



queen's park
By ALF STONG
MLA—York-Centre

Private member's bill fails

My Private Member's Bill, The Innocent Persons Protection Act, which would have banned identification by the media of persons accused with offences prior to their trial, was debated on Thursday evening, April 12, in the Legislative Assembly.

another principle, namely, that trials should not be closed to the public. My Private Member's Bill did not deal with the trial at all but with the time prior to the commencement of the trial.

The spokesmen for the Conservative Party were split. The only real attack from the Conservatives was that of the constitutionality of the Bill. In my opinion the Bill in protecting the reputation of innocent persons falls squarely within the jurisdiction of the Provinces dealing with the protection of civil rights.

The Bill itself was simple in form and easily understandable. I thought, however, a more lengthy debate would have made it quite clear that the issue that I was debating narrowed down to a choice between the protection of the reputation of the individual or the freedom of the media to market the news, all of which refer to the time period prior to the commencement of the trial.

justifiable lack of faith in the Government's forecasts, the question now becomes not when will the budget be balanced, but when will the trend to ever-larger deficits be reversed. "Moreover, if we don't soon start creating new wealth in Ontario, we shall necessarily be committing ourselves to ever higher levels of taxation in the years ahead. There is no way around that inevitability."

Canadian to make that payment this year, showing an exchange loss of about \$5 million, with more losses to come in the future.

This was evidence to me throughout the course of debate, particularly in reference to the remarks made by the N.D.P. Justice Critic who missed the point of the Bill entirely and dwelt solely on

During the Liberal Party's formal response to the new Provincial Budget, our Financial Critic David Peterson, MPP (London Centre) referred to the Government's latest commitment to balancing the budget by 1984 as a "sham".

He pointed out that if the Government's own projections are correct and if the current rate of decline of the deficit (2.2 per cent) continues, it would take some 43 years before revenues matched expenditures. In addition, this year's forecast doesn't even include an estimate of revenue loss from uptake of the proposed Small Business Development Program.

Ontario's deficits have, in some part, in the past been financed by loans taken out in German Deutschmark. These loans were taken out at a much lower exchange rate, and when one of the loans became due and payable in 1975, it produced an actual loss for the province of \$9.55 million.

The Province still has outstanding two loans in DM and we face even more severe losses due to the continuing rise in value of the DM. For instance, this year a portion of one of the loans became due on February 1.

Of the \$269 million being raised in tax increases, almost 70 per cent (or 184 million) are taxes on the individual consumer. Contrast that with the \$5 million increase in the capital tax rate on banks. It's clear who this Government is catering to, and it's not the average taxpayer of Ontario.

Schools benefit from Arbor Day

Arbor Day, April 25, in Richmond Hill has special significance to students of St. Charles Garnier Separate School and Pleasantville Public School.

Today is Arbor Day in Richmond Hill and the whole week, April 22 to 28, has been set aside by the town as Arbor Week.

Mr. Storozinski said the town is planting in many areas this year, but Carrville Road will get more trees than other streets, 95, because of the reconstruction done last year which disturbed the landscaping.

Aesthetics is the major reason for planting the trees, said Mr. Storozinski, as the trees add a "charm and a warmth" to the town, he said.

These two schools have been chosen to receive two new trees each from the town to be planted in a special ceremony with Mayor Dave Schiller and the town Arborist, Eugene Storozinski.

The mayor and Mr. Storozinski will give a talk to the students of Grades 4, 5 and 6 to be followed by the presentation of a framed citation from the town to honor the winner of an essay contest entitled "What Trees Mean to Me".

