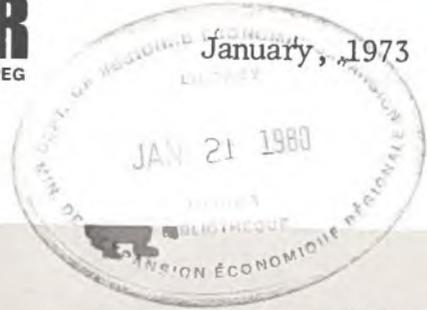




INTERLAKE FLYER

F.R.E.D. ADMINISTRATION, NORQUAY BUILDING, WINNIPEG

January, 1973



Playing the toy market



The Louis Riel Industrial Park at St. Laurent has now gained a reputation as one of the major wooden step ladder manufacturers in western Canada. It may well be known in the future for its school furniture and even its toys.

Directors of the co-operative are looking at ways of diversifying the operations at the woodworking plant, not only because a one-product plant is vulnerable, but also as a means of providing more work for more local wage-earners.

To date the plant has sold 11,000 ladders to such firms as Marshall Wells, McLeods, Federated Co-ops, B. A. Robinson, Walter Woods, several hardware stores and several major paint companies. It has also completed custom orders for 142 school study carrels for Swan River, Steinbach and Selkirk. Versatile kindergarten and nursery school equipment, such as tables, benches, building block seats, slides, mazes, and balance boards, is now being used in nursery schools in St. Laurent and Winnipeg.



The toys that may in time come off the production line will very likely be versions of the present line of brightly colored kindergarten equipment and perhaps also include large wheeled creations for riding. It all depends on the end result of negotiations with a large firm in New York — Happy Toys Incorporated. At the outset of negotiations last summer, the New York firm was contacted by Louis Riel management as a potential contract outlet. At that time, the U. S. firm was more interested in smaller pull-type toys so Louis Riel took a long, hard look at these. Such toys, however, require high volume machinery, highly skilled labor, strict quality control and low margin of profit per unit. Also, production contracts are often in the form of contractual sales agreements for a fixed period — usually one year — and must be met no matter how profitable or unprofitable the operation. Designs might be changed every year or every six months, and that could mean more costly new equipment.

The directors of the co-operative were aware of these risks and demands, and have decided to pursue possibilities to mass market the play equipment through Happy Toys Inc. Whether or not these products will be accepted depends upon reaction of potential buyers at a New York Toy Fair in February (the St. Laurent prototypes will be on display) and upon final production costs and freight charges. While the Louis Riel directors have been informed that the market for hard wearing wooden toys is again picking up in North America, consumer products consultants with the Department of Industry and Commerce caution that the sheer weight of the wooden items add to high shipping costs and that light weight, strong plastics are ever-improving, are relatively cheap and are easily used in toy production.

Whatever the conclusion of the St. Laurent play in the mass market toy game, the Interlake plant will expand and diversify gradually or otherwise.

No-crash courses

If you know the six most recurring collision patterns and are always on the lookout for any one or combination of them as you drive your car or truck, chances are you and your family will live a longer, healthier and financially happier life.

If you don't know the six patterns, but could care less, please stay off the public roads. The Interlake doesn't need your kind of driver.

If you don't know the six patterns, but would like to, attend a defensive driving course this winter in any one of four Interlake communities.

The Manitoba Safety Council is sponsoring courses at Eriksdale, Gimli, Selkirk and Stonewall starting in mid-January. They cost five dollars for a three-session course (one session per week).

Here's the schedule:

Eriksdale	Monday, Jan. 15 and Friday, Jan. 19 at Eriksdale Collegiate
Gimli	Monday, Jan. 15 and Wednesday, Jan. 17 at Gimli Collegiate
Selkirk	Monday, Jan. 15 and Friday, Jan. 19 at Composite High School
Stonewall	Monday, Jan. 15 and Tuesday, Jan. 16 at Stonewall Collegiate.

All sessions start at 7:30 p.m. Whatever evening you choose for your first session, you will attend the next two sessions on the same day

of the following two weeks. In other words, if you enroll for the Monday, January 15 session, you will attend the sessions on Monday, January 22 and Monday, January 29.

To register everyone interested should call COLLECT to the Manitoba Safety Council at 1-942-0966 before the session begins.

During the most recent round of courses that started in September, over 3,000 drivers from rural Manitoba attended and received their cards as defensive drivers.

Manitoba is reportedly far ahead of other provinces in Canada in its Defensive Driving program, with more courses offered more often in more communities. Indeed, consideration is being given to requiring defensive driving certificates as essential in obtaining and renewing a driver's licence. Manitoba takes defensive driving seriously.

Farm story in figures

If there's one good thing about a mass of statistics for the ordinary person, it lies in their usefulness to back up what he has been saying all along.

