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**O Tuponia! O Hochelaga!**

How many Canadians, one wonders, realize how narrowly they escaped being known instead as Tuponians or Hochelagans? We confess we ourselves did not until we unearthed the grisly intelligence in the course of a recent reading of the life of Thomas D'Arcy McGee, one of the most colourful of the fathers of Confederation.

Tuponia and Hochelaga, if you can believe it, were seriously proposed as names by which the nation born out of Confederation should be known, Tuponia being the more strongly favoured. (To readers who, like ourselves, would wonder why we can only answer that it derived from The United Provinces of North America.) Fortunately, the fates (to their everlasting credit) relented and the eventual decision was taken to broaden the term "Canada" to cover the union of the four provinces Ontario and Quebec (hitherto known as Upper and Lower Canada), Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

Hochelaga, being the Indian name for Montreal, would seem to have been deserving of rather more consideration than the ineffable Tuponia, but in all frankness we must admit to sharing McGee's own feelings on the matter. Addressing his colleagues on February 9, 1865 he commented thus:

"Now I would ask any member of this House how he would feel if he woke up some fine morning and found himself, instead of a Canadian, a Tuponian or a Hochelagander?"

From that moment on, we suspect, the battle was won . . .

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**Assessor**

(Continued From Page One) takes were made, "I make no excuses for this," he said, "I had nothing to start with, no descriptions of properties were available, no maps were on hand, and the work of the previous assessor was in such a state that I had to put aside his records and start from scratch."

Mr. Major said that the chief reason for opposition to his work was lack of understanding by the ratepayers of his terms of reference. "They had been told, and I suspect the author of the information, that a higher assessment would mean higher taxes."

"What the people didn't understand was that I had nothing to do with their taxes," he said, "and nothing I told them seemed to register."

"As evidence of poor assessment work in the past I found this condition," Mr. Major explained, "Seventy-five per cent of the ratepayers in Bucke Township were paying more taxes than they should, five per cent were all right, and the remaining 20 per cent were getting away with murder."

"I finished the job, and was satisfied that I did as good a one as was possible under the circumstances," he concluded, "received a lot of abuse, and bad treatment, and reacted to this as might be expected when I knew I was on the griddle."

Mr. Major also said that there were many acres in Bucke Township which did not belong to the township but which were not on the rolls. "The previous assessor did a remarkably poor job," he said.

Mr. Major found an ally in the person of Wayne Gow, assessor for the Department of Municipal Affairs.

"Mr. Major did an excellent job of assessing Bucke Township," he said, "there were errors, there always are, and the Court of Appeal is there to correct them."

Mr. Gow also indicated that Reeve Groom was off the beam when he suggested that he would toss out the assessment and revert to that of the previous year. "The assessment was made, the Court of Appeal was held, and now the assessment stands."

Questioned on the point of action by a higher court, Mr. Gow said, "In my opinion no judge has the authority to toss out an assessment after the Court of Appeal has acted and the further ten days for an appeal to a higher court has passed."

Foster Rice, chairman of the Court of Appeal told the meeting that the Court had made certain recommendations (these are carried in another section of the Speaker). He said that 100 appeals were handled and that adjustments were made on 40.

"This is an excellent record for any assessor faced with a completely new assessment. He should have had five years for the job."

Mr. Rice also said that the assessment should not be discarded. "We should take this as a starting point, and improve the records every year," he said.

**Haileybury**

Miss Lucie Heroux of Earleton has returned to the Haileybury Convent after spending the holiday season with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Heroux.

Misses Georgina and Theresa Quenneville of Latchford have returned to their studies at St. Mary's Academy here after holidaying with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Quenneville.

Ernest Rocheleau of Elk Lake has been a patient in Misericordia Hospital where he underwent surgery.

Visiting with their parents in Elk Lake during the holidays were Pauline Laurin, Danielle Lacasse, Alice Chalut and Therese Laurin, all students at St. Mary's Academy.

Recent guests of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Conroy were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Switzer and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Anderson of Latchford.

Mr. G. Ramsay has returned to Beaver Lodge, Alberta, after visiting with his mother, Mrs. S. Ramsay.

Miss Carolyn Pelangio, who has spent the holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. Pelangio, has returned to Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Briden were in London recently to attend the wedding of their son, Heber Alexander, to Miss Barbara Heron Bell.

Members of the Pentecostal Church are holding their annual meeting Friday evening, January 13, when reports of the year's work in the various departments will be heard.

Only ten members were present when the regular meeting of the Rebekah Lodge was held Thursday evening. A great deal of sickness among members and their families was reported.

Recent guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Gilkes were Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Gilkes, Judy, Debbie and John, and Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Gilkes, all of Hamilton.

The Junior and Girl's Auxiliaries of St. Paul's Anglican Church will resume their meetings this week following the holiday season.

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