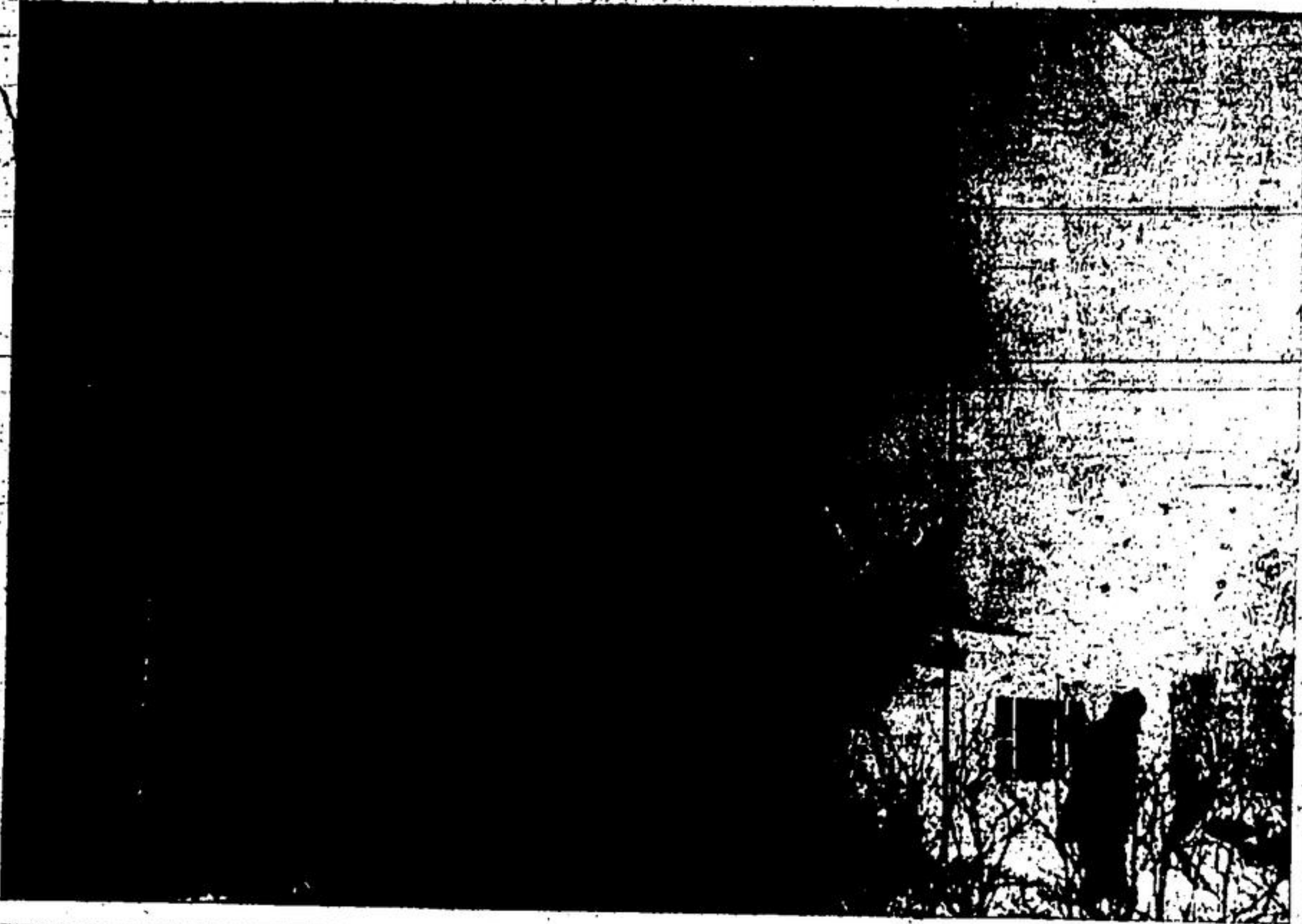


PORTRAIT OF FLAMES - FURY AND FRUSTRATION



Above, a hydro. lineman sits on a truck ladder and directs a Georgetown firefighter during the height of a fire which gutted a Glen Williams house last Wednesday. Despite efforts of firefighters the blaze left the frame home of W. Montgomery in ruins. At left, a fireman directs a stream of water into a flame-filled garage. All the contents of the house were lost in the blaze which broke out about midnight. Mr. Montgomery had been working on the house to prepare it for sale. Only the exterior walls were left standing.

Dismiss Arson Charge After Jail Incident

A legal technicality won acquittal Wednesday for a youth charged with trying to burn down Halton County jail while a prisoner there last year.

Judge Alan Sprague dismissed the charge against the 19 year old when defense counsel William Sharpe pointed out the written charge had omitted the word 'willfully' which is included in the Criminal Code wording of the offense.

"In that case there is no need to proceed any further," said Judge Sprague. "I have no choice but to find the accused not guilty."

County jail guard John McCormick had testified earlier he had rushed into the youth's cell October 10 to find him sitting in his cot surrounded by flames.

