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Thornhill Bay Department Store

About 300 positions for female and male store employees in 1974 plus a \$6,000,000 construction project in the meantime at Thornhill Properties Limited's Towne and Countryside Square, Yonge Street and Steeles Avenue, were announced Tuesday of last week during a reception at the Plaza Room of the Park Plaza Hotel. The Square serves many York Region shoppers, particularly those from the Thornhill area. The announcement was made jointly by the Hudson's Bay Company and Thornhill Properties. The new 20,000-square-foot retail space two-level Bay Department Store will be the company's eighth outlet in the Toronto region. **THIRD EXPANSION** This is the third expansion project at the 37-acre Towne and Countryside Square since it opened in 1962. There was a \$4,000,000 expansion in 1966 and a \$3,000,000 expansion in 1968. The new Bay Store will bring the retail selling area there to 500,000 square feet with 80,000 square feet of public and mall, 70 stores and offices, plus a movie theatre and parking for 2,600 cars. The total cost now is at \$16,500,000. Besides The Bay, major tenants are Savette and Miracle Mart department stores and Loblaws' supermarket. The Bay now has four stores in Toronto: Cloverdale Mall, Lawrence Plaza, Eglinton Square and Fairview Mall. Last year three new Bay stores were announced in the Toronto region, at Bramalea and Mississauga City Centre opening in 1973, and a flagship store on the northeast corner of Yonge and Bloor Streets opening in 1974. **OFFERING FULL LINE** The Bay's new store is to offer a full line of consumer goods, including The Bay's fashions for men and women. A company spokesman said plans call for staff to be drawn from among residents of the local community. "The Towne and Countryside Square gives the Bay the opportunity of participating in an established shopping centre and locating in a trading area which isn't only well developed, but which has excellent opportunities for future growth," said Bay Retail Stores Managing Director Don McGivern. **COMPANY DELIGHTED** President Mark Tanz and Vice-President Sydney Blackburn represented Thornhill Properties at the announcement reception. President Tanz said his company was delighted to welcome The Bay to Towne and Countryside Square. "We believe this fashion-oriented, exciting and contemporary store will make a significant contribution to the Towne and Countryside family of retail stores and services," said General Manager Blackman.

In The Spotlight

(Continued from Page 2)

The Robinsons have a great deal of energy and interest in people. Until 1956 they owned Adanac Island in Georgian Bay — about a mile off shore from Pointe-Au-Baril Station. One of the five largest islands in the 30,000 island group. They ran a fishing camp there for 13 years, summers.

Soon after Ernie retired last year they moved to Stratford, rented an apartment and looked around for suitable quarters for the antique shop they've always wanted to own. They found it on Erie Street. I was delighted to go from bottom to top of their three-level old home; which Vivienne Robinson has furnished with her own collection of antique furniture and curious and interesting pieces of art... including her large "jug" or pitcher collection. The shop is on the first level, to the left of the solid front porch of the house.

Talk about an Old Curiosity Shop... it is delightful... and the Robinsons add to their antiques weekly.

We saw milk glass, among which was a gorgeous hanging lamp. Bayreuth bone china and Royal Doulton. A delicate little Bavarian china "orange" with leafy garland encircling it... Just the type of marmalade pot someone would love to put on a tea-tray, or breakfast table.

The Robinsons also have Fience pottery and Limoges china. Ernie told me in answer to a question, that people who are trying to match up sets most frequently ask for Limoges dinner plates.

There's a little story about Haviland Limoges from France. An importer in New York applied to the town of Limoges to import this china to the States. But they did not want it to leave France. So, he bought a factory there; renovated it and put in many new methods of manufacturing. He employed the local townspeople and finally had his own export business!

Stratford is such a beautiful and historic town to visit. As you walk along the Avon River bank, the swans glide past, or prune themselves on the grassy river bank. Tame, complacent, yet regal as only a swan can be they make no move to leave their resting place as you pass them, close enough to touch them... if you only dared.

