

Legal request denied by board

The French Language Education Council (FLEC) of the Simcoe County Board of Education (SCBE) decided to hire a lawyer last Wednesday night, but the SCBE will not allow the council to spend the money.

At its meeting Wednesday night, FLEC decided to hire a lawyer to assist them in defining their rights according to Bill 75, which is supposed to define their powers.

"We are interpreting our jurisdiction differently and we want to seek advice on how to best defend our position," FLEC member Basile Dorion said.

"The province has made a commitment to us, and they must clarify Bill 75," Dorion told the Citizen. "Bill 75 does give us jurisdiction over what we need."

According to SCBE Director of Education, Richard Boswell, legal services are a "centralized service" as defined in the

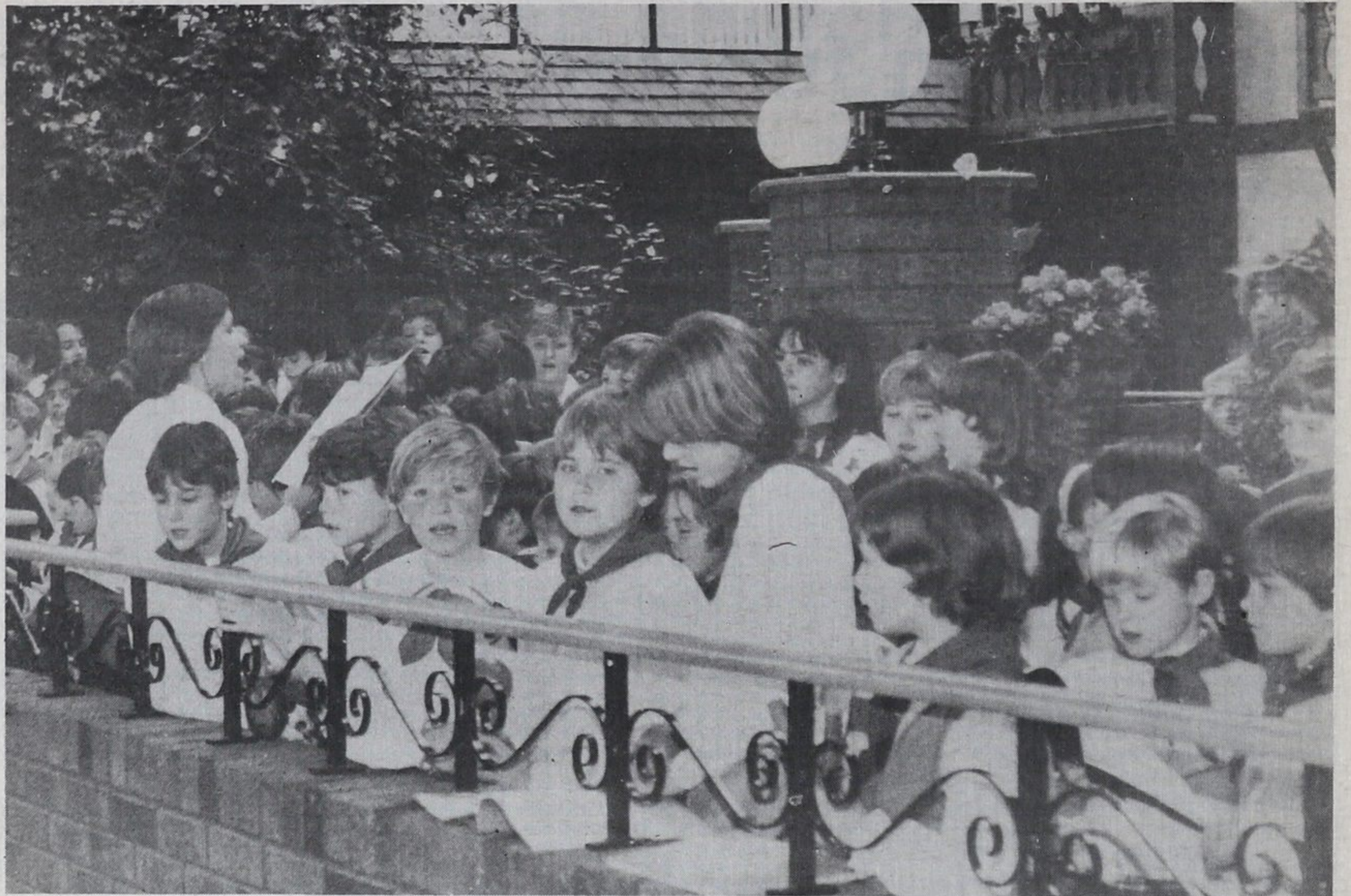
legislation, and therefore the matter must be taken to the corporate board.

