

Appoint new engineer, assessor

Two of Halton's senior department heads are retiring this year, and two new men have been named to take their places.

Roy F. Smith, who after 48 years with Halton probably ranks as the county's senior employee, is retiring from his position as County Engineer and Roads Superintendent; while J. Ford Rogers, Halton's assessor for the past 20 years, is retiring on June 30.

The new engineer is Donald John "Jack" Corbett and he assumed his new duties in Halton on June 1. Mr. Smith is staying on to help him in an advisory capacity for the next few months, on a part time basis. Halton's new assessor is Robert Beach, who began here on February 1.

and he stayed to complete a new bridge on Highway 5 over the 16 Mile Creek.

When these jobs were finished he began doing consulting work for the county and local municipalities, and moved to live in Oakville in 1922. He also worked on the arch bridge over the 12 Mile Creek at Bronte.

He became Halton's first engineer in 1924 on a fee basis, and in 1930 was appointed roads superintendent and county engineer. Over the years he also did some consulting engineering work for other municipalities, mainly Milton, until he quit that practice about four years ago.

Mr. Smith is known far and

wide in engineering circles. He was one of the pioneers of the County Engineers Association formed in the early 1950's, and its president in 1954. In 1963 he was honored as a 45-year member of the Ontario Good Roads Association, and in 1964 joined the quarter-century club of the Canadian Good Roads Association after 25 years with that group. He is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario.

In community life Mr. Smith has also been busy, serving with the Oakville Home and School Association and later as vice-president of the Ontario Home and School Association. He is a former first principal of the

White Oak Chapter Masons, and a member of the Scottish Rite, Merton Lodge of Perfection.

His community interests also led him to join the Oakville Lions Club and the Oakville Curling Club. He is active in St. Jude's Church. In his earlier days he was active in sports, having played golf for the Queen's University O.H.A. entry and maintaining his interests in lacrosse and baseball.

J. FORD ROGERS

A native of Northumberland County, Mr. Rogers was married in Trafalgar and moved there to farm in 1922. In 1945 Halton County decided to engage a full time assessor and he won the job over several other appli-

cants, starting work on the first of January of 1946.

Mr. Rogers recalled the Halton assessment was only about \$2,000,000 that year, while today it is \$306,000,000.

His first office was over what is now the Bank of Commerce, Milton, and two years later he moved to an office in the Brown St. county court house. Since the new Halton administration building has been located on the Base Line he has worked from the building.

In 1946 each Halton municipality had an assessor but the county assessing system was new (Halton was the sixth county to appoint a county assessor) so he started from scratch. A form of equalized assessment was in use then but one of his first tasks was to draft a new system and practically reassess the whole county.

He recalls it was not an easy task, as there were no previous records to go on, and there were few land sales in those days on which an accurate assessment could be made. There was strong opposition to any reassessment from the farm people and much of the property was assessed too low, he remembered.

"There have been a great many problems, and many seriously disturbed ratepayers, but somehow you seemed to be able to reason with them," he reminisced. "I don't think they all went away satisfied, but

they usually accepted it more graciously when they realized we were only trying to make an honest assessment," he added.

Mr. Rogers remembered his first court of revision in Nelson Township (now upper Burlington) when there were 140 appeals to be heard.

His work has been interesting and he has enjoyed meeting many interesting people over the last 20 years. He praised the local assessors for their assistance and co-operation with the county assessing department, and said during his retirement he will look back with many happy memories of his work.

Mr. Rogers is past chairman of the County Assessors Association and of the District 12, Association of Assessing Officers of Ontario.

D. J. CORBETT

Halton's new Roads Superintendent and County Engineer was born in Tillsonburg and was educated there and in Woodstock before entering University of Toronto, where he graduated in 1955 with a Bachelor of Applied Science degree. After apprenticing for a year he was registered as a Professional Engineer.

His first work as an engineer was with Middlesex County near London, as assistant county engineer. Eight years ago, he moved to Dufferin County as County Engineer, and on June 1 he came to Halton County.

Deputy Chief Assessor of Stamford. In January of 1963 when part of Stamford and Niagara Falls amalgamated, he became chief assessor. For one year he also served as assessor and building inspector for the Village of Crispawa, following the death of the assessor there.

Mr. Beach was a member of Niagara Falls Kinsmen Club for 11 years, and served one year as its president. He was also active in the city's United Appeal and served as chairman of the public service division for a year.

He was a member of the first graduating class in the assessing course at Queen's University, and is a charter member of the Institute of Municipal Assessors, also a member of the Ontario Association of Assessing Officers and a candidate member of the Appraisal Institute of Canada.

Married, with three children, he has taken up residence in Burlington.

