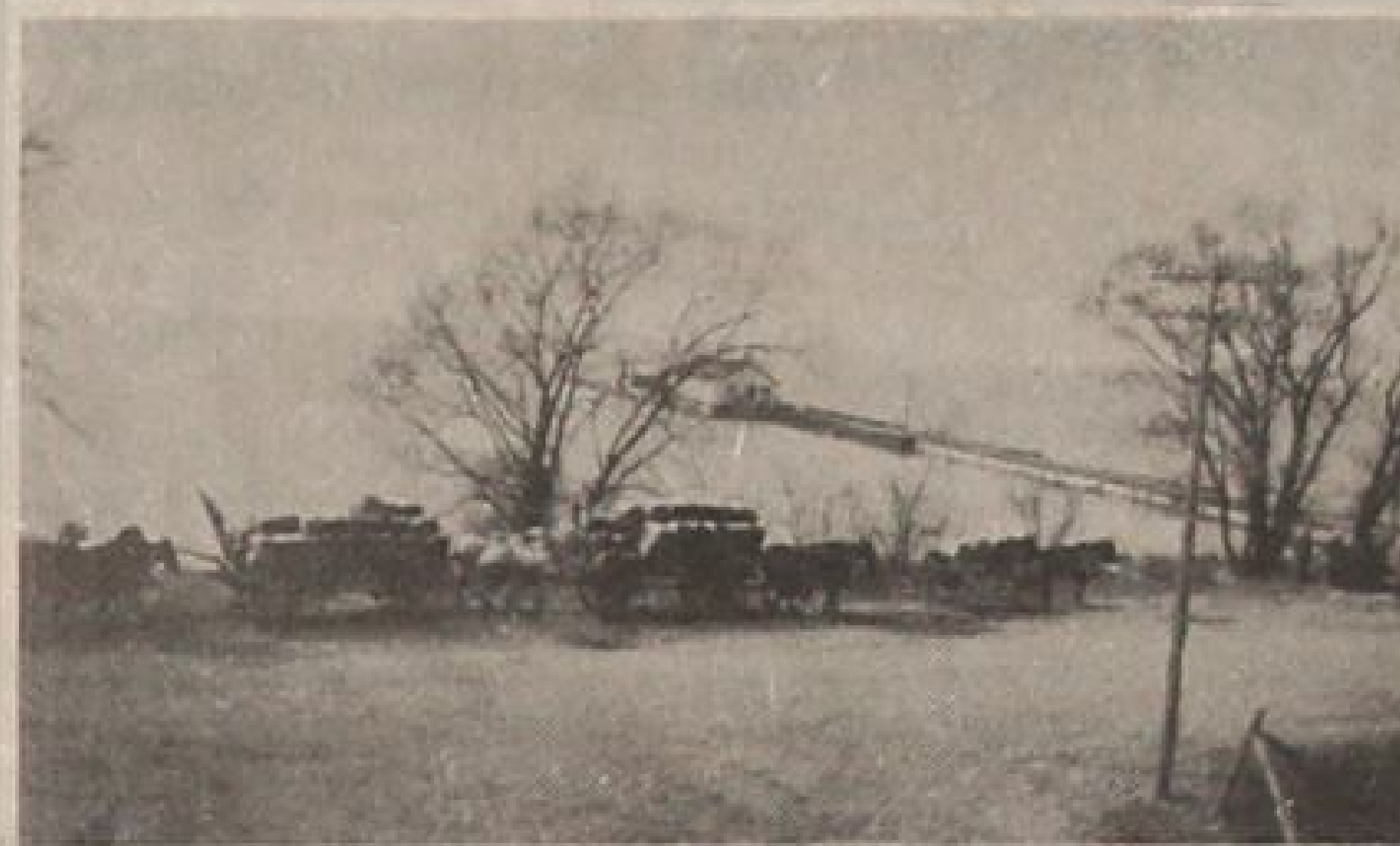
During the interim when the Gregorys first produced an experimental crop of flue cured in 1900, within the confines of the town of Leamington, until the Imperial Tobacco requested in 1912 that they try to produce flue cured on a commercial basis,

there were a few attempts to produce flue, but none of these amounted to much.

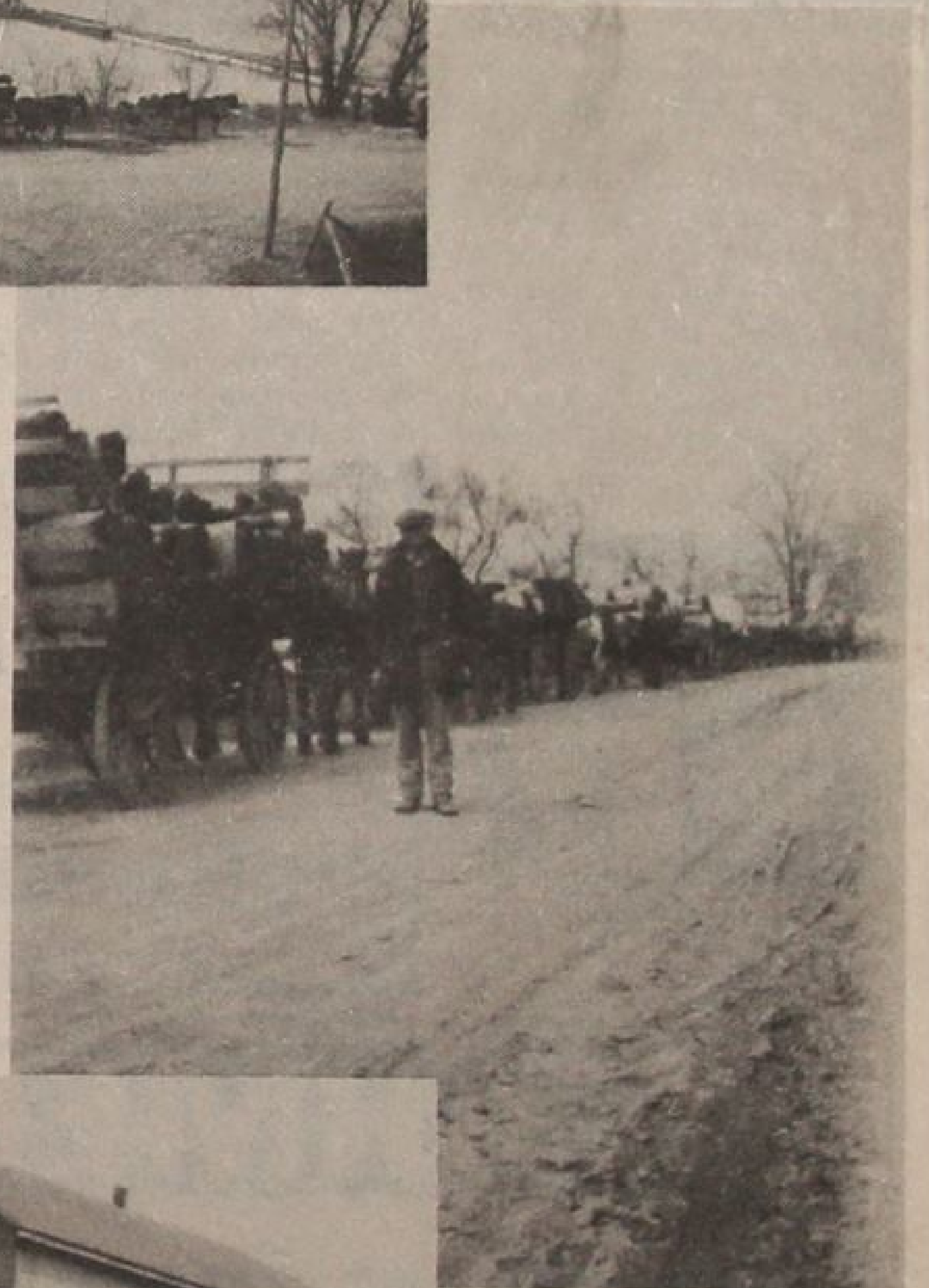
A local man, Albert Williams, when in the Southern States on a trip, became interested in growing flue. He contacted Lewis Wible in Leamington and got him interested. They got three farmers to grow four acres each and also to build a kiln each. They sent Mr. Williams south to learn the art of curing. On his return he cured the crops and these were bought by Mr.

Goldstein of the Dominion Tobacco Company in Montreal, for 17 and 18 cents a pound. They continued growing for a couple of years.

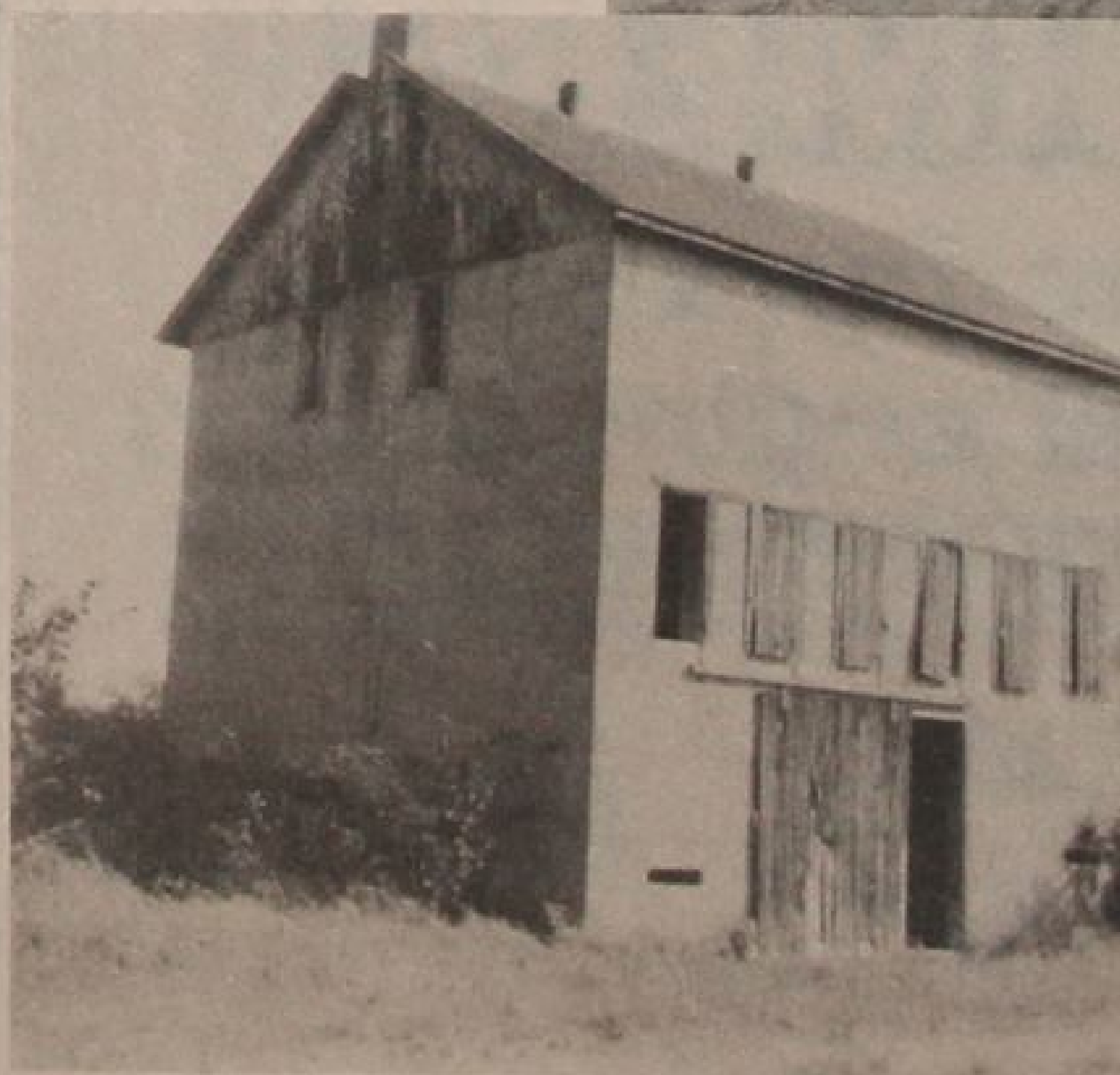
The Erie Tobacco Company of Windsor, which had moved from Kingsville in 1902, became interested in growing flue cured. Its interest stemmed from the fact that imports from the United States were costing it twice as much as it was costing the Globe Tobacco Company in Detroit.



A picturesque scene of horse-drawn wagons loaded with bales of burley waiting to be unloaded at the Leamington plant.



Wagonloads of burley tobacco lined up to await delivery to a Leamington processing plant in the 1920s. (Photos provided by Wade McKenna)



This concrete kiln, its chimney enclosed in the wall, was built in the Leamington area between 1918 and 1920.

# crops

Mr. Carr, manager of Globe, who also had an interest in Erie, went south each year to buy supplies for both companies. He got the idea that maybe Erie should attempt to grow flue in Ontario and thus save on the high custom duties.

No one with either company was familiar with growing flue, so Oliver Fox, head of the Erie Tobacco Company and Mr. Carr went to Danville, Virginia. There they hired Redman Coleman, who brought the seed (Warne) and saw to building several kilns on George Fox's farm and to growing and curing the crop. Old cedar rails were used to cure the tobacco.

Three crops were grown and each crop was packed in hogsheads without redrying. The tobacco was supposed to be aged for three years in wood and it followed that after three years and three crops, the hogsheads of the first crop were opened. The tobacco was found to be spoiled. This ended the attempt by the Erie Tobacco Company to produce flue.

After the flue cured experiment in 1900, Francis Gregory realized that flue could be grown on Ontario sands. But the

Empire was primarily interested in burley as were the other companies. Any flue needed in manufacturing was still imported from the United States, except for the odd bit of acreage experimented with by the Erie Tobacco Company.

In 1912, however, the Empire, whose parent company was not the Imperial Tobacco Company, Limited, Montreal, asked Gregory if he could have one hundred acres of flue cured grown, possibly having 10 farmers grow 10 acres each.

He was successful in getting nine farmers to grow varying amounts of flue with the promise that there would be a guaranteed price of 22½ cents per pound.

The company also agreed to build a sufficient number of kilns on each farm, with the farmer having the option of buying these kilns later at a reduced price. Twenty-three kilns were built during the latter part of 1912 and during 1913, so that they would be ready for curing the crops in the fall of 1913. Five of the farms were equipped with two kilns each, three had three each and one had four kilns. This in itself shows that there was a difference in acreage, but no doubt equating to the 100 acres requested by the company.

These farmers were not familiar in the art of curing this type of tobacco. Mr. Gregory had two Southerners, Messrs. Phram and Howard, come from Oxford, North Carolina, to cure the crops.

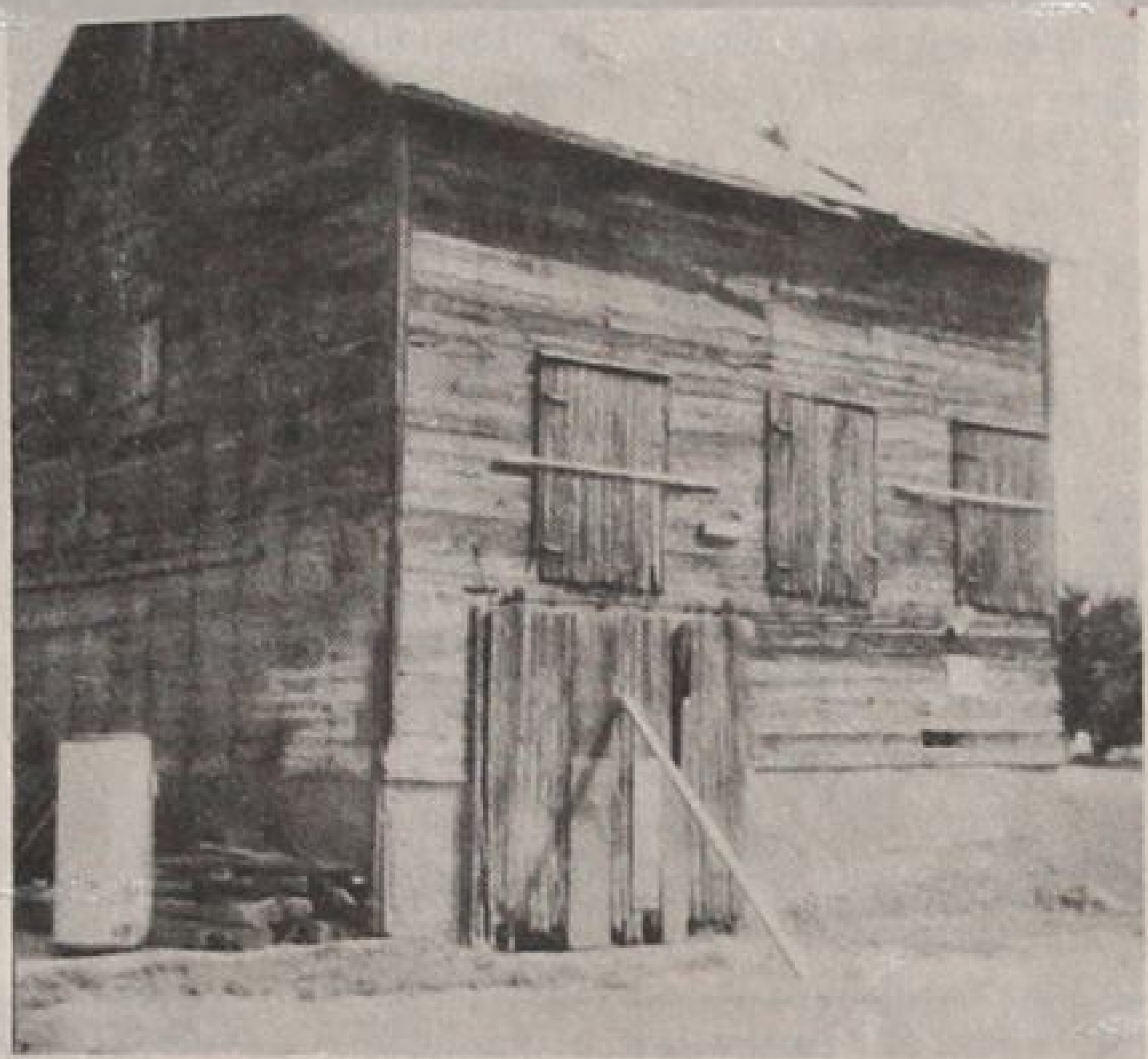
The tobacco cured out rather well and sold for an average price 23.80 cents per pound. The overall figures were 125,195 pounds selling for a total of \$29,802.83.

These first growers were: Charles Stockwell, Ed. Allen from Wisconsin, Wes Coulson, Thomas Fleming, W.H. Mitchell, W.S. Settington, F.H. Conover, E.R. Bee and Verner Fox.

The tobacco was delivered to the Empire Tobacco Company warehouse in Leamington where a force of 75 women stripped and prepared it for shipment to Granby.

The following year, 1914, a few more farmers interested in the extra money from growing flue cured, built kilns and put in Warne, the variety of seed being grown. They also liked the idea of a guaranteed price. But on contacting Francis Gregory, were informed that there would be no guaranteed price and they would have to sell on the open market and would only receive a good price if they produced good tobacco.

Flue cured growing gradually expanded eastward. Then in 1922, flue cured took a big leap across the country when an experimental crop of five acres was grown on the outskirts of Lynedoch. It was a good crop but an untimely hail storm destroyed it. Another crop of 25 acres was planted in the same area in 1923 and this was the start of flue cured growing in Norfolk County, which is another story.



A wood structure kiln, built in the early 1920s near Leamington.



C.L. Kimball, left, of Imperial Leaf Tobacco and Marsh Wigle in a field of flue-cured tobacco. The photo probably dates back to the late 1920s or early 1930s. Note the new kilns that have been built and the older kilns in the background. The tobacco has been topped quite a bit below the men's waistline.

## No burley tobacco for Ontario in 1985

There will be no burley tobacco grown in Ontario in 1985.

Industry spokesmen told an estimated 400 burley growers last week, following mid-March negotiations with tobacco buyers, that the tobacco manufacturing companies needed firm commitments from buyers before they could guarantee a minimum price for a specified number of

pounds. Those orders, because world-wide production and prices are highly volatile, just weren't forthcoming this year, Ontario Burley Growers' Marketing Board Chairman Bill Couture said.

Cy Bossy, vice-president of Imperial Leaf, explained that Ontario exports between 80 and 90 per cent of its burley and is now facing a lot more competition from other sources for those markets.

International burley markets are glutted, with the United States alone holding 300 million pounds of surplus burley in its stabilization program.

Buyers are afraid to sign orders now in case burley prices fall later in the year, he explained. The buyers are saying go ahead and open the market and they'll be there but with the way the burley board operates, that can't be done, Mr. Bossy said.

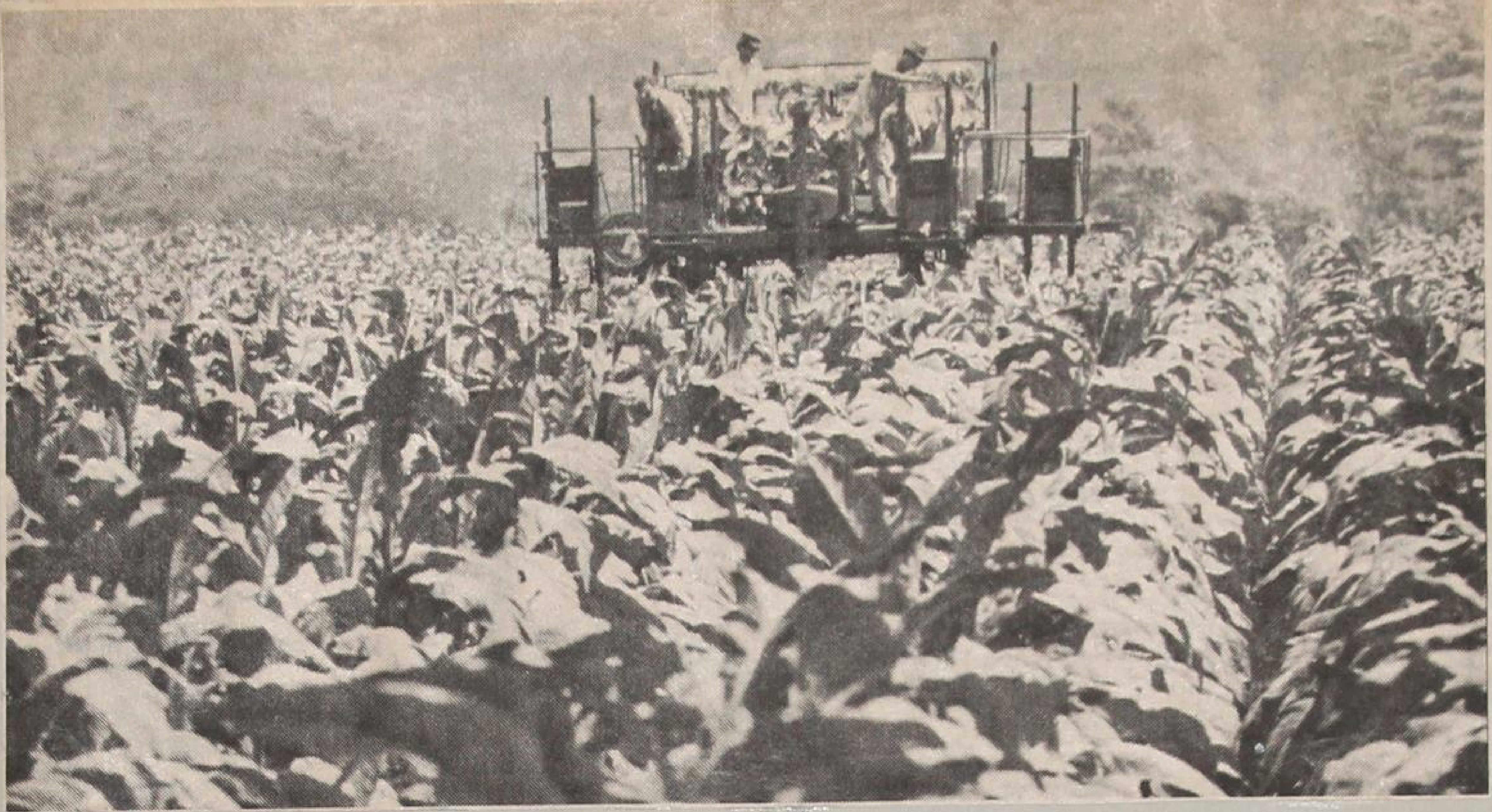
The loss of the crop will mean considerable hardship for its approximately 400 growers. Although individual burley crops are usually small, often averaging between four and eight acres for many growers, the crop can make up a large part of grower incomes.

The timing of the loss is bad as well, according to Mr. Couture, because there isn't much chance growers will be able to pick up extra tomato acreage to make up for part of the income loss.

