

MPP's report from Queen's Park

By JULIAN REED, MPP Halton-Burlington JOB CREATION

The provincial treasurer has indicated that the government is in the process of studying possible job-creation plans, although it has no intention of moving until it sees what action the federal government will take. He believes that Ottawa will act soon to stimulate the economy and to create jobs, and that joint federal-provincial programs would be a good solution.

Liberal leader David Peterson has cited province-wide layoff figures which are nearly two and a half times as large as last year, and has reminded the treasurer that "when he first brought in his wage restraint program, he said it was the first step and the first step only". He asked how long we have to wait for the second step - job creation. Noting that the treasurer's public sector restraint program differs in many key respects from that of the federal government, he asked why the treasurer would not "follow his own example now and do something about the people who will be facing the bleakest winter in memory?"

WAGE RESTRAINTS ON DOCTORS

When asked by David Peterson to report on the Ontario Medical Association's reaction to requests from the provincial



JULIAN REED

government to practice wage restraint voluntarily, the treasurer replied "I was not there, I am not privy to it and I cannot answer". It's difficult to understand why the treasurer would not be aware of what transpired in this instance, and Mr. Peterson remarked, "Frankly it is a shocking comment that the Premier would not invite the treasurer to a meeting like that".

LAND BANKING

It has been announced

that the government now intends to gradually sell the 68,000 acres of property which it has amassed over thirty years of expropriation and acquisition. This land bank has cost the people of Ontario about \$500 million, and is at present held by the Ontario Land Corporation. Reacting to the news of the proposed sales, David Peterson reminded members of the Legislature that the interest alone on these controversial land purchases amounts to some \$100 million annually.

"The land banks have been an absolute boondoggle", he said. "The interest clock is ticking and when you factor in all the costs we'll probably be looking at \$1 billion in property costs for virtually no value to the Ontario public".

GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING

It's been strongly recommended by Liberal MPP for St. Catharines, James Bradley, that the provincial government should set a good example in this period of restraint, by cutting its \$40 million advertising budget by 75 per cent. He pointed out that the government is the

sixth largest advertiser in the entire country, and urged that advertising budgets be "cut to the bare bones in non-essentials". The treasurer has stated that ministers have been advised to reduce advertising budgets as part of a \$400 million budgetary cut for this fiscal year, although no specific advertising budget cuts have been imposed.

ROAD DEATHS

According to the ministry of transportation and communications, the death rate on Ontario highways decreased in 1981 to its lowest level in more than a quarter of a century.

Also for the first time in that period, the use of provincial highways has declined. Traffic deaths declined to 1,445 from 1,508 in 1980, and at the same time the number of kilometres travelled dropped from 72.4 billion in that year to 70.9 billion in 1981.

However, the year's fatalities among motorcyclists increased some 16 per cent, from 81 in 1980 to 94 in 1981, the highest figure since 1975, when 97 motorcyclists died.

There was an increase of the percentage of fatal automobile accidents involving drinking drivers, to 32 per cent in 1981

from 30.1 per cent the previous year. Statistics show that of all the drivers killed in accidents, 58.7 per cent had been drinking. According to ministry figures for 1981, passengers and drivers who were not wearing seatbelts are 23 times as likely to be killed in an accident than those who have buckled the belts.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES

A group of nurses from the Niagara Region told the Legislature's Social Development Committee that the government is entrenching old-fashioned costly medical policies in its public health reform

bill. The nurses claimed that the bill's delegation of authority is "based on the patriarchal supremacy of the medical doctor over other health professionals...and fosters medicine's vested interest in maintaining solely curative goals."

In a brief to the Committee, the nurses stated that public health nurses and other advocates of health and prevention have "not been given equitable recognition and protection" by the bill. Two examples cited of nurses being capable of doing a better job than doctors were healthy baby and immunization clinics.

Thieves hit 3 safes

Three break-ins early Sunday morning are believed to have been done by the same people. Halton regional police also suspect more than one person was involved.

The Guelph Street Dairy Queen was entered through a rear washroom

window. The store safe was broken into and \$300 cash removed.

The Regent Gas Bar booth was entered after thieves broke a side door glass panel. Attempts to break into a floor safe failed and nothing was taken. There was \$150

damage to the booth.

In Glen Williams, thieves hit the Apple Products shop on Main Street. Entering the premises after breaking a south side washroom window, thieves moved a 400 pound safe out of doors and removed \$75 cash from it.



