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# The Jarvis Record

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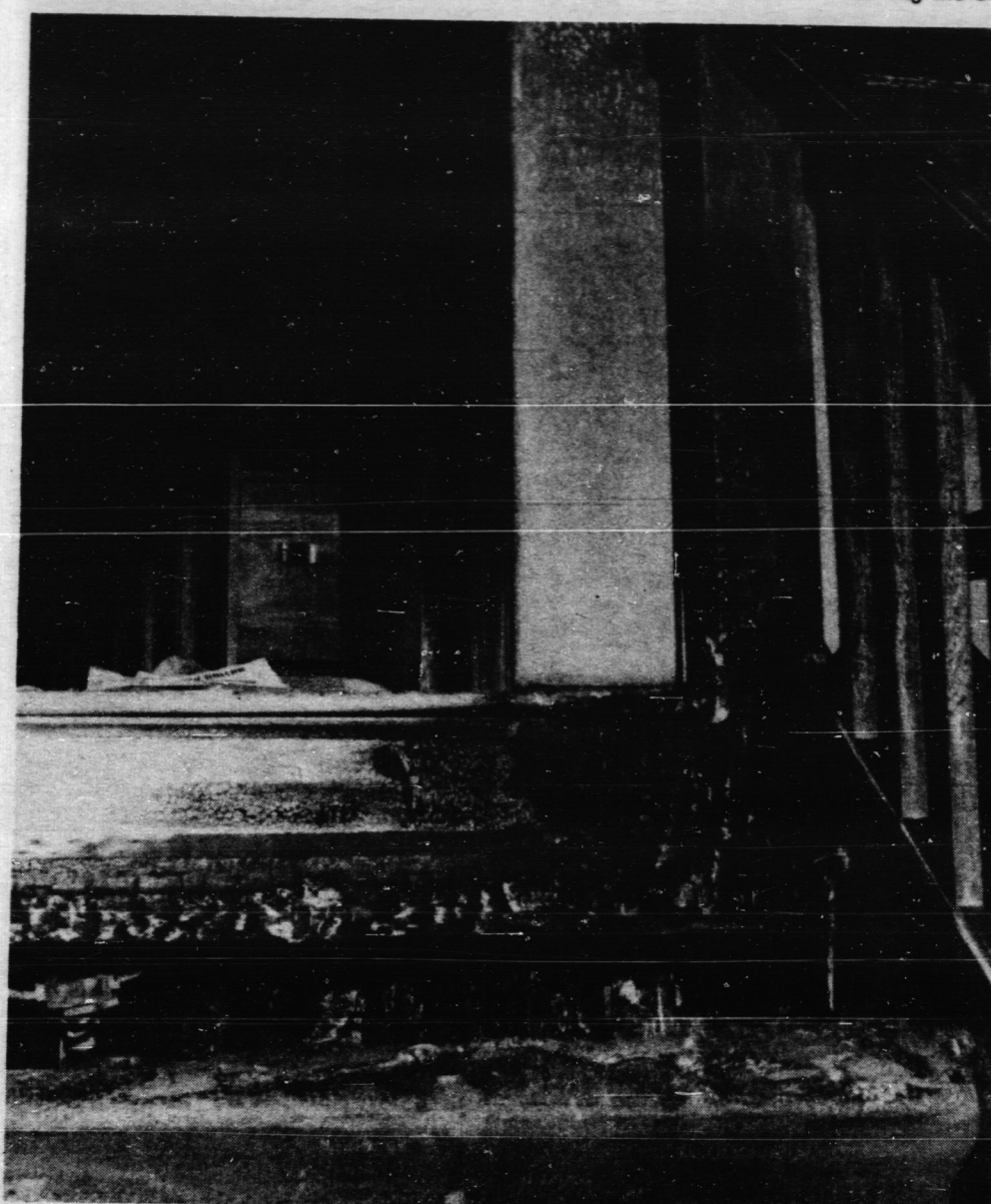
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## Cheapside United Church Damaged in Easter Fire

**By Dick Houghton**  
**SELKIRK** — When members of Cheapside United Church arrived for Easter Sunday service, they found firemen fighting a blaze in the basement of their church instead.

The alarm was turned in at 9:30 a.m. by the pastor of the nearby Brethern-in-Christ Church, who was on his way to his own service, when he noticed smoke billowing out of the basement.

Reverend Charles Byers, who turned in the alarm, said the Selkirk Fire Department was on the scene within 10 minutes.

"If it had been another half-an-hour, the whole church would have been destroyed," he said.

Fire departments from Fisherville and Jarvis also responded for the blaze which caused \$35,000 damage.

Many of the congregation went home,

changed into work clothes, to return and begin cleaning up the sanctuary.

Fire Chief Dave Otterman said that although the fire was confined to the basement of the 26-year-old brick church there was extensive smoke and water damage to the main floor.

The cause of the blaze is attributed to faulty wiring. Although there was no-one in the church when the fire started, the Young People

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## Faulty wiring causes fire

A short in the wiring of a car, started a Selkirk garage fire that caused \$125,000 damage. The town's first fire engine was stored in the garage at the time of the fire. The 1926 Dodge fire engine was badly damaged in the blaze.

