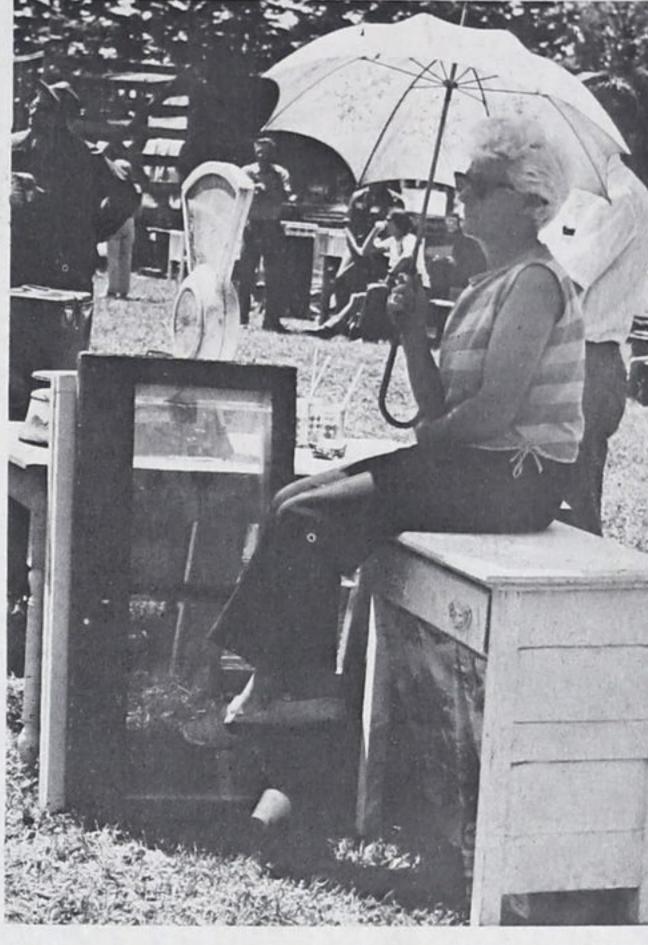


### Rural auction sale

Bargain - hunters from the area and from as far away as Toronto swarmed to the Vasey community park on Saturday for the Vasey Church auction. Staged to raise funds for renovations to the Church hall, the auction netted \$7,000 for organizers.





### Robbert Hartog

## A man with a sense of public responsibilty

near Penetanguishene, University of Toronto. greatest threat to their was in a Dutch Regiment snowmobile.

the problem in a way that is characteristically Canada to be his home. "I inventive, effective, and public-spirited.

Although he is not a people," he says. snowmobiler himself, he has built trails throughout

thick Dutch accent. confrontation. Not often." Confrontations don't faze him. "I like a good fight," he admits with a

In Midland, he's fought the good fight on behalf of a community swimming pool, senior citizens housing, youth activities and planning policies.

His highly dividualized style of agressiveness, tempered with humour and a sense of social responsibility respected businessman. He's President of Waltec comprises Aquarobic Systems, Arista Forgings and Waltec tries. He also holds

"It's a nice little terrific gang of kids." business," he says agreeably. "I'm satisfied with the way fate has

dealt with me. prises moves its nationally and inheadquarters to Cam- ternationally, and hold's bridge later this summer, Canada's highest Robbert Hartog will be Scouting award - The going too. He'll be Silver Wolf. As chairman remembered not so much of the world training for his business interests as for his personal contribution to the quality of national jamboree in 1977 life in the area.

was educated in France distant, but Hartog says,

and later earned his M.A. "Things are fairly well On his 105 acre retreat in Economics from the

After the war, he chose turers.

vironment, people — his his acreage, and has extra-business activities posted the property with reflect his continuing signs requesting that concern. Planning actrespassers keep to the tivities at the municipal, trails, and off the tiny county and area level have absorbed a lot of his "It works most of the time. "Most people," he reflects, "think planners are people who say 'no'. The function of a planning board is basically to represent the public, and they are invited to participate. But most people don't get excited about planning until it hurts them personally."

