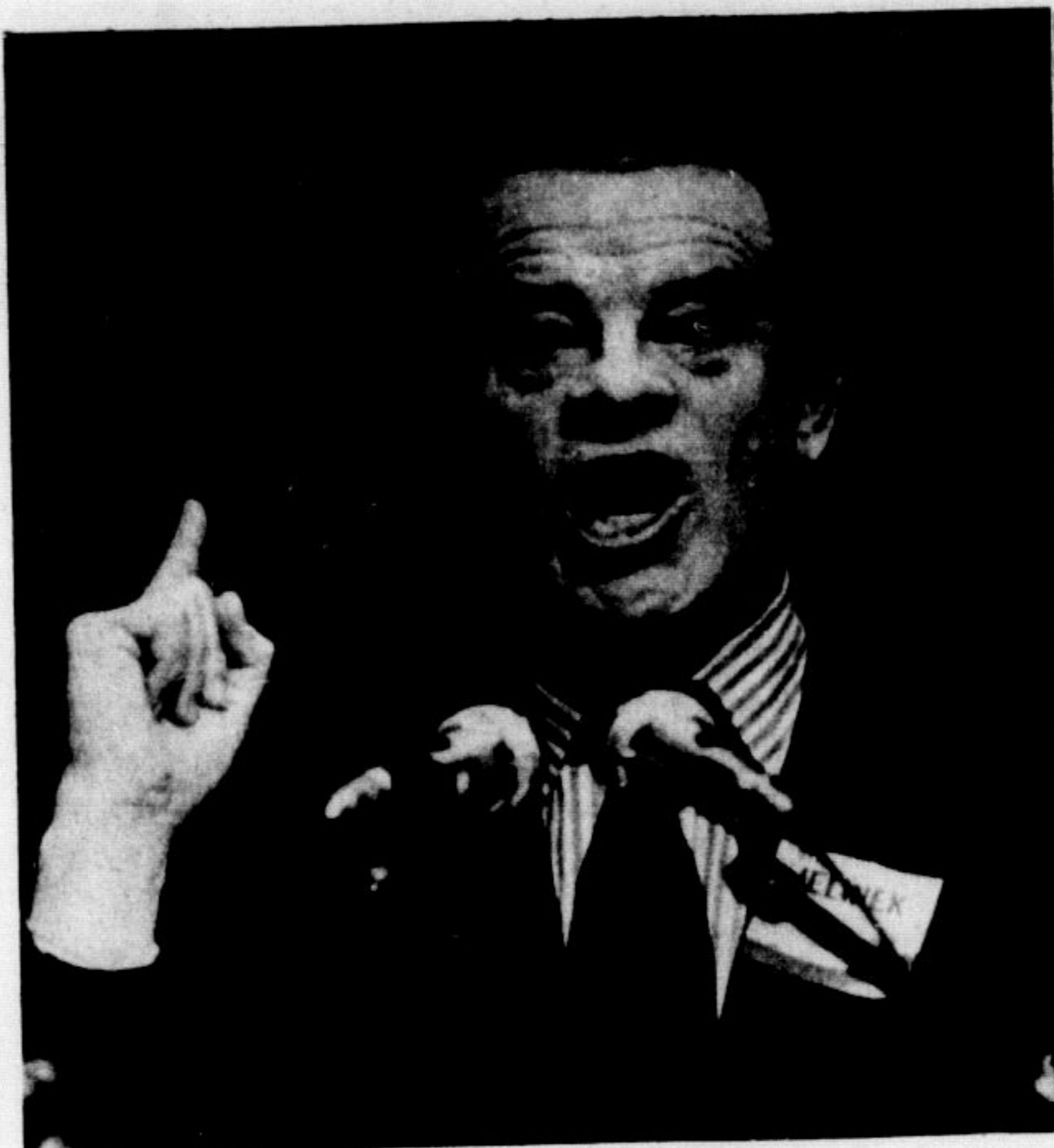
