

Landfill no solution - Johnson

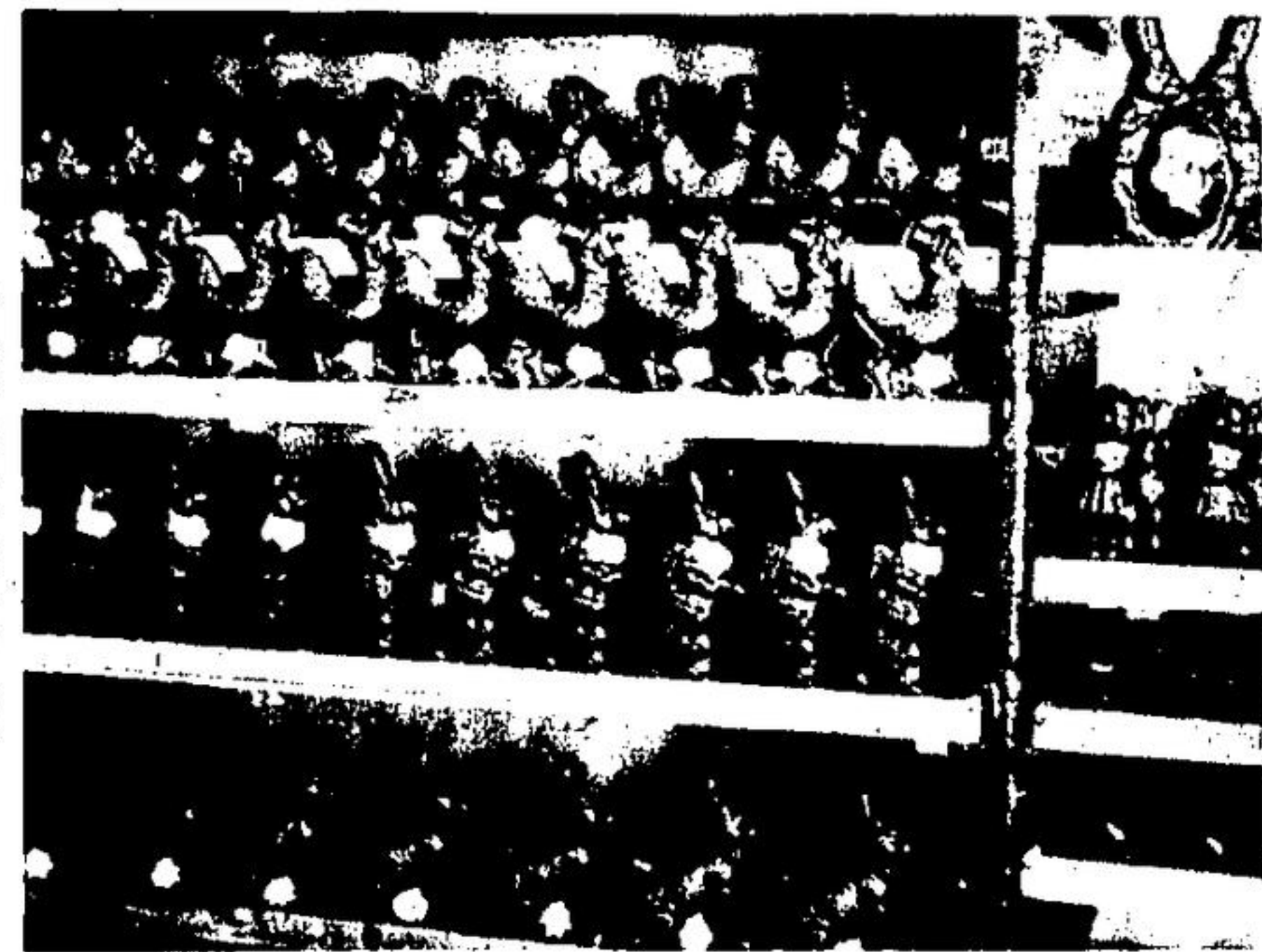
What should be done with Halton's garbage... all 220 tons a year of it? Each person in Halton produces about a ton. And the population is due to double. Two aspects of the problem were presented Monday to a group of 32 people at the Chamber of Commerce dinner meeting in the Legion. A reasoned review of studies and possibilities was given by Jack Corbett, a professional engineer for the county who is chairman of the solid waste management study since its inception. Mr. Corbett lives in Oakville.

