

Reeve, Deputy-Reeve Split On County Take-over Of Pickering Tp. Assessment

"Must Take The Lead" — Scott

Although the majority of members of Pickering Township Council are in favour of a move that would bring their assessment department under the control of the County and its Commissioner, Gordon Hepditch, Deputy-Reeve, Mrs. Jean McPherson gave formal notice on Monday night that she would oppose the motion when it is put to a vote of County Council this week. Reeve Sherman Scott said he favoured the proposal. He revealed that a six-man committee of County representatives were also in accord with the trend.

Mrs. McPherson expressed some regret that she would have to disagree with the reeve at the County level. "I know that it is unethical but my conscience will not let me do anything else," she said.

"I feel that County assessment is coming — it has to come," argued Reeve Scott. "I know we will be opposed but we have nothing to lose. I'm not satisfied with our present assessment department," continued the reeve, "but I feel that dismissing individuals is not the solution. I feel that there is a better and more lasting method. We will never have proper equalization of assessments under the present system and some municipalities must take the lead in these things."

A Guinea Pig
Deputy-Reeve Mrs. McPherson charged that it was quite alright for a committee of other County representatives to favour the Pickering move, "but I have talked with many and I haven't found one other township that is willing to go in with us," she said. "It's fine to make a guinea pig out of

Pickering Township," she said. "and let us take the blunt end of it. I will oppose it," she repeated.

"I support her, I hope she does," concurred councillor Harvey Spang.

Mrs. McPherson said that she could not understand why only the County of Lincoln had assumed the complete control of all municipal assessments. If the program offered so much benefit, "I feel that the County Assessor is the one who got us into a good deal of the mess we have experienced," she said.

"I couldn't agree more," replied the reeve. Councillor John Greening said that in his opinion, if a certain issue finds the approval of the majority members of the council, then the stand should serve as a direction to those representatives at the County level. "I question whether a County member should vote contrary to the feelings of the majority," he said.

"Haven't I the right to my own opinion?" countered Mrs. McPherson. "I was elected to represent the interests of the ratepayers of this township and if I thought for one minute that County assessment controls would lessen our burden, then I would go along with it. So far, no one has given me a reason to change my opinion," she said. "I have never been a rubber stamp for anyone and I never will be," she concluded.

Reeve Scott said that in the majority of County Council questions, they (reeve and deputy) were in agreement. "I don't want you to think that my deputy-reeve doesn't give me support, because she does," he said, "except on this one matter."

Pickering Road Foreman Leaves Post Under Protest

The question whether Pickering Twp. Road Foreman, Robt. Duck was dismissed or merely resigned remains up in the air this week following a surprise shake-up in the municipal road department.

The controversy concerning the employee was started last month when Mr. Duck was demoted from his post as Road Superintendent and the position was assumed by the Engineer, Mr. Paul Poulsson. Mr. Duck was made a foreman, an office that does not come with the jurisdiction of the Union.

Mr. Duck told The Tribune that when he returned from a week's vacation on Monday, he was informed by the Engineer that his services were no longer required. He had been in the employ of the municipality for one year.

Although certain problems pertaining to road department matters were discussed at a regular meeting of the township council on Monday night, any dismissal action against Mr. Duck was not suggested while the press was present. Mr. Duck suggested, however, that the subject was introduced later in the evening.

Prior to coming to Pickering, Mr. Duck served for five years in the R.C.A.F. and later was employed in the North American air defence program in the Arctic. He resides on the Altona Road.

Charges \$150,000 Arena "Unrealistic"

Robt. Stewart, a former councillor in Ward 5, suggested at a regular meeting of Pickering Twp. Council on Monday night that the \$150,000 figure as stipulated in a plebiscite for a new arena project in the municipality was unrealistic.

"It's not fair to the ratepayers to put down such a figure," said the spokesman, "you might build it for that but not satisfactorily." He suggested that the Council should arrive at an "honest" figure or use the money to construct several outdoor tanks that could be used by thousands.

Reeve Sherman Scott advised the speaker that it was now too late to make changes in the by-law.

