

'Mitsubishi deserves credit'

by RON JOHNSON
Gordon Walker, the provincial secretary for justice, was the guest speaker at Wednesday's meeting of the Midland Rotary Club.

Walker was not there as a representative of the Justice Ministry. He was present to expound on his views of the recent arrival of Mitsubishi Electronics Industries Canada Inc. as Midland's newest industry.

Walker was the

provincial minister of industry and trade when the formal decision was made by Mitsubishi to move to Midland.

Walker used a quote by the late Robert F. Kennedy when he said, "Success has many fathers, but failure is an orphan." He made the statement when asked if he thought there were a lot of people taking undue credit for Mitsubishi's arrival in Midland.

Walker says that credit should really go to Mitsubishi above all

others involved, since it is the one willing to risk moving to a foreign land to establish its business in an area which has already seen a similar business fail.

Walker reiterated that this is the largest Japanese investment ever in Canada, and that the future plans by Mitsubishi will make Midland's manufacturing plant a truly world-class production centre.

Walker also hoped that the North Simcoe area would "open the community to the

Japanese, as they have done in the past for the German people who began Ernst Leitz Limited in Midland in the 1950s."

Besides stressing these opinions and aspirations for the new corporate "kid on the block", Walker delineated a brief chronology of the events which lead up to the final announcement of Mitsubishi as the buyer for the old RCA plant in Midland.

Walker said that after searching virtually all

over the world for buyers for the plant, the provincial task force came up with six candidates. Four of these were Japanese electronics firms, and the other two were unrelated industries from North America.

The Japanese firms mentioned by Walker were Mitsubishi, Sony,

Toshiba, and Hitachi. Only Toshiba and Mitsubishi actually sent people to the plant for inspections.

Through the fall, Toshiba was the most likely candidate as far as the ministry could see, but in case of an emergency, concentrated negotiations continued with both Toshiba and Mitsubishi.

In January of this year, Toshiba officially withdrew from the proceedings, saying that North America was too limited a market for its production expectations.

It was then that Mitsubishi stepped to the fore, and talks between Mitsubishi, ministry officials, and RCA intensified.

MEICA completes survey

The planning to modify the production machinery at the former RCA colour picture tube plant by Mitsubishi; the plant's new owner, was completed on Tuesday.

Mitsubishi's engineers have determined which of the plant's machinery can be modified here in Canada, and which equipment will be sent to Japan.