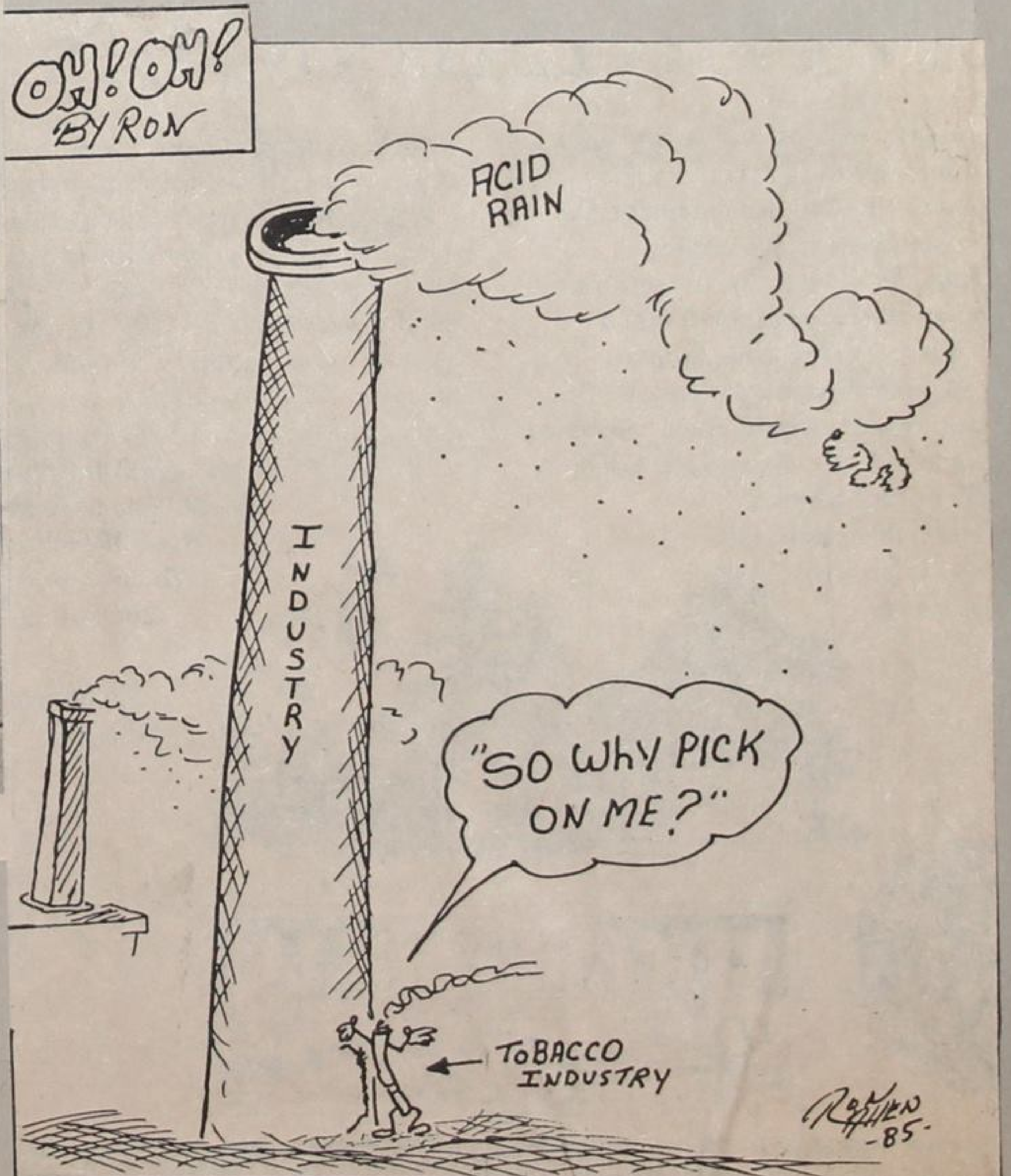
Both Mr. Bossy and Mr. Couture hope farmers can grow the crop again in 1986 but said that isn't likely to happen unless buyers start making orders again.

Thanks to a contingency fund, the burley board itself will continue to exist for the remainder of 1985. Elections to the board will be held, as usual, in June.

This year will mark the first time in a quarter of a century the burley crop hasn't been grown in the province.



Hanging kiln



# Money

## Motion disrupts tobacco hearings

Hearings into a national tobacco marketing agency proposal ground to a tense halt Tuesday at London's Centennial Hall before they got started.

Cigarette manufacturer lawyer Michael Kelen of Ottawa threw a wrench into the works with a motion asking the hearing to force the Ontario Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board to produce a 1983 cost-of-production formula study which the board said it didn't have.

His request came before tobacco board chairman Berry Murray of Wiltonville had a chance to make the opening statement to the hearing on his board's proposal for the agency.

Kelen argued costs of production are key to the board's argument that they need an agency to save a rapidly declining industry, but board lawyer Francois Lemieux of Ottawa argued such a move would be without precedent.

"As Hamlet said, 'methinks he doth protest too much,'" said Kelen, who argued with Lemieux for 1 1/4 hours.

In the end, Ernie Steel, chairman of the hearing panel of the National Farm Products Marketing Council, put the motion aside and called a break and then Murray gave his opening statement.

In the afternoon, Kelen cross-examined Murray for 2 1/4 hours before deciding to cut off his probe when an angry tobacco farmer started yelling from the floor.

Kelen's questioning probed the Ontario board's knowledge of international markets and he suggested the tobacco import controls the board wants invite retaliation, particularly from the U.S.

Cost estimates for the agency could price Ontario growers out of world markets, he suggested. He asked if a Canadian smoker-pay fee of two to three cents a pack to promote exports wouldn't actually

speed up the decline of already-slumping domestic consumption.

Murray replied excessive government taxes are responsible for the decline which eased when federal and provincial governments last year eased up on tax increases.

Another Ottawa lawyer, John Connolly, representing tobacco leaf buyers who depend heavily on exports, said he felt "caught in the middle between friends" — the growers and cigarette manufacturers.

"It's necessary for our friends the growers to make money or we're out of business," Connolly said, but he, too, was concerned about possible retaliation in export markets, particularly because the leaf dealers mainly export.

Connolly also said his clients are concerned that the proposed agency, which would have a right to buy and sell tobacco on export markets, would be in competi-

tion with his clients, but Murray assured him the board would look mainly at Communist countries that prefer to buy from monopoly organizations like the proposed agency.

"We have no intention of stomping on the toes" of leaf dealers in their traditional markets, Murray said. He added the agency would be glad to have the dealers process tobacco the agency sold abroad and consult with the leaf buyers on exports in a spirit of co-operation.

Much of the board's rationale for the success of the agency depends on the hope for industry co-operation, Connolly said. "Given the history between the producers and (cigarette) manufacturers, there might be a problem of co-operation."

Connolly resumes cross-examination today. Eight more briefs will be heard today and Thursday.

## Advantages of tobacco agency cited

By Gord Wainman  
of The Free Press

In a bid to salvage the ailing multi-million-dollar Southwestern Ontario cigarette tobacco industry, the grower board has presented an eight-point proposal for establishment of a national agency at hearings called by the National Farm Products Marketing Council.

A national agency would boost the economy of growers and Canada in general, says the proposal, co-sponsored by the Prince Edward Island Tobacco Commodity Marketing Board.

Berry Murray, chairman of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board, told the opening session of national agency hearings Tuesday such an organization would give the industry stability, allow price setting to cover production costs and a reasonable return and eliminate unnecessary imports.

Hearings continue today and Thursday in London. More than 800 persons attended Tuesday.

A national agency would set price, allot production quota, determine the amount to be marketed at home and abroad, license marketers of tobacco and impose levies and licence fees to finance its work.

It could also gain authority to buy, sell, process, store and export tobacco as well as the power to advertise and undertake research.

"The production of flue-cured tobacco creates over 62,000 jobs annually, exports of tobacco and tobacco products have been as high as \$127 million a year and frequently reach annual sales of \$100 million," Murray said.

"On an annual basis, the industry provides over \$2 billion to governments by way of taxation on cigarettes.

"While important as a national industry, tobacco plays an even more significant role in the local economies of rural Southern Ontario."

It also means \$300 million in cash receipts to the province's 2,000 growers on an annual basis and generates commerce beyond that.



Ernie Steele, left, chairman of a panel on the tobacco industry listens as Berry Murray, right, makes an opening statement while Joe Spriet, centre, waits for his turn.

Ed Heal of The Free Press

Ontario produces more than 90 per cent of Canada's cigarette tobacco, but because of a financial squeeze and escalating export competition, production last year was cut by 36 per cent.

"In the next few months, we anticipate losing a number of our producers because of uncertainties," Murray said, citing an increasing cost-price squeeze, declining export markets because of subsidized competition from abroad, declining Canadian consumption and eroding cash flow problems for producers.

"This pressure is being felt by all producers."

While the Prince Edward Island board now is the only co-sponsor of the Ontario proposal, Murray believes the plan has the sympathy of growers in Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

Joe Spriet, chairman of the P.E.I. board, said his province has only 81 tobacco growers, compared with 2,000 in Ontario.

"However, in relative terms, our industry is every bit as important as it is in Ontario. Any erosion in this industry in the future would have significant impact on the agricultural community of the province."

Production in P.E.I. has been cut in the last two years because of poor market prospects, just as in Ontario, he said, and it was improved export market potential that moved his board to support the Ontario proposal.

Nine pre-hearing submissions will be heard over the next two days and if time allows, later submissions will be added.

# Manufacturers offer concessions to tobacco board

By Gord Wainman  
of The Free Press

MONTREAL — The Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers' Council surprised the Ontario grower board Wednesday with major concessions on its proposed national tobacco marketing agency.

"The producers, processors, leaf dealers, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers are the tobacco family," Peter Gage, chairman of the manufacturers' leaf committee, told a federal hearing into the proposed agency.

After sometimes confrontational exchanges at previous hearings in London and Charlottetown last month, chairman Berry Murray of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board said he welcomed the conciliatory move by the manufacturers.

The manufacturers don't agree to the whole agency package, Gage said, but made three major concessions:

- For the first time, they accepted the principle of pricing tobacco based on cost of production and a reasonable return to producers. At present, prices are negotiated and don't necessarily reflect production costs.

- They accepted the proposal of a licensing fee that would add about three cents to the cost of a pack of cigarettes to consumers, but would be paid into a fund used to lower export tobacco prices in an increasingly competitive world market. The fund would gather about \$60 million a year.

- They would agree to "establishment of a co-operative organization to permit the producers, processors, leaf dealers and manufacturers to achieve their common objectives." The manufacturers will elaborate when they make their presentation to the hearing May 16 in Ottawa.

The manufacturers asked that all five provincial growers groups be treated fairly under any such organization — Ontario, Quebec, Prince

Edward Island, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

In admitting that the agency proposal "contains many points worthy of consideration" and they agree with the basic objectives, Gage said, "the manufacturers ... have difficulty accepting the total package including the marketing board as proposed by the growers as the solution to the problems of all segments of the industry."

Gage said the manufacturers have agreed to underwrite to the tune of \$300,000 a federal government study on tobacco exports, a study that would include participation by growers.

While conciliation was the tone between the manufacturers and Ontario growers who produce 90 per cent of Canada's tobacco, Quebec producer spokesmen indicated Quebec isn't sold on the idea because they fear they will lose production.

As well, lawyer Thomas Barber, representing health groups that oppose the national agency, was upset with answers he was getting from Quebec farmer spokesmen.

He tried several times unsuccessfully to get a direct answer from Rolande Cloutier, president of the Quebec Tobacco Growers Marketing Board.

"If he won't answer, then I guess I won't ask the questions," Barber said in frustration to hearing chairman, Ernie Steel, of the National Farm Products Marketing Council.

In his testimony, Cloutier had said that once he loads his tobacco on a truck for shipment to manufacturers "I don't care what happens after that."

Barber asked if Cloutier was aware that the 1969 report of the U.S. surgeon-general declared cigarette smoking as the prime cause of "premature mortality."

Cloutier said he was referring to the marketing of tobacco in his comment and didn't wish to get into the health issue. A coalition of health groups will make their presentations to the hearing today

## Tobacco growers, health groups both wary of companies

MONTREAL (Staff) — A tobacco farmer and a representative of health groups agreed on at least one thing Wednesday — both distrust the powers of cigarette manufacturers.

"We'd like as many alternative crops as possible to help us get out from under the thumbs of the multinationals," Otterville farmer Hugh Zimmer told health group coalition lawyer Thomas Barber.

Zimmer was one of several witnesses at a National Farm Products Marketing Council hearing into an Ontario grower proposal that a national tobacco marketing agency be established to give farmers more clout in the marketing of their tobacco.

The health groups are scheduled to make their case against the national agency proposal today, but Barber was cross-examining tobacco farmer witnesses when he tried to get a commitment on replacement crops for tobacco.

The health groups want assistance for farmers to get out of tobacco production and into other crops. The Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board, which is promoting the concept of a national agency, also wants a fund set up to research alternative crops.

Zimmer's major concern is the far-reaching powers of multinational tobacco manufacturers, which, he said, make increasing profits at the expense of farmers.

"I'm after a long-term answer and not just a quick fix," Zimmer said in an interview. While he agrees a national agency will help farmers get a better financial break, he said it won't solve all the problems.

Zimmer, his brother Fred, also of Otterville, and fellow farmer Frank Menich of Vanessa, presented a lengthy scenerio of the manufacturers' international setup.

"Trans-national tobacco conglomerates ... have one of the major pools of capital in the world," Zimmer said. He was not cross-examined by manufacturers' lawyer Michael Kelen.

Zimmer also said tobacco is used as "instant cash" on world markets, through barter and other "creative techniques."

He said large banks now use tobacco as a creative technique of their own to collect on bad loans to heavily indebted Third World countries such as Brazil. They can take payment in tobacco and sell it into countries such as Canada to retrieve cash.

Zimmer said a national agency would make it possible for the Canadian tobacco industry as a whole to work out techniques of its own to sell on a world market, where every other producing country is dealing. Such techniques as barter and blended credit buying incentives, Zimmer quoted British experts as saying, account for as much as 30 per cent of world trade.

In an interview, Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Board chairman Berry Murray of Wilsonville deplored a 25-cent tax increase on a package of 25 cigarettes in Quebec last week, putting the retail price at \$2.75.

"We've been asking the federal and provincial governments to look at a fairer taxation system," Murray said. "Farmers only get six cents from a pack of cigarettes, so in Quebec last week's tax increase alone is more than four times what a farmer gets from a pack."

Such "astronomical" tax increases make it all the more urgent that a national marketing agency be established, Murray said.

## Farm worker wage hike

A 15-cent minimum wage hike in Ontario for adult and student harvest workers should have little impact as farmers already pay well above the minimum.

On June 1, the adult rate will increase to \$4 an hour from the current \$3.85. This rate was last revised in June, 1984.

The student rate will rise to \$3.15 an hour on June 1 from the current \$3 an hour. This rate applies to persons under 18, working 28 hours per week or less during the school term or full-time during school holidays

Tobacco growers generally are paying \$4.75 to \$5.25 an hour. Farmers in vegetable are paying \$5.25 to \$5.50 per hour. Fruit growers pay rates in line with the general minimum wage rates.

Increased lodging and meal allowances, which employers may deduct against the minimum wage, will also go into effect on June 1.

Last year, during the July-August peak harvest season, about 7,000 fruit, vegetable and tobacco growers in Ontario employed around 40,000 paid workers.



# The responsible stand

Sir: I believe that the most responsible stand your newspaper can take is to no longer accept advertising for cigarettes. Without doubt, cigarette smoking has been clearly demonstrated to be one of the major risk factors for heart and blood vessel disease, chronic lung disease and lung cancer.

The habit of tobacco smoking is addictive and once the habit is acquired, it can be extremely difficult for individuals to break it. Long-term devastating effects on health and lives must be diminished by a concerted effort of concerned bodies, including the nation's newspapers.

Toronto  
MICHAEL GORDON, MD  
Assistant professor of medicine,  
University of Toronto

## Anti-tobacco supporters sought

Sir: A full page advertisement appeared in The London Free Press on May 7, encouraging The Free Press to join other Ontario newspapers in discontinuing advertising of tobacco products. In view of the health hazards of smoking, its addictive nature and the susceptibility of young people to advertising, this recommendation should have full public support. I would like to encourage the readers of The Free Press to help the publisher in making a decision by writing to the publisher indicating their opinion on this matter.

I would also like to point out that most major Canadian cities, not including London, have smoking control bylaws. A committee has recently been formed to

work toward the passing by London city council of a smoking control bylaw. Major health organizations represented on the committee include the Canadian Cancer Society, the Heart and Stroke Foundation, the London and Middlesex Academy of Medicine and the London and Middlesex Lung Association. Individuals and organizations who wish to support this campaign may register their names with the committee's secretariat by phoning 679-4671.

London  
W. B. CHODIRKER, MD

## Trustee misinformed

Sir: Re: *Elgin RC board slams idea of banning tobacco ads* (Free Press, May 15). Trustee Edgar Walcarius is probably correct. Teenagers rarely die from smoking. But teenagers do grow into adults and far too many adults die as a result of smoking.

That's not what prompts this letter. I am not so sure of my own position regarding advertising tobacco products. But what alarms me, and should alarm other people, is that there is a formidable amount of evidence that smoking is dangerous to health. If a school trustee can dismiss this evidence, what other important issues that concern education and the needs of students is he going to decide strictly on the basis of his own misinformation?

London  
WILLIAM KLEIN



"Sure you're ashamed. But lots of people are still smoking."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Why condemn only tobacco?

Sir: I see on May 20 two more doctors have written a letter to the editor of The London Free Press to condemn smoking.

Dr. Michael Gordon says the tobacco habit is addictive and once the habit is acquired it is difficult to break. Unless he was a long time smoker and tried to quit, how would he really know? It sounds to me like smoking is the most injurious habit you could have, according to doctors.

Another doctor, W. B. Chodirker, sounds as if he is trying to run the ads in the newspaper and tell them what they can advertise and what they can't.

If doctors and supporters of anti-smoking campaigns really want to save lives why don't they campaign against the real killers?

Did you ever spend time waiting at a large airport, stand beside a busy highway or near a large bus depot and breathe the fumes in your lungs from the engines? Can you stop inhaling when near these places?

What about the chemicals sprayed and applied to the foods you get and the chemicals added to some foods. Do you know if they are great health hazards?

What about cocaine, marijuana and heroin being smuggled into the country? Are these injurious to people's health?

Does tobacco cause impaired driving and

death on our roads? What about rape and murders and broken homes and God kows what else? Why do you pick out tobacco as a means to poor health?

Did you know that smoking is a legal product and is also a freedom of choice? Nobody makes you smoke or asks you to. The choice is yours. Can you say the same about pollution? Is the government collecting taxes from drug trafficking? What if taxpayers had a few more untold millions of dollars added to their taxes if they banned it (tobacco)?

Just tell me what professional people are doing about these things? The list of unhealthy things is endless. Why do people just single out tobacco? I would like to see them spend some of their own money and fight the real culprits. How about it?

Otterville  
KEN MANN

### Ad policy cop-out

Sir: Your decision to retain tobacco advertising in the pages of The London Free Press is regrettable. To defend that decision by saying the tobacco industry is a legal business selling legal products is a cop-out.

The government is hardly likely to ban the sale of tobacco: Its use is widespread, the lobby in favor of it is strong, and the government itself benefits from its sale. Thus if that is your defence, i.e., the government has not banned the product, you are safe for some time.

However, the issue is not so much a legal one as a moral one. You obviously take an editorial stand on many issues; yet on this one you plead neutrality ("legality", "freedom of expression", "readers... should be allowed to make their own decision", etc.). One suspects your decision is based not so much on neutrality or morality as it is on cupidity.

London  
BRUCE ASHDOWN

### The price of folly

Sir: Although it is hard to feel anything but sympathy for a victim of cancer, like Ida Bice in your May 26 issue of *Encounter*, one has to remember that it is society that has to pay for her folly.

I wonder if Bice would be so willing to continue her smoking habit if she had to pay for her medical expenses herself? Perhaps a more humane solution would be to impose a three cents per cigarette medical surtax to cover the cost of smoking to our health care system.

London  
KEN BOVEY

## Tobacco's special case

Sir: Regarding Ken Mann's letter (*Why condemn only tobacco*, May 30): tobacco does in fact deserve special condemnation. Food additives, illicit drugs, and impaired driving come under different categories. People do not go out specifically to buy food additives; they unfortunately come along with the food that they buy. Illicit drugs and impaired driving are illegal, which unfortunately is not the case with tobacco.

Although tobacco is legal and people are free to choose to smoke, they soon lose that freedom. It is a proven fact that cigarette smoking is physically addictive, as wit-

nessed by the withdrawal symptoms suffered by smokers attempting to quit.

Another point is that freedom of choice must be questioned in the case of uninformed children smoking. By the time these children reach adulthood, they are addicted to the habit and will have great difficulty quitting if desired.

It appears that few other manufacturers have the distinct advantage of having a virtually enslaved clientele and the law on their side.

London  
DENNIS BONNICI

## Choice should not be smoker's

Sir: In the May 30 letter of Ken Mann, *Why condemn only tobacco?*, is he implying that unless all ills can be cured, none should be? Of course there are other "killers," but that should not stop the momentum of the campaign to condemn smoking. Has he not yet got the message that smoking is pollution? The choice should not be the smoker's — second-hand smoke is dangerous to all.

And on that subject, while I don't recall the names of the individuals in a recent newspaper story, I cannot help but comment about the man who shame-facedly admitted that he continued to smoke after his wife's heart attack. What good does it do to

be "shame-faced" when he is endangering her life with his second-hand smoke!

And how about the lady who undergoes expensive smoking-caused operations for which the taxpayers have to foot the bill while she still smokes? What if, as reader Ken Bovey suggested (May 30), she had to pay the shot herself?

Too bad The Free Press did not have the integrity hoped for by the Non-Smokers' Rights Association to ban tobacco ads, but I guess where big money is involved, even common sense cannot prevail.

London  
H. I. STARKEY

## Promotion of tobacco immoral

Sir: I was saddened to read the statement by the publishers of The Free Press on May 27 announcing their decision to continue to accept advertising for tobacco products in the paper. With this statement, The Free Press has clearly identified itself with the interests of the tobacco industry which profit from the promotion, sale and use of an addictive substance responsible for the deaths of 30,000 Canadians annually. According to the statement, the decision was based on the fact that the tobacco industry is a legal business selling legal products.

Important and influential people such as the publishers of London's only daily newspaper might have based their decision on moral and ethical principles which supersede the legalities. The publishers should have recognized the immorality of participating in the promotion of a product which

is responsible for so much discomfort, disease, misery and premature death in our society.

The publishers uphold the principle of freedom of expression in rationalizing their decision. However, all principles have limits. This principle does not allow one to inappropriately shout "fire" in a crowded theatre. Similarly, it should preclude any action which would promote and perpetuate the most important public health problem of our time. For the publishers to simply refer the issue to government is an abdication of responsibility. Tobacco advertising is seen almost daily in The Free Press. Publication of a few articles on the smoking problem in a single issue of *Encounter* does not exiate the publishers of the shame of their decision.

London  
W. B. CHODIRKER, MD

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# ENCOUNTER

SUNDAY,  
May 26,  
1985

Sunday News Magazine of The London Free Press



**THE  
TOBACCO  
ISSUE**

# Letters to the Editor

## Tomato co-operative

It is our view that the acres of tobacco grown in Canada will decline in the upcoming years. This will not only affect the farmers that grow tobacco but will also have an adverse effect on the communities that these farmers do business in.

Many people are sitting back waiting for a white knight to ride in and save their farm or community. Most perceive this white knight to be an arm of Government, but it is our belief that with the social unpopularity of smoking and the political pressures of health and anti-smoking lobbyists that this is unlikely to happen.

It is our belief that it is up to the farmer and his community to come up with viable replacements to the tobacco crop. If these replacement crops are practical, the Federal and Provincial Governments have a moral, if not legal, obligation because of their anti-smoking legislation through excess taxation to support these replacement programs. (They get \$.81 and \$.82 respectively per pack of cigarettes while the farmer gets \$.06.)

A group of four area tobacco farmers, George Demeyere, Garry Balthes, Arpad Pasztor and Glen White, have joined together with the intentions of organizing 20 farmers to form the Ontario Tomato Co-operative to purchase the existing Topaz processing plant or start a new tomato processing plant. We have advertised for farmer participants and are in the process of selecting qualified farmers from the applications received. Although membership will not be restricted to tobacco farmers we view this project as a tobacco replacement project.

The difficulty in replacement crops is that tobacco farms in general are relatively small in acreage with light sandy land. This requires a crop with the ability to grow on sand land and be relatively labour intensive to justify large returns from small acreages. Many vegetable crops qualify, but because of marketing situations, (ie. demand already being filled), growing these crops on tobacco farms will only displace other farmers in vegetable growing areas which solves no problem, just moves it around.

