



News & Views

PUBLISHED BY THE BAIE D'URFÉE CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

Authorized as second-class mail
Post Office Department, Ottawa.

DECEMBER 1955

THIS PARTY IS FOR YOU

A Christmas - First Anniversary party will constitute the December meeting of the Citizens' Association at The Coop, Friday, Dec. 16. Officially described as an "open house -reception," it will have an unusual twist in that price of admission will be a gift - food, clothing or toy - to be delivered later to less fortunate families not far from here.

Ninth Year
No. 95

This will be the last meeting under the chairmanship of Jack Mitcham and his committee, and there will be only three minutes of business, when nominations to fill Ron Whiteside's seat on town council will be considered.

All residents, and particularly those new to Baie d'Urfée, who haven't met many of their fellow residents, are invited to attend the affair, from 9 to 12. There will be a tree, decorations and refreshments usually associated with this festive season. Your gift will be placed under the tree and will help make some less fortunate happy Christmas Day.

This will not only be the Association's Christmas party but will mark the first anniversary of The Coop. Come out, have a good time, and take this opportunity to wish a Merry Christmas to distant neighbours you might otherwise not see.

Remember - price of admission - a gift, for a worthy cause.

FRIDAY, DEC. 16 - 9-12 P.M. - THE COOP

SUBJECT - CHRISTMAS - FIRST ANNIVERSARY "OPEN HOUSE".

Our Next
Meeting

DEAL WITH IT ON ITS MERITS

A request that consideration be given to the extension of the commercial area along the Metropolitan boulevard, west of Morgan Road, has been renewed to town council. The request, made by the owners of the land, the same people who were planning a shopping centre here, involves virtually doubling the present commercial zone.

Linked with the proposal, is the company's offer to deed to the town four lots adjacent to The Coop, including where Ernie Dewitt's hockey rink is.

Only one factor should be considered in the decision on this matter - the interests of Baie d'Urfée and its people. If it is in our interests to have a commercial area twice its present size, then those taxpayers who would vote on it should vote on it in that light; not with the thought in mind that a favourable consideration may mean the gaining of four valuable lots elsewhere. Apart from the referendum, however, council should give consideration to eventual acquisition of those lots, because they lend themselves ideally to the future development of The Community Centre set-up.

ARE WE TO LOSE OUR POSTOFFICE?

After Jan. 1 it is conceivable that Baie d'Urfée could be without its own postoffice.

When Reg Vidler found he could not handle both the postoffice and his town responsibilities, Mr. Davies was appointed postmaster. He decided the remuneration wasn't enough and quit. Mrs. Owen took over but quit shortly after, finding the long hours, the quarters and the isolation not to her liking. Elsie Vidler then took over, but only until Jan. 1. After that, no one knows.

Council is aware of the problem and has appointed a special committee to examine the whole situation. Certainly Baie d'Urfée does not want to lose its postoffice after all these years; it would be a retrograde step.

We could help boost the postmaster's remuneration to a degree by buying our stamps here instead of in town, as many of us do. Postal authorities are trying to improve his lot by declining to forward from the Baie d'Urfée post-office mail addressed to Baie d'Urfites who get their mail in Ste. Anne's. Also, Ste. Anne's postoffice has increased box charges to Baie d'Urfites who get their mail there.

Every avenue must be explored, every step taken to ensure that we keep our own postoffice. If it goes, so will go the identity of the finest community on the island.

TOWN COUNCILLOR RESIGNS: MUST NAME ANOTHER

On advice of Town Solicitor John W. Long, Secretary Treasurer H. A. Soucy will ensure that the gate on the railway crossing to the Hydro substation is padlocked. The town would be liable should an accident result if the gate were

unlocked, Mr. Long warned. This action was taken by town council at its regular meeting Dec. 6.

Mr. Soucy read minutes of a special meeting Dec. 3 when P.R. deCotret, of the postoffice department, discussed Baie d'Urfée's postoffice problem with council. He revealed that the postmaster's salary had been raised from \$1280 to \$1440 and possibly could be boosted to \$1800 upon an application from council.

Mr. deCotret said the postmaster's hours could not be reduced nor could council directly subsidize his salary. R.H. Whiteside accepted chairmanship of a citizen-council committee that will examine the whole matter of operation and location of the postoffice in Baie d'Urfée.

The question of a donation to St. George's Anglican Church was dropped. Mayor Cruickshank said precedent was against it. Besides, there were many Anglicans in Baie d'Urfée already "giving until it hurts" to build a new church, and a town donation would mean that through their taxes the same people would be giving again.

Mr. Long is investigating the town's responsibility re chimney sweeping, and Douglas Allen is reporting on the insurance implications. Mr. Soucy said an excavation in Sunny Acres about which there had been complaints had been filled in and the owners billed. Vistarchi Corp. have donated three lots in their project for park purposes, which with three lots previously given by Eastern Investors will make a park of approximately 75,000 square feet in the eastern section of town.

Councillors Bain and Brookhouse will survey all unsubdivided lands for other potential park area.

Councillor Barney Rider reported 15 building permits issued in November, totalling \$278,439. Council refused to issue a permit to build on two lots totalling 80-foot frontage but with an area of 18,000 square feet. Mr. Rider said the building committee was preparing to set up commercial bylaws.

