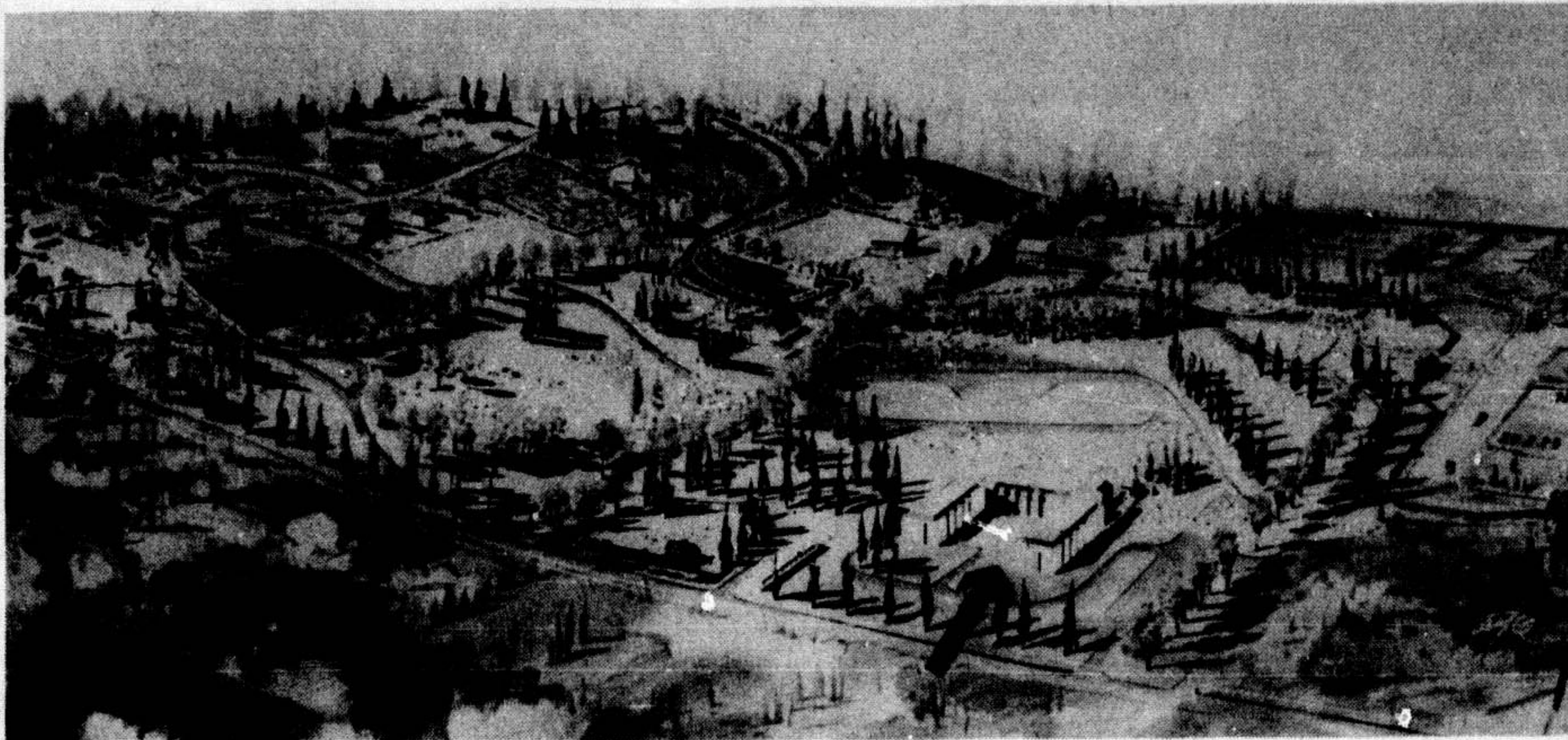


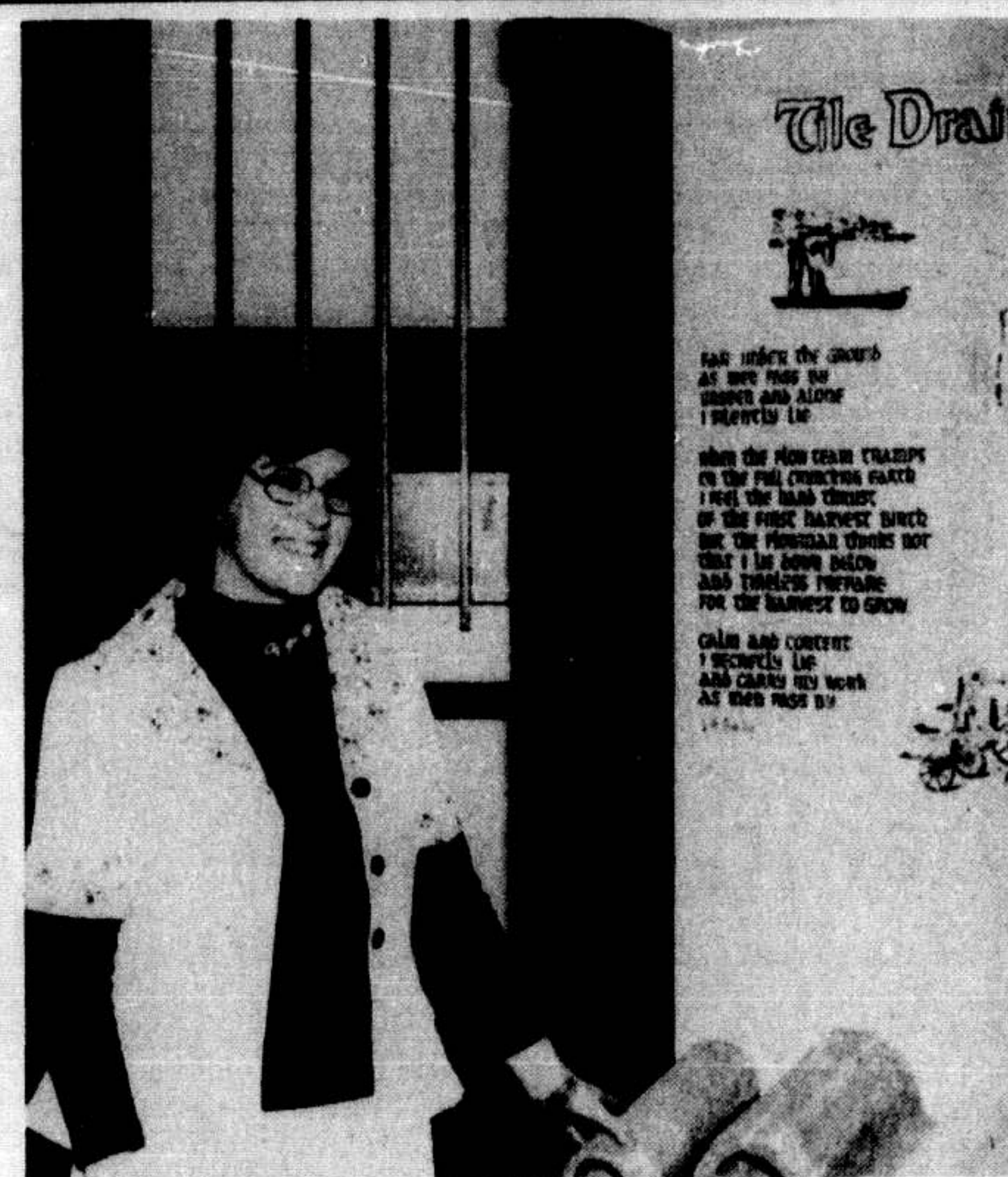


MANAGER BOB CARBERT, right, shows some members of the museum advisory board a large table saw during a tour last week. Mrs. Irene Saunders of Hornby, second from right, is the local representative on the eight-person board.

New agricultural museum



THE FIRST PHASE of the Ontario Agricultural Museum is almost complete, and the main building (see arrow) housing an exhibition hall, reference library, information centre and facilities for artifact restoration will be opened to visitors Labor Day weekend. When the entire 92-acre site adjacent to Kelso Conservation Area is complete, it will resemble an old farmstead as this chart portrays.



