

Markham centre 2nd phase starts

MARKHAM — The secondary phase of the one and a half million dollar Markham Centennial Centre, which officially opened Jan. 21, 1974, has begun.

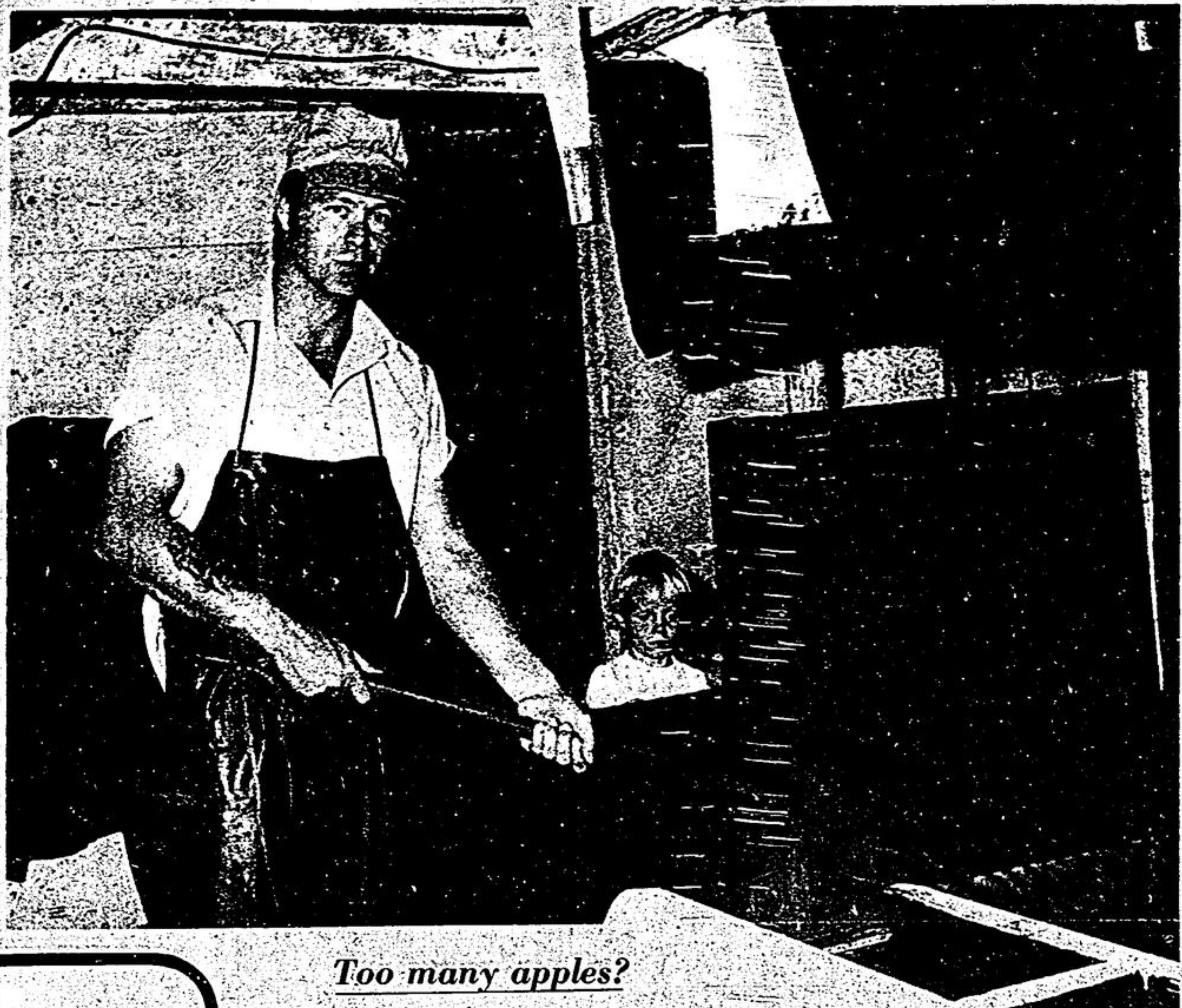
The plush Penalty Box Club Lounge has been granted a charter and membership applications will soon be available.

"We've got a facility here that has never been available before in Markham," commented Bud Lunney, sub-committee Chairman. "It's designed to be used for receptions, sales meetings and as a focal point in our community."

Markham Planning Director, Bill Power is guiding planning for phase three, with community co-ordination from Mr. Lunney and Councillor Carole Bell. Under consideration are a new pool, curling club and playing fields in the general area of the present centre.

There is also a possibility new Markham municipal offices will be located in the area.

To maintain a break-even position the 3,200 seat centre has featured such general entertainment shows as Guy Lombardo, Duke Ellington, the Roller Derby and the most recent attraction; the Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show.



Too many apples?

Cider mill will crush them

By Ted Wilcox

ALTONA — Have a bushel or two of apples you don't know what to do with?

Just pile them in the trunk and take them down to the Altona Cider Mill, and for 30 cents a gallon your apples will be ground, squashed and squeezed until all the good stuff comes out.

The mill is "more like an historic thing, than anything else," according to Dave Cummings, son of the mill's owner, Ken Cummings.

The cider press is the old screw-type, which, Dave says, is a kind that is going out of existence. He estimates that the press itself is over 100 years old.

"They don't make them anymore," he said. "You'd have to have it custom-made."

Unfortunately, the mill will have to cease operation after this year. It sits on land that is wanted by the government for the proposed Pickering airport.

Mr. Cummings Sr. will probably sell the land and the antique mill equipment will have to go elsewhere.

The mill has only been a full establish-

ment," Dave said. It runs from September to about the second week of December.

For most of the time, Dave works as an electrician for the Toronto Transit Commission. But 10 years of working with the cider press have made him a sort of expert about cider.

He recommends Macintosh, Spys, and Windfall apples as the best kinds for cider. A bushel yields two or three gallons.

The mill also squeezes pears and a few grapes.

The power for the press came from harnessed water until three years ago. Now, a 1956 Studebaker engine serves as the power source.

Not much else has changed about the mill. Cider has been pressed there for about 20 years. Before that it was a grist mill, and prior to that a woolen mill.

Dave says they have been approached by a local historical society and others about preserving the older artifacts. The beams on the inside of the mill are hand-hewn, and the place does resemble a museum more than a business establishment.

Cider Mill, located near Altona is due to go out of business because of the Pickering Airport, but for 30 cents a gallon you can still have your apples made into cider. It is the old screw-type that is estimated to be over 100 years old. The mill is more of an historical thing than anything, the son of the owner said.

—Ted Wilcox

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Radar unit approved for York engineers

YORK REGION — The Regional Engineering Department has received permission to purchase a \$2,300 radar unit.

This unit will not be used to catch speeders but according to an engineering department report, "will be used for statistical purposes only."

The unit is designed to study request for changes in speed limits on regional roads.

The report states: "In order to do a more complete study to help ascertain what the correct speed limit should be, statistical data concerning the speed that vehicles travel the roadway

should be collected. The speed of vehicles travelling along a section of roadway should be measured both before and after a change in the speed limit is initiated so that the effect of the change can be determined."

Police supply statistics as to the number of speeders caught in areas under consideration but this information was judged insufficient to make a recommendation as to what the proper speed should be.

The only objection to the purchase was from Markham Regional Councillor Bob Adams who complained of the price.

MARKHAM SKATING CLUB

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