



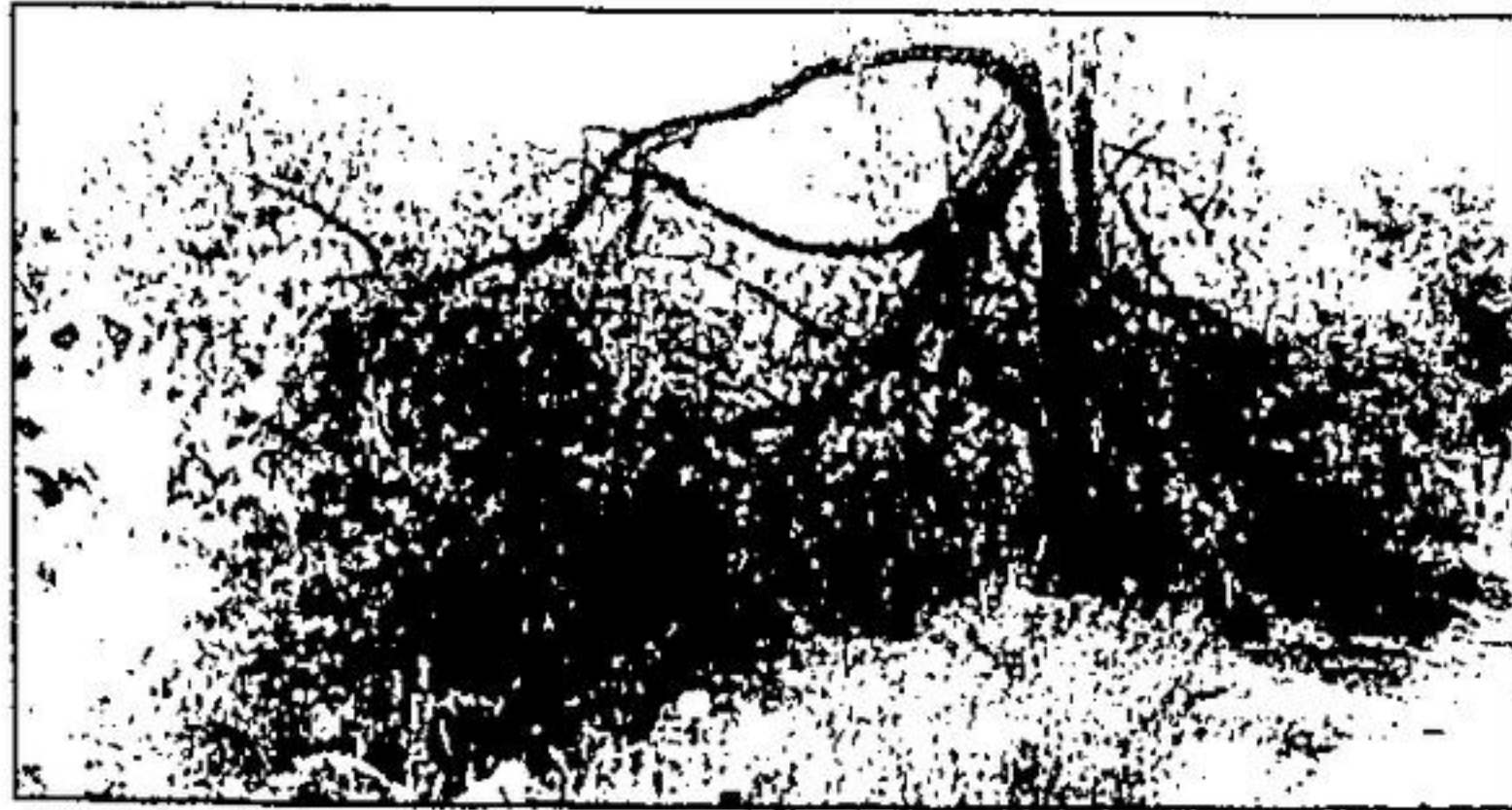
Rotary Club executive for 1981-82 are, back row, left to right, director John Arnold, Vice-president Bill Beaton, Directors Doug Fread, Ray Nellis and Lorne Smith, Front row, president Dave Manes and past president Ken Grubbe. Absent were Ted Hansen (secretary), and Rick Devlin (treasurer).

