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Arthur Swift Dead Former Garage Operator Here

Former garage operator in Stouffville for twenty years, and more recently a resident of Toronto, Arthur Swift succumbed to a heart attack on Friday of last week. Only two weeks previous he had retired from his mechanic's position with Little Motors, Weston, and was enjoying his hobby of carpentering. At the time of his fatal attack he was proceeding upstairs to summon help in order to lift a piece of furniture.

The late Arthur Swift was born in Midland 65 years ago, but spent much of his childhood in Lindsay. Thirty-nine years ago he married Hazel Dehoney who survives him. The couple came to Stouffville in 1920 where Mr. Swift operated a garage business at the corner of Main St. and Park Rd. south. He was a member of Richardson Lodge, the Canadian Legion and served on the town council. The family attended the United Church in Stouffville.

The late "Art" Swift as he was popularly known, was a keen sports follower. He served four years in World War I and rose to the rank of Sgt. Major.

The family left Stouffville twelve years ago and have made their home in Toronto since that time. Besides his wife, the deceased is survived by two sons, George and Jack in Toronto; and two daughters, Mrs. John Thuro (Joyce) of Toronto, and Mrs. Wm. Sanders (Edith) of Stouffville; there are four brothers, Willis, Walter, Wilbert and Stanley, and two sisters, Mrs. Carr (Rena) and Mrs. Dillings (Maude), also twelve grandchildren.

The funeral on Monday afternoon was conducted from Brown Bros. Funeral Home. Rev. W. Davidson conducted the service at the chapel and the graveside. Pallbearers were Stanley Swift, Walter Swift, Dick Hopkins, Harmon Rew, John Thuro, Wm. Sanders.

There are nearly 1700 lines of classified advertising in this issue including the listing of 17 auction sales. One real estate ad. received over 20 replies last week.

Mrs. Fred Crossen of Stouffville was a member of the winning rink in the curling bonspiel held in Unionville this week. The winners skipped by John Grant Sr. of Milliken walked off with the Davidson trophy. Some twenty rinks participated in the tournament.

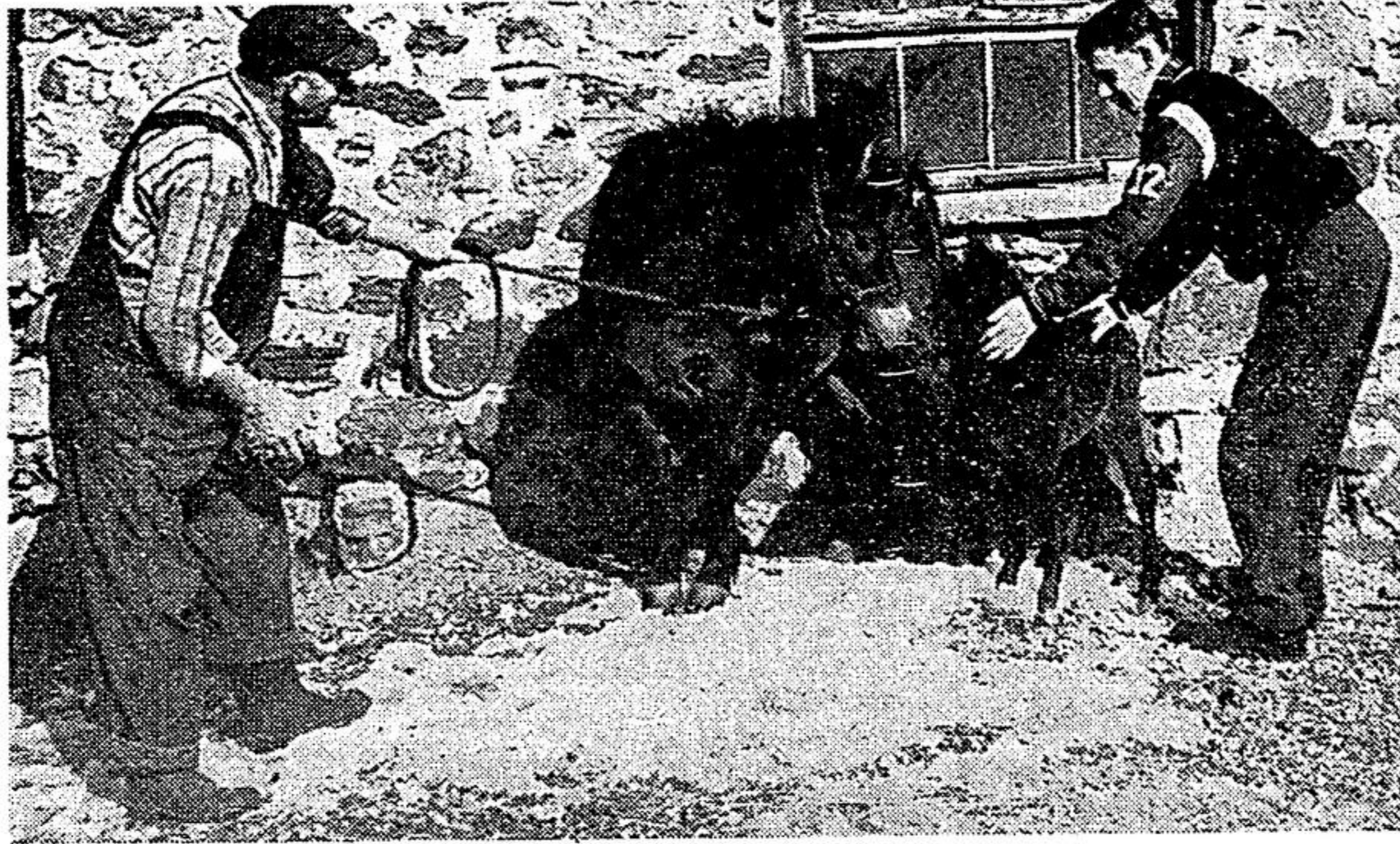
Pupils of Peggy Clark, A.R.C.T., who were successful in the mid-winter examinations at the Royal Conservatory in Toronto were Joy Wood, Gr. IX (hon.); Marian Gostick, Gr. VIII piano and Gr. II Theory (first class honours).

