

Georgetown Herald

A Division of Canadian Newspapers Company Limited

22 Main Street South, Georgetown, Ontario

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GEORGETOWN HERALD, WEDNES., OCTOBER 31, 1973

COMMUNITY APPEAL

Required In Georgetown

The Herald received an unusual telephone call late last week.

It came from a senior citizen who called to complain about the campaign for funds being conducted by Georgetown YM-YWCA.

As a senior citizen, and retired, he said he has found that he can't afford to donate this year. He said he tried to explain this to a canvasser, but was treated with a curtness that hurt him considerably.

Why, he asked, can't a person be allowed to refuse a campaign request with dignity? He said senior folk are submitted to a stream of requests for donations, but most pensions, with today's rising cost of living, don't leave much money for amenities, including donations.

We assured the caller that his incident was an isolated one, but his comments prompted this thought: could Georgetown use a

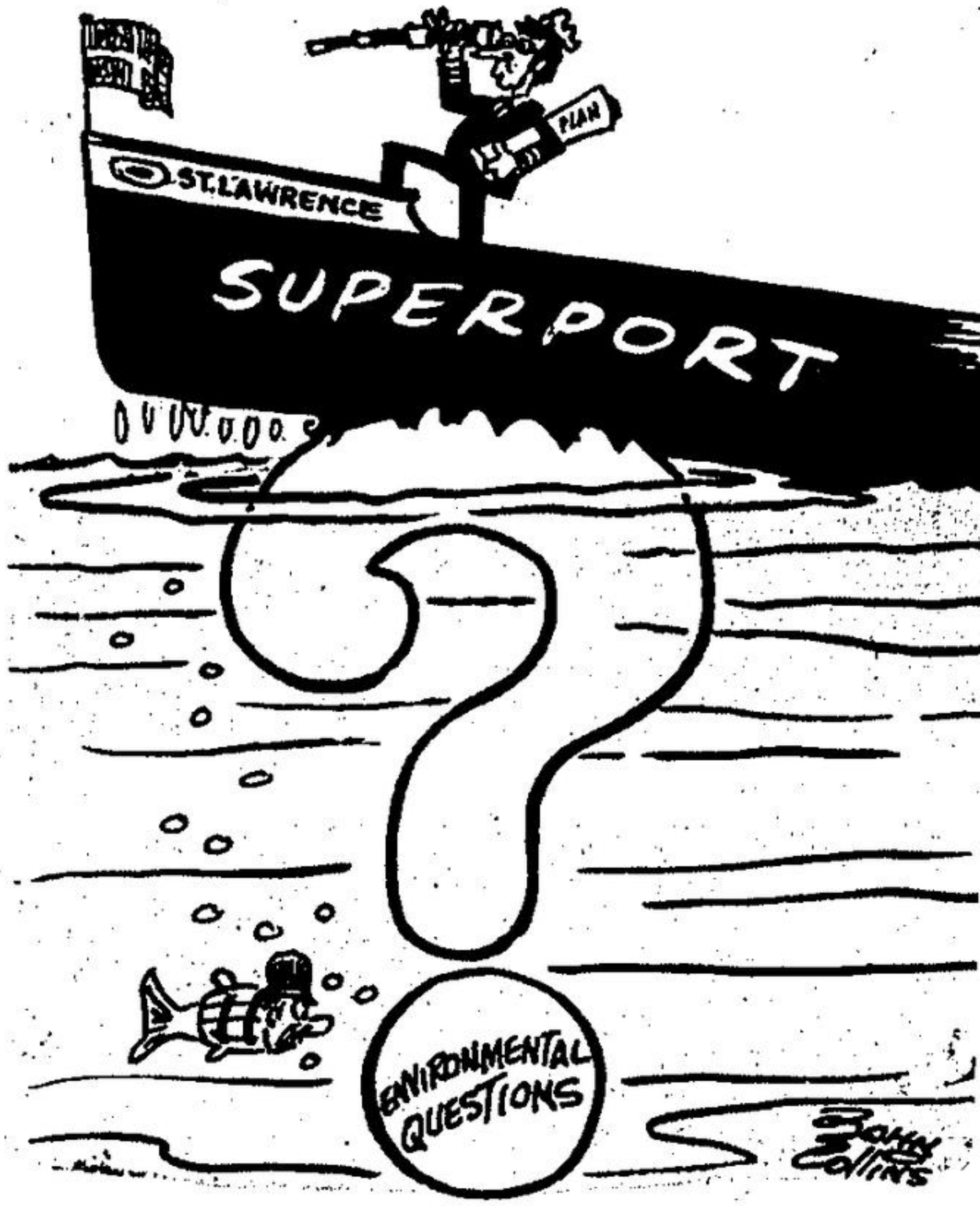
community or united appeal for funds?

