

HOSPITAL NEWS



By Leo Clark

It's quite some time since this column has appeared in the Herald... six weeks, to be exact. What with holidays, etc. plus the various items that have appeared in the news columns, there just hasn't been the necessary materials for a column... And (touch wood) with the hospital functioning so smoothly, the board managed to take an August recess. This is something unheard of around G.D.M.E. and a far cry from two years ago, when any week that there wasn't a Board and Management Committee meeting, it was most unusual.

However, at present the entire operation seems to be running along very nicely, there have been no unaccountable problems or major disturbances... and all in all, we feel that the staff doctors and board members appreciate the easy, efficient way that the plant is operating.

We attribute a great deal of the good feeling and teamwork around the hospital to those in charge of the every day routine, the dept. heads and supervisors, and of course the administrator and chief of staff.

What's in store for our Hospital — expansion wise, that is? We'll soon know, as a report is being prepared by Dr. Lumsden and department at O.H.C. projecting our future needs, in the next five years. This is the length of time (five years) evidently when an addition will be most urgent, and of course, plans must be laid long before that. At present the department is investigating the yearly growth of the community in the future, and the expansion plans of business and industry here. We might add, anyone who has seen the influx of patients into the hospital in the past two weeks, will realize that more beds may be needed sooner than anyone had thought possible.

A drastic change has evidently occurred in the Commission's thinking about chronic beds. It was, until recently, the policy that each area had a designated hospital servicing a certain area for patients with chronic illnesses. There has been a re-appraisal of thinking, however, and we understand that they're now being established in any hospital proving a need for this service. To our way of thinking this would be one of the logical services that Georgetown might take advantage of.

At any rate, no doubt the Lumsden report will establish some firm guidelines for future needs in town. We look forward to seeing it in the near future.

Happy to see that Auxiliary members are still working hard at their fund-raising activities... President Inez Crichton reported a number of fund raising activities in the coming months, to be climaxed, of course, by their annual dance... The Auxiliary are arranging a visit to another Hospital for the Candystrippers in the near future. This group, incidentally, is quite a large one, having around 45 members and supplying a much needed service in our hospital.

Glad to see that Fred Whittaker and wife Gerry managed to get a week to visit "down east" in Mrs. Whittaker's home the province of Newfoundland. We are sure that the Whittakers had a wonderful time. Fred was administrator of a Hospital there for many years.

Harold C. McClure has been appointed as a member of the trustees of the Credit Valley School of Nursing, to be established in South Peel in the near future. He will represent this community and the board along with other area hospital board members. This is a School of Nursing that is being set up on grounds adjoining the South Peel Hospital.

We are sorry to hear of the resignation of our business manager, Harold Seckington, who has accepted a position with another Hospital. Mr. Seckington has been taking a course qualifying as an Administrator, and has accepted a position as assistant administrator. Board members join with the administrator in wishing him success in his new field of endeavour. Certainly in the time he has been in the hospital, Mr. Seckington has proved a most valuable employee. We understand that he will continue to make Georgetown his home.

Humane Society

Police Alerted as Dog Slayings Go Unchecked

The recent shooting of a dog in the Glen Williams area on the 10th Line, has brought about disclosures of other dogs shot in the area over the past few years.

A Norwegian elkhound, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Danny Hewitt, disappeared about a month ago, and was found lying in a field behind the house with bullet holes in his leg and side.

Still alive he was taken to the Veterinary Clinic in Georgetown, then a week later to the Ontario College of Veterinary medicine in Guelph.

The dog, "Keevat" was saved, but at a fair amount of expense to its owners.

Upon hearing of this recent incident, two neighbours, the Greens and the Brandfords told of their earlier losses of dogs.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Green lost two dogs, one a purebred German Shepherd, and one water spaniel.

About three years ago the German Shepherd simply never came back, the water spaniel let out at the same time returned with a 22 slug in his head. This time it was extracted and he was all right.

A year later the same water spaniel was shot through the leg, and the bullet lodged in the spine. The Greens were advised to leave the bullet in. Last winter this same little dog was shot again. This time he did not recover.

Mrs. Brandford also lost two dogs, a collie and a purebred spaniel. She does not know what happened to the spaniel, but assumes it met the same fate as the collie.

The collie was shot in the stomach, and crawled home. This time she nursed it back to health, but it disappeared again and has never been found.

An unclaimed collie was also found shot recently on the 10th Line, obviously a stray. The people in the area say it is simply impossible to keep a dog. They have notified the police and Humane Society and intend to prosecute if the guilty party is found.

