

Tyler loses 13-1 decision

OAKVILLE'S REEVE IS HALTON WARDEN

Reeve Alan Day, Oakville was decisively elected warden of Halton County during the inaugural meeting of council on Tuesday.

He was opposed for the position by Deputy Reeve Ted Tyler of Acton who criticized member commitments of a month or year ago. He pressed members to realize the rules were changing. "How can you pick a horse before you see the program," he queried.

The deputy-reeve maintained voting in Halton County had been on the basis of "you scratch my back and I'll scratch yours", he charged. He emphasized he didn't want any strings on any votes for him.

Open voting on the two candidates resulted in a 13-1 decision for Reeve Day.

"I hold no grudges. I made my pitch and lost", Deputy-Reeve Tyler declared as he extended best wishes to Reeve Day.

The lone vote for the Acton deputy was his own, cast as he observed since he was "pretty hard up for votes", he'd vote for himself.

In his address to members Reeve Day said he had felt a year ago, when he sought the position, more progress would have been made on regional government by this year. He suggested the Minister of Municipal Affairs could share some of the blame for slowness. He called on the county to move ahead in regional government.

Promising full time service to the county, Reeve Day indicated he would take a leave of absence from his present employer for the balance of 1970.

Reeve F. Oakes, Acton, nominated for the position, indicated he had given the matter serious consideration but declined to contend this year.

Trees burn in fields snow puts them out

Milton Firefighters had an unusual fire call early Tuesday morning of last week. Burlington Police called them out after neighbors complained of trees burning in the fields on a farm on Appleby Line south of 10 Sideroad, just after midnight Monday.

The brigade was unable to do much about the trees—they were too far from the roadway to be reached with hoses from the truck and the truck couldn't drive into the fields full of snowdrifts. Firefighters had to shovel snow onto the smouldering trees to get the fire out.

The farm is owned by Harold Middlebrook.

Quiet week

Milton police say it was an especially quiet week in town with only a \$125 minor accident on Monday to report.



REEVE RON HARRIS plunges his torch into a 20 foot high pile of used Christmas trees during Milton's annual Christmas tree burning ceremony at the fair grounds Wednesday night. A crowd of over 500 was on hand, despite the chilly temperature, to witness the official closing of the holiday season in Milton. Mayor Brian Best also participated in the burning ceremony and the two men soon had a roaring fire going. More photos inside.—(Staff Photo)

He told members if the county council continued in its present form another year he would be a serious contender.

In his acceptance of the position of Warden, Reeve Day noted that in four years on county council he has not seen evidence of hard feelings between north and south as he was led to believe, before joining County Council. "In fact I've always found a free exchange and acceptance of ideas".

"I feel there is an acceptance by our public for government on a regional basis. Halton should lead the way into regional government and not take the attitude that it is being forced on us. We must work to establish a regional government that will be efficient and acceptable for

many decades to come."

The warden elect warned the premise of representation by population could be impractical "if large areas of low population are to be disenfranchised."

He called on members to "not put so much emphasis on internal boundaries for really they will be little more than ward boundaries."

"Let us put parochial feelings aside and use our efforts to bring about a viable unit of regional government."

Judge Alan B. Sprague administered the oath of office to members and to the new warden.

Rev. R. W. Foster, of Grace Anglican Church, Milton, offered prayers of dedication and the invocation.



HALTON'S NEW WARDEN, elected at County Council Tuesday afternoon, was Oakville Reeve Allan Day. Mr. Day was one of three nominated for the position and his election was unanimous. Warden Day, center, is seen having his chain of

office adjusted by last year's warden George Currie, right. Judge Alan B. Sprague of the County Court, left, officiated at the swearing-in ceremonies of the new warden and County Council.—(Staff Photo)

Probe school sites, parks, drainage in developing north corner of town

School sites, reverse frontages, park areas and drainage problems were probed as members of Milton Council and Planning Board sought agreement on a development plan for the 370-acre area in the north east corner of town, last week.

Superintendent Bruce Lindley and Trustee John Noble of the Halton County Board of Education emphasized their need for the projected 6,000 population was one elementary school site in the area, preferably adjoining a park. Secondary school students would be accommodated in the

existing Milton District High School.

Mr. Lindley suggested when the area developed east of the Third Line a further school might be considered.

The present high school can be added to for 1,500 to 1,600 students which would be more economical than construction of a new school, Mr. Noble suggested.

The general development plan, prepared by the town planner, included two elementary school sites, a separate elementary school site and a secondary school site.

Mr. Lindley emphasized that to operate economically in the present high school program required a school of 1,500 to 2,000 students. He indicated it was not unreasonable for a secondary school student to go three miles to school without board transportation.

