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 Cockshutt Manure Spreader, 4-wheel, rubber

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To Meet June 24, County To Choose New Headquarters

A decision is expected to be reached regarding the location of the York County seat by June 4 it was learned last week from Warden Asa Cook. The offer of the Davis estate by Miss Mable Davis came too late for the committee to deal with it and present a report at the present session of County Council.

"A special meeting is being called for June 21 and the committee hopes to have something to recommend to council at that time," said Mr. Cook. The special committee dealing with possible locations for the county seat inspected the property on Tuesday. The group of eight members accompanied by the county engineer, Harvey Ross, also inspected two other properties which had been suggested ear-

lier. In Aurora, the committee visited the old public school building and in Newmarket the Caradonna property at the Eagle St. entrance to town was inspected. These are the three properties being considered at present by the committee, Asa Cook reported.

The official offer of the 20-acre estate, the family home of the late Hon. E.J. Davis was presented at a meeting of County council by Reeve Arthur Evans. The estate is in East Gwillimbury township on the northern outskirts of Newmarket.

"As many of the members from the northern municipalities haven't had an opportunity to view the property, no decision has been made. We want all these members to visit the properties and then, at the June 24 meeting of York County council, we plan to make our recommendations," said the warden, Asa Cook.

The offer of the school in Aurora was made some time ago by the Aurora council. It is understood that the Caradonna property is a real estate matter. But, the gift of the Davis estate which is conservatively estimated at \$75,000 has been offered to the county by Miss Davis as a memorial to her parents.

The University of Cambridge says it has a machine that learns by experience. If so, the machine is smarter than most people.

The question today is, is the woman in the car ahead going to turn right, turn left—or does she have a new engagement ring on?

Pickereel Major Attraction, But 37 Violate Game Laws

Pickereel fishing is a major attraction in the Haliburton area but those who violate game laws at this time are numerous as witness the following Lands and Forests bulletin.

The 1953 season for taking of Pickereel officially opened at 12:01 a.m. May 15th. Long before that hour and despite inclement weather, large crowds of optimistic anglers converged on dams and other advantageous positions from which to put forth their best efforts of stratagem.

Pickereel were not as cooperative as last year and not too many anglers were successful in getting their large specimens taken. Favourite places were, Rosedale, Fenelon Falls, Bobcaygeon, Buckhorn, Burleigh Falls, Rice Lake and on down the Trent River waterways.

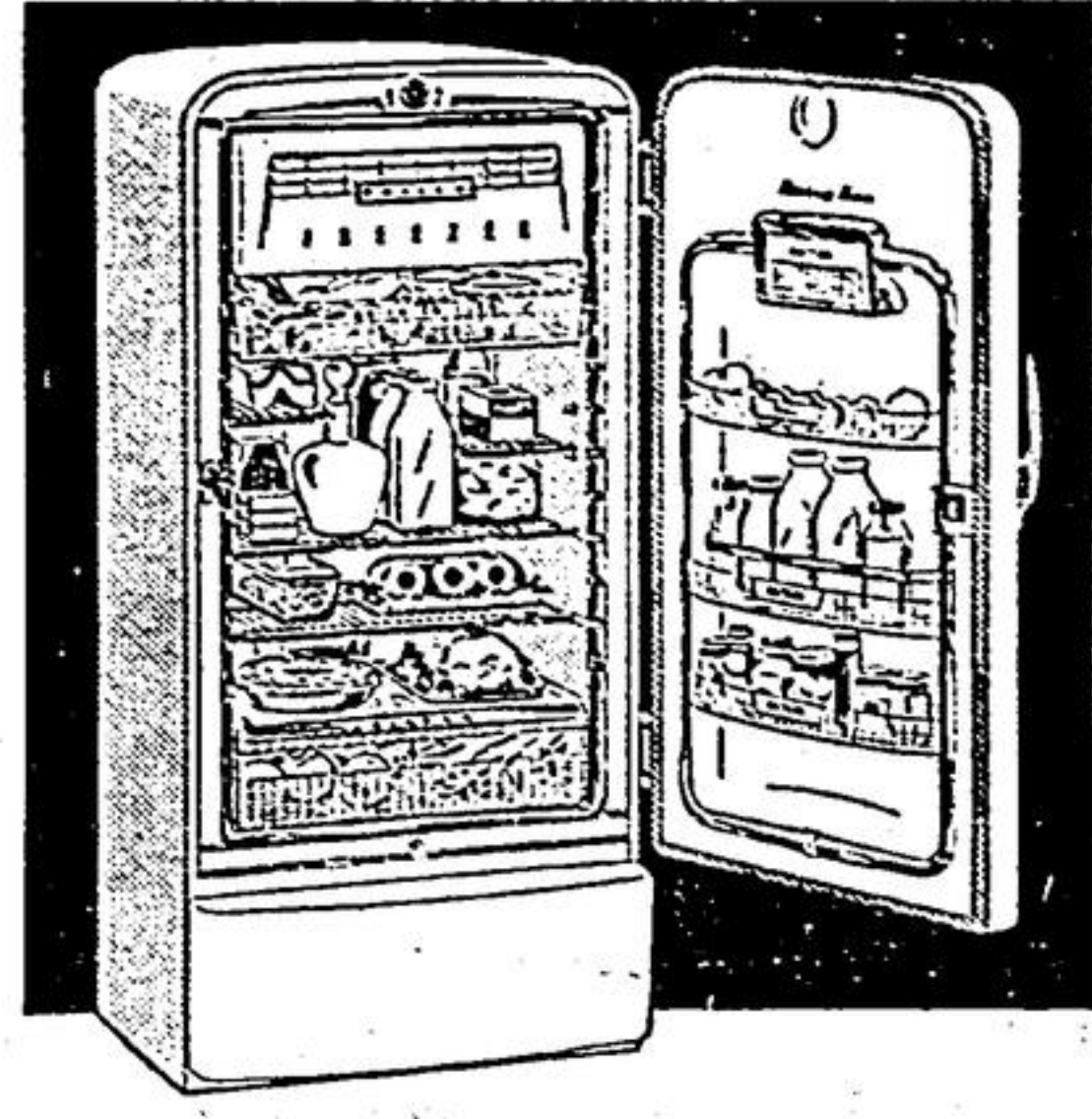
On Sunday May 17th two hundred and fifty-two boats were counted at one time lying at anchor in the river at Bobcaygeon; their occupants fishing for pickereel. Another estimated two hundred persons were fishing from the long dam and many more anglers casting along the river banks.