Councillor Hubert Wank said that the \$150,000 figure did not include additional grants through the Province plus a rebate on winter works. "Nobody is pushing an arena down anyone's throat," said councillor Wank, "the question will be put on the ballot for the people to answer yes or no."

Reeve Scott pointed out that the cost per individual would be approximately .50c for every \$1,000 assessment. He explained that on a residential assessment of \$4,000, it would cost the owner \$2.00 or on a farm assessment of \$10,000 it would cost \$5.00. He noted however, that a township arena would mean free ice time for the users. "It will have to be self-supporting," he said.

Deputy-Reeve, Mrs. Jean McPherson said she had visited the Stouffville Arena on a Saturday morning and had watched hundreds of children enjoying skating and hockey activities there. "I certainly see the necessity for an arena in the township," she said.

"All I say is that if you are going to build it, build it properly," concluded Mr. Stewart.

GOODWOOD

Mrs. Lemon Clark returned home from Uxbridge Hospital on Saturday.

Mrs. Sam Fockler of Richmond Hill spent the time her mother was in hospital with Mr. Clark. Sorry she was called home on Saturday due to an accident her daughter was involved in.

Due to ill health Mrs. Russell Story is staying with her son Howard and family of Ballantrae.

Wednesday, Dec. 4th is the date set for a shower for David McQuaker and his bride Marilyn Boyle. Friends and neighbours are invited to attend at the township hall.

Congratulations to Mr. Albert Hockley who won reserve championship on his potatoes. Bruce Norton received second on 4-H potatoes at the Winter Fair.

Sunday, Dec. 15 will be the White Gift Day at the Baptist Sunday School.

The commencement exercises of Uxbridge High School will be held in the school on Thursday and Friday evening.

Mrs. Stoner of Richmond Hill is visiting with her friend, Mrs. Willard Slack.

The explorer group are asked to bring an empty detergent bottle to their meeting Friday night. Craft time will be spent making a Christmas decoration.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Cook and family visited on Sunday at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Norman Burton.

Mr. and Mrs. Grant Taylor and Frank visited over the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Roy Thompson and family of Tweed.

Kim Steekley of Stouffville spent the weekend with Mr. and Mrs. Al Robertson. Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Constable of Newmarket also had dinner with them.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Pyatt and Christopher of Toronto visited on Sunday with Mrs. Pyatt's mother, Mrs. F. Loyes.

Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Hockley held a family birthday party in honour of Mrs. Charles Hockley at their home on Saturday evening. All the family were present with Mr. Jack Norton, a long-time friend, as special guest.

Sunday dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Rennie were Mr. and Mrs. E. Hobbay and family and Debbie Benton of Toronto, also Mr. and Mrs. Ross Redshaw.

Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Hockley enjoyed Sunday dinner in Toronto with Mr. Sanderson and Mrs. Woodburn.

Susan Howell entertained a number of her friends at her home on Saturday evening on the occasion of her birthday.

Bus transportation to and from the Stouffville Arena continues to prove a popular outing for skaters from the Claremont, Brougham and Greenwood areas every Saturday night. The return trip cost only 25c.

Lloyd Pascoe currently holds the top triple both with and without handicap in the community Bowling League with 4778 (flat) and an 811 (hdcp.).

Claremont News

Mr. Ed. Boniface has retired from the employ of the Sarco Co. following a period of 19 years.

A public meeting of the candidates for office in the Dec. 7th election in Pickering Township will be held in the Claremont Community Hall on Wednesday evening, Dec. 4th at 8:00 p.m. A meeting to elect three trustees to govern the affairs of Claremont Village was held on Wednesday evening of this week at 7:00 p.m. at the firehall.

Those who have served in this office for the past two terms are Jack Norton, Charles Conner and Gordon McGrath. The annual meeting of the Lawn Bowling Club was held on Thursday evening of last week at the conclusion of a pot-luck supper. Don Hedges will hold the position of President for the coming year. Mrs. Joe Derusha is the Vice President and Mrs. Jean Drake, Secretary and Treasurer.

Friends will be pleased to know that Mr. Harold Dean has been released from the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital following an operation.

