Sitizen comment

Waterfront park plan a credit to Penetanguishene

The proposal for the development of Penetanguishene's waterfront released at last night's meeting of the town council is imaginative, progressive, and startling in its scope for a community of this size.

As explained in a story on page one, it changes the focus of the area from a passive to an active park, with plans for an arena, baseball diamonds, tennis courts and the completion of the nature trail network in the west end.

It calls for bicycle trails, expanded dock and beach facilities, a football field and a

track. It is, in short, the kind of forward-thinking plan that many municipalities talk about, but few have the ability, or the courage, to implement.

The park will not, of course, materialize into final form overnight. It may take 10 years or more for it to approach full development.

But the key is that the land is there now, with plans finalized and work going steadily on, before we are faced with a full development crunch.

To date, the nature trails have been largely completed and much of the preliminary

landfill has been done to increase the size of

More than \$224,000 has been spent on the park, again a large amount for a community of only 5,000. Yet ratepayers here have had to pick up only \$6,500 of that cost, because of careful, planned use of existing federal and provincial government programs.

For the moment, much of the waterfront still looks like a mess, but what we should see in the years ahead is the transformation of that land into a useful playground, a showpiece for other municipalities - and one created mainly with outside funding.

We are fortunate that over the years council and its appointed executives have had the foresight to retain and increase the amount of publicly-owned land in the municipality, particularly along the

And we are fortunate that once in control of that land, they have shown themselves prepared to do something with it, for the benefit of all the citizens of the area.

To date, ladies and gentlemen, it's a job well done.

Now go sic the feds and the province for some more funds.

The quiet revolution

In some places they call it a revolution, in others a coup or an uprising.

But the takeover at Penetanguishene Secondary School on Friday is expected to be peaceful, if not downright friendly.

It's student government day at the school again, the one chance the kids have to "run" PSS and lord it over the teachers, or be bugged by them as the case may be.

Grand returns

Penetanguishene Citizen editor Tom Grand, after two weeks basking in the Florida sunshine, is due back in harness

Despite threatening postcards to the contrary, in which he claims he intends to stay for at least another month, we have it on good authority that he is a) broke, and b) nearing the Canadian border as this is written.

So as long as he doesn't pile up his little red car before reaching Penetanguishene, he'll be back in time to put out next week's issue of the Citizen.

And that, folks, makes the rest of the staff at Markle Newspapers breathe a sigh of relief.

The lad, it seems, actually does some work over here...

The teachers have a chance to put their feet up and blow bubbles at their one-day masters, to ask THEM all the tough questions, demand the right to sit in THAT seat next to the pretty girl, and in general create the good-natured havoc that's the mark of a spirited school.

But wait kids - or should we say ladies and gentlemen? You've been taking some pretty hard knocks lately in the press and from politicians about not knowing how to read, spell or add and subtract very well.

A lot of that criticism is coming from the teachers themselves, who are still trying to digest the affects of a changed educational system they helped to create.

Why not set the good profs down on Friday, and give them a series of snap quiz tests say a few spelling bees, a handful of mathematics exams, and a sprinkling of questions on basic physics?

You might be surprised at the results, if you match the right teachers to the right questions.

Try Dave Paille on physics, principal Don Beatty on the principles of Fowler's English Usage, and Dave Moore on the new math. Just a little hint from your friendly neighbourhood newspaper.

And, oh yes, we'd be happy to print their marks in this same space next week. Their parents, after all, are the members of the public ...

Sugar & spice

Every so often I'm reminded of how very lucky Canadians are. We are not smarter than other people. Goodness knows, we are no more industrious. We are just luckier, because we happen to be living in this country at this time.

When you consider that we are just a drop in the bucket of the world's population, you can see just how blind lucky we are.

Millions of people on earth today are literally starving to death. They will be dead, stone dead, in days, months, a year.

Millions more are just above the starving line. They eke out a barren, blunted, hopeless existence, just one step away from the

These hordes are subject to all the other things that go with a minimal existence, besides hunger: cold, disease, ignorance, fear, and perhaps worst of all helplessness.

