

THE MAIL BAG

BURLINGTON PROTESTS SHARE OF THEIR COUNTY ASSESSMENT

Burlington, Ont.
September 6th, 1951

Gentlemen:
I am instructed by the Council of my municipality to write to you regarding the new County Equalization of assessments. Burlington has good reason to believe that the new equalization is not accurate. If this conclusion is correct this error could arise in one of two ways, either that the rules as laid down by the County Assessor do not achieve the desired result, or the rules may not have been followed.

I am instructed to state that so far as Milton, Georgetown, Acton, Esquesing and Nassagaweya are concerned, we do not seriously differ with the composite reduction of 5.206 per cent of the county assessment which has been made with respect to these five municipalities in the North end of the county. Under the 1950 equalization 32.12 per cent was the share of these municipalities, and under the 1951 equalization this is reduced to 26.914. We are not

in a position to express any opinion, as to whether this total reduction of 5.206 per cent has been equitably distributed among the five municipalities in question, but the total result as between the north and south ends of the county would not appear to be open to serious question.

As to the Southern end of the County, which is now to pay 73.086 per cent of the county taxes, we believe that this percentage has not been equitably distributed among the four southern municipalities.

A judicial equalization is not only very costly, but it also inevitably leads to ill-feeling which should be avoided if at all possible, and Burlington will do everything in its power to see that an equitable assessment is agreed upon without litigation. In order to protect our position we must almost immediately file an appeal. This is unfortunate and would not have been necessary if the county assessor had given to all municipalities a month's notice of his report as required by the act, so that amount of time would have permitted the mutual exchange of information and discussions. We do not know who is to blame for this neglect, but would add that if there ever was a time when the full period of advance notice should have been given, surely it should have been done this time when such drastic changes are being made.

Burlington is prepared to give any information which any other municipality in the county would like to have relative to assessments and actual selling prices of properties, also any municipality in the county is welcome to send their assessor into our municipality to check our assessments. Since we are primarily interested in the assessment in the South, we would like to have a copy of the Registry Office sales lists for 1950 and 1951 of all sales in Nelson, Trafalgar, and Oakville, with the actual assessments of these properties as to both lands and buildings extended after the selling price of each sale. The Assessment Act, Section 43, clearly states that land is to be assessed at "its actual value," and land of course includes buildings. The only reason that uniform rules are set up is that if the rules are good ones and if the rules are accurately followed, they should result in a uniform assessment compared to actual selling prices. There is nothing contained in the Assessment Act which says that any rules of assessment are to limit in any way the assessment of property at actual value.

Halton County is fortunate that this problem of equalization of assessments has occurred at a time when the actual sale prices of so many properties are available, and we believe that if the above referred to information is supplied by the four southern municipalities it will be possible for our officials to determine the percentage which the actual assessment in each municipality bears to actual value. We suggest that after this information is compiled and fully studied, that a meeting should then be held of all four municipalities to reach agreement upon an equitable equalization of the assessments of these municipalities.

We are informed that in the Northern part of the county that Georgetown is not satisfied, and we would suggest that a similar exchange of information followed by a conference to reach agreement, should take place there.

Yours truly,
M. M. Bush,
Clerk and Treasurer,
Town of Burlington

FUNERAL HERE FRIDAY

Latimer Bingham, a Georgetown native who died in Saskatchewan will be buried here in Greenwood Cemetery on Friday. The service will be held at 3 o'clock.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

IN THE ESTATE of John F. Sinclair, Sr., Farmer, Deceased

All persons having claims against the estate of John F. Sinclair, Sr., late of the Township of Esquesing, Farmer, who died on or about the 28th day of June, A.D. 1951, are hereby notified to send particulars of same to the undersigned on or before the 12th day of October, 1951, after which date the estate will be distributed with regard only to the claims of which the undersigned shall then have notice, and the undersigned will not be liable to any person of whose claim they shall not then have notice.

DATED at Georgetown, this 11th day of September, A.D. 1951.
J. Fred Sinclair, Jr., and Donald Sinclair, Executors of the estate of John F. Sinclair, Sr., by their Solicitors, Dale and Bennett, Georgetown, Ont. 9-26



There's dancing delight in "Royal Wedding" in the persons of Fred Astaire and Jane Powell teamed for the first time in M.G.M.'s new technicolor musical coming to the Roxy, next Monday for two days

Legion Notes

HAD A NUMBER of the boys ask us why the dearth of news in this corner just now. Well, it's like this — there just doesn't seem to be a great deal to write about the Branch these days. Everything is going quite smoothly and that does not make for a great deal of news.

IN CASE YOU'RE wondering (as we did) who the visitor this week around our Branch is, and haven't noticed the resemblance to one of our members, it's Rene Martin's brother, from Callander, where he is president of the Legion Branch there. He's visiting with Rene this week and we hope to see more of him in the near future. The Branch at Callander is only three years old but has made excellent progress in that time.

DOWN TO SEE Tom Allen last week. He is slowly recuperating after a serious operation, and while not coming along just as fast as he wants to, he hopes soon to be able to get around again. Hurry up and get well, Tom, the boys miss you about the Branch.

AS WE WRITE this the ball team have yet to play Tuesday night's game, but leading two to one in a seven game series. Scotty says his boys will take the next two straight. If they do, we believe they have a little project on tap to raise some money to buy themselves windbreakers, very shortly. So, although it's not definite yet, keep an eye on the bulletin board Friday and Saturday for an announcement. The ball team have had an excellent season, losing very few games—the only fly in the ointment has been the lack of support from the Legion members in turning out to see the team. So let's see a lot of members on hand for Thursday night's game.

