



Tom Ramautarsingh (right) drops by for a chat with the late Right Honourable John George Diefenbaker in 1977 at a Progressive Conservative Party function in Kitchener.

## Friend recalls 'The Chief'

By Tom Ramautarsingh  
John Diefenbaker and I had been friends since 1955. I have been privileged to know personally one of our greatest Canadians. We have corresponded and telephoned each other over the past twenty-four years.

He was a very honest man of the highest integrity. He had a deep and unwavering concern for the ordinary person - the little man. This is quite evident in his legislation which culminated in the Canadian Bill of Rights. Canada has become a nation of different nationalities, religions, languages, creeds and racial origins, and he strongly felt that the rights and liberties of each individual must always be preserved.

Last summer (July 24, 1978) my family visited with Mr. Diefenbaker at his home on 115 Lansdowne Road South in Rockcliffe Park and we conversed on many topical issues. He showed my sons Joey and Jessie his writing desk which was owned by Sir John A. Macdonald. He autographed the Canadian Bill of Rights with personal greetings for them. He showed Joey his medals and loved it when they walked around in his house.

He gave my wife Betty and myself personal invitations to the Scottish Clans Gathering in Cambridge (Galt). At this mammoth gathering on July 29, 1978, sponsored by the Police Association, he was honored with the highest accolade of the Clans.

I remember when he was Leader of the Opposition he

invited me to his House of Commons Office and while we engaged in conversation his barber was cutting his hair. On another occasion as Prime Minister he gave me a tour in the House of Commons where I have seen him in action as one of Canada's foremost parliamentarians.

Mr. Diefenbaker had a burning desire that there be always one Canada and that there be no hyphenated Canadians. He dedicated his life to the one-Canada concept and to the equal rights and liberties of all Canadians regardless of their ethnic origin, language or religion. He was a man who exhibited a great vision of Canada. He inspired old and young alike. Few Canadians would deny that he displayed a vision and an attitude that showed an unbending love for Canada.

He truly believed that he had something to do with destiny and people of all political stripes felt they were in the presence of a great man when he was in their midst. His indelible imprint on Canada and the Commonwealth will live on forever.

John George Diefenbaker was a sincere Christian and all Canadians can be justly proud of him. He lived a fruitful and useful life. His death ends an era of a man with an indomitable and unique spirit which we will never see the likes of again. Parliament and all Canadians would sorely miss him. His chief legacy was love of Canada.

# Producer calls town a great place to work

By PAUL DORSEY  
Herald staff writer  
Georgetown almost lost out to Gananoque as the chief location for the filming of *Never Trust an Honest Thief*, according to the movie's prestigious producer, Zolt Magder.

Making his debut as a producer of feature films, Mr. Magder told *The Herald* this week he originally had the resort town in mind for location shots in the \$4.1 million movie. Gananoque's close proximity to the American border gave it much more credence as the fictitious New York border town of Madison, he explained.

Preliminary visits to that community and a fairly lengthy search of the areas around Toronto finally prompted Mr. Magder and Westground Productions Incorporated to settle on Georgetown, however, when they recognized the town's potential as a movie set.

**CLOSED-IN**  
Georgetown's geographical layout and the fact that the specific locations chosen for the movie appear relatively "closed-in" were among the producer's deciding factors. Both ends of Main Street, for example, appear to terminate because of the slopes in the road, thus relieving cameramen of the worries associated with keeping a roving eye on all facets of the scene before them.

Ready access to area highways was another asset. "This is a marvelous place to work," Mr. Magder commented. "You have a terrific Main Street; there's an 'end' to everything."

Mr. Magder added that his cast and crew would probably

be spending the nights in Georgetown as well if it were not for the relative lack of adequate accommodations. All are transported to and from Toronto or, in Orson Welles' case, to a rented house in Oakville.

Production has gone very smoothly thus far in the filming, Mr. Magder said, enabling the crew to adhere to established schedules. Following two to three weeks of filming in Georgetown, the crew moves to a Toronto studio

## NEC won't comment on land jurisdiction

If the Niagara Escarpment Commission takes the advice of its chairman Ivor McMullin, the NEC will take no position on which level of government should administer escarpment lands after the commission's final report.

## Drugs obtained by forging

Two Halton Hills pharmacies have received forged prescriptions for drugs recently. Genelea Drug Mart in Acton reports that on July 23 and again on August 16, a man passed forged prescriptions valued at \$15.95.