Mayor Cruickshank said he had heard favourable comments on the street sanding to date. Ald. George Jost reported Mr. Hammond had said he wouldn't do any sanding this year, but Ald. Corbett said sanding was in the snow-cleaning contract with him. Mr. Jost will investigate. With town equipment, he said, it would be impossible to sand steep hills as in Oak Ridge.

Mr. Jost said some 14 miles of roadway would have to be cleared this year compared with nine last year. More snow fencing was required. Ald. Jost said boulders set up by some residents as driveway markers had been moved so they would not interfere with snowplowing, and to eliminate risk of broken plow blades. Ald. Jost warned that parking on roadways was not permitted during winter because parked cars interfered with plowing. Roads must be kept perfectly clear, and cars found parked would be appropriately dealt with, he declared.

"There are only a few offenders", said Ald. Corbett, "but they can be a big hindrance - even a menace."

Council approved floodlighting of The Coop area at a cost of \$229.

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There will be seven lights. Ald. Brookhouse reported having met with various community groups on the 1956 recreation budget, which will approximate \$1200. The groups were "reasonably happy" with the allocation, he said. A well will be installed at the Upper Bayview Rink, and through the auspices of C.O. Grimm, it will be done at cost, around \$100.

A letter of resignation from Ald. R.H. Whiteside was read. Mr. Whiteside said when he ran for office he felt he was fully qualified but had since found he was not. Thus there was no alternative but to submit his resignation. It was accepted with regret, with Mayor Cruickshank commenting "we will certainly miss you".

The mayor said it came as "a bit of a shock" to discover that an Englishman two years resident in Canada was not eligible for municipal office.

Mr. Long said an election was required to fill the vacancy. Mayor Cruickshank asked Chairman Jack Mitcham of the Citizens' Association if the Association would accept the responsibility of finding a candidate, or candidates. They did not necessarily have to be official Association candidates. Mr. Mitcham said the Association would.

Mr. Soucy said there had to be an election within 30 days of the vacancy. Nomination Day was set for Dec. 17 with the election - if necessary - to be Dec. 24. Mr. Mitcham said while the Association's Dec. 16 meeting was to be social, time would be taken out to discuss the matter of candidates.

Mr. Mitcham reported concern of the citizens over the future of Baie d'Urfée's mail service. He reported the suggestion that the postoffice be returned to the town hall, with the part-time bookkeeper acting as postmaster during his "spare" hours.

The mayor remarked that was the way council had been thinking. Ald. Corbett said the part-time bookkeeper had already been hired, to put in a 20-hour week on the books, and she couldn't possibly take on the postoffice.

"Certainly it would be a retrograde step if we let our postoffice go," said Mr. Mitcham.

The Association chairman reported the feeling there should be more "slow" signs in town; and the Oak Ridge request that special sanding attention be paid to their steep hills. Ald. Corbett said there would always be trouble there, despite the fact more sand was always put there than anywhere else. Mr. Jost said they would do their best.

Mr. Mitcham enquired how Mr. Whiteside had discovered his ineligibility. He was apparently seeking confirmation or denial concerning the reported instigator.

"It was first brought to my attention by private citizens", said Mr. Corbett. "I couldn't believe it, but then we learned that under the Cities and Towns Act, taken in conjunction with the Citizenship Act, he was not qualified."

Mr. Whiteside said under the Cities and Towns Act an "alien" could not hold office. Under the Citizenship Act, an alien is any non-Canadian, and Mr.

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Whiteside is not eligible for citizenship until after five years' residence. He said the question was not raised until after his election.

Mr. Mitcham referred to an article in The Herald which suggested that the proposed cloverleaf was virtually on its way. Did this reflect a change, he asked.

Mayor Cruickshank said they were seeking the source of the reported "facts," but council had received the assurance of Metro Chairman Pierre Desmarais that they would be fully informed before anything was done with respect to the new highway as it affected Baie d'Urfée. Ald. Bain said certainly the Metropolitan Commission had not approved the project, but he hoped to have more information by next meeting. Mayor Cruickshank said he didn't think they'd know anything more until at least February.

The mayor said apparently it was going to be quite a road, four-lane, elevated, limited access, and very costly. Each community would be expected to bear the cost of the section passing through it. Mr. Desmarais had promised Baie d'Urfée the chance to air its views and present any alternate plans. Murray Campbell, who has been studying the entire situation, said there had been a variation in the original theme. The latest moved Surrey Road right along-side the Metropolitan Boulevard and it didn't affect the shopping centre.

Government assistance in the rebuilding and widening of Morgan Road will be discussed with Jacques Viau in the spring. Cost is estimated at \$35,000, and apparently there are precedents for provincial assistance.

Mayor Cruickshank disclosed that he had received a visit from Bertold Weinsberg, of Lakeview Gardens, and C.O. Grimm, concerning extension of the commercial zone. Mr. Weinsberg would like to reopen his request that the commercial zone west of Morgan Road be extended to within 230 feet of Morgan Road, roughly doubling the size.

