### CANADIAN COMMITTEE

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# Wood, Priestner seeking to head Halton board

At least two men will seek election as chairman of Halton County Board of Education at the inaugural meeting this Thursday, Jan. 7 at the Oakville board offices. Current Chairman Doug Wood of Oakville will seek reelection and 1970 vice-chairman Bill Priestner will also run in the

Former Chairman Fred Armitage has objected to a separate school representative holding the chairman's office. Priestner is one of two separate school representatives on the Halton board.

Mr. Armitage, in a letter circulated to press and trustees said by law, the separate school representatives are allowed to vote only on matters of secondary school interest but no monitary matters.

Female voice He argued that the chairman should be one who could offer guidance in all matters . For the first time since the county board

came into being, women will have a voice on the 1971 board. Mrs. Judy Alexandra and Mrs. Irene Gooble will represent Oakville wards. Other new members on the board are Vern Connell and Noel Cooper of Burlington and Len Crosier of Oakville.

John Noble of Milton, Bill Lawson of Esquesing, Ernie Bodnar from Georgetown and

Tom Watson representing Acton and Nassagaweya will represent their respective districts for another two year term

Return to office Returning to office in Burlington are Fred Bidwell, Fred Armitage, George

Pelletterio, Harold Thorpe, John Ronson and G. W. Johnson. Returning for another term from Oakville are Doug Wood, Dick Goodin and L. D. Palmer. Representing the separate school

members Bill Priestner and Hugh Clohecy, both of Burlington. Inaugural meeting

The inaugural meeting is slated for Thursday evening. His Honor Judge J. R. Black will conduct the declaration of oath of allegiance and oath of office for new members and following that Director of Education Jim Singleton will conduct the election of the chairman. The meeting is slated for 7.30

#### Order protection First Line crossing

board on the county board are and is open to the public.

Canadian Transport Commission has ordered installation of automatic protection, including flashing lights, signals and bells at the C.N.R. crossing on the First line of Esquesing, just west of Acton. Installation of equipment must take place within 10 months.

Railway crossing grant fund will provide 80 per cent of the money to finance installation. Esquesing township and the provincial government will share 121/2 per cent of the cost and the remaining 71/2 per cent will come from the C.N.R. Estimated cost of installation is \$11,200. Esquesing must also pay 50 per cent of the cost of maintenance.

When installation is completed, all railway crossings in the township will have protection.

#### Some Esquesing roads "non-skidooable" - Hill

deliberate further before deciding what to do about controlling operation of snowmobiles in the township. At Monday's inaugural meeting, Reeve Tom Hill said he has received several complaints from residents about noise from the machines.

Reeve Hill said snowmobiles should not be allowed to travel certain township roads. Some roads should be labelled "nonskidooable", he felt.

suggested a by-law be drawn up to control operation within township villages.

Temporary permission Reeve Hill sald he has given a Limehouse area woman temporary permission to have snowmobiles carry out runs on her property. The reeve said he understood runs would take place on approximately the same trails used by horseback riders, in the

summertime. Councillor Wilfrid Leslie said



REEVE TOM Hill signed his name to an Esquesing township by-law for the first time Monday, as clerk-treasurer Delmar French looked on. Mr. Hill, the first reeve from Glen Williams since 1884 succeeds George Currie. -- (Staff Photo)

Deputy-reeve Russell Miller he wasn't particularly bothered by noise from snowmobiles and humorously suggested to the reeve, "If you can't fight 'em, the best way is to join 'em."

scale

New fee scales for admission to Grand River Conservation Authority parks and charges for use of facilities have been blamed on increased wages and growing operating costs in expanded facilities.

Authority officials maintain the increases - first in four years will only ensure parks will pay their own way.

The new fee schedule means the cost of daily vehicle admission permits will be raised to \$1.50 from \$1, and that vehcile season permits will be raised to \$15 from \$10.

50c increases Daily camping charges will be increased to \$3 from \$2.50 (this

charge includes admission fee); hydro service per day will be raised to 50 cents from 25 cents, and permits for group camping for approved youth groups will be raised to \$10 from \$5 (for one week or less). Daily camping fee for season permit bolders will remain at \$1.50.

Other increased fees include: daily permits for boat launching, \$1, up from 50 cents; season permits for boat launching, \$10, up from \$5; boat mooring permits per season, \$30, up from \$25;daily permits for small shelter reservations, \$10 up from \$5; and dally reservations for large shelters, \$30, up from \$20.

# Margaret Maxted retiring County treasurer 33 years

By Roy Downs

For a woman who spends as much as \$6,500,000 of the taxpayers' money in a year, Margaret Maxted is a rather quiet, unassuming woman. She doesn't roully look like the type of hard-headed businesswoman it takes to operate a fast-growing county's financial department. But she is.

