

Ontario Hydro to "Mothball" \$660 Million Generating Station

Wesleyville Shelved

Ontario Hydro will halt construction of its \$660 million Wesleyville Generating Station by the end of this year.

In an announcement made in Toronto Tuesday morning, Hydro said that the project would be cancelled as "the first step in an attempt to balance the continuing effects of a weak economy on electricity demands."

Hydro officials explained that the Wesleyville station will be "mothballed" until the 1990s when increasing electrical demands are expected to make the station necessary.

Construction activity at Wesleyville will be gradually shut down over the next 10 months and some of the buildings already under construction at the site will be

finished off before the project is mothballed.

At present, 580 workers are employed on the Wesleyville site located west of Port Hope. An additional 250 are employed in jobs off the site.

Wesleyville has been hit twice in the last 12 months by Ontario Hydro's cutbacks in construction. The plant was reduced to half its planned size following a decision made last April. At that time, two of Wesleyville's four oil-fired units were cancelled.

Although Wesleyville is being placed on the shelf for at least the next 10 years, there is no word yet on the fate of the Darlington Generating Station now under construction here. However, the \$4 billion project was mentioned briefly by Ontario Hydro Chairman Robert Taylor in his announcement on Wesleyville.

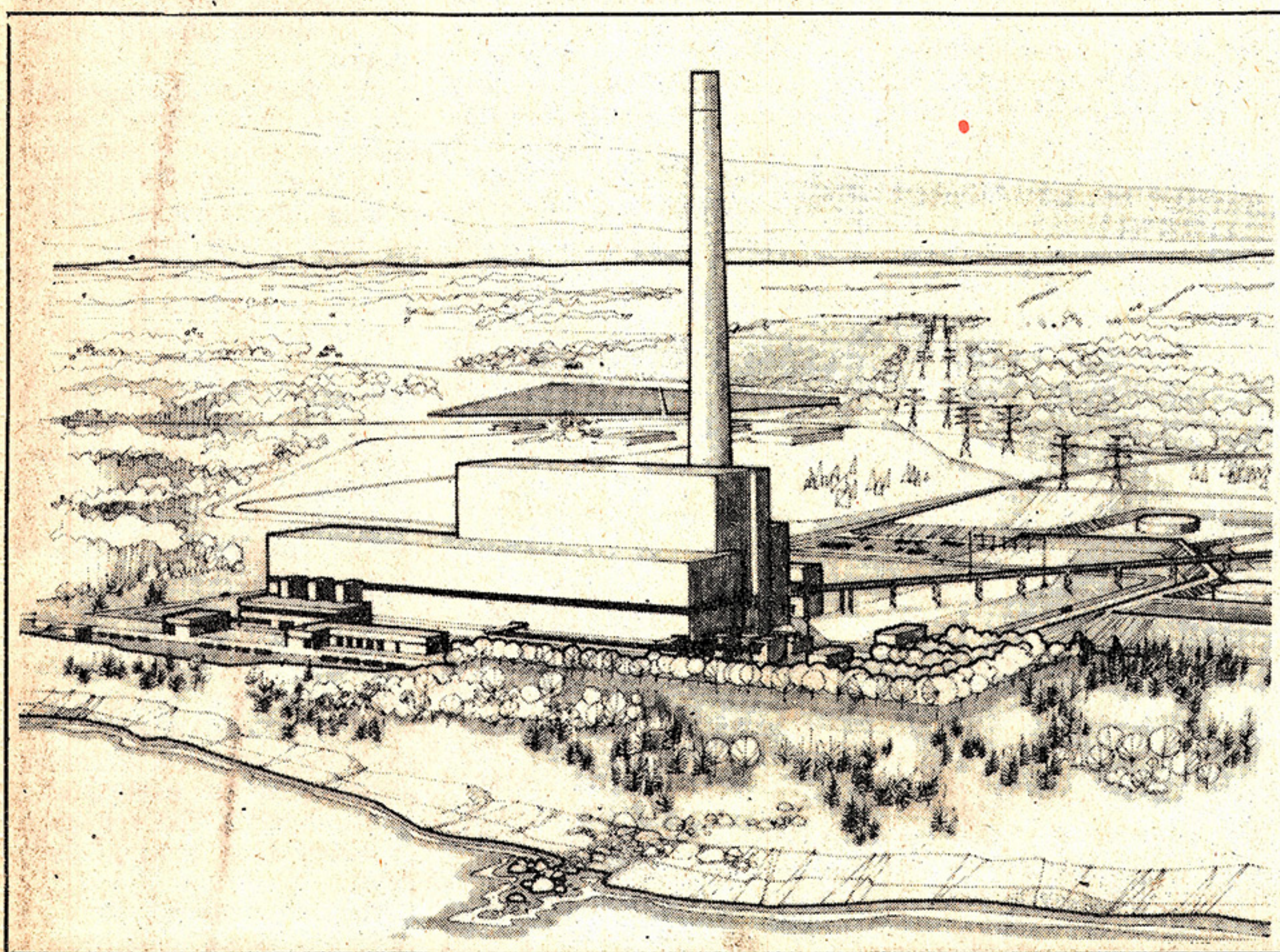
Indications are that the construction of Darlington could be "stretched out" over a longer period of time than originally forecast.