We have begun our tobacco replacement initiative by starting the OTC and hopefully purchasing the closed Topaz Co. plant in St. Thomas, which produces industrial tomato paste. There is projected to be 80 million

pounds of tomato paste imported into Canada in 1985 which is 10 times the capacity of the Topaz plant. Growing tomatoes on tobacco farms is profitable and will not displace existing Canadian farmers as we will only replace imports.

There has been much publicity about Topaz and its problems since its inception in 1983. We believe that no one problem led to its downfall but a series of mechanical, marketing and management problems which are clearly identifiable have gone together to make the operation non viable. We have addressed the problems and believe that we have the appropriate solutions to assure success, if we are successful in our purchasing Topaz.

Given success of the pilot project it would be our intention to expand paste production with more plants as well as adding more products such as strawberry puree which the Topaz equipment is capable of making.

All forms of agriculture in Canada are going through difficult times and we believe that a new fresh and creative approach is required to keep agriculture the backbone of our country as a viable enterprise into the 21st century.

The co-operative ownership of an industrial tomato paste facility will afford increased efficiency to both the farmer and processor. A new grading system based on the solid content of the tomato that is received will be used. This will encourage the farmer to increase the solid level of the tomato and give the processor a fixed cost for his solids. A farmer's allocation will be based on acres and not tons and the basic tons per acre will be increased.

In our view co-operative ownership will give way to new levels of co-operation which are not now found in the tomato processing industry making the end product capable of competing on the world market.

We have had meetings with both the Federal and Provincial Ministers of Agriculture and have had positive response from both. It is our belief that both the health and anti-smoking lobbyists will support us because we will be reducing the number of farmers growing tobacco.

If successful we would hope to grow 1,500 acres of tomatoes and produce seven million pounds of paste in 1986.

Glen White  
OTC Spokesman

### That during the week of Nov. 20, 1975:

Dealer David Macey confirmed a new Canadian Tire Associate store is to be constructed on Church Street to replace current space leased at 289 James St.

A \$430,524 loan for the new senior citizens' rental housing project in Delhi has been approved by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

A threat to the life of Director Stan Smith led the Tobacco Board to authorize a \$25,000 reward for the information leading to the conviction of those responsible for the threat.

Township of Norfolk Council acceded to the wishes of a delegation of Port Rowan merchants

who appeared at a meeting to protest the use of parking meters in their lakeside community.

The DDSS Junior girls' basketball team has won the NSSAA championship for the second consecutive year.

Approximately 90 guests joined members of the Delhi Curling Club for Casino Night.

### That during the week of Nov. 20, 1965:

Big Creek Boy Scout Association officers were elected as follows: Keith Rumble, secretary; Murray Dunlop, vice-president and El Mills, treasurer, all of Tillsonburg; Jerry DeCoene, district commissioner; and Harvey Nunn, president, both of Langton.

### That during the week of Nov. 13, 1975:

After 10 years of "a kind of hobby", Alphons Godelie, of RR 3 Delhi, has been named the 1975 World Tobacco King and received his awards at the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto.

Five regional constables have been charged with threatening and a further two named in a civil action as allegation of police misconduct surface in Haldimand-Norfolk.

Andrew Mackie, Dennis Leigh, Wayne Bullock, Keith Kitchen and Richard Brown

### That during the week of Dec. 2, 1965:

Delhi municipal elections resulted as follows: Mayor Arnold Sayeau; Councillors, F.W. Wiltshire, Cy Bossy, Robert Mawhiney, John Kinchular, Mrs. J.A. Lloyd, W.G. Wittet. Public Utilities Commission: Gordon William McEwen, Wesley Stetler.

Aylmer and Tillsonburg tobacco auctions were closed by a strike of employees for more money. Workers returned to their jobs when the Tobacco Board promised to "consider their request."

Stanley Gehring was elected reeve of South Norwich Township.

### That during the week of Nov. 27, 1975:

Jim Burtch, 15, of 343 East St., received a stab wound in the abdomen as a result of a scuffle with two unidentified males inside a food outlet about 11:30 p.m.

Although no commitment has been made, the Ministry of Community and Social Services may be willing to assist Hahnor House at Simcoe in its bid to stay alive.

About 700 guests packed the Belgian Club to pay tribute to James N. Allan.

There are no plans currently for an expansion to the Courtlea mobile home park located close to Highway 3 near Courtland, according to proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Lamont, RR 3 Delhi.

The rash of "sick" threats against persons associated with the Ontario flue-cured tobacco industry continued into the week.

Helen Temmer, valedictorian at Delhi District High School commencement exercises, also received the Imperial Leaf Tobacco Co. scholarship; University of Western Ontario Board of Governors admission scholarship; Grade 13 proficiency award; Honour Society award; Delhi News-Record award in English composition and Dominion-provincial bursary for university attendance.

Average price paid currently at the flue-cured tobacco auctions was 61.52 cents per pound.

At a banquet in the Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Montreal, John M. Kinchular was received into the Imperial Tobacco Company Quarter Century Chapter.

appeared in Simcoe Provincial Court and were remanded out of custody until Dec. 1.

Students from five area high schools have collected approximately \$4,000 through rent-a-kid programs in support of the United Way.

An emergency meeting of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board was convened in Tillsonburg following the stoppage of sales at the three exchanges by dissatisfied farmers.

The United States flue-cured tobacco poundage quota has been cut back 15 per cent for 1976.

# Flue worries

Tobacco growers are appealing directly to federal Agriculture Minister John Wise to help them salvage their crops, their farms and their communities.

"The (cigaret) manufacturers are trying to break us," said Berry Murray, chairman of the Ontario tobacco board.

Murray also believes, however, that the manufacturers' strategy means they are also attacking Wise's authority. And Murray said Wise must respond.

If Wise doesn't act, Murray fears the recent demonstration of 100 protesters confronting Ontario Agriculture Minister Jack Riddell in Simcoe will mean widespread civil disobedience across the tobacco belt.

After lengthy hearings into a proposed national tobacco agency last spring, the National Farm Products Marketing Council (NFPMC) was finally ready in September to make its recommendations to Wise.

## Unprecedented move

Then, in an unprecedented move the day before council was to give Wise its report, the tobacco manufacturers went to the courts to force the NFPMC to re-

open hearings.

Despite opposition from the federal justice department, Judge Bud Cullen supported the manufacturers' bid, and asked council to hold more public hearings.

According to NFPMC spokesman Susan Leah, new hearings could be scheduled for November. Following that, the council would have to meet again to review the new evidence. Then an addendum to the original report would have to be prepared, or the whole report may have to be rewritten and translated into French. "Obviously, we could be talking about a fairly time-consuming process," Leah confirmed.

Yet the NFPMC was delaying hearing plans, awaiting a decision from the justice department on whether it would appeal Cullen's ruling.

If such an appeal were successful, new hearings wouldn't be needed and Wise could receive the council's original report.

## Nowhere to sell

Meanwhile, tobacco growers have 170 million pounds of 1985 leaf in their pack barns and nowhere to sell it.

Financial pressures on farmers are mounting, and while manufacturers said last spring they supported tobacco growers' calls for pricing domestic leaf based on cost of production, in recent negotiations Murray said they've become even more rigid than before.

Last June, manufacturers were willing to buy 135 million pounds of Ontario's 1985 crop. Yet in early October talks they said they would only guarantee 70 million.

"They're using delaying and stalling tactics in order to break us," Murray said. "They know they can outspend us if they can keep everything tied up in the courts for long enough."

Murray says manufacturers are undermining Wise's authority, and his board will meet Wise soon to tell him so in person.

"The manufacturers are abusing the legislation," Murray said. "But the council is an advisory board. We think Wise can take our proposal to Cabinet even without seeing the council's report, and that's what we're going to urge him to do."

"Mr. Wise can't let the manufacturers destroy this whole area."

# Maritime tobacco brings buyers

All Maritime flue-cured tobacco crops were purchased last week by the four major Canadian manufacturers.

13.5 million pounds requested by manufacturers. Quebec crops sold Oct. 16 for a price range of from \$1.40 to \$1.83 a pound.

In Prince Edward Island, prices paid for crops ranged from \$1.69 to \$1.83, said Eric Morrison of Benson and Hedges. Mr. Morrison did not have the range of prices paid for crops in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, explaining that sales in these provinces held consecutively on Monday and Tuesday made buyers rush from one market to another. The PEI crop sale was held Thursday.

As in Quebec, the whole crop sales of Maritime tobacco were based on producing an average price of \$1.76 1/2 per pound in each province. Cy Bossy, vice-president of Imperial Leaf Tobacco said the customary guarantee that a make-up payment would be distributed to Quebec and Maritime growers, should the Ontario average price exceed \$1.76 1/2, is in effect again this year.

Output from the PEI crop is expected to be about one million pounds less than the Island's 6.9 million pounds marketable quota, Mr. Morrison said. Nova Scotia's yield will be slightly less than the 1.3 million pounds set by the companies for 1985 requirements and New Brunswick crops are projected to yield close to the 700,000 pounds target set in that province, he added.

The Quebec crop is forecast to fall two to 2 1/2 million pounds short of the

On Oct. 23, the accumulative purchases of buyers on U.S. auctions reached 650 million pounds, to trigger an additional 15 cent per pound rebate if 125 million pounds of old crop stocks are also purchased from the Stabilization Corp. (growers' co-op) during the fiscal year.

Buyers are expected to meet this second requirement to obtain the rebate. If so, their net average cost of current crop tobacco purchased in the four U.S. flue-cured belts will roughly range between \$1.45 and \$1.48 per pound (\$1.99 to \$2.03 in Canadian currency).

After all marketing costs are deducted, U.S. growers selling in the four belts will net from about \$1.40 to \$1.43 (U.S.) per pound. Although their market averages will range from roughly \$1.70 to \$1.73 a pound, the 25 cent per pound no-net-cost fee they were charged to offset surplus leaf inventory expenses now seems destined to subsidize buyers' purchase prices. In addition, other marketing costs for grading and auction fees average out at five cents or slightly more per pound.

*D.N. New 6*

# Letters to the Editor

## LOST BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

The Editor: Lost in the vicinity of Parliament Hill, Ottawa - one male Progressive Conservative MP from the riding of Haldimand-Norfolk.

His name is Bud. He is distinctive Tory Blue in color with a possible tinge of yellow starting to show underneath and a possible red color in the face.

He is loyal to his Master (Brian) but his memory, like his master's, has faded away to the point he doesn't live up to the promises made over a year ago.

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of this MP please tell him to return to the general area of Norfolk to visit and hear the concerns from the people who believed in him over a year ago.

If the location of this MP cannot be revealed or he simply finds that facing the TOBACCO COMMUNITY is just too embarrassing or acting in good faith and standing up to his own party seeking immediate action for his whole riding; if this he finds just impossible for him to do, then I suggest Mr. Bradley, you resign your seat and ask the PM for an immediate by-election for Haldimand-Norfolk.

We need a strong voice in government, not a puppet on a string.

Tobacco Sharegrower,  
LaSalette  
Grant Edwards.

## WRITE YOUR MP!

Tobacco Producers: Have you written to your member of parliament, or to any cabinet minister, and complained about the excessive taxation on your legal product, CIGARETTES?

If you have not, take note of the

following, based on a 70,000 pound crop of tobacco.

- 1.9 pounds of tobacco makes 1,000 cigarettes.

- 1 pound of tobacco makes 526 cigarettes.

Put into packages of 25 cigarettes, this makes 21 packages per pound.

- federal tax per pack of 25 is 82 cents.

- provincial tax per pack of 25 is 84 cents

This makes a total of \$1.66 per package of combined federal and Ontario sales taxes. At 21 packs per pound X \$1.66 = \$34.86 taxes per pound of your tobacco.

If you have grown 70,000 pounds X \$34.86 = \$2,440,200.

That is two million, four hundred and forty thousand, two hundred dollars, that your 70,000 pound crop will contribute in taxes to government coffers.

Is tobacco profitable? You bet it is - but only to those with nothing invested.

So, get a pen and paper and start writing to those members of parliament and cabinet ministers.

Nick Horvath.

*N.O.J.*

# No agency this year for tobacco

DN No 113  
By Dave MacLaren  
Staff Writer

Agriculture Minister John Wise has told the Tobacco Board that he does not feel it is possible to form an agency in time to market this year's crop, Board Chairman Berry Murray told a news conference last Wednesday.

He said Mr. Wise has indicated this was his view to a delegation of directors that met with him in late October; then said it still didn't look possible following a meeting with the presidents of the four major tobacco manufacturing companies on Nov. 4.

"The Board does not agree. We will work hard to change his mind. Mr. Wise and Cabinet have the discretionary authority to proclaim an agency," Mr. Murray said. "Someone has to respond in a positive way or this industry is going to go down the tubes."

Mr. Murray said he expects the meeting with the Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers' Council's negotiating committee will take place early this week. He said directors will be flexible, but will insist upon a concrete agreement.

Asked what course of action the Board will take if no agreement can be reached, Mr. Murray replied: "One of the first measures the Board might consider is a mass meeting of growers, to explain the position we're in and ask for their support. Then we will assess other measures . . . demonstrations perhaps. Many groups are already discussing things like closing cigarette plants down and going to Queen's Park and Ottawa."

Mr. Murray said the optimism directors have voiced for several months about establishing a national marketing agency was based on positive signals from Government and their faith in the legislative process. "Now it is all jeopardized at the last moment."

"It's not just the court problems, because Mr. Wise and Cabinet have the discretion to proclaim the agency. Mr. Wise feels there are political problems in doing what we wish. Someone has to take the responsibility for criticism from manufacturers, anti-tobacco and consumer groups an agency would generate and they (Government) are not prepared to do it," Mr. Murray said.

Asked whether the current debate about free trade might be a factor in Government reservations about the agency, Mr. Murray replied: "The law is still the law and we've gone through all the steps. But I think the political climate is part of the problem."

"We've spent \$1-million and still don't have access to (agency) legislation. How many farm groups can afford this? The legislation might as well not exist."

"We believe the user-pay concept the agency proposal is based on is sound. The options are worse. It will cost astronomical sums to rectify the economic losses sustained if tobacco farming is eliminated. There is nothing else these farms can do. If it is their policy to tax and continue anti-smoking campaigns until we're out of business, someone should compensate us."

"One of our problems has been to get people to understand the tremendous impact the industry has within a 45 mile

radius of Tillsonburg and the fact billions of dollars of investments are in peril. Where tobacco farms are concentrated, it's not just farmers who are jeopardized. It's the value of all types of property and the tax base of municipalities. It's jobs in processing plants, in stores and in all sorts of service enterprise, as well as in farming. And if tobacco is not grown and processed here, it could eventually be manufactured in some other country where it is cheaper to do so," Mr. Murray said.



Berry Murray:

Stick together.

In reply to a question about growers' support for the Board's stance, Mr. Murray said: "Some may not agree with everything we've done. But in this crisis, I think farmers feel they have no other choice but to unify behind the Board. They have made the right choice. We have to stick together."

He stressed the major roles excessive taxation, anti-smoking programs and the inaccessibility of adequate marketing legislation for producers have played in bringing about severe hardships in tobacco communities. Both Provincial and Federal Governments have a responsibility to provide positive solutions, he said.

Prior to the meeting with the CTMC negotiation committee, Mr. Murray said he expects to meet with Ontario Treasurer Bob Nixon and Minister of Agriculture and Food Jack Riddell. At this meeting, the lack of response from manufacturers to the Ontario budget which held tobacco taxes at well less than \$100-million of what might have been expected, will be discussed.

"It's upsetting that the manufacturers did not follow through on the budget by showing more flexibility towards growers," he said.

He described the negotiating session which ended Nov. 1 as totally unacceptable. The CTMC stuck to the proposal it would only guarantee \$1.75 a pound for 70 million pounds. However, it did offer about the same amount of money as last year, which he believed was around \$17-million for the export development fund, he said. That funding had been withdrawn earlier in negotiations dropped its offer of a guaranteed price for 135 million pounds.

If this figure sticks it will mean the Ontario flue-cured market has declined over 37 per cent in three years. But the Board maintains marketing arrangements must be made for 170 million pounds.

Friday, November 15, 1985 THE TILLSONBURG NEWS Section 1 Page 2

## Ont. tobacco board prepared to resume crop negotiations

Crop negotiations between the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board and the Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers Council may resume next week.

Berry Murray, chairman of the tobacco board, said Wednesday individual meetings with the presidents of tobacco manufacturing companies have been completed. The meetings were arranged because the board felt input from the

presidents concerning companies' individual situations was important for a better understanding of the overall picture.

The board is prepared to resume negotiations with the manufacturers' council negotiating committee but no date for further talks has been set as yet, according to Mr. Murray.

Benson and Hedges Ltd., like Rothmans of Pall Mall Canada Ltd.,

has opted out of the manufacturers' council, making the board's attempt to reach a crop agreement more difficult, Mr. Murray said.

Board representatives met with Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise following a farmers' rally held in St. Thomas last Saturday. At that time the minister told board members a national tobacco marketing agency won't be established for the sale of the 1985 crop. The "political climate" was the only reason given by the minister for his refusal to proclaim the national agency, Mr. Murray said.

At the same meeting, Mr. Wise expressed the sentiment that if Ontario growers don't come to some kind of agreement with manufacturers, the four other tobacco-producing provinces in the country were capable of supplying all of Canada's domestic tobacco requirements.

Mr. Murray said he felt the minister made the comment out of frustrations arising from the farmers' rally where he was booed and heckled by a large crowd of farmers angry over the government's failure to provide concrete programs to help financially struggling farmers. "It was an unfortunate comment and one he (Mr. Wise) may come to regret," Mr. Murray said.

Mr. Murray believes it is impossible for the other provinces to grow Ontario's portion of the domestic market. The capital costs of expanding operations would be unaffordable, he said.

Commenting on the rally, which the board did not participate in officially, Mr. Murray said the protest signifies farmers have reached the end of their patience with government promises of aid in time of crisis. Farmers are sick and tired of reading about government bail outs of industries and banks, he said. The bottom line is there is no money for farming.

# MP seeks flue belt aid

Oxford MP Bruce Halliday will ask parliament to investigate the social plight of trouble tobacco farmers more closely when he introduces a private member's motion in the House of Commons tomorrow (Thursday).

Dr. Halliday's motion proposes that parliament's standing committee on agriculture examine the problems of tobacco growers and their communities in an effort to draw parliament's attention to the worsening financial crisis of several

thousand growers and the spin-off effect this has on their communities.

Once the issue is referred to the standing committee, they can look at the problems that tobacco growers have and some of the possible solutions, Dr. Halliday said Wednesday morning. By getting the issue into committee, those problems can get some coverage, he said. And he said the motion will also allow him to highlight the need for a national tobacco marketing agency.

He noted the health people have the wrong idea about what the agency is all about. He said the agency isn't promoting smoking, it's an effort to get producers a fair return for their product.

The veteran politician feels tobacco producers must be looked at as citizens in a legal occupation and deserving of consideration from the government.

He said massive handouts are not the answer and is suggesting instead the government provide funds to develop other forms of occupations for flue growers. According to Dr. Halliday, the government is obliged to help farmers in much the same way it provides job training programs for threatened workers in other sectors.

Another option he would like to see put into effect is increased government-sponsored research into alternate crops.

Dr. Halliday said he is optimistic his call for the committee to investigate the issue will be accepted by MPs from all three parties. He said he has checked with the agriculture minister and "he's happy to see it go through." He also noted the agricultural critics of both parties had indicated they don't have any problems with the motion.



**Angry protest**

The mood of farmers attending the St. Thomas rally to petition Minister of Agriculture John Wise was expressed by their grim faces and the placards they carried. Various estimated at from 500 to 800 in number, perhaps the distances they travelled told more about their concerns. Banners and posters proclaimed regional identification to Cockrane, Timiskaming and Nipissing in the north and Essex County in the south. Many tobacco growers attended, holding aloft posters in support of a national agency and periodically chanting their support for this marketing legislation. They were unaware Mr. Wise would decisively reject Tobacco Board directors' appeals soon after the rally ended. (Staff Photo)

## Wise proposes tax for quota buy-back

Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise has hit upon a Solomonic solution to his dilemma of how to help hard-hit tobacco producers while appeasing criticism from anti-smoking factions for providing producers with government advance crop payment loans.

Mr. Wise has suggested that a special tax on cigarettes could fund a scheme to buy back surplus quota from tobacco farmers and encourage growers to get into other crops.

The minister was quoted in an interview last Thursday as saying of his proposal, "Who could be

critical? Everyone wants everyone to quit smoking." In the same interview, he made it clear he would reject any planned aid for tobacco farmers which would require dipping into the government's general tax revenues to finance, despite the fact the federal government annually skims between \$2 and \$3 billion off tobacco products in taxes.

As the proposed plan involves a tax, the government could only introduce the program, if it is approved by cabinet, at the time of the next budget. It is expected the next

(Continued on Page 2)

budget will be brought down in February.

Mr. Murray said Friday he wouldn't object to the buy-back plan, provided it didn't involve another "25-cent whammy" from the federal government in the next budget. Mr. Murray said the board had presented a buy-back plan to the minister two weeks ago and he believes that is what the minister is referring to. Mr. Murray indicated he'd understood funds for the plan would come from a portion of the 25-cent hike inflicted in the May budget, rather than from a further increase in the upcoming budget.

The Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board has lobbied long and hard for the removal of the ad-valorem method of taxation on tobacco which puts taxes on tax and was successful in having what it terms an inequitable system removed at the provincial level.

Mr. Wise's proposed plan to help farmers through increased taxes on tobacco products, if approved, would seem to doom both the tobacco

board's and the manufacturers' hopes in regard to a minimal tax hike in the federal budget.

In the last federal budget in May of this year, the price of cigarettes rose by a staggering 25 cents per pack of cigarettes. Berry Murray, chairman of the tobacco board, said tobacco growers felt tarred and feathered by the hike. Even before the announcement, many felt like they'd been tied to a tree and whipped, he said.

The manufacturers were equally unhappy with the increase. Peter Gage, chairman of the negotiating committee for the Canadian Tobacco

Manufacturers Council, called it devastating to the industry, with serious consequences for everyone concerned.

At that time Mr. Gage suggested the 25 cents should be used to help tobacco farmers solve their problems.

To date, the struggling farmers have received no direct financial aid, with the exception of the \$90 million in advance payments which must be repaid in March of 1986.

# Growers threaten

By MARLENE OPDECAM

As pressures continue to build in the potentially explosive tobacco situation, civil disobedience among producers is becoming more of a promise than a threat. The situation now facing a number of flue producers is desperate. Banks are threatening to foreclose on farms which were profitable operations only a few years ago and some farm families are being forced to exist on only \$60 a week, all the bank will lend them to cover living expenses. Pack barns are filled with a crop valued at \$400 million but farmers have no means of selling it and operating loans go unpaid. After

eight months of desultory contract negotiations, there still appears to be no light at the end of the tunnel for producers and little concrete outside support for solutions to the dilemma facing them.

The crowd of frustrated, angry sharegrowers who packed the Courtland Community Centre Wednesday night were there not so much to hear what their Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board representative had to say about the current status of the board's fight to get the 1985 crop sold and a national marketing agency in place. They were there to make some of their own suggestions

as to how to pound home the realities of the situation and the critical need for government action to both governments and the country at large.

Len Padyk, sharegrowers' representative, told the growers present there is unlikely to be any crop agreement between the board and the Canadian Tobacco Manufacturers Council without government intervention.

"We've got to get them (federal and provincial governments) off their butts and doing something," Mr. Padyk said. "We have to prove to them this has gone far enough. That's the battle." Saying he didn't

feel farmers should quietly accept what amounts to government slaughter of the industry, he told farmers the time has come to get that message across to government "more forcefully." The situation is like a time bomb ready to explode. Farmers have to get that message across to government, Mr. Padyk stated.

Mr. Padyk told growers it was essential politicians be swayed to support producers. He said the governments had created the crisis through support of the anti-smoking lobbyists and unfair taxation. The federal government has a responsibility to act because of its tax

policies and the provincial government because of the communities that will suffer if the industry goes under, Mr. Padyk said.

Asked by one grower who farmers could jump on and how, Mr. Padyk suggested a barrage of phone calls and letters to area MPPs and MPs "to get them on track." The majority of people in the crowd, however, seemed to favor more drastic action including farmers with their equipment blocking roads and highways throughout Southwestern Ontario, enmass applications to government unemployment and welfare offices, farm assessment appeals by everyone owning a tobacco farm and

mass demonstrations in Toronto and Ottawa.

"If something is worth having, it's worth fighting for," an unidentified producer told his fellow sharegrowers.

Mr. Padyk said he felt the tobacco companies' move to drag out crop negotiations and the government's inaction to solve the situation are ploys to shatter the unity of the producing segment of the industry.