Jimmy Briscoe suffered a nasty fall in his home last week but is much improved now.

Mr. and Mrs. Tony Vanderlight and family visited with Mr. and Mrs. Norman Durant in Hamilton on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Murray Fraser and family have purchased the home of the late Thomas Gregg and have taken up permanent residence there.

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Question Drinking Privileges In Twp. Hall

The consumption of liquor in the Township Hall at Brougham through the purchase of a banquet permit has aroused a complaint that was aired before a regular meeting of Pickering Council on Monday night.

It was agreed that the matter should be discussed further by the Property Committee.

Clerk L.T. Johnston informed the members that following one particular gathering in the hall it took the caretaker almost an entire day to clean up the debris. The condition was described as "very bad."

Councillor Hubert Wank said that it would be difficult to halt such activities after the question had been approved by a vote of the electorate. He suggested however, that the rental fee for gatherings where liquor is served could be adjusted to take care of increased maintenance. Action on the request was delayed pending a committee report.

Pickering Twp. Nominations
The Nomination Meeting to elect candidates for Pickering Township Council and three Public School Area Boards will be held in the Brougham Hall on Friday evening, Nov. 29th from 7 to 8 p.m. A public meeting will follow.

The election, for a term of two years, will be conducted on Saturday, Dec. 7th. A plebiscite on the spending of \$150,000 for the erection of a new artificial ice arena in the municipality, will also appear on the ballot.

Late Wm. J. Goar Buried at Claremont
On Saturday, Nov. 9th, Mr. Wm. J. Goar of Hamilton passed away in the Civic Hospital of that city following an illness of about one year. The deceased was known in the Claremont area and his wife, the former Mary Benson had lived here prior to her marriage. Mrs. Ken Reesor is a brother-in-law.

The late Mr. Goar was born in Bruce County, the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Goar. He served overseas for a period of time with the Canadian Expeditionary Forces and on his return was employed at Port Elgin and Toronto.

Following his marriage, he resided in Hamilton. He was identified with the Presbyterian Church.

Besides his wife and one son, John he is survived by five brothers, George, Gib and Jim of Port Elgin; Ross of Chatham and Stewart of Detroit, Michigan. The funeral service was conducted on Tuesday, Nov. 12 with interment in the Claremont Union Cemetery.

Planning Board To Discuss Sub-standard Homes
The problem of sub-standard homes being moved into the Township of Pickering will be a subject for discussion at the next meeting of the Planning Board.

Township Planning Advisor, Mr. R. E. Faulkner informed the members of council on Monday night that the matter would be brought to the board's attention.

Councillor Hubert Wank charged that several cases of this nature had been brought to his attention. He said he hoped a definite policy could be established to control further problems of this kind.

Rare Birds Seen Near Claremont
During the past week, a rare specimen of bird has been seen near the area of the Claremont Conservaion Park. It is known as the three-toed woodpecker.

There are several species of this woodpecker, namely the Arctic Three-Toed and the American Three-Toed.

The Arctic or Black-Backed is about the same size as our common Hairy Woodpecker but can easily be distinguished by its solid black back. The American, also referred to as the Ladder-Backed, has a definite black and white ladder back and is a little smaller than its relative, the Black-Backed.

Assessment Major Issue In Uxbridge Election

Problems concerning assessments at both the municipal and county level have become the major election issues in the Twp. of Uxbridge. This fact was most evident at the annual Nomination Meeting conducted before a large audience in the Goodwood hall on Thursday night.

The election, for a term of two years, will be held on Monday, Dec. 2nd. For the office of Reeve, the incumbent, Norman Hogg is opposed by the Deputy-Reeve, Alvin Redshaw. For the position of Dep.-Reeve, councillor Donald Jackson is making a bid for the post against opposition from Reeve Nesbitt, a former member. For the three Councillor seats, four men are in the running — Terrence R. Akerman, Michael E. Kelly, Charles Forsythe and Arthur Knight. Councillors Forsythe and Knight are seeking re-election while Messrs. Akerman and Kelly are new candidates in the field.

