

# Industrial Commissioner Giving Up Township Job

WEEKLY, JAN. 11, 1967

For reasons of health, William Courtney is retiring as industrial commissioner for the Township of Toronto, it was announced at Monday's meeting of Township Council. Mr. Courtney will take over the new post of industrial consultant.

He has been an employee of the Township since March, 1931, and has been industrial commissioner for the past 14 years.

Possibility of the change came about earlier at a meet-

ing called to discuss industrial promotion for the Township. Mr. Courtney had indicated at that time that his health was "questionable" and that a major re-organization of the department would require a younger person to carry out the program.

## NEW CAPACITY

In his new role he will continue to receive all employee benefits at the salary in effect as Dec. 31. His services will be required "only at the request of the Township's chief admin-

istrative officer" and it will be recommended to future councils that he be retired at normal retirement age (in about two years) at normal earned pension.

In a brief address to council, Mr. Courtney thanked Reeve Robert Speck and members of council for their assistance during the past 36 years. He also thanked the members of his staff. "They have been a terrific help to me," he said. "I am at your service at any

time in the future. The phone is handy - - and I'll be here."

In paying tribute to Mr. Courtney, Mr. Speck referred to the fact that he had originally been hired as a full-time employee in the position of tax collector when the Town-

have steadily grown throughout the 14 years under the commissionship of Mr. Courtney from the 34 in 1953 to 350 in 1966."

The reeve said that Mr. Courtney "has been involved in the fantastic changes which have taken place from the time" when:

1. The present municipal centre was a fairground with a race track where the farmers in Peel County every fall, exhibited their livestock and enjoyed an afternoon of racing;
2. The staff for the Township of Toronto included five persons and has now grown to a total of 700;
3. The total assessment was \$5 million, which has now grown to a total of \$157 million.

## CHANGE SUGGESTED

"Realizing the tremendous potential for development in his municipality," said the reeve. "Mr. Courtney suggested that certain changes be considered in the industrial promotional program.

"The major change involved in his suggestions was that younger legs would be required to carry on the responsibilities in the re-organized department. On Friday of last week, the general committee and council in a special meeting to deal with this, a personnel matter, considered Mr. Courtney's retirement as industrial commissioner. He has been retained by the municipality in a consultant capacity, and has agreed to assist when requested to do so.

"On behalf of the many councilors and numerous Reeves and deputy Reeves who have worked with you, Bill, I want to thank you most sincerely for the big job that you have done well. We realize that you have been concerned about your health and we hope that this change in responsibility will make it possible for you to recover your health completely and enjoy many years as a resident of your township."



**WILLIAM COURTNEY**  
Taking new post

ship had a population of 4,500 and an assessment of \$5 million. Mr. Courtney was later appointed to the position of Township treasurer, an office which he held for 21 years along with the further office of welfare administrator.

As treasurer, he assisted one of the Township's largest industries to locate in Clarkson. His efforts in assembling land owned by 21 different people made it possible for the British American Oil Company to locate in the Township.

## GIVEN NEW ROLE

"In 1953 the Township of Toronto had 34 industries and Mr. Courtney was asked by council to take on the responsibility of industrial commissioner to promote the municipality and to assist the industries which would later decide to locate here," said Reeve Speck.

"Industrial developments