

OUR READERS WRITE:

CONSERVE BUILDINGS TOO

Dear Sir,
To-day most people consider conservation important, but they relate this word mainly to the land, its flora and fauna. Rightly we have become conscious that our countryside is an important heritage, and one which must be preserved for our children and future generations.

The preservation of old buildings is another area of conservation, equally important, but one which has not aroused sufficient public reaction for definite policies to be made.

Tragically we are apathetic about our fine old buildings. "Tear them down"; "the value of the land is more important" - "too expensive to restore" - "it's just an old building" - these are some of the casual and thoughtless remarks one hears, and because of the might of the dollar, and public apathy, buildings which are historically important from a social and architectural aspect are destroyed.

These buildings have an equal place in importance in the program of conservation.

At the present time some attention is focused on the future of Bruce St. School. Here is a place to start, in the preservation of our local history—but unless action is taken now, apathy will lose vs. this building forever.

There is an old and true proverb which says "where there's a will there's a way." Is there enough will in this community to fight for the preservation of Bruce St. School? I think there is, if everyone starts to think about what they could be losing.

Yours sincerely,
"Conservationist."

TRAGEDY TO TEAR IT DOWN

Dear Sirs,
I am responding to your invitation to help save the Bruce St. School from destruction.

I am an ex-naval officer and a fairly recent Halton County resident, having purchased from Stanley Brown in 1965 the original Scottish settlement farm north of the Chudleigh apple tree nursery on Highway 25. The house was built a century ago by James Duff who settled in the Scotch Block in about 1826, we are told. We have made considerable progress in restoring the old stone house and have named it "Duff House" after Mr. Duff.

My wife and I are very much personally involved in trying to stop the forces that would destroy the history of Canada, especially when this makes no sense. Many buildings, streams, trees, etc., can be preserved to make a contribution to the atmosphere of a modern development which eludes the architect or builder. The interest shown in Halton County in this sort of endeavor is most encouraging and I believe that the old county town of Milton can still be an example to Ontario in modern development and expansion while retaining that which is worthwhile. I have enjoyed 'The Champion's Looks Into the Past' and particularly the description of the early houses.

In my opinion the Bruce St. School could be a focal point in Milton. It is ideally located and with proper landscaping it will make an excellent public office or library. The walls appear to be sound and I am certain that restoration is economically feasible. It would be a tragedy to tear it down. The bell and cairn in no way could fill such a gap.

Having not heard the arguments for and against, I find it difficult to uncover a plausible reason for its destruction.

Another building of greater architectural significance whose future seems uncertain is the old Harrop stone farmhouse on Steeles Ave. This house is one of the finest examples of an early Ontario farmhouse I have seen. It is in a good location, has an original slate roof and the massive pine work particularly in the drawing room or parlor as it might have been called is outstanding. I sincerely hope that Mr. Day is successful in arranging for its future.

If 'The Champion' or one of its readers has any suggestions where I might help to preserve either of these buildings I will be most happy to offer my services.

Yours very truly,
Peter C. Berry.

PRESERVE HISTORIC SCHOOL

Dear Mr. Dills:

I would like to see the Bruce St. School building, and site, preserved, because I think we should preserve some of our older buildings, such as this historic school, where so many of us attended, and have happy memories. The walls, I am sure, will still be standing when some of the buildings now going up so quickly are gone.

The building could be used for a library, administration centre, or town museum, and the grounds for a park.

Sincerely,
Phoebe L. Crawford,
366 Pine St., Milton

USE SCHOOL FOR YOUTH CENTRE

Dear Sir:

I wonder if these people who are pushing for an "Art Gallery" or "Museum" at the site of the old Bruce St. School know what they are doing to the youth of Milton? With them in such dire need of facilities to give them some place to enjoy themselves, it would be a catastrophe to use this priceless property for an art gallery or museum (which I might say is even not worth voting for in a town that is so close to Hamilton and Toronto where there are these two things.)

