

The Canadian Champion

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MILTON, ONTARIO, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1974

Accept package worth \$1.70 hour

7-week PLR strike

Production resumed at the Milton plant of P. L. Robertson Manufacturing Co. Monday, following settlement of a 45-day strike last week. Wednesday the employees in Local 4970, United Steelworkers of America, voted 204-43 to accept the terms of a new two-year contract described as being worth \$1.70 an hour.

Ratification ended a "quiet" strike that had crippled the plant for almost seven weeks. Some of the 315 employees were called back to work Thursday and Friday and the remainder returned Monday. The new contract gives the workers

wage increases ranging from 75 to 89 cents in the first year plus an additional 60 to 69 cents in the second year, plus new and improved benefits estimated to be worth 16 cents in the first year, 28 cents in the second year.

\$4.75 to \$6.65 range
Base rate goes from \$3.40 to \$4.15 effective Sept. 28, 1974 and rises to \$4.75 in September 1975. The highest rate in the plant goes from a present \$5.06 to \$5.95 this year, \$6.65 next year.

Union president Peter Edge said the average worker in the plant is in job class

10, which was worth \$4.18 an hour last year. The 1974 rate is \$5.00 and the 1975 rate is \$5.65 for a total increase of \$1.46.

An increment of three-quarters of a cent was agreed upon. A further half cent will be added in the second year. New shift premiums will be 12 cents for second shift, 15 cents for third shift (midnights).

A 35 cent drug plan equivalent to Blue Cross will be introduced in January. Under this plan the employee pays 35 cents for each prescription. Before the new contract, single employees paid a maximum of \$25 a year and married employees \$50 a year.

Up sick pay
Weekly indemnity was increased \$10 to \$90 in the first year of the contract, \$100 in the second year, effective Dec. 1, 1974.

Described by the union president as "a major break-through with this company" was the new dental plan to be paid by the employees and administered by the company. It will cost single employees \$4.37 a month, married employees \$9.43 a month. Life insurance was raised from \$5,000 to \$7,000.

The company will pay \$5 toward replacement of prescription safety glasses once a year. An employee's or spouse's grandparents were added to the list of bereavements allowable for a day off with pay. The Blue Cross plan was altered to ensure semi-private coverage for all employees.

Union demand Two foremen return

Two salaried foremen who lost their jobs at P. L. Robertson Manufacturing during the latter part of the 45-day strike have been reinstated by the company, although both were taken back as hourly-paid workers and as part of the union bargaining unit.

Union officials said the two men were fired when they refused to run plant machinery during the strike. Company personnel manager Jack Horn said the men were "laid off."

At Wednesday's meeting where the union members voted 204-43 to ratify the proposed two-year contract and return to work, they also voted unanimously to reject the company offer and remain on strike unless the two foremen were reinstated. Once the ratification vote was taken and the results were known, the union's negotiators visited the company and obtained an assurance the two men would be allowed back to work.

Homeowners face gov't hydro land purchases

MPP Jim Snow was caught in the cross-fire Wednesday night as residents packed Boyne Community Centre to hear the fate of their homes and property as a result of the hydro transmission lines and two transformer stations to be built in this area.

At the request of Mayor Anne MacArthur the meeting was conducted by the Ontario Ministry of Government Services, the ministry responsible to hydro for the purchase of land here.

As MPP for Halton East and Minister of Government Services, Jim Snow was the target for angry and disillusioned residents. No matter how smoothly or concisely Herb Spence, a representative of the ministry's realty services branch, tried to outline the government's proposals for the acquisition of land, the residents repeatedly attacked Mr. Snow.

Referring to the contentious Parkway Belt legislation as "an embarrassment to me," MPP Snow fielded questions during the evening as to a fair settlement for land frozen since June, 1973 as a result of the proposed greenbelt area.

Landowners were told they have three options when approached within the next few weeks by a government property agent. They can sell out completely, sell only the property needed for the hydro right-of-way, or grant an easement.

The greatest concern by the residents was that they would not receive a fair appraisal for their land and also that because of the greenbelt legislation hanging in the balance, their property has remained in a state of suspended animation since June, 1973. Settlement for properties purchased would not be made by the government until May, 1975. This is interpreted by landowners as a two year freeze.

Fourth option
Milton Councillor Don Gordon suggested a fourth option of settlement. He would like the government to offer an acre for an acre and a home for a home. "You can't put a dollar value on our way of life," Gordon said. "When the province has just purchased over 2,000 acres of land-banking, surely they can find land and houses for these people."

