

Platt's turn to set record straight

Dear Sir:
The letter from the Township of Tay to the Minister of Housing signed by Reeve Charles Rawson, contains such an extraordinary mixture of fact and fiction, and distorts the position of the Area Planning Board and the Town of Midland to such an extent that some reply must be made.

The basic thrust of the letter is twofold.
A) That because the several municipalities comprising the Area have their own official plans, an Area Plan is unnecessary and;

B) That because the Area Board comprises four urban and two rural municipalities the former will dominate the latter.

Both of these contentions are unfounded.
The Area Official Plan is a broadly based document designed to co-ordinate, not to supercede, municipal planning, in a way which will preserve the characteristic identity of the Peninsula as a whole, keeping urban areas separated from distinctively rural areas, thus preventing a chaotic blending of urban and rural land uses, which, as the population of the Peninsula grows over the years, would tend to destroy those features of this area which give it its pleasant and distinctive character.

It is very difficult to understand why the Township of Tay, which has made, through its representatives on the Area Board, important contributions to the Area Plan, a Plan which, as recently as last July, Reeve Rawson told the Area Board was a Plan we could all live with, should suddenly recoil in horror, and claim the whole exercise is a dastardly attempt by the Town of Midland to dominate the rural Townships.

If this allegation stems from my concerns for Midland interests on Highway 27 which I have made plain at Area Board meetings and in the past, all I want is a fair deal for Midland ratepayers.

This is a problem involving Midland and Tiny Township nor Tay and is one which a reconstituted Area Board would go a long way to help solve.

The concerns of Tay that Midland wishes to dominate Area Planning are simply unfounded and can be shown to be so.

Midland has endorsed the position stated in the Area Official Plan that all changes and amendments must be endorsed by at least five of the six municipalities.

Thus at least one of the rural municipalities must agree to any changes in the Plan before such changes are submitted to the Ministry of Housing for approval. This effectively presents any dominance of rural by urban municipalities.

Midland wants the maximum of intermunicipal discussion and co-operation to resolve problems and tensions inevitable between six adjacent municipalities. We do not wish to dominate anyone. We do wish to discuss, co-operate and compromise. The Area Board in its reconstituted form as proposed by the six Mayors and Reeves, including the Reeves of Tiny and of Tay, is an ideal body for these purposes.

For this reason, I hope that both Tiny and Tay will reconsider their positions and recognize that the long term interests of all area residents requires their continued participation in co-operative planning of the kind the Area Board promotes.

Richard Platt,
Alderman,
Town of Midland

Army officers to be here

Dear Editor:
On the weekend of Oct. 31 - November 2, eight Officers in training from The Salvation Army College for Officers will visit Midland with their leaders, Lieutenant and Mrs. Ron Millar. (formerly of Parry Sound).

While visiting us here in Midland they will be conducting street meetings in Midland, Waubaushe, Port McNicoll and Penetanguishene.

They will also be putting on musical programs and conducting Chapel Services in area Nursing Homes and Senior Citizen Residences.

They will also be conducting regular Sunday Church Services at The Salvation Army.

These student ministers are enrolled in a two-year course in Toronto.

After graduation they will be appointed to Salvation Army Centres, such as we have here in Midland.

One of the couples, Cadet and Mrs. Eric Walker, will be returning here in February for a 10-day internship.

They will graduate this June.

Thank you,
Lieutenant,
Raymond Braddock
Commanding Officer

Lack of energy policy hurting his constituents, says Lewis

Simcoe North's MP, in a far-ranging speech delivered in the House of Commons Oct. 14, criticized the Liberal government for delaying introduction of a comprehensive energy policy.

Doug Lewis' theme was that one industry in his own riding, and others in Ontario and the other provinces, are losing business because of a lack of an energy

policy. Fahramet Ltd. is a high alloy steel foundry with four plants in Orillia. The company recently laid off 33 men because of the decline in oil drilling activity in the west, he said.

Policy

"Because the government has no energy policy, every Canadian is suffering; every province is suffering. I do not mean because of price and I do not mean because of supply. I mean from good old opportunities lost," Lewis said.

Because the government failed to reach a domestic price agreement with the producing provinces, Alsands has cancelled a \$500 million winter works program and suspended its 1981 budget. The cold Lake project could be cancelled, he added.

