

# Credit Valley School of Nursing

Nursing education takes on a new look at the modern \$3,000,000 Credit Valley School of Nursing, which was officially opened Saturday.

The nursing students still live in residence near the classrooms, they still carry bedpans and make up beds, and they still graduate as registered nurses to head into hospital careers. But there, any similarity to nursing training of 15, 20 or 30 years ago, ends.

Today they learn in modern, colorful school buildings. They are no longer just bedmakers or ward aides. They spend more time training in the sponsoring hospitals. And they learn.

One of 73 schools of nursing in Ontario, Credit Valley School is a regional school—a new concept developed in 1965 to relieve the tremendous shortage of registered nurses. There are presently 25 of these regional schools serving urban areas where there is not one hospital large enough to have its own nursing school.

Credit Valley is affiliated with five area hospitals, Milton District Hospital, Oakville-Trafalgar Memorial in Oakville, Brampton Hospital, Georgetown District Hospital and South Peel Memorial, Cooksville. Throughout their first two years of training, the student nurses obtain practical training at these five hospitals to supplement their classroom training, and in their third year they intern at one of the five hospitals.

Across the province, regional schools are expected to be graduating 5,000 nurses annually by 1970.

The new building at 2186 Hurontario St. in Mississauga (formerly Port Credit) was not ready for use when Credit Valley opened its first classes in September of 1968. There were 60 students, including three men and classes were held in a nearby church with the administrative and teaching staff working out of offices in South Peel Hospital. Church facilities included three rooms—an auditorium for lectures and group discussions, a kitchen used for noon lunches, and laboratory work, and a third room set up as a library. Students either commuted or found rooms in nearby homes.

## Modern school at Mississauga serves small hospitals in five municipalities

The new school opened for classes on March 17 of this year, although the residence floors were incomplete. The ground floor contains classrooms, seminar rooms, staff conference room, science lab and library plus a large auditorium. The main floor is administration area, and above it rise two towers, one 11 stories and one nine stories, utilized for the nurses' residences.

A pink, mauve and orange color scheme is effectively used throughout, to take away the usual institution look. Irregular shaped concrete walls and colorful drapes complement the vivid color scheme. And the nurses just love their building. "It was quite a change, after that church" said Shirl Parsons, one of the Milton students attending. Residences are 90 per cent single rooms, built on a split

level design for maximum comfort and intimacy. Small groups of students use common facilities such as washroom, lounge, laundry and kitchenette. The top floor has a music room and games room used by all the students.

Credit Valley is designed to accommodate 300 students at a time, or a maximum enrolment of 150 students per year. At present there are just over 150 enrolled. They come from Halton and Peel Counties plus Toronto, Kitchener, London, Whitby, Belleville, Hamilton, Niagara Falls, Orillia and Buffalo.

Three Milton girls are second year students at CVSN—Shirl Parsons and Mrs. Judy Harkmark of Milton and Nancy Robertson of Hornby. Cari Kovachik, Milton is a first year student.

hospital-type beds, a tiered lecture room seating 150, a 25-sink laboratory and a well stocked library which is open 24 hours a day.

Miss Oressa Hubbert, director, came to Credit Valley after serving as associate director of St. Joseph's School of Nursing in London. She has an M.A. degree from Western University and earlier taught nursing five years.