"Electrical load growth is one barometer of the economic climate," Mr. Taylor said.

The Ontario Hydro Chairman added that Hydro's board of directors has a review of Hydro's construction projects underway. The review will look at the stretching out or the cancellation of the coal-burning Atikokan Generating Station in northern Ontario. It will also look at the possibility of stretching out the construction schedule at Darlington and Bruce B nuclear plants.

Ontario Hydro's decision to stop construction of the Wesleyville Generating Station was made at a meeting of its Board of Directors Monday, February 12. The board also reconfirmed its decision that expenditures at the Atikokan, Darlington and Bruce B generating station be kept to a minimum until a

Turn to Page Two



In more optimistic days, this sketch was made to show what the completed Wesleyville Generating Station would look like. Now the plant has been cancelled. Ontario Hydro Chairman Robert Taylor announced the decision in Toronto Tuesday morning after a meeting of Hydro's board of directors took place Monday, February 12.

Education Chief Retires

Frank Thom, Director of Education for the Northumberland and Newcastle Board of Education will retire August 31. He has held this position since the board was formed in 1969.

The school board was notified of Thom's intention to retire at its regular meeting Thursday night. In his letter to the board Thom said, "I have deeply appreciated the excellent relationship which has existed at all times with successive boards and also the dedication of competent professional and support staffs employed at the schools or serving within the administrative offices." He assured the board of his fullest co-operation "in facilitating the transmission of my responsibility to my successor."

Chairman of the Board, Andy Thompson, said he receives Mr. Thom's letter with "considerable regret." He told trustees that not only did the board choose him for the position of director of education originally, "he also chose us and we are very fortunate that he did so." Mr. Thom, he said, could have held

the same position on several other boards in eastern Ontario but he decided to work for one.

Mr. Thom replied that "education has provided many very interesting opportunities and experiences for me especially over the past 10 years."

Dollars On the Way

Provincial grants to be received by the Town of Newcastle this week should cut arena debts in half.

Durham East MPP Sam Cureatz told The Statesman last Friday that over half a million dollars in Wintario grants and Community Recreation Centres grants will be turned over to the town immediately.

Mr. Cureatz explained that the Orono arena is to receive \$112,500 in grants under the Community and Recreation Centres Act. The Newcastle arena will receive \$56,250 from the same source.

For Newcastle Village, Wintario grants totalling \$365,799 have been approved and the Town will receive

part of that amount immediately. The first installment on the Wintario funds will be \$240,000, Mr. Cureatz said.