The first part of the study is completed—the part concerned with landfill sites. The second part of the study concerns the possibility of resource recovery. This report should be ready for presentation in two or three months. His committee will report to the Halton region works committee headed by Jack Rafits, who also attended the meeting and joined in answering questions. He is from Burlington.

Existing landfill sites will all be out of business at the end of 1977, Mr. Corbett said. Milton and Acton sites are already closed and the garbage is trucked to Georgetown. However, the Georgetown location will be filled in two years. The Nassagaweya dump is due to close in June or July. The county was surveyed for sites and these have now been placed in order of priority. There are no new proposed sites near Acton. All are south of Milton.

Mr. Corbett explained the reasoning behind the choice of locations and said his department has made an effort to inform everyone through newspaper inserts and mailings. Next step is to examine wells, drill test holes and approve designs. Then the Ministry of the Environment must approve. The county can't rely on only one method of waste disposal, Mr. Corbett stressed. We can't make all the garbage disappear. There must be landfill sites.

Recovery It was on the urgency of planning for resource recovery that Mr. Corbett and Bill Johnson of GUARD group in Nassagaweya disagreed. Several in the audience sided with Mr. Johnson's strong feeling that alternative methods of garbage disposal should be found. Mr. Johnson insisted that landfill is not in the long-term interest. While Mr. Corbett said the region is awaiting results from a new experimental recycling plant being built in Downsview, Mr. Johnson insisted the technology for recycling is already available. In Europe heat from burning garbage and homes for many years, he said. Energy and garbage should be synonymous, he said. (Continued on page two)



THIS IS THE LAST time these shelves will hold such delicious handmade sweets! Rabbits, ducks, clowns and chickens wait patiently to be picked for some special boy or girl at Easter time. Schneider's is one of the last old-fashioned candy factories left in Ontario. See story and more pictures inside.

The Acton Free Press

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Twenty-Eight Pages—Fifteen Cents

Police Constable Roduck praised

Jury recommends high speed policy

In order to prevent future accidents, the coroner's jury into the deaths of seven Acton youths in a two car collision last month would make some changes, except in the conduct of Halton Regional Police Constable Tom Roduck. The jury commended officer Roduck for his "very professional conduct" on March 6 and stated it hoped the experience would not deter him "from acting in a similar manner" in the future. The jury also stated, after its five recommendations, that the Halton force is "extremely fortunate to have an officer of his integrity and capabilities".



Deputy Chief Coroner DR. R.C. BENNETT

Early in the inquest, Ontario deputy chief coroner Dr. R. C. Bennett said to Constable Roduck: "I imagine this has been a terrible experience for you".

Bradbury, Stuart Danhill, Donna Hayworth and Ken Grant. The jury would have the Halton force improve its radio communications system by eliminating or reducing dead zones and static interference. Also called for is an emergency override feature on radios and a back-up system.

The five member jury also called for provincial legislation to forbid drivers leaving ignition keys in unattended vehicles. In its recommendations the jury reflected the guidelines which Dr. Bennett gave prior to its three and a half hour deliberation Friday afternoon.

The jury heard testimony that Couture owned a car, but that it was not working. The McHugh vehicle carried John Oudesslys, 19, of Moffat; Lynn Marshall Zink, 22, R.R. 4 Acton; Scott McTavish, 18, R. R. 1, Limehouse; Kevin Broostat, 17, of Acton and Tim Brusnowski, 18, of Guelph, formerly of Eden Mills. The jury's recommendations were based on testimony. The call for a Halton Regional Police policy on high speed chases and for it to be transmitted to constables came mainly from the views of senior police officers. Three senior officers from the Halton force, Metro Toronto Police and the OPP said that Constable Roduck acted properly.

Halton Regional Police chief Ken Skerrett said that standing orders for the force are being prepared, but that the terminology of chase does not appear. Chief Skerrett said that it is up to the officer in the field to start a chase. This policy had not been transmitted to individual officers, he said. Chief Skerrett said the authority to decide on breaking off a chase or continuing it should remain with the field officer and not be transferred to a senior officer who is not on the scene. The jury also heard from Metro Toronto Police deputy-chief John Ackroyd who outlined Metro's chase policy. There, a senior officer or sergeant makes the decision. Computer Deputy-chief Ackroyd said that even with Metro's sophisticated computer-radio network, given the events of March 6, there would have been no time to set up a road block. Chief Skerrett agreed that a back-off system from a chase like Toronto's may prove useful. On Halton's radio communication system, Chief Skerrett described it as not being adequate. Constables Roduck and Alexander Pearce mentioned bad reception or static in the