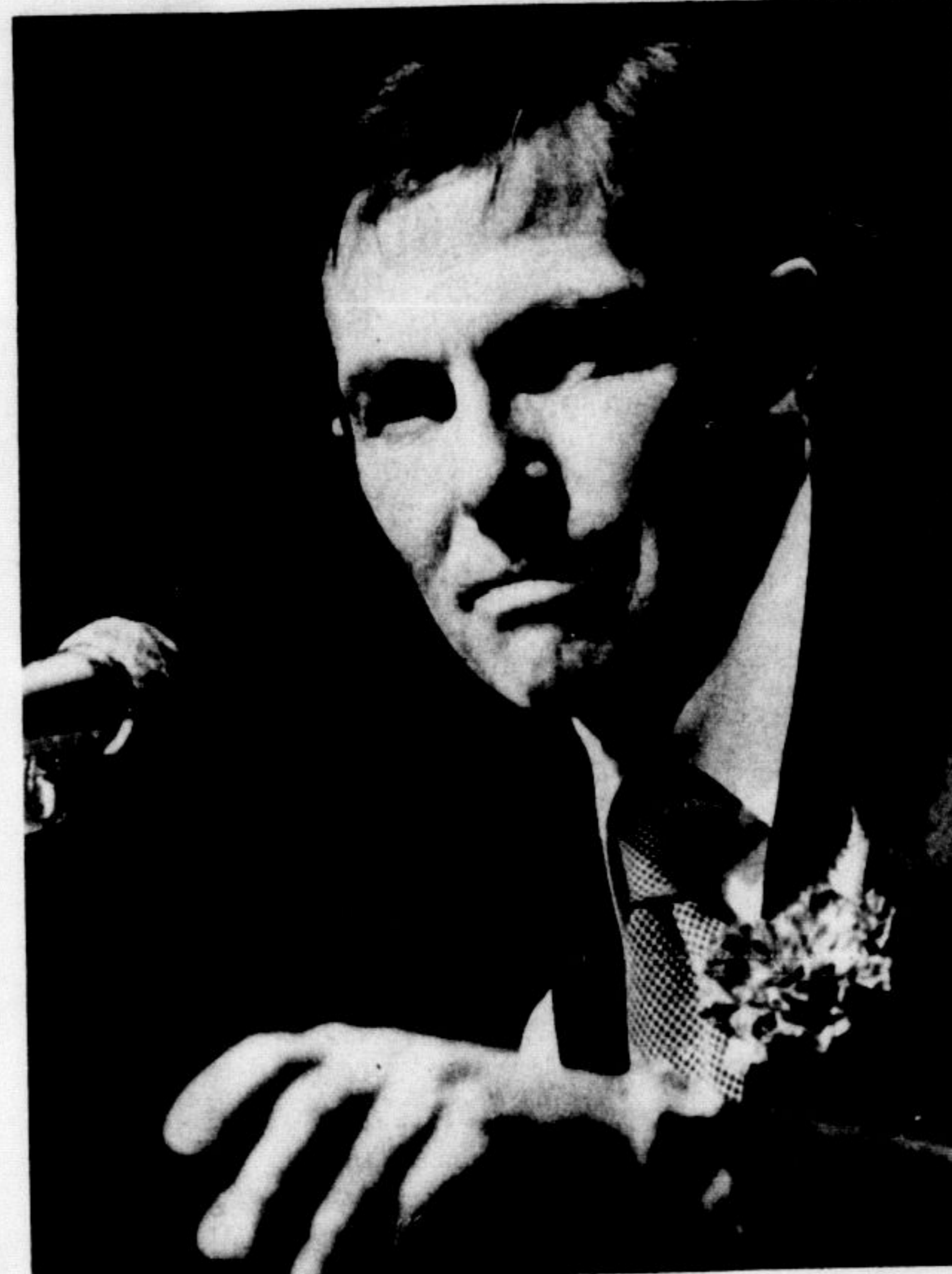




