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Oarsmen's salute

Over 500 people came out to greet six weary oarsmen as they completed an arduous 42 mile journey from the Notawasaga River to the Historic Naval and Military Establishments Saturday evening. The five day voyage was a re-

enactment of the last stretch of the route used to bring supplies from York (Toronto) in the early 19th century. The adventurous sailors, all summer interpreters at the Establishments, joined in

the festivities which included singing and dramatic scenes of the British naval base as it was known in 1820. Read an account of the group leader's five day voyage on page 3.

Court dismisses 'legal bills' issue against Midland

The application brought by William Ogilvie against the Town of Midland, to have quashed By-law No. 80-44 of the municipality, a by-law to reimburse Mayor Lynn for his expenses in successfully defending a previous action brought by Ogilvie against Lynn under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, was dismissed in weekly court, Toronto, at a hearing of that court last Thursday, before Mr. Justice Allen M. Linden.

The judgment of the court was to the effect that the municipality is entitled to pass a by-law to reimburse a member of council for a member's expenses in defending actions brought against a member of council, where the action arises out of the conduct of the member of council in his official capacity as a member of council.

Richard Clarke of Clarke, Zwicker, Sparks, Evans & Earle, Orillia, appeared for the applicant, William Ogilvie. Douglas G. Haig, Q.C., appeared on behalf of the Town of Midland.

One of the arguments advanced by Haig on behalf of the Town of Midland was that members of council and of local boards are entitled to be protected from incurring substantial expenses in defending themselves in any court or other hearing as a result of actions which they take as public officials. The decision of the court upholding the by-law appears to endorse this argument and grants protection to public officials, he said Friday.

It is believed, Haig said, that this decision was the first decision of a court in Ontario following the enactment of Section 390a of the Ontario Municipal Act, which provides for such by-laws to be enacted.

Douglas Haig, Midland's solicitor, during a press conference Friday said the court's decision was soundly based in law. Haig believes Ogilvie will lose if he appeals.

"I would regret an appeal not because of fear that the town might lose but because of the continued cost

of the town of defending against Ogilvie's suit," he said.

The town's solicitor added that he meant not only his own time should be considered, but also the time of the town's clerk and the town's treasurer, both of whom spent June 26 in court in Toronto at Haig's request so that they would be present if he decided he needed to call them as witnesses.

Haig was critical of Ogilvie, a man "who takes such delight" in actions to save the taxpayer's money, "involving Midland in a number of court actions and OMB (Ontario Municipal Board) hearings that cost the taxpayers thousands of dollars."

Haig said further that Ogilvie's statement that Mr. Justice Linden stated that Ogilvie's suit "had a lot of merit" was nonsense, and that the judge said no such thing.

Ogilvie has announced in a printed statement his intention to have his solicitor review the court's decision and to consider further action, possibly an appeal, upon completion of the review by his lawyer.

Citizen briefly

Dr. Jury marks his 90th birthday

Canada Day, yesterday, marked a major milestone in our country's history - its 113th birthday.

However well known historian Dr. Wilfred Jury celebrated the day another way.

Yesterday was Dr. Jury's 90th birthday, an event he celebrated with his wife and others at the family cottage, Clearwater Beach.

Larger council okayed for Midland

When the municipal election rolls around come the second Monday in November (Nov. 10), Midland voters will be going to the polls to elect a larger council.

At a special council meeting last week councillors were told that the Ontario Municipal Board has given the green light to divide the town into two wards.

The mayor, reeve and deputy-reeve in future will be elected at large while three councillors each will be elected in Ward 1 and Ward 2 under the new scheme...the town being divided into two wards with the centre line down King Street separating the two.

Bus companies to meet council

Midland council holds a special meeting tonight starting at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers.

At that time representatives from Gray Coach and Penetang-Midland Coach Lines will be meeting with council to thrash out differences that have arisen since Gray Coach vacated the PMCL terminal in Midland and opened up its own terminal on Bay Street West near First Street.

Theft nets thieves four motorcycles

Midland police are investigating the theft of four motorcycles and six motorcycle helmets from Performance Motors on Vindin Street, Midland.

The stolen property is valued at \$3,500. Police received notice of the break-in at 7:25 a.m. Sunday.

Finlayson Trophy returns to MGCC

Midland Golf and Country Club was a happy place last Thursday when a team of ladies from the club returned to town with the Finlayson Trophy.

The local gals who helped make the win possible were: Maddy English, Jean Hartman, May Seldon, Marilyn Richmond, Zena Seldon, Belle McKee, Joan Lavin, Angela Whetham and Eileen Denny.

Well done gals.

Campers enjoy quiet long weekend

Area provincial parks over the long weekend were, in the words of a Ministry of Natural Resources spokesman in Midhurst, fairly quiet.

Awenda, Six Mile and Bass Lake parks were full. Only four evictions were recorded at Awenda, a park with 150 camping sites.

Twelve evictions were recorded at Six Mile park, and 13 at Bass Lake. Six Mile has 192 camping sites, Bass Lake has 92 sites.

Mara McRea, with 106 sites, however was the place to be, as no one was evicted there.

Inside the Citizen

Classified/Real Estate	B1
Sports	Page 13
TV Listings	Page 19
Huronian Calendar	Page 22