Early Budget Estimates Would Place Tax Rate Near 50 Mills

If early budget estimates can be taken as any criterion, Stouffville's tax rate for 1952 may be struck in the neighborhood of 50 mills. Last year's rate was 42. The Stouffville Community Centre Board which operates the local park appeared before council on Monday evening with a budget of \$5,000. This figure is made up of \$2200 for a new building to replace the present grandstand, \$1,000 for maintenance, and approximately \$2,800 for placing an asphalt surface on the tennis courts. Members of the Board, Mrs. Les. Wilson and Mrs. Bert Tait, who appeared before council stated that this amount would be lowered by \$1,000 by virtue of a donation from the Lions Club who had offered to contribute this amount to the surfacing of the tennis courts. Council suggested that the matter of a new building might be omitted to keep the budget within bounds. The final figure to be approved was left until estimates of other departments are placed before council.

Biggest jolt was received from the Public School Board which has asked for a levy of approximately \$16,000, or nearly double last year's figure. If the school budget were approved it would mean almost seven mills added to the tax rate. Chief reason for this year's exaggerated public school budget, it was revealed, arises out of the fact that the board spent their entire remaining surplus last year. In so doing they were

THE FIRST SPRING COLT



Mr. Bill Morris, well known farmer and breeder of Shetland ponies, east of Stouffville on the Uxbridge-Whitchurch townline is pictured here with his most recent addition. The young colt which weighed

just 42 pounds at birth is the son of a Royal Winter Fair and C.N.E. Grand Champion also owned by Mr. Morris. The owner still retains the record of raising the smallest pony ever born in Canada weighing

27 pounds. Mr. Morris, left, is being assisted by Jim Thomas, Tribune reporter, in lining up the young fellow for the camera. (Photo by Cadieux)

Higher Hydro Rates Are Forecast Here

While the municipality of Stouffville received as a 1951 operating profit the sum of \$2,933.33, higher rates are forecast for local consumers because of continued heavy capital expenditure and loss of revenue on an extremely low second rate.

Council received what is known as the "thirteenth bill" at their regular meeting on Monday evening. This cheque for the 1951 profit rebate is slightly below the previous year. It was pointed out by utility secretary Geo. Storey that between \$5,000 and \$6,000 had been expended in new transformers during the last six months, and the local hydro department's surplus had skidded down to less than \$5,000.

Stouffville enjoys low hydro rates. The second rate which is 5 is possibly one of the lowest in the province, and it is the large amount of current used by consumers and falling under this second rate, that is losing money for the local department.

Hydro consumed during the month of January cost the Stouffville department \$2,830.83.

Mr. and Mrs. Dalton Lewis of Leaside were visitors in Stouffville on Sunday with his mother, Mrs. J. Lewis.

