

## Early Mayors – *Albert R. Heer, 1891-1972*



Born in Petersburg, Ont. on Jan. 28, 1891, Albert Heer attended school in Woolwich and Waterloo Townships. Following in his father's footsteps, Heer became a carpenter. When he later moved to Waterloo, he operated a building contracting business. During the First World War, Heer served in the Canadian Army.

Heer was very active in local politics, serving as an alderman for 13 years. During his 1931-1938 terms, he acted as deputy reeve from 1935-1936 and reeve from 1937-1938. He unsuccessfully contested the mayoralty in the 1939 election but returned to council as an alderman during the years of 1941-1943.

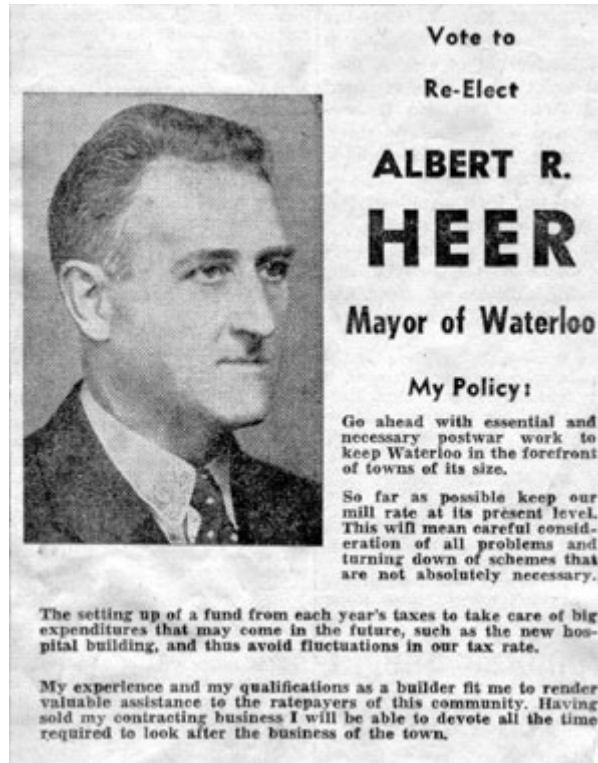
He was elected town mayor in 1944 and completed three terms in office, the first two by acclamation. It was during his term as mayor that Heer sold his contracting business, enabling him to concentrate on his public duties.

As mayor, Heer campaigned to keep the tax rate down — a difficult goal during wartime years. He prioritized the need to prepare for post-war projects as part of the town's



rehabilitation program for returning service men and women. On Heer's agenda was the construction of a skating rink (Memorial Arena), Laurel Creek improvements, a new incinerator and a community centre for all ages. He again served on council as an alderman for the City of Waterloo from 1949-1950.

Throughout his political career, Heer was a vocal opponent of daylight savings time.



Vote to  
Re-Elect

**ALBERT R.  
HEER**

Mayor of Waterloo

**My Policy:**

Go ahead with essential and necessary postwar work to keep Waterloo in the forefront of towns of its size.

So far as possible keep our mill rate at its present level. This will mean careful consideration of all problems and turning down of schemes that are not absolutely necessary.

The setting up of a fund from each year's taxes to take care of big expenditures that may come in the future, such as the new hospital building, and thus avoid fluctuations in our tax rate.

My experience and my qualifications as a builder fit me to render valuable assistance to the ratepayers of this community. Having sold my contracting business I will be able to devote all the time required to look after the business of the town.