Boswell added most of the struggles faced by both the SCBE and FLEC are results of the legislation.

"The introduction of French-language trustees won't go ahead without some difficulty", he said, "The bill is imprecise and unclear and leaves room for different interpretations."

Dorion also said the bill is not particularly clear, and that is why his council would like to consult a lawyer.

Mary Thompson, who ran for FLEC but was unsuccessful, voiced the concern that many French-ratepayers have: that FLEC will be reduced to being simply an advisory board, like its predecessor, the French Language Advisory Committee (FLAC), which the provincial government said whose powers were too limited and replaced by FLEC.



Hundred singers

A combined choir of pupils from Sacred Heart School and Monsignor Castex School entertained Heart and Stroke Foundation

members during their annual dinner in the Highland Inn, above, and also toured

Huron District Hospital, singing as they went, last week.

Community Calendar

December 31

Penetang Minor Hockey Dance, 8 p.m. to 1 a.m., Brian Orser Hall, Penetanguishene Arena, Northern Edition, cash bar and buffet lunch. For further information contact: Marg or Mike Dupuis at 533-3008 or Dave Brooks at 549-3347. Tickets available at M and W Fish n' Chips, Ken Gauthier Sports and R and R Sports.

December 31

Midland Knights of Columbus New Years Dance, 8 p.m. to 2 a.m., Lafontaine Hall, music by Georgian Country, \$25 per couple, proceeds to serve vocations. Sponsored by Midland Knights of Columbus. For further information contact: Raymond Gignac at 549-8823 or 549-2584

Community Calendar is a new feature of the Penetanguishene Citizen/Midland Times newspapers which will make it easy for our readers to find out what special events are going on in the area. Events will be listed in the Community Calendar by dates. If your service club, group or organization is planning a special event drop us a line at the Midland Times, 309 King Street, Midland (526-2283) or the Penetanguishene Citizen, 74 Main Street, Penetanguishene (549-2012). Get the details of the events (date, time, place and a brief description) in early.

Impaired charges up despite police efforts

Both the Midland and Penetanguishene Police Departments report fewer impaired driving charges to date in 1986 than in all of 1985.

As of last Friday, each police department had laid 61 impaired driving charges.

Through 1985, the Penetanguishene Police Force laid 72 impaired driving charges. Through 1985 the Midland Police Department laid 77 charges.

Penetanguishene Police Chief Robert Cummings said that 795 vehicles have been stopped during spot checks since Nov. 24.

Five impaired driving charges have been laid and eight 12-hour suspensions of a driver's licence issued.

Both Chief Cummings and Midland Police Chief Ernie Bates reported that impaired driving charges were up this Christmas

season compared to the same period a year earlier.

Penetanguishene reports five impaired charges compared to two, and Midland, five charges of being impaired, compared to two.

In terms of the year, however, both municipal police departments report a decrease in the number of impaired driving charges.

Penetanguishene police officers often see cases of people drinking and riding, rather than drinking and driving.

On a weekend, every taxi stand in the town with two busy hotels has a line of three or four waiting customers, Chief Cummings said.

In the seven days ending Dec. 14, 154 impaired driving charges were laid by Ontario Provincial Police

across the province. Three hundred and eighty-two 12-hour suspensions were

issued. The OPP stopped 44,466 vehicles. The OPP also charged

115 people not stopped during a spot check with being impaired.



TOWN OF MIDLAND

NOTICE

RE: MIDLAND TRANSIT CHRISTMAS SEASON

MIDLAND TRANSIT WILL NOT BE OPERATING ON THE FOLLOWING DAYS:

Thursday, December 25th

Friday, December 26th

Thursday, January 1st, 1987

Compliments of the Season!



A Wish for All

...to renew our faith, spirit and love of all living things and to continue to observe His special message.

Hilltop Sports Centre and Equipment Port McNicoll

Silent Night

O Holy Night of wonder, when a child was born who lighted the way for all mankind. Let us rekindle our faith and love in Him.

**Season's Greetings from
The Management & Staff
of
Penetang**