

# The Acton Free Press.

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Eight Pages—Seven Cents.



**JOHN A. MILNE** was acclaimed Reeve of Nassagaweya township Monday when his opponent withdrew from the race.



**GEORGE CURRIE** was acclaimed the 1957 Reeve of Esquesing township this week to replace Walter Linham.

## Largest Gas Well Yet Struck Claimed by Anthony Gas Co.

Termed by officials as "the best yet", Anthony Gas and Oil Company Explorations Ltd., Acton, at a depth of 2,000 feet on the J. G. Gilles farm, have reported their 12th natural gas well.

In accordance with a confirmed agreement with the United Suburban Gas Company of Hamilton, the flow will be piped to the Hamilton company lines and distributed throughout the three northern towns of Acton, Milton and Georgetown, company officials report.

In reviewing the past two years' activities, J. G. Ruddick, secretary-treasurer of the local concern, noted Anthony Gas company has "at present a confirmed contract with

the United Suburban Gas Company of Hamilton to sell a stipulated amount of gas, but which may be changed in the near future to supply all gas found in the area. The original contract called for a September 1 deadline, through inability to secure necessary hook-up equipment, the Anthony company gas has not been turned in yet but by telephone conversation with Mr. Sulton, United Suburban engineer, arrangements are being made to finalize a turning-in date. It was also reported by Mr. Ruddick the connection between the Anthony company well and the United Suburban gas line will be made some time this week-end and consumers will be using locally produced natural gas shortly.

## Acclamations Keynote of Nominations Election Monday for Deputy-Reeve

With the exception of the deputy-reeveship, all the civic posts in Acton were filled by acclamation at the annual nominations meeting held Friday evening of last week in the region auditorium. There were 14 positions to be decided and 26 nominees for those positions, but due to withdrawals, all but the deputy-reeveship were decided. Voters will choose the holder of that seat on December 3, that seat on December 2.

Ted Tyler will continue as mayor, with J. Hargrave serving as reeve. William Wilson and R. N. Brown will contest the position of deputy-reeve. Selected to serve on the town council were: G. Barbeau, J. H. Goy, S. Brunelle, F. Watts, H. Lowe and W. Cook. Comprising the Public Utilities Commission are W. Kelly and J. J. Stewart, and the successful nominees for the school board were W. Matlock, C. Bradley and C. Heard.

John Goy chaired the business meeting which followed the close of nominations, during which the 1956 groups reported on their year's activities.

Mayor Tyler expressed his appreciation to the Legion for the use of their auditorium and then proceeded with his report. There was a 400 person increase in the population in the last year and building permits to the amount of \$275,500 were issued, he said. Total assessment for the town now stands at \$4,300,000.

Concerning the Maria St. bridge, the street itself was widened and the total cost of construction to Acton was \$10,500, with grants paying the balance of the cost.

**Considerable Saving**  
Mr. Tyler noted that the paving of the sidewalks was done by local enterprise with a considerable saving. Also, all the paving work on the tracks on Main St. was paid by the county.

There was an \$1,800 deficit for the budget with the contributing factors being the garbage disposal and additional work incurred by the P.U.C. through the paving program.

Steady progress continues at the well-drilling site for water at the Fourth Line of Esquesing township. Mayor Tyler commented that the prospects for the successful completion of the job are favorable. At present the drillers are down 170 feet and averaging 10 feet per day.

Over the last three years, the library has shown an increase in its distribution of books, from 30,000 in 1954 to close to 30,000 in 1956, he said.

The volunteer fire brigade was also praised by the mayor. Citing their efforts at the school fire, he said that out-of-town industrialists were amazed at the speed and ability of the firefighters and compared them favorably to paid brigades.

Mr. Tyler also said that the Parks Board is hoping to erect a new grandstand this year.

**Lowest Rate in Ontario**  
Acton has the lowest natural gas

rates in this section of Ontario because of the North Halton Urban Board negotiations. It is also trying for increased telephone service.

Under the heading of things he would like to see in Acton, Mr. Tyler listed a program of new street lighting, installation of street signs and more catch basins and storm sewers. He cautioned the audience to keep a close watch on the county hospital plan and the county planning committee in the next year.

