It can be puzzling sometimes to decide noon at the Legion Hall. From the left are

Town council may lead Ontario in dog control

By GEORGE EVASHUK Herald staff writer



41 George St. S., Brampton, Ont. Phone 457-9922

Peter Branch, who with his wife operates a sheep farm, made the prediction to financeadministration committee last week after he had urged councillors to enforce the Dog Licencing and Livestock and Poultry Protection Act.

In cases where the attacking dog can be identified and traced to its owner, Mr. Branch said, council should not only pay compensation to the livestock owner but enforce the act.

"If the paying of com-pensation and all other aspects of the Act are assumed by the municipality," Mr. Branch said, "then to us it is clear that the enforcement of the disposal of the offending dog should be a municipal

letter advised that there is no onus on the town to have a dog owner summoned before a provincial judge for the purpose of ordering the dog destroyed. "Lawyers don't always agree," Mr. Branch He said that sheep owners have a saying: "If you catch a

dog (killing livestock), shoot it and bury it quickly." But as soon as a dog disappears, it is replaced, and unless the owners are aware of what's happened to their dogs and hit in their pocketbooks, nothing

"If enforcement is left to the

chances are the Act will not be

enforced and the injury or

He recommended that

council enforce the Act as well

as use town employees on

roads and the police to identify

report them. He suggested

also to post signs in rural

legal opinion of the town's

solicitor, Ray Steele, who in a

Mr. Branch disputed the

areas with stray dogs and

killing will continue."

will happen, Mr. Branch said. He said the town could recover from the dog owner the cost involved in paying compensation to the livestock

Branch recently received \$90, for a ewe which was killed, an amount less than what he could get at market.

Reg Green, a farmer on Concession 8 was paid \$372.50 for 76 chickens which were killed by two stray dogs.

The amount of compensation is determined by a livestock evaluator hired by the town to investigate such incidents. Coun. C.F. (Pat) Patterson

released a letter from Agriculture Minister William Newman to a constituent in which the minister indicated it was the responsibility of the municipality to enforce the act and of livestock owners to organize and approach their councils to urge enforcement, among other measures.

Coun. Walter Biehn sald there would be a deterrent effect if council tried to recover from the dog owners the compensation pald to livestock owners for killed or maimed livestock, much in the same way as making parents responsible for vandalism committed by their children. Clerk-administrator Doug Pritchard said the issue

presents council with a clear "dilemma". Council, on behalf of the persons sustaining the damage, can call a public inquiry to ascertain the owner of the dog and once that's done, can have the owner up before a provincial magistrate to order the dog destroyed, he said. As well, under the act,

council are allowed to recover the recompensation by taking the owner to court. Mr. Pritchard recommended that council should

Mr. Branch told the committee that stray dogs are scarce in the district in the daytime because of the efforts of the town's animal control unit. The problem of dogs attacking occurs mostly at night and Mr. Branch said he and his wife and family are

He said the farm has a watchdog but contrary to good sheep raising practice, they keep It chained rather than letting it move through the flock. The result is that when there is a disturbance, hesometimes has to get up two or three times a night to chase a stray off the farm.

OMB okays plaza by Alcott arena

rezoning of lands adjacent to had been "adequately anthe Gordon Alcott Memorial Arena for a proposed 70,070 square foot plaza.

The decision released last since the minister had already week follows a board hearing at which objections were raised by Lobiaws Groceferias that the proposal was not good planning practice."

Approval of the Halton Hills bylaw allows the land to be rezoned to commercial from industrial. •

Board vice-chairman W.T. Shrives and member E.A.

Fact finder named for separate board

The Education Relations Commission has appointed Grant Gillespie, as a fact-finder to assist the Halton Roman Catholic separate school board and its teachers in negotia-

Mr. Gillespie will prepare a report on the negotiations, dentitying the issues which have led to an impasse. The report is expected to be presented within 30 days. It will make clear the positions of both sides, and may or may not make recommendations on settlement terms.

Both sides involved in the negotiations will be the first to see the report. If, after a maximum 20 days, there is no argument, the report will be made public. After that, the parties involved can ask for binding arbitration or a selector to decide which of the parties' offers to impose, or the teachers may decide to "ke strike action.

The Ontario Municipal Seaborn said in their decision structed by the developer and Board has approved the that the concerns by Loblaws dedicated to the municipality has a public road," swered" and that a question of ". . . (T)his is an excellent approval of an official plan

solution to a problem which amendment could not be heard has plagued many developments where access roads remain private and can not be Both OMB members comproperly policed," the board mented that the plaza, located members said.

immediately across from the Main tenant of the plaza will Georgetown Market "presents be a major grocery supera unique situation in that the market. A Goodyear Tire store access road from Guelph will also be huilt at the plaza to Street to both arena parking complement the number of and the shopping centre stores which will be built attached to the supermarket.



approved the measure.

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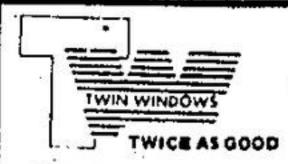
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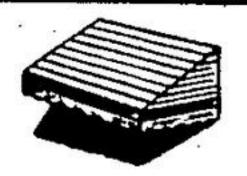
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sheep farmer has predicted. owner of the livestock, then the

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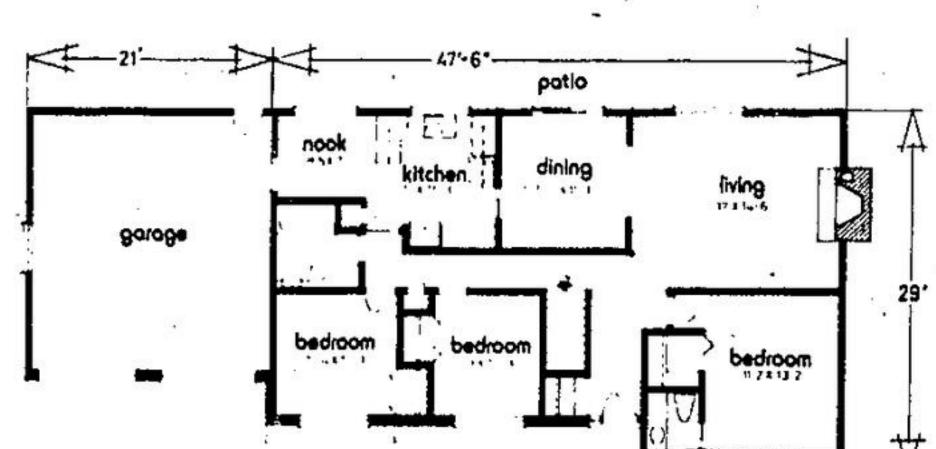
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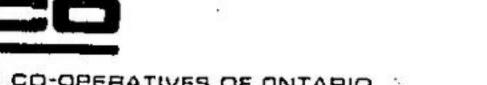
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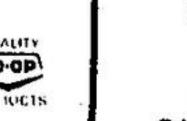
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