"He is still interested in a package deal," the mayor said. "If the town goes for doubling of the commercial zone Mr. Weinsberg will deed to the town four lots adjacent to The Coop. He is not interested in the service-road move until the cloverleaf question is settled." The mayor said Mr. Weinsberg, who is from New York, seemed to have the best interests of the town at heart. Mr. Weinsberg felt that the property concerned was much more suitable for commercial use than residential.

Council will consider the matter at next meeting, Dec. 20. A referendum would be required. Two meetings ago council was informed Lakeview Gardens was dropping its request for the time being.

In order to cut down on the number of "bosses" he sometimes suffers, Reg Vidler will henceforth take his instructions through Town Secretary-Treasurer Soucy.

The town building committee is going to consider the whole question of raising building permit fees, and make a recommendation to council. Mr. Soucy said Baie d'Urfée was pretty much in line with other Quebec communities, with the exception of Pointe Claire which has an extra tax of \$200 per house for its

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waterworks program.

Ald. Rider said vastly increased building permit fees, aimed particularly at subdivision promoters, could help pay the vastly increased road, light and other municipal costs resulting from such building projects. Ald. Corbett said in some provinces subdivision developers had to put in their own sewage and water systems. Elsewhere they have to contribute so much per house to future capital expenditures resulting from their housing programs. "New building here," he said, "just means higher costs."

Even doubling the building permit fee wouldn't amount to a great deal, he suggested. Mr. Rider said today's fee barely covers the town's costs in handling each permit, including plan and building inspection. It averaged \$45-\$60. he suggested perhaps doubling it. "Perhaps we should boost the fee by \$100 to cover increased handling costs to the town," he said.

Mayor Cruickshank felt it should be based on valuation.

T.R. Lee.

SCOUTING IN BAIE D'URFEE - HELP WANTED

A good percentage of Baie d'Urfée residents are not, it is suspected, aware that Scout and Cub meetins are held regularly (weekly) at The Coop, with Cubs under the supervision of Reg and Babs Avey of Sunny Acres and Scouts under Tom Simpson of Bayview. The Cubs have been operating for several years but the Scouts only this fall.

With the tremendous influx of new families into Baie d'Urfée, and more and more boys interested in cubbing and scouting, there is urgent need for an assistant for both Tom Simpson and Reg Avey. In addition, parents are sought who would serve on the group committee which supports present cubbing and scouting activities and lays the groundwork for anticipated future expansion. The Group Committee would be pleased to hear from anyone willing to devote a very small portion of their time. Also sought are experienced residents interested in conducting badge tests.

W. B. Proudfoot,
Chairman,
Baie d'Urfée Group Committee,
Phone 5566

10 VOLUNTEERS WANTED, PLEASE

The lifeblood of News and Views - the thing that makes it possible - is advertising. At the beginning of each year a group of Baie d'Urfites canvass Ste. Anne de Bellevue merchants, servicemen, etc., for the advertising which pays the cost of producing News and Views for the ensuing year. The time has come to sell advertising for the 1956 issues.

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It's a tough enough job for the editor to get out News and Views each month 12 months a year without having to canvass for the advertising too. Therefore, PULEEZE, at least 10 people volunteer forthwith to the editor

Tommy Lee,
Phone Ste. Anne's 4335

The job should be done right away to ensure that News and Views gets off to a good start right after the New Year.

SEEK 9 OFFICERS FOR CITIZENS' EXECUTIVE

The annual meeting of the Baie d'Urfée Citizens' Association is the second Friday in January - the 13th.

Most important item of business, of course, is election of Association officers for 1956. The present executive has named a nominating committee to draw up a slate comprising the following posts.

Chairman
Vice-chairman
Recording Secretary
Corresponding Secretary
Treasurer
Editor
Members at large (3)

These posts are presently filled respectively by Jack Mitcham, Harry Dixon, Lawrence Marshall, Barney Rider, Lars Firing, Tommy Lee, Frank Booth, Ginny Higman, and Jim Barrable. The constitution prohibits anyone from holding the same post more than two years or being on the executive in any capacity more than three. Most of the 1955 executive come under one or the other category.

The nominating committee will present a slate to the annual meeting but it is not necessarily final. Any member may nominate any other member (except a member of council) from the floor of the meeting providing the nominee has agreed to stand. Even prior to the meeting if you have any suggestions contact the chairman of the nominating committee, Frank Booth.

Many new families have come into Baie d'Urfée during the past year or so. They include many people who have the ability and should have the interest

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and desire to take their part in the affairs of this growing town. The task should not be left to the same few; new blood is in the best interests of the community. Your nominations will be welcome.

Serving on the association executive means doing your bit by your community, yourself and your fellow man. It can also be a lot of fun.

GINNIE SAYS:

IT DOESN'T TAKE more than one quick look down the river towards Montreal these crisp, bright mornings to know why so many city folk are moving out to the Lakeshore: It might not be as bad as Los Angeles', but if that isn't a cloud of smog overcasting the sky to the east of us, then we'll eat this typewriter!

