

# THE WATCHMAN-WARDER

INDEPENDENT CONSERVATIVE NEWSPAPER. PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY MORNING AT 115 AND 117 KENT-ST., LINDSAY, ONT.

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## THE GOVERNMENT GRANT TO ROADS.

The idea that some change is necessary in the system by which country roads are constructed and maintained has rapidly gained ground of late. What the change shall be is one of the chief municipal problems. Intelligent men are giving it careful thought.

That idea has arisen because of changed conditions. There are those of us still young who remember when we supposed that drawing gravel for three days, that came to an end at five o'clock, and were made very enjoyable by the company of our neighbors, likewise employed, was the final solution of road-making. We remember also the depositions in mire through which the strips of gravel thus deposited in summer were reached in the spring and fall. In those days the country was not greatly removed from the first appearance of the pioneer. The bark was still sound on the stumps of those trees that fell beneath his axe-stroke and startled the echoes and wild things through the forest, and on the out-houses the original roofing of inverted troughs was still good. These pioneers were poor; many roads were yet to be opened up, and travelling over almost impassable highways was only one of the many forms of hardship incidental to settling a new country. On that account, in the absence of money, under lawless necessity, and by an effective combination of effort, these men built what roads they could with their own hands; and so resolutely did they undertake and so skilfully execute their task, that they drove the wagon road, east and west, north and south to the very limits of this broad land. All honor to these men. They did wisely and well, the best thing under the circumstances. May we prove their worthy successors.

To-day we live in the midst of new circumstances and are confronted by the problem of new methods that are adapted to these circumstances. That is the task set before the people of Ontario at this hour. It is not too much to believe that they are earnestly attempting to master it. Now the roads are of vast extent; the tonnage hauled over them is immense; they are no longer a means of communication between neighborhoods alone, but great avenues along which not only neighborhoods but counties, provinces and even nations come into contact. When roads were mainly local, the local methods of maintenance did very well, but since they have grown into a universal system, the necessity for some more general system of maintenance is being increasingly felt.

The government realizes this and has recently taken steps to encourage the adoption of such a system. A million dollars has been voted for the purpose of co-operating with township or counties that adopt a general scheme. This offer of government was carefully considered by the county council last week. No conclusion was reached except the very commendable one to ask the township councils to meet with the county representatives in an endeavor to arrive at the very best method of taking advantage of the government's offer. It is certain that all agree that this county must get its share of that grant in some way. It is important that this way shall be one that commends itself to the judgment of the representative men in the county, hence the special conference to be held.

The act provides that townships may take up the work separately or combine in a general scheme throughout the county. Which of these methods is the better will be the chief question for consideration at the approaching conference. If we are to assume that the bigger the scheme the better it is, then of course that which embraces the entire county is the one to adopt, but if most of the townships take up the work separately it may be that similar results will be obtained. To many it will appear that the township scheme will be fairer to the town and incorporated villages. These do not share in the government grant, but if a county scheme is adopted they will be taxed for it the same as other parts of the county but will have none of the money spent on their streets. If the townships take up the work separately the towns and villages will escape taxation. It may be that they will do what they can to have that system adopted. In that case an assessment of about \$2,000,000 will be levied and the townships will not only lose the taxes on that amount but will have to raise that much more themselves in order to get the same amount of government money that they would if the towns and villages were included. It may be, that to have the expenditure under their own control, the townships would be willing to do that. If so the towns and villages will hardly object. The whole question, however, will be discussed at an early date.

## THE STREET LIGHT.

In a very short time the representatives of the Burgess Gas Company will again approach the council with a view to closing a contract for street lighting. To such a contract no mere captious opposition should be offered; yet is neither credible nor creditable that an undertaking of such magnitude should be entered upon without discussion. A draft of contract has already been sent to the company's lawyer by Solicitor Hopkins; in a day or two the company's representatives are to be here, and it is quite possible that a contract for fifteen years will be slid through council one of these dark nights before the citizens are

aware of what is being done; for aldermen appear to be mesmerized by this new light.

We do not favor lighting the streets with Burgess gas under the proposition now entertained. We object to it on two grounds:

- (1) Because we prefer a municipal plant.
- (2) Because the town will get more light for the money from its own plant run by company power.

It is astonishing with what facility aldermen juggle with the verdict of the people. For months they have wound up discussions of this subject by reminding themselves and each other that the people had decided in favor of a municipal plant. During that time that have affected sundry perspiring efforts to determine whether a steam or electric plant should be selected. Still fresh in the memories of those who witnessed it, is Ald. O'Reilly's dramatic threat to resign because the popular will was about to be ignored and a contract given to the electric light company. Now, the democratic alderman has thrown his democracy to the winds. That which a month ago spurred him to wrathful protest and threats of appeal to the people is now of no importance so long, forsooth, as the gas company shall be given a contract. The alderman has been taking credit for having saved the popular will from being frustrated at that time; he will also have to take the credit for turning a more violent somersault when under the influence of a gas plant than any of his colleagues. We stand for a municipal plant, not alone because the people have chosen it—we stood for it before they chose it—but also because it is progressive and up-to-date. It has been vigorously endorsed by the ablest men in this town and it is only necessary for these men to be consistent with their own utterances to put Lindsay in possession of its lighting plant as it already is of its waterworks.