Orono's arena will be given \$243,254 in its initial Wintario grant payment. Total Wintario funds approved for the Orono arena are \$509,699.

The Town of Newcastle has been paying interest charges on \$1.2 million in arena financing for projects at Orono and Newcastle Village. Interest payments had been approximately \$12,000 per month.

Provincial grants for the two arenas will total just over one million dollars.

The Job is Seldom Dull For Animal Control Officer

By Donna Fairey

Being a catcher of canines (and other assorted animals) is anything but a dog's life, according to Joanne Bromley, an employee with the Town of Newcastle.

One of two full-time Animal Control Officers for the Town, she finds her job exciting and it offers something new and challenging every day. "Each time the phone rings, it's something different," she said. It helps, too, that she is an animal lover.

Bromley was previously the Town's parking enforcement officer for three and a half years. Employed as Animal Control Officer only since January, she is amazingly conversant with her new job's responsibility.

A resident of Newcastle Village, Miss Bromley has the distinction of being the only female outside employee for the Town of Newcastle. In

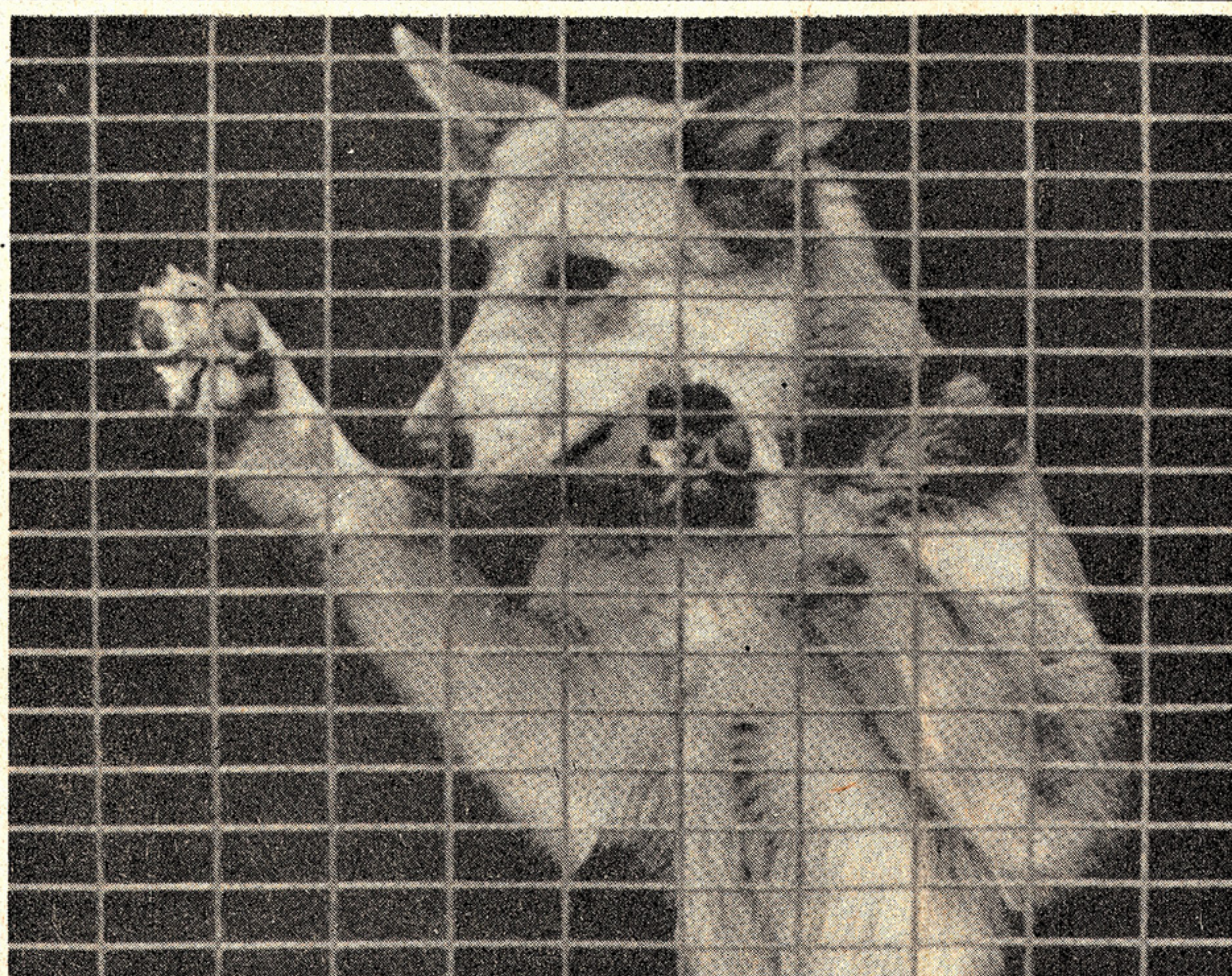
addition, she is President of CUPE Local 74 for the town employees union.

