

N.D.P. demands press apology

Use of the words "pro-Russian" and "Communist" in a Tribune editorial of April 13, 1983, prompted the Durham-York Riding executive of the New Democratic Party to haul the newspaper's publisher and editor "up on the carpet" Thursday, before a hearing of the Ontario Press Council.

The discussion was held in the Council's

board room at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto. The N.D.P. Riding Association was represented by Katherine Anderson, Margaret Wilbur and Roy Grierson. Tribune representatives were publisher Bruce Annan and editor Jim Thomas.

The editorial followed a Riding meeting at Uxbridge, April 7, at which time, the testing of the cruise missile in Canada was the main topic of

discussion. The editorial stated that certain remarks made by the guest speaker that evening, turned the gathering into a pro-Russian rally.

Mrs. Anderson claimed the "label" had "damaged the reputation of every member of the New Democratic Party."

"There's no excuse for branding us Communist," she said, "we take

strong exception to such McCarthy-like accusations." She also criticized the paper's news coverage of the meeting, claiming it wasn't "full and fair."

Publisher Annan argued both points, saying the story was complete and the editorial was merely the personal opinion of the editor who had listened in on the discussion. He said the paper had not

said or even implied that an N.D.P. member is or ever will be a Communist.

Mrs. Anderson said a letter of criticism from the Association, had been published in The Tribune, but a formal apology was still needed to set the record straight.

Mr. Grierson suggested that while the speaker may have

sounded pro-Russian, he was only attempting to present the other side.

Responding to questions from the Council, editor Thomas said he was one who looked on the United States as a neighbor, friend and ally and it irritated him to hear Americans criticized so severely.

Mr. Annan reiterated that a distinction must be made between a news

story and an editorial. "It's the right and duty of every newspaper to take a strong editorial stance," he stressed, claiming the cruise missile question to be a vitally important issue in our day.

The Press Council chairman said a decision on the complainant's application would be handed down some time in October.

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Barn raising

VANDORF — History will be repeated, Saturday, on the grounds of the Whitchurch-Stouffville Museum, Vandorf.

An old-fashioned barn-raising will take place, beginning at 10 a.m., and continuing throughout the afternoon. Other afternoon attractions will include music by the Whitchurch-Stouffville Concert Band at one; children's games at two and a country and western show at three.

The event will conclude with a beef barbecue at five and an old-fashioned barn dance from 7 to 11.

Admission to the grounds is free. Cost of the barbecue and dance is \$8.50.

