



'Pop' Gravelle

## Christmas mail starts to flow

No one needs be reminded that Christmas is coming, but a reminder about mail delivery deadlines and posting might be in order.

Since many people send Christmas gifts and parcels through the mail, they should be aware that deadline for parcel post to points in Canada and the U.S. is Dec. 13. Parcels to Great Britain can still make the Dec. 5th deadline.

"Pop" Gravelle, postmaster at Penetanguishene post office said yesterday that the flow of mail has not increased dramatically yet, which might suggest many people are waiting till the last minute to get their parcels out.

There shouldn't be any problem even if that is the case, because as Gravelle explained, the post office personnel work overtime during the Christmas rush and the hours of part-time employees are increased to take up the extra load.

The Penetanguishene postmaster suggests if you are sending parcels through the mail, there are several things you as an individual can do to make it easier on posties handling your parcel and thus speed up its delivery.

He suggests you label everything very clearly, making certain the address used is the correct one. Be sure to have a return address on the parcel too. That will at least ensure

that if it isn't delivered for any reason, it won't end up at the dead letter office waiting to be auctioned off.

### Parcels

Bind any large parcels with heavy twine and not scotch tape. The tape idea just won't keep it together says Gravelle.

For those people who wish to prewrap their Christmas parcels in wrapping paper, the postmaster suggests you also re-wrap the parcel in heavy brown paper to keep the Christmas wrapping from being torn or damaged.

Fragile items should not be sent through the mails, because breakable goods cannot be insured. Goods can be insured against loss but not breakage. If it is necessary to mail fragile items, be sure to mark them as such and package them very carefully, using lots of padding and keeping items separate from one another.

If for some reason an item gets lost, contact the post office and let them know. They will ask you to fill out a form and they will put tracers on the item.

Last but not least, use the postal code. It works! If you don't know it, look it up in one of the books available in the post office; and have a good Christmas.

## Conflict of interest?

### Former reeve to appear in Ontario Supreme Court

Former reeve of Coldwater, facing a conflict of interest charge, along with another former councillor Ken Athron, calls the charge "a vendetta."

Brandon was handed a 60-page affidavit which in essence calls upon him and Athron to appear in Supreme Court at a later date on alleged charges stemming from land dealings they had in annexed lands the Ontario Municipal Board approved being turned over to Coldwater.

Brandon says the matter goes deeper. He says it stems from one member of Medonte Township council losing to Reeve Ingram Amos in this month's municipal election for pressing the legal action charge "because of sour grapes."

Documents delivered to Brandon and Athron also seek to have the annexation of 800 acres of Medonte to Coldwater stopped until both men have their day in court.

Brandon says Amos ran his election this time

around based on wanting Medonte to stop its legal and costly hassle with Coldwater.

However Councillor David Walker of Medonte, Brandon said, ran his campaign on the basis of halting annexation. Walker lost and now according to Brandon "out of the blue this conflict of interest business has come up. To me it is a vendetta."

Meanwhile it isn't known when the Supreme Court will deal with the above case.

## After 12 years has liking for job

It's not the easiest job in the world, but after 12 years at the post, Fred Linn, Penetanguishene Superintendent of Public Works has developed a liking for it.

Fred, who is 43, was born and raised in Cambleford Ontario, and moved to the Penetanguishene area after answering an add in the Toronto Globe and Mail a Toronto newspaper.

He was originally hired by the municipality as a Civil Technician, but in 1971, his job title was changed to make him Public Works Superintendent.

As part of his duties, Linn draws up plans for town sewer and water projects and supervises the projects underway. He also is responsible for the maintenance of the town's heavy equipment, including three snowplows, two sanding and one dump truck, a grator, one front end loader, a backhoe and a sidewalk plow.

Naturally he has a team of operators and mechanics which do the actual maintenance work and equipment operation, but the bottom line is that Linn is the man in charge and is therefore ultimately responsible for the smooth functioning of the department and its equipment.

The Public Works Department has a budget this year of about \$385,000, and of that amount, Linn says there was, as of Oct. 31, 1980, about \$28,000

left for equipment maintenance and about \$18,000, remaining for winter control.

Although last year's relatively easy winter was welcome to the winter control crews and to Linn, he explained that it doesn't affect his budget because any leftover monies are not transferred to the following

year's account.

One of Linn's biggest problems seems to be keeping pace with inflation. He pointed out this week that in 1969, the town purchased an FWD snowplow, (the Cadillac of plows, according to Linn), for about \$22,000. In 1979, Penetanguishene purchased a GMC plow, a slightly lesser model

and it cost \$77,000. Linn understandably shakes his head when trying to understand how inflation alone could account for such discrepancies.

The job is not an easy one. It requires hard work and carries a lot of responsibility, but Fred Linn likes that kind of challenge.



### A key man in Penetanguishene

Going over the books is just part of the job of Fred Linn, Public Works Superintendent for Penetanguishene. Fred, who has been at the job for 12

years now is also responsible for maintenance of all the town's heavy equipment and a budget of nearly \$400,000.

## Four in a row at one corner Tuesday

The corner of Victoria Street and Sixth Street in Midland was not the place to be for motorists Tuesday. Town police say four accidents occurred there in succession in half an hour.

In total 11 accidents happened in Midland Tuesday, almost all due to the combination of snow on the streets and the poor reactions of drivers.

Nine of the 11 accidents happened between 8:30 a.m. and 9 a.m.

Two vehicles involved in the half-hour period, in separate accidents, were a school bus and a town transit bus.

Police went to Hugel Avenue and Seventh Street, Scott Street and Johnson Street, Bay Street and Manly Street, Midland Avenue near

Hugel Avenue, and First Street near Hugel Avenue, as well as Victoria Street and Sixth Street in response to accidents.

Two more accidents occurred in the evening, one at the corner of Hugel Avenue and the Old Penetanguishene Road, and the other on Glen Bogie Crescent near Woodland Drive.

While Midland town police were dealing with nearly a dozen minor accidents Tuesday, the Midland OPP report they dealt with only three accidents.

None of the accidents reported by the town police or the OPP resulted in serious injuries to anyone.

Kenneth Whitehorn, 51, of Victoria Harbour, was charged with making an improper left

turn following a collision between a school bus and a car on Bayview Drive in Sunnyside at 8:25 a.m.

Whitehorn was apparently the sole occupant of the bus.

Mary Adamson, 39, of RR 1, Midland, was the other driver.

The car was westbound and the bus eastbound when, police said, the bus turned left in front of the car.

In midmorning a car driven by a Coldwater man rolled on Highway 12 just south of Highway 400.

Police say Paul Delaney, 36, was rounding a curve while moving west on Highway 12 when, due to slippery conditions, the car slid across the road and into a ditch.

Delaney, police said,

was uninjured. Damage amounted to \$1,200.

Mary Maheu, 23, of Church Street, Penetanguishene, suffered minor injuries around 6 p.m. Tuesday when her car slid off the Lafontaine Road, County Road 26.

Damage to the car was \$2,000.

## School staging Carol

Huron Park School Music Club, under the direction of Helga Veall, will present a musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic tale A Christmas Carol on Dec. 9 and 10 at the school.

A favourite for over 130 years, A Christmas Carol tells the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, a grasping old miser, who is transformed into the kindly benefactor of the humble Cratchit family by some very strange happenings on Christmas Eve.

The operetta involves a cast of 70 students. Performances on both evenings will start at 7:30 p.m. and the public is cordially invited.