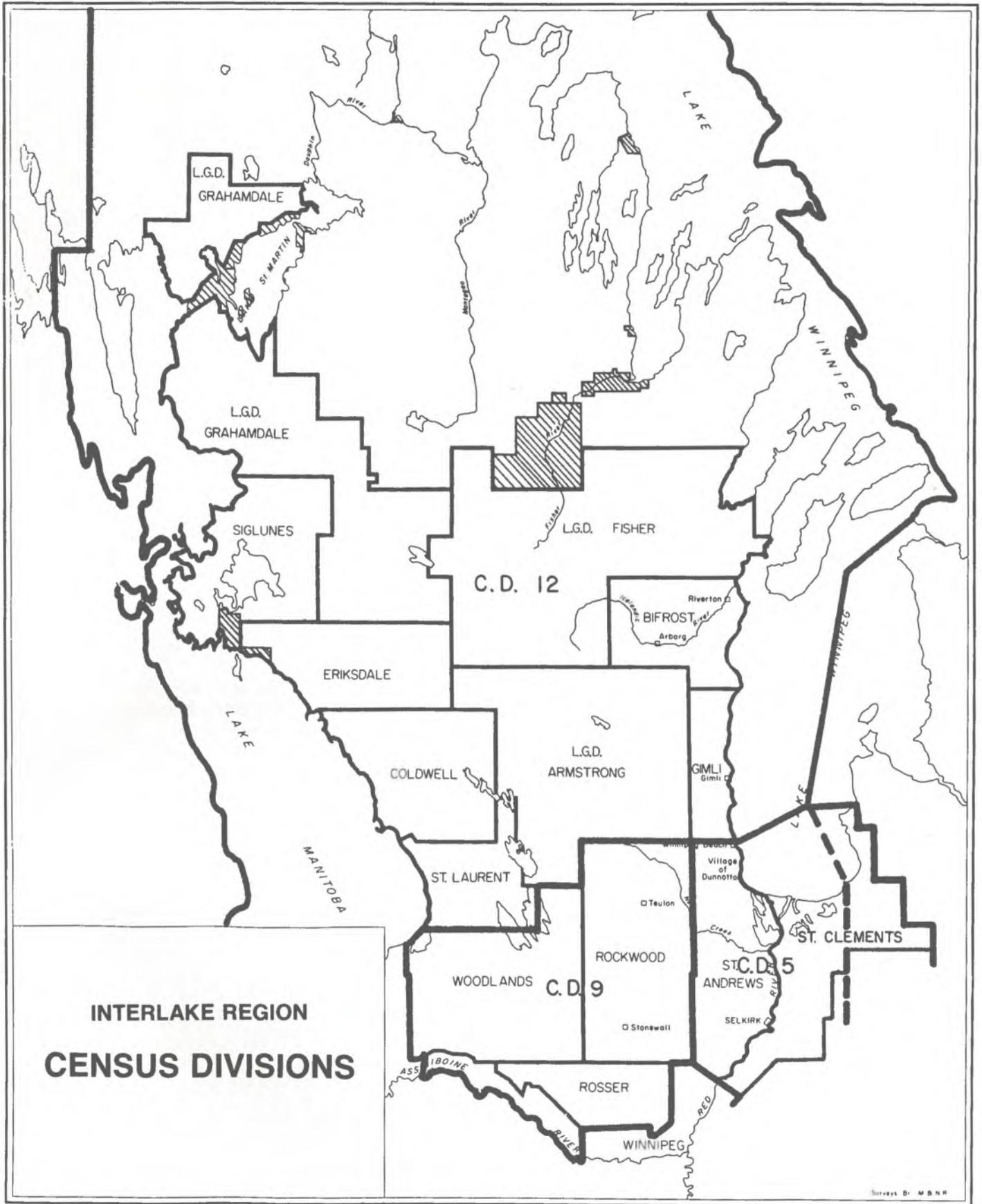
One thing that many Interlake citizens have been saying for a while is that farming in the region is changing noticeably - for good or for ill, depending upon one's values. Statistics Canada (formerly the Dominion Bureau of Statistics) has some good evidence to toss into the conversation, if readers wish to use census figures.

In general summary, the 1971 census shows that compared to 1961 there are fewer farms and farmers in the Interlake, but the farms are

now larger. More land has been cleared for farming and more land is improved beyond the bush pasture stage. Cattle numbers have gone up and down with fewer milk cows but more beef cows. There are more hogs, fewer sheep, fewer chickens, fewer turkeys, and of course fewer horses. There are fewer farms with livestock and/or poultry than ten years ago but herd and flock sizes are larger.

The most dramatic changes have occurred in the northern two-thirds of the region - Census Division 12.

That's the general story. Here are some specifics to use in those conversations at the garage, the store, or the beverage room.



Surveys By M B N R

AREA IN FARMS:

In all the region, 356,000 acres of land has been added to farms since 1961. Most of this new farm land was developed by farmers in Census Division 12 — 336,000 acres. When the census was taken there were 2,499,000 acres (2.5 million) of land in farms.

IMPROVED LAND:

In balance there has been a 19 percent increase in improved land — that is, land no longer in a native state. A total of 1,145,000 acres or just under half of the total farm land is now counted as "improved". Most of the increase — 168,000 acres — is on farms in Census Division 12 and most of this was improved since 1966.

Just under three quarters of the improved land is in crops.