NEWCOMERS TO MORGAN are brimming over with warm feelings concerning Baie d'Urfée hospitality these days. When Roy and Marg Cochrane found out Betty and Birney Jones' new home at 89 Morgan Road wouldn't be completed by their moving date, they invited the Jones with young Tom, seven, and Bob, two, to stay with them! Birney's with the Royal Bank of Canada, and though both are too busy right now, they still occasionally think of tennis and have hopes of someday playing their favorite sport again.

ONE GOOD TURN deserves another, and as Phyl and Fern Huneault were recipients of the Sid Nagley's hospitality for six weeks before they moved, they in return invited their new next-door neighbors, Ross and "Tookie" Hughes and fifteen month old, Judy, to live with them this past month while the finishing touches were being done to the Hughes' new home at 39 Morgan. Ross, a "Hi Fi" fiend, is assistant to the comptroller for the St. Regis Paper Company in Montreal.

THEY MUST DO A lot of talking amongst themselves, those T.C.A.-ers, for practically every month another air-minded family moves out to Baie d'Urfée to see what it's all about. Latest of the T.C.A. crowd are Gladys and Lorne Boyd who moved this fall to their new home at 87 Morgan Road with their three children, Larry, eleven, Linda, five, and Malcolm, two. Lorne's a mechanic for that illustrious outfit.

FROM TORONTO via New Jersey to Montreal came Bill and Marjorie Roberts who are renting Mrs. Fred McBride's home at 20154 Lakeshore Road, planning to build here in the spring if they like it! Their two half-grown sons John, thirteen, and Brian, twelve could hardly wait for the lake to freeze in order to try out their skates. Bill--Dr. Roberts if one wishes to be formal-- is a veterinarian and Director of Professional Services for Lederle Laboratories, a division of North American Cyanamid Ltd. His one big love, bless him, is sailing, hence the desire to live along the Lakeshore. Marjorie, on the other hand, goes more for power boats with an indoor hobby of "dabbling" with paints....

BUYING THE BEN GARSONS' waterfront home at 20100 Lakeshore Road and moving in November 5 were Muriel and Pillian (Steve) Stevenson and their two children, Paul, going on four, and Penny, six months. The Stevensons are formerly from Beaconsfield and both are interested in all types of sports.

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Steve is an engineer for the B. J. Coghlin Company.

WE ALL KNOW Mary and "Pop" Ware, but did you know they moved to their new home at 105 Churchill this fall? With them are living Frannie, their daughter, and her two darling pre-school sons.

THE MISSES WALKINSHAW, Grace and Marg, two of Baie d'Urfée's old-timers who moved from their home on Lakeshore Road last summer to an apartment in Ste. Anne's, couldn't stay away any longer from their old stomping grounds and moved into a lovely new bungalow at 92 Devon Road December.

UP TO HER EARS in sawdust was Gloria Adams when we called on her at her new home on 86 Churchill Road. With only their bedroom and kitchen inhabitable, she cheerfully informed us that she and Don were expecting his parents to come visit them that week and hers the following one! For hobbies the Adams are willing to try anything in the way of sports but have particular leanings for golf and skiing. Don is Branch Manager for the Blackstone Mutual Insurance Company, a subsidiary of Factory Mutual.

COMING FROM VIENNA, AUSTRIA three and half years ago, Gunter and Dora Novy, who moved into their new home at 14 Apple Hill Road November 25, resided in Three Rivers for a year and thence to Burlington, Ontario, before settling here. Gunter is Chief Engineer for Canada Iron Foundry and they have two children, Klaus, eleven, and Christa, nine.

HANGING ON OUR vestibule wall these days is a handsome and unusual head of a Negro girl, a present from Charles and Berta Farra whom we called on last week! One doesn't expect to be handed an object one admires, so the Farras' generosity really bowled us over!!! Perhaps that's the custom in Czechoslovakia... if so, then we're all for it! The Farras arrived in Canada five years ago next May as penniless "D.P.'s". For six months they worked out their D.P. contract as domestics and then Charles got a job as Lab Technician for McGill University at their Gas Dynamics Lab across the road from the Mac campus. For three years he's worked there while Berta did office work at the College. By dint of hard work, saving and doing much of the building the Farras were able to move into their lovely bungalow at 716 Victoria Drive the last part of October. And that, we think, is a very fine success story. And the postscript is just beginning, for Charles is getting organized to mass-produce lovely pottery vases, bookends, wall plaques (such as he gave us) etc., said project to get underway this spring.

A SINGULAR HONOR was given us by David Bruce Bennet, who will be one year old Christmas eve, for David took his first unaided steps to us in order to peek into our Welcome Wagon basket... David, along with Heather Linda, four, and Bruce and Beverly Bennet, his mother and father, moved to their new home at 719 Coventry Drive December first. The Bennets, who come from Montreal where Bruce works as an accountant for Shawinigan Water and Power, are fond of all types of sports, particularly skiing and skating.

SPEAKING OF SPORTS, everyone who's interested in that field knows Al Cauley, News and Sports announcer for CJAD whose "Hot Stove League" during half-time is tops with the hockey addicts around here. Alan and Sheila with their four youngsters, John, seven, Ann, five, Kathleen, two and Daniel eight months

moved to the Angrove home in College Green the fifteenth of October.

