

Hear Explanation Assessing Method 50 Interested Ratepayers at Meeting

Reasons for re-assessment, methods adopted during the program and several questions from the floor were aired during an hour and a half public meeting, Wednesday evening, in the Robert Little public school auditorium. Approximately 50 ratepayers were present to hear county assessor Ford Rogers and local assessor John Ladouceur explain the D.M.A. method of assessing.

Mayor John H. Goy, chairman for the meeting, informed ratepayers the meeting was called to acquaint them with the adopted Department of Municipal Affairs manual, used as a guide for re-assessing in Acton.

County assessor Ford Rogers was the first speaker, informing the audience the new system of assessing was being carried out by every municipality in the county with the exception of Georgetown. He explained that if every municipality adopted the same method, all municipalities would share county expenses fairly.

From the county assessor, rate-

payers learned that during the recent assessing program, the main thought was not to increase the overall assessment, but to produce a better equality of assessment throughout the municipality and the county. He pointed out the last re-assessment in Acton was in 1946, at which time the average increase was 102 per cent.

Mr. Rogers stated the assessment in Halton County had increased from \$27,000,000 in 1946 to \$323,000,000. He emphasized this increase indicated a change in property value and development within the county.

The county assessor told ratepayers that this re-assessment in Acton would, in all probability, pay a smaller portion of county costs.

Local Assessor

"It's better to address a crowd and clarify the assessing rather than have everyone talking over back fences when they are not clear on the program adopted," stated town assessor John Ladouceur.

The town assessor informed ratepayers that six basic rules were laid down in the assessing manual for assessors to follow. He listed them in order, as follows: present use, location, replacement cost, sale value, rental value, any other circumstance. He explained the rental factor had definitely been applied this year for the first time. Many people renting homes have children attending school, which in turn added to the educational costs.

Assessing Steps

Mr. Ladouceur explained that during assessing, the first step was to measure the area at the ground floor level, then determine the proper grading of the building. He also told ratepayers that other important factors included the type of foundation, roof, shingles, heating, plumbing, floors, walls and any extras.

During a breakdown of assessment, Mr. Ladouceur informed the gathering how values were placed on various types of heating systems, plumbing, electrical wiring, types of basements, floors, roofing and general construction of a building.

The assessor said that a complete report of each property was made at the time of the assessment. Each taxpayer may see this report at his office.

Before opening the meeting to a question and answer period, Mayor Goy stated that assessing was a tough job to explain. He stated it had been council's intention to have a representative from D.M.A. present for the meeting. The Department refused to send a representative.

Fire Questions

Tony Sevnick asked how the assessor assessed one home divided into three dwellings. Mr. Ladouceur explained each area was assessed individually.

Bruce Shoemaker asked clarification of business assessment. Business assessment rates are satisfactory and are according to various types of business.

Pete Papillon asked Mayor Goy if council could assure taxpayers a reduction in the mill rate would result with the higher assessment. He was told that under last year's assessment the mill rate was worth \$5,500, and under the re-assessment, the mill would be worth over \$7,000. Council should be able to raise the same amount of money next year with a 63 mill rate.

Mr. Papillon inquired if with a higher assessment, council could borrow money to a higher level. This could be the case, Learning this, Mr. Papillon stated, "This cannot help but increase the taxes, if people on council go out and borrow on the strength of increased assessment. I say it's time we had a ratepayers' association going."

Quarter Business Tax

Mrs. Panchon inquired if the subject of some debate.

Following the election of the executive, the convention was addressed by D. B. Archer, president of the Ontario Federation of Labour. In his opening remarks, Mr. Archer said that he was happy to see the interest and enthusiasm shown by the convention. He went on to say, "Halton is one of the banner ridings in increase of membership and interest. This increase is happening all over Ontario."

Mr. Archer spoke first on the subject of unemployment, stating, "There are over 40,000 out of work in Canada. Before the winter is through, 600,000 to 700,000 will be unemployed. The old parties have tried to remedy this... their efforts have resulted only in an increase of unemployment."

He went on to say, "We must plan our economy to get the most out of our money... we must balance the need for out-

Legion Ladies Host 120 In Legion Hall Thursday

Acton Legion Ladies' Auxiliary played host to 120 visitors during a social evening in the Legion auditorium Thursday evening, November 23, when ladies from Milton, Streetsville, Erin and Georgetown branches were present.

One of the highlights of the program was singing and dancing by two talented local children, Sharon and Peter Martingell, who are scheduled to appear on Uncle Jerry's Club which will be televised from Buffalo sometime between Christmas and New Year's. They were accompanied on the piano by Mrs. Mel McCullough.

Another feature of the evening

was two songs by local artist R. Matthews, who accompanied himself on the guitar. A singing song was enjoyed with music supplied by Mrs. Jim Bradshaw, Auxiliary member.

Following bingo, draws were held with the following lucky ticket holders: Mrs. Shirley Evans, Streetsville; Mrs. Gladys Bentlie, Milton; Mrs. A. Thompson, Streetsville; Mrs. Shirley Turkoz, Acton; Mrs. Olive Cunningham, Erin; Mrs. Dorothy Earl, Acton; Mrs. James Loutett, Acton, and Mrs. V. Churchill, Acton.

At the conclusion of the program, lunch was served.

