# Fire guts house three homeless

By Olga Darcovich

Four months ago Ed and Debbie Glen moved from their apartment over a Main St. business in Milton to a house in Burlington. At last three-year-old son Shawn had a yard in which to

Monday, they were back in Milton frantically searching for accommodation. They came to The Champion office to ask readers' help in finding them a place to live.

Friday afternoon unlucky Friday the 13th fire gutted the two-family dwelling at 1286 Walker's Line, north of Mainway, where they rent the back part, leaving them homeless.

Friday night they stayed with friends but the apartment was too crowded for them to stay any longer. The Salvation Army provided them with the next two nights accommodation in a Burlington motel.

But by Monday they were again without a place to stay and desparately wondering whether they'd have to live in

their car. They were put in contact with the department of social and family services at the region where supervisor Jane Kirkwood arranged another two nights at the motel. And they later found another house to rent starting next

However, the Glens are still in need of an interim solution. One of their problems in finding a place to stay until November is that tey are short of funds. Their friends. although inviting them to stay, don't really have the space for a family of three, the Glens say, and their families are in Windsor and

Detroit. Both Mr. Glen, 29, and Mrs. Glen, 22, work at PCL Packing in Oakville, he as a machine operator and she as a packer. The night before the fire, they worked the night shift. Son Shawn stayed with

a babysitter. Ordinarily, when they work nights they sleep until 2:30 p.m., at which time they pick up Shawn for a few hours before returning him to the

But Shawn had broken the alarm clock and Friday, went off an hour early, waking them at 1:30 p.m.

About two o'clock, Mr. Glen was talking on the phone in the back of the house where they live when he noticed smoke coming through the kitchen ceiling. He immedi-

fire somewhere in the house, but thought it was in the furnace area, since the furnace had been repaired recently. Then he

The Glens had heard noises tion since the house was far from soundproof. Curiously though, they didn't hear any

noises that sounded like fire. When they ran outdoors they were surprised to see not only the front of the house in flames, but people watching the fire, apparently unaware there was anyone in the back option of going to a group part of the house.

the fire department at 2:10 up, with Mr. Glen being but firemen had already been called and arrived shortly.

the first to wake up, knew the to stay together if at all man in the front part of the possible. house had gone out — he had dropped by the Glen's earlier Glens with accommodation, to borrow a hair brush. But Mr. Glen, unaware of this, kicked in the neighbor's door. A wall of heat knocked him to the ground and prevented him from going any further. Department. Mrs.

apartment insurance, concentrated on saving as many of their possessions as they could. They had recently purchased broke out. a new bedroom suite and a

microwave oven. Mr. Glen remembers only feeling hysterical and panic struck. On one of his trips into the house, he found the cat, unconscious. Crawling along the floor, he was able to see light marking the door and he flung the cat out.

Just then, smoke engulfed the doorway and he was blinded. Lost in the smoke, he kept crawling until he bumped his head on a kitchen cupboard. This told him where he was and he found his way out of the house in the

nick of time. Firemen gave him oxygen at the scene and he was taken by ambulance to Burlington's Joseph Brant Hospital, where he was treated for smoke

inhalation Released, he had no way of getting back to his home. Luckily, a doctor noticed his predicament and kindly drove him back to what

ately concluded there was a - remained of the house, where Mrs. Glen was guarding the furniture.

In the meantime, two passersby gave the cat mouth-to-mouth resuscitation spotted the paint blistering on and saved its life. They paid the door separating the two the vet's bill and one is caring residences and realized the for the cat until the Glens find fire was in the front apart- a place to live.

Although the managed to rescue most of next door but paid no atten- their furniture and clothing, it was damaged by smoke and water. They don't think they'll be able to wear their clothes again, but that's the least of their worries at present, Mrs. Glen says. Friends in Milton have stored

the furniture in a barn.

The Glens were offered the home in Hamiltton. But that Mrs. Glen recalls phoning would have meant splitting housed in a hostel for men while Mrs. Glen and Shawn were accommodated in a Mrs. Glen, who had been hostel for women. They want

> Anyone who can help the preferably in a house, is asked to contact The Champion.

