



**Bowling pair win high triple**

Winners of the Markham Inter-League bowling championships received their awards Sunday, from the O'Keefe Brewing Company. Ted Burchell with an 843 and Vera Denning, a 717, holds trophies. —Staff Photo



**Pre-schooler in carnival**

All ready to make her debut in the 18th annual Ice Revue Saturday night is 3 year old Jannette Cooper, Stouffville, R.R. 2. —Staff Photo



**A champion and his master**

Ten year old Bret Davis, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Davis, R.R. 2, Claremont, holds Allen Don Colossus, a St. Bernard champion at the Sportsmen's Show, Toronto. —Staff Photo

**Chairman breaks tie vote**

PICKERING TWP. — Two voted for it, two voted against it, and the man in the middle had to cast the deciding vote.

This was an application of W. G. Newman, M.P.P., to separate a small piece of land having 35 feet frontage from his 50 acres in Brougham.

The small parcel was to be added to Brownwall Transit Commission's holdings at the corner of Old Brock Road and Hwy. 7, for an entrance and exit for school buses on the highway.

Village zoning permits residential, commercial, service and institutional uses, and the proposal was considered by the committee of adjustment last week as in keeping with the hamlet study.

H. S. Polak, solicitor representing Mr. Newman, said that this land had been used for some time for this purpose, and was not setting up a new use.

Mr. Glover, who recently purchased a one-family dwelling on the highway next the subject parcel, objected. He said it would devalue his property, and objected to the buses going on and off the highway next his house.

Mr. Polak said that this use was in existence when Mr. Glover came there, and the bus yard had been there for years and years. He said he believed it a different situation when a person owns a residence and the industrial use comes in. Mr. Glover's pro-

**Editor's Mail**

**In favor of open meetings**

By Councillor John Kruger Township of Pickering. The true test of a democracy lies in its ability to let a minority position be heard. In Pickering the test sometimes fails. I have disagreed with council on several points, but my position is not heard because Committee meetings exclude the press and public. I have been told to present a motion in Open Council if I disagree with the Committee. This I have done, but I have run immediately into a request to have my motion

tabled and consequently my position is not heard. This leaves me with a last recourse — go direct to the press. I feel that this should not be necessary for the answer to the problem is simple. The Pickering Township Council should open up its Committee of the Whole meetings to the press and public. It is my observation that 9 per cent of all business conducted in Committee of the whole is business which belongs in the public domain. Only the exceptions — personal matters, purchase of land, etc., should be conducted behind closed doors.

I feel very deeply about this matter. I agitated for open meetings while in the West Rouge Ratepayers and at the very first Committee meeting of this new Council I have raised the issue. The majority of Council at that time, turned it down. I have pressed it ever since for I believe the vested interests of ratepayers can best be served only when public business is conducted in an open public forum.

When closed doors are placed between the people and their representatives, the people become disinterested and apathetic. It is the way of things to have conflicts on issues before Council, and a Council which processes business in public in a mechanical way without conflict is not only dull but it is also suspect.

In Committee this new Council is not dull, and there are often sharp disagreements. Why Council would wish to hide this fact behind closed doors escapes me. A ratepayer's interest in Municipal affairs is directly proportionate to how close he can get to the heart of the action. In his own eyes, every ratepayer is an expert on Municipal affairs. For Municipal Councils are the closest form of government that there is to the people. And

any ratepayer can run for Council. To be a critic of Council, is therefore quite irresistible, and the more the average ratepayer knows about local problems and their solutions, the more he is apt to become a vocal part of public opinion.

Public opinion is always in advance of legislative measures and an informed public is the most potent assist that any politician can have. When the public are denied the facts they do not become involved in public debate and when there is no active public opinion on issues the next step is generally bad government.

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**Rachel Hardy Native of Uxbridge**

UXBRIDGE TWP.—Rachel Hardy, R.R.1, Cresswell, passed away March 20 at the home of her son, Ross, following an illness of four months. She was 86.

Born and raised in Uxbridge Township, she was the daughter of the late Martha Lee and John Redshaw and the wife of the late George Hardy. She had resided at R.R.1 Cresswell for the past 16 years.