Snow dismissed his suggestions as "unworkable" and said all benefits residents are entitled to under the expropriations act would be given to landowners. "We would prefer to pay fair value and a couple of hydro towers won't stop farming," he said. There are seven houses that will be affected by the lines and transformer station.

There was applause from the gathering as a representative of Framgart Holdings suggested the land should be compensated for at current market value. He was countered by Snow who said the land today is not selling (Continued on Page 17)



COUNCILLOR DON GORDON asks a home for a home and an acre for an acre to those whose property will be taken for the hydro lines and station soon to be under construction in Milton.

Boyne Community Centre was filled to overflowing Wednesday night as disillusioned landowners listened to the fate of their property.

Johnson tells press

Put dump on Highway 5

Halton Region should be looking at two potential landfill sites on Highway 5 and abandon a recommended site near Ashgrove, according to Bill Johnson.

Johnson said sites at Highway Five and Trafalgar Rd. and Highway Five between the Guelph Line and Walker's Line should be carefully considered before deciding on the Ashgrove site as recommended in the

McLaren Report on Solid Waste Management.

Johnson has an avid interest in reclamation, recycling and the garbage problem. He holds a number of positions with groups such as GUARD and the Ontario Garbage Coalition but he was careful to explain statements made at a press conference in Milton Thursday represented only his own opinions.

Johnson said the two sites he had indicated should be considered because neither of them has streams nearby and neither was considered as prime farmland. He admitted no technical studies had been made on the sites he recommended.

Johnson argued the Ashgrove site was on prime farmland and had tributaries of the 16 Mile Creek in the area. He had earlier expressed fears of contaminated wells and water supplies if a dump was situated there.

He claimed the two sites he had recommended were more central to the region and closer to the urban centres which generate the greatest bulk of waste.

Johnson said he and the groups he was affiliated with oppose landfill sites as a means of disposing of waste (Continued on Page 17)

Doggies must go at home

Dogs in Milton will now have to observe the same rules as they do in Oakville, or their owners will pay the penalty.

Milton Council's administration committee recommended Monday that a clause from the Oakville dog control by-law, making it illegal for a dog to soil other than its owner's property with its droppings, be added to the Milton by-law.

The action followed a complaint in September from Mrs. S. L. Marx and 27 others that dog owners were walking their dogs and allowing "them to do their jobs anywhere". She suggested it wouldn't be so bad if owners cleaned up after them.

Doggie bags
Mrs. Marx suggested dog owners be required to carry litter bags if necessary when walking their dogs.

Councillor Don Gordon admitted he didn't know whether the provision in the Oakville by-law worked.

Mrs. Marx suggested that if the provision was in the by-law, it might have some effect.

Chairman Ron Harris explained the provision would only be acted on a complaint.

Mrs. Marx complained that the situation on Joyce Blvd. is particularly bad.

THAT'S SOME SNOWMAN building on the float! Murray M. Hendriksen tries on the hat for size. Milton Santa Claus parade this coming Saturday.

Santa Claus is in horse-drawn sleigh

Santa Claus will be coming to Milton in a horse-drawn sleigh this Saturday. He'll be accompanied by 40 floats and walking units, four bands and an assortment of clowns. Milton Santa Claus will also be on hand to welcome visitors to town.

The parade begins from the Ernest C. Drury School for the Deaf at 2 p.m. It will wind through the Ontario St. Plaza and continue west on Main St. to Bronte. Then it's down Robert St. to the fair grounds.

A 1931 Cadillac, owned and driven by Wally Gray, will carry the float judges to the fair grounds. Mayor Anne MacArthur, MPP Jim Snow, Edgar Foster and Art Britton will decide upon the best float in the parade. There will be two runner-up trophies presented as well.

Fairgrounds
Following a parade march-past around the fair grounds, the winning float trophies will be presented. There will be candy there for the children and a booth where coffee and tea may be purchased. Grandstand seats will be available for those who wish to sit and watch the parade.

Candy and balloons will be distributed to children along the parade route.

The parade committee reports outstanding response from the community, in parade entries as well as monetary donations. The committee includes Chris (Continued on Page 17)

Not so evil

Debate snowmobiles

Those interested in snowmobile regulations will be heard at the next meeting of the Milton Council administration committee, members agreed after

studying by-laws now affecting various parts of the town.

The present urban Milton by-law will be considered a base for discussion with a clause added from the Oakville by-law.

Mayor Anne MacArthur emphasized that Milton has a lot of rural area and she would not like to see regulations too strict on snowmobiles in the rural areas. She suggested snowmobiles should be encouraged in the rural areas.

