

LOCAL NEWS - Cont'd.....

NEW CREDIT HAS NEW LIP FOREMAN

Harold LaForme, Jr. is the new LIP foreman for New Credit reserve. He was hired on temporary basis after Council was informed on Monday, May 13th, that Kenny King had quit.

Council circulated notices requesting applicants for LIP Foreman and Mr. LaForme was selected to finish the project which started in January.

Originally the program was set up for eight employees. However Council has learned that 4 have quit so the program will continue with 4 men and will be extended.

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SIX NATIONS WILL HAVE A NEW CHURCH

Reverend Melchi Henry has announced the decision made by his congregation at a special meeting, that they are planning to build a new Baptis Church at Medina on the same site where the 124-year-old Church was destroyed by fire.

He said members are also considering erecting a prefabricated building for temporary use in the next few months.

It has not been decided when construction will begin.

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INCOME TAX RETURNED

Gordon Longboat of R. #1, Ohsweken, who claimed the federal government incorrectly deducted income tax from his wages while he was working for Canadian Gypsum on 3rd line, is going to get some of it back, according to Derek Blackburn NDP (MP) for Brant.

Thursday, May 9th Mr. Blackburn said that the officials at the Hamilton office of the district revenue and taxation Department had admitted to him in a letter they had made a mistake in instructing Canadian Gypsum to deduct income tax from Indian employees who work in the mine which extends under the reserve.

The letter to Mr. Blackburn from W.J. Skinner of the taxation office read: "We have concluded that the Indians employed in the mine which is immediately below the reserve itself are not taxable"

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According to Section 87, subsection b of the Indian Act, an Indians' income is exempt from taxation if it is earned on the reserve.

Mr. Longboat, a recently retired miner told Mr. Blackburn at a meeting on April 18th, that the company had wrongly deducted from his wages for seven years.

A company spokesman said they had made deductions only on instruction from the revenue and taxation department.

The federal department now says it will return Mr. Longboat's tax money for the last two years.

Mr. Blackburn said he would go after the taxation department to make sure the returns go back more than the last two years.

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BELL CANADA TO BURY CABLES

Bell Canada representatives, Mr. Munro and Mr. Styn attended Council Tuesday, May 21st, to discuss the possibility of buried cables on the reserve.

Bell Canada would like to bury their telephone cables on band property along the roads. Mr. Munro assured Council that they would not be held liable for any damages done by anyone working on the roads.

One suggestion was that the cables be buried on private properties. However Mr. Styn informed Council that Bell Canada would have to negotiate with each owner individually and they do not pay for right-of-way privileges, only for damages.

Councillor Leonard Staats asked if Bell Canada policy off the reserve would be the same for the reserve. Mr. Munro informed Mr. Staats that there are no general specifications for all occasions in other municipalities; agreements are drawn as the situation arises.

Councillor Leonard Staats also told the representatives that as far as he could understand there was never any agreement for Bell Canada to come on the reserve.

Council decided that the entire Council would meet to discuss the Bell proposal when received.

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