Much Dissatisfaction
Reeve Norman Hogg admitted that there was much dissatisfaction among many ratepayers concerning increased assessments. He revealed that more than 200 appeals had been filed in addition to 45 revisions due to clerical errors. "Assessments are one of the big problems in the County too," said Reeve Hogg, "and they have backfired into our municipality." The Reeve charged that the township assessor had been "pressured" by the County assessor into raising assessments in the municipality. He expressed a fear that some individuals had not checked their assessment statements for errors "but there is little we can do about it now."

Concern for township assessments was also expressed by the deputy-reeve, Alvin Redshaw. At the County level, he said, all townships except one had been raised.

A 'Hodge Podge'
Former Reeve and ex-warden, Earl Dowsnell charged that the \$700,000 assessment hike put on the township "was untimely and completely out of proportion. It's nothing but a 'hodge-podge'," he said. He said that no one could be sure whether assessment under complete County control would prove a benefit or not under the present system. "It's getting worse instead of better." He agreed that some assessments required revision "but not that drastically."

"There is something seriously wrong with the way we assess," he said. "We've got to do something about it."

Deputy-Reeve Redshaw revealed that livestock losses had been reduced by over \$700 in 1963 and dog tax returns had increased by nearly \$1,000. He said that fire costs were up by \$500.

Ont. Cty. 4-H Members Compete at Royal

Queen's Guineas Class — There were five entries from Ontario County in a class of 196. Paul Webb, a member of the Scott 4-H Beef Club was awarded reserve champion in the Angus Class. Ross Bailey, Scott 4-H Beef, and Jim Newman, Mara 4-H Beef, placed in the second prize group of the Angus Class.

In the Shorthorn Class, Grant Beath and Donald McTavish, both members of the Scott 4-H Beef Club, placed in the second prize group.

Queen's Guineas winner was a Shorthorn calf exhibited by Sandra Peart from Wellington County, and the Reserve was an Angus calf exhibited by Wayne Watson from Middlesex County.

4-H Grain Class — There were nine entries from Ontario County in a class of 33, with the Ontario County exhibitor placing as follows: Sandy McTavish—3rd; Aldon Smith—5th; Ralph Morrison—6th; Keith Phoenix—7th; George Smith—8th; Donald McTavish—9th; Ian Hogg—11th; Wayne Beath—12th; Doreen Batty—22nd. All Ontario County entries were of the Russell variety.

4-H Potato Class — There were three entries from Ontario County in a class of 23. Bruce Norton placed second, Michael Lunney—fourth and Karen Gerstlitz. These members of the Scott 4-H Potato Club exhibited the Sebago variety.

the matter and it's too bad," he said. Mr. Dowsnell declined to qualify as a candidate.

Councillor Charles Forsythe, chairman of the relief committee revealed that only a few persons were on welfare and some of these were charge-backs to other municipalities. He said that their welfare officer had submitted his resignation but it had not been accepted by the Council. A member of the hospital board, he said that an addition was planned for the Uxbridge building within two years.

Councillor Donald Jackson, chairman of the property committee said that new road department offices had been constructed in the township garage. He said that two new trucks had been purchased and road construction projects had been completed on the Webb Sideroad and the 7th concession at a total cost of \$5,000.

Trials To Be Fair
Councillor Arthur Knight said he would like to see closer co-operation between the ratepayers and the council. "Touching on assessment, he said that the court of revision had attempted to be fair in its handling of appeals. He frowned on a trend towards County control of municipal assessments.

Robt. Nesbitt spoke only briefly and said he was no stranger to the township or its electorate. He later revealed that he would contest the office of deputy-reeve.

Terrence Akerman, a resident at conc. 5, is an employee of Trans-Canada Airlines. He will try to gain one of the three council seats. He promised unbiased and unprejudiced thinking in dealing with township problems. He described the influence of Metro Toronto on adjacent municipalities like Uxbridge and compared it to "a bit of an octopus."

Michael Kelly, a resident on the Webb Sideroad will also make a bid for a council post. He criticized the present members for their lax handling of the ratepayer. "They keep telling you that your taxes will go up so you'll get accustomed to the idea. They are not interested in you, the people," he said, "but only in justifying their jobs and spending your money."