C. Lindsay, retiring this year as councillor, presented the finance committee report. The committee this year hired an assistant clerk-treasurer, lowered the mill rate by nine mills, installed a new roof on the town hall at the cost of \$1,000. He reported that the council is attempting to secure an additional policeman next year and that the suggestion of Ontario Provincial police in favor of a local force is impractical financially.

Both the arena and the town hall are in a bad state of repair and the lower mill rate was responsible for the town facing funds to do the job. He predicted that the mill rate will be under 60 next year.

The brighter side of the picture was the cut in half of the relief payments and the excellent progress of the paving program.

Mr. Lindsay closed with the remark that he will not be standing for council next year, but that he enjoyed his time spent with it and urged others to give it a try.

R. N. Brown, former councillor now standing for the deputy-reeveship and chairman of the roads committee, stated that the paving program is now finished, except for driveways. He had words of praise for contributions of the citizens and the excellent efforts of the contractors. The cost of the project to the town was \$59,000 but money will be saved on maintenance costs.

**Assessments Higher**  
There was a 15 per cent increase in assessments this year, and Mr. Brown asked the next council to keep taxes in proportion, otherwise the tax cost will mount.

Councillor-elect S. Brunelle presented the report of the sewer committee and public buildings. He reported that all the sewer work in Glenlea is completed, and that 80 per cent is finished in the Lakeview subdivision. There was a saving on the sewers because the town did its own work.

Mr. Brunelle noted, as did others, that the town hall and arena are in poor repair and that something should be done. As was noted by Mr. Brown, it is easier and cheaper to repair than rebuild.

Questioned on the need soon for a partially paid fire brigade, Chief Newton noted no consideration should be given such a move until the population reaches seven to 10,000.

B. D. Rachlin paid tribute to the work of the Mayor and Coun-

## Council Hears Drilling Report Engages Theron Jones Assessor

Mayor Tyler reported to Acton council, Tuesday evening, following a visit that day to the site of the new well. He noted drilling had proceeded to a depth of 176 feet and "we've got a well." It was reviewed that the town had asked the drilling firm for a minimum of 500 gallons a minute and the well was being tested at over 600 which would produce almost a million gallons a day.

Members expressed their hope that tests would prove the source a satisfactory one.

On recommendation of the finance committee, Theron Jones was engaged as municipal assessor at a salary of \$4,000 following review of the two applications received. Councillor Lindsay pointed out Mr. Jones was familiar with the assessing in Halton, having been a member of the County Court of Revision since equalized assessment was introduced to the county in 1951.

The second applicant, Max D. Tenhagen, senior assessor with the City of Kitchener, asked a salary of \$4,400.

The resignation of G. A. Dills from the North Halton High School District Board was received and accepted. Members expressed their appreciation for Mr. Dills' service on the board since its inception and recalled that many difficulties had been overcome in the early stages when he was the only Acton representative.

By resolution, council instructed its delegates to county council to submit the name of E. S. Force to fill the vacancy, since the appointment is one of county council.

Members agreed, by resolution, to continue municipal policing through the Ontario Provincial Police and renewed the contract with that group.

Council accepted the recommendation of the Acton Planning Board regarding the zoning of lands immediately south of No. 7 highway and extending east to the town limits.

A resolution from county council that this council go on record as being opposed to permitting industries to become established adjacent to residential surveys without complete protection to the residences", was reviewed.

Reeve Hargrave pointed out that Shell Oil have land on the lakefront at the limits of Trafalgar next to a highly rated residential subdivision in Nelson. Cities Service are interested in building in the same region and members of county council felt it was a detriment to have refineries next to residential areas.

Mayor Tyler noted Acton could be in a similar position with its residential surveys at the town boundaries and unable to plan beyond into township areas.

No action was taken on the resolution.

Councillor Lindsay pointed to a need for installation of a number of stop signs and Foreman Kirkness reported a review of the town after Halloween when all the signs were installed. He pointed out a group was evidently interested in pulling signs out or breaking them off. The posts are worth about \$2.35, he emphasized.

Members agreed the committee should review the town and procure the necessary signs of the new type recommended by the Ontario Department of Highways.