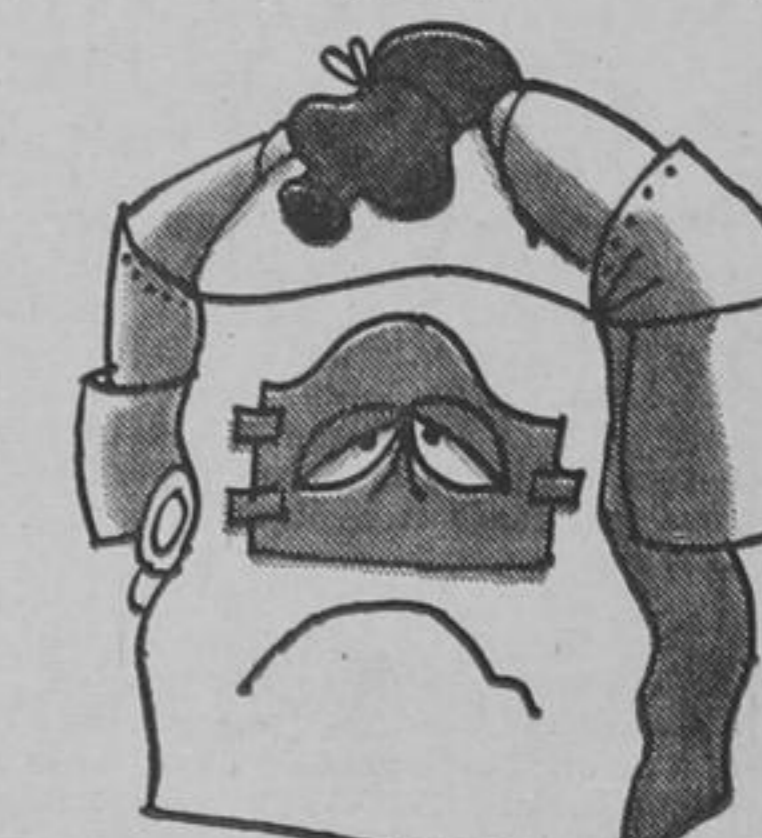
We saw one pair with their young cygnet in tow... gliding gracefully through the calm waters of the river. The "youngster" in his unfinished, ruffled, dirtywhite feathery state, brought to my mind the story of "The Ugly Duckling". It was nice to realize that some day he would become a gleaming white, smooth-feathered, red-beaked swan like his attendant parents.

Of course we strolled through the lovely Shakespearean Garden too. Naming over the fragrant old-English plants... all of which are mentioned in one or another of Shakespeare's plays.

Then we walked through the old business section of town. Streets built like spokes of a wheel out from the old grandeur of the city hall. (Destruction of which was prevented by interested residents). But we noted the stores in this section, like those on downtown main street Richmond Hill, are modernized to suit the times. However, I was amazed at the number of vacant apartments above the stores. Sometimes a whole street, of four or five stories.

I think one of the most significant remarks of my visit came from a conversation with Ernie when I spoke of his (so-called) retirement. And he said to me, "This is not retirement. This is a change of living."

