

Plans Retirement After Nearly Fifty Years of Service to Uxbridge Twp.



Mr. John Ashenhurst of Goodwood, the one-man clerical staff for the Township of Uxbridge during the past 48 years, has decided definitely to retire this summer. He handed in his resignation at the regular meeting of Council last week.

Mr. Ashenhurst's retirement from municipal business will conclude a chapter in the township's historical life that started back in the year 1908. At that time he was appointed Assessor, a position he held for three years at a salary of \$70. Mr. James Howitt was the Collector at that time at an annual wage of \$90. In 1910 Mr. Distin McDonald took over the Assessorship while Mr. Ashenhurst put more time on the erection of his new home in Goodwood, where he still resides. In 1914 he was appointed to the Board of Health, a position he still retains and in 1922 he resumed the Assessor's job and continued this work until 1951. He accepted the position of Clerk-Treasurer in 1943 and has held that post for the past thirteen years. In addition to his regu-

lar duties as Assessor and Clerk, Mr. Ashenhurst also found time to act as the Twp. Building Inspector and Welfare Officer.

The well-known Goodwood resident has not always been an employee of Uxbridge Twp. Following completion of his schooling at the Webb Public School on the 5th concession and Uxbridge High School, Mr. Ashenhurst entered the teaching profession and taught public school both at Quaker Hill and at Webb. An accomplished carpenter, he worked in the building trade for 15 years and specialized in the erection of barns throughout the district. He also built a number of homes in Goodwood, Stouffville and Clarendon. His entire life has been spent in Uxbridge Township. Mr. Ashenhurst will mark his 80th birthday on July 11th.

During the past half century Mr. Ashenhurst has had numerous experiences that are not encountered by municipal employees today. As Township

Assessor, he would walk from farm to farm and his last call in the evening would be his resting place. He would start out on foot on Monday morning and return to his home in Goodwood on Saturday night. The township was assessed only during the winter months and the roll from 1908-1945 amounted to approximately a million dollars. Since 1948, the assessment roll has increased by some \$480,000 until it now totals more than two million.

When Mr. Ashenhurst took over the Clerk-Treasurer position in 1943, Mr. Edgar Johnson was Reeve of the Township. Mr. Stuart Ball, the present Reeve, was then a member of Council. Mr. Ashenhurst's vast knowledge of municipal affairs has, down through the years, been of invaluable assistance to past Councils and his services will be sorely missed when he finally retires from the employ of the township. His very life has revolved around municipal business and his compact office has been a very important part of his home.

Whitchurch Tp. Council To Discuss Financial Problems This Week

A special meeting has been called for Whitchurch Council finance committee this week to discuss the pressing assessment problems. Deputy-reeve Richardson and Councillor Wallardson and Councillor Wallardson proposed a resolution asking that the 1957 assessment roll be returned on a measured basis. Reeve Legge suggested that this matter be left for a special meeting of the finance committee.

County Levy Up
The York County tax levy for Whitchurch township this year will be up approximately \$6,000 over 1955. Total amount of the levy is \$44,404.80, made up as follows: \$31,255.55 for general purposes and \$13,149.25 for roads.

Ask Road Help
Reeve Legge, deputy-reeve Richardson and the road supt. Ernest Davis are meeting with

the Dept. of Highways officials to discuss the possibility of aid for the township due to the excessive truck traffic which is costing the municipality thousands of dollars in additional road work. Whitchurch Township has no less than twelve gravel pits within its borders.

Gravel Tenders
Five tenders were received by the township for the annual gravel contract of 20,000 yards, but a decision on the award has been delayed pending investigation of one of the tenders.

The contract for bulldozer work went to K. J. Beamish at a figure of \$13.50 an hour and \$8 an hour for travel time. There were three bids for this work.

Both School Teachers Fifty Years Ago



Mr. and Mrs. Septimus H. Foote are celebrating their golden wedding anniversary. Both were teachers. Mr. Foote taught in Waterloo County, in Glasgow east of Stouffville, and in the school on the sixth concession of Whitchurch where later his children attended.

Mrs. Foote, whose maiden name was Cora Young, also taught in Glasgow, leaving there to become principal of the two-roomed school in Goodwood. The couple were married by the Ven. Archdeacon Lloyd (Bishop Lloyd) in March, 1906, in St. John's Church, Lloyd-

minster, in the province of Alberta. Upon returning to Ontario, they took up farming on the old Regan place, which was then for sale, making this their permanent home. They have three sons, two daughters, and ten grandchildren.

Father of Five Killed When Car Crashes Tree on No. 7

Mr. Hilton W. Love, 30, a resident of Green River, was instantly killed early Saturday morning when his car skidded off No. 7 highway and crashed into a tree. The accident occurred on a curve, east of the ninth concession. O.P.P. Constable Bert Fyfe of the Bond Lake detachment investigated.