"They are banking on setting people against people and farmers against farmers," he told the simmering horde. "They're hoping we'll break."

A few cracks in the growing industry's united front were already evident at the sharegrowers' meeting Wednesday night. One grower accused the board of having made no real effort to negotiate the sale of the 1985 crop and said it was "taking farmers down the tubes" in its relentless quest to establish a national agency. Another questioned the veracity of the information supplied to farmers by board representatives.

Standing firm under fire, Mr. Padyk maintained the board was "telling it like it is." He said the board had done everything in its power to negotiate a crop agreement including agreeing to move off its cost of production stand at the last set of talks. The proviso remained, however, that the agreement cover the sale of the entire 170 million pound crop grown. The companies refused to make any concessions and wouldn't budge from their offer of \$1.75 for 70 million pounds, Mr. Padyk said. "If anyone has a miracle solution, I'd be glad to hear it," he said repeatedly.

Board representatives were to meet with the presidents of the companies in Toronto Thursday in the hope of working out a concept under which negotiations could resume. Mr. Padyk said a portion of the crop talk problem has been the split between the companies themselves.

He indicated he personally felt the manufacturers were dragging their feet in crop talks hoping to stall them until the federal government's budget is announced sometime in February and they know what taxes will be put on tobacco products.

Admitting his own frustration with governments' failure to keep earlier promises, Mr. Padyk pointed to Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise's refusal to proclaim agency powers and his lack of support for a regional agency, the lack of progress on a compensation package for producers, and a recent announcement that a program to test imported tobacco for chemical impurities has also stalled at the federal level.

Money for research into alternative crops is a joke, Mr. Padyk said. After 27 years of research, no economically feasible replacement for tobacco has been discovered, he said.

The board will continue to push hard for provincial agency powers, Mr. Padyk said.

TN No 25

# Tobacco firms make

# proposal

By KEN MAVER

The tobacco manufacturers have presented a proposal to the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board for the sale of this year's tobacco crop and, barring unforeseen circumstances, Ontario tobacco growers should be able to sell their 170 million pounds of tobacco.

"I do see it (the offer) as a real break through," said Mike Murray, District 6 director for the marketing board at the district's meeting in Delhi Saturday. He said it's the first time the manufacturers have agreed to discuss the 170 million pound figure. The offer is still a proposal, he told farmers, and there is still a long way to go in the negotiations.

"Negotiations in my mind have just started," he said, "I do believe there is room to manoeuvre in many areas."

The proposal was presented to the marketing board last Thursday by RJR Macdonald Inc. and Imperial Tobacco Limited. Rothmans of Pall Mall Canada Ltd. approved the offer on Friday and the tobacco board expects to hear from Benson and Hedges Tobacco Co. today. It is anticipated that Benson and Hedges will agree to the proposal and the two sides should be back at the bargaining table this Thursday.

Although the offer represents a break through, there are strings attached, Mr. Murray said. The companies have guaranteed purchase of 90 million pounds for domestic consumption at a minimum grade price

of \$1.20 per pound and have agreed to add 55 cents to each pound sold. Premiums excepted, this brings the overall price-per-pound average to \$1.75. Last year the minimum grade price was \$1.40 per pound.

However, the most important aspect of the proposal concerns the 80 million pounds slotted for the export market. The manufacturers want the federal government to "roll over" the advance crop payment loaned to farmers, using the money to be paid back by the farmers to purchase the export tobacco. The tobacco will then be placed in a consortium. Available to all consortium members, the manufacturers could then purchase the tobacco as their export orders come in. At the end of the selling period, which is still

undetermined, any unsold tobacco would revert to domestic stocks to be taken into consideration during negotiations for next year's crop size.

If the proposed national and provincial tobacco marketing agencies are established, as members of the consortium, the agencies would also have the right to sell the pooled tobacco.

In previous years, the amount of tobacco geared for export was distributed among the various companies according to their market share. As a result, all unsold tobacco had to be carried by the respective companies.

The offer is not what we wanted, Mr. Murray said, but it is the only

one on the table and, "...we as a board have decided to pursue this."

He said there are still a lot of details to be worked out but anticipates the markets could open in January. However, he did say even that prediction is optimistic and emphasized the offer is only a proposal.

The board is trying to arrange a contract for the purchase of tobacco for the next two years and considers the one-year term of the current proposal one of the major stumbling blocks to an agreement.

"We have our future to think of," Mr. Murray said. "If we're going to survive, we have to have a contract for next year and a third year."

Several farmers in attendance felt bargaining for future years was "wishful thinking" and suggested

the board should concentrate its efforts on negotiating a better price for this year's crop. Any attempt to gain a long-term contract, they said, will only serve to further delay current crop sales.

"How many of us are going to be by the wayside by January or February?" asked one unidentified farmer.

But Mr. Murray said it is the board's position that a long-term agreement is essential to the future survival of Ontario producers. "If we don't get it, the number of producers forced out of business would boggle your mind," he said.

If the board is unable to obtain a long-term agreement, Mr. Murray predicts about half of the current

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growers will be out of business within two years. "You have to weigh the two," he said.

Since the manufacturers are asking the federal government to "roll over" the advance crop payment for the purchase of 80 million pounds of export tobacco, the proposal must also be approved by Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise. That means the ultimate success of the proposal hinges on the response of the Conservative government.

District 6 committee member Paul Ryder said the manufacturers suspect the federal government is planning a 25-cent tax increase on the purchase price of cigarettes in the spring budget. The manufacturers offer he said, could be considered a lever against government tax policy, using the growers as

hostages. Mr. Murray said the tobacco companies have asked the board to lobby the federal government to keep cigarette taxes down in the upcoming budget.

Mr. Murray said the consortium proposal confirms the need for a provincial tobacco marketing agency - considered a prerequisite for the formation of a national agency. A provincial agency would not just monitor tobacco held in consortium, he said, but would also have the ability to sell it.

Mr. Murray said several Third World countries have expressed an interest in purchasing tobacco from the proposed provincial agency. Although Mr. Murray wouldn't disclose the names of the countries, he did say they are countries that have no desire to do business with American multi-national tobacco firms.

# Tobacco agreement for

# Christmas?

By MARLENE OPDECAM

An agreement for the sale of the 1985 flue crop could be reached by Christmas but there is no guarantee.

Richard Bozek, vice-chairman of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board, said Thursday at least two of the four tobacco manufacturing companies are concerned about the long-term impact of the proposed agreement. And the board is concerned about the proverbial fine print in the proposed crop contract.

The two companies and the board aren't objecting so much to the details of the proposal as they are to what isn't detailed, Mr. Bozek said.

The proposed crop agreement, put

on the table by RJR Macdonald Inc. and Imperial Tobacco Limited, increased domestic requirements from 70 million to 90 million pounds. The 170 million pound crop grown by producers would be sold, based on minimum grade prices of \$1.20. The manufacturers would add 55 cents to each pound sold, either for domestic or export. This would bring the average price to \$1.75 a pound, plus any premiums paid over the minimum grade price.

However, the federal government would be expected to pay the interest costs on all tobacco which did not receive a bid. The manufacturers have in turn agreed to buy the unsold tobacco from the government next fall with the understanding the size of the 1986 crop would be ad-

justed according to the amount of tobacco remaining unsold.

Mr. Bozek indicated the companies and the board are attempting to set up a joint meeting with Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise to discuss the proposal and to pin down, if possible, government plans for tax increases on tobacco products in the upcoming federal budget. No date for the meeting has been set yet, Mr. Bozek said.

He warned growers not to expect the meeting to result in an immediate crop contract and the opening of the tobacco auction exchanges. In Mr. Bozek's opinion, it will take more meetings and a lot of leg work to iron out an agreement which will satisfy both the board and the manufacturers.

"We've waited this long to settle the sale of the crop and we'd like to see it resolved with some protection for the future," he said.

Negotiations between the companies and the board will not resume until after the proposed meeting with Mr. Wise, Mr. Bozek stated, adding the board would like to see the crop sale issue resolved by Christmas. "The quicker the better," Mr. Bozek commented. However, the board is only one of three or four players in the decision and there have been no assurances from the other involved parties that an agreement is possible in that time frame, he said.

The major stumbling block to a final commitment from the companies is the uncertainty of govern-

ment tax policies. Mr. Bozek explained buyers buy tobacco for sale two or three years up the road. The government's ability to increase tax on tobacco products by any amount it wants when the whim to do so strikes makes it impossible for the companies to plan ahead. Neither the board nor the manufacturing companies can operate efficiently within the existing "chaotic, unpredictable tax structure," Mr. Bozek said.

Some direction from government on its long-term tax policy intentions is "critical" to the growers' future, he said.

Mr. Bozek said he was not aware of any reaction from Mr. Wise's department since the details of the

proposal were announced - a proposal contingent upon federal participation.

Agreeing that such an act could be politically unpopular, in view of anti-smoking sentiments, Mr. Bozek said he felt the government had a moral responsibility to help farmers. He pointed out the proposed consortium wouldn't cost the government a great deal. The government is giving aid to western farmers hit by the drought, he said. In the case of the

problems facing the flue industry, the government created a drought of a different kind for the tobacco industry through its excessive taxation policies, Mr. Bozek maintained.

The federal government annually collects between \$2 and \$3 billion from taxes on tobacco products.



# Farmers protest federal

TN Dec 2

By MARLENE OPDECAM

A Christmas parade of a different kind was held in Delhi Saturday.

Santa wasn't there. Nor was Haldimand-Norfolk MP Bud Bradley, for whose benefit the event was staged. But about 500 frustrated, angry and determined farmers were there, some lining the streets, others behind the wheels of tractors and massive trucks.

The farmers were there to protest the lack of decisive action on the part of elected federal representatives to aid the financially troubled agriculture industry. And they

were there to demand their right to the establishment of a national marketing agency for flue-cured tobacco.

Vehicles in the impressive cavalcade bore a number of telling signs, some calling for Dr. Bradley's resignation, other denouncing Federal Agriculture John Wise's failure to live up to past promises and still others blaming Prime Minister Brian Mulroney for the dire straits farmers across the country are finding themselves in.

The vehicles, some pulling large pieces of farm equipment, brought

traffic in the town to a screeching halt for more than two hours but despite obvious disillusion with the government, the demonstration remained orderly.

The rally was arranged to coincide with a Breakfast with Bud meeting previously scheduled for Saturday morning. But Mr. Bradley had postponed the breakfast earlier because he was slated to participate in a Christmas parade in Caledonia. The MP did not put in an appearance, nor was anyone from his office on the scene. Cries of 'where's

Bud' from protesters met with no response.

Marian Muth, a committeeperson on the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board, told farmers Mr. Bradley's absence was typical of government inaction and its credo that it's better to put off for today what can be done tomorrow. It should be, Mrs. Muth told the crowd "do today what you should have done yesterday."

She underlined Mr. Wise's failure to proclaim a national tobacco agency and the stalling of a plan to inspect imported tobacco for chemical

impurities, despite the minister's earlier promises to support both. "Who is running this country," she asked? "The government or the multinationals?"

Mrs. Muth urged all farmers to stand united to fight for their rights. Farmers have been doing the impossible for the ungrateful for too long, she said. Having done so much with so little for so long, the time has come to do even more, Mrs. Muth told the crowd, suggesting farmers should consider taking their tractors to Ottawa to get a little attention for their cause.

Len Padyk, sharegrowers' representative on the tobacco board for the past two years, in his address to the crowd, told farmers they were fighting not just for the survival of the tobacco industry but for the rights of all farmers. "We have a right to be heard," Mr. Padyk said. He too urged farmers to stand united and take their fight to Ottawa.

Tobacco board director Ted Raytrowsky, in his turn at the microphone, told farmers the demonstration was a demonstration for survival, a fight to hold families

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and a way of life together in the face of government indifference. The man farmers are really after isn't Bud Bradley but Mr. Mulroney, he said, reminding them of a letter from the prime minister promising support for the national agency. He signed his name to it and should be held accountable, Mr. Raytrowsky said.

Lawyer-tobacco producer Fred Homeniuk suggested farmers should demand not only the national agency but also a moratorium on tax increases on tobacco products, full compensation for losses to tobacco producers caused by government policies and no trade-off of tobacco in free trade talks without the consent of the producers. Farmers will accomplish their aims working with

the government or, failing that, walking over it, he said.

Gerard Demaiter, former tobacco board director in District 8, urged producers not to take no for an answer when it came to the national agency. Farmers are entitled to an agency and should continue to fight for one, Mr. Demaiter said.

A press release issued by rally organizers stated tobacco farmers, like all farmers growing a legal product, are entitled to receive a price for their product which ensures obtaining cost of production. Pointing to the tobacco board's lengthy and expensive battle to establish the national agency, the statement said if the board fails to achieve it, it is obvious the legislation is no longer within reach of any other commodity group.

"We as a group of farmers, feel it

is our duty as conscientious citizens to inform the Canadian people that the government of the country, by ignoring our plight, is misrepresenting the people of this country," the release said. "One in five jobs is dependent on agriculture in this country. By refusing to act in the best interests of farmers in this country, the government is not acting in the best interests of the citizens of the country."

It was apparent from the tone of the speeches and farmers' response, the rally was likely to be one of many such demonstrations. And, according to Mr. Raytrowsky, it was mild compared to what could come if the government fails to act.

At the rally's conclusion, the farmers adjourned to have a breakfast "without Bud" in a nearby restaurant.



## Government inaction

About 500 farmers gathered in Delhi Saturday to demonstrate against government indifference and inaction in the face of the financial crisis

facing tobacco farmers and farmers in general. The demonstration included a parade of farm equipment and trucks through Delhi's core. (Staff Photo)

# Angry protesters jam Delhi's streets

DN DEC 4  
By Dave MacLaren  
Staff Writer

Breakfast 'without Bud' clogged Delhi's main streets for three hours Saturday as hundreds of people listened to speakers in front of the Golden Leaf Restaurant, leaving their tractors, farm implements and trucks on King and Main Streets.

The spontaneous protest over Government inaction in dealing with the tobacco crisis began when Haldimand-Norfolk MP Bud Bradley postponed a breakfast meeting he had scheduled at the restaurant. Farmers who had planned to attend to voice their concerns decided to tell Dr. Bradley the breakfast would go on with or without him.

AT 10:00 a caravan of close to 100 tractors, trucks and marchers wound its way downtown from the auction exchange under police escort. Manure spreaders and assorted farm equipment, tractors and trucks carried signs proclaiming the anger and frustrations felt by their owners.

The sign on one manure spreader read 'Politicians spread more bull than we do'. A small cultivating tractor towing a hay windrower bore a sign reading 'I tried alternative crops. You can shove them!'

Included in the parade were trucks and cars of local business and service enterprises. One of the protest organizers said 90 per cent of the merchants displayed signs in support of the demonstration.

As the parade moved along King Street, a tape recorder held by Willy DeWinter of Mt. Brydges blared a revised lyric to the song 'We're not gonna take it'. Mr. DeWinter composed the lyric and arranged for a vocalist.

In front of the restaurant a crowd estimated from 500 to 1,500 held explicit placards and signs aloft as they applauded and cheered several farmers who spoke from a truck platform.

Burford area tobacco farmer Walt Huszczo, introduced the speakers, said later: "The co-operation of the (regional) police and merchants was tremendous. They have our heartfelt appreciation for putting up with us."

Said Marian Muth of RR 2 Courtland: "Government has always used the excuse farmers are an independent lot. We can't help them, because they can't make up their own minds."

"Well that excuse no longer stands. Not only do we have farmers here today. We have agri-business. We have an alliance of the rural communities and support of the town businesses. If that's not unity, I don't know what is. The only group missing in the common cause to re-establish a strong agricultural industry in Canada is our Government."

The opening statement, read by Jon Lechowicz of Burford, said, in part: "The majority of tobacco producers in the land are in favour of a national agency. The Government has the power to proclaim a national agency. We have in our possession two letters signed by Brian Mulroney promising us help. In one dated over a year ago, he promises his Government 'will act quickly to establish a national tobacco agency.' We still wait."

"It appears Brian Mulroney never intended to give us or any other farmers a national agency," said John Terdik of Windham Centre. "The theme is free trade. I am ashamed I ever supported the Conservative Party."

"The purpose of a national agency is to protect producers against multinationals," Dan Kovacs of Courtland told the crowd. "We've been told we won't be given an agency unless the multinationals agree. What kind of double-talk is that?"

Gerard Demaiter of Langton recalled the Board had first asked Ottawa about a national agency 13 years ago. He said directors were told then an agency couldn't be formed until producers wanted it. "Now we're told you can't have it until the tobacco companies want you to have it. That doesn't make a heck of a lot of sense to me."

"I don't take no for an answer. We are going to get what we are entitled to."

"The grassroots movement only started three or four days ago. It is a message to our Board members that the people want an agency. From here on, I hope the Board picks up the challenge and carries it right through," Mr. Demaiter said.

Fred Homeniuk of Waterford asked why it is governments and companies are still prospering from tobacco "while we are losing our farms?"

He said the agency as outlined by the Board, moderation in tobacco taxation and full compensation for losses sustained by growers, were all promised by members of the Federal Government.

These are required immediately, Mr. Homeniuk said, as well as common sense in free trade bargaining.

Two Board directors were called upon to address the crowd.

Said Ted Raytrowsky of St. Williams: "The man you're really after is Brian Mulroney. He made many promises and I think he should be held accountable."

"This may be a mild demonstration of those to come until we get a national agency. We are going to have to fight and I think the time is now. Get after your directors and make sure you fight. To accept an agreement at this time would mean you'd commit political and financial suicide," Mr. Raytrowsky said.



*"I don't take no for an answer. We are going to get what we are entitled to," Gerard Demaiter of Langton told the crowd as he spoke in strong support of a national marketing agency.*

Len Padyk of Waterford said tobacco riding politicians have been giving farmers lots of promises, but are afraid to speak out on their behalf. He criticized the Macdonald Commission report on free trade, saying it would turn Canadian farm land into the biggest national park in the world.

"We are not just fighting it (agency struggle) for the people here. We are fighting the issue for all agriculture."

"We have to have more demonstrations, but we're going to have to go to Ottawa and sit on their doorsteps until they are prepared to take action," he said.

Following what turned into a noon hour brunch, the marchers, tractor and truck drivers returned to the auction exchange. About 200 people moved into the unheated building to question five directors for another hour about Board leadership in the struggle to obtain an agency.

Mr. Huszczo cautioned the gathering not to pick on the directors who had come to the demonstration, but instead to talk to those who had not.

# Battle over prices also a fight

By Gord Wainman  
of The Free Press

DEC 5

LANGTON — Tom and Julie Reid are afraid... they're one of a growing number of families in the Ontario tobacco belt facing financial ruin.

"We're at the point where, if we don't get a decent price for our crop this year, we won't be able to grow tobacco next year," Julie says. "And if we don't get a national agency, we're done after 20 years of our life invested."

The Reids will be forced off their farm, they say, if their grower board fails to negotiate a higher tobacco price this year than that offered by cigarette manufacturers and if it is unsuccessful in goading

a seemingly wavering federal government into a national agency for growers that would give farmers the power to set prices and control imports.

The couple, along with their daughters, Tammy, 15, and Jennine, 14, this year were forced to plant and nurture the tobacco crop themselves with the assistance of helpful neighbors who knew of their plight.

The Reids decided to speak out, but found one woman at least who openly disagreed with them, Julie says. "She said she didn't know how we could go public. She said people would make fun of us, and other farmers didn't care if we lost our farm. She said she resented people like Tom and I jeopardizing her position... It hurts..."

Tom has his Grade 13 diploma, but at age 41, he decided to return to school earlier this year to hone his knowledge and, he hopes, qualify for a physiotherapy course at Mohawk College in Hamilton. He takes three or four classes a day and several night classes, then comes home to tend to his farm chores.

"But I'm going to need help of some kind from the government because I've got a family of four to support and we'll be put out of our house and off the farm. We've got no place to go, nothing to do... I tried last year to get a job, but there were none around here anywhere."

Julie says in the good tobacco days not only did the Reids make money but, like all farmers, they

poured it back into the community by purchasing goods and providing employment to students on the farm.

"In the summer, when we had financing, we had 11 students working for us and they earned about \$2,200 each for six or seven weeks' work," Tom says. This year, however, with the reduced crop and difficulty in getting bank financing, they couldn't afford to hire any.

"But all this is probably over now. A lot of people think when you lose your farm that it's just the land and buildings. But it's more," Julie says. "You lose your home, your livelihood, the place your raised your kids."

The couple hasn't tried to shield their children from the possibility they will be thrown off the farm, she said. "It's frightening. Our daughters know we're depressed. But we include them in everything, all the discussions... They're great, just great to have as our children."

For city cousins who think tobacco farmers all drive big cars, build big houses and go to Florida all winter, Julie says it's a false image of average farmers like her and her husband.

"We have the same furniture and appliances we had when we married 20 years ago and we've never been to Florida... where is Florida, anyway?" she quips. They own a Volkswagen Beetle, a nine-year-old North American car and a

pickup truck condemned for highway use.

Julie, who quit school at 17 to get married, is trying to find a job but feels she lacks the education. She kept the home going in the first 10 years the couple were sharecroppers and in the 10 years since they bought their own 40-hectare (100-acre) farm.

Tom says he will continue to go to school and look for work, but it doesn't mean, when the boom is lowered, he will leave the farm without resistance.

"We're not going to quit. They'll have to move us off our farm physically because I don't feel it's our fault... it's the governments' and multinationals' fault... The mood in the community is ugly.

"People figure government has let us down, has buckled under to the multinationals, our enemies."



## Roasted

Angry demonstrators brought trucks, tractors and protest signs to the rally in Delhi on Saturday. This effigy of Agriculture Minister John Wise changed identity at a breakfast following the protest, when it was given the seat of honour reserved for Haldimand-Norfolk MP Bud Bradley. Although many in the large crowd could not get in, the restaurant served about 250 people. (Staff Photo by Dave MacLaren)

D.N. DEC 4

# No more taxes

NG DEC 7

Federal Agricultural Minister John Wise has dropped a suggestion for helping tobacco farmers by further taxing tobacco products.

The idea is to levy a special tax on cigarettes that would provide funds to buy up surplus quota for growing tobacco and to help encourage growers to get into other crops.

Faced with some strong and highly vocal anti-smoking lobbies, the minister, it seems, is trying to find a way to help tobacco farmers without appearing to help them. He's saying that he will reject any aid that would require dipping into the government's general tax revenues. But who could object if the money used was that generated by the industry anyway?

From the tobacco belt perspective, the extra tax sounds more like a move to help farmers by killing the industry.

Governments already reap more than enough taxes from tobacco products to provide any help necessary to the industry. After a whopping 25 cent increase on a pack of 25 in the May budget, the feds alone reap between \$2 billion and \$3 billion yearly from tobacco. They do not need to add another substantial tax on cigarettes. Using some of this money to help farmers is already a case of farmers helping themselves by the money they make available to government.

A recent letter to the editor from Nick Horvath spelled out the tax production from tobacco farmers in a clear and concise way. He pointed out that a tobacco farmer producing a 70,000 pound crop -- and that, certainly isn't a big crop in this area -- generated \$2,440,200 in taxes for the provincial and federal governments. Surely that argument in itself should be sufficient to convince even the more tunnel-visioned of the anti-smoking lobbyists that there is more than enough money coming from tobacco to permit the government to help the growers.

If Nick Horvath's figures are correct -- and they seem to be -- governments could buy up the whole tobacco belt for less than they collect in taxes in a single year. That might make the anti-smoking lobbyists happy as well as the tobacco farmers. Of course, there would still be the problem of the thousands of jobs lost for the government to contend with, along with the blow to municipal tax bases and the spin-off economic decline in the tobacco belt.

# Farmers rock Hill with protest twist

By Gary May  
Ottawa Bureau

L.F.P.  
DEC 5

OTTAWA — Southwestern Ontario tobacco farmers received a helping hand from the rock group Twisted Sister on Wednesday as the farmers tried to make their case for a national marketing agency.

"We're not gonna take it," the taped voice from a ghetto-blasted blared over Parliament Hill as 40 farmers demonstrated their displeasure with the Mulroney government.

Willy Dewinter of Mt. Brydges said the song's words had been slightly altered to reflect the tobacco farmers' cause. He said one of his employees, Mary Van Eck, refined the song but kept the ear-splitting accompaniment just to make sure everyone heard her.

It was a national marketing agency the farmers had in mind as the song blared:

"We've got the right to choose it; there ain't no way we'll lose it. We just want the cost of production from you."

"Our life is tried and jaded; worried and complicated. If that's your best, your best won't do."

While the music split the air, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney stopped to chat with the farmers before getting into his limousine and speeding off to lunch. His only word on the marketing board was "we're working it out."

The farmers are miffed that, more than 14 months after coming to office, Mulroney has failed to act. They remember he pledged, while in opposition, a national marketing agency would be one of his first priorities if he won the election.

