

# The Acton Free Press.

Seventy-first Year No. 10.

ACTON ONTARIO, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th 1945

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## County Council Studies County Assessor Plan

Hear Explanation by Mr. Coombes of Provincial Department—Oakville and Esquimaux Are Opposed to New System—Other Items of Tuesday's Session

At the September meeting of Halton County Council held in Milton on Tuesday three members were absent, Mrs. Peitch, Mr. Alex. Neat and Mr. Smith. The Warden presided.

Following routine business the council was addressed by Mr. J. P. Coombes, from the Department of Municipal Affairs. His subject was county assessment under a county assessor which is strongly recommended by his department.

Mr. Coombes was introduced by Rev. W. J. Robertson. Noting Mr. Coombes claimed that a fair equalization under the present system as operated in Halton County was impossible and that for better results would be achieved if a valuator were appointed either within or without the Council. He said that no three or four men could possibly go into any municipality and make an accurate assessment of property. His department had made a very complete study of assessment problems and it strongly recommended the appointment of a county assessor with the object of making uniform valuations throughout the county. At the same time it was not the policy of the department to force the appointment of a county assessor but it was ready and willing to do everything in its power to assist and advise where such an appointment was made.

Mr. Coombes then outlined some of the more salient points of a county assessor's work. The county assessor does not assess for main duty is to instruct assessors, he merely sets down a guide for their guidance. Under a revised assessment valuation is conducted on a cost of replacement basis from which adjustments are made until a fair valuation is arrived at.

Assessment of farm land is decided upon by a consideration of what any given property will profitably produce over a ten year period. Take that and the actual sale value of the property and you get a pretty fair idea of what its assessed value should be.

Mr. Coombes pointed out that many good farms were being sold but this did not affect their productive capacity, therefore it was not reasonable to expect the municipality to be the loser by lowering the assessment. He emphasized the fact that good care protects the equity of property and no assessor should penalize a man because he looks after and protects his property. Every encouragement should be given to improve and maintain farms and other property.

Eight counties in Ontario had appointed county assessors there had been no appeals and they all appeared to be getting along very nicely.

In the case of county property rural assessors should be compelled to walk over farm lands to ascertain the type of soil and to form an opinion as to what the farm is capable of producing. Farm appraisal cards are provided for this purpose. They are not complicated and by them it is just as easy to make a fair valuation on farm property as that in residential areas. There is generally some objection to this new way of assessing but just as soon as the taxpayer finds he isn't being penalized and that he isn't being made to pay more than his neighbor in proportion to his property then he very soon becomes very well satisfied.

Naturally there will be more work for local assessors and they should be paid accordingly. At present there is no government servant so underpaid as the local assessor.

"We hear a lot these days about the principles of democracy," said Mr. Coombes, "but I want to tell you that if we are to keep our democratic government one of the most essential things is equity in taxation."

Following Mr. Coombes' address an informal round table discussion took place.

Mr. Gilbert, "If a county assessor is appointed is it possible for any one municipality to act independently?"

Mr. Coombes: "Yes, but if the majority are in favor of the assessment of that municipality is based on the findings in the other municipalities office a county assessor is appointed."

Mr. Craig: "Can you give us any suggestion as to the basis for a salary?"

Mr. Coombes: "In the eight counties operating under this system salaries range from \$2,500 to \$3,000 plus car allowance. If you compare this salary to litigation costs over assessment disputes you will agree it might well be a saving to the county."

Mr. Murray: "Does the county assessor go out and instruct, advise and assist the local assessors?"

Mr. Coombes: "That's right, the

### NEW C.W.N.A. PRESIDENT



Hugh Tomplin, Editor of the Free Press News Record, who was today elected President in Quebec City of the Canadian Weekly Newspapers Association. He succeeds F. P. Cadblath of Red Deer, Alta.

### OVER HUNDRED AT STOREY REUNION AT BROOKVILLE

The twenty-third annual reunion of the family of Thomas and Margaret Storey, Nainburgers, held recently in Brookville Community Hall was attended by more than one hundred descendants, coming from High River, Alta., Cleveland, Toronto and Grandford and the surrounding district.

After the usual greetings had been exchanged a sports program featuring baseball games and races was staged. The serving of supper was followed by a short business meeting conducted by the president, William Cook. The following were elected: President, Mr. D. H. Storey; Vice President, Ned Black, of Arkell; and Secretary, Treasurer, Mrs. Mary Wilson, Toronto. Various committees were also formed.

Mr. Alfred Storey, Bramford acted as chairman for the evening program which included selections by the Happy Gang of Arkell, duets by Raymond and Bobby Royce, a reading by Mrs. Roy Marshall and vocal solo by Tom Simpson, a former club resident.

The remainder of the evening was spent in dancing to music supplied by Andy Frank with Bobby Storey, Bramford at the piano.

