



OUR READERS WRITE

THE CANADIAN CHAMPION

7—The Canadian Champion, Wednesday, July 27, 1994

Frustrated with pro-life

Dear Editor:

I am frustrated with the anti-abortion groups, whose stand seems to be so righteous and idealistic.

These are probably the same type of people who years ago condemned the unwed mother and would not allow her into their social circles.

Now this same group would deny women control over their own bodies to possibly recreate the horror of backstreet abortions — the horror we fought so hard to avoid.

The past president of Romania criminalized abortion and unwanted children were warehoused in appalling conditions.

Unfortunately, this is not the ideal world where every child is wanted and every expectant father eagerly awaits the birth of their children.

Sadly enough, most situations leave the mother and the baby unsupported emotionally and financially. Statistics show somewhere between 65 and 75 per cent of fathers do not pay child support after the spousal relationship ends.

Women all over the world are left to struggle with a structure that promotes a life of poverty, violence and an expected submission that is naturally inherited from our social attitudes.

Incidentally, women own one per cent of

global property and in North America earn 30-35 per cent less in wages than men. High birth rates and single-parent families are clearly linked to this global catastrophe.

It would be far more productive if the energy and financial resources of these anti-abortion groups were directed to obtaining a national daycare policy, teaching responsible sex education, urging men to accept emotional and financial responsibility for their children, helping women achieve equality in the home and business world.

I would like to add that pro-choice believers do not take abortion lightly. The majority take this stand responsibly and painfully. It is cruel and biased to deny women the right to choose control over their own bodies and lives.

Tessa Ridley
Women of Halton Action Movement (WHAM)

Thank God for Gus

Dear Editor:

In 1920, his parents named him Alexander Lawrence Goutouski. His host of friends though the years knew him simply as "Gus Goutouski."

But in 1985, a grateful pastor and people, sponsors of a besieged Christian day school in Milton, called him "Saint Augustus!"

It was on Labour Day, 1985 that Gus

walked into the office of the Emanuel Baptist Church on Commercial Street and suggested to me, the pastor, that I should sit down because he had "a miracle to report!"

For a month, "the real estate" Gus, a real estate company owner, had sought in vain to find facilities to which we could move the Halton Heritage Christian Academy to begin its second year of operations.

A year earlier, the academy had been ordered by the town council to shut.

As a devout, lifelong Roman Catholic, he was dismayed that the non-Catholic Christian parents of Ontario, along with adherents of Judaism, Islam and other faith communities, were denied the fundamental parental rights to choose the schooling of their children.

He was outraged by the hostility of neighbours and the town administrators.

He was shocked at the refusal of the judiciary to permit the academy to continue its program in its second year at the church property until its appeal of the court order to shut down had been heard.

But on Labour Day, the day before the second school year was to begin, Gus explained that as he was driving back over the Niagara Escarpment toward Milton on a hunch he'd turned into the long laneway of the 90-acre Lou Nadalin country estate where he'd found Lou at the back of the second of two party buildings, which he'd constructed where two barns had once stood.

"God must have sent you here" was Lou's

response to Gus' proposal. "Let me check with my wife!" Gus listened to Mrs. Nadalin's response as she called down to Lou from the upstairs of the house: "If it's for Reverend Campbell and the academy, as far as I'm concerned, they can use the party buildings at no cost as long as they need it!"

And the next day, the academy was wholeheartedly welcomed outside of the town which had rejected them!

No wonder Gus Goutouski was identified in a subsequent published invitation to the public to attend the official opening of the second year of the Halton Heritage Christian Academy — as "Saint Augustus!"

All of the noble instincts which characterized the life of this Canadian patriot were epitomized in these circumstances by Gus' courageous and determined service to a little church and Christian academy victimized by the very hostility of a post-Christian secular society toward the liberating, ennobling, humanitarian theistic values on which Canada is founded, and for which Gus and his comrades had risked and given their lives in war.

I loved Gus and know he loved God and Jesus, God's Son and our Saviour!

On D-Day, at the end of 74 years of service, "Saint Augustus" surely heard our blessed Lord's "Well done!"

Thank God for "Saint Augustus!"