Surviving is an only son and daughter-in-law, Ross and Mabel Hardy, three grandchildren, Allan of Manilla; Darlene (Mrs. Donald Pugh), Brooklin; Judy (Mrs. Kenneth McLean), Blackwater, and five great grandchildren, Cheryl, Ricky and Scott Hardy; Wendy and Sherry Pugh. She was predeceased by six brothers and three sisters.

Rev. I. L. Saunders conducted the service from the L. M. Pinkham and Son Funeral Home, Sunderland, March 23 at 2

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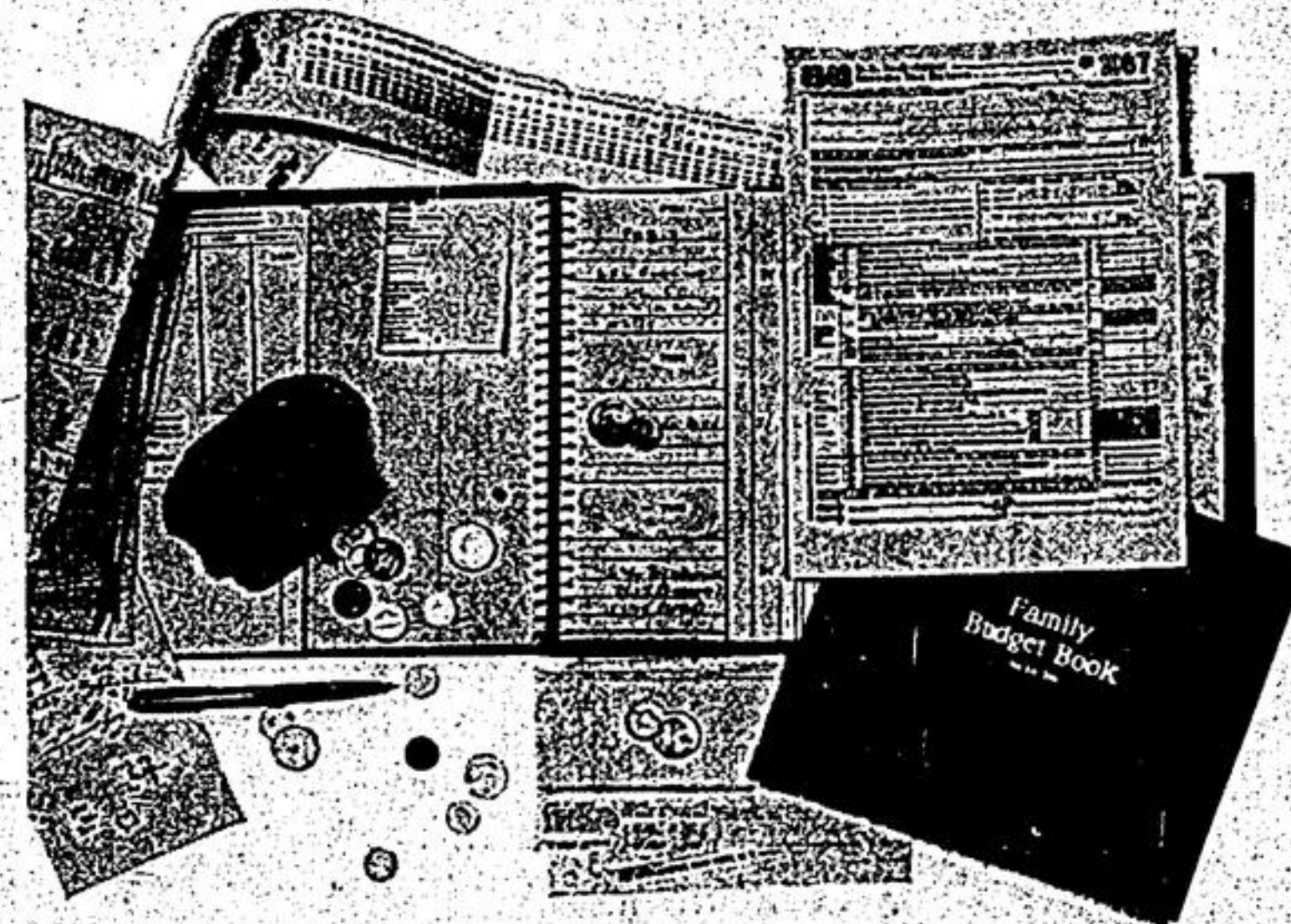
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