

" MISCELLANEOUS SECTION "

Taking Inventory of the Past Year - 1964

As we enter a new year it is always profitable to take inventory of the events of the past year as they very often set the pattern for what lies before us as a community. While it is inevitable that there are always hopes unfulfilled, sober reflection will reveal that there has been progress and achievement in various phases of the life of the community during the past 12 months.

Undoubtedly the greatest disappointment has been the continued delay which has plagued the sewage disposal system project. But at least progress has been made and the final obstacles are being overcome. Plans have been completed, the contract has been awarded and the project approved for assistance under the winter works program. It can be confidently expected that the system will become a reality this coming year.

Early this year a police department was set up for the village and for the first time in its history Brighton now has a full time police constable. A municipal parking lot was established opposite the town hall and parking regulations in the business section were established.

An official plan for the village was prepared and submitted to council by the planning board. Amendments have been submitted by interested citizens following a public meeting when the proposed plan was unveiled. Another public meeting is planned early in the new year. When finally approved the plan will provide for the future development of the village, in what is hoped will be an orderly pattern.

This has been an important year in the field of education. Enrolment at both the local public school and the district secondary school set new records. A new six-room elementary school for the South Brighton Township School Area was opened at Spring Valley. Co-incident with this was the closing of five rural public schools in the area which served succeeding generations for upwards of a century. The year 1964 also marked the demise of all school boards serving individual school sections and their replacement by a township board to administer all schools in the municipality. Brighton Township had already pioneered in this field with the setting up of two area school boards more than 10 years ago which embraced most of the school sections in the municipality.

A start was made this past summer on the replacement of part of the trunk water main from the reservoir at Spring Valley. In service for over 50 years, the public utilities commission wisely decided that it would be unwise to further delay action in this matter. With an adequate supply of water assured for the future following the construction of a second reservoir a few years ago, work can now be concentrated on renewing those mains in need of repair or replacement.

Sparked by the offer of the Brighton Lions Club to contribute \$5,000.00 a decision was made to install artificial ice in the Memorial Community Centre. The project received approval for a centennial grant as a joint Village and Township project. The plant has been installed and should be in operation this week.

The past year has also witnessed the growing popularity of curling as a new sport in Brighton. As yet there are no curling facilities here but the local curling club has a membership of approximately 75 curlers in its men's, women's and mixed league divisions. With such enthusiasm it will only be a matter of time until Brighton has its own curling rink.

Brighton now has a senior citizens friendship club with a very active membership. The Public Library is being revitalized, with children's librarian on duty weekends. The night school at E.N.S.S. has a record enrolment this term. Swimming classes were sponsored again this past summer by the Home and School Association. The local Recreation Commission provides organized hockey and ball leagues for our youth and the Lions Club operates a children's playground in the summer.

Brightonians may agree that this is a good place in which to live, but there is always room for improvement. By supporting our Public Officials, the Chamber of Commerce, our Churches, service clubs and community organizations this coming year can be one of even greater progress and achievement for Brighton. Let's put more drive in '65!

Editorial by Mr. Orval Kelly - Editor

Startling Changes - Feb. 8, 1965

Electors of Northumberland County were no doubt flabbergasted when the new provincial riding boundaries were revealed in the legislative assembly. This county was among those which will be drastically affected by redistribution if the committee's proposals are accepted as presented.

In the past it has been customary for the party in power to be accused of gerrymandering when redistribution of ridings has been carried out. The present plan, produced by an impartial commission, has been criticized by members of all parties, according to reports of first reactions.

For many years, in fact until about 1920, Northumberland was divided into two ridings for provincial purposes, east and west, with the town of Cobourg and the Township of Hamilton, Haldimand, Alnwick and South Monaghan in the west riding. East Northumberland comprised the remaining eight Municipalities. Sam Clarke, Liberal represented West Northumberland for many years and Sam Nesbitt, Conservative held the east riding, both retiring when the ridings were amalgamated.