### Norval Granted Street Lighting by Township Council

Petition Was Signed by 90 Per Cent. of Ratepayers—Fire Protection Discussed

Esquimaux Township Council held their regular meeting on Tuesday afternoon. Deputy Reeve George E. Cleave, Councillors George Currie, C. H. May and R. N. Brown were present. Reeve G. W. Murray presided over the meeting.

Mr. David Robertson addressed the Council regarding the speed trucks being driven around Lamhouse.

Mr. George Gillon presented a petition signed by more than 90 per cent. of the ratepayers of Norval, asking for street lights in Norval. Deming addressed the Council regarding the forming of a restricted area in Norval for fire protection.

Accounts were paid as follows: Bell Telephone Co. services, \$9.00; Letter Shop Supply Co., \$6.47; A. W. Benton, stamps, \$5.00; George C. Brown, bond, \$5.00.

Moved by Brown, seconded by Currie, that relief accounts as presented by the Relief Officer be paid, \$14.43. Carried.

Moved by Brown, seconded by Cleave, that road accounts as presented by the Road Superintendent be paid, \$1,265.50. Carried.

Moved by May, seconded by Brown that this Council petition the Department of Highways for the Statutory Grant on road expenditures, January 1st, to August 31st, 1945, on \$13,569.41. Carried.

Moved by Currie, seconded by Cleave, that owing to the fact that a petition has been presented to the Council, asking for street lighting in the Village of Norval, the Clerk be instructed to prepare the necessary by-law for same. Carried.

## Church Re-Decorated For Centennial Of This Month

The decoration of the and tower and belfry of the United Church was completed this week in preparation for the Centennial which will be observed on September 23rd and 30th when friends of the congregation, both near and far are being invited to come again to the old home church to mark the event. Invitations have been sent to all those whose addresses could be secured. Arrangements have been made to serve refreshments to the visitors who return for the Centennial.

In connection with the Centennial an historical booklet is in the course of preparation which follows the history of the church down through the century and will contain not only pictures of the minister and prominent workers of early days and down through the years of the past, but pictures of the church organizations of today and the present officials.

### POULTRY SHOW HAD MANY ENTRIES AT GEORGETOWN FAIR

The largest poultry show for the past ten years in Georgetown was held at the Fall Fair.

The head winner for poultry was Sunset Farm, Georgetown. Following was Mr. Fred Kentner and Son of Acton having 19 birds, 19 seconds and a five dollar special.

Other entries were from Windsor, London, Guelph, Toronto, St. Catharines, Welland, Milton, Georgetown and Acton.

## Utilities Commission Hears of Expansion of Local Industry

Plan to Assist and Secure Information Requested—Deficient Consumers are Disconnected

The regular meeting of Acton Public Utilities Commission was held on Monday evening. Reeve J. M. McDonald and Commissioners C. M. Hansen and J. R. MacArthur were present.

A letter from Baxter Laboratories of Canada Ltd. requested a 4 inch water service into their plant on River Street. Reeve J. M. McDonald was to take the matter up with the engineer and have the larger service installed while the water mains were being laid this year.

Another letter from Baxter Laboratories made inquiry regarding the acquiring of the land where the workshop and substation are now located as their plans called for extending their building and this land was desirable for that purpose. Mr. W. J. Benson and Mr. Gordon Rogynvaldson were present to discuss this matter with the Commission. As most of the equipment in the substation belongs to the H. E. P. C. of Ontario it was felt that the H. E. P. C. engineer should be consulted for their recommendations. The Baxter representatives were given assurance an answer would be given as soon as possible.

Superintendent Wilson was instructed to get in touch with Engineer Anderson and have a pipe renewed and a change made to the water mains in the present pipe house at the spring in order to make it more convenient to connect in the new reservoir.

A four-inch water meter was ordered purchased and the necessary number of meters to take care of the new domestic services to be installed.

A recommendation to Council suggested the changing of the water works by law so that those properties which do not face on a street and yet receive service could be charged a frontage tax.

A number of consumers who had received final notice and had not paid their accounts were ordered to have their services disconnected without further notification and the usual reconnection rates were to be charged for resuming service.

Superintendent Wilson reported Mr. Robert Dixon had returned to work last week after his accident in July when he was knocked from a hydro pole after coming in contact with a power line.

The following accounts were ordered paid:

Hydro Department	
H. E. P. C. power	\$391.67
H. E. P. C. supplies	59.22
Macdonald Electric, supplies	19.38
Northern Electric, supplies	133.60
Grand & Toy, supplies	10.90
Highway Garage, supplies	41.11
Transports and Office clean.	16.04
Zing	16.04
Waterworks Department	
Canadian Brass, supplies	\$67.64
Highway Garage, supplies	2.40
Septone Meters, supplies	279.69

## Milton Won The Deciding Game On Saturday

Milton won the 1945 Halton Inter-municipal baseball honors by defeating Acton 11-7 in the deciding game of the season played at the Acton park Saturday afternoon.

