

Changes at Indusmin — women invade plant

By Helen Leavell
The world around us is changing more rapidly than most people think. For the men at Indusmin Quarries, the world seemed to take a nose dive.

On September 25, Denise Bolton of Rockwood punched her time card and walked through the gates. Women had invaded Indusmin!

The men were shocked, horrified, speechless. How could a woman barge into one of the last bastions of the male species? But she did it anyway.

Large truck
Denise drives a 35-ton Caterpillar truck, among

Trainee
At the present time, Bev is



BEV DAHMER watches as Horace Anderson demonstrates how to operate some of the switches in the control tower at Indusmin Quarries.

other jobs. The trucks have power steering and brakes and automatic transmission so she has no problem with the driving. She also patrols the plant, cleans the chutes in which the gravel travels down and patrols the secondary plant. Denise must climb up a four storey ladder in able to do a lot of her work.

As if one woman was not enough, on October 3, Denise's sister Bev Dahmer joined the staff. Bev graduated in April with a Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Guelph and has been looking for a job ever since.

It was rough for Denise for a day or two when she first started work. The men seemed to find it hard to accept her into their fortress at first.

Bev had her way paved as the men were used to having a woman around by the time she started. She has not had any trouble at all.

The girls love their job. However, Denise isn't crazy about the idea of being constantly dirty and greasy. She realizes that is part of her job, but whenever she gets the chance she likes to comb her hair and wash her hands.

Slippery sandwiches. The dirty conditions don't bother Bev. "The grease I get on my hands only helps my dry sandwiches at lunch slide down more easily!" She was joking, of course.

George Cantwell, production supervisor, was very optimistic about the girls. "I think they can pull their own weight. They are going to prove their worth and I am pleased with their work."

Robert, Denise's husband, when asked how he felt about his wife working at the same place as he, was hesitant about offering an opinion. "If they can do it, why not let them?" he finally said.

No different. The girls are treated no differently than their counterparts, the men. Work begins at six a.m. until three p.m. This means the girls are awake before 5 a.m., and dropping Denise's boys off at the baby sitter, picking up other riders, and getting to work from Rockwood. When they are on evening shifts, everything is a bit smoother as work begins at three in the afternoon and ends at midnight.

And so, while most are still sound asleep in the comfort of their beds, Bev and Denise are donning their baggy covers and heading out to spend another day with the men at Indusmin.

still a trainee. Since starting work she has been a railway switcher, railway car weigher (scales), has worked in the control tower and watched the conveyor belt.

