

Three police forces . . .

(Continued from page 1) wouldn't stop. The constable made two attempts to stop the truck, pounding on the hood of the vehicle, before it drove away, Waterloo Regional Police said.

Cruisers were alerted by radio and Const. Al Beswick spotted the truck on Franklin Boulevard in Cambridge. He tailed the vehicle through back roads in Wellington County and into Halton Hills region. Police said the truck left Cambridge on Avenue Road and followed the Gore Road to Highway 52, eventually ending up on Highway 6 and Brock Road. From there it followed a succession of County and Regional Roads to the Acton area.

The Guelph OPP were alerted but unable to join the chase until a point east of Rockwood, when two OPP vehicles joined the parade. Milton OPP added two more cars at a point south of Acton.

Police said the truck repeatedly forced police cars to back off if they pulled along side. The truck driver prevented police cars from stopping him by driving in the

centre of the roadway. Several private vehicles were forced off the road but no damage has been reported. Finally, on the wider highway between Acton and Milton, Const. Beswick, who was still involved in the chase, was able to pass the truck in his regional police car. OPP cars then flanked the truck and together they managed to brake the pickup truck to a stop.

Slightly damaged In the process both OPP cars, one from Milton and one from Guelph were slightly damaged but there were no injuries. Milton OPP estimate their car received \$60 in damages while the damage to the Guelph car was slightly higher.

Police said the chase lasted only 25 minutes. The driver and his female passenger were brought back to the Galt detachment of the Waterloo Regional Police. Milton OPP laid impaired driving charges against the driver while the Waterloo Regional police charged him with dangerous driving, driving while suspended, driving while prohibited and obstructing police.



GOODIES for patients at Princess Margaret Hospital are packed by Cancer Society volunteers Rena Arbic, Gloria Coats, Sue Sale, Harriet Helwig, Irene Terry and Kathy McGillivray.

Hits icy spot, strikes posts

A car driven by John Ellis, 315 King William St., Hamilton, received an estimated

\$300 in damages Sunday after the southbound vehicle hit an icy spot on Highway 25 and struck guard posts on the east side of the road just south of Speyside, Milton OPP say. There were no injuries in the mishap.

Winners of the Legion beef draw were announced at the dance at the Legion Saturday night. First is D. Gibb, Pierrefonds, Quebec; second Harvey Hall, R.R. 2, Guelph and third Willena Everett, Main St., Georgetown. First prize was a side of beef, second a hind and third a front.

Secretary states

Poinsettias not poison.

By Jennifer Barr Poinsettias aren't poisonous, says Barney Wilson of Eramosa, national executive secretary of Flowers Canada, a national and regional trade association representing flower producers and retailers.

The traditional Christmas plant has been "falsely accused," states Mr. Wilson, a resident of the Eramosa schoolhouse on Highway 24 above Rockwood. Since 1919, it has been commonly believed the poinsettia is lethal if any part of the plant is ingested.

Thanks to extensive research done by the Society of American Florists and a statement issued in December 1975, by the Consumer Products Safety Commission, the poinsettia has now been exonerated from that erroneous label "poisonous."

A leaflet entitled "Think Safety—These Lovely Poisonous Plants" put out by Consumer and Corporate Affairs has removed the poinsettia from its list.

John Bradshaw, national radio and TV agriculture authority, dispelled the myth by eating a poinsettia leaf at a press reception recently. However, Flowers Canada cautions parents to be careful of their children around any plants and stress that no part of any plant be tasted, unless a food product.

250,000 sold in '75 Mr. Wilson explains Flowers Canada, recently relocated in Guelph, is a rare organization representing both producer and retailer. The coast to coast organi-

