

Deja Vue —

Russell Students back to N. D.

Beginning this fall, students graduating from Russell Public School will be travelling to Chesterville rather than Metcalfe for secondary education.

An agreement has been reached between the Prescott-Russell and Carleton boards of education whereby 150 Russell students will be phased out of Osgoode District High School. Russell students now attending that school will be

allowed to complete their secondary program there.

Russell students have been enrolled at Osgoode for about three years. Prior to that, they were at Chesterville's North Dundas District High School; the transfer to Metcalfe occurred following a request from some parents.

The return to North Dundas results from three meetings

between parents and representatives of the Prescott-Russell board and circulation of a petition which showed more than 240 rate-payers favor the switch.

The petition was organized by June Graham who said parents supporting the move felt North Dundas offered more options. There are both classical and technical programs at that school while Osgoode has no technical courses.

Mrs. Graham said many parents felt students should not have been removed from North Dundas in the first place.

"Why have one school overcrowded while another is operating half empty?" she asked. Mrs. Graham noted that several portables are in use at Metcalfe and an extension is needed while enrolment at North Dundas is well below capacity.

She said taxpayers shouldn't have to pay for an addition to one school while space is available at another one nearby.

Some parents objected to the move including Shirley Sherwood who said her main complaint concerned the extra distance involved.

However, Mrs. Sherwood is now prepared to go along with the change because there's nothing that can be done to prevent it.

The Sherwoods daughter Katherine, 14, will be graduating from Russell Public and attending North Dundas in the fall. Mrs. Sherwood said her daughter isn't too distressed because her friends will be making the move as well.

The Sherwoods also have a son Greg, 17, who will complete his courses at Osgoode.

The Grahams have two children enrolled at Osgoode; Michael, 16, now in Grade 10 will complete his schooling there while Maureen, 14, now in Grade 9 will transfer to North Dundas for a technical option.

Morewood Lodge —

Attack on Alcoholism

A group of dedicated workers has chosen Morewood as a site to wage war against an increasingly prominent problem in today's society.

Don Wilkes, Ann De Wall and Alf McGowan recently founded Morewood Lodge for alcoholic women as testimony to their unwillingness to ignore this problem.

Through sacrifice that few are willing to make, the lodge was set up in a vacant building in the heart of the village as an intermediate care centre for "chemically-dependent women."

Don hopes that the Lodge will be a place where drinking problems are left behind.

"Once they enter the Lodge", he said, "Women will be faced with the task of realizing their own limitations and of re-evaluating their lives".

The program follows closely that of Alcoholics Anonymous, including the use of AA's 12 steps "because they have the best track record". There will be lectures given by various authorities on alcoholism and related diseases, followed by 'rap' sessions.

"What we are trying to do, is to get the persons to open up, to discuss their problems with other people so that solutions can be found," he said.

The Lodge is not an institution, guests are free to come and go as they please and "we hope to reach those women who are heading towards addiction and who realize that they need help", no one is forced to stay if they don't want to."

The staff is made up of non-professionals who like Don are reformed alcoholics.

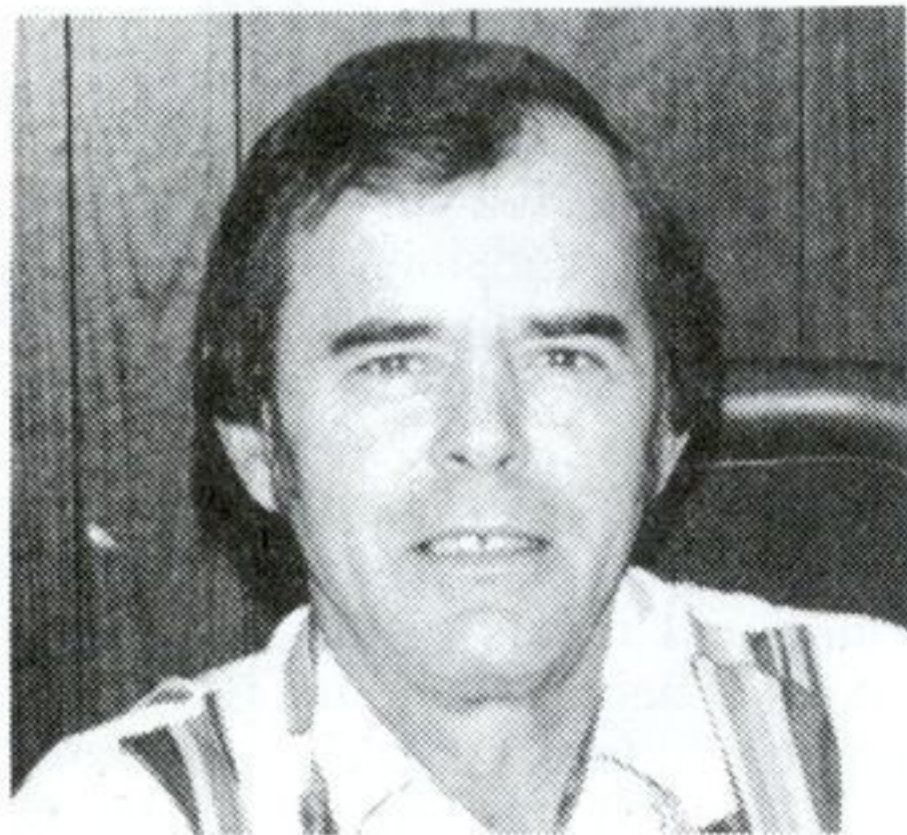
"Having been in the same position ourselves we can understand the feelings that affect an alcoholic person," he said.

The Lodge operates on a non-profit basis and at the present depends mainly on the income from it's boarders. The possibility of a government grant seems remote but there are hopes that someday O.H.I.P., will cover this type of care.

Why Morewood? "It's funny," he said, "when I saw this house, I just had a feeling and I knew that it was right." It turns out that the location is ideal and the people of Morewood have welcomed the Lodge wholeheartedly.

In the future Don hopes that they will be able to expand and serve more people, "but that's all still a dream right now".

Nobody better than me — Gaston



Gaston Patenaude says he has no intention of resigning as reeve of Russell Township for one reason:

"I don't think anybody else could do a better job", Mr. Patenaude explained.

The reeve was commenting on an editorial in last month's Castor Review which recalled his pledge to resign if the North Road isn't paved this year.

Prescott-Russell council will spend \$73,700 to reconstruct the road to the township boundary but counties engineer Albert Lynch says there are no plans to pave it.

Admitting he offered his resignation "On the spur of the moment" without seriously considering possible consequences, Mr. Patenaude claimed there's still an outside chance pavement will be laid in the fall.

"We might have to pave now and pay later but I wouldn't mind doing that to get the job done."

Mr. Patenaude complained that some people contend he's in municipal politics for the money. He maintained that he puts in many more hours at the job than he gets reimbursed for.

Earlier this year, council raised the reeve's salary to \$4,200 from \$3,500 - a 20 per cent boost.



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