

Ontario County Council in Uproar Over \$45,000 Over-Expenditure in Road Dept.

Arising out of a discussion of an over-expenditure of between \$45,000 and \$50,000 in the accounts of the Road Committee, Warden Thomas H. Harding of Reach Township threatened to resign, at the session of the Ontario County Council at Whitby, Thursday morning. Warden Harding said he would not make a hasty decision and for that reason would inform Council of his intentions later.

Warden Harding pointed out that the reports of the Roads Committee, submitted to the district engineer, had not been submitted to him for his signature. Actually, it was stated, the reports to the district engineer are prepared by County Engineer D. J. Kean and are signed by him.

During the session, with Warden Harding absent from the room, Council passed a strong vote of confidence in its warden and the Road Committee and absolved them of all blame in connection with the conditions brought to its attention regarding the road accounts.

Later in the session on the return of the warden, the question of the over-expenditure was raised by the Warden, this time with a view to determining how many of the County Council members knew the exact amount of money paid to County employees under the jurisdic-

tion of the Road Committee. In addition the Warden told the Council that he contacted the District Engineer by phone and had been assured that the reports from the County Engineer only reached his office in May, August and October and that they were signed only by the engineer.

"There is supposed to be a monthly breakdown report sent to the district engineer" said the Warden. Warden Harding told Council in the matter of salary paid to the County employees under the jurisdiction of the Road Committee, no payment was supposed to be made

Year's Budget \$216,000
The County Road Committee this year had a budget of \$216,000. At present there is approximately six thousand dollars remaining of this amount. A new road main-tainer and a four-wheel drive truck costing approximately \$30,000 still have to be paid for.

In this year's budget provision was made for the erection of a garage to house road equipment, at a central point in the County and the purchase of the two pieces of road equipment mentioned above.

Members of Council are preparing a by-law to provide for a supplementary amount of \$25,000 for county road purposes.

During this session Ewart Marsdon, district engineer of the Department of Highways, voiced some criticism of the Ontario County Road Board for allowing such an expenditure.

Claims Warning Given
Warden Harding claims that he had warned both the county engineer and the committee, every time it met, against an over-expenditure. He said he would not sit as warden of the county and take such criticism when he had fought against it.



Mrs. Catharine Grenon of Windsor, Ont., may raise her son Wayne as a Protestant. Her husband now in prison, from whom she was separated, wished to have the 7-year-old boy raised as a Roman Catholic but Judge E. A. Shaughnessy handed down judgment that the mother, under circumstances, was entitled to raise the child as she wished.

without first getting a voucher signed by the engineer and Road Committee chairman. "There is no subsidy paid unless a voucher is signed," he said.

D. B. Annis, of Pickering Township, Chairman of the County Road Committee, said that he thought any salary set by Council bylaw had to be paid regardless.

The Warden reiterated that such payments were not subsidized unless a voucher is signed.

Mr. Annis asked a question of the Warden. "Do you mean to say that no subsidy has been paid on these payments during the past year?"

"I will answer that with another question," said Mr. Harding. "How were the vouchers made out without your signature?"

"This entire situation has gone on long enough," said the Warden, "for pity's sake why don't you do something about it while you have the chance?"

All-Night Session Retains Engineer
On Friday council sat long into the night on the situation regarding the road accounts, and at one o'clock voted to retain Engineer D. J. Kean, whose dismissal was under consideration because of his budget having been exceeded by the sum of \$45,000.



Sir Richard Acland won a seat in the British House of Commons for Atlee's Labor government in the Graveside by-election. Though he won by a narrow margin, a Labor victory at the polls is considered significant at this time.

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Women across Canada were quick to notify the Canadian Association of Consumers that they protested the sudden jump in the price of home-grown fruits and vegetables following news of U.S. import restrictions, according to Mrs. R. J. Marshall of Agincourt, president of the association.

"Calls and letters from our consumer workers also indicated concern over the distribution of oranges now that they are to enter the country on a quota basis," Mrs. Marshall said.

