

Arch Harkins replaced the wall sockets in his home because he said they were overheating and areing. The sockets were discolored and much of the wire

## Wiring problem worries members of Harkins family

Members of the Harkins family count themselves lucky to have found a problem with the aluminum wire electrical outlets in their Rosemary Road home.

Arch Harkins spent of Saturday replacing the 24 outlets in the upstairs and the rest downstairs. At least one neighbor in the subdivision is doing the The problem. Some of the electrical wall outlets konked out last week. However, Mr. Harkins indicated the fuses were working fine. As Mr. Harkins was later unscrewing the front plate of an outlet he said he saw a steady are in-

side the outlet. Inspection found some of the aluminum wires leading into the outlets were almost bare of insulation. Also there was a yellow discoloring of the plastic between the receptacles. "Obviously, looking at the wires, it has been arcing and overheating for some time," he said.

The discovery was, "unnerving to say the least," he said in an interview in the Harkins'

home Saturday, "I was nervous about going to sleep. "Very disturbed," said Lonnie Harkins.

No hint of the size of the problem occurred to the family when the alarm clock failed to go off last Wednesday morning. However, Mrs. Harkins was puzzled when the television set, which worked the night before, did not function the next afternoon.

That night they got down to checking the electrical system. The wall outlets Mr.

Harkins replaced are marked CU-AL 15A 125V. They were made in Canada and marked with the Standards Canadian Association (CSA) symbol. The wires from the wall slip into the outlets.

Mr. Harkins indicated there is no question the receptacles and aluminum wire formed to the building code when the home was constructed six years ago. The outlets Mr. Harkins is replacing the older units with are marked CO / ALR. They carry the (CSA) symbol too. Wires are joined to

these receptacles by

Simcoe is by a teacher

dealing with the ad-

vantages and disad-

vantages of prostitution.

Hilson asked Lavender

during Thursday's Hal-

ton Board of Education

meeting if such courses

as those in Simcoe

County were being taught

in Halton. Lavender told

trustees he would check

into the matter.

Oakville trustee Elsie

sex education classes in

Halton, according to

director of education Em

Are we teaching sex

education? Yes, we are in the intermediate and

senior divisions, Laven-

der said in an interview

No, we are not teaching

lessons like the one under

Investigation in Simcoe

County, he said. The pro-

gram being offered in

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proper sex

screw units were bought in town, he said, and cost of replacement is between \$20 and \$25. Mr. Harkins, an industrial relations officer, telephoned the Bovis company and was told his case was the first of its kind

the company heard of. Inquiries to the fire marshall's office at Toronto led to indications Ontario Hydro approved the aluminum wall receptacles because of a shortage of copper. Mr. Harkins also said the fire marshal indicated that because of the softness of aluminum, care has to be exercised in the install-

ation of the units. The fire marshal also indicated there is a commission which will make recommendations concerning aluminum wiring in houses. A controversy has been raging for several years on its

Mr. Harkins said if the commission aluminum wire is no longer in use, he may consider rewiring his home. One of the Harkin's sons, ten-year-old Steven, was awake during most of the night time incident because the fuse box is in his room. Brothers Dave, 7, and Bradley, 6, slept.

"All the expertise in the world wouldn't have made me feel comfortable," Mr. Harkins said. Feel lucky? he said taking up the question. "Darn right. No one can tell me it couldn't have developed into a fire."

## Drop in grants to schools means higher local taxes

to see the government not

being so restrictive with the grants." Mrs. Fisher said. She also said it was

the provincial govern-ment which encouraged

higher spending through the building of schools

and offering additional

programs. "Now they

have not come through

with the money," she

Barry Sheppard, Georgetown school board

trustee, feels that the

province is expecting the school boards to provide

education, but they are not providing the funds, making it difficult for all

the school boards to live

up to this expectation.

"We also have a constant

pressure by taxpayers to

Mr. Sheppard said de-

spite declining enrol-

ment, costs continue to

rise. "There is no decline

in the cost of education.