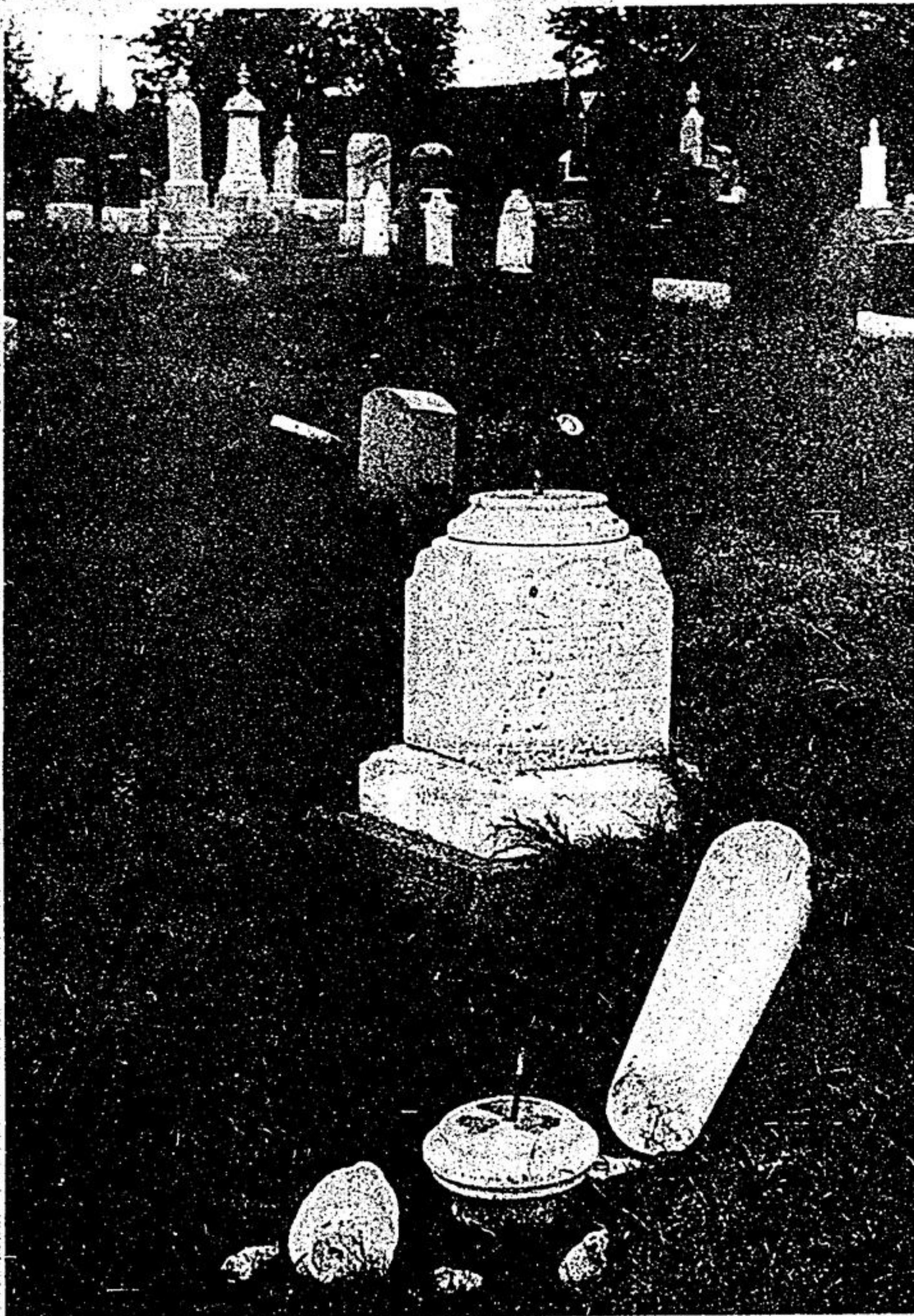
Principal must rest

STOUFFVILLE — John Nikifork, new principal at Stouffville Dist. Secondary School, was admitted to York County Hospital at Newmarket, Monday night, after developing chest pains.

It was first feared he had suffered a slight heart attack, but at press time, this had not been confirmed.

"As far as we know, there's no cause for concern," vice-principal Robt. Krol told The Tribune.

Although his release from hospital is expected today, Mr. Nikifork will in all likelihood take an extra-week's rest, the vice-principal said.



Thirty tombstones were knocked over and destroyed, Sunday, when vandals rampaged through the Goodwood Cemetery in Uxbridge Township. Some of the century-old markers can never be repaired, board chairman Harry Harper told The Tribune. Residents in the community are outraged by the act of wanton destruction.

Cemetery devastated by vandals

GOODWOOD — Residents of this community are up in arms over what has been described as the worst act of vandalism ever perpetrated in the area.

Sometime Sunday night or early Monday morning, several persons, still not identified, entered the grounds of the Goodwood Cemetery and wantonly destroyed or overturned thirty gravestones.

No arrests have been made but police have several leads.

The older section of the site bore the brunt of the rampage, with 25 markers either toppled or shattered. Four more were damaged in the centre area and one to the north.

Several of the markers date back to the mid-1800's.

Police believe the vandals gathered for a party at the site, Sunday. Beer bottles were scattered about the grounds. Officers also found other clues that, they hope, will lead to the persons responsible.

It was caretaker Vic Stewart who made the discovery, Monday. He informed Harry Harper, chairman of the Cemetery Board who, in

turn, contacted members Harry Woodland and Lorne Tindall.

"We don't know what to do," Mr. Harper told The Tribune, "we'll try and fix them up the best we can".

He called it "an awful mess".

Some of the stones are more than 100 years old, and extremely brittle, he said. "They can't be repaired, the cement won't hold". He admitted many families will be upset.

Some consideration, he

said, had been given to placing the markers in a horizontal cairn, but this is difficult because individual family names are engraved on each side.

The board chairman said in some cases, a crowbar-type instrument had been used to pry the stones apart. Several, he observed, had been broken into three and four pieces.

"If they ever catch them, they should be recruited into the army," he suggested, "that might straighten them out".

New homes in demand

STOUFFVILLE — "Just fabulous" is the way agent Noreen McGuckin describes the reception accorded homes already built or under construction at Fairgate Heights.