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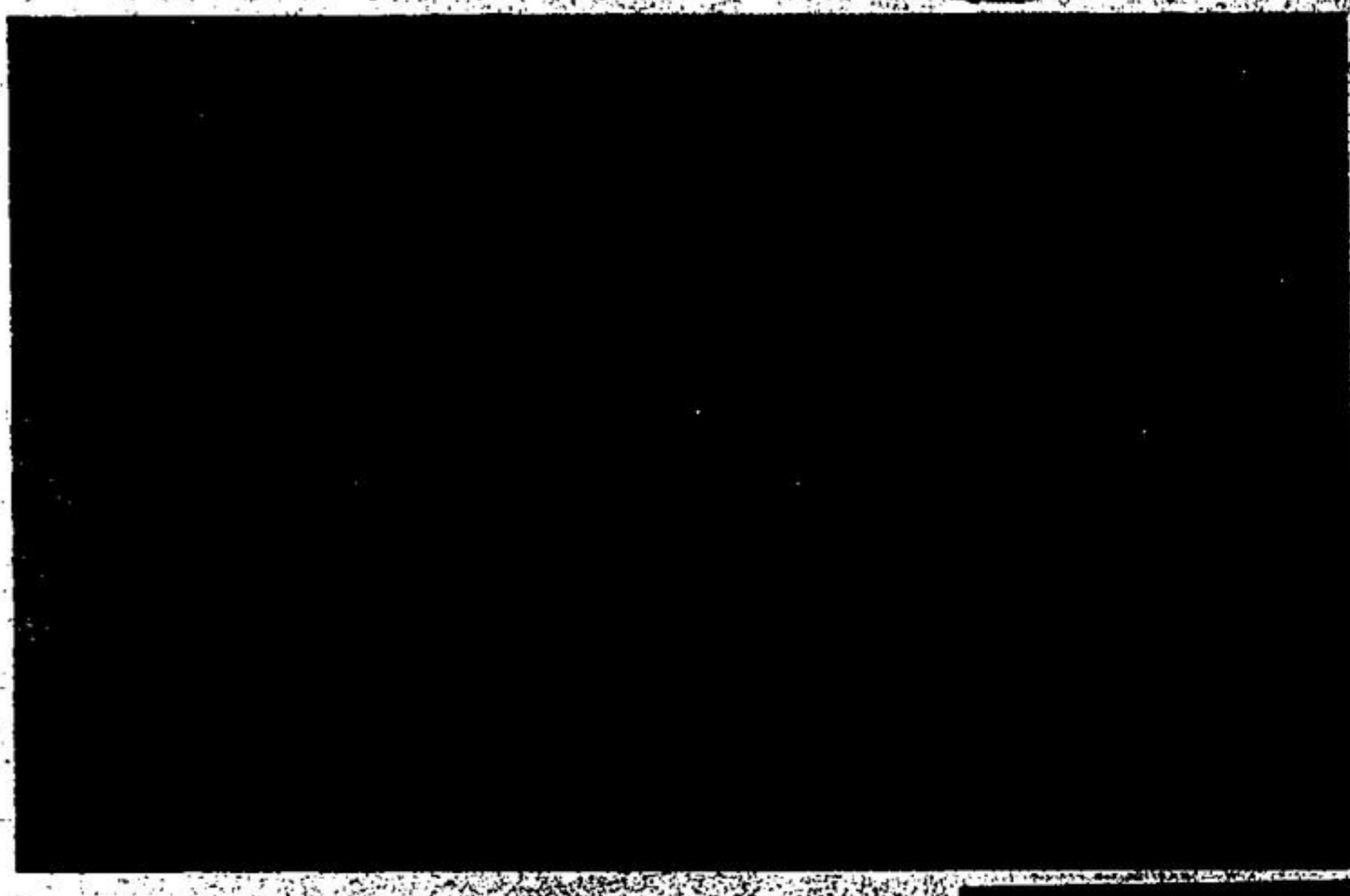
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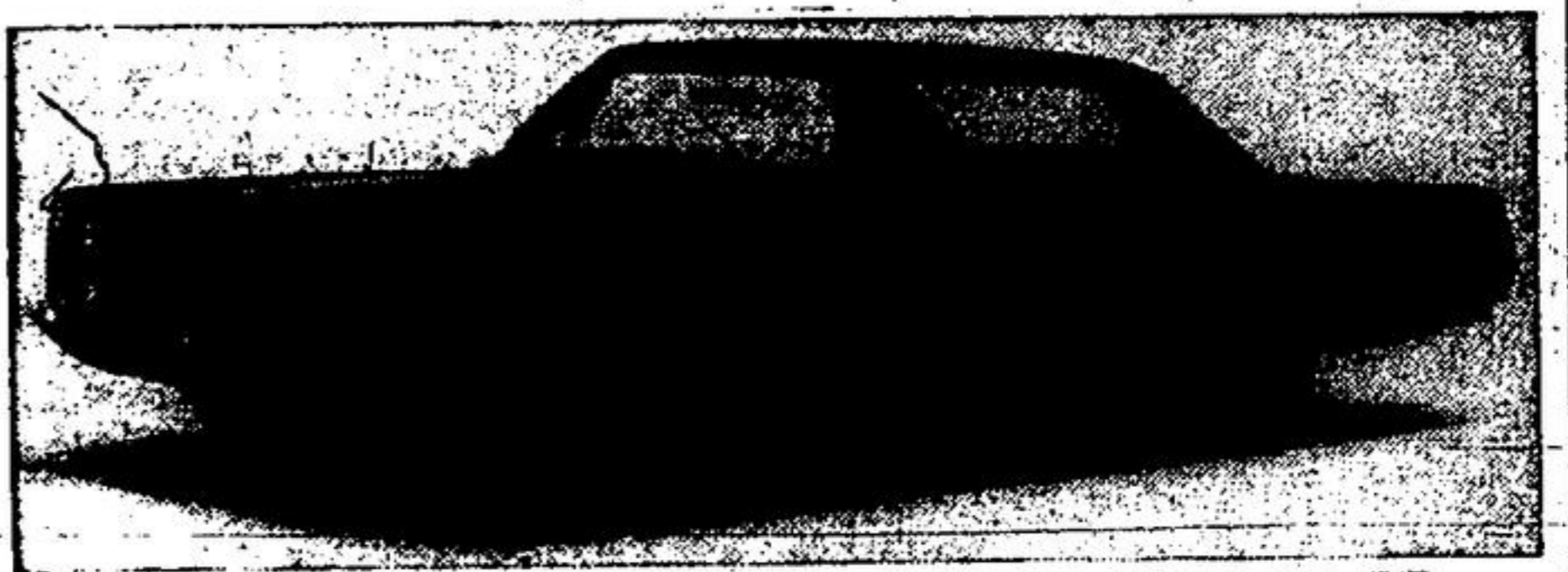