In Penetanguishene, a community in which hears whining about Hartog says he feels "very much at home", he sees the development of the Industrial Park as an example of sound planning. "Their system of land banking could serve as an example to any municipality," he says. Those people work well together. Everybody contribute, and they have played their cards

One of Hartog's biggest concerns is with the youth of the area. Last week he attended his last meeting as a Venturer advisor, and he admits "It hurts to give that up. They are a

He himself was introduced to Scouting in France when he was 11 years old. Now he's in-When Waltec Enter- volved in Scouting committee, he's in charge of the program for a which involves more than Born in Holland, Hartog 12,000 kids. It's a year

worked out."

Locally he's worked Robbert Hartog has During the war years, he with Scouts and Venplanted thousands of tiny worked with the French turers. A typical outing hardwood seedlings. The underground, and later was the 24 day canoe trip from Moosonee Penetanguishene which Hartog has dealt with under Eisenhower. Penetanguishene Ven- years.

> As a Y's man in liked the natural en- Midland, he was chairvironment, the space, the man of the fund raising and building committee. Space, natural en- The Y Pool was built

> > In 1968, he was says. "I named my new President of the local Liberal riding association. Politics, he says, alternately 3,000 books and he reads fascinates and frustrates greedily - fiction, him. An admittedly history, biography and highly individualistic economics - in English, business man, he feels Dutch and French. Not burdened with sencurrent economic surprisingly, Hartog very timental regrets now that restrictions are good nearly became an basically. "But balance is academic. After the war, to leave. what we need," he says. he was offered a "Perhaps if we have too scholarship at the Har- and the people here are many regulations we vard School of Business. not strangers to me." forget motivation and "I hesitated over that

> > initiative." current high prices in this perament for the sense of public service. country. "Compared to other countries," he says, "we are far better off. We don't know how lucky we

He knows what he's talking about. For many years business responsibilities kept him continent-hopping. He's multi lingual - French, English, Dutch, German and a little Spanish.

Robbert Hartog is also on the Board of Governors for Georgian College, active in St. Paul's United Church and a member of the Finance Committee for Glendon

How does he manage to coordinate his business and community activities and still have time left for

"I channel my time," he says, indicating an appointment book that is booked for months ahead. "And when I get mad at people too early in the day, I know I'm ready for a holiday."

He describes himself as a private person - so private that he consented to be interviewed only

because he would soon be academic life. Perhaps leaving the community - now, I might enjoy it." and much of his free time is spent in solitary ac- and naturalist and tivities. Skiing claims periodically escapes into him in the winter months. Canada's northlands for Summer finds him on the Georgian Bay where he canoeing. "That's a Expeditionary Forces he took with the has boated for many challenge I really en-

His new boat is called the "Deedracht" (Con-

"My great-great-great grandfather was the first white man to set foot on Australia in 1616," he The library of his

country home contains

decision," he says. "At bered — and missed — by He gets angry when he that time, I thought I his friends, as a private

He's a skilled camper

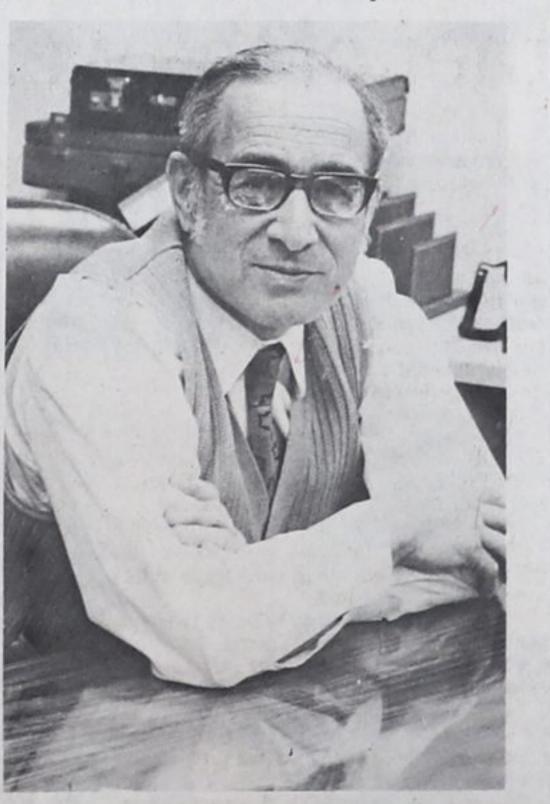
He likes to cook, and when he has time will invest a couple of hours in the production of a special dinner.

