Ted Freeman gets frustrated when his hands won't quite close and he gets weary by four in the afternoon. But Ted is lucky to be alive. Six months ago Ted became a human torch when a flash propane fire in his motor bome trapped him in-

The Freeman's 18-year-old son Lyle was due to start engineering at the University of Guelph in the fall, so the March '81 school break would be the last holiday Ted, Shirley, Lyle and Gordon, 16, would spend together. The Rockwood family flew to one of their favorite holiday spots, Houston, Texas, and leased a motor home for a ten day drive down the Gulf of Mexico coast.

Three days out of Houston across the desert into the Rio Grande Valley, the Freeman's stopped to gas up. The motor home hadn't been starting too well and it refused to start after re-fueling.

Realizing it would take some time Ted told his family to pop across the road and purchase supplies from a fruit stand.

The motor was inside the vehicle under a cover between driver and passenger seats. Ted removed the cover and started working on the carburetor. The engine backfired and a blue flame appeared momentarily above the engine. Hearing a "woof" Ted turned to the right to see a sheet of blue flame fill the motor home trapping him eight feet from the only exit.

A later inquest found that a probable leak in the propane gas line fueling the stove and fridge and filled the motor home with gas. The family sitting up front in air conditioned comfort were unaware of the danger until the engine backfired.

But Ted didn't have time to worry about causes-he had to get out. With his mind "stripping a gear" he discarded the nearby window as an exit, realized he was in a "time bomb" and dove for the door. His 200 plus pounds failed to burst the door open, did in fact succeed in locking it. With temperatures reaching 2000 degrees and the heat already buckling Ted's knees, he managed to get the door open although he still doesn't remember how.

Once outside Ted realized he was a human torch covered in blue flame feeding on his pro-

pane gas saturated clothes. His first reaction was "this is it-my body's burning." Having the presence of mind not to be breathe and thus sear his lungs, Ted tucked his burning hands into his chest and squatted down trying to smother as much of the fire as he could. The bare tarmack held little hope for rolling so Ted smothered the flames coming out of his shirt licking his face with his hands. Flames shooting out of his pants seemed to originate in his cowboy boots, so Ted kicked them off. Still on fire, and out of breath, Ted ran 10 feet and took a good guip of fresh air stopping to wipe more flames from his body.

By then his hands looked like brown paper bags with skin hanging off them in shards but the flames were out. Ted's body was still instensely hot and burning but he glanced back to the



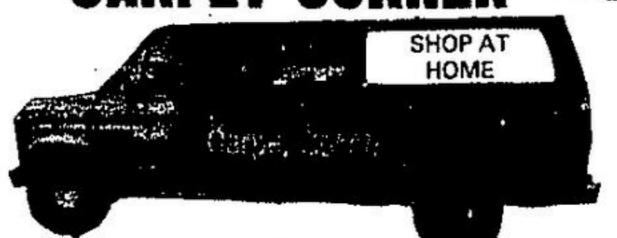
pleased to announce the appointment of Tim Haines as Sales Manager, Born and

raised in Glen Williams, 1im spent B years with General Motors and the past three years with Neal Pontiac in St. Catharines. He looks forward to renewing old acquaintances and making many new

Peta Masson, President of

Pete Masson Motors Ltd. is

★ Personal In-Home Service! Choose Your



853-3620 ACTON

camper to see if he could save anything. Black smoke was pouring out, the bubble door window had melted and Ted resigned himself to losing everything.

By then help was coming. Shirley and the boys had realized all that black smoke was coming from THEIR camper and Ted was being helped into the filling station where an ambulance was

Ted still didn't feel any fear or pain. In shock, he was mainly annoyed that the holiday would be interrupted while the family made alternate arrangements. It would be three days before he became conscious that his holiday was over and he was lucky to be alive.

