

Stillborn twins

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Georgetown hospital could provide, but he thought there was sufficient medical services in the hospital.

As the years went by, Dr. Ford said he realized there was a lack of facilities at Georgetown to handle certain cases so he began transferring patients more frequently.

Asked why he didn't transfer that patient, Dr. Ford said at that stage of pregnancy a case is often given the "runaround" because of the limited number of beds available.

A transfer "may well have affected your OHIP bills," said Mr. Liswood.

Dr. Ford became visibly upset at Mr. Liswood's comment and he did

not respond to the question.

When the woman was in her 29th week of pregnancy Dr. Ford received a phone call at his Brampton home at 4 a.m. from a nurse at the hospital saying she had "one or two contractions."

Dr. Ford ordered the nurse to give the patient the pain killer Demerol and the contractions stopped, he said.

Knowing the woman's history and upon hearing that she had contractions "should not a reasonable practitioner have gone to the hospital?" Mr. Liswood asked.

Dr. Ford said the situation described by the nurse indicated it was probably a "Braxton-Hicks" contraction which is not a labor con-

traction. A Braxton-Hicks contraction is a uterine contraction, Dr. Ford said.

He said he arrived at the hospital about 6 a.m.

The doctor said if he went to the hospital every time a patient had contractions "I certainly wouldn't have any type of life at all."

Asked if he thought of transferring the patient to Peel Memorial Hospital which has better facilities in case the woman was in labor Dr. Ford replied: "In the face of what I saw...there was no doubt in my mind that I could not transfer that patient anyway."

"In this case it was totally unreasonable to administer Demerol if you were contemplating that she may have been in labor," said Mr. Liswood. Mr. Liswood continued, Demerol would only depress the twins if she were to deliver then.

Dr. Ford said there is an antidote disagree with you totally," said Dr. Ford for the effects of Demerol. "I Ford.

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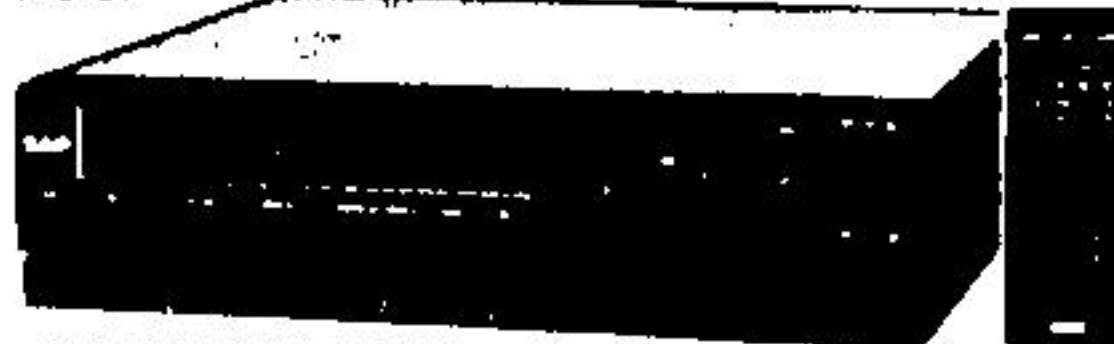


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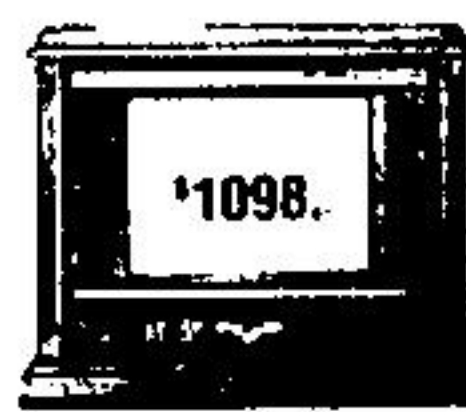
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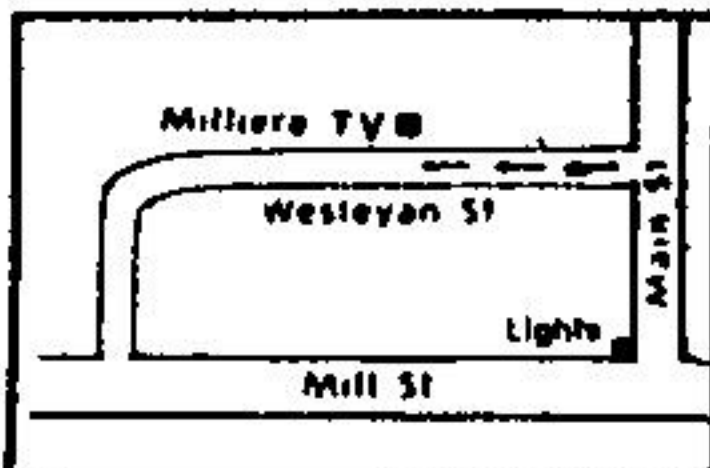


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