

# THE HAILEYBURIAN

Vol. 26; No. 36

HAILEYBURY, ONTARIO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11th, 1930

Subscription Rate: \$2.00 per year

## Town Council Holds Final Regular Meeting of Year

Discussion of Finances, Anonymous Letters, and Question of the Closed Theatre Among Matters Dealt With; Expect to Hold Another Meeting Before End of Year

The last regular meeting of the town council of 1930 was held on Tuesday night, with the mayor and all the councillors, with the exception of Councillor Bell, who is out of town, present, and although the business of the year is pretty well cleaned up, it was stated by Mayor Hamilton that another meeting would likely be necessary before the new council takes up the reins for 1931.

Tuesday night's meeting was featured by a discussion of financial matters, which became rather warm when Councillor Legris asked for some light on a proposed trip of the mayor and Councillor Carson to Toronto to discuss with the government the town's position in regard to the Housing Commission. A motion providing for the payment of the mayor's expenses was sponsored by Councillor Carson and he declined to be more specific in the matter than to state that it was for the purpose of discussing finance. In the discussion, Mr. Carson gave it as his opinion that the building of houses under the Commission plan had been a "colossal mistake," insofar as the government had not gone into the question of whether the men who had received the loans were likely to repay them. The result had been a large sum in arrears that the town was forced to carry and it was the intention to seek some relief from this. The motion was passed with one or two declining to vote either way.

Two anonymous letters, criticising the town foreman, one of them suggesting another man who should have the job, were read, but received no attention other than a few remarks. One letter was signed "Taxpayer" and the other "Ratepayer."

A report from the Fire Underwriters' Association contained several recommendations for the better protection of property from fire, among them being the engagement of an engineer for the pumphouse at nights and the control of the reservoir valve from the pumphouse. As these and other recommendations had been included in previous reports, there was no action taken and the report was ordered filed. A further letter from the Associa-

tion dealt with some further suggested improvements, which included a night watchman.

A letter from the Temiskaming Motor League asked endorsement of the keeping of the main road open for motor traffic throughout the winter and a contribution towards the cost. This was believed to be a matter for the people who would make the greatest use of the road and the council did not provide for any subscription.

M. Austin called on the council and brought up the question of the theatre being closed. He stated a license had been granted for the operation of the theatre on consideration that it be kept open and that its being closed had been a detriment to the town. He believed that if some pressure could be brought to bear on the owners of the building it might be re-opened.

The clerk was directed to write the Premier Operating Corporation, which holds the building under lease, and enquire if there is any prospect of its being operated as a playhouse.

It was reported by Mayor Hamilton that a small boy had been caught taking mail from a box in the post office, for which he had apparently had a key, and some of the things taken were produced and handed to the chief of police. Some steps will be taken in the matter through the proper channels.

There was some discussion over several charity cases which have to be looked after and the passing of the month's accounts concluded the business of the meeting.

John Wesley Scott Jr., aged 18, a miner from Joliet, Illinois, was killed in a fall of rock in a tunnel at the Abitibi Canyon on Monday according to a despatch from Cochrane. It is stated that he was one of a party of U.S. miners engaged on the work after Canadian miners had refused to work in the tunnel, but this was denied by J. H. Black, vice-president of the Abitibi yesterday, who stated that Scott and his father drifted in looking for work, and that he had only been on the job an hour when the accident happened.

## LISKEARD IN DISPUTE OVER SITE SELECTED FOR NEW POST OFFICE

A dispute between citizens of New Liskeard has developed over the site to be chosen for the new post office building which will be erected, it is expected, in the near future. The trouble concerns the choice between the site of the former Binkley building on Armstrong Street, purchased by the government for \$4,500, and a vacant lot owned by the municipality at the corner of Whitewood Avenue and Paget Street.

The town council a couple of weeks ago agreed to exchange the vacant lot for the one on Armstrong Street, but opposition to this deal has reached the stage where motion has been presented at Osgoode Hall, Toronto, to restrain them from making the transfer. The motion is in the name of Cleve Holmes, a New Liskeard citizen, and C. F. Tuer, of Haileybury, is his solicitor. The town is represented by F. L. Smiley, K.C., and the council has authorized him to have the town represented at the hearing.