Ken Campbell
Milton

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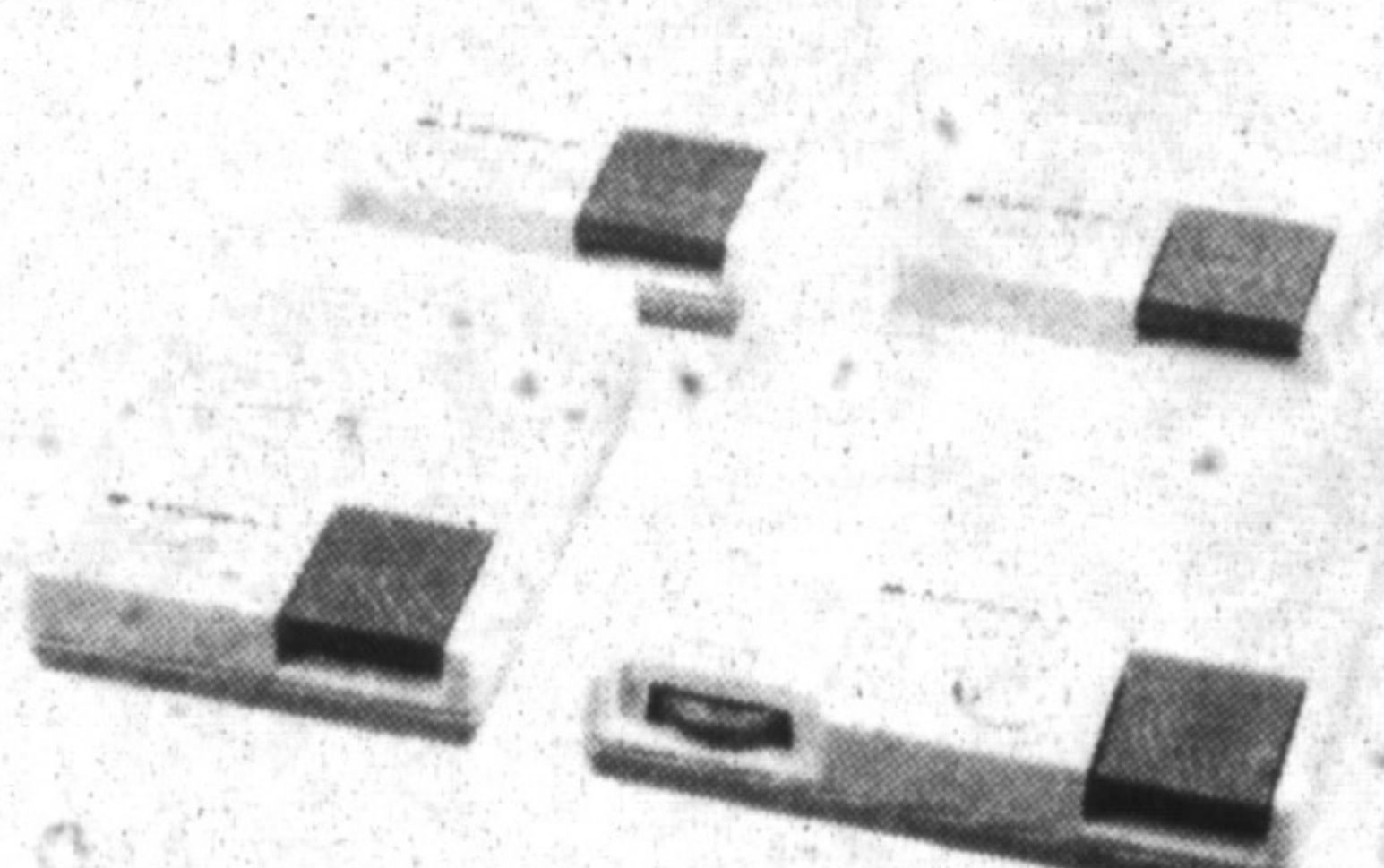
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