She is now dealing with people on a different level of communication and is providing a service to the public. In comparing the two jobs, she candidly summed up her feelings, "Dogs don't talk back!"

For those that may not know and Bromley feels there are quite a few - the dog pound is located at the rear of the Works Department lot on Liberty Street, south of the 401. The number of people who do not claim their animals indicates a lack of awareness concerning this facility.

The pound has a capacity for 20 dogs and 12 cats. Hours of service are 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. weekdays and til noon on Saturday. A typical day includes feeding, and watering the animals and scrubbing and deodorizing their kennels.

Turn to Page Two



"Now that I've been photographed, I suppose they'll want my paw prints." That's what this resident of the Town of Newcastle's dog pound seems to be saying. Helping to run the pound is just one of the jobs of Animal Control Officer Joanne Bromley.



Photo shows the scene at the fire on Queen St. last Friday morning. The smoke could be observed across the town. The building was owned by Bowmanville Memorial Hospital but leased and sub-leased to several businesses.

\$70,000 Damage in Fire

A fire which had been burning close to an hour before discovery demolished a steel building housing several local businesses at the lower end of Queen St. last Friday. Total damages were estimated at \$60,000 to \$70,000.

The building, located behind MacDonald Ford, is owned by Bowmanville Memorial Hospital and was leased to John Rice. In turn, Mr. Rice sub-let to the following: Pineridge Automotive Supply Ltd., W.M. Johnson, Scott Burgess, Bruce

Fitzgibbon, Duane Beers and McGregor Hardware.

The alarm was called in at 9:28 a.m. by the Works Department who had gone to purchase parts from Pineridge Automotive. Tenants working there were unaware that fire was blazing in the upper storey of the building.

Fire Chief Jim Hayman says determination of a positive cause for the fire has been hampered by ice formations left from the fire hoses. However, he suspects fire broke out

in the centre of the building at ceiling level due to overheating of some sort.

Firemen were on the scene the better part of the day fighting the fire in sub-zero temperatures. Volunteer Fireman Graydon Brown was taken to Bowmanville Memorial Hospital where he was x-rayed and released after a ladder fell hitting him in the head.

According to Chief Hayman, damages are estimated at: Pineridge Automotive Supply Ltd. \$25,000, Scott Burgess \$12,000, W.M. Johnson \$7,000, Duane Beers \$5,000, Bruce Fitzgibbon \$4,500; Bowmanville Memorial Hospital building \$12,000.

The remainder of the building left standing will be torn down in the very near future upon receipt of authorization from the hospital.

In earlier days, the burned structure was used for inside exhibits for the annual fall fair held here and later transferred to Orono where it is still held every year.

Province Backing Out Of Public Housing

The province is beginning to back out of providing public housing, Chris Sheldon, a representative of the Ministry of Housing told town Council Monday.