Councillor Barbeau suggested the need for a storm sewer on Arthur St. since the paving had increased the height of the road, which would cause a flooding condition. The difficulty of installing a sewer because of the lack of fall to the main drain was pointed out and some action was to be planned.

Clearance of several other storm drains around town was also to be investigated by the town foreman.

Councillor Barbeau reported the roofing of the town hall had been about 10 per cent completed and an effort to telephone the contractor at the number given proved a false lead. A registered letter was directed to the contractor, asking an immediate reply on completion date and proof of protection to employees.

Reeve Hargrave reported he had given authorization to have the road leading to the new M. Z. Bennett school gravelled in preparation for the spring use of the building.

A by-law amending the hours of the garage closing by-law was approved. The amendment makes the open night on Friday in line with other local stores rather than the Saturday night. The action followed submission of a petition signed by 80 per cent of the local garage operators.

Mayor Tyler noted incorrect information in a Ratepayers' Bulletin on the Maria St. bridge, and agreed to draw it to the attention of the president of that association.

The following accounts were approved for payment:

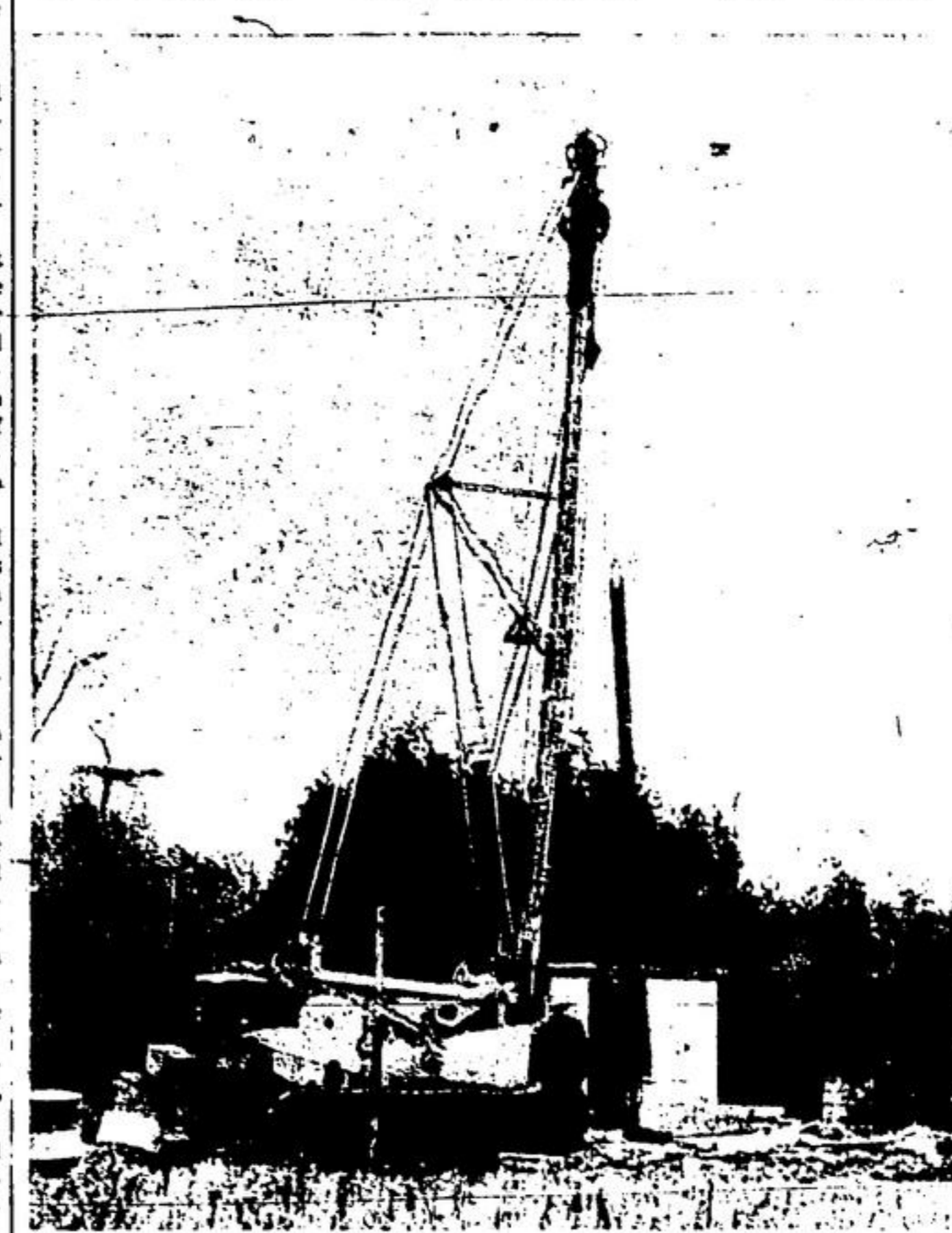
Approve Accounts	
S. Derry Transport	
drawing fill, gravel	\$187.25
Can. Legion re-wreath	14.80
Safety Supply Co., mds.	99.65
C. E. Smith, fencing	91.77
Eastern Steel Ltd., pump	224.40
C.N.R., crossing mntce.	121.70
Acton Free Press, mds.	38.06
M. Nellis, loader, scraper	758.40
Beaver Ready-Mix, concrete	711.36
	2,246.59