In an effort to receive baseball in the county dropped since the outbreak of war, two clubs played a four game series each team winning their two home games.

Attendance and enthusiasm indicate this sport has become of its popularity. The old time rivalry between these towns added to the fun, pleasure in Saturday's important game.

Milton got away with a good lead by scoring seven runs in the first inning. The climax of the excitement was in the last half of the seventh when Acton hit the bases loaded with only one down and two runs needed to take the lead. The hit and run play was tried without success.

The score by innings was:

Milton	11
Acton	7

The line-up:

MILTON: R. Clements, cf, Brush, H. Brown, 2b, Tolstaka, ss, Nayler, J. D. Clements, 1b, Anderson, 3b, Roberts, lf, Patterson, of, Blinn, p, lb.

ACTON: Woods, 2b, Waterhouse, cf, Bullock, 1b, N. Morton, 3b, R. Morton, 3b, Anderson, ss, Snyder, ss, Cantmore, lf, Ryder, p.

### SOCIAL WELFARE SEPTEMBER TOPIC ACTON INSTITUTE

The September meeting of the Acton Women's Institute was held at the home of Mrs. Fred Hunter, with a good attendance.

The president, Mrs. Lippin presided. The motto of the month "Never Eaten and say I Can't, Always Smile and say I'll Try" was given by Mrs. E. J. Davidson and current events by Mrs. Lazenby. The roll call register was a contribution for the program on Social Welfare which provided a fine program consisting of readings, a short, song and many good suggestions for future meetings.

Special business included donations voted to the "Early Trip to Chicago" sponsored by the Halton District Auxiliary also to the McLaughlin family who had recently lost their home through fire. The health of the Acton Fair was arranged for also the last dinner that is served there each year.

A request had come in for the right to carry on with the appeal for the U. S. R. R. A. The same as for the Irons Relief the past four years.

A committee was appointed to arrange for the fall rally to be held in Acton next month. Mrs. Lloyd Crawford has accepted an invitation to be at the next meeting.

The Halton Crop Association's Stage Pasture Tour

"Long Term" or "Permanent Pasture" as they are sometimes incorrectly named, have been the subject of keen interest among Ontario farmers the past two or three years. Demonstration fields and plots have been laid down in the majority of Ontario counties by the Ontario Department of Agriculture in co-operation with the respective County Crop Improvement Associations in both 1944 and 1945. In order to provide an opportunity for Halton farmers to see for themselves and secure first hand information the Halton Crop Improvement Association has arranged a tour to some seven different Halton farms recently learned from A. T. Woodley, President of the Halton Association. The date selected is Thursday, September 20th, and the various points to be visited are outlined elsewhere in this issue.

N. J. Thomas, Pasture Specialist at the O.A.C. is scheduled to accompany the tour. For further information, those interested should contact either Mr. Woodley, or Agricultural Representative J. E. Whitelock.

### FORMER RESIDENT OF NASSAGAWEYA VISITS HERE

A former resident of Nassagaweya, Mr. Murray Kingsbury, his wife and two children and Mrs. Kingsbury's father, Mr. J. Higby, of Mooseport, Sask., have been visiting with relatives and friends in this community this week. It is eighteen years since Mr. Kingsbury went west and this is the first time he's returned. He was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Edward Kingsbury, who resided three miles west of Acton on No. 7 Highway. A family gathering of the Murray and Kingsbury clan was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert O. Kingsbury, Fifth Line, Eramosa on Saturday afternoon, when about seventy-five of the relatives and friends visited together. A beautiful picnic lunch followed races and a ball game.

### Five More Acton Soldiers Return From Overseas

Pte. Rigby Cross and Sgt. Donald Appleyard Reach Here Tuesday

The week has brought another quota of service men back to their homes in Acton and friends and families welcome them.

Pte. Rigby Cross arrived here on Monday night coming back to Canada on the "Empress of Scotland". He joined the Highland Light Infantry over five years ago and has served most of the time overseas in England, France, Holland and right through to Germany. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cross, Church Street and before enlisting, was employed with Beardmore & Co.

Sgt. Donald Appleyard, son of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Appleyard, Church Street, came home on Tuesday after being overseas for five years. He enlisted in 1940 with the 43rd Battery, 12th Field Regiment. In February of this year Sgt. Appleyard was injured by a mine explosion while on duty in Holland. His wife resides in England.

Pte. G. C. Lambert and P. L. A. C. Buck were also among those who have either arrived home or are expected this week.