Hartog says he's moving to Cambridge as "a free man". If he has a personal motto, it seems to be "Let's get on with

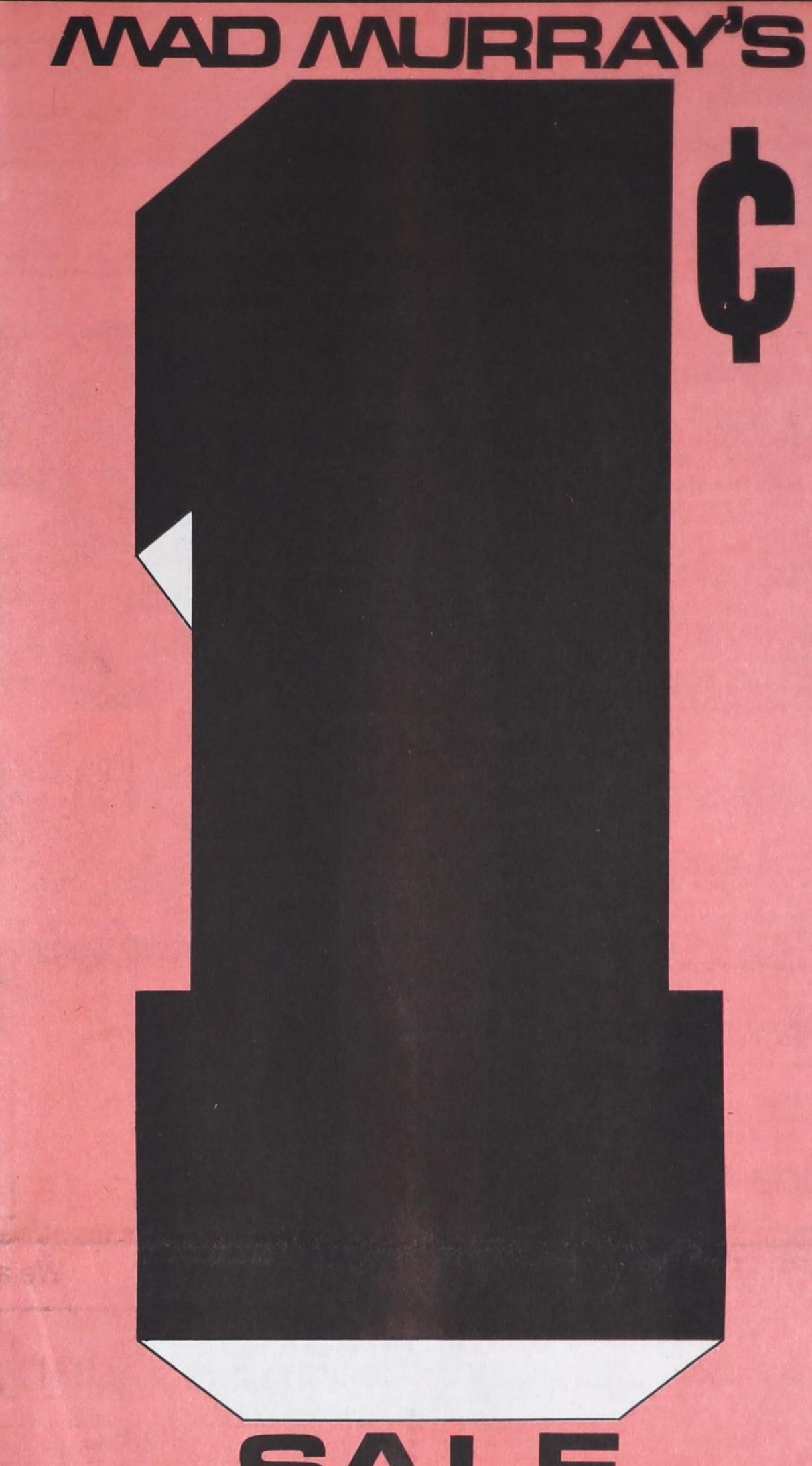
Although he says he has enjoyed his years in the Midland area he is not he has made the decision

"My boat will be here,

didn't have the tem- kind of man with a strong



Robbert Hartog



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