

SPECTACULAR FIRE DESTROYS DIGGINS PORT CREDIT PLANT

Half Million Dollar Plant Formerly Operated Here — Employee Loses Life in Fire

A spectacular \$500,000 fire destroyed the Federal Sales & Engineering plant at Port Credit a week ago Friday. An employee, George Donnelly, 20, of Toronto, who dashed into the blazing factory in an effort to save his new tool kit, died in the fire.

The fire meant the total destruction of the business which Vic Diggins, a Georgetown native had built up from a one-lathe shop to a half-million dollar concern.

Starting in an overheated screw machine, fire spread to the oil coolant used to cool the cutting tools. Within minutes the plant was a mass of flames, despite efforts of employees to check the blaze. Sparks, carried by a strong north wind ignited the roofs of nearby homes and threatened two square block of residences. A house next door owned by Clarence Bouskill, also a former Georgetown, who purchased it from the company a short time ago, was endangered several times but firemen kept a stream of water playing on it.

Mr. Diggins established the business here in the early war years, moving from Toronto where he had a small factory. He purchased the King Street property originally used by the Georgetown Foundry Company and later occupied by a number of woollen mills, which had been empty since a fire. This he converted into a modern industrial plant. At the same time he built the modern California-style residence on King Street now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Buchanan and a number of smaller houses around it which were built for company employees.

Later the company moved to a new building on Academy Road and when both these buildings were sold to Smith & Stone, Mr. Diggins purchased the O'Neill Block downtown and moved his complete plant there. At the same time he opened Duffy's Restaurant which was conducted under a number of proprietors until it closed down earlier this year.

About three years ago, plant operations were consolidated in the new plant at Port Credit. Working on fine parts for auto plants, the plant also turned out components for the A. V. Roe aircraft plant at Malton which is building the famous jet fighter C.F.100 and the jet airliner. So important was the work done for the aircraft, deliveries were made twice a day.

Members of the white race have more hair on their heads than any other race. They have an average of 50,000 hairs.

Largest of the Egyptian pyramids has an estimated weight of 5 million tons.

New Plan to Man Ontario Industries

Following the statement last month by Premier Frost that there were indications of a growing shortage of manpower in the near future and the later news that it is quite probable a substantial drain on our labour forces for the armed services can be expected soon, the Honourable William Griesinger, Minister of Planning and Development, today announced that steps had been taken to strengthen the labour resources of Ontario industries and business. The Government has initiated this action through the Immigration Branch of the Ontario Department of Planning and Development, and with the assistance of Trade and Industry Branch, will determine what shortages there are likely to be and endeavour to obtain new manpower from the United Kingdom and Europe through the facilities of Ontario House in London and other Canadian government offices.

The new policy of the Ontario Government to assist industries and business to obtain skilled and semi-skilled workers for their plants has been given effect through conferences between Federal and Provincial authorities and personnel managers of larger key concerns now feeling the pinch through lack of skilled personnel. There is an urgent demand for hundreds of draftsmen, tool and die and machine shop workers, as well as skilled electrical and engineering tradesmen. The results of these recent conferences with Ottawa authorities, Colonel Griesinger said, have been most satisfactory in developing plans for the pooling of information and services between Federal Government officials of Citizenship and Immigration, and Ontario Government officials, both in the United Kingdom and at home.

A considerable number of skilled persons will come forward to work already arranged in several key industries which are sending selection teams to Great Britain to screen prospective employees who have registered as intending emigrants with the Ontario House or Federal Government offices. In many cases the employing industry will advance the cost of transportation to the new job in Canada and repayment will be made over a period of months or years through payroll deductions.

Colonel Griesinger stated that undoubtedly there was some unemployment now because key people were not immediately available and he predicted that as these jobs were manned, employment would open up for many others in construction and on production lines. The minister expressed great satisfaction with the new policy which could only have been given effect through the full cooperation and understanding of the several departments and officials of both the Canadian and Ontario Governments concerned in developing the plan.

Former Local Resident Dies in British Columbia

Word has recently been received of the death of a former local man, William Beerman at Newland, British Columbia. Mr. Beerman left Ontario 42 years ago and had never since visited in his native province. He died in his 59th year.

Besides his widow and six children, he is survived by four brothers and five sisters. Edward of Georgetown, Harold of Verdon, Sask., Charles, Dolphin, Sask. and Jack, Fort William, Mrs. L. G. Norton, Glen Williams, Mrs. Johnson, Regina, Sask., Mrs. Irwin, Yellow Grass, Sask., Mrs. George Beaumont and Mrs. Glass, Toronto.

Year in year out quality has always been and will always be the first consideration with

"SALADA" TEA

LIMEHOUSE

Many Holiday Visitors In Limehouse Community

(last week)
Holiday visitors include: Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Scott and Miss Carole Scott of Toronto.

Messrs. Alex Wright and Stewart Laws with the S. Wrights.
With the A. C. Fosters were Mrs. W. A. Johnstone of Beamsville, Mrs. W. H. Reamsbottom of Toronto and Mr. Eric Jabst of Chippewa.

With Mrs. R. Lane were Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lane and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Morrow and Elaine of Toronto and Mr. and Mrs. Bob Lane and children.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Greenlees, Marianne and Lois of Campbellville with the A. W. Bentons.
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Thompson entertained twenty members of the Thompson family on Christmas day.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Kirkpatrick and children of Drayton, Mr. and Mrs. John Foster and Diane and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Turner and Paul with the S. Kirkpatricks.