Just why the action is being taken or what is the objection to the change in the site is not made very clear in the report.

A prospective settler from Uganda, East Africa, is expected to arrive in Cochrane shortly to take up a homestead. He has advised the agricultural representative, D. J. Pomerleau, that he is coming.

## JAMES LAKE IS SITE OF NEW TOURIST CAMP ON FERGUSON HIGHWAY

The Ontario Forestry Department is now erecting a new tourist camp at James Lake, on the Ferguson Highway between Temagami and Latchford, the work being done under the direction of the North Bay district branch. There are also improvements and enlargements being made to the camps at Martin River and Tilden Lake and a number of men are engaged at each place. Dead timber in the vicinity of the two camps is being cleared away and the scenic beauty of the sites increased.

Another project which the Forestry Department has under way is the construction of fire guards around the village of Gowganda, similar to those which have been established at Latchford and Elk Lake. Quantities of dead timber along the Ferguson Highway are being cut and turned into firewood, which can be procured by municipalities under an arrangement with the Department.

A report from Ansonville says that five separate school teachers have gone on strike, alleging non-payment of salaries.

With two turkey shoots by the Canadian Legion next week and the annual charity turkey stag to be held on Thursday, December 18th, there should be plenty of opportunities to secure the Christmas bird and enjoy a little sport at the same time.

## Finlander Facing Charge of Murder at Assizes Here

Trial of Olli Maki in Connection with Death of Countryman Commenced Yesterday; Manslaughter Charge Also to be Heard; Grand Jury Finds True Bills

When Olli Maki, a Finnish woodcutter, went on trial yesterday afternoon at the Assizes here on a charge of murdering Kalle Pukki, a fellow-countryman, at the time of the fatal fight at Myers' pulpwood camp north of Englehart on June 19th last, evidence that both the victim and his alleged slayer were under the influence of liquor was given. Pukki died the following day in the Red Cross Hospital at Englehart and Maki, who disappeared into the woods after the fracas, surrendered to the police at the camp two days later. When the court adjourned at 10 o'clock last night all of the witnesses for the crown had not been heard and the prosecution is proceeding today. Geo. Mitchell, K.C., of Cobalt, is defending the prisoner.

Peter Pulkinen, foreman at the camp, and Olli Pantilla, another worker there, both swore Pukki and Maki were drunk, and Pantilla related how the men had been quarreling prior to the alleged fatal blow being struck. Pulkinen said he had not seen the trouble happen, but Pantilla swore positively he saw Maki take a knife out of his pocket, advance towards Pukki and strike him in the stomach with both hands. Afterwards, accused had closed the knife and replaced it in his pocket, while Pukki fell to the ground in a sitting position.

According to Dr. W. M. Martin, Englehart, who attended Pukki, the latter had suffered "a typical stab wound" in the stomach, delivered with considerable force. The bowel had been penetrated, the doctor said, and there was a slit in the posterior wall of the abdomen. Dr. Martin said Pukki showed no evidence of having been drinking, but he was reminded by Geo. Mitchell, K.C., for the defence, that at the coroner's inquest he had said Pukki was very drunk.

Dr. R. P. Smith, also of Englehart, gave evidence which corresponded with that of Dr. Martin and at the night session last night three other men from the camp described the fatal row. These men agreed that Pukki was the aggressor in the fight. One witness said that another man, named Mantinen, had been seen at the time with a file in his hand, while another swore that he had been in bed asleep at the time, and Dr. Martyn said that the wound which caused Pukki's death could not have been inflicted with a file.

Provincial Constable Devlin, who arrested Maki, was the last witness heard last night. He told of asking the accused what had become of the knife, when the latter replied that he had thrown it away. This brought up the question of the accused's ability to speak English and resulted in an argument by his counsel. During the adjournment officials at

the district jail were examined on this point.

