

Jack Anderson, councillor-elect

The year ahead

ALTONA - On Jan. 10, Ward 1 councillor-elect, Jack Anderson, R. R. 3, Claremont, will be sworn in as one of three new members on the 1972-73 Pickering Twp. Council.

For the 41 year old C.P.R. locomotive engineer, the months ahead will produce a degree of self-satisfaction and, unfortunately, its share of problems and disappointments.

But none of the latter is likely to bother him more than the pathetic turnout at the polls, Dec. 4 - not only in his Ward, but across the entire municipality. Out of 12,850 eligible voters, only 26 percent exercised their franchise. In Ward 1, only 934 cast ballots out of a possible 4,000. Jack Anderson and his committee called on every home north of the third concession.

"I can't understand it," he said, in a recent interview at his cozy country home, one mile east of Altona, "in some places I spent over an hour, and still they didn't vote". At one residence, he recalled, the gen-

tleman of the house had no knowledge that an election was even on, and yet one of the candidates had erected a large poster directly across the road. At a candidates' meeting in Cherrywood, he said, six ratepayers attended.

By comparison with some of the 'natives' in the district, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are comparative newcomers purchasing their 3-acre house and lot six years ago. They previously lived in Smith Falls and Rexdale. Their family numbers three - all boys, Kenneth, 15, David, 11 and Donald, 4.

It was only six days before the Nomination Meeting, that Jack Anderson was asked to let his name stand. He readily agreed and immediately went to work, knowing that two other candidates, one of them an ex-councillor, were seeking the same seat. He emerged an easy winner, scoring 456 votes to 276 for his nearest rival.

What lies ahead? Number one on the

list of priority items is the future state of Pickering Township itself.

Will it go to Metro? If not all, how much? And how soon?

It's all a giant guessing game, with councillor-elect Anderson guessing along with all the rest.

He personally believes the decision will come at the end of February. If Metro doesn't gobble up the township in its entirety, he feels the east rural half will go to Oshawa and the west half to York. He frowns on any suggestion that the 'leftover' section should operate as a distinct municipality on its own. And furthermore, he doesn't think the Provincial Government would allow such a thing to occur. Road maintenance and school costs would be too great a tax burden for the people to bear, he claims.

Anticipated issues already appearing on the '72 horizon include a new salary contract for the township police; extension of the municipal garbage area and pressure from the Dept. of Lands and Forests for re-instatement of a 3-day deer hunt.

On the latter, Jack Anderson is firm. "I don't want it - we don't need it. I haven't seen two deer in the area in the past six years. We have a pheasant hunt now and that's enough. In fact, I'd like to stop that too".

The councillor-elect would like to see a ratepayers' association organized in Ward 1. He'd also like to see more rural residents holding positions on township boards and committees.

"Of the current council he says: 'They've been really good. They've gone out of their way to help me out'".

Jack Anderson is looking forward to the year ahead. He's also looking forward to co-operation from the ratepayers he's elected to serve.

In whatever you do, be moderate, and no sickness will befall you. —Ecclesiasticus.



Jack Anderson, councillor-elect, Ward 1, Pickering Twp., relaxes in the living room of his home near Altona. He anticipates a busy year ahead. —Jas. Thomas

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A small world

STOUFFVILLE - Mrs. Hugh Herbison, the former Agnes Klinck, O'Brien Avenue, Stouffville, and now residing in Argenta, B.C., has accepted the position as organist in a newly built United Church in Nelson, B.C.

The minister of the church is Rev. Russet Vickers, who, as a student minister, boarded with the late Mrs. Ralph Hamilton on O'Brien Avenue, right next door to the Klinck family, when Agnes was in high school here.

With most of their family away from

home, or married, Agnes spends several days a week in Nelson, with about twenty music pupils and a junior choir. Her specialty is the piano, but she is enjoying the organ very much.

Her sister, Phyllis, who has also been living in Argenta recently, and teaching art in the school there, leaves shortly after the New Year to attend the University of Mexico, taking further study in art and a three months course in Spanish and Spanish History.

Laughter is a tonic - try a dose.

The smiles of young carolers reflect the warmth of this joyous holiday season. Permit us to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas, and to extend our sincerest appreciation for being wonderful customers! Thank you!!

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