In fact, Mulroney was so worried in June, 1984, that his party would be blamed for blocking a Liberal government marketing agency bill he had a senior aide telephone a London Free Press reporter to explain his case.

After the aide tried to find out how the newspaper might report the story, he offered an interview with Mulroney in which the then-opposition leader promised supply management legislation would be introduced in the early days of any government he led.



Ed Heal of The Free Press

Julie and Tom Reid face a cold, uncertain winter sitting on 90,000 pounds of tobacco unmoved because of failed negotiations between their farmer board and cigarette manufacturers who want to slash their purchases by more than two-thirds of normal.

# Emergency tobacco talks called

By Gary May  
Ottawa Bureau

OTTAWA — Tobacco farmers and cigarette manufacturers will sit around the negotiating table here today in search of a compromise to help the producers get rid of 190 million pounds of their unsold product.

Agriculture Minister John Wise has called the emergency session amid warnings from the farmers that unless the product is sold soon, the entire 1985 Ontario crop will rot in storage.

Meanwhile, a group of tobacco farmers took their case for a national marketing agency to Parliament

Hill on Wednesday and got Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's promise that "we're working it out."

The proposed national agency has been held up by a court injunction granted the cigarette manufacturers that prevents Wise from seeing a report from the National Farm Products Marketing Council.

The farmers complain that Wise has the authority to circumvent the injunction and establish a national marketing agency that would give them pricing and marketing powers.

But federal officials say they want to appeal the injunction to preclude the chance of further stalling tactics from the manufacturers.

About 40 Southwestern Ontario

■ Turmoil in the tobacco fields. . . . . A6

tobacco farmers took part in the Parliament Hill protest about their inability to establish a national agency that they say would give them more clout in negotiations with the cigarette manufacturers.

Some farmers say manufacturers are trying to put them out of business so cheaper imported tobacco can be used.

Mulroney, leaving a Conservative caucus meeting, stopped to greet the protesters on the way to his limousine.

"Is that all we're going to get? A handshake?" asked one irate

farmer.

Mulroney said "we're working it out." He promised a marketing agency when he was opposition leader and the farmers want to know why it has taken his government so long to act.

"We're just a bunch of concerned tobacco growers trying to make these fellas live up to their promises," explained Strathroy area farmer Gerry Rombout. "They're forgetting about us."

"We're entitled to a marketing

● See Page A6, Col. 1

● From Page A1

board just like anybody else," he added.

Bud Bradley, Conservative MP for Haldimand-Norfolk, spoke with the farmers, advising them of today's emergency meeting and saying he believes help may be on the way.

Bradley has suggested the government set aside about five cents per package of cigarettes in a fund to help farmers who want to get out of tobacco and into other crops.

The fund would amount to about \$100 million and could result in a 50-per-cent reduction of tobacco-growing land in Southwestern Ontario, Bradley said.

Wise has said one possibility could be a new tax on cigarettes, the money from which could be used to buy unused tobacco quota rights.

Bruce Halliday, Conservative

MP for Oxford, recently obtained House of Commons support to get a parliamentary committee to study the tobacco industry's troubles and recommend remedies, including help to farmers who want to raise other crops.

But concrete action has been slow in coming and Delhi area farmer Ed Kriwez said he believes tobacco producers would be better off if the tobacco-growing constituencies were not all held by the ruling Conservative party.

When Bradley tried to explain to the protesters how he sees farmers moving into other crops, one of them shouted at him: "They're wasting their money on alternate crops."

Delhi farmer Paul Ryder told a reporter that "apart from marijuana and opium, I don't see anything that would make a 100- or 200-acre farm pay for itself."

Ryder said farmers would obtain

a smaller return from corn or soybeans. "And without crop rotation, those sandy soils would just revert to the dust bowl."

Bradley told the farmers their pressure will help him and other area Conservative MPs press the government for action. "As long as Canadians want to smoke, we should have the jobs to grow the crops," he told them.

Bradley said Mulroney has promised a national agency and he intends to see the prime minister keeps his word. He said lawyers for Justice Minister John Crosbie are confident they can overturn the court injunction but acknowledged that there may be no action until about February.

If the injunction is overturned and Wise is able to see the report, he can have a recommendation on the establishment of a board to cabinet within 24 hours, said the MP.

# No deal made on flue crop

TN

DEC 9

By JULIE DAY

Some cracks have begun to appear in the united front the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board has endeavored to maintain while it continues to press for a national tobacco marketing agency and the sale of the entire 1985 tobacco crop.

About 500 frustrated tobacco farmers gathered outside the board's head office Friday morning, some urging the board to set aside its efforts to gain national marketing agency status and make the sale of

the 1985 crop its first priority while others argued the board should continue its drive for national.

The demonstration was apparently sparked by a daily newspaper headline Friday that said a "deal" had been made on the sale of the 1985 crop. Speaking to the crowd of farmers who reassembled at the tobacco auction exchange, board members tried to tell them no agreement had been reached with the manufacturers during negotiations last Thursday in Ottawa.

(Continued on Page 3)

(Continued from Page 1)

"We are still in a situation where we have very serious problems in terms of getting all the players to participate in the formation of a contract," said Board Chairman Berry Murray.

Representatives of the board did meet with Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise and the presidents of the four cigarette manufacturers in Ottawa on Thursday. But Mr. Murray said a press release issued from Mr. Wise's office, implying the parties had agreed on a proposal, was inaccurate.

"We are a long way yet from a situation where all four companies will lay an offer on the table," he stressed.

"As far as there being an agreement, there is not an agreement. I don't want anybody to leave here thinking there is," Mr. Murray said. Instead he confirmed that negotiations will continue and "there is a genuine will and there is a genuine agreement to do what's ever possible to move the 170 million pounds."

A proposal put forward by one of the manufacturers last month has yet to be endorsed by two of the com-

panies, he said. And he noted that one company is particularly "entrenched in its ideas" and has still not given its support. The proposal is not considered a concrete offer and won't be presented to the growers until it has been accepted by Mr. Wise and the four manufacturer, Mr. Murray said. He also said the role the agriculture minister will play in the negotiations has not been clarified. The board has stated they are hoping for some sort of financial arrangement involving the federal government in the purchase of this year's crop. Mr. Murray said he is encouraged by Mr. Wise's commitment to reaching a solution and by the fact that all four company presidents are involved in the negotiations.

When they sit down at the negotiating table again on Wednesday, Mr. Murray said the board will continue to bargain for national marketing agency status, a fair approach to the taxation of tobacco and a compensation program for farmers.

But Tillsonburg tobacco farmer George Gilvesy, speaking on behalf of one group of farmers at Friday morning's gathering, asked the board to put efforts to gain national agency status on the backburner until the 1985 crop contract is settled.

"We think the time has come when we have to stop chasing the proverbial rainbow and settle for something concrete, as the future is now," he said.

Mr. Gilvesy acknowledged the need for a national agency in order to preserve the future of the tobacco industry, but he asked, "how far are we willing to go to achieve this goal?" While some farmers answered "all the way", others supported Mr. Gilvesy's comments and shouted, "No. Forget about the national and sell this crop!"

"Do we expect to get more results with name calling and protests against our ministers of agriculture?" Mr. Gilvesy asked.

"We must keep in mind we may need these people in the near future."

Mr. Murray warned the farmers that "if we break down and fight among one another — form a firing squad that becomes a circle where we shoot each other — this industry is going to be destroyed."

"Fighting amongst ourselves here today in front of the press is certainly not helping our industry," he said.

He urged the farmers instead to speak out against what he called the unfair taxation policies which are helping to destroy the tobacco industry. And he said the taxation policies will not be changed "if we sit back silently, hiding in the bushes." He invited the farmers to travel to Ottawa today "to get our message across" to the government and other farmers attending the annual Agriculture Outlook Conference sponsored by Agriculture Canada.

Mr. Murray said the cigarette companies are "using us as a tool" to demonstrate to the government the harmful effect taxation policies are having on the industry.

Because of these concerns, Mr. Murray said the board's goals go beyond just selling this year's crop. The board must bargain on all issues, he said, in order to secure a stable future for the industry. "We're not getting our fair share of the pie," he said. And a national agency would help ensure the industry slices of a bigger piece.

A settlement on the 1985 crop has already been delayed eight months and the opening of the tobacco exchanges are two months behind schedule.



## Group divided

The Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board faced about 500 frustrated farmers at the Tillsonburg auction exchange on Friday morning. While one group of tobacco farmers called on the board to

postpone demands for national agency status and concentrate on selling the 1985 crop, others wanted to go "all the way" to get the government to give the industry its own marketing agency. (Jim Murphy Photo)

# TURMOIL

IN THE

# TOBACCO FIELDS

*Tobacco auctions, which normally open in mid-October, remain closed. Tobacco farmers' efforts to gain a national marketing agency have stalled. Cigarette manufacturers have slashed their purchase requirements and their price per pound. Once the province's most lucrative crop, tobacco could become a financial and social disaster.*

By Gord Wainman  
of The Free Press

In 1927, at age 25, Belgian immigrant Gerard Vandebussche saw little bounty in the dilapidated and abandoned barns, sandy soils and dirt-road communities of South-western Ontario that hug the north shore plateaus of Lake Erie.

Slowly, with sweat and sometimes tears, Vandebussche and other Canadian-born and immigrant tobacco pioneers nurtured the soil and its indigenous communities into lush affluence beyond their dreams, he said recently at his Delhi home. He now sees the pendulum swinging back.

"The old people here worked so hard to build this country up. Their work was never finished and look how beautiful it is. But what will happen to it now? Maybe we'll have boards coming off the barns again," he says of the tobacco belt depression. "In the last two or three years the country here has been paralysed. The mood is very low."

What is happening to tobacco farmers is happening to others in red meat and grain farming, but there's an additional burden for tobacco farmers beyond the squeeze between high costs and low commodity prices. Canadians are smoking less for health reasons, government taxes are driving prices beyond what remaining smokers will endure and cigarette manufacturers are resisting farmer demands for more marketing powers.

It's also financially difficult — if not impossible — to switch to alternative crops. Because tobacco farms are too small to form a sound financial base for other crops, new equipment would have to be bought and growing other crops would only add to the surpluses and losing prices in those other commodities.

In a nutshell, tobacco farmers feel scorned and abandoned by society, government and multinational tobacco corporations. But last week farmers and supporters showed signs they'll go down kicking and will fight a last-ditch political battle to stem the tide of failures and return a reduced industry to some semblance of stability.

Vandebussche has long since left the tobacco business, but he feels deeply for members of his family and sons and daughters of friends who are struggling to stay alive in an increasingly hostile and

seemingly hopeless world, where bulk tobacco purchases have been slashed by more than two thirds in the last two years.

Tom and Julie Reid of Delhi are an example of the younger generation of tobacco farmer who face the future with little hope of financial survival. This year the bank reluctantly granted them money to plant a crop and they couldn't afford to

hire workers to plant and harvest.

"Our two daughters (aged 14 and 15) and Tom and I worked by ourselves to get the crop in, along with some good neighbors. . . . It's frightening. Our daughters know we're depressed, but we include them in everything, all the discussions. . . . They're great, just great to have as our children," Julie said, tears welling.

"We're not going to quit. They'll have to move us off our farm physically because I don't feel it's our fault," said Tom, who at age 41 has returned to high school even though he has a Grade 13 diploma. "I have to get my brain in gear again."

Despite the pressures, the Reids and their daughters have been drawn closer. They are among the lucky ones.

Karen Efron, manager of the Lynwood Family Centre in Simcoe, says the centre's caseload has jumped 35 per cent in the last year and she attributes much of it to the declining tobacco and general economy in the area.

"The incidence of family violence has shown a considerable increase. We're requesting more resources to deal with the problem. Shockingly,

a third of the people who request our service have experienced recently, or are experiencing currently, some form of abusive behavior in their relationships. I just have to think financial pressures have to be one factor in that."

Increased participation from farmers, farm workers and farm-related communities in the centre's voluntary program show people desperately want support in coping with the tough times, she says.

"A lot of parents try to keep a stiff upper lip as long as they can and try to shield their kids from the situation. But eventually increased relationship difficulties between parents spills over into the total family group."

Farmer frustration broke out Saturday in a protest demonstration on the main street of Delhi and a protest was also staged on Parliament Hill on Wednesday. But it isn't just tobacco farmers and former tobacco farmers who are starting to vent their frustration.

"It's getting really bad in the service industry," said Bill Darlington, a Langton wiring and plumbing contractor. "Close to 80 per cent of my business is directly dependent on tobacco farming. . . . We live off the farmer and if they go down, we're going down with them."

It may not be a solution, they say, but tobacco farmers continue to hope the federal government will grant them a national marketing agency status that will allow them to price their product based on production costs and prevent multinational companies from importing cheap tobacco containing chemical residues.

Because of government delay and possible wavering in granting agency status to the growers, farmers showed signs of desperation at the Delhi protest.

"This is a demonstration to hold our family and homes together. This is for survival," said Ted Raytrowsky of St. Williams, former chairman of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board.

In his living room, 83-year-old Vandebussche became more agitated as he talked of the plight of farmers. "I hope most of the boys can make it. I always fought against suppression by the companies and believe me they will do it when they can do it. I've gone through several crises with them and always fought back. I always did my share in the fight."

# Social worker has found another form

By Gord Wainman  
of The Free Press

These stories are the final two instalments of a four-part examination of the effects of the crisis facing Ontario's tobacco farmers.

By Gord Wainman  
of The Free Press

DELHI — At 83, Gerard Vandebussche is a highly respected elder of the Belgian community in Delhi and in his Belgian homeland he left in 1927.

He's also an elder in the failing tobacco community. Like many of the younger generation of growers, he's bewildered and bitter about a society that sometimes seems to blame tobacco farmers for health problems of smokers.

"People feel abandoned and even discriminated against. The big shots (from the cities) drive through the country and say: 'Look at those nice tobacco farms. They're doing all right,'" says Vandebussche. "But the farmers have invested every dollar back into the farm and their small communities while the tobacco companies send their profits to the parent firms in the U.S. or Britain... that money's left the country for good."

Vandebussche is a realist and knows that declining smoking will reduce the tobacco industry, but he says those who heap scorn on tobacco and its farmers are unrealistic in believing smoking will be eradicated.

The Canadian government should ensure that no cheap tobacco imports are allowed into the country not only to support remaining tobacco farmers, but also for the health of Canadian smokers, he says. "Canadian tobacco is the cleanest in the world" because it has little or no chemical residues.

There's an irony in the present depression in the tobacco belt, Vandebussche says. The tobacco and general farm depression of the 1980s deepens as the urban economy is beginning to rebound from recession. However, in the Great Depression of the 1930s, increasing demand for the golden tobacco leaf provided jobs for immigrants, such as him, and Canadians who were thrown out of work in the cities.

"The immigrants came in first and the crisis of 1929 brought in a lot of people from Welland, Hamilton and Toronto that had worked in industry but were thrown out of work," Vandebussche recalls. "They came in to work for the tobacco farmers, then started growing their own as sharegrowers and by the end of the 1930s they were buying their own tobacco farms."

Vandebussche, a founder of the Belgian Hall in Delhi where he now lives in retirement, says the children and grandchildren of his generation freely lament industry woes over a drink at the hall.

"The mood is very low. They aren't aggressive or anything, but

they talk much and seem bound to stick by their marketing board. They say they won't be frozen out (of their business) like sugar beet farmers and burley (pipe) tobacco growers in Chatham," he says. They fear free trade as the straw that could break the industry's back.

Already the domino effect of the fallen tobacco growers and other farmers in the area has knocked down other small town businesses, Vandebussche says, but the domino game doesn't end there.

"Look at Brantford. How can Massey Ferguson make a go if farmers can't buy the equipment? That's why they've laid off 1,500 workers."

In his youth, Vandebussche says he sometimes was considered a radical when it came to dealing with the hard-nosed cigarette manufacturers. As he talks about the old fights, he leans forward, agitated.

"I always fought against suppression by the companies, and believe me they will do it when they can do it. I always did my share to fight. One of those crises was when the Second (World) War started and they bought only two thirds of our tobacco," he recalls.

For the next two years, the tobacco companies squeezed the farmers by not buying tobacco, so farmers ended up curing and storing large quantities themselves, he says. "Then the Germans bombed the tobacco warehouses in Coventry, England, and all of a sudden the companies got patriotic because soldiers needed cigarettes.

"They worked on the government and the government let them buy our tobacco at the old price and we didn't even get paid for packing and storing it."

He sits on the edge of his chair, eyes narrowed, to suggest what growers might do with their surplus tobacco this year.

"I'm an old man, but I've got a feeling about all that surplus tobacco. I say... burn it."

SIMCOE — Karen Efron is a social worker who cut her professional teeth dealing with the difficult human fallout from the volatile, feast-or-famine economy of a one-industry city, Windsor.

If car sales do well, Windsor thrives — if sales slump, so does the city and its people. Efron seems to have found a rural counterpart in Simcoe which is heavily dependent on the tobacco industry.

Efron says the Lynnwood Family Centre she manages has seen a marked increase in people seeking help. The centre, which gives financial counselling as well as family counselling, this year alone has increased its case load by 35 per cent from about 300 last year to over 400 this year.

She says she can generally categorize people who seek assistance:

- Seasonal tobacco workers "who may or may not be able to get their financial needs met... a single parent, for instance, who works in the tobacco fields has been trying to support a child and make a new life for herself."

- Farmers who have made the shift from tobacco to something else but not without problems... "someone who changed from agriculture into the long-distance trucking business which kept him away from the family which in turn creates pressure on the marriage... He's not sure where he wants to be, but he's where he has to be. On the surface, he succeeded financially, but the cost has been to the

marriage and family."

- The third group of farmers and non-farmers "feels the noose around their neck and doesn't know how to get out of it. They see the end is coming."

What disturbs Efron is the considerable increase in family violence, so the centre is seeking more funding to deal with it. After leaving Windsor, Efron worked briefly in London before moving to Simcoe.

"Coming from London, I wouldn't have expected that (violence) here, a nice quiet little town with a Christmas panorama in the park and so forth. I'm a bit surprised by that kind of difficulty which is no respecter of status. At all economic levels, that abusive behavior seems to be increasing here... but that's also true in our society in general."

The centre deals mostly with marriage and financial problems, she says, but there is a definite, but difficult-to-define, impact on children.

"Kids can't any longer keep up with their peers because they can't afford the same things," she says, and this is compounded by a poor outlook for teenagers in the job market.

"For teens it's different from the identity crisis of the 1960s and 70s when they had the dilemma of choosing among many avenues. Now the turmoil is caused by lack of opportunity," Efron thinks. Farm children have the added burden or challenge of facing an unknown life off the farm.

"Kids growing up on a farm which has been in the family for generations know they will have to find a different life for themselves.

It's got to be scary. I think I see a lot of drifting on the part of teens."

Efron says the centre's credit counsellor has experienced an increase in the number of seasonal agriculture workers who haven't been able to find enough work in the tobacco fields to be eligible for unemployment benefits, so they run into personal difficulty and indebtedness.

People in strife seek release in various ways depending on the individual case, Efron says, and some even talk suicide. "It depends on how much support they have and how many financial options they have.

"Some people get quite depressed, some get violent and some, with support, pull themselves together to make those very tough choices they'll have to make... We try to give support."

## Deal made on '85 tobacco crop

By Gary May  
of The Free Press

OTTAWA — The Big Four tobacco manufacturers and Southwestern Ontario tobacco growers reached agreement in principle late Thursday for the sale of the farmers' entire 1985 crop.

The two sides will take the agreement back to the head offices and tobacco growers, then return to Ottawa next Wednesday in a bid to wrap up the plan, a spokesman for

Agriculture Minister John Wise said.

The farmers had warned that unless an agreement was reached soon, their 1985 crop, estimated at between 170 million and 190 million pounds, could spoil in storage. Wise called the two sides to Ottawa Thursday in a last-ditch effort to reach a compromise over the price and how much of the crop would be bought.

Sharon Andrews, an aide to Wise, said the manufacturers and representatives of the Ontario Flue-

Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board agreed in principle "to move the 1985 crop. There's been no decision on how that's going to happen," she said.

Details of the price, how the Big Four will divide the crop and how much tobacco will be exported have yet to be worked out, she said.

Wise met each side separately early on Thursday, then the manufacturers and the tobacco growers met head-to-head throughout the

● See Page A6, Col. 1

● From Page A1

afternoon and into the evening.

The tobacco growers say many will be driven out of business unless the manufacturers buy this year's crop.

Falling cigarette sales and competition from cheaper imported tobacco have combined to deflate the industry. The producers say high government taxes have caused the poor domestic market.

George Demeyere, a director of the tobacco marketing board, said

"it's not a solution until we know how much they (the Big Four) will pay" for the 1985 crop.

However, Demeyere, who was chairman of the board for 14 years, said "I think it's good. I'm pleased that both sides have agreed, without details at this point, to move" this year's harvest.

The announcement from Wise came on the eve of yet another protest rally by tobacco farmers. Spokesmen for what they call "the silent majority" of area tobacco farmers have not participated in

previous demonstrations.

An organizer said Thursday night that about 300 farmers are expected to converge on the tobacco board's head office in Tillsonburg at 10 a.m. to "encourage the board to make an agreement for the '85 crop."

Another spokesman for the farmers said "we can't afford to sit around and let our tobacco rot chasing rainbows."

Demeyere, aware the rally was afoot, said "I think there will be better news tomorrow."



## Over 1,100 farmers off to

TN DEC 9

By JULIE DAY

At least 1,110 tobacco farmers from Ontario, Quebec and Prince Edward Island will be in Ottawa today and tomorrow to make their concerns known to the federal government and delegates attending the annual Agriculture Outlook Conference sponsored by Agriculture Canada.

The decision to stage a "Look Out Rally" was only made late on Thursday. And on Friday morning, chairman of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board, Berry Murray, urged a group of farmers gathered at the Tillsonburg exchange to participate in the rally.

"This industry is definitely in a five-minutes-to-12 situation," he said "and I think it's going to be important to have as much participation, in positive way, from as many growers as possible."

The tobacco exchanges in Tillsonburg, Delhi and Aylmer had booked 800 people on buses that left in the first hour of today. Another 200 called to reserve accommodation in Ottawa, but have planned their own transportation to the rally. Producers were asked to pay for their own accommodation but the board planned to bear the cost of the buses.

Ninety-four people were booked on two buses leaving from Quebec and

one bus holding 47 farmers was reported to have left for Ottawa on Sunday from PEI.

Scheduling the rally to coincide with the Outlook Conference means farmers and farm groups from across Canada will have the opportunity to listen to tobacco farmers express their concerns about their own industry as well as issues affecting the entire farm community.

Mr. Murray said "now is an appropriate time" to voice those concerns because the House of Commons will adjourn in just over one week. With the serious problems facing the tobacco industry, he said the rally "is something that will have

positive results."

In a hotel ballroom just a few blocks from Parliament Hill, speakers have been set up to talk about a fair level of taxation on tobacco products, financial assistance to the industry to compensate for this unfair taxation and the transfer of the industry to national marketing board status. The group also plans to request assistance for all agricultural commodities.

Albert Knab, one of the board's directors who was busy helping to organize the rally this weekend, said the problems in the tobacco industry are a "symptom" of similar pro-

blems which could occur in other farm sectors because of inappropriate government policies.

Mr. Knab said individuals and other farm groups were contacted over the weekend and have agreed to support the tobacco farmers' rally. The Canadian and the Ontario federations of agriculture, the National Farmers Union, the Canadian Farm Survival Association, both the national egg and turkey marketing boards and John Langlois, chairman of the Liaison Committee of Farm Organizations, have agreed to support the farmers.

Mr. Knab said the rally will also be lobbying in support of concerns

## Municipal committee meeting with Wilson

A committee formed last month to represent tobacco area municipalities will be meeting with Federal Finance Minister Michael Wilson in Ottawa today. The group plans to outline the problems facing the tobacco industry and ask for government co-operation in getting the industry back on its feet.

A brief to Mr. Wilson, prepared by the Committee of Concerned Tobacco Area Municipalities, states, "Our main purpose here is to request a halt to the discriminatory taxation policies on tobacco from both the provincial and federal governments."

The group is asking that any increase in taxation at least be tied to the rate of inflation or the consumer price index.

Referring to the increase in tax on cigarettes announced in the federal budget in May, the brief stated "there cannot be anything like another 25-cent tax increase per package if our growers and manufacturers are to viably continue to operate. If another large tax increase occurs, the manufacturers

may well import more inexpensive foreign processed leaf..."

The committee points out that the economies of the tobacco municipalities are dependent on the tobacco industry. There is "a strong possibility" of a decline of 400 producers by next year, the brief explains and that could mean the loss of about 4,000 jobs.

This increase in local unemployment "has already taken its toll on some of the merchants whose stores are now empty in our communities," according to the brief to Mr. Wilson.

It was pointed out that the depressed local economies will increase the pressure on the government through lower income taxes and sales taxes and payments for unemployment insurance.