The idea probably has been considered: it often is in many communities, when door-to-door visitations become numerous. The chore is to get such an appeal organized.

In some locales, a united appeal is suffering from the doldrums. It is scalded by critics, ignored by donors, deplored by some participating agencies, but it carries on.

For no one yet has been able to deny that a united appeal is people helping people. There are successful appeals and there are unsuccessful appeals. Each community determines an appeal's viability.

In Georgetown, the time seems to be at hand when such a community appeal can be considered. It reduces the number of financial campaigns and a concerned citizenry can watch their dollars benefiting many agencies, some of which might be hard put for funds.



FULL SPEED AHEAD

Streets Not Throughways

Georgetown has a large subdivision population, brought on by the town's great pace of growth in the last decade. Many things are of concern to these residents, but one that is gaining in prominence is traffic.

In the space of one month, town council has been the recipient of three petitions about stop signs. It seems some residents are at odds about the merits of stop signs at intersections to break traffic flow and keep it at controlled speeds. Some residents want some of the signs removed, chiefly along one boulevard that is a major subdivision thoroughfare. Still others favor retention of the signs to control traffic.

Stop signs, of course, are not a perfect answer to traffic safety. They can be disobeyed, and often

are. But they do have a subduing effect on drivers who tend to speed along residential streets as though they were on highways.

It's difficult to argue that stop signs should be removed, strictly on the basis of traffic flow in a suburb. It probably would make most sense to sign all intersections, but that might cause conditions to go too far the other way, slowing traffic to a snail's pace.

Town council is right in calling for a review of its signing at intersections. But whatever it decides, it won't please somebody.

It should keep in mind, though, a fact cited by Reeve Ric Morrow at an earlier debate about stop signs. There are highways for speeding traffic from one point to another. Residential streets are not meant to be throughways.

World Needs A Food Bank

Every week, almost 1,500,000 people are being added to the world's population — at a time when people even in affluent nations are experiencing food shortages. The countries that can afford to pay high prices for grain and other vital foods are adding to their stockpiles, while the poor nations are going hungry.

It is one of the ironies of our age that Soviet Russia, not only by far the largest of the world's nations but one that hails internationalism in all its propaganda, helped push up the price of global food. Last year's Soviet grain purchases of about 30 million tons would have been enough to provide a subsistence diet for some 140 million people for an entire year.

But the Soviet Union, like most of the richer nations, was greedy, and thought not about the needs of the poor. This is a most shortsighted policy, of course. Unless the rich and powerful do a great deal more for the poor and the weak, there will never be genuine understanding among the nations.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has emphasized the need for a world food bank that would lend or give grain to needy people during times of scarcity. The idea has the backing of various UN agencies, and of other important world organizations, including International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Nothing would be more disastrous than perpetuating the impression that people in some of the very poor countries have, namely that the citizens of the richer nations are indifferent to world hunger. Backing — including financial support, food gifts and technical advice — would dispel the notion that we in the have countries just don't care.

The creation of a world food bank, and indeed the establishment of some form of international food policy are vital needs at a time when global populations continue to grow at too rapid a rate. Canada, with its vast wheatlands, should give every assistance to the world food bank plan.

ECHOES FROM THE PAST

10 YEARS AGO

The town had recently purchased the old post office for conversion to municipal use and 10 years ago this week gave final approval for the sale of the existing municipal building. There was a price tag of \$32,500 put on the building.

Officials of Upper Canada College asked that children and hunters keep off their site at Norval highway hill. The College was worried that the mix of children playing and hunters shooting could prove dangerous.

Approximately 170 people viewed a one-man exhibition of paintings by Paul Buchanan at House Sol over the weekend. The Herald noted that the show "should endear itself to the many who deplore abstract art."

Mrs. Marie Paris was elected president of the fourth Georgetown auxiliary scouts and cubs. Other officers were Mrs. Bud Beckett, Roy (Bunny) Ward, Frank Connelly and Gord King (who promised to

get the scores to The Herald for publication.)

Elling Berg, Georgetown High School graduate, was awarded a second bursary in relation to his further studies in the chemical engineering course at the University of Toronto.

A General Electric Co. representative was meeting with town officials about locations for traffic lights, which were being discussed by council.