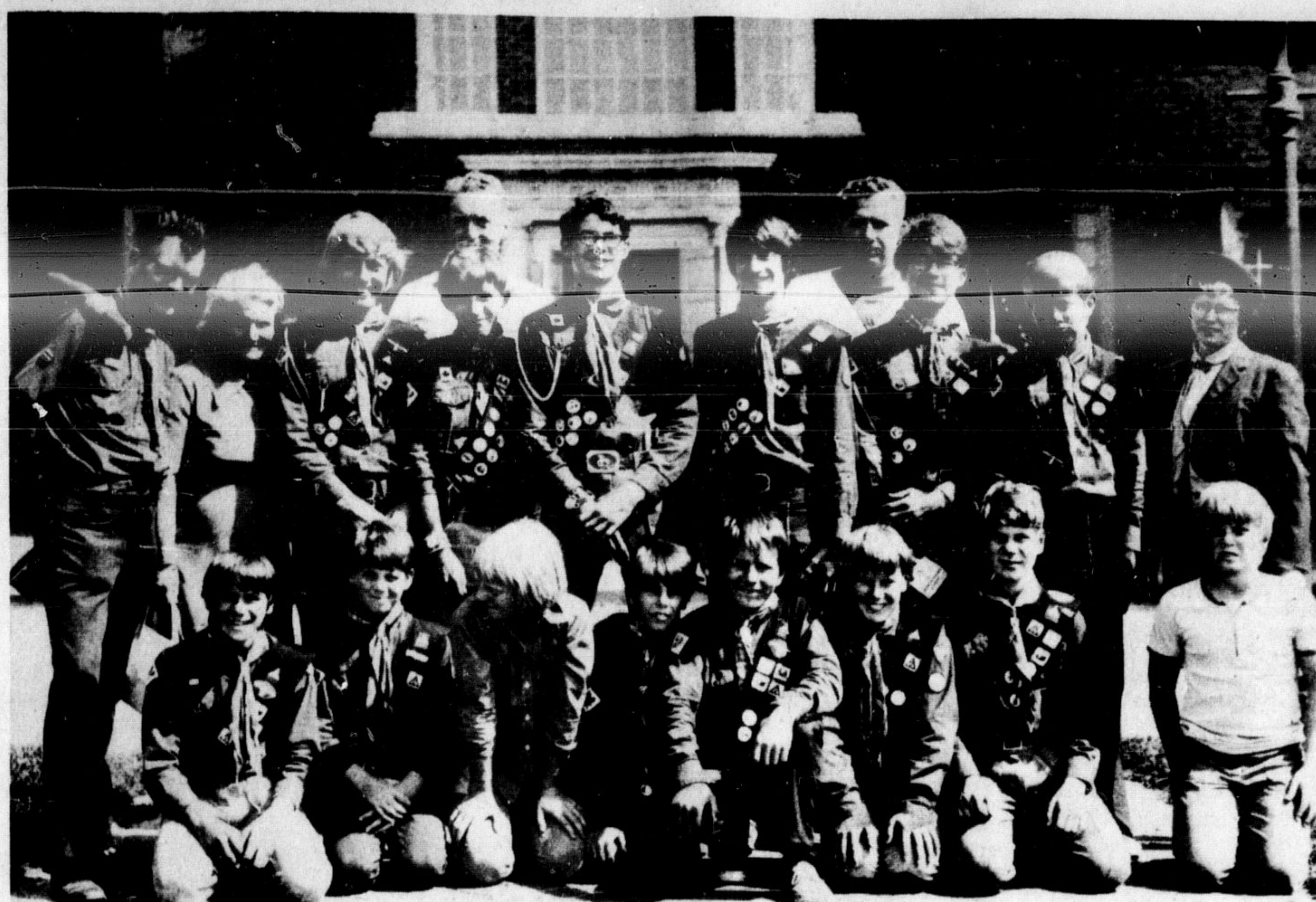
You think there is vandalism in town now, but you can imagine the hostility around here if we ignored our youths' needs to satisfy some adult pleasure? Art is fine; we all love beautiful paintings, and a museum is fine in its place as we all enjoy looking at things of the by-gone days. But I can't see this property being used as such.

I understand Milton Police need new quarters. Why not let them have a portion of it, then they will be centrally located. It seems there are not too many parents interested in a youth centre for Milton or at least they are not rooting for one. I'm afraid if the art lovers and museum fanatics get their way, Milton will have to spend a fortune keeping it well guarded 24 hours a day to keep it from being vandalized by kids who have nothing to do with their time and no place to go after school's out. I feel it would be a waste of land and the school building itself to turn it into something Milton does not need.

Let's get down to some serious thought about this problem and come to a sensible solution as to who is going to benefit the most on this deal. I prefer to think that Milton as a really smart town will think of all the future generations coming along and will want something more for them to find pleasure in than just looking at pictures and relics.

