



Eldon Comfort, Ian McGillivray, Clay and Brenda Kistner, Ray Piercey and Elly Tuitman helped package tools and other materials they collected for people in Nicaragua.

Cots, bikes, typewriters bound for Nicaragua

Organizer Eldon Comfort said he's pleased with the amount of tools and other materials donated by Acton area residents to be shipped to Nicaragua.

The final round-up for Tools for Peace, a nationwide campaign to send the people of the Latin American nation non-military equipment, took place Saturday at Tuitman's Garden Centre south of Acton. Sewing machines, typewriters, bicycles and lamps were included.

The materials were packed in boxes by Comfort and other volunteers ready for transport to Kitchener that day. From there, they'll be taken to Vancouver and shipped to Nicaragua.

Also included were 16 children's hospital cots obtained from Peel Memorial Hospital, where they'd been deemed surplus. A member of Acton's HAND (Halton

Hills Action for Nuclear Disarmament) committee who works at the hospital made arrangements for the donation. The cots will go to Nicaraguan daycare centres.

Comfort had posted notices about Tools for Peace at area schools and churches, receiving no negative reaction about Nicaragua's leftist government. He assured those who asked about the regime that it is the only Central American nation whose people would definitely receive the materials provided. Based on his personal visit to the area last year, Comfort doesn't believe the governments of neighboring countries would allow free dispersment of the tools.

Experience shows that St. John Ambulance reduces on the job accidents.

Property issue angers Eramosa neighbors

Storage of dangerous chemicals, devaluation of property and trespassing were among complaints brought before Eramosa council last week.

Robert and Marjorie O'Krafka and Dela Blackmore, neighbors of property owned by Brian Dolmer on Hwy. 7 just east of the Guelph Town Line, asked council to regulate the use of the Dolmer property.

The delegation charged that the building on the property is being illegally used for an auto repair business, vehicles are trespassing on the Blackmore property to gain access to the building and the grounds are an "eyesore".

The delegation, headed by Marjorie O'Krafka threatened to take the issues to the newspapers, government and national television if the township council "is consistent in its inept handling of the matter".

Eramosa building inspector John Salmon contended that he was not aware of the seriousness of the situation and, in the light of the evidence put forth to council last Monday night, he would take immediate action.

On the other side, Brian Dolmer has a few complaints of his own.

Dolmer said when he bought the property in 1976 the current bylaws hadn't come into effect and it was perfectly legal to operate a business on the property.

With a building permit issued by Eramosa, Dolmer built an addition on the existing building which now exceeds the

present zoning bylaws.

Once the addition was completed, Dolmer's father ran a small repair business until recently.

According to Salmon, if a business has been operating on a property before the zone change, the business may continue to operate even if it is contrary to zoning by-laws.

Dolmer, who rented out the building on the property to Larry Cateau for a few months, contended that council has inhibited the sale of his property.

Council recently issued an order to Dolmer forbidding the sale of the property until the building is altered to conform to bylaws, despite an appeal by Dolmer asking council for a minor variance for his property.

"The only way I can sell my property is if I tear down the addition I built in 1977, said Dolmer, and if I tear it down my property loses some of its value and I lose out on the cost of the addition."

Dolmer also claimed that one deal for the sale of the property has fallen through.

As for allegations of storing dangerous chemicals, Dolmer said the tanks on his property once contained heating oil, but are now empty and pose no threat.

Dolmer noted that he has spent numerous hours cleaning up the property over the past few months and he doesn't believe the property is an eyesore.

Police blotter

Group home arson

A 16-year-old resident of the D and G group home at Lot 25, Concession 3 was charged Friday with starting a fire in a bedroom area of the home the night previous. Damage to the house has been estimated at \$5,000.

Food shoplifted

A 67-year old Acton woman was charged with shoplifting \$17.84 worth of food and other items from the IGA store on Main St., Friday.

Pumpkins stolen

Forty pumpkins valued at \$60 were stolen from O'Brien's Meats around midnight last Wednesday. The pumpkins were sitting outside the store.

Hit and run

A car owned by Bent Larsen of RR3 Acton was struck by another car when it was parked by the side of McDonald Blvd. near Division St. Friday. There were no witnesses and the direction and speed of the car is unknown, but police say the car has a broken tail light as a result of the collision. Damage to Larsen's car is estimated at \$800.

Information Centre in the red

Continued from page A1

Adding to the centre's difficulties, she added, is the fact that Regional grants are no longer issued in lump sums, enabling recipients to earn bank interest on them.