THE REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY OF HALTON

TAKE NOTICE that the Council for the Regional Municipality of Halton at its meeting 82/10/20 passed the following Resolution:

"WHEREAS there is a tremendous concern in the Region, particularly Halton Hills and Milton, as per the public meetings of October 6th, 7th and 19th, 1982, regarding the proposed Mineral Aggregate Policies and Designation in the Regional Official Plan and O.P.A. 6,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

"1. THAT proposed Regional Plan Amendment No. 8 and further consideration of the Official Plan Policies, Designation and Maps dealing with Mineral Resource Aggregate in the Regional Official Plan be deferred pending final approval of the Niagara Escarpment Plan and the aggregate policies and designations contained therein.

"2. THAT a delegation consisting of the Regional Chairman, Mayors and Chairman of the Planning and Public Works Committee arrange meetings with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Minister of Natural Resources to discuss the proposed Regional Aggregate Policies including need, urgency and to seek endorsement of the deferral pending finalization of the Niagara Escarpment Commission Plan.

"3. THAT Staff take the appropriate action to advise the public accordingly."

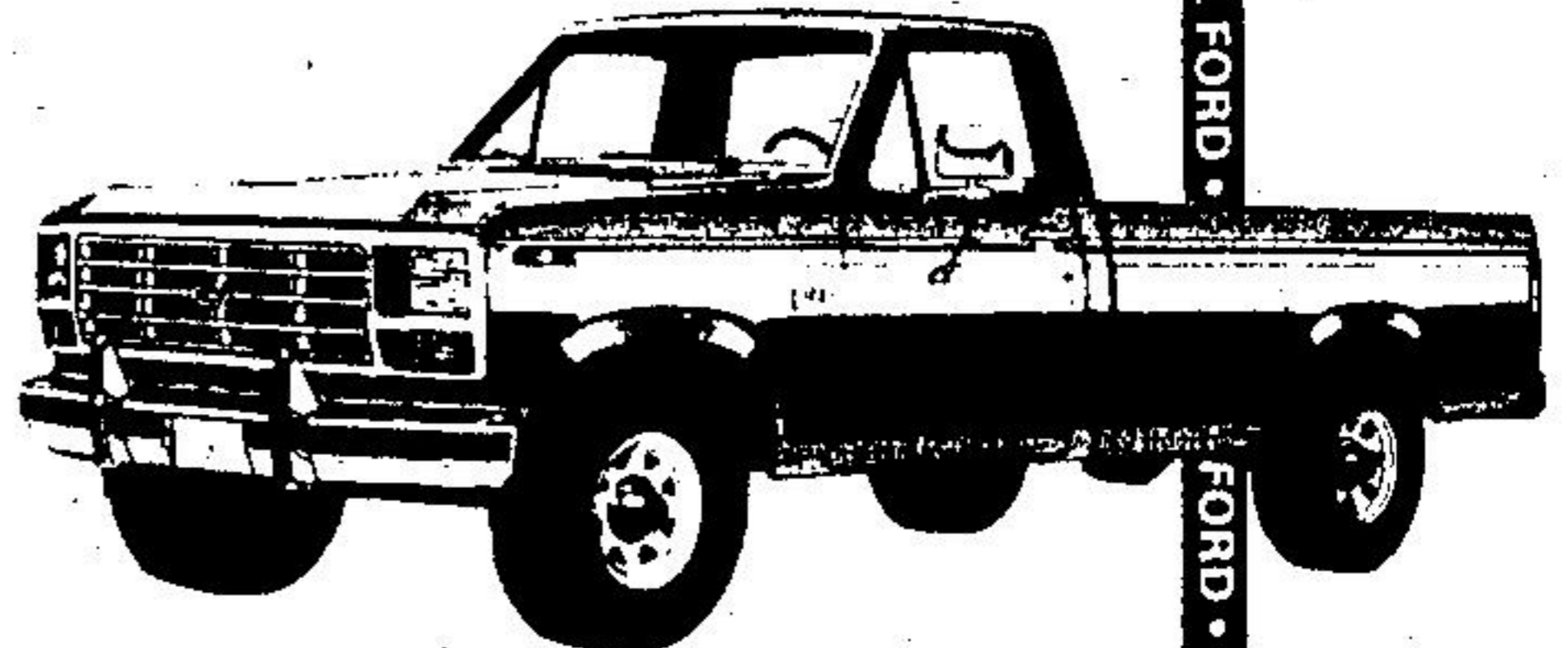
Therefore, contrary to the previous public notice, the matter of Mineral Aggregate Policies and Regional Official Plan Amendment No. 8 will NOT be discussed at the Planning and Public Works Committee meeting of 82/10/27 (Wednesday).

David J. Varley
Regional Clerk

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