

Reeve Darby becomes chairman of ROMA

by Adrienne Graham Gardner
of Tiny Township is to be acclaimed as the president of the Rural Reeve Morris Darby

'Peacemaker' seeks assistance

Dear Sir:

I am developing the enclosed idea. I believe it is worth consideration, and I hope you will assist me. It may be interesting to your more mindful and contemplative readers.

While the theory is contentious, I should like your readers to see a calm summary of the position.

I shall be grateful for any assistance you may give me.

What would you do if Canada were invaded?

Suppose the United States invaded Canada, what would you do? What would the results be, do you think, of American aggression?

Next, suppose Great Britain or France attacked Canada, what would you do?

What would the consequences be of such a take-over?

Now, suppose the Canadian Government refused to oppose a conquering army, again what would you do?

And, again what would be the outcome?

A decision not to resist means learning to live in changed circumstances. It means refusing to kill - even if attacked.

Canadians should understand their society excels over virtually all other nations. Canadians would not only withstand any invasion; they would merge enemies into their way of life. What is superior in Canada would prevail.

After all, what would an aggressor do?

He envies and seeks us. Why should he spoil what he believes works well? That would be against his interests. A wiser course would permit Canadians to continue running the country while imposing yet another tax.

Is this more onerous than mass suicide?

Finally, once a stand is taken not to kill, you begin to treat all peoples better. You start at once to negotiate differences.

You settle all problems regardless of difficulty, knowing you have prohibited yourself from murdering your opponent no matter how unreasonable he is. Your own code compels you to let everyone into your home; you co-operate with him to ensure he does not smash the furniture.

Hardships may have to be faced. Yet you do so knowing you are in the right and behaving sanely.

It has been said, "In a nuclear war, the survivors will envy the dead".

If you agree - or disagree - please contact me.

Robert S. Karfell
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Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) at the association's annual convention in Toronto today.

The reeve takes this new position with "100 per cent support" from his council in Tiny. As Deputy-reeve John Lackie says, "It's a great honour for him, and he's worked hard for it."

There are 375 municipalities represented by ROMA, which acts as a liaison between provincial and federal levels of government and the rural areas.

Functions of the organization include reviewing new government policies and drafts of legislation such as the new Line Fence Act, the Trespass Act, the Planning Act, assessment and occupiers liability, etc.

Restructuring

This coming year will be significant in the history of ROMA since the organization is undergoing a restructuring along with

three other municipal associations in Ontario.

It is hoped that the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO), the Association of Counties and Regions of Ontario (ACRO) and the Association of Northern Ontario Municipalities will be combined under one large umbrella group.

Darby says this restructuring will occupy a great deal of his attention as president of ROMA. He also predicts that the new planning act will be presented to the legislature this fall after much input by ROMA.

Reeve Darby recalls, "I started out in politics late in life," running for council in Tiny in 1968 for the first time. Since then he has served 12 years, 10 of them as reeve.

As a delegate to Simcoe County Council, Darby was elected Warden, and was chosen as County representative to ROMA, serving as both second and first vice-

president.

Last year, as chairman of ROMA's legislative committee, Darby attended over 70 meetings. This heavy schedule will continue through his one-year term as president of the association. Following this term, he will sit on the board of directors of ROMA as a past president.

The ROMA gavel will be turned over to Darby at today's board

meeting which wraps up the 1981 conference. The new president's first meeting will follow on Thursday morning as discussions on the restructuring of the association progress.

A highlight of his term as ROMA president will come in June when the summer meeting is held in Reeve Darby's home municipality of Tiny.

Confidence

Darby expressed great confidence in

members of his council in Tiny, who will have to assume greater responsibility in his frequent absences.

"It's unfortunate more people can't have the chance to serve in local government and gain an insight into how it runs," the reeve says. "There is a lot to gain from the experience."

With his history of involvement it would appear Darby "has a lot to give," too.


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To our Customers:

The recent Federal Government Budget has announced the long awaited "Off-Oil Program".

From the information we have received, taxable grants are available to cover 50 per cent of the cost of converting an existing oil heating installation to an electric or wood-electric system, to a maximum grant of \$800.00. The total cost of installation will then become tax deductible as of April 1, 1981.

Until working arrangements are made with all utilities, the funds are not expected to be available until April 1, 1981, but anyone completing an installation after October 28, 1980 should keep his receipts. When the program is finalized, he will be able to obtain his grant.

This program is available to homeowners, landlords, private businesses, commercial and industrial buildings. To further discourage the use of oil heating, the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation will not finance or approve oil heated residential units.

All consumers should remember, electric heat is not something in the future. It is the heat of the future, available now, featuring cleanliness, safety, dependability and is produced right here in Ontario.

If you wish further information on this program, or if we can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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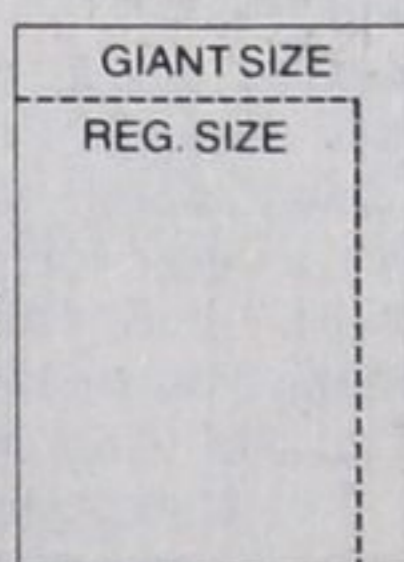


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