Pretty Sisters

Tapping Couple on Television From Hamilton Next Sunday

Five-year-old Debbie and her sister, seven-year-old Diane Bonfield, will show the charm, bounce and rhythm that almost "steals the show" when they dance on Hamilton television station channel 11 Sunday. They have been asked to appear Sunday afternoon at 4:30 on the Tiny Talent Show.

Actually, they'll be going down Saturday afternoon to tape the show. Their parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Bonfield, Church St., and some friends will be going along to watch their first TV appearance.

At both Joyce Carpenter's recit-

al and the Cancer Society tea the dark-haired, bouncy and spirited youngsters sang Zippidy-Do-Do, and this is what they'll be doing in the show. They wear red and black costumes with silver sequins.

They auditioned three weeks ago and weren't nervous. In fact they really enjoyed it. They learned yesterday (Wednesday) they'll be "on camera" Saturday for the Sunday show. Officials said they were very good. Both girls love to dance and sing — they'd rather dance than walk and often do! Their teacher, Joyce Carpenter, expects to go down with them.

New Democrats Founding Convention Hears Labor President, Names Officers

A full slate of officers for the Halton New Democratic Party was elected Monday night at the founding convention in the Steelworkers' Hall, Milton by a crowd of more than 100 followers from various parts of the county. The chair was shared by Carl Rouleau, N.D.P. candidate for Halton in the next Federal election, and Gordon Bridgen, executive secretary of the Metro Toronto New Democratic Party. D.B. Archer, president of the Ontario Federation of Labour, was the evening's guest speaker.

The executive was elected as follows: Marjorie Prime, president; Frank Hamill, vice-president; Pat Clancy, secretary; Dave Law, treasurer; Kay Spies, organizer; Marty Caputo (Milton), Mr. Heas, Mr. McKay and Mr. Hall, executive; and Fred Colbourne, provincial delegate.

Carl Rouleau, co-chairman of the convention, opened the meet-

ing with some brief remarks to the audience. He remarked on the fine crowd which had filled the hall and thanked them for turning out. Mr. Rouleau said that he felt that the New Democratic Party had a bright future in Halton and that the interest here is as high as that anywhere in the province.

The draft of by-laws submitted by the Halton Committee for the New Democratic Party was passed without change. However, the question of whether there should or should not be a council was a subject of lively lengthy and sometimes heated debate. Contrasts of opinion were evident and only the control of Mr. Bridgen kept the convention from breaking into arguments between individuals in the audience.

However, after close to an hour of debate, the convention decided to pass the article as drafted by the Committee, allowing for a council composed of representatives of area and special interest groups. The other articles were passed as drafted and were also

side capital with maintenance of Canadian economy... we saw the old parties selling us out to other countries... we're going to give the people of Canada their heritage."

Mr. Archer said the N.D.P. felt that education from elementary to university level should be free, that the aged should be given better care and allowed to live comfortably, that the aged if they so desired, and that sick and disabled should be a charge on the community.

In closing, the Federation president said, "Some people prefer free enterprise as it exists now... this party provides the opportunity of choice. I hope you'll go out and carry this message to the people of Halton." The speaker was thanked by Marty Caputo.

The meeting was closed following the official installation of officers.

OBITUARY

J. R. Hilts Survived By Large Family

Funeral service was held at St. Alban's Church on Monday, November 27 for James Richmond Hilts of R. R. 3, Acton, who died in General Hospital on Thursday, November 23 after a lengthy illness. The Rev. D. West conducted the service there and at Fairview Cemetery. Pallbearers were Vern Stewart, Eddie Stewart, Dave Stewart, Foss Malley, Ken Taylor and Dennis Hilts.

The son of the late John Hilts and Alice Richmond, he married at Aurora Clara Carlyle who survives him. He lived at R.R. 3, since 1945.

Surviving are five sons, Telford, Georgetown; Floyd, Downsview; Stewart, Richmond Hill; Everett, Palgrave; Theroll, Wilcox Lake; six daughters, Helen (Mrs. Walsvate) Seattle, Thelma (Mrs. Taylor) Aurora, Furla (Mrs. Goe) Willowdale, De Nore (Mrs. Parker) Erin, Celva (Mrs. Fleming) Halton, Ivera (Mrs. McIntosh) Nashville, 38 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Two in Contest Eramosa Reeve

There will be an election for reeve and Rockwood village trustees in Eramosa township following Friday's nomination meeting in Rockwood. Joseph Dukes, who held the office of reeve for the last six years, was named, along with the 1961 deputy-reeve, Ernest Bonham, veteran Eramosa legislator, who has held all offices at some time.

Running for two positions as village trustees are Charles O'Brien, Robert Leslie, Kenneth Murray and Frank Carney.

Other officers were filled by acclamation. B. Forsythe is deputy-reeve, councillors are George Smith, Gordon Wheeler and Charles McNabb, and school trustees are Dr. R. J. Hilton, Warren Parkinson and William Jackson.

SILVERWOOD

Carmichael Home Burns Cow Killed on Highway

Sympathy of the community is extended to Mrs. H. Corbett Carmichael in the passing of her husband.

Cow Killed

Dick Appleyard had a heifer break out onto the highway early Sunday morning and killed by a car.

Sympathy of the community

is extended to Mrs. H. Corbett Carmichael and family in the passing of her husband.

Dick Appleyard had a heifer break out onto the highway early Sunday morning and killed by a car.

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Tuesday, December 5, 1961

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