Markham Carpenters Injured in Fall From Scaffold

On Saturday afternoon while dismantling a barn on the Harris Estate located on Daves Road near Eglinton Ave., Mr. Samuel Housser and son Gord, well-known carpenters who reside at Markham, toppled from the barn roof to the ground some thirty feet below. Gordon Housser along with his father was rushed to the East General Hospital where it was discovered that he had received a fractured pelvis. Mr. Sam Housser, although retained for a time under observation was later released.

The scaffold on which the two men were standing was supported by a rope tied to the other side of the barn. The weight of the workers, however, proved to be too great for the rope which snapped throwing the men to the ground. Gordon Housser, although severely injured, escaped almost certain death only by inches when he landed a short distance from a stone wall. On the previous day there had been five men standing on the wooden scaffold but at the time of the accident only the two carpenters were using the platform as a means of support. The barn was purchased by Mr. Carl Reesor on the 5th concession of Markham and was being dismantled at time of the accident.

Breakin Artist Still at Work

Two more house breakins occurred in Markham Township during the weekend, and Township police are convinced that the "jobs" are all the work of the same individual who has been ransacking homes throughout the district for months.

At Langstaff, the home of Geo. Hales was entered and \$60 in cash stolen. The Ken Stiver residence was also entered but the thief left empty-handed. Both breakins occurred about 8 o'clock in the evening. Entrance was gained in the one instance through the milk cupboard and in the other through a cellar window.

Truck Fells Four Poles Driver Is Unscathed

After knocking down two hydro poles and two telephone poles on the 5th concession of Markham on Saturday morning, Garnet Rae of R.R.2 Stouffville, climbed down out of the cab of his gravel truck without a scratch.

After surveying the damage to his vehicle he started it up again and drove it to Stouffville where it is undergoing repairs. Hydro service was temporarily disrupted. After the truck left the road and clipped off the poles it careened through a fence narrowly missing the farm home of Mrs. Jos. Kirk and came to a halt in the garden.

Rae said his lunch pail fell down off the seat against the hoist lever of the dump truck. When he reached down to get it the vehicle hit a bump, bounced off the road and crashed into the poles.

Military Funeral for Veteran of Two Wars

A full military funeral will be conducted for the late George Saunders from the Stouffville United Church this Friday afternoon at 2.30 o'clock. Mr. Saunders passed away on Tuesday evening after being ill for several months. Mr. and Mrs. Saunders only recently moved to their new home on the 9th con. just north of Main St.

The late George Saunders retired from his position as local post office caretaker in the fall, after 25 years service. He was one of the eldest men to hold the position but was most active for his years. Of Old Country stock, he served in both World War I and World War II, and was always a keen follower of military discipline.

Male or Female Office Help in Whitchurch Recorded Vote Decides

It required a recorded vote at the regular meeting of Whitchurch Township Council on Thursday evening to decide whether or not the municipality should add male or female office help. The vote found Councillors McCarron, Baycroft and Deputy-Reeve Timbers lining up in favour of a resolution to instruct Clerk Crawford to engage Thos. Kerr of Lemonville, whom they selected from among three personal applications, and to arrange hours and final salary. Councillor P. S. Legge opposed the motion.

Councillor Legge argued strenuously against the engaging of a man as a clerical assistant for Clerk Crawford, favouring engaging a girl for office help.

"You'll have office salaries here of \$8,000 soon," commented Councillor Legge.

Councillor Legge contended that female help could be engaged at a saving. Councillor McCarron countered with the point that Clerk Crawford required the assistance of a young man who could shoulder more responsibility from the clerk.

Mr. Earl Toole, prominent Whitchurch farmer, had the misfortune last week to take a tumble on the ice and break his leg.

Markham Township Council Moves to Exempt Farm Land From Fire and Police Costs

A resolution was approved at the regular meeting of Markham Township Council on Monday afternoon which will exempt all farm lands in the municipality up to ninety per cent for purposes of police and fire protection costs. The clerk was instructed to prepare a bylaw to cover this change. The move came following a request from the local Federation of Agriculture branch for some exemption. Such exemption is provided for in the statutes and in the assessment act. Mr. Brumwell speaking for the farmer delegation, requested the annual half mill levy for Federation of Agriculture purposes.

It was pointed out by Mr. Brumwell that there is only a very brief period of the year when farmers stand any fire risk from grain and hay in the fields. Police protection likewise, is not required for vacant land.

A bylaw was read calling for the issuing of debentures to the amount of \$1,500 for the Box Grove School Section for the purpose of alterations in this rapidly expanding school.

