

Tanners ask provinces to join parley with Pierre

The serious crisis in the tanning industry has had such a strong effect on the Tanners Association of Canada that they are asking the Ontario and Quebec governments to join a delegation seeking a meeting with Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau over the issue of large increase in imported shoes being sold in Canada.

The president of the Tanners Association has written Premier William Davis of

Ontario and Premier William Bourassa of Quebec indicating a delegation was being formed of the Tanners Association, the Shoe Manufacturers Association of Canada, the Ontario Council of Leather Workers and Canadian Allied Workers and Le Syndicat Catholique des Employes de Tanneries, to meet Mr. Trudeau and his Cabinet.

Results of the meeting requested by letter

March 7, could seriously affect the jobs of many of the 400 Acton employees of Beardmore, the country's largest tannery.

"We need all the support we can get to impress upon the federal government the fact that the Canadian tanning industry, and with it the Canadian shoe manufacturing industry, is in a highly critical situation over the flood of shoes being allowed to enter this country," said Peter Stewart, Tannery Association president.

As noted in a Free Press story three weeks ago, in 1960 imported leather shoes sold in Canada amounted to five per cent of the pairs produced in Canadian factories. By 1972, this figure had increased to approximately 75 per cent. Several employees have already been laid off at the Acton Beardmore plant, some of them indefinitely.

"Despite the major efforts of both the tanning and shoe industry to improve their performance in recent years, we find ourselves being pushed against the wall by declining markets and overwhelming imports," Stewart said. The tanners and shoe manufacturers have charged unfair competition from subsidized manufacturers in the so-called developing countries.

The Canadian tanning industry is almost totally dependent on the domestic shoe market, so if the Canadian shoe market goes down the drain, the jobs of 2,500 men and women in tanning and 25,000 in related industries will be affected.

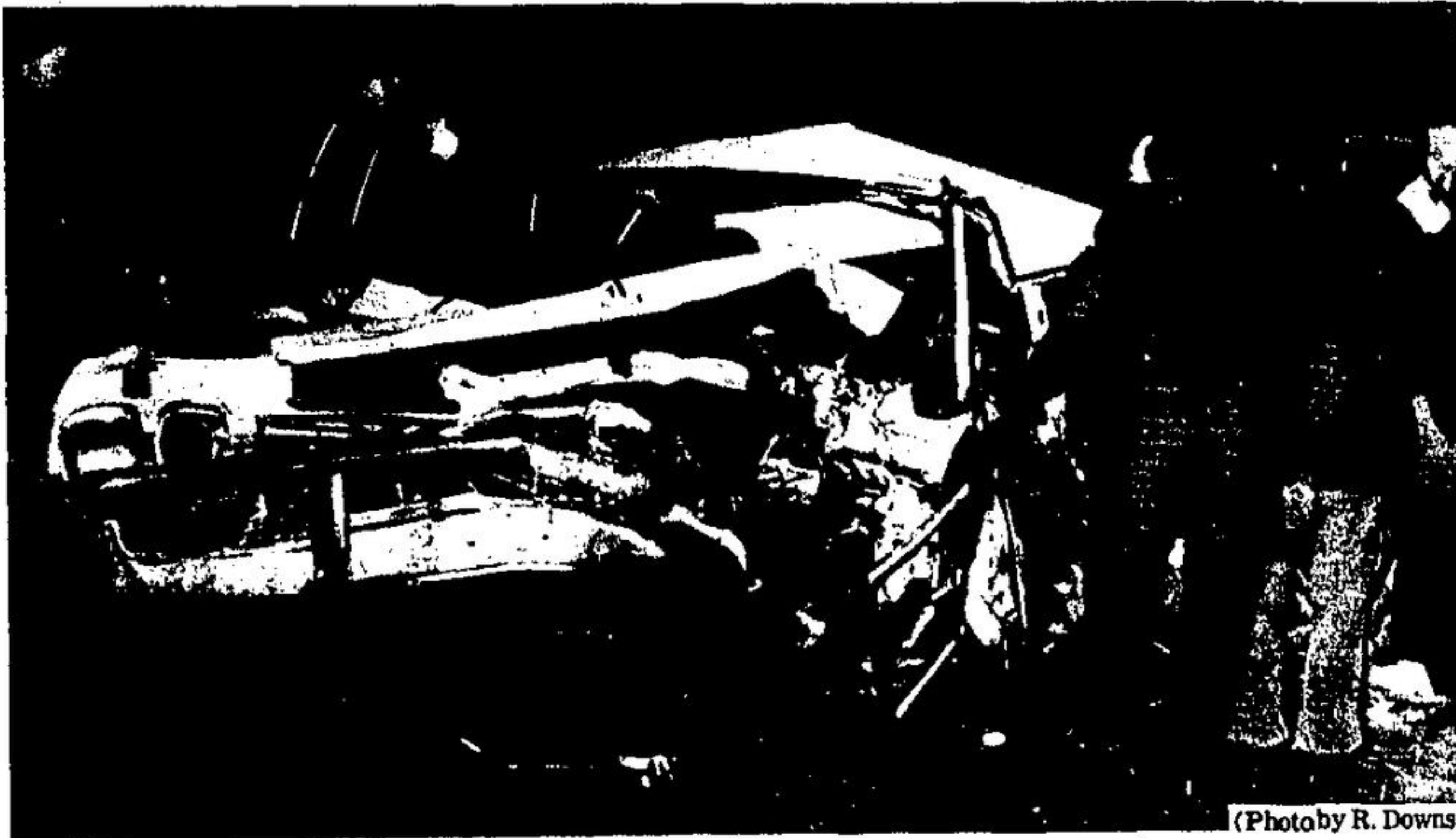
An earlier submission in May, 1972, has not been answered by Ottawa.