"Consequently, the executive committee felt I should see Finance Minister Abbott immediately so that I could report to our association."

"Last week I saw Mr. Abbott and am particularly happy to learn that

there will be an adequate supply of oranges," Mrs. Marshall said. "Young mothers particularly, were fearful that their children would go short as a result of the restriction on imports: I am glad to learn that the trade is taking steps to augment the Canadian supply of oranges through imports from such countries as Palestine, Jamaica and British Honduras. The Minister has assured me too, of equitable distribution of these imports."

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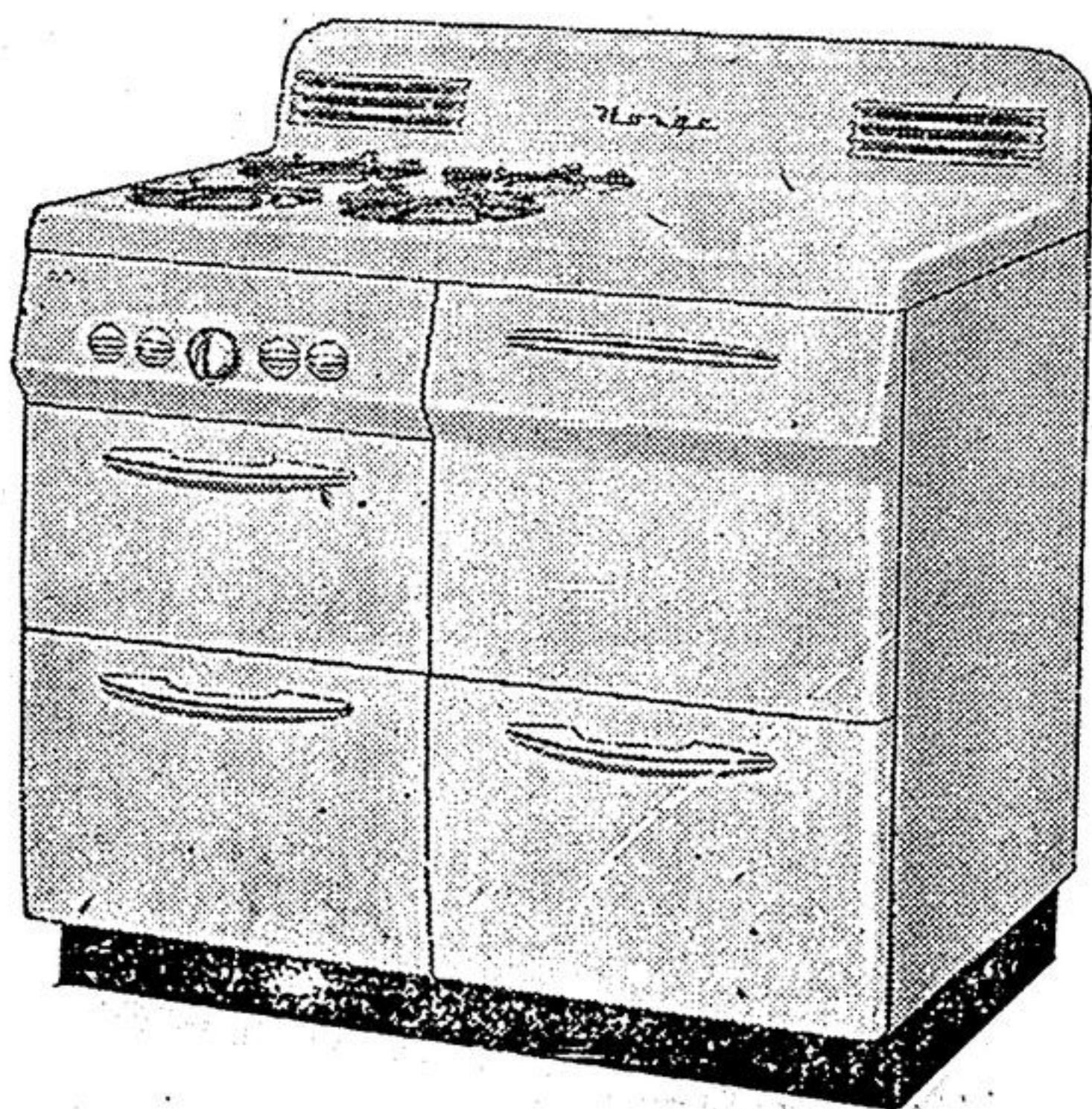