Young's Pharmacy on Main Street in Georgetown also reports that someone passed a forged prescription for drugs, valued at \$11.91. Police are investigating.

where interior scenes will be shot, he said. Among the interiors to be constructed in the studio are those which, in the finished film, will take the viewers inside the Queen Street mansion and the old post office building on Mill Street where production has been centered this week.

A final week of production will take place in Las Vegas, Mr. Magder explained, where scenes in a casino will provide

part of the film's closing sequence. The producer was understandably reluctant to discuss the Vegas scenes at length, joking that he did not wish to reveal the film's ending.

**SPRING RELEASE**  
With editing and sound mixing scheduled for the winter months, Mr. Magder said, *Never Trust an Honest Thief*, should be released internationally in the spring. A major press conference to publicize the film is tentatively planned for September 4 in Toronto.

Mr. Magder's career has taken him from CBC's television studios to prestigious positions as director and cinematographer on dozens of television and motion picture projects. Acclaimed for his early efforts on the David Suskind shows and his work with such notable actors as Ed Asner and Lee Remick, he founded one of North America's most sophisticated post-production centres, the Motion Picture Video Centre, and later Canada's largest independent film studio, which bears his name.

Magder Studios has established itself as a leader in the production of industrial and commercial films, and has now taken on *Never Trust an Honest Thief* as its first feature presentation.

The film's executive producer is Douglas Macdonald, head of Film House-Quinn Labs-Mirrophonic Sound, the country's largest post-production facility.