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(Photo by R. Downs)

FIREFIGHTERS PRY BROWN'S CAR APART AT SCENE OF DOUBLE FATALITY MONDAY

Two area men killed in head-on collision

Two area men were killed instantly and two passengers were injured Monday night in a grinding, head-on collision on the Five Sideroad diversion east of Campbellville.

Dead are the drivers of both vehicles — 19-year-old Randolph D. "Randy" Brown of Campbellville and 46-year-old Ties Kremer of R. R. 4, Acton.

Two passengers in the Brown

vehicle are in hospital, one with serious injuries and one with undetermined injuries. Wayne John Dowson, 17, of Port Perry is in Oakville Hospital with a fractured pelvis and was being operated on Tuesday morning when kidney problems were discovered. Richard N. Mitchell, 22, of Tilsonburg, was sent from the Oakville hospital to Toronto General Hospital. No serious

injuries were found but doctors are keeping an eye on his condition.

Police said all four men were employed at Mohawk Raceway. Brown and Mitchell were employed by harness racing driver Doug Hie.

Brown is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Doug Brown of Guelph Line,

south of Campbellville. He was single. Kremer, who lives on 17 Sideroad north of Speyside, was married and the father of three children.

It took a crew of Milton Firefighters and two tow trucks to pry the injured from the wreckage of the two vehicles. Both cars, Brown's 1965 Chevrolet and Kremer's 1972 Plymouth, were described as total wrecks by investigating officer Const. William Bourae of Milton OPP.

A harness racing cart which was affixed to the roof of the Brown vehicle was also damaged in the collision. It became detached and landed 60 feet away from the car.

The accident happened just west of where Five Sideroad splits into a diversion road around the village of Campbellville, beside the Consolidated Sand and Gravel pit.

Spain-bound Acton group misses Montreal flight

Severe weather conditions and overloaded aircraft delayed the arrival of 36 Acton high school students and chaperones in Spain.

The Acton party was supposed to leave Toronto International Airport at 5 p.m. Saturday but the flight was delayed because the aircraft was overloaded. Four thousand pounds of fuel had to be burned off before it could take off for Montreal where they were to catch the flight for Spain.

They finally took off from Malton at 7:57 and landed at Montreal at 8:47, too late to catch the Madrid-bound flight.