It would rather see individual municipalities and private enterprise become more involved in such projects, he said.

Mr. Sheldon appeared before Council to discuss senior citizen housing in the Town of Newcastle and was invited to attend a future meeting of the planning and development committee to discuss the matter further.

The Ministry already has 35 housing projects in the Town of Newcastle and a recent report says there is a need for 20 to 24 heavily subsidized rent-geared-to-income units for senior citizens in the town.

The report is an update of a similar study carried out by the Ministry in 1975. The recommendation of that survey resulted in a resolution from Council on September 15, 1975 in support of 67 one-bedroom units for senior citizens in the Town.

Since then, the Ministry has been looking for a site in Bowmanville to accommodate such a project but has been unable to find one properly zoned and serviced or suitably located at a reasonable price.

Three sites have been turned down by the Ontario Housing Corporation, said Sheldon. These sites were at

Scugog and Wellington St. Liberty and Base Line Rd. and on Queen Street west.

Mr. Sheldon said the Ministry would prefer a site in Bowmanville since the majority of applicants are from there.

Bits And Pieces

MEMORIES — That \$70,000 fire in the old Fairgrounds building on Queen St. Friday not only ruined several businesses and did a considerable amount of damage, it also kindled some memories for the town's seniors. That building used to be the main centre of the annual fair before it moved to Orono. The land alongside was also used as a football field back in the 20s. That building was the only remaining remnant and now it is gone.

WHAT AN ERROR — In last week's Items of Interest a list of the new executive for Durham East Liberals was included with one of the vice presidents mentioned as Francis Jose of Newcastle. Tory eyebrows must have been raised high. It should have read Francis Jones of Oshawa. Our apologies to Mr. Jose for the kidding he's been taking from Newcastle Liberals, who no doubt have been welcoming him to their ranks.

LATE FORTIES — Bowmanville Drama Workshop is working hard on their Agatha Christie mystery, set in the late forties. They sorely need wearing apparel from that era. Please call Anna at 623-7596. We'd lend them some of ours but we're still wearing them. They also need props, furniture, etc. Give them a call today, they'll help clean out your closets.

ONCE A MONTH — The current series of Legion Draws is being held each month not on a weekly basis, so hang onto those tickets, they could be valuable before the end of the year.

DANCE-A-THON — Clarke High School students are on the prowl for pledges in connection with their annual Dance-a-thon that gets underway this Friday at 5 p.m. and continues for 24 hours until Saturday at 5. The funds raised will go to the Cancer Society, a mighty worthwhile cause. Trophies will be handed out at the conclusion to the weary winners.

SAFE DRIVERS — The annual Safe Driver Awards, sponsored by the Transportation Safety Assn. of Ontario and the Oshawa & District Banquet Committee will be held this Saturday at the Polish Veteran's Hall, Oshawa. Several drivers from local firms will be there to receive their awards. Hopefully, they won't have an accident on the way.

RAISE \$20,000 — The '79 Snowarama at Port Perry, Sunday, to raise money for Crippled Children was a good effort even though the temperature was far below zero. Total amount of pledges was about \$20,000 and everybody seemed to be having a good time in spite of the cold.

FILL THE HALL — If you are a parent, you won't want to miss the Social Planning Council's meeting in Trinity United Church next Tuesday evening. Well known Barbara Chisholm will be the guest speaker and her subject will be "How to be a Parent and survive the Children's Rights Movement." Don't miss it!

HELP WITH TAX FORMS — For any senior citizens who would like some help with their income tax forms, the Community Care office is the place to call. The phone number is 623-2661 or Zenith 20630. They'll help you solve your problems.

HAPPY VALENTINE — Don't forget to send your Valentine a message today. Tomorrow will be too late. It's also getting close to the deadline for vehicle licence plates. The licence office is located just west of The Statesman office and the last day is Feb. 28th.