Main Street South area of Acton during radio communications. Device The jury would like to see cruisers with some kind of device which would permit an officer, in an emergency, to cut into a radio transmission. Halton Police radios allow one person to speak at a time. The back-up feature noted by the jury is for key radio equipment at the dispatch centre. The jury heard testimony that part of a crucial radio message was not recorded on tape on March 6 because a machine was being cleaned and there was no other method of recording the transmission. Law The final recommendation, for a provincial law making it an offence for drivers to leave their keys in an unattended car or truck, stemmed from the jury finding the Acton bylaw inadequate. Couture took Mr. Snook's Ford, which had the ignition keys left in it, after Mr. Snook parked behind the laundromat on Main St. S. which he intended to lock up. Staff Sgt. Bernie Ward, who is in charge of the Acton precinct, read the town's bylaw which forbids people from parking on public roadways and parking lots and leaving their keys in their vehicles. The bylaw does not cover private property such as the parking lot behind the laundromat. Sgt. Ward said that as he interpreted the bylaw, Mr. Snook had not made a violation. The staff sergeant also said that he believed the public in Acton is unaware of the bylaw. The bylaw was passed in 1972. While the shots are free Canadians will still pay for the vaccine through taxes, Dr. Chamberlain noted.

Inspector Craig, during his testimony, would not comment as to the source of the solicitor-general's comments. Mr. MacBeth noted last week the differences between testimony from the inquest and a provincial police report. There were two reports prepared by OPP officers, and another pair by the Halton Regional Police. Three reports agree on the distance of the chase. During the inquest Halton police officer Tom Roduck testified that he activated his cruiser's roof lights near Kingham Road. The Inspector's report had the Halton officer putting on the lights near Sideroad 25. Speeds of the chase reached between 90 and 100 m.p.h. In legislature Robert Nixon (L Brant-Oxford-Norfolk) in the House said Mr. MacBeth was questioned on the incident and said then, last week, that the policeman chasing a suspected car thief did not exceed legal speeds in the chase. Mr. Nixon said that as a result of Mr. MacBeth's comments last month, serious community concerns about high-speed police chases were allayed. "If it had been made clear at the time that a high-speed chase had resulted in this tragedy, I'm sure that the community response would have been much stronger than it was."

"No chase" comment
OPP report said source
Solicitor-General John MacBeth's comments that there was no high speed chase prior to a crash which claimed the lives of seven Acton youths, was based on an Ontario Provincial Police traffic inspector's report. "The source of MacBeth's comments was (Theodore) Craig's report", Doug Robson of the solicitor-general's office told the Free Press this morning. He added that Mr. MacBeth has not had an opportunity to read the inquest report. The inquest into the March 6 two car crash south of Acton on Highway 25 finished Friday at Milton. No comment Inspector Craig, during his testimony, would not comment as to the source of the solicitor-general's comments. Mr. MacBeth noted last week the differences between testimony from the inquest and a provincial police report. There were two reports prepared by OPP officers, and another pair by the Halton Regional Police. Three reports agree on the distance of the chase. During the inquest Halton police officer Tom Roduck testified that he activated his cruiser's roof lights near Kingham Road. The Inspector's report had the Halton officer putting on the lights near Sideroad 25. Speeds of the chase reached between 90 and 100 m.p.h. In legislature Robert Nixon (L Brant-Oxford-Norfolk) in the House said Mr. MacBeth was questioned on the incident and said then, last week, that the policeman chasing a suspected car thief did not exceed legal speeds in the chase. Mr. Nixon said that as a result of Mr. MacBeth's comments last month, serious community concerns about high-speed police chases were allayed. "If it had been made clear at the time that a high-speed chase had resulted in this tragedy, I'm sure that the community response would have been much stronger than it was."

Unjust "For me and my family", was the constable's reply. Dr. Bennett told the jury that Constable Roduck had received "a great deal of unjust criticism" following the crash "and in my opinion he should be commended". The jury recommended that the Halton Regional Police form a policy on high speed pursuits after reviewing the guidelines of the RCMP and the Ontario and Quebec provincial forces. This policy, once formed, would be conveyed to all officers on the Halton force. In particular the jury wants a sergeant or senior officer to control the radio dispatch desk during emergencies and priority situations. Jury members were foreman Hugh Bell, Winnifred

Families Several members of the accident victims' families attended the three day inquest in the new court house at Milton. Walter Sopinka represented the family of Scott McTavish. Cornelius Snook, who owned the stolen car, was

represented by John Vertes. Constable Roduck's attorney was Montgomery Hyde. The jury determined that all seven victims died at 11:04 p.m. March 6 at 0.7 miles south of Side Road 25 on Highway 25. All died of multiple injuries by blunt force. That night 18-year-old Eric James Couture sped south on Highway 25 in a stolen car with Constable Roduck in pursuit. The car Couture drove, a late model Ford LTD, belonged to Mr. Snook. The car went from its lane into the north bound lane and slammed into a car driven by John McHugh, 17.