MRS. MARY ZWOLMAN of Milton poses with a display telling the story of tile drains and their importance to irrigation. She is the secretary to the museum's general manager.

Don Kennedy writes book

Knox history recorded in detail

By Roy Downs
As part of its celebrations marking the 100th anniversary of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, Knox Presbyterian Church in Milton has just issued a very thorough and well-researched book detailing the colorful history of the local church.

In keeping with the centennial theme, the book contains exactly 100 pages. Six hundred copies have been printed and they are selling at just above cost—\$5.

Liberal sprinkled with excellent photos of the church, past and present, the book not only tells the story of how Knox began and grew, it partly details the early days in Milton. Donald E. Kennedy, who researched and wrote the book, explains it was necessary to describe the life and times of early Milton in order to "set the stage" for the story of Knox Church.

Town history
"Everyone I spoke to complained about the lack of recorded local history," he said. "I felt it necessary to tell how the town was formed and why the church was needed, and I thought it would give Knox Church more meaning to tell the story of the town," Mr. Kennedy said. Former superintendent of Ontario School for the Deaf (now the Ernest C. Drury School) Mr. Kennedy has been a teacher and educator most of his life. He came to Milton in 1962 to launch OSD and retired two years ago.

Although he had never written a book before, he had some publishing experience at the school where he devoted a large amount of time to the school's annual yearbook, The Beaver. The Knox history book follows that format. "I thought I knew what to expect when I started," he said with a grin, but admits the work was a little more challenging than he had initially expected.

Co-operation
Fortunately, he received good co-operation in putting the book together. He appealed to the congregation for old records and pictures and received much help from the resulting onslaught of information. The main source of facts was a collection of church minute books—complete right back to the church's beginning. Fortunately, some of the early secretaries were very detailed in their minute-taking; unfortunately some only recorded the decisions and none of the discussion that led up to the motions that were passed at church session meetings.

He also received a great assistance from copies of The Halton Journal and The Champion which are on microfilm at Milton Library, a Boston Church history book published in the early 1900s, Gwen Clarke's Halton Pages of the Past, Milton's centennial and semi-centennial booklets, and a history of the church Mrs. E. E. Yates wrote in 1957.