There was a significant increase in improved pasture acreage — up 34,000 acres in total from 1961. Now there is 134,000 acres of improved pasture.

In that part of Census Division 5 in the Interlake, improved pasture acreages dropped by 26 percent. It remained unchanged in Census Division 9 but jumped 60 percent in Census Division 12.

Readers of the Flyer who keep a sharp eye on the figures used from time to time will know that over 92,000 acres of the improved land can be accounted under the former bush clearing policies. Our figures to November 30 show 82,580 acres cleared under the individual assistance program plus around 10,000 acres cleared under the group plan.

FARM SIZE:

There were 4,361 census farms

in the Interlake in 1971 (a census farm is an agricultural holding of one acre or more with annual sales of agricultural products of \$50 or more). Ten years ago there were 5,433 census farms. During the five years between 1961 and 1966 there was a decrease of 433 farms. During the past five years 639 farms disappeared.

By Census Division there were 2,646 "farms" in Census Division 12, while Census Division 9 had 1,231 farms and 484 farms in Census Division 5.

Those farms that disappeared were those with relatively small acreages - 24 fewer in the less than 70 acre size category, 705 fewer between 70 and 239 acres (these would be mainly 1/4 section units), and 752 fewer between 240 acres and 559 acres (1/2 to 3/4 section units). There were 146 more units between 560 and 1,119 acres (one and 1 3/4 section units) and 263 more units with over 1,120 acres.

Farm consolidation and enlargement was most evident in Census Division 12 where the number of "large" farms (over 1 3/4 sections) more than doubled to 382 units from 153 units.

LIVESTOCK:

Total number of cattle is down from 1966 although there are still more than there were a decade ago. Last year the census enumerators counted 172,819 head. Even so, there are more beef cattle but decidedly fewer milk cows. Between 1961 and 1971 the number of milk cows dropped by 17,502.

For comparisons sake there were 147,871 head of beef cattle and 24,948 milk cows in the Interlake.

There were 108,022 hogs - up 168 percent from 1961 and 5,716 sheep - down 46 percent. The horse population

dropped by more than half to 3,900.

The number of farms reporting cattle of all kinds dropped to 2,928 in 1971 from 4,208 in 1961. Average herd size is up 88 percent to 59 animals. In 1961 the average cattle herd size was 32 head. Mixed farming and cream production are not as dominant in this region once known for its mixed farms. Two thousand fewer farms report having milk cows, although herd size on those that do edged up to 15 compared to 11 head in 1961.

Hogs also reflected the trend toward more specialization with 1,602 farms having hogs (down from 2,506 farms), and average herd size up to 67 per farm from only 16 per farm.

Numbers of poultry per farm fluctuated although there were fewer flocks of chickens and turkeys than ten years ago. In June, 1971 there were an estimated 482,000 hens and chickens and 237,000 turkeys. Duck and geese numbers increased 43 percent to 21,000.

NEW FACES

If residence in a variety of far-flung communities broadens one's perspectives, the Interlake should benefit from the travelling experiences of a number of newly appointed Department of Agriculture staff now serving the region.

Four staff members took on new jobs during December, replacing others who were widely known.



Jim Wade is the regional 4-H youth specialist replacing Wayne Digby in the Arborg regional office.

Wayne is now stationed at Swan River as a farm counsellor.

Jim's job is to help local people organize youth activities including 4-H clubs. He was born in Montreal, but moved to Moncton, New Brunswick where he took most of his early education. For junior high and high school he attended Winnipeg schools. He was the first student council president of the Fort Richmond Collegiate in Winnipeg.

Jim is a 1972 graduate in agriculture of the University of Manitoba. His specialty was plant science. During this past summer he was an assistant 4-H club specialist involved in 4-H rallies across the province. His plant science training and 4-H experience will be used in combination this winter when he helps draft a new 4-H agronomy program to be offered in 1974.

Louise Lahaie is now working from the Arborg office as the district home economist for the Arborg, Fisher Branch, and Teulon agricultural representative areas. Louise succeeds Judy Magnusson who now resides in Dauphin.

The new home economist comes from St. Pierre, Manitoba via Grand Falls, New Brunswick. For the past 2 1/2 years Louise had been serving as district home economist with the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, but she was raised on a farm near St. Pierre and was graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1970. Her major course work focus at university was in foods and home management. A part of her program in New Brunswick involved working with home visitors and other "para-professional" groups.

Ralph McGiffin, the assistant agricultural representative for the Stonewall area moved over to Stonewall from Arborg, where he was fertilizer representative for Johnson and Sons Ltd. That short move is deceiving, however. Ralph was born in Winnipeg, but lived and attended schools at Ashern, Vernon, B. C., Brandon, and St. Boniface.

He is a 1972 graduate in agriculture with a specialization in soil science. Ralph worked with the Manitoba Crop Insurance Corporation as a clerk for a year following high school, and with the Manitoba Soil Survey for three summers.

John Corby, the agricultural representative for the Lundar area represents a triumph for local people within the district. When John's predecessor, Dave Whitehead was transferred to Portage la Prairie as a farm counsellor, the Lundar office was destined to be closed. Local protest and directed lobbying resulted in a re-examination of the situation and the favorable intervention of the Minister of Agriculture.

