

- 1946: 550 acres assessed at \$2,000.00, price paid \$2,950.00 for 1½ times the assessment.
- 1947: 1,015.7 acres; municipal assessment at the time \$1,750, price paid: \$5,975.00 or 3½ times the assessment.
- 1948: 2,107.26 acres including the four summer cottages of Mr. Gérard Meunier, municipal assessment of those farms and summer cottages mentioned: \$20,000.00, price paid was \$47,751.00, or 2½ times the assessment.
- 1948: 51.23 acres with 25 cottages (those of G. Meunier excluded) were sold at \$112,325.00, an amount 5½ times higher than the assessment in force in the municipality.
- 1949: 1.77 acres with 4 summer cottages were sold for the amount of \$21,300.00 the municipal assessment at the time of the sale was \$3,600.00. Price paid represents about 6 times the amount of the assessment in force.

From the tables I have just outlined, it appears that the cottagers were better "businessmen" and obtained a price which enable them to build again elsewhere, while the farmers did not have any business sense and could not build a decent house in 1949 with the price obtained for their farms, to say nothing of the fact that their farms brought them in a sufficient income assuring them of a living on the premises.

VII—*The particularly sad case of "Château Philippe" that was pointed out*

A striking example of this created a profound impression on the local population and people round about. It was when in 1947 a farmer accustomed to a modest standard of living owned a 134-acre farm which was purchased by the F.D.C. for \$800. It was assessed by the municipality at \$100 for its building and \$300 for the land, a total of \$400. His land was rather poor, but it was a farm and its assessment was three times higher than that of a wood-lot. It seems that the buyers of the F.D.C. took advantage of his inexperience to obtain that farm. After the sale, the municipality of Ste-Cécile de Masham was obliged to pay most of his bills with the stores to enable him to go on living with his family. The old age pension came along and relieved the municipality of this burden.

For a dwelling, this Mr. Albert Philippe built a sort of hovel made of slab wood, rusty sheet metal and old scrap boards. For the last two years this tiny dwelling has had a better appearance thanks to public charity which made it possible to put brick siding on the front. The entire population call this place "le Château Philippe". That is not the type of castle, alas, we are seeking to build up our tourist industry and to carry out the Greber Plan for beautification of the National Capital or to build a Gatineau Park worthy of our country's capital.

VIII—*Delegation from Ste-Cécile de Masham to the F.D.C. on January 25, 1954.*

Questions asked

A delegation from Ste-Cecile de Masham, comprising the pastor, the mayor, the chairman of the School Commission, the president of the Board of Trade and the undersigned, requested an interview with the chairman of the F.D.C. in January 1954 to discuss several problems relating to Masham and the carrying out of the Greber Plan. On reaching the F.D.C. office, the delegation found that the chairman was absent, but they were received courteously by Mr. Cram and Mr. Hay. The delegation had a prepared questionnaire to make enquiries about the intentions of the F.D.C. of Masham and to point out certain situations which they believed were not as they should be. (See sub-title 1)

The delegation from Ste. Cecile de Masham was assured that no arable or cultivable land was being purchased in Masham. The delegation had pointed out that some had been sold and received no reply to this. Then the delegation was assured that the F.D.C. would stop there with regard to farms, that the