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Flames gut home in Warren Grove

Acton firefighters were called to McDonald Blvd. at 5:10 afternoon as fire raged through the home belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Matt McDonough.

Firefighters used two trucks to fight the blaze in which the entire contents of the house were destroyed. They gained entrance through both the back and front

doors and an upstairs window and soon had the flames under control.

The ground floor of the home was completely gutted. There was extensive smoke damage to the upstairs of the five room house in the Warren Grove subdivision.

Fire Chief Mick Holmes was

unable to give a cause but speculated the fire started in the area of the kitchen. Heat was intense and blistered paint upstairs.

No one was in the house when flames broke out. Mr. McDonough was in the backyard and his wife, Marj, was visiting friends down the street.

A neighbor turned in the alarm. Occupants of the home were Mr. and Mrs. McDonough, their children Tommy and Scott, and her son Gary Masters.

Gary is living temporarily with friends in Acton while the rest of the family is residing in Georgetown with Mrs. McDonough's relatives.



ACTON FIREFIGHTERS were on hand quickly to extinguish a blaze at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Matt McDonough and family at 220 McDonald Blvd. late Monday afternoon. Though firefighters worked quickly they were unable to prevent flames from gutting the bottom floor of the home and completely destroying its contents. (Photo by D. Pink)

Tom Watson announces he'll run for Board

Vice-chairman of the Halton Board of Education, Tom Watson of Acton announced he would be standing for the office of trustee in Wards one and two in regional elections this October, as well as putting his name in for chairman of the board, if successful.

Wards one and two constitute the town of Acton and the township of Esquesing.

Mr. Watson is the first in North Halton to announce his candidacy for the Board of Education, which has a different make-up than in the past five years where Acton and Nassagaweya shared one trustee and Georgetown and Esquesing had one each.

Under the new set-up Acton and Esquesing get one trustee and the two Georgetown wards get another. Numbers are based on assessment rather than population. Nassagaweya, meanwhile, is tied in with Milton.

Mr. Watson has a wealth of experience on school boards, serving 14 years with the public school board in Acton and four years on the Acton high school



TOM WATSON board. He has had five years experience on the Halton County

Board of Education representing the Acton-Nassagaweya seat since the board was formed. He has been vice-chairman of the board for the past year.

He says he will campaign on a platform to maintain the high standards of education established in the county and live

with the guidelines set down by the provincial government. He feels this will be a real challenge in the years to come.

Mr. Watson feels time to do the work of education is important and notes that he has sold his business in Acton and will be able to devote more time to board duties if necessary.

Esquesing approves trustee allotment

In spite of objections by Reeve Tom Hill, Esquesing Council has concurred with a Georgetown Council recommendation that the two Halton County Board of Education representatives allotted to the new borough of North Halton be elected as follows, one from Ward 1 and 2 (Acton and Esquesing) and one from Wards 3 and 4 (Georgetown).



LEN COXIE

"Why should we settle for two?" asked Reeve Hill. "I don't believe in this government running the numbers game. They're running enough of them now."

Not opposed Deputy-reeve Len Coxie said he was not opposed to the breakdown, but admitted he had hoped North Halton would get three representatives.

Councillor George Maltby said he couldn't see how North Halton could handle three, unless they were elected at large.

"What would be wrong with that?" Reeve Hill asked.

Good start Maintaining his stand that North Halton should have three representatives, Hill predicted there will be many proposals to challenge with the advent of regional government.

"It's the squeaky wheel that gets the grease and this is a good one to start on," he said. "But crying wolf doesn't get much attention either," countered Deputy-reeve Coxie.

Len Coxie to contest council seat

Len Coxie, deputy-reeve of Esquesing, has announced his intent to run as regional director for Ward 2, which will encompass the rural and hamlet areas of the new borough of North Halton but does not include the towns of Georgetown or Acton.

He stated that the knowledge he has acquired on county and township affairs will be vital in the administration of this office.

Mr. Coxie was appointed to the Warden's select committee on regional government, which visited several regional areas already in operation and whose committee made special recommendations for Halton County to the Ministry prior to the Regional Government Act.

Many people realize this could be a full time position and Mr. Coxie says he is prepared to devote his time solely to the residents of the township to assure the change to regional government will be carried out as efficiently as possible.

Weeks of speculation end Oakville reeve appointed chairman Halton region

Reeve Allan Masson of Oakville was appointed the chairman of the new regional municipality of Halton at a simple but impressive ceremony in a committee room at Queen's Park early Tuesday morning.