30 YEARS AGO

Miss Charlotte McCullough gave a talk on first aid at a meeting of the Ashgrove WI Mrs. T. Brownridge was hostess. Mrs. N. Stark dealt with a motto of "Take care of your health; it will last you a lifetime."

The Doris Hulls' Orchestra was booked for the masquerade Hallowe'en Dance in the Georgetown Arena. It was sponsored by the Punch Press War Workers and they were charging 35 cents admission to help raise funds.

A full page advertisement asked the pointed question: "What are you doing to help SPEED THE VICTORY?" The victory loan advertisement was sponsored by local merchants S.P. Chapman, Lillie's Beauty Salon, Tyers' Milk Products, The Empire Lunch, Kirby's Specialty Shop, Rachin's Cleaners, Hedley Shaw, Bradley Bros., D. Brill and Co., C.J. Buck, MacCormack's Drug Store, H.J. Sienko, Silver Dept. Store, Richardson's Hardware, Smith's Shoe Store, The Budget Groceries, A. E. Farney, Robb's Drug Store and W. H. Long.

BILL SMILEY

Horse-Drawn Vehicles Yesterday Recollection

In a nostalgic mood today, I've been thinking that, with the onslaught of Speed Age, many of our fine old Canadian traditions have fallen by the wayside, died on the vine, or simply lain down and curled up their toes.

One of the first to go, of course, was the blacksmith. It hurts me to face the truth: that most people today under thirty have never known the sensory joys of a blacksmith's shop.

At this time of year, small boys used to squeeze through the ramshackle door, and edges close as they could to the fire, freezing their bums and roasting their cheeks. There was a fine acrid stench of horse manure and scorched hooves. There was the leaping flame as the bellows blew. There was the ringing clang as the smith beat out the white-hot metal between hammer and anvil, and the satisfying hiss when the hot metal was plunged into the cold water.

At a certain age, most male kids would have settled happily for the life of a blacksmith, a free soul who spent his days doing the most fascinating work in the world.

The decline of the smithy, of course, was brought about by the gradual phasing out of

another tradition — the horse-drawn vehicle.

CATCHING BOBS I wonder how many kids of this generation have ever spent a winter Saturday "catching bobs". This was our term for jumping on the back of farmer's sleighs.

All day long the farmers came and went to and from town. And all day long we hopped on behind a load of grain, left that load for a load of supplies going the other way, picked up a sleigh piled with logs for the return trip, and shivered with delighted fear as the farmers shouted at us, and even sometimes flourished their whips in our direction.

As we grew a little older, about 12, we graduated to catching on the wing of a cutter. This was more daring and more dangerous because they could really fly. The runner was much smaller, and the farmer could turn around and belt you one on the ear.

Most of them, of course, were pretty decent. I know now that they were more worried about us getting hurt in a fall than they were about the extra weight their horses had to pull.

CUTTERS Then there were the butchers' cutters. These consisted of a sort of box with runners beneath, and a step at the back for the driver to stand on. The horses were not plugs, but real road runners that went like a bat out of hell. They were every bit as exciting as a Roman chariot, and the drivers were the envy of every boy, in fur caps, reins in one hand, whip in the other, as they tore through the towns like furies.

And I wonder how many boys have played hockey all day on a frozen river, when a hard shot the goalie missed might slide for a quarter of a mile. We never had to worry about ice-time, or changing lines. We could play until we were pooped, then sit by the bonfire until rested, and have another go. And there were always twenty or thirty playing at once, so everybody got a whack at the puck. Some great stick-handlers came out of that era.

Think of the depths to which we have sunk. The smithy, with its lights and shadows, its reds and blacks, its earthy smells, its sense of life, has been replaced by the garage, a sterile thing with its cement floor, its reek of gas and oil, and its unspoken assurance that this is gonna-come-you-plenty-buddy.

SNOWMOBILE The cutter, swift and light

as a bird, no longer skims the snow. It has been replaced by a stinking, snarling, skidding beast that only modern man could abide — the snowmobile.

No more meat-cutters, careening around the corners on one runner, delivering in any weather. Now, we plod like zombies through the supermarket to morose piped-in music, and pick up the odorous, antiseptic, cellophaned packages the great gods Dominion, Loblaw's or Safeway have assigned to us, and carry them humbly to our cars. Three blocks away.

Our kids have to get up at 5 a.m. to play hockey, and if they're not real "killers", get about four minutes ice-time. Ah, those were the days! And I haven't even begun on the most vital of all winter equipment — the puck consisting of a frozen horse-bun.

