

Leslie, Bird, Council Esqueusing Returns All

(continued from page 1)

Increasing Costs
Increasing costs of road maintenance, fire areas and education costs took the limelight in discussion of the year's business by members of the council.

Reeve Leslie drew attention to the fire area in operation around Milton and the area which is being formed around Georgetown and said they were progressive steps for rural people. It had cost Esqueusing taxpayers in Milton area 5 mills on their building assessment for the capital expenditure. Estimated costs in Georgetown area will be 7 to 8 mills, as there are less ratepayers to share in this cost. Around Acton, where the area is even smaller, Cr. Linham pointed out that the cost will be about 9 mills and possibly may be spread out over a two-year period for payment.

All speakers mentioned roads, which are taking more and more of the tax dollar.

Gravel Big Expense

The reeve said it is county policy to gravel heavily, so that in a number of years road surfaces will be ready for hard surfacing. This year \$236,000 will be spent on county roads. In this district there has been considerable surfacing done and he mentioned the 9th Line from the highway to Hunter's Inn, the road past the Beaumont Mill to the 10th Line hill, another coat on the Ballinafad road, plus work near Milton and Eden Mills.

"I don't think the county has the proper equipment for maintaining good gravel roads," he said, reporting that the county is calling for tenders for purchase of a new maintainer.

"We must be prepared to spread 12 to 15,000 yards of gravel in the township every year if our roads are to be maintained," was Cr. Currie's observation. Traffic today, he went on, is heavy and fast and the roads of fifteen or twenty years ago were not designed for 20-ton trucks and high speed. Modern roads must be wider, he said, and this means extra expense in widening bridges which cause dangerous conditions.

Need Two Graders

Cr. Linham said Esqueusing would need two graders as more and more roads are widened, and said costs of snow plowing and sanding will increase, as well as general maintenance. This year three new bridges have been built on town lines—at Ballinafad, on the line between Esqueusing and Nassagaways, and on Concession 11 near the Early farm.

New Assessment Benefits Township

Reeve Leslie declined to comment on county assessment in view of the Oakville-Burlington appeal which is now in the hands of the Court. The new county assessment system has materially helped the Township, was his only observation. This year Esqueusing pays \$28,000 of county costs, and on the old basis would have paid \$45,000.

The need for farm ponds was shown, he said, on a recent tour of inspection of those created last year when, for the first time, a combined government-county subsidy was paid to farmers who created ponds of the proper specifications.

County costs in all departments are increasing, said Mr. Leslie. More people are moving in, which means more services have to be provided, and he can see no way that future county councils can avoid a larger budget.

The reeve referred to the change in nomination and election date from later in the year, and from an afternoon to an evening meeting. The move was made, he said, to get in line with other municipalities, and it had been hoped that an evening meeting would bring out more ratepayers, particularly those who are not farmers and who cannot attend in the afternoon.

Explains New Building

Deputy reeve Wilfrid Bird spoke of the new Halton Centennial Manor at Milton which was built for county old people, which was the biggest county business of the year.

A \$250,000 debenture issue to pay the county's share of costs is the first in many years. Up to this time Halton has had no debenture debt. The new building cost \$690,000. Sixty men and women are in residence now and there is room for thirty or forty more.

Mr. Bird said he was glad to see a few ladies at the meeting and hoped this was a sign that in the future the ladies would take an interest in nomination meetings. He briefly explained how the 10-municipality, 18-member county council operates.

Criticizes Social Security

Veteran council member George Currie, who in a quarter-century has served in every office and who is a past warden of the county, criticised the trend to increasing social security of the federal government.

Studebaker Purchases 190 Acres in Nelson

Studebaker of Canada this week announced the purchase of 190 acres of land from A. S. Nicholson, Burlington for \$175,000. About 20 minutes drive from Milton, the site lies three miles east of Burlington, just north of the Queen Elizabeth Highway. The southern frontage of the property extends for nearly a mile along the Canadian National Railway. Highway No. 25 is the western boundary of the holding.

The purchase in Nelson Township heralds the largest single industrial development in the Burlington area since World War II. It follows by 15 months the purchase by Ford of Canada of 427 acres at the western side of Oakville, also about 20 minutes drive from Milton.

