

NEWS & VIEWS



1951

YOUR ELECTED OFFICERS

EXECUTIVE

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John Windebank 2028

RECORDING SECRETARY

Ruth Tait 871

TREASURER

Wm. Perks

VICE-CHAIRMAN

S.M. Duncan 2974

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Lionel Evans 2936

MEMBERS

Fred Ritchie 2039

Ray Waverley 2192

BAY & MURFREESBORO CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

EDITOR

Mary Coulter
Phone 2978

OUR ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEES

PHONE

CHAIRMEN

Hospitality	566
Membership	2192
Movie Club	2559
Recreation	2039
School Affairs	861
Circulation Manager	
"News and Views"	2611

Mildred Proudfoot
Ray Waverley
Kenneth Tuck
Fred Ritchie
E.B. Fry
Mary Smith

ON CHOOSING A TOWN COUNCIL

It is announced elsewhere in this issue that the next meeting of the Association will decide on a slate of nominees for the offices of Mayor and six Aldermen. If there are no other nominations properly filed on nomination day, the individuals chosen by the citizens at this meeting will take office for the next two years.

In accepting the responsibility for presenting the nominations to this meeting the Association executive has been forced to grapple with the problem of election policy. As we have understood it, the purpose of the nomination procedure is

- to make sure that enough candidates enter the field so that all seats of the council will be filled and
- to try and determine who are the persons in each region in whom the residents would have the most confidence as their representatives on the council and to try and get these persons, if they have not already served their stint, to run for office.

It is clear enough to anyone who thinks even for a moment about this statement of purpose that any individual or group that accepts responsibility in connection with council nominations is placed in an awkward situation. For in the course of discharging their duties they become judges of who should be persuaded to run for office, which aldermen of the retiring council should be persuaded to stand for another term in the interests of continuity (this involves a certain judgment of the relative importance of projects such as financing, town planning, roads) and how long a term should come to be traditionally regarded as one's stint.

One of the several perplexing problems the executive had to face was whether to nominate two candidates for each seat, as was done two years ago, or to bring in a single slate, as is done in a number of towns like ours. There are obvious disadvantages to both systems. Presenting a double slate ensures that half of the persons who have been persuaded to stand as candidates will experience the embarrassment of being turned down at an open meeting. Running a single slate on the other hand is more than likely to result in straight acceptance with no further nominations and hence no voting - a situation which may have the appearance of being steam rolled.

The first system - persuading two to stand so that one may be knocked out - could get to be a matter of going through the voting procedure just for the sake of appearances. Further, since the votes have to be cast at a meeting (in a hall that will not accommodate even half of the electors and within a period of an hour which may prevent many from attending) it may still not be democratic. The second system - asking a meeting either to rubber stamp or to contest a single list - while it can be thoroughly undemocratic, can also, if there has been a conscientious canvass of opinion in each region, be in keeping with the principles of democracy without creating unnecessary embarrassment. The second of the two systems has seemed best to this executive in the present circumstances.

There is a third alternative which might be considered. The present method is followed as a means of avoiding the effort and expense of a regular casting of ballots on election day. We had understood the expense to be prohibitive but the estimate we heard at the last meeting was under one hundred dollars. If the necessary amendments were made for regional balloting, nominating and voting could take place on a regional basis in the traditionally democratic method. A further amendment might provide that half of the council would be elected each year for a two year term. This would provide for continuity without placing on a nominating committee the responsibility for judging who should be urged to stand again and who should not.

The subject needs thought, and serving on a nominating committee has turned out to be a thought-provoking experience.