The committee of municipalities is looking for solutions to both short and long-term problems. Marketing the 1985 tobacco crop is a first priority. In the longer term, programs should be developed to assist farmers in switching to the production of other commodities, the committee says. TN DEC 9

the Municipal Tobacco Committee is taking to Finance Minister Michael Wilson today.

The tobacco farmers have been instructed to conduct an orderly demonstration on Parliament Hill, focusing on the three issues of taxation, compensation and a national agency, Mr. Knab said.

Tobacco board vice-president, Richard Bozek, told the farmers on Friday that "the purpose of the rally is not to be anti-government or anti-company -- it's to be pro-farmer... We are going there to show the government we are unified and wanting some future for this industry."



Signs of tobacco times

Placards carried by about 1,000 farmers participating in a demonstration in Ottawa Monday and Tuesday carried a variety of messages for government officials. The messages included this one for Finance Minister Michael Wilson stating a \$1.66 tax

on a single package of cigarettes is a vampire tax. Others included pleas for cost of production, a national tobacco marketing agency and a moratorium on all forced farm foreclosures. About 1,000 farmers from five provinces participated in the rally. (Staff Photo)

TN DEC 11

# "Axe the tax" flue farmers' cry during Parliament Hill rally

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By MARLENE OPDECAM

OTTAWA - Tobacco farmers from all five producing provinces were on hand at a massive demonstration held here Monday and Tuesday. Some vegetable growers also participated in the rally, adding to the impressive show of unity.

The more than 1,000 farmers endured lengthy bus trips and braved the freezing cold to draw government attention to their demands for a national tobacco marketing agency, fair taxation for tobacco products, and a selling price covering the cost of production. The farmers blamed excessive taxation for the shrinking market for tobacco and called for compensation for growers suffering because of that decline. The demonstrators called for government assistance for farmers growing other crops, too, including a moratorium on farm debt and the reinstatement of the Farmers Creditors Arrangement Act.

The first day of the protest was devoted to speeches by representatives from the Ontario Flue Cured Tobacco Growers' Marketing Board and the other four producing provinces. The NDP and Liberal agricultural critics also appeared.

Ontario board chairman Berry

Murray said farmers were being taxed out of existence. They must impress upon government the fact they grow a legal product and deserve to be treated justly, he said.

Ted Raytrowsky, a tobacco board director, advised growers they weren't there to ask for anything unreasonable. "We're asking for what is our right as Canadian citizens," Mr. Raytrowsky said. "We all know what we need. It is for us to get the message across to government."

Commenting on the growers' demands for a universal compensation package, Richard Bozek, vice-chairman of the board, told farmers the board doesn't want a compensation package requiring farmers to grow apples, tomatoes or any other crop. "I want to be able to have the right to choose. I don't want to be forced to go into any other crop that I don't feel is viable for my farm," he said. "We want a compensation package which applies equally to all growers."

NDP agricultural critic Vic Althouse said the government's delay in establishing a national tobacco marketing agency was unacceptable. Mr. Althouse said he

recognized growers need agency powers to bring the industry down to a size that would allow farmers to make a decent living. A national agency "is the only equitable way to go" he said. "I don't know why the government is delaying this."

As the rally progressed, the solemnity of Parliament Hill was shattered by chants of "axe the tax," "we want national," and "where's our government," mingled with the strains of an altered version of the Twisted Sister song We Won't Take It Anymore, which is fast becoming the tobacco farmers' anthem.

Frustrated by the failure of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney and Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise to appear during the rally's first day, farmers pelted RCMP officers with tomatoes and potatoes and burned bales of tobacco and an effigy of Mulroney.

On the demonstration's second day, farmers succeeded in forcing a reaction from the government with an aborted attempt to storm Parliament itself. The arrival of a riot squad armed with clubs and carrying shields was followed by a brief appearance by Haldimand-Norfolk MP Bud Bradley, Liberal MP Jean

Chretien and finally John Wise himself.

Mr. Wise refused to commit himself to proclaiming a national agency but did promise growers he would do everything he could to see a crop agreement for the sale of the 1985 crop hammered out in a meeting between the manufacturers and the Ontario tobacco board the next day.

Following his brief statement, the minister was whisked away by the security force.

In an interview, Berry Murray said four of the country's five flue-producing provinces had signed a document calling for temporary border controls against the import of foreign tobacco. He added he fully expected the Prince Edward Island chairman - who wasn't in Ottawa - to add his signature at a later date.

Mr. Murray said he hoped farmers could make the government realize tobacco producers must be treated fairly and not taxed out of business. Growers will keep demonstrating until they make their point, the chairman said. Commenting on upcoming crop talks, Mr. Murray said he hoped something concrete would come out of them. "We'll give it our best shot," he said.



## Farmers' protest in Ottawa

A demonstration, protesting high government taxes on tobacco products and urging the government to establish a national tobacco marketing agency, among other things, attracted more than 1,000 farmers, including about 200 from Quebec, Prince Edward Island,

Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The farmers threw tobacco leaves onto the steps of the parliament buildings, pelted the RCMP with vegetables, burned Prime Minister Brian Mulroney in effigy but stopped short of open violence the first day. (Staff Photo)

TN  
DEC 11

# Farmers act on farm crisis

By MARLENE OPDECAM

OTTAWA — The first annual Lookout Conference, a counter-conference to the federal government's annual farm outlook conference, got underway in Ottawa Monday afternoon with more than 1,000 farmers in attendance.

The conference, hosted by the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board, allowed prominent members of farm organizations and representatives of the Liberal and New Democratic parties to identify the problems facing the overall agriculture industry in Canada. The speakers also pinpointed what the government has failed to do in terms of preserving the country's farming industry.

Although the meeting was arranged by the tobacco board, Board Chairman Berry Murray indicated its purpose was to prove to other commodity groups tobacco producers are broadminded enough to care about agriculture in the country as a whole. Mr. Murray told his audience he was disturbed to see the country's agriculture industry "being slowly and systematically destroyed".

"We're not going to take it anymore," he said. He told growers the government and the general public no longer recognize agriculture as the backbone of the country. It is up to farmers to change that attitude and we're going to do it, Mr. Murray said unequivocally.

Conditions in the country have reached the point where farmers of all commodities must unite or the farm way of life will be destroyed. "We've been getting it in the hind end long enough," he said. "We've got farm-AIDS and everyone of us knows what to do about it."

Mr. Murray indicated to farmers the time to turn things around for agriculture is now. "If agriculture doesn't become a government priority, our future and that of our children are at stake," he said.

Commenting on free trade, Mr. Murray challenged the government to make sure there are equitable farm policies in Canada first before its leaps out to try and settle trade differences with the United States.

Referring to government bailouts of ailing industrial corporations and banks, Mr. Murray said if the government would give agriculture only \$1 billion, farmers could put Canada on the map. "We'll show

them how to make this nation go," the chairman said.

Sharing a current farm story with the audience, Mr. Murray said in the past when farmers were asked to form a firing line, they formed a circle. Today, he said, farmers are starting to form a pretty straight line and they're aiming at the government.

Other speakers at the conference included Rolland Clouthier of the Quebec Tobacco Producers Association, Harry Pelissero, president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Don Knoerr, president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, Maurice Foster, Liberal Agriculture critic, Vic Althouse, NDP agriculture critic, Wayne Easter, president of the National Farmers Union and Marion Muth from the Norfolk Concerned Farm Women's group.

Mr. Pelissero, in his address, said the government's refusal to proclaim a national tobacco marketing agency, sends a message out to other commodity groups on where they stand on existing legislation today. There is need for concern on the part of other farm groups as a result, he said.

Mr. Pelissero said farmers have had accepted the challenge to unite tossed at them so frequently in the past in order to get things done. "We're all speaking with the same voice and that scares them (the government)", he said. Mr. Pelissero urged farmers to continue to stand united.

It's time Mr. Mulroney made some decisions, he said in closing.

Don Knoerr, told farmers farm financing is the major issue facing the industry today. The CFA has been asking for farm creditors arrangements outside of the bankruptcy act, farm credit loans at realistic rates and a change in the Farm Credit Corporation mandate. He indicated Mr. Wise has said he would respond with legislation in those areas soon.

Commenting on free trade, he said the government must ensure the basic structure of Canadian agriculture is defended. Mr. Knoerr said government in the past few months has indicated some recognition of where farmers stand on the free trade issue. The crucial challenge is to work together collectively to make sure farmers are as close to the free trade bargaining table as possible.

He indicated to the tobacco

farmers present he felt strongly no reason or excuse why a national marketing agency, that works for Canadian farmers and is Canadian farmers' privilege by law, should not be available to all legal commodities, including tobacco.

Mr. Foster came out in support of the national agency for tobacco and indicated he was not in favor of free-trade talks which put agriculture on the table. He indicated his party's disappointment in the lack of progress in resolving the farm debt crisis in the past federal budget which only included programs aimed at helping farmers out of agriculture. Mr. Foster said he believes the government had a responsibility to act and act quickly on farm crisis issues including tobacco. The government has a responsibility to use some of the tax dollars earned from tobacco to assist farmers now, he said.

What is happening to tobacco now could be happening to any other commodity group, Mr. Easter said. They are all in trouble. Mr. Easter told producers the prime minister finds it easier to discuss free trade issues with the U.S. than to face gut issues at home. He blamed the problems facing agriculture on government policies.

"Farmers aren't in trouble because agricultural policies failed, they're in trouble because they succeeded," he said. Farmers have to tell government they're not going to take it anymore; that they won't stand for one more farmer going under, Mr. Easter said.

He urged growers of all commodities to band together as farmers, not commodity groups, to protest politically with more demonstrations in bigger numbers. Don't react to government but organize and demonstrate so government responds to farmers, he said.

The closing speaker at the Lookout Conference was Tillsonburg area farmer Mrs. Muth. In a moving speech, she listed the social problems rising from the tough financial times farmers find themselves in. Wife beating and child abuse is on the rise in rural areas, Mrs. Muth said. She told the crowd of a 13-year-old child who was afraid she'd go to the barn some day and find her father hanging there.

"It's frightening when children can see what's happening in agriculture but our government can't," she concluded.



### Firey demonstration

About 1,000 angry farmers, determined to spur government action on the crisis facing tobacco farmers, gathered on Parliament Hill Monday and Tuesday. The protesters burned bales of their unsold tobacco and an effigy of Prime Minister Brian

Mulroney to attract attention to their cause. Some in the crowd pelted RCMP officers with tomatoes and other alternate crop produce while they chanted catch phrases like "axe the tax, universal compensation for tobacco farmers, COP and we want national." (Staff Photo)

# Riot police curb farmer

TN DEC 11

By MARLENE OPDECAM

OTTAWA -- More than 1,000 tobacco farmers demonstrating here Monday and Tuesday had to resort to violence before they finally got what they wanted -- a personal confrontation with Agriculture Minister John Wise in the final hour of the two-day rally.

The farmers from Ontario, Quebec, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia didn't return home with any government promises on a national tobacco marketing agency, cost of production, tying the tobacco tax to the consumer price index, a universal com-

pensation package for tobacco growers or a moratorium on all forced farm foreclosures.

They did have the satisfaction of knowing they'd made their presence felt.

It took an overt threat of violence from the frustrated farmers to accomplish what long hours of relatively peaceful protesting couldn't. Cries of "We want John" had gone unanswered until frustrated demonstrators surged against the frail metal barrier separating them from access to the Parliament buildings. Security guards manning the fence forced the

crowd back and within seconds a squad of riot police armed with clubs and carrying shields formed a human wall on the steps of the building.

Shortly after the abortive attempt by farmers to storm the House of Commons, Haldimand-Norfolk MP Bud Bradley put in an appearance. Mr. Bradley assured growers he was doing everything he could. The MP said the demonstration was helping to get the message across to other government MPs who didn't understand the issue and assured them John Wise would put in an appearance. Jean Chretien, prominent

Liberal opposition member, also came out to speak to the angry group. Mr. Chretien told growers he favored supply management and opposed free trade talks that put agriculture on the bargaining table. His comments elicited cheers from growers.

After a lengthy wait, Mr. Wise arrived from the 51st annual Agriculture Outlook conference. Explaining his belated appearance, the minister told the farmers his longstanding commitment to the conference had kept him busy but assured them he appreciated the importance of the tobacco industry to

the general economy, its impact in Southwestern Ontario and the importance of the revenue it generates for both levels of government and the economy as a whole. Getting down to specifics, Mr. Wise said neither he nor Prime Minister Brian Mulroney had changed their minds on a national agency and would honor promises made earlier. He said, however, that in view of the court order to reopen the public hearings and the justice department's decision to appeal that ruling, he had to respect the court system.

Mr. Wise acknowledged he had the

legislative powers to proclaim an agency but said farmers still wouldn't have one without one of two things -- all producing provinces acting as signatories for the agency or letters of commitment from the provinces assuring government of their willingness to live by the terms of a national plan. "We haven't got either of these at this point in time," Mr. Wise said.

The only bright note in the agriculture minister's address was his promise of continuing involvement in crop negotiations. Mr. Wise said he felt progress had been made at a meeting between the flue marketing board and manufacturers held last week and told growers if he had anything to say about the crop talks which were to commence today, the two parties wouldn't leave the capital without a deal for the sale of the 1985 flue crop. He threatened to lock the two groups in a room and "throw the damn key away" until that end was accomplished. "It may not be tomorrow (Wednesday), it may not be two days from tomorrow. It may not even be by the weekend," Mr. Wise shouted, "but if I have anything to do about it they won't leave without a deal for the 1985 crop."

He compared getting the two sides together to "moving mountains".

Although farmers participating in the rally went home without concrete promises of support for their



## Farmers riot on Parliament Hill

Frustrated by the non-appearance of Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, despite two days of peaceful demonstration, farmers participating in a rally for the establishment of a national tobacco marketing agency and against

punitive government taxes on their product, surged against the barrier separating them from the parliament buildings on Tuesday. RCMP held the crowd back and a riot squad appeared to back up RCMP crowd control efforts. (Staff Photo)

demands from the federal government, they were pleased their protests had been heard.

During the first day of the demonstration, farmers pelted RCMP officers with tomatoes and burned bales of tobacco and an effigy of Brian Mulroney. Following their three-hour vigil in the freezing cold, the demonstrators left the hill on the way to the first annual Lookout Conference hosted by the tobacco board. Marching down Wellington Street en masse to the Westin Hotel where the conference was being held, the farmers sang their anthem, an altered version of the Twisted Sisters song "We Aren't Going to Take It Anymore." A few ran through the blocked traffic plaster-

ing car bumpers, light standards and telephone poles with My Pleasure My Choice stickers.

The conference was a kind of counter-meeting to the annual federal Agricultural Outlook conference being held across the street. Along with tobacco-related issues, it dealt with the issue of free trade, the need for supply management and called for government to impose a farm foreclosure moratorium and reinstate the Farmers Creditors Arrangements Act.

Both tobacco board chairman Berry Murray and vice-chairman Richard Bozek were pleased with the demonstration. Mr. Murray said

he felt both the Lookout conference and the demonstration had gone well. Referring to the throwing of vegetables, he said farmers are a spirited group and things like that happen all the time. Mr. Murray said he believed no one wanted violence but added he hoped government recognized that when producers' farms and homes were being taken away it wasn't a very pleasant situation.

## Impromptu rally raises hackles in

OTTAWA — *DN Dec 11*  
 In an effort to give the tobacco crisis national exposure and obtain the support of agricultural organizations across the country, the Tobacco Board arranged a two-hour forum in a downtown hotel Monday afternoon.

Speakers from several organizations agreed to address the forum, not only to focus on the particular problems of tobacco growers but also the tribulations of agriculture in general.

Board Vice-Chairman Richard Bozek told farmers gathered in the Tillsonburg auction exchange Friday morning the forum had not been arranged as a platform to criticize politicians from, but to show them farmers are united.

There has been mounting speculation that the emphasis the Federal Government has been placing on free trade may be a major factor in the roadblocks which have been encountered in establishing a national marketing agency for tobacco. Directors have expressed the opinion that should tobacco growers be denied an agency, no other commodity group seeking the right to use this Act in the future is likely to obtain permission to do so. Beyond this, there is concern free trade could lead to the disenfranchisement of marketing boards which use supply management.

Last week, about 50 tobacco growers demonstrated and buttonholed MPs and ministers to tell of the calamity their communities face. They planned their trip to stress the urgency of the situation, as Minister of Agriculture John Wise met with the presidents of the four tobacco manufacturing companies and a committee of Board directors on Thursday.

### Directors confronted

As this meeting was going on, telephone calls were being made by farmers anxious to see an agreement reached for the 1985 crop. They urged others to join with them in confronting directors about the urgency of selling the crop, before a scheduled Board meeting began Friday morning.

Between 300 and 400 people gathered in the unheated Tillsonburg auction exchange, where tempers flared briefly, as those criticizing directors for name-calling during negotiations and recent grower demonstrations exchanged words with others voicing support for the Board's efforts.

Some expressed the opinion the Board could reach an agreement for the crop if directors wanted to, but that they were, instead, holding out for a national marketing agency.

Board supporters asked if a letter mailed to producers by an anonymous group a few

weeks ago, suggesting 170 million pounds could be sold for \$1.80 was the reason for the confusion. They asked anyone there who could assure such an agreement to come forward. No one did.

"There is no agreement," Chairman Berry Murray told the gathering. He said the proposal put forward by one company president that 170 million pounds be marketed at



Berry Murray  
 50-50 chance.

\$1.75, provided the Federal Government pay carrying charges until next fall on the unsold portion of the crop, has yet to jell.

"I think we are making progress at every meeting, but I cannot promise you anything. I can't speak for company presidents. At this time, I'd guess there's a 50-50 chance.

"But we have other problems if this industry is to have a future... unfair taxation... the compensation package... a national agency for the future. It is important to keep working on them all.

"We're in negotiations. Anything said here to undermine the Board in front of the press won't help," Mr. Murray said.

As the gathering broke up, RR 2 Tillsonburg farmer George Gilvesy Jr., who had criticized the lack of progress in reaching a crop agreement, said he was voicing his own opinion, but knew a small group of farmers with similar views. It turned out to be a large group, he added, in reference to the attendance.

However, another farmer said it appeared the organizers didn't have their information correct. Everyone wants to sell the crop, but there is no deal.

"We are all striving for the same goals as the Board, but we have to sell this crop under reasonable terms to reach those goals or there won't be any future," Mr. Gilvesy said.

"I think directors are striving to do so, but we are just trying to bring it to a conclusion.

In the short-term, selling the crop and the redux program are necessities for our existence. In the long-term, it's the agency."

Persistent telephone calling and buttonholing kept the group of 50 growers who demonstrated in Ottawa last week busy. In all, the group estimated it had managed to have personal conversations with 12 MPs or ministers. Among them was Haldimand-Norfolk MP Bud Bradley and Oxford MP Bruce Halliday.

Four of the group managed to get an appointment with Minister of Health Jake Epp and were impressed by his knowledge of the situation. Met by Mr. Epp and his Parliamentary Assistance were Langton-Delhi area growers Morris VanBesien, Noel Heye, Mike Schweder and Ed Kriwez.

"Basically we told him we have been done a misjustice by anti-smoking groups... that the bulk of our exports do not go to Third World countries... that as many people would continue to smoke, even if no tobacco is grown in Canada," Mr. Kriwez said.

"Mr. Epp brought up the possibility of assistance through taxation. We told him taxation was a major part of the industry's problem, but if any was to be returned to growers, it would have to be done in a manner which would ensure it was simply not deducted from prices we receive for upcoming crops. Only an agency can ensure this, we told Mr. Epp," Mr. Kriwez said.

## Farmers vent anger on Parliament Hill

By Dave MacLaren  
 Staff Writer

OTTAWA — An effigy and tobacco leaves were set on fire and potatoes and tomatoes were hurled toward the House of Commons



Agriculture  
 Minister  
 John Wise  
 No show

as a crowd of 1,000 angry tobacco growers vented their frustration here Monday.

Growers from all five flue-cured tobacco producing provinces took part in the demonstration. They called for fair taxation of tobacco products and compensation from the losses that punitive taxation has caused in tobacco belts.

A momentary scuffle occurred between RCMP and farmers unloading two pick-up trucks filled with baled tobacco and bags of potatoes.

Growers' spokesmen told the crowd to throw the potatoes at the House of Commons. At one point a few people pushed a barrier gate open and began to move forward until the RCMP blocked their path.

At 2:40 p.m. the crowd marched in loose formation along Rideau Street to the Westin Hotel.

There, in a gloves-off poke at the Agricultural Outlook Conference in progress across the street, tobacco growers staged a two-hour forum called Agricultural Look-Out Conference.

Several speakers, including NDP Agricultural Critic Vic Althouse and Liberal Agricul-

ture critic Dr. Maurice Foster, who had been with the demonstrators in front of the House of Commons, reiterated their support for a national marketing agency.

Harry Pelissero, president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, and Don Knoerr, president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, said the agency should be sanctioned without further delay.

Wayne Easter, president of the National Farmers Union, strongly endorsed national agency status for any community group that requested it.

Every speaker spoke of the disastrous debt crisis facing agriculture in general. All were cheered and applauded.

Yesterday at 1 p.m. the protesters regrouped at the House of Commons. Some growers vowed to go to the members of the Government if members did not speak to them.

Although telexes had been sent to 25 prominent MPs, inviting them to address the complaints, only Mr. Althouse and Dr. Foster attended Monday's rally.

*DN  
 Dec 11*

# Peter Trueman speaks

Global Television anchorman Peter Trueman made this commentary on Dec. 10, after watching

tobacco growers demonstrate in Ottawa. Finally, I watched some angry farmers yesterday through my office window, burning bales of flue-cured tobacco at the top of the

## out for tobacco growers

steps in front of the Peace Tower.

I chuckled to myself when it occurred to me that they were probably burning sand leaves, the first to come off when the priming begins, the lowest quality, and the lowest priced.

I was burning my own little sacrificial offering at the time, in a pipe. I wasn't burning tobacco out of anger, but force of habit, a

habit I freely admit is a filthy one, and one which at very least does no good to the people with whom I share air space.

What tobacco growers and smokers have in common is that they are both an endangered species.

Perhaps the smokers deserve the opprobrium, but I would find that easier to take somehow if the non-smokers didn't



Peter Trueman

cheerfully pollute the air with their automobile exhausts, didn't drink and drive at us, and weren't so rude and sanctimonious.

Be that as it may, surely we should leave the tobacco farmers out of it. We don't hold farmers who grow fields of rye or barley to be responsible for alcoholism.

What the tobacco growers were protesting yesterday was financial ruin. Like other farmers, they have been caught in the trap set by equity financing — land prices went down and interest rates went up, about the same time.

Their sales have been hurt, not only by the anti-smoking lobby, but by high federal taxes, which account for about one half of the price of a package of gaspers. And they have been hurt by the tobacco companies, who have been buying the noxious weed more cheaply from other countries.

They don't know whether they'll be able to sell their current crop at all,

and their financial status has gone from rosy to bloody.

What they want is little enough — a small portion of the huge federal tax to help them make the transition to other crops, and the marketing board that the Federal Government has promised.

And they would like a little reason instead of mindless howling from the holier-than-thou.

There is no anti-smoking lobby in China. Why not sell the Chinese Canadian tobacco? And there isn't enough food in Africa. So why have the multinational tobacco companies urged

Zimbabwe to increase tobacco production, when the same land, at very least could be used to grow peanuts.

You could argue that the people who are fighting tobacco production in this country are, unwittingly, forcing higher production in third world countries and adding to the hunger problem.

Why is it in this country that the farmers are the first to take their lumps and the last to make any money out of it?

I'm Peter Trueman, in Ottawa.

## Area tobacco town reps have "good meeting" with Wilson

NG DECM

A meeting between the Committee of Concerned Tobacco Area Municipalities and Federal Finance Minister Michael Wilson was "very good", said Norwich Township Mayor John Heleniak, one of 10 local municipal officials meeting with the minister in Ottawa, Monday.

The committee, formed last month to represent tobacco area municipalities, presented Wilson with a brief outlining the problems facing the tobacco industry and asking for government co-operation in getting the industry back on its feet.

The brief states, "Our main purpose here is to request a halt to discriminatory taxation policies on tobacco from both the provincial and federal governments."

The group asked that that any increase in taxation be tied into the rate of inflation index or the consumer price index.

Referring to the increase in tax on cigarettes announced in the federal budget in May, the brief stated "there cannot be anything like another 25 cent tax increase per package if our growers and manufacturers are to viably continue to operate. If another large tax increase occurs, the manufacturers may well import more inexpensive foreign processed leaf...."

"We had a very good meeting with Mr. Wilson," said the Norwich mayor. "He said our meeting was very timely because (the federal government) is presently in their budget planning process."

"He told us that he appreciates the position farmers are in and he'd take it into account in the budget."

The mayor said Wilson asked the committee to get in touch with him if it had any further ideas on the problem.