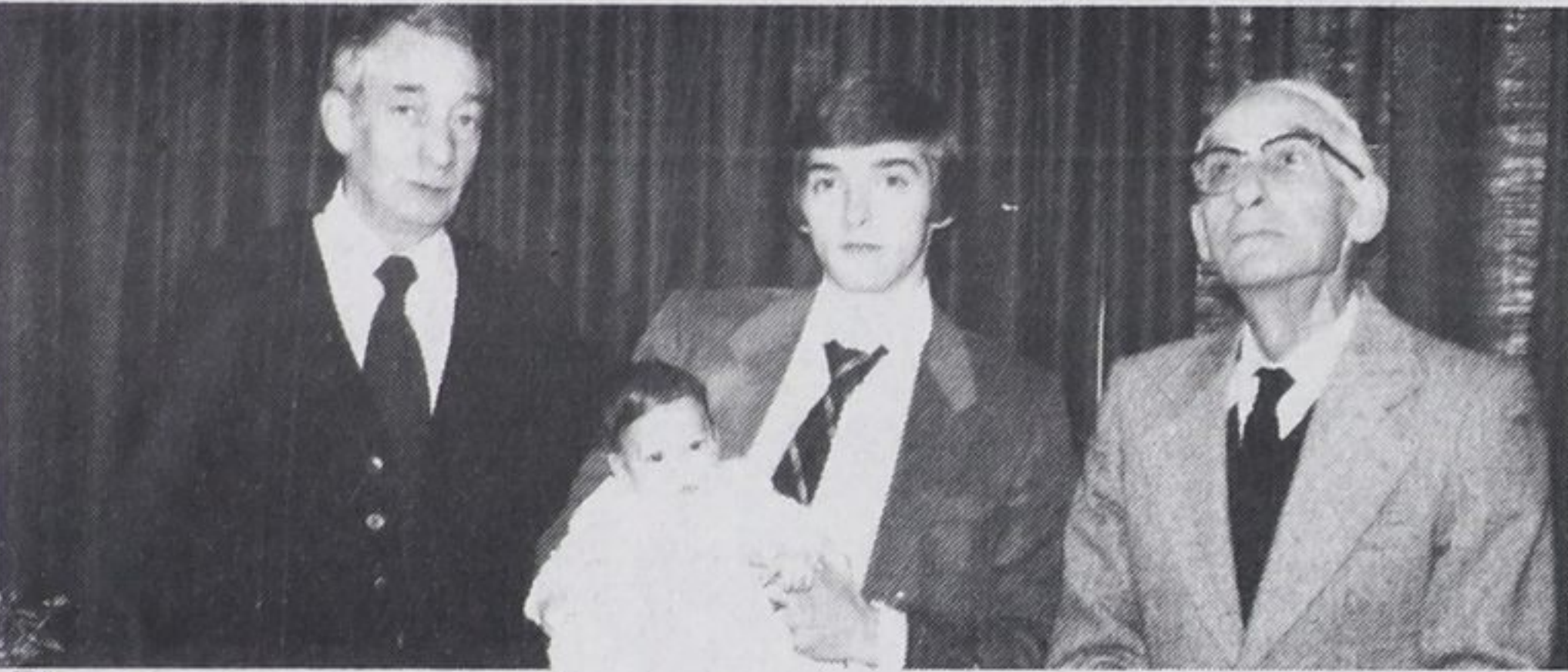
The majority of the 15 Japanese engineers who have been here have returned to Kyoto, Japan. Mitsubishi Electronics Industries Canada Inc. (MEICA) sales manager Jeff

Saake said.

Saake is one of the few Mitsubishi employees who have come from Japan who will be staying here. Another is Mitsubishi Electronics Industries Canada Inc. president Yutaka Takano.

Production is set, tentatively, to resume in January of new year. Some retraining will be necessary for the new employees, most of whom will be drawn from the local pool of unemployed RCA employees.

This month or next month equipment will be shipped by water from Japan to Midland. Saake, later this month, will be visiting potential customers of MEICA in Canada and in the United States.



Four generations

Four generations of the Leclairs of Penetanguishene were present for the christening of the youngest Leclair, Jorden. From left are his grandfather

William Leclair, his father Steven Leclair, and his great-grandfather Willard Leclair.



The Art Print Shoppe cordially invites you to attend the opening night preview of

The Art of Marian Cousineau

Monday, August 8, 1983
from 7 pm to 10 pm
at the Art Print Shoppe
343 King St., Midland, Ont.
light refreshments served
show runs from August 8 to Sept. 6
Open House Saturday, August 13
meet the artist noon to 6pm

SPECIAL THANKS

Nick Boudouris of the Dock Lunch would like to thank the following for their time and prizes to make the 4th annual Bikini Contest a success.

- Castle Village Gift Shop
- Penetang Bottling
- Gerow's Flowers
- MacDonald's Pro Hardware
- My Place Hair Design
- Marie's Dress Shop
- Mailloux's Footwear
- Marlin Travel
- Rust Check
- Meatland
- Ken Gauthier Sports
- Gianetto's
- Bay Pharmacy
- French's Dry Cleaners
- Hans Rick's Garage
- Memories Roadhouse

Special thanks to CKMP & Scott Warnock

Thanks to Labatt's and Penetanguishene Rotary Club for providing a week of fun for residents and visitors to Penetanguishene; to the Girls that entered, see you next year; to Eddie Shack for coming and being our Head Judge; and a special thanks to my staff, who worked so hard and made it possible.

Dock Lunch Ice Cubes are now 75¢ per bag