THE RECORD

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The regular monthly meeting was held on Friday, May 10th with the Chairman, John Windebank presiding. The minutes were read and approved. Committee reports were then called for. In the absence of the chairman of the Membership Committee, Mr. Waverley, Mr. Perks presented a report which showed that there is a total of 114 paid-up members, an increase of 19 over last year's total figure. The present percentage of possible membership is probably over 80% of the permanent residents of the Town. Mrs. Persson of Sunny Acres was introduced to the meeting. There was no further report for the School Affairs Committee and Mr. Smythe stated that there was nothing further on Town Planning. Mr. Ritchie expressed the Recreation Committee's thanks to Messrs. Creates, Smith and Cape for their effort in organizing and supervising the work on wharf and raft. The first baseball game of the season was held on Saturday, May 5th under the supervision of Tom Wauthier and Ron Baker when the College Green players beat the Lakeview-Morgan Road team. The College Green playground lots are low and wet; a survey is being made to see what can be done about their drainage. Mr. Evans reported correspondence with Council concerning the Lakeshore-Lakeview Bus stop and about the hazards of the excavation on Morgan Rd. Mr. Windebank thanked Mrs. Gray who had contributed a copy of the Charter of Incorporation of the Town in response to the request in the paper and Mr. Bjorn, on behalf of the Association, for all his work for the Birthday Party. The Chairman then introduced Mr. J.W. Long, Secretary-Treasurer of the Town, who had consented to come to the meeting to brief us on the legal aspects of the coming elections. Mr. Long suggested that a question and answer procedure might be the most helpful and in reply to questions from the members, the following points were among those made by Mr. Long.

Charter The Constitution of the Town is based on its Charter, and where that is silent on the Cities and Towns Act.

Election Date July first has been chosen because, in the early days of the Town when the Constitution was drawn up, most of the residents were summer people or farmers, and this date was most convenient for them.

Nominations Must be in 10 days before June 30th. The actual nomination period is June 20th, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. when any resident may present a properly filled out nomination to the Returning Officer. Forms for this purpose may be obtained from Mr. Long and must be signed by ten citizens who are qualified residents of the Town and on the electoral list. Also the candidate must submit a written statement that, if elected, he will serve on the Council. (Forms for the candidate's signature may be obtained from Mr. Wm. Perks, Lakeview Rd.) At the same time a \$50 deposit must be made by or for each candidate. If the candidate wins by acclamation, this amount is refunded, but in the case of an election between two candidates, the losing candidate forfeits his deposit unless he receives half the number of votes collected by his winning opponent.

Regional representation is not official according to the Charter, but was introduced by the Citizens' Association, and exists by common agreement. The speaker thought it advisable to retain some experienced Councillors on each new Council, but pointed out that it was not compulsory.

Increasing number of Council Members from six to eight would call for amending the Charter and would necessitate passage of a private bill by the Provincial Legislature. This is a long drawn out procedure and expensive, since it entails the cost of a referendum and the representatives' travel and two or three days stay in Quebec City.

If the Town wished to go to that trouble, we would be well advised to review the Charter and incorporate any other amendments judged necessary.

Seat Numbers - Although the Councillors are elected to fill seats No. 1,2,3 and so on, this is merely to ensure the right number of Councillors being elected; there are no special duties attached to any given seat, nor is there any regional representation implied.

Campaigns - There have, in the now distant past, been occasions when elections were accompanied by campaign speeches and cars calling to bring voters to the polls, etc., but nowadays the elections are very quiet affairs. Since the inception of the Citizen's Association, the Association has nominated members to the Council. So far, no other candidates have been put forward, so that the elections have been by acclamation.

Election Expenses would be, roughly, around \$100 for printing and so on.

Qualifications for Municipal Office - Article 5362 of Town of Baie d'Urfe Charter "Every male real estate proprietor or every male resident in the municipality not declared disqualified by law, may discharge any municipal office." (For disqualifying points see Cities and Towns Act). The same law applied to prospective electors.

