

Jan 14/67

ON THE MAIN STREET



The sixty-four dollar question for the members of Victoria County Council on Tuesday, January 17 will be who will occupy the stately historical chair on the dias in the council chamber as Warden in the centennial year.

It is the dream of every municipal reeve or deputy-reeve to occupy the Warden's chair and many a close battle of wits and votes has taken place and this year will be no exception.

Three members of the '67 council have reportedly expressed their willingness to

stand and there may be a fourth. They are in alphabetical order: Reeve Everett Cameron of Bexley Township, Reeve John Campbell of the village of Woodville and Reeve Mel Hutchinson of the township of Ops. The name of Reeve John Starr of Mariposa is mentioned as a possible starter in the race.

Much depends on the first ballot and if a new warden fails to be elected on this ballot councillors will exercise their franchise as they will having fulfilled their promises for voting for specific candidates.

It is interesting to note the village of Woodville has only had two wardens since 1906. They were Adam Staback, postmaster of the village in 1906 and A. D. McIntyre in 1928.

Bexley has had many wardens dating back to 1866 when Joseph Staples held office for three years until 1868. He occupied the warden's chair a-

gain for a further three years in 1870, '71 and '72. In 1883 Nelson Heaslip of Bexley was warden, and again in 1886. The next Bexley warden was Grant Benson in 1944 and Walter Lytle in 1956.

Ops township has also had a history of wardens dating back to Patrick McHugh in 1863. The next Ops warden held office in 1893 when E. J. Hopkins was the incumbent. James Robertson of Ops was warden in 1916 and R. J. Patterson in 1922. In 1935 Samuel Endicott was warden and S. J. Moore held the office in 1955.

Who will be the Centennial year warden? We will find out on Tuesday when the 1967 January sessions open.