A whiz at figures, an expert in county financing and a woman on whom the elected councillors have come to depend over the years, Miss Maxted will be retiring from her post as treasurer of the County of Halton on Dec. 31. She has held the job for 3314 years and feels now is the time for someone else to take it

Stays for budget

Although her retirement is "official" on Thursday of this week, she doesn't plan to suddenly end her daily trips to the treasurer's office in the Halton County Administration Building in Milton. The county has engaged her on a part time basis in the new year to help her successors prepare the 1971 county

budget. After a third of a century as the county's main financial advisor and custodian of the county's funds, Miss Maxted won't be replaced with another woman, or even a man. Her responsibilities will be assumed by deputy clerk Jim McQueen, whose new title will be deputy clerk, treasurer. And the county has purchased a new computer which will handle all the accounting and payroll work for county departments and Halton County Health Unit. No special training

Asked what she liked most about her work, Miss Maxted couldn't put her finger on one particular part of it. "I have enjoyed everything really," she replied. She mentioned the county's auditors have been a great help. Her only regret was that she never had any courses or special training for her work. She took on the job when the work was light and sort of grew with the lob, year by year over the

past 33 years.

It was one Job Miss Maxted never expected to get. She had been born in Milton and educated in the town, then went to Toronto for a one year general business course. She worked there for a new months at Moore Type Foundry as a stenographer until one day in 1922 W. I. Dick, who was Halton Crown Attorney and a neighbor, asked if she would like to come back to Milton and work for him. She did part time work for both him and David Hutcheon, the county treasurer. Asked to apply

Working part time for Mr. Hutcheon's successor Harry Pettit, Miss Maxted sort of fell heir to the job when Mr. Pettit became ill. He was off sick for six months, then he died and Mr. Dick told the young woman she should apply for the job. "I thought there would be no use, they would never give it to me," she said, but she won the job in June, 1937 over other applicants and has held it ever since.

In the 1930's the mill rate was four mills (it's now six) worth about \$127,655 (today's taxes are close to \$2,000,000). In 1937 taxes were levied on \$31,913,780 worth of assessment in Halton while today's rates are levied on \$440,684,294 worth.

Miss Maxted recalls that during the 1930's equalized assessment was a really contentious issue. It remained the same for about 12 years and it finally took a court case to make any changes in the amount of assessment on which the county spending was based. Another gem of information: the county's debenture debt was \$700,000 in 1937 while today it is \$6,500,000. for for a few months in the early 1950's the county stood absolutely free of debenture debt. Then the big developments came along and the debt has risen each year.

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Since 1947 Miss Maxted has also served as secretary. treasurer for Halton County Health Unit. She was also deputy clerk of the county for several of gardener and onjoys sowing. those earlier years, until the job Miss Maxted Ilves on Thomas was split into a separate clerk

and treasurer. While she talks little of her personal life, Miss Maxted has also, been active in Grace Anglican Church. She was organist 'during the 1930's- a job she was not particularly enthusiastic about- and has assisted organists at the church over the years. She also taught Sunday School there for many years although lately she has found herself too busy to carry on that work. She is also an avid

St. in Milton with her 101-year-old father John Maxted. He is a retired builder and a former councillor and mayor of the town. Will miss it

One of only three or four women who have held the post of treasurer in the province, Miss Maxted looks forward to her



MISS MARGARET MAXTED, treasurer of Halton County for the past 33 years, is retiring Dec. 31 but doesn't plan to quit work entirely at the end of the year. She will be back at her office on a part time basis for a few months, helping the county staff prepare the 1971 budget for the county.—(Staff Photo)

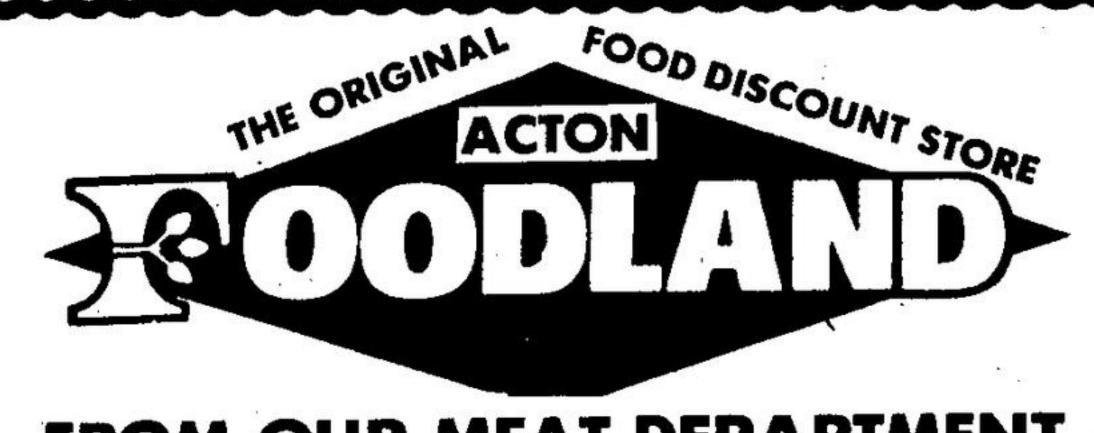
retirement with mixed feelings. "I'm sure I will miss the work,"

Fortunately it will be a gradual switch from permanent work to retirement, as she will likely be

working half-days from now until March at least. After that, she can start relaxing and spending more time thinking about her gardening and her church work, and less and less about payrolls, debentures and tax payments. Her excellent work has not

zone unnoticed, either. Recently dalton County Council presented a gold watch, the Halton Clerks and Treasurers Association made a presentation, and the Halcoa Social Chib also honored her with a gift. In 1967 she received a Centennial Medal for outstanding service.





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