However, said Mr. Heleniak, Wilson cautioned "the government's pockets are not deep" and he added "we (the government) don't want a fiscal or deficit problem."

Wilson also suggested that the producers and manufacturers work together and try to get a broad basis of support and find middle ground.

"You know quota was selling as high as \$2.65 per pound three years ago and now it's down to a \$1.15 or a \$1.35 per pound. Farmers are really frightened," said the mayor.

On the topic of the national marketing agency, Wilson told the group that Agriculture Minister John Wise has to wait for the report. He said there is difficulty in establishing a national agency because the other two tobacco producing provinces, Quebec and PEI,

haven't lobbied for it.

Wilson also told the group he was "very optimistic" an agreement would be reached on the sale of the 1985 tobacco crop this week.

The committee pointed out that the economies of the tobacco producing municipalities are dependant on the tobacco industry. There is a strong possibility of a decline of 400 producers by next year, the brief explained meaning a loss of about 4,000 jobs.

This increase in local unemployment "has already taken its toll on some of the merchants whose stores are now empty in our communities."

It was pointed out that the depressed local economies will increase the pressure on the government through lower income taxes and payments for unemployment insurance.

The committee of municipalities is looking for solutions to both short and long-term problems. Marketing the 1985 crop is the first priority. In the longer term, programs should be developed to assist farmers in switching to the production of other commodities.

# Township businesses hurting along with tobacco growers

NC DEC 11

by PETER McLAUGHLIN

As the fortunes of the tobacco industry go, so go the fortunes of Norwich Township.

The local economy is very much dependant on a healthy tobacco industry. Tobacco is the major crop in the southern part of the Township and as such, is a major factor in keeping local businesses in the black. If the tobacco growers are hurting, so are the grocery stores, the appliance dealerships, the farm-related businesses, construction firms, perhaps even the local barber. If the tobacco industry dies, so very well might the community.

Right now tobacco growers are in trouble. The most pressing problem is that 190 million pounds of tobacco are still sitting in the drying kilns,

unsold. Tobacco auctions, which normally open in mid-October, remain closed. Tobacco farmers' efforts to establish a national marketing agency have stalled. Cigarette manufacturers have dramatically reduced their requirements and their price per pound. Once the province's most lucrative crop, tobacco could become a financial and social disaster.

However, in Norwich Township, the skies have not blackened, yet.

Many local businesses surveyed by The Gazette have experienced no or only a marginal decline in sales. A few, however, are hurting.

Has the fact the farmers haven't sold any of their tobacco crop yet hurt Paret's Agricultural Chemicals Co. Ltd?

"You better believe it," said owner Roland Paret, of Otterville. "Our business is absolutely at a stand still." Usually by this time of year, the chemical company has booked 90 per cent of its orders. "This year they haven't committed themselves to a single dollar."

Mr. Paret said he won't be forced out of business at this early stage, but if growers end up growing a substantially smaller crop next year, he'll have to cut his business back drastically.

Further north in Norwich, farm suppliers are feeling the pinch less.

"There's the general feeling that tobacco farmers are spending less, but at this time it really isn't affecting us (Norwich United Co-operatives of Ontario)," said plant manager Dean Donaldson.

Mr. Donaldson said sales at the UCO are better than at this time last year, "but we're at the northern end of the Township, I don't think we'd feel it as much as those down in Delhi or Tillsonburg."

Otterville household appliance dealer Ken Lee said business was going well until two weeks ago "when it just died. But I can't say it's because of the tobacco farmers not having any money."

While tobacco farmers await the sale of their 1985 crop, banks are supporting them with a line of credit.

"It seems that most of the tobacco farmers in the area seem to be living within their credit limit. For those who have reached their credit line we've been advancing funds to them where we can," said Brian Smith, Public Affairs spokesman with the Bank of Montreal in Toronto.

Mr. Smith reported that in the last few months there has been a noticeable increase in the loans we've given out. "And not only to the farmers, but to some of the suppliers in the area."

"We're making sure that all of our customers have what ever they need to cover their living expenses until they sell their crops. We're not putting undue pressure on the producers who are handling their accounts responsibly."

Local insurance companies handling the accounts of area growers haven't yet started to feel the pinch themselves. Otter Dorchester manager Reg Black said the integrity of the tobacco farmer is very good "in these very unsettled" times.

So far there have been no incidences of frustrated farmers burning their kilns for the insurance money as there has been in previous difficult times. The company, which handles the policies on about 800 tobacco farms, could, however, be in tougher straits if farmers in general decide to reduce production next year.

While Norwich Township's private sector will suffer with a depressed tobacco market, the Township as a whole will also suffer. Less revenue in the form of taxes will severely limit the services the Township can give its ratepayers.

"The tobacco industry is vital to the Township of Norwich. It's quite possible with the further erosion of our tax base we could suffer an overall reduction in essential services to the municipality," said Norwich Township mayor John Heleniak.

He said there may be an severe increase in taxes next year if growers can't recover from the delay in the sale of this year's crop or that some guarantees are given on what volumes the manufacturers will purchase next year.

Mr. Heleniak said 400 producers have left the business in the last four years. "If this trend continues we may lose another 400 before long."

Local mechanics are now beginning to have business affected by the current state of affairs.

"It's hard to say how much business we've lost this year," said Norwich mechanic Mark Harrison. "With no money coming in, tobacco farmers are not coming to us to have their equipment repaired."

McMullen's Machine Shop in Otterville reported business over the past month or so has "slowed down a bit, but other work has picked things

up." With Christmas only a couple of weeks away, local retailers selling luxury items are feeling some affect. Sales at Munro's Jewellery, Norwich are down "quite a bit compared to this time last year," reported Ross Munro.

"It's not really bad, but we're noticing it."

In an attempt to give tobacco farmers an additional voice of support, the Norwich Township Chamber of Commerce is in the process of establishing a rural-urban committee to assist and support them.

"If they needed the Chamber of Commerce in their communications with the government or whomever, we would do so," said Chamber president Glen Baxter.

Tobacco grower Tony Drescher of Otterville said at this time last year he had sold 60 per cent of his crop. Presently, "I'm getting by, but there are others - mostly younger farmers who are in bad difficulty."

To get by from day to day, Mr. Drescher said he just keeps on borrowing. "I'm trying cut it down to just the necessities."

However, in spite of it all, many in the business community are optimistic.

"My personal feeling is that there was tobacco here before and there'll be tobacco here for years to come. I'm very optimistic," said Roland Paret.

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## Alternate crops in Ottawa

After three hours of waiting in the freezing cold for Conservative party representatives to respond to demands for a national agency and tobacco tax policy changes, participants in a farmer demonstration held in Ottawa Monday and Tuesday departed from Parliament Hill. They left behind them a reminder of

their presence. Burned tobacco bales, smashed tomatoes, corn and potatoes littered the hill. Members of the group had pelted RCMP officers with the vegetables during the protest. About 1,000 farmers from five provinces, representing tobacco and other commodities, took part in the demonstration. (Staff Photo)



## Some sympathy on tobacco tax, but...

T.N. Dec 13

# Finance minister non

By MARLENE OPDECAM

Federal Finance Minister Michael Wilson was described as being sympathetic but noncommittal in the face of a report emphasizing the hardships created in tobacco-belt communities by punitive taxation of tobacco products.

The minister met with 10 members of the Municipal Committee of Concerned Tobacco Area Municipalities in Ottawa Monday. Dan VanLondersele, one of the members of the committee, said Thursday the meeting was worthwhile in the sense it brought Mr. Wilson up to date on the financial realities facing tobacco

municipalities if the industry continues to falter.

Mr. VanLondersele said he didn't get the impression the finance minister was aware of the ripple effect the continuing decline of the industry would have on surrounding businesses and communities before the committee presented its brief to him.

The main purpose of the municipal committee's meeting with Mr. Wilson was to request a halt in the discriminatory taxation on tobacco at the federal and provincial levels. Currently federal taxes on a package of 25 cigarettes are 32 cents and provincial taxes are 84 cents, for

a total of \$1.66 per pack just in taxes.

The group asked the minister to tie any future tax increases on tobacco to the consumer price index rather than the ad valorem method of calculation used in the past.

Referring to the tax increase of 25 cents announced in the federal budget last May, the committee indicated in its brief to the finance minister that there could not be another such increase per package if growers and manufacturers are to viably continue to operate.

Mr. VanLondersele said Mr. Wilson appeared sympathetic and said that when he taxed tobacco in May he did not do it with the inten-

tion of putting the industry out of business. He added, however, that government pockets were "shallow" and said he had fiscal problems that he had to deal with.

The Delhi councillor said he got the impression no matter how sympathetic the minister was to the plight of producers, Mr. Wilson still felt tobacco was a politically expedient product on which to drum up tax revenue.

According to Mr. VanLondersele, Haldimand-Norfolk MP Bud Bradley was at the meeting and supportive of the committee and its demands throughout the hour-long session.

However, Mr. Bradley did say near the end of the meeting he didn't feel tax was the major problem facing tobacco producers because tobacco consumption hadn't declined in proportion with the tax hike. Mr. Bradley maintained the major issue was tobacco farmers getting a fair return for their product, Mr. VanLondersele said.

In response to Mr. Bradley's statement, Mr. VanLondersele said he told Mr. Wilson both issues are vital to the stabilization of the industry.

The committee's brief also urged the minister to consider long-term programs which could aid the troubled industry. Its recommenda-

### Riot squad called

A 40-man RCMP riot squad, armed with riot sticks, formed a human wall between farmers protesting in Ottawa Tuesday and the steps of the parliament buildings. The squad arrived when protesters hurled themselves against the barrier separating them from the building in what was perceived by security guards as an abortive attempt to storm the building. In the House of Commons the following day, the Conservative government came under fire from New

Democrat Vic Althouse who saw the action as excessive and reminiscent of government shows of military force in South Africa. The incident did succeed in prompting Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise's appearance before demonstrators. Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, took security officials advice, however, and left the building by a side door rather than the normal exit which would have left him in the protesters' full view. (Staff Photo)

### Farmers demonstrate

T.N. Dec 13

# Get feds' attention

By MARLENE OPDECAM

Tobacco producers across Canada can't exist much longer under the present conditions. Status quo is no longer acceptable.

Those statements were made by Joe Spriet, Prince Edward Island tobacco producer and former chairman of the Island's tobacco board, during a massive farmer protest on Parliament Hill in Ottawa Tuesday.

Mr. Spriet and some 30 other Island producers made an exhausting 16-hour bus trip to attend the farmers' demonstration organized by the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board. The producer explained his presence at the rally simply. "I believe in this," he said. "Before you can get someone to listen, you have to get their attention."

The demonstration brought some 1,000 tobacco and other commodity producers from five provinces together on Parliament Hill in a unified attempt to get government action on the pressing problems facing tobacco and the agricultural industry in general. Mr. Spriet said the effort was successful.

He said it was the first time he was aware of that Prime Minister Brian Mulroney had actually acknowledged during question period in the House

of Commons that a problem existed. "Without the demonstration, he wouldn't have," Mr. Spriet said. "He was forced to speak to the problem because of the demonstration."

Mr. Spriet was last in Ottawa in November, to present a brief signed by 73 per cent of the island's tobacco producers to Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise asking Mr. Wise to use his discretionary powers to proclaim a national tobacco marketing agency. He said more of PEI's 81 growers would have made the trip this time if it hadn't been so far to travel.

The farmers' demonstration was on the whole peaceful. However, on Tuesday, the second day of picketing by the group, the protesters, frustrated by Federal Agriculture Minister John Wise's and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's failure to put in an appearance, surged forward toward the steps of the parliament buildings. Security men forced the crowd back and the riot squad marched on the scene pounding their riot sticks against their shields.

The RCMP riot squad is seen only infrequently on the hill. Long-time observers could only recall two instances in the past 15 years when the squad had been called out.

The prime minister was criticized in the House of Commons Wednesday by New Democratic agriculture critic Vic Althouse who described the action excessive and reminiscent of tactics used by the government in South Africa. These are not normal times for farmers and they deserve a lot better than threats, the party member said.

Demonstrators were in Ottawa to demand the proclamation of a national tobacco marketing agency, to seek fair taxation on tobacco products, to urge the government to keep its promise for a compensation package for tobacco farmers and to request a moratorium on forced farm foreclosures and the reinstatement of the 1930s Farmers Creditors Arrangement Act.

While the two-day demonstration was taking place federal agricultural economists, government representatives, including John Wise, academic and commodity group representatives, were attending the 51st annual Agriculture Outlook conference discussing, among other issues, the crucial importance of soil conservation.

The farmers' rally was attended by farmers from Ontario, Quebec, PEI, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia.

tions included an on-going program to take excess quota off the market; consideration of financial losses sustained by producers because of the redundancy of tobacco production related equipment; consideration of tobacco sharegrowing families left without employment, unemployment insurance benefits, severance benefits and pensions; continued ample funding for tobacco research; a program to provide transitional subsidies enabling farmers to meet their debt load while getting into other crops; a program to encourage tobacco farmers to diversify and consideration of programs which would remove some of the tobacco acreage from agricultural use by reforestation and recreational and historical site development.

Mr. VanLondersele said the committee hadn't expected any concrete answers on its proposals prior to the upcoming federal budget.

Tobacco Board Chairman Berry Murray said in Ottawa Tuesday feedback he'd received on the committee's meeting with Mr. Wilson indicated its members had made Mr. Wilson aware of the problems facing the industry and its surrounding municipalities. Mr. Wilson couldn't tell them what would be in the budget but he was made aware of the problems. "That's all you can ask for now," Mr. Murray commented.

Growers attending the first annual Lookout conference hosted by the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board in Ottawa Monday were asked to write to cabinet and members of parliament concerning a halt to punitive tobacco taxation. A paper distributed during the meeting pointed out that with one pound of green weight tobacco producing 526 cigarettes or 21 packages, the collective government tax on a pound of tobacco equals \$34.86.

Using those figures, an individual grower producing a 70,000 pound flue crop would provide \$2,444,200 to the two levels of government in tax revenues.

The farmers who actually produce the product get approximately six cents per package of cigarettes and between \$1.60 and \$1.70 a pound.

# Wise weathers stormy autumn

By Gary May

Ottawa Bureau

L.F.P.  
D.C.K.

OTTAWA — If this has been a rough autumn for the Conservative government, it has been particularly rough for Agriculture Minister John Wise.

Wise celebrated his 50th birthday this week, juggling tobacco negotiations, criticism of the country's meat inspection system and charges from the farm community that he has failed to deliver on promises to ease their pressing debt load.

He has become the focal point of farmers' frustrations with a government they feel is more sympathetic to big business and the banks — agriculture's two traditional enemies.

Spokesmen for the farm industry say Wise has failed to muster government support for the kind of help they need to withstand the economic climate. Yet they have not lost their respect for the soft-spoken Elgin County dairyman.

They give him top marks for his style and his earnest approach to what has become, uncharacteristically, one of the highest-profile cabinet positions in the past few weeks.

Wise's Liberal predecessor, Essex County's green stetson-sporting Eugene Whelan, says: "I think he's doing a pretty good job in some difficult conditions. I don't think I had that many (problems) all at once."

Don Knoerr, Canadian Federation of Agriculture president, says Wise has "a good understanding of our problems. It's a very difficult time in agriculture and farmers' frustration is aimed particularly at Wise."



JOHN WISE  
--- top marks for style

Harry Pelissero, president of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, says he would give Wise a "B."

Pelissero considers it a major victory for Wise to have persuaded the first ministers to put agriculture on the agenda of their recent Halifax meeting. It was the first time agriculture has been discussed at a meeting between the prime minister and the premiers, he says.

Yet much of the praise for Wise is based on the style he has exhibited in handling the unexpected series of problems — Western drought and grasshopper infestation, falling commodity prices, unsold tobacco and the tobacco industry's frustration at being blocked in its bid to form a national marketing agency, and farm bankruptcy.

When it comes to rating his success at delivering on Tory promises, the jury is still out but leaning toward conviction.

Vic Althouse, New Democratic Party agriculture critic and a Saskatchewan farmer, says Wise faces a "major constraint — the kind of cabinet and party he has to work with."

"Wise has been unable to get his message through to the business and political thinkers in cabinet."

Althouse says Wise has not been able to deal with the immediate financial crisis. While Wise points to more than 100 "initiatives" the government has taken in its first 15 months, Althouse says "most of them would have been done regardless of who was the minister." Few are significant, he says.



EUGENE WHELAN  
--- "he's doing a pretty good job"

Wise has led farmers to believe the government will introduce legislation by the end of the year to allow third-party review of farm debt and empower the courts to order set-aside and write-down of debt.

"He has given us great expectations," says Althouse. "The tobacco stalemate is beginning to highlight the test as to whether he's going to be an effective minister or just a pleasant person."

Ontario Agriculture Minister Jack Riddell and fellow Southwestern Ontario farmer has known Wise since the late 1950s. "There's no question John understands the industry," says Riddell.

"But he's having a hard time getting his (cabinet) colleagues to understand the hard time the agriculture industry is going through. This is the most difficult time to be an agriculture minister since the 1930s. Every government is practising restraint and they don't have the resources to help out."

The heat has been turned up in recent weeks. On Nov. 11, on the steps of city hall in Wise's native St.

Thomas, 800 jeering, booing farmers confronted the minister and demanded legislative safeguards for farm debtors.

Wise was not in Delhi on Nov. 30 but 500 tobacco farmers vented their anger at him anyway. They brandished letters from Wise and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney promising a national marketing agency — a promise yet to be kept — and demanded the agriculture minister's resignation.

Last week the opposition blasted Wise for allowing buffalo meat that had been contaminated with tuberculosis to be sold. But the politicians backed off after apparently being convinced they did not have another "tunagate" here — the inspection system had worked effectively.

This week the tobacco farmers took their case to Parliament Hill and were met with an unusual show of force — a 40-member RCMP riot squad.

Wise earned some respect from the farmers by standing before them to explain the legal predicament he says is holding up proclamation of an agency.

Berry Murray, chairman of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board, blames the government for refusing to stand behind its own legislation and proclaim a national agency.

Farm observers say Wise's style is different from Whelan's. While Whelan enjoyed meeting groups of farmers, Wise has been less visible, says Knoerr, of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture.

"Whelan enjoyed talking to them and did an extraordinary job of it," says Knoerr. "Wise does the job differently but that's his judgment of how to juggle a busy schedule."

Despite that criticism, Wise is said to log at least as many kilometres per year, inside Canada, as any other minister. Since taking office, he has made 143 public speeches.

On balance, the final word goes to Whelan who spent 11 years as agriculture minister. "I know what he's going through," says Whelan. "I can't think of anything I'd have done much different."

## Tobacco firms, farmers reach price agreement

OTTAWA (Bureau) — Ontario tobacco manufacturers and producers reached agreement late Friday on the sale of the 1985 crop.

The agreement was reached after three days of negotiations this week in the offices of the federal agriculture department. It provides for the sale of the 170-million-pound crop at a minimum average price of \$1.76½ a pound.

The comparable price for the 1984 crop was \$1.70.

The minimum floor price for the lowest quality of tobacco this year will be \$1.20 a pound.

As a new feature in this year's

agreement, the growers will receive a premium of up to 10 cents a pound based on the over-all average market price. That means they could receive up to \$1.86½, depending on quality.

Negotiations had been under way for weeks.

Agriculture Minister John Wise called the Big Four manufacturers and the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board together for this week's talks.

"All parties have made a commitment to opening the markets as early as possible in January," Wise said.

A spokesman for the minister said they hope the crop will start to sell about Jan. 6.

# Future of agency feared

By TOM BUTTON

The multinationals have won. Tobacco growers won't get a national marketing agency for their 1985 crops.

Now other farmers are wondering if the door has been slammed shut on their hopes for supply management and cost-of-production pricing under the federal Farm Products Marketing Agencies Act.

Ontario's tobacco marketing

## Agency help vowed

Ontario tobacco growers chilled by bleak thoughts of their crops being stuck in storage got a little hint of warmth from Ontario Agriculture Minister Jack Riddell. He has hinted that auctions might be opened by Christmas.

However, he refused to be more specific when he spoke to the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) convention in Toronto. "I don't want to interfere with a tentative settlement."

The 25,000-member farm organization, was obviously dismayed by the tobacco industry's tactics in stopping the process towards an agency. There was unanimous support to lobby for the agency from more than 400 delegates.

"We did everything legally and morally right," said tobacco board chairman Berry Murray. "Still we get stalled by our governments."

board spent \$1 million on its national agency drive, only to have the battle hung up in court by processors who sought a last-minute injunction.

"The companies think that if they can drag this thing out long enough we won't be able to afford to keep going," charged board chairman Berry Murray.

The court injunction prevented the National Farm Products Marketing Council from giving federal Agriculture Minister John Wise its report.

Murray pressed Wise to declare an agency without the report, but Wise said no. So now the tobacco board has to try to negotiate with the processors under the old rules for the sale of the 1985 crop and hope it can put together enough money to continue its fight for a national marketing board for 1986.

Hatching egg and chick growers also had their agency hopes delayed for a full year after the agency proposal was ready for signing. In their case, however, the stumbling block was provincial agreement.

Ralph Barrie, farm products council chairman, believes farmers still can get agency powers.

"I think the access is equal for any commodity," Barrie told *Farm and Country*. "It takes some determination, but the potential is still there."

Traditionally, farmers have been told the biggest hurdle is getting the farmers themselves to agree that they want national powers. Yet clear majorities of both the tobacco growers and hatching egg producers supported their agency drives.

Now, said Barrie, "the real obstacle to acquiring a national plan is getting agreement from the provinces."

Getting provinces to say they

support national powers in principle isn't good enough, Barrie warned. Farmers have to get their provinces to commit themselves to full support.

Richard Bozek, tobacco board vice chairman, believes the national council's requirements may be too tough.

"You have to be on your knees before you go for national," Bozek said. Outsiders may say the tobacco proposal faced a rocky road because politicians feared offending anti-smokers.

That's true, Bozek believes, but he also points out tobacco growers had many advantages over other commodities. A full 90 per cent of the flue crop is grown in Ontario, and most of that in concentrated areas. Getting growers together was easy.

Ontario tobacco growers also have a strong provincial board that has been spearheading the national campaign.

"It (access to national agency powers) should be made easier if this country intends to maintain some agricultural base," Bozek said.

"It's either that or massive subsidies."

The tobacco board has had to hire consultants, retain lawyers and fly its directors to Montreal, Charlottetown and Ottawa for meeting after meeting.

According to some sources, the million dollars invested in the agency drive threatens to bankrupt the board.

Norm Huff, who negotiated for Ontario hatching egg and chick growers, also found the process expensive and time-consuming. "There are a lot of legal documents to prepare and a lot of little demands to satisfy."

Yet Huff too found that having widespread grower support, this time across the country, helped.

"And finding somebody on the council who is sympathetic can really help you work your way through all the requirements."

Martin Welch, president of the Organization of Ontario Pork Producers for the Advancement of Supply Management, believes supply management is a reasonable goal for the hog industry, but because getting a national agency is so hard, he wonders whether producers will have to attain that goal through other means.

"Politics are really tying things up," Welch said.

Before, he contends, agriculture ministers simply looked to see whether farmers supported a national agency proposal. If they did, an agency was proclaimed.

Now, he believes, politicians worry how a new national agency would fit in with their government's overall philosophy, and they listen harder to other lobbyists to learn how an agency would

impact on other sectors.

Like Bozek, Welch believes governments should be encouraging access to supply managed national boards as the only feasible alternative to farm subsidies. With national agencies, he stresses, consumers support the industry at the checkout counter rather than through taxes.

"Whether the hog industry can go the whole way to supply management I don't know. We may have to develop related proposals and work for them instead."

Ray Tracey of Woodslee is one of a group of farmers pushing wheat, soybean and corn groups to look at supply management and parity pricing.

He too fears that going for a national agency has become unrealistic. "It will never happen but we've still got to strive toward it," Tracey said. "That way we might get at least some of the things we want."

## Tobacco growers predict failures

By Joan Barfoot  
of The Free Press

DEC 16

Hundreds of financially desperate Ontario tobacco farmers will still go under, despite a 1985 price agreement hammered out late Friday between tobacco producers and manufacturers, several producers predicted Sunday night.

The estimates of the number who will not survive even with a guaranteed price of \$1.76½ a pound ranged from a "low" of 200 from Richard Bozak, vice-chairman of the Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers Marketing Board, to 600 to 800 from Mt. Brydges producer Willy Dewinter.

Both men said that the farmers who won't survive under the new agreement are in so much trouble that even a higher price from the manufacturers for the 1985 crop of 170 million pounds might not have saved them.

There are about 2,500 tobacco farmers in Ontario, primarily in the Southwestern Ontario tobacco belt.

Even though many farmers won't be saved and the agreed-on price for the 1985 crop isn't what producers hoped for, the settlement will at least get the crop moving. Tobacco auctions normally held in mid-October have been delayed by protracted haggling over a price and now won't get under way until early January.

