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Bribery Charged In Bucke McGowan Seeks An Enquiry

Did Reeve Harry Groom offer a town councillor \$100 to help get his wife the appointment as Bucke's assessor? Councillor Arnold Olson claims that Mr. Groom tried to bribe him and Bucke's usually warm political pot is now boiling over.

Charges, counter-charges, table thumping and fist shaking livened up the meeting Monday night, when Mr. Olson dropped his bribery bombshell.

Stan McGowan triggered the explosion when he asked Mr. Olson the question.

"Did Harry Groom offer you \$100?"

"I never did, never," Mr. Groom roared, pounding the table.

"You came to my place and asked me if I thought it was a good idea to put Maude (Mrs. Groom) in as assessor," Mr. Olson said. "As a last resort, only as a last resort," Mr. Groom replied.

Mr. Olson alleged that Mr. Groom had told him that he was going to ask Ollie Shaver, and Peter Carter for their support.

But both Councillors Shaver and Carter denied being approached by Mr. Groom.

Mr. McGowan currently carrying the banner asking for an investigation into the township, which was first picked up by Councillor Chester Hopkins, and then dropped.

Mr. Hopkins had promised an investigation into allegations that someone offered to support Mr. McGowan's application as assessor, in return for a fee of \$1,000 for doing the books. He also first reported that someone had tried to bribe Mr. Olson.

Mr. Hopkins raised the investigation issue after Mr. McGowan had been appointed assessor at a Friday meeting, but he dropped it when Mr. McGowan was fired on the subsequent Monday, and Arthur Ship appointed in his place.

Mr. McGowan claimed that the council had used a Kirkland Lake paper to cover up its activities, and make it appear that he had been fired for improper conduct.

"You are a trained propagandist," he said to Reeve Groom.

"Are you a Communist?"

"I don't have to answer that," the Reeve replied.

"Are you a card carrying Communist?"

"No I'm not."

Mr. Groom bitterly denied that he had ever offered to support McGowan's application as assessor, in return for a fee of \$1,000 for keeping the books.

He said that McGowan went to his house some time ago and admitted that he lacked the qualifications required, and Mr. Groom had suggested that possibly Mrs.

Groom might help him out with the book work.

The Reeve denied the charge made by Leo DeRaiche that, in fact, Mr. Groom had written out an application for Mr. McGowan. "You're crazy," the Reeve said. "I'll bet you fifty bucks I can go home and get it," Mr. DeRaiche said.

Mr. Hopkins said that he had first given out the story of an investigation, but later he was afraid that he might be held responsible for the cost of an investigation.

He added that as Mr. McGowan didn't want his wife to testify that

(Continued on Page Eight)

Cobalt Seeking N. H. L. Franchise!!

Red Wings and Black Hawks beware, Cobalt may yet ice an entry in the NHL. Cobalt council has now set town clerk Bob Bond to work, searching for the town's missing franchise to enter its hockey team in the big league.

At the Cobalt council meeting Tuesday night, Councillor James Jones said that old-timers had told him that way back around 1911, Cobalt had its own team in the newly born NHL, and Cobalt team (believed to be called the Wanderers) once played against Montreal Canadiens.

Mr. Jones said that the old-timers maintained that it was a franchise good for 99 years, which gave Cobalt permission to enter a team in the NHL at any time it wanted to.

Mr. Bond said that if the franchise were still legal, someone might be willing to pay half a million for it.

"Half a million, no taxes for three years," exulted one councillor.

The council agreed that if Mr. Bond has any time to spare, he can devote it to searching through the ancient files in search of the missing franchise.

Dealing with other matters, the council passed a by-law setting up the new Cobalt public library. This will replace the former Cobalt Library Association. The town will have to make a grant of about \$1,050 each year, and the library will also receive a grant from the province.

Although this will mean more money spent by the town, it may, in the long run, prove to be an economy measure, as a fully equipped library may cut requisitions from the public and high schools for their own reference libraries.

The council also accepted the resignation of Councillor William Tresidder, and accepted his application as tax collector and assessor.

The town will now extend an invitation to George St. Hilaire, who ran seventh in the last election. If he refuses, then they have to invite Jack McGarry, and after him, Wilfred Moriarity, to fill the vacancy.

The town offered its old thawing machine to Coleman township for \$200.

Council also repealed recent legislation making a number of changes in the Cobalt Community Center Board.

The Weather

Week ending April 11, 1961.

	Max.	Min.
Wednesday	48	34
Thursday	43	29
Friday	40	24
Saturday	37	18
Sunday	46	20
Monday	45	33
Tuesday	51	31

Need Storage Facilities For District Potatoes

Walter Scott, New Liskeard area farmer was nominated as a director of the Temiskaming Potato Growers' Association at a meeting held in the Heaslip Hall on Wednesday evening, April 5, with about forty persons attending.

A motion was approved to levy a small tax of 25 cents per acre on potato growers with a minimum of \$1 being paid by each grower. This is to help pay expenses incurred by the Association, such as affiliation dues, hall rentals, postage, stationery and books.