**MAYOR TED TYLER** was acclaimed to the position again for 1957 at the annual nomination meeting on Friday evening.

stated that hydro work in the Glenlea and Lakeview subdivisions is completed, with the exception of residential light standards in the Lakeview area. However, work (Continued on Page Eight)

## Pump Over 600 Gallons Minute in Test Town Water Well "Looks Promising"



TEST DRILLING in the search for an additional water supply reached the 176 foot level and the water flow is now being tested. A 24 hour test was applied. This photo shows the scene of operations.

## Esquesing to Vote on Board, Deputy-Reeve George Currie Replaces W. Linham as Reeve

George Currie was acclaimed Reeve of Esquesing township at the annual nominations meeting held Monday evening. He will succeed Walter Linham who is retiring as Reeve due to poor health.

Mr. Linham will serve on the township council, as will Wilfred Bird and George Leslie. All three councillors were elected by acclamation.

Nominated for the deputy-reeveship were Campbell Sinclair and Spencer Wilson, making an election a necessity. Nominated for the two positions open on the school board were: G. L. Royal, Clinton Taylor, Jim Glynn and James Kirkwood.

K. C. Lindsay chaired the business meeting which followed the nominations and presented the 1955

auditor's report. According to this report, there was a \$1,483 surplus in the School Board account, thus making an accumulated surplus of \$12,000.

Mr. Lindsay noted that the tax rate was increasing and that the outstanding tax total was too great. The report outlined the reason for this total, suggesting that the class of ratepayer had changed, with more taxpayers on small holdings and more delinquent accounts. Also, at present there is no penalty on unpaid taxes. In an effort to alleviate this condition, the tax payment date has been moved forward to October 15.

The results of such a move are evident, claimed Mr. Lindsay. Esquesing township has paid off a loan, saving \$900 in interest fees;

has not borrowed any money since August, thereby saving more interest payments.

**Deficit Probable**

The present reeve and councillor-elect, Walter Linham, then reported saying that a deficit is probable in the township. Directly responsible for the situation are two items, one of which is that the unconditional grant from the provincial government was not forthcoming and secondly, that the department of highways reduced road maintenance grants, causing the township to exceed the budget on maintenance costs.

Mr. Linham noted that there was an increase in the county's assessment of \$9,000,000. Plans for the proposed zoning of the township were commented on by Mr. Lin-

ham. He felt that Esquesing as a rural township has no need for zoning at the present, but that the township itself should try to encourage and influence proper building sites.

In explaining his position on the proposed hospital under consideration in Milton, the former reeve suggested that if Milton showed initiative and approved the necessary debenture soon, the Esquesing council should approve the requested \$25,000 contribution.

Action to date in the Esquesing council concerning the hospital request for funds is at a standstill. The council has tabled the request.