The Studebaker property is part of Lots 13, 14 and 15 in the second concession. Residents of the area know the property as the Woods, Dynes and Peers farm. It is across the rear portion of these farms that the Studebaker land extends. It has been used for cattle grazing in recent years.

A press release says the land will eventually be used for extension of manufacturing and warehouse facilities. After initial installations, Studebaker will move as fast as the situation warrants.

Company officials will not say when construction will start, whether the plant will be used for assembly, as in the new Ford plant, how much money is to be spent or how many persons the new plant or plants will employ.

Quoting from an article in the Globe and Mail, he said two Canadians in every nine are on Ottawa's payroll. Various social security measures are costing \$29,000,000 yearly, which means an average of \$270 per family per year.

Education costs are mounting every day and fifty per cent of our tax money goes for education, he said. The township is growing and the school population has almost doubled in fifteen years, but our problems are minor compared with Trafalgar where it has been estimated that the population will be 50,000 in another fifteen years, and the school population will increase by 6,000.

Wild Carrot A Menace

Referring to weed control, Mr. Currie said that if all the wild carrot in bloom this year goes to seed, it will create a serious situation in the township.

In 1951, Esqueusing had spent \$2200 on weed spraying, with excellent results. This year the same amount of money was spent, the spray was applied in the same way and there had been a 94 per cent kill on everything but wild carrot. Tests by the company making the spray could not determine why it had not worked and Mr. Currie said the problem had him baffled. The only thing to do another year is to try spraying at a different season.

Services Means Taxes

Concluding the roster of council speakers, William Schenk of Glen Williams said he had enjoyed his first year as a council member.

He had had some complaints about increased taxes, particularly from suburban residents of the township, but people want snow plowing, roads, fire areas, high schools and all the other civic services, and he predicted that taxes will be higher yet.

No Action Yet

No definite action has been taken by the school area board in dealing with the problem of needed school accommodation at Norval and Stewarttown. The school board was queried on this by R. B. Canham.

"Georgetown and Acton didn't build new public schools to take care of us" said Mr. Canham, "and I'm afraid if the school board does not take action soon there will be no place for our children to go."

An 82-pupil increase in the 16-room school area was noted by Hector Bird, who said it looks like more building in the not too distant future. At present Grade 6, 7 and 8 pupils from Norval and Stewarttown are being taught in the new Georgetown school and some Dublin students are attending in Acton. Cost of education and transportation is \$300 a month for these.

"It is a problem to know what to do and when to do it," remarked R. L. Davidson. He hadn't favoured transporting pupils this year and hopes to overcome this next year. The board has discussed this at one meeting but as yet no definite plans have been made.

Township clerk Isaac Bennett acted as chairman for the meeting. Treasurer K. C. Lindsey reviewed the interim statement, as well as the 1951 auditor's report. The estimated surplus this year is over \$1300.

Studebaker products are now turned out at the company's Hamilton plant, in use since 1945. D. C. Gaekka, vice president and general manager, said the Hamilton site has become overcrowded and that the company cannot purchase more land in the immediate vicinity to keep up production needs.

Announcement of the purchase coincides with the company's 100th anniversary. It was 1853 when the two Studebaker brothers, equipped with two forges and \$83, started building wagons at South Bend, Indiana.

Studebaker slumped during the depression and in 1938 the Windsor plant was closed down. Following World War II, however, Studebaker leaped into a position directly beneath the Big Three—Chrysler, Ford and General Motors.

The Studebaker plant, only ten miles from the Oakville assembly plant of Ford of Canada, will establish the Queen Elizabeth Way as another "automobile row."

The effect of Studebaker on Burlington and Nelson Township is more difficult to ascertain than the effect of Ford on Oakville and Trafalgar, mainly because Studebaker is not prepared to say how large a unit is planned and how quickly it will be built.

Burlington and Nelson councils were told last week that development will probably be gradual and on a unit by unit basis. If so, the township may be able to supply all the services necessary without any single major expenditure. Because the new plant will be located only nine miles from the old plant, many Hamilton workers can be expected to commute, relieving the township of the necessity of supplying services for new homes.