## Storm lashes Acton area cuts hydro, phone, tv

Essential services to Acton were cut off early Sunday morning when one of the most vicious thunder storms in several years lashed the area.

Hydro was off throughout the entire town for two-and-a-half hours, says superintendent Doug Mason. Main high tension wires leading into Acton were put out of commission, and customers are now receiving juice from auxiliary lines. A hydro crew of Ken Hodgson and Wayne Starrett worked through the height of the storm in the middle of the night transferring power from the damaged line to the alternates.

The storm started with a bang about 2.30 a.m. Sunday with the earth-



Sunday's lightning split this tree at the Brydson farm on Highway 7 west of Acton.

shattering thunder and lightning lasting several hours. The rains finally subsided at 2 p.m. Some senior citizens say it was the worst thunder storm they had ever witnessed.

Olde Hide House resulted in damage to several Don Dawkins. Some trees were destroyed by lightning, according to.



Halton Hills Hydro workmen were walking the line west of town Monday trying to find the bad insulator knocked out during the storm on Sunday.

### Chief says

## Get tough with drunks

Every year more drivers are charged and convicted for impaired driving. But, are the penalties deterring drunks from crawling behind the wheel of a car?

Halton Police Chief James Harding doesn't think so and says the penalties are being enforced but they simply aren't stiff enough.

"The law in relation to the offense should be tremendously increased," he said.

"It should be brought upon the public that no one is stupid enough to give them a licence to drink and drive.

In my opinion it's a deadly sin and I've taken enough people to the morgue to convince me of that."

Chief Harding says it's not proving the impaired driver's guilt that's a problem.

He feels Halton officers are proficient in bringing to court enough evidence to convict offenders, especially through improved techniques of breath analysis.

Chief Harding blames the deficiency on the courts which he says must "wake up" to the fact that impaired drivers

must be firmly disciplined.

"A motor vehicle is a weapon — two tons of steel that kills. It's continually in the hands of drunks who use that lethal weapon to inflict slaughter on our roads," he said.

Chief Harding says there's not enough fear in the minds of impaired drivers.

Currently, the penalty for a first offender who registers more than 80 milligrams of alcohol contents in a breathalyzer test is a \$50 fine or a three-month licence suspension.

"We continually discipline impaired drivers but, the fact that we prosecute doesn't seem to be a deterrent.

"People have to understand that if they jeopardize the lives of people by being drunk when they're driving, that they're gonna get hell," said Chief Harding. "We've pussy-footed enough for these people."

Crown attorney Jim Treleaven agrees that Ontario courts aren't tough enough. He admits his own frustration in trying to secure stiffer penalties for first of-

tenders, which he says can only be done through costly, time consuming court appeals.

"I know, I've had problems securing tougher penalties in cases of blatantly horrendous driving.

I don't know why, but provincial judges invariably impose the minimum even where circumstances dictate a heavier sentence," he said.

Mr. Treleaven confides that he knows of no other jurisdiction where the penalties for impaired driving are less than in Ontario.

He adds that in many other world centres the first offense penalties are more severe. But, Treleaven says that the courts alone aren't to be blamed.

"We, as prosecutors are also guilty. We should be constantly pressing the courts for increased penalties by supplying them with ammunition to

justify stiffer sentences," Mr. Treleaven said.

The crown attorney says he's working on that right now, compiling statistics with the help of the Addiction Research Foundation and the Centre of Criminology in Toronto.

He hopes that by focussing the attention on the victims of drunk drivers, not only will stiffer penalties be imposed but more alcohol related programs may be offered.

"For years we've sympathized with the good citizens being prosecuted for impaired driving.

"We think there, but for the grace of God go I. That's taking too light a view. It's their poor victims who we should be afraid for," he said.

But, stiffer penalties are only a partial solution and Treleaven recognizes the need to help the convicted impaired driver with an obvious social disease.



