

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION

(Continued from Page Five)

commercially and industrially — 496 by 1924. By January 1928 automatic addressing equipment was added to the local office to speed the preparation of bills and an adding machine was also purchased.

In October of 1928 the commission agreed to sell the old power house to William Higgins for \$3,000.

The depression years that followed were difficult ones for the Commission as for all types of business. The collection of accounts, the necessity of discontinuing service and the other problems of hard times were with the Commission continually. It did not deter them, however, and in April 1933 they decided to buy H.E.P.C. water heaters for resale.

In October 1939 a new street lighting system on Main St. was turned on with power to the lights supplied from the rear of the lots. The significance of the occasion was perhaps lost in the imminent problems on the international front with the Second World War already a month old and its effects being felt daily.

In June of 1939 the Commission bought the present office located at 258 Main St. from J. T. Hannant for \$3,200. Remodelling the building cost another \$3,490 and on January 1, 1940 the Commission was located in its new headquarters.

The War had its effects on electricity. It became a vital commodity in meeting the production demands of essential industry. There was a shortage of power. The ban was lifted in October 1944. By that time there were 675 hydro customers in Milton.

The war ended and the Commissioners began their plans for the peacetime developments of hydro locally. A sub-station lot was purchased for \$650 from the Toronto Brick Co. on Bronte St. in front of the P. L. Robertson Co. In April of 1947 the sub-station equipment was purchased for \$28,449 and \$1,755 for provision of 60 cycle connections.

In October of 1949 a pension plan for the Commission employees was introduced; in 1951 the rental on power demand meters was discontinued and in 1954 the provision of metal masts was made compulsory.

By February 1955 one of the biggest projects in Ontario had been completed in Milton with the province-wide conversion to 60 cycle power. Depots for the exchange of clocks and fans had been operated and the inventory of motors and equipment as well as the conversion, had all been completed. Street by street the crews had covered the town in their thorough program.

That same year, looking to the future need for a hydro garage and workshop, Commissioners purchased two lots on Commercial St. for \$2,000 from Charles Kennedy. By February 1957 the commissioners were ready to accept a bid to build that garage at \$13,127.

The increasing household demands for electrical service were reflected in the Commission's decision of July 1957 requiring all new single domestic services or replacements to be 100 amp service rather than the formerly popular 60 amp service.

By May of 1959 new fluorescent fixtures for Main St. were ordered — just 20 years after the first improvements in the Main St. lighting. In September of that year, with the town in a period of booming expansion and extending subdivisions, the Commissioners foresaw the eventual need for another sub-station. They purchased a 100 foot lot on Parkway Drive in the then-new Fallingbrooke Area for \$3,200. This was to be the site of the next sub-station when it was required.

That year too, the Commission ordered its first new truck. Up until this time hydro trucks had been rebuilt units. The new truck included aerial basket equipment as well as a digger and other equipment.

In September 1962 two way radio equipment between the trucks and office improved efficiency of operation.

Renovations of the present office at 258 Main St. were approved in March 1963 at a cost of \$13,031. This work was completed by July and the offices were moved from their temporary quarters into the modernized facilities of today.

Electric heating was gaining in popularity and the Commission endorsed the installation of electric heaters in the Commercial St. garage.

By February 1964 plans were underway to mark the Commission's 50th anniversary. As a demonstration of mutual co-operation and service between the town and commission the Commissioners agreed to illuminate the exterior of the town hall to mark the significant occasion. Councillors concurred in the plan and the lights were turned on April 29, 1964 as an important feature of the special anniversary dinner attended by local and provincial officials. Guest speaker on the occasion was Ross Strike, Q.C., chairman of the Hydro-Electric Power Commission of Ontario.

Every corner in town is also to see evidence of the growing use of electricity with the installation of illuminated street markers.

And so for 50 years the local commissioners, in partnership with the Ontario commission and the local council, have fostered the co-operative spirit that was established when Milton citizens overwhelmingly welcomed the supply of electricity from the Ontario Hydro Commission back in 1912.



—Staff Photo

MILTON HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMMISSION, which this year marks its 50th anniversary of dependable hydro service to Milton, is comprised of a manager, two commissioners elected for two years every other year, and the mayor. Shown during a commission meeting are, from left to right, commission vice-chairman Colin Smillie, manager O. L. Hadley, chairman W. C. Rowney and Mayor S. G. Childs. They meet monthly during the year to handle the business of the Commission.



—Ontario Hydro Photo

INSPECT BASEBOARD HEATERS: Commissioner Colin Smillie (right) and Manager O. L. Hadley with Mrs. Mary Emmerson of the clerical staff inspect the new baseboard convection type electric heaters in the renovated Milton Hydro office.



