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Halton Warden Suggest Planning On County Scale

There were a number of significant accomplishments this year in our council. Construction will begin in the spring on a new modern Registry office, complete with microfilminf equipment. This new building with equipment will be about \$100,000.

Staff accommodation at Halton Centennial Manor was inadequate and a new staff house is under way. Its cost will be close to \$100,000, and will give us about 20 more beds in the

Almost 10,600 shots of the Salk polio vaccine were given to children in the county of Halton, and Dr. Bull expects to immunite an even larger group hext year. The Federal and Provincial governments provide the vaccine free of charge and the county administers the program under the Halton County Health Unit

Over 3,000 attended child health clinics, and many thousands of calls were made to inspect and cheek all milk, water and food supplies distrfbuted in the county

The Children's Aid Society of the county has under its care over 100 children, but almost twee that amount of children were placed in homes other than their own Another Trained social worker is being hired to handle the increasing work on adoption, child neglect, family allowance and other welfare matters

At one of the first meetings of the year, county councils made provision for a probation officer and requested the attorney general's department to make an appointment This was done and the courts are cooperating in a program of probation

A \$2,500 grant was made to the Oakville Trafalgar area to set up a school for Retarded Children. _ The County Council hast meeting put into effect a pension plan and more complete Blue Cross coverage for its em-

The Road Budget was almost doub led this year and about 21 miles of road received either asphalt, double surface or other types of asphalt treatment. This was several times more such treatment than was possible in any previous year. This year's road committee was one of the most conscientious committees I ever serv ed on in my five years of municipal work. One or two roads broke up on them this summer and they will of course be condemned for that in apite of excellent work in almost every other respect, including one new

forty foot bridge Immediate action must be taken to provide right of ways on the county roads below No 5 Highway such as Maple Avenue - Brant Street, the Guelph Line, the road from Bronte to Palermo and the 7th Line and part of the 8th in Trafalgar Some of this can be done through our planning boards. Subdividers must deed whatever land is required by a county or Township engineer to widen abutting

I would for a moment like to say a word or two about who we are in Halton and what might be in store for us. Being in the Hamilton Bay basin we are in the centre of Canada's main industrial belt. This belt extends from Toronto thro' Hamilton to Burfalo then along the south side of Lake Erie to Windsor in the shape of a giant S. One writer recently referred to it as the industrial heart of North America. The productive capacity of this S is greater than that

of the whole of Europe. One other tect, so that we are properly oriented, according to the Department of Trade and Commerce testimony in May, 1953, when the St. Lawrence Scaway is completed there will pass within view of the south shore of Halton, more ocean freight and more of the world's commerce than passes through the Sucz and Panama Canal combined.

Halton County is one of the last undeveloped places on this industrial belt that has practically all the desirable features for any kind of development. We are in the centre of Canada's main market and close to the Montreal market. We are within a few hundred miles of the biggest market in the world - the eastern USA

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market. We have oil, gas pipe lines dissecting our county. We have cheap hydro, good transportation of all types, two nearby harbours and many other features too numerous to mention

What has this meant in the last five years. In the five years that I have been on Halton County Council the population has almost doubled and the assessment has doubled to 91 million. This is fantastic growth, and I would predict that we will double

again in less than ten years. llow have we and other areas handled this growth? Let me quote you from a book "The Economic Future of Canada" by Dr. Valk an advisor in the Research branch of the International Monetary End.

I quote "there are extremely great opportunities for town planning in Canada. New cities are rising and existing cities are beng extended. Although there has been some application of the newest ideas in town planning not enough attention has in general been paid to these ideas. This fact will be clear in a few decades from now, when it will be seen how short-sighted many authorities in this field were in the early fifties."

A number of municipalities in the county have indicated an interest in investigating the setting up of a county planning and development department. By pooling our resources, we can get the staff that none of us can afford alone, and we avoid the duplication which we have now. Such a proposal has received very favourable comment in Queen's Park, with the inclusion of Flamboro and Waterdown. I think you will see it brought up at the fext county council meet-

I don't want to develop this any murther, but I wouldn't be at all surprised that if planning works out at the county level there might be a lot of officials around who might believe that some of the other services might well be handled by the county. For instance sewage - Mayor Jackson has been trying to get a proper drainage program for this basin for several years, but doesn't seem to be making much progress mainly because he has to deal with nearly a dozen municipalities. If sewage was at the county level, he would only have to deal with two municipalities, Halton and Wentworth, and I am sure results would soon be forthcoming. It is also expected that the county at its next meeting will set up a committee to make an economic survey of high school requirements on a county bas-

In any event a properly planned county with the proper overall planning organization integrating all municipalities would render tremendous assistance in setting up the most economical boundaries for services

Christmas Program For Women's Institute

Christmas was the theme at last Wednesday's meeting of Georgetown Women's Institute when Mrs. W. G. Bell was hostess at her home on Main Street South.

Mrs. Wm. T. Sinclair was convener of the program which included carol singing, solos by Mrs. Francis Thompson and a reading by Mrs. Sinclair -"Chrismas on the Farm." Mrs. Albert Dolson gave the motto "Let's Keep Christmas." Mrs. Frank Petch arranged a novel guessing contest and the hirthday group presented a tableau "The Night Before Christmas." Mrs. S. Gowland read the poem and those taking padt were Mrs. Herb Cleave, Mrs. Jack Williamson and Mrs. Norman Snyder.

Mrs. Bell reported sending seven parcels of used clothing to the Crippled Civilians organization. . Mrs. R. T. Paul read a letter from an institute in Westerham, England, telling of work which this group does in the Old Country . The W.I. has since sent a parcel to Westerham.

The institute is planning Christmas treats for residents at Halton Centennial Manor and for local shut-ins. and Mrs. Bell is receiving donations for this. Mrs. Snyder will send cards to shut-ins.

The draw was made on a blanket on which the ladies had been selling tickets. Mrs. K. W. King, 32 Normandy Blvd. was the winner.

Mrs. Albert Livingstone presided at the meeting in the absence of the president Members exchanged Christmas gifts at - the meeting and Mrs. Cecil Davidson moved a vote of thanks to those taking part in the program and to the lunch com-

ments to ensure that necessary services are provided to the taxpayer in the fairest and most economical way and I believe the first step to that end in our fast growing area is to employ the finest techniques of town planning that have been developed in the New and Old Worlds.

PHOTOGRAPHS? A lovely portrait of your child

makes a wonderful Christmas gift for grandma.

J. A. GOUDY

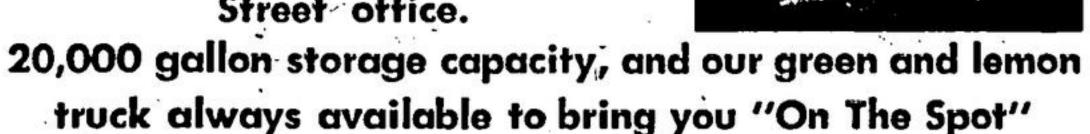
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