Seven violations were reported from Rice Lake by Officers Harris and Tolmie. Officer Simpson of Bobcaygeon apprehended twenty-one more persons violating fishing laws. All lost their fishing tackle and face Court action.

Of a total of thirty-seven fishing violations found the offences were:
 Fishing in closed season, 8;
 Trolling and drift fishing, 11;
 Artificial Bait from boat, 10;
 Sublegal fish, 4; Bass out of season, 2
 Over limit of fish, 1;
 Fishing in fish sanctuary.

One thing usually forgotten at a picnic is to burn the rubbish and put out the fire.

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Three Townships Object to Their County Assessment

Representatives of three municipalities in Ontario County have voiced their disapproval of the 1953 equalized assessment of the county. Reeve Howard O. Dobson and Deputy Reeve Malcolm Bailey of Reach Twp., Reeve Albert Thaxter of Scott Twp., and Deputy Reeve Stuart Ball of Uxbridge Twp., the only municipalities whose equalized assessment was adjusted by the assessment committee, all voiced their disapproval.

Deputy Reeve Ball was the first to question the schedule presented to the Ontario County Council at its June sessions in Whitby this week. Uxbridge Township's assessment had increased, according to returns filed by the local assessor, by \$8,803 during the year because of "new" assessment. Mr. Ball claimed that the Township's equalized assessment had increased by \$143,713 in 1951. He said that he felt that this amount was too great but instead of being reduced, another \$15,000 had been added by the assessment committee.

G. McLean, Ontario County Assessor, in replying, stated that Uxbridge Township was the one municipality in the county which did not use the county system of assessment. He further stated that he had accompanied the local assessor on a tour of the township and in one day had discovered \$23,500 in new assessment. He stated that on another trip he had found about \$7,000 more. This, he said, would make a total assessment of \$30,000 which was shown by the local assessor at only \$8,803. He pointed out that if this last amount and the \$15,000 added by the committee were totalled they would still fall short of the \$30,000 in new assessment which he knew to exist in Uxbridge Twp.

Reeve Dobson wondered why Reach, which had shown an increase in new assessment of \$7,637 should be further burdened with \$10,000 adjustment. Mr. McLean replied that he had found that Reach township was the only municipality that had allowed considerable reductions when assessments were appealed. He stated he had been invited to sit in on Reach's Court of Revision for one day but had heard no decisions or reasons made. "I think the council should have supported its assessor," said Mr. McLean. "I have all the confidence in him. There should be more like him."

Reeve Albert Thaxter led the strongest attack against the schedule of equalized assessment prepared by committee Scott Township, the only township besides Pickering and Rama to show a decrease, had shown a decrease of \$6,185. The committee had adjusted this to an increase of \$50,000. Pickering Twp. had shown a decrease of \$303,803 but this was after the assessment of Pickering village, amounting to \$622,262 had been taken off. Rama's assessment had been lowered by \$20,000 because of the twp's inability to assess property owned by the YMCA.

Reeve Thaxter claimed that the local assessor would certainly know more about the local assessment than a county assessor. He claimed that the assessor in Scott Twp. had used the manual in making his assessment and it was "unfair to say 'I am going to slap \$50,000 on Scott Township'". "Are we living in a democracy that one man can change an assessment at will?" he asked. "I feel ashamed to go back to Scott and tell the rate payers that I allowed the county assessor to raise our assessment by \$50,000 with no explanation." Reeve Thaxter further claimed that this method of equalizing the assessment was "mighty unfair." He said that there was natural growth in the twp. Other than a cottage or two each year. "It is a high handed method," he concluded.

Reeve Duncan McIntyre, of the town of Whitby, chairman of the finance and assessment committee of the county council, replied to Reeve Thaxter. He claimed that there had been a decrease of \$68,450 shown in the local assessment of Scott Twp. in the past four years. Added to that, he said, was this year's decrease of \$6,185. He further pointed out that Scott was the only twp. showing such with the exception of Rama, a decrease in the entire county and Pickering, both of which

municipalities had shown reasons for their decreases. "There has been no fair attempt to keep up the standards," said Reeve McIntyre, and then he asked "What is the matter with Scott? Is it blowing away?"

Reeve Thaxter claimed that there were some farms in the township which were assessed higher than their sale value. "We're not going to take this sitting down," he said. "We'll pay for any five men from this council to go over Scott Township and show where our assessment has fallen down. If you can, we'll accept \$50,000 or even \$100,000." Reeve Thaxter continued by stating that he had a spring crop which he would give to any man who would harvest it and pay the taxes on the land upon which the crop is growing.

The report of the assessment committee and the attached schedule was then put to a vote in the council. Reeve Thaxter called for a recorded vote that council voted against the report. Those who voted against the report, which was accepted by the other members, were Reeve Dobson, Deputy Reeve Bailey, Reeve Isaac Catherwood, Deputy Reeve Ball, Reeve Thaxter and Deputy Reeve Clare Balsdon.

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