New Business The evening's poor attendance (about 26) was commented upon and possible changes in notification to members discussed, the decision being left to the Executive's consideration. Auction Sale As yet no person has been found to convene a committee to run the sale, nor does anyone wish to take charge of collecting the material for the sale. The treasurer stated that fees paid last autumn will cover membership till August 31st when a new fiscal year begins. Mr. Vidler announced that he could get the film of the Canadians-Maple Leaf Play off game if the Association were interested in seeing it. There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned and a program of moving pictures on Gardens and Gardening followed, run off by Mr. Vidler. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Proudfoot assisted by Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. G. Brown, Mrs. MacDonald and Mrs. Creates.

Ruth Tait,
Recording Secretary.

ASSOCIATION NOMINATIONS TO TOWN COUNCIL

After seeking advice from people experienced in town affairs and after having called through News and Views for nominations from the citizens, the Executive is now giving notice that the following slate will be submitted at the meeting on June 8.

Mayor - Mr. Douglas F. Allan
Aldermen - Lakeshore East - J. Gelinas
- Lakeview - Sunny Acres - A.W. Ware, Sr., D. Menzies
- Lakeshore West - W.D. Laird, R.H. Foss
- College Green - G.E. Buch

This slate will be voted on along with any other nominations which may be submitted from the floor at the meeting. Any nominations should be assented to by the nominee, or if he is absent, by signed evidence of his acceptance.

NEXT MEETING

Main business is election of Association nominees for Town Council for the next two years. The meeting will be held on Friday, June 8 and because of the important nature of the meeting, a full attendance is hoped for.

With the election of a new Council on July first, the Council which has served the town since July 1949 bows out. It is right and fitting that the many achievements of the present Council be acknowledged and in order to get the picture, interviews were sought with Mayor Case and some of the Councillors.

Apart from the more or less routine town affairs which are always the concern of a Council, Mr. Case felt that the main effort and outstanding achievement of the present Council had been the Town Planning work which had been done. It will be of interest to all citizens that in the opinion of Mr. Irene Vautrin of the Department of Municipal Affairs at Quebec, the Zoning and Building By-Laws which have been prepared for our town by the Council in consultation with Mr. John Bland and approved by the citizens, are the best he has seen. Mr. Case paid sincere tribute to Dr. Frank Hanson for his outstanding work on the Town Planning Committee. It will be recalled that Dr. Hanson went to the Council after considerable preliminary work on the Town Planning Committee of the Citizens Association and with the express hope that the goals of the Association would be won. Provision has been made for parks on College Green and Morgan Rd. In order to save money, the town exchanged property on the undeveloped Cambridge Rd. for property owned by the Morgan Estate on Morgan Rd. and both park areas have commenced to be useful playground space for the rapidly growing population. The Town Hall grounds have been turned into a park and the purchase of park benches and the steel pier have given it new usefulness and made it a greater source of pleasure for many people as will be observed any sunny day during the summer. Action has also been taken to purchase properties which will be needed to complete the town plan. It has not been possible to acquire the title to all the property which is necessary for this purpose but the plan is laid and the goal set.

Speaking of other achievements of the Council, Mr. Case made reference to the fact that a parking system had been initiated. He felt that planned expenditure was made imperative by the growth of the Town. It had been necessary to limit the development of many desirable features if taxation was not to be radically increased. There had been some necessary work done on maintenance of roads and some basic work on construction of new roads was started. Sweeping and sanding of the roads was a major problem and will probably continue to be so for some time to come. Lighting had been improved by the introduction of a new style of street lamps. Thought was given to the possibility of enlarging the Council but it was found that this would require a change in the Town's charter so no action was taken beyond studying the charter.

When Mr. Case became Mayor six years ago there were under forty homes and about two hundred people in Baie d'Urfe. Now the Town has something over two hundred homes and approximately two thousand residents. With the growth of the town, many new problems had inevitably developed and time and patience will be required to meet them.

Town Planning Committee with Aldermen Hanson and Laird, Roads and Lights Committee with Aldermen Smith and Parker, Finance with Aldermen Yates and Gelinis have all been exacting conditions.

