

Councillors may be liable for sewer surcharge deficit

Unless there is action today, current members of Halton Regional Council might be held legally liable for the sewer surcharge deficit, currently expected to be about \$500,000 by the end of the year.

Regional Solicitor and Acting Chief Administrative Officer Dennis Perlin has scheduled a noon-hour meeting today at which he will advise councillors to make a major hike in the sewer and water rates.

The hike which, if approved later today at Council, would take effect Jan. 1, 1981, and would be high enough to balance the books on the sewer surcharge deficit during calendar year 1981.

Mr. Perlin has stated that the Intergovernmental Affairs Ministry considers a regional government operating with deficit financing to be illegal.

Therefore, he said the current council, which brought in the sewer surcharge on Jan. 1 of this year must make "a reasonable effort" to make good the deficit.

If that reasonable effort is not made, Mr. Perlin said the current council, particularly those who will not be returning due to election losses, might face lawsuits.

"Today is the last regular Regional Council meeting and therefore the last chance the council has of making the reasonable effort."

"This council must do something... to show it has taken all action it could possibly take," Mr. Perlin said.

He said he realized the next council could well reverse the decision but that would still take the current council off the hook because it had tried to terminate the deficit.

Burlington Mayor Roy Bird said that at today's meeting he did not want to see "eight or 10 pages of philosophy" distributed by Mr. Perlin, but a report that would be simple for all councillors to understand.



CATHARINE SWEET

Parents planning return to find their lost daughter

By Linda Kirby
It has been nine months since Catharine Sweet, 14, of Milton Heights disappeared during a family vacation in Mexico.

Next month her parents Conrad and Frances Sweet will return to the tiny town of San Miguel de Allende in an attempt to locate their daughter.

Although the case is being investigated by Canadian and Mexican embassy officials, RCMP, Interpol, and FBI, there has been no word on her whereabouts.

"It is the not knowing that is hard to take," said Mr. Sweet.

They are hoping the efforts of a Mexico City newspaperman may turn up new information on Catharine.

Mr. Sweet said the desk editor of the paper telephoned him from Mexico requesting the complete file on his daughter.

"Sometimes reporters are more effective than the police and perhaps

they are our best chance," said Mr. Sweet. He said several reporters have been put on the case and the desk editor speaks very good English.

"Our problem there has been not speaking the language," said Mr. Sweet.

He said the couple plans to remain in Mexico until the spring,

when they must return to Milton to resume the family's camping business.

Mr. Sweet believes his daughter is still in Mexico and being kept by a "well-to-do" family which owns a number of properties in San Miguel.

The teenager was last seen with a member of that family. The search for their

daughter has proven frustrating for the Sweet family.

Catharine twice left the family campground in Mexico prior to her disappearance. Police, for several months, refused to investigate believing the girl was a runaway.

The Canadian embassy finally forced the case to be reopened in July.

Armstrong urges voice

Businessmen outnumber labor representatives on a proposed Halton Board of Education committee and as far as at least one trustee is concerned, that's not good.

Rural Milton trustee Ivan Armstrong urged reconsideration of the composition of the Advisory Vocational Committee.

There is one representative from labor on the proposed committee and three from business, along with board and government representatives.

"People in business tend to water down trades and that's what happened in the war," observed Armstrong.

Another trustee, Len Auger, agreed with Arm-

strong. They and Halton Superintendent of Program Dr. Robert Dixon are to return to the board with another formula for the committee's composition.

Armstrong would like to see representatives from industrial and skilled trades unions on the advisory committee.

The Milton trustee said he would also like to see

more than one trustee on the committee. He indicated that the trustee is likely to be the chairman and as such could not properly represent the board.

"Your suggestions are quite in order," said Dixon to Armstrong. He indicated the thought concerning the numbers of members on the committee "hasn't gone in with that degree of precision."

Man without a badge

Defeat at the municipal polls has meant more than losing the title of mayor for Don Gordon.