"There will undoubtedly be some problems for the town arising from the plant but at this stage I'm not willing to predict what they might be. We have already asked to annex some residential areas on the outskirts of town."

R. H. Shannon, deputy reeve of Burlington, believes the new indus-

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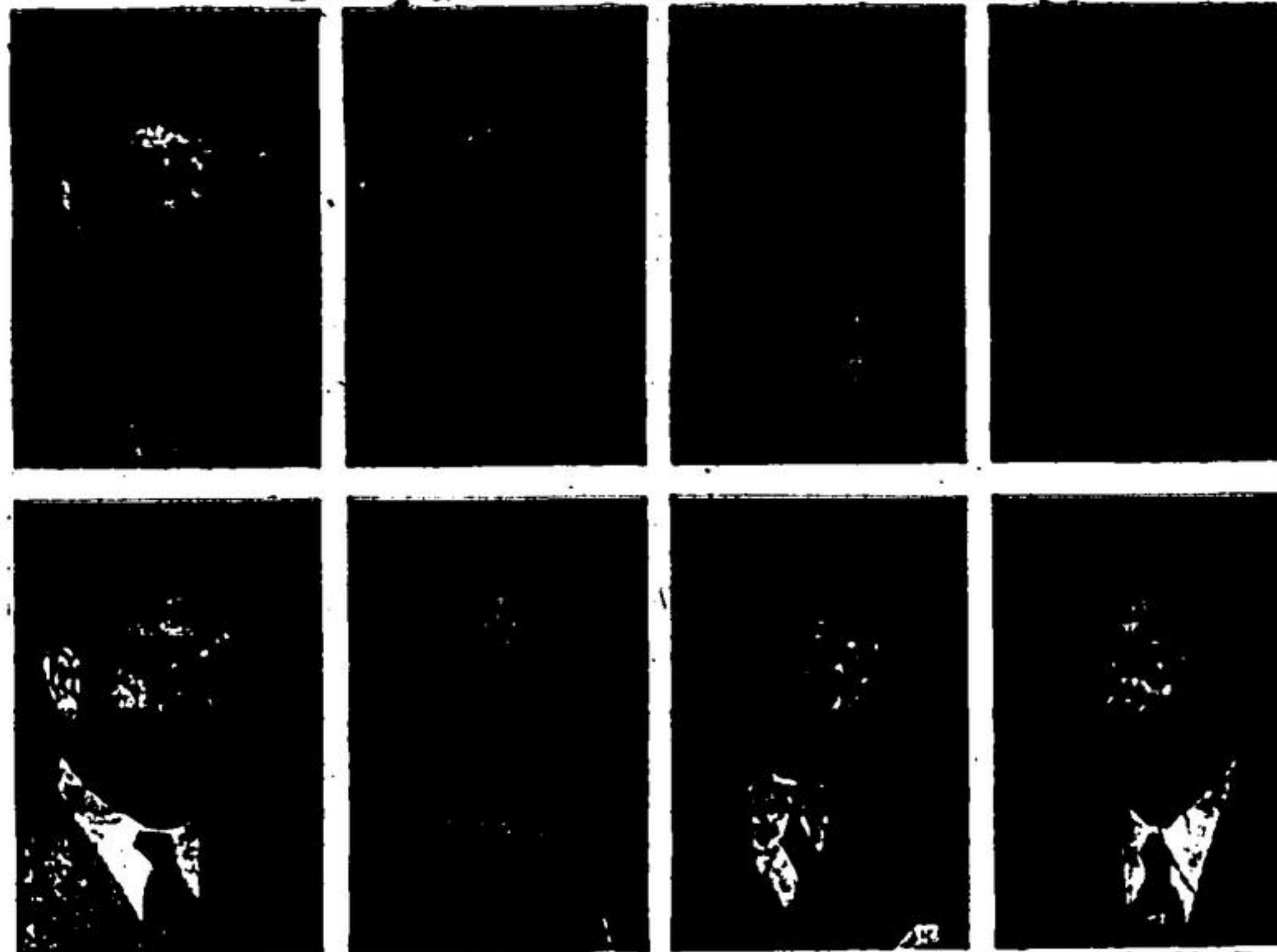
try will have a beneficial effect on the town itself.

