



ONTARIO HEALTH minister Dennis Timbrell opened the new television interact system at the Woodstock General Hospital this morning. (Staff photo by Ted Town)

Timbrell pushes the button, triggers communication link

By NANCY GALL
Sentinel-Review staff writer
Ontario health minister Dennis Timbrell pushed the button to officially open the telecommunications link-up system, Interactive Telehealth, between Woodstock General Hospital and London's University Hospital this morning.

The pilot project, first of its kind in Canada, actually swung into action at the beginning of October, bringing specialist input from University Hospital to Woodstock's psychiatric services unit through the audio-visual link-up.

The \$140,000 system will be used for consultation between doctors and patients in the two cities, transfer of patient information and medical data, and for teaching purposes.

Timbrell said the system allows smaller communities to benefit from health care services available only in large cities until now.

"I've no doubt whatsoever, this is the beginning of much bigger things to come,"

Timbrell said.
PIONEERING

WGH board chairman Bill Graham said the hospital is proud to be pioneering the use of this system, which will encompass other southwestern Ontario hospitals over the next few years and will be especially valuable in bringing improved health services to northern Ontario.

"Never has a birth received so much medical attention in this part of southwestern Ontario," quipped University Hospital board chairman James Lindores during the opening ceremonies.

More than a visual phone, the interact system will convey discussions, displays of data, charts and other information in color between the two hospitals, Lindores said.

The system will reduce the number of referrals to be made to London by local physicians and reduce the time and space needed for health services and teaching, he said.

Speaking live from London over the interact system, telemedicine pioneer Dr. Louis Carey said it will promote medical education, allow patients' families to "visit" by television and local doctors to keep up with their patients' progress in London.

Dr. G. F. D. Heseltine, University of Western Ontario psychiatry department chairman, spoke of the "tremendous need for back-up for remote communities" which television interact systems will fill.

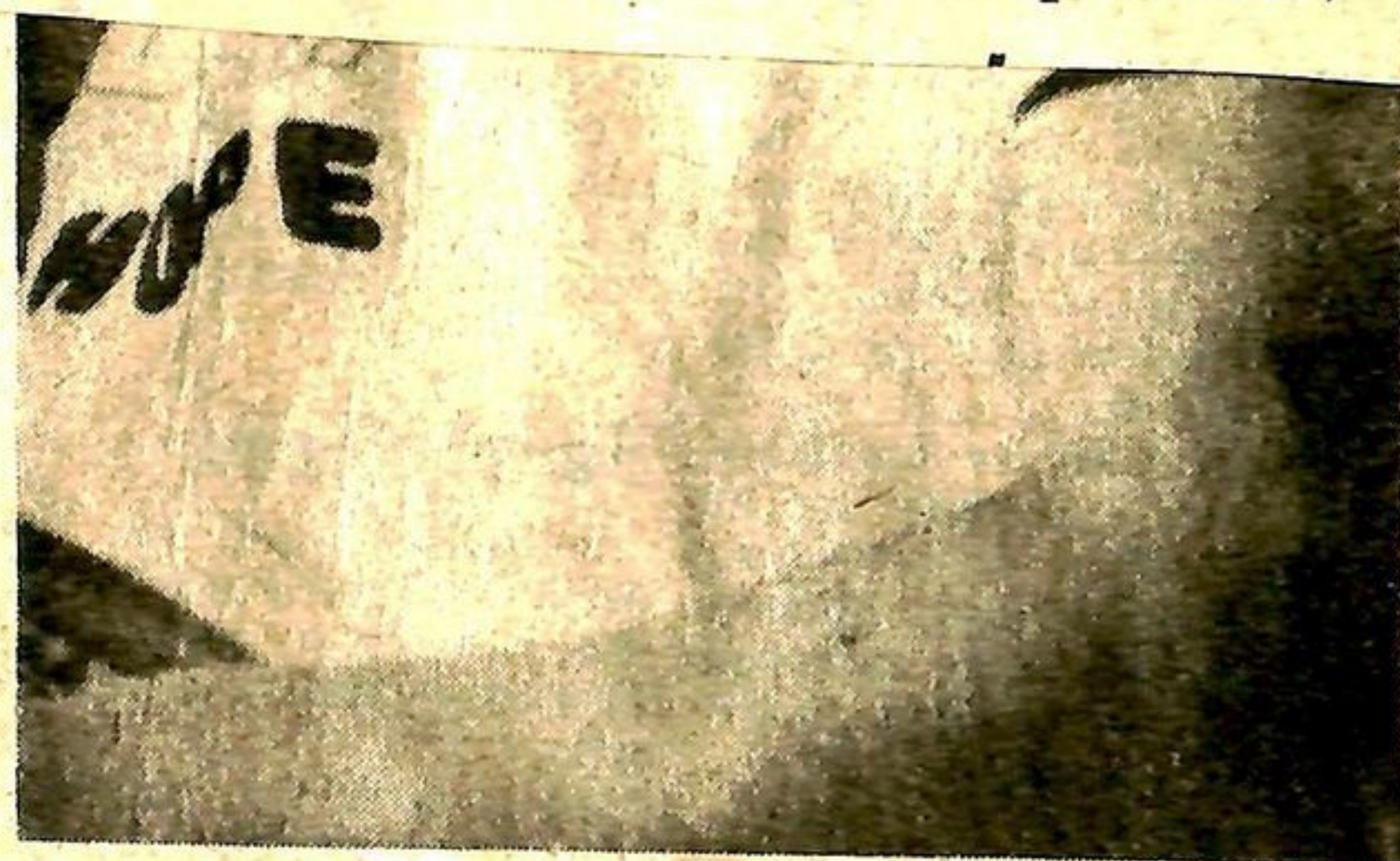
"The use of this system is as broad as your imagination," he told the standing-room only audience in the nursing school auditorium.