Overnight in Montreal
Air Canada put the party up at the Skyline Hotel in Montreal overnight. Sunday morning they boarded a New York-bound bus to

catch a flight Sunday evening from New York City.

This time they were successful in catching the flight and left finally for Spain at 7 p.m. Sunday evening, arriving in Madrid Monday morning.

The students are spending four days in Madrid before flying on to Torremellones, from where they will spread out to such well known Spanish spots as Toledo, Segovia and the Valley of the Fallen.

Saturday's bus trip from Acton to the airport was done in some of the winter's worst weather and then the travellers encountered severe turbulence on the flight to Montreal. Several were sick. The plane ride was so bouncy stewardesses were forced to sit down rather than dish out the usual lunch and beverages.

Many parents and friends were

at the high school Saturday to see them off and bid them bon voyage.



They're off for sunny Spain

DOZENS OF PARENTS, relatives and friends waved adieu to Spain-bound Acton high school students and their chaperones at the school grounds Saturday afternoon. The travellers

boarded a bus for the trip to Toronto International Airport in snowy, bone-chilling weather, hoping they would be in sunny Spain in a few hours. However, the flight to Montreal was late

and they missed connections for Madrid, which necessitated new arrangements from New York City. —H. Coles Photos



THE HON. GEORGE KERR has announced Bruce Cargill of Acton has been appointed to the Credit Valley Conservation Authority by the Provincial Government. Mr. Cargill has been active in many local organizations and is a past president of the Acton Progressive Conservative Association.

Spectacular accident maroons two Acton couples in Barrie

Two Acton couples who braved Sunday's blinding snowstorm were forced to spend the night in Barrie as the result of the tragic chain of accidents which left 15 people dead along highway 400.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Perry, Jeffrey Ave., their son Don and wife Ann, started out to return home from Barrie but were turned back at the accident scene by police. The accident occurred south of the Thornton cloverleaf, seven miles south of Barrie and involved a truck, bus and a number of cars estimated between 35 and 40.

It began in a swirling snowstorm where visibility was almost nil. Cars stopped at the scene of a minor accident and the

truck loaded with lumber smashed into them, overturned, crushing cars as it caught on fire.

Trapped in cars

People were trapped in burning cars and had no chance to escape the flames. A few minutes later an Ontario Northland bus smashed into the wreckage, creating more havoc.

The Perrys had originally intended to travel north Saturday but turned back in the snowstorm after going as far as Osprey. Sunday, the two couples left in Don Perry's car about 9 a.m. and experienced no difficulty until they got in the Schomberg district. They travelled about 30 miles an hour.

"We couldn't see two car lengths ahead," said Charles Perry, but the lack of caution of some drivers was noticeable despite the severe weather conditions. They encountered one seven car pile-up on the way up to Barrie.

Although the senior Perrys had intended to go on to Severn Bridge they stayed with their son and his wife in Barrie, unwilling to take another hazardous trip. Conditions had improved Monday morning when they returned.

"When we were turned back Sunday we made no effort to find another route — we just turned back to Barrie," Charles Perry told the Free Press.



County council debates raise

A proposed by-law that would increase salaries for members of Halton County Council promises to provide a debate when county council meets next week.

Georgetown Reeve Ric Morrow has gone on record as opposing the increase from \$3,000 to \$4,000 for the councillors and from \$10,000 to \$11,500 for the warden. He noted it would represent a 250 per cent increase since 1970. In 1970 it cost ratepayers \$19,548 for councillors' salaries and with the raises, the same figure would swell to \$52,000.

Favors raise
Esqueing Deputy Reeve Len Cox felt the raises were in order

and he pointed out cases where some people who might oppose hikes in salary chose to go to their job instead of a committee meeting because of the amount of money it would cost them to skip work.

Acton Reeve Pat McKenzie said the matter should be decided by all 14 members of council, not just the administration committee.

AIHL draw

Lucky winners in the Acton industrial hockey league draw were, 1st - Don Price, 2nd - Alice Wilkinson, 3rd - Sandra Allan and 4th - Helen Nemeth.