Cool Weather Bad For Falls

With cool weather now upon us, and ice and snow just around the corner, the "fall" season is with us in more ways than one. The slippery conditions fostered by cold weather, snow and ice increase the risk of on-farm injuries caused by falls, says Don Brown of the Farm Safety Association.

Surprisingly, falls are a cause of one-third of all farm injuries in the United States and are a serious threat to life and limb at any time of year. A high proportion of such accidents can be prevented with a little extra care and caution.

Alertness is the best weapon against accidental falls. Illness, undue haste, fatigue, emotional upset, effects of alcohol or drugs, all make a fall more likely. Avoid potentially hazardous chores when any of these conditions prevail.

Falls occur most frequently in cluttered working quarters, on slippery surfaces caused by ice, snow, mud, water, or oil slicks, and where flooring is broken and or rickety ladders. To lessen the chances of falling under these conditions, keep all stairs well-lighted and in good repair, do not carry a vision-blocking load, schedule regular clean-ups of work areas, and always set ladders on a firm footing. A good rule of thumb for ladders is to place the base of the ladder one foot out from a building, for every four feet of height.

READER'S FORUM

Church Is Force For Good When It Has Real Answers

Sir: I read in your valued paper last week that the Maple Avenue Baptist Church in Georgetown is going to erect an addition to its present building to seat more than 400 persons in the auditorium and take care of an even number of Sunday school pupils. This at a cost of \$238,000, and all subscribed for at the present time.

Why? For some time past now it has been the custom of many churches of many denominations to curtail Sunday evening services, to find their Sunday schools losing the attendances at

their schools and entirely eliminating the midweek prayer meetings. Some have found too that in order to have a reasonable attendance at a morning service it was necessary to amalgamate with other churches during the vacation periods. With the indulgence in mostly and merely social activities many churches have found their congregations diminishing to the vanishing point.

Why? Yet here is a church whose Sunday school is so overcrowded that it finds it necessary to rent additional space in nearby buildings to

accommodate the overflow. Here is a church which still holds two services as well as Sunday school every Sunday. It does not close its Sunday school down in the summer and in addition to the weekly prayer meeting, its doors are open with different activities practically every night of the week.

Here is a church whose many interests are well supported by young people who feel the impact on their lives for the highest and best way of life.

Here is a church where auction sales, fancy teas, dances and bingo are out positively.

Why? Because in these last days people are questioning what the church is doing to provide the real answers to life's problems and how they can be sincerely met. Only a church which meets these requisites can and will continue to be a force for good in this world.

Ed A. Peters, Georgetown

Stop Sign Crisis Reader's Concern

Sir: Stop! I am writing this letter in the hope of adding some light to the 'stop sign crisis' emerging as the result of illegally placed 3 way stop signs at Chevin Dr. and Flamingo Ct. (The Ministry of Transportation and Communications has not approved the town bylaw setting out stop signs).

Let me first say that the crisis does not arise out of the concern for the safety of children. The residents of Chevin Dr. and Flamingo Ct. most assuredly share the common concern of child safety. However, it would appear that there is a difference of opinion with regards to measures required to maintain safety. Some residents seem to be saying that stop signs ensure safety for their children. These people feel that without stop signs at Chevin and Flamingo the street is unsafe for their children to play near. Others are sympathetic with their concern, but feel that the stop signs are unnecessary to ensure a safe street. What really is at issue?

I would suggest that there are two issues. The first deals with the installation of the signs at that particular 3 way intersection. The signs have been placed without proper authorization. Flamingo Ct. contains nine houses. Do houses establish a need for a stop sign? Also, many residents feel that the installation of these signs was done with little consultation of the majority of residents on Chevin Dr. The second issue deals with the enforcement of these signs by the police department. Some residents want the signs enforced, even though the matter has not received the due attention of the present town council and the ministry of transportation and communications. Other residents ignore the signs. At present, Chevin Dr. is not properly marked for stop signs. These people feel the signs should be removed until officially approved.

As a resident of Chevin Dr., I feel that the installation of these signs was ill-conceived. The street is and was safe. It is not a collector road. Traffic on the street will not increase as all the lots are filled. To ensure the safety of the children, we, the residents of Chevin Dr., should encourage our children to play in areas other than the street, supervise our children when they play in potentially dangerous areas and speak personally with drivers who exceed the 30 m.p.h. limit. If we carry out our adult responsibilities, we will not have to fear for the safety of our children.

