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THEIR 60TH ANNIVERSARY was celebrated by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Deforest at their Milton home on Sunday of this week. The couple were married on March 13, 1895 in the old Knox Manse that is now the Oddfellows' Hall. They have lived in Milton for the past 40 years and the immediate family all live in Milton.

Report Shows Town Surplus, '54 Tax Arrears Increase 33%

H. A. Lever, town auditor, submitted the auditor's report covering 1954 indicating a surplus of \$6,347.86 on that year's operations, to Milton Council at their regular meeting Monday.

Unpaid taxes stood at \$21,792.65 at the year end, increased from \$20,528.77 at January 1, 1954. "I think this figure is too high and an effort should be made to reduce it," the auditor's report commented.

"The town has been undergoing an extraordinary period of expansion which accounts for most of the differences from budget figures. This expansion period has brought with it many problems, particularly for new services and as a result the debture debt of the town now stands at \$858,685 and will continue to increase. However, the assessment for 1955 is in excess of \$4,200,000 so for the time being at least, the town is well within the limit which is considered maximum of a ratio of one to three of debtures to assessment," the report indicated.

"The water department shows an operation deficit for the year of \$3,030.31. As the new rate structure came into effect October 1, 1954, some improvement here is possible. On the other hand water debture costs increased by \$3,468 in 1955 and the final picture will be dependent on the amount of new water revenue obtained," the report warned.

Other report highlights show town revenue for 1954 at \$259,785.36; public library revenue \$4,490.51 with a surplus of \$476.44; hydro electric commission with revenue of \$165,595.85 and a surplus of \$19,753.07; public school revenue \$65,600 with a surplus of \$7,818.78; separate school revenue \$6,441.32 with a surplus of \$15.15. An increased fee for the auditing firm from \$600 to \$750 was approved.

Approve Fire Signal
Councillor Wilson introduced a resolution approving the purchase of a 25 watt radio signal system from Rogers Majestic Electronics Ltd. for use by the fire department at a cost of \$7,407.55. The price included installation and was to be paid only if the surrounding municipalities in the fire area were willing to bear their share of the cost.

The \$7,407.55 purchase followed a number of tests of various equipment and several interviews by council of representatives of various firms.

Town solicitor K. Y. Dick, solicitor Sitzer representing Kenton Builders and J. J. Thistlethwaite appeared to finalize an agreement providing for the installation by the subdividers of Kingsleigh Court of a main trunk sewer to the Woodward St. pumping station and enlargement of the force main to Martin St. if necessary.

Would Reduce Supply
Discussion veered off the agreement when Reeve Martin suggested water to serve the area should not

60th Anniversary Marked By Couple

A surprise dinner was given for Mr. and Mrs. Robert Deforest to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary at the home of her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McDougall, Sunday. It was attended by her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. B. Bullen; her son, Mr. and Mrs. George DeForest, another son, Mr. and Mrs. Cameron DeForest and her daughter, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McDougall. Later 17 of their 22 grandchildren and four of their eight great grandchildren arrived for a light lunch. Many friends called on them during the day.

They received many flowers and gifts. They were married in the old Presbyterian manse on March 13, 1895. Both were born in Nassagaweya and farmed there. They have lived in Milton for the past 40 years and their four children, 22 grandchildren and eight great grandchildren all live here.

A resolution was also approved to authorize the solicitors to take proceedings to collect the outstanding school taxes against the Milton arena. Property taxes are annually abated but school taxes cannot be abated, it was pointed out.

A completion certificate covering work done by Carroll Sharp Co. in installing sewers and water on Martin St. was received from engineer R. Smith. Concern was expressed on what arrangement was made to complete the ditching along the route of the work and confirmation that the work would be done was to be obtained prior to payment of the account for \$1,463.20.

Councillor Pearen promised a report later on the request of the Department of Municipal Affairs' request to formally establish a Planning Board, received at the previous meeting.