Seventy-four per cent of

the funds go to the in-

numbers of teachers will

not bring the cost of

education down," he

slight reduction in the

recently negotiated in the

teachers contract, will

teacher-pupil

Mr. She pard said the

Even the slight drop in

structional budget.

keep tax costs down.'

Sheppard said.

by Jennifer Rowe Local ratepayers will

have to pay more for edu-cation in Ontario, according to Halton Board of Education finance superintendent Bruce Lindley's latest figures.

The increase is a result of Ontario Education Minister Stephenson's announcement last week that the average increase in provincial grants to the school boards will be 4.27 per cent for 1979, a figure well below the current inflation rate.

Mr. Lindlay, said the provincial government has reduced its level of support by approx-imately one-half to one per cent. Mr. Lindley is still awaiting further information before he

can give an exact figure. In 1978 the provincial grant accounted for 51.5 per cent of the board's expenses. Mr. Lindley estimated this year's grant covers 50 to 51 per cent of expenses. "The extra half or full percent will have to be picked by the local ratepayers. Mr. Lindley said.

Since 1975 school board's have had to get by on grants amounting to 50 per cent or slightly more to cover expenses. Provincial government subsidizes, from 1973-75 reached the 60 per cent mark. Ten years ago, the grants figured in at 43 per

"It's just that the funds are not available, not only in education but in all facets of provincial grants," Mr. Lindley

Different areas in Halton have a different mill rate but the current average of 55 mills for education will have to be increased, according to Mr. Lindley. He has not received the figures for the mill rate increase. Betty Fisher, school

board trustee for Acton Nocontest.



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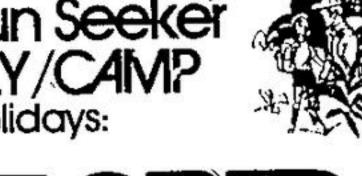
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and Esquesing, said It was difficult to say what agreement with the teaimpact the reduced level chers. We realized the would have on the board repercussions until the budget was brought down. "I must admit though I would like reducing the teacher-

pupil ratio." Hartley Sherk, separate school board trustee, said he was not sure of the impact because the board had not come down with a budget yet. Mr. Sherk said the board will have to try and cover all their costs but it is obvious that this will not be possible. Mr. Sherk said the rea-

son for the cut-backs was due to the government not keeping its part of the teachers superannuation fund, and consequently trying to make up for lost time and money now. superannuation fund is more than \$400-million in the hole. The government did not keep up its part of the fund and was borrowing from it. In

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order to catch up they are now trying to replace it and school boards and

children are suffering." Mr. Sherk sald he was disappointed but not surprised at the announcement of the grant. "The handwritings been on the wall for the past three years," he said.

they should put guide-lines on the people who use most of the money. "The instructional part of the funds should not be allowed to increase more than the provincial grant increase," he sald.

Ivan Armstrong, Milton trustee, said he would like to criticize the government for its actions, however he knows what it is doing. "I have no trouble seeing why the

However we won't be able to keep the budget government is going to restrict the funds then within these grants. The sad part is we have to now go to the taxpayers," Armstrong said.

Armstrong said the finance committee is in the early stages of the planning and so it is too early to say what will happen. "I would doubt whether we can stay within the grant allot-

ted," he said. Milton, was not available for comment at press

destroyed

N ety-six dogs were destroyed or sent for research, during the last three months of 1978, according to a report from the Halton Hills Animal Control officer, Joe Kir-

The service answered 737 calls, during the three Bill Lawson, trustee for month period, and placed 10 dogs in homes. Owners reclaimed 83 of the 189 dogs impounded.

