



Terry Griffiths, of Brampton, examined one of the wood burning stoves at a local store recently. Herald columnist Bob

Ollivier suggests in an article that wood burning stoves might be a possible solution to this winter's expected oil shortage. (Herald photo)

Wood more popular as fuel prices escalate

By R.C. (BOB) OLLIVIER
The Yule Log was just another piece of firewood, but the ceremony which accompanied it made it special. To make all your logs special, you need to choose them with care.

Heating oil and gas prices are soaring and more people are turning to wood-burning stoves for some relief. As an addendum to this article, there is a listing of various woods and their efficiency in terms of B.T.U.'s, British Thermal Units.

Old advice is often sound advice, and so it is with some kinds of wood: Beech and Chestnut must be aged at least one year. In fact, all wood for the fire should be aged or seasoned to removed the great quantities of water they contain. To dry or season your valuable wood, keep it off the ground and protect it from rain and snow, allowing air movement all round to speed drying.

A cord of wood should measure four feet by eight feet by four feet and the small, well-insulated home requires two cords per season, with the larger home requiring twice that amount.

Fire wood may be purchased from the advertisers in this newspaper, who offer various kinds of wood and one even sells kindling.

When buying your supply, ask if it is split for the price quoted, and what type of wood you will get. Another important aspect of your purchase is whether or not it will be delivered, or how much extra for that service.

Wood from old buildings is of poor quality for fires, and the low price is often not worth it. Some sellers may be offering this type of wood as regular fire wood; it's generally sold at the construction site in minimum lots of ten cords or more.

Prices for hardwood, the best type for a good fire, range from \$28, with an additional \$2 if you want it delivered and stacked in your garage.

Prices vary from \$28 to \$30, picked up, and \$10 for delivery, but possibly the wood is of better quality, so you must judge that for yourself.

For a bright, cheery fire, use birch, but don't expect it to last long; shy away from elm, it often burns cool (see chart) and contains much water. Rock Elm is a different species and may be the best of all, while the scent of an apple-wood fire can hardly be beaten.

What about the manufactured logs sold in your friendly grocery store? They burn well enough and have a multi-colored flame. Here is the "recipe" for making them yourself, and the savings may outweigh the satisfaction of doing-it-yourself.

Dissolve in plastic pail, one ounce of any of the following for colours: strontium nitrate (red), common salt (orange), Bismuth nitrate (crimson), antimony chloride (blue), barium nitrate (green), borax (green), potassium chloride (purple).

Soak newspaper after tightly rolling them and tying. Leave them until they soak up as much solution as possible, and use rubber gloves when handling. Pile logs loosely in a sunny location with lots of air flow and cover to keep rain and snow off them. The drying may take several months so start now for next year's fire.

Okay, how to burn that tree in the most efficient manner. To find out about the new breed of wood-burning fireplaces and stoves, I went to the Hot Bed on Mill Street in Georgetown. Chris Millington was full of answers to the questions I had, and even supplied me with a recent Consumer's Report on wood stoves. Chris emphasized that the correct information is supplied with each stove and they will even do an on-site inspection to determine the best location for your new stove.

The Lakewood stove, made in Bobcageon, scored high in the Consumer's report, yet there may be a two to four-week waiting period. The chimney however, could be started sooner.

The cost of the chimney, by the way, including installation, will be saved in the first two years of use.

If you like the esthetic aspect of a nice fire, then leave the doors open and put the screen in place, and by careful placing of your unit, the warm air will be drawn into your regular

furnace through the return air vent, if the fan is left on continuous running.

After installing your unit, your insurance company should be notified as a standard measure, and visit the fire department to pick up a free book on wood-burning fireplaces and stoves. In this way, you will forego some of the potential problems with advance knowledge.

Incorrect installation is the major source of fires in these units, and the problem of too low a temperature while burning causes the build-up of creosote, which is combustible when dry. There are products on the market to help eliminate this build-up and the endorsement of the Underwriters Laboratories means they are effective.

Chimney sweeps, of course, are always handy here in Halton, and with regular inspection of the flue, etc., you will not be added to the 30 call-outs this year alone for chimney fires.