The following accounts were approved for payment:	
Town hall, sewers	\$752.13
Parks, recreation	2.04
Printing, contingencies	450.07
Waterworks	737.36
Fire, light, police	819.23
Streets, walks	515.18
Finance	515.18
	\$3,118.14

No One Injured As Two Cars Collide

No injuries were reported by local police following an accident Saturday afternoon at No. 10 side-road and the town line, between Trafalgar and Nelson townships. Involved in the collision were two cars driven by Barrie Soles and Uwe. Gethlefen.

NO AGREEMENT BETWEEN H.S. BOARD AND MILTON BOARD ON SCHOOL SALE

At a conference of the Milton Public School Board, the North Halton High School District Board and Mr. Routley, superintendent of elementary schools of the Department of Education, Mr. Johnston, High School inspector for the district and L. L. Skuce, inspector of Public Schools for Halton, no agreement was reached on the proposal for Milton Public School to purchase the present High School building in Milton. M. Ledwith of the Public School Board presided.

Mr. Routley outlined the position clearly and pointed out the debture indebtedness on the present building. Mr. Johnston told of similar cases in Aurora, Leamington and Sutton where transfers of properties had been made from one Board to another. It was pointed out that sale price must be a reasonable one to consummate the plan.

Chairman W. J. Coon of the High School Board explained the difficulties of negotiations where five municipalities were concerned and suggested an offer be made by the Public School Board.

Opposition from Esqueing
Members of the Public School Board intimated that the price for the building would require to be below \$60,000 and that Public School accommodation must be available before September. An answer from the High School Board must not be delayed beyond two weeks.

Mr. Routley thought the debture indebtedness against the school was \$60,000 to \$65,000 and felt the Board would do well if this amount was received for the building.

The secretary of the High School Board said the debture indebtedness was at present between \$20,000 and \$22,000.

Members of the High School Board who represented Esqueing Township had been furnished with a copy of a resolution passed by Esqueing Council stating that township's objection to selling the present building and building a new High School Building, Nassagaweya representatives felt that the council would not agree to selling the building at the figure suggested in view of the fact that replacement insurance was carried for \$250,000 at present.

Offer Not Accepted
The Board pointed out this price was arrived at after having a valuation set on the building and was below the valuation figure.

Mr. Ledwith thanked the High School Board for their attendance at the meeting and their consideration of the matter.

After consideration of the proposal by the Public School Board it was reported that the offer had not been accepted and the Public School Board proposed to acquire a new site on which to erect a new Public School building in Milton.

The meeting was held Monday evening in Milton High School.

Two Towns Carry On With Engineer

North Halton Urban Board representatives of Acton and Milton met in Milton Tuesday evening and agreed to continue the engineering agreement on a bi-town basis.

Last week, at a regular Urban Board meeting in Acton, it was announced that Georgetown had decided to withdraw from the tri-town engineering arrangement in favor of hiring a full-time engineer for that town alone.

Engineer Ross Simmons and the board were notified at last week's meeting that Georgetown would withdraw from the engineering arrangement on May 1.

At Tuesday night's meeting here, Milton and Acton agreed to carry the cost of Engineer Simmons's services and expenses after May 1.

PLAY PICTURED
The cast of the Milton Junior Farmers' play, Pink and Patches, is pictured in the latest Junior Farmer News, beside a lengthy account of the drama festival.

Begin New School Planning

At a special meeting of Milton Public School Board Wednesday evening, principal Foster was asked to conduct a survey to determine the potential school population in the north section of town.

The action followed the appearance of solicitor K. Y. Dick, who notified the board the necessary Department of Education approval of the school site had been received and the first action on purchase of the Pearson property off Martin St. had been taken. He reported the necessary \$1,000 had been mailed as required under the option.

Mr. Dick also pointed out a trunk sewer to Woodward Ave. was necessary to serve the Kingsleigh Court subdivision and an easement was asked across the property being purchased by the school board. A resolution was approved that the board would consider it with the plans to be approved by the board in conjunction with architects when they are engaged.

Discussions on the size of the proposed school continued and the importance of an auditorium was stressed.

The steps required toward construction of a new school were also outlined.