As an appointed member of the Halton Region Police Commission, he must now turn over his police commissioner's badge and accompanying

identification papers.

Members of the commission must be regional councillors and are appointed by the region.

A new appointment is expected to be made in the first week of December.

A.E. LePage buys Co-operative Trust

As part of its continuing expansion program across Canada, A. E. LePage Limited has purchased the real estate operations of Co-operative Trust Company of Canada.

In announcing the acquisition, George J. Cormack, Executive Vice President, Residential Division, A. E. LePage Limited, said the purchase of Co-operative Trust's Real Estate Division is another step towards better servicing the Canadian real estate market. As Canada's leading real estate organization, the Company is delighted to be able to strengthen its residential position in Ontario, British Columbia and in Canada's three prairie provinces, Mr. Cormack said.

The purchase includes an acquisition of 27 Co-operative Trust real estate offices across Canada. Fourteen of these offices are situated in Ontario, primarily in the Hamilton area. The other 13 offices are located in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Included in the purchase is an I.C.I. Commercial office located in Saskatoon.

As a result of the acquisition, A. E. LePage will now be operating in many areas that have yet to be serviced by the Company.

Co-operative Trust has been active in the Canadian real estate scene for 12 years.

"Co-operative Trust employees will be invited

to join A. E. LePage," Mr. Cormack said. "A. E. LePage has always had the capacity to add and absorb good people. In addition, we would hope that the broad range of A. E. LePage services and benefits offered on a national basis will provide Co-operative Trust sales representatives with an opportunity to expand their sales careers."

Mr. Cormack said the acquisition came about because of a decision on the part of the Co-operative Trust's management to concentrate its efforts on its trust services.

A. E. LePage, Canada's leading totally diversified real estate organization, employs nearly 5,300 people in more than 200 offices and divisions across Canada.