With the new lease on life for agricultural representative services, the scope of service will be broadened with regional specialists assigned to the area on a rotating basis. A schedule is being prepared to ensure that, on a regular basis, the services of soils, forage, livestock, and farm management specialist and technicians will be available. Donna Martin, home economist for the PTH #6 areas will also devote scheduled days to the Lundar area.

John Corby is from Oak River where his family operates a beef cattle and grain farm. John was graduated from the University of Manitoba this spring with a degree in agriculture. He specialized in animal science.

Eight months in the life of an Area Development Board

Editor's Note:

Every area development board member wonders privately and, occasionally, "out loud" what purpose is being served by the board. Is there any sense going out to meetings and talking about area "development" when these boards have no formal powers and things just do not seem to happen?

Some time ago, Mrs. Lucy Lindell sent us the Eriksdale Area Development

Board minutes covering seven meetings over an eight-month period. While Mrs. Lindell was intending only to bring our files up-to-date, she also provided us with some interesting evidence about the effectiveness of one area development board.

The cynic might well suggest that the concerns tackled and the accomplishments noted are hardly spectacular, but to the particular community, and to a part of the Interlake region the achievements might well be noteworthy.

Our point in undertaking this review is to encourage members of other boards to take a hard look at their past records. The results may be encouraging.

* * *

Housing:

March — An enquiry into housing in Eriksdale revealed the lack of any committee or sub-committee within the municipality with any authority or concern over housing.

April — Minutes of the April 24 meeting indicate, "Ben Gibbings, Kay Forsythe, Mrs. Allen and Ruth Lindell are now designated as the local housing authority."

Credit Union:

March — A letter from Samuel Uskiw, Minister of Agriculture was read responding to a board request for information on credit unions.

A public meeting was scheduled for March 24 to be addressed by the Deputy Minister of Co-operative Development and the General Manager of the Co-operative Credit Society of Manitoba.

April — Jack Rolfe, chief supervisor of credit unions was the keynote speaker at the March 24 meeting. Questionnaires were to be sent out by the Co-operative Development Department to all potential district patrons of a credit union.

On April 4, decisions were made locally to accept memberships and apply for incorporation of the Eriksdale Credit Union Limited. Ten

provisional directors were nominated.

July — The Credit Union opened on July 4 in temporary quarters and began accepting savings and loans.

Sept. — The new quarters were officially opened on September 28. Membership then totalled 255 patrons and assets around \$250,000. Banking services became part of the credit union function.

Extension Services:

March — The board had earlier requested that Department of Agriculture Extension Service personnel be more accessible to Eriksdale district residents on a regular basis.

April — Commencing in May the extension agent (agriculture) stationed at Lundar would set up office in the Municipal Offices in Eriksdale on a one-day-a-week basis.

Community Improvement:

March — Improvements to a strip of property between the railway track and Railway Avenue in Eriksdale had long been a concern of the board. A group of young people in the community indicated that such a project was to be submitted as an Opportunities for Youth Project.

April — The project had not yet been approved under Opportunities for Youth.

May — The Opportunities for Youth proposal was rejected. The board decided to assume at least a part of the total project.

June — The project was revitalized under Opportunities for Youth and board assistance in the form of labor, money or materials was requested.

Grain Elevator Service:

April — The board was asked to contact Manitoba Pool Elevators asking for a grain elevator in Eriksdale "in view of the possible phasing out of both rail line and elevator services to the east".

June — Manitoba Pool Elevators responded to the board request indicating that Pool "are watching the situation and will keep in touch".

West Side Concerns:

March — Chairman Ray Duncan reported that other area development boards along PTH #6 were concerned about the condition of the hard surface on the highway. Heavy trucks were breaking the surface on several stretches.

Board members approved sending out a questionnaire to other boards along PTH #6 in an effort to learn of joint concerns.

June — The Camper-Gypsumville board agreed to meet with other boards serving areas along PTH #6.

July — St. Laurent and Lundar boards agreed to meet with Eriksdale and the Camper-Gypsumville board to discuss the condition of PTH #6 and the phasing out of some FRED agriculture development programs. The meeting was set for August 14 with representatives of the Interlake Development Corporation and the Department of Highways invited.

Sept.— A reply, from Peter Burtniak, Minister of Highways and Transportation, in August to the letter protesting the condition of Highway #6 was read. Mr. Burtniak assured the boards on the west side of the region that improvements to PTH #6 are being studied. The board agreed to write the Minister to "enquire how much and when the improvement might be expected."

The August 14 meeting was cancelled as a result of Mr. Burtniak's response.

React Project:

(This project was initiated by the provincial Department of Industry and Commerce and involved local assessment of community services and future development needs, potential, and plans. React reports were submitted by all regional development corporations. In the Interlake much of the work was done by the area development boards.)

April— Previous to this board meeting Lucy Lindell, Ray Duncan and Ben Gibbings met with Interlake Development Corporation assistant manager, Ian Taylor, to plan the type of report required under the project.