There were also two cars in the garage, three snowmobiles, seven garden tractors, a regular tractor with a front end loader and a large quantity of tools, all of which were badly damaged in the blaze.

The garage was owned by Graydon Fess, who was in Florida on vacation.

More than 40 men from four departments battled the blaze which was one of the worst in Selkirk history.

Fire Chief Dave Otterman estimated damage to the building at \$50,000, and the contents at \$75,000.

Two bays of the shed are rented by the town of Haldimand and serve as a roads department depot. Another part of the garage is used by a lawn and garden supply store, while the remainder of the garage was used by Mr. Fess.

A 500-gallon outside gasoline storage tank was pulled away from the burning building by a town grader.

Gordon Fess, a son of the garage owner, said the garage had been converted from a barn and was used as a transport truck centre for

some time. He said the barn was probably more than 100 years old and was insured.

The old fire engine was in good working condition and had been retired by the fire department in 1962, when it was sold to Mr. Fess. Chief Otterman said the engine was still in good condition but it was too slow for practical use. He said that if someone was willing to do a lot of work on it, it could still be restored.

Dave Rogers, owner of the lawn and garden equipment answered the fire call, as a volunteer fireman. They arrived too late to get anything out, but Mr. Rogers was insured.

## Region grabs \$60,000 deal

Haldimand-Norfolk Regional councillors grabbed at an opportunity to get over \$900,000 worth of mapping at a cost of only \$60,000 to the region.

Dennis Durrant, regional planning department, presented the Ministry of Natural Resources proposal at last week's regional council meeting. Mr. Durrant told council, "The present mapping system is adequate for the present, but only barely adequate. In the future it could become not only inadequate, but impossible to use."

Mr. Durrant, in explaining the proposal, told council that the system works on the metric scale and is divided into three different scales of mapping. The new system will make for rapid updating which is of extreme importance to the region. Aerial photographs will be taken of the entire region.

The largest scale mapping is carried out at a one to 10,000 scale with five or six metre intervals (16 or 17 feet). This map will cover the entire region and would be useful for work on the regional official plan. The entire cost of this mapping would be born by the provincial government.

The second mapping system is at a one to 5,000 scale with two metre intervals (six or seven feet). This mapping system would cover the 10 existing urban centres and the satellite cities of Townsend and South Cayuga. This system would be, more useful for

urban planning services and more detailed planning. The cost of this mapping is \$240,000.

The province is asking

for 25 per cent cost sharing of the \$240,000 mapping system. The region would pay only \$60,000.

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## Region attacks scrap yards

Operators of scrap metal yards came under attack at last week's meeting of Regional Council.

Chief Administrator Dan Ciona told Council that under an April 1974 by-law all salvage yards must be licensed by the region, but that so far there have only been two applications for a license.

The first salvage yard license was issued last week to Gordon Eaton Enterprises, R.R. 4, North Cayuga, on the conditions that it does not exceed its present eight acres and that it fulfills fencing regulations. All scrap yards must have "an adequate seven foot fence," says Mr. Ciona.

Simcoe Mayor Alfred Judd told council that many of the salvage yards have "grandfather rights" to operate before regional by-laws came into effect. "That doesn't mean that they can spread it all over hell's half-acre, though," said Councillor Judd.

Councillor Judd went on to say that "Soon you are going to have the whole countryside blighted with this junk. It's a needed service, there's no doubt about that, but these people have to understand that you can't fill up acres of good farm land with old cars."

Nanticoke Mayor John Pow asked Council if there was any limit as to how high scrap yards could expand. "While the yards may not be able to exceed their present acreage, is there any limit as to how high they can go? It is just as much an eyesore to see these cars spread out as it is to see them piled to the sky. With some of these operators the sky is the limit."

Langton Mayor Jerome VanDeSlyke asked Chief Administrator Dan Ciona if the Provincial Maintenance Standards legislation had been passed. That legislation states that no person can have more than three immobilized cars on their property without a salvage license. The legislation has not been passed, however.

Most of the comments were directed at two scrap yard operators, one in Delhi, and one in Norfolk. The region is taking a Highway 56 operator to court at the end of the month for violating zoning by-laws. The region claims the operator has expanded his facilities since the by-law came into effect.



## 43 pigs die in blaze

Jarvis Fire Chief George Walker estimates that \$30,000 to \$40,000 damage was done to a barn rented by Don Kennedy, R.R. 4, Simcoe.

The blaze, which occurred Tuesday night at about 7:30 p.m. totally destroyed the barn which Mr. Kennedy rents from the Provincial Government.

Forty piglets and three sows died in the fire. The barn also

contained 1,000 bales of straw and a John Deere Hammer Mill, which was completely destroyed. The barn is located at lot 21, concession 12, on the Twelfth Concession Road.

Waterford Fire Department also responded to the call, but Fire Chief George Walker says Jarvis could have handled the blaze by themselves.

Cause of the blaze is unknown. Mr. Walker

says, "We have no way of knowing how the fire started because it was a mass of flames before we even got there. We don't even know what end of the barn the fire started in. We don't feel there is any connection between the rash of fires which has occurred lately."

Mr. Kennedy felt that heat bulbs, used to heat the piglets, might have caused the fire. "There's nothing else that I can think of that might have started the fire," he said.