I just don't think everyone is interested in these things and I feel there are more important projects to be looked at, at this time, when we need so many other uses for this land. I agree with Miss Waldie—let's make it a recreational centre for the whole town to enjoy. Let's not lose this deal too, as we have lost others.

Yours truly,
Mrs. Edith Sharpe,
429 Pearl St., Milton



FOURTEEN BOYS accompanied by chief Scoutmaster Paul Hicks from the 5th Milton Scout Troop recently visited the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village in Detroit. Two

patrols were selected for the trip when they were tied for a competition. The boys camped at Holiday Beach Provincial Park. They are shown here in front of Henry Ford Museum. Left to right in the back row: Willis Day, Dave Richardson. Second row from back: Jim Gilbert, Mrs. Gilbert, Brian Placido, Ross Clarke, Ken Richardson, Mark Dills, Glen Akema, Kevin Blacklock and Ione Hicks. Front row: Bruce Best, Ken Cross, Doug Gilbert, Terry Aselton, Andrew Willoughby, David Doherty, Andy Bounsall, Wayne Day. Absent from photo was Scoutmaster Paul Hicks.

Work incentive program interest

Halton Region Conservation Authority may be taking part in a Halton County program designed to teach the chronically unemployed the fundamentals of finding and holding a job.

Halton County's Social and Family Services Department recently put forth a scheme to help welfare recipients learn the basics of finding a job. According to the outline of the plan the chronically unemployed might work for the Conservation

Authority. While working for the Authority, they could also receive counselling from such agencies as Canada Manpower and the Board of Education. Counsellors would teach such things as how to prepare for a job interview and how to find and secure employment.

Provincial aid

Halton County Council has given approval in principle to the plan, however implementation of the program hinges on provincial approval. Cost of the program would be borne by the province and the county on an 80-20 ratio.

Only expense to participating bodies, such as the HRCA, would be the cost of supervising the men.

Last week Halton Region Conservation Authority's executive agreed to take part, in principle. "We have to wait until all the details are ironed out," says HRCA general manager, Murray Stephen.

Halton County Council still has to okay the final plan.

No bazaar this fall

On Wednesday Sept. 13 afternoon A.C.W. of St. George's Church met at the home of Mrs. L. Jay. The meeting opened with the Order of service read by Mrs. Reg Twist, the president. Mrs. Mount gave the Thought for the day.

During the business session the group decided not to have a bazaar this fall. The euchre party will begin again on Oct 10 at 8 p.m. An invitation was extended from the Evening Branch to join in viewing a picture on Iceland shown by Mrs. Foote at the church at 8.30 Sept. 21. They were asked to contribute to a bake sale in aid of the Sunday School.

A discussion took place in regard to the hangings for the altar. The deacony meeting is being held Oct. 3 in Bronte Church of Epiphany. Mrs. Dolbel thanked the hostess and lunch was served.

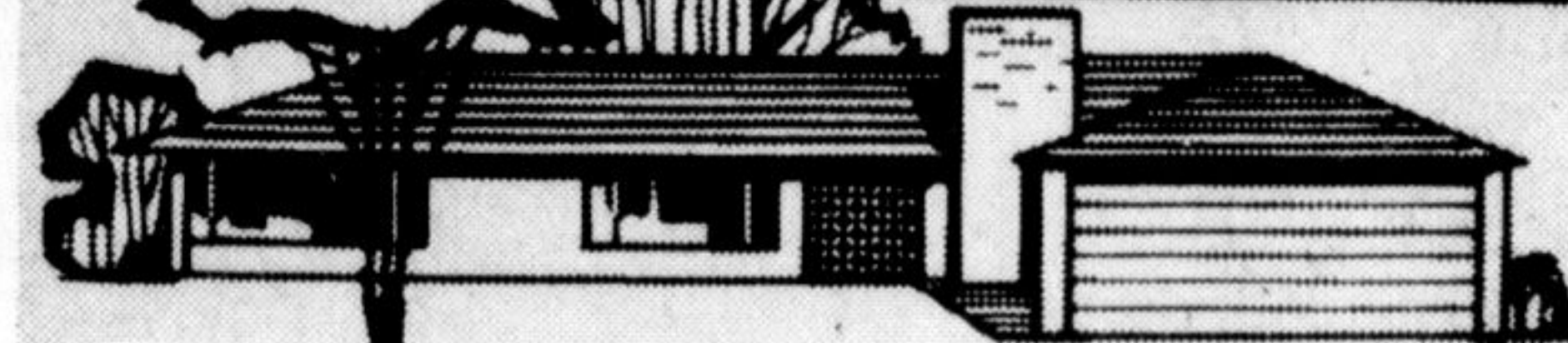
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Sheridan College registers 2,700

Twenty-seven hundred students have registered for daytime programs at Sheridan's three daytime campuses in Oakville, Brampton and Mississauga (School of Design).

