



ONE OF THE SCENES in the Public School Operetta was the Sailors led by Joe, a red nosed tough old salt. The scenes were set in Holland with many amusing numbers interspersed with musical selections from the junior and senior choirs. Miss Goodwin, music teacher trained the children in the musical selections.

A Personality Sketch

Walter Cook, Mayor for 1958

By Alan E. Needham

One fact is self-evident in the results of the recent municipal election. It is that long residence in Acton is one of the most important qualifications that a candidate for public office can have.

But a striking exception to this is Walter Cook. After living in the town for little more than two years, he has been elected to the highest public office—that of mayor—and with what political commentators would call "a comfortable majority."

On election night, when the outcome of the mayoralty vote was first announced, Walter Cook stood apart from the crowd that had gathered in the gloomy, ill-lit corridor of the Town Hall. He was a quiet, tired, inconspicuous man. Then as the crowd converged on him with congratulations, someone asked him how he felt on his success. "I feel very humble," he replied.

That was probably the briefest public statement he has ever made in his life. But it is nevertheless indicative of the qualities he possesses as a man and politician that resulted in his capturing the popular vote.

Because Walter Cook actually did feel humble. He is that kind of man. He believes that in serving his fellow citizens he is not being

owing a privilege—he is receiving one. And in some way he has communicated the sincerity of his belief to the majority of the town's electorate.

Walter H. Cook was born in Swansea, Wales, in 1916, the fourth of six children of a sailor. He left school at 14, served his apprenticeship as a millwright and followed that trade until he joined the R.A.F. in 1940.

He volunteered for aircrew but his mechanical aptitudes were superior to his mathematical ones and he finished up as an aero-engine fitter. He liked the air force and stayed on after the war, travelling all over Africa, the Middle and Far East.

In 1949 he returned to civilian life and settled in Manchester, the home town of his wife, Molly. Three years later, he came to Canada. He first lived in Toronto but in 1955 moved to Acton because "I liked the people so much when I visited the town that I wanted to live among them." The feeling must have been mutual because that same year he was elected to council.

Essentially a domestic man, he has settled comfortably in the Glenora subdivision, along with his wife and two girls, Joan 10 and Barbara 7. Although in his younger days an accomplished soccer player, he now has few interests outside his family, his council work and

his job with the R.C.A.F. Quality Control Group at Orenda, Englewood, in Malton. He is an Anglican and a member of St. Alban's choir.

A man of medium build, he has a gaunt, strong jawed, tight lipped face and a thin, dry voice. His speech is slow, accent and tenacity are typical of the north of England. He is a fairly heavy smoker but a virtual teetotaler.

What is his platform for the coming year? "I'm not making no promises," he says, "favoring as usual the emphatic, if unacademic, double negative. "But rest assured I shall do my best."

He realizes he has a difficult year ahead of him. The taxes are already high, but extensions to the town facilities must be made to accommodate new industries—yet without making the costs prohibitive to these same industries or the increasing residential population. The debenture assessment ratio is dangerously high, but the cost of improvements must be debentured to make them economically feasible. The town's administration during 1956 must be an extremely judicious one or it could be a disastrous one.

Mr. Cook is fortunate in having what is for the most part an experienced and intelligent council to support him. But nevertheless the whole town will be watching closely to see just how good his best will be.

OSPREY

Community Club Hold Third Meeting

The third meeting of the "Osprey" Orchestra was held at the home of Mrs. Archibald with six girls present.

President Nancy Bullock opened the meeting and all repeated the 4-H Pledge.

Roll call was answered with "One essential of an efficient clothes closet."

Betty Grundy read her Club Story.

Discussion followed on provision for shoes, including shoe racks and shoe packs.

Work was continued on hat standards and hat boxes.

On Monday evening the ladies of the village held a surprise party for Miss Emma Balde, who celebrated her birthday on Sunday.

A pleasant evening was concluded with lunch including a Birthday Cake.

Mr. Ken Buck flew to Montreal for the weekend to attend the "Mink Auction."

Mrs. Butler and children spent the weekend with her brother S. L. Kahan who was celebrating the award of a scholarship.



