



## Winter's coming

5,000 tons of sand will be used this year to combat the snow and ice that make winter driving difficult and by the time this granular mountain reaches its

highest point, Midland's Public Works department will probably already be in need of some.

Staff photo

## Historical society born at Tuesday night meet

Tuesday night witnessed the birth of a society in Midland dedicated to "preserving the past, in the present, for the future".

By a unanimous decision at a meeting of the Simcoe County Historical Society, the Midland Historical Society became an official reality.

In a preamble to the taking of a vote on the question, MHS president James Worfolk stated that with Midland's centennial approaching, it is appropriate that such a society be created.

"We want to take a time tunnel and look back at our beginnings", added Mr. Worfolk.

Midland's centennial commissioner H.M. "Mac" Macleod was among a number of visitors at the meeting, held in the Midland Library, to welcome the newly-born society. Macleod suggested that as one of its first undertakings, the MHS might consider pursuing some project related to Midland's centennial.

At the meeting, the governing officers of the society were elected. The president of MHS is James Worfolk; the vice-president, Perrie Rintoul; treasurer, Charles Colling; secretary, Mary Haskill.

Directors of the society will be Catherine Mackenzie, John Bridges, and Sergeant Ruby.

The society also determined its fee structure for the coming year. Families will be able to join for five dollars, singles for three dollars, and students for one dollar.

The meeting also honoured Gladys Train, founding editor of the Simcoe County Historical Society's newsletter, with a lifetime membership in that society. She was presented with a plaque to commemorate the occasion.

After business discussions and ceremonial functions concluded, the meeting got down to some serious history. The speaker for the evening, the first every meeting of the MHS, was Midland archeologist James Hunter.

Mr. Hunter addressed the meeting on the area's pre-history, in a lecture and slide presentation entitled "Current Archeological Research in Simcoe County".

Long associated with archeological activities in the Huronia region, Mr. Hunter outlined the various projects and excavations underway in the area that are (attempting) to shed some light on the period of local history prior to the arrival of the white man.

He noted that while research in this field has existed in Simcoe County since 1842, it has not been until the past 25 years that it has become active. As a result, archeologists have recently determined that man has been in the area for 10,000 years.

**Orillia investigation**  
Mr. Hunter showed slides of underwater archeological investigations that took place in 1975, near "the Narrows", just south of Orillia. In that location, he explained, fish weirs in a remarkable state of preservation have been

discovered. The weirs, consisting of a series of poles driven into the

Hunter outlined the specific areas of his own research interests. He



## Archeological address

Well-known local archeologist James Hunter addressed a combined meeting of the Simcoe County Historical Society, and the newly formed Midland Historical Society Tuesday night. He lectured on current archeological activities in the area. The joint meeting was a special occasion, for at it, the Midland Historical Society became an official reality.

channel bed across which fish nets were strung, have been dated back to 2600 B.C., and there is evidence that they may have been in use for as long as 5,000 years.

Hunter explained that the site is the only one of its kind in North America. He also showed slides of sites along the Nottawasaga River that were occupied by Indians during what is termed the middle woodland period. In the sand dunes along the river are located the remains of ceremonial burying grounds. Hunter explained that the Indians of that area would hold ritual mass burials from time to time, depositing, in a single ceremony, the remains of all those who had died for periods of up to six months.

## Sports council will fold in March, 1978

The Greater Huronia Sports Council will cease operations after March 1978 when the Ontario provincial government discontinues its funding next year.

In a report issued recently by the council it was announced, the province will no longer fund the sports council on a continuing basis, and as a result, council will lose 80 per cent of its operating budget. Without the province's support council will be unable to continue as it has for the past two and one-half years.

By the time the provincial assistance expired council was to have developed a community supported financial base and continue independently. Although its services were well used, the council has not achieved a high level of support and

showed slides of an excavation he undertook this past summer on Little Lake, near Barrie. The site is classified as a Pickering Focus, and represents a just recently acknowledged intermediary stage between middle and late woodland Indian cultures. Dated from 950 A.D., the site is estimated to have housed over 1,500 people.

After Mr. Hunter concluded his lecture, he responded to questions from the audience.

If the enthusiastic interest shown in Mr. Hunter's lecture is any indication of how the Midland Historical Society will fare, we can expect the past in the near future to become an integral part of the present.

## In provincial court

# Midland motorist sentenced to five days in jail

A Midland man was sentenced to five days in jail in provincial court Monday morning for driving with a suspended licence.

Charles Ralph Godkin pleaded not guilty to the charge saying that his friend David Maughan was driving his vehicle on the evening the officer claimed to have seen him driving.

Constable J. Reynolds of the Midland Police Department testified that Godkin pulled off of King Street into the parking lot at T & G Remnants on June 24, 1977 to have a chat with him. Reynolds was walking the beat on King Street. He said two days later it was brought to his attention that Godkin's drivers licence was under suspension at the time so he served him with a summons.