Swine flu vaccination for Halton residents

If enough vaccine is available half the people in Halton could receive shots to ward off swine flu, Halton Medical Officer of Health Dr. Joe Chamberlain said in an interview this week. He said the federal government has formulated a plan for immunizing Canadians susceptible to the virus and has given the job to the provinces who in turn have turned it over to the health units. A priority system for those who will receive the shots has been worked out and the eventual number of people who receive them will depend on how much vaccine is available. While vaccination isn't mandatory, people over 65 and anyone who suffers from

chronic illnesses like heart disease, bronchitis and metabolic disorders, will be encouraged to take advantage of the free shots. After everyone in those categories have had a chance to get inoculated, persons between 20 and 50 years of age, especially those in essential services like police, fire and health officials, will be able to get them. "If there is enough vaccine available then half the people in Halton could be offered the shots. It will become available the end of September but we have no idea yet how much vaccine there will be," Dr. Chamberlain explained. Dr. Chamberlain noted those exposed to the swine flu during the years after the World War I and Great

Depression years have already built up anti-bodies and natural immunity to the virus, so won't need the shots. In addition another group, which amounts to about 10 per cent of the population, can't receive the shot since the vaccine is developed in egg shells. "Those who are sensitive or react to eggs won't be able to take the shots," he explained. Local health units in Halton will be in charge of giving the shots and many details of the program will have to be ironed out in the months ahead before the program starts he said. While the shots are free Canadians will still pay for the vaccine through taxes, Dr. Chamberlain noted.

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ED WOOD, CHAIRMAN of the Acton and Esquesing Recreation Advisory Committee (right) presents John Toebes with the Charles Thomson Memorial Award for his outstanding contribution to recreation in Acton. The presentation was made at the Legion Day of Champions' hockey tournament Saturday.

John Toebes receives Thomson award

John Toebes was named the recipient of the Charles Thomson Memorial Award Saturday at the Legion Day of Champions' hockey tournament. The award, presented to the person who has contributed unselfishly to recreation to the town, is given in memory of Charles Thomson, a man who used to walk into town every night from Erin township to coach local sports. Ed Wood, chairman of the Acton and Esquesing Recreation Advisory Committee, made the presentation on behalf of his committee. Public nominations had been

sent into the recreation group, with them making the final decision. Active Mr. Toebes has been on the group committee of the Scouts, has been with the Legion hockey for seven years, and was on the Minor Soccer executive. He has been president of the Minor Hockey executive for three years. Mr. Toebes said he was genuinely surprised at being chosen. He did not expect it at all, he told the Free Press. John Cooper, recreation coordinator for Wards one and two, said that the choice of

John Toebes came for his dedicated service over the years. The person who nominated him, Mr. Cooper said, felt Mr. Toebes was not receiving the recognition he deserved. The award will be engraved and kept at the arena. Alan Hall and Howard Dwyer were the first recipients of the award in 1973 for their contribution to lacrosse in the town. It has not been presented since then. It is up to the Recreation Advisory Committee to decide whether the award will be presented annually from now on.

11th fatality within month

The eleventh motor vehicle accident in a month to claim the life of an Acton or district resident occurred late Saturday morning in Mississauga. The victim was 28-year-old Lynn Irene Jones, 227 Kingham Road, who had resided here for the past year and a half. Mrs. Jones, who was employed as a secretary in the department of chemical engineering at the University

of Toronto, was a passenger in a car driven by her husband, Dale, when it was in collision with a school bus at the intersection of Britannia Road and McLaughlin Road. Mr. Jones was not seriously injured but police had to work for 20 minutes with acetylene torches and hammers to free Mrs. Jones who was trapped in the wreckage and died five hours later in Toronto Western Hospital.

There were no passengers in the school bus which was driven by Joan Mutch of Brampton. She was not seriously injured. From Toronto Mrs. Jones was born in Montreal but spent most of her life in Toronto until moving to Acton. She attended Etobicoke Collegiate Institute and was active in Humber Valley United Church.