BANK OF MONTREAL'S new and departing managers in Acton are pictured above as was announced in the Free Press last week. Left is Bill MacKay, who was transferred from Head Office, Toronto, and assumes the duties of manager of the Acton branch. Right, William Davey, who has taken over the duties of manager of the Ingersoll branch, after three years as manager in Acton, in which time a new Bank building has been erected here.

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CAMPBELLVILLE
Plan Ball Dance, Carol Singing By Village Women's Institute

—Mrs. Frank Quinlan was hostess at the Christmas meeting of the Campbellville Women's Institute when Mrs. James Wallace presided, opened with a poem "It's getting on to Christmas," the Ode and Mary Stewart Collect Joy to the World was sung. Mrs. J. Wheelan presented a two and pencil on a Bill Andrews, his reward for giving his public speech "Kilcoo Camp," and winning Township Subsidy.

About 40 ladies answered the roll call with their favorite radio or TV program Mrs. A. T. Moore gave the secretary's report and Mrs. Donald Martin the cheer report.

Plans were made for Carol singing on December 23rd from Purdy's Store at 7:30 p.m. Proceeds to go to the Cancer Society. An invitation was extended to the three hardball teams to a dance in Killbuck Hall on Friday, December 13th.

Mrs. A. T. Moore then took the chair for the Christmas program. Carol singing was enjoyed, and a hymn band by Doris Wheelan, Katharine Quinlan, Margaret Wallace, Marjorie McPhail, Mary McPhail, June Andrews and Vivian Cramp. The shutouts of the community will be remembered at Christmas. Two lucky draws were won by Mrs. Donald Martin and Mrs. George Black.

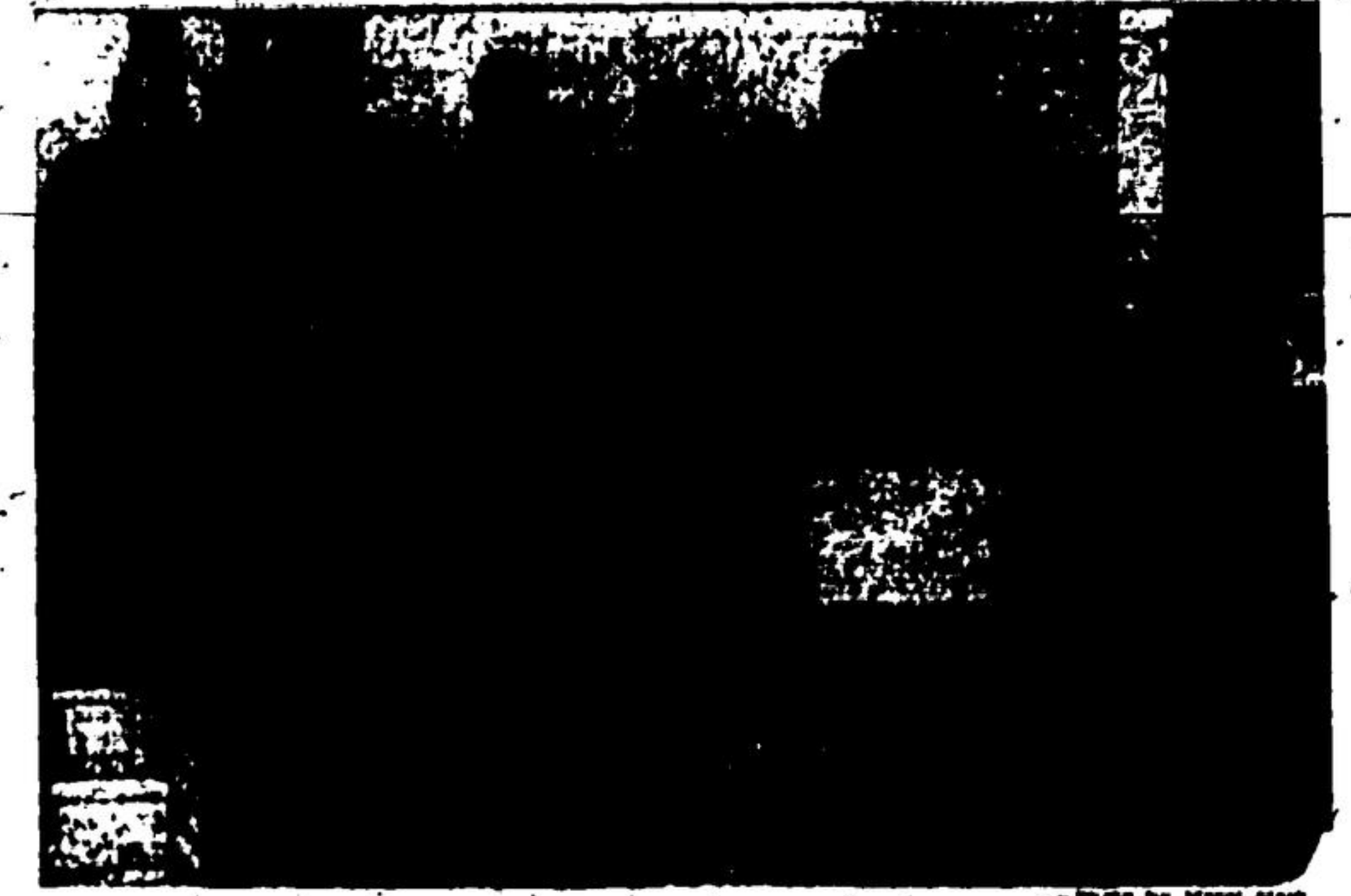
The January meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Jack Wheelan when Reginald Austin will be guest speaker.