These responsibilities, taken on in a public spirited sense of civic duty have required a great deal more than one meeting a month. They have made demands in the form of time and energy and ability and inevitably have required a sacrifice of peace and leisure. To Mayor Case and the retiring Councillors goes an expression of appreciation from the Association for the fine way in which they have served the Town during their term of office.

SCHOOL AFFAIRS

The "New School" is definitely getting closer to reality now and much encouraging progress has been made lately.

Within the last two weeks we have heard from the Department of Education that the working drawings and specifications (both architectural and heating) have been approved and that the Municipal Commission is studying suitable financial arrangements. The plans have been sent out to Contractors and tenders are expected to be available early in June. If costs should prove to be higher than expected it may be necessary to make some revisions such as deferring improvements to the old building. We are likely to be affected by the decline in bond prices.

As soon as financing plans acceptable to the School Board have been worked out, a special meeting will be held to consider the necessary resolutions.

The McGill Agreement has been finally approved in Quebec and at a recent special meeting a resolution was passed authorizing the Chairman and Secretary to sign for the School Board.

The transfer of certain properties, on both sides of Maple Avenue, from the School District of Baie d'Urfe-Senneville has been approved and published in the Official Gazette. This extensive transfer has proved to be necessary in order to fulfill all requirements of the Education Act in connection with the locating of the new school property entirely within the School District of Baie d'Urfe-Senneville.

The School Board will shortly have a large house to dispose of. Really cheap! A bargain in dollars!! The only catch is that the buyer will have to move it elsewhere - we have no delivery service. What are we offered?

W. Spriggs,
Chairman,
Baie d'Urfe-Senneville School Board.

POTTERY GUILD IN OPERATION

The Lakeshore Pottery Build is off to a good start with twenty six members now and more eager to join up in the Fall. They are to be seen in groups of twelve or so at the McDonald College Pottery rooms on Wednesday and Thursday evenings and on Thursday afternoons and Friday mornings, happily making mudpies of a very superior variety under the auspices of Adult Education and tuition of M. Marcel Girard.

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This first six-week course is by way of an experiment and, judging by the atmosphere of cheerful absorption and the output of work already achieved, no one can doubt that from the point of view of the members, at any rate, the experiment is successful. All we have to do now is to prove it a financial success as well and we will be all set for more classes on a more permanent basis in the Fall.

Betty Spriggs,
Secretary,
Lakeshore Pottery Guild.

AROUND OUR TOWN

Welcome to Mr. and Mrs. G.R. Davidson who are now occupying their new home on St. Andrews St., and to Mr. and Mrs. J.F. Daly of Oxford Rd.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Frauzel, Lakeview Rd. on the birth of a son.

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<p>AIME PROULX Butcher Greger</p> <p>CHOICE MARKET</p> <p>130 Ste. Anne St. Phone 743</p>	<p><i>OK</i></p> <p>G. D'AOUST & CIE. Departmental Store</p> <p>FURNITURE, HARDWARE, PIECE GOODS</p> <p>73 Ste. Anne St. Phone 333-4</p>
<p><i>OK</i></p> <p>LABROSSE Jeweller Watchmaker</p> <p>REPAIRS A SPECIALITY</p> <p>85 Ste. Anne St. Phone 381</p>	<p><i>OK</i> <i>Paid \$6.50</i></p> <p>F. DUQUETTE</p> <p>PLUMBER HEATING TINSMITH</p> <p>98 Ste. Anne St. Phone 400</p>
<p><i>OK</i></p> <p>CYPHOT PHARMACY <i>Prescription Center 2</i> <i>SELLS FOR LESS</i></p> <p>KODAK FILM SERVICE</p> <p>100 Ste. Anne St. Phone 681</p>	<p><i>on holiday</i></p> <p>RAYMOND CLEANERS Pick-up & Delivery</p> <p>SIX-HOUR SERVICE</p> <p>74 Ste. Anne St. Phone 457</p>
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