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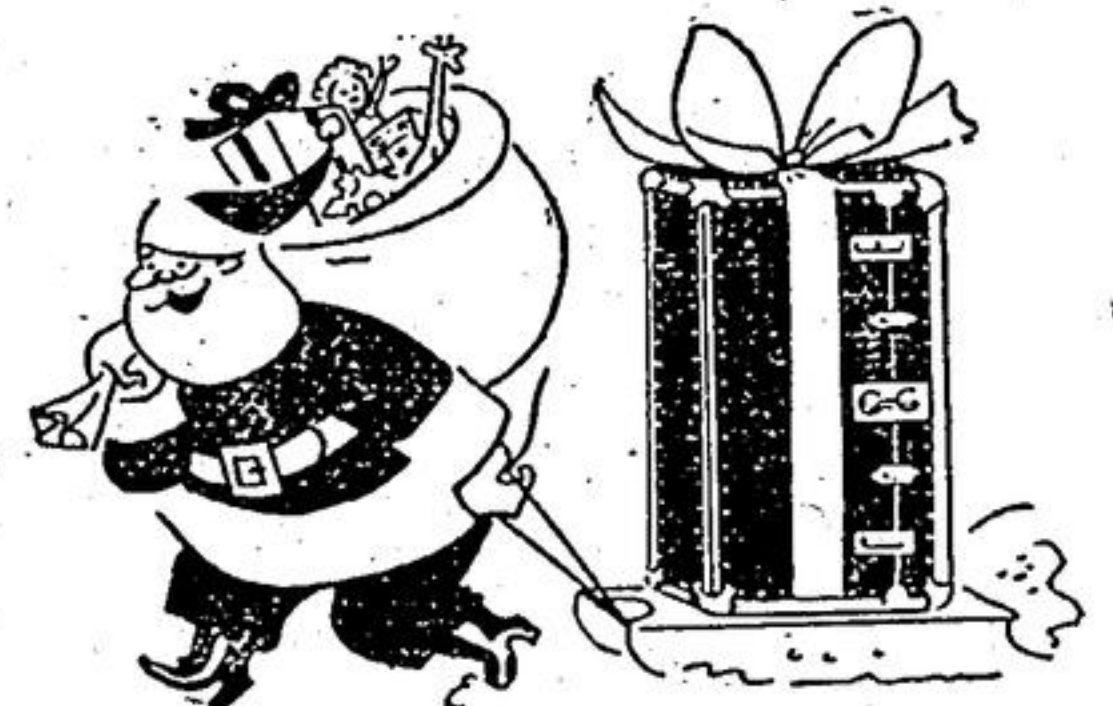
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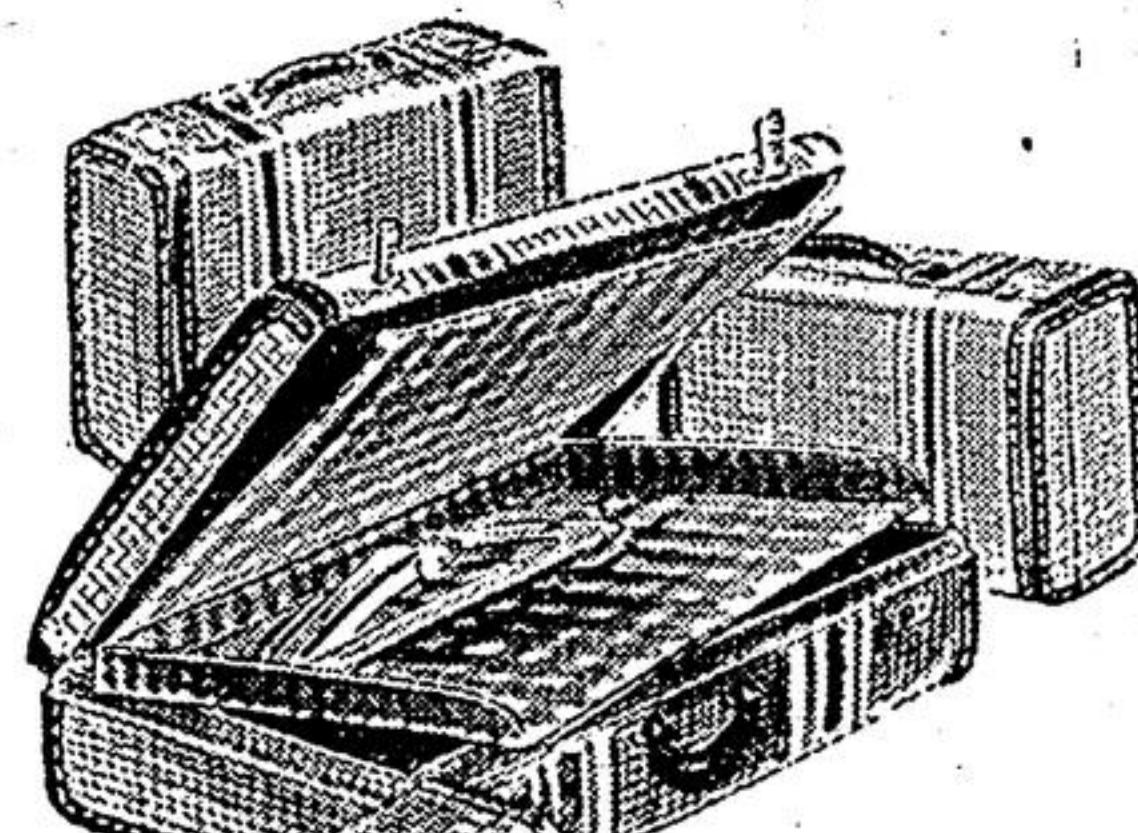
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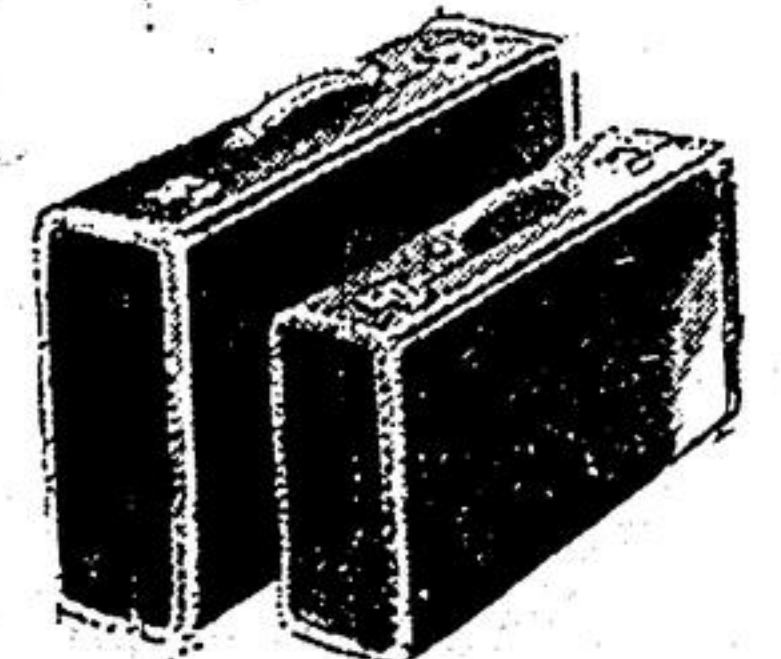
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