Money

Lewis assailed the government for loaning money to prop up

If a tar sands project is delayed one year, it means, Lewis said, one more year of importing 140,000 barrels of oil per day; it means inflation of \$700 million; it means 8,500 direct and indirect jobs will not be created.

Lewis went on to ask that the next time an energy policy is formulated, Canadian content be taken into consideration.

"As the member for Simcoe North I do not want to see reformer tubes brought from the United Kingdom through a subsidiary company; I do not want the Celanese company bringing them in through the United States through a subsidiary, Mr. Speaker. I want to see them produced in my riding."

Chrysler. The government, he said, seems to think when regarding Ontario's manufacturing industry, that "if a product does not have wheels it is not a manufactured product."

The government also gave Michelin \$60 million to produce tires in Nova Scotia, a new

location for Michelin, with the result that the Ontario tire industry suffered, he complained.

"It is small comfort to have cheaper gas if you do not have a job and cannot afford a car. We need jobs to produce the money with which people can buy the gas," the MP told the House.

Changes coming

The acceptance of suggested amendments by Midland council Monday evening would go a long way towards softening a controversial bylaw passed Sept. 30.

The bylaw, "for regulating, licensing and governing the keepers of places-of-amusement," was an expression of council's concern about controlling the spread of pinball machines and coin-operated games in the town.

The amendments that will be presented to council Monday reduce substantially the cost of operating the machines. The bylaw at present says a licence fee of \$100 a machine shall be levied. Under the amended bylaw \$100 would be charged for the first machine. Each additional machine will be taxed at \$20.

The licence fee, for a supplier, now \$300, would be \$100 a year, if the changes are accepted without change by council.

Another proposed change is the placing of a limit on the number of machines in a place of amusement. Ten would be the maximum allowed.

The allowed hours of operation would be lengthened.

Now, Sunday sale of time at the machines is banned. Monday through Saturday use is only permissible between 11 a.m. and midnight.

The new schedule to be presented to council allows operation of the machines from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday and from noon to 10 p.m. Sunday.

The fourth change specifies that a place-of-amusement shall only be a small part of a business.

The town bylaw enforcement officer and clerk had a meeting with two concerned businessmen, who explained the difficulty they had with the bylaw, bylaw enforcement officer Mike Chapman said Monday.

The findings of Chapman and the clerk were passed to the public safety committee, which approved the recommendations that will be presented to council.

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Tough new laws will deter trespassing.

How we're helping to protect you and your property.

For nearly 150 years Ontario has had a law making it an offence to enter property where entry is prohibited. But now new legislation—The Trespass to Property Act—has toughened up the law to protect your rights.

Trespassers can now be fined up to \$1,000. In addition, they can be ordered to pay for damages they have caused.

An important part of the legislation designates premises where entry is prohibited without notice. These include your gardens, orchards, vineyards, land under cultivation, woodlots and fenced land.

Where notice must be given to prohibit entry, you may use red markings on gates, trees or fences. Yellow markings may be used to caution that only certain activities may be permissible. It is the responsibility of the visitor to find out what you permit.

LAND USED FOR RECREATION
In the past, there was a great deal of confusion regarding your responsibility to people you allow on your land. Consequently many farmers and rural landholders would not allow recreational activities on their properties.

Now another new act—The Occupiers' Liability Act—reduces your responsibility. In a nutshell, the law assumes that those who take their recreation on most rural land without paying a fee

will take care for their own safety.

A special system has been devised to allow you to easily indicate which activities you will allow on your property. A sign naming or graphically representing an activity (for example, hiking) indicates that the activity is permitted. The same kind of sign with an oblique stroke through it means that you prohibit the activity.

These new laws are part of a continuing program to streamline our legislation. By clarifying your rights, they afford you greater protection from trespass and also reduce your liability when you make land available for recreational purposes.

For full details, obtain a copy of this free pamphlet. It's available at many supermarkets and liquor stores, or write to: Communications Branch Ministry of the Attorney General, 18 King Street East Toronto, Ontario M5C 1C5



Ministry of the
Attorney
General

Hon. R. Roy McMurtry
Minister