Also taking the oath of office with 58 year old Masson were the three other regional chairmen appointed for the same three year term as Mr. Masson: senior controller Anne Jones of Hamilton as chairman of Hamilton Wentworth; Reeve Lou Parsons, 39 of Mississauga, as chairman of Peel; and Walter Beath, 54, a former warden of Ontario County, as chairman of Durham.

They were introduced by Premier William Davis. The oath of office was administered by J. J. Young, clerk of the executive council. Relatives and friends of the newly appointed chairmen were seated at the front of the room while other interested political friends and spectators sat further back.

The choice of Mr. Masson as regional chairman of Halton was no surprise as he was thought to be one of the leading contenders for the full time position. It is believed David Coons of Burlington and former warden Jim Swanborough of Burlington were also serious contenders, for the job to start regional government out on the right foot in Halton. Speculation had been rife the past few weeks on the appointment.

Mr. Masson told this newspaper he is starting to work right away. Chairmen may not actively engage in any private business or enterprise during their term of office, Ontario Treasurer John White said.

Elections in October All four new regional municipalities were established during the last session of the Legislature. Elections will be held on October 1 and inaugural meetings are tentatively planned for the week of October 15.

The big changeover from local to regional government takes effect on January 1, joining seven two-tier municipalities already established in Ontario. They include Metro Toronto, Ottawa-Carleton, Muskoka, Sudbury, Niagara, Waterloo and York.

A veteran of the Halton political scene, Allan Masson was first elected to Oakville council in 1959. He was re-elected until 1964 when he became mayor. He retired after two years as the political boss of Oakville but ran successfully for the reeve's chair five years later.

The new Halton chairman has four grown children and is retired after selling his consumer loan business in 1965.

Great expectations Ontario treasurer John White said the appointment of the chairmen completed the first chapter of a tough job and he had great expectations for the success of the new type of govern-

ment. He admitted it was no panacea for all the problems of the municipalities and was not necessarily the best for all parts of the province.

Mr. White also took note of the appointment of Anne Jones of Hamilton as the chairman of Hamilton-Wentworth, the first woman ever to hold such an appointment in Ontario.

"I am glad," he said, "that regional government is not the exclusive domain of the male of the species." Mrs. Jones became actively involved in municipal politics in Hamilton following the death of her husband, a United church minister, in 1962. An insurance agent, she has two children.

Peel chairman Lou Parsons is the only person to ever serve two successive terms as warden of Peel County. He is married with five children and gave up a real estate brokerage licence midway through his term as reeve to devote his full time to politics.

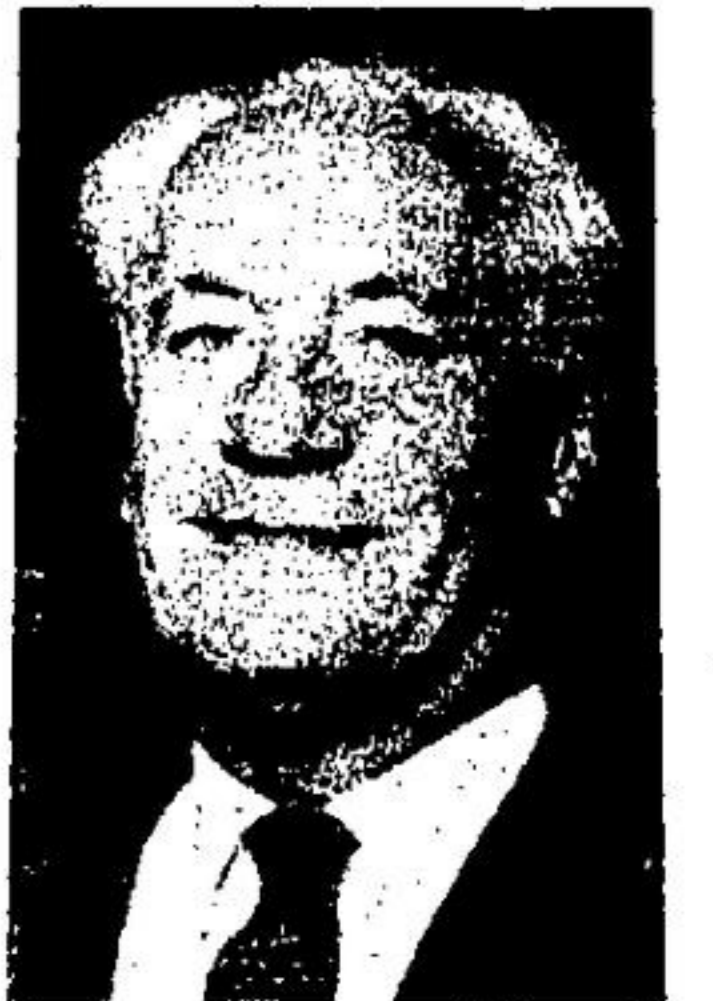
Masson has had a close connection with the Ontario Government through the years through the Associations of Counties and Regions of Ontario. He heads the administration committee of Halton County council, the financial end of county administration. He was a member of the county's regional government committee.

