# Yosef Drenters' prize sculpture discovered in holding yard

By Lorraine Root

Hues of indignancy were raised by art collectors after last Monday's late television newscast revealing that a piece of the ingenious works of one of Canada's finest artisans was in jeopardy of complete an-nihilation unless procured immediately for restoration.

The particular work shown on the screen as a pile of rubble in what supposedly was a Toronto dump, was a 24 ft high masterpiece by Yosef Drenters of the Rockwood Academy, created capecially to grace the vicinity of the Ontario Pavilion during Expo '67. It matched the structurally gothle lines of the building the artist had portraying a ploneer family.

The sculpture had stood as a symbol of the history and early ancestry of all Canadiana plying daily the imagination of over 6,000 people visiting the World

Commenting on the newscast that the statue had been literally dumped with television portrayal of pieces lying in a pile of rubble, Yosef said that he had known that the sculpture, together with the ontire Pavillon and its contents had been returned together with one other belonging to Michael Snow, another Canadian contributor.

Yosef said it had been cut apart with chain saws into a myriad of pieces and he had known of its whereabouts for some time. The sculpture had been set in the Toronto yard with plans for the future erection in some other centre. He said he is aware of the necessity of immediate restoration and he had been contacted early in the spring of this year as to how best to accomplish the feat.

Directors had, apparently, hoped to have the statue reassembled to stand in Ontario Place this year but Yosef himself, with several commissions already on his calendar feels that at the least it would be a major operation. He feels the pieces should be brought back to Rockwood where working conditions would be better adapted to his type of sculpting.

The 37 by 45 ft. sculpture. weighing a total of 28 tons, had required a huge tractor trailer to carry it to Montreal for its premier debut. It had taken four days in which he and four other men assembled it. The statue has been lying dormant for the past six years and it is feasible that much of the \$1,000 worth of copper and other major parts are missing.

At Ontario Place a special Provincial government film similar to "A Place to Stand" is being shown daily in which the Rockwood Academy plays a role. It is reasonable that the Drenter statue would be a highly acceptable complement to the

The statue is one of the mother, father, and children in a ploneer family. The father figure holds in his hands a plough as the symbol of the ploneer provider, sustainer, and first industrial man, The woman figure holds a spinning wheel depicting the provider of clothing and home industry which later grew into large industry; the girl child, a doll, symbolic of future motherhood; and the boy, a toy horse on wheels representing the father of the future and his interest in traction and mobility.

At Expo '67 the four figures were seated on a longswing beam from a pioneer barn constructed to look like a Viking ship symbollzing the zeal of people towards migration with the ship masthead relating to the earliest known civilization.

"Canada has lost one of it s. greatest masterpieces if it is destroyed" is the vocal feeling of many of the sculpting's most renowned viewers. Yosef himself had hoped to see the work incorporated some day into a wall on one of Ontario's public buildings.

As it stands, the report on television screen has aroused the ire of many collectors and, as it lies, it represents a \$26,000 pile of rubble in a Toronto holding yard, the not to be forgotten relic of one of the world's greatest fairs, Expo '67.



MR. AND MRS. CHARLES PERRY of Acton admire the huge Drenters sculpture at Expo '67 in Montreal. The full sweep of the prized art piece cannot be

seen here since it weighs tons and measures 37 by 45 feet.

(Photo by H. Coles)

### Frank Moore dies in England at 93

A message recently received by village friends brings news of the death of Frank Moore, 93, at a hospital in London, England on date of May 30.

Born in Sheffield on October 11, 1878, Mr. Moore came to Canada

at the age of 27. In 1914 he came to Leper Mission, and was a church Rockwood from Grimsby and worked at his trade of shoemaker. In 1919 he married Mary Spokes of Northampton, England and the couple played a very active part in the life of the vill-

Active in church

Mrs. Moore passed away in 1949 and, a few years later, he returned to England where he later married Miss Dorothy Green of London who survives

Funeral service was held in Mr. Moore was church organist Trinity Rd. chapel which they and choir leader in the Rockwood attended. In later years Mr. Presbyterian and later, United Moore's hobbies were gardening' Church, he was also interested in organ playing and carrying on a Y.P.U. work, Bible Society, large Canadian correspondence.

### Local participants at leadership conference

parts of Ontario will be par- skills into practice on return to ticipating in the Provincial 4-H their home communities. Leadership Conference held at the University of Guelph during the week of June 24 to 30 at which several members from Eramosa

Township will be attending. The objective of 4-H is the personal development of young people and this particular conference is designed to help delegates develop their leader-ship potential through participation in leadership seminars, social recreation and program planning workshops, and daily program committees for the duration of the week.

