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Pit Men Predict Uxbridge Bylaw Could Double Sand, Gravel Costs

At least a doubling of the sand and gravel costs in Southern Ontario construction is predicted by the president of the Aggregate Producers' Association of Ontario Crawford Reid. Mr. Reid says this is likely to happen if an Uxbridge zoning bylaw for gravel pits is allowed to stand and be copied by other municipalities. The bylaw was approved recently by the Municipal Board.

He says the bylaw effectively froze the rate of sand and gravel operations in Uxbridge Township at the 1968 level. Uxbridge provides a substantial percentage of the sand and gravel used in the Toronto region and the freeze has come at a time when demand has soared in the Toronto-Hamilton-Niagara area. Mr. Reid says the gravel pit operators acknowledge that more could have been done in the past to rehabilitate areas left after sand and gravel was removed. But he says the operators have been made forcefully aware of the urgent need for province-wide policies on gravel pits and quarries. "The operators are fully prepared to do what is right and reasonable for the protection of citizens affected by such operations," says Mr. Reid.

He says an association background paper shows that pits in Ontario have been rehabilitated into golf courses, recreation ponds and lakes, industrial parks, housing developments, tree farms and nurseries. Mr. Reid says the situation really isn't even a question of cost. "The industry has serious doubts that there is the quantity and quality of aggregate in any part of Ontario that will be needed to meet the demand of the next 30 years," he says.

The pit and quarry operators' association has appealed to the Ontario Cabinet for a review of the OMB decision on the Uxbridge bylaw because of the serious long-term implications for the construction industry, the higher costs expected to result for the consumer, and ultimately, for the general public. The operators say they do not object to regulation of their industry and provision for rehabilitation of worked out pits. "In fact, they hope that such provisions will be enacted," says Mr. Reid.

In The Spotlight

(Continued from Page 2)

she should ever emerge as the flamboyant Gypsy Rose Lee, but emerge she does. In spite of her small stature, Miss Leeds became every inch the strip-tease artist, with more stimp than tease, but very skilfully done. The dominant role of Rose was played by Jean Weiland, whose professional experience as a singer was obvious. Her voice was powerful but always true, and her difficult recitatives delivered with speed and clarity. It was a pity that Miss Weiland's movements and general bearing did not complement her singing. The 'twenties and 'thirties costumes did not help to dispel the impression that this was an irascible housewife rather than a hard-driving stage mother, pushing her kids to satisfy her own frustrated ambitions.

I saw Cathy Macdonald's costume sketches several weeks ago, and was impressed by their detail and the research which had been made into the styles of the roaring 'twenties and the depression which followed. The designs had been followed faithfully, and well executed. Unfortunately, the result often produced was dowdiness, due partly to concentration on authenticity as opposed to theatrical effect, the first consideration in a showbiz type of production like "Gypsy". Period costumes have to be adapted to the modern figures wearing them and to appeal to the eye of the modern audience. They must also be worn within the style of that period, or they become an anachronism.

John MacLellan's sets were effective and workable. With so many scene changes, the designer had wisely kept detail to the minimum, and, as I have already commented, the changes were efficient and fast. Cathy Macdonald's program should be mentioned for its amusing black and white illustrations and clever cover design.

Though a very long show, over three hours, one came out remembering many of the tunes and surprised that the hour was so late.

Two shows will be opening on the same night on opposite sides of Richmond Hill. North in Aurora, May 20 will be opening night for the Aurora Musical Society's production of "Oklahoma". It will be presented at St. Andrew's College May 20, 21, 22 and 23, curtain time 8.15 pm. Tickets may be obtained from H. A. McLean Motors, 727-9444, or 889-4410.

South of the Hill, the Footlights Club will be presenting "Harvey", at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Thornhill, May 20, 21 and 22. Curtain time 8.15 pm. For tickets call Claire Moore, 889-3553, or Fran Priestman, 889-1810.

Green Gables Held Open House On May 10

Green Gables Manor Nursing Home at Stouffville is participating in the first annual Ontario Nursing Home Week being sponsored by Associated Nursing Homes Incorporated of Ontario May 10, according to Lewis and Ann laVine, administrators of the home. An open house was held on Mother's Day, May 10.

"Today anyone who needs nursing care can be taken care of at Green Gables Manor, even if they have little or no funds," says Mr. laVine. "Tender and loving care is available for those who cannot afford the more luxurious atmosphere of some of the nursing homes." "Nursing Home Week is very important to my patients, because it means members of the community will be coming for a visit. When you are ill, aged and lonely, it's essential to have new friends in the community," he says. "Too many times our senior citizens become the forgotten generation in their later years. When members of the community, and business and government leaders, come to nursing home open houses, the elderly patients overcome their feelings of alienation," says Mr. laVine.