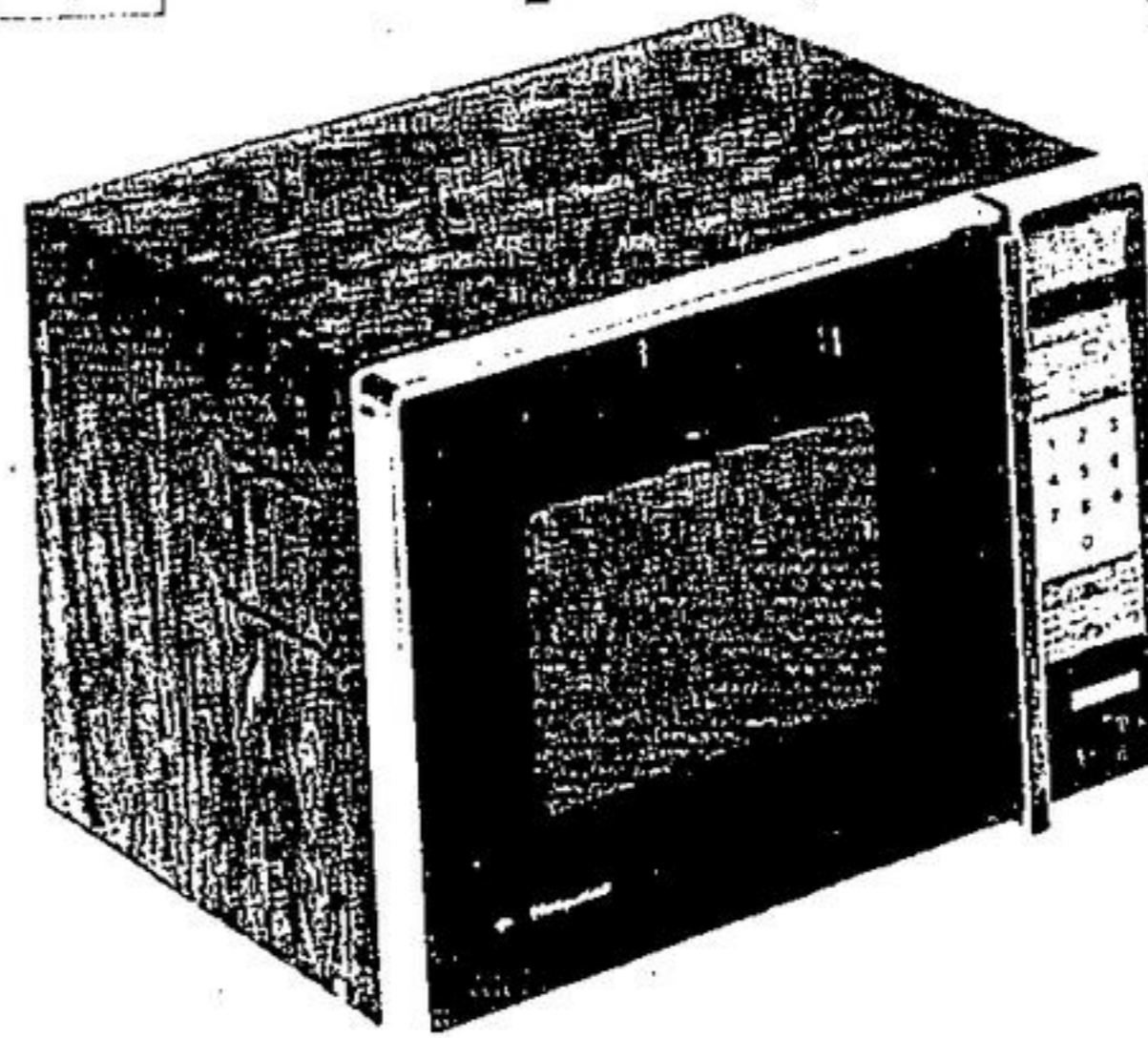
Wood list with BTU ratings:
Rock Elm 32,000,000 BTU
Sugar Maple 29 million

Beech	23,877,000
Hawthorne	23 million
White Oak	22,700,000
Yellow Birch	21,300,000
White Ash	20 million
White Birch	18,900,000
Hemlock	17,900,000
Elm	17,200,000
Balsam Fire	15,500,000

The above are all rated as a dry air cord. The Poplar, Aspens and Cottonwood all burn bright, hot and with little smoke if well-dried, so pick the one you think suits your needs and simply enjoy.

STILL TIME FOR SANTA

Hotpoint



ONLY 11 DAYS 'till Christmas

\$689

Microwave cooking is at your finger tips with this beauty. Features touch controls for programming meals, 3-cook functions-time cook, temp cook and automatic simmer, defrost function and digital countdown. Digital clock, 4-power levels. 1.3 cu. ft. capacity. Easy-to-follow, full color recipe book included.

GOODLET'S

86 Main St. S.

877-2551

Apply directly for 1980 grants

Social service agencies will be invited to make direct application to the region for grants in 1980, but the exact method of application has yet to be decided.

An amendment inviting the applications was passed after a lengthy two-hour discussion at last week's regional council meeting.

In previous years, many social service agencies approached both the area municipality and the region for funding.

The amendment was part of a package approved by council setting in motion the possibility of a regional United Way campaign.

One of the amendments supported a resolution from the town of Milton which approved, in principle only, the concept of a United Way campaign in Halton.

Council referred the procedural conditions, the special criteria conditions and the type of forms to be used for the applications to the health and social services committee for further study.

Council also approved an amendment referring all requests for grants from social agencies to the health and social services committee, prior to being presented to the administration and finance committee.

CORRECTION

In the Radio Shack advertisement in this publication on November 14, 1979, the French Continental telephone, 43-320, was incorrectly described as having "14K gold filigree". It should have read "gold-plated filigree". We apologize for any inconvenience this may have created for our customers.

Radio Shack
THE DIVISION, TANDY ELECTRONICS LIMITED

CORRECTION NOTICE

Due to an error on the part of Miracle Food Mart, the following advertisement which appeared in our insert today on page 2 was incorrect.

Schneiders Old Fashioned Ham
3 lb. average. \$3.28.

This should have read
\$3.28 per lb.

Miracle Food Mart regrets any inconvenience this may have caused our customers



Joe Scibilia



Merry Christmas

Frank & Joe and all the staff at the Georgetown Fruit Market wish everyone the

Happiest Season ever!



Frank Cuzzupe

<p>USA No. 1 Head Lettuce Reg. 79¢ 2 For \$1</p>	<p>Ont. No. 1 Cabbage 3 For \$1</p>	<p>Sweet, Seedless SUNKIST Oranges 39¢ Lb.</p>
<p>Ontario Fancy RED DELICIOUS Apples 5 Lbs. \$1 Reg. \$1.89</p>	<p>Ont. No. 1 Turnips 3 For \$1</p>	<p>SWEET Tangerines 3 Lb. \$1</p>
<p>Huge selection of Scotch Pine & Spruce Christmas Trees</p>	<p>Ont. No. 1 Potatoes 10 Lb. Bag Reg. 89¢ 59¢</p>	<p>Poinsettias \$4.99 Each</p>

GEORGETOWN FRUIT MARKET

140 GUELPH ST.

We are Open Sundays

877-8882