Gnr. A. R. Ford arrived on Tuesday from overseas and is at the home of his brother, James, Ford, Milton. He has been in the army for five years and overseas for three and a half years, serving in France, Holland, Belgium and Germany. His father, Geo. Ford resided in Saskatchewan and prior to enlisting Gnr. Ford was employed with Beardmore & Co. at Acton.

## Acton Fair This Week Has Victory Program

Starts with Grand Concert Tomorrow Night and Dance Following—Big Exhibit Expected for the Livestock on Saturday—Hall Exhibits in Old Hall on Grounds This Year—Band, Parades, Road Races, Baby Show, Midway and Familiar Features for Saturday Showing



WOUNDED NOW HOME

Lieut. M. Hassard Addressed the I. O. O. F. Meeting

The September meeting of the Duke of Devonshire Chapter I. O. O. F. was held at the home of Mr. F. S. Blyth with the report Mr. Walter Matthews presiding.

A committee was named to help arrange the cause for used clothing for Europe to be made in October. Several members volunteered to assist with the tapping the proceeds of which will be given to the War Relievement League for the rehabilitation of severely wounded.

The highlight of the evening was the informative talk of Lieut. Martin Hassard, who has been away the five years. Lieut. Hassard moved a vote of thanks to the committee and hands will be given to the members of the evening.

### DATES FOR FAIRS IN ONTARIO FOR 1945

ACTON	September 11-15
Cooksville	September 11-15
Orangeville	September 11-12
Galt	September 20-22
Grand Valley	September 20-21
Shelburne	September 18-19
Bolton	September 25-26
Georgetown	September 28-29
MILTON	September 28-29
Aberfoyle	October 1-2
Elm	October 1-2
Markham	October 4-5
Streetsville	October 3
Teesswater	October 2-3
Woodbridge	October 6-8

### RED CROSS NEEDS TO FIT IN THE PEACETIME PROGRAM

The sewing team of Acton Branch of the Red Cross which has been closed during the summer months will reopen on Monday. There is still a great need for workers to supply the requirement for Red Cross services and quotas of goods have been received.

### Coming Events

Announcements of Mrs. E. J. Davidson, who is a member of the Red Cross, will be given at the meeting on Monday.

Entire at Forest Hall, Sept. 20th, by St. Alban's Guild. Entertainment will be given. 9-3

Ladies of St. Joseph's Church, Baking Sale and Bazaar, Saturday, September 29th, Town Hall. Quilt Sale.

Anniversary Services at the United Church, September 23rd. Dr. E. F. Filroy, Toronto, will be guest speaker.

Dance at Brookville Hall, Tuesday, September 18th, sponsored by Nassagaweya W. I. Miller's orchestra. Admission 40c. B

Enchire, Acton Ladies Orange-Benewent Association, Sept. 14th will hold a meeting in the I. O. O. F. Hall, Crewson Corners, Thursday evening, Sept. 13 at 8:30 sharp. Refreshments. Admission 25c. Everyone welcome.

The Duke of Devonshire Chapter of the I.O.D.E. are having Tag Days, September 14 and 15. The proceeds to be given the War Service League for the Rehabilitation of the Ex-Service personnel.

Still meeting wartime conditions, but happily carrying on the usual peacetime fair in the Acton Fair on Friday the meeting is a day that will offer a program that will attract not only the family, but a host of new ones. It is that level of tradition that has been tried.

The annual fall fair is not and not available but the act of this fair is renovated and will carry on a scale of most of the attractions, work and taking. The attraction for the first night one of the big attractions will like to see a exhibition have to wait until next year. In place of the event a first class concert company of artists who have not been seen or heard in Acton for sometime will provide a concert in the Town Hall and the indications are that the box will be provided again by a capacity house. The new plan is on the side of Hassard's Drug Store and the new seats provided at the door tomorrow night.

The entries for live stock exhibits points to a fine showing in all classes. The ground for showing the cattle has been much improved this year by making a fall of the low land in the north west section of the park.

The parade on Saturday will be led by Acton Boy Band who will also provide a concert in the Park and play on Friday night prior to the concert. To assure a round of entertainment on Saturday afternoon, a fine group of modern entertainers will appear on the platform in front of the grandstand. These artists include the Ripley, famous band ballroom team, Will Davis and his Mrs. Patricia, Violet Murray, Edith Supple, Jean Harris in dance numbers and Jean McFarlane piano.

There will be all the other usual attractions such as Baby Show, Pottery Lane, Musical Chairs, Parade of Stock, High Jumping Horses, Big Light Horse exhibit and gentleman's Road Race. There'll be two dances in the Town Hall on Friday and Saturday nights.

We are also informed an extra large Midway with Merry-go-round, swings and rides and concessions are to be on hand. Granted fine weather the event of 1945 under the Presidency of Dr. F. G. Oakes aims to set a new record for the finest fair grounds in Ontario and retain and enhance the achievements of the thirty-two fairs which have preceded it.

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