The extreme heat had burned over 35 per cent of Ted's body with immediate second and third degree burns. Damage to his hands and arms

was considerable and risk of infection was high. Ted credits Texan ambulance crews and his doctor. Roy Stewart with saving his hands so they would heal without needing grafting. Three days in ICU of Edinburg Hospital with his eyes bandaged and full of silver nitrate and drugged on Demerol had Ted wishing he was at home. The concern and care of hospital staff and Texas friends still brings tears to Ted's eyes.

Within a week the need to get Ted into a whirlpool and closer to home made Dr. Stewart agree to release Ted and arrange for transfer to Hamilton General Hospital. A big courageous man, Ted refused the 17 hour ambulance plane ride and opted for a speedler commercial flight with his family, nurse Pappy Wood and a swell-

ing body swathed in bandages. Two weeks later Ted was released from Hamilton with his hands functional and a hairless and "sunburned" head and torso. His left leg and calf muscle was also severely burned but healing.

Less than two months later Ted was just as active as he'd ever been working a long day with his farm equipment company, Freeman Farm Systems.

Always a strong believer in God, Ted says he has one more proof of a Supreme Being-"Somebody opened the door of that camper," he says. And he's very grateful for the kind people who helped him and his family get home in one piece.

"Now I can truly say 'It's hot in Texas" quips the man who's been "heat-treated" and has lived to tell about it.

Free Press

Acton high school

marketing students are

currently out knocking

on doors doing a reader-

ship survey for the Acton

Some 400 local homes will be visited, asking

such questions as "your

length of residency in

Acton," what other

publications do you subscribe to, and what

items in the Free Press

WELCOME

HOME TIM

survey

Free Press.

do you read.

Economic woes topic of speaker

Inflation, high taxes, the faltering economy and what can be done about them was outlined about 16 business-people at a special Chamber of Commerce Speaker's Luncheon Thursday at Acton Meadows.

Gord Stovel, CLU. president of Advance Planning Financial Corporation, explained Canadians are in an "economic war of survival." He noted not many people receive formal education in financial planning, thus their planning becomes helter skelter.

Stovel explained that financial planning is essentially trying to: minimize taxes; manage inflation; and trying to go about a process of creative wealth accumulation.

soon-to-be released federal budget Stovel said, holds some economic woes for the businessman, amali whose taxes will be increased an estimated 20 to 30 per cent. This, he said, will fuel inflation as the businessman will have to pass on his added costs to the con-

Stovel told the small audience that what could be purchased in 1961 for

\$1.00 would cost \$2.82 in 1980 according to the consumer price index. With the consumer tax index, (the sum total of provincial, municipal and federal taxes) a \$1 in 1961 was worth \$4.96 in 1980. As a result, he said, the price index is not rising as much or as fast as the tax index, thus adding to the economic

problems. inflation? What's Stovel asked. In 1940, \$1 could purchase 19 loaves of bread. In 1980, the half loaves and in 1981 only one-and-one-third loaves could be bought for \$1.

From 1940 to 1967, the financial expert pointed out, interest rates barely moved from about five per cent. However, since Centennial year, rates have skyrocketed 300 per cent. He emphasized the bank rate is set by the government, not the

Stovel Meanwhile, said, there is no such thing as a "get rich scheme." Diamonds are about the best investment to make, he said, but take about 10 years before they can see a profit on the money in-

banks.

vested, \$10,000 worth of diamonds after 10 years could be worth \$100,000, but it's a long wait.

"You're always going to have to deal with 15 per cent money and 10 per cent inflation rate," Stovel concluded.

Chamber of Commerce president John Allison said he was pleased with the turnout for the first-ever luncheon and hoped more could be held in the



Chamber of Commerce first vice president Dave Whiting (left) and president John Allinson, (right) welcome Gord Stovel to the Chambers' first Speakers Luncheon at Acton Meadows Golf Course Thursday.

same dollar could purchase only one and a Shots fired at area motel

A 28-year-old Georgetown woman was charged with dangerous use of a firearm and theft over \$200 Sunday after a shooting incident at the Cedar Springs Motel, east of Acton on Highway

Sergeant Ron Southgate, Halton Regional Police, said officers were called to the scene after shots were fired in the parking lot and without incident arrested Cynthia Hayes, Dayfoot Dr.

