



Claude Bennett says

# Province will draw boundaries if municipalities can't agree

By 1975 Ontario will have a map to show the boundaries of regional and consolidated forms of government, Claude Bennett, Ottawa South M.P.P. told an Ontario Weekly Newspapers Association seminar Friday morning.

Bennett, actively involved in planning and reorganization of the province, said Government was not married to county boundaries and would not hesitate to preside at regional shotgun weddings if the communities involved could not decide for themselves.

An exponent of the one tier regional government system, Bennett was former Parliamentary Assistant to Darcy McKeough, Minister of the Treasury, Economics and Intergovernmental Affairs. He was recently named Minister Without

Portfolio and is responsible for planning, reorganization and establishment of regional councils. Bennett said too many communities across the province want to limit their views to boundaries already established and this has created regional disparities which must be corrected.

The Province wants to see the number of municipal councils shrink from the 900-odd extant to a more workable figure. "It is utterly impossible to deal with them all fairly now," Bennett declared. "It is beyond belief, the many discrepancies that exist."

A Minister Without Portfolio in the Davis Government, Bennett said he believed the one tier system would be most workable and confer the greatest benefits across Ontario. Although "autonomy" is the key word, the Government

intends to make sure that each region established is founded on a strong economic base in order to take on additional responsibilities which the old county system never had. Using Sudbury as an example, he said 80 per cent of the decisions in the region were made by the first tier of regional government.

Transportation, sewers, water, waste disposal and police would be among the region's responsibilities. At present, policing is the most uneven cost across the province, he said. Some municipalities pay twice for policing so that others might benefit. Communities with O.P.P. contracts pay their own way but others which are policed by the provincial force without contracts are being highly subsidized by the province.

He warned about confusing the five economic regions of the province with establishment of regional authorities. "There is no direct relation between them," he said. Boundaries are completely open to discussion, he declared, indicating strongly that the province could completely disregard county boundaries if they conflict with the economic base or the sphere of influence. County boundaries were established over a century ago so no one would be further than a day's travel from the capital.

Bennett also said boundaries could change in the years to come as conditions and the economic base changes. Afterwards, he told one member of the press that the town of Smiths Falls in Eastern Ontario could disappear if it was not economically to exist. He did say, however, that regional grants would be available from the province in the early years of regional government to even out the tax load.

Bennett said that once the changeover to a regional set-up was made, and the Official Plan approved by the Minister, planning would be the responsibility of the region, not the minister.

# Reeve criticizes township officials

Esqueping Council wonders what action to take about the construction of a garage which is only five feet back from the road allowance on the property of Joe Bannano, Lot 7, Con. 9.

Bannano appeared before council Monday night following a complaint about the situation. He said he had been given a building permit in the township offices and was led to understand his building plans were proper. The garage is now almost completed.

Clerk-treasurer Delmar French admitted there had been a mistake in issuing the permit. Asked by Reeve Tom Hill, the clerk said he did not think the building had been inspected by

township building inspector Tom McLean.

Hill criticized McLean for not inspecting the site. "The building inspector is the guy that's in the wrong here. He's supposed to look at everything," Hill roared.

Construction of the building as it stands contravened the township building by-law, but council promised to be as fair as possible with Mr. Bannano under the circumstances.

The building by-law requires a 35 foot setback from the road.

The mail strike in Toronto delayed mail here slightly.

# Board adopts recommendations

The Halton County Board of Education has adopted in principle most of the recommendations put forth by a three man inquiry set up by the province to establish guidelines for efficient school board-teacher negotiations.

The recommendations are known as the Reville Report—named after Judge R. Reville who heads the group. Recently the Board put forth a position paper on the report; supporting many of the recommendations. However, one of the recommendations may cause a rift between the Board and county's secondary school teachers and their provincial organization, the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation.

Agrees with report The report urges, and the board agrees, that teachers should only be able to negotiate salary and fringe benefits and not working conditions. However, the teachers want such issues as pupil-teacher ratios and class sizes to be negotiated.

While the board and the teachers are at loggerheads on the negotiations issue, they are on the same sides of the fence in supporting and rejecting several other portions of the Reville Report.

Both the teachers and the board are opposed to a recommendation which would allow the board to bring in anyone they wish to conduct salary conditions, while the teachers would be restricted to selecting a committee from among themselves.

The Reville Report suggests a permanent school board advisory committee be established.

Making advisory boards mandatory would destroy the good rapport the board now enjoys with the teachers according to the School Board trustees.

Parts of the board's position paper states, "This board approves in principle, the establishment of guidelines to facilitate the efficient negotiation of salary agreements between a board and its teaching staff. In the Reville Report we strongly support the recommendations which tend to retain for a board the right to manage its system and are opposed to those recommendations which tend to lessen the good rapport existing between board and staff or which tend to complicate negotiation procedures unnecessarily."

The board's viewpoint will be sent to the Minister of Education Thomas Wells. A brief outlining the teachers' feeling on the Report have already been sent to the Minister by the provincial executive of the Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation.

# Brothers sentenced

Two brothers were sentenced in court in Milton as a result of a fight at an Acton hotel. Cons. Bruce McArthur was injured during the fracas.

Brian LeBlanc was given 90 days in jail and brother Peter LeBlanc 30 days. They appeared before Judge William Sharpe.

# 401 boundary line in Halton region?

Regionalization of the areas east and west of Toronto can be expected in the early months of 1973, this newspaper was told Friday in an interview with Claude Bennett, a minister in the Davis Government responsible for regional planning.

Bennett warned that if the municipalities concerned did not work out an equitable form of region the Province might be forced to step in as an arbitrator.

Asked about Halton's plans to create a three region county and Milton's counter-proposal for a four borough Halton, Bennett made no direct reply. However, he said Highway 401 could be considered a natural boundary.

