

Some great challenges faced

Ernie Cowden, president of the Midland Chamber of Commerce, reviewed the past year and looked to the future in his address to the chamber's membership during the chamber's annual meeting this week in the Budd Watson Gallery.

Following are his remarks from the transcript of that speech.

This has been a momentous year for your Chamber of Commerce. We have faced some great challenges: Fought some good fights: Won some significant victories.

The Chamber has worked hard to make Midland a successful enterprise.

A Canadian businessman once said that every successful enterprise requires three men-A Dreamer, A Businessman and A SOB.

As your President for the first year of this new decade I guess I've worn all three hats at various times. I've always had a dream about our community. Like you I want Midland to be prosperous, beautiful and productive.

I most certainly am a businessman. I've done business from the same downtown location for the past 15 years.

I speak to you today-not as the third party in that successful triumverate-but as your President.

Heading up this voluntary organization of individuals and businesses for a year has been hard but rewarding work. I have never been more proud of my town, or of our

Midland Chamber of Commerce, for we have racked up some impressive successes this year.

Let me tell you about them.

First, we organized and revised the bylaws and constitution of the Midland chamber.

We organized and participated in the opening of a prestigious Yacht-building industry in Midland-Goman Boats, located in the former Koppers property. We were delighted to have one of Georgian Bay's most enthusiastic boaters and cottagers--The Honourable William Davis--here in Midland for that great occasion.

In September we happily took part in another opening--that of the 52 acre Heritage Industrial Park on Highway 12. Ontario Treasurer Frank Miller drove the ceremonial bulldozer while our member of the Provincial House, Gordon Smith, bravely rode up front in the bucket and broke the ribbon to signify a new beginning in Midland's industrial history.

Fabulous Formals and Bell Canada are the first occupants of the park. We have had enough inquiries about the Heritage Industrial Park that it seems certain that additional industrial sites will be occupied soon.

In conjunction with the Industrial Park and the sale of land within it, the Chamber organized a special information session for members of the Midland Real Estate Board.

The Chamber continues to administer the Industrial Park and the controls placed upon its development.

We want that park to be practical and efficient from the industrialists' point of view but we are also determined to keep our industrial environment attractive and appealing. The measures we have adopted will prevent visual and noise pollution.

The new Fabulous Formals factory is a shining example of a functional attractive plant--and it served beautifully as the centerpiece during our Heritage Park opening ceremonies.

Our strategy is working. A number of industries have expressed a lively interest in the park and there is no doubt that Midland is now being looked upon as an active and thriving growth centre.

The Chamber of Commerce, on your behalf, has made a number of meaningful national and international contacts in the past year. We have welcomed and entertained visitors from Swiss Air, a male choir from Eppeheim Germany and a number of visitors from Paris, France.

At the invitation of Doug Lewis, our federal Member of Parliament, we travelled to Ottawa where we were able to make some strong representations to federal department heads on the subjects of the Trent-Severn Waterway management and the housing situation in Midland.

President's

As a Chamber we are deeply appreciative of Doug's tremendous interest in development in our area. We could tell when we were in Ottawa that Doug Lewis was doing a good job for us and we were glad to add our endorsement of his support for this part of the country.

The Midland Chamber of Commerce was represented at the annual meeting of the Ontario Chamber of Commerce in Toronto.

Last February, Wally Cunningham joined municipal representatives on a good will visit to Midland, Michigan. That trip was totally laid on by our American friends. It was their way of saying thank you for the successful efforts of our Ambassador Ken Taylor to spirit six Americans out of Iran.

Contact has continued between the two cities. Just last week one of us got a letter from Louis Cramton, a member of the Michigan House of Representatives, expressing a post-election wish for continuing good relations between the U.S. and Canada.

Our Tourist Information Centre reports that inquiries were up over the previous year by 50 percent in July. In August that figure zoomed up to a 90 percent increase--so it is

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Travel News, Views

10 rules for travel



by Carol Crawford

1. Thou shalt not expect to find all things precisely as they were at home, for thou has left home to find things different.
2. Thou shalt not take anything too seriously, for a carefree mind is the cornerstone of a good vacation.
3. Thou shalt not let other tour members get on thy nerves, for thou art paying good money to enjoy thyself.
4. Thou shalt not worry, for he that worrieth hath little joy.
5. Thou shalt not judge all people of a country by one person with thou hast had a problem.
6. Blessed are they who can wait and smile for they shall enjoy themselves.
7. Thou shalt do only somewhat as the natives do.
8. Thou shalt carry thy Canadian passport with thee at all times in a safe place, nor shall ye pack it in thy suitcase for it is said that a man without a passport is a man without a country.
9. Thou canst be welcome in every land. Treat thy hosts with respect and thou shalt be an honored guest.
10. Bless thy travel agent for she worketh hard in thy behalf and she deserveth.

New England (New Attraction near Disney World)

Stonehenge in Florida? London Street criers, too?

A medieval castle with rides in its walls? Hard to believe? Not if you listen to the developers of a new theme park to be developed three miles from the entrance to Walt Disney World, and right off I-4 near Orlando. Called Little England, this 200 acre theme park, within an 1,328 acre site, is the newest addition to Central Florida's "attractionland".

Its development was announced recently and work will be underway with a hoped for opening in the Spring of 1983.

The theme park will encompass 2,000 years of British history, culture and entertainment for all. Authenticity is the magic word here, an authenticity that begins even before the visitors arrive-at the first sight of Big Ben towering above the landscape and visible for miles around.

An authenticity that continues when the visitors park their cars under the kindly supervision of a British "bobby" and board a London double-decker bus or traditional London taxi which will take them to the threshold of another world, another time.

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