

# Cites Inflation, Strike as Reasons Hydro Increase

Inflationary pressures including rising costs for materials, wages, and for borrowing money also a costly strike, were among the reasons Ontario Hydro reluctantly had to announce an increase in rates of power supplied this year to more than 250 municipal hydro systems, D. P. Cliff, 1st vice chairman of Ontario Hydro, stated.

He was the principal speaker at the annual meeting of Central Ontario District No. 4 Ontario Municipal Electric Association held at the Constellation Hotel in Metro Toronto.

The meeting was attended by some 150 municipal utility members from Jax, Aurora, Brampton, East York, Etobicoke, Georgetown, Markham, Mississauga, Milton, Newmarket, North York, Oakville, Port Credit, Richmond Hill, Scarborough, Stouffville, Toronto, Woodbridge and the borough of York.

The speaker said that financing construction programs is expensive, but when high price of delays occasioned by strikes, late deliveries of equipment and equipment failures was added to spiralling costs on all sides, the situation called for the form of action that Hydro was recently, and reluctantly, forced to take, the announcement of an increase averaging approxi-

ately six per cent in rates of power supplied to the 355 municipal utilities in the Hydro system.

"Some municipalities may be able to absorb the increase. In most cases however, it is expected to be passed on to the consumer for the municipalities are also contending with escalating costs.

"Ontario Hydro and the local utilities have been fighting the rising tide of inflation for some years. Evidence of the cooperative effort to hold the line may be seen in the fact that rates have actually been reduced in some cases, while in other municipalities there have been no increases in power rates in 10 years or more.

"If we go back to 1949, the base year for the general consumer price index, we get an idea of what a bargain electricity in Ontario really is. The average homemaker is now paying a \$1.50 for the goods and services she bought for \$1. in 1949. That represents an increase of nearly 50 per cent in the cost of living.

"During the same period the average cost of electricity to the residential customer in Ontario has increased by about 1/10 of a cent-per kilowatt hour or 10 per cent, this in spite of

sharply rising prices particularly over the past few years, in all phases of Hydro operations," Mr. Cliff stated.

During the annual dinner, John T. Armstrong, a former mayor of Georgetown and the present chairman of "Georgetown Hydro-Electric Commission" was honoured for his 15 years of service as a Hydro Commissioner. Mr. Armstrong who is a past president of Central Ontario District No. 4 O.M.E.A. was presented with a framed certificate by 1st vice chairman D. P. Cliff of Ontario Hydro.

A presentation also was made by the 1968 President, Donald H. Glass of Central Ontario District No. 4 O.M.E.A., to Arthur G. Meen, Q.C., M.P.P., the retiring president of the District Association. Mr. Meen, in his capacity of immediate past president, will continue to serve on the executive of the District Association. He received a handsome desk set in recognition of his successful year as president of Central Ontario District No. 4 O.M.E.A.

The speaker at the dinner meeting was Hon. Robert S. Welch, Q.C., M.P.P., Provincial Secretary and Minister of Citizenship. The subject of his address was "Looking into our Second Century."

## LET'S PLAY BRIDGE

BY BILL COATS

It has been said that no trump contracts are harder to play than suit contracts. The reason seems to be that the addition of a trump suit helps declarer to maintain control of the hand. Another reason that I have noticed is that at no trump, declarers often just take their high cards before they developed their tricks.

This hand will illustrate my point. The dealer is North and East West are vulnerable.

NORTH  
S-K J 3  
H-Q 9 5  
D-K 8 4 3 7  
C-10

EAST  
S-Q 8 4  
H-K 10 3 2  
D-Q 6  
C-K Q 9 2

SOUTH  
S-10 9 6  
H-7 4  
D-10 7 5  
C-J 8 7 6 4

The bidding:  
North East South West  
Pass Pass Pass J C  
Pass 1 H Pass 2 N.T.  
Pass 3 NT All Pass

Opening lead: four of diamonds.

A few comments on the bidding. East has twelve points in high cards but with his strength so scattered and no aces in his hand he should pass. West appears to have eighteen high card points but with all four aces he adds one point. This puts his hand over the usual no trump opening range.

West should open one club.

rather than one of a major in order to make things easier for his partner in case East has only four or five points.

After the diamond opening lead declarer can count nine tricks on top. There is one spade, two hearts, two diamonds, three clubs and one further heart can be developed easily. However this is not the way that duplicate bridge games are won. Nor is it the way to develop good habits at no trump contracts.

At the time the hand was played, declarer made a rather glaring lead of a low spade. North put up the king and returned a diamond. Declarer won and led a spade to the queen. When the third round of spades was led, declarer discovered that his thirteenth spade was good.

Three rounds of clubs showed that they would not be as kind as the spades had been. Declarer led a heart to the ace and led the last spade.

North showed too much anxiety in his discards on the club lead and the last spade. When he discarded three diamonds from a suit that was set up, declarer confidently finessed North for the heart queen.