Rev. R. Arthur Steed of Fonthill and formerly of Humber Valley United Church officiated at funeral services this afternoon (Wednesday) at 2 in the Rumley-Sheremaker Funeral Home. Cremation followed and her ashes will be interred in Fairview Cemetery. Mrs. Jones is survived by her husband, Dale, and her mother, Mrs. R. W. Oliver of Toronto.

Tractor kills young farmer

A 20-year-old Acton district man was crushed to death Wednesday when he lost control of a farm tractor, which overturned in a roadside ditch, pinning him underneath. Milton OPP said Kenneth Charles Bouclair died instantly. Police said he was driving along the north shoulder of 25 Sideroad, west of the Sixth Line, in a

rainstorm when the accident occurred. He lived at R. R. 1, Acton, with the family of his uncle Roland Height. He attended Brisbane School, College Heights in Guelph and General Brock school. Pastor Woods of Alton Baptist church conducted the funeral service Saturday at the Rumley-Sheremaker funeral home, Acton.

He is survived by his parents, Henry and Violet Bouclair, R. R. 2, Erin, brothers and sisters and their wives and husbands Ivan and Marie Bouclair of Mississauga; Jane and George Bouclair of Redbridge, Bertha Hackett from Mississauga, Jean and Bill Duckett, Hamilton; John and Bonnie Bouclair, Acton; Iris and Joe Taran, Brampton, Glendon and Barb Ann

Bouclair, Mississauga; Jack and Joe Ann Bouclair, La Salle; Gladys and Gary Gray, Kitchener; Theresa Bouclair, Burlington; Eugene Bouclair, Hamilton; Marie and Don McPherson, Mississauga, Henry Bouclair, Mississauga; Pearl and Annie Bouclair at home and also 36 nieces and nephews, one great-nephew, four uncles and four aunts.

Fiery weekend keeps volunteers on their toes

Two house fires on the weekend resulted in thousands of dollars in damages, according to Acton Fire Chief Mick Holmes. Between six and eight thousand dollars damage was sustained to the home of Corey Van Merkesteyn, 114 Mill St. E. Saturday evening, Mr. Holmes estimates.

No one was home at 8:30 when neighbours spotted smoke coming from the roof. Mr. Holmes believes the fire started in the upstairs bedroom, spreading into the partitions, burning both inside and outside walls, into the attic and through the roof. There was also extensive smoke and water damage to

the house, the chief said. Volunteer firefighters were on the scene for two hours. Mr. Holmes believed the cause of the fire was electrical. The family has been forced to move to a motel for three to four weeks while repairs are being done. Even once they are back at home, Mrs. Van

Merkesteyn says, there will be an odor in the house for months after a possible six months. Halton Regional Police were forced to close a portion of Mill St. to oncoming traffic as the fire truck and hoses blocked the road. Second blaze It is not yet known how much damage was sustained

Cabinet switches Ombudsman off line

The Ontario cabinet is restricting the office of the ombudsman, an interested "Citizens' Group official says. "It was apparent that because of cabinet action of 29 May, 1974 the ombudsman's office was restricted", Bill Mann, ICG president, said Tuesday.

The ICG has been sounding the ombudsman out on the possibility of him looking into the Bradley to Georgetown hydro corridor question.

Mr. Mann made his comments following a six-and-a-half hour meeting Monday between four ICG members, Ombudsman Arthur Maloney and staff, deputy-energy minister Malcolm Rowan and others. The group discussed the total problem, touching the ombudsman's jurisdiction, Mr. Mann said.

C. of C. raps lack of support

Disappointment in the lack of response to the Chamber of Commerce membership drive was bluntly expressed Monday by president Louis Charlebois. Speaking to a small attendance of 32 at the group's dinner meeting in the Legion, he reported the executive had sent out 187 letters asking for members. Only eight replies were received. The Chamber now has 47 members; he thinks there should be 100 at least. I expected higher membership—businesses are the first to complain when things go wrong. He reported the Chamber's latest success, retaining parking on Mill after making presentations to council. Why are these 32 people here? he asked. And why will the others not support the Chamber of Commerce?

A "major announcement" on the Bradley to Georgetown hydro corridor will be made today (Wednesday) at 12:30 p.m. by the Minister of Energy, the Hon. Dennis Timbrell. A Free Press representative is there. The announcement is being made in the press theatre of the legislature building.

Today

The fire chief described the "blatant" apartment as being "black with smoke, and two rooms badly burned." He believes the fire started in the sitting room by something electrical. Traffic was tied up on Main St. for a few minutes while the fire fighters fought the flames.