The members also voiced a willingness to join the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association if a motion to this effect is passed by the Ontario Potato Growers' Association.

Guest speaker, Professor R. G. Rowberry of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, spoke on potato varieties commenting on their cooking qualities, their general appearance, their resistance to scab and blight, their keeping qualities and solids content, and their growing habits.

He was assisted in his talk by a display of twelve varieties of potatoes, prepared by George Edwards. George had grown these in

his Regional Test Plots.

Professor Rowberry answered many questions which were asked by members and visitors present.

Another guest speaker, Larry Argue, Specialist in the Field of Potato Storages from the Vineland Experimental Station, spoke on potato storage of a type which would be suitable to the Northern Growers.

Proper storage is necessary to assure a good quality potato at all times to supply the consumer demand. Care should be taken to have adequate ventilation, and plenty of insulation is needed to help keep potatoes at a uniform temperature and humidity during all seasons.

He stressed the importance of handling potatoes with as much care as you would handle eggs. This careful handling must be carried out in the field, in transportation, in the potato bins, and storages, in stores and even by the consumer.

He concluded by giving cost estimates of certain types and sizes of recommended potato storages.

A social time was enjoyed at the close of the meeting.

Cobalt's Town Clerk Has Wide Experience

A one-time banker, who served in Cobalt, Noranda, Virginiatown and Englehart with the Imperial Bank started his duties as town clerk for Cobalt on April 1.

Robert H. Bond was first in Cobalt in 1938. He will replace the former town clerk Cyril Vezina who resigned from his post a short time ago.

Mr. Bond first became interested in municipal work when he was stationed as a bonus engineer at the Upper Canada mine in Dobie.

In 1946 he took over as clerk-treasurer for the Improvement District of Gauthier, at which time



CONTROL ROOM of the Sir Adam Beck-Niagara Generating Station No. 2 holds the interest of four finalists in the secondary school section of the Ontario Public Speaking Contest. They made the day-long trip to Niagara Falls as guests of Ontario Hydro, which co-sponsored the final competition held April 5 in Toronto with the Ontario School Trustees' and Ratepayers' Association. From left: Erika Teicht, Dundalk; Carolyn Pile, Barrie, who won second prize in the prepared speech section; Harriet Conroy, Latchford; and Frank White, Ontario Hydro.

— Ont. Hydro Photo

Englehart Rink Wins in Ladies' Intertown 'Spiel

Mrs. R. Williams of Englehart skipped her rink to victory in the first event of the Inter-town.

After the finals of the Inter-town were completed on Wednesday, April 5, Mrs. Williams of Englehart and her rink of vice, D. Sutherland, second, K. Williams, and lead, G. Farmer, had won the first prize in the first event. She defeated Lila Dixon of the Cobalt-Haileybury Club in a close game which was not decided until the 10th end. Lila had with her Rita Sweeney, E. Whitby and lead M. Wigley. The third prize went to Maud Cragg with Gwen Horncastle, Eva Finlay, and Mabel Grozelle. Mrs. Cragg won in a well contested game from Mary Brotherhood playing from the New Liskeard Club. With Mary were Elinor Dobson, Hazel Eastman and Marlene Ross.

The second event, a hard fought battle all the way through, went to a local rink skipped by H. Welch, with vice, L. Shouldice, second, I. Conti, and lead J. Dak-

ins. Mrs. Welch won from J. Wilkinson of New Liskeard with her rink of M. McKnight, D. Williams and S. Ervine. Third prize was taken by Ness McAuley who won over the Gauvreau rink from Temagami. The personnel of Ness McAuley's rink were Rita Dinesen, Sophie Bosch and Pat Sparling, leading. Mrs. Gauvreau had in her foursome, to cop the fourth prize, J. Spear, V. Higgins, and M. Gerbal.

There were only two prizes in the third event and Jean St. Louis of the local club won from Flora McFarlane, also of the Haileybury Club, in an interesting and well played game. Jean was ably supported by Jean Peckover as vice, May Renaud, second, and Bet Van Noort leading. A. Bouley, M. MacDonald and F. McIlwaine were the rest of the McFarlane crew.

Fourth event was won by one of our most able curlers, Tess Austin. She was held up all the way by H. Mallet, R. Spencer and M. Cavanaugh to defeat E. Pollock of the New Liskeard Club, who won second prize. Miss Pollock had N. Ross, G. Binkley and F. Semple with her.

The intertown was a most successful event this year, and a most enjoyable one. The weather is wonderful for curling at this time of year and we all get to curl against different rinks than we do in our usual season's curling. We are guaranteed a minimum of four games and the curling is highly competitive. We hope to have many more rinks both from the New Liskeard clubs, and from more outlying clubs next year, as this particular bonspiel is becoming increasingly well known and more popular.

With the final games played in both the men's and ladies' sections of the Inter-town Bonspiels, curling activities in the Tri-Towns are finished for another year.