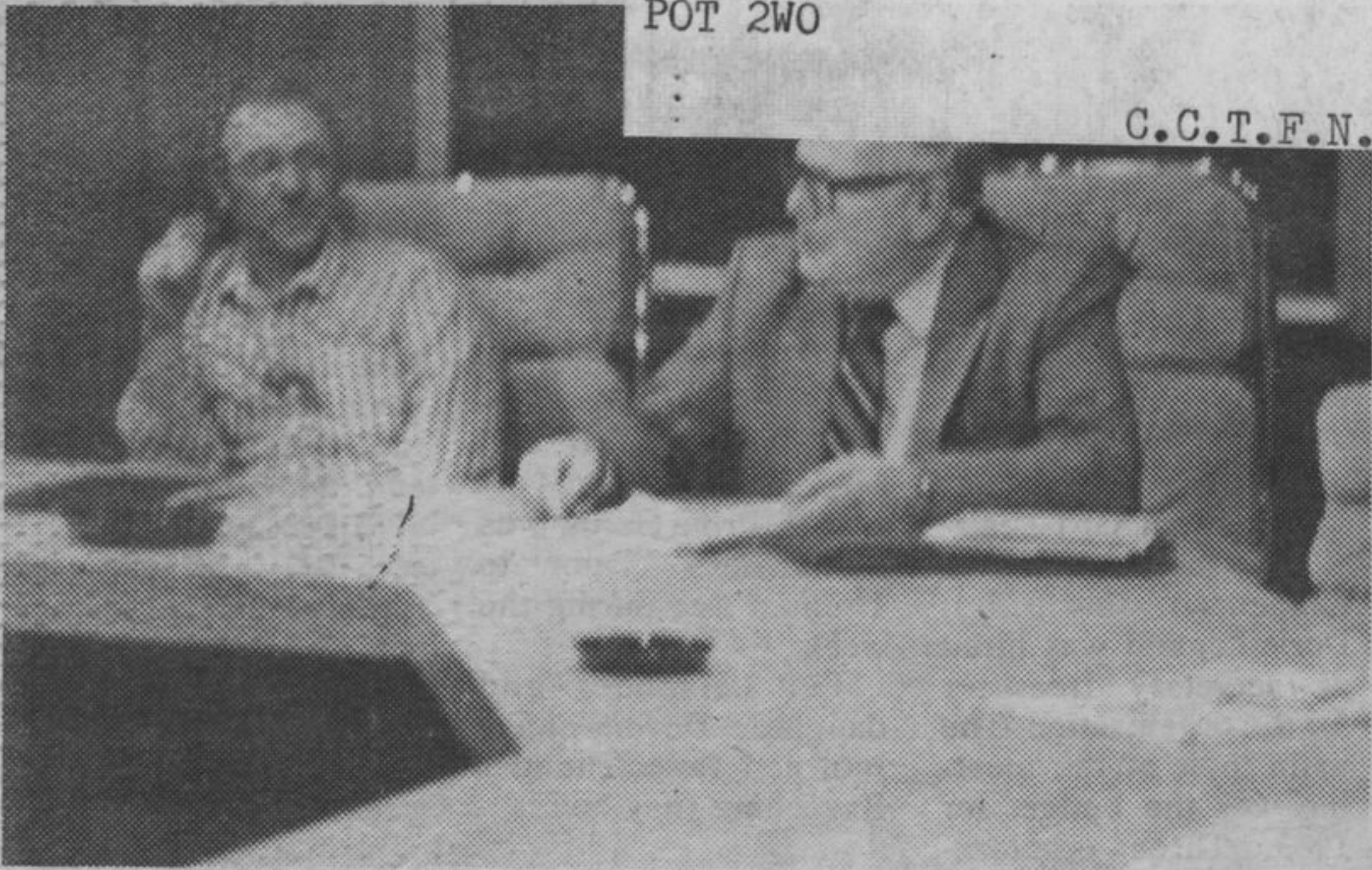


Allan report nears completion



Education Commissioner Rodger Allan and Board Chairman Mike Reid at Monday night's meeting with the Lake Superior Board of Education.

Education Commissioner G. Rodger Allan completed his final tour of the area last week before releasing his Report. The four towns that make up the Lake Superior Board of Education will be the focus of province-wide attention next month when Allan submits his findings to the Minister of Education.

The Allan Commission was set up six months ago to investigate the facts surrounding the attempted

closure of the Schreiber Campus of Lake Superior High School and to investigate and make recommendations on secondary education in Northern Ontario in general. Allan has travelled extensively in the North since then and held hearings in many of the smaller northern communities.

Last week Allan met on Monday with the new Lake Superior Board of Education in Marathon and on Tuesday attended a public meeting

called by Marathon Reeve Bill Springer.

At Monday night's meeting with the Board of Education Allan said that he had come not to answer questions, but to listen to what ever the Board wished to say. Board Chairman Mike Reid went around the table asking each of the Trustees to give Allan their views on the problems facing the Board and education in the North.

Trustees from Manitowadge said that there

has always been a strong local feeling in Manitowadge that the town should be on its own and have a local school board. Trustee Margaret Cole said that she recognizes the feeling in the community but was opposed to it because it would lessen the quality of education that could be offered in Manitowadge. The town's other Trustees did not say whether they were in favour of a dissolution of

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35¢

Penner opposes income tax changes



MP Keith Penner discusses problems with his constituents in Schreiber last week.