Opportunity
Members of the committee felt snowmobile club representatives might want to discuss by-law provisions and they should be given the opportunity at the next committee meeting. It was also agreed that any others interested in the snowmobile by-law would be heard at that time.

"I feel the snowmobile isn't as evil as it's made out to be," Mayor MacArthur concluded.

Is Highway 5 site for Region office?

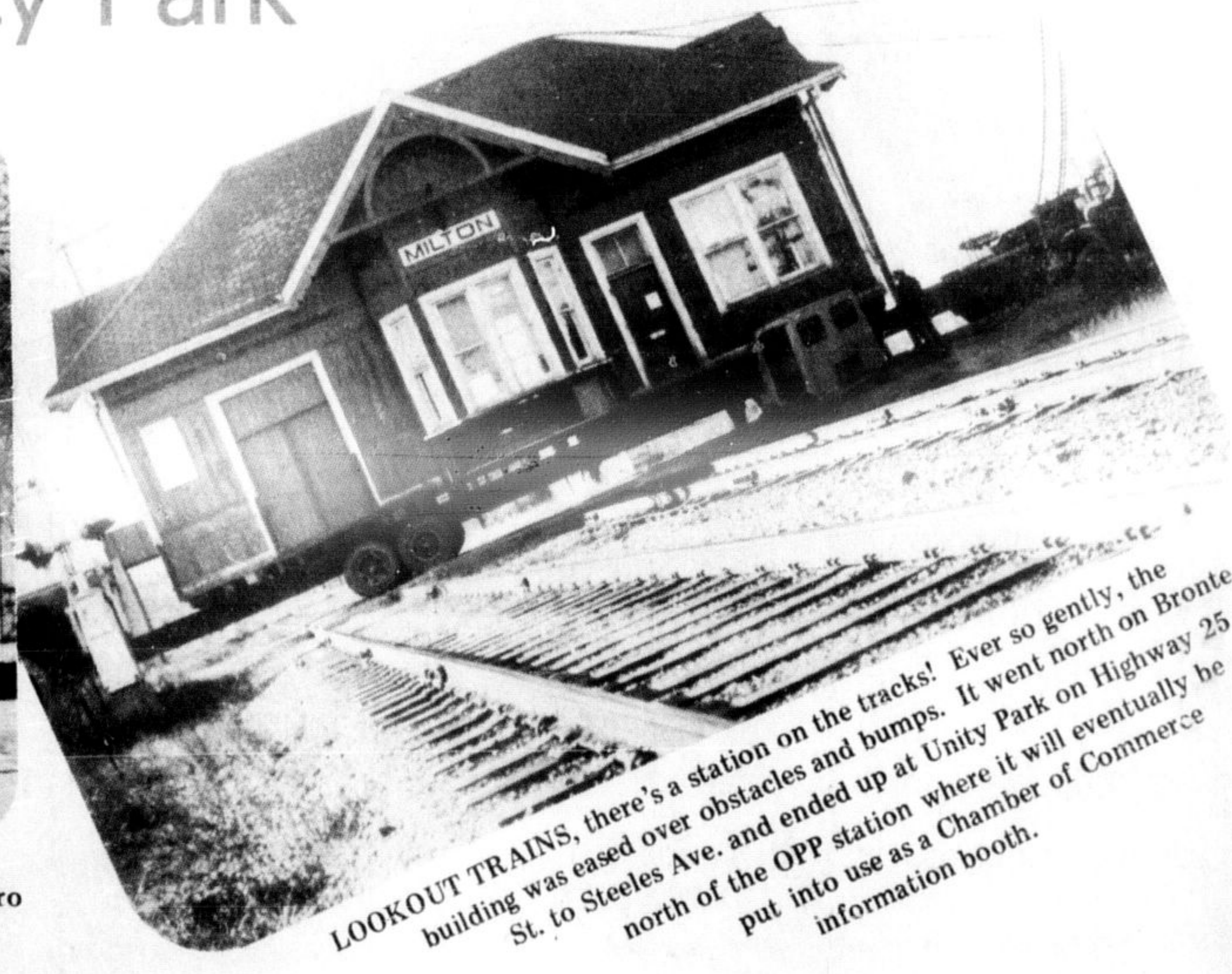
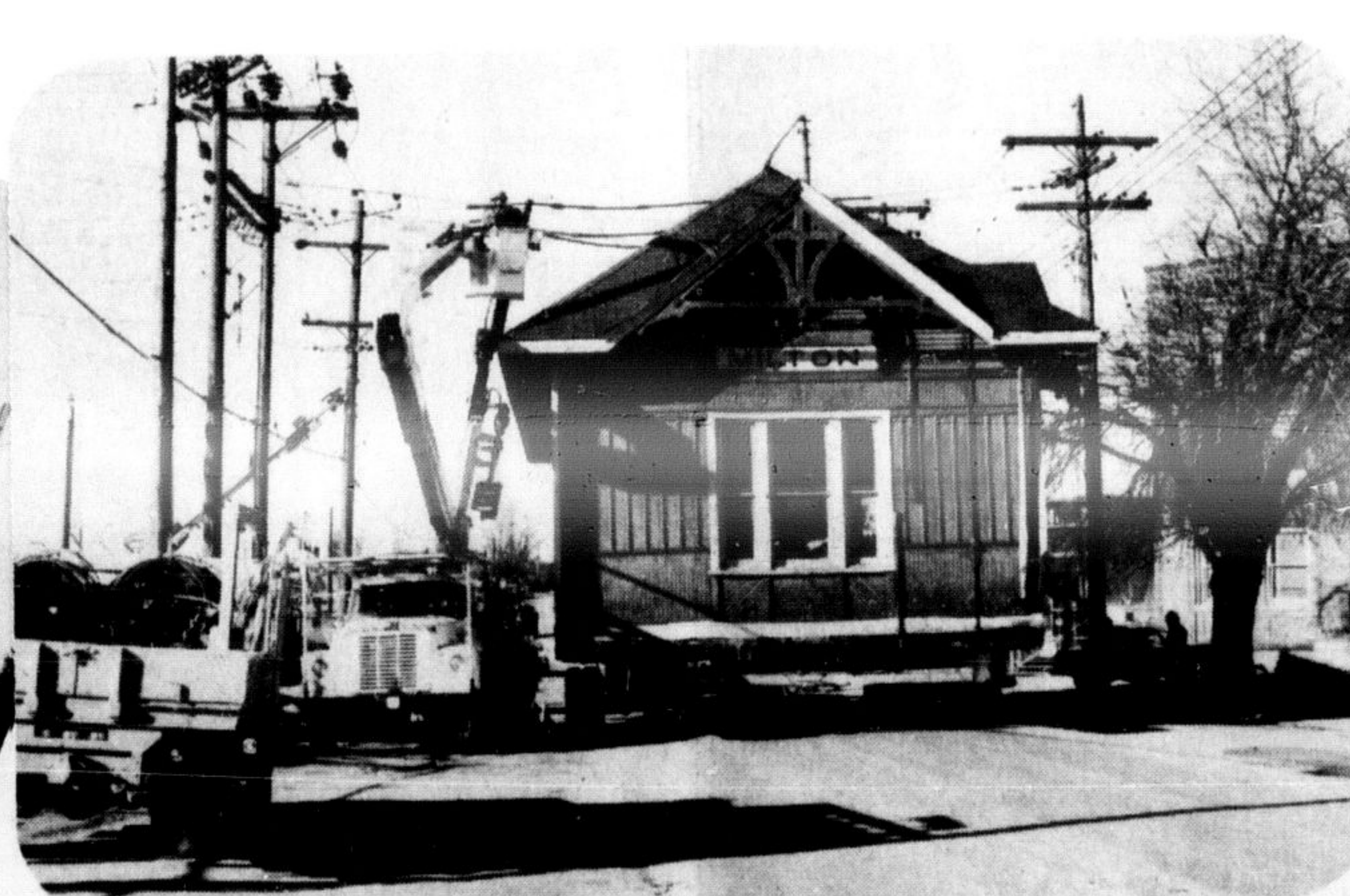
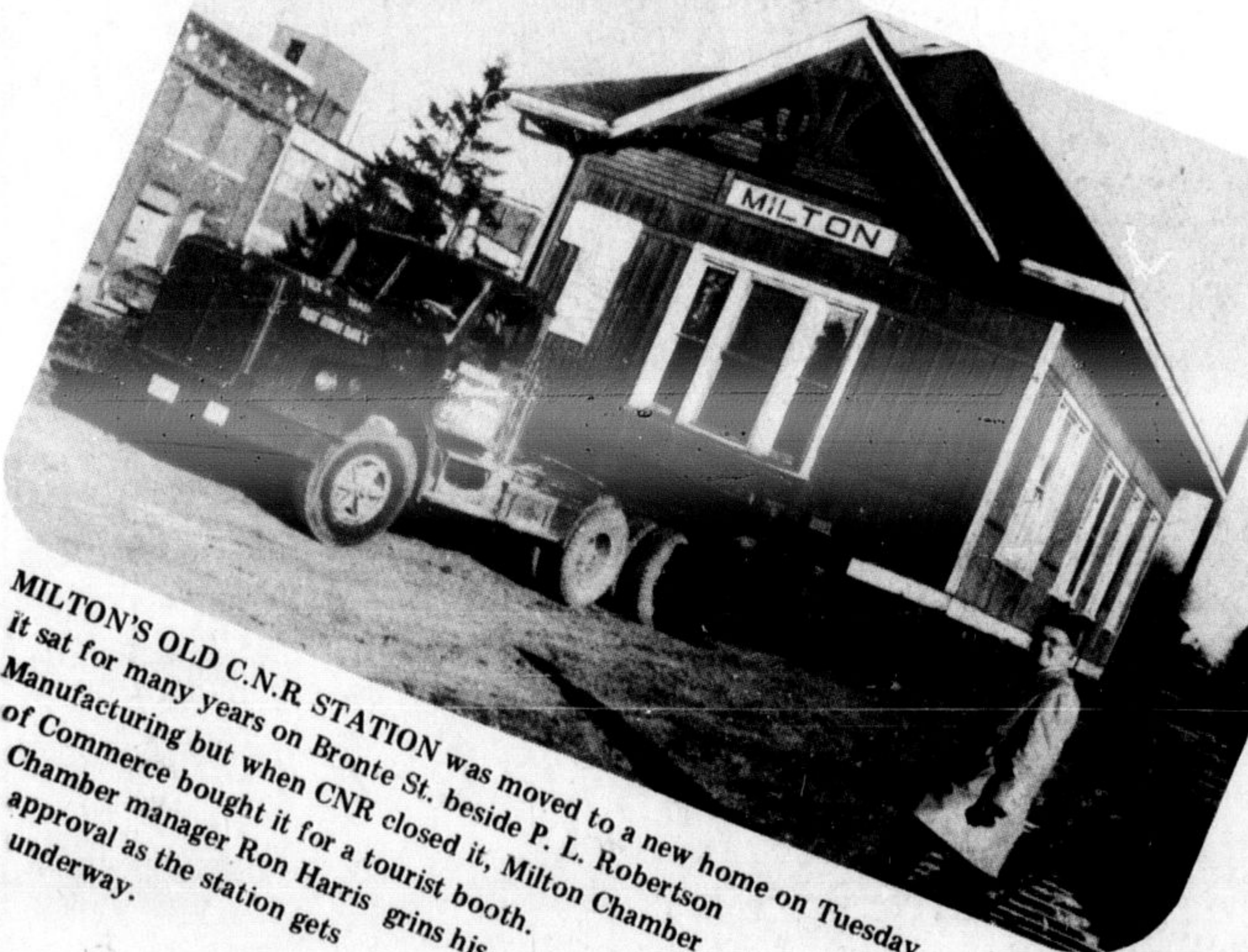
An informed source says a site on Highway Five near Walker's Line will be recommended as the new site for Halton regional headquarters.