It will be a week of learning. fun, and fellowship through many rewarding experiences. Delegates to the conference will

Over 90 4-H members from all be expected to put these acquired

### Rain hits

Fourteen pupils from the Sunshine School at Hornby competed with other retarded children from Bruce Lyn School in Oakville and Mayfield School in Burlington at their annual field day last week. The 36 event field day was divided by age in competitions for boys and girls and held at Lowville Park.

Teacher Mrs. Jean Mitchell said the Sunshine pupils did quite well and brought home a number of first place ribbons. Before the rain which cut the day short, they were treated to ice cream and

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## Tours in district for 30 Thunder Bay farmers

Benholme Dairy Farm played host to approximately 30 farmers from the Thunder Bay District recently when, last Wednesday, June 13 the Blockwood homestead was the second stop of the Northwestern Ontario Farmers' tour of Wellington County.

Harold Clapp was the dairy cattle specialist who provided much information as the four was conducted about the farm where Ernest and John Henham operate on 180 acres of land with 50 head of high production Holstoin

First stop as arranged in cooperation with A. G. Grubbe, Agricultural representative of Wellington County and Mel Chamberlain, Agricultural representative of Thunder Bay District (formerly assistant Agricultural representative in Wellington) had been the IRMA mlik testing laboratory in Guelph and, after the Rockwood dairy form the group moved on to the United Breeders' Inc. at R.R. 5. Guelph where they toured the various units and, afterwards it was Kentucky fried chicken for lunch at U.B.L, arranged for by beef cattle specialist, Ralph Macariney.

#### Tours taken

The first part of the afternoon had been spent at the Elora Research station where informative tours were conducted through the Dairy Centre by Dr. Don Grieve, Dept. of Animal and Poultry Science University of Guelph; and the Crop tour was with Dr. E. Hatley, Dept. of Crop Science, University of Guelph and Dr. Tom Lane, Dept. of Land Resource of the same University.

Gorge Acres Farm at Elora was next on the agenda and, after an evening meal at the University of Guelph, Dr. Stan Young, co-ordinator of agricultural extension, at the University of Guelph, was in charge of a campus bus tour. A "bull session" including by Dr. Young and other O.A.C. faculty, was then held culminating the fourth annual tour enjoyed by the Thunder Bay group.

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CENTENNIAL TRACK STARS at the Wellington County Track meet were: Alan Batchellor, 14, 220 yard dash, Wendy Henry, 14, 440, and Susan McQuinn 50, 14

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and Flossie McMinn celebrate their 1948 wedding anniversary as they flank one of Rockwood's favourite oldsters, A.K.

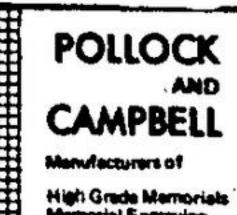
Thomas of Guelph Street. The celebration was held Saturday evening at St. John's Anglican parish hall in the

## Buggy ride on 25th anniversary

Rockwood citizens were delighted last Saturday night to see a happily grinning couple being transported via horse and buggy to the St. John's Anglican parish hall on Main Street, Rockwood on the occasion of the 25th wedding anniversary of Elgin and Flossie McMinn.

With Flossie in the driver's seat the decorated buggy made its way to the hall where 50 guests, relatives and friends, awaited their arrival for a delicious sitdown dinner.

Bridesmaids attend Mildred Houchin Shelbourne, and Jessie Mills of Barrie, the two bridesmaids of the 1968 wedding were present along with an usher and, hosting for the Saturday evening anniversary was Mrs. Florence Barber of Toronto.



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On hand to assist at the for the happy party. Gifts, cards, the guest book.

and, at 12 p.m. lunch was served

celebration were daughter and a terrific cake were all part Cherryl, the couple's nieces, and of the celebration fare and with their son Neil who took charge of Harry Gooyer of Rockwood the neighbor and friend who After dinner, other friends presented the 1973 toast to the arrived for a program of dancing radiant bride.



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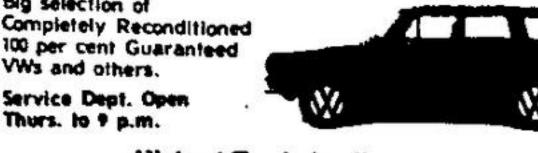
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