The fire is under investigation by Burlington Fire ton However, by breaking the thinks an electric heater door, he released the neigh- which had been left on in the the burning may have been responsible.

The home is owned by The Glens, who had no Terry Douglas, formerly of Milton. He occupied the front part of the home but was away at work when the fire



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## Not 'personal' attacks

Dear Mr. Editor:

In your editorial of Oct. 4, captioned "Opening Shots", you accuse me of making personal attacks on the present mayor. Either your choice of words is at fault or you delibertaely wish to discredit me by the very type of personal attack you supposedly

I have never attacked Mr. Gordon in the manner you suggest. As a person, he is a fine citizen, and to my knowledge a fine family man and respected member of his church. People such as Mr. Gordon are an asset to any community and I state that sincerely and unequivocably. It is his ability as mayor of Milton I am attacking and for that I make no apology.

I hope during the campaign that your reporting and editorial comment will make that distinction. If he had performed well there would be no need to challenge him. That is why Ed Broadbent and Joe Clark are attacking leadership at the federal level, Mr. Smith and Mr. Cassidy at the Provincial level. Are they all wrong and would the Editor of the Champion chastise them? As long as I can justify by example that my criticisms are honest, which I can

do, then that is what leadership is all about. I quote from your editorial "although she has promised to reveal some "policies" in good time." May I refer you to my memo to the press, of which you have a copy. If you had interpreted my memo correctly there are some very clear policies indicated:

1. Slow down residential growth; in the case of new residential growth, there should be a moratorium placed on it for at least one year to allow newcomers to be assimilated into our community and prevent a further strain on our services.

2. Our whole emphasis must be on the industrial development to the north of 401. The mayor voted to put industry to the east of Dorset Park. This must not happen

3. I would work to preserve the existing Town Hall and the Post Office in order to preserve the historical character of our downtown, so that it would remain the focal point for the spirit of our community.

4. Rural roads program, despite expenditures, has been in neutral for two years. There was to have been a continuing resurfacing program. This hasn't happened. I shall see that it does.

5. I will provide leadership and a strong voice at the region against one-tier government so that Milton can retain its autonomy; and its democratic rights protected.

Mr. Editor, you have an obligation to the people of Milton to present facts in an unbiased and fair fashion. I charge you do this in the oncoming election. I expect nothing more and I ask for nothing less.

Yours truly, Anne. J. MacArthur Box 71, Milton.

#### Opening "shots"

mayoralty campaign for Milton on Monday when Mrs. Anne Mac Arthur let it be known publicly she would be contesting the position. Incumbent Mayor Don Gordon

had earlier announced he would seek re-election. From Mrs. MacArthur's opening shots it is evident that she won't be bashful about attacking Mayor Gordon, although she has promised to reveal some "policies" in good

It will be an interesting campaign because Don Gordon tends to establish his objectives and set out to accomplish them without getting into personal attacks.

Time is growing short for other candidates to announce plans to seek elected positions a liread been some

satisfaction sometimes runs counter to that which is possible. And those who are elected will have to do more than make camhomework and persuasiveness to members if they are contrary to an objective Each member has only Merry

seldom are achieved by one's self. Representatives on the Boar Education will also find ther amid a number of other ve

> The offending editorial

## Outside judge needed

We read with interest, that Chief Skerrett and the Police Commission have received confirmation from His Honour Judge A. B. Sprague, that he will deal with the allegations and charges to be laid against the two police officers in the "Sweat Box" matter. We would like to point out to the public,

the following: 1. Judge A.B. Sprague was at one time a Member of the Police Commission in Hal-

2. In the event that a civil action is brought against either of the officers by the parties involved, that action would be bor's dog who had been front apartment of the house brought out of the Jurisdiction of the County Court of the Judical District of Halton. Judge A.B. Sprague is the Senior Judge of

Milton

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stop lights)