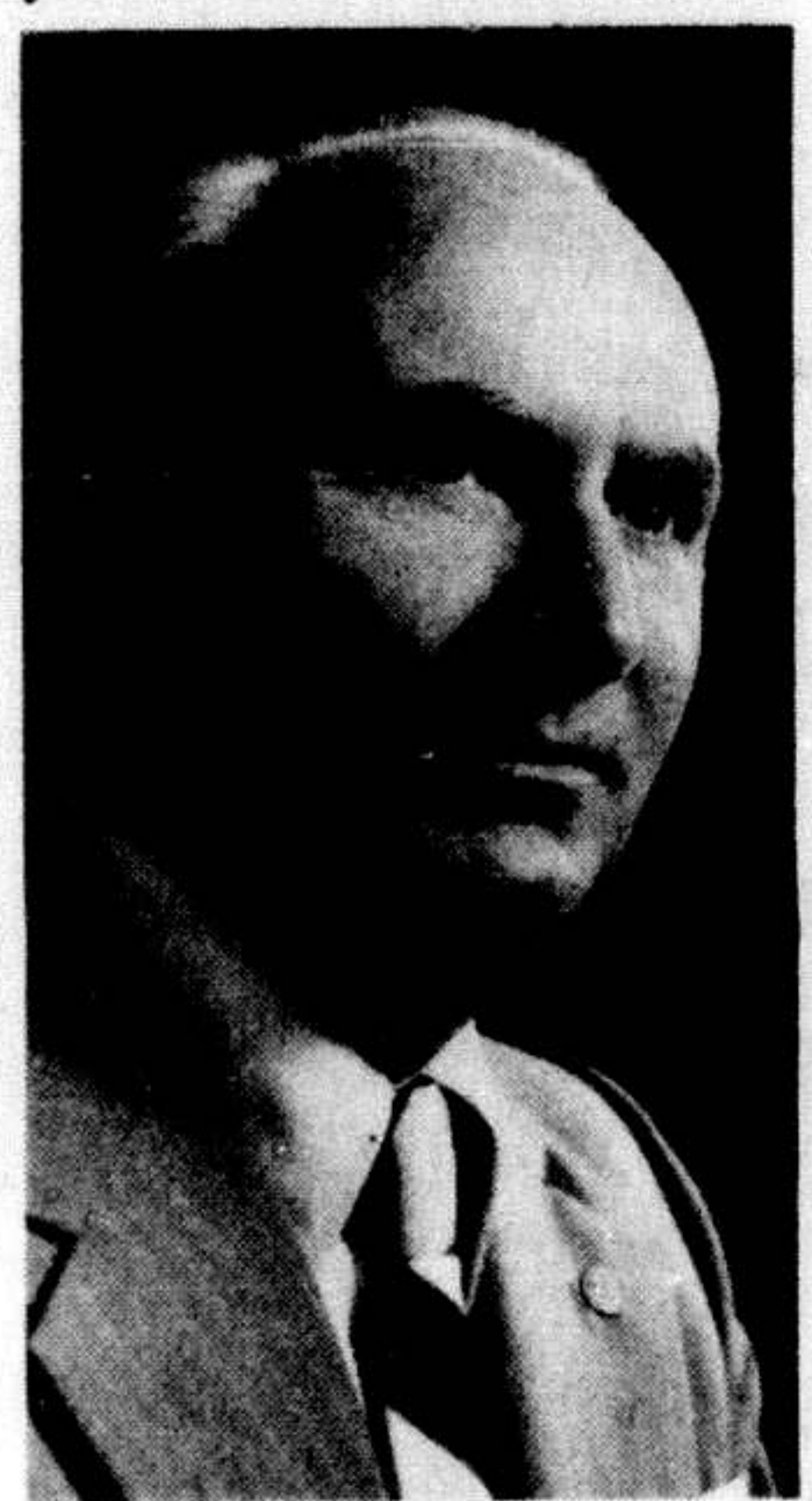
Current information on the church came from the present organizations. There are dozens of photographs in the Knox history book, about one-third of which were supplied by The Champion, one-third loaned by members of the congregation, the balance from history books and church records.

Too much
Originally the book was designed to be about 50 pages but it was soon evident there was too much material so the size was upped to 66 pages. It finally ended up at 92, plus cover and introductory pages.

While he spent a total of eight to 12 weeks on the book, Mr. Kennedy spread that work over the space of a year. He dedicates the book "to

the many members and adherents who, in the past 120 years, have given Knox Church the opportunity to serve Christianity in this part of God's Kingdom. It is also dedicated to the present congregation, and especially to the children and young people in whose hands the future influence of Knox in this community and in the larger community of the Christian Church is held."

Knox actually celebrates its 120th anniversary this year. Milton's first church,



DON KENNEDY Authors Knox history

according to the Knox book, was St. Andrews, better known as "The Old Kirk" (Church of Scotland) at what is now 54 Main St. E. The building was later moved to 146 Mill St. It continued to about 1889 when members transferred to Knox.

Others sooner The Wesleyan Methodists built a church in 1852 and the present St. Paul's United Church was built in 1890. An Anglican Church was built in 1852 or 1854 (now Grace parish hall) and the stone Grace

Church came in 1895. The Roman Catholic Mission was begun in Milton in 1859 and the original building is now the Steelworkers Union Hall on Pine St.

Knox's first church edifice was what is now the UAW Centre on Martin St., built in 1856 after the congregation formed in 1855 as a "Presbyterian Free Church."

Those who formed Knox in 1855 were tied in with Boston Presbyterian Church, the church serving the "Scotch Block area of Esqueving Township." The "mother church" Boston began in 1820 but its early years were clouded with dissension and separations. At one point there were four branches of the Presbyterian Church in the Scotch Block, using three separate buildings, all on the Third Line and close together. There was an Established Church of Scotland, an Antiburgher Church,

two United Presbyterian groups, and a Free Church of Scotland.

Started 1844 Boston, the only one to survive, was organized in 1844 and named "Boston Presbyterian Church". The present stone church building has an 1868 cornerstone but the first service was not held until 1870. It became part of The Presbyterian Church in Canada in 1875, the year of union.