FLASH!!! - Plans are being made to revive the popular winter carnival! A committee is being set up.

ADDITIONS ALREADY to the Oak Ridge district are John and Elsi Whatley who moved to 25 Birch Hill Road October 7. With gardening and dancing and community activities in general much to their liking, and having lived in Pte. Claire for ten years and thus no strangers to this area, the Whatleys feel very much at home in Baie d'Urfée. John is a mining engineer with the Canadian Ingersol Rand Company, Ltd. Besides a beagle pup, Elsie's family includes Donald, nine, Joan, eight, Richard, four and Gordon, one and a half.

THAT VERY FORMAL, reserved attitude some Englishmen bring to Canada (and quickly lose, if they can) certainly is not the least apparent in Barbara Hunter, who only came to Canada from Leichester, England last July! Perhaps being on her honeymoon had something to do with those stars in her eyes, but at any rate, we found her utterly charming. The Hunters, married December 2nd, met in England while Bill was in the air force. Bill's a Valois man now working for Baie d'Urfée Realities. Hunting is his favorite sport, while Barbara is another tennis fan. For hobbies she includes drawing and design as well as knitting and embroidery work. The Hunters are renting the Yates (now Vistarchi) gate-house and moved in December 7.

THOUGH SHE'S BEEN in Canada long enough to not consider England her home, nevertheless Mary Muir still has a pleasant English tinge to her speech to mark her homeland. Mary and Greig Muir have spent their last five years in Toronto, moving to the former Hauch home at 29 Apple Hill Road November 30. Mary's hobby of painting really pays off, for we saw several of her oils brightening up the living and playroom walls! The Muirs three children are Derek, six, Vivian, three and Eden, two.

SOMETHING'D BETTER HAPPEN quick, or we're liable to have a disgruntled Baie d'Urfite on our hands! Contractor trouble has put Norma Morton down in the dumps and though she has one of the nicest homes up on Oak Ridge Drive, she wishes she were back in her snug little N.D.G. house with no painting or tiling or sanding worries. The first completed house on the new Vistarchi development, Bill and Norma Morton have one of the most sweeping views of Lake St. Louis in Baie d'Urfée. With Linda, aged ten, Lesley, two, and Billy, four months, perhaps next spring she'll be able to enjoy it! The Mortons moved in the first week in October. Bill is Assistant Manager of the Quebec Division for E.S. and A. Robinson of Canada, Ltd.

BAIE D'URFEE SEEN LOSING ITS POSTOFFICE

Twenty people attended the regular meeting of the Baie d'Urfée Citizens' Association at The Coop Friday, December 2. Chairman Jack Mitcham presided.

Chairman Mitcham hoped there would be a greater attendance at the Friday, Dec. 16 meeting, the Association's annual Christmas party, and in addition, The Coop's first birthday. Mr. Mitcham said Councillor Rider was continuing as corresponding secretary, despite his other duties. He said a contemplated raffle to raise funds for The Coop was being deferred because Coop funds were pretty

substantial; in fact, the new executive committee would have a pot of around \$1500. handed over to them.

Mitcham said a small building at Morgan Road and the Metropolitan Boulevard, formerly used as a real estate sales office, had been offered to the Association for use as a hockey change room, and was now allocated to one of the community parks. It had belonged to Lakeview Gardens.

Mr. Mitcham, reporting on behalf of nearly all the committee heads, unable to be present, said Ginny Higman had done a terrific job with respect to selling Association membership, and over 90 per cent of the community belonged. He said the new membership year begins Jan. 1, but there was some question as to the type of membership that will be sold, what it will embrace.

Tommy Lee, News and Views editor, said the annual advertising campaign for News and Views would take place right after the New Year, and he asked for 10 people to assist. Each person would be asked to contact about five advertisers. Mr. Mitcham remarked it wasn't a difficult task, as most advertisers were most cooperative. Any who would like to help are asked to contact Lee at 4335. The job could involve only an hour or so one Saturday morning.

Chairman Mitcham said he expected caretaking of The Coop would be improved as of now. He told of the special recreation meeting and how a budget of approximately \$2000 for 1956 had finally been submitted to council. Council, he said, was sympathetic, but there were many things that had to be done, and only so much money. Chairman Mitcham said it looked as though the Association would get about the same as last year, approximately \$1200, and the Association would try to apportion it equitably among the various projects mooted by assorted groups within the community. Mr. Mitcham said he felt those holding the purse strings should decide where it should be spent - he would rather see council supervising the money's distribution.

"Certainly," he warned, "there will not be enough to do all the various jobs everyone wants to do".

Mr. Mitcham introduced Rev. David Hostetter, minister of the Presbyterian church being organized in Baie d'Urfée; probably the first church established in Baie d'Urfée since the early missions 300 years ago.

Mr. Hostetter said property had been purchased directly across from the site of the proposed new Bair d'Urfée school. The first service had already been held, at Macdonald High School, with 54 adults and 26 children attending. Mr. Hostetter said this Baie d'Urfée church would possibly be the centre of a new Presbyterian parish, but it was also hoped it might offer something to everyone.