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ATHA

Bill Tran marked his 10th birthday on Sunday. Mrs. Tran and Miss Freda Draper also had birthdays.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Lehman and family had supper on Friday evening with Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Byer.

Mr. and Mrs. Murray Dunkeld, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dunkeld attended the christening of Brian Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Murray Jones at Mt. Zion Church on Sunday.

Mrs. Frank Bielby spent a few days last week with her friends in Toronto.

Mr. Fred Goursin from Hershey, Sask. and Mr. Mel Venn spent Friday with the Carruthers family.

Mr. and Mrs. Elles Melton and family had Sunday dinner with Mr. and Mrs. James Melton at Burton.

400 Snow Fence Posts Stolen

Some party, possibly tired of chasing his cows out of the cabbage patch all summer or shovelling snow out of his lane all winter, has made off with 400 snow fence posts, the property of the Twp. of Pickering.

It was learned on Monday night that the municipality is not covered by insurance for this type of theft because rates for re-stored items are exceptionally high.

A replacement order in the amount of \$351.20 was given to the Claremont Co-operative who filed the lowest price on a tendered bid.

Men who give in if wrong, are wise, men who give in if right — are married.

ELECTORS OF UXBRIDGE TOWNSHIP

I have served Uxbridge Township as Councillor for the past six years. I have endeavoured to serve you to the best of my ability. My aim is to strive for progressive leadership and sound administration. If my record meets with your approval, I respectfully solicit your vote and influence and

RE-ELECT

Charles E. FORSYTHE

For Councillor — 1964-5

Polling Hours 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 2nd, 1963

Agric. Officials Present Views On Rural Zoning Of Pickering Twp.

A special meeting of the Pickering Twp. Planning Board was held at Brougham on Friday evening, Nov. 15th to discuss the proposed zoning bylaw with specific reference to the rural area of the municipality. In attendance at the gathering was Mr. Donald Middleton of the Federation of Agriculture and Mr. Eynn Fair, Ontario County Agricultural Representative.

The following points were presented by Mr. Middleton. (1). Every possible situation cannot be envisaged or covered in a written bylaw. (2). All proposed regulations must be agreeable to the ratepayers to be enforceable. (3). Only a small percentage of farmers wished to subdivide their property. (4). Zoning Bylaws were considered good protection against high taxation. (5). The requirement for a second dwelling on a farm was considered marginal and mainly a retirement consideration. (6). Present social trends were towards either the

multi-job householder or the multi-breadwinner household. Trend To Fewer Farms — Mr. Fair presented the following statistics and suggestions on rural zoning. (1). The necessity of the second farm dwelling was not clear but was considered an economic consideration for the young farmer starting out. (2). There is a rapid change in agriculture towards fewer of larger holdings. (3). In 1941, there were 28,000 farm people on 3,900 farms in Ontario County. In 1961, there were 11,000 farm people on 2,659 farms although the County population had increased from 65,000 to 125,000. (4). During the period from 1941 to 1961, the average farm had increased from 120 acres to 150 acres per farm with an increase of from 0.5% to 5% of the farms being over 400 acres in size. (5). In 1941, 22% of the farms were 69 acres or less. In 1961, 22.4% of farms were 69 acres or less. (6). The census definition of a farm is a

parcel of land of one acre or more on which there is the sale of \$50 or more of produce. (7). According to a census on 3,000 farms, 1,000 had no help; 633 had help 6 months of the year; 481 had help 12 months of the year; 100 had 2 helpers full-time or more; 20 had 3 helpers full-time and 24 had 5 full-time helpers.

Add New Section
It was pointed out that the trend was towards larger and "gentleman" type of farms. It was suggested that as farms increase in size, more hired help will also increase and to retain such help, second residences will become more prevalent.

Following a lengthy discussion it was unanimously agreed that a new section should be added to the bylaw to read: No person shall erect more than one residential building on any lot. The recommendation has been passed on to the Council for their consideration.

Township of Uxbridge

VOTE for

T. R. AKERMAN

for Councillor 1964-65

Polling Day, Dec. 2

10 a.m. to 7 p.m.