Mr. Love was returning home from Markham where he had been bowling on Friday night. His car was badly damaged. Dr. Blair Mitchell of Stouffville, Coroner, was summoned to the scene.

Mr. Love is survived by his wife and five children. Gail S. Pamela 7, Brenda 6, Terry 4 and Gregory 2.

BANK HOURS NEXT WEEK

The chartered banks in Stouffville and district will be closed all day on Good Friday (March 30) and again all day on Easter Monday, April 2, it has been announced by their managers.

To avoid closing of the banks from Thursday until the following Tuesday, the banks will open their doors for business on Saturday from 9 to 11 in the morning.

Normal closing time — 3 p.m. will be in effect on Thursday, March 29.

"Eyeball" Assessment Must Go, Declare Two Town Councillors

"The eyeball method of measuring assessment must go," declared Councillor Harry Walters at last week's meeting of Stouffville Council. The statement was made in support of a resolution which he introduced, calling for a change to measured assessment. The motion was seconded and supported by Councillor Ken Laushway. A tie vote resulted when Deputy-reeve Burk and Councillor Wagg opposed the motion. Reeve Elmer Daniels killed the resolution when he cast the deciding vote on the negative side.

It was not proposed to change the new method until after the return of the assessment roll this fall, said councillor Walters. The '57 taxes would be the first to be levied under this system of assessment. "Remarks that there were very few ratepayers who appealed their assessments, he replied: "Even so, the basis may not be uniform. The present system leaves too much to human error. Measured assessment, unlike the eyeball measuring we use, applies equally to all, since you cannot dispute the actual measurement of a house."

"In any case," he added, "we would only be getting in ahead of provincial legislation which will ultimately demand that all municipalities in Ontario go on measured assessment."

He added that there would be plenty of time given to provide for public meetings and other means of acquainting the public with the merits of measured assessment.

In casting the deciding vote against the motion, Reeve Daniels stated that he commended parts of the proposal, but felt that the advantages at this time were outweighed by the disadvantages. As an example, he gave the question of the county levy, which is based on the assessment of each municipality in the County of York. Generally, he said, with measured assessment, the total assessment goes up, even though the taxes paid remain the same. "Therefore," said Reeve Daniels, "unless the rest of York County goes on measured assessment, we would be penalized right off the bat. He dealt also with the claim that the new system would improve the financial standing of the village. "If

there is an improvement in borrowing power, it is only false," stated the Reeve, "because the population remains the same, and so does the total amount of taxes raised."

The Reeve, and Councillor E. Wagg, both credited assessor Lloyd Turner with improving the assessment picture. Councillor Wagg felt that the appointment of an assessment commissioner would help further to equalize the tax load.

"This optimistic refrain was interrupted by Councillor Laushway, who bluntly interrupted to ask, "Why have so many municipalities swung to measured assessment, then? We only leave ourselves open," he said, "when an assessment is appealed, because we have no real basis to explain how the assessment was made."

Here Reeve Daniels stated he did not know of a single case in Markham Village where the taxes had been lowered since the adoption of measured assessment. He agreed with the backers of the proposal that the provincial government would give Stouffville every assistance in making the change, but cautioned that there were always costs involved that were not always foreseen whenever a change in assessment is made.

LATE MRS. STECKLEY WAS GREAT READER

The funeral of the late Mrs. Joseph Steckley, held on Wednesday of last week at Heise Hill Church, was attended by a large number of relatives and friends. A short family service at the home was taken by Rev. Roy Nigh. The Heise Hill quartette sang "One Sweetly Solemn Thought." The service at the church was in charge of Rev. J. R. Steckley, a nephew of the deceased, assisted by Rev. Wm. Vanderbent. The quartette again sang two of her favorite numbers—"Meet Me There" and "Precious Memories."

During her long life Mrs. Steckley enjoyed unusually good health. She was a great reader, and during her illness

HEALTH MINISTER TO OPEN NEW HOSPITAL WING

The newest wing on the York County Hospital at Newmarket will be officially opened this Saturday by Dr. M. Phillips, Minister of Health.

The completion of this new wing will bring the institution to a total capacity of 120 beds. There are fifty-six at present. In addition there are thirty-six new bassinets.

The hospital is operated by a staff of ninety-six headed by Miss Lillian E. Thomas, superintendent, and Miss Grace Sutton, assistant. Thirty-two doctors are listed on the medical staff.

The York County hospital is now completing its third step in a building and expansion program. Cost of the latest addition is \$750,000.

The original building was opened in the late 1920's and provided accommodation for about 30 patients. The facilities provided at that time included an operating room with one operating table, one delivery room, a small x-ray department, a kitchen, and a laundry located in the basement of the main building.

