

# SCBE disturbed over Public Halls Act

A lack of communication between the Town of Midland and the Simcoe County Board of Education, appears to be responsible for a growing tension concerning the use by the public of school auditoriums and halls and a public hall bylaw passed by Midland Town Council governing the public use of meeting facilities in the municipality.

At Wednesday night's meeting of the SCBE, Board members learned of a letter sent by Midland town clerk Bill Hack requesting the Board to adhere to the bylaw and make all the necessary applications and pay all the necessary fees to ensure that halls owned by the public are suitably licensed in accordance with the bylaw.

The bylaw, based upon a model bylaw submitted to all municipalities in Ontario, by the Solicitor General's office, contains among its stipulations, a requirement that a transfer fee of \$75 be paid

to the municipality each time a different function takes place in a public hall, and a requirement stating that chairs be fastened together, or ganged, to comply with Fire Marshall's regulations.

The Board has repeatedly contended that it cannot realistically meet these requirements. It presented a brief to the Solicitor General in October, to voice its concerns, the result of which was a clarification by the Solicitor General that School Boards are exempt from the transfer fee. An amendment to the model bylaw concerning the ganging of chairs, the Ministry said, would be issued to all municipalities, so that provisions could be taken by the School Boards to meet Fire Marshall's regulations without having to fasten chairs together.

**Separate board o.k.**  
The letter sent by Hack to the SCBE indicated that the Simcoe County Roman Catholic School

Board had already begun steps to comply with the Midland bylaw.

The chairman of the SCBE's Public Halls Committee, Frank Prothero, stated that if it was the position of the Town of Midland to enforce its public halls bylaw as presently constituted, his committee might have to recommend that school meeting facilities in Midland not be made available to the public.

He went on to say that the committee should contact Midland municipal officials and determine whether the Solicitor General's promised memorandum had been received by the town, and that a meeting to discuss the matter should be arranged.

Hack said Thursday morning that he had received no memorandum from the Solicitor General's office informing the municipality of the proposed amendments to the model bylaw, nor had he received any communication from the SCBE regarding the brief presented to the Solicitor General.

He said the last communication the town had received from the SCBE was a letter dated August 15, informing the town that the Board was in the process of seeking a uniform licensing fee structure for schools throughout the county. Hack said that the letter sent by his office to the SCBE informed Director Jack Ramsey that the public halls bylaw would be enforced until such a

uniform fee structure is approved by the Ministry of Education.

It contained no reference to the Solicitor General's revised position on the bylaw, he said, because the town was simply not aware of it.

He said that the meeting Prothero called for between the SCBE officials and the town would be "a good idea."



## Treasure Hunt medallion is uncovered

Mr. Bob Voorzanger, on the left, of Voorzanger Furs, and Mr. Ward Barrie of A. Barrie and Sons present Mrs. Jeanne Lee with a cheque for \$100. Mrs. Lee is the third winner of \$100 in the Midland Town Centre

Treasure Hunt. She found a medallion worth \$100 on Saturday with the assistance of only one clue, which she received from the Midland Sewing Centre.

Staff photo

## Local man gets three months

Cena Joseph LeCamp was given three months in jail on a charge of impaired driving, in Provincial Court on Monday morning.

LeCamp pleaded guilty to the charge. The police report said he was pulled over after going through a radar speed trap at 87 kmph in a 50 kmph zone. He had 170 milligrams of alcohol in his blood.

Judge F. Fay, who was taking over for Judge Nadeau, gave LeCamp three months in jail because he had been charged and convicted of excess alcohol in 1975 and impaired driving in 1976.

Andrew Marion was fined \$250 for impaired driving and \$100 for refusing to take the breathalyzer test.

Marion pleaded guilty to both charges saying he was too nervous to take the breathalyzer test. The police report said that on November 18 Marion was in a collision at Heritage Drive and William Street and at the time exhibited signs of excess alcohol.

Duty Counsel, R. Heacock told the court that Marion is 30 years of age, has a family of two to support and is unemployed. He also said that there was no damage as a result of the accident.

Judge Fay gave Marion 60 days to pay.

**Probation**  
Travis Hunter was put on probation for 12 months and told not to visit Penetanguishene

Secondary School during that period of time.

Hunter pleaded guilty to possession of 20 grams of marijuana. The police report said they had received a complaint about a car on the premises of the school grounds. They apprehended the car and found green plant like material in it. Hunter waived his right to have the substance analyzed.

Judge Fay warned Hunter, that he was giving him a conditional discharge and told him if he didn't comply with any conditions of the probation order that he would be brought back before the court and sentenced on the charge.

Larry Weimer, 18, of Midland was also placed on probation. Weimer pleaded guilty to stealing a motor vehicle in Midland during October.

Two of the co-accused had been sentenced in court earlier this month. Both of them were also placed on probation.

Judge Fay called Weimer's mother to the stand. He asked her if she had discipline problems with Weimer or if he had a tendency to come in late. Mrs. Weimer said she had no discipline problems but wished that her son did not associate with the three co-accused.

Judge Fay placed Weimer on probation for 18 months and told him that during that time he

was not to associate with the three other people charged with stealing the car.

**Stricken from record**  
Paul Leduc had his guilty plea stricken from the record and Judge Fay ordered that a trial date be set, after he heard Leduc's testimony of how he came into possession of a stolen drill.

Leduc told the court that when he bought the drill he did not know it had been stolen. He testified that a few days later when he found out that the drill was stolen from the Penetanguishene arena, he planned on returning it

within the week.

However, the police caught up with him before he had a chance, he said.

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