Chairman Mitcham said the executive would meet shortly to appoint a nominating committee, to bring in an executive slate for 1956. A slate had to be ready for the annual meeting the 2nd Friday in January, he said, and pretty well the bulk of the present executive was due for retirement. Suggestions were invited.

The chairman said there was nothing new to report on the shopping

centre or cloverleaf questions, other than that Murray Campbell had spent a great deal of thought, time and energy in preparing alternative suggestions, as promised. These were being considered by the council committee investigating the whole situation.

Mr. Mitcham said Ernie Dewitt and his gang had done a terrific job with regard to the new hockey rink at The Coop. While Ernie and his group had pretty well built it on their own, they had been assisted by the Association on occasion, and could always count on the Association's aid if the going got too tough, Mitcham said.

Discussing road sanding, the chairman said certain Oak Ridge residents had suggested that in view of their steep roads they should get preference with regard to sanding. Failing that, perhaps the road into the Vistarchi development should be kept plowed all winter.

Mr. Mitcham brought everyone up to date with regard to the postoffice problem. Mrs. Owen had resigned, he said, and Elsie Vidler was going to look after it until Jan. 1, but from then on it was just a great big question. Technically, said Mr. Mitcham, it was not the Association's problem, or even town council's. It was strictly a matter for the postoffice department at Ottawa. However, it was a matter for every Baie d'Urfite to think about because postal authorities did NOT have to maintain a postoffice in town, they were simply required to make postal service available at the most convenient spot (convenient to Ottawa, that is), and the handiest spot outside Baie d'Urfée would undoubtedly be Ste. Anne de Bellevue.

"It would appear," said Mr. Mitcham, "that as of Jan. 1 Baie d'Urfée will be without its own postoffice unless we can find some rugged individual willing or able to live on \$1400 a year."

He had been told, he said, that Ste. Anne's had refused to handle Baie d'Urfée mail, but he didn't think they could.

Mr. Mitcham suggested the town might be eligible for rural mail delivery but that wouldn't be satisfactory to everyone. There was no doubt the postoffice's wage scale required a supplementary income. That's why, for example, some post-offices are found in stores. Council can't raise the postmaster's pay. Many Baie d'Urfites receive mail here, but mail it in the city, buying their postage there too. If they did that buying here it would help boost the pay scale, but there would have to be a terrific additional volume of mail to make any appreciable difference.

Reid Barnes wondered what about assessing every Baie d'Urfite \$5. to supplement the postmaster's income. Someone else suggested an extra charge be incorporated in the town's taxes. Apart from the legality of such a move, there are Baie d'Urfites who get their mail at Ste. Anne's, and they wouldn't be too keen on such a proposal. Also, if the \$5 fee went through, could use of the postoffice be forbidden to those who didn't kick in the \$5. It was doubtful.

Murray Campbell noted that the town was now seeking a part-time book-keeper. Perhaps the postoffice could be moved back to the town hall and the book-keeper could look after the mail, supplementing his (or her) part-time town pay with the postoffice pay.

Chairman Mitcham said that sounded like a possibility and he would convey it to council.

T.R. Lee.

BAIE D'URFEE ENJOYS V.O.N. SERVICE

Have you ever had the need in your home, at some time or other, for skilled nursing attention, and not realized that such a service was readily available right in the community? If so, you probably will welcome knowing Baie d'Urfée is served by the Ste. Anne de Bellevue Branch of the Victorian Order of Nurses (V.O.N.) whose fully qualified nursing staff of one full-time, and two part-time registered nurses, is on call seven days a week.

Specialty work of the V.O.N. includes maternity care for the mother before and after the baby is born, home nursing service for the aged and chronically ill, administering injections, and general health instruction - all given under the supervision of the family doctor, and at minimum cost. There are, in fact, so many ways in which the V.O.N. nurse can help in times of family illness - or when the new baby arrives home - that a complete listing of the services would far outrun this space.

Basically a community organization, the V.O.N. Ste. Anne's Branch (serving Beaconsfield, Beaufort, Ste. Annes, Senneville and Ile Perrot) is operated by a voluntary group of local citizens known as a Board of Management, elected annually. The nurses are the only paid employees and the highest professional standards are maintained at all times.

Mrs. Ruth Tait and Mr. H.G. Kirton are current members of the Board of Management representing Baie d'Urfée. Mrs. Elizabeth Brown and Mrs. Leslie Case are recent Past Presidents. A fully qualified Registered Nurse, Mrs. Chris. Powrie, has been giving part-time nursing assistance and doing a wonderfully good job of it.

And so we suggest if at any time the need for skilled nursing aid arises in your home, just remember it is as close to you as your telephone: Simply call Ste. Annes 5777, the local listing of the Victorian Order of Nurses in this area.

ADDENDA

The town's sympathy goes to Jean Gelinas in the recent death of his mother. Mrs. Gelinas was an enthusiastic worker on behalf of church and charity.

Nurse Vivian Mitcham, daughter of Chairman Jack and Mrs. Mitcham, was pictured in The Star the other day with one of her patients and with Alouette Hal Patterson on the occasion of a Christmas party at Julius Richardson Hospital. And speaking of Alouettes, one of their best - and, in fact, one of the country's best - lives in Baie d'Urfée. He's Joey Pal.