In the second place we object to the gas contract because we believe a town plant with company power is a better system from a financial point of view. From \$95 per arc light, as Montreal is paying, and from \$65 to \$125, as many other cities in Canada and the United States are paying, the gas, we think, than giving the Light, Heat & Power Co. another franchise of the streets and \$45 per lamp. But, than a town plant paying for itself at \$40 a lamp, it certainly is not better. We can generate 90,000 candle power and distribute it from 60 lamps for \$2400 per year; why should we pay \$2100 for 27,775 candle power distributed from 131 lamps and throw a plant into the bargain? The greater distribution would be some advantage but not enough to warrant adopting that system. The best cities in the world are lit by the electric arc lamp. All other systems of distribution, both low candle power lamps and clusters on towers, are being discarded for the arc lamp. Likely it will be sufficient for Lindsay. Since we can use it and still adhere to the principle of municipal ownership, we do not favor paying practically as much for any sort of lighting by a company plant.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

IN CASEY WOOD the Liberals chose a good candidate; what is bothering them now, however, is in case he wouldn't.

IT IS GOOD betting that public speaking will be well-nigh impossible in the new town hall on account of the echoes. It is just the shape to generate that sort of distraction.

MR. N. HOCKIN'S letter in this issue suggests a first-class method of securing athletic grounds. It will give these gentlemen—and ladies—who are accustomed to declaim about what Lindsay will do for sport a chance to come forward and show that they will do something for it to the extent of a few one-dollar shares. Now if we want a field we can get it—if we want it badly enough—and if we do not, we can stop finding fault because we have not got one. Let the stock lists be opened and Mr. Hockin's scheme given a trial.

THE DEATH OF HON. A. S. HARDY at the age of 64 is to be sincerely regretted. This province can ill afford to lose its public men at that time of life; for it is then that they have acquired the stores of information and practical ability by which they are enabled to more fully serve the province. The British Empire is much indebted to statesmen of grey hairs. Mr. Hardy was a man of strong character and keen intellect. If not of that suave disposition that attracted men to him, he yet commanded their confidence and respect by his ability and uprightiness. It is a pity that he could not have lived to vigorous old age to take his place among the all too few men of striking ability in Ontario's political life to-day.

THE NUMEROUS announcements that the war is over, are true only in the sense that it is all over South Africa. The recent action at Valkfontein is described by English journalists as the fiercest of the whole war. Since then the Victoria Rifles of Australia were surprised and only 52 out of 250, escaped being killed, wounded or made prisoners. The Boer army in Cape Colony is now placed at 2100 to which recruits are being steadily added. Nearly 800 British soldiers died in May, and the secretary for war has asked for a further grant of \$90,000,000. Meanwhile the expenses are over a million a day. Getting aliens the franchise has proved a costly undertaking.

COMMISSIONER Chalmers wants more wages. His request is a very natural and reasonable one. It is based on the amount of additional work entailed by taking levels and making plans for sewers. Of course it was understood when he was engaged that such work was included in his duties. That was a strong argument used by some who favored a change of commissioners. Even so, that is no reason why, if the work warrants it, he should not have more pay. It would seem, however, that the commissioner has plenty of work to do in actual construction. We have not heard Mr. Chalmers claim to have had experience in taking levels, and it might be better to get an engineer to do that than run any risk. Of sewers on the pead level or high in the middle, the town has already enough. Let any rise in the commissioner's wages be independent of that work.

## LIBERAL MEETING WITHDRAWN.

The Man who was Chosen as Candidate Wants More Time Before Giving an Answer.

The Liberal mass meeting called for to-day has been postponed indefinitely. The reason for this is described by the Post as "certain circumstances" that have arisen since nomination.

Hon. S. C. Wood the Liberal choice as standard-bearer for West Victoria was in town on Saturday and at his request the time in which he should give his answer was extended.

## Tourists and Campers

One pound of Nut Butter contains nearly as much nourishment as two pounds of the best beef. Preserves the delicate qualities of the nuts, and being thoroughly cooked and sterilized is easily digested. Makes cream and milk. Keeps fresh indefinitely. Is indispensable to campers. Prepared by W.M. EYRES, Cameron, Ont. For sale by A. CAMPBELL, Grocer, Lindsay.—25.

## DOMINION BANK

### A Fine Showing Reported for Year Past

The increase in the capital stock of this bank by a million dollars, agreed upon a year ago has been practically accomplished, the sum of \$2,440,000 being paid in at this date. It appears that the shares were taken up with unusual rapidity, even at the price of \$200 for each \$100 share, and only a few of the smaller shareholders have taken full advantage of the instalment periods. The larger capital has enabled a marked increase of circulation, which is now \$1,790,000. A striking increase of deposits, also, is noticeable; they have gone up from \$15,790,000 in April, 1900, to \$18,577,000 in April, 1901.

