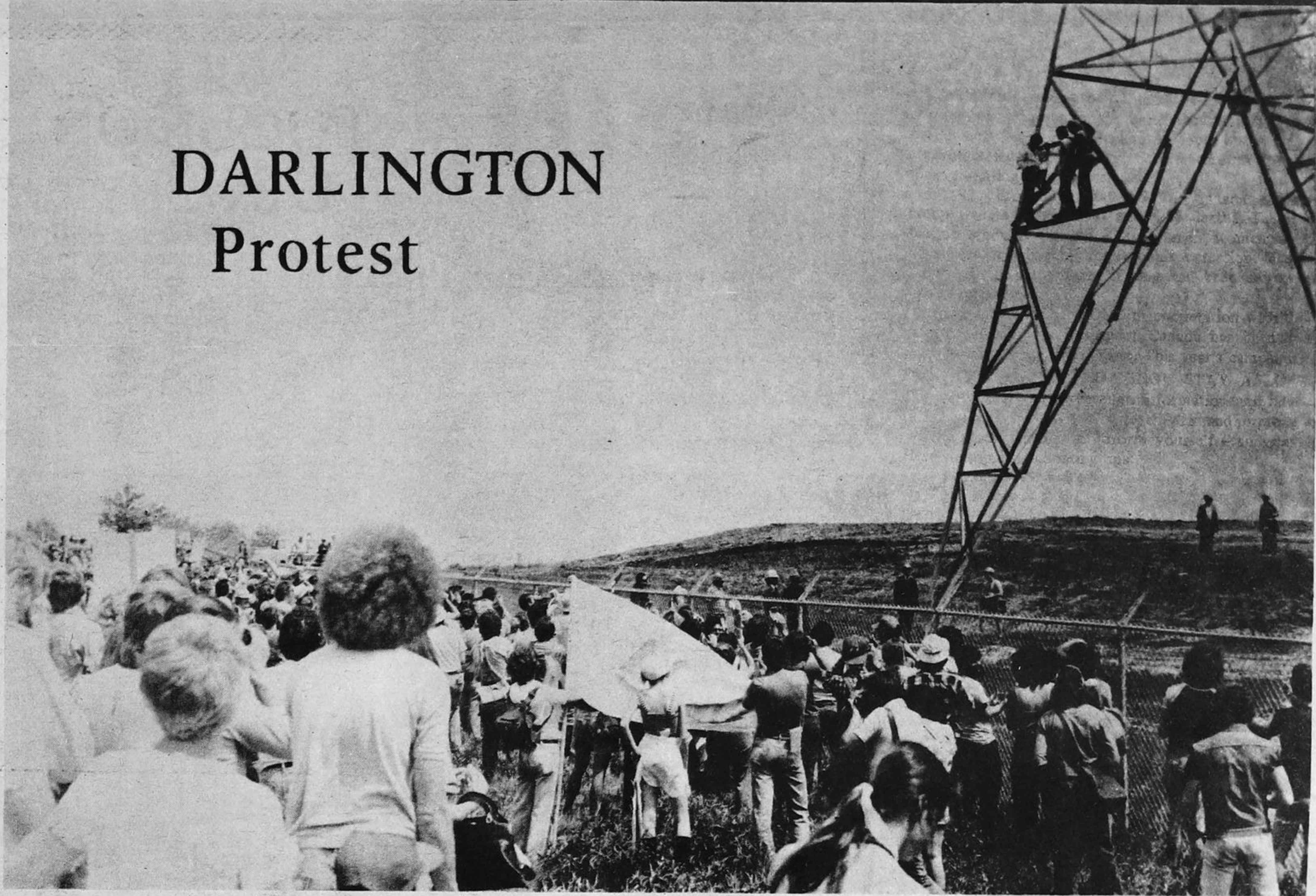


# DARLINGTON Protest



Story and photo by Lloyd Stone

On June 2nd, 66 people were charged with trespassing on the site of Ontario Hydro's planned Darlington Nuclear Generating Station. This act of civil disobedience was done to protest the construction of the plant, which will cost Ontario an estimated 5 billion dollars. The arrested people were only part of the over 2000 people who showed up at the rally. Three men (including Peter Dundas from Plum Hollow) spent the previous night in an unfinished hydro tower as part of the protest. 5 members of the Greenpeace Foundation parachuted onto the site; dramatizing how accessible a nuclear plant is to attack.

The anti-nuclear protesters have presented several arguments. Firstly, no environmental impact study has been made of the site. When the Darlington project was

first started, Ont. Hydro convinced the Ont. government that there was such a need for electricity that there was no time for a study. Since then, the construction of the plant has been postponed.

So far, no way has been found for the safe disposal of nuclear wastes. Drilling long shafts down into the earth and depositing the waste there is a proposed solution. This does however leave a danger of leaks occurring in the following 250,000 years.

Economically, nuclear power has not turned out to be the cheap energy we were led to believe. The money put into developing alternative energy sources is minute compared to the amount spent in the nuclear industry.

It has been pointed out that Ont. Hydro has such a surplus of energy that we would have no problem if all Ontario's nuclear plants were

shut down now. Predictions for high electrical needs in the future are based on the consumption of energy in the past when it was cheap. Energy can no longer be considered cheap.

Nuclear safety is an issue that has come to the front since the accident at Harrisburg, Pa. Computed odds of a nuclear meltdown do not mean much when no one knows if a cooling system is adequate to control the heat of reaction. Recent release of information about heavy water escaping from nuclear plants is evidence that accidents do occur at these plants.

Since the Darlington protest, Premier Bill Davis, addressing the Canadian Nuclear Association, said that the nuclear industry has to convince the public that the nuclear way is safe. Is that enough?

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NEIGHBOURS by Jack Cameron

The kindly folk who live close by  
And seldom ask for favours,  
Who make each day a joy to live,  
How wonderful our neighbours.

\*\*\*\*\*

In joy or sorrow we find them there  
To share whatever we face,  
Companionship from day to day  
For life is quite a race.

\*\*\*\*\*

We prize indeed their friendship true  
They never let us down,  
But with a smile and helping hand  
They're sure to be around.

\*\*\*\*\*

Some place their values on the things  
That only gold can buy,  
But I'll put mine on neighbours who  
Can lift our spirits high.

\*\*\*\*\*

It isn't what we get that counts  
It's what we give and do,  
So spread some sunshine all around  
And be a neighbour too.