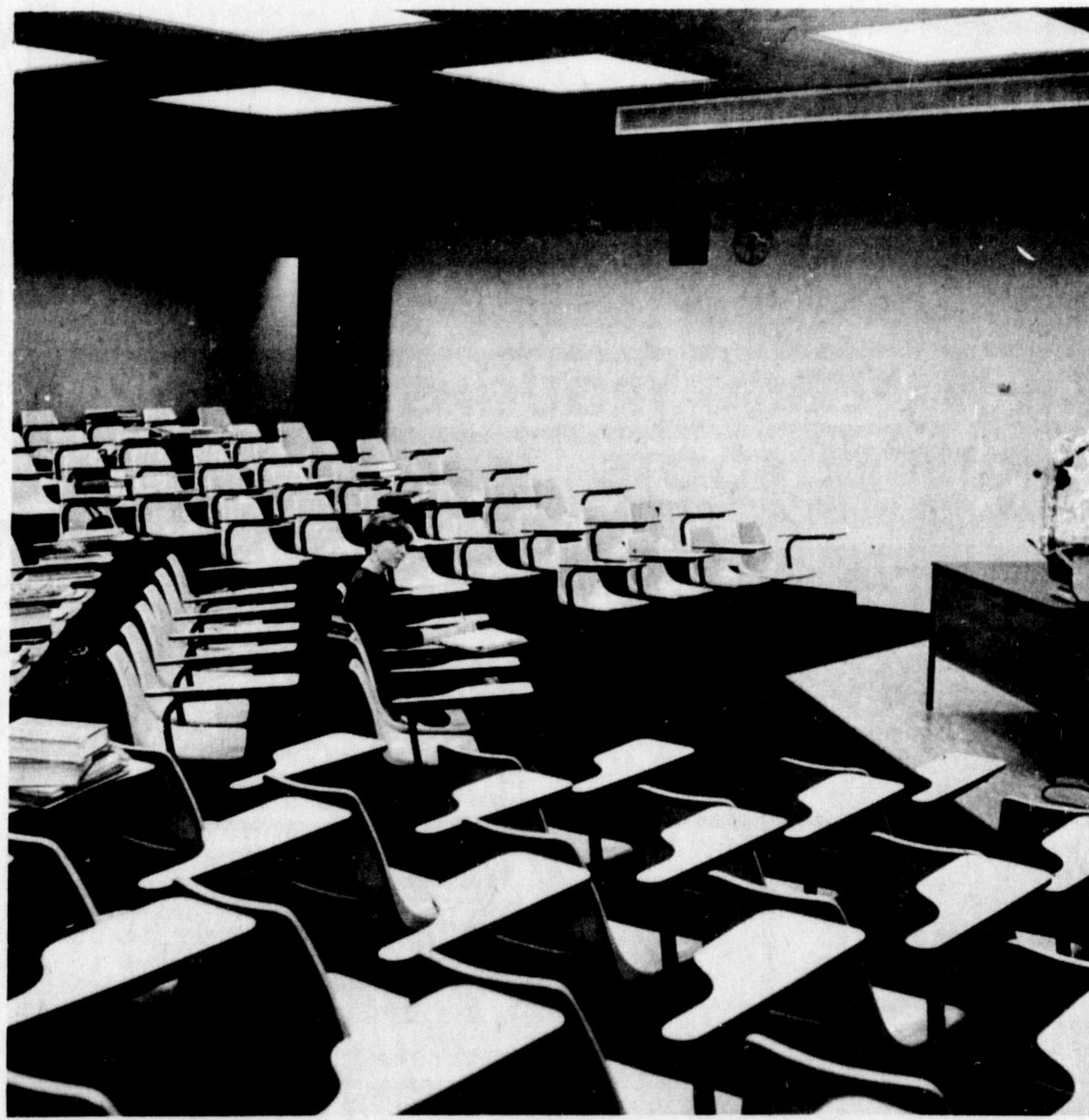
The board of directors operating CVSN comprises representatives from the five area hospitals. John Ostler is one of Milton District Hospital's delegates, and he presently serves as vice-chairman of the board. The other local member is Dr. C. A. Martin, chairman of the finance committee.

