



SOURIS AIRMAN RETIRES

Sergeant F.R. (Frank) St. John, 49, RIGHT, of Souris, is seen receiving a gift from WO2 Bill Flavin, president of the NCOs Mess, CFB Summerside, on the occasion of his retirement from the RCAF. Sgt. St. John has completed 23 years service and is married to the former Mary Underhand of Mount Stewart. They are now residing in Miscouche.

Demands Heard in Ontario For Auto Insurance Control

TORONTO (CP) — Reports that automobile insurance rates will rise an average of three per cent across Ontario next year brought demands from opposition parties that the government move to control insurance rates. Fred Young, New Democratic member for Toronto Yorkview, called for public insurance similar to that administered by the Saskatchewan government. Robert Nixon, Liberal house leader, said insurance companies should be called upon to defend the rate increases before public hearings. He added that a section of the Insurance Act of Ontario, giving the government power to control insurance rates, should be proclaimed now. It has been in existence for 30 years but has never been proclaimed.

SOME CLIMB 26 PER CENT

Results of a survey by the All Canada Insurance Federation, released Thursday night, showed that rates in Ontario will climb an average of three per cent and will increase seven per cent on the most common type of policy—that covering third-person liability. Rates in

other provinces will increase as much as 26 per cent. Mr. Young said private automobile insurance isn't providing protection. He quoted a recent survey by Osgoode Hall as showing that only about 7 per cent of people injured in automobile accidents collect insurance. Only 26 per cent get full compensation for economic loss. He also criticized administration costs of private firms.

Mr. Nixon said insurance companies should be glad of a chance to explain their position, since they claim they lose money on automobile insurance. Companies should not be permitted to raise premium rates without permission of a board of government insurance experts.

He also called for appointment of an insurance ombudsman who could handle the cases of people whose insurance is cancelled for frivolous or arbitrary reasons, or who have trouble getting insurance.

In Winnipeg, Premier Duff Roblin told the Manitoba legislature Friday that a special committee to inquire into automobile insurance rates will be reconvened shortly.

The committee was appointed last April but was dissolved, together with the legislature, when an election was called for June 23.

Volkswagen Cuts Output

WOLFSBURG (Reuters) — Volkswagen, Europe's biggest car manufacturer, announced today it will temporarily cut production and working hours starting in January.

The announcement was seen as the latest symptom of slackening business in West Germany which is causing some disquiet as the new government of Chancellor Kurt Georg Kiesinger wrestles with the problem of reducing a budgetary deficit for next year.

A Volkswagen spokesman said the company's six home factories will be affected by the decision.

He blamed it on a slackening home market and a season drop in sales, but could give no details of the extent of the production cuts.

The company has 200,000 on its payroll.

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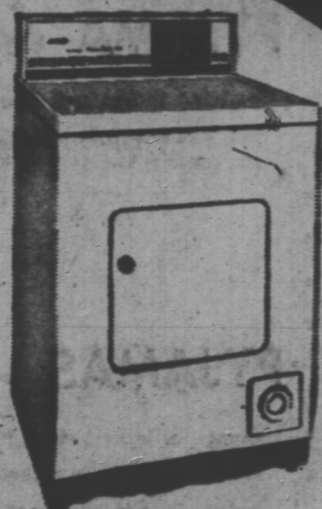
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