July — React reports were submitted to the Development Corporation on June 29. Problems in recovering expenses were encountered by the Eriksdale group.

The board members attending the July meeting felt that the React committee should be kept intact since "the work is only begun (and) we must carry on to see our recommendation implemented".

Liquor Outlet:

April - Earlier the board had written the Liquor Control Board requesting that vendor service be approved for Eriksdale. At this meeting a letter from the Liquor Control Board Chairman, Frank Syms was read indicating that arrangements would likely be made over the next two months to place a liquor outlet in Eriksdale.

Logging:

April - Laurie Allen of Mulvihill spoke to the board about recent provincial regulations preventing the permit cutting of trees on Crown Land outside the designated "forest area". Mr. Allen, Rick Lindell and John Tkach of Mulvihill had been cutting trees under annual permit for some years. Mr. Allen asked for board support in obtaining a permit to cut trees over eight inches in diameter and further asked that forest fire fighting equipment be made available in the area.

A letter was to be written to the Minister of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management.

June - The Minister's office replied by letter that the department "will not consider any cutting in the area requested and that Mr. Allen could do some logging in the area north of Ashern for his own use, if he wished".

July - The board agreed to follow up on the "logging issue" by inviting Department of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management staff to tour the

Mulvihill area and to speak at a meeting on October 2.

Oct. - Lloyd Yarn, provincial forester for the Eastern Region (one of the resource administration regions) attended the meeting to outline his department's policy on forestry operations in wildlife management areas. "Members of the board felt that since this area is south of the timber line, there should be some way in which selective cutting could still be practiced to the advantage of the wildlife area and the people who live near by." Indications are, the board will persist in investigating the forestry rulings.

Environment:

June - "A new plan for the collection of paper and bottles under the Local Initiatives Program has been arranged, subject to board approval." The board agreed to sponsor Karen Sturgenor and Dale Townsend to operate the collection depot.

Recreation:

June - Art Lindell and Ben Falk volunteered to continue on the joint Coldwell-Eriksdale project to improve facilities at Long Point Beach. An enquiry into grants from the Department of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs was to be initiated.

Past requests for signs along the highway to locate McEwan Park have to date not been fulfilled, although such signs were "being considered" by the highways department.

July — Art Lindell reported that he and two other men had poured the change house floor slab, but, because of limited funds, a roof could not be placed on the change house.

Adult Education:

Negotiations have been underway to provide a BTSD (educational upgrading) course in Eriksdale during the winter. If ten people indicate firm intentions to take the course a teacher, classroom trailer, and books will be provided. The board will use its share of adult education grants provided under FRED to sponsor the course.

Agriculture Programs:

Oct. — A letter requesting restoration of the forage seed policy dropped under the revised FRED plan will be written to the Minister of Agriculture.

Crafts Fair:

May — Mrs. Verna Watson proposed that the board sponsor and support a handicrafts fair "where handicrafts of all types could be demonstrated and materials made available" for sale. Board members felt that the adult education grant could be directed toward this project.

July — Al Watkins, Regional Director for the Department of Agriculture had earlier indicated that the adult education grant might better be applied to a project other than a crafts fair. The grant was a much reduced \$250.

Sept. — The Crafts Fair to be held in the Banquet Hall.

Oct. — The Crafts Fair was discussed as an informal local project. The fair was held on October 27.

Around the Boards

BIFROST: November 1, Arborg — Eight members present.

The Bifrost board has been taking an active interest in improving fire protection throughout the area. Fire prevention surveys have been carried out in Arborg and Riverton by the Fire Commissioner's office, but a similar survey has yet to be requested by the Rural Municipality of Bifrost. Steve Gislason and Peter Loewen presented the motion; "that the secretary write Reeve Wopnford of Bifrost stating the board's concern that the municipality get a survey."

The board considered calling a meeting to further plan a fire protection strategy once all three surveys

(Arborg, Riverton and Bifrost) are completed.

Steve Gislason reported that one adult education course, "Opportunity Communications" is well advanced in Arborg. Enrollment is 20 students. Lyle Atkins is instructor. A course in Interior Design is a possibility. Courses will be publicized and open for public enrollment.

Regional community affairs specialist, Llew Breese, responded to the board members' concerns over the delays in printing the Interlake Book "Land in the Middle." Mr. Breese suggested the book may be out by Christmas. Paul Holyk and Peter Loewen moved "that the secretary write

Mr. Mac MacFarlane and convey the board's concern about the delay in publication of the book."

Adult supervision of youth employment projects was discussed and members suggested that whenever community projects are undertaken an adult supervisor should be assigned to each project.

The Farm Diversification Program under FRED, telephone rate changes, and tourism potential were discussed by Llew Breese.

Meeting of December 6 —
Twelve members present,
plus 11 businessmen.

The main purpose of the meeting was to discuss the current and future developments on Hecla Island and the Grindstone Point parks and to discuss how Riverton businesses could benefit from these developments. Donn Cline and Jim Potton, both with the Parks Branch, Manitoba Department of Tourism, Recreation and Cultural Affairs were present.