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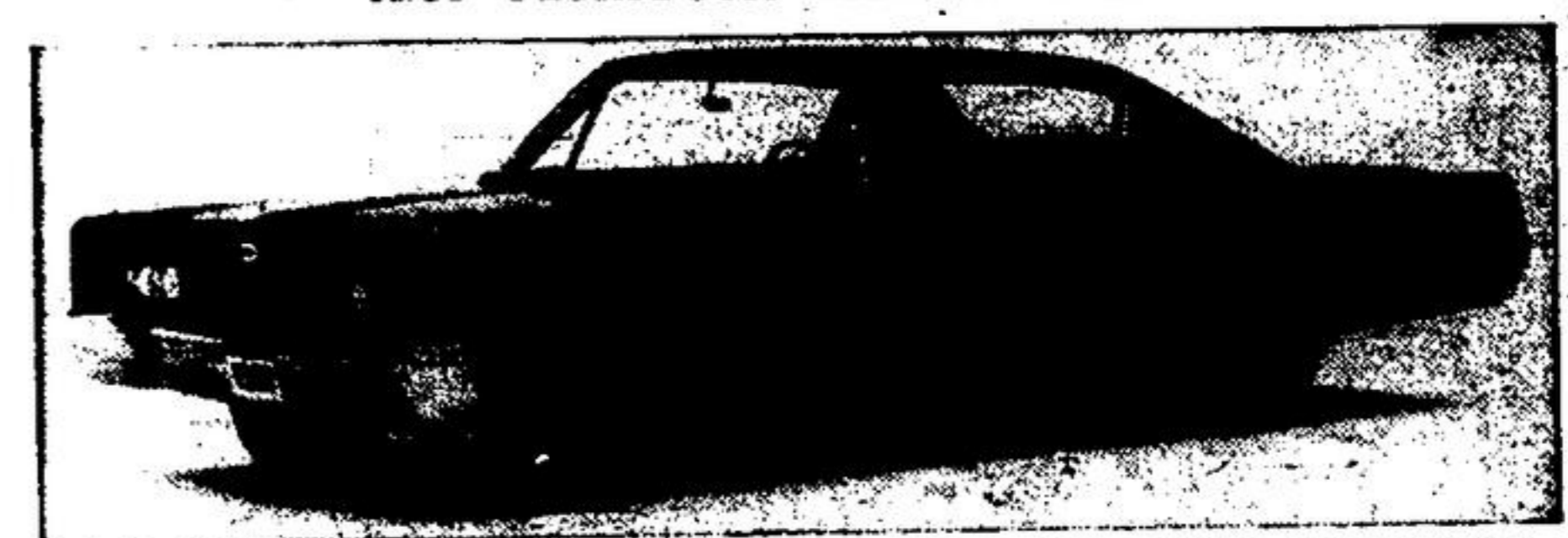
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