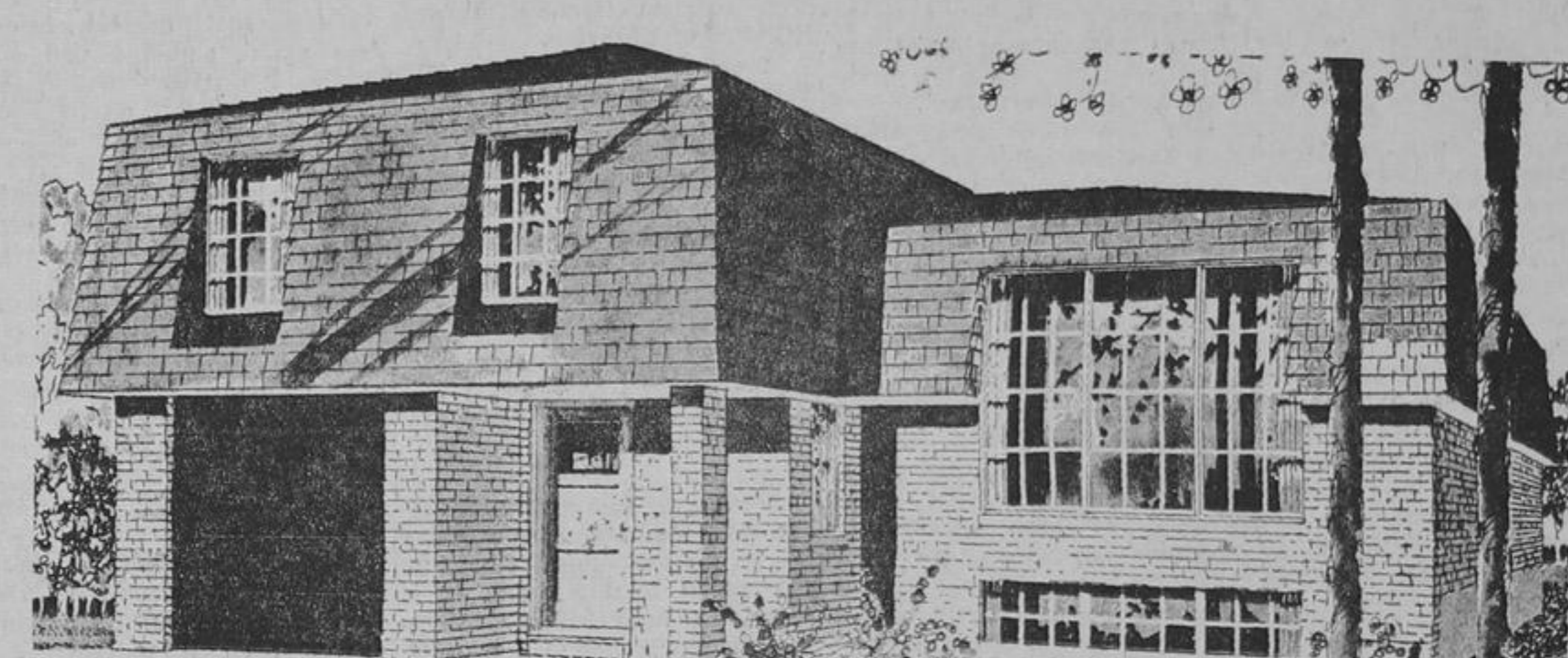
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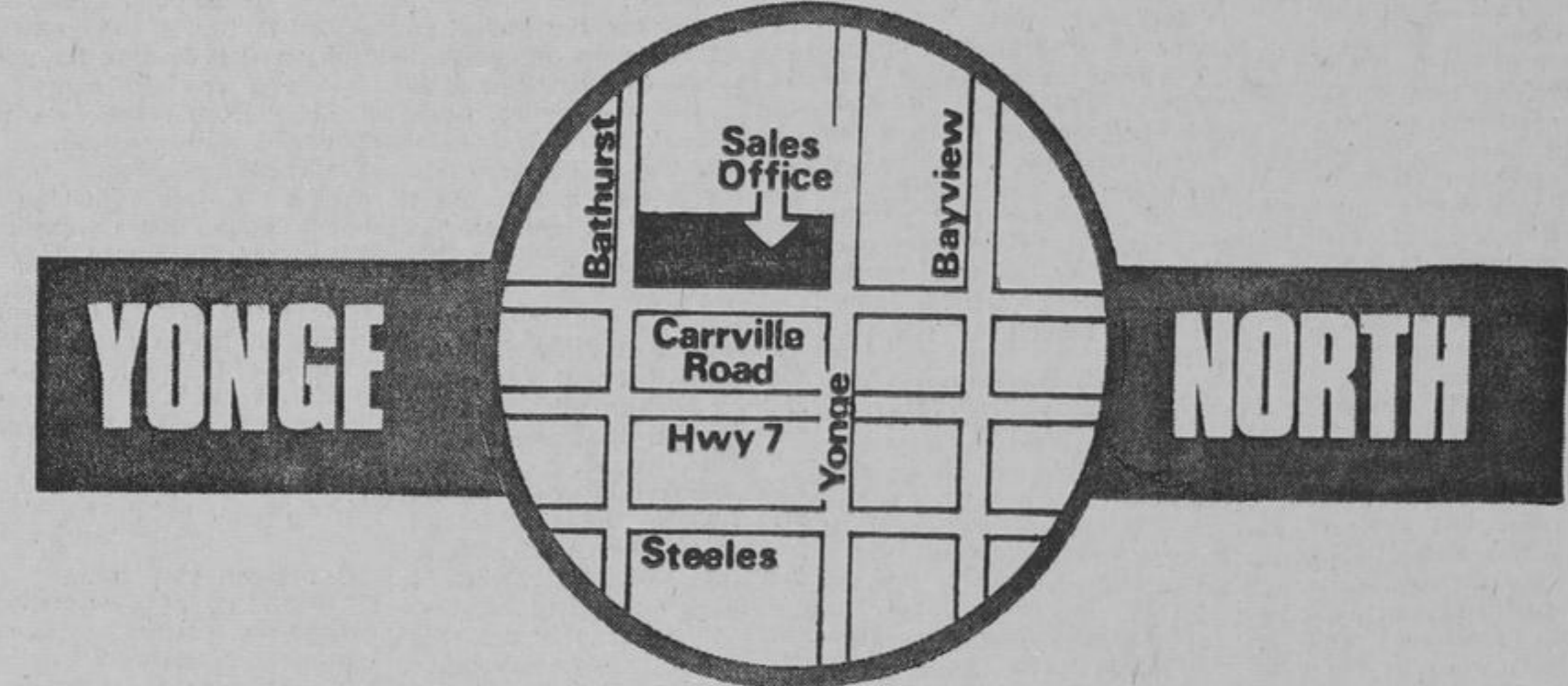
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