Baie d'Urfée, and particularly the Citizens' Association, lost a very good friend the other day in the death of Paul Lefebvre, 44, general superintendent for H.J. O'Connell, contractor. He was a darn nice guy.

Another good friend died Nov. 27 at Ste. Anne de Bellevue. He was W.J. Parkinson, 66, well-known plumbing and heating contractor who did a great deal of work in our town. He was a real gentleman and will be missed.

ALL MUST AID IN FIGHT AGAINST POLLUTION

Because Baie d'Urfée has a very decided interest in Lac St. Louis, and any pollution therein, following is a digest of a report made on the situation by Dr. Claude Allard, biochemist, to the anti-pollution committee of the Quebec Federation of Fish and Game Associations:

North shore pollution in Lake St. Louis has been recorded throughout the entire length, but is more usually found in some regions than others. Two points on the south shore are also frequently contaminated and likewise constitute a health menace.

The north shore regions most often affected are Valois Bay, Summerlea, Dorval and Lachine. The south shore points are Beauharnois and Melocheville.

The Lake St. Louis study was conducted last summer from 45 sampling stations within the four-cornered water expanse bounded roughly by Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Lachine, Caughnawaga and Beauharnois. Contamination with bacteria of intestinal origin was largely a fluctuating factor, but at many points greatly exceeded the "acceptable limits".

It was pointed out that by "acceptable limit" was meant the deadline beyond which it becomes imperative to install sewage treatment plants to purify municipal and other effluents and abate the serious menace to health. The figure of 2,400 coliform bacteria per 100 cubic centimeters was used.

Attention was also drawn to the fact that conditions found in a number of places around the lake were alarmingly similar to those which caused Mr. Justice François Caron this past summer in Superior Court to order the city of Dorval to stop a sewage pumping operation which was fouling waters contiguous to the residence of a riparian landlord of that city.

From the viewpoint of fish life, it was stated that more intensive research will be necessary to standardize the hazards. There was no doubt that pollution was causing fish to change habitat and also causing undesirable species to gain numerical advantage over others. Mass deaths of fish in the Chateauguay River last spring had been attributed chiefly to pollution.

Future silting and other results of dredging operations incidental to the making of the St. Lawrence Waterway should not be allowed to catch the authorities

unprepared, it was warned. The present survey gave some foretaste of possibilities when, at Beauharnois, it dealt with disturbance caused by operations necessary for the dredging of the canal. Silt remained in suspension over great areas, defeating attempts to settle it. And when, at Beauharnois, it finally does settle, it forms mudbanks now 15 feet deep, which, smothering all the bottom fauna, make fish life impossible.

Dr. Ray Lawson, committee co-chairman, as a surgeon expressed dismay at the situation but pointed out that as conditions had not yet reached an irreversible condition it was still possible to restore our public waters to a clean and healthy state. The necessary laws, he said, already exist and would, if enforced, adequately serve the purpose.

"The reason for this dreadful state of affairs, which is constantly worsening," he added, "may be summed up in two words: public apathy."

He stated that it is up to every thoughtful individual to contact his or her local mayor or provincial member and express a personal stand on what he termed "this shameful abuse of our waters".

Dr. Cooper Stacy, another co-chairman, concurred, expressing grave concern at public apathy while the amount of pollution increases steadily, year by year, progressively endangering health.

"It is disheartening to see our rivers being slowly but steadily converted into sewage channels," Dr. Stacy said. "Besides being a health menace, this state of things is also depriving residents of Quebec of their natural heritage of waters which once teemed with game fish."

SCHOOL AFFAIRS

Bus Service

Due to the ever-increasing numbers of children in Baie d'Urfée it has been necessary to improve the return bus service from the school. Instead of four return trips along the Lakeshore Road in the afternoon there are now five, the additional one being made by Mr. Meloche in his St. Marie Road bus. As well as relieving the congestion, the extra trip will also enable Grade 2 and Grade 3 children to get home half an hour earlier.

Housing

We have been notified by the College that they will not continue to rent accommodation to any of our teachers after next spring. The housing situation is going to be difficult next year.

Financing

We have received permission from Quebec to obtain a second loan of \$50,000 from the Bank to carry us through until tax revenue begins to come in. This credit is, of course, only drawn upon bit by bit, as required. Our expenses are running at the rate of about \$15,000 per month.

Assessments

Due to serious inequalities in assessed values believed to exist in various municipalities, the Central Board, last spring, decided to obtain accurate information in order to enable them to levy equitable taxation throughout our area, Realty Assessments Ltd., who have carried out the assessment of Baie d'Urfée and of Senneville, were engaged to carry out spot check surveys of the other eleven municipalities.

The spot check report has now been submitted to the Board. It covers over 200 properties, and has been prepared in great detail and with extreme care. The report provides us with a series of multiplying factors, one for each municipality, which will make it possible to put the protestant school taxation of all 13 municipalities within our area on an equal basis.

There will still remain individual inequalities in any given municipality, but this is beyond the control of the School Board which can deal only in average municipal levels. Such taxpayers have recourse in protests to their municipal councils at the time of the annual homologation of assessment rolls.