AND SPEAKING of ball, two of our members, Harvey Gear and Bud James, along with Will Brown have been looking after a new kids ball team in town that is well worth a lot of support. They have been spending a lot of time with this team, and the boys are really good, but have not been receiving any support to date, which also means that there has been no real financial support, and there again, you can't run a ball team on air.

IF YOU NOTICE a bingo booth at the Fair on Saturday being run by Branch 120 bingo "experts", don't get the idea that the Branch is sponsoring a booth. The boys merely are helping the Lions Club out who have a number of concessions at the Park on Fair Day.

THE LEADING topic around the Branch these days of course is the sale of the Wartime Houses. Most of them seem to have been bought by the owners. It seems that there will be very little change in occupancy.

AT CORNWALL, at the 17th biennial convention of the Ontario Command of the Canadian Legion Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation came under heavy fire, according to a report published some time ago in the Guelph Mercury. High-ranking Legionnaires, among them Ray Mann, well known locally, charged that C.M.H.C. employed agents who had used various forms of duress to enforce sale of these houses. Rental charges were criticized also. Ray Mann, who heads the Legion housing committee demanded legislation covering the following points: Federal government rental controls; a home building and building material subsidy; lower rents for CMHC houses; special consideration for handicapped persons who are applicants for these houses; an immediate probe into the cost of home building in Canada; and placing housing BEFORE

national defence as a major project. Georgetown this year did not send a delegate to the convention. However, maybe next year's Dominion convention will be different. We hear it's being held in Montreal — who is coming along?

WOODBIDGE LEGION (we believe it's called Major Mackenzie branch) is opening a new wing to their Legion Hall on Friday night, with a big dance. A cordial invitation was extended to Branch 120 members to attend.

AND STARTING this month, the regular meetings commence. The first one will be held on the regular night, Thursday, September 27. Let's see an excellent turnout for that night. How about it Comrades?

AS PROMISED last week here is some of Mike Lorusso's letter from Korea.

August 20th, 1951.
Korea.

Hello Les:
Thank the Legion for me for the cigarettes. They are really appreciated. Well I guess none of us will be home for Xmas, but however in a couple of weeks I am getting my leave to Tokyo so there is going to be a bit of fun in that five days. (Note: Here Mike mentions something about getting hold of some Canadian Club at \$5.00 per bottle in Japan. Of course we don't expect any of the members would know what that was!)

Say, I just moved back to base from one of the rifle companies where I had been working and I met another fellow who lives right near the Glen. His parents just moved there before he went over and he only spent his embarkation leave out there. His name is Pte. B. G. McDonald, B800785, H.Q. Comp. 2nd Bn. R.C.R.

We saw Al Edmunds quite a bit as they were both in a company near here — I gave him a couple of the Herald's I had received. I sure would like to thank Mr. Blehn for sending the paper. They are coming through real good and it keeps you right up to date. That donkey ball game must have been pretty good.

I expect to see Lou Brandford in the next day or so. He's going on an NCO's course here and will probably stay here for a couple of days.

Well, be good and please say hello to all the gang 'round the Legion for me.

Mike Lorusso
(There might be one error on this letter as the name Lou Brandford was smudged and the last few letters were obliterated except for a 'd' which led us to think that it was Brandford. The letter had been damaged in the mails and this had caused the smudge).

FLASH! ... What happened last night ... The boys went down to

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Huttonville Park Grand Closing

DANCE
This Saturday

MUSIC BY THE CLANSMEN

SUNDAY COMMUNITY SING

AMATEUR FINALS

All weekly prizewinners be on hand at 7.00 p.m. for rehearsal.

VIVIAN & McCracken Trophy

Special Feature: Erno and His Clown Band

This is the last Community Sing for the season.

defeat before the Glen to tie the series two-all. Next game will be Thursday night.

STEWARTTOWN

FIVE BEGINNERS AS SCHOOL REOPENS

School opened here last Tuesday when our teacher Miss Jean Frank returned for another year with our children. Beginners were Carol McClean, Carol Devereaux, Maralyn Murray, Gary Johnson, and Robert Armstrong, John and Bill Bouwman were newcomers.

St. John's Guild held a meeting at Mrs. J. Foster's home last week. The next meeting will be at Mrs. C. A. Grant's home September 18th. A good attendance of members is

requested to make final plans for the Bazaar being held on the 24th of October.

The W.A. meeting was held at Mrs. Cecil Smith's home last week. The service at St. John's Church has been cancelled for Sunday, September 16th, to make way for Harvest Thanksgiving services that day at St. Stephen's, Hornby and St. Paul's, Norval.

Miss Annie Brown of Toronto was a visitor last week with Mr. and Mrs. Mortram.

WINS SPEAKING CONTEST

John Douglas, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ryerson Douglas, of Toronto, and formerly of Georgetown won the public speaking contest at the Canadian National Exhibition.

STREETSVILLE FAIR

Friday and Saturday, Sept. 21 and 22

FRIDAY

STOCK CAR RACING
New Floodlit Track... Fastest Drivers
Speed Trials 7 p.m. MIDWAY

Admission: \$1.00

Send for Prize List Today!

W. ARCH, President

SATURDAY

PONY AND HORSE SHOW
Ann May's Miniature Rodeo
Old Time Fiddlers' Contest
Band Concert & Dance... Fireworks

Admission: 50c

MRS. V. PINCHIN, Secretary

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