A representative of the Halton County Separate School Board indicated a site of about five acres would be adequate to the easterly limit of the development area.

On the subject of reverse

frontages for the lots as opposed to houses facing on main arterial roads, B. Newington of the Department of Highways favored the reverse frontage concept. He pointed out housing facing the main arteries required service roads which increased maintenance costs and widened the "strip of asphalt" which could be ugly.

Mayor B. Best questioned about the appearance of back yards which would be seen from the Base Line and Third Line under the rear yard concept. He also noted the problem of maintenance of any planting or buffer strip which might be planted.

Engineer K. Hyde of R. V. Anderson and Associates spoke in favor of reverse frontages, underlining a point made by Mr. Newington regarding the intersection of service roads and arterial roads which are serious hazards.

Reviewing the park areas proposed for the plan, Parks Board Chairman Jim Dills pointed out the units were neighborhood parks and

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Douglas Wood new chairman Halton Board of Education

Douglas Wood of Oakville was elected chairman of the Halton County Board of Education during the group's first meeting of 1970 in Oakville Thursday.

Mr. Wood, a former chairman of the Oakville Board of Education is manager of management and development in the Toronto office of Continental Can Company of Canada Ltd.

Three other trustees nominated for the position withdrew. They were John Ronson, Bruce Edwards and Liberty Peace.

W. J. Priestner, a Burlington trustee, was elected vice-chairman when the only other contender for the position, Bruce Edwards, indicated this would be his last year with the board. E. Bodner, T. Watson, W. Lawson, J. Noble and L. Pease declined to seek the position.

Retiring Chairman F. Armitage turned the gavel of office over to Mr. Wood, who foresaw no major changes in the year ahead. He emphasized the need to create a climate for education in the community and

Edmonton mayor says

Race track is okay . . . if two miles from town

Speedways such as the one proposed for Esqueping Township lands on Milton's northern boundary should be built at least two miles away from any built-up areas, Mayor Dr. Ivor Dent of the City of Edmonton, Alta. told The Champion in a telephone interview.

He should know—he's got an international speedway on his city's doorstep. Other than the fact such a speedway should be located far from built-up areas, Mayor Dent can't find much wrong with the Edmonton International Speedway.

Promoters of the Esqueping track are planning to pattern their track after the one in Edmonton. In fact they are planning to bring one of the Edmonton track's owners here to manage the Esqueping Township operation, if and when the township council gives its blessing to the project.

But residents in the area of the Third and Fourth Lines of Esqueping are protesting the proximity of the raceway to their homes. Township Council last week decided to write the mayor of Edmonton a letter and get his opinions on the track in that western Canada city.

Champion editor Roy Downs telephoned Mayor Dent Thursday afternoon for answers on local concerns about the project.

Asked if the track brought much noise, dust, traffic or undesirable to the city, Mayor Dent said he hadn't had any complaints about any of those subjects to date. The Edmonton track was built three years ago when its site was two miles from the built-up sections of the city. Today the city has grown to within half a mile of the track but the people in those homes can't complain, he suggested, because the track was there first.

Edmonton is considering annexing the land on which the speedway is located, from the neighboring township.

"We get a lot of traffic to and from the speedway," the mayor said. "Thank goodness we have two major roads heading out there."

Before the international raceway was built the property was used as a stock car racing track. Mayor Dent couldn't remember any complaints from city residents about the noisy stock cars.

Leave Burlington with Halton temporarily says McKeough

Burlington's future, at least temporarily, lies with the Halton-Peel region members of Burlington Council learned Monday.

Minister of Municipal Affairs Minister Darcy McKeough, in a letter to council, noted the overwhelming results of the regional government question in the Dec. 8 election and announced "we are proceeding on an interim decision to include Burlington in the Halton-Peel region, pending the reaction by all municipalities to the Burlington-Hamilton-Wentworth government review."

The town's voters had voted 16,905 to 2,284 in favor of keeping Burlington in with Halton-Peel in the December vote.

Trying to "build roots"

Landowner vs. speedway

"I'm trying to build some roots here," says Roy Henry who lives on Esqueping Township's Fourth Line.

But Mr. Henry's chances are slim right now—he might soon have a \$2,000,000 international speedway in his back yard, complete with crowds of up to 30,000, high speed dragsters and open wheel racing cars, and the resulting noise and traffic conditions such crowds are expected to create.

It's a rather formidable future Mr. Henry sees ahead. His only consolation to date is a vague offer from the raceway promoters to purchase his house at its present value if he cannot sell it at a reasonable price once the raceway is in operation.

"But I can't replace my house for their evaluation," he says. Mr. and Mrs. Henry lived in Milton 13 years until he moved to Montreal with his company.

