

# Doctors happy with new hours

Elmvale doctors Dr. Jim Young and Dr. John MacKenzie are pleased with the results to date of each man's joining the call group of doctors at Penetanguishene General Hospital, as of Jan. 2. In separate interviews this week both doctors said they had not encountered any problems.

Last week Elmvale's third doctor, Dr. Doug Patchell, told the *Lance* that he was carrying on his practice exactly as he had in the past.

Since Dr. Young and Dr. MacKenzie joined the call group, each doctor has been on call about one night in eight nights, compared to a previous ratio of about one night in three nights.

A number of petitions protesting the two doctors decision to no longer take calls after office hours were delivered to the Elmvale village office. Under the present setup, patients of either doctor desiring the attention of a doctor after office hours is to either call the doctor on call at PGH, or go there.

Dr. Patchell said that, "I will take calls as always. If I'm here, I will see them. I can't change a lifetime of habit."

Dr. Young said he and Dr. MacKenzie respect the opinion of the people who signed the petitions, and that their points are well considered. However, the petitions "didn't make us aware of anything that we didn't know."

Dr. Young described the petitions as being like motherhood questions. "My answer would be yes too but I do not particularly want to be the guy who wants to work all that time."

Both Dr. Young and Dr. MacKenzie said that no problems have come up yet. If they find the new arrangement is an "unmitigated disaster", they would make a change. "We would modify the arrangement if we found something wrong with it," Dr. Young said.

Dr. Patchell described Dr. Young and Dr. MacKenzie's solution to the burden of overwork as "good in theory, but not in practice." The practice of medicine in Elmvale is a country practice, not a city practice, he said. "They are two different things all together."

It's a "little ludicrous" for a person who needs a doctor in the night to pass three doctors to go to a hospital and a doctor the person doesn't know, Dr. Patchell said.

Dr. Young said that his and Dr. MacKenzie's joining of the call group was important because it was a benefit to them without being a risk to their patients. Dr. Young said that those of his patients who did speak to him about the new hours were very favourable in their comments.



## From Penetanguishene's past

Here's an old memory-maker from Penetanguishene's past. It shows the railway station at the foot of Main Street being demolished at the town docks. The

move was taken after railway service to Penetanguishene was stopped some years ago. This year Penetanguishene is

celebrating its centennial. Do you have a flashback you'd like us to publish? We'd like to hear from you.

# Three certificates

## Planning administrator wins his spurs as township pays tribute

Roger Robitaille, Tiny Township planning administrator, was honoured by council Wednesday for professional qualifications and certifications earned recently.

Reeve Morris Darby officially presented Robitaille with three certificates in the name of the Association of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers (A.M.C.T.).

Through a three-year study program under the extension department of Queen's University, Robitaille has been recognized as a graduate of their

Municipal Administration course.

This brings with it a membership in the A.M.C.T.—letters which will follow Robitaille's name officially in the future. The third certificate presented to Tiny's planner by the Reeve was a membership in the Canadian Association of Certified Planning Technicians.

"That's quite an array of certificates" observed Reeve Darby, in making the presentation.

The Reeve congratulated Robitaille, expressing the

support of Tiny township for municipal employees who undertake professional upgrading.

In what has lately become a Tiny tradition, Robitaille was invited into the council chambers, and engaged by council in discussion while township staff filed silently into the spectators' seats behind the unsuspecting planner.

Obviously surprised by the ceremony, Robitaille was warmly applauded by his colleagues and by council.

## He's off to Aylmer and studies

Midland council endorsed a public safety committee recommendation which clears the way for town

policeman Const. Dan Gilbert to attend police college from Jan. 11 to March 26.

There, the long-time

policeman will take part in the special identification course at Aylmer.

# Warning

Although at first glance the ice-covered bay appears to be safe for a weekend jaunt, one considering such a move might want to rethink the outing.

Capt. Earle McNaught of the CCGS *Montmorency* noted yesterday, the ice is only eight to 12 inches thick.

The *Montmorency* is a buoy tender, light house supply vessel and is classified as a light ice-breaker. CCGS *Griffon* is a medium ice-breaker. That is she can cut through medium ice depths on the Great Lakes.

Capt. McNaught indicated yesterday it took the *Montmorency* about three hours to travel about two miles to the Tiffin earlier this week

# Ice on the bay here not all that thick

even through ice that was a foot or less thick.

Monday, weather permitting the ship will break ice in the Simcoe Elevator area of Midland harbour.

Every effort, according to the captain, is made to stay in "tracks" his ship has previously cut.

However there are occasions when the ship bangs up against the side of one of the tracks causing ice cracks to radiate out in all directions.

That's where the danger to life and limb really could come into play for any unsuspecting soul who encounters such a phenomenon.

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