Earnings have been in good proportion to those of former years, and the reduction of dividend to ten per cent, has left room and opportunity for further writing off bank premises account, which now reaches a large sum. The whole of the \$940,000 realized from the premium on new stock sold has been added to Reserve, making that fund \$2,440,201, and the substantial sum of

\$100,482 is carried forward. The proportion of liquid assets, \$11,858,000 out of \$25,623,000, is unusually large, but it appears to be the policy of the bank to keep a goodly share of its resources in this shape.

The statement is a good one, and the bank's business is clearly growing in activity with the growth of the country. E. B. Osier, M.P., is president; Mr. W. D. Matthews, vice-president; the remaining directors being W. R. Brock, M.P., William Ince, A. W. Austin, Timothy Eaton and James J. Foy, K. C.

## Sporting World

—Black Joe captured the 2.14 pace at London on Tuesday in straight heats. Best time 2.14 1/4.

—The Eldon Agricultural Society will celebrate the national holiday at Woodville on Friday, June 28th. Speeding-in-the-ring will be a special feature. There will be two events, an open race for \$150 and a 2.40 trot or pace for \$100. Baseball, lacrosse and athletic sports will fill out a capital program.

—Pure Paris Green at P.H. Coad's.

## Hymeneal

Webster—Richmond

A pretty wedding was celebrated at the home of Mr. Geo. Richmond Coboconk, on Wednesday the 12th inst. when his daughter Sela J. and Mr. Albert L. Webster of Toronto but formerly of Glandine were married. The bride was assisted by the groom's sister Mary A. Webster and Chas. Deyell of Lindsay was groomsmen. Rev. Mr. Cook of Halliburton tied the knot.

The bride was clad in a gown of cream henrietta trimmed with ribbon chiffon and sequin. Her maid wore a white organdie with ribbon and lace over pale blue silk. Miss Prior played the wedding march. After the ceremony the bridal party drove to the home of the groom's parents. After a short stay with relatives at Mariposa Mr. and Mrs. Webster returned to the city. X

## Births

Piggott—At Barrie on Wednesday, June 12th, the wife of Wm. J. Piggott of a son.

Johnston—To Mr. and Mrs. James Johnston of Ops, twin boys, on June 12th.

## Deaths

Piggott—At Barrie, on June 12th, the infant son of William and Sylvia Piggott.

Milligan—In Ops on Friday, June 14th, Herries Milligan, aged 48 years.

—Sullivan scored his third consecutive victory against Montreal on Monday. The score was 8-3. He had 4 strike-outs, 4 assists and 4 hits in 4 times at bat—a 1000 per centage clip in batting and fielding.

## SIGN OF THE MILL SAW

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BREAKFAST SUPPER

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This week we secured from a worthy manufacturer, who was ready to clear up the factory of small lots of this season's overmakes. We say sensational because the price we will ask you is only half the regular price. Other lines are oddments picked from our regular stock and marked about half price. These goods should last but a few days when people realize the values we are offering.

**Overskirts at 1-2 Price** Why buy cotton skirts for summer wear when you can get them made of good wool material at the same price.

**Ladies' Black Alpaca Overskirts**, bright lustre finish, also Black and Navy Serge Skirts well made and lined e linings, velvet bindings, lengths 38, 39, 40 and 42 inch, reg. value \$2.75 for..... **1.39**

**Ladies' fine all-wool Serge and bright lustrous finish alpaca skirts**, lined e lined, reg. value \$3 and \$4 for..... **1.99**

**Children's Dresses 49c each** Children's Muslin and Print ready-to-wear dresses, nicely trimmed with braid, pleating and frills of self, fit ages 6 to 12 years, regular price 75c each, for 49c.

**1.50 Each** Children's Dresses, reg. \$3 and \$3.50. These are extra fine quality print, white drill, linen and pique, fancy insertion and self trimmings, fit ages 4 to 14 years, special each \$1.50.

**Wrappers 59c Each** Ladies' dark colored print wrappers separate body linings and well made. These were 75c each, for only 59c.

**89c Each** Ladies' Print Wrappers, assorted colors, some trimmed with separate body linings, our \$1.15 quality for only 89c.

**Underskirts** Black Silk Mixed Underskirts, fancy also colored sateen with accented pleated flounce, regular prices \$3 and \$4 each, for only..... **1.95**

**Ladies' Taffeta silk underskirts**, accented pleated and corded flounce, regular prices \$6.00 for only \$3.50 \$7.00 for only \$5.00

**Summer Capes** Ladies' Summer quality cloth, picked flounce and braid trimmed, regular price \$1.95, for only..... **95c**

**Dressing Sacques** Ladies' Dressing fine quality sateen, black baby style trimmed, \$3.00 quality for \$2.00 \$2.00 quality for \$1.25

**Silk Waists** Ladies' Fancy Tailored silk waists, fancy trimmings, reg. \$5 and \$6, for only..... **3.75**

## Millinery Bargain

—Ladies Ready-to-Wear Hats, Sailor and Walking styles, some trimmed with roses, fancy buckles and quills and other folds of good quality silk. These are regular \$1.25 and \$1.50 Hats, your choice for each..... **50c**

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