The assizes opened on Tuesday afternoon with Mr. Justice Kelly presiding. C. W. Bell, K.C., of Hamilton, is the special Crown Prosecutor and the Grand Jury was empanelled immediately on the opening of the court. The charge against Maki was the first on the list and a true bill was returned, as was also the case in the charge of manslaughter against Henry Stolz, of Kirkland Lake, who was held after a fatal motor crash in the gold camp on July 6th last, when Morris Whalen, a passenger in the accused's car, lost his life. A further charge of wanton and furious driving causing bodily harm to Horace Bailey was laid against Stolz, in which a true bill was also brought in.

The Grand Jury also brought in true bills in two charges of arson against S. Alexander in connection with the burning of his store at Kirkland Lake recently. Alexander is the man who fought four suits for damages against the C.N.R. after an accident at Kapuskasing in which he lost part of one leg. He finally lost out after being awarded damages on two occasions. The charges he is now facing are laid, one for the burning of the store building and the other for the chattels contained therein.

When the cases went to the Grand Jury on Tuesday afternoon, the Petit Jury was dismissed for the day, under orders to return at 9.45 on Wednesday. H. C. Dunbar, of Haileybury, was chosen foreman of the Grand Jury. In their report to His Lordship following an inspection of the various public buildings in town, this body dwelt very strongly on the need for a new Children's Shelter, a problem that has engaged the attention of the Children's Aid Society for several years.

Work is proceeding on the straightening out of some of the curves in the Ferguson Highway, between Haileybury and New Liskeard.

## Council For Coming Year Elected Without Contest

Withdrawal of Four Nominees at Last Minute Leaves Field Free for Acclamations; Mayor Hamilton and Four Members of 1930 Council Remain; Two New Members Added

At the closing hour for filing qualifications on Friday night, following the second nominations held on Thursday last, the result was an acclamation for the mayoralty and all members of the council for 1931, in spite of the fact that during the interval ten nominees had duly qualified for the six council seats. No opposition arose to Mayor Hamilton for another term, the only other nominee, ex-Mayor N. J. McAulay, declining to enter the field.

At a small meeting on Friday night, as the time limit for the filing of qualifications drew near, four of the nominees who had qualified earlier, decided to withdraw and allow an acclamation. This left Councillors Carson, Mrs. Houston, Knechtel and Bell to carry on for another year, with A. N. Gagnon and P. M. Fleming as the other two members. Mr. Fleming has served on the council for several years in the past, but has not been in office for some years now. Mr. Gagnon is new to municipal politics in Haileybury, but has been a resident here for some years and is a well known merchant in the south end of town.

Mayor Hamilton will enter on his 25th year in the town council when he takes his seat for 1931. He is now serving his second term as mayor, having been in that office in 1928. During 1929 he was out of the council, having been defeated for the mayor-

alty by Taylor Pipe, but with the exception of that he has served almost continuously for 24 years. The four nominees who withdrew at the last moment to allow an acclamation were F. A. Leslie, A. D. McArthur, R. Whorley and E. Robert. The latter had been the first candidate to qualify.

With four of the present council re-elected and the mayor taking another term, there will be no interruption in the business of the municipality. There may be several changes made, however, as it is being freely admitted that a policy of economy is necessary under present conditions. Just what plans will be made to meet the problems which confront the town remains to be seen. The council this year was not an undivided unit in regard to the best means of relieving the unemployment situation and a tentative proposal for carrying out some works under the government scheme was decided against. It may be cited further that there was further divided opinion as to the advisability of proceeding with the new waterworks project and these problems will no doubt come up early in the new year.

The members of the present council are all well conversant with the situation as it stands and the two new members are both familiar with matters pertaining to the town, so that there should be careful administration during the coming year.

## The Week's Weather

Week ending Wed., Dec. 10:

	Max.	Min.
Thursday	11	-10
Friday	29	11
Saturday	33	26
Sunday	34	30
Monday	31	26
Tuesday	31	30
Wednesday	30	7
Total precipitation	32"	

Northern Ontario — Moderate winds, cloudy and comparatively mild tonight and Friday, with some light snow.



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