

# Assessed industry up 77% - region

The year 1979 produced a bumper crop of new industrial-commercial development in Halton region - 77 per cent more than in 1978 and far more than any other year in history, according to the region's business development officer.

In the final quarterly report for the year, circulated last week, Bill Marshall cited \$58,653,558 worth of building permits issued across the region last year for new commercial and industrial ventures. Of that amount, he reported, more than \$5 million worth were issued in Halton Hills.

While the vast majority of new assessment in 1979 was directed to Burlington and Oakville (Milton's new Canada Valve plant pushed that town's assessment to nearly \$8 million), Halton Hills benefited from the location here of Hayes-Dana and Nafcon plants.

Also contributing to Halton Hills' industrial-commercial coffers last year were the expansion of Cercor on Mountainview Road, Unilock's new storage building and plant addition, Servco Refractories' industrial warehouse in Acton, the Cherrytree Developments industrial building at Georgetown's Guelph-Delrex intersection and the convention-administration centre under construction on Georgetown's northern boundary by the International Bible Students Association.

The sale announced last week of five industrial acres to A. Berger Precision Ltd. was preceded in 1979 by two similar allocations on Armstrong Avenue, while Nafcon Corporation Ltd. moved into the old Domtar plant to pursue its plastics recycling business.

Mr. Marshall uses the latest report to plug the availability of rail-serviced industrial land in Acton, where water, sewer and gas services are ready for use by an investor looking for 40 acres or more "at the lowest price".

The report also provides a shopper's comparison of monthly hydro rates in Halton and three other nearby regions. Using Milton rates as a guide, Mr. Marshall demonstrates that Halton's general commercial-industrial consumers pay an average of \$150 per month for 10 kilowatt-hours, compared to \$159 in Mississauga, \$160 in Cambridge and \$235 in Hamilton.

In the ascending scale, 1,000 kilowatt-hours demand over 500,000 kilowatt-hours would cost about \$11,152 here, \$12,000 in Cambridge, \$12,473 in Mississauga and \$10,210 in Hamilton.

## Grit's scheme under attack

By PAUL BARKER  
Herald Special  
Brampton-Georgetown MP John McDermid has accused the Liberal government of taking Canadians "farther to the left" following last week's throne speech from Ottawa.

Prime Minister Trudeau and his Liberal party officially returned to power last week after an absence of less than a year. A highly critical John McDermid described the speech as vague especially on the government's plans to solve the problem of high mortgage rates.

The government says it will act to assist those unable to carry extra costs involved with a renewed mortgage but to date hasn't indicated exactly what action will be taken.

Mr. McDermid also lashed out at the government's plan to establish a "made in Canada" oil price.


"Ours (the former Tory government) was made in Canada price too which was also way below the world price. I don't know how they're going to keep it at that price without making Canadians pay for it in the future," he said.

Mr. McDermid's few words of praise centered around the government's plans to remove criminal penalties for simple possession of marijuana and introduce a freedom of information act.

"I'm not a supporter of drugs of any kind but I feel moving it to the Food and Drug Act is a step in the right direction. It'll work as long as the fines are of a significant nature that will teach a lesson," he said.

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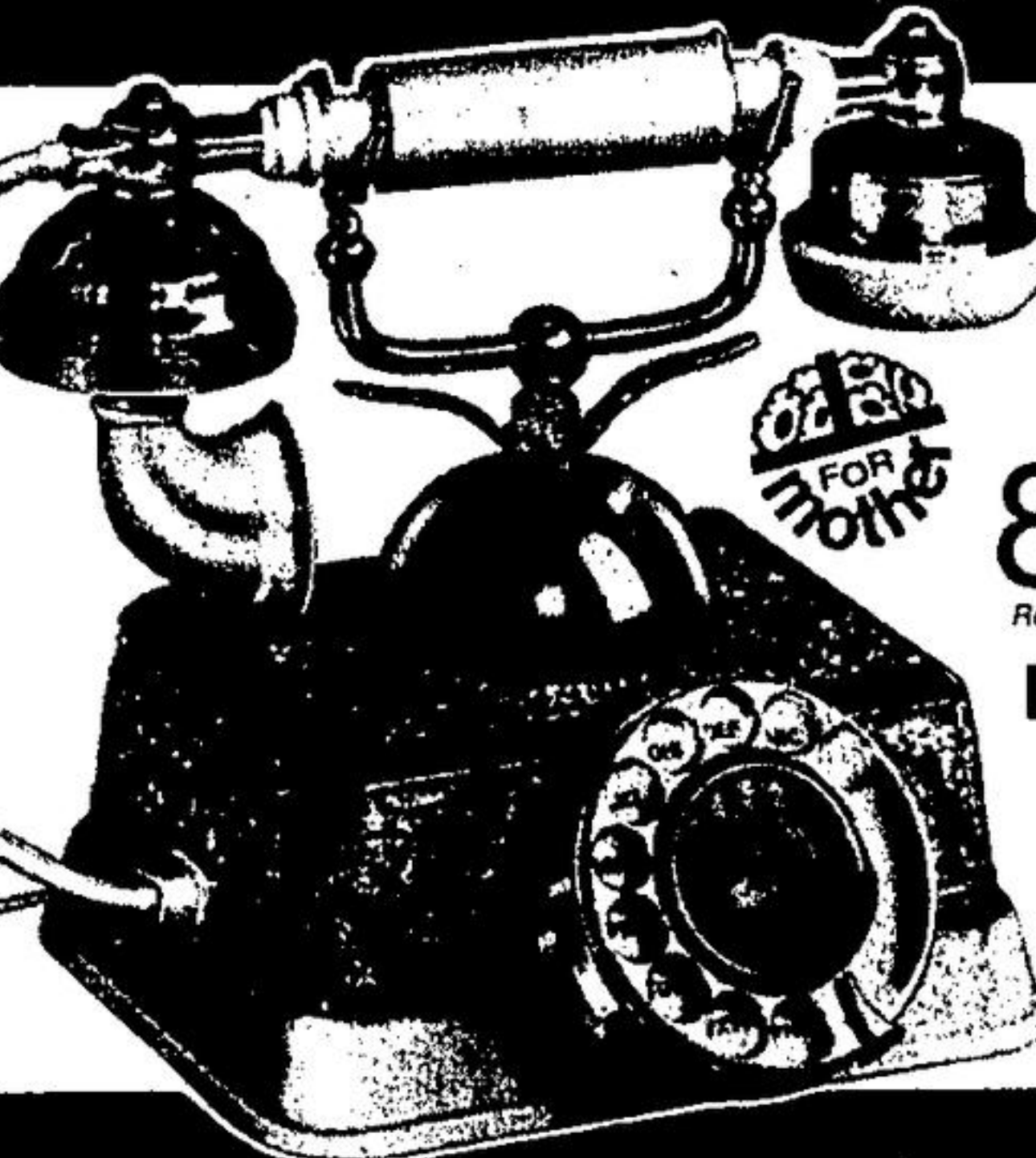
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