



The  
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**Afloat again**

After extensive preparation the tug Aburg was brought Saturday above the waters of Penetanguishene Bay from the bottom on

which it sat since before Christmas. A number of powerful pumps were used to

pump water out of the Sub Services boat, owned by Garnett Cheney.

**Coffin full of suckers**

**Protestors use unusual props**

A group of about 10 people from this area demonstrated in front of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa Friday with a coffin filled with children's suckers and portrayed Premier William Davis as "being unfair".

The group, which included Claude

Desrochers, founder of the Centre d'activites francaises, and six Ecole Le Caron students, also met briefly with Serge Joyal, chairman of the parliamentary committee studying the constitution.

Joyal was given a five-page brief for the

commission during a 10 minute meeting held outside the House of Commons.

Basile Dorion, a member of the group, said the suckers in the coffin represented what French services in Ontario mean to Francophones. A student in a Bill Davis

mask would give other students in the group a sucker when they asked for something and later take it back.

The group tried and failed to meet with Jean Marchand, the Speaker of the Senate. Two members of the group did meet with Simcoe North MP Doug Lewis.

Dorion said the group went as representatives of Franco-Ontarians. The students went with the permission of their parents.

The area French Language Advisory Committee had asked the Simcoe County Board of Education to allow Penetanguishene high school and Ecole Le Caron students to participate in the writing of a brief to be delivered to the parliamentary committee. The board last month voted against participation of students.

FLAC chairman Claudette Paquin and FLAC member Gilles Maurice joined the group for press conference in Montreal Monday. Desrochers and Dorion, also a FLAC executive member, left the group in Ottawa after Friday's demonstration and meetings.

**Minority rights concern of Ottawa demonstrators denounces media campaign**

Friday's demonstration on Parliament Hill was performed to support the inclusion in the Canadian constitution of provisions to protect minority rights, participant Basile Dorion said Monday.

The demonstration was also meant to be a denouncing of Ontario's media campaign that describes the extent of its French services.

"The constitution looks good on paper," Dorion said, but paper principles and reality are two different things. "There should be no need for a community like Penetanguishene to be torn apart over minority rights. A mechanism should be included in the constitution so that we don't have

to go through a three year crisis" (to get a local French language high school.)

It is not enough for Ontario to provide French instruction, Dorion said, after stating that Ontario does not give French instruction on demand. Facilities are needed to go with the instruction, he said. Instruction in French in mixed elementary and secondary schools "does not do justice to Francophones," he said.

Instruction without a school is like an automobile without gasoline, he explained. "It's better than nothing but you need the facilities to make it worthwhile."

**Citizen briefly**

**Burning chair reason for fire alarm**

Penetanguishene Fire Department's only call in the last week was to 11 Poyntz Street at 12:20 a.m. last Saturday.

Firemen were called to the residence of Paul Buttineau to extinguish a fire in a chair.

**Parents for Grade 1 French form group**

Parents concerned about the lack of French instruction in the county's public schools until Grade 6 have formed the Simcoe County Parents for French Group.

The stimulus for the group was an unsuccessful effort last year by parents in the south end of the county. They asked to have French instruction in Bradford Public School begin with Grade 1 at the start of this school year. The board rejected the group's request by a 9-8 vote.

Dr. Andy Fletch, of R.R. 2, Beeton, heads the Simcoe County for French Group.

**Furnace off, school empty Monday**

Ecole St. Joseph's 350 students received their second unscheduled day off from school of 1981 Monday.

The furnace wasn't working properly, either last Monday, or Jan. 12, also a Monday. The temperature in some classes was 50 degrees F. Staff in the school were wearing their boots.

A majority of the school's students travel to and from school by bus. Word of the cancellation got around quickly and the buses arrived carrying only students for the Annex across the street.

**Candidates declare themselves**

Provincial candidates for Simcoe Centre have begun declaring themselves as the March 19 elections loom closer.

George Taylor, the incumbent has stated his intention to defend his seat in this riding, held since his election to the position in 1977.

Mr. Taylor has listed the economy and the Penetanguishene French language high school as issues facing candidates this time around.

Barrie lawyer Bruce Owen will represent the Liberal party at the polls next month and he too is concerned over the French school issue. He feels Mr. Davis "bungled" the issue.

As for the NDP group, a nomination meeting slated for tomorrow evening in Barrie should provide answers as to who will represent them.

Barrie Lawyer Paul Wessinger, federal NDP candidate in last year's election says he won't seek the nomination but says Gaye Lamb is one definite possibility.

**Cascagnette suffers minor injury**

Diane Cascagnette, 19, of Main Street, Penetanguishene, a passenger in one of three cars involved in an accident in Midland Saturday, received minor injuries. She was not taken to hospital.

The driver of the car in which she was riding, a King Street, Midland, resident, Mary Vaillancourt, 20, was charged with failing to yield.

Vaillancourt was eastbound on Elizabeth Street. Joseph Stewart, 25, of Queen Street, Midland, was southbound on Midland Avenue. Doreen Bray, 56, of Third Street, Midland, was also eastbound on Elizabeth Street. Time of the accident was 2:30 p.m.

**Inside the Citizen**

Shirley Whittington	Page 5
Lifestyle	Page 8
Sports	Page 17
Classified/Real Estate	Page 22