And we complain endlessly, we Canadians, about such horrors as inflation, postal strikes, taxes, and all the other relatively piddling burdens we bear.

We howl with outrage when butter jumps 15 cents a pound. Some of us nearly have a stroke when the price of beer and liquor is raised. The very wealthy feel a deep, inner pain because they can retain only 55 per cent of their income.

But what does it all amount to? The consumption of butter will go down for a few weeks, then rise to new highs. The consumption of alcoholic beverages will not even tremor, but go steadily upward. And the rich will become richer.

How lucky we are!

Talk about fat cats, or buxom beavers, and we're it. The Lucky Canadians. The envy of the world.

Oh yes, we have poor people, quite a few of them. But you would be hard put to it to find anyone in Canada literally starving to death. Or freezing to death. Or dying because there is no medicine for disease.

Truth is, the vast majority of Canadians

by Bill Smiley

eat too much, suffer from over-heating rather than cold and are much more likely to die from too much medicine than they are from disease.

And even the poorest of our poor, with all the buffers that welfare provides, are materially millionaires compared with the poor of many other countries.

You, Mister, wheeling your Buick dow he highway and beefing about the cost of gas, might just as easily be pulling a ricksha in Calcutta, wondering whether you could last until you were 30, so you could see your first grandson.

You, Young Fella, who made \$10,000 in six months with a lot of overtime, and quit working so you could draw unemployment insurance, could be sweating it out in a South African gold mine, or a Bolivian tin mine, for enough bucks a week to barely feed your

And you, Ms., whining about the mess the hairdresser made, or complaining about the cost of cleaning women, could be selling yourself in the back streets of Nairobi to keep body and soul together, if you'll pardon the expression.

But 'you aren't, and I'm not, and we shouldn't forget it, mates. We were lucky. We live in Canada.

Once in a while this hits me like a punch between the eyes. One of of these times was on a recent holiday weekend.

We were spending a weekend with Grandad, in the country. It was cold and blustery outside, and I spent one of those rotten-lazy, thoroughly enjoyable times when there is nothing to do and nothing to worry about: eating and drinking, playing cards, enjoying the fireplace, reading, watching television.

The only fly in the ointment was the constant decisions to be made, At breakfast, for example. Banana or fruit juice? Coffee or tea? Bacon and eggs or ham and eggs? Toast and jam or fresh bread and honey?

Evenings were even worse. Afrhour after dinner, I had to decide whether it was to be coffee and cake with ice cream or tea with butter tarts. Then there was the bedtime snack and more decisions. But it was watching television that blew up

the puffed-up dream that life was, after all, good and gracious, cosy and comfortable, warm and wonderful. There on the "news", with nothing to hide