Among the points they made were:

- At least 50 Bifrost area residents have been employed in construction of the Hecla Marine Park.
- At least 50 cottage sites in the Grindstone Point provincial recreation area will be surveyed by spring.
- It is hoped private capital may be attracted to cottage development on Grindstone Point and accommodation at Gull Harbor on Hecla Island.
- Two Interlake Manpower Corps units are working this winter on Hecla Island.

Board members agreed to support a resolution forwarded by the St. Laurent area development board asking that

stiffer penalties be imposed on convicted rustlers.

The balance of the year's budget will be divided evenly between the Villages of Arborg and Riverton with the suggestion that Arborg use the money for contributions toward the school dental clinics.

The annual meeting of the board will be on January 3 at Arborg.

CAMPER-GYPSUMVILLE: October 11,
Moosehorn.

The board has requested information from the Department of Manpower and Immigration concerning the availability and qualifications of doctors among the group of Ugandan immigrants.

Chuck Gall and B. Kochie moved that the L.G.D. of Grahamdale assist in organizing an ambulance service for the northern part of the district.

Highways were the focus of debate resulting in motions for information on the financing of PTH #6 and for a request that "attention be given to the deplorable condition of the portion of old #6 highway located between Township 25 and 30, Range 7W and Township 36 and 31, Range 6W.

Damage to muskrat colonies due to low water levels in the Fairford River and Lake Pinemuta was discussed. Chuck Gall and B. Kochie moved "that the level of Lake Pinemuta be raised by releasing water from Lake Manitoba via the Fairford River, to facilitate survival of the muskrats living in this lake."

Board members approved raising the honorarium for the secretary to \$300 per year as of January 1, 1973.

The annual meeting of the board was set for December 6 at the Moosehorn Community Hall.

CENTRAL INTERLAKE: September 27,
Teulon — Eight members present.

Gerry Ailsby, extension agent (Manpower) explained Department of Education adult education assistance. He noted that courses proposed by the board or district must be approved by the department if grants are to be allowed. Since this procedure was not always followed, the total assistance to the board (\$152) was less than expected. Mr. Ailsby also outlined the Farm Diversification Program under FRED.

Members explored several projects but will await a more fully attended meeting before decisions are taken.

ERIKSDALE: November 13 — Six members were present.

The \$250 adult education grant available to the board for a sponsored project will be used to sponsor candidates for a BTSD (academic up-grading) course in Eriksdale.

Verna Watson reported on the Crafts Fair held in October, saying it had been a worthwhile effort and that she would like to see it become an annual event. The mukluk course presently underway is a direct result. A beginner's course in macrame is tentatively planned.

Dan Rawluk will look into programs being sponsored or co-ordinated by the Eriksdale recreation commission, in response to a suggestion that the area development board be represented on the commission to help plan courses.

Board members agreed to support the St. Laurent area development board resolution requesting stiffer penalties for convicted cattle rustlers.

The annual meeting was tentatively scheduled for Monday, January 15.

FISHER: October 18, Hodgson — Sixteen members present.

Senior citizen housing at Fisher Branch and Hodgson was discussed by the members. Fisher Branch has undertaken a survey of senior citizens and has looked into costs and means of financing a project. The Fisher Branch hospital was considered to be inappropriate as a senior citizens home. In Hodgson the local branch of the Canadian Legion is in charge of planning a project.

Government representatives present — Tom Magnusson and Herb Schultz — outlined details on such programs as farm diversification, P.E.P. and L.I.P. and the organization of the Department of Regional Economic Expansion.

Receipt of a board donation to the Fisher Branch Collegiate for graduation prizes was acknowledged, while the board agreed to donate \$30 to the Fisher Branch Women's Institute for a senior citizen's project.

Meeting of November 22 —
Sixteen members present

Ed Senkow, extension agent (agriculture) for the Fisher area reported on agricultural courses available to area farmers. He asked that the board appoint a selection committee to assist in reviewing applications for the three-week beef course in Fisher Branch. Ray Pearson, Rene Rivard and Dmytro Kempa were named with P. Statten, Mary Kubas and Joe Mazur as alternate members.

The board will contribute to the Fisher Branch senior citizens group as well as toward a Grade XII students' tour to Toronto.

Mac MacFarlane informed the board that the book, "Land in the Middle"

was in the design stage and that the board would be shown proofs before final printing of the books.

Robert Burns, regional director of the Department of Health and Social Services was to be invited to the next board meeting scheduled for December 20.

LUNDAR: October 11 - Eight members present.

Mrs. Lil Johnson will again manage the adult education program with the help of board members Faye Goranson and Eddy Sigurdson.

Board members agreed to write the Minister of Agriculture requesting that the Department of Agriculture office at Lundar remain open "so that the development of the vast potential of this large area will not lag behind as it did prior to the inception of their (agricultural representative) service in Lundar."

Dave Whitehead, extension agent for the Lundar area was appointed farm counsellor for the Central region (Portage la Prairie office) of the Department of Agriculture. The board moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Whitehead "for service rendered to this organization, and the community as a whole."

Clarence Tillenius indicated willingness to attend a meeting of the board to assist with the proposed goose symbol.