Live demonstrations of the system followed, with a psychiatric teleconsultation, a speech pathology teleconsultation, biomedical engineering teleconsultation and transmission of the image of a pregnant woman's unborn fetus between the two hospitals.



AFTER LEAVING a cancer clinic where Terry Fox underwent 16-months of physically and emotionally draining chemotherapy, he wrote to the Canadian Cancer Society with his Marathon of Hope idea: "Somewhere the hurting must stop...and I am determined to take myself to the limit for this cause."

(Staff photo by Philip Walker)



Marathon of Hope continues

Terry Fox is facing his toughest challenge. This courageous Canadian, who gave so much of himself for others, has cancer of the lungs.

He will not be able to complete his cross-Canada Marathon of Hope.

Terry, who lost a leg to cancer several years ago, set out earlier this year on his marathon to raise money for the fight against cancer. His courage touched the hearts of many Canadians.

Now he must do battle with cancer once more. His cross-Canada marathon came to a painful end in Thunder Bay this week. Terry thought he had the flu but tests indicate he has secondary cancer in both lungs.

Terry's Marathon of Hope is far from over, however. Groups all across this vast country, including Huron Park students here in Woodstock, are planning to finish his run for him.

And all across Canada, Canadians are showing they care. In Oxford, more than \$20,000 has been pledged.

There are two ways you can show your support for Terry. One is by making a donation to the Cancer Society. The other is by sending a message to Terry.

DONATIONS

If you would like to be part of Terry's Team, fill out this form and send a cheque or money order to:

Oxford County Unit
Canadian Cancer Society
P.O. Box 293
Woodstock, Ont.
N4S 7X6

Burgessville News

Mrs. Bill McMillen accompanied by Mrs. Beth Shelton, Woodstock attended a pre-Christmas party at the home of the former's daughter Mrs. Malcolm Mann, Port Dover.

The Trillium Button Club held their meeting on Sunday in the community hall, Mt. Elgin, with many clubs attending. Mr. and Mrs. Bill McMillen and Mrs. Pearl Lynch, Woodstock were

hostesses. *Nov 21/80*
Deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs. Wilbur Morley and family in the recent bereavement.

Garth Yeager, Sarnia called on his sister Mrs. Merton Penny on Monday.

Deanne, Jarrin and Jannelle Penny spent five days at the home of their grandmother Mrs. Merton Penny while their mother was a patient in the hospital.