

## Possessions lost in fire

GORMLEY — Ronald Turner and his family of five children have lost everything they own in a fire which destroyed their rented home on Leslie St.

Richmond Hill Fire Department fought the blaze, but the house and contents were completely destroyed. No attempt was made to remove possessions from the house. The family was not home when the blaze erupted early last week.

The total value of the building and property is estimated by police at \$20,000.

A space heater is believed to have caused the fire.

The house was owned by Lloyd Terryman of Cachet Country Club in Markham.

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## Police budget cut totals \$100,000

YORK REGION — A full budget cut of \$500,000 would "render the force in-operational for part of the year," York Regional Police Chief Bruce Crawford said at a police commission meeting last week.

The commission decided to cut the \$7 million budget by \$100,000 instead of the \$500,000 requested by York Regional Council.

The chief presented a budget chopped by over \$300,000

but said it would be, "cutting through the bone to the marrow."

Cuts made by the Chief included — salary cuts of \$163,000, and reductions in court expenses, pension plan contributions, workman's compensation, allowances, criminal investigation expenses, conference expenses, public relations, safety bureau, training etc.

He said the cuts would "cause great harm to the

force." In all frankness, I would be reluctant to assume responsibility for the management of the force for the year," he added.

He said that more realistic cuts could be made in planned expenditures for communications equipment and plans to create a community relations bureau and reduction of extra manpower. Those cuts would total \$102,093.

The chief said demand for

police services in the region has increased by 48.4 per cent since the first quarter of 1972.

"So long as the demand for police service continues to increase, the force must be provided with the extra ability to meet that increased demand," the chief said.

After discussion of possible provincial grants, the police commission decided to send the budget back to the region with the \$102,093 cuts recommended by the chief.



Del Jennings donned the Fire Chief's hat that served him during his 20 years as chief, to have his picture taken. The hat itself, with the SFB initials standing for Stouffville Fire Brigade, would appear to be a bit of an antique and is certainly valued by its owner.

John Montgomery.

### Del Jennings

## Former chief looks at 'good old days'

By JOHN MONTGOMERY

STOUFFVILLE — Del Jennings' memory of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Fire Department, known as the Stouffville Fire Brigade when he joined in 1922, goes back to the time the most sophisticated equipment was reels.

In those days, he explains, if someone noticed a fire they ran down to the fire hall and rang the hand bell. The eight or 10 firemen would all drop what they were doing and rush down to the hand reel. The reel was a coil of fire hose mounted on two wheels and with a long tongue on it. The men would grab hold of. Then they'd run as fast as they could and hook up to the nearest hydrant.

Mr. Jennings explained if

they were lucky the man delivering coal on the dray wagon would be close at hand and would hook his horses up to the reel and pull it for them.

Mr. Jennings, who was Fire Chief between 1934 and 1954, is now 80 years old, and says the hardest thing about retiring from the department was restraining himself from running everytime the alarm sounded.

The departments first truck, a 1927 Ford, had a crank start, a top speed of about 25 miles per hour and was simply equipped with a box to lay the hose in.

Air packs and resuscitators were unheard of and standard fire fighting equipment was a rubber coat, helmet, axe, hook

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## Cemetery Lane Name change draws residents' anger

STOUFFVILLE — Cemetery Lane will remain. Council Tuesday passed a resolution that the street name change request, advertised in this week's Tribune, be withdrawn.

That follows a rather bizarre turn of events which saw all eight families on the street sign a petition objecting to the name change.

Cemetery Lane was to become Davis Ave. A hearing May 12 before County Court Judge B.W. Grossberg has been called to hear objections to the change.

Council, which initiated the name-change, will withdraw that request at that time.

The problem arose when Mrs. Marsha Vautier, who has lived on Cemetery Lane since last summer, read about the proposed change. After talking to her neighbors she contacted Mayor Gordon Ratcliff protesting the change.

She then circulated a petition to the eight families on the street objecting to the change.

The original change was requested last summer, when Carriage Park Investments, builder of five new homes on Cemetery Lane, approached council. The developers felt the name would hinder sale of the homes.

All the homes were sold and the name-change was allowed to lapse. A letter by someone on the street last fall got the ball rolling again and council authorized the solicitor to put the legal machinery in motion to affect the change.

The proposed name refers to an undertaker by the name of Davis, who lived on Cemetery Lane.

### Region moves on Musselman's Lake problem

## Trucks banned on 9th Line

MUSSELMAN'S LAKE — According to York Regional Engineering Department officials, truck traffic will be banned on the 9th Concession from Hillsdale Road to Aurora Road.

Regional Council last week approved of the heavy traffic ban which will go into effect as soon as the by-law is signed and the road is posted.

