

Rural Areas Assured Of Voice In Regional Government

Residents of Jarvis and area were assured that rural people would definitely be able to have a voice in a restructured municipal government when it is instituted in the two-county area of Haldimand and Norfolk.

The assurance was given by Nigel Richardson, director of the Haldimand - Norfolk Study to about 70 people who attended Tuesday

night's meeting at the Community Centre to discuss the possible alternatives to municipal government.

The meeting is one of a series undertaken by the study director to explain his recently released interim report. In the report the present system of government is rejected as inadequate and three alternatives are

suggested. These are a one-tier government, a two-tier government and a unitary government.

Mr. Richardson was asked that when development of the area occurs, urban people will vastly outnumber rural people and could anything be done to protect their interests?

He replied that rural people would definitely

have to have their voices heard. He said this was the approach adopted by the regional area in Niagara and Ottawa.

Ottawa region, Mr. Richardson said, is 80 per cent urban people, but the regional government representation is only one more than half of the total representation.

He said he had talked last summer to three of the rural representatives on the Ottawa regional government and "none of them was really unhappy with the

way things are being handled. They seemed reasonably satisfied."

Mr. Richardson was asked how much money is the province "pumping into the regions in order to try and make the region work?"

He said the government provides interim financing for a period of five years. Under the Regional Municipal Grants Act, \$1 million was given in the case of Niagara Region. There are also some transitional payments and some other funds put in

to deal with a specific situation, such as the formation of an overall official plan.

The Niagara Region, the closest regional government to Haldimand-Norfolk has been beset with a number of problems and Mr. Richardson was asked if there was any way to avoid these problems in this area.

He said no one system of regional government as suggested in his report would be the best.

See Page 5, Col. 1



Vol. 95 No. 8

Thursday February 24, 1972

10¢ a copy

County Councillors Object To Municipal Changes

CAYUGA - Haldimand County councillors, for the most part, were highly vocal in their disagreement with the interim report of the Haldimand - Norfolk Study released Feb. 11.

Most vocal of the councillors was Robert Gordon, deputy-reeve of Caledonia, who termed the report "hogwash."

He said he resented statements in the report, by its author Nigel Richardson, director of the study, that the present municipal system cannot meet the demands of the public on it.

"As far as I'm concerned we're doing as good a job as any government anywhere," he said.

The interim report rejects the present municipal structure as being unable to serve the needs of future development in the two-county system.

The report proposes three alternate municipal government systems that would replace the existing system. Many county councillors reacted to the implications in the

report. They charged that the report had bypassed the local representatives in formulating the conclusions and urged county council to start its own study.

Reeve Gordon Miller, of Walpole Township, said Mr. Richardson is dictating the future of the area.

He said the council should have had a hand in the restructuring proposals. He urged that council reconsider the idea of consolidating the municipalities within its own boundaries and come up with an alternative plan, which would eventually fit in with Norfolk, if the need arises.

The question of the Steel Company of Canada going ahead with its plans at Nanticoke was also raised.

Reeve Clayton Smith, of Seneca Township, last year's warden, said a spokesman for the company said recently on a television interview that the company was not expected to go ahead with the project until after 1975.

The interim report, in fact the Haldimand-Norfolk Study, is based on Stelco going ahead with its project, resulting in a massive influx of people to the area.

Deputy director of the

Misuse Of Funds Cited In Firing Administrator

HAGERSVILLE - West Haldimand General Hospital's administrator has not been released and it will not likely be known until the audit is completed, the release said.

"The matter is being further investigated and we have good reason to believe the full sum will be recovered," the statement said.

Mr. Van de Ven was dismissed, according to the statement, "for what, in the opinion of the board, is willful misconduct."

The hospital board met Monday night. The meeting was called, See Page 5, Col. 3

The exact sum of money apparently missing has not been released and it will not likely be known until the audit is completed, the release said.

"The matter is being further investigated and we have good reason to believe the full sum will be recovered," the statement said.

Mr. Van de Ven was dismissed, according to the statement, "for what, in the opinion of the board, is willful misconduct."

The hospital board met Monday night. The meeting was called, See Page 5, Col. 3

HAMR Receives Aid From County

CAYUGA (Staff) - Haldimand County Council agreed Friday to help cover the expected \$3,500 deficit of the Haldimand County Association for the Mentally Retarded.

The association made its plea for financial assistance and picked up an unexpected bonus, an offer from a coun-

cillor to help in the marketing of the association's main product, wooden pallets.

The association presented a financial report to county council that showed 1971 income at \$14,167 and proposed 1972 expenses at \$16,450. There are only two paid workers at the workshop, a manager,

who earns \$4,000 a year and an assistant, who earns \$2,000. Additional expenses this year will be in the costs of transportation as some of the students have to come to the workshop by taxi.

County council will also see if the board of education and the association can work out

some method to provide transportation for the students.

Council was asked to equal the provincial government grant of \$25 per month per student. There are at present about 14 students at the workshop, which is operated on the basis of

See Page 3, Col. 5



Among those attending the Kinsmen World Council Night in Hagersville this week were, from left, George Irving, candidate for National vice president; Gord McInnes, past governor of district one; Graham Norval, president of Hagersville Kinsmen; Bill Watson, National president and Wayne Boddy governor of district one. (Staff Photo)

Hagersville Kinsmen Host World Council Night

HAGERSVILLE - The Hagersville and district Kinsmen Club met at the Hagersville Community Centre Monday to celebrate the 52nd anniversary of the founding of the club.

The all-Canadian service club was hosting world council night, for all eight clubs in zone E of district 1.

Kinsmen representing clubs from Delhi, Simcoe, Port Dover, Caledonia, Cayuga, Brantford, Dunnville and Hagersville welcomed their national president, Bill Watson.

The Kinsmen Club was founded by Hal

Rogers 52 years ago. It is meant to be exclusive for Canadians and Canada.

However, "we have international affiliations with various youth clubs in Australia, Africa, West Indies, just

to name a few," described Graham Norval, president of the Hagersville club.

A slide show was presented with a running commentary from Gord

See Page 5, Col. 3

School Board Sees Decline In Students

The Haldimand Board of Education is experiencing its first reduction in pupils attending the public as well as secondary schools, according to a report by the board.

In public schools, the reason seems to be fewer children, says the report, while in secondary schools, the boards across Ontario are noting a greater percentage of students dropping out to take a holiday. Many of these students will wish to return to school to complete their education.

With a declining enrolment expected in 1972, the board is also taking a look at its staff compliment. Resignat-

ions, continued the report, are beginning to come in. However, the board is concerned about the new generation of graduates who will wish to work, but will not be able to find employment anywhere. The management committee reported that, in spite of declining enrolments in some areas it is on the incline at the Caledonia Centennial Public School. Projections for next fall, indicate the need for additional classrooms, says the report.

The committee recommended the usage of one classroom in the newer section of Caledonia high school, as

See Page 5, Col. 4