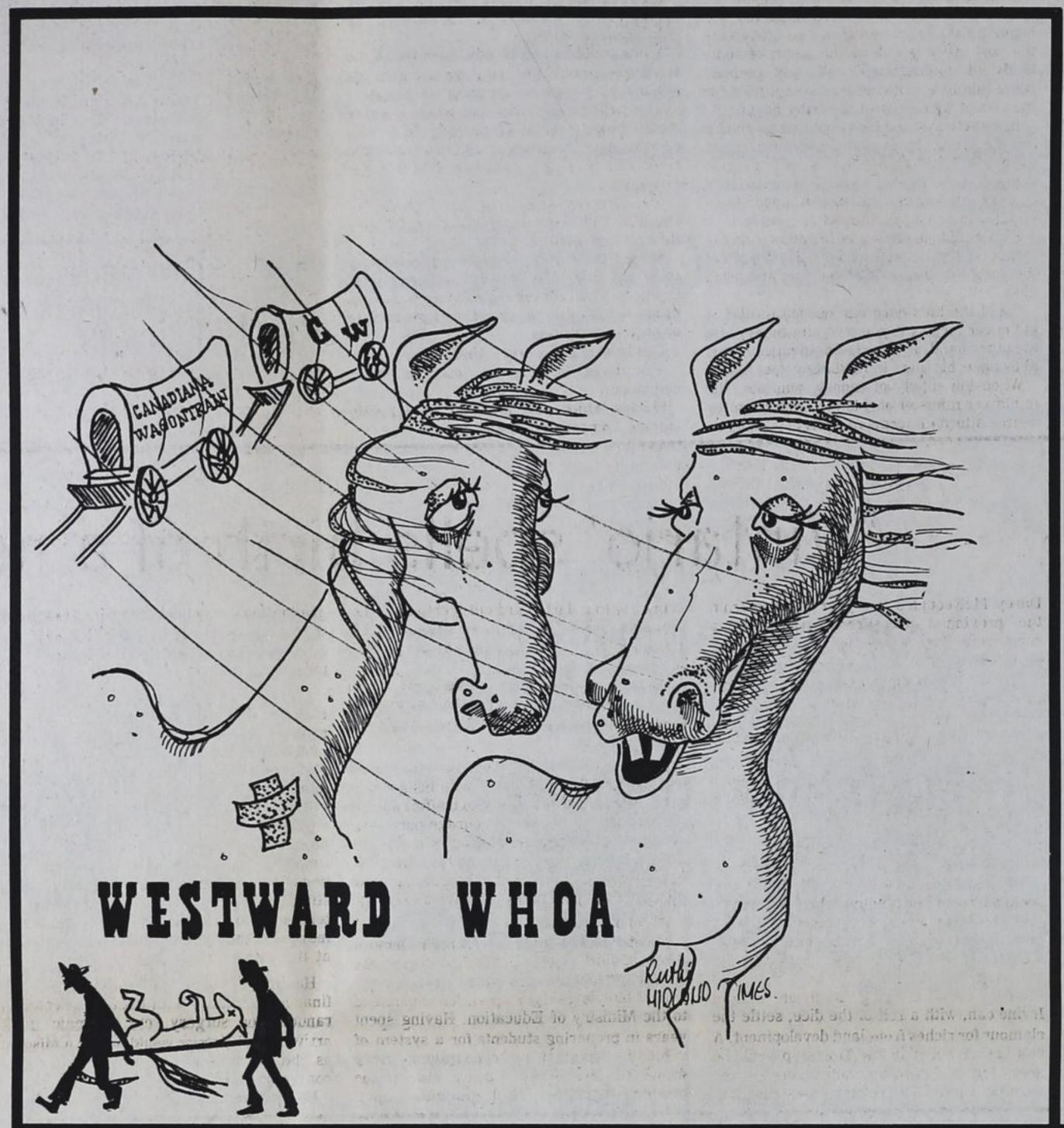
it, was the non-Canadian world. Children with the bloated bellies and stick-thin limbs of the starving. Other children, torn and bleeding and screaming with pain.

Mothers howling their anguish because they had lost their children and couldn't find A refugee plane, with more than 200

"soldiers" and only five women or children And everywhere, on that naked screen, people, suffering, terrified, running like rats,

from nowhere to nowhere. Not much you and I can do, except feel

horrified. It's all too far away. But at least we can stop bitching in denown backyard, and face the facts that we're not smarter, or harder working or better looking. Just lucky.



In the May 7, 1969 issue of the Citizen: Thomas Sylvester, Mrs. Audrey Copecog, Abraham E. King, and Bonnie Copecog Sylvester were among the cast which appeared in the Sainte-Marie film.

In the May 6, 1970 issue of the Citizen: approaching the quarter million dollar mark. At \$241,606, it was \$74,530 higher than in 1969. Tiny Township's total levy jumped \$162,200

PSS held its annual open house.

Advanced Extrusions Ltd. received a Province of Ontario incentive loan of \$100,000 to expand its present plant. The new museum at Sainte-Marie-among-

the-Hurons was officially opened. Penetanguishene approved the installation

a cost of \$4,000. The rental of the council chambers for

Branch 68.