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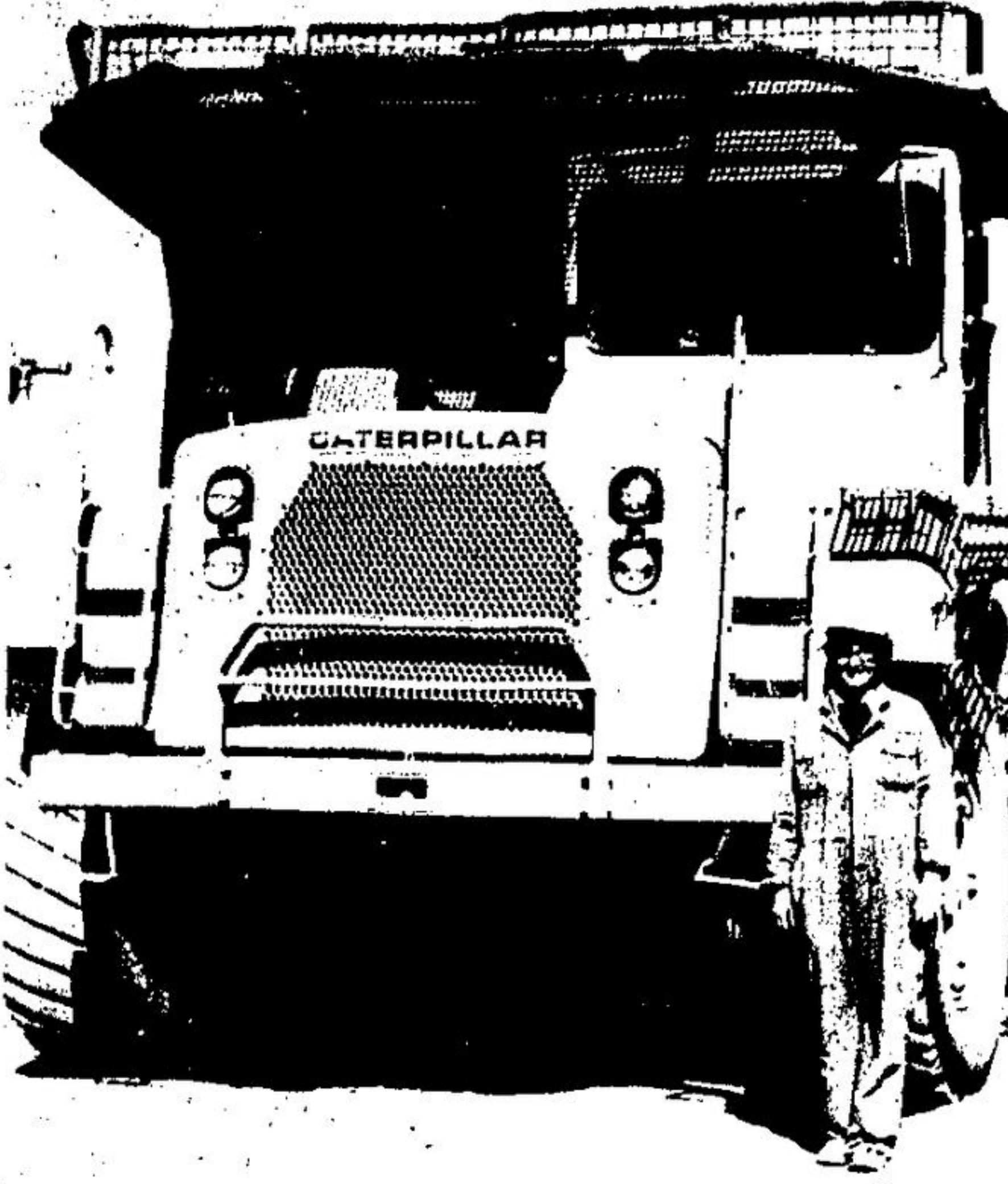
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MOTHER OF TWO, Denise Bolton stands beside her "other baby" at Indusmin Quarries. Denise drives this 35 ton Caterpillar around the quarry sites. The truck is equipped with power steering and brakes and automatic transmission. Her only problem is reaching the pedals.

Fireless week for Acton

For the second week in a row, there were no fires in Acton and area.

However, because there were no fires doesn't mean firefighters were sitting idle. They still attended their weekly fire practice on Monday night, and did numerous other things connected with Fire Prevention Week.

Five heart decals were given out to disabled people in Acton by fire chief Mick Holmes. These decals are to be placed in a window of the homes of a handicapped person and in case of fire, the firefighter would know there is someone in the house who is unable to get speedily out.

Mr. Holmes knows of more people in town who qualify for this decal and will approach them this week. Last Wednesday, Oct. 9, Mr. Holmes, along with firefighters Lloyd McIntyre, Larry Frizzell and Sam went to Robert Little, M.Z. Bennett and Speyside public schools and the Acton high school. While at these places they ran a fire alarm and timed how long it took the school to be evacuated. They also inspected each school for fire hazards.

The firefighters are also preparing for a fire demonstration they are giving the girl guides on Thursday evening at the fire hall.

Open house. Open house at the Acton fire hall went smoothly as in previous years on the weekend.

School children returning home from school on Friday afternoon dropped in to see the fire trucks and equipment. Most of them climbed all over the trucks so they

could say they had actually been on a fire truck. On Saturday, from nine a.m. until three in the afternoon, adults dropped by. Operations were explained in detail. Chief Mick Holmes felt the inclement weather probably kept people at home. However, coffee was served to those who braved the cold.

