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Friday, October 16, 1981 - Page 1

Did Hydro stack latest corridor study in its favor?



NORTHERN STYLE
 Landscape painter and ceramicist Jennifer Chanter-Colby displays some of the work which has won her praise from Gallery House-Sol proprietor John Sommer. Her landscape paintings and ceramic work indicate how she has been affected by the intimate and quiet surroundings of Northumberland County, the theme of her exhibit at House Sol, which continues until Oct. 22. (Herald photo)

By MAGGIE HANNAH
Herald Special
 Ontario Hydro deliberately contacted groups with no knowledge of farming to pass judgment on their proposed new hydro transmission corridor to London so the decision would not be weighted in favor of the farm community, a Hydro spokesman said Tuesday.

McDermid task force underlines labor woes

Herald Special
 Hundreds of thousands of Canadians will remain unemployed while skilled jobs go to foreigners or go unfilled unless there are major reforms in the education and job-training systems, MPs from all parties said in a report Tuesday.

Mr. McDermid was responding to charges by John Schneider and Gordon Kidd, former members of the Interested Citizens Group which fought Hydro's Bruce-to-Milton 500 Kilovolt corridor, who claimed representatives didn't know what they were discussing and leaned heavily towards the

advice on jobs to young people. Warren Allmand, the Montreal Liberal MP who headed the parliamentary study, said they found a "rather scandalous" lack of co-operation in implementing billions of dollars worth of education and job training in recent years.

views Hydro wanted accepted. Mr. Schneider charged over the weekend that Hydro had not proved a need for any line yet they wanted approval from the public on one of the six routes proposed.

about full employment we are not talking about the difference if that goal is not reached. The objection to the payroll Continued on Page 2

didn't seem to be aware, or they didn't care, how the decisions they approved for Hydro would totally disrupt the lives on farms the lines will eventually cross.

Mr. McDermid said he was surprised at the charges. "I thought it was well understood from the beginning that we had deliberately gone to people besides farmers so that we'd get all the trade offs on the table for discussion."

three-to-four year program, said Mr. McDermid, and it would be impossible to work it out so the farm community could always be accommodated.

Mr. McDermid said the meetings were only part of the whole process and had been deliberately scheduled for the summer so the environmental hearings could be set during the winter when farmers could be present. The entire process is a

give you long, involved, technical answers on how the system planning has changed."

Mr. McDermid refused to explain any environmental changes when The Mercury again posed the question. He said it was a matter of the ICG wanting Bruce to Barrie instead of Bruce to Milton. Hydro now agrees Bruce to Barrie could be necessary but only as an addition, not a replacement, of the Bruce to Milton line.

the environment but the potential impact on the overall environment was greater in a couple of other routes. If the Bruce to Barrie line is not approved it is possible another line may have to be installed at a future date to link Claireville to Barrie, said Mr. Kidd, to provide power north of Barrie.

Mr. McDermid said the matter or providing power to northwestern Ontario will have to be dealt with separately from the present hearings. He speculated work on expansion won't happen this year, but "could begin next year."

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HAWK HOP
 There are still some seats available for the Ronnie Hawkins show at the library-cultural centre Tuesday night, but you've got to act fast if you want to save money. The Hawk will be in town for two shows, one starting at 7 and the other at 9:30 p.m. Advance tickets are \$10 apiece, but if you choose to pay at the door, they're \$12.50 each. For ticket information, call the town office at 877-5185 and ask for extension 19 or 60.

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