To date 21 are sold with conditional offers on five more. Only one of the five models remains unsold.

"People are very enthusiastic," she said, "we've been really busy". She said the fact prices were increased \$2,000 on bungalows and \$3,000 on the two-storeys as of Tuesday, was not responsible for the

"buyer stampede". On an investment of this size, two and three thousand dollars doesn't make much difference, Mrs. McGuckin said.

The bungalow design, she explained, interests many. Most new developments no longer feature this type of home, she said. Mrs. McGuckin said evenings and weekends are busiest. "At 8:30 p.m., Sunday, folks were still coming in".

Mrs. McGuckin and Edna Luther are exclusive agents. Thirty homes are included in this phase.

Shielded friend

GLASGOW — A nineteen-year-old Ringwood driver has been credited with saving his girlfriend from more serious injury, Thursday, when their westbound car did a complete roll-over on the Uxbridge-Pickering Townline, near the 5th Concession.

Pat Provis helped shield passenger Melanie Shaw, 15, of R.R. 3, Stouffville, from the impact, as the vehicle spun out of control, flipped over and landed on its wheels. The couple was forced off the road by a westbound truck that failed

to stop, Melanie's mother told The Tribune. "It's a miracle they both weren't killed."

Mrs. Shaw said it's possible the truck driver still isn't aware of the near-tragedy. She's hoping he'll contact them after reading an account of the accident in The Tribune.

"They'd have collided head-on if Pat hadn't swerved," Mrs. Shaw said. Nearby residents heard the crash and came to their aid.

A portion of the car's roof was crushed to the top of the

passenger seat. The auto, a 1976 Monte Carlo, was demolished.

Melanie suffered an injured right hand, necessitating treatment at the Stouffville Medical Centre. She was later admitted to Uxbridge Cottage Hospital and released. Pat suffered cuts and bruises.

Melanie is a Grade 10 student at Uxbridge Secondary School. It's her second serious accident in just over a year. She suffered a broken shoulder in 1982 after falling from a horse.

For Terry

Town walk

STOUFFVILLE — The late Terry Fox, Canada's national hero, will be remembered here, Sunday, when the Town holds its annual 10 kilometer (six mile) Walk.

The official start is 1 p.m., (or any hour thereafter), from Latcham

Hall. The route, clearly marked, also concludes at this location. Maps will be provided each participant.

Refreshments will be provided at the Library, (the half-way point), and Latcham Hall. Entries may walk or run but no bicycles will be allowed.

Accident victim

Improving

STOUFFVILLE — After seven weeks of home therapy, known as "patterning", signs of improvement

can be seen in the physical recovery of Stouffville's Margie Griffiths.

"We're not expecting miracles," Suzanne Wallis of O'Brien Avenue told The Tribune, "but her response is exactly what we were hoping for".

Margie, one of Stouffville's top student athletes and an extremely popular girl, was seriously injured in an auto accident, Dec. 27, 1981.

Mrs. Wallis, a regular participant in the "patterning" program, says Margie's cooperating extremely well and the results are "very rewarding".

"She's sitting more erect now," she said, "and with help, can take up to six steps at a time".

Mrs. Wallis explained that close to 300 volunteers are involved, and all have been attending therapy sessions regularly. Additional help is needed Saturday afternoons and evenings. Anyone willing to assist during these periods is asked to call 640-3235 between 6 and 7:30 p.m.

Town Legion Praised by mayor

STOUFFVILLE — "Because of you, our community is stronger." Mayor Eldred King told members and guests attending a mortgage-burning ceremony hosted by Stouffville Legion Branch 459, Saturday night. "Your efforts," he said, "have gone on for many years. I hope you will continue this roll".

The burning of the \$25,000 mortgage, highlighted a dinner and dance in the beautifully remodelled hall. Participants included Branch President Ivan

Goudie and Immediate Past-President Lou Hertle. Dr. R. Blair Mitchell, Chairman of the Federal Government's Pension Commission, also addressed the gathering along with Zone Commander Bruce Heise and Past District Commander Ralph Newell.