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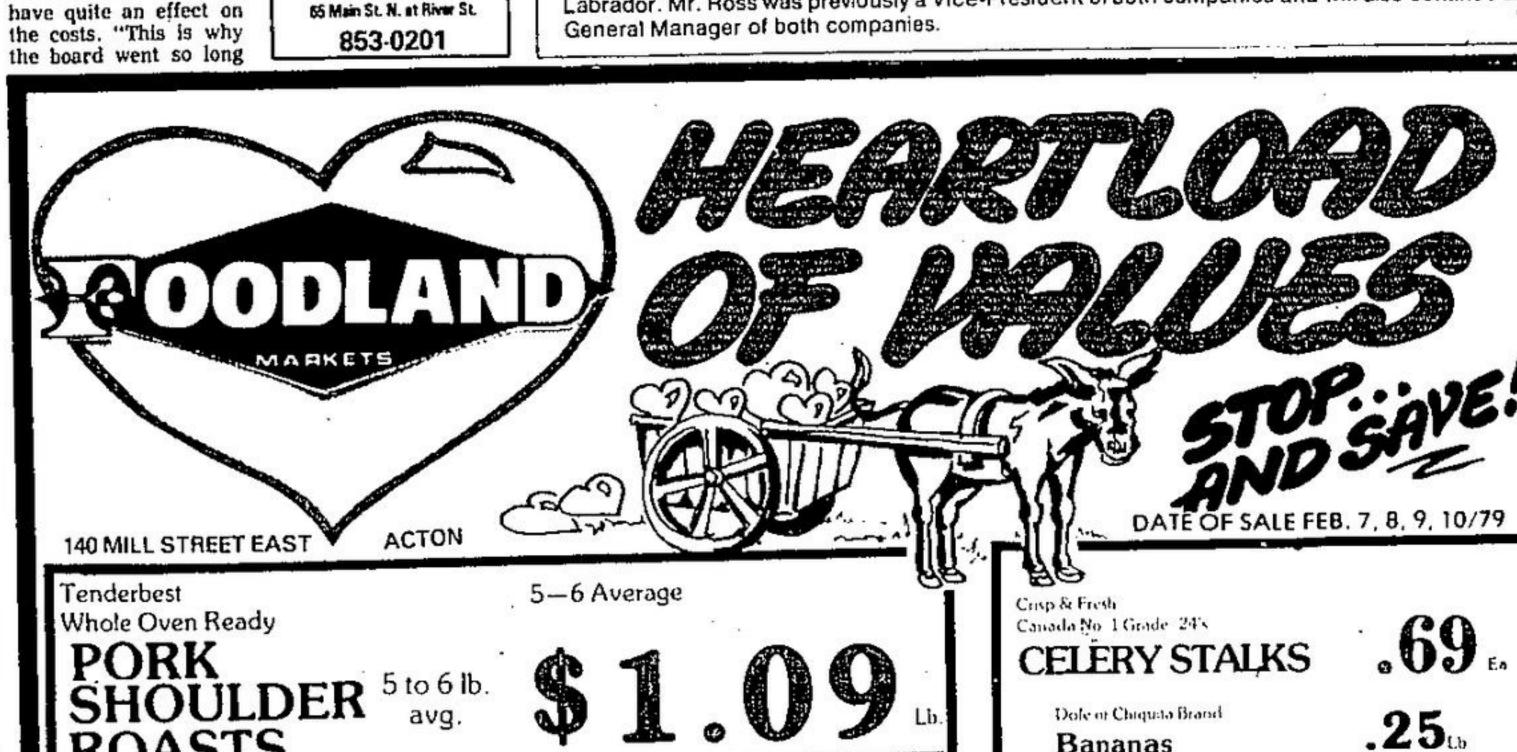


C. BRUCE ROSS

P. C. FINLAY, Q.C. A. L. FAIRLEY, JR. Allen A. McMartin, Chairman of the Board of Hollinger, announces that the following changes of officers have been made following the retirement of Mr. A. L. Fairley, Jr. as President and Chief Executive Officer of Hollinger and President of Labrador. Mr. Fairley has held these positions since 1964. He will continue as a director of both companies.

P. C. Finlay has been elected President and Chief Executive Officer of Hollinger and Chairman of the Board of Labrador. Mr. Finlay is a senior partner in the firm of Holden, Murdoch & Finlay and was also previously a Vice-President of Hollinger and Labrador.

C. Bruce Ross has been elected Executive Vice-President of Hollinger and President of Labrador. Mr. Ross was previously a Vice-President of both companies and will also continue as



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