

Rivers' birth; at Windsor, Ont., for John Solimka who, just a month earlier had returned to local scenes and celebrated with his life-partner the golden jubilee of their wedding beneath the roof of the home they had occupied here for more than three decades; for Peter Luchuk whose retirement from railroading had been hastened by ill-health; for Mrs. W. G. Thomas, who had first called Rivers 'home' in 1910.

THE STORY OF RIVERS — 1949



NOTICE of motion to rescind a two-month-old resolution concerning reserve fund monies earmarked for water and sewage, given at the initial 1949 council meeting, preceded by several days a special forum that saw civic chamber decorum explode when Acting-Mayor R. G. Sinclair announced the sale of rink debentures which, some members declared, should have been offered to ratepayers: Mr. Sinclair accepted full responsibility for the transaction. A fortnight later, Chief Magistrate Grant returned from a three-month leave of absence and upheld the debenture sale while expressing the doubt that \$21,000 would complete the rink-building. Higher taxes were foreseen — a matter qualified by municipal assessor C. L. Thring, toward the end of that same twelvemonth: taxes increased as needs grew. In October, the fund overspent and in need of a further \$4,000, retiring Mayor Grant observed: “. . . It would be a disaster if we stopped building now. The rink has cost more. . . than the wildest imagination.” His final act was to see consummated a resolution relative to using monies from the town's general fund in completing the project.

The passing months brought other council considerations such as the twenty-seven years' services given by teamster John Stevenson (deserving of a small pension), his grey equine aides (“Kate and Nance need feed and the fodder supply is less than zero”: they should be put out to pasture), entering into an agreement with W. McLaren regarding garbage collection (\$2,400 for the balance of the year and a \$5,040 contract for the next term); and relative to outsiders seeking locations in the art of photography and food catering, granting a school playground area between Sixth and Seventh avenues, reviewing the annual problem of dogs-at-