MP Keith Penner was in Schreiber and Terrace Bay last week. In an interview he was quick to distance himself from suggestions by the Minister responsible for the Status of Women, Judy Erola, that would see tax breaks transferred from married women who don't work, to child-care expenses. The Cochrane - Superior MP said, "Mrs. Erola has forgotten the Prime Minister's clear directive not to float trial balloons, except in the proper forum, which is our national caucus. We have just gone through a harrowing experience when MacEachen brought in his Budget. I don't think

people in this country like a lot of meddling with the tax system. If there is an unfair advantage or an unfair burden it should be changed, but people like stability and predictability."

"Something like that would never get through our caucus."

Mr. Penner is Chairman of the parliamentary Task Force studying the problems associated with Indian and Native Affairs. That Task Force has recently completed one tour of Alberta and is about to start a second tour of Manitoba and Northern Ontario.

Penner said, "I think we have to put in place a

system which will allow Indian bands to get the programs they need without the present problems involved in delivering them through the department (of Indian Affairs)."

"We are looking at the establishment of an Indian Fiscal Arrangements Commission. The present arrangement ties the hands of the bands." "If we just let each band go its own way some of the more remote bands would be at a very real disadvantage." The Task Force Chairman went on to say that the group would also be travelling to Washington for discussions with the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Asked if he expects new legislation to be introduced in the present session of Parliament, Penner said, "The Minister would like to bring in legislative changes before this Parliament expires. My own recommendations would be to take a more cautious approach. The Indian groups will want to take an extensive look at any changes before we proceed."

Commenting on the recent report released on the Canadian economy released by a group of Roman Catholic bishops, Penner said, "There is an assumption that the economics of Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher are the economics of Canada. That is not true. Theirs is obviously not Canadian government policy. 6 and 5 is a control of increases. If inflation comes down

this year the difference between controlled increases and increases that would have taken place will not be worth losing a night's sleep over."

"We are the victims of the Thatcher and Reagan policies. Why do we have high interest rates in Canada? Because we have to protect our economy from the outflow of money that would take place if we allowed our interest rates to drop below those in the United States."

Penner went on to say that there were some bright spots. "We are the beneficiaries of one of the most advanced unemployment insurance systems in the world." The Cochrane - Superior MP also said that increased efforts are being made to sell Canadian lumber in the Middle East and Northern Europe.

Penner attended Monday night's Terrace Bay Council meeting and said that he was speaking with the Councils about the NEED programme. Under the programme each municipality has been given an allotment of the programme's budget. The municipalities will be able to design projects to meet their individual needs and they in turn put up some of the cost. "\$200 million has been allocated for Ontario. Half of that sum is to be spent before April and the other half between April and June. The programme is designed for people whose UIC has expired or who are on social assistance."

Employee Assistance Program

(Editor's Note: Frank Leppinen is the Employee Assistance Program counsellor at Kimberly-Clark, Terrace Bay. He provided the following information on the Employee Assistance Program to the NEWS. Persons wishing to contact Frank may do so at 825-9347).

An Employee Assistance Program is a counselling and referral service designed to help people with "living problems." EAPs have been jointly developed by labour and industry and have been a part of the Canadian scene for the past three or four decades.

Although traditional adversaries, both union and management have displayed a great deal of mutual support and cooperation in the development and implementation of these programs. The rationale for an Employee Assistance Program is simple: Industry has come to recognize that social and behavioural health problems are treatable conditions, and that a happy employee is a productive employee. Unions, who are primarily concerned

with the quality of life and the welfare of their members strongly support this view, and have often taken the initiative to bring an Employee Assistance Program into the workplace.

An effective Employee Assistance Program can help with a variety of problems: Family, Marital, Financial, Emotional difficulties and cases of Alcohol and Drug Abuse are routinely handled by the EAP Counsellor. Many EAPs have added such preventative components as Stress Management, Physical Fitness, and assistance for those who wish to lose weight or stop smoking. The function of the EAP Counsellor is to help the client to identify the problem, to work with him to develop a plan to resolve his difficulty, and to refer the client to those who can best help him to carry the plan out. The counsellor also maintains a follow up service to ensure that the client continues to progress.

Most Employee Assistance Programs are available to all imme-

diately family members, and a client's involvement with the program is strictly confidential. Employees, other family members, or other helping agencies are not contacted without express written permission of the client.

Although most clients voluntarily approach the EAP Counsellor to seek assistance, Employee Assistance Programs also provide Supervisors and Union representatives with an additional means of resolving job performance issues, and employees who are experiencing difficulty on the job due to stress and worry resulting from personal problems are encouraged to consult the EAP counsellor.

Employee Assistance Programs are beginning to impact on society as a whole. Social workers have always acknowledged a need for earlier intervention in human problems - before the job was lost, before the family was fragmented. Employee Assistance programs are responding to this need by uncovering "people problems" while they are still manageable.

Wieben's vandalized over Christmas

Wieben's Resort on Pays Plat Bay was extensively vandalized over the Christmas holidays. A Schreiber detachment discovered the damage to the resort

and reported it to the Schreiber Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police on December 31, 1982.

An OPP spokesman said last week that they are presently awaiting

an estimate of the damage to the premises. He said that the detachment is aggressively pursuing the investigation and hope to be able to lay charges in the case in the near future.