Alma Moreau and Marcella Lacroix

received \$100 bursaries from the Legion

Branch 68

Penetanguishene received a \$5,024 employment grant which was used for development work on the waterfront park

In the May 10, 1972 issue of the Citizen: The Penetanguishene Lions Club donated \$1,000 to the Penetanguishene General Hospital.

Three members of the Committee of Youth Organizations of the USSR began a three-day visit to the Midland area.

The PSS student council for 1973 was Doug Cote president, Glen Belcourt vice-president and Theresa Lacroix secretary. In the May 8, 1974 issue of the Citizen:

Sister Donnelly, principal of Corpus Christi school for six years resigned to take over as head of Bishop Smith School in Pembroke. The Simcoe County Roman Catholic School

Board lowered the mill rate on Tiny Township ratepayers. Penetanguishene's official plan moved closer to reality in a marathon six hour

meeting between the town's planning board and government officials. Glendon College principal Albert Tucker and two professors from the university were to spend two days here to solidify plans for a

French immersion course and possibly a dramatic arts course to be offered here during the summer months.

Ontario budget meant to spur economy: MPP

by Arthur Evans MPP Simcoe Centre

The impact of inflation affects every group and person in society. The same applies for slower economic growth. Not only is this true for low and fixed income groups but applies equally to small business and farming.

Rising costs of materials and credit plus operating and maintenance costs have cut deeply into the return on investment of a small enterprise. The farmer has witnessed the Farm Input price reach 163.8 by the end

I write to your paper at this time on a

The reports on the Elmvale council

I have been disappointed recently at the

attitude taken by some members of council,

on the incorporated organization known as

To tag this group as separatist is

ludicrous and sad commentary on the

knowledge of some members of council about

the municipalities to the north of Elmvale.

In the past, many people, both English and

French, have endeavoured to break down the

walls of ignorance that have kept us apart.

We have felt that both cultures have much to

offer each other and in our area we had a

The English-speaking members of the area

welcomed the forming of the Centre and

many helped in the organization because

they saw an opportunity to encourage the

French culture and also to learn a second

language in a more palatable way than in a

formal school situation. A second language is

I hope the Elmvale council took advantage

As a Canadian of English ancestry, with a

very limited French vocabulary, I have been

received by the French community with

kindness and hospitality. I would hope that a

few ill-informed people of any culture would

not prejudice what we of both races are

I am not a member of the Centre

d'Activites Françaises but only a Canadian

interested in better communication between

all cultures in our country, and I feel this-

organization is giving something to our area

of viewing the Centre d'Activites Françaises

exhibit at the Maple Syrup Festival.

chance to do something about it.

an easy load to carry.

trying to promote.

meetings have been very informative and

matter of concern to this community.

Centre d'Activites Françaises.

Dear Sir:

sometimes amusing.

cents on each dollar compared to 1961.

And the high costs of fuels, fertilizer, binder twine and a whole assortment of other equipment and materials did not take a holiday during 1974.

I think that many of us have taken for granted for too long the very significant roles which small business and farming have played in the economic development of Ontario. Long before this province became

Letters to the editor

Elmvale council comments 'ludicrous'

To the readers of your paper, good luck,

I wish to thank the Penetanguishene

On the official pamphlet designed to inform

Citizen for last week's comment in regard to

the signs recently placed at the town's gate.

visitors I read: "Trumpet a Welcome at the

entrance of Central Ontario's Bilingual town,

etc." There are also two Angels proclaiming

the Fraternity between English and French.

Are these only words or is there a deeper

Dear Editor, dear Friends,

of 1973. Put simply, it means it costs the an industrialized and urbanized power, farmer more to do business in 1973 by 63.8 agriculture and small business constituted troduced the Venture Investment Corthe economic strength and vitality Ontario. These two industries previded the initiative and most of the employment to

Ontario residents. Times have changed drastically. The most urgent problem for the small businessmanwoman was getting enough money to expand production to buy another truck or whatever and to get the needed money at reasonable

I hope and expect that the town of

Penetanguishene will have all Centennial

information, including the program, in both

The French population here is not over-

stepping its rights in requesting that both

cultures may have equal opportunities and

be able to live together in harmony.