A demonstration of Christmas decorations and candle making was conducted by Mrs. Bradford Clewents and Mrs. Joe Hartley which was very interesting. Mrs. R. C. Menzies moved a vote of thanks on behalf of the visitors.

White Gifts were given to the Hallon Children's Aid and the president closed the meeting with a poem "Christmas Giving," the Queen and a dainty lunch was enjoyed by all.

Miss Lois Inglis was hostess to the Christmas meeting of St. David's Girls Group when Gloria Purdy presided and opened with the roll to worship and hymn, and prayer by Susan Buckley. Fern Ramshaw had charge of the devotional period. Lois Inglis gave the secretary's report and Anita Smith the treasurer's report. Election officers are as follows: president, Margaret McPhail, vice-president, Fern Ramshaw, secretary, Elizabeth Smith, assistant secretary, Susan Buckley, treasurer, Beverley Roberts, pianist, Sandra Black, assistant pianist, Janet Mitchell, cheer secretary, Carol Walton.

Mrs. Henry Ramshaw then gave



A NEW THOMAS ELECTRIC ORGAN was dedicated at the Arkell United Church recently and pictured seated at the organ, is organist Miss Gerrie Smith. In the choir are, front row, left to right, Miss M. Tolton, Mrs. Marvin Tolton, Mrs. J. Ivan Tolton and Miss Mary Falkema. Centre, O. Baker, Mrs. L. Green, Mrs. W. Boreham. Back row, Ronald Tolton, Leonard Green, Dan Ainley, Jimmie Crosby and Jim Allan.

Prizes awarded at St. John's church party to Mrs. R. P. Jeffares, John Turner, Miss O. Patterson, Mrs. Wm. DeForest, Mrs. James DeForest and Harold Small. Parties will resume on January 8th.

Mrs. William McPhail spent two weeks with her son David and family in Toronto.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Everett Mouton, and Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Cole on the birth of a son each.

Sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Colling and family during the loss of a sister-in-law, Mrs. Filwood Colling, also to Mrs. Charles Leaton and family, formerly Violet Harris of Campbellville, on the loss of a husband and father.

Mrs. William McPhail, Mr. and Mrs. James Robertson and family and Mr. and Mrs. David McPhail and family attended the 70th birthday party of Mr. David Henderson at Moffat on Saturday evening.

The Nassagaweya Public School board and officers entertained the school teachers of the area and friends at a Christmas Party in No. 3 school last weekend. All reported having a good time.

Mrs. Audley Early of Hamilton spent the weekend with her parents Mr. and Mrs. James Early. Mr. and Mrs. George Wallace and family of Guelph were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. James Wallace.

Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Markle, Sharon and Ronald were Sunday guests with Mr. and Mrs. George Inglis and family.

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