An estimated audience of 50 listened to award winning speeches by local students at the annual Optimimist public speaking contest. Back row left to right: is Victoria Rodriguez girls winner, Janet Reast, runner-up, Brad O'Neill runner-up in boys and Dave Hall president of the Acton Optimists. Front row left to right: Dana Richardson, third, Scott Nolan winner in boys category and Greg Leatherland, third. All spoke on this year's theme "commitment to share". Judges were Joan Waldle, Arnold Townsend and Jeff Sansom. Mrs. Gord Chapman was timekeepter. Winners of the contest advance to the zones in April while the winners of zones go on to the district and becomes eligible for a \$600 bursary.

Pentecostal minister and family leaving for Africa



Pastor Brian Rennick

The decision to go "was

very much a mutual

decision" said the min-

ister. Pastor Rennick and

Colleen considered it for

some time and he said

"she felt that direction in

her life long before I

In some ways the

three-and-a-half years

the Rennicks spent in

town was a postponement

of their missionary goal.

When they settled in

town, it was after they

had checked on mission work in northern Ontario.

Colleen was pregrant

with Carrie, so the deci-

sion was made to stay in

In their church work

lowed the mission goal-

the south.

tor Rennick.

Pastor Rennick went roots on to say: "It is a desire Tabernacle Pentecostal Assembly to be involved in work minister Brian Rennick that will change lives and and family have sunk in influence society in gen-Acton will soon be cut.

The Rennicks are Africa bound where they hope to pursue an important task for the church: that of mission work.

Pastor Rennick, his wife Colleen and their children Carrie, who will be three years old in April, and nine month old Tiffany will leave Acton in June for Zambia. Pastor Rennick expects to remain in the central African nation for four years.

Mission work is an integral part of the Pentecostal Church. It was one of the main reasons for the church to organize in the 1800s. Not everyone is touched by the need to perform mission work. Brian's father, also a church pastor, has never moved from the church he built 27 years ago at Monkton,

Ontario. Why is mission work important to Brian Rennick? The 27-year-old minister tried a few times to explain the mot-ive. It certainly is not money, or else he would not be in the ministry.

"If we are willing to seek God's direction in our lives, I believe we'll find a real source of strength of where we should be. It's more of a gut feeling."

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people in the church. However, he believes the mission aspect of the Rennick's life did not.

with baking bread for the

blockhouse provided and

a vehicle," said the min-

ister. "We're sending a

freezer over. One guy

said it's more important

Carrie, who will be

seven when the Rennicks

return, has her own

concept of what it all

means: "We're gonna

teach all the boys and

girls about Jesus."

"Likely there'll be a

first time Monday.

than a car."

"I believe missions could be my work for the rest of my life or until I retire," said Pastor Rennick. "I can see myself in overseas service, maybe not entirely in Zambia but in other countries as

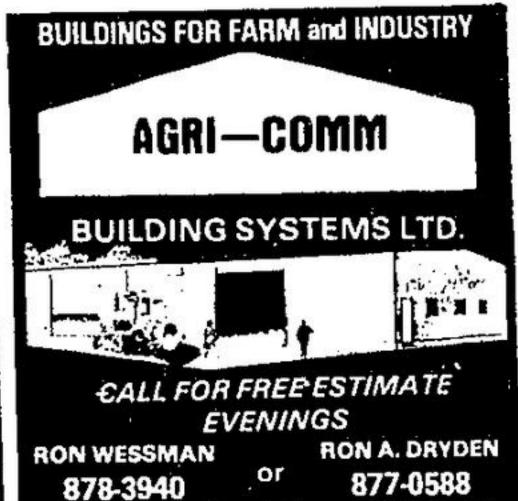
In Zambla the minister could be pastoring or teaching. Duties have not been spelled out yet.

The Rennicks will not be alone in Zambia. The has church nation assemblies and there is a Bible College. Pastor Rennick sald he will be working in cities, mainly with educated Zambians. What does the move

mean? For one things, the Rennick children will take some of their early education in Zambia. Pastor Rennick sees that as having some benefit. "The missionaries that came home say their children have a wealth of experience that Canadian children don't

There are some uncertainties connected with the venture. Food, for example, is something the Rennicks appear to be wanting to take care of themselves. Colleen experimented

the Rennicks have folfrom a distance. "We've been involved indirectly in raising money for missions, Christmas parcels and clothing," said I 15-The timing of the minister's resignation may have surprised some Halton Burlington



ACTON ARENA SCHOOL BREAK ACTIVITIES March 20 to March 29, 1981

SHINNY...... ADMISSION... \$1.00 per Session

13 years & under	14 years & over
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12:00 p.m. to 12:50 p.m. Tues. March 24th,	1:00 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.
12:00 p.m. to 12:50 p.m. Wed. March 25th,	1:00 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.
12:00 p.m. to 12:50 p.m. Thurs. March 26th,	1:00 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.
12:00 p.m. to 12:50 p.m. Fri. March 27th,	1:00 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.
PUBLIC SKATING ADMISSION 50° 6	ach or \$1.50 per family
Saturday, March 21st	. 8:00 p.m. to 9:50 p.m.
Sunday, March 22nd	. 2:00 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.
Monday, March 23rd	. 2:00 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.
Tuesday, March 24th	. 2:00 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.
Wednesday, March 25th	2:00 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.
Wodnesday, water com com.	2.00 to 2:50 n m

Thursday, March 26th 2:00 p.m. to 3:50 p.m.