Twelve tricks was a fine award for this imaginative play. How much poorer the results of those declarers who simply cashed their high cards.

Monday's results: Individual competition, 1st, Mrs. Betty Ashley; 2nd, (tie) Mrs. Jackie Nolan and Bill Coats; 3rd, Gloria Coats.

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## Mrs. F. Baker is New St. Andrew's UCW Head

Mrs. Florence Baker became president of St. Andrew's United Church Women at the annual meeting on January 10th. Other officers installed by Rev. K. C. Johnston were —

Mrs. Clara Wodhams, vice president; Mrs. Marjorie Ackroyd, secretary; Mrs. Evelyn Martin, treasurer; Mrs. Betty Pickup, program convener; Mrs. Florence Skilling, membership and flower convener; Mrs. Helen Anderson, finance chairman; Mrs. Marjorie Glover, social convener; Mrs. Anna Storring, citizenship and social action; Mrs. Joan Fraser, bulletin editor; Mrs. Sheila Ward, ritual cards; Mrs. Marjorie Ackroyd, press and publicity; Mrs. Clara Wodhams, Mrs. Helen Anderson and Mrs. Evelyn Martin, leadership forwards.

Following the meeting, the retiring president, Mrs. LeVerne Hyder, was presented with a gift by Mrs. Clara Wodhams.

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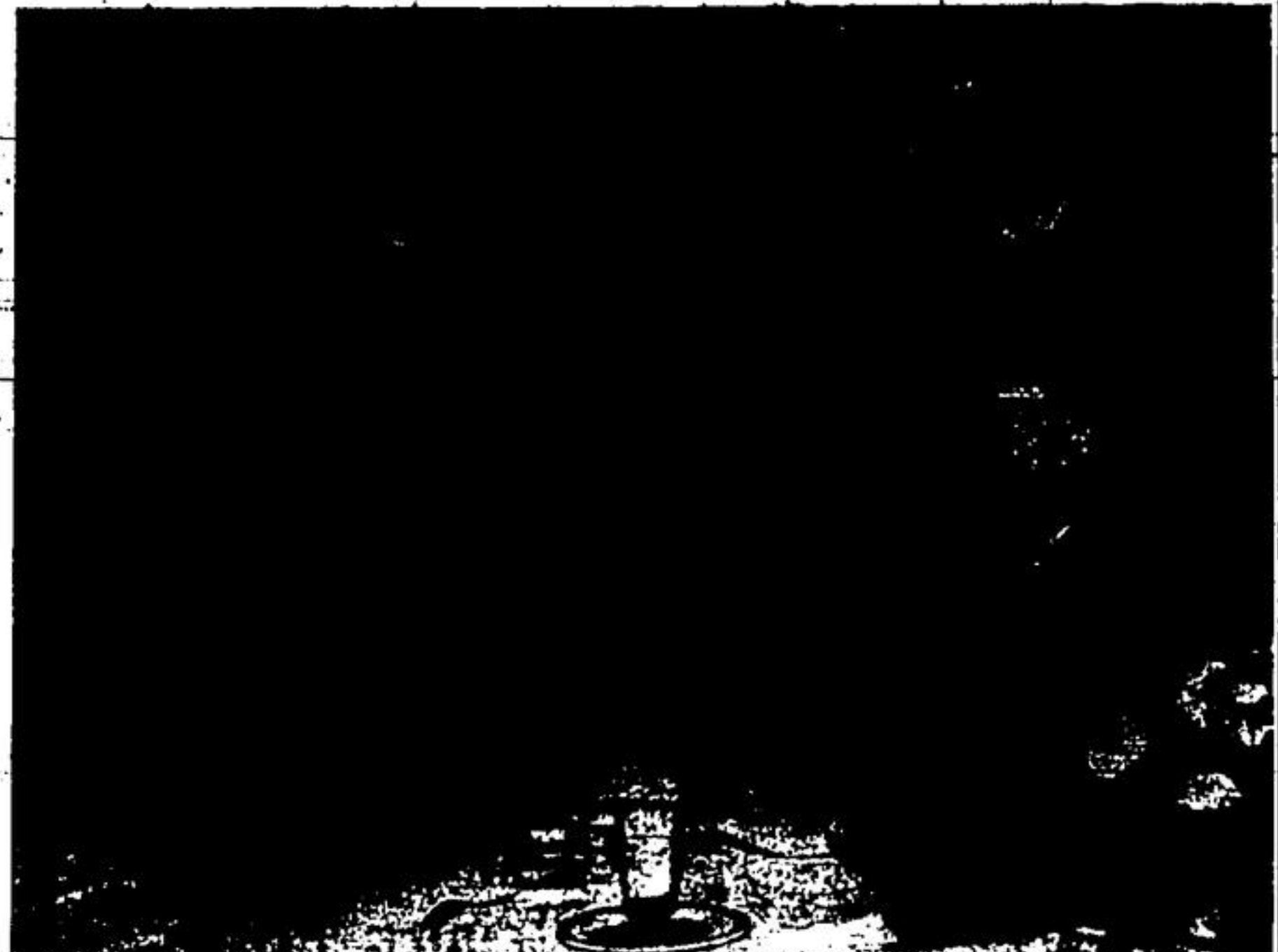
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A FRAMED CERTIFICATE honouring him for 15 years of dedicated service to Georgetown Hydro is presented to John T. Armstrong by D. P. Cliff, 1st vice chairman of Ontario Hydro, at the annual meeting of District 4, O.M.E.A.