Now allocated in quarterly installments, the grants are needed upon receipt, she said. Thus, the centre can lose \$800 in interest in one year.

If the Region denies this grant to the centre, Balkind said, Meals on Wheels and its related program, in which volunteers check on the health of seniors receiving the meals, would suffer most. Possibly clients enjoying a variety of services through the centre would have to be referred to south Halton agencies, she said.

Relying heavily on about 20 volunteers, the centre not only provides basic information service to the community at large, but offers programs for victims of Alzheimer's Disease and for widows and widowers and co-ordinates local Block Parent activities. Balkind is its only full-time employee; the Meals on Wheels co-ordinator is part-time.

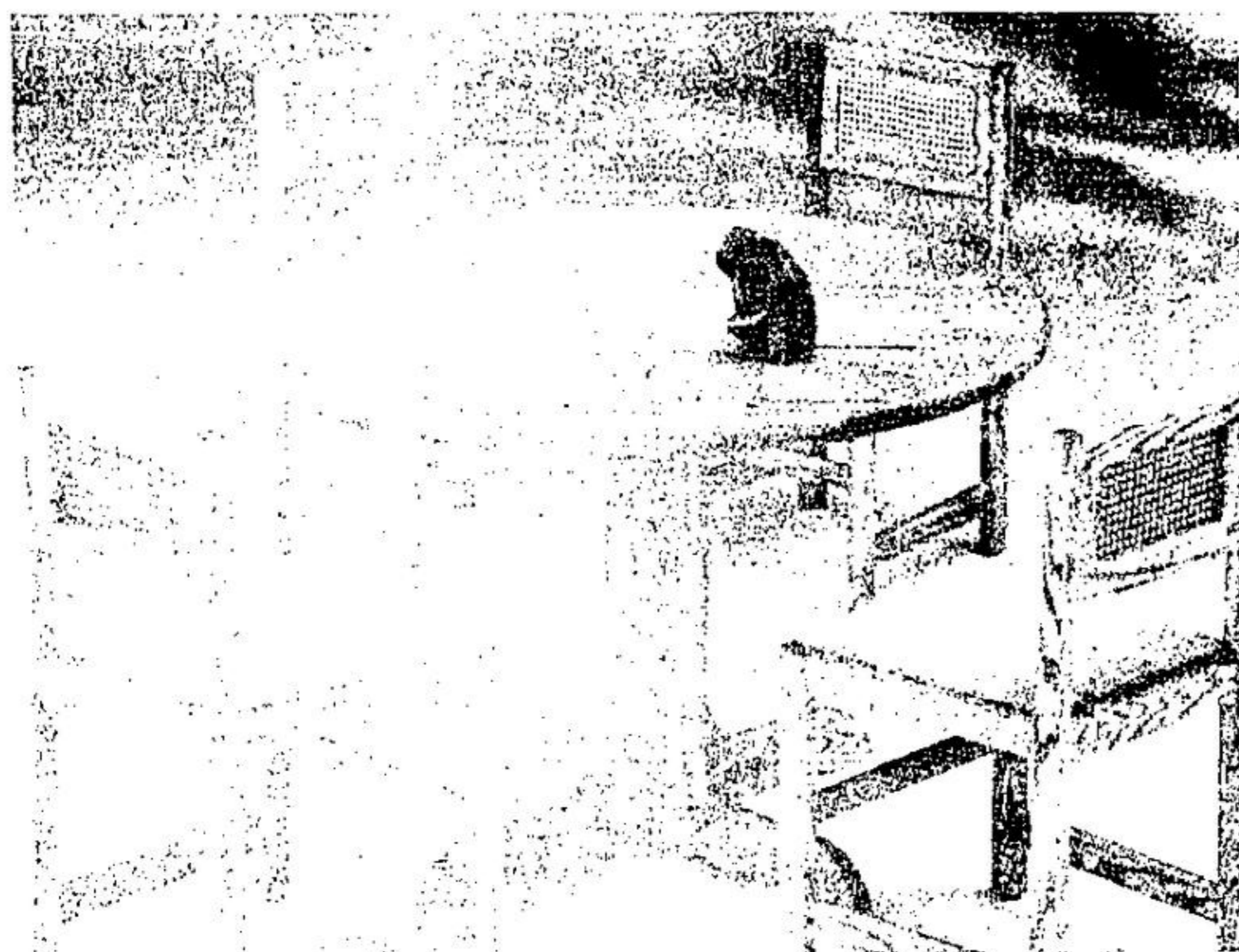
SPECIAL BAPTIST SERVICE



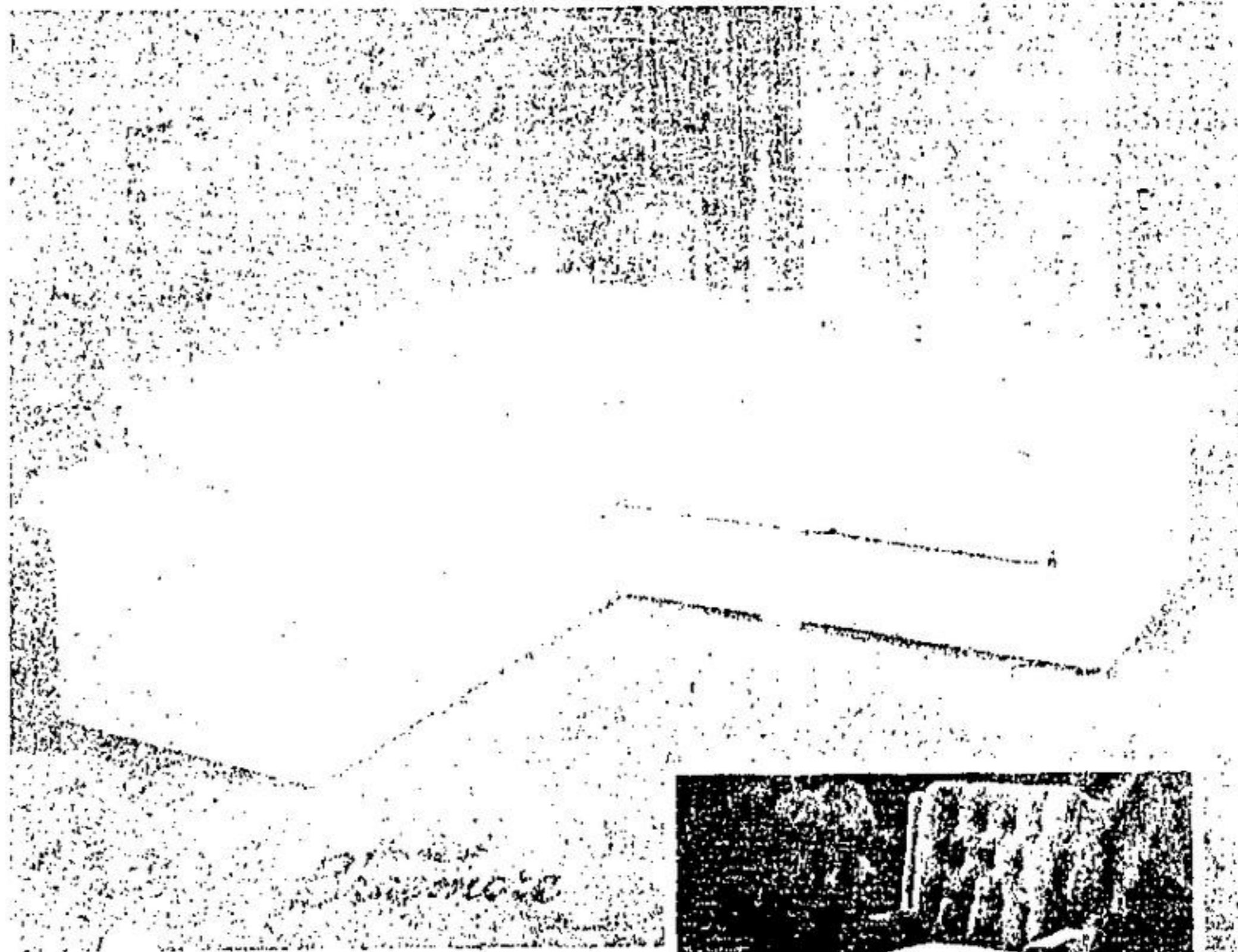
Dr. Bill Wood, president of the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec and Senior Minister of Highland Baptist Church in Kitchener, helped Rev. Jean Stairs and about 85 parishioners celebrate Acton Baptist Church's 142 anniversary Sunday. It was also Baptist Heritage Sunday.

Wilmer Fryer was presented with a plaque Sunday at Acton Baptist Church for approximately 40 years of "faithful service" as a Deacon appointed for life.

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