

Naturalists Want Quetico Retained for Recreation

"Willowbank,"
35 Park Street
Georgetown, Ont.

The Editor:
The Georgetown Herald,
Georgetown.

Dear Sir:

The Quetico Advisory Committee of the Ontario Dept. of Lands and Forests has invited briefs from citizens that will help guide their recommendation for the future use of Quetico Park. The Georgetown and District Naturalists' Club has accepted their invitation and submitted a brief. Your readers may be interested to learn of our own views on this matter, and I have enclosed a copy of our brief which I hope you will be able to publish.

Yours truly,
— Roger Frost

10 Albert Street,
Georgetown, Ontario
February 15, 1971

Mr. R. T. Thompson,
Secretary,
Quetico Park Advisory
Committee, Ontario Dept. of
Lands and Forests,
Port Frances, Ontario.

Gentlemen:

A BRIEF

The Georgetown and District Naturalists' Club is pleased to be able to express to your committee the concern of its mem-

bers for the future of Quetico Park.

Whereas areas of undisturbed natural ecosystems are of immense value for recreation, education, and scientific study;

Whereas such areas may also help compensate for man's deleterious effects upon other parts of our biosphere;

Whereas current trends in population growth, mobility, and leisure pursuits are likely to increase the demands made by our society upon natural ecosystems;

Be it resolved that we the members of the Georgetown & District Naturalists' Club recommend:

- 1) That Quetico Provincial Park be reclassified as a primitive park.
- 2) That all commercial operations (including logging, mining and other forms of exploitation) be herewith excluded from all lands and waters within the park.

We believe that lands that exist outside provincial park boundaries provide more than sufficient area for such exploitation. Moreover, we believe that the present ease with which timber and minerals can be obtained is a major factor inhibiting the economic viability of resource recycling programs. Thus even if hardships accrue to these resource exploiters, this might have a beneficial effect in lessening our garbage disposal crisis.

3) That any land management that may be performed by the Department of Lands and Forests, be directed solely towards maintaining the area in as natural a condition as possible. To this end we recommend that management techniques be designed to simulate natural patterns of change within the ecosystem. For example, prescribed burning followed by re-generation in natural succession would probably be preferable to cutting and replanting, in attempts to maintain diversity of vegetation and to prevent the destruction of larger areas by uncontrolled fires or disease.

- 4) That public access into the park be prohibited to all mechanized forms of transport, in order to maintain the primitive character.
- 5) That the intensity of use for recreational, educational and scientific purposes be regulated to protect the environment from overuse and to preserve the quality of the recreational experience.

Respectfully submitted,
Georgetown and District
Naturalists' Club,
F. N. Cramp, President.

The Georgetown & District Naturalists' Club is a citizens group whose aims are: to study things of nature, to increase our knowledge and appreciation of the world around us, and to promote the conservation of our natural heritage so that it may provide pleasure for future generations.

Retain Grant, Many Benefits — Lorne Scots Plea to County

Halton County council last week heard a plea from commanding officer of the Lorne Scots Regiment to again supply their \$1,500 annual grant.

Lt. Col. Earl Lince of Georgetown told council withdrawal of the grant would "present hardships and curtail their activities to a great degree."

Ever since council considered cutting off most grants to county groups and charitable organizations, delegations have urged the grants be kept in the new county budget.

POURS \$70,000 BACK

Lince, who also presented his annual report, told council the regiment, active as a militia reserve unit, pours some \$70,000 back into the county with wages paid to military personnel and those responsible for upkeep of county armories in Georgetown and Oakville.

"If there are any doubts in your minds, the only other money we receive comes from the department of national defence and Dufferin and Peel counties," Lince said.

ANNUAL GRANT

Members of the 105 year old regiment also come from two adjacent counties and it receives an annual grant of

\$2,500 from Peel and \$400 from Dufferin.

Lince noted that the Lorne Scots employed 128 students during a summer militia program and plans have been approved to conduct the program again this year.