Yours sincerely,

A. Bridge.

Fraternally

Juliette Maurice, c.s.c.

amount of their investment from the taxable Taxes would be payable only when a withdrawal of the investment occurred. For various reasons the proposal never became a reality because it required legislation from federal authorities.

Last year, the Ontario government in-

poration as the tax vehicle for getting more

working capital into small firms. Under

Ontario's proposal, companies would be able

to use the VIC approach to invest in small

enterprises and be permitted to deduct the

The 1975 budget contains two major provisions to help small business. The small business investment tax credit on new capital spending doubles from \$3,000 to \$6,000. Small vendors become eligible for compensation for three per cent of the retail sales tax collected up to a maximum of \$500 in each fiscal year.

All farmers should carefully gauge the effects of new budget proposals on their operations. To meet the increasing costs of farm production, a cost of production guarantee totalling \$20 million is included in the Agriculture and Food Ministry estimates.

The 50 per cent feature of the Farm Property Tax Reduction Program continues and is now extended to tree farm operations.

No death taxes will be levied on estates up to \$250,000 in value, and if one owns a farm or a small business the value of that asset is not taken into account for succession duty purposes if it is passed on to members of the deceased's family. They must retain the farm or the small business for 10 years after the owner's death.

Tay called irresponsible

that we should all take pride in and en- and to the Elmvale Council, 'Bon Chance'

Promote bilingualism

Dear Editor:

meaning and longing?

It would appear that taxpayers are at the mercy of their governments. A good example of this is the irresponsibility of Tay Town-

My neighbours and I have recently found out that we may not have clear titles to our properties in Sunnyside. I also am led to believe that there are at least two other subdivisions in Tay with the same problem.

Can you imagine how we felt when we found this out? A dozen questions appeared in our minds. What recourse do we have? Years of fighting in the courts? What happens if I have to move - can I sell my house?

This situation is so bad that the Ontario government has stepped in to freeze further development in some parts of Tay until they

submit a proper zoning plan.

French and English.

If you own property in Tay Township, my advice to you is that you had better check to see that you do.

Another example of their irresponsibility is the lack of co-operation we have received in trying to get Tay to force the owners of an abandoned open foundation in our subdivision to fill it in. This foundation has been open for more than two years, and contains approximately four feet of polluted water. I hope that it doesn't take the drowning of a child to force them to do something about it.

As a concerned citizen, I challenge the Township of Tay to explain why they have let this mess come about, what they plan to do about it and how long it will take.

A concerned citizen. Tay Township.

This feature of the succession duty law had applied only to farmers prior to the budget and even then the holding period for inheritance was 25 years.

Important changes also occur in the gift tax provisions. Gifts of more than \$2,000 to any individual have been taxable. The taxfree gift now becomes \$5,000. The once-in-alifetime special exemption for farmers under the Gift Tax Act will be raised from \$5 00 to \$75,000. Ontario family businesses now are

eligible for this same gift tax exemption. In addition, the government will bring provincial corporate income tax into line with federal tax administration. Every attempt will be made to simplify tax forms and procedures to help all types of business

As I noted in my last report, Ontario's budget proposals are intended to get the economy moving. It will be interesting to see if the proposed federal budget follows in the same direction of stimulation or ratifies the existing status of no economic growth.

Looking back

Chief Rodney Monague, Emeline Copecog, Local students participated in the Miles for

Millions march. Penetanguishene's education levy was fast over that of last year.

In the May 12, 1971 issue of the Citizen:

of air conditioners in the council chambers at

use was set at \$200 per month. Larry Desjardins was elected president of the Penetanguishene Royal Canadian Legion

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