Comay Committee submits its recommendations The Ministry now decision, the consent him to exempt from this over individual consents, made for major changes

By ALF STONG

MPP - York Centre recommendations to the the power of the O.M.B. Provincial Government. as long ago as 1973.

completed after 18 mittee's recommendamonths of study, during tions are of special inwhich the Committee terest to rural comtravelled across the munities. province, meeting with The zoning of rural land amended or revoked. municipal representat- presents a particular case ives, rural organizations, where provincial inprofessional bodies, terests can be seriously municipalities, and it is public groups and the affected if municipalities the Ministry's declared development industry.

In effect, the Report confirmed many Opposition criticisms of the existing planning procedures in Ontario, which are characterized by the Committee as uncertain, inconsistent, with a built-in potential for delay and high cost.

recommendations are an ditions to the uniforms of Region force, added to attempt to decentralize some York Regional service with local police responsibility for plan- Policemen. ning decisions, and place The length of service the formation of the YRP it in the hands of elected badges were approved by rather than appointed the police commission officials.

sideration of subdivision ches from the cuff. from these agencies.

Another very interesting recommendation is that the role of the Ontario Municipal Board should be severly limited to that of providing advice to the Minister where municipal decisions are characterized as being unfair.

If implemented, this proposal might eliminate the need for lengthy hearings such as those concerning the Toronto Core area plan, which are having a detrimental effect on construction employment.

There is some cause for concern in the fact that the Housing Minister has stated that it will be at least October of this year before he even begins to draft a White Paper on this subject - with no mention being made of a date for legislation.

After a lengthy study of this kind, involving

numerous meetings and are unable or unwilling to established to review especially when we bear development. Ontario's Planning Act in mind that the Ontario (the Comay Committee) Economic Council is able to freeze such land has submitted its recommended limiting by means of statutory

This Report was Many of the Com-

briefs, surely the time has exercise a reasonable The Committee come for action, level of control over municipalities concerned At present, the Minister

> orders under Section 32 of The Planning Act. Typically, these municipality the adprovide that no change in use or only limited changes may take place the awkwardness of

until the order has been

Badges will show length of service

Silver and gold maple The Committee's leaves will be new ad- tenure with the York

last week.

Minister should establish service, officers up to the be eligible for the badges by regulation the rank of staff sergeant will on request. maximum number of receive silver maple public agencies to be leaves to be worn on the Twinney said he favors consulted in the con- left tunic sleeve 31/2 in- the badges because "it

be issue.

Badges will show

Officers with experience in other police One proposal is that the For each five years of departments also would

does give the general plans and deadlines for For ranks above staff public an idea of exthe receipt of comments sergeant, gold leaves will perienced men in the

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departments previous to

Commissioner Ray

will be lifted when the adopt appropriate zoning

However, the use of serious problems in removing from the ministration if its own land use controls, and in securing minor changes

machinery. In this connection, the universally, a "base of municipal planning universal basis, allowing level" rural by-law providing minimum rural

zoning standards. He should, it is felt, be empowered to exempt from this by-law, by regulation, those municipalities that already have adequate by-laws, that adopt such by-laws in the future, or where for particular reasons such by-laws are not necessary or appropriate.

Provincial interests can also be seriously affected by the unreasonable granting of separation consents in rural areas.



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specific consent decisions there should be a which are not in ac- provincial "base level" cordance with the rural consent policy, to be Ministry's consent applied in those counties or regional municipalities The Committee where a satisfactory proposes that the consent policy is lacking. through the use of cen- responsibility for for- The Act should, in the Such orders are now in tralized ministerial mulating rural consent Committee's opinion, be

policies should rest amended to require the generally with county and Minister to establish and Committee proposes that regional councils; also impose a provincial rural the Minister impose, that, like every other type consent policy on a

intention that the orders monitors the activities of granting power should be policy, by regulation, but to provide a con- in current compensation land division committees dependent on the those counties and sistent province-wide policy - compensation and committees of ad- establishment of a regional municipalities basis for granting con- for acquisition but not justment on a selective satisfactory planning which already have sents in accordance with regulation - therefore, basis, and the Minister policy base for that suitable consent policies, provincial rural land use no compensation to which adopt such policies policies. Section 32 orders presents Municipal Board any As with rural zoning, in the future, or where for particular reasons, a rural consent policy is not

> The responsibility for administering the provincial consent policy should rest with the county or regional councils, operating through their land division committees.

necessary or appropriate.

Also, the imposition of a provincial policy would be designed not to give the Minister supervision

No recommendation is development rights

farmers for loss of



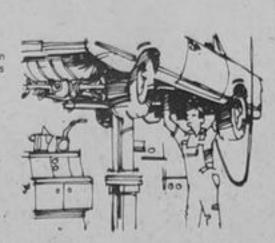
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