A hydro worker checks an insulator for damage west of Acton.

A leaking roof at the



Plenty of good times at the yard sale for the physically handicapped at North Halton Camp ground Saturday. Lola Corbett of Georgetown, left and Agnes Cockwill of Orangeville display some of the wares.

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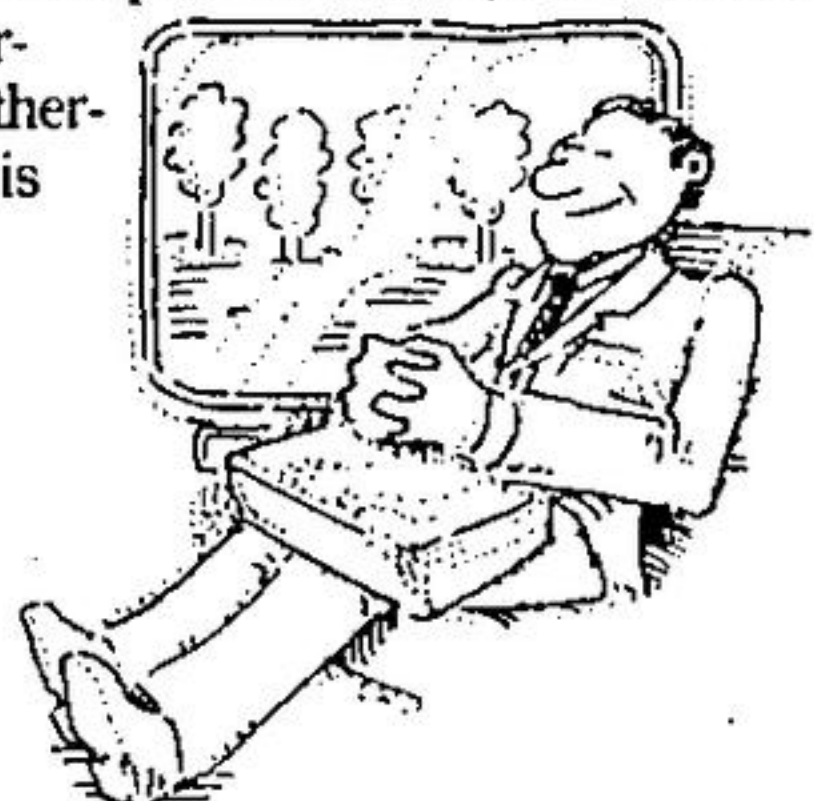
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### Jelinek urges P.M.

## Order strikers back to work

Halton M.P. Otto Jelinek, Progressive Conservative critic for Corporate Affairs, has urged the Prime Minister to immediately introduce "back to work" legislation requiring striking Post Office employees to return to work.

He also wants the right to strike suspended in the essential service sector, until the government has thoroughly reviewed the collective bargaining process, with an eye to effecting an element of predictability and dependability into the essential service sector.

In speaking on behalf of the majority of his constituents, Jelinek stated that "the public, and in particular the already seriously disadvantaged small business sector, should not be expected to tolerate the perennial disruption of such vital services", and further condemned the government's present approach to settling these very costly work stoppages as being "band-aid" and "hit-and-miss".

In a letter sent to the Prime Minister, Jelinek made a number of recommendations that, in view of the government's inability to defend

the rights of the private sector, save giving in to such inflationary and precedent setting essential service demands, merit "careful consideration and should perhaps be the subject of a special committee investigation".

He argued that turning the Post Office into a Crown Corporation will not alone solve such labor disputes, and stated that the right to strike in the essential services should be immediately suspended until the following, or similar, provisions become a part of our collective bargaining process: a)

the introduction of Sector Bargaining. This would require union groups in a single public service sector to bargain simultaneously, thus eliminating the situation that exists today whereby only four per cent of all federal public employees have contributed to 107 strikes in the past five years. b)

secret ballot voting, c) provisions, similar to those of the Taft-Hartley Act in the U.S.A., that would suspend, pending further negotiations, the possibility of strike action for 60 days once a strike vote has been taken.

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