The region moved out of the Steeles Ave. County Building in Milton last April to a temporary site at the junction of the Guelph Line and the Queen Elizabeth Highway in Burlington. The region has a three year lease, with an option to extend the lease to five years if necessary.

Committee at work
A building and site committee has been involved in finding a permanent location for almost a year now.

Some consideration is being given to sharing accommodation with Halton Board of Education and other local government bodies.

Old CNR station moves to Unity Park



IN FRONT OF PLs the station slowed down while utility employees raised high tension hydro lines above it. The old frame station stood 30 feet high, 24 feet wide and 40 feet long

LOOKOUT TRAINS, there's a station on the tracks! Ever so gently, the building was eased over obstacles and bumps. It went north on Bronte St. to Steeles Ave. and ended up at Unity Park on Highway 25 north of the OPP station where it will eventually be put into use as a Chamber of Commerce information booth.

MILTON'S OLD C.N.R. STATION was moved to a new home on Tuesday. It sat for many years on Bronte St. beside P. L. Robertson Manufacturing but when CNR closed it, Milton Chamber of Commerce bought it for a tourist booth. Chamber manager Ron Harris grins his approval as the station gets underway.

The Canadian Champion, Wed., Nov. 27, 1974

LOOK! COMPARE!
SANTA WAS CAUGHT trying to get away before the big day Saturday visiting Milton as part of his big day Saturday.

Wearers from \$4.99
Gifts from \$4.98
FOR THEMSELVES!
Christmas gifts
Gift on layaway.
at ...

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