"I think the majority (of producers) are anxious to sell the crop," said Bozak, who returned to his

Brantford-area home Saturday from the negotiations in Ottawa.

"I think as a board we had hoped that things would have been better for us," he said, adding that a price of more than \$2 a pound would have been reasonable in terms of production costs. Last year's guaranteed price was \$1.70 a pound.

Many details of the agreement still have to be worked out, he said, including a system of stable financing for exports. Bozak said that until now, such financing was essentially under the control of the manufacturers and producers couldn't be sure from one year to the next how much money would be available.

Under the new agreement, the financing will be based on the price of a package of cigarettes, he said. "We're still working with the concept" and more legal work is needed to establish the format, but at least part of the 1985 crop will be affected.

Such a system was one of the goals of the producers' battle for a national tobacco marketing agency, for which farmers have been pressuring the federal government. The agency issue, opposed by the manufacturers, is before the courts but will continue to be pursued by the producers, Bozak said. "We're not going to just drop it. We've made some progress."

If an agency "doesn't materialize," the producers will still attempt to get the tobacco manufacturing companies to agree to other concepts an agency would pursue, he said.

Dewinter said he's "kind of disappointed that there's nothing in it (the agreement) for a 1986 crop," adding that if 40 million pounds of this year's crop aren't sold through exports, it could be deducted from the total that can be grown next year. The 40 million pounds, he warned, "might come back to haunt them (producers)."

Dewinter said he was also disappointed by the price, which he suggested should have been about \$1.90 a pound. As well, "there's lots of things in limbo yet" and plenty of details to be worked out.

Still, he said: "I'm kind of glad the agreement was made. . . . You've got to have something in place."

Tillsonburg-area producer George Gilvesy said: "I'm happy — or satisfied — that we've got a settlement" and can now get down to the business of selling the 1985 crop, adding that farmers he has talked to are relieved there's an agreement. "It keeps us in there."

Like Bozak and Dewinter, he said some farmers will still be in deep trouble, although he agreed they would have had trouble surviving at any price.

Meanwhile, the provincial agriculture ministry has set up a hotline in London for all types of farmers in financial distress. Farmers with economic difficulties can call the toll-free number — 1-800-265-1511 — and be put in touch with ministry officials for advice.



Now that a price has been set for tobacco, growers can look back on the recent events in Ottawa. The march and rally in front of the House of Commons brought national attention to the plight of angry farmers in Ontario, P.E.I., New Brunswick, and Quebec. At left, hundreds of farmers and supporters march up Rideau St. minutes before holding their Look-Out conference, which was a spoof on the Outlook Conference for agriculturalists from across Canada that was taking place in Ottawa at the same time as the protest.

## No date set for tobacco auctions

By Dave MacLaren  
Staff Writer

Dec 24

An exact date cannot be set for the opening of flue-cured tobacco auctions because some very complicated details have to be worked out, Tobacco Board Chairman Berry Murray told a press conference Friday.

But, Mr. Murray said legal counsellors are working on these matters and, hopefully, sales will commence as early as possible next month.

The agreement in principle obtained by the Board will avert a complete collapse of the economy in tobacco farming communities, he observed. Nevertheless, he said 200 or more producers face serious financial difficulties and perhaps bankruptcy.

Yet to be clarified is whether a producers' plebiscite on provincial agency powers will be necessary prior to the beginning of sales.

Changes in the Ontario Farm Products Marketing Act are required to permit the Board to participate in the proposed consortium which will be responsible for unsold tobacco that is taken from the market and packed.

The agreement will give the Board input it has never had before in export sales. As well, the concept of gearing export sales to domestic consumption will provide growers with a better basis to estimate the size of upcoming crops.

Both principles complement the intent of a national agency. What is missing in the agreement is a price anywhere near growers' cost of production. To offset that income gap, Mr. Murray said the compensation package, under review by the Federal Government, is urgently required.

He said the Board is banking heavily on the \$1.20 export price and the excellent quality of the crop to boost foreign sales above last year's level.

"If 80 million pounds can be exported, we hope to maintain production next year. If not, we're in trouble."

Conceding the Board's efforts to market this crop under a national marketing agency had fallen short, Mr. Murray said: "We hope this is the last crop that will have a price arbitrarily imposed on it."

"The Board is adamant about forming a national agency. At no time has either side suggested this agreement is a compromise towards our eventual ambition to form an agency."

Noting producers in three of the other four provinces agreed during the rally in Ottawa to proceed with federal-provincial negotiations, Mr. Murray said similar word is expected from Prince Edward Island as soon as the chairman and vice-chairman of the growers' board return home.

"We hope Mr. Wise will call in the provincial ministers of agriculture and the growers and begin to iron out the differences."

Asked about the Department of Justice's appeal of the Manufacturers' Council's injunction, beginning Feb. 11, Mr. Murray said directors remain firmly convinced the agency can be proclaimed if there is the political will to do so. He said the Board will continue to urge political action on the agency, but will also do its best in the courts.

"You can only go through these pressures so many times and withstand them. We certainly don't want to wind up in 1986 sitting here like we are today and going into 1987 with the same problems."

Mr. Murray said the Board is seriously discussing ways to appeal farm assessments on which property taxes are based. He added many other agricultural commodity groups have also seen their assets fall sharply in value.

# Farmers problems ignored

T.N.  
Dec 11

The Editor:- I am a Canadian farmer. A farmer in a country with some of the best agricultural land in the world. A country with the most productive farmers in the world. We could feed the world. But soon we will be no more. Canadians are ignoring the problems faced by farmers. If nothing is done we will be forced to leave the farm and never return. Farming today is no longer profitable, no matter what product we grow. Why do we continue to farm? Only those who are financially forced to continue will stay in farming until there are no more. We are sending our children away from the farm. We do that because we care about their future. Look around, how old is today's farmers? They no longer retire. They just tire out.

There is money in agriculture, but not for the farmer. Only for the giant corporations who buy our product and for the consumer who buys cheap food from the giant corporation. The only concern of the giant corp. is to turn a large profit and the only concern of the consumer is to be able to buy cheap products. If this means letting acres of products rot in our fields because imported products are a few pennies cheaper, then so be it. Then there is our government who is interested only in our tax dollar and using us to help fill the treasury so that all their social programs will continue to help Canada become a better place to live.

The giant corporations, the governments, the consumer are all guilty of what is taking place in agriculture. Will the legal robbery continue until there is no more? You are cutting off the hand that feeds you. Many parts of the world starve, but you squander. Everyone wants to harvest, but no one wants to sow. You are all takers and we are expected to be the givers. If no one cares; if the government won't protect this industry; if the large corporations want all the profit, then we will not survive. But when we go, your problems will begin to grow. We will compete with you for your job, and we could get your job because we are used to working for nothing. Those who cannot will be on your social programs. The government and the taxpayers who stood by and did nothing will feed us. You will pay the taxes that we once paid. And when the outside world notices that Canada has no agriculture, you will never eat cheap food again.

Expensive food will not be your only problem. Canada has very restrictive regulations on what chemicals and pesticides are used on farm products. Are the imported products residue free? Does anyone care to find out? Are the few pennies saved on these products all that matters? Canadians worry about PCB's, air pollution, water pollution, but what you eat should be your major concern. We as farmers have prided ourselves on producing clean, safe farm products. Did it really matter to anyone?

We farmers don't want handouts; we only need a fair return for our products to survive. We are only a minority of the population. A minority of the voters. We make no political difference to anyone. If the consumers of this country feel they don't need agriculture, we will disappear. If you care, then educate yourself to the importance of agriculture in your country. We need your help to survive.

Roger Demeester  
RR 5, Langton

## DISAPPOINTED

The Editor:- "This is a copy of the letter I wrote and mailed November 16, 1985. I am still waiting for replies but I do feel good about writing. You will too - please write."

Dear Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, Hon. John Wise, MP Bud Bradley:

I have been a Conservative voter ever since I became of voting age and I have never been so disappointed as I have been this year.

I am a tobacco producer whose livelihood has been threatened.

Mr. Mulroney, you gave your promised support to establish a National Tobacco Marketing Agency. I am not speaking verbal promise. I am speaking written and signed promise that the government would act quickly to establish an agency for the tobacco producers. You may be embarrassed to know that this promise was signed by you in November of 1984. Let's get serious now, exactly what does the Conservative Government mean by "act quickly?"

Mr. John Wise, you have recently stated that you were unprepared to grant a Regional Agency because the political climate in Ottawa would not allow it. Mr. Wise, you signed a Flue-Cured Tobacco Policy for Canada dated August 1984 on behalf of Mr. Mulroney which clearly stated support by the government. How can you, as our Agricultural Minister, be unprepared? You have got 2500 tobacco producers plus their families personally involved in the industry. Then you have 8 to 10 people per farm working for their own personal income. Needless to say, I have not included the industries that depend on tobacco. Some are fertilizer industries, chemical industries, farm machinery industries, the hardware industries, the tobacco warehouse and tobacco factory industries, the trucking industries, even your car dealers and store owners. They are all going to suffer. If the farmers do not get a fair price, those that survive will repair instead of replace.

Mr. Bradley, you are the MP of Haldimand-Norfolk. You, of all people, know that the majority of Haldimand-Norfolk are agricultural people. Where have you been? When the newspapers read that farmers were given 90 million dollars, why didn't you publicly announce that this was not true. It was a subsidy, a financial aid, a loan that has to be paid back in full! You do not have to

go very far out of this county and meet someone that truly believes we were given that money. In fact, you do not have to go out of this county. Also, do you truly believe this 6 million dollar program to assist farmers is going to be any more beneficial as the TASK force was or Canagrex is? You are going to send people out to farmers to tell them how to cope. Mr. Bradley, you know Haldimand-Norfolk tobacco industry is self-sufficient, at least it has been up to a few years ago, and it can be again. Are you willing to see this be destroyed?

The tobacco farm owners near, in, around 50 years of age have had their years of toiling the land for their tobacco crops. Do you feel it is right for our government to set this bombshell in their laps?

The young tobacco farm owners have been working hard to make their commitments to buy a farm...invested in a livelihood they truly believed in. This money has almost been thrown out the window because of the lack of support from the government.

The sharegrowers depend on the owners. They are all sitting on pins and needles wondering if they have a crop of tobacco to grow again.

Mr. Mulroney, Mr. Wise and Mr. Bradley, the tobacco producers rights have been violated and the Conservative Government is at fault. The Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Board has done everything in their power to see a National Tobacco Agency formed. Everything legally, everything honestly. We have the right to secure our industry and the Government does not have the right to deny it. This is a free country and the treatment the tobacco industry is getting is disgusting.

Mr. Mulroney, come tell us tobacco producers why you did not keep

your written promise for a National Tobacco Agency.

Mr. Wise, come tell us tobacco producers how the tobacco industry is affecting the political climate in Ottawa, after we already have a signed promise.

Mr. Bradley, come and tell us tobacco producers what you have done to help your tobacco producers see the results of these promises made over a year ago.

I honestly can not understand why the Conservative Government of Canada is doing this to their own tobacco industry people and I also wonder what industry is next.

A Very Disappointed  
Conservative Voter.  
Marjorie DeVos.

# Letters to the Editor

## NATIONAL AGENCY DELAY

The Editor: The next time the Anti-Smoking Lobby gets fired up against tobacco as your December 28th article suggests, may I respectfully suggest Dr. Bradley point out the following facts to them.

Canadian tobacco growers are not interested in realizing a market in some Third World countries for two specific reasons:

1. They presently are growing tobacco and will be increasing production at the cost of feeding their population.

2. They have import licensing which states that for each pound of tobacco entering the country, one pound of cigarettes must be exported. (e.g. India, Indonesia)

The Canadian growers want the National Agency to attain markets in England, West Germany, Japan and China.

The delay in implementing the National Agency has caused two major developments to date:

(a) A \$70 million Christmas present to the tobacco consumers due to the current price war on cigarettes (financed by "below cost of production" sale price offered to Ontario tobacco growers).

(b) Transfer of tobacco acreage to Zimbabwe in 1985. This means that arable land used to produce food will be used to produce tobacco. Consequently, the need for more food exports to Africa will have to be substantially increased. How many more people will have to go hungry because of a disruption of world trade patterns?

Ironically, this symbiotic relationship between the anti-smoking coalition and the transnational tobacco conglomerates has dramatically increased tobacco companies' profits and guaranteed jobs for many in the anti-smoking coalition. Are hunger and death worth another's gain?

Tobacco farmers were wondering if the present Federal Government

has an adequate sense of fair play to stand up against ill advised public opinion and establish an agency. If it does not, the anti-smoking lobby will triumph and the manufacturers will profit handsomely.

Hugh C. Zimmer

# Tobacco agreement finally hammered out

By Dave MacLaren  
Staff Writer

Flue-cured tobacco auctions will open early in January to market 170 million pounds of the 1985 crop at a guaranteed minimum average price of \$1.76½ per pound.

The complex agreement was reached by Ontario marketing board and manufacturers in Ottawa late Friday afternoon. Minister of Agriculture John Wise played a predominant role in negotiations by arranging for financial assistance and urging both sides to make a deal.

"We're disappointed in Mr. Wise's position on the agency, but he sure worked his butt off to help put this agreement together. He deserves a lot of credit," said Tobacco Board Chairman Berry Murray.

The role growers from all provinces played in demonstrating in Ottawa and attending the Look Out Conference there was lauded by Mr. Murray.

"It's a damn shame we had to take those measures, but I am proud of them. The determination and support shown by our producers is the only thing that gave us any bargaining power at all. If they hadn't responded, I don't think we'd have an agreement.

"We (directors) tried to be diplomatic, but we were denied almost everything we sought. When diplomacy fails you have to bring the troops out. Some people in Ottawa may not like us very much (after last week's events), but I think we earned their respect.

"I feel the Look Out Conference brought us into closer contact with all farm commodity groups. It was a real achievement to have the leaders of several farm organizations voice their support for our objectives in the Capital and to have representatives from many commodity groups attend the Conference.

"It was great to see the Maritime and Quebec producers join us. I think it drew us closer together, just as I think the Ontario producers who took part felt closer to each other," Mr. Murray said.

He said he believes the agreement could help producers in other provinces obtain a better return for their 1985 crops, since he is reasonably optimistic the Ontario crop could sell for over \$1.80. This would trigger make-up payments by manufacturers to producers in the other provinces, who sold on a base average price of \$1.76½.

## Price-production

The Board will continue to work towards a national marketing agency, Mr. Murray said. He has letters endorsing this objective from all provincial grower organizations, with the exception of Prince Edward Island, whose chairman and vice-chairman were on trips and unable to be in Ottawa last week. Two directors of the PEI Board who were there, said they will recommend their Board send a similar letter, Mr. Murray said.

He explained the letter of intent, which Mr. Wise referred to is a signatories' agreement, signed by provincial ministers of agri-

culture. "The injunction doesn't stop us from conducting interprovincial negotiations. The growers have indicated their willingness to do so. I say let's get to the bargaining table," Mr. Murray said.

"There's a lot riding on the crop agreement. I think it has a shot at working. But we can't be running back every year.

"We also have to continue to pursue the (quota) redux program which is very important to our future — both for those who stay in tobacco and those who get out. Taxation is also critical and I hope the rally helped to demonstrate this. The Board would also like to find ways to help people in financial distress, he said.

## National agency

Largely because of the drastic shrink in crop size, the cost of production (COP) calculated for the 1984 crop by Touche Ross and Partners was \$2.13 a pound. Although market premiums might bring the average to over \$1.80, Mr. Murray notes this is far below COP. "We're not happy with the price, but we weren't in the best bargaining position."

He estimates about 200 producers are in dire financial circumstances. Another 100 to 200 will probably be in jeopardy if this market doesn't work out. Drastic (crop) cuts are the main reason, he says.

The situation is especially critical for people who made capital investments based on expectations that leaf requirements would remain above the 200 million pound mark. Without returns based on COP, it is impossible or extremely difficult for them to meet financial commitments.

Mr. Murray and Board directors, who are members of the sub-committee which works out marketing mechanics with the trade, met today with Jean-Louis Mercier, president of Imperial Tobacco, in Montreal to begin working on the agreement's details.

In brief they are:

- All 170 million pounds will be purchased for a guaranteed minimum average of \$1.76½. Of this 90 million is for domestic consumption, 40 million or more is expected to be exported and the amount unsold will be packed and purchased with Federal Government assistance. A consortium will be formed to market the unsold tobacco, which will be paid for by a rollover of the advance payment loan funds tobacco growers received.

- The consortium will need provincial agency powers to take possession of the tobacco to process, store and re-sell it. A producer plebiscite is required on the agency. The tobacco the consortium holds will have a bearing on the size of the 1986 crop.

- Manufacturers have agreed, over the next year, to increase the price of a pack of 25 cigarettes by three cents to moderate export prices. When federal and provincial tobacco taxes are deducted, this equates to 2.12 cents per pack. Based on annual consumption of 60 billion cigarettes, this will raise approximately \$51-million to reduce the cost of leaf sold on the export market. The arrangement is for three years duration

and should eventually replace most of the rollover advance payment money provided by the Government.

- Grade prices will be set at \$1.20 on the upcoming market for export purposes, down 20 cents from last year's level. Manufacturers will add 56½ cents for every pound sold. Unsold tobacco will be allocated to the consortium at minimum grade prices (plus 56½ cents) rather than to manufacturers.

- Premiums received on the market of up to 10 cents or an average prices of \$1.30 will be kept by growers.

## Nixon

# Flue delegation to meet

By Dave MacLaren  
Staff Writer

Ontario Treasurer Bob Nixon will meet with a delegation representing 20 tobacco municipalities in Paris Saturday morning, to hear suggestions about how the province can assist their faltering economies.

On Dec. 9, a group of 10 members on the municipalities' committee met with Minister of Finance Michael Wilson in Ottawa, shortly before tobacco growers began to assemble in front of the House of Commons.

"We had about three-quarters of an hour with the Minister. The meeting went well. I think Mr. Wilson was more aware of the ripple effect the tobacco problem is causing in our communities when the meeting con-

cluded," said Dan VanLondersele, Township of Delhi councillor and committee chairman.

Also at the meeting were Haldimand-Norfolk MP Bud Bradley and Oxford MP Bruce Halliday.

"Mr. Wilson told us that when he increased tobacco taxation he did not mean to put an industry out of business. However, in regard to compensation, he said his pockets were shallow and he had a fiscal problem to deal with.

"The Minister left the door open for a future meeting. If this takes place, I expect he will probably ask for more input from us on long-term solutions," Mr. VanLondersele said.

The committee's brief, which had been delivered to Mr. Wilson's office the previous evening, was read and elaborated upon during the meeting. Mr. Wilson then asked the delegation questions pertaining to the tobacco industry.

Mr. VanLondersele said Dr. Bradley was helpful.

"However, I disagreed with Dr. Bradley's suggestion that taxation is not the problem since consumption has not declined in proportion to the tax increase (levied in the May budget). Dr. Bradley said there is a need for a greater net return to growers from both the domestic and export markets. I think it's both — taxation and net returns," Mr. VanLondersele said.

As Mr. Nixon's constituency office is small, Mr. VanLondersele said the Treasurer asked that the delegation be limited to six committee members this Saturday.

# Tobacco auction may open by

By Dave MacLaren  
Staff Writer

DN

Dec 31

As of Friday, Tobacco Board spokesmen could not predict an exact date when auctions would open although they are hoping sales will commence by mid-month.

Work proceeded on the complicated details of the agreement between Christmas and New Year's, but the two holidays slowed the process.

Tobacco Board Chairman Berry Murray has estimated sales could be completed in 83 days, with daily sales of slightly more than two million pounds. If auction exchanges can be opened by mid-month, sales would wind up in May. All Maritime and Quebec tobacco has been processed, so packing facilities can be devoted entirely to the Ontario crop.

At the guaranteed average price of \$1.76½ per pound, sales will bring a gross return of close to \$300-million. This would represent a 3.9 per cent increase in gross return compared to 1984. However, premiums paid for tobacco purchased on auction floors could increase growers' receipts.

The guaranteed portion of the 1984 crop sold for a premium of 6.36 cents per pound, but this was deducted from the make up

payment. It is understood that up to 10 cents per pound in premiums can be retained by growers who receive them on the upcoming market, without being deducted from the over-all make up payment on the crop. Since the marketing mechanisms differ, the pattern of bidding premium prices on this market may vary from 1984.

## Exports

The size of the 1986 crop is dependent on further prospects for domestic tobacco sales and the amount exported from the upcoming market. Mr. Murray believes production could be maintained at 170 million pounds if 80 million pounds of the 1985 crop can be sold abroad. This would be a larger export volume than in recent years, but 12 million pounds less than exported in 1979.

He concedes the late auction opening could mean the loss of some foreign sales but said the Board has received several telexes from overseas buyers expressing interest in the market.

Mr. Murray said the Board is counting heavily on the 20 cent per pound reduction in the export price and the excellent quality of the crop. This price is set to average \$1.20 a pound compared to \$1.40 last year.

"In general, it's a pretty good crop," said scientist Ken Walker of the Delhi Research

Station. "The alkaloid (nicotine) content in Delgold is quite a bit above the three year average and the reducing sugars are at a similar level to the long-term average. This ratio between alkaloid and sugar is an improvement."

Mr. Walker said the increase in alkaloid content is concentrated in the first three pullings, while it is down slightly from the long-term average in upper pullings.



Berry Murray

Other factors in global flue-cured production could bolster Canadian export sales, although total supplies of flue-cured are considered to be ample. In 1985, output was reduced in the U.S., Zimbabwe, India, the Philippines, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.

Production cutbacks in the U.S. reduced the crop size by 61 million pounds from 1984. While rebates to buyers will lower the price on U.S. tobacco by more than 20 cents a pound if the Canadian dollar's value remains at about 71½ cents (U.S.), the price differential in tobacco from the two countries will be in the same vicinity as in 1984.

More tobacco is almost certain to be sold from old crop stocks held by the Stabilization Corp. However, much of it may not be marketed in direct competition with Canadian leaf, as it is of relatively poor quality.

While Zimbabwe attempted to grow a larger crop in 1985, output fell 28 million pounds below the previous year's. The country's currency continued to decrease in value, but this was more than offset by higher grower prices. In terms of Canadian currency, the 1985 Zimbabwean crop cost buyers close to 15 per cent more than in 1984.

Production targets were slashed in both India and the Philippines. In India, prices

were higher as well because of the advent of auction selling.

Severe droughts in Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, both major suppliers to eastern European countries, will limit the leaf available for export.

Drought has also reduced coffee and soybean yields in Brazil and impacted, to some extent, on the tobacco crop there. The agricultural officer at the Brazilian Embassy in Ottawa said the drought has ended and he is not certain what influence it had on the tobacco crop, which is now being harvested.

The Bank of Canada reports the weighted value of the U.S. dollar has dropped almost 20 per cent from last spring's peak to late November when measured against the currencies of its major trading partners. Canadian currency has fallen even more and exports from both North American countries could be assisted by this adjustment in currency values.

The amount of export activity on the market will determine whether 80 million pounds can be sold abroad or not, but prospects of increasing foreign sales appear to be brighter than last year.

TO: The National Farm Products Marketing Council

IN THE MATTER OF a Proposal  
by the Ontario Flue-Cured  
Tobacco Growers' Marketing  
Board for the establishment  
of the Canadian Flue-Cured  
Tobacco Marketing Agency

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SUPPLEMENT TO PROPOSAL

Submitted By

The Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco Growers'  
Marketing Board/The Prince Edward Island  
Tobacco Commodity Marketing Board

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February 12 , 1985



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SUBMISSION  
OF  
THE CANADIAN TOBACCO MANUFACTURERS' COUNCIL  
TO  
THE NATIONAL FARM PRODUCTS MARKETING COUNCIL  
WITH RESPECT TO THE  
INQUIRY INTO THE MERITS OF ESTABLISHING  
A NATIONAL MARKETING AGENCY FOR FLUE-CURED TOBACCO  
MARCH 1, 1985

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Of Counsel for The Canadian  
Tobacco Manufacturers' Council

Mr. Bert Murray  
Chairman  
Ontario Flue-Cured Tobacco  
Growers Marketing Board  
200, King St.  
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N2G 4K1

Dear Mr. Murray:

**COST OF PRODUCTION**

**OF**

**ONTARIO FLUE-CURED TOBACCO**

This cost of production study was prepared to provide a detailed model for use by the Board. As well, it provides a framework for a cost of production model for Ontario in the event that a national model is developed for tobacco. As a result of our work, we are confident that this model will meet the needs of the Board and we are prepared to defend it in public forum as required.

This has proven to be a most challenging and interesting project. Throughout the project, we were pleased with the level of cooperation and assistance by you.

**THE REPORT OF**

**TOUCHE ROSS & PARTNERS**

Sincerely,

JUNE, 1985