Perhaps the Oakville reeve was best known in this area during 1965 when he unsuccessfully contested the federal Halton seat as a P.C. against Dr. Harry Harby.

Masson was strongly supported for the post by the Minister of Government Services, the Hon. Jim Snow, who was very much apparent during the ceremony Tuesday. Oakville, of course, is in Mr. Snow's riding.

It is believed Dave Coons, deputy-reeve of Burlington, was the unsuccessful candidate once the appointment had narrowed to two names. Mr. Coons, 31, was supported by the Hon. George Kerr, who only showed briefly during the ceremony.

Other names mentioned for the post included Mayor Brian Best of Milton, Mayor George Harrington of Burlington, Barry Humphreys of Burlington, John Armstrong of Georgetown and Acton merchant Bert Hinton.



ALLAN MASSON

ROADS

Cavities will continue 'til money dries up

Cavities will continue to appear intermittently on Acton streets until council allocation of funds for road repair dries up.

Currently contractor Warren Bitulthic is resurfacing parts of town corridors deemed by the Public Works and Utilities Committee to be in urgent need of repair. These streets are ranked on a priority list.

Top priority streets will receive either double surfacing or original asphalt. Church Street either is not on the list

because it is scheduled for rebuilding in conjunction with the Department of Transportation and Communication next summer.

The bulk of the project is being financed through the sale of town lands and subdivision capital accounts with only a small percentage of the bill being footed through the mill rate.

Engineers are keeping a close watch on the project and the money to terminate the program once the town is in danger of overspending.



POOLSIDE in Prospect Park, Tracy Diamond and Patty Miller chat and soak up the sun. Maureen Gerth was judged by Parks Board to be qualified to supervise

pool activities and has been present throughout the afternoon summers. —D. Pink photo

Third Line deviation proposal requires taxpayers' consent

No deviation of the Third Line by Indusmin will be permitted until ratepayers in the immediate area wish it, Reeve Tom Hill assured Bill McArthur, a resident of the Third Line, south of 22 Sideroad Monday night.

"It's your road, not Indusmin's. If you don't want it moved, they'll have to go under it," Reeve Hill asserted.

"Or over it," added Councillor George Maltby.

McArthur was one of 10 ratepayers in the area who answered letters mailed out by council. All 10 letters expressed disapproval of the Indusmin proposal.

Proposal Indusmin proposes to move a portion of the Third Line north of 22 Sideroad west to skirt its

property so that it would meet 22 Sideroad west of the present intersection.

The deviated road would be constructed according to county road specifications at no cost to the township. Upon completion of the deviated road, Indusmin would dedicate it to the township in return for the original portion of the Third Line which will be closed to allow the mining face to proceed uninterrupted.

Fourth line resident Ron Lister said he was opposed to the change of location of the road, since it would set a precedent for future road changes. He charged the change would not be to any advantage of Acton or Esquesing residents, as it would be used only by gravel trucks. A change to roads of this nature would

depreciate value of properties to the south, since there would be no direct access to or from Acton, he added.

In his letter, McArthur pointed out that if permission for the deviation were granted, the township would have more road to maintain than it would if the road were left the same and that more maintenance means higher taxes.

When travelling to certain parts of Acton, it is shorter to use the Third Line than going over to Highway 25, he also suggested. McArthur added that approximately 100 mature trees located along the section of road which Indusmin wants to take over are the property of the township and should be preserved for the benefit of all

taxpayers.

W.S. Enright wrote that he is unalterably opposed to the deviation proposal, because of its indirectness and longer distance to the shopping centre at the east end of Acton.

The shortest, most convenient access to Acton would be eliminated, thus engendering increased transportation costs and time, John Van Arragon claimed in his letter of opposition. He also suggested property values might depreciate.

Marcus Hewitt charged that if Indusmin is allowed to continue as they are now, the area will become one big hole in the ground.

"We have to live here. The trucks and the blasting are bad

enough. I am very much opposed to allowing them more leeway," the letter continued.

Poor map A map showing the proposal was not to scale, Louis Oshawy began in his letter. He added that there is no direct access to or from Acton and that the proposed relocation would be of use to gravel trucks only.

Fred Landry cited inconvenience as his reason for opposing the move.

Having read the letters, Reeve Hill declared that council could not do much about the situation and that it would be up to Indusmin to do their own public relations work now.

Deputy-reeve Len Coxie suggested council arrange a meeting with ratepayers