## Takes IODE Members on Trip to Australia, Fiji

The first meeting of 1968 of the Counties of Strathmore Chapter IODE took place on Monday, January 8, at the home of Jean and Margery Mackenzie, 10 Valleyview Rd., the Regent presided and there were 20 members present.

The secretary read the minutes of the last meeting, this was followed by the treasurer's report.

A letter of resignation was received with regret from Mrs. E. Lince, Education Secretary. Mrs. O. Hunter gave her report. She distributed 112 IODE calendars throughout all the Georgetown public schools, the separate school and the high school. This is a yearly project of the Chapter. Mrs. Hunter also reported she had received two letters of thanks from the successful students who were awarded \$25. for the General Proficiency Award in Grade 13, and a special Centennial Award of \$25. for the student showing the most progress in Grade 13. These were students attending Georgetown District High School.

Mrs. R. Ballantine, secretary of Services Home and Abroad read a letter of thanks from IODE Headquarters in appreciation for the knitted vests and other knitted goods which she had recently forwarded to them.

A report was given on the Christmas card fund raising project. This was quite successful and a substantial amount was added to the general funds. The Regent thanked all those

who had worked so hard on the committee.

The next fund raising effort will be the annual Valentine Dance to be held February 9. The following members were added to the committee; Mrs. James Evans, Mrs. Denney Charles, Mrs. Sam Penrice, and Mrs. J. T. Armstrong.

Members were again reminded to forward recipes for a cook book to Mrs. K. Barber, or Mrs. Robert Barber.

This concluded the business part of the meeting. Then followed the nominations for the coming year. Mrs. Ed Wilson, Mrs. R. Barber and Mrs. Sam Penrice agreed to convene the nominating committee.

A most delightful and entertaining program followed when the Regent Miss M. Mackenzie introduced Mr. Paul Armstrong who took the members on a most interesting trip by way of coloured slides to Australia, and all the places he visited on the way, Fiji, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Tokyo, to name a few. Paul was chosen by the Rotary Club, along with six other young men to represent Canada. Thanks was expressed on behalf of the members by Mrs. O. Hunter.

Lunch was served by the hostess assisted by Mrs. J. Jones, Mrs. Oliver Hunter and Mrs. H. McDonald.

Mrs. James Evans thanked the hostesses and the lunch committee.

## Wild Cats Plague Huttonville People

Huttonville roused by a pride of wild cats?

An elderly resident of the village has been worried by these cats, who live in the ruins of a barn behind her home. The Ontario Humane Society in Conksville was contacted, and one of its officers, Martin Horan of Brampton, drove to Huttonville to investigate the problem.

He said that there were over 20 cats there. He caught two, a black one, and a grey one, but the black one escaped.

**Opened Trap**

When he opened the trap that he had caught it in, it attacked him and bit right through his leather glove and scratched him through his clothing.

The grey one was so ferocious and became so frantic trying to burst out of the cage that it split its head open and had to be put out of its agony.

Mr. Horan reported the plight of the cats to a member of the

Chinguacousy Township office staff, and Reeves Cyril Clark requested Bill Smith, the canine control officer of the township to investigate the feline problem.

**Nine Cats**

Mr. Smith spent over an hour in Huttonville and saw only one cat and what is more, stated he could not see any traces of a large number of cats.

One woman reported she saw nine cats stalking up the pathway by her house.

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## Glen Eden Winter Resort is Proving Popular with Public

The Halton Conservation Authority's gamble with Glen Eden winter sports area is beginning to pay off.

The authority took over operation of the area a year ago after its private promoters went bankrupt, and in spite of objections from many quarters about the authority entering "the ski business" decided to go all out in turning the area into a reputable winter sports facility.

Now, after spending more than \$10,000 to regrade the hill, build a larger chalet and install new snow-making equipment, the authority is beginning to taste success.

In the first 11 days of operation the area has taken in more money than it did in all of last year's 58-day season, field officer Dave Murray told the authority executive last week.

And the original intention of making it a facility to be enjoyed by the whole family is being realized, he said, since the skating rink and toboggan run are seeing as much action as the ski slopes.

But the unexpected popularity has created some problems, most serious of which is parking. This is being solved this week by bulldozing a new lot for 500 cars.

"We were the first open in Southern Ontario and we have more snow than anywhere else," authority chairman Barry Humphrey said last week.

And with a few more improvements to the slope and the development of our family programs, we will soon be the best in the area, he added.



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