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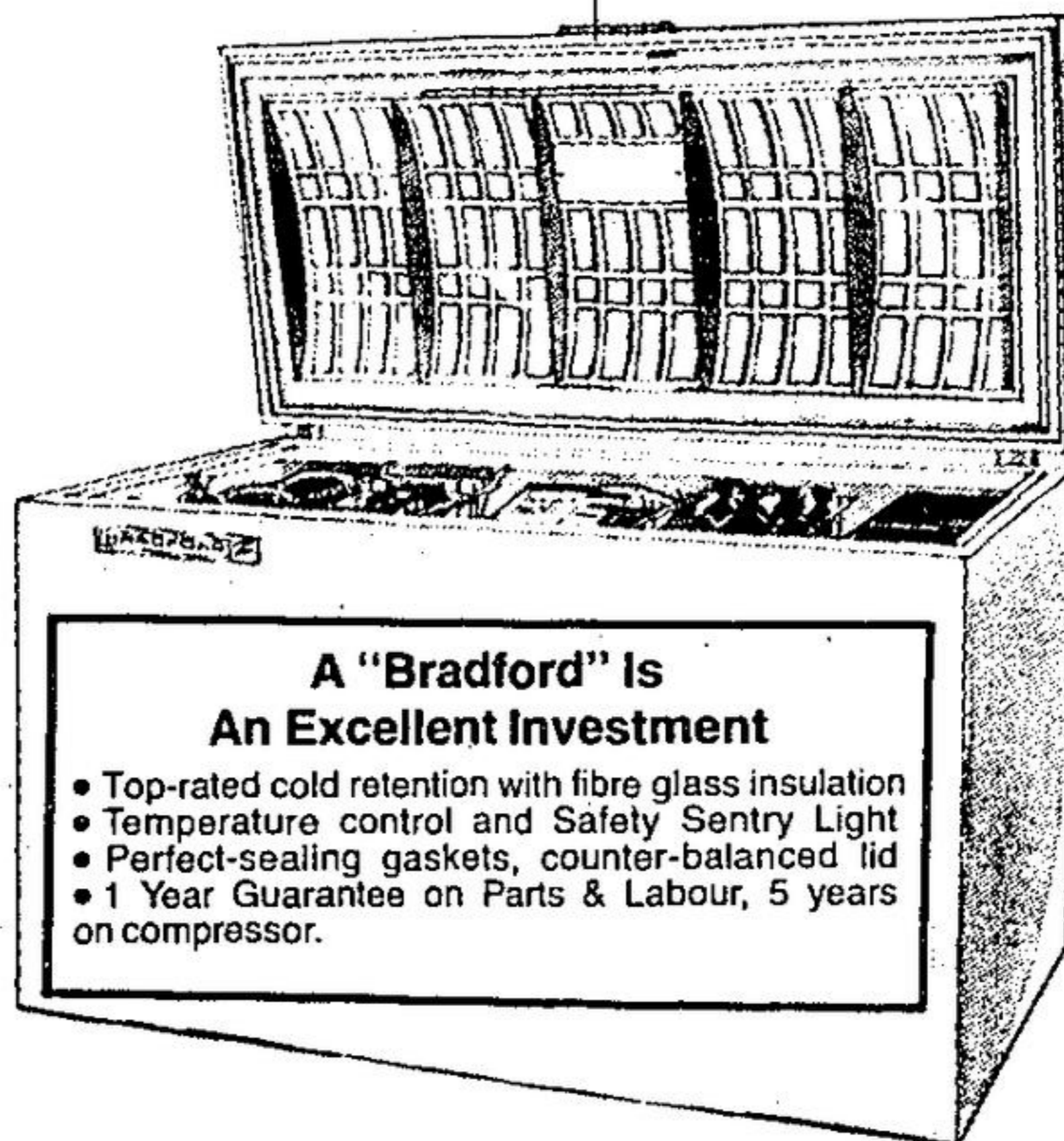
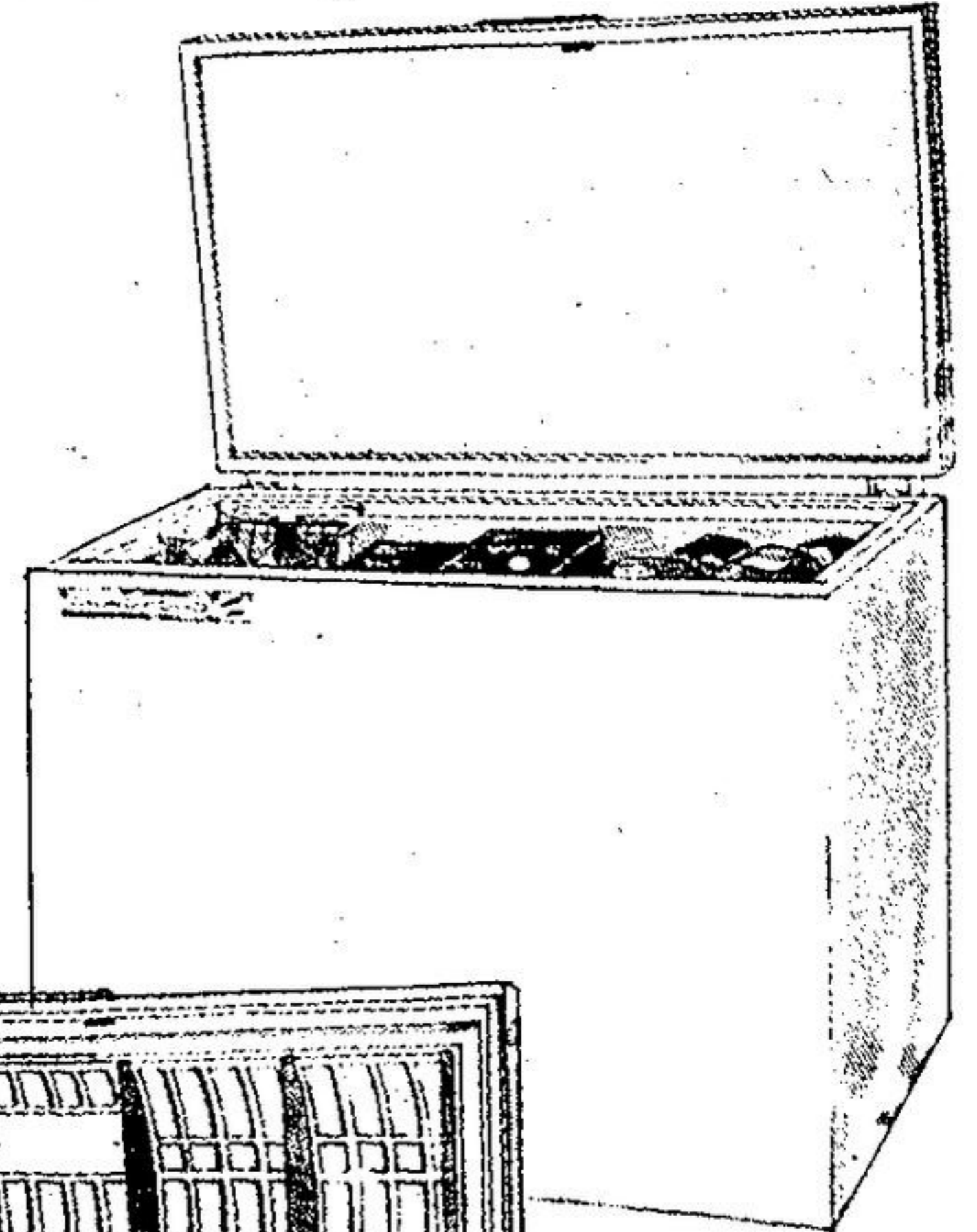
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