Faye Goranson and Ed Croy moved that the secretary write the Hon. Larry Desjardins, Minister of Tourism, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs stating that "this board supports the idea of the Great River Road system being extended from the U.S.A. through Winnipeg and along PTH #6 to northern Manitoba.

Meeting of November 8 -
Six members present

The Lundar board agreed to support a motion forwarded by the St. Laurent area development board, "that the provincial government impose a heavier penalty on the conviction of a charge of rustling."

Special projects grant for the Lundar area will be divided between the cost of constructing a symbolic statue (a giant Canada Goose) and an adult education courses program.

Lawrence King, a member of the Goose Symbol Committee reported that costs of the project have now been estimated, and asked that some materials be purchased immediately. Mr. King suggested that several business organizations might be approached for financial assistance including an insurance company and a bus line.

SELKIRK: November 1 - Ten members present.

Lloyd Reekie and John Adam of the Manitoba Telephone System outlined the possibilities and limitations of a system permitting toll-free long distance calls.

Their report has been summarized as follows:

To retain the present toll-free service between Selkirk, Libau, Lockport and Petersfield, the customer increase in monthly telephone rates would be, Selkirk 25 cents, Petersfield and Libau \$1.30 and Lockport \$1.05 per month.

Toll-free service for the entire Province would necessitate an increase of \$11.00 monthly per customer and toll-free service for Manitoba (excluding Winnipeg) would be an increase of \$16.30 per customer.

Toll-free service for a 38-mile radius with Winnipeg as the hub would range from \$3.90 per month in Winnipeg to \$13.20 in the area 31 to 38 miles from center. This rate would be to the center of the hub only, but not to the far side of the circle.

Statistics show that with a toll-free service, long distance calls increase ten fold. To get a cross section of customer wishes, some public hearings will be held and probably a referendum.

The Marine Museum Committee will apply for a P.E.P. grant to get that project under way.

Books being shelved in the Comprehensive School Library are now available for public use. Lloyd Wirsch and Bill Regher will work through the town council in an effort to incorporate the Town Library into one of the elementary school libraries. The present librarian would then be able to be in charge of a children's reading library on Saturday mornings, and be in charge of library services in the evenings. Marie Schwanke and D. Long were asked to contact the principal of William S. Patterson school in the hope of starting a reading room project at Clandeboye in the mornings.

ST. LAURENT: October 9 — Ten members present.

Prairie fires during the summer and rustling of cattle were the main concern of the board at this meeting.

Jack Spruyt and Abe Giesbrecht moved that the matter of government compensation to farmers in the district who lost hay and property from prairie fires be raised with Gerald Cobbe

and the Honorable Paul Martin when they visited St. Laurent on October 10. A letter on the issue was to be prepared and forwarded to the Hon. Sidney Green, Minister, Manitoba Department of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management.

Emmanuel Schon and Wilfred Chartrand moved that a letter demanding stiffer penalties on convicted cattle rustlers be forwarded to Attorney-General Al Mackling.

Other area development boards were to be sent copies of the resolutions and support asked from the boards.

Meeting of November 14 —
Eleven members present

Special adult education courses in the St. Laurent — Oak Point area were discussed. Among the courses considered were basic and advanced welding, BTSD (academic upgrading), family budget planning, blueprint reading, and interior decorating. At least 20 applicants were required for any one course before it could be held.

Llew Bresse, community affairs specialist for the region informed the board that the Interlake Book, "Land in the Middle", should be distributed about the end of December. Mr. Bresse also described the FRED Farm Diversification Program.

Members expressed concern about the departure of the extension agent — agriculture from the Lundar office. It was agreed to ask Al Watkins, regional director for the Department of Agriculture to place the Municipality of St. Laurent into the Stonewall extension area.

Interlake Development Corporation

Special Meeting

The special meeting of all proxies of the Corporation held on November 30 in Teulon, was called to give the representatives of all municipalities the opportunity to suggest improvements or changes in the Corporation's structure or operations.

President Ken Reid noted that the main concern of the Corporation was "working towards a better quality of life for (Interlake) people, and coming to grips with the major social and economic problems." He cited the work of the several special committees as evidence that the organization was serious in its objective. Among those committees listed were those concerned with:

- sewer and water,
- agriculture, dairy and beef cattle, special crops,
- health services,
- shoreline erosion,
- transportation,
- education,
- local government problems.

Mr. Reid said that several of these committees have made notable contributions toward provincial legislation and regional programs.

He said that among the questions to be asked the Corporation are the following:

- Should we be more industrial minded and less service minded?
- If we dissolve, who will replace the strong regional voice in Rural Manitoba?
- Is the government not now more aware of the needs of rural people?
- Is the corporation not bringing

together rural people from all over the region to work in harmony and fellowship?

- Is the cost of belonging to the corporation too high for some municipalities to support?
- Do you feel the Directors are in it for personal gain? They receive \$15.00 plus mileage expenses for each meeting, and the president received \$50.00 per month.

In reply to a question by Lloyd Fines, Reeve of the R. M. of Rockwood, concerning transportation problems, Eric Stefanson, manager of the Corporation, said that traffic count statistics are required for good regional planning. In spite of several requests to the Department of Highways for these counts, they have not been provided.