A few years ago the office was moved to Toronto and he lived at Oshawa to commute to the city job. Then the firm moved to the west end of Toronto and he and his wife decided to move back to Milton and re-establish the roots they had in the town.

It was impossible to purchase his former house here so he bought a quiet lot in the country and had a new home custom

built under the Veterans' Land Act. Mr. Henry has spent countless hours finishing the house and landscaping his rural lot the way he wants it, but now a back yard speedway threatens to spoil all his work.

"I value my weekends," the homeowner explained. "This thing sure won't give me any rest."

"I can't go out and buy another home like it," says Mr. Henry. "The offer they are prepared to give us isn't really worthwhile. I've moved three times in three years and now I'm trying to build some roots here."

Mr. Henry is one of eight landowners who will be seriously affected by the speedway proposal. The other seven live along the Third and Fourth

Lines north of Highway 401 where unnamed clients represented by Toronto lawyer E. A. Goodman hope to build their one and three-quarter mile oval raceway with a 3,000 foot long dragstrip and grandstands seating 20,000 spectators.

The speedway would be patterned after Edmonton International Speedway. Promoters have three farms totalling 240 acres under option. They expect to operate a total of about 45 days a year on weekends between May and September. The promoters have offered to assist the township with money to improve roads in the area, and promise to spend "thousands of dollars" on landscaping to help muffle the sound of the cars.

Mayor Dent suggested big-time racing was pretty popular in Alberta and it helped the city's tourist industry as many fans and drivers travelled there from United States. Promoters of the track run a Caq-Am race just after the city's annual summer Klondike Days and he said many of the Klondike Days visitors stay on a few extra days to take in the car races.

Attendance at the bigger races is 45,000 to 50,000 people, Mayor Dent said, while the city's football team can only draw a crowd of 20,000.

As for undesirable, "you'll get all types but I don't think it's a big factor—no more than a summer fair or similar event would attract them," he said.

Summing up, the Edmonton mayor suggested "there is nothing wrong with facilities like this if they are two miles away from your built-up area. Space is a good insulation."

Milton Council is among those protesting the establishment of a raceway on the Esqueping lands. Mayor Brian Best fears added police and firefighters will be needed, and is frankly worried about the traffic problem. The land is land Milton would expect to take in if regional government comes to this area—Milton is presently just across Highway 401 from the site of the proposed raceway.

El Primo tenants receive tax rebates

Sixty tenants at Milton's El Primo apartment building have been paid their 1969 provincial property tax reduction rebates. The cheques, subject of a Champion investigation last week, arrived on Friday, just nine days after the Dec. 31 deadline.

Tenants at the 60-suite apartment building on Ontario St. had complained to the building's owners, Stable Investments of Toronto when the rebate cheques were not received by the end of the year. Stable's manager Carlos Powzebon, Toronto was called by The Champion on Tuesday, Jan. 6 and promised to have the cheques out "in a couple of days".

Mr. Powzebon blamed a mix-up over whether the apartment building's owners or

mortgage company were responsible for the rebates to tenants. Rebates averaged \$25 and ranged as high as \$30 per apartment, depending on how long they had been occupied.

Flu bug

By Bob Burt

It is that time of year when everyone you meet has the flu, is just getting over it, just coming down with it or just suffering from a severe case of the sniffles.

While local doctors are kept busy with the rash of sniffles, coughs and other flu symptoms, Milton District Hospital reported only a few patients with the virus and no more of a problem than in other years.

Mrs. M. Mansell, supervisor of the school hospital at the Ontario School for the Deaf acknowledged a few elevated temperatures and some students with coughs but no sign of an epidemic, "not yet at least" she asserted.

Jack Charlton, assistant superintendent at Halton Centennial Manor, said residents were waging the war against the seasonal sickness well with very few showing any signs of flu at all. "A few staff members have had it but most stayed at work," Mr. Charlton said, noting the situation was only normal for this time of year.

Dr. R. B. Edwards confirmed rumors there was a mild epidemic of the flu virus. "Many are going to bed for three or four days with vomiting, upset stomachs and chest pains and a lack of appetite at the very least," Dr. Edwards agreed, however, that the epidemic was of a mild nature and had led to nothing further than three or four days off work for most folk.



NEW CHAIRMAN for the Halton County Board of Education Doug Wood of Oakville took over in his new capacity Thursday night at the regular meeting of the Board in Oakville. Here he chats with former chairman Fred Armitage (centre), and newly elected vice-chairman Bill Priestner (right). Mr. Wood lives in Hornby and served on the board as vice-chairman for the past year.—(Staff Photo)