The ban was requested by the Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville after council received numerous complaints from lake area residents.

The Regional Engineering Committee judged the road not conducive to the movement of heavy trucks because the road is narrow, curvy, hilly, has sight distance problems, a large number of pedestrians who walk

alongside the road or cross it and the road surface "is of poor quality and is twisted and warped."

The committee report concluded heavy vehicles should be prohibited as other routings are better able to accept this type of traffic and the primary function of the Musselman's Lake road is to serve recreational traffic.

Mayor Gordon Ratcliff strenuously objected to a further recommendation in the report that the town assume jurisdiction and control of the road.

The report states "that

since the road provides strictly a local recreational traffic service to the lake area it should be removed from the regional road system." The recommendation called for the portion south of Hillsdale Road to be retained as a regional road.

Mayor Ratcliff argued the road has more than a local function as "there are some 400 trailers in there during the summer months" which come from all over North America.

Mr. Ratcliff asked the recommendation be deleted and Regional Council voted in favor of the deletion.

## Breakout attempt foiled by police

YORK REGION — Police have foiled an attempted Hollywood style jailbreak from Newmarket Provincial Court cells.

According to police reports information was received there would be an escape attempt and information detectives set up a stake out near the cells.

The officers overheard "considerable conversation" and then the sound of a saw blade against the steel bars of the cell.

The policemen then saw two

men sawing at the bars with a hacksaw blade, from the inside. The two were arrested, apparently there was no problem in apprehending them, and they were charged with conspiracy to escape lawful custody.

It was learned the blade had been taped to the crossbar of the cell with band-aids and three cuts penetrating about three-quarters of the way through the bars were discovered.

Charged — are Peter Monahan, 28, of Toronto and Lee Parson, 19, of Amherstburg.

## Goodwood tavern sought

GOODWOOD — A Tavern and license restaurant could be built in Goodwood, according to plans revealed at last week's Uxbridge Council meeting.

Councillor William Ballinger said the tavern could go on the site of the former Goodwood Hotel on Highway 47 at the 3rd Conc.

He said that planning

committee was studying the proposal which would present some drainage problems. The application is being made by Daniel Barter.

Two other applications for licensed restaurants have been made since a vote last fall ending a 60-year ban on the sale of alcoholic beverages.

Both applications await Liquor License Board hearings.

## Police, town differ on dump bylaw enforcement

STOUFFVILLE — There seems to be some confusion as to who will lay charges against York Sanitation for continuing to operate the Highway 48 dump in defiance of a municipal by-law prohibiting dumping after April 1.

York Regional Police had attended the dump site and Mayor Gordon Ratcliff told The Tribune he was under the impression they would be laying charges.

Deputy Chief Robert Hood indicated the police are not

laying charges but "were investigating it to determine if an offence was taking place," and they would wait for the municipality to lay charges. He indicated the police would merely act as witnesses if the matter is taken to court.

Town solicitor Paul Mingay was asked by The Tribune if the By-Law Enforcement Officer would be issuing summonses. He replied the police "have been doing that so far."

On being informed of, Mr. Hood's statement that the police

will not lay charges Mr. Mingay said, "If that's what they told you then I'm not free to comment."

Mr. Mingay did say he would be meeting with York Regional Police officials to discuss the matter this week and that "prosecution under the by-law will proceed against the owners of the land."

## Cows dead, charges laid

PLEASANTVILLE — York Regional Police and Ontario Humane Society officials discovered three cows dead of starvation when they executed a search warrant on a farm north of Pleasantville.

A fourth cow, so weak it could not stand, was destroyed by a veterinarian and 34 other cattle and one pony were removed from the property at Lot 34, Concession 3, Whitchurch-Stouffville.

Charged with cruelty to animals and failure to dispose of dead animals is Ronald Goodfellow.

## Women threatened in doctor's office

MARKHAM — A doctor's receptionist was threatened at gunpoint in the Wellington Medical Centre in Markham last week.

A man entered the centre carrying an ACRO gas pellet gun strapped to his leg, approached the receptionist and drew the gun.

According to police he pointed it repeatedly at the receptionist, Enies Brown of Box Grove, and then left.

The woman called police and they were on hand three-quarters of an hour later when the man returned.

There were a number of patients in the building so police apprehended the man outside and the weapon was seized from under his coat.

Charged with pointing a firearm and carrying a concealed weapon is Albert Laidlaw, 34, of George St. in Markham.

## Two killed in plane crash

DICKSON'S HILL — A Toronto advertising executive and his wife were killed Sunday when their single engine aircraft, "dropped like a stone," shortly after takeoff at Markham Airport.