W. Spriggs,
Dec. 5th, 1955.

COUNCIL INCLUDES \$1200 FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

The November Council meeting was resumed Tuesday, Nov. 15th. Mayor Cruickshank suggested several changes in procedure which were adopted. These included:

- (1) Council will meet regularly on the first and third Tuesdays of each month from 8 P.M. to about 10:30 P.M.
- (2) Private citizens, representatives of the Association and others who may wish to address the Council will be given an opportunity to do so at 9:30 P.M. instead of an indefinite time at the end of the meeting.
- (3) Wherever possible requests, suggestions or complaints should be handed to Mr. Soucy in writing well ahead of the meeting so he could refer them to the appropriate aldermen for study.

At council meetings now there seems to be more discussion from the floor as well as among members of council. Mayor Cruickshank has indicated on more than one occasion that he welcomes constructive comment from members of the general public attending the meeting.

A resolution was passed permitting Darby Development Corp. to leave three garages incorrectly placed on lots, 19'6" and 19'9" from the property lines instead of 20'0", without creating a precedent. Consideration was also given to the issuing of a building permit for a house built on the wrong lot. The lot for which the permit was originally issued and the lot actually built on belonged to the same owner.

Alderman Corbett reported on discussions with Mr. Soucy and the Town's auditors on our bookkeeping. Even although the Town Hall is now open to the public only half a day daily, it is felt Mr. Soucy has insufficient time to do all the bookkeeping, due to the volume of transactions and particularly the allocation of

charges and taxes for roads. We have been getting along with the auditors doing most of the bookkeeping but as they have pointed out, this is not an economical procedure. Mr. Corbett suggested that the town find someone willing to work part-time, say from 9:30 A.M. to noon, and with sufficient experience to post the Town's books. The vacancy is to be advertised. Mr. Corbett felt the salary would be about \$25.00 a week.

A complaint was received from a resident regarding the drainage from Lakeshore Road to the lake interfering with his septic tank. It was pointed out that an individual filling in natural drainage facilities, or installing septic tank weepers which conflict with natural drainage did so at his own risk and that the Town was under no obligation to change the natural drainage. Where the Town has actually built concrete pipe drains or culverts the maintenance is up to the Town. In view of development of the practice of installing concrete pipe and covering ditches over the full frontage of properties a warning was issued that such installations must not impede the flow of water or reduce the drainage of the adjacent road surface. These installations must be covered by building permits and are subject to inspection.

It was decided to purchase an aluminum ladder so Reg. Vidler could look after changing of street light bulbs. Reg reported that the tractor's hydraulic system needed repairs which might cost several hundred dollars and it was suggested he approach the people who sold the machine and see what arrangements could be worked out with them. Apparently the tractor has become a heavier investment than originally expected with purchase of a number of accessories.

Frank Booth submitted a recreational budget for 1956 on behalf of the Citizens' Association and other groups amounting to \$1920, mostly for rinks and the beach. For the benefit of the new council the basis of this budget was outlined. It has become customary for the Town to include a certain sum in its budget to cover the cost of permanent recreational facilities. The operating costs of these facilities are covered by volunteer labour, the Citizens' Association and other interested groups. In 1954 this budget was \$1000 and in 1955 it was \$1200. The idea of using this budget for permanent facilities has not been strictly followed.

Ald. Corbett pointed out that the Town had been living off its surplus in recent years, that there was a deficit budget this year and that as this situation could not go on much longer the Town would either need a higher total assessed value or increased tax rate. He expected that the Town would be faced with increased expenditures next year and that it was too early to make a definite decision whether the recreational budget could be increased.

Ald. Brookhouse noted that the proposed budget included items totalling \$450 for snow removal from various rinks and suggested that this work be done by Reg Vidler with the tractor and that the scraping and final clearing up be looked after by volunteers. This was agreed to by the various groups represented. The proposed budget also included a grant of \$200 toward cost of lifeguards borne by the Association and which amounted to about \$650. in 1955.

Ald. Brookhouse suggested the following budget for permanent improvements, including a \$50 general recreational grant to each of the major parks and \$200 toward cost of lifeguards. (The Barns and Beach are considered as services for the entire town).

Somerset Park	\$ 25.00
Oxford Park	100.00
Essex Park	80.00
Morgan Park	100.00
Barns	440.00
Beach	375.00
Oak Ridge Park	<u>75.00</u>

% 1195.00

It was pointed out that this budget did not include the \$200 requested for a well at Essex Park and that the proposed rink could not be built without the well. Ald. Brookhouse suggested that the Association could rearrange the budget as it wished before it was finalized and allocate \$200 from the lifeguard to the well. Chester Ellis pointed out the need for a rink in Essex Park.

It was also pointed out that this budget did not necessarily represent the total for 1956 since it might cost as much as \$2000 to provide the toilet facilities requested for the beach.

It was decided to include \$1200 in the 1956 budget for improvements to recreational facilities.

Ald. Bain reported that the land in the Lakeview Gardens subdivision had been checked for soil and rock conditions by a committee of the Council assisted by a couple of engineers and that they had been unable to find any conditions which would interfere with normal drainage or the use of wells and septic tanks.

Ewing Tait.

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