Godkin testified that when he was served with the summons he thought he was being charged with driving under suspension on that day and not on June 24. He said it was September when his lawyer informed him that he was charged with an incident June 24. He said that he had made arrangements with his

wife and friends to get rides wherever he needed to go during his suspension. He said that on June 24, his friend David Maughan was driving and Reynolds came over to the car and talked to him on the passenger side.

Maughan testified that he did drive Godkin on many occasions and more than once they had stopped to talk to Reynolds while he was walking his beat. However, Maughan said it was difficult to remember an exact date and he could not be absolutely sure that on June 24 he was driving the car.

**Couldn't recall**  
Constable Reynolds was called back to the stand and he testified that he could not recall Maughan.

James Lunnie, the lawyer for the defense, told the court that "the benefit of the doubt should be in favour of the accused." He reminded the court that Godkin had testified that he had made arrangements for people to drive him wherever he went during his suspension. He also reminded the court that while Maughan could not

remember back to June 24 specifically, he had testified that "he drove Mr. Godkin on numerous Friday nights."

The Crown solicitor told the court that Reynolds had seen the accused as the driver of the car and this led him to "the conclusion that Godkin had committed an offence". He also told the court to consider the fact that the witness could not swear that he was driving on the night in question.

Judge Nadeau said "I am satisfied beyond a doubt that on the twenty-fourth the accused was driving."

At the time of sentencing a list of previous convictions was read. Since Godkin had been brought up on charges of driving while under suspension before, the judge felt that a jail term was necessary to deter him from doing it again. Nadeau said "unless the

court enforces orders of suspension they become meaningless."

**Several impaired**  
Also heard in provincial court on Monday morning were several separate charges of impaired driving.

Henry Joseph Forget was sentenced to 14 days in jail and had his licence suspended for a total of one year for driving while impaired.

Forget pleaded guilty to the charge. He was charged on October 2, after an officer spotted him wandering over the centre line of the road several times. He had a reading of 210 milligrams of alcohol.

In handing down the sentence to Forget, Judge Nadeau considered the fact that he had been charged and sentenced for impaired driving in October of 1975.

Wayne Lawrence Moreau of Midland was

fined \$250 for impaired driving. Moreau pleaded guilty to the charge.

Moreau was charged on October 8, after an officer observed him driving quickly and wandering from the curbed lane to the passing lane on King Street. Moreau said he was coming from Port McNicoll to Midland to get something to eat.

**Absent on advice**  
Wilton Turner of Midland was fined \$250 for impaired driving. Turner was not in court on the advice of his doctor. Solicitor James

Lunnie entered a plea of not guilty on his behalf.

The information read to the court stated that Turner had had an accident on Russell Street and was treated for minor injuries. At the time, he was given a breathalyzer test which read 220 milligrams of alcohol.

Lunnie told the court that Turner had been helping some friends move into a new place and he was not mixing the drinks. He had no idea of

the amount he had consumed. Lunnie also told the court that Turner was taking medication at the time. Lunnie presented a letter from Wilton's former employer to be used as a character reference.

Lunnie asked the court to consider that the financial difficulties Turner was facing as a result of the accident was punishment enough. Nadeau fined the Midland man \$250.

John L. Shewfelt D.C.

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## New committee proposed for Midland PUC

At a regular meeting of Midland's Public Utilities Commission, the commissioners discussed setting up a finance committee to check over the accounts before they are adopted at the monthly PUC general meeting.

The commissioners seemed to be in favour of the idea in principle but no one had any definite idea on how they should implement.

Commissioner Charles Parker suggested the idea. He pointed out that none of the commissioners looked at the vouchers in order to check where and how the money was being spent before they approved the accounts.

He added that he felt it was necessary for someone other than Claude Buck, chairman of the PUC, to see the vouchers. Buck sees the vouchers prior to signing cheques.

Parker put forth a motion asking that a finance committee be appointed at the inaugural meeting of the next commission. The motion said that this committee would go over the accounts before they were signed and authorized.

Mayor Moreland Lynn went along with Parker's idea however, he was against forming another committee on the spur of the moment. He said in order to form a new committee they would have to set out duties of that committee. Lynn was in favour of tabling the motion until all the commissioners had had time to think of the best way of having the accounts gone over prior to approving them. He suggested that maybe the chairman of the various committees should sit down together before every meeting and go over the accounts pertaining to them in detail.

**Existed before**  
Lynn pointed out that there had been a finance committee of the PUC before. He said that this committee had been

disbanded and they should not be hasty about appointing a new one.

Buck agreed with Parker's idea. He said "I am the only one who looks at the vouchers. Someone else should be looking at them as well."

All of the commissioners felt that Parker's idea was a good one and it generated considerable discussion on how to go about it. The commissioners are going to think about the idea over the next month and come back with ideas at the next general meeting.

## Hillier may sit with new PUC body

Brian Hillier, news director for CKMP radio in Midland has been asked to sit on the Ad Hoc Public Information Committee of the Public Utilities Commission.

The announcement came on Tuesday evening



Brian Hillier

at a regular meeting of the PUC.

Hillier said that he could see no problem with becoming a member of the committee however, he said he would have to approach his employers prior to giving a definite reply.

Hillier had been approached before Tuesday's meeting.

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