"He didn't seem to want to move," the jail guard said. "He had to be taken by the arm and dragged from the cell, and after that didn't say anything."

Lt. Hugh Warrington, McCormick's superior, had earlier refused the youth's request to see a doctor, and had heard someone in the same cell shout: "Start a fire and you'll get attention."

The fire was confined to bedding and paper piled in a corner of the cell.

Pressing for a conviction on the arson charge, Crown Attorney Peter McWilliams said the fire was willfully set, and although it may not have set the whole jail on fire, the building has flammable parts.

"It is most hazardous to set a fire in a jail where people are locked up and cannot make their escape," he said. "There were 18 male prisoners and one female in the 110 year old jail that night."

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	1967	1966
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First Mortgages	61,200,121	52,314,383
Bonds, Stocks, Cash	10,656,200	9,525,492
Total Assets under Administration	\$82,689,006	\$69,889,614

1967 Net Profit was \$417,207 and General Reserves reached \$1,225,000.

A copy of our Annual Report will be sent on request.

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Halton M.P.P. Wants GO Train Extension to Serve Georgetown

Jim Snow, Halton East's representative in the Ontario legislature, said at Queen's Park last week that GO Transit — the rapid transit system of commuter trains — should be extended to serve communities in this part of the county.

At present, the white and green GO trains are only in service along the lakeshore, between Hamilton and Pickering. "The existing service is being used to capacity and must be expanded," Snow said in making his maiden speech in the legislature. "An expansion of the GO Transit via the CPR existing line to Cooksville, Streetsville and Milton; and via the CNR to Georgetown and Acton would have the same success and acceptance as has been experienced with the lakeshore route.

The GO trains were introduced last May as an experiment to see if people would make use of them instead of driving cars into Toronto. The government believed it would be cheaper to make trains available than to build new expressways for car travel.

GO service was designed to carry 15,000 passengers daily when full service was in operation by last September, but it was so successful it reached maximum long before that.

Milton, the county seat of Halton, is now almost completely cut off from public transit service. There are no bus links with the southern part of the county and buses travelling on Hwy. 401 make only infrequent stops in Milton.

Need Double Staff to Serve Health Unit Nursing Needs

Dr. H. B. Hay, the head of the Halton Health Unit, said last week the unit needs twice as many public health nurses as it now has, to function properly.

The unit now has about 15 full-time nurses, but to carry out all the programs the unit should be doing, he said, about 30 nurses were needed. He added that the accepted ratio is one nurse for every 5,000 residents of the area.

Since there are about 100,000 people in Halton now, he said, there should be about 30 nurses.

But Dr. Hay will not know how many nurses he will be able to hire until county council approves his budget for 1968. The finance committee of council meets this week to consider budgets, so county council might be able to deal with it next Tuesday.

Wages Dr. Hay said that most of the budget is taken up with wages for staff members.

The health unit was forbidden to hire any nurses for more than a year, up until last fall, when it finally settled a contract with the nurses.

A year before the nurses had walked off the job in protest of working conditions, and returned only after 'greylisting' the unit — forbidding it to hire any nurses until a contract was signed.

reduced by a yearly \$2 million grant from the province.

The system is composed of 81 trains a day and officials expect it is now carrying about 20,000 passengers daily.

During rush hours there is usually standing room only on the westbound GO Transit trains out of Toronto's Union Station.

to negotiate until the greylisting was lifted, and the nurses refused to lift it until a contract was signed.

The matter was solved only after a provincial mediator was appointed to supervise the talks.

When the contract was finally signed, Dr. Hay said, it was the wrong time of year to hire any nurses. Most nurses are hired after the end of the university school year, he explained, when now nurses are graduating.

Waiting to Hire Now, he said, the unit would wait until the end of this school year to hire.

The unit attempted to hire one graduate last spring — to break the greylisting — but when she learned the situation, she refused to report to work.

None of the programs of the unit had to be dropped, Dr. Hay said — but many of them were 'retrenched.' Many programs that had been carried on automatically in Halton schools are now done only at the request of school officials.

Such programs as child health clinics, in the southern part of the county, were also curtailed, the doctor said, because very few parents were bringing their children to them. In the northern areas, he added, where the parents were more often self-employed — and thus had no paid medical plan — more

children were brought to the clinics.

Other Programs With a full staff, Dr. Hay said, some programs could be carried out that might eventually save time and money for the unit and the potential patient.

"Multiple screening" projects could be carried out with a full complement of staff members, Dr. Hay said. When patients are brought in, or gathered in one place, for one type of test — such as chest X-rays for tuberculosis — other tests, such as urine samples to test for diabetes, or eye tests — could be carried out at the same time.

It is much easier, he said, to detect diseases before they get a hold on the patient, than to have to treat an already-sick person.

A full staff of nurses could also be used effectively in the mental health field, Dr. Hay said. The nurses could give preliminary examinations to determine which patients need psychiatric help, he said. There is a shortage of psychiatrists, he added.

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