

Leitz expansion excites us all

THERE ARE a number of construction programs to come on stream in Midland soon that will provide a real shot in the arm for the community.

We are aware of several that are in the planning stages and until officials connected with them plan their official announcement we'll have to sit along the sidelines and wait.

However one major project that was announced last week is well worth repeating this week and well worth getting excited about.

Leitz Canada Ltd., of Midland, plans to expand its operations by 40,000 square feet at a cost of some \$1.6 million.

The popular Midland operation, established here

almost three decades ago, plans to expand because of the high demand for its Leica M4-2 range-finder camera which it has been making exclusively in Canada since 1976.

Leitz and its president Walter Kluck were part of a special section in last week's Financial Times.

Coverage Financial Times gave to Leitz was excellent with the newspaper putting both Leitz Canada Ltd. and the Town of Midland on the map.

We are excited at the prospects of Leitz expanding its operations in Midland. It shows the firm's faith in the community and the community's faith in Leitz.

Congratulations Leitz Canada, we wish you every success in the future.

So you can beat city hall after all

WARD 3 Alderman Richard Platt of Midland has proved you can beat city hall but in this case city hall has turned out to be Queen's Park.

You will recall several weeks ago Thomas Wells, minister of intergovernmental affairs wrote a letter to the mayor and members of council insisting that they fill the vacancy on council left when former Alderman Doug Reed resigned on April 1 to devote full time to his job as a newspaper editor.

It was Platt and several other members of council who felt the Ontario Municipal Act was quite clear, council didn't have to fill the post since Reed resigned after March 31 of this an election year.

The Act says a council "may" fill such a vacancy after March 31.

Platt sent the Hon. Tom Wells a letter setting out what Platt felt were the ground rules and he has since been in receipt of a letter from Wells.

The minister still feels the onus is on the town to fill the post, however, he would not go as far as to say Platt was all wet.

As a matter of fact Wells plans to change the rules of the game, so to speak, this fall when he seeks an amendment to the Act which would force councils to fill vacancies after March 31 of an election year.

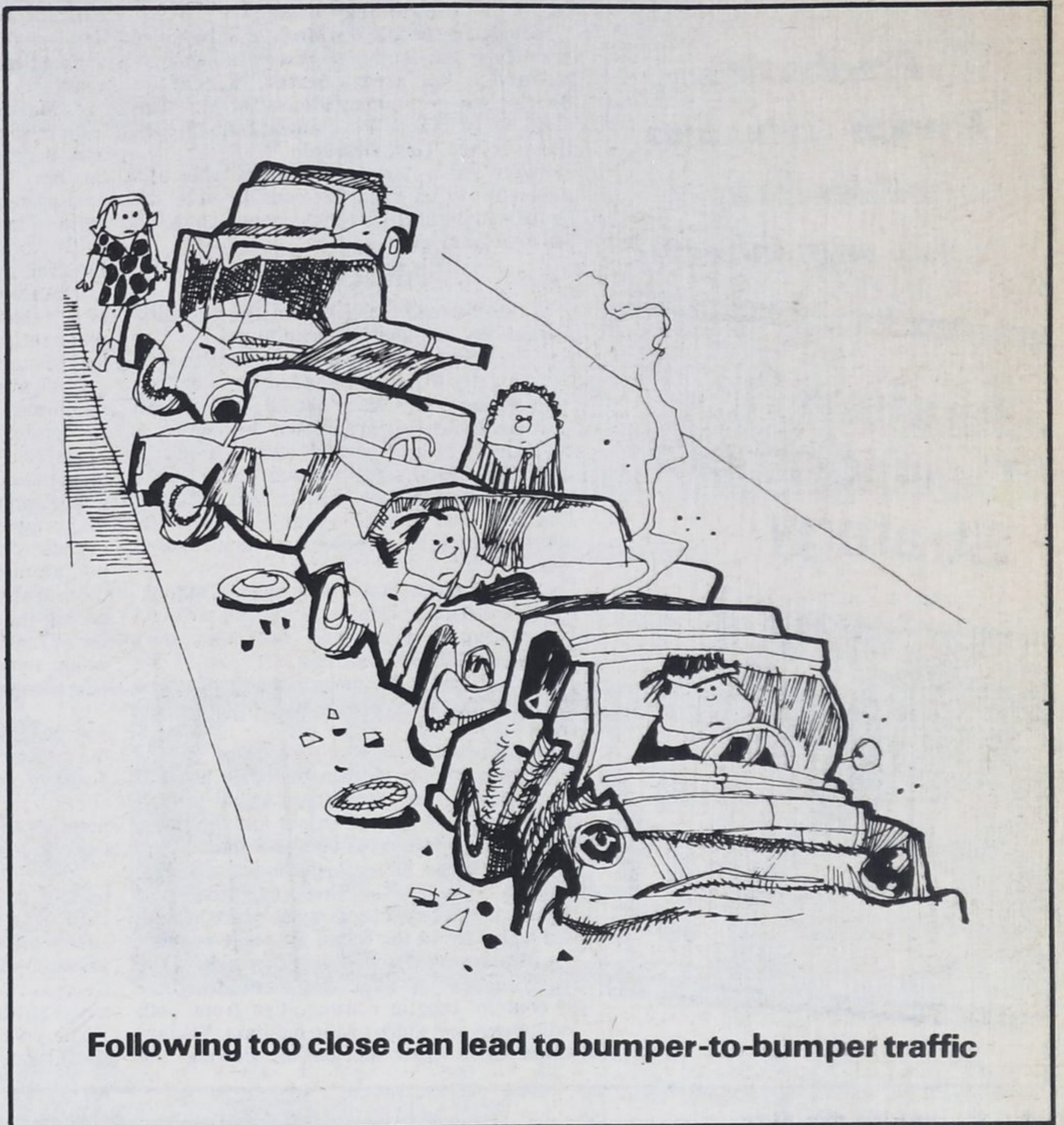
As for Alderman Platt he wins points for standing firm in the face of overwhelming odds. The odds in this case having the courage of his convictions to go toe to toe with a provincial cabinet minister.