Miss Helen Mills who has been two and a half years at White Horse, Yukon and Vancouver arrived home Christmas eve.

Mr. E. Berg was home from London for a few days.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Geary spent Christmas with the Fred Gearys.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Muddle and Mr. and Mrs. Russell Thompson were among Christmas guests with Mrs. Angus McDonald and sons.

Mr. Lister of Burlington visited his daughters Sylvia and Linda at the D. S. McDonalds on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Walker are spending the Christmas holidays at their sixth line cottage.
Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Jones and girls visited his mother at Woodbridge on Saturday and spent Christmas with the Erwin Lewis family in Georgetown.

Miss Helen Devereaux was home from MacDonald College for the holiday.

The Griegs of Brantford visited Miss Ivons and Mrs. Gall on Wednesday.

Mr. A. C. Bourne of Ridley College and Cadet R. P. Bourne of RMC were home for Christmas.

Mr. Leslie Campbell of Hamilton called on the A. W. Nortons on Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Patterson and Joy and the Gilbert Sinclairs spent Christmas Day at Weston. Mrs. R. Patterson was with Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Patterson, Rockwood.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry McDonald and children spent Christmas in Guelph.

Mr. and Mrs. D. S. McDonald and family and Mr. and Mrs. Glsby spent Christmas with the L. Laws at Norval.

Mr. and Mrs. Mills and Miss Helen spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Mills at Streetsville.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Shelbourne, Eileen and Diane spent Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Wilfred Brown, at Erindale.

The Christmas story in lantern slides and the usual candy oranges and gifts were part of the annual Sunday School party held on Thursday evening in the Church. Rev. A. Calder was chairman.

We wish the editor and staff and readers of the Herald a happy New Year.

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COUNTRY KIST PEAS	STD. UNGRADED 15 Oz.	12c
LYNN VALLEY PEARS	STD. DESSERT 30 Oz.	24c
Heinz Tomato Soup	CONDENSED 10 Oz.	12c
DOMINO TEA BAGS	BLACK 2 1/2 lbs.	29c
Sweet Mixed Pickles	PRIMROSE 14 Oz.	23c
Rinso with Sunlight soap deal		40c
Christie Ritz Biscuits	8 oz. pkg.	19c
Iceland Wafers	13 oz. pkg.	39c

Fruits & Vegetables

Fresh Shredded — 8 oz. pkg.
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Golden Yellow
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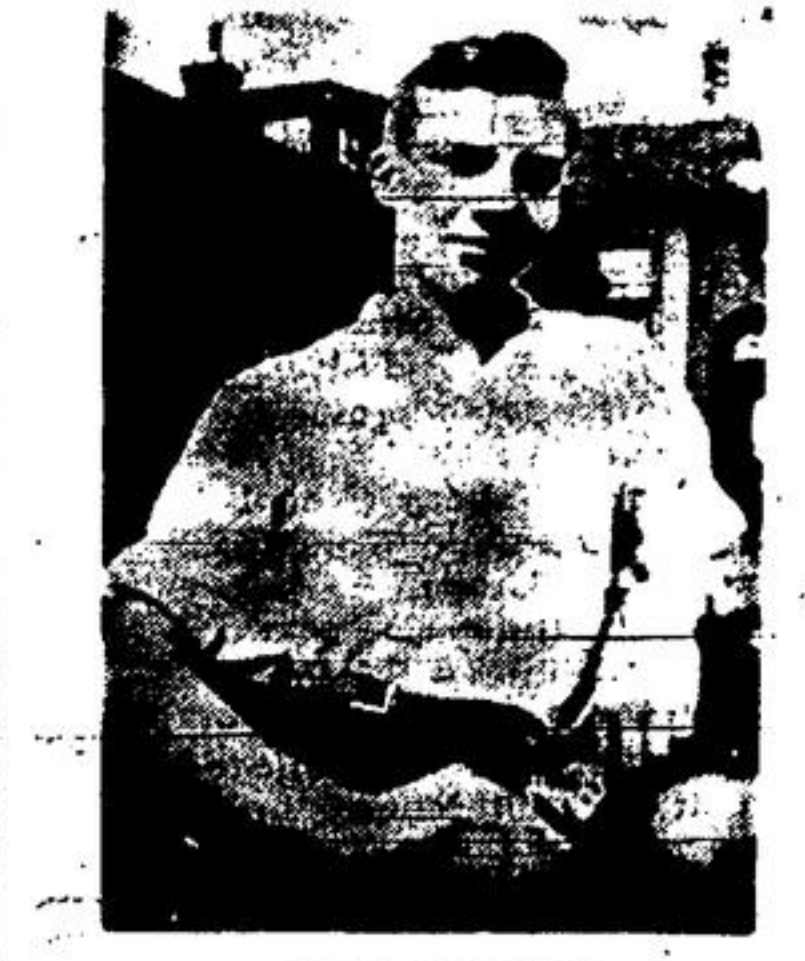
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DIES IN FIRE
George Donnelly, 20, an employee of Federal Sales who lost his life in the fire when he ran into the building to save his new tool kit.



Snapped by a Toronto Star photographer at the height of its fury, a spectacular fire destroys the half-million-dollar plant of Federal Sales & Engineering at Port Credit. The factory was owned by a former Georgetown man, Vic Diggins, who moved his plant there from Georgetown three years ago.

TRAVEL NOTES

SPECIAL!!!
TCA AIR EXCURSIONS TO ENGLAND
Beginning January 1st, TCA offers bargain 15-day excursions TORONTO TO LONDON, ENGLAND \$458.00 ROUND TRIP

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