In addition, "given our

it required over \$9 million

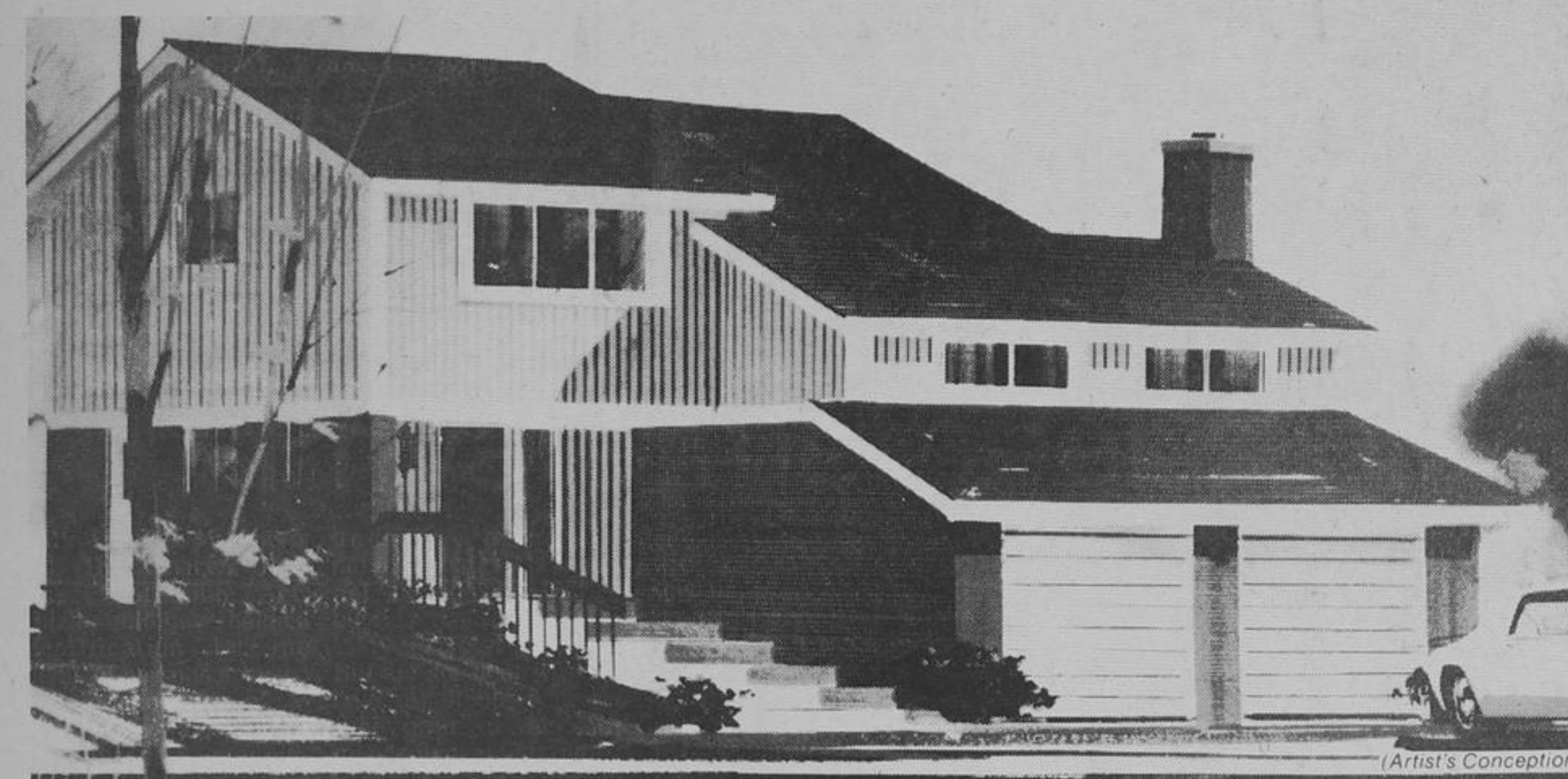
Overall this Budget can only be described as a boring, muddled, piecemeal attempt to get through another year. The total lack of priority and clarity are frighteningly obvious. Within the context of a \$15.5 billion budget, we see only tinkering.

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MISSISSAUGA 606 Southdown Rd. 822-0251

Oshawa: King West Garden Centre, 847 King St. W., 728-9429
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