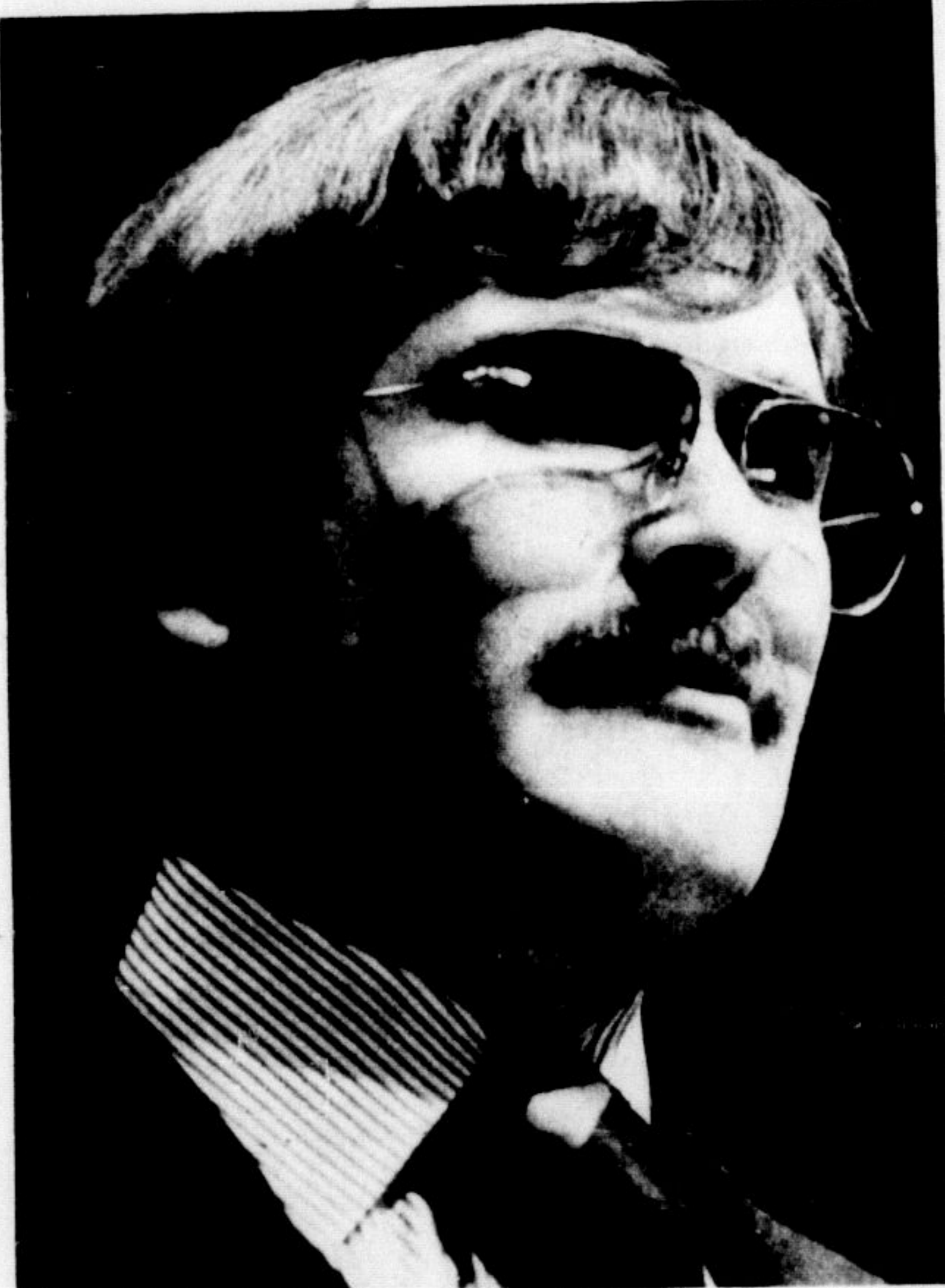
THOSE WINNING SMILES belonged to Otto Jelinek and his wife after he was informed of his first ballot victory over Ross and Lett.