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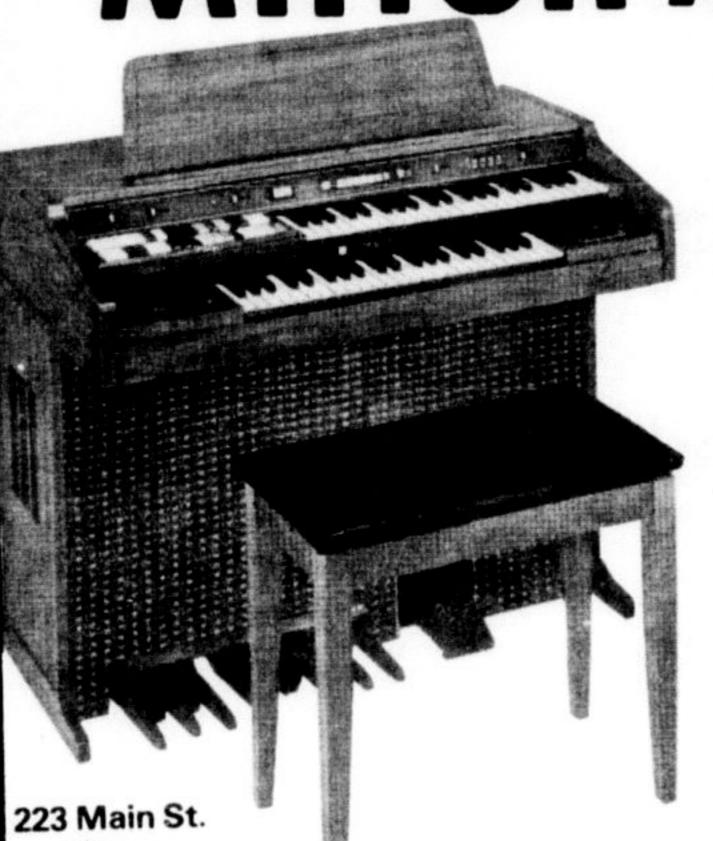
the County Court of the Judicial District of Halton, and his Court would be adjudicating upon an issue of which he has full knowlege and facts.

3. In all probability these officers have previously, and will in the future, appear before the County Court Bench on criminal matters in Halton.

Under the circumstances, and so that there is no question that the matter was dealt with fairly, I would suggest to Chief Skerrett, the Police Commission, and His Honour Judge A.B. Sprague, that the charges at hand be heard by a Judge from outside the jurisdiction of the Regional Municipality of Halton.

S. Sim, Milton B. Graham, Burlington.

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#### Second time in race for Johnson

A 39-year-old financial analyst with the Ford Motor Company will seek election to the Halton Board of Educa-

Neil Johnson of Britannia Rd. West informed Champion Tuesday he the position Trustee in Wards One and

He said "Events of the last two years convinced me that Milton's rural wards need a trustee that can aggressively represent the views of fellow parents and has the ability to identify areas of financial

"Since 1972 education has increased greatly its share of our property tax dollar and yet the Halton Board of Education spent almost \$1 million on an administration building expansion which did community. The desire for instant not improve the education of our children one little bit.

Johnson is president of the paign promises to achieve their Halton Council of Home and School Associations and past switch votes of other council president of the Percy W. Home and School one vote and excessive promises Association.

**NEIL JOHNSON** 

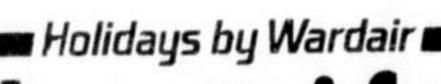
He is a public representative on the Remedial Assist ance Committee of the Halton

Board of Education. A director of the Oakville Aquatic Club he is a coach of the Hornby peewee girls' softball team and co-ordinator of the Hornby Minor Soft-

ball Association. A graduate of the Univer- 1976 election.

sity of Toronto, Johnson is married and father of four daughters, three attending Percy W. Merry Public School and one at Montclair Senior Public School. He is a

resident of Ward One. This is the second time he has run for the position. He lost to Ivan Armstrong in the



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