**Hospital Problem**  
Councillor Linham said he believed two hospitals are not secured. (Continued on Page Four)

## No Vote Needed for Nassagaweya Ratepayers As Council, Reeve, School Board Acclaimed

Nassagaweya Township will hold no municipal election this year as Reeve John A. Milne, Deputy-Reeve Charles Thomson, Councillors Archie R. Service, B. D. Young and Arthur E. Padbury, and school trustees Dr. Clifford Young and Arthur H. Gibson were all acclaimed to fill the vacant positions.

At the ratepayers' nomination meeting Monday afternoon, attended by about 45, 20 names were submitted for the seven positions, but when the hour of qualification closed Tuesday evening, only enough to fill the empty seats had qualified.

At the nomination meeting, citing Reeve Archie Service declared his intention to vacate the Reeve's chair if a councillor wished to step up. He pointed out that the tax rate had been increased two mills in 1954 to finance the township building, had dropped a mill in 1955, and was raised one mill this year to help pay for the township's new \$16,240 road grader.

He gave a lengthy report on county council, which he attended as the township's representative. "We have made a fair and reasonable amount of progress," he declared, and pointed to better roads, a heating system and renovated outside at the hall, and the new grader as evidences of the township's progress in the past year. He stated he had only two regrets—that this was the first year the township has had a Deputy-Reeve since the 1890's—and that some of the surplus accrued over the years had been used to help purchase the grader.

Mr. Service has served three years as Reeve and three former years as councillor.

John Milne, who was later acclaimed Reeve, stated at the meeting that many defects in the township's roads had been eliminated during the past year. He has served five years on council.

**Taxes Too High**

John Robertson, who was also nominated for the Reeve's position, said that taxes were too high and would have to be more evenly dis-

tributed over the township residents. He said people who live in the township but work outside it are making a lot of money but aren't contributing very much of it to the area.

J. Lloyd Chisholm, who was nominated for Deputy-Reeve, served the past year on council. He reported that some ditch problems had been remedied.

New Deputy-Reeve, Charles Thomson, a councillor for five years, noted that council was getting to be big business. He reported on ditching travelling roads and stockpiling sand.

Councillor J. Stanley Norrish said people have something to complain about when they complain about taxes being too high. He suggested cutting down the four-man works staff to economy, and deplored the money being wasted through false fire alarms submitted by township residents.

New councillor Arthur E. Padbury said the fact that there had been no election in Nassagaweya for years was not good for the sitting council, as they needed "a vote of confidence." He said if the people continued to acclaim their councillors, they would lose all thoughts of holding a vote. In closing, he declared his intention to stand for the position in hopes that it would cause an election, but said he hoped he was beaten at the polls because he didn't particularly want the position.

Andrew Frank, who was nominated, declared he wouldn't run, but paused to pay tribute to the 1956 council for their good work, especially on the roads. He credited Reeve Service's good leadership.

**Hospital Queried**

In a question and answer period, a ratepayer asked Reeve Service what stage the hospital in Milton was at, and the Reeve reported the

board was now making a choice between two architects and had the approval to go ahead whenever the money was available.

He told his audience that he was Nassagaweya's representative on the Hospital Board, but after the township plebiscite in which the ratepayers who voted declined a grant to the hospital, he has resigned as the township representative, but stayed on as an individual.

He said he agreed with the Dr. Harvey Agnew report suggesting the Milton hospital as a central hospital to serve the north of the county.

One ratepayer asked the Reeve if the 70 per cent of the total county levy for welfare and social service wasn't a bit high, and if the township was paying out more than it got back in this matter. He replied that it wouldn't be wise to pursue the matter any further because the township was managing to benefit from the money for roads which came in from the county.

Horace Blythe, the school board chairman, reported that with rising costs of education, there is a lot of criticism, but many families are moving into the township and some schools are overcrowded. He reported on the board's financial situation and on repairs and renovations at the Nassagaweya schools.

Incumbent Claude Brinklow stated he wouldn't accept his nomination to stand again.

Duncan Moffat, for the past six years on the board, signalled his intentions to retire from the board.

Mrs. Lillian Thomas, also nominated, declined the nomination. Melvin Storey said he was as yet undecided. Dr. Clifford Young, who was absent, was later acclaimed to the position. A. H. Gibson signified his intention to run.

At the time of the meeting, the Reeve reported the