Hamilton's Garbage Unit Avoids Air, Soil Pollution-Saves Space

Every owner whose property is affected or threatened by garbage dumps, incinerators or "sanitary land fill" projects will find encouragement in Hamilton. The city has ordered a new type of garbage disposal called a solid waste reduction unit, or "Swaru". Designed by Gordon L. Sutin and Associates Ltd., consulting engineers, the \$7,750,000 unit will have capacity of 600 tons of waste daily. Its function is not merely to burn up solid waste, but to reduce its volume, remove salvageable metals and turn ash-dump sites into useable building areas within a period of three to five years. Here's how the unit works: Refuse is dumped into a pit of 500-tons capacity at the plant. A conveyor takes it to a pulverizer, which smashes it down to bits of 1 1/2 inches or less. It then goes to a huge storage tank which, in turn, conveys it to a boiler building. There, it's burned in a steam-producing unit. Ashes from the boiler are carried to a storage silo, and from here it goes to a fill-site behind the property. Fly ash emission from the burning is controlled by electrostatic precipitators, and steam from the plant is used to run heavy horsepower equipment. Metal separation takes place in the pulverizing stage, and it is expected to produce 30 tons daily for sale to industry. According to Gordon Sutin, head of the engineering firm, the problem of sorting glass refuse by color before pulverizing prevents it from being treated as a salvageable material. From a municipal standpoint, the process is valuable because it avoids aid and soil pollution, generation of methane gas below the earth surface and curtails the need for evermore garbage burial locations. Property at or near ashdump pits, therefore, will have increasing value.

Rambling Around

(Continued from Page 2)

icipal Affairs Darcy McKeough revealed plans for the York Region. Both presentations will govern development in this area. During the past few weeks Mr. Fraser, with other members of the township council, has spent long hours in search of a solution for the tax inequalities brought about by reassessment on market value a guideline set by the Ontario Government. This search has involved many meetings with officials of the Department of Municipal Affairs and with rate-payers, as well as much research.

Mr. Fraser reports that the long hours have not been wasted, as the result of a meeting with Minister of Municipal Affairs Darcy McKeough last Thursday, indications are that a satisfactory solution will be announced soon.

The coming big concern is pollution. "I don't think people really thought about what was happening to our environment until Rachel Carson wrote "The Silent Spring" several years ago. People who read the book started thinking about the question of pollution. As yet, we have no local solution but pollution controls will be speeded up in the next few years.

Councillor Fraser added that pollution problems have become more immediate in the last few years because of industrial and other developments.

"We are putting more things into the ground and throwing more things away and we really don't know the effect of it."

Housing development in Vaughan is slowly going ahead. This year a subdivision is on the planning board for a section of land on the Carrville Road. The council also hopes to get one or two housing plans approved for the Woodbridge periphery this year.

As far as industry is concerned, nearly all the land owned by the township has been sold and council is not thinking of buying any more.

"I think a township council has an obligation to create an impetus but I don't think they should compete with private developers," said Councillor Fraser.

A FAMILY MAN AND COMMUNITY WORKER

David Fraser is a lawyer by profession. He is community-minded man with good reason. He and his wife Mary have eight children and they've recently enlarged their Concord home to which they moved in 1957.

Their children have been largely instrumental in drawing them into the church and community. Mr. Fraser is an elder in Thornhill United Church. Mrs. Fraser, the former Mary LePage, is the daughter of the late Harry LePage who founded a real estate business for his family. She is a registered nurse and has found her training to be a great help in raising her brood of children. Cathy and Marnie are the girls of the family and the boys are Harry, Sandy, Danny, Robby, Willy and Sean. Their ages range from 16 to two years.

At the moment Mrs. Fraser is concentrating on her home and children but she doesn't let mountains of housework stop her from getting the intellectual stimulation she needs. She is an avid reader, likes to raise tropical fish and has experimented with a dog-breeding business.

"Time enough to think about going back to work after the children are raised," she said. Mr. Fraser likes to work with wood and he has made kitchen cabinets and other useful objects for the home, but he doesn't get too much time for his hobby anymore.

Cathy, Marnie, Harry and Sandy were members of the Vaughan Township Festival Choir and that was how their father got involved with it. He was the financial chairman and was largely instrumental for raising the funds for the historic trip to Expo. "It was the most gratifying experience," he declared, "children are wonderful to work with at that age."

Mr. Fraser went along to Expo with them and handled all their housing and momentary problems. The Festival Choir was under the direction of that popular music man, Hugh Martin, and though the presentation at EXPO was very successful, the choir was maintained for just a year longer and finally ceased to exist.