Boston adherents who lived in Milton formed their own congregation in 1855 and the name Knox Presbyterian Church was adopted in 1866. Knox members built the first church (now the UAW Centre) in 1857 and that church and Boston were linked as a dual charge until 1887 when they separated. Separation was felt necessary as Knox members wanted both morning and evening services, which were impossible while sharing a minister with Bos-

ton. Then a larger church became necessary and in 1890 the congregation purchased the present site on Main St. The church, built at a cost of \$14,074, was opened and dedi-

cated June 28, 1891. An addition to house the church school was added in 1894.

15 minutes The history book goes on to detail the growth of the church over the years and

describes the church organizations, the six manse and the 15 ministers who have served Knox. There is more, in greater detail than the foregoing, but readers will have to obtain the book and read it for themselves.

Mr. Kennedy said the book was done mainly for the interest of Knox members and adherents. But copies are available through the church and in some local stores for others interested in adding this fine history to their local history collections.

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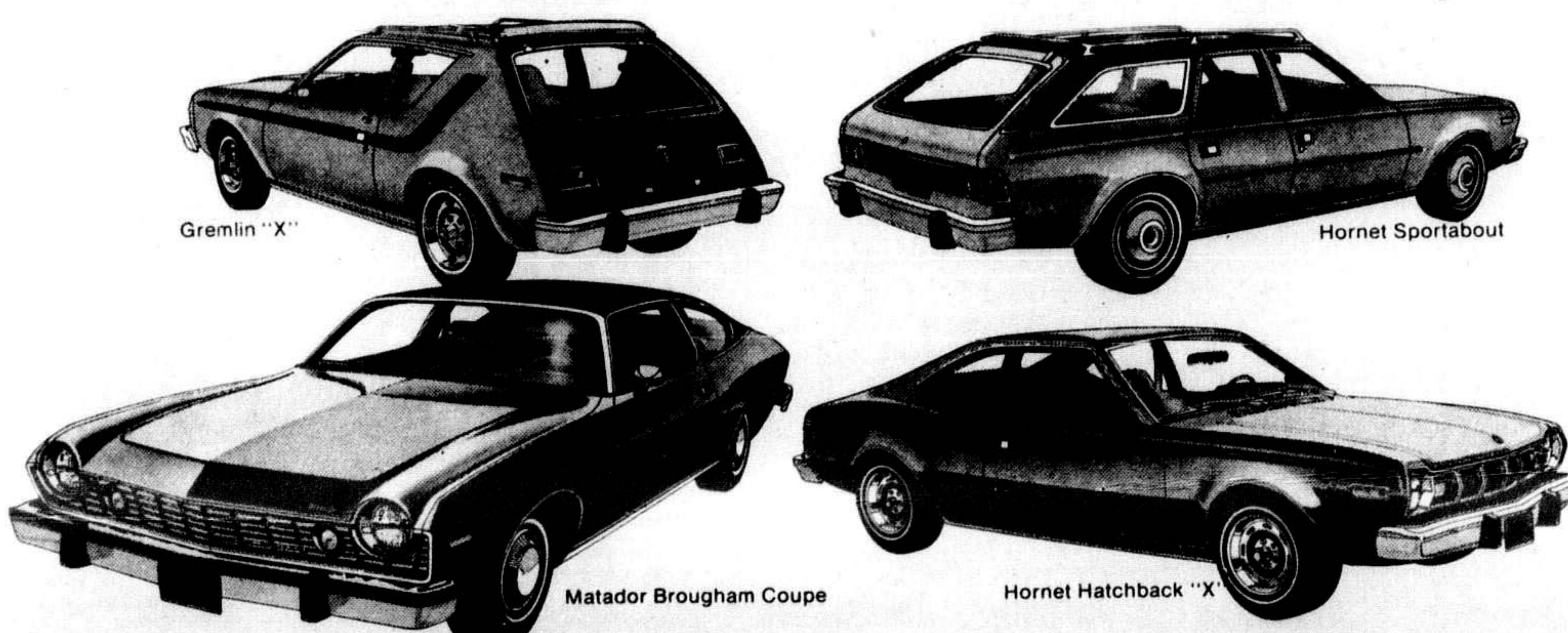
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