Director Vernon Sund of Woodlands and Reeve Gordon Smith of Eriksdale both commented that following board meetings little substantial in terms of reports could be reported to the municipal councils. Mr. Sund said that guest speakers took up too much time at the meetings leaving little time for the directors to discuss issues. Consequently, he said, the executive was assuming more control of Corporation affairs.

Mr. Sund and Jack Litton of Stonewall suggested that more "in camera" meetings of all directors were necessary.

Mr. Sund added that those areas without a director felt they were not well represented and that the meetings were too large.

Reeve Siggi Wopnford of Bifrost said that there were some who said there was no evidence the corporation was doing anything. He said he disagreed and he felt these people

were simply not informed. He did not feel the fees were too high and said we should concentrate on existing programs, which was what we were set up to do. Mr. Wopnford said he knew some councils were concerned with the set up of the organization and they equated it with a regional form of government that was not directly responsible to the people. He said parochialism is too dangerous and the by-laws should be changed to allow direct representation from all municipalities. Mr. Wopnford said we are reduced to "an organized pressure group".

Mr. Evered Lawrence of Rosser R. M. compared the Corporation to the Union of Manitoba Municipalities. He said you "pay your money, but you don't always see results". He said that he hoped the Corporation "could do more for the south end" of the region.

A resolution by Walter Newman of Grahamdale and Vernon Sund following Mr. Lawrence's remarks was approved. The resolution stated "that we work in urging the City of

Winnipeg to set up a more attractive corridor along the northern section of Metro Route 90 and that we set up a better working relationship with the City of Winnipeg in matters of mutual concern."

The financial report presented by Len Ford of Dunnottar was as follows:

As of October, 1972 for the 1972 year:

Total expenditures	- \$36,556.13
Receipts	- \$45,103.93
Balance including carry-over	- \$22,523.86

The Corporation members decided to take a firm line on requests for financial aid to various organizations. Concensus was that the Corporation was not a funding organization, and "if we started, this would escalate beyond measure."

The annual meeting of the Corporation has been set for February 22, in the Teulon-Rockwood Centennial Centre in Teulon.

How many of us?

The staff of the Interlake Development Corporation have also been studying the 1971 census figures and picked out all the population numbers they could find that related to the Interlake region. In reading these please keep in mind that these figures describe the situation as it was 1 1/2 years ago. Obviously they are now good approximations and not the absolute fact.

UNINCORPORATED VILLAGES AND HAMLETS

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1966</u>
Anama Bay	-	38
Argyle	57	61

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1966</u>
Ashern	554	479
Balmoral	138	118
Beaver Creek	-	1
Broad Valley	-	57
Camp Morton	-	44
Camper	24	18
Chatfield	66	93
Clandeboye	160	125
Dallas	15	11
Deerhorn	13	22
Eriksdale	323	303
Fairford	-	56
Faulkner	17	16
Fisher Bay	53	62
Fisher Branch	485	444
Fraserwood	115	104
Gordon	-	10
Grahamdale	51	46
Grand Rapids	515	454

	<u>1971</u>	<u>1966</u>
Grosse Isle	121	20
Gunton	53	63
Gypsumville	190	173
Hilbre	52	55
Hnausa	-	71
Hodgson	140	191
Husavik	-	1
Inwood	190	186
Komarno	53	55
Lake Francis	25	33
Little Bullhead	1	18
Little Tamarack Is.	5	-
Lockport	237	293
Loni Beach	126	166
Loon Strait	33	43
Lundar	653	649
Malonton	9	10
Matheson Island	66	122
Meleb	30	23
Moosehorn	271	250
Mulvihill	10	23
Narcisse	26	-
Netley	30	18
Oak Point	221	265
Petersfield	146	171
Pine Dock	98	112
Poplarfield	97	114
Rembrandt	10	15
Rosser	66	55
Sandridge	12	-
Sandy Hook	100	136
South Beach	235	237
St. Martin Station	1	47
Steep Rock	146	171
Stony Mountain	1,268	1,451
Tamarack Island	2	-
Vogar	126	144
Warren	267	237
Woodlands	123	126

<u>R.M.'s and L.G.D.'s</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1966</u>
Grahamdale (L)	2,700	3,058
Siglunes	1,580	1,623
Fisher (L)	3,622	4,089
Bifrost	1,986	2,051
Armstrong (L)	2,298	2,624
Eriksdale	1,066	1,130
Coldwell	1,589	1,669
Gimli	2,709	3,184
St. Laurent	1,326	1,655
Woodlands	2,258	2,157
Rockwood	5,341	5,268
St. Andrews	5,865	5,565
Rosser	1,171	1,220

TOWNS

Selkirk	9,331	9,157
Stonewall	1,583	1,577
Gimli	2,041	2,262
Winnipeg Beach	687	753

VILLAGES

Arborg	879	891
Teulon	828	817
Riverton	797	817
Dunnottar	222	206

TOTALS	49,879	51,773
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Drop in population - 1,894

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