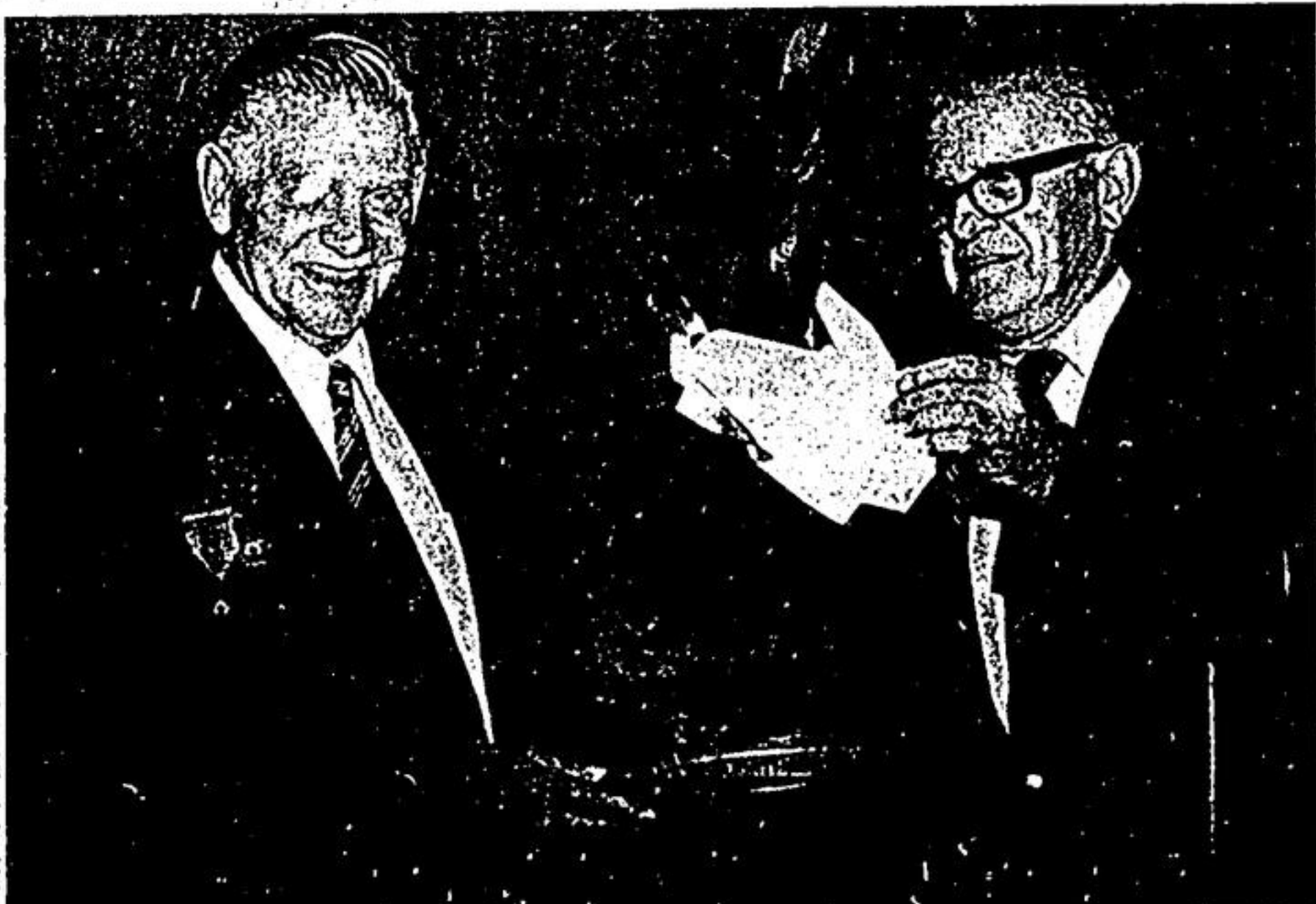
Presentations of service medals and pins were made to Ivan Goudie, Gordon Ramsey and Lou Hertle.

Members of the Hall Improvement Committee were praised for their effort, much of it volunteer. They

include--Ruth Sheppard, Ivan Goudie, Aurie Smith, Marjorie Smith, Doreen Goudie and Ted Sheppard.

Dr. Mitchell complimented Branch President Goudie on his leadership. "He has a way of getting things done," he said. "You're a great group of people."

Mr. Hertle, in his remarks, summed up the feelings of everyone when he said: "It was a lot of work--we couldn't have done it alone".



President Ivan Goudie (left) and Immediate Past-President Lou Hertle of Stouffville Branch 459, Royal Canadian Legion, participated in the mortgage-burning ceremony Saturday. The Legion Hall, beautifully remodelled, was the subject of much favorable comment.