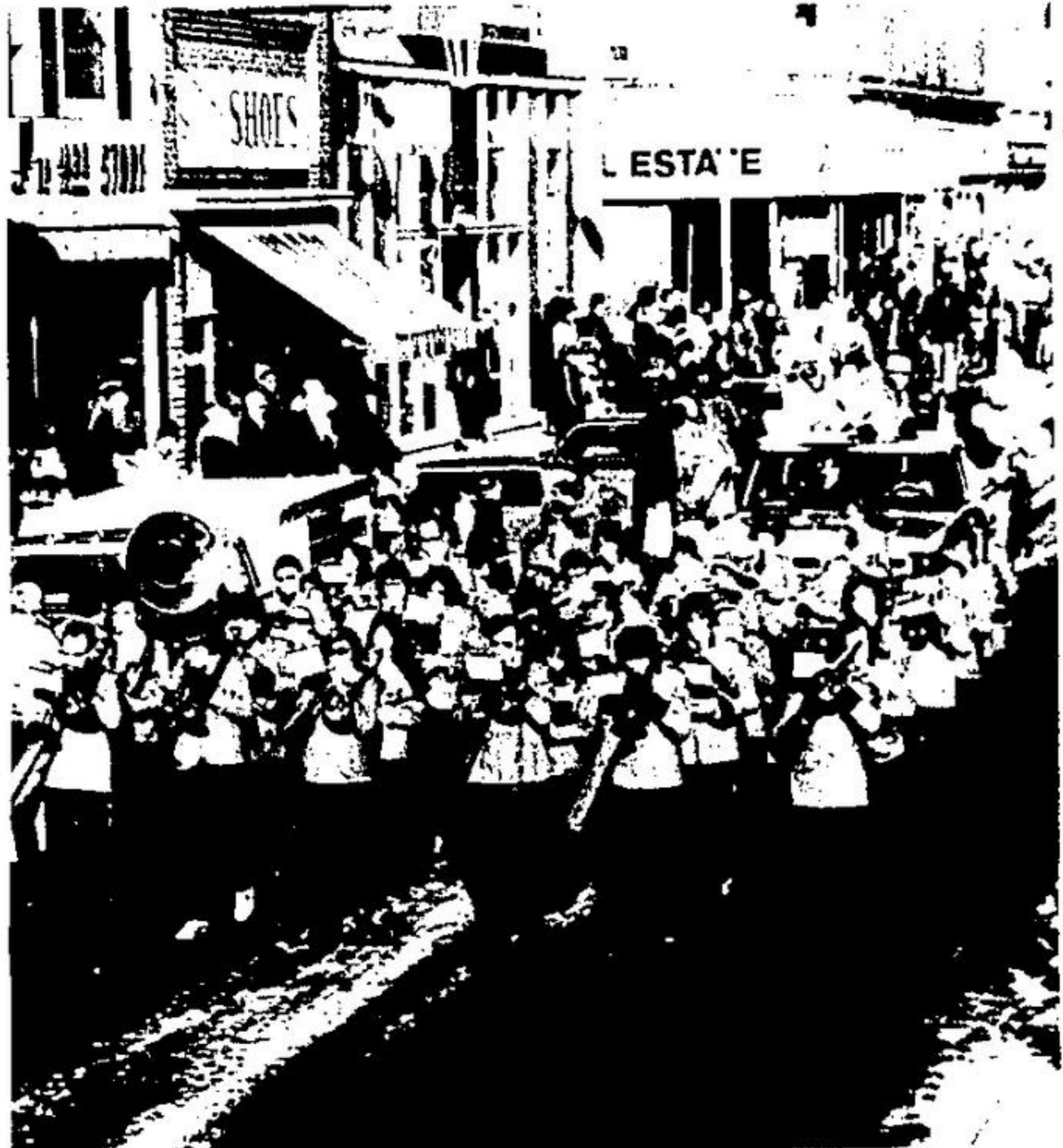
zation has a board of directors and looks after legislative work, tariffs, sales tax, transportation, advertising and promotion. In 1975 approximately 250,000 Poinsettia plants saw their way into Canadian homes, according to a Flowers Canada brief. The plant apparently derives its name from Joel R. Poinsett, American ambassador to Mexico over a hundred years ago who introduced it as a Christmas flower from that country.

Called the Christmas Star in Switzerland, the poinsettia is synonymous with Christmas, Mr. Wilson feels. He says the new types are long lasting, can later be used in the garden, and are a good buy at Christmas.

So buy poinsettias by all means, they are not poisonous.



POINSETTIAS AREN'T poisonous, says Barney Wilson of Flowers Canada and proves it by eating one of the leaves. The Eramosa resident is national executive secretary of the flower trade organization based in Guelph.



MERRY CHRISTMAS tunes pealed out along Mill St. when the Acton Citizens' Band headed off the Santa Claus parade Saturday afternoon.

\$50 damage

A parked car owned by Ron MacIntyre, Church St., had estimated \$50 damage after being struck by an unknown vehicle Friday, Dec. 10. The incident happened on Mill St. The other vehicle left the scene of the accident, according to police.

Saturday theft

Automotive equipment was reported stolen from a barn at R.R. 1 Georgetown Saturday. The theft is still under investigation by the regional police. Missing from the Couturier barn are a carburetor and two intake manifolds.

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No schoolbook covers from Commissioners

It was a unanimous decision by the Acton Hydro Commission not to purchase book covers.

money trying to conserve energy, than was saved. The other commissioners agreed with him, and agreed to file the letter from Ontario Hydro.

At their monthly meeting on Thursday, the commissioners were told of the covers from Ontario Hydro which promote the conservation of energy. The cost is \$32 pr 1000 covers.

The idea was a waste of time, according to commissioner Ted Tyler Sr. He explained that the commission could spend more

Judging today

Santa Claus has all the entries of the Santa Coloring Contest and is judging them for one winner in each of the three categories. Winners' names will appear in next week's Free Press.

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