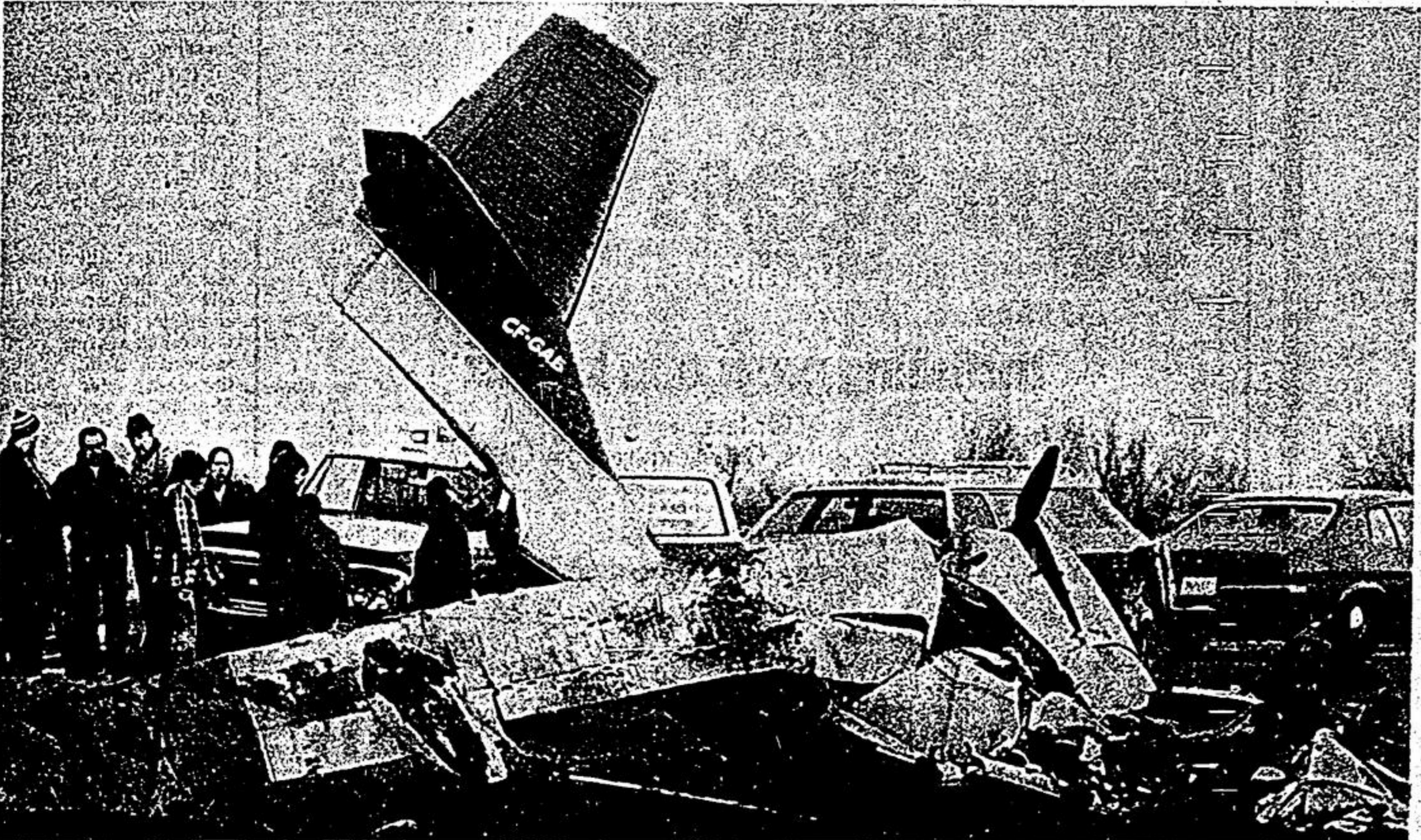
The aircraft, piloted by William Straiton, 48, was on route from Peterboro and had stopped at Markham to let off a couple, before proceeding to the Toronto Island Airport. Eileen Straiton, 42, a passenger, was the other person killed in the crash.

The couple had three children, aged 8, 10 and 14.

The Straitions had picked up Mr. and Mrs. Ted Ranki of Scarboro, whose own aircraft developed engine trouble in Peterboro.

The crash occurred one-half mile south of Markham Airport, about 20 feet from Highway 48. Witnesses said the plane dropped straight down after the engine stopped.

It was a single engine seabea amphibian. The crash occurred at about 5.30 p.m. Markham Fire Department and



The wreckage of this Seabee proved to be an added attraction for motorists on Highway 48 earlier this week. A Toronto couple perished in the crash Sunday afternoon. The single engine am-

phibian had taken off from Markham Airport just minutes before the accident.