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Thu. 24 Fri. 25 Sat. 26 Saturday Matinee 26
THE EXORCIST

Raises for region's staff but council raise aborted

Halton Regional Employees with the exception of department heads, were granted a four per cent increase by Regional Council.

However, a by-law prepared to extend the four per cent cost of living bonus to councillors was withdrawn prior to council discussion.

Apparently Burlington Councillor David Coons had requested the clerk's department to draft the by-law and have it included with the notice of motion for Wednesday's meeting.

Councillor Archie Donaghie was angry because no by-laws should be prepared unless council directed the by-law to be drafted. He pointed out it wasn't the prerogative of any councillor to have by-laws drawn.

Had Coons' by-law been acted on and passed, it would have provided for an extra \$113 for each councillor this year and would have bounced the \$8,500 councillor honorarium to \$8,840 next year.

Not sentimental
Coons told reporters he felt

that would be a more reasonable way of increasing council salaries rather than waiting for two or three years and putting through a big increase.

"Some of these people get all sentimental when they talk about their salaries. I don't," he said.

Coons said he wouldn't introduce the matter again because he felt there wasn't sufficient support on council. "It just seemed like the responsible way to do things," he said.

Representation sought on parking authority

Acton Chamber of Commerce requested "the former town of Acton be rightfully represented on the Parking Authority of the Town of Halton Hills."

Councillors at the finance committee meeting Tuesday failed to see the reasoning behind the request but agreed the groups should get together and discuss it.

Halton Hills Parking Authority is limited to three members; it is in fact the former Georgetown Parking Authority.

Local problems
Commented councillor Sykes "Georgetown has nothing to do with Acton! We deal with Georgetown problems."
Councillor Miller thought Halton Hills Authority felt

they had enough work already. However, he added, "They may come up with ideas for us."

R. Moreau, inspector for the Liquor Licence Board of Ontario, requested Halton Hills advise if it is in favor of use of Cedarvale Community Centre for special occasion permits.

Apparently he will soon also bring similar specific requests on other town-owned properties, as a way of "tightening up."

Councillors agreed to make the recommendation if the town, as owner of the property, is not put under any obligation. Separate groups will still make the liquor application.

Grant of \$1,500 was recommended for Georgetown Girls' Pipe Band. The Contact Centre will be contacted and asked to indicate their needs before the grant figure is set.

A new agreement will be worked out for payments of school levies throughout Halton Area treasurers, reported Halton Hills treasurer Harry Henderson, all agree to request termination of the present monthly request. New method may be quarterly. Savings will result, he said. The committee agreed.

Payment of \$61,082.70 is recommended for payment to Con-Dign Construction for part payment on Acton pool. Total contract is \$268,000.



NEW BOARDS SHOULD all be installed in the arena by today, and ice making equipment will be turned on right away. If the weather stays cold, there could be a sheet of ice by next Tuesday. Kevin Lumbers is the contractor making the changes in the arena. Plastic boards are expected to be better than the previous wooden ones.

Supervision cost is 25¢ per child

Recognizing the trend towards more single parents and towards more families with both parents working, Halton Board of Education moved to provide lunch hour supervision for children.

The board agreed to try one pilot project in each of the three educational areas in the region. Parents will be required to pay 25 cents for a child or 50 cents per family maximum for the supervision.

Paraprofessionals will be engaged to provide lunch hour supervision at each of the three schools where pilot projects operate. The charge will only apply to those children who would normally go

home for lunch and not those who are bussed to the schools.

Survey needed
According to a survey in the Oakville areas, about 1,715 families could make use of the service. A report by Assistant Director of Education Em Lavender suggests the demand is likely consistent throughout the region.

Several trustees felt the 25 cent charge should be eliminated and the cost included as a service provided by the board and charged in taxes.

Others disagreed, noting that if parents had to find some place else for their children to be at noon hours the charge would exceed 25 cents per day.

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