

Committee on Public Relations - Chairman, J.N.E. Bradbury, reported that the David Gibson house now belonged to North York Township and was being renovated as a museum. He asked that Council consider requesting that a room be set aside for the Association's use. It was decided that North York Township should be approached for this purpose.

Petitions on Tariffs

Eastern Regional Group - Mr. D.T. Humphries, Chairman of the Group, presented a petition under the provisions of by-law 26, and also presented a draft by-law to replace 42 in the described area.

Kawartha-Haliburton Regional Group - Mr. M.D. Brown, Secretary of the Group, presented a petition under the provisions of by-law 26, and also presented a draft by-law to replace by-law 42 in the described area.

Hamilton and District Regional Group - Mr. S.W. Black, a member of the Group, presented a petition under the provisions of by-law 26, and also presented a draft by-law to replace by-law 42 in the described area.

In each case, and each case was dealt with separately, Council's resolution was the same: "that Council approve the draft By-law as presented subject to a check to be made by the Secretary as to the percentage of the signatures on the petition in relation to the total number of surveyors in practice for their account in the described area, and also subject to the approval of the Association Solicitor as to the wording of the draft By-law. A copy of the draft by-law also to be sent to the Tariff Committee."

Honorary Vice-President of the Association - The recent death of Mr. F.W. Beatty had left this office vacant.

It was decided to ask the Committee on Nominations to look into this matter and make a recommendation to Council.

-OLS-

SPECIAL ARTICLE

OUR PUBLIC IMAGE

by W. Harry Williams

Recently I received from one of our members the June 1965 issue of "Canadian Business", together with a note to the effect that I might find amusing an opinion on professional status in a portion of the article which he had underlined.

The article was entitled "A Real Estate Investment Plan". Apparently the writer of the article started out as a part-time real estate investor; to quote "Since I started in a small way to buy older homes and renovate them before selling for a profit, I've learned a little about gardening, surveying, painting and plumbing. I'll never be really expert in any of these areas - and I don't really think I'd want to be - ". It was to the part underlined that the member drew my attention. It is, in a way, assuming that it is an opinion on professional status, but it also rings a more serious note. It does, again, point out the fact that there is a need for a public relations programme designed to inform the public of the background training required for the qualifications of a Surveyor and to convey to the laymen the services the Surveyor is therefore qualified to render.

However, to use the words in the opening paragraph of the article "due to ignorance" many persons will never understand what is involved in a survey, its full purpose and, therefore, the need. My attention is more drawn to the following third paragraph of the

Continued on Page 20

Generally speaking, The Drainage Act, 1962-63 is a combination of drainage practice and drainage laws as they have evolved over the years, and it is under the provisions of this act and its predecessors that the various Municipal drainage systems are constructed and maintained. It must be clearly understood, however, that The Drainage Act, 1962-63 is strictly a "procedural" Act that, in the wording of its own Section 3 (1), deals with "land requiring drainage". Until it has been decided that an area does, in fact, require drainage, the area in question has no status under The Drainage Act, 1962-63 and should not be dealt with under its provisions. It is only after the owners affected and the municipal council have made the decision that drainage is required, that the Engineer is appointed and the provisions of The Drainage Act, 1962-63 are brought into operation as a means to carry out the wishes of the people.

It is quite apparent then, that the provisions of The Drainage Act 1962-63 do not lend themselves to settling the prior questions of land use (to drain or not to drain). Attempts to use this Act for this purpose are misguided and usually they produce inconclusive results.

Recommendations (a) In order to resolve the differences in opinion when the aims of the agriculturists and the conservationists come into direct conflict, and to eliminate the present unsatisfactory practice of trying to do this under the provisions of The Drainage Act, 1962-63, when this Act was not set up for this purpose, this Committee of the Association of Ontario Land Surveyors strongly urges that consideration be given by the Select Committee on Conservation Authorities to a legislative program that would expand the activity of existing local planning boards and establish boards in those areas presently without them. These boards should be given the responsibility of making the basic decision as to what lands should ultimately be developed as drained lands (agricultural, residential or industrial) and what land should be kept as swamp or bush in order to conserve and preserve the natural resources of the Province.

(b) Conservation Authorities would be required to play an important part in collecting and making available to these boards data that would assist them in arriving at reasonable conclusions.

(c) It is considered to be of the utmost importance that the membership of the boards be kept local in character since it is the local people who are most knowledgeable in the history and potential of the land and its physical limitations.

Conclusion Under such an expanded planning program, administered locally, we believe that the interests of the agriculturists, the conservationists and, in fact, the whole population of the Province, could best be served by making the most effective use of all the lands with which we are so richly endowed.

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C.O. Corbett, Chairman

OUR PUBLIC IMAGE - Continued from Page 18

article, starting with two words "Professional Contacts" in larger type; particularly the last sentence, to quote: "Even if the investor never becomes expert in the real estate field, he can quickly and easily obtain expert guidance from his lawyer, accountant, broker, or appraiser, all of whom should be familiar with the local realty scene." Apparently the writer of the article does not, in his concept of professional people, include the Surveyor.

Could it be that his experience with Surveyors has been that their department was anything but on a professional level? As long as we always consider such statements as amusing, we cannot expect our Public Image to improve.