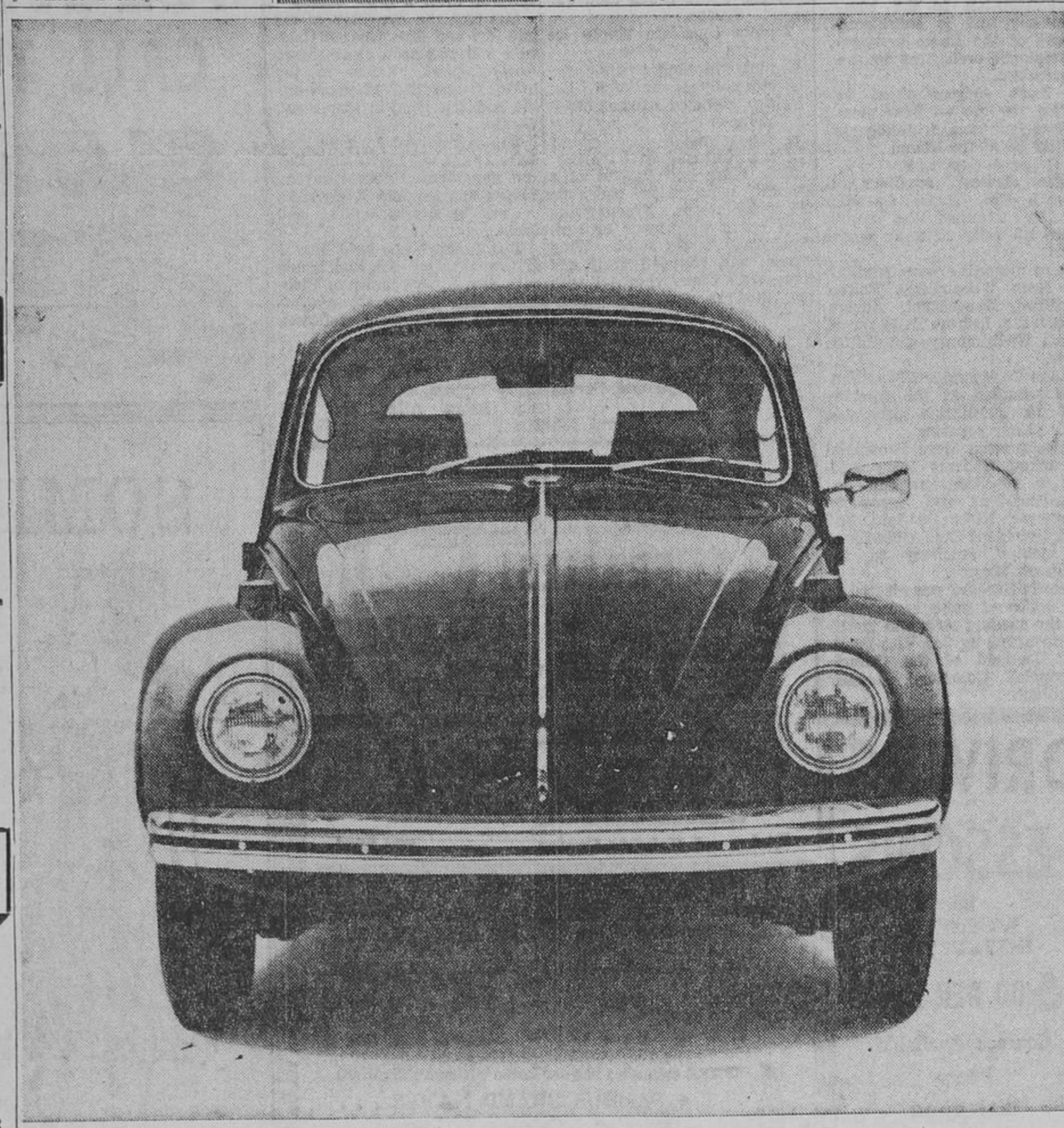
One of the reasons for its demise was that it fell under the control of the York County Board of Education who on January 1, 1969 insisted on controlling it financially but were unable to provide proper facilities. It was rather mystifying to Mr. Fraser why, if the former Vaughan Township Public School Board was prepared to help support the choir, the larger county board couldn't see fit to offer any real help. "No doubt, their readers were good," he said, "they probably felt if they supported the Festival Choir here, they would have to subsidize similar efforts elsewhere in the county."

AND A LITTLE ABOUT LAW
Law is mostly a mystery to the average layman until he gets directly involved with it. For instance, Mr. Fraser describes law as the mechanics of social interaction. In his opinion, law is so much a part of society that some elementary guide lines for understanding law should be included in the elementary stages of learning. "Classes in commercial law are held but I, myself, do not know of any lawyer who lectures on the rules of society," he said.

There is very definitely an evolution of law. The law can change as society changes but the social changes usually come first. Law can be changed by the process of legislative action or by social pressure.

Unlike the United States Supreme Court, Canada does not lay down rules for a social course of action, but that may change. The appointment of Justice Bora Laskin to the Canadian Supreme Court will no doubt bring changes in this direction to Canada. He is likely to apply law in a different way than the older judges were prone to do.

If you don't know how to choose a lawyer for a particular problem, the matter is best solved by inquiry, said Mr. Fraser. Very few lawyers would take on a case they are not qualified to handle. They would refer the client to the proper expert. The Canadian Law Society maintains a register where lawyers indicate their specialty and one can just phone the Law Society and find out the particulars. Mr. Fraser has just established a law practice in Thornhill in partnership with Patrick Hengen. For the past 20 years he was assistant claims manager for Canada of a large Toronto based insurance company.



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