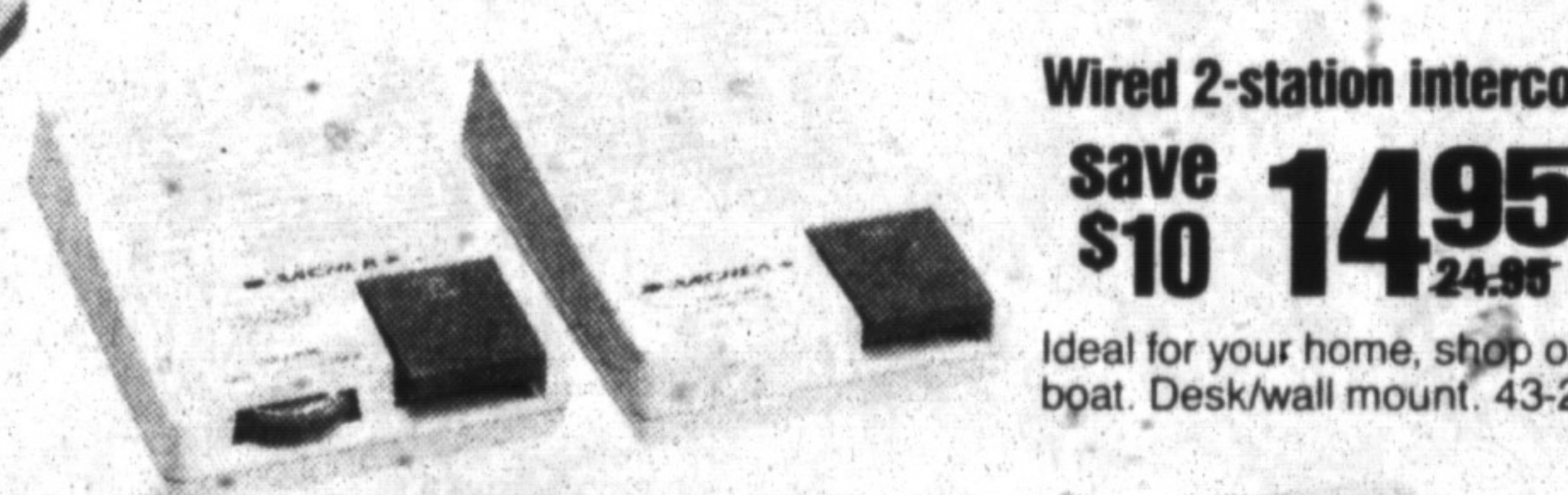
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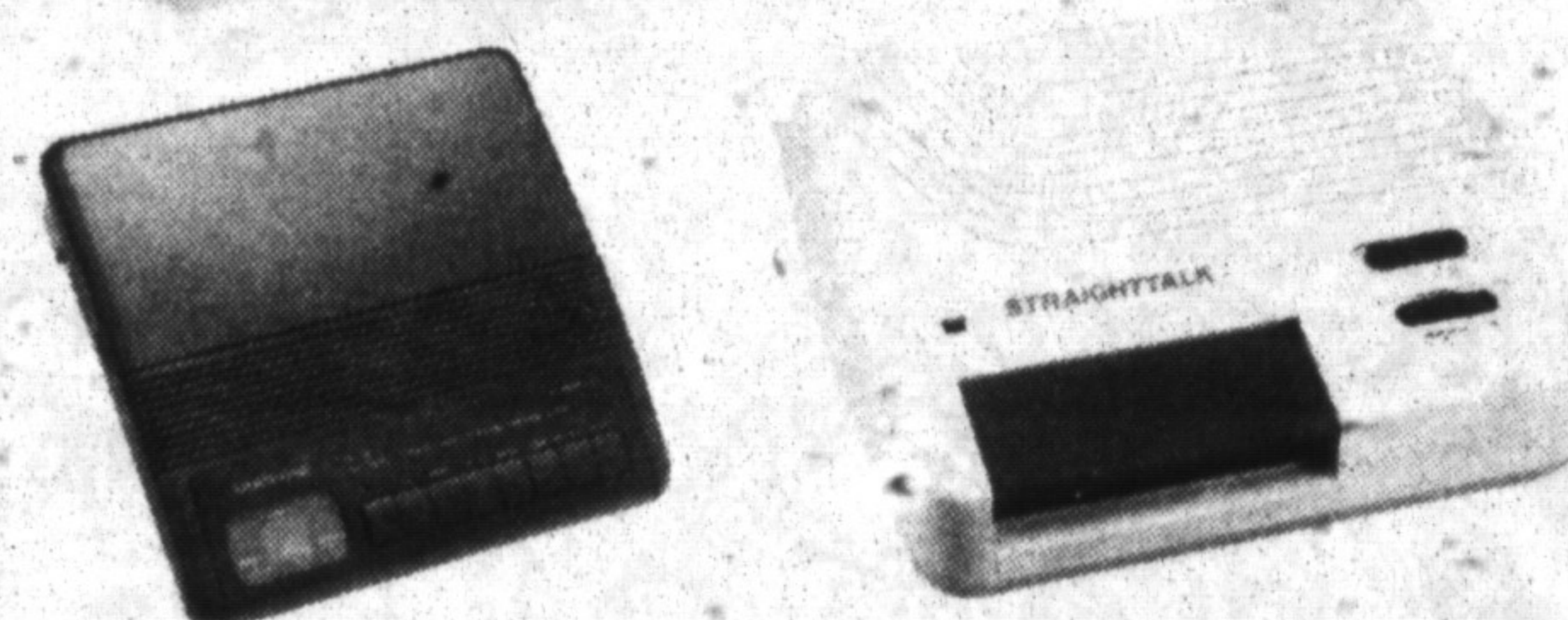
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