

WEEKLY - DEC 13/67

# We Salute ... The First Mayor Of Mississauga

By TOM SLATER  
COOKSVILLE — Three cheers to the new mayor of the Town of Mississauga — Robert W. Speck.

Speck, well on the way to restoring full health after suffering a heart attack November 1, takes over in January as Chief Magistrate of Canada's largest town with over 105,000 residents. Mayor-elect Speck, 52, was born and raised in Clarkson and educated in Clarkson and Port Credit. He is married with three children — John, Paul and Marylyn.

He has an impressive background in municipal government dating back to 1956, when he served a year as Township councillor. For the past eight years he has been Reeve of Toronto Township.

### AMBITION ACCOMPLISHED

Bob Speck's heart attack did not deter him from plunging into the fight for mayoralty. He stated his aims from his Oakville-Trafalgar Hospital bed:

"Since the approval of town status by the Ontario Municipal Board, it has been my greatest ambition to become the first Chief Magistrate of the new Town, so my name will be put forth as a candidate for the office of Mayor.

"If elected, I will make one promise; along with the other elected representatives, I will do my best to help build a town everyone will be proud of."

One week later, Speck learned he was to be the new mayor. He was un-

opposed at the nomination meeting, and became Chief Magistrate by acclamation.

Speck's absence from the nomination meeting had no apparent effect on the enthusiasm displayed by the gathering at T. L. Kennedy Secondary School.

### ROUSING CHEER

When the nominations closed, those in attendance gave a rousing cheer as they learned Speck had been unanimously chosen Mayor of the 103-square mile municipality, for which he has spearheaded the drive for town status.

Speck can be credited with much of the ground-work leading to the vast development in Toronto Township during the last eight years.

During this time, the township has changed from an agriculturally rich rural area to a bustling urban community of modern housing developments and heavy industry.

Speck served as Deputy-Reeve in Toronto Township from 1957 to 1959, and Reeve from 1960 to the present time. He served on County Council since 1957 and was Warden of Peel County in 1963.

He has also served as Chairman of the Toronto Township Public Utilities Commission in 1964, Township of Toronto Hydro in 1965 and was an Executive Member of the Ontario Good Roads Association in 1966 and 1967.

### ARDENT GOLFER

He has been a member of the Metropolitan Toronto



MAYOR ROBERT W. SPECK

Planning Board for seven years, was president of the Association of Ontario Counties in 1966, vice-president of the Ontario Mayors and Reeves Association in 1960 and is an executive member of the Canadian Mayors and Municipalities Association.

Long an ardent golfer with a low handicap, Speck is a member of the Mississauga Golf and Country Club, the Credit Valley Golf Club, and an honorary director of

the Professional Golfers Association of Ontario.

He was instrumental in planning the Toronto Township professional best-ball golf tournament, held at Lakeview Golf course last September. The \$5,000 in prize money made it the richest one-day professional golf tournament in Canada.

He is also an avid sailor and is a member of the Port Credit Yacht Club.

Speck has worked long

and hard to keep up with, and push ahead, the rapid development of this area. Never, however, was he too busy to listen to a request from a ratepayer or one of his employees.

His popularity becomes evident by the community's whole-hearted acceptance of the man for the new job of Mayor of the Town of Mississauga.

### FUTURE PLANS

The future of this new town is in the hands of Speck and his Council, elected at the polls last Saturday.

Speck, the man and politician, has far-reaching plans to continue the rapid industrial and economic growth of the community.

The boundaries of Mississauga extend from Etobicoke Creek on the East to the Oakville-Trafalgar Town Line on the West, north to Steeles Avenue and south to Lake Ontario, completely surrounding the incorporated Municipalities of Port Credit and Streetsville.

Speck expects to be released from Oakville-Trafalgar Hospital within the next two weeks.

"In spite of my doctor's estimate as to the date of my return to full activities, I fully expect I will be participating in the affairs of the municipality on a limited basis before the end of December," he said recently.

This man has the spirit, ability, knowledge, experience, and all-out drive to push Mississauga to the top.