The second step was taken in 1945 when the Margaret Davis Memorial Wing was added. This wing increased the rated capacity of the hospital to 54 adult beds and a nursery with accommodation for 12 bassinets. At this time, new delivery room facilities were provided in the new building. A new x-ray department, a fracture room and small laboratory were established on the ground floor. A new heating plant was installed and the laundry was moved to a separate building where modern laundry equipment was installed. Space occupied by the delivery room in the old building was converted to a minor operating room. Due to lack of funds kitchen facilities were not enlarged.

The third step was started early in 1954 when architects were engaged, and preparation of expansion plans was commenced. The steady growth in the population of the community and the increased demands on the hospital had made it apparent for 3 or 4 years that additional facilities were vitally necessary. "Several" plans were considered and after many discussions with architects, officials of the Provincial Dept. of Health, medical and hospital staffs, the present plans were approved and the building contract signed. Construction commenced in the spring of 1955.

Initially, it was thought that about 96 beds would be adequate. The original aim has been surpassed and when the present building has been completed the size of the hospital will be more than doubled.

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\$10 LOST ON MAIN ST.

On Wednesday morning Mrs. Leitch of RR 2, Stouffville had the misfortune to lose a ten-dollar bill between the bank and the post office. The finder may phone her at 291W2.

"No Help for Economy Till Gov't Takes Over Educational 'Baby'"

"We're never going to get anywhere until we put the education 'baby' where it belongs, with the provincial and Dominion governments," declared councillor Cliff Wallwork of Whitchurch Township, during a discussion over subdivision control on Thursday evening.

"The B.N.A. provides that the government take care of education but they've always got out from under by dumping it on the municipalities," he continued.

The discussion on educational costs emerged as part of talks between council and planning board over proposed new subdivisions. Chairman Lorne Evans of the Planning Board informed council that two new subdivisions had been placed before the Board for approval and that they had been turned down for the time being. The subdivisions proposed, would be on the 4th con. south of Preston's Lake. The one contained 196 lots and the other 64. One subdivider had intimated that he would be willing to provide \$500 a lot for municipal services. Mr. Evans said, "Are we going to allow pro-

motors to come into our township and chop up farms without regard to the added costs to the permanent residents?" asked Mr. Evans.

Reeve P. S. Legge said he didn't look at the matter this way. "The question is, are we going to load the present residents with increased costs year after year? — the only way to get help is by more housing," said Mr. Legge.

"Well, the place to start is to get our assessment system up-to-date," said deputy-reeve Richardson.

Reeve Legge said that he did not favour throwing the gates wide open, neither did he favour saying stop. He said he'd be happy to hear from the industrial committee on any prospects they had for new factories.

"You won't get any industry until you get some services," said councillor Wallwork.

Henessey Sub-Division
The Lawrence Henessey subdivision is practically ready for final approval, a bond of \$3,000 having been posted by Mr. Henessey for the completion of the roads. The subdivision is located on the 3rd concession.

Approval of Further Sub-Divisions Must Wait for Sewer Ok

Further authority to build in subdivisions in Stouffville must wait until definite approval is received from the Municipal Board for completion of the town sewerage system, the Village Council decided last week. The decision was made in considering correspondence forwarded to council from the Planning Board.

This week council will meet with the engineers of this project, who will detail plans for

the completion of the project. Surveys have now been completed, and the engineers are prepared to receive firm bids for the final stages of construction. Following receipt of the tenders, it was learned, council will ask for approval from the Municipal Board. It was felt by the council that, if this approval were not given, council could not safely authorize further building where waste disposal depended on the use of septic tanks.

York Manor Cow Gives Twelve Tons of Milk

Members of the purebred Holstein herd maintained at York Manor, Newmarket, do not, like the residents, spend their declining years in a leisurely manner. They must regularly work hard for their keep. This is evidenced by the exceptionally large Record of Performance test just completed by Kenevelyn Rag Apple Gaiety.

As a seven-year-old, in 365 days on twice-a-day milking, Gaiety produced 24,693 lbs. of milk (9,977 quarts) containing 1,041 lbs. fat average test 4.22 percent butterfat. In recognition of this outstanding performance an award of a certificate of Superior Production has been made by the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada. Actually Gaiety's record is 80% above that of the average Holstein for milk and 118% higher than the average for butterfat production.

This is the fifth record completed by Gaiety, all of them well above average. As a two-year-old she produced 16,067 lbs. milk, as a four-year-old 19,215 lbs., as a five-year-old 12,012 lbs., as a six-year-old 20,693 lbs. and now has given 24,693 lbs. milk.

Awards Presented at Annual Carnival



Mrs. Lloyd Jennings (left) President of the Business and Professional Women's Club, presents a fine trophy to Betty-Ann Slack, Junior Singles Champion at the annual 1,000 people attended the Stouffville Figure Skating Club Ice Revue in the Arena on Friday night. Close to 1,000 people attended the colorful show.

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