

Sale Of Machinery ^{Aug. 16} For T. G. Hammond Ltd. ¹⁹⁷² Ends 20-Year History

Everything from a portable toilet to a Caterpillar front-end loader went on sale last Wednesday as St. Marys auctioneer Barry Nairn, with assistants Walter Ross of Hickson and Eldon Robinson, Kirkton, sold the equipment of T.G. Hammond Ltd., Number 7 Highway about five miles east of St. Marys.

The sale, attended by several hundred buyers from points all over Ontario was brisk. T.G. (Chum) Hammond said that he was well pleased with the results.

Always a St. Marys booster, Mr. Hammond had praise for auctioneer Barry Nairn, commenting that there was "plenty of talent" in St. Marys for almost any job that came along. Bruce Murray, with his "portable

feed-bag" did a brisk business during the course of the sale, which began at noon and ended shortly before 6:00 p.m.

Some 150 items were disposed of in one of the largest dollar volume sales conducted in the St. Marys area since the Maxwell plant closed out operations a decade ago. Prices ranged from "lows" of \$25.00 for a construction shack equipped with stove and fridge, to up in the thousands for some of the heavier pieces of equipment.

Mr. Hammond Sr. (Charlie) will continue at the gas bar as usual; Yundt Bros. Stratford have purchased the remainder of the business interests including the asphalt plant.

Thus ends a chapter in the business career of "Chum" Hammond who came to St. Marys from the Waterford district twenty years ago to take over the coal business (the venerable S.J. Dunseith & Son business) from the then owner, Ken Robinson.

"Chum" right from the start proved to be not only an enterprising and energetic business man but an enthusiastic local citizen (later serving a term on the Town Council). He wasted no time in adding fuel oil to the services of his business, and this led later on to the asphalt business. In a very minor way, at first. The "Hammond Fuels" men of over ten years ago used a heavy lawn roller to flatten out the first asphalt driveways they laid.

The asphalt driveway business soon grew and grew and much equipment was added, so that several years later the firm of T.G. Hammond Ltd. was doing some rather large orders in the paving contracting business.

Asphalt paving led to road building and many contracts involving both this and the asphalt paving were completed for several municipalities of Western Ontario including St. Marys, as well as numerous sizable Dept. of Highways contracts.

Thus, last Wednesday's sale brought to a close a bit of history in the commercial life of the Stone Town.



ACTION STATIONS! - St. Marys auctioneer Barry Nairn (left) with auctioneer Walter Ross of Embro "spotting" as bidding was underway at the recent T.G. Hammond Ltd. dispersal sale.



"We Like Sunflowers!"

- At least that is what little Bob Conway seems to be telling his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Conway when they visited the lovely Horticultural Society Flower Show in the Legion Hall on Friday evening.

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CHARLIE CARRIES ON - Charles Hammond kept busy at Charlie's Gas Bar pumps as the dispersal sale of T.G. Hammond Ltd. equipment went on last Wednesday afternoon. It will be business as usual at the gas bar despite the sale.