ROY F. SMITH

Working on Halton's roads since 1918, Mr. Smith has really seen Halton grow from a tiny rural community to a thriving and highly urbanized area. In those days Halton had 25 to 30 miles of pavement, while today there are 120 miles of paved highways in Halton.

Born in Trenton, he began working on construction with his father at the age of 12, and one of his earliest jobs was on the western entrance to Toronto harbor. After finishing school, he enrolled in Queen's University at Kingston and graduated as a civil engineer in 1916.

Mr. Smith engineered the construction of a sulphuric acid factory in Trenton, then took a job in the production end of the firm for two years. It was in 1918 he came to Halton as resident engineer on the new Tansley bridge on Highway 5

Mrs. L. Dittrich on school staff

The Hockley Valley Summer School, located in the Caledon Hills, near Orangeville, Ontario, will again be open this July and August with Mrs. Laura Dittrich of Acton on the staff. The Hockley School is the only summer school of Arts and crafts that has been designed so that all members of the family can come and take classes. The age range of the students is from infants to people over eighty.

Children join the Junior Art Centre and infants go to the nursery while parents and older children take courses in acting, ballet, calligraphy, contemporary dance, drawing, enamelling, French, furniture repairs, and refinishing, making musical instruments, painting (landscape and portrait), spinning, music appreciation, wine making.

Students come from all parts of North America and stay in private homes in the area, motels, dormitories or camp on the banks of the Nottawasaga River.

Supported by individuals, organizations, the Province of Ontario Council for the Arts and the Canada Council, the school first opened in 1963. About 400 people are expected this year and will stay for periods of from one to four weeks.

Mrs. Dittrich is the proud grandmother of four, and one of her grandchildren attended the Junior Art Centre last year. She has been a member of the Hockley Valley School since its inception and on the staff for two years.



—Staff Photo

J. FORD ROGERS, Halton County's assessor for the past 20 years was honored at a banquet in Oakville last week. Mrs. Rogers, who received a bouquet of red roses is shown seated. Shown congratulating Mr. Rogers, centre, are assessor

William Erskine of Acton and assessor Cliff Hibbert of Georgetown, and assessor John Charlton of Milton, chairman of the Halton County Assessors' Association.




YOUR FAMILY WOULD SUFFER IF YOUR HOME BURNED DOWN

They'd suffer . . . loss of clothes, belongings and shelter at least. And they could suffer burns or other painful injuries. There might be loss of life—sleeping children are often overcome by smoke.

A fire in your home could have disastrous effects. Yet home fires are far from uncommon . . . an average of 25 every day in Ontario last year. You can protect your family and property by acting to eliminate four common causes of home fires . . .

- Keep matches away from children
- Don't overload electrical circuits
- Be careful in using and storing inflammable materials
- Don't smoke when you're lying down—in bed or on a chesterfield

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TAX NOTICE — 1966

MUNICIPALITY OF ACTON

FIRST INSTALMENT NOW DUE

Attention is drawn to the payment of 1966 taxes, which are now payable in four instalments. Taxes are payable to the Municipal Treasurer at the

Town of Acton Municipal Office

(Y.M.C.A. Building)

Taxes for the period Jan. 1, 1966 to Dec. 31, 1966 were due on May 16th and penalties will be imposed if instalments of same are not paid as follows:

FIRST INSTALMENT	MAY 16th
SECOND INSTALMENT	JULY 15th
THIRD INSTALMENT	SEPTEMBER 15th
FOURTH INSTALMENT	NOVEMBER 15th

According to the Tax Collection By-law a penalty of 1 per cent, per month or fraction of a month, will be added on the amount outstanding after the 16th day of May.

This penalty applies to each instalment in a similar manner.

The attention of Ratepayers is directed to the Penalties and other clauses as printed and explained in detail on every Tax Bill.

MAKE PAYMENT NOW AND TAKE YOUR TAX NOTICE WITH YOU WHEN MAKING PAYMENT

J. McGEACHIE, Collector

WHY YOU MAY HAVE TO PAY MORE FOR DAIRY FOODS

Each year, Canada's dairy farmers get a smaller return for their investment and efforts. Increasing costs of operation, equipment and virtually everything a farm needs, plus a very serious shortage of farm labour, are putting dairy farmers out of business at the rate of about 10,000 each year.


Returns to the dairy farmer have not kept pace with increased costs of farm operation.

From May 1954 to the beginning of 1966, in most Canadian markets, the aggregate increase to the dairy farmer was only 2cents per quart for standard homo milk.

Consumer prices of dairy foods have not increased as much as most other food products.

From May 1954 to the beginning of 1966, in most Canadian markets, the aggregate increase in home delivered milk (standard homo) was only 5 cents a quart.

Canada's dairy industry is vital to our economic and nutritional health. If dairy foods cost a little more than they used to, they'll still be your best food buy.



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