If Highway 401 is used as a boundary it would create considerable confusion since both Halton plans for regionalization extended above or below the highway. The road runs directly through the southern chunks of Esqueping and Nassagaweya which Milton would like to add central Halton borough.

Would this mean that Milton would be tied in with Burlington and Oakville?

Bennett made no further comment. Highway 401 could be considered a natural boundary but the Province has disregarded it before, most recently when the neighboring communities of Kitchener, Waterloo, Preston, Galt and Hespeler were all included in one region. Galt and Preston are on the southern side of the road while Kitchener and Hespeler are on the northern side.

Milton wrote a separate brief in opposition to a county brief to Queen's Park advocating a four unit Halton region. The Milton brief contends Milton can create a separate borough in central Halton with full services on an estimated \$33 million assessment base by including nearby assessment from Nassagaweya and Esqueping and parts of Burlington and Oakville.

The four northern municipalities oppose the Milton brief declaring that if the northern end of the county is to have a cohesive unit it must include assessment Milton desires for a central borough.

# O.P.P. report active week

During the week of November 12 to November 19, officers of the Ontario Provincial Police, investigated a total of 27 general occurrences and one motor vehicle collision. Investigations included one report of theft, one report of fraud, a complaint of wilful damage, the arrest of a suspended driver and apprehension of three wanted persons from other areas.

Other occurrences ranged from requests for assistance to minor disturbances.

Two sentenced Court appearances netted two men jail sentences, during the week. A local man was sentenced to 90 days in jail for assaulting a police officer. His brother was sentenced to 30 days in jail for obstructing police. Both charges resulted from the same incident.

A Guelph man was arrested and lodged in the county jail after he was found to be 'drunk in public'. There was one charge 'impaired driving' laid during the reporting week.

Hit and run The only motor vehicle collision during the week was a hit and run. A local man has been charged with 'leaving the scene of an accident' and 'careless driving' as a result of the collision.

Motorists are again reminded that overnight parking on town streets is restricted to three hours during twelve midnight and seven o'clock in the forenoon. Vehicles interfering with snow removal may be towed away at the owners' expense. Remember it is imperative that town streets be kept clear of parked vehicles during winter months, to enable efficient snow removal.

Motorists! Now is the time for a winter check-up. Have your vehicle safety checked before Old Man Winter sets in. Some of the areas that should be checked are the exhaust system, the wiper blades, the window defrosters and the heater, tires, brakes and front end alignment.

—Prov. Const. Paul Brown

# A SINCERE THANKS:

It will be an honour to serve as Reeve of Acton for 1973-74. I will strive for a progressive programme with sound economic principles. As we approach the Christmas season may you and your loved ones enjoy Health and Happiness.

G. W. "Pat" McKenzie

# KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ACTON

(1845 - 1972)

# 127th ANNIVERSARY

Sunday, November 26th, 1972

11.00 a.m.—Service of Thanksgiving and Re-dedication. Guest Preacher: The Rev. Russell J. Crossley, Dublin St. United Church, Guelph. Theme "Will Your Anchor Hold?" Guest Soloist: Mrs. Joyce Perrott.

7.30 p.m.—Evening Worship and General Discussion on "The Mission of the Church Today", directed by a panel of ministers.

Friends far and near invited.

**CONCERNED? PROVE IT! VOTE DEC. 4th W.D. Wright X**

Supplied by THE OSHAWA GROUP LIMITED  
supply depot for progressive independents

**"IGA SPECIAL"**  
**Pepsi-Cola**  
24-FL. OZ. **5 for \$1**

**"IGA SPECIAL"**  
**Tide**  
(POWDERED DETERGENT)  
42-0Z. QUART SIZE BOX **89¢**

**"IGA SPECIALS"**  
POWER WASHY DRYER 10-0Z. W/ **CAT CHOW 24-0Z. 2 Pkg. 87¢**

NEW PINK LOTION LIQUID DETERGENT 24-FL. OZ. PLASTIC BOTTLE **39¢**

**"IGA SPECIALS"**  
NEW CRISPER WHOLE POTATOES 10-FL. OZ. TIN **16¢**

**CRISCO** SHORTENING 1 LB. Pkg. **37¢**

**"IGA SPECIAL"**  
FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS 24-0Z. 40 WATT **3 for \$1**

MAPLE LEAF - SWEET PICKLED  
**COTTAGE ROLLS**  
HALF CRYOVAC **69¢** LB.

QUARTER PORK LOIN  
**LOIN PORK CHOPS**  
9 1/2 CHOPS PER PACKAGE **89¢** LB.

FRESHLY TABLETTE  
**GROUND CHUCK WIENERS** 1 LB. VAC PACK **85¢** LB.

CANADA PACKERS, RANCH STYLE  
**BOLOGNA** BY THE PIECE **59¢** LB.

**Dole TROPICAL TREAT BANANAS**  
**10¢** LB.

CRISP & PLUMP CALIFORNIA RED  
**EMPEROR GRAPES** PRODUCE W.E.S.A. 3 LBS. **99¢**

SWEET & JUICY PRODUCE OF REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA  
**OUTSPAN ORANGES** SIZE 113 DOZ. **59¢**

GOLDEN SWEET CANADA No. 1 GRADE  
**FLORIDA CORN** PRODUCE W.E.S.A. 5 Pkg. **49¢**

FLAVORFUL WASHINGTON  
**ANJOU PEARS** PRODUCE OF U.S.A. No. 1 GRADE 5 Pkg. **59¢**

Plus many more in store Specials

**"IGA SPECIAL"**  
GRANULATED **White Sugar** 5 LB. Pkg. **69¢**