

Disposition of Resolutions

Mrs. Herb Maluske, Convener

Ten resolutions and one emergency resolution were received from the 1979 Conventions. Six were sustained and have been forwarded to the proper authorities. Replies to four have been received. Since the Annual meeting one emergency has been sustained and forwarded and a second one has been circulated to the Resolutions Committee.

HAMILTON AREA—requesting the banning of advertising of personal hygienic products.

Ms. Susan Cooper, Associate Director, Advertising Standards Council, replied: "While banning television commercials does seem a very simple and straightforward proposition, it raises a good many complex issues. At this time we do not attempt to set standards of good or bad taste, because such standards are highly individual, vary widely across the country, and change with great rapidity. To insist that my standards or your preferences must become everyone's standards borders on censorship not to mention authoritarianism. We understand and respect the views of the many people who object to television advertising of these products. However, a total ban would not resolve the issue."

LONDON AREA—re closing of hospital beds.

G.B. Cardiff, Director of the Institutional Operations Branch, replying on behalf of the Honourable Dennis Primbrell, Minister of Health, stated: "The active treatment bed guideline of 3.5 thousand referral population in the southern part of the Province represents this Government's perception of what is adequate and affordable, giving consideration to the overall balance of Provincial health care arrangements. This guideline, which is adjusted locally on the basis of the number and age characteristics of people using each hospital, provides for a level of bed availability to that found in other jurisdictions.

The guideline is being phased in over the next two years. By allowing a period of time to reach this objective, hospitals will have the opportunity to review the services presently being provided, and where appropriate, develop alternative programs through a re-allocation of the resources available to them.

Since hospitalization is so expensive, it makes sense to place more emphasis on the alternatives to the treatment patterns that exist now, or can be developed at lower cost. As a result, my Ministry is placing more importance than ever before on day-surgery, out-patient treatment, home care for people with chronic or acute illnesses, and extended care in nursing homes. We are planning several steps to stimulate the trend to alternate forms of chronic care.

The limitations we are placing on growth in the hospital system do not necessarily mean a limitation on services. They do mean a change for the better in the manner in which these services are delivered."

NORTH CENTRAL AREA—regarding a land use policy for Ontario.

The Hon. Lorne C. Henderson, Minister of Agriculture and Food replied: "The Ontario Government adopted the Foodland Guidelines as a Government policy in December of 1978 to deal with this concern. The Foodland Guidelines are designed to assist municipalities to incorporate agricultural considerations into local official plans. They outline ways to identify agricultural lands, designate areas for ongoing agriculture within the official plan, develop policies in the plan to support and protect agricultural activities, and to direct non-agricultural development into areas of lower value for farming.

To implement this Government policy, I have staff within the Ministry whose function is to make municipalities aware of this policy, and the concerns of the agricultural community about land-use planning. They also provide advice and assistance to municipalities on specific land-use problems within the municipalities. I also have staff within my Ministry who review official plans and development proposals which come to the Provincial Government for final approval. They ensure that the official plan does take agricultural concerns into account.

Protecting the agricultural land base and the agricultural community is an ongoing effort to which we are committed. I want to assure you that our diligence in this area will continue."

TRENT VALLEY AREA—regarding quotas to cheese factories.

The Hon. Lorne C. Henderson, Minister of Agriculture and Food, replied: "The industrial milk marketing system is currently under intensive review. Proposals for changes to the system have been discussed at meetings with processors. The Review Committee is now assessing the processor views on the proposed changes and hopefully will be in a position to make some concrete recommendations for change soon."

Mr. H. Parker, Secretary, Ontario Milk Marketing Board, wrote that the Board had likewise made recommendations to the milk processors in Ontario for modifying the existing plant supply quota policies.

EASTERN AREA—regarding the use of Social Insurance Numbers. Reply from Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada the Hon. Jean Chretien states:

As you may be aware, the use of the Social Insurance Number by organizations in the Federal and Private sector and by Provincial and Municipal Governments and the implications of such use for the privacy of individuals are currently being studied by the Privacy Commissioner. It is hoped these findings and recommendations will be available by August 1, 1980.

At present, the type of concrete information about the use of Social Insurance Numbers (SIN) and its implications for the privacy of the individual which would permit such a course of action to be developed simply does not exist. However, as the government shares the concern of the WI about the increasing use of the number, we will be awaiting the Privacy Commissioner's report with interest.