Is there life after children! Our mothers filled their retirement years with volunteer work, bridge and coffee parties. Today's woman is go-

ing back to school. Debbie Sankey raised four children, went back to university, got a degree in landscape archite-

cture and is putting it to work. Like most women of her generation she worked in an office before marriage, after attending McGill University in Montreal for two years. Her studies were interrupted when she met her future architect husband, Lloyd.

For the next 15 years, Debble raised children, three sons and a daughter now nearly grown, and created a family home in various parts of Quebec and Ontario. When the family settled on their 76 acre property near Speyside, Debbie took a hard look at her future.

Always interested in children with learning disabilities she enroled in Humber college for appropriate courses, but while checking the prospectus she found a course in landscape architecture. Her grandfather was a landscape architect and Debble realized such studies would encompass horticulture, engineering, sculpture, social sciences - many of her pet subjects.

Off to the University of Guelph Debbie went to

enroll and was refused. Her grade 12 schooling from the States proved insufficient and she found it necessary to attend Acton High School to pick up grade 13 chemistry and physics.

She says she thought going back to high school with her children would be difficult but instead found it most enjoyable.

"It was good preparation for university", she comments, adding the high school courses wakened her brain.

Five years ago, with her study patterns updated, Debbie re-applied to Guelph and was admitted to a B.A. course. She made sure she had many first year landscape architecture courses on her timetable so she wouldn't have difficulty when she was finally admitted into the course of

her choice. Her perseverance won out and she made it into highly competitive field of landscale architecture. She was off and running with a full schedule of three hour classes, homework and home-

"A lot depends on your family", she says, describing the support a student mother needs. She feels attitudes are different when a woman is working all day but not bringing home any

"A late supper cannot be justified" she states. A mother first, Debbie enjoyed hearing her children's news, problems and discussions before she settled down to her own homework often as late as 10 p.m.

She feels women are best equipped to take care. of children so it's a woman's responsibility to make sure her decision to go back to school will work with the family.

Debbie advises a year be set aside for long term planning before classes commence.

Women "have to take inventory, decide what price they are willing to pay, what they believe in and what trade-offs they are willing to make" she comments.

In Debble's case, her family and school were on top of the priority list so her housework had to suffer - "we got used to a messy house," she

chuckles. "When I did have time to wash a floor it felt wonderful after taxing my head," she adds.

By trying to conceal her pressures from the children and sharing any "treats" (rewards) she got out of her courses, Debble found her children were very flexible and supported Mom, the stu-

Result of the family effort was a degree for Mom last June. (Debbie took a well-earned year off university between second and third year.)

Now she's a full fledged landscape architect and Debbie would like to get into residential landscaping. She feels landscaping should be more than cosmetic but should take into account lifestyle of owners, site location, windshelter and weather protection, orientating any planned extensions, landscape phasing and generally making the most of a site. .

Interested in local beautification Debbie works with the Acton Beautification Committee and would like to see regional government take an active interest in planning landscaping of all new

Opportunities for landscape architecture are many according to Debble. Graduates may work in individual urban design, plaza planning, ecology and environmental fields, park and playground planning or a combination of them all.

At the moment, while she finds her feet (roots?) Debbie is sheepherding. Caring for the family flock of Dorsets during lambing is no mean accomplishment. She hopes to organize a sculpture show on her property in the future in order to expose the art to local people and offer a showing opportunity for sculptors.

Debbie proves school is not the exclusive pro-

perty of the young. Any woman can fulfill her ambitions if she overcomes the obstacles in her way and makes sure she has her priorities straight, she feels.

Talking to Debbie Sankey is an incentive for any woman who has ever wondered what to do with her life when her children are grown. As Debble says, "people have a responsibility to be happy".



Debbie Sankey

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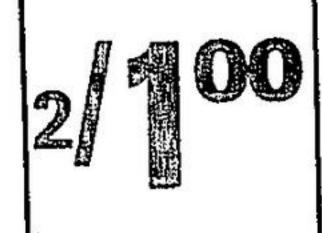
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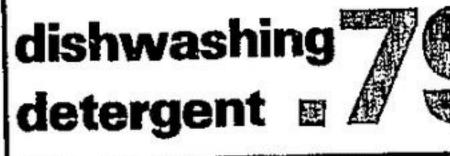
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