"Any big industry, like Studebaker promises to be, brings along smaller supply industries. Small industries are the type we need. They will give us industrial assessment without the disadvantages. We can handle these small industries without the problems that are always tied up with the big plants.

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Officers of Seventh U.N. General Assembly



Shown are the eight leading figures of the U.N. General Assembly now holding its seventh session at new permanent headquarters in New York. Top, left to right: Lester B. Pearson of Canada, President of the Assembly; João Carlos Mendes of Brazil, Chairman of the Political Committee; Alexis Kyrou of Greece, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee; Jiri Nesek of Czechoslovakia, Economic Committee. Bottom row: Asad Ali of Pakistan, Chairman of the Social Committee; Rodolfo Múñoz of Argentina, Trusteeship Committee; Carlos P. Romulo of the Philippines, Administrative and Budgetary Committee; Prince Wan Walthayakon of Thailand, Legal Committee.



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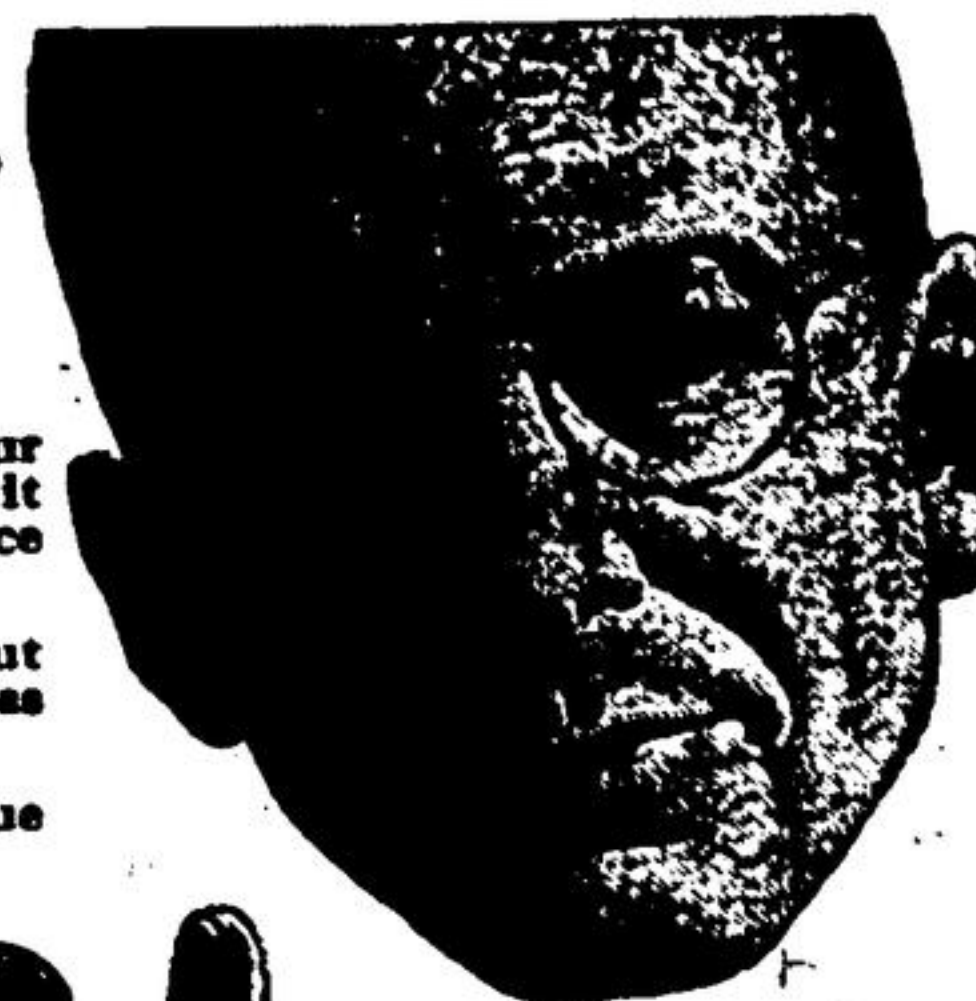
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