EMPHATIC BILL WALKER nominated Otto Jelinek.



A DETERMINED Art Ross grips the podium during his address to the Conservative delegation.



A SOMBRE TRISS LETT took only 317 votes Thursday evening of a possible 2,108 compared with Art Ross' 717 and Jelinek's 1,074.



LETT'S GO, LETT'S WIN was the slogan Toni Lett was singing Thursday night during the demonstration for her husband, Tris Lett.



NANCY KEE of Milton was strong in seconding for Art Ross as a candidate.

Police checking on morale

Halton Regional Police Association (HRPA) is taking an unprecedented step to find the causes of "falling morale" of officers throughout the region.

An HRPA committee will make inquiries as to the causes of low morale on the force, association president Al Ruelens confirmed Monday. About 80 officers voted unanimously to set up the committee during a regular meeting in Trafalgar Hall last Wednesday (March 29).

Ruelens said the association membership discussed the question of morale prior to the meeting, but the membership has never gone this far before.

All three districts in the Halton Regional Police Force were well represented at the meeting.

Ruelens said he was not surprised at the motion. The morale committee, composed of Ruelens and six association directors, is to report back to the association by mid-April.

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Champion photos by Peter McCusker



NAN CARGILL OF ACTON seconded the nomination of Otto Jelinek.

Peter Branch quits his Treasury job

Peter Branch, the Ontario civil servant from R.R. 1, Norval, who publicly complained he felt like a cipher in the Treasury Ministry because of the little work he was asked to do, has quit.

Mr. Branch handed in his resignation two weeks ago when his personnel director said his position was being reassessed following publication of an article in a Toronto paper quoting Branch as saying he was paid nearly \$25,000 a year to browse through newspapers, contemplate his own affairs and read books.

He has been an economist with the Ontario Ministry for 13 years. He says he has made 15 job applications to various ministries in the past several years and all had been rejected including two since the article appeared. He also said he did not know what to make of the sudden increase of assignments since the article appeared.

Mr. Branch said he has turned down a job outside government offered as a result of the publicity. Instead, he is taking early retirement to help his wife on their Norval farm.

He estimates he will lose about \$2,000 a year from his \$10,000 annual pension as a result of "red-circling" where a civil servant's salary is reclassified.

He told the Globe and Mail that he is bitter about the provincial government's wasteful use of manpower. He says many of his colleagues are not busy and hopes his departure will bring attention to the bitterness and frustration red-circling causes employees.

Mr. Branch has often disagreed with Government policies on agriculture, particularly on freezing land. He has been outspoken in his defense of farmers' rights to the stewardship of their land.

Rescuers honored

Beachville residents Jack Knoop and Andy Anderson, better known to Milton as the life savers of two-year-old Matthew Martin of Hornby, will be honored in a ceremony in Milton Council Chambers in Milton Town Hall Monday, May 1.

The two men are credited with being instrumental in saving the life of the two-year-old child, after he fell from his mother's car which had rolled into the family pond, one cold November day.

Mr. Knoop and Mr. Anderson were travelling on Trafalgar Rd. on Thursday,

Nov. 24 when they noticed police and an ambulance rush by toward the Martin home. The two men followed police with their tow truck. At this time, neither police nor Mrs. Martin were able to locate Matthew who had been in the water for approximately seven minutes.

The Beachville residents attached their truck winch to Mrs. Martin's car, but before they succeeded in moving the car, Mr. Knoop saw the boy and pulled him from the water.

The dramatic rescue of the boy and ensuing recovery drew widespread praise and

publicity for the two men who arrived just in time.

Both were presented with life saving awards from the Halton Safety League Wednesday, March 15.

"The keystone in this incident was the sense of community duty of Mr. Knoop and Mr. Anderson, who just happened to have the equipment and expertise to swiftly spring into action," stated Superintendent F. N. Schwartz of Halton Regional Police.

On Monday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m. the two men will be presented with awards by Halton Regional Police Force.

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