I do feel that it is important that the elected officials of our municipal government both examine the facts and statistics and also represent the majority of the residents of the streets concerned to arrive at a responsible decision. All residents should be happy with the results of a thorough and responsible study. It would be regretful if the people of this area become embittered at each

Paraders brandish live lizards and carry pots containing cobras during the annual serpent festival in Shirala, India. When the rites end, the participants release — both snakes and lizards unharmed.

Reorganization Announced By Environmental Ministry

Ontario Ministry of the Environment is being reorganized to take a total environmental approach to environmental management in Ontario and to bring the service branches of the ministry closer to the people they serve.

A task force has been working since November, 1972, examining the role of the ministry and developing the new structure. This examination has resulted in a definition of the scope of the ministry's responsibility... "the overall protection of the natural environment to prevent degradation caused by man's activities," said James Auld, minister.

The reorganization includes a major decentralization into six regions; and the establishment of six regional offices; in the northwest, the northeast, the southwest, the west-central region, the central region and in the eastern region.

Mr. Auld said that in each of these regions, responsibility will be delegated to a regional director for environmental protection and assessment within the region. The operation of water and sewage treatment utilities will also be a regional responsibility. The directors will report to an assistant deputy minister in charge of field operations. At least 23 district offices of the ministry will draw on the regional office for direction and support services.

"Provincial planning or environmental assessment and the establishment of standards and criteria for ambient air and water and for waste are grouped under another assistant deputy minister for environmental planning and assessment," Mr. Auld said.

ONE BRANCH He added that all approvals, now granted by various branches within the ministry, will be brought within the sphere of one branch.

The ministry's utility functions, the development and construction responsibilities for water and sewage treatment utilities, will be reorganized to in-

roduce a project management concept, Mr. Auld said. A project coordinator will be responsible for a new sewage or water treatment project from its inception to its opening.

He stressed the importance of these municipal utilities, not only in terms of pollution control, although they are a key part of pollution abatement and planning in Ontario, but also in terms of the essential role they play in serving new development and the expanding population of the province.

The major service areas of utilities and laboratories have been grouped under another assistant deputy minister, Mr. Auld said. A policy secretariat, reporting to the deputy minister will deal with the analysis of ministry policies and plans as well as focussing on inter-governmental agreements like the Canada-Ontario Agreement and the International Joint Commission.

RESEARCH Mr. Auld added that the research programs now conducted by ministry staff in internal facilities will continue under the reorganized structure. In addition, he mentioned that the ministry has invested \$670,000 in specific research projects to be conducted this year in universities and that these projects are under way in almost every university in Ontario. "This association with the universities is valuable to us and we intend to continue with grants for specific research projects."

Mr. Auld outlined the goals the ministry plans to achieve with the new organization.

"To ensure proper control over the emission of contaminants into the natural environment for the purpose of achieving and/or maintaining predetermined standards of environmental quality."

To ensure that proposed programs, projects, policies and legislation in Ontario or affecting this province incorporate the necessary environmental safeguards through involvement of this ministry in all aspects of provincial land use planning.

QUEEN'S PARK

Tied To Jobless Works Program

by DON O'HEARN Queen's Park Bureau Of The Herald

TORONTO—Treasurer John White has announced that unless conditions drastically change there won't be a winter works program this year.

Employment, he said, was now at a level that the program wasn't needed, and unless there was a drastic increase in unemployment it would be dead for this year. It is many years now since we haven't had a winter works program, under which the province and the federal government have heavily subsidized special projects of local governments.

The programs were started in the 1950's and have been with us continuously since that time.

They are now so customary that some municipalities probably will object to them being withdrawn.

But over-all Mr. White would seem to have taken a good step.

The employment situation in the province generally is good. In August the unemployment figure was getting down towards three per cent and for Ontario that is pretty well full employment under any one's system of reckoning.



Then, as Mr. White pointed out in discussing his announcement, "unemployment insurance there now is a vehicle available that takes care of the bulk of the legitimately unemployed."

And while some good work was done under the winter program, such as building of new local parks, there is little question that because of the nature of the work and the force engaged in it, the projects did not represent full value.

SPECIAL PROBLEMS

The Liberals did have a suggestion that there were areas in the province where unemployment was very high and that some special provision should be made for them.

This would seem to have considerable validity. White rejected it, however, saying that there were other assistance programs to handle regional problems.

What he probably had most in mind was that any such special programs would prove politically very hard to handle. If some municipalities were getting assistance and others weren't, there inevitably would be pressure to have some of all. Politically