

# Smallest County But Biggest Future, Prediction for Halton

Halton, the smallest county in Ontario, is one of the most prosperous and progressive. It has an area of 236,865 acres of 270 square miles. Its history goes back to the early days of this part of Canada. It gets its name from Major William Halton, secretary to Francis Gore, lieutenant-governor of Upper Canada and afterwards agent of the province in Great Britain.

The county was constituted in 1816, after the purchase of Indian rights. At first it included territory that was later taken in by Wentworth and Wellington counties. Trafalgar Township now part of the town of Oakville, was first settled in the years 1806 and 1807. A provincial meeting of the first county council was held at Thompson's Inn, Milton, on July 12, 1853.

As a residential area, Halton compares favourably with any part of Ontario. It offers a variety of pleasant scenery, and ideal living conditions, and contains some of the finest homes and estates in Canada. It has excellent recreation facilities of all kinds, and is served by modern and well-equipped schools. There are abundant supplies of electric power, natural gas, and water.

For many years Halton has been an important agricultural district. Its principal products are grain, fruit, livestock and dairy products. As a result of its strategic location, in the cen-

Since 1951 the county's population has increased by nearly 100,000, and now totals about 165,000. During the past year the assessment rose by about \$72 million, more than twice the previous year's increase. This brings the total figure to \$437 million.

The county has an industrial committee to promote the growth of industry, and there is an overall plan for development of every kind, residential and agricultural as well as in-



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## Halton Expenditure is Children's Aid Lowest

A comparative study of Children's Aid Society statistics in Ontario shows Halton's CAS in a pretty good light.

Halton CAS director Dr. Gordon Askwith, in a brief summary for members of the Society at a recent meeting, reported Halton had the lowest expenditures per capita of population at \$2.17.

The highest in the province was \$9.54.

Halton has the second lowest number of children admitted to care per thousand population, .81 to 6.05 which is the highest.

The county also had the lowest number of social service staff, 12 serving 11,733 each. The highest figure in Ontario was 100 workers serving 4,074 each.

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