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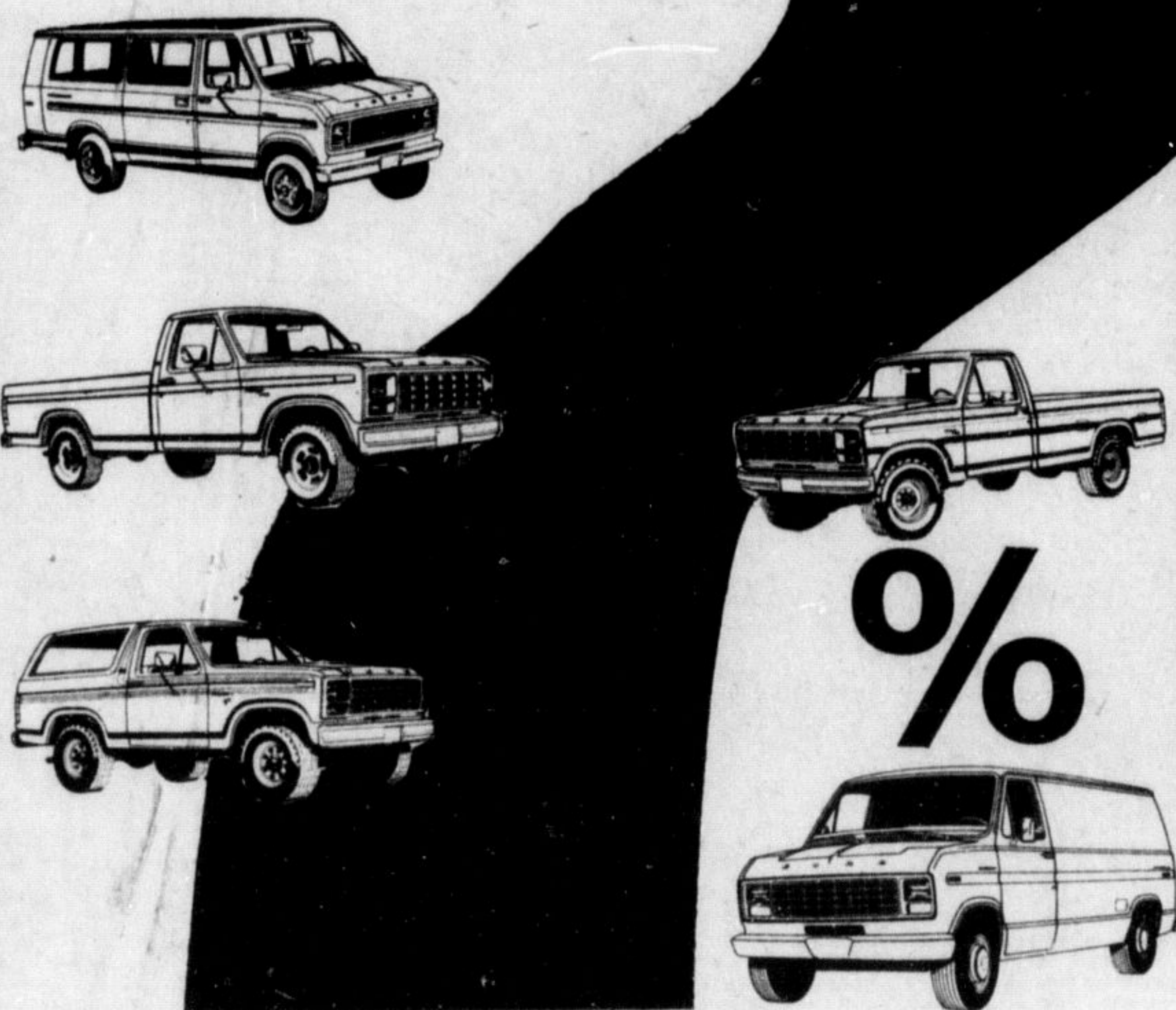
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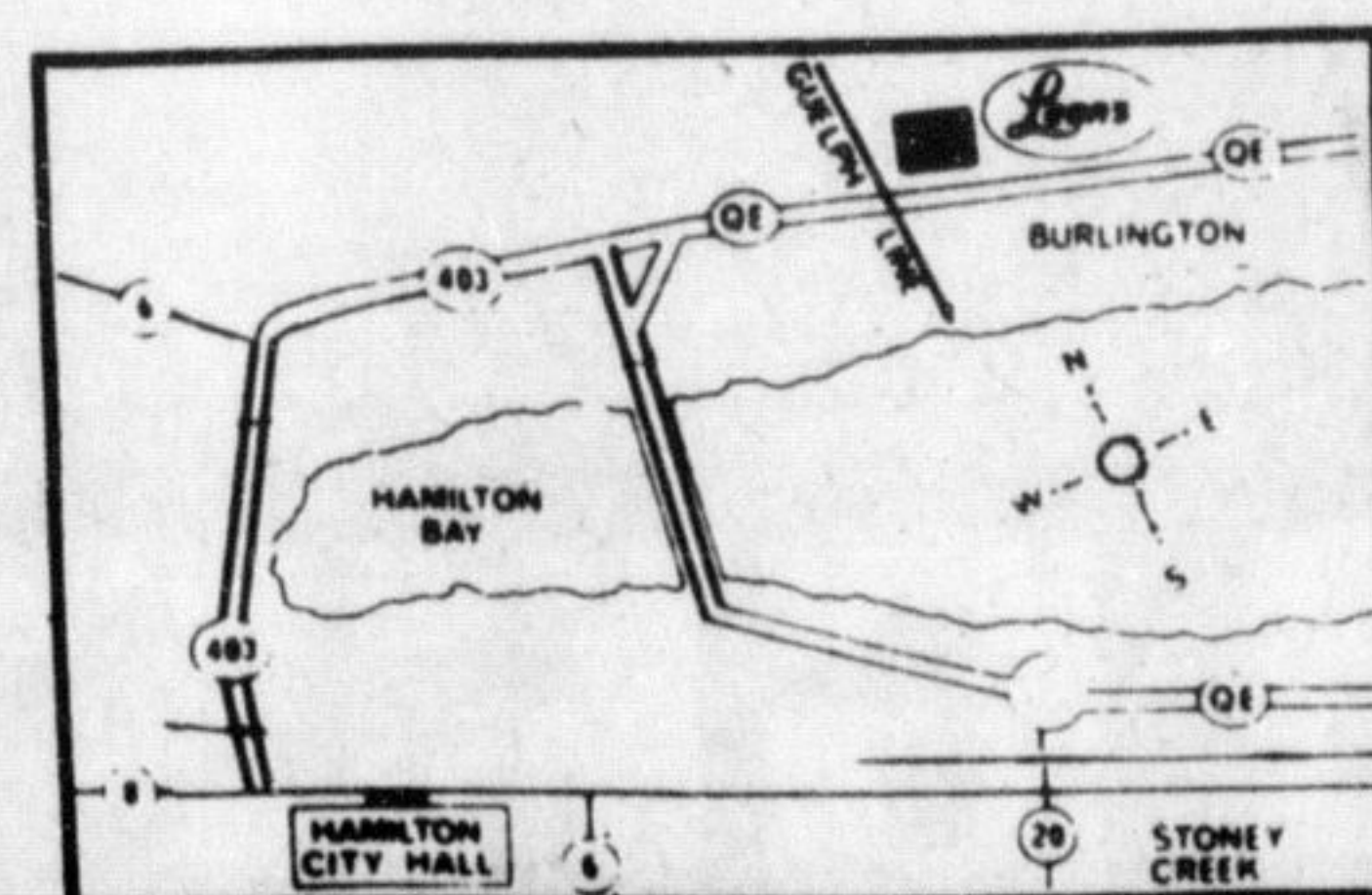