RICHARDSON

TV AND APPLIANCES

OF MILTON

WISH TO JOIN IN WISHING THE
MILTON HYDRO COMMISSION
SINCERE GREETINGS AND
CONGRATULATIONS FOR
SERVING MILTON FROM
1914 — 1964



50 Years of Faithful Service

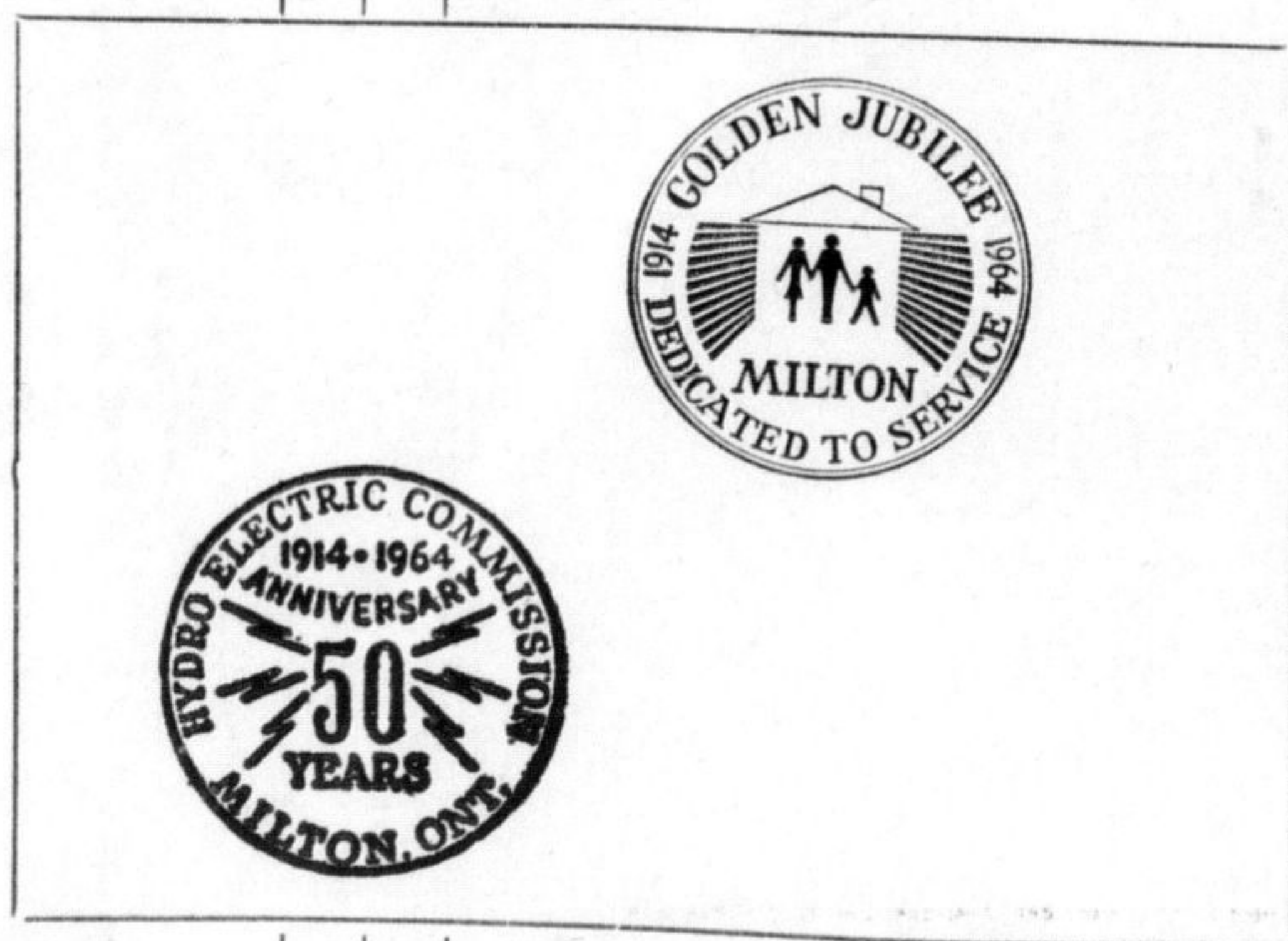
PROGRESS

HAS BEEN A KEYNOTE IN THE 50 YEARS OF MILTON HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMMISSION

Since the introduction of electricity in Milton in 1891 the demand for electrical energy has been increasing. In 1914 the Milton Hydro Electric Commission was established to administer the distribution of power locally, making Milton one of the family of Ontario Hydro municipalities. In the ensuing years there has been tremendous growth in the power requirements, coupled with the progress of the growing community.

The Chairman and members of the Milton Hydro Electric Commission are pleased to be able to mark this 50th Anniversary as a time to express appreciation to all those who have served on past commissions as well as an opportunity to look forward to continuing growth in the town.

Truly Progress has been and will continue to be the keynote of the local Commission as citizens live better electrically.



MILTON HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMMISSION

CHAIRMAN W. C. ROWNEY

VICE-CHAIRMAN C. SMILLIE

MAYOR S. G. CHILDS

MANAGER O. L. HADLEY