The weapon, a .38 calibre Smith and Weston revolver, had been stolen earlier Sunday from the residence of Frank Jones, Main St., North,

Police recovered both the revolver and some spent shells in the parking lot.

The accused didn't fire the shots at anyone,

Southgate said, the shots were fired in the air. She was released from custody to appear in court November 9 and the incident was the "result of a domestic situation."

Acton Photo & Camera Leathertown Village, Acton 853-0250

TRUST US with your precious pictures

October Special! SEND **SNAPSHOT** GREETINGS **SAVE 10%**

COLOUR **ENLARGEMENT** \$7.47 SPECIAL WITH COUPON-"ORDER DECORATIVE PICTURES

man anything

FOR YOUR HOME, AS MANY AS YOU WISH-FROM YOUR FAVOURITE COLOUR NEGA TIVES OR SUDES."

" 11" x 14"

OFFER EXPIRES OCTOBER 31, 1981 We are OPEN

colortron obsdo 88rvioe82

MONDAYS We use Kodak paper.

For the good look.



Can. No. 1 Red Brand Beef

Sirloin T-bone Porterhouse Wing

Steaks

Freshly minced medium

ground beef



Burns Pride of Canada

boneless smoked

Fresh store sliced

MAPLE LEAF smoked

store sliced

cooked ham

INGERSOL 500 g.

Canadian singles

cheese slices

pastry flour

BLUE BONNET Ws

NEWI FROM KIMBERLY-GLARKE YELOUR 4's asst colours tollet bissue KOTEX NEW FREEDOM 10's & 12's

cheese spread

BLACK DIAMOND 500 g.

reg. or skim

MONARCH

2 lb. coloured

margarine

KELLOGG'S cornel

350 g. Chocolate chips . GREEN GIANT 14 oz.

MOLETS BRAND 12 & 14 OZ.

crushed descort bits, sliced

DEL MONTE unawortened

Deep Brown beans

pineeppie julce .

LEGY'S with pork or

14 oz.

BILL LAMBERINK,

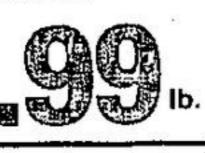
Prop.

come com

beef

picnic shoulder 15. 1.59

GREAT CANADIAN CHEESE



pork shoulder store packaged

sausage

small link breakfast **в. 1.39**

DEVON 500 g pkg. sliced bacon

From the Bakery!

FESTIVAL VALUES! DIETRICH 24 oz. loaf 100% whole wheat bread

WESTON pkg. of 12 dinner rolls WESTON cinnamon

haddock

2/1.00

butterhorns pkg. of 6 WESTON pkg. of 6 .99 raisin bran muffins LIBBYS 14 OZ 798 ml fruit cocktail Libays 625 oz. with bod elphogetti BETTY CROCKER 14 oz Cough syrup Vap o Rub HIGHLINER frozen 14 oz.

Fresh Produce arrives daily at the lowest possible prices!



Tide detergent



GOLD SEAL 7.75 oz.

sockeye salmon

family pack.

و6ء

Coca Cola

deposit 6 750 ml. bottles

KENT frozen 12.5 oz. orange



SWANSON frozen 11 & 11.5 oz. turkey, chicken, beef

dinners

Colours In Your Home! Compare Our Workmanship, Our Prices, Our Service! Free Estimates Custom Made Draperies Carpet & Vinyl Floor Coverings up to 40% off all in-stock carpet and drapery material Plan now for Christmas entertaining. AFTER YOU COMPARE WE KNOW YOU WILL CHOOSE ...