The regiment has retained its pipe and drum band.

Another band — the military band — was disassociated from the regiment last year. Nevertheless, most of its members are still active in the militia, Lince said.

HELD IN TRUST

He said the year's delay in handing back their government owned instruments is up and money donated by the counties last year has been held in trust to be used, in part, to buy new instruments for the bandsmen.

Accompanying Lince were Major Ian Kirkwood, officer commanding 'A' Company, Oakville; Major Donald Egan, and Captain John Rodaway, officer commanding 'C' Company in Georgetown.

The Lorne Scots request for their grant, as well as requests by various county agricultural organizations, Canadian National Institute for the Blind, and others, will be considered by the full council which composes the 1971 budget committee.

Was Toolmaker with Smith & Stone Firm

A toolmaker with Smith and Stone Ltd. until he retired in 1961, Bernard A. Wilcox died suddenly at his home, 43 Victoria Street on February 13. He was 79.

He was a native of Stoke-on-Trent, England. In 1920 he married Agnes Dwyer in St. Basil's R.C. Church, Toronto. He leaves his wife and six children, Roy of

Hamilton, Earl, Joseph and Gertrude of Georgetown, Mrs. W. Alton exander (Marica) of Alton and Mrs. H. Lawr (Theresa) of Guelph, a sister Mrs. Jean Turner, Hamilton and 20 grandchildren, Bernard Lawr, Guelph, Bill Trent, England. In 1920 he married Agnes Dwyer in St. Basil's R.C. Church, Toronto. He leaves his wife and six children, Roy of

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16, with Rev. Otger Devent conducting the service. Pallbearers were Michael McArthur, Oshawa, and five grandsons, Jack Cole, Oshawa, Joseph Alexander, Alton, Bernard Lawr, Guelph, Bill Trent, England. In 1920 he married Agnes Dwyer in St. Basil's R.C. Church, Toronto. He leaves his wife and six children, Roy of

Requiem mass took place at Holy Cross Church on February 17, with Rev. Otger Devent conducting the service. Pallbearers were Michael McArthur, Oshawa, and five grandsons, Jack Cole, Oshawa, Joseph Alexander, Alton, Bernard Lawr, Guelph, Bill Trent, England. In 1920 he married Agnes Dwyer in St. Basil's R.C. Church, Toronto. He leaves his wife and six children, Roy of

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Less Committees, Increased Workload, Morrow Suggests

Georgetown's new Reeve Richard Morrow is quickly gaining a reputation in county circles as a giant killer.

One of Morrow's first acts on council was to recommend abolition of many grants made by the finance committee. The groups that would lose the money have petitioned to keep the grants.

INEFFICIENT

He aimed heavy fire at the 11 man museum board.

"If 11 people are needed to run the museum, it must be terribly inefficient," he charged. "Costs must be ridiculously high."

"They are not too high" Nasagaweya Reeve Mrs. Anne MacArthur shot back. "We have a budget of only \$31,000."

"I'm beginning to fear we are too concerned with efficiency and centralization and forgetting about human needs completely," she added.

DOUBLE WORK

"Doing some quick calculations, I figure it costs roughly \$2,000 per year for their fees alone and that is inefficiency," Morrow replied.

Later Morrow said he would like to see the nine county committees amalgamated into smaller groups.

"Instead of a lot of committees, why not double the workload?"

"There is such an overlapping of responsibilities why not have fewer committees and increase their responsibility?" he asked.

"Our council meets only twice a month but there are meetings during this time when we get most of our work done" he said.

SMILE

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HIRING

He mentioned cases of job hiring at the county level which are presented initially to the committee which runs a particular department.

That committee must approve the appointment; it must be approved by the personnel committee, and then it must be approved by the council as a whole.

If personnel meets before the committee involved, the matter must wait more than a month before council can give its approval, he said.

March is a prime example, with personnel meeting March 2, most other committees meeting after that and council meeting March 16, he said.

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