Enrolment is up 500 from 1971-72 enrolment, and exceeds the 2,550 figure predicted by college officials last spring.

Registrar John Bromley said the increase was the largest the college had had in any one year,

and that the accelerating growth rate is due to the high quality of programs developed to meet students' needs, and to the close relationship between the college and the community.

Of the 2700 total, there are 1,977 full time and 45 part-time day students at Oakville campus; 491 full time and 17 part-time at Brampton campus; 163 full time and 4 part-time at Mississauga.

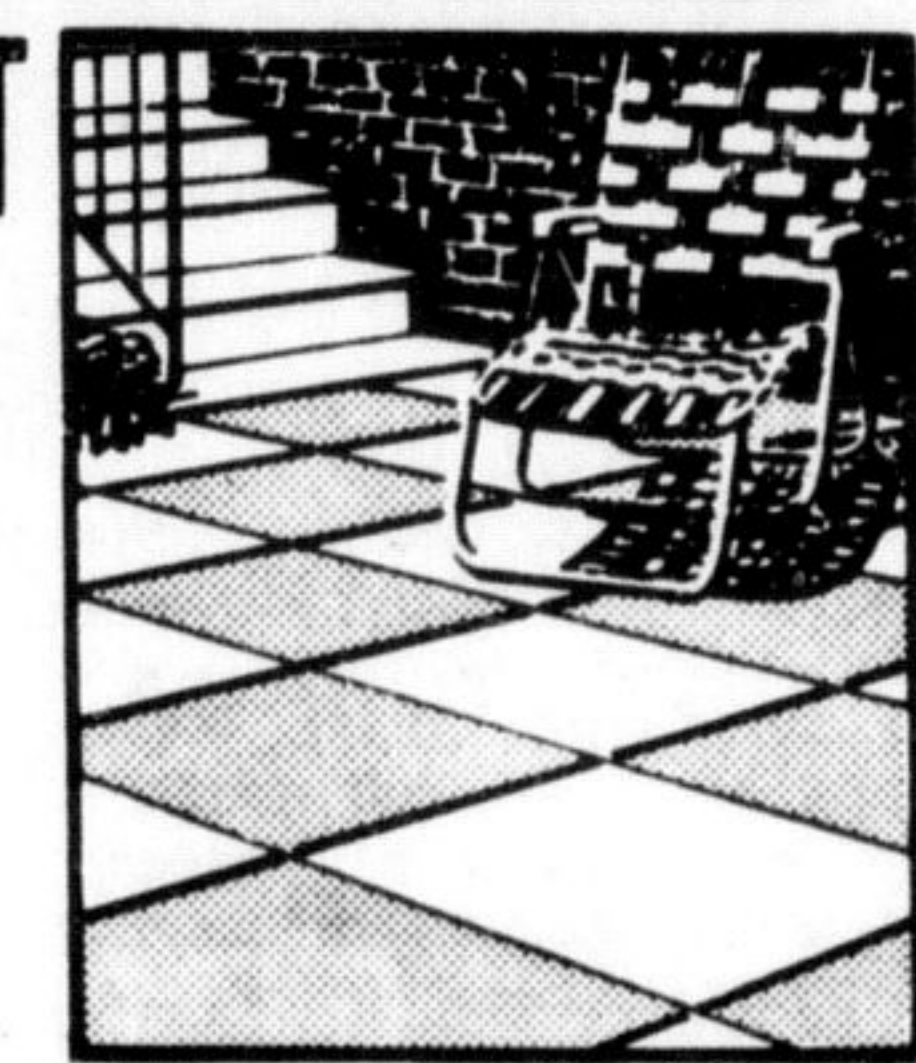
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All in all, September 22, 1972 should be quite a day for Canadians.



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