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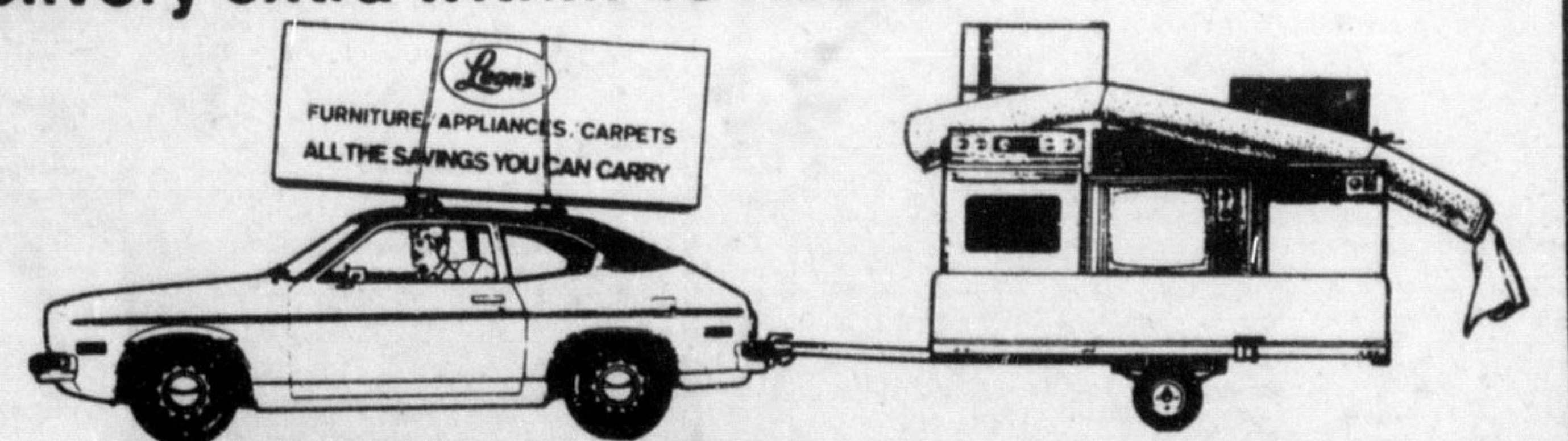
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