A complaint was received from Messrs. Pipher and Doner, 10th con. farmers concerning a dog which they alleged was killing ducks in the vicinity. The local police were instructed to investigate the complaint.

Councillor Lennie reported to council that he had arranged a meeting with North York Council on March 17th in connection with a revision of York's water agreement with Markham.

The township police were instructed to enforce half-load regulations on all township roads during the months of March and April and signs will be posted to inform truckers of same. Discretion will be used in the enforcement during periods when the roads are considered to be frozen sufficiently to permit heavier traffic.

ATTENTION VETERANS!

All veterans are requested to meet at the Veterans' Hall, Stouffville, at 1.30 p.m. on Friday afternoon, in order attend the military funeral for the late Comrade George Saunders.

All subscriptions to The Tribune expiring in December are being discontinued with this issue. This is according to audit regulations. Be sure and renew so that you will not miss a copy if your subscription time is up.

Steps Taken to Enforce Ban On Year-Round Cottagers

Whitchurch Township has taken a further step this week to enforce a land restrictions bylaw which bans the use of summer cottages as year-round dwellings, and the renting of same for this purpose.

A letter has gone forward to these residents informing them of the restrictions and carrying with it a copy of the bylaw.

It has been pointed out on previous occasion that these cottage dwellers are frequently found on the relief rolls, and recent scrutiny of the township relief roll substantiates this contention.

Report on Convention

At the regular meeting of Whitchurch Council on Thursday night

CELEBRATE MUNICIPAL BIRTHDAY

In a fast move on Monday evening, Stouffville Municipal Council agreed by resolution to mark Aug. 2nd and 3rd as a two-day observance of the 75th anniversary of the town. Two previous public meetings had failed to bring forth any decisive decisions in the matter.

While no definite program plans have been formulated, it is believed that a Saturday parade and field day followed by a community memorial service, will be the general outline. Local organizations are to be called upon to provide the personnel necessary to handle such a program.

Fined \$30 for "Lifting" Whitchurch Timber

A fine of \$30 was imposed on Mr. LeRoy and probation on a young lad who assisted in the removal of between sixty and seventy posts belonging to the Township of Whitchurch. The case was heard in Newmarket court on Thursday.

The posts were part of a number of cedar trees cut by the township in conjunction with the Sutton hydro linesmen on the 5th concession. Pat Preston noticed the truck remove the posts, and turned the license number over to the authorities.

Rob Taxi Driver On 3rd Con. Markham

On Tuesday night taxi driver Andy Wilcox of Toronto was held up at gun point and robbed at a lonely spot on the 3rd concession of Markham near Steeles Avenue. The passenger, described as being a young man around 22 years of age demanded that the driver hand over his money and after leaving the cab struck off across the field. The driver immediately called Constable W. Shearn of the Markham Township Police who rushed to the scene and although tracks in the snow were still plainly visible the fog prevented any thorough investigation.

Local Family Involved, Hit-and-Run Accident

On Sunday night, Mr. W. G. Chamberlain who resides 2½ miles north of Bethesda was proceeding along the Don Mills Road near Shepherd Avenue accom-

panied by his wife, a thirteen year old daughter Judith and three other back seat occupants when a speeding car bore down on them from the rear sending their auto careening into the ditch. The Chamberlain car sheered off a hydro pole and turned over. As the auto rolled over on its side Mr. Chamberlain had the presence of mind to turn off the ignition before the gasoline soaked vehicle had time to burst into flames. Judith Chamberlain, riding in the

front seat with her parents, was thrown into the rear section of the car by the force of the impact.

Riding in the back seat was Mrs. Ruby Bagnato and her two children. She noticed the big car trying to pass their auto and sensing an accident threw herself over her smaller daughter protecting her from possible death. The doors of the wrecked car were jammed and the smaller occupants had to be pulled through the partly open windows. While the accident occupants were trying desperately to escape from the gasoline soaked vehicle the hydro wires from the broken pole swayed dangerously overhead threat-

ening at any minute to turn the car into a burning inferno. Mrs. Chamberlain and her daughter along with Mrs. Bagnato and her children were taken to the East General for observation but were later released.

The hit-and-run auto was believed to be a stolen car according to police and although eye witnesses to the accident noted the licence number and year of the vehicle no doubt the occupants would abandon the car before they had travelled many miles. Although the Chamberlain auto is a complete wreck Mr. Chamberlain claims that he is only too thankful that they escaped with their lives.