A request by principal Foster for the board's consideration toward purchase of a film strip machine, screen and strip films was approved. He pointed out the pupils' concert proceeds had been used to buy one set of this equipment as well as two radios and a record player. Members objected to the concert proceeds being directed to the purchase of school equipment, suggesting it was the board's responsibility. The board then agreed to the entire purchase estimated at approximately \$400.

Board members also approved a resolution asking that council consider the imposition of a sum of money on dwelling construction that might be used to lighten the

Presentation Made To Rev. N. Green

Sunday evening, Rev. Norman Green preached his farewell sermon at Grace Anglican church.

Afterwards, in the parish hall, members of the congregations of the United and Presbyterian churches joined his own parishioners in expressing regret at his leaving and best wishes for the future.

U. J. Waters, the rector's warden, expressed the sincere sorrow of the congregation. Milton was better for his having been here, he declared.

Mr. Green was presented with a sterling silver individual communion set. Mrs. Green was given a lazy-Susan sandwich tray. K. Wat-son, the people's warden, made the presentations on behalf of the congregation.

Rev. Orsburn, on behalf of the local clergy, expressed best wishes to Rev. Green and regrets at his leaving.

Tea and cookies were served by the Evening Branch W.A.

Rev. Green is going to Beamsville. The new rector in Milton will be Rev. David A. Powell of Harriston. He will arrive about April 15.

Jail Employees Wages Increased, Unsettled

Wages of employees at the County Jail are still not settled after members of County Council approved a \$100 a year increase at their regular meeting at Milton Tuesday. A month ago employees requested council for an increase, and the committee headed by Reeve Harold Adkins had council approve of the increase.

Sheriff W. J. Robertson informed members he felt he would not have a staff to take care of the 16 inmates if substantial increases were not forthcoming. Mr. Adkins explained wage rates were set by the Department of Reform Institutions and allowed for an annual increase of \$100 per year.

"The committee felt wages here in Halton were not equal to other places and we were liberal in granting an increase at this time," he said and adding employees could still enjoy the statutory increase next fall.

County Rate Down
Members did not suggest the employees were highly paid men after Sheriff Robertson informed council of the wage scale as paid in Peel County. The starting wage is \$1,940 with a cost of living bonus of \$420 to a local maximum of \$2,270. Wages at the Peel County Jail are about \$300 a year more than in Halton.

Council felt the matter should be investigated again by the committee who were to meet with employees to come to a final decision.

There was a slight reduction in the county rate when members set the rate, after hearing a report made by finance chairman Wilfred Bird. A total of five mills will be required to raise \$395,000 to meet expenses for 1955. \$237,000 will be raised for general purposes or three mills while the road levy is two mills to raise \$158,000.

Estimated expenditures were \$291,655.40 with estimated revenue at \$54,855. largest amounts returning to this fund from the Registry Office \$20,000 and Hospital accounts of an additional \$20,000. While road expenditures were estimated at \$300,000 only \$158,000 was levied for, the balance consisting of available grants.

Combat Future Epidemic
In a report from the Health Unit it was agreed to increase the per capita rate from \$1.20 to \$1.25. Reeve C. A. Martin said this addition would provide a reserve to assist combatting any future epidemic which might be experienced. They further asked increased dental examination in the schools.

Members of the Health Unit had previously asked the Department to give permission to increase membership of the board to seven. However, it was felt if two members of council sat in at the meetings further council appointments could be made in the future.

A number of grants were approved in the budget, the following being made: Halton Junior Farmers \$350; Halton Ploymen's Association, \$250; Halton Soil and Crop Improvement Association, \$100; Halton Agricultural Society, \$300 with an additional \$200; Esqueing Agricultural Society, \$200 with an additional \$100; Acton Fall Fair \$200 with an additional \$100.

Questions Fair Grants
Reeve Robert Marshall argued the grants to local fairs should be substantially increased. "I don't think these grants have been increased in the past 20 years, and realizing the agricultural growth with the new assessment, we should increase these amounts to encourage further agricultural expansion in Halton," he said.

Reeve A. R. Service pointed out that officials from each of these organizations had requested increased grants, some for some specific purpose. Our committee felt that by giving them the regular grant with an additional amount we were being generous," he stated.