Classes run from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. five days a week. Eventually the school will have 30 instructors, a 1-10 ratio. The school has a demonstration room containing 10



CREDIT VALLEY SCHOOL OF NURSING in Mississauga is an impressive modern building, training students for careers as registered nurses with the support of Milton District Hospital and four other area hospitals. ABOVE, local students Nancy Robertson of Hornby and Shirl Parsons of

Milton are pictured at the front of the 11 storey building. CENTRE, a view of the modern furniture and display area of the school's library. BELOW, another Milton student Mrs. Judy Harkmark sits in the large auditorium which seats 150.—(Staff Photos)



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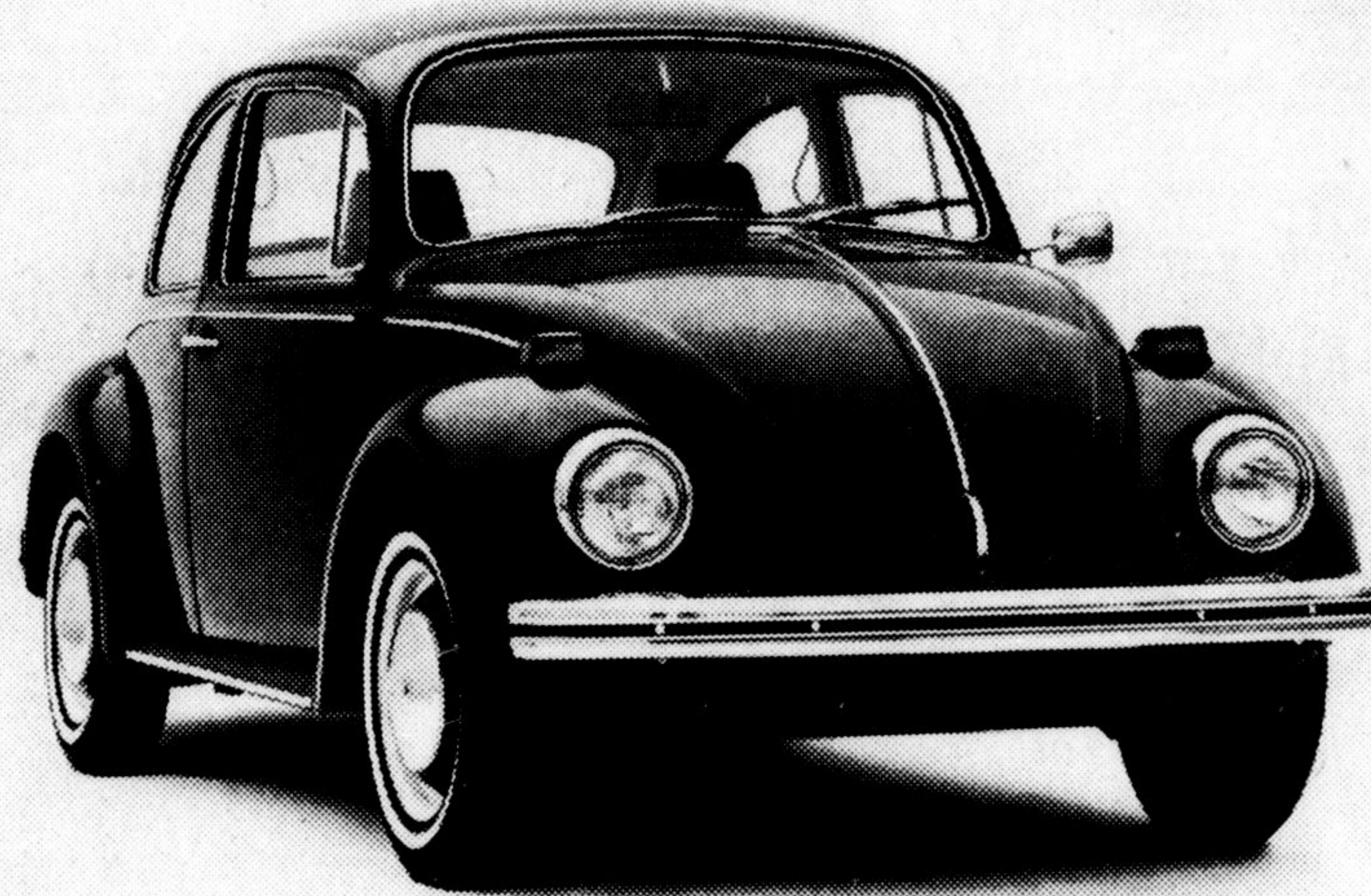
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