Well done Dick.

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Letters

Sends letters to objectors

Dear Sir:

Please find enclosed for information purposes a copy of a letter, which I have sent to the 42 objectors to by-law 80-36 rezoning land as the corner of Ellen and Queen Streets for the purpose of building a New Apostolic Church:

This is just a note to keep you informed on the situation regarding the New Apostolic Church.

After listening to the discussion at the meeting on July 15, I recognize that the residents in the area have real concerns as to the additional traffic and parking problems which the church would create.

I am sympathetic to the Church, who bought the property in good faith, but I agree that all things considered it would be better if the Church were not built at this location.

Accordingly, I introduced a motion to Planning

Board that the Board request council, because of your concerns, to repeal by-law 80-36.

However Planning Board did not accept this motion and their majority view was that the rezoning bylaw-80-36 should stand.

Any further action must thus be initiated by council and, because of your concerns, I will request council at its next regular meeting on Aug. 11 to repeal by-law 80-36 because of traffic and parking problems likely to be created on an already busy street.

If you have further concerns on this matter or on other matters please call me.

Yours Sincerely
Richard Platt,
Alderman Ward 3

Lions regret circus fiasco

Dear Sir:

The Elmvale and District Lion's Club would like to extend their sincere regrets to all those who suffered a financial loss as a result of purchasing advance sale tickets for the Martin and Downs Circus.

Final settlement was made with the company at 11 a.m. on the day of the circus in order to meet the conditions of the contractual agreement.

The Lion's Club was unaware that free passes for one child under 12 accompanied by an adult, would be distributed on the school buses by the Martin and Downs Circus.

It was the intent of the Lion's Club to sponsor an

event that would be mutually beneficial to the community recreationally, as well as financially, by means of indirect support that is rendered through it back to the community. The Lion's Club has registered its strong disapproval to the circus, and hope that they have not jeopardized the support they realize from within the community.

Be reassured that the profits will definitely be channelled back into community betterment.

Again, sincere regrets,

Lion Mike Jacobs
(chairman)
Elmvale

HDH Auxiliary says thanks

Dear Sir:

No organization, no matter how hard-working are its members, could possibly sponsor a project such as the Summer Antique Market without a great deal of assistance.

This letter, therefore, represents dozens of personal "thank you" notes - to all those who supported the Huronia District Hospital Auxiliary by attending; to the 40 auxiliaries who kept everything running smoothly; to the dealers who never insult the Auxiliary by bringing anything but their best!

Thanks, also to the quilters who braved the heat of the stage, stitching little stitches; to the craft artists who contributed hundreds of hand-made articles; to the Auxiliaries who prepared and served lunch to weary dealers on Tuesday; and to The Times for its

front-page picture and articles.

On behalf of President Barbara Simpson and convener Jennifer Chalmers please accept sincere appreciation for the 15th time!

Marion Sleep
PR chairman

Midland